

Taming Diffractive Scattering with Effective Field Theory

Iain Stewart

YITP International School on EIC Physics
Kyoto University
March 6, 2026

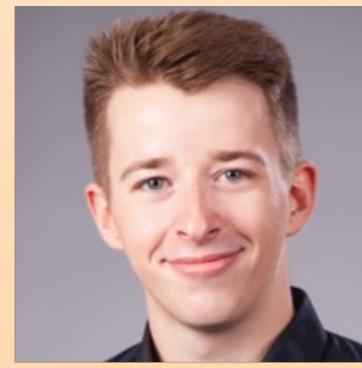
- [arXiv:2508.10231](https://arxiv.org/abs/2508.10231) (JHEP), with Kyle Lee and Stella Schindler
- work in progress with Kyle Lee, Stella Schindler, and Philipp Aretz



(ANL)



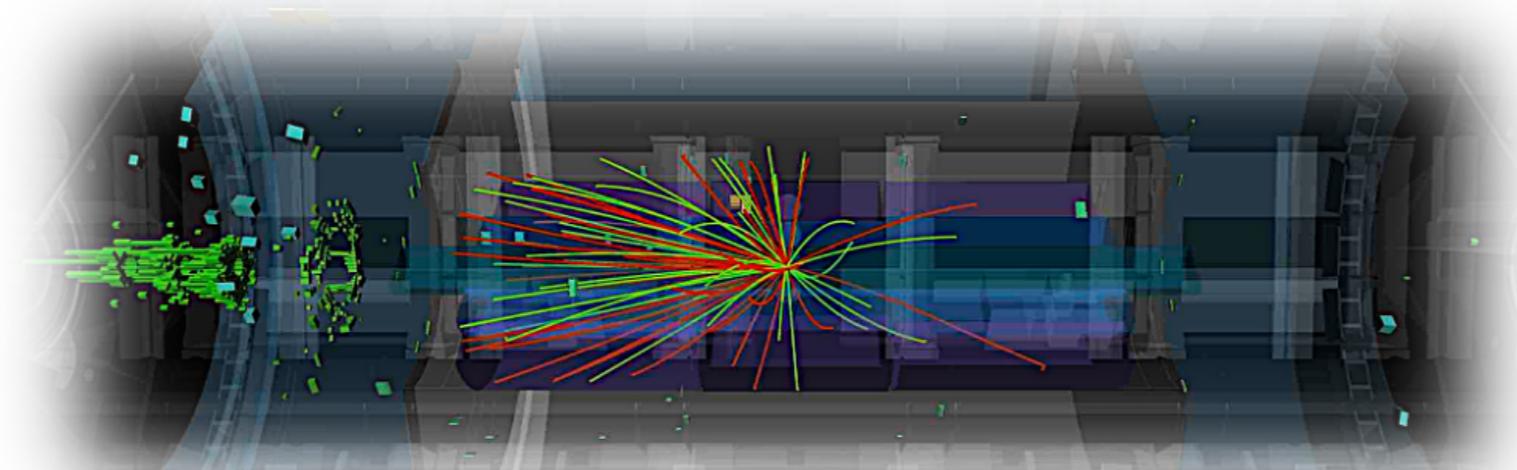
(LANL/Harvard)



(MIT)

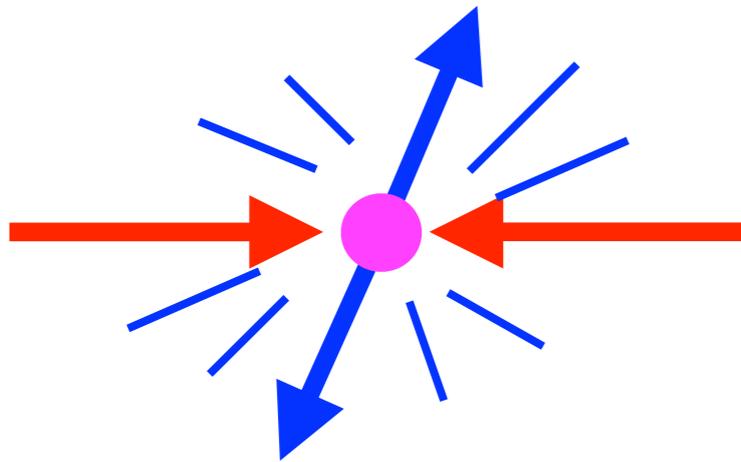
Outline

- Introduction: Diffraction
- Introduction: Soft Collinear Effective Theory (SCET)
- Kinematics and Structure Functions
- Power Counting and Regge Factorization
- Applications and Phenomenology

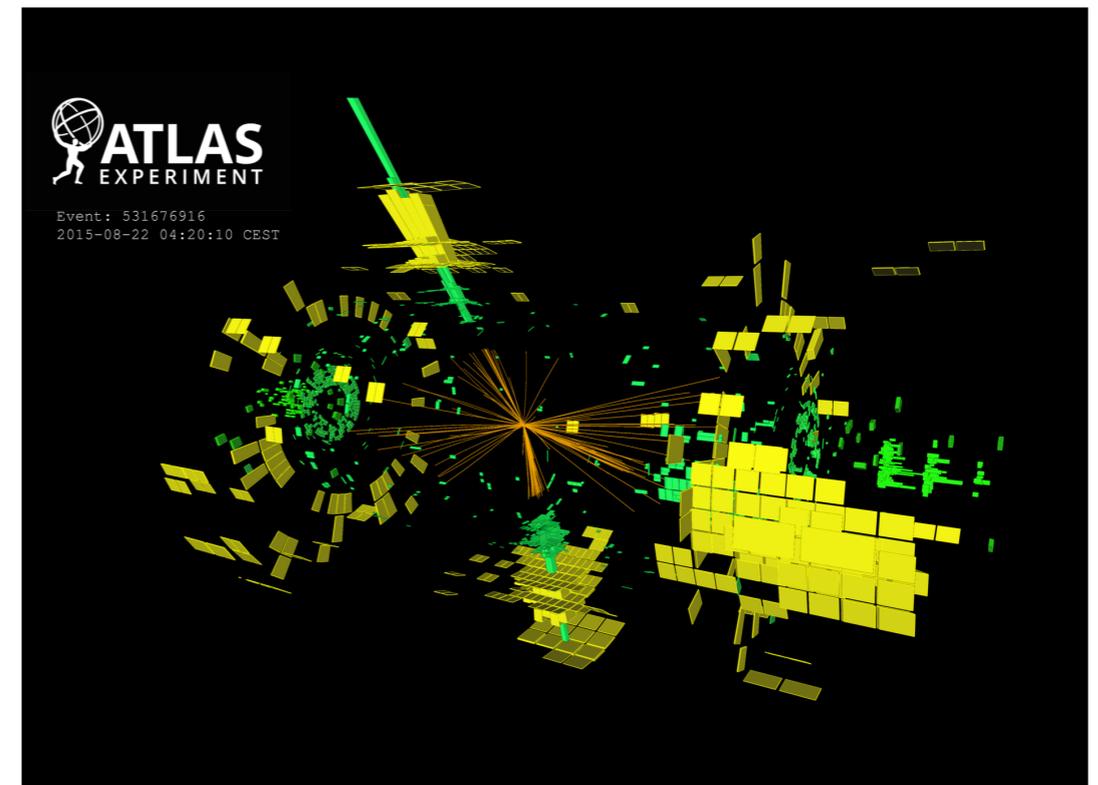
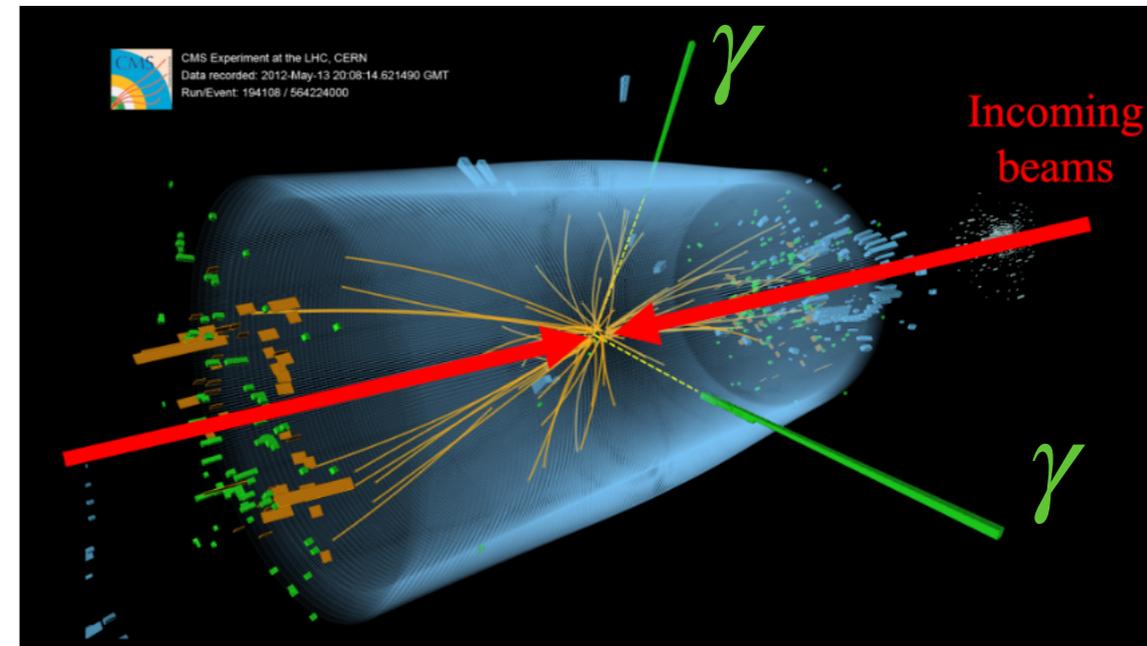


Hard Scattering versus Diffractive Scattering

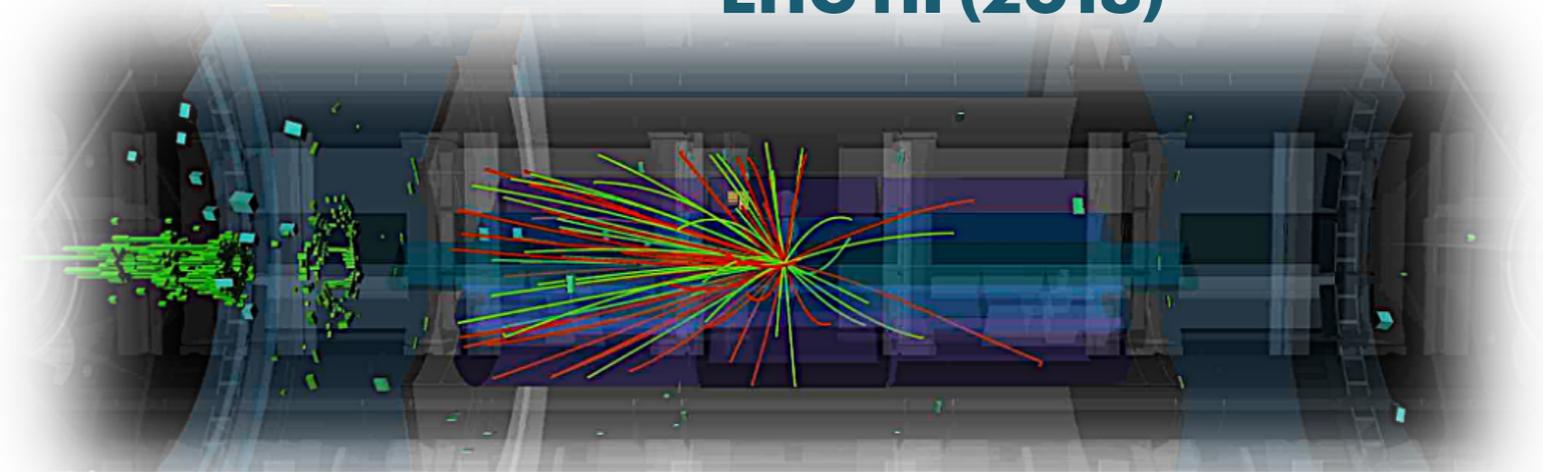
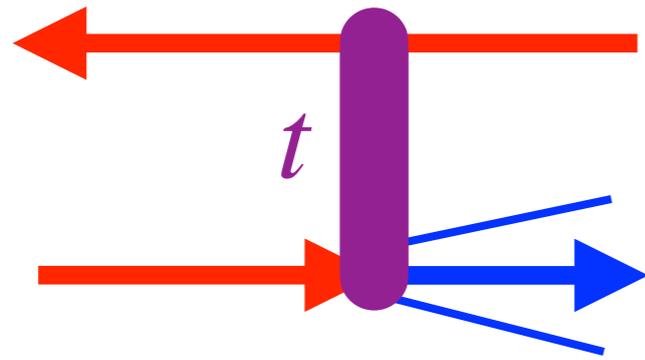
Hard Scattering Collisions



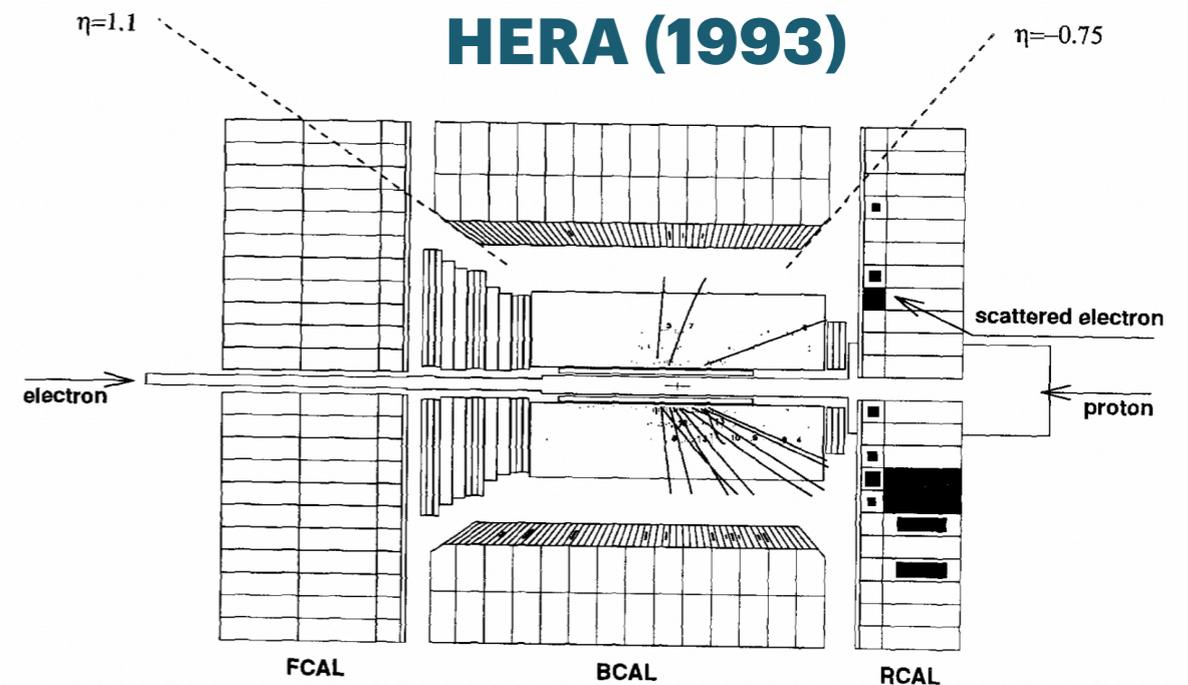
- energetic particles transverse to the beam
- probe physics at large energy Q^2
- measure particles (H, W, top, ...) & interactions in standard model
- search for new physics
- study dynamics of the proton



Diffractive Scattering

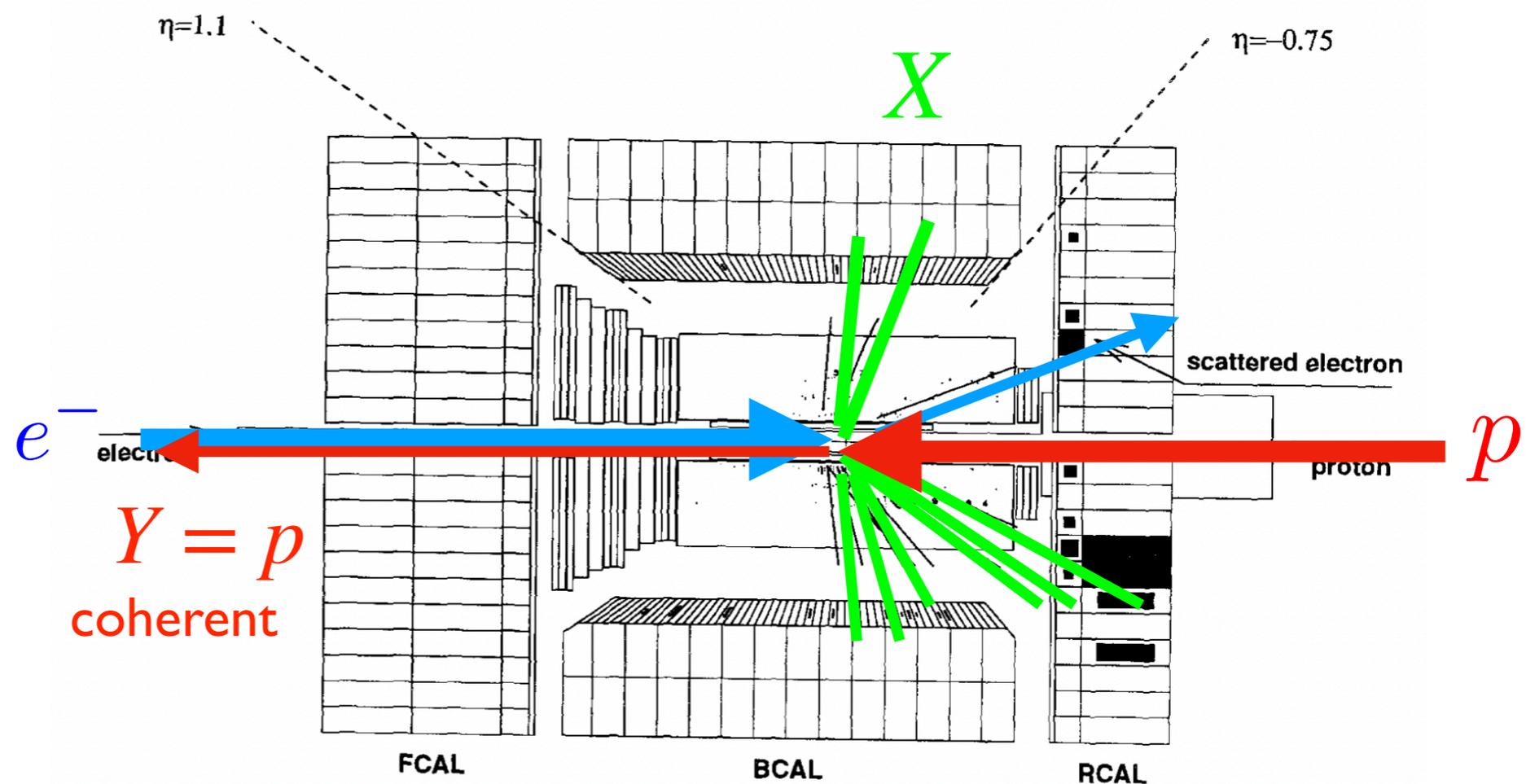


- forward scattering process
- (small momentum transfer)² = t
- scattered particles may **remain intact** (coherent) **or not** (incoherent)
- empty angular region (“rapidity gap”)



Diffractive Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS)

- HERA (1993)

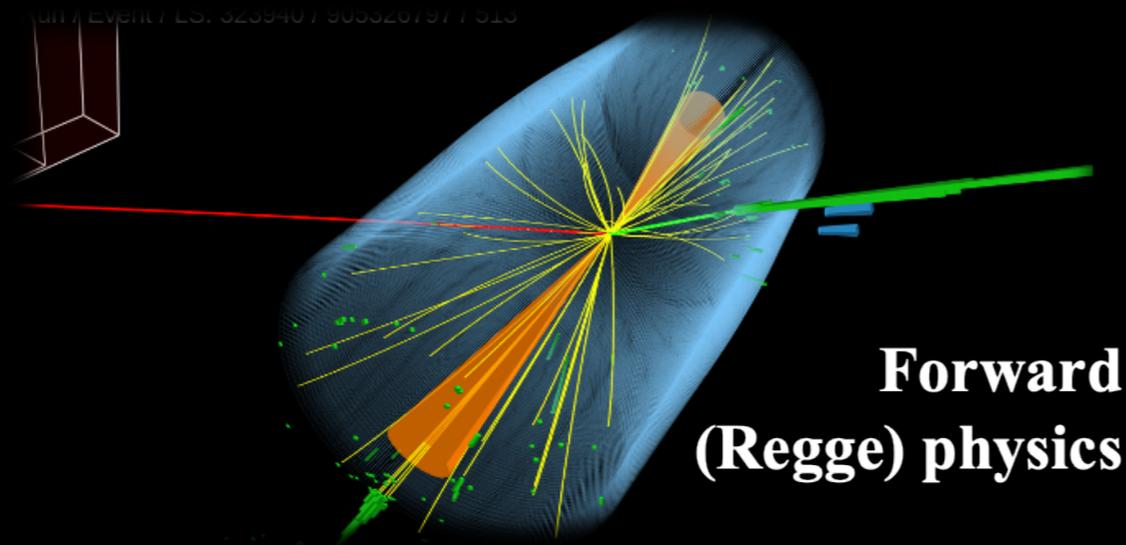


Focus today: single gapped Diffractive DIS

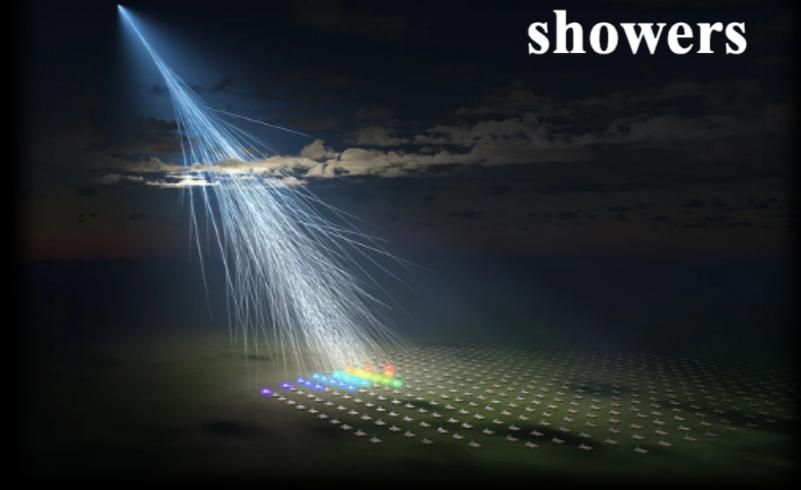
$$e^- p \rightarrow e^- X Y, \quad X \text{ \& \ } Y \text{ systems separated by angular gap}$$

I will also briefly discuss the extension to pp scattering.

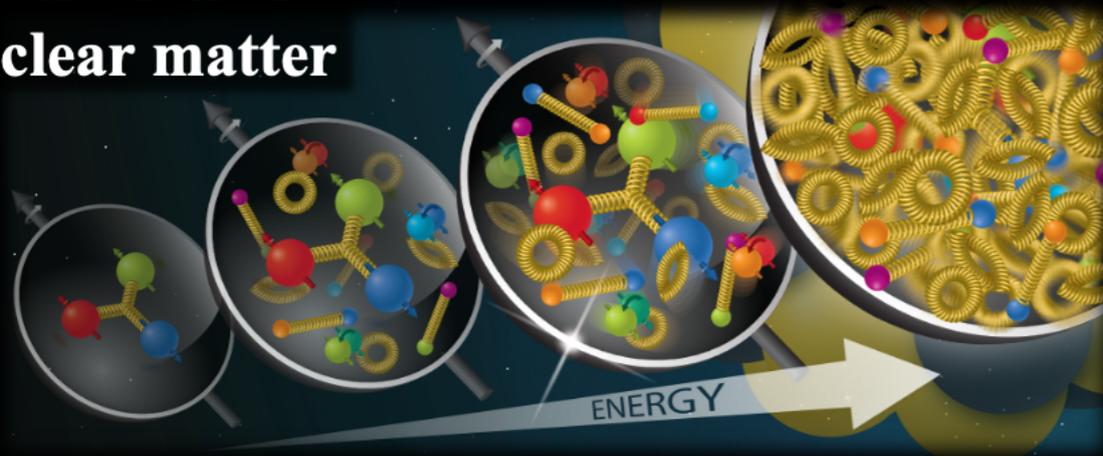
Why study diffraction?



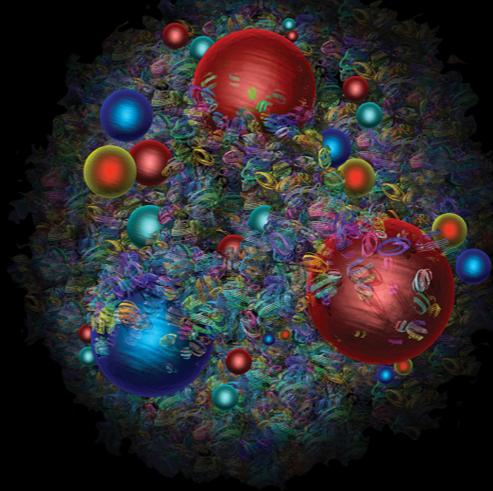
Cosmic ray
showers



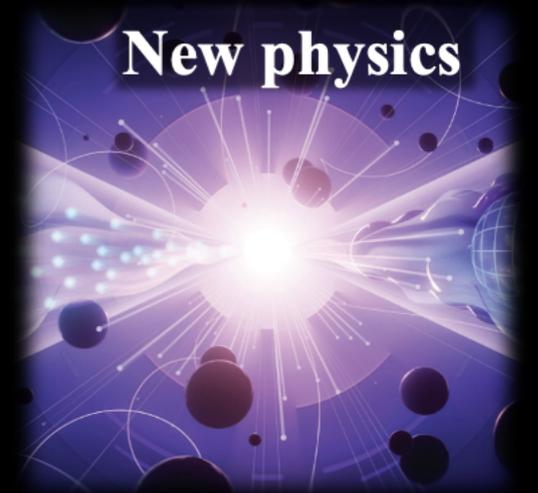
Saturation of
nuclear matter



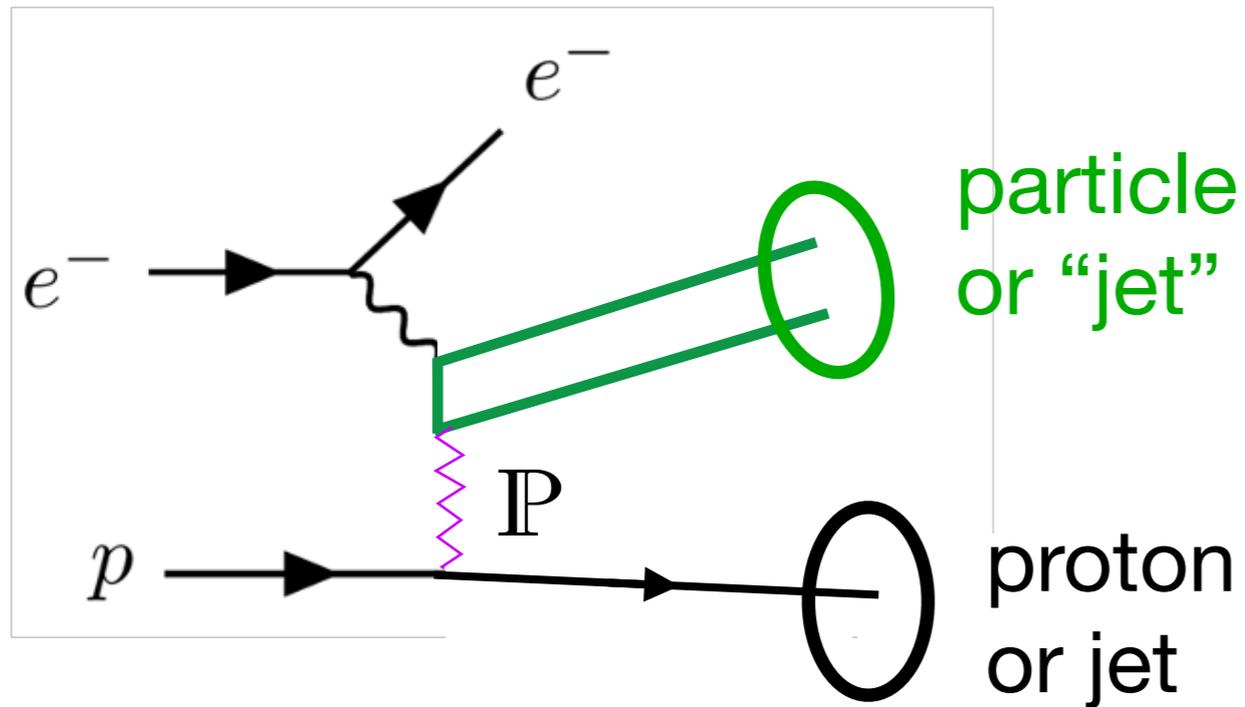
New probe of
hadron structure



New physics



Why study Diffraction?

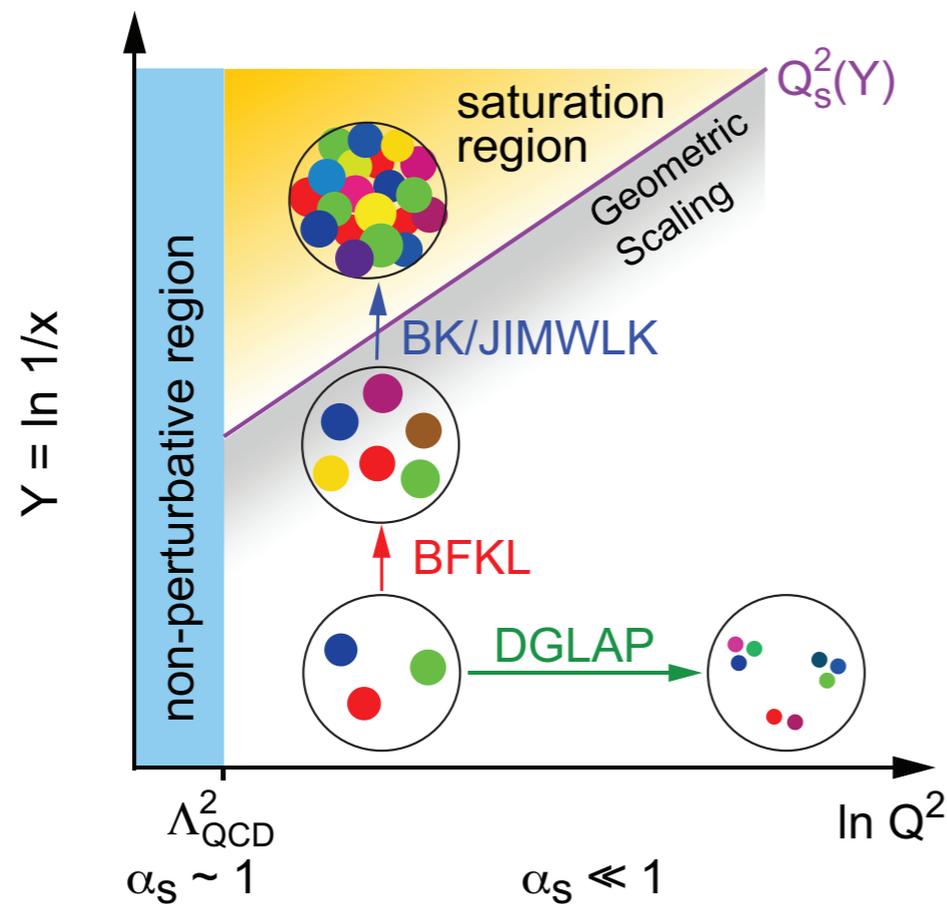


- **Diffractive cross-sections give direct and leading access to Regge physics!**

➔ **Nature of pomeron**

➔ **New hadron structure (GPD-like structure + more?)**

➔ **Small- x and saturation physics (BFKL and heavy-ion)**

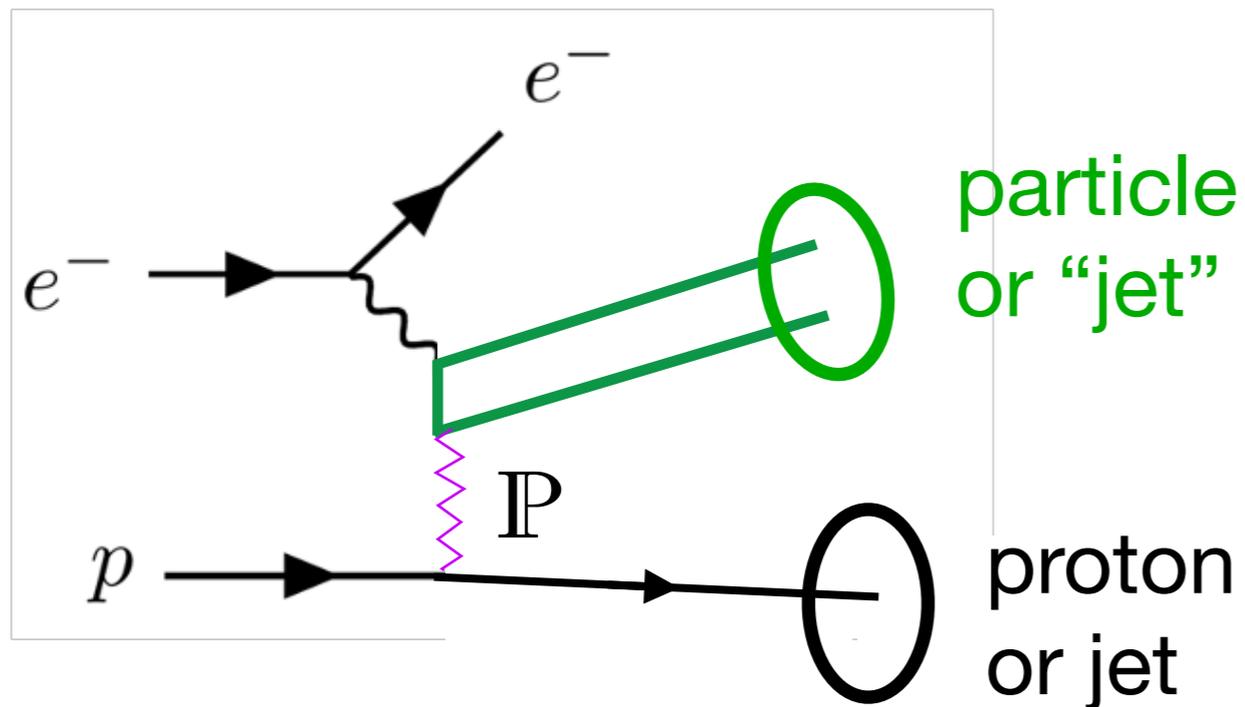


$$x \sim \frac{-t}{s} \ll 1$$

See your YITP lectures by:
A.Stasto, Y.Hatta, Z.Kang,
and A.Deshpand

Figure from [Accardi et al, 1212.1701]

Why Diffraction?



- **Diffractive cross-sections give direct and leading access to Regge physics!**

➔ **Nature of pomeron**

➔ **New hadron structure (GPD-like structure + more?)**

➔ **Small- x and saturation physics (BFKL and heavy-ion)**

- **Ample existing data and bright experimental outlook!**

▶ **10% of HERA**

▶ **20% of EIC (flagship of program!)**

▶ **30% of inelastic LHC events**

$$x \sim \frac{-t}{s} \ll 1$$

Motivation: to understand the “Pomeron”

Example: Total pp cross section

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = \frac{1}{s} \text{Im } T_{\text{el}}(s, t = 0)$$

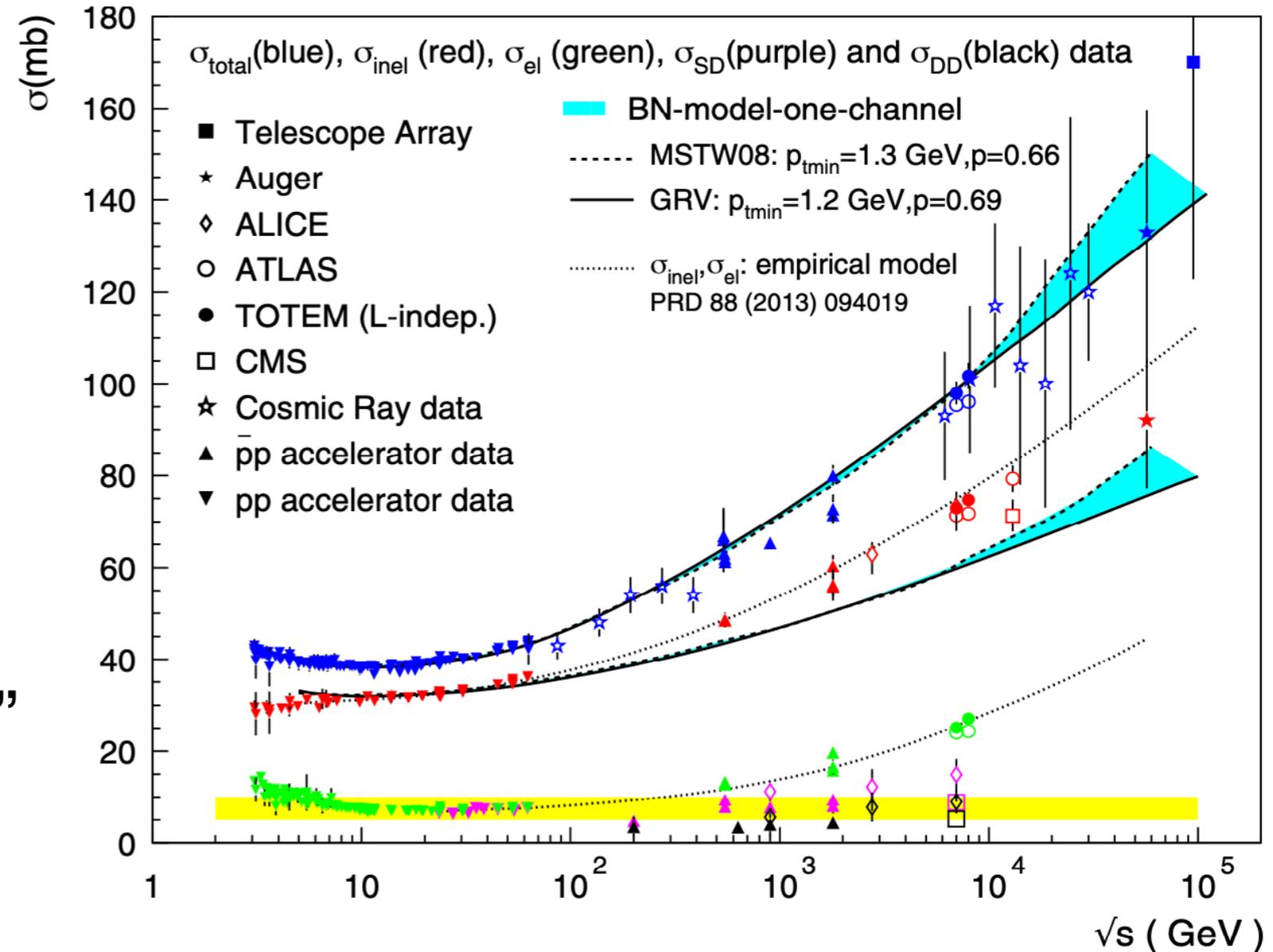
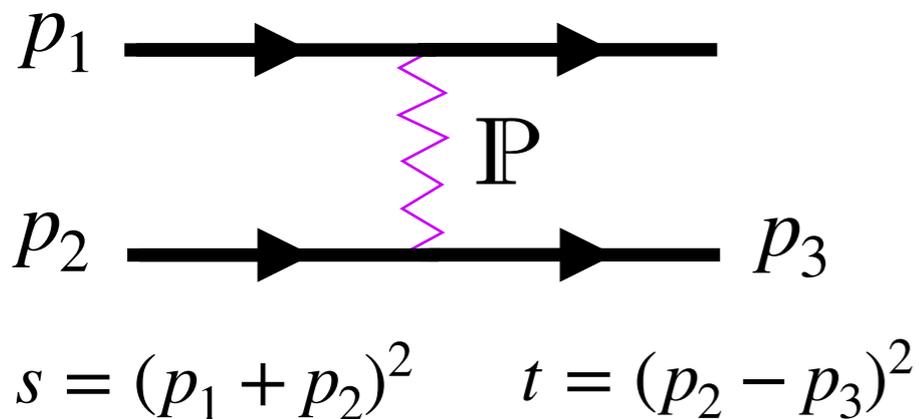
(optical theorem)

• Regge theory

$$s \gg |t|$$

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \propto s^{\alpha_{\mathbb{P}(0)} - 1}$$

“Pomeron Regge Exponent”

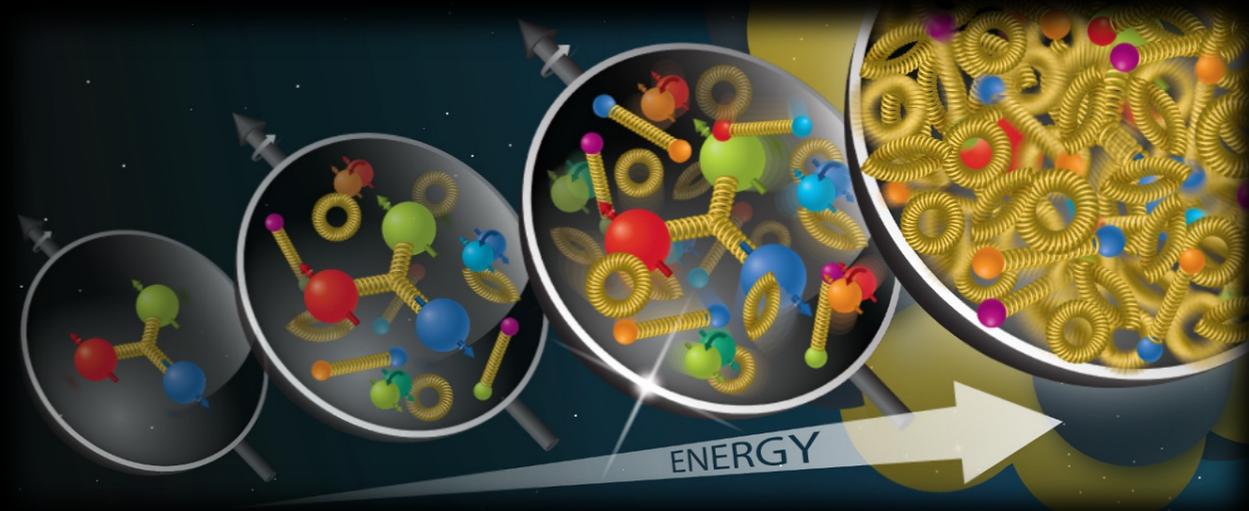


Regge models:
fit using sum of power law terms

from review by
Pancheri and Srivastava
(fig by Fagundes, Grau, Shekhovtsova)

Tools for forward physics

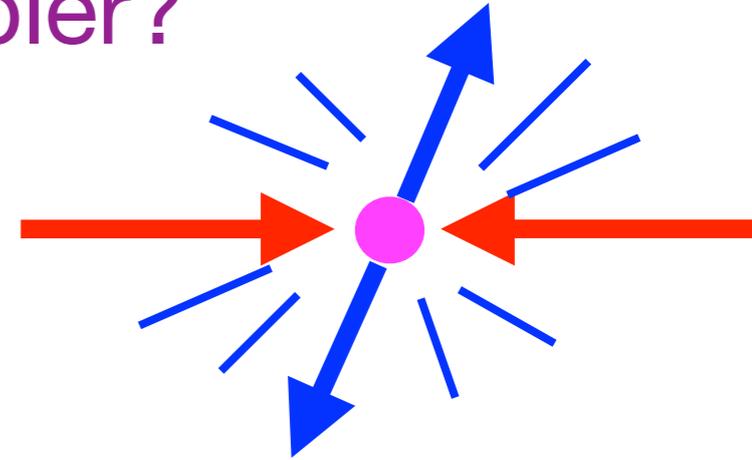
- 1950s** Pomeron & Reggeon description of high-energy scattering
(Regge, Pomeranchuk, Chew, Frautschi...)
- 1973** Development of QCD
(Gross, Politzer, Wilczek)
- 1977** BFKL equation for small- x evolution
(Balitsky, Fadin, Kuraev, Lipatov)
- 1983** Discussion of saturation
(Gribov, Levin, Ryskin)
- 1986** Nonlinear corrections to DGLAP
(Mueller & Qiu)
- 1994** Color Glass Condensate formalism
(McLerran & Venugopalan)
- 1999** BK/JIMWLK equations, smaller- x evolution
(Balitsky, Kochegov, Jalilian-Marian, Iancu, McLerran, Weigert, Leonidov, Kovner)



2016 **Effective field theory: Glauber SCET**
(Rothstein & IS)

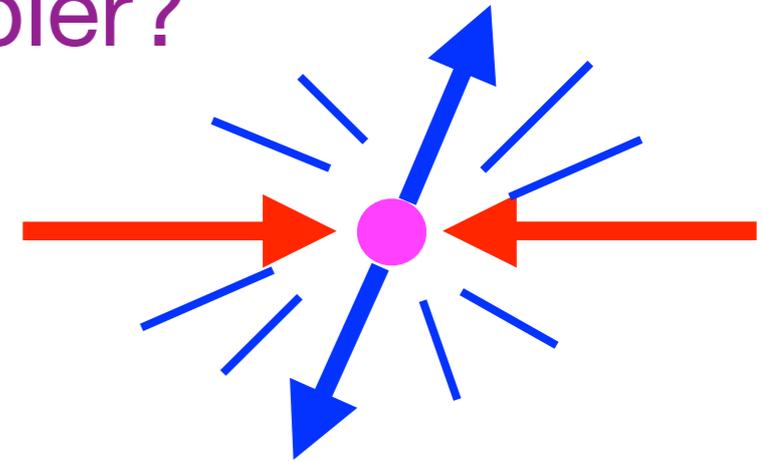
What principles make hard scattering simpler?

- Scale separation \rightarrow Factorization
- Single hard interaction
- Low momentum physics described by QCD operators



What principles make hard scattering simpler?

- Scale separation \rightarrow Factorization
- Single hard interaction
- Low momentum physics described by QCD operators



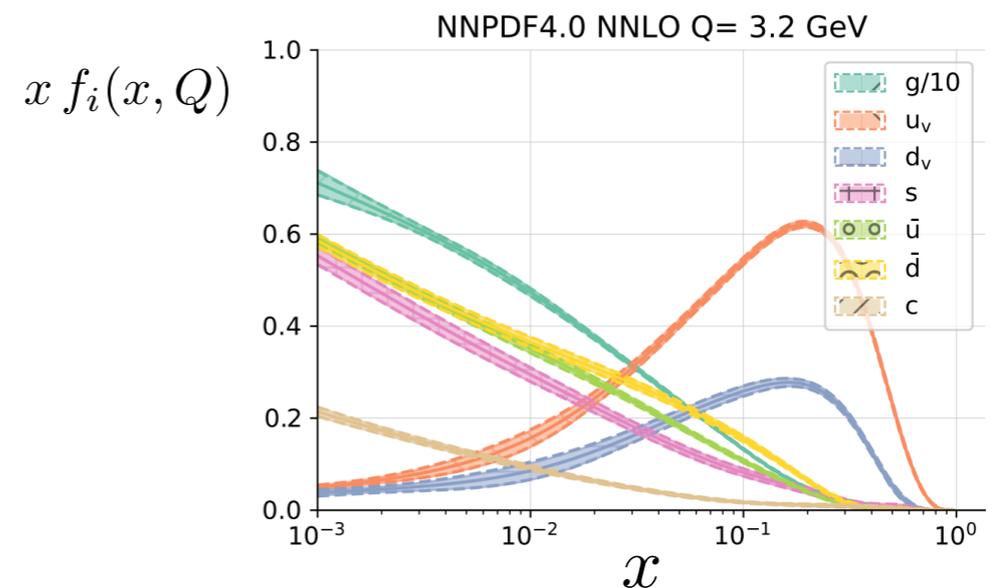
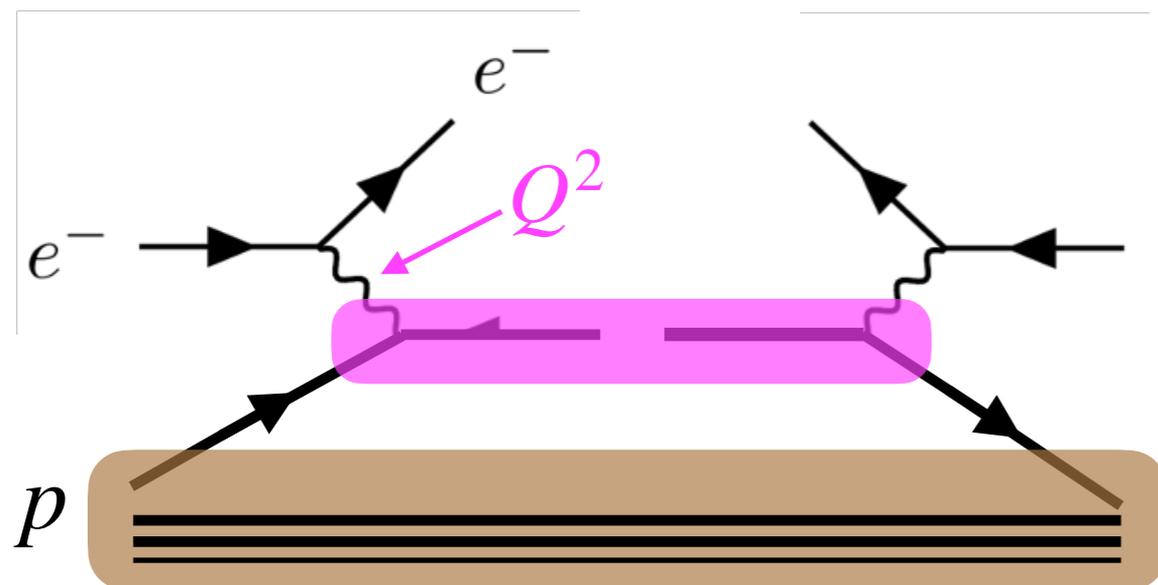
eg. Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS): $e^- p \rightarrow e^- X$

$$d\sigma = H_i(Q, \mu) \otimes f_i(x, \mu)$$

$$Q^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$$

$$f_i(x, \mu) = \langle p | O_i(x, \mu) | p \rangle$$

parton distribution function
(probability to find parton i
with momentum fraction x)



Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS)

$$d\sigma = H_i(Q, \mu) \otimes f_i(x, \mu)$$

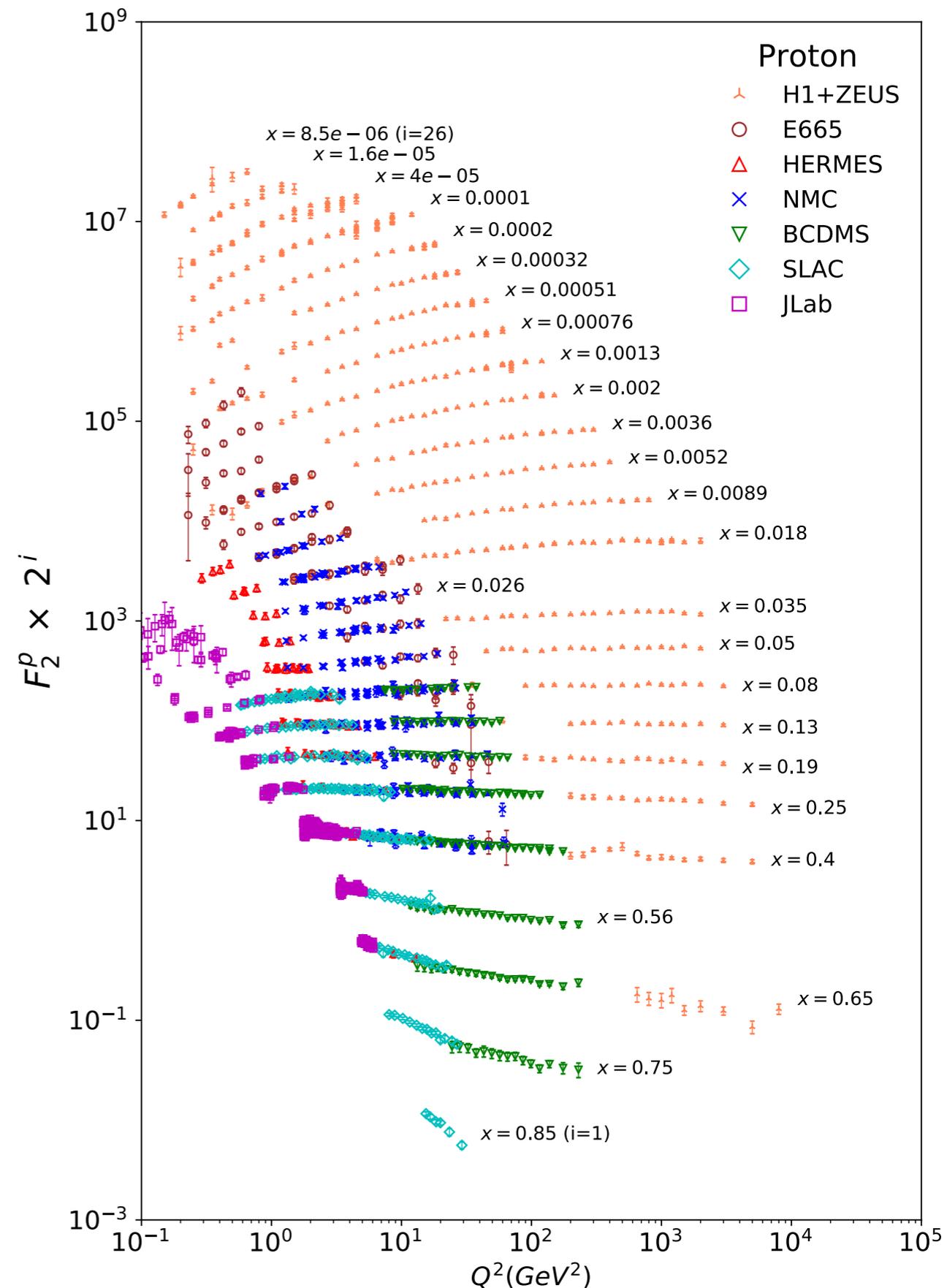
- excellent description of data
- Q dependence calculable (DGLAP), logarithmic “scaling violation”
- higher order QCD calculations improve agreement with data
- **universal** f_i , useful for many observables

$$pp \rightarrow X\mu^+\mu^-$$

$$pp \rightarrow XH$$

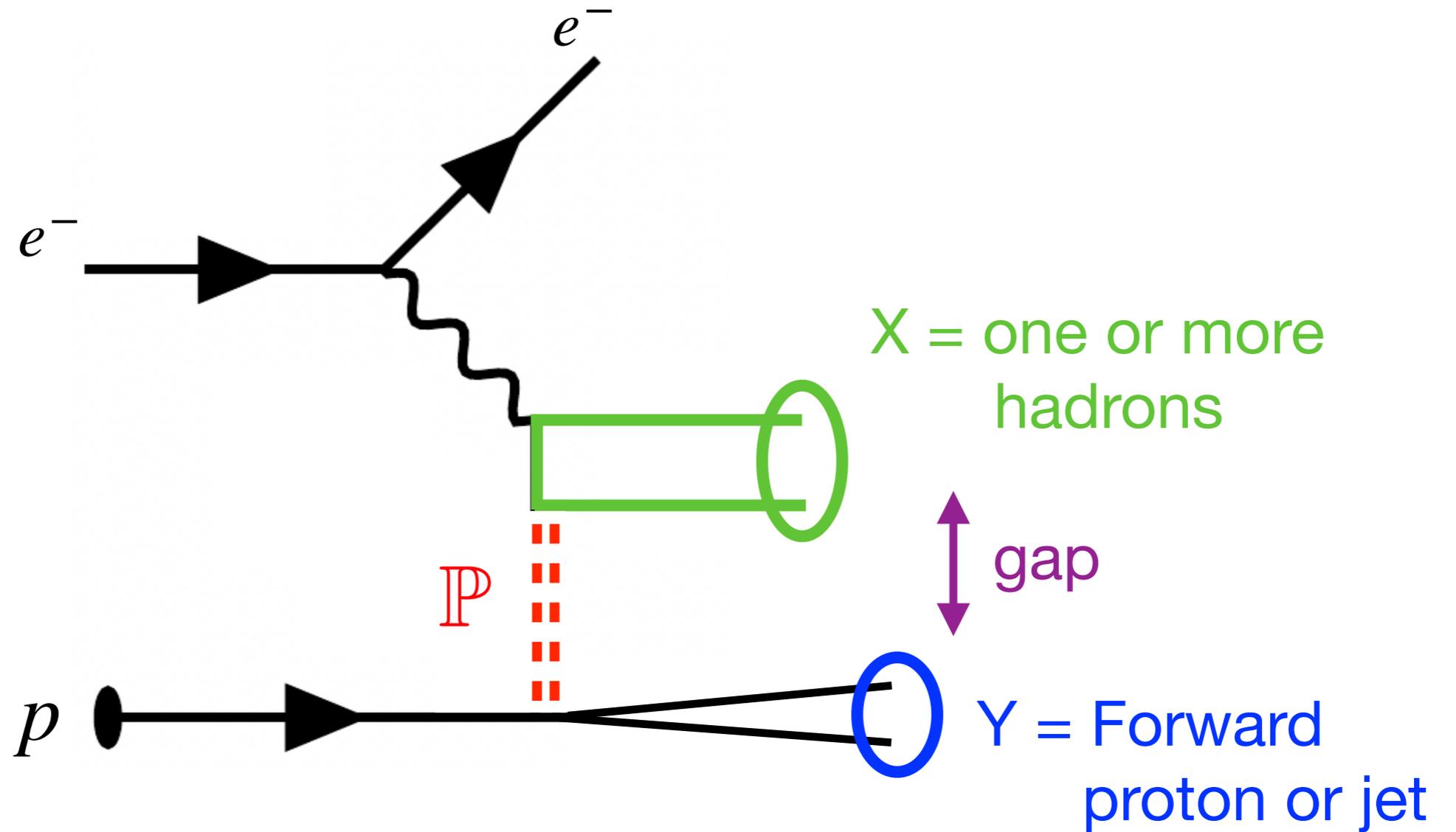
$$pp \rightarrow H + 2\text{-jets}$$

••• (+ many many more)



Diffractive ep Scattering

$$e^- p \rightarrow e^- X Y$$

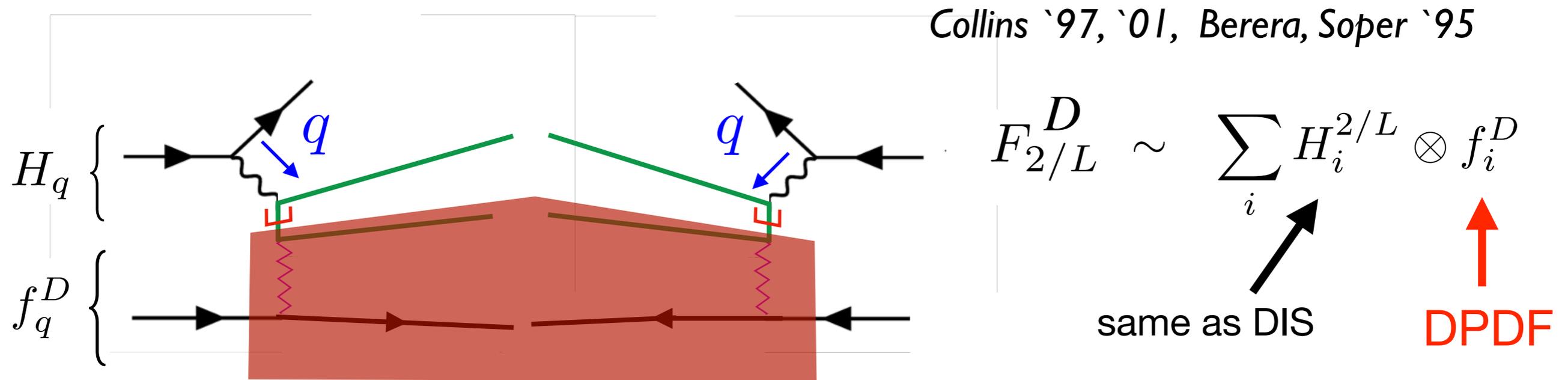


Diffractive ep Scattering

- Scale separation \rightarrow Factorization ?
- Multiple forward interactions
- Description of \mathbb{P} and rest of process with operators?

Hard-collinear Diffractive Factorization

- **DIS style hard-collinear factorization for large Q^2**



DPDF = Diffractive parton distribution functions

$$f_i^D \left(\zeta, \frac{x}{\beta}, t, m_Y^2, \mu \right)$$

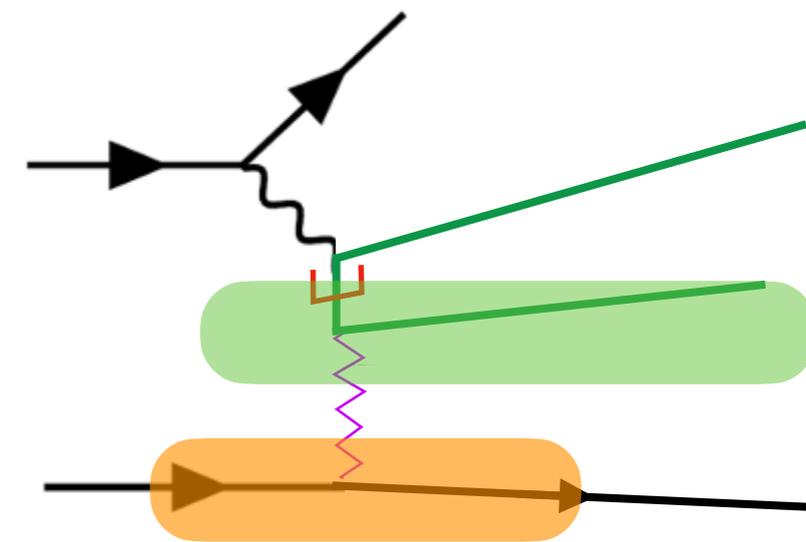
Depends on more kinematic variables

Does not address Regge Factorization or nature of \mathbb{P}

Treatments of diffractive Regge physics usually rely on **models**

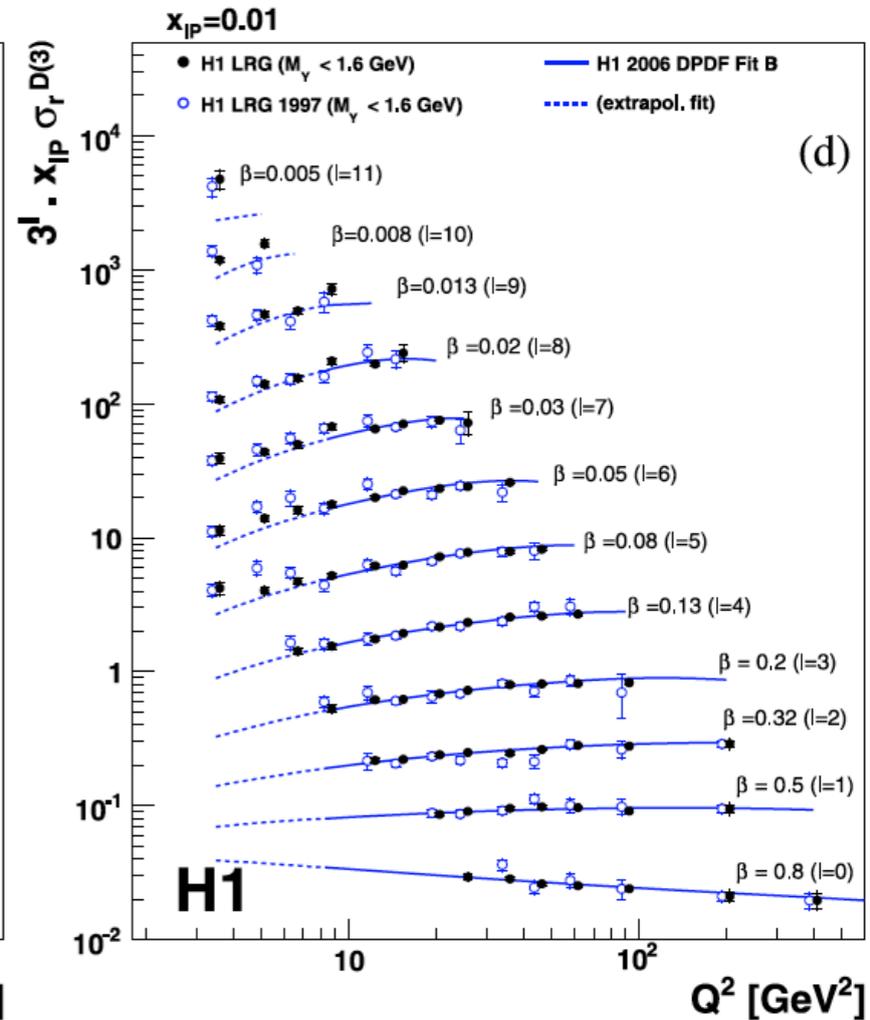
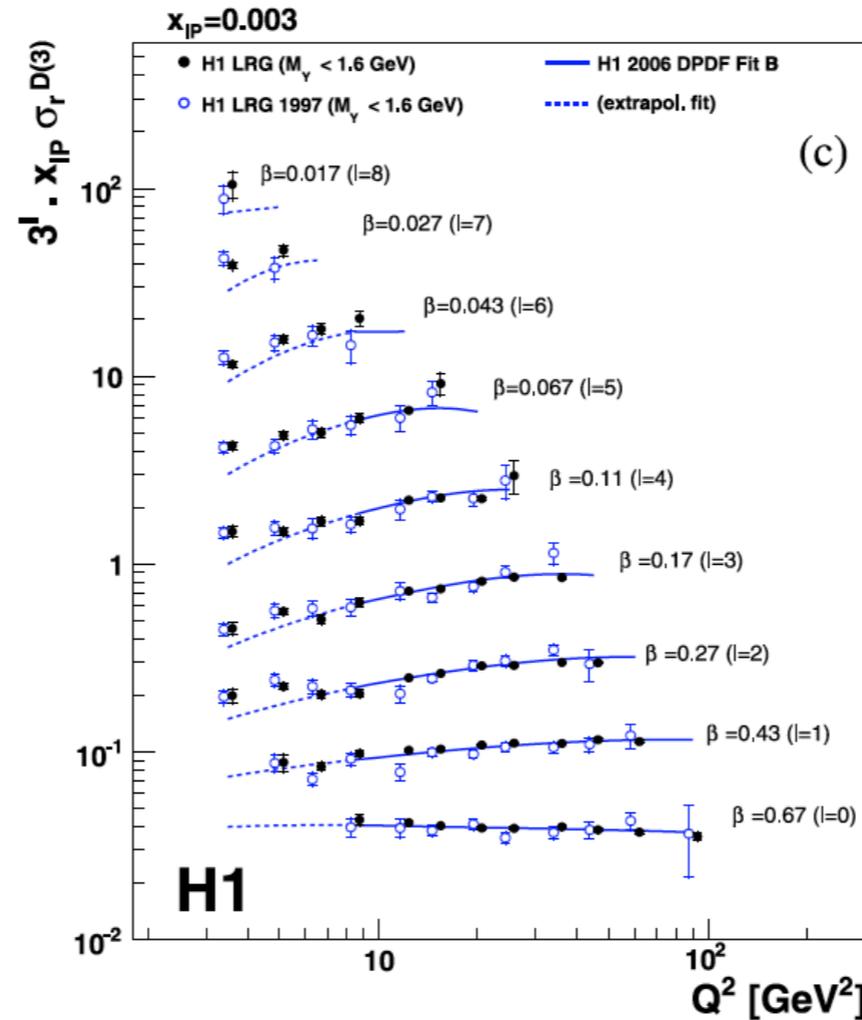
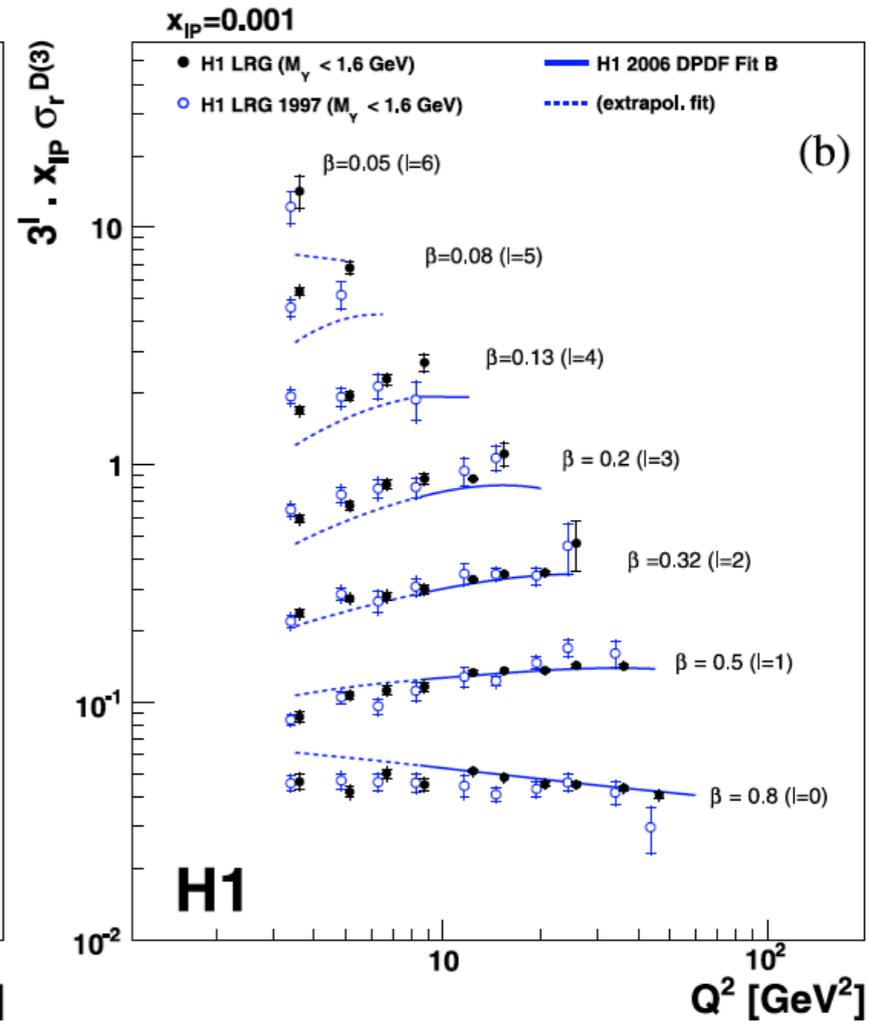
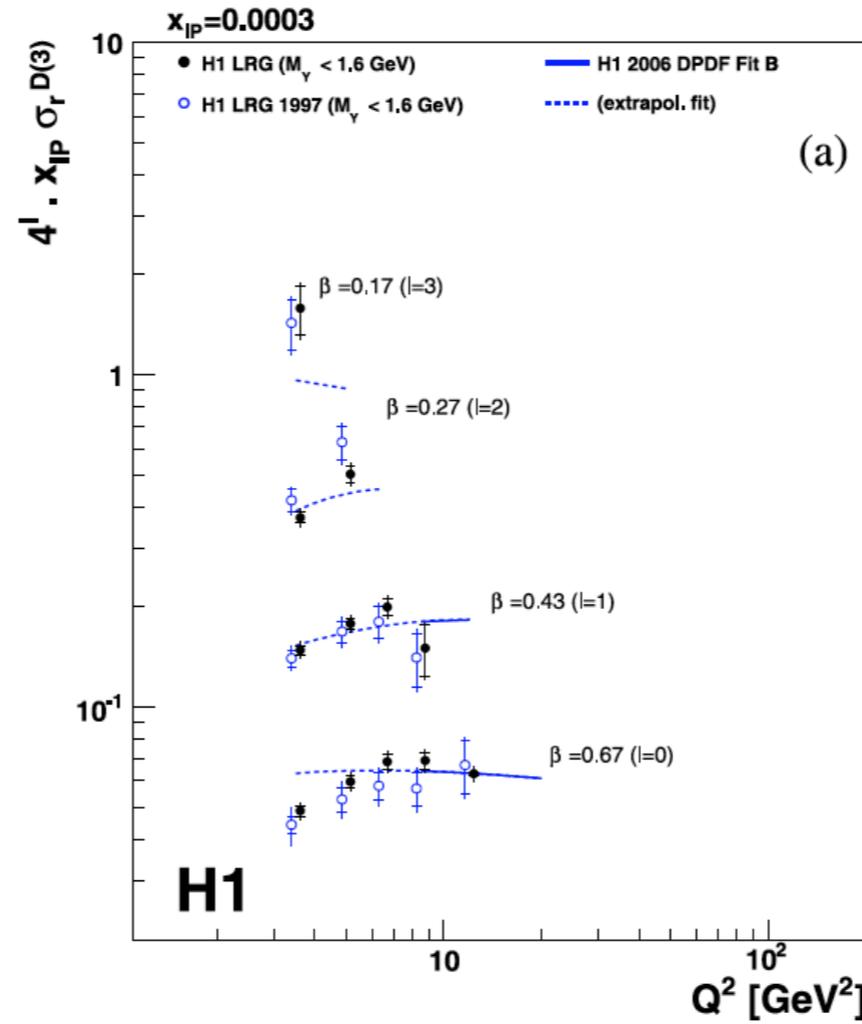
Ingelman-Schlein model is quite popular:

$$f_{i/p}^D(\zeta, \xi, t, m_Y^2, \mu) = f_{i/\mathbb{P}}(\zeta, \mu) f_{\mathbb{P}/p}(\xi, t, m_Y^2)$$



DGLAP evolution describes Q^2 dependence

Ingelman-Schlein as boundary condition for HERA fits



The dPDF description of Diffraction fails for pp collisions

Non-universal dPDF? Factorization Violation? ...

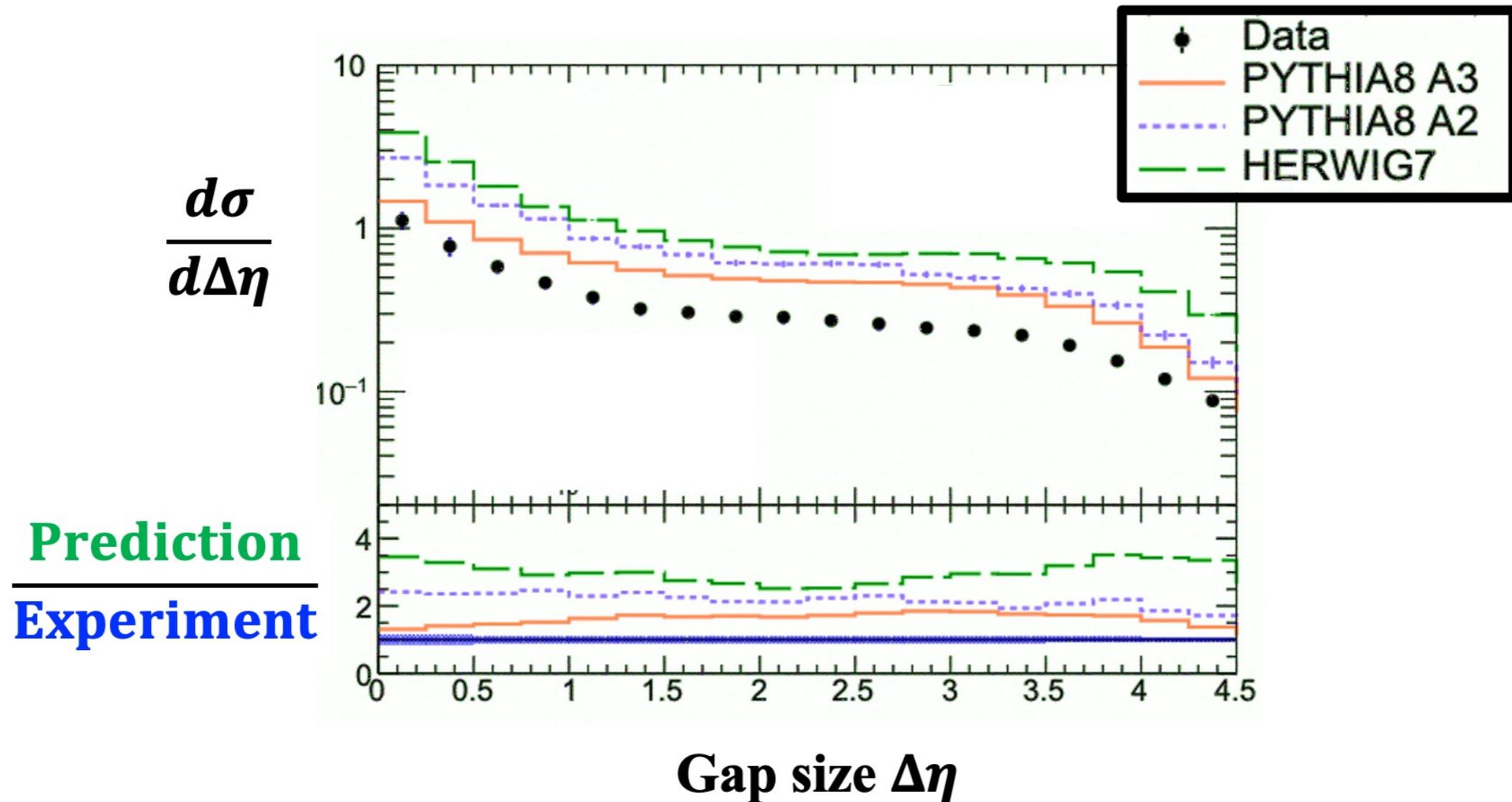


Figure: ATLAS, 1911.00453. $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$, $0.016 < |t| < 0.43 \text{ GeV}^2$, $-4.0 < \log_{10} \xi < -1.6$

Diffractive ep Scattering

- Scale separation \rightarrow Factorization ?
- Multiple forward interactions
- Description of \mathbb{P} and rest of process with operators?

Yes

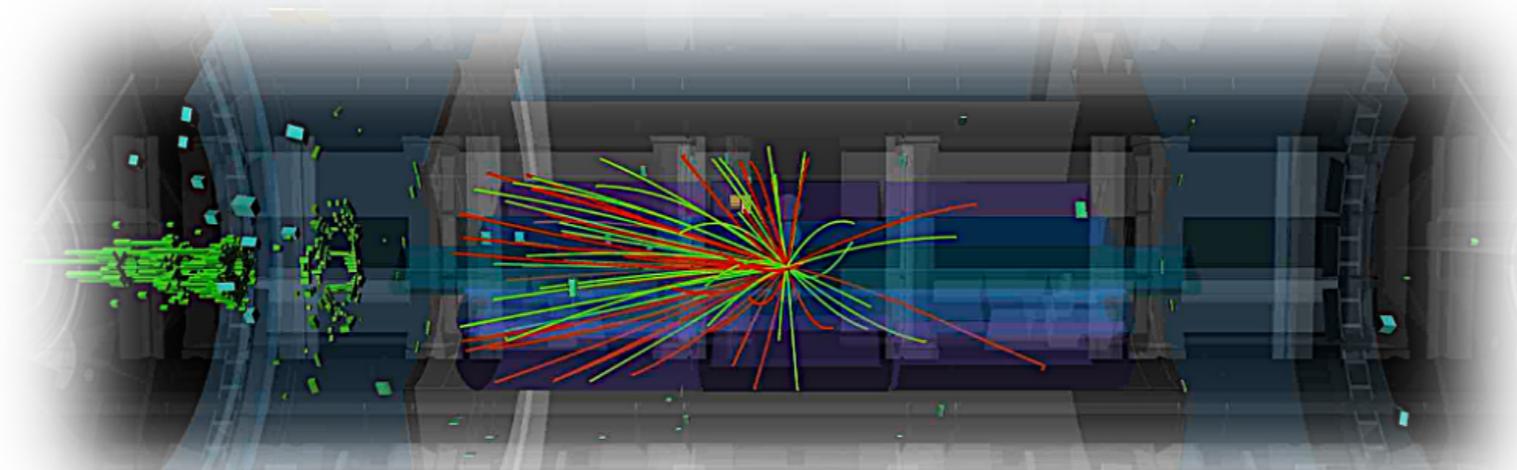
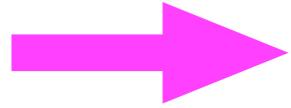
Regge Factorization Theorem for ep

Lee, Schindler, IS arXiv:2508.10231 (JHEP)

Tool: Soft Collinear Effective Field Theory

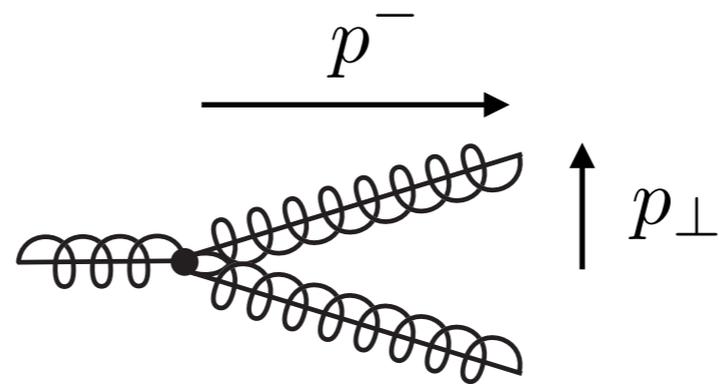
Outline

- Introduction: Diffraction
- Introduction: Soft Collinear Effective Theory (SCET)
- Kinematics and Structure Functions
- Power Counting and Regge Factorization
- Applications and Phenomenology



Relevant Momentum Regions:

- Collinear Splittings

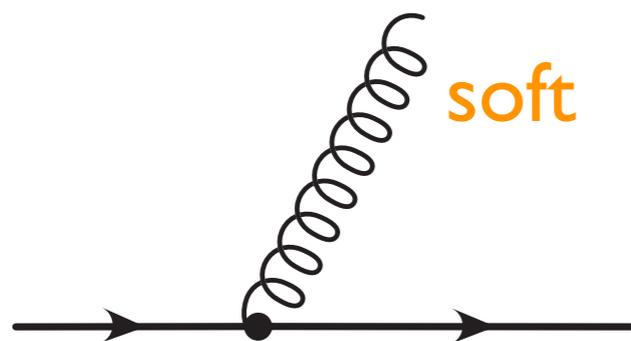


“n-collinear”

$$p^- \gg p_\perp \gg p^+$$

onshell: $p^+ p^- = \vec{p}_\perp^2$

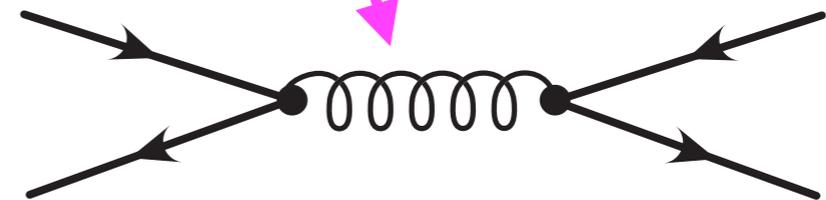
- Soft Emission



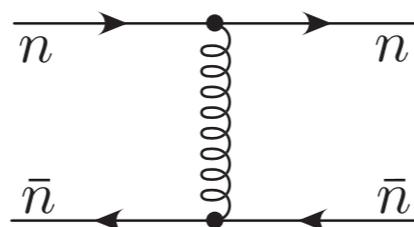
- Hard Propagators (short dist.)

\bar{n} -collinear

n-collinear



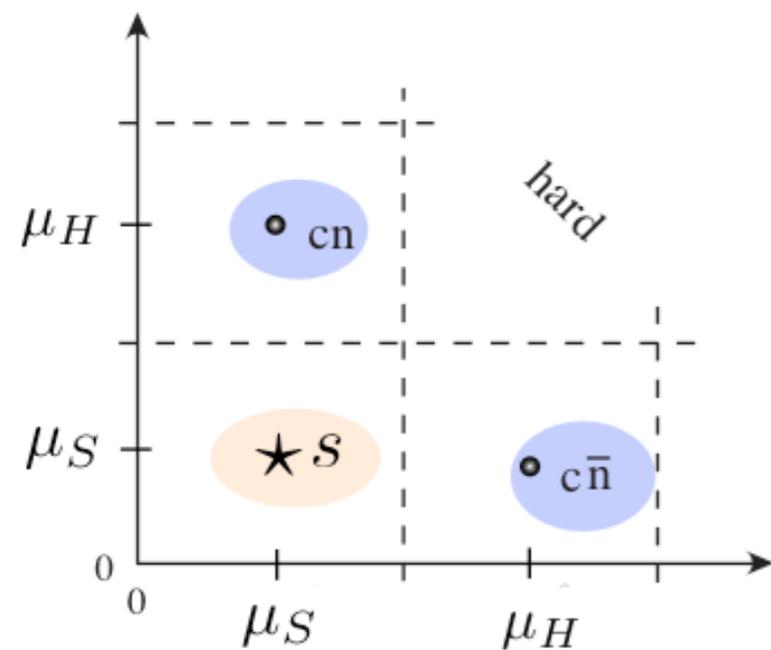
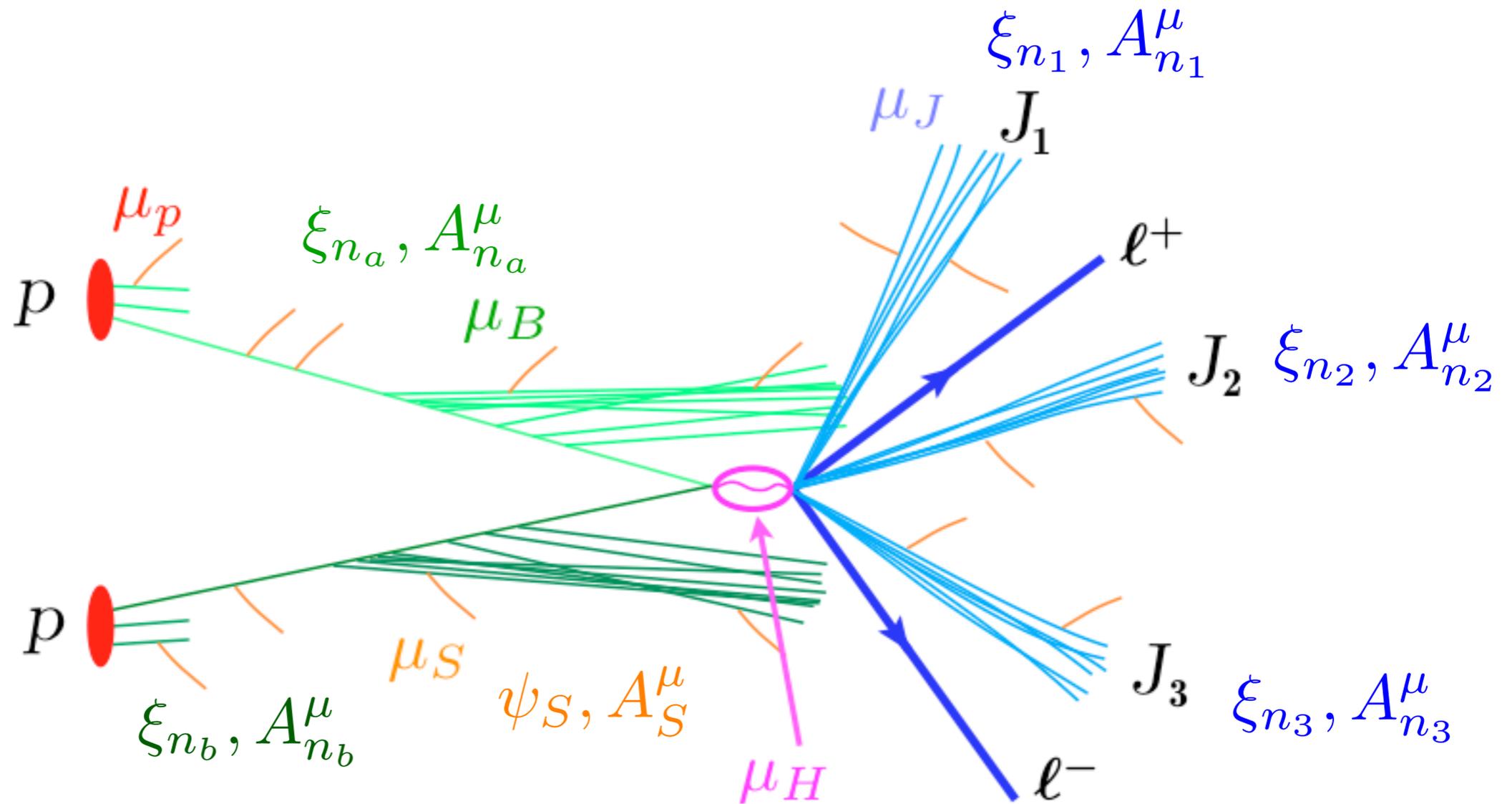
- Glauber Exchange



forward scattering

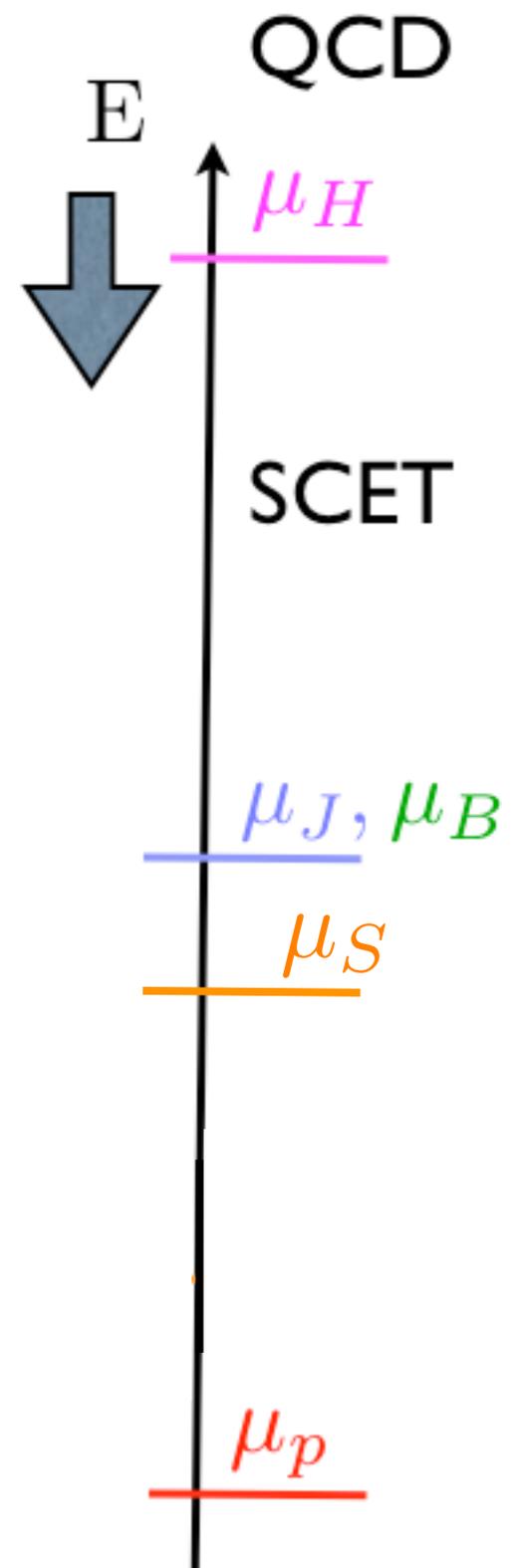
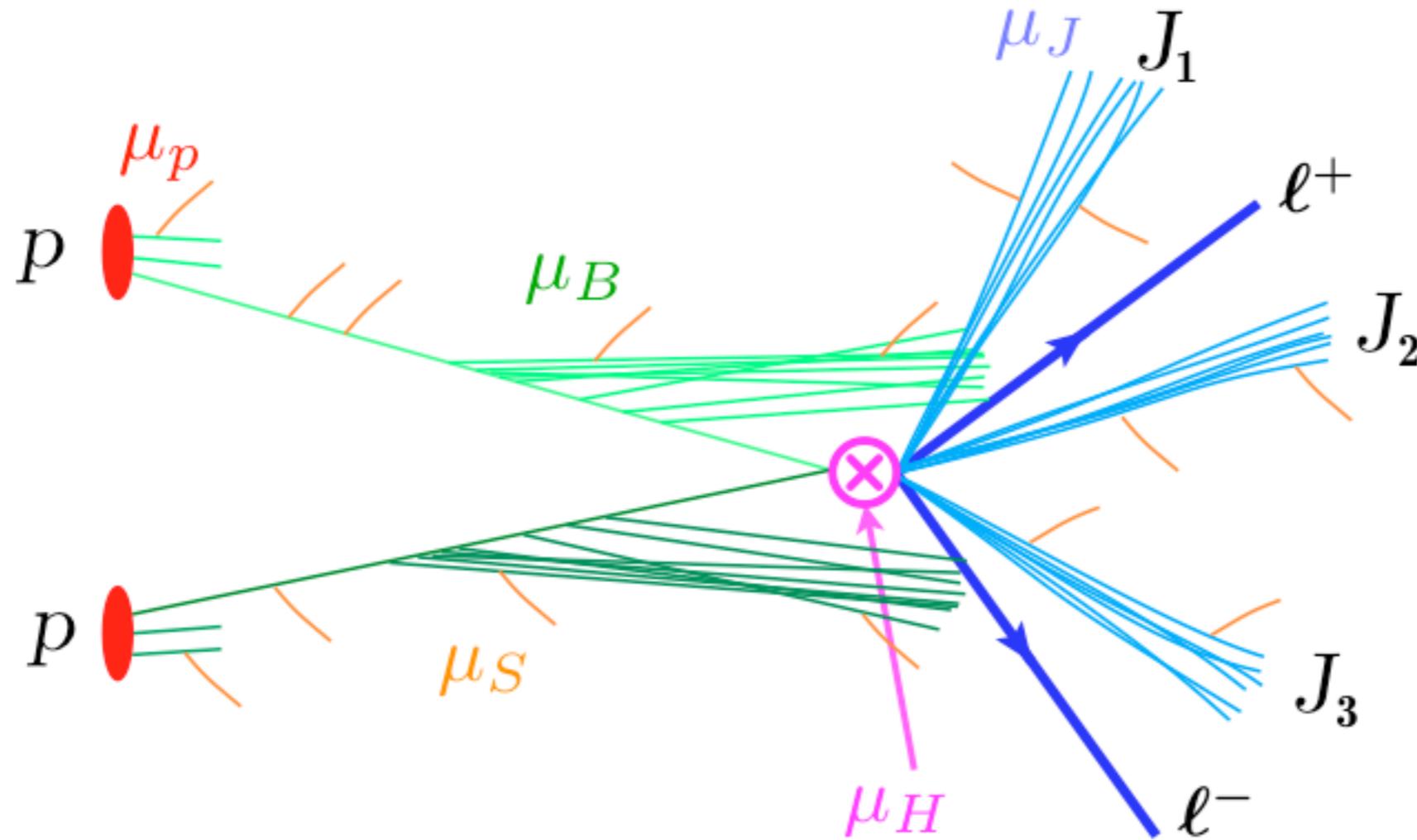
Soft Collinear EFT (SCET)

SCET Fields for various Modes



- dominant contributions from specific regions of momentum space

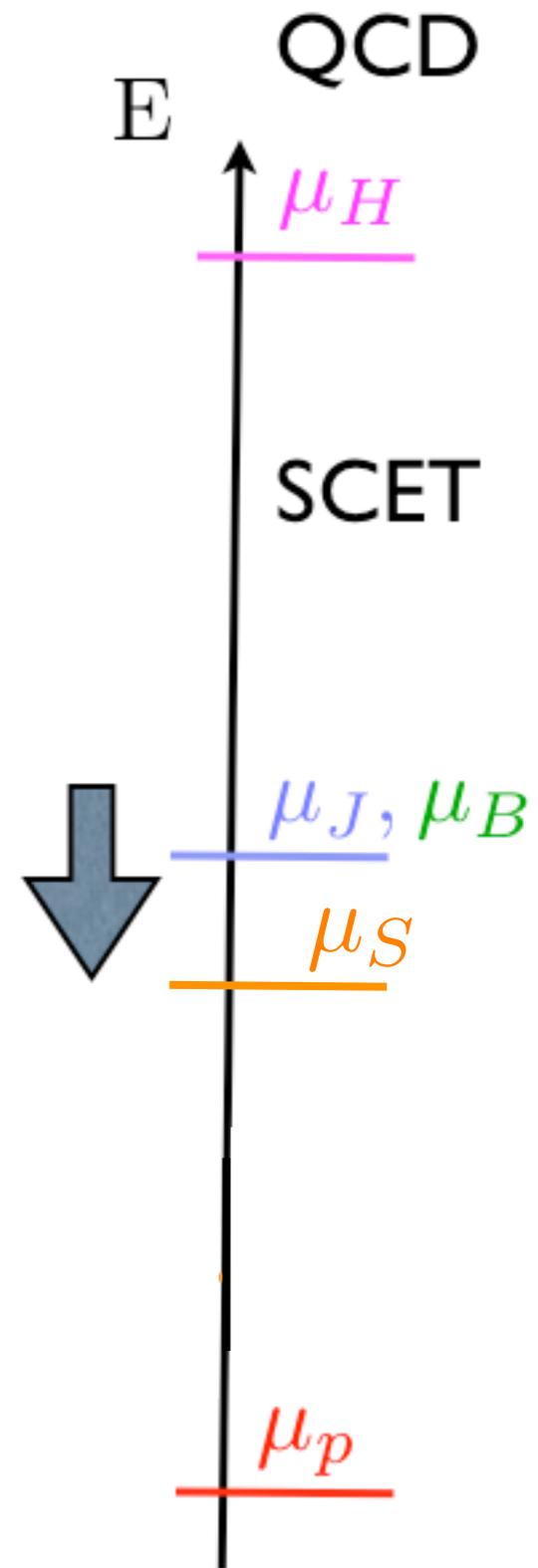
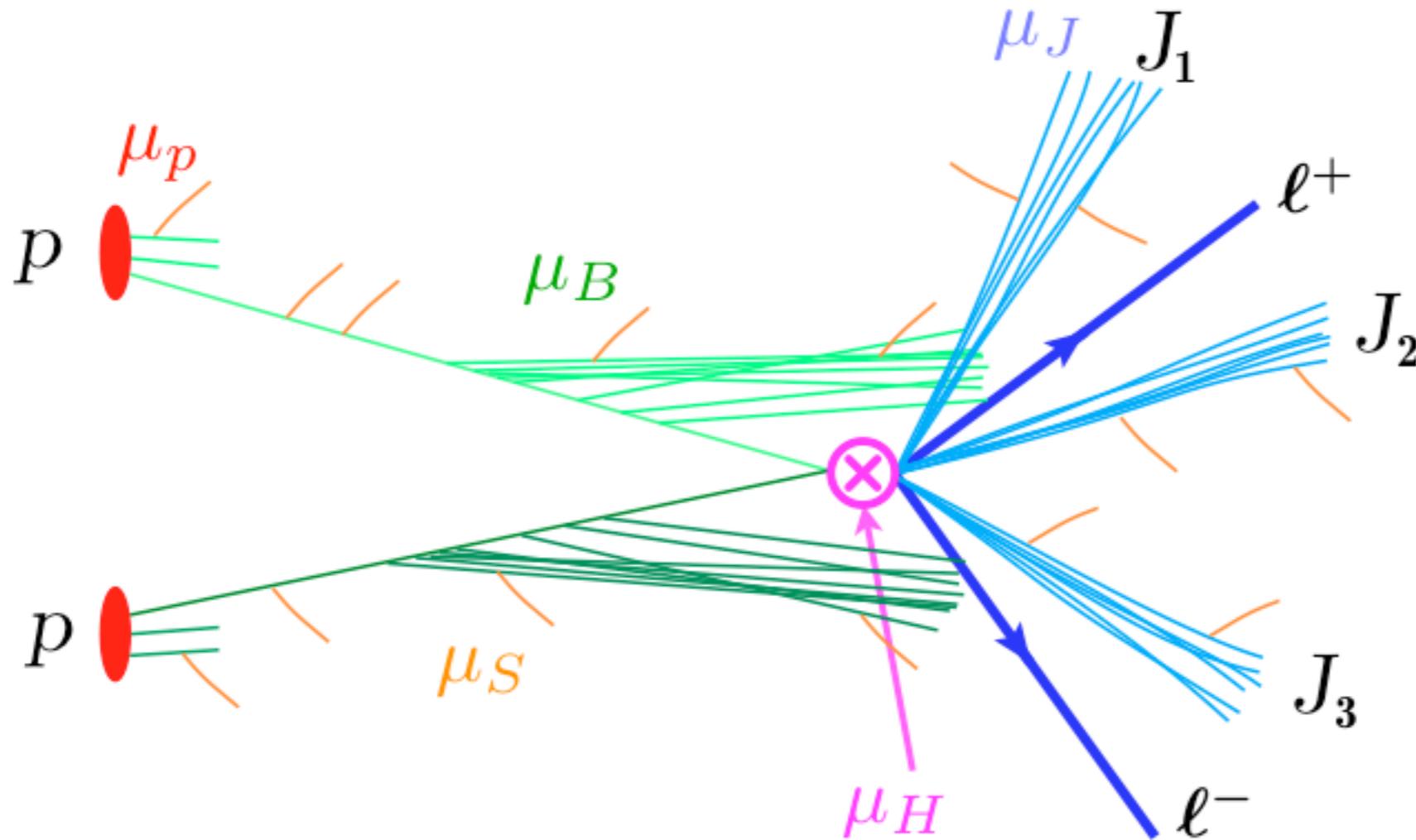
Hard-collinear factorization



μ_H : Wilson coefficients for SCET Hard Scattering Operators

$$C \otimes O$$

Hard-collinear factorization



Operators are built of building block fields:

$$\mathcal{O} = (\mathcal{B}_{n_a \perp})(\mathcal{B}_{n_b \perp})(\mathcal{B}_{n_1 \perp})(\bar{\chi}_{n_2})(\chi_{n_3})$$

$$\chi_n = (W_n^\dagger \xi_n)$$

“quark jet”

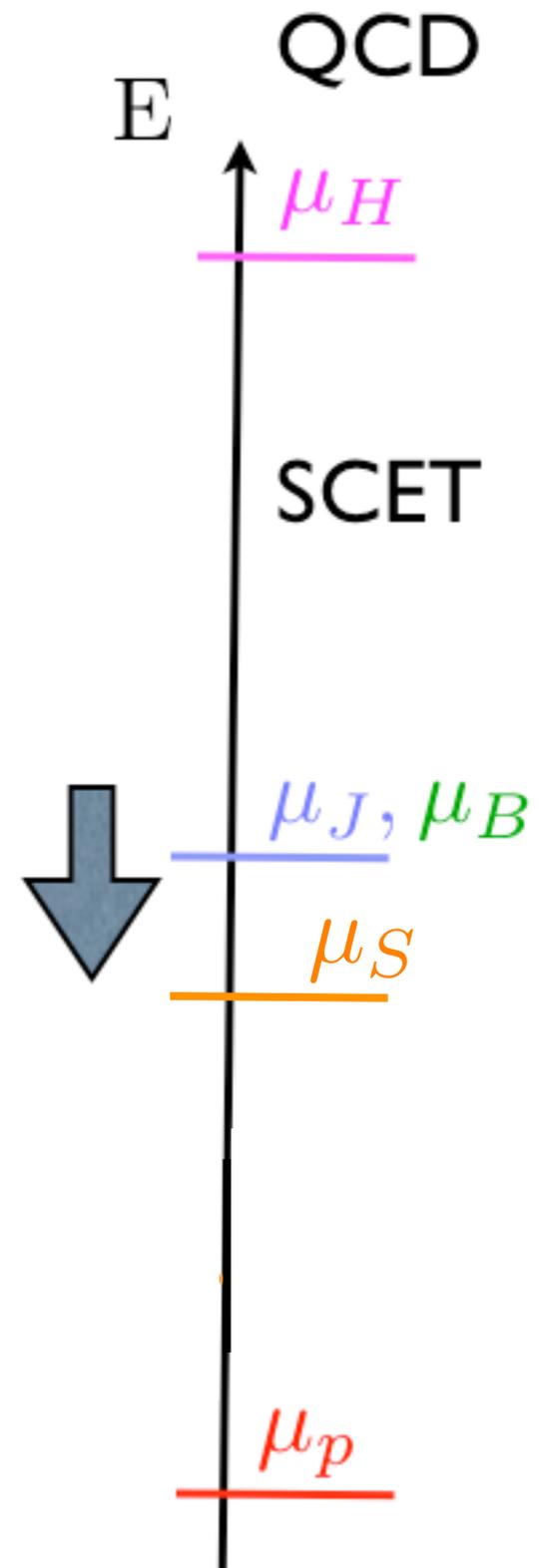
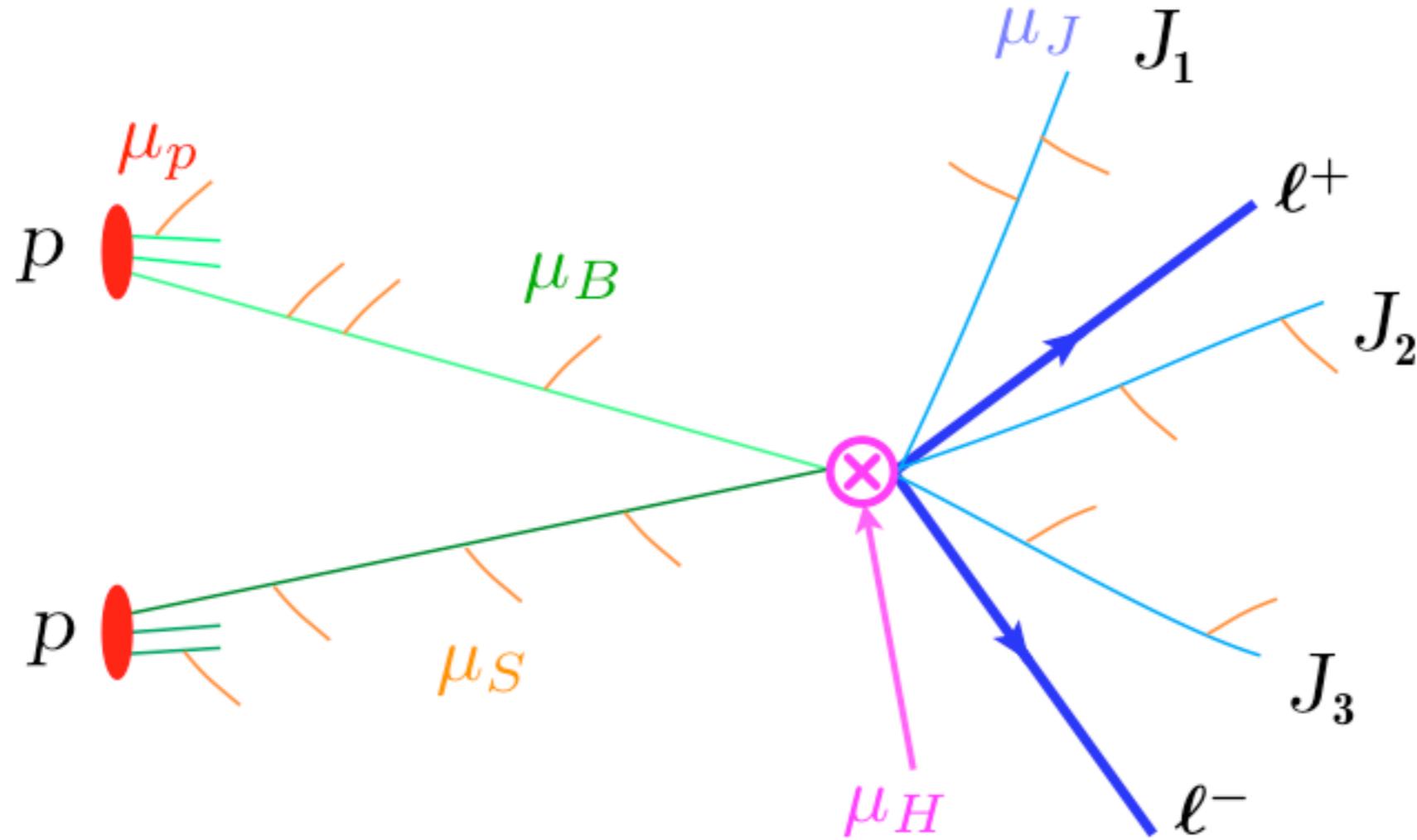
$$\mathcal{B}_{n \perp}^\mu = \frac{1}{g} [W_n^\dagger i D_\perp^\mu W_n]$$

“gluon jet”

Wilson lines

$$W_n = P \exp \left(ig \int_{-\infty}^0 ds \bar{n} \cdot A_n(x + \bar{n}s) \right)$$

Soft-collinear factorization



Soft radiation knows only about bulk properties of radiation in the jets

$$(\mathcal{S}_{n_a} \mathcal{S}_{n_b} \mathcal{S}_{n_1} \mathcal{S}_{n_2} \mathcal{S}_{n_3})$$

Soft Wilson Lines

SCET Lagrangian at leading power

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{dyn}}^{(0)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{hard}}^{(0)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{G}}^{(0)}$$

Dynamics of infrared modes

Hard Scattering operators
(typically once)

Glauber gluon exchange
(only factorization violating term)

- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{hard}}^{(0)} = \sum_i C_i^{(0)} \mathcal{O}_i^{(0)}$

Leading operators for a hard process

$$C \otimes (\mathcal{B}_{n_a \perp})(\mathcal{B}_{n_b \perp})(\mathcal{B}_{n_1 \perp})(\bar{\chi}_{n_2})(\chi_{n_3})(\mathcal{S}_{n_a} \mathcal{S}_{n_b} \mathcal{S}_{n_1} \mathcal{S}_{n_2} \mathcal{S}_{n_3})$$
- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{dyn}}^{(0)} = \sum_n \mathcal{L}_n^{(0)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{soft}}^{(0)}$

Collinear and Soft dynamics decoupled
- ~~$\mathcal{L}_{\text{G}}^{(0)}$~~ \rightarrow Factorization for hard process!

SCET Lagrangian at leading power

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{dyn}}^{(0)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{hard}}^{(0)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{G}}^{(0)}$$

Dynamics of infrared modes

Hard Scattering operators
(typically once)

Glauber gluon exchange
(only factorization violating term)

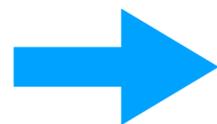
- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{hard}}^{(0)} = \sum_i C_i^{(0)} \mathcal{O}_i^{(0)}$

Leading operators for a given process

- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{dyn}}^{(0)} = \sum_n \mathcal{L}_n^{(0)} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{soft}}^{(0)}$

Collinear and Soft dynamics
(Factorizes after soft-collinear decoupling)

Factorization



$$d\sigma = f_a f_b \otimes \hat{\sigma} \otimes F$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{\text{fact}} = \mathcal{I}_a \mathcal{I}_b \otimes H \otimes \prod_i J_i \otimes S$$

Glauber Lagrangian:

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Glauber}}$

$$= \sum_n \sum_{i,j=q,g} \mathcal{O}_n^{iB} \frac{1}{\mathcal{P}_\perp^2} \mathcal{O}_s^{j_n B}$$

+ (3 sector terms)

acts as $\frac{1}{k_\perp^2} = \frac{1}{k_x^2 + k_y^2}$ potential

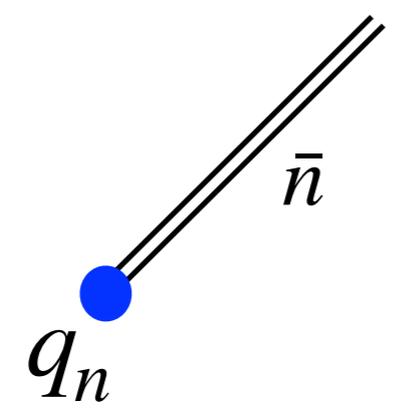
part we need for ep diffraction

- Operators involve quark & gluon fields, and gluon Wilson lines

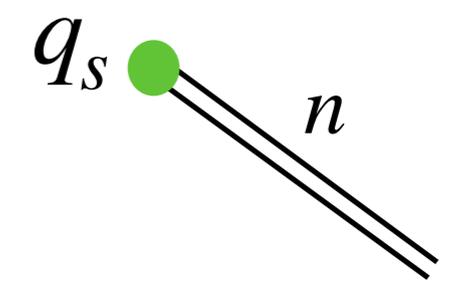
$$\mathcal{O}_n^{qB} = \bar{\chi}_n T^B \frac{\vec{\eta}}{2} \chi_n$$

$$\mathcal{O}_n^{gB} = \frac{i}{2} f^{BCD} \mathcal{B}_{n\perp\mu}^C \frac{\vec{n}}{2} \cdot (\mathcal{P} + \mathcal{P}^\dagger) \mathcal{B}_{n\perp}^{D\mu}$$

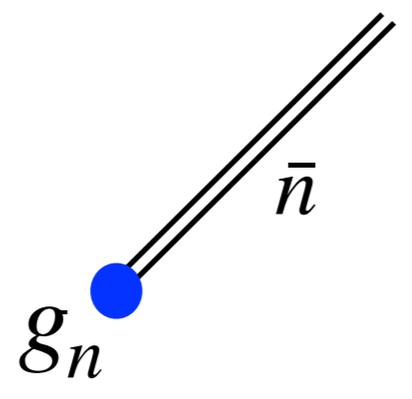
$$\chi_n = (W_n^\dagger \xi_n)$$



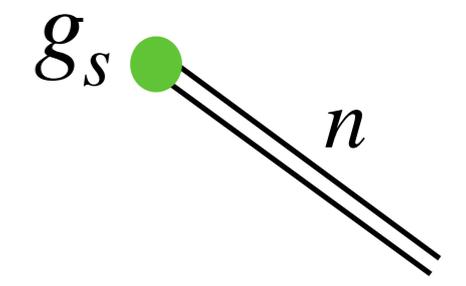
$$\psi_s^n = S_n^\dagger \psi_s$$



$$\mathcal{B}_{n\perp}^\mu = \frac{1}{g} [W_n^\dagger i D_\perp^\mu W_n]$$

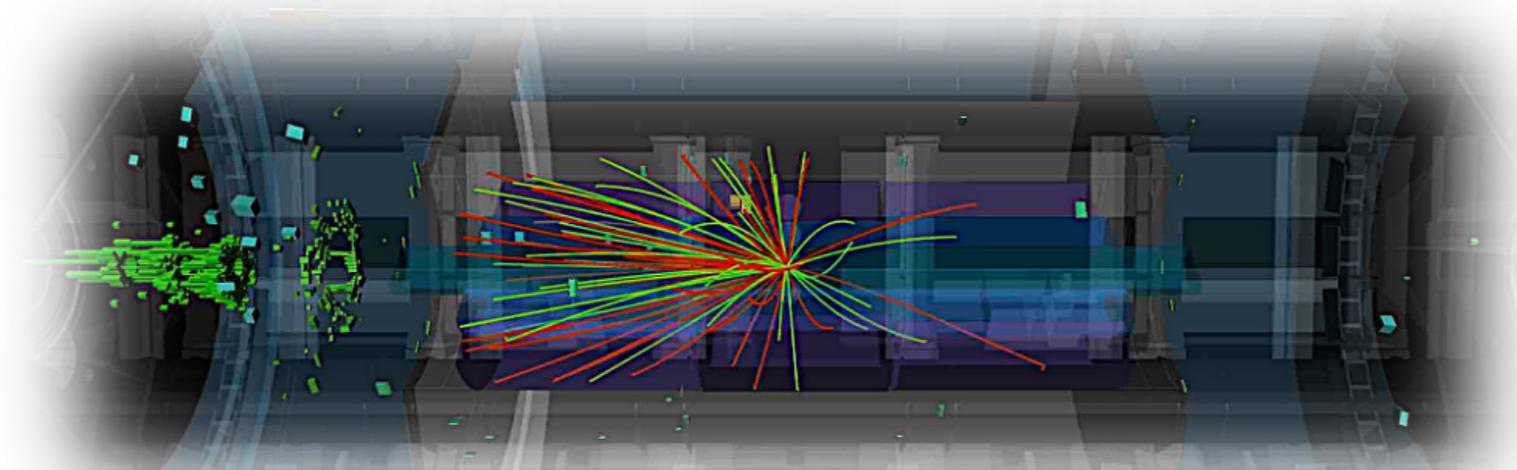


$$\mathcal{B}_{S\perp}^{n\mu} = \frac{1}{g} [S_n^\dagger i D_{S\perp}^\mu S_n]$$



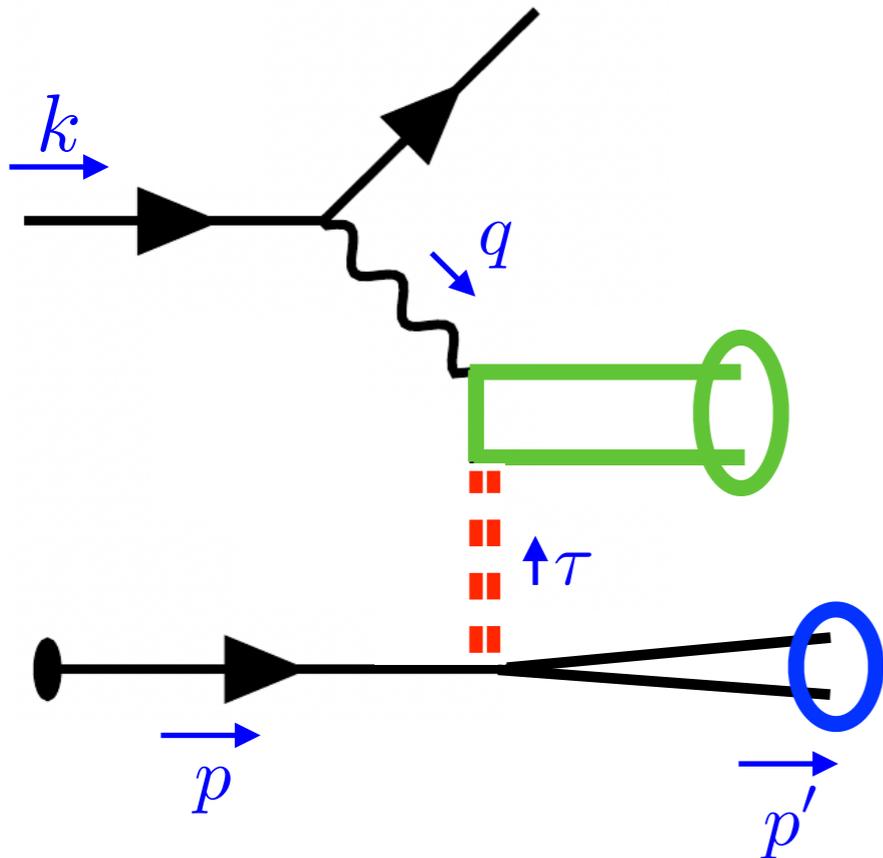
Outline

- Introduction: Diffraction
- Introduction: Soft Collinear Effective Theory (SCET)
- ➔ ● Kinematics and Structure Functions
- Power Counting and Regge Factorization
- Applications and Phenomenology



Kinematics

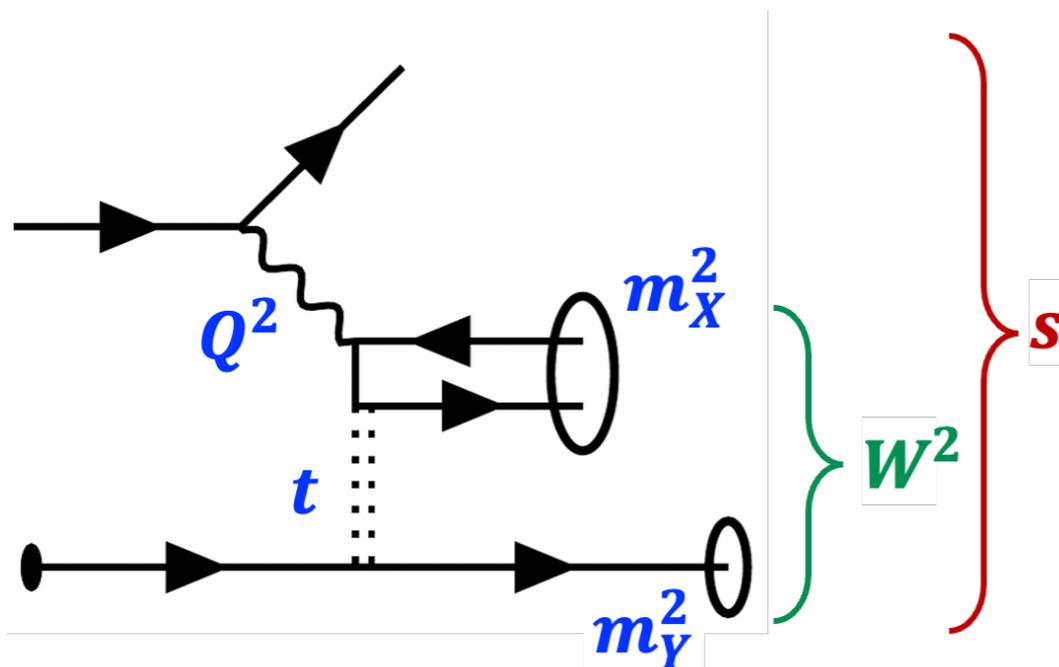
4-vectors: $\{k, q, p, \tau\}$



	Energy scales	Momentum fractions
Familiar from DIS	$Q^2 = -q^2$ $W^2 = (p + q)^2$ $s = (p + k)^2$	$x = \frac{Q^2}{2p \cdot q}$ $y = \frac{p \cdot q}{p \cdot k}$
Diffraction	$t = \tau^2 < 0$ $m_Y^2 = p'^2 > 0$ $m_X^2 = p_X^2 > 0$	$\beta = \frac{Q^2}{2q \cdot \tau}$ $\bar{x} = \frac{k \cdot \tau}{k \cdot p}$ $z = \frac{p \cdot p'}{p \cdot q}$

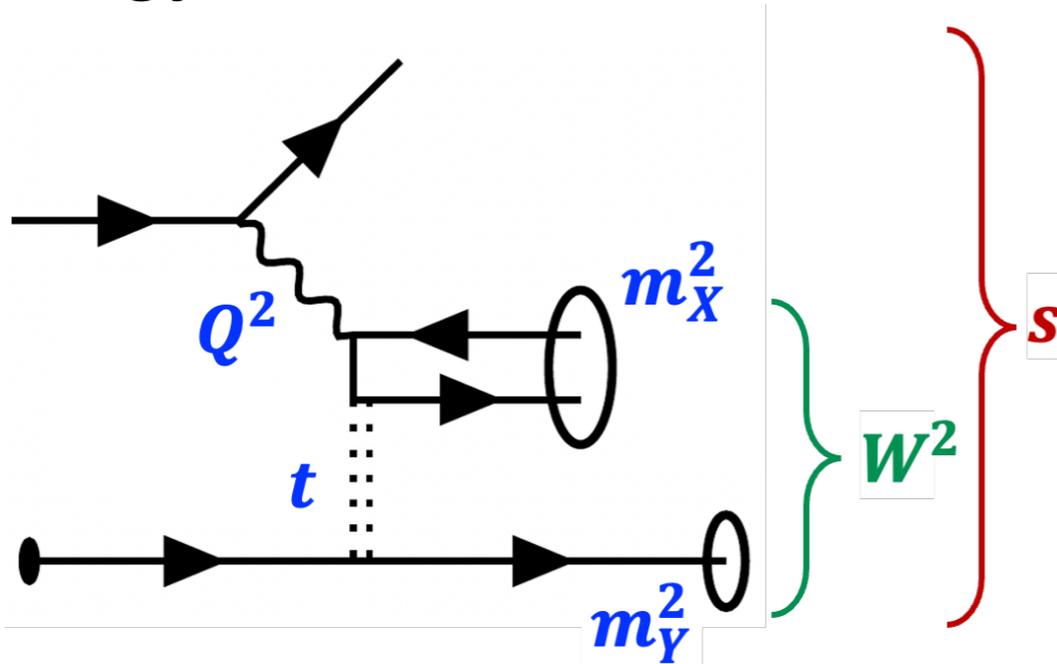
Not all variables independent:

3 for DIS, 7 for diffraction (2 leptonic)



Kinematics

Energy scales:



$$\frac{d^6 \sigma}{d\{x, y, \bar{x}, t, \beta, m_Y^2\}}$$

	Energy scales	Momentum fractions
Familiar from DIS	$Q^2 = -q^2$ $W^2 = (p + q)^2$ $s = (p + k)^2$	$x = \frac{Q^2}{2p \cdot q}$ $y = \frac{p \cdot q}{p \cdot k}$
Diffraction	$t = \tau^2 < 0$ $m_Y^2 = p'^2 > 0$ $m_X^2 = p_X^2 > 0$	$\beta = \frac{Q^2}{2q \cdot \tau}$ $\bar{x} = \frac{k \cdot \tau}{k \cdot p}$ $z = \frac{p \cdot p'}{p \cdot q}$

Not all variables independent:

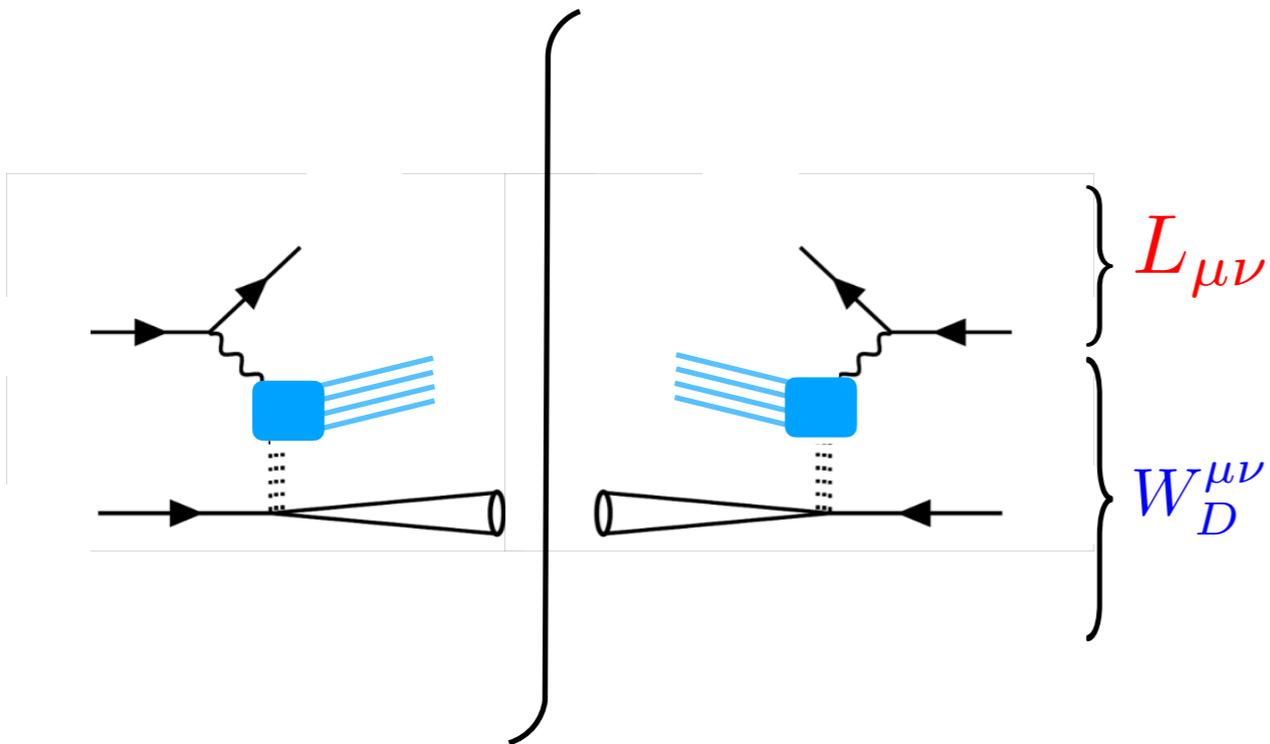
3 for DIS, 7 for diffraction (2 leptonic)

$$Q^2 = sxy \quad , \quad W^2 = Q^2 \frac{1-x}{x} + m_p^2$$

$$m_X^2 = Q^2 \frac{1-\beta}{\beta} + t \quad , \quad z = \frac{x}{Q^2} (m_Y^2 - t)$$

Structure Functions

4 structure functions for unpolarized:



$$\frac{d^6\sigma}{d\{x, y, \bar{x}, t, \beta, m_Y^2\}} \sim L_{\mu\nu} W_D^{\mu\nu}$$

trivial:

$$L^{\mu\nu}(k, k') = 2[k^\mu k'^\nu + k^\nu k'^\mu - k \cdot k' g^{\mu\nu} + i\lambda_e \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} k_\rho k'_\sigma]$$

non-trivial
QCD:

$$W_D^{\mu\nu}(q, p, p') = \sum_X \sum_Y \delta^4(q + p - p' - p_X) \langle p | J^{\dagger\mu}(0) | Y X \rangle \langle Y X | J^\nu(0) | p \rangle \delta(m_Y^2 - p'^2)$$

$$= \sum_i w_i^{\mu\nu}(q, U, X, S) F_i^D(x, Q^2, \beta, t, m_Y^2)$$

e.m. current

unpolarized:

$$w_L^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2x} \left(g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{q^\mu q^\nu}{q^2} \right)$$

$$w_2^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2x} \left(U^\mu U^\nu - g^{\mu\nu} + \frac{q^\mu q^\nu}{q^2} \right)$$

$$w_3^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2x} \left(2X^\mu X^\nu - U^\mu U^\nu + g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{q^\mu q^\nu}{q^2} \right)$$

$$w_4^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2x} (U^\mu X^\nu + X^\mu U^\nu)$$

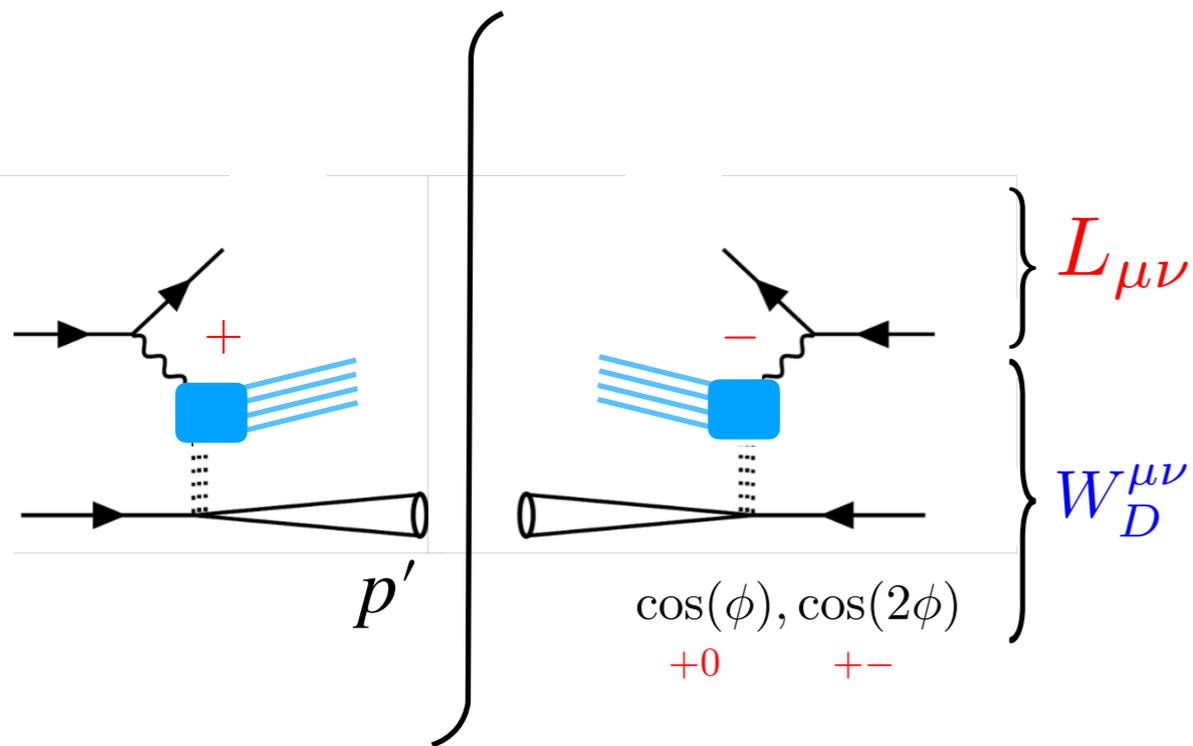
$$U^\mu = \frac{2x}{Q} \left(p^\mu - \frac{p \cdot q}{q^2} q^\mu \right)$$

$$X^\mu = \frac{1}{N_X} \left(V^\mu - \frac{U \cdot V}{U^2} U^\mu \right)$$

$$V^\mu = p'^\mu - q^\mu (p' \cdot q) / q^2$$

Structure Functions

4 structure functions for unpolarized:



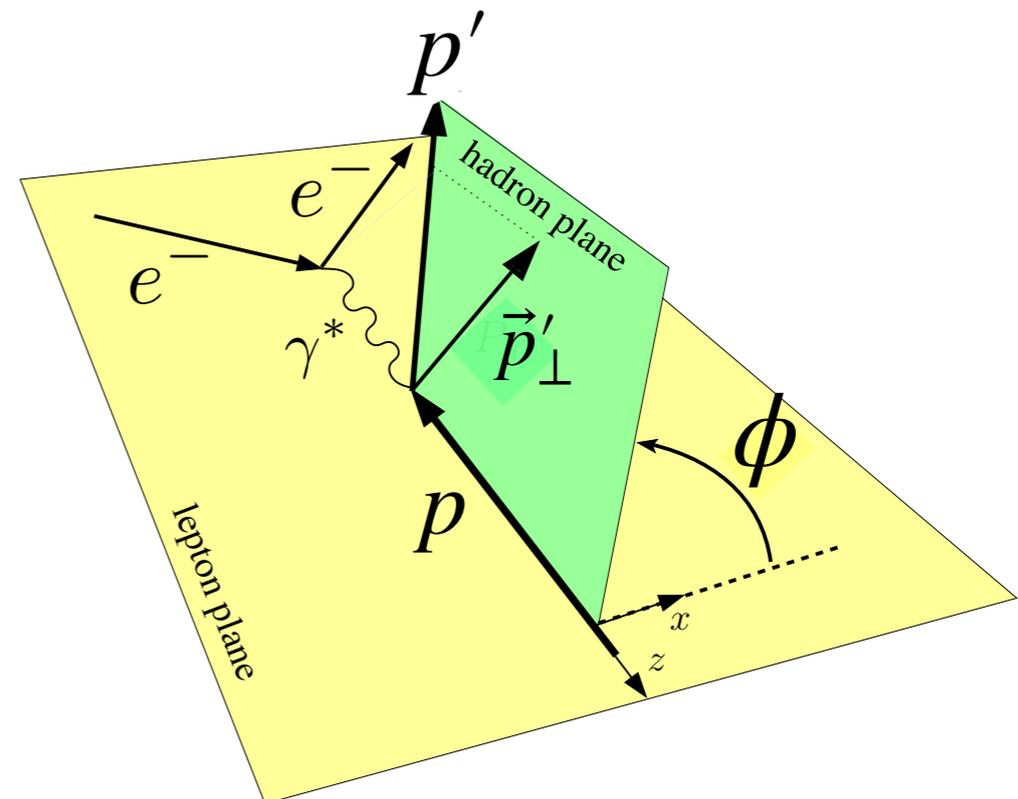
$$\frac{d^6\sigma}{d\{x, y, \bar{x}, t, \beta, m_J^2\}} \sim L_{\mu\nu} W_D^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\sim \sum_i c_i F_i^D(x, Q^2, \beta, t, m_Y^2)$$

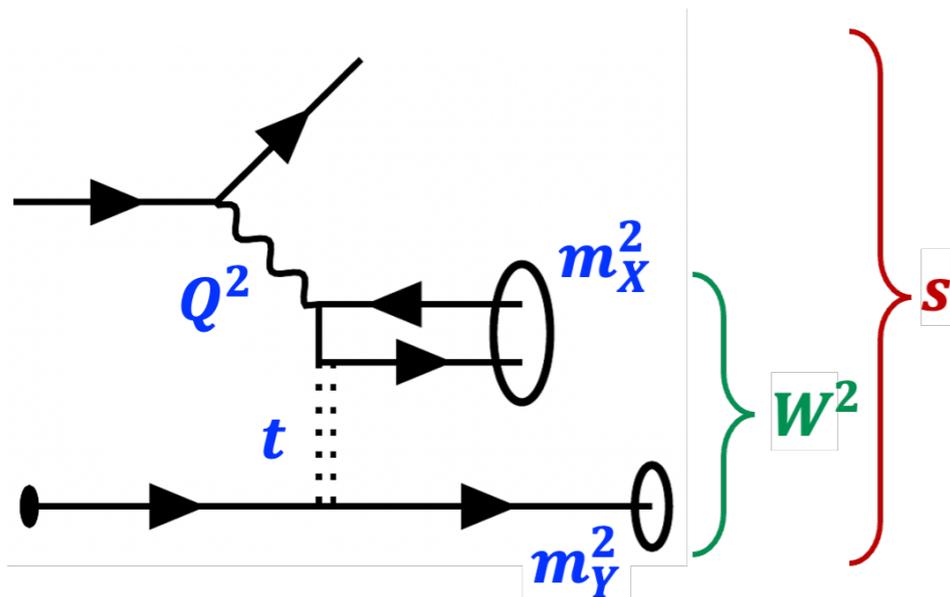
$$\sim \left\{ \left(1 - y + \frac{y^2}{2}\right) F_2^D - \frac{y^2}{2} F_L^D \right. \\ \left. + (1 - y) \cos 2\phi F_3^D + (2 - y) \sqrt{1 - y} \cos \phi F_4^D \right\}$$

$$\cos \phi = \frac{\bar{x} - x/\beta + (2 - y)xz}{2x\sqrt{(1 - y)(z^2 - z/\beta - t/Q^2)}}$$

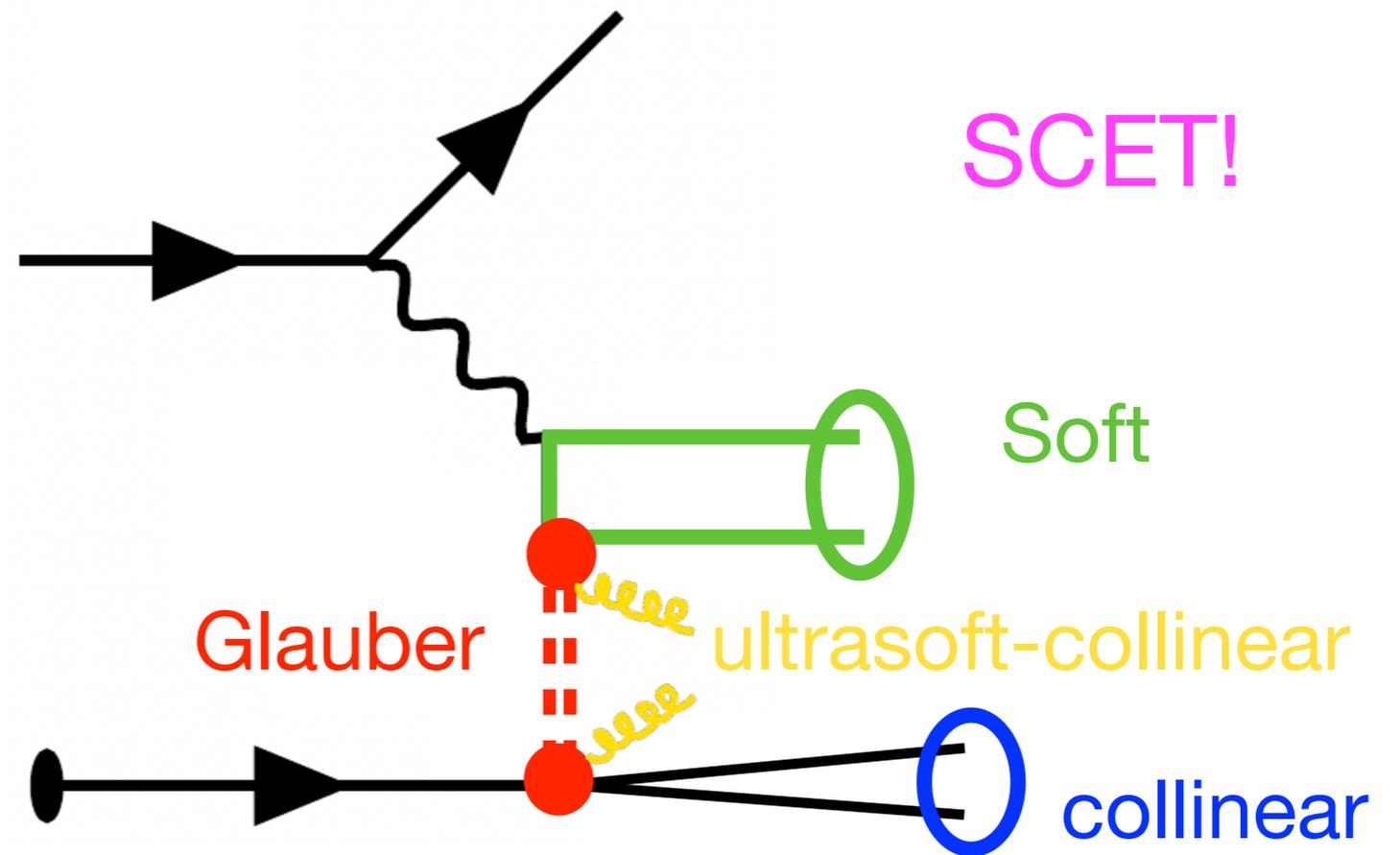
$$-1 \leq \cos \phi \leq 1$$



Scales



Diffractive Limit



Forward Scattering: $x \ll 1, -t \ll W^2$

X & Y distinguishable: $m_X^2 \ll W^2, m_Y^2 \ll W^2$

Rapidity gap: ✓

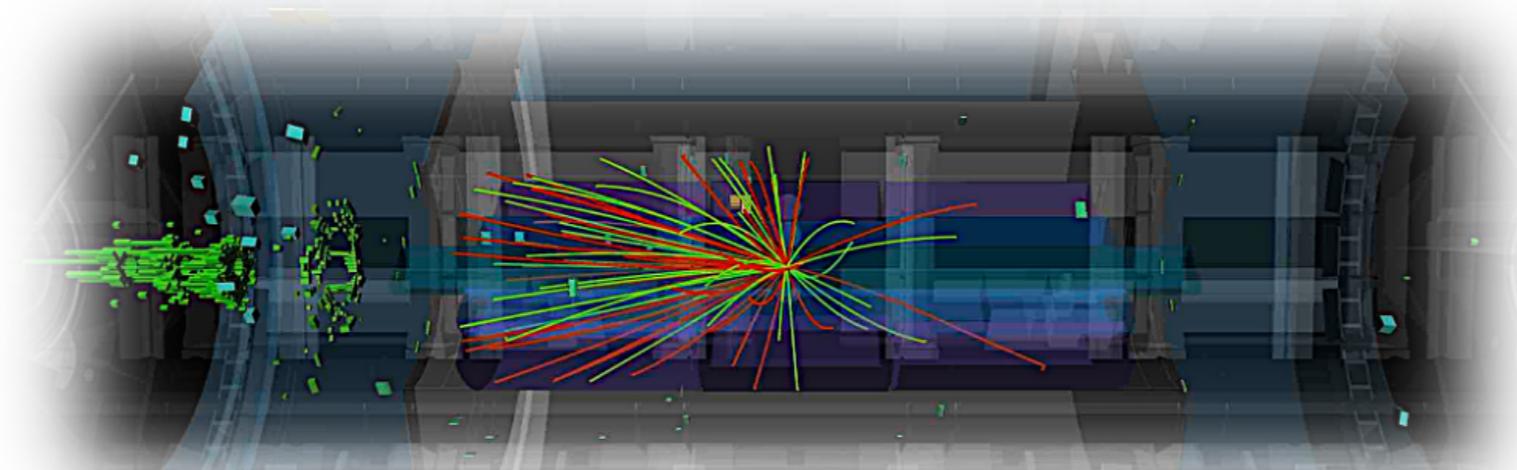
Key expansion:

$$x \sim \frac{Q^2}{s} = \lambda \ll 1$$

(Regge limit)

Outline

- Introduction: Diffraction
- Introduction: Soft Collinear Effective Theory (SCET)
- Kinematics and Structure Functions
- ➔ ● Power Counting and Regge Factorization
- Applications and Phenomenology



Power Counting

Power counting parameters

$$\lambda = \frac{Q}{\sqrt{s}}, \quad \lambda_t = \frac{\sqrt{-t}}{Q}, \quad \rho = \frac{m_Y}{\sqrt{-t}}, \quad \lambda_g = \frac{\gamma}{e^{\eta_{\text{cut}}^{\text{lab}}}}, \quad \lambda_\Lambda = \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{\sqrt{-t}}$$

cut on

radiation

in gap

$$\gamma = \sqrt{E_p/E_e}$$

I. collimated “jet” conditions

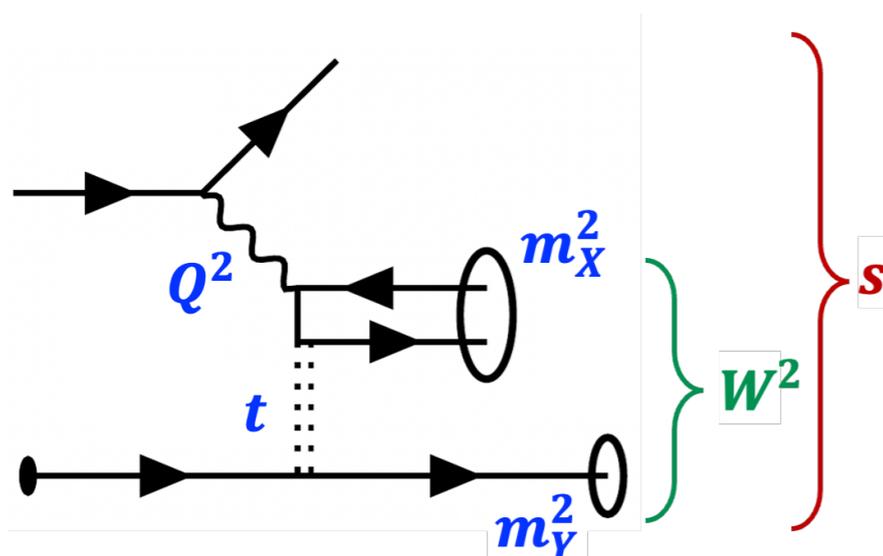
$$W^2 \gg p'^2 = m_Y^2, m_X^2$$

$$W^2 = Q^2 \frac{1-x}{x}$$

II. rapidity gap for X & Y

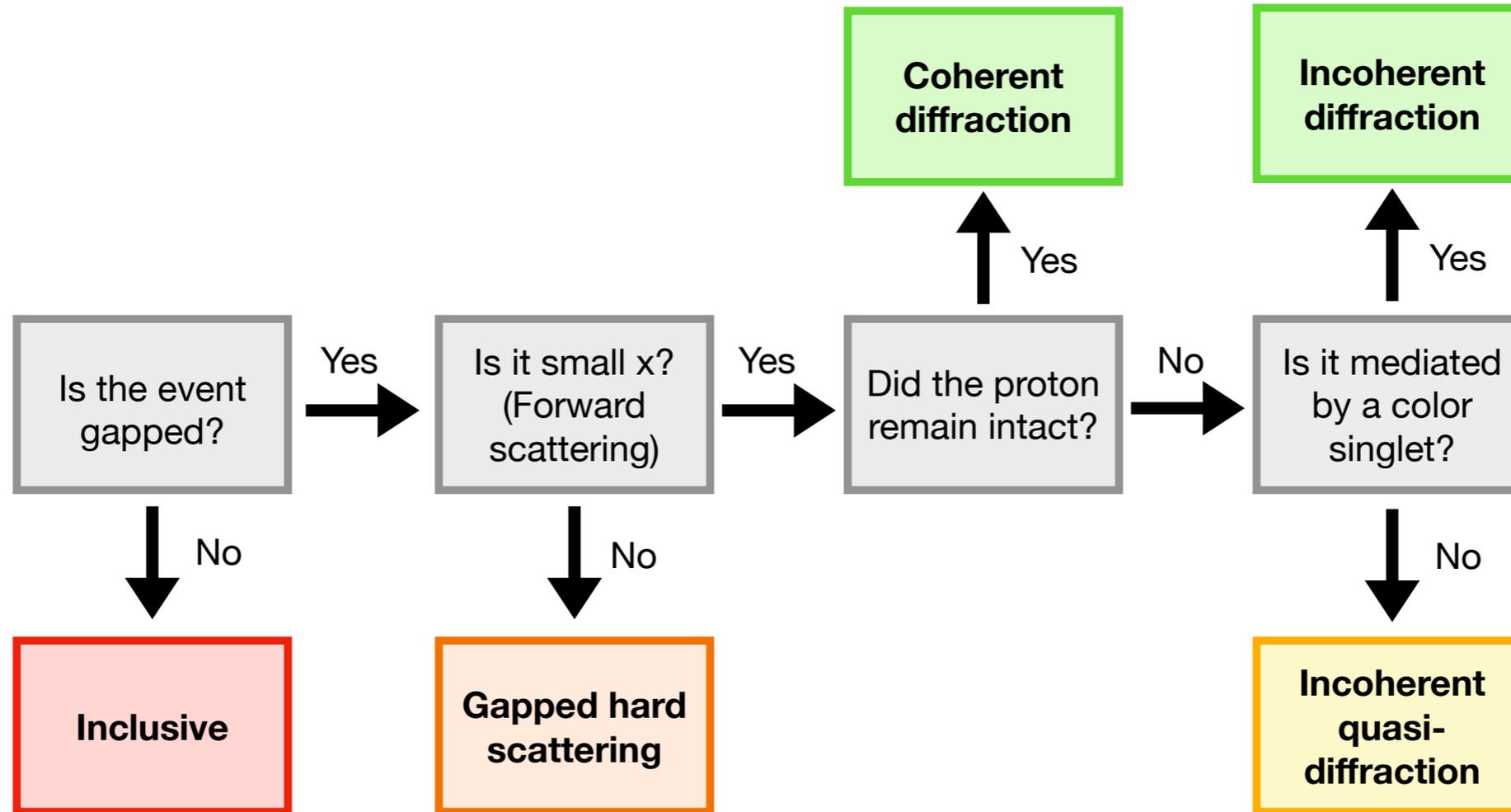
$$\frac{p'^-}{p'^+} \gg \frac{p_X^-}{p_X^+}$$

$$m_X^2 = Q^2 \frac{1-\beta}{\beta} + t$$

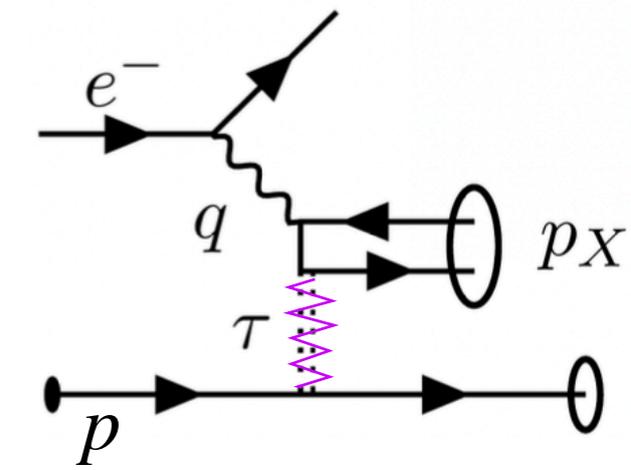
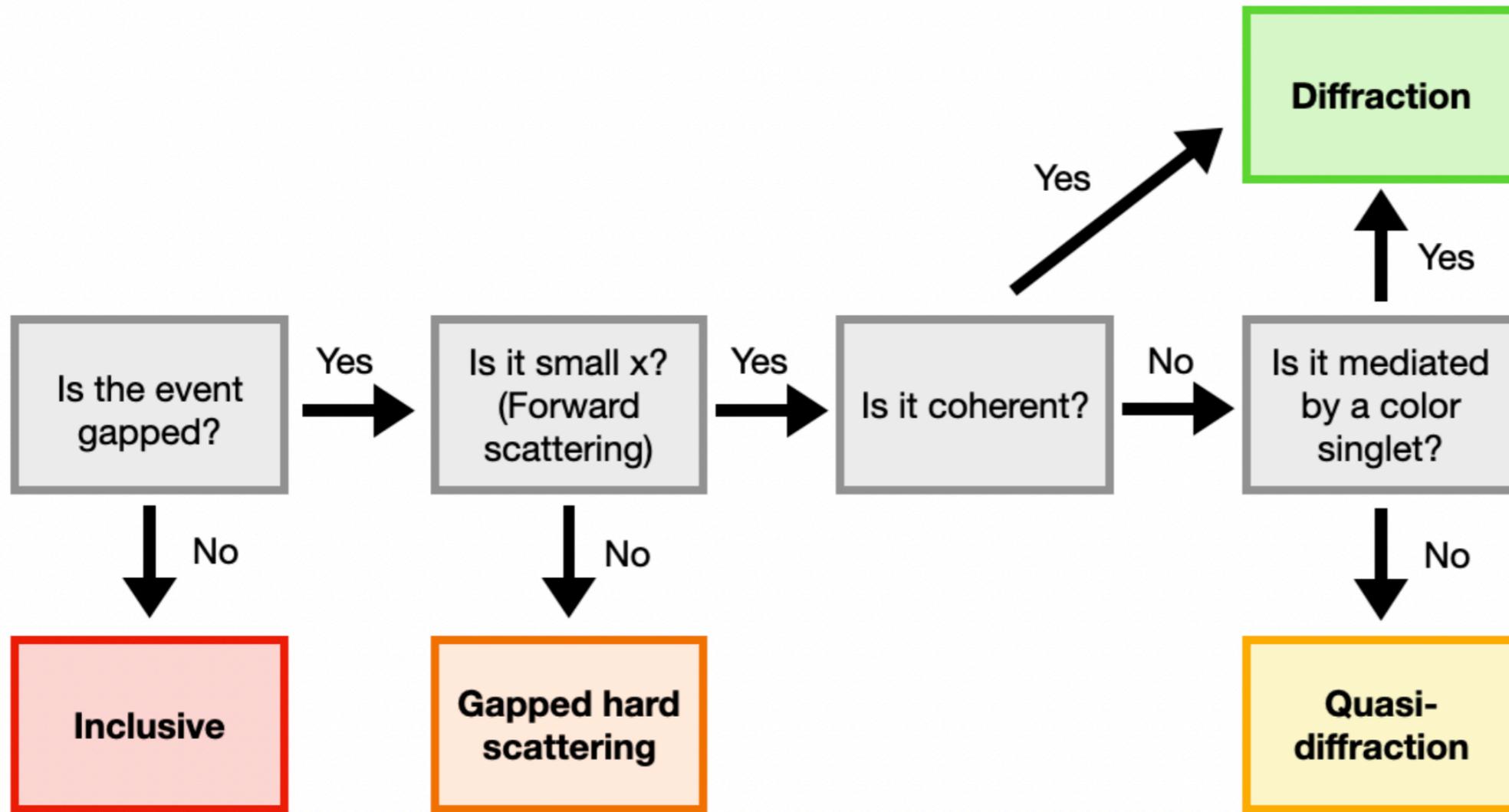


Is this enough to make event “diffractive” ?

Signal vs. Backgrounds?

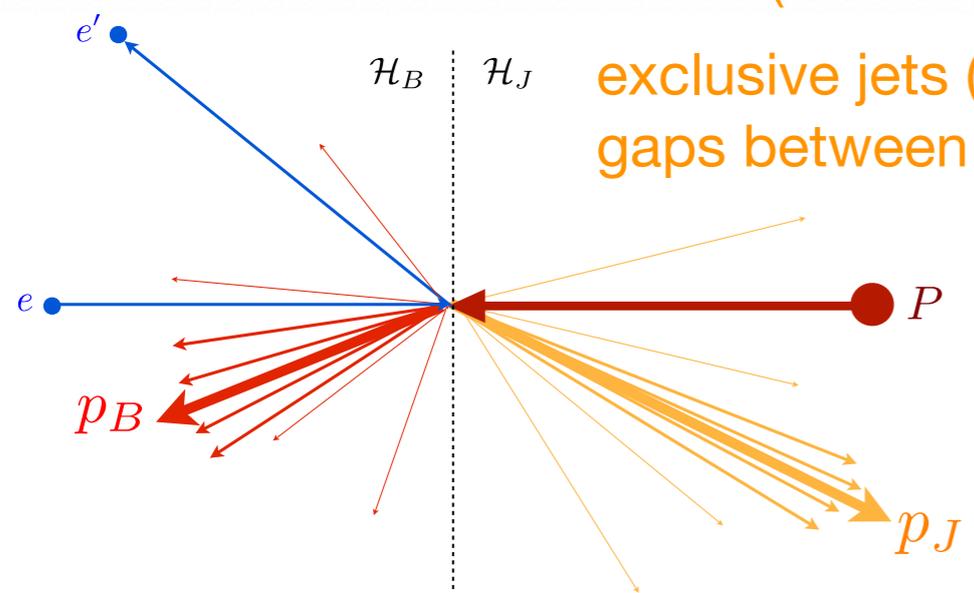


Backgrounds?

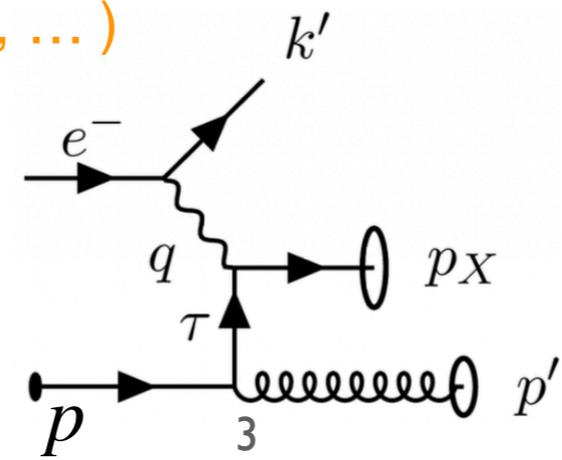


irreducible background

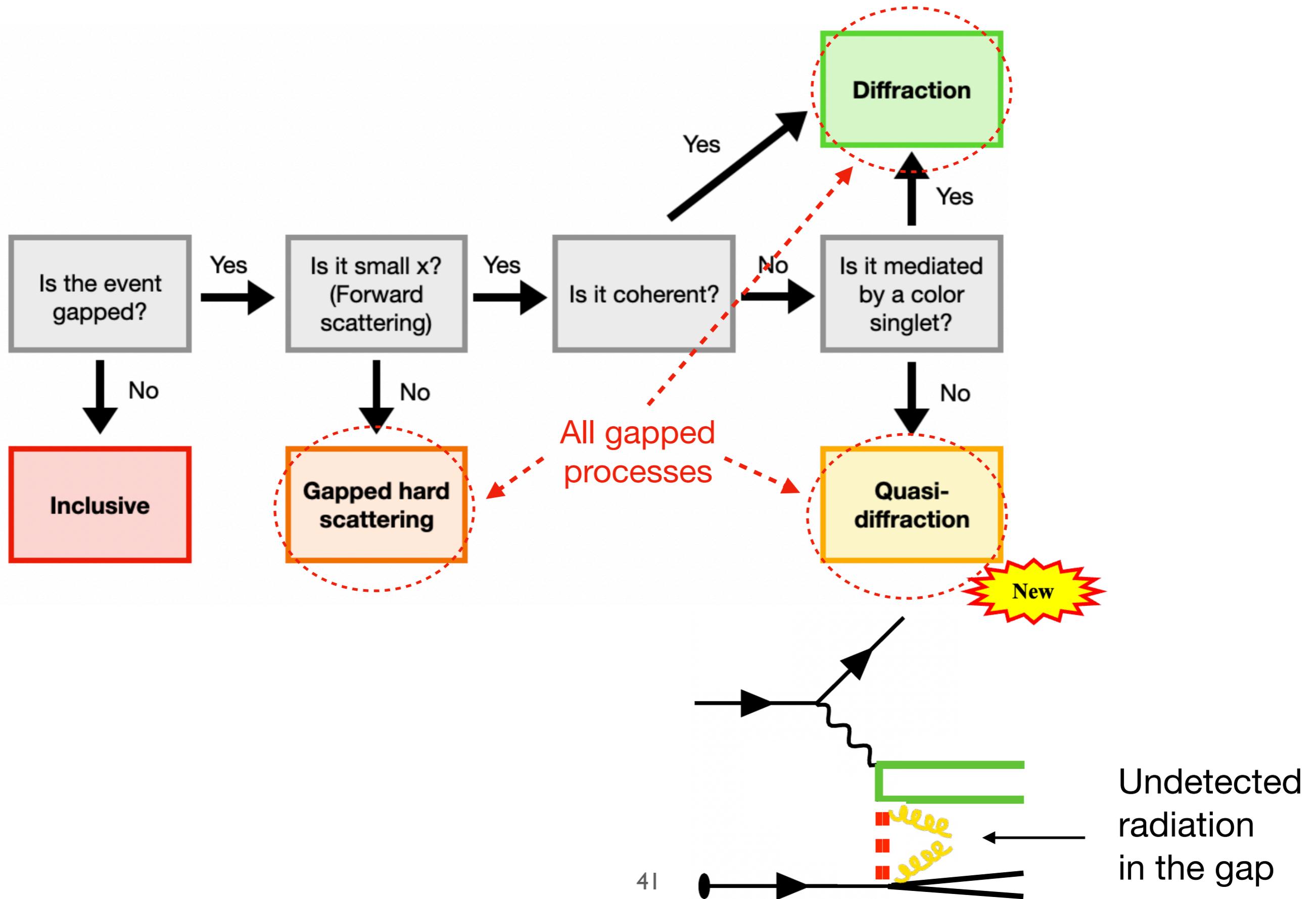
DVCS (non-small-x)



exclusive jets (eg. 1-jettiness, gaps between jets, ...)



Backgrounds?



Power Counting

Power counting parameters

$$\lambda = \frac{Q}{\sqrt{s}}, \quad \lambda_t = \frac{\sqrt{-t}}{Q}, \quad \rho = \frac{m_Y}{\sqrt{-t}}, \quad \lambda_g = \frac{\gamma}{e^{\eta_{\text{cut}}^{\text{lab}}}}, \quad \lambda_\Lambda = \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{\sqrt{-t}}$$

cut on radiation in gap

$$\gamma = \sqrt{E_p/E_e}$$

I. collimated “jet” conditions

$$W^2 \gg p'^2 = m_Y^2, m_X^2$$

$$W^2 = Q^2 \frac{1-x}{x}$$

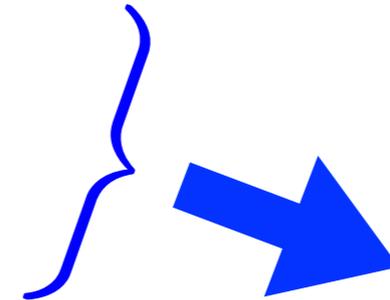
II. rapidity gap for X & Y

$$\frac{p'^-}{p'^+} \gg \frac{p_X^-}{p_X^+}$$

$$m_X^2 = Q^2 \frac{1-\beta}{\beta} + t$$

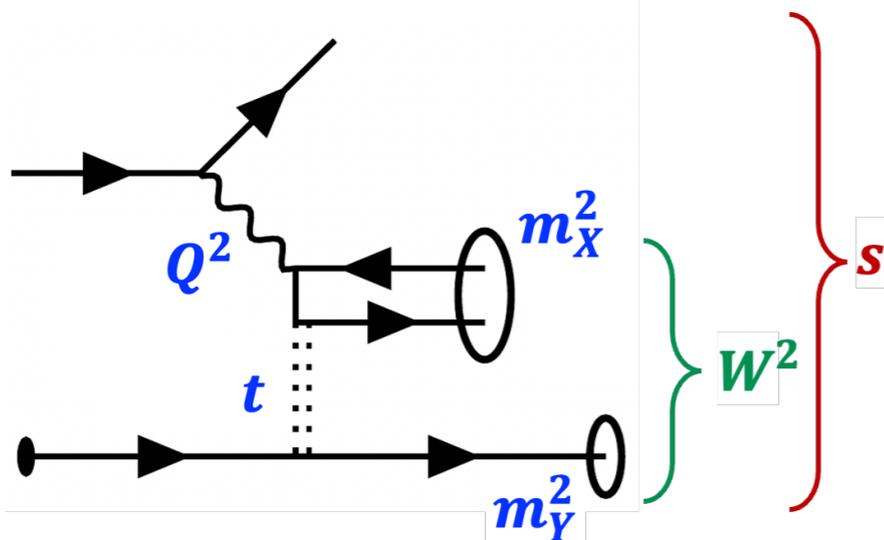
III. forward conditions

$$-t \ll W^2, x \ll 1$$



$$\lambda \ll 1$$

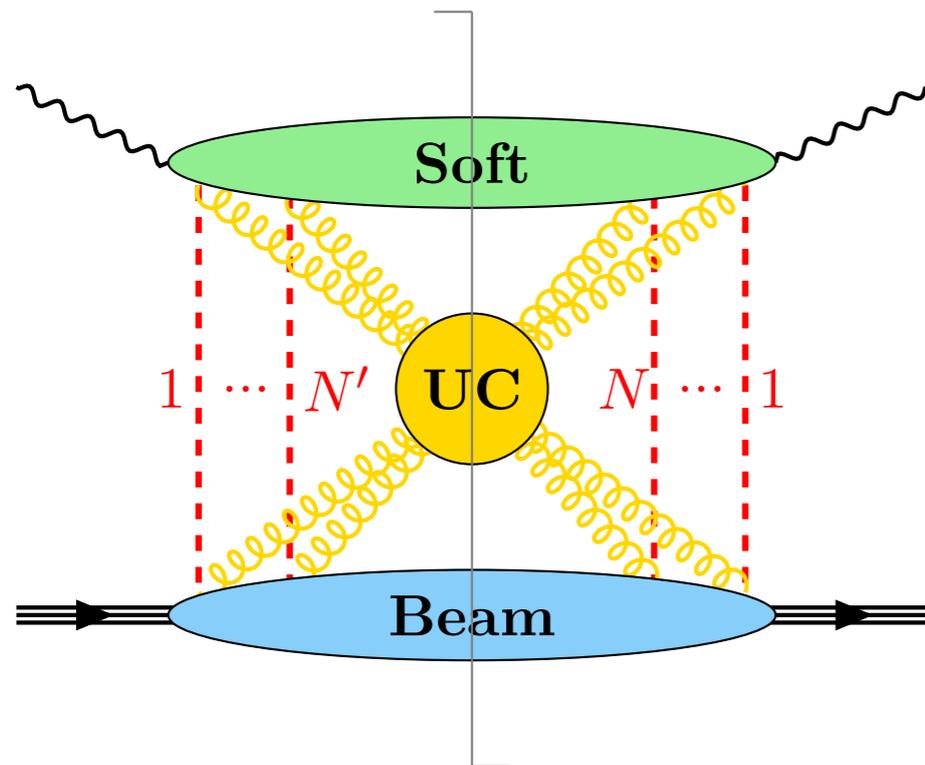
$$\lambda \lambda_t \ll 1$$



$$\frac{Q^2}{s} = xy$$

$$x \sim \lambda^2$$

Regge Factorization for ep



$$d\sigma = \sum_{i=2,L,3,4} c_i F_i^D$$

kinematics

structure functions (observables)

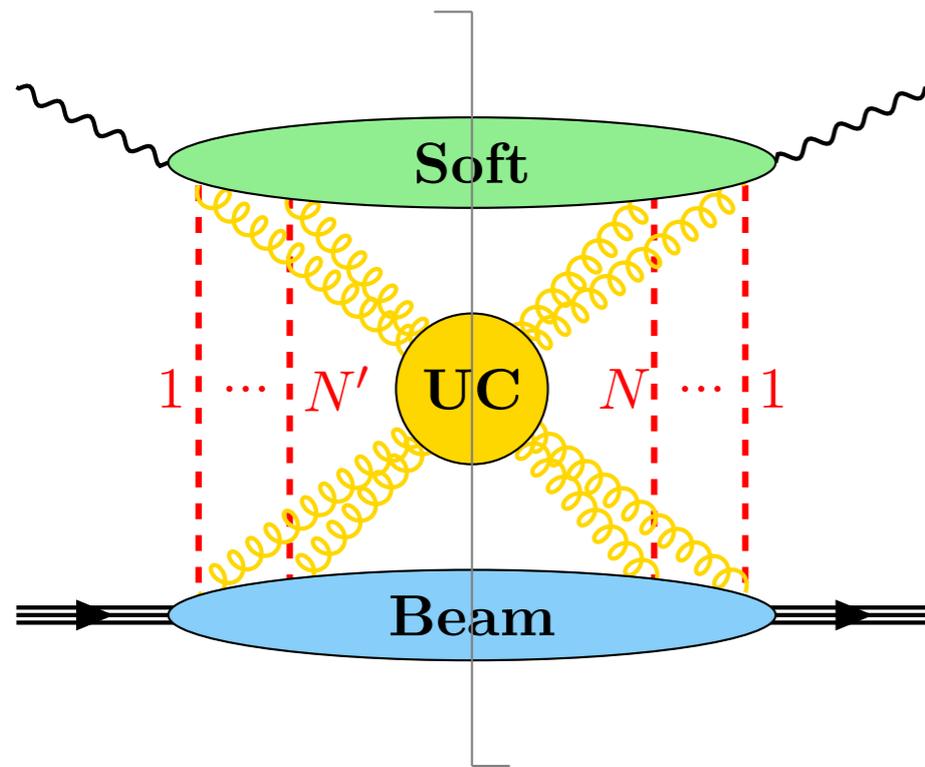
$$F_i^D = \mathcal{P}_i^{\mu\nu} \times \sum_{N,N'} \sum_{\{R_X\}} \langle \mathbf{Soft} \rangle_{\mu\nu} \otimes_{\perp} \langle \mathbf{Beam} \rangle \otimes_{\pm} \langle \mathbf{UC} \rangle$$

Projectors

multiple scattering

color irreps.

Regge Factorization for ep



$$d\sigma = \sum_{i=2,L,3,4} c_i F_i^D$$

kinematics

structure functions (observables)

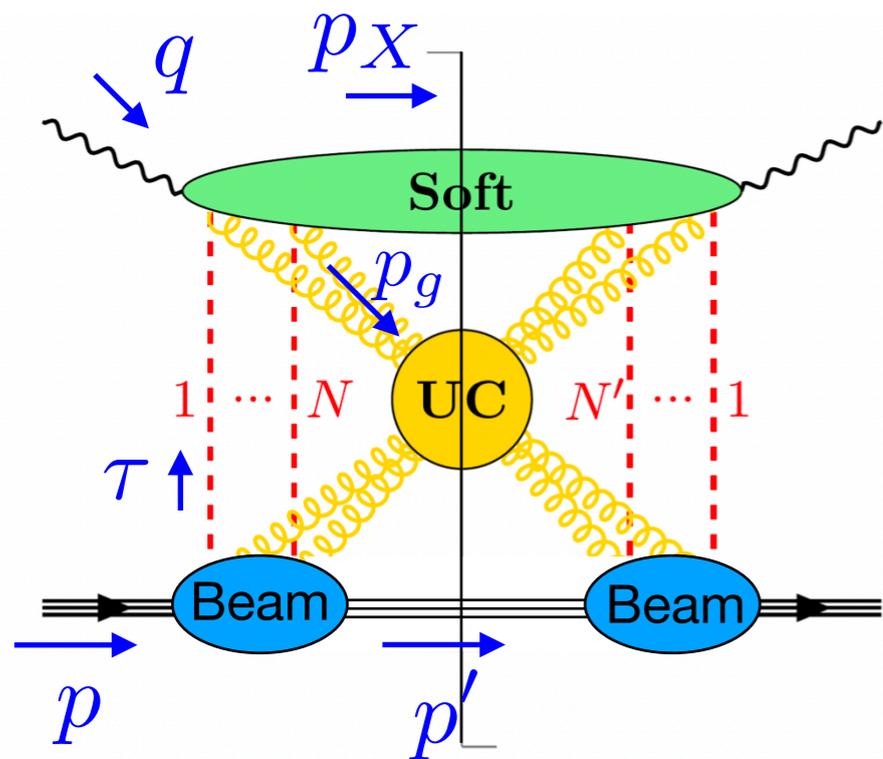
Diffraction $R_X = 1$ (singlet):

$$F_i^D = \mathcal{P}_i^{\mu\nu} \times \sum_{N,N'} \sum_{\{R_X=1\}} \langle \mathbf{Soft} \rangle_{\mu\nu} \otimes_{\perp} \langle \mathbf{Beam} \rangle$$

Quasi-diffraction $R_X \neq 1$:

$$F_i^D = \mathcal{P}_i^{\mu\nu} \times \sum_{N,N'} \sum_{\{R_X \neq 1\}} \langle \mathbf{Soft} \rangle_{\mu\nu} \otimes_{\perp} \langle \mathbf{Beam} \rangle \otimes_{\pm} \langle \mathbf{UC} \rangle$$

Regge Factorization



SCET (Breit frame)

$$\lambda \sim \frac{Q}{\sqrt{s}} \sim \sqrt{x}$$

Soft mode (X):

$$p_X, q \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda)$$

Glauber:

$$\tau \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda, \lambda)$$

Collinear mode (p,Y):

$$p' \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda^{-1}, \lambda)$$

Usoft-collinear mode (radiation in gap):

$$p_g \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda, \lambda^2)$$

Regge factorization to all orders in α_s :

Includes both diffraction (signal) & quasi-diffraction (bkgnd)

Glaubers

color reps.

$$F_i^D = \sum_{\substack{N, N'=1 \\ N+N'=\text{even}}}^{\infty} \sum_{\{R_X\}} \iint_{(N, N')}^{\perp} \int dp_g^+ dp_g^- B_{(N, N')}^{R_A^{NN'}} \left(m_Y^2 - t - p^- p_g^+, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, t, \mu, \frac{\nu}{Q/x} \right) \frac{Q^2}{x}$$

hadronic matrix elt.

$$\times U_{(N, N')}^{R_A^{NN'} R_B^{NN'}} \left(\frac{1}{h\sqrt{x}} p_g^+, h\sqrt{x} p_g^-, \mu \right) S_{i(N, N')}^{R_B^{NN'}} \left(\frac{Q^2}{\beta} - q^+ p_g^-, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, Q, t, \mu, \frac{\nu}{Q/\beta} \right)$$

vacuum matrix elt. of Wilson lines
(generalized “hemisphere” usoft fn.)

vacuum matrix elt. with photon currents

only S_i depends on i

rest universal for all i

Operators

(as promised)

$$F_i^D = \mathcal{P}_i^{\mu\nu} \times \sum_{N, N'} \sum_{\{R_X\}} \langle \text{Soft} \rangle_{\mu\nu} \otimes_{\perp} \langle \text{Beam} \rangle \otimes_{\pm} \langle UC \rangle$$

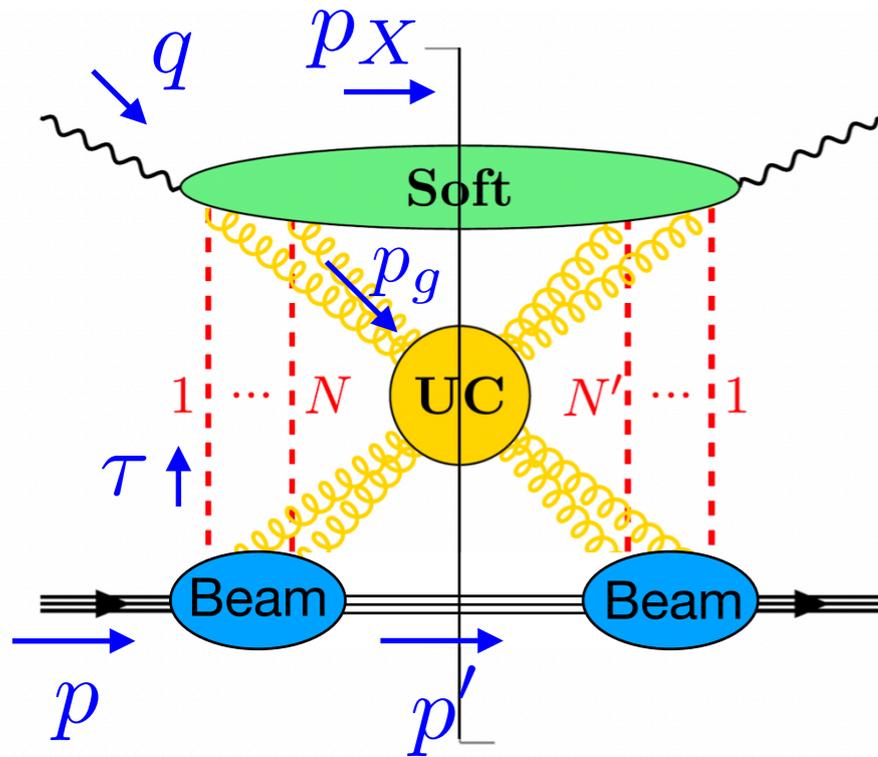
$$B_{(N, N')}^{R_A^{NN'}}(p^- k_n^+, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, t) = \frac{1}{(\bar{n} \cdot p)^2} \int \frac{dv^-}{2p^-} e^{\frac{i}{2}v^- k_n^+} \int_{Y_n} \times \langle p | \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^{N-1} \mathcal{O}_n^{A_i}(v^- \frac{n}{2}, \tau_{i\perp}) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_n^{A_N}(v^- \frac{n}{2}) \right\} P_{NR_A} | Y_n \rangle \langle Y_n | P_{N'R_A} \left\{ \prod_{j=1}^{N'-1} \mathcal{O}_n^{A'_j}(0, \tau'_{j\perp}) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_n^{A'_{N'}}(0) \right\} | p \rangle$$

$$S_{i(N, N')}^{R_B^{NN'}}(q^+ k_s^-, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, Q, t) = \left(\frac{Q}{n \cdot q} \right)^2 \mathcal{P}'_{i\mu\nu} \int [d\tilde{y}] [d\tilde{y}'] \int d^d z e^{\frac{i}{2}(y^+ - y'^+) k_s^-} e^{iz \cdot q} \times \int_{X_s} \langle 0 | \bar{T} J_s^\mu(z) \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^N \mathcal{O}_s^{B_i}(\tilde{y}, -\tau_{i\perp}) \right\} P_{NR_B} | X_s \rangle \langle X_s | P_{N'R_B'} T J_s^\nu(0) \left\{ \prod_{j=1}^{N'} \mathcal{O}_s^{B'_j}(\tilde{y}', -\tau'_{j\perp}) \right\} | 0 \rangle$$

$$U_{(N, N')}^{R_A^{NN'} R_B^{NN'}}(p_H^+, p_H^-) = \int_{Z_{uc}} \delta(p_H^+ - p_{uc}^{\mathcal{H}_{Y^+}}) \delta(p_H^- - p_{uc}^{\mathcal{H}_{X^-}}) \times \langle 0 | P_{NR_A} \bar{T} \prod_{i=1}^N \mathbb{U}_{n\bar{n}}^{A_i B_i}(0) P_{NR_B} | Z_{uc} \rangle \langle Z_{uc} | P_{N'R_A'} T \prod_{j=1}^{N'} \mathbb{U}_{n\bar{n}}^{A'_j B'_j}(0) P_{N'R_B'} | 0 \rangle$$

- A further factorization of S_i gives H_i and fact. for dPDF

Regge Factorization



SCET (Breit frame)

$$\lambda \sim \frac{Q}{\sqrt{s}} \sim \sqrt{x}$$

Soft mode (X):

$$p_X, q \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda)$$

Glauber:

$$\tau \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda, \lambda)$$

Collinear mode (p,Y):

$$p' \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda^{-1}, \lambda)$$

Uoft-collinear mode (radiation in gap):

$$p_g \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda, \lambda^2)$$

Convolutions between momentum components that are of the same size

$$F_i^D = \sum_{\substack{N, N'=1 \\ N+N'=\text{even}}}^{\infty} \sum_{\{R_X\}} \iint_{(N, N')}^{\perp} dp_g^+ dp_g^- B_{(N, N')}^{R_{A}^{NN'}} \left(m_Y^2 - t - p^- p_g^+, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, t, \mu, \frac{\nu}{Q/x} \right) \frac{Q^2}{x}$$

$$\times U_{(N, N')}^{R_A^{NN'} R_B^{NN'}} \left(\frac{1}{h\sqrt{x}} p_g^+, h\sqrt{x} p_g^-, \mu \right) S_{i(N, N')}^{R_B^{NN'}} \left(\frac{Q^2}{\beta} - q^+ p_g^-, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, Q, t, \mu, \frac{\nu}{Q/\beta} \right)$$

$$h = \sqrt{\frac{E_p}{yE_e}} e^{-\eta_{\text{cut}}^{\text{lab}}}$$

$$\iint_{(N, N')}^{\perp} \equiv \frac{(-i)^N (i)^{N'}}{N! N'} \int \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{d^{d'} \tau_{i\perp}}{\vec{\tau}_{i\perp}^2} \delta^{d'} \left(\sum_i \tau_{i\perp} + \tau_{\perp} \right) \int \prod_{j=1}^{N'} \frac{d^{d'} \tau'_{j\perp}}{\vec{\tau}'_{j\perp}^2} \delta^{d'} \left(\sum_j \tau'_{j\perp} - \tau_{\perp} \right)$$

Regge Factorization

Diffraction (signal): $R_X = 1$ can prove $U = \delta$ -functions (to all orders)

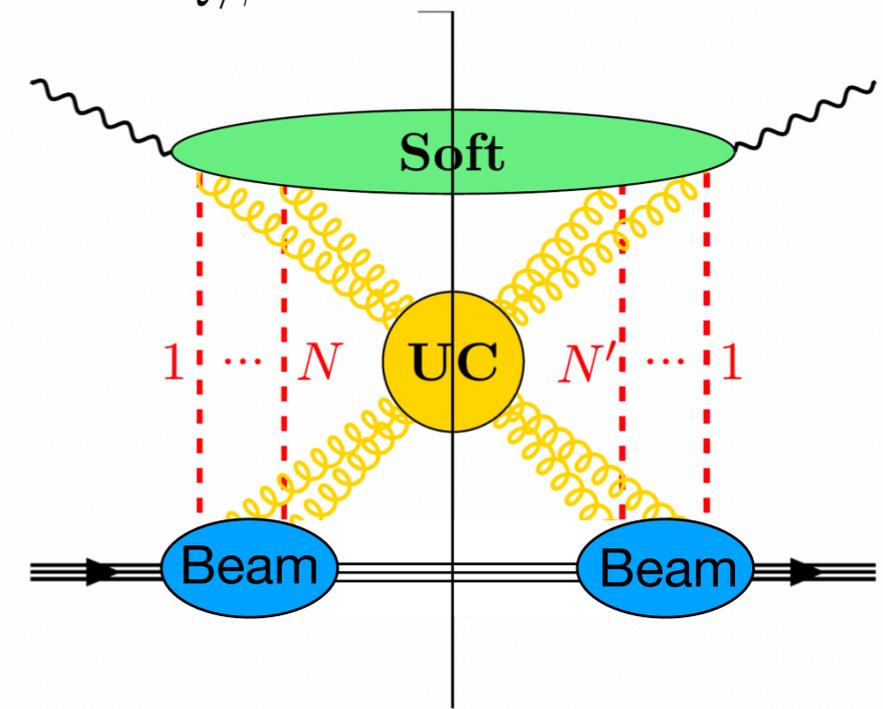
for singlet follows from $\mathcal{U}^\dagger \mathcal{U} = 1$ **no uc radiation in gap!**

$$F_i^{D \text{ diff}} = \sum_{\substack{N, N'=1 \\ N+N'=\text{even}}}^{\infty} \sum_{R^{NN'}=1} \iint_{(N, N')}^{\perp} B_{(N, N')}^{R^{NN'}} \left(m_Y^2 - t, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, t, \frac{\nu}{Q/x} \right) S_{i(N, N')}^{R^{NN'}} \left(\frac{Q^2}{\beta}, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, Q, t, \frac{\nu}{Q/\beta} \right) \frac{Q^2}{x}$$

Quasi-diffraction (bkgnd): $R_X \neq 1$

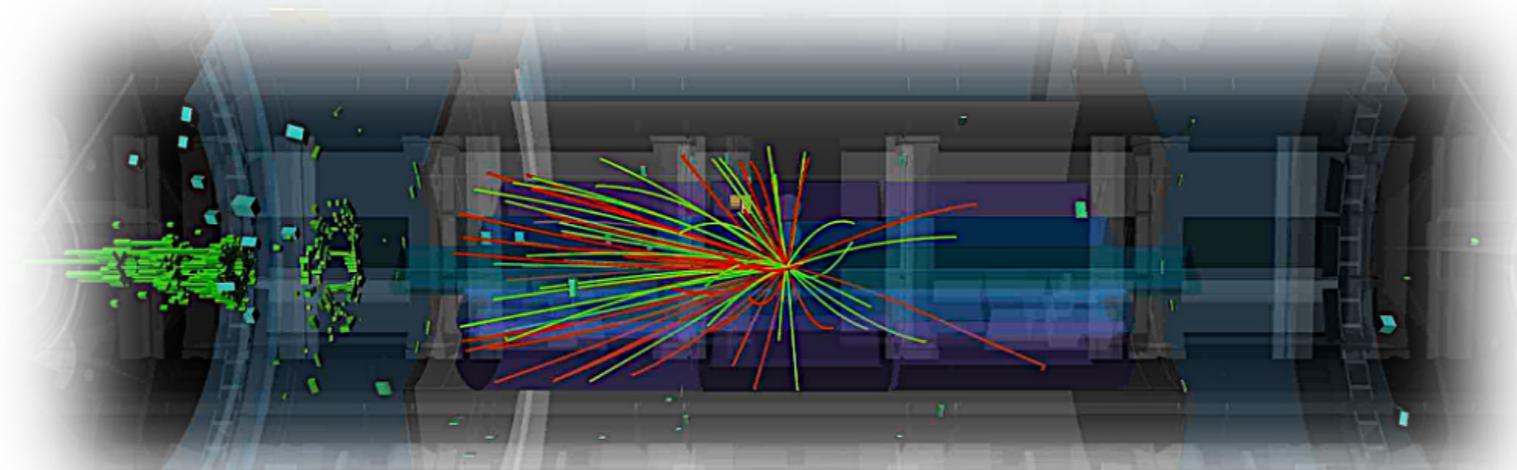
$$F_i^{D \text{ quasi}} = \sum_{\substack{N, N'=1 \\ N+N'=\text{even}}}^{\infty} \sum_{\{R_X \neq 1\}} \iint_{(N, N')}^{\perp} \int dp_g^+ dp_g^- B_{(N, N')}^{R_A^{NN'}} \left(m_Y^2 - t - p^- p_g^+, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, t, \mu, \frac{\nu}{Q/x} \right) \frac{Q^2}{x} \\ \times U_{(N, N')}^{R_A^{NN'} R_B^{NN'}} \left(\frac{1}{h\sqrt{x}} p_g^+, h\sqrt{x} p_g^-, \mu \right) S_{i(N, N')}^{R_B^{NN'}} \left(\frac{Q^2}{\beta} - q^+ p_g^-, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, Q, t, \mu, \frac{\nu}{Q/\beta} \right)$$

allows radiation in gap



Outline

- Introduction: Diffraction
- Introduction: Soft Collinear Effective Theory (SCET)
- Kinematics and Structure Functions
- Power Counting and Regge Factorization
- ➔ ● Applications and Phenomenology



What is \mathbb{P} here?

- Has contributions from an ∞ number of Glauber exchanges
- Color singlet projection: $(8 \otimes)^N = 1 \oplus \dots \oplus 1 \oplus (\text{others})$ many singlets
- Can distinguish **nonperturbative** $\tau_{\perp} \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ and **perturbative** $\tau_{\perp} \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ contributions to the “Pomeron”
- Differs from Ingelman-Schlein model

$$F_i^{D \text{ diff}} = \frac{Q^2 \zeta^2}{x} \sum_{N, N'=1}^{\infty} \sum_{R^{NN'}=1} \iint_{(N, N')}^{\perp} B_{(N, N')}^{R^{NN'}} \left(m_Y^2 - t, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, t, \frac{\nu}{Q/x} \right) S_{i(N, N')}^{R^{NN'}} \left(\frac{Q^2}{\beta}, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, Q, t, \frac{\nu}{Q/\beta} \right)$$

$$\iint_{(N, N')}^{\perp} \equiv \frac{(-i)^N (i)^{N'}}{N! N'} \int \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{d^d \tau_{i\perp}}{\tau_{i\perp}^2} \delta^{d'} \left(\sum_i \tau_{i\perp} + \tau_{\perp} \right) \int \prod_{j=1}^{N'} \frac{d^d \tau'_{j\perp}}{\tau'_{j\perp}{}^2} \delta^{d'} \left(\sum_j \tau'_{j\perp} - \tau_{\perp} \right)$$

Applications

Lots of things still to explore, so I only provide some examples of what we've done so far:

- 1) Identify observables F_i^D that are leading order in $\lambda \ll 1$:
4 for spin independent scattering,
6 more for spin dependent (not discussed here)

[8 more at subleading orders in λ]

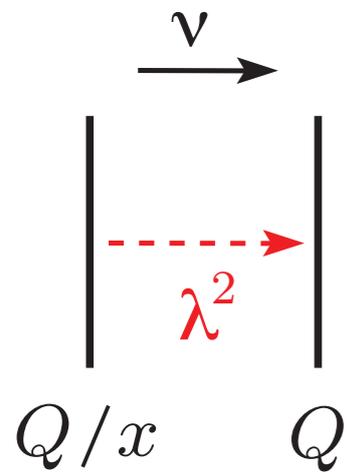
$$F_2^D \sim F_L^D \sim F_3^D \sim F_4^D \sim \lambda^{-6} \quad (\text{incoherent})$$

- 2) More general kinematic regions of diffractive phase space (larger t),
provide additional experimental targets

Applications

virtuality μ rapidity ν

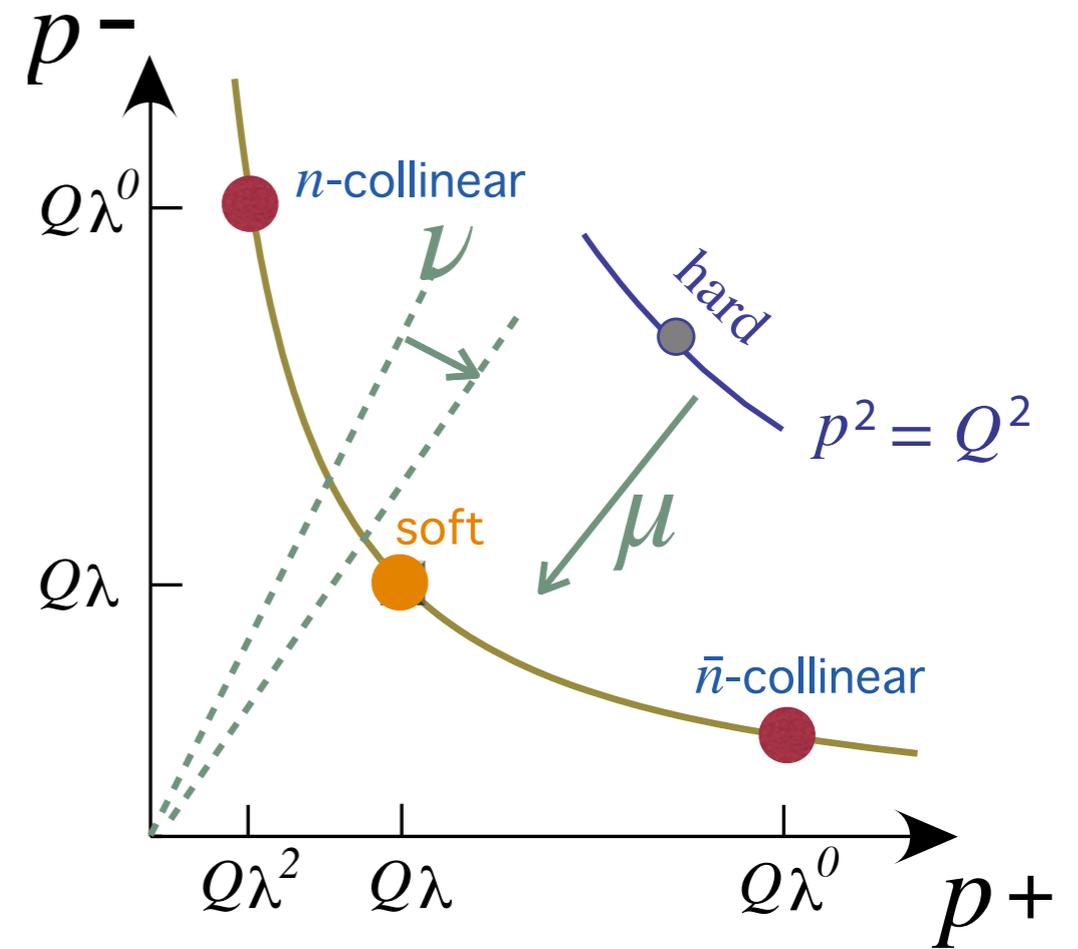
Two types of RGE (μ, ν)



BFKL-type logs

both signal and bkgnd have "rapidity logs"

$$\sum_k (\alpha_s \ln x)^k$$



only the quasi-diffractive background has large virtuality (invariant mass) logs

3) Can compute size of quasi-diffractive background with EFT

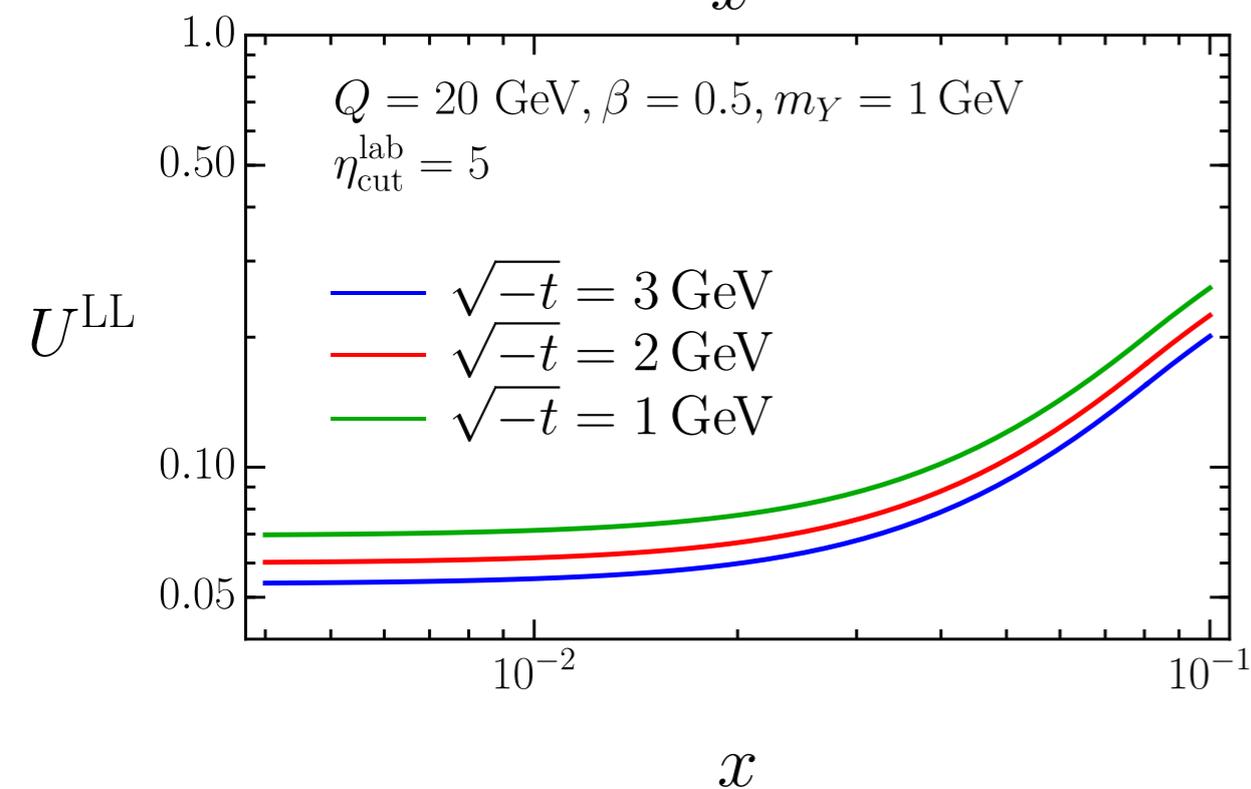
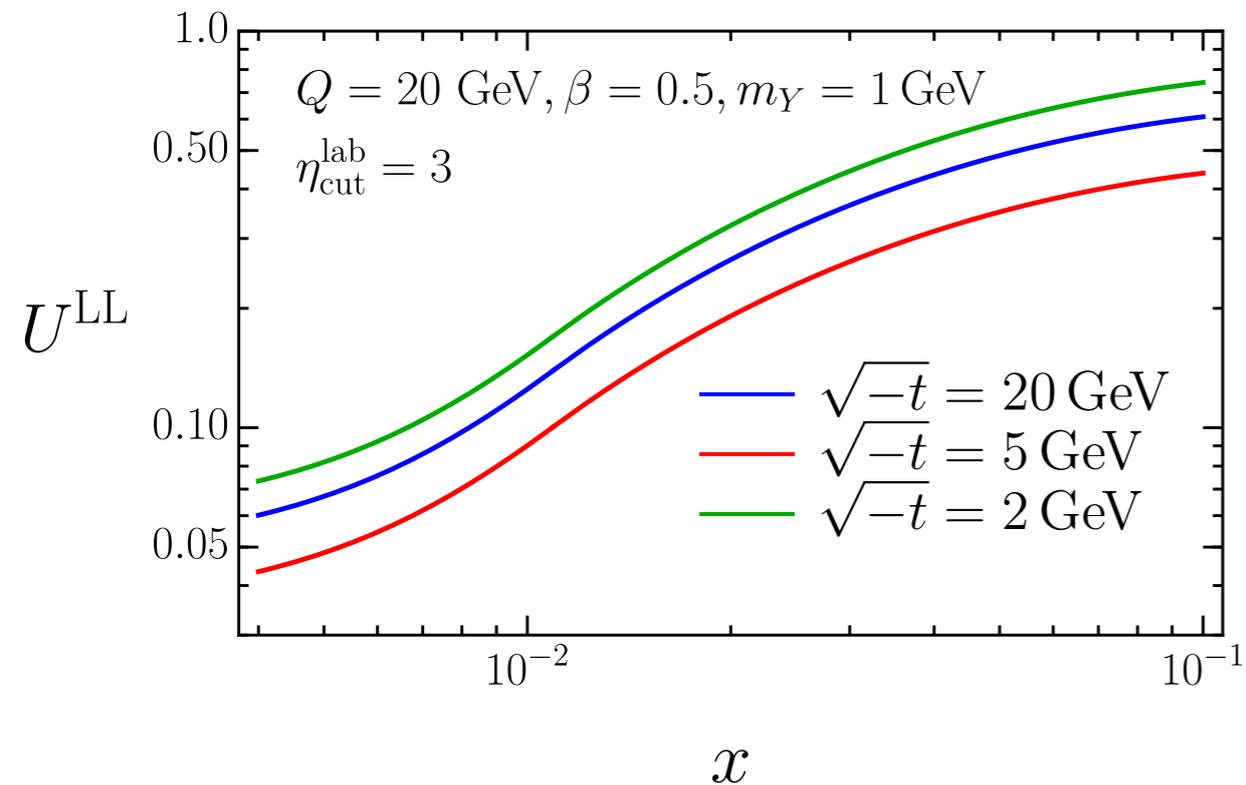
its suppressed by $U \sim \exp(-\text{Sudakov})$

\sim probability for no emission into the gap from U

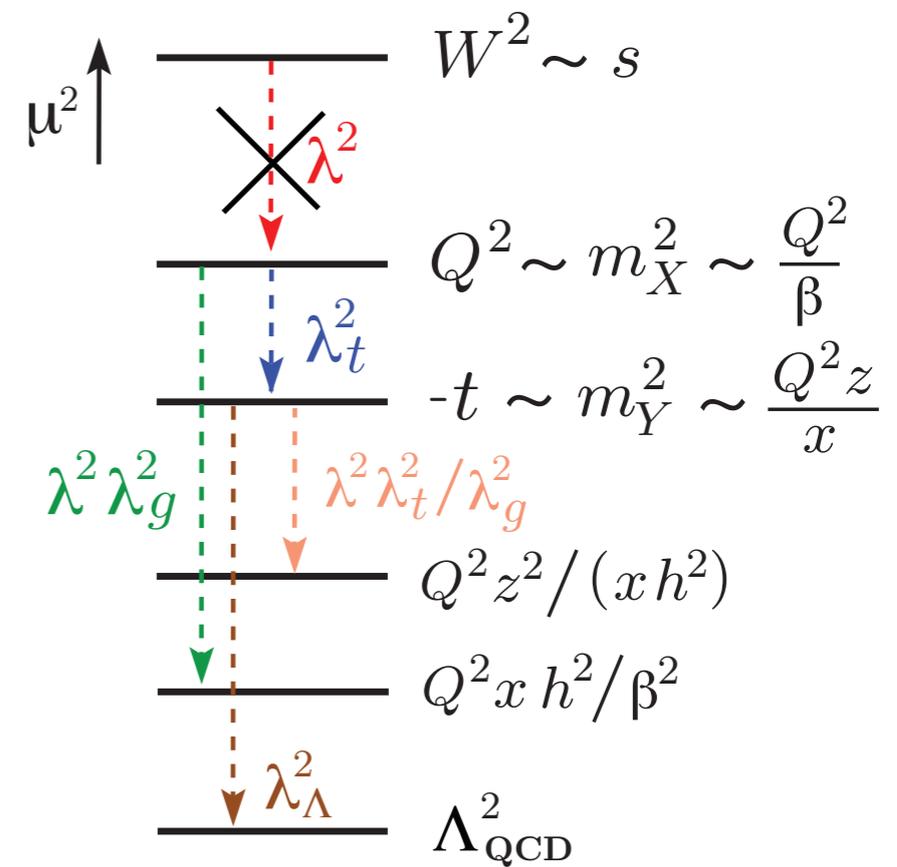
$$\sim \exp(-\alpha_s \ln^2 x)$$

Applications

- 3) Can compute size of quasi-diffractive background
 its suppressed by $U \sim \exp(-\text{Sudakov})$

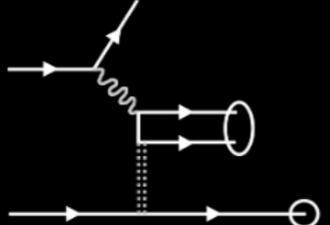


- Quasi-Diffraction background is not always negligible



Applications

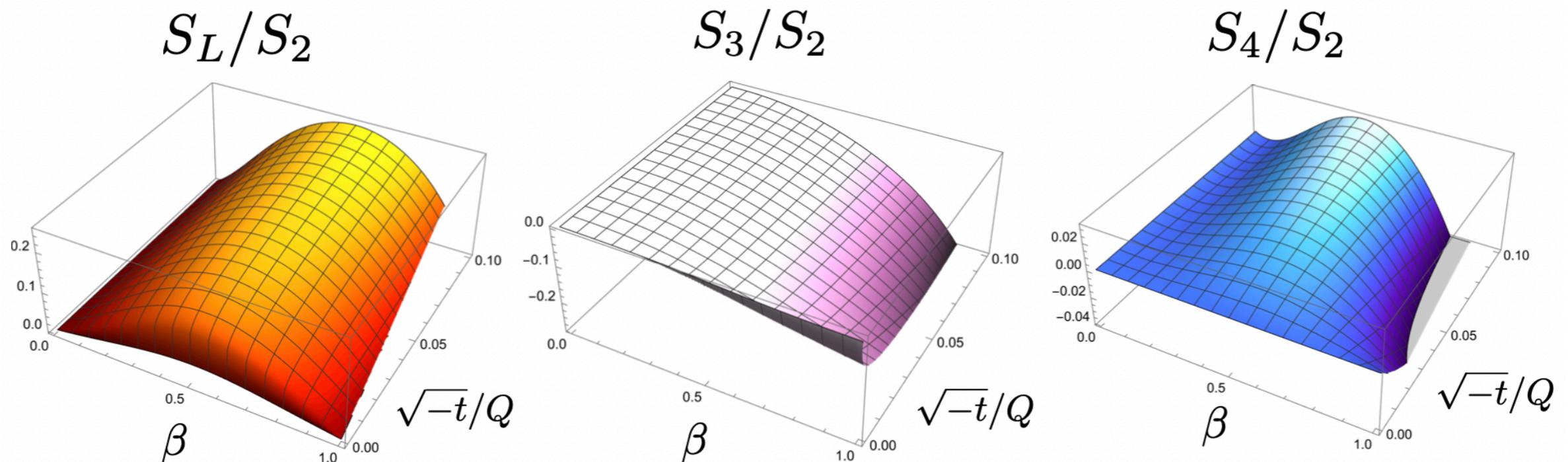
- 3) Can compute size of quasi-diffractive background
 its suppressed by $U \sim \exp(-\text{Sudakov})$

	$\frac{F_i^{\text{quasi}}}{F_i^{\text{diff}}} = \frac{\text{background}}{\text{signal}}$	
Coherent diffraction (intact proton)	0	Pure singlet
Incoherent $-t \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$	$\sim U_{LL}$	Dominated by singlet
Incoherent $-t \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$	$\sim \frac{U_{LL}}{\alpha_s(-t)}$	Can be similar size

Applications

4) For $|t| \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$ can compute ratios of quasi- F_i^D

$$\frac{F_i(x, Q^2, \beta, t)}{F_2(x, Q^2, \beta, t)} \Big|_{\text{LO}} = \frac{S_i(x, Q^2, \beta, t)}{S_2(x, Q^2, \beta, t)} \Big|_{\text{LO}} \equiv \hat{S}_i \left(\beta, \frac{\sqrt{-t}}{Q} \right)$$



- Exploit to reduce quasi-background with linear combinations

(nontrivial: requires demonstrating cancellation of infinite number of nonperturbative Glauber exchanges in the ratios)

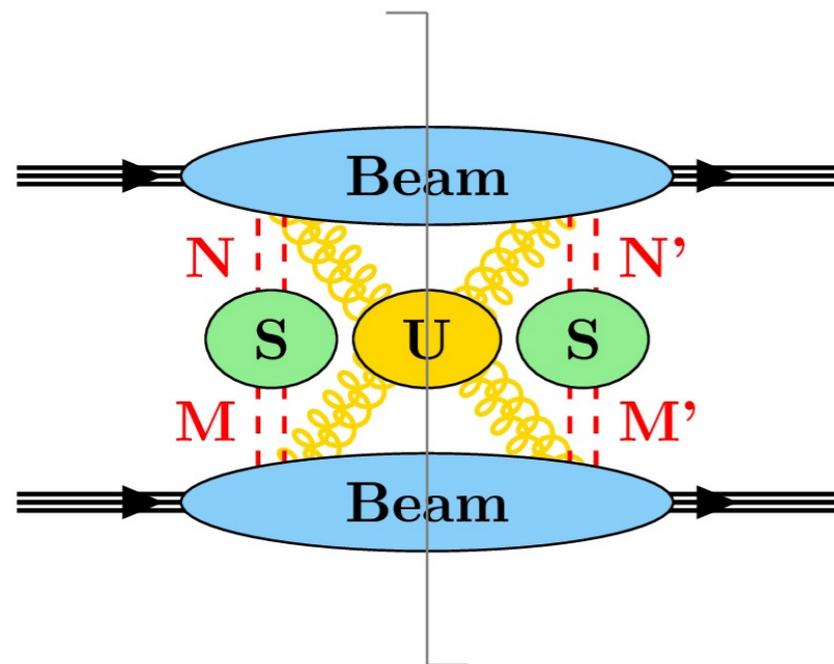
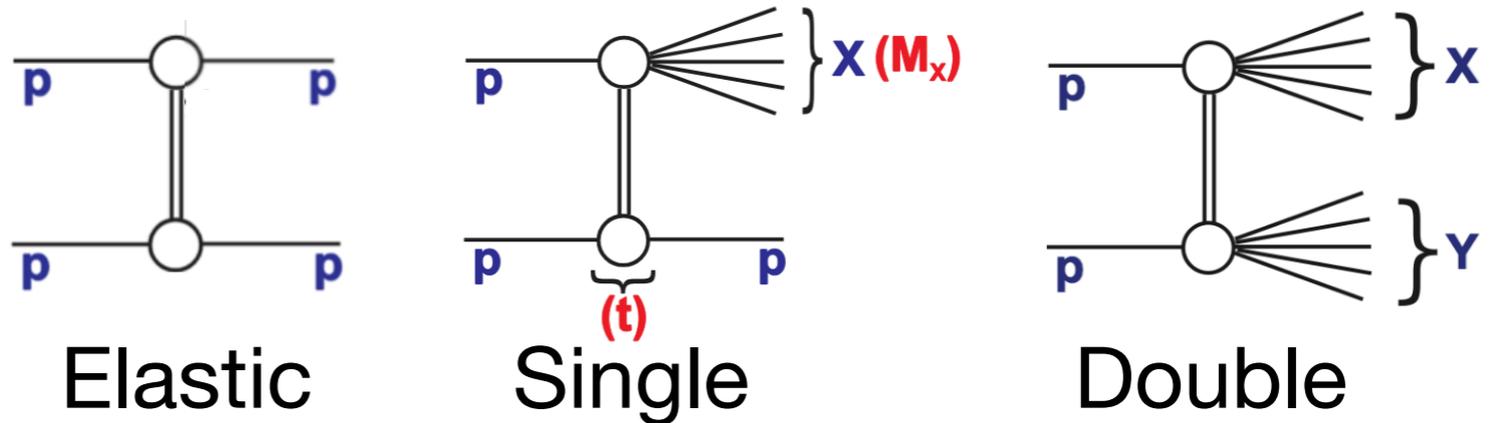
Applications



Philipp Aretz

- 5) universality between ep and pp diffraction?
(paper to appear soon)

Double: $pp \rightarrow XY$



$$\frac{d^3\sigma}{dM_1^2 dM_2^2 dt} = \sum_{\{R_X\}} \sum_{\substack{N, N' \\ M, M'}} S_{NM}^{\hat{R}_A} \otimes_{\perp} B_{NN'}^{R_A} \otimes_{\perp} S_{N'M'}^{\hat{R}_A} \otimes_{\perp} B_{MM'}^{R_B} \otimes_{\pm} U_{NN'MM'}^{R_A R_B \hat{R}_A}$$

- Beam functions are universal (ep & pp)
- Soft & Usoft functions are not universal

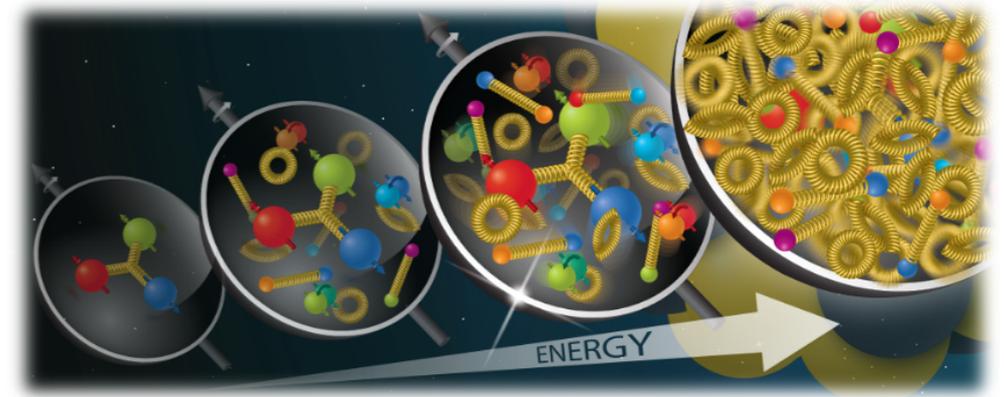
(explains failure of using dPDFs)

- Rapidity anom.dimensions are universal (small-x resummation)

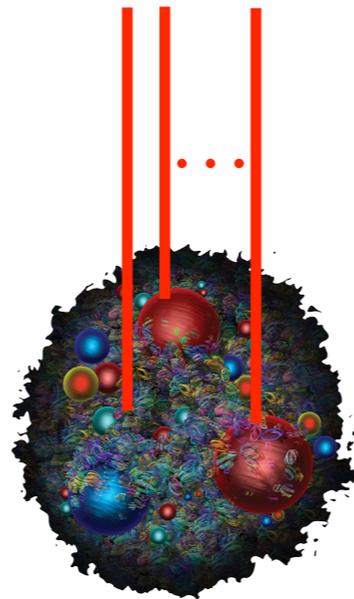
Future Directions

a) ratio predictions F_i^D / F_2^D for signal?
(calculations in progress)

b) EFT description of saturation (1st steps)

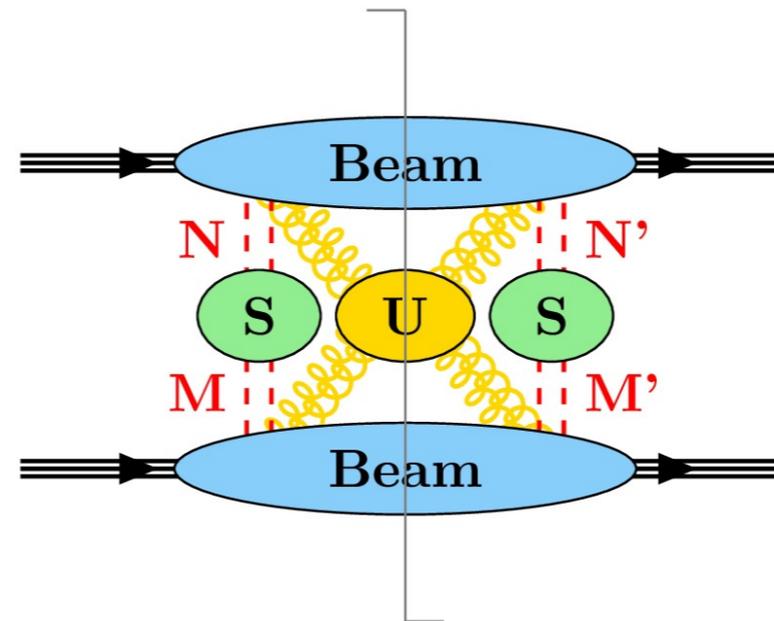
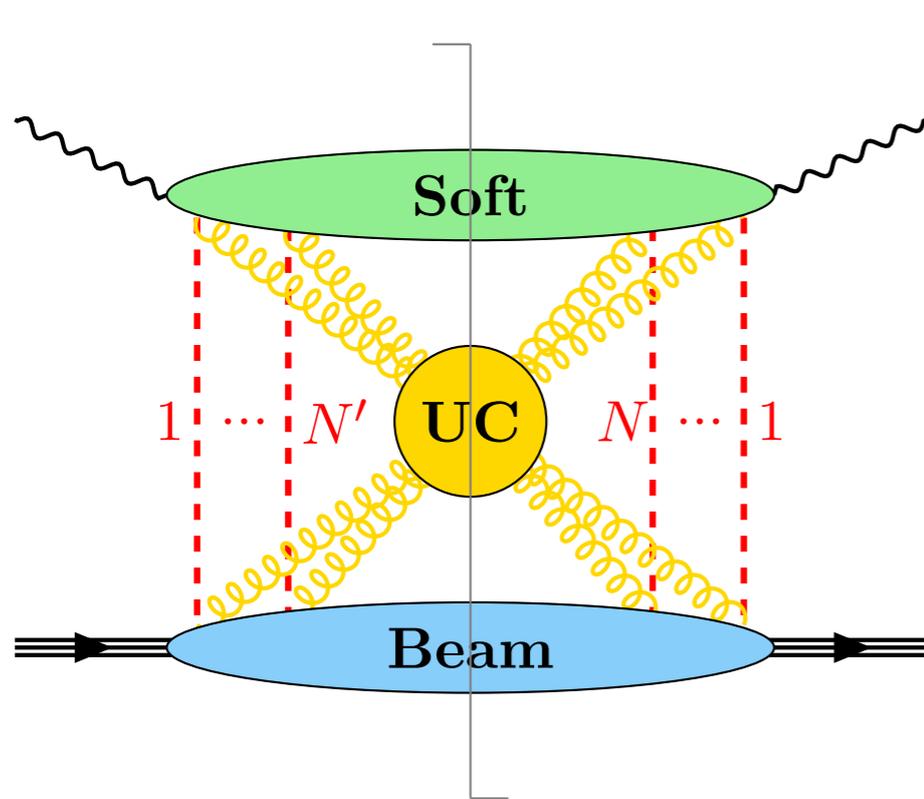


c) hadron structure

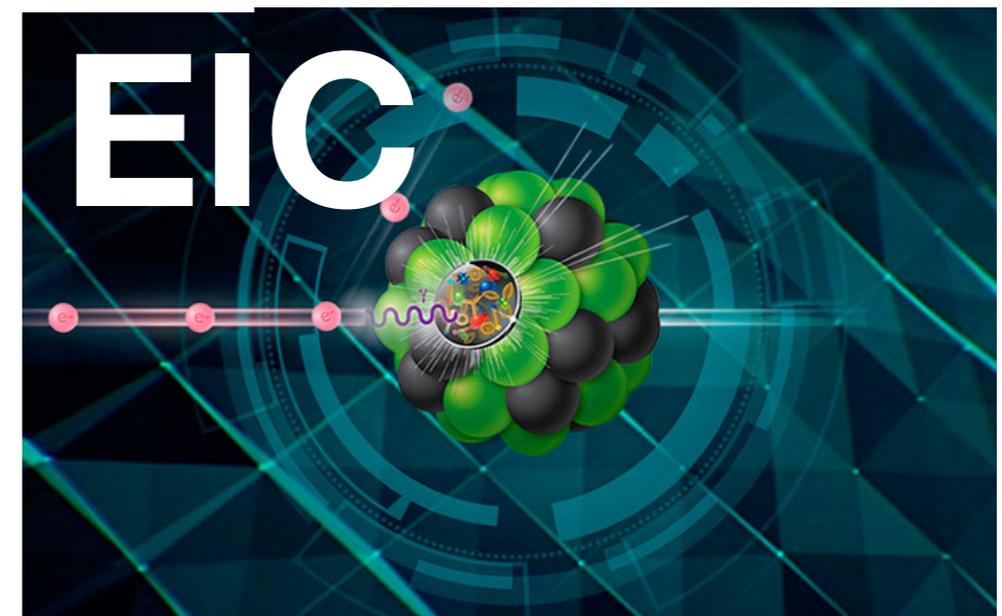


d) generalization to multi-gap, exclusive, heavy meson, ... processes

Conclusion: new tools & a bright future for Diffraction in QCD



FAIR



HiLumi
HL-LHC PROJECT

Backup

Backgrounds

Monte Carlo predictions:

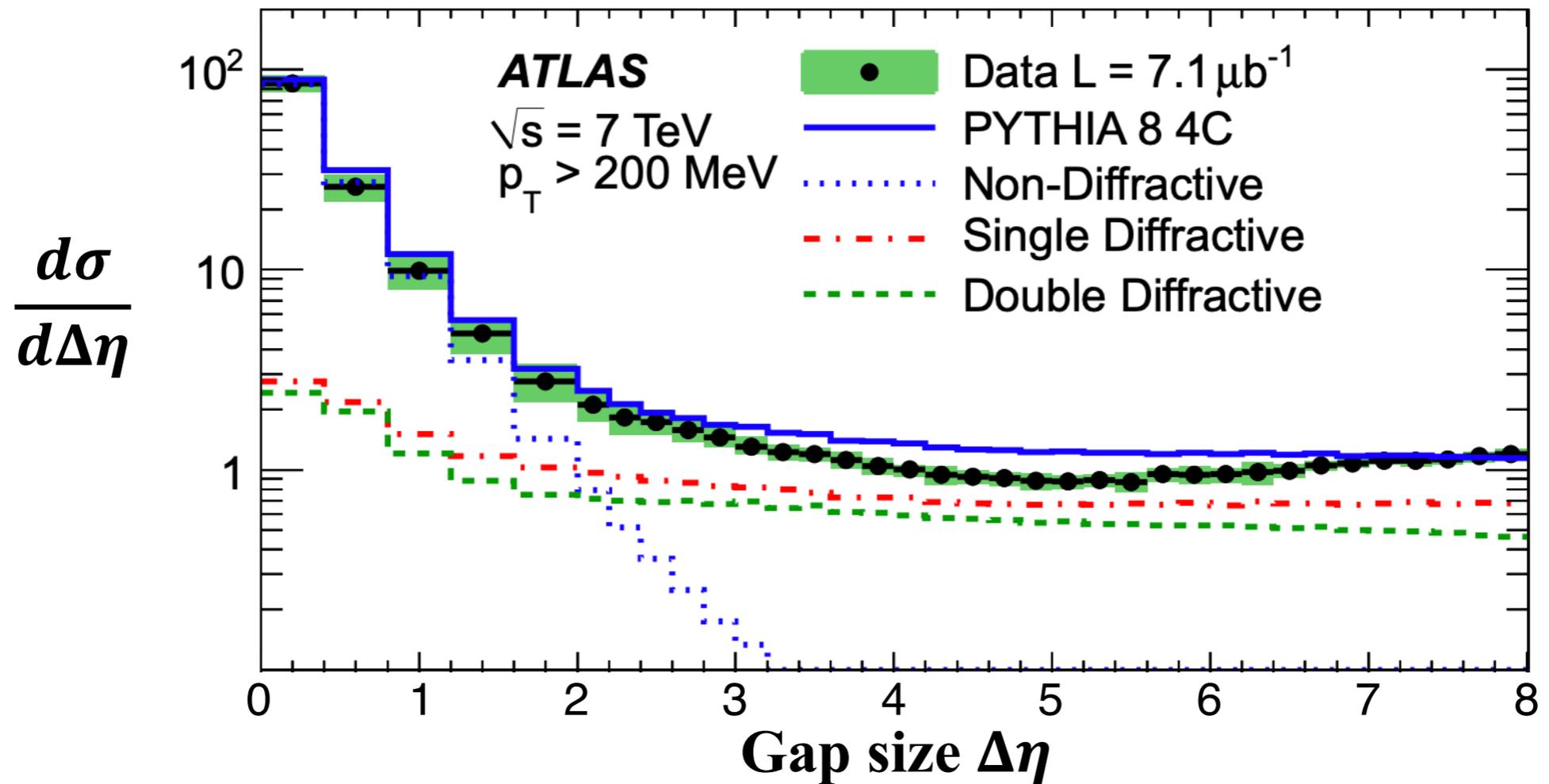
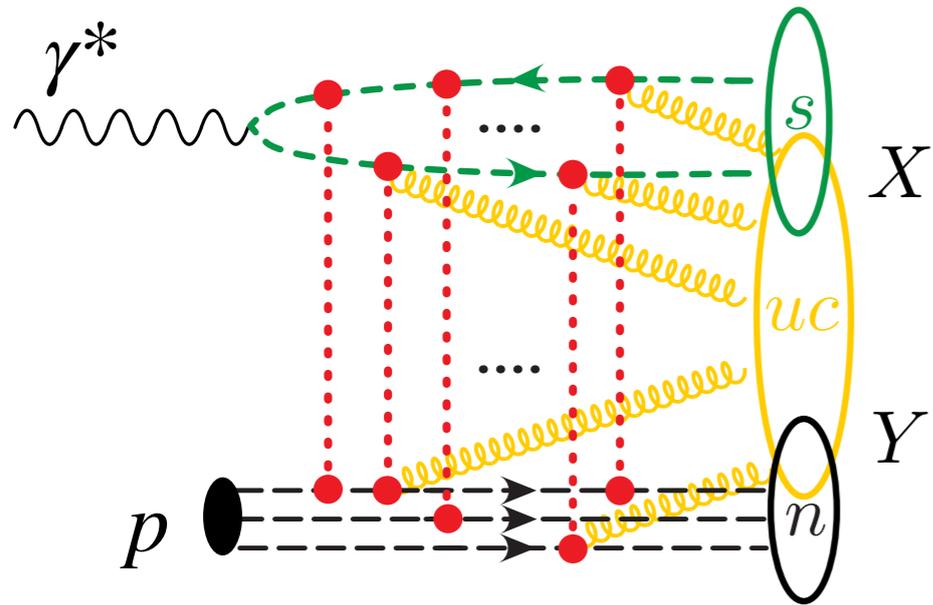


Figure: ATLAS, 1201.2808.

Regge Factorization



SCET (Breit frame)

$$\lambda \sim \frac{Q}{\sqrt{s}} \sim \sqrt{x}$$

Soft mode (X):

$$p_X, q \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda)$$

Glauber:

$$\tau \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda, \lambda)$$

Collinear mode (p,Y):

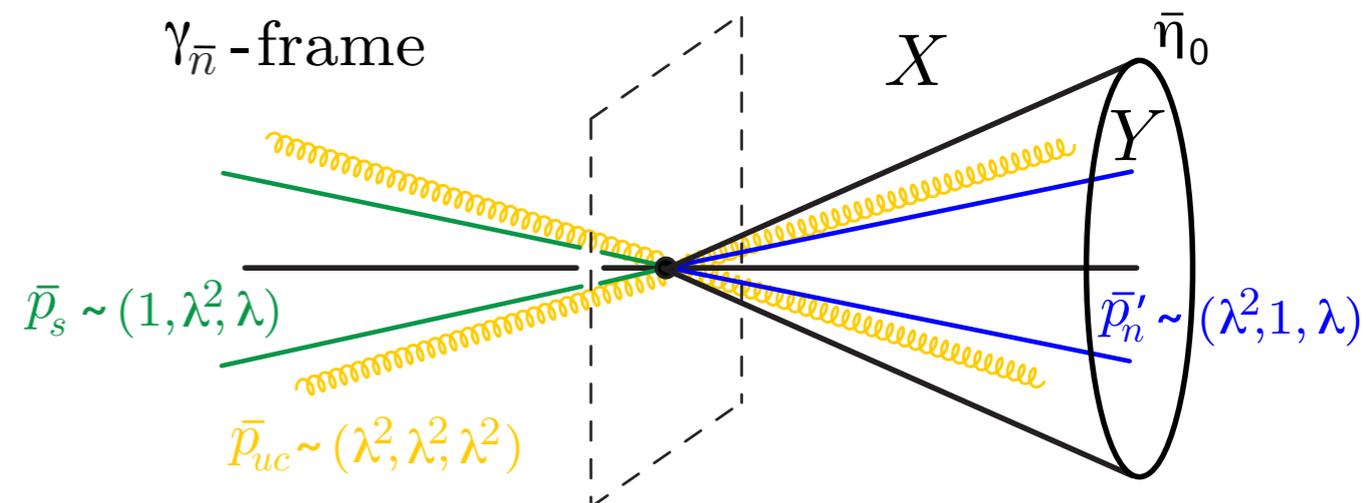
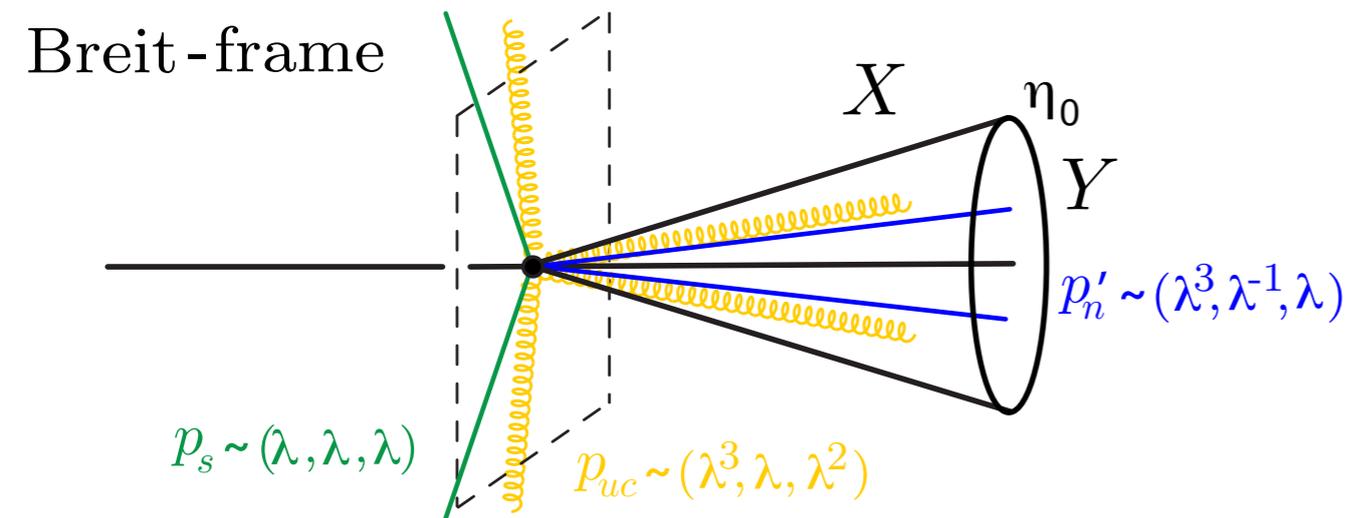
$$p' \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda^{-1}, \lambda)$$

Usoft-collinear mode (radiation in gap):

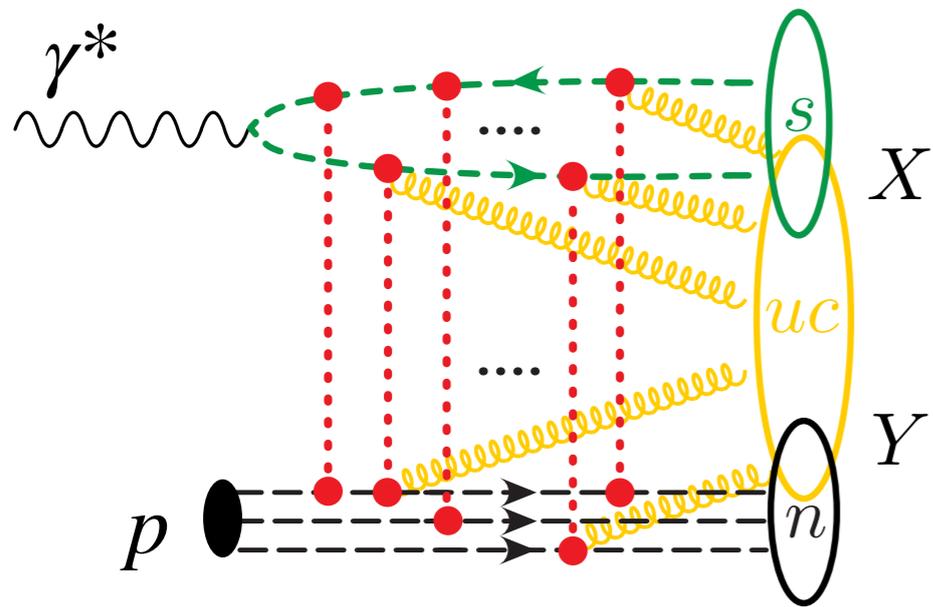
$$p_g \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda, \lambda^2)$$

$$q^\mu = Q \frac{\bar{n}^\mu}{2} - Q \frac{n^\mu}{2} = (0,0,0,Q)$$

$$q^\mu = \sqrt{ys} \frac{\bar{n}^\mu}{2} - \frac{Q^2}{\sqrt{ys}} \frac{n^\mu}{2}$$



Regge Factorization



SCET (Breit frame)

$$\lambda \sim \frac{Q}{\sqrt{s}} \sim \sqrt{x}$$

Soft mode (X):

$$p_X, q \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda) \quad + \quad - \quad \perp$$

Glauber:

$$\tau \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda, \lambda)$$

Collinear mode (p,Y):

$$p' \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda^{-1}, \lambda)$$

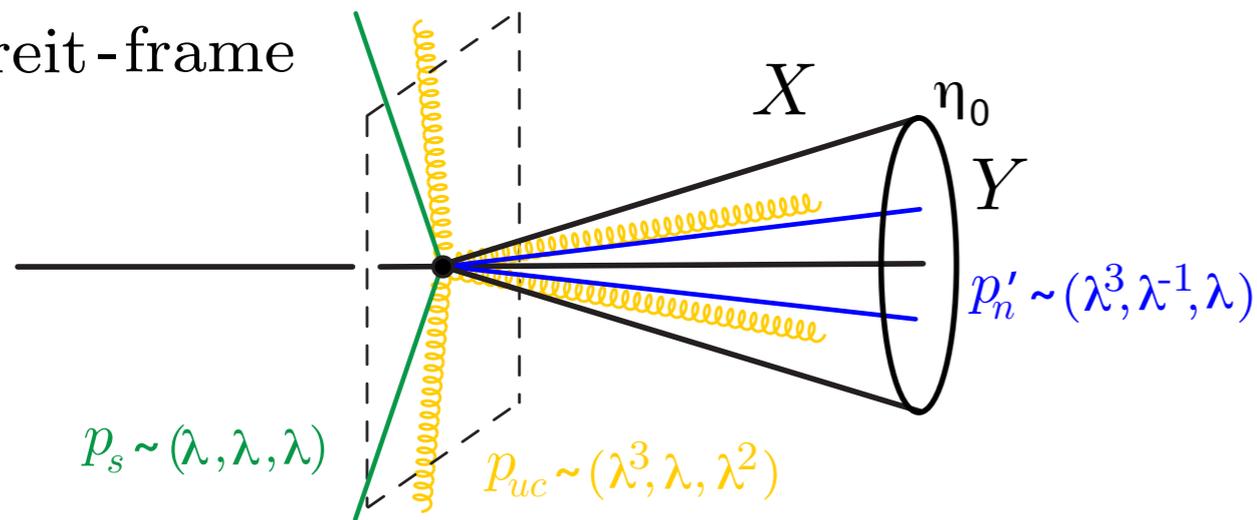
Usoft-collinear mode (radiation in gap):

$$p_g \sim \sqrt{s}(\lambda^3, \lambda, \lambda^2)$$

$$q^\mu = Q \frac{\bar{n}^\mu}{2} - Q \frac{n^\mu}{2} = (0, 0, 0, Q)$$

Equivalent to lab frame rapidity cut

Breit-frame

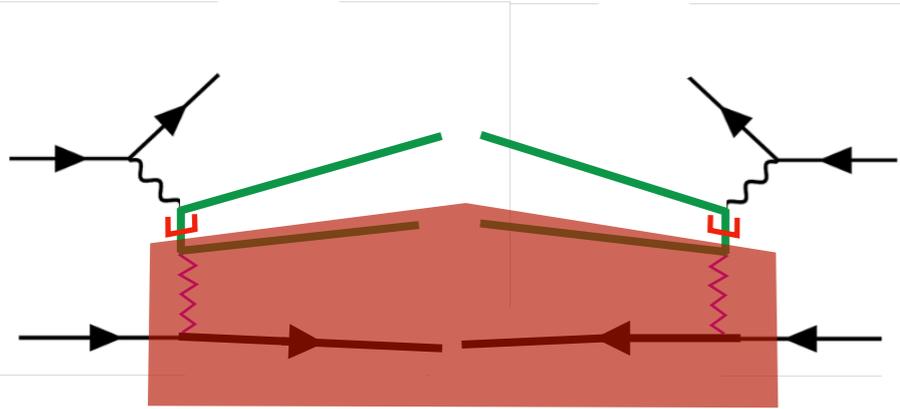


$$e^{-\eta_0} = h\sqrt{x}$$

$$h = \sqrt{\frac{E_p}{yE_e}} e^{-\eta_{\text{cut}}^{\text{lab}}}$$

Regge & Hard-collinear Factorization

- **hard-collinear factorization**



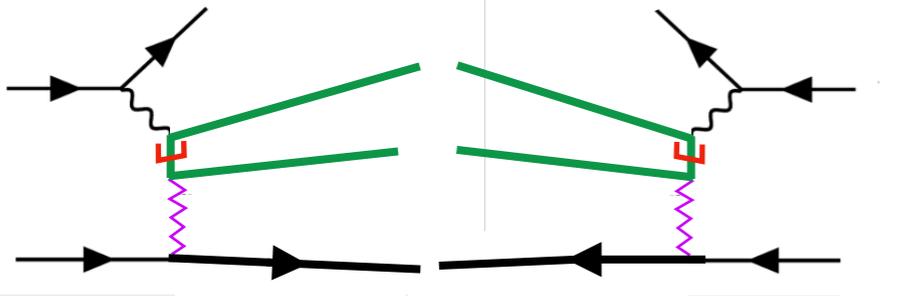
Diffractive PDF

$$\xi = \frac{x}{\beta}$$

$$F_2 \sim \sum_{\kappa} \int_{\beta}^1 \frac{d\zeta}{\zeta} H_2^{\kappa} \left(\frac{\beta}{\zeta}, Q, \mu \right) f_{\kappa}^D (\zeta, \xi, t, m_J^2, \mu) (1 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda_t)) \leftarrow \text{small } \lambda_t$$

Collins '97, Berera, Soper '95

- **Regge / forward scattering factorization (For singlet)**



$$F_i^{D \text{ diff}} = \sum_{\substack{N, N'=1 \\ N+N'=\text{even}}}^{\infty} \sum_{R^{NN'}=1} \iint_{(N, N')^{\perp}} B_{(N, N')}^{R^{NN'}} \left(m_Y^2 - t, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, t, \frac{\nu}{Q/x} \right) \leftarrow \text{small } \lambda$$

$$\times S_{i(N, N')}^{R^{NN'}} \left(\frac{Q^2}{\beta}, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, Q, t, \frac{\nu}{Q/\beta} \right) \frac{Q^2}{x}$$

- **Simultaneous limits** $S_i = H_i^K \otimes S_{CS}^K$

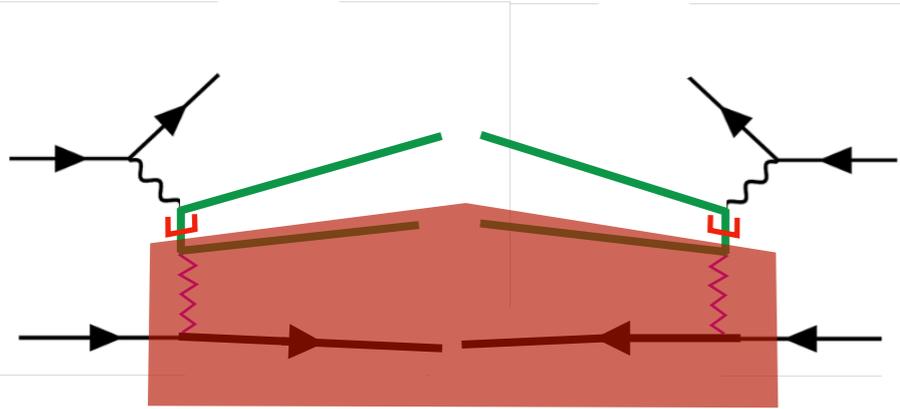
$$f_{\kappa}^{D \text{ diff}} \left(\zeta, \frac{x}{\beta}, t, m_Y^2, \mu \right) = \sum_{\substack{N, N'=1 \\ N+N'=\text{even}}}^{\infty} \sum_{R^{NN'}=1} \iint_{(N, N')^{\perp}} S_{CS(N, N')}^{\kappa; R^{NN'}} \left(\zeta, \{\tau_{k\perp}, \tau'_{\ell\perp}\}, t, \frac{\nu}{Q/\beta}, \mu \right) \leftarrow \text{small } \lambda, \lambda_t$$

$$\times B_{(N, N')}^{R^{NN'}} \left(m_Y^2 - t, \{\tau_{k\perp}, \tau'_{\ell\perp}\}, t, \frac{\nu}{Q/x} \right) \frac{\beta^2}{x^2}$$

Regge Factorization for Diffractive PDF

Regge & Hard-collinear Factorization

- **hard-collinear factorization**

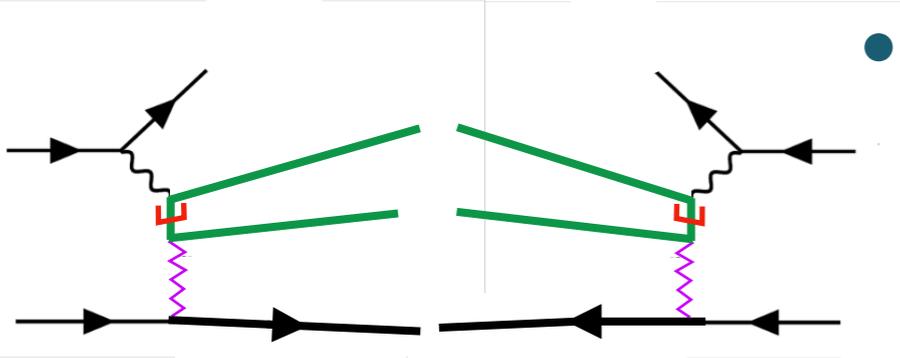


Diffractive PDF $\xi = \frac{x}{\beta}$

$$F_2 \sim \sum_{\kappa} \int_{\beta}^1 \frac{d\zeta}{\zeta} H_2^{\kappa} \left(\frac{\beta}{\zeta}, Q, \mu \right) f_{\kappa}^D (\zeta, \xi, t, m_J^2, \mu) (1 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda_t)) \leftarrow \text{small } \lambda_t$$

Collins '97, Berera, Soper '95

- **Regge / forward scattering factorization (For singlet)**



$$F_i^{D \text{ diff}} = \sum_{\substack{N, N'=1 \\ N+N'=\text{even}}}^{\infty} \sum_{R^{NN'}=1} \iint_{(N, N')}^{\perp} B_{(N, N')}^{R^{NN'}} \left(m_Y^2 - t, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, t, \frac{\nu}{Q/x} \right) \leftarrow \text{small } \lambda$$

$$S_{i(N, N')}^{R^{NN'}} \left(\frac{Q^2}{\beta}, \{\tau_{i\perp}, \tau'_{j\perp}\}, Q, t, \frac{\nu}{Q/\beta} \right) \frac{Q^2}{x}$$

- **Simultaneous limits**

small λ, λ_t

Compare:

$$f_{\kappa/p}^D \propto S_{\text{CS}}^{\kappa} (\zeta, \{\tau_{i,\perp}\}, t, \nu, \mu) \otimes_{\perp} B(m_Y^2 - t, \{\tau_{i,\perp}\}, t, \nu) \quad (\text{Effective Field Theory Factorization})$$

$$f_{\kappa/p}^D = f_{\kappa/\mathbb{P}} (\zeta, \mu) f_{\mathbb{P}/p} (\xi, t, m_Y^2) \quad (\text{Ingelman-Schlein Model})$$

differ: transverse vs longitudinal momenta, t dependence, ξ dependence, ...