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Simon Caron-Huot<sup>1</sup>, Murat Koloğlu<sup>2,3,4</sup>, Petr Kravchuk<sup>2,5,6,7</sup>, David Meltzer<sup>2,8</sup>, David Simmons-Duffin<sup>2</sup>

*small-x physics in scalar  $\phi^4$  theory*

## *SURGE proposal:*

- **Small x evolution:** LO evolution is not sufficient for accuracy. Need the NLO and beyond. How to consistently implement resummation in non-linear evolution and **match small with large x**, relevant for EIC kinematic regime ?

# Motivation

Scalar  $\phi^4$  theory lacks gluons:  
we don't expect saturation-like behavior.

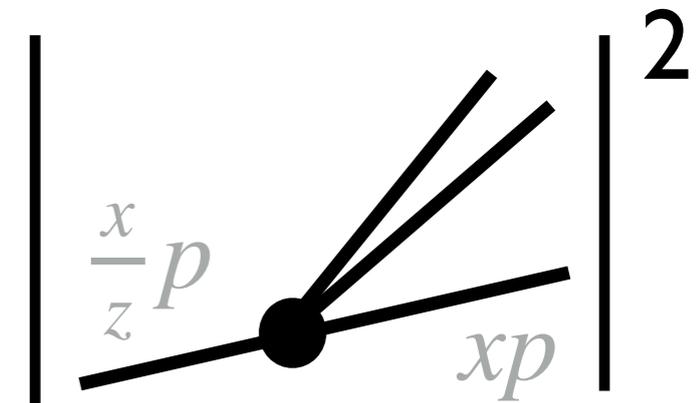
Linear physics is still interesting (**DGLAP** *and* **BFKL-like**).

Q: what is the Pomeron intercept in scalar  $\phi^4$ ?

# DGLAP evolution of $\phi$ parton distribution:

$$\mu \frac{d}{d\mu} f_\phi(x; \mu) = \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} P_{\phi \rightarrow \phi}(z) f_\phi\left(\frac{x}{z}; \mu\right)$$

$$P_{\phi \rightarrow \phi}(z) = \frac{\lambda^2}{(4\pi)^4} \left[ 1 - z - \frac{1}{6} \delta(1-z) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^3)$$



DGLAP kernel lacks  $1/z$  singularity from soft emissions.

$\Rightarrow$  expect  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x f_\phi(x) = 0$ : small- $x$  physics stays linear.

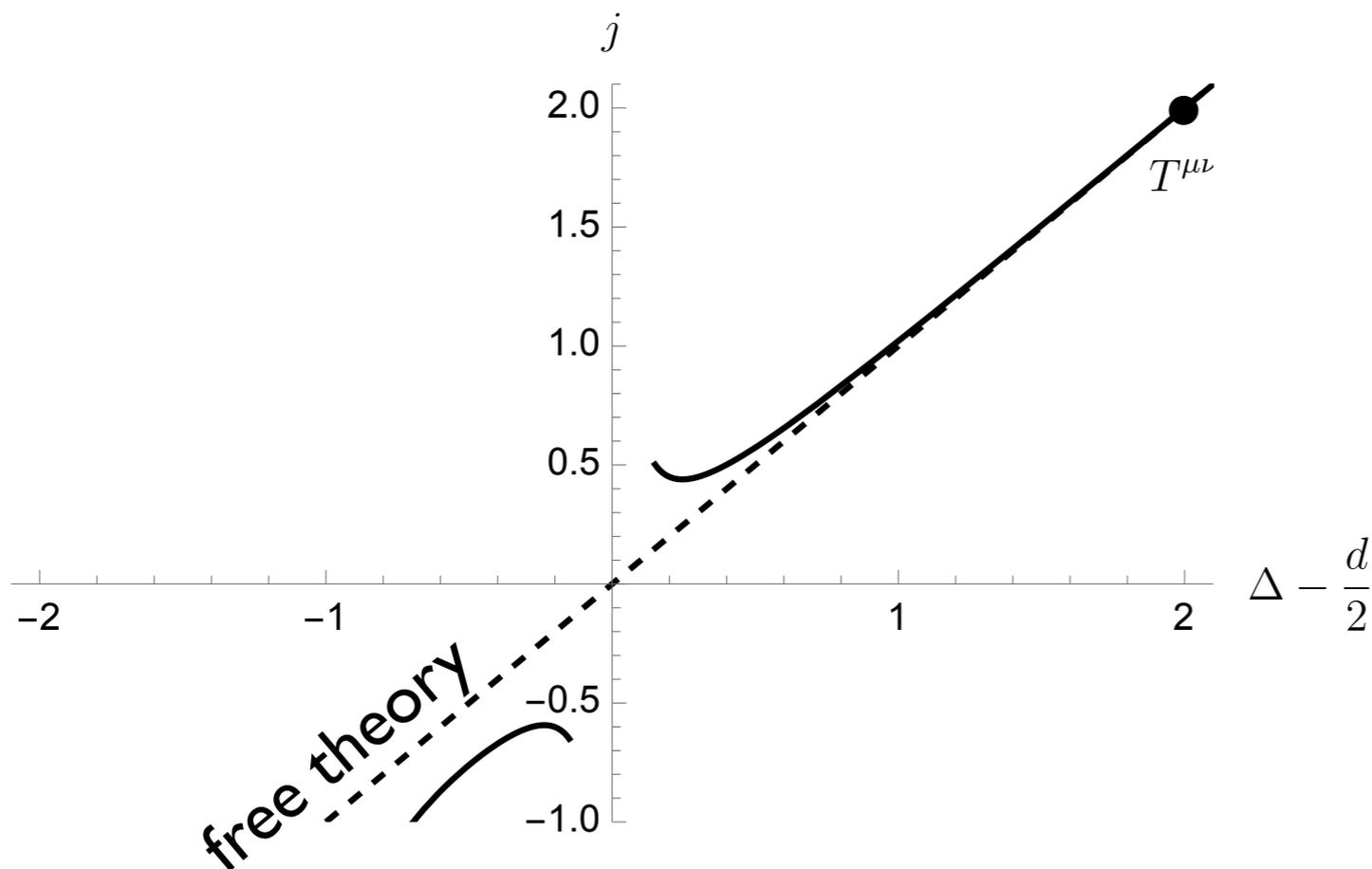
(Contrast with:  $x f_g(x) \rightarrow \infty$  from QCD DGLAP.)

Q: What is the pomeron intercept:  $f_\phi \sim x^{-j^*}$  ?

Moments:  $f(j) \equiv \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x} x^j f(x) \propto \langle p | \phi \partial_+^j \phi | p \rangle$

$\equiv$  matrix element of  $\mathcal{O}_j$ : definite boost  $j$  & dimension  $\Delta$ .

DGLAP  $\Leftrightarrow \Delta(j) = d - 2 + j + \frac{\lambda^2}{(4\pi)^4} \left[ \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{j(j+1)} \right]$



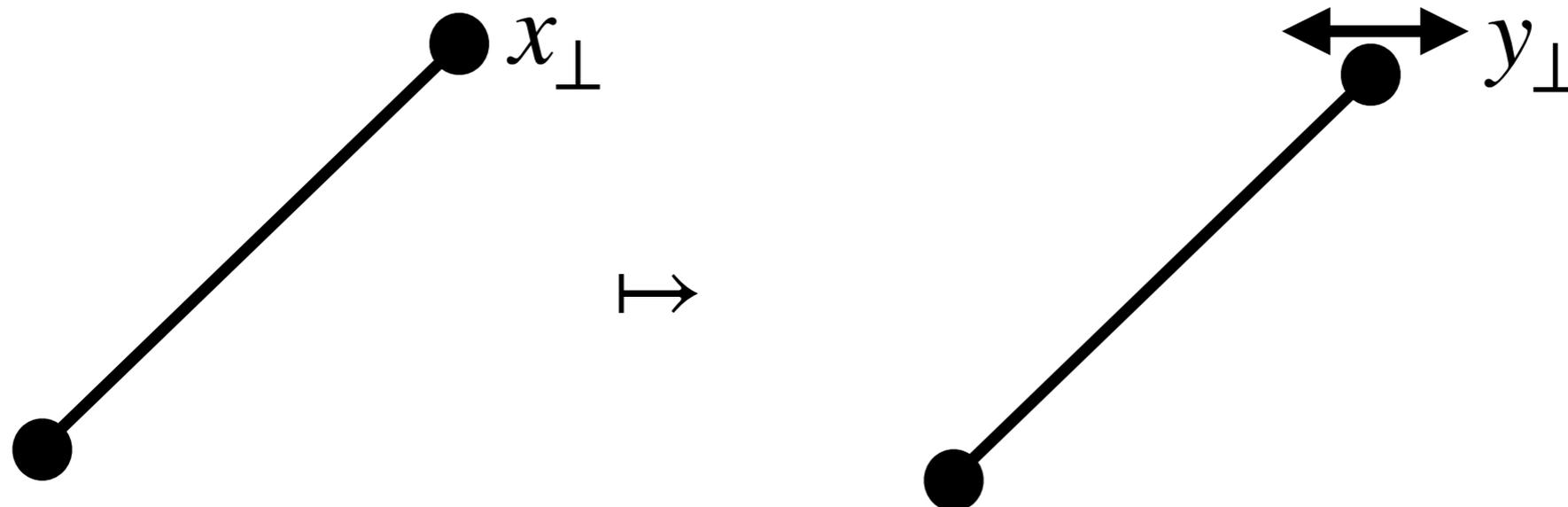
$j=0$  pole suggests  
 $f_\phi(x) \sim x^{-j_* \approx 0}$

Expect: high-energy limit should involve full transverse plane.

Focus on  $\phi^4$  CFT in  $d = 4 - \epsilon$  (Wilson-Fisher).

There is a natural *transverse shadow*:

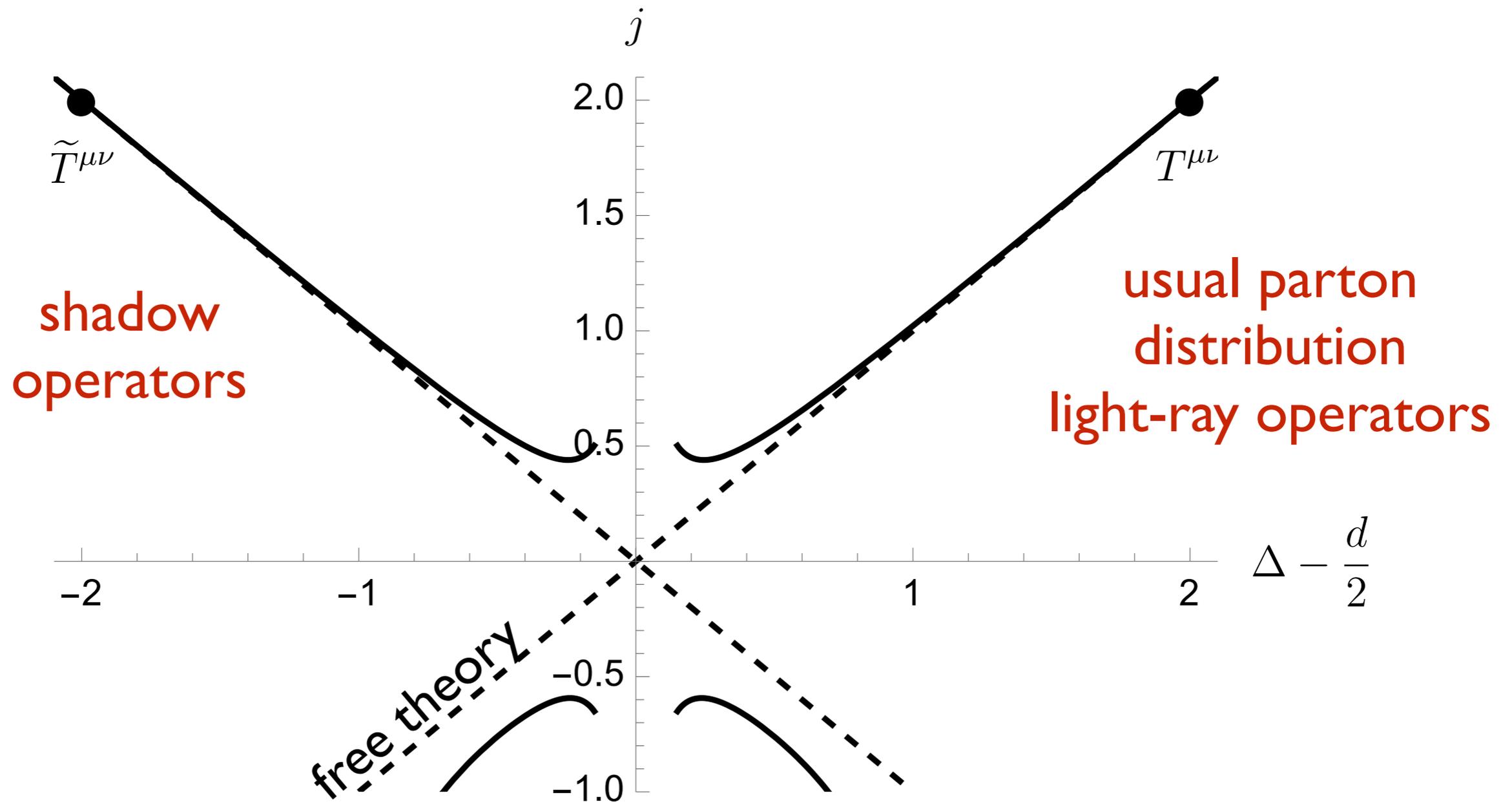
[Simmons-Duffin & Kravchuk '18]



$$\mathcal{O}_j(x_\perp) \quad \mapsto \quad \widetilde{\mathcal{O}}_j(x_\perp) = \int \frac{d^{d-2}y_\perp \mathcal{O}_j(y_\perp)}{[(x_\perp - y_\perp)^2]^{d-1-\Delta}}$$

$$\Delta \quad \mapsto \quad d - \Delta$$

Spectrum of lightray operators in any CFT must be invariant. [SCH '17]



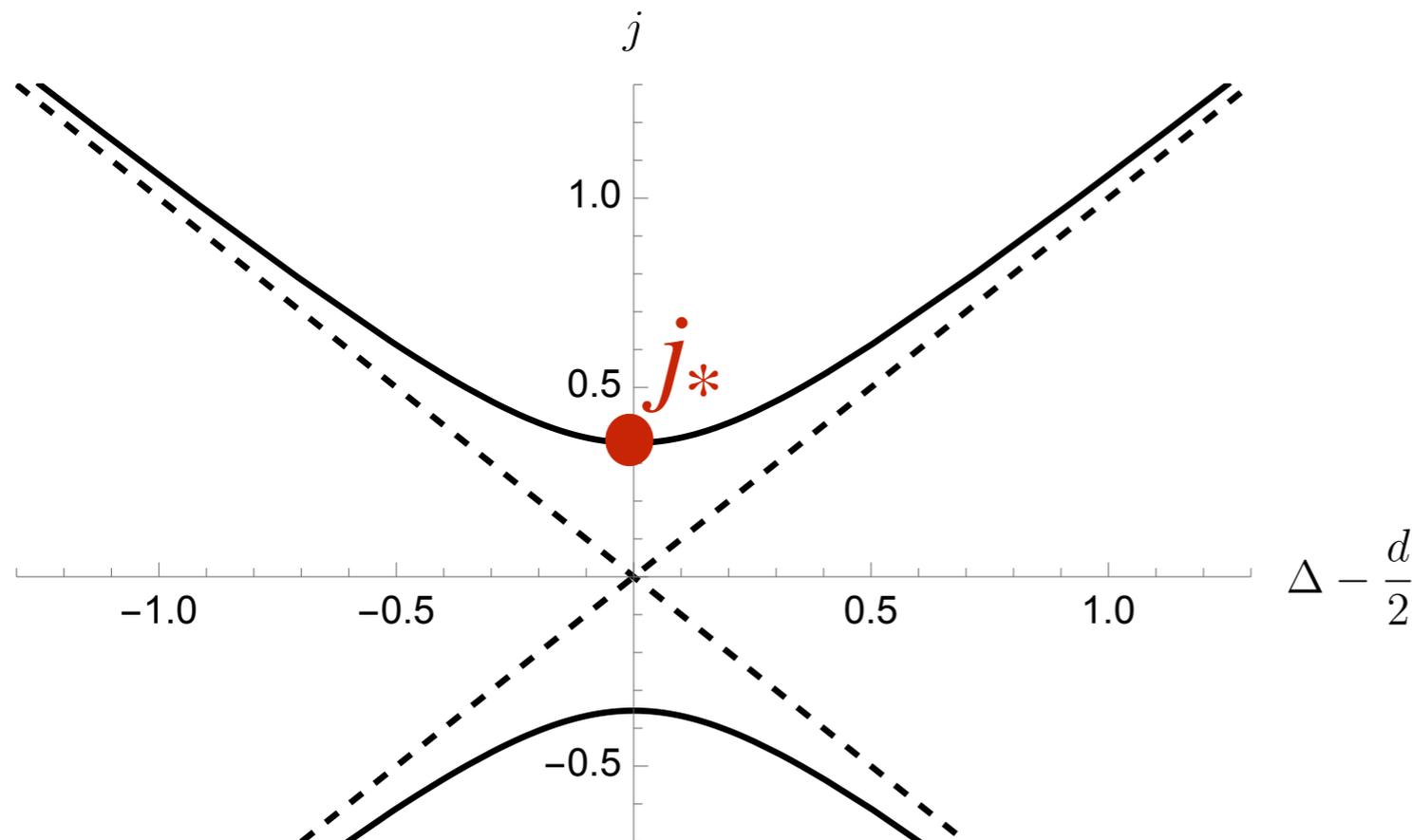
Idea: singularities in perturbation theory caused by free theory level crossing.

Resolve mixing using 2x2 matrix acting on  $(\mathcal{O}_\Delta, \widetilde{\mathcal{O}}_\Delta)$ :

$$j(\Delta) - 1 = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta - 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 - \Delta \end{pmatrix} + \frac{\lambda^2}{(4\pi)^4} \begin{pmatrix} \dots & 2 \\ \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix} + \dots$$

[SCH, Kologlu, Kravchuk, Meltzer & Simmons-Duffin '22]

eigenvalues:  $j_\pm(\Delta) = \pm \sqrt{(\Delta - 2)^2 + 2\lambda^2/(4\pi)^4} + \text{regular}$



● matches poles:

$$j_+ \approx \Delta - 2 + \frac{\lambda^2/(4\pi)^4}{\Delta - 2} + \dots$$

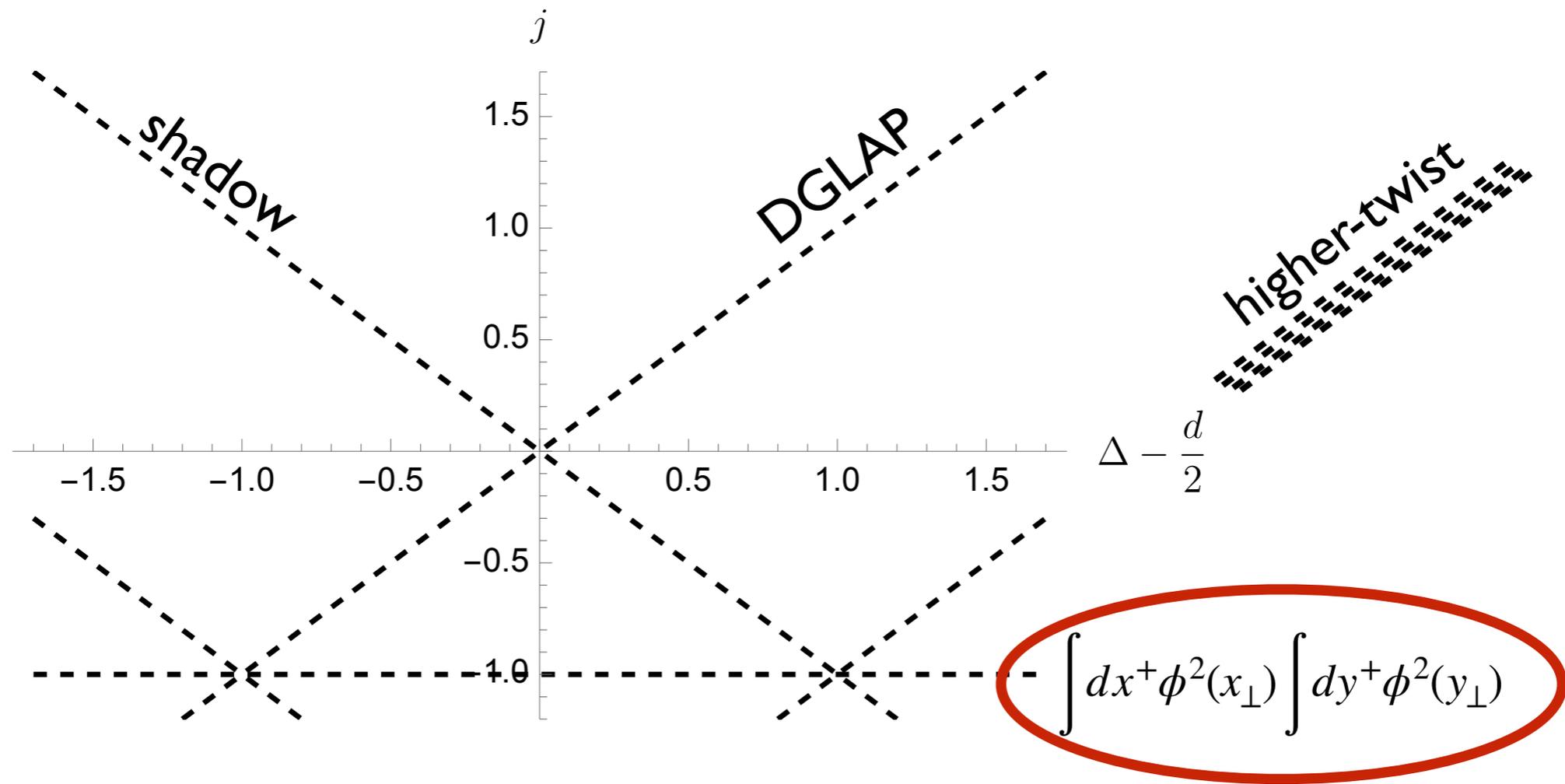
●  $j^{\text{free}}$  not diagonalizable

# Summary of results

from arXiv:2209.00008

- Method to resolve intersections (double-logs)
- Exponent  $f_\phi(x) \sim x^{-j_*}$  in  $\phi^4$  in  $d = 4 - \epsilon$ .  
Supports  $j_* \approx 0.8 < 1$  in critical 3D Ising.  
[SCH+Zaharee '20]
- Discussed subleading powers, but could not resum.
- (spacelike-timelike map:  $j^{\text{th}}$  moment of PDF  $\Leftrightarrow$  generalized calorimeter that weights  $E_i^{-1}$  of each particle='detector')

more on subleading powers (operators contribute  $\sim x^{-j}$ ):

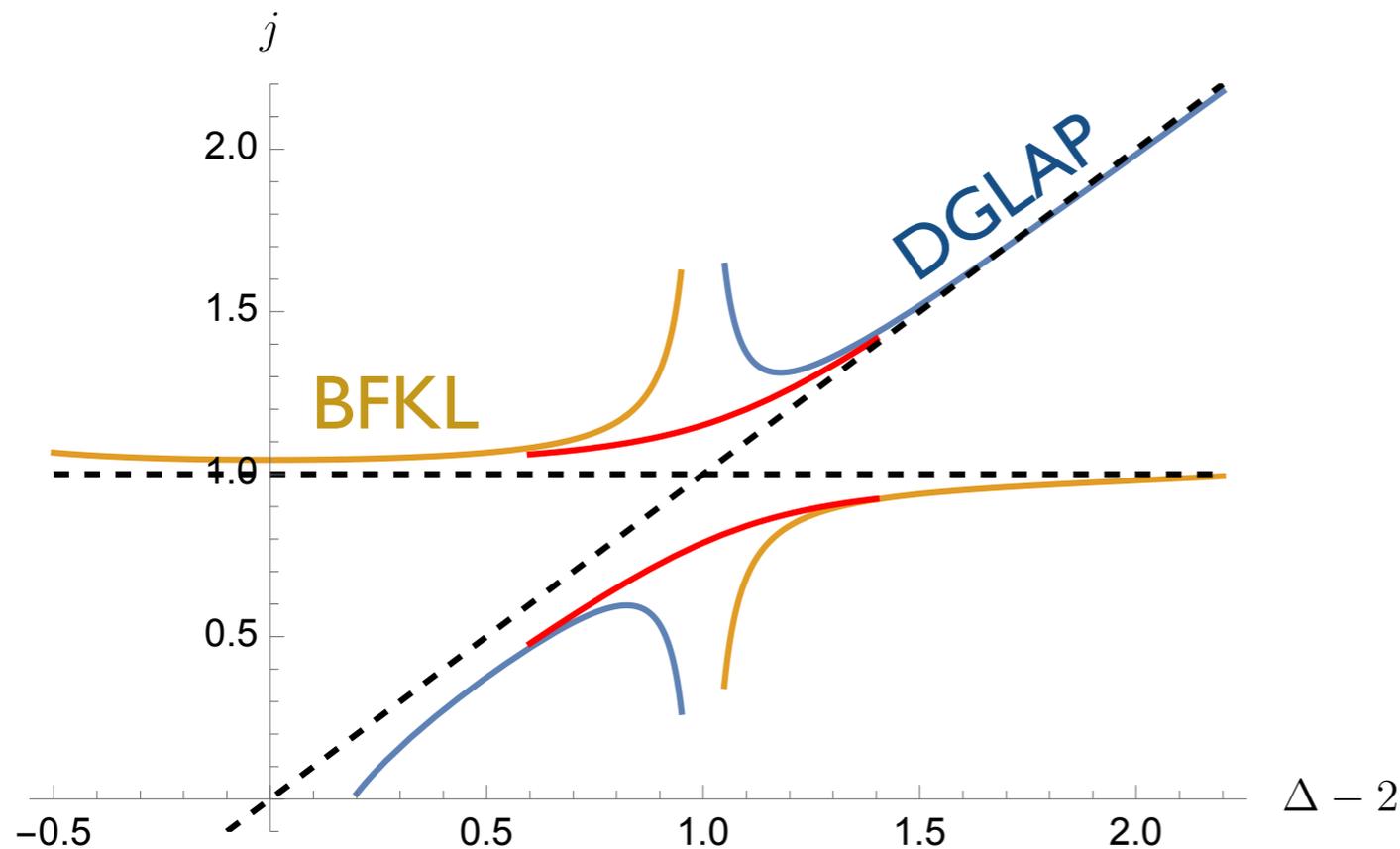


We could renormalize individual diagrams,  
but it is still an open problem how to **exponentiate** them.

# QCD

**DGLAP:** 
$$j = \Delta - 2 + 2 \frac{\alpha_s C_A}{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{(\Delta - 3)(\Delta - 2)} + \frac{2}{\Delta - 1} - H_\Delta + b_0 \right) + O(\alpha_s^2)$$

**BFKL:** 
$$j = 1 + \frac{\alpha_s C_A}{\pi} \left( 2\psi(1) - \psi\left(\frac{\Delta-1}{2}\right) - \psi\left(\frac{3-\Delta}{2}\right) \right) + O(\alpha_s^2)$$



**DGLAP-BFKL duality =  
curves meet analytically.**

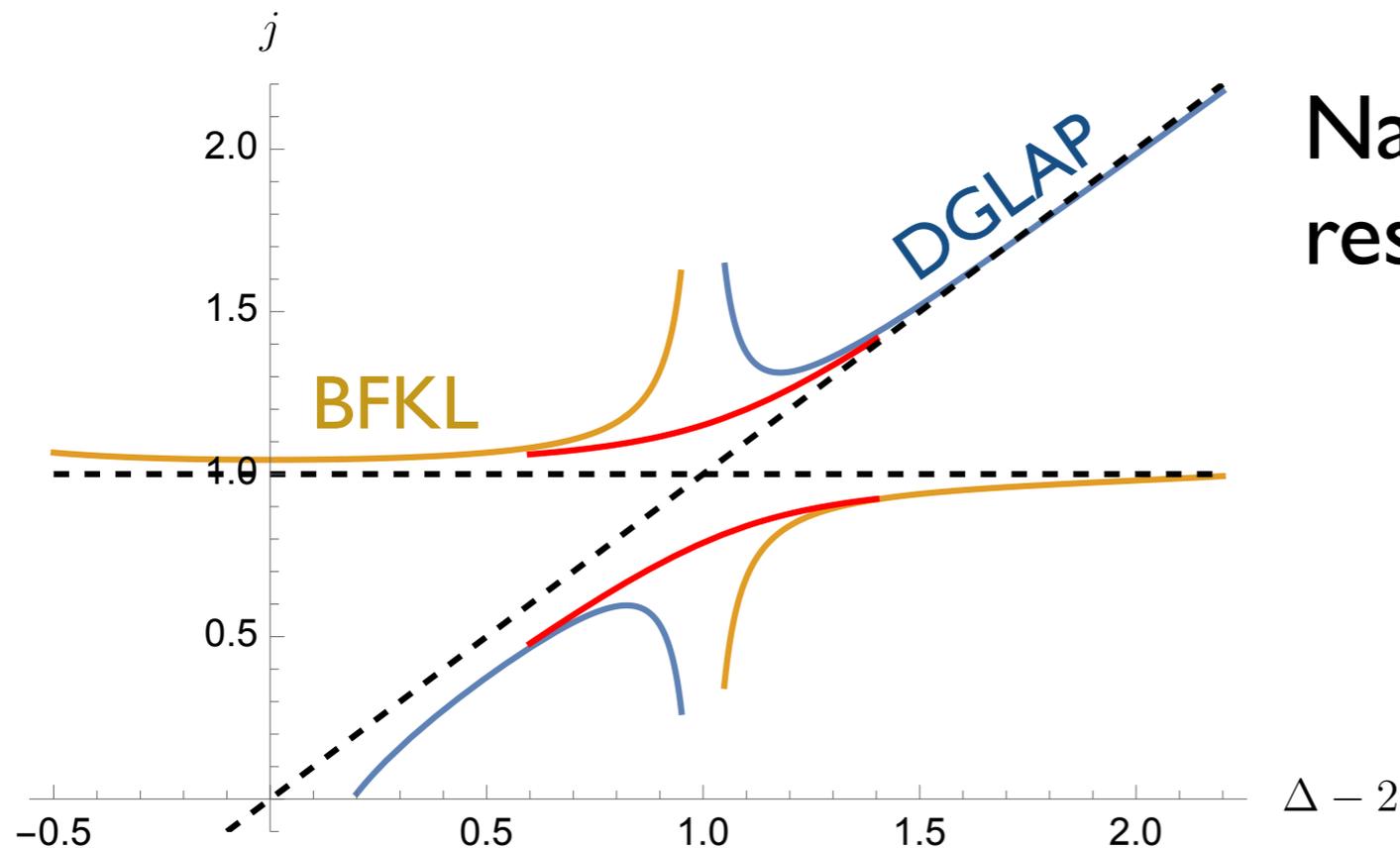
[Jaroszewicz '82; Salam '98; Brower, Polchinski, Strassler & Tan '06;  
Ball & Forte '07; Iancu, Madrigal, Mueller, Soyez & Triantafyllopoulos '15, ...]

In N=4 super Yang-Mills: [Kotikov, Lipatov, Rej, Staudacher & Velizhanin '07;  
Basso, SCH & Sever '14; Alfimov, Gromov & Kazakov '14; SCH & Herranen '16, ...]

# QCD

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Natural speculation: singularities resolved by 2x2 matrix

$$j - 1 \approx \begin{pmatrix} \Delta - 3 & 2\alpha_s C_A / \pi \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{\Delta - 3 \pm \sqrt{(\Delta - 3)^2 + 8\alpha_s C_A / \pi}}{2}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\pm 2\alpha_s C_A}{\pi |\Delta - 3|} + \dots \quad \text{matches leading poles}$$

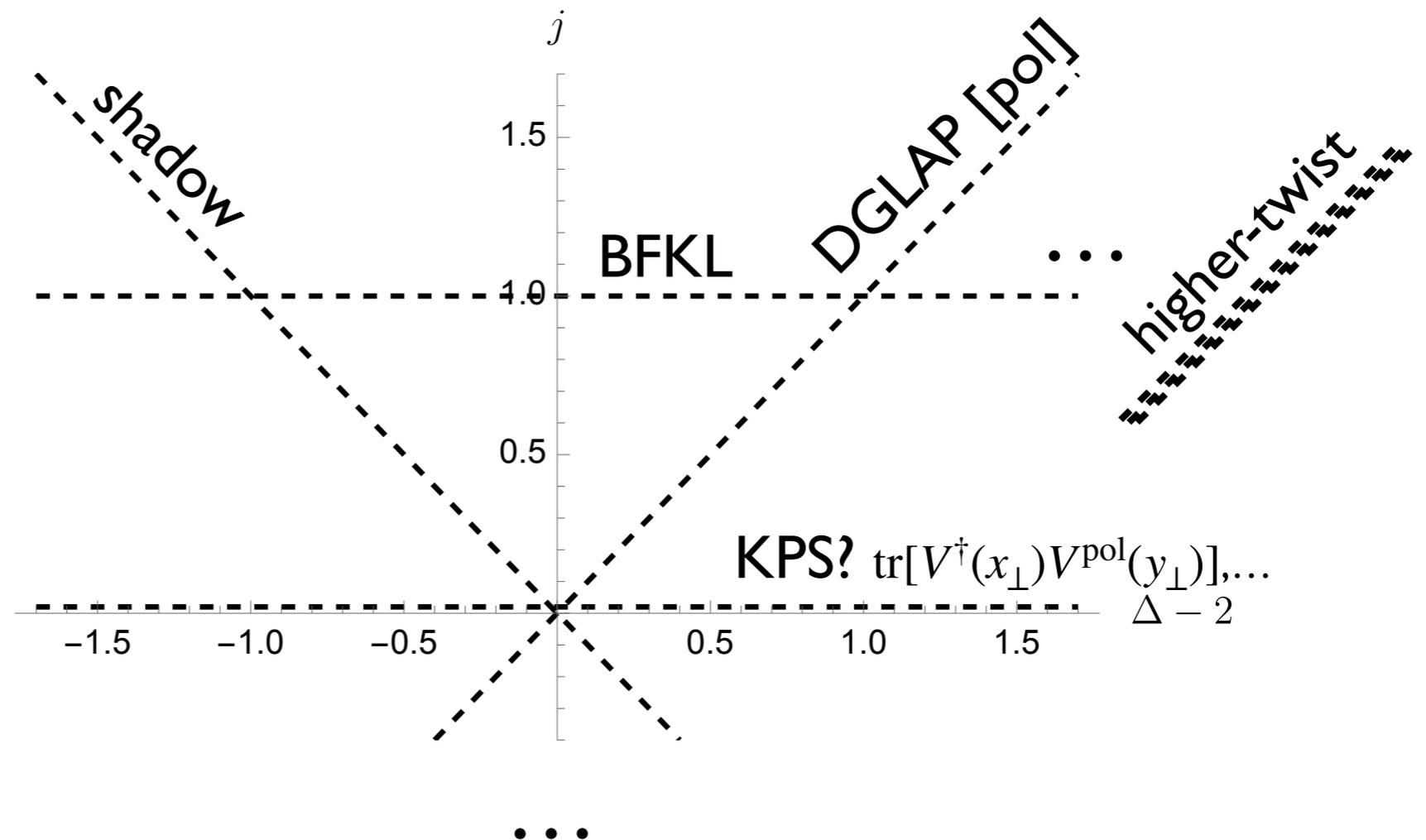
cf [Iancu, Madrigal, Mueller, Soyez & Triantafyllopoulos '15]

Q: Is ignoring lower branch a  $\sim x^{-\text{gap}}$  error?

# Some considered projects:

- Combine DGLAP with *nonlinear* BK into 2x2 matrix?
- Better understand evolution of subeikonal terms?

Free QCD:



# More potential projects:



Mathieu Giroux

- **$O(d-4)$  corrections to 2-loop BK or B-JIMWLK?**  
(=piece of 3-loop BK in spacelike-timelike correspondence, namely  $H_{\text{BK}}^{(3)} - H_{\text{NGL}}^{(3)}$  )
- **Impact factors, dijet cross-section...?**