

Precise determination of Pomeron intercept via scaling entropy

XXXVII International Workshop on High Energy Physics “Diffraction of hadrons: Experiment, Theory, Phenomenology”



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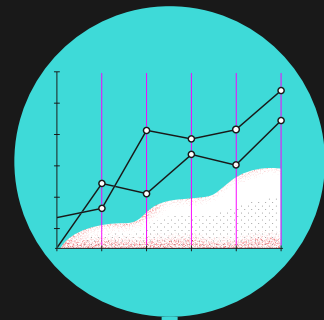
Scaling entropy phenomenology

A Universal Framework for Initial-State Dynamics in High-Energy Collisions



1

Motivation Puzzle
with LHC high
multiplicity data



2

Experiments: What
experiments on
multiplicity shows



3

Theory: Model of
interaction



4

Phenomenology of
DIS



5

Phenomenology of
LHC (pp)

MOTIVATION

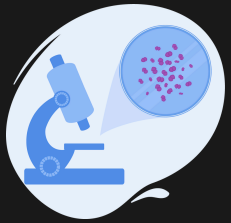


Charged hadron multiplicity distributions offer a window into partonic dynamics.



Disentangling initial-state effects from final-state interactions is essential for interpreting signals of QCD matter

MOTIVATION



Charged hadron multiplicity distributions offer a window into partonic dynamics.



Disentangling initial-state effects from final-state interactions is essential for interpreting signals of QCD matter



Do we truly understand gluon dynamics in the high-multiplicity regime?



Can scaling entropy reveal universal features across different collision systems?



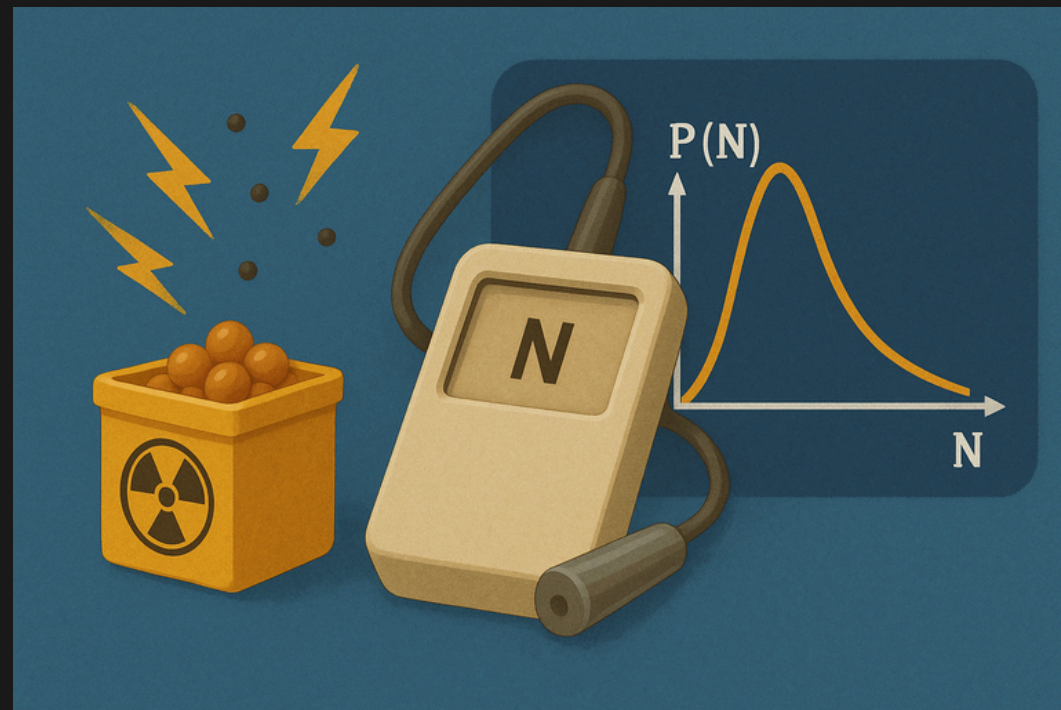
Are QGP-like signatures in small systems driven by initial-state dynamics?



EXPERIMENTAL DATA ON MULTIPLICITY

Entropy in Counting Experiments

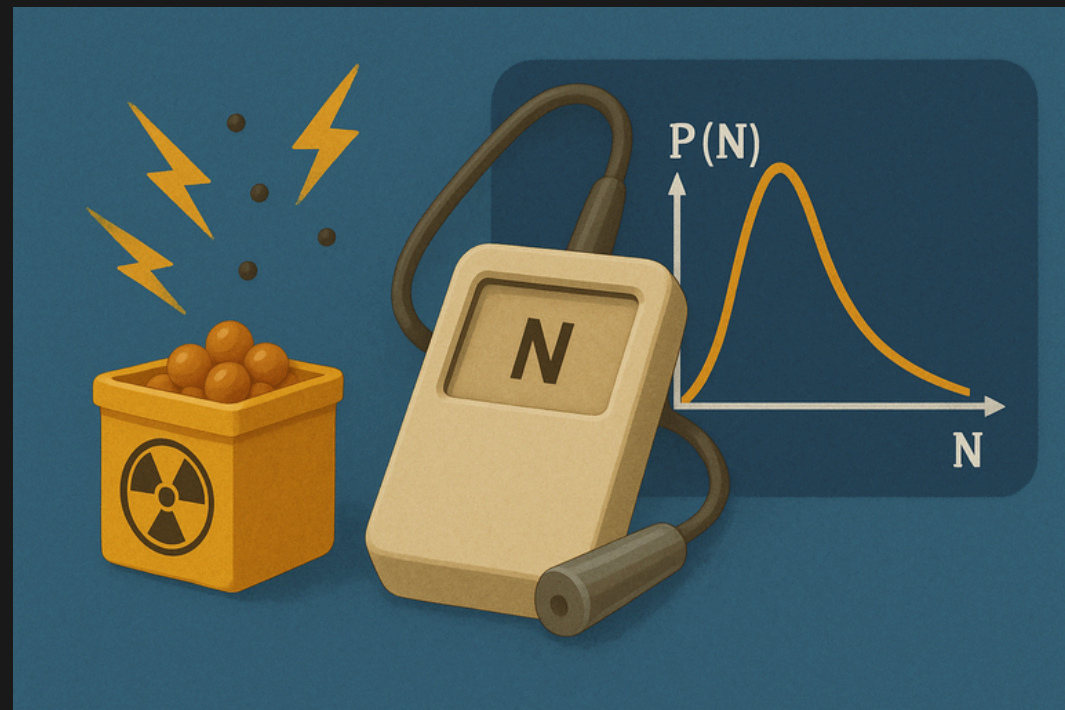
N Particles produced with probability
 $P(N)$



EXPERIMENTAL DATA ON MULTIPLICITY

Entropy in Counting Experiments

N Particles produced with probability
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Poisson process

$$P(N) = \frac{\langle N \rangle^N}{N!} e^{-\langle N \rangle}$$

Events are independent and random → no correlation
between detections

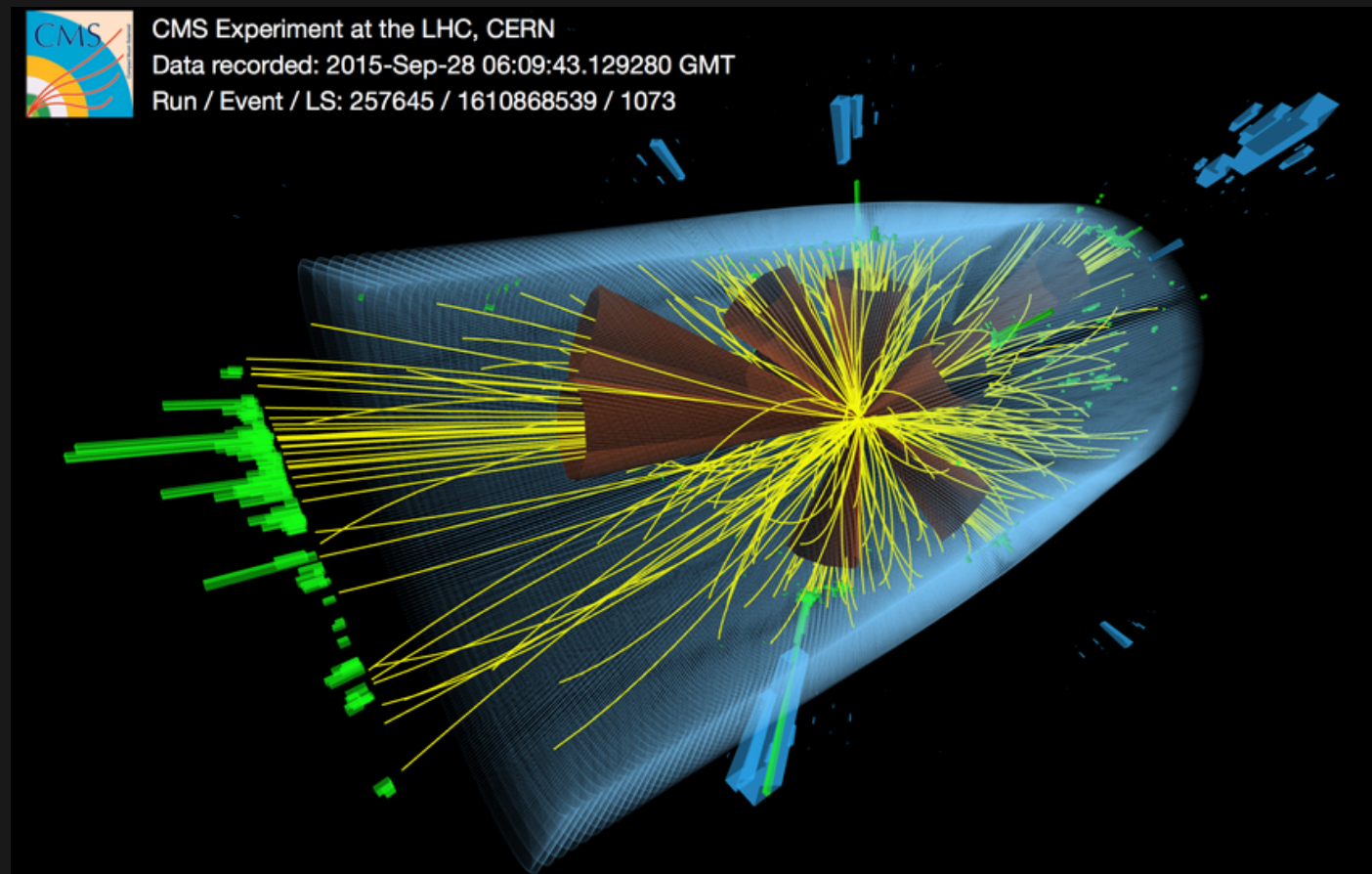
$$Var(N) = \langle N \rangle$$

Ideal baseline for fluctuation analysis

THE EXPERIMENTAL DATA ON MULTIPLICITIES

Entropy in Counting Experiments : high energy case

Experimental multiplicity distributions exhibit
large fluctuations



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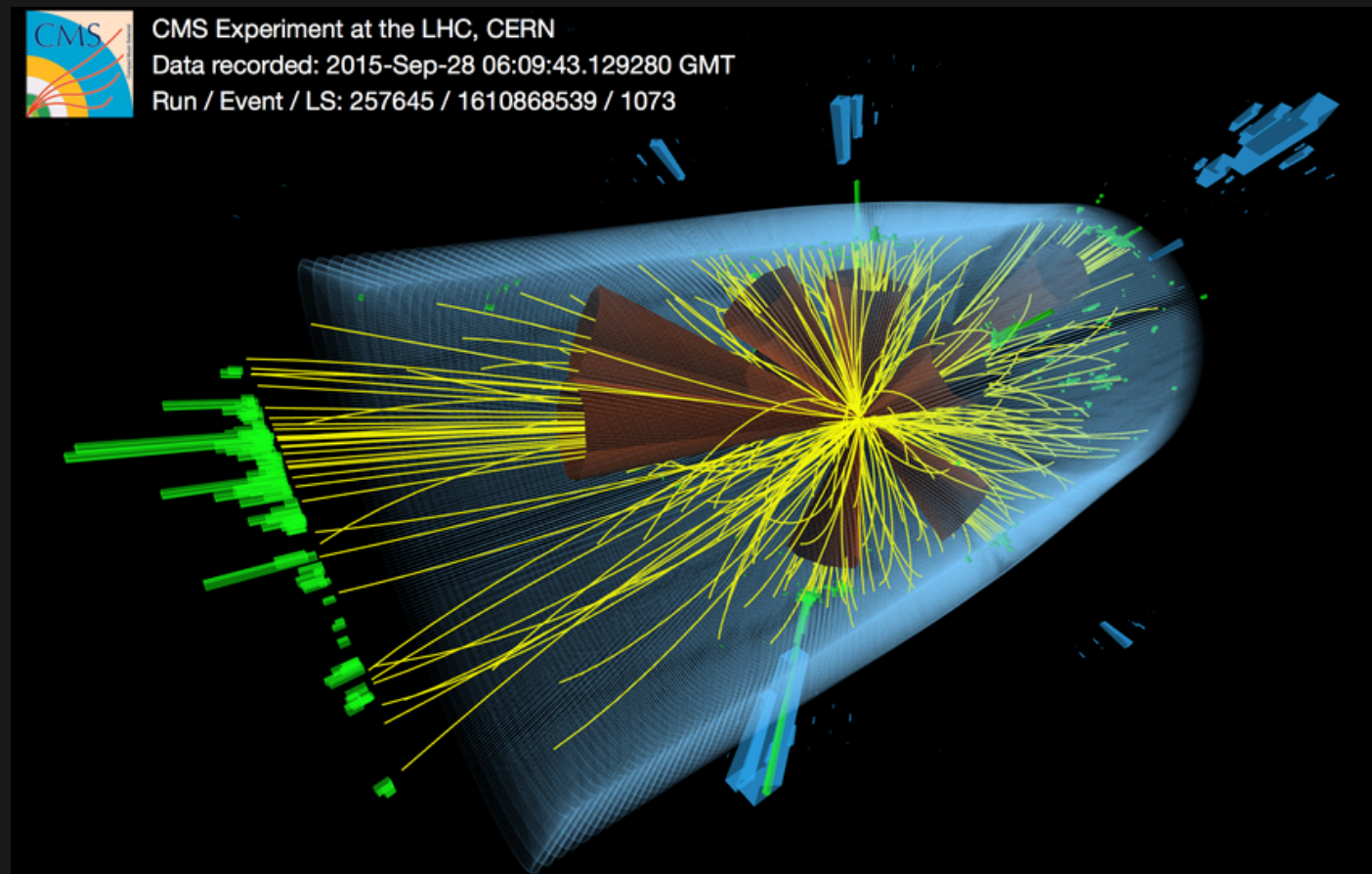
Negative Binomial process

$$P(N) = \frac{\Gamma(N+k)}{\Gamma(k) N!} \left(\frac{\langle N \rangle}{\langle N \rangle + k} \right)^N \left(\frac{k}{\langle N \rangle + k} \right)^k$$

Evidence of clustering and correlations points to non-trivial
partonic dynamics

$$Var(N) = \langle N \rangle + \underbrace{\langle N \rangle^2 / k}_{\text{overdispersion growth with energy}}$$

overdispersion growth with energy



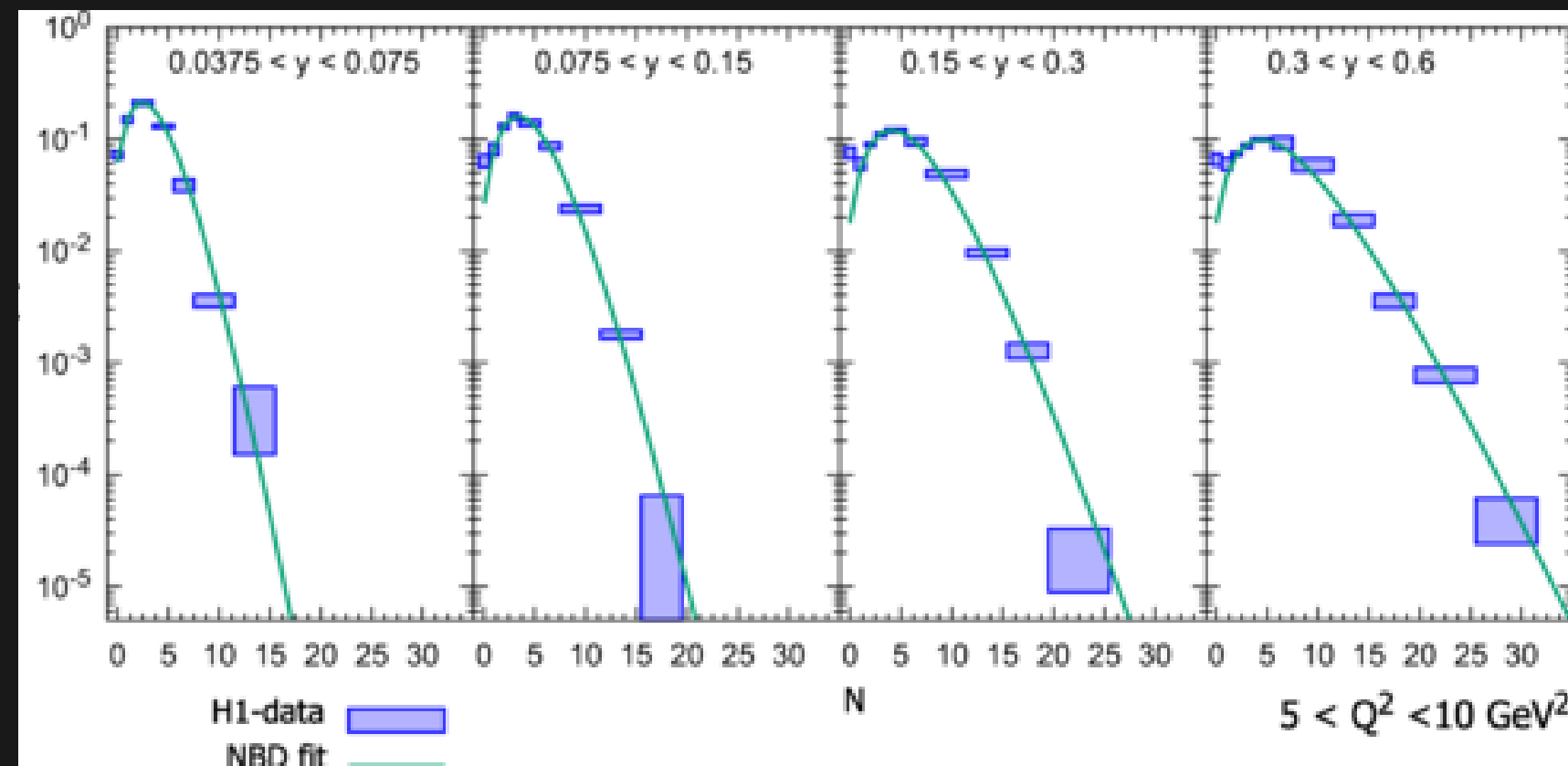
The key challenge: understanding the origin of
overdispersion in particle production.

THE EXPERIMENTAL DATA ON MULTIPLICITIES

Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS)

We begin with DIS , where the initial state is better controlled.

$P(N)$



N

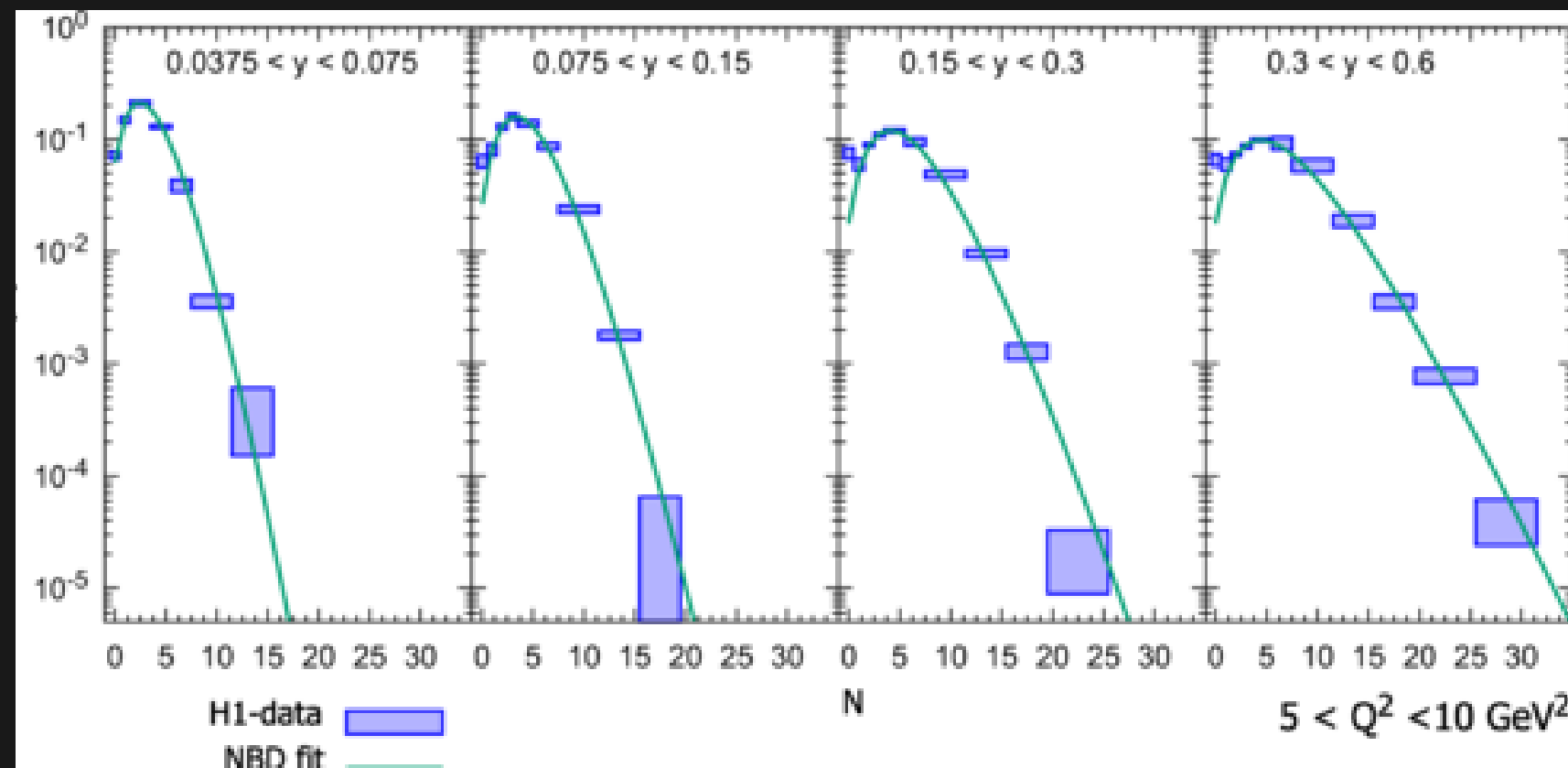
Negative Binomial Distribution Fits data

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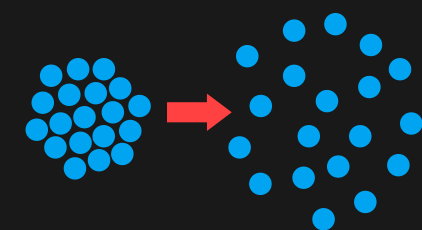
Negative Binomial Distribution Fits data



Energy incresces (small -x)

$$x_{bj} = \frac{Q^2}{sy}$$

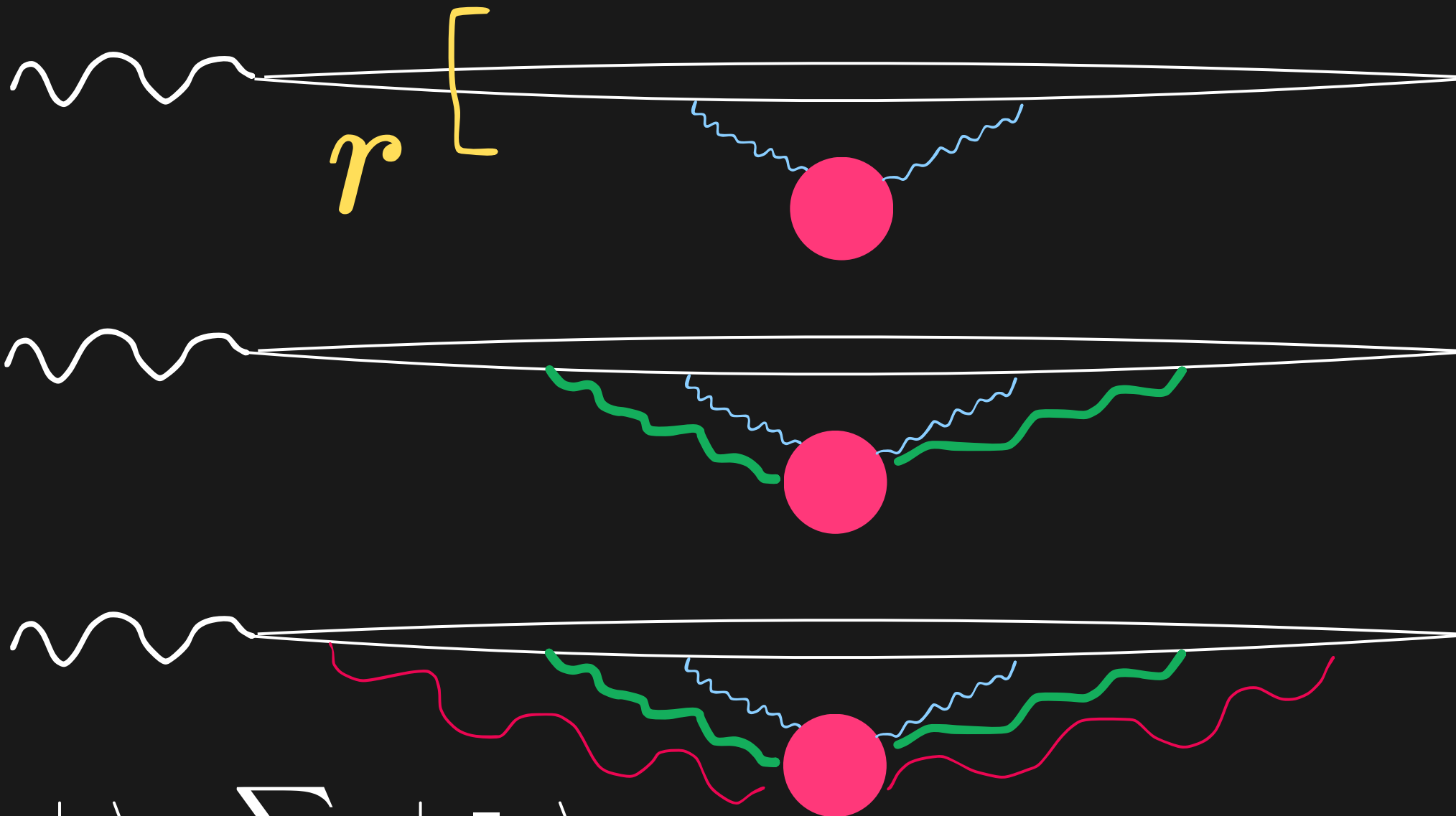
The dispersion of multiplicity distributions grows with decreasing x , indicating diffusive gluon dynamics.



THEORETICAL DESCRIPTION OF DIS

Dipole The Dipole Picture and Small-x Evolution

Dipole scattering with different gluons wave-length

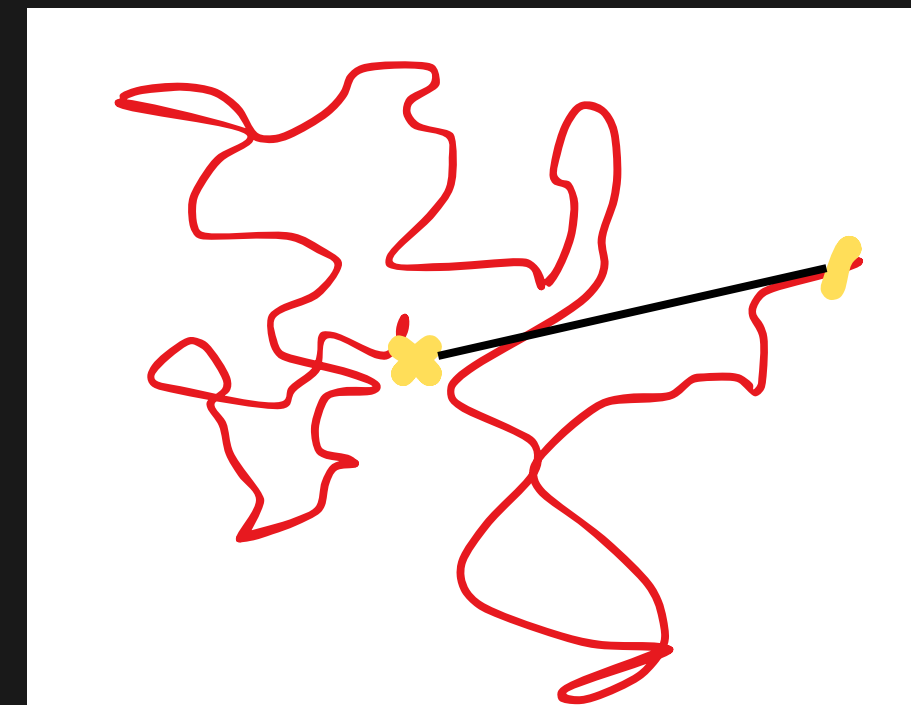
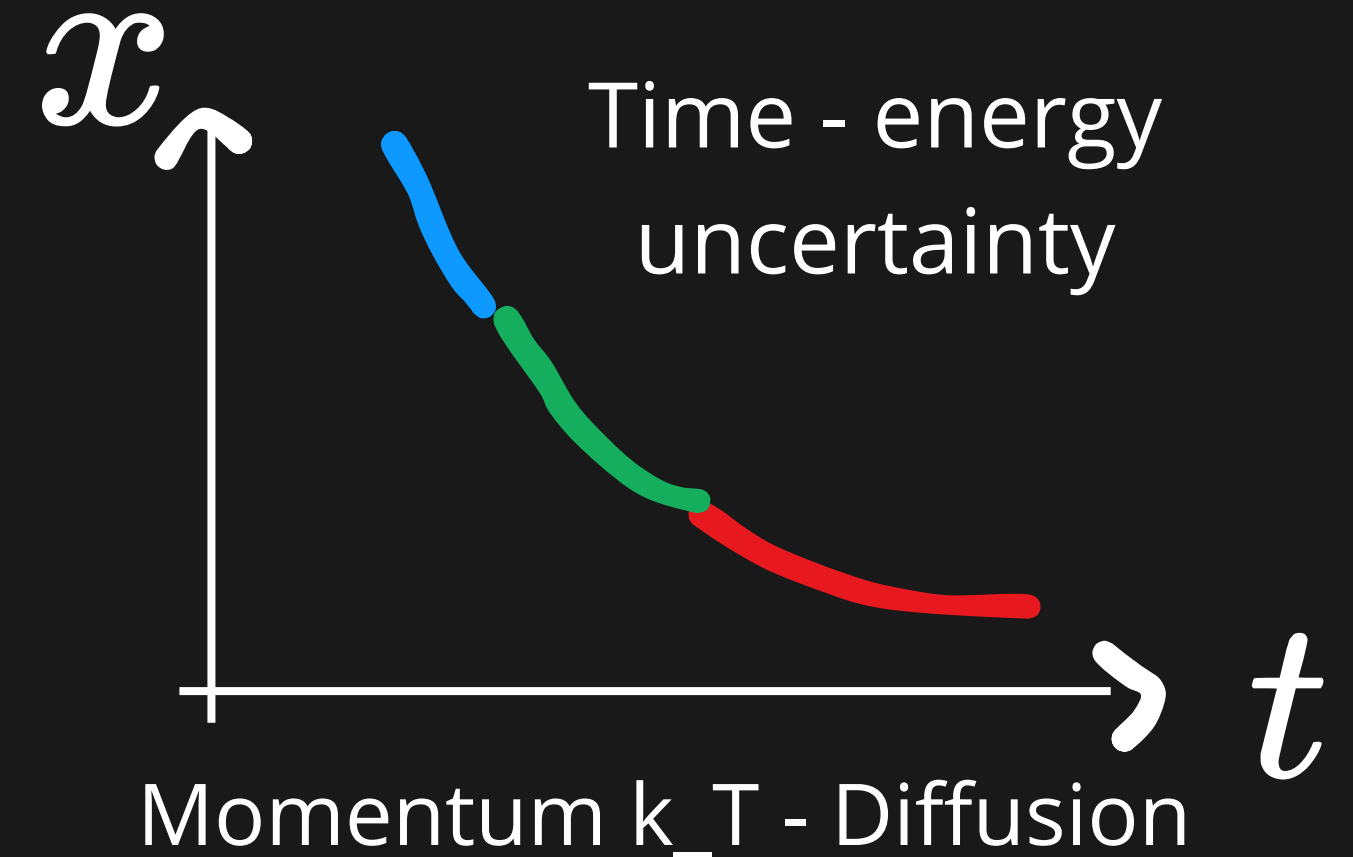
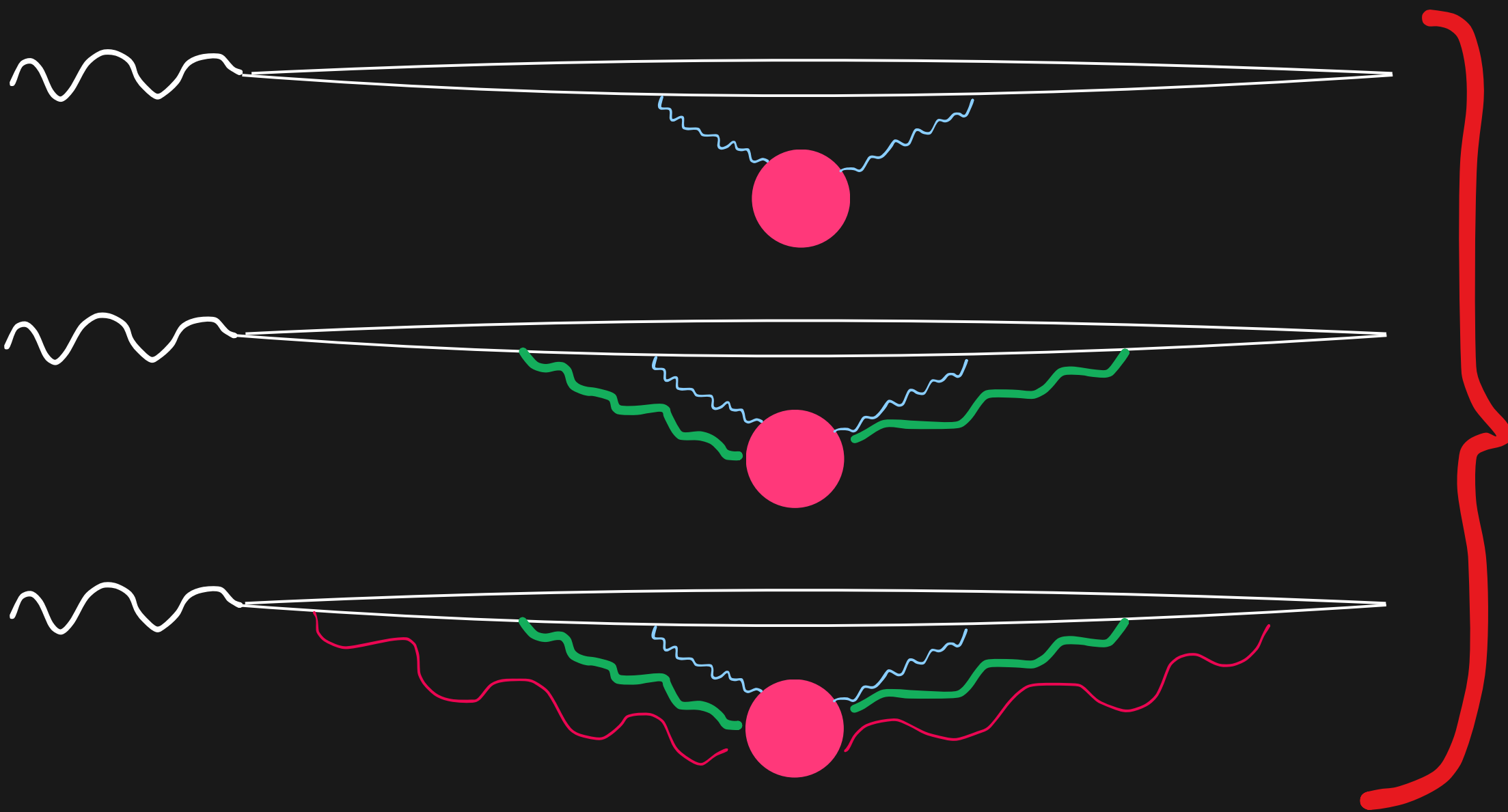


$$|\gamma\rangle = \sum_i a_i |q\bar{q}g_i\rangle$$

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THEORETICAL DESCRIPTION OF DIS

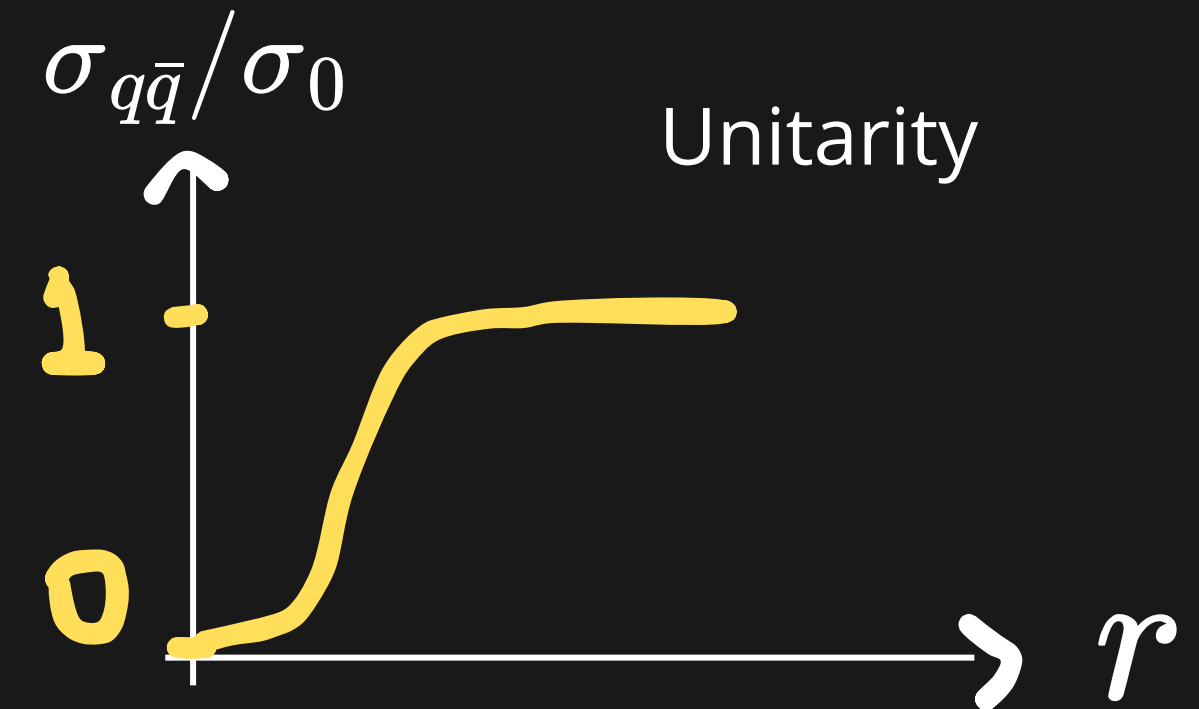
Unitarity and saturation scale

Inclusive cross section

Position



$$\sigma_{\gamma^*p}(x) = \int \sigma_{q\bar{q}}(r) \times |\psi_{\gamma}(r)|^2 d^2r$$



THEORETICAL DESCRIPTION OF DIS

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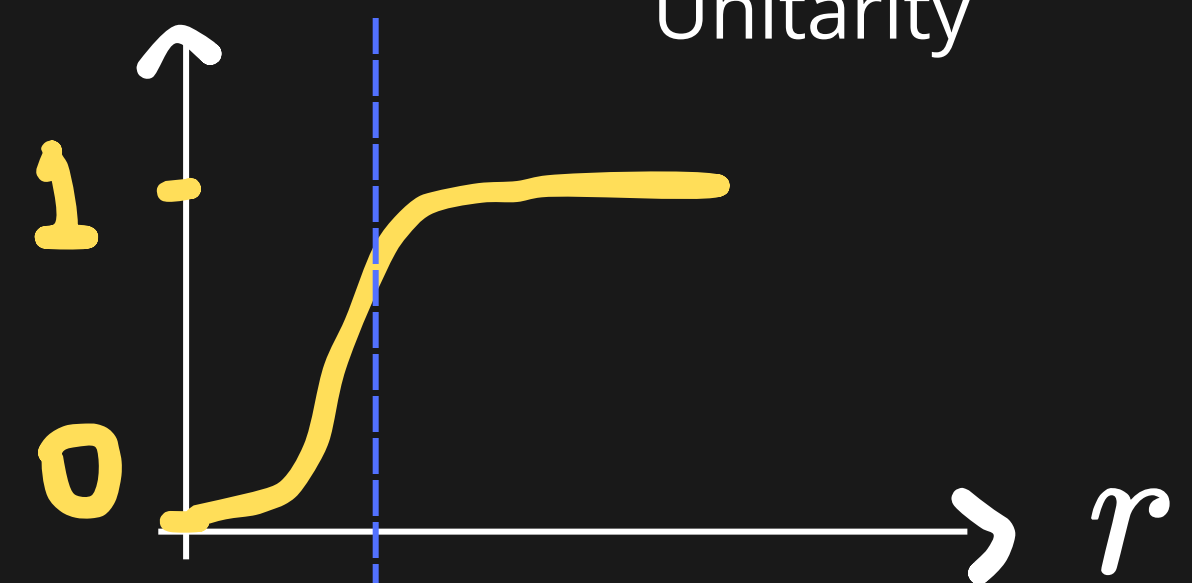
Momentum



$$\sigma_{\gamma^*p}(x) = \int \mathcal{P}(k_T) \times |\psi_{\gamma}(k_T)|^2 d^2k_T$$

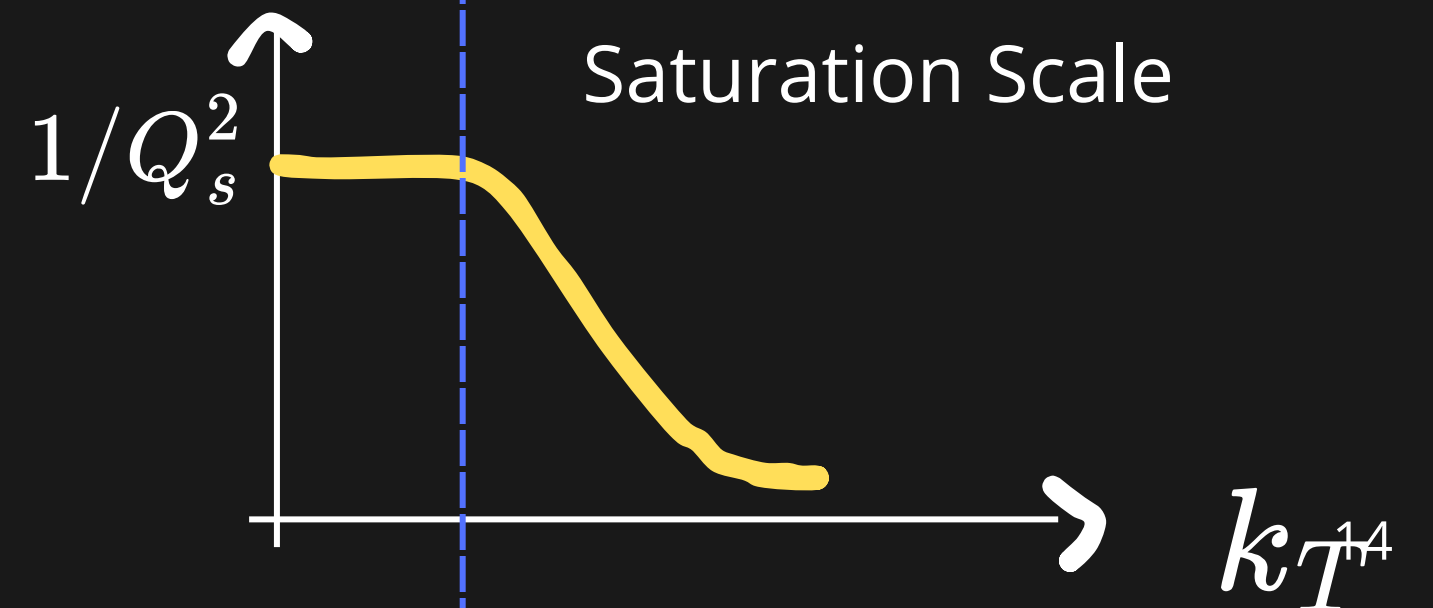
$\sigma_{q\bar{q}}/\sigma_0$

Unitarity



$\mathcal{P}(x, k_T)$

Saturation Scale

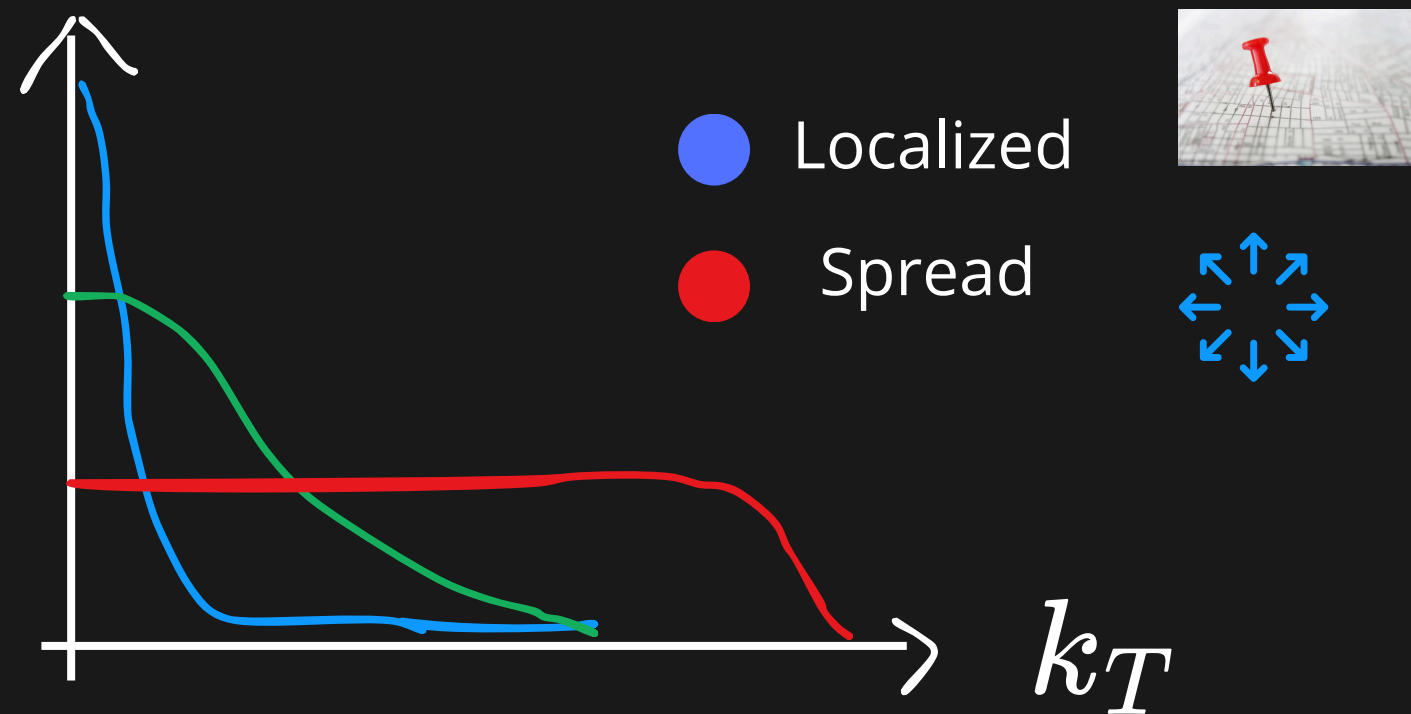


THEORETICAL DESCRIPTION OF DIS

Scaling entropy

Scaling of probability

$$\mathcal{P}(x, k_T) = x^{-\lambda} F(k_T^2 / x^{-\lambda})$$



Einstein Relation (anomalous diffusion)

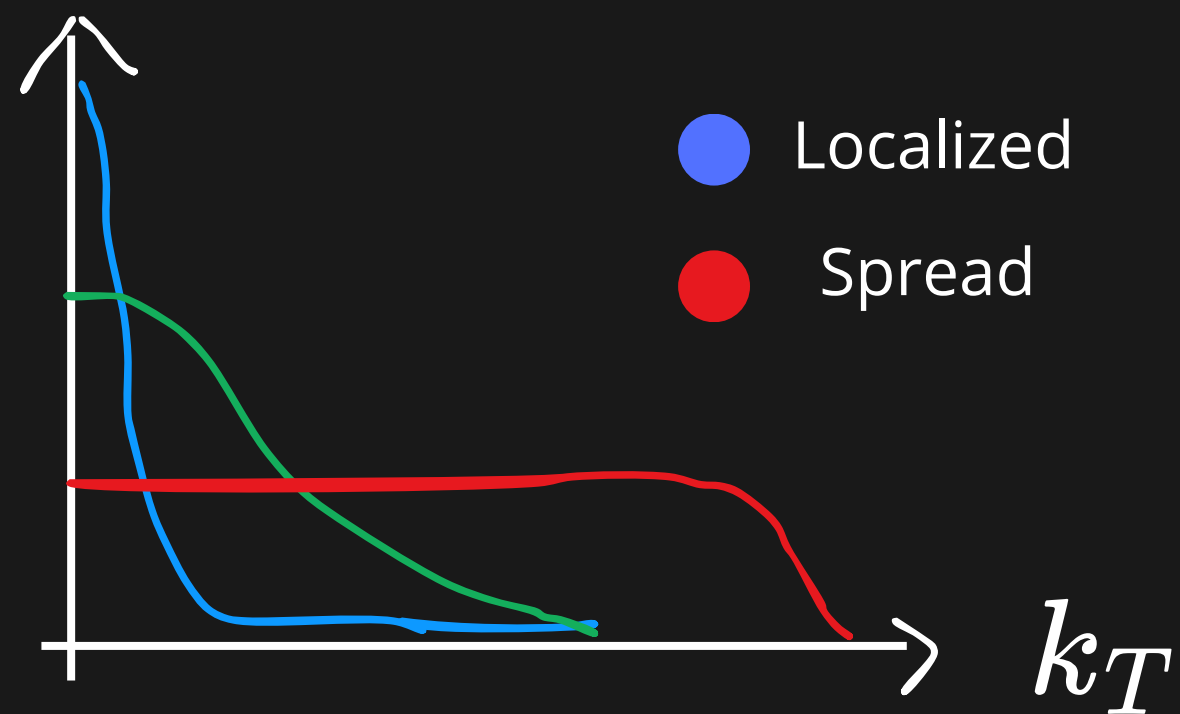
$$\langle k_T(t) \rangle \sim t^\lambda \sim x^{-\lambda}$$

THEORETICAL DESCRIPTION OF DIS

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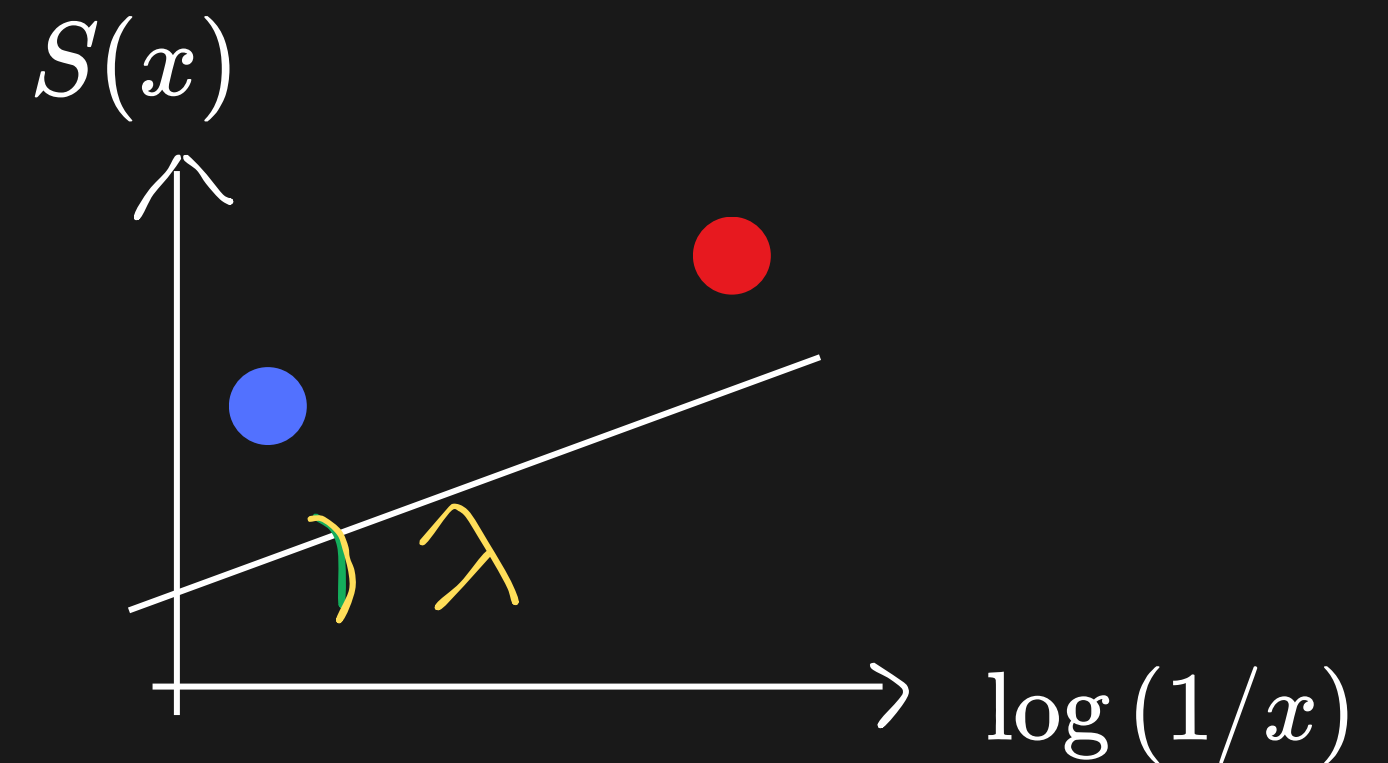
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Scaling Entropy



Only the constant C is model dependent

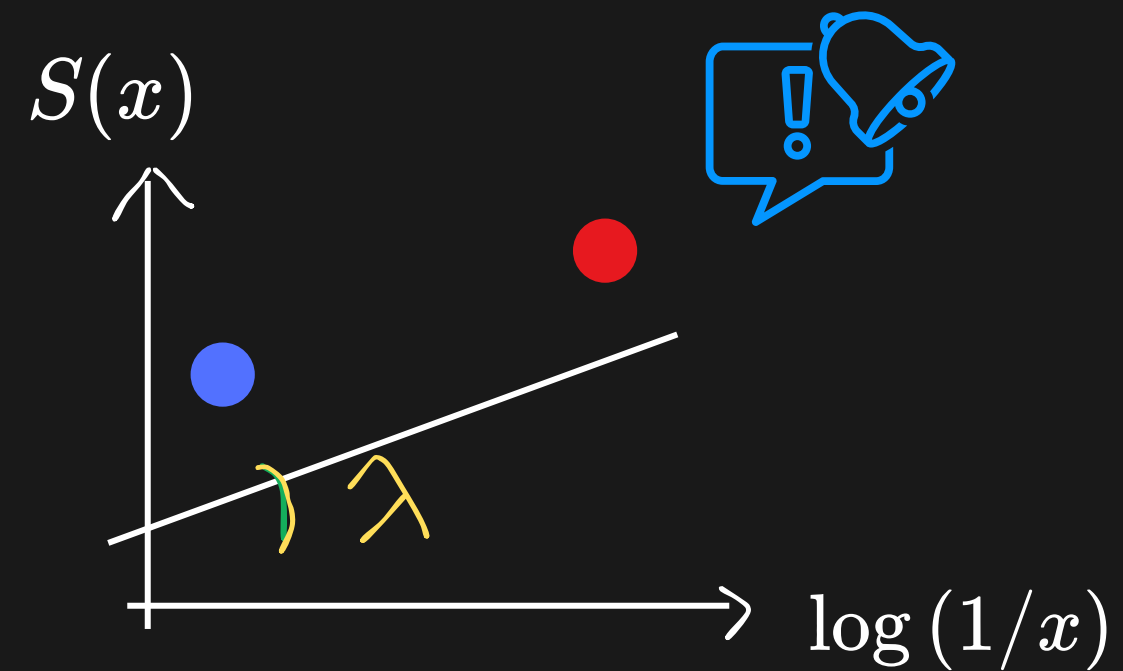
$$S(x) = \lambda \log(1/x) + C$$

THEORETICAL DESCRIPTION OF DIS

Scaling entropy

Linear growth

key message



$$S(x) = \lambda \log(1/x) + C$$

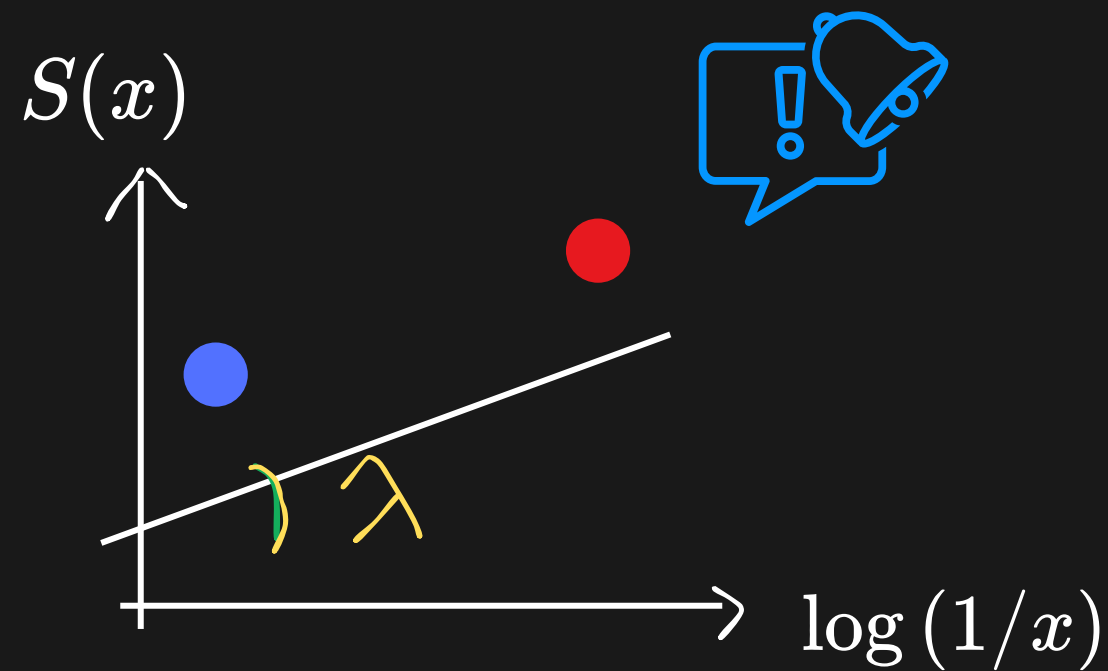
THEORETICAL DESCRIPTION OF DIS

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Detect scaling in experimental data

Initial state growth of entropy (x - dependent)

Hard pomeron intercept

$$\alpha_p = \lambda + 1$$

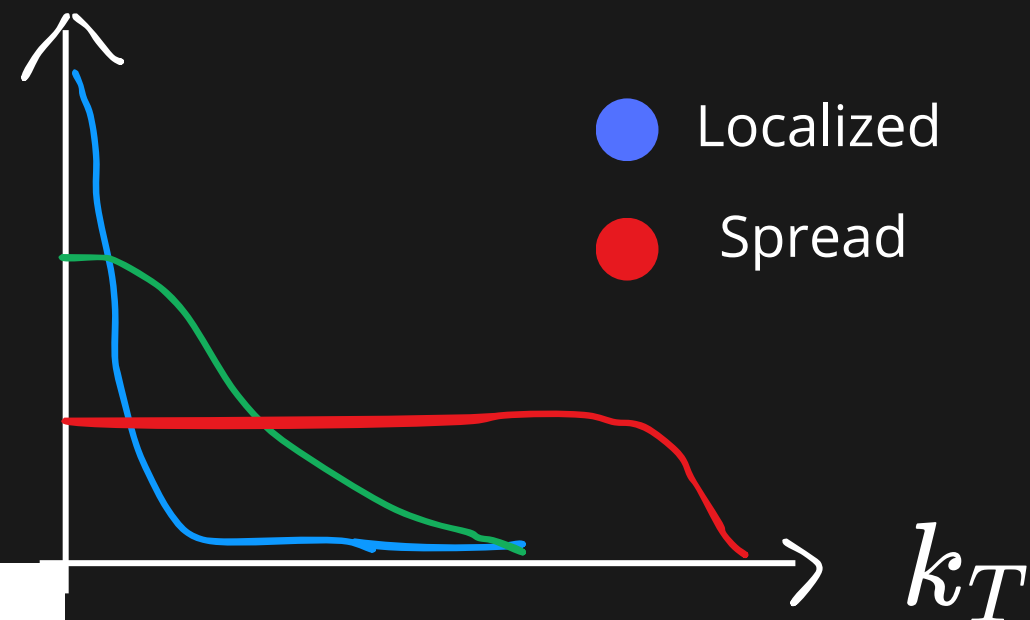
Confront with experiments

PHENOMENOLOGY OF DIS

Connection to experimental data

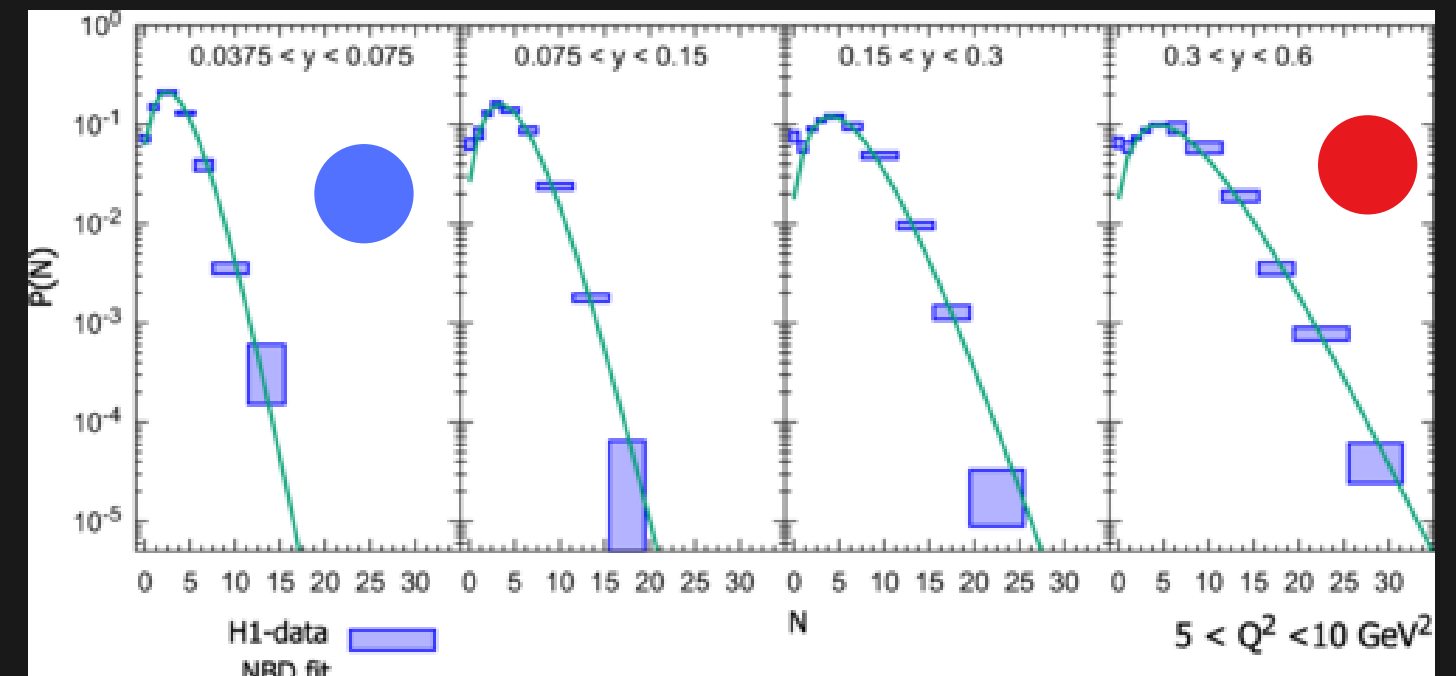
Same entropy growth rate ?

$$\mathcal{P}(x, k_T) = x^{-\lambda} F(k_T^2/x^{-\lambda})$$



● Localized

● Spread



Momentum diffusion = hadron number diffusion ?

Broader $P(N) \rightarrow$ higher uncertainty \rightarrow higher entropy

PHENOMENOLOGY OF DIS

Extracting the pomeron intercept

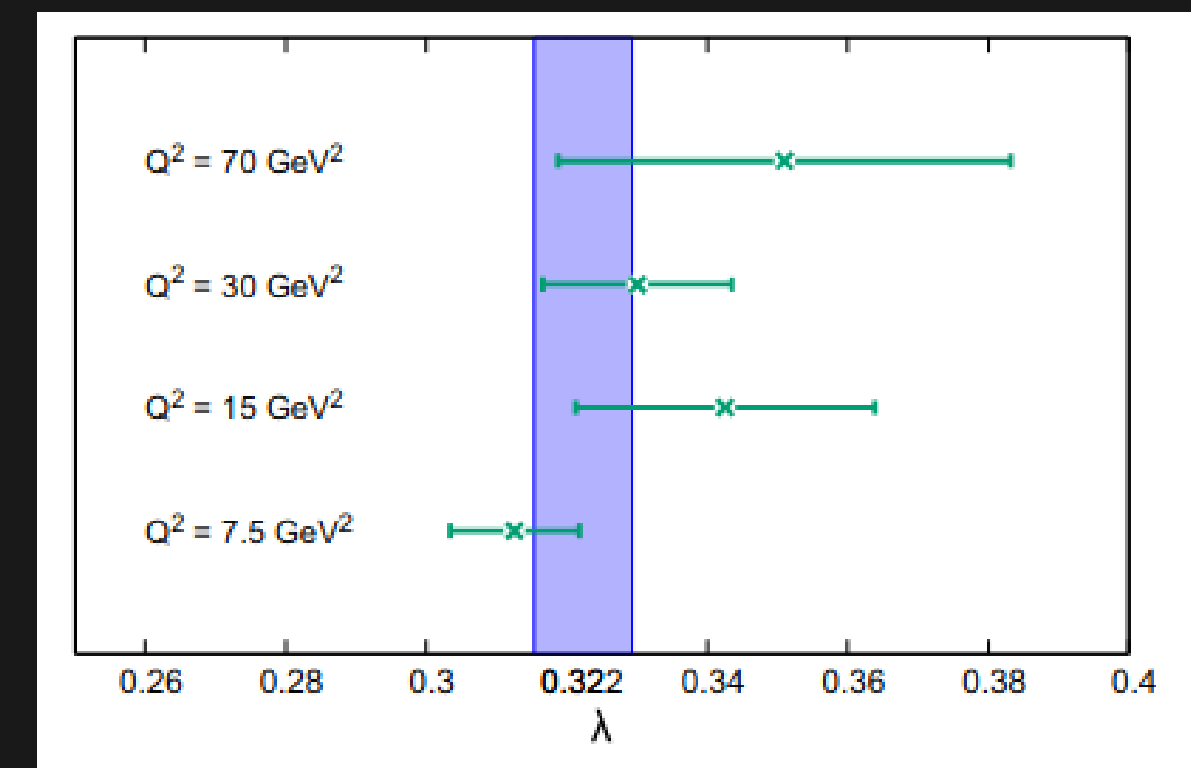
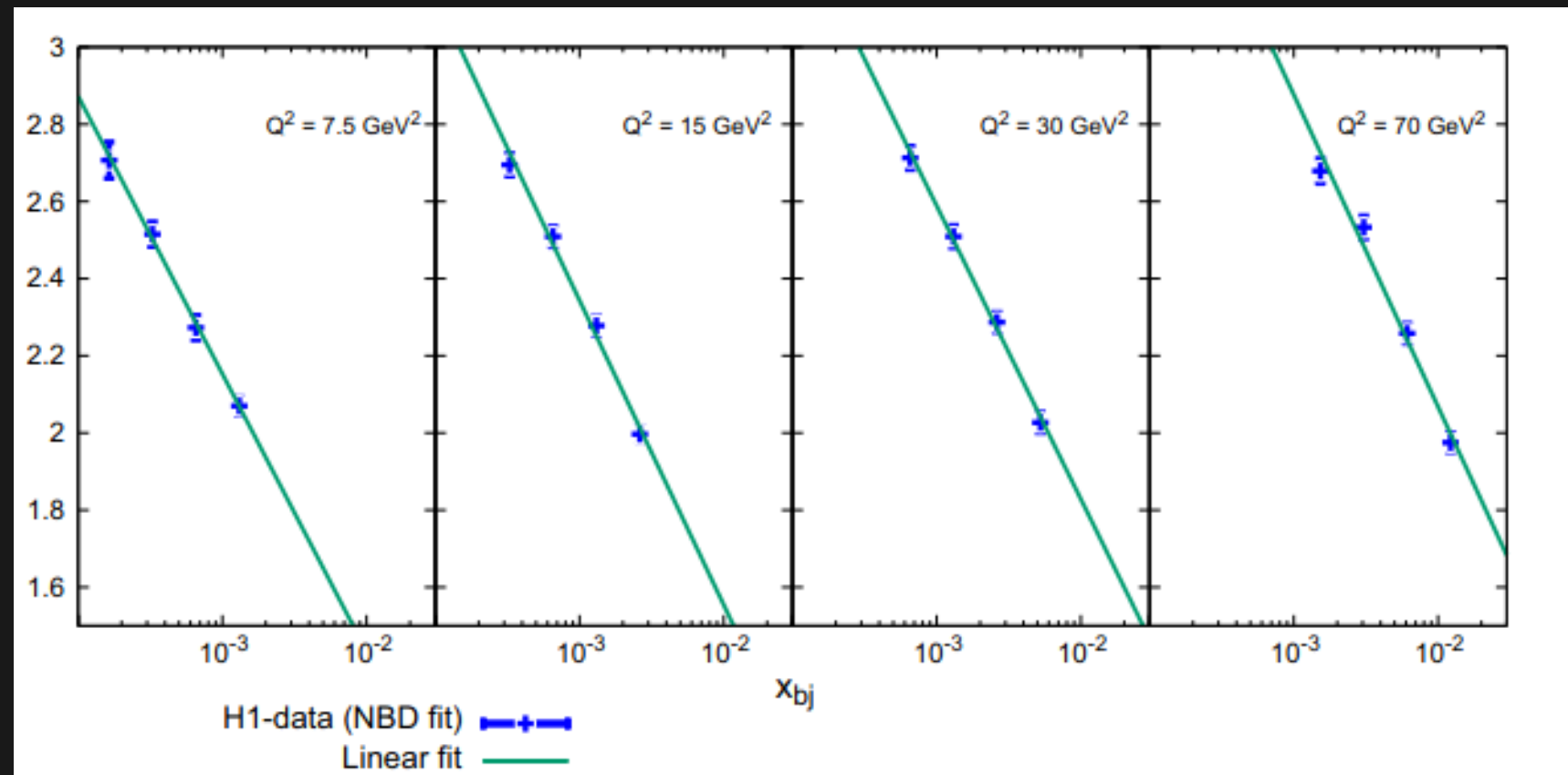
DIS experimental entropy (H1 - data)

$$S^{H1}(x) = \sum_N P(N) \log(P(N))$$

hypothesis

$$S(x) = \lambda \log(1/x) + f(Q^2)$$

$S(x)$



PHENOMENOLOGY OF DIS

Extracting the pomeron intercept

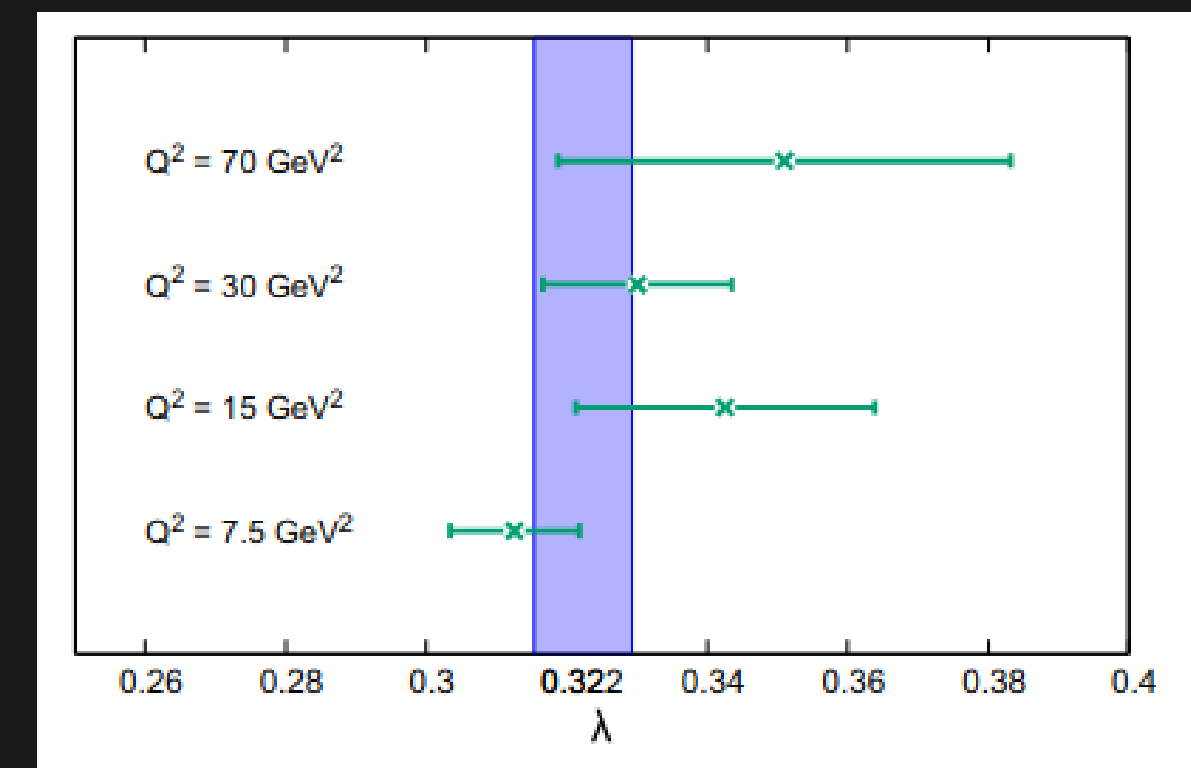
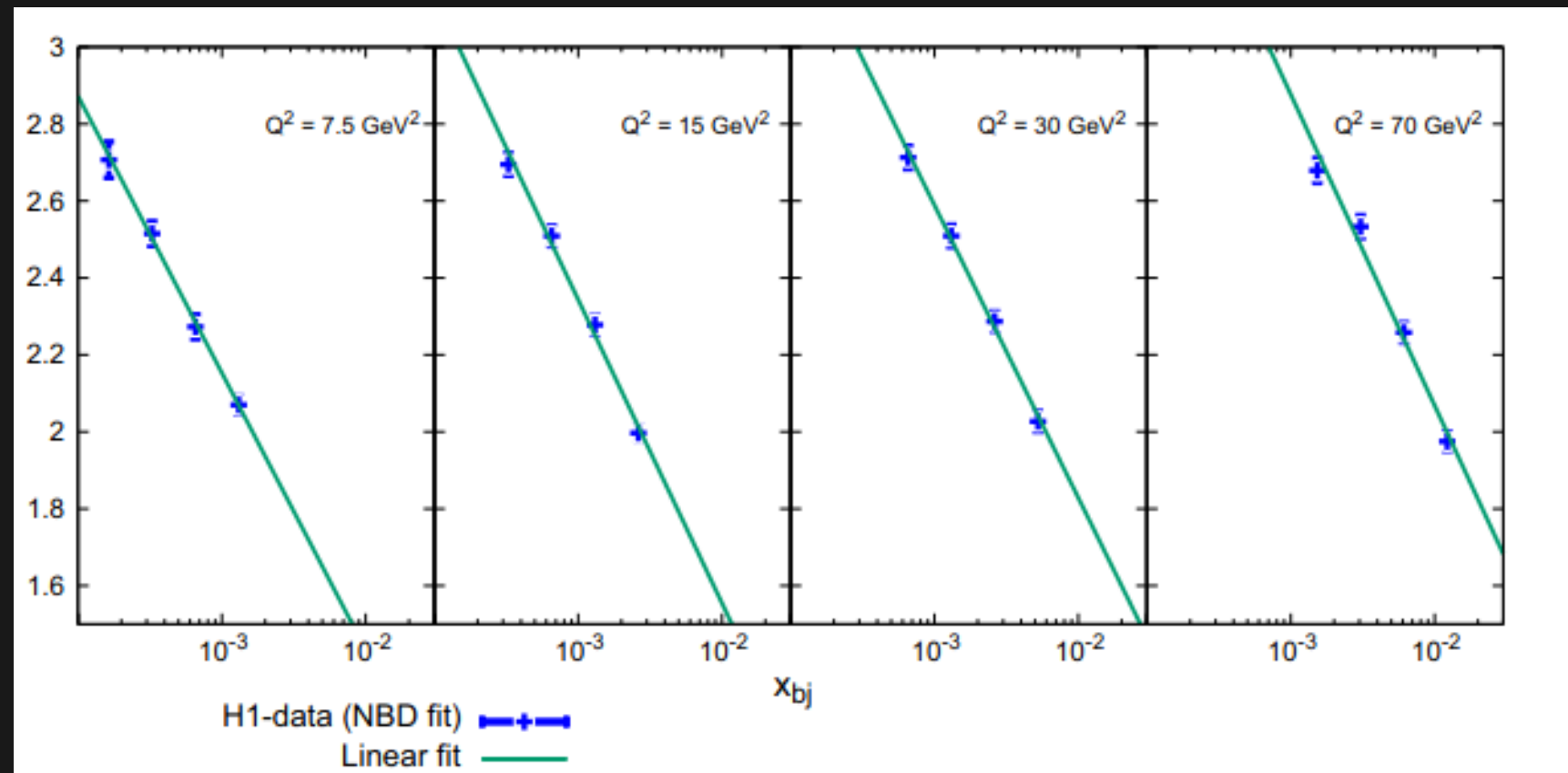
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$S(x)$



$$\lambda = 0.322 \pm 0.07$$

Agrees with the data at all Q^2 values

PHENOMENOLOGY - LHC

Can we do the same as in DIS?



Problems

Different experimental methodologies

| CMS | ATLAS | ALICE |
|-----|-------|-------|
| | | |

x is not observable

Soft contribution (PT ~0)

PHENOMENOLOGY - LHC

Can we do the same as in DIS?



Problems

Different experimental methodologies

| CMS | ATLAS | ALICE |
|-----|-------|-------|
| | | |

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Solutions

Select different data sets

| CMS | ATLAS | ALICE | ALICE |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

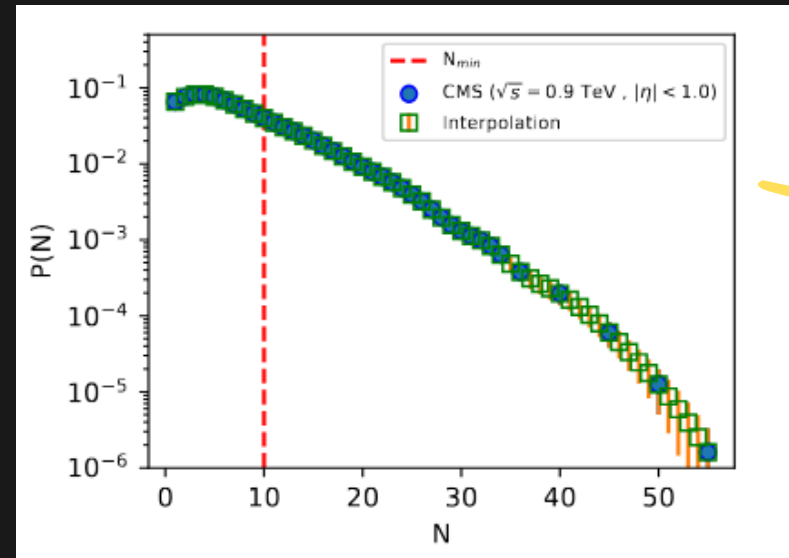
Approximate the minimum value
(dominant)

$$x \sim e^{-\eta_{max}} / \sqrt{s}$$

Cut the multiplicity at N_{\min}

PHENOMENOLOGY - LHC

Same result as DIS



Cut lower multiplicity $N < 10$

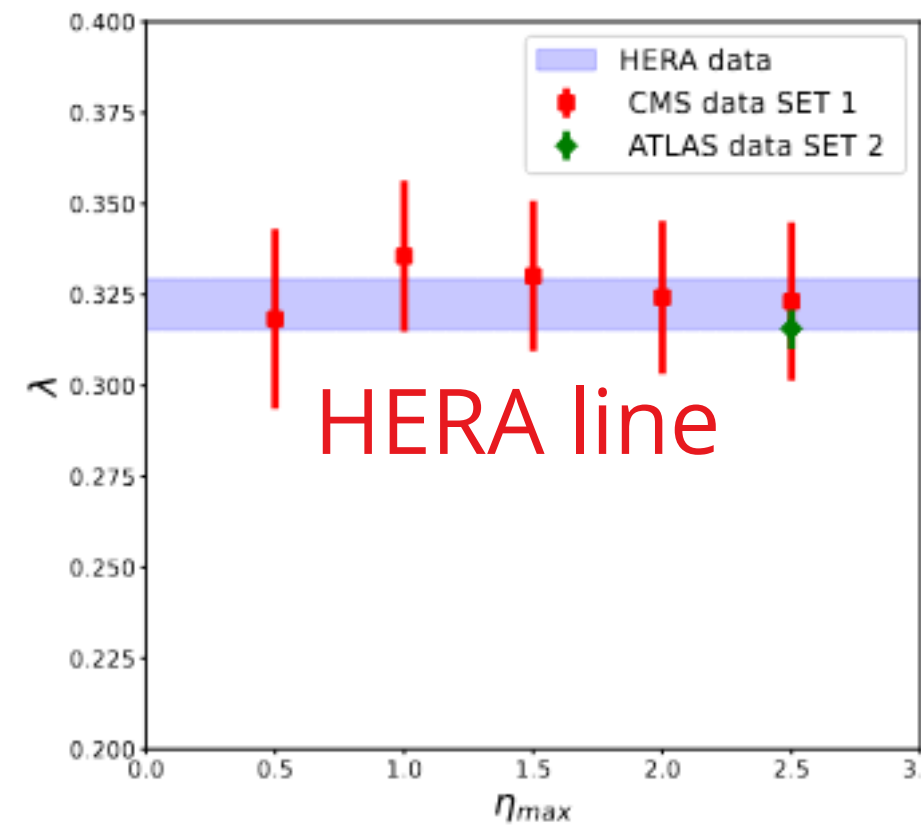
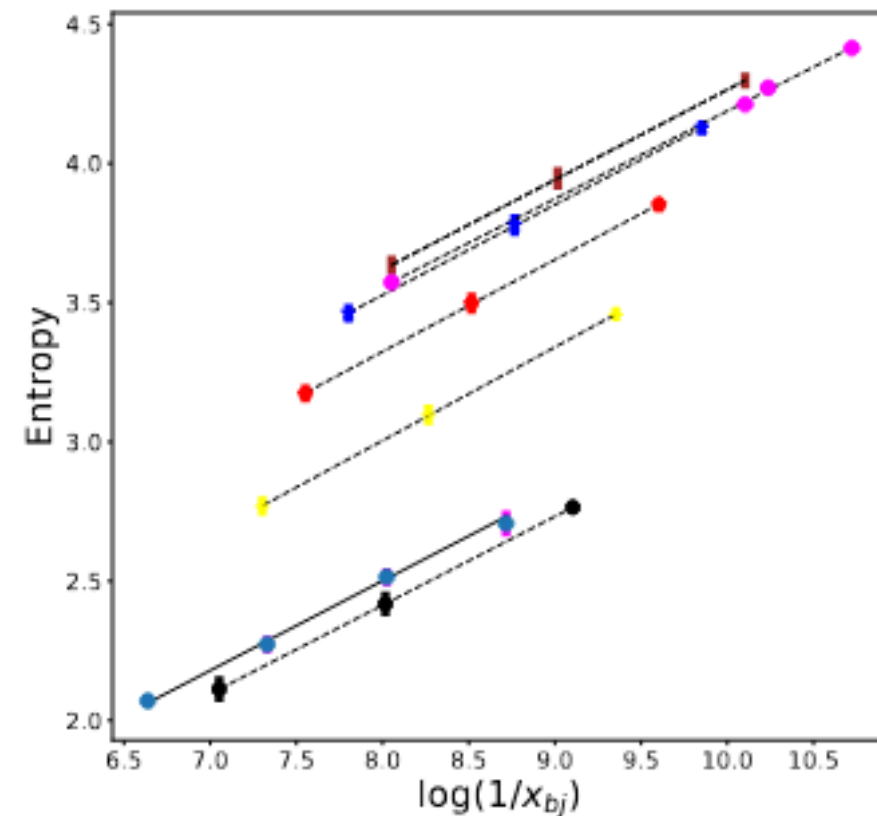
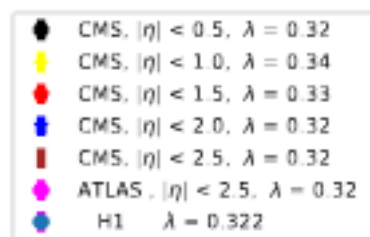


CMS and ATLAS data agrees with HERA



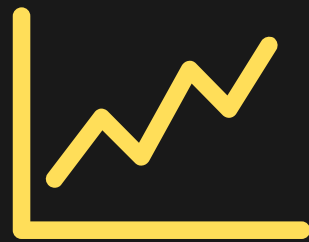
Diffusion of multiplicity is an initial state phenomena !

Experimental entropy



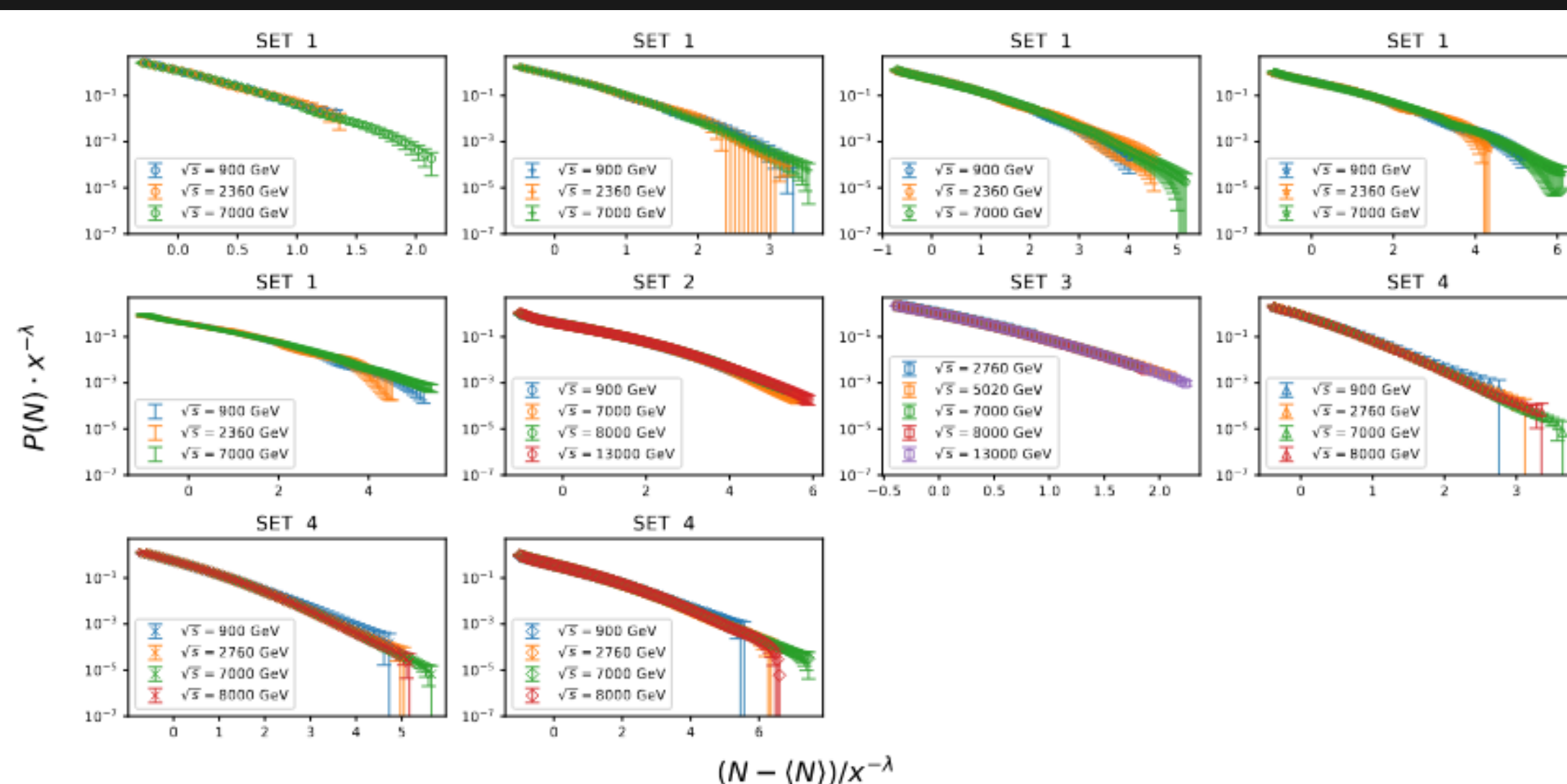
PHENOMENOLOGY - LHC

Diffusion Scaling of P(N)



Different energies all collapse to same line

$$P(N) \sim x^\lambda F\left(\frac{N - \langle N \rangle}{x^{-\lambda}}\right)$$



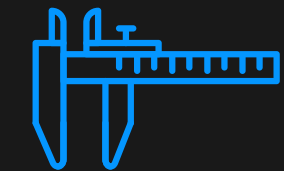
Traditional Koba-Nielsen-Olesen (KNO) scaling fails in the high-multiplicity tail of P(N)

This diffusion scaling supports the interpretation of multiplicity fluctuations as an initial-state phenomenon.

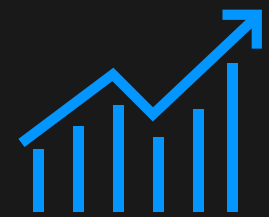
SUMMARY



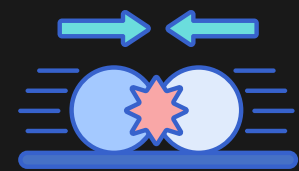
Universal entropy scaling validated across systems



Precise determination of λ from entropy



Diffusion scaling replaces KNO at high multiplicities

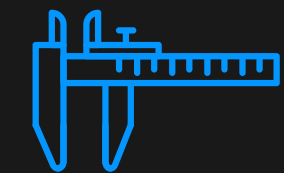


Entropy bridges pp and ep phenomenology

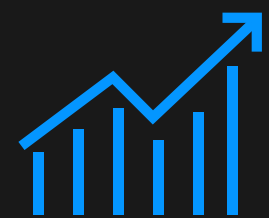
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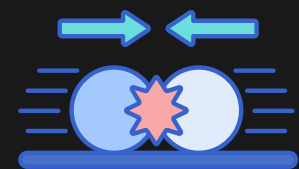
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Entropy bridges pp and ep phenomenology

Future applications

Electron-Ion Collider (EIC): test entropy growth with higher precision

Application to heavy-ion collisions

Heavy-ion collisions: use entropy to distinguish initial-state collectivity from final-state effects.

Thank you for your attention !

REFERENCES



Scaling entropy

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L. S. Moriggi, F. S. Navarra, and M. V. T. Machado, [Universality of scaling entropy in charged hadron multiplicity distributions at the LHC](#), [arXiv:2506.09899](#) (2025)

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Experimental data

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