

Exploring the nature of matter

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Christopher Newport U. & Jefferson Lab

Colloquium at
Old Dominion University
29 October 2024

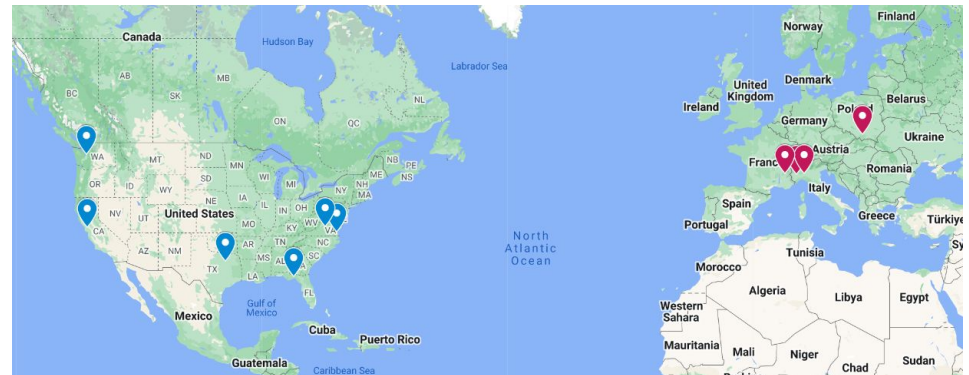
This work is partly supported by the DOE Office of Science

Outline

- **Intro: what are we made of? (And how do we know?)**
 - Quarks & gluons
 - Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)
 - Color confinement
- **Dynamical mass generation**
 - How are massive particles created out of nearly massless quarks?
- **Parton Distributions Functions (PDFs) in the proton**
 - Quark and gluons at the “edge of confinement”
 - Global QCD analysis
 - Theory + Experiment + Data/Computer Science
- **Perspectives**

Acknowledgments

- **My CTEQ-JLab (CJ) collaboration colleagues:**
 - **Matteo Cerutti (CNU), Xiaoxian Jing (Meta), Ishara Fernando (UVa),** W.Melnitchouk (JLab), J.F.Owens (Florida State U.)
 - C.E. Keppel & Sanghwa Park (JLab), **Shujie Li (LBL),** P. Monaghan (CNU)
- **My other collaborators:**
 - **C. Costa, A. Simonelli (JLab),** A. Bacchetta (Pavia U., Italy), **A. Krause (ODU),** A. Signori (Torino U., Italy)
 - **[nCTEQ]** F. Olness (Southern Methodist U.), R. Ruiz (Cracow, Poland), I.Schienbein (Grenoble)
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 - DE-SC0025004 “Large-x partons...”
 - DE-AC05-06OR23177 (JLab theory)
 - APS-Simons travel grant
- **Artwork:** Bernhard Musch (2009)
Scattering discussion: R. Ruiz (2024)



General References

QCD global analysis from protons to nuclei:

- Accardi, [PoS DIS2015 \(2015\) 001](#)
- Jimenez-Delgado, Melnitchouk, Owens, [J.Phys.G40 \(2013\) 093102](#)
- Ethier, Nocera, [Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci. \(2020\) 70, 1-34](#)

QCD global analysis and statistical methods:

- Kovarik, Nadolsky, Soper, [Rev.Mod.Phys. 92 \(2020\) 4, 045003](#)
- Buckley, White and White, “[Practical Collider Physics](#)”, IOP publishing 2021

References - technical

Inclusive Jet functions & dynamical mass generation

- Accardi, Costa, Signori, [Phys.Rev.D 108 \(2023\) 114011](#)
- Accardi, Signori, [Phys.Lett.B 798 \(2019\) 134993](#) & [Eur.Phys.J.C 80 \(2020\) 825](#)
- Accardi, Bacchetta, [Phys.Lett.B 773 \(2017\) 632](#)

Large-x fits with nuclear corrections & applications

- **CJ15**: Accardi et al., [PRD 93 \(2016\) 114017](#)
 - Accardi, DNP 2020 / Fernando, GHP 2021 / Accardi, APS 2022
- $F_2(n)$: Li, Accardi et al., [Phys.Rev.D 109 \(2024\) 074036](#)

Light quark asymmetry fits

- **CJ15a**: Accardi, Owens, Melnitchouk, [Phys.Lett.B 801 \(2020\) 135143](#)
- **CJ22**: Accardi, Jing, Owens, Park, [Phys.Rev.D 107 \(2023\) 113005](#)

PDF uncertainties

- Hunt-Smith, Accardi, Melnitchouk, Sato, Thomas, White, [Phys.Rev.D 106 \(2022\) 036003](#)

References - recent and in prep.

Inclusive Jet functions & dynamical mass generation

- Simonelli, Accardi, Cerutti, Costa, Signori
“Unveiling the Collins-Soper kernel in inclusive DIS at threshold”
 - Rigorous QCD factorization with jet functions

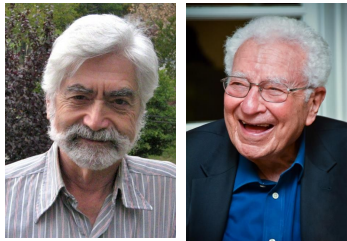
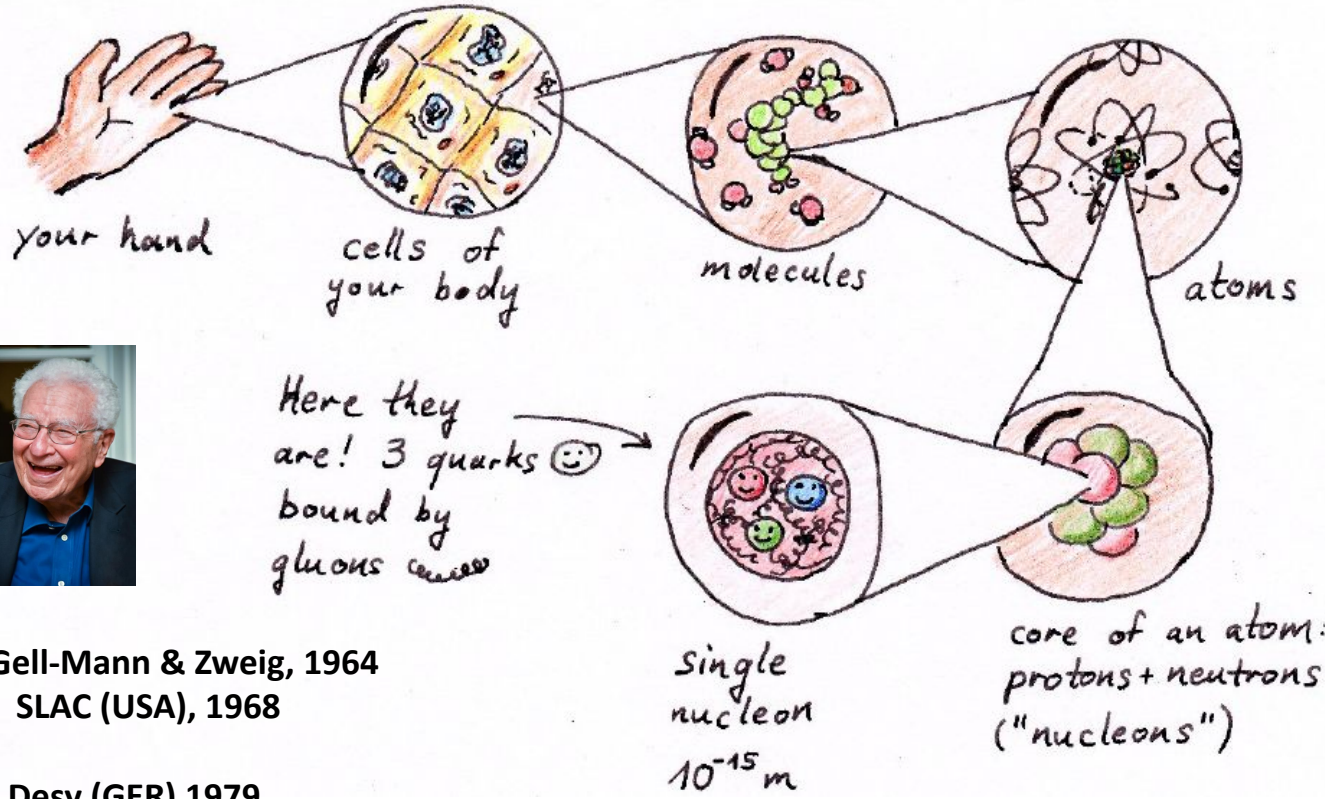
Large-x fits with power and nuclear corrections & applications

- Accardi, Cerutti, Fernando, Li, Owens, Park
“Interplay of off-shell and higher-twist corrections in DIS at large x”
 - Non negligible QCD analysis systematic effects
 - Short version @ DIS 2024: [arXiv:2407.03589](https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.03589)
- Accardi, Krause
“Testing large-x QCD analysis in a spectator model”

Introduction: What are we made of?

What are we made of?

- Quarks and gluons!



Quarks:

proposed: **Gell-Mann & Zweig, 1964**

discovered: **SLAC (USA), 1968**

Gluons:

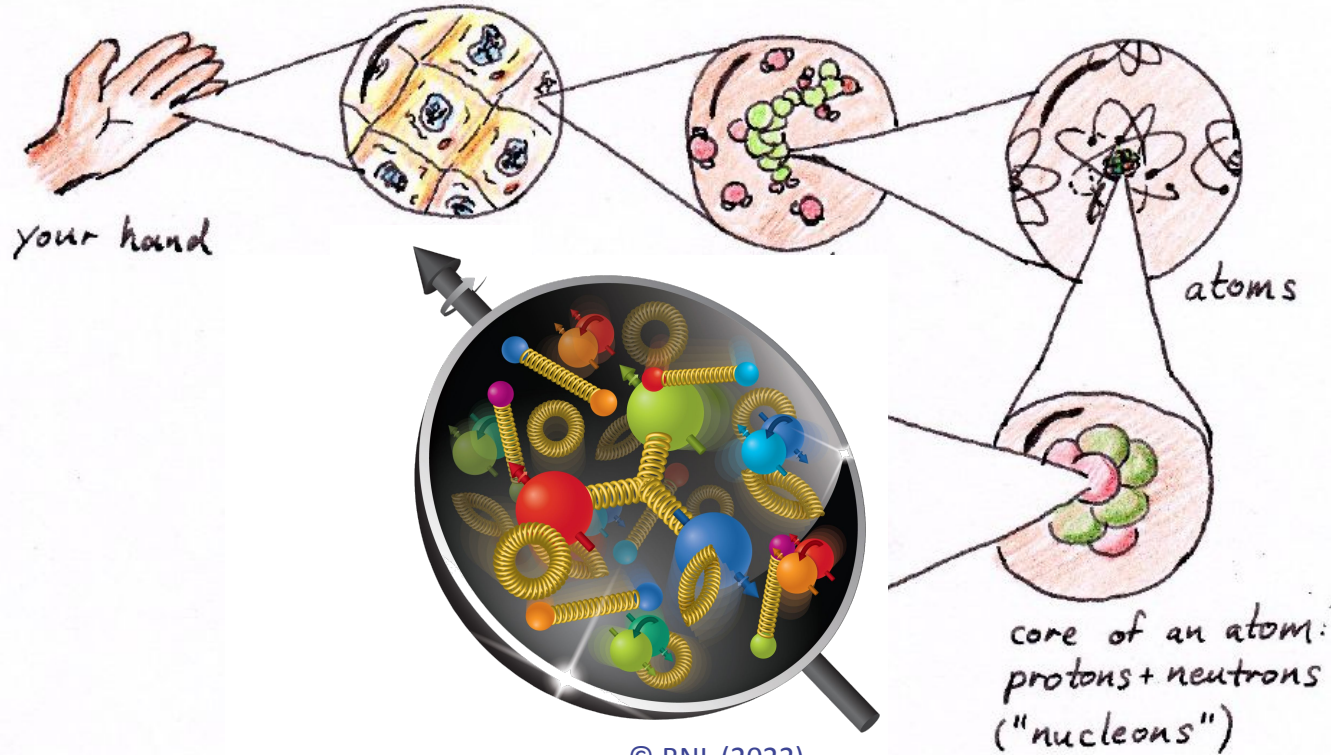
discovered: **Desy (GER) 1979**



E. Rutherford, 1897, 1917

What are we made of?

- Quarks and gluons!



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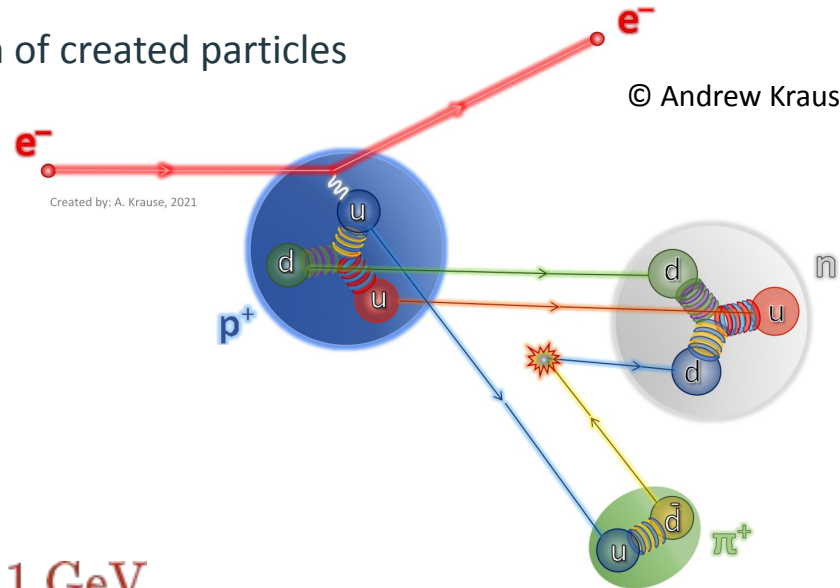
How do we know?

- **By using high-energy scattering as a microscope!**
(actually, a femtoscope)
 - And also looking at the spectrum of created particles
- Need a wavelength smaller than the proton's size:

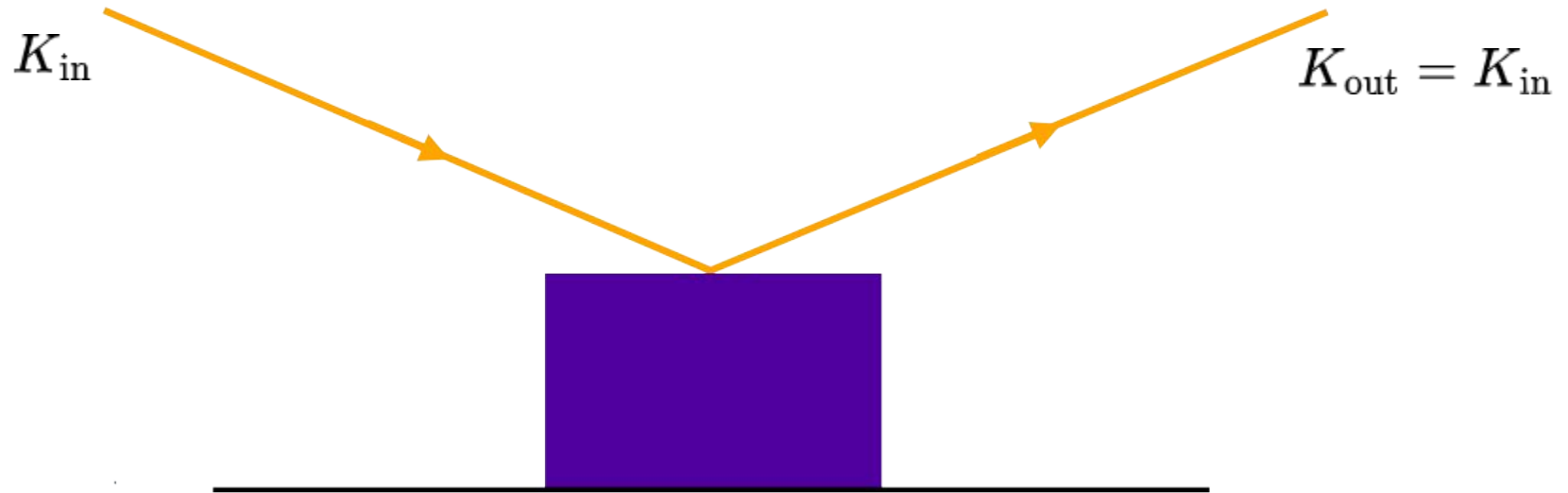
$$\lambda \approx \frac{hc}{E} < 10^{-15} \text{ m}$$

$$\implies E > 1 \text{ GeV}$$

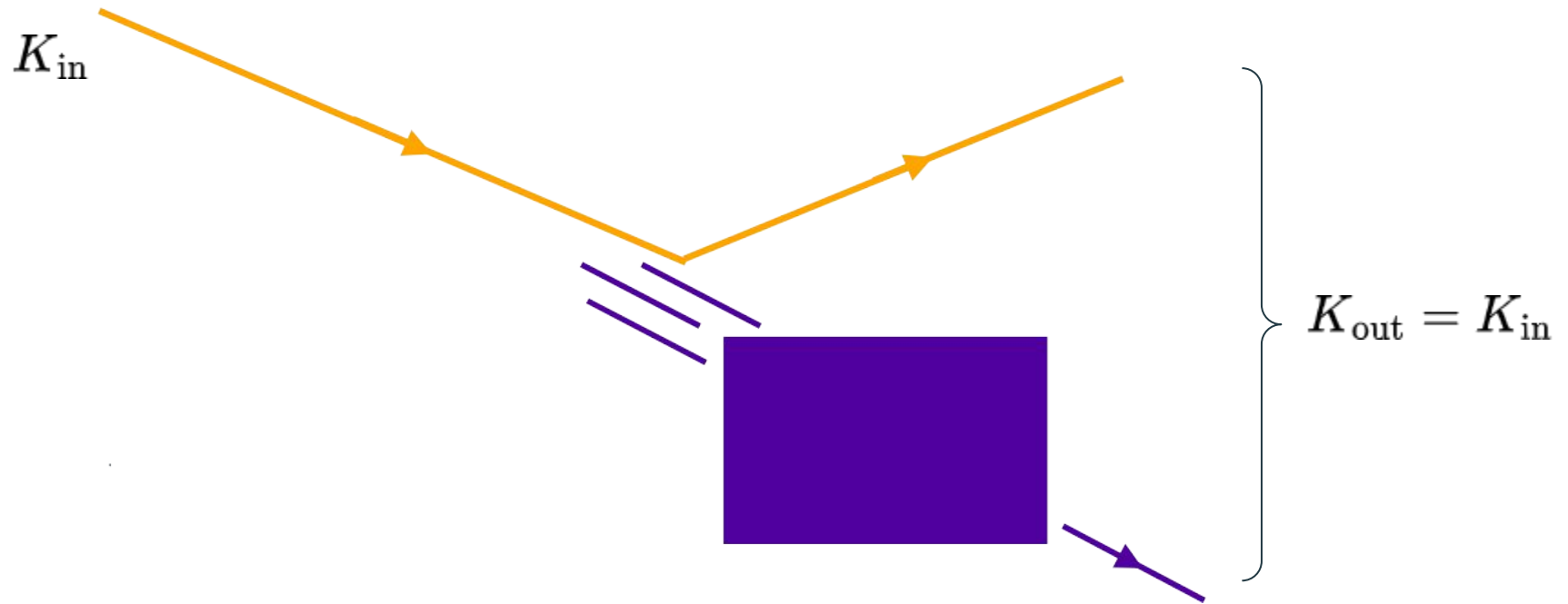
1 eV = 10^{-19} J : energy needed to move an electric of charge $e = 10^{-19}$ C through a potential difference of 1 V



Scattering 101: elastic

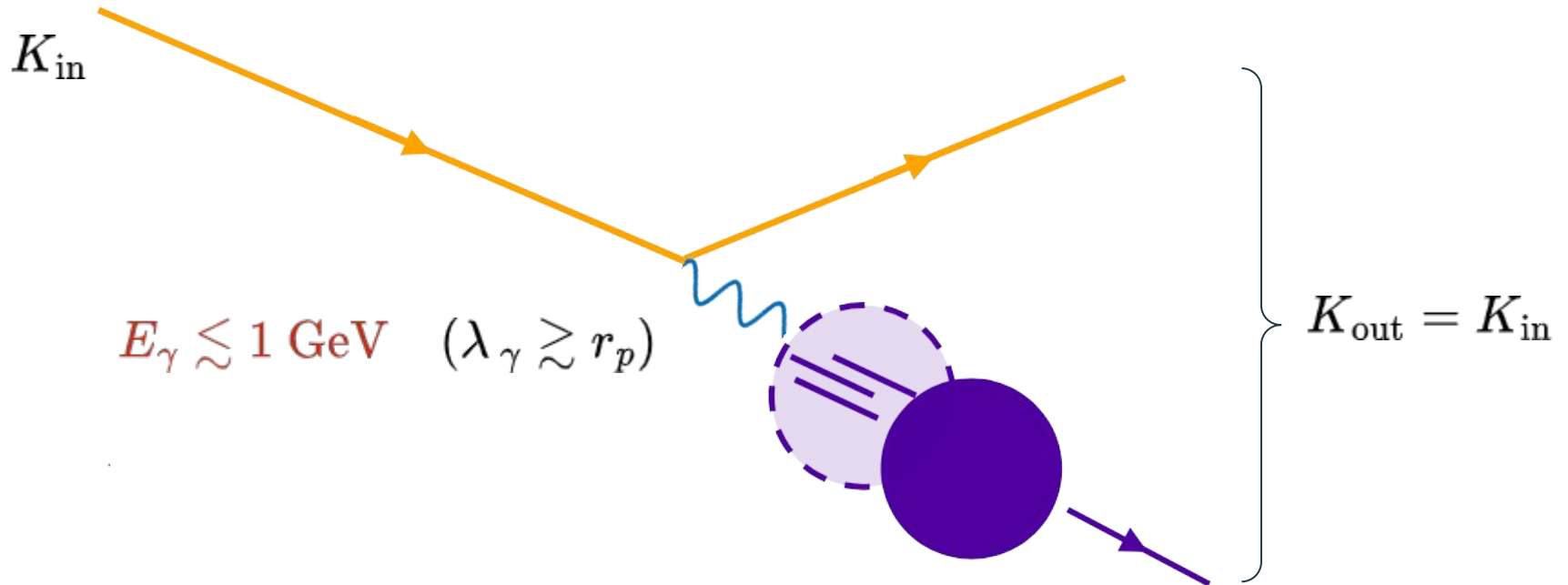


Scattering 101: elastic



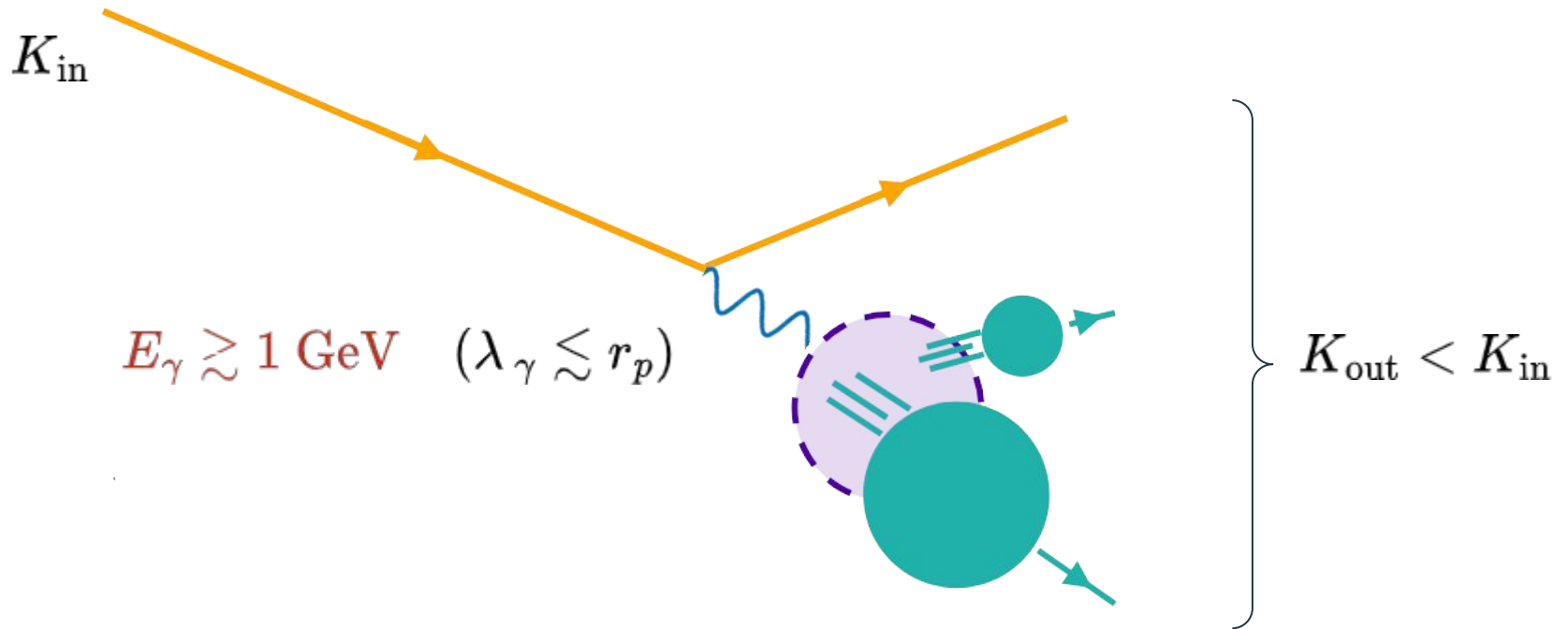
Electron-proton: elastic

- Exchanged photon wavelength: $\lambda_\gamma = h/p_\gamma \approx hc/E_\gamma$



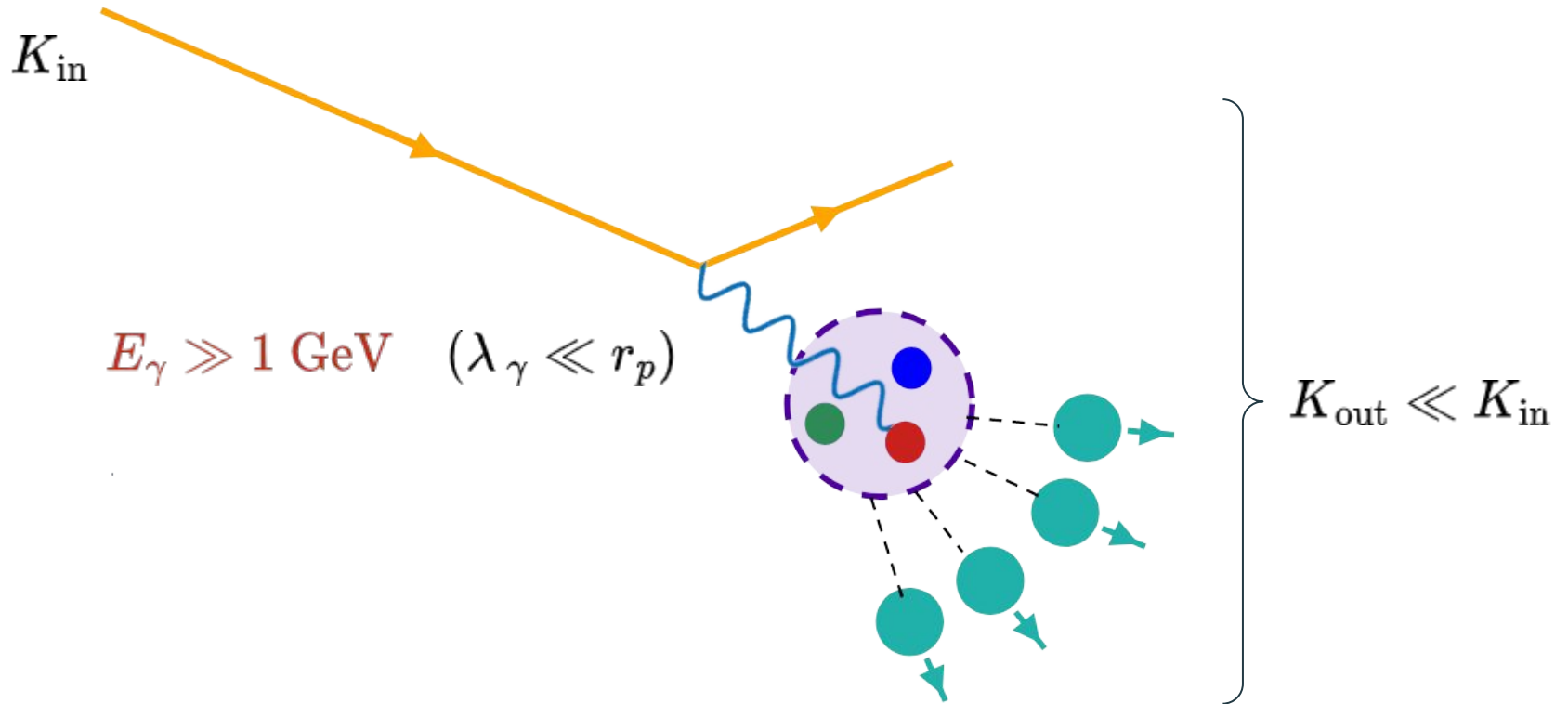
Electron-proton: inelastic

- Exchanged photon wavelength: $\lambda_\gamma = h/p_\gamma \approx hc/E_\gamma$



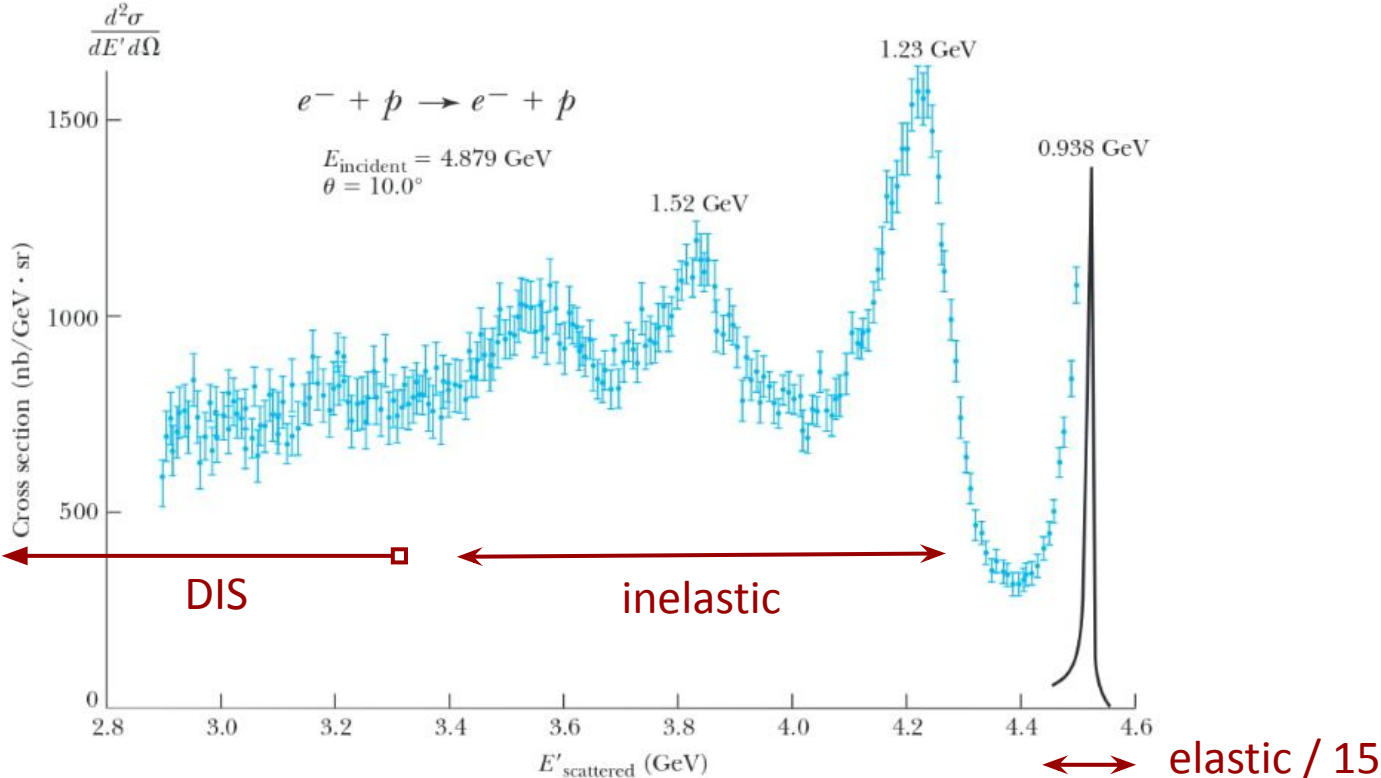
Electron-proton: deeply inelastic scattering (DIS)

- Exchanged photon wavelength: $\lambda_\gamma = h/p_\gamma \approx hc/E_\gamma$



Cross section

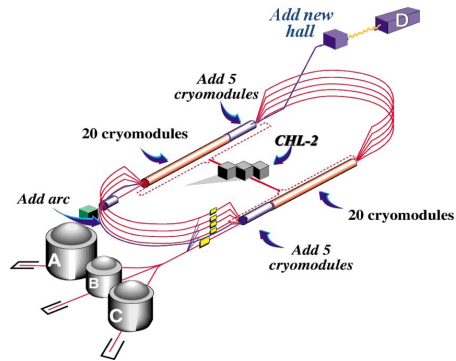
- Roughly, the probability that the electron hits the target



Bartel et al., Physics Letters B 28, 148 (1968)

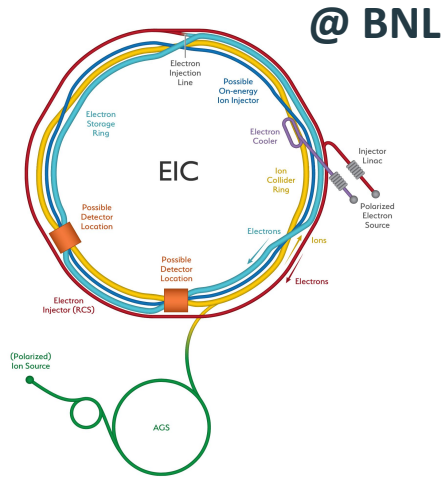
Modern particle accelerators

JLab 12 GeV



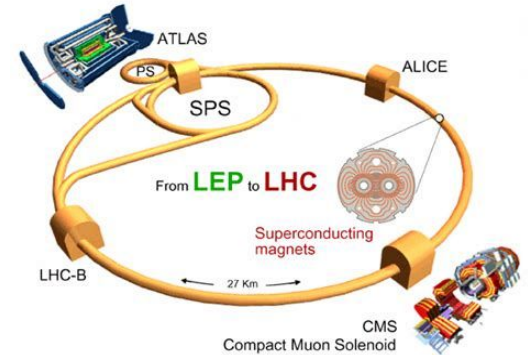
e (12 GeV) → proton

Electron-Ion Collider @ BNL



e (10 GeV) → ← (275 GeV) p

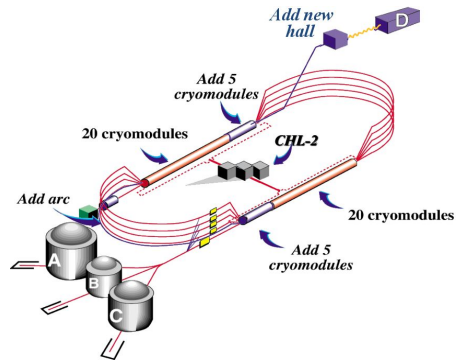
Large Hadron Collider @ CERN



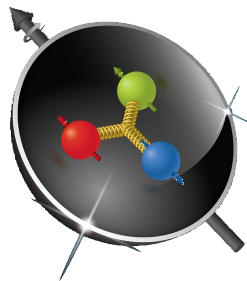
p (7000 GeV) → ← (7000 GeV) p

Modern particle accelerators

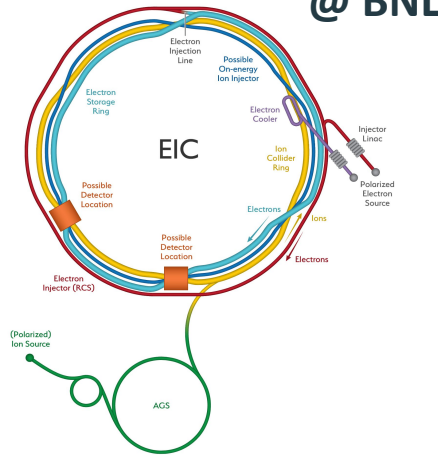
JLab 12 GeV



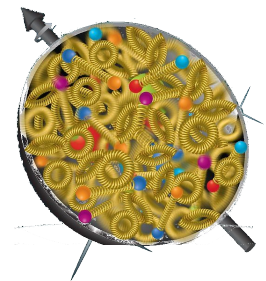
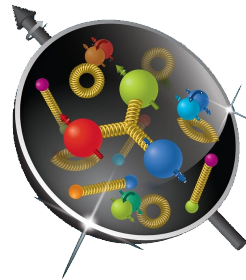
e (12 GeV) \rightarrow proton



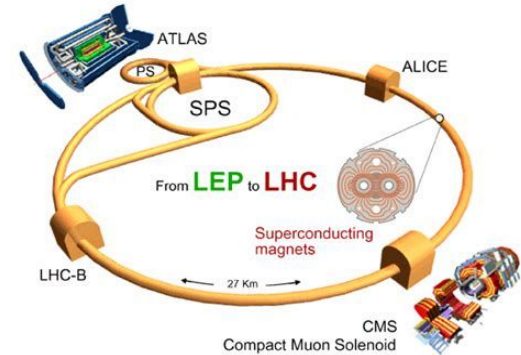
Electron-Ion Collider @ BNL



e (10 GeV) \rightarrow \leftarrow (275 GeV) p p (7000 GeV) \rightarrow \leftarrow (7000 GeV) p



Large Hadron Collider @ CERN



p (7000 GeV) \rightarrow \leftarrow (7000 GeV) p

Modern particle accelerators

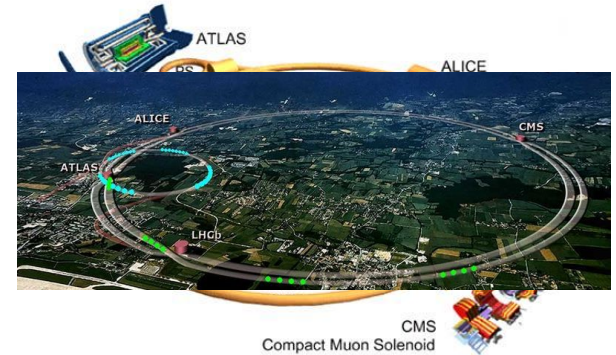
JLab 12 GeV



Electron-Ion Collider @ BNL

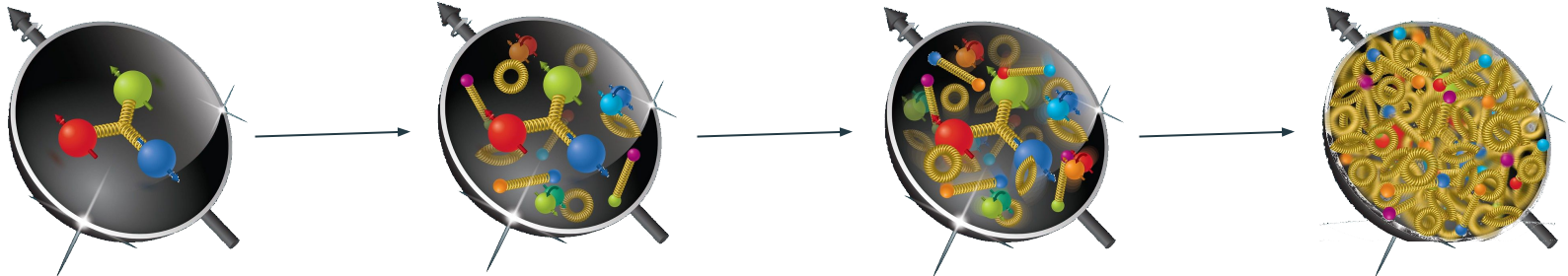


Large Hadron Collider @ CERN



e (12 GeV) \rightarrow proton

e (10 GeV) \rightarrow \leftarrow (275 GeV) p p (7000 GeV) \rightarrow \leftarrow (7000 GeV) p

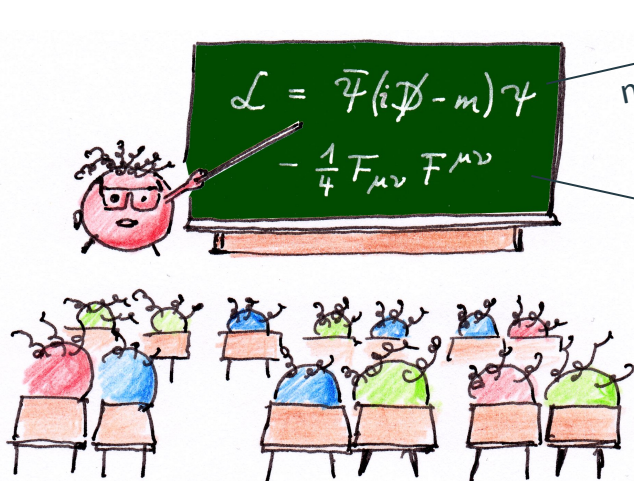
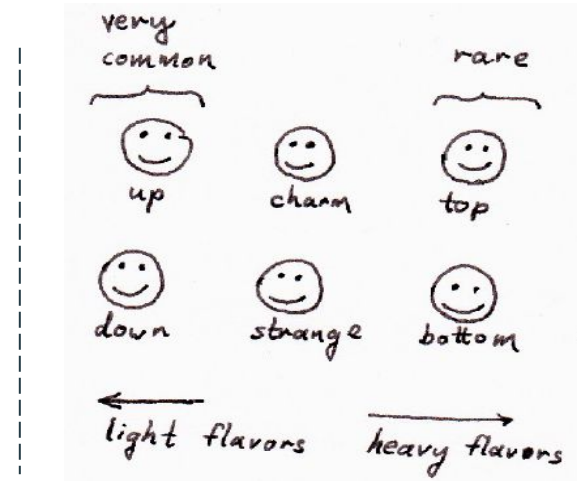
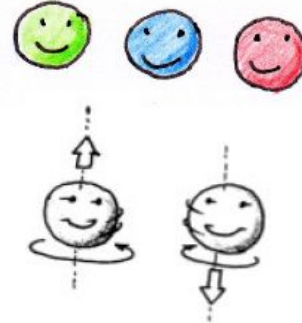


Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)

- **Simple rules**

- **Matter** = quarks + antiquarks:
 - 3 colors, 6 flavors, spin = $\pm \frac{1}{2}$
- **Interaction** = exchange of gluons

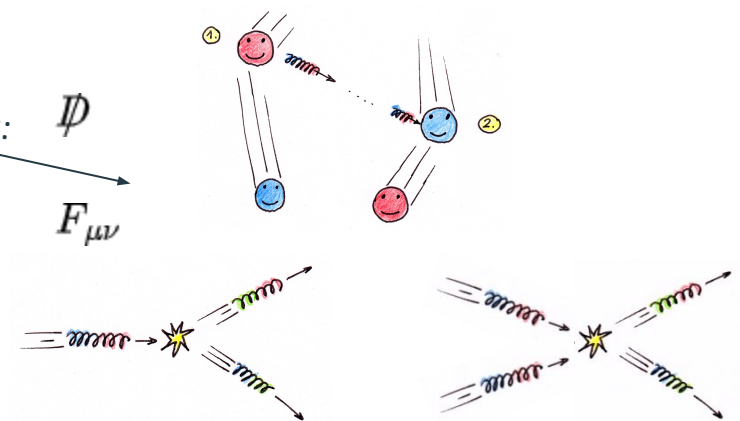
- **“Lagrangian”**: contains the theory



$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\Psi}(i\mathcal{D} - m)\Psi - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

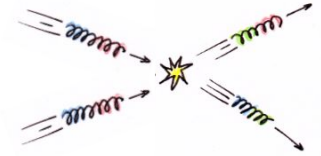
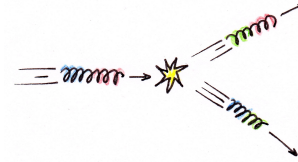
matter: $\psi, \bar{\psi}$

interactions: \mathcal{D}
 $F_{\mu\nu}$



Unlike any other fundamental theory!

- QCD is analogous to electromagnetism, but:
 - gluons can split...
 - ...and bang on each other(no linear superposition principle!!)



- This happens so often that quarks are always surrounded by a dense network of gluons that holds together a group of several quarks
- Quarks form particles that are **always “color-neutral”** as a whole:

Color is confined inside hadrons!

- Not your everyday charge...

red + green + blue



e.g.,
proton,
neutron

red + anti-red, etc.



e.g.,
pion

Mysteries

- **Gluon binding energy provides most of the proton mass:**

$$m_{\text{proton}} = 1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$$

vs.

$$m_u + m_u + m_d \approx 0.015 \text{ GeV}/c^2$$

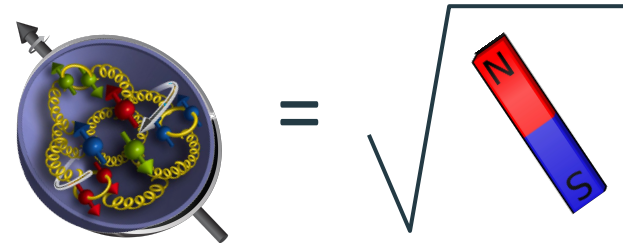
- Are we actually made of a force field??



- **Why is the spin of proton = 1/2 ?**

An unlikely way of combining:

- the spin of (many) quark and gluons
- and their orbital angular momentum!



- In fact, **why isn't there any free quark??**

Color confinement

- Only “color neutral” particles have ever been (can ever be?) observed

- **Why??**

- **Mathematical explanation from QCD Lagrangian**

- I attempted one a long time ago (1996-1998) – my first scientific love!

- \$1M “millennium prize” from the Clay Institute!!

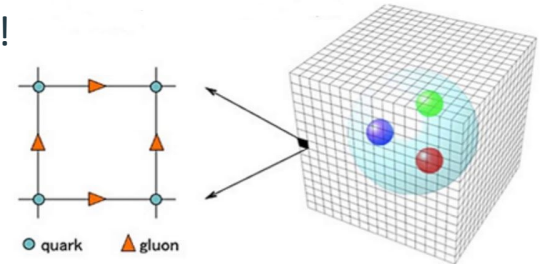
- **Lattice QCD – computational explanation**

- But “black box”...

- **Look at the effects of confinement**

- Dynamical mass generation

- Parton Distribution Functions at the “edge of confinement”



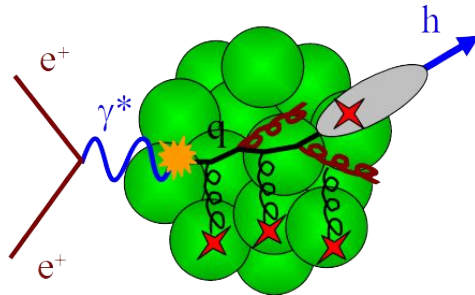
my research!

Dynamical mass generation:
how do massive hadrons emerge
from nearly massless quarks?

Parton propagation and fragmentation

Review: Accardi et al., [Riv. Nuovo Cim. 032 \(2010\)](#)

- Nuclei as femtometer-scale detectors



Transverse momentum broadening

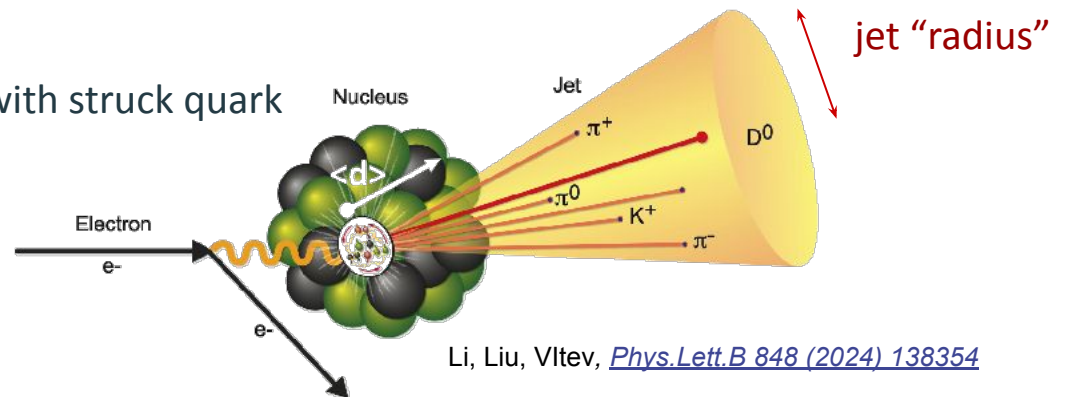
$$\Delta p_T^2 = \langle p_T^2 \rangle_A - \langle p_T^2 \rangle_D$$

Hadron attenuation

$$R_M = (N^h / N^e)_A / (N^h / N^e)_D$$

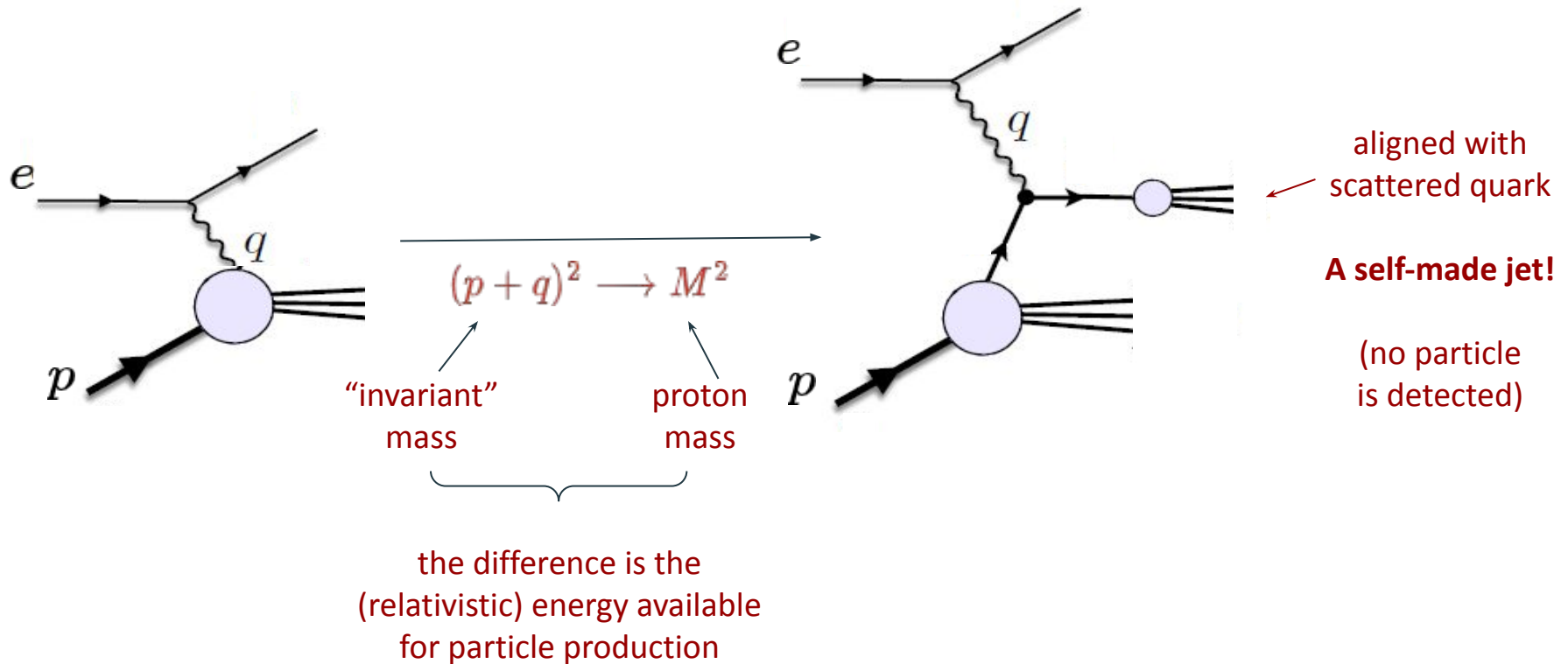
- At the Electron-ion collider

- Higher energy
- “Jets” of particles aligned with struck quark



Li, Liu, Vitev, [Phys.Lett.B 848 \(2024\) 138354](#)

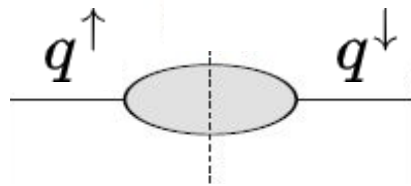
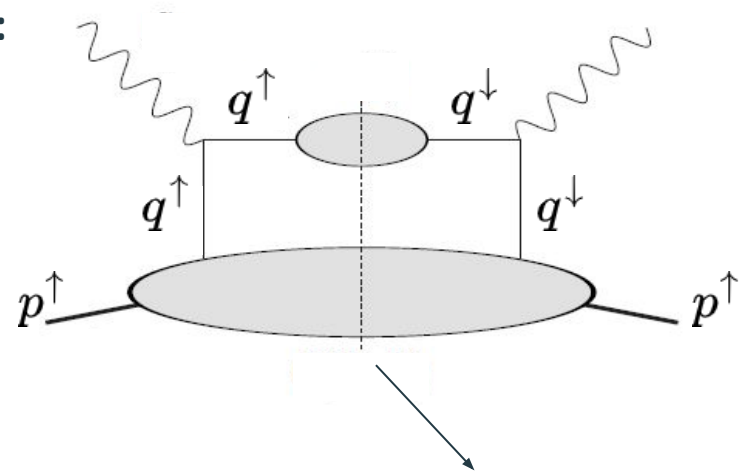
“Inclusive jets” in vacuum



Quantum mechanically

- Polarized electron+proton scattering:

$$\sigma(\vec{e} + p^\uparrow \rightarrow X) \sim \mathcal{M}\mathcal{M}^* \sim$$



$$= \int \mu \rho_1(\mu^2) d\mu^2 \sim \langle \mu \rangle$$

“Spectral function”:
prob. distrib. of
produced mass

measurable!

In “inclusive LT
asymmetries”

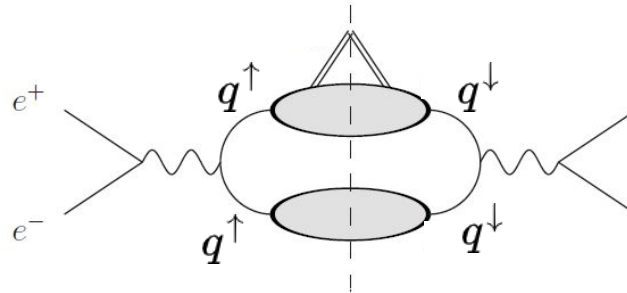
calculable:

lattice QCD / Dyson-Schwinger

Quantum mechanically

- Polarized electron+positron scattering:

$$\sigma(\vec{e}^- + \vec{e}^+ \rightarrow \vec{\Lambda}) \sim$$



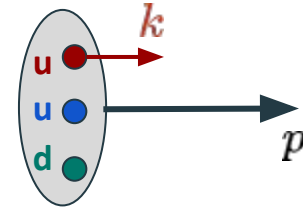
- We are looking also for observables in proton-proton collisions
- **Many observables** \rightarrow can think of a “global analysis” (see later)

Parton Distributions at the “edge of confinement”

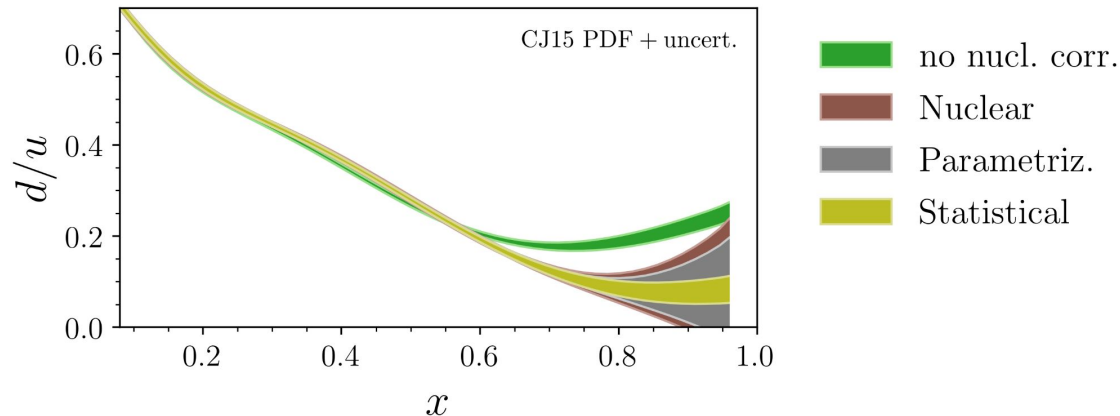
What happens when a single quark
contributes most of the proton's
momentum?

Parton Distribution Functions

- **PDF** = probability distribution for a parton (quark or gluon) inside a proton to have momentum fraction $x = \frac{k}{p}$

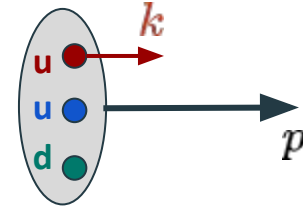


- **Large $x \rightarrow 1$**
 - The proton “is” a single quark – up or down
 - Confinement most directly determines the behavior of the d/u ratio

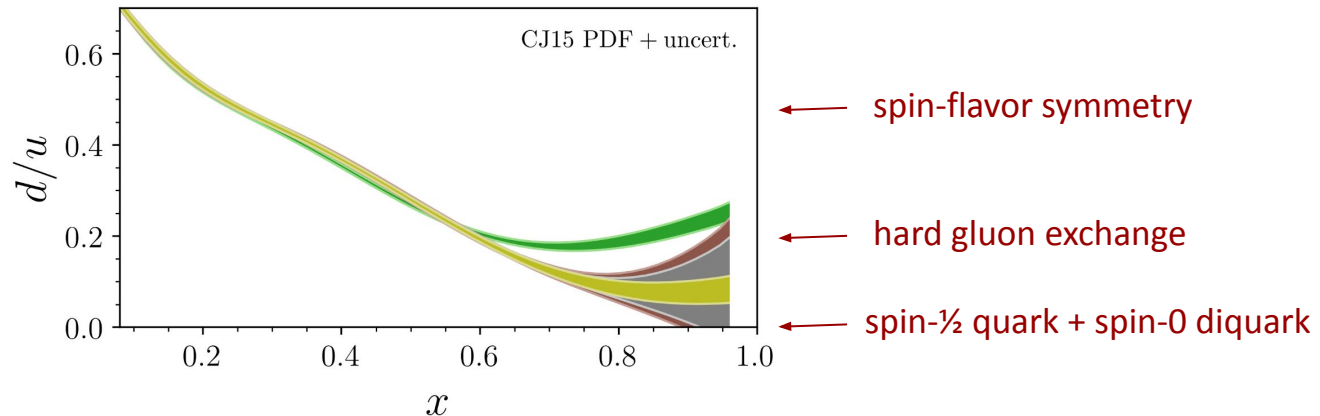


Parton Distribution Functions

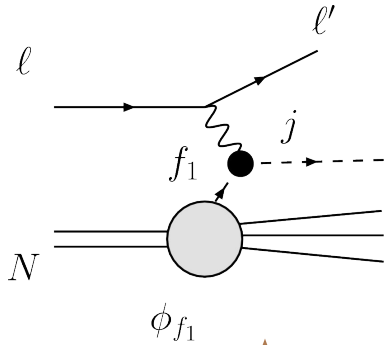
- PDF = probability distribution for a parton (quark or gluon) inside a proton to have momentum fraction $x = \frac{k}{p}$



- Large $x \rightarrow 1$
 - The proton “is” a single quark – up or down
 - Confinement most directly determines the behavior of the d/u ratio



How to measure the PDFs?



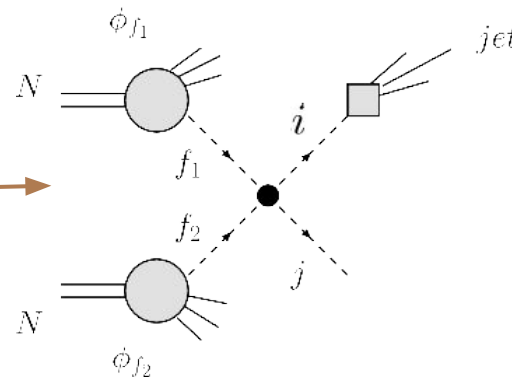
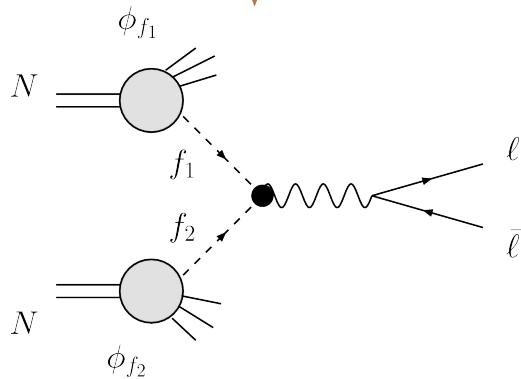
- **QCD factorization**
of short and long distance interactions

$$d\sigma_{\text{hadron}} = \sum_{f_1, f_2, i, j} \phi_{f_1} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{\text{parton}}^{f_1 f_2 \rightarrow ij} \otimes \phi_{f_2}$$

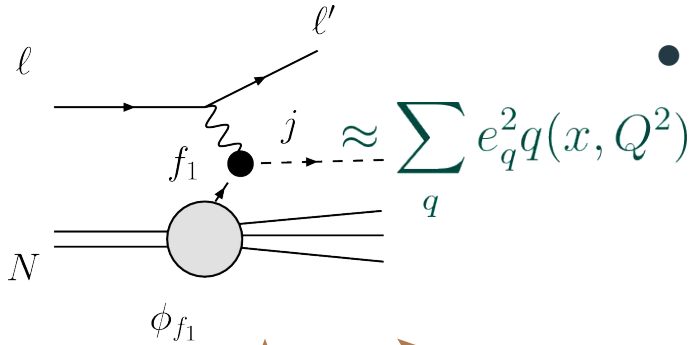
perturbative. QCD calc.

PDFs

- **Universality:** same PDFs for many processes



How to measure the PDFs?



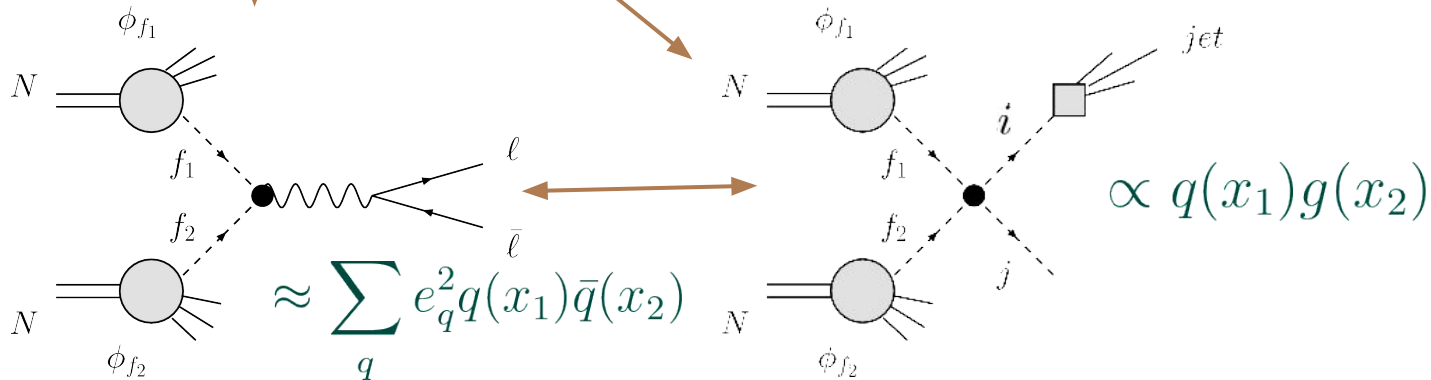
- **QCD factorization** of short and long distance interactions

$$d\sigma_{\text{hadron}} = \sum_{f_1, f_2, i, j} \phi_{f_1} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{\text{parton}}^{f_1 f_2 \rightarrow ij} \otimes \phi_{f_2}$$

perturbative. QCD calc.

PDFs

- **Universality:** same PDFs for many processes



Global QCD fits

$$d\sigma_{\text{hadron}} = \sum_{f_1, f_2, i, j} \phi_{f_1} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{\text{parton}}^{f_1 f_2 \rightarrow ij} \otimes \phi_{f_2}$$

pert. QCD calc.

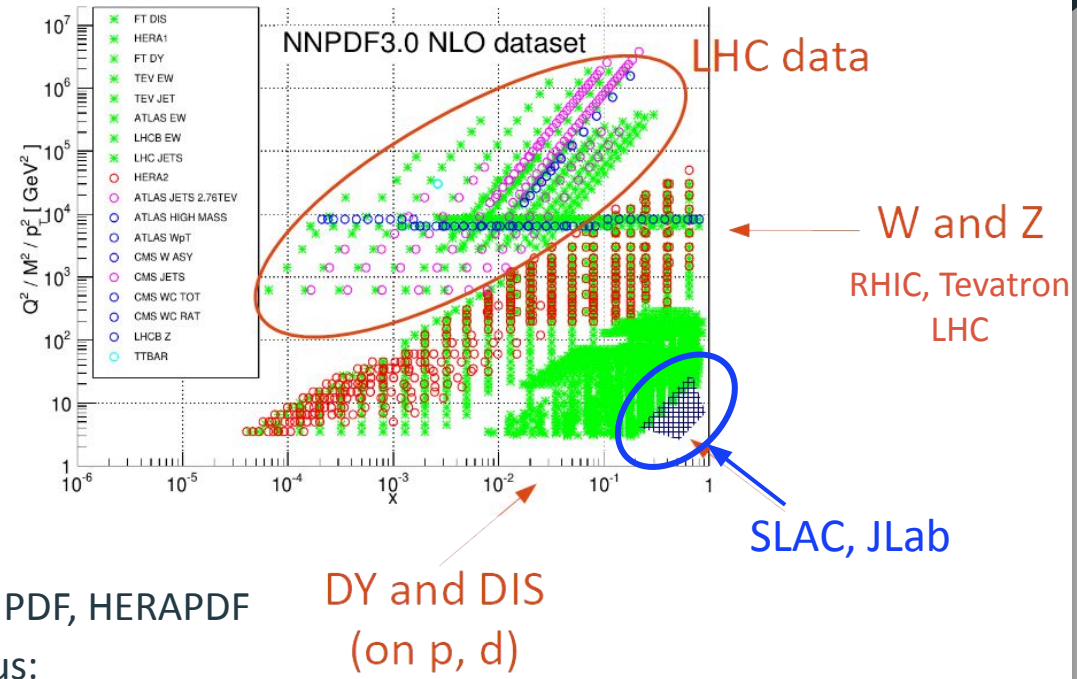
PDFs

- QCD factorization & universality:
can fit PDFs to a variety of hard scattering data

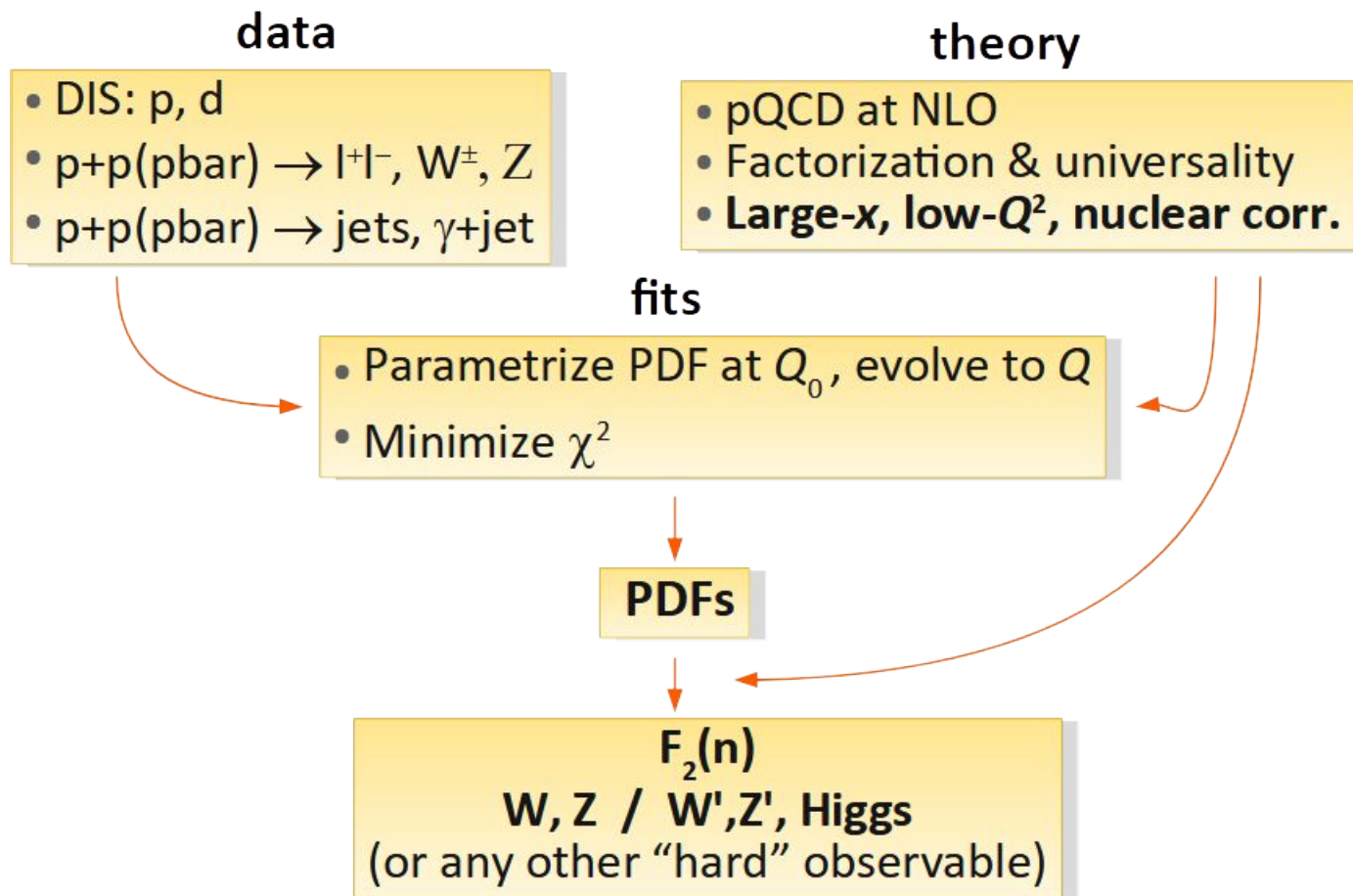
- Hadron-hadron collisions
 - Jets
 - Electro-weak boson production
- Electron-proton DIS
- Electron-Deuteron DIS

- >1000's data points

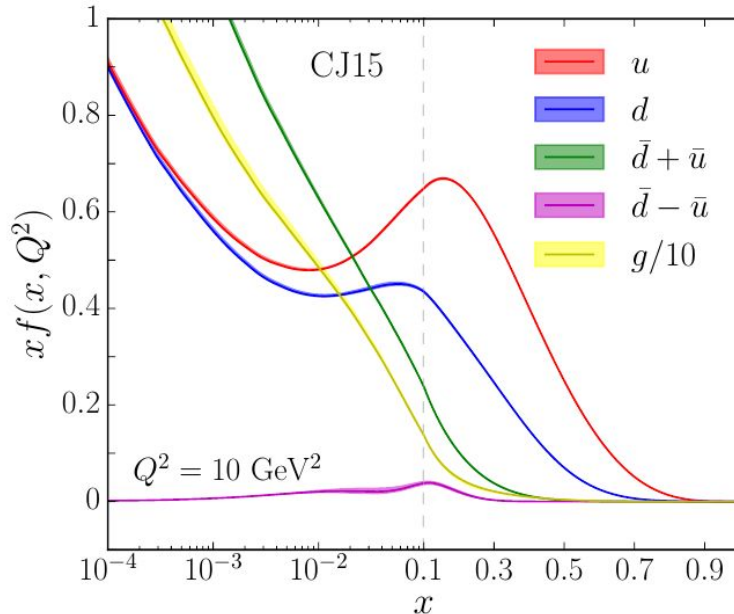
- 40+ years of experience,
 - "High-energy" fitters:
 - CTEQ-TEA, MMHT, NNPDF, HERAPDF
 - Lower-energy / nuclear focus:
 - CTEQ-JLab, AKP, JAM



Global QCD fits



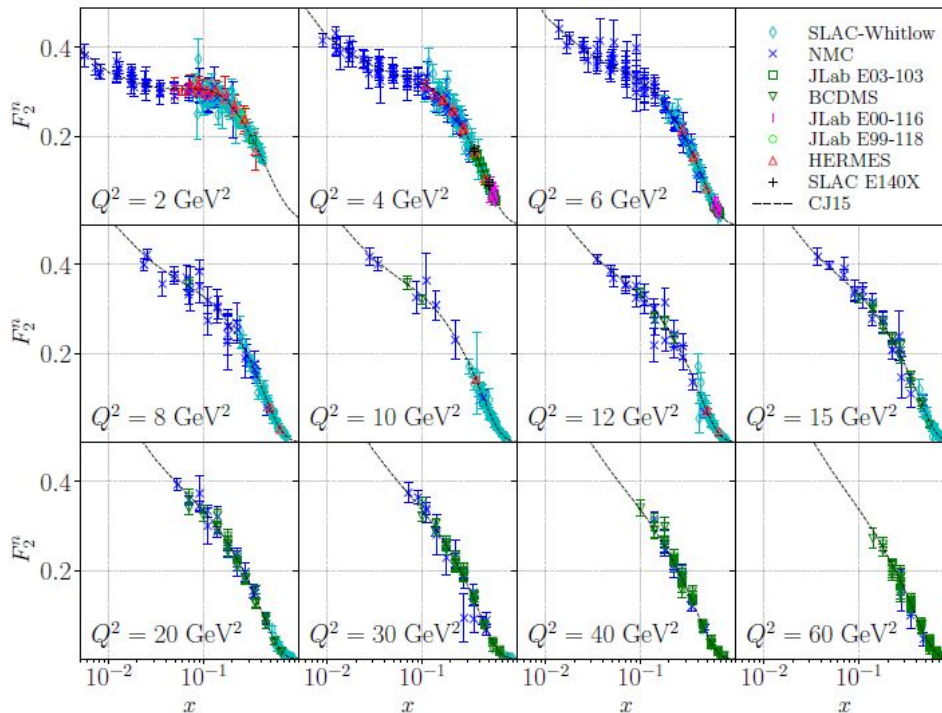
The CJ15 PDFs



- Fitted with $\chi^2 = 1.04 / \text{datum}$
- Propagation of exp. errors
 - Hessian analysis
 - Correlated errors used if available
- “PDF error band” for $\Delta\chi^2 = 2.71$
 - \rightarrow 90% c.l. in a perfect world
 - Many alternative methods
 - See review by Kovarik et al.
- Theoretical systematics more difficult
 - Recent effort by fitting community

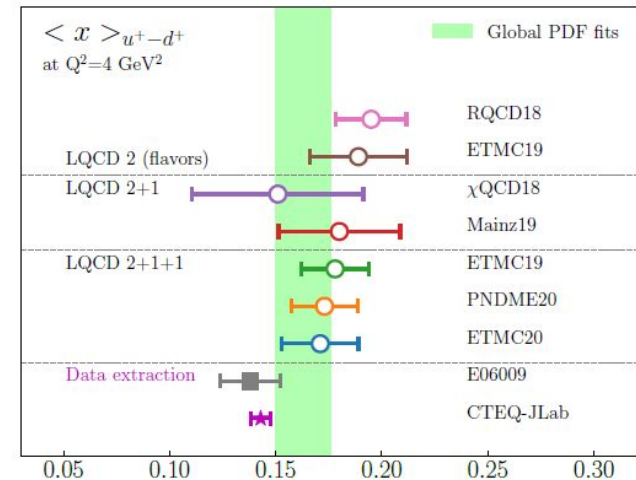
Neutron structure function extraction

- There is no free neutron target
 - Use (fitted) nuclear correction model
 - Confine model dependence in deuteron / free p + n correction ratio



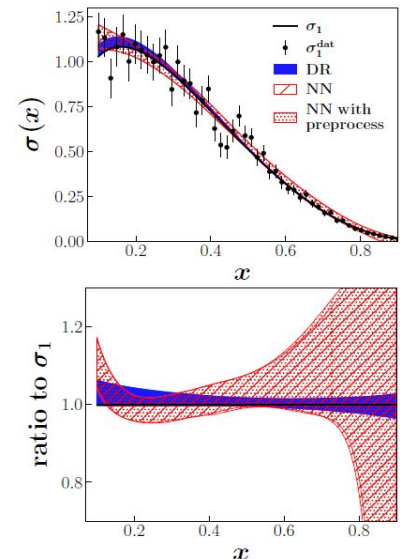
Apply data:

→ e.g. to benchmark lattice QCD



(Some of the) challenges

- **Very large data set:**
 - Need to: modernize code, speed up calcs!
- **Need fit flexibility** → many parameters, highly correlated
→ numerical instability in Hessian matrix
 - Increase numerical robustness?
 - Use neural networks?
 - But: Cross Valid. leads to likelihood deformation!
 - Better parametric methods
 - (iterative) bootstrap?
 - Fully Bayesian methods (MCMC, ...)?
- **Visualization tools / information compression**



CJ22

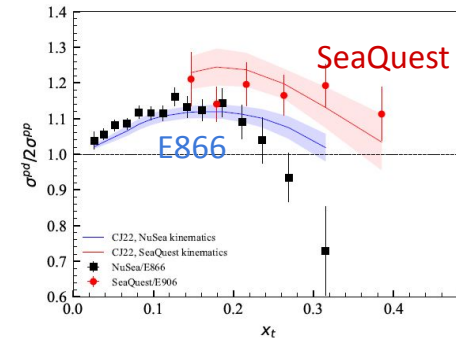
(Some of the) challenges

- **Incompatible data sets**

- Increase “tolerance”: blow up errors
- More solid (Bayesian) treatment
 - E.g., multi-Gaussian mixtures

[K. Mohan @ DIS 2023](#)

- **How can AI/ML help?**



CJ22

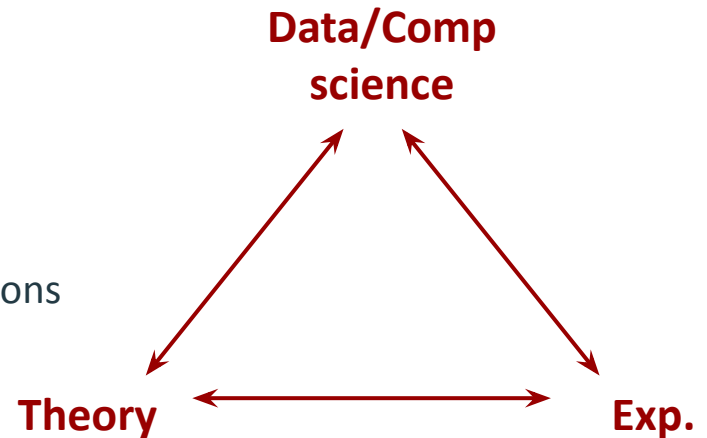
To conclude...

Summary and Perspective

- **What are we made of?**
 - Study the effects of confinement
 - 2 intertwined research lines
- **Global QCD analysis**
 - Many new data & better precision in near future
 - Needs matching uncertainty determination
 - **Interdisciplinary challenge**
 - **Expanded CTEQ-JLab collaboration**
- **Dynamical mass generation**
 - Theory: factorization with inclusive jet functions
 - New observables
 - **Novel global analysis**
 - PDFs + i-JFN → mass generation

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Thank you!

Backup #1:

Evidence for quarks and gluons

Evidence for quarks and gluons - a whirlwind tour

□ Baryon spectroscopy – light sector (u, d, s), ground state

- $J=3/2^+$: $|q_1\uparrow, q_2\uparrow, q_3\uparrow\rangle$ totally symmetric w.fn.
- $J=1/2^+$: $|q_1\uparrow, q_2\uparrow, q_3\downarrow\rangle$

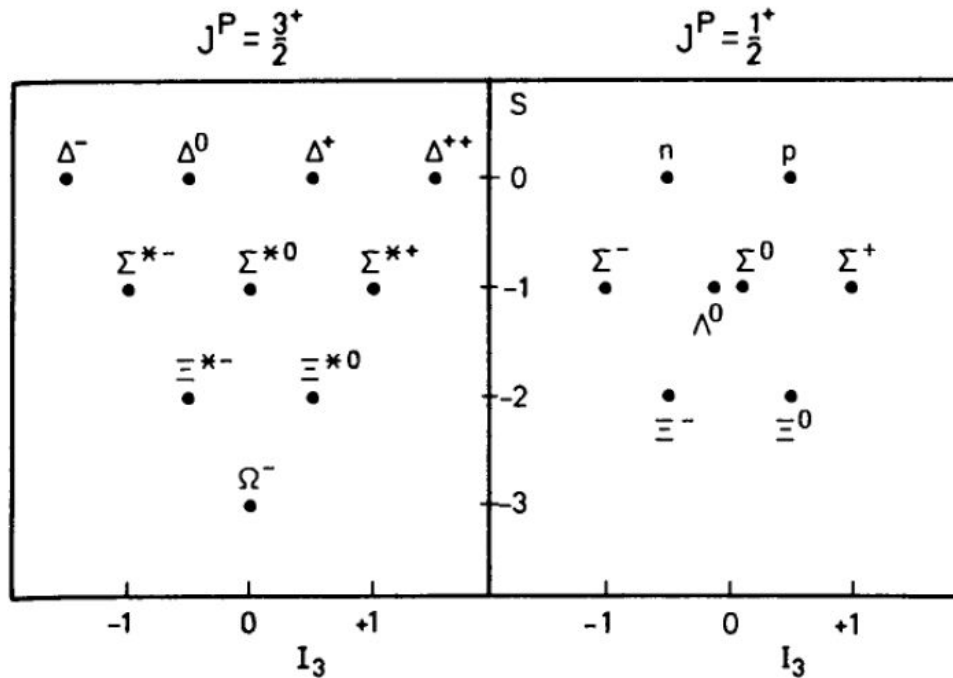


Fig:
[from Povh et al.]

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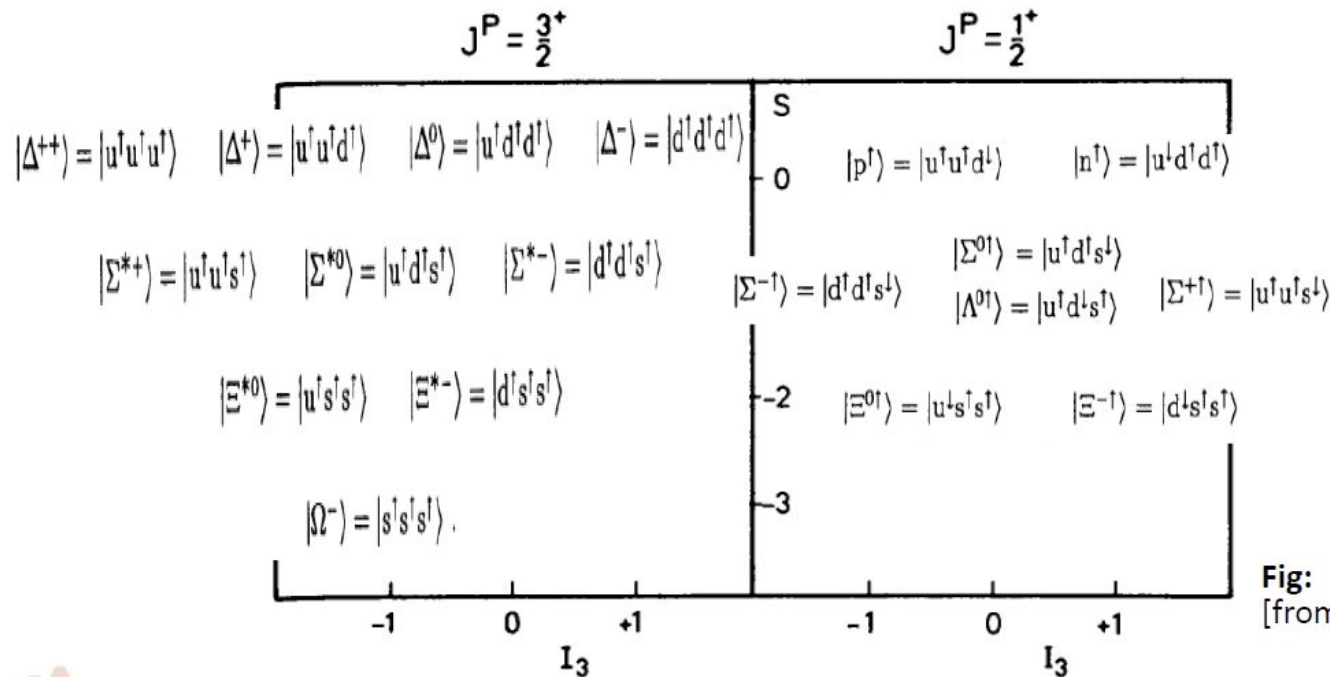


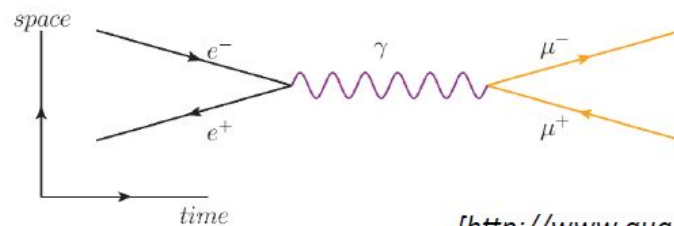
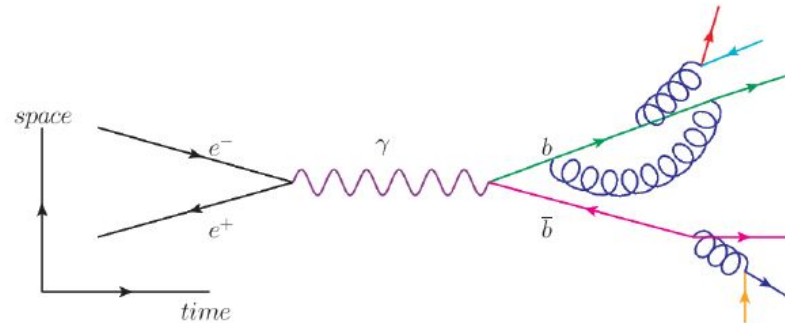
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Evidence for quarks and gluons - a whirlwind tour

□ $e^+ + e^-$ annihilation into hadrons

– quark-mediated process $e^+ + e^- \rightarrow q + \bar{q} \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$

$$R = \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \text{ hadrons})}{\sigma(e^+e^- \mu^+\mu^-)} = N_{\text{colors}} \sum_q e_q^2$$



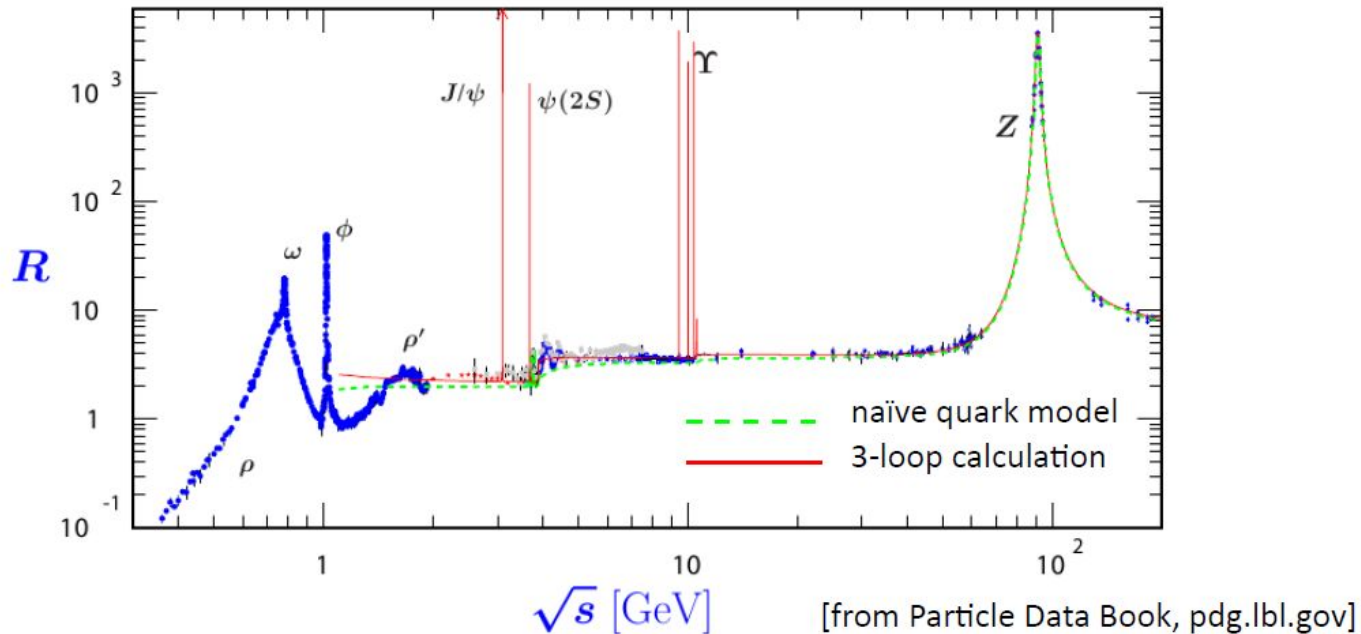
[<http://www.quantumdiaries.org/author/richard-ruiz/>]

Evidence for quarks and gluons - a whirlwind tour

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Evidence for quarks and gluons - a whirlwind tour

□ Jets in high-energy $e^+ + e^-$ collisions

- Hadron produced in 2, 3, ... N, high-energy collimated “jets”
- Evidence of common origin from a parton

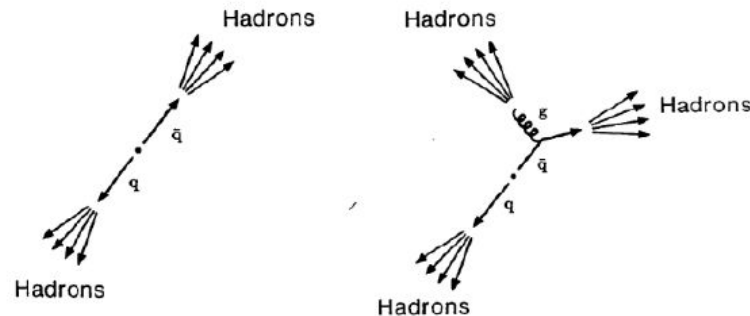
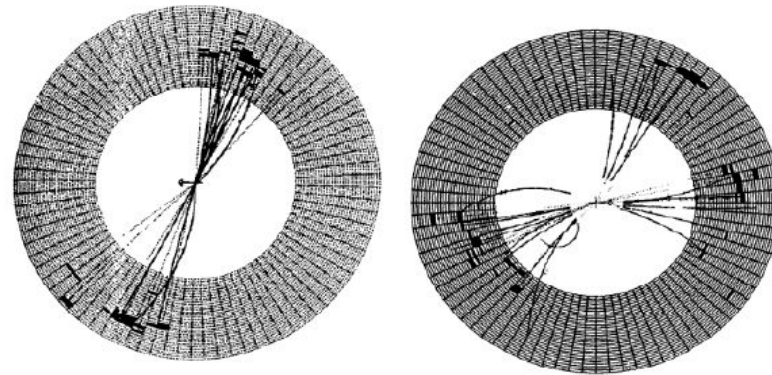


Fig.: 2- and 3-jet events observed by the JADE detector at PETRA [from Povh et al.]

Backup #2:

Experimental uncertainties
or

“ Why do different global fits give
different PDF uncertainties? ”

Global fits are not created equal...

- **Uncertainty determination**

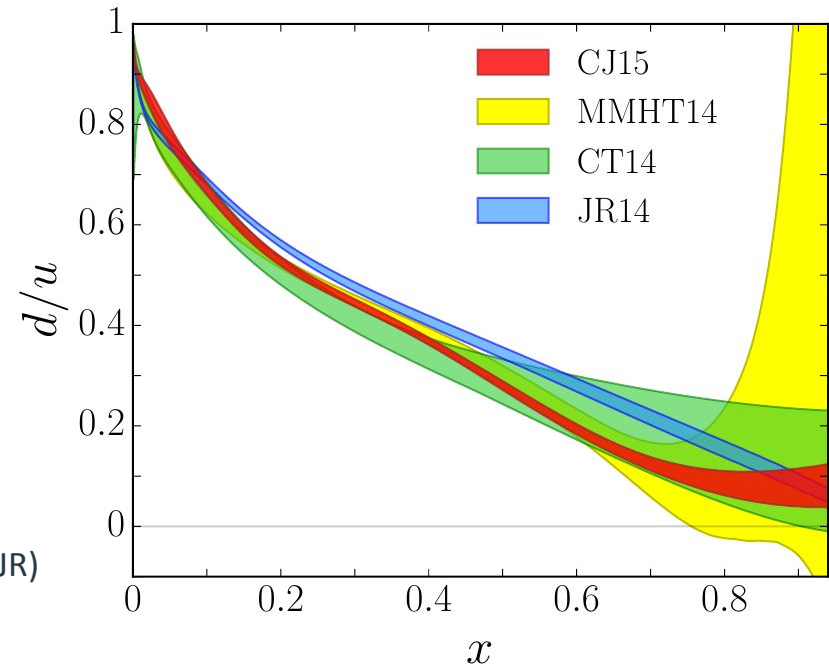
- Hessian (JR)
- Hessian + “Tolerance” (*)
 - $T \sim 10$ (CT14)
 - $T \sim 5-7$ (MMHT14)
 - $T = 1.646$ (CJ15)
- Data Resampling (JAM)
- DR + Cross Validation (NNPDF)

- **Parametrization**

- $x^a (1-x)^b P(x)$ – most groups
- d-quark:
 - extended (CJ, CT) or std (MMHT, JR)
- Neural Nets – NNPDF

- **Data choice and coverage, ...**

- Can use SLAC, JLab only if considering TMC, HT corrections
- Highest x reach for d/u on proton if using reconstructed W asymmetries (vs. decay lepton asymmetries)
- ...



(*) CJ vs. CT comparison on “equal” footing:
[Accardi, Hobbs, Jing, Nadolsky, EPJC 81 \(2021\) 7](#)

Bayesian estimators

- **Bayes theorem** $p(\mathbf{a}|\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} p(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{a}) p(\mathbf{a})$

with “evidence” $\mathcal{Z} = \int d\mathbf{a} p(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{a}) p(\mathbf{a})$

and “likelihood” $p(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{a}) = \mathcal{N} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \chi^2(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{m}) \right]$ Typical choice
in PDF analyses

- **Algorithms for sampling of likelihood** → **probability density in $\{\mathbf{a}_k\}$**
 - **HMC**: Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (an example of Markov-Chain MC methods)
 - **NS**: Nested Sampling, primarily aimed at estimating the evidence
→ Samples the likelihood as a byproduct

- **Expectation values** $E_{\text{Bayes}}\{\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a})\} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a}_k),$

and variance $V_{\text{Bayes}}\{\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a})\} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n [\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a}_k) - E_{\text{Bayes}}\{\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a})\}]^2$

Generalized Hessian Approximation

Hunt-Smith et al., PRD 106 (2022) 036003

- **Start as usual:**
 - Find minimum of likelihood
 - Diagonalize Hessian $\rightarrow e_k$ eigenvectors, w_k eigenvalues
- **Change variables:** $\mathbf{a}(t) = \mathbf{a}_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{n_{\text{par}}} t_k \frac{e_k}{\sqrt{w_k}}$, then $p(\mathbf{a}|\mathbf{m}) \rightarrow p(t|\mathbf{m})$
- **Assume likelihood factorized along Hessian eigendirection, then**

$$E_{\text{Hess}}\{\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a})\} = \int d^n t p(t|\mathbf{m}) \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a}(t)) \approx \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a}_0)$$
$$V_{\text{Hess}}\{\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a})\} \approx \sum_k T_k^2 \left(\left. \frac{\partial \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a}(t))}{\partial t_k} \right|_{\mathbf{a}_0} \right)^2$$

- **Here $T_k^2 = \int dt_k p_k(t_k|\mathbf{m}) t_k^2$ is the “tolerance”:**
 - $T_k = 1$ where likelihood is Gaussian;
 - Approximates well the likelihood in non-Gaussian directions
 - Maintains a “68%” or “ 1σ ” kind of meaning also when $\neq 1$

CT, MSTW \rightarrow T=5-10

- **Often T_k determined “ad hoc” to account for statistical inconsistency of data**

Data resampling

- **Data Resampling (DR) approximates Bayes' posterior using frequentist logic**
 - Assume some prior (typically “flat”)
 - Reshuffle data within data uncertainty (Gaussian distribution)
 - Maximize likelihood
 - Repeat n_{rep} times $\rightarrow \{\mathbf{a}_k\}$

- **Estimate**

$$E_{\text{freq}}\{\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a})\} = \frac{1}{n_{\text{rep}}} \sum^{n_{\text{rep}}} \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a}_{\text{rep}}),$$

$$V_{\text{freq}}\{\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a})\} = \frac{1}{n_{\text{rep}}} \sum^{n_{\text{rep}}} [\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a}_{\text{rep}}) - E_{\text{freq}}\{\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{a})\}]^2$$

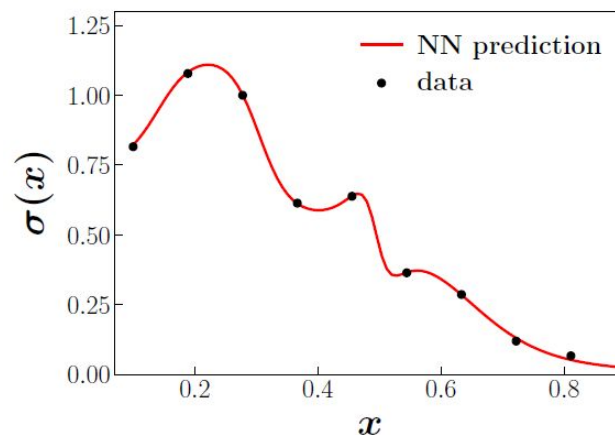
- **Good in parameter space region well constrained by data**

Neural Networks and overfitting

- **Neural networks provide:**
 - Efficient, very flexible parametrizations
 - Hundreds of parameters
 - Essentially a parameter free functional form (“nonparametric method”)
- **Use Data Resampling and aims at maximizing the same likelihood function**

$$p(m|a) = \mathcal{N} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \chi^2(a, m) \right]$$

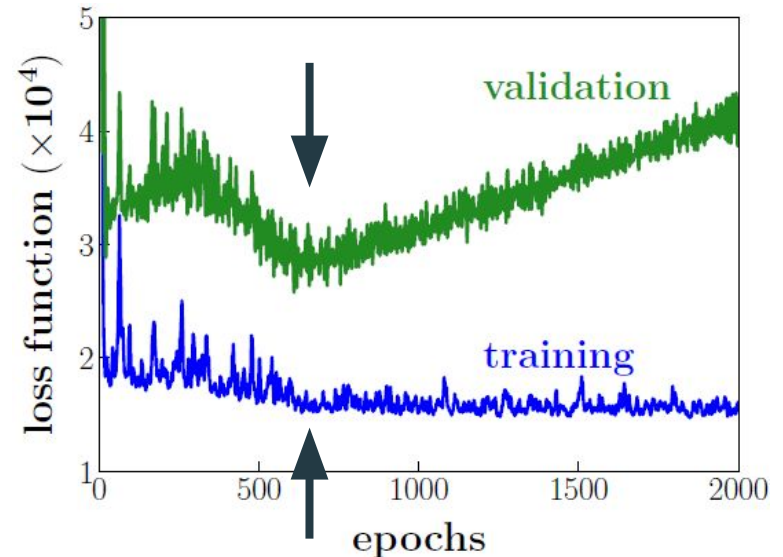
- **Without intervention, will overfit the data**
 - The plot shows an extreme example



Cross-validation (CV) and stopping

- Needs a “stopping criterion”
 - to avoid fitting statistical noise instead of physics
- Randomly separate the data into 2 groups, say
 - 70% → training (T)
 - 30 % → validation (V)
- Fit the training, calculate $\chi^2(T)$ and $\chi^2(V)$
- Resample data, repeat
- “Stop” training when $\chi^2(V)$ is minimum:

$$\sigma = E[\sigma_{\text{fit}}]$$
$$\delta\sigma = V[\sigma_{\text{fit}}]$$



Statistical uncertainties

- **The method can effectively modify the likelihood!**

- Even with perfectly compatible (toy) data!

[N. Hunt-Smith et al., PRD 106 \(2022\) 036003](#)

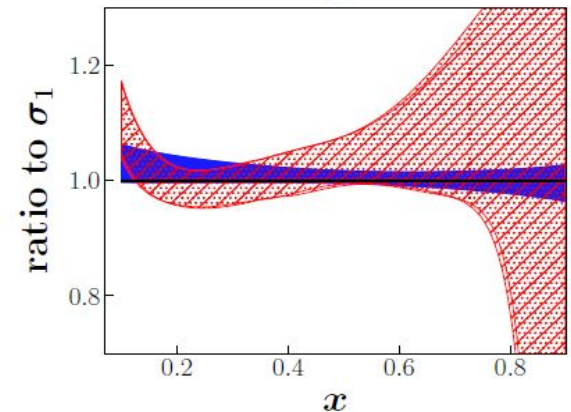
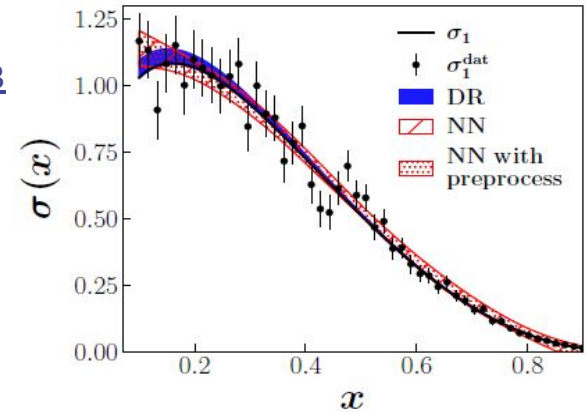
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(Markov Chain MC, Nested Sampling)

- Explore the likelihood function
- Well approximated by
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- **Cross Validation, NN-based fits**

- Inflate the uncertainties
- Deform the likelihood



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