

QCD low x evolution & the onset of gluon saturation in exclusive photo-production of vector mesons

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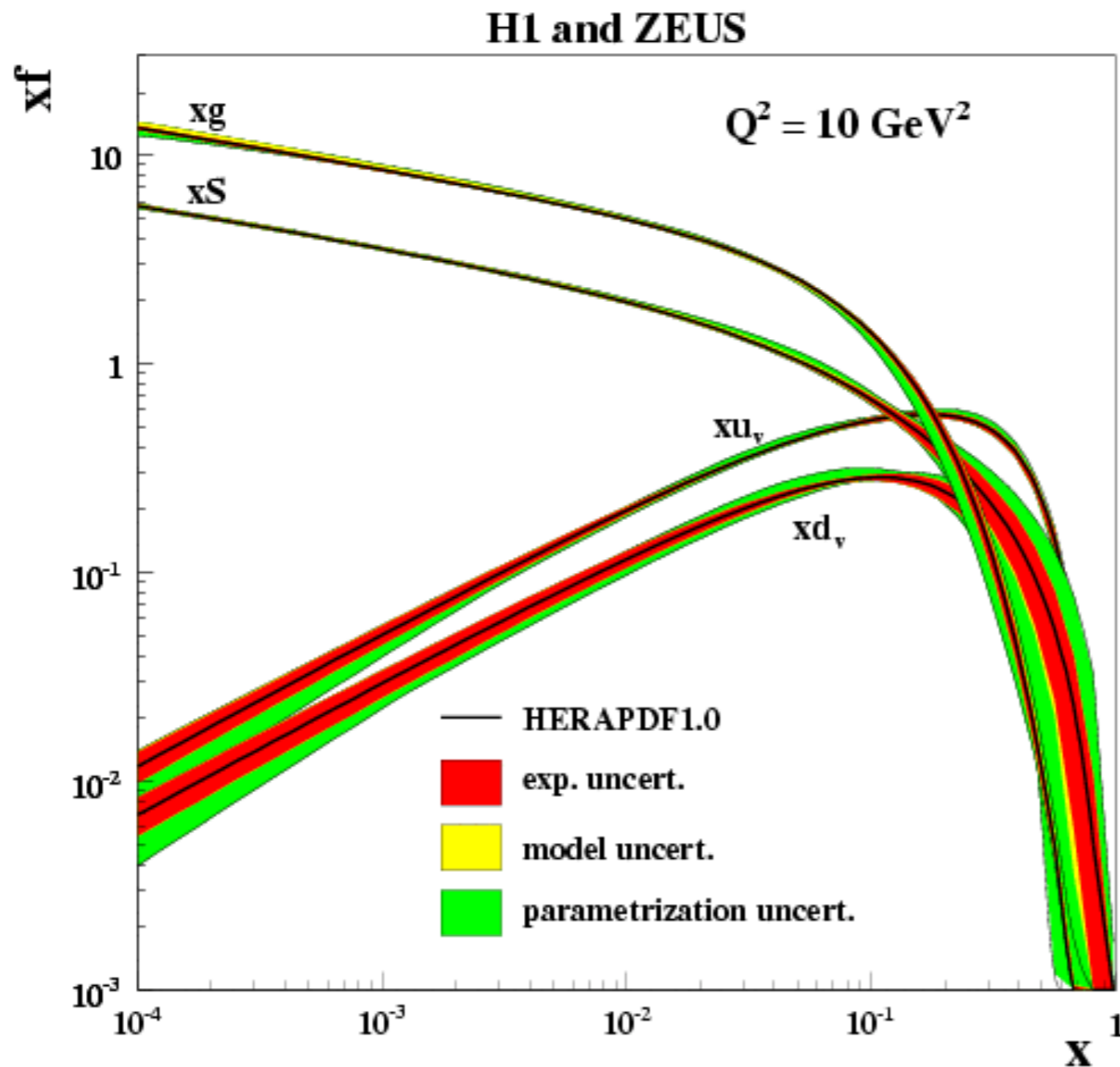
in collaboration with **Krzysztof Kutak** (IPN Cracow) and **Alfredo Arroyo Garcia** (UDLAP)

[arXiv:1904.04394](https://arxiv.org/abs/1904.04394)

Experimental fact + theory prediction (BFKL):

[Fadin, Lipatov, Kuraev, PLB429 (1998) 127],
[Balitsky, Lipatov, Sov.J.Nucl.Phys. 28 (1978)]

power like
growth of the
gluon
distribution at
low x

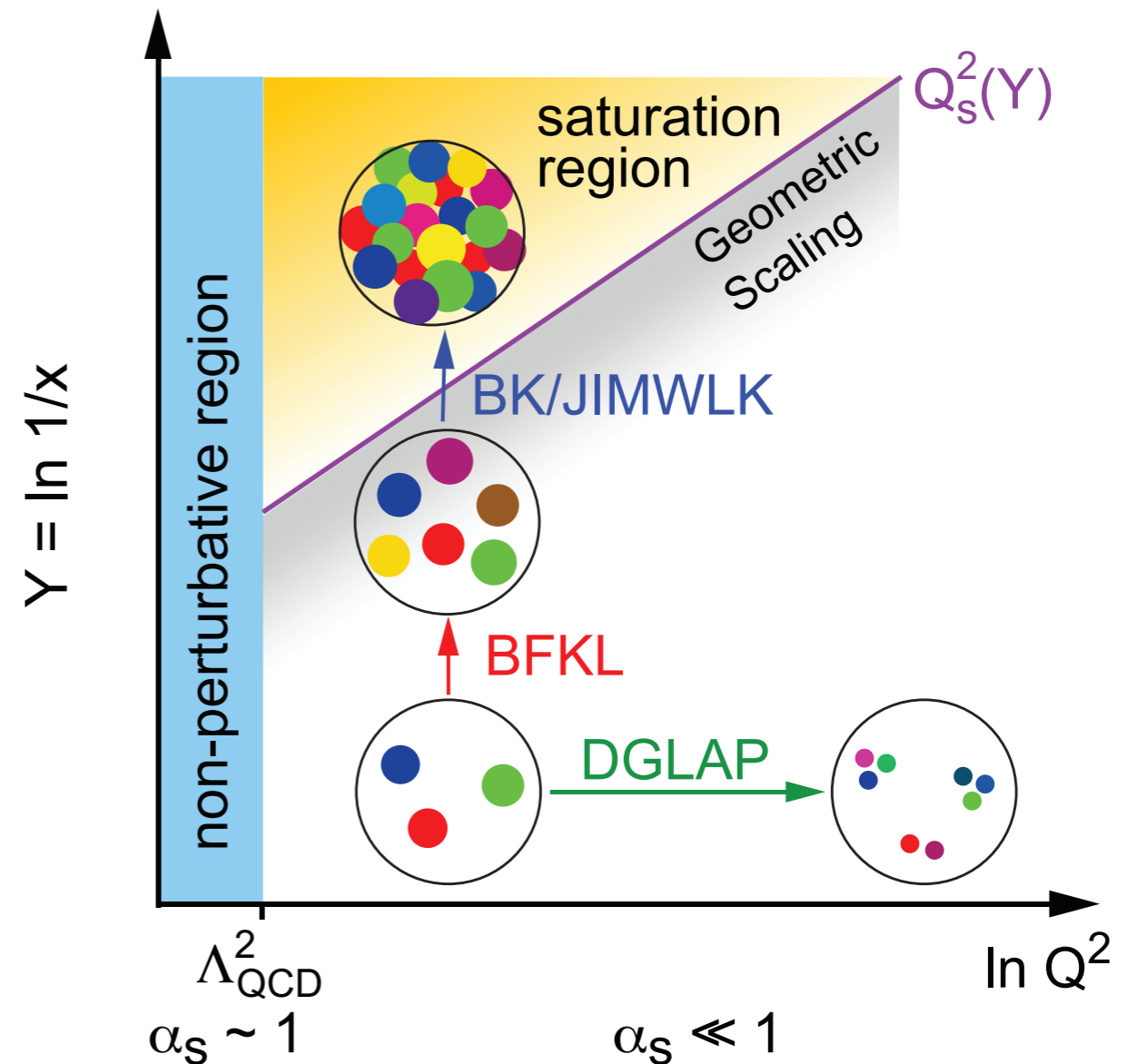


Saturation of gluon densities at low x

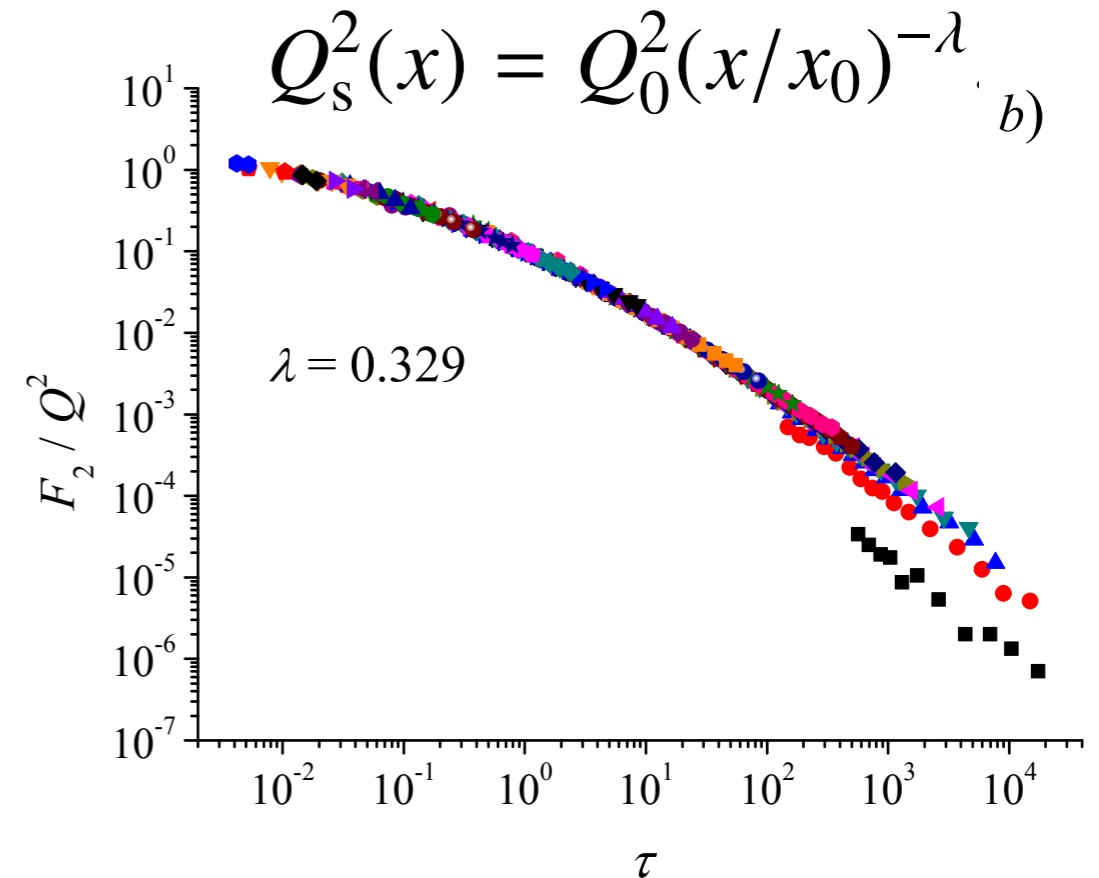
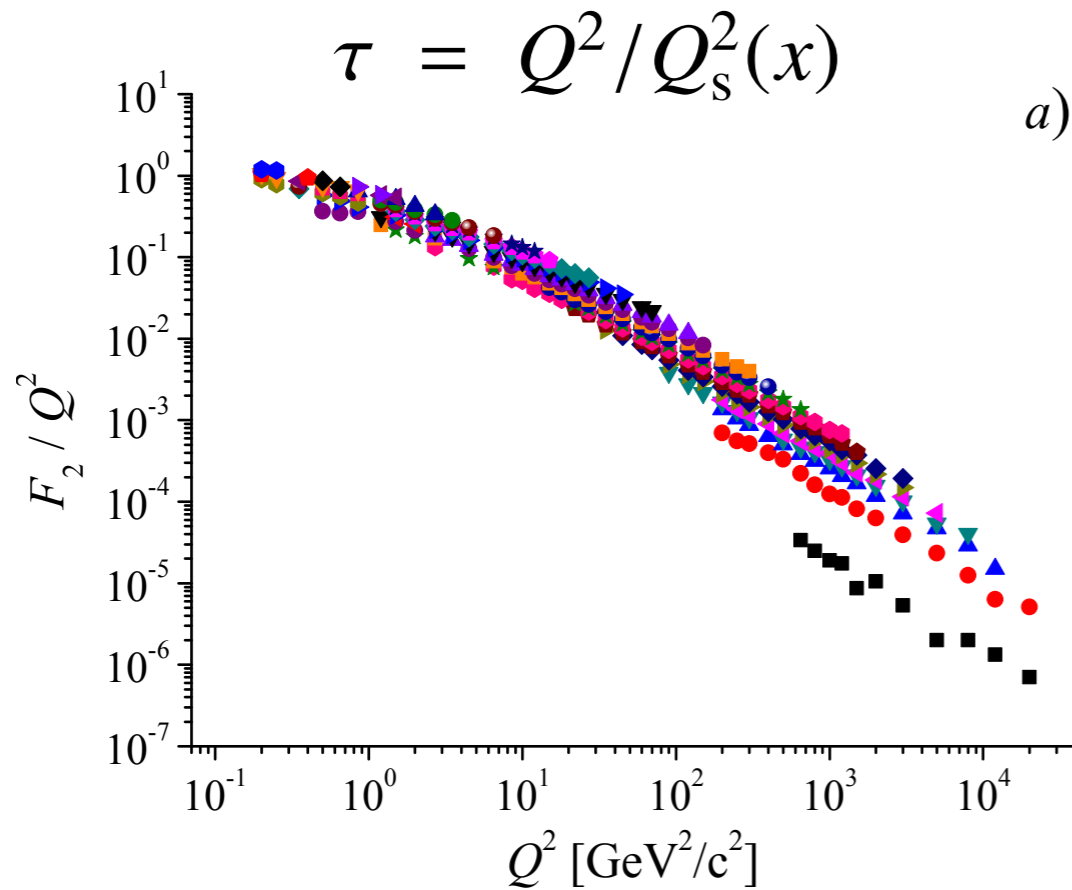
[Gribov, Levin & Ryskin Phys. Rept. 100 (1983)]

Color Glass Condensate effective theory: [McLerran, Venugopalan PRD 49 (1994) 3352]

- if continued forever, power like growth of violates unitarity bounds
- in the limit $x=Q^2/s \rightarrow 0$: copies production of gluons = high parton densities
- high densities slow down/stop growth of low x gluon: saturation



Phenomenological evidence: geometric scaling



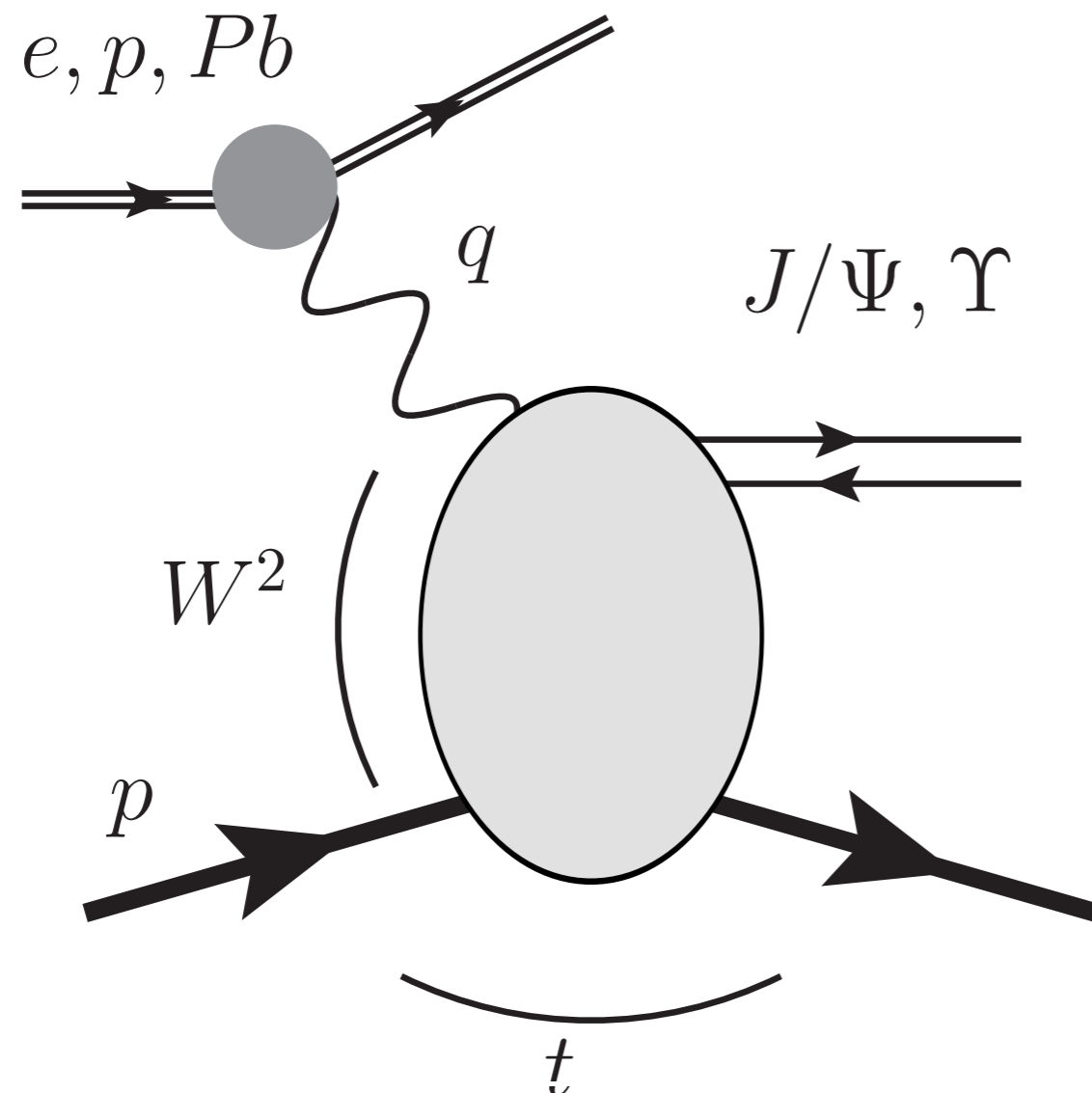
[Praszalowicz, Stebel, JHEP 1303, 090 (2013); JHEP 1304, 169 (2013)]

also:

- BK fits to low x data
- di-hadron de-correlation
- application to heavy ion collisions & high multiplicity events

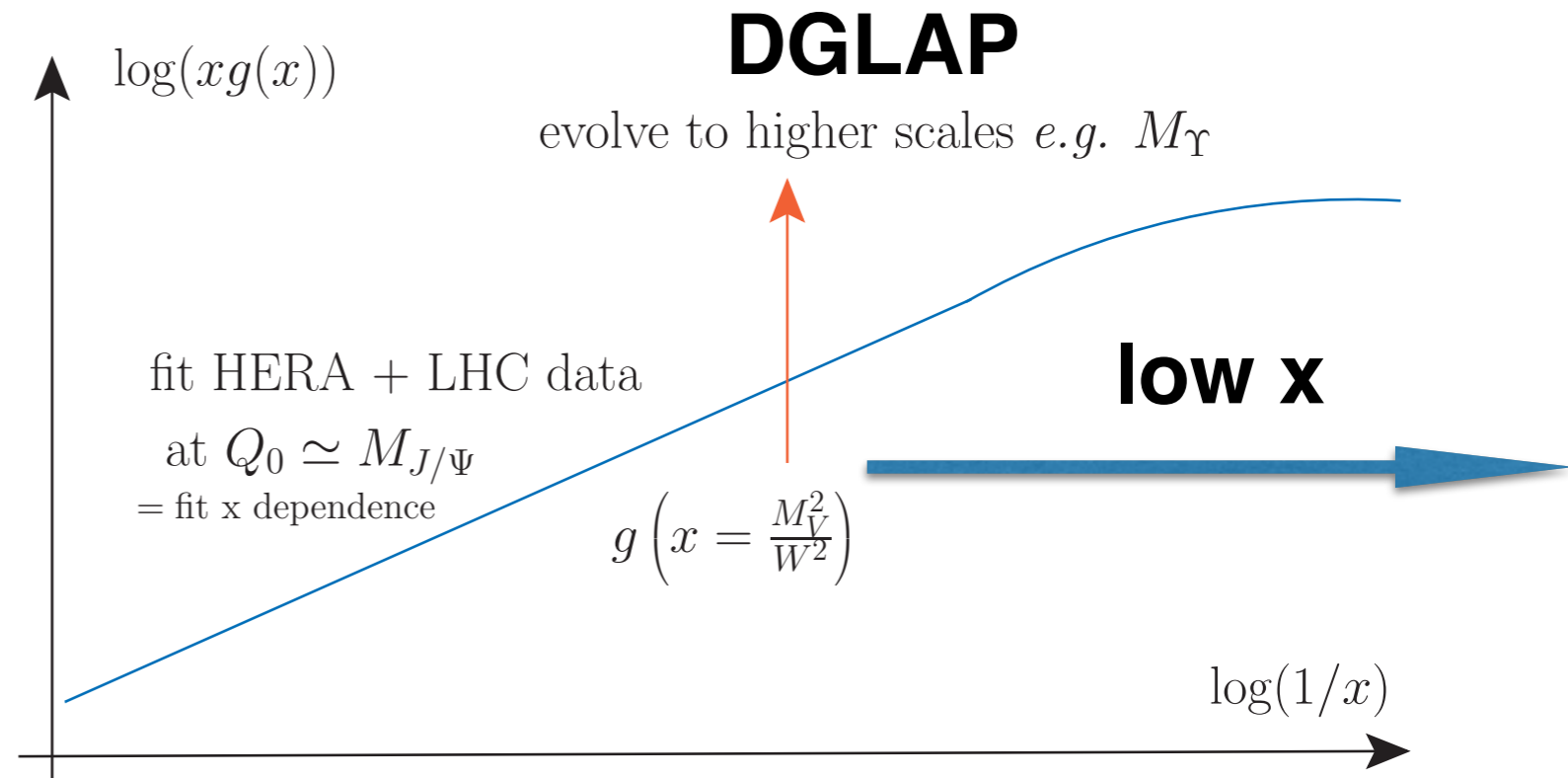
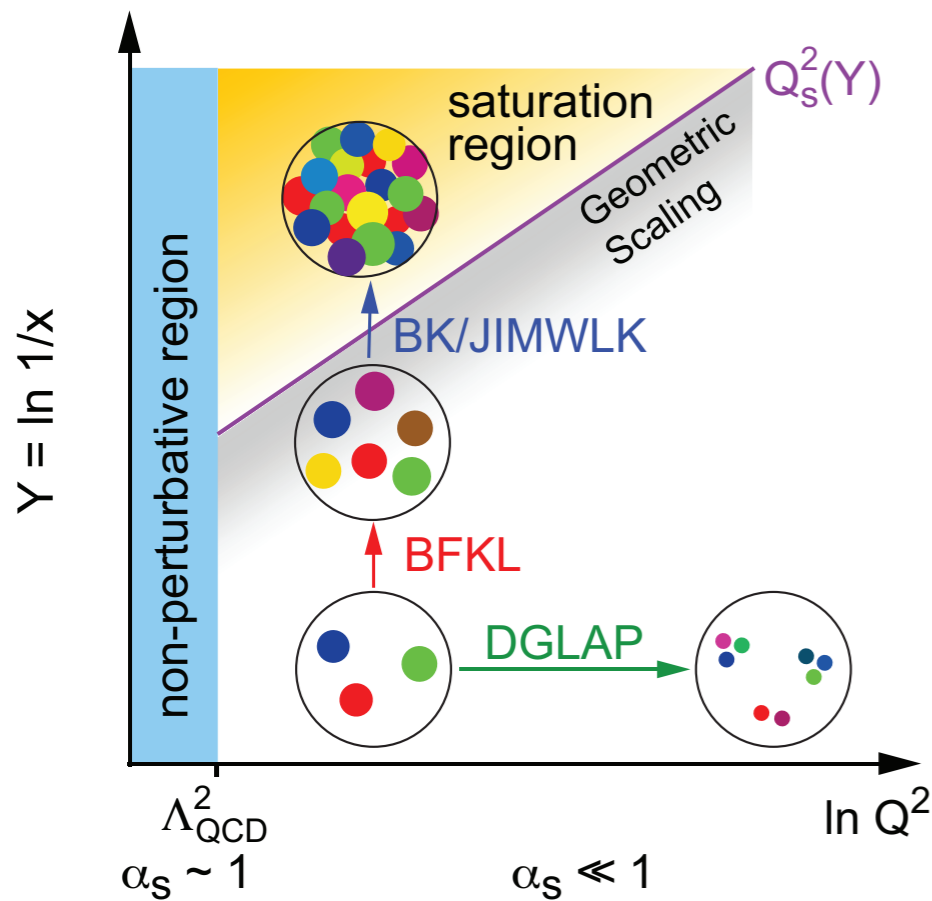
Can we see it in a more direct way? As a consequence of evolution?

A process to explore the low x gluon at the LHC: exclusive photo-production of J/Ψ s



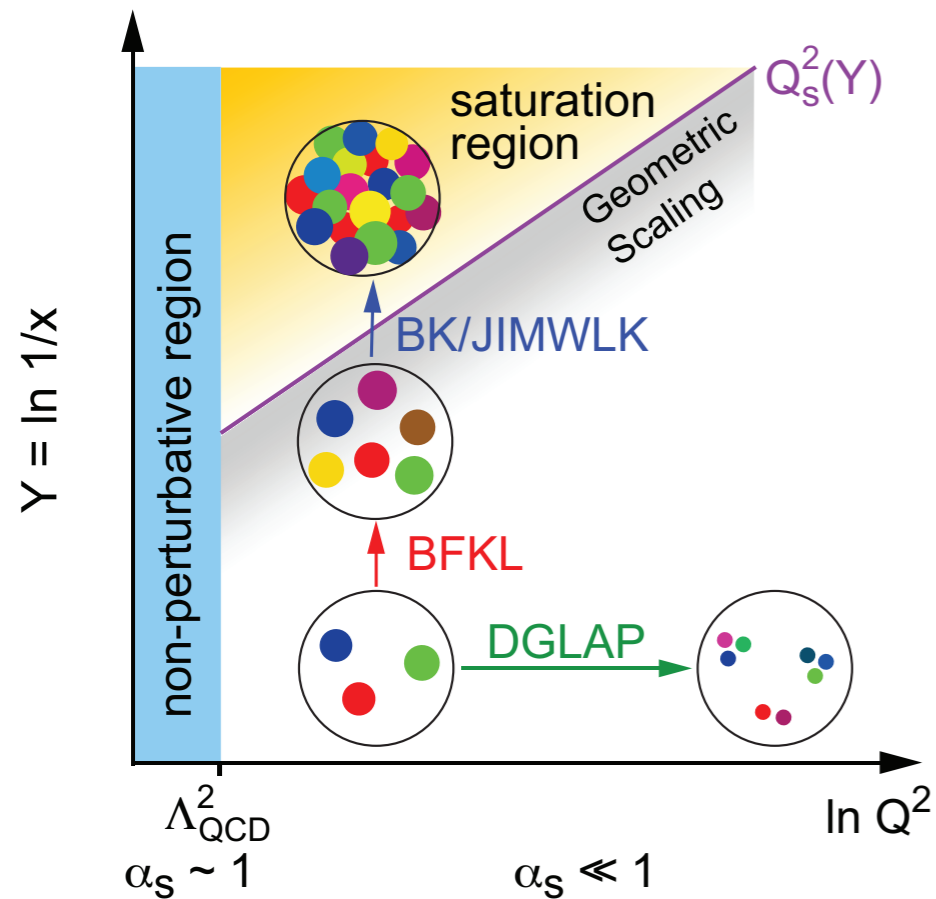
- hard scale: charm mass (small, but perturbative)
- reach up to $x \gtrsim 5 \cdot 10^{-6}$
- perturbative cross-check: Υ (b-mass)
- measured at **LHC** (LHCb, ALICE, CMS) & **HERA** (H1, ZEUS)

schematic vs. reality



DGLAP:

- fit x -dependence + evolve from J/Ψ (2.4 GeV^2) to Υ (22.4 GeV^2)
 - DGLAP shifts large x input (low scales) to low x (high scales)
+ higher twist dies away fast in evolution
- constrain pdfs, but don't learn about saturation (easily overseen)



our study:

- instead of DGLAP vs low x
- linear low x (BFKL) vs. non-linear low x (BK)
- failure of BFKL = sign for BK
→ high & saturated gluon

details:

BK evolution for dipole amplitude $N(x, r) \in [0, 1]$ [related to gluon distribution]

kernel
calculated in
pQCD

non-linear term
relevant for $N \sim 1$
(=high density)

$$\frac{dN(x, r)}{d \ln \frac{1}{x}} = \int d^2 \mathbf{r}_1 K(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_1) [N(x, \mathbf{r}_1) + N(x, \mathbf{r}_2) - N(x, \mathbf{r}) - N(x, \mathbf{r}_1)N(x, \mathbf{r}_2)]$$

linear BFKL evolution = subset of
complete BK

linear low x evolution as benchmark → requires precision

use: HSS NLO BFKL fit

[MH, Salas, Sabio Vera; 1209.1353; 1301.5283]

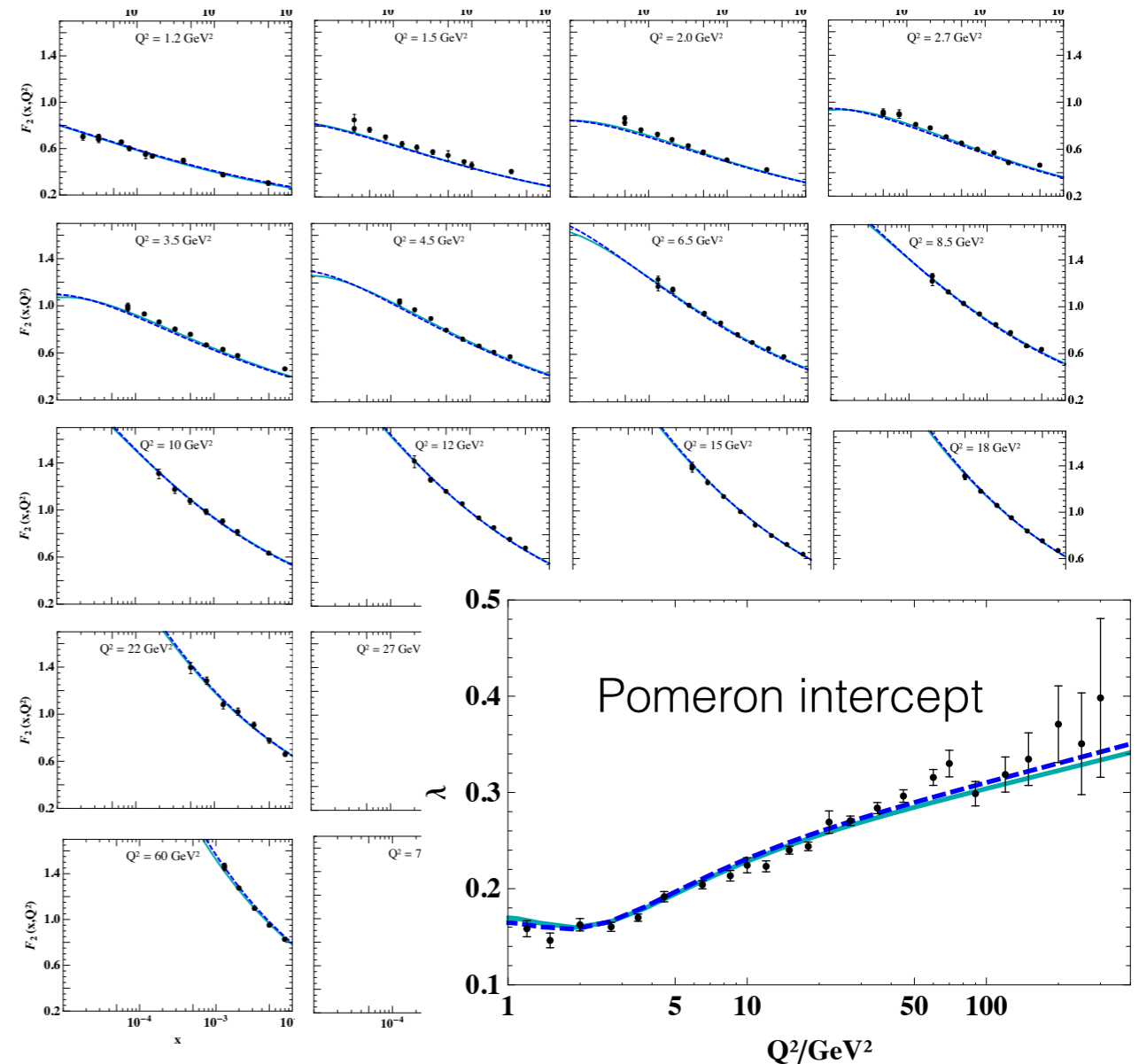
- uses NLO BFKL kernel

[Fadin, Lipatov; PLB 429 (1998) 127]

+ resummation of collinear logarithms

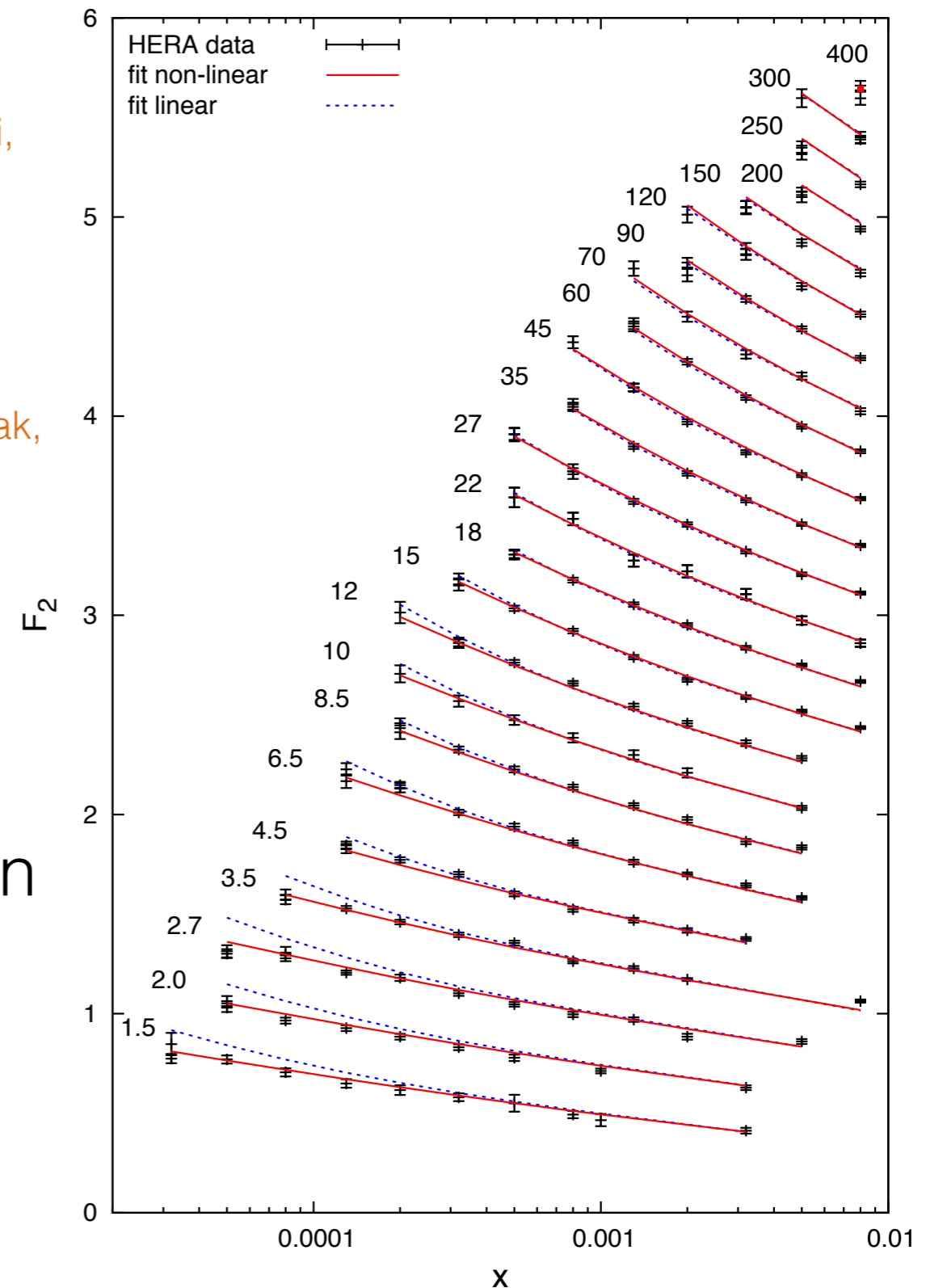
- initial kT distribution from fit to combined HERA data

[H1 & ZEUS collab. 0911.0884]

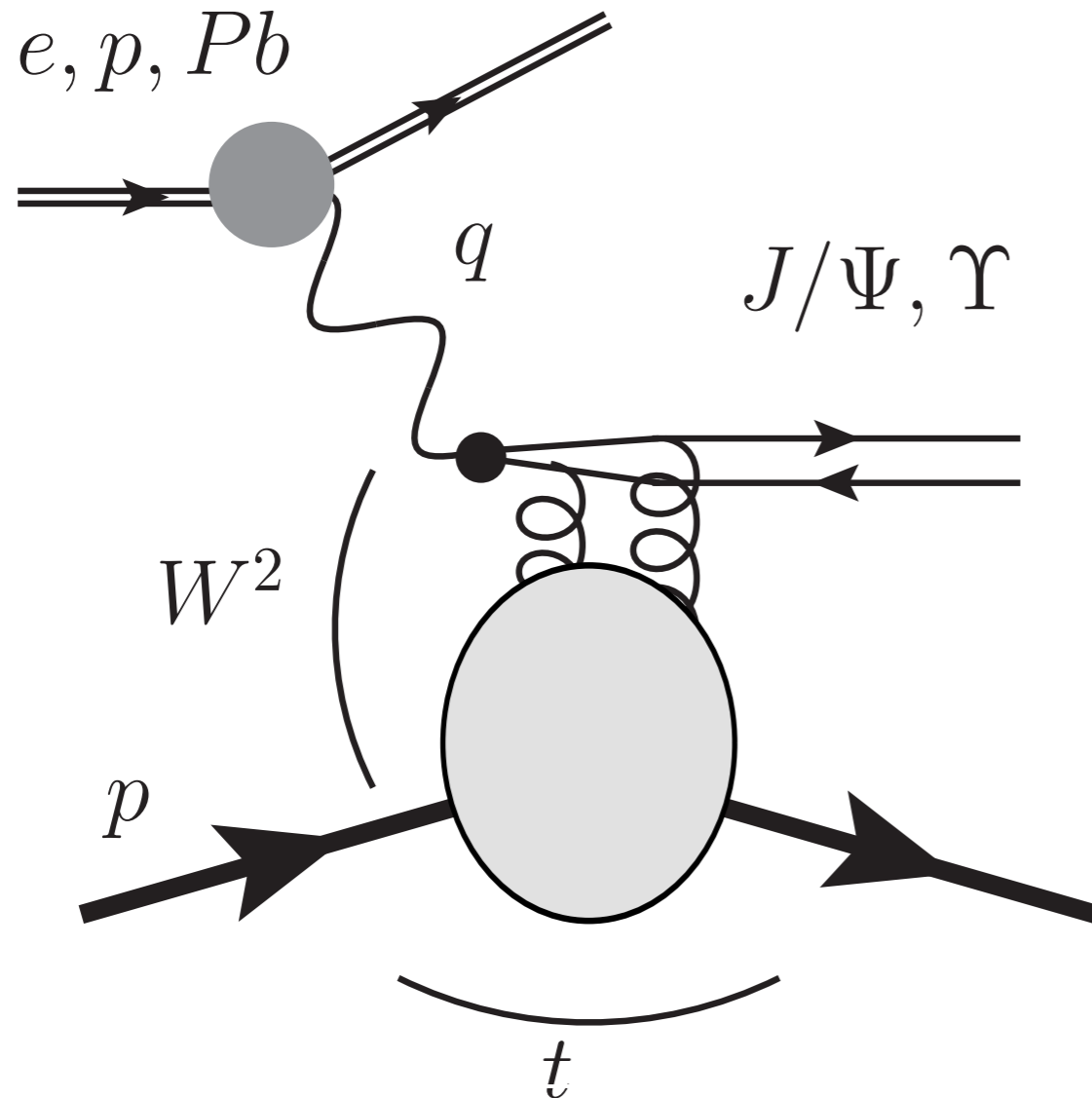


gluon with non-linear terms: KS gluon [Kutak, Sapeta; 1205.5035]

- based on unified (leading order) DGLAP+BFKL framework [Kwieciński, Martin, Stasto, PRD 56(1997) 3991]
- combined with leading order BK evolution [Kutak, Kwiecinski; hep-ph/0303209][Kutak, Stasto; hep-ph/0408117]
- initial conditions: fit to combined HERA data [H1 & ZEUS collab. 0911.0884]
- both non-linear and linear version available (= non-linearity switched off)



The photo-production Xsection



= diffraction process

$$\Im \mathcal{A}^{\gamma p \rightarrow V p}(x, t=0) = \int_0^\infty dr W(r) \sigma_{q\bar{q}}(x, r)$$

r : transverse size of quark-antiquark dipole

elements:

$$W(r) = 2\pi r \int_0^1 \frac{dz}{4\pi} (\Psi_V^* \Psi)_T(r, z)$$

integrated light-front wave function overlap = transition photon \rightarrow dipole \rightarrow vector meson

$$\sigma_{q\bar{q}}(x, r) = \frac{4\pi}{N_c} \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}}{k^2} (1 - e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}}) \alpha_s \mathcal{F}(x, \mathbf{k}^2)$$

dipole cross-section from unintegrated gluon $\mathcal{F} = \mathbf{object\ of\ interest}$

explore inclusive gluon \rightarrow can only calculate imaginary part of scattering amplitude at $t=0$

how to compare to experiment?

(standard procedure for this kind of study)

a) analytic properties of scattering amplitude \rightarrow real part

$$\mathcal{A}^{\gamma p \rightarrow V p}(x, t=0) = \left(i + \tan \frac{\lambda(x)\pi}{2} \right) \cdot \Im \mathcal{A}^{\gamma p \rightarrow V p}(x, t=0)$$

with intercept

$$\lambda(x) = \frac{d \ln \Im \mathcal{A}(x, t)}{d \ln 1/x}$$

b) differential Xsection at $t=0$:

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{dt}(\gamma p \rightarrow V p) \right|_{t=0} = \frac{1}{16\pi} \left| \mathcal{A}^{\gamma p \rightarrow V p}(W^2, t=0) \right|^2$$

c) from experiment:

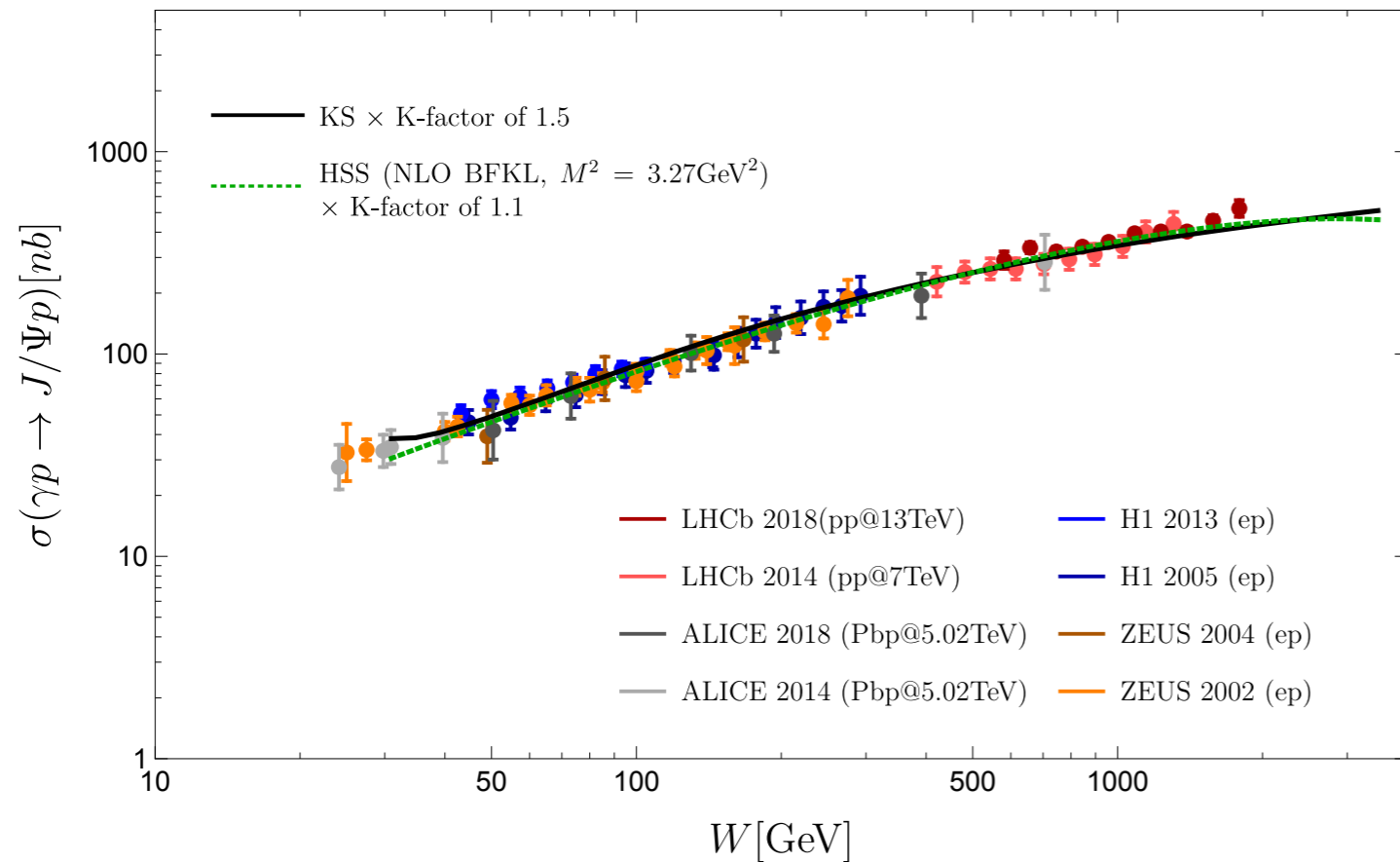
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt}(\gamma p \rightarrow V p) = e^{-B_D(W) \cdot |t|} \cdot \left. \frac{d\sigma}{dt}(\gamma p \rightarrow V p) \right|_{t=0}$$

$$\sigma^{\gamma p \rightarrow V p}(W^2) = \frac{1}{B_D(W)} \left. \frac{d\sigma}{dt}(\gamma p \rightarrow V p) \right|_{t=0} \quad \text{extracted from data}$$

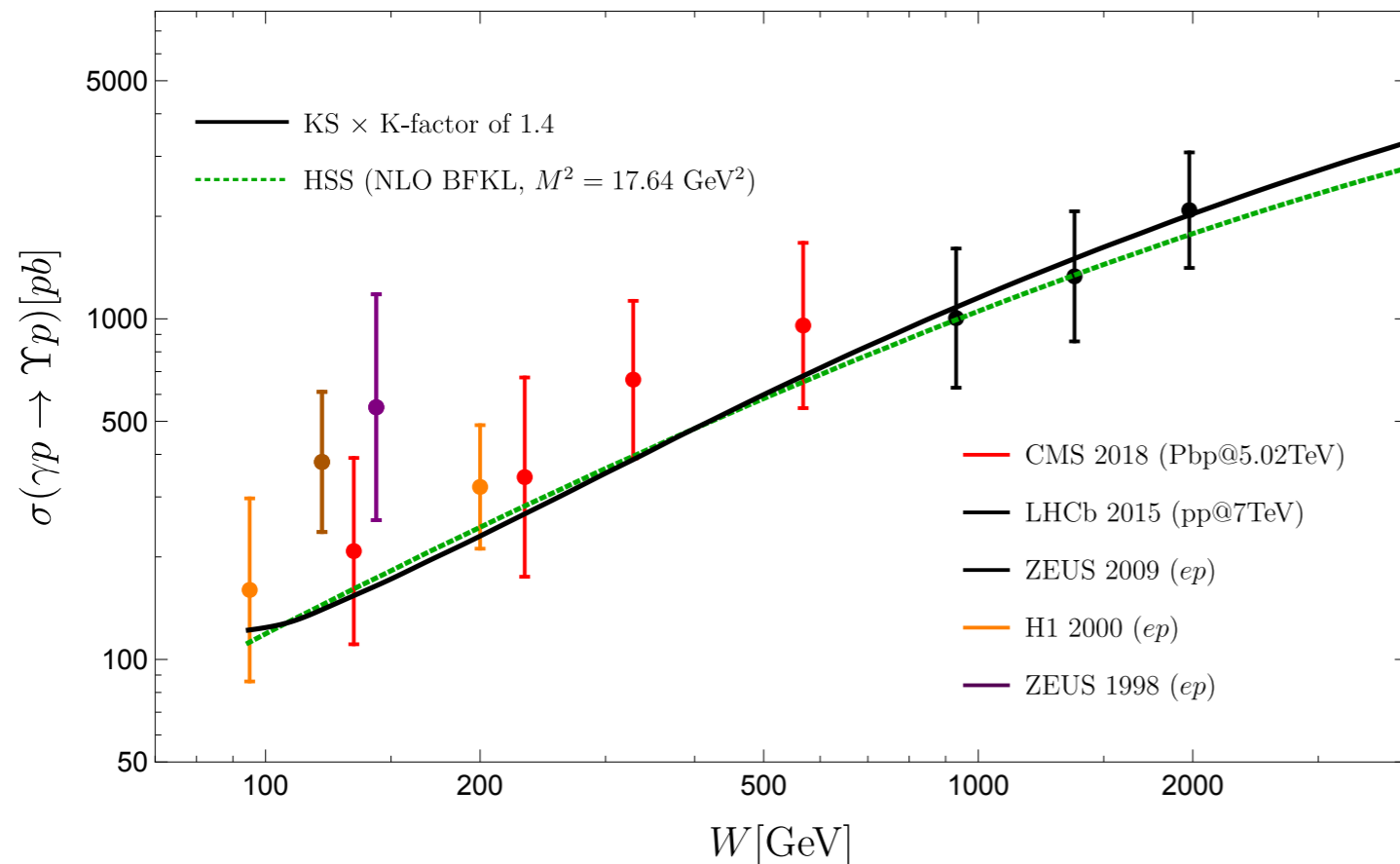
weak energy dependence from
slope parameter

$$B_D(W) = \left[b_0 + 4\alpha' \ln \frac{W}{W_0} \right] \text{GeV}^{-2}$$

Results I



Υ as perturbative control:



- leading order wave function \rightarrow don't control normalization (scale of α_s)

$$\Im \mathcal{M} \mathcal{A}^{\gamma p \rightarrow V p} \sim \alpha_s(\mu^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma^{\gamma p \rightarrow V p} \sim \alpha_s^2(\mu^2)$$

- standard scale choices for dipole cross-sections (\sim external scales) \rightarrow very good description of energy dependence with both HSS and KS gluon
- premature (?) conclusion: non-linear dynamics is absent

Why premature?

HSS gluon (NLO BFKL)
comes with 2 terms:

$$\sigma_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{HSS})}(x, r) = \alpha_s \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{HSS})}(x, r).$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{HSS})}(x, r) = \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{dom.})}(x, r) + \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{corr.})}(x, r),$$



running coupling corrections which do not
exponentiate = a perturbative correction

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{dom.})}(x, r, M^2) &= \int_{\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} \frac{d\gamma}{2\pi i} \left(\frac{4}{r^2 Q_0^2} \right)^\gamma \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s(M \cdot Q_0)}{\bar{\alpha}_s(M^2)} f(\gamma, Q_0, \delta, r) \left(\frac{1}{x} \right)^{\chi(\gamma, M^2)} \\ \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{corr.})}(x, r, M^2) &= \int_{\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} \frac{d\gamma}{2\pi i} \left(\frac{4}{r^2 Q_0^2} \right)^\gamma \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s(M \cdot Q_0)}{\bar{\alpha}_s(M^2)} f(\gamma, Q_0, \delta, r) \left(\frac{1}{x} \right)^{\chi(\gamma, M^2)} \\ &\quad \times \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s^2 \beta_0 \chi_0(\gamma)}{8N_c} \log \left(\frac{1}{x} \right) \left[-\psi(\delta - \gamma) + \log \frac{M^2 r^2}{4} - \frac{1}{1 - \gamma} - \psi(2 - \gamma) - \psi(\gamma) \right] \end{aligned}$$

NLO BFKL kernel (BLM scale
setting) + coll. resummation

$$\chi(\gamma, M^2) = \bar{\alpha}_s \chi_0(\gamma) + \bar{\alpha}_s^2 \tilde{\chi}_1(\gamma) - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\alpha}_s^2 \chi_0'(\gamma) \chi_0(\gamma) + \chi_{\text{RG}}(\bar{\alpha}_s, \gamma, \tilde{a}, \tilde{b}).$$

Why premature?

HSS gluon (NLO BFKL) comes with 2 terms:

$$\sigma_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{HSS})}(x, r) = \alpha_s \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{HSS})}(x, r).$$

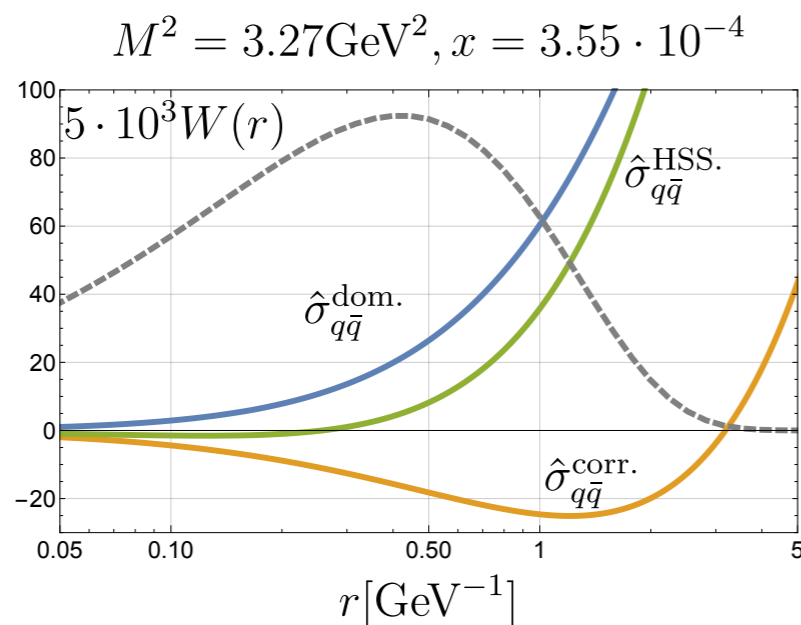
$$\hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{HSS})}(x, r) = \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{dom.})}(x, r) + \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{corr.})}(x, r),$$

negative + enhanced by $\log(1/x)$

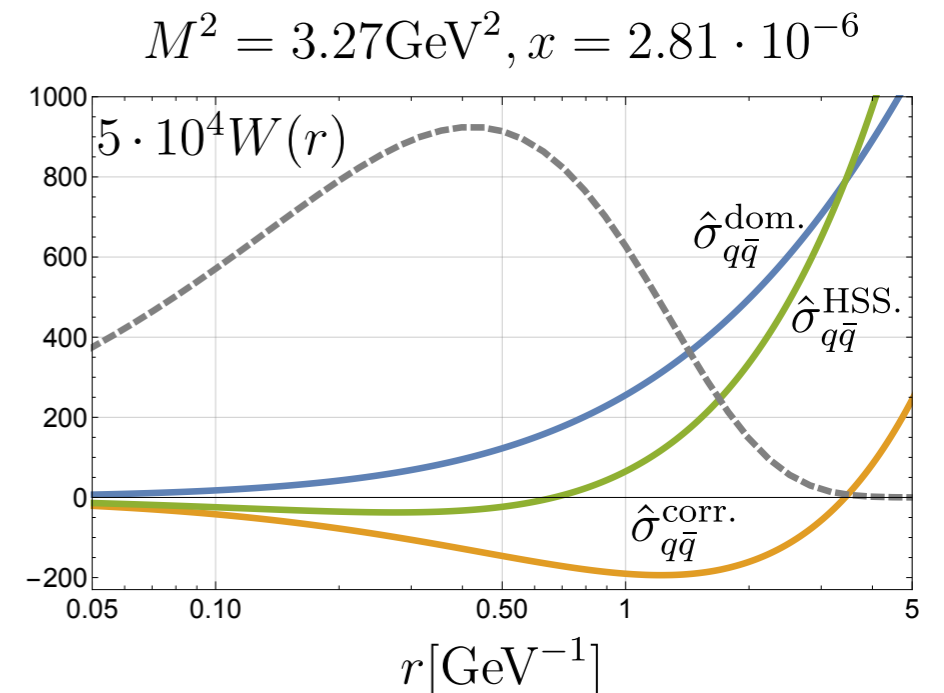
$$\hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{corr.})}(x, r) = -\alpha_s^2 \ln\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(1)}(x, r)$$

running coupling corrections which do not exponentiate = a perturbative correction

→ will eventually dominate the leading term!



not a problem for HERA kinematics



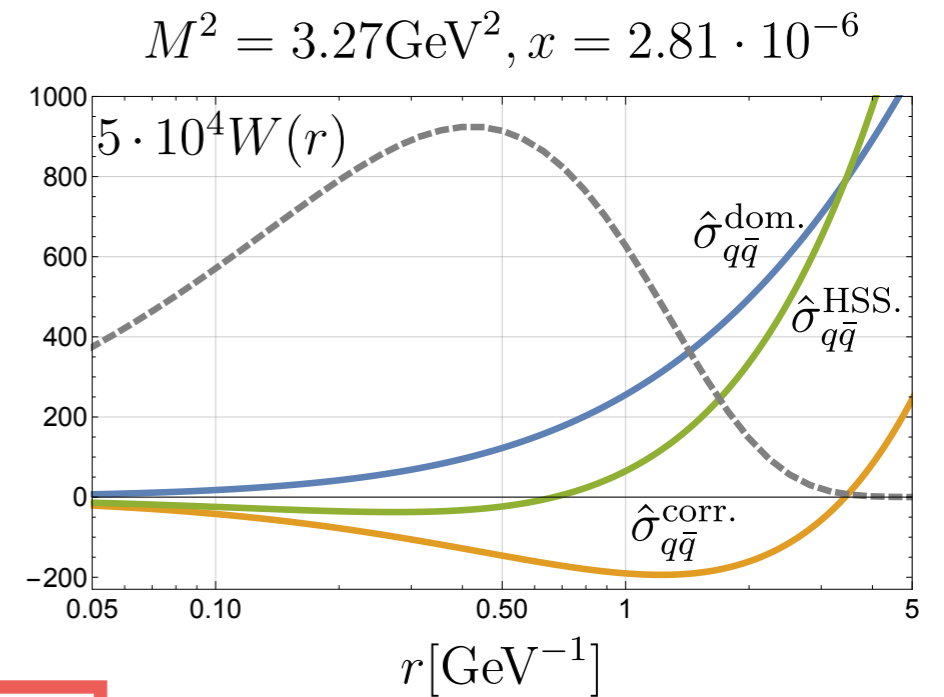
LHC: correction dominates!

fixed external scale for running coupling
 → breakdown of perturbative expansion
 at low x for certain dipole sizes r

possible fix: r -dependent
 running coupling scale

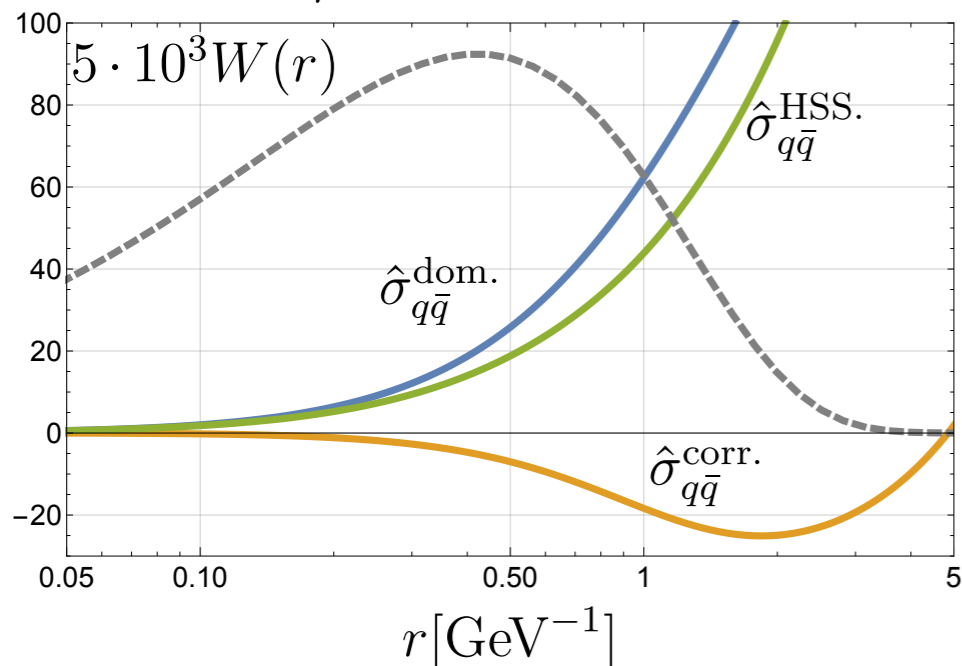
$$M^2 = \frac{4}{r^2} + \mu_0^2 \text{ with } \mu_0^2 = 1.51 \text{ GeV}^2$$

= scale choice used in IPsat dipole model [Bartels, Golec-Biernat, Kowalksi, hep-ph/0203258];
 fit: [Rezaeian, Siddikov, Van de Klundert, Venugopalan; 1212.2974]

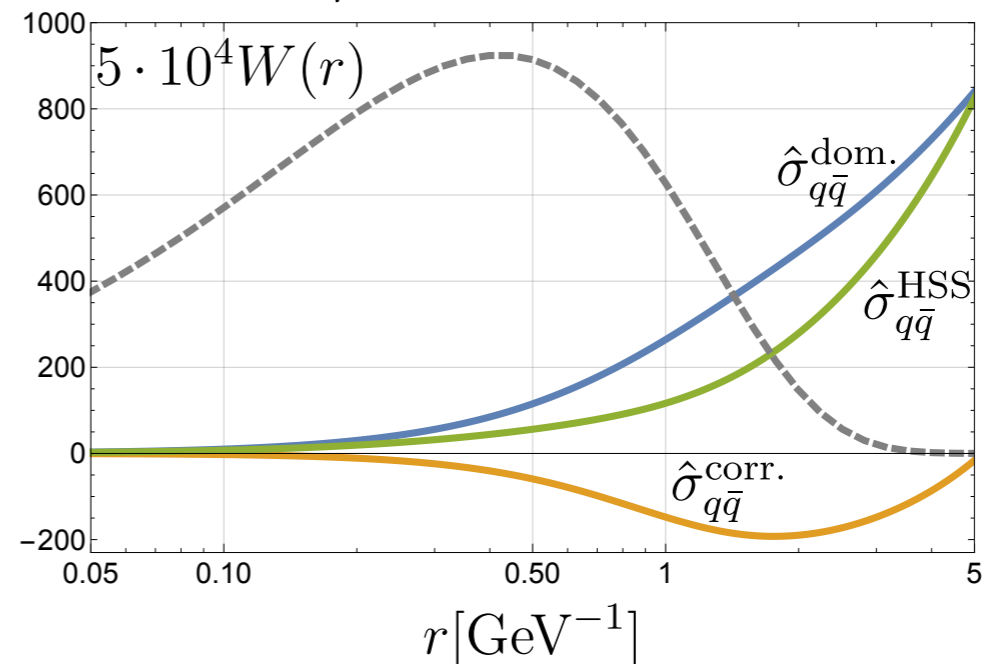


→ stabilizes perturbative expansion

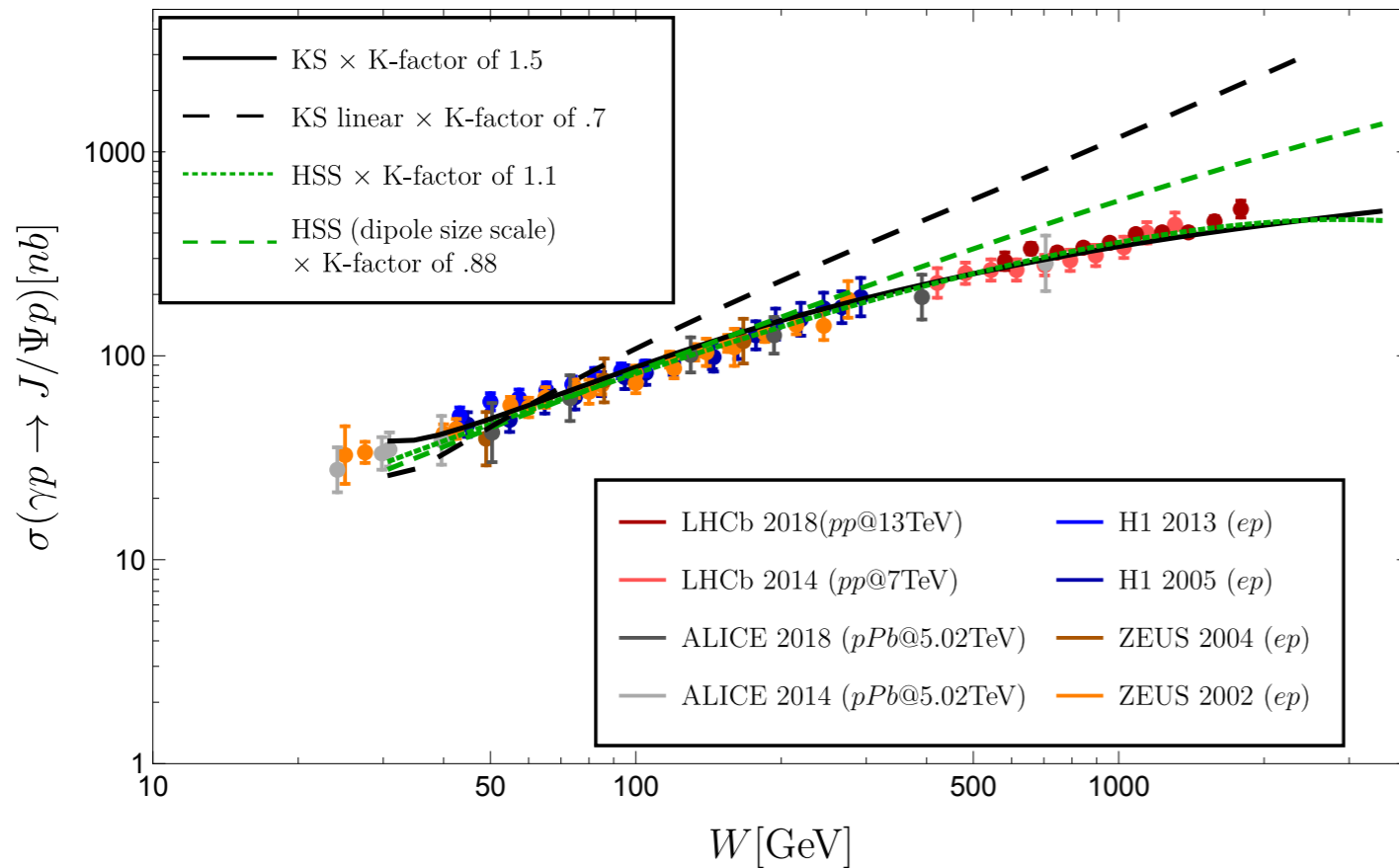
$$M^2 = \frac{4}{r^2} + \mu_0^2, x = 3.55 \cdot 10^{-4}$$



$$M^2 = \frac{4}{r^2} + \mu_0^2, x = 2.81 \cdot 10^{-6}$$

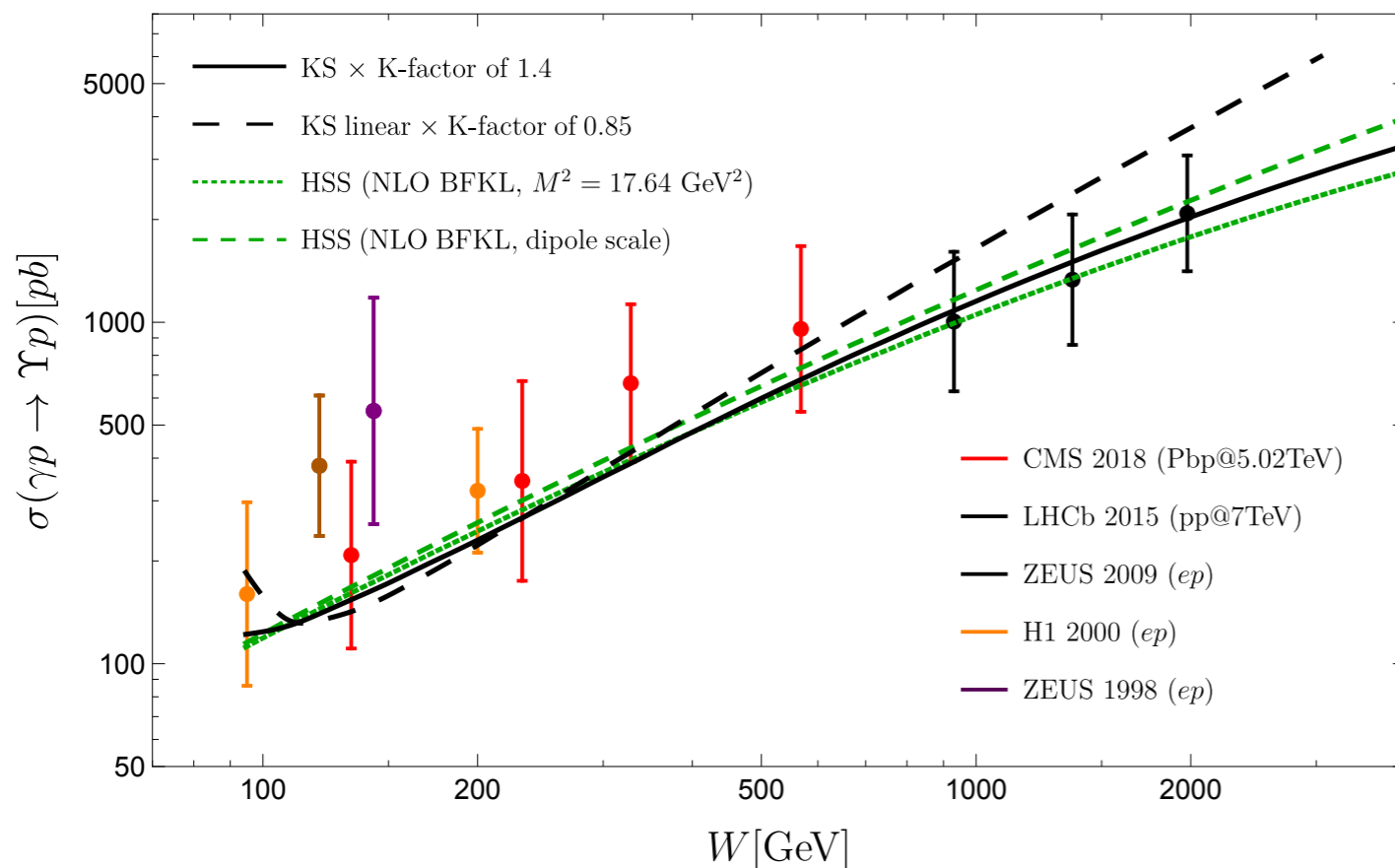


Results II



- works well for Υ & J/ψ in HERA region ($W < 400\text{GeV}$)
- overshoots J/ψ data in LHC region ($W > 500\text{GeV}$)
 \rightarrow growth is too strong

Υ as perturbative control:



- also shown: linear KS gluon \rightarrow growth too strong for both Υ & J/ψ
 \rightarrow non-linear terms are essential for KS description of data

Summary and Conclusion

- NLO BFKL (linear evolution) only describes data if (negative) perturbative corrections is larger than the leading term (= breakdown of expansion)
 - Tame size of correction \rightarrow description of Υ and J/ψ in HERA region, growth too strong for J/ψ at LHC
 - non-linear KS gluon describes data & non-linear terms essential
- = a strong indication for the on-set of non-linear dynamics

Possible limitations

- NLO accuracy for both non-linear evolution, wave functions for VM production + DIS fit highly desirable
- extraction of γp an own challenge (gap survival factors etc.) → how well do we control the errors?
- as long as the “correction term” is under control, x-dependence of NLO BFKL gluon stable
→ control theory uncertainty
[Bautista, MH, Fernandez-Tellez; 1607.05203]
- for this observable = this is how the onset of gluon saturation would like

→ need to complete picture with more observable & higher theoretical accuracy;

→ so far: most direct evidence for gluon saturation

Back up

HSS gluon = 2 terms

$$\hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{HSS})}(x, r) = \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{dom.})}(x, r) + \hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{corr.})}(x, r),$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{dom.})}(x, r, M^2) = \int_{\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} \frac{d\gamma}{2\pi i} \left(\frac{4}{r^2 Q_0^2} \right)^\gamma \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s(M \cdot Q_0)}{\bar{\alpha}_s(M^2)} f(\gamma, Q_0, \delta, r) \left(\frac{1}{x} \right)^{\chi(\gamma, M^2)}$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}^{(\text{corr.})}(x, r, M^2) = \int_{\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} \frac{d\gamma}{2\pi i} \left(\frac{4}{r^2 Q_0^2} \right)^\gamma \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s(M \cdot Q_0)}{\bar{\alpha}_s(M^2)} f(\gamma, Q_0, \delta, r) \left(\frac{1}{x} \right)^{\chi(\gamma, M^2)}$$

$$\times \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s^2 \beta_0 \chi_0(\gamma)}{8N_c} \log \left(\frac{1}{x} \right) \left[-\psi(\delta - \gamma) + \log \frac{M^2 r^2}{4} - \frac{1}{1 - \gamma} - \psi(2 - \gamma) - \psi(\gamma) \right]$$

core element:

NLO BFKL eigenvalue
with collinear
resummation ('RG')

$$\chi(\gamma, M^2) = \bar{\alpha}_s \chi_0(\gamma) + \bar{\alpha}_s^2 \tilde{\chi}_1(\gamma) - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\alpha}_s^2 \chi_0'(\gamma) \chi_0(\gamma) + \chi_{\text{RG}}(\bar{\alpha}_s, \gamma, \tilde{a}, \tilde{b}).$$

proton & dipole impact
factors

$$f(\gamma, Q_0, \delta, r) = \frac{r^2 \cdot \pi \Gamma(\gamma) \Gamma(\delta - \gamma)}{N_c (1 - \gamma) \Gamma(2 - \gamma) \Gamma(\delta)}$$

the transition photon \rightarrow quark-antiquark dipole
 \rightarrow vector meson

$$W(r) = 2\pi r \int_0^1 \frac{dz}{4\pi} (\Psi_V^* \Psi)_T(r, z)$$

$$(\Psi_V^* \Psi)_T(r, z) = \frac{\hat{e}_f e N_c}{\pi z(1-z)} \left\{ m_f^2 K_0(\epsilon r) \phi_T(r, z) - [z^2 + (1-z)^2] \epsilon K_1(\epsilon r) \partial_r \phi_T(r, z) \right\}$$

boosted Gaussian scalar wave function using Brodsky-Huang-Lepage prescription

$$\phi_{T,L}^{1s}(r, z) = \mathcal{N}_{T,L} z(1-z) \exp \left(-\frac{m_f^2 \mathcal{R}_{1s}^2}{8z(1-z)} - \frac{2z(1-z)r^2}{\mathcal{R}_{1s}^2} + \frac{m_f^2 \mathcal{R}_{1s}^2}{2} \right)$$

parameters fitted by [Armesto, Rezaeian; 1402.4831] (J/Ψ) and [Goncalves, Moreira, Navarra; 1408.1344] (Υ)

Meson	m_f/GeV	\mathcal{N}_T	$\mathcal{R}^2/\text{GeV}^{-2}$	M_V/GeV
J/ψ	$m_c = 1.4$	0.596	2.45	3.097
Υ	$m_b = 4.2$	0.481	0.57	9.460