

DIS dijet production in Background Field Approach

General formalism and methods

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in collaboration with Andrey Tarasov and Vladimir Skokov
[based on arXiv: 2603.08805]

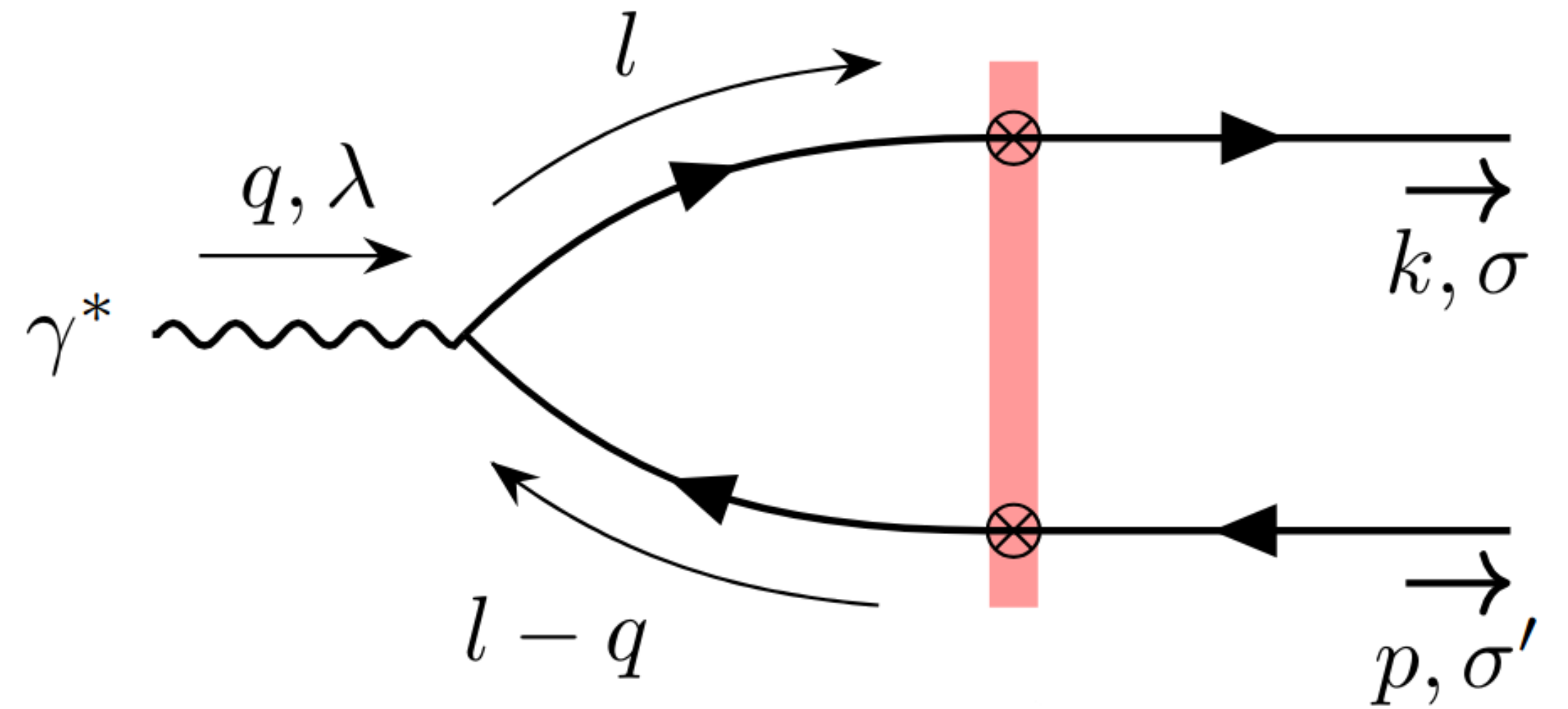


Content

- Motivation
- Background field formalism
- Quark propagator
- Projection onto different kinematic regimes
- A generalised eikonal cross-section
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Dijet Production in DIS

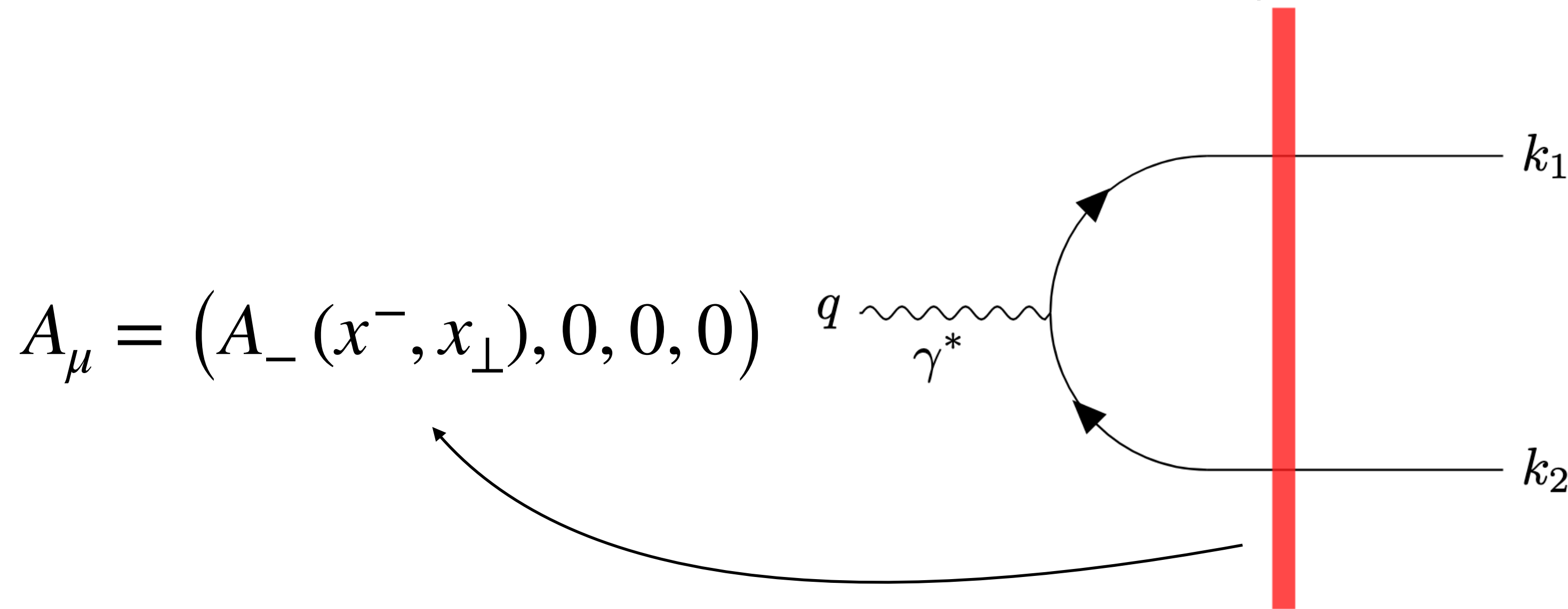
- Saturation at EIC: What are emergent properties of dense system of gluons?
- Dijet production is the most intensively discussed process for EIC Physics.
- Small $x \rightarrow$ the dipole picture of DIS.



Color Glass Condensate

Conventional eikonal approximation

- “Wrong” light-cone gauge condition : $A_+ = 0$



- Right-moving nucleus:

$$P^+ \gg P^-$$

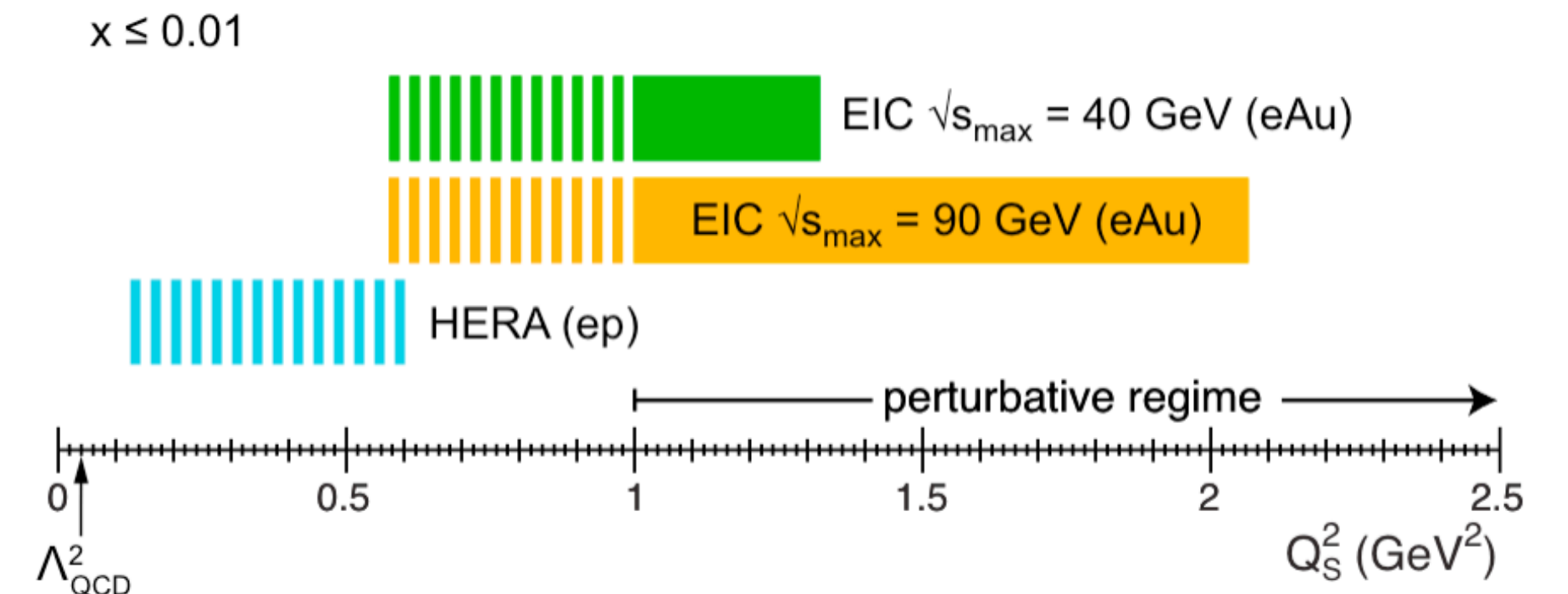
- Left moving electron:

$$q^+ \ll q^-$$

- Subeikonal corrections to the dijet production cross-section.

[Agostini, Altinoluk, Armesto, 2403.04603, Altinoluk, Beuf, Czayka, Tymowska, 2012.03886]

- A **generalised** eikonal prescription.



TMD factorisation

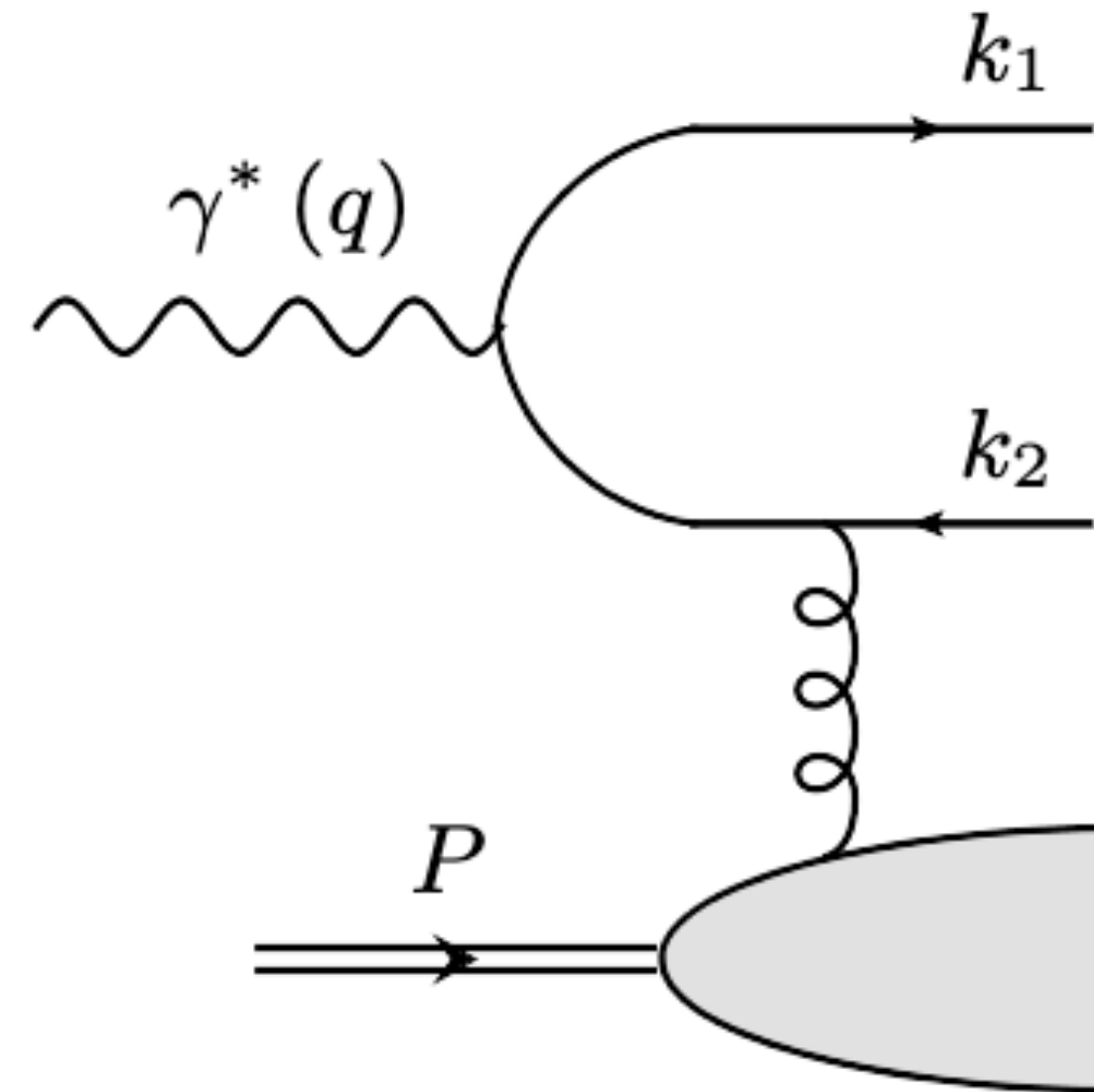
- Applicable at arbitrary- x .
- Back-to-back dijet configuration:

$$|\Delta_{\perp}| \ll |P_{\perp}|$$

- Expansion parameter:

$$\frac{\Delta_{\perp}}{P_{\perp}} \ll 1$$

- Cross-section factorises in terms of gluon TMD operators.



$$\Delta_{\perp} = k_{1\perp} + k_{2\perp}$$

$$P_{\perp} = \zeta k_{1\perp} - \bar{\zeta} k_{2\perp}$$

Why a new formalism?

| Approach | Strength | Limitation |
|----------|-------------|---|
| CGC | Small-x | Limited access to x-dependence |
| TMD | Arbitrary-x | Limited access to higher twist contribution |

Our Approach: Gauge covariant propagator reproducing the result of these two approaches

- A general formalism for connecting these approaches

Background Field Method

Our approach

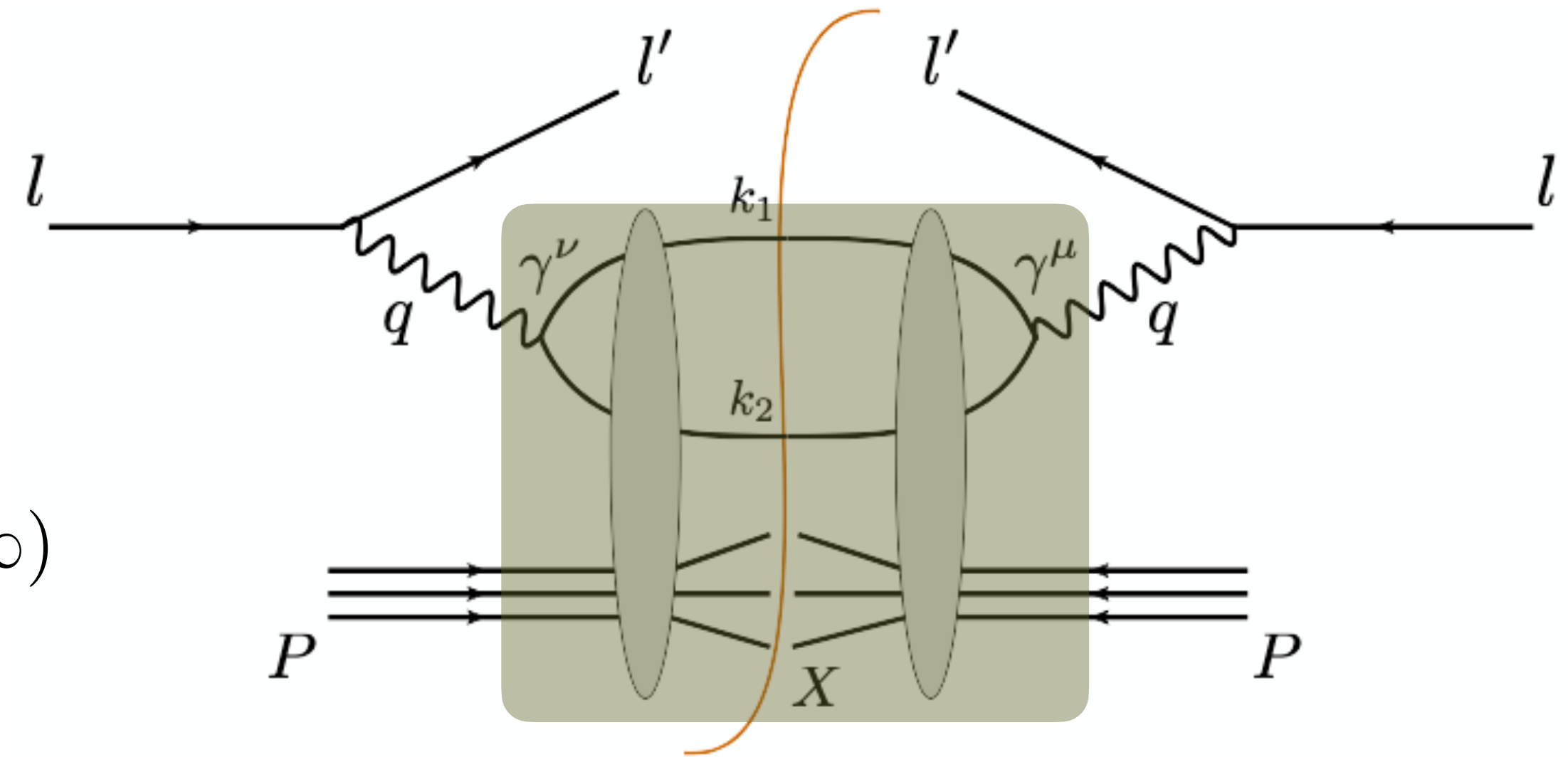
- In the cross-section:

$$\mathcal{W}^{\mu\nu} = \sum_X \langle P, S | \tilde{T} \{ \psi(x_2) j^\mu(x) \bar{\psi}(x_1) \} | X \rangle \langle X | T \{ \psi(y_1) j^\nu(y) \bar{\psi}(y_2) \} | p, S \rangle$$

$$= \mathcal{N}^{-1} \int \mathcal{D}C \int \mathcal{D}\tilde{C} \Psi_{P,S}^*(\vec{C}(t_i)) \tilde{\psi}(x_2) \tilde{j}^\mu(x) \tilde{\psi}(x_1)$$

$$\times \psi(y_1) j^\nu(y) \bar{\psi}(y_2) \Psi_{P,S}(\vec{C}(t_i)) e^{iS_{QCD}(C) - iS_{QCD}(\tilde{C})}$$

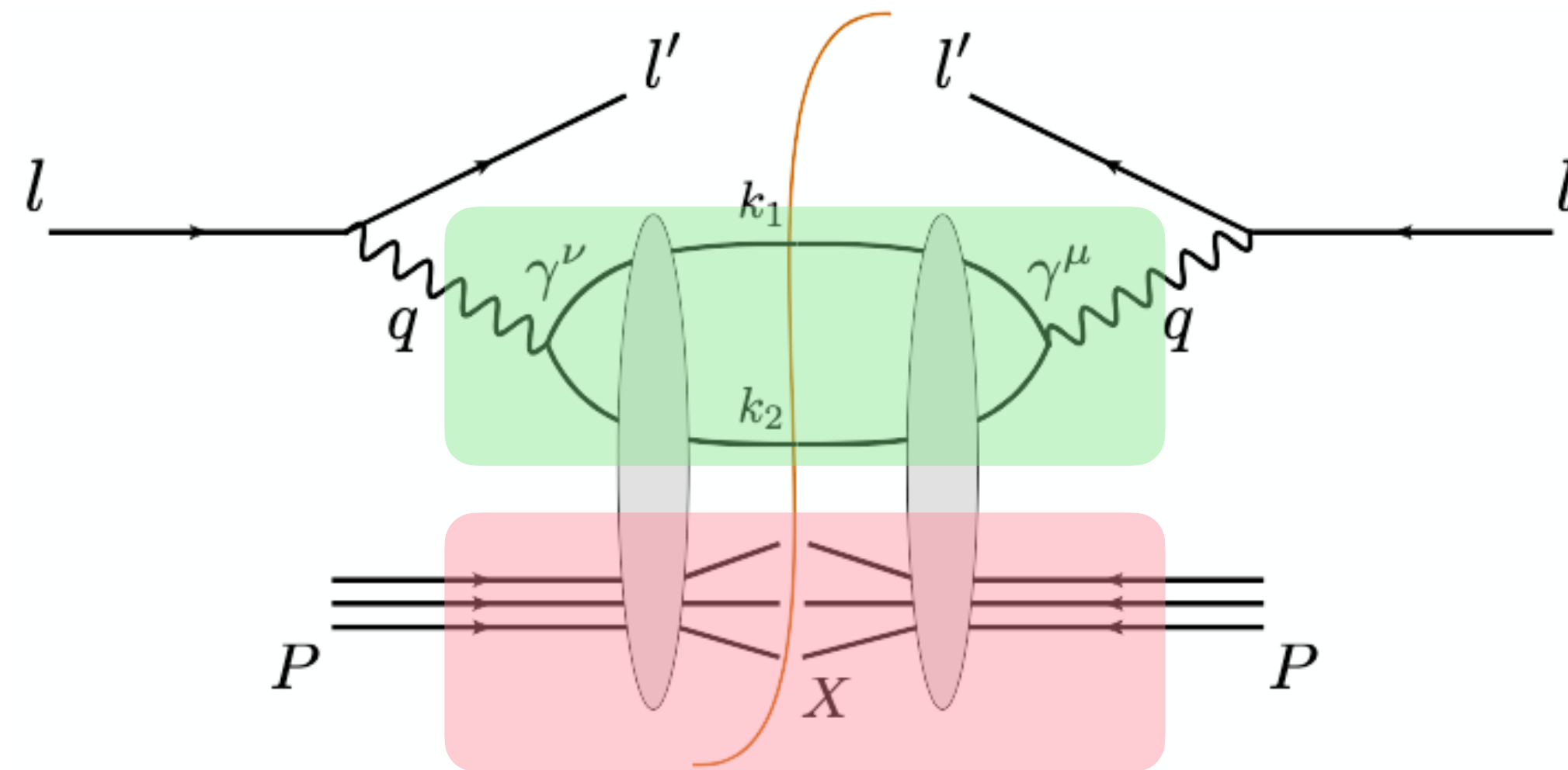
Boundary condition: $\tilde{C}(\vec{x}, t = \infty) = C(\vec{x}, t = \infty)$



- Fields can be decomposed into perturbative and non-perturbative parts.

$$C = A + B$$

Propagation of “quantum” particles A in background field B



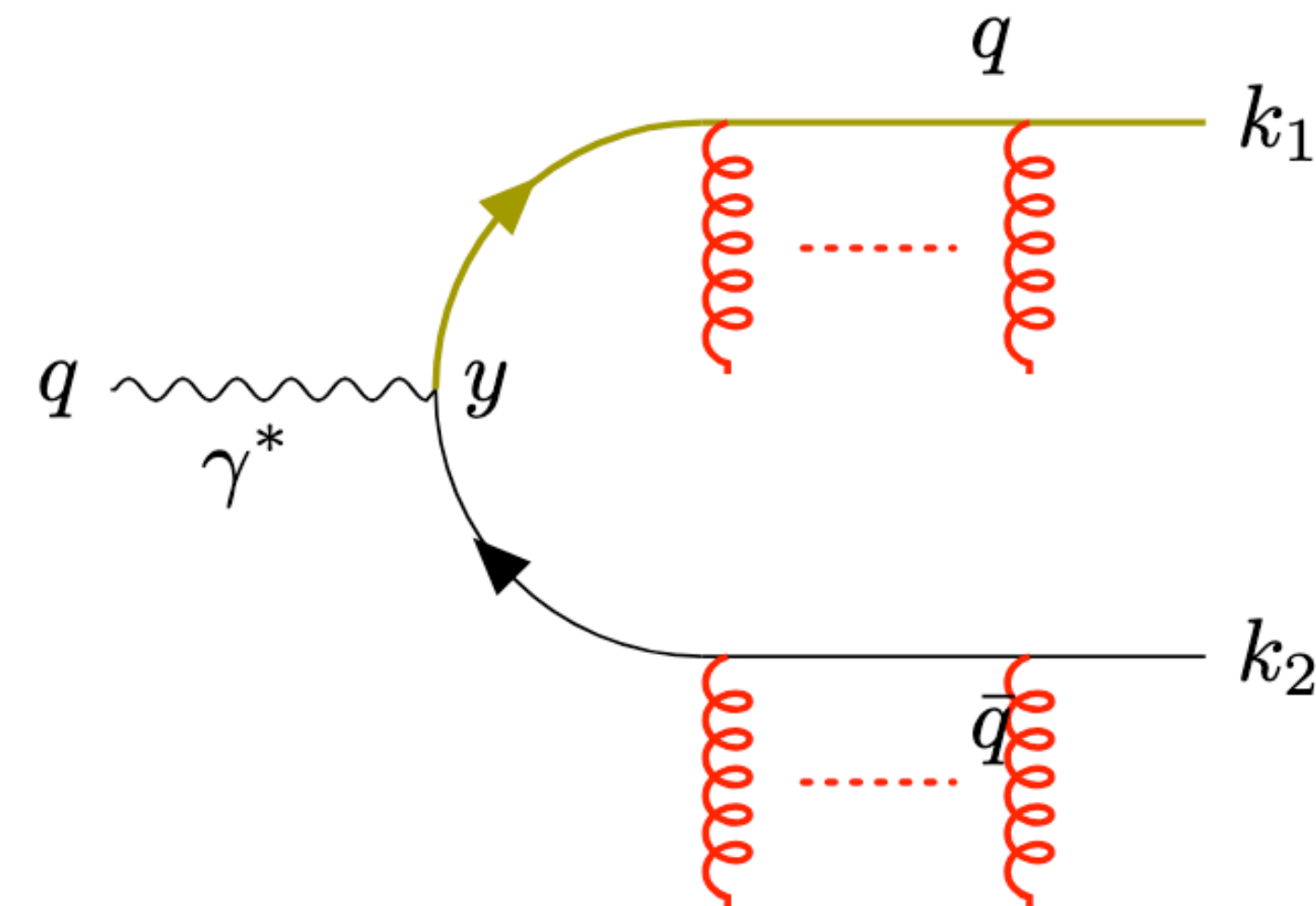
- Background QCD action: $S_{bg}(A, B) \equiv S_{QCD}(A + B) - S_{QCD}(B)$

Quark Propagator

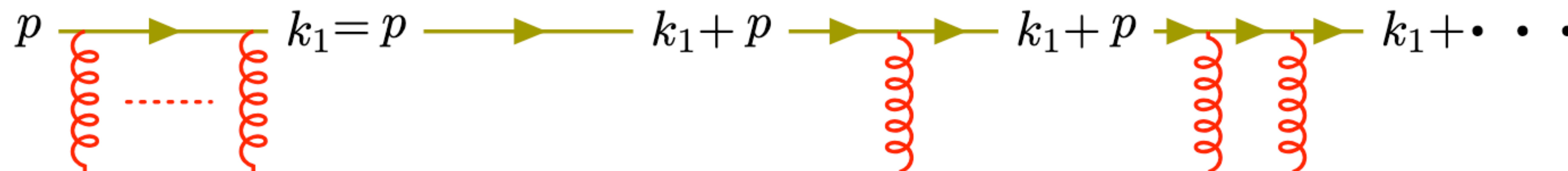
- The amplitude:

$$i\mathcal{M} = -ie \int d^4y \bar{u}(k_1) \not{k}_1 \underbrace{\left(\langle k_1 | \not{P} \frac{i}{\not{P}^2 + i\epsilon} | y \rangle \right)}_{\text{Quark propagator in the background field}} \gamma^\nu (y | \frac{i}{\not{P}^2 + i\epsilon} \not{P} | -k_2) \not{k}_2 v(k_2) \epsilon_\nu(q) e^{-iq \cdot y} \quad (B = 0)$$

Quark propagator in the background field



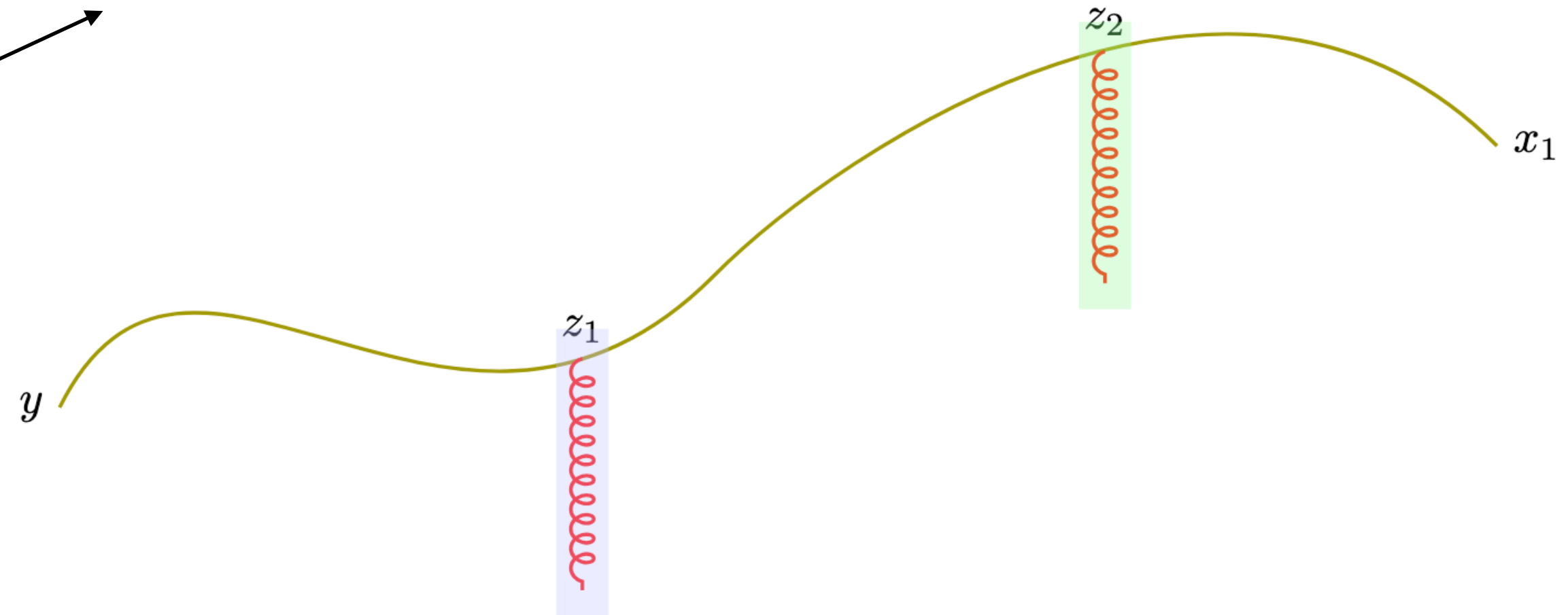
- Covariant momentum: $P_\mu = p_\mu + gB_\mu$



- The quark leg in background field:

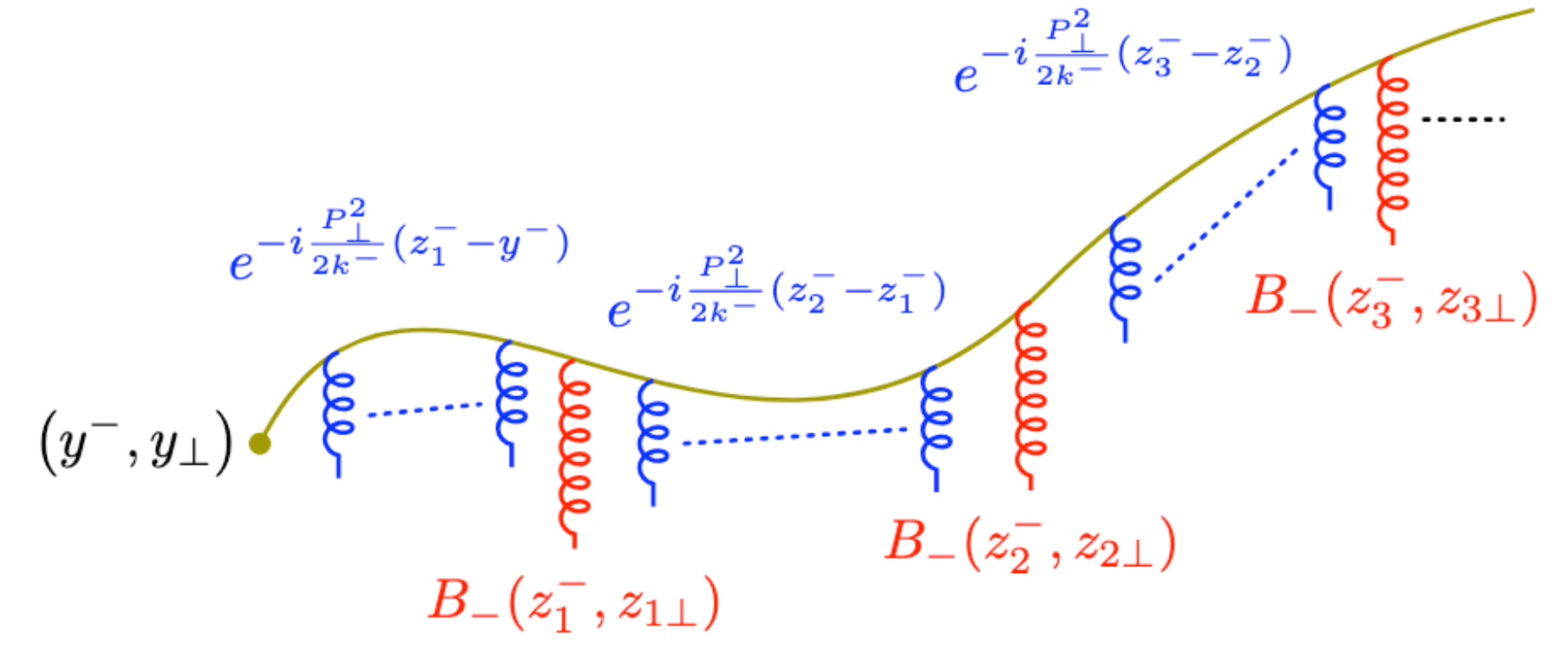
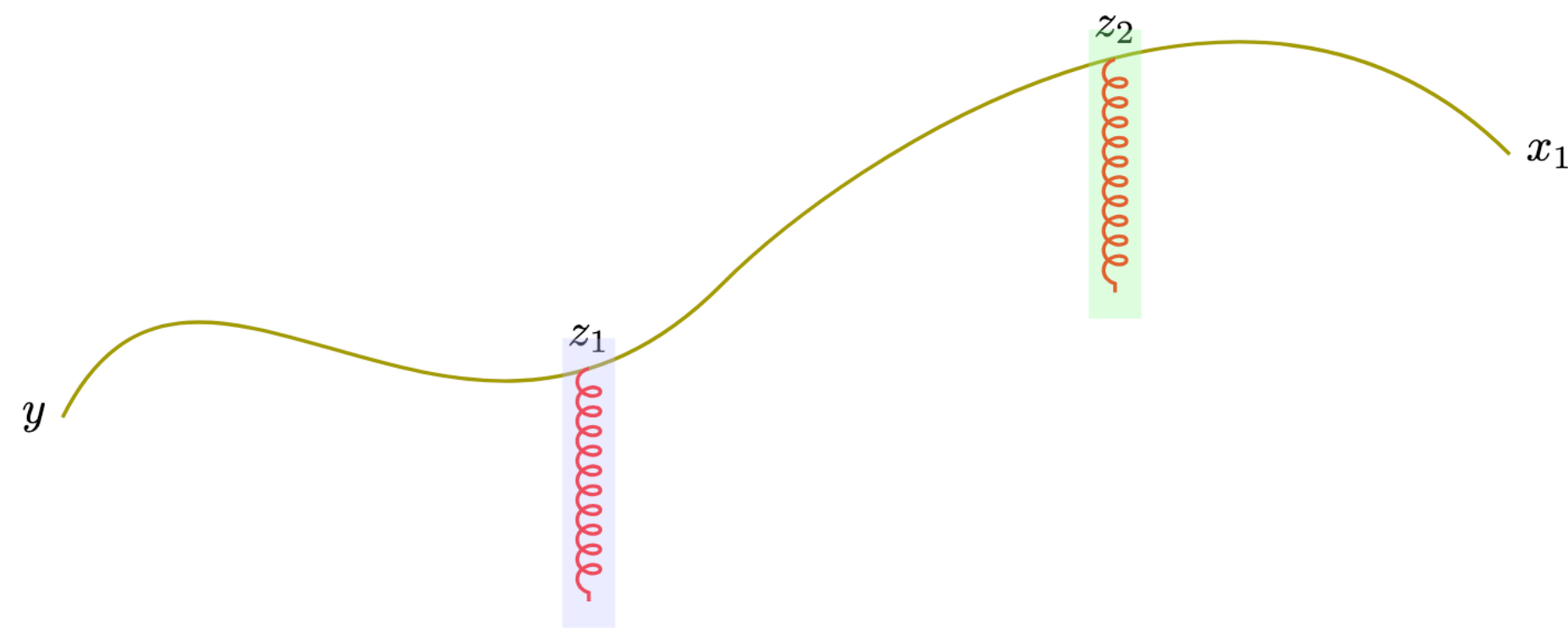
$$\bar{u}(k_1) \not{k}_1 (k_1 | \not{P} \frac{i}{\not{P}^2 + i\epsilon} | y) = \bar{u}(k_1) k_1^2 (k_1 | \frac{i}{P^2 + \frac{g}{2} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}} | y)$$

Pauli vertex: The fermionic factor
in the propagator.



$$k_1^2 (k_1 | \frac{1}{P^2 + \frac{g}{2} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}} | y) = k_1^2 (k_1 | \frac{1}{p^2} - \frac{1}{p^2} (g\{p^\mu, A_\mu\} + g^2 A^\mu A_\mu + \frac{g}{2} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}) \frac{1}{p^2} + \frac{1}{p^2} (g\{p^\mu, A_\mu\} + g^2 A^\mu A_\mu + \frac{g}{2} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}) \frac{1}{p^2} (g\{p^\mu, A_\mu\} + g^2 A^\mu A_\mu + \frac{g}{2} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}) \frac{1}{p^2} - \dots | y)$$

$$k_1^2(k_1 | \frac{1}{P^2 + \frac{g}{2}\sigma^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu}} | y) = k_1^2(k_1 | \frac{1}{p^2} - \frac{1}{p^2} (g\{p^\mu, A_\mu\} + g^2 A^\mu A_\mu + \frac{g}{2}\sigma^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu}) \frac{1}{p^2} + \frac{1}{p^2} (g\{p^\mu, A_\mu\} + g^2 A^\mu A_\mu + \frac{g}{2}\sigma^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu}) \frac{1}{p^2} (g\{p^\mu, A_\mu\} + g^2 A^\mu A_\mu + \frac{g}{2}\sigma^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu}) \frac{1}{p^2} - \dots | y)$$



$$\lim_{k^2 \rightarrow 0} k^2(k | \frac{1}{P^2 + \frac{g}{2}\sigma^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} + i\epsilon} | y) = \lim_{k^2 \rightarrow 0} (k_\perp | \theta(k^-) \mathcal{P} \exp \left\{ i \int_{y^-}^{\infty} dz^- \left(e^{i \frac{P_\perp^2}{2p^-} z^-} \left(iD_- + \frac{g}{4p^-} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \right) \times e^{-i \frac{P_\perp^2}{2p^-} z^-} - \frac{P_\perp^2(z^-)}{2p^-} \right) \right\} e^{i \frac{P_\perp^2}{2k^-} y^-} | y_\perp) e^{ik^- y^+}$$

Boundary condition:

$$\lim_{z^- \rightarrow \infty} B_\mu(z^-) = 0$$

- **Gauge-covariant propagator:** Starting point for our approach
- What is the role of those transverse exponentials?

Bare Propagator

- Vacuum propagator:

$$(x | \frac{1}{p^2 + i\epsilon} | y) \Big|_{x^- > y^-} = \frac{-i}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{dp^-}{2p^-} e^{-ip^-(x^+ - y^+)} (x_\perp | e^{-i \frac{p_\perp^2}{2p^-} (x^- - y^-)} | y_\perp)$$

- Without transverse propagator:

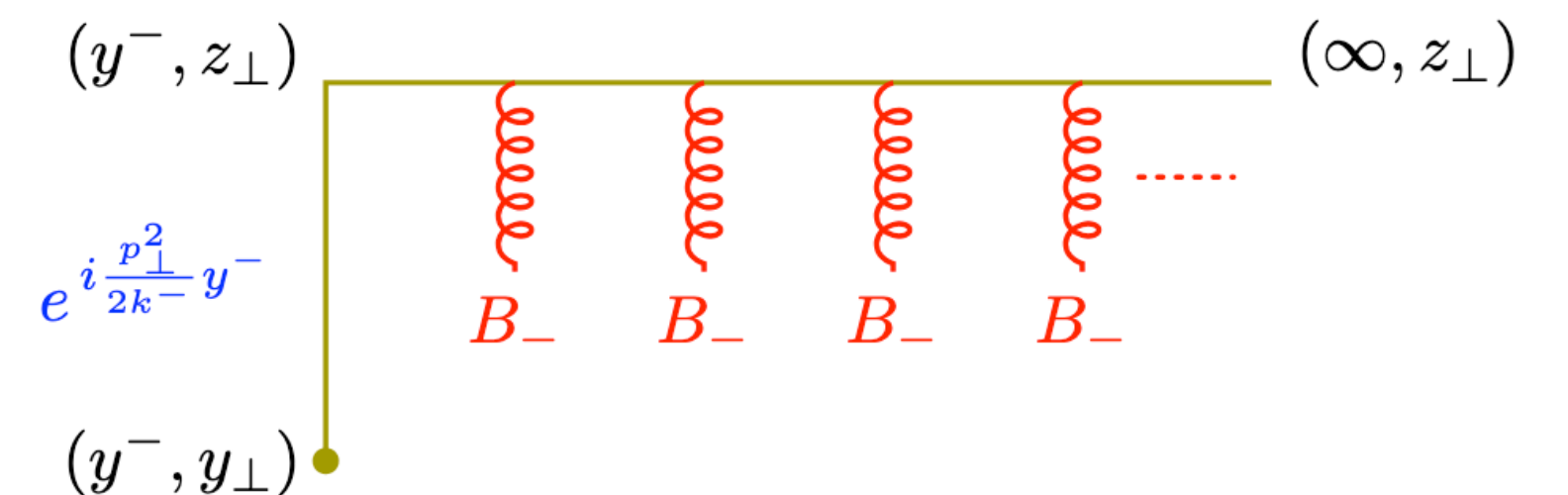
$$(x_\perp | y_\perp) = \delta^{(2)}(x_\perp - y_\perp)$$

Dictates the shift in transverse position from y_\perp to x_\perp

- Scalar propagator:

$B_i = 0$ & neglecting the exponentials with z^-

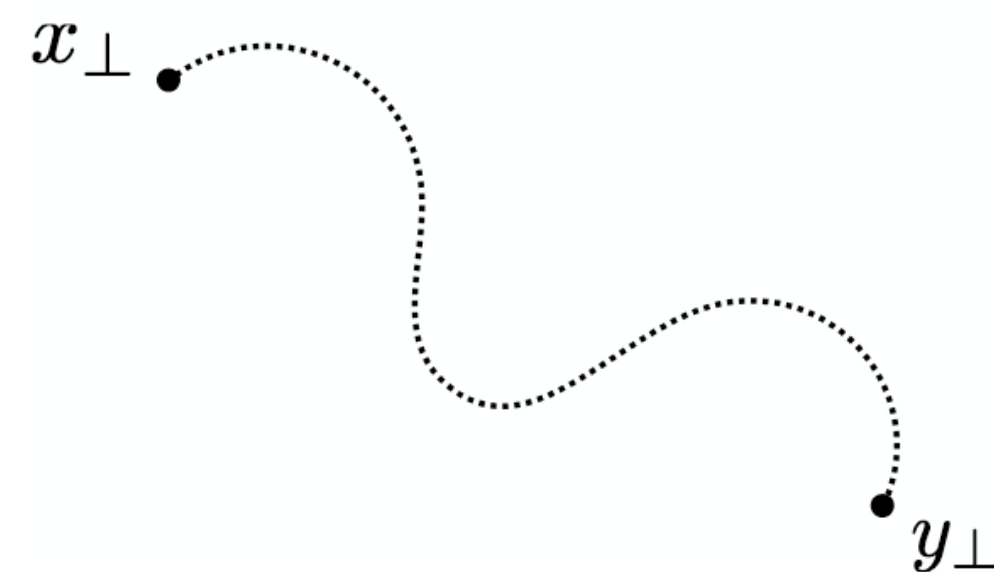
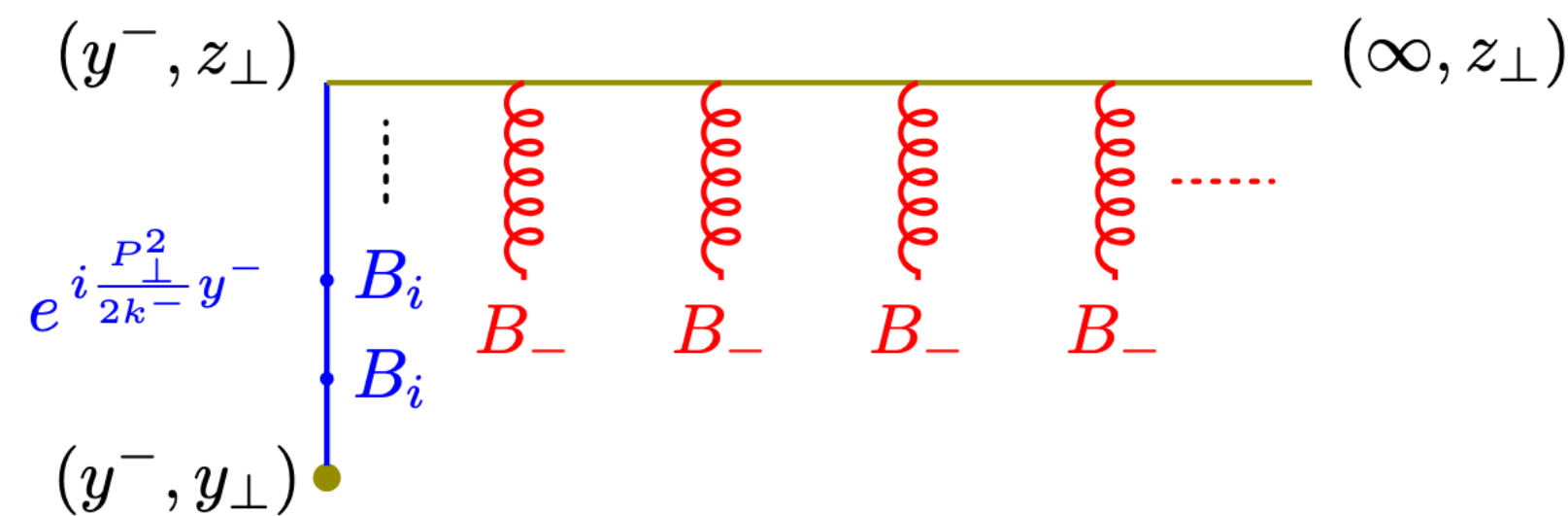
$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{k^2 \rightarrow 0} k^2 (k | \frac{1}{P^2 + i\epsilon} | y) \Big|_{B_i=0; k^- > 0} \\ & \approx \lim_{k^2 \rightarrow 0} \int d^2 z_\perp e^{-ik_\perp z_\perp} U(\infty, y^-; z_\perp) \\ & \times (z_\perp | e^{i \frac{p_\perp^2}{2k^-} y^-} | y_\perp) e^{ik^- y^+} \end{aligned}$$



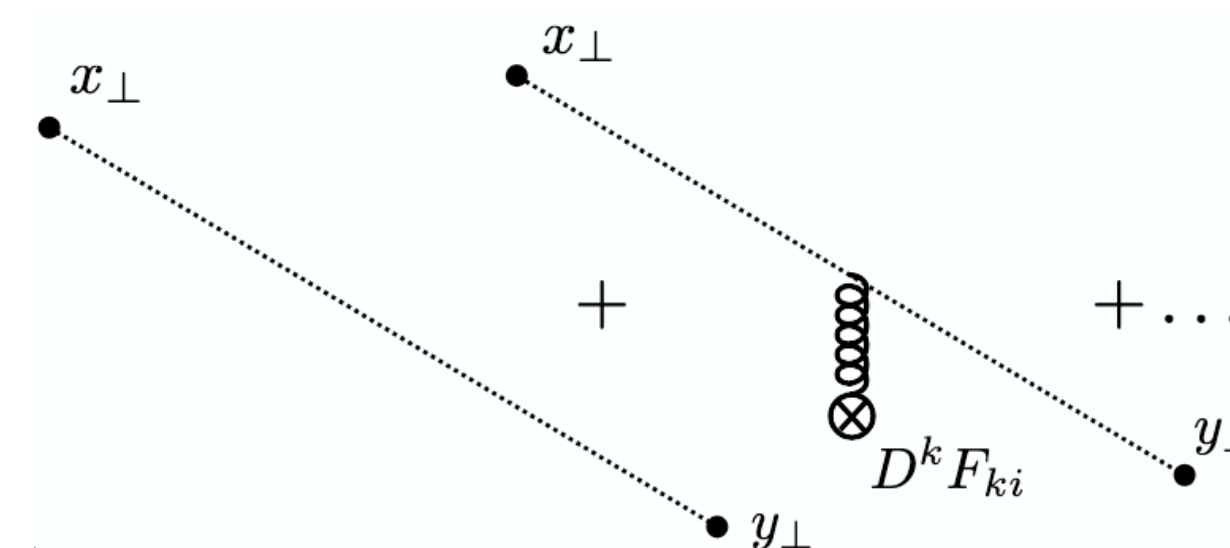
Transverse Gauge Link

- For non-vanishing B_i :

$$(x_{\perp} | e^{i \frac{P_{\perp}^2}{2k^-} z^-} | y_{\perp})$$



.....▶
Linear Parametrization



$$(x_{\perp} | e^{isP_{\perp}^2} | y_{\perp}) = (x_{\perp} | e^{isp_{\perp}^2} | y_{\perp}) \left\{ U(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) + s \int_0^1 du u \bar{u} (x - y)^k U(x_{\perp}, \xi_u) D_m F_{mk}(\xi_u) U(\xi_u, y_{\perp}) \right. \\ \left. + 2is \int_0^1 du \bar{u} \int_0^u dv v (x - y)^k (x - y)^m U(x_{\perp}, \xi_u) F_{ks}(\xi_u) U(\xi_u, \xi_v) F_{ms}(\xi_v) U(\xi_v, y_{\perp}) + \dots \right\}$$

[Balitsky, Braun, Nucl. Phys. B, 311:541–584, 1989]

- Not just a transverse Wilson line!

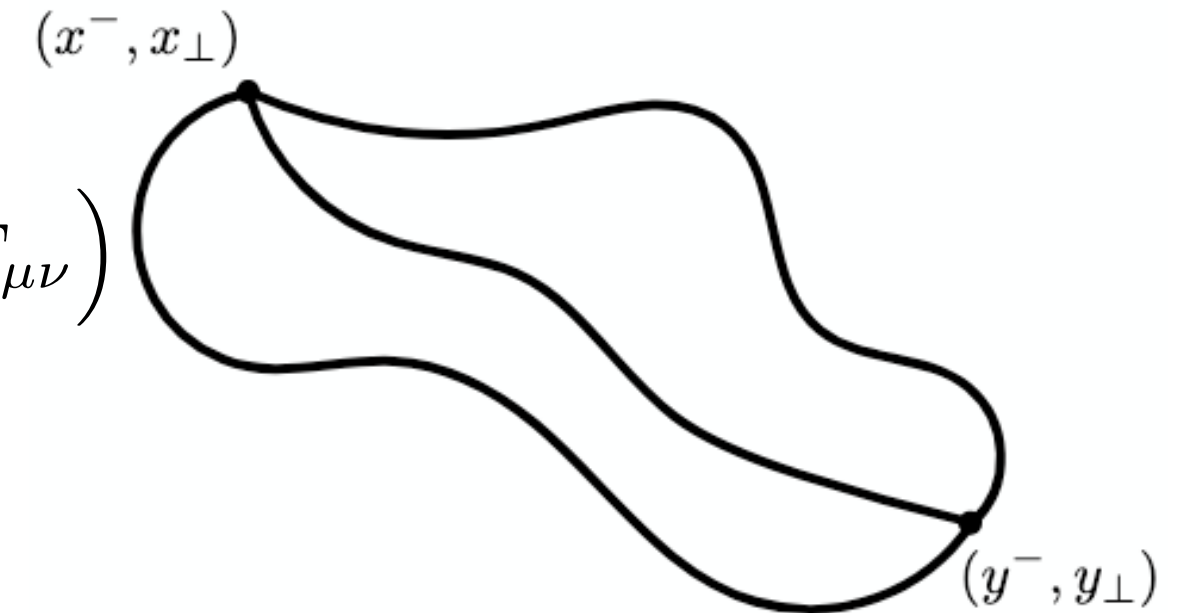
Contour Projections

Dictionary for switching different kinematic regimes

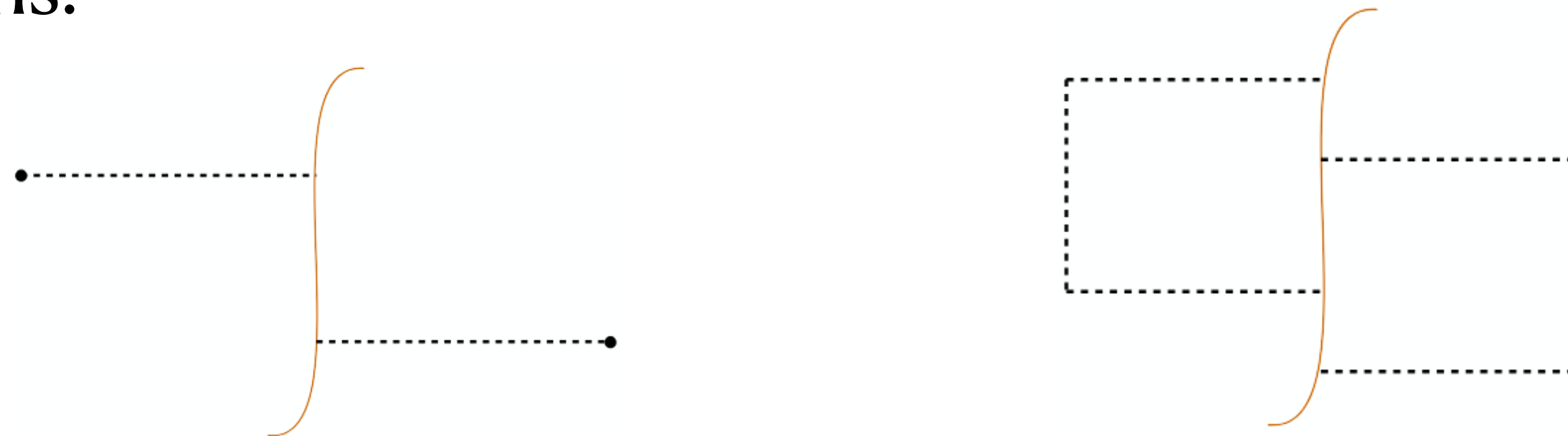
- The path ordered exponential describes propagation of the quantum partons along arbitrary path.

$$\lim_{k^2 \rightarrow 0} k^2 \langle k | \frac{1}{P^2 + \frac{g}{2} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} + i\epsilon} | y \rangle = \lim_{k^2 \rightarrow 0} \langle k_{\perp} | \theta(k^-) \mathcal{P} \exp \left\{ i \int_{y^-}^{\infty} dz^- \left(e^{i \frac{P_{\perp}^2(z^-)}{2p^-} z^-} \left(iD_- + \frac{g}{4p^-} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \right) \right. \right.$$

$$\left. \times e^{-i \frac{P_{\perp}^2(z^-)}{2p^-} z^- - \frac{P_{\perp}^2(z^-)}{2p^-}} \right\} e^{i \frac{P_{\perp}^2(y^-)}{2k^-} y^-} | y_{\perp} \rangle e^{ik^- y^+}$$

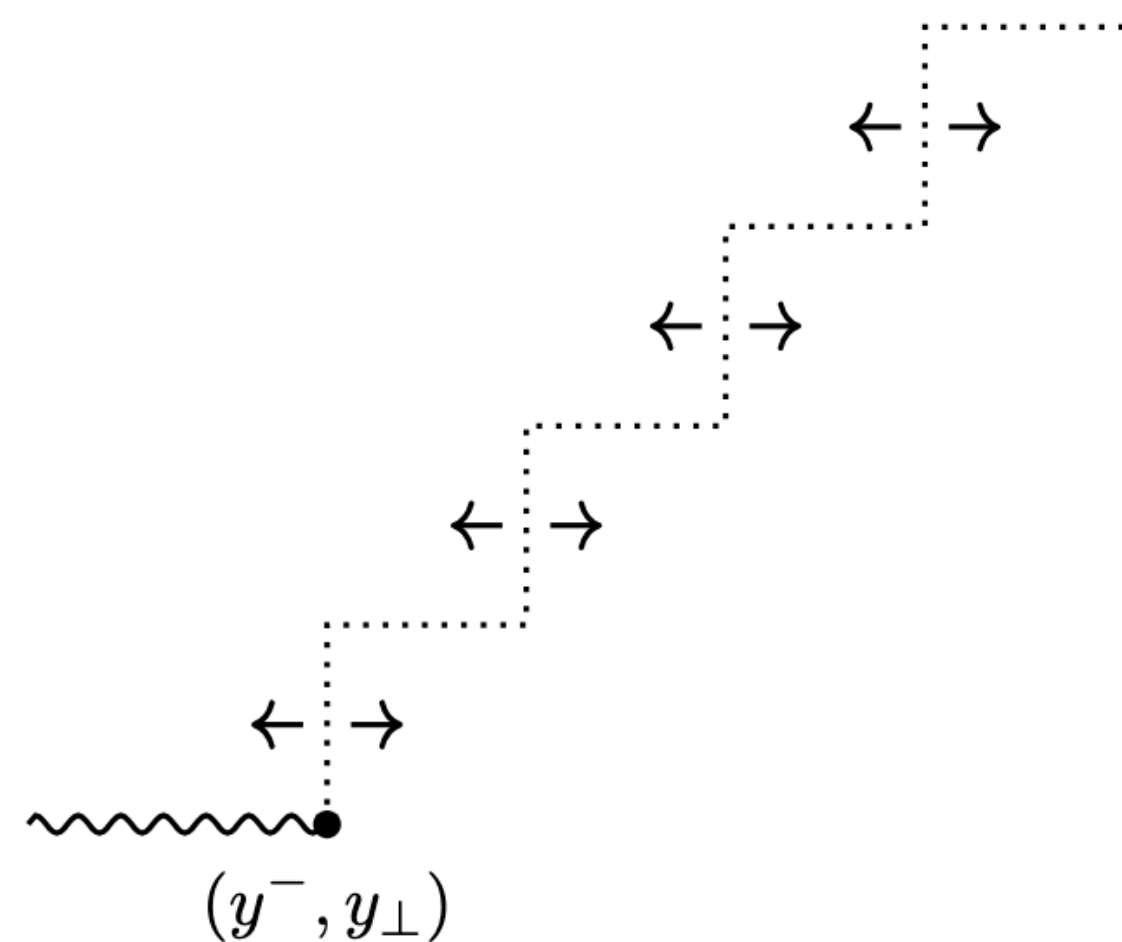


- In order to study different kinematic regimes we need to expand this exponential onto certain paths.



Procedure of the Contour Expansion

- A 2-step process.
 1. Expansion of the exponential.
 2. Commuting the background field operators to the desired transverse position.



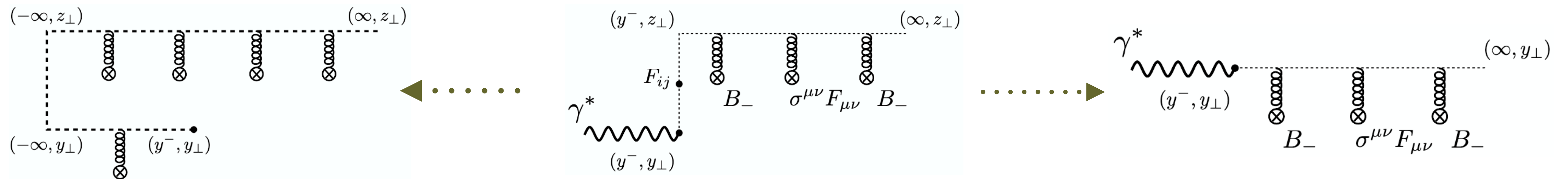
$$\begin{aligned}
 & e^{-i\frac{P_{\perp}^2(x^-)}{2p^-}x^-} \mathcal{P} \exp \left\{ i \int_{y^-}^{x^-} dz^- \left(e^{i\frac{P_{\perp}^2(z^-)}{2p^-}z^-} \left(iD_- + \frac{g}{4p^-} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \right) e^{-i\frac{P_{\perp}^2(z^-)}{2p^-}z^-} - \frac{P_{\perp}^2(z^-)}{2p^-} \right) \right\} e^{i\frac{P_{\perp}^2(y^-)}{2p^-}y^-} \\
 &= e^{-i\frac{P_{\perp}^2(x^-)}{2p^-}(x^- - \xi^-)} \mathcal{P} \exp \left\{ i \int_{y^-}^{x^-} dz^- \left(e^{i\frac{P_{\perp}^2(z^-)}{2p^-}(z^- - \xi^-)} \left(iD_- + \frac{g}{4p^-} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \right) e^{-i\frac{P_{\perp}^2(z^-)}{2p^-}(z^- - \xi^-)} - \frac{P_{\perp}^2(z^-)}{2p^-} \right) \right\} \\
 &\times e^{i\frac{P_{\perp}^2(y^-)}{2p^-}(y^- - \xi^-)}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Propagator remains gauge covariant after shifting transverse exponential.

- The transverse exponential at a finite z^- implies infinite number of operator insertions.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (x_\perp | e^{isP_\perp^2} | y_\perp) &= (x_\perp | e^{isp_\perp^2} | y_\perp) \left\{ U(x_\perp, y_\perp) + s \int_0^1 du u \bar{u} (x - y)^k U(x_\perp, \xi_u) D_m F_{mk}(\xi_u) U(\xi_u, y_\perp) \right. \\
 &+ 2is \int_0^1 du \bar{u} \int_0^u dv v (x - y)^k (x - y)^m U(x_\perp, \xi_u) F_{ks}(\xi_u) U(\xi_u, \xi_v) F_{ms}(\xi_v) U(\xi_v, y_\perp) + \dots \left. \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

- The fields are pure gauge at $z^- = \pm \infty$. \Longrightarrow Shift the transverse phase at $\pm \infty$.



- What is the correct way of expansion?

Background Field

Power-counting in the high energy limit

- For a nucleus boosted along x^+ direction with boost parameter λ :

$$B_-(x^+, x^-, x_\perp) \sim \lambda \tilde{B}_-(\lambda^{-1} x^+, \lambda x^-, x_\perp);$$

$$B_i(x^+, x^-, x_\perp) \sim \tilde{B}_i(\lambda^{-1} x^+, \lambda x^-, x_\perp);$$

$$B_+(x^+, x^-, x_\perp) \sim \lambda^{-1} \tilde{B}_+(\lambda^{-1} x^+, \lambda x^-, x_\perp)$$



$$F_{-i}(x^+, x^-, x_\perp) \sim \lambda \tilde{F}_{-i}(\lambda^{-1} x^+, \lambda x^-, x_\perp) ;$$

$$F_{-+}(x^+, x^-, x_\perp) \sim \tilde{F}_{-+}(\lambda^{-1} x^+, \lambda x^-, x_\perp);$$

$$F_{ij}(x^+, x^-, x_\perp) \sim \tilde{F}_{ij}(\lambda^{-1} x^+, \lambda x^-, x_\perp);$$

$$F_{+i}(x^+, x^-, x_\perp) \sim \lambda^{-1} \tilde{F}_{+i}(\lambda^{-1} x^+, \lambda x^-, x_\perp)$$

- An example: Implementing the power-counting

$$\int \underbrace{dz^-}_{\sim \lambda^{-1}} \frac{1}{2k_1^-} \sigma^{-i} \underbrace{F_{-i}}_{\sim \lambda} \sim \lambda^0$$

$$U(x^-, y^-) \underset{\sim \lambda^0}{=} 1 + i \int_{y^-}^{x^-} dz^- A_-(z^-) + i^2 \int_{y^-}^{x^-} dz_1^- A_-(z_1^-) \int_{y^-}^{z_1^-} dz_2^- A_-(z_2^-) + \dots$$

- The quark propagator:

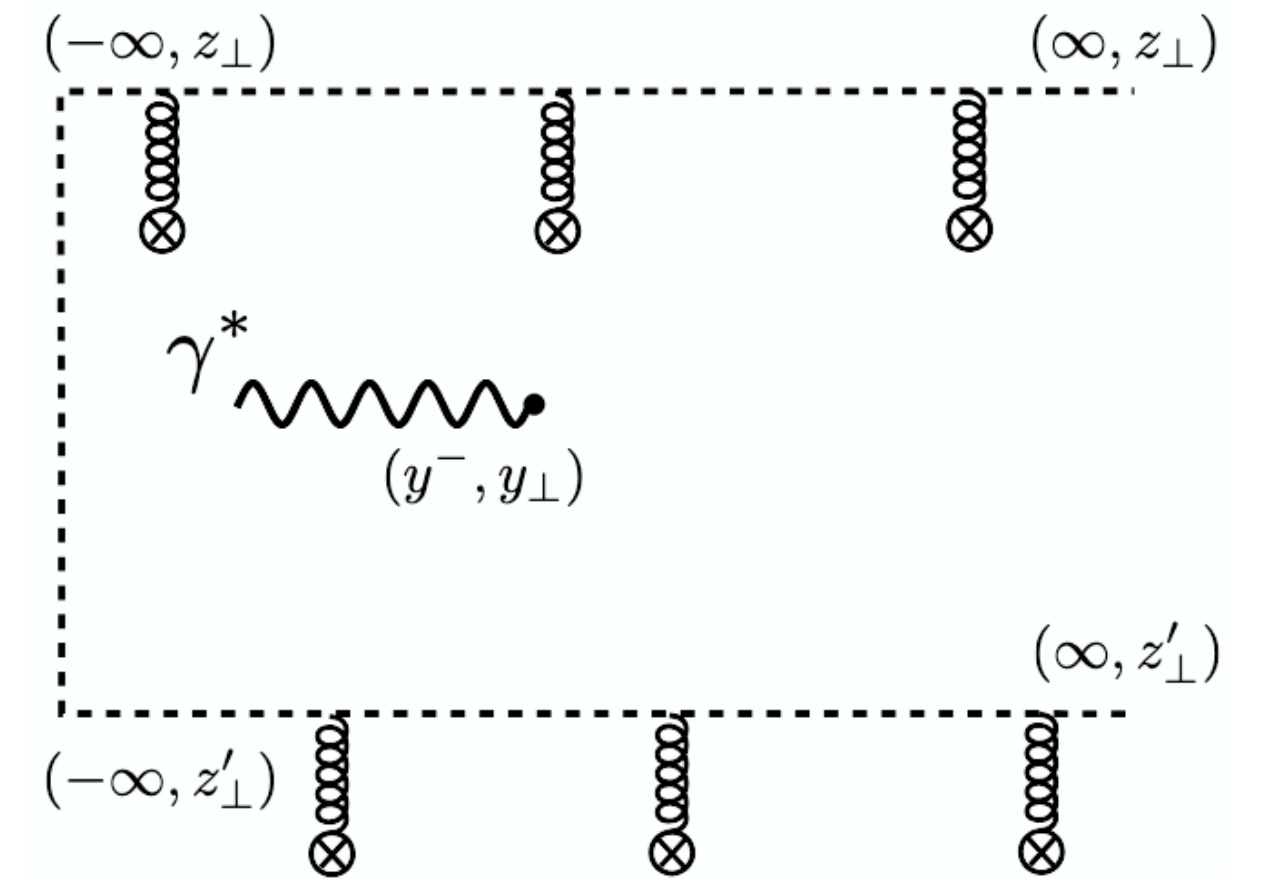
$$\lim_{k^2 \rightarrow 0} k^2 \left(k \left| \frac{1}{P^2 + \frac{g}{2} \sigma^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} + i\epsilon} \right| y \right) = \lim_{k^2 \rightarrow 0} \int d^2 z_{\perp} \left(\theta(y^-) e^{i \frac{k_{1\perp}^2}{2k_1^-} y^-} e^{-ik_{1\perp} y_{\perp}} U(\infty, y^-; y_{\perp}) + \theta(-y^-) \int d^2 z_{\perp} e^{-ik_{1\perp} y_{\perp}} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{ig}{2p^-} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz^- U(\infty, z^-; z_{\perp}) \sigma^{-k} F_{-k}(z^-, z_{\perp}) U(z^-, -\infty; z_{\perp}) \right) (z_{\perp} | e^{i \frac{P_{\perp}^2(-\infty)}{2k_1^-} y^-} | y_{\perp}) U(-\infty, y^-; y_{\perp}) \Big) e^{ik^- y^+}$$

- The first term in the expansion of the z^- exponential remains.

- $dz^- F_{-i} \sim \lambda^0$

- The Eikonal amplitude:

$$iM_{s_1, s_2}^{\nu} (q, k_1, k_2) \Big|_{\text{eik.}} = \delta(q^- - k_1^- - k_2^-) 2z\bar{z}q^- \int d^2 z_{\perp} e^{-ik_{1\perp} z_{\perp}} \int d^2 z'_{\perp} e^{-ik_{2\perp} z'_{\perp}} \\ \times \bar{u}_{s_1}(k_1) \left\{ \left(-i\gamma^{\nu} + \frac{k_{1m}}{2k_1^-} \sigma^{-m} \gamma^{\nu} - \frac{k_{2m}}{2k_2^-} \gamma^{\nu} \sigma^{-m} \right) K_0(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} |z_{\perp} - z'_{\perp}|) - i\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} \left(\frac{\sigma^{-m} \gamma^{\nu}}{2k_1^-} \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \frac{\gamma^{\nu} \sigma^{-m}}{2k_2^-} \right) \frac{z_m - z'_m}{|z_{\perp} - z'_{\perp}|} K_1(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} |z_{\perp} - z'_{\perp}|) \right\} v_{s_2}(k_2) \left(U(\infty, -\infty; z_{\perp}) \right. \\ \left. U(z_{\perp}, z'_{\perp}; -\infty) U(-\infty, \infty; z'_{\perp}) - 1 \right)$$



Generalised eikonal cross-section

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\sigma_{00}^{\gamma^* p} \Big|_{\text{eik.}} &= \sum_f \frac{2\pi e_f^2 \alpha_{\text{EM}} x}{V_3 Q^2} \left(\frac{Q}{q^-}\right)^2 \frac{dk_1^- d^2 k_{1\perp}}{(2\pi)^3 2k_1^-} \Big|_{k_1^2=0} \frac{dk_2^- d^2 k_{2\perp}}{(2\pi)^3 2k_2^-} \Big|_{k_2^2=0} \delta(q^- - k_1^- - k_2^-) 32z^3 \bar{z}^3 (q^-)^4 \\
 &\times \int d^2 \omega_\perp e^{ik_{1\perp} \omega_\perp} \int d^2 \omega'_\perp e^{ik_{2\perp} \omega'_\perp} K_0(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} |\omega_\perp - \omega'_\perp|) \int d^2 z_\perp e^{-ik_{1\perp} z_\perp} \int d^2 z'_\perp e^{-ik_{2\perp} z'_\perp} \\
 &\times K_0(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} |z_\perp - z'_\perp|) \mathcal{U}(z_\perp, z'_\perp; \omega_\perp, \omega'_\perp)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\sigma_{\lambda=\pm 1 \lambda'=\pm 1}^{\gamma^* p} \Big|_{\text{eik.}} &= \sum_f \frac{2\pi e_f^2 \alpha_{\text{EM}} x}{V_3} \frac{dk_1^- d^2 k_{1\perp}}{(2\pi)^3 2k_1^-} \Big|_{k_1^2=0} \frac{dk_2^- d^2 k_{2\perp}}{(2\pi)^3 2k_2^-} \Big|_{k_2^2=0} \\
 &\times \delta(q^- - k_1^- - k_2^-) 8(q^-)^2 z^2 \bar{z}^2 \int d^2 \omega_\perp e^{ik_{1\perp} \omega_\perp} \int d^2 \omega'_\perp e^{ik_{2\perp} \omega'_\perp} K_1(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} |\omega_\perp - \omega'_\perp|) \\
 &\times \int d^2 z_\perp e^{-ik_{1\perp} z_\perp} \int d^2 z'_\perp e^{-ik_{2\perp} z'_\perp} K_1(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} |z_\perp - z'_\perp|) \left(\delta_{\lambda\lambda'} (-1 + 2z\bar{z}) (g^{km} + i\epsilon^{km}) \right. \\
 &\times \left. \frac{\omega_k - \omega'_k}{|\omega_\perp - \omega'_\perp|} \frac{z_m - z'_m}{|z_\perp - z'_\perp|} + 2z\bar{z} \delta_{\lambda(-\lambda')} e^{i\lambda\phi} \right) \mathcal{U}(z_\perp, z'_\perp; \omega_\perp, \omega'_\perp)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{U}(z_\perp, z'_\perp; \omega_\perp, \omega'_\perp) &\equiv \langle P, S | \text{tr}_c \left(U(\infty, -\infty; \omega'_\perp) U(\omega'_\perp, \omega_\perp; -\infty) U(-\infty, \infty; \omega_\perp) - 1 \right) U(\omega_\perp, z_\perp; \infty) \\
 &\times \left(U(\infty, -\infty; z_\perp) U(z_\perp, z'_\perp; -\infty) U(-\infty, \infty; z'_\perp) - 1 \right) U(z'_\perp, \omega'_\perp; \infty) | P, S \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

CGC cross-section

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\sigma_{00}^{\gamma^* p} \Big|_{\text{eik.}}^{\text{CGC}} &= \sum_f \frac{2\pi e_f^2 \alpha_{\text{EM}} x}{V_3 Q^2} \left(\frac{Q}{q^-}\right)^2 \frac{dk_1^- d^2 k_{1\perp}}{(2\pi)^3 2k_1^-} \Big|_{k_1^2=0} \frac{dk_2^- d^2 k_{2\perp}}{(2\pi)^3 2k_2^-} \Big|_{k_2^2=0} \delta(q^- - k_1^- - k_2^-) 32z^3 \bar{z}^3 (q^-)^4 \\
 &\times \int d^2 \omega_\perp e^{ik_{1\perp} \omega_\perp} \int d^2 \omega'_\perp e^{ik_{2\perp} \omega'_\perp} K_0(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} |\omega_\perp - \omega'_\perp|) \int d^2 z_\perp e^{-ik_{1\perp} z_\perp} \int d^2 z'_\perp e^{-ik_{2\perp} z'_\perp} \\
 &\times K_0(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} |z_\perp - z'_\perp|) \mathcal{U}(z_\perp, z'_\perp; \omega_\perp, \omega'_\perp) \Big|_{\text{CGC}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\sigma_{\lambda=\pm 1 \lambda'=\pm 1}^{\gamma^* p} \Big|_{\text{eik.}}^{\text{CGC}} &= \sum_f \frac{2\pi e_f^2 \alpha_{\text{EM}} x}{V_3} \epsilon_s^{\lambda=\pm 1} \epsilon_t^{\lambda'=\pm 1} \frac{dk_1^- d^2 k_{1\perp}}{(2\pi)^3 2k_1^-} \Big|_{k_1^2=0} \frac{dk_2^- d^2 k_{2\perp}}{(2\pi)^3 2k_2^-} \Big|_{k_2^2=0} \\
 &\times \delta(q^- - k_1^- - k_2^-) 8(q^-)^2 z^2 \bar{z}^2 \int d^2 \omega_\perp e^{ik_{1\perp} \omega_\perp} \int d^2 \omega'_\perp e^{ik_{2\perp} \omega'_\perp} K_1(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} |\omega_\perp - \omega'_\perp|) \\
 &\times \int d^2 z_\perp e^{-ik_{1\perp} z_\perp} \int d^2 z'_\perp e^{-ik_{2\perp} z'_\perp} K_1(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2} |z_\perp - z'_\perp|) \left(\delta_{\lambda=\lambda'} (-1 + 2z\bar{z}) (g^{km} + i\epsilon^{km}) \right. \\
 &\times \left. \frac{\omega_k - \omega'_k}{|\omega_\perp - \omega'_\perp|} \frac{z_m - z'_m}{|z_\perp - z'_\perp|} + 2z\bar{z} \delta_{\lambda=-\lambda'} e^{i\lambda\phi} \right) \mathcal{U}(z_\perp, z'_\perp; \omega_\perp, \omega'_\perp) \Big|_{\text{CGC}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{U}(z_\perp, z'_\perp; \omega_\perp, \omega'_\perp) \Big|_{\text{CGC}} &\equiv \langle P, S | \text{tr} \left(U(\infty, -\infty; \omega'_\perp) U(-\infty, \infty; \omega_\perp) - 1 \right) \left(U(\infty, -\infty; z_\perp) U(-\infty, \infty; z'_\perp) - 1 \right) | P, S \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

Conclusion

- Path-ordered exponent expansion provides a universal gauge-covariant tool for background-field calculations.
- The formalism systematically generates the operator hierarchy relevant for any chosen kinematic limit.
- In small- x dijet production, transverse background fields contribute already at eikonal order.
- Different kinematic regimes (TMDs and small- x) are connected through contour re-expansion, providing a direct matching framework.
- The method is general and can be extended to sub-eikonal, loop-level, and multi-parton observables.

Thank you!