

Factorization in QCD and Beyond Coherence

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The Fog is Lifting

Factorization Breaking

Glauber Gluons

Coherence Violation

Super-Leading Logarithms



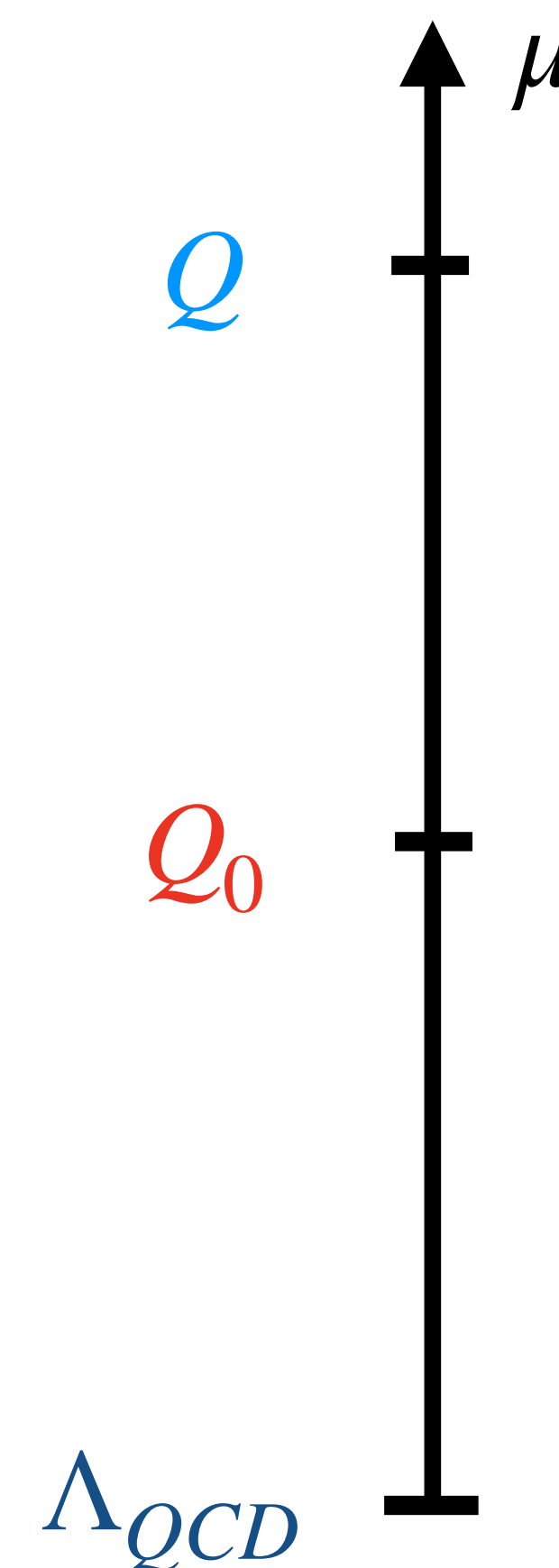
Confusion arises because the same term refers to related but different concepts, for example

- Factorization
- Glauber Gluons

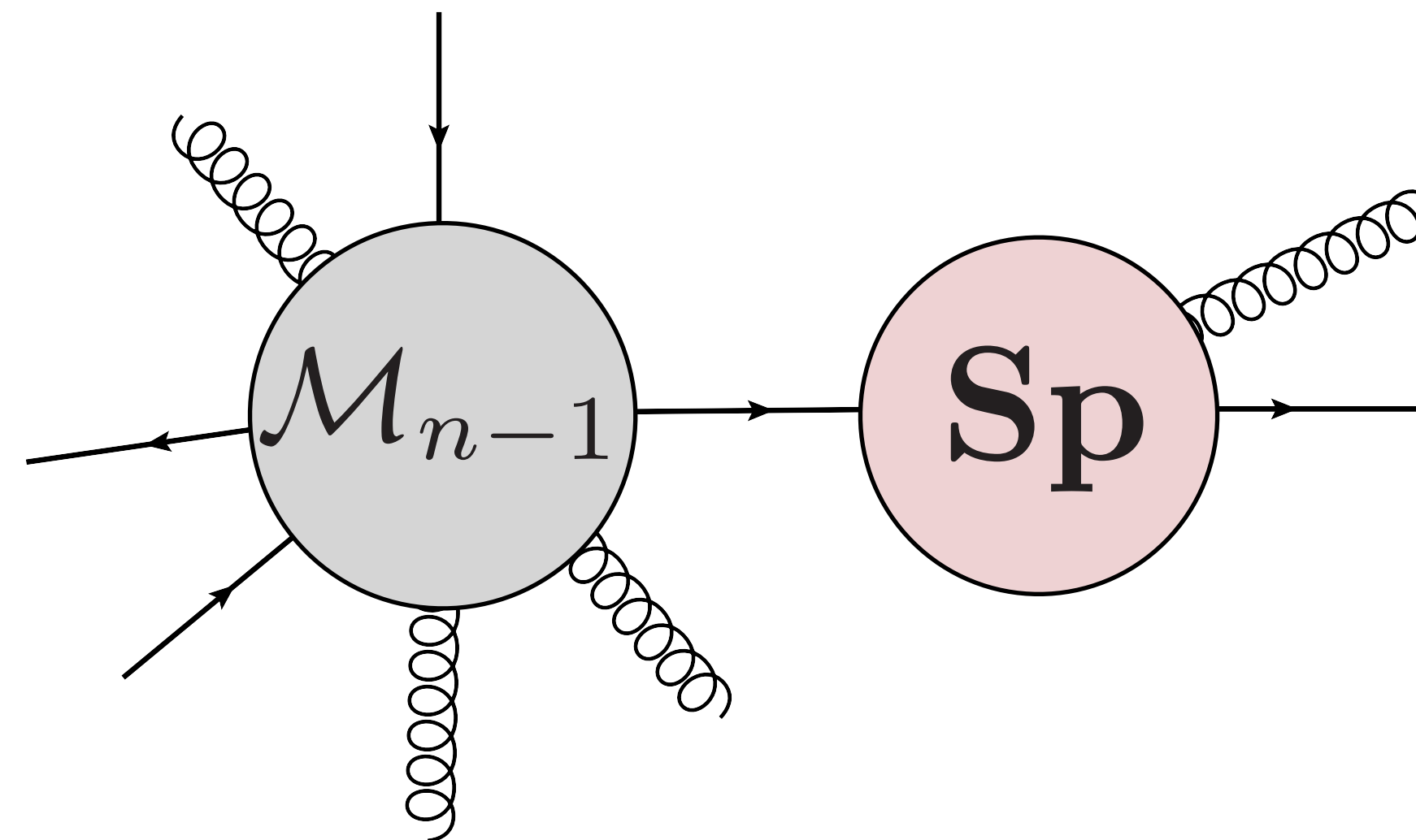
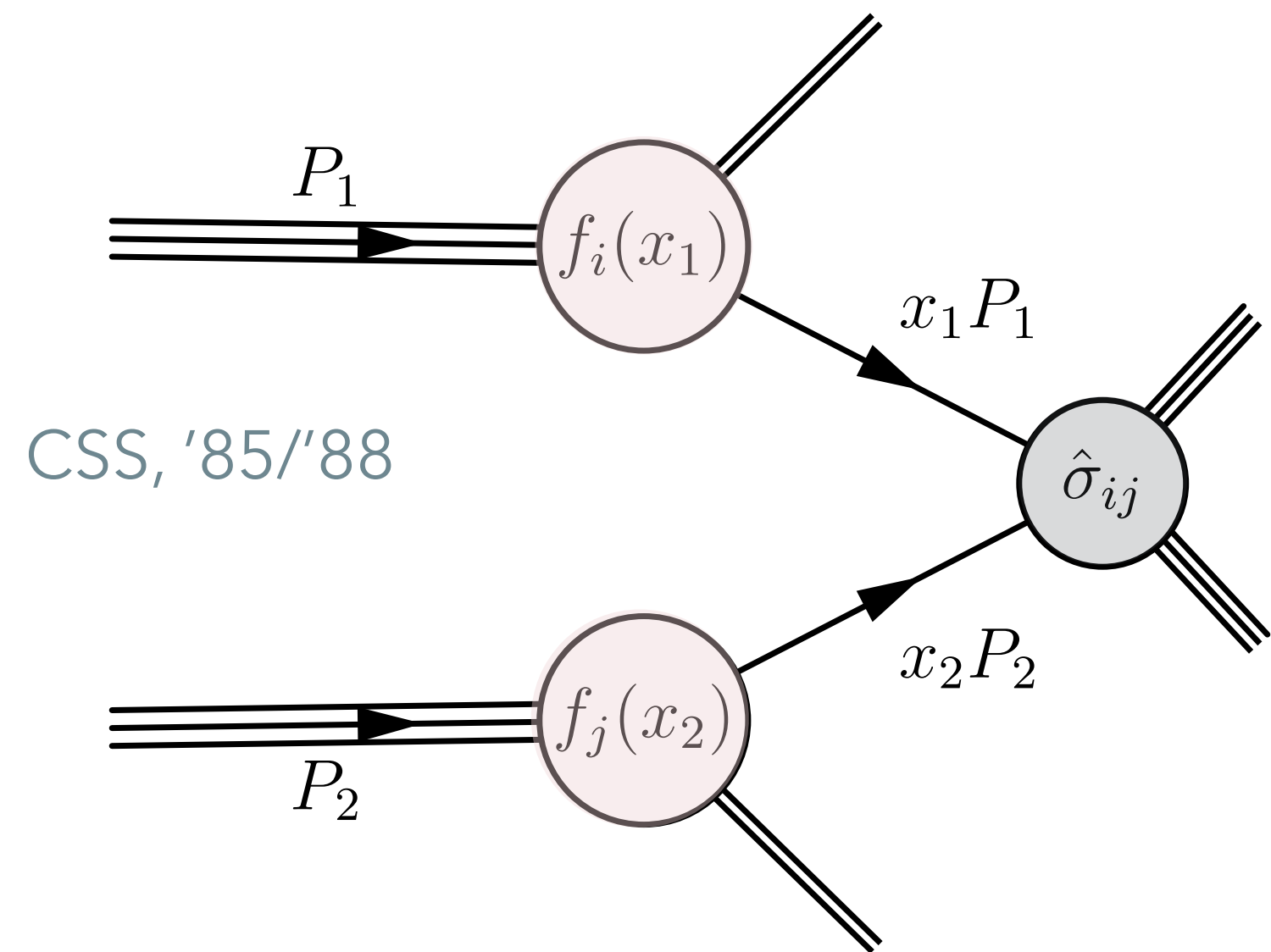
together with Dadaist language such as Super-Super-Leading Logarithms

Factorization = Scale Separation

- Believe it is **always possible** to separate physics at disparate scales, but **low-energy matrix elements can be complicated**
 - Typically, soft Wilson lines along all directions of large momentum flow
- Intimately connected to the construction of low-energy **effective field theories**
- On a diagrammatic level captured by the **method of regions (MoR)** expansion Beneke, Smirnov '98

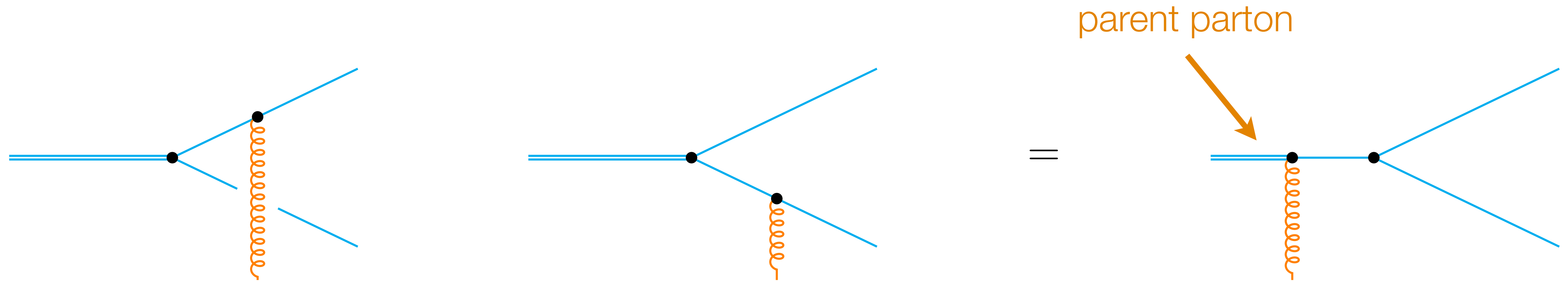


Factorization = Universality



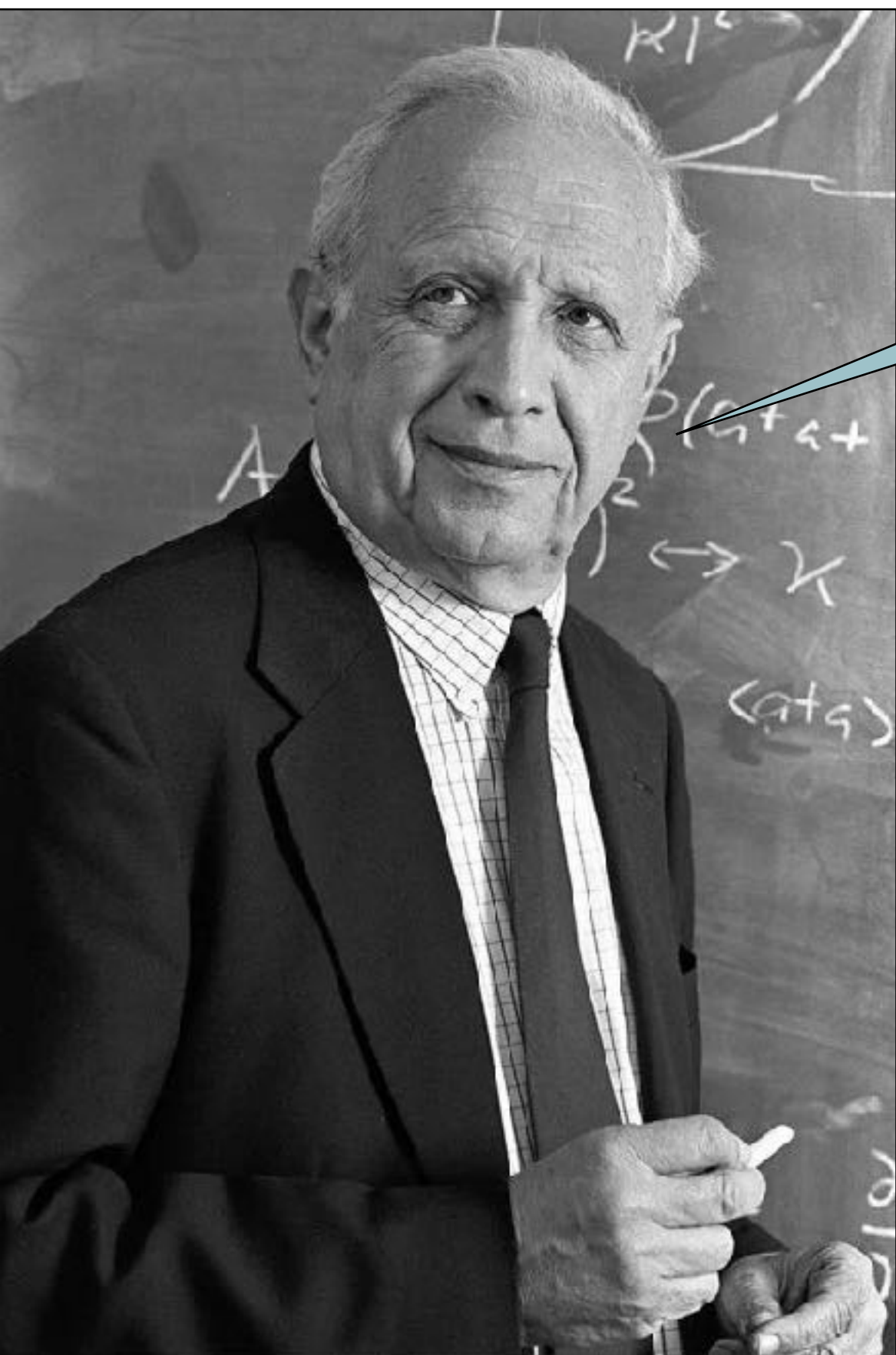
- Sometimes **low-energy matrix elements** are **independent of the hard process**
- **Only if there are no soft or Glauber** exchanges between different sectors

Color Coherence



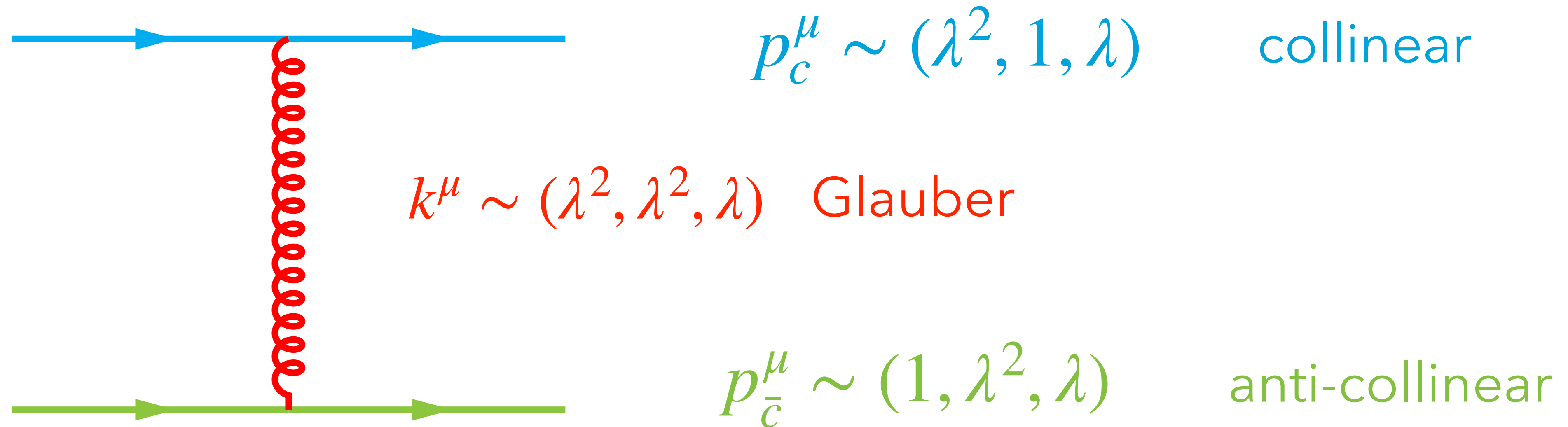
- **Soft** radiation is only **sensitive** to **net charge** of **collinear** partons
 - Only **parent** charge is **relevant**!
- Concept **violated** for **space-like** kinematics!

**WTF are
Glauber
gluons?**



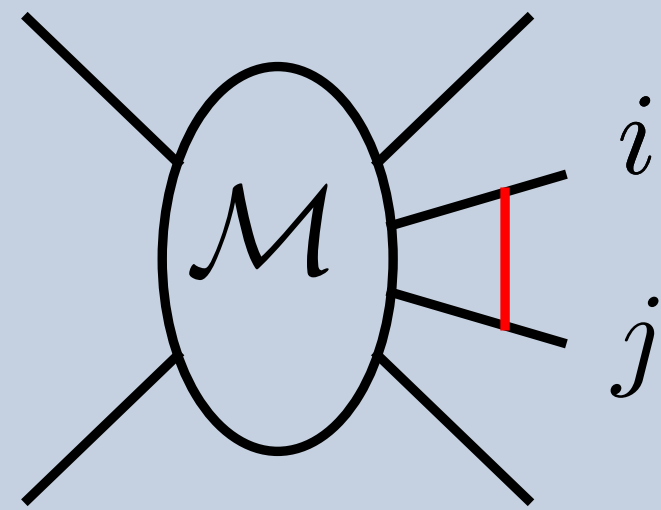
Roy Glauber

Glauber Exchange



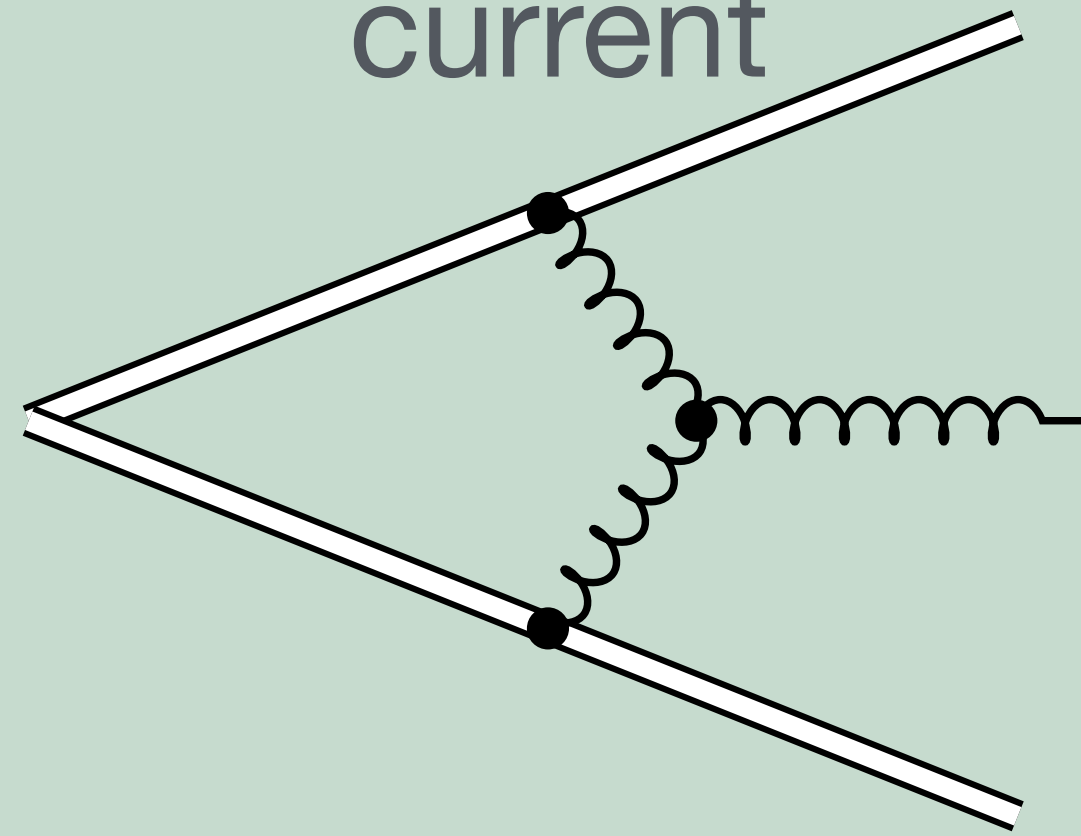
- Light-cone decomposition $p^\mu = (n \cdot p) \frac{\bar{n}^\mu}{2} + (\bar{n} \cdot p) \frac{n^\mu}{2} + p_\perp^\mu \equiv p_+^\mu + p_-^\mu + p_\perp^\mu$
- Expansion parameter $\lambda^2 \sim p_c^2/Q^2 \sim p_{\bar{c}}^2/Q^2$. Scaling $(p_+^\mu, p_-^\mu, p_\perp^\mu) \sim (\lambda^a, \lambda^b, \lambda^c)$

Glauber phases
in IR divergences of
hard amplitudes



$$\frac{2i\pi}{\epsilon} \mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j$$

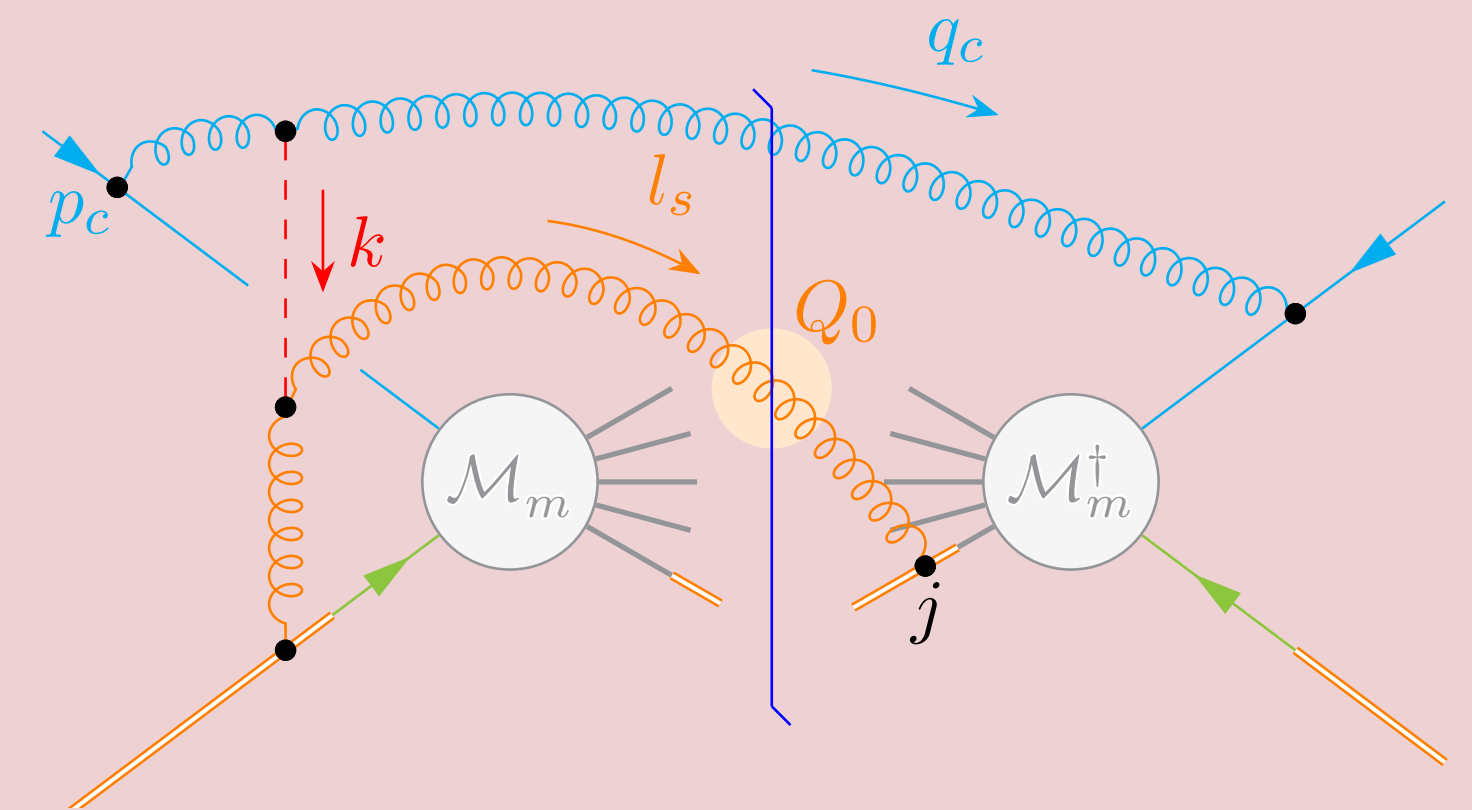
Cheshire Glaubers*
Glauber contributions in
soft and collinear
integrals in MoR
e.g. phase in 1-loop soft
current



“You may have noticed that
I'm not all there myself.”



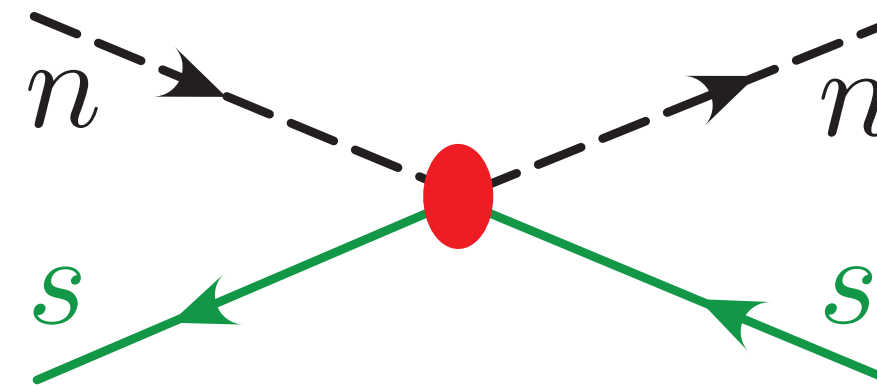
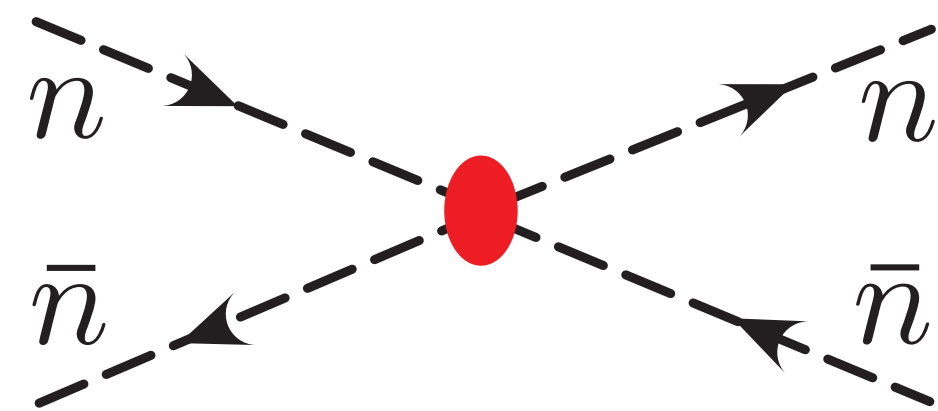
Genuine Glaubers
Exceptional (non-facet)
momentum region
[mode vs. region]



* © Ira Rothstein and Iain Stewart

Glauber Computations in SCET

- Effective Glauber Lagrangian Stewart, Rothstein '16



- Subtract Glauber terms from soft and collinear integrals
 - Non-analytic regulator so that subtractions do not vanish
- Alternative:
 - Same Lagrangian, but strict Method of Regions. Leave soft and collinear unchanged, only genuine Glauber contributions

Outline

- 1) Super-leading logarithms (SLLs)
 - SLLs from RG evolution
 - PDF Factorization Restoration through Glauber Gluons
- 2) Collinear factorization violation in SCET
 - Collinear Wilson lines for space-like processes
- 3) Coherence-violating logarithms (CVLs) in N -jettiness

Super-Leading Logarithms

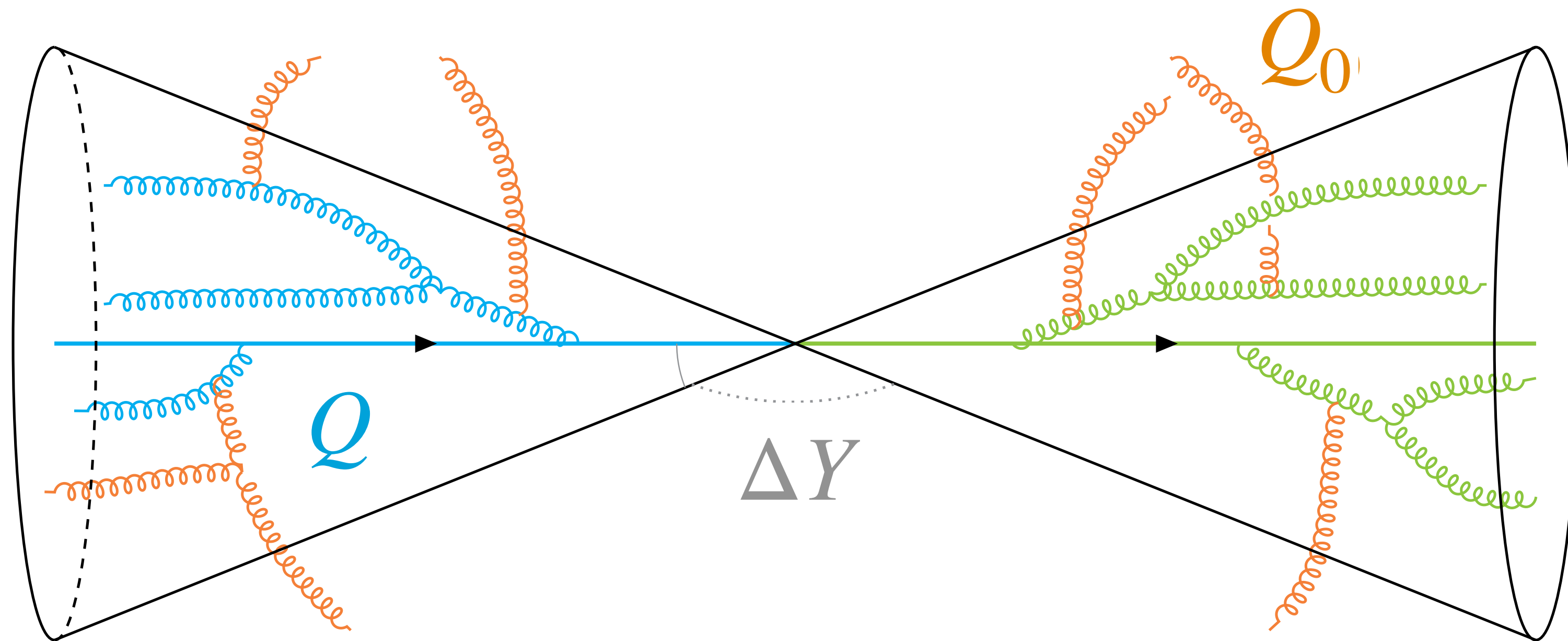
Factorization restoration through genuine Glauber contributions

TB, Hager, Jaskiewicz, Neubert, Schwienbacher

PRL 134 (2025) 6, 06190 and JHEP 01 (2025) 171

Gap-between jets

- Only **soft** radiation inside a gap of size ΔY between jets.
- Soft radiation **veto** scale $Q_0 \ll$ jet scale Q
- Prototypical **non-global observable**, non-global logarithms (NGLs)



Super-Leading Logarithms (SLLs)

- For $Q_0 \ll Q$ in case of **hadron** colliders one finds

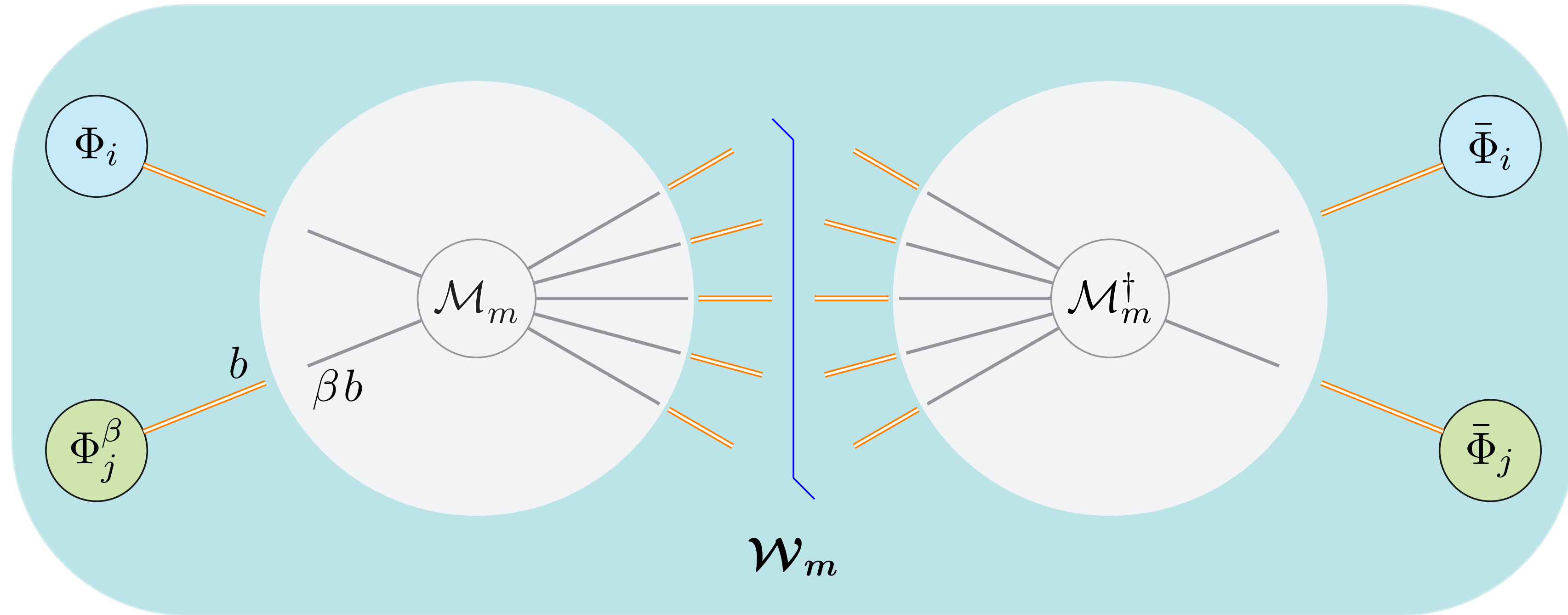
$$\sigma \sim \sigma_B(1 + \alpha_s \ln(Q/Q_0) + \alpha_s^2 \ln^2(Q/Q_0) + \dots + \alpha_s^4 \ln^5(Q/Q_0) + \dots)$$

Forshaw, Kyrielleis, Seymour '06 '08

- **Non-cancellation of collinear effects** due to **Glauber phases**
- Formally **leading** logarithmic effect but
- **Suppressed** in **color & loop** order
- Numerical **impact** is **significant**

SLLs are **directly** connected to factorization violation!

Factorization Theorem



For $Q_0 \ll Q$ we can derive

$$\sigma_{2 \rightarrow M}(Q_0) = \int d\mathbf{x}_1 \int d\mathbf{x}_2 \sum_{m=2+M}^{\infty} \langle \mathcal{H}_m(\{\underline{\mathbf{n}}\}, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mu) \otimes \mathcal{W}_m(\{\underline{\mathbf{n}}\}, Q_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mu) \rangle$$

- Factorization between **hard** and **soft-collinear** physics

RG evolution

- Renormalized hard functions fulfill RG equation

$$\frac{d}{d \ln \mu} \mathcal{H}_m = - \sum_{l=m_0}^m \mathcal{H}_l \Gamma_{lm}^H$$

matrix in multiplicity and color space

Virtual terms $\propto \delta_{lm}$
Real emissions $\propto \delta_{l(m+1)}$

- One-loop hard anomalous dimension:

$$\Gamma^H = \gamma_{cusp}(\alpha_s) \left(\Gamma^c \ln \frac{\mu^2}{Q^2} + V^G \right) + \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \bar{\Gamma} + \Gamma^C$$

cusp-piece
soft+collinear purely soft purely collinear color-aware DGLAP

$\propto i\pi$
Glauber-phase generates SLLs generates NGLs

SLLs from RG evolution

Evolve **hard function** from $\mu_h \sim Q$ to $\mu_s \sim Q_0$

$$\sigma(Q, Q_0) = \sum_{m,l=m_0}^{\infty} \int d\xi_1 d\xi_2 \langle \mathcal{H}_m(Q, \mu_h) U_{ml}(\mu_h, \mu_s) \otimes \mathcal{W}_l(Q_0, \mu_s) \rangle$$

$$U(\mu_h, \mu_s) = P \exp \left[\int_{\mu_s}^{\mu_h} \frac{d\mu}{\mu} \Gamma^H \right]$$

$$= \mathbf{1} + \int_{\mu_s}^{\mu_h} \frac{d\mu_1}{\mu_1} \Gamma^H + \int_{\mu_s}^{\mu_h} \frac{d\mu_1}{\mu_1} \int_{\mu_1}^{\mu_h} \frac{d\mu_2}{\mu_2} \Gamma^H(\mu_1) \Gamma^H(\mu_2)$$



Evolution $U(\mu_h, \mu_s)$ achieves **resummation** of logarithms

Resummation of SLLs

Reduce products of Γ_H using commutation relations and other properties:

$$\langle \dots \mathbf{V}^G \rangle = \langle \dots \mathbf{\Gamma}^c \rangle = 0$$

$$[\mathbf{\Gamma}^c, \bar{\mathbf{\Gamma}}] = 0$$

$$[\mathbf{\Gamma}^c, \mathbf{V}^G] \neq 0$$

Color coherence

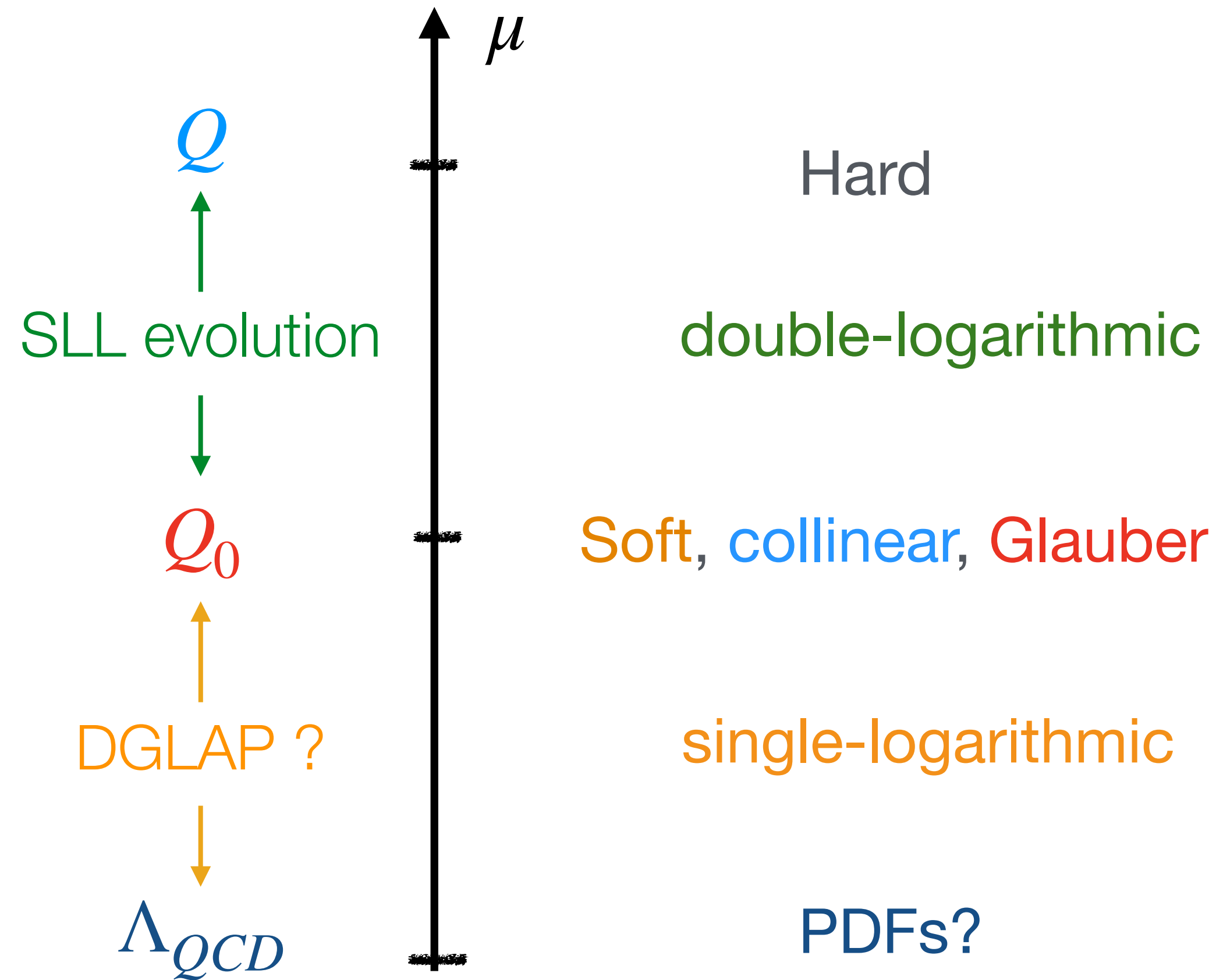
Coherence violation
through Glauber phase

Leaves a small set of structures to be evaluated:

$$\sigma_{\text{SLL}} \sim \langle \mathcal{H} (\mathbf{\Gamma}^c)^{n-r} \mathbf{V}^G (\mathbf{\Gamma}^c)^r \mathbf{V}^G \bar{\mathbf{\Gamma}} \rangle$$

Map products of $\mathbf{\Gamma}'s$ to a small basis of color structures, evaluate, and sum series. TB, Neubert, Shao, '21 + Stillger '23, Böer, Hager, Neubert, Stillger, Xu '23, '24

Scale hierarchy



Requires highly non-trivial interplay for consistency with DGLAP!

Consistency check

- Assume PDF factorization

$$\mathcal{W}_m(Q_0, \mu) = \mathcal{J}_m(Q_0, \mu) * f_1(\mu) f_2(\mu)$$

perturbative matching

- Know anomalous dimensions of both \mathcal{W}_m and $f_i(x, \mu)$ \rightarrow predict $1/\epsilon$ poles in $\mathcal{J}_m^{\text{bare}}$

$$\mathcal{J}_m^{\text{bare}} = \mathbf{1} + \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{\bar{\Gamma}}{2\epsilon} + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^2 \left(\frac{V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{2\epsilon^2} + \dots\right) + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^3 \left[\frac{\Gamma^c V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{3\epsilon^3} \left(\frac{11}{6\epsilon} + \ln \frac{\mu_s^2}{Q^2} + \frac{9}{2} \ln \frac{\mu_s^2}{Q_0^2}\right) + \frac{V^G V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{3\epsilon^3} + \frac{[\Gamma^c, V^G] \bar{\Gamma}}{12\epsilon^3} + \dots \right]$$

- Verify prediction for poles order by order, by computing partonic matrix elements $\mathcal{J}_m^{\text{bare}}$

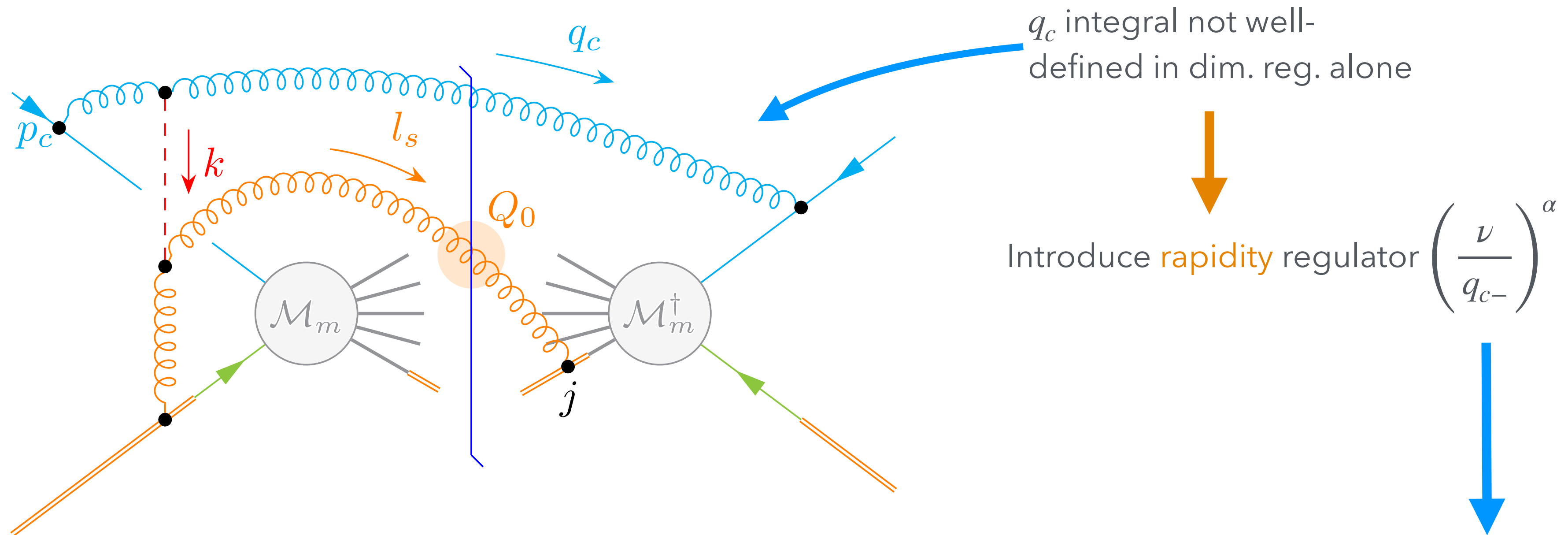
Order-by-order check

$$\mathcal{J}_m^{\text{bare}} = \mathbf{1} + \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{\bar{\Gamma}}{2\varepsilon} + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^2 \left(\frac{V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{2\varepsilon^2} + \dots\right) + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^3 \left[\frac{\Gamma^c V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{3\varepsilon^3} \left(\frac{11}{6\varepsilon} + \ln \frac{\mu_s^2}{Q^2} + \frac{9}{2} \ln \frac{\mu_s^2}{Q_0^2}\right) + \frac{V^G V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{3\varepsilon^3} + \frac{[\Gamma^c, V^G] \bar{\Gamma}}{12\varepsilon^3} + \dots \right]$$



- Up to two loops, all terms are purely **soft contributions**, obtained by taking matrix elements of soft currents Catani, Grazzini '00, Duhr, Gehrmann '13, Dixon, Herrmann, Yan, Zhu '20
- Purely collinear contributions to $\mathcal{J}_m^{\text{bare}}$ vanish because they are independent of Q_0
- Remaining terms involve **large scale Q** and dependence on **momentum fractions**. Needs soft-collinear interaction! Different options
 - soft-collinear messenger mode at lower scale Q_0^2/Q **X**
 - **Genuine Glauber mode** at scale Q_0 + **collinear anomaly** with rapidity logarithm $\ln(Q)$

Genuine Glauber Diagram



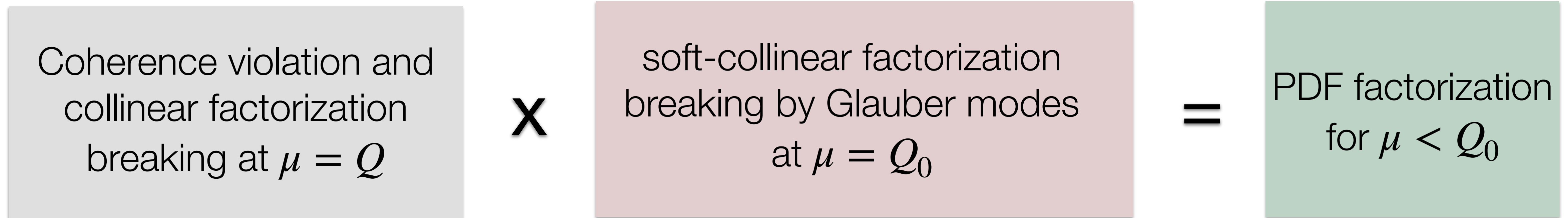
$$\mathcal{F}_m^{\text{bare}} \Rightarrow \frac{i\alpha_s^3}{12\pi^2\epsilon^3} \left(\frac{\mu_s^2}{Q_0^2}\right)^{3\epsilon} f^{abc} f^{ade} \sum_{j>2} J_j \left[T_{2L}^d T_{2R}^e T_{1L}^b T_{jR}^c \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} + \ln \frac{\nu \bar{p}_c^+}{Q_0^2} - \frac{11}{6\epsilon} + \frac{\overline{\mathcal{P}}_{q \rightarrow q}}{2} + \dots \right) + T_{1L}^d T_{1R}^e T_{2L}^b T_{jR}^c \left(-\frac{1}{\alpha} - \ln \frac{\nu}{p_c^-} + \frac{\overline{\mathcal{P}}_{q \rightarrow q}}{2} + \dots \right) \right]$$

- Poles in rapidity regulator α **cancel** between collinear and anti-collinear sectors, but leave behind $\ln(Q)$

Discussion

- Glauber loop maps onto pentagon diagram. Have verified MoR result against known full results for scalar pentagon integrals
 - Genuine **Glauber loop is well defined in dimensional regularization**
- Performed the **consistency check for all partonic channels** and also for off-diagonal splittings
- With the Glauber contribution at three-loop order, the low energy matrix \mathcal{W}_m no longer obeys soft-collinear factorization. The Glauber contributions
 - transmit soft scale Q_0 into collinear sector
 - induce **nontrivial spin-dependence** of the form $n_{j\perp}^\mu n_{j\perp}^\nu$ in \mathcal{W}_m for subleading poles, where n_j is the direction of soft Wilson line associated with final state parton

Factorization Restoration by Glauber Gluons



- Remarkable, intricate mechanism!
- Consistent with intuitive picture that scattering becomes inclusive for $\mu < Q_0$ and that then arguments by Collins, Soper and Sterman '86 should become applicable

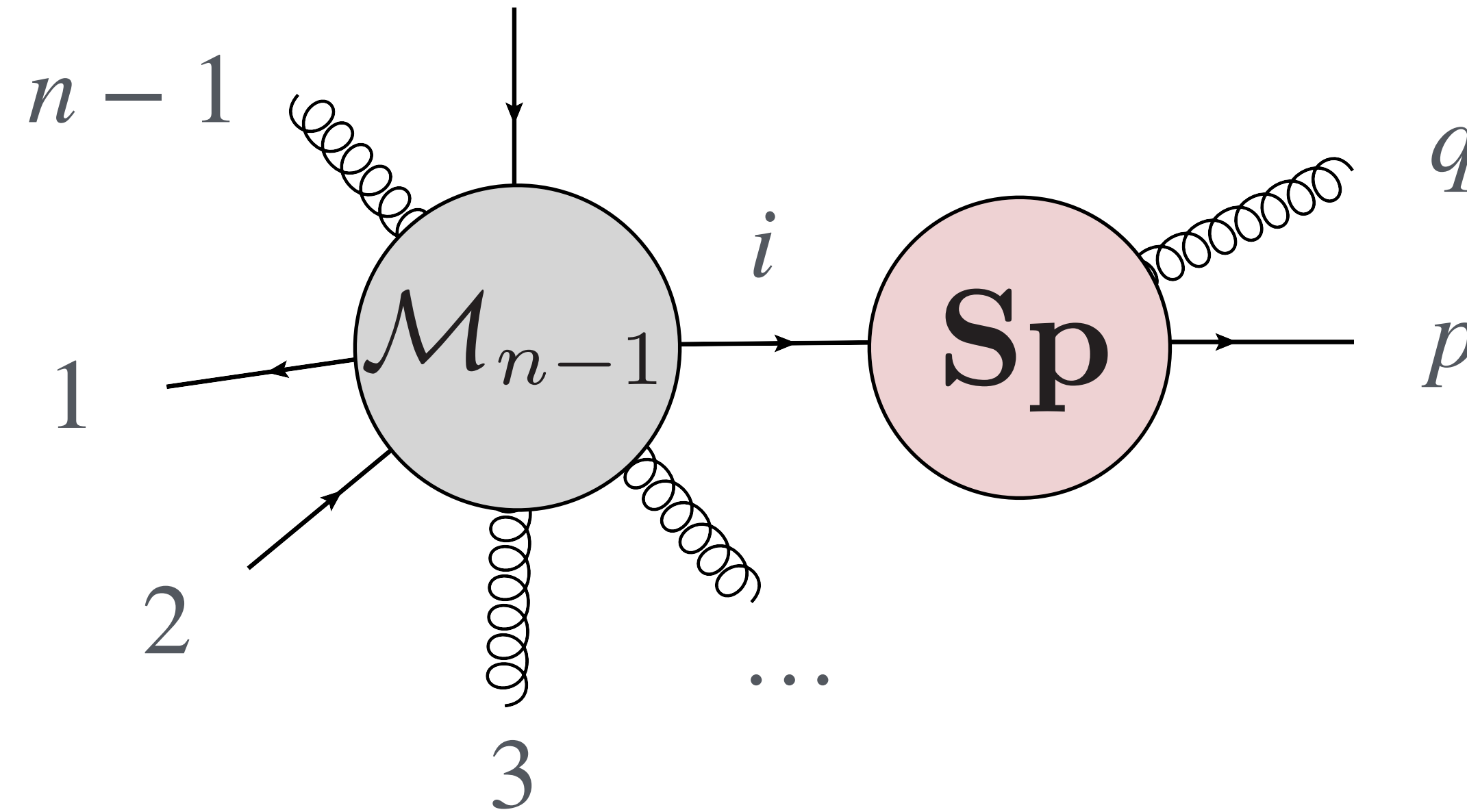
Collinear Factorization Breaking

Cheshire Glauber contributions,
sensitive to $i\varepsilon$ of eikonal collinear propagators

TB, Hager, Neubert, Schwienbacher

End Matter of [2603.12383](#)

Splitting amplitudes in SCET



- In SCET, the splitting amplitude is obtained from a matrix element of a collinear field, e.g.

$$\text{Sp}(p_c, q_c) = \langle p_c, q_c | \chi_i(0) | 0 \rangle$$

Collinear Wilson line

Collinear quark field in SCET involves a Wilson line

$$\chi_i(x) = \mathbf{W}_i^\dagger(x) q_i(x)$$

This Wilson line arises as remnant of attachments of the i -collinear gluon to the hard partons in all other directions

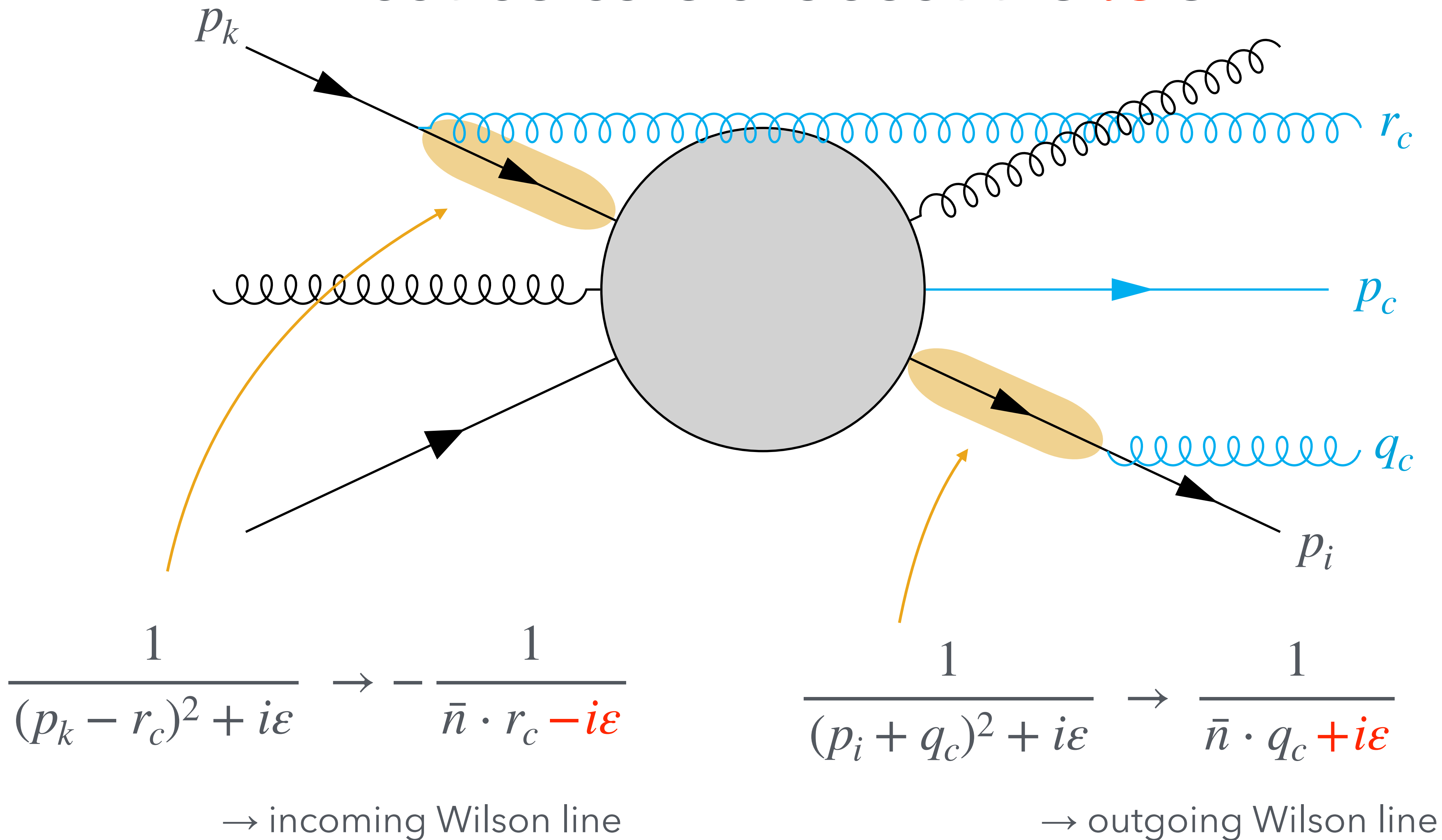
$$\mathbf{W}_i(x) = \mathbf{P} \exp \left[ig_s \int_{-\infty}^0 ds \bar{n}_i \cdot A_i^a(x + s\bar{n}_i) \mathbf{T}_i^a \right]$$

treat all other partons
as incoming

by color conservation

$$\mathbf{T}_i^a = - \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{T}_j^a$$

...but be careful about the $i\varepsilon$'s



Collinear Wilson lines revisited

However, in processes with incoming and outgoing hard partons, MoR expansion leads to products of incoming and outgoing Wilson lines \mathbf{W}^+ and \mathbf{W}^-

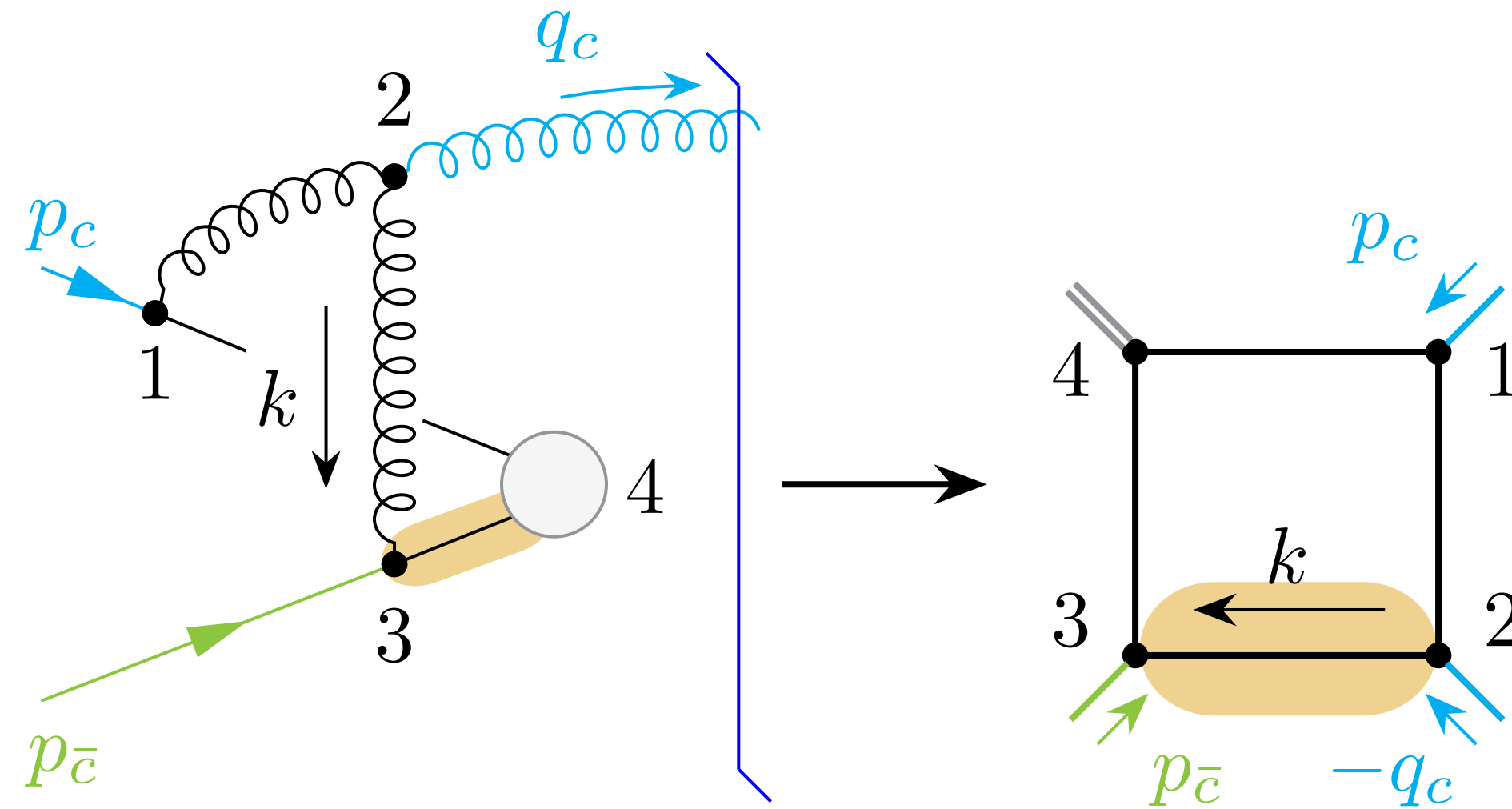
$$\mathbf{W}_i(x) = \prod_{k \neq i} \mathbf{W}_{i,k}^+(x) \prod_{l \neq i} \mathbf{W}_{i,l}^-(x)$$

incoming outgoing

To replace all Wilson lines with incoming ones one argues that the $i\epsilon$ prescription in the eikonal propagators is irrelevant, since the propagator involves the large component of the collinear momentum.

Incorrect for space-like splittings due to Cheshire Glaubers!

Collinear Factorization Breaking



- Result for the collinear loop depends on sign of $i\epsilon$ of the **eikonal propagator**
- Computing these collinear diagrams reproduces factorization-breaking terms in one-loop splitting amplitude
- Alternative: SCET computation with non-analytic Glauber regulator **Schwartz, Yan, Zhu '17**

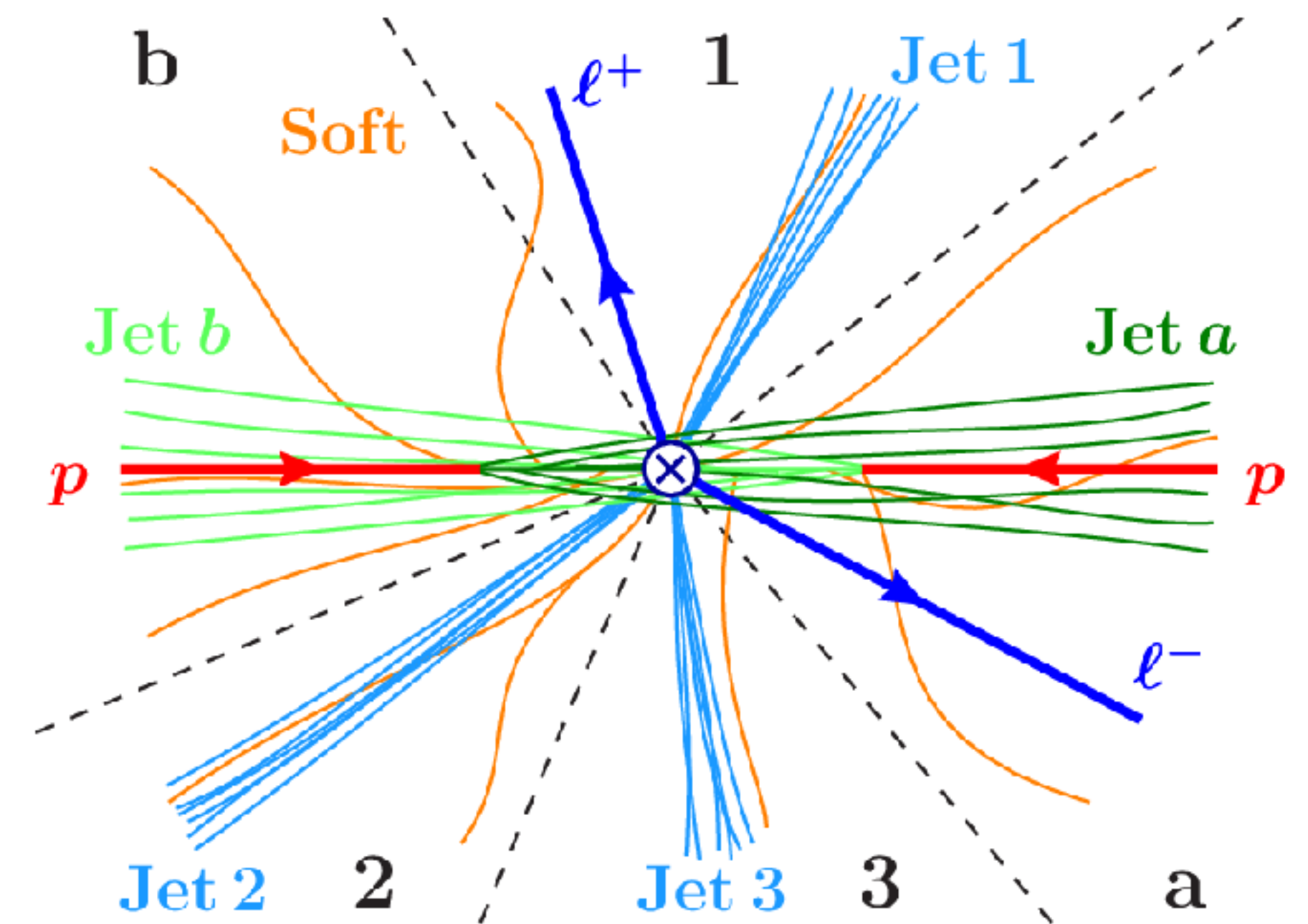
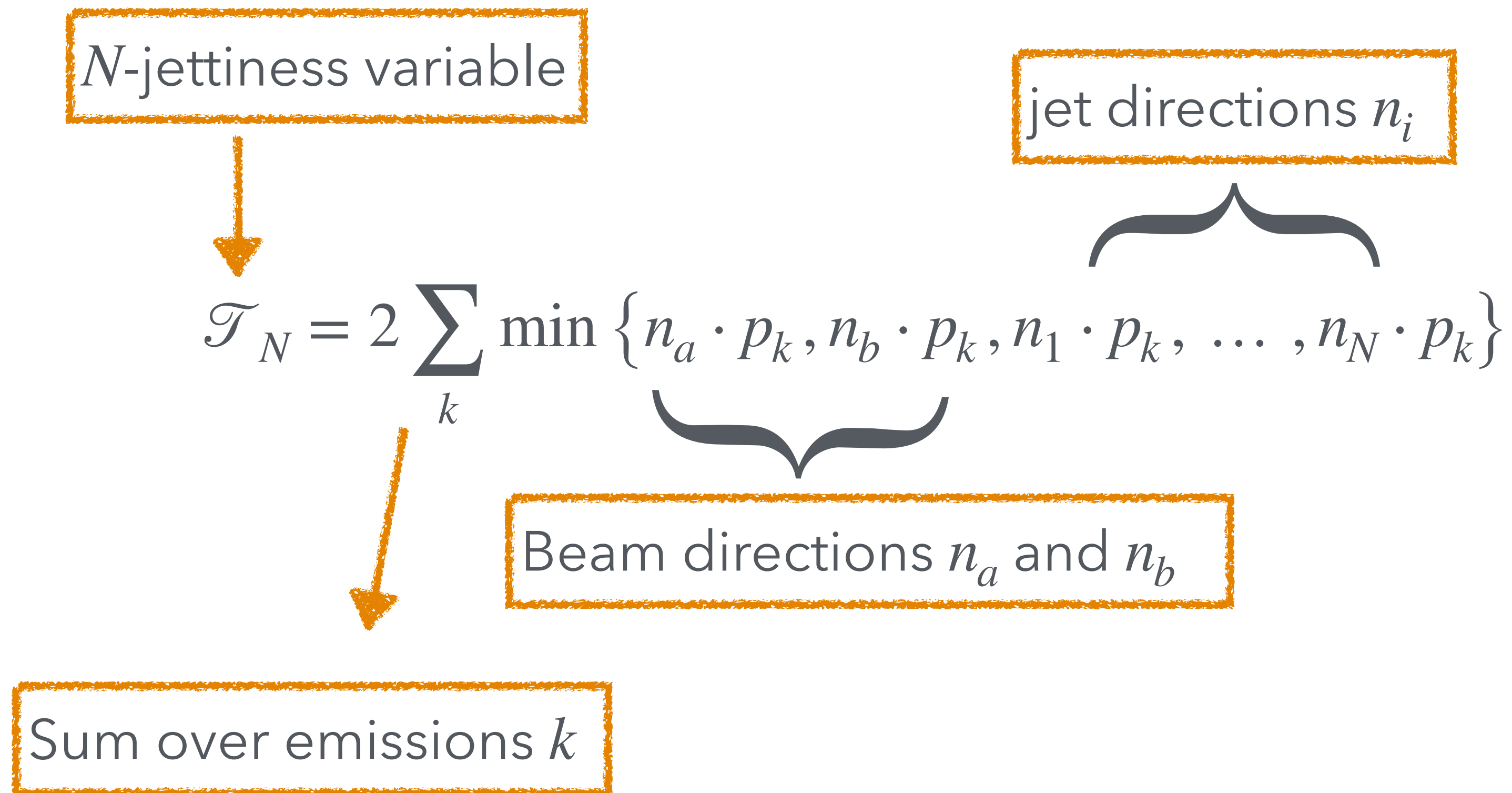
Coherence Violation in N -Jettiness

Glauber contributions
affect even simple, global observables!

TB, Hager, Neubert, Schwienbacher [2603.12383](#)

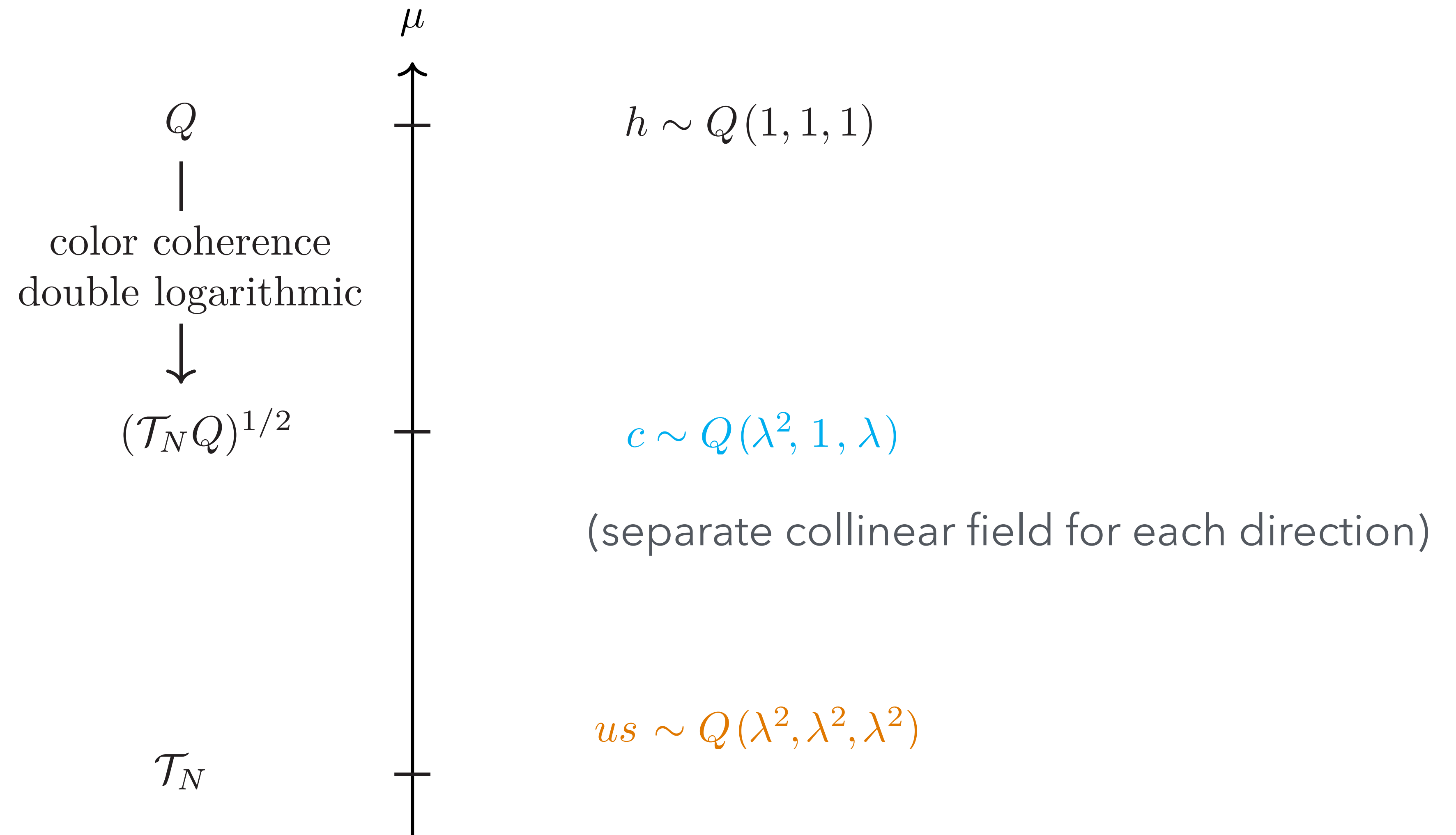
N -jettiness

Stewart, Tackmann, Waalewijn '10

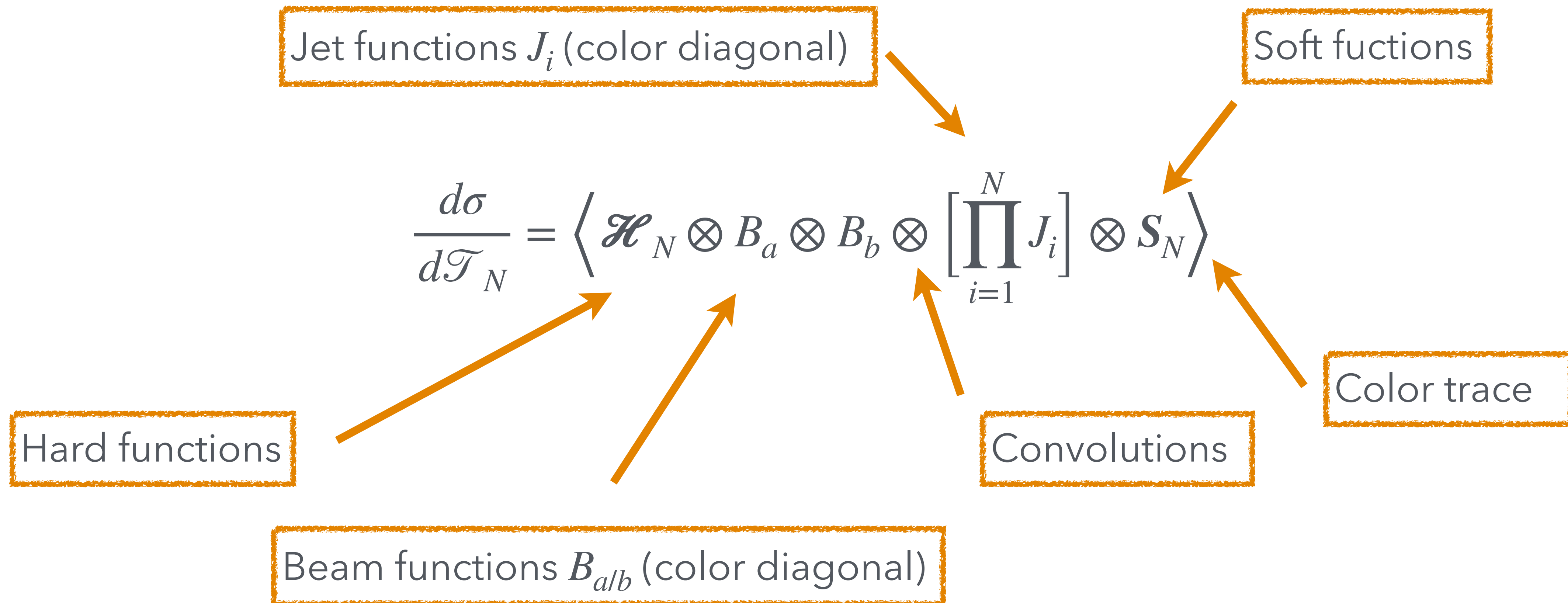


from Stewart, Tackmann, Waalewijn '10

Scale hierarchy for N -jettiness

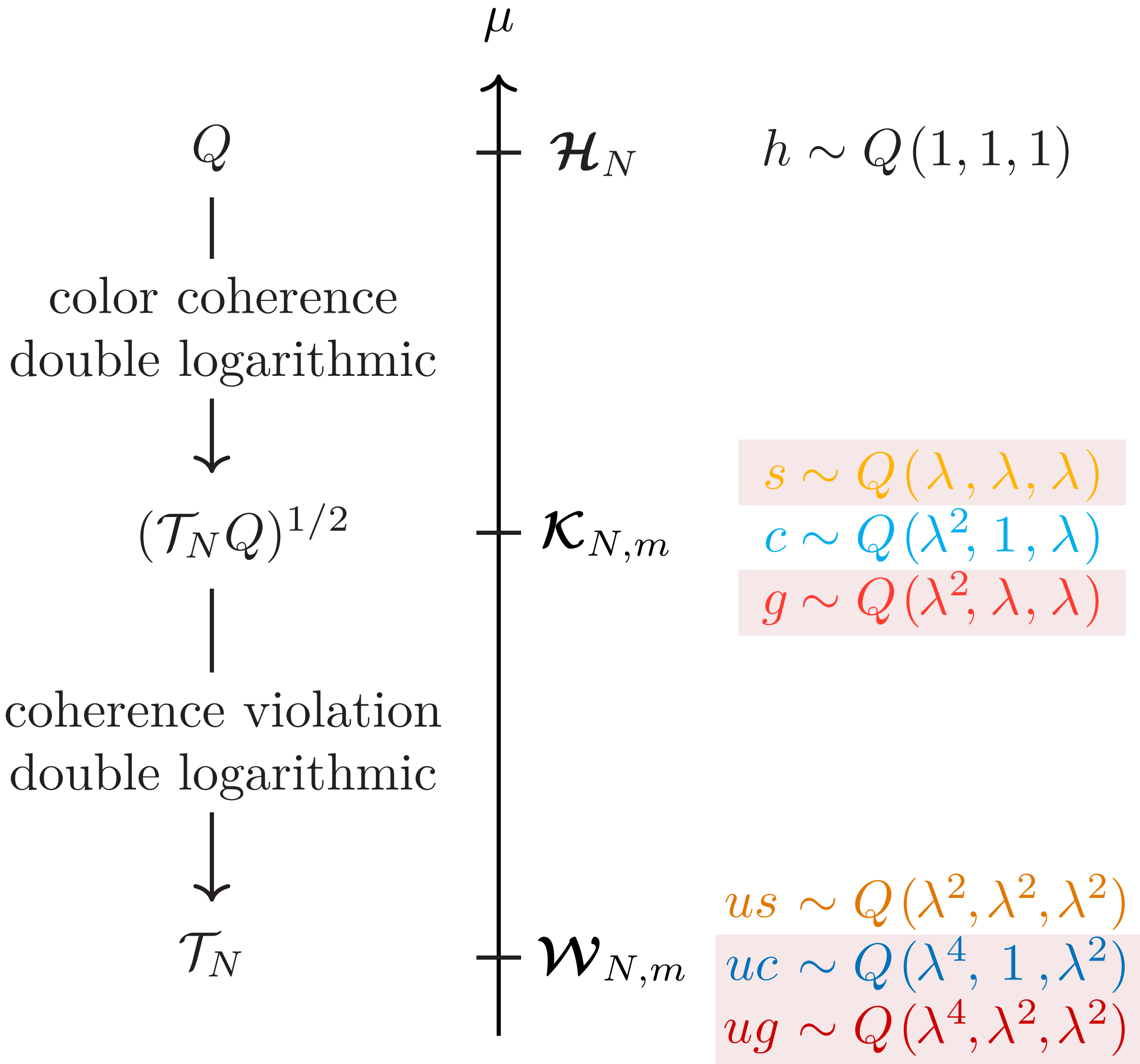


(Naive) factorization theorem for N -jettiness



Glauber modes in N -jettiness

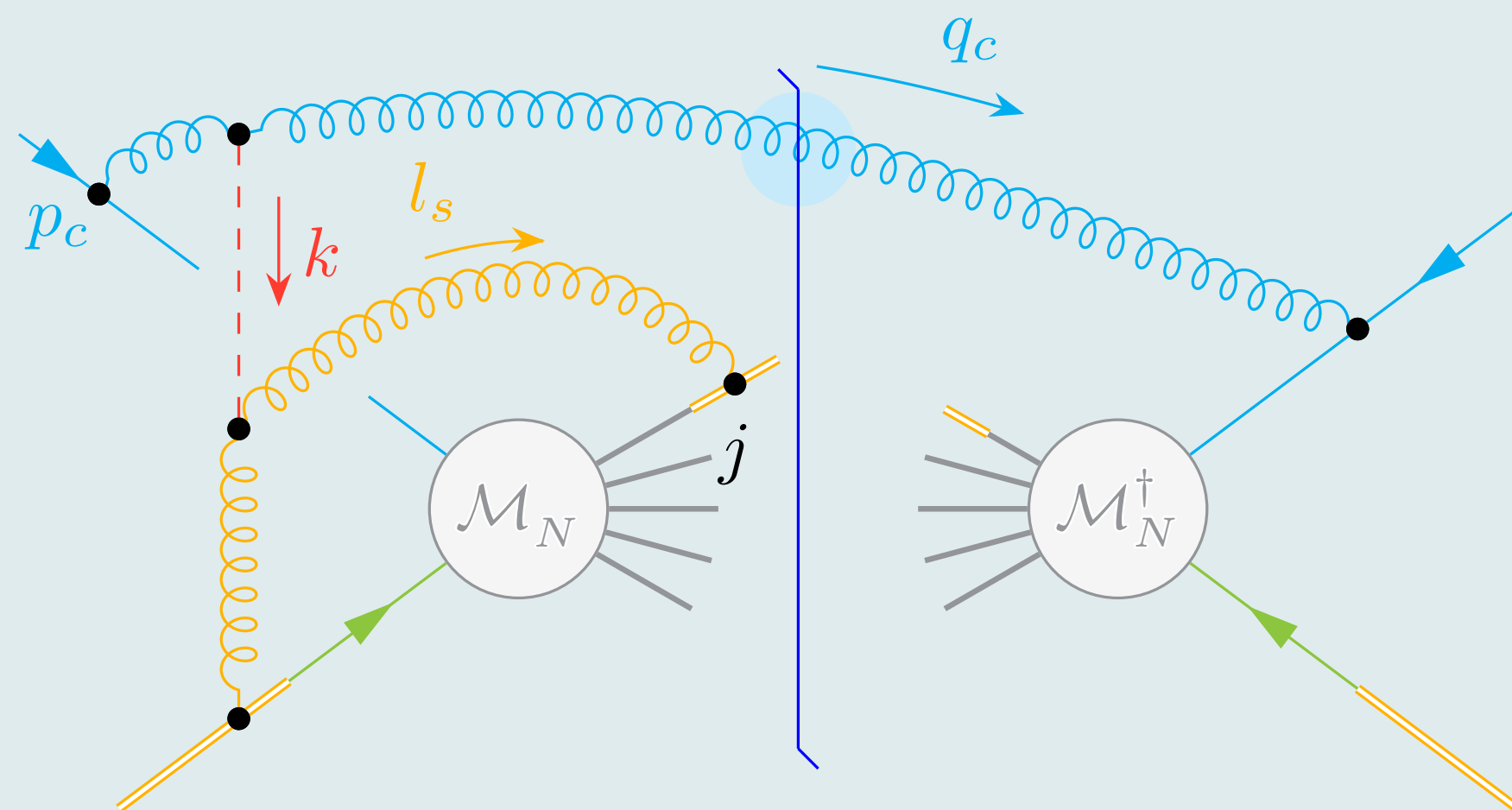
Argued to arise in
Banfi, Salam, Zanderighi '10
Forshaw, Holguin '21



New modes
at 3 loops

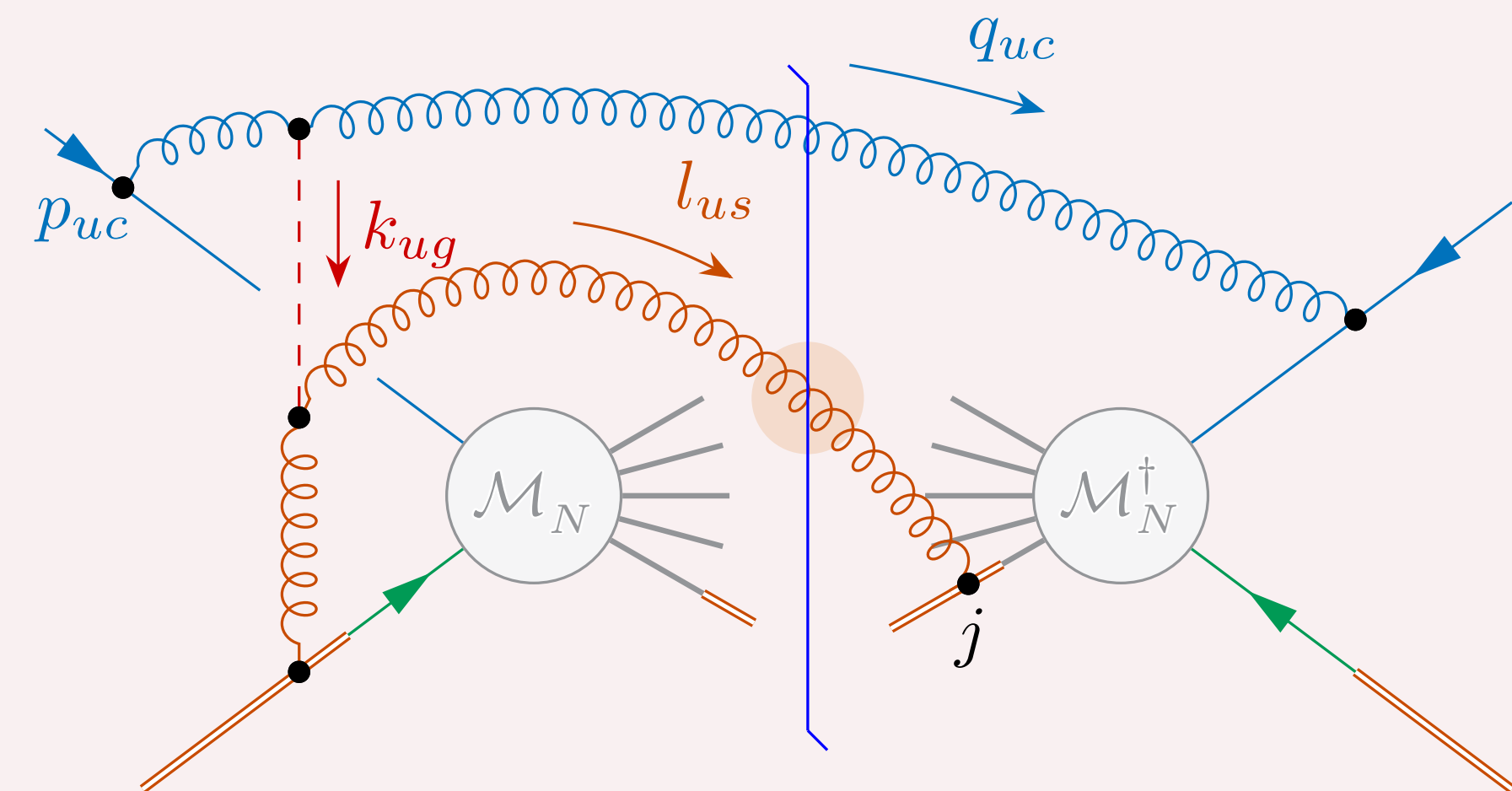
Glauber diagrams

Collinear scale $(Q \mathcal{T}_N)^{1/2}$



- Soft gluons $s \sim (\lambda, \lambda, \lambda)$ cannot be emitted, and purely virtual diagrams are scaleless
- Genuine Glauber $g \sim (\lambda^2, \lambda, \lambda)$ transmits scale from collinear to soft sector

Ultrasoft scale \mathcal{T}_N



- Ultra-collinear mode $uc \sim (\lambda^4, 1, \lambda^2)$ does not contribute to jettiness; purely uc diagrams are scaleless
- Ultra-Glauber $g \sim (\lambda^4, \lambda^2, \lambda^2)$ transmits us scale into the ultra-collinear sector

Factorization theorem for N -jettiness

Hard functions
(same as before)

Low-energy matrix element contains **ultra-soft** Wilson lines, **ultra-collinear** modes and **ultra** Glaubers

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\omega} = \sum_m \langle \mathcal{H}_N(Q, \mu) \overline{\mathcal{K}}_{N,m}(\sqrt{Q\omega}, \mu) \overline{\mathcal{W}}_{N,m}(\omega, \mu) \rangle$$

Laplace-space

$$\mathcal{T}_N \leftrightarrow \omega$$

Jet and Beam functions **no longer factorize!** Contain **soft** and **Glauber** modes! (also **not** color diagonal)

Color trace

Low-energy matrix element resolves colors of the individual $N + m$ partons!

Resummation

- Extract **anomalous dimension** of low-energy matrix elements via **gluon mass**
- **Cancellation** of gluon mass between different sectors leaves large logarithms

$$\Gamma_{\text{virt}}^{\mathcal{W}} \ni -\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \sum_{i \neq j} \left(\mathbf{T}_i^L \cdot \mathbf{T}_j^L + \mathbf{T}_i^R \cdot \mathbf{T}_j^R \right) \ln \frac{s_{ij}}{\mu^2} - \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} V^G \quad \Gamma_{\text{real}}^{\mathcal{W}} \ni \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \sum_{i \neq j} \mathbf{T}_i^L \cdot \mathbf{T}_j^R \left(\ln \frac{s_{ij}}{\mu^2} - \ln \frac{\mu^2}{\omega^2} - \ln \hat{s}_{ij} \right)$$

- Leading CVL agrees with recent result of Banfi, Forshaw, Holguin '25

$$\sigma_{\text{CVL}} \sim \left\langle \mathcal{H}_1^{\text{Born}} \Gamma_{\text{real}}^{\mathcal{W}}(\mu_1) V^G V^G \Gamma^{\mathcal{W}}(\mu_4) \right\rangle$$

- And the general **scaling** is

$$d\sigma_{\text{CVL}}/d\omega \sim \alpha_s^{2+n} \ln^{2+2n}(Q/\omega) \quad n > 2$$

Conclusion

- Factorization at hadron colliders is much richer than in e^+e^- collisions!
- Soft-collinear factorization is broken by Glauber gluons
 - Jet and soft functions \rightarrow **soft+collinear matrix elements**
 - Richer mode structure: **Glauber transmits scales** between soft and collinear
 - Coherence violation: **sensitivity to colors of individual partons**
 - Interplay of different Glauber effects: **Genuine, Cheshire, hard phases**

Conclusion

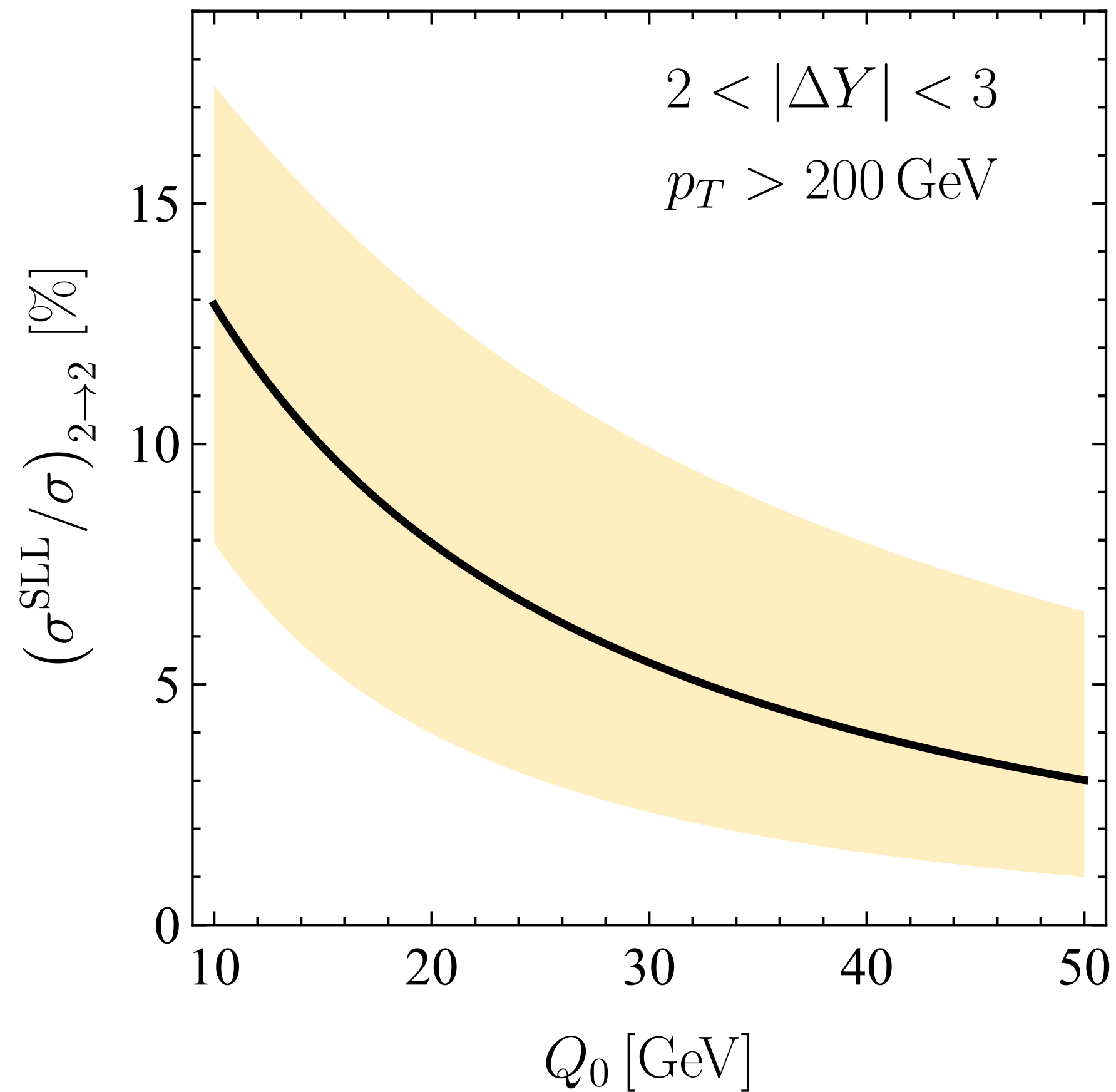
- Soft-Collinear Effective Theory provides a systematic framework for
 - **factorization** (= scale separation) theorems
 - **resummation** of CVLs and SLLs by RG methods
- Several interesting results
 - All-order resummations of **leading SLLs**
 - Jet cross sections: Genuine **Glauber gluons restore PDF factorization!**
- Phenomenological relevance TBD
 - sizable effects for SLLs, while leading CVL in N -jettiness is small

A lot of interesting physics remains to be explored!

Extra slides

Phenomenological **relevance**

Becher, Hager, Martinelli, Neubert, DS, Stillger '25

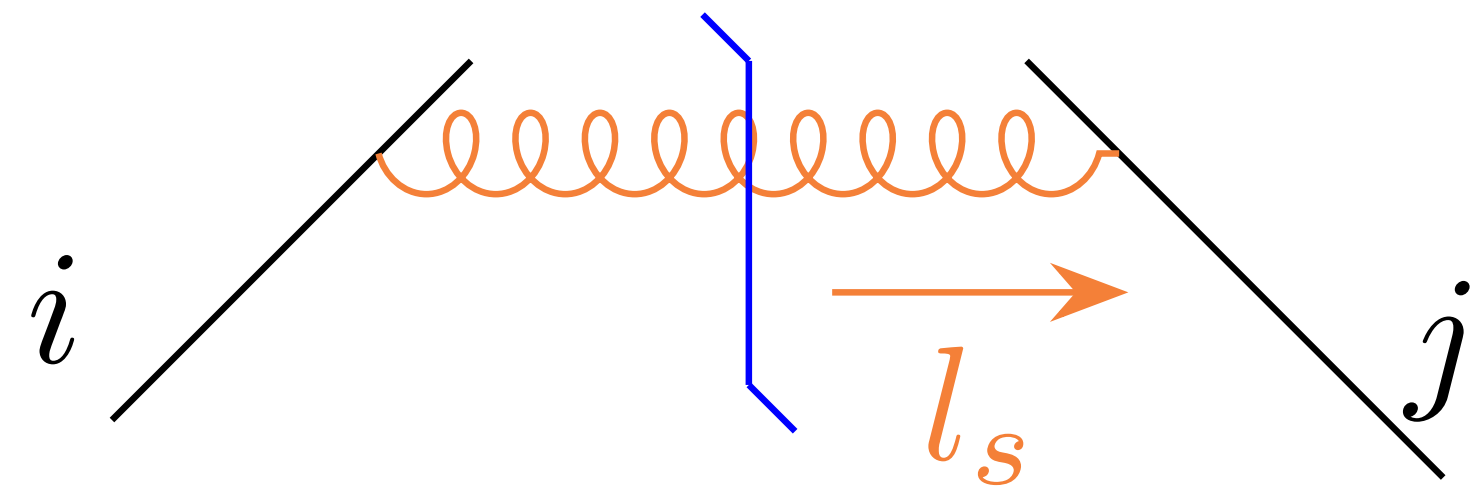


process	$\sigma_{2 \rightarrow 2}$ [pb]	$\sigma_{2 \rightarrow 2}^{\text{SLL}}$ [pb]	process	$\sigma_{2 \rightarrow 2}$ [pb]	$\sigma_{2 \rightarrow 2}^{\text{SLL}}$ [pb]
$qq \rightarrow qq$	231.5	12.0	$q\bar{q} \rightarrow gg$	12.4	-0.9
$qq' \rightarrow qq'$	454.4	22.2	$qg \rightarrow qg$	4104.6	403.3
$q\bar{q} \rightarrow q\bar{q}$	142.0	7.4	$gg \rightarrow q\bar{q}$	57.5	-4.4
$q\bar{q}' \rightarrow q\bar{q}'$	372.9	18.0	$gg \rightarrow gg$	2281.1	150.6
$q\bar{q} \rightarrow q'\bar{q}'$	3.6	<0.1			
Σ	1204.4	59.6	Σ	6455.6	548.6
$\Sigma_{\text{all channels}}$		7660.0			608.2

- **>10%** for small values of Q_0
- Biggest contribution through **gluonic** channels
- **Full** cross section for the **first** time

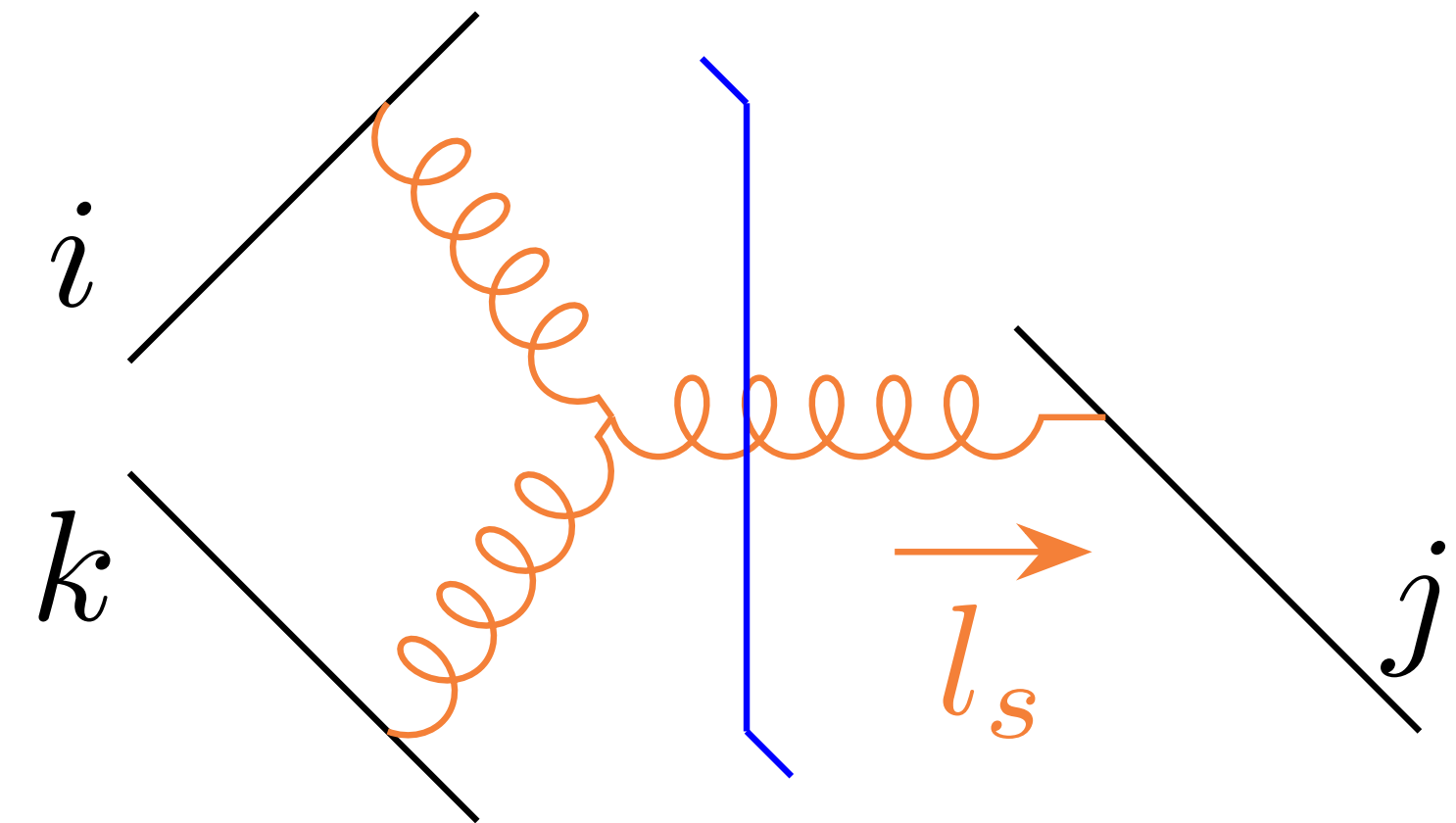
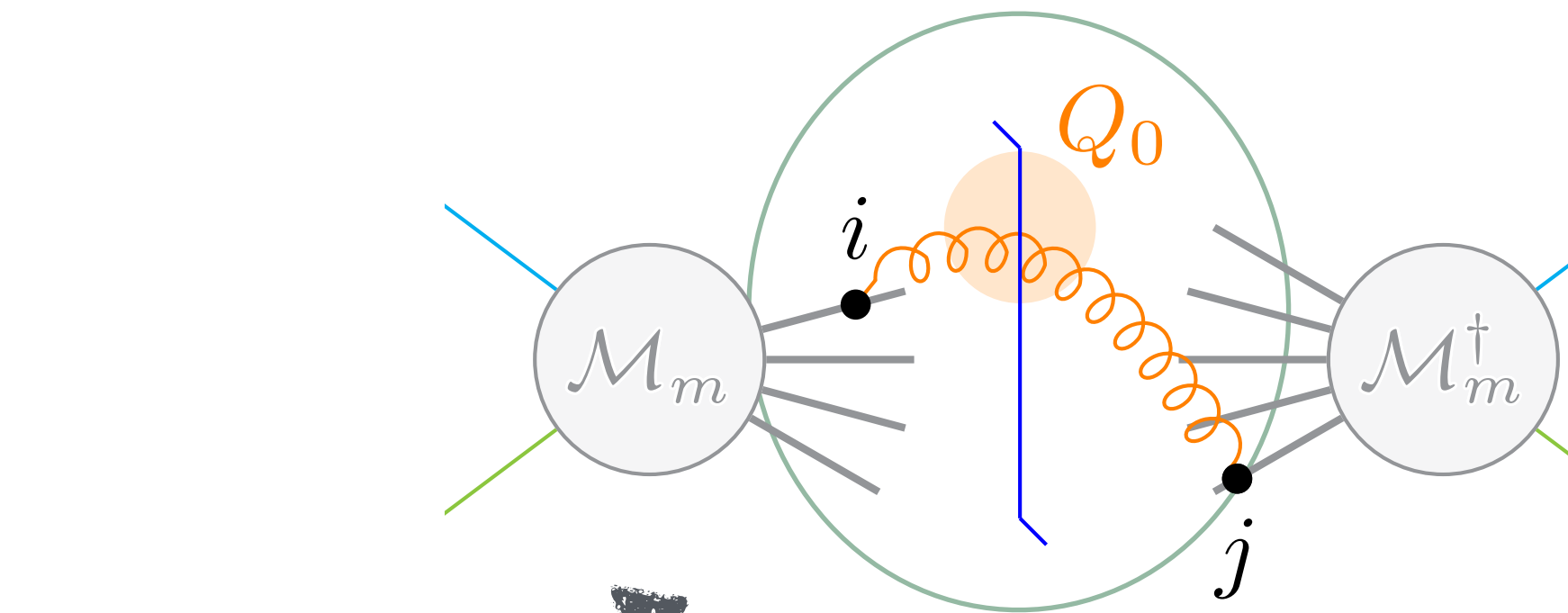
RG-consistency

- Look at **tree-level** and **one-loop** diagrams first



eikonal factor

$$\sim J^{\mu,a(0)} J_{\mu}^{a(0)\dagger} \quad \text{with} \quad J^{\mu,a(0)} = \sum_{i=1}^m T_{iL}^a \frac{n_i^\mu}{n_i \cdot l_s}$$



one-loop soft current

Catani, Grazzini '00

- Matches** structure

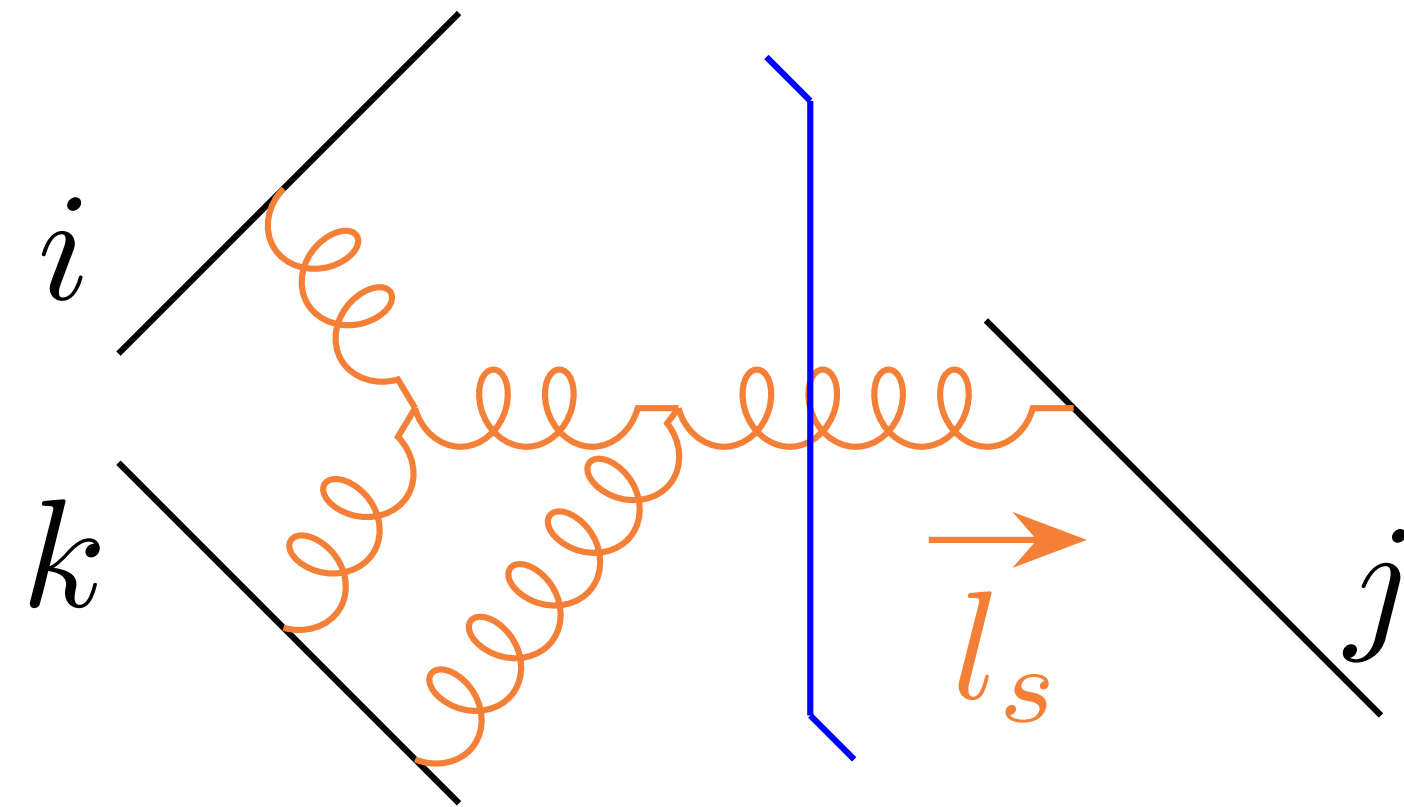
$$\mathcal{W}_m^{\text{bare}} = 1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{\bar{\Gamma}}{2\epsilon} + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^2 \left(\frac{V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{2\epsilon^2} + \dots\right) + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^3 \left[\frac{\Gamma^c V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{3\epsilon^3} \left(\frac{11}{6\epsilon} + \ln \frac{\mu_s^2}{Q^2} + \frac{9}{2} \ln \frac{\mu_s^2}{Q_0^2}\right) + \frac{V^G V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{3\epsilon^3} + \dots\right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4)$$

✓
✓

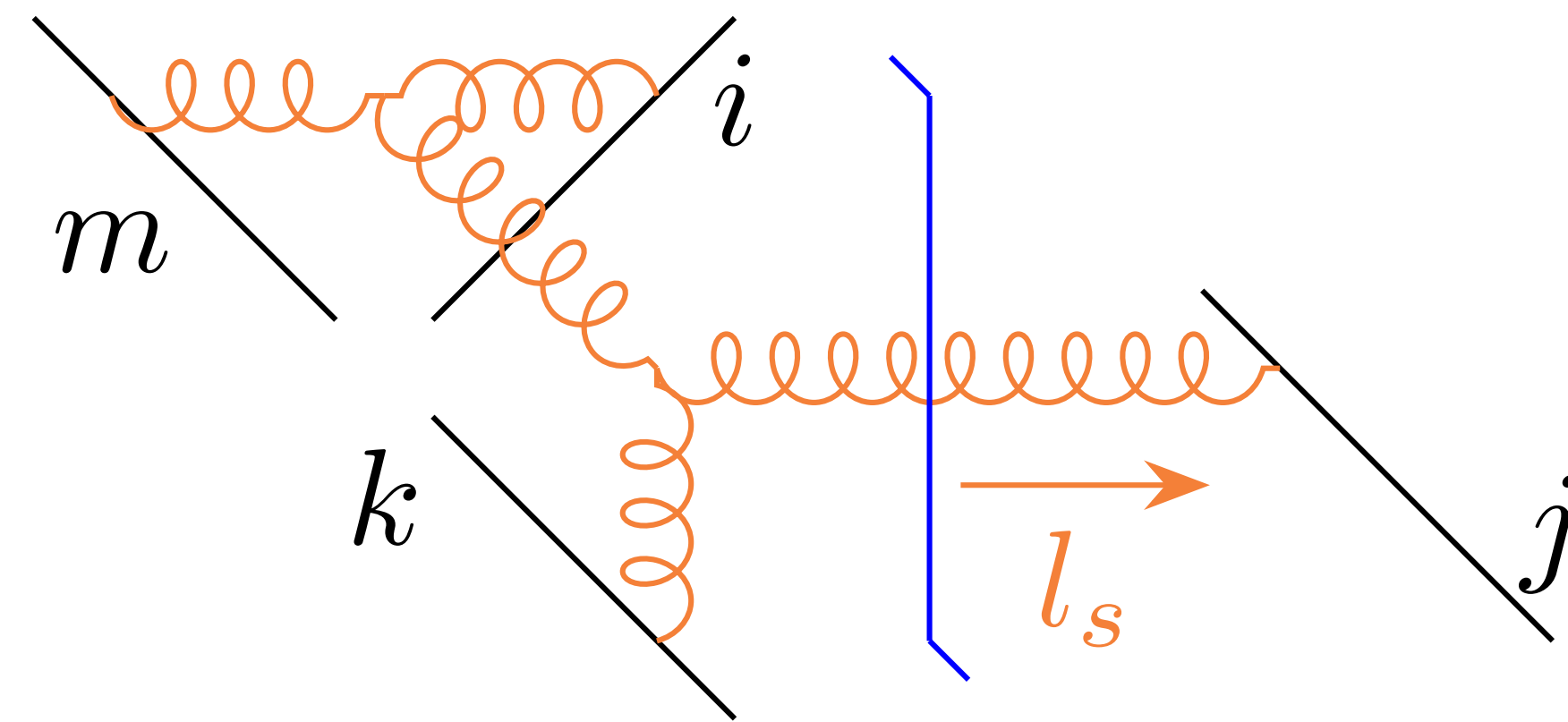
RG-consistency

- Now, go one loop **further**

Duhr, Gehrmann '13 / Dixon, Herrmann, Yan, Zhu '20



dipole terms



tripole terms

Large logarithm

Color-aware DGLAP

- Does **not** match all terms

$$\mathcal{J}_m^{\text{bare}} = \mathbf{1} + \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{\bar{\Gamma}}{2\epsilon} + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^2 \left(\frac{V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{2\epsilon^2} + \dots \right) + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^3 \left[\frac{\Gamma^c V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{3\epsilon^3} \left(\frac{11}{6\epsilon} + \ln \frac{\mu_s^2}{Q^2} + \frac{9}{2} \ln \frac{\mu_s^2}{Q_0^2} \right) + \frac{V^G V^G \bar{\Gamma}}{3\epsilon^3} + \frac{[\Gamma^c, V^G] \bar{\Gamma}}{12\epsilon^3} + \dots \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4)$$

✓
✓
✗
✓
✗

Glauber contribution

- In **Euclidean** region $s_{ij} = (p_i + p_j)^2 < 0, p_5^2 < 0$ only soft-collinear region with $k \sim (\lambda^2, \lambda, \lambda^{3/2})$
 - **Cancels** after q_c integration!
- Leads to a „hidden“ region with $k \sim (\lambda^2, \lambda, \lambda)$ for **physical** scattering region
 - **Couples** soft and collinear sectors \longrightarrow collinear **factorization breaking**
- Perform k_+ and k_- integral via residues
 - **Well-defined** without additional regulators

$$\begin{aligned}
 I^{\text{g}} &= i(4\pi)^{2-\varepsilon} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{-k_T^2} \frac{1}{k^+ q_c^- - k_T^2 - 2k_T \cdot q_{cT}} \\
 &\times \frac{1}{[-k^+ (p_c^- - q_c^-) - q_c^+ p_c^- - k_T^2 - 2k_T \cdot q_{cT}]} \\
 &\times \frac{1}{\bar{p}_c^+ (k^- - l_s^-)} \frac{1}{-l_s^+ k^- - k_T^2 + 2k_T \cdot l_{sT}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Euclidean of-shell triangle
in $d - 2\varepsilon$