



Heavy flavor production under a strong magnetic field

Shile Chen

in collaboration with Jiaxing Zhao and Pengfei Zhuang

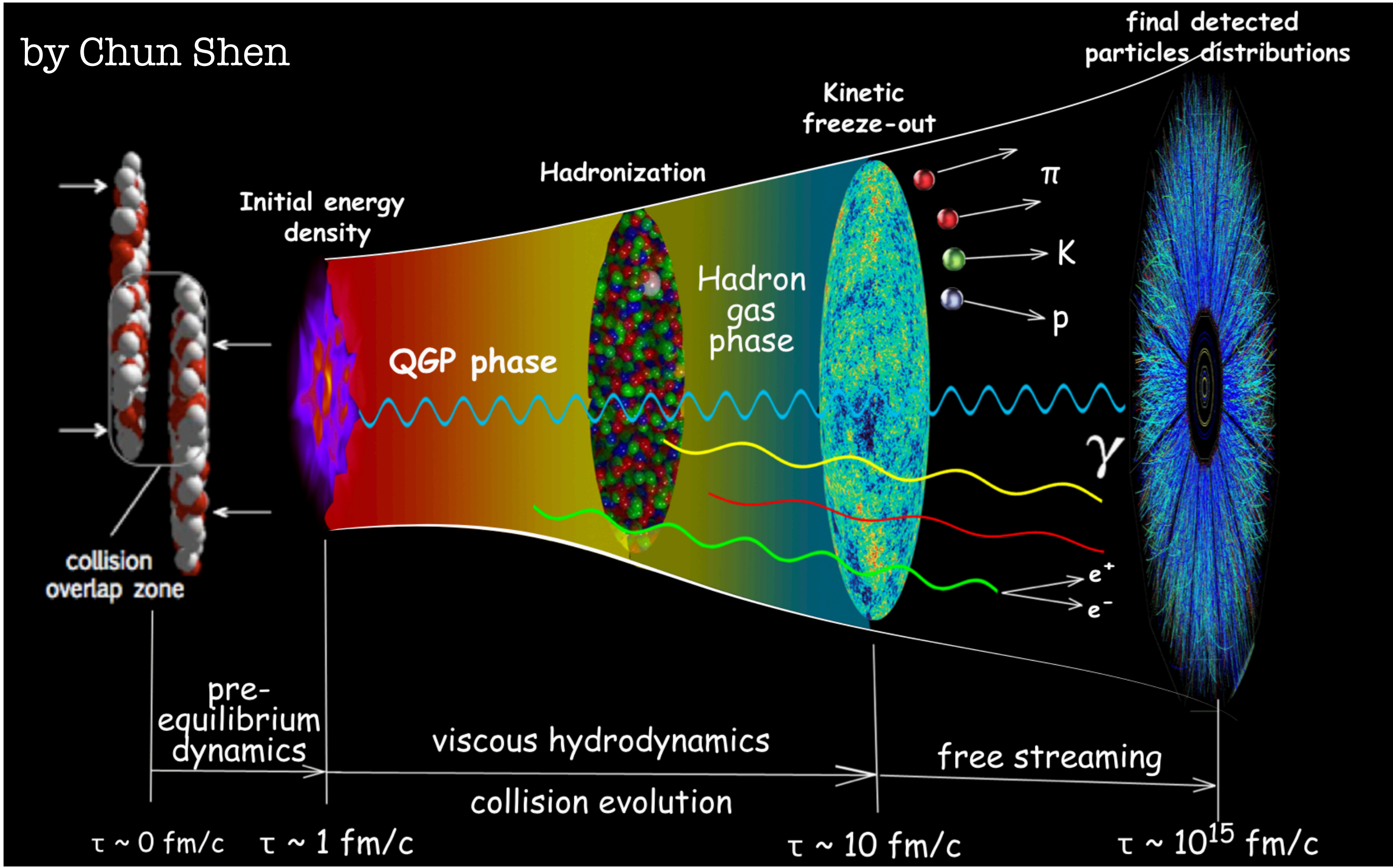
Based on S. Chen, J. Zhao and P. Zhuang, JHEP 09, 111 (2024)

The 9th International Symposium on Heavy Flavor Production in Hadron and Nuclear Collisions

2024 Dec. 10. Guangzhou, China

Heavy ion collision and magnetic field

by Chun Shen



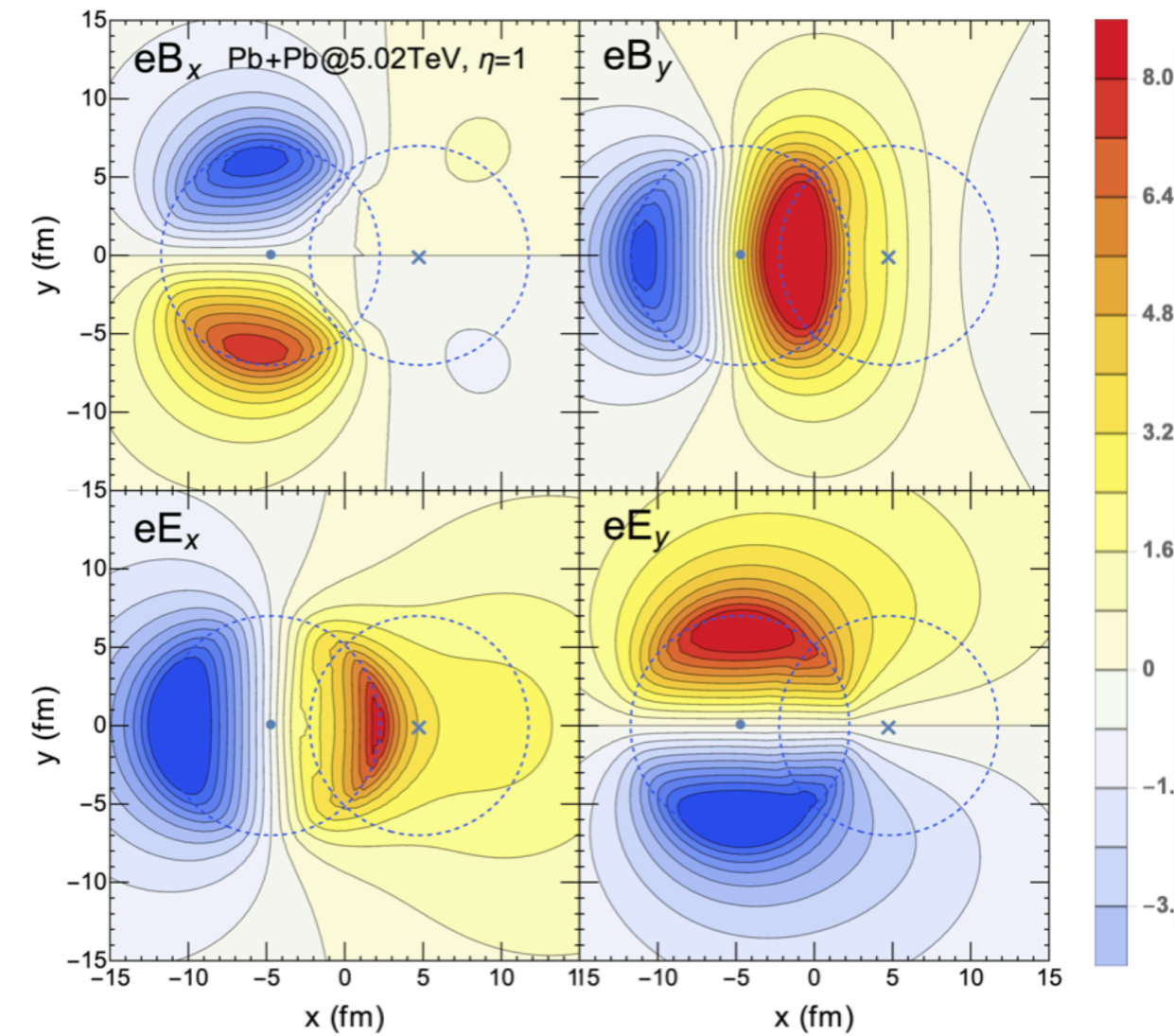
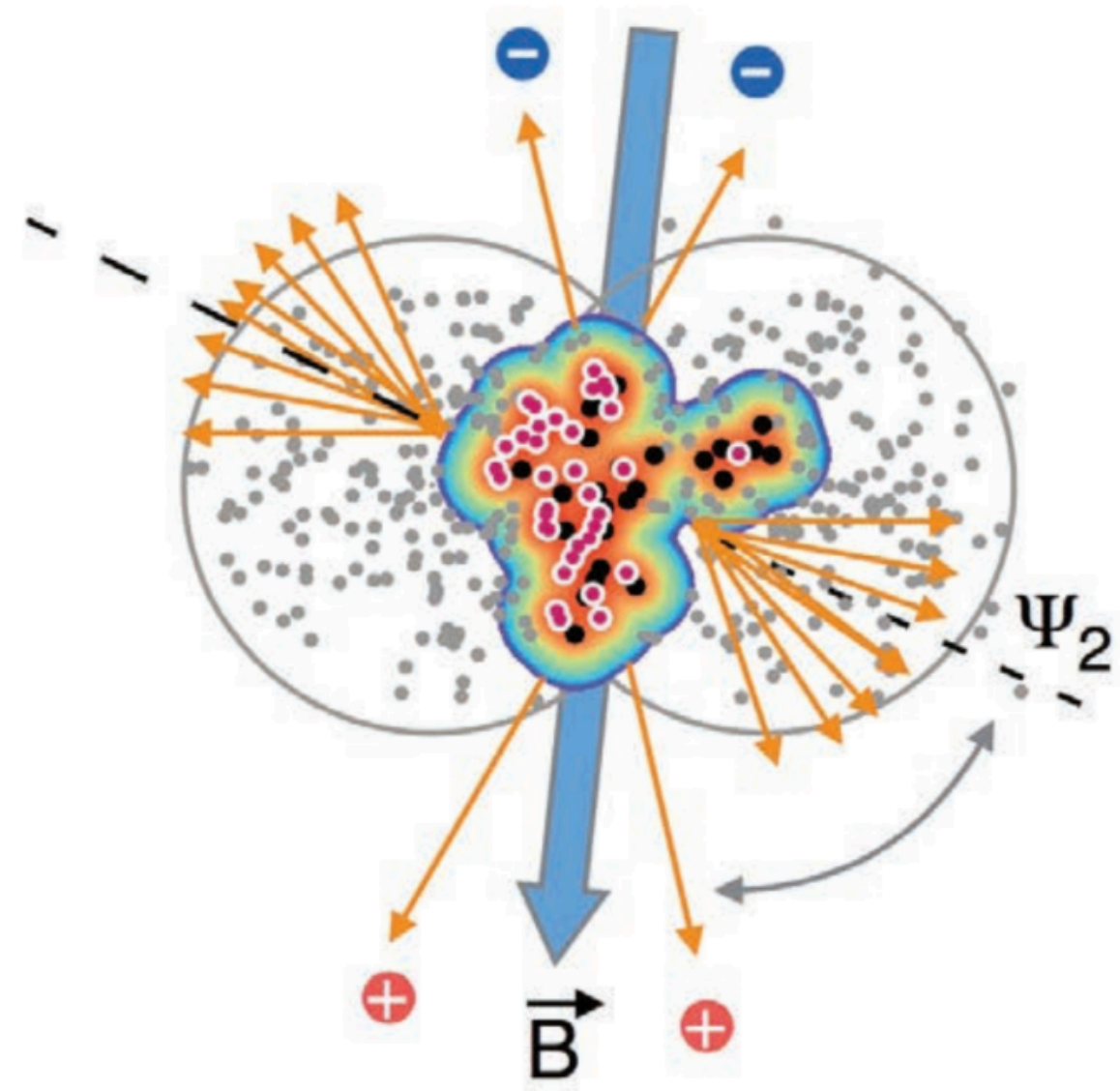
Heavy quark:

1. Number considered to be conserved after initial state
2. Remember more about initial stage

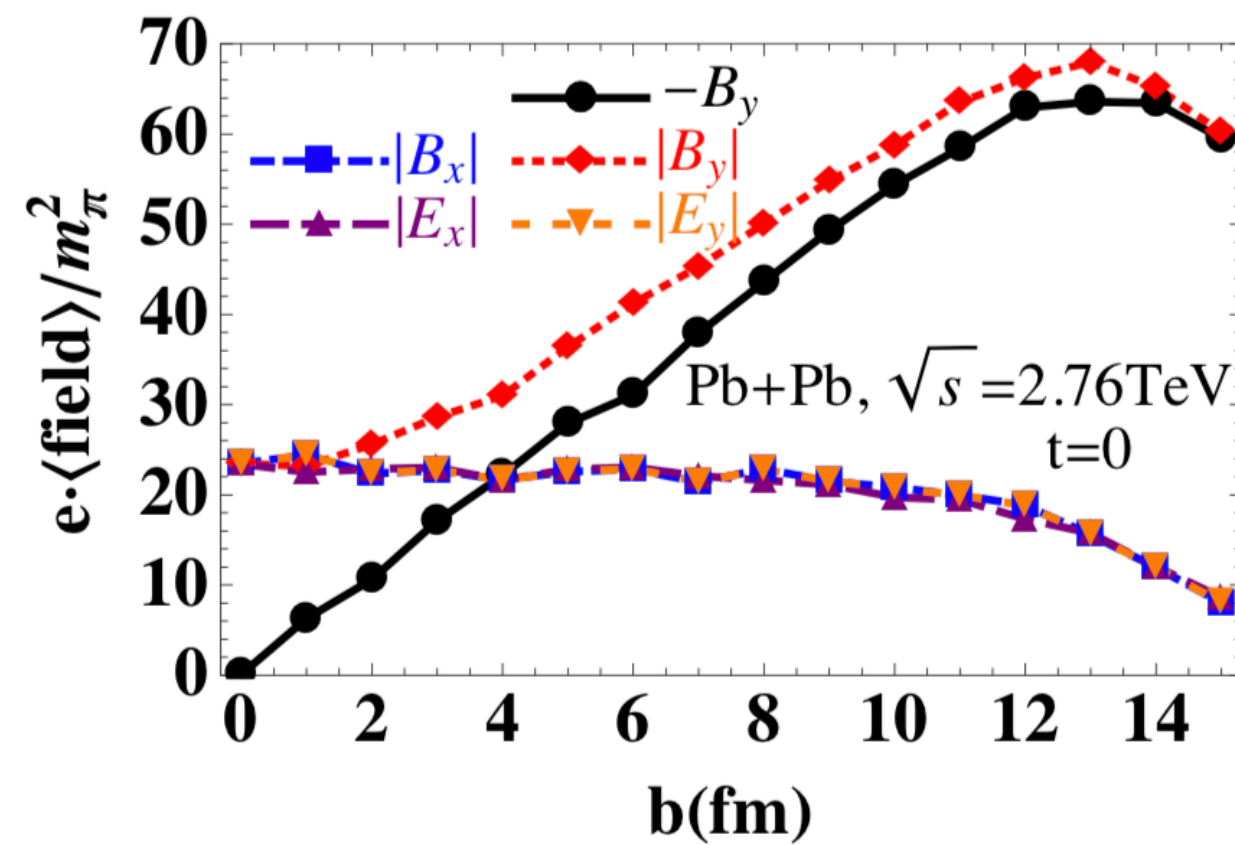
A probe of Magnetic field!

Initial state:
 Hard process without hot medium
 Strong magnetic field

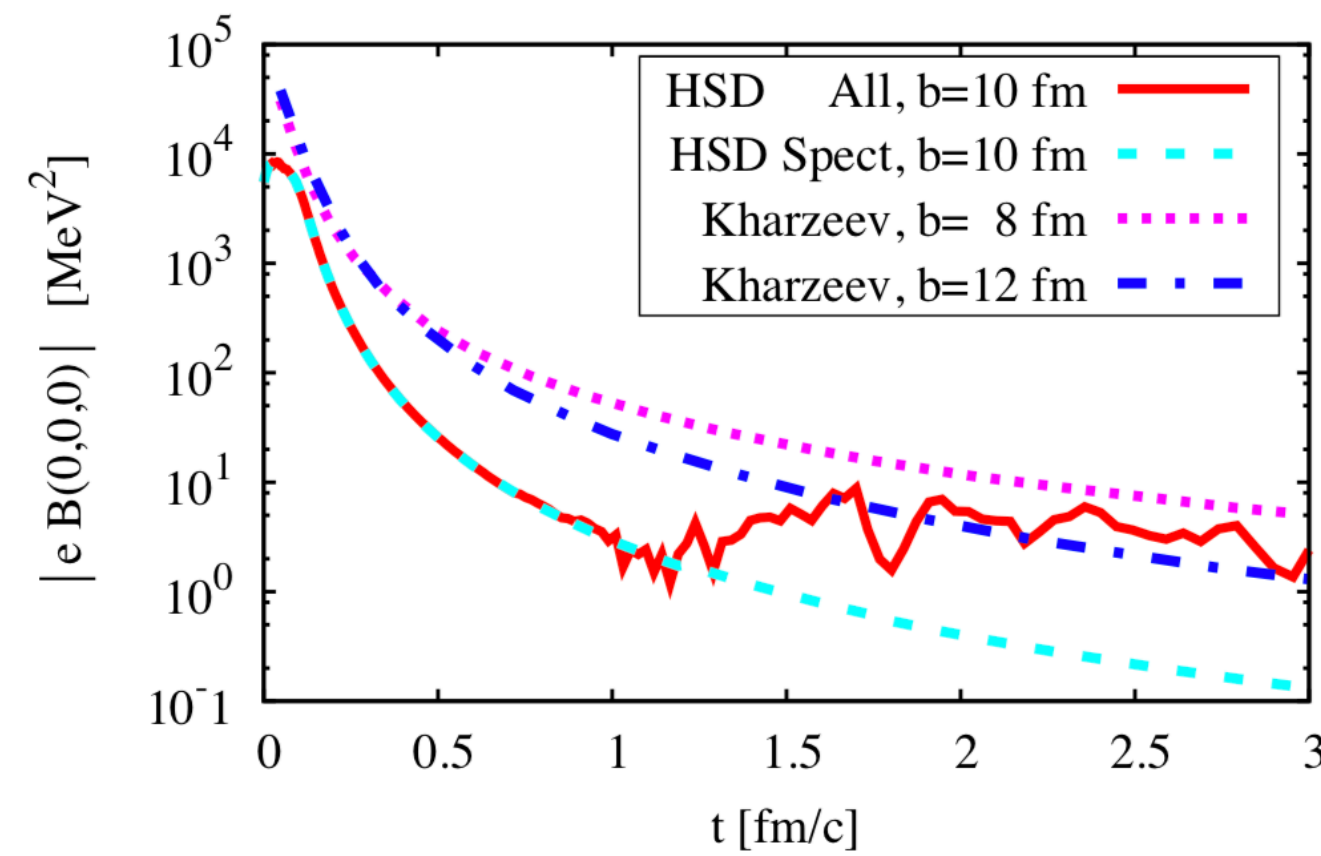
Heavy ion collision and magnetic field



AuAu, $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV



W-T Deng, X-G Huang. Phys. Rev. C 2012



Voronyuk V, Toneev V, Cassing W, et al. Phys.Rev. C, 2011

Strong Magnetic field :

$$\text{RHIC } eB \sim 5m_\pi^2 \quad \text{LHC } eB \sim 70m_\pi^2$$

Magnetic Catalysis & Inverse Magnetic Catalysis

Igor A. Shovkovy, Magnetic Catalysis: A Review, Lect.Notes Phys. 871 (2013) 13-49

Falk Bruckmann, Gergely Endrodi, Tamas G. Kovacs, Inverse magnetic catalysis and the Polyakov loop, JHEP, 2013, 04:112.

Chiral Magnetic Effect

Fukushima K, Kharzeev D E, Warringa H J. The Chiral Magnetic Effect Phys. Rev., 2008, D78:074033

D.E. Kharzeev, J. Liao, Isobar Collisions at RHIC to Test Local Parity Violation in Strong Interactions Nucl.Phys.News 29 (2019) 1, 26-31

Isobar testing

Shi, Shuzhe and Zhang, Hui and Hou, Defu and Liao, Jinfeng, Signatures of Chiral Magnetic Effect in the Collisions of Isobars, Phys. Rev. Lett., 125, 242301 (2020)

Sergei A. Voloshin, Testing the Chiral Magnetic Effect with Central U + U collisions, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 172301 (2010)

Magnetic field to heavy flavor

To Static properties

Heavy quarkonium mass

J. Alford and M. Strickland, Charmonia and Bottomonia in a Magnetic Field, Phys. Rev. D 88 (2013) 105017

Heavy quarkonium dissociation

K. Marasinghe and K. Tuchin, Quarkonium dissociation in quark-gluon plasma via ionization in magnetic field, Phys. Rev. C 84 (2011) 044908

Magnetically Induced Mixing between η_c and J/ψ

S. Cho, K. Hattori, S. H. Lee, K. Morita, and S. Ozaki, QCD sum rules for magnetically induced mixing between η_c and J/ψ , Phys. Rev. Lett. 113 (2014) 172301

Heavy quark potential in magnetized hot QGP

B. Singh, L. Thakur, and H. Mishra, Heavy quark complex potential in a strongly magnetized hot QGP medium, Phys. Rev. D 97 (2018) 096011

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To Dynamical process

Charmonium dissociation hair structure

Hu, Jin and Shi, Shuzhe and Xu, Zhe and Zhao, Jiaying and Zhuang, Pengfei, Phys. Rev. D, 105, 9, 094013(2022)

Magnetic Induced Charmonium Collective Behavior

X. Guo, S. Shi, N. Xu, Z. Xu, and P. Zhuang, Magnetic Field Effect on Charmonium Production in High Energy Nuclear Collisions, Phys. Lett. B 751 (2015) 215-219

Magnetic field induced open charm direct flow

S.K. Das, S. Plumari, S. Chatterjee, J. Alam, F. Scardina, V. Greco, Directed Flow of Charm Quarks as a Witness of the Initial Strong Magnetic Field in Ultra-Relativistic Heavy Ion Collisions, Phys. Lett. B 768, 260 (2017)

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How does strong magnetic field influence the heavy quark production in the initial stage?

Heavy quark pair production elementary process $gg \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$

Since 1. the color degree of freedom of gluon is much larger than light quark

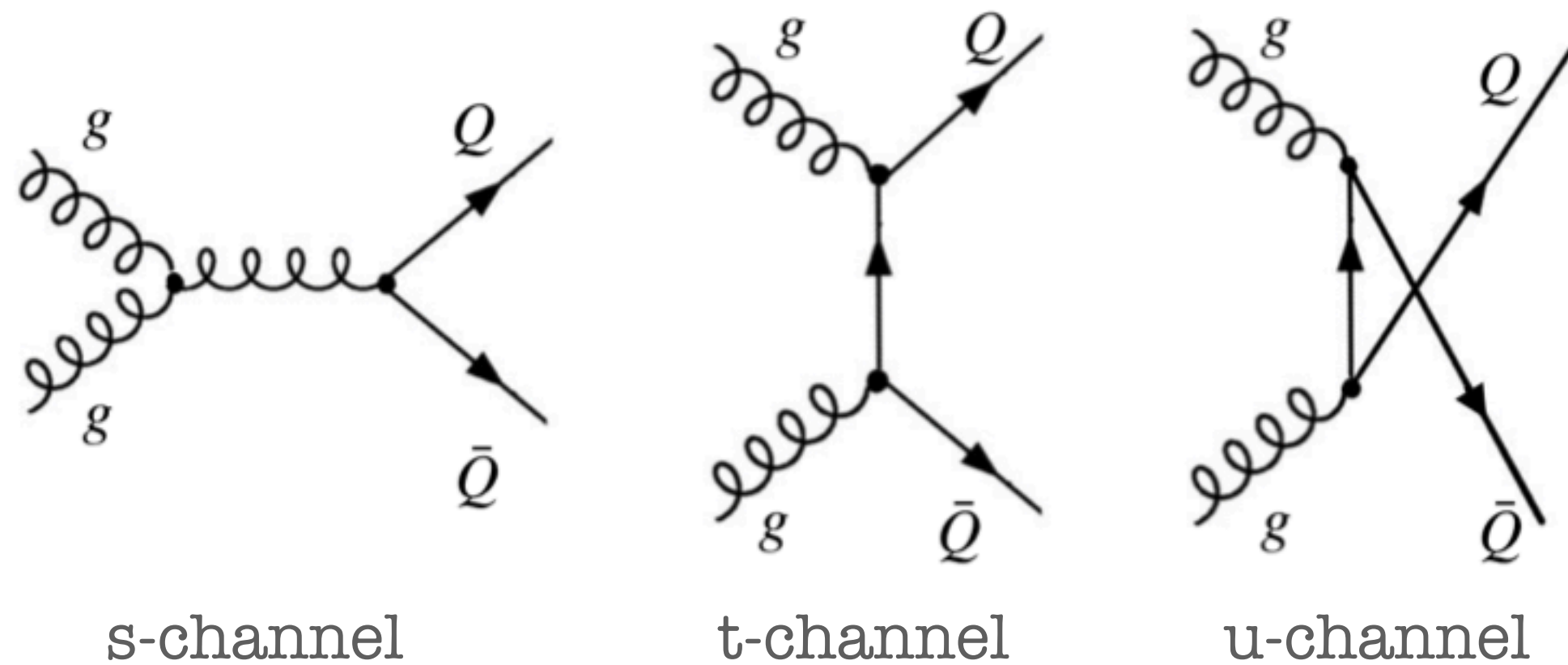
2. $f_g(x, Q^2) \gg f_q(x, Q^2)$ at small x

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Leading order tree diagram



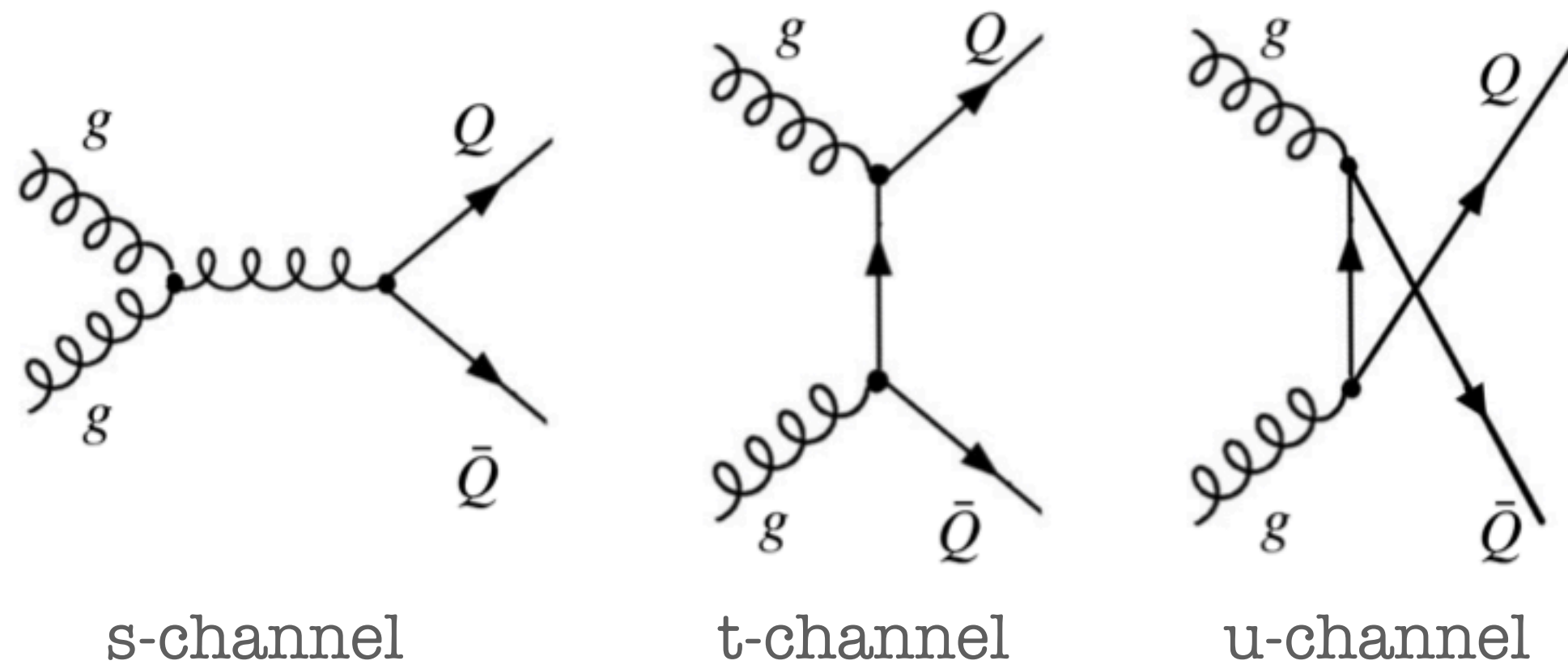
in external magnetic field

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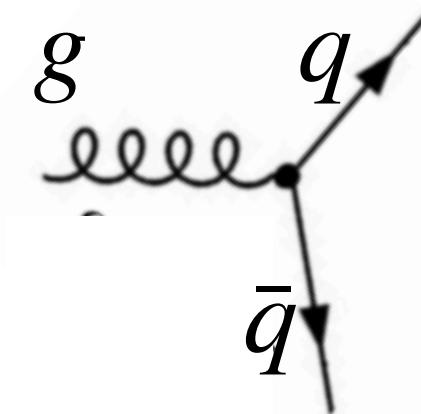
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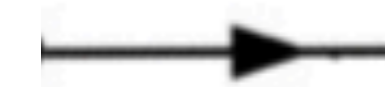


in external magnetic field

Feynman rules in external magnetic field



Quark-gluon vertex



Quark propagator

Dirac equation under a uniform magnetic field

$$[i\gamma^\mu(\partial_\mu + iqA_\mu) - m]\psi = 0$$

Dirac equation under a uniform magnetic field

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In Landau gauge $A_0 = 0 \quad \mathbf{A} = Bx\mathbf{e}_y$

Landau energy levels for a fermion moving in an external magnetic field

$$\varepsilon^2 = p_z^2 + \varepsilon_n^2 \quad \varepsilon_n^2 = m^2 + p_n^2 \quad p_n^2 = 2n|qB|$$

n Landau level

Stationary solution of the Dirac spinor

$$\psi_{n,\sigma}^-(x, p) = e^{-ip \cdot x} u_{n,\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, p) \quad \psi_{n,\sigma}^+(x, p) = e^{ip \cdot x} v_{n,\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, p)$$

$$u_{n,-}(\mathbf{x}, p) = \frac{1}{f_n} \begin{bmatrix} -ip_z p_n \phi_{n-1} \\ (\varepsilon + \varepsilon_n)(\varepsilon_n + m)\phi_n \\ -ip_n(\varepsilon + \varepsilon_n)\phi_{n-1} \\ -p_z(\varepsilon_n + m)\phi_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$u_{n,+}(\mathbf{x}, p) = \frac{1}{f_n} \begin{bmatrix} (\varepsilon + \varepsilon_n)(\varepsilon_n + m)\phi_{n-1} \\ -ip_z p_n \phi_n \\ p_z(\varepsilon_n + m)\phi_{n-1} \\ ip_n(\varepsilon + \varepsilon_n)\phi_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$\sigma = \pm$ labels spin states

$p_\mu = (\varepsilon, 0, p_y, p_z)$ labels four momentum

$p_y = aqB$ with a the center of gyration

$$f_n = 2\sqrt{\varepsilon\varepsilon_n(\varepsilon_n + m)(\varepsilon_n + \varepsilon)}$$

$$v_{n,+}(\mathbf{x}, p) = \frac{1}{f_n} \begin{bmatrix} -p_n(\varepsilon + \varepsilon_n)\phi_{n-1} \\ -ip_z(\varepsilon_n + m)\phi_n \\ -p_z p_n \phi_{n-1} \\ i(\varepsilon_n + m)(\varepsilon + \varepsilon_n)\phi_n \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\phi_n(x - a) = \sqrt{\sqrt{\frac{|qB|}{\pi}} \frac{1}{L^2 2^n n!}} H_n(\sqrt{|qB|}(x - a)) e^{-|qB|(x-a)^2/2}$$

is harmonic oscillator

Dirac equation under a uniform magnetic field

Reconstruct quark-gluon vertex

$$-ig \int d^4x \bar{\psi}_{n,\sigma}^-(x, p) \gamma_\mu t^c A_c^\mu(x, k) \psi_{n',\sigma'}^-(x, p') = \frac{-ig}{\sqrt{2\omega L^3}} \int d^4x e^{-i(p' \pm k - p) \cdot x} \bar{u}_{n,\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, p) \gamma_\mu \epsilon^\mu u_{n',\sigma'}(\mathbf{x}, p')$$

Reconstruct quark propagator

$$G(x' - x) = -i \left(\frac{\sqrt{|qB|} L}{2\pi} \right)^2 \int dp_z da \sum_{\sigma,n} [\theta(t' - t) u_{n,\sigma}(\mathbf{x}', p) \bar{u}_{n,\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, p) e^{-ip \cdot (x' - x)} - \theta(t - t') v_{n,\sigma}(\mathbf{x}', p) \bar{v}_{n,\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, p) e^{ip \cdot (x' - x)}]$$

Feynman rule in external uniform magnetic field ✓

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Feynman rule in external uniform magnetic field ✓

Consistence with Schwinger propagator

J. Schwinger, 1951

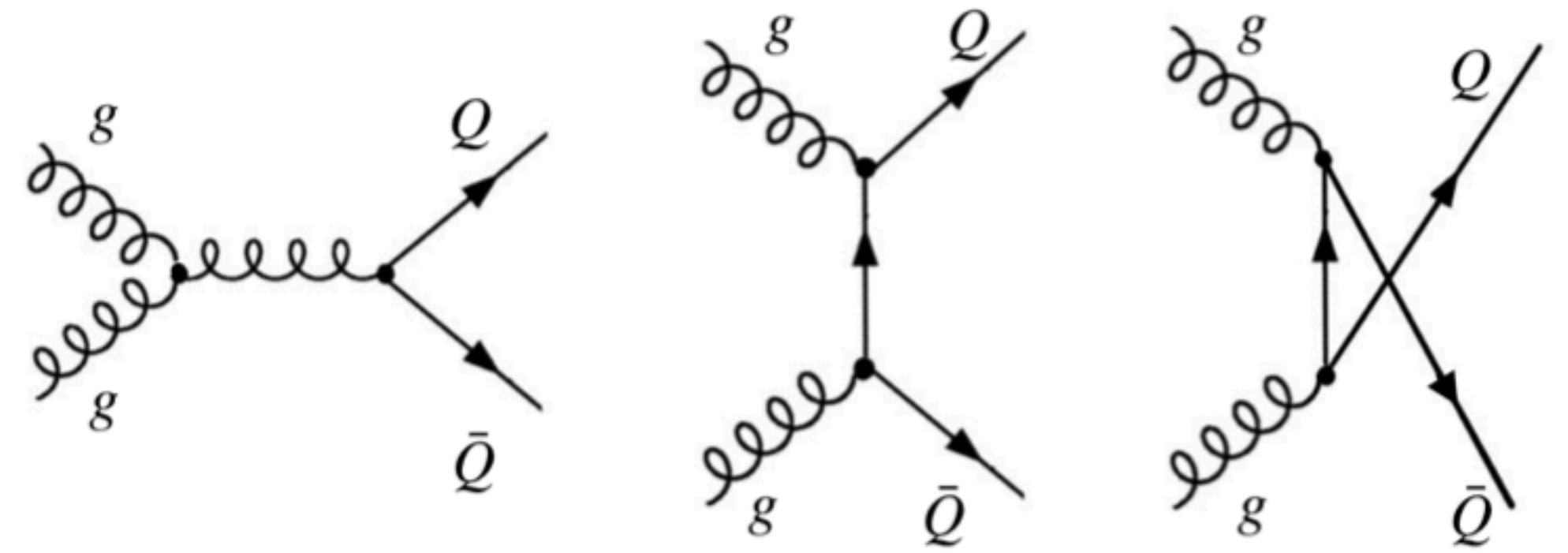
LLL Schwinger propagator $G(x - x') = e^{-i(y-y')(x+x')|qB|/2} \int \frac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4} e^{-ip \cdot (x-x')} \left[i e^{-p_\perp^2} \left(\frac{\not{p}_\parallel + m}{p_\parallel^2 - m^2} (1 - i\gamma^1 \gamma^2) \right) \right]$

Exactly the same with the reconstructed quark propagator when $n = 0$

Cross section for elementary process

$$gg \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$$

S-matrix



s-channel

t-channel

u-channel

$$S_s = -\frac{g^2 t_c f^{abc}}{(2\pi)^4 2\sqrt{\omega'\omega''} L^3} \int d^4x d^4x' d^4k \frac{1}{k^2} \bar{u}_{n',\sigma'}(\mathbf{x}, p') \gamma_\mu \nu_{n'',\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, p'') \epsilon''_\rho \epsilon''_\lambda \left[g^{\mu\rho} (k' + k)^\lambda - g^{\mu\lambda} (k + k'')^\rho + g^{\lambda\rho} (k'' - k')^\mu \right] e^{i[(p'+p'')\cdot x - k\cdot(x-x') - (k'+k'')\cdot x']}$$

$$S_t = ig^2 t^a t^b \left(\frac{\sqrt{|qB|} L}{2\pi} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{\omega'\omega''} L^3} \sum_{n,\sigma} \int d^4x d^4x' da dp_z \bar{u}_{n',\sigma'}(\mathbf{x}, p') \gamma^\nu \epsilon''_\nu \left[\theta(t' - t) u_{n,\sigma} \bar{u}_{n,\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, p) e^{-ip\cdot(x'-x)} - \theta(t - t') v_{n,\sigma} \bar{v}_{n,\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, p) e^{ip\cdot(x'-x)} \right] \gamma^\mu \epsilon'_\mu \nu_{n'',\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, p'') e^{-i(k''\cdot x' + k'\cdot x - p''\cdot x - p'\cdot x')}$$

$$S_u = S_t(a \leftrightarrow b, p \leftrightarrow p'')$$

Cross section

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma &= \frac{L^3}{v_{rel} T} \int \frac{L^2 dp'_y dp'_z}{(2\pi)^2} \int \frac{L^2 dp''_y dp''_z}{(2\pi)^2} \sum_{\sigma', \sigma''} |S_s + S_t + S_u|^2 \\ &= \frac{L^5}{v_{rel}} \left(\frac{L\sqrt{|qB|}}{2\pi} \right)^4 \int da' dp'_z \int da'' dp''_z \sum_{\sigma', \sigma''} |\mathcal{M}_s + \mathcal{M}_t + \mathcal{M}_u|^2 (2\pi)^3 \delta_x^3(k' + k'' - p' - p'') \\ &= \frac{L^{10}}{16\pi} \frac{\sqrt{s} |qB|}{p'_z} \sum_{\sigma', \sigma''} |\mathcal{M}_s + \mathcal{M}_t + \mathcal{M}_u|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Cross section under Lowest Landau Level

Lowest Landau level (LLL)

The external magnetic field is strong enough, the fermion would be suppressed into $n = 0$ state

Spin state: $\sigma = -1$ for quarks $\sigma = +1$ for antiquarks

Cross section under LLL in center of mass frame

$$\sigma(s, B, \theta) = \frac{\pi m^2 \alpha_s^2 |qB|}{s^3 \chi} \left\{ \frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \theta \left[\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sin^3 \theta}{1 + \sqrt{4m^2/s}} \frac{1 + \cos^2 \theta - 4\chi^2}{\sin^4 \theta + 16m^2/s \cos^2 \theta} e^{-\frac{s \sin^2 \theta}{8|qB|}} \right] \right.$$

s-channel involved
Non-Abelian contribution

$$\left. + \frac{2}{3} \sin^4 \theta \left[\left(\frac{\cos \theta + 2\chi}{(\chi + \cos \theta)^2 + 4m^2/s} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{-\cos \theta + 2\chi}{(\chi - \cos \theta)^2 + 4m^2/s} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{4} \frac{4\chi^2 - \cos^2 \theta}{\sin^4 \theta + 16m^2/s \cos^2 \theta} \right] e^{-\frac{s \sin^2 \theta}{4|qB|}} \right\}$$

only t- & u- channel just QED-like process

s labels invariant mass

$\chi = \sqrt{1 - 4m^2/s}$ gives the threshold of s

θ labels gluon polarization angle

Cross section under Lowest Landau Level

LLL in magnetic field v.s. vacuum

$$\sigma(s, B, \theta) = \frac{\pi m^2 \alpha_s^2 |qB|}{s^3 \chi} \left\{ \frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \theta \left[\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sin^3 \theta}{1 + \sqrt{4m^2/s}} \frac{1 + \cos^2 \theta - 4\chi^2}{\sin^4 \theta + 16m^2/s \cos^2 \theta} e^{-\frac{s \sin^2 \theta}{8|qB|}} \right] \right.$$

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$$\sigma_0(s) = \frac{\pi m^2 \alpha_s^2}{3s} \left[\left(1 + \frac{4m^2}{s} + \frac{m^4}{s^2} \right) \log \left(\frac{1 + \chi}{1 - \chi} \right) - \left(\frac{7}{4} + \frac{31m^2}{4s} \right) \chi \right]$$

- Anisotropy: dependence on gluon polarization angle

unique QCD process

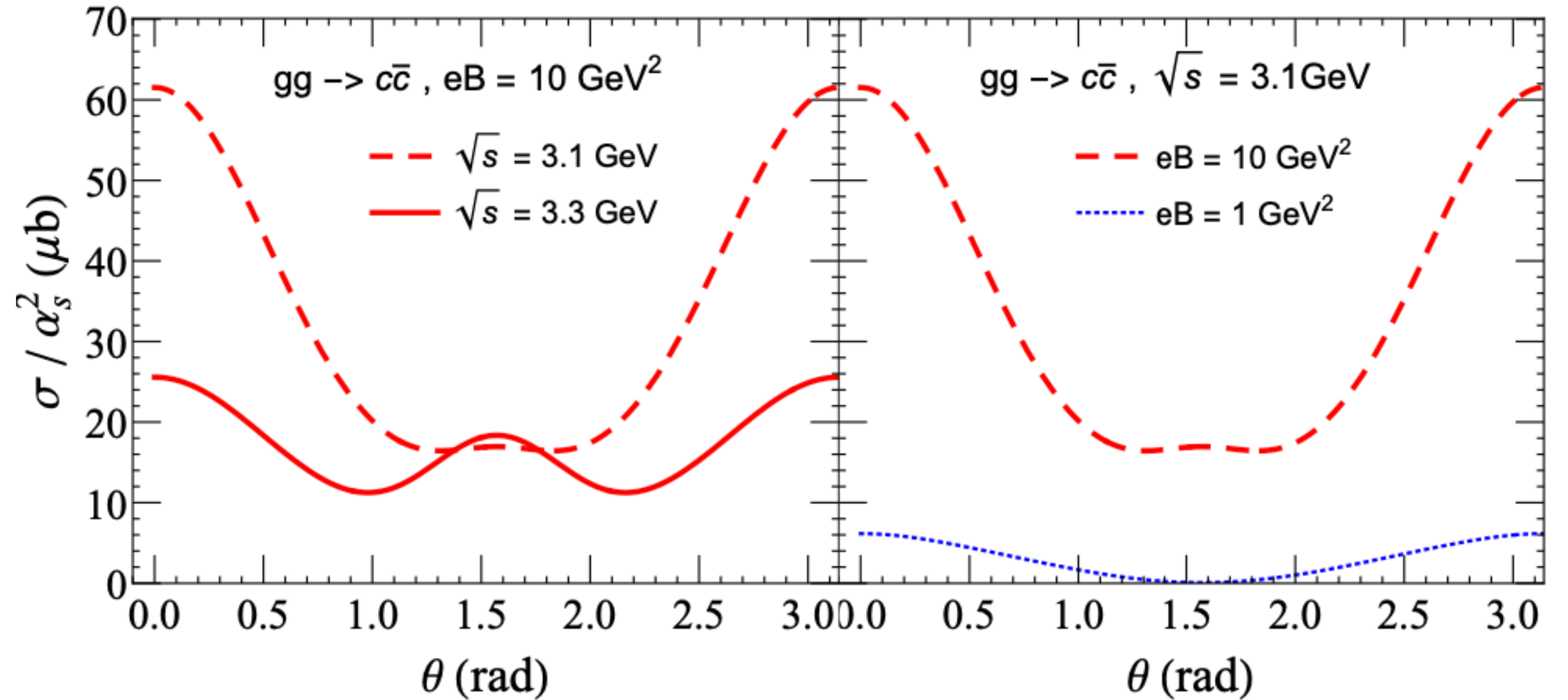
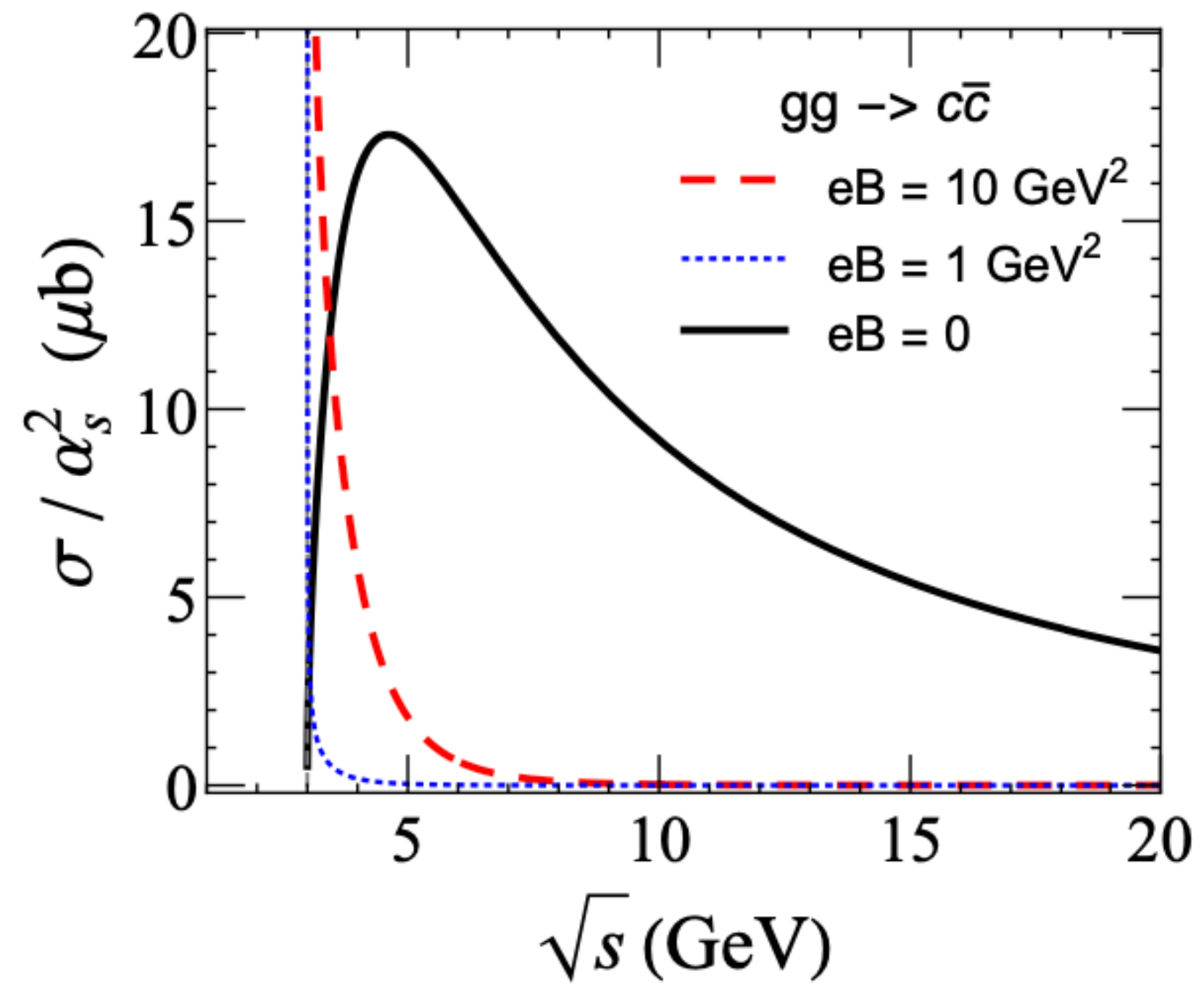
$$\sigma(s, B, 0) = \sigma(s, B, \pi) = \frac{3\pi m^2 \alpha_s^2 |qB|}{4s^3 \chi}$$

QED like process

$$\sigma(s, B, \frac{\pi}{2}) = \frac{14\pi m^2 \alpha_s^2 |qB| \chi}{3s^3} e^{-\frac{s}{4|qB|}}$$

- Divergence at threshold: phase space dimension reduction under strong magnetic field.

Cross section under Lowest Landau Level



- Increase with magnetic field
- A narrow \sqrt{s} region
- Stronger magnetic field, wider energy range

- Maximum at $\theta = 0, \pi$ **unique QCD process**

the gluon self interaction plays the dominant role

Transverse momentum spectrum under Lowest Landau Level

Neglecting shadowing effect the differential cross section in heavy-ion collision

$$\frac{d^3\sigma_{gg\rightarrow c\bar{c}}^{AB}}{dp_T^2 dy_c dy_{\bar{c}}} = \int T_A(\mathbf{x}_T - \mathbf{b}/2) T_B(\mathbf{x}_T + \mathbf{b}/2) d\mathbf{x}_T^2 \frac{d^3\sigma_{gg\rightarrow c\bar{c}}^{pp}}{dp_T^2 dy_c dy_{\bar{c}}}$$

T_A, T_B labels nuclear thickness function with b the impact parameter

In pp collision

$$\frac{d^3\sigma_{gg\rightarrow c\bar{c}}^{pp}}{dp_T^2 dy_c dy_{\bar{c}}} = x_1 x_2 f_g(x_1, Q^2) f_g(x_2, Q^2) \frac{d\sigma_{gg\rightarrow c\bar{c}}}{d\hat{t}}(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, \hat{u})$$

$\{\hat{s}, \hat{t}, \hat{u}\}$ Mandelstam variables

$f_g(x, Q^2)$ parton distribution function of gluon

x_1, x_2 momentum fractions of initial gluons

$$\frac{d^3\sigma_{gg\rightarrow c\bar{c}}}{d\hat{t}} = \frac{|\mathcal{M}_{gg\rightarrow c\bar{c}}|^2}{16\pi\hat{s}^2}$$

Transverse momentum spectrum under Lowest Landau Level

LLL

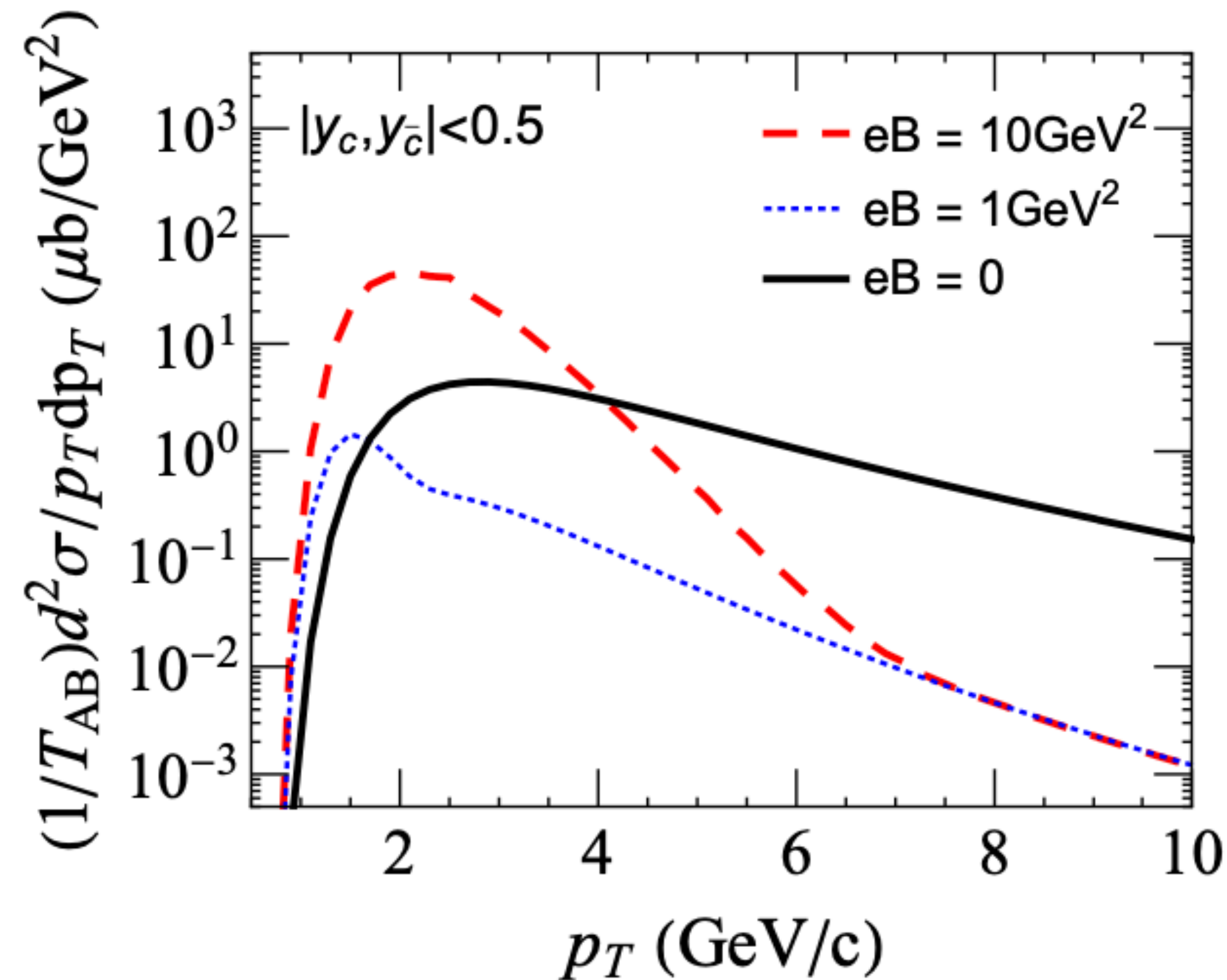
$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{|\mathcal{M}_{gg \rightarrow c\bar{c}}|^2}{\pi^2 \hat{s}^2} = & 24m^2 \cos^2 \theta \left[\frac{1}{\hat{s}} + \frac{\sin^2 \theta (\hat{s} \sin^2 \theta / 4 + (\hat{t} + \hat{u}) / 2 + (\hat{t} - \hat{u})^2 / (\hat{s} \cos^2 \theta))}{(\hat{s} \sin^2 \theta / 2 + \hat{t} + \hat{u})^2 - ((\hat{t}^2 - \hat{u}^2) / (\hat{s} \cos \theta))^2} e^{-\frac{\hat{s} \sin^2 \theta}{8|qB|}} \right] \\
 & + \frac{64}{3} m^2 \sin^4 \theta \left[\frac{(-\sqrt{\hat{s}} \cos \theta / 2 + (\hat{t} - \hat{u}) / (\sqrt{\hat{s}} \cos \theta))^2 + (\sqrt{\hat{s}} \cos \theta / 2 + (\hat{t} - \hat{u}) / (\sqrt{\hat{s}} \cos \theta))^2}{(\hat{s} \sin^2 \theta / 2 + \hat{t} + \hat{u} - (\hat{t}^2 - \hat{u}^2) / (\hat{s} \cos \theta))^2} e^{-\frac{\hat{s} \sin^2 \theta}{4|qB|}} \right] \\
 & - \frac{16}{3} m^2 \sin^4 \theta \left[\frac{(\hat{t} - \hat{u})^2 / (\hat{s} \cos^2 \theta) - \hat{s} \cos^2 \theta / 4}{(\hat{s} \sin^2 \theta / 2 + \hat{t} + \hat{u})^2 - ((\hat{t}^2 \hat{u}^2) / (\hat{s} \cos \theta))^2} e^{-\frac{\hat{s} \sin^2 \theta}{4|qB|}} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d^3 \sigma_{gg \rightarrow c\bar{c}}}{d\hat{t}} = \frac{|\mathcal{M}_{gg \rightarrow c\bar{c}}|^2}{16\pi \hat{s}^2}$$

Transverse momentum spectrum under Lowest Landau Level

Integration over gluon polarization angle & collision energy at $\sqrt{s} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$

within central rapidity $-0.5 < y_c, y_{\bar{c}} < 0.5$



- Low p_T region, **enhanced**
- High p_T region, **suppressed**

which could also be seen in the element process cross section in the narrow window of incoming energy

◦ $eB = 0$ using the vacuum solution

Beyond Lowest Landau Level

Whether LLL is a good approximation of fermion under external strong magnetic field?

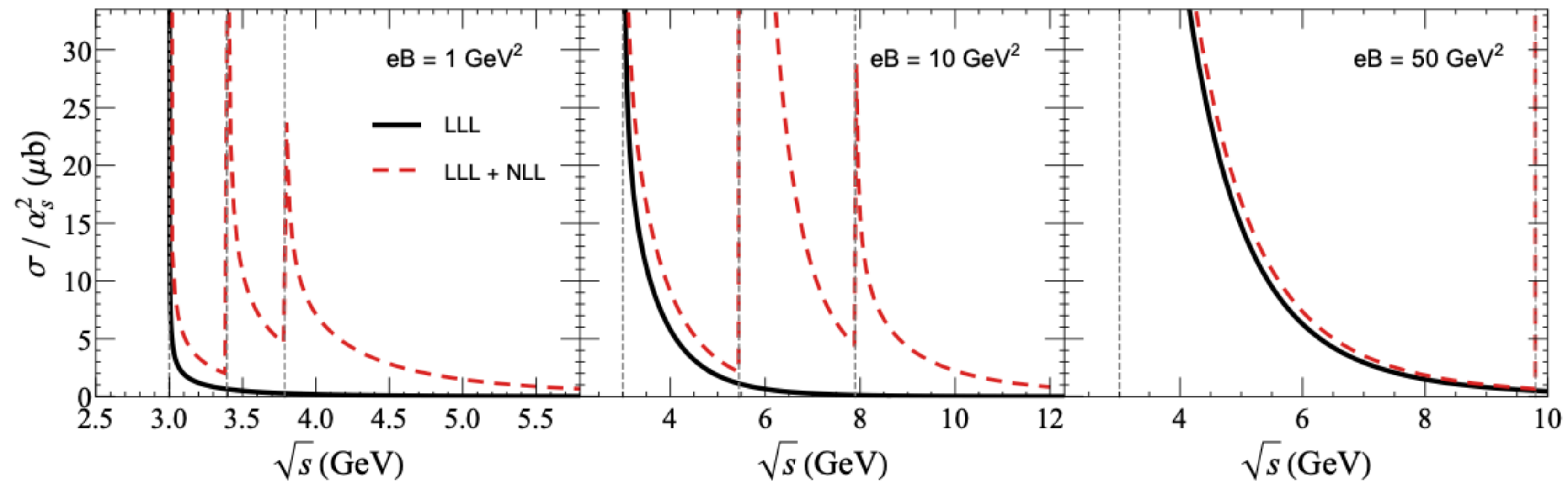
Even though we consider the early stage of high energy nuclear collisions, where the system is not yet thermalized

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Next Landau Level (NLL) quantum number $n = 0, 1$



New divergence

$$0+0 \quad \sqrt{s_{th}^{(1)}} = 2m$$

$$0+1 \quad \sqrt{s_{th}^{(2)}} = m + \sqrt{m^2 + 2|qB|}$$

$$1+1 \quad \sqrt{s_{th}^{(3)}} = 2\sqrt{m^2 + 2|qB|}$$

Competition between energy scales of B & \sqrt{s}

LLL is a good approximation with

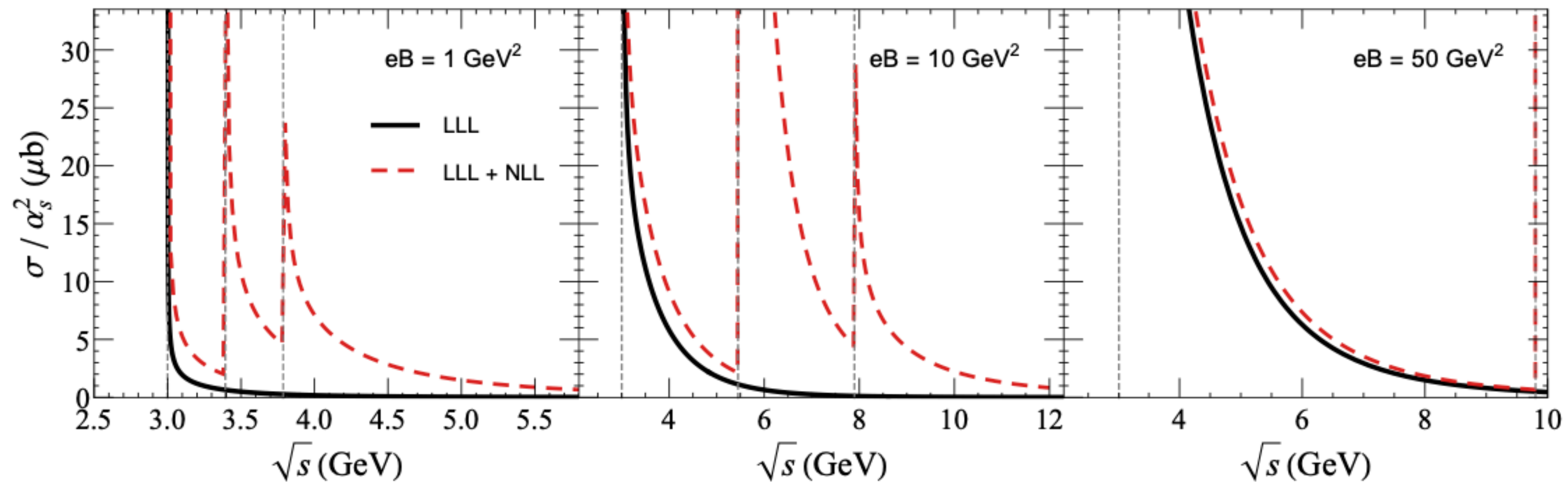
- Stronger magnetic field
- Smaller collision energy

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Next Landau Level (NLL) quantum number $n = 0, 1$



Application range

- Partons in a nucleon or a nucleus distribute mainly in the small x region
- Heavy quark production at low P_T region
- Magnetic field $eB \sim 10 \text{ GeV}^2$

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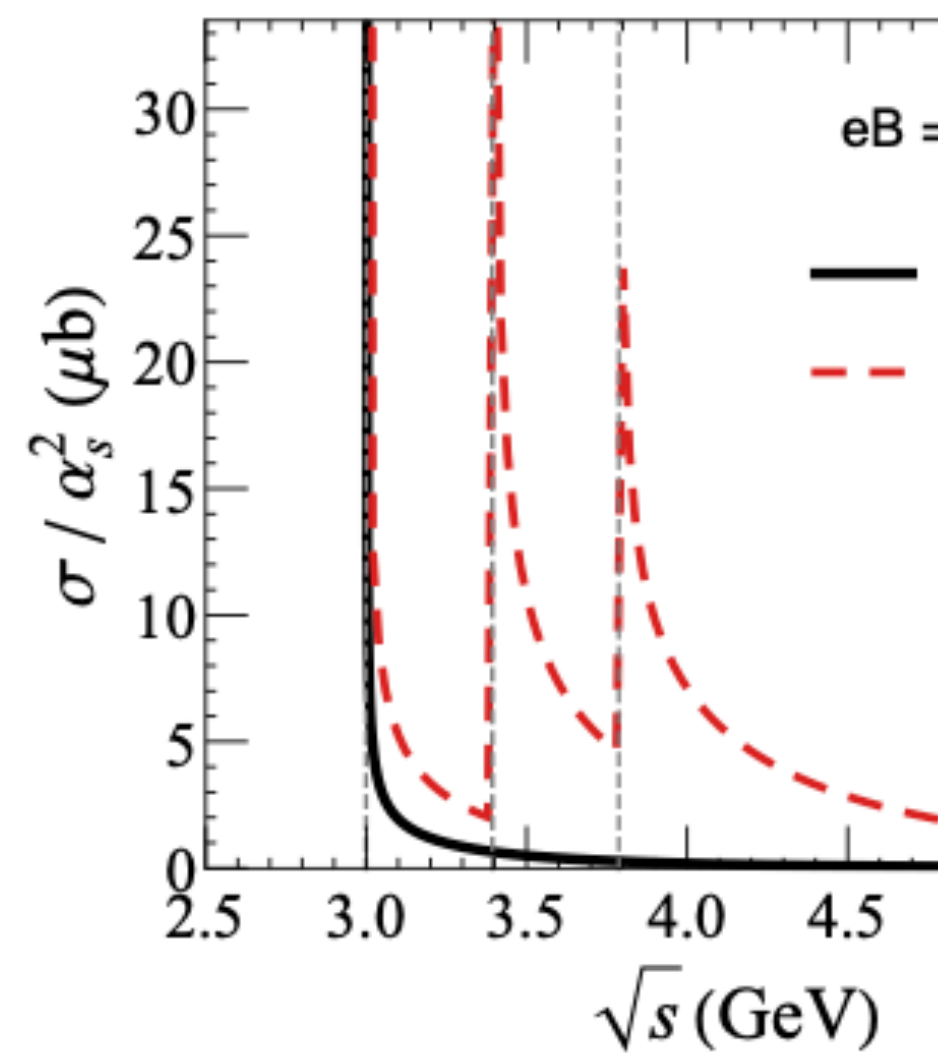
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Next Landau Level

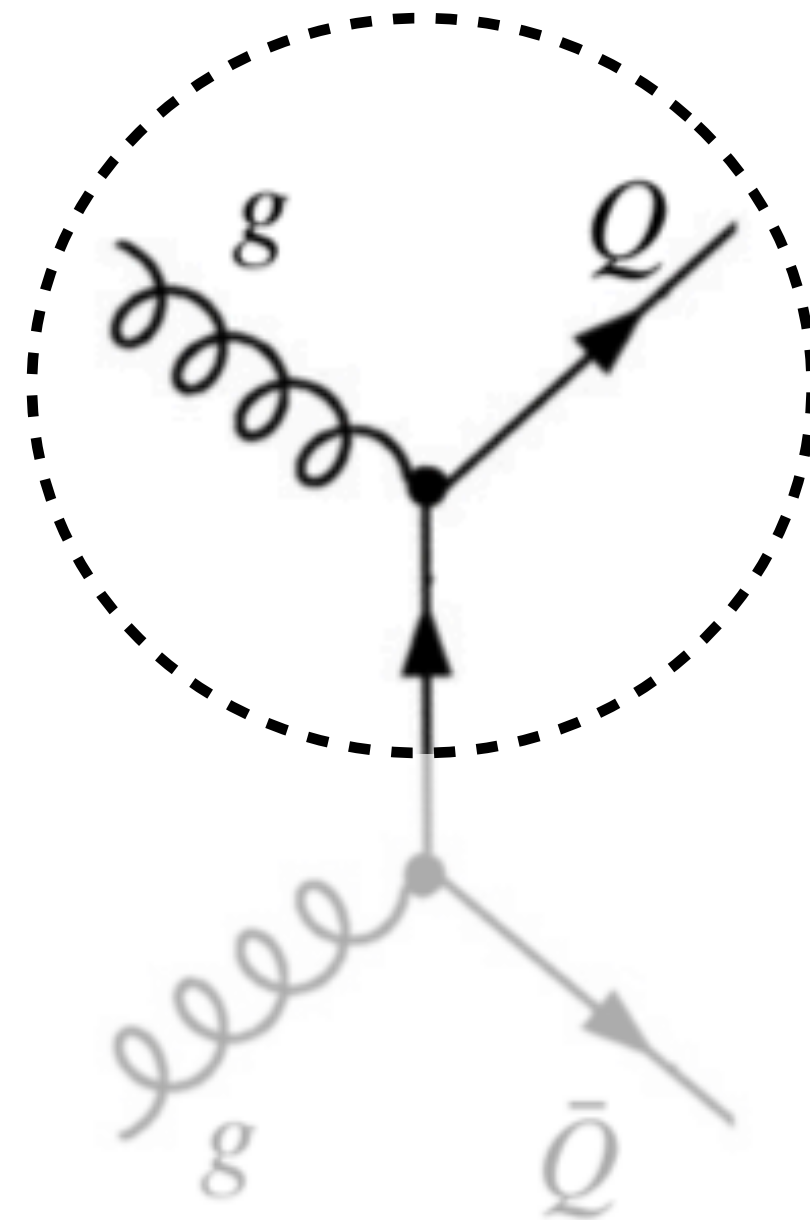


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On shell gluon decay

- When magnetic field is strong enough, the internal quark could be **on-shell**.
- The sub-process $g \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$ may take place when the quark and antiquark are at different Landau levels.

Magnetic field which can guarantee the on-shell internal quark

$$|qB| = 2eB/3 \geq 4m^2 \quad \text{for NLL}$$

Competition between energy scales of B & \sqrt{s}

LLL is a good approximation with

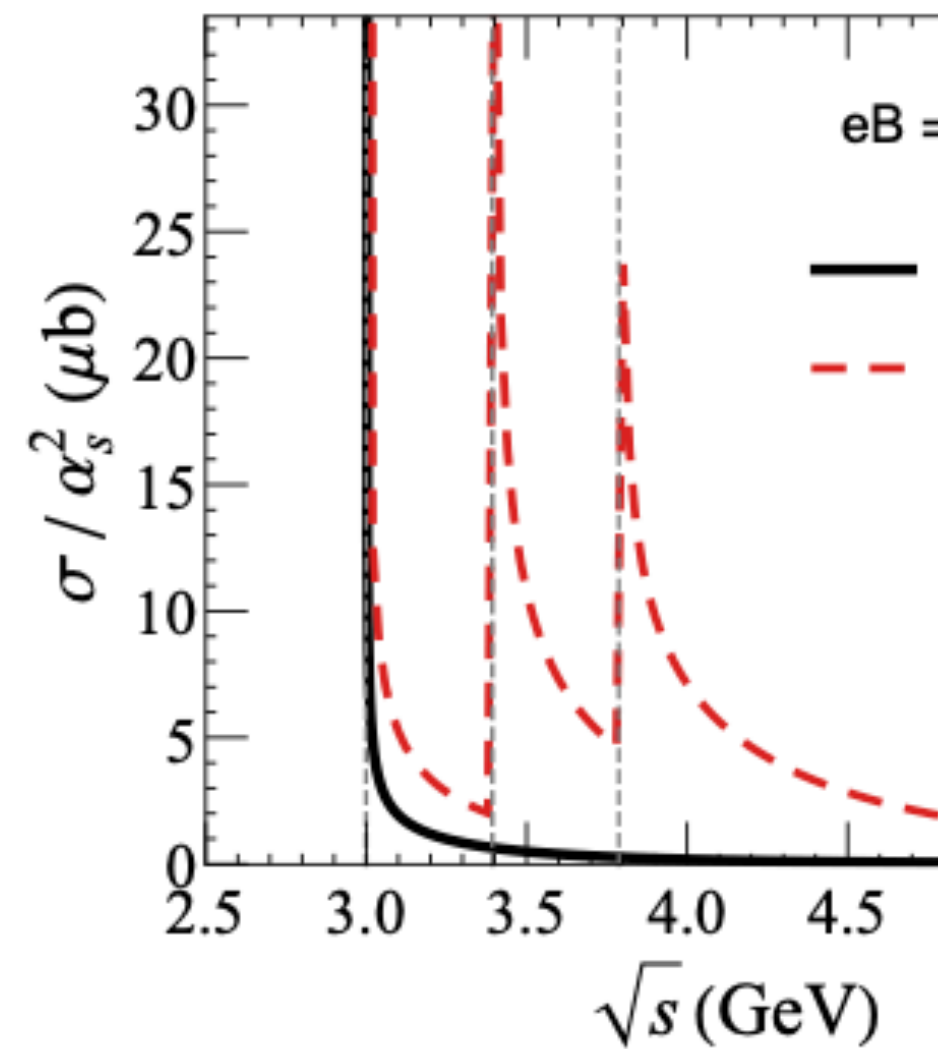
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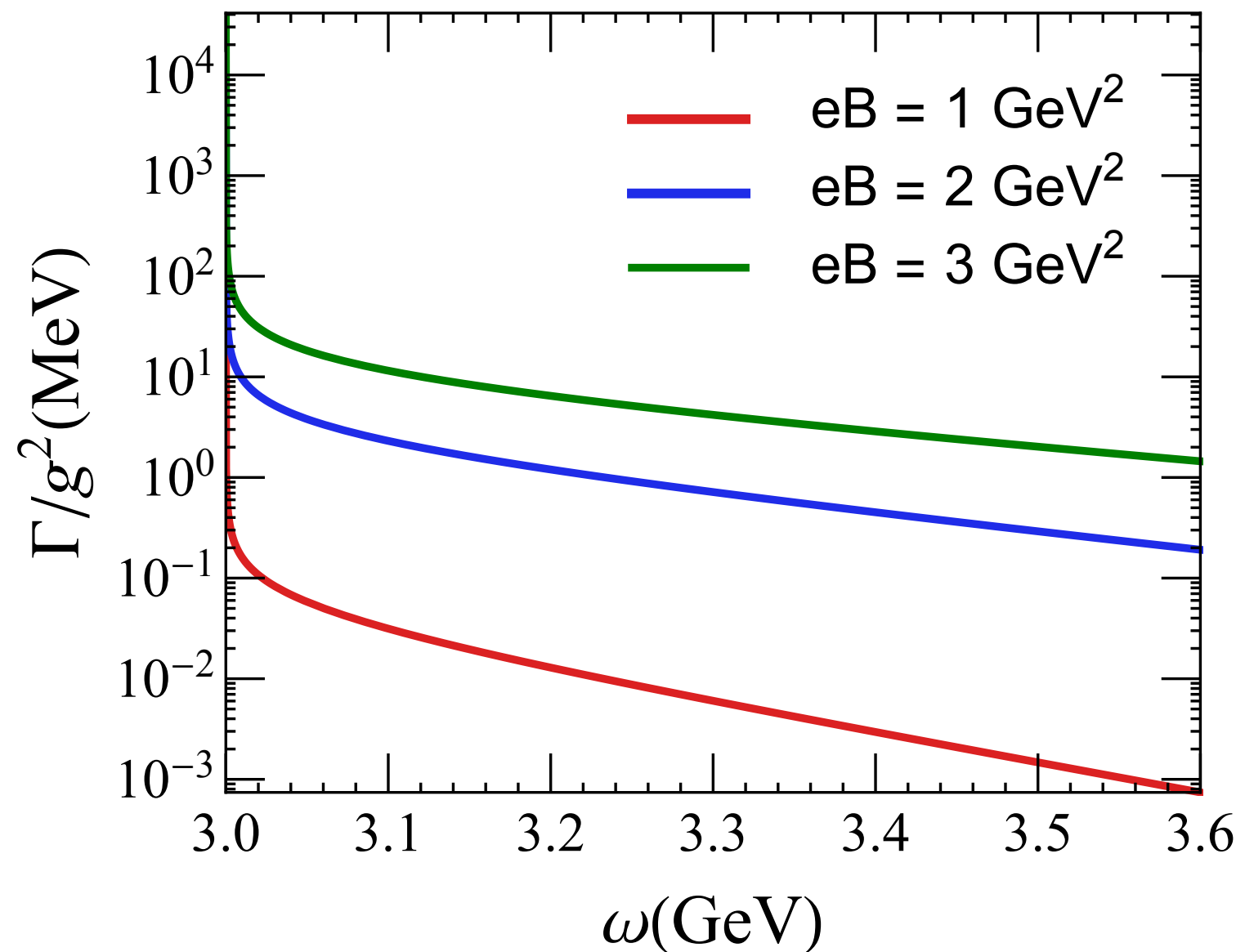
Even though we can

Next Landau Level



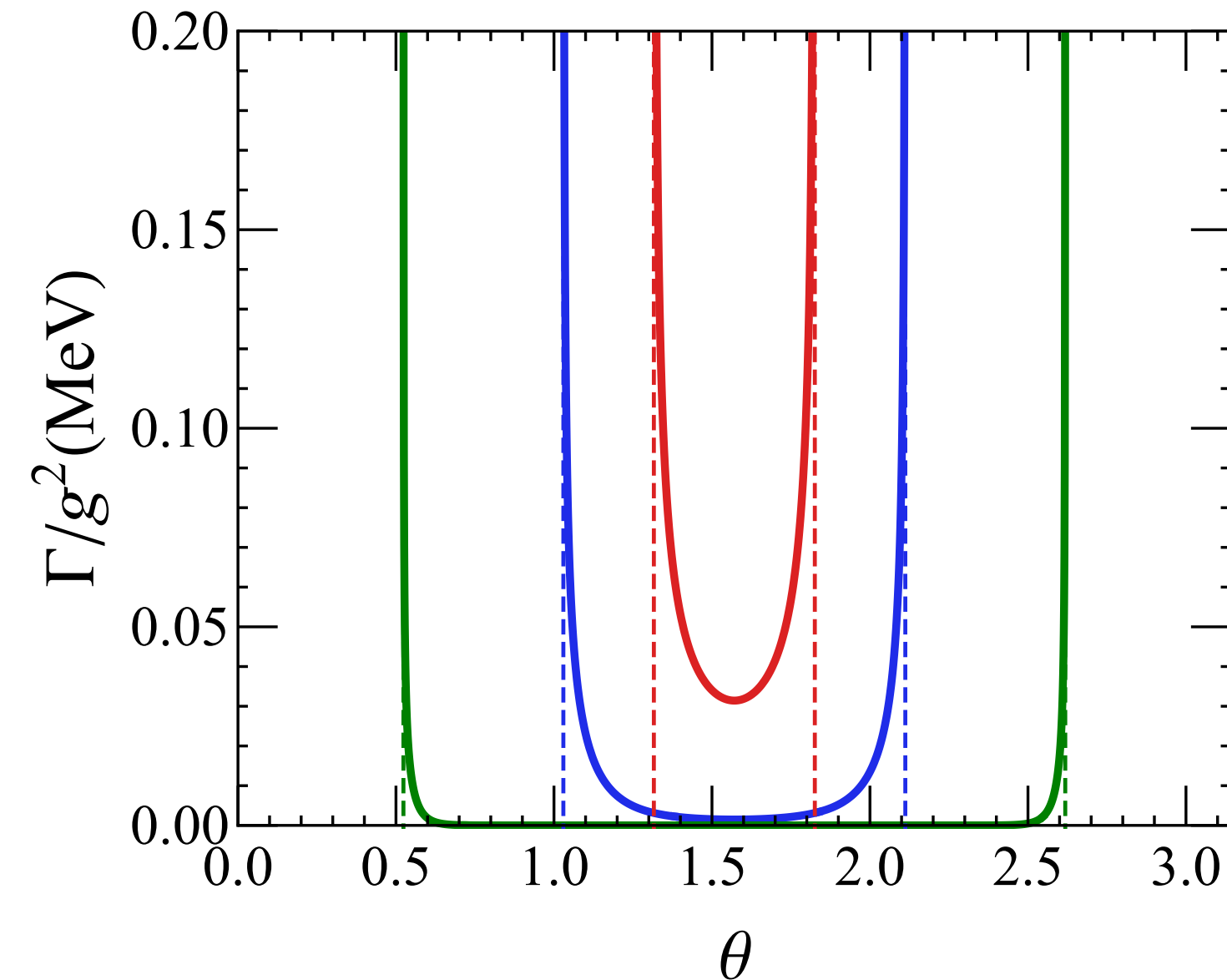
New divergence

On shell gluon decay $g \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$



Competition between energy scales of B & \sqrt{s}

Gluon moving perpendicular to the magnetic field would decay



$$0+0 \quad \sqrt{s_{th}^{(1)}} = 2m$$

$$0+1 \quad \sqrt{s_{th}^{(2)}} = m + \sqrt{m^2 + 2|qB|}$$

$$1+1 \quad \sqrt{s_{th}^{(3)}} = 2\sqrt{m^2 + 2|qB|}$$

LLL is a good approximation with

- Stronger magnetic field
- Smaller collision energy

Summary and outlook

We calculate the cross section of elementary process $gg \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$ under strong magnetic field to NLL, which qualitatively describes the heavy quark production at leading order in the initial stage of heavy ion collisions.

- **Anisotropy** of the system. Unique QCD process dominant the elementary process especially when the gluon incoming direction parallel to magnetic field.
- The **dimension reduction** in phase space leads to divergences of the cross section at the discrete Landau energy levels.
- The heavy quark pair production is **enhanced** at low p_T region and **suppressed** at high p_T region.

In the future work

- The process $q\bar{q} \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$ will also be included to reproduce full transverse momentum region
- Elementary process in weak field limit which can also be included to compare with heavy-ion collision.

Thank you for listening!