

# nuclear shadowing in a holographic framework

based on

L. Agozzino, P. Castorina, PC: PRL 112 (2014) 141601  
EPJ C 74 (2014) 2428

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INFN – Bari – Italy

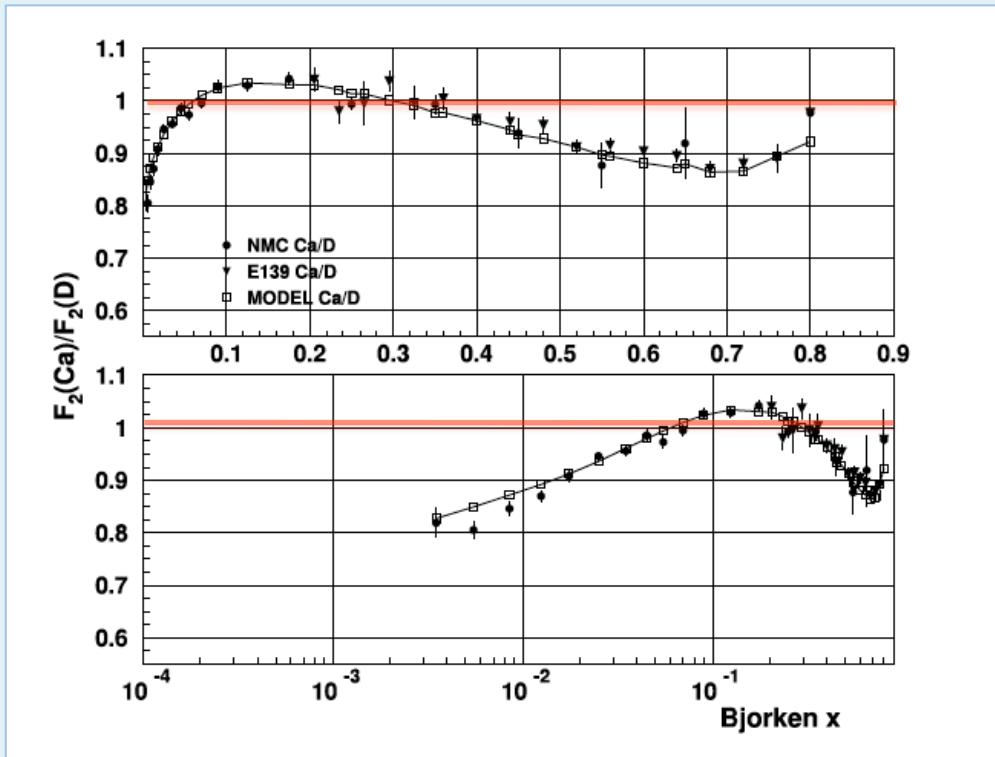
Gauge/Gravity Duality, GGI, 13 April 2015



a comparison of  
the holographic approach to data

the analysis provides an insight into some  
experimental results

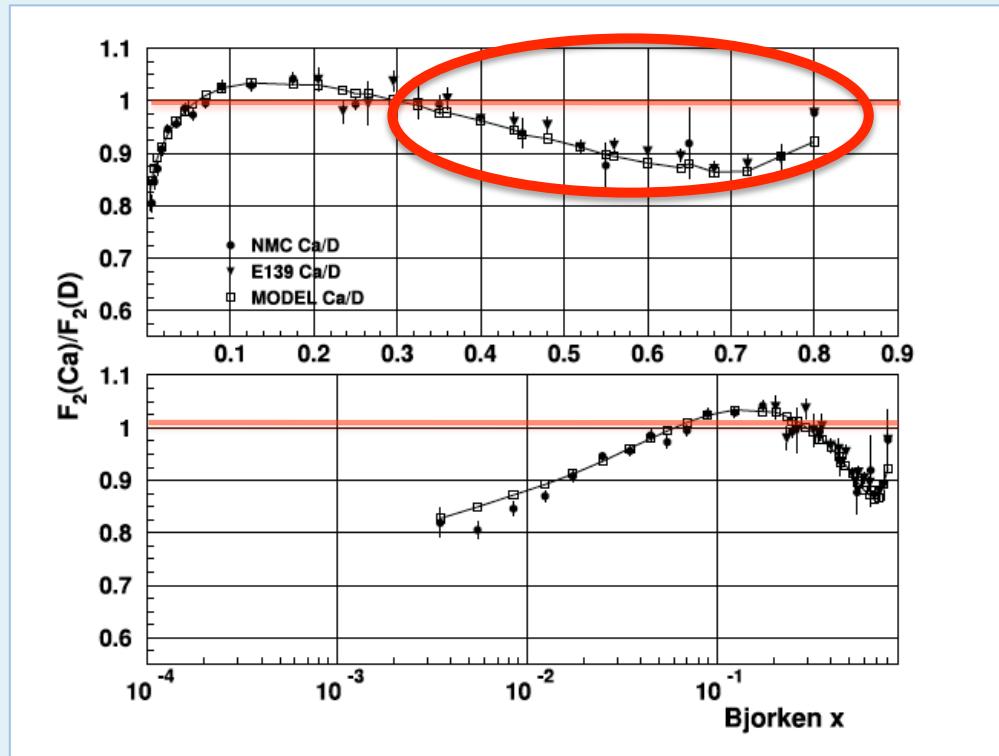
## nuclear versus nucleon structure functions



$$\frac{F_2(Ca)}{F_2(D)}$$

Kulagin and Petti, NPA 765 (2006) 126

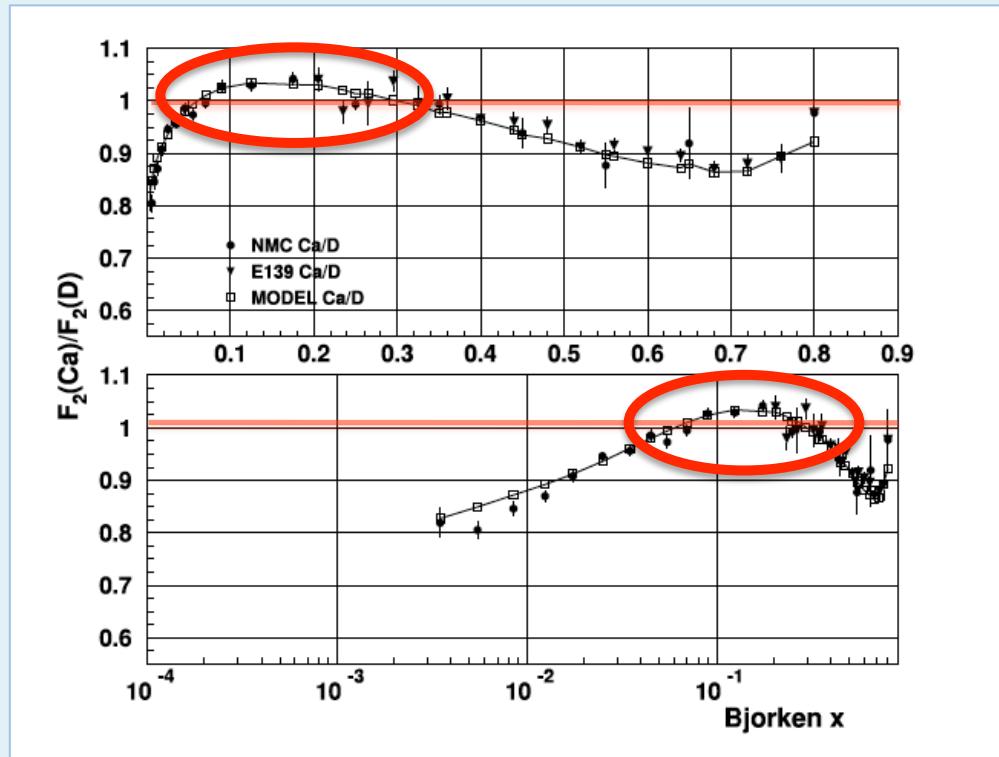
## nuclear vs nucleon structure functions



$$\frac{F_2(\text{Ca})}{F_2(\text{D})} < 1$$

Kulagin and Petti, NPA 765 (2006) 126

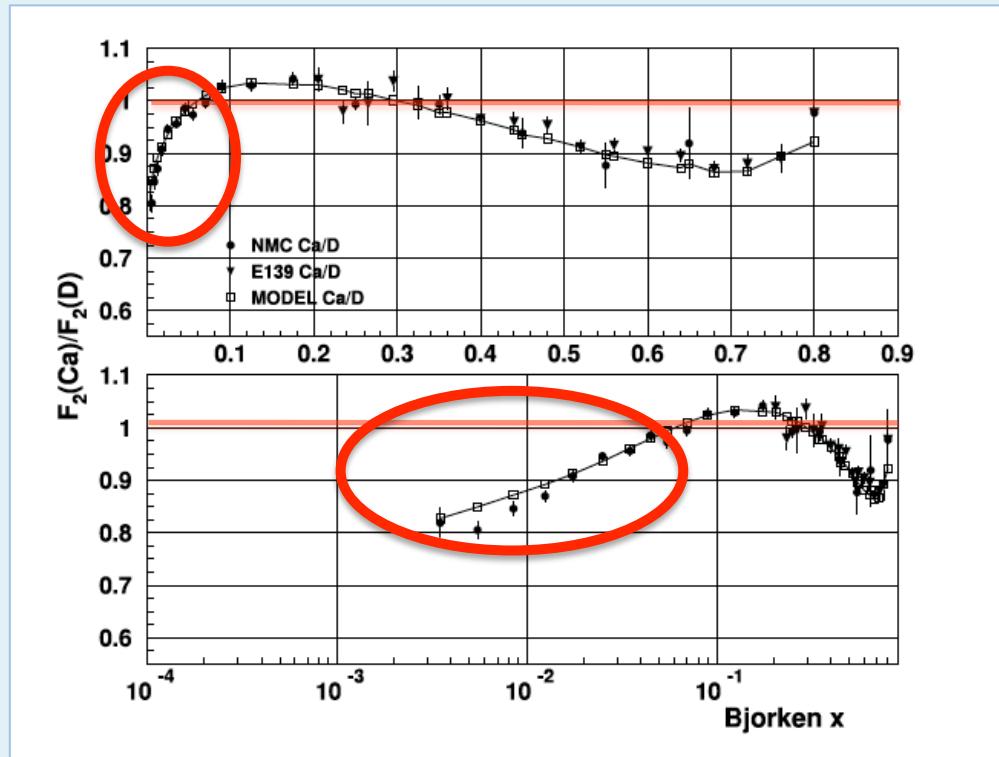
## nuclear vs nucleon structure functions



$$\frac{F_2(\text{Ca})}{F_2(\text{D})} > 1$$

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## nuclear vs nucleon structure functions



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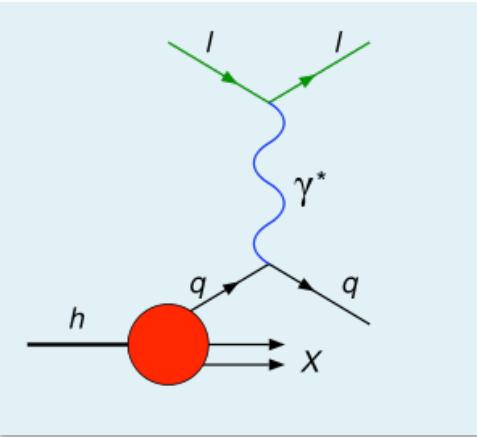
Kulagin and Petti, NPA 765 (2006) 126

small- $x$  domain of interest here

## SUMMARY

- DIS IN QCD AND IN A STRONGLY COUPLED THEORY
- SMALL X
- ANALYSIS OF NUCLEAR DATA
- CONCLUSIONS

## PROLOGUE



$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dE'd\Omega} = \frac{e^4}{16\pi^2 Q^4} \left( \frac{E'}{ME} \right) \ell_{\mu\nu} W^{\mu\nu}(p, q)$$

$$W_{\mu\nu} = F_1(x, q^2) \left( \eta_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2} \right) + \frac{2x}{q^2} F_2(x, q^2) \left( P_\mu + \frac{q_\mu}{2x} \right) \left( P_\nu + \frac{q_\nu}{2x} \right)$$

$$Q^2 = -q^2$$

$$0 \leq x = \frac{Q^2}{2 p \cdot q} \leq 1 \quad \text{Bjorken } x$$

$F_{1,2}$  encode information on the structure of the target

## PROLOGUE

DIS amplitudes from the imaginary part of the forward Compton scattering

$$T_{\mu\nu} = i \int d^4y e^{iq \cdot y} \langle P\tilde{Q} | T[J_\mu(y) J_\nu(0)] | P\tilde{Q} \rangle$$

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \tilde{F}_1(x, \frac{q^2}{\Lambda^2}) \left( \eta_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2} \right) + \frac{2x}{q^2} \tilde{F}_2(x, q^2) \left( P_\mu + \frac{q_\mu}{2x} \right) \left( P_\nu + \frac{q_\nu}{2x} \right)$$

large  $Q^2, x \gg 1$  : OPE for  $T_{\mu\nu}$

in terms of operators  $O_{n,j}$  ( $n$ =spin)  
 $\Delta_{n,j} = \delta_{n,j} + \gamma_{n,j}$  total scaling dimension  
 $\tau_{n,j} = \Delta_{n,j} - n$  twist

$$\tilde{F}_s(x, q^2) \approx i \sum_n \sum_j C_{n,j}^{(s)} A_{n,j} x^{-n} (2x)^{s-1} \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{Q^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}\tau_{n,j}-1} \quad (s=1,2)$$

large  $Q^2$  : dominance of the operators with smallest twist

contour argument relates large  $x$  behaviour to the moments of the DIS structure functions

## DIS and gauge/string duality

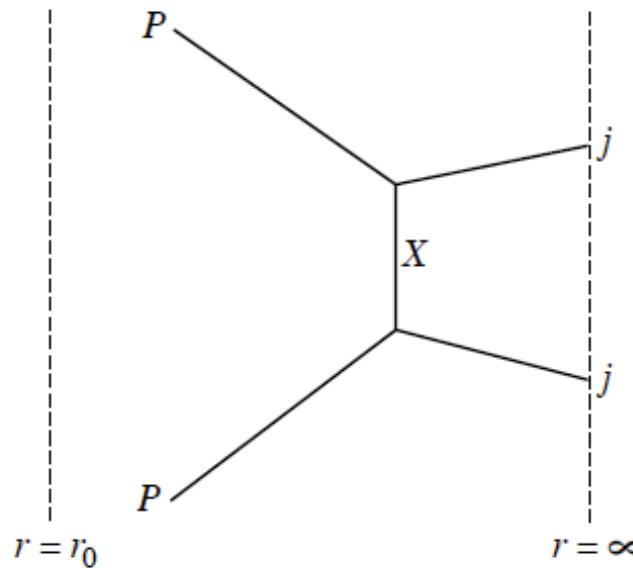
Polchinski Strassler JHEP 035 (2003) 012

Large 't Hooft coupling: gauge theories with dual description

conformal theories  $\rightarrow \text{AdS}_5 \times W$        $ds^2 = \frac{r^2}{R^2} \eta_{\mu\nu} dy^\mu dy^\nu + \frac{R^2}{r^2} dr^2 + R^2 d\hat{s}_W^2$

confining theories  $\rightarrow$  geometry modified at     $r \approx r_0 = \Lambda R^2$

$$\text{Im } T_{\mu\nu} = \pi \sum_{P_X, X} \langle P, Q | J_\nu(0) | P_X, X \rangle \langle P_X, X | \tilde{J}_\mu(q) | P, Q \rangle$$



# DIS and gauge/string duality

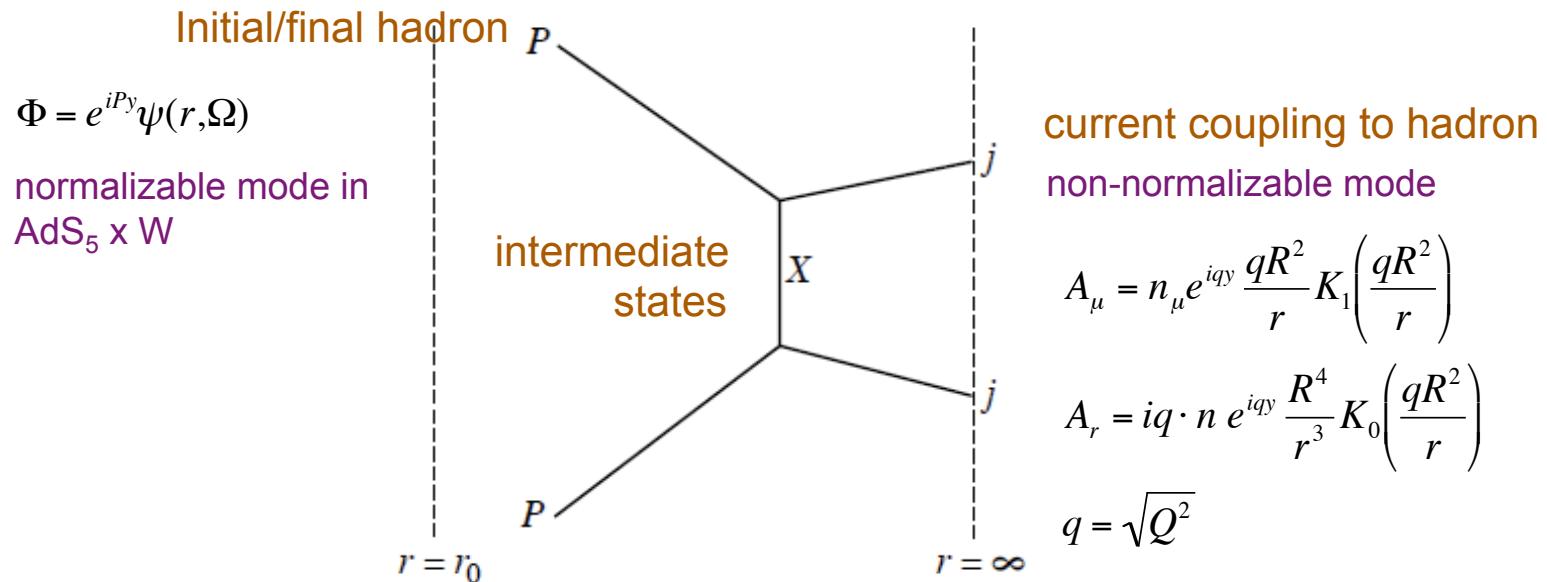
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## DIS and gauge/string duality

Polchinski Strassler JHEP 035 (2003) 012

$$F_1 = 0 \quad F_2 = \pi A_0 \tilde{Q}^2 \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{Q^2} \right)^{\Delta-1} x^{\Delta+1} (1-x)^{\Delta-2}$$

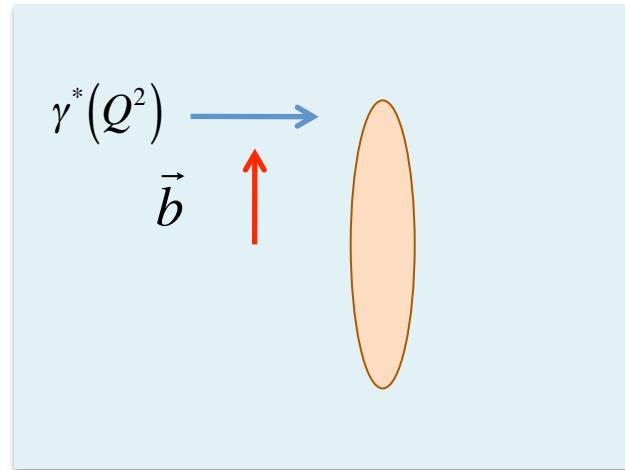
scalar hadrons

$\Delta$  dimension of the local operator  
creating the initial/final state  
from the vacuum

$$F_2 = 2F_1 = \pi A_0 \tilde{Q}^2 \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{Q^2} \right)^{\tau-1} x^{\tau+1} (1-x)^{\tau-2}$$

spin 1/2  $\left( \tau = \Delta - \frac{1}{2} \right)$

## emergence of 5D AdS



kinematical parameters:

2d Longitudinal

$$p_0 \pm p_3 \cong \exp[\pm \log(s/\Lambda_{QCD})]$$

2d Transverse

$$\vec{b} = \vec{x}_{perp} - \vec{x}'_{perp}$$

1 Resolution

$$z = 1/Q$$

## Small-x Regge region

Pomeron contribution

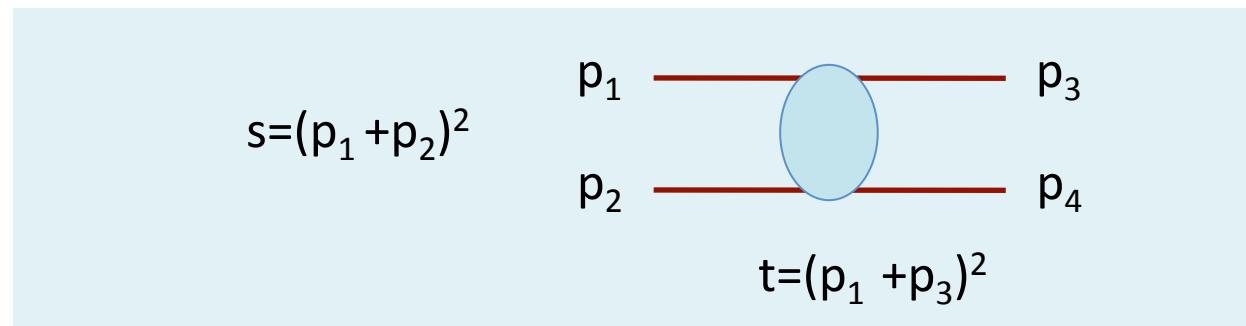
$$s \gg \Lambda_{QCD}^2 \quad |t| \approx \Lambda_{QCD}^2$$

$$x \approx \frac{Q^2}{s}$$

## Regge diffusion impact parameter

$$A(s,t) \approx s^{\alpha(t)} = s^{\alpha' t + j_0} \rightarrow a(s,b_{perp}) \approx s^{j_0} \exp[-b_{perp}^2 / 4\alpha' \log(s)]$$

diffusion in transverse b (impact) space  
“time”=rapidity

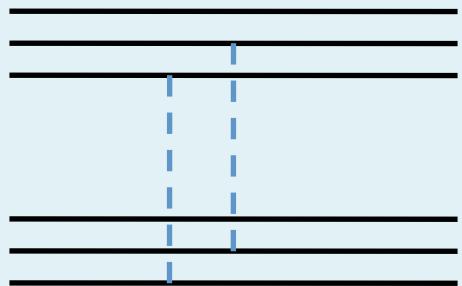


$$A(s, t = -q_{perp}^2) = \int \frac{d^2 b_{perp}}{4\pi^2} e^{-iq_{perp} \cdot b_{perp}} a(s, b_{perp})$$

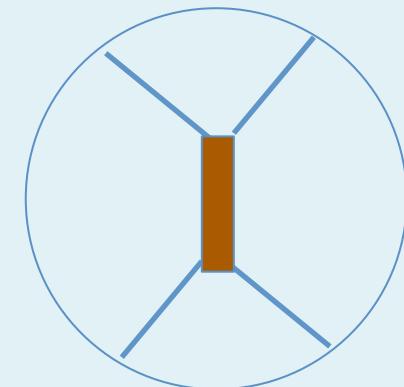
## bare Pomeron

leading 1/N term exchange with cylinder topology

weak: two gluons



strong: AdS graviton

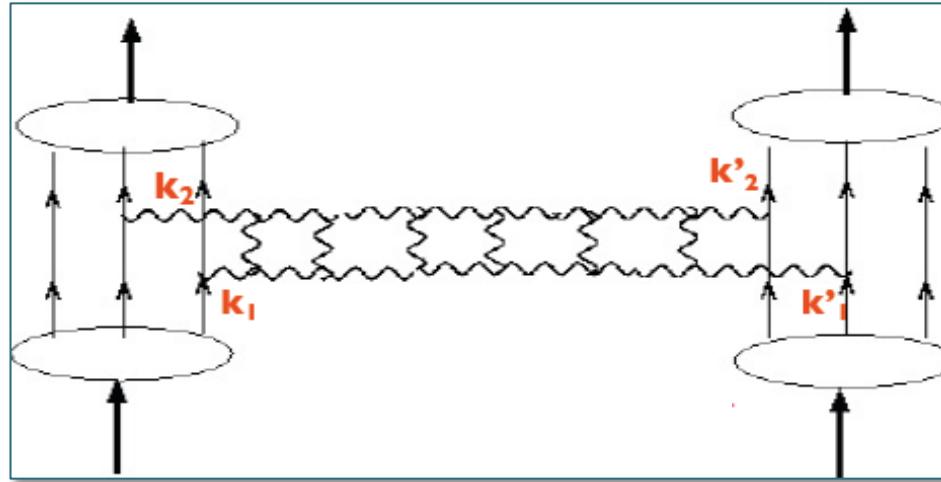


Low, PRD12 (1975) 163  
Nussinov, PRL 34 (1975) 1286

Witten  
Adv.Theor.Math.Phys 2 (1998) 253

## BFKL Pomeron

Balitsky Fadin Kuraev Lipatov



first order in  $\lambda$  and all orders in  $(g^2 N_c \log s)^n$

“hard” Pomeron

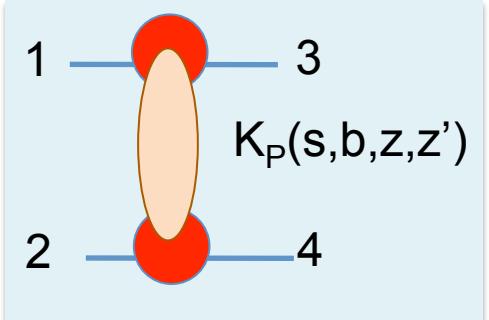
## DIS at small-x and gauge/string duality

Brower Djuric Sarcevic Tan JHEP 11 (2010) 051

A,B -> C,D  
1,2 -> 3,4

$$A(s,t) = P_{13} * K_P * P_{24}$$

scattering in 3-d transverse Euclidean  $\text{AdS}_3$



$$A(s,t) = 2is \int d^2 b e^{iq \cdot b} \int dz \int dz' P_{13}(z) P_{24}(z') \left\{ 1 - e^{i\chi(s,b,z,z')} \right\}$$

$$P_{ij}(z) = \sqrt{g} \left( \frac{z}{R} \right)^2 \phi_i^p(z) \phi_j^p(z) \quad \phi_i \text{ external normalizable wf}$$

$\chi(s,b,z,z')$  eikonal  
related to the BPST Pomeron kernel

$$\chi(s,b,z,z') = \frac{g_0^2}{2s} \left( \frac{R^2}{zz'} \right)^2 K(s,b,z,z')$$

BPST= Brower Polchinski Strassler Tan JHEP 12 (2007) 005

## DIS at small-x and gauge/string duality

Brower Djuric Sarcevic Tan JHEP 11 (2010) 051

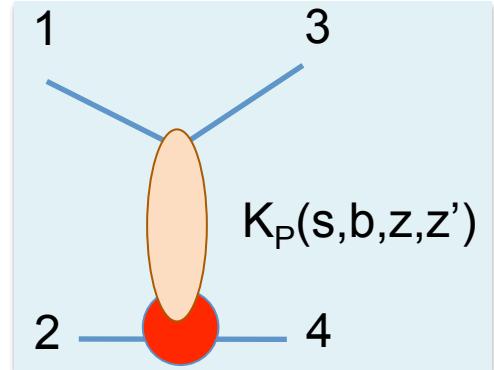
A,B → C,D

1,2 → 3,4



$\gamma^* p \rightarrow \gamma^* p$

1, 2 → 3, 4



small-x DIS structure functions from the off-shell  $\gamma^* p$  total cross section

$$F_2(x, Q^2) = \frac{Q^2}{4\pi^2 \alpha_{em}} (\sigma_T + \sigma_L)$$

$$F_2(x, Q^2) = \frac{Q^2}{2\pi} \int d^2 b \int dz \int dz' P_{13}(z, Q^2) P_{24}(z') \text{Re}\left\{1 - e^{i\chi(s, b, z, z')}\right\}$$

$$P_{13}(z) = \frac{1}{z} (Qz)^2 (K_0^2(Qz) + K_1^2(Qz))$$

$$2xF_1(x, Q^2) = \frac{Q^2}{2\pi} \int d^2 b \int dz \int dz' P_{13}(z, Q^2) P_{24}(z') \text{Re}\left\{1 - e^{i\chi(s, b, z, z')}\right\}$$

$$P_{13}(z) = \frac{1}{z} (Qz)^2 K_1^2(Qz)$$

## DIS at small- $x$ and gauge/string duality

Brower Djuric Sarcevic Tan JHEP 11 (2010) 051

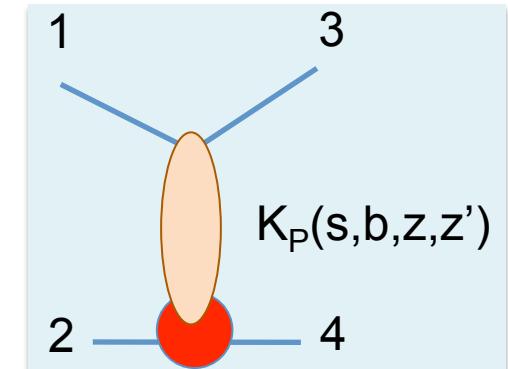
A,B  $\rightarrow$  C,D

1,2  $\rightarrow$  3,4



$\gamma^* p \rightarrow \gamma^* p$

1, 2  $\rightarrow$  3, 4



small- $x$  DIS structure functions from the off-shell  $\gamma^* p$  total cross section

### kernel $K_P$ splitted in two contributions

$$F_2(x, Q^2) = F_{2,cr}(x, Q^2) + F_{2,ct}(x, Q^2)$$

## DIS at small-x and gauge/string duality

Brower Djuric Sarcevic Tan JHEP 11 (2010) 051

### conformal term

$$F_{2,cr}^p(x,Q^2) = \frac{g_0^2 \rho^{3/2}}{32\pi^{5/2}} \int dz \int dz' \frac{zz' Q^2}{\tau^{1/2}} P_{13}(z,Q^2) P_{24}(z') e^{(1-\rho)\tau} e^{\Phi(z,z',\tau)}$$

$$\Phi(z,z',\tau) = -\frac{(\log z - \log z')^2}{\rho\tau}$$

$$\tau = \log(\rho zz' s/2)$$

$$x \approx \frac{Q^2}{s}$$

$g_0$     $\rho$    parameters

# DIS at small-x and gauge/string duality

Brower Djuric Sarcevic Tan JHEP 11 (2010) 051

## confinement term

$$F_{2,ct}^p(x,Q^2) = \frac{g_0^2 \rho^{3/2}}{32\pi^{5/2}} \int dz \int dz' \frac{zz' Q^2}{\tau^{1/2}} P_{13}(z,Q^2) P_{24}(z') e^{(1-\rho)\tau} e^{-\frac{\ln^2(zz'/z_0^2)}{\rho\tau}} G(z,z',\tau)$$

$$G(z,z',\tau) = 1 - 2\sqrt{\pi\rho\tau} e^{\eta^2} \operatorname{erfc}(z)$$

$$\eta = \frac{-\log(zz'/z_0^2) + \rho\tau}{\sqrt{\rho\tau}}$$

$z_0$  IR cutoff (hard wall)

## conformal term

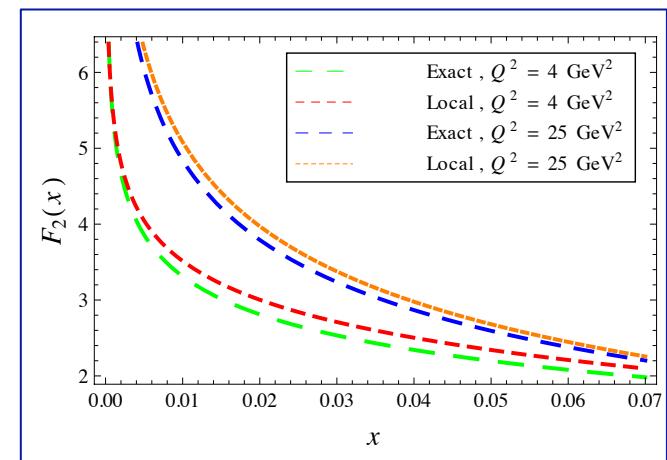
$$F_{2,cr}^p(x,Q^2) = \frac{g_0^2 \rho^{3/2}}{32\pi^{5/2}} \int dz \int dz' \frac{zz'Q^2}{\tau^{1/2}} P_{13}(z,Q^2) P_{24}(z') e^{(1-\rho)\tau} e^{\Phi(z,z',\tau)}$$

## local approximation

$$P_{13}(z) = \frac{1}{z} (Qz)^2 (K_0^2(Qz) + K_1^2(Qz)) \rightarrow C \delta\left(z - \frac{1}{Q}\right)$$

$$P_{24}(z') \cong \delta\left(z' - \frac{1}{Q'}\right)$$

$$F_{2,cr}^p(x,Q^2,Q') = \frac{g_0^2 \rho^{3/2}}{32\pi^{5/2}} \frac{Q}{Q'} \frac{1}{\tau^{1/2}} e^{(1-\rho)\tau} e^{-[\log^2(Q/Q')/\rho\tau]}$$



$F_2^p$  vs  $F_2^p|_{local}$

## confinement term

$$F_{2,ct}^p(x,Q^2) = \frac{g_0^2 \rho^{3/2}}{32\pi^{5/2}} \int dz \int dz' \frac{zz' Q^2}{\tau^{1/2}} P_{13}(z,Q^2) P_{24}(z') e^{(1-\rho)\tau} e^{-\frac{\ln^2(zz'/z_0^2)}{\rho\tau}} G(z,z',\tau)$$

## local approximation

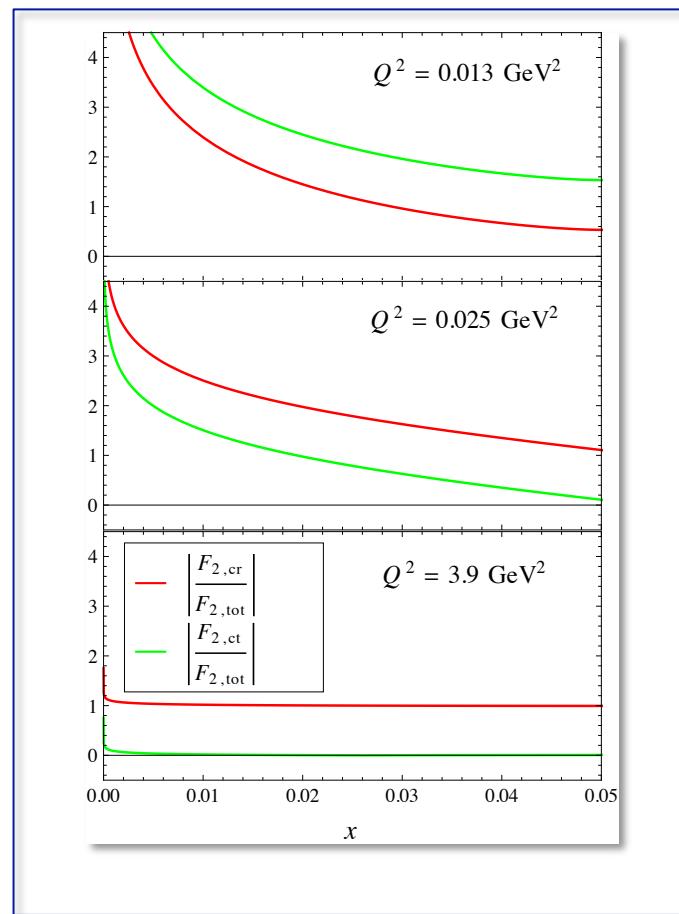
$$P_{13}(z) = \frac{1}{z} (Qz)^2 (K_0^2(Qz) + K_1^2(Qz)) \rightarrow C \delta\left(z - \frac{1}{Q}\right)$$

$$P_{24}(z') \approx \delta\left(z' - \frac{1}{Q'}\right)$$

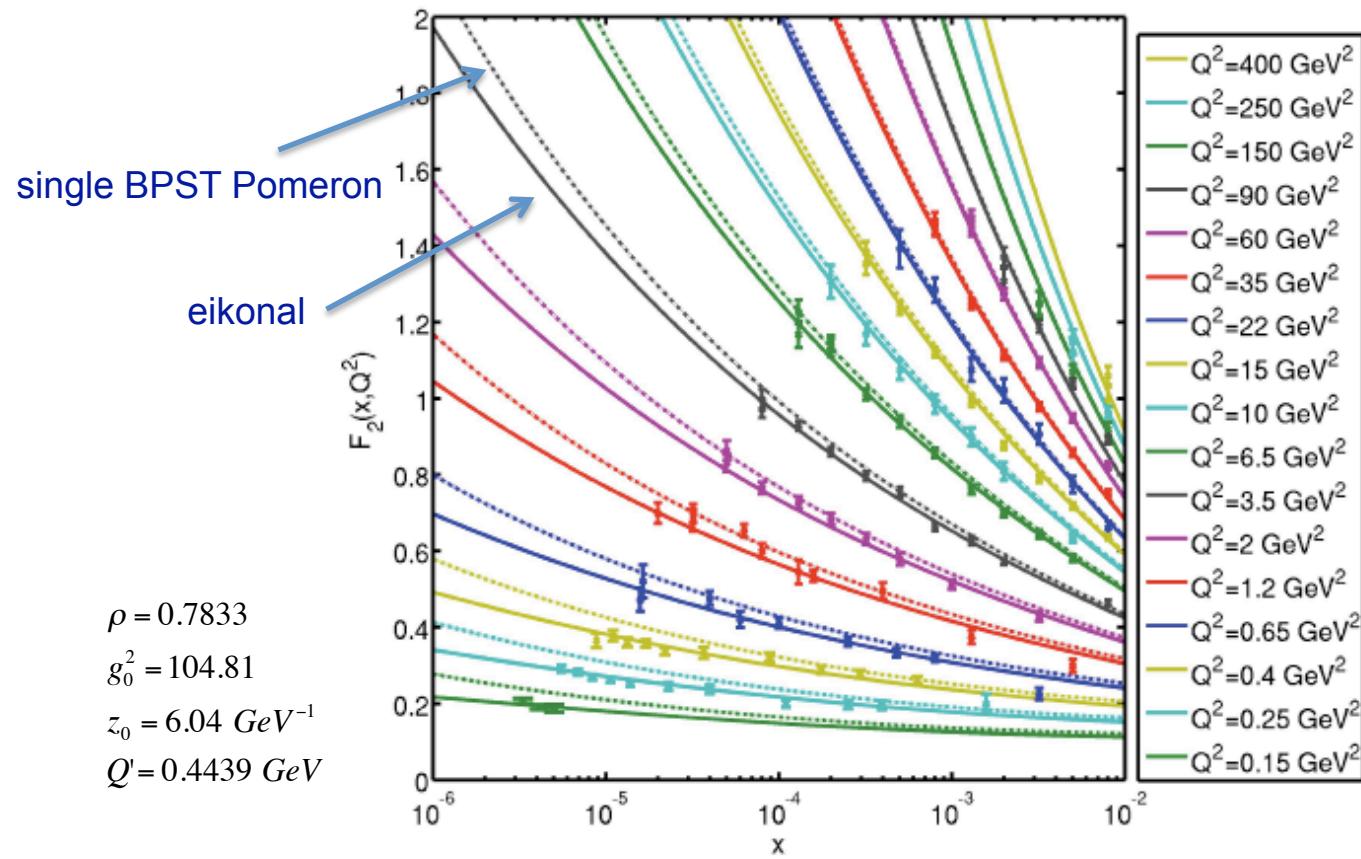
$$Q_0 = 1/z_0$$

$$F_{2,ct}^p(x,Q^2,Q',Q_0^2) = \frac{g_0^2 \rho^{3/2}}{32\pi^{5/2}} \frac{(Q/Q')}{\tau^{1/2}} e^{(1-\rho)\tau} e^{-\frac{\ln^2(Q_0^2/(QQ'))}{\rho\tau}} G\left(\frac{1}{Q}, \frac{1}{Q'}, \tau\right)$$

$$F_2^p = F_{2cr}^p + F_{2ct}^p$$

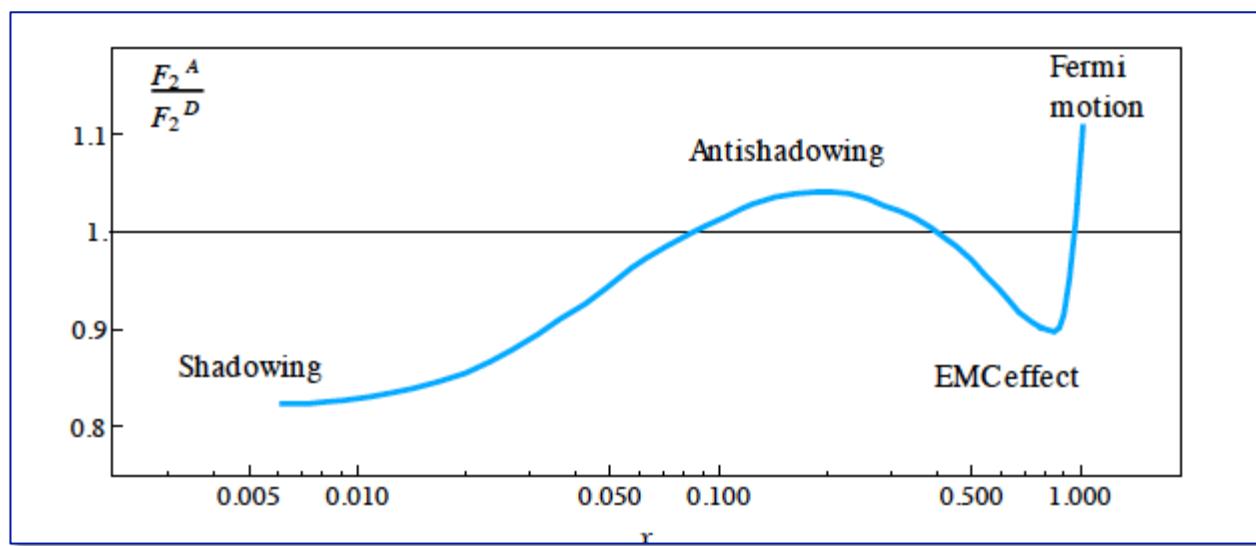


## H1-ZEUS small-x measurements



good description of the data in the small-x region

inclusion of eikonal not necessary – the saturation regime is not reached



isospin violation can be included in the formula for  $F_2$

$$F_2^n = F_{2cr}^p(x, Q^2, Q_n) + F_{2ct}^p(x, Q^2, Q_n, Q_{0n}^2)$$

similar proton and neutron confinement scale  $Q_{0n} \cong Q_0$

experimental information from DIS on deuterium

## nuclear structure function $F_2$ in the holographic framework

conformal term

$$Q'_A = \lambda_A Q' \Rightarrow Q^2 \rightarrow Q^2 / \lambda_A^2$$

peak of the wave function  
of the bound nucleon

$$F_{2cr}^p(x, Q^2, Q') = \frac{g_0^2 \rho^{3/2}}{32\pi^{5/2}} \frac{Q}{Q'} \frac{1}{\tau^{1/2}} e^{(1-\rho)\tau} e^{-[\log^2(Q/Q')/\rho\tau]}$$

$$F_2^A(x, Q^2) = F_{2cr}^N \left( x, \frac{Q^2}{\lambda_A^2}, Q' \right)$$

confinement term

$$F_{2ct}^p(x, Q^2, Q') = \frac{g_0^2 \rho^{3/2}}{32\pi^{5/2}} \frac{Q}{Q'} \frac{1}{\tau^{1/2}} e^{(1-\rho)\tau} e^{-[\log^2(Q_0^2/QQ')/\rho\tau]} G \left( \frac{1}{Q}, \frac{1}{Q'}, \tau \right)$$

$$Q'_A = \lambda_A Q' \Rightarrow Q_0^2 \rightarrow Q_0^2 / \lambda_A^2$$

$Q^2$  rescaling rule:

$$F_2^A(x, Q^2) = F_{2cr}^N \left( x, \frac{Q^2}{\lambda_A^2}, Q' \right) + F_{2ct}^N \left( x, \frac{Q^2}{\lambda_A^2}, Q', \frac{Q_0^2}{\lambda_A^2} \right)$$

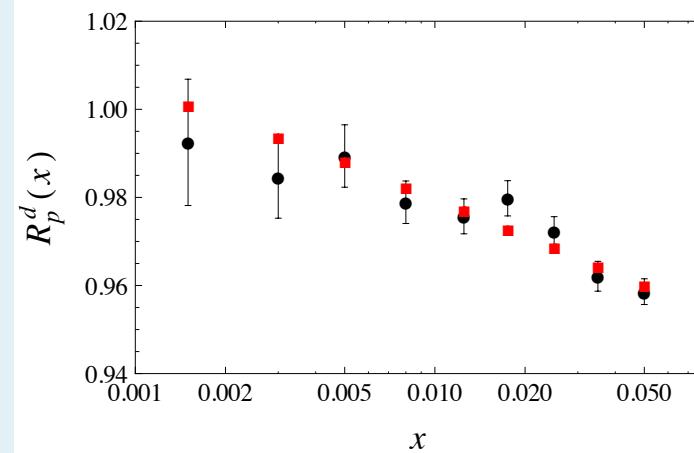
## deuterium structure function

$$F_2^D = \frac{1}{2} [F_2^{pD} + F_2^{nD}]$$

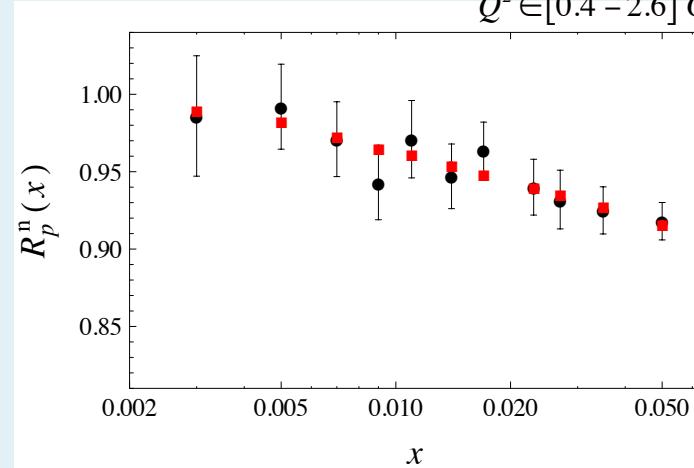
$$F_2^{pD} = F_2^p \left( x, \frac{Q^2}{\lambda_D^2}, Q, \frac{Q_0^2}{\lambda_D^2} \right)$$

$$F_2^{nD} = F_2^n \left( x, \frac{Q^2}{\lambda_D^2}, Q, \frac{Q_0^2}{\lambda_D^2} \right)$$

$Q^2 \in [0.37 - 5.8] \text{ GeV}^2$



$Q^2 \in [0.4 - 2.6] \text{ GeV}^2$



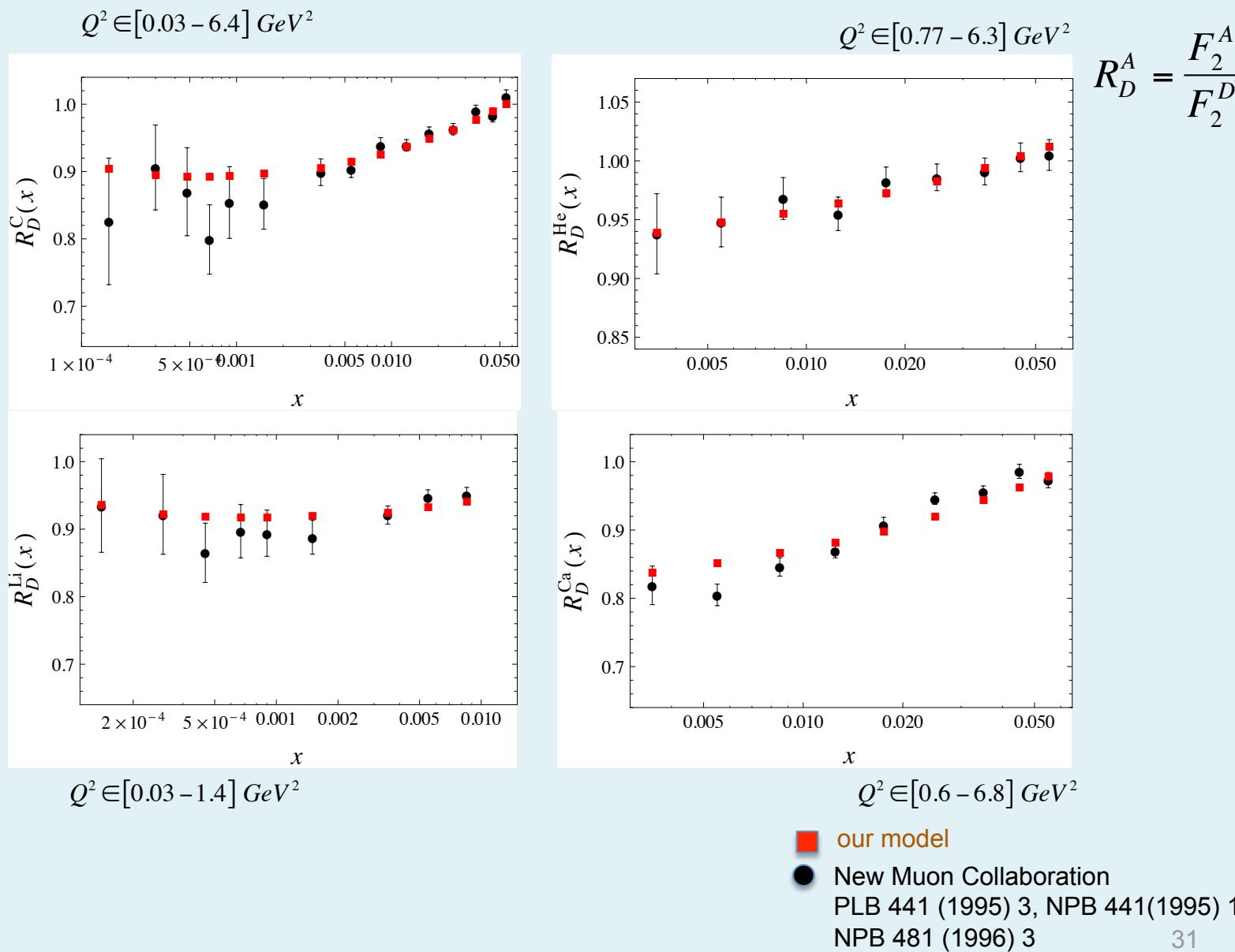
■ our model

● New Muon Collaboration (CERN)  
NPB 487 (1997) 3  
NPB 371 (1992) 3

## nuclear structure function $F_2$

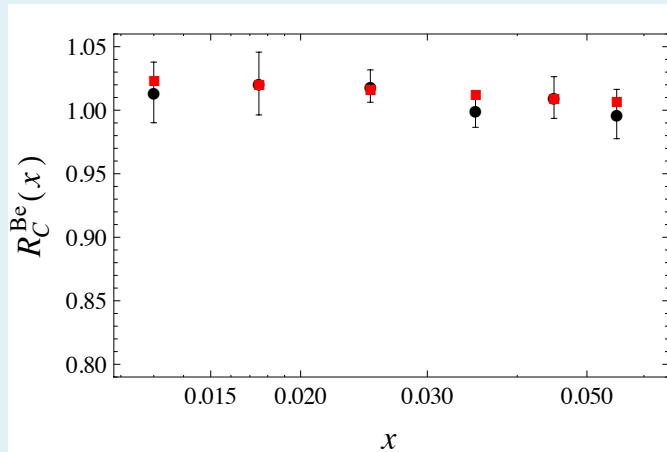
nucleus    data set

He	9
Li	9
Be	6
C	15
Al	6
Ca	9
Fe	6
Pb	6

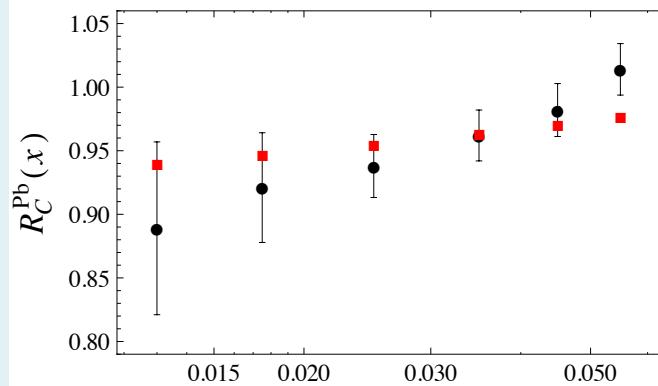
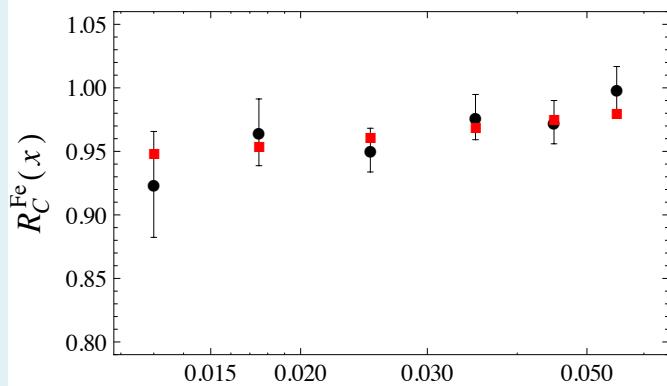
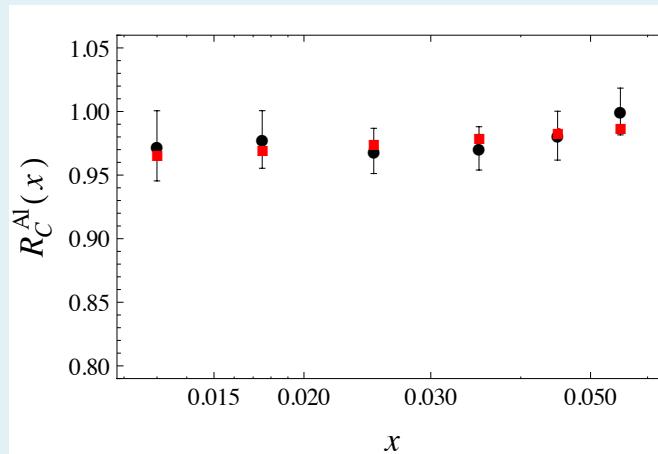


$$R_C^A = \frac{F_2^A}{F_2^C}$$

$Q^2 \in [3.4 - 11.4] \text{ GeV}^2$



$Q^2 \in [3.4 - 11.6] \text{ GeV}^2$



$Q^2 \in [3.4 - 11.8] \text{ GeV}^2$

$Q^2 \in [3.4 - 11.6] \text{ GeV}^2$

- our model
- New Muon Collaboration
- PLB 441 (1995) 3, NPB 441(1995) 12
- NPB 481 (1996) 3

nucleus	n. points	$\chi^2_{d.o.f}$	n. points	$\chi^2_{d.o.f}$	range of $\langle Q^2 \rangle$
He	9	1.09	9	0.24	[0.77 – 6.3]
Li	9	0.93	9	0.79	[0.03 – 1.4]
Be	6	0.21	6	0.30	[3.4 – 11.4]
C	9	1.61	15	0.89	[0.03 – 6.4]
Al	6	0.23	6	0.21	[3.4 – 11.6]
Ca	9	8.0	9	3.87	[0.6 – 6.8]
Fe	6	0.41	6	0.42	[3.4 – 11.8]
Pb	6	1.11	6	0.93	[3.4 – 11.6]

**Table 1** Experimental data sets [21] and  $\chi^2_{d.o.f}$  of the fit of the structure function  $F_2^A$  for each nucleus. The third column reports the  $\chi^2_{d.o.f}$  of fits without isospin breaking, the fourth and fifth columns correspond to fits with the isospin breaking effect included. In the last column, the experimental average  $Q^2$  ranges (in  $\text{GeV}^2$ ) for the various cases are indicated, from the first to the last bin of the Bjorken  $x$ .

Isospin effect included

$$F_2^A(x, Q^2) = \frac{Z}{A} F_{2ct}^p \left( x, \frac{Q^2}{\lambda_A^2}, Q, \frac{Q_0^2}{\lambda_A^2} \right) + \left( 1 - \frac{Z}{A} \right) F_{2ct}^n \left( x, \frac{Q^2}{\lambda_A^2}, Q, \frac{Q_0^2}{\lambda_A^2} \right)$$

## conventional approach: QCD dipole model

$\gamma^*$  produces a qq pair which interacts with the target

$$\frac{\sigma^{\gamma^* A}(\tau^A)}{\pi R_A^2} = \frac{\sigma^{\gamma^* N}(\tau^N)}{\pi R_N^2} \quad \tau_A \text{ saturation scale}$$

$$\lambda_A = \left( \frac{A R_N^2}{R_A^2} \right)^{1/2\delta}$$

$$\pi R_N^2 = 1.55 \text{ fm}^2$$

$$\delta = 0.79$$

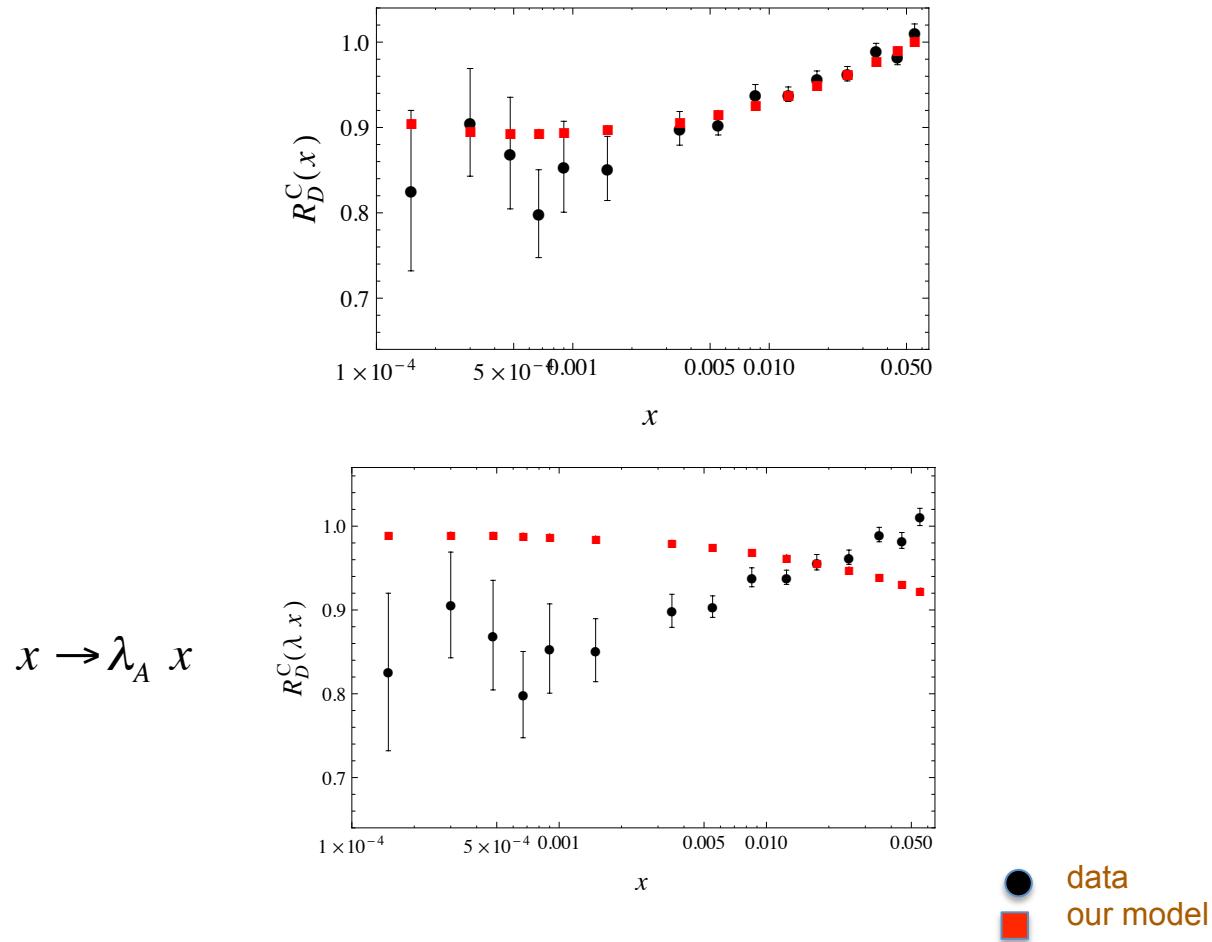
$$R_A = (1.12A^{1/3} - 0.86A^{-1/3}) \text{ fm}$$

nucleus	$\lambda_A$ (holography)	$\lambda_{A,dip}$ [24]
Li	1.843	1.130
Be	1.764	1.140
C	1.775	1.160
Al	1.972	1.264
Ca	2.006	1.338
Fe	2.090	1.413
Pb	2.286	1.780

**Table 2** Rescaling parameter  $\lambda_A$  obtained using the holographic expression for  $F_2^A$  and taking into account the isospin breaking. The values in the last column are obtained within the QCD dipole model [24].

J.L.Albacete et al  
 EPJ C 43 (2005) 353  
 PRD 71 (2005) 014003

## $Q^2$ rescaling versus x rescaling

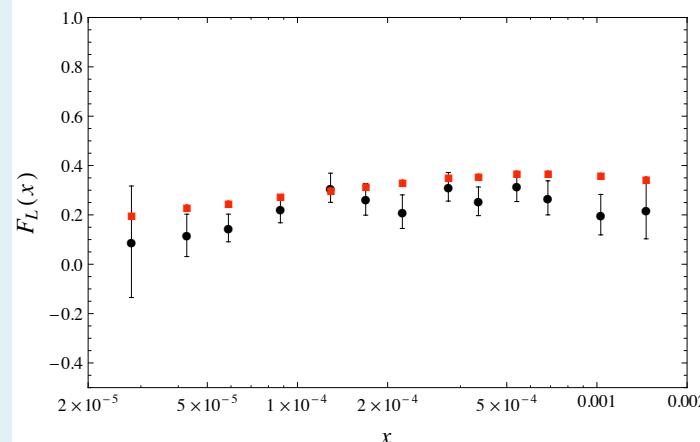


## longitudinal structure function

$$F_L = F_2 - 2x F_1$$

proton

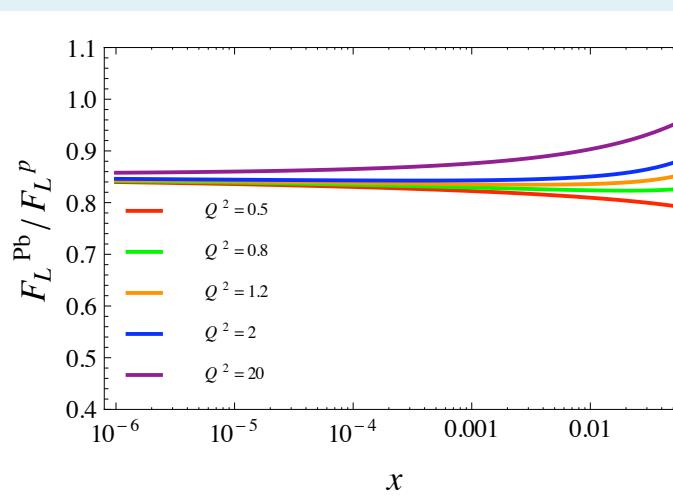
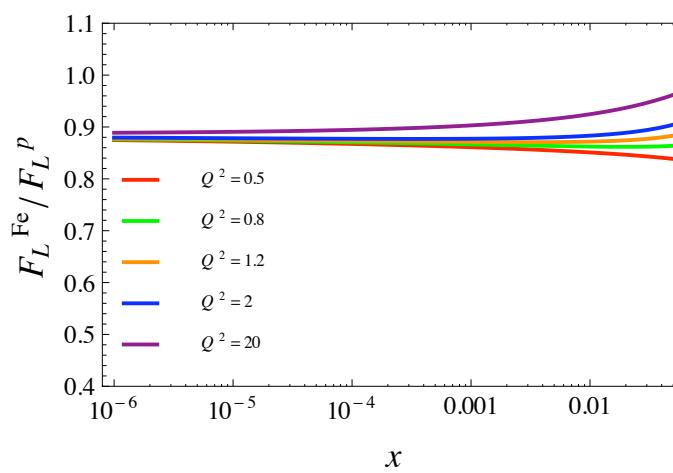
$$Q^2 \in [1.5 - 45] \text{ GeV}^2$$



- our model
- H1 Collaboration  
EPJ C71 (2011) 1579

## nuclear modification of the longitudinal structure functions

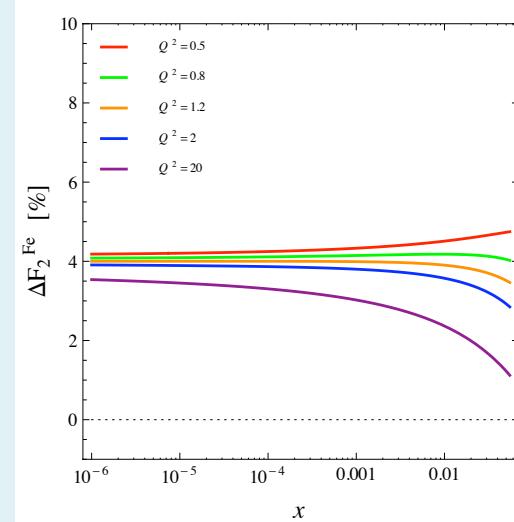
$$\frac{F_L^A}{F_L^p}$$



## structure functions from cross section measurements

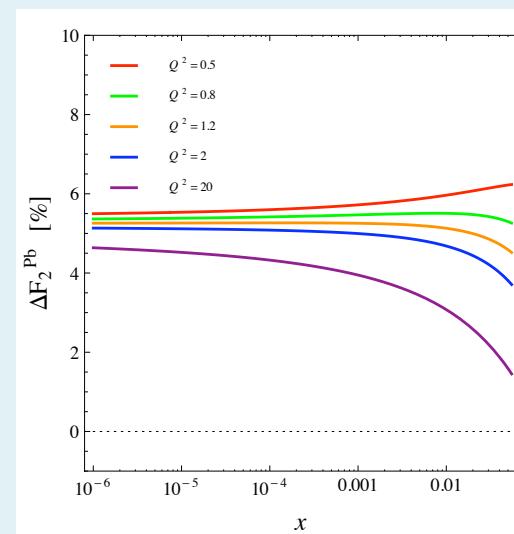
reduced cross section

$$\sigma_r = F_2 \left[ 1 - f(y) \frac{F_L}{F_2} \right]$$



maximum uncertainty on  $F_2$

$$\Delta F_2 = 1 - \frac{F_2^A}{F_2^A + f(y)(F_L^N - F_L^A)}$$



by  $Q^2$  rescaling at low- $x$ , the expression of  $F_2$  obtained in the gauge/gravity formulation reproduces the set of nuclear data

rescaling can be understood in terms of a modification of the  $z_{IR}$  in nuclei and in the change of the peak of the wave function of the bound nucleon

geometrical interpretation of nuclear shadowing

Questions:

anti-shadowing by momentum rescaling?

holographic description of the EMC effect?

Anti-shadowing usually analyzed by energy-momentum sum rules

Nature of the EMC effect debated

## Conclusions

A unified description of nuclear structure functions in the full  $x$ -range is missing

The gauge/gravity duality formulation seems to capture the relevant dynamics to describe nuclear DIS phenomena at small- $x$

Possibilities for the description of anti-shadowing and of the EMC effect need to be investigated

Interest for neutrino DIS on nuclear targets  $\rightarrow$  neutrino cross section at high energy and small- $x$ : a definition of the charged current in the dual approach is needed

# SPARES