

# The partonic structure of nucleons and nuclei from lattice QCD

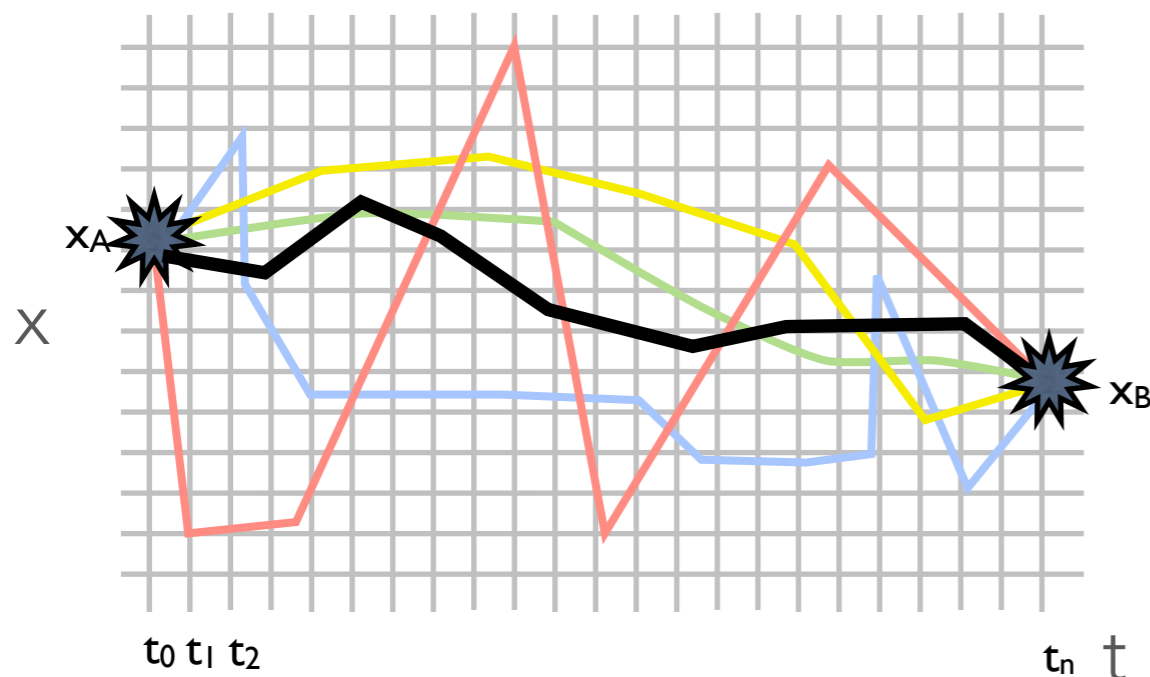
Phiala Shanahan, MIT

Image Credit: 2018 EIC User's Group Meeting

# Lattice QCD

Numerical first-principles approach to non-perturbative QCD

- QCD equations  $\longleftrightarrow$  integrals over the values of quark and gluon fields on each site/link (QCD path integral)
- $\sim 10^{12}$  variables (for state-of-the-art)

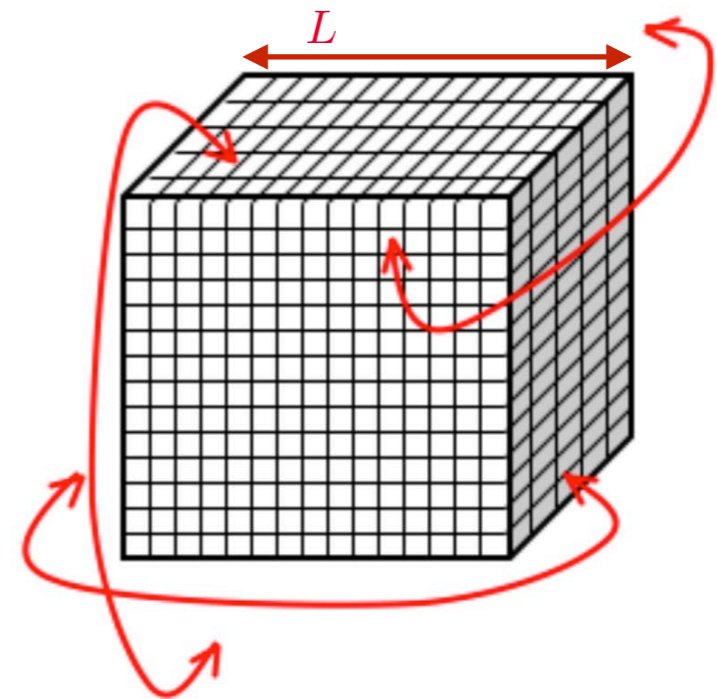


- Evaluate by importance sampling
- Paths near classical action dominate
- Calculate physics on a set (ensemble) of samples of the quark and gluon fields

# Lattice QCD

Numerical first-principles approach to non-perturbative QCD

- Euclidean space-time
  - Non-zero lattice spacing
  - Finite volume
- Some calculations use larger-than-physical quark masses (cheaper)



Approximate the QCD path integral by **Monte Carlo**

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{D}A \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \mathcal{D}\psi \mathcal{O}[A, \bar{\psi}\psi] e^{-S[A, \bar{\psi}\psi]} \longrightarrow \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle \simeq \frac{1}{N_{\text{conf}}} \sum_i^{N_{\text{conf}}} \mathcal{O}([U^i])$$

with field configurations  $U^i$  distributed according to  $e^{-S[U]}$

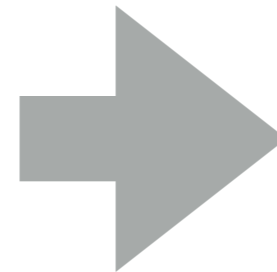
# Lattice QCD

Numerical first-principles approach to non-perturbative QCD

## INPUT

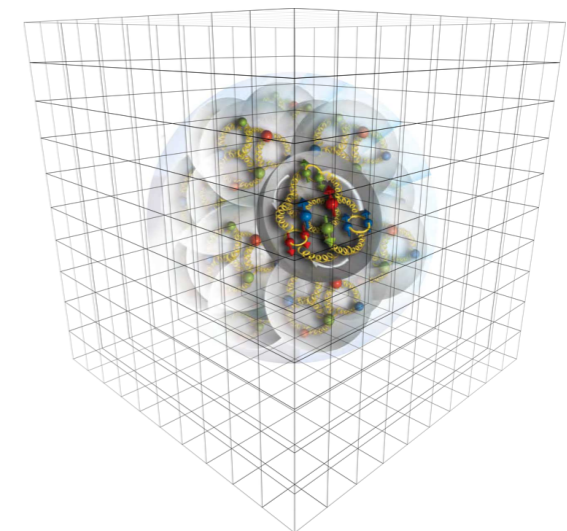
Lattice QCD action has same free parameters as QCD: quark masses,  $\alpha_S$

- Fix quark masses by matching to measured hadron masses, e.g.,  $\pi, K, D_s, B_s$  for  $u, d, s, c, b$
- One experimental input to fix lattice spacing in GeV (and also  $\alpha_S$ ), e.g.,  $2S-1S$  splitting in  $\Upsilon$ , or  $f_\pi$  or  $\Omega$  mass



## OUTPUT

Calculations of all other quantities are QCD predictions



# Lattice QCD

Numerical first-principles approach to non-perturbative QCD

**Calculations use world's largest computers**

- Many millions of CPU/GPU hours

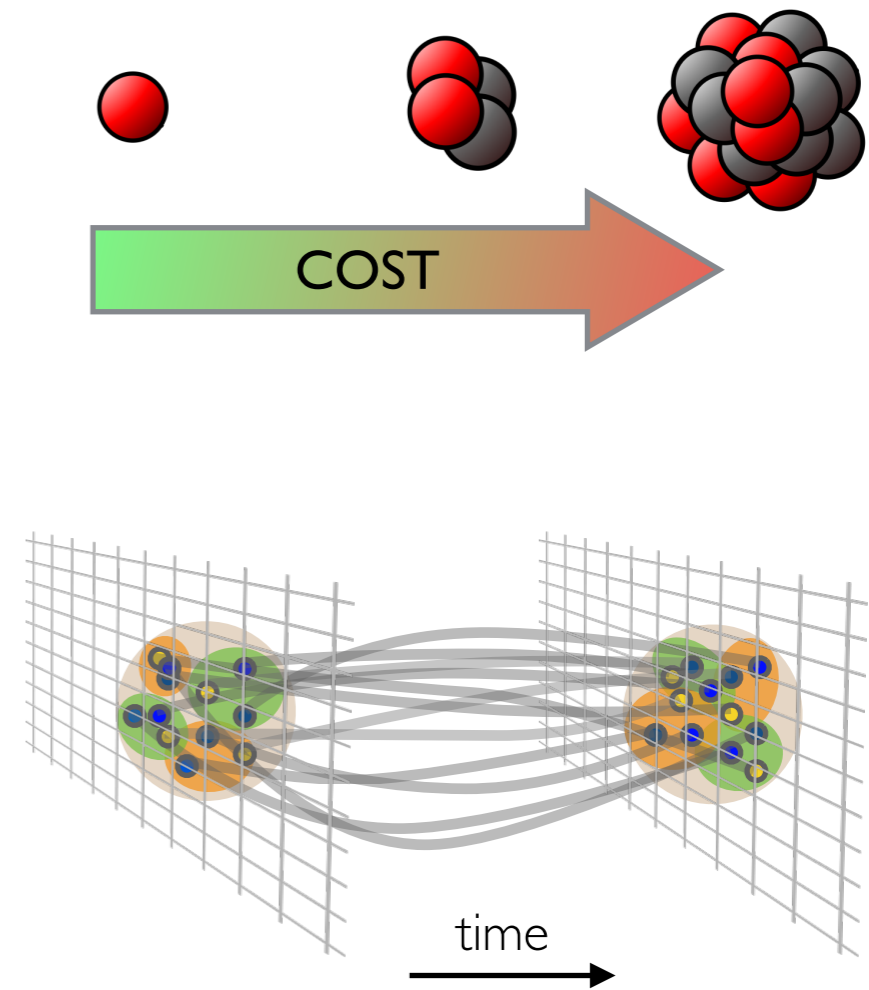




# Nuclear physics from lattice QCD

Nuclei on the lattice are  
**HARD**

- **Noise:**  
Statistical uncertainty grows exponentially with number of nucleons
- **Complexity:**  
Number of contractions grows factorially

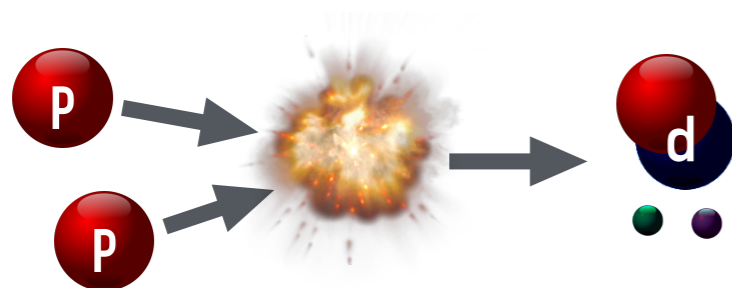


Calculations possible for  $A < 5$

# Nuclear physics from lattice QCD

“Nuclear physics from LQCD Collaboration”  
NPLQCD

- Nuclei with  $A < 5$   
unphysical quark masses
- Physical-mass  
calculations  
begun 2021



Proton-proton fusion  
and tritium  $\beta$ -decay

[Phys.Rev.Lett. 119, 062002 (2017)]

Scalar, axial, tensor  
matrix elements

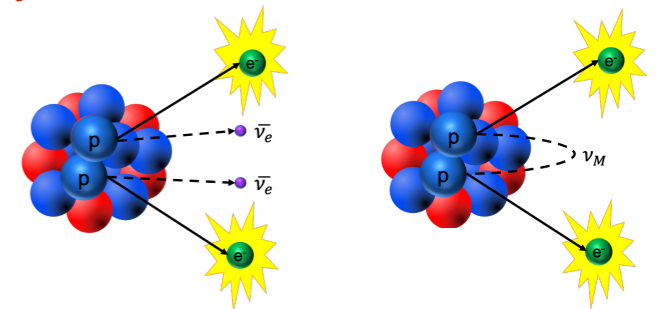
[Phys.Rev.Lett. 120 (2018),  
Phys.Rept. 900 (2021),  
Phys.Rev.D 103, 074511(2021)]

Baryon-baryon  
interactions,  
incl. QED

[Phys.Rev.D 96, 114510 (2017),  
Phys.Rev.D 103, 054504 (2021),  
Phys.Rev.D 103, 054508 (2021),  
2108.10835 (2021)]

Double  $\beta$ -decay

[Phys.Rev.Lett. 119, 062003 (2017),  
Phys.Rev.D 96, 054505 (2017)]



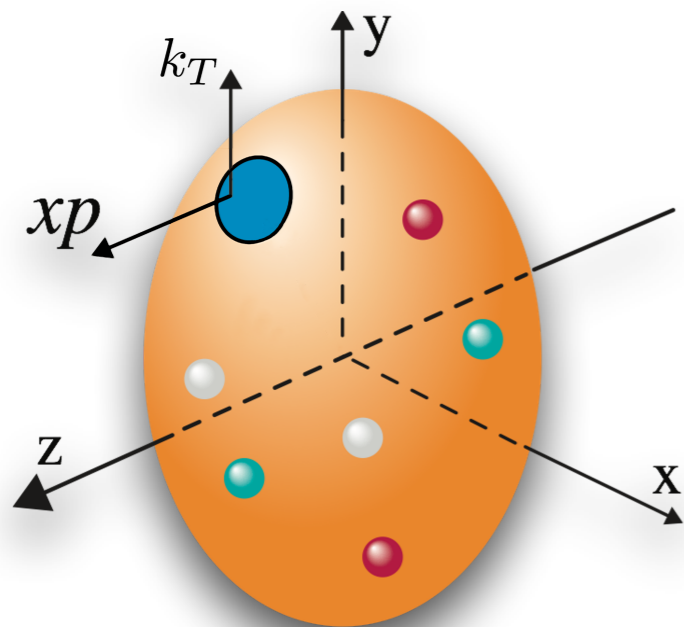
Nuclear parton  
distribution functions

[Phys.Rev.D 96, 094512 (2017),  
Phys.Rev.Lett. 126, 202001 (2021)]



# Parton physics from Lattice QCD

Understanding the quark and gluon structure of matter



Three-dimensional partonic structure of the proton

**PDF**  
 $f_{q/H}(x)$   
 longitudinal

**TMD**  
 $f_{q/H}(x, k_T)$   
 + transverse

$f_{q/H}(x, b_T)$   
 + impact parameter

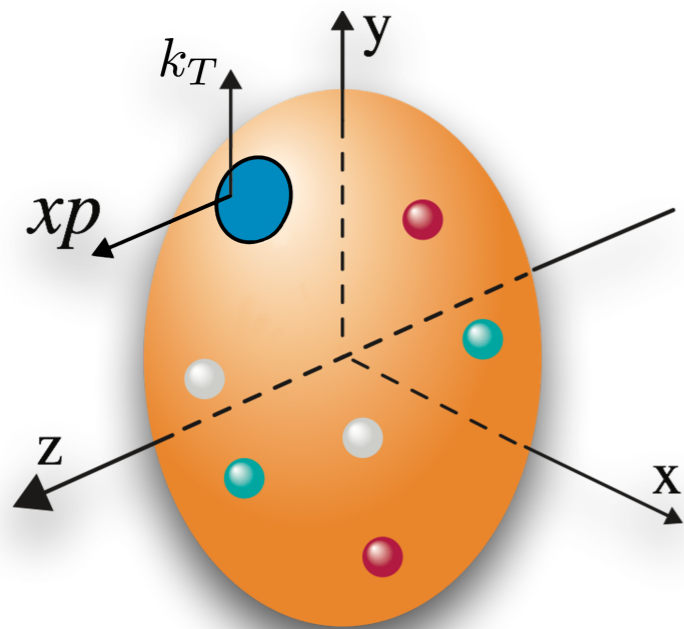
Fourier transform  
 $\xi = 0$

**GPD**  
 $H_{q/H}(x, \xi, \Delta_T^2)$

Community overview:  
 Constantinou et al.,  
 "2020 PDF Lattice Report"  
 arXiv:2006.08636

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# Decomposition of proton momentum

Moments of PDFs encode key aspects of hadron structure

$$\int_0^1 dx x^n f(x, \mu^2) = \langle x^n \rangle_f(\mu^2)$$

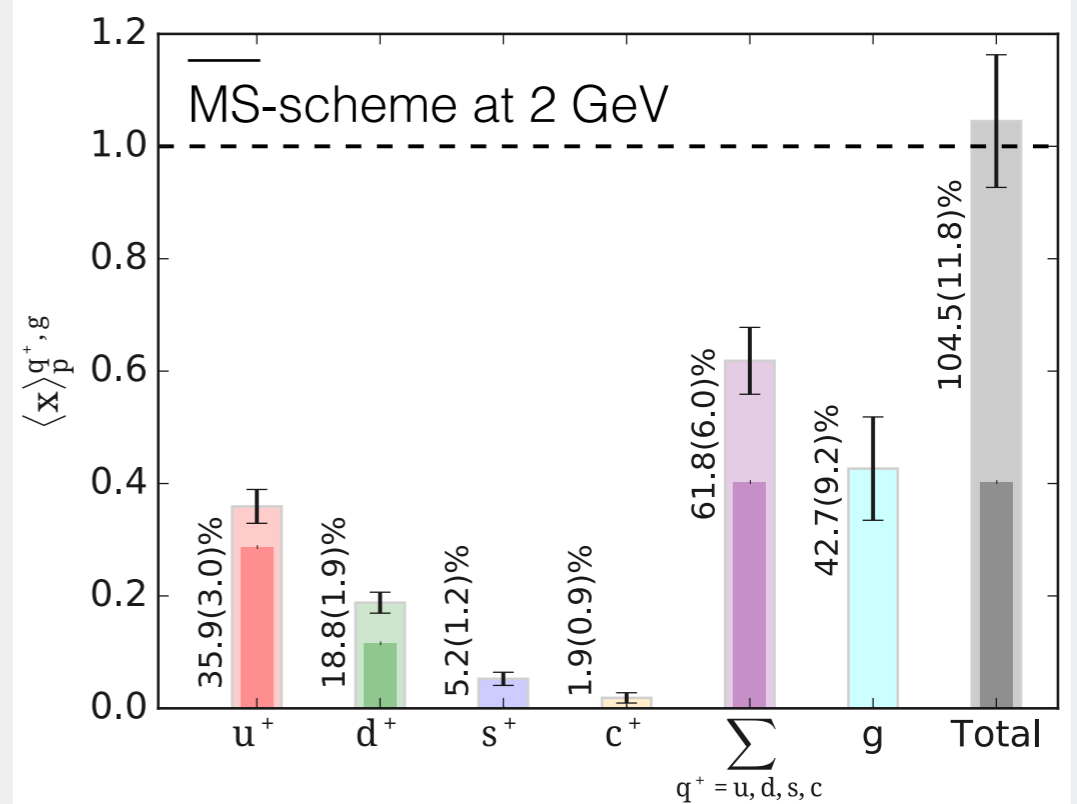
- Lattice QCD can cleanly access low moments of PDFs ( $n \lesssim 3$ )
- Massive community efforts to study x-dependence from LQCD + perturbative matching and other approaches

[Ji, PRL 110 (2013) 262002, Radyushkin, PRD 96 (2017) 034025, Ma & Qiu, PRL 120 (2018) 022003, Braun & Müller, EPJ C55 (2008) 349; Chambers et al., PRL 118 (2017) 242001, Detmold & Lin, PRD 73 (2006) 014501, Liu & Dong, PRL 72 (1994) 1790+many more]

Example: Lowest moment defines contribution of each type of parton to the hadron momentum

2020 Highlight:

Proton momentum decomposition

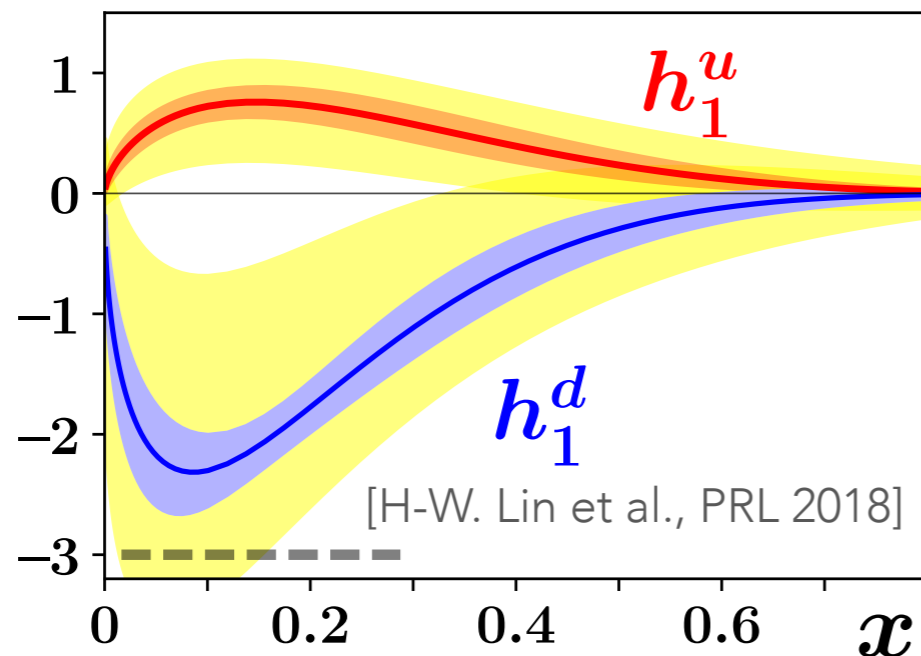


[C. Alexandrou et al., PRD 101 (2020)]

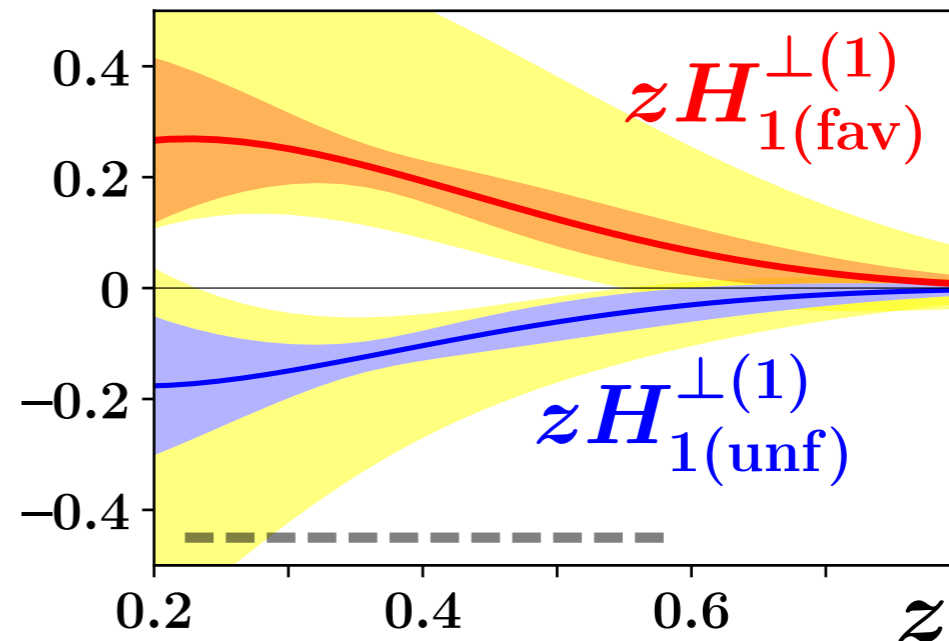
# Constraints on global PDF fits

- Including lattice QCD results for moments in global PDF fits can yield significant improvements
- Community white paper (LQCD + phenomenologists) assessed potential impacts [Lin et al., Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys 100 (2018), 107]

Transversity PDFs



Collins fragmentation functions

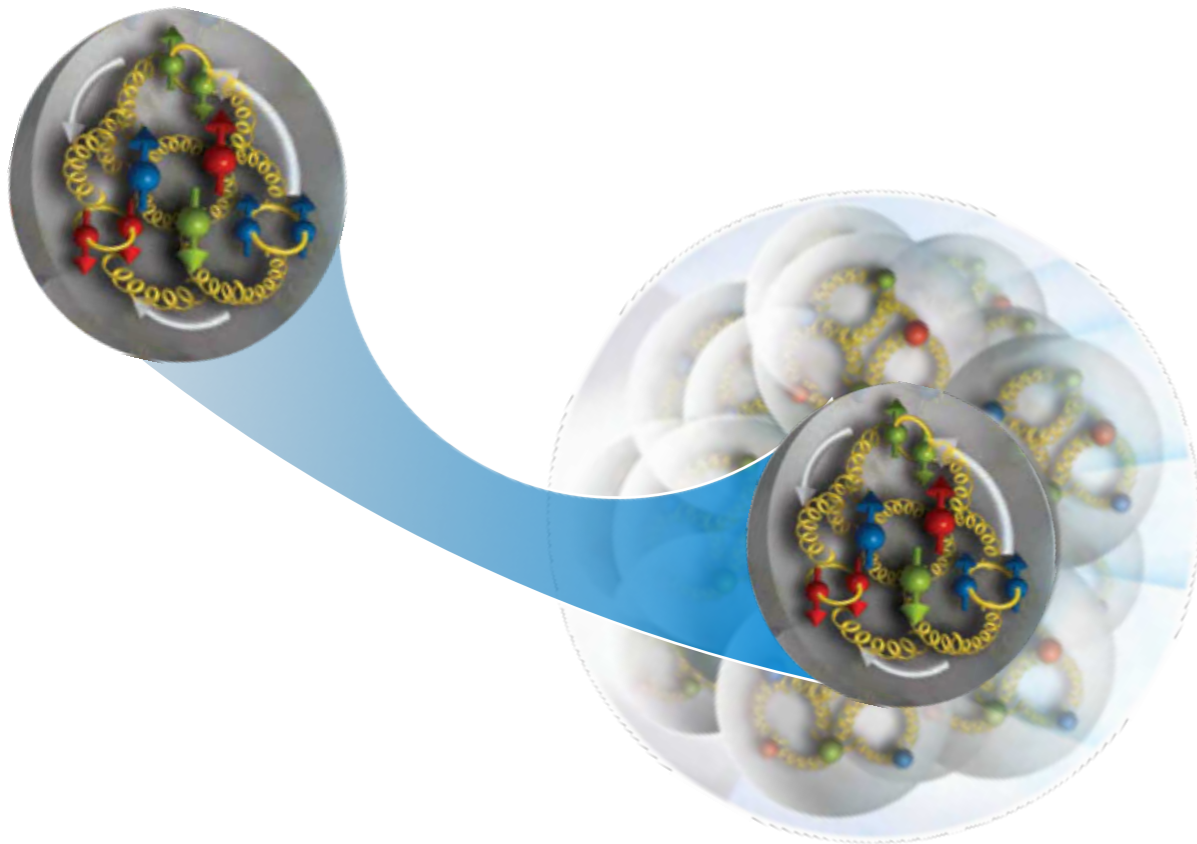


Yellow: SIDIS data only: direct constraints in region indicated by dashes  
 Blue/Red: SIDIS + lattice QCD for tensor charge (zeroth moment)

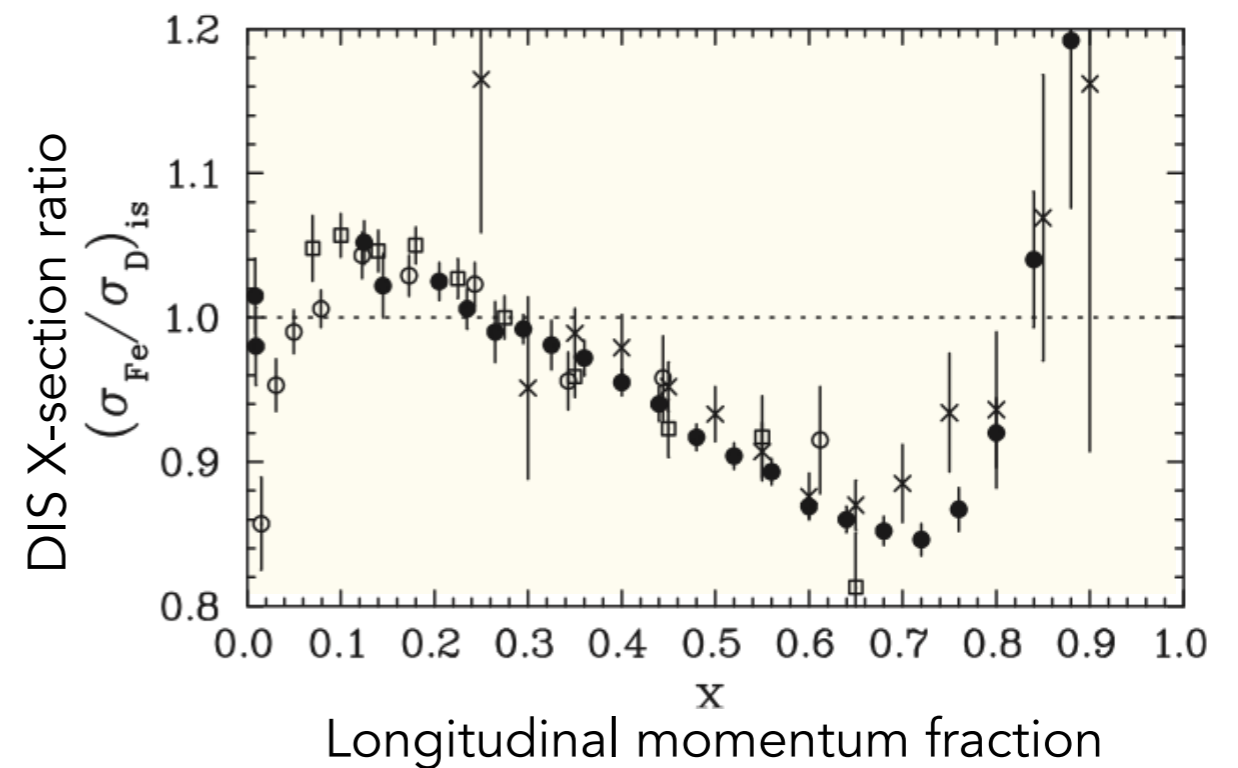
# The structure of matter

Understanding the quark and gluon structure of matter

How is the partonic structure of nuclei different from that of nucleons?



Encoded in EMC-type effects



(EMC: Aubert et al., 1983)

# EMC-type effects from Lattice QCD

Understanding the quark and gluon structure of matter

Many aspects of EMC effects will be accessible at a future Electron-Ion Collider



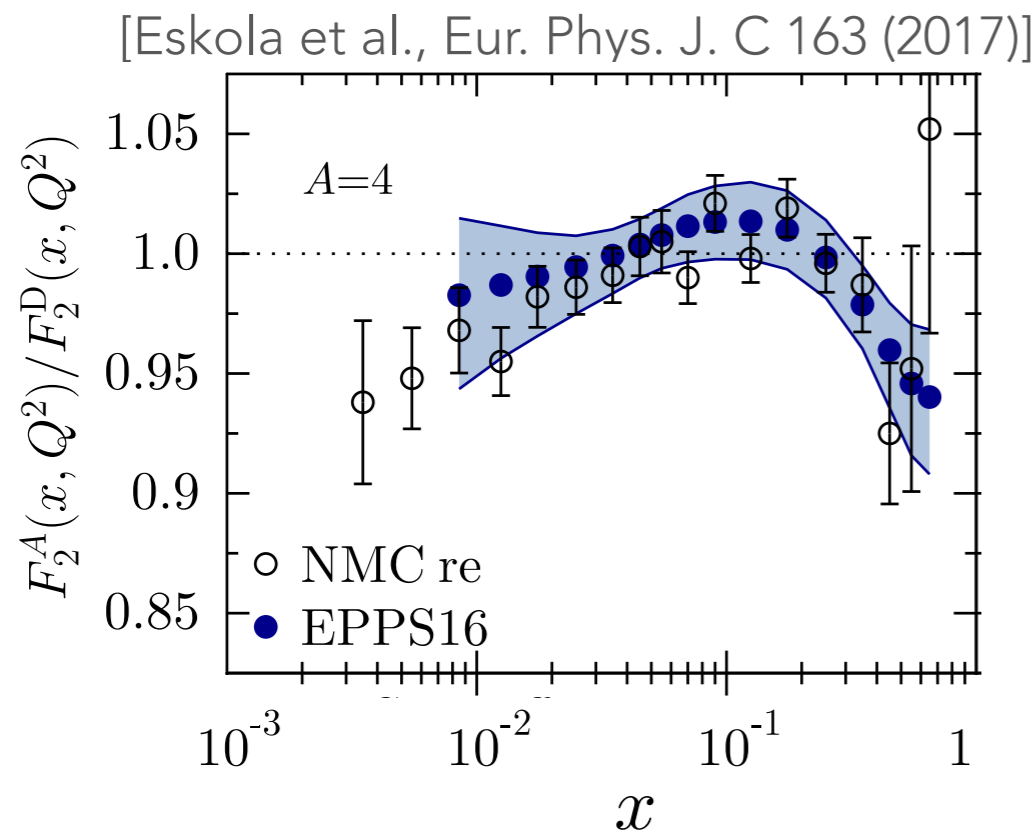
Cover image from EIC whitepaper arXiv:1212.1701

- Polarised EMC (polarised light ions)
- Isovector EMC (SIDIS)
- Gluon EMC (quarkonium production)
- LQCD will make predictions!

# EMC effects in Mellin moments

First investigation of EMC-type effects from LQCD:  
Nuclear effects in Mellin moments of PDFs

- Calculable from local operators
- **BUT** EMC effects in moments are very small



Classic EMC effect is defined in  $F_2$ :

$$F_2(x, Q^2) = \sum_{q=u,d,s,\dots} x e_q^2 [q(x, Q^2) + \bar{q}(x, Q^2)]$$

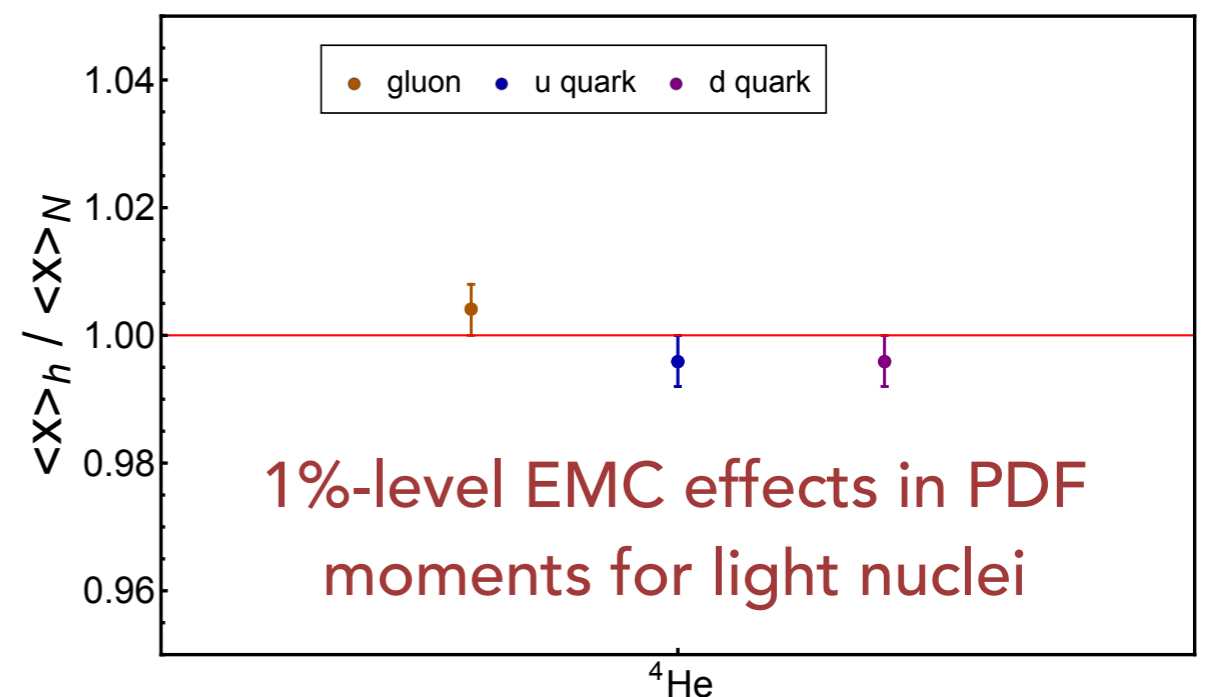
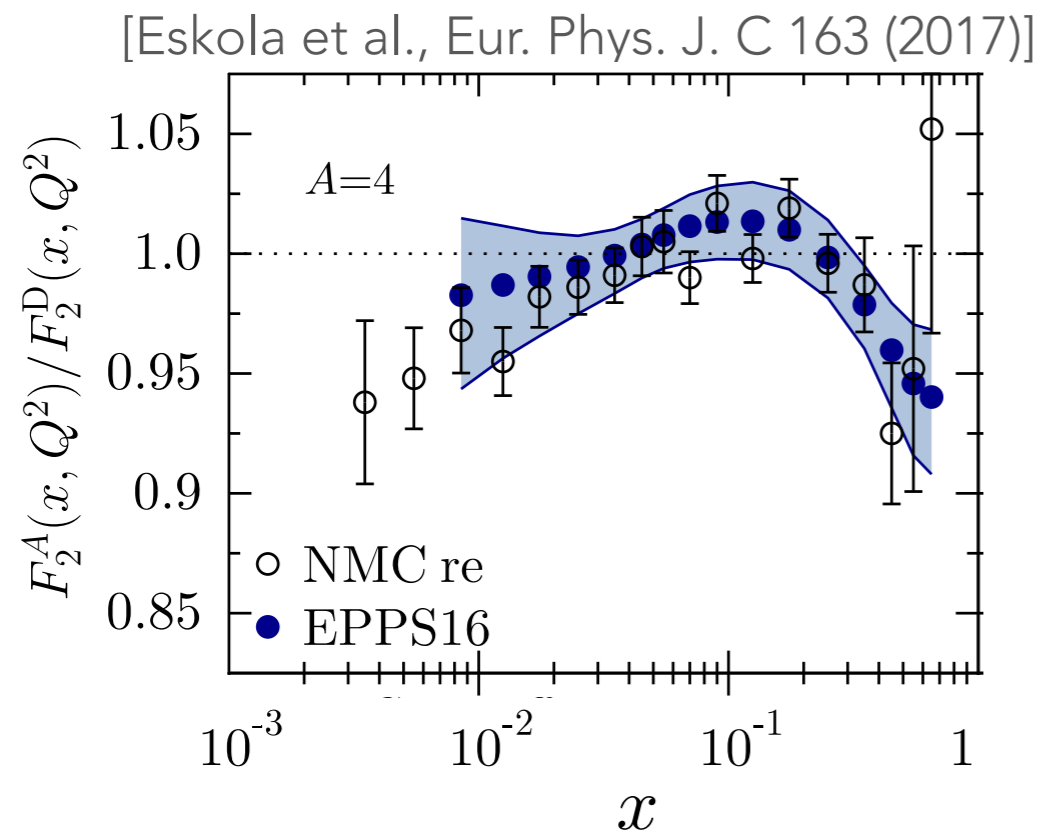
↑ Number density of partons of flavour  $q$

→ x-integrals of numerator and denominator  $\int_0^1 dx x^n q(x, Q^2)$

# EMC effects in Mellin moments

First investigation of EMC-type effects from LQCD:  
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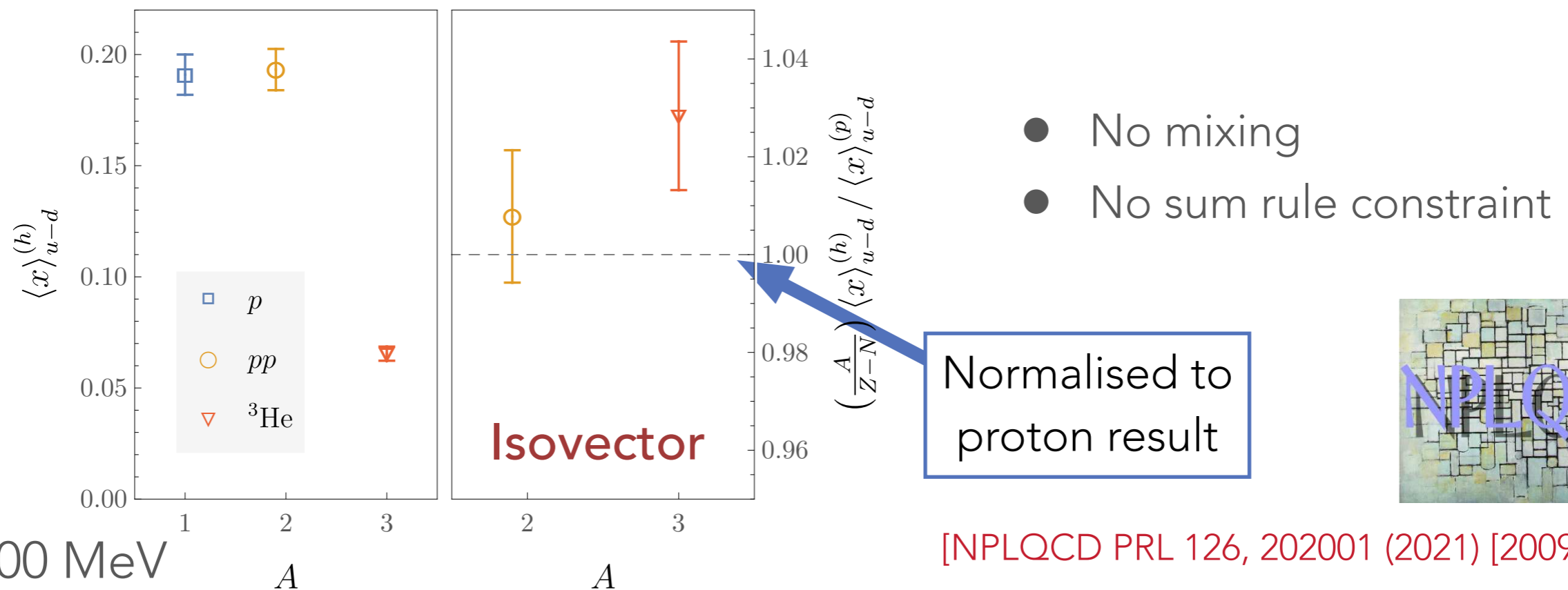
# Momentum fraction of nuclei

Matrix elements of the Energy-Momentum Tensor in light nuclei

→ first QCD determination of momentum fraction of nuclei

- Bounds on EMC effect in moments at ~few percent level, consistent with phenomenology [2009.05522 [hep-lat] (2021)]

## Ratio of quark momentum fraction in nucleus to nucleon

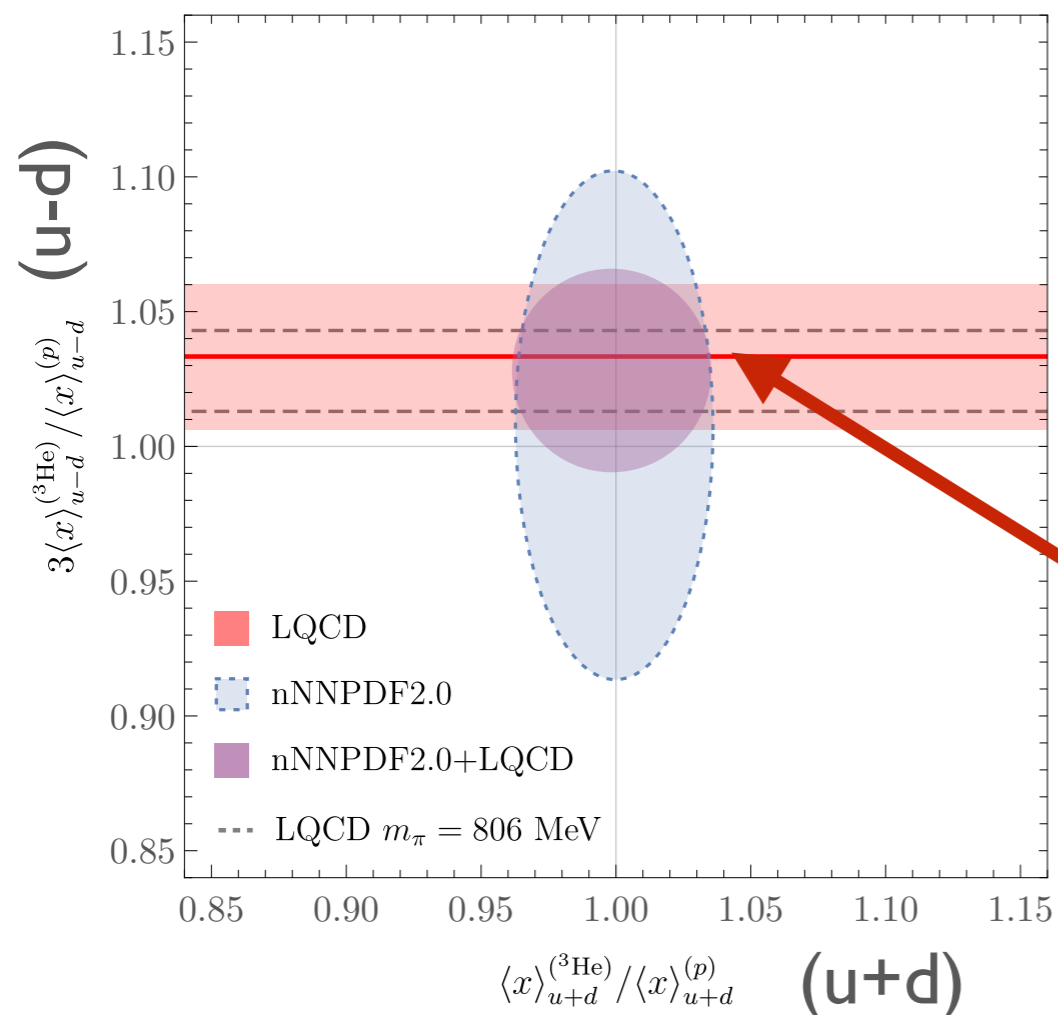


# Momentum fraction of ${}^3\text{He}$

Matrix elements of the Energy-Momentum Tensor in light nuclei

→ first QCD determination of momentum fraction of nuclei

Ratio of  ${}^3\text{He}$  to proton momentum fractions



- Match isovector (u-d quark combination) momentum fraction to low-energy constants of effective field theory, extrapolate to physical quark masses
- Include into nNNPDF global fits of experimental lepton-nucleus scattering data

Blue → Purple:  
Improvement using theory constraints

[NPLQCD PRL 126, 202001 (2021) [2009.05522]]

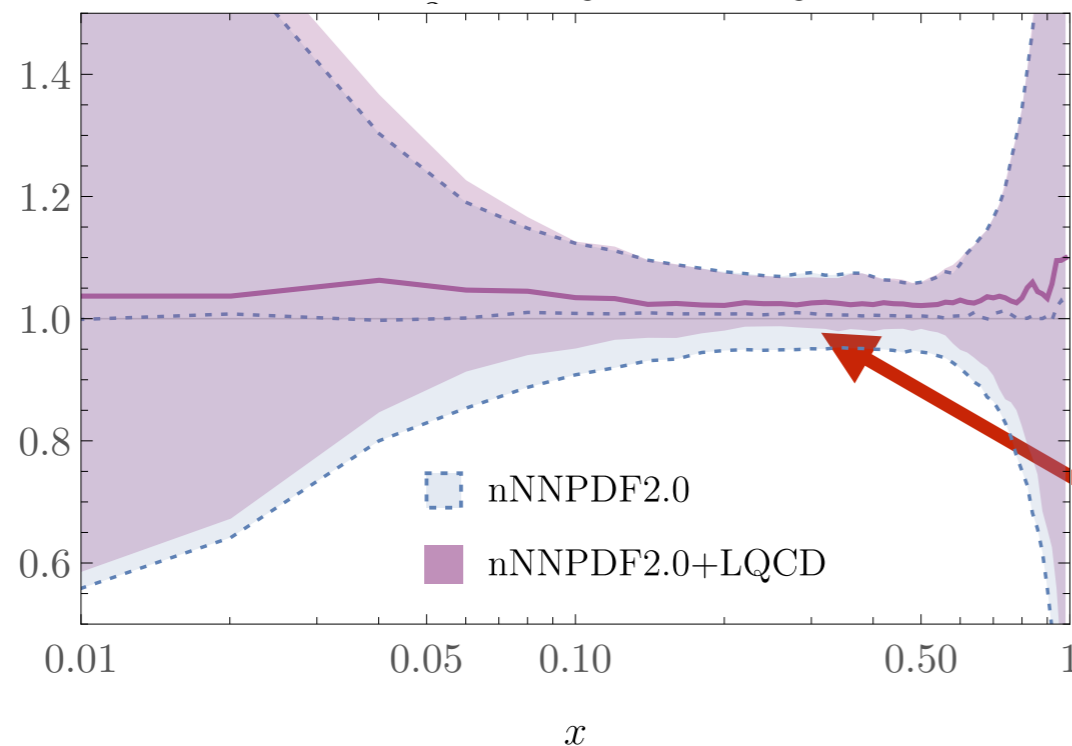
# Momentum fraction of $^3\text{He}$

Matrix elements of the Energy-Momentum Tensor in light nuclei

→ first QCD determination of momentum fraction of nuclei

Ratio of  $^3\text{He}$  to proton  
parton distributions

$$R^{(^3\text{He})}(x) = 3q_3^{(^3\text{He})}(x)/q_3^{(p)}(x)$$



- Match isovector (u-d quark combination) momentum fraction to low-energy constants of effective field theory, extrapolate to physical quark masses
- Include into nNNPDF global fits of experimental lepton-nucleus scattering data

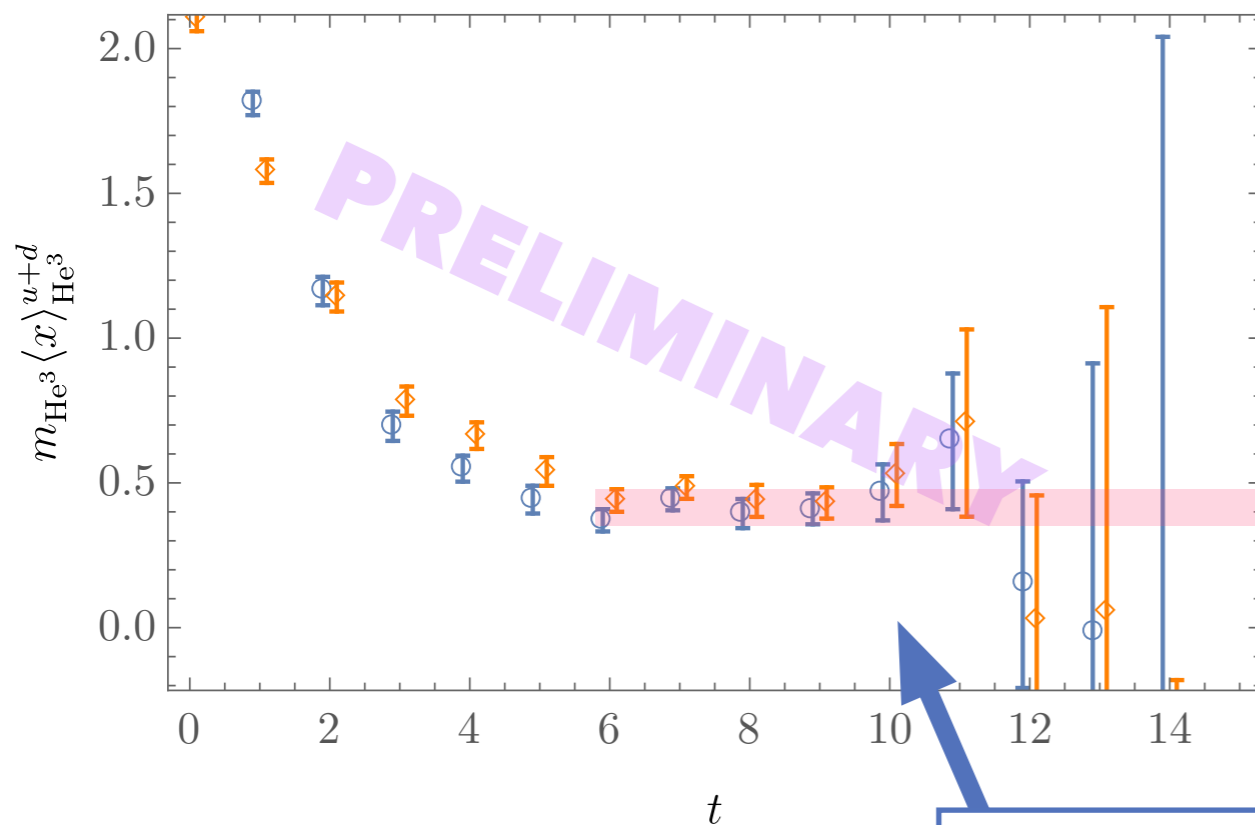
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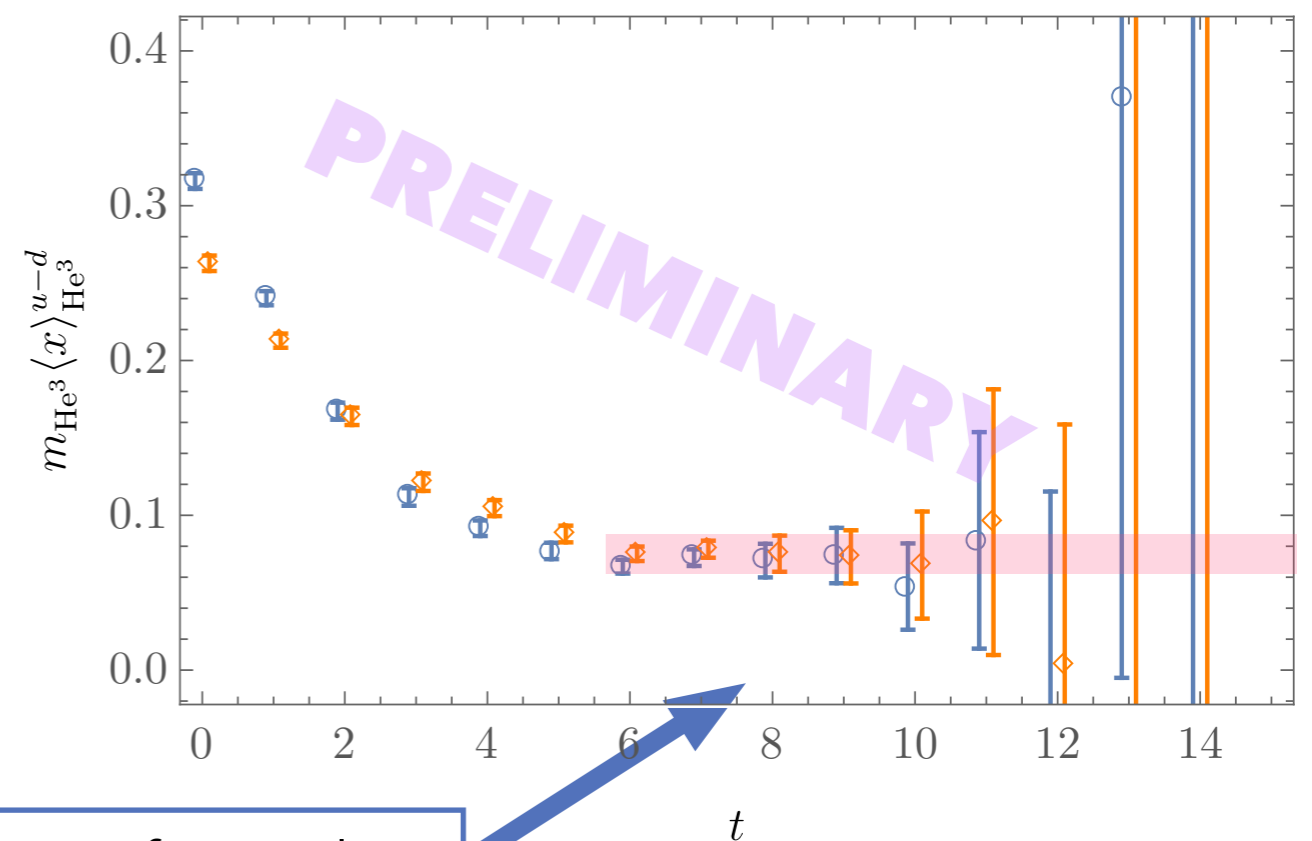
# Momentum fraction of ${}^3\text{He}$

- Work in progress at close-to-physical values of the quark masses

Isoscalar



Isovector



First evidence of signals in physical-point data

- Polarised PDFs also accessible from moments



# Exotic glue in the deuteron

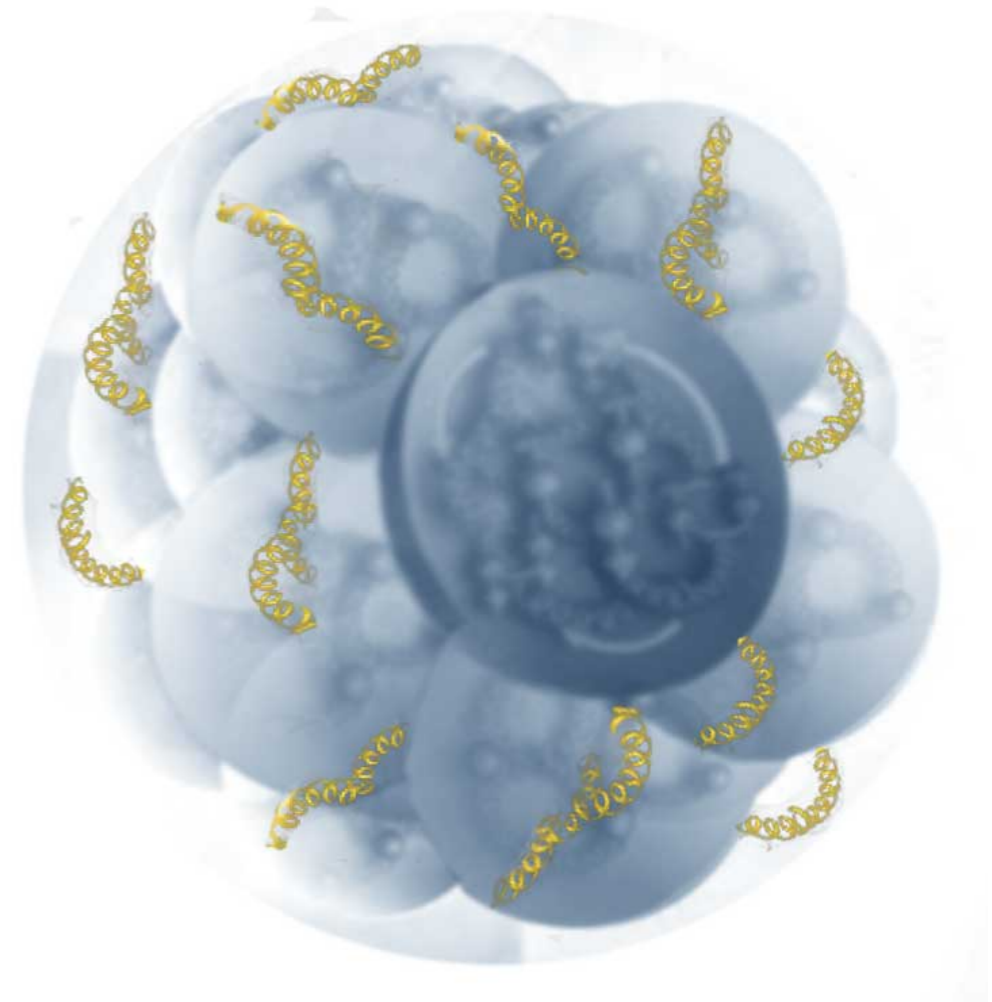
a "pure" EMC-type effect

Contributions to nuclear structure from gluons not associated with individual nucleons in nucleus

Exotic glue operator:

$$\text{nucleon } \langle p | \mathcal{O} | p \rangle = 0$$

$$\text{nucleus } \langle N, Z | \mathcal{O} | N, Z \rangle \neq 0$$

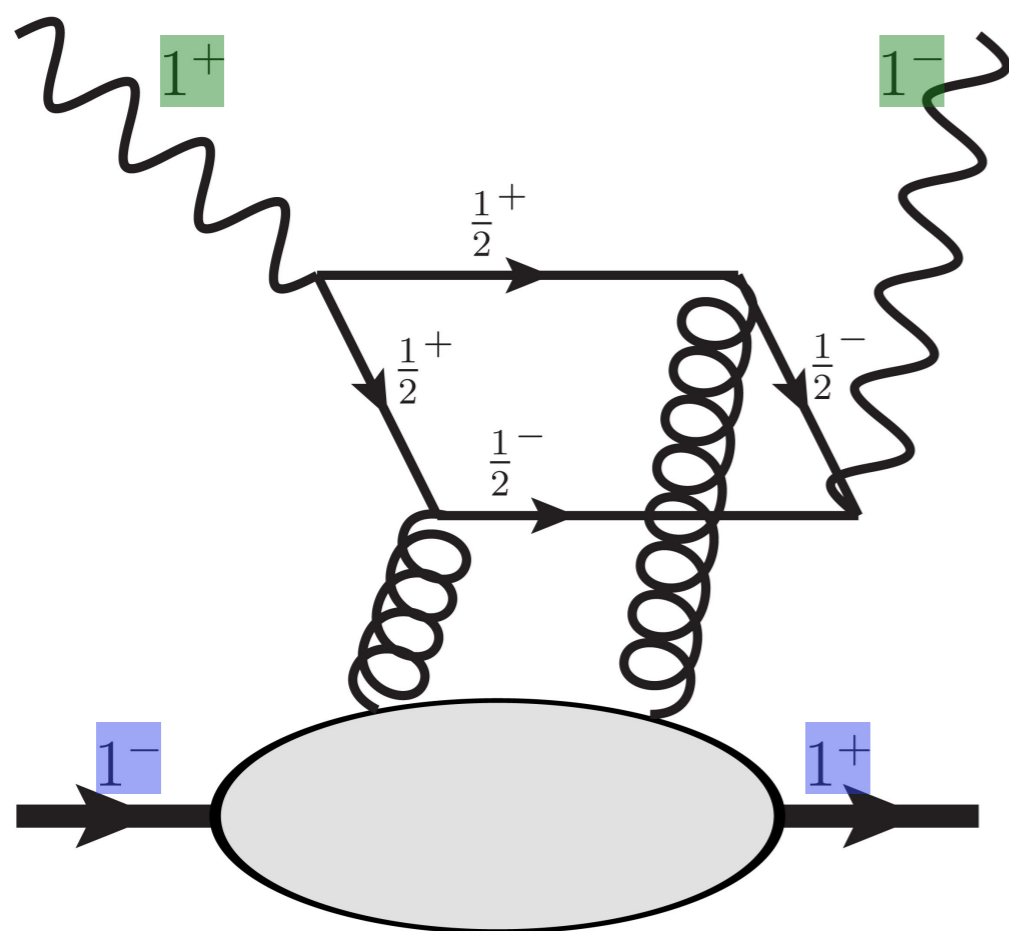


Jaffe and Manohar, "Nuclear Gluonometry"  
Phys. Lett. B223 (1989) 218

# Exotic glue in the deuteron

a "pure" EMC-type effect

Double helicity flip structure function  $\Delta(x, Q^2)$ :  
changes both photon and target helicity by 2 units



- **Unambiguously gluonic:** no analogous quark PDF at twist-2
- Non-vanishing in forward limit for targets with  $\text{spin} \geq 1$
- **Experimentally measurable**
  - Unpolarised electron DIS on polarised target: JLab Lol 2015, Polarised nuclei at EIC
  - Proton-deuteron Drell-Yan at FNAL
  - $J/\psi$  production at NICA
- Moments calculable in LQCD

# Exotic glue in the deuteron

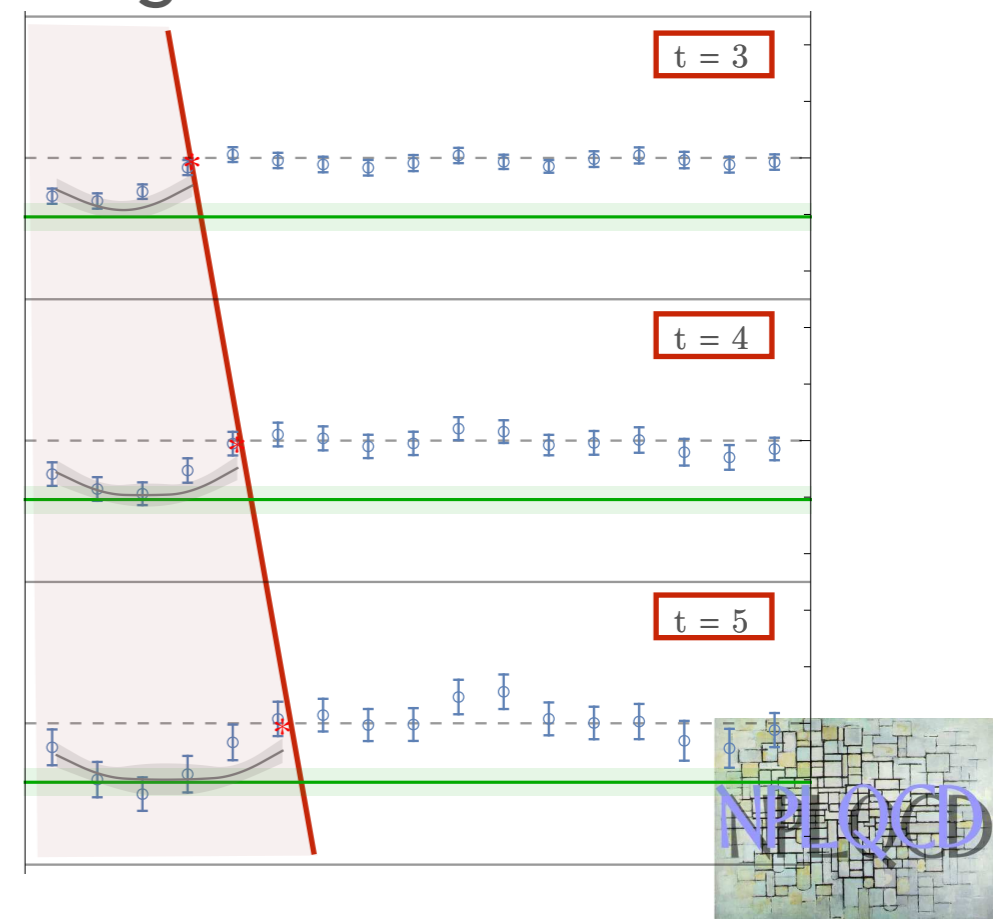
Contributions to nuclear structure from gluons not associated with individual nucleons in nucleus

$$\text{nucleon: } \langle p | \mathcal{O} | p \rangle = 0$$

$$\text{nucleus: } \langle N, Z | \mathcal{O} | N, Z \rangle \neq 0$$

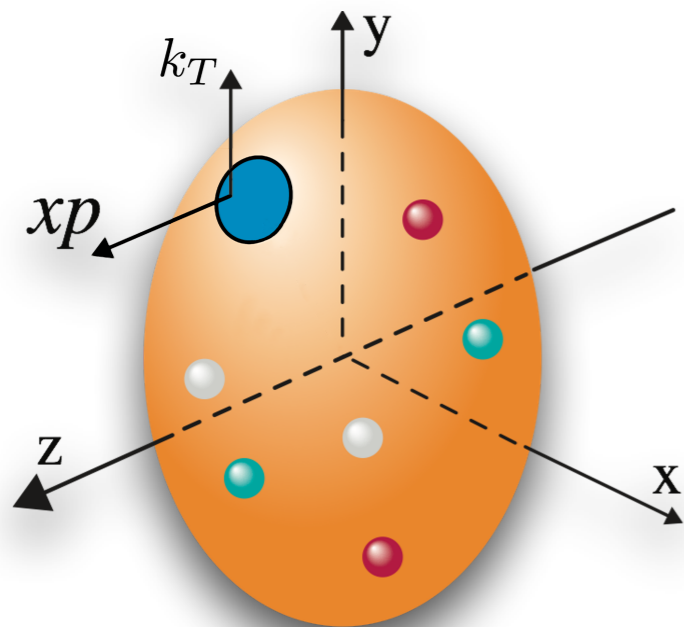
- First moment of gluon transversity distribution in the deuteron [Jaffe, Manohar PLB223 (1989) 218]
- First evidence for non-nucleonic gluon contributions to nuclear structure: LQCD with  $m_\pi \sim 800$  MeV [NPLQCD PRD96 (2017)]
- Magnitude relative to momentum fraction as expected from large- $N_c$

## Signal in LQCD data



# Parton physics from Lattice QCD

Understanding the quark and gluon structure of matter



Three-dimensional partonic structure of the proton

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$f_{q/H}(x, b_T)$   
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Fourier transform  
 $\xi = 0$

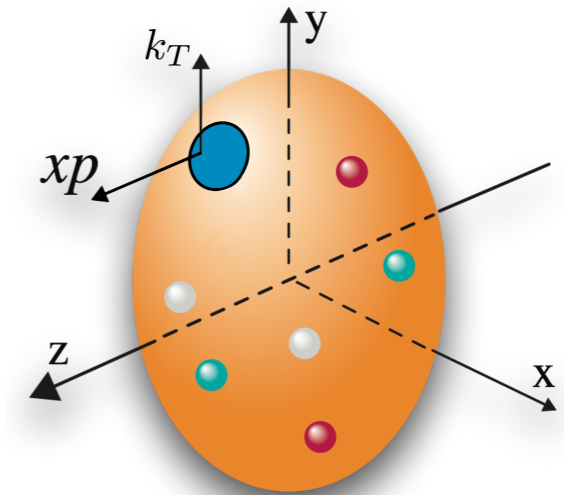
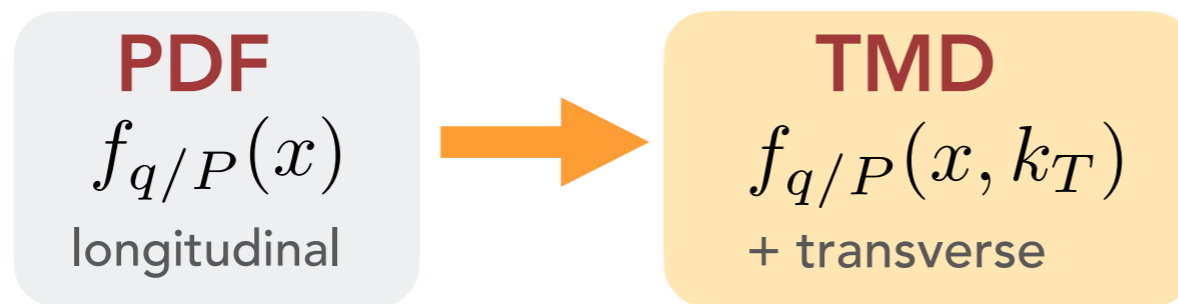
**GPD**  
 $H_{q/H}(x, \xi, \Delta_T^2)$

Community overview:  
 Constantinou et al.,  
 "2020 PDFLattice Report"  
 arXiv:2006.08636



# Collins-Soper evolution kernel

- More detailed picture of nucleon including transverse structure



## Collins-Soper Evolution Kernel

$$\gamma_{\zeta}^q(\mu, b_T) = \zeta \frac{d}{d\zeta} \ln f_q(x, \vec{b}_T, \mu, \zeta)$$

- Governs TMD evolution
- Needed to match quasi-TMD (lattice QCD) to physical TMD

- Perturbative at short distances  $\mu, b_T^{-1} \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$
- Non-perturbative for  $b_T^{-1} \lesssim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$  **→ lattice QCD?**
- Independent of hadron

# Collins-Soper evolution kernel

Estimates of size of nonperturbative contributions to CS kernel

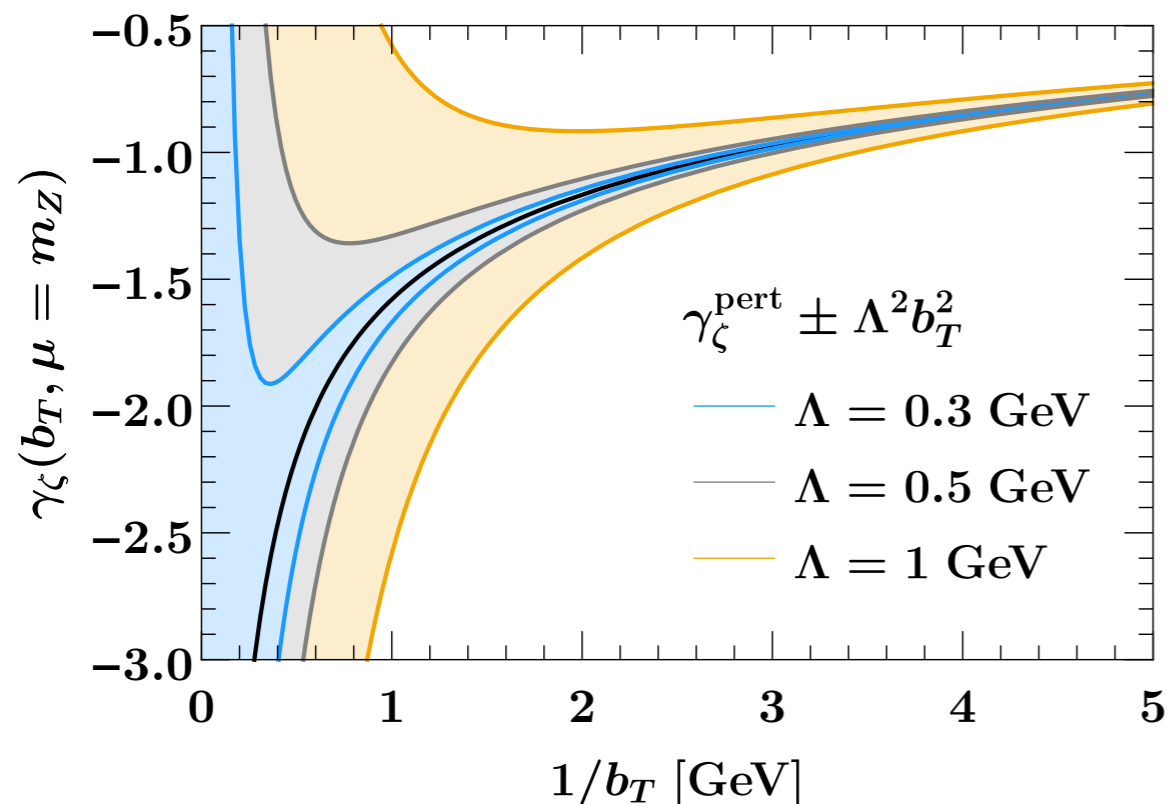


Figure: Iain Stewart

- Large uncertainties in estimates of the size of nonperturbative contributions to the CS kernel

CS kernel from phenomenological fits

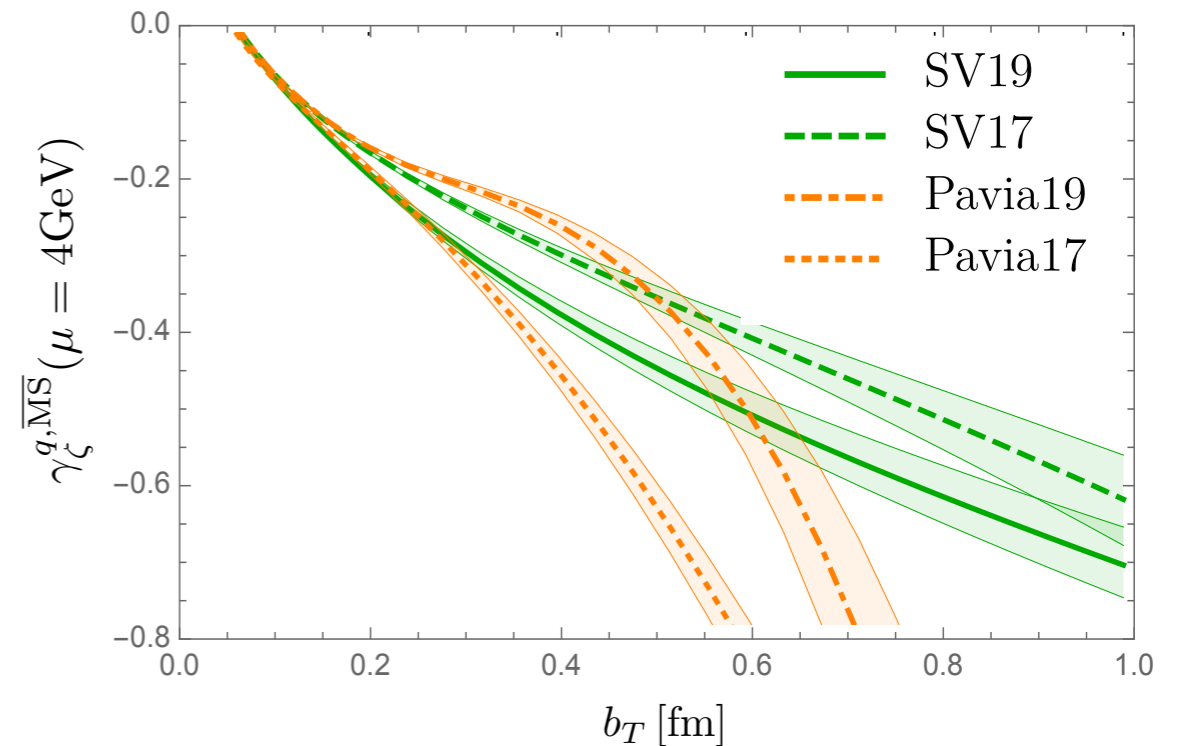
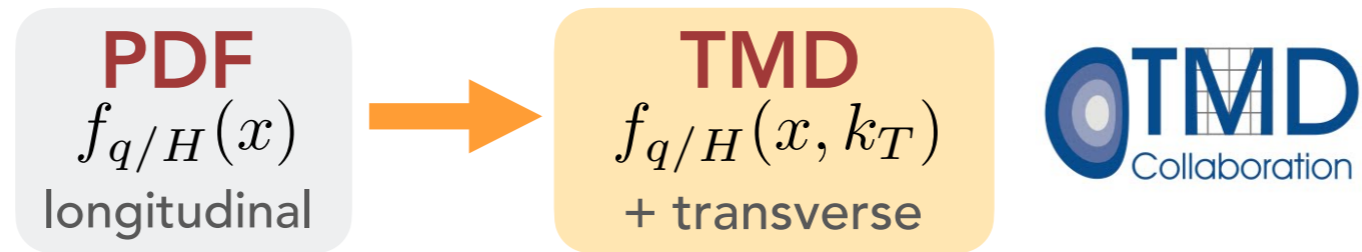


Figure adapted from Vladimirov [2003.02288]

[see also e.g., Kang, Prokudin, Sun, Yuan Phys.Rev.D 93 (2016), Collins, Rogers Phys.Rev.D 91 (2015), Sun, Yuan Phys.Rev.D 88 (2013)]

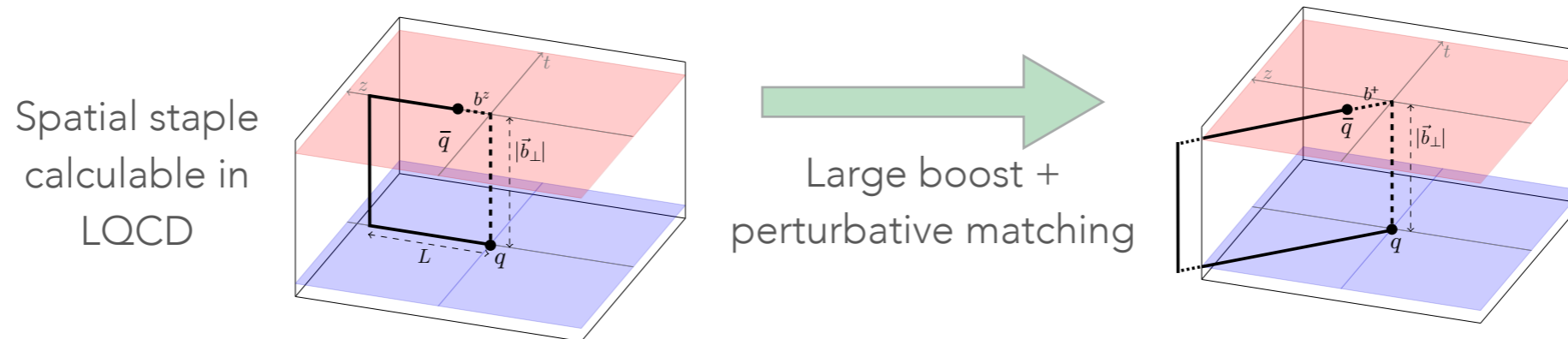
- LQCD constraints in nonperturbative region with  $\sim 10\%$  uncertainties would contribute to model differentiation

# TMDPDFs from lattice QCD



- TMDPDF defined by matrix element of non-local light-cone quark bilinear operator
  - Calculate via quasi-TMD prescription

[Ji, Sun, Xiong, Yuan '14, Ji, Jin, Yuan, Zhang, Zhao, PRD99 (2019), Ebert, Stewart, Zhao, PRD99 (2019), JHEP09 (2019), Ji, Liu, Liu, [1911.03840] (2019), Nucl.Phys.B (2020), Vladimirov, Schäfer, Phys.Rev.D 101 (2020)]



$$\tilde{f}_{u-d}(x, \vec{b}_T, \mu, P^z) = C_{u-d}^{\text{TMD}}(\mu, xP^z) g_q^S(b_T, \mu) \exp \left[ \frac{1}{2} \gamma_\zeta^q(\mu, b_T) \ln \frac{(2xP^z)^2}{\zeta} \right] f_{u-d}(x, \vec{b}_T, \mu, \zeta)$$

quasi-TMD from LQCD      perturbative matching      non-pert. soft factor      Collins-Soper evolution kernel      desired TMDPDF

# TMDPDFs from lattice QCD

## Collins-Soper Evolution Kernel

$$\gamma_{\zeta}^q(\mu, b_T) = \zeta \frac{d}{d\zeta} \ln f_q(x, \vec{b}_T, \mu, \zeta)$$

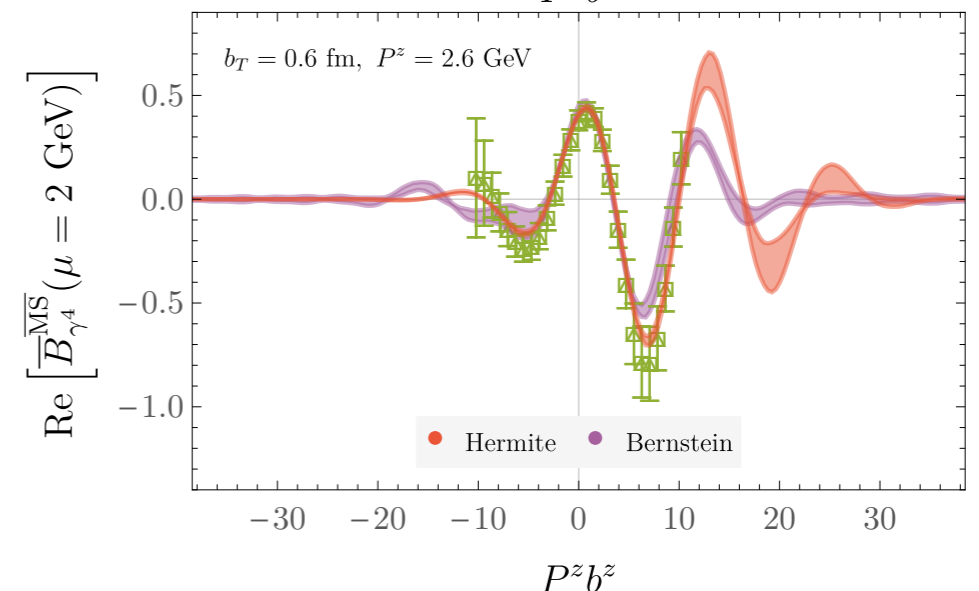
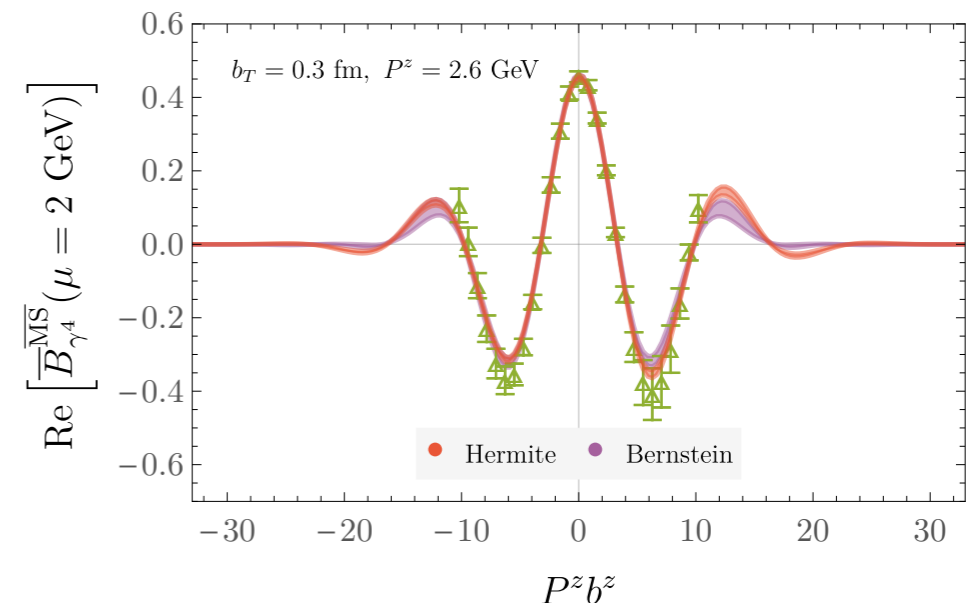
- Governs TMD evolution
- Needed to match quasi-TMD (lattice QCD) to physical TMD

- Can be accessed via ratio of non-local MEs in LQCD [Ebert, Stewart, Zhao, PRD99 (2019)]

$$\gamma_{\zeta}^q(\mu, b_T) = \frac{1}{\ln(P_1^z/P_2^z)} \ln \left[ \frac{C_{\text{ns}}^{\text{TMD}}(\mu, xP_2^z)}{C_{\text{ns}}^{\text{TMD}}(\mu, xP_1^z)} \right]$$

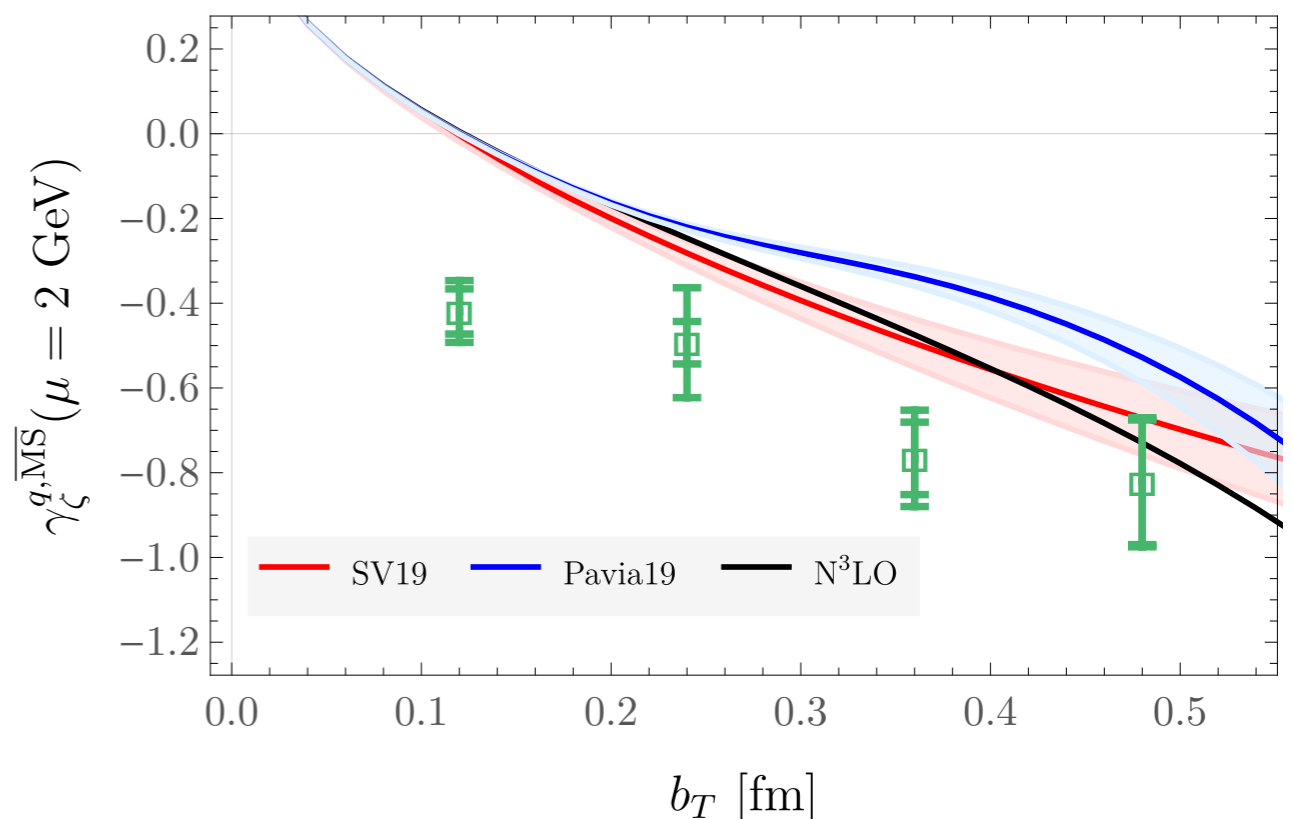
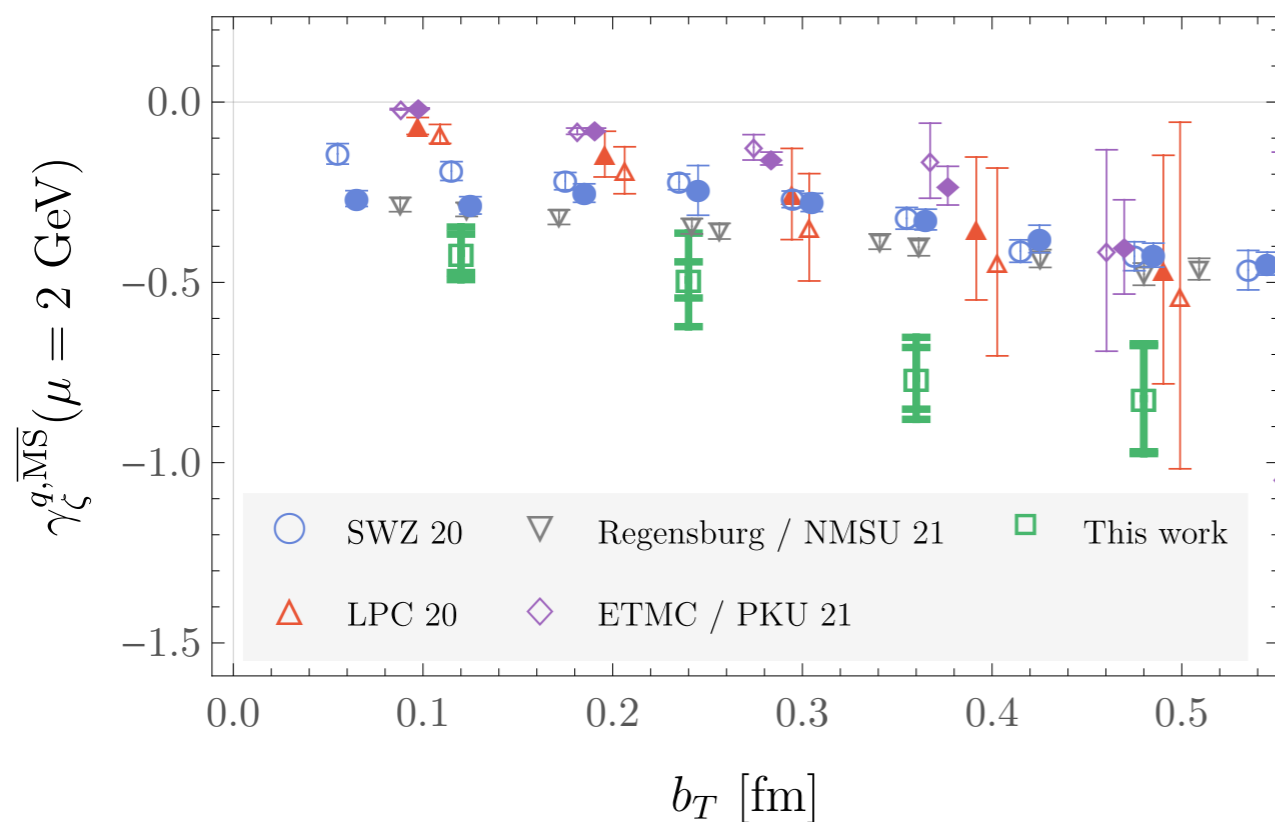
$$\times \frac{\int db^z e^{-ib^z x P_1^z} P_1^z \lim_{\eta \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} B_{\gamma^4}^{\overline{\text{MS}}}(\mu, b^z, \vec{b}_T, a, \eta, b_T^R, P_1^z)}{\int db^z e^{-ib^z x P_2^z} P_2^z \lim_{\eta \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} B_{\gamma^4}^{\overline{\text{MS}}}(\mu, b^z, \vec{b}_T, a, \eta, b_T^R, P_2^z)}$$

- First (quenched) calculation in 2020 [PES, Wagman, Zhao PRD102, 014511 (2020)]
- CS-kernel independent of state: study unphysically-heavy pion with no systematic bias



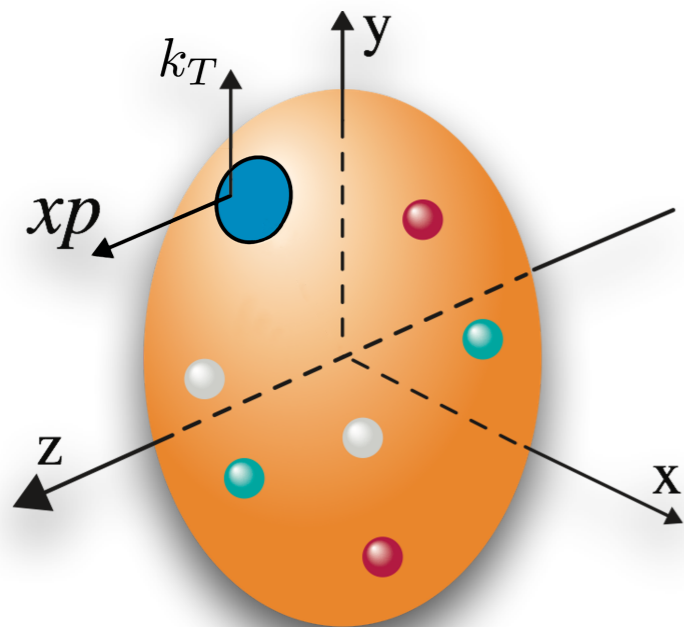
# Collins Soper kernel from lattice QCD

- First dynamical results 2021
- Currently: Significant spread in results from different LQCD studies from analysis systematics (e.g., NLO matching is important)
- Fully-controlled results at similar precision would already impact phenomenology
- Will require more robust treatment of power corrections



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Community overview:  
Constantinou et al.,  
"2020 PDFLattice Report"  
arXiv:2006.08636

# Moments of GPDs

- Moments of GPDs define generalised form factors which encode e.g., Energy-Momentum Tensor
- Matrix elements of traceless gluon EMT for spin-half nucleon:

$$\langle p', s' | G_{\{\mu\alpha}^a G_{\nu\}}^{a\alpha} | p, s \rangle = \bar{U}(p', s') \left( A_g(t) \gamma_{\{\mu} P_{\nu\}} + B_g(t) \frac{i P_{\{\mu} \sigma_{\nu\} \rho} \Delta^\rho}{2M_N} + D_g(t) \frac{\Delta_{\{\mu} \Delta_{\nu\}}}{4M_N} \right) U(p, s)$$

← Gluon field-strength tensor
← Generalised gluon form factors
→  $\Delta_\mu = p'_\mu - p_\mu$   $P_\mu = (p_\mu + p'_\mu)/2$   $t = \Delta^2$

- Sum rules of gluon and quark GFFs in forward limit

- Momentum fraction  $A_a(0) = \langle x \rangle_a \quad \longrightarrow \quad \sum_{a=q,g} A_a(0) = 1$
- Spin  $J_a(t) = \frac{1}{2}(A_a(t) + B_a(t)) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \sum_{a=q,g} J_a(0) = \frac{1}{2}$

- D-terms  $D_a(0)$  unknown but equally fundamental!

- $D_a(t)$  GFFs encodes pressure and shear distributions

# D-term from JLab DVCS

Experimental determination of DVCS D-term and extraction of proton pressure distribution

[Burkert, Elouadrhiri, Girod, Nature 557, 396 (2018)]

$$s(r) = -\frac{r}{2} \frac{d}{dr} \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} \tilde{D}(r), \quad p(r) = \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} r^2 \frac{d}{dr} \tilde{D}(r)$$

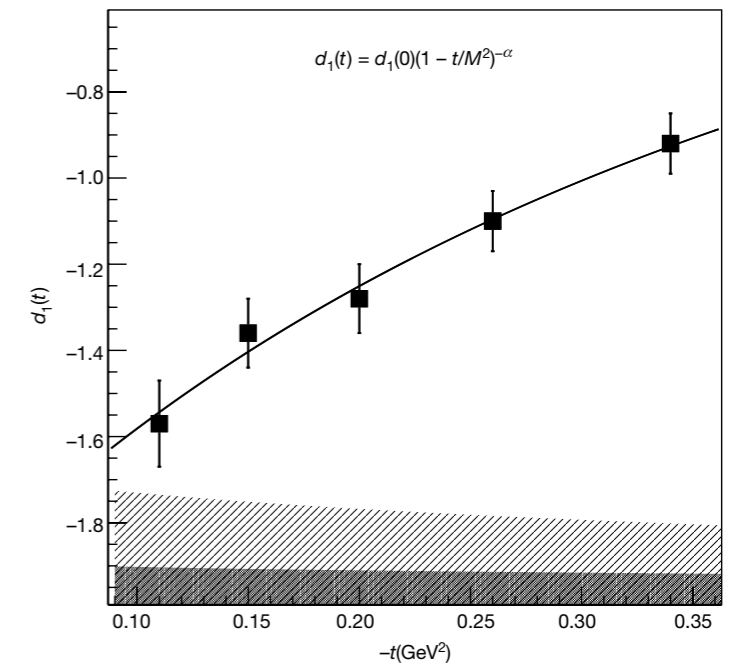
- Peak pressure near centre  $\sim 10^{35}$  Pascal, greater than pressure estimated for neutron stars
- Key assumptions: gluon D-term same as quark term, tripole form factor model,  $D_u(t, \mu) = D_d(t, \mu)$

**EXP + LQCD**

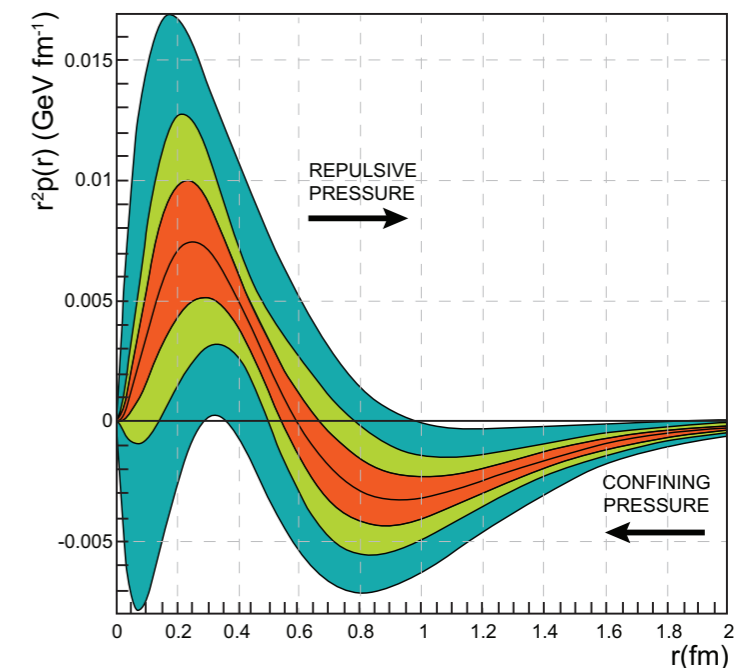
**first complete pressure determination**

[Shanahan, Detmold PRL 122 072003 (2019)]

## DVCS (quark) D-term



## Radial pressure distribution





# Nucleon D-term GFFs from LQCD

EXP + LQCD

first complete pressure determination

[Shanahan, Detmold PRL 122 072003 (2019)]

## Key assumptions in pressure extraction from DVCS

- Gluon D-term same as quark term in magnitude and shape

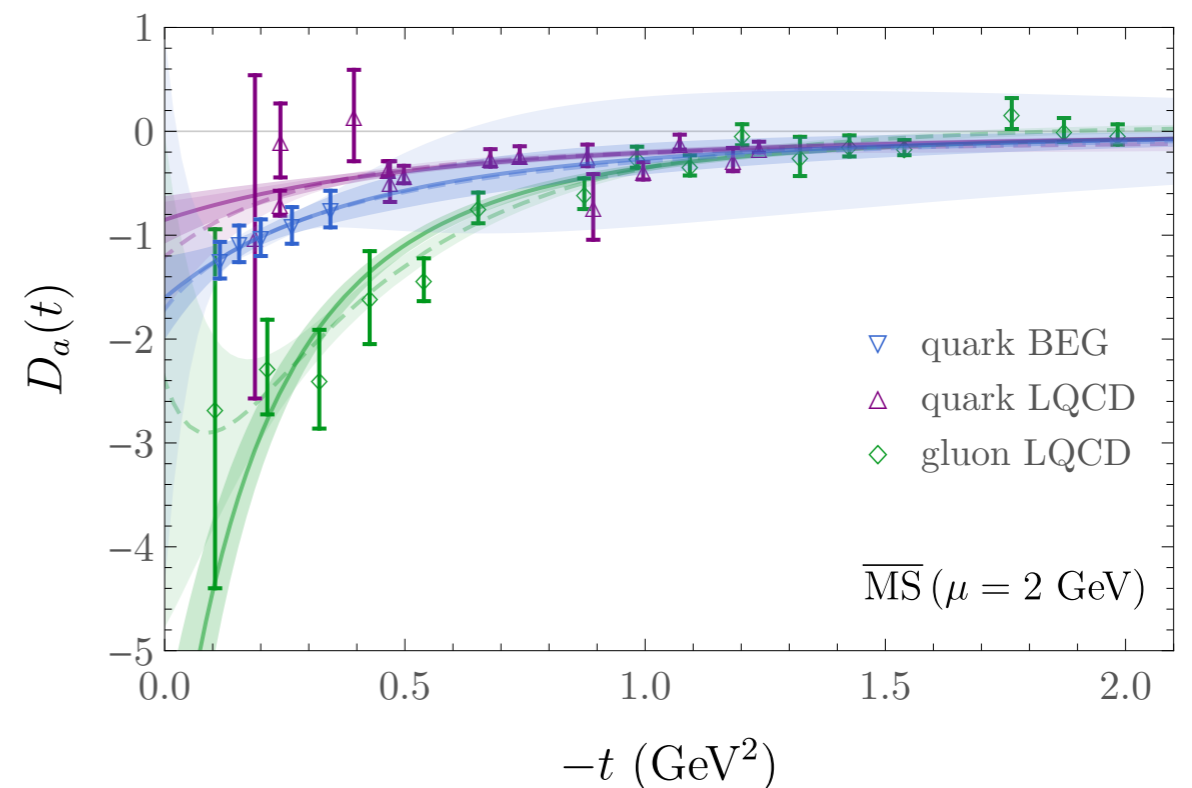
*Factor of ~2 difference in magnitude, somewhat different  $t$ -dependence*

- Tripole form factor model

*LQCD results consistent with ansatz, but more general form is less well constrained*

- Isovector quark D-term vanishes

*$D_{u-d}(t) \sim 0$  from other LQCD studies*



Gluon GFFs: [Shanahan, Detmold, PRD 99, 014511](#)

Quark GFFs: [P. Hägler et al. \(LHPC\), PRD77, 094502 \(2008\)](#)

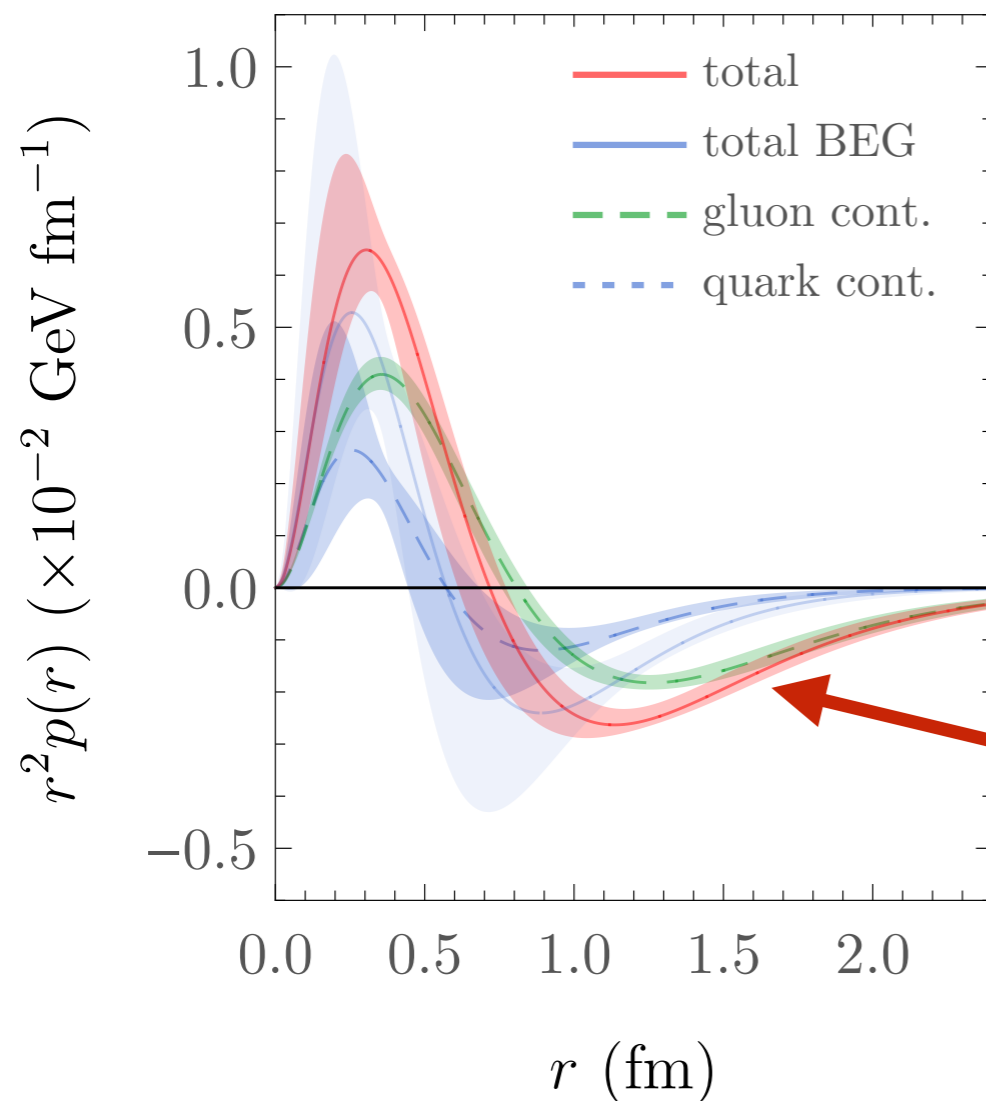
Expt quark GFFs (BEG): [Burkert et al, Nature 557, 396 \(2018\)](#)

# Proton pressure from LQCD

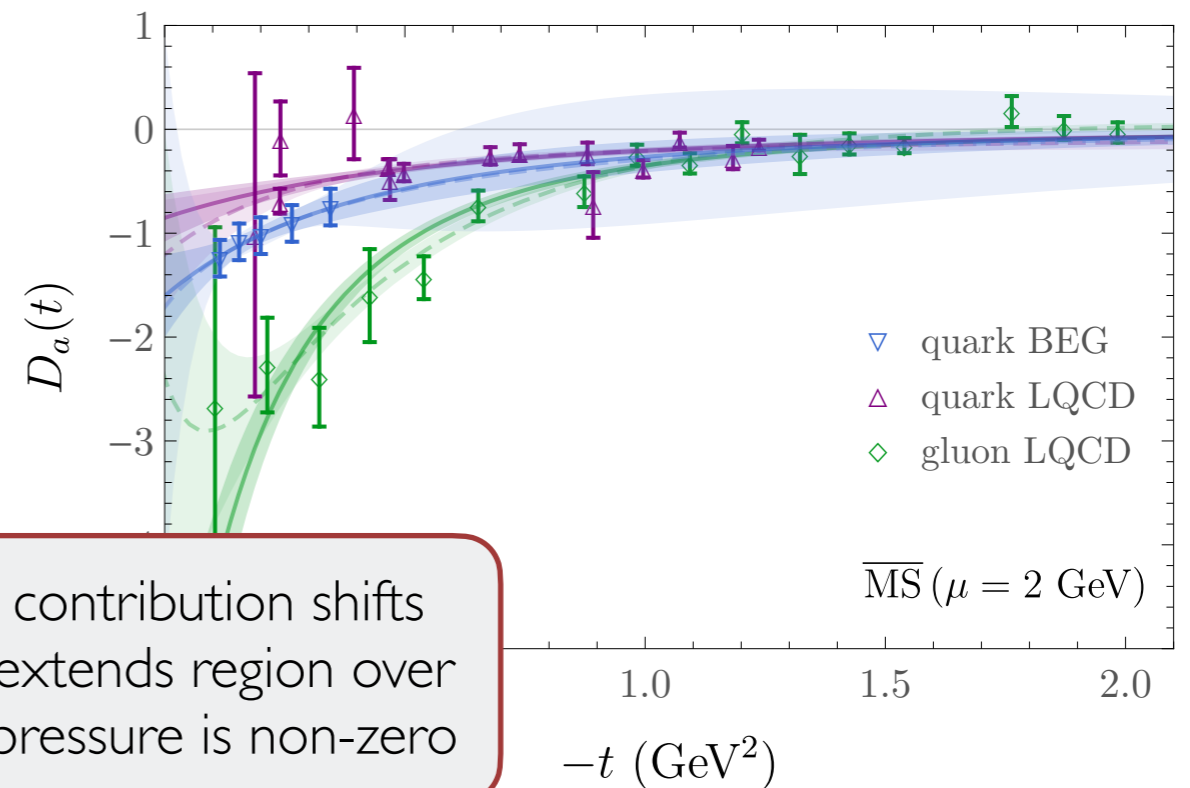
EXP + LQCD

first complete pressure determination

[Shanahan, Detmold PRL 122 072003 (2019)]



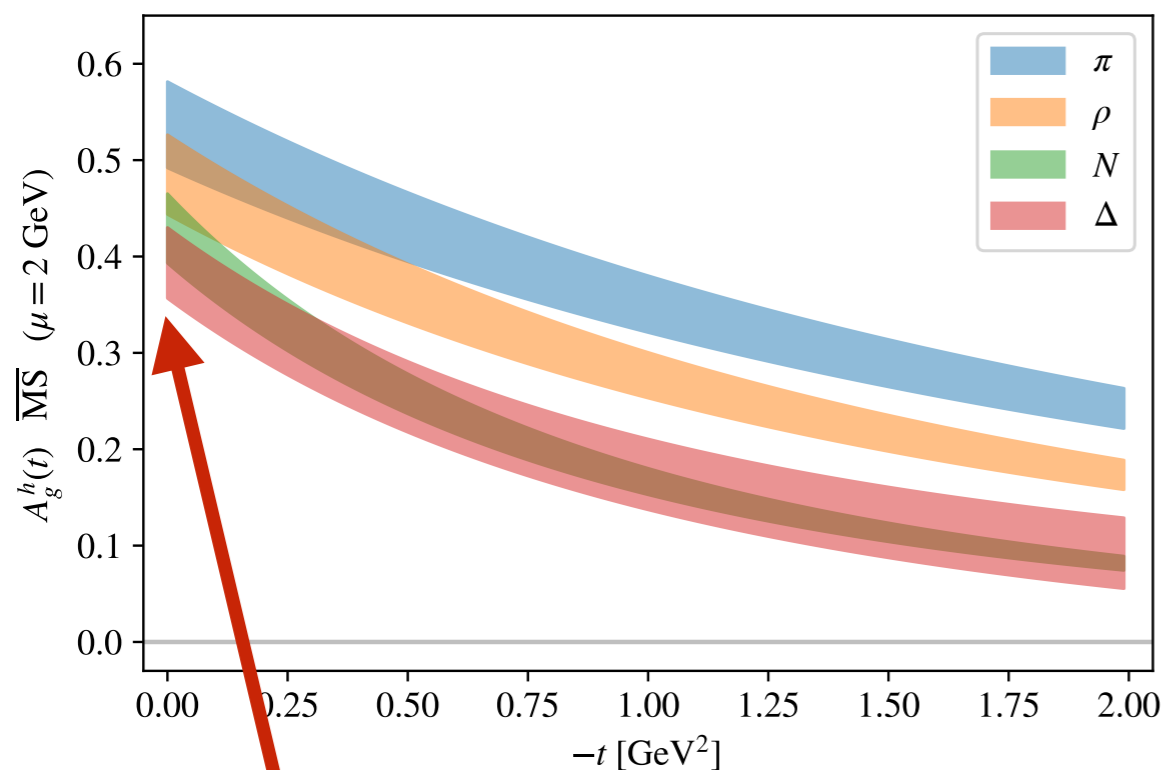
gluon contribution shifts peaks, extends region over which pressure is non-zero



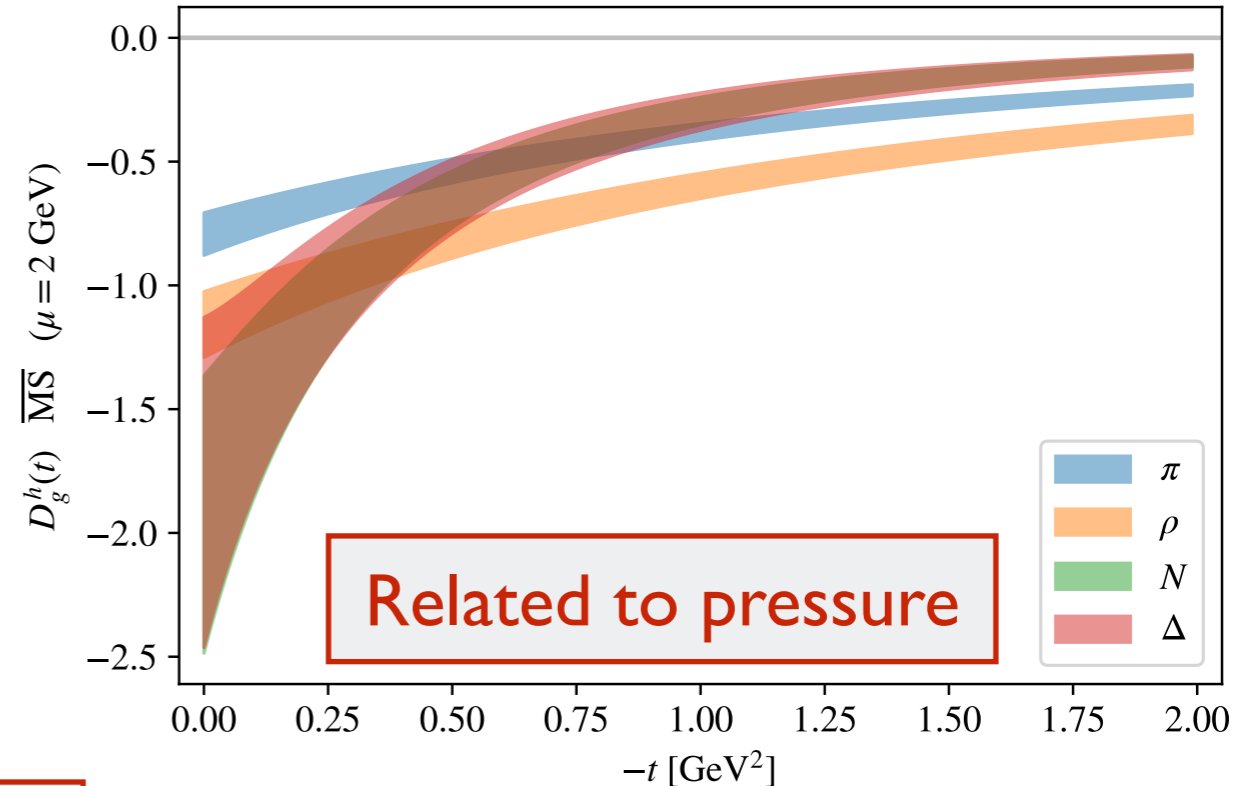
Gluon GFFs: [Shanahan, Detmold, PRD 99, 014511](#)  
 Quark GFFs: [P. Hägler et al. \(LHPC\), PRD77, 094502 \(2008\)](#)  
 Expt quark GFFs (BEG): [Burkert et al, Nature 557, 396 \(2018\)](#)

# Pressure distribution in other hadrons

- First comparisons of generalised gluon form factors (related to Fourier transforms of pressure distribution) for hadrons of different spin
- Qualitative differences between meson and baryon form factors
- Lattice QCD calculation with unphysically-heavy pion mass



Momentum fraction in forward limit



[2107.10368 (2021)]

# Parton structure from LQCD

Future colliders will dramatically alter our knowledge of the gluonic structure of hadrons and nuclei

- Work towards a complete 3D picture of parton structure (moments, x-dependence of PDFs, GPDs, TMDs)
- First lattice QCD constraints on nuclear PDFs through their moments
- First lattice QCD calculations of the Collins-Soper kernel for TMD rapidity evolution
- First determination of gluon contributions to shear and pressure distributions in the proton and other hadrons

Lattice QCD calculations in hadrons and light nuclei will complement and extend understanding of fundamental structure of nature



Image Credit: 2018 EIC User's Group Meeting