

In-medium dressed quark evolution in a light-front Hamiltonian approach

Meijian Li

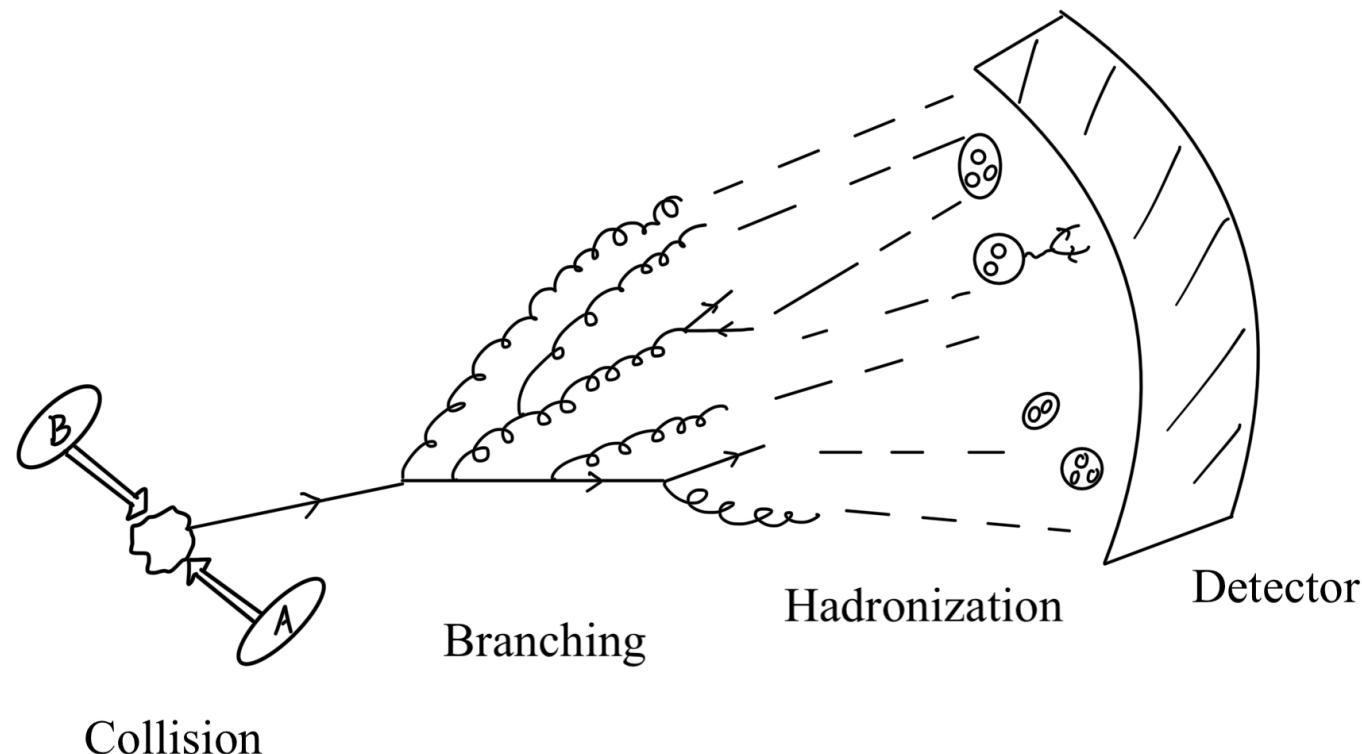
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University of Jyväskylä, Nov 19, 2024*

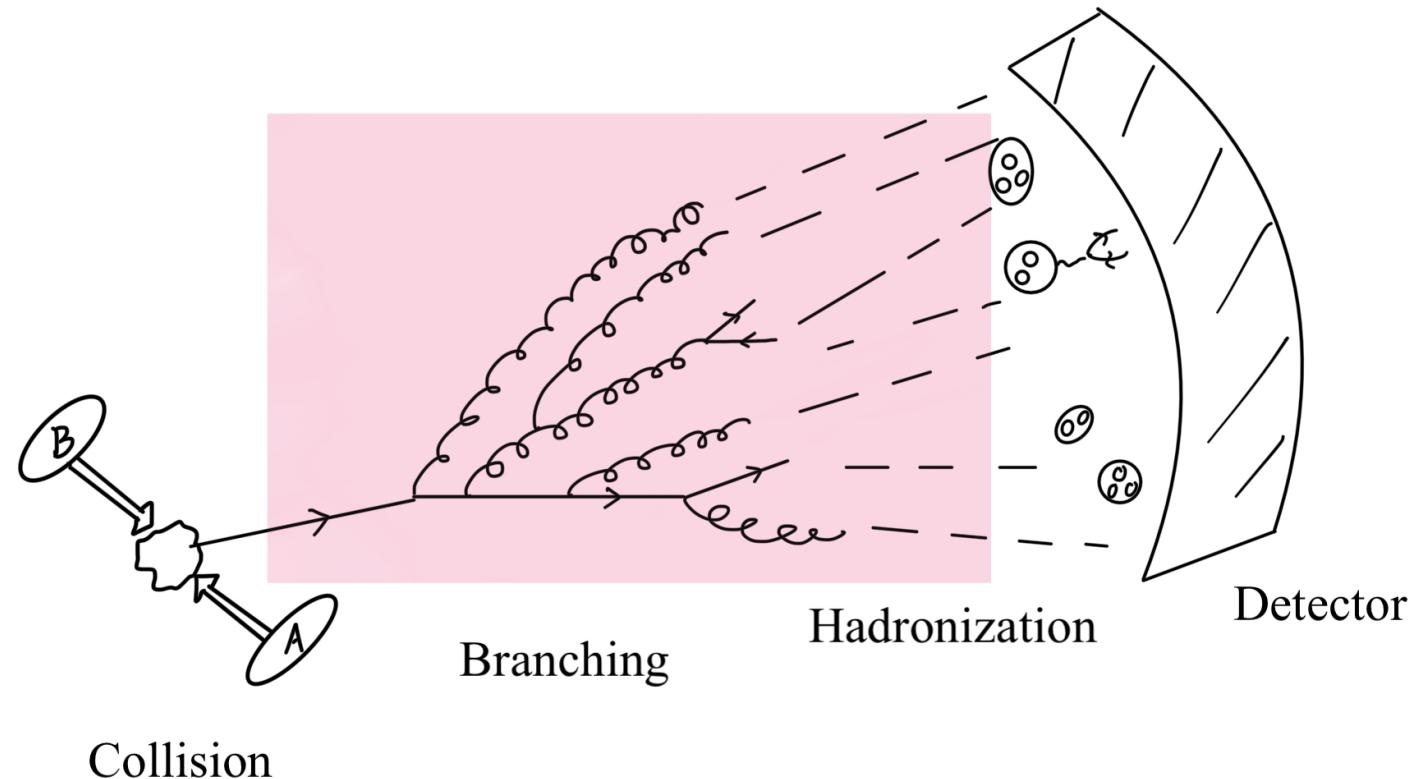
What is a jet?

In high-energy collisions, a jet is a collimated beam of particles produced by the splitting of a common ancestor (quark or gluon).



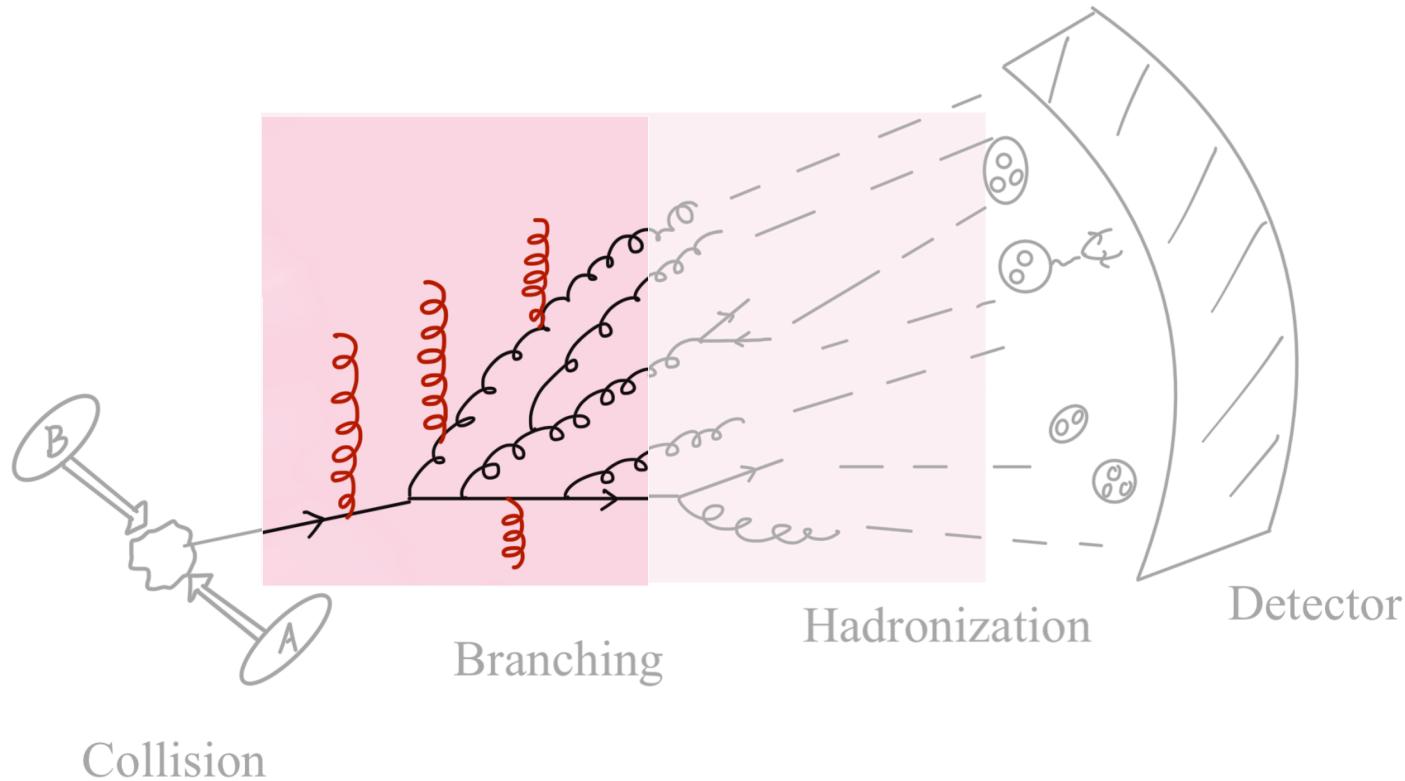
What is a jet?

A probe of matter, a tool to understand interaction.



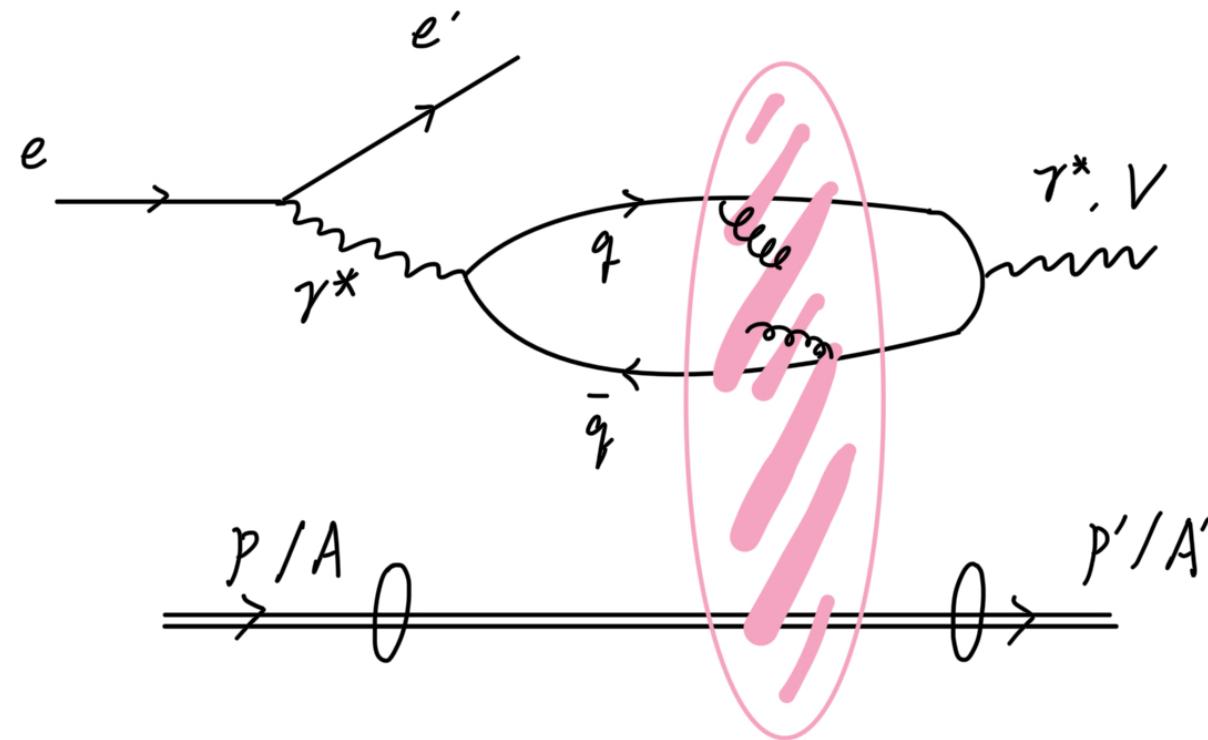
What is a jet?

An energetic QCD state that evolves and interacts.



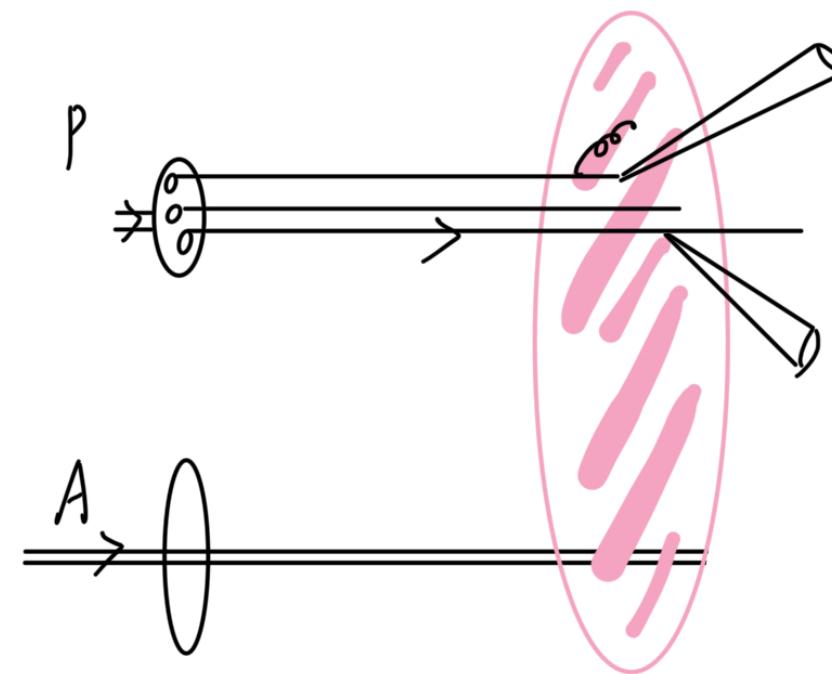
Quark jet scattering off a color field in:

Deep inelastic scattering $e+p/A$



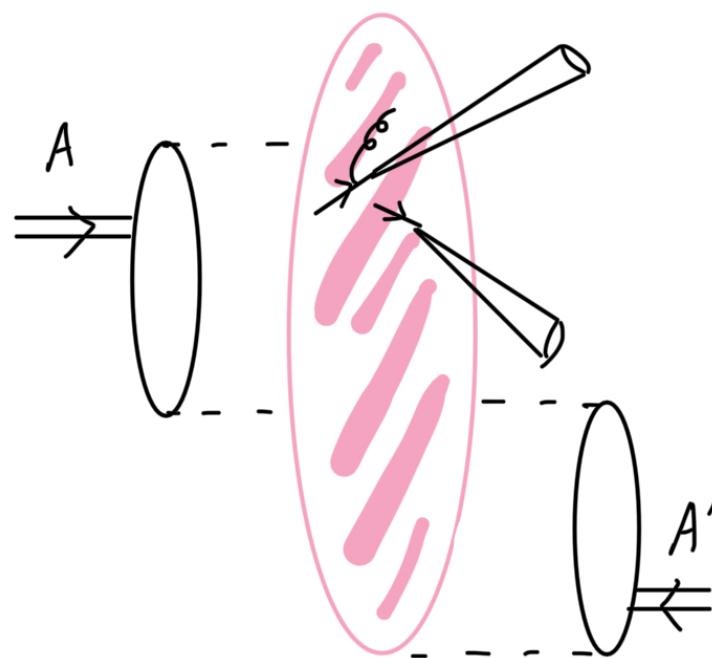
Quark jet scattering off a color field in:

Proton nucleus scattering $p+A$



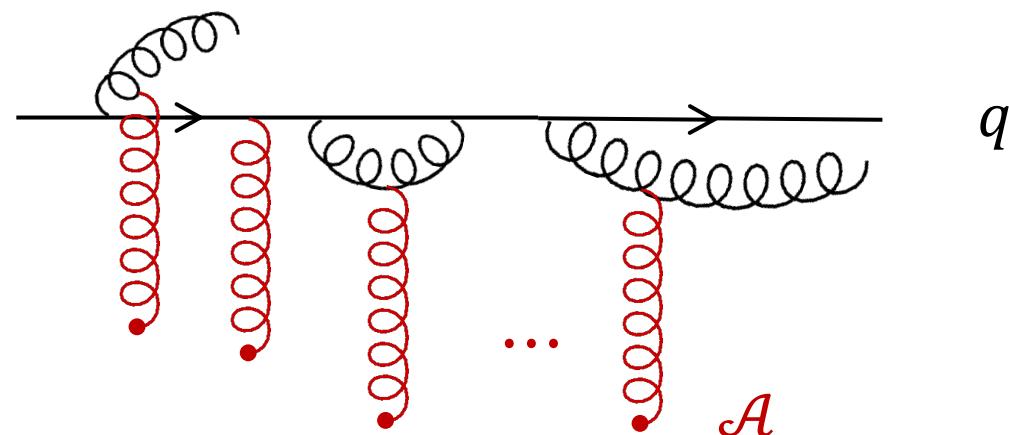
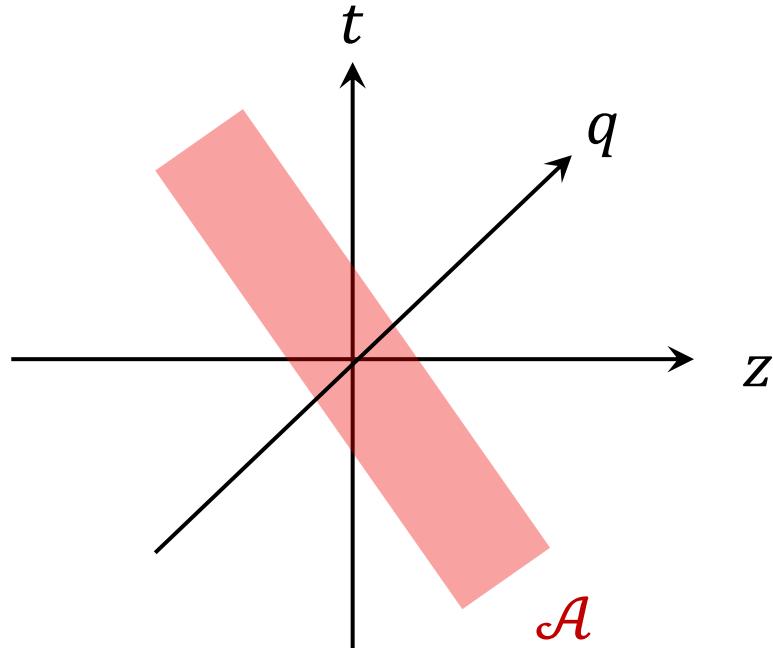
Quark jet scattering off a color field in:

Heavy ion collisions A+A



Quark jet scattering off a color field

- The fundamental process

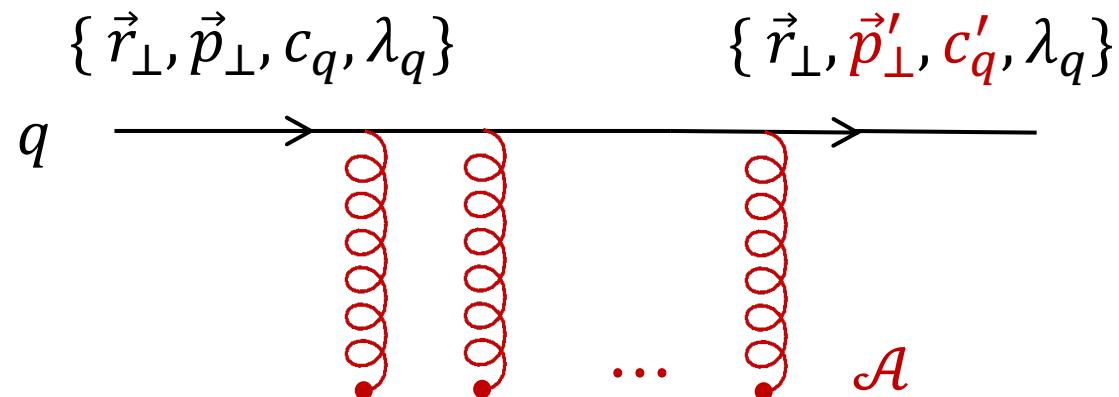


At high energy, the target has many gluons:
 $\mathcal{A}_\mu \gg 1/g$
⇒ described as a classical gluon field (Color Glass Condensate, MV model)

What has been established and approximated?

- Eikonal limit

Quark is infinitely energetic: $p^+ \equiv p^0 + p^z = \infty$



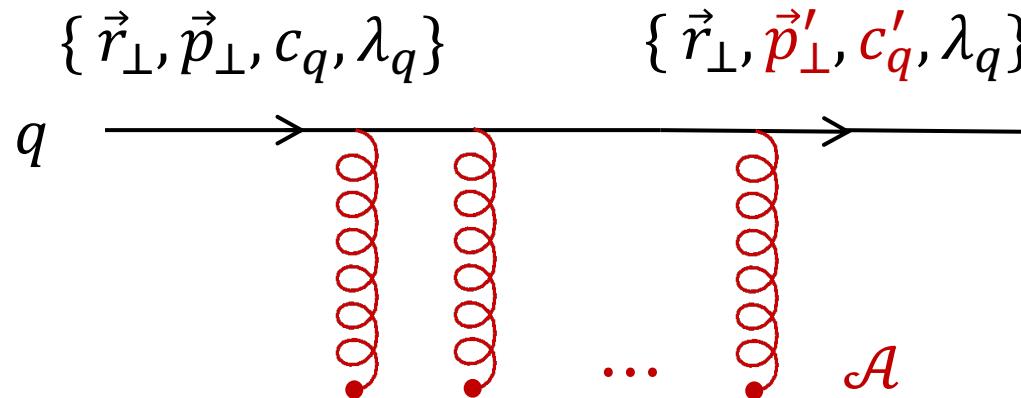
⇒ Wilson line: eikonal scattering amplitude,
resummation of \mathcal{A}_μ in the path-ordered exponential

What has been established and approximated?

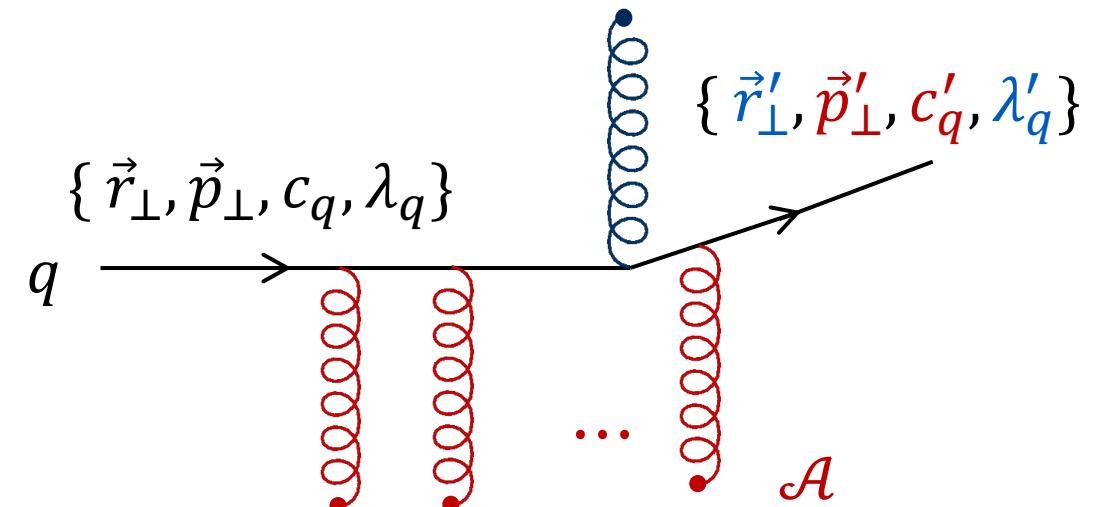
- Eikonal limit

Quark is infinitely energetic:

$$p^+ \equiv p^0 + p^z = \infty$$



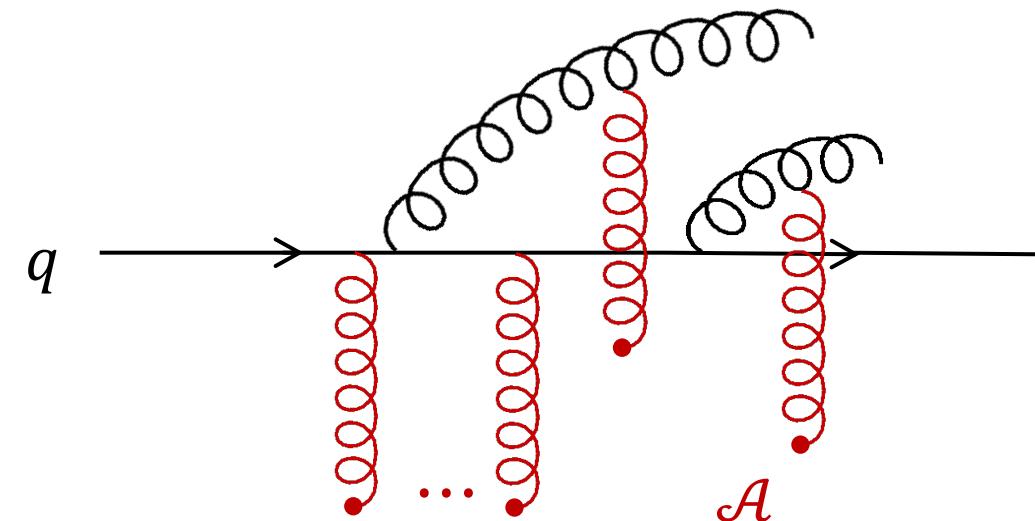
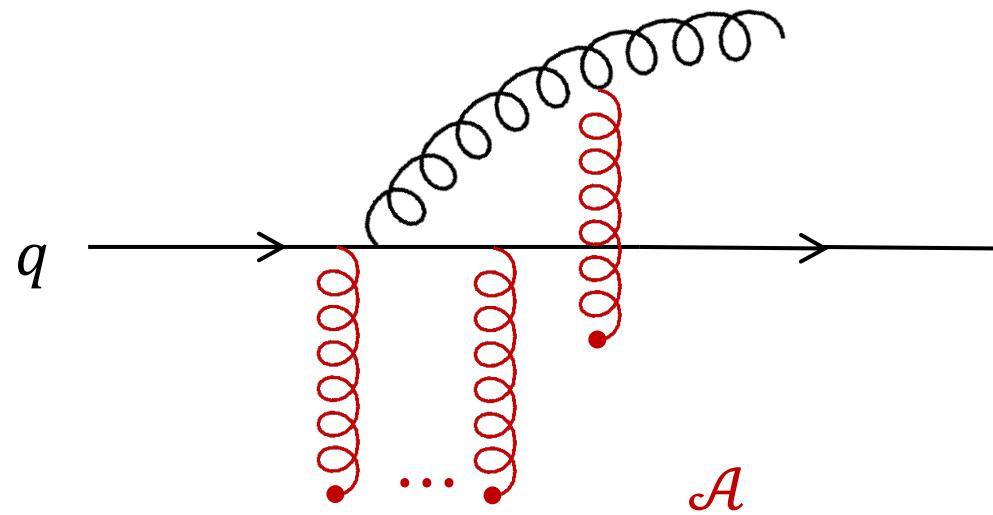
⇒ Sub-eikonal effects



What has been established and approximated?

- Perturbative-based approaches

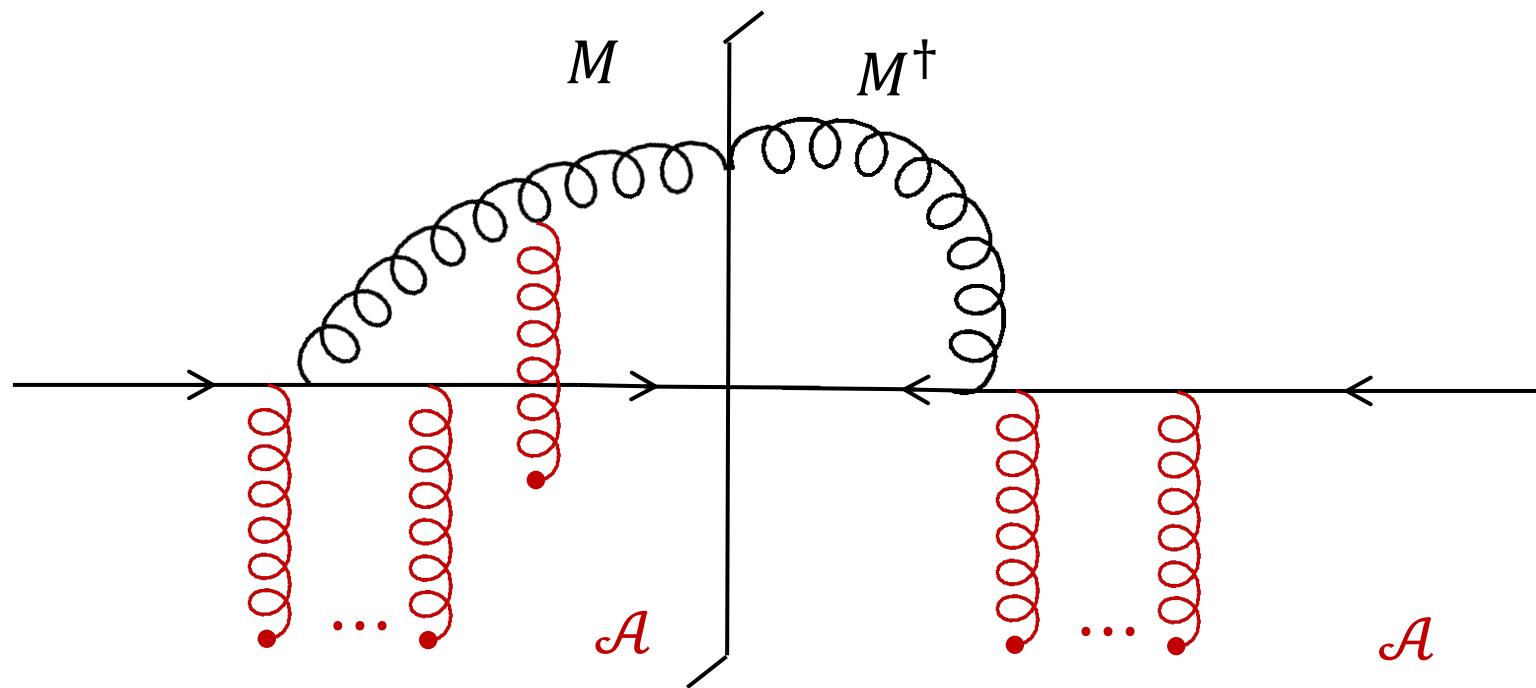
Expansion in powers of the coupling: one gluon emission at NLO, and two gluons at NNLO



What has been established and approximated?

- Perturbative-based approaches

Calculation is on the probability level



What are the differences here?

- **Non-perturbative approach**

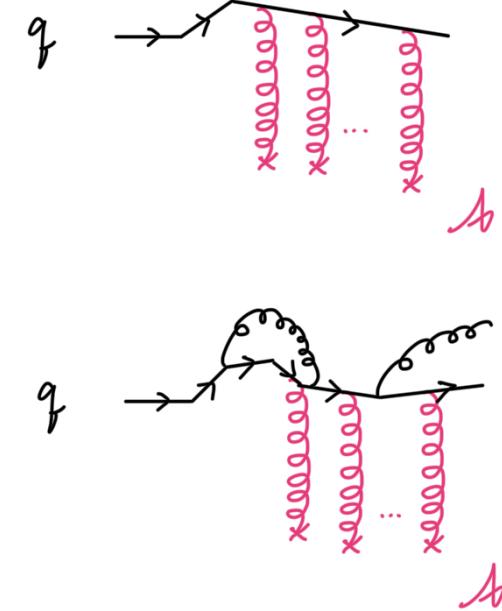
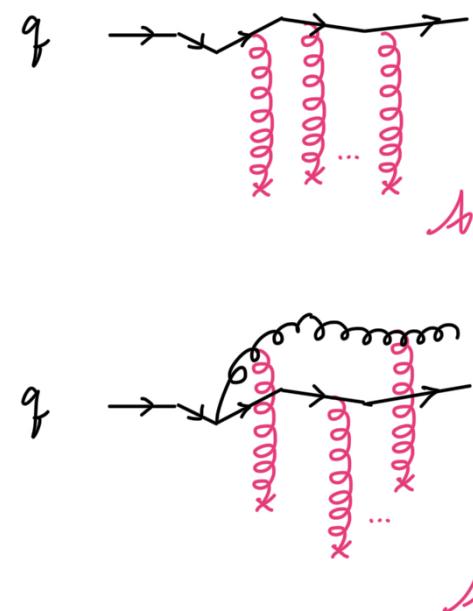
⇒ beyond eikonal

- **Amplitude level computation**

⇒ jet is tracked as an evolving
quantum state

- **Real-time simulation**

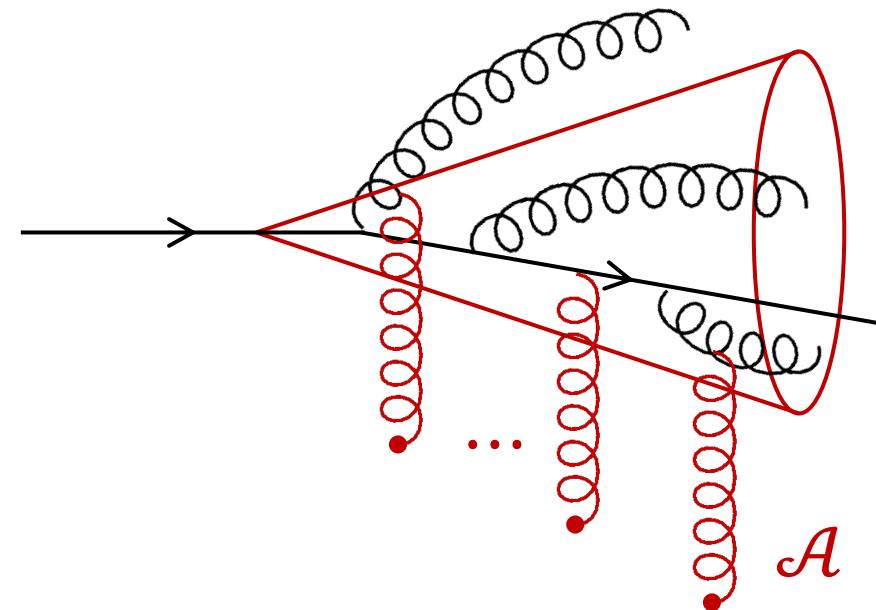
⇒ accessibility to intermediate state



What are the differences here?

- Dressed quark states

⇒ distinguish jet intrinsic and external gluons



Outline

❑ Methodology

- The light-front Hamiltonian approach: BLFQ & tBLFQ

❑ Application to jet physics

1. Dressed quark
2. In-medium dressed quark evolution

❑ Summary and outlooks

Light-front Hamiltonian approach: BLFQ & tBLFQ¹

➤ Light-front dynamics

instant form		front form	point form
time variable	$t = x^0$	$x^+ \triangleq x^0 + x^3$	$\tau \triangleq \sqrt{t^2 - \vec{x}^2 - a^2}$
quantization surface			
Hamiltonian	$H = P^0$	$P^- \triangleq P^0 - P^3$	P^μ
kinematical	\vec{P}, \vec{J}	$\vec{P}^\perp, P^+, \vec{E}^\perp, E^+, J^-$	\vec{J}, \vec{K}
dynamical	\vec{K}, P^0	\vec{F}^\perp, P^-	\vec{P}, P^0
dispersion relation	$p^0 = \sqrt{\vec{p}^2 + m^2}$	$p^- = (\vec{p}_\perp^2 + m^2)/p^+$	$p^\mu = mv^\mu \ (v^2 = 1)$

1. J. P. Vary, H. Honkanen, Jun Li, P. Maris, S. J. Brodsky, A. Harindranath, G. F. de Teramond, P. Sternberg, E. G. Ng, C. Yang., Phys. Rev. C81, 035205 (2010); X. Zhao, A. Ilderton, P. Maris, and J. P. Vary, Phys. Rev. D88, 065014 (2013).

Light-front Hamiltonian approach: BLFQ & tBLFQ¹

➤ Hamiltonian formalism

- Bound states: eigenstates of the light-front Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} P^- |\phi\rangle &= P_\phi^- |\phi\rangle \\ &\Updownarrow \\ \underbrace{(P^- P^+ - \vec{P}_\perp^2)}_{H_{LC}} |\phi\rangle &= M^2 |\phi\rangle \end{aligned}$$

- Time-dependent process: the state obeys the time-evolution equation

$$\frac{1}{2} P^-(x^+) |\psi(x^+)\rangle = i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^+} |\psi(x^+)\rangle$$

Light-front Hamiltonian approach: BLFQ & tBLFQ¹

➤ Basis representation

- Optimal basis encodes certain symmetries of the system, and it is the key to computational efficiency

$$|\psi; x^+\rangle = \sum_{\beta} c_{\beta}(x^+) |\beta\rangle$$

Operators

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle 1|U|1\rangle & \langle 1|U|2\rangle & \dots & \langle 1|U|n\rangle \\ \langle 2|U|1\rangle & \langle 2|U|2\rangle & \dots & \langle 2|U|n\rangle \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle n|U|1\rangle & \langle n|U|2\rangle & \dots & \langle n|U|n\rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

State

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Light-front Hamiltonian approach: BLFQ & tBLFQ¹

➤ Computational method

- **Basis Light-Front Quantization (BLFQ)**: the bound state is solved by diagonalizing the Hamiltonain matrix

$$H_{LC} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} M_1^2 & & & \\ & M_2^2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & M_N^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Eignestates → LF wavefunctions
Eigenvalues → M^2

Light-front Hamiltonian approach: BLFQ & tBLFQ¹

➤ Computational method

- Basis Light-Front Quantization (BLFQ)
- time-dependent BLFQ (tBLFQ): the evolving state is solved by sequential matrix multiplications of the evolution operators

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1(x^+) \\ c_2(x^+) \\ \vdots \\ c_n(x^+) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_n \end{pmatrix} \dots \begin{pmatrix} U_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1(0) \\ c_2(0) \\ \vdots \\ c_n(0) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$U_k = \mathcal{T}_+ \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int_{x_{k-1}^+}^{x_k^+} dz^+ P^-(z^+) \right], \quad x_n^+ = x^+$$

Light-front Hamiltonian approach: BLFQ & tBLFQ¹

➤ Computational method

- Basis Light-Front Quantization (BLFQ)
- time-dependent BLFQ (tBLFQ)

- ✓ *First-principles*
- ✓ *Non-perturbative*
- ✓ *Quantum amplitude*

Outline

❑ Methodology

- The light-front Hamiltonian approach: BLFQ & tBLFQ

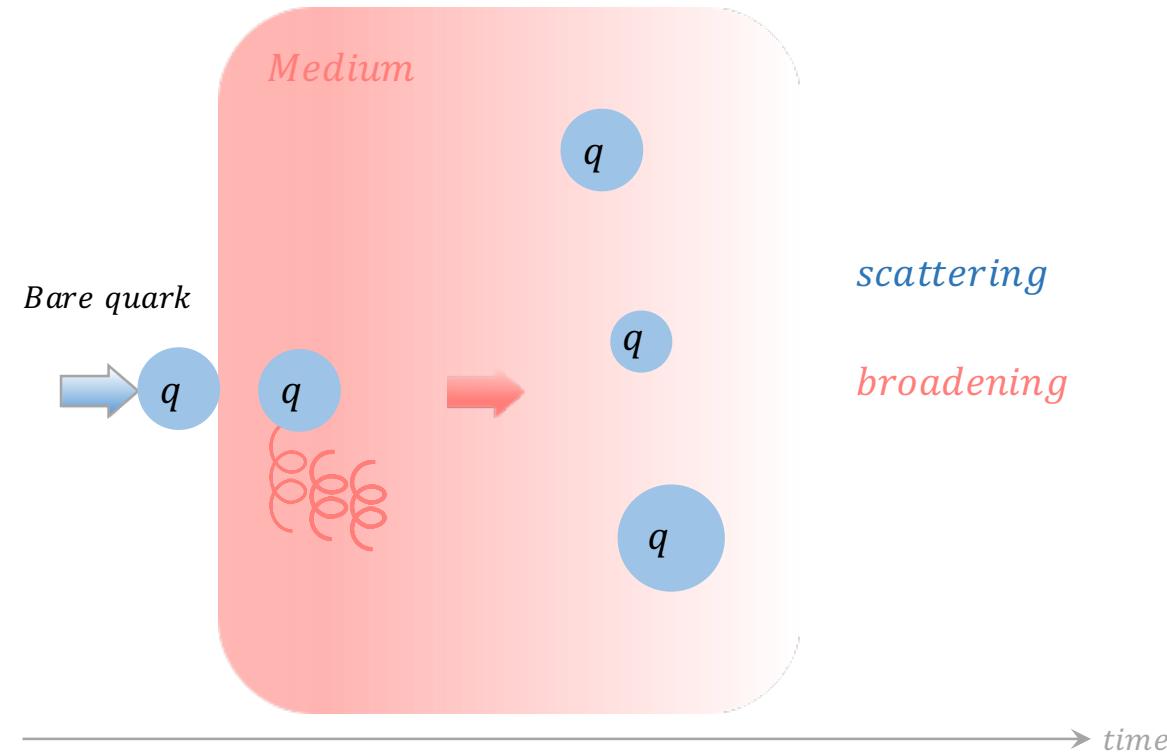
❑ Application to jet physics

1. Dressed quark
2. In-medium dressed quark evolution

❑ Summary and outlooks

Applications of tBLFQ to Jet evolution

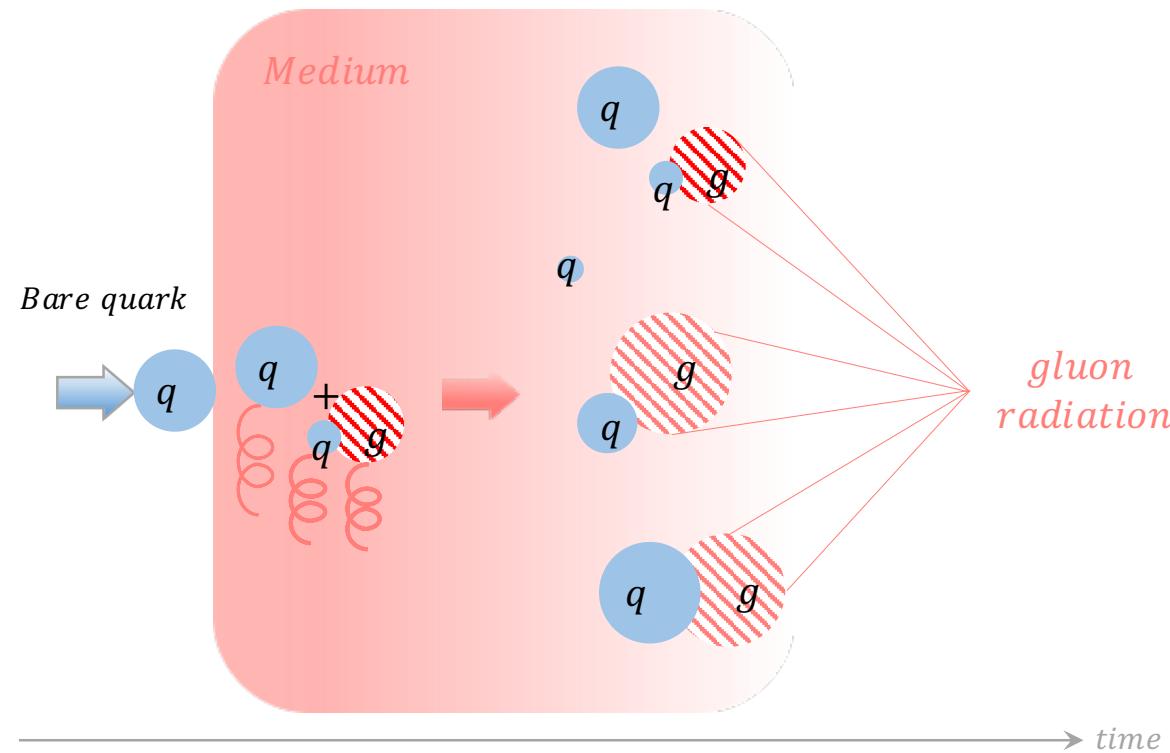
I. $|q\rangle$: quark jet scattering off a color field¹



1. Phys.Rev.D 101(2020)7, 076016, [ML](#), X. Zhao, P. Maris, G. Chen, Y. Li, K. Tuchin and J. P. Vary

Applications of tBLFQ to Jet evolution

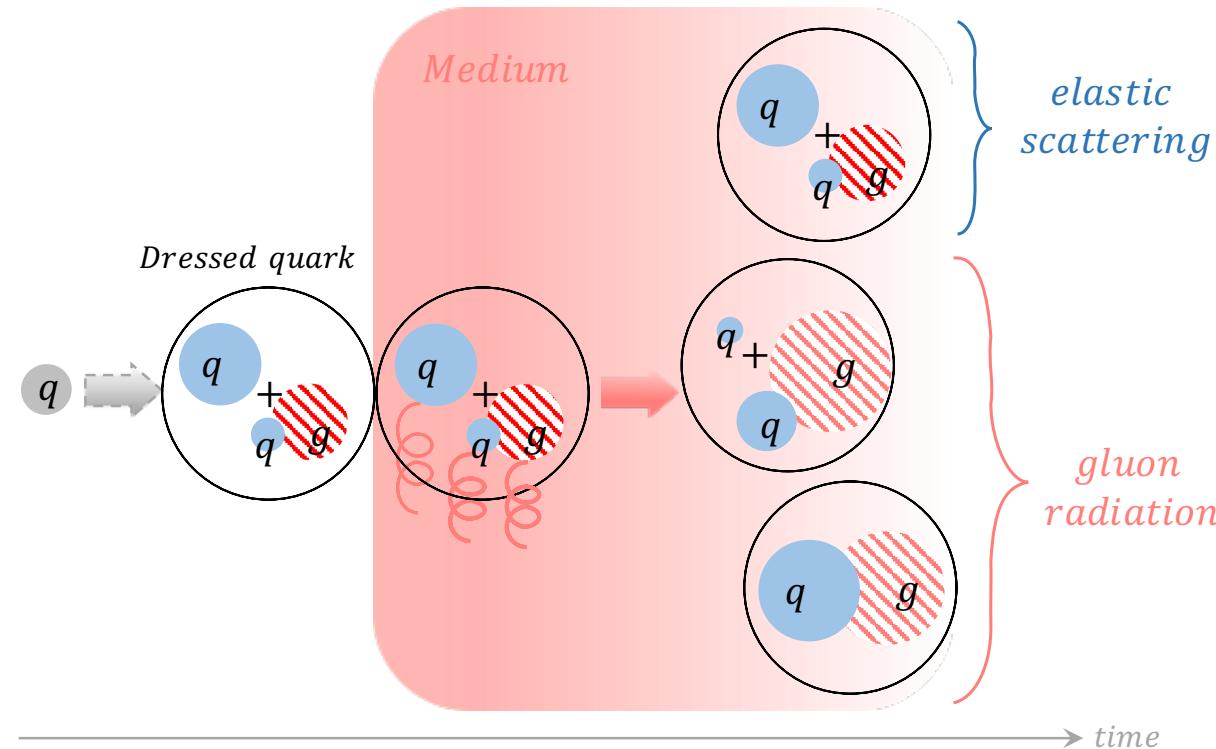
II. $|q\rangle + |qg\rangle$: quark jet scattering and gluon emission¹



1. Phys.Rev.D 104 (2021) 5, 056014, ML, T. Lappi and X. Zhao; Phys.Rev.D 108 (2023) 3, 3, ML, T. Lappi, X. Zhao and C. A. Salgado

Applications of tBLFQ to Jet evolution

III. $|q\rangle + |qg\rangle$: dressed quark scattering and gluon emission



Applications of tBLFQ to Jet evolution

- **Basis representation:** discrete momentum states

$$P_{\text{KE}}^- |\beta\rangle = P_\beta^- |\beta\rangle, \beta_l = \{k_l^x, k_l^y, k_l^+, \lambda_l, c_l\}, (l = q, g)$$

$$|q\rangle: |\beta_q\rangle; \quad |qg\rangle: |\beta_{qg}\rangle = |\beta_q\rangle \otimes |\beta_g\rangle$$

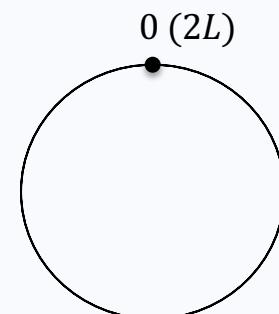
- The longitudinal space

- $x^- = [0, 2L]$

- $p_l^+ = \frac{2\pi}{L} k_l^+$

$$k_q^+ = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \dots, K + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$k_g^+ = 1, 2, \dots, K$$



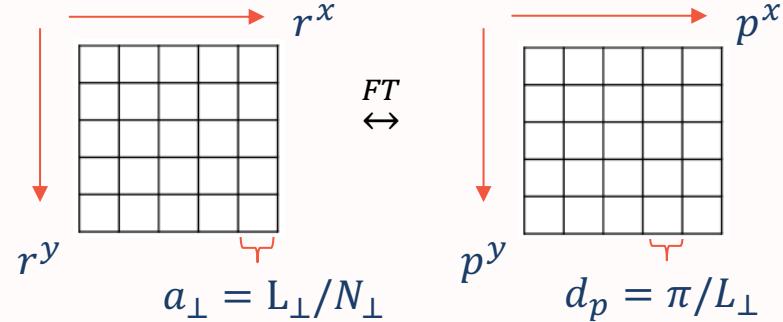
Basis size:

$$N_{tot} = (2N_\perp)^2 \times 2 \times 3 + K \times (2N_\perp)^4 \times 4 \times 24$$

- The transverse coordinate space

- $r_l^\perp = [-N_\perp, \dots, N_\perp - 1] L_\perp / N_\perp$

- $p_l^\perp = \frac{2\pi}{2L_\perp} k_l^\perp, k_l^\perp = -N_\perp, \dots, N_\perp - 1$



Dressed quark

- **QCD eigenstates in $|q\rangle + |qg\rangle$**
 - The dressed quark state is described as the eigenstate of the light-front QCD Hamiltonian with the quark quantum numbers:

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = -\frac{1}{4} F_a^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}^a + \bar{\psi}(i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m)\psi \quad \rightarrow \quad P_{QCD}^- = P_{KE}^- + V_{qg}$$

$$P_{QCD}^- |\phi\rangle = P_\phi^- |\phi\rangle$$

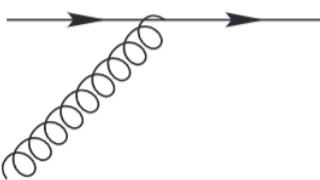
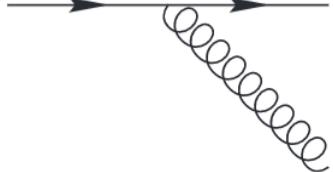


$$\underbrace{(P_{QCD}^- P^+ - \vec{P}_\perp^2)}_{H_{LC}} |\phi\rangle = M^2 |\phi\rangle$$

Dressed quark

- QCD eigenstates in $|q\rangle + |qg\rangle$
 - Sector-dependent mass renormalization

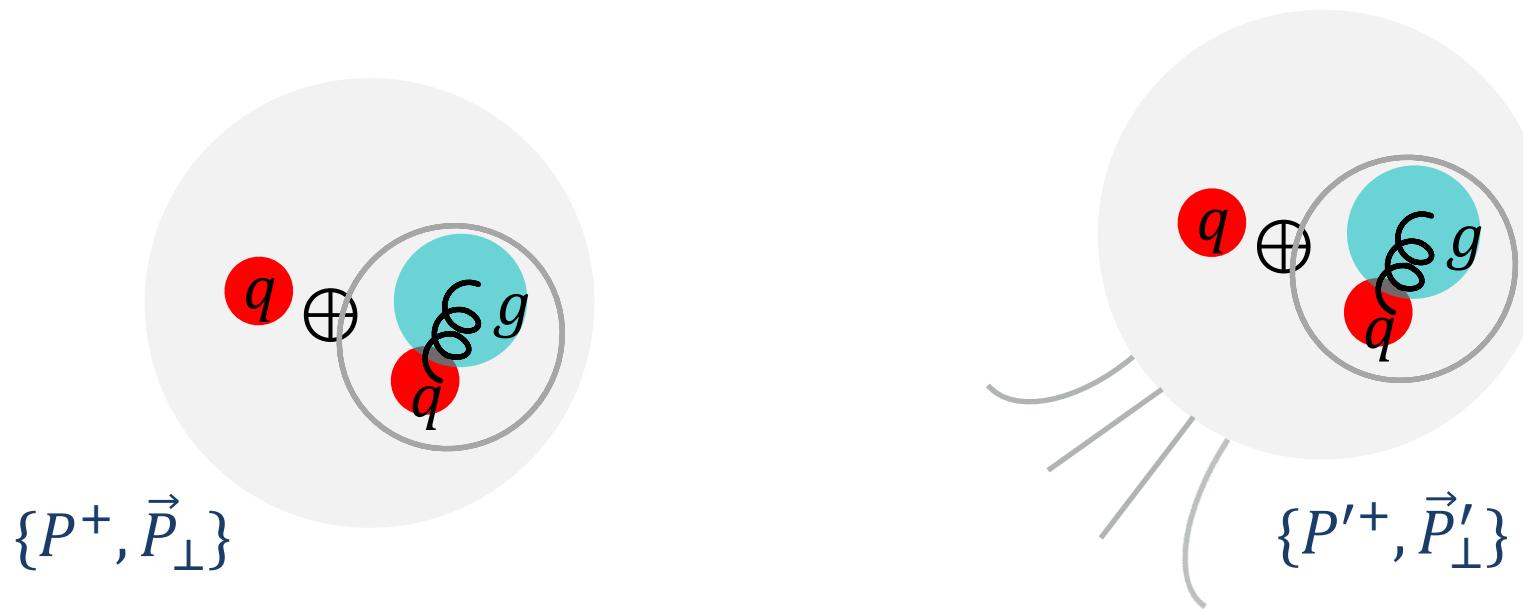
$$H_{\text{LC}}(\delta m)|\phi\rangle = m_q^2|\phi\rangle$$

Fock sector	$ q\rangle$	$ qg\rangle$
$\langle q $	$P_{KE}^-(m_Q = m_q + \delta m)$	
$\langle qg $		$P_{KE}^-(m_q)$

Dressed quark

- **Boost Invariance**
 - The internal structure of the QCD eigenstate is boost invariant

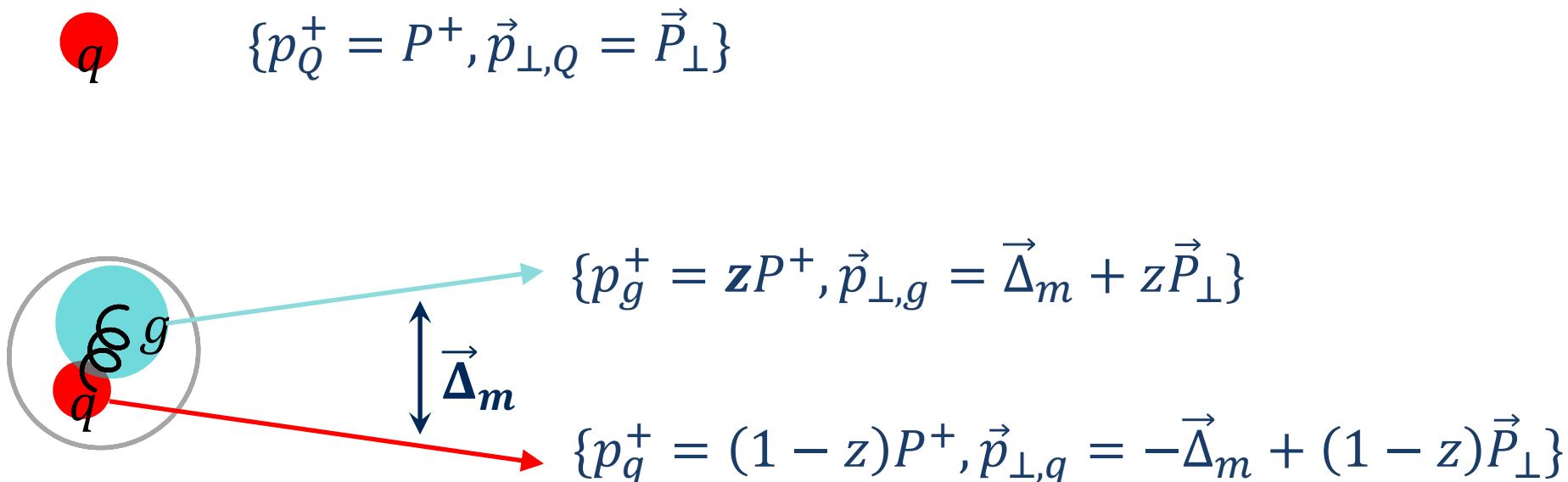
$$|\phi\rangle = |\phi\rangle_{CM} \otimes |\phi\rangle_{rel}$$



Dressed quark

- **Boost Invariance**
 - The internal structure of the eigenstates is boost invariant

$$|\phi\rangle = |\phi(\{P^+, \vec{P}_\perp\})\rangle_{CM} \otimes |\phi_q, \phi_{qg}(z, \vec{\Delta}_m)\rangle_{rel}$$

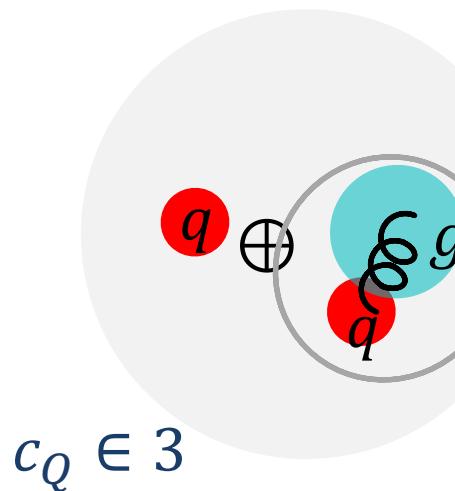


Dressed quark

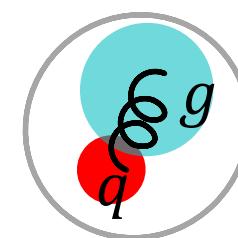
- **Color rotation invariance**
 - The wavefunction is invariant under the color rotation in each irreducible representation of $SU(N_c)$

$$|\phi\rangle = |\phi\rangle_{color-triplet} \otimes |\phi\rangle_{spin \& spatial}$$

$$|\phi'\rangle = |\phi'\rangle_{color-excited} \otimes |\phi'\rangle_{spin \& spatial}$$



$$c_Q \in 3$$



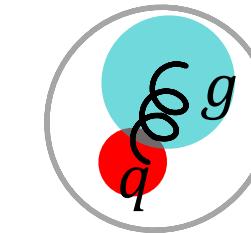
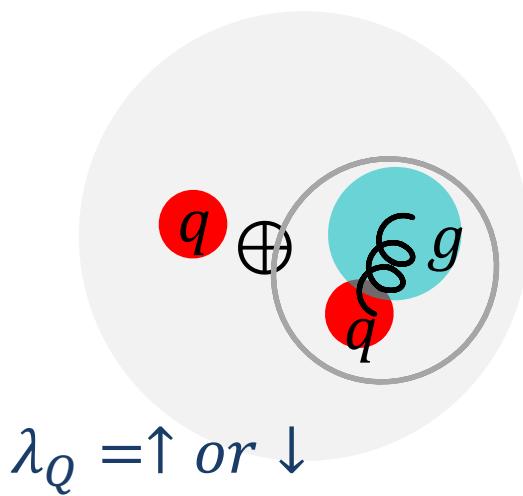
$$c_{qg} \in \bar{6} \oplus 15$$

Dressed quark

- **Spin rotation symmetry**
 - The wavefunction is invariant under the spin rotation in each helicity subspace

$$|\phi\rangle = |\phi\rangle_{quark-helicity} \otimes |\phi\rangle_{helicity \& spatial}$$

$$|\phi'\rangle = |\phi'\rangle_{helicity-uncoupled} \otimes |\phi'\rangle_{helicity \& spatial}$$



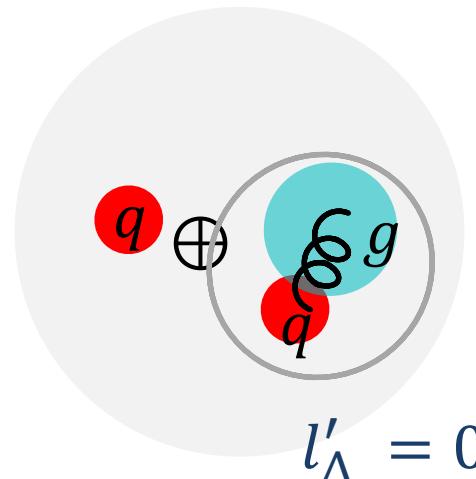
helicity-uncoupled qgs
(e.g., $|\text{qg}(\lambda_q, \lambda_g = \downarrow, \downarrow)\rangle$ cannot couple
to $|\text{q}(\lambda_q = \uparrow)\rangle$)

Dressed quark

- **Discrete rotational symmetry**
 - The eigenstates can be labeled by a qg-relative orbital angular momentum number l'_Δ

$$\vec{\Delta}_m = \{ \Delta_m = |\vec{\Delta}_m|, \theta = \arg \vec{\Delta}_m \}$$

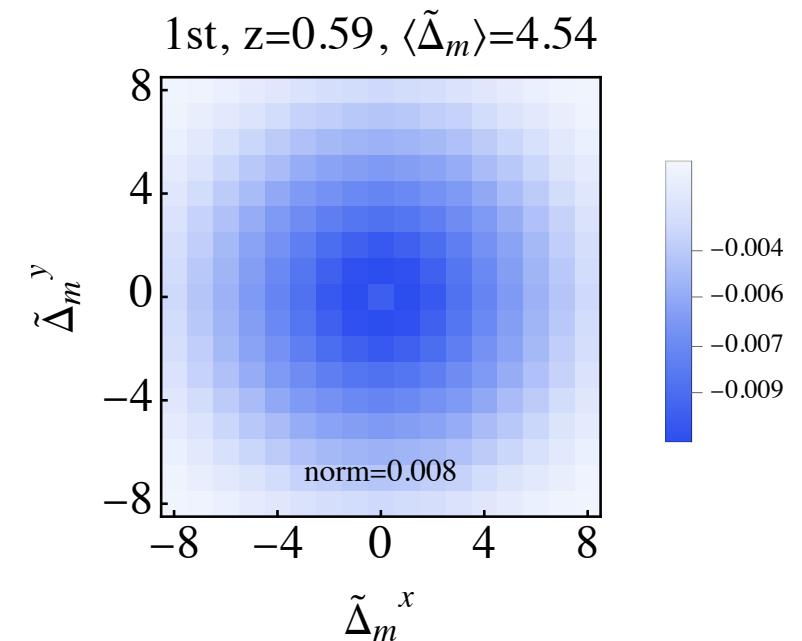
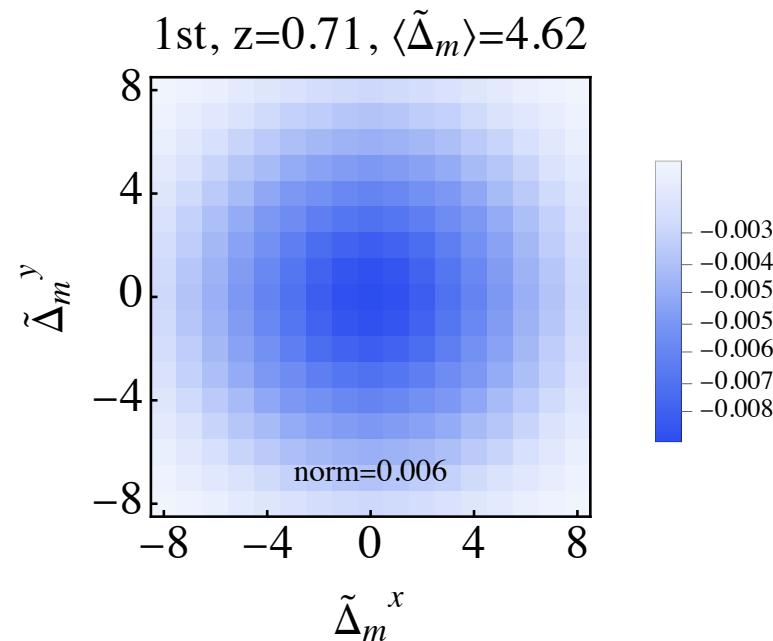
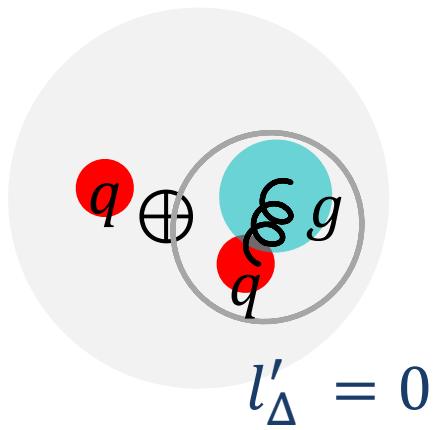
$$\phi_{qg}(\Delta_m, \theta) \sim \exp(i\theta l'_\Delta)$$



Orbital-angular excited qg

Dressed quark

- Discrete rotational symmetry
 - Dressed state wavefunction example

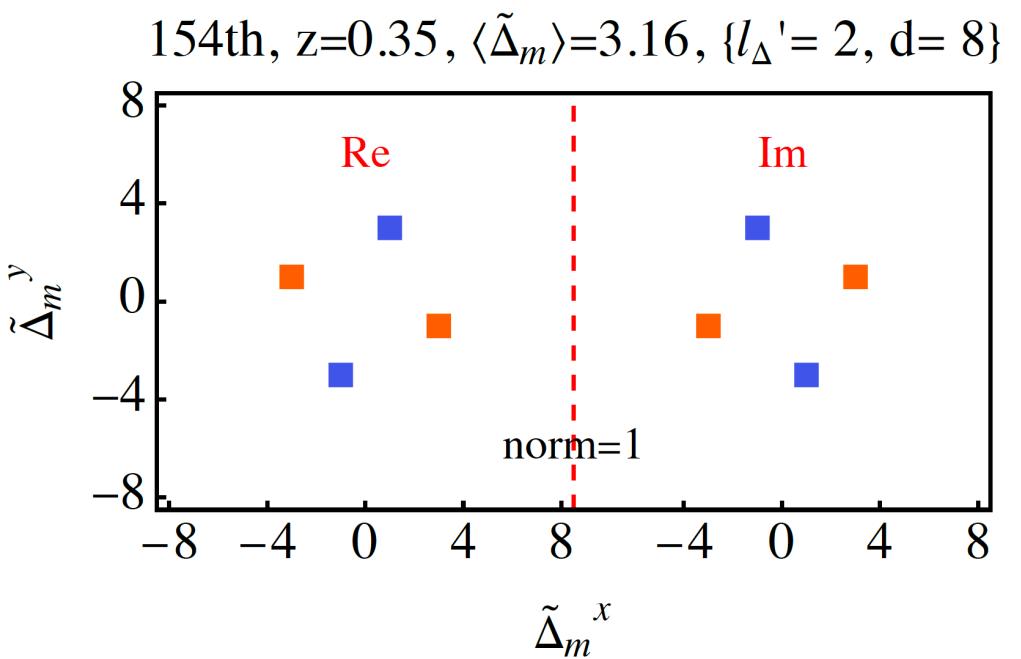
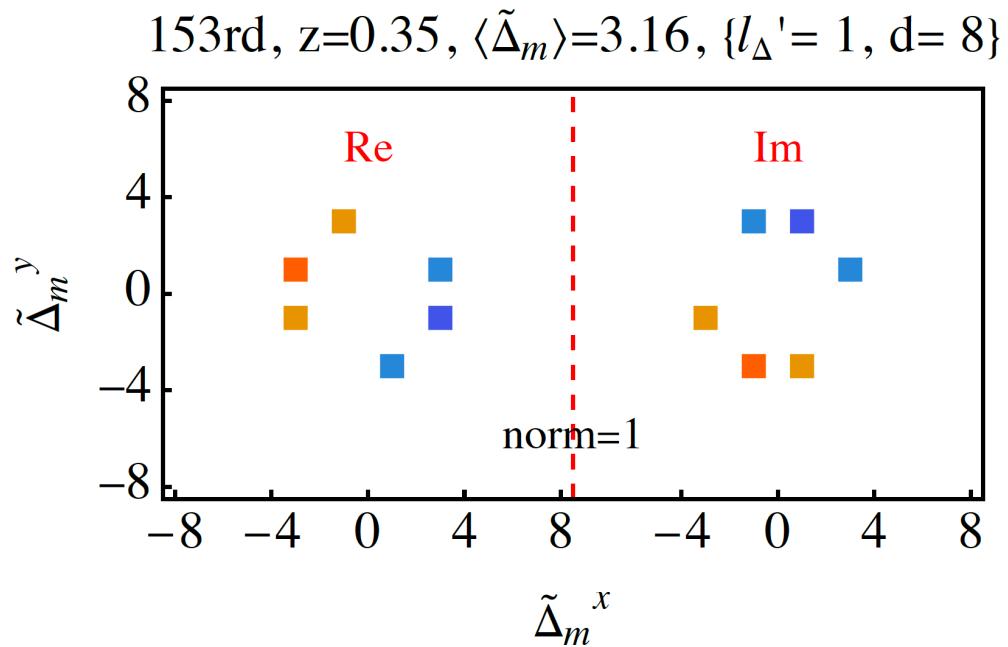


Dressed quark

- Discrete rotational symmetry
 - Orbital-angular excited qg wavefunction examples



$$l'_\Delta \neq 0$$



Dressed quark

- **Invariance and symmetries**

Total basis size: $N_{tot} = (2N_\perp)^2 \times 2 \times 3 + K \times (2N_\perp)^4 \times 4 \times 24$



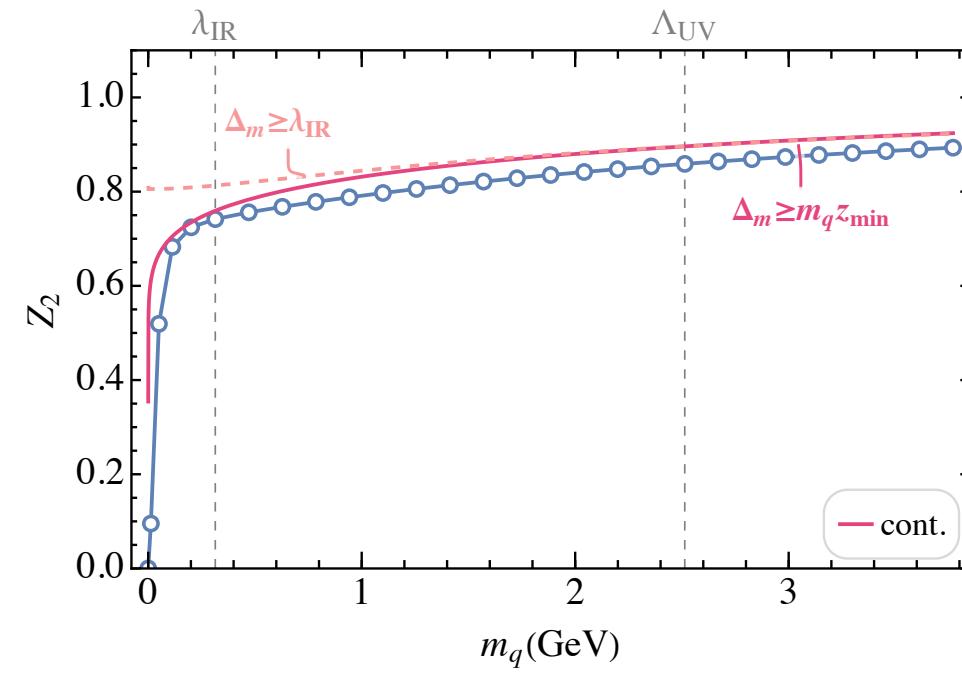
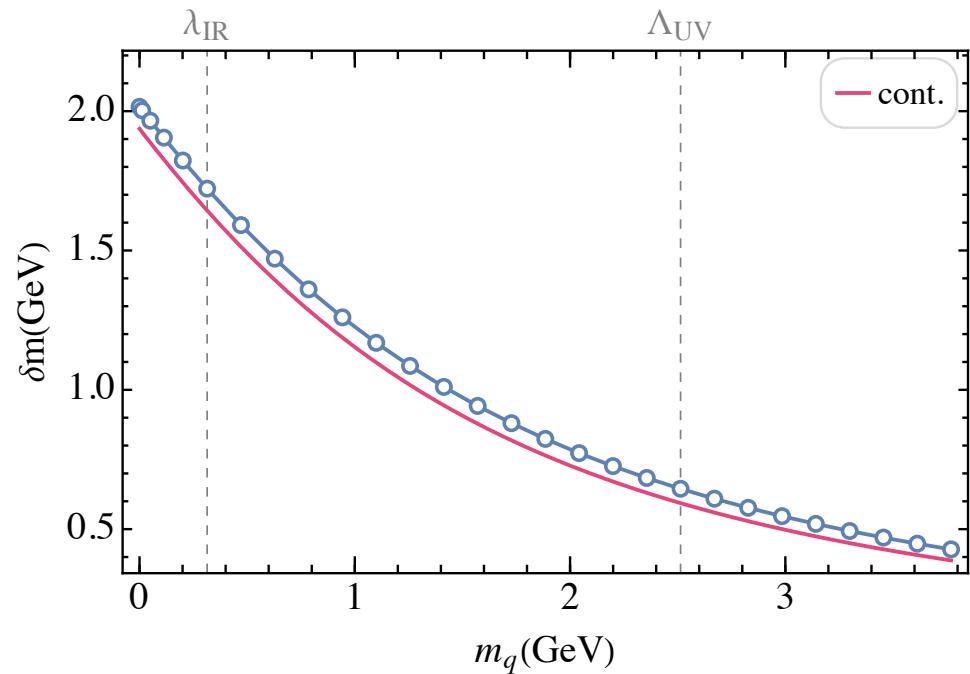
- Boost invariance
- Color rotation invariance
- Spin rotation symmetry
- Discrete rotational symmetry

Basis size of matrix diagonalization: $1 + K \times (2N_\perp)^2$

Dressed quark

- QCD eigenstates in $|q\rangle + |qg\rangle$
 - Sector-dependent mass renormalization

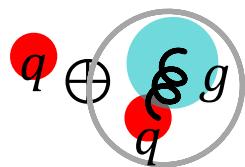
$$H_{\text{LC}}(\delta m)|\phi\rangle = m_q^2|\phi\rangle$$



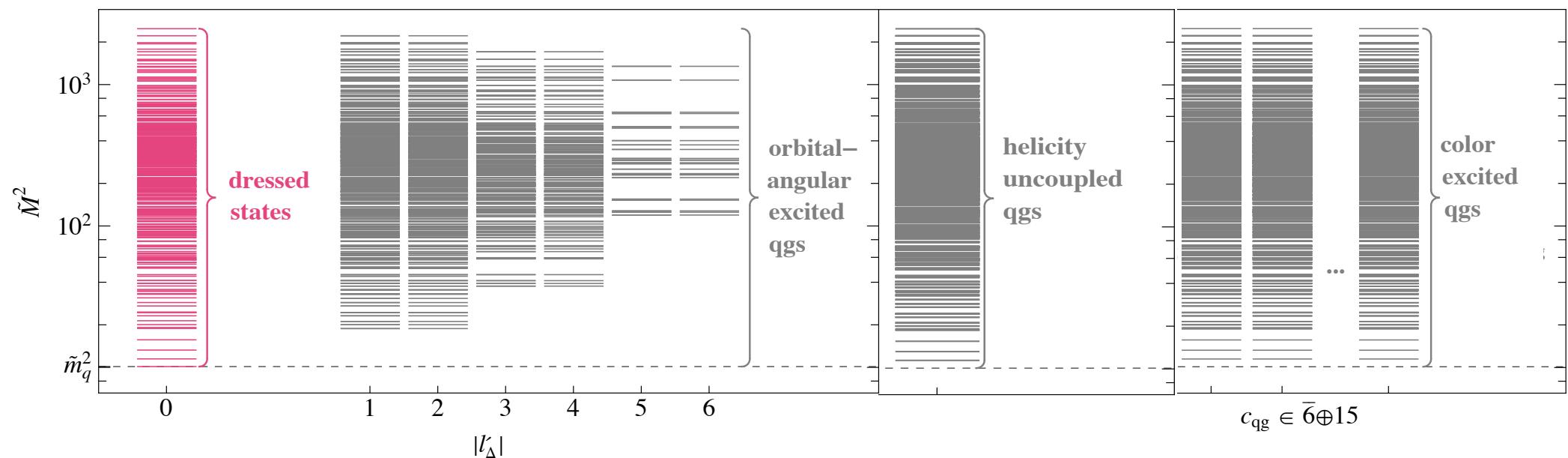
Dressed quark

- QCD eigenstates in $|q\rangle + |qg\rangle$

- the dressed states

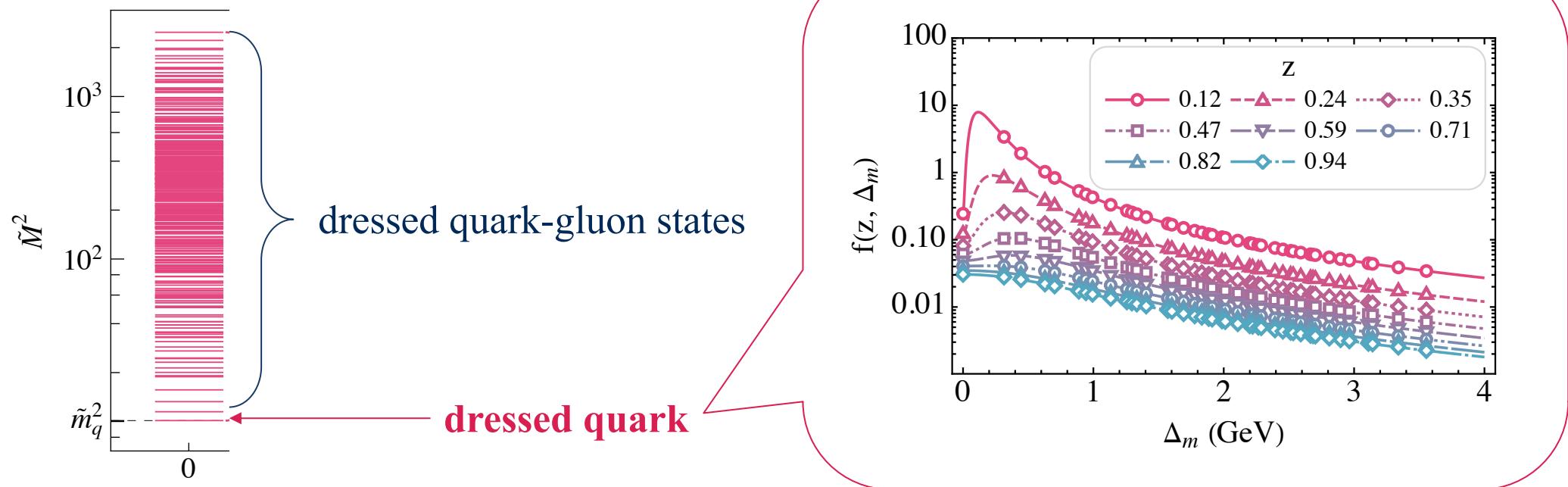


- quark-gluon states



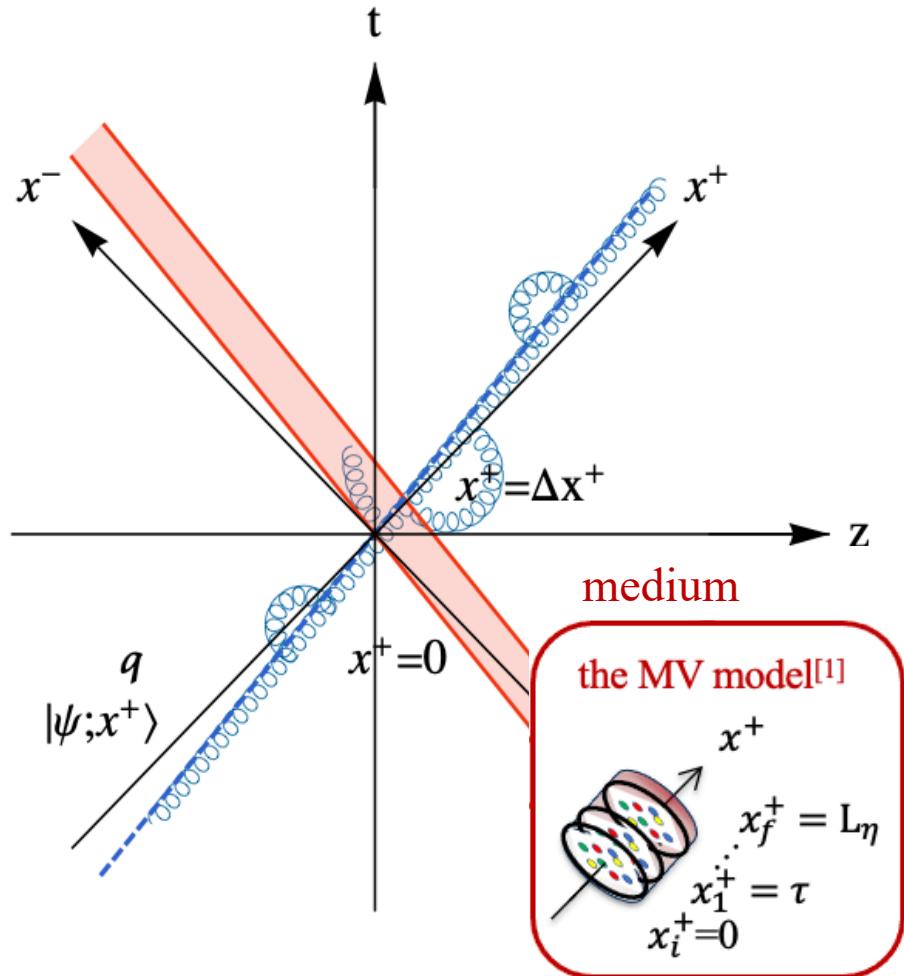
Dressed quark

- QCD eigenstates in $|q\rangle + |qg\rangle$
 - the dressed states



In-medium quark jet evolution

- The physics process



- The medium, $\mathcal{A}(x^+, \vec{x}_\perp)$, is a classical gluon field¹

- Color charges

$$\langle \rho_a(x) \rho_b(y) \rangle = g^2 \tilde{\mu}^2 \delta_{ab} \delta^{(3)}(x - y)$$

- The color field

$$(m_g^2 - \nabla_\perp^2) \mathcal{A}_a^-(x^+, \vec{x}_\perp) = \rho_a(x^+, \vec{x}_\perp)$$

where m_g is a chosen infrared regulator.

- Saturation scale: $Q_s^2 = C_F (g^2 \tilde{\mu})^2 L_\eta / (2\pi)$

¹L. D. McLerran and R. Venugopalan, Phys. Rev. D49, 2233 (1994); L. D. McLerran and R. Venugopalan, Phys. Rev. D49, 3352 (1994); L. D. McLerran and R. Venugopalan, Phys. Rev. D50, 2225 (1994).

In-medium quark jet evolution

- The evolution Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = -\frac{1}{4} F_a^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}^a + \bar{\psi} (i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m) \psi \rightarrow P^-(x^+) = P_{QCD}^- + V_A(x^+)$$

$\partial_\mu + ig(A_\mu + \mathcal{A}_\mu)$

Fock sector	$ q\rangle$	$ qg\rangle$
$\langle q $	$P_{KE}^-(m_Q = m_q + \delta m)$	
$\langle qg $		$P_{KE}^-(m_q)$

+

Fock sector	$ q\rangle$	$ qg\rangle$
$\langle q $		
$\langle qg $		

In-medium quark jet evolution

- Solve the time-evolution equation

$$\frac{1}{2} V_I(x^+) |\psi; x^+ \rangle_I = i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^+} |\psi; x^+ \rangle_I$$

- P_{KE}^- as a phase factor:

$$|\psi; x^+ \rangle_I = e^{\frac{i}{2} P_{KE}^- x^+} |\psi; x^+ \rangle, \quad V_I(x^+) = e^{\frac{i}{2} P_{KE}^- x^+} V(x^+) e^{-\frac{i}{2} P_{KE}^- x^+}$$

- Time evolution as a product of many small timesteps

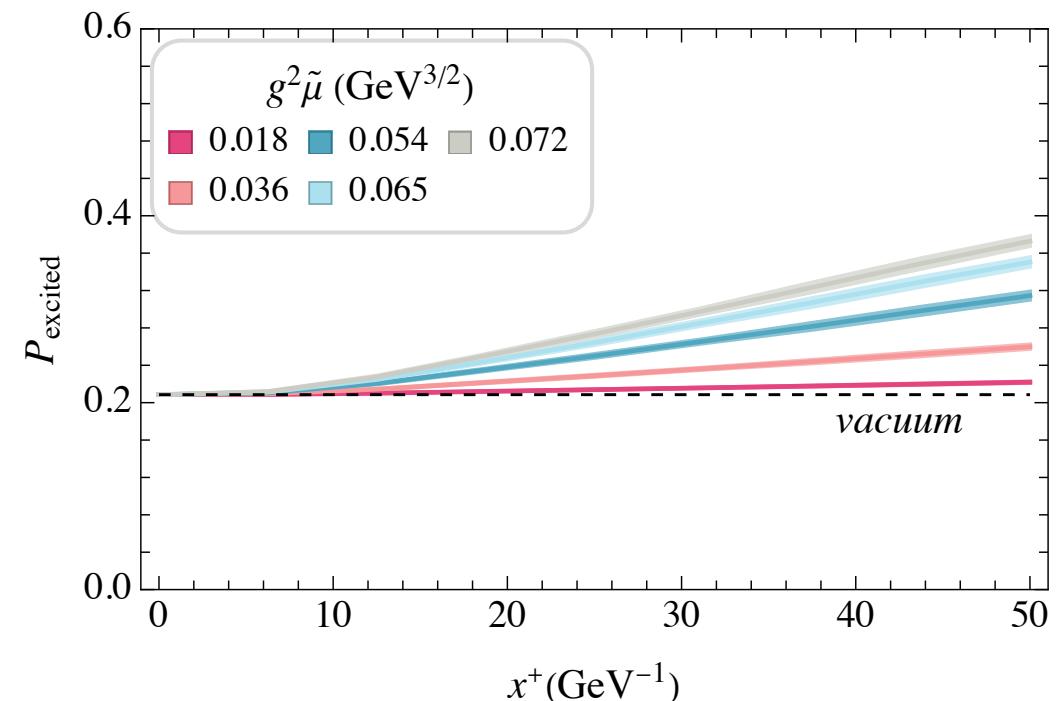
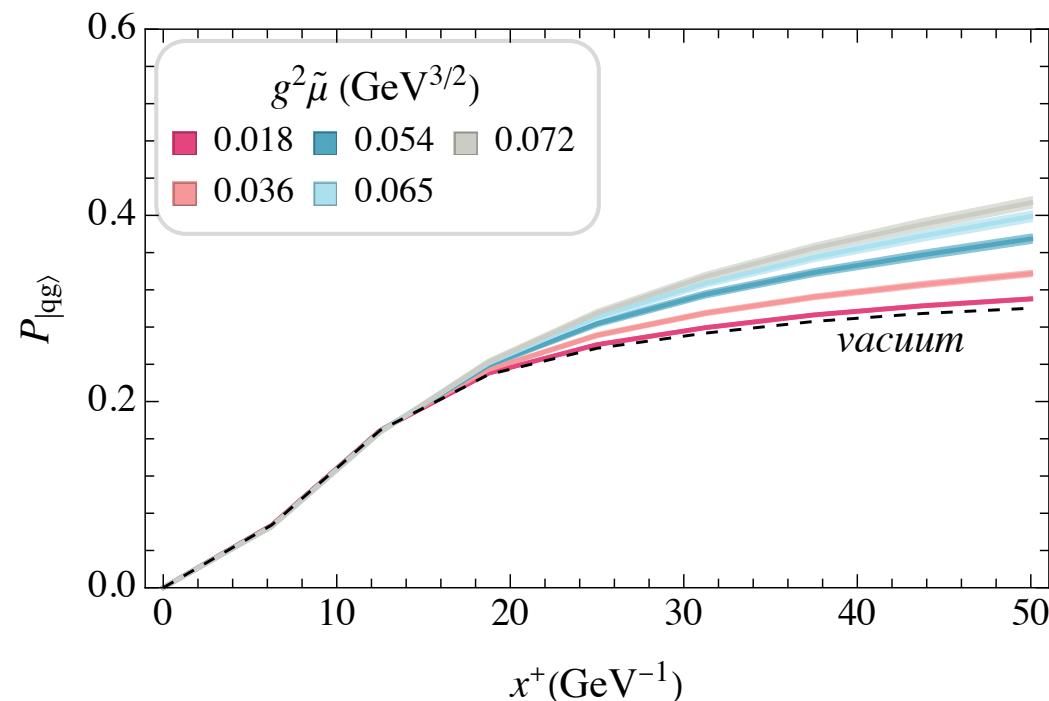
$$|\psi; x^+ \rangle_I = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{k=1}^n \underbrace{\mathcal{T}_+ \exp\left\{-\frac{i}{2} \int_{x_{k-1}^+}^{x_k^+} dz^+ V_I(z^+) \right\}}_{\substack{\text{matrix exponential in coordinate space} \\ \uparrow}} |\psi; 0 \rangle_I$$
$$\mathcal{T}_+ \exp\left\{-\frac{i}{2} \int_{x_{k-1}^+}^{x_k^+} dz^+ V_{A,I}(z^+) \right\} \times \mathcal{T}_+ \exp\left\{-\frac{i}{2} \int_{x_{k-1}^+}^{x_k^+} dz^+ V_{qg,I}(z^+) \right\}$$
$$\uparrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow$$

*matrix exponential in coordinate space +
Fast Fourier Transform, $\sim O(N_{tot} \log N_{tot})$*

*4th-order Runge-Kutta method,
 $\sim O(N_{tot})$*

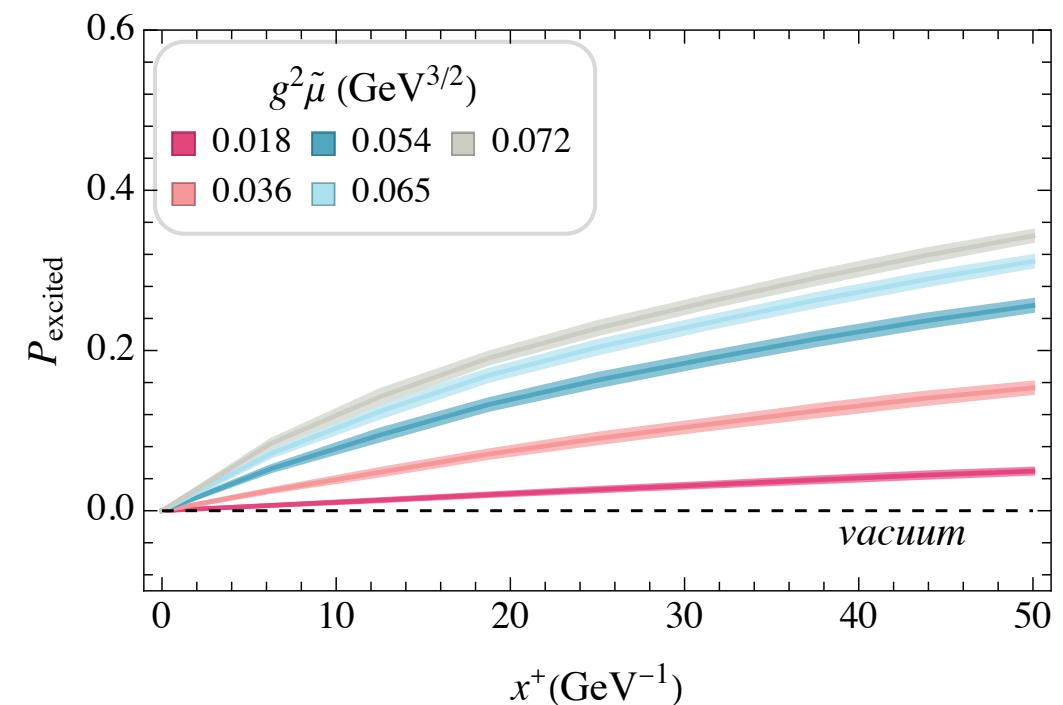
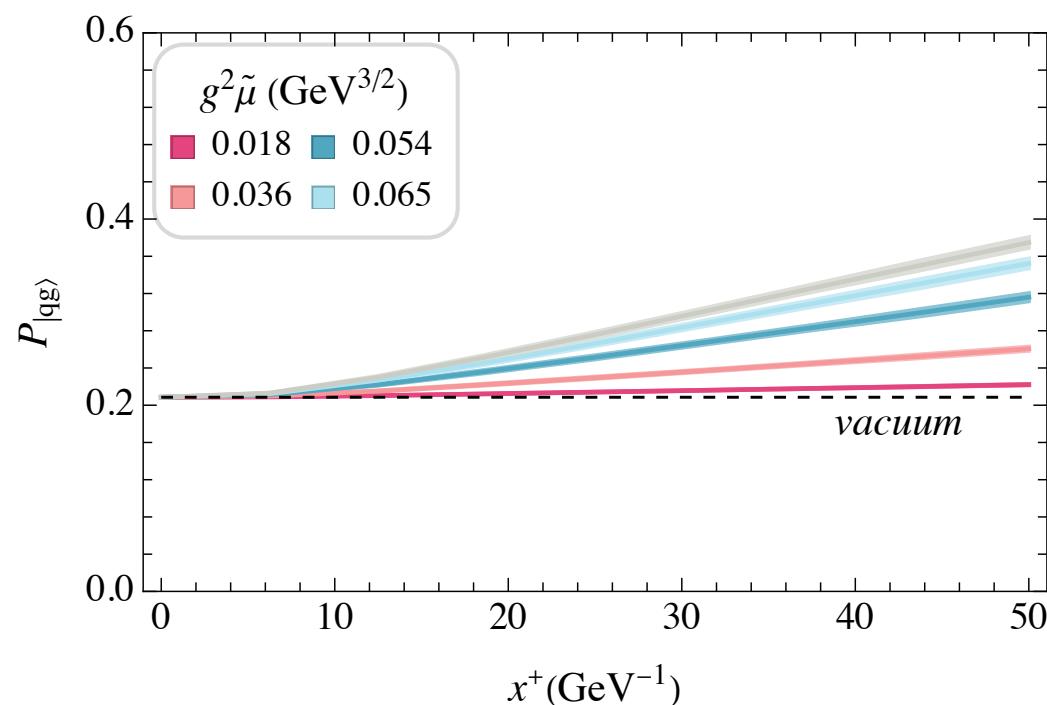
Evolution results: gluon emission

- Bare quark initial state
 - Total gluon: $P_{|qg\rangle}$
 - External gluon: $P_{excited}$



Evolution results: gluon emission

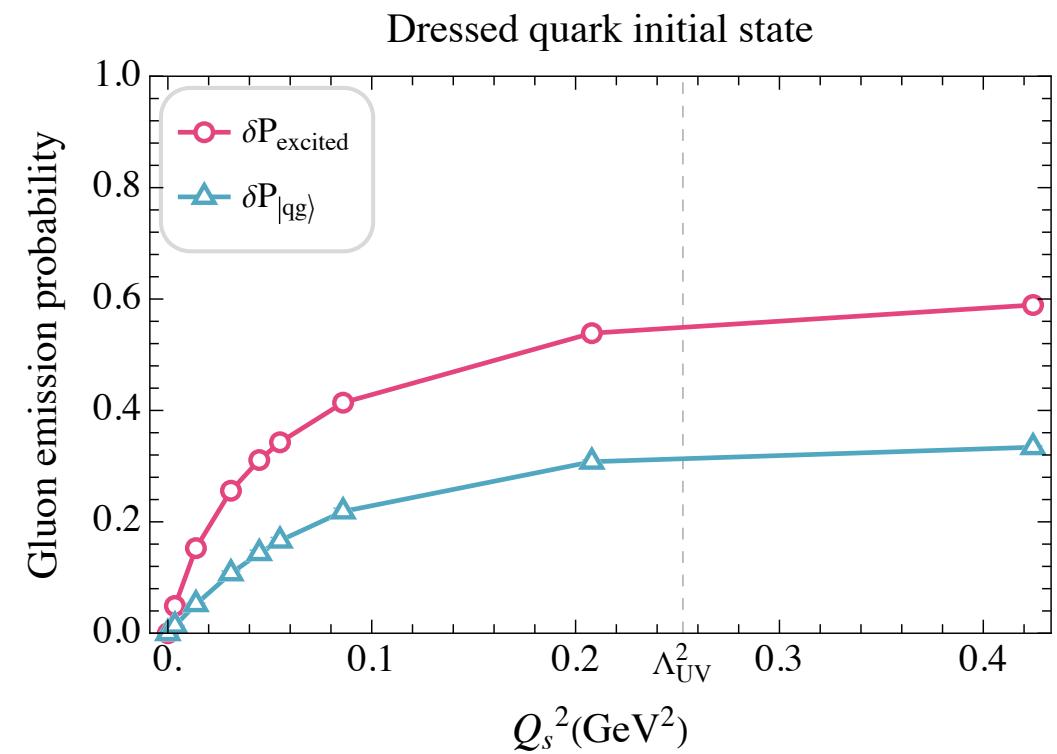
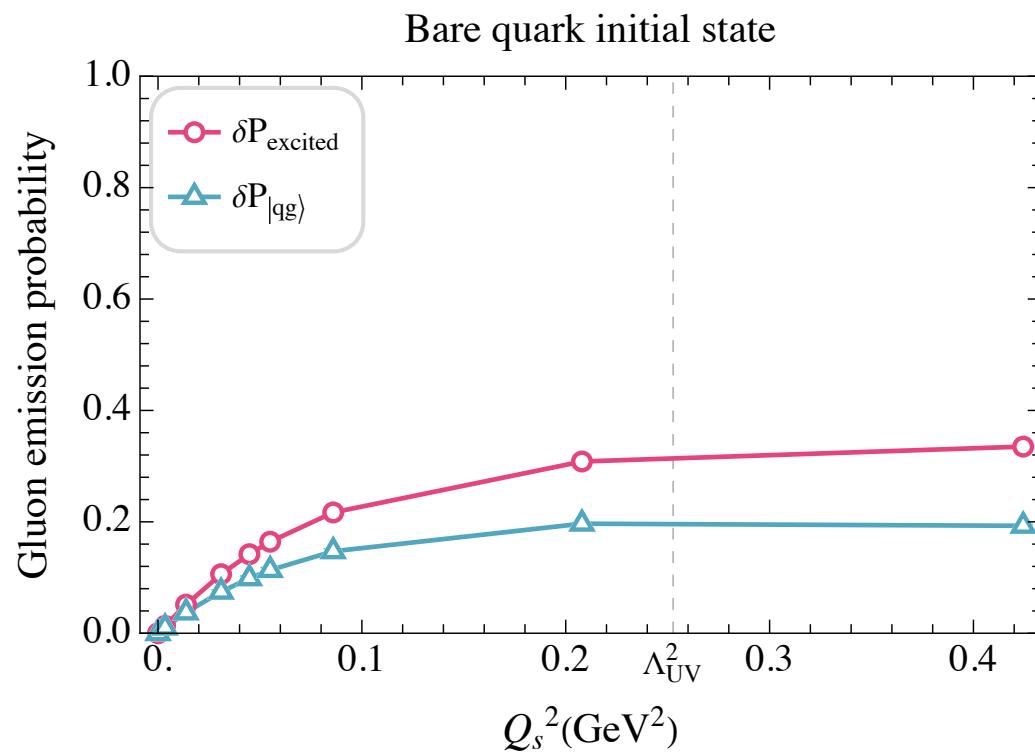
- Dressed quark initial state
 - Total gluon: $P_{|qg\rangle}$
 - External gluon: P_{excited}



Evolution results: gluon emission

- **Medium-induced gluon emission**

- Total gluon: $\delta P_{|qg\rangle}(Q_s) = P_{|qg\rangle}(Q_s) - P_{|qg\rangle}(Q_s = 0)$
- External gluon: $\delta P_{excited}(Q_s) = P_{excited}(Q_s) - P_{excited}(Q_s = 0)$

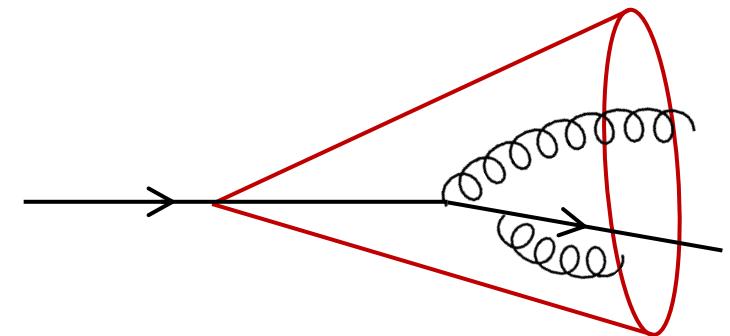


Evolution results: momentum broadening

- **Which momentum?**

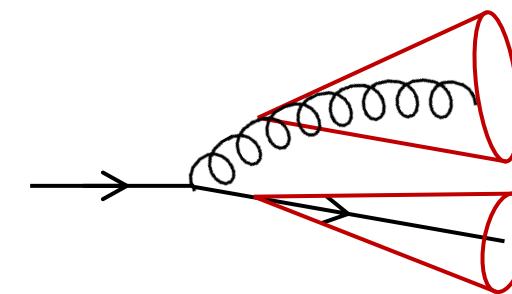
- Center of mass (CM) momentum, taking the full state as a jet

$$\langle P_{\perp,CM}^2 \rangle = P_{|q\rangle} \langle P_{\perp}^2 \rangle_{|q\rangle} + P_{|qg\rangle} \langle P_{\perp}^2 \rangle_{|qg\rangle}$$



- Quark momentum, in-jet or dijet structure

$$\langle P_{\perp,q}^2 \rangle = P_{|q\rangle} \langle P_{\perp}^2 \rangle_{|q\rangle} + P_{|qg\rangle} \langle p_{\perp,q}^2 \rangle_{|qg\rangle}$$

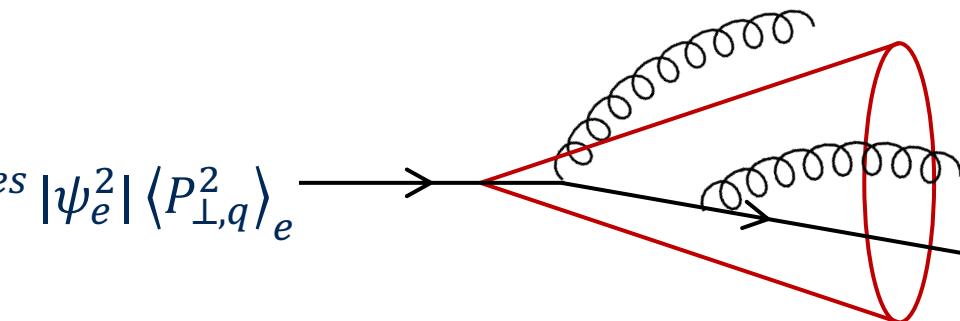


- Gluon momentum, in-jet or dijet structure

$$\langle P_{\perp,g}^2 \rangle = P_{|qg\rangle} \langle p_{\perp,g}^2 \rangle_{|qg\rangle}$$

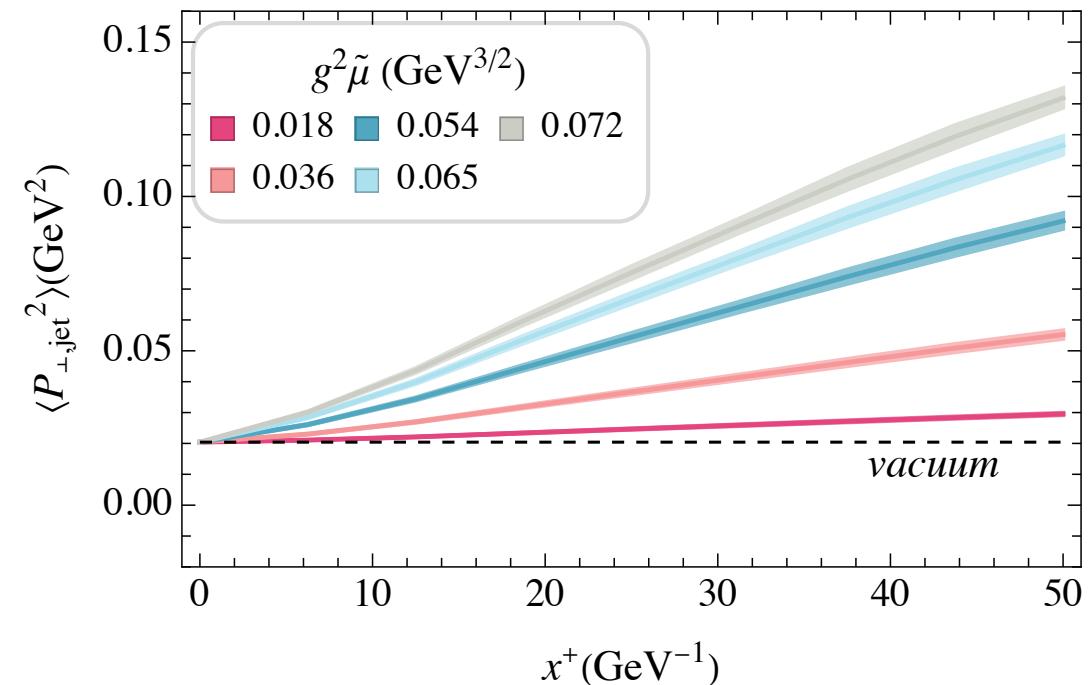
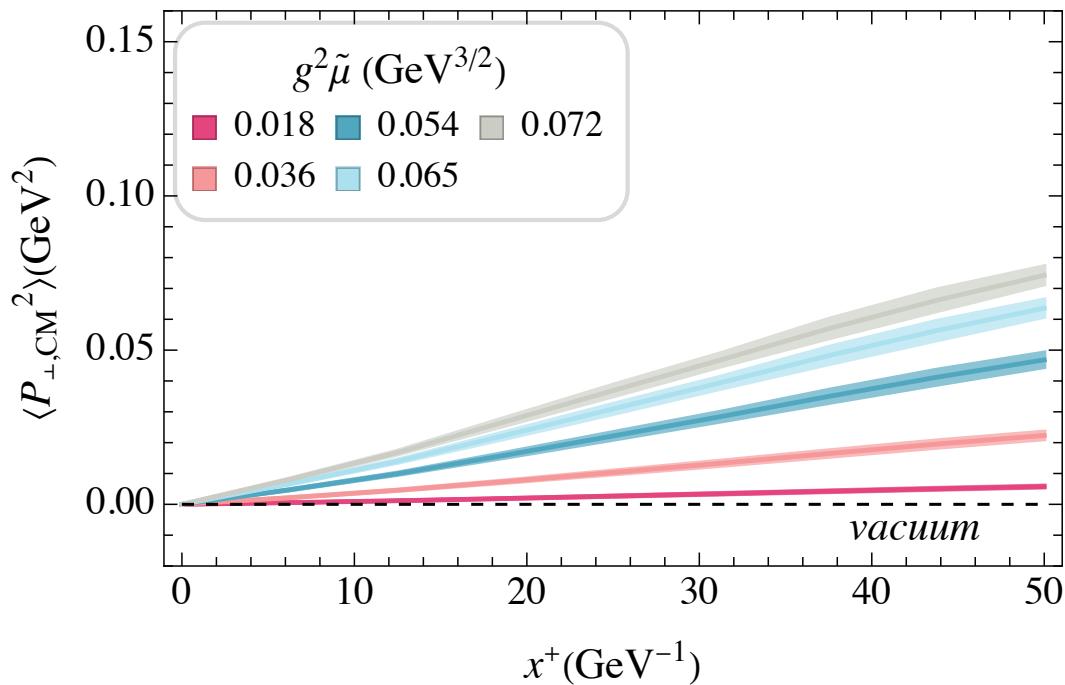
- Jet momentum, taking away external gluons

$$\langle P_{\perp,jet}^2 \rangle = \sum_d^{dressed quark} |\psi_d|^2 \langle P_{\perp}^2 \rangle_d + \sum_e^{excited states} |\psi_e|^2 \langle P_{\perp,q}^2 \rangle_e$$



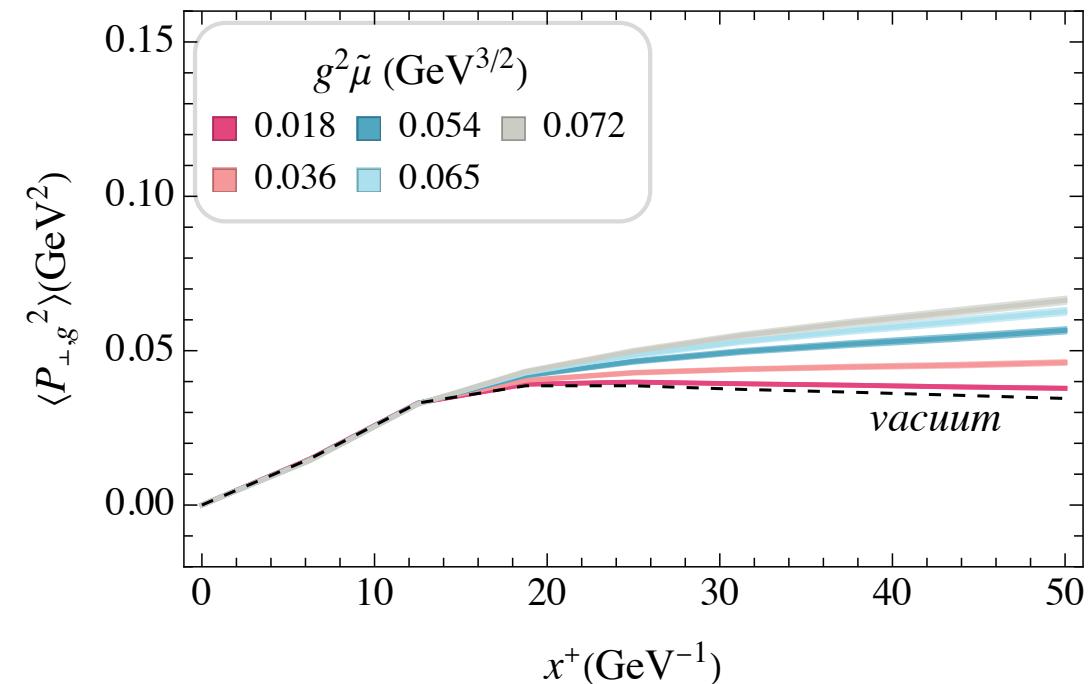
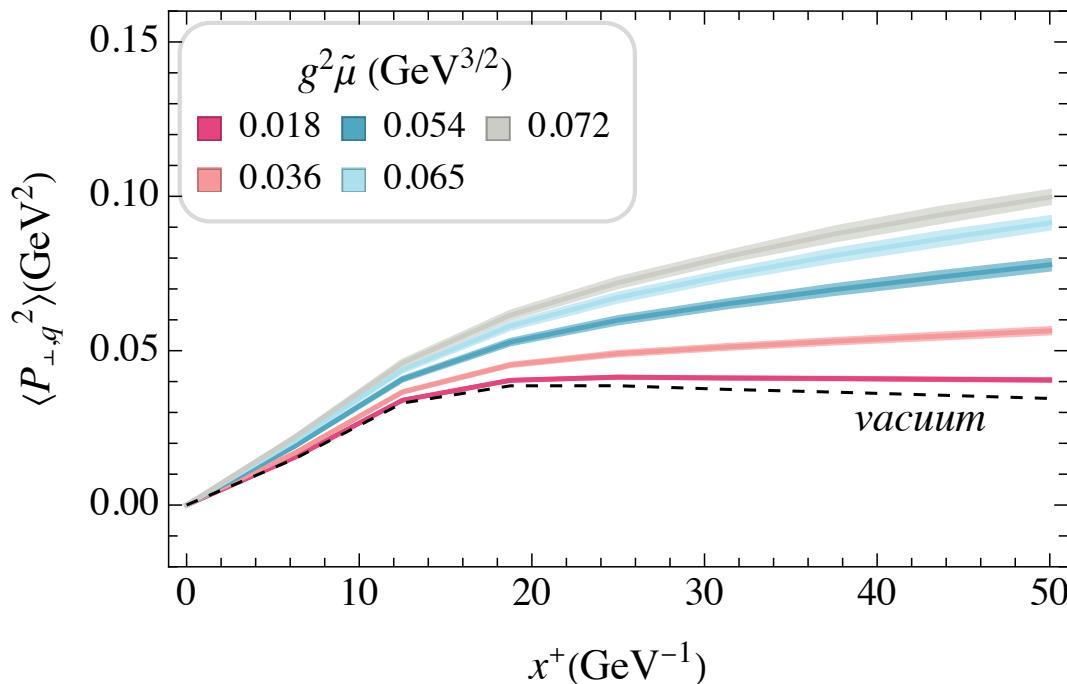
Evolution results: momentum broadening

- Bare quark initial state
 - Momentum broadening is more profound at a stronger medium
 - Jet momentum is larger than CM momentum



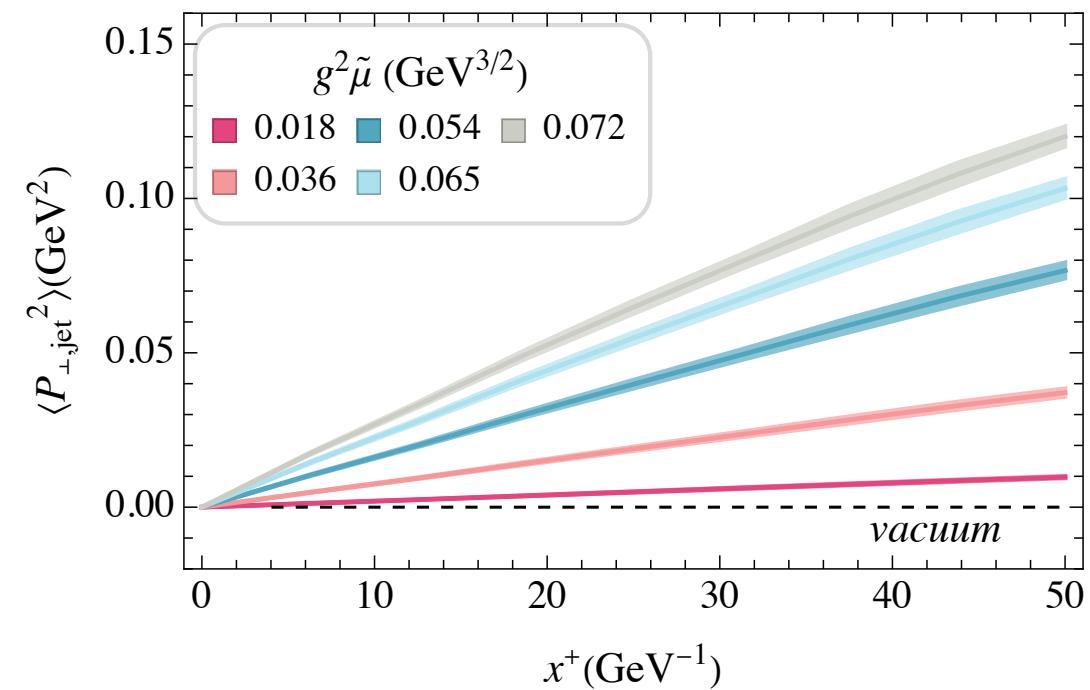
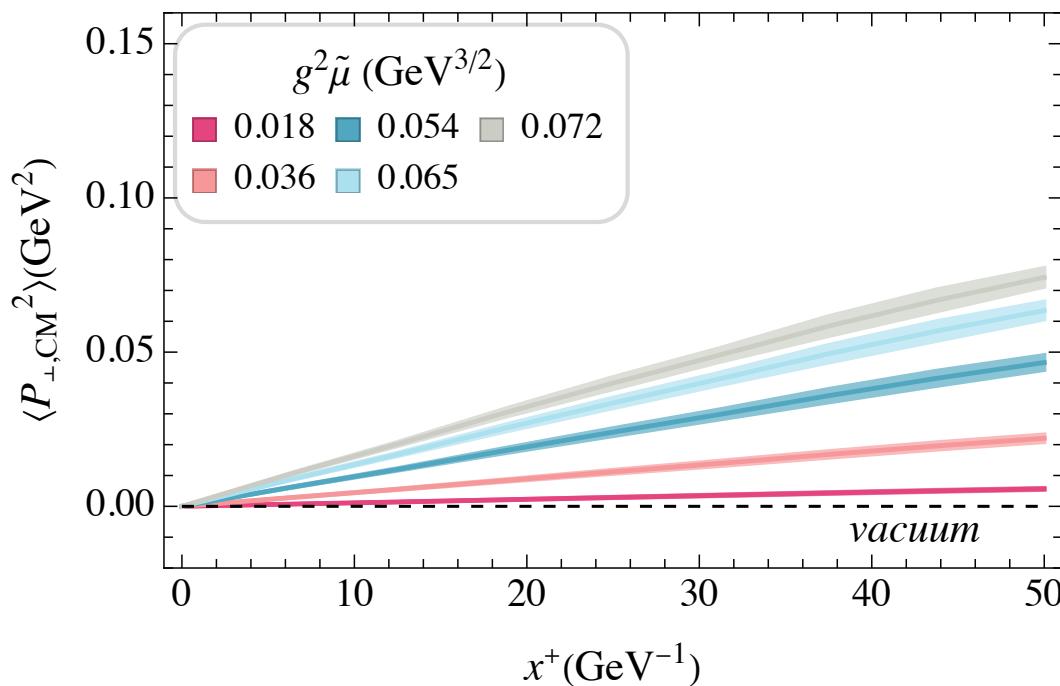
Evolution results: momentum broadening

- Bare quark initial state
 - Quark and gluon momenta change in vacuum
 - Quark momentum increases faster than gluon in medium



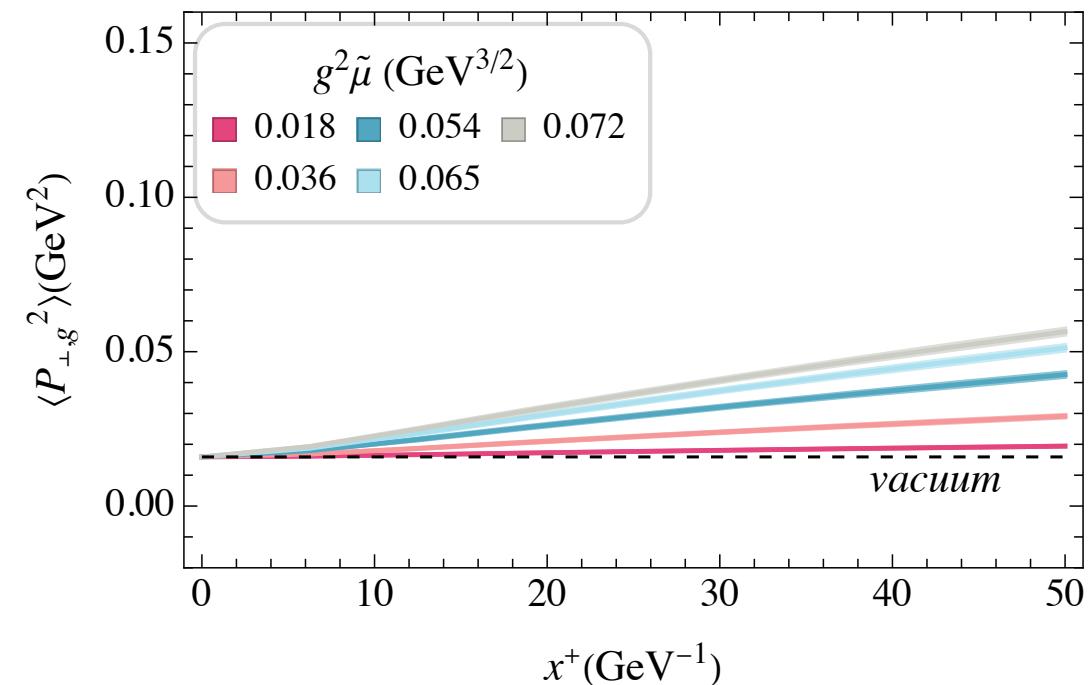
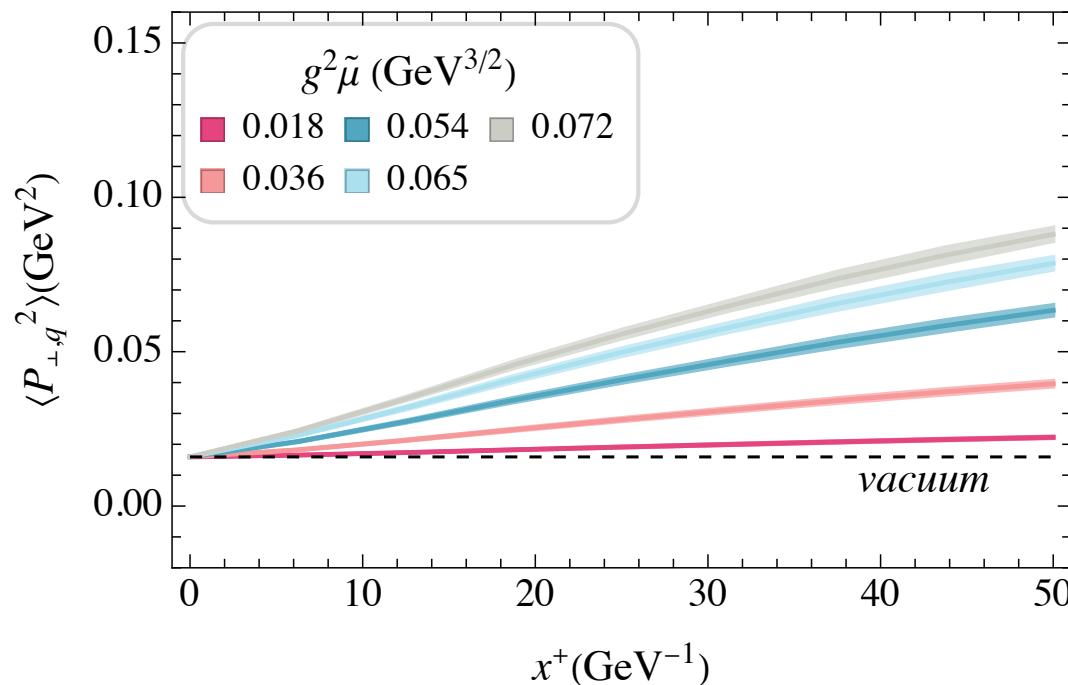
Evolution results: momentum broadening

- Dressed quark initial state
 - Momentum broadening is more profound at a stronger medium
 - Jet momentum is larger than CM momentum



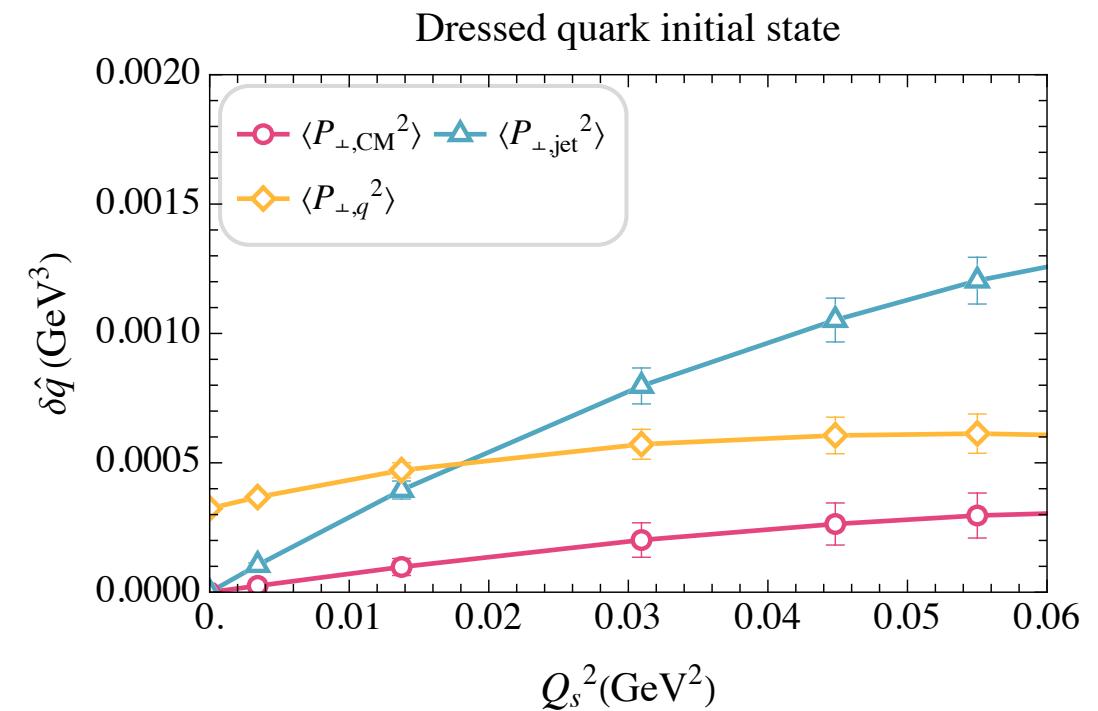
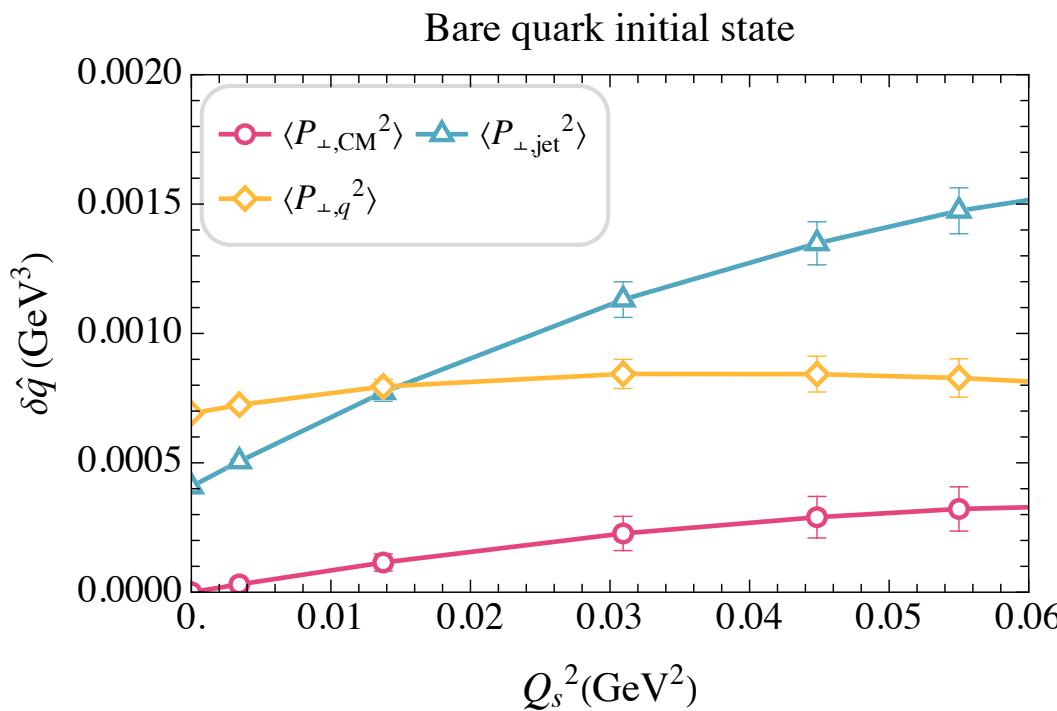
Evolution results: momentum broadening

- Dressed quark initial state
 - Quark and gluon momenta are constant in vacuum
 - Quark momentum increases faster than gluon in medium



Evolution results: momentum broadening

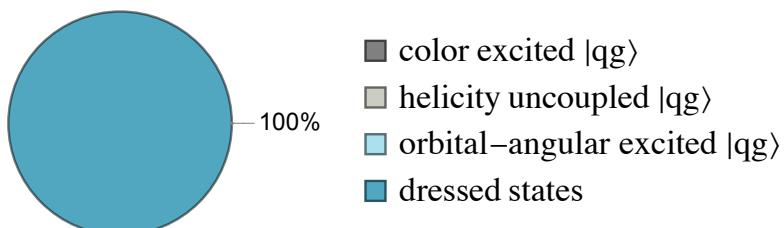
- “NLO” Fock sector contribution
 - Quenching parameter $\hat{q} \equiv \Delta\langle P_{\perp}^2 \rangle / \Delta x^+$
 - Non-eikonal effect: $\delta\hat{q} = \hat{q} - \hat{q}_{single\ q}$



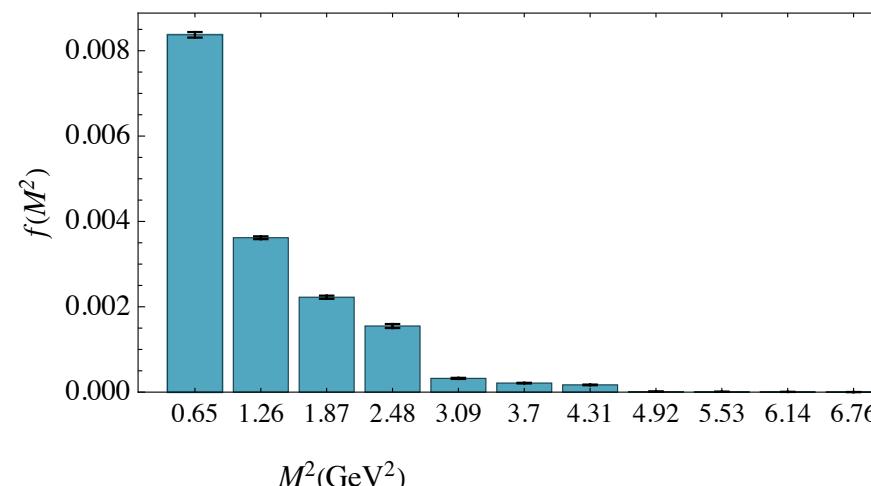
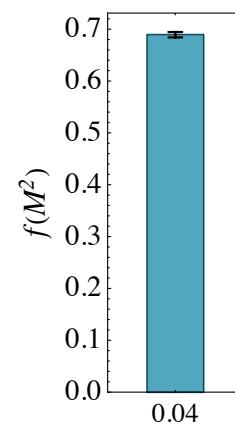
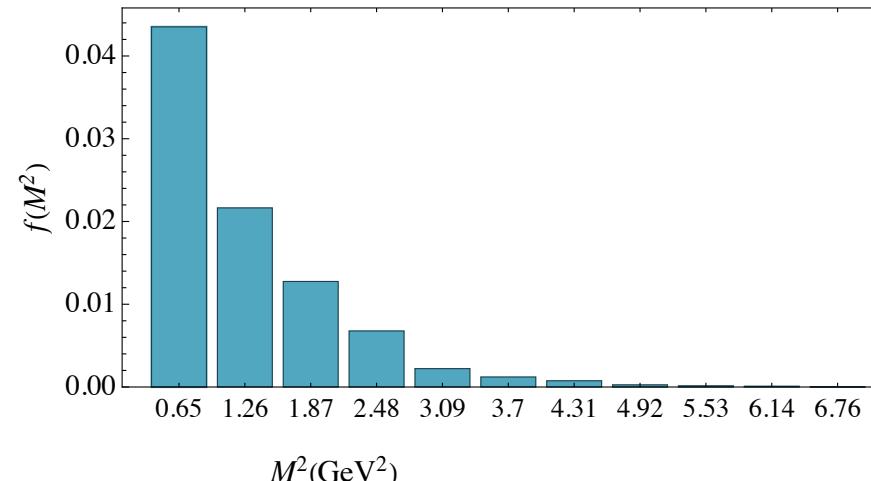
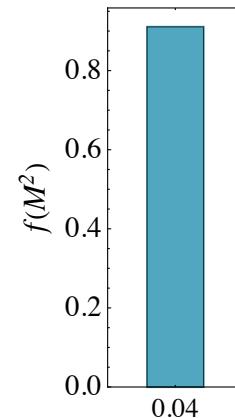
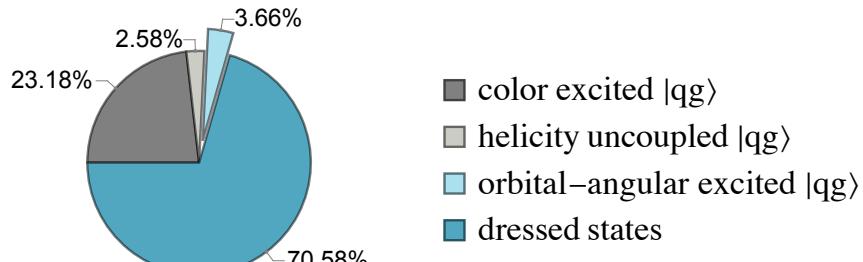
Evolution results: spectral distribution

- Bare quark initial & evolved states

initial



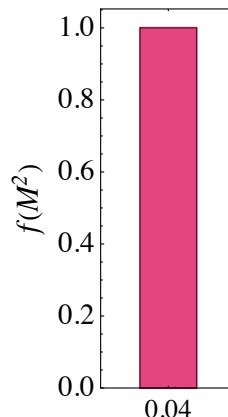
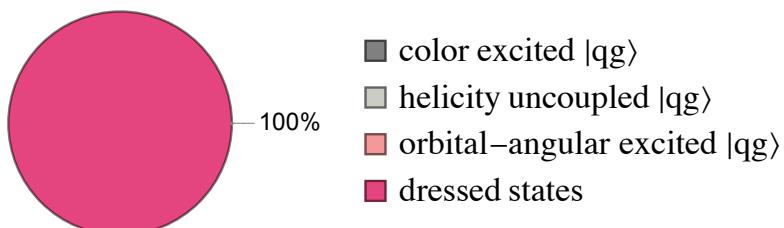
evolved



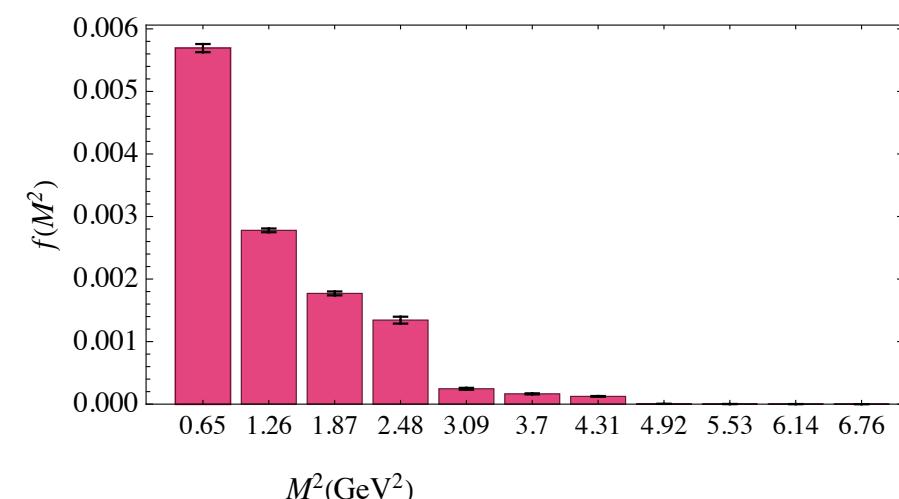
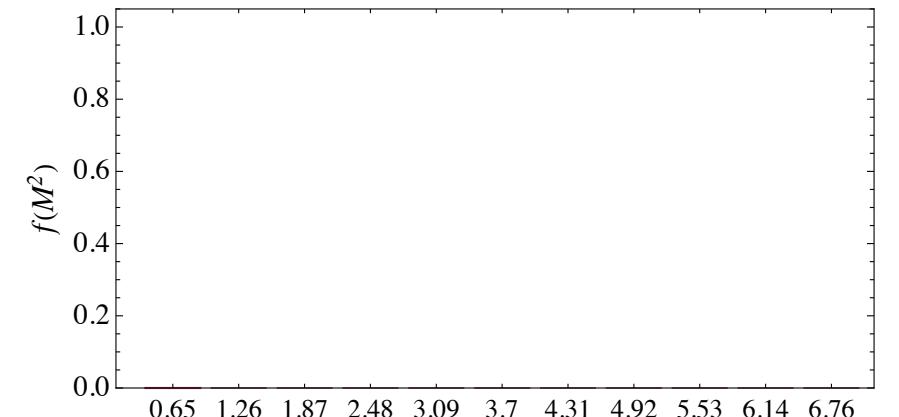
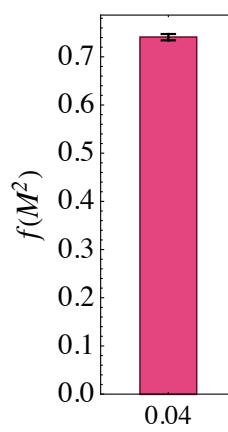
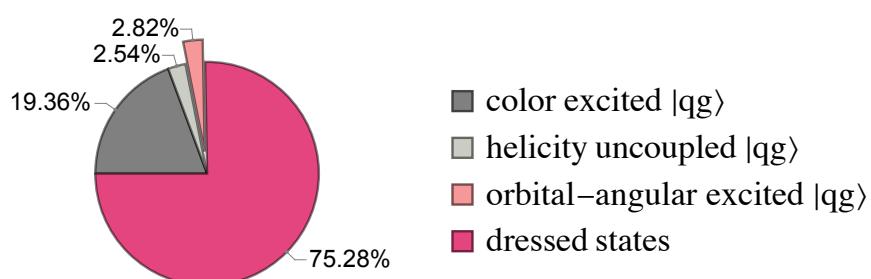
Evolution results: spectral distribution

- Dressed quark initial & evolved states

initial



evolved



Summary and outlooks

- We applied a light-front Hamiltonian approach, BLFQ and tBLFQ, to study in-medium quark jet evolution:
 1. we obtained the dressed quark states and the excited states
 2. we analyzed gluon emission from non-perturbative perspectives
 3. we extracted non-eikonal effect of momentum broadening
- Further applications
 1. Jet phenomenon, in-jet and dijet structures
 2. Quantum simulation of QCD jets → [W. Qian's seminar on Thursday]
 3. Jet evolution in Glasma

Thank you!

Evolution results: cross section

- Bare/dressed quark scattering off the medium

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d^2 b} = \sum_{\phi_{out}} |M(\phi_{out}; \psi_{in})|^2 = \sum_{\phi_{out}} |\langle \phi_{out} | \psi_{out} \rangle - \langle \phi_{out} | \psi_{in} \rangle|^2$$

