





# Towards a unified picture for dilute-dense dynamics of QCD

Symposium on Hard Probes and Beyond

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work in preparation in collaboration with Yu Fu, Zhong-Bo Kang, Xin-Nian Wang, and Hongxi Xing

#### **Outline**

• The physics of dilute and dense regimes of QCD

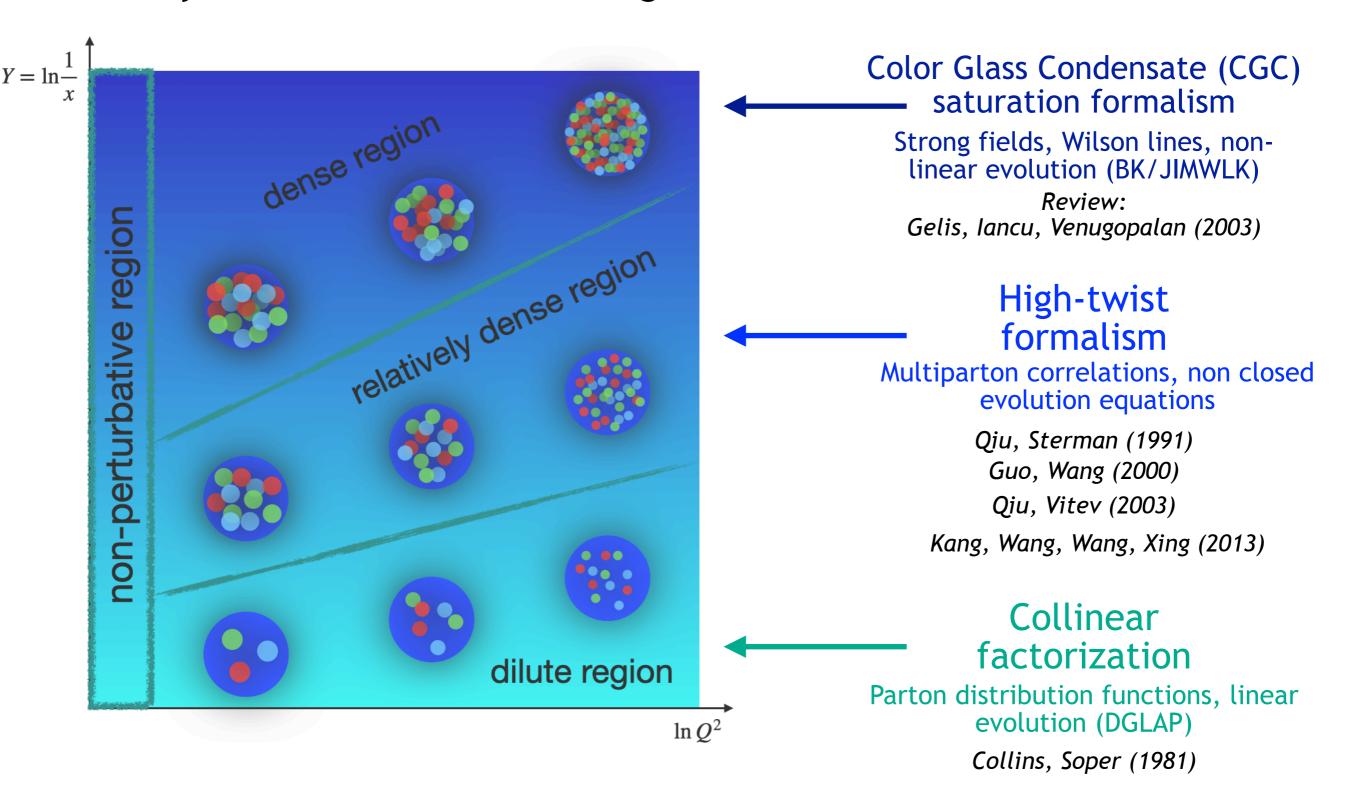
• Direct photon production as a probe of QCD matter

Matching CGC and high twist formalism

Outlook

## **Anatomy of QCD matter**

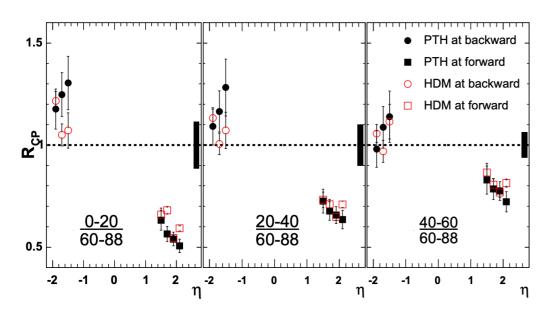
The Physics of dilute and dense regimes of QCD



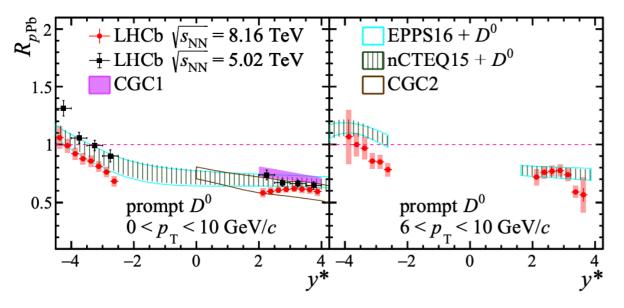
#### **Nuclear modification ratio**

Enhancement (backward region) vs suppression (forward region)

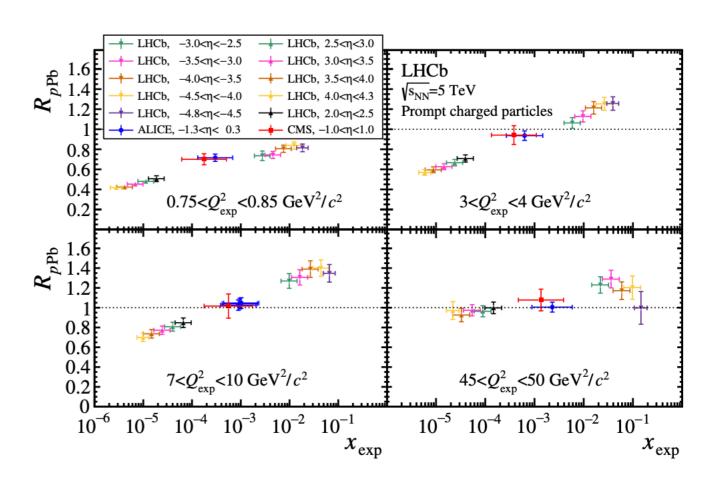
PHENIX (2004) hadron production in dAu



LHCb (2022) prompt D meson in pPb

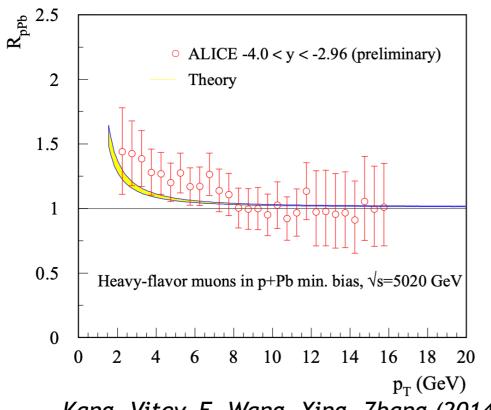


LHCb (2022)
Charged particle production pPb

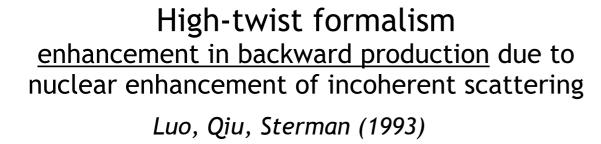


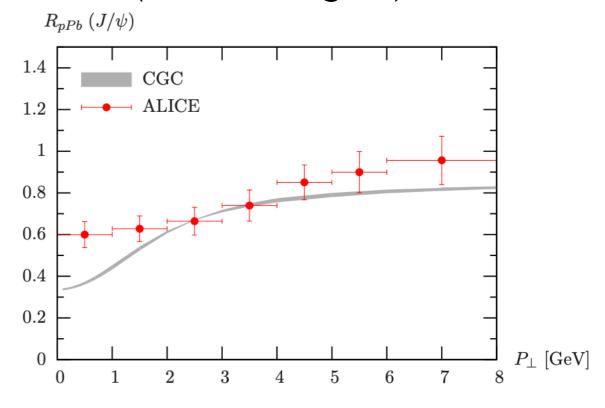
#### Nuclear modification ratio

Enhancement (backward region) vs suppression (forward region)



Kang, Vitev, E. Wang, Xing, Zhang (2014)





Ducloué, Lappi, Mäntysaari (2015)

#### CGC/saturation suppression in forward production due to coherence and non-linear evolution Kharzeev, Kovchegov, Tuchin (2003)

Can we unify both formalisms and provide a simultaneous description of both regimes?

# A unified picture of dilute and dense limits

#### Several efforts in this direction:

#### Quark jets scattering from a gluon field: From saturation to high $p_t$

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We continue our studies of possible generalization of the color glass condensate effective theory of high energy QCD to include the high  $p_t$  (or equivalently large x) QCD dynamics as proposed in [Phys. Rev. D 96, 074020 (2017)]. Here, we consider scattering of a quark from both the small and large x gluon degrees of freedom in a proton or nucleus target and derive the full scattering amplitude by including the interactions between the small and large x gluons of the target. We thus generalize the standard eikonal approximation for parton scattering, which can now be deflected by a large angle (and therefore have large  $p_t$ ) and also lose a significant fraction of its longitudinal momentum (unlike the eikonal approximation). The corresponding production cross section can thus serve as the starting point toward the derivation of a general evolution equation that would contain the Dokshitzer-Gribov-Lipatov-Altarelli-Parisi evolution equation at large  $Q^2$  and the Jalilian-Marian-Iancu-McLerran-Weigert-Leonidov-Kovner evolution equation at small x. This amplitude can also be used to construct the quark Feynman propagator, which is the first ingredient needed to generalize the color glass condensate effective theory of high energy QCD to include the high p, dynamics. We outline how it can be used to compute observables in the large x (high  $p_t$ ) kinematic region where the standard color glass condensate formalism breaks down.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevD.99.014043

#### Next-to-eikonal corrections in the CGC: gluon production and spin asymmetries in pA collisions

Tolga Altinoluk,<sup>a</sup> Néstor Armesto,<sup>a</sup> Guillaume Beuf,<sup>a</sup> Mauricio Martínez<sup>b</sup> and Carlos A. Salgado<sup>a</sup>

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ABSTRACT: We present a new method to systematically include corrections to the eikonal approximation in the background field formalism. Specifically, we calculate the subleading, power-suppressed corrections due to the finite width of the target or the finite energy of the projectile. Such power-suppressed corrections involve Wilson lines decorated by gradients of the background field — thus related to the density - of the target. The method is of generic applicability. As a first example, we study single inclusive gluon production in pA collisions, and various related spin asymmetries, beyond the eikonal accuracy.

KEYWORDS: QCD Phenomenology, Hadronic Colliders

ARXIV EPRINT: 1404.2219

#### Gluon TMD in particle production from low to moderate x

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ABSTRACT: We study the rapidity evolution of gluon transverse momentum dependent distributions appearing in processes of particle production and show how this evolution changes from small to moderate Bjorken x.

KEYWORDS: Deep Inelastic Scattering (Phenomenology), QCD Phenomenology

ARXIV EPRINT: 1603.06548

#### Gluon-mediated inclusive Deep Inelastic Scattering from Regge to Bjorken kinematics

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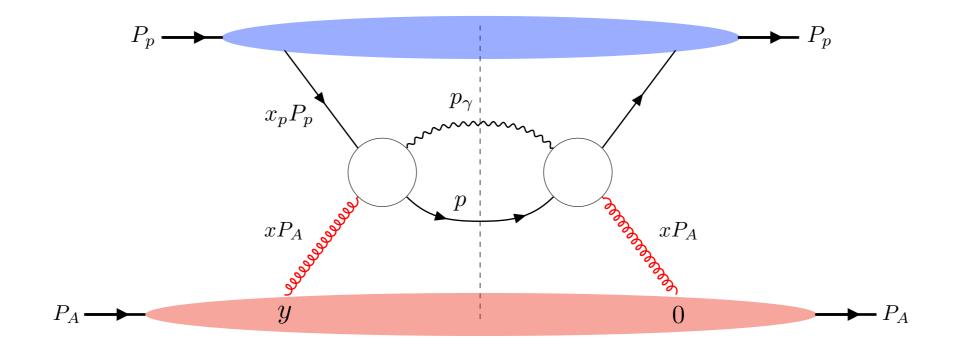
ABSTRACT: We revisit high energy factorization for gluon mediated inclusive Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS) for which we propose a new semi-classical approach that accounts systematically for the longitudinal extent of the target in contrast with the shockwave limit. In this framework, based on a partial twist expansion, we derive a factorization formula that involves a new gauge invariant unintegrated gluon distribution which depends explicitly on the Feynman x variable. It is shown that both the Regge and Bjorken limits are recovered in this approach. We reproduce in particular the full one loop inclusive DIS cross-section in the leading twist approximation and the all-twist dipole factorization formula in the strict x=0 limit. Although quantum evolution is not discussed explicitly in this work, we argue that the proper treatment of the x dependence of the gluon distribution encompasses the kinematic constraint that must be imposed on the phase-space of gluon fluctuations in the target to ensure stability of small-x evolution.

Keywords: Deep Inelastic Scattering or Small-X Physics, Parton Distributions

ArXiv ePrint: 2112.01412

#### Direct photon production in collinear factorization

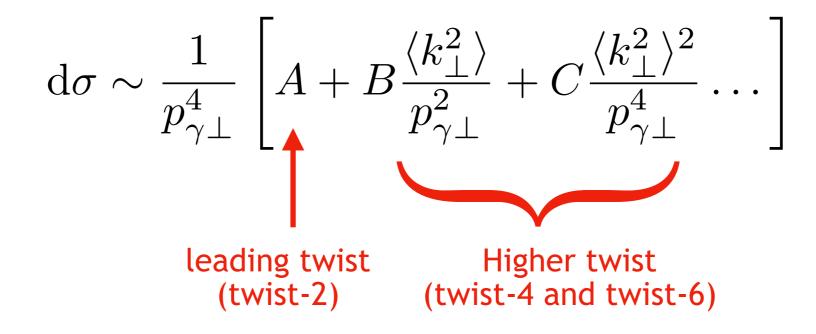
Consider quark-gluon initiated channel



$$p_{\gamma}^{-} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma^{p+A \to \gamma + X}}{\mathrm{d}p_{\gamma}^{-} \mathrm{d}^{2} \boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma \perp}} = \frac{\alpha_{\mathrm{em}} \alpha_{s}}{N_{c}} \int \mathrm{d}x_{p} f(x_{p}) \frac{\xi^{2} \left[1 + (1 - \xi)^{2}\right]}{\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma \perp}^{4}} xg(x)$$

$$xg(x) = \frac{1}{P_A^+} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}y^-}{2\pi} e^{ixP_A^+ y^-} \langle P_A | F_a^{\alpha+}(y^-) F_a^{\beta+}(0^-) | P_A \rangle \delta_{\perp \alpha \beta}$$

Direct photon production beyond twist-2



- ullet Higher twist become important at moderate  $p_{\gamma\perp}^2$
- What is the intrinsic momentum  $\langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle$  of the nucleus ?

$$\Lambda_{\rm QCD}^2$$
?

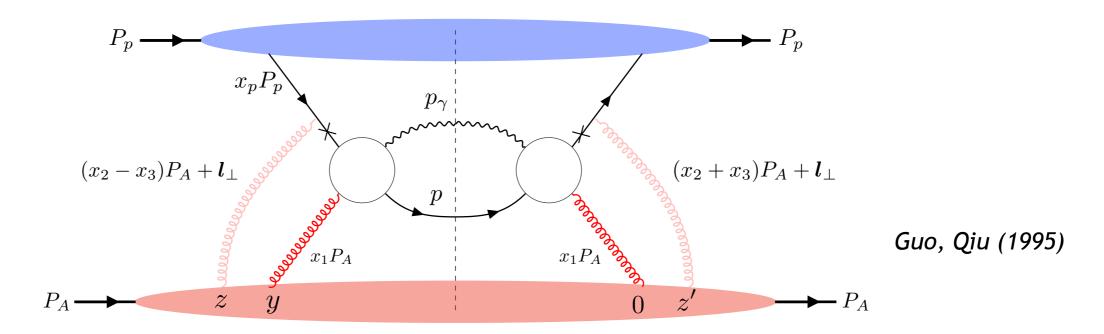
$$Q_s^2$$
?

CGC: Saturation scale grows with energy and nuclear number

$$Q_s^2 \propto A^{1/3} x^{-\lambda}$$

#### Direct photon production at twist-4

Consider initial state scattering central cut\*



$$p_{\gamma}^{-} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma^{p+A\to\gamma+X}}{\mathrm{d}p_{\gamma}^{-} \mathrm{d}^{2}\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma_{\perp}}} = \frac{(2\pi)^{2}\alpha_{\mathrm{em}}\alpha_{\mathrm{s}}^{2}}{N_{c}^{2}} \int \mathrm{d}x_{p} f(x_{p})\xi^{2} \left[1 + (1-\xi)^{2}\right] \int \mathrm{d}^{2}\boldsymbol{z}_{\perp} \int \mathrm{d}^{2}\boldsymbol{z}_{\perp} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}}{(2\pi)^{2}} \frac{\mathcal{T}_{\mathrm{C,I}}(\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}, \boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma_{\perp}}; \boldsymbol{z}_{\perp}, \boldsymbol{z}_{\perp}') e^{-i\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}\cdot(\boldsymbol{z}_{\perp}-\boldsymbol{z}_{\perp}')}}{\left(\xi \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp} - \boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma_{\perp}}\right)^{4}}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{C,I}(\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}, \boldsymbol{p}_{\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{\perp}}; \boldsymbol{z}_{\perp}, \boldsymbol{z}_{\perp}') = \frac{1}{P^{+}} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}y^{-}}{2\pi} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}z^{-}\mathrm{d}z'^{-}}{2\pi} e^{ix_{1}P_{A}^{+}y^{-}} e^{ix_{2}P_{A}^{+}(z^{-}-z'^{-})} e^{ix_{3}P_{A}^{+}(z^{-}+z'^{-})} \\ \times \Theta(y^{-}-z^{-})\Theta(-z'^{-}) \left\langle P_{A}^{+}|F_{a}^{\alpha+}(y^{-}, \boldsymbol{z}_{\perp})A_{b}^{+}(z^{-}, \boldsymbol{z}_{\perp}')A_{b}^{+}(z'^{-}, \boldsymbol{z}_{\perp}')F_{a}^{\beta+}(0^{-}, \boldsymbol{z}_{\perp}')|P_{A}^{+}\right\rangle \delta_{\perp\alpha\beta}$$

$$x_1 = x \left[ \frac{\xi (\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp} - \boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma_{\perp}})^2 - \xi (1 - \xi) \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^2}{\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma_{\perp}^2}} + (1 - \xi) \right] \qquad x_2 = x \frac{\xi (1 - \xi) \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^2}{\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma_{\perp}^2}} \qquad x_3 = 0$$

\*Similarly, consider final state, interference, and asymmetric cuts

Direct photon production at twist-4 & collinear expansion

Initial state scattering central cut

• Collinear expansion =  $l_{\perp}$  expansion

$$p_{\gamma}^{-} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma^{p+A\to\gamma+X}}{\mathrm{d}p_{\gamma}^{-}\mathrm{d}^{2}\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma\perp}} \Big|_{\mathrm{C,I}} = \int \mathrm{d}x_{p} f(x_{p}) \frac{(2\pi)^{2}\alpha_{\mathrm{em}}\alpha_{\mathrm{s}}^{2}}{N_{c}^{2}} \xi^{2} \left[1 + (1-\xi)^{2}\right] \delta_{\perp\alpha\beta} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^{\rho}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^{\delta}} \frac{T_{\mathrm{C,I}}^{\alpha\beta\rho\delta}(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3})}{\left(\xi \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp} - \boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma\perp}\right)^{4}} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp} = \boldsymbol{0}_{\perp}}$$

ullet  $l_{\perp}$  dependence on the hard factor and also on the distribution through  $x_i$ 's

Guo, Qiu (1995)

$$p_{\gamma}^{-} \frac{d\sigma^{p+A\to\gamma+X}}{dp_{\gamma}^{-} d^{2} \boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma\perp}} \Big|_{C,I} = \frac{(2\pi)^{2} \alpha_{em} \alpha_{s}^{2}}{N_{c}^{2}} \int dx_{p} f(x_{p}) \frac{[1 + (1 - \xi)^{2}]}{\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma\perp}^{6}} \times \left[ 4\xi^{4} T_{C,I}(x,0,0) + \xi^{3} (1 - \xi) x \frac{\partial (T_{C,I}(x,x_{2},0))}{\partial x_{2}} \Big|_{x_{2}=0} - 3\xi^{4} x \frac{\partial (T_{C,I}(x_{1},0,0))}{\partial x_{1}} \Big|_{x_{1}=x} + \xi^{4} x^{2} \frac{\partial^{2} (T_{C,I}(x_{1},0,0))}{\partial x_{1}^{2}} \Big|_{x_{1}=x} \right]$$

Corresponding twist-4 gluon distribution

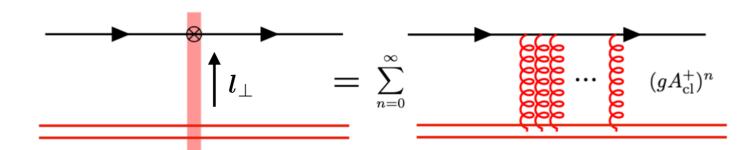
$$T_{C,I}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{1}{P_A^+} \int \frac{dy^-}{2\pi} \int \frac{dz^-dz'^-}{2\pi} \int e^{ix_1 P_A^+ y^-} e^{ix_2 P_A^+ (z^- - z'^-)} e^{ix_3 P_A^+ (z^- + z'^-)}$$

$$\times \Theta(y^- - z^-) \Theta(-z'^-) \left\langle P_A | F_a^{\alpha +}(y^-) F_b^{\rho +}(z^-) F_b^{\delta +}(z'^-) F_a^{\beta +}(0^-) | P_A \right\rangle \delta_{\perp \alpha \beta} \delta_{\perp \rho \delta}$$

#### CGC/saturation framework in a nutshell

McLerran, Venugopalan (1993,1994)

- Color Glass Condensate is an effective theory of sources and fields
  - Large-x partons = localized and static current  $J^+$  (drawn from gauge invariant distribution)
  - Small-x partons = background field  $A_{\rm cl}^+$  sourced by current (large-x)
- Partons propagate in the small-x background field via Wilson lines



Ayala, Jalilian-Marian, McLerran, Venugopalan (1995)

e.g. for quark propagation:

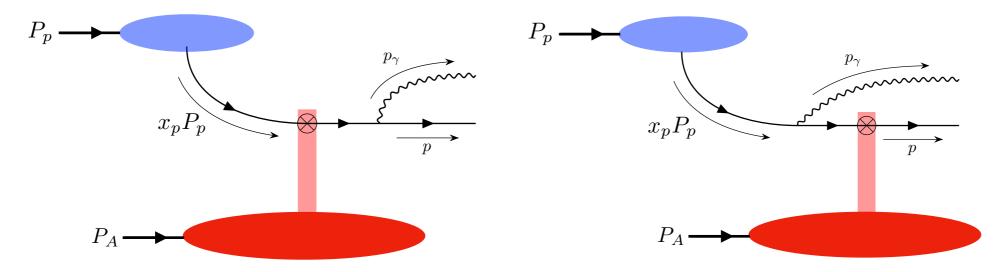
$$\mathcal{T}_{\sigma\sigma',ij}^{q}(l) = 2\pi\delta(l^{-})\gamma_{\sigma\sigma'}^{-} \int d^{2}\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}e^{-i\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}\cdot\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}}V_{ij}(\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp})$$
$$V_{ij}(\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}) = \mathcal{P}\exp\left(ig\int dy^{-}A_{\mathrm{cl}}^{+,c}(y^{-},\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp})t_{ij}^{c}\right)$$

- Observables (e.g. cross-section) are convolutions of Wilson lines with perturbative factors
- Wilson lines (correlators) obey non-linear evolution equations (BK/JIMWLK)

Balitsky (1996) Kovchegov (1999) Jalilian-Marian, Leonidov, Weigert (1997) Iancu, Leonidov, McLerran (2001)

Direct photon production with the CGC/saturation framework

• Amplitudes



Differential cross-section CGC

Gelis, Jalilian-Marian (2002)

$$p_{\gamma}^{-} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma^{p+A\to\gamma+X}}{\mathrm{d}p_{\gamma}^{-}\mathrm{d}^{2}\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma\perp}} = \frac{\alpha_{\mathrm{em}}}{2\pi^{2}} \int \mathrm{d}x_{p} f(x_{p}) \xi^{2} \left[ 1 + (1-\xi)^{2} \right]$$

$$\times \int \mathrm{d}^{2}\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}}{2\pi} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}'}{2\pi} e^{-i\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}\cdot(\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}-\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}')} \frac{\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^{2}D(x_{A};\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}-\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}')}{\left(\xi\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}-\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma\perp}\right)^{2}\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma\perp}^{2}}$$

• Dipole correlator

$$D(x_A, \boldsymbol{y}_{\perp} - \boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}') = \left\langle \frac{1}{N_c} \operatorname{Tr} \left[ V(\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}) V^{\dagger}(\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}') \right] \right\rangle_{x_A}$$

Collinear expansion in the CGC

$$\frac{D(x_{A}; \boldsymbol{y}_{\perp} - \boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}')}{\left(\xi \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp} - \boldsymbol{p}_{\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{\perp}}\right)^{2} \boldsymbol{p}_{\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{\perp}^{2}}} = \frac{D(x; \boldsymbol{y}_{\perp} - \boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}')}{\boldsymbol{p}_{\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{\perp}^{4}}} + \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^{\alpha} \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^{\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^{\alpha}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^{\beta}} \left[ \frac{D(x_{A}; \boldsymbol{y}_{\perp} - \boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}')}{\left(\xi \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp} - \boldsymbol{p}_{\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{\perp}}\right)^{2}} \right] \bigg|_{\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp} = \boldsymbol{0}_{\perp}} + \dots$$
Twist-2 Twist-4

• Twist-2

$$p_{\gamma}^{-} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma^{p+A \to \gamma + X}}{\mathrm{d}p_{\gamma}^{-} \mathrm{d}^{2} \boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma \perp}} = \frac{\alpha_{\mathrm{em}} \alpha_{s}}{N_{c}} \int \mathrm{d}x_{p} f(x_{p}) \frac{\xi^{2} \left[ 1 + (1 - \xi)^{2} \right]}{\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma}^{4}} x g(x) \Big|_{x \to 0}$$

Twist-2 gluon PDF = second moment dipole correlator

$$xg(x) \stackrel{x \to 0}{=} \frac{N_c}{2\pi^2\alpha_s} \int \boldsymbol{l}_\perp^2 \mathrm{d}^2\boldsymbol{l}_\perp C(x, \boldsymbol{l}_\perp) \qquad \text{Dipole correlator in momentum space}$$

Phase  $e^{ixP^+y^-}$  dropped out ("sub-eikonal")

$$xg(x)\Big|_{x\to 0} = \frac{1}{P_A^+} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}y^-}{2\pi} \left\langle P_A | \mathrm{Tr} \left[ F_a^{\alpha+}(y^-) F_a^{\beta+}(0^-) \right] | P_A \right\rangle \delta_{\perp \alpha \beta}$$

#### Collinear expansion in the CGC

• Twist-4

$$p_{\gamma}^{-} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma^{p+A \to \gamma + X}}{\mathrm{d}p_{\gamma}^{-} \mathrm{d}^{2} \boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma \perp}} = \frac{(2\pi)^{2} \alpha_{\mathrm{em}} \alpha_{s}^{2}}{N_{c}^{2}} \int \mathrm{d}x_{p} f(x_{p}) \frac{\left[1 + (1 - \xi)^{2}\right]}{\boldsymbol{p}_{\gamma \perp}^{6}} \xi^{4} T_{\mathrm{HT}}(x)$$

Twist-4 gluon distribution = fourth moment dipole correlator

Missing terms with derivatives of twist-4 distribution

$$T_{\rm HT}(x) = \frac{2N_c^2}{(2\pi)^4 \alpha_s^2} \int \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^4 d^2 \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp} F(x, \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp})$$

$$T_{\rm HT}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{1}{P_A^+} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}y^-}{2\pi} \left\langle P_A | F_a^{\alpha +}(y^-) F_b^{\rho +}(z^-) F_b^{\delta +}(z'^-) F_a^{\beta +}(0^-) | P_A \right\rangle \delta_{\perp \alpha \beta} \delta_{\perp \rho \delta} \\ \times \left[ \Theta(y^- - z^-) \Theta(-z'^-) + \Theta(z^- - y^-) \Theta(-z'^-) + \Theta(y^- - z^-) \Theta(z'^-) + \Theta(z^- - y^-) \Theta(z'^-) \right]$$

Contains all orderings (central cut)

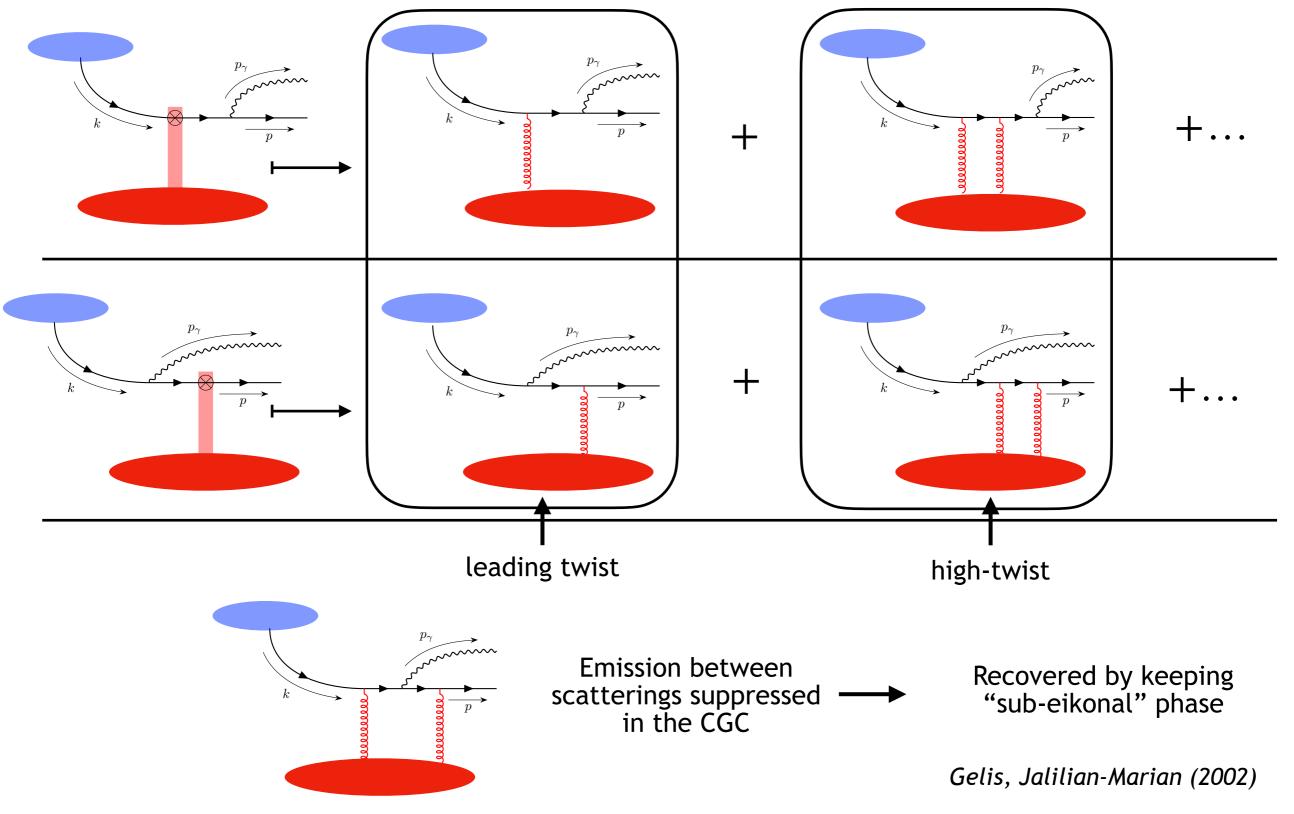
At small-x all twist-4 distributions collapse into a single distribution - no distinction between soft and hard gluons!

$$\lim_{x_1, x_2, x_3 \to 0} T_{\text{C,I}}\left(x_1, x_2, x_3\right) = \lim_{x_1, x_2, x_3 \to 0} T_{\text{C,F}}\left(x_1, x_2, x_3\right) = \lim_{x_1, x_2, x_3 \to 0} T_{\text{C,FI}}\left(x_1, x_2, x_3\right)$$
Initial state

final state

Interference

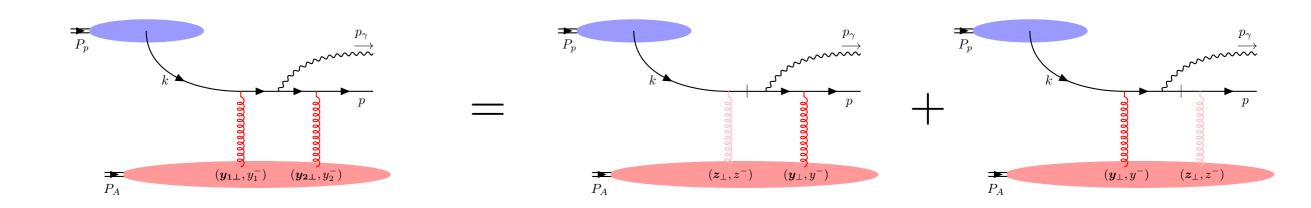
Opening up shock-wave (expand Wilson lines)



Putting back "sub-eikonal "the phase

$$(2\pi)\delta(\ell^{-})\gamma^{-}\int d^{2}\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}e^{-i\boldsymbol{\ell}_{\perp}\cdot\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp}}\int dy^{-}e^{i\ell^{+}y})igA_{a}^{+}(y^{-},\boldsymbol{y}_{\perp})(t^{a})_{ij}$$

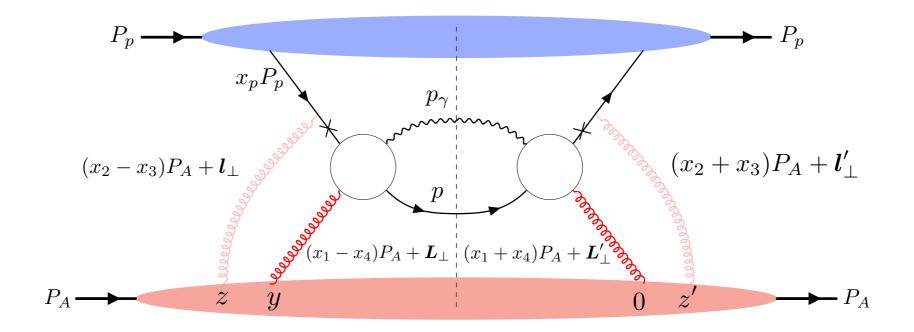
Contour integration puts on-shell intermediate propagators



$$\propto \left[1 - e^{-\frac{iP_A^+}{2x_p s}} \frac{(\xi l_\perp - p_{\gamma_\perp})^2}{\xi(1-\xi)} (y^- - z^-)\right] \xrightarrow{s \to \infty} 0$$

Landau-Pomeranchuk-Migdal effect at play - coherence vs incoherence

In the CGC all gluons are in the covariant gauge



Before collinear expansion all gluons carry different momenta

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{cov}}(\boldsymbol{L}_{\perp}, \boldsymbol{L}'_{\perp}, \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}, \boldsymbol{l}'_{\perp}) \otimes \langle A^{+}A^{+}A^{+}A^{+} \rangle$$

After expansion on hard gluon momentum

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{LC}}(\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}) \otimes \langle F^{+\alpha} A^{+} A^{+} F^{+\beta} \rangle \delta_{\perp \alpha \beta}$$

recover result from high-twist formalism

# Summary

 Using direct photon production as an example we establish the consistency between CGC and high-twist formalism in the collinear limit

$$d\sigma \sim \frac{1}{p_{\gamma\perp}^4} \left[ A + B \frac{\langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle}{p_{\gamma\perp}^2} + C \frac{\langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle^2}{p_{\gamma\perp}^4} \dots \right]$$

CGC-high twist formalism consistency up to twist-4

 Identify twist-4 gluon distributions in terms of fourth moment of the dipole of Wilson lines

$$\int d^2 \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp} \boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}^4 C(\boldsymbol{l}_{\perp}) \leftrightarrow \langle P_A | FFFF | P_A \rangle$$

• Highlight the importance of "sub-eikonal" phases in the collinear limit

$$e^{ix_iP^+y^-}$$

### **Outlook**

 Does the consistency between CGC and high-twist formalism persist at NLO?

Matching between CGC and twist-4 TMDs

• Establish a framework that allows to resum all twists (modify Wilson lines to keep track of phases?)

 Phenomenology: describe low-x and large-x data with a single framework

# Salud for 60 more years of physics Hope for many collaborations with you!



Happy birthday Xin-Nian!