

# *Parton Distribution Functions on the Lattice*

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University of Washington

# *Outline*

## § Introduction to PDFs

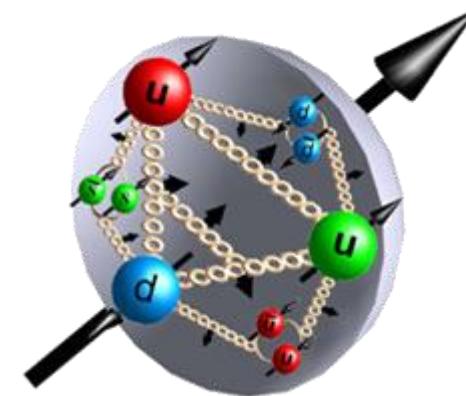
- ❖ A brief overview on global analysis

## § Lattice QCD

- ❖ Difficulties: why seek a new idea?

## § New Approach on the Lattice

- ❖ Preliminary results on nucleon quark, helicity and transversity distributions



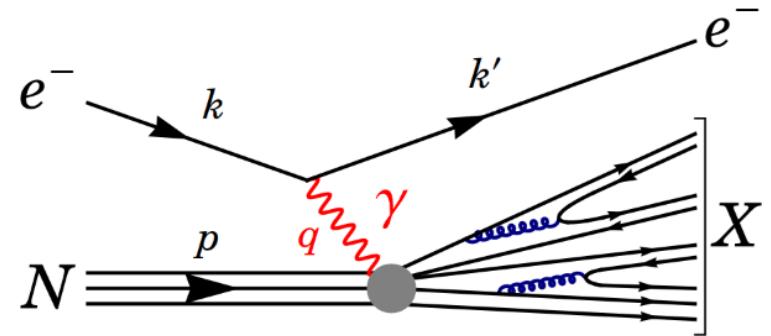
# Parton Distribution Functions

## § Structure functions studied through scattering processes

- ❖ Deep inelastic scattering beginning in 1960s at SLAC
- ❖ Depend on energy scale ( $Q^2$ ) and quark momentum fraction ( $x$ )

## § “Parton”

- ❖ 1969 by Feynman: pointlike constituents inside hadron  
→ now known to be quarks and gluons



## § Still limited knowledge

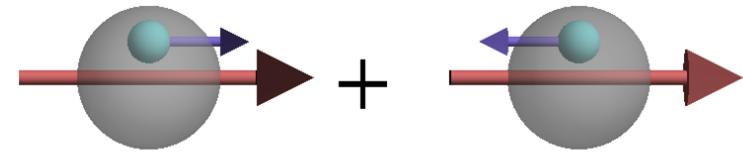
- ❖ Many ongoing/planned experiments (EIC, LHeC, ...)



# Parton Distribution Functions

## § Quark distribution

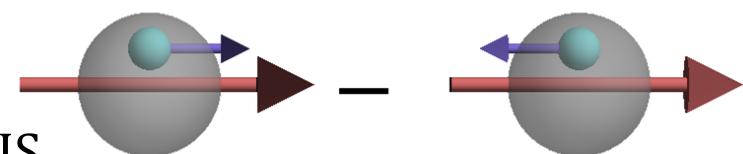
- Processes: DIS ( $F_2, \sigma$ ), Drell-Yan,  $W$ -asymmetry,  $Z$ -rapidity, ( $\gamma^+$ ) jet, ...
- Experiment: BCDMS, NMC, SLAC, JLab, HERA, E866, CDF, DØ, ...



spin-averaged/unpolarized

## § Helicity distribution

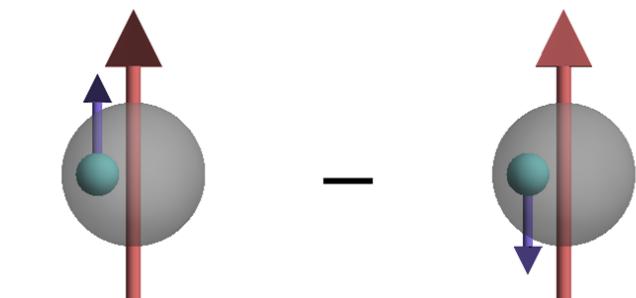
- Processes: polarized DIS, semi-inclusive DIS, photo- and electroproduction of hadrons and charm,  $pp$  collisions



spin-dep./long. polarized

## § Transversity distribution

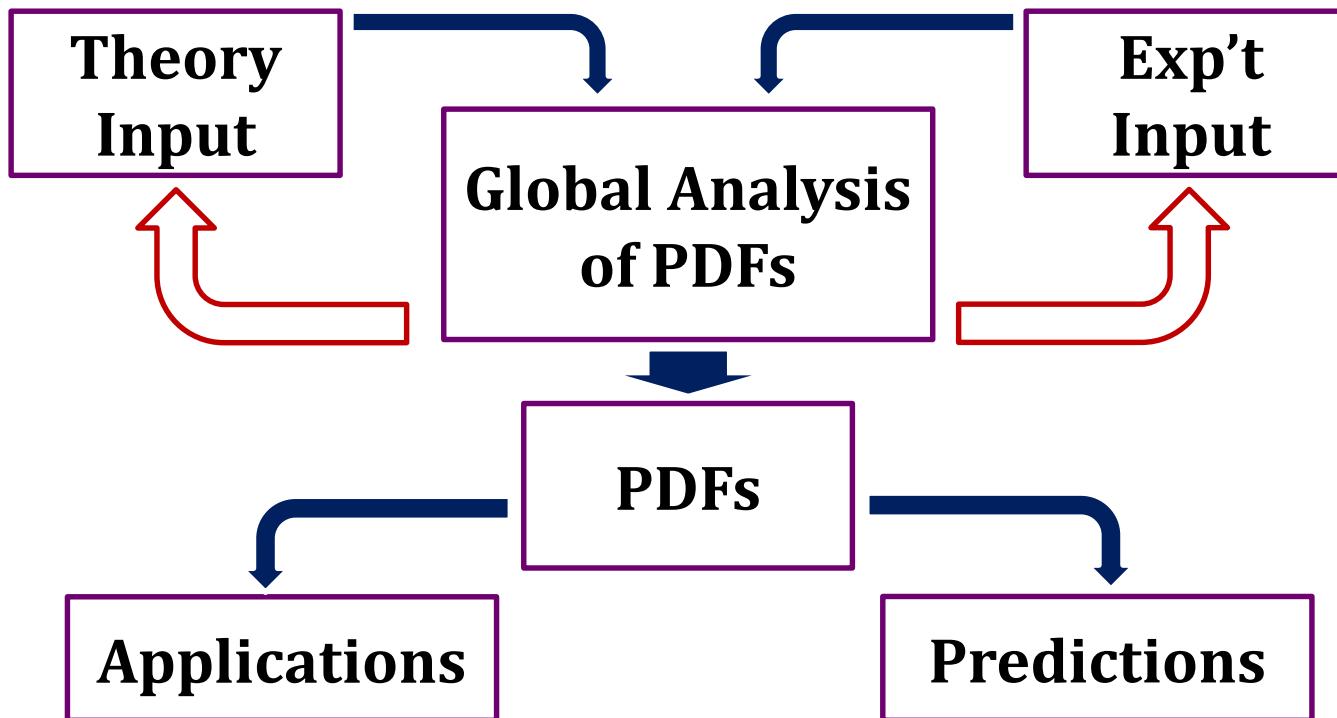
- Process: single-spin asymmetry in SIDIS, ...
- Experiment: HERMES, COMPASS, Belle...



transversely polarized

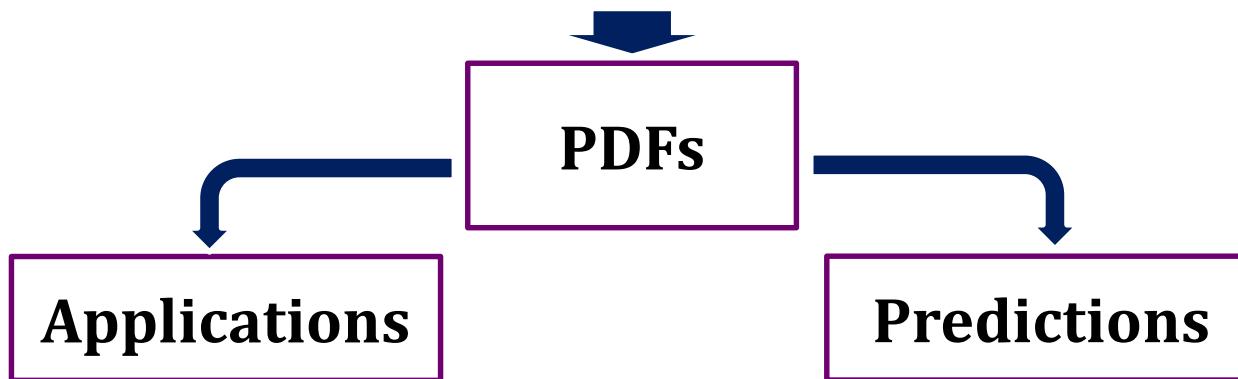
# *Global Analysis*

§ Experiments cover diverse kinematics of parton variables  
☞ Global analysis takes advantage of all data sets



# *Global Analysis*

- § Experiments cover diverse kinematics of parton variables
  - ❖ Global analysis takes advantage of all data sets



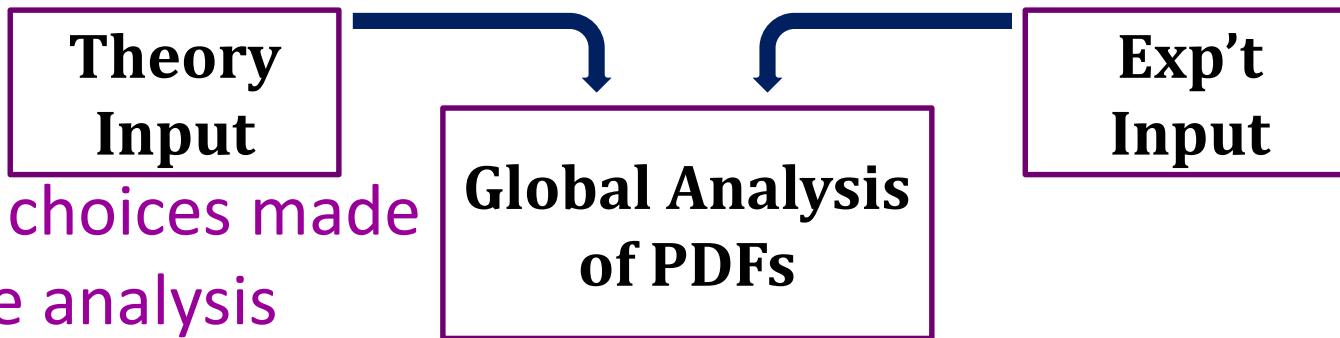
## § Important fundamental QCD property

- ❖ Exploration of the valence and sea-quark content of the nucleon

## § Important for BSM searches

- ❖ Provides SM cross-section prediction for LHC new-physics search
- ❖ IceCube PeV neutrinos can be explained by PDF uncertainties
- ❖ Proton weak charge (medium-modification effects)

# Global Analysis



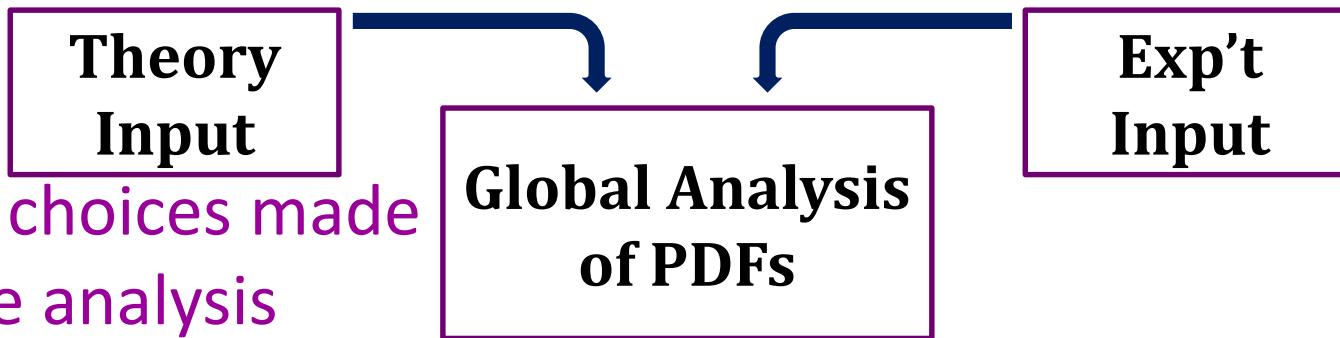
## § Some choices made for the analysis

- ❖ Choice of data sets and kinematic cuts
- ❖ Strong coupling constant  $\alpha_s(M_Z)$
- ❖ Uncertainties in perturbation theory  
(depends on process whether LO, NLO or NNLO is known)
- ❖ Evolution of PDFs to different scales
- ❖ Parametrization assumptions

$$f(x, \mu_0) = a_0 x^{a_1} (1 - x)^{a_2} P(x) \quad P(x) = \frac{1 + a_3 x + a_4 x^2}{e^{a_3 x} (1 + e^{a_4 x})^{a_5}}$$

Discrepancies appear when data is scarce

# *Global Analysis*



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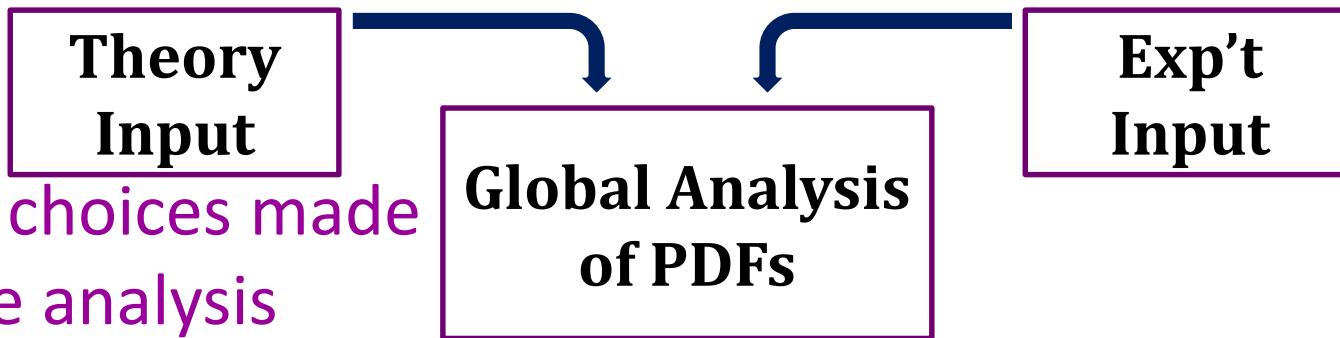
## § Sum rules to constrain the fit

- ❖ Quark number, momentum,  $g_A$ , SU(3) flavor symmetry...

## § Assumptions imposed where theory and exp't are lacking

- ❖ Charge symmetry, (anti-)strange, “sea” (antiquark) distribution...

# *Global Analysis*



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## § Sum rules to constrain the fit

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## § Assumptions imposed where theory and data disagree

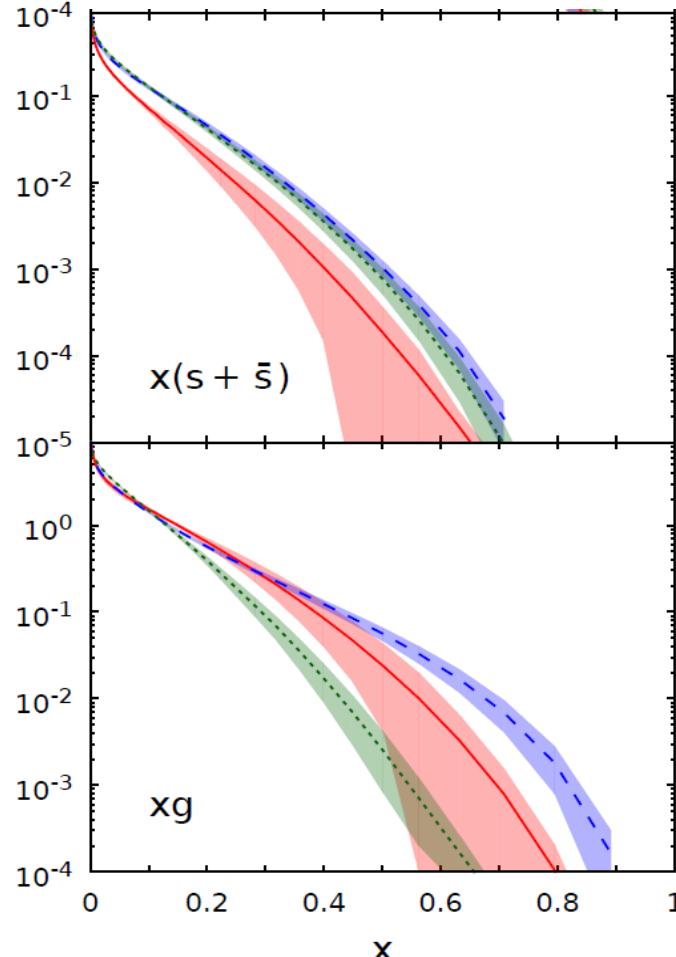
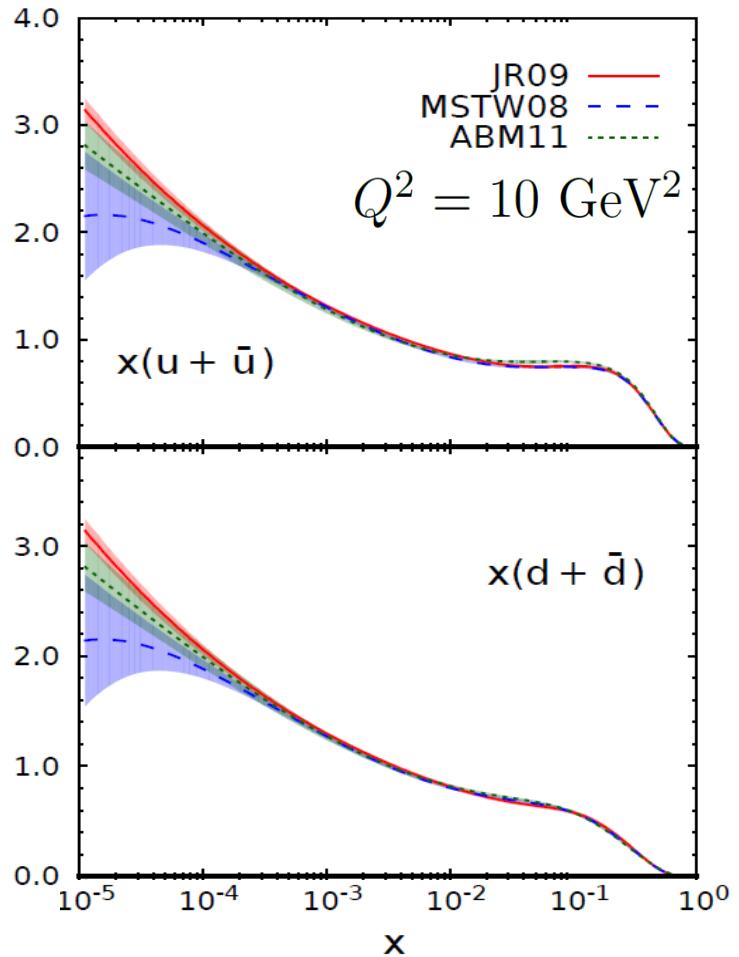
- ❖ Charge symmetry, (anti-)strange, “sea” (antiquark) distribution...

For example,  
 $s + \bar{s} = \kappa(\bar{u} + \bar{d})$   
or symmetric sea in helicity

# Global Momentum Analysis

§ Many groups have tackled the analysis

❖ CTEQ, MSTW, ABM, JR, NNPDF, etc.

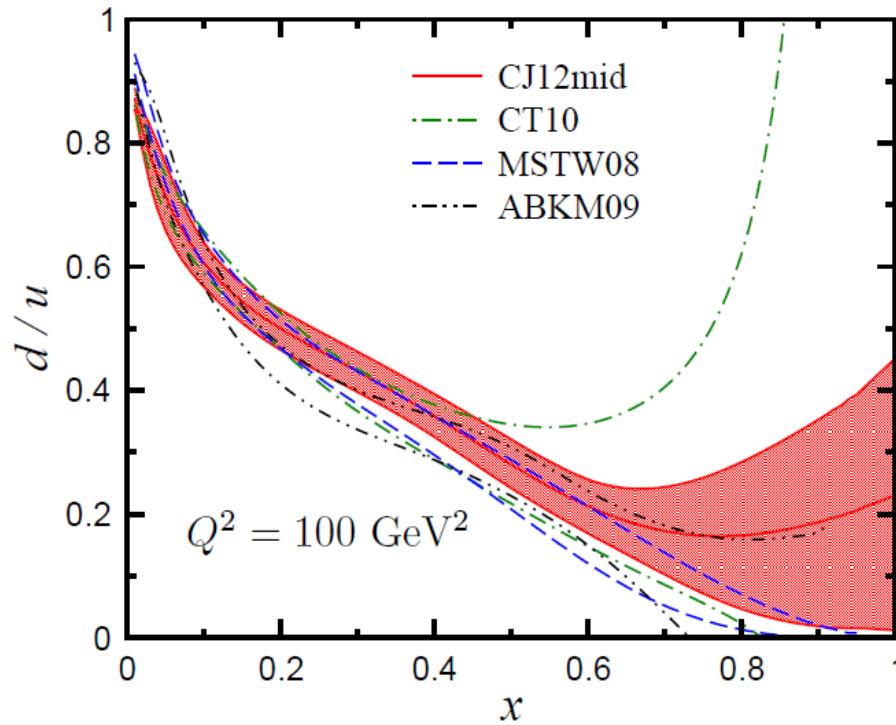
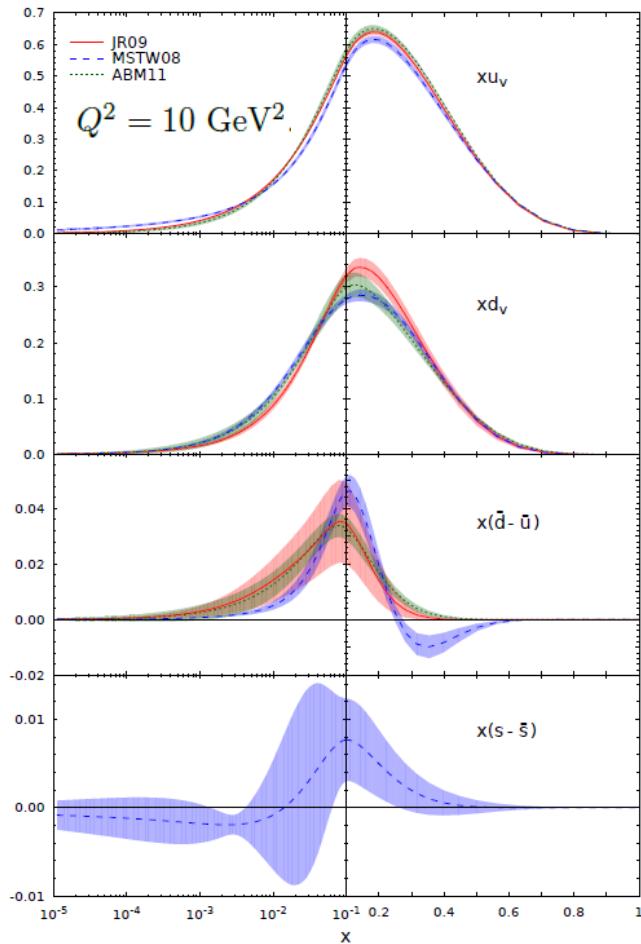


Jimenez-Delgado,  
Melnitchouk,  
Owens,  
J.Phys. G40  
(2013) 09310

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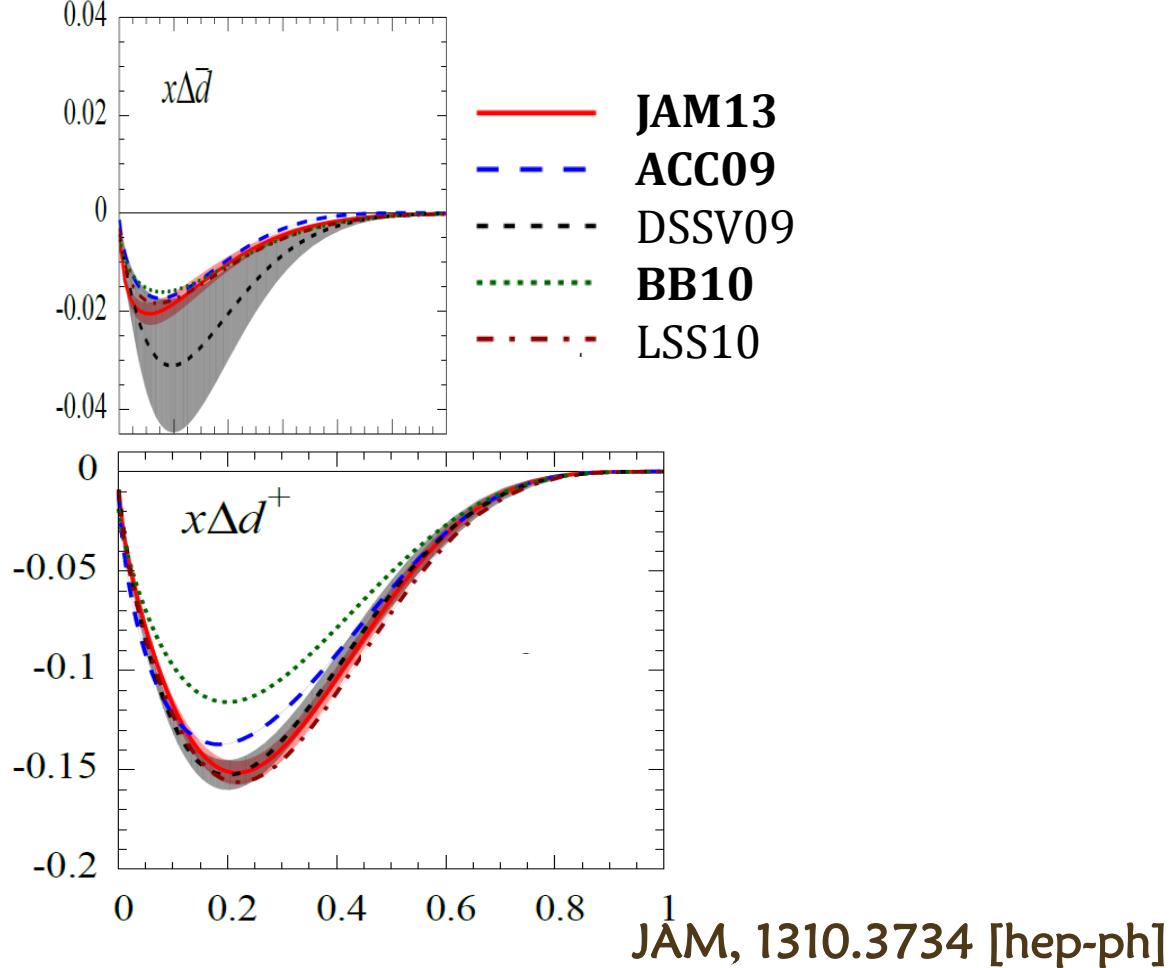
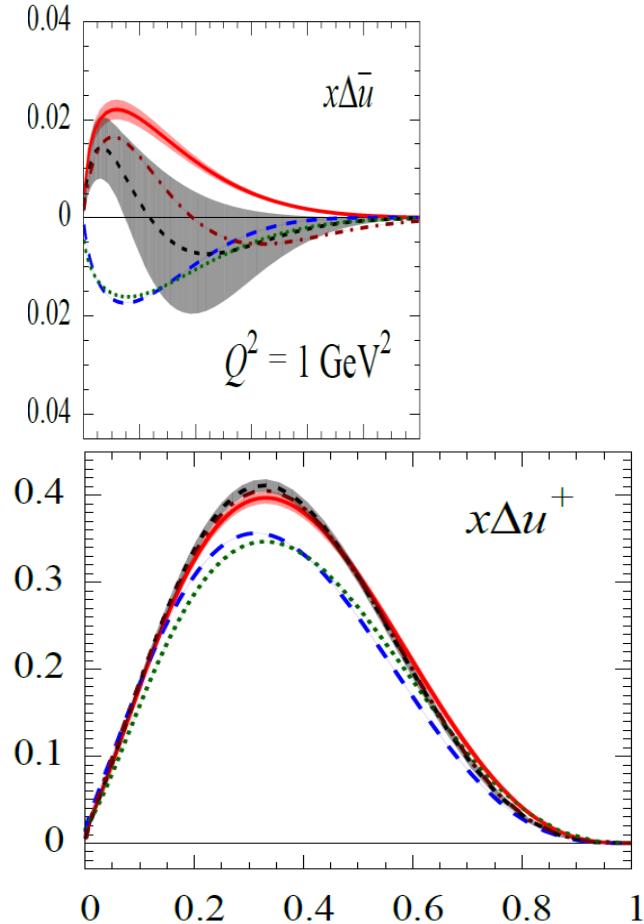


Jimenez-Delgado,  
Melnitchouk,  
Owens,  
J.Phys. G40  
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# Global Helicity Analysis

## § Many groups have tackled the analysis

❖ DSSV, ACC, BB, LSS, JAM, etc.

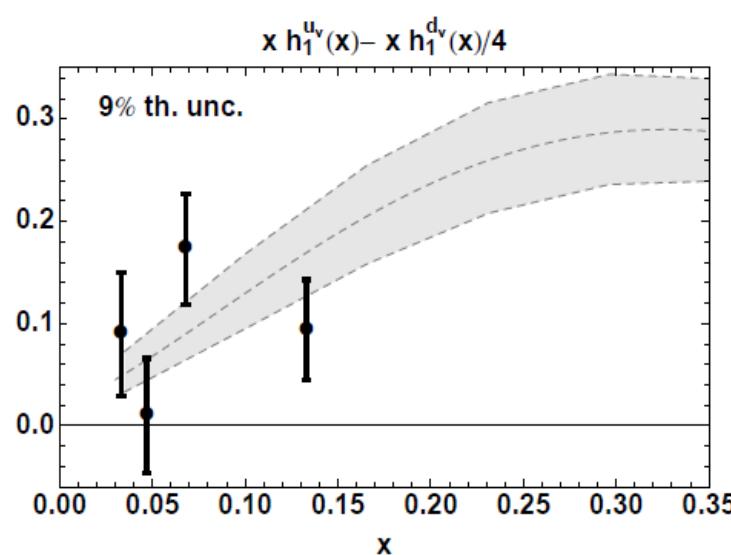
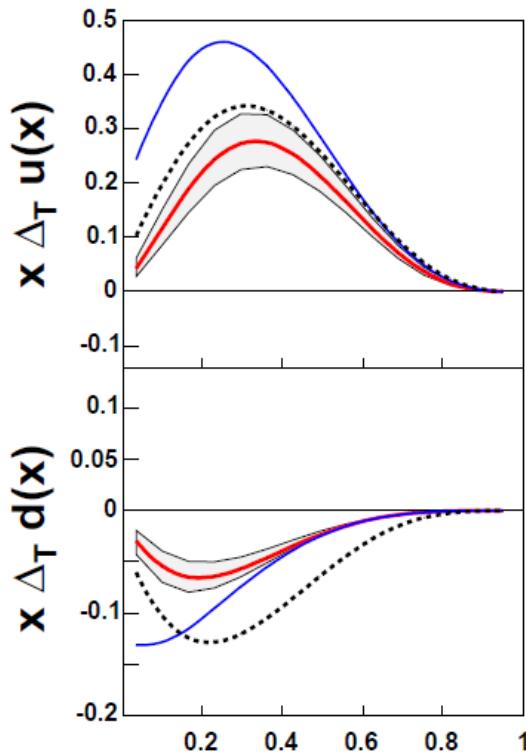


JAM, 1310.3734 [hep-ph]

# Transversity

§ There have only been 2 attempts (still very preliminary)

- ❖ Requires more theory input and experimental data
- ❖ More assumptions are made to extract the distribution



# $\mathcal{PDFs}$ on the Lattice

§ Lattice QCD is an ideal theoretical tool for investigating strong-coupling regime of quantum field theories

- ❖ Ideal tool for studying nonperturbative hadron structure

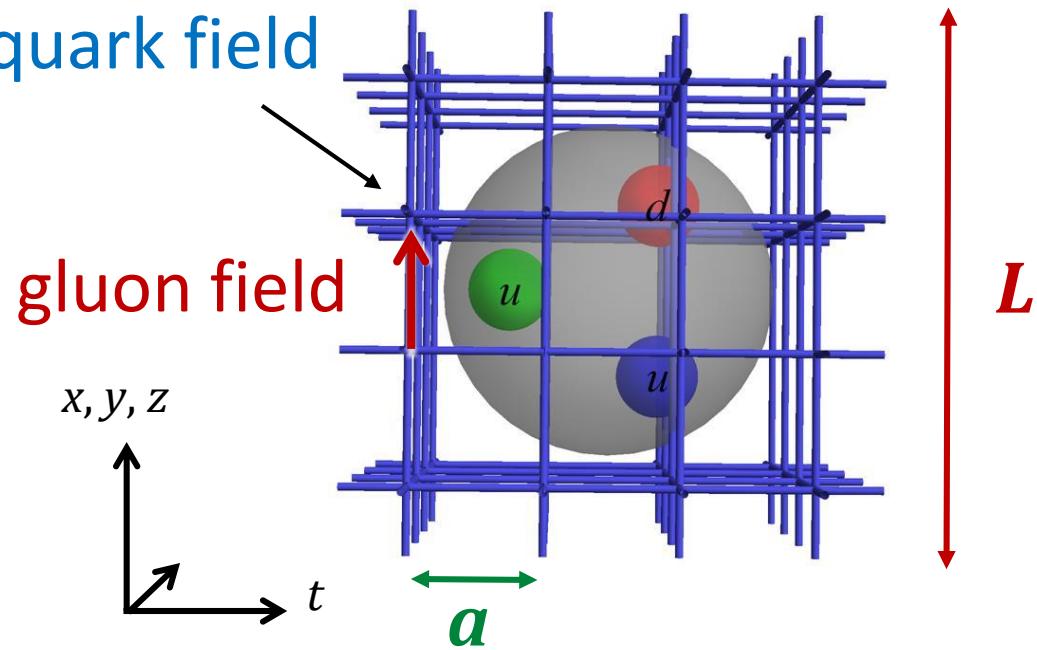
§ Physical observables are calculated from the path integral

$$\langle 0 | O(\bar{\psi}, \psi, A) | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{D}A \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \mathcal{D}\psi e^{iS(\bar{\psi}, \psi, A)} O(\bar{\psi}, \psi, A)$$

§ Lattice QCD

- ❖ Impose a UV cutoff  
discretize spacetime
- ❖ Impose an Infrared cutoff  
finite volume
- ❖ Wick rotate to Euclidean
- ❖ Use compact gauge group

$$U_\mu(x) = e^{ia g t_c A_\mu^c(x)}$$



# $\mathcal{PDF}s$ on the Lattice

## § Many lattice calculations of the moments of the PDFs

$$\langle x^{n-1} \rangle_q = \int_{-1}^1 dx x^{n-1} q(x) = \int_0^1 dx x^{n-1} [q(x) - (-1)^{n-1} \bar{q}(x)]$$

$$\langle x^{n-1} \rangle_{\Delta q} = \int_{-1}^1 dx x^{n-1} \Delta q(x) = \int_0^1 dx x^{n-1} [\Delta q(x) + (-1)^{n-1} \Delta \bar{q}(x)]$$

$$\langle x^{n-1} \rangle_{\delta q} = \int_{-1}^1 dx x^{n-1} \delta q(x) = \int_0^1 dx x^{n-1} [\delta q(x) - (-1)^{n-1} \delta \bar{q}(x)]$$

- ❖ Limited to the lowest few moments
- ❖ Might provide constraints on models or tests of experiment

## § Also applies to GPDs: limited to 3<sup>rd</sup> moment

## § Most progress made in quark contributions

- ❖ Very costly to obtain useful gluon signal
- ❖ Limited by available computational resources

# $\langle x^n \rangle$ Moments

## § Leading moment $\langle x \rangle$ , hypercubic decomposition

❖  $4_1 \otimes 4_1 = 1_1 \oplus 3_1 \oplus 6_1 \oplus 6_2$  (requires  $p \neq 0$ )

❖ Both open

## § No mixing in dimension

## § To improve symmetry:

❖ Consider symmetry:  
 $c_1 \bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\rho} \leftrightarrow D_{[\nu} D_{\rho]} q$   
 $\partial_\rho (\bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\rho} \leftrightarrow D_\nu q)$

## § Higher moments

❖  $4_1$ :  $O_{111}$  must be nonzero  
❖  $4_2$ :  $O_{\{123\}}$  renormalizes under renormalization  
❖  $8_1$ :  $O_{\{441\}} - (O_{\{221\}} + O_{\{331\}})/2$  mixes under renormalization

## § For higher spin, all ops mix with lower-dimension ops

# $\langle x^n \rangle$ Moments

## § Leading moment $\langle x \rangle$ , hypercubic decomposition

❖  $4_1 \otimes 4_1 = 1_1 \oplus \textcolor{red}{3}_1 \oplus 6_1 \oplus \textcolor{blue}{6}_3$ :  
 $O_{44} - (O_{11} + O_{22} + O_{33})/3 \quad O_{14} + O_{41}$ , (requires  $p \neq 0$ )

❖ Both operators go to same continuum limit

## § No mixing with operators of same or lower dimension

### § To improve to $O(a)$

❖ Consider all irrelevant operators of same symmetry:

$$O_{\{\mu\nu\}} \longrightarrow (1 + a m_q c_0) O_{\{\mu\nu\}} + i a c_1 \bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\rho} \overset{\leftrightarrow}{D}_{[\nu} \overset{\leftrightarrow}{D}_{\rho]} q \\ + a c_2 \bar{q} \overset{\leftrightarrow}{D}_{[\mu} \overset{\leftrightarrow}{D}_{\nu]} q + i a c_3 \partial_\rho (\bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\rho} \overset{\leftrightarrow}{D}_\nu q)$$

### § Higher moments $\langle x^2 \rangle$

❖  $4_1$ :  $O_{111}$  mixes with  $\bar{q} \gamma_1 q$  with coefficient  $\sim 1/a^2$

❖  $4_2$ :  $O_{\{123\}}$  requires all momentum components to be nonzero

❖  $8_1$ :  $O_{\{441\}} - (O_{\{221\}} + O_{\{331\}})/2$  mixes under renormalization

## § For higher spin, all ops mix with lower-dimension ops

# $\langle x^n \rangle$ Moments

## § For higher spin, all ops mix with lower-dimension ops

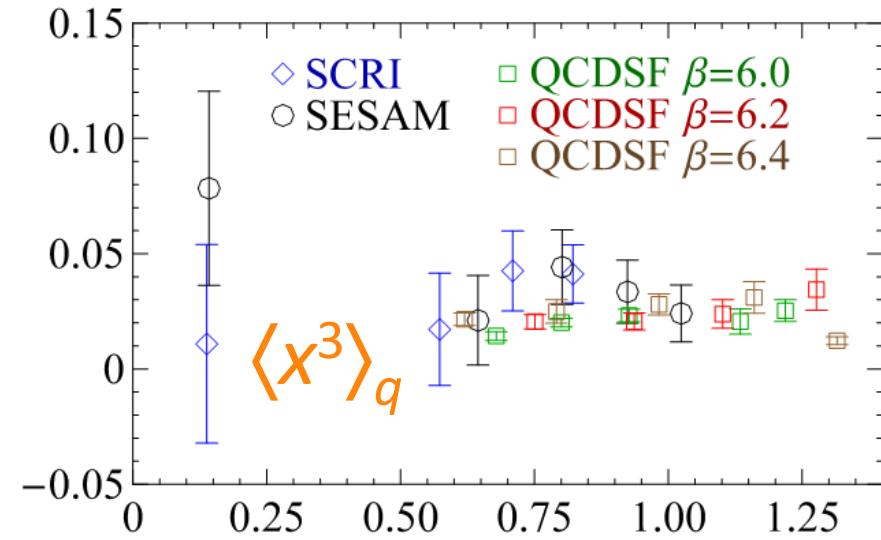
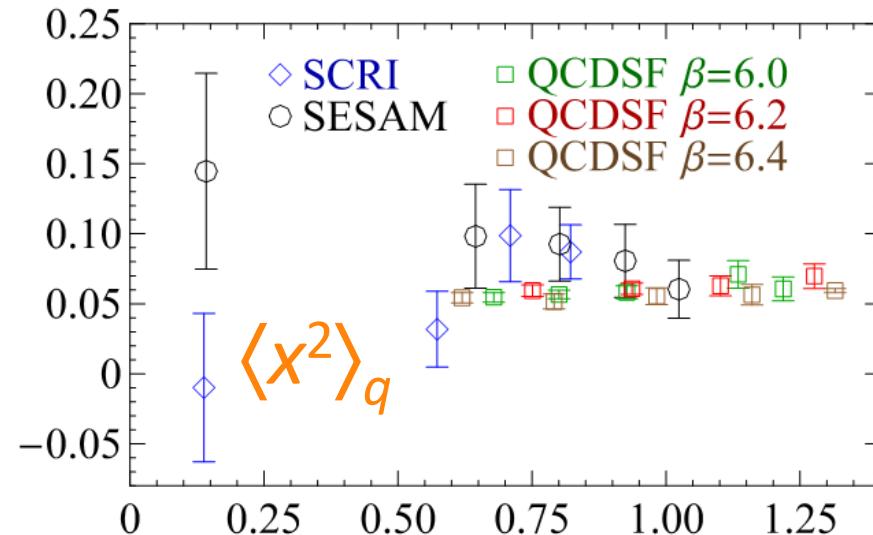
❖ Tricks: subtraction to remove divergent terms, heavy fields, four-point functions... None is practical enough

## § Relative error grows in higher moments

❖ Calculation would be costly

Dolgov et al. PRD66, 034506 (2002)  
Göckeler et al. PRD71, 114511 (2005)

LHPC (SCRI, SESAM):  
2f, Wilson and clover  
QCDSF: 0f

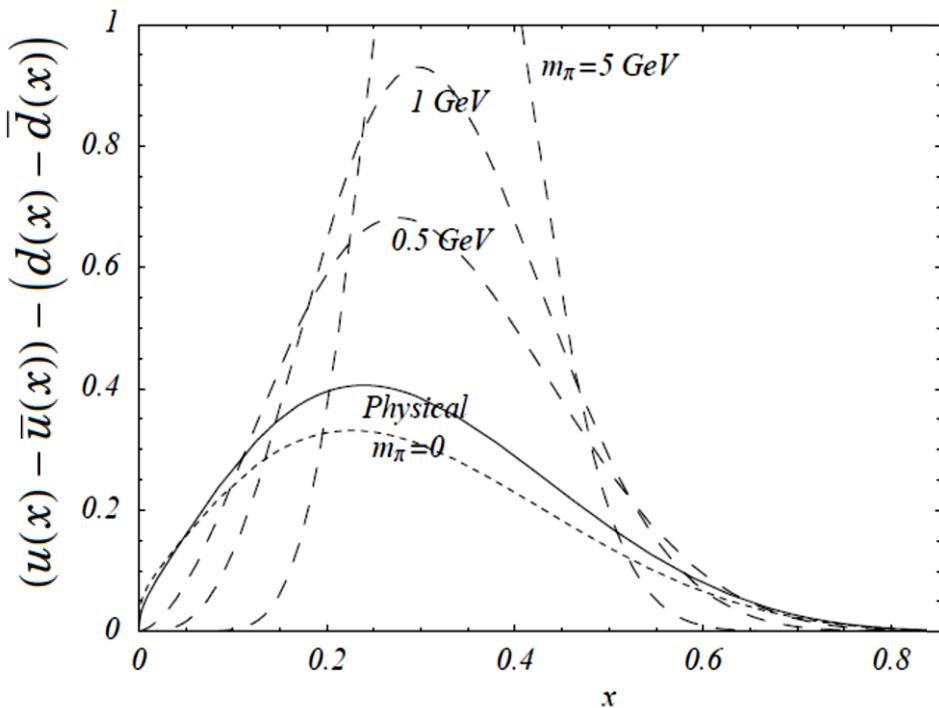


# Limited Access

## § What can we learn about the $x$ -distribution?

- ❖ Make an ansatz of some smooth form for the distribution and fix the parameters by matching to the lattice moments

$$xq(x) = ax^b(1-x)^c(1 + \epsilon\sqrt{x} + \gamma x)$$



Cannot separate valence-quark contribution from sea

New idea needed  
to access the sea!

W. Detmold et al, Eur.Phys.J.direct C3 (2001) 1–15

# Quark Distribution

## § Lightcone nucleon quark distribution

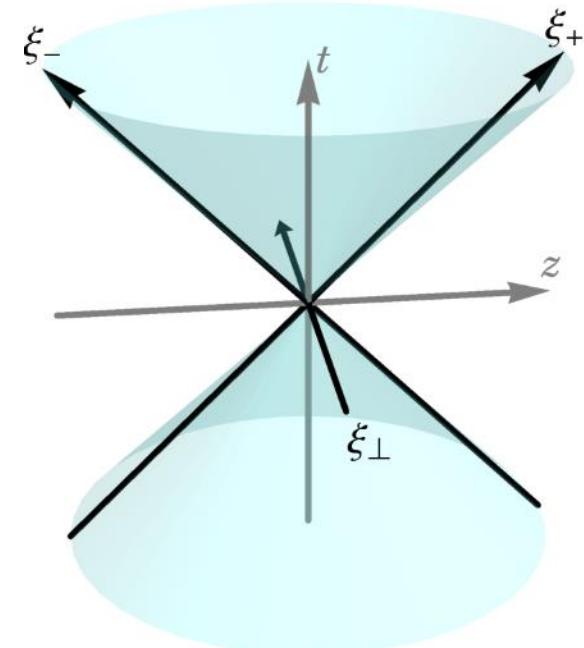
❖ Transform lab coordinates to light-cone ones  $x_\perp = z \pm t$

$$q(x, \mu) = \int \frac{d\xi_-}{4\pi} e^{-i\xi_- x P_+} \left\langle P \left| \bar{\psi}(\xi_-) \gamma_+ \exp\left(-ig \int_0^{\xi_-} d\eta_- A_+(\eta_-)\right) \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle$$

Nucleon momentum  $P_\mu$

Renormalization scale  $\mu$

Lightcone coordinate  $\xi_\pm = (t \pm z)/\sqrt{2}$



# Quark Distribution

## § Lightcone nucleon quark distribution

❖ Transform lab coordinates to light-cone ones  $x_{\pm} = z \pm t$

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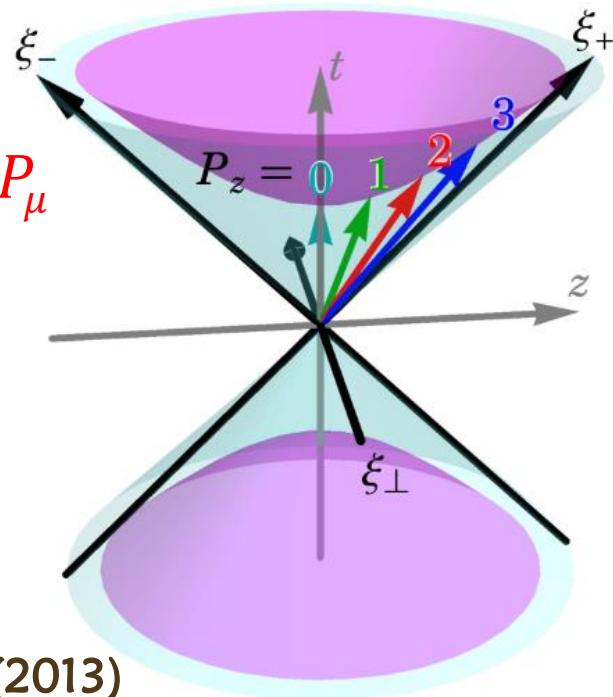
❖ Massive particles lie on hyperboloids invariant under Lorentz transformation

# The Idea

## § Lightcone nucleon quark distribution

$$q(x, \mu) = \int \frac{d\xi_-}{4\pi} e^{-i\xi_- x P_+} \left\langle P \left| \bar{\psi}(\xi_-) \gamma_+ \exp\left(-ig \int_0^{\xi_-} d\eta_- A_+(\eta_-)\right) \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle$$

Renormalization scale  $\mu$       Gluon potential  $A_+$   
 Lightcone coordinate  $\xi_{\pm} = (t \pm z)/\sqrt{2}$       Nucleon momentum  $P_\mu$



## § Approaching lightcone with large $P$

☞ Just another limit to take,  
like taking  $a \rightarrow 0$

Xiangdong Ji, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 039103 (2013)

# The Idea

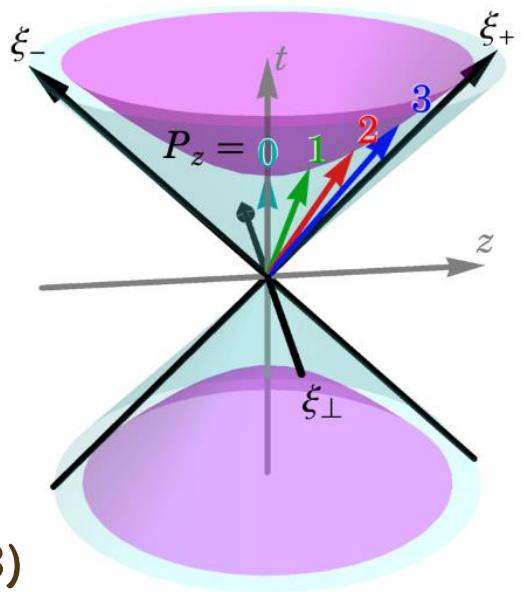
## § Finite-momentum quark distribution

$$q(x, \mu, P_z) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{-izk_z} \left\langle P \left| \bar{\psi}(z) \gamma_z \exp\left(-ig \int_0^z dz' A_z(z')\right) \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle + O(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2 / P_z^2, M_N^2 / P_z^2)$$

↑  $x = k_z / P_z$   
↑ Lattice z coordinate  
↑ Nucleon momentum  $P_\mu = \{P_0, 0, 0, P_z\}$   
↑ Product of lattice gauge links

- ❖ In  $P_z \rightarrow \infty$  limit,  
parton distribution is recovered
- ❖ For finite  $P_z$ , corrections are needed

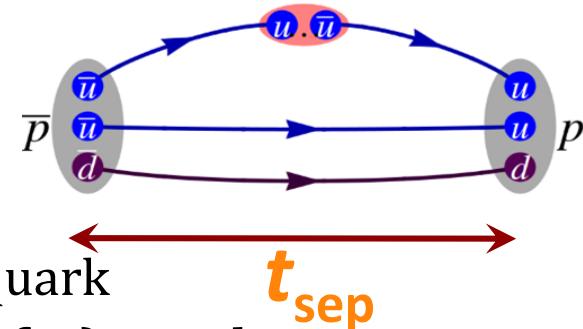
Xiangdong Ji, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 039103 (2013)



# Some Lattice Details

## § Exploratory study

- ❖  $N_f = 2+1+1$  clover/HISQ lattices (MILC)  
 $M_\pi \approx 310 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $a \approx 0.12 \text{ fm}$  ( $L \approx 2.88 \text{ fm}$ )
- ❖ Isovector only (“disconnected” suppressed)  
gives us flavor asymmetry between up and down quark
- ❖ 2 source-sink separation ( $t_{\text{sep}} \approx 0.96$  and  $1.2 \text{ fm}$ ) used



## § Properties known on these lattices

- ❖ Lattice  $Z_\Gamma$  for bilinear operator  $\sim 1$   
(with HYP-smearing)
- ❖  $M_\pi L \approx 4.6$  large enough to avoid finite-volume effects



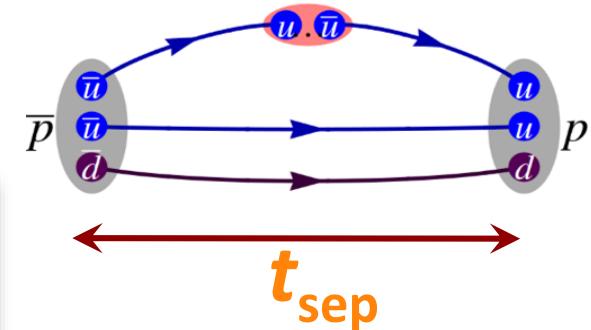
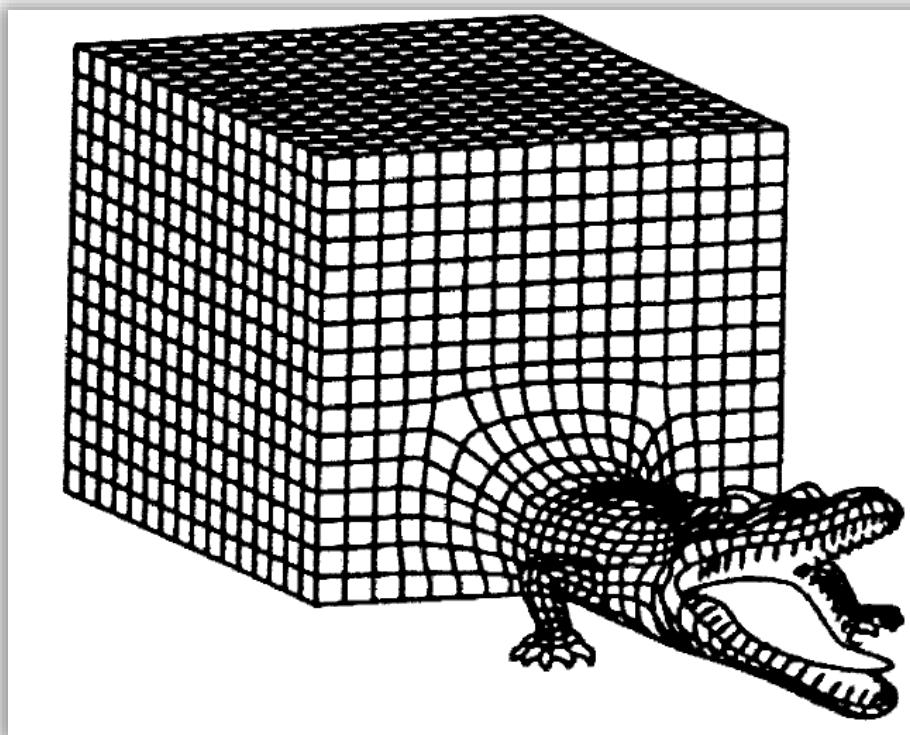
## § Feasible with today’s computational resources!

- ❖ 8/16 nodes on UW Hyak cluster

# *Warning!*

## § Exploratory study

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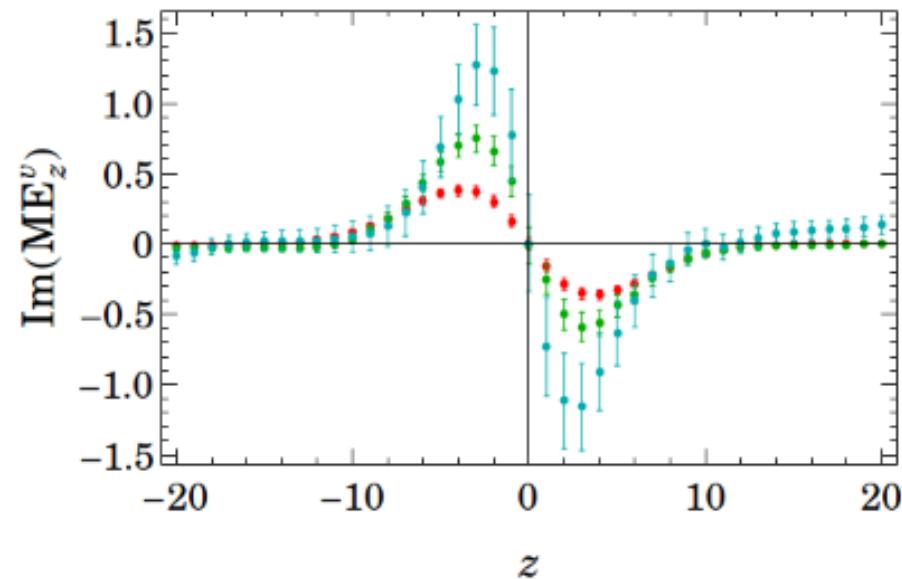
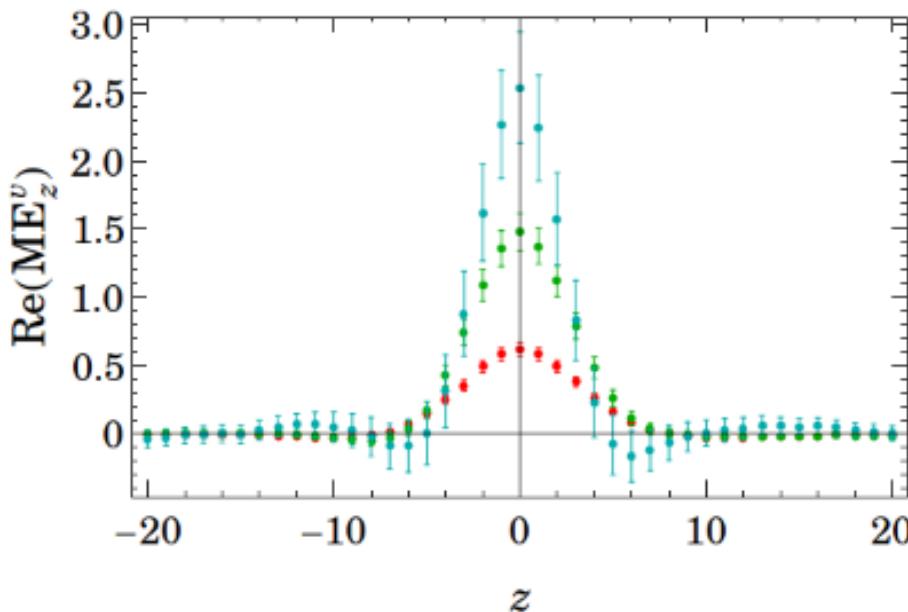
**NO SYSTEMATICS YET!**

# Quark Distribution

## § Exploratory study

$$\left\langle P \left| \bar{\psi}(z) \gamma_z \exp\left(-ig \int_0^z dz' A_z(z')\right) \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle$$

❖ How many links are needed?



❖ Lattice momenta discretized  
by finite size of volume

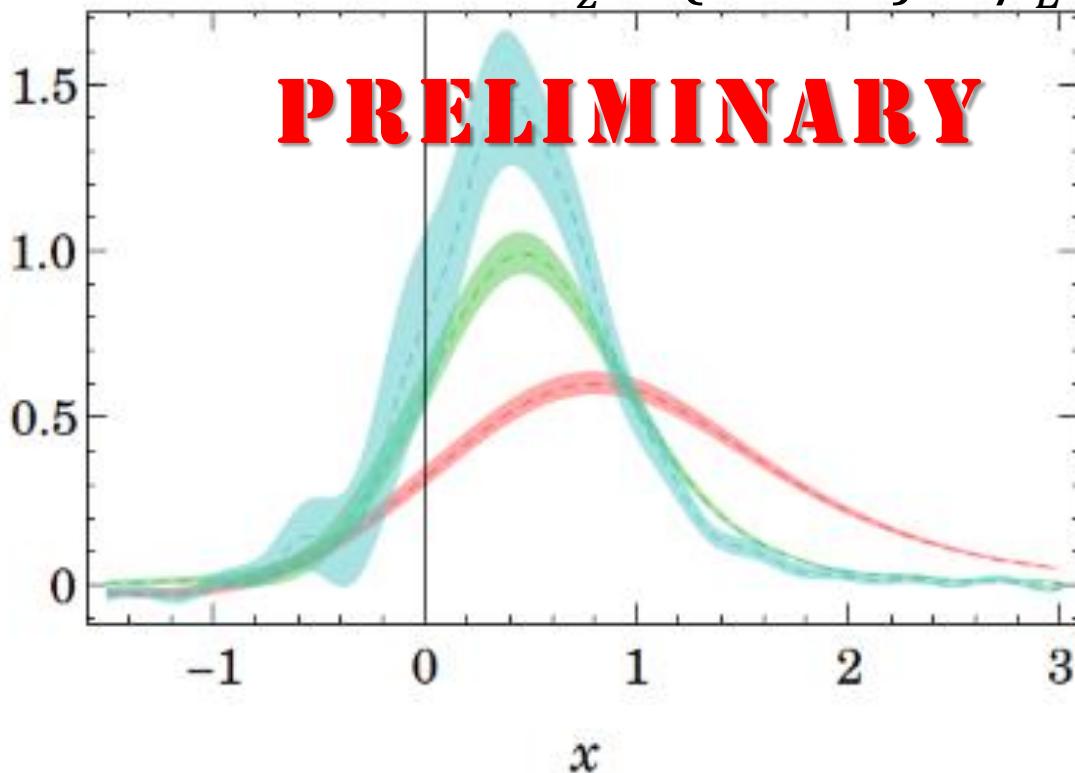
$$P_z \in \{1, 2, 3\}^{2\pi/L}$$

# Quark Distribution

## § Exploratory study

$$\int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{-izk_z} \left\langle P \left| \bar{\psi}(z) \gamma_z \exp\left(-ig \int_0^z dz' A_z(z')\right) \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle$$

$$P_z \in \{1, 2, 3\}^{2\pi/L}$$



Uncorrected bare  
lattice results

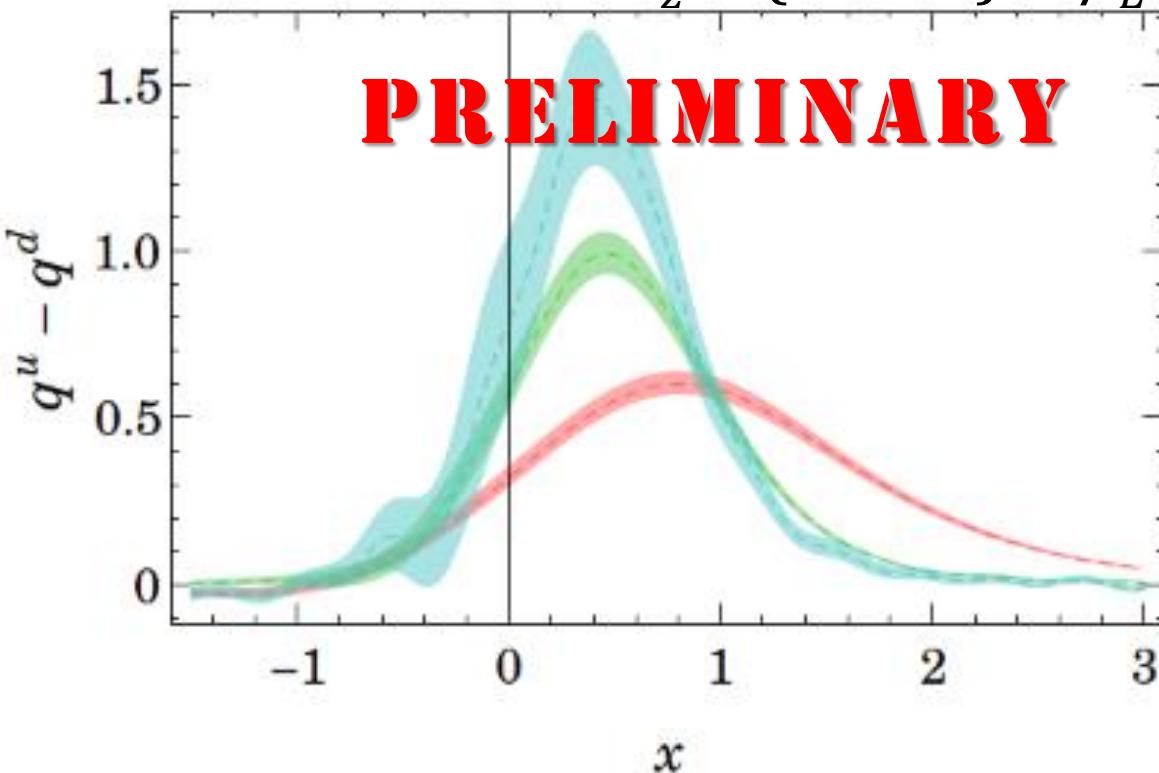
$$x = k_z/P_z$$

# Quark Distribution

## § Exploratory study

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$$P_z \in \{1, 2, 3\}^{2\pi/L}$$



Distribution gets sharper as  $P_z$  increases

Artifacts due to finite  $P_z$  on the lattice

Improvement?

Work out leading- $P_z$  corrections

# Quark Distribution

## § Back to the continuum

Xiangdong Ji, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 039103 (2013)

$$q(x, \mu) = q_{\text{FP}}(x, \mu, P_z) + O(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2 / P_z^2) + O(M_N^2 / P_z^2) + O(\alpha_s)$$

What we want

What we calculate  
on the lattice

$$P_z \in \{1, 2, 3\}^{2\pi/L}$$

Smaller  $P_z$  correction but  
complicated twist-4  
operator  
(extrapolate it away)

J.-H. Zhang, Y. Zhao, J.-W. Chen  
et al. (in preparation)

Dominant correction  
(for nucleon);  
known scaling form

J.-W. Chen et al.  
(in preparation)

Finite  $P_z \rightarrow \infty$   
Estimate  $O(20\%)$  effect

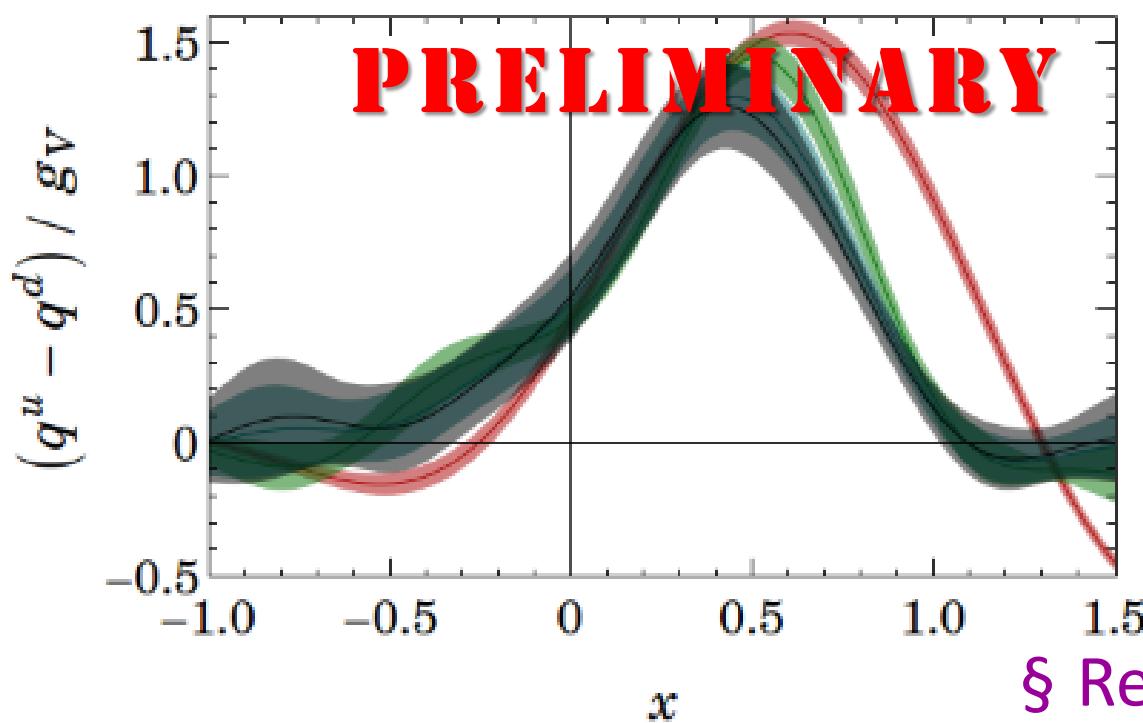
X. Xiong, X. Ji, J. Zhang,  
1310.7471 [hep-ph]

# Quark Distribution

## § Exploratory study

- ❖ Take ratios (partially cancel statistical and systematic errors)

$$q_{\text{norm}}(x, \mu, P_z) = \frac{q(x, \mu, P_z)}{\int dx q(x, \mu, P_z)}$$

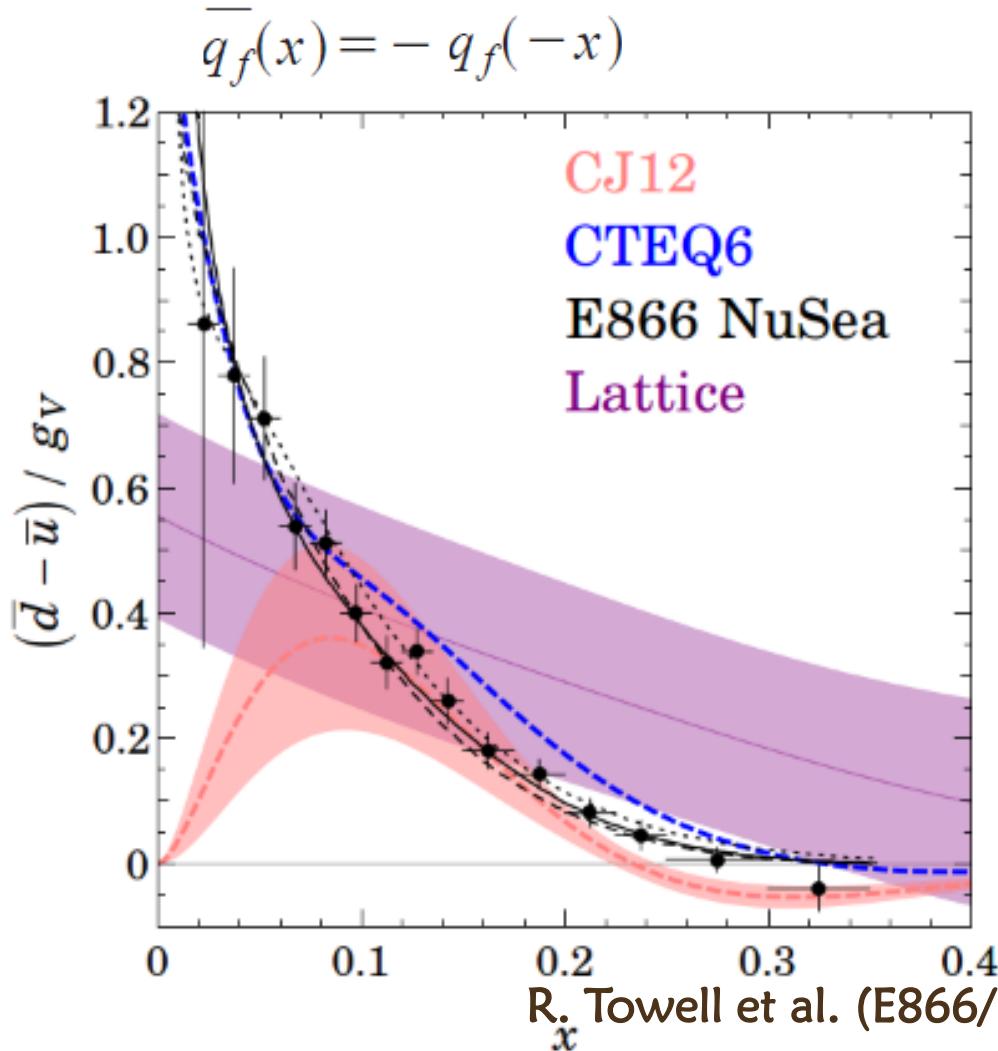


Removing  
 $O(M_N^n/P_z^n)$  errors +  $O(\alpha_s)$

No significant  
finite-momentum  
effect seen for  $P_z > 1$

# Quark Distribution

## § Compare with experiments



Compared with E866  
Too good to be true?

Lost resolution in  
small- $x$  region

Future improvement to  
have larger lattice volume

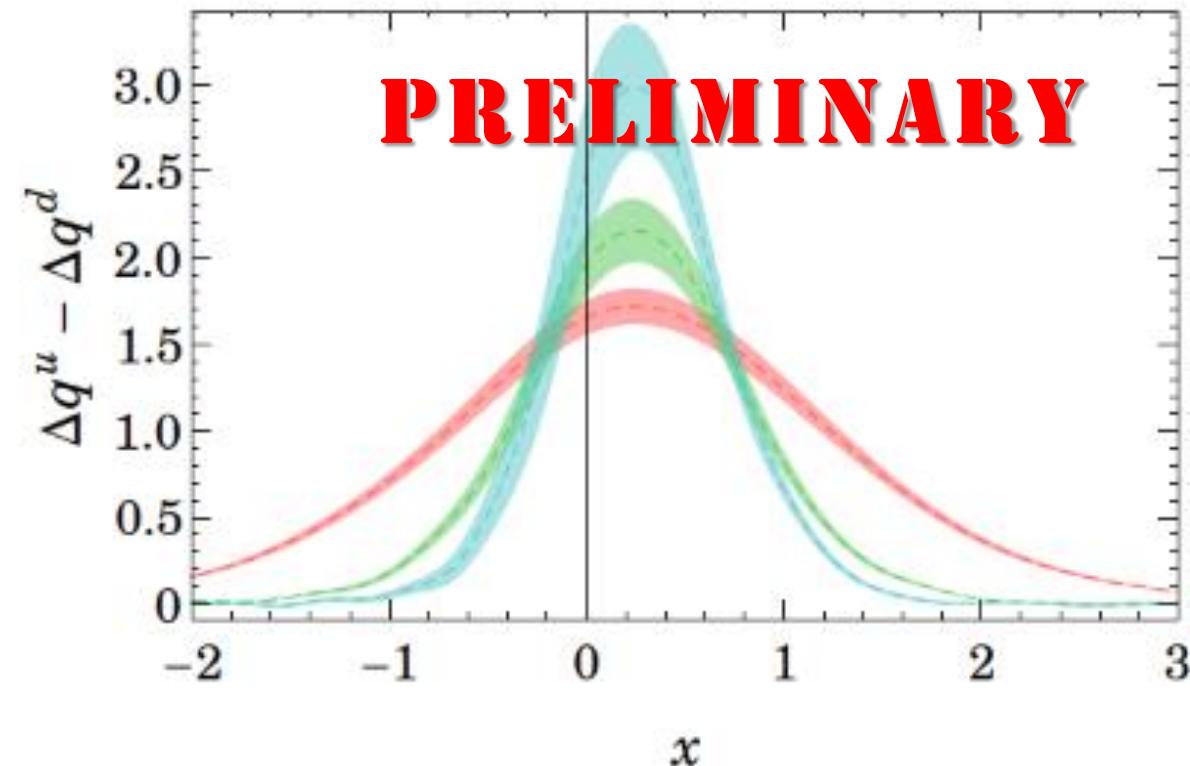
$$\int dx \frac{\bar{u}(x) - \bar{d}(x)}{g_V} \approx -0.16(12)$$

Experiment	$x$ range	$\int_0^1 [\bar{d}(x) - \bar{u}(x)] dx$
E866	$0.015 < x < 0.35$	$0.118 \pm 0.012$
NMC	$0.004 < x < 0.80$	$0.148 \pm 0.039$
HERMES	$0.020 < x < 0.30$	$0.16 \pm 0.03$

# *Helicity Distribution*

## § Exploratory study

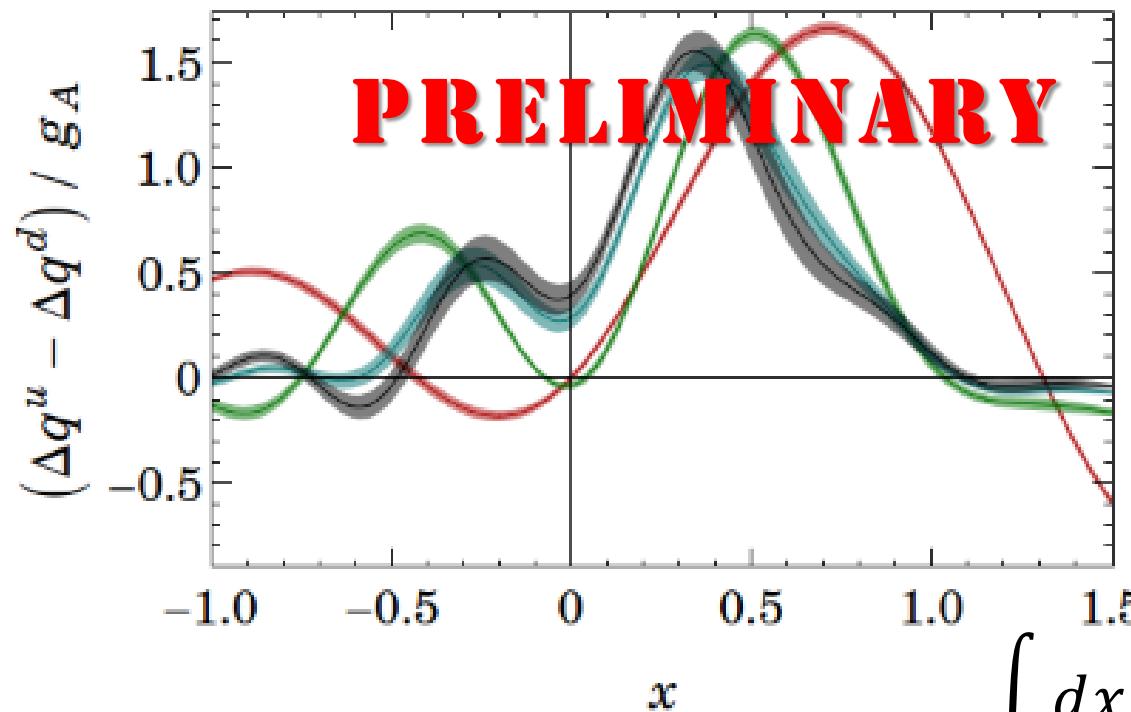
$$\int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{-izk_z} \left\langle P \left| \bar{\psi}(z) \gamma_z \gamma_5 \exp\left(-ig \int_0^z dz' A_z(z')\right) \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle$$



# Helicity Distribution

## § Exploratory study

$$\int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{-izk_z} \left\langle P \left| \bar{\psi}(z) \gamma_z \gamma_5 \exp\left(-ig \int_0^z dz' A_z(z')\right) \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle$$



Removing  
 $O(M_N^n/P_z^n)$  errors +  $O(\alpha_s)$

Larger  $O(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2/P_z^2)$  seen  
but well fit by  
extrapolation

$$\int dx \frac{\Delta \bar{u}(x) - \Delta \bar{d}(x)}{g_A} \approx 0.19(5)$$

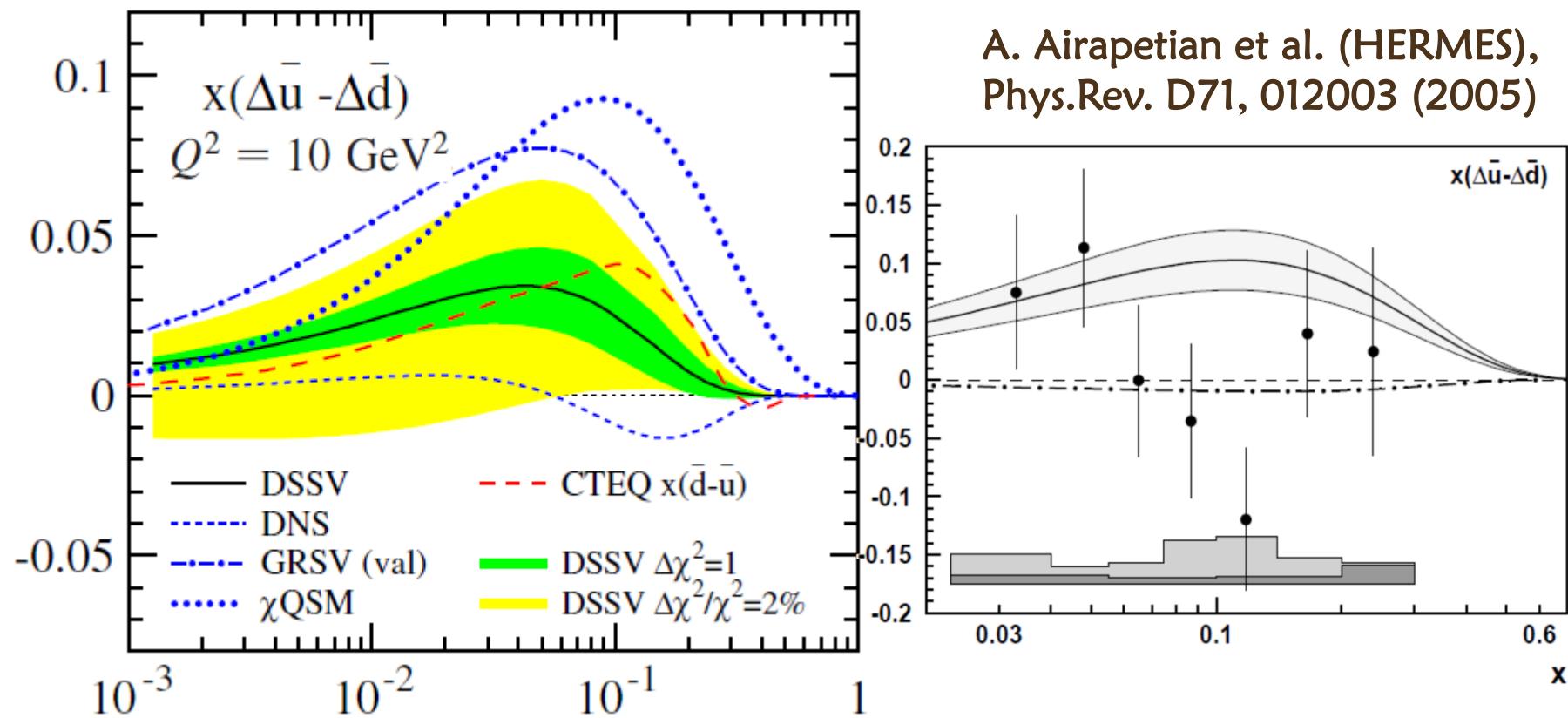
# Helicity Distribution

§ Model: large- $N_c$  predicts larger polarized antiquark asymmetry  
chiral quark-soliton model  $\int dx (\Delta \bar{u}(x) - \Delta \bar{d}(x)) \approx 0.31$

## § Experimental comparison

B. Dressler et al, hep-ph/9809487

A. Airapetian et al. (HERMES),  
Phys.Rev. D71, 012003 (2005)



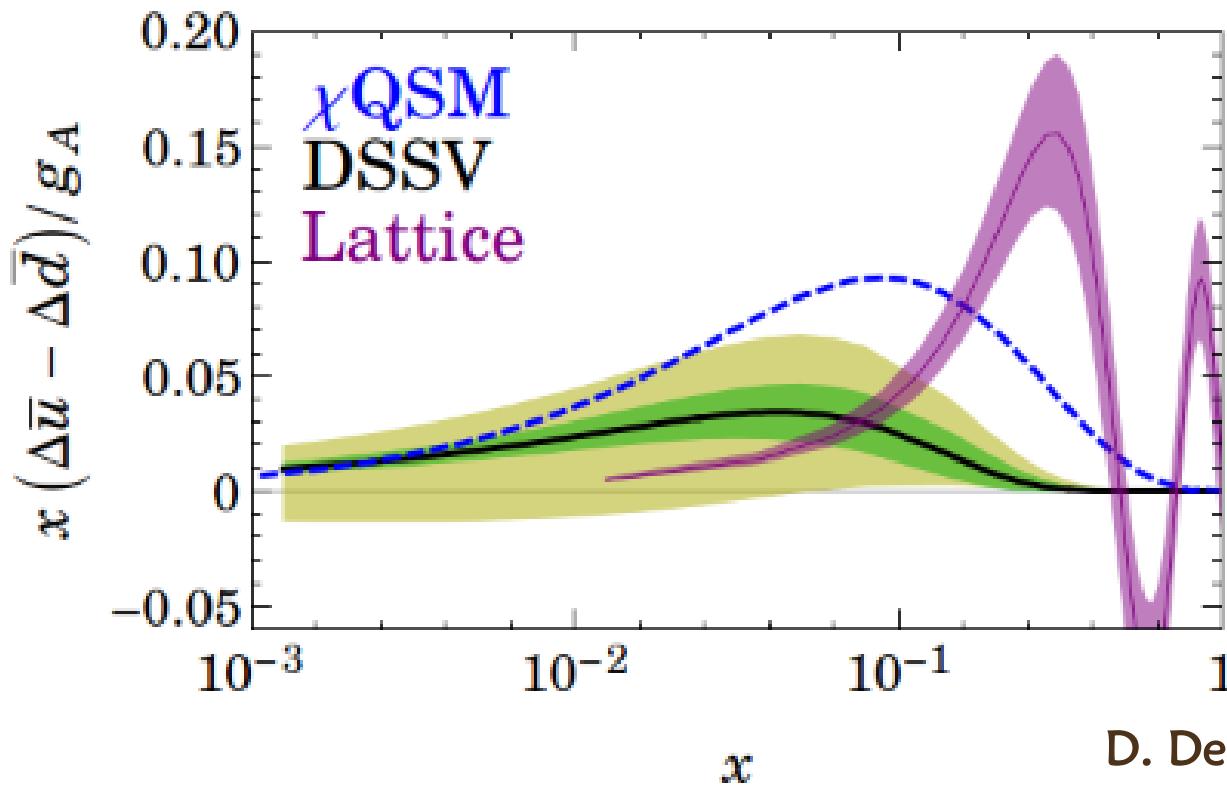
D. De Florian et al., Phys.Rev. D80, (2009) 034030

# Helicity Distribution

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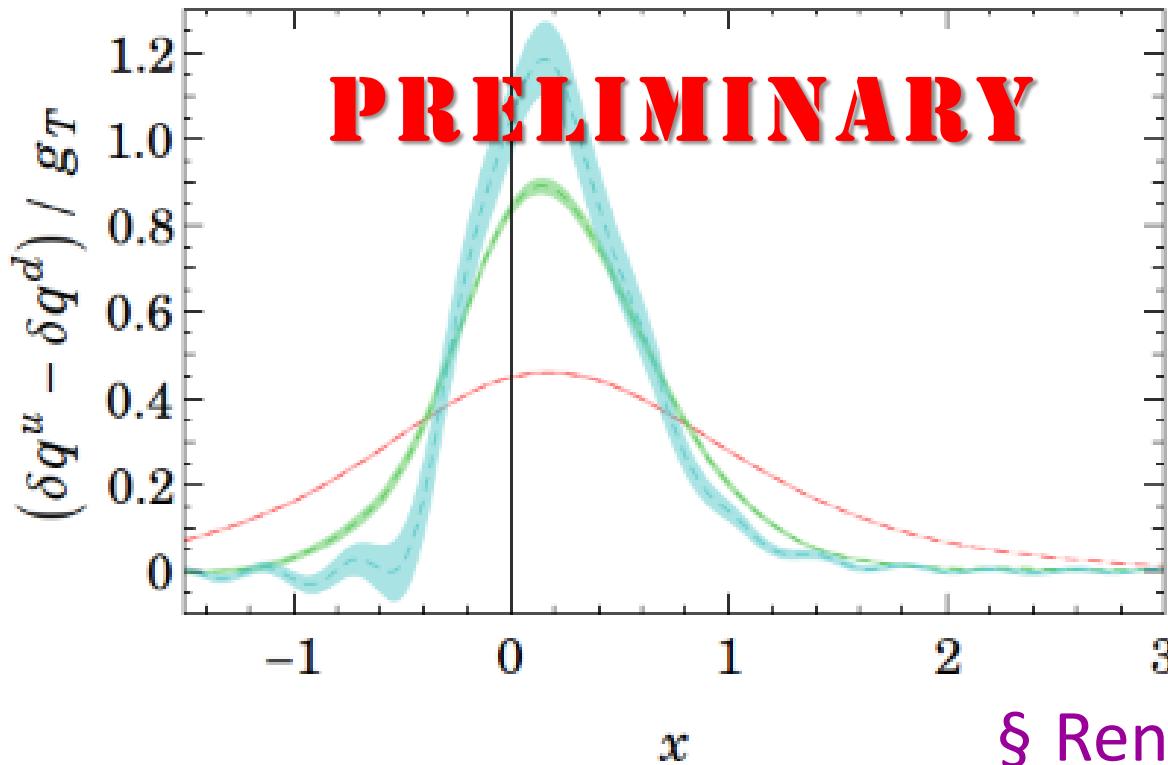


D. De Florian et al.,  
Phys.Rev. D80, (2009) 034030

# *Transversity Distribution*

## § Exploratory study

$$\int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{-izk_z} \left\langle P \left| \bar{\psi}(z) \sigma_{xy} \exp\left(-ig \int_0^z dz' A_z(z')\right) \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle$$



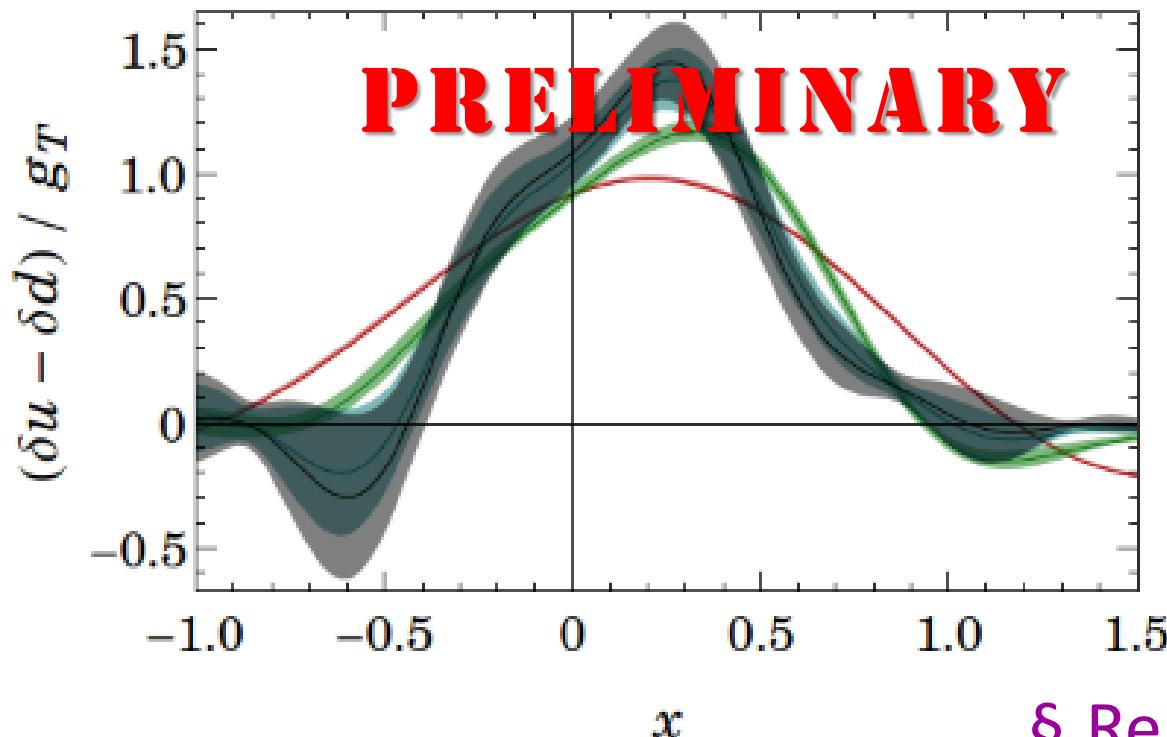
Uncorrected bare  
lattice results

§ Renormalization needed

# *Transversity Distribution*

## § Exploratory study

$$\int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{-izk_z} \left\langle P \left| \bar{\psi}(z) \sigma_{xy} \exp\left(-ig \int_0^z dz' A_z(z')\right) \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle$$



Removing  
 $O(M_N^n/P_z^n)$  errors +  $O(\alpha_s)$

§ Renormalization needed

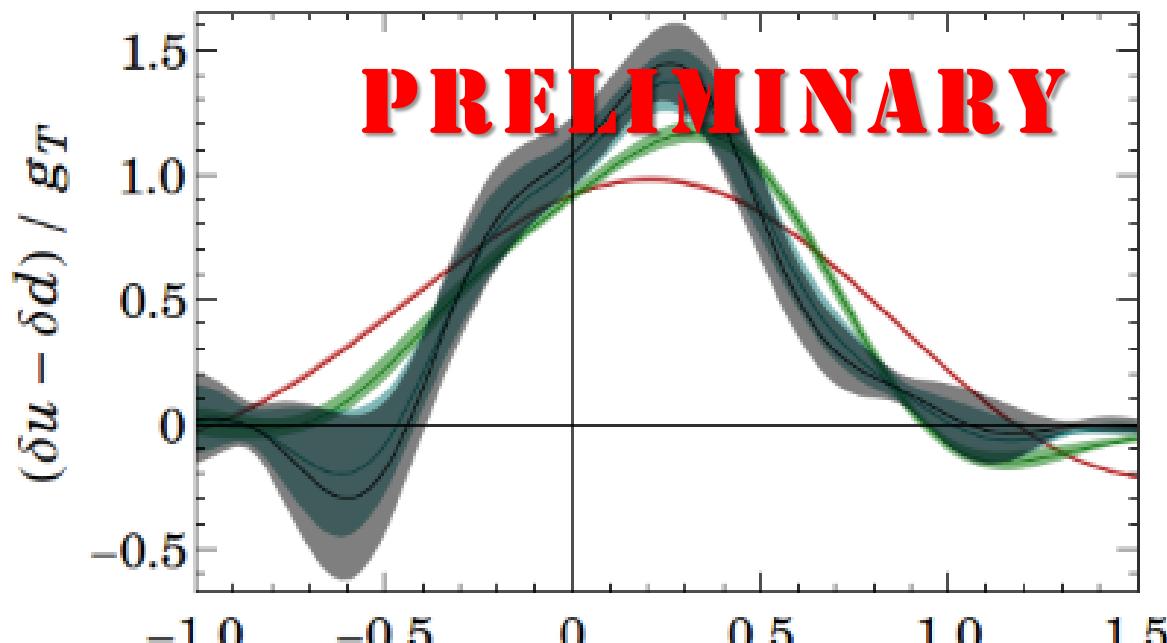
# Transversity Distribution

## § Exploratory study

- We found  $\delta\bar{u} < \delta\bar{d}$  with large sea asymmetry
- Chiral quark-soliton model

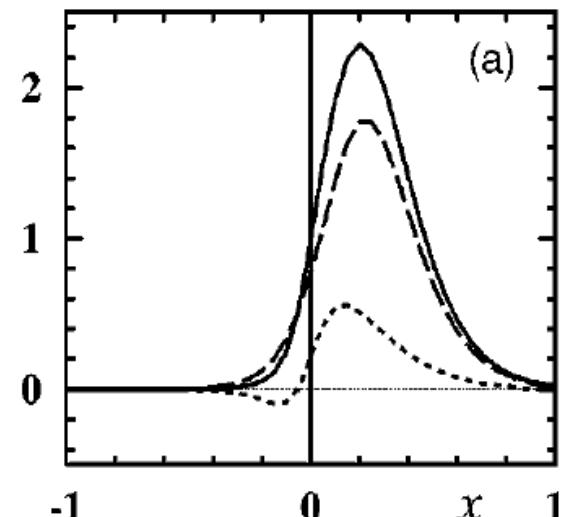
$$\int dx \frac{\delta\bar{u}(x) - \delta\bar{d}(x)}{g_T} \approx -0.23(9)$$

$$\int dx (\delta\bar{u}(x) - \delta\bar{d}(x)) \approx -0.082$$



$$\delta\bar{q}_f(x) = -\delta q_f(-x), \quad x$$

CQS model

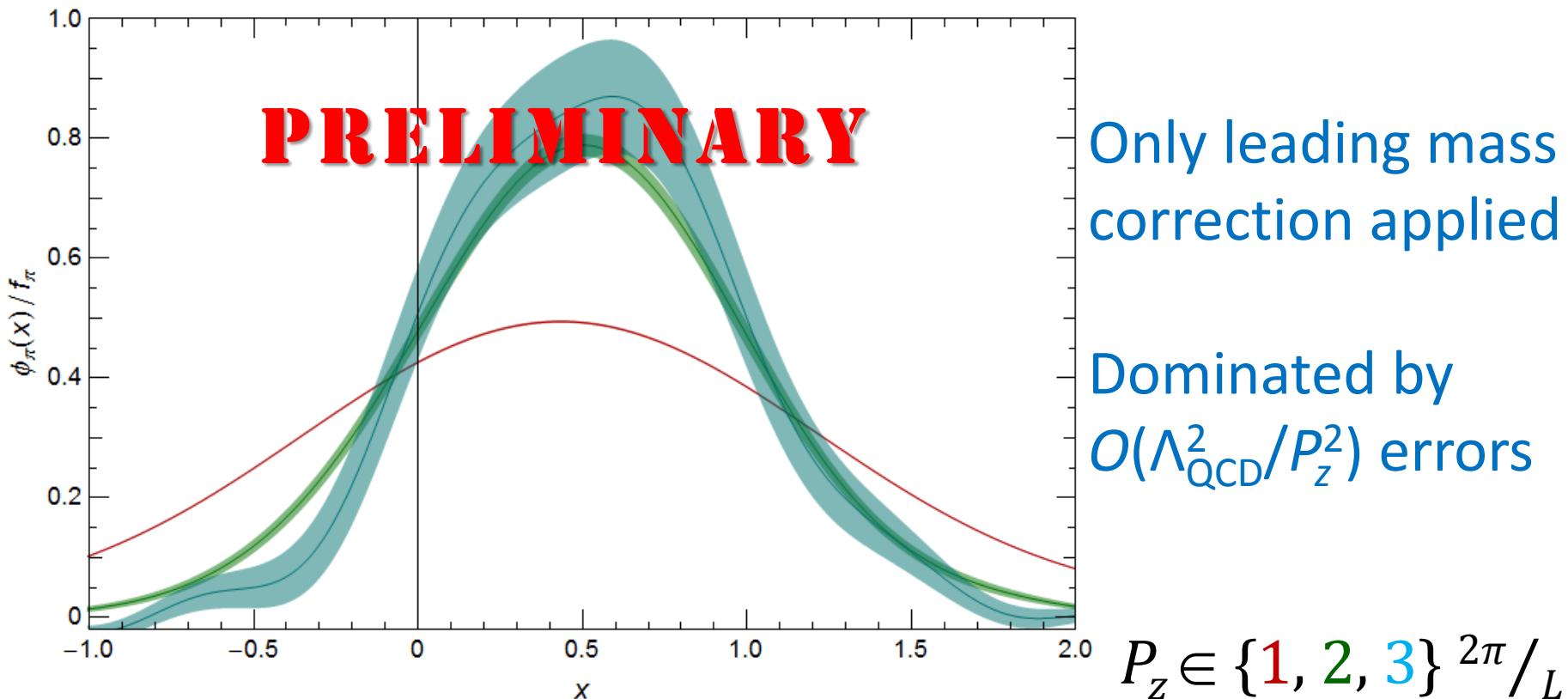


P. Schweitzer et al.  
PRD 64, 034013 (2001)

# Pion Distribution Amplitude

## § Exploratory study

$$\int \frac{dz}{2\pi} e^{-izk_z} \left\langle 0 \left| \bar{d}(z) \gamma_z \gamma_5 \exp\left(-ig \int_0^z dz' A_z(z')\right) u(0) \right| \pi^+(P) \right\rangle$$



# A NEW HOPE

*It is a period of war and economic uncertainty.*

*Tummoil has engulfed the galactic republics.*

*Basic truths at foundation of the human civilization  
are disputed by the dark forces of the evil empire.*

*A small group of QCD Knights from United Federation  
of Physicists has gathered in a remote location on the  
third planet of a star called Sol on the inner edge of  
the Orion-Cygnus arm of the galaxy.*

*The QCD Knights are the only ones who can tame the  
power of the Strong Force, responsible for holding  
atomic nuclei together, for giving mass and shape to  
matter in the Universe.*

*They carry secret plans to build the most powerful*

# *Summary and Outlook*

## Exciting time for hadron structure on the lattice

### § Overcoming longstanding obstacle to $x$ -distribution

- ❖ New idea by Ji for studying full  $x$  dependence of PDFs
- ❖ Promising results on unpolarized and polarized sea asymmetry compared with experiments, even at non-physical pion mass

### § Hope this study motivates others to give Ji's method a try

### § Caveats

- ❖ Not a precision calculation *yet*, proper renormalization, ...
- ❖ Systematics due to large momenta (some ideas to improve it)

### § Need improvement for large-momentum sources

- ❖ Applications: large- $q$  form factors, hadronic and flavor physics, ...

### § Many more quantities to study

- ❖ strange/charm/beauty sea distributions, gluons, TMD...