



First Neural-Network Extraction of Unpolarized Transverse-Momentum-Dependent Distributions

Matteo Cerutti

MAP Collaboration, PRL 135 2025



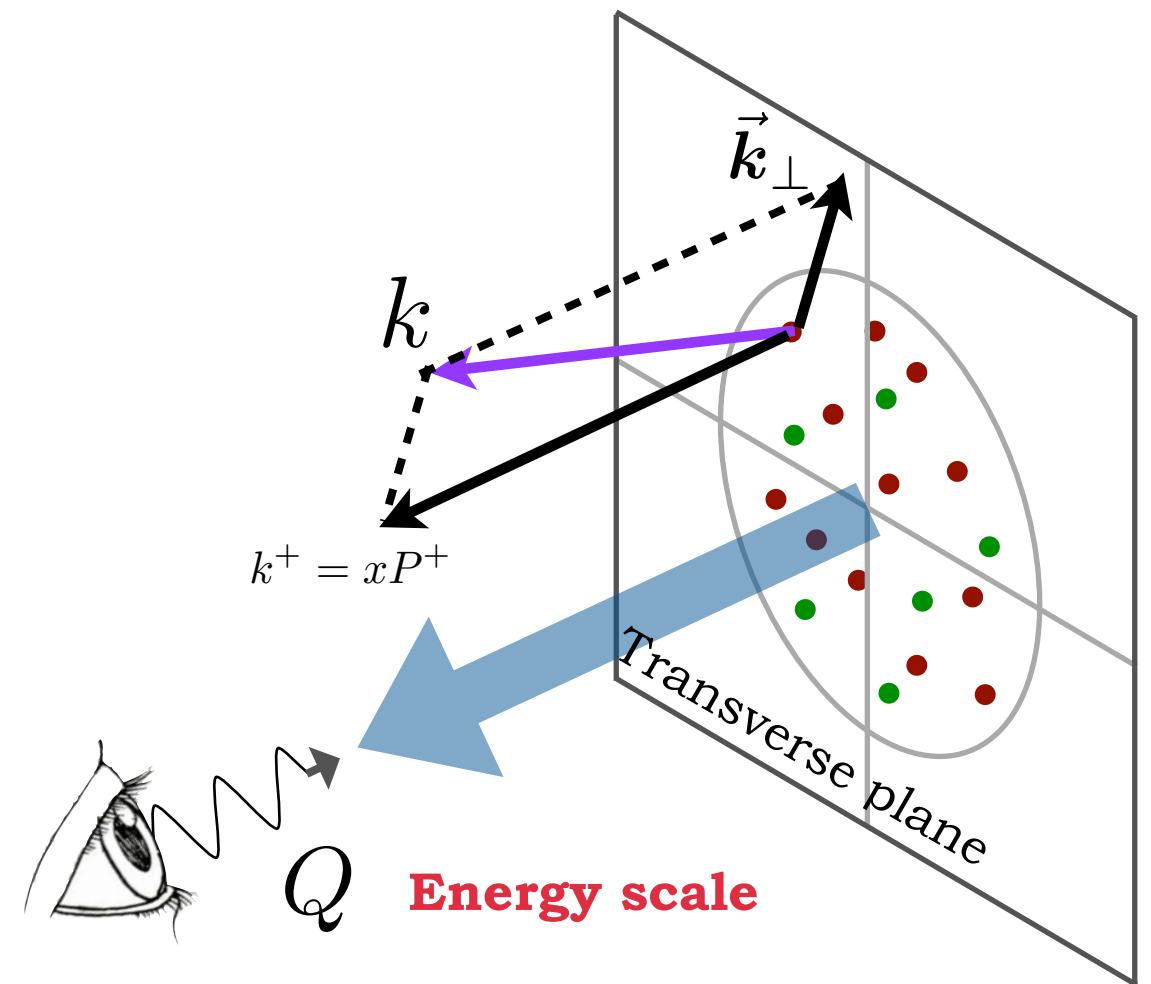
October 14, 2025

Resummation, Evolution, Factorization (REF) 2025 - Milan

Transverse-Momentum Distributions (TMDs)

3-*dimensional map* of the
internal structure of the nucleon

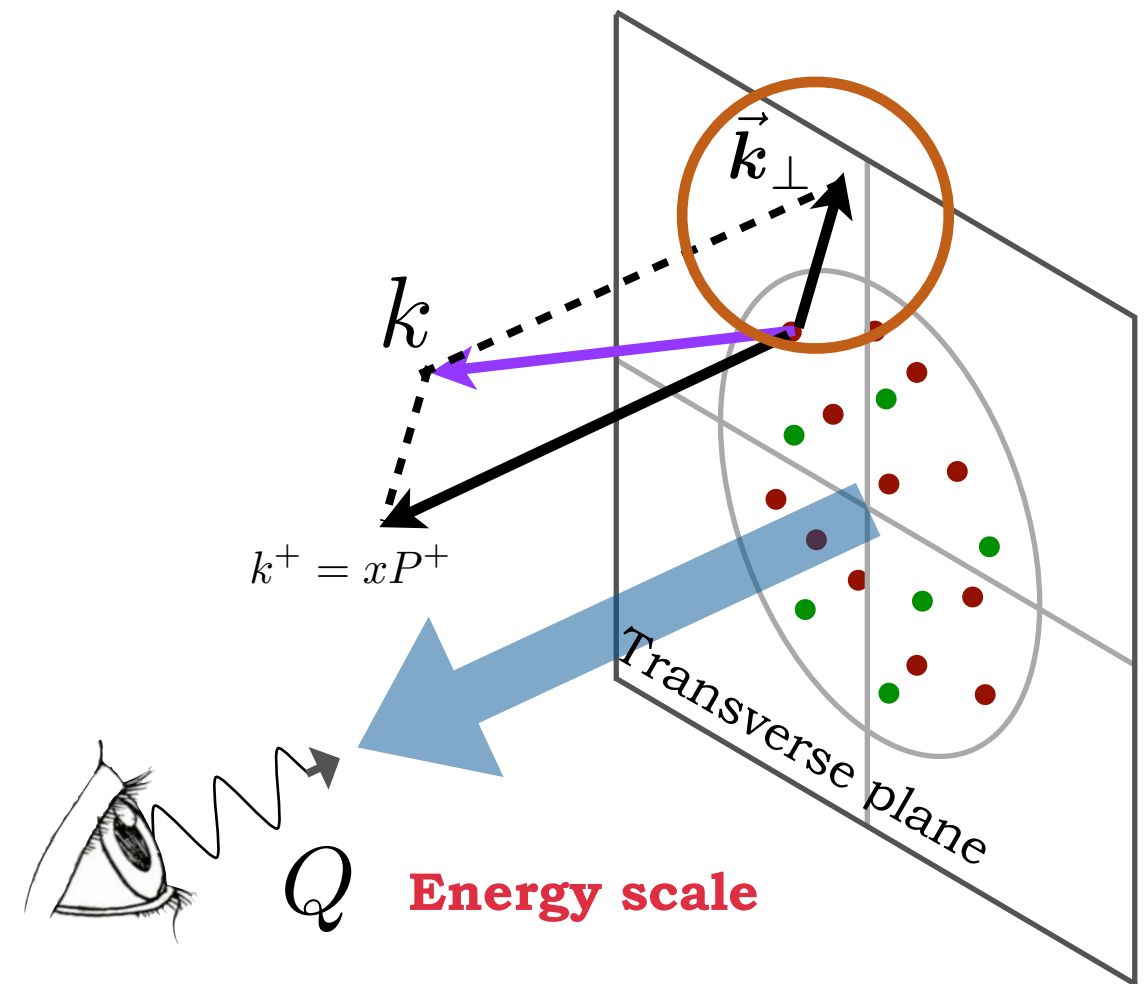
Non-collinear framework



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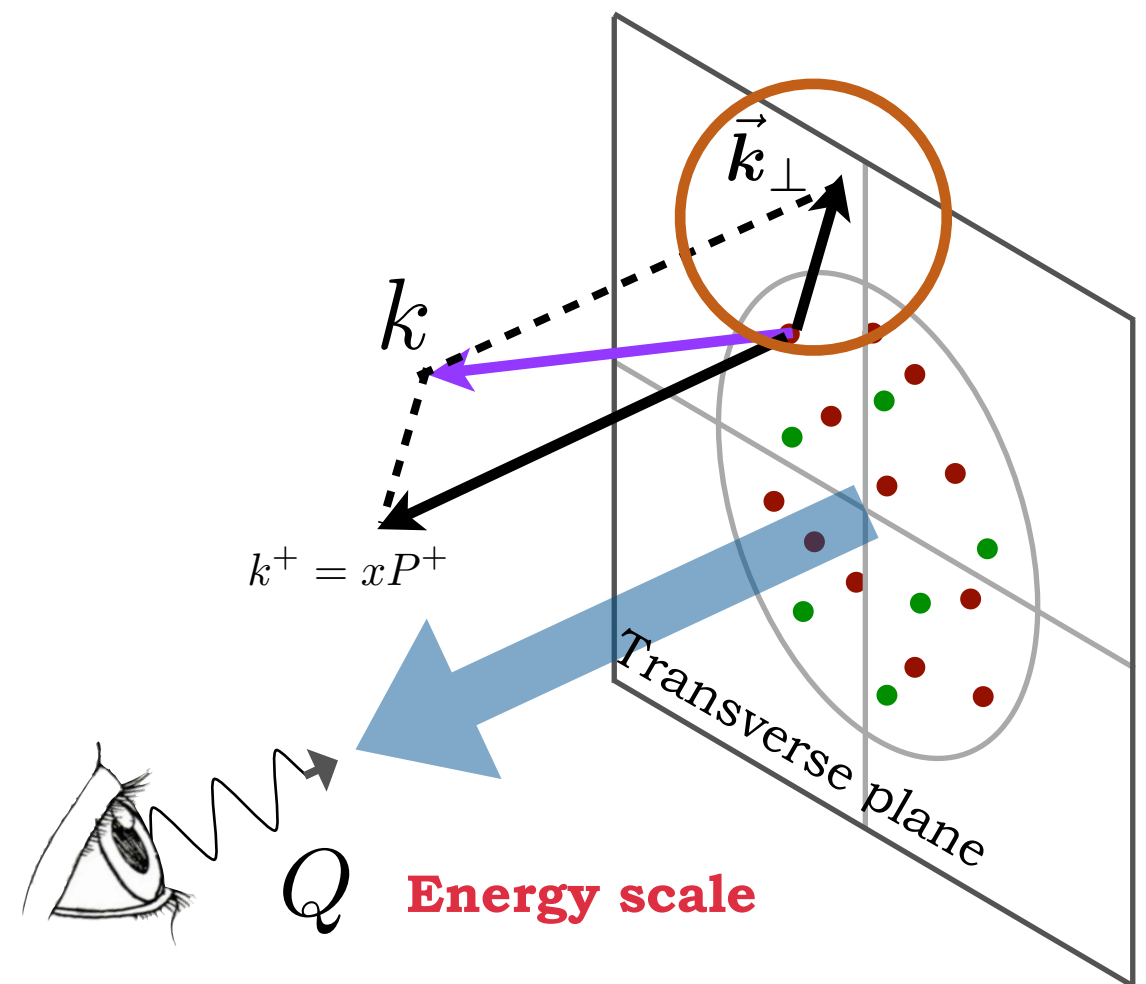
Quark Polarization

Nucleon Pol.

	U	L	T
U	f_1		$h_1^\perp$
L		g_1	$h_{1L}^\perp$
T	$f_{1T}^\perp$	g_{1T}	$h_1 h_{1T}^\perp$

Time-reversal odd

Time-reversal even



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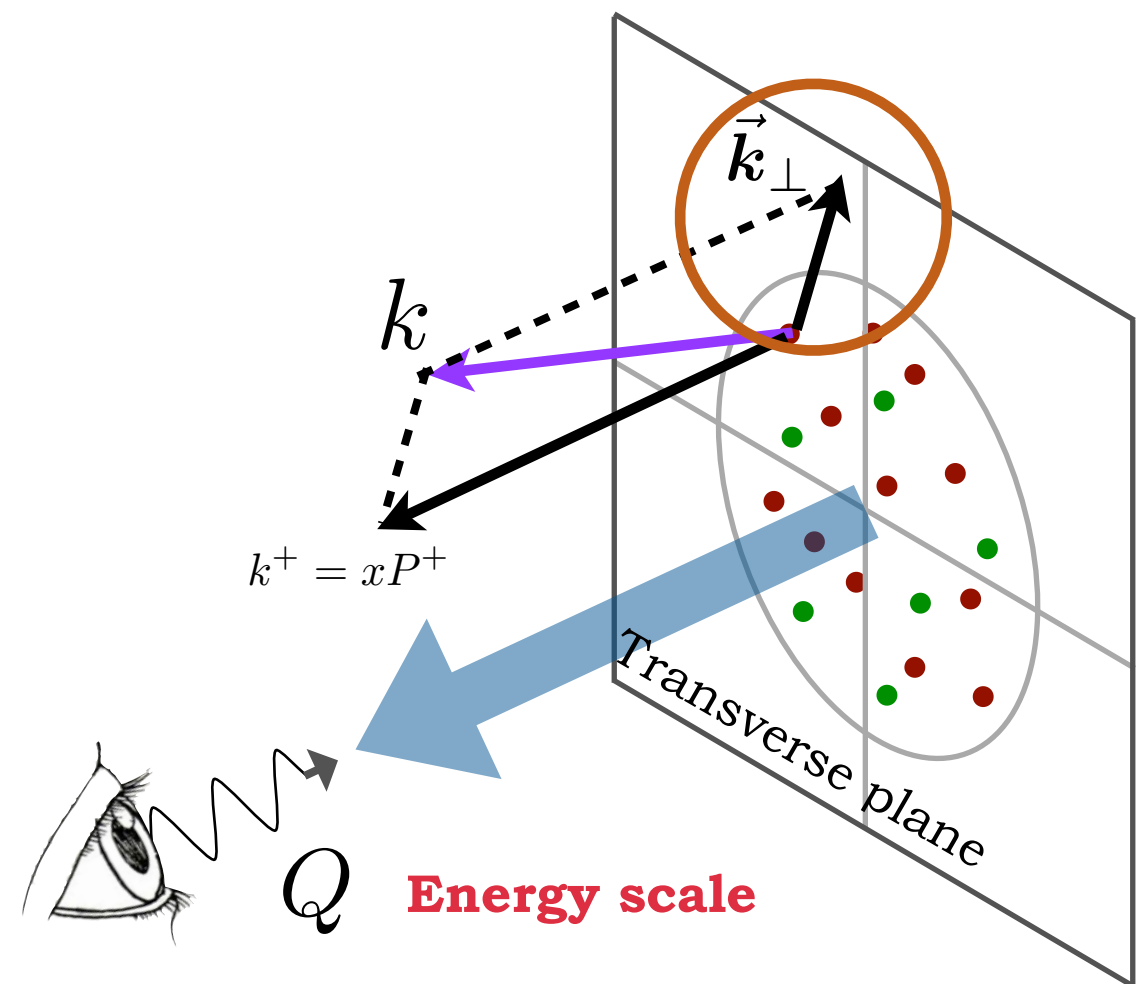
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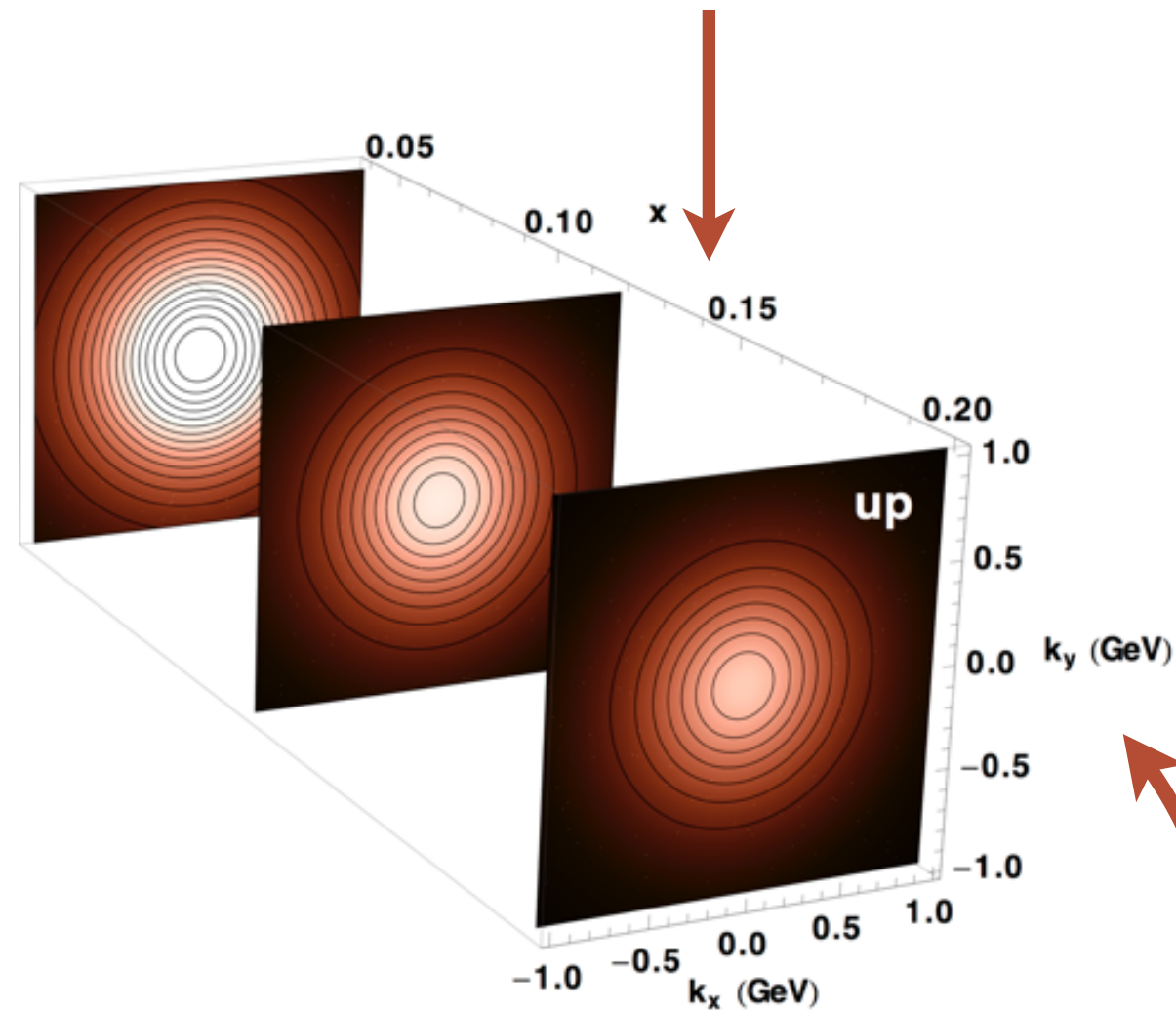


TMD PDFs

$$F(x, \mathbf{k}_\perp^2, \mu, \zeta)$$

Transverse-Momentum Distributions (TMDs)

Fraction of
longitudinal momentum



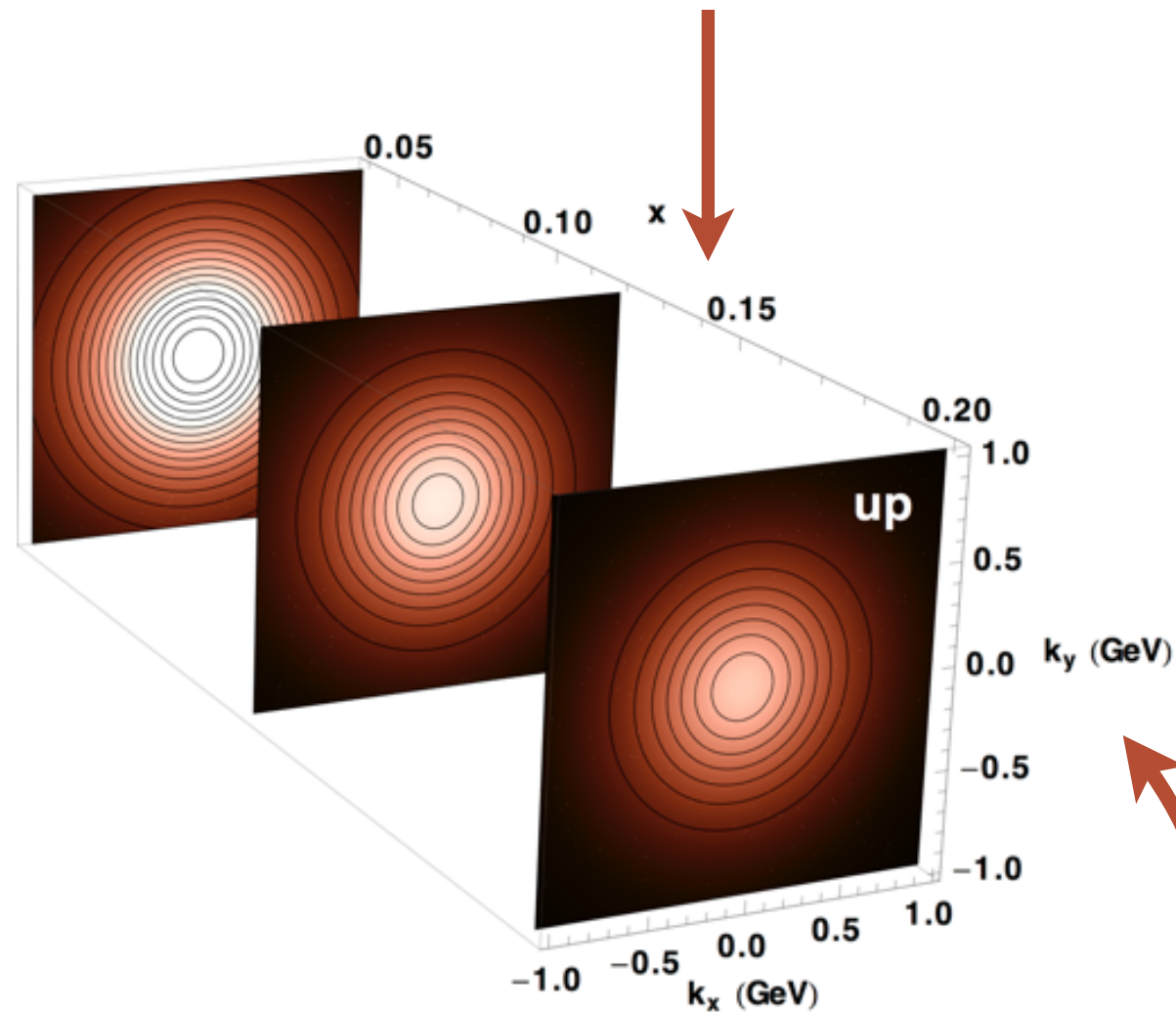
TMDs map the distribution of partons inside the nucleon in 3D in momentum space.

They can be extracted through **global fits**
There are attempts to calculate them in lattice QCD

Transverse momentum

Transverse-Momentum Distributions (TMDs)

Fraction of
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Are TMDs universal?

Do they depend on x ?

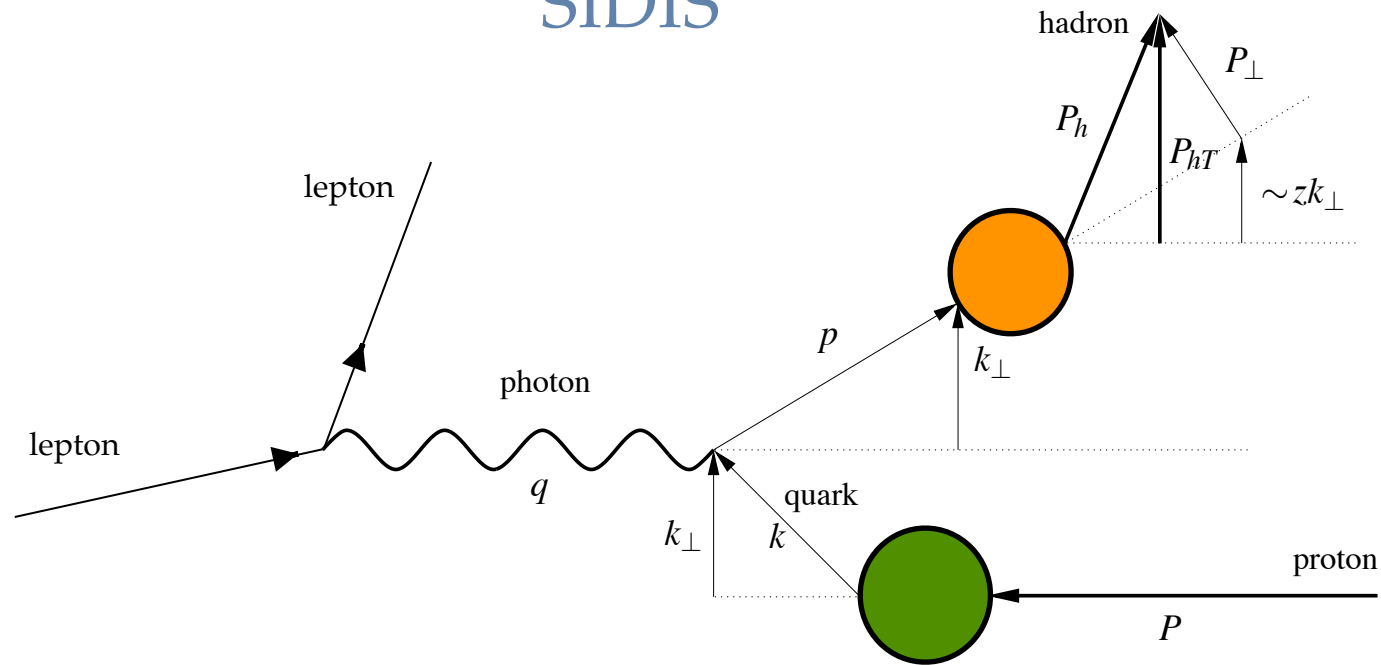
Do they depend
on the quark flavor?

Transverse momentum

TMD factorization: Universality

TMD factorization: Universality

SIDIS

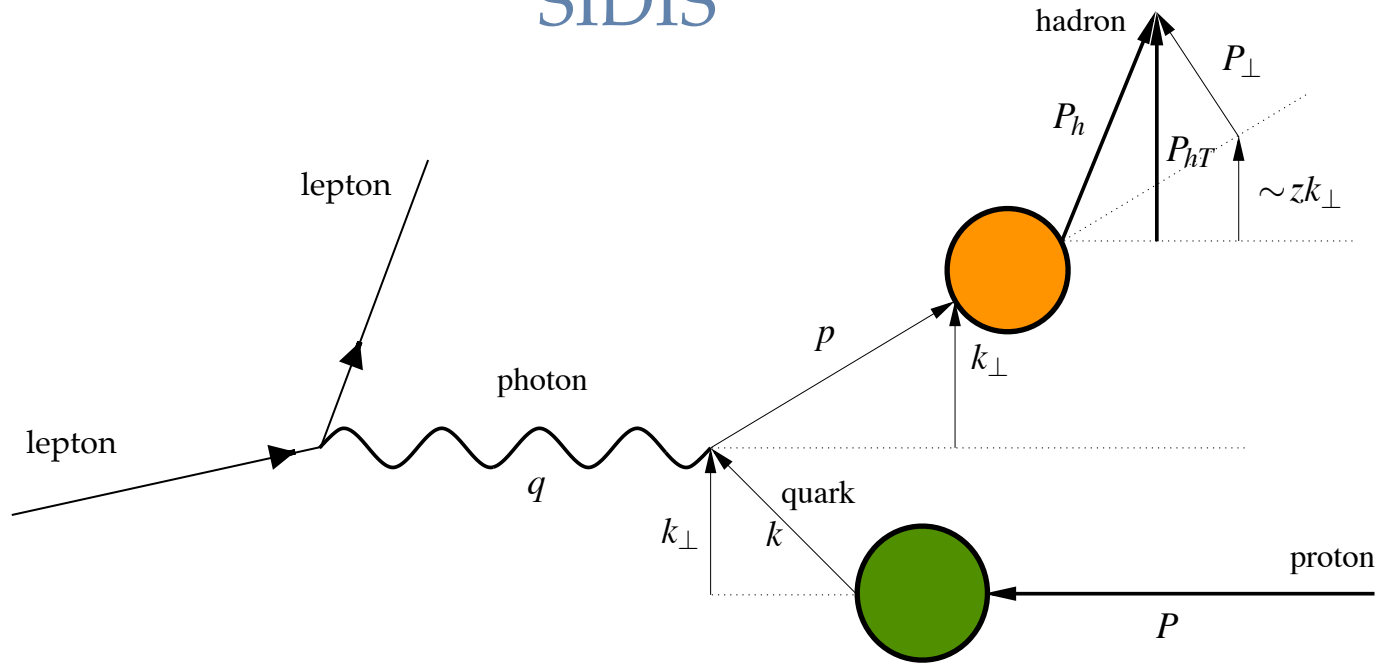


If $q_T^2 \ll Q^2$

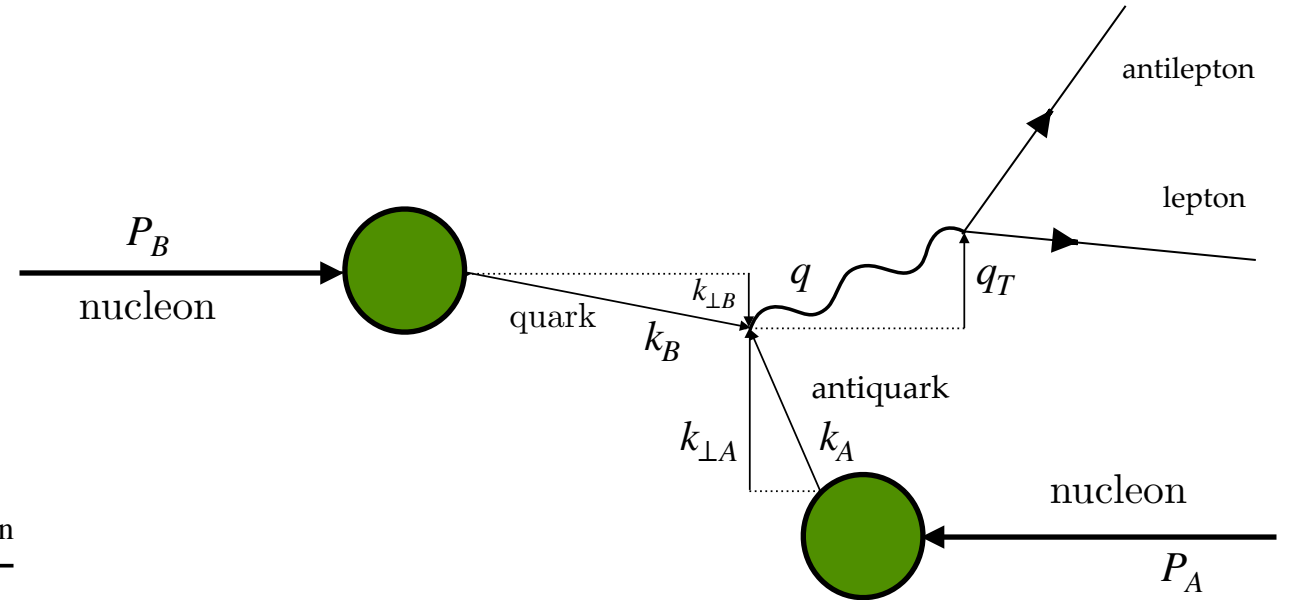
$$F_{UU,T}(x, z, |\mathbf{q}_T|, Q) \sim \int_0^{+\infty} d|\mathbf{b}_T| |\mathbf{b}_T| J_0(|\mathbf{b}_T| |\mathbf{q}_T|) \hat{f}_1^a(x, b_T^2; \mu, \zeta_A) \hat{D}_1^{a \rightarrow h}(z, b_T^2; \mu, \zeta_B)$$

TMD factorization: Universality

SIDIS



Drell-Yan



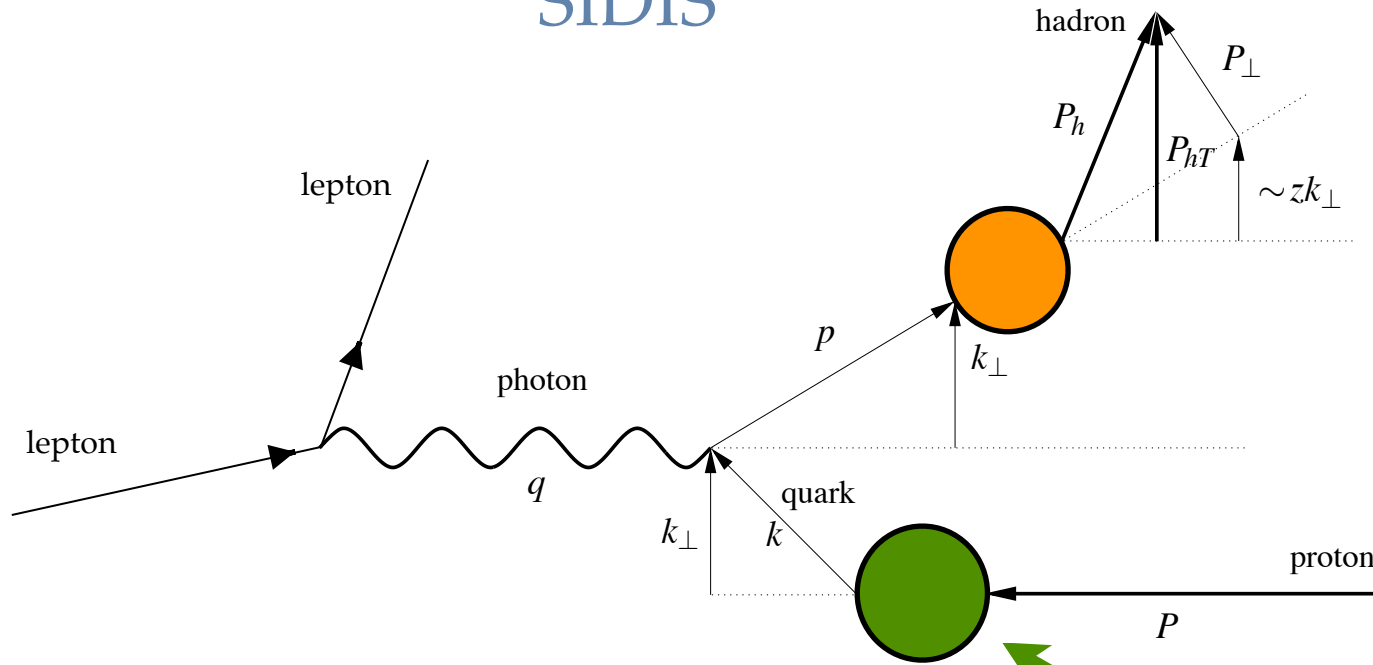
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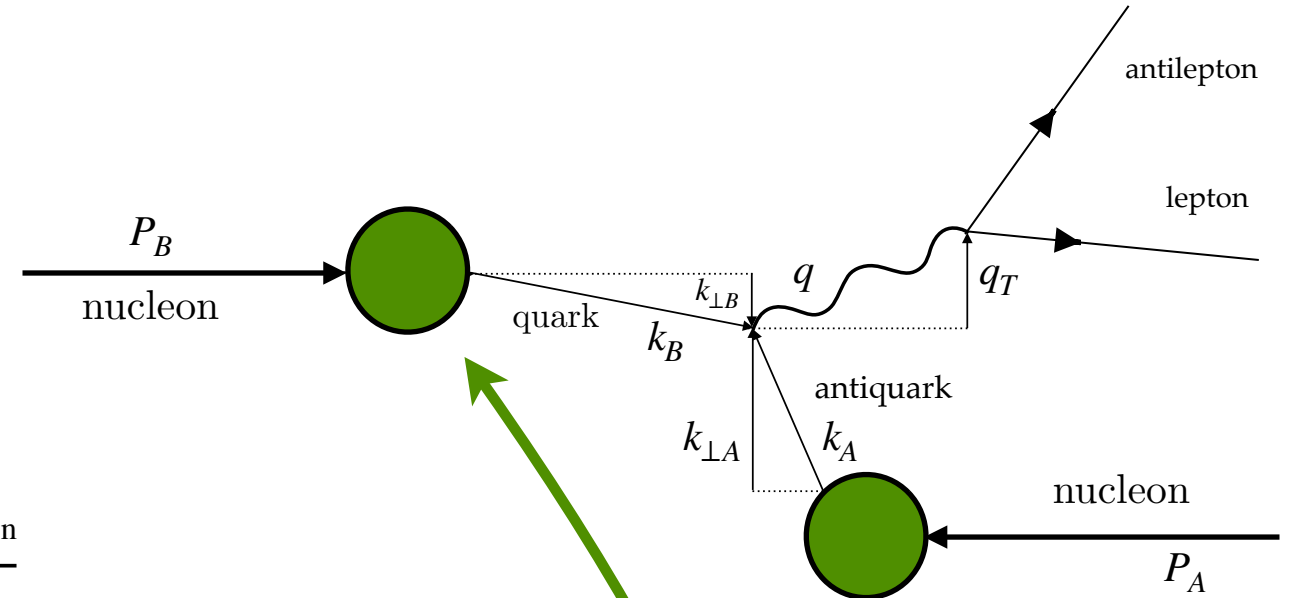
$$F_{UU}^1(x_A, x_B, |\mathbf{q}_T|, Q) \sim \int_0^{+\infty} d|\mathbf{b}_T| |\mathbf{b}_T| J_0(|\mathbf{b}_T| |\mathbf{q}_T|) \hat{f}_1^a(x_A, b_T^2; \mu, \zeta_A) \hat{f}_1^{\bar{a}}(x_B, b_T^2; \mu, \zeta_B)$$

TMD factorization: Universality

SIDIS



Drell-Yan



Same functions

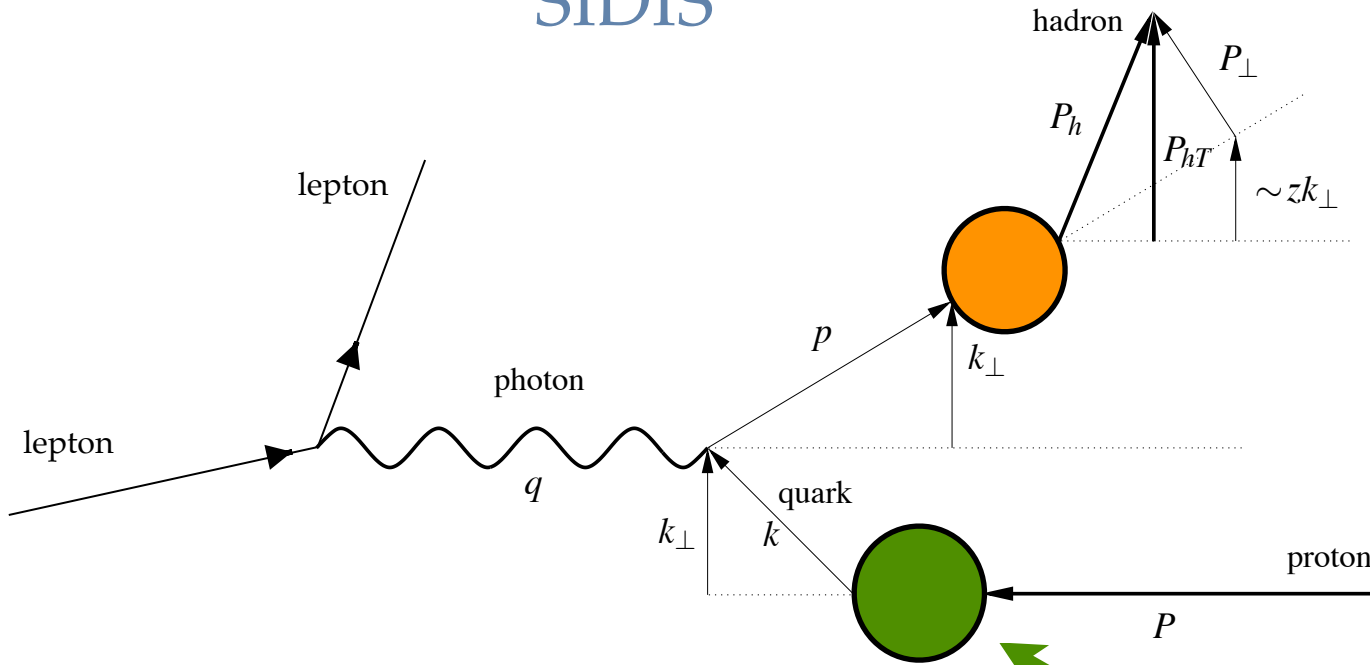
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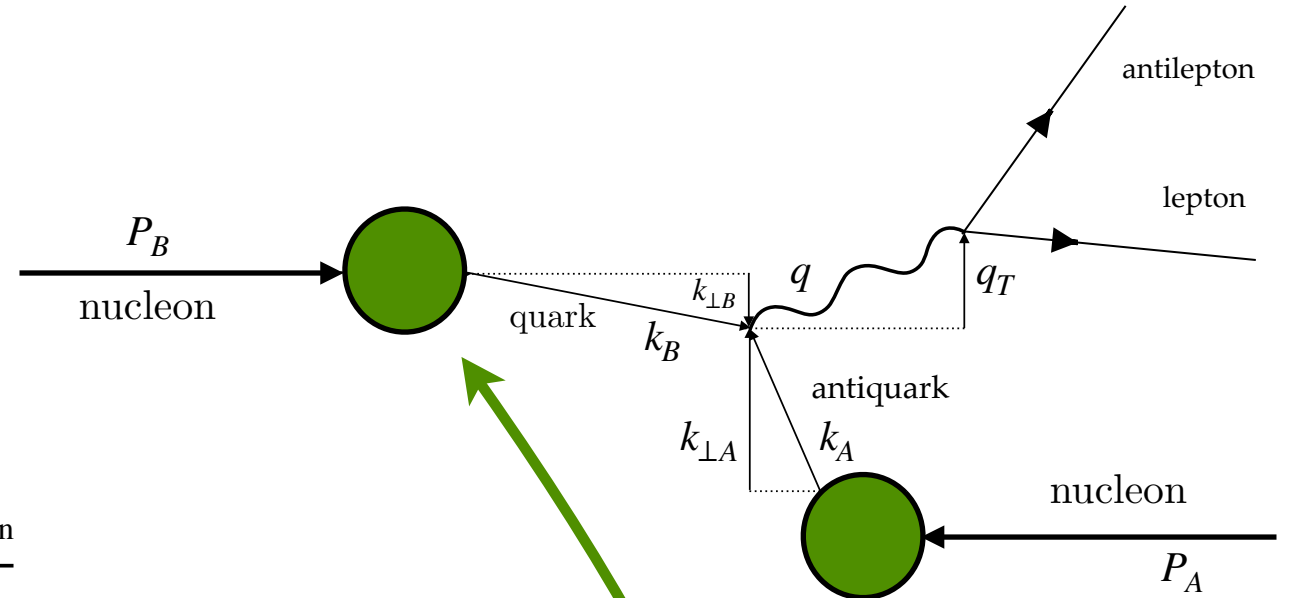
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GLOBAL FITs

Structure of a TMD

TMD in Fourier space

$$\hat{F}(x, b_T^2; \mu, \zeta) = \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} e^{i \mathbf{b}_T \cdot \mathbf{k}_\perp} F(x, k_\perp^2; \mu, \zeta)$$

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$$\hat{f}_1^q(x, b_T^2; \mu, \zeta) = \sum_j C_{q/j}(x, b_*; \mu_{b_*}, \mu_{b_*}^2) \otimes f_1^j(x, \mu_{b_*})$$

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Perturbative TMD at the initial scale

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Perturbative TMD at the initial scale

$$\times \exp \left\{ K(b_*; \mu_{b_*}) \ln \frac{\sqrt{\zeta}}{\mu_{b_*}} + \int_{\mu_{b_*}}^{\mu} \frac{d\mu'}{\mu'} \left[\gamma_F - \gamma_K \ln \frac{\sqrt{\zeta}}{\mu'} \right] \right\} \quad : \text{B}$$

Evolution to final scale (of the process)

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Evolution to final scale (of the process)

$$\times f_{NP}(x, b_T^2) \exp \left\{ g_K(b_T^2) \ln \frac{\sqrt{\zeta}}{\sqrt{\zeta_0}} \right\} \quad : C$$

Non-perturbative part of the TMD

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Non-perturbative part of the TMD

Parameterization
GLOBAL FITs

Available Global Fits

	<i>Accuracy</i>	<i>SIDIS</i>	<i>DY</i>	<i>N of points</i>	χ^2/N_{data}	<i>Flavor Dependence</i>
Pavia 2017 Bacchetta, Delcarro, et al., JHEP 06 (2017)	NLL	✓	✓	8059	1.55	✗
SV 2019 Scimemi, Vladimirov, JHEP 06 (2020)	N^3LL^-	✓	✓	1039	1.06	✗
MAPTMD22 Bacchetta, Bertone, et al., JHEP 10 (2022)	N^3LL^-	✓	✓	2031	1.06	✗
MAPTMD24 Bacchetta, Bertone, et al., JHEP 08 (2024)	N^3LL	✓	✓	2031	1.08	✓
ART25 Moos, Scimemi, et al., arXiv:2503.11201	N^3LL^+	✓	✓	1209	1.05	✓

Motivation

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⇒ *fit for the first time* TMDs with Neural Networks

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- ✱ They are based on parameterizations of f_{NP} that can differ a lot

GOAL:

Reduce the parameterization bias

⇒ *fit for the first time* TMDs with Neural Networks

Is this approach applicable to this complex task?

Do they offer advantages in the description of the exp. data

Is the approach scalable?

TMD fitting framework

NangaParbat

<https://github.com/MapCollaboration/NangaParbat>



☰ README.md



Nanga Parbat is a fitting framework aimed at the determination of the non-perturbative component of TMD distributions.

Download

You can obtain NangaParbat directly from the github repository:

<https://github.com/MapCollaboration/NangaParbat>

For the last development branch you can clone the master code:

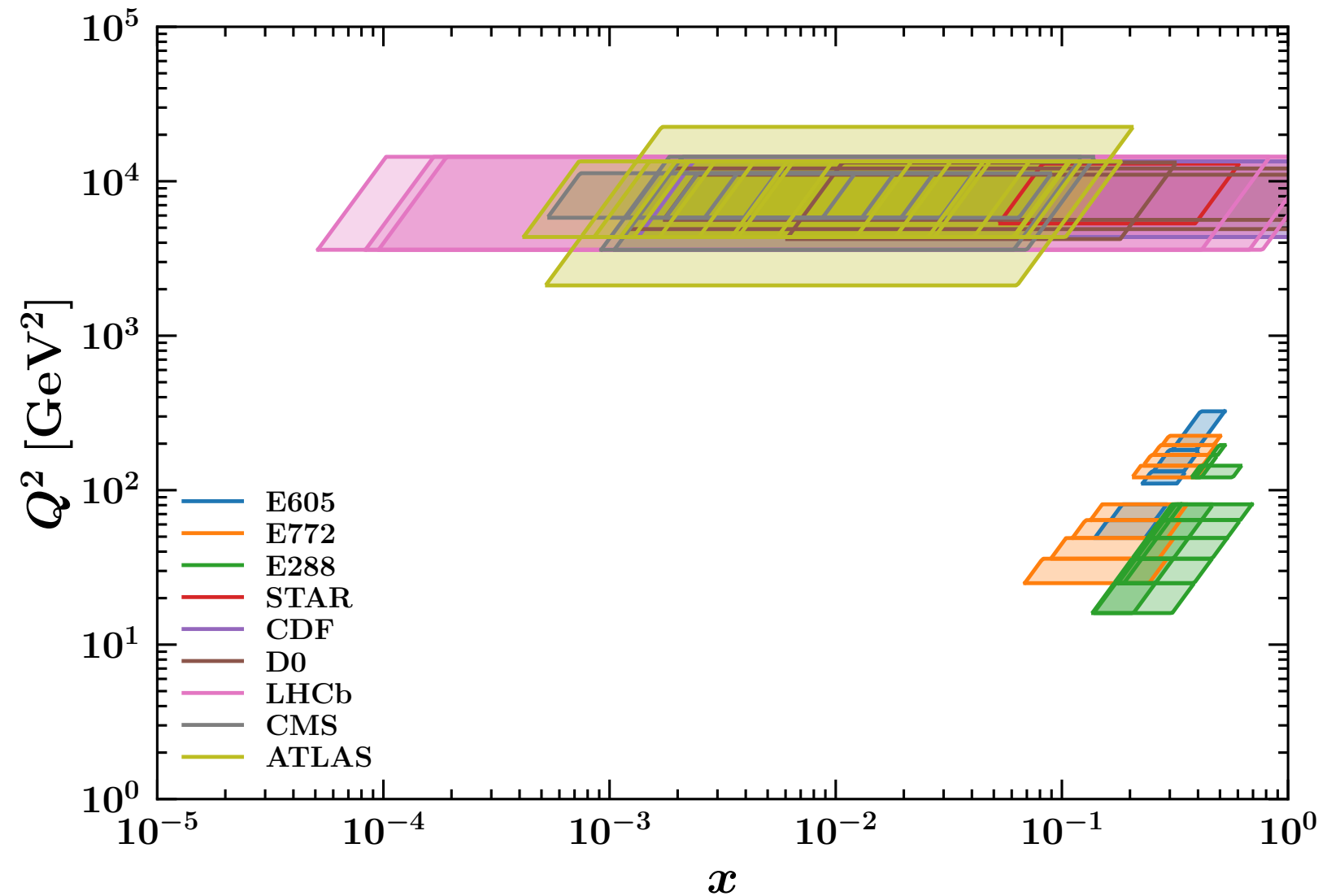
```
git clone git@github.com:MapCollaboration/NangaParbat.git
```

Included data sets

Drell-Yan data

Fixed-target:
E288, E605, E772

Collider mode:
RHIC, Tevatron, LHC



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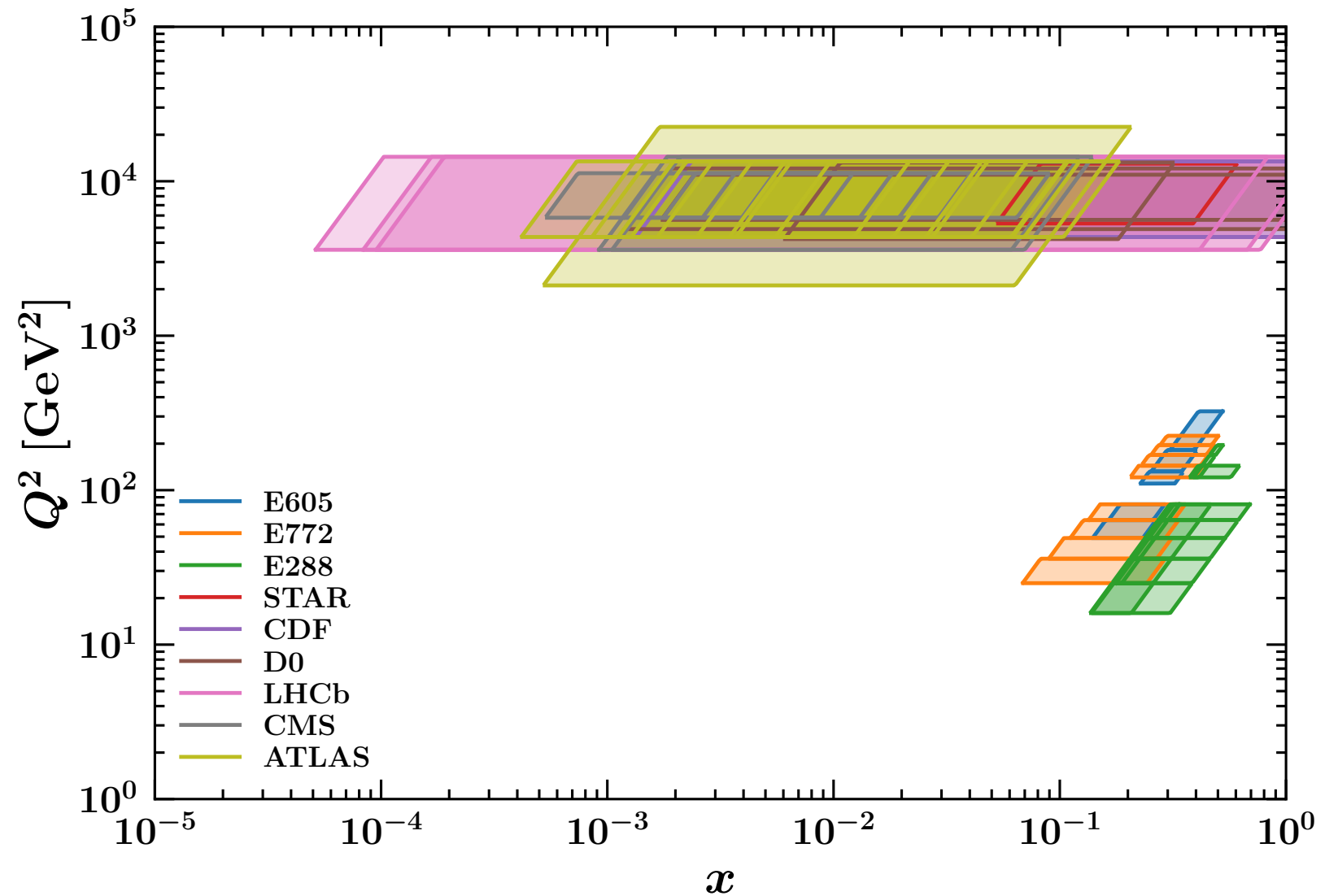
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$$q_T/Q < 0.2$$



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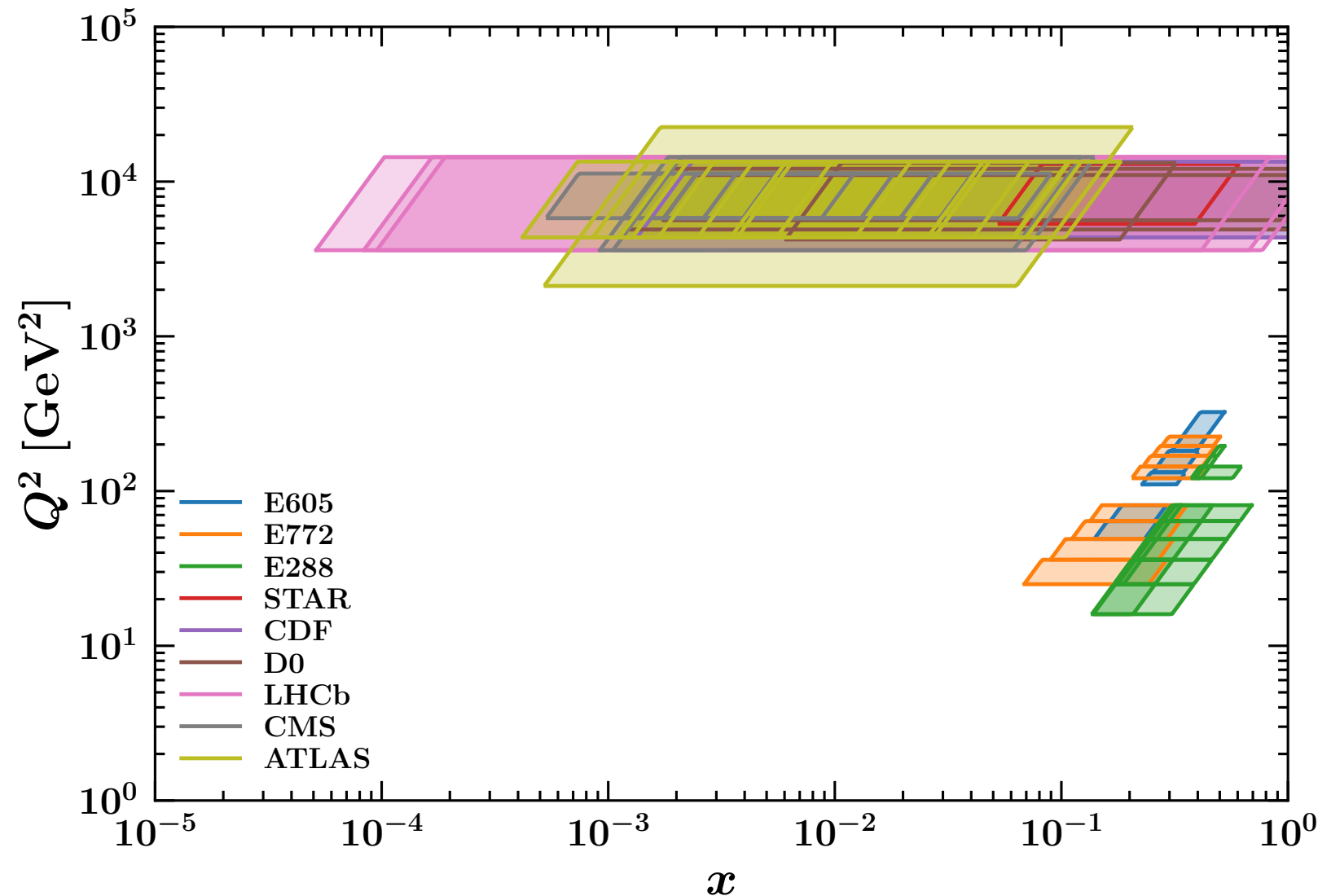
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Total number of data: 482

Parameterization: NN

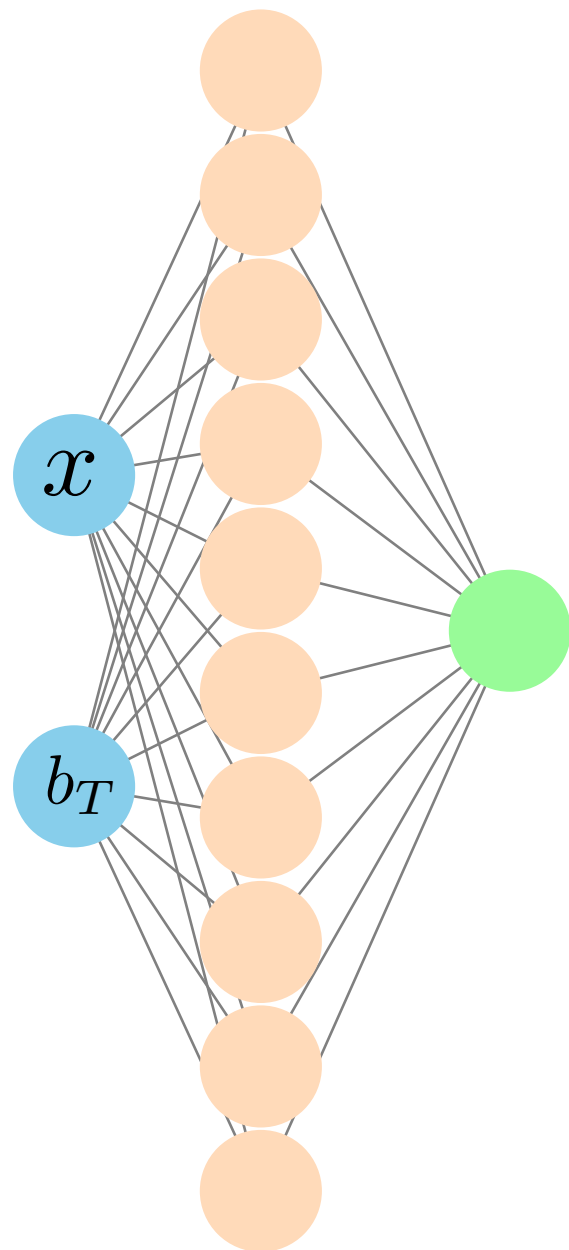
MAP Collaboration, PRL 135 (2025)

$$f_{\text{NP}}(x, b_T; \zeta) = \frac{\text{NN}(x, b_T, \{p_i\})}{\text{NN}(x, 0, \{p_i\})} \exp\left[-g_2^2 b_T^2 \ln\left(\frac{\zeta}{Q_0^2}\right)\right]$$

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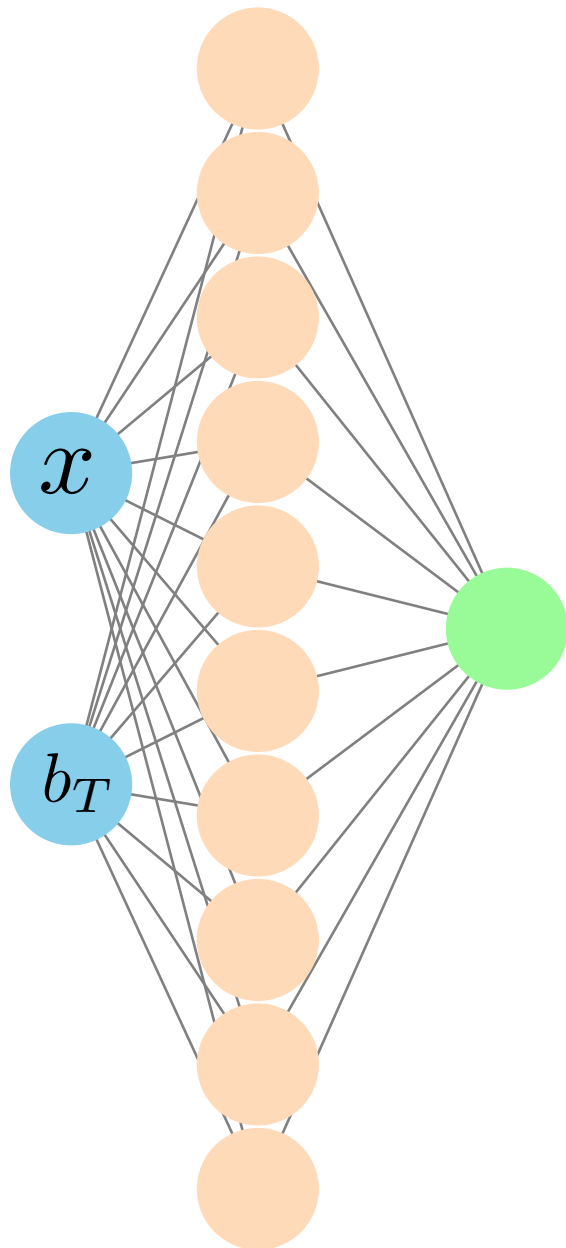
$\text{NN}(x, b_T)$

only one output node because
there is no flavor dependence (yet)

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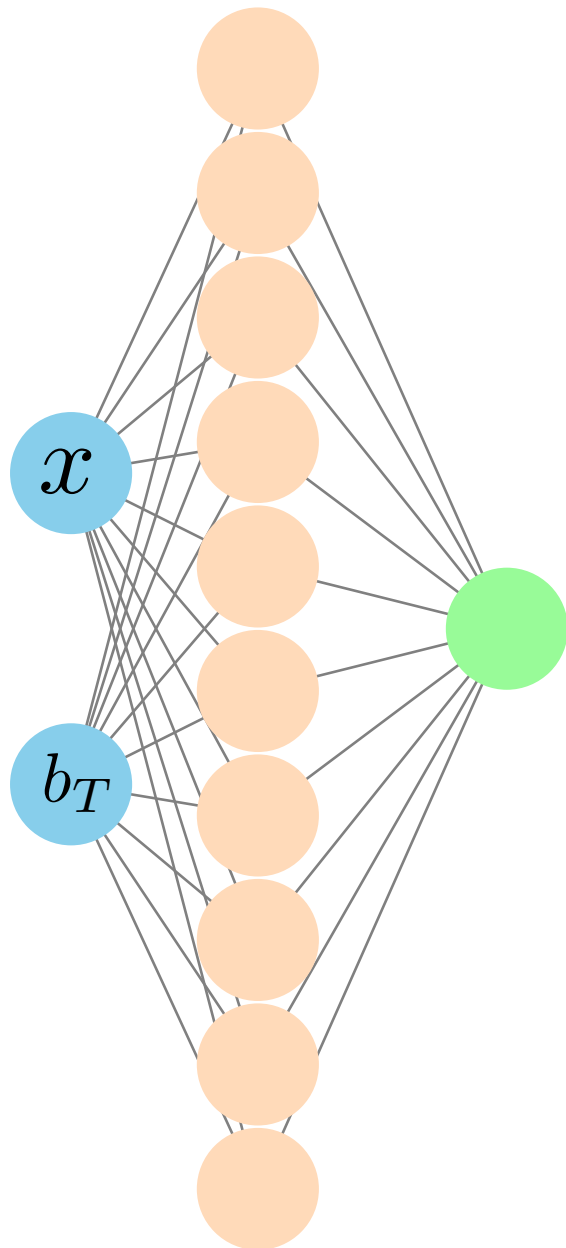
with activation function

$$\sigma(z) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{z}{1 + |z|} \right)$$

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physically required constraints

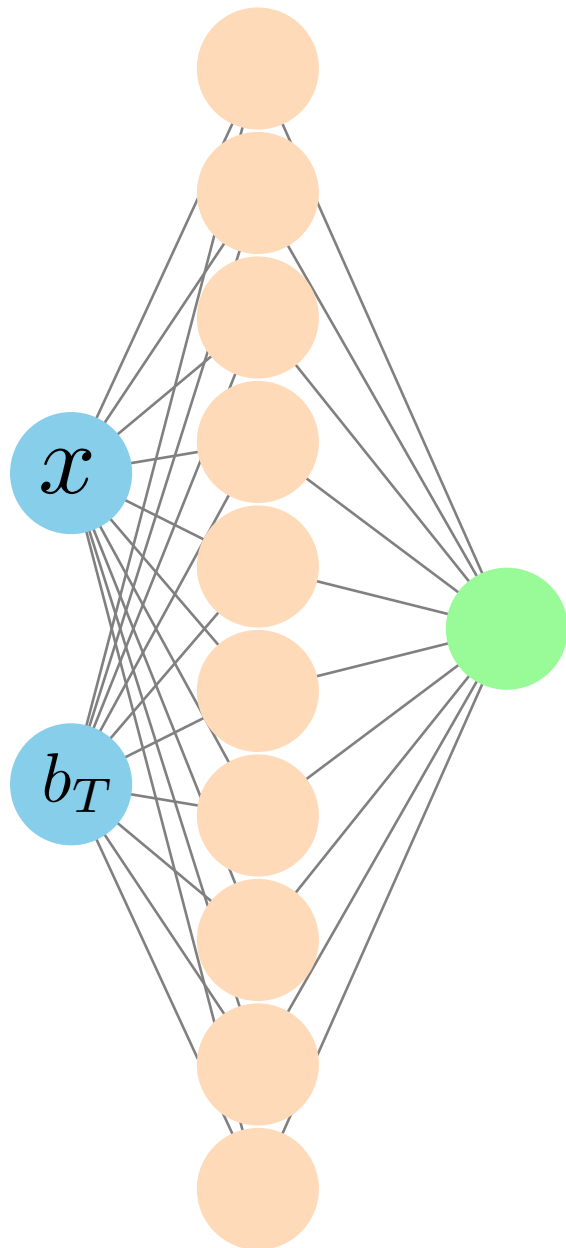
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41+1 parameters



$$\text{NN}(x, b_T)$$

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Validation of the methodology

Closure Tests

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- ★ Level 0: *pseudodata given by prediction of known model*
 - no Monte Carlo noise added on top of pseudodata*
 - fit the same pseudo data set but with different initial parameters*

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fit the same pseudo data set but with different initial parameters
- ✱ Level 1: *pseudodata given by prediction of known model + noise*
noise from the experimental covariance matrix
fit the same pseudo data set but with different initial parameters
- ✱ Level2: *pseudodata given by level 1*
fit of Monte Carlo replicas

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Validation of the methodology

Closure Tests - level 0

Generation of pseudo data from a known model

Validation of the methodology

Closure Tests - level 0

Generation of pseudo data from a known model

1. central value compute with **DWS model**

$$f_{\text{NP}}^{\text{DWS}}(b_T, \zeta) = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \left(g_1 + g_2 \ln \left(\frac{\zeta}{2Q_0^2} \right) \right) b_T^2 \right]$$

$$g_1 = 0.304$$

$$g_2 = 0.028$$

Bacchetta, Bertone, et al., JHEP 07 (2020)

Validation of the methodology

Closure Tests - level 0

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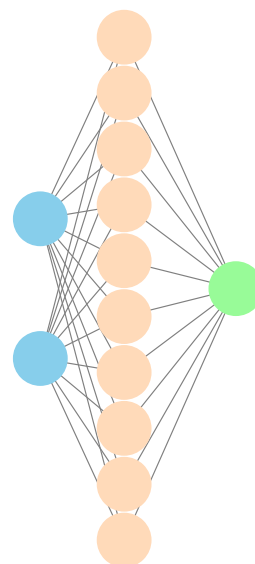
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Bacchetta, Bertone, et al., JHEP 07 (2020)

2. pseudodata errors from real DY data

fit with NN

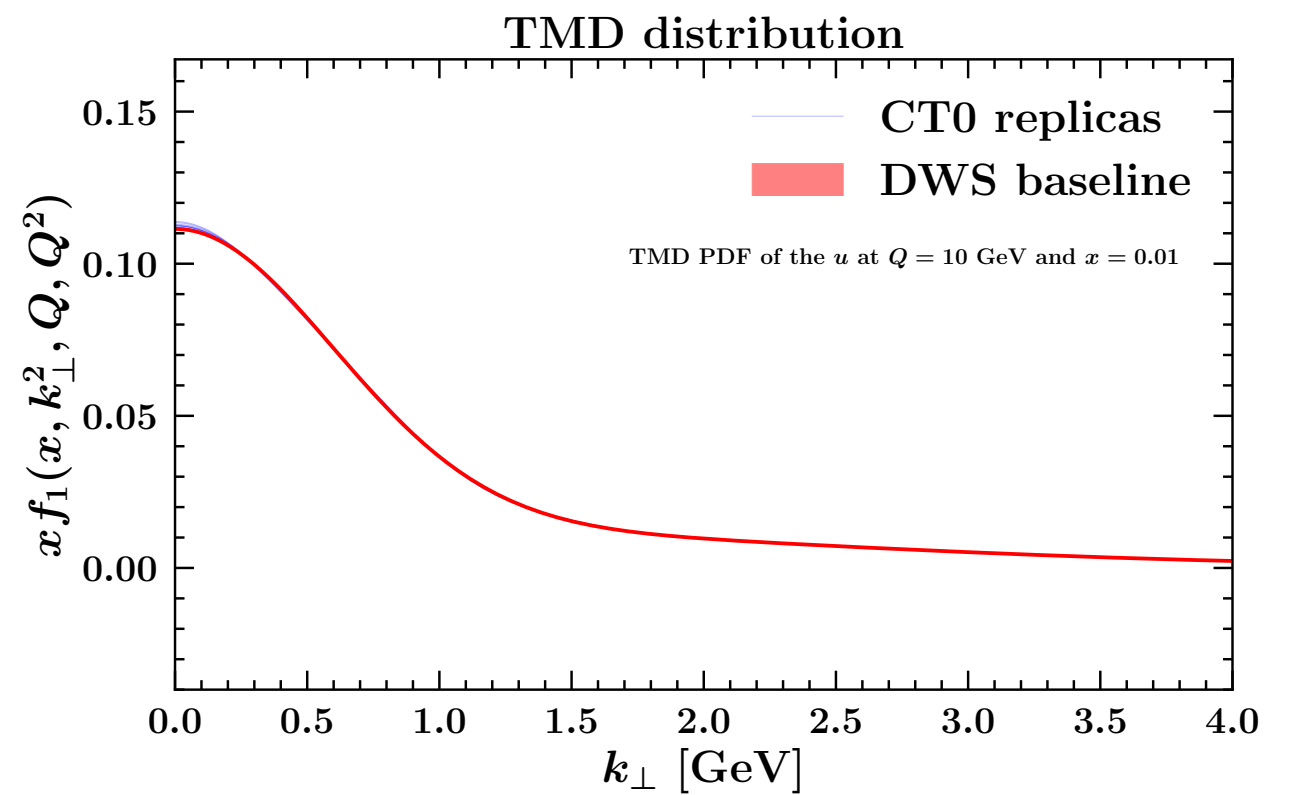
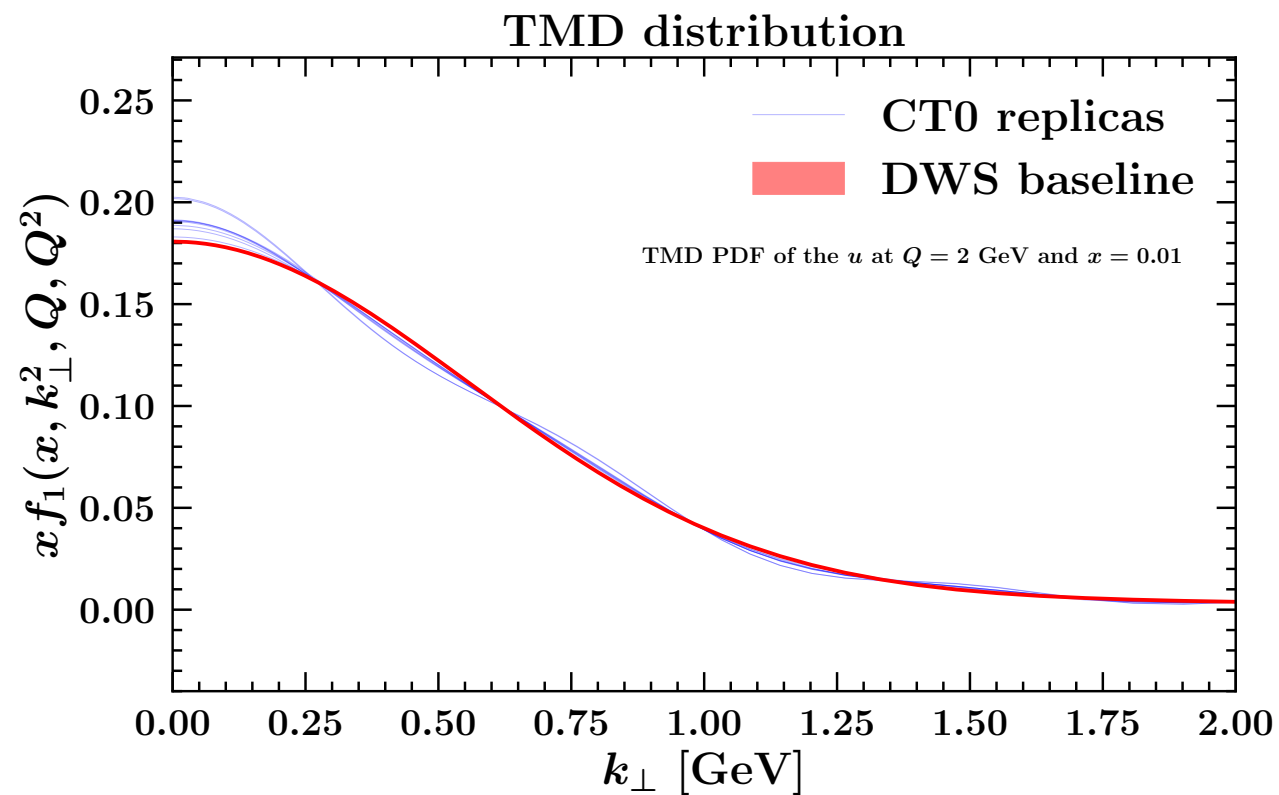


can we recover the
DWS result?

Validation of the methodology

Closure Tests - level 0

$$f_{\text{NP}}^{\text{DWS}}(b_T, \zeta) = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \left(g_1 + g_2 \ln \left(\frac{\zeta}{2Q_0^2} \right) \right) b_T^2 \right]$$



$$\chi^2 \sim 10^{-6}$$

Closure test successful!

Parameterization: MAP22

Bacchetta, Gamberg, Goldstein, et al., PLB 659 (2008)

Bacchetta, Conti, Radici, PRD 78 (2008)

Pasquini, Cazzaniga, Boffi, PRD 78 (2008)

Matevosyan, Bentz, Cloet, Thomas, PRD 85 (2012)

$$f_{1\text{NP}}(x, b_T^2) \propto \text{F.T. of } \left(e^{-\frac{k_\perp^2}{g_{1A}}} + \lambda_B k_\perp^2 e^{-\frac{k_\perp^2}{g_{1B}}} + \lambda_C e^{-\frac{k_\perp^2}{g_{1C}}} \right)$$

$$g_1(x) = N_1 \frac{(1-x)^\alpha x^\sigma}{(1-\hat{x})^\alpha \hat{x}^\sigma}$$

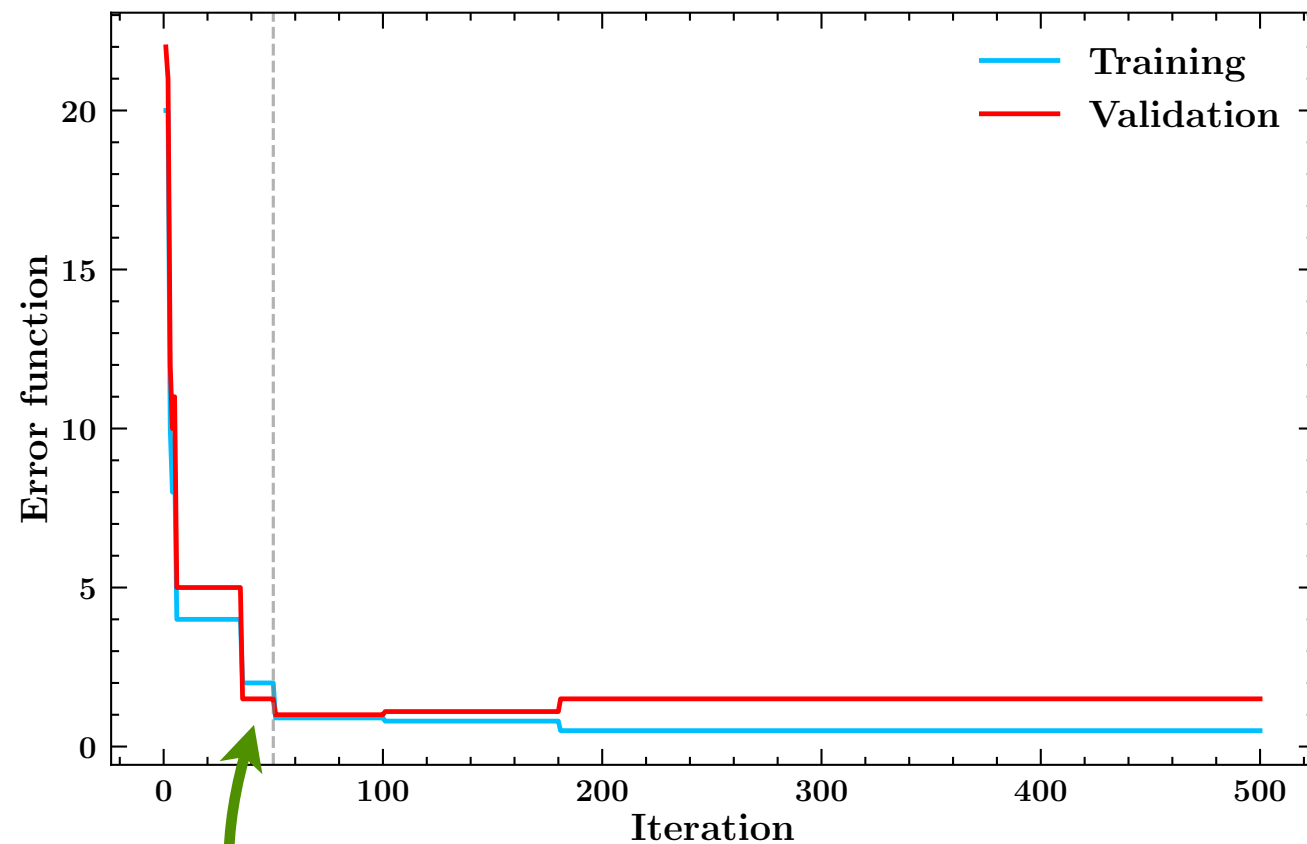
11+1 parameters

$$g_K(b_T^2) = -g_2^2 \frac{b_T^2}{4}$$

Gaussians and weighted-Gaussians: are they enough flexible?

Fitting procedure

Splitting the dataset into training / validation subsets

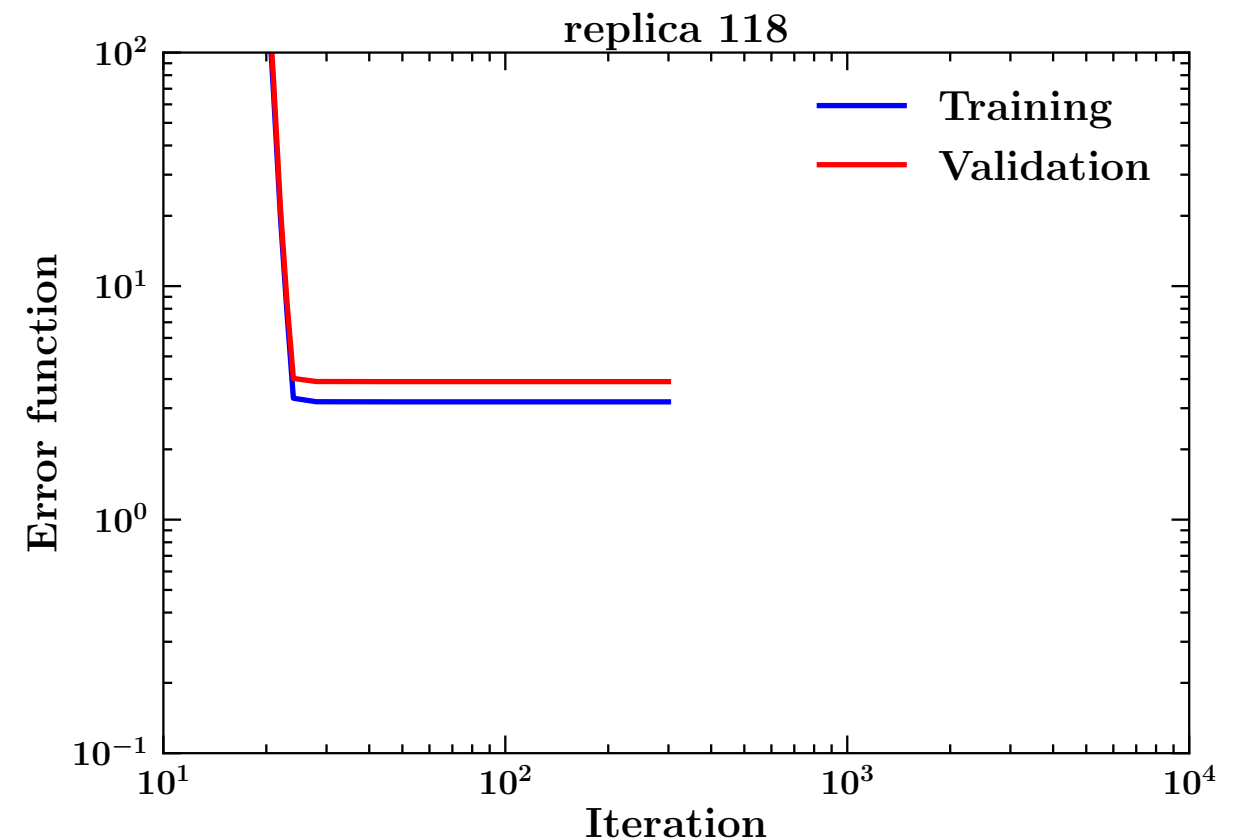


χ^2_{best}

random splitting

50% - 50%

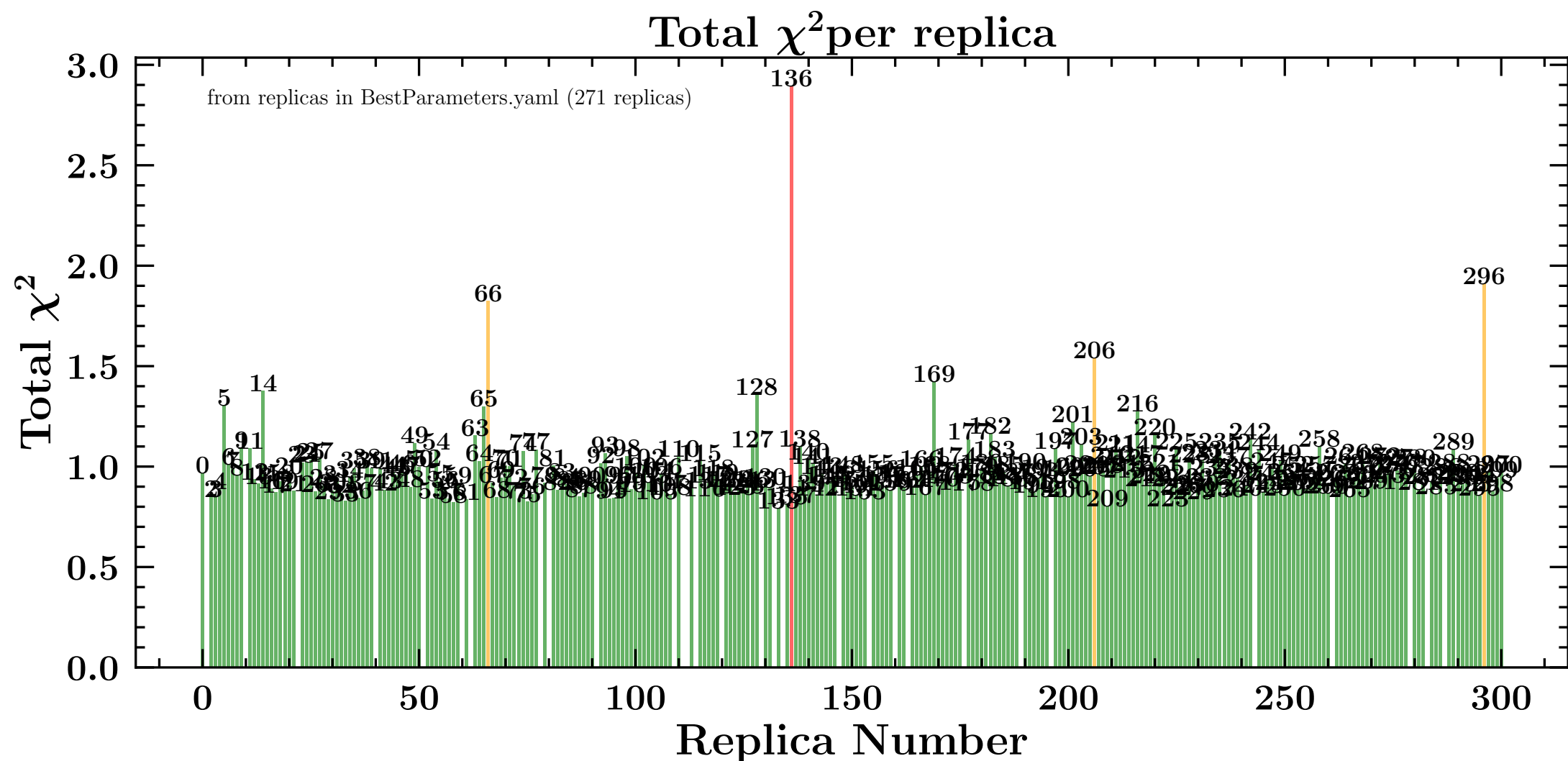
dataset by dataset



Fitting procedure

Error propagation: generation of Monte Carlo replicas

a fit runs in ~15 mins



Results of the analysis

Data / Theory agreement

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{m_i - \bar{t}_i}{s_i} \right)^2 + \sum_{\alpha=1}^k \lambda_{\alpha}^2$$

Experiment	N_{dat}	$\bar{\chi}^2 \ (\bar{\chi}_D^2 + \bar{\chi}_{\lambda}^2)$	
		NN	MAP22
Fixed-target	233	1.08 (0.98 + 0.10)	0.91 (0.70 + 0.21)
RHIC	7	1.11 (1.03 + 0.07)	1.45 (1.37 + 0.08)
Tevatron	71	0.80 (0.73 + 0.06)	1.20 (1.17 + 0.04)
LHCb	21	0.98 (0.88 + 0.10)	1.25 (1.05 + 0.20)
CMS	78	0.40 (0.38 + 0.02)	0.41 (0.35 + 0.06)
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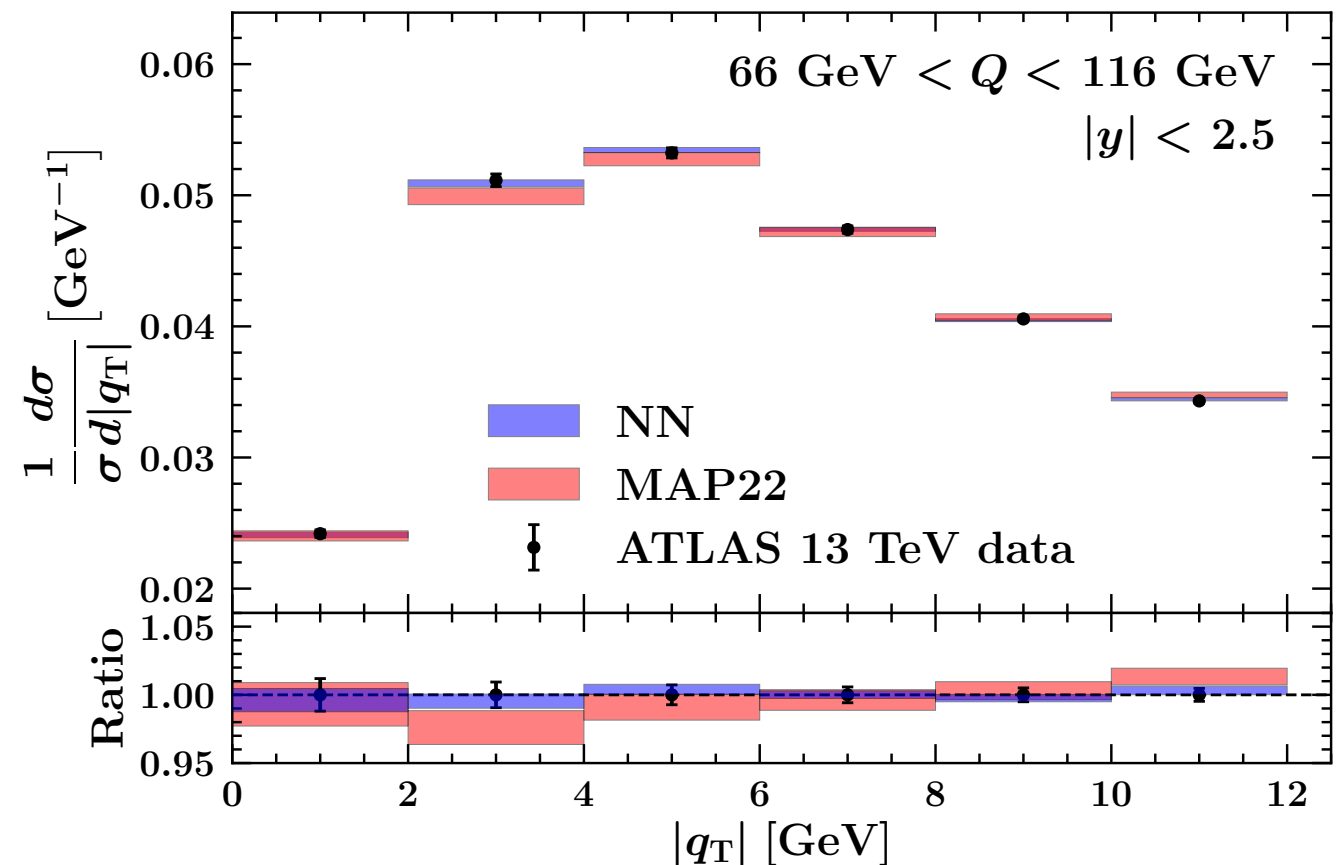
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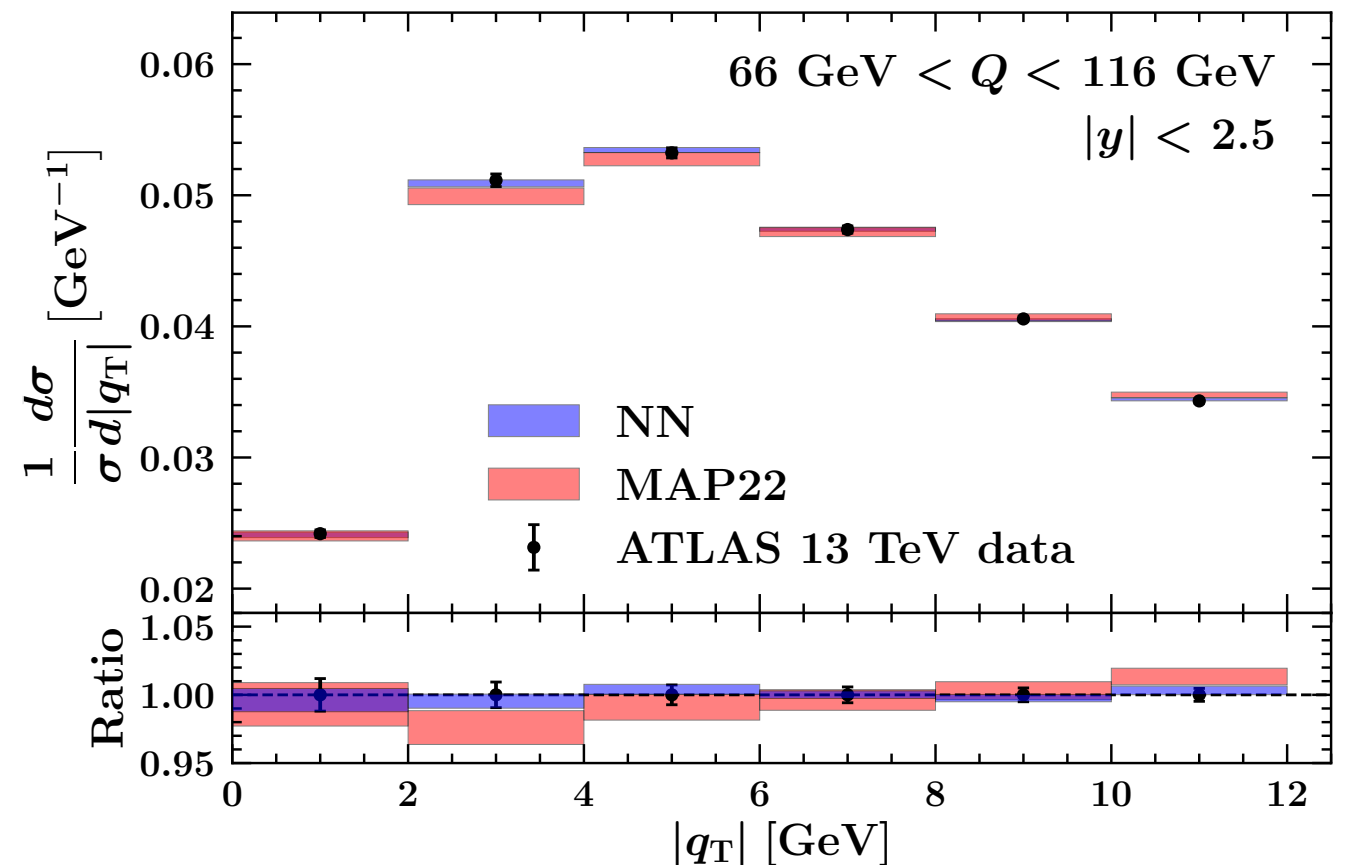
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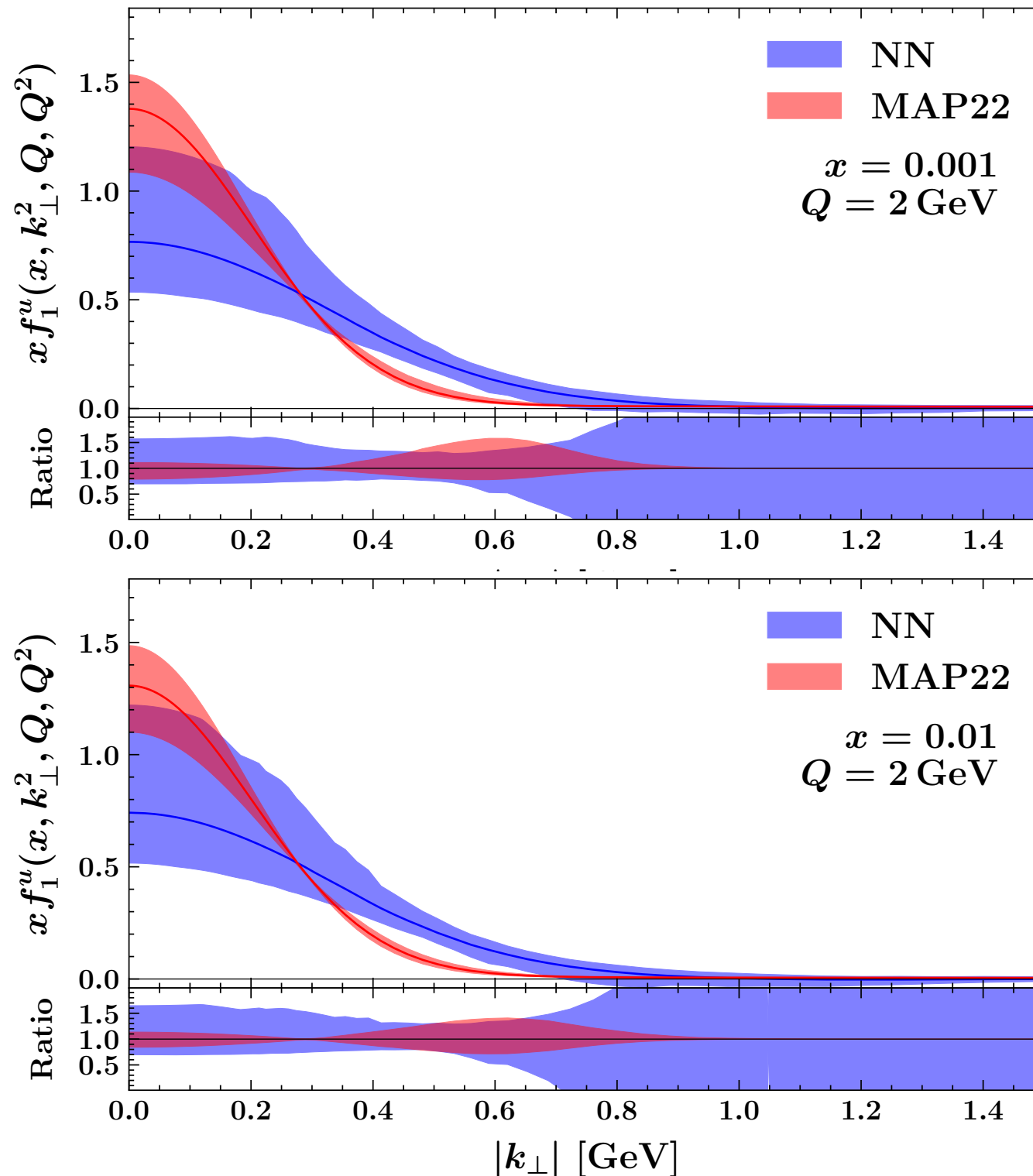
NN provide better quality than MAP22

Significant improvement for ATLAS data

MAP22 relies more on systematic shifts $\Rightarrow$ large error bands

Results of the analysis

Extracted TMDs

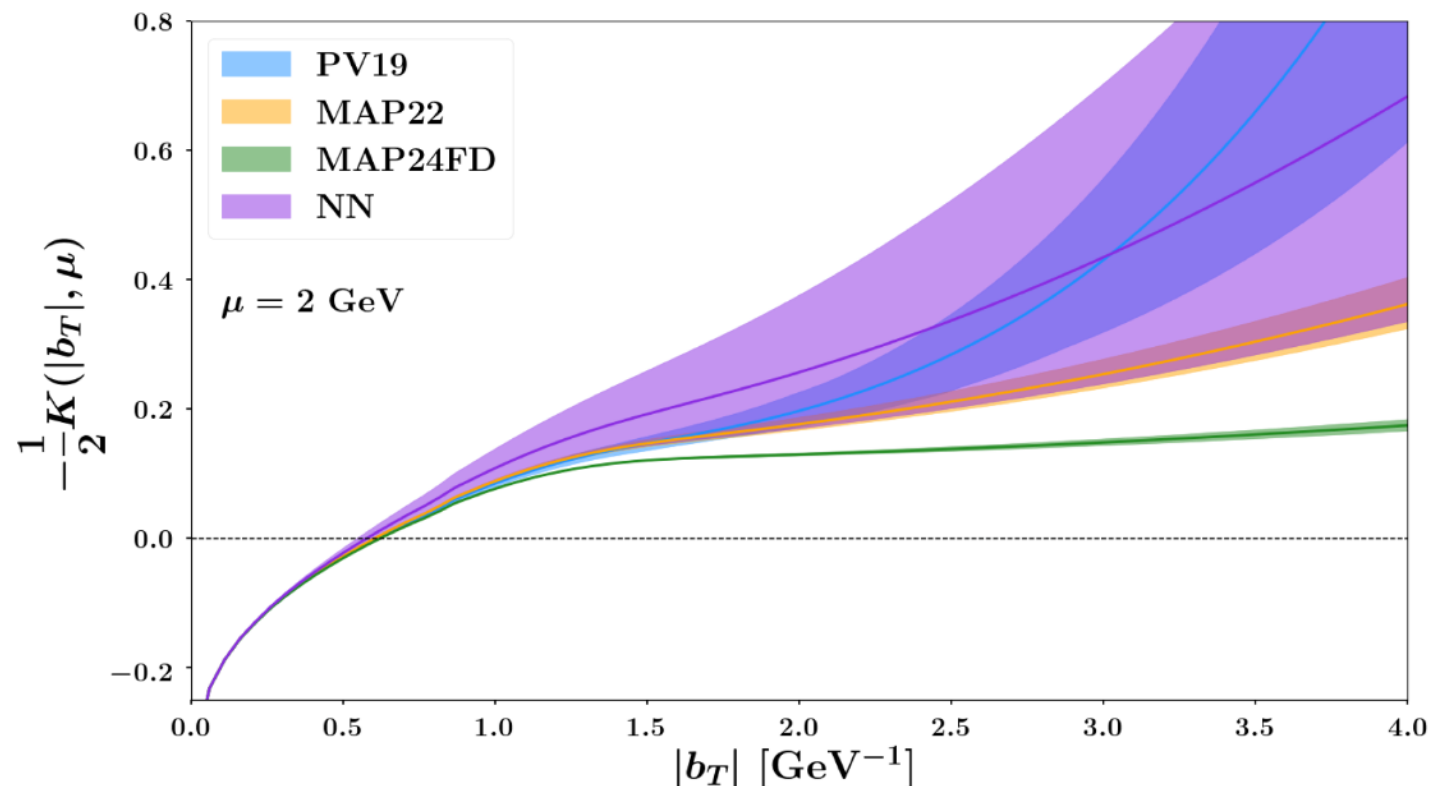


NN fit has larger bands

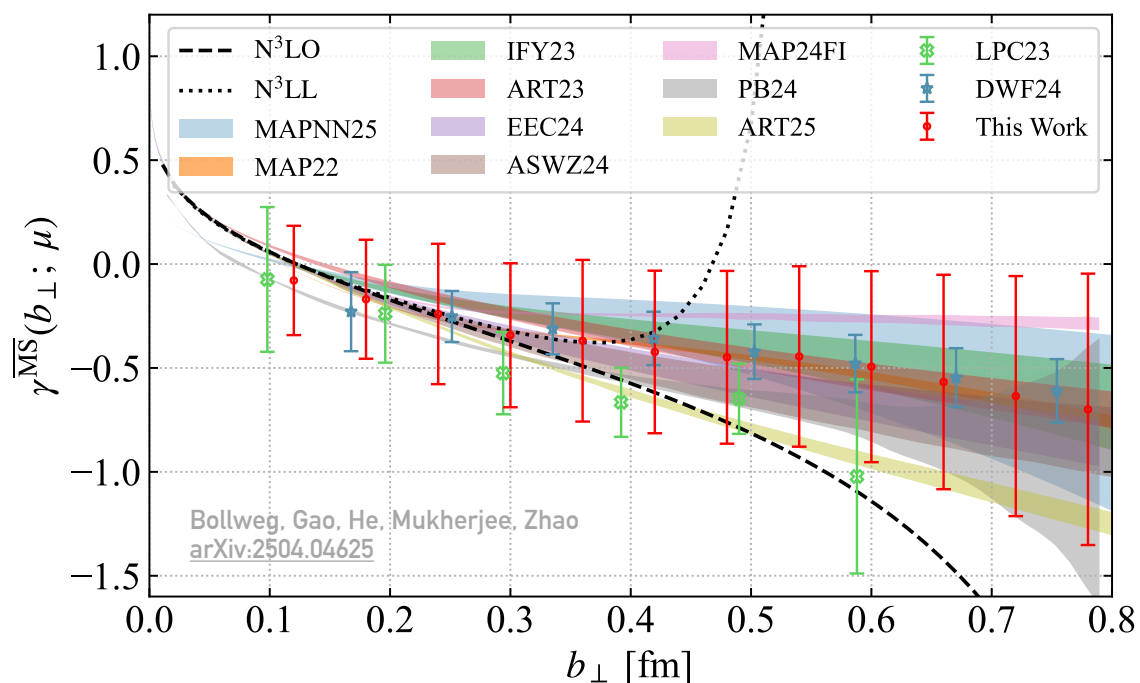
**more reliable estimation
of uncertainties**

Results of the analysis

Extracted nonperturbative evolution (Collins-Soper kernel)



**more reliable estimation
of uncertainties**



Is it possible to apply information from
lattice to the extraction of the CS kernel?

Conclusions

- ★ The Neural Network approach can be applied to TMD phenomenology

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First fit of unpolarized TMDs based on NNs

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Joint effort lattice+pheno for CS kernel

New advanced computational framework for QCD global fits

Detailed study on extracted TMD FFs from global fits

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Backup

Structure of a TMD: NP content

$$f_{NP}(x, b_T^2) \exp \left\{ g_K(b_T^2) \ln \frac{\sqrt{\zeta}}{\sqrt{\zeta_0}} \right\} : C$$

$$\boxed{\mu_b > \mu} \quad \infty \quad \xleftarrow{b_T \ll 1} \quad \mu_b = \frac{2e^{-\gamma_E}}{|b_T|} \quad \xrightarrow{b_T \gg 1} \quad 0 \quad \boxed{\alpha_S(\mu_b) \rightarrow +\infty}$$

b_* -prescription

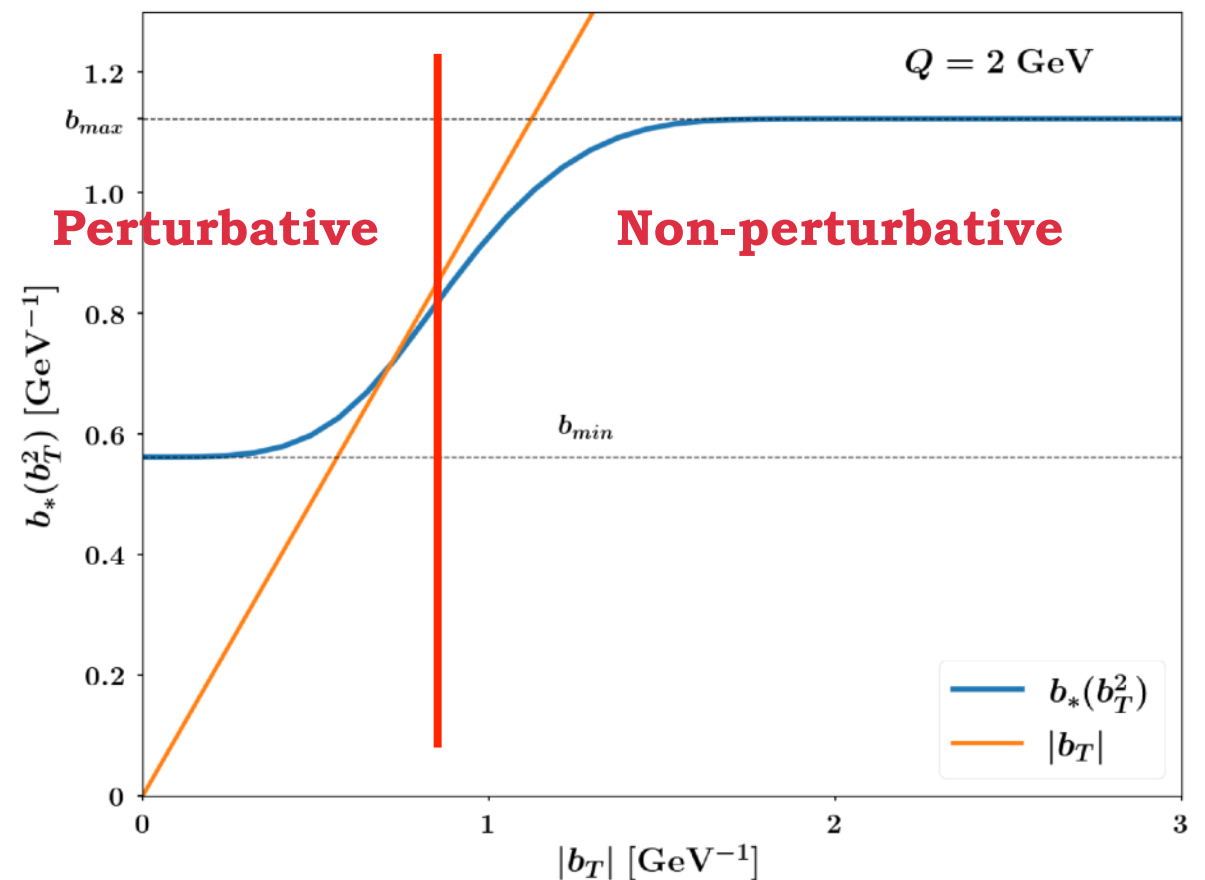
$$b_{\max} = 2e^{-\gamma_E}$$

$$b_{\min} = \frac{2e^{-\gamma_E}}{\mu}$$

Collins, Soper, Sterman, Nucl. Phys. B250 (1985)

Collins, Gamberg, et al., PRD (2016)

Bacchetta, Echevarria, Mulders, et al., JHEP 11 (2015)



$$\hat{f}_1(x, b_T^2; \mu, \zeta) = \left[\frac{\hat{f}_1(x, b_T^2; \mu, \zeta)}{\hat{f}_1(x, b_*(b_T^2); \mu, \zeta)} \right] \hat{f}_1(x, b_*(b_T^2); \mu, \zeta) \equiv \boxed{f_{NP}(x, b_T^2; \zeta)} \hat{f}_1(x, b_*(b_T^2); \mu, \zeta)$$

Theory/data agreement

Decomposition of the χ^2

experimental data

$$m_i \pm \sigma_{i,\text{unc}} \pm \sigma_{i,\text{corr}}^{(1)} \pm \cdots \pm \sigma_{i,\text{corr}}^{(k)}$$

uncorrelated

correlated

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{m_i - \bar{t}_i}{s_i} \right)^2 + \sum_{\alpha=1}^k \lambda_{\alpha}^2$$

uncorrelated contribution

penalty term

nuisance parameters $\frac{\partial \chi^2}{\partial \lambda_{\alpha}} = 0$

$$\bar{t}_i = t_i + d_i$$

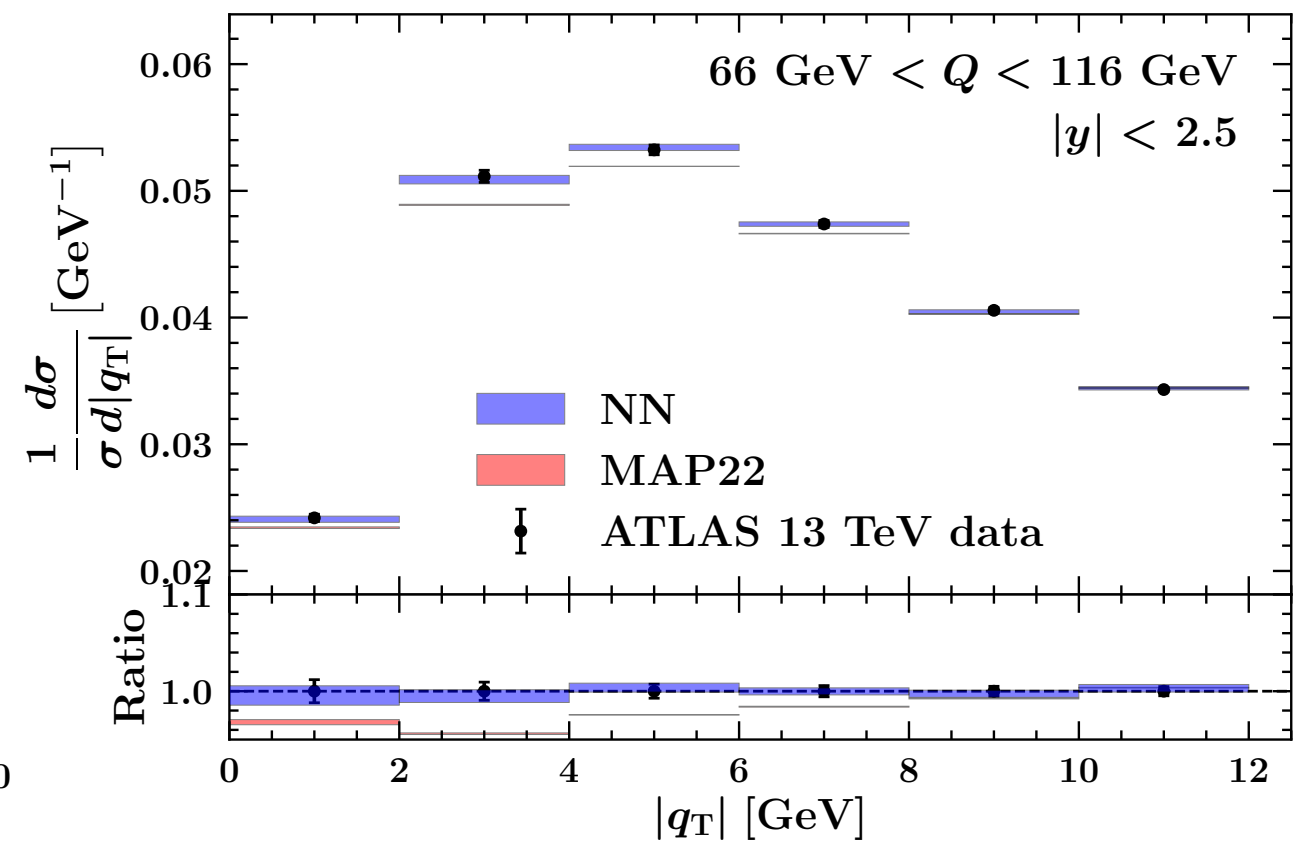
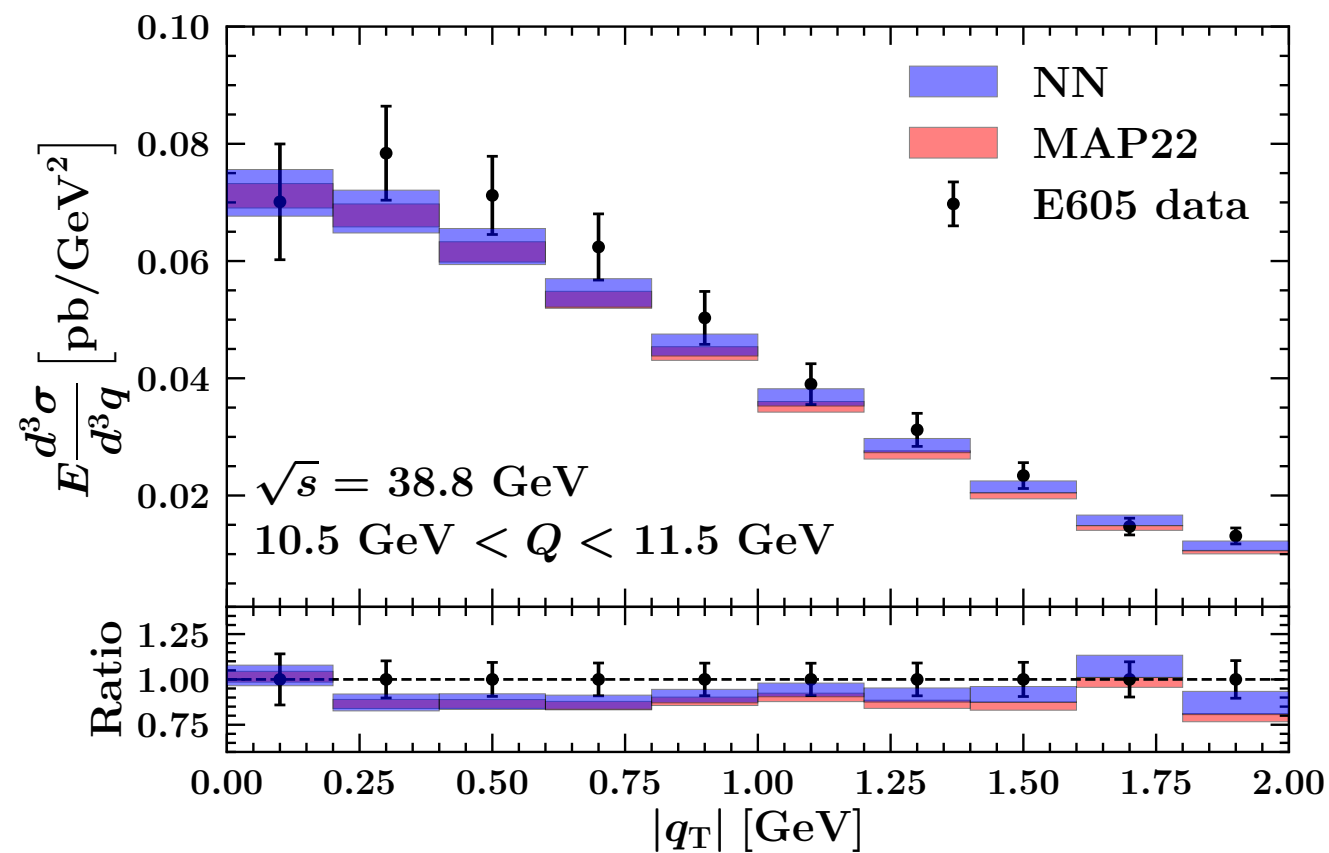
shifted prediction

shift

$$d_i = \sum_{\alpha=1}^k \lambda_{\alpha} \sigma_{i,\text{corr}}^{(\alpha)}$$

Results of the analysis

Data/Theory comparison without systematic shifts



The error bands comes directly from the uncertainty
of the extracted TMDs