

Energy pattern for the odderon: tracks, spin, and target fragmentation

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New Opportunities in Particle and Nuclear Physics with Energy Correlators

Based on: [Heikki Mantysaari, Yossathorn Tawabutr, X.B. Tong, *arXiv: 2503.20157*](#)

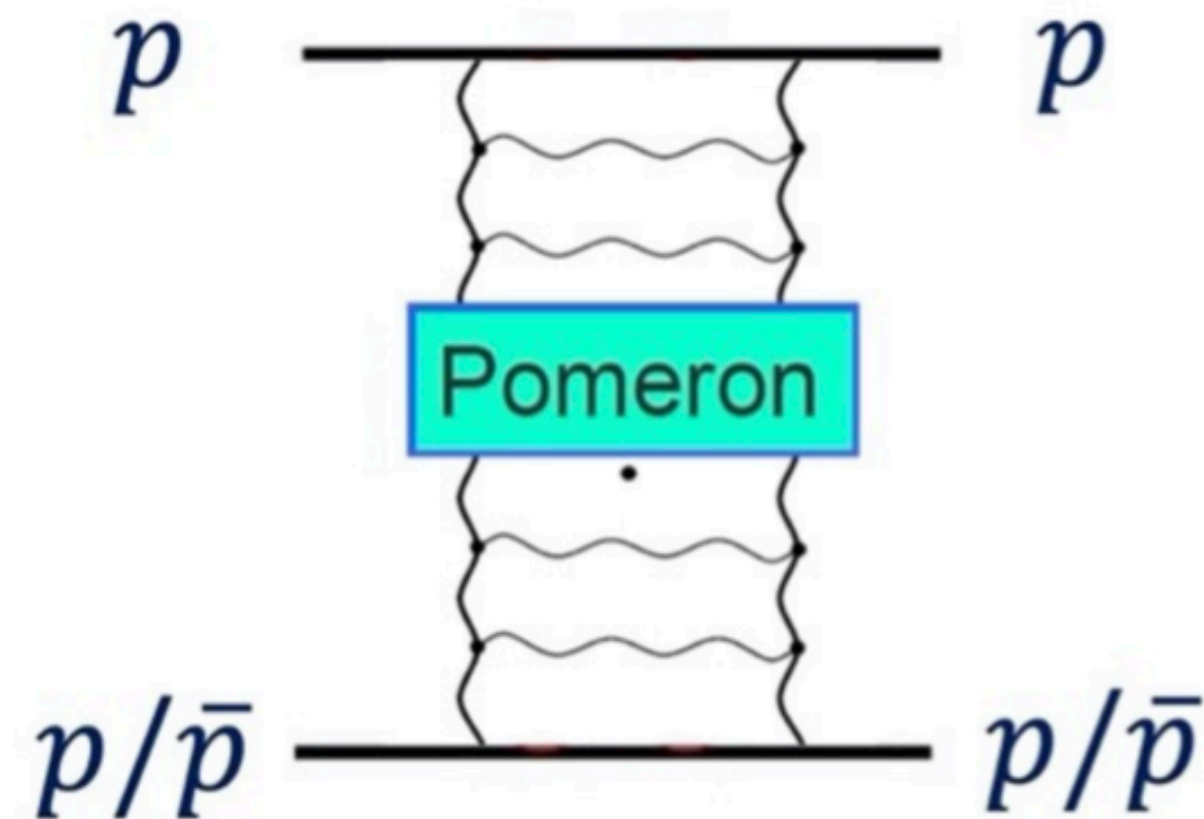
[Kao-bao Chen, Jing-ping Ma, X.B.Tong, *JHEP* 08 \(2024\) 227](#)

Odderon: brother of pomeron

- Propagators to govern soft-momentum exchanges in high-energy scatterings

Pomeranchuk 1961

C-even



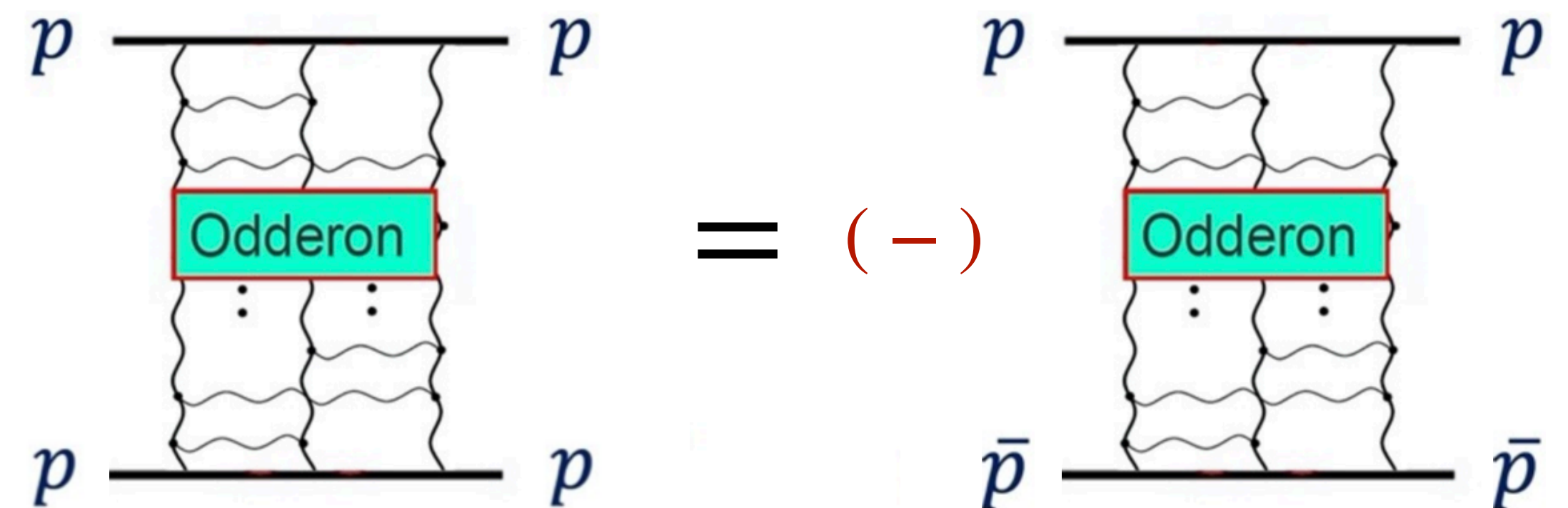
$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \propto \text{Pomeron}$$



Known for decade

Lukaszuk & Nicolescu 1973

C-odd



Encode the **charge asymmetry** in nucleon

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{pp} - \sigma_{\text{tot}}^{p\bar{p}} \propto \text{Odderon}$$

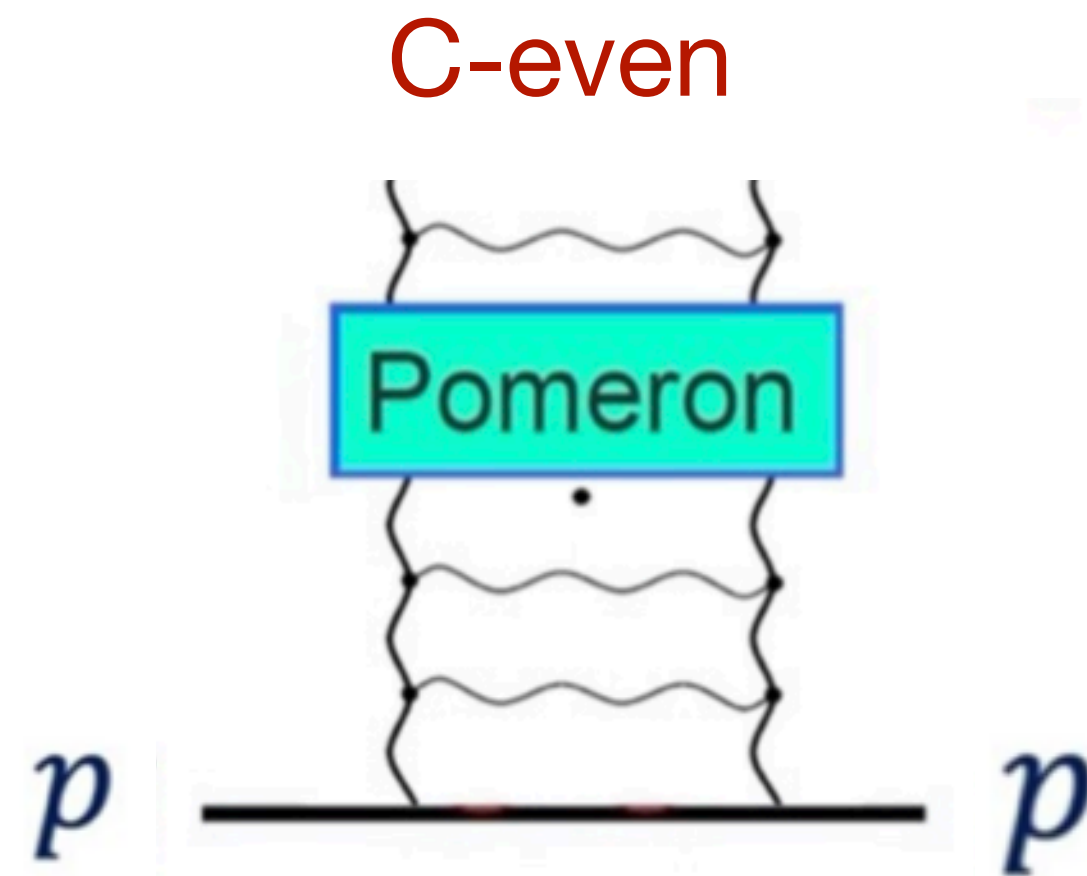
Typically small, require precise comparisons



Elusive for decades!

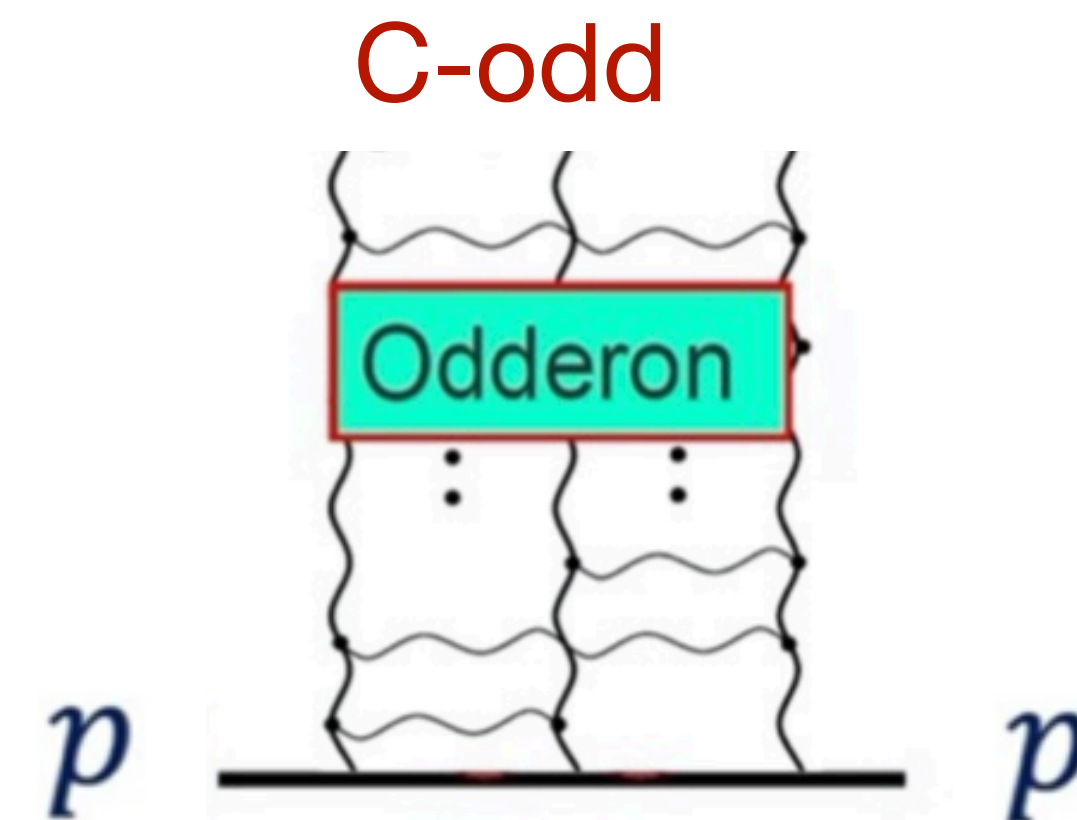
Modern theory of Odderon in QCD

- Colorless small- x gluon correlations in the high-energy nucleon
- At the lowest order of pQCD



- Two-gluon correlations

$$\langle A^{a,+} A^{a,+} \rangle$$



- Three-gluon correlations (color-symmetric)

$$\langle d^{abc} A^{a,+} A^{b,+} A^{c,+} \rangle$$

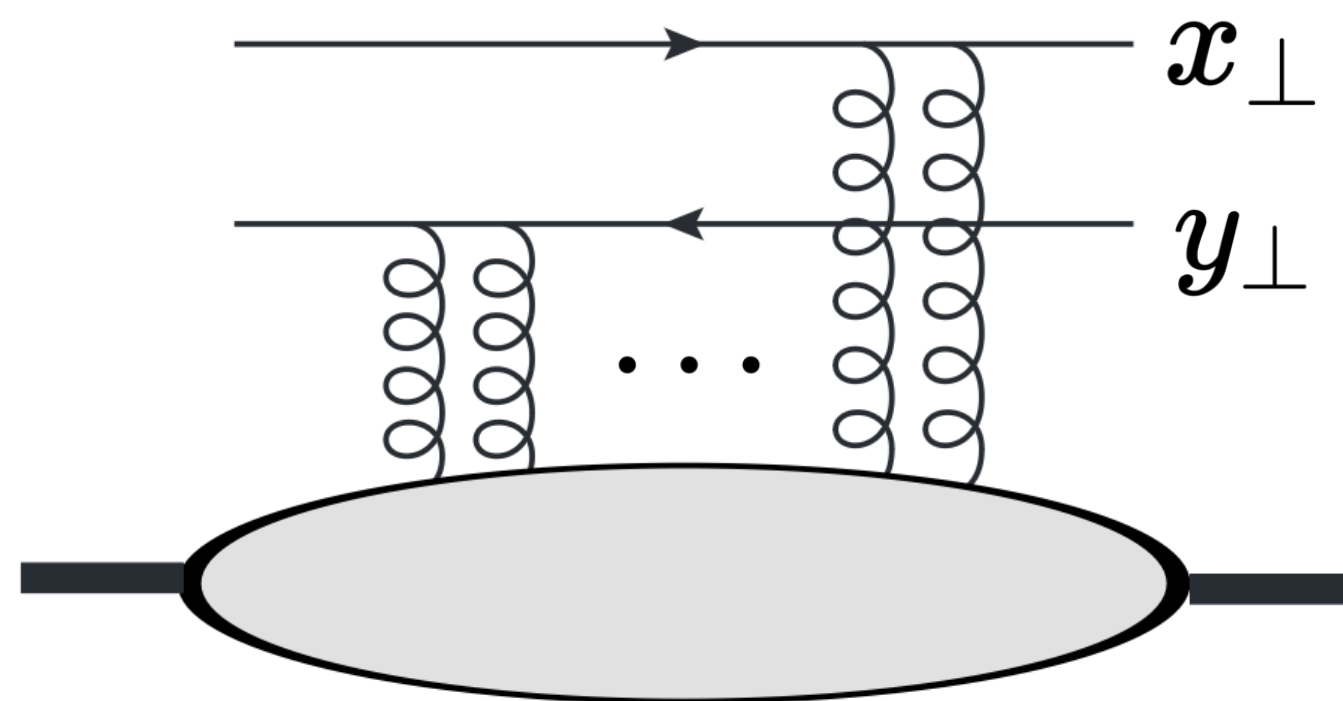
- change signs under charge conjugation $A^+ \rightarrow -A_T^+$

Modern theory of Odderon in QCD

- Odderon from Multiple gluon exchanges:

➡ the **imaginary** part of the **Dipole-proton S-matrix** [Hatta, Iancu, Itakura, McLerran, 2005]

$$S(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) = \frac{1}{N_c} \langle \text{tr} [U(x_{\perp}) U^{\dagger}(y_{\perp})] \rangle = P(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) + iO(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp})$$



Pomeron



C-even, well understood

Odderon



C-odd, flips sign under charge conjugation $x_{\perp} \leftrightarrow y_{\perp}$

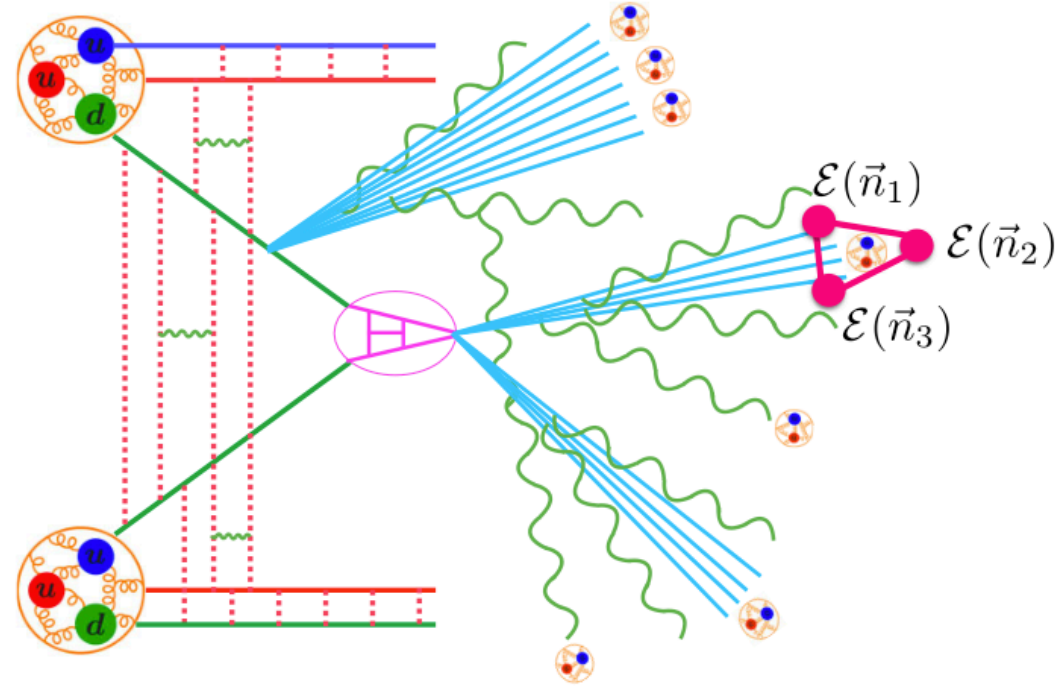
$$S^{\dagger}(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) = S(y_{\perp}, x_{\perp})$$

$$O(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) = -O(y_{\perp}, x_{\perp})$$

Badly constraint!

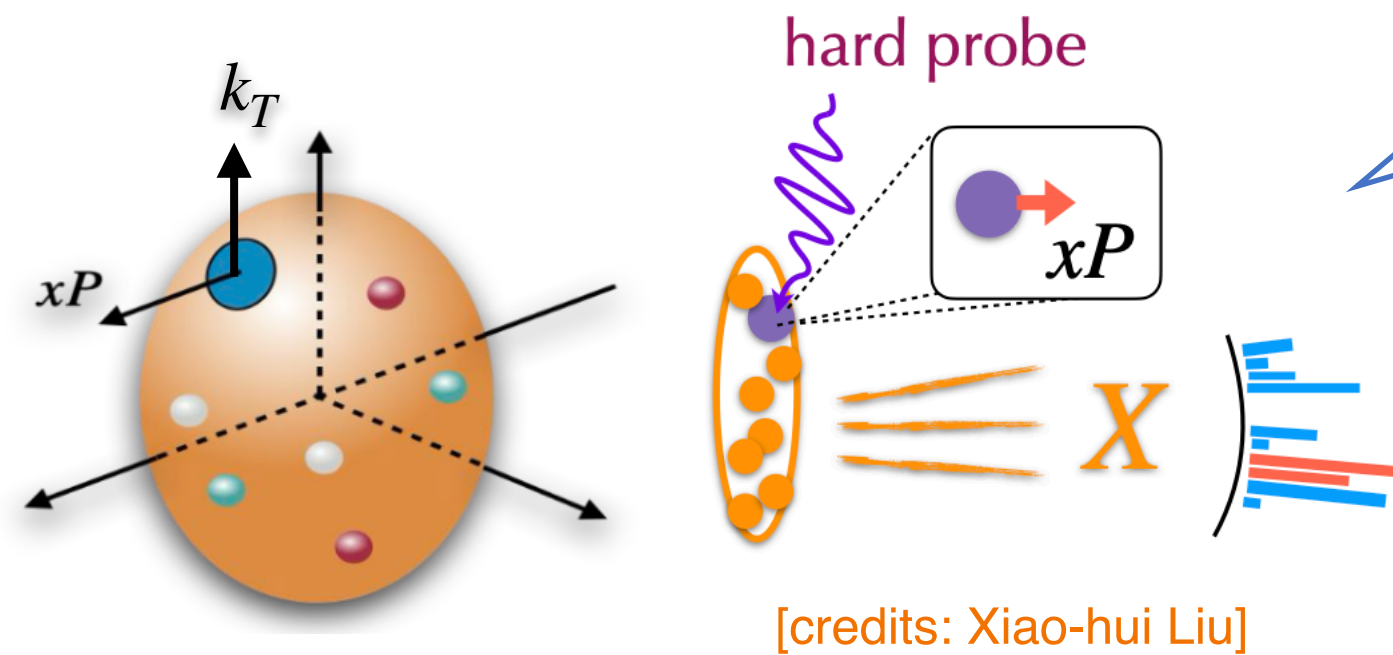
Don't even know the normalization or overall signs..

New opportunities for QCD dynamics



Jet substructure

[Chen, Mout, Zhang, Zhu, 20]



[credits: Xiao-hui Liu]

Nucleon structure

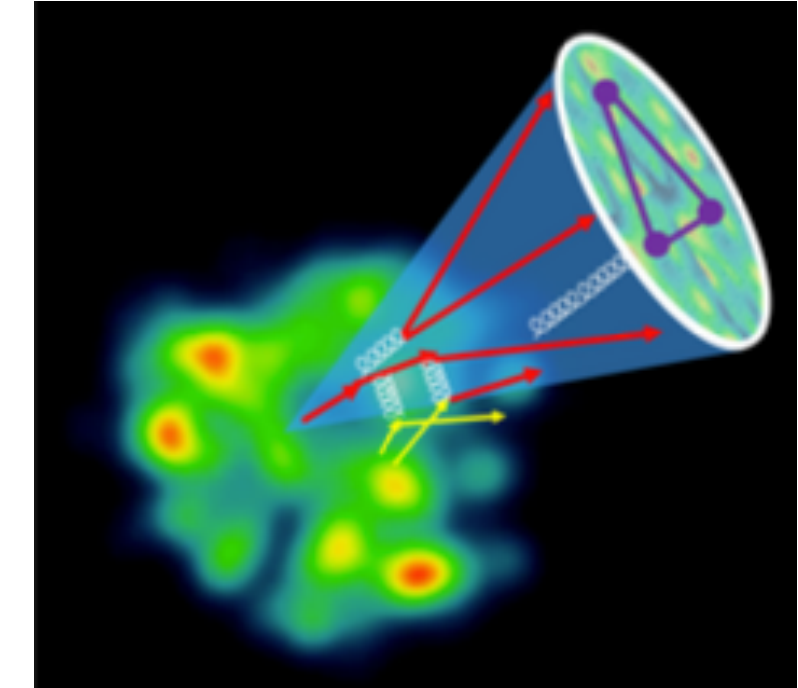
TMDs: [Li-Makris-Vitev 21; Kang, Lee, Shao, Fan 24]

Nucleon energy correlators (target fragmentation): [Liu-Zhu, 23]

Energy correlator observables

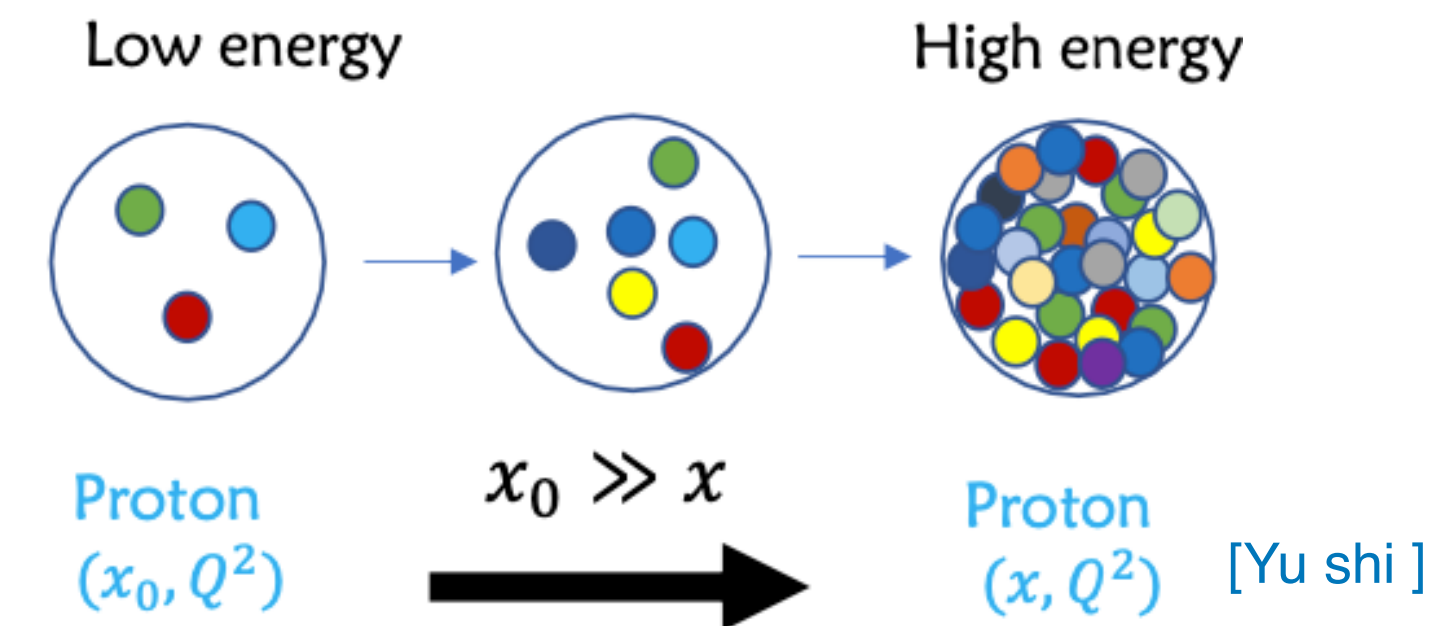
$$\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \cdots \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_k) \rangle$$

[See more in Ian Mout's review]



Quark-gluon plasma

[Andres, Dominguez, Elayavalli, Holguin, Marquet, Mout 22; Yang, He, Mout, Wangm, 23;...]



Small-x physics (pomeron & gluon saturation)

[Liu-Liu-Pan-Yuan-Zhu, 23; Kang, Penttala, Zhao, Zhou, 23;]

➔ **Odderons?**

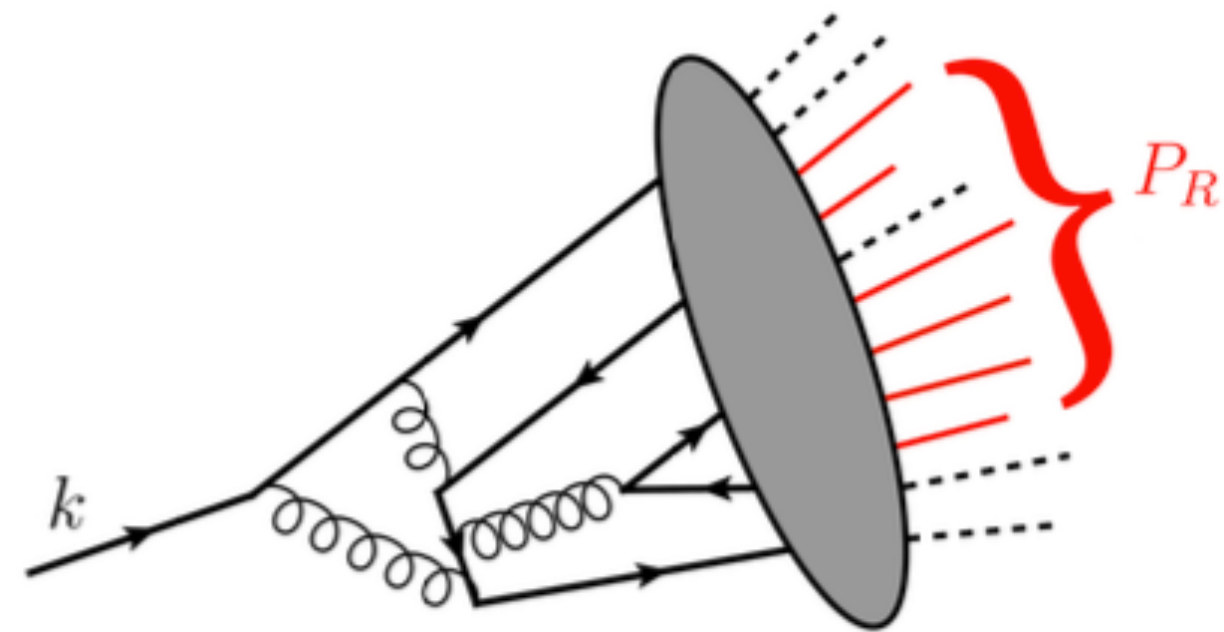
Energy correlators on tracks

[See also YiBei, Max, Anjali, JingYu's talks]

Track-based measurement

- $\langle \mathcal{E}_+ \mathcal{E}_- \rangle, \langle \mathcal{E}_+ \mathcal{E}_+ \rangle$: positively or negatively charged hadrons

[Lee, Mout, 2308.00746]



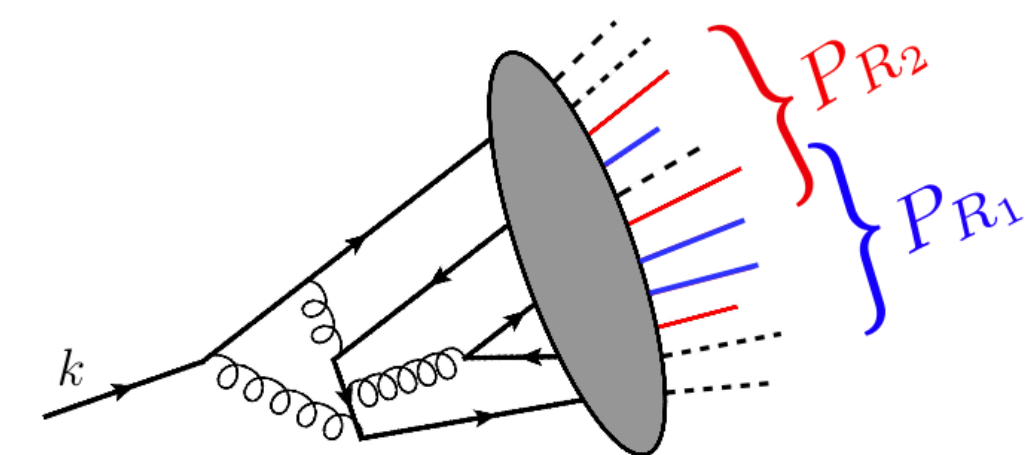
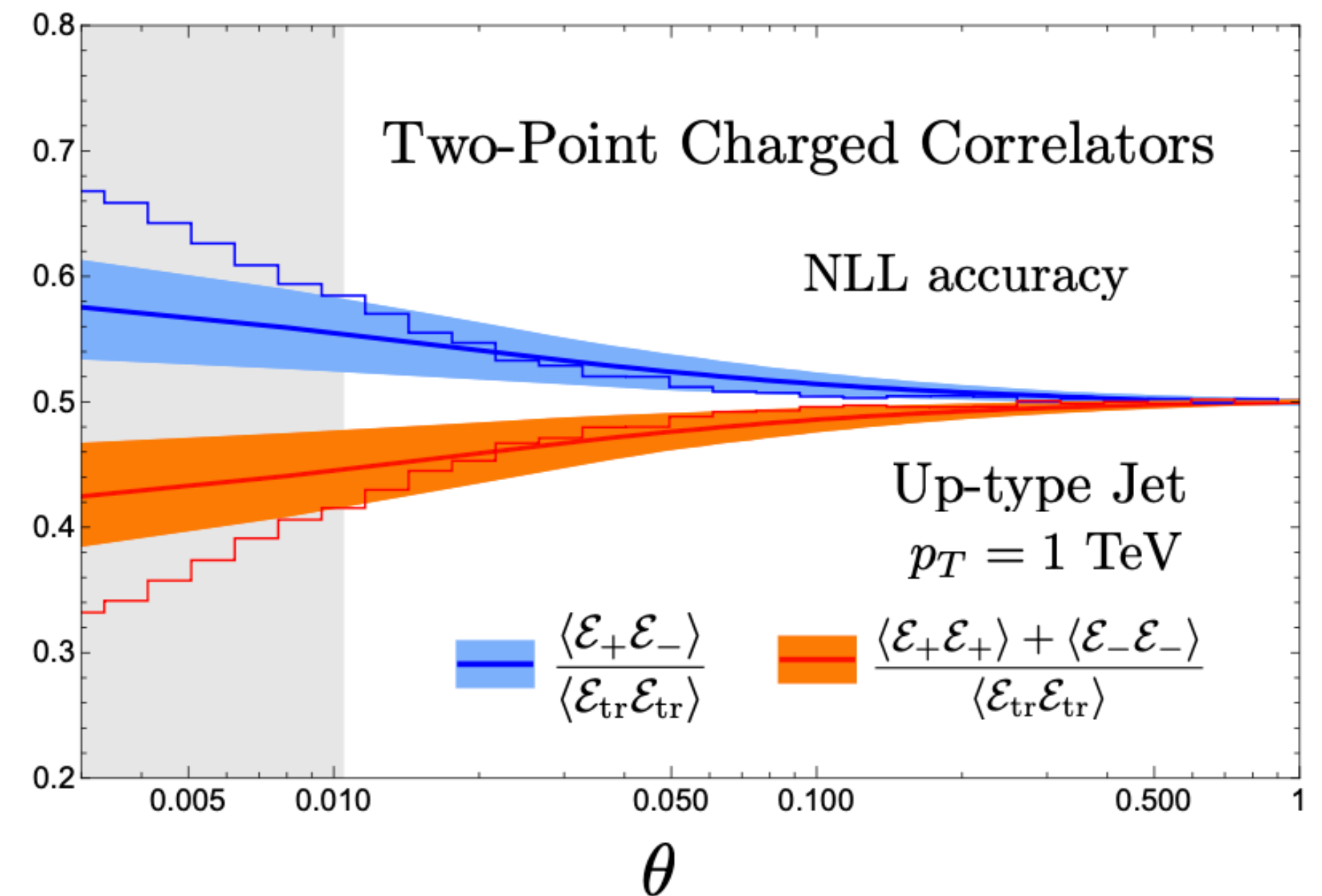
Charged hadrons
($\pi^\pm, K^\pm, p, \bar{p} \dots$)

- Tracking detectors: superior angular resolution
- **Charged hadron EECs**: simply related to the EECs at the partonic level

[Chen, Mout, Zhang, Zhu, 20; Jaarsma, Li, Mout, Waalewijna, Zhu, 22, 23, 24;]

$$\langle \mathcal{E}_R(n_1) \mathcal{E}_R(n_2) \rangle = \sum_{a_1, a_2} T_{a_1}(1) T_{a_2}(1) \langle \mathcal{E}_{a_1}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}_{a_2}(\vec{n}_2) \rangle + \sum_a T_a(2) \langle \mathcal{E}_a^{(1,1)}(\vec{n}_1) \rangle \delta(\vec{n}_1 - \vec{n}_2)$$

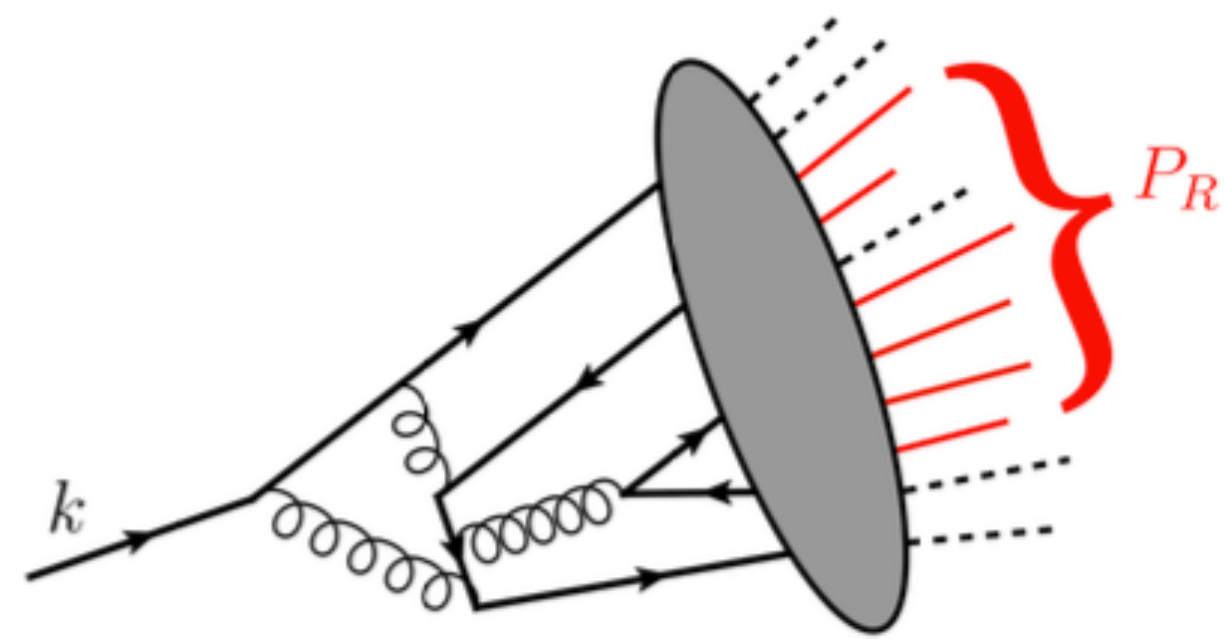
NP number



Energy correlators on tracks

[See also YiBei, Max, Anjali, JingYu's talks]

Track-based measurement



Charged hadrons
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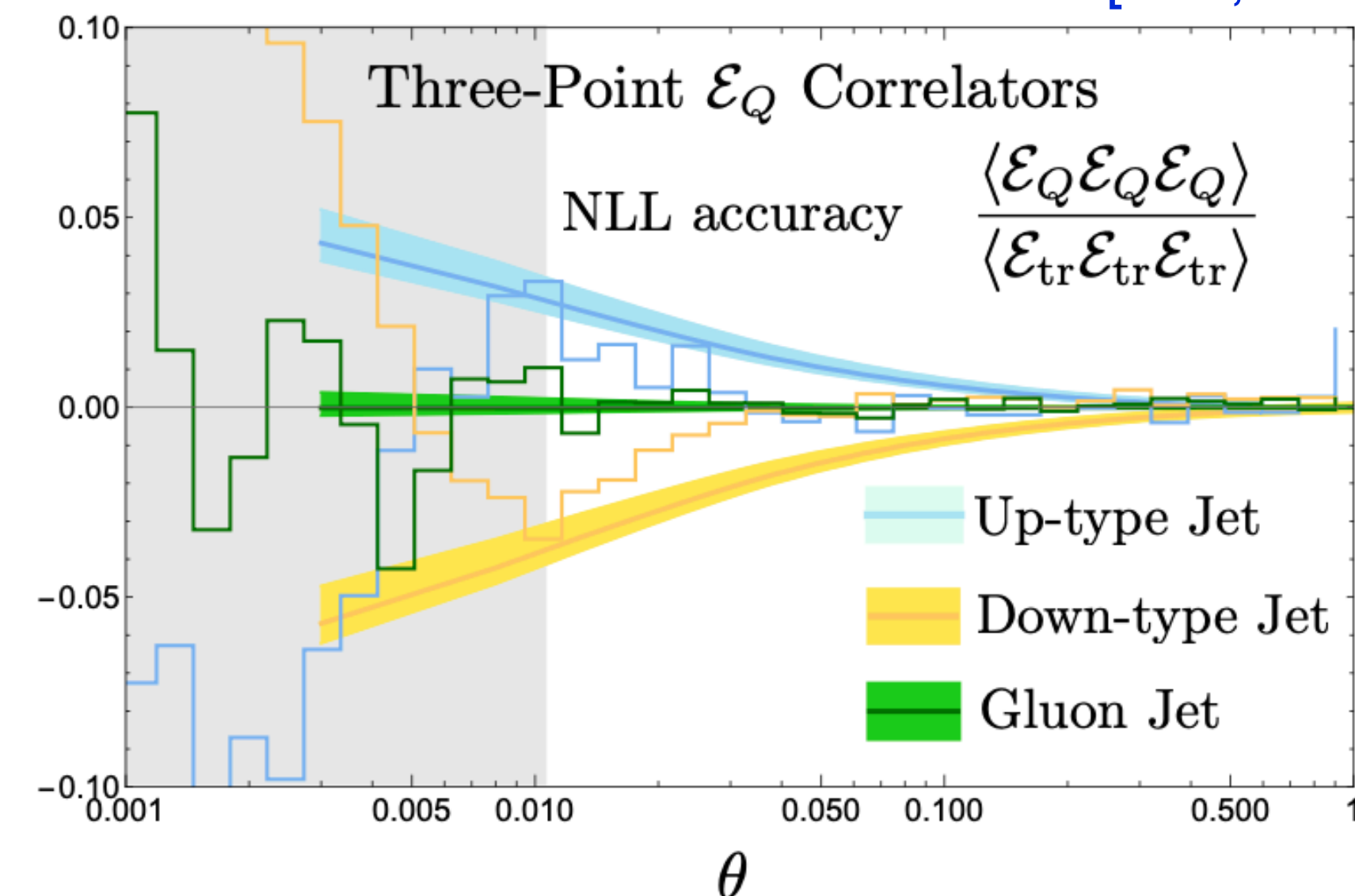
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- Charge-weighted EEC

$$\mathcal{E}_Q(\vec{n}_1) |k\rangle = E_k Q_k \delta(\hat{n}_1 - \hat{k}) |k\rangle$$

[Lee, Mout, 2308.00746]



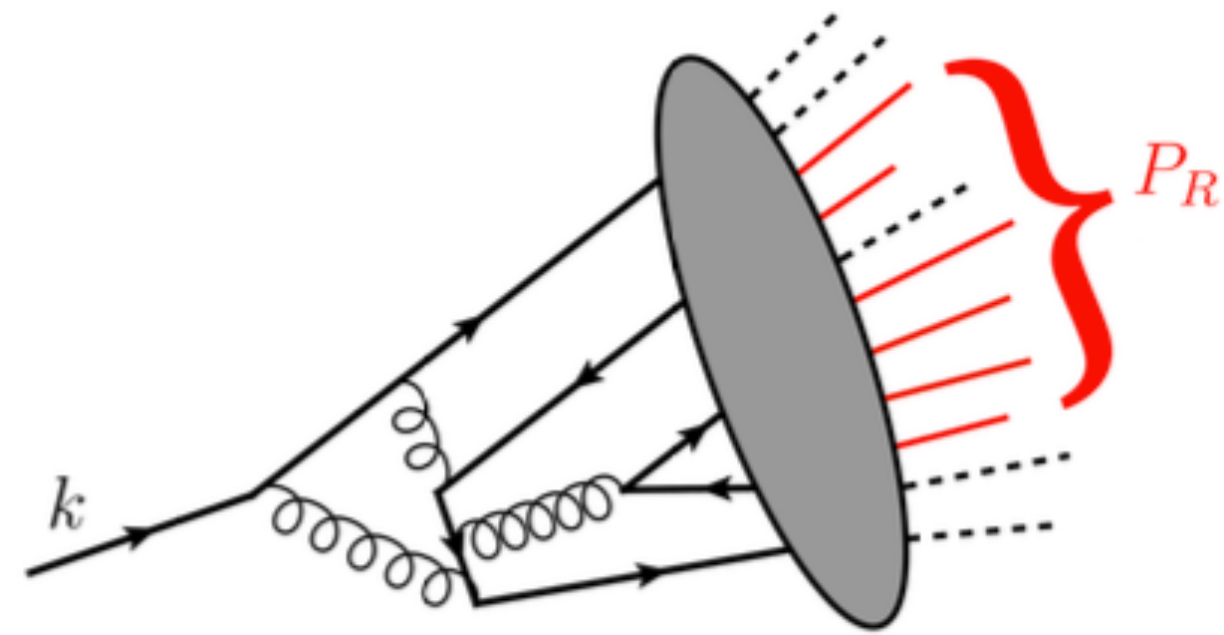
Sensitive to the charge of partons initiating the jet

Can we use these correlators to explore C-odd effects from the initial-state nucleon?

Energy correlators on tracks

[See also YiBei, Max, Anjali, JingYu's talks]

Track-based measurement



Charged hadrons
($\pi^\pm, K^\pm, p, \bar{p} \dots$)

- Tracking detectors: superior angular resolution
- Charged hadron EECs**: simply related to the EECs at the partonic level

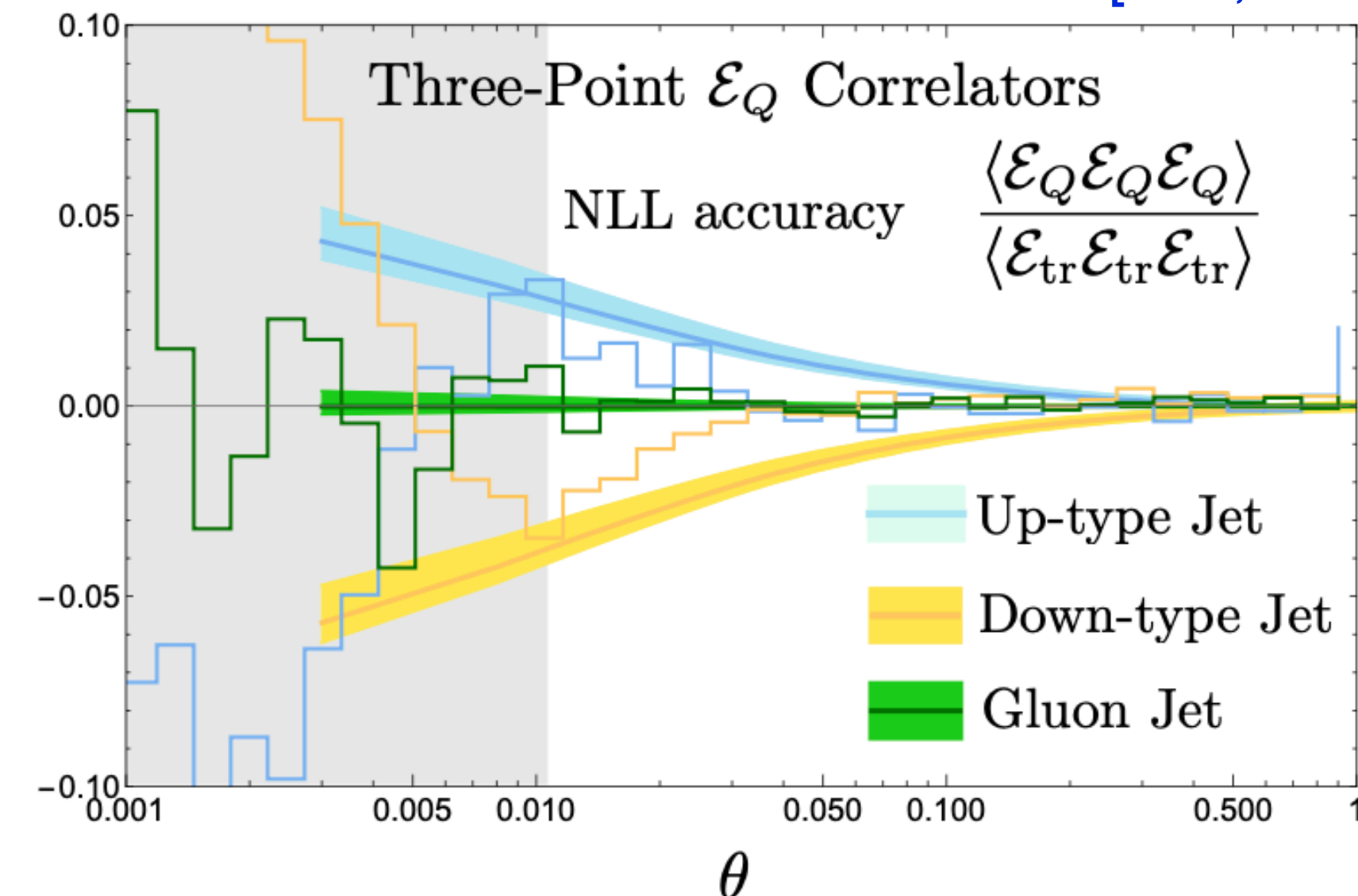
[Chen, Mout, Zhang, Zhu, 20; Jaarsma, Li, Mout, Waalewijna, Zhu, 22, 23, 24;]

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[Lee, Mout, 2308.00746]



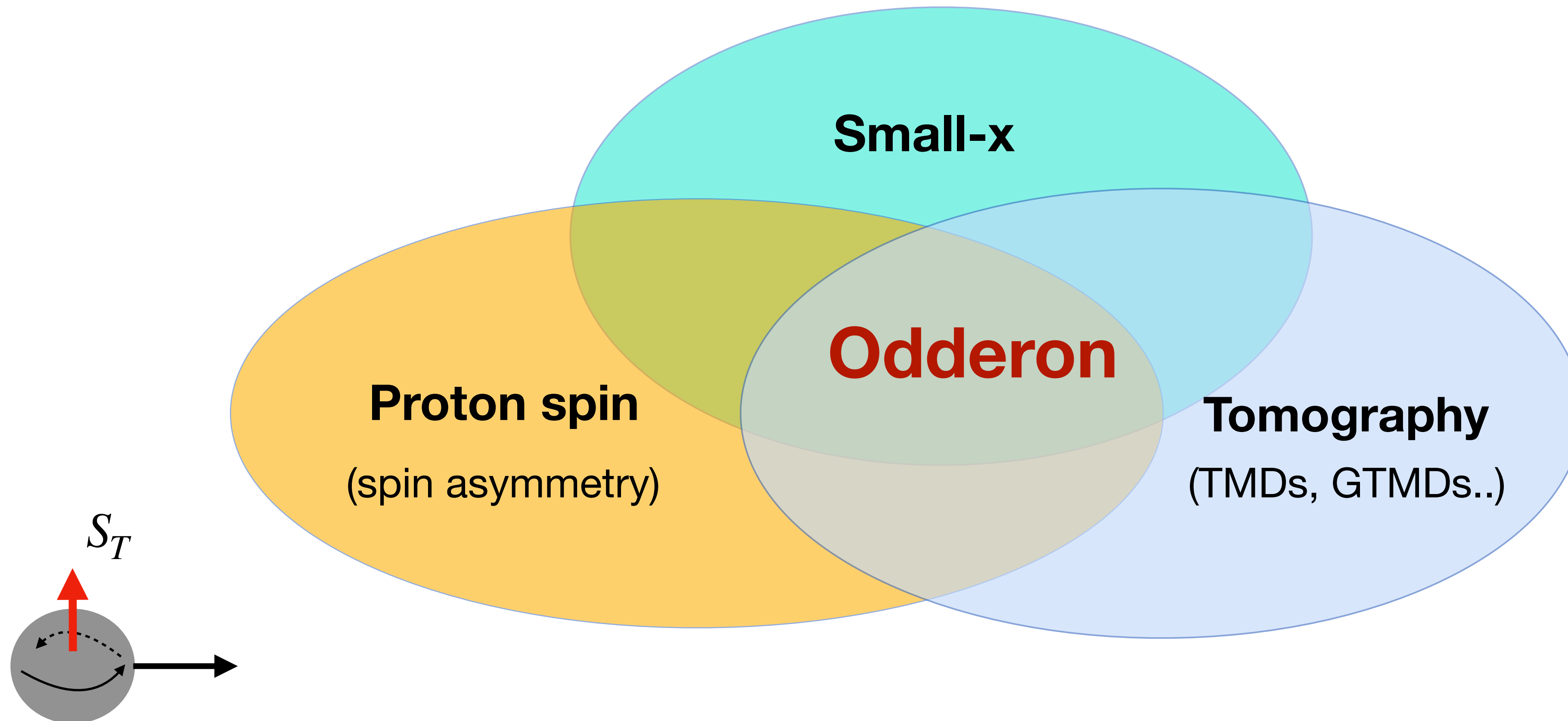
Sensitive to the charge of partons initiating the jet

Can we use these correlators to explore C-odd effects from the initial-state nucleon?

Energy pattern on tracks: $\langle \mathcal{E}_{+/-}(\hat{n}) \rangle_{\text{DIS}}$ & $\langle \mathcal{E}_Q(\hat{n}) \rangle_{\text{DIS}}$ \Rightarrow **Probing the Odderon in the DIS**

Spin-dependent odderon

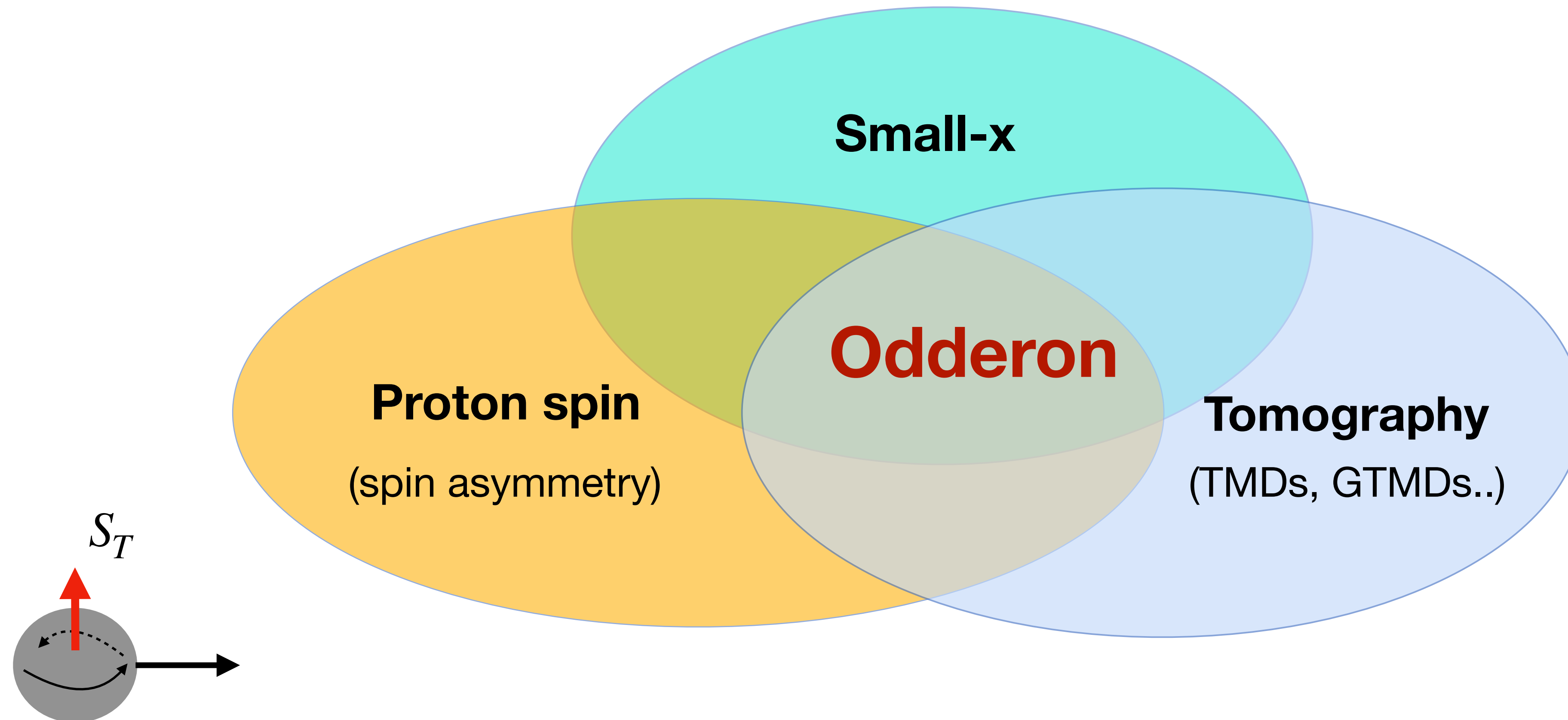
- Energy pattern on tracks can remarkably improves the probe for the spin-dependent odderon
- But what is the spin-dependent odderon?
- What are the limitations of the previous proposals?



Spin-dependent odderon

[Jian Zhou 2013]

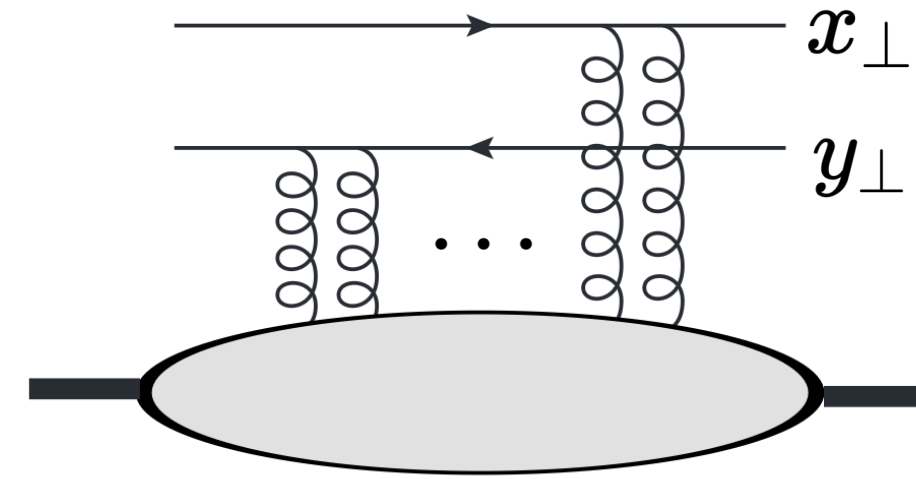
- Not just C-odd gluon exchanges
- Connected to the three pillars of the EIC physics.



Conventional odderon V.S. Spin-dependent odderon

► C-odd: $O(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) = -O(y_{\perp}, x_{\perp})$

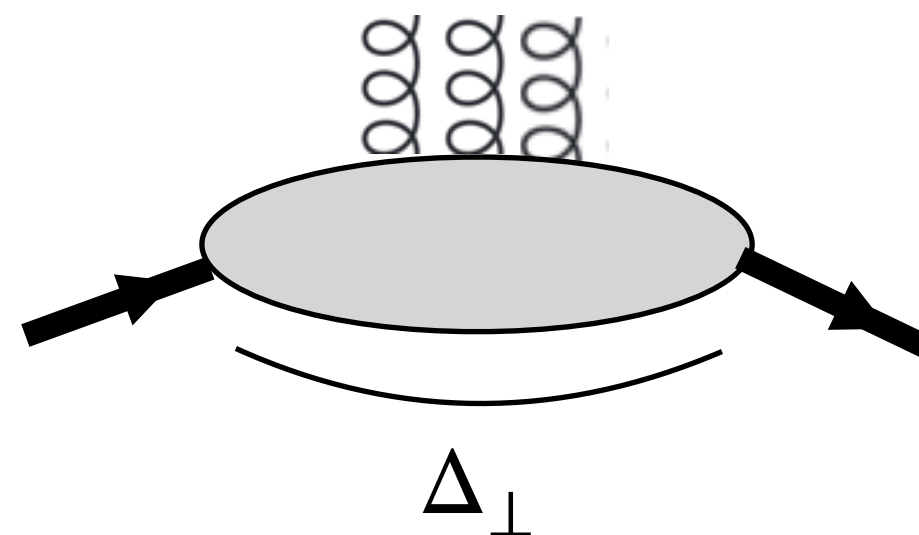
proportional to the vector $(\vec{x} - \vec{y})_{\perp}$



• Target recoil momentum

$$O \propto (x - y)_{\perp} \cdot \Delta_{\perp}$$

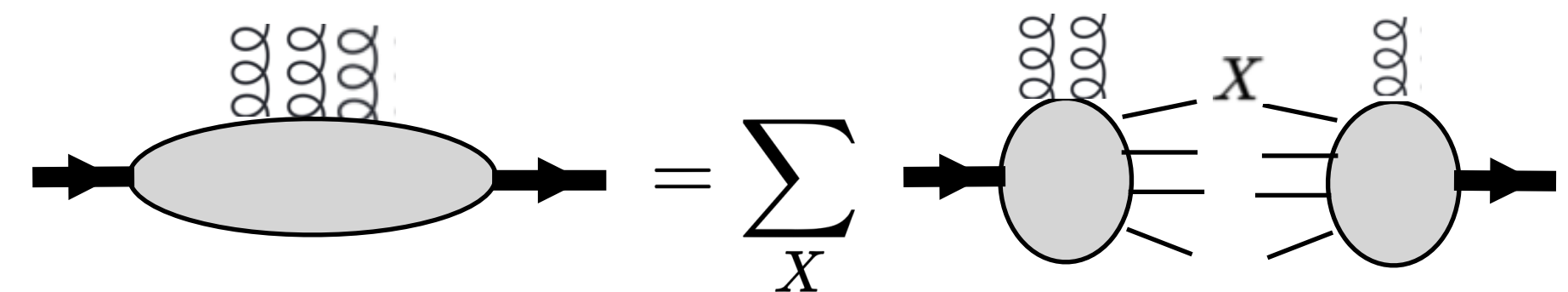
Exclusive process: target unbroken



★ Transversely polarized proton spin S_{\perp}

$$O_T \propto (x - y)_{\perp} \times S_{\perp}$$

Can be measured in an inclusive process:



Typical observables: single spin asymmetry in SIDIS

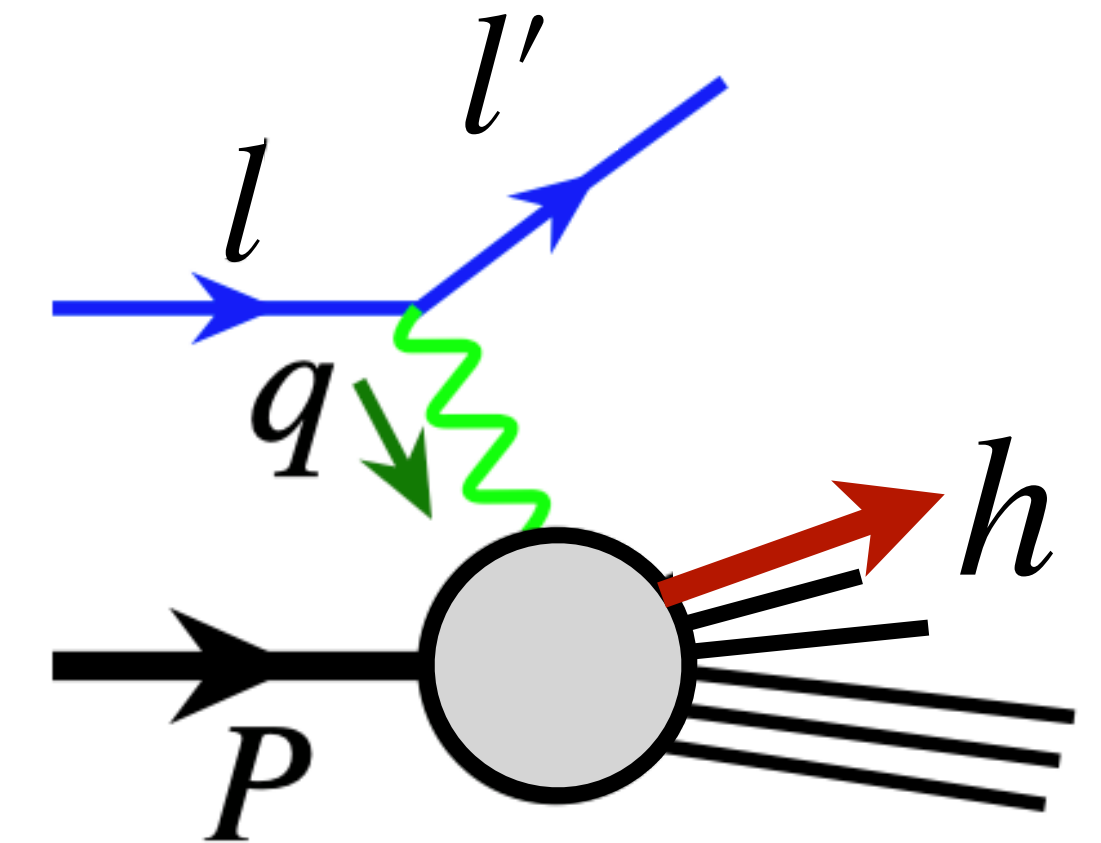
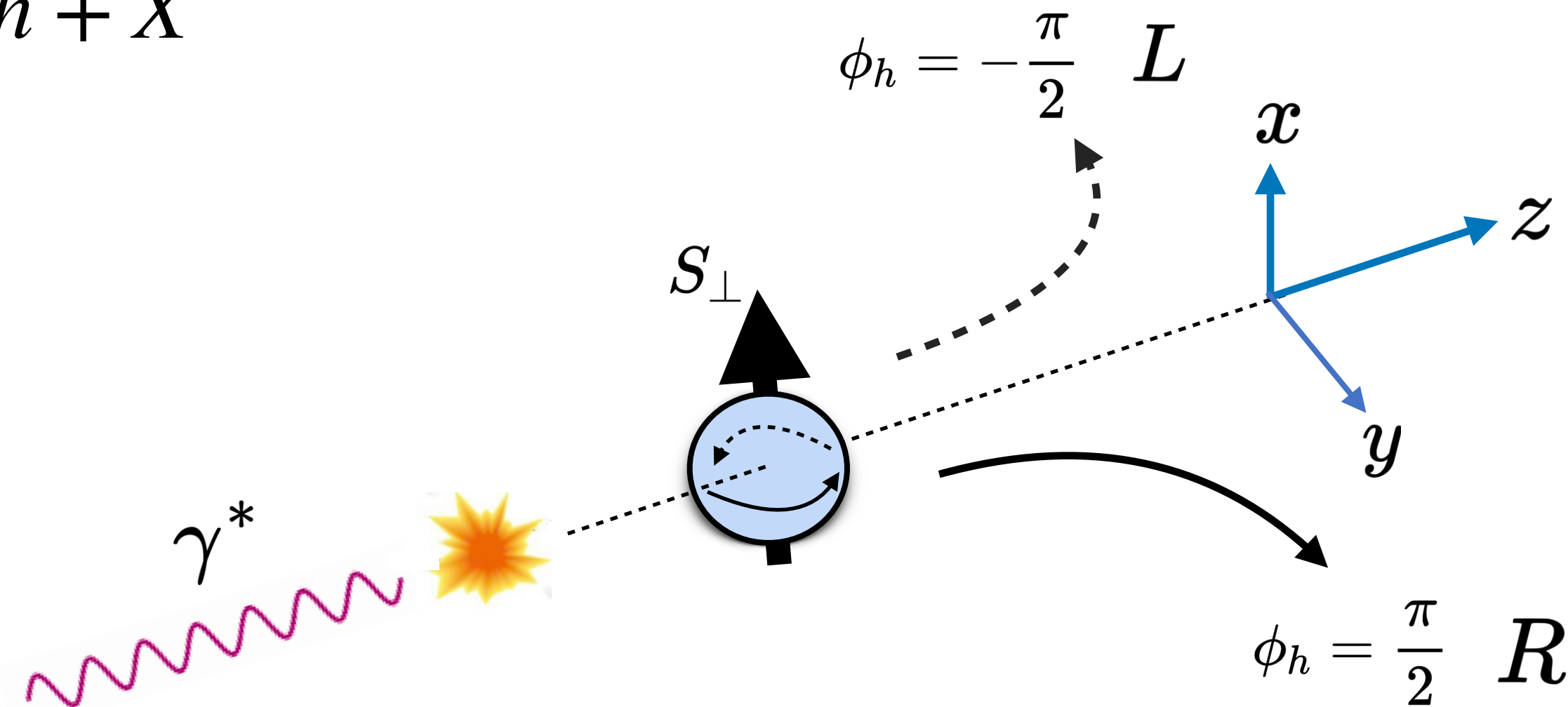
✓ Semi-inclusive DIS:

[Yao, Hagiwara, Hatta 2019]

[Dong, Zheng, Zhou 2019]

[Zhu, Zheng, Zhang 2024]

$$\gamma^* + p^\uparrow \rightarrow h + X$$



$$d\sigma \propto S_\perp \times P_{h\perp} \propto \sin(\phi_h - \phi_S) \Rightarrow A_{UT} = \frac{d\sigma_R - d\sigma_L}{d\sigma_R + d\sigma_L}$$

▸ $O_T \propto k_{g\perp} \times S_\perp$: hadron production is left-right asymmetric!

▸ However, the odderon ($\sim d^{abc} A^{+,a} A^{+,b} A^{+,c}$) is not the only possible origin!

- C-even gluonic correlations can also contribute, e.g., $f^{abc} A^{+,a} A^{+,b} A^{+,c}$

[Kang, Qiu PRD 78, 034005 (2008)]

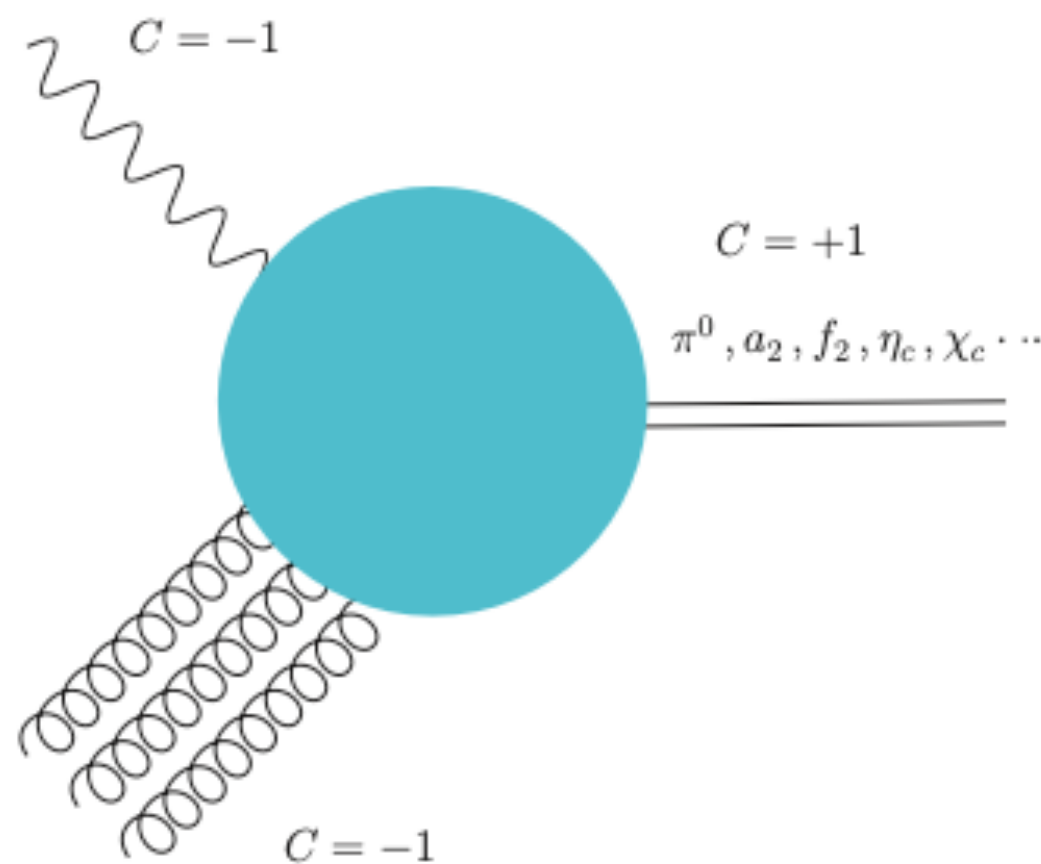
[Schafer,Zhou 1308.4961]

[Chen, Ma, Tong 2108.13582]

Lack of C-odd constraints in SIDIS

- Conventional odderon $O \propto (x - y)_\perp \cdot \Delta_\perp$

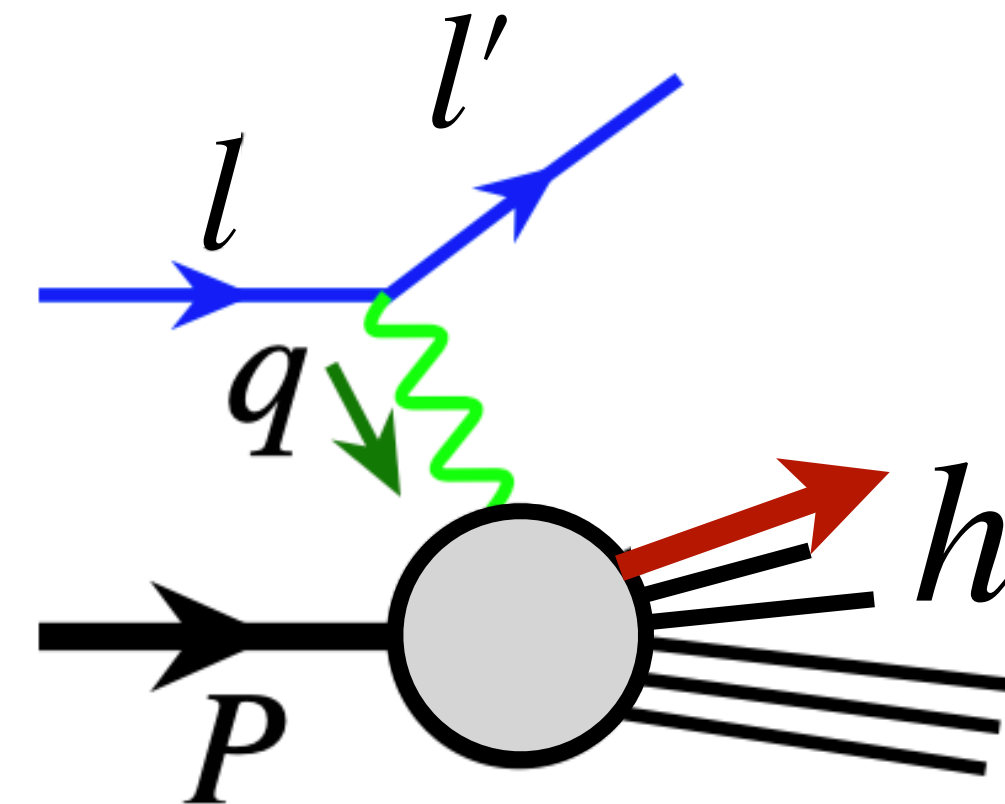
✓ Exclusive ep scattering: $\gamma^* + p \rightarrow p' + \pi^0$



- C-odd probe by measuring the C-even hadron

★ Spin-dependent odderon $O_T \propto (x - y)_\perp \times S_\perp$

✓ SIDIS: $\gamma^* + p^\uparrow \rightarrow h + X$



- Not measuring everything
- Lose the information of C-parity conservation
- Potential contamination from C-even gluonic contributions: $f^{abc} A^{+,a} A^{+,b} A^{+,c}$

➡ How to make a C-odd tag in the inclusive measurement ?₃

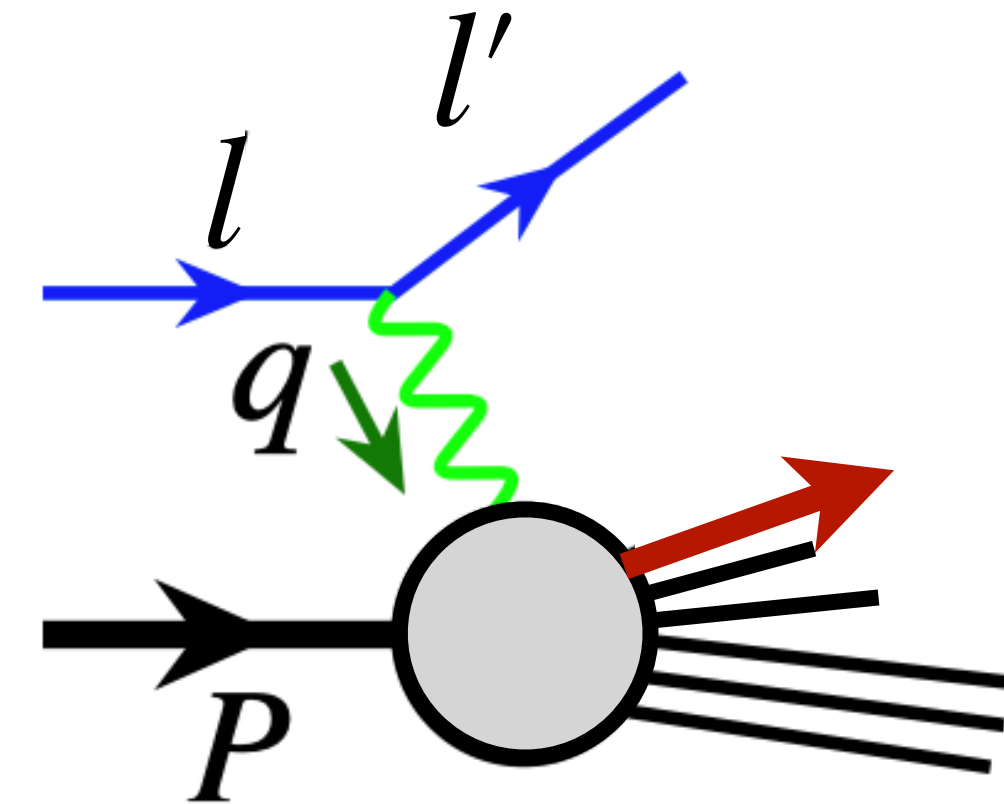
More questions

★ Spin-dependent odderon

$$O_T \propto (x - y)_\perp \times S_\perp$$

- ▶ How to make a **C-odd tag** in the inclusive measurement?
- ▶ Require identifying hadrons, involving **convolution of fragmentation functions**.
 - ➡ Is there a way to minimize non-perturbative effects?
- ▶ Focus on open charm (D^0, \dots)
 - ➡ Why not **charged hadrons** ($\pi^\pm, K^\pm, p, \bar{p}$) ?

✓ Semi-inclusive DIS: $\gamma^* + p^\uparrow \rightarrow h + X$

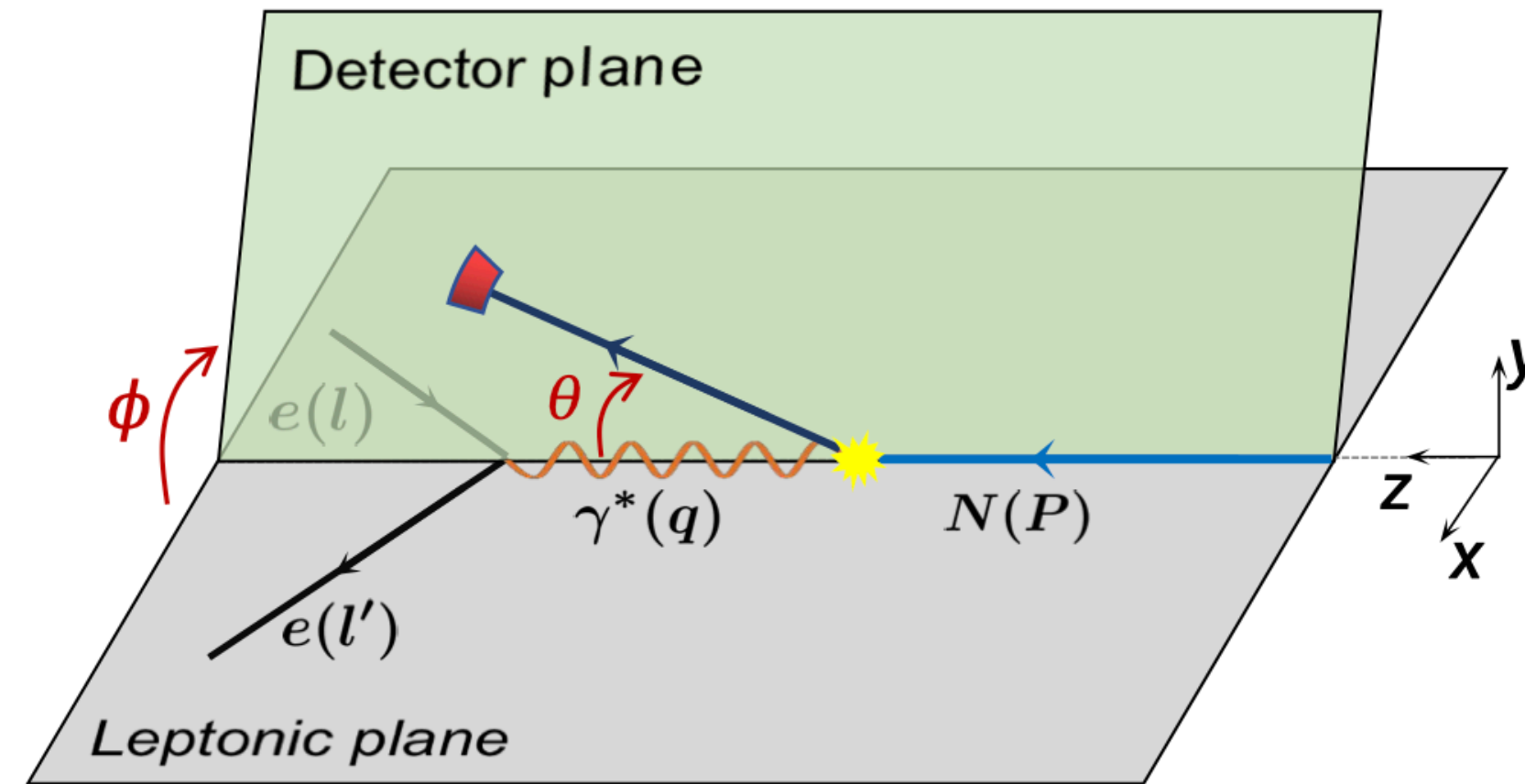
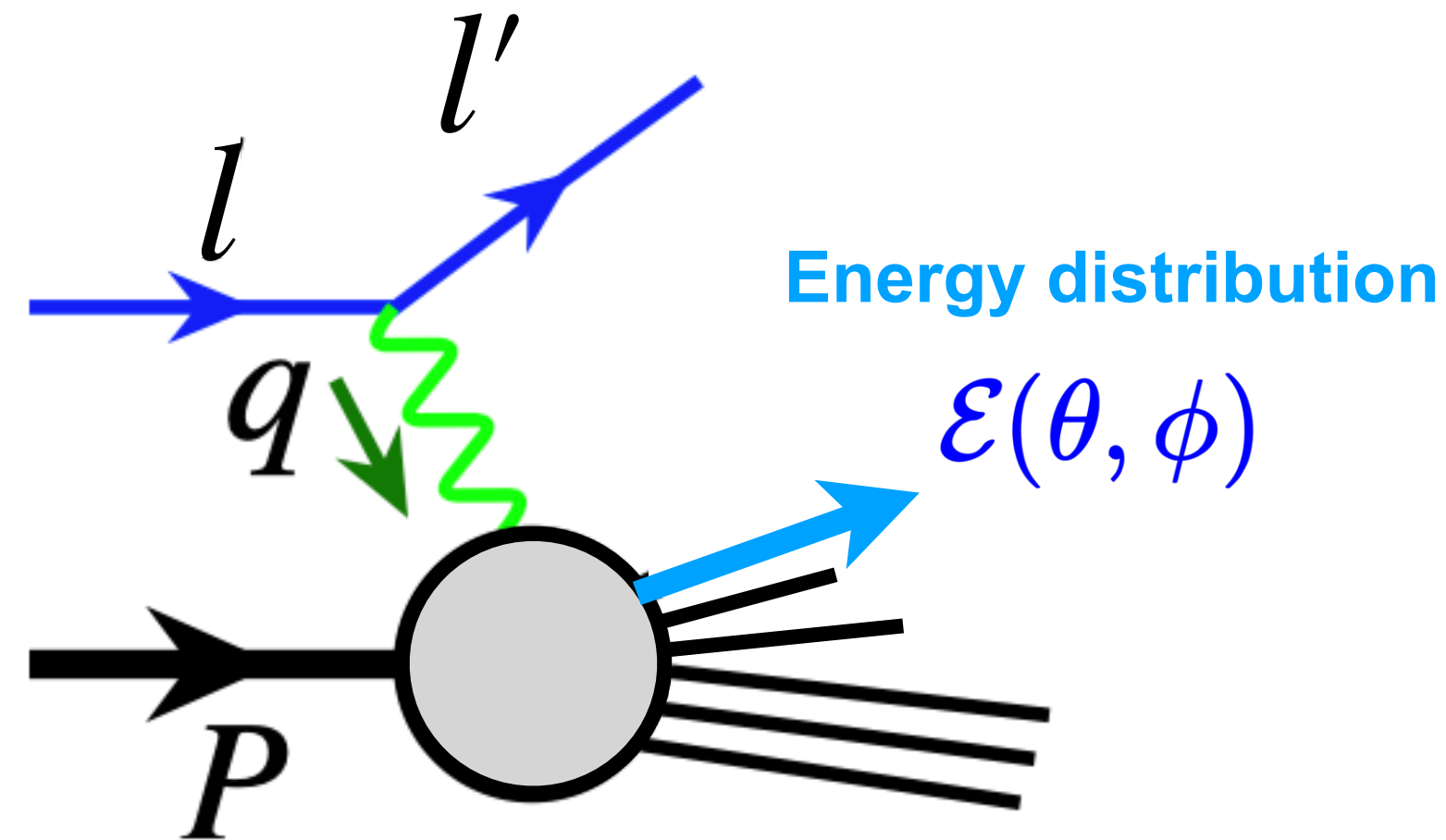


[Yao, Hagiwara, Hatta 2019]

[Dong, Zheng, Zhou 2019]

[Zhu, Zheng, Zhang 2024]

The DIS energy pattern



$$\Sigma(\theta, \phi)_{\text{DIS}} = \sum_h \int d\sigma^{e+N \rightarrow e+h+X} \frac{E_h}{E_N} \delta(\theta^2 - \theta_h^2) \delta(\phi - \phi_h)$$

Reduce collinear singularities

Reduce soft singularities

[Meng-Olness-Soper NPB 371 (1992) 79]

[Li-Makris-Vitev PRD 103 (2021) 094005]

[Liu-Zhu, PRL130 (2023) 091901]

[Kang-Lee-Shao-Fan JHEP 03 (2024) 153]

[Chen-Ma-Tong, JHEP 08 (2024) 227]

▸ An extension of the energy pattern in e^+e^- annihilation: [Basham-Brown-Ellis-Love, PRD 17 (1978) 2298]

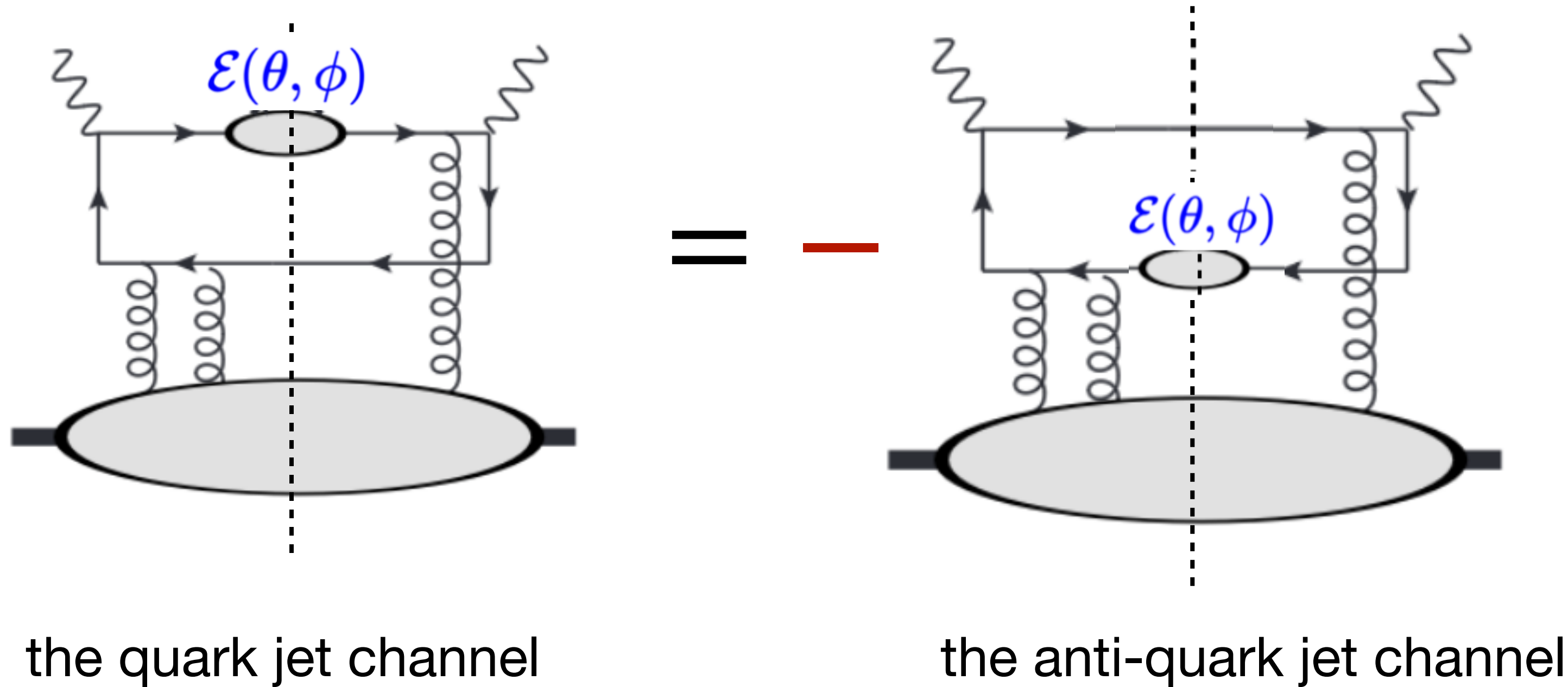
- One-point energy correlator

- Cleaner probe ; reducing non-perturbative effects in the final states, e.g. $\sum_h \int_0^1 dz z D_{h/a}(z) = 1$

▸ Single spin asymmetry : a left-right asymmetry of hadronic energy distributions

The need for the track information

- The inclusive energy pattern is infrared-collinear safe
- However, the odderon contributions to the inclusive energy-pattern SSA vanish, due to the C-odd nature



➡ Restricting the measurement to charged hadrons , $\mathbb{S} = \{h^+\}, \{h^-\}$

✓ The charged-hadron energy flux have different sensitivities to the quark and anti-quark fragmentation, preventing cancelations

Incorporating track information

★ Measuring the DIS energy pattern on positively or negatively charged hadrons:

$$\Sigma_{\mathbb{S}}(\theta, \phi)_{\text{DIS}} = \sum_{h \in \mathbb{S}} \int d\sigma^{e+N \rightarrow e+h+X} \frac{E_h}{E_N} \delta(\theta^2 - \theta_h^2) \delta(\phi - \phi_h)$$

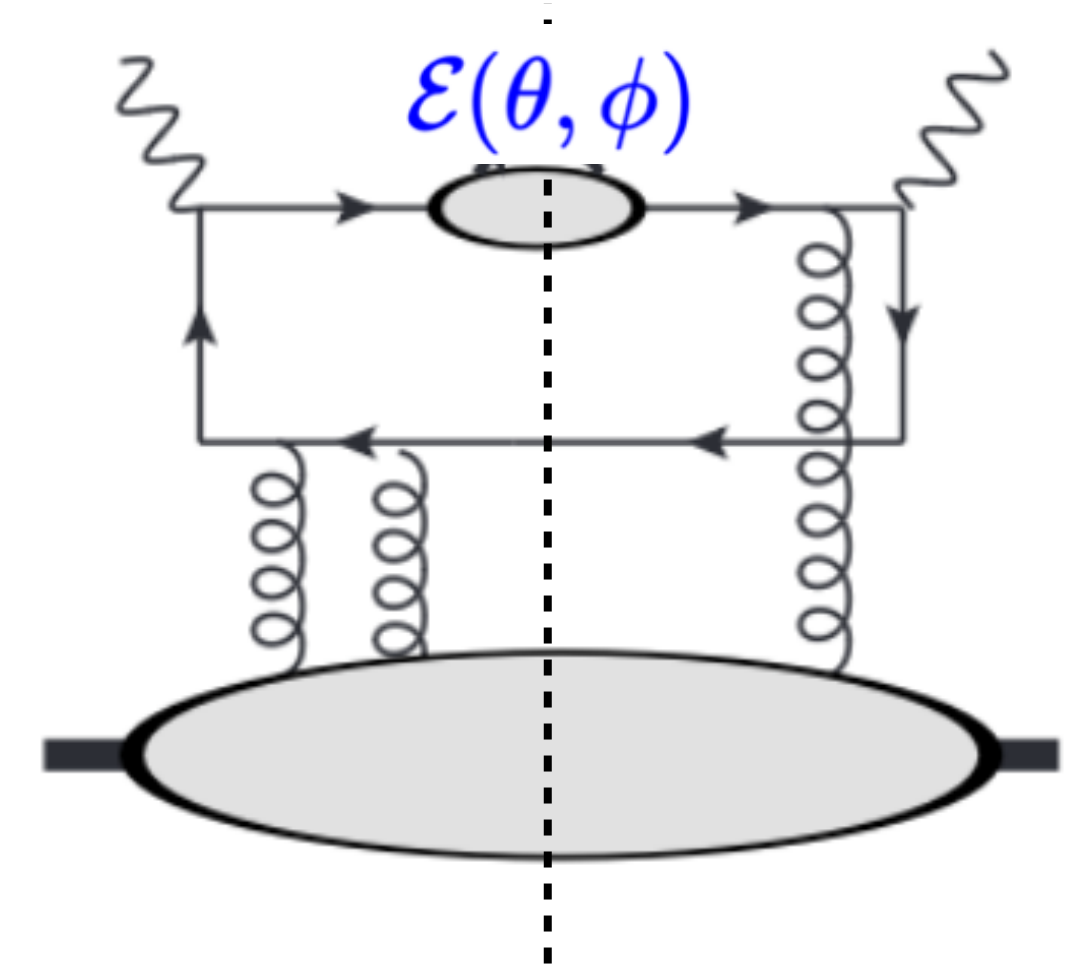
- This again introduce fragmentation effects. $\mathbb{S} = \{h^+\}, \{h^-\}$
- However, the energy weighting results in a simple factorization form

$$\Sigma_{\mathbb{S}}(\theta, \phi) \propto \left(\sum_{h \in \mathbb{S}} \int_0^1 dz z [D_{h/q}(z) - D_{h/\bar{q}}(z)] \right) \times \left(\int d^3 k_q \frac{E_q}{E_N} \delta(\theta^2 - \theta_q^2) \delta(\phi - \phi_q) \mathcal{O}_q(z_q, k_{q\perp}) \right)$$

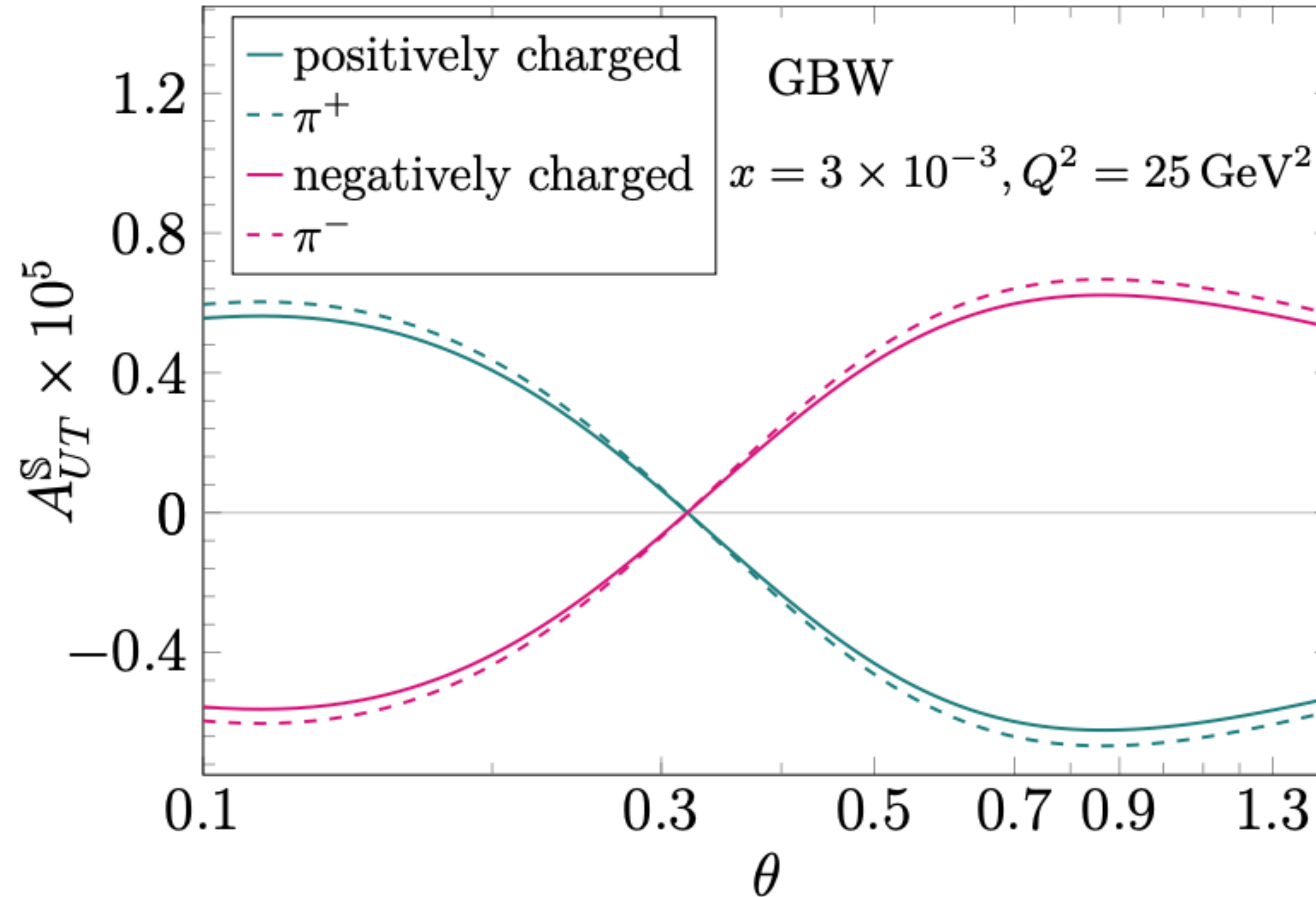
First moment of FFs

Σ_q , the energy pattern of the quark
producing from the odderon and γ^*
scattering

➡ Reducing the non-perturbative effects, similar to [\[Jaarsma, Li, Mout, Waalewijna, Zhu,22,23,24;\]](#)



A unique prediction from the odderon domination



- Signature: the energy-pattern SSAs change sign from $\mathbb{S} = \{h^+\}$ to $\mathbb{S} = \{h^-\}$
- However, may be obscured by the C-even contributions

Incorporating charge

- A C-odd tag can be set by weighting the hadronic charge

Similar to [\[Lee, Moul, 2308.00746\]](#)

$$\Sigma_{\mathbb{Q}}(\theta, \phi)_{\text{DIS}} = \sum_h \int d\sigma^{e+N \rightarrow e+h+X} \frac{E_h Q_h}{E_N} \delta(\theta^2 - \theta_h^2) \delta(\phi - \phi_h)$$

- The charge-weighted energy pattern (charge pattern)

$$\Sigma_{\mathbb{Q}}(\theta, \phi) \propto \left(\sum_h \int_0^1 dz z Q_h [D_{h/q}(z) - D_{h/\bar{q}}(z)] \right) \times \left(\int d^3 k_q \frac{E_q}{E_N} \delta(\theta^2 - \theta_q^2) \delta(\phi - \phi_q) \mathcal{O}_q(z_q, k_{q\perp}) \right)$$

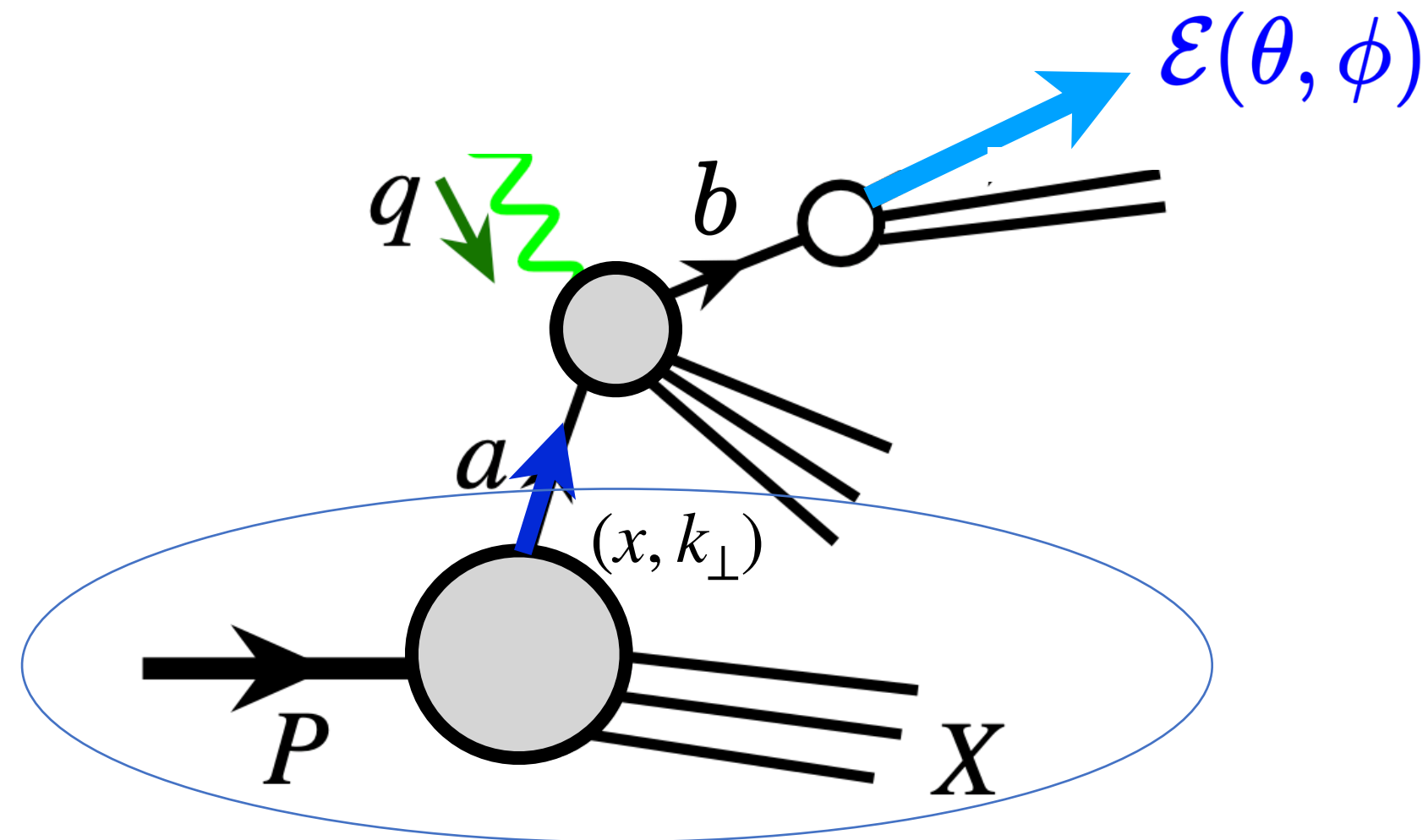
- A C-odd prism: by charge conservation, the total charge from q and \bar{q} must have opposite sign

$$\sum_h \int_0^1 dz z Q_h D_{h/q}(z) = - \sum_h \int_0^1 dz z Q_h D_{h/\bar{q}}(z)$$

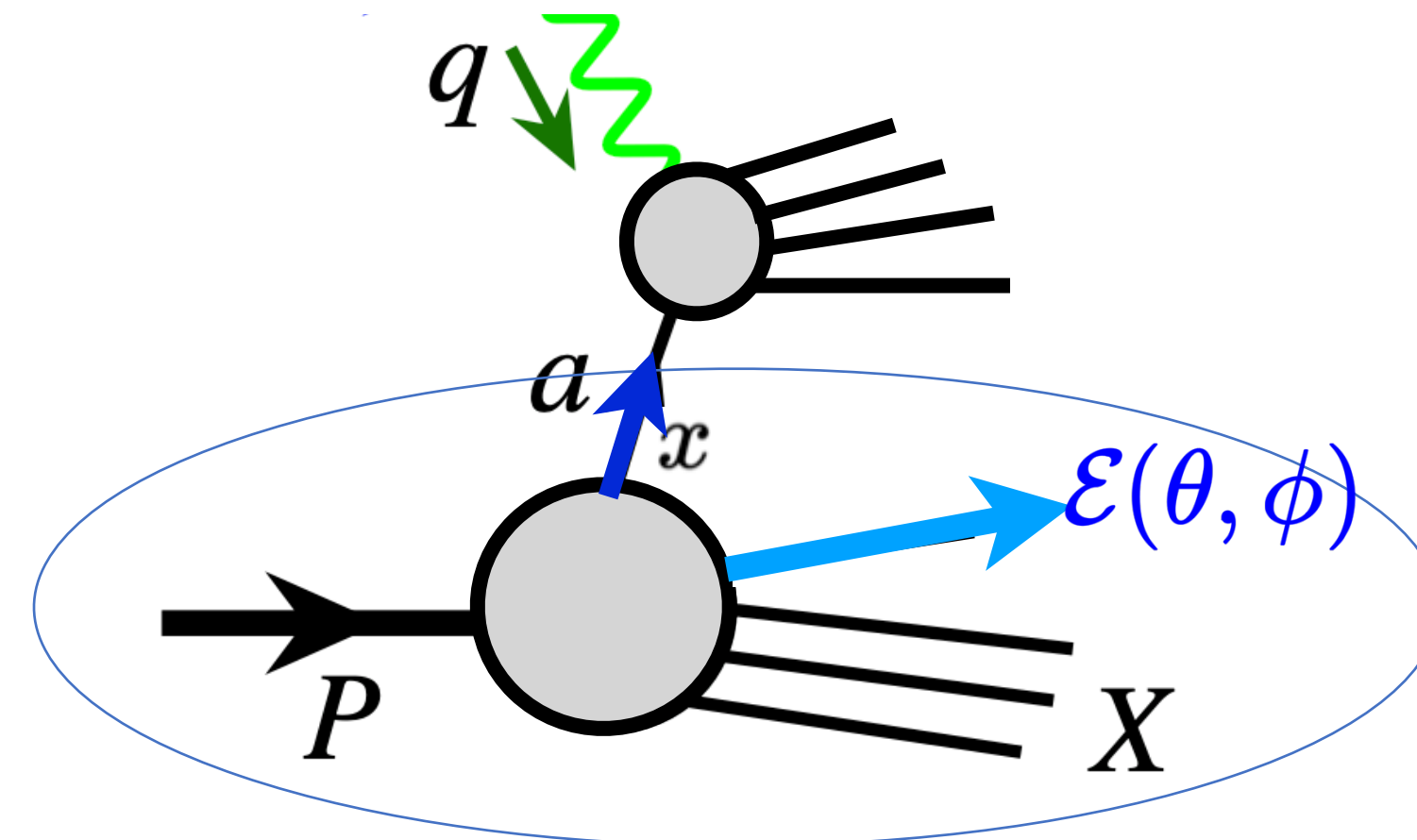
- the SSA: free from the C-even contribution, only sensitive to the spin-dependent odderon !

Two kinematic regions of the DIS energy pattern

Current fragmentation region



Target fragmentation region



► TMDs

- ➡ the probability of finding a parton with (x, k_{\perp}) in the broken target

Factorization: [Li-Makris-Vitev PRD 103 (2021) 094005]

- ➡ Spin-dependent odderon: common origins of T-odd quark/gluon TMDs at small-x

[Boer-Echevarria-Mulders-Zhou, PRL. 116 , 122001, 2016]

[Dong- Zheng-Zhou PLB 788 401, 2019]

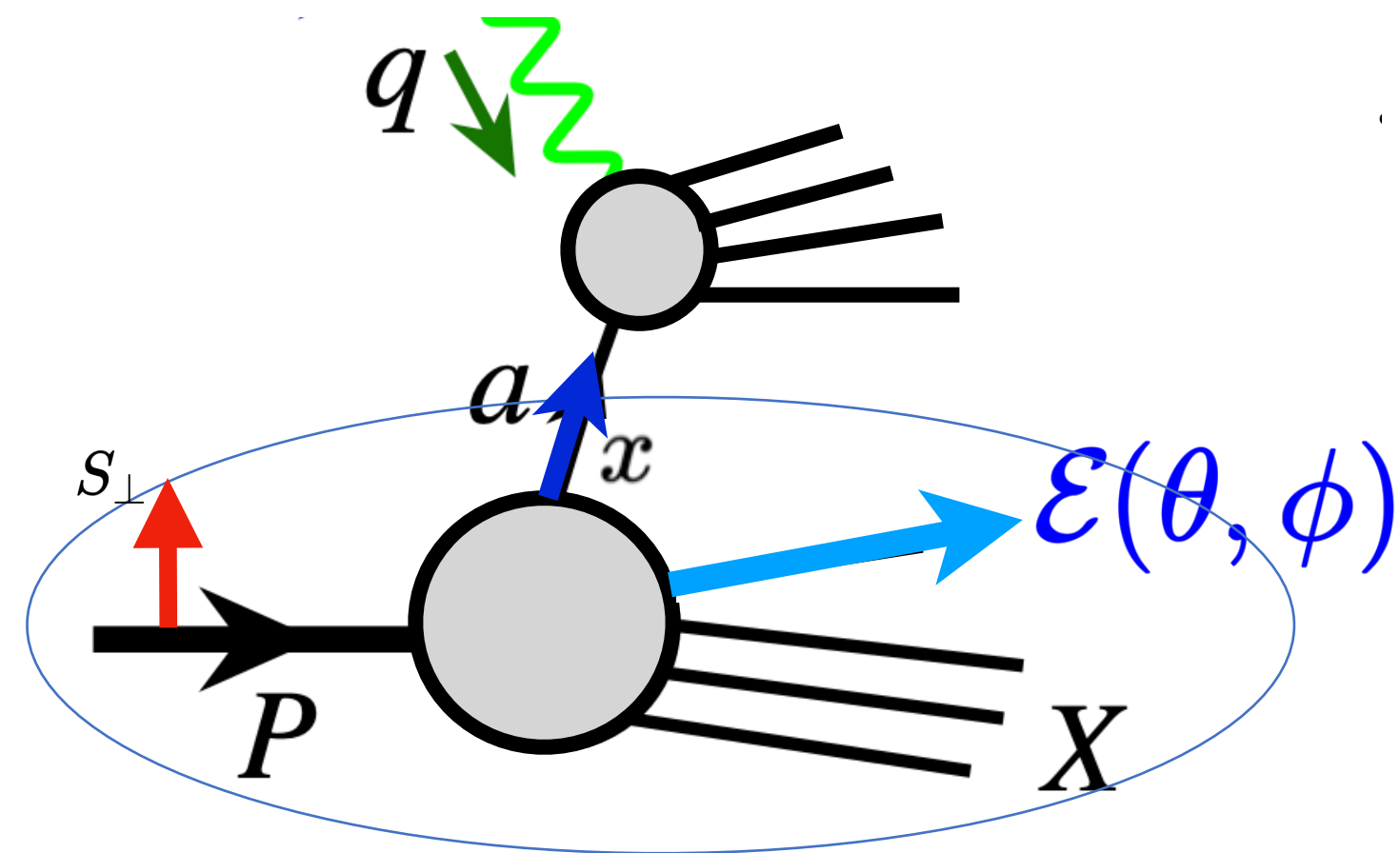
► Nucleon energy correlator [Liu-Zhu PRL 130, 2023]

- ➡ the probability of finding a parton while observing a energy flow from target remnants

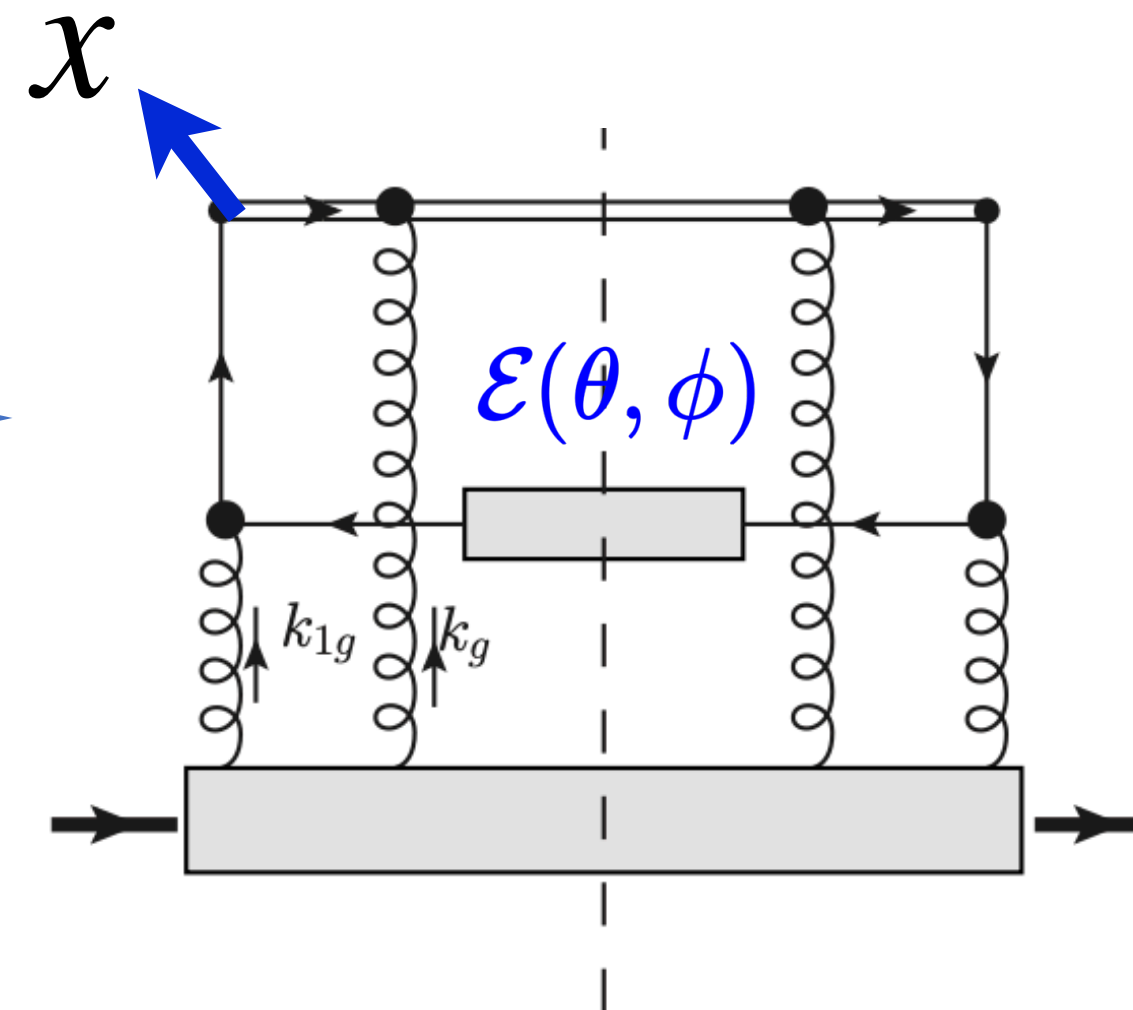
- ➡ What is connection between the spin-dependent odderon and NEC?

Nucleon energy correlator at small-x

- At small-x, the energy flow and the parton from the splitting from small-x gluons



$$f_T^{t,q}(x, \theta) \sin(\phi - \phi_S) \propto \int \frac{d\eta}{4\pi} e^{-ixP^+\eta^-} \langle PS_\perp | \bar{\psi}(\eta^-) \mathcal{L}_n^\dagger(\eta^-) \gamma^+ \hat{\mathcal{E}}(\theta, \phi) \mathcal{L}_n(0) \psi(0) | PS_\perp \rangle$$



- Quark Sivers NEC at small x:

$$f_T^{t,q}(x, \theta) = \frac{N_c}{\theta^2 (2\pi)^4} \int_0^{1-x} \frac{d\xi}{\xi} (k_\perp^2)^2 \int d^2 k_{g\perp} \left[\frac{\mathbf{k}_{g\perp} + \mathbf{k}_\perp}{\epsilon_f^2 + (\mathbf{k}_{g\perp} + \mathbf{k}_\perp)^2} - \frac{\mathbf{k}_\perp}{\epsilon_f^2 + \mathbf{k}_\perp^2} \right]^2 \frac{\mathbf{k}_\perp \cdot \mathbf{k}_{g\perp}}{|\mathbf{k}_\perp|} O_{1T,x_g}^\perp(k_{g\perp}^2)$$

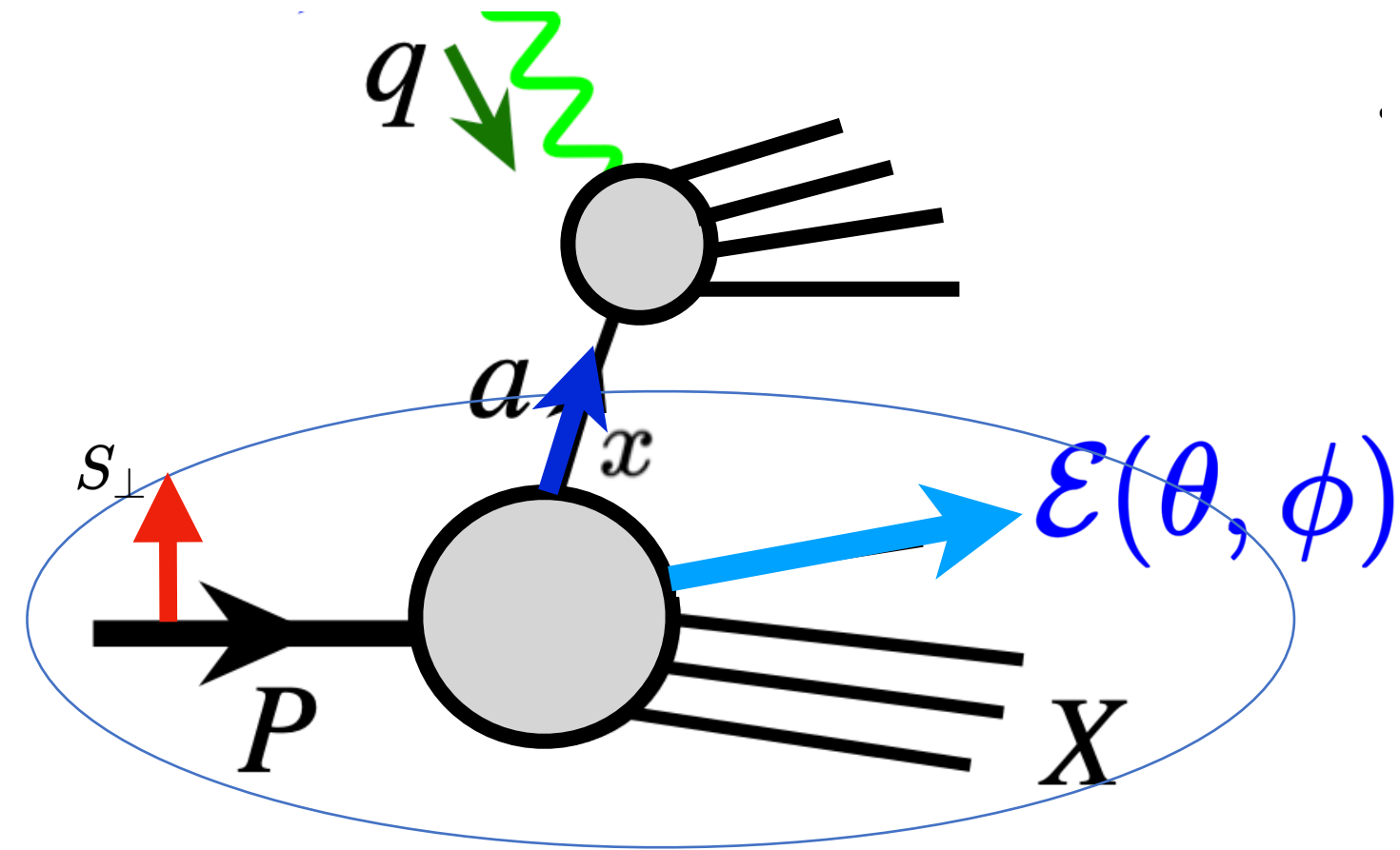
Spin-dependent odderon

[See the pomeron case in

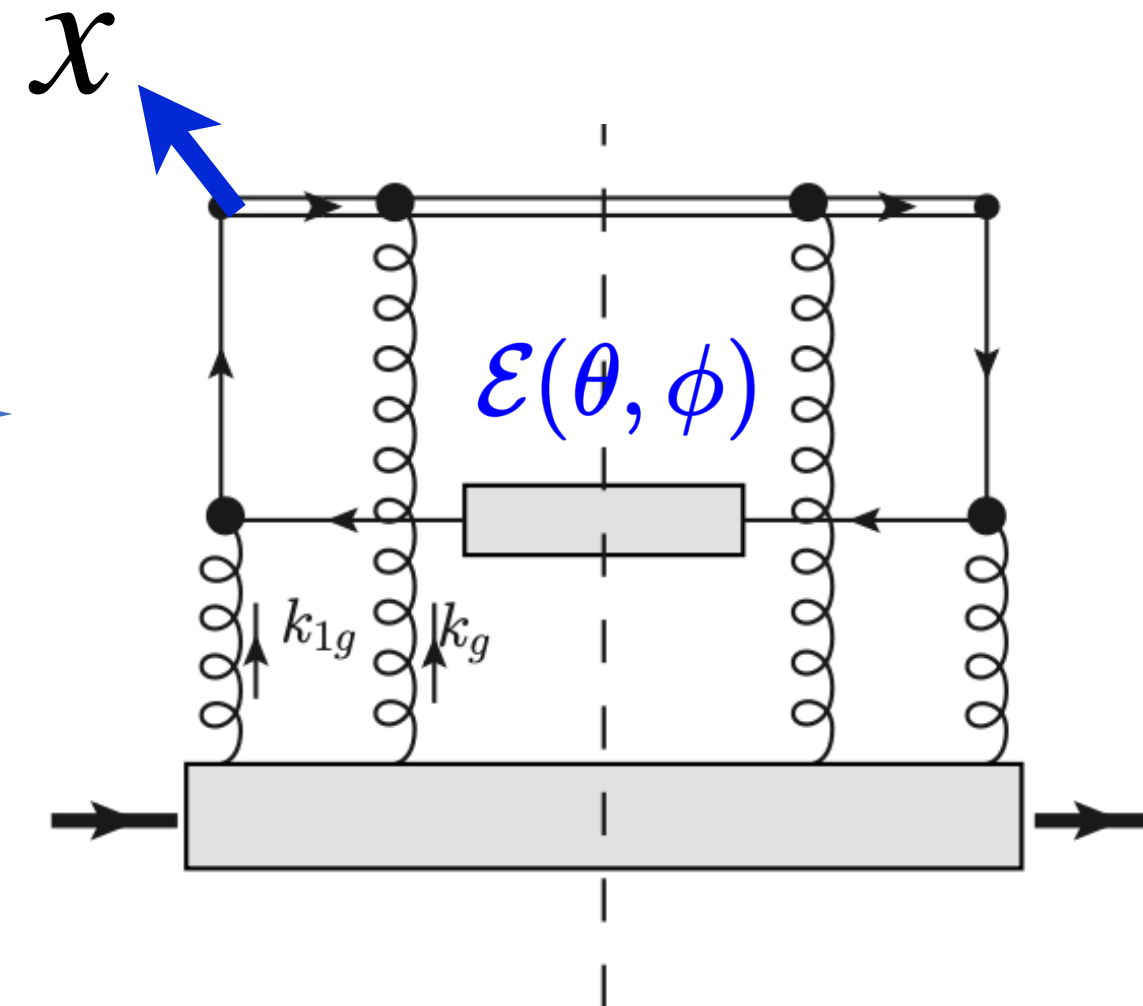
Liu et al PRL. 130 (2023) 181901]

Nucleon energy correlator on tracks

- At small- x , the energy flow and the parton from the splitting from small- x gluons



$$f_T^{t,q}(x, \theta) \sin(\phi - \phi_S) \propto \int \frac{d\eta}{4\pi} e^{-ixP^+\eta^-} \langle PS_\perp | \bar{\psi}(\eta^-) \mathcal{L}_n^\dagger(\eta^-) \gamma^+ \hat{\mathcal{E}}(\theta, \phi) \mathcal{L}_n(0) \psi(0) | PS_\perp \rangle$$



- The original inclusive measurement is not feasible, due to **C-odd** nature of the odderon: $\sum_{a=q,\bar{q}} e_a^2 f_T^{t,a}(x, \theta) = 0$

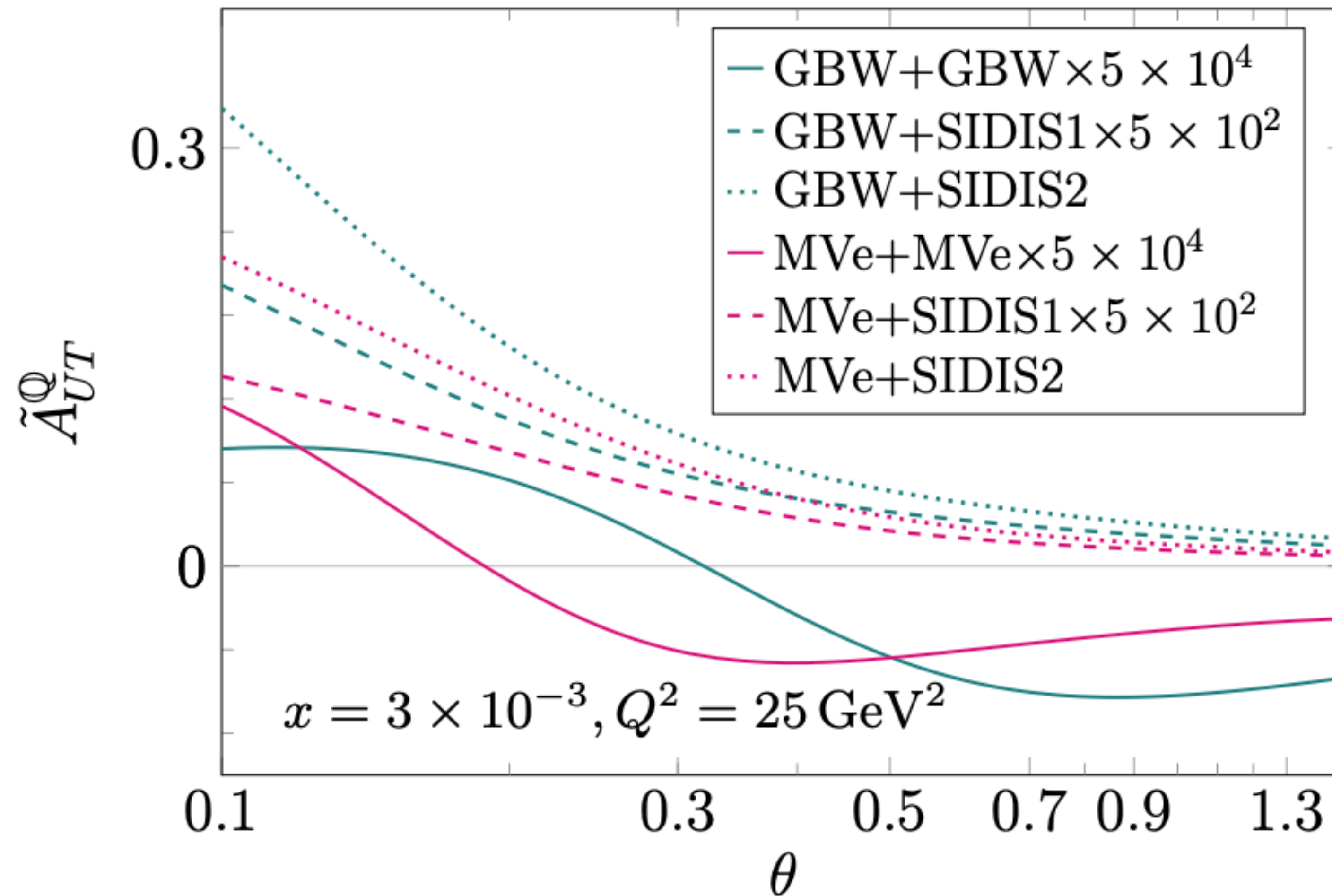
◆ NEC from charged hadrons

$$f_{T,\mathbb{S}}^{t,q}(x, \theta) = \left(\sum_{h \in \mathbb{S}} \int_0^1 z d_{h/\bar{q}}(z) dz \right) f_T^{t,q}(x, \theta)$$

◆ The charge-weighted NEC

$$f_{T,\mathbb{Q}}^{t,q}(x, \theta) = \left(\sum_{h \in \mathbb{S}} \int_0^1 z Q_h d_{h/\bar{q}}(z) dz \right) f_T^{t,q}(x, \theta)$$

Numerics for the charge-weighted energy pattern in the TFR



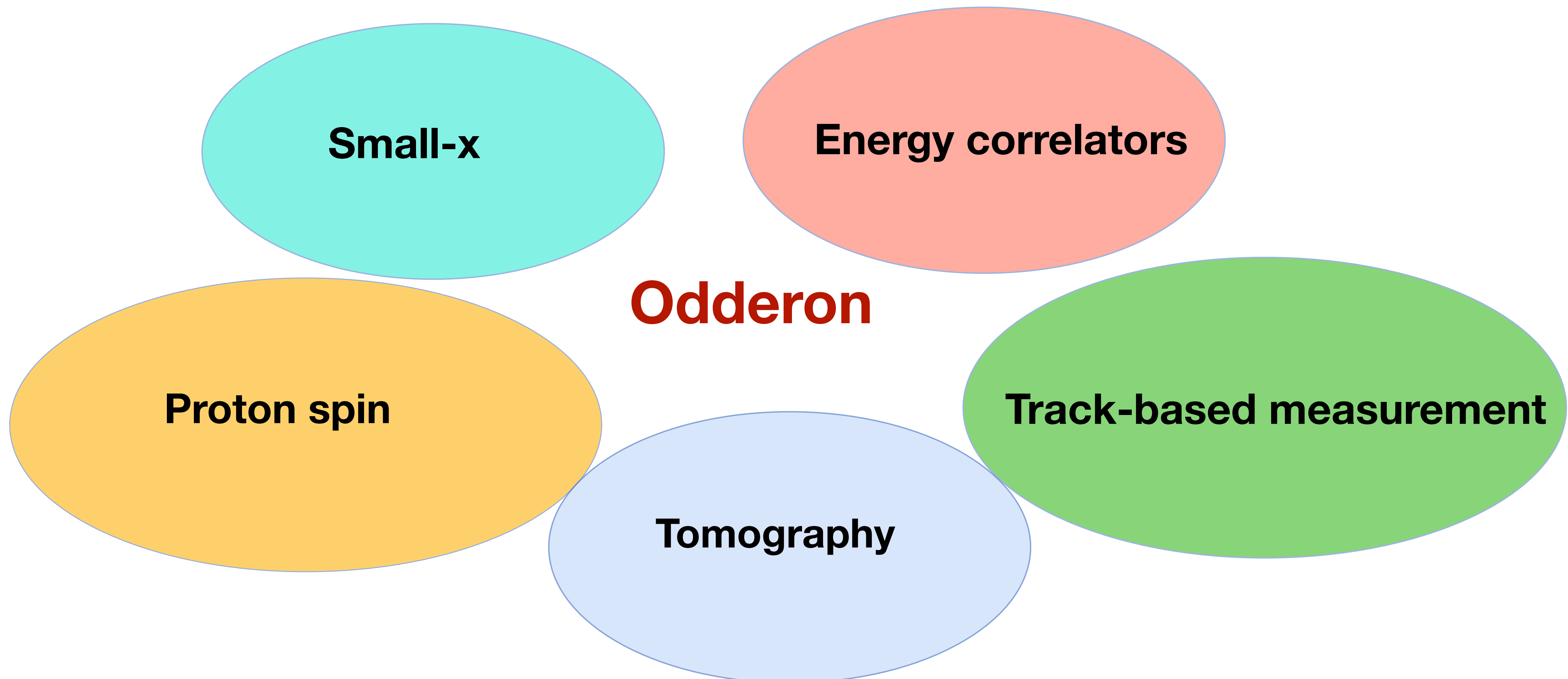
- ➡ Huge differences of SSA between different model of the spin-depdent odderon
- ➡ A sensitive probe

New ways for imaging the odderon:

The energy pattern on tracks

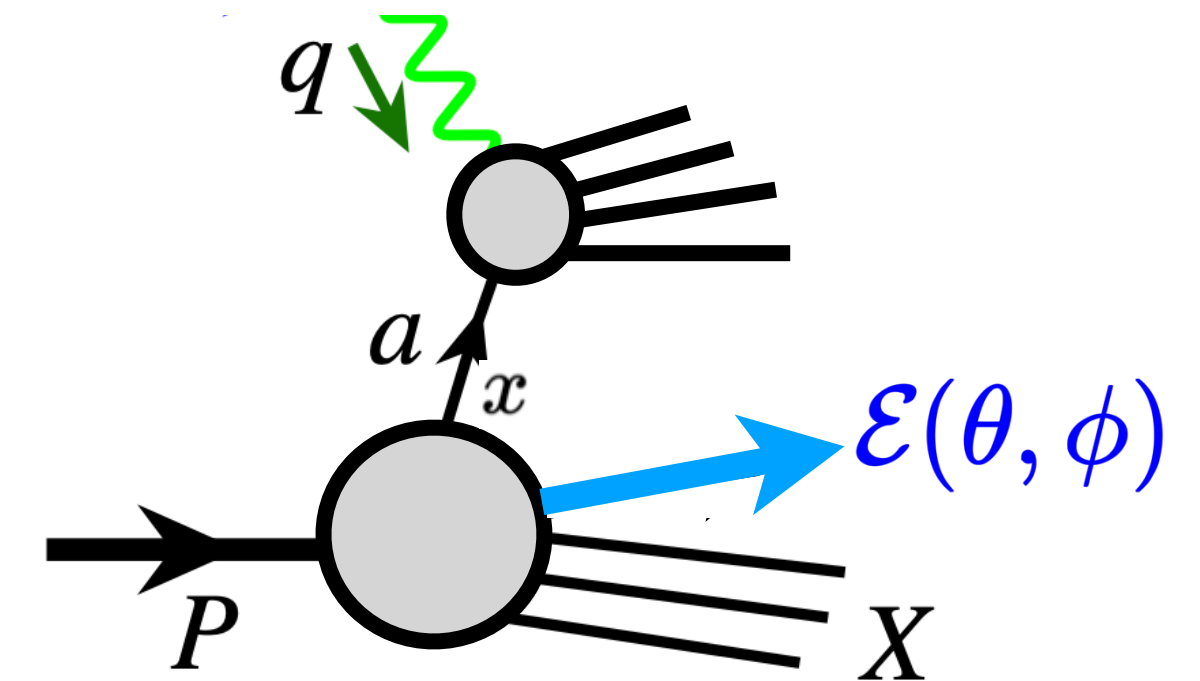
H. Mantysaari, Y. Tawabutr, X.B. Tong, [arXiv:2503.20157](https://arxiv.org/abs/2503.20157)

➡ A unique way to address the limitations of the probe for the spin-dependent odderon



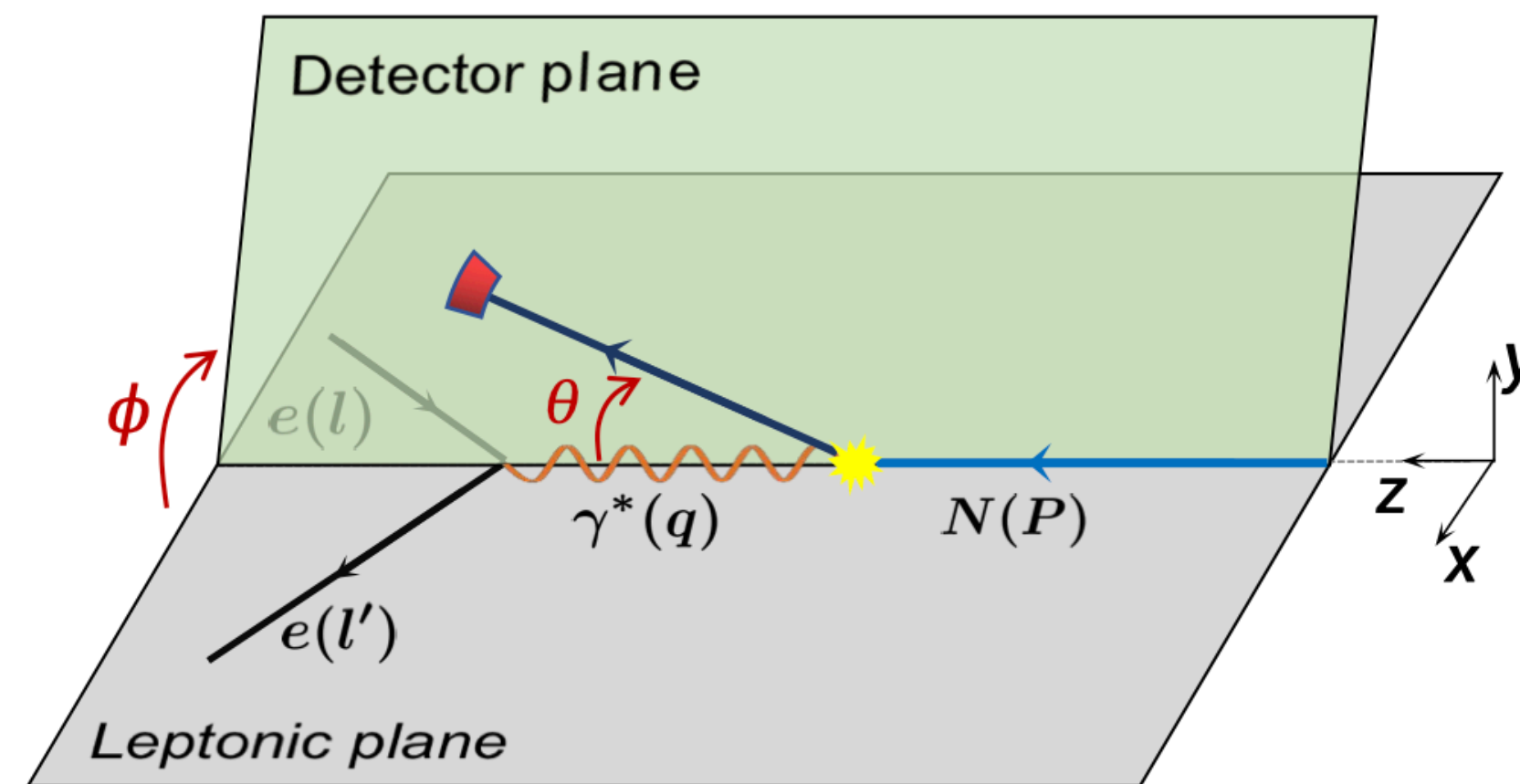
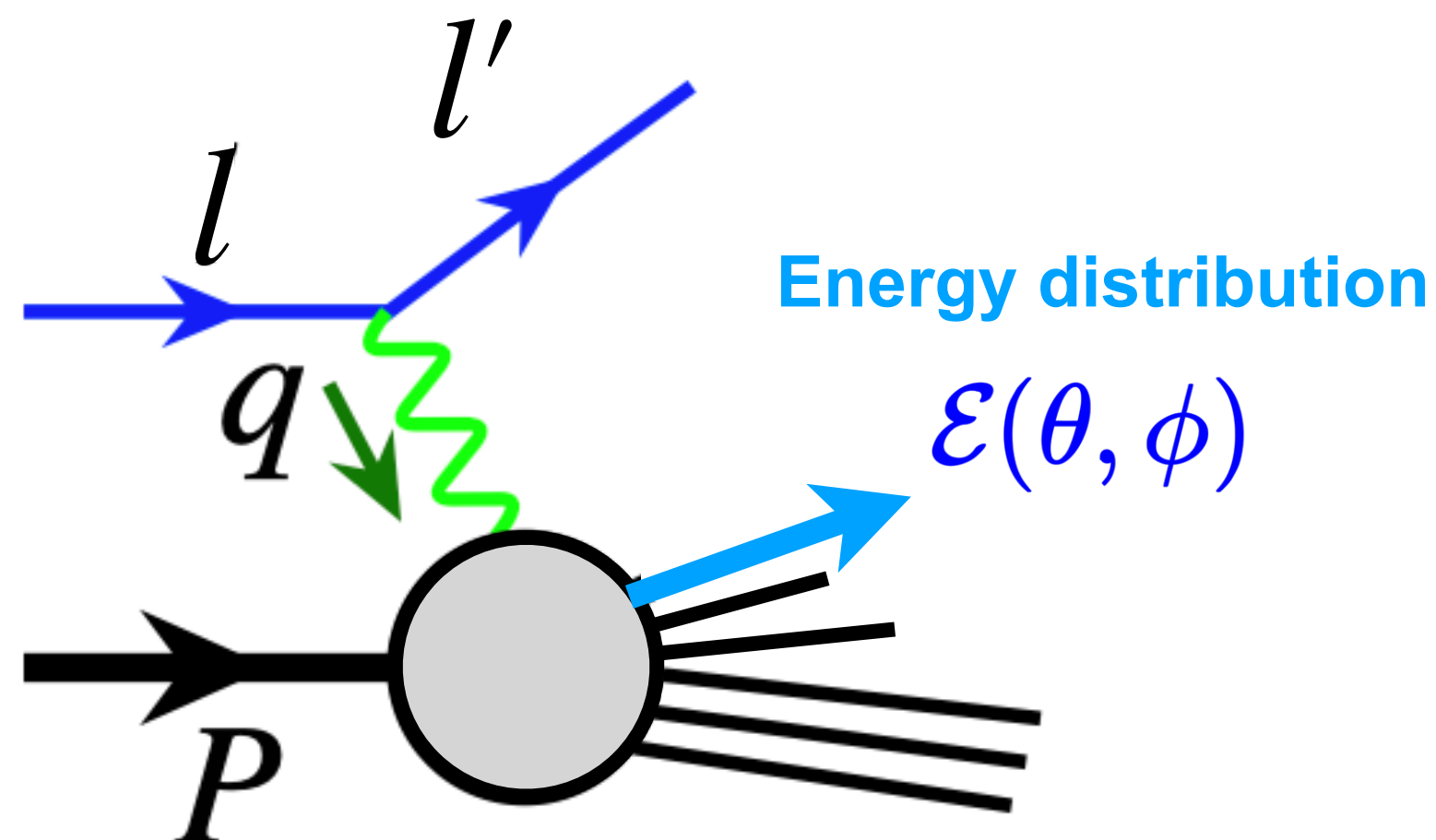
Summary

- DIS energy pattern for the spin-dependent odderon
 - Incorporating track information ➡ From NP function to NP number
 - Incorporating charge weight ➡ A C-odd tag
 - Nucleon energy correlator ➡ Connection to TFR



- ➡ Provide a sensitive probe for the spin-dependent odderon
- ➡ Connection between T-odd gluon NECs and spin-dependent odderon? Are they reduce to the same origin at small- x as TMDs?

The DIS energy pattern for the odderon



★ Measuring the energy pattern from a subset of hadrons (positively or negatively charged hadrons)

$$\Sigma_{\mathbb{S}}(\theta, \phi)_{\text{DIS}} = \sum_{h \in \mathbb{S}} \int d\sigma^{e+N \rightarrow e+h+X} \frac{E_h}{E_N} \delta(\theta^2 - \theta_h^2) \delta(\phi - \phi_h) \quad \mathbb{S} = \{h^+\}, \{h^-\}$$

★ Measuring the charge pattern — — a C-odd tag

$$\Sigma_{\mathbb{Q}}(\theta, \phi)_{\text{DIS}} = \sum_h \int d\sigma^{e+N \rightarrow e+h+X} \frac{E_h Q_h}{E_N} \delta(\theta^2 - \theta_h^2) \delta(\phi - \phi_h)$$