

# Maximally entangled state

## at small Bjorken $x$

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**ENERGY**

Office of Science



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National Laboratory

# How Xin-Nian and I met, and how we became friends

## *Hard Probe Cafe*

**CERN, Geneva 1994**

**LBL, Berkeley 1994**

**ECT\*, Trento 1995**

**INT, Seattle 1996**

**CFIF, Lisbon 1997**

**INT, Seattle 1998**

**JYFL, Jyväskylä 1999**

**BNL, New York 2000**

**NBI, Copenhagen 2001**



Based on:

Entanglement in DIS: Maximally entangled state

DK, E. Levin, Phys Rev D 95 (2017) 114008 + PRD 104 (2021) 3

DK, Phil. Trans. Royal Soc A 380 (2021) 5

Entanglement and integrability in DIS

K. Hao, DK, V. Korepin, Int J Mod Phys A34 (2019) 1950197

K. Zhang, K. Hao, DK, V. Korepin, Phys Rev D 105 (2022) 1

Entanglement in real time, quantum simulations

DK, Y. Kikuchi, Phys. Rev. Res. 2 (2020) 2, 023342

A. Florio, DK, Phys Rev D 104 (2021) 5, 056021

D. Frenklakh, A. Florio, DK, in progress

Entanglement in high energy hadron collisions

O.K. Baker, DK, Phys Rev D 98 (2018) 054007

Z. Tu, DK, T. Ullrich, Phys Rev Lett 124 (2020) 6, 062001

# Related work on entanglement in DIS:

Maximally entangled state at small  $x$ , link to black holes:

G. Dvali, R. Venugopalan, Phys Rev D 105 (2022) 5, 056026

Y. Liu, M. Nowak, I. Zahed, Phys.Rev.D 105 (2022) 11, 114028; ...

Maximally entangled state at small  $x$ , phenomenology:

M. Hentschinski, K. Kutak, Eur.Phys.J.C 82 (2022) 2, 111; ....

Momentum space entanglement and RG evolution:

A. Kovner, M. Lublinsky Phys Rev D 92 (2015) 3, 034016;

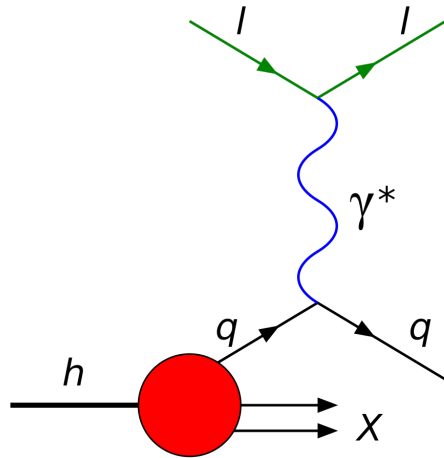
A. Kovner, M. Lublinsky, M. Serino, Phys Lett B 792 (2019) 4;

N. Armesto, F. Dominguez, A. Kovner, M. Lublinsky, V. Skokov, JHEP 05(2019) 025; ....

Entanglement and thermalization:

J. Berges, S. Floerchinger, R. Venugopalan, JHEP 04(2018)145; ...

# The puzzle of the parton model



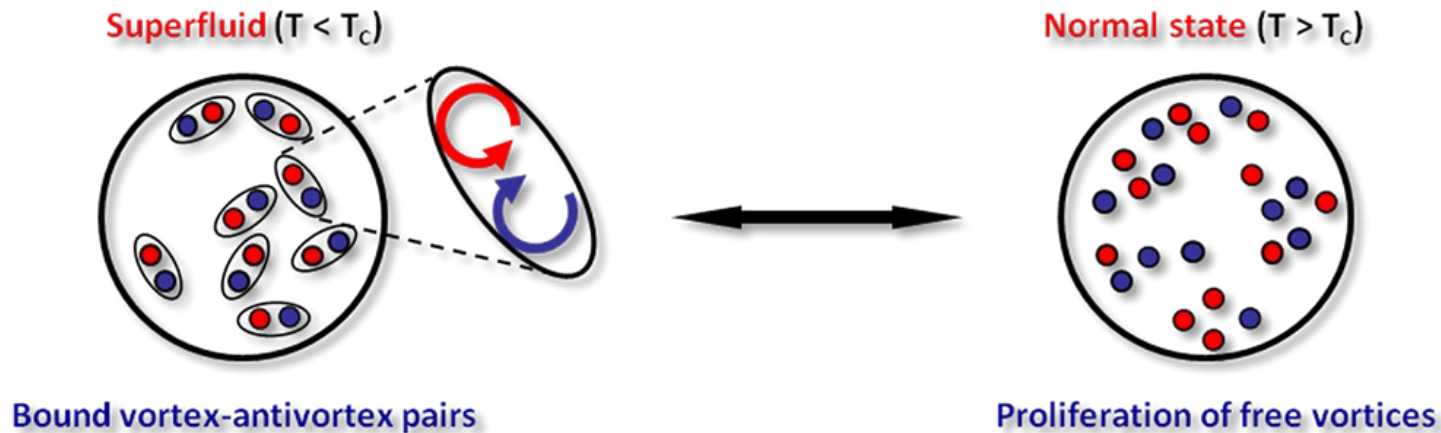
In parton model, the proton is pictured as a collection of point-like quasi-free partons that are frozen in the infinite momentum frame due to Lorentz dilation.

The DIS cross section is given by the incoherent sum of cross sections of scattering off individual partons.

**How to reconcile this with quantum mechanics?**

# The puzzle of the parton model

In quantum mechanics, the proton is a pure state with zero entropy. Yet, a collection of free partons does possess entropy... Boosting to the infinite momentum frame does not help, as a Lorentz boost cannot transform a pure state into a mixed one.



The crucial importance of entropy in (2+1)D systems:  
BKT phase transition (Nobel prize 2016)

# The quantum mechanics of partons and entanglement

Our proposal: the key to solving this apparent paradox is entanglement.

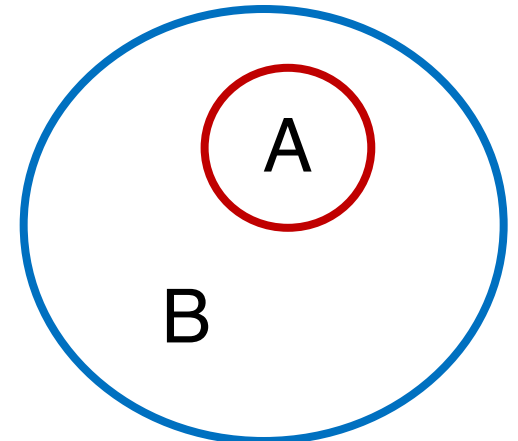
DK, E. Levin, arXiv:1702.03489; PRD

DIS probes only a part of the proton's wave function (region A). We sum over unobserved region B; in quantum mechanics, this corresponds to accessing the density matrix of a mixed state

$$\hat{\rho}_A = \text{tr}_B \hat{\rho}$$

with a non-zero entanglement entropy

$$S_A = -\text{tr} [\hat{\rho}_A \ln \hat{\rho}_A]$$



# The quantum mechanics of partons and entanglement

Another (more general?) argument:

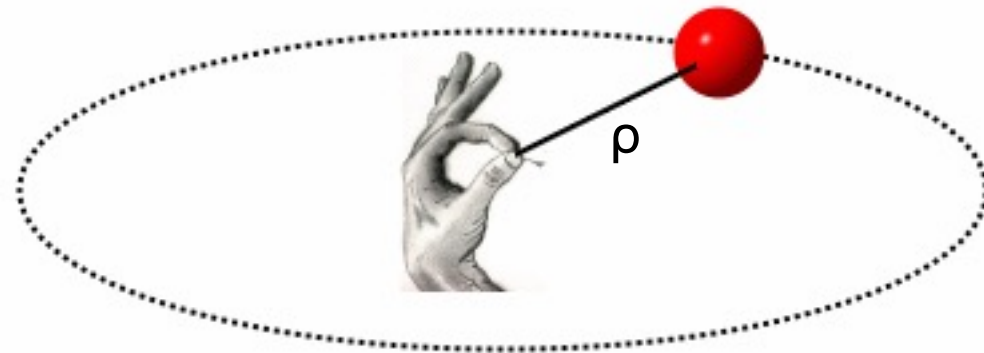
DK, Phil. Trans. Royal Soc (2022); arXiv:2108.08792

DIS takes an instant snapshot of the proton's wave function. This snapshot cannot measure the phase of the wave function.

Classical analogy:

$$z = \rho \exp(i\omega t)$$

Instant snapshot can measure the amplitude  $\rho$ , but not the angular velocity  $\omega$  !





# The quantum mechanics of partons and entanglement

A simple quantum mechanical model (proton rest frame):

DK, Phil. Trans. Royal Soc (2022); arXiv:2108.08792

Expand the proton's w.f. in oscillator Fock states:

$$|n\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} \prod_i^n a_i^\dagger |0\rangle,$$

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_n \alpha_n |n\rangle,$$

The density matrix:

$$\hat{\rho} = |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi| = \sum_{n,n'} \alpha_n \alpha_{n'}^* |n\rangle\langle n'|,$$

depends on time:

$$\hat{\rho}(t) = \sum_{n,n'} e^{i(n'-n)\omega t} \hat{\rho}(t=0).$$

But this time dependence cannot be measured by a light front<sup>9</sup>—it crosses the hadron too fast, at time  $t_{light} = R,$

# The quantum mechanics of partons and entanglement

DK, Phil. Trans. Royal Soc (2022)

Therefore, the observed density matrix is a trace over an unobserved phase:

$$\hat{\rho}_{parton} = \text{Tr}_\varphi \hat{\rho} = \sum_{n,n'} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\varphi}{2\pi} e^{i(n'-n)\varphi} \alpha_n \alpha_{n'}^* |n\rangle \langle n'| = \sum_n |\alpha_n|^2 |n\rangle \langle n|.$$



U(1) Haar measure

“Haar scrambling”

Y.Sekino, L.Susskind '08



After “Haar scrambling”,  
the density matrix  
becomes diagonal  
in parton basis  
(Schmidt basis) –

Probabilistic parton  
model!

**This is a density matrix of a mixed state,  
with non-zero entanglement entropy!**

# The quantum mechanics of partons and entanglement

DK, Phil. Trans. Royal Soc (2022); arXiv:2108.08792

The parton model density matrix:

$$\hat{\rho}_{parton} = \sum_n p_n |n\rangle\langle n|$$

is mixed, with purity

$$\gamma_{parton} = \text{Tr}(\rho_{parton}^2) = \sum_n p_n^2 < 1.$$

entanglement entropy

$$S_E = - \sum_n p_n \ln p_n$$

Parton model expressions  
for expectation values  
of operators:

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \text{Tr}(\hat{O} \hat{\rho}_{parton}) = \sum_n p_n \langle n | \hat{O} | n \rangle;$$

# The quantum mechanics of partons and entanglement on the light cone

The density matrix on the light cone:

$$\hat{\rho} = |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi| = \sum_{n,n'}^{\infty} \int d\Gamma_n d\Gamma_{n'} \Psi_{n'}^*(x_{i'}, \vec{k}_{\perp i'}) \Psi_n(x_i, \vec{k}_{\perp i}) |n\rangle\langle n'|.$$

Haar scrambling: on the light cone,  $t_i - z_i = x_i^- = 0$ ,  
but  $t, z$  and  $x^+ = z + t$  cannot be independently  
determined:

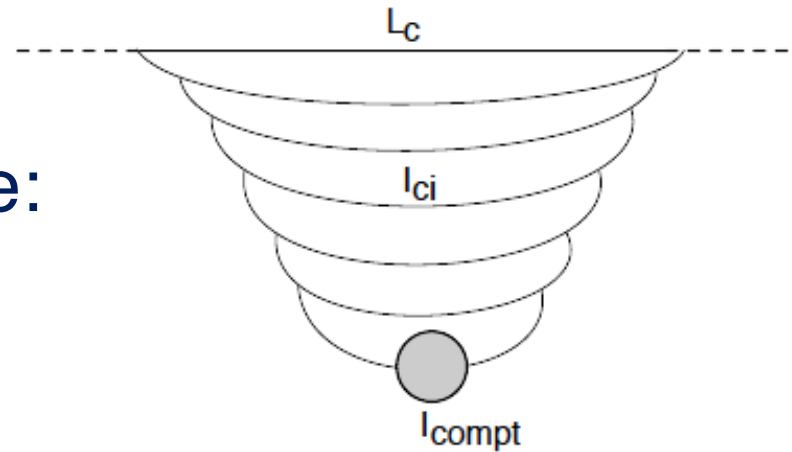
$$\int \frac{dx^+}{2\pi} e^{i(P_n^- - P_{n'}^-)x^+} = \delta(P_n^- - P_{n'}^-),$$



$$\hat{\rho}_{parton} = \text{Tr}_{x^+} |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi| = \sum_n^{\infty} \int d\Gamma_n |\Psi_n(x_i, \vec{k}_{\perp i})|^2 |n\rangle\langle n|,$$

# The entanglement entropy from QCD evolution

Space-time picture  
in the proton's rest frame:



The evolution equation:

$$\frac{dP_n(Y)}{dY} = -\Delta n P_n(Y) + (n-1)\Delta P_{n-1}(Y)$$

# The entanglement entropy from QCD evolution

$$\frac{dP_n(Y)}{dY} = -\Delta n P_n(Y) + (n-1)\Delta P_{n-1}(Y)$$

Solve by using the generating function method

(A.H. Mueller '94; E. Levin, M. Lublinsky '04):

$$Z(Y, u) = \sum_n P_n(Y) u^n.$$

Solution:

$$P_n(Y) = e^{-\Delta Y} (1 - e^{-\Delta Y})^{n-1}.$$

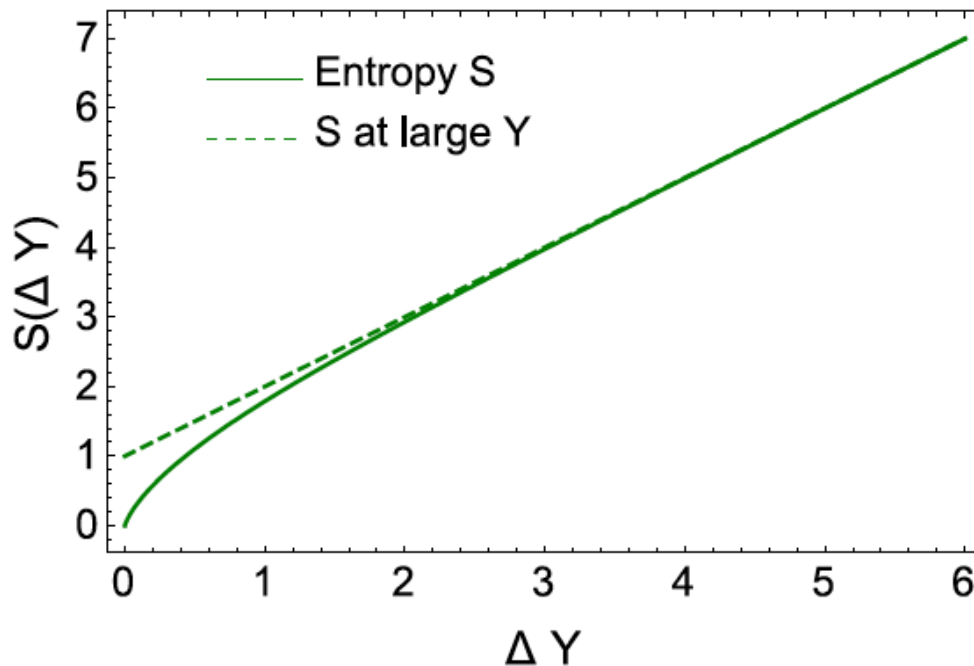
The resulting von Neumann entropy is

$$S(Y) = \ln(e^{\Delta Y} - 1) + e^{\Delta Y} \ln \left( \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\Delta Y}} \right)$$

# The entanglement entropy from QCD evolution

At large  $\Delta Y$ , the entropy becomes

$$S(Y) \rightarrow \Delta Y$$



This “asymptotic”  
regime starts rather  
early, at

$$\Delta Y \simeq 2$$

# The entanglement entropy from QCD evolution

At large  $\Delta Y$  ( $x \sim 10^{-3}$ ) the relation between the entanglement entropy and the structure function

$$xG(x) = \langle n \rangle = \sum_n n P_n(Y) = \left( \frac{1}{x} \right)^\Delta$$

becomes very simple:

$$S = \ln[xG(x)]$$



# The entanglement entropy from QCD evolution

What is the physics behind this relation?

$$S = \ln[xG(x)]$$

It signals that all  $\exp(\Delta Y)$  partonic states have about equal probabilities  $\exp(-\Delta Y)$  – in this case the **entanglement entropy is maximal**, and the proton is a **maximally entangled state** (a new look at the parton saturation and CGC?)

# Experimental tests

What is the relation between the parton and hadron multiplicity distributions?

Let us assume they are the same (“EbyE parton-hadron duality”); then the hadron multiplicity distribution should be given by

$$P_n(Y) = e^{-\Delta Y} (1 - e^{-\Delta Y})^{n-1}.$$

Consider moments

$$C_q = \langle n^q \rangle / \langle n \rangle^q$$

# Fluctuations in hadron multiplicity

The moments can be easily computed by using the generating function

$$C_q = \left( u \frac{d}{du} \right)^q Z(Y, u) \Big|_{u=1}$$

We get

$$C_2 = 2 - 1/\bar{n}; \quad C_3 = \frac{6(\bar{n} - 1)\bar{n} + 1}{\bar{n}^2};$$

$$C_4 = \frac{(12\bar{n}(\bar{n} - 1) + 1)(2\bar{n} - 1)}{\bar{n}^3}; \quad C_5 = \frac{(\bar{n} - 1)(120\bar{n}^2(\bar{n} - 1) + 30\bar{n}) + 1}{\bar{n}^4}.$$

# Fluctuations in hadron multiplicity

Numerically, for  $\bar{n} = 5.8 \pm 0.1$  at  $|\eta| < 0.5$ ,  $E_{\text{cm}} = 7$  TeV we get:

theory	exp (CMS)	theory, high energy limit
$C_2 = 1.83$	$C_2 = 2.0 \pm 0.05$	$C_2 = 2.0$
$C_3 = 5.0$	$C_3 = 5.9 \pm 0.6$	$C_3 = 6.0$
$C_4 = 18.2$	$C_4 = 21 \pm 2$	$C_4 = 24.0$
$C_5 = 83$	$C_5 = 90 \pm 19$	$C_5 = 120$

It appears that the multiplicity distributions of final state hadrons are very similar to the parton multiplicity distributions – this suggests that the entropy is close to the entanglement entropy

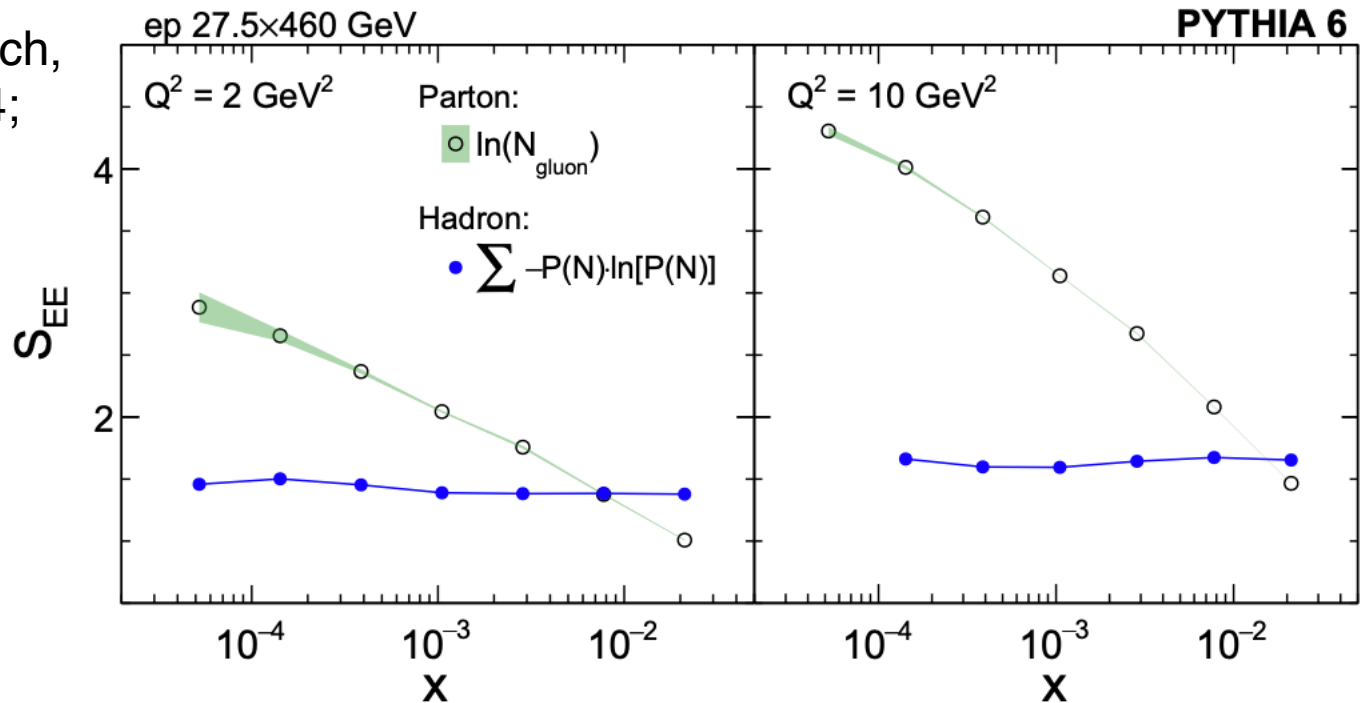
# Test of the entanglement at the LHC

MC generator PYTHIA:

$$S = \ln[xG(x)]$$

is not satisfied at small x (no entanglement)

K. Tu, DK, T. Ullrich,  
arXiv:1904.11974;  
PRL (2020)



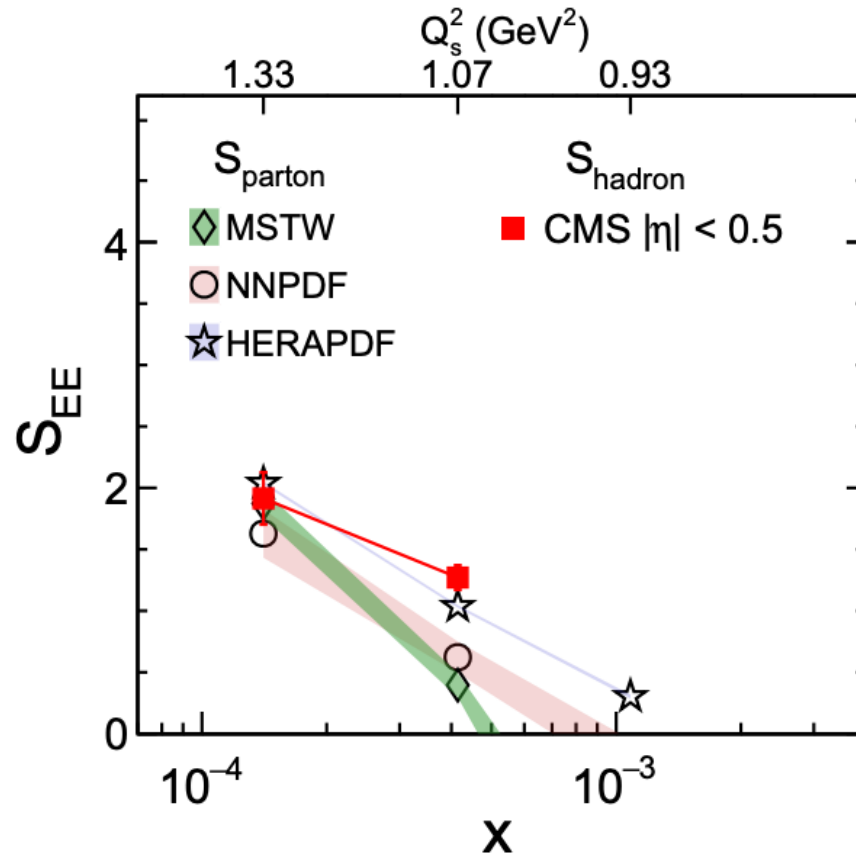
# Test of the entanglement at the LHC

LHC data:

arXiv:1904.11974

$$S = \ln[xG(x)]$$

**is satisfied at small x (entanglement?!)**



K. Tu, DK, T. Ullrich,  
arXiv:1904.11974;  
PRL (2020)

# Test of the entanglement in DIS

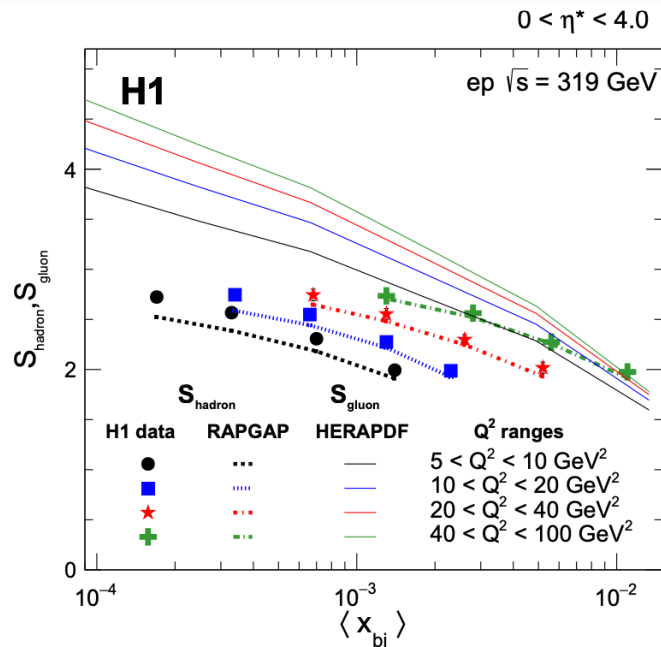


H1 Coll. test of

$$S = \ln[xG(x)]$$

using DIS data (current fragmentation region)

H1 Coll.,  
arXiv:2011.01812;  
EPJC81(2021)3, 212



Poor agreement is found!

Failure of the entanglement-based picture?

Figure 12: Hadron entropy  $S_{\text{hadron}}$  derived from multiplicity distributions as a function of  $\langle x_{bj} \rangle$  measured in different  $Q^2$  ranges, measured in  $\sqrt{s} = 319 \text{ GeV}$   $ep$  collisions. Here, a restriction to the current hemisphere  $0 < \eta^* < 4$  is applied. Further phase space restrictions are given in Table 1. Predictions for  $S_{\text{hadron}}$  from the RAPGAP model and for the entanglement entropy  $S_{\text{gluon}}$  based on an entanglement model are shown by the dashed lines and solid lines, respectively. For each  $Q^2$  range, the value of the lower boundary is used for predicting  $S_{\text{gluon}}$ . The total uncertainty on the data is represented by the error bars.

# Test of the entanglement in DIS

The result: good agreement with H1 data

DK, E. Levin,  
arXiv:2102.09773; PRD

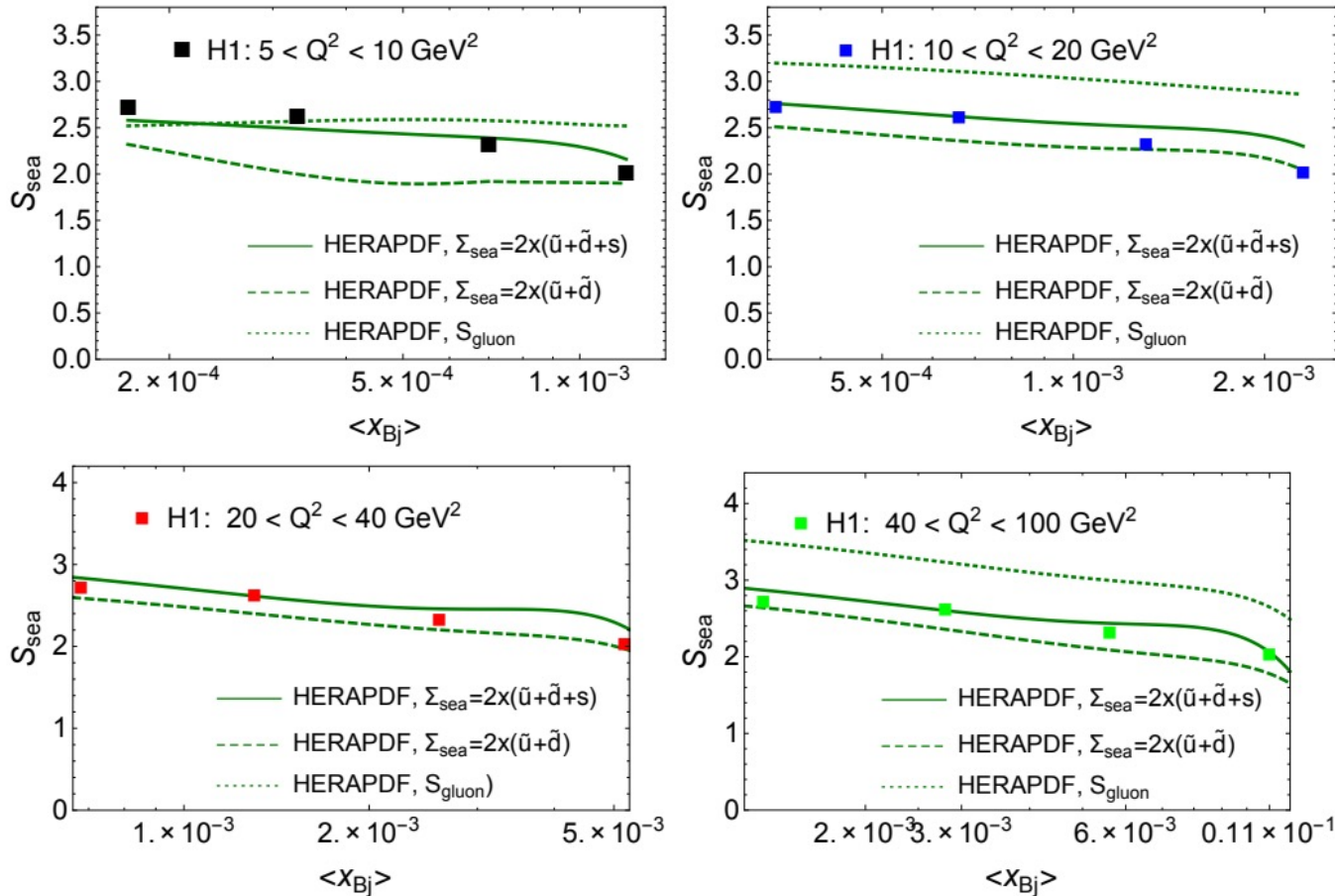


FIG. 1: Comparison of the experimental data of the H1 collaboration [6] on the entropy of produced hadrons in DIS [6] with our theoretical predictions, for which we use the sea quark distributions from the NNLO fit to the combined H1-ZEUS data.



# Evidence for the maximally entangled low $x$ proton in Deep Inelastic Scattering from H1 data

Martin Hentschinski<sup>1</sup> and Krzysztof Kutak<sup>2</sup>

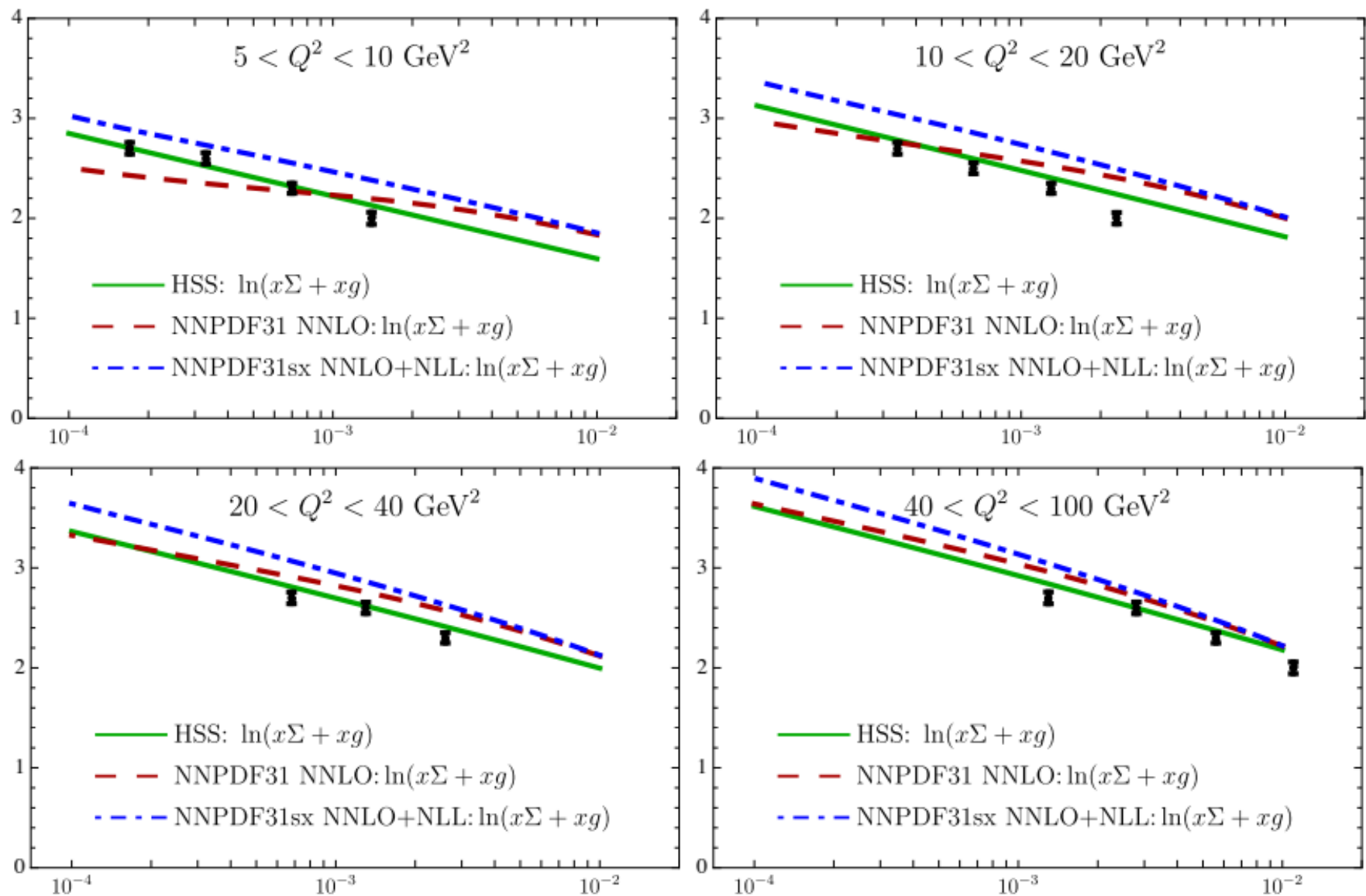
<sup>1</sup>Departamento de Actuaría, Física y Matemáticas, Universidad de las Américas Puebla, San Andrés Cholula, 72820 Puebla, Mexico

<sup>2</sup>Institute of Nuclear Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences, ul. Radzikowskiego 152, 31-342, Kraków, Poland

December 14, 2021

## Abstract

We investigate the proposal by Kharzeev and Levin of a maximally entangled proton wave function in Deep Inelastic Scattering at low  $x$  and the proposed relation between parton number and final state hadron multiplicity. Contrary to the original formulation we determine partonic entropy from the sum of gluon and quark distribution functions at low  $x$ , which we obtain from an unintegrated gluon distribution subject to next-to-leading order Balitsky-Fadin-Kuraev-Lipatov evolution. We find for this framework very good agreement with H1 data. We furthermore provide a comparison based on NNPDF parton distribution functions at both next-to-next-to-leading order and next-to-next-to-leading with small  $x$  resummation, where the latter provides an acceptable description of data.



**Figure 1:** Partonic entropy versus Bjorken  $x$ , as given by Eq. (1) and Eq. (2). We further show results based on the gluon distribution only as well as a comparison to NNPDFs. Results are compared to the final state hadron entropy derived from the multiplicity distributions measured at H1 [19]

# Summary

1. Entanglement entropy (EE) provides a viable solution to the apparent contradiction between the parton model and quantum mechanics.
2. Indications from experiment that the link between EE and parton distributions is real. Further tests at RHIC and EIC, requirements for detector design.
3. Entanglement may provide a mechanism for thermalization in high-energy collisions. Need for further study of real-time dynamics.

The real summary:

**Happy birthday Xin-Nian, and  
I look forward to many more years  
of our friendship!**