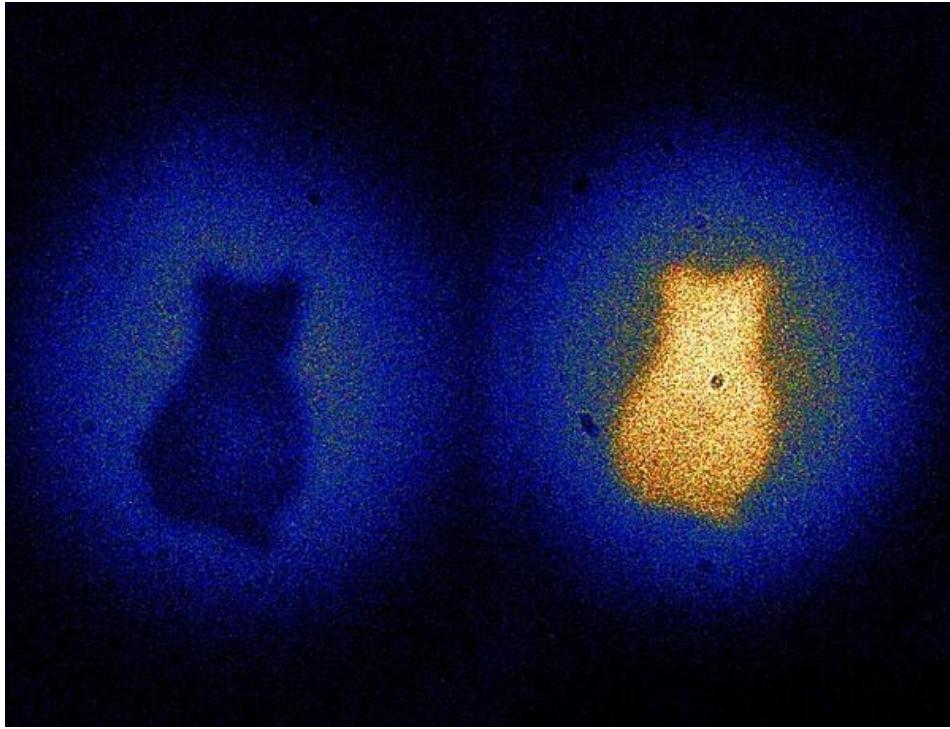


# Probing color confinement with quantum entanglement



Quantum imaging of Schrödinger's cat, Science 05 Sep 2014

*Is entanglement deeply connected to the fundamental structure of our visible universe...?*

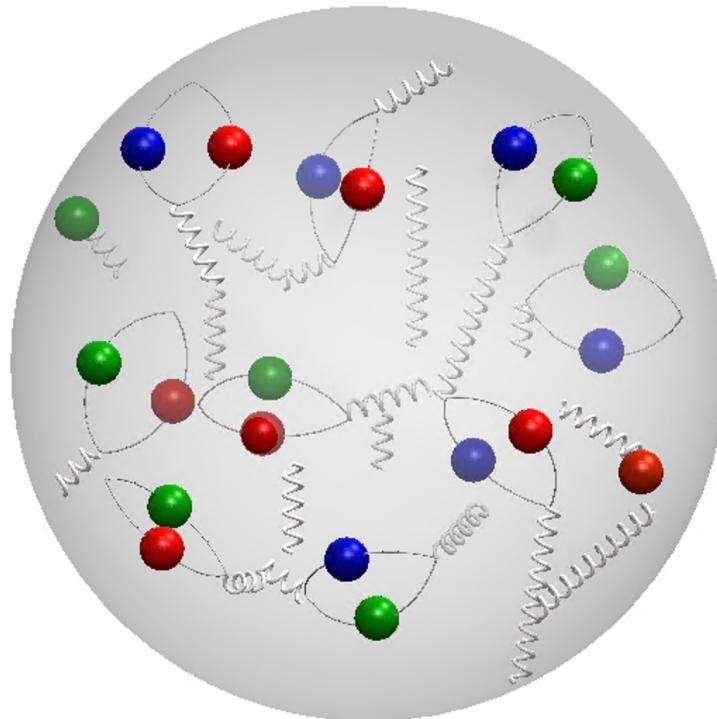
Kong Tu

BNL

06. 15. 2021

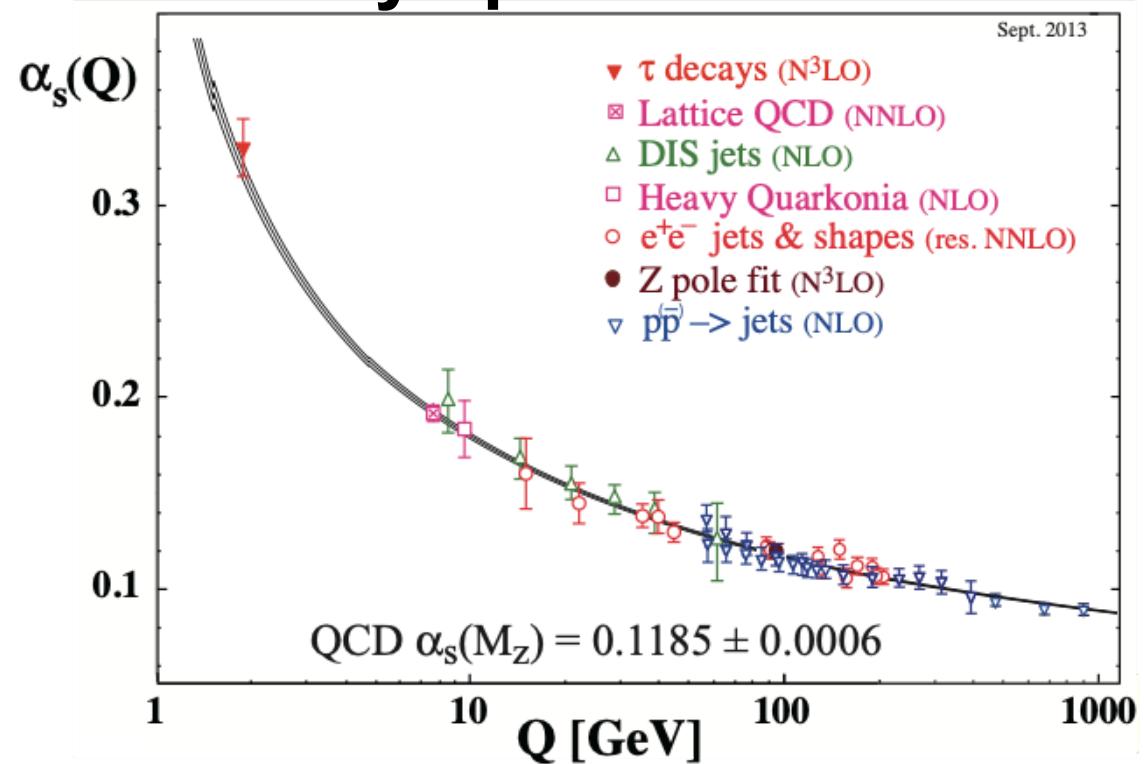
# Quantum Chromodynamics

## Confinement



Free quarks and gluons  
not observed in nature

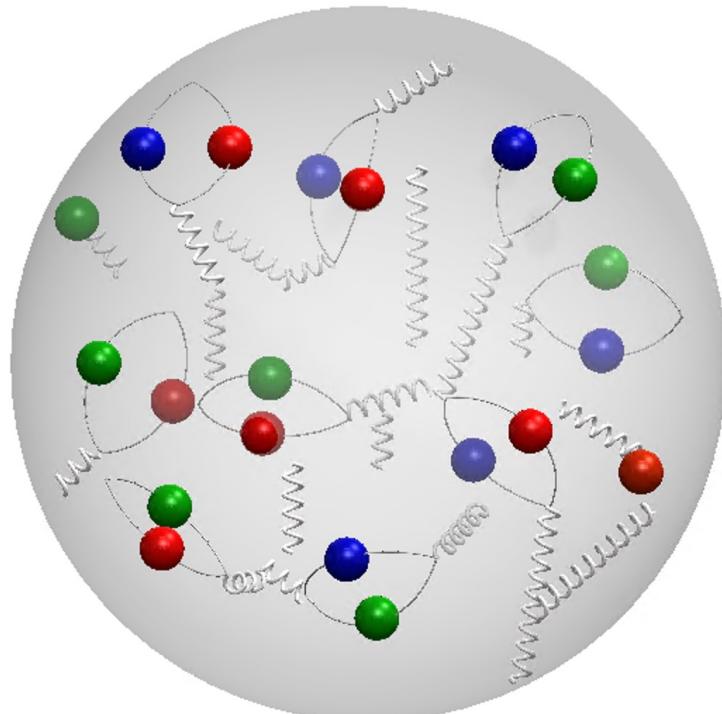
## Asymptotic freedom



2004, Gross, Politzer, Wilczek

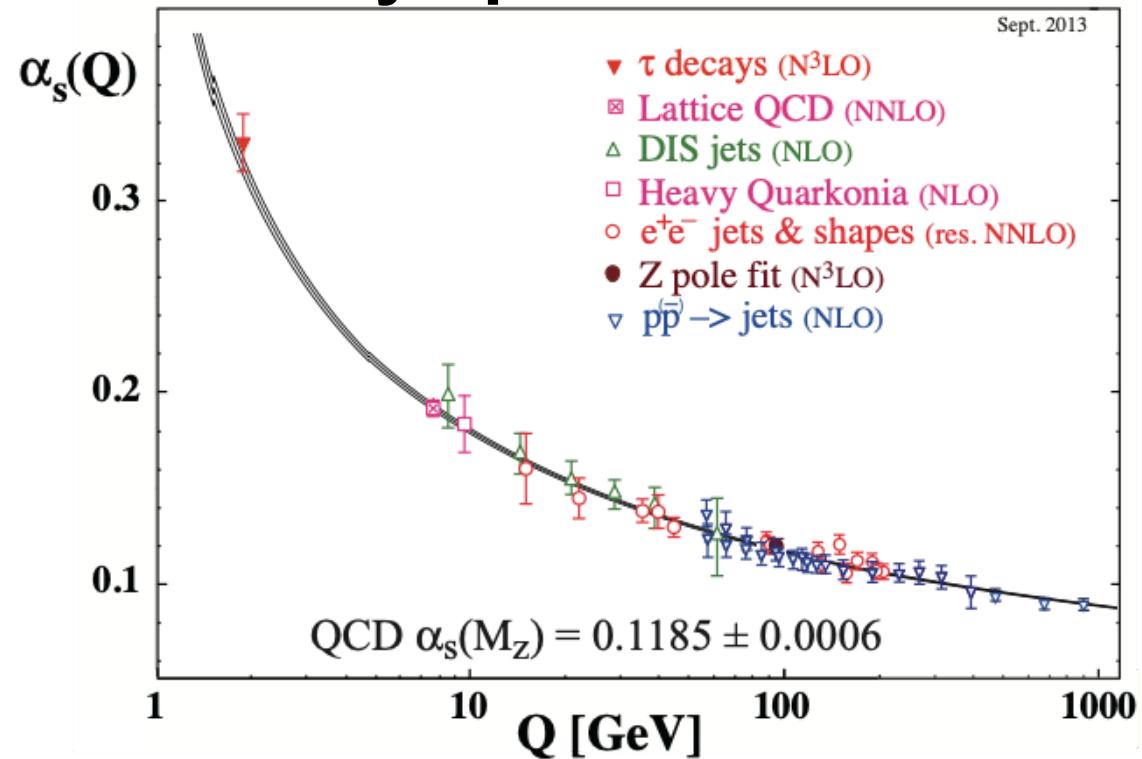
# Quantum Chromodynamics

## Confinement



Free quarks and gluons  
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2004, Gross, Politzer, Wilczek

# Mystery of Confinement

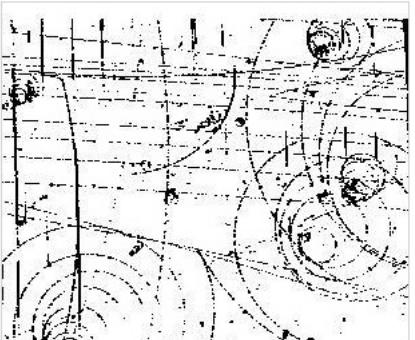
# Mystery of Confinement

## Theoretical problem



ABOUT PROGRAMS **MILLENNIUM PROBLEMS** PEOPLE PUBLICATIONS EVENTS

### Yang-Mills and Mass Gap



The laws of quantum physics stand to the world of elementary particles in the way that Newton's laws of classical mechanics stand to the macroscopic world. Almost half a century ago, Yang and Mills introduced a remarkable new framework to describe elementary particles using structures that also occur in geometry. Quantum Yang-Mills theory is now the foundation of most of elementary particle theory, and its predictions have been tested at many experimental laboratories, but its mathematical foundation is still unclear. The successful use of Yang-Mills theory to describe the strong interactions of elementary particles depends on a subtle quantum

mechanical property called the "mass gap": the quantum particles have positive masses, even though the classical waves travel at the speed of light. This property has been discovered by physicists from experiment and confirmed by computer simulations, but it still has not been understood from a theoretical point of view. Progress in establishing the existence of the Yang-Mills theory and a mass gap will require the introduction of fundamental new ideas both in physics and in mathematics.

This problem is:

Unsolved

## Unsolved QFT problem.

# Mystery of Confinement

## Theoretical problem



ABOUT PROGRAMS **MILLENNIUM PROBLEMS** PEOPLE PUBLICATIONS EVENTS

### Yang-Mills and Mass Gap

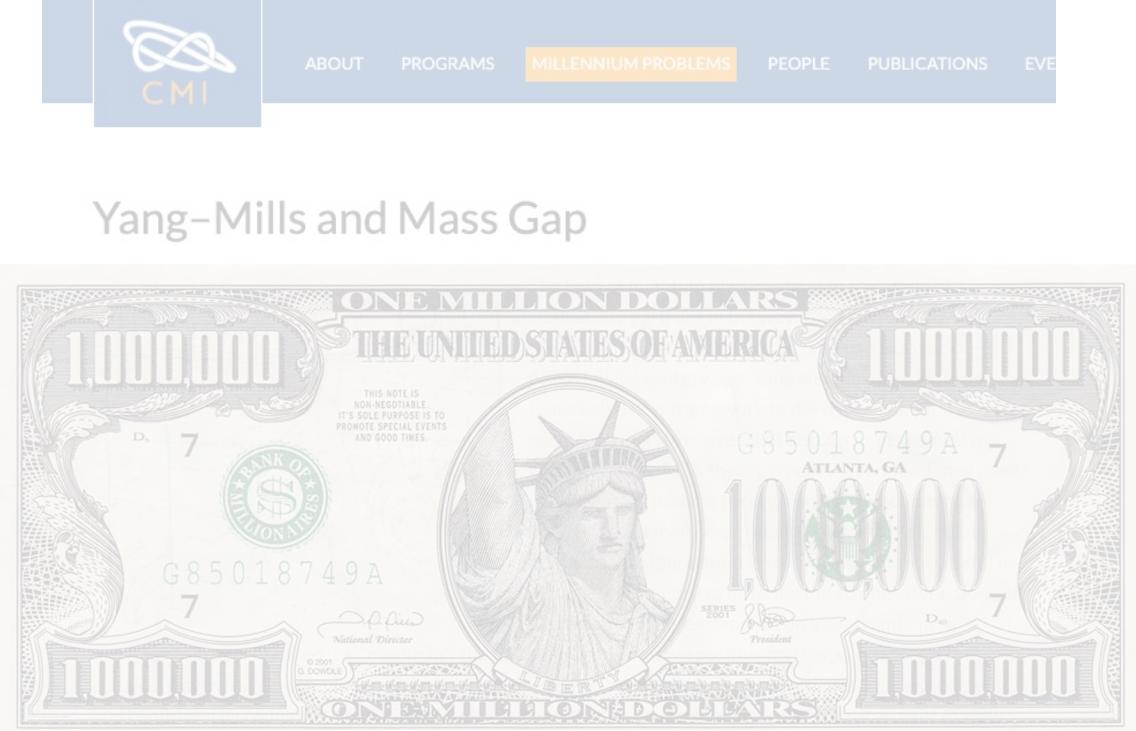
Progress in establishing the existence of the Yang-Mills theory and a mass gap will require the introduction of fundamental new ideas both in physics and in mathematics.

This problem is: Unsolved

**Unsolved QFT problem.**

# Mystery of Confinement

## Theoretical problem



Yang-Mills and Mass Gap

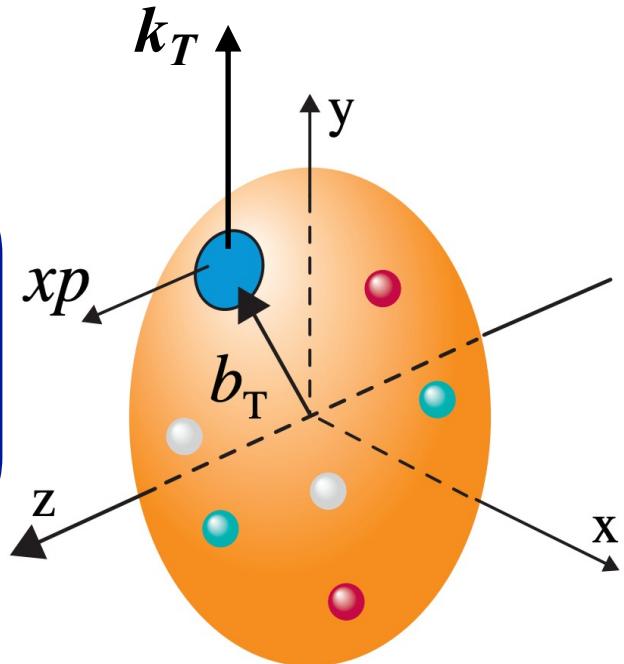
This problem is: Unsolved

Unsolved QFT problem.

## Experimental problem

### Questions

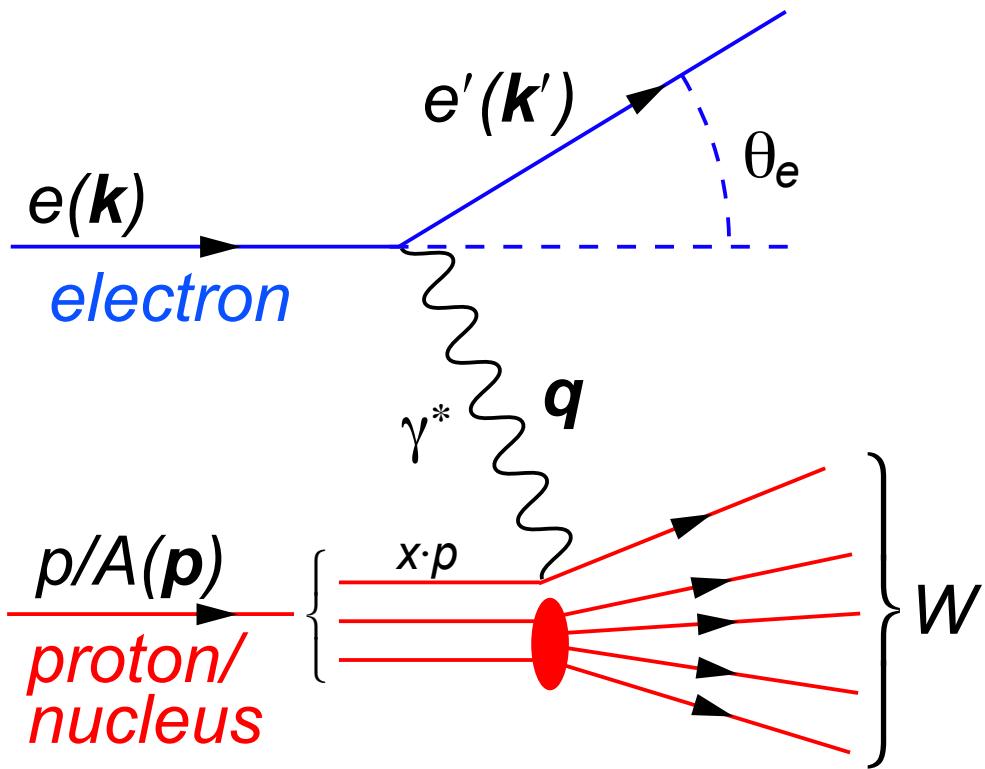
- Nucleon structure
- Spin
- Hadronization
- ...



**How does confinement manifest itself in these questions?**

# DIS and nucleon structure

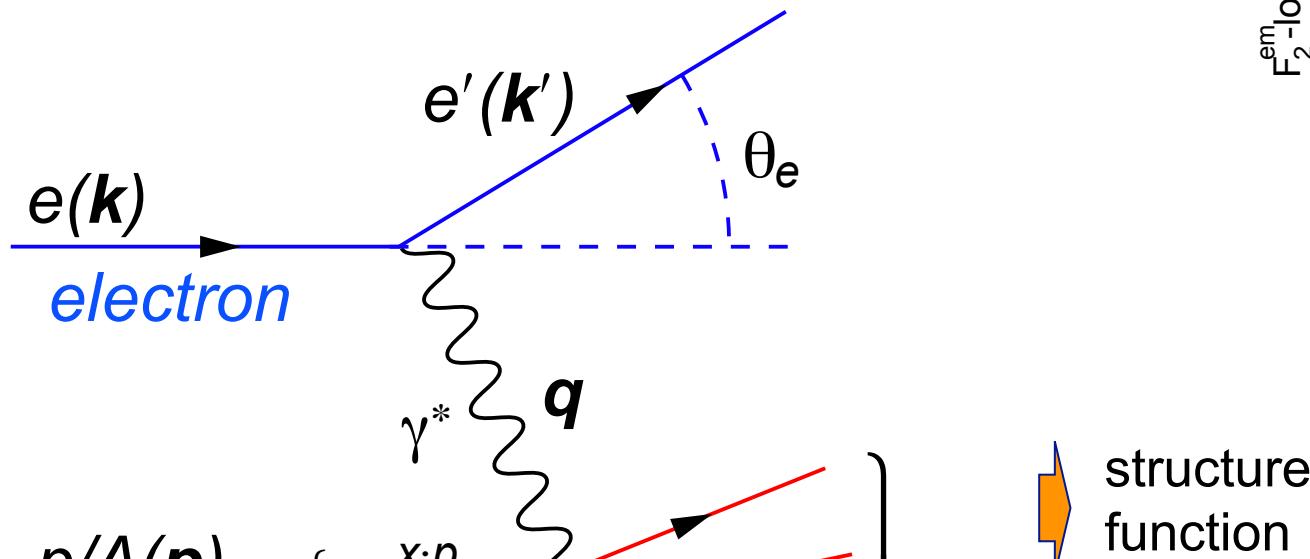
Deep Inelastic Scattering



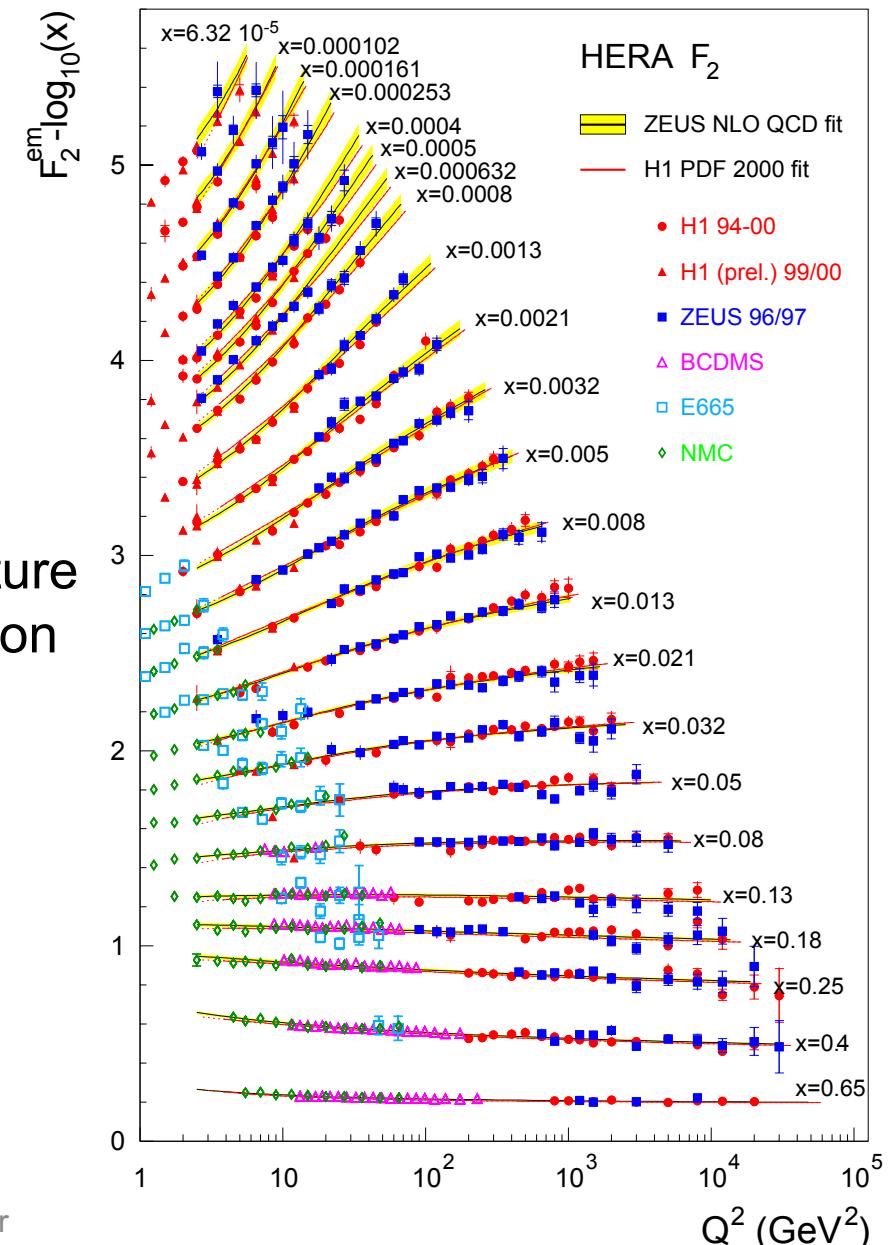
1. Resolution  $\sim Q^2 = -q^2$
2. Momentum fraction  $\sim x_{bj} = \frac{Q^2}{2Pq}$   
“Exposure time”

# DIS and nucleon structure

## Deep Inelastic Scattering

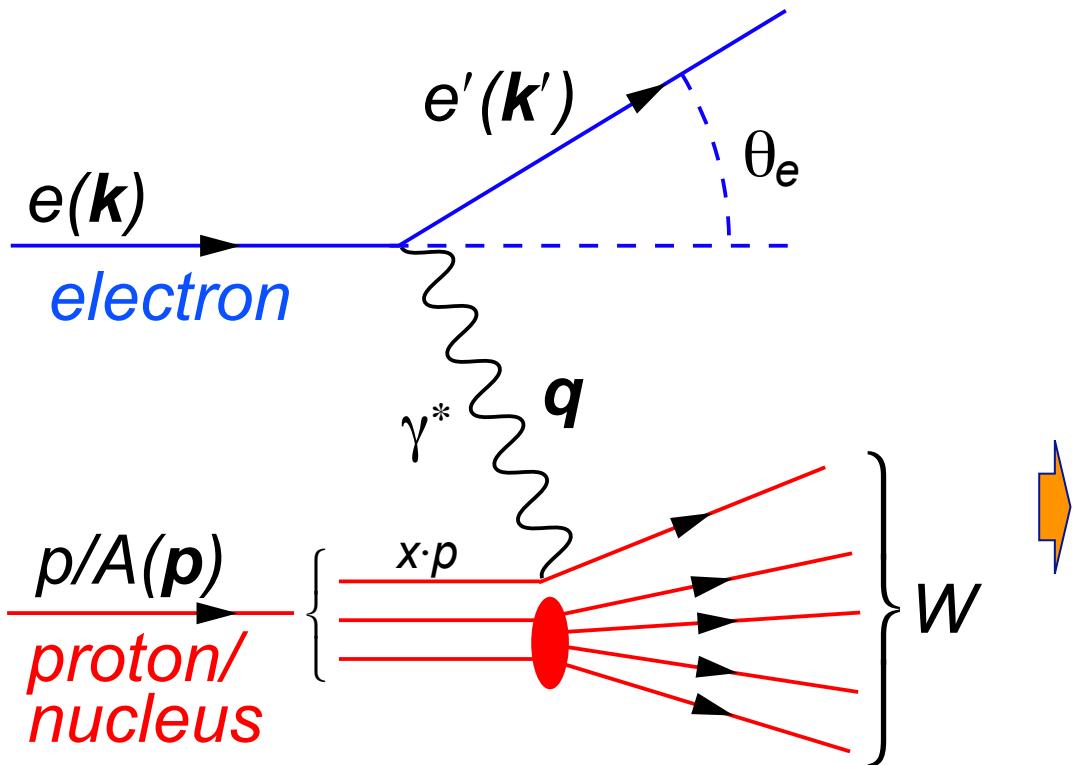


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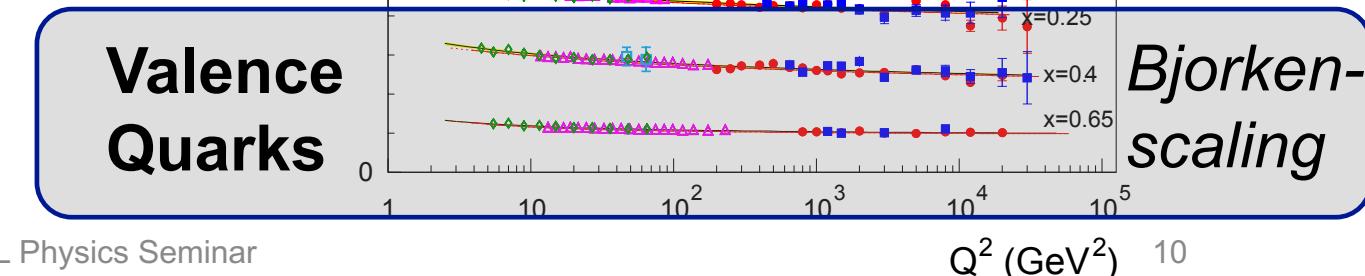


# DIS and nucleon structure

## Deep Inelastic Scattering

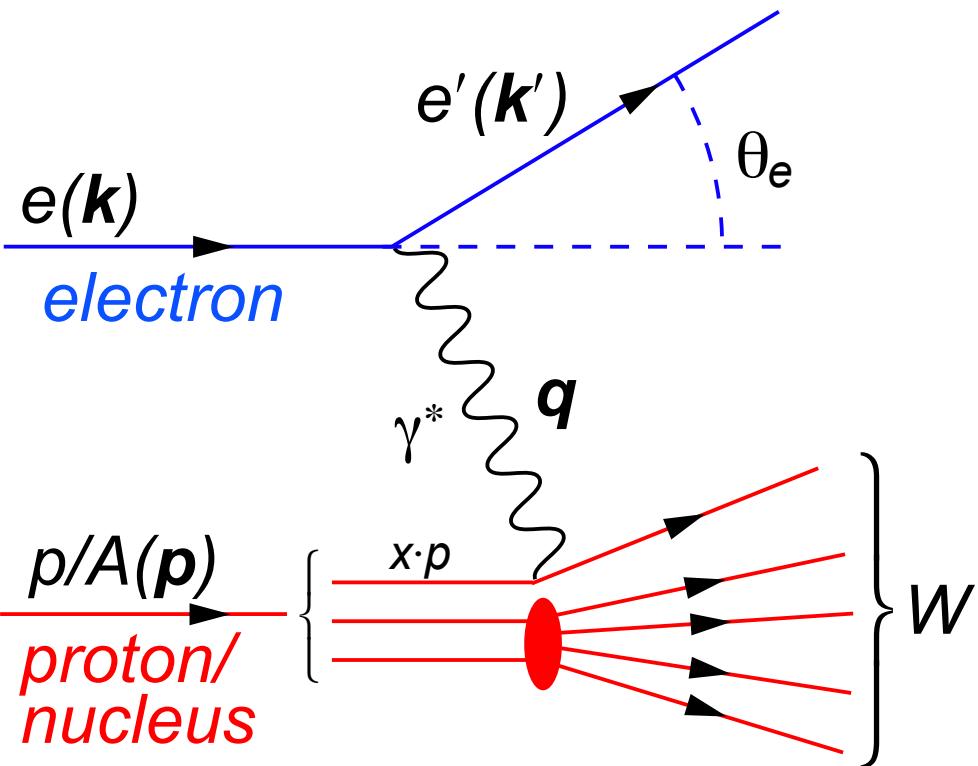


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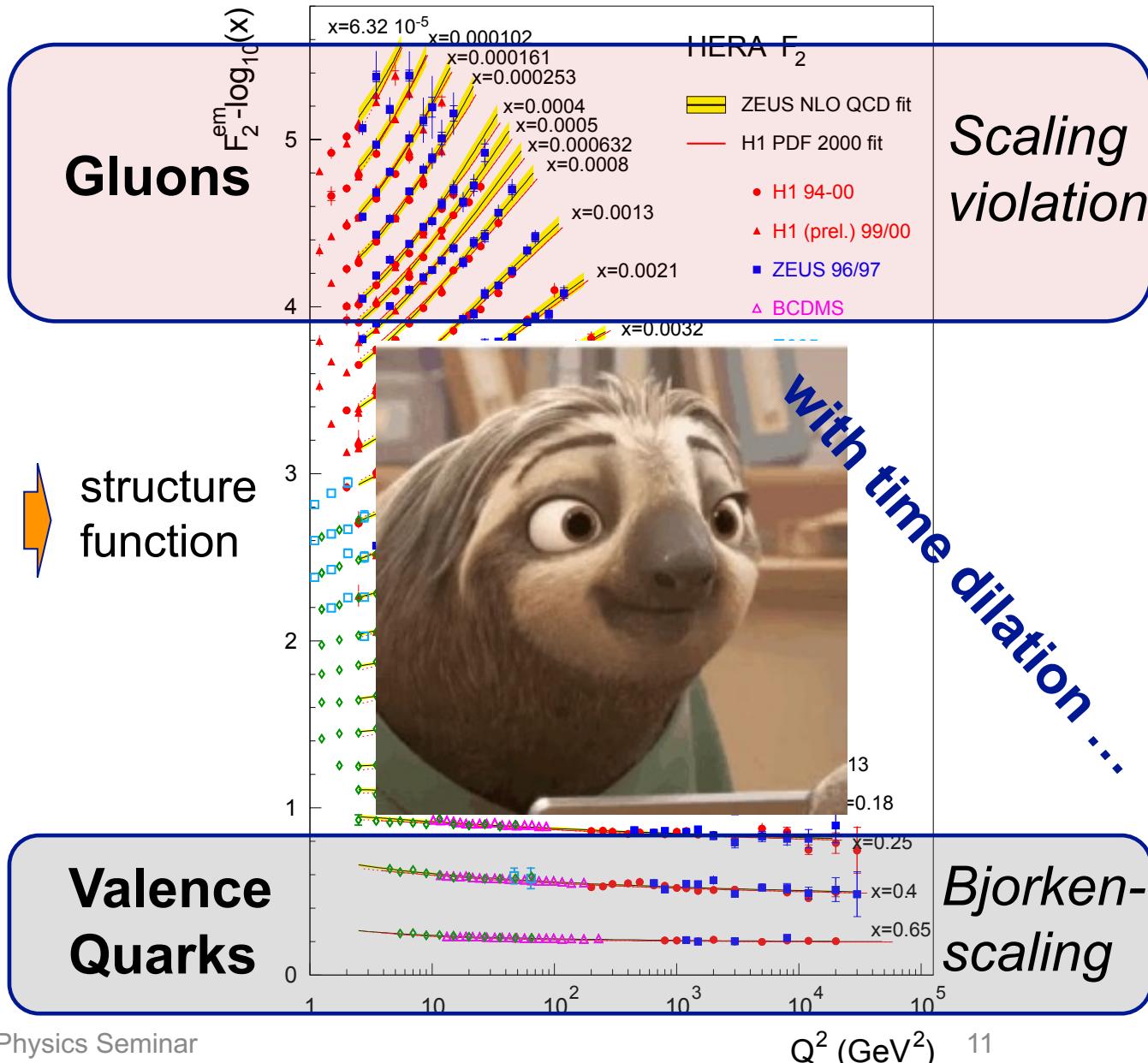


# DIS and nucleon structure

Deep Inelastic Scattering



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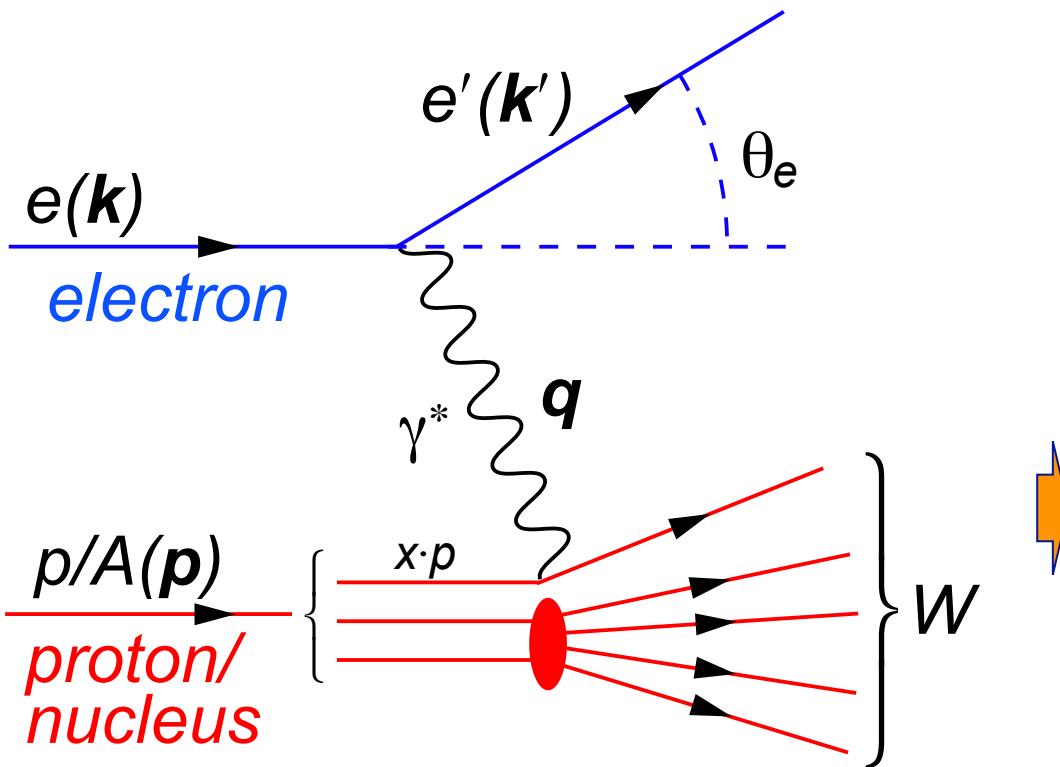


Scaling  
violation

Bjorken-  
scaling

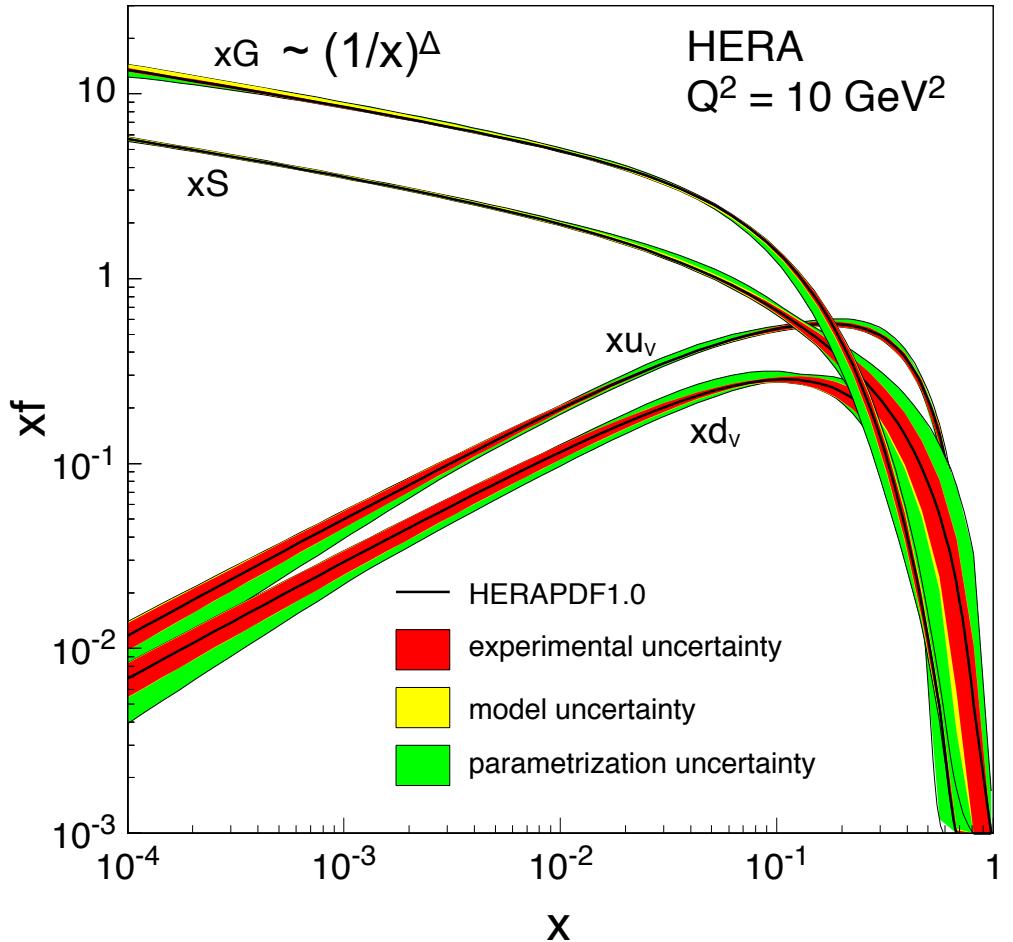
# DIS and nucleon structure

## Deep Inelastic Scattering



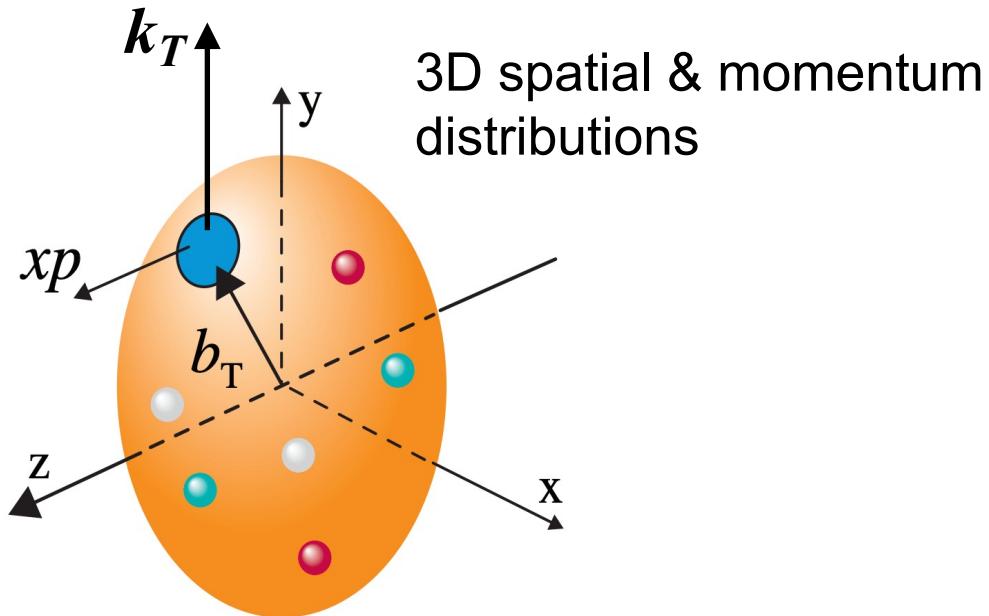
1. Resolution  $\sim Q^2 = -q^2$
2. Momentum fraction  $\sim x_{bj} = \frac{Q^2}{2Pq}$   
“Exposure time”

## Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs)



# 3D nucleon structure

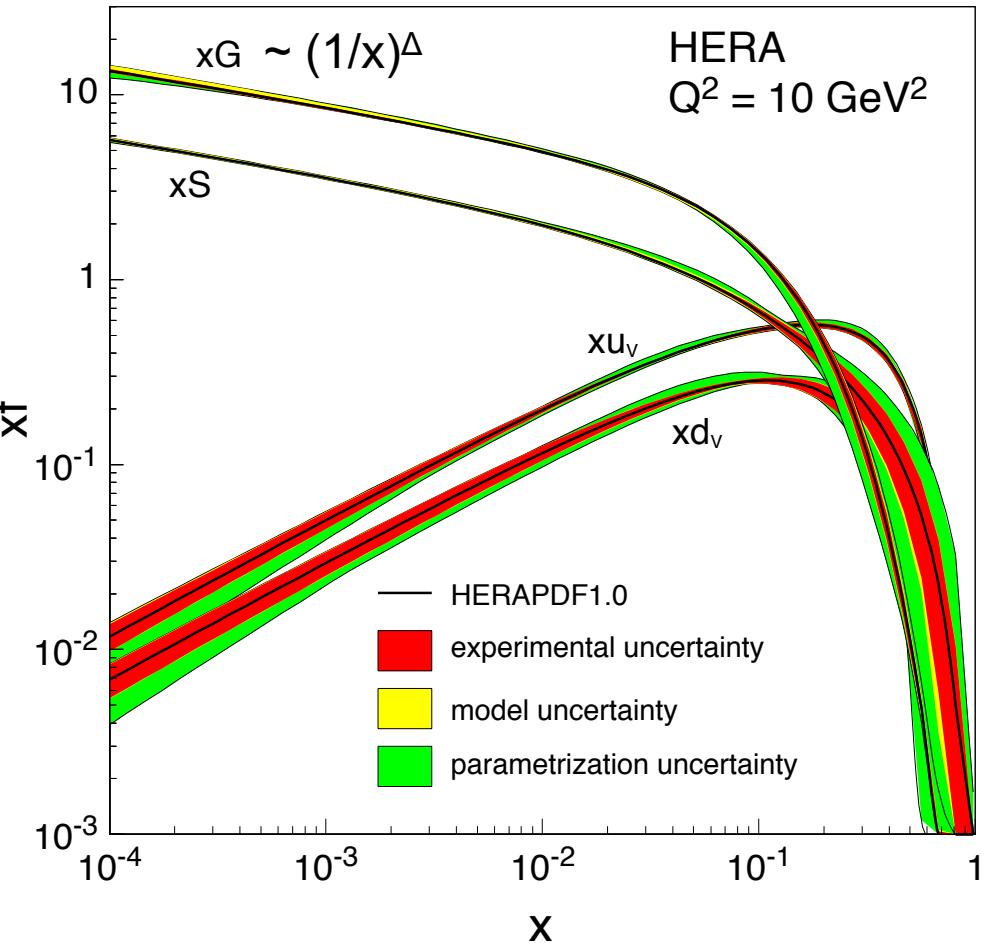
“Mother”  
Wigner distributions



3D structures:

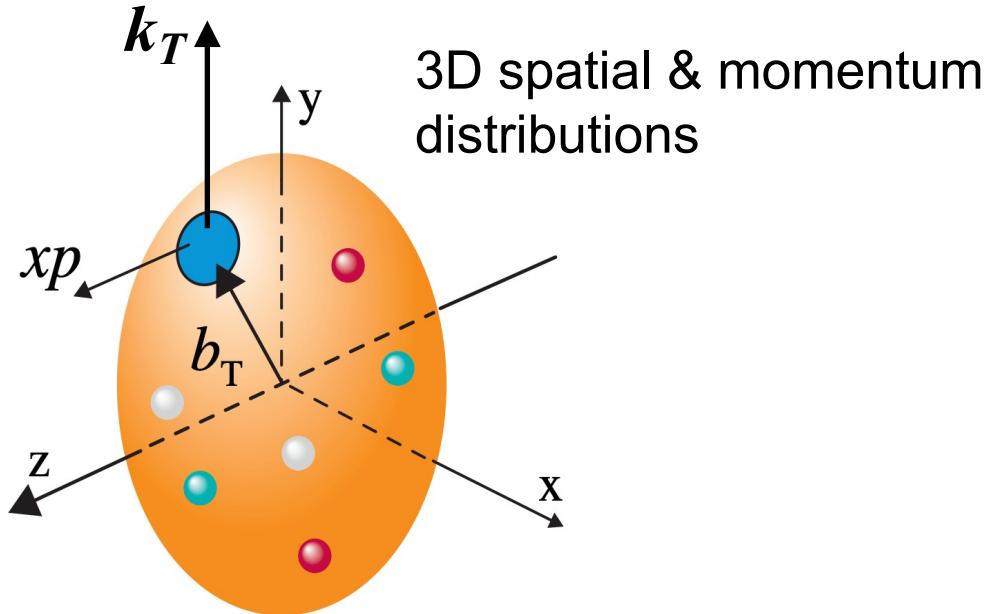
- Generalized Parton Distributions (GPDs)
- Transverse Momentum Dependent (TMD) PDFs

Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs)



# 3D nucleon structure

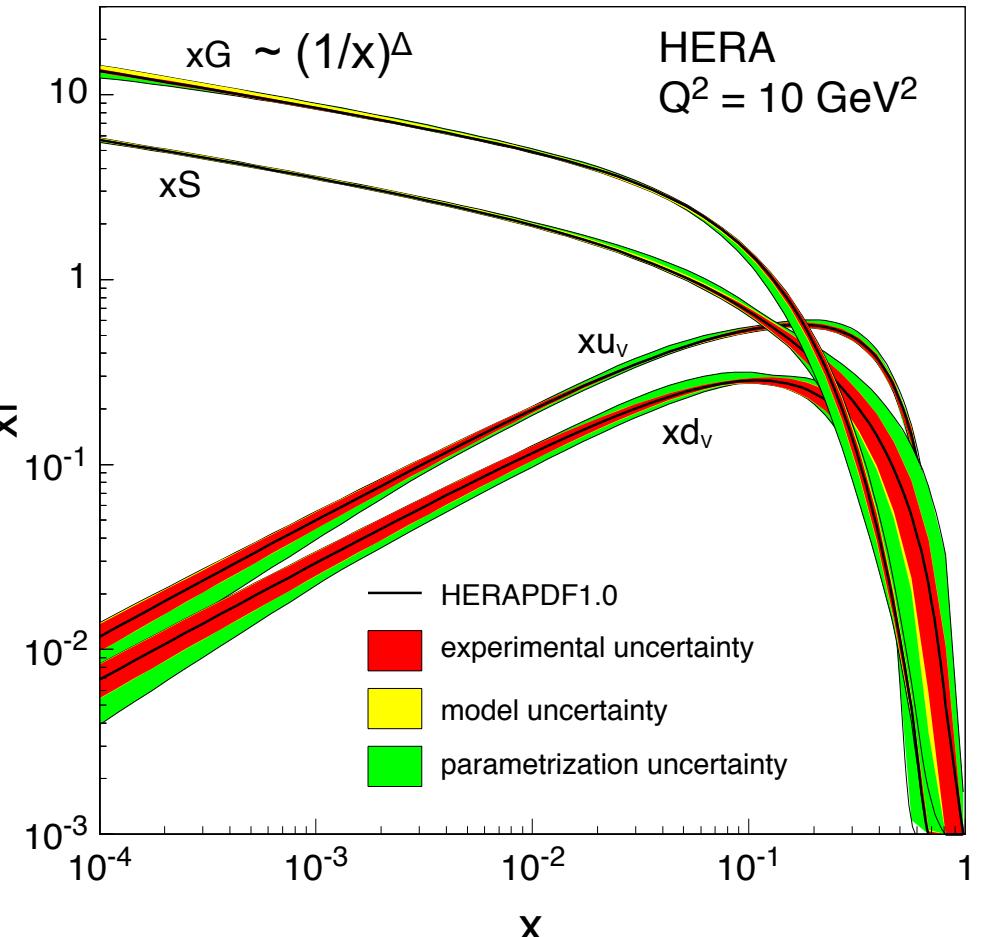
“Mother”  
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3D structures:

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Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs)

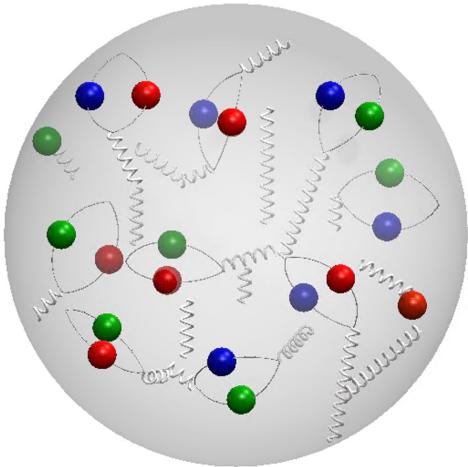


All known nucleon structure is derived from single particle distributions

# Structure beyond single parton

## Let's imagine

- If we measured all parton distributions (1D  $\rightarrow$  3D) with our best precisions.
- Consider it solved?

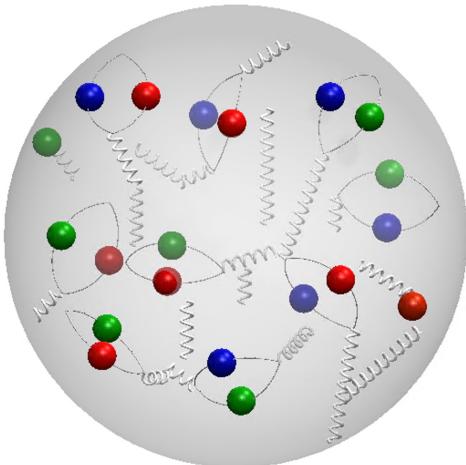


**Confinement?**

# Structure beyond single parton

Let's imagine

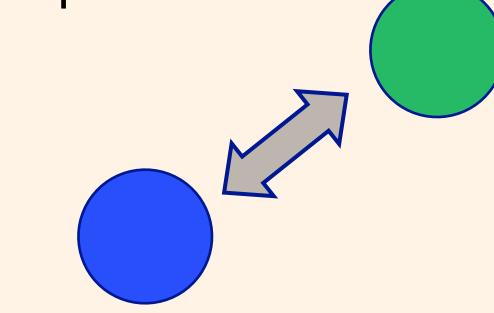
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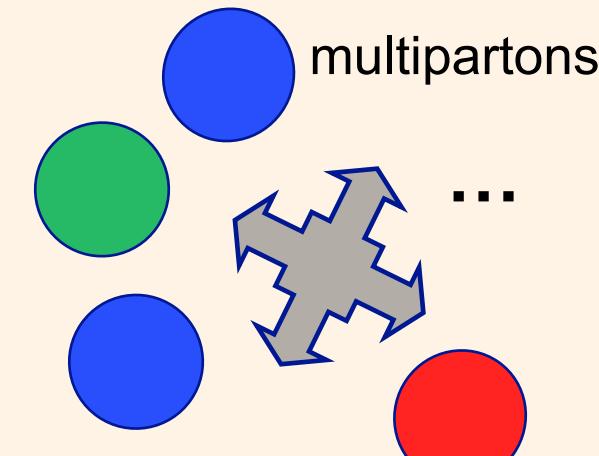
Confinement?

How does *confinement* manifest itself in  
**parton correlations?**

2-partons



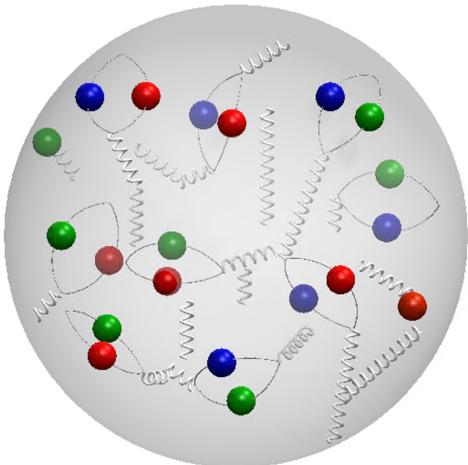
**parton-parton correlations**  
(density, momentum, spins, etc..)



# Structure beyond single parton

Let's imagine

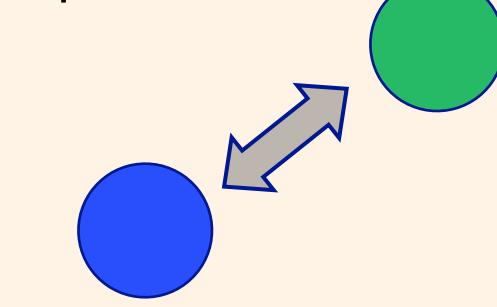
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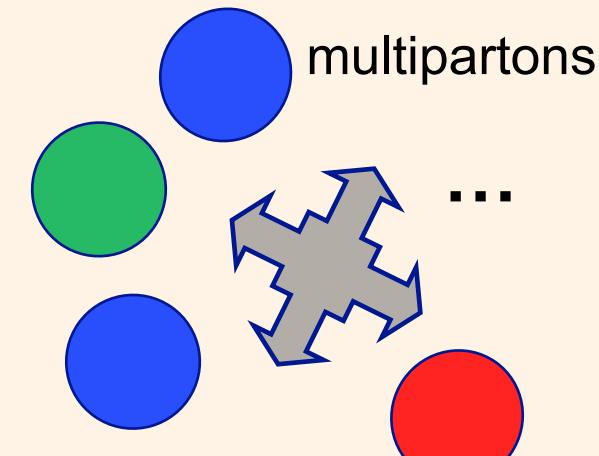
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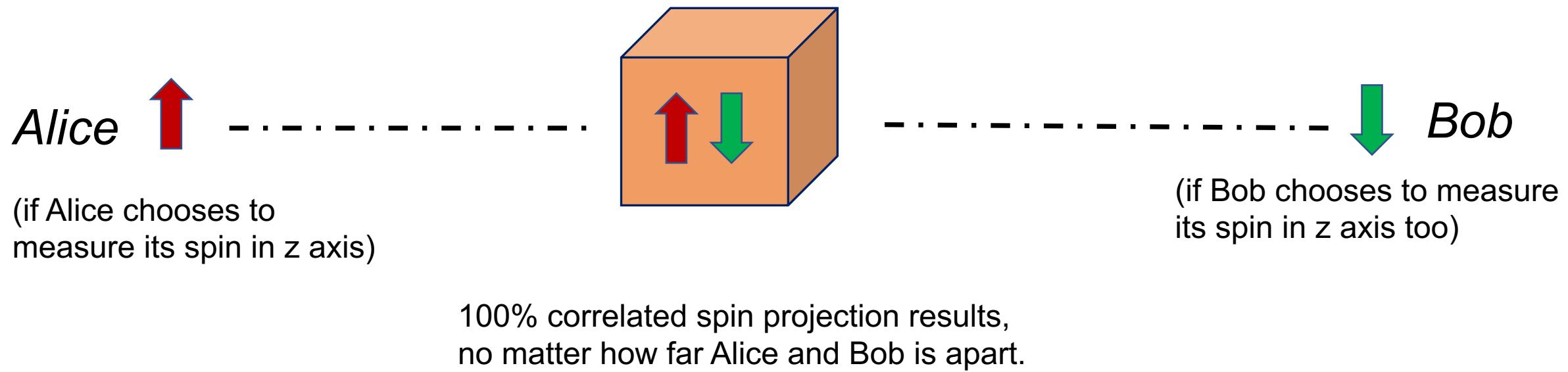
**parton-parton correlations**  
(density, momentum, spins, etc..)



Can *correlation* help understand nucleon structure ?

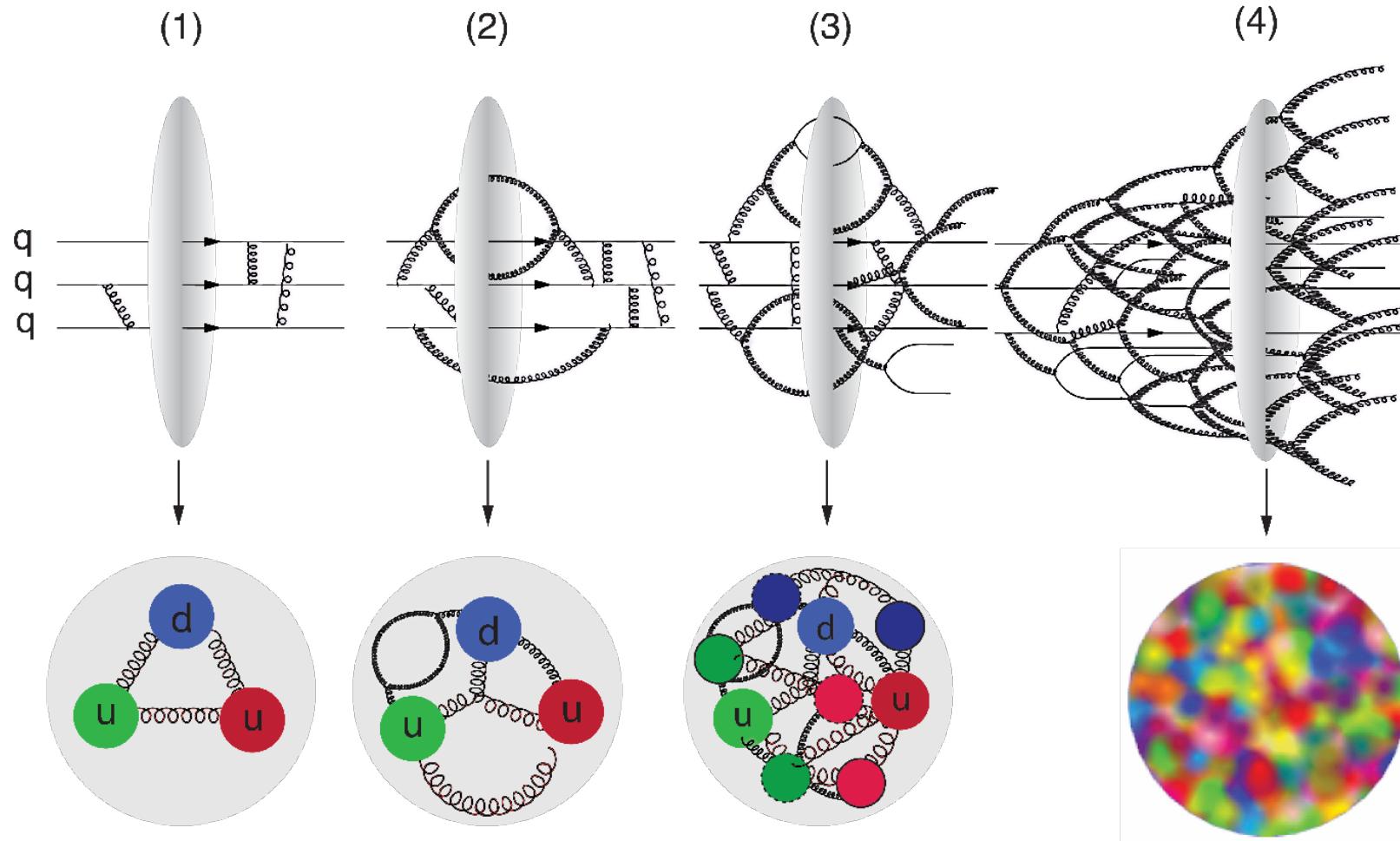
# A story of Alice and Bob

*“spooky action at a distance...”*



Known as the Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen paradox, the **EPR paradox**.  
This quantum feature is the *quantum entanglement*.

# Proton



Proton going from low → high energy

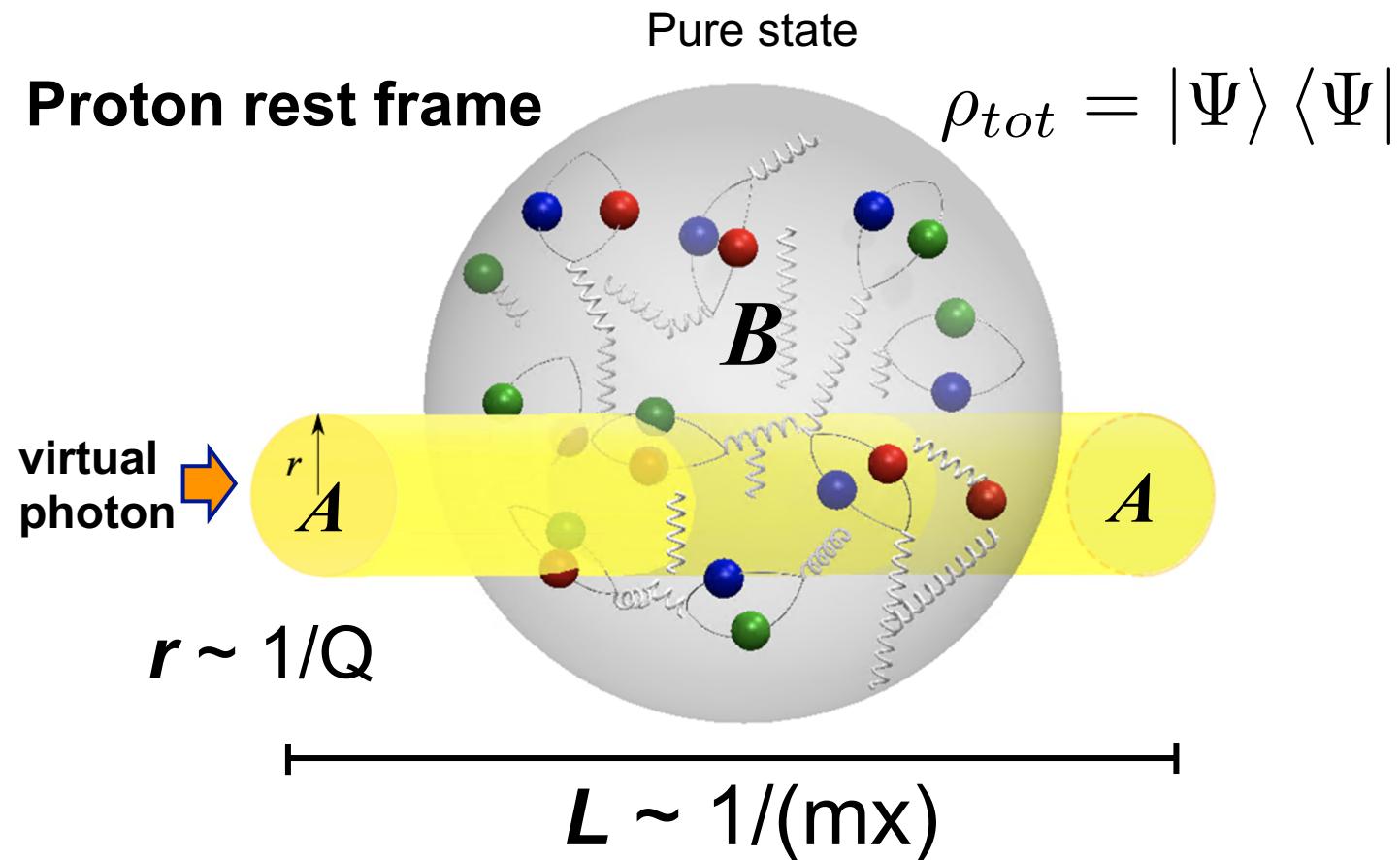
Proton - a quantum mechanical pure state.

All partons are entangled quantum mechanically.

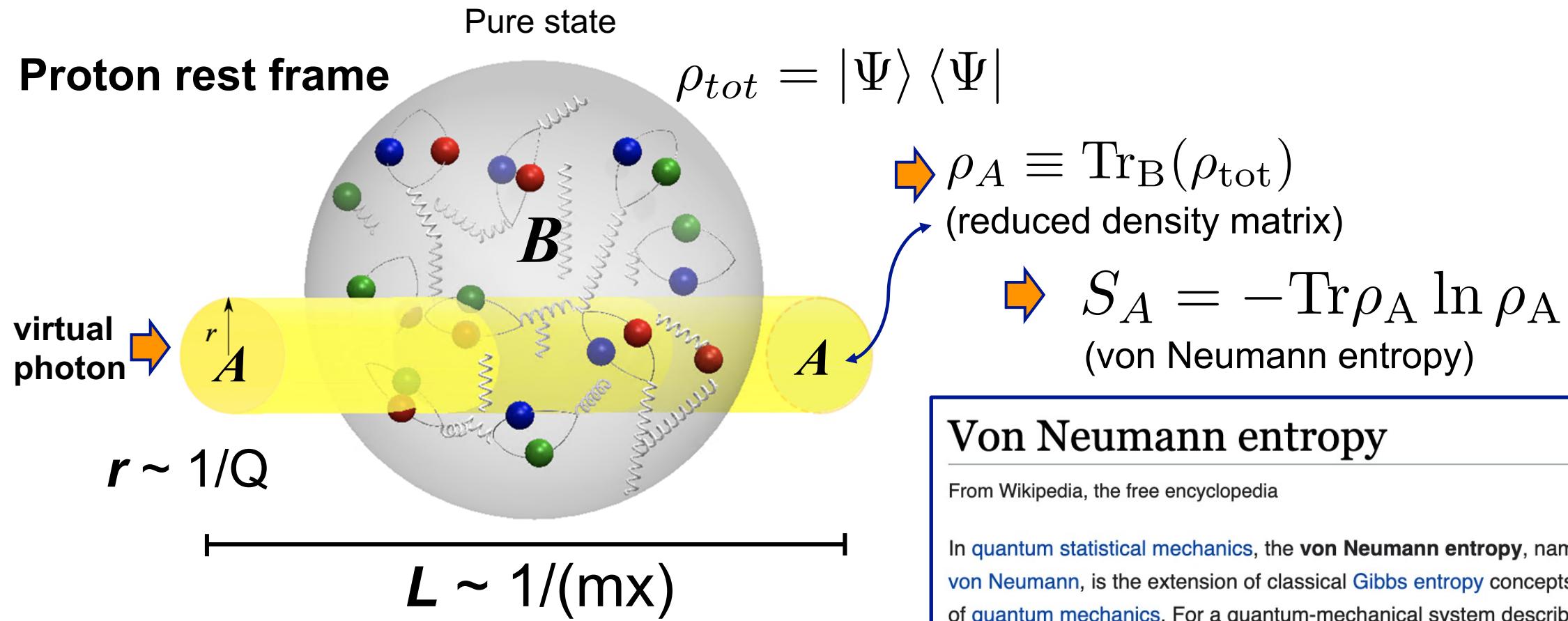
- e.g., all the states of partons **cannot** be written as,

$$|\Psi\rangle = |\Psi_1\rangle \otimes |\Psi_2\rangle \otimes |\Psi_3\rangle \dots$$

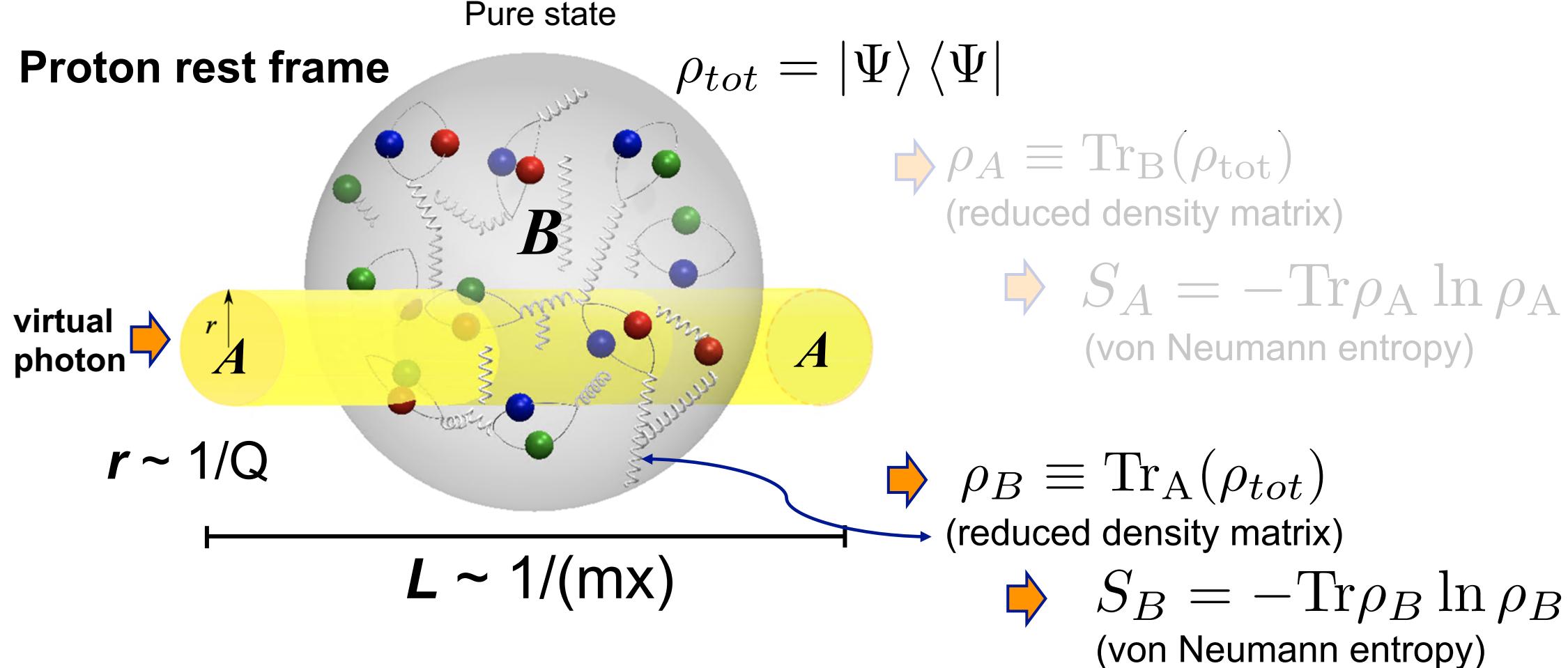
# Entanglement Entropy (EE)



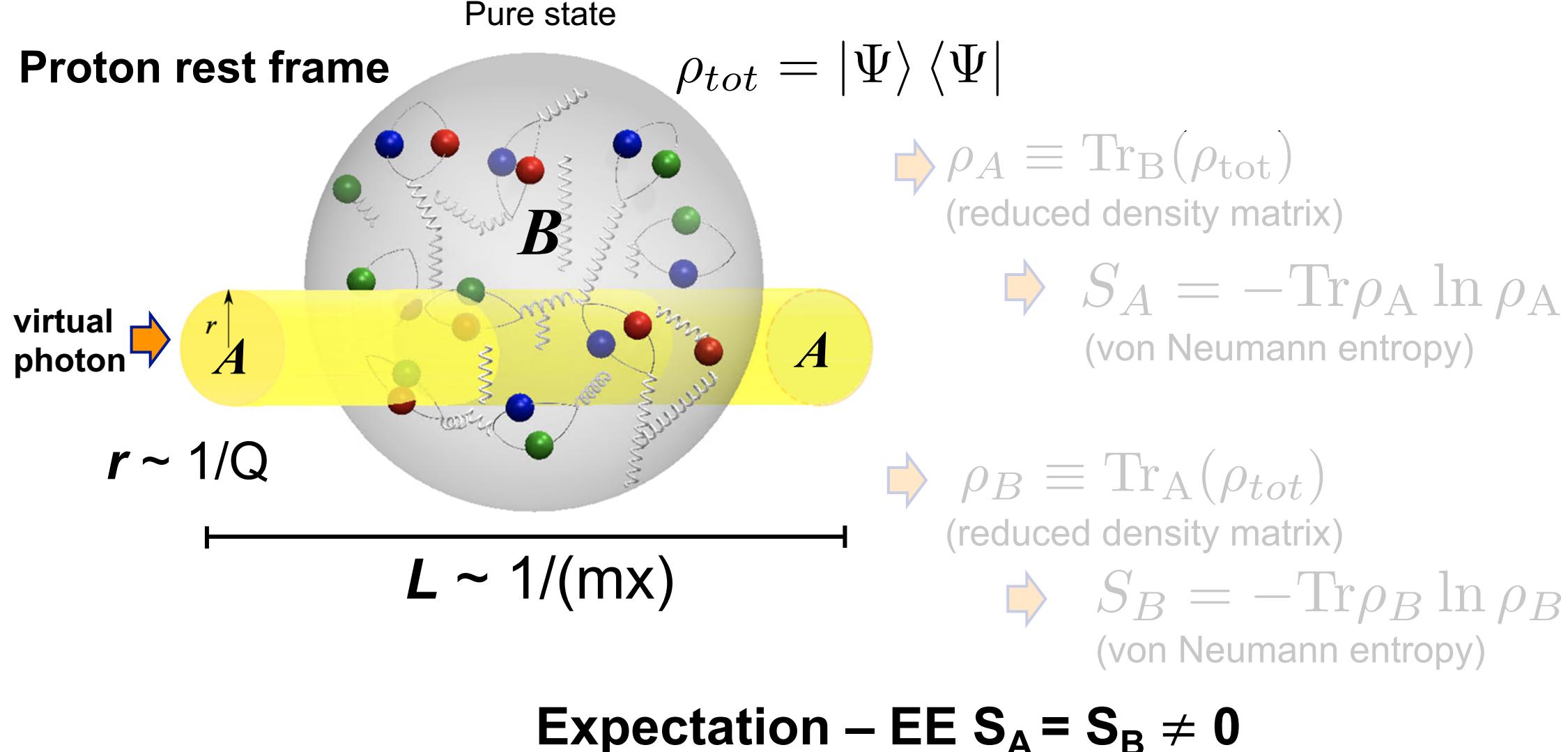
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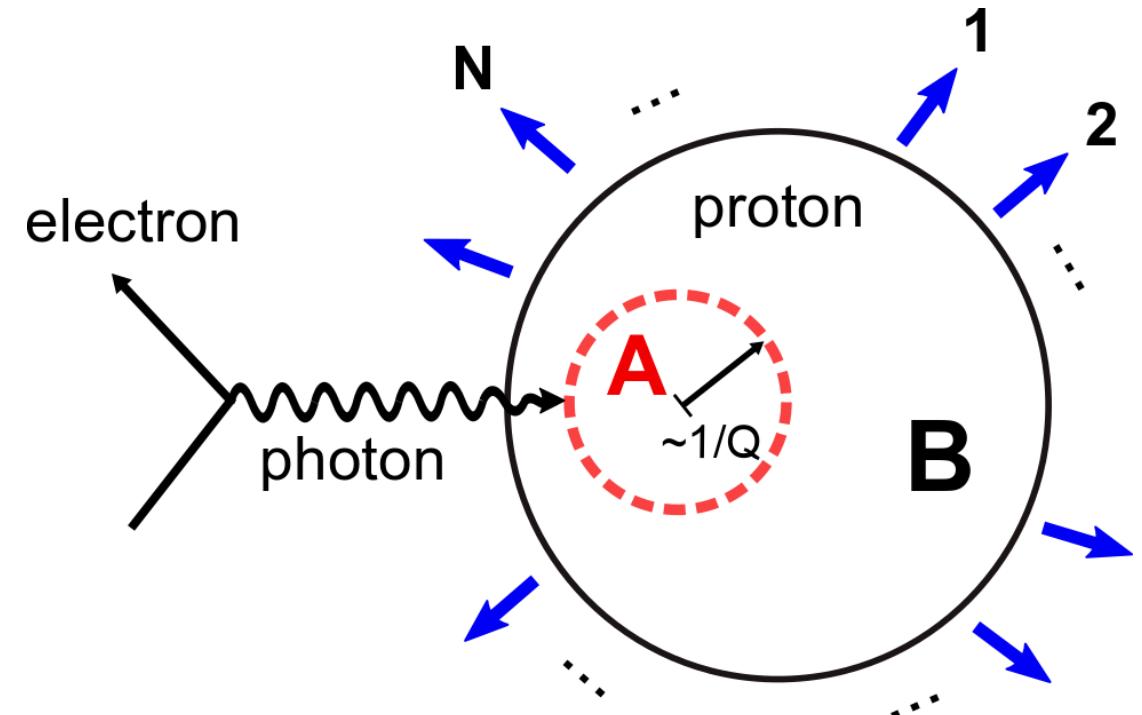
# Entanglement Entropy (EE)



# Entanglement Entropy (EE)



# EE in DIS



# $S_A$ in DIS

(Kharzeev & Levin 2017)

$$S_A = \ln [xG(x, Q^2)]$$

gluon entropy for low  $x$



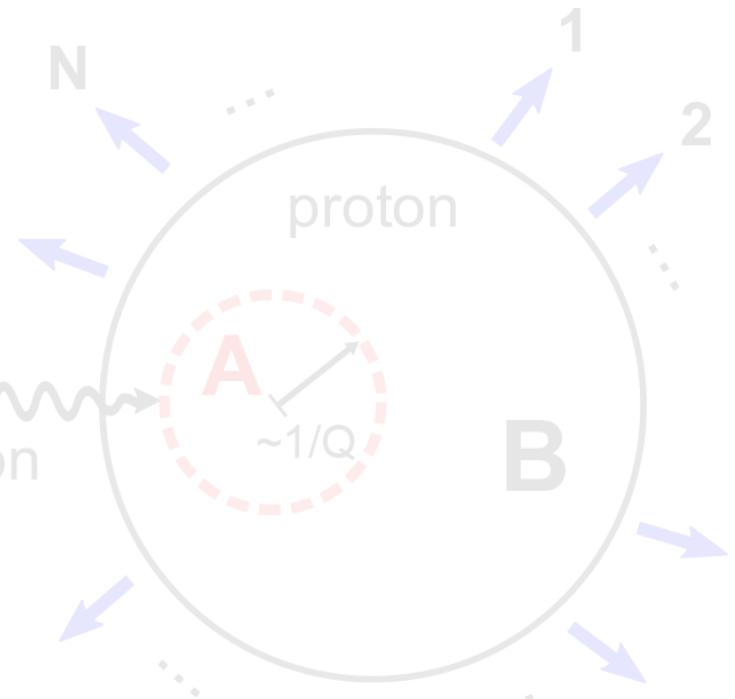
electron

photon

(Kharzeev & Levin 2021)

In DIS, sea quarks  
contributions are very  
important, recently realized.

$$\rho_A \equiv \text{Tr}_B(\rho_{\text{tot}})$$

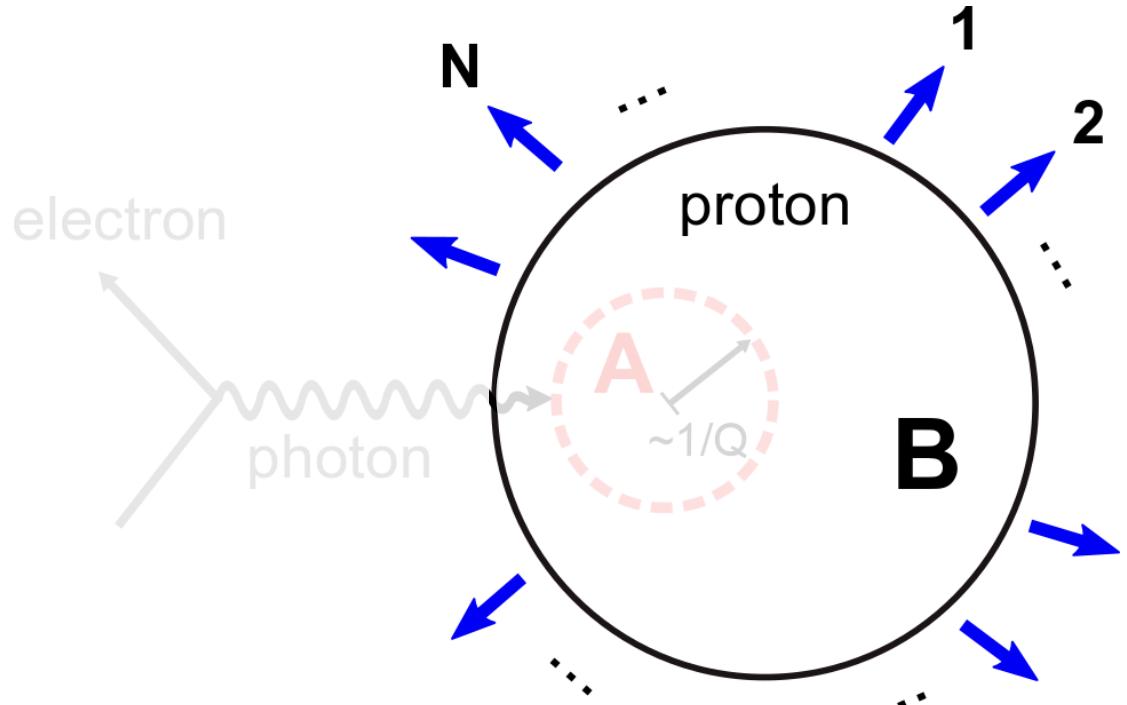


Fixed  $(x, Q^2)$

arXiv:2102.09773

# $S_B$ in DIS

$$\rho_B \equiv \text{Tr}_A(\rho_{tot})$$



$$S_B = - \sum P_N \log P_N$$

hadron entropy

$P_N$  is charged multiplicities

Fixed ( $x, Q^2$ )

# EE in DIS

(Kharzeev & Levin 2017)

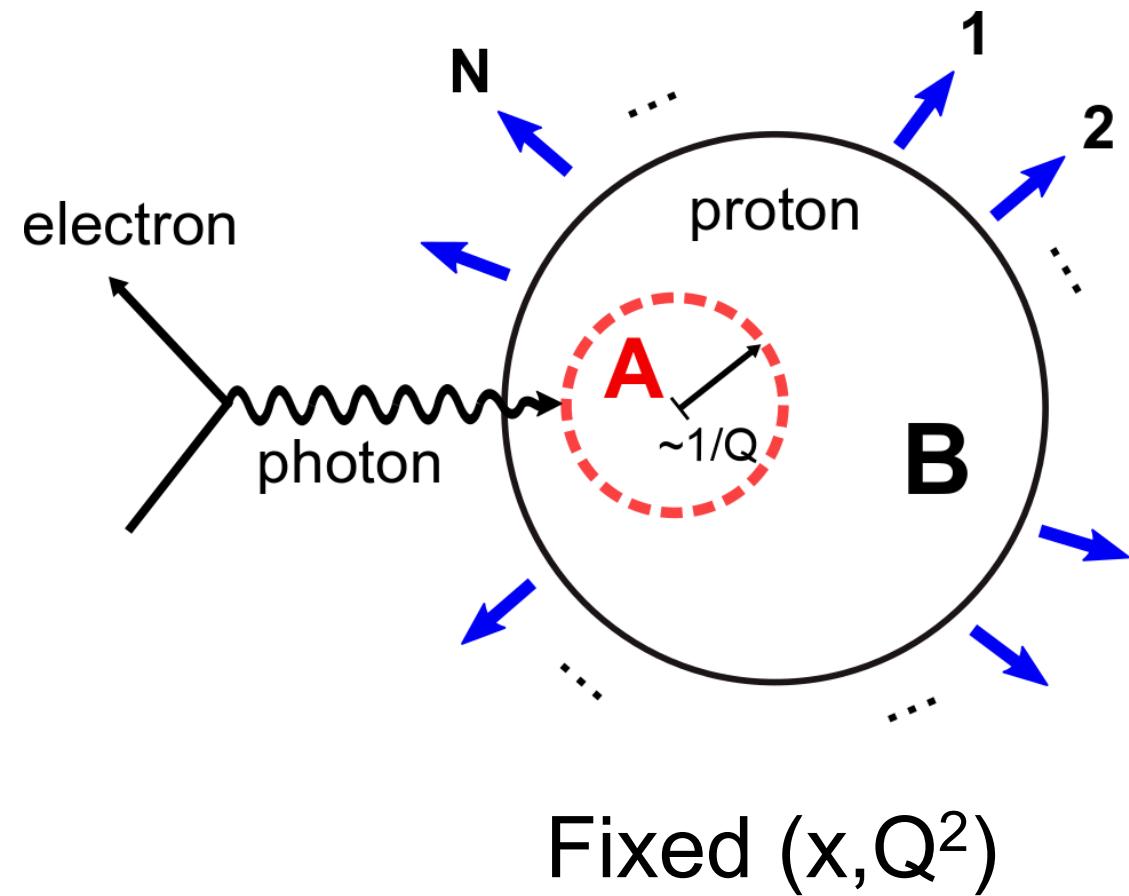
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gluon entropy for low  $x$

$$S_B = - \sum P_N \log P_N$$

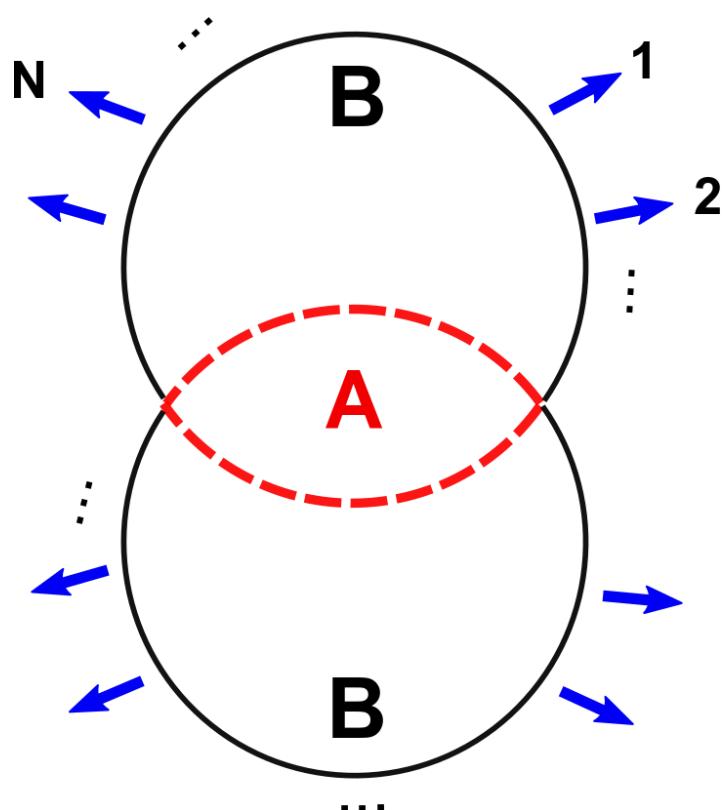
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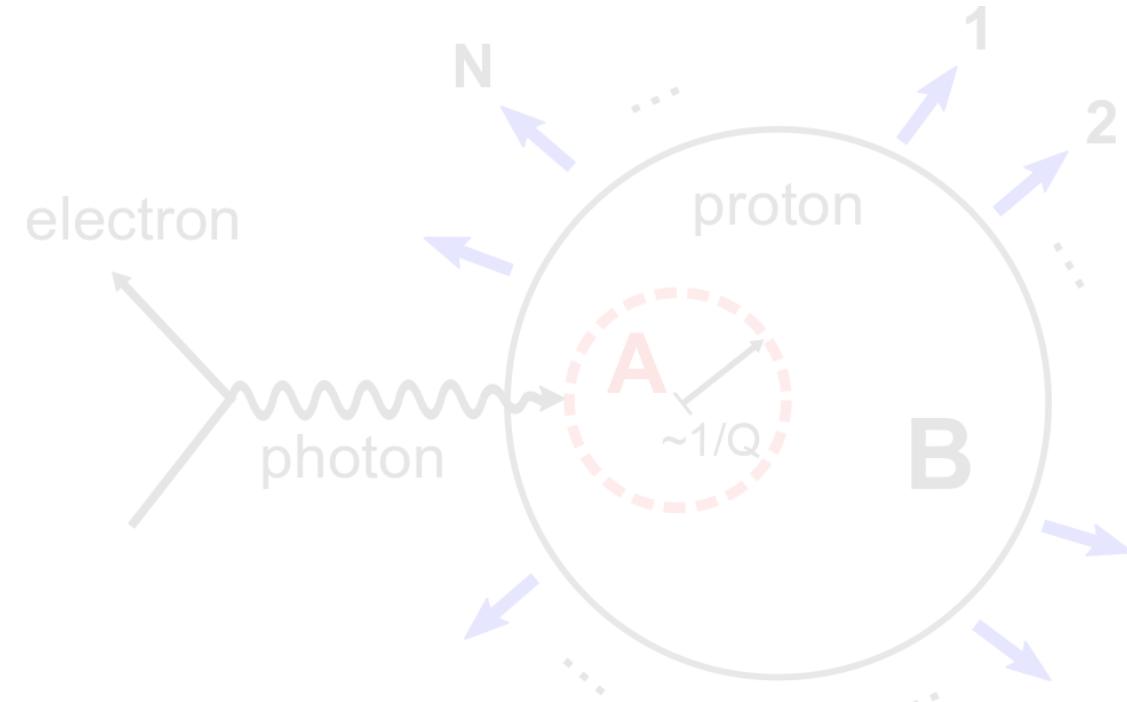


# EE in pp collisions

proton-proton collisions



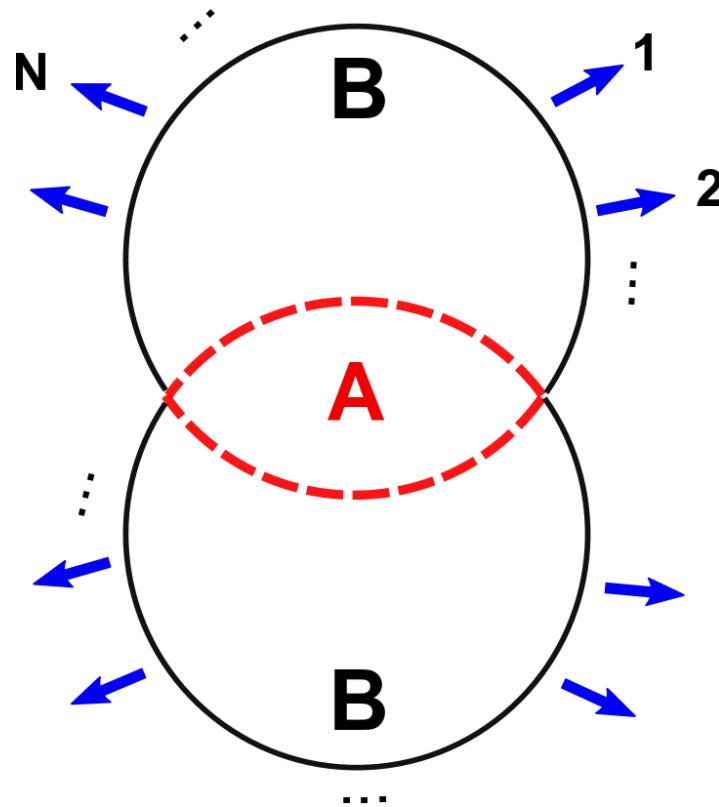
gluon-gluon fusion dominates



Fixed ( $x, Q^2$ )

# EE in pp collisions

proton-proton collisions



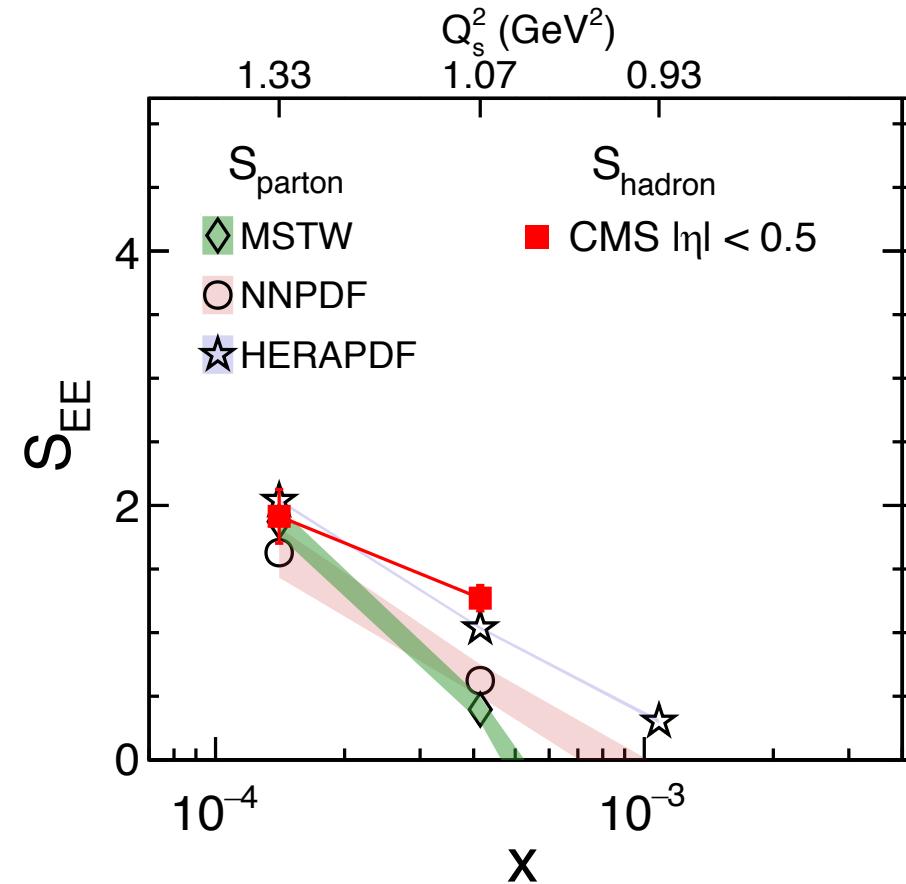
gluon-gluon fusion dominates

Large Hadron Collider has a lot of proton-proton collisions!



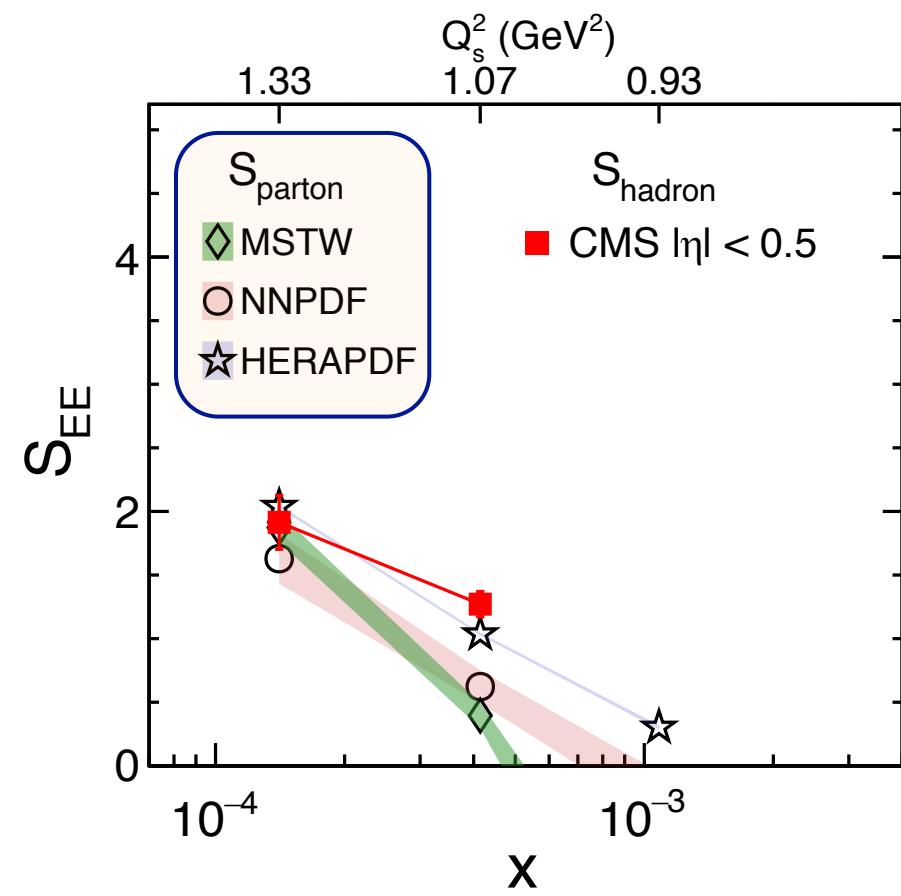
# Measurement - pp data

Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 062001 (2020)  
(ZT, Kharzeev, Ullrich)

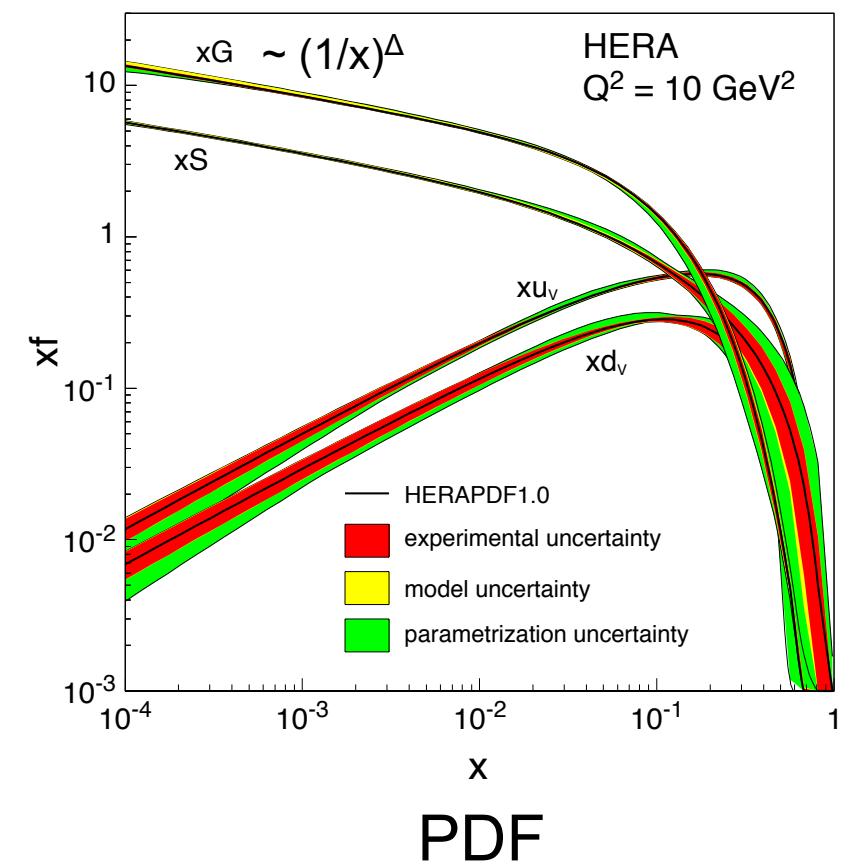


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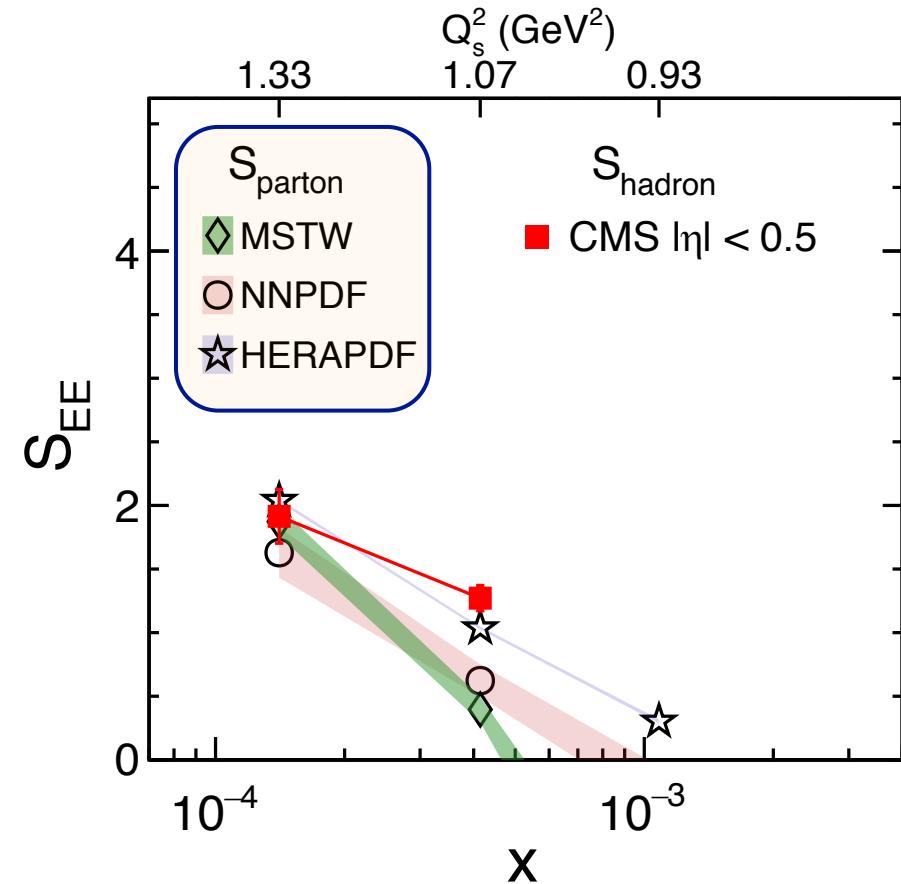


$$S_A = \ln [xG(x, Q^2)]$$



# Measurement - pp data

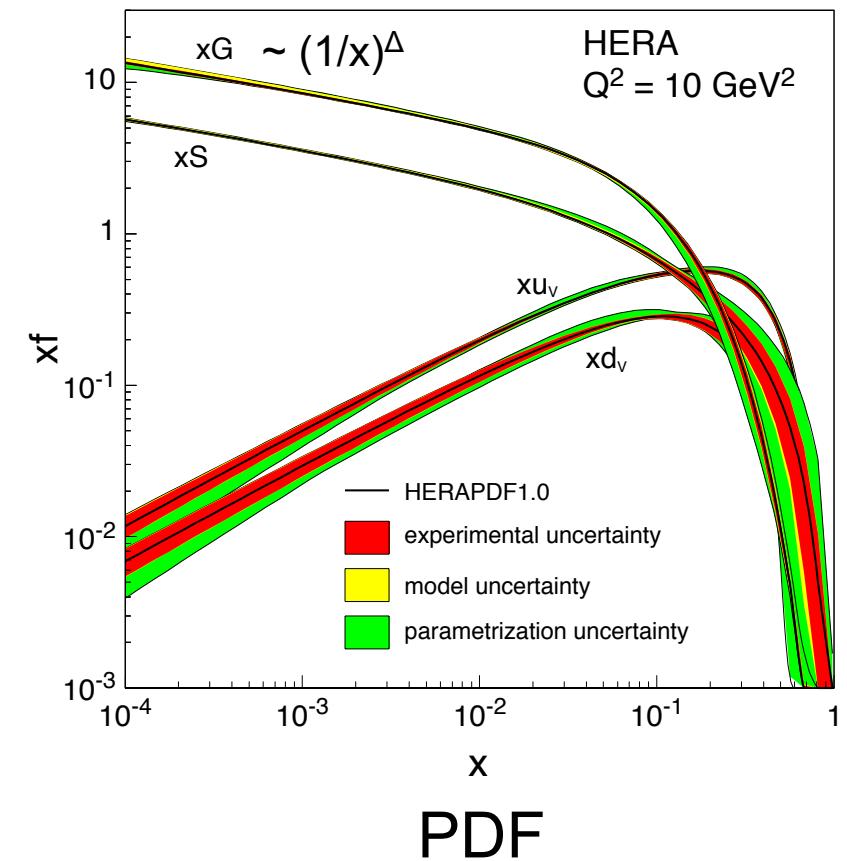
Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 062001 (2020)  
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## Parton:

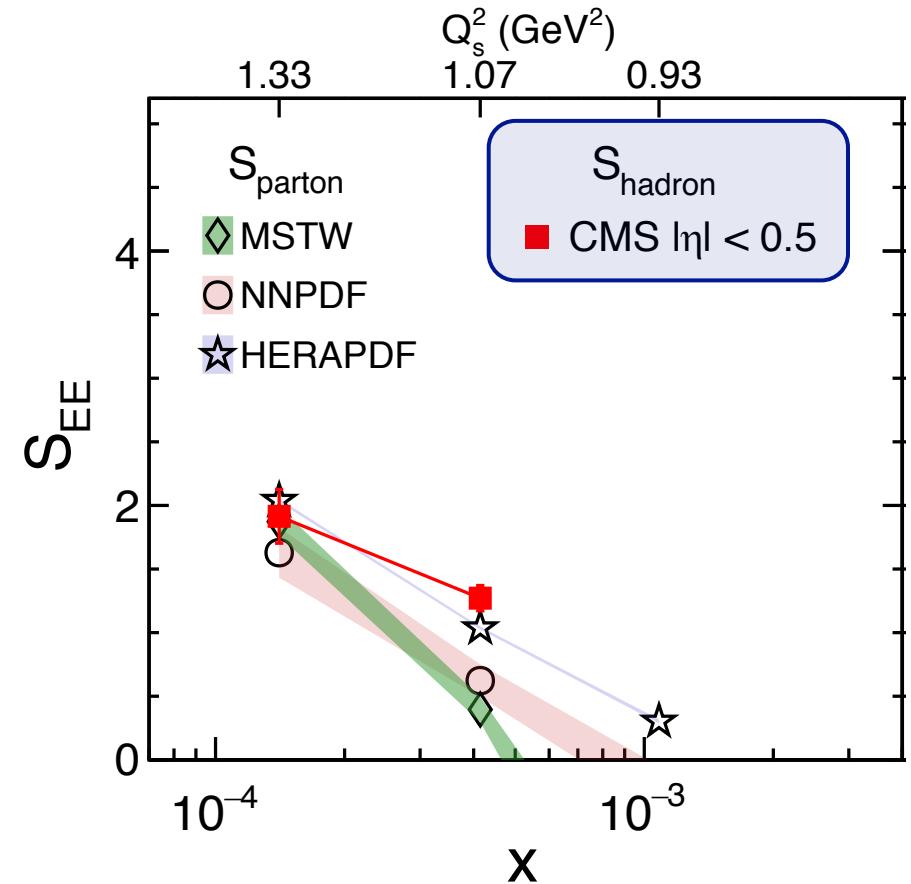
- Only gluons are used at low  $x$
- Minimum-bias data - no hard scale in the process, use saturation scale  $Q_s$
- Leading order PDFs only

$$S_A = \ln [xG(x, Q^2)]$$



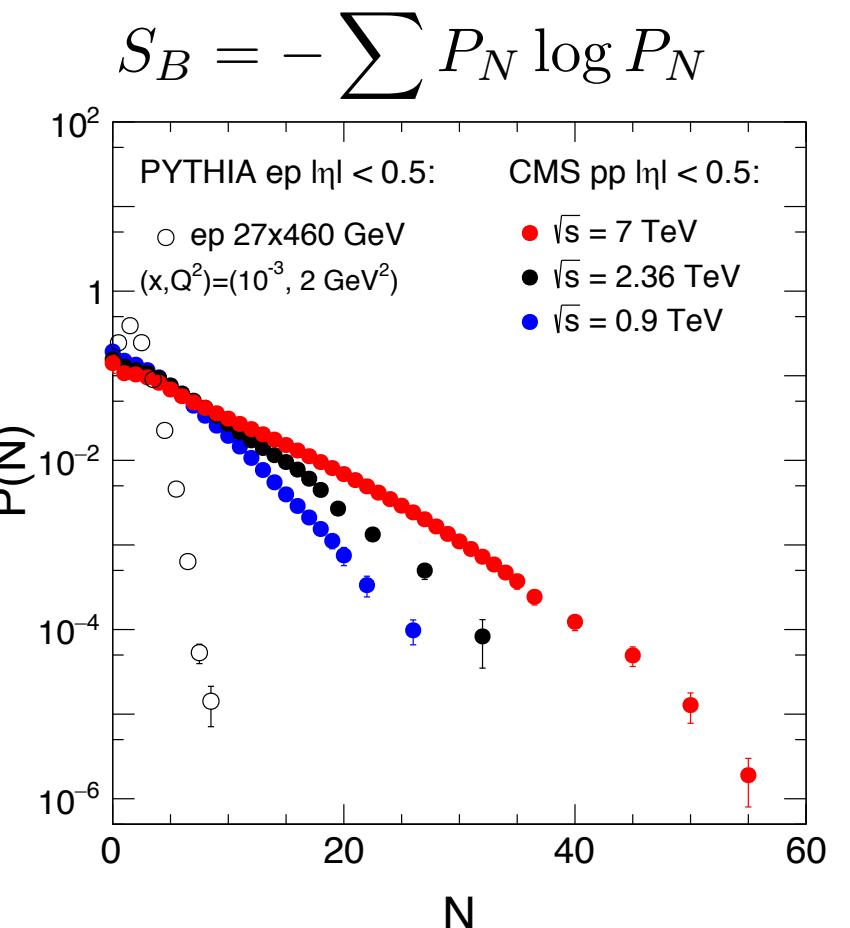
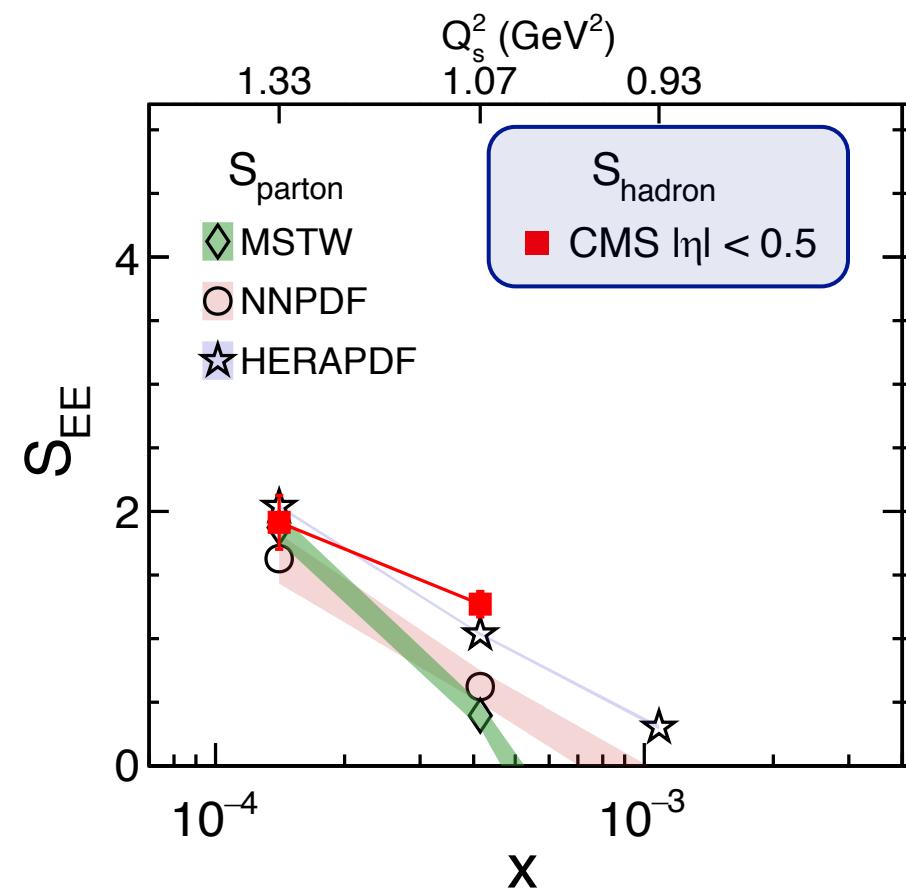
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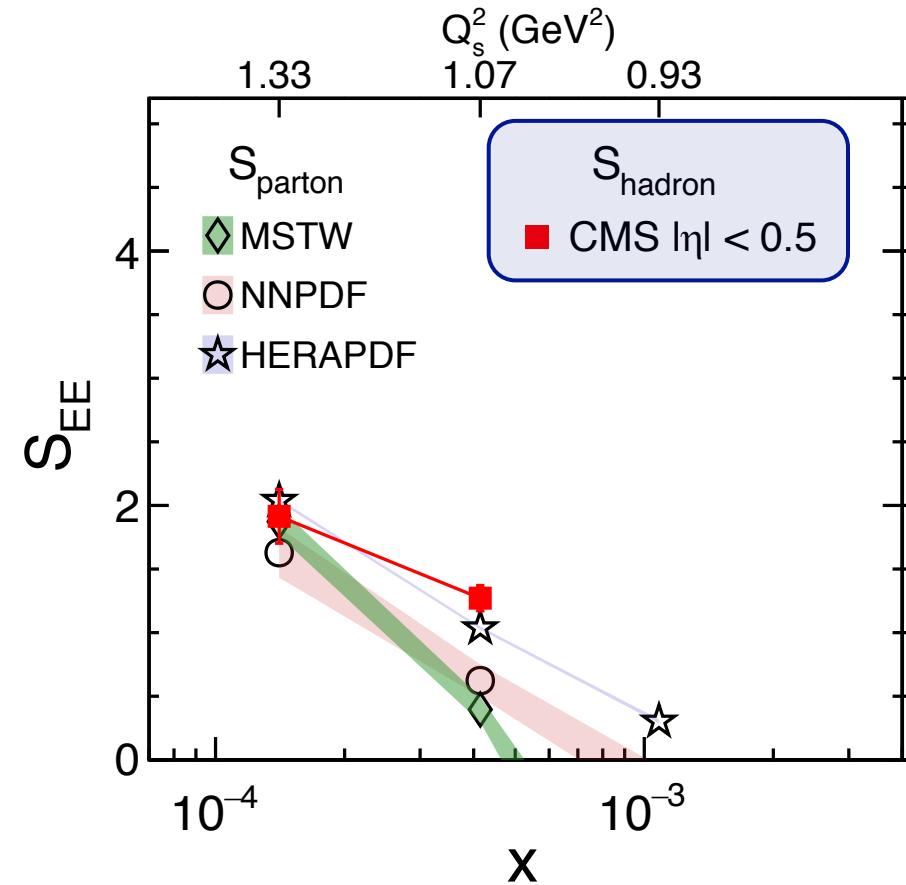
Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 062001 (2020)  
 (ZT, Kharzeev, Ullrich)



$$\ln\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \sim y_{\text{proton}} - y_{\text{hadron}}$$

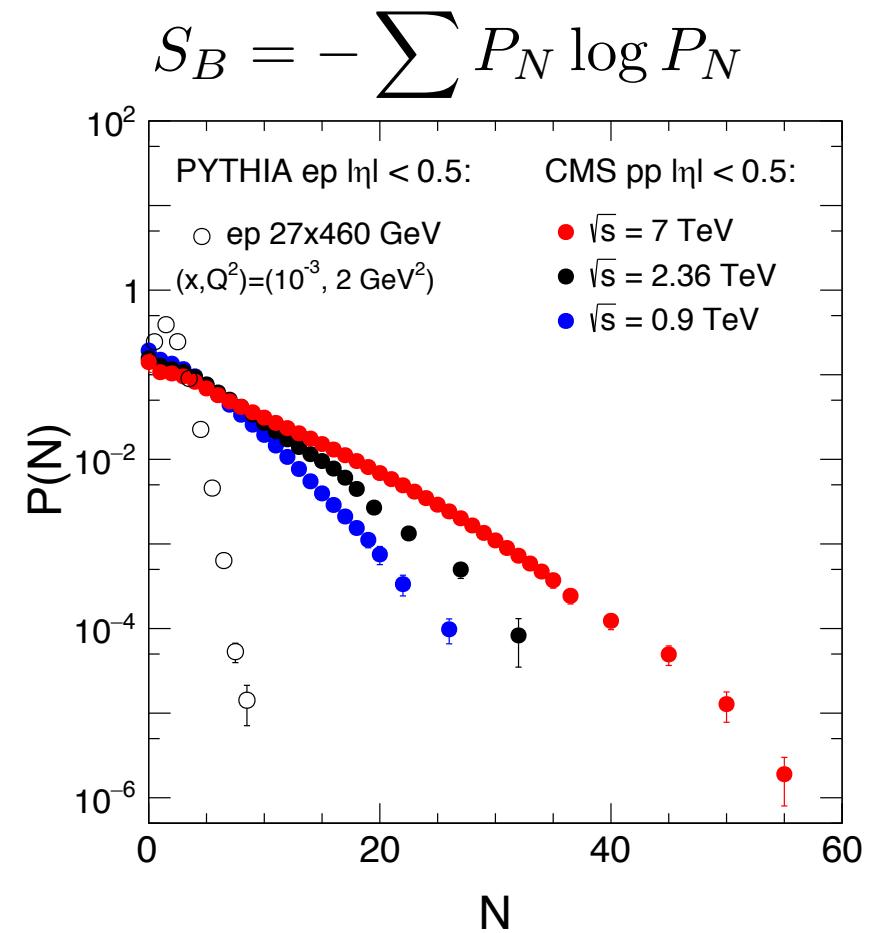
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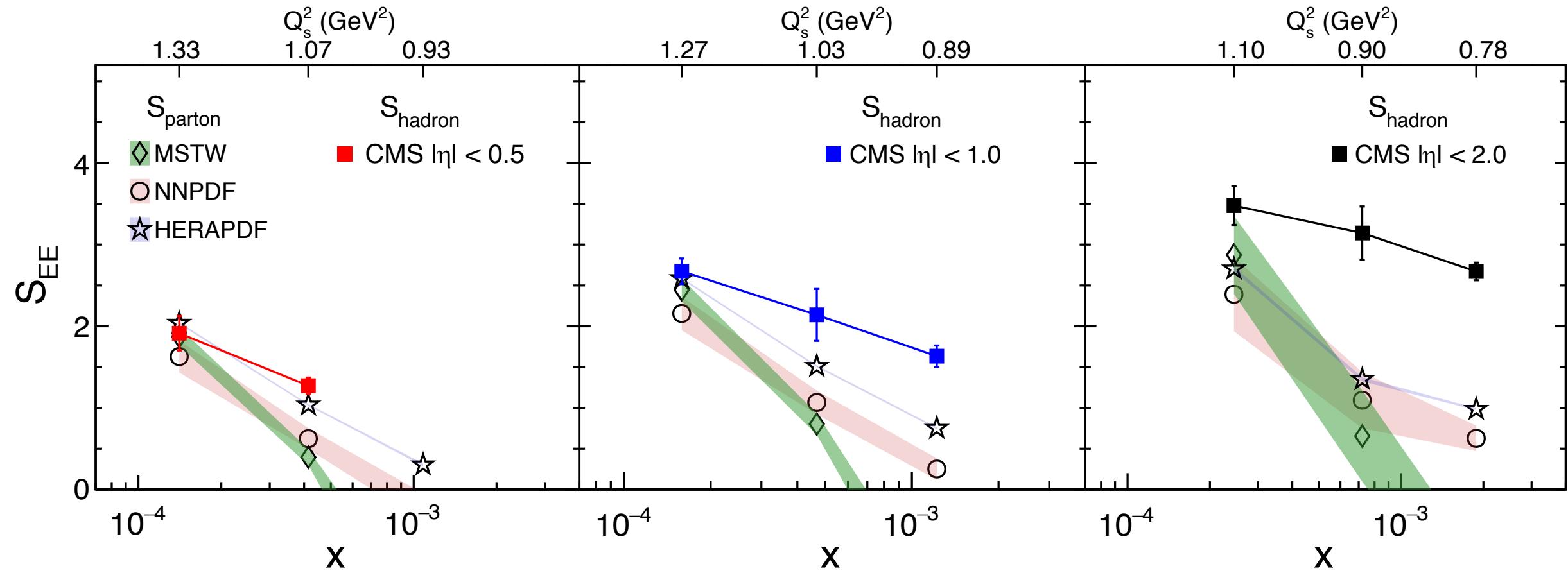
## Hadron:

- Kinematics are determined by energy and rapidity
- Caveat - “Local Parton-Hadron Duality”
- Diff. between  $\eta$  and  $y$  is small.



# Measurement - pp data

Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 062001 (2020)  
(ZT, Kharzeev, Ullrich)



**Entanglement hints at pp collisions – agreement towards low  $x$**

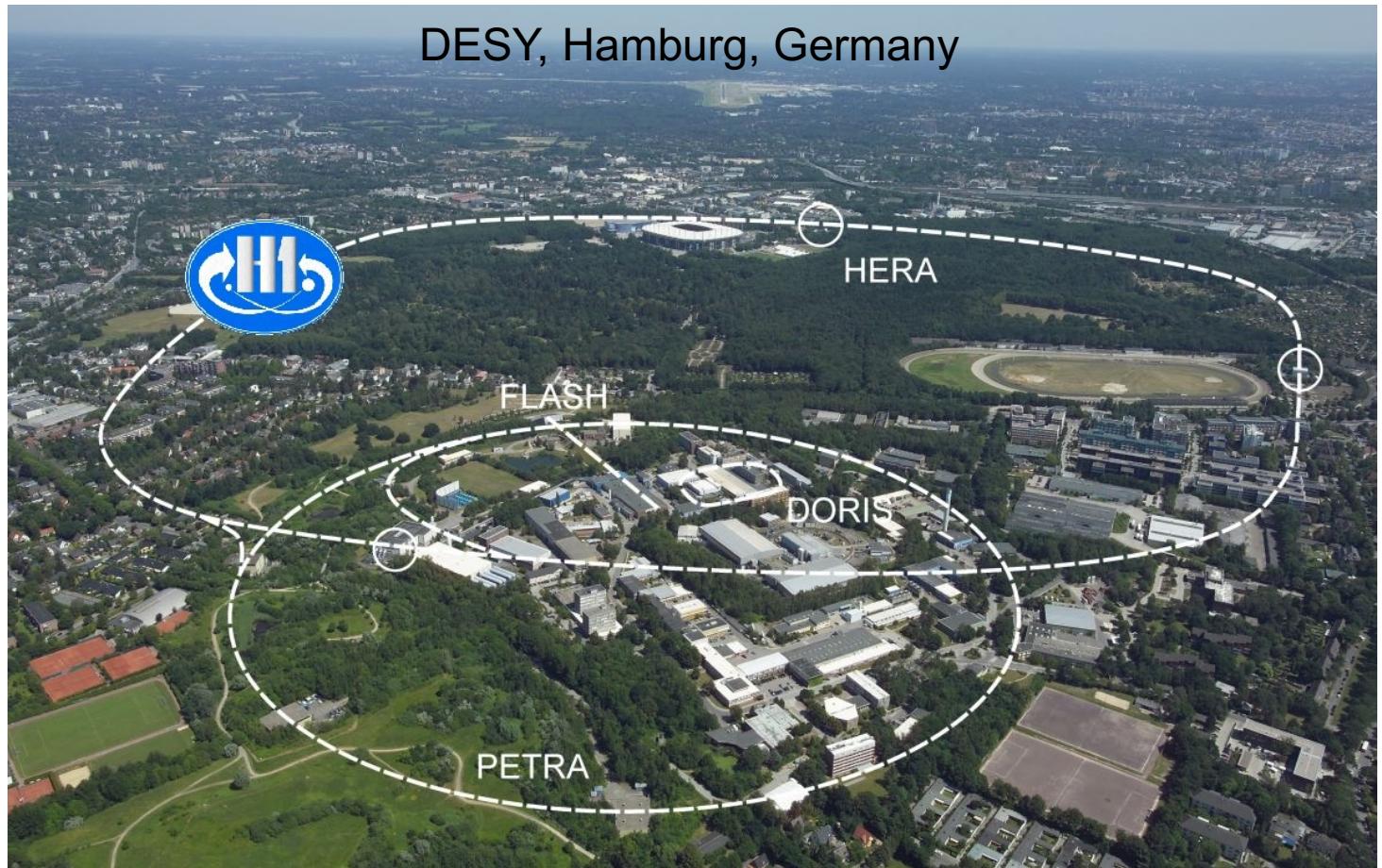
# Measurement - DIS data

## H1 experiment in Museum



CJC (main detector, like the STAR TPC)  
Stefan Schmitt, H1 spokesperson

HERA experiments were shut down in 2007



(HERA - 6.3 km in circumference)

# Measurement - DIS data

## H1 experiment in Museum



CJC (main detector, like the STAR TPC)  
Stefan Schmitt, H1 spokesperson

**2018**

- I proposed to H1 Collaboration to measure EE
- Reanalyzed the HERA top energy e+p data
- Published in EPJC

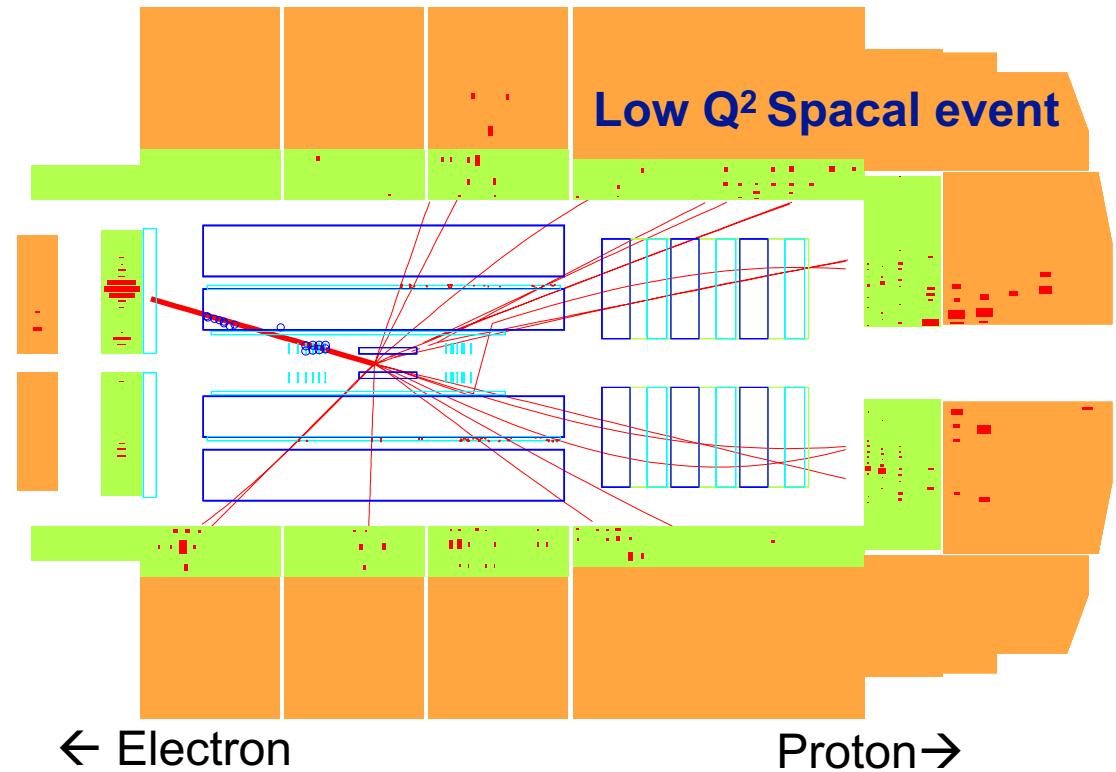
**2021**



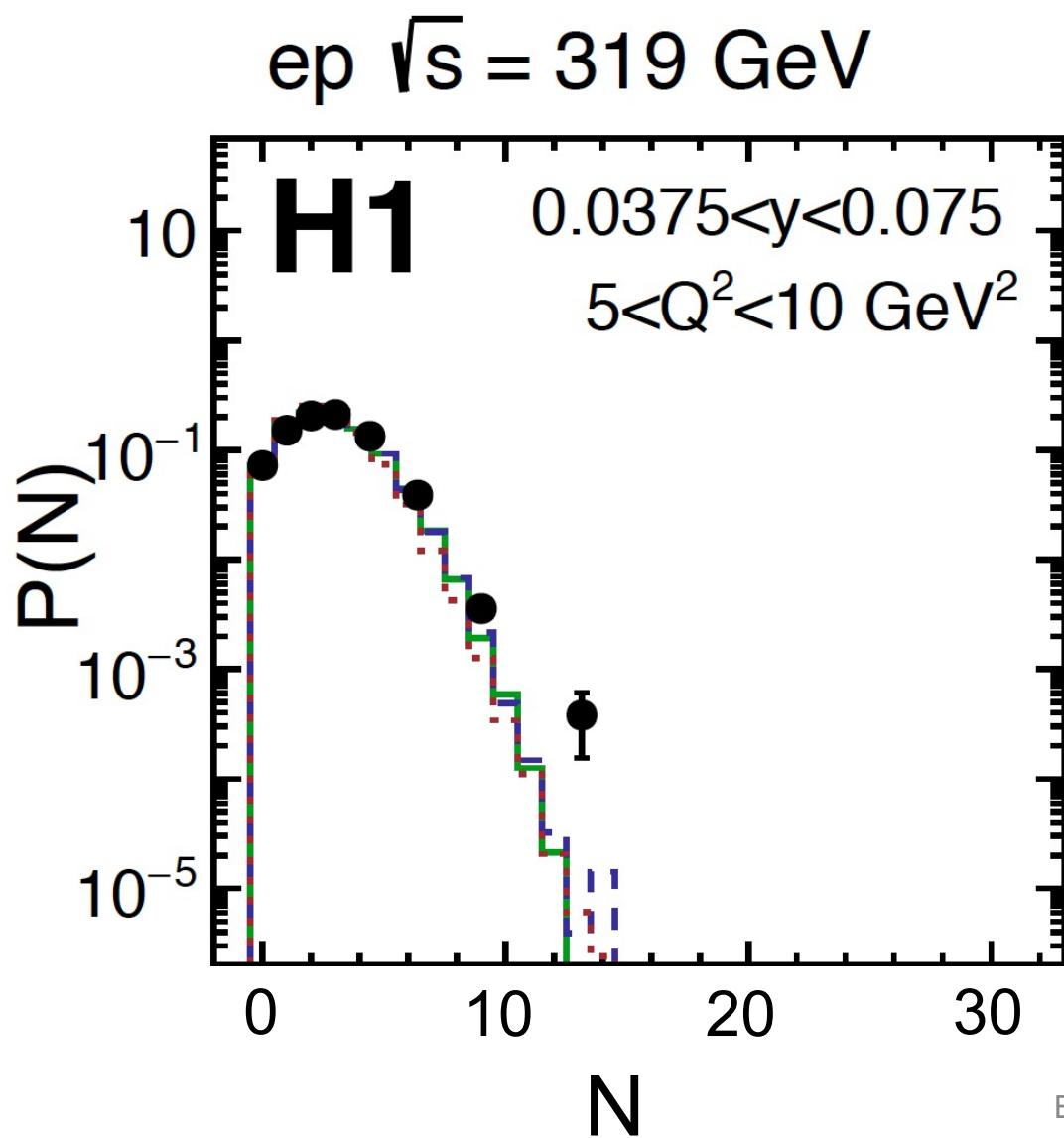
**(biking in the tunnel of HERA)**

# H1 data

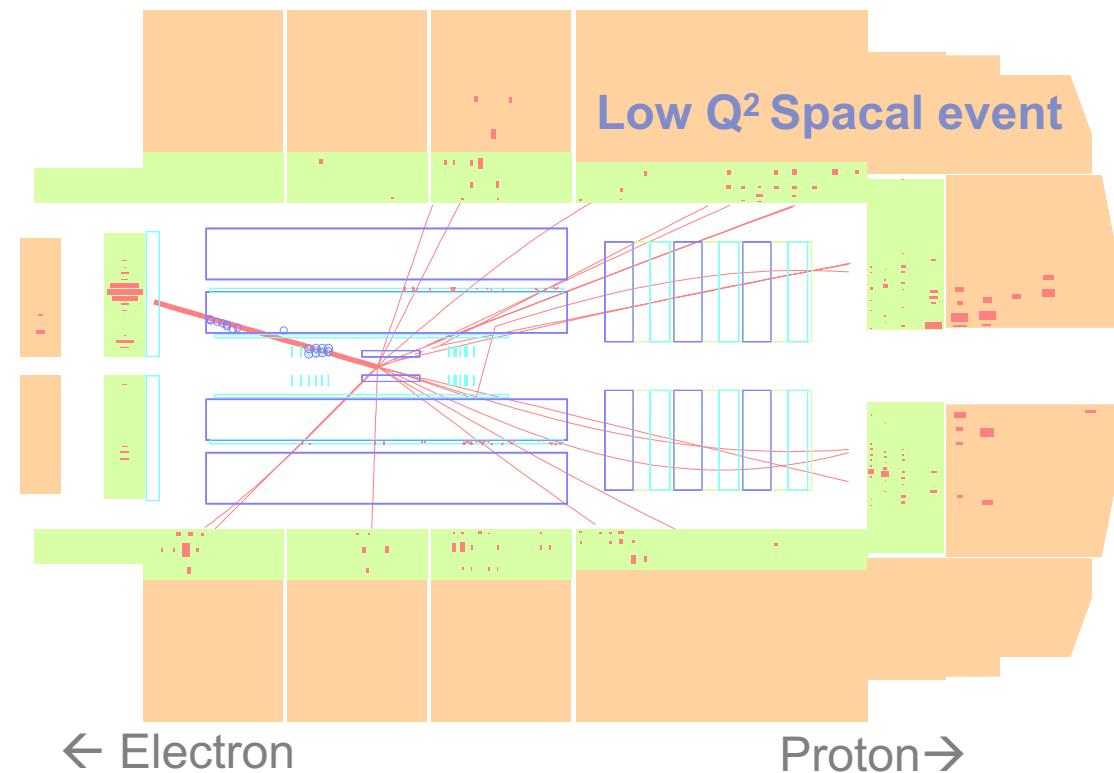
## Event display



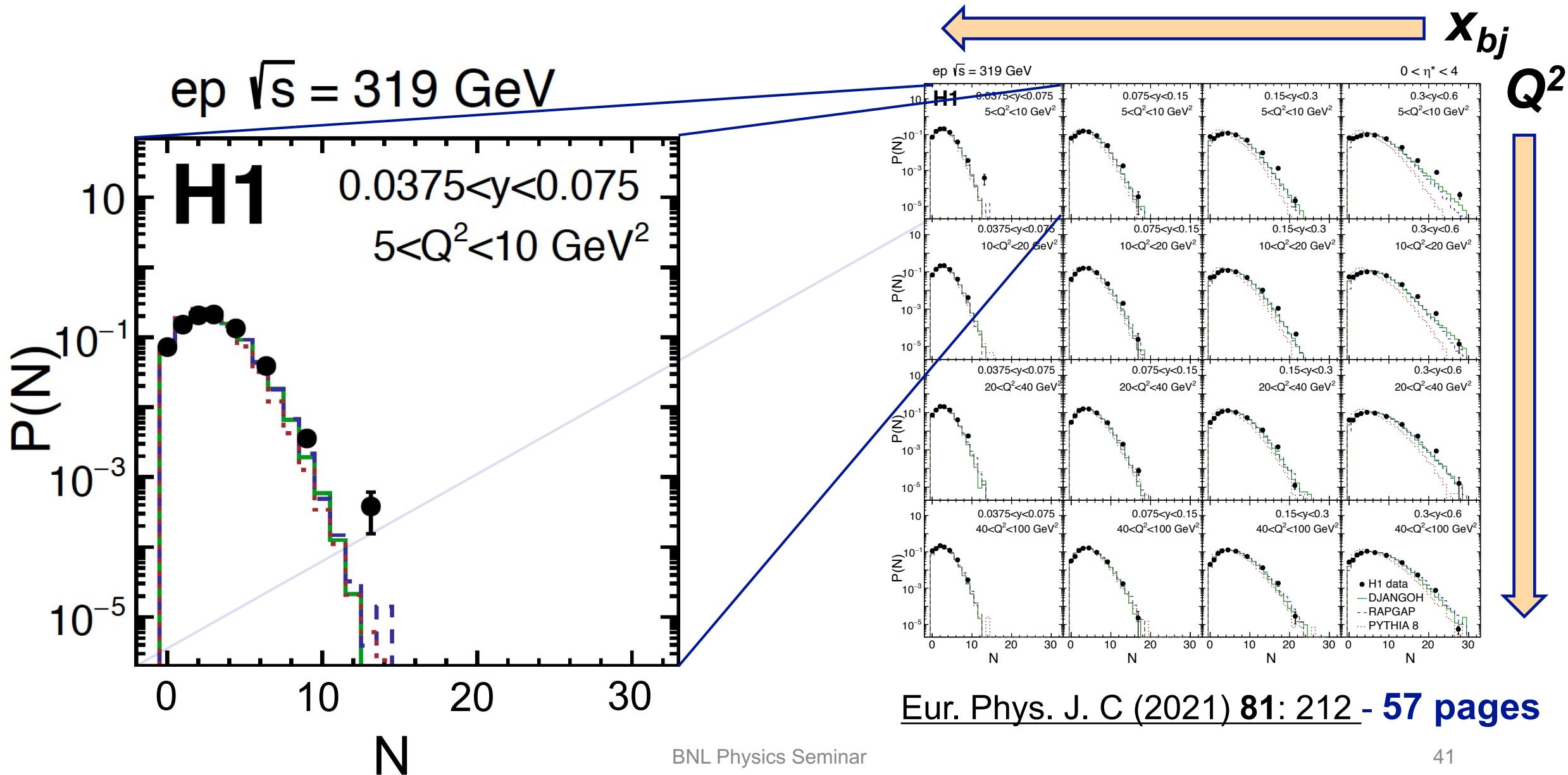
# H1 data



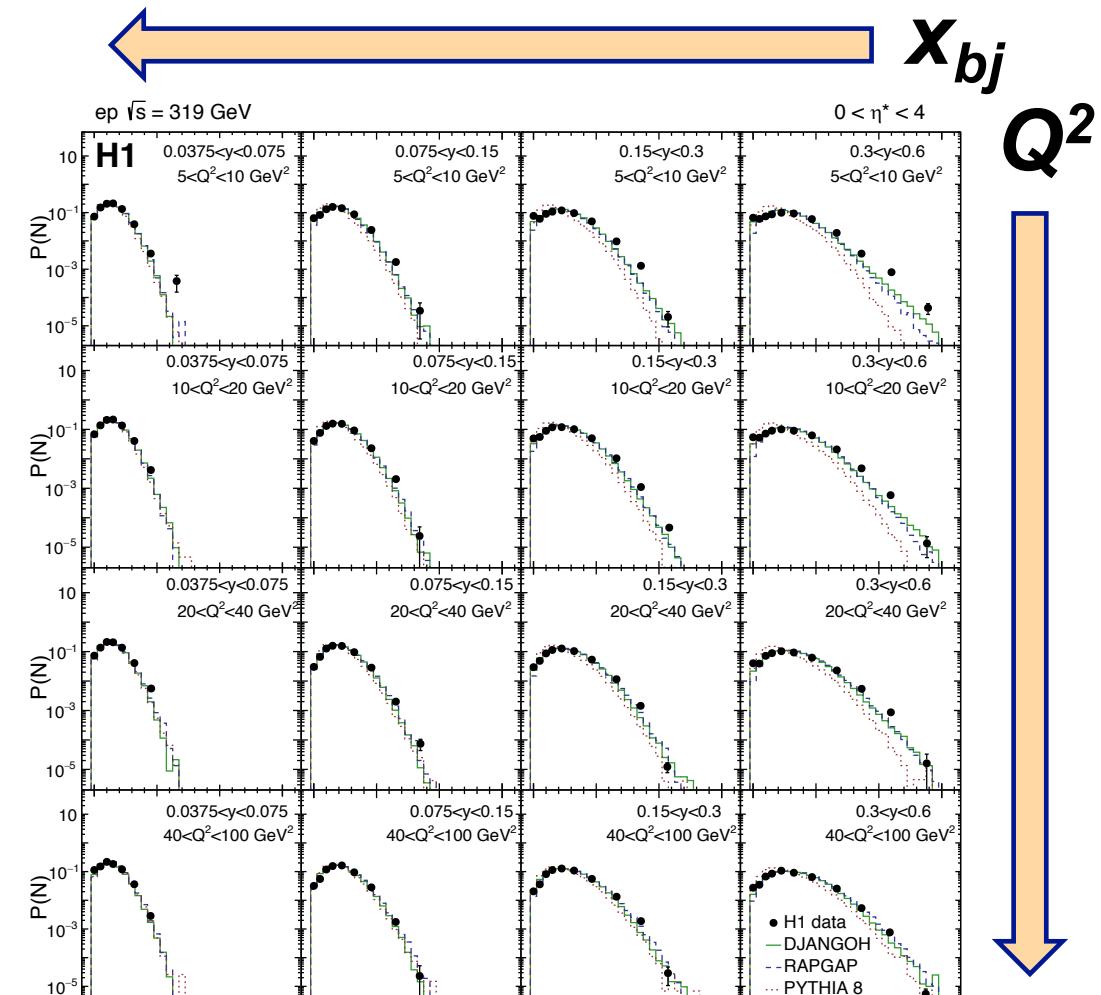
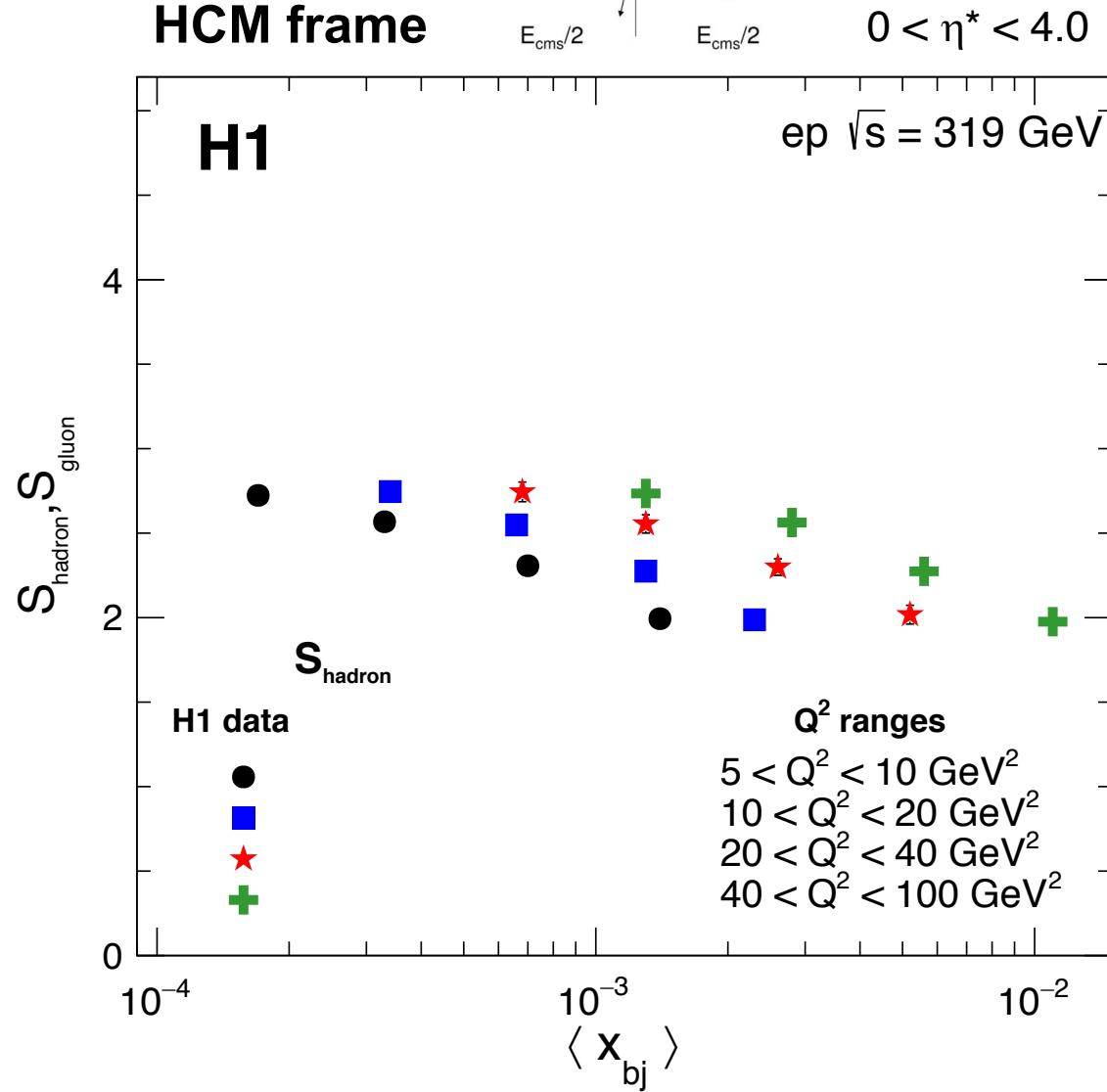
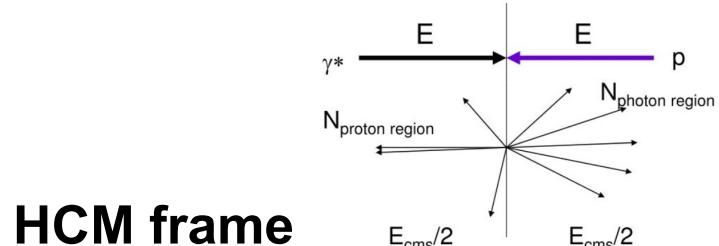
Event display



# H1 data

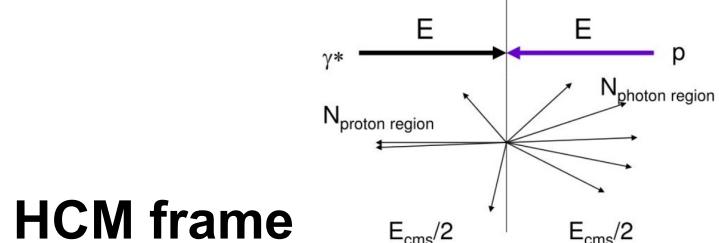


# H1 data



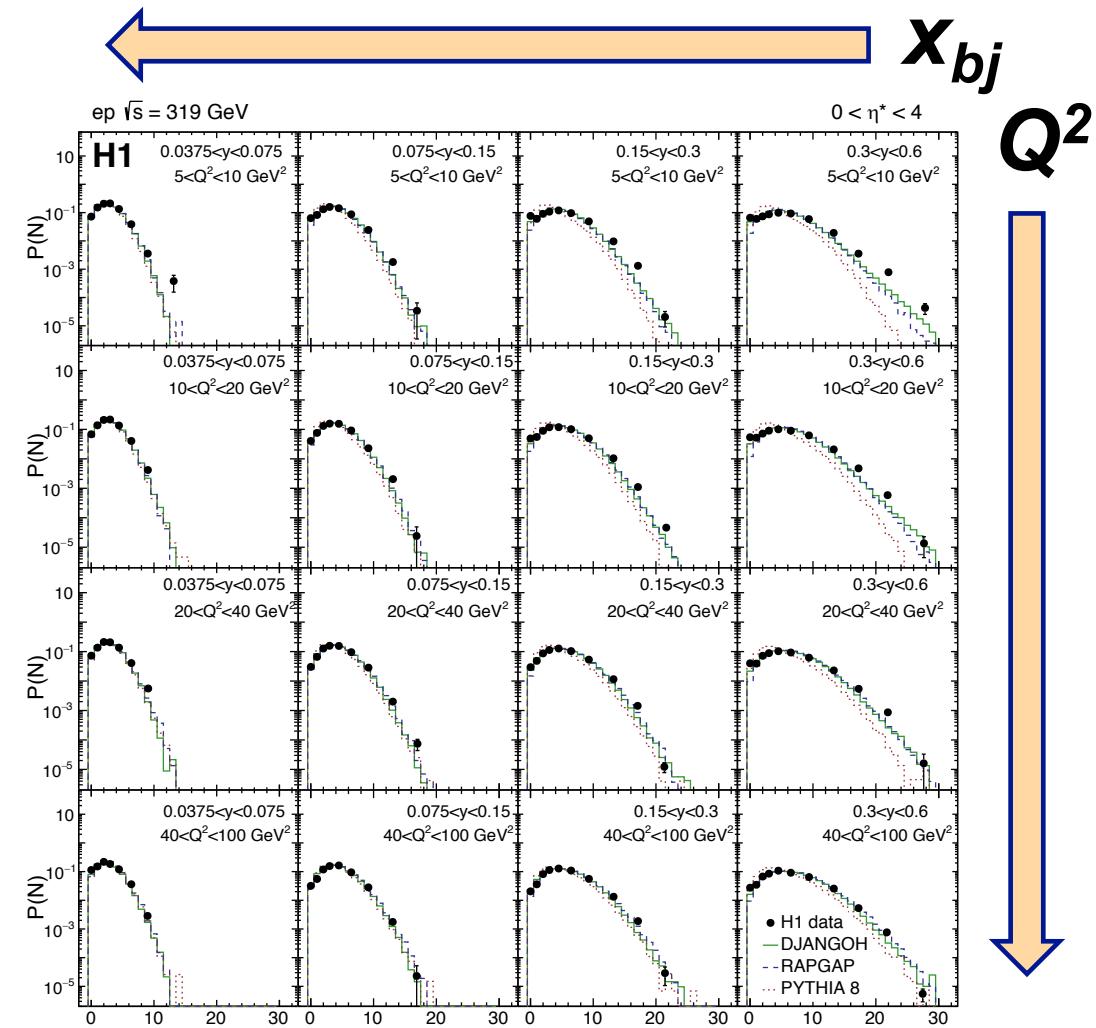
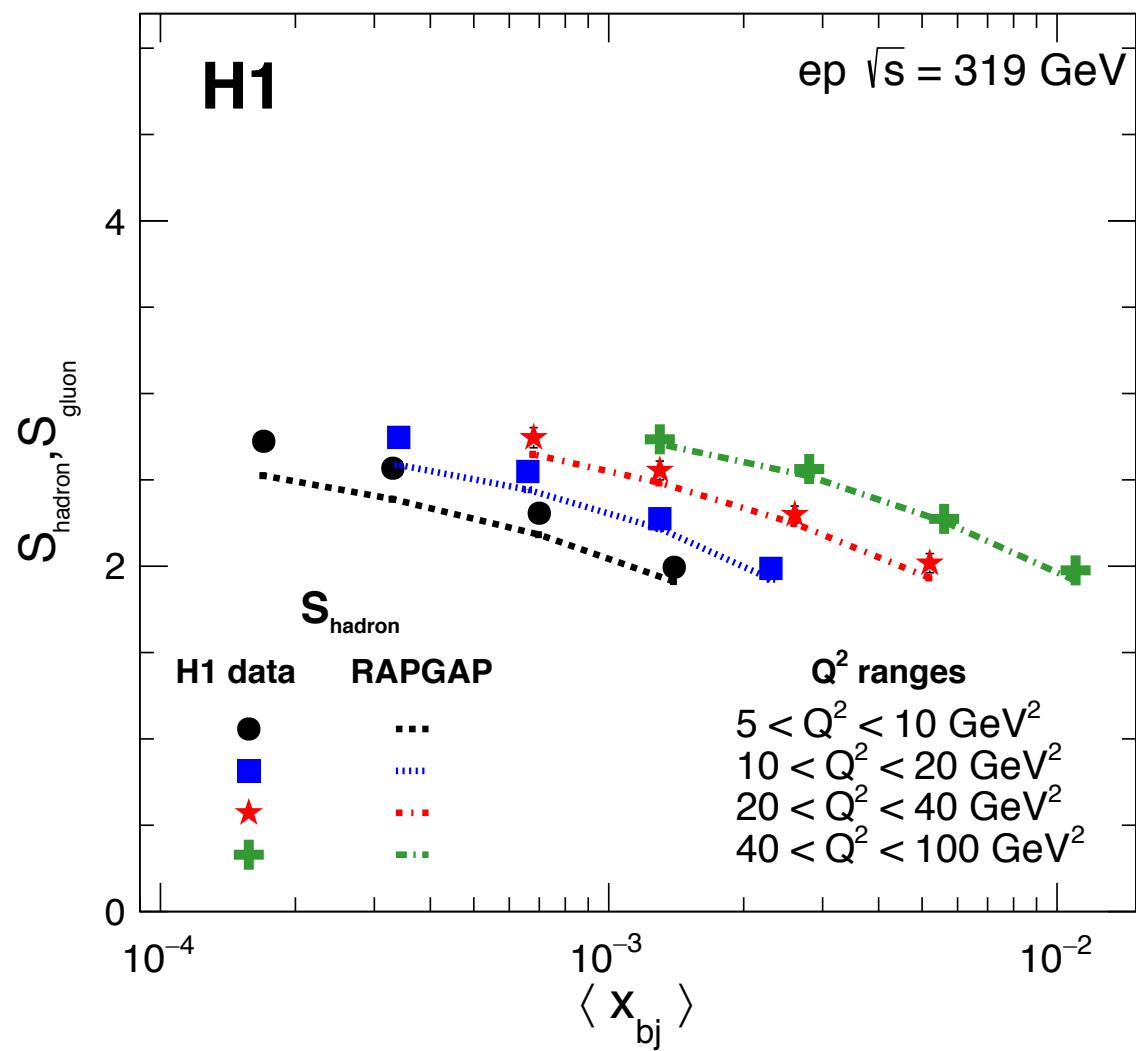
[Eur. Phys. J. C \(2021\) 81: 212 - 57 pages](https://doi.org/10.1140/epjc/s10050-021-09572-1)

# H1 data



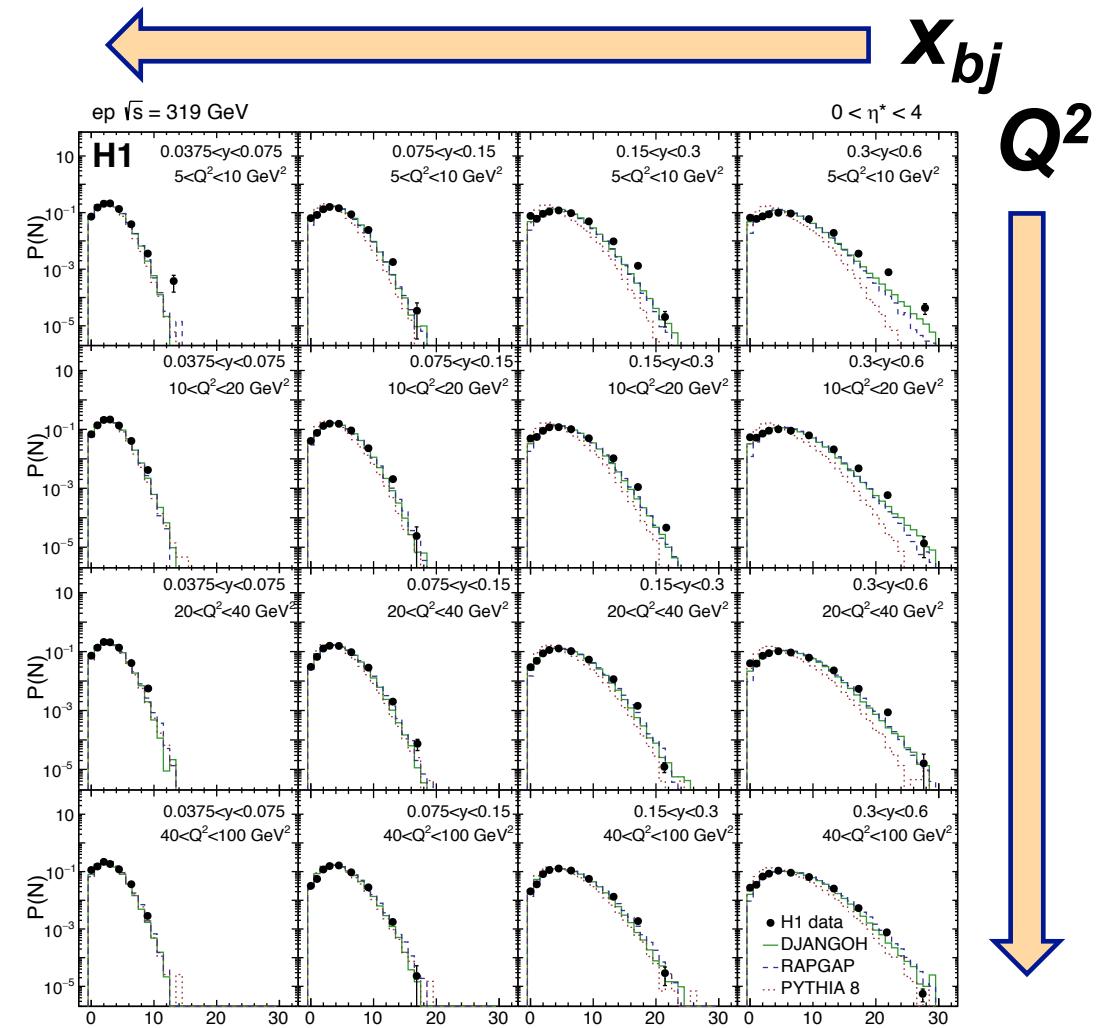
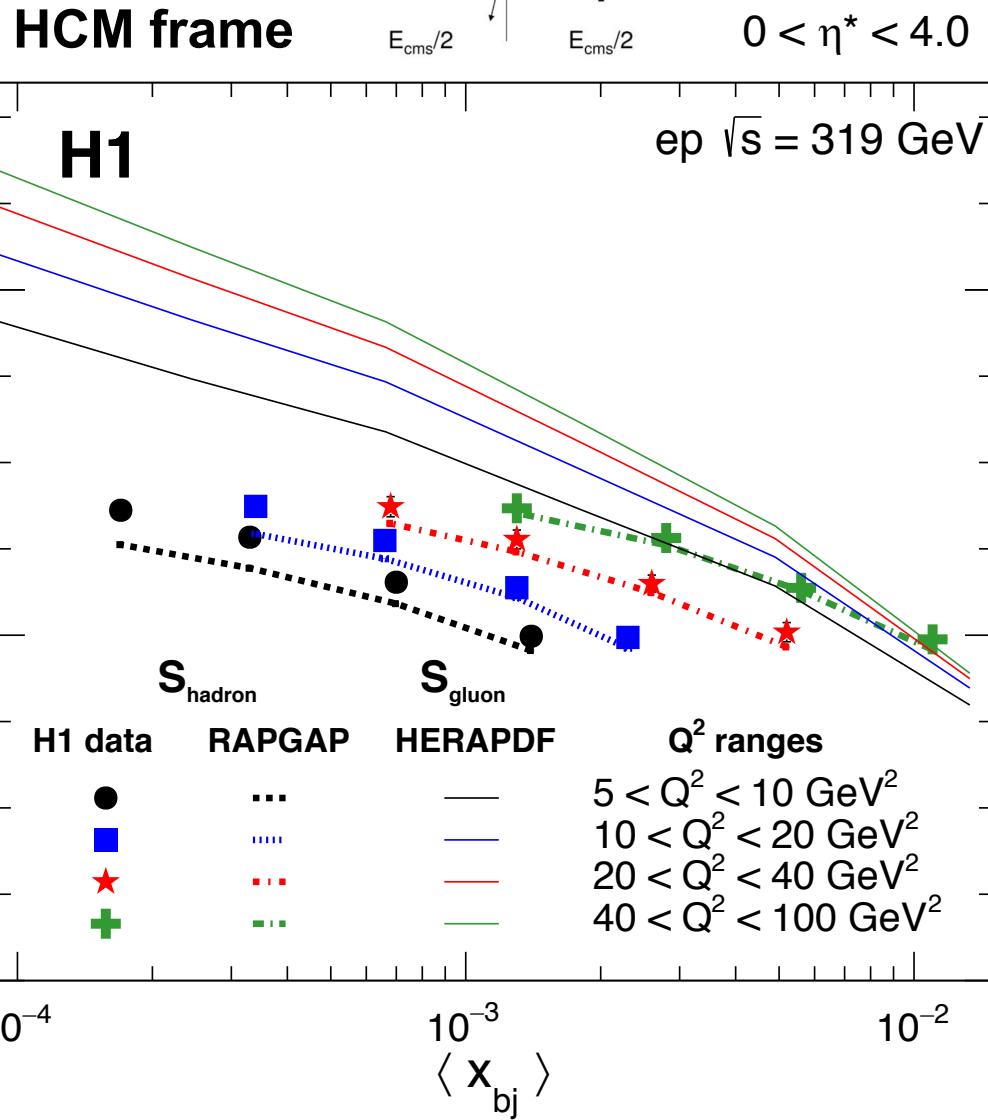
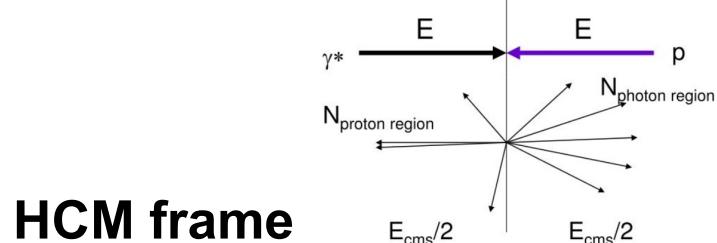
**HCM frame**

$0 < \eta^* < 4.0$



Eur. Phys. J. C (2021) 81: 212 - 57 pages

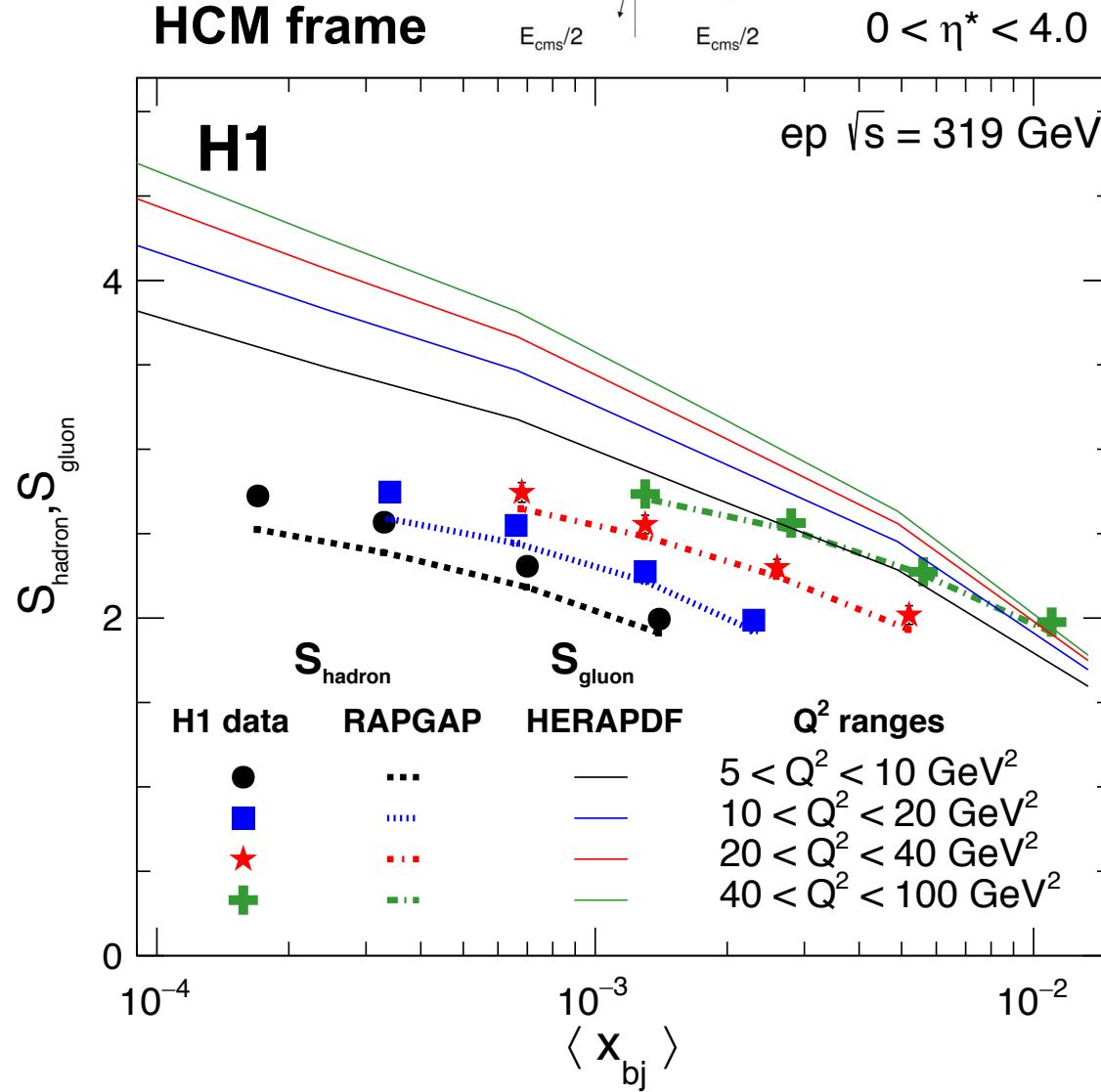
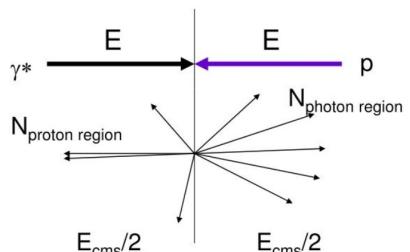
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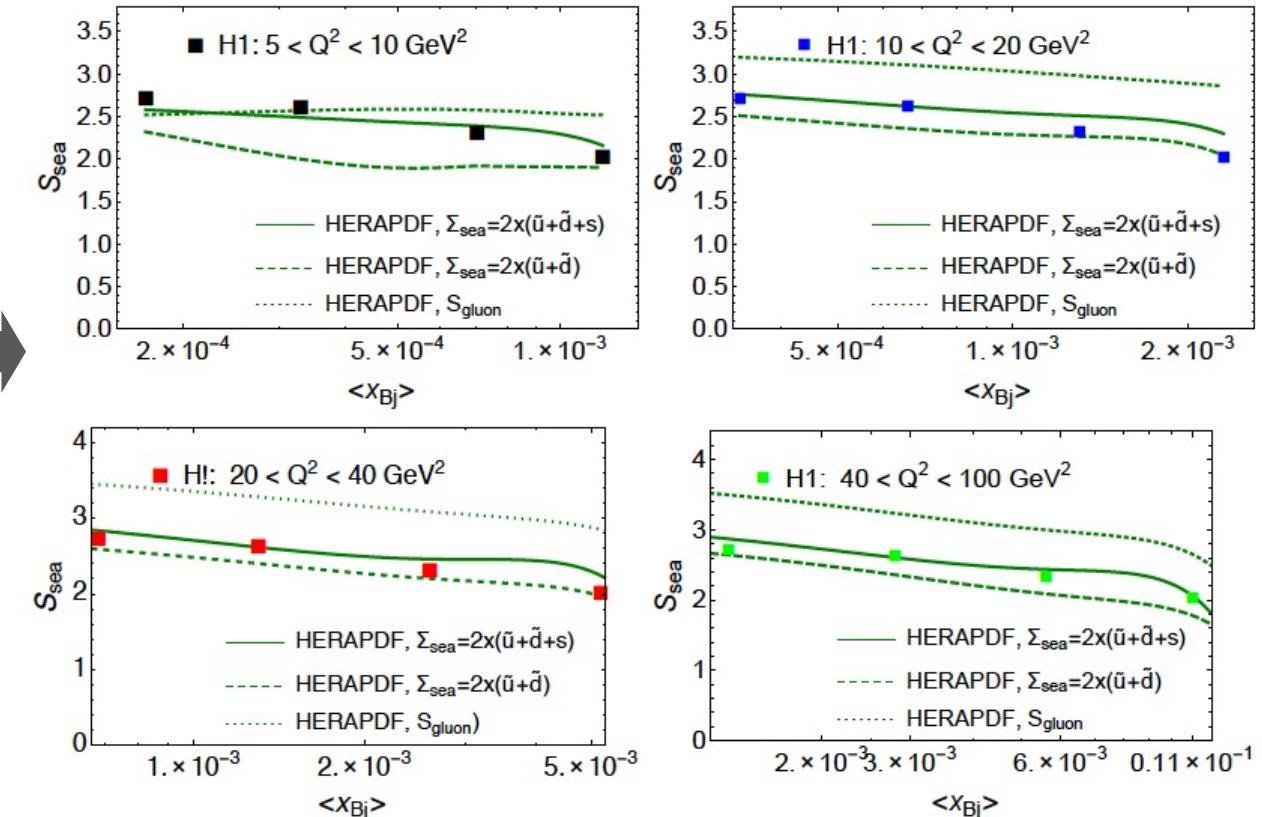
Eur. Phys. J. C (2021) 81: 212 - 57 pages

# H1 data

HCM frame



New results from sea quarks



arXiv:2102.09773

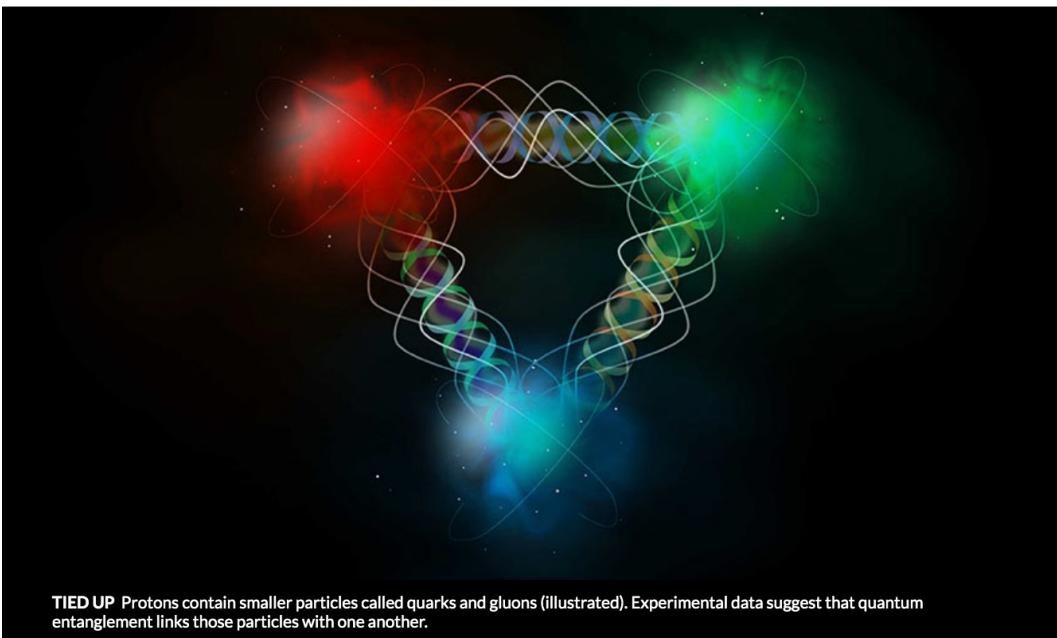
# Current status

NEWS QUANTUM PHYSICS, PARTICLE PHYSICS

## An experiment hints at quantum entanglement inside protons

LHC data suggests the subatomic particle's constituent quarks and gluons share weird links

BY EMILY CONOVER 11:18AM, MAY 17, 2019



**TIED UP** Protons contain smaller particles called quarks and gluons (illustrated). Experimental data suggest that quantum entanglement links those particles with one another.

SCIFY/SHUTTERSTOCK

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/experiment-hints-quantum-entanglement-inside-protons>

## Science News Article

# Current status

## EE timeline

(Kharzeev & Levin 2017)

$$S_A = \ln [xG(x, Q^2)]$$

gluon entropy for low-x in pp



(Kharzeev & Levin 2021)

$$S_A = \ln [\Sigma_{sea}]$$

quark entropy for low-x in DIS

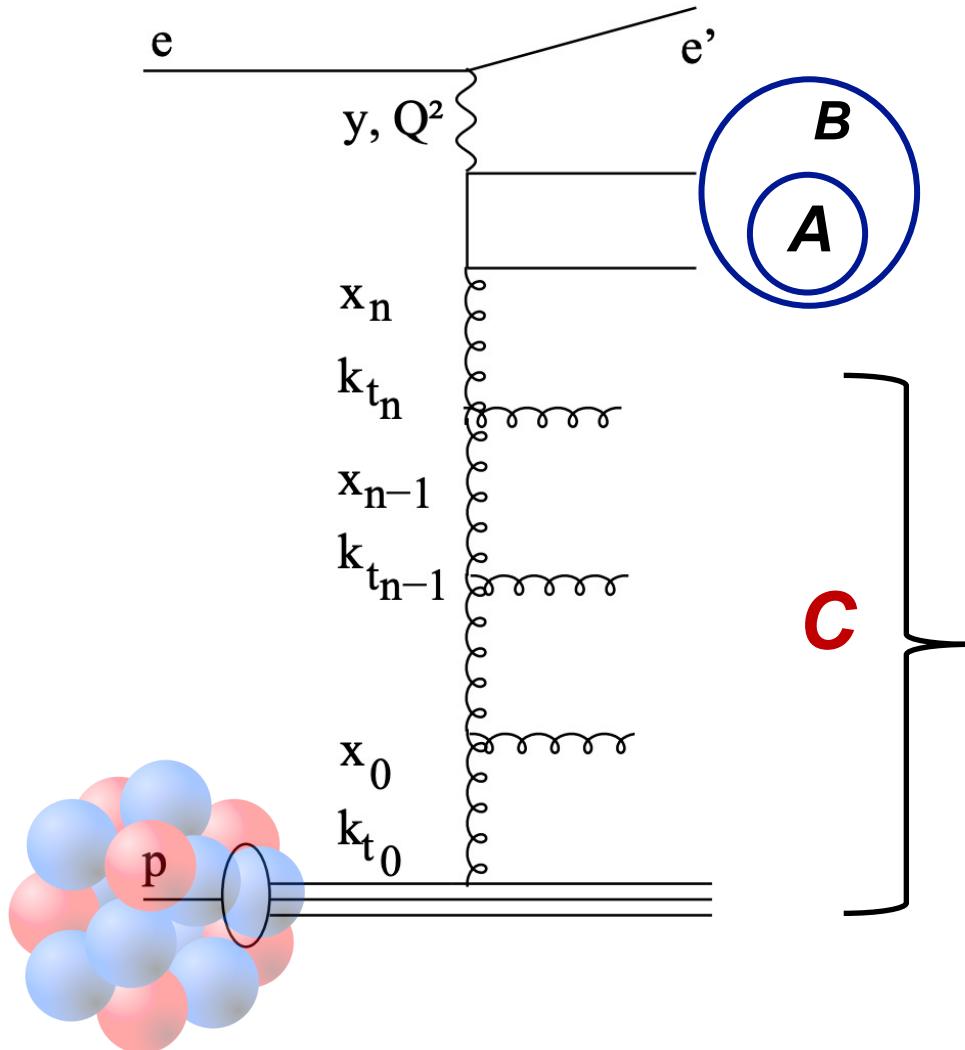


...

- First experimental hint of entanglement using EE in high energy collisions (both in pp and ep DIS)
- Promising theory in EE. But still with many questions and works ahead.

# What's next?

DIS



- First experimental hint of entanglement using EE in high energy collisions (both in pp and ep DIS)
  - Promising theory in EE. But still with many questions and works ahead.
- Large acceptance with target region. Correlation in rapidity?
  - How about nucleus?  $eA$ ?

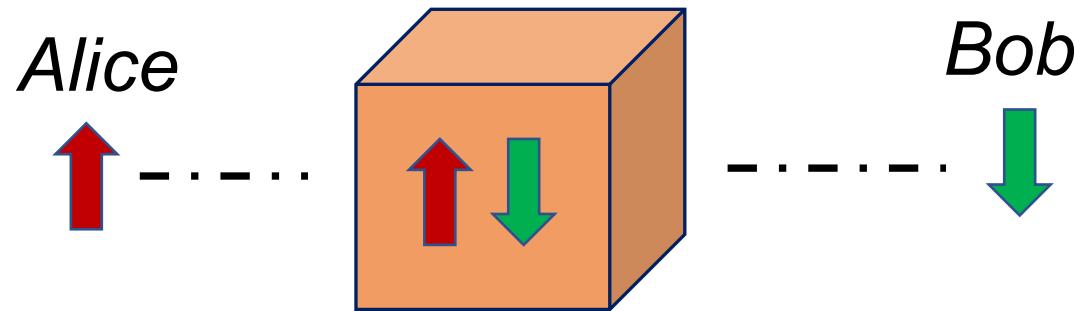
(A dedicated prediction is on the way)

SULI Summer Intern 2021 - Calla Hinderks

Stay tuned!

# Near future – spin entanglement

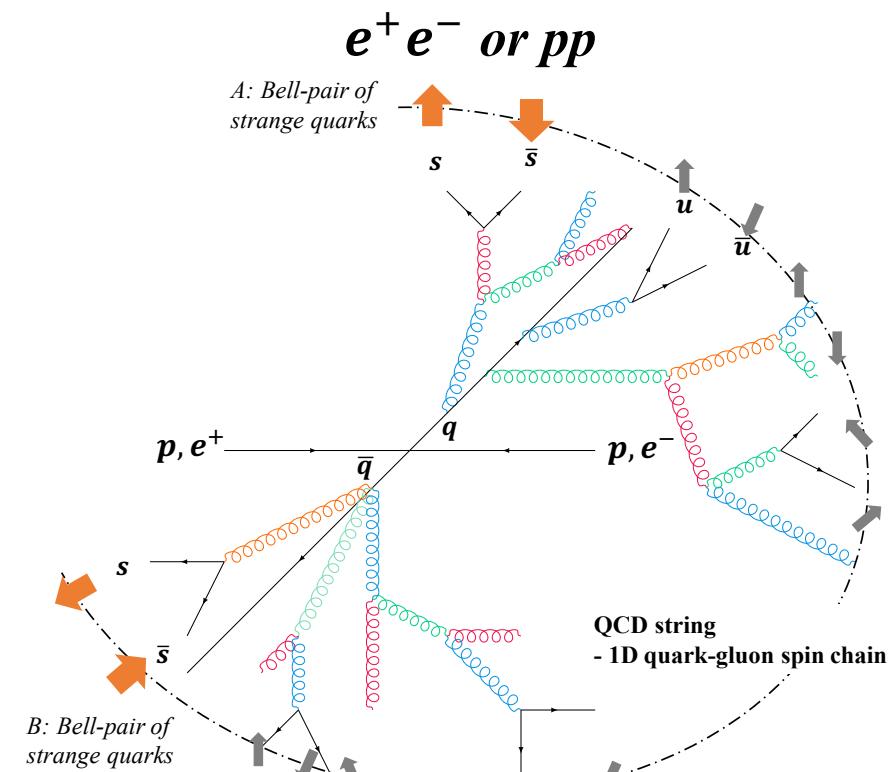
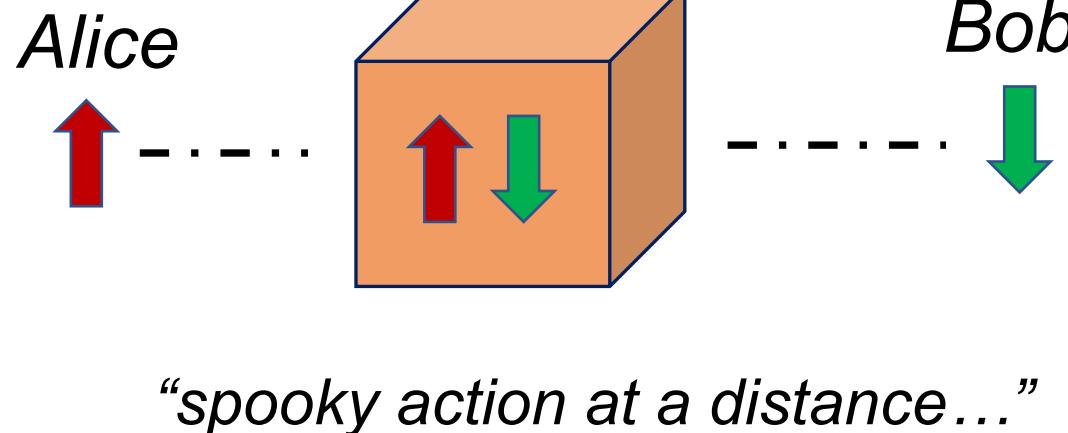
EPR paradox



*“spooky action at a distance...”*

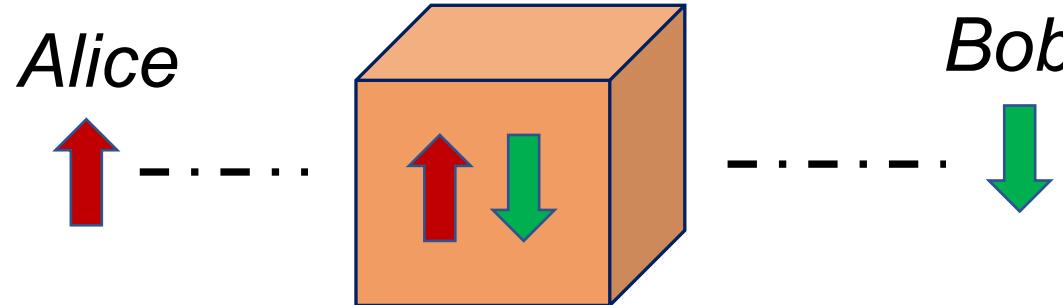
# Near future – spin entanglement

EPR paradox



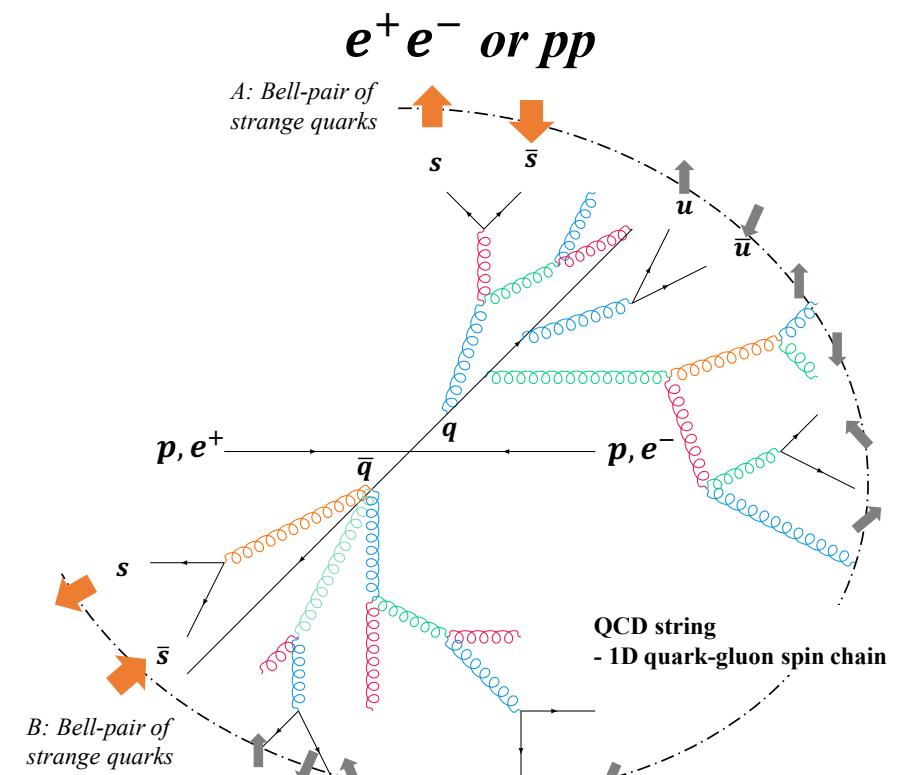
# Near future – spin entanglement

EPR paradox



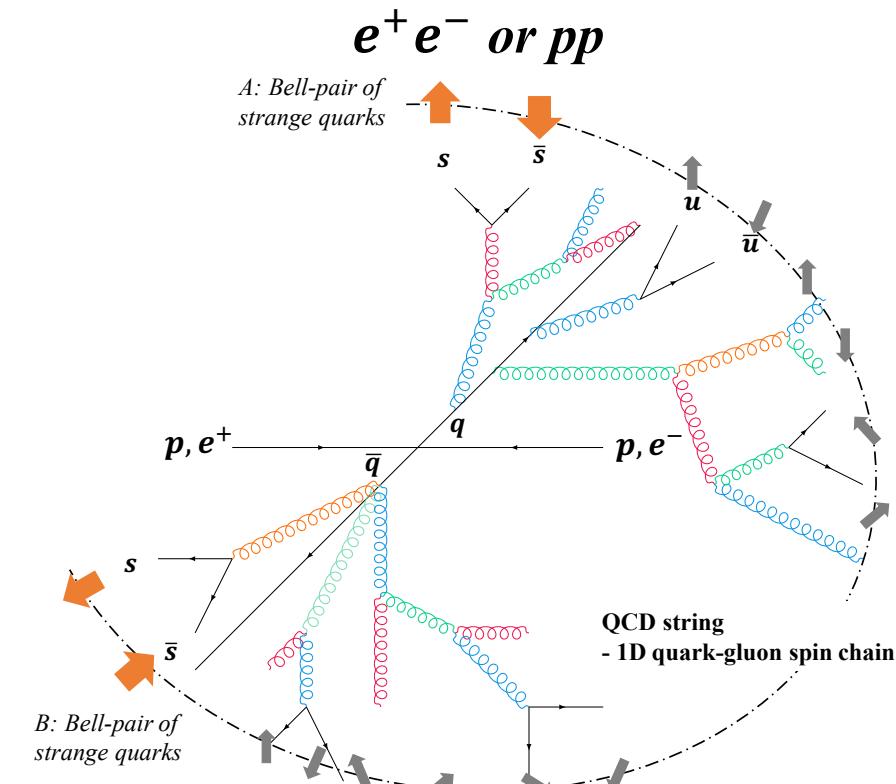
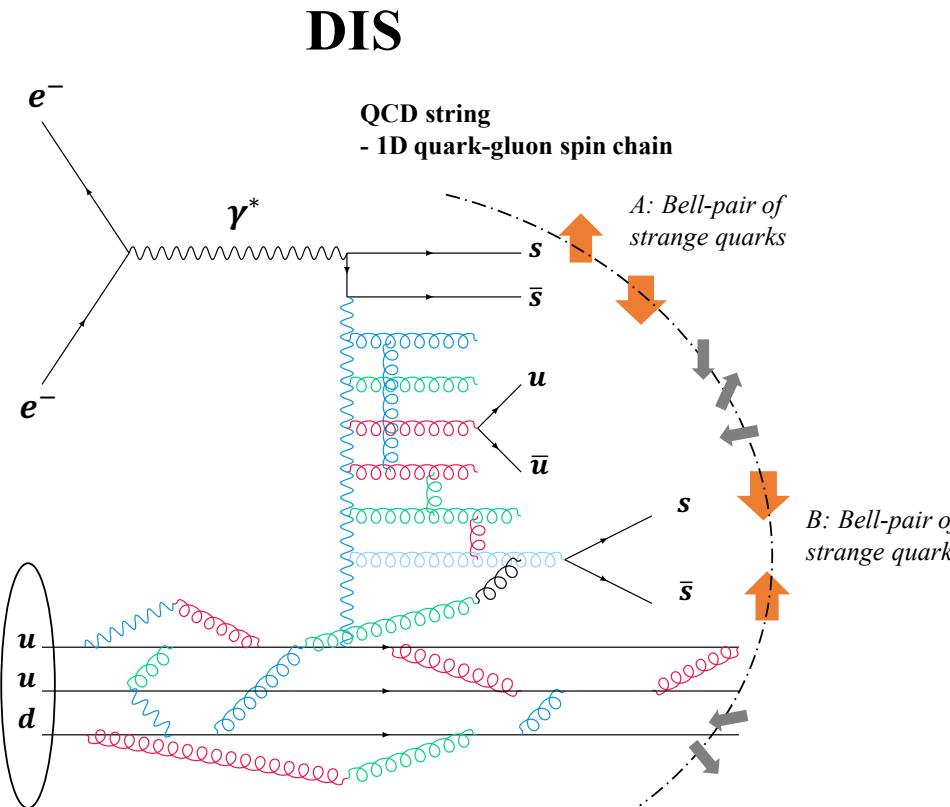
*"spooky action at a distance..."*

How to know correlations are  
nonlocal or quantum mechanical?



CHSH inequality test:  
 $S = E(A, B) - E(A, b) + E(a, B) + E(a, b)$

# Near future – spin entanglement



How to know correlations are nonlocal or quantum mechanical?



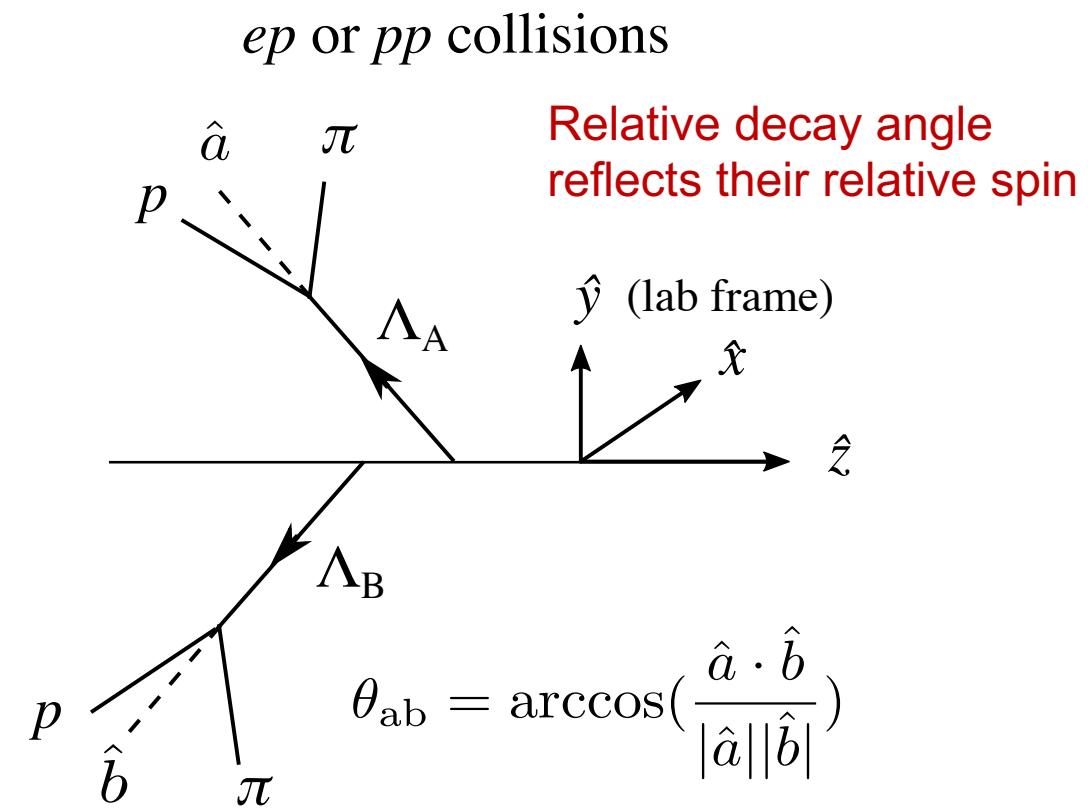
**CHSH inequality test:**  
$$S = E(A, B) - E(A, b) + E(a, B) + E(a, b)$$

# 1. $\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$ , $\Lambda\Lambda$ polarizations

## Theory development:

W. Gong\*, G. Parida, ZT, R. Venugopalan  
(Manuscript coming soon!)

\* Barry M. Goldwater scholarship and featured on BNL Cover:  
<https://www.bnl.gov/newsroom/news.php?a=218869>



$\Lambda$  polarization w.r.t each other in their respective frames

# 1. $\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$ , $\Lambda\Lambda$ polarizations

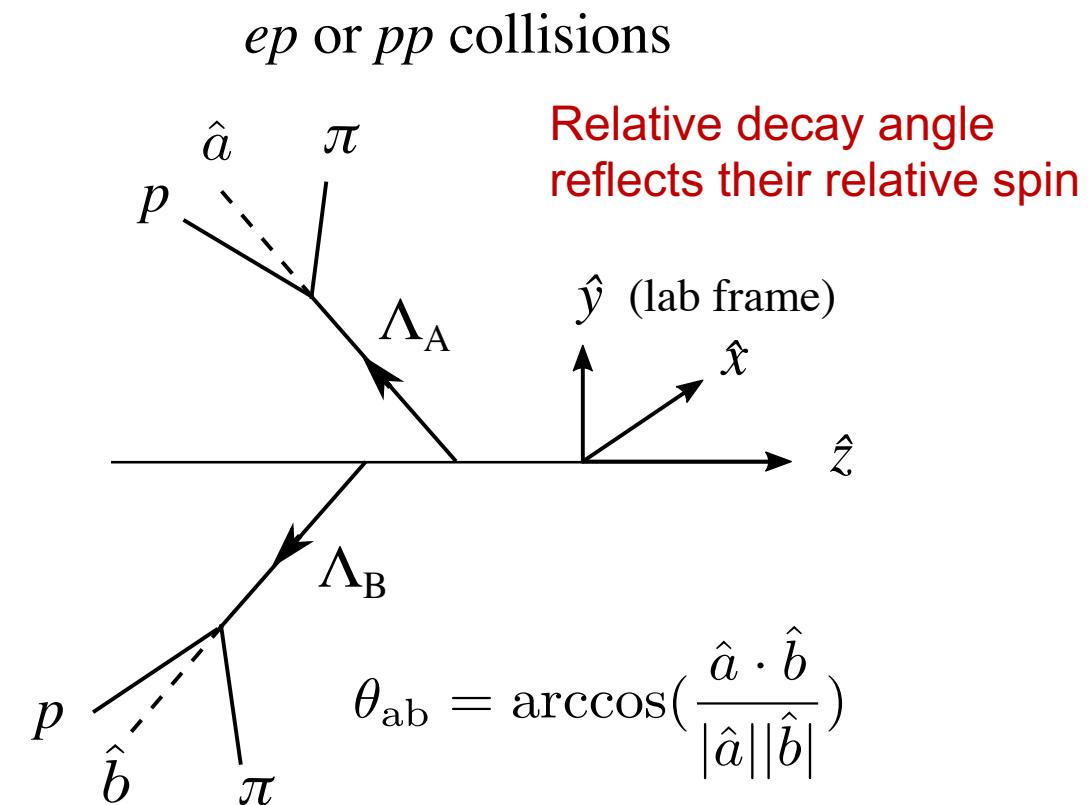
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<https://www.bnl.gov/newsroom/news.php?a=218869>

## Experimental Search at RHIC:

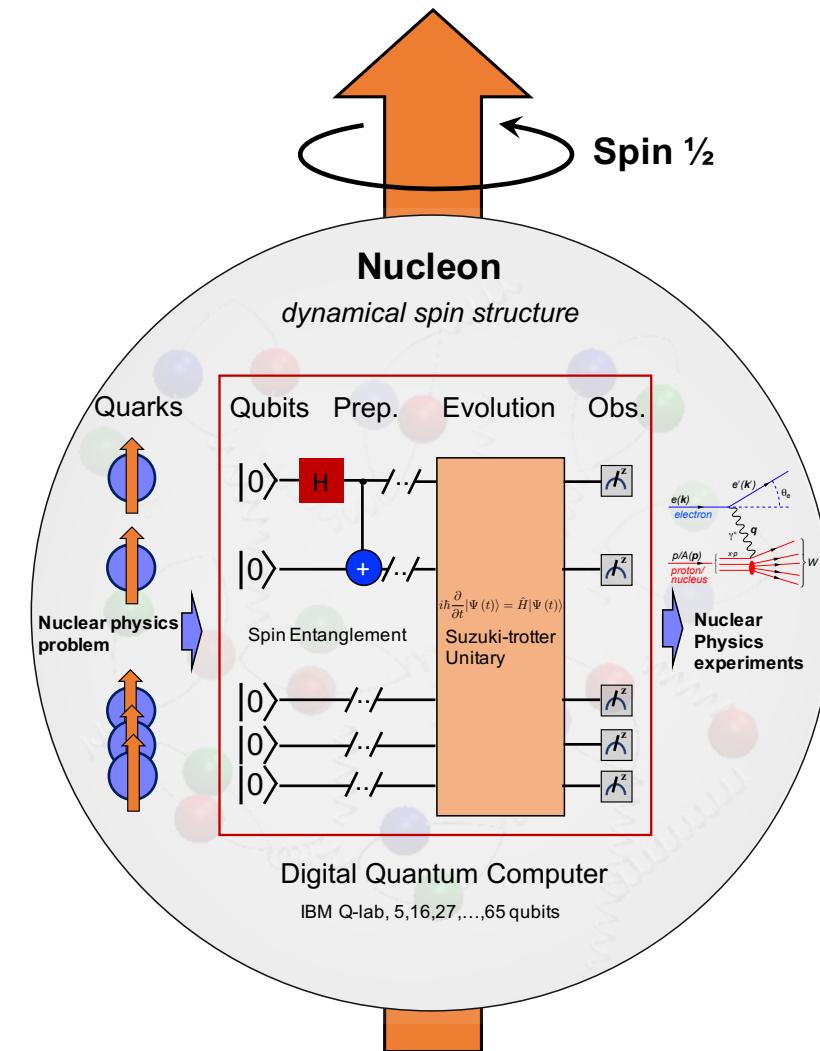
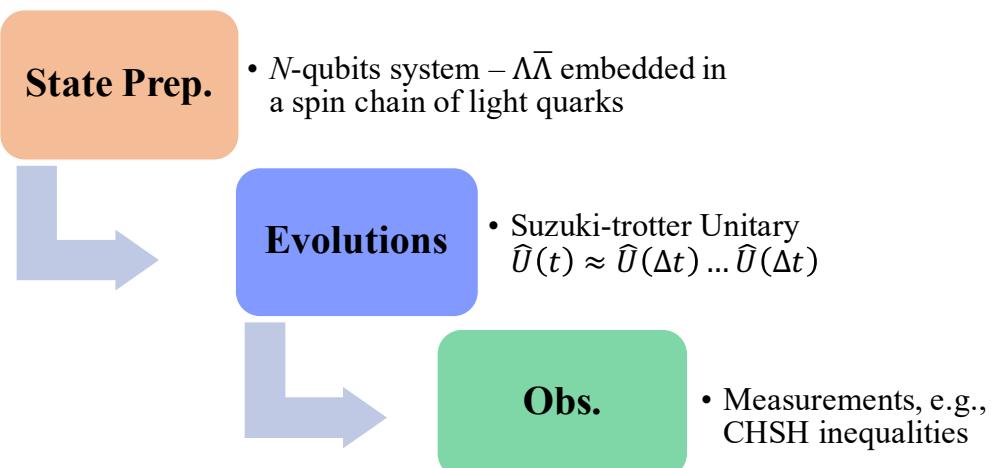
Double  $\Lambda$  polarization in pp collisions.  
(Approved LDRD project 22-027 - FY22-23)



$\Lambda$  polarization w.r.t each other in their respective frames

# 2. Quantum simulations

- 1D quark-gluon spin chain with strange quarks with real-time unitary evolution.
- Simulations on a digital quantum computer, where every parton is mapped to a qubit.



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- 1D quark-gluon spin chain with strange quarks with real-time unitary evolution.
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**State Prep.**

- $N$ -qubits system –  $\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$  embedded in a spin chain of light quarks

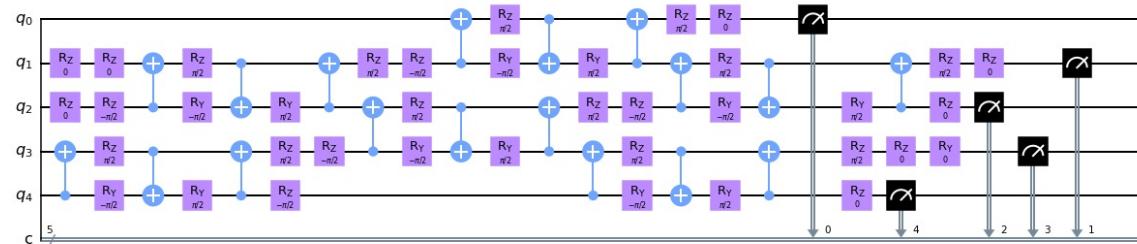
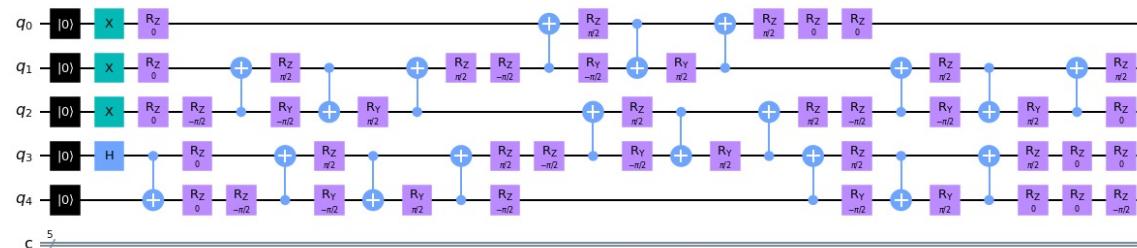
**Evolutions**

- Suzuki-trotter Unitary  $\hat{U}(t) \approx \hat{U}(\Delta t) \dots \hat{U}(\Delta t)$

**Obs.**

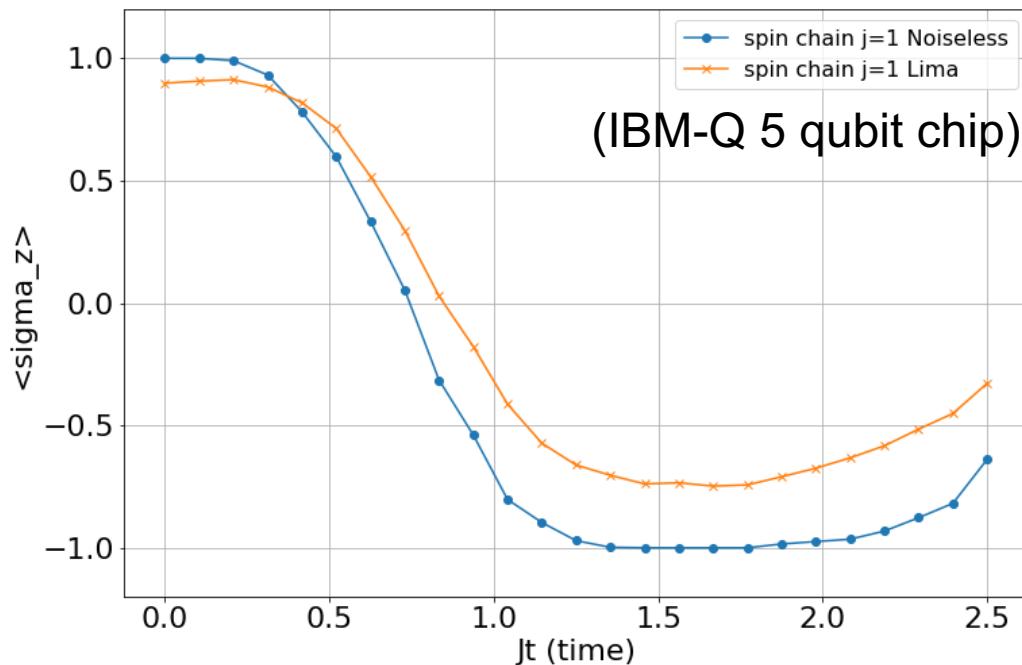
- Measurements, e.g., CHSH inequalities

**Initial 5-qubit circuit setup for a Heisenberg spin chain model with 1 Bell-pairs**

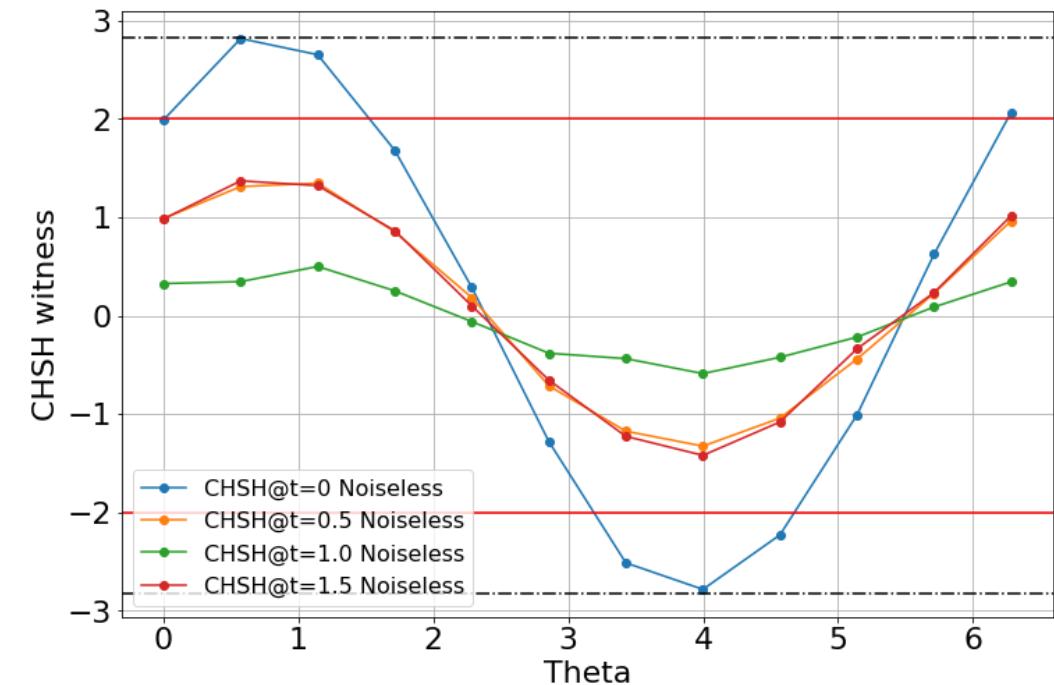


## 2. Quantum simulations

Proof-of-principle on a real quantum computer – trotterized unitary evolution.



Proof-of-principle on CHSH inequalities



Next step - submit a “large-scale” circuit to the IBM-Q with 27 or 50 qubit chip  
(W. Li, ZT, R. Venugopalan)

# Summary

- Quantum features of QCD strings are essential to our understanding of the fundamental structure, e.g., *confinement*.
- Entanglement Entropy measured in pp and ep DIS – a promising future direction at the Electron-Ion Collider.
- Spin entanglement – a truly interdisciplinary example between the QIS and NP.

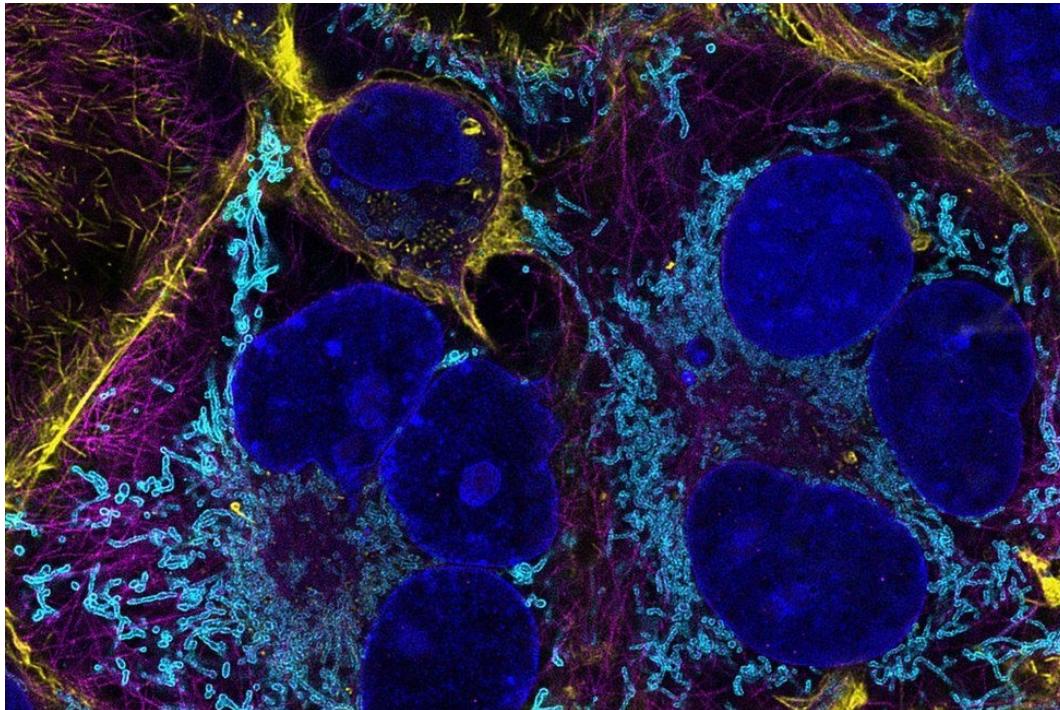
(May 2015 *Scientific American*)



# Backup

# Most powerful microscope in the world

Electron Microscope



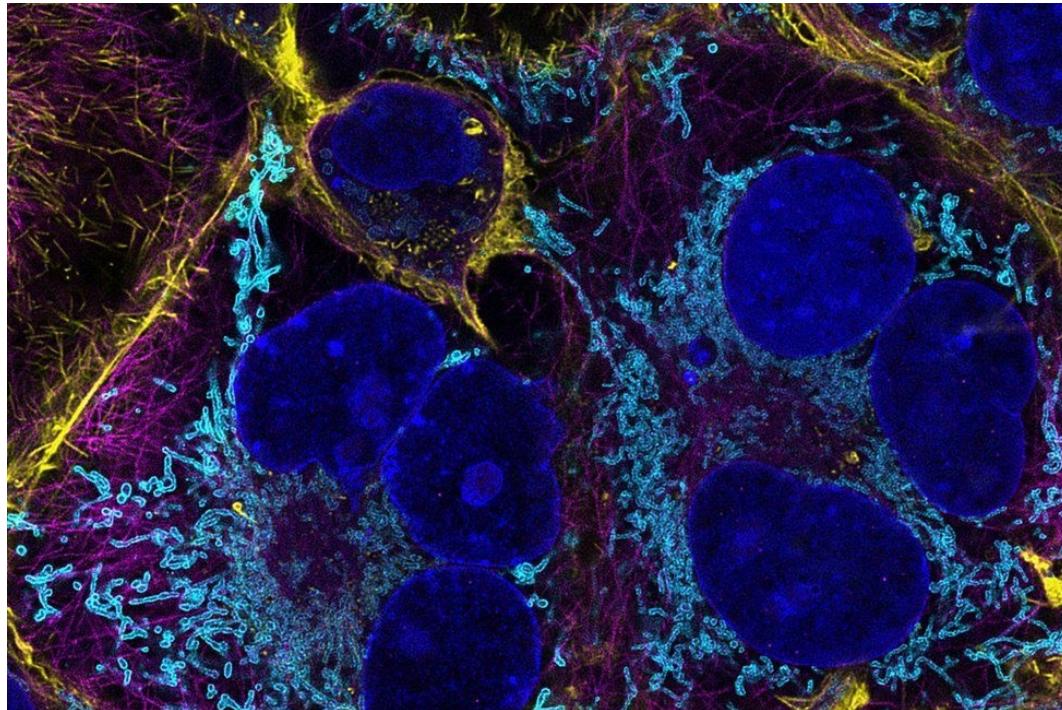
3D images of myelin

- the insulation coating our nerve fibres

~ 0.1-100 nanometer ( $10^{-9}$  m)

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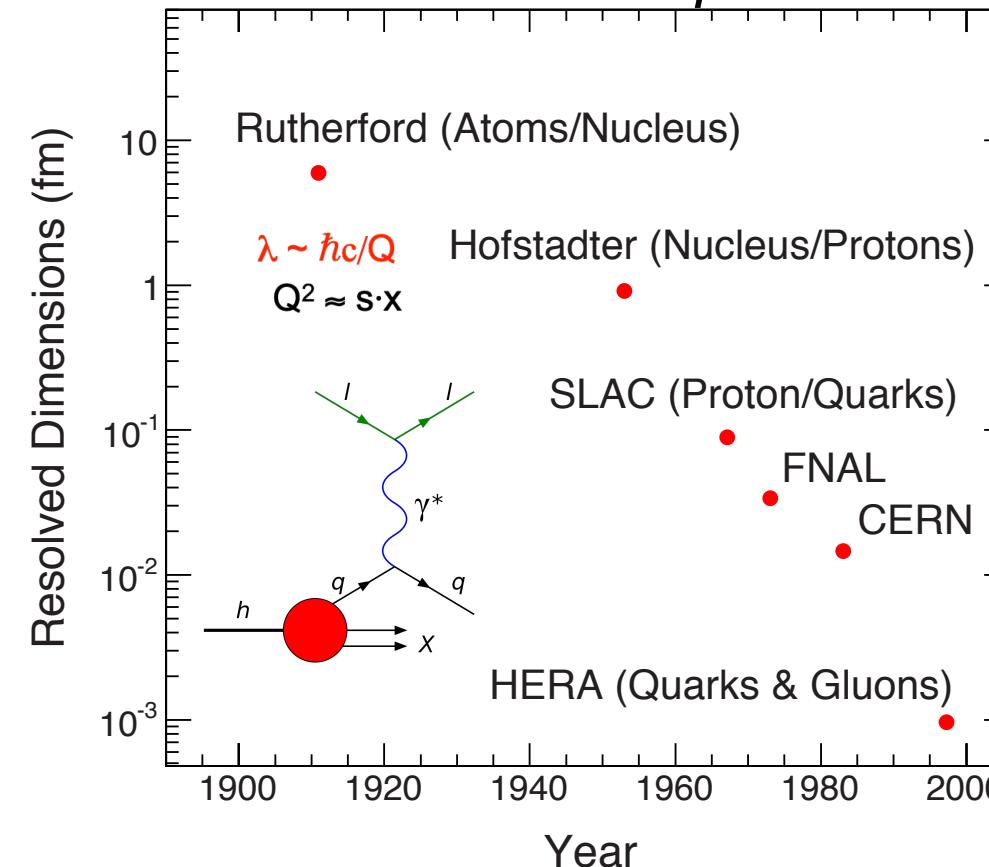


3D images of myelin

- the insulation coating our nerve fibres

~ 0.1-100 nanometer ( $10^{-9}$  m)

“Femtoscope”



~  $10^{-3}$  - 1 femtometer ( $10^{-15}$  m)

# $S_A$ in DIS

(Kharzeev & Levin 2017)

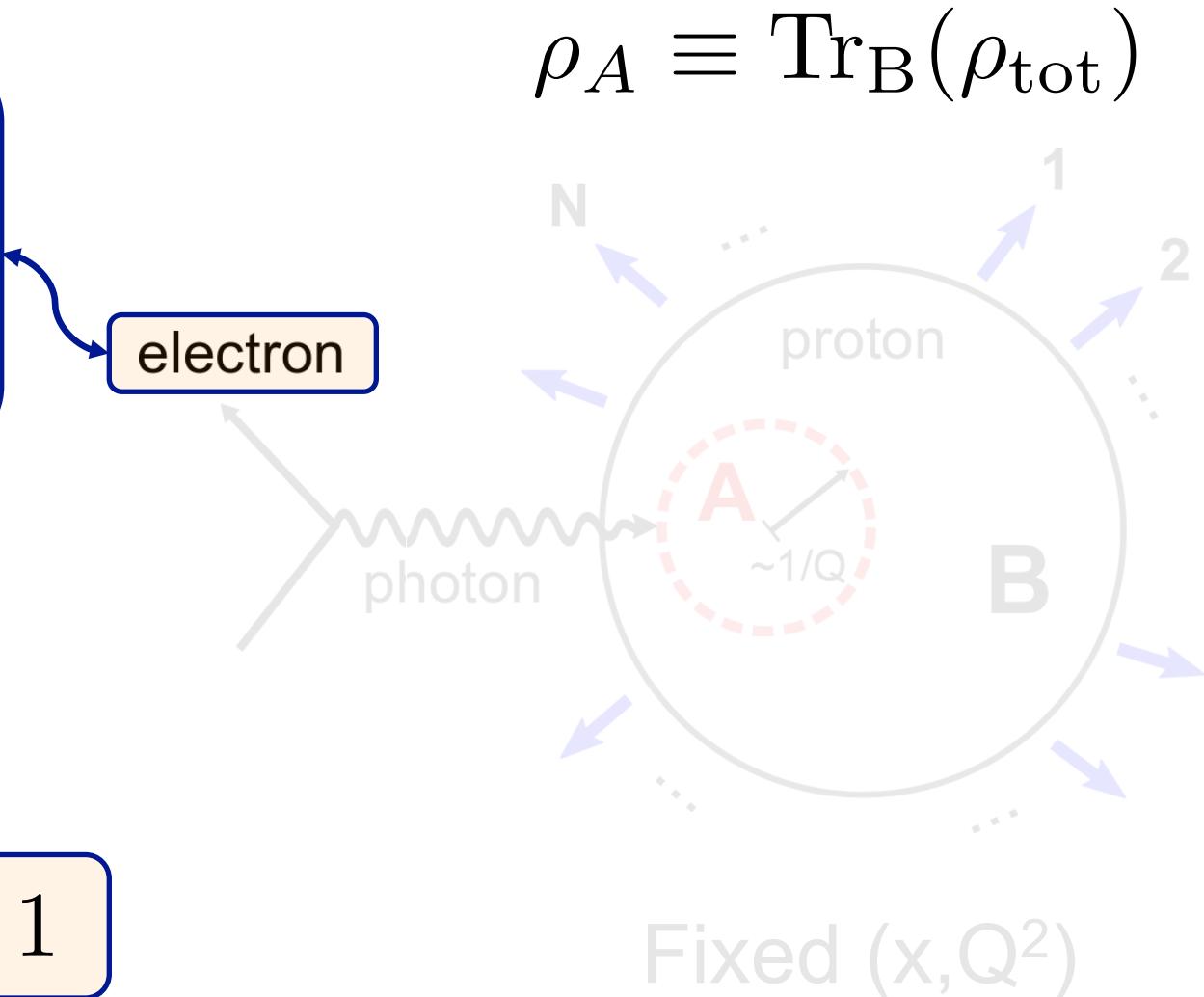
$$S_A = \ln [xG(x, Q^2)]$$

gluon entropy for low  $x$

DIS at low  $x$

- Exponentially large number of partons - equipartitioned states

$$xG(x, Q^2) \sim \langle \tilde{N} \rangle \gg 1$$



# $S_A$ in DIS

(Kharzeev & Levin 2017)

$$S_A = \ln [xG(x, Q^2)]$$

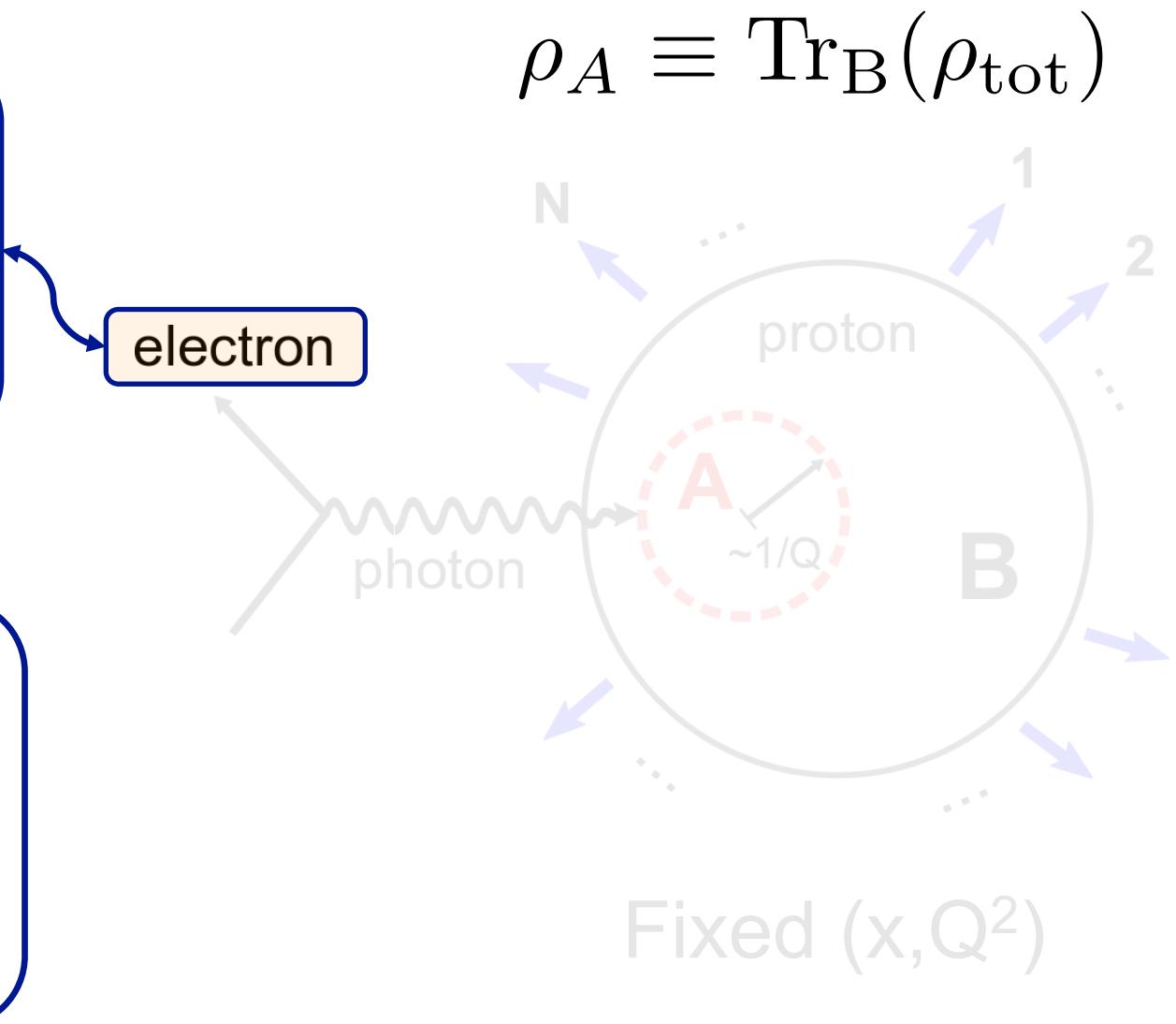
gluon entropy for low  $x$

EE in 1+1d CFT?

$$S_{\text{EE}} = \frac{c}{3} \ln \left( \frac{L}{\epsilon} \right)$$

$c$  is central charge,  $L$  is the length of region A,  $\epsilon$  is resolution scale of the measurement

(see *Int.J.Quant.Inf.* 4 (2006) 429)



# $S_A$ in DIS

(Kharzeev & Levin 2017)

$$S_A = \ln [xG(x, Q^2)]$$

gluon entropy for low x

## Theory questions:

Generalized EE in DIS?

- Not equipartitioned?
- Sea quarks?
- other models?

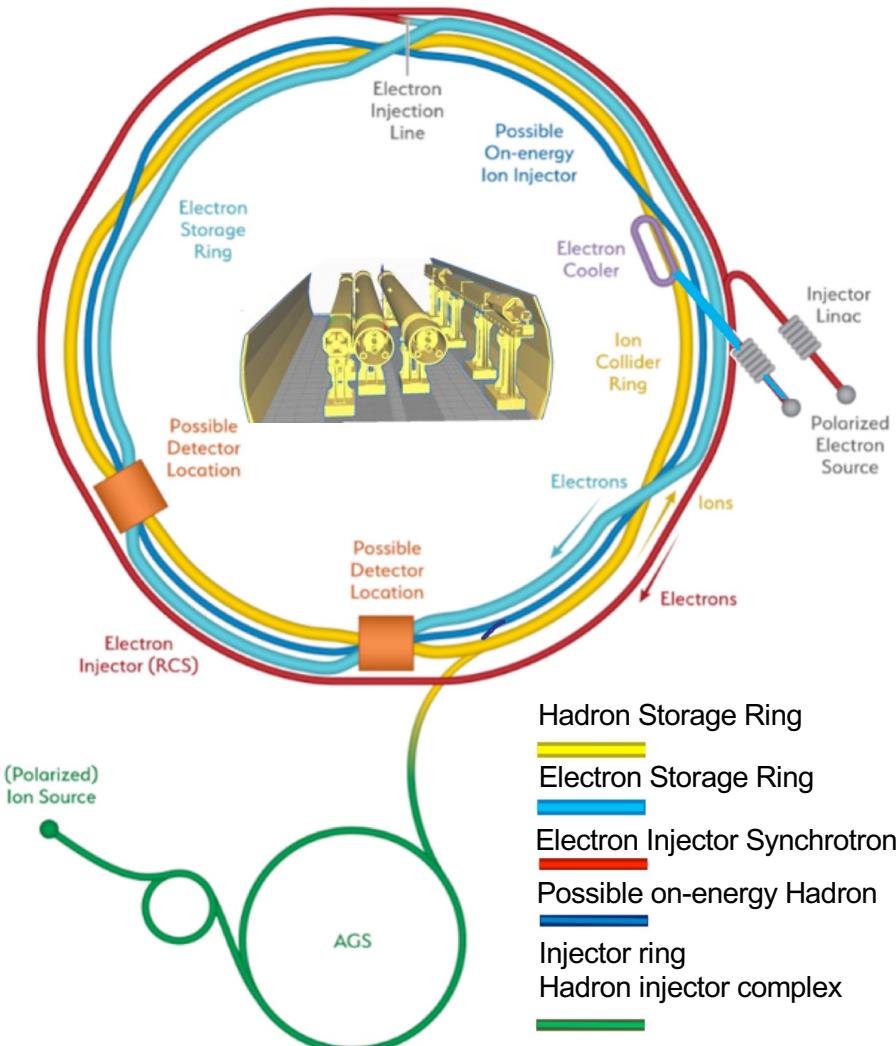
I'm not sure that these shoes really go with these trousers...what do you all think ?



**Digression**

During an interview, it's important to be succinct and avoid too many digressions or side issues.

# Next generation QCD machine - EIC



High energy & luminosity accelerator machine with beam polarization.

- $\sqrt{s} \Rightarrow 20 - 141 \text{ GeV}$
- $\mathcal{L}_{max} \Rightarrow 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

Polarization (e & p)  $\Rightarrow 80\%$   
A  $\Rightarrow$  proton to Uranium

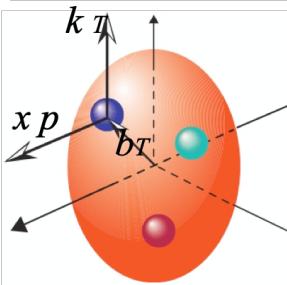
**EIC project milestones:**  
**CD-0 (Jan.2020), CD-1 (Mar. 2021)**

Sited at Brookhaven National Laboratory  
**Electron-Ion Collider**

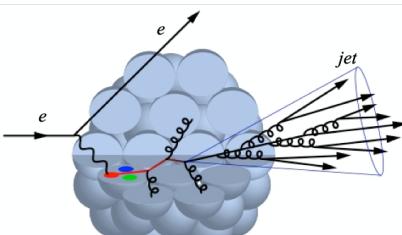
# EIC physics



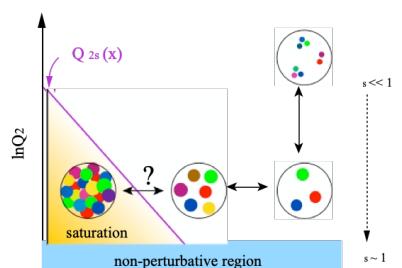
Spin



Tomography



Hadronization



Saturation

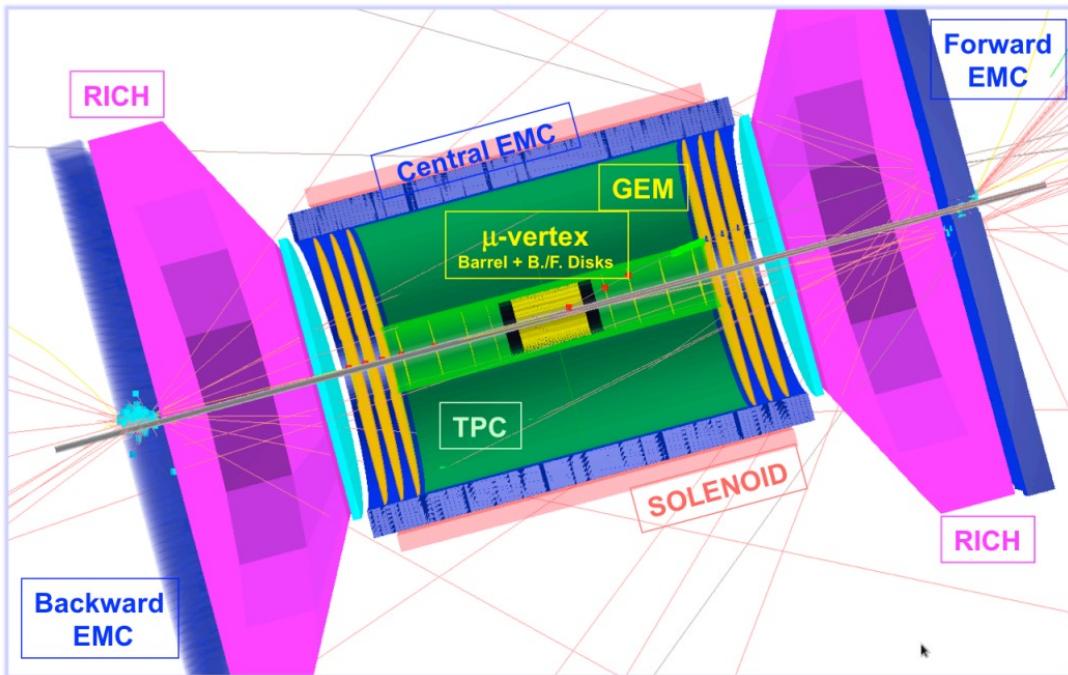
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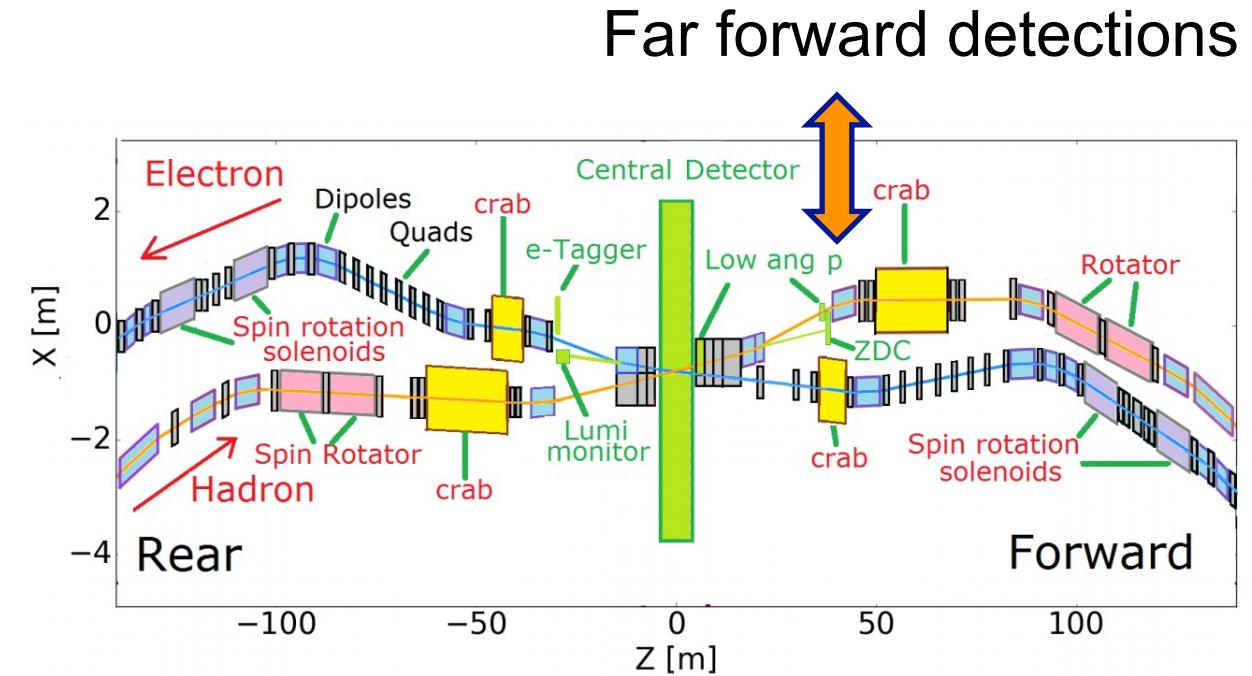
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**EIC project milestones:**  
**CD-0 (Jan.2020), CD-1 (Mar. 2021)**

# Detector concepts



General-purpose detector concept  
- wide rapidity range (-4,4)



Complex IR design

**Large acceptance with target fragmentation – EE in ep and eA**