
High-energy QCD and Wilson lines

Ian Balitsky

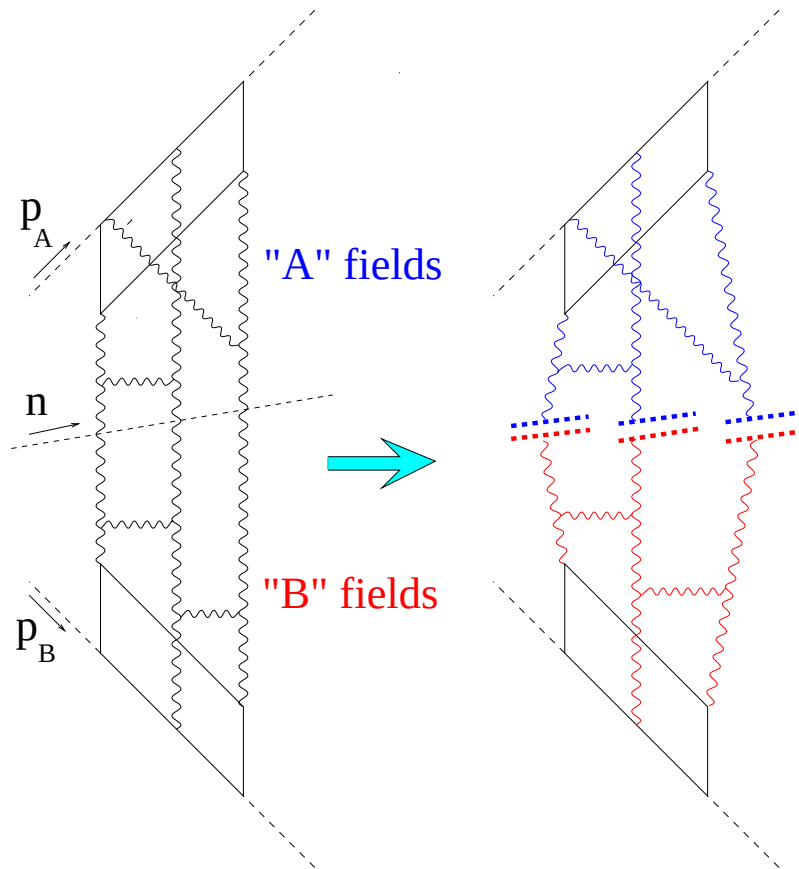
JLab & ODU

Storrs, 7 Nov 2005

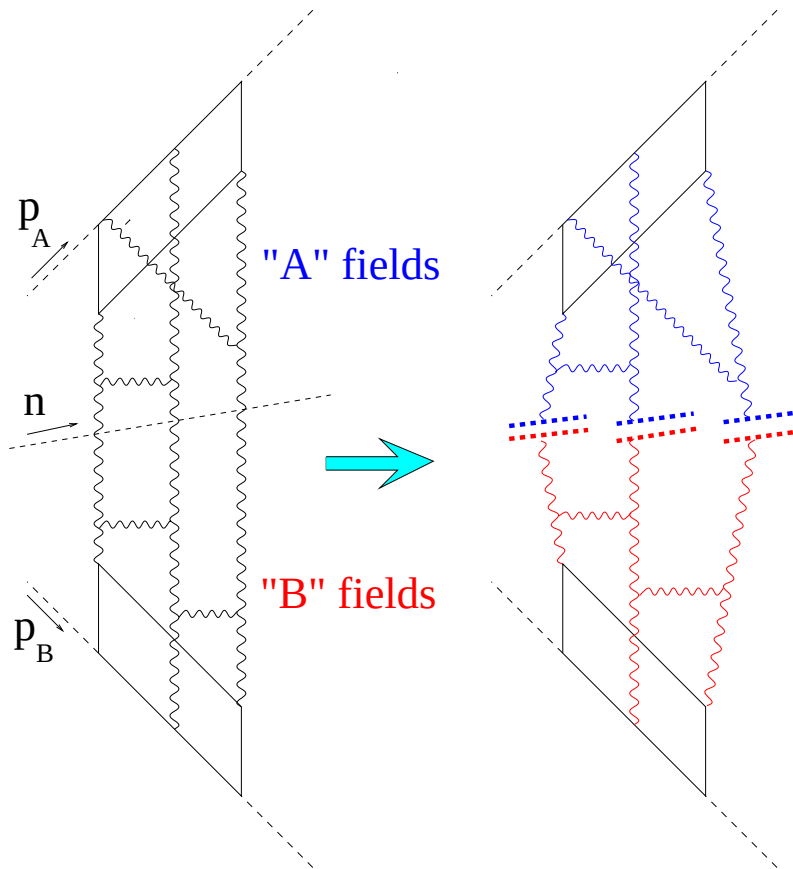
Plan

- Wilson lines as effective degrees of freedom in high-energy processes.
- A search for the 2+1 effective theory.
- Small- x DIS as an evolution of Wilson lines
- Non-linear evolution equation
- Effective field theory for the small- x evolution.
- DIS from heavy nuclei: saturation
- High-energy effective action from scattering of QCD shock waves
- Conclusions and outlook

Wilson lines $\equiv$ effective degrees of freedom

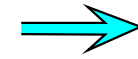
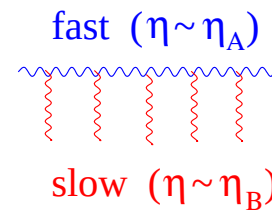


Wilson lines $\equiv$ effective degrees of freedom



Particles from clusters with different rapidity perceive each other as Wilson lines.

In the target frame

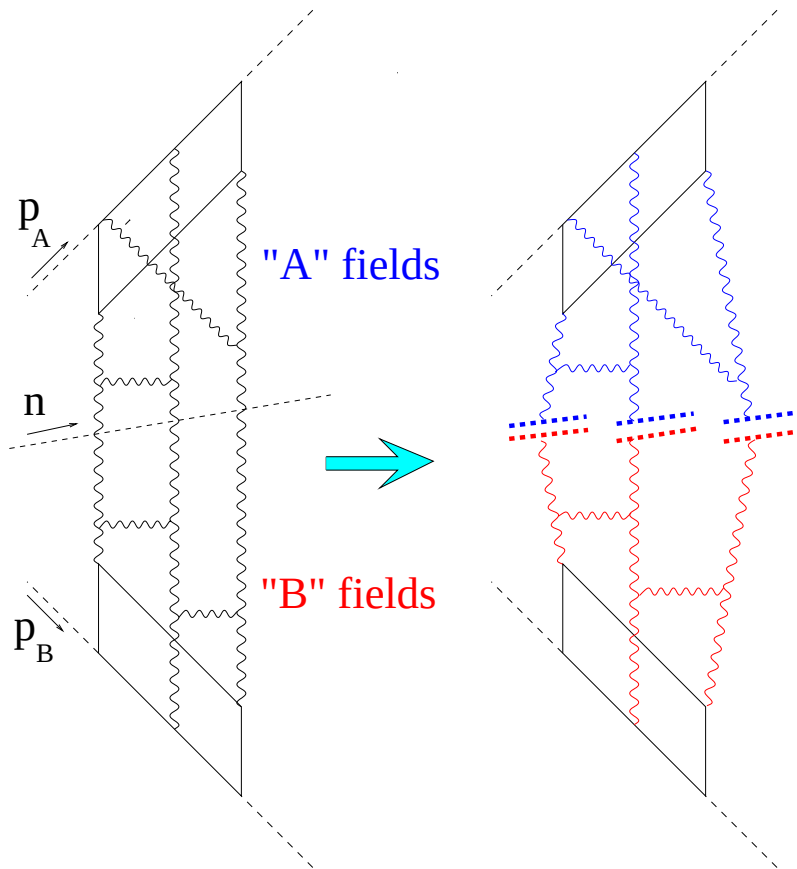


$$U(\mathbf{x}_\perp, \mathbf{n}_A)$$



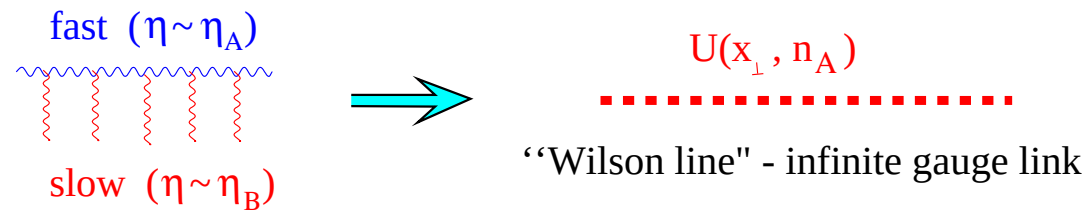
"Wilson line" - infinite gauge link

Wilson lines $\equiv$ effective degrees of freedom

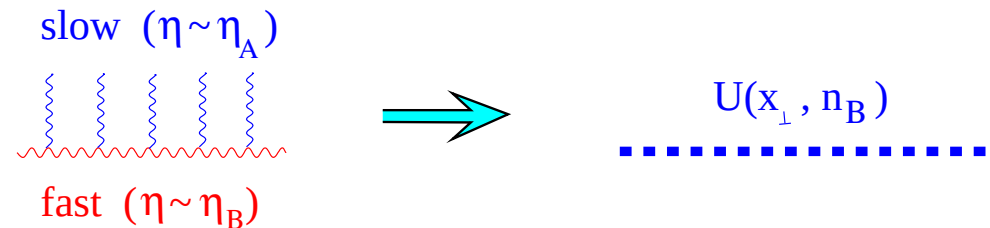


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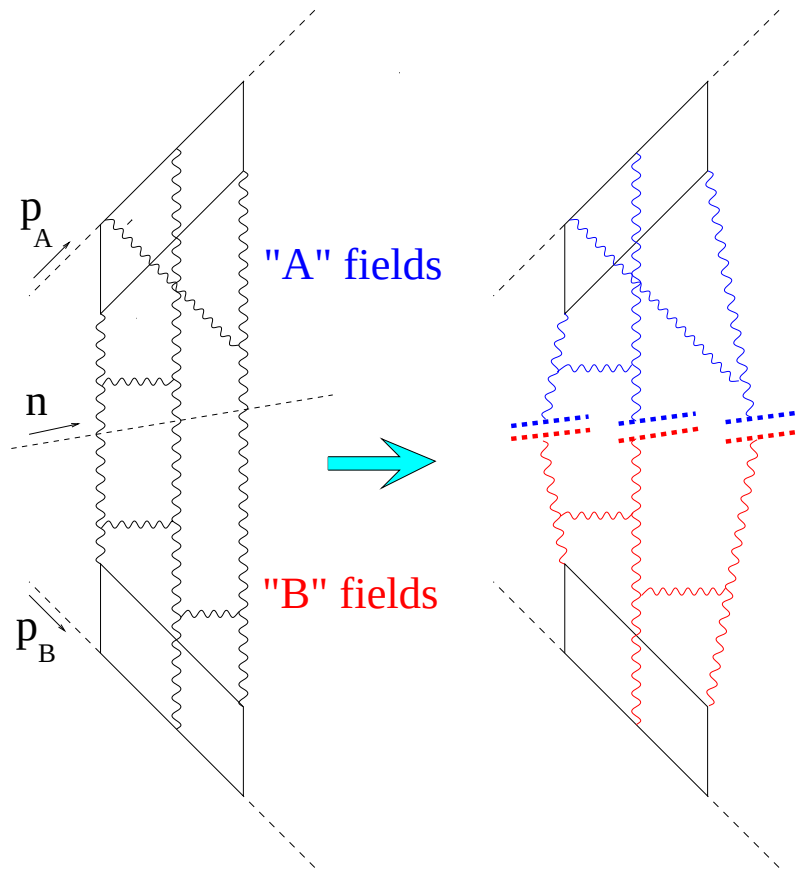
In the target frame



In the spectator frame



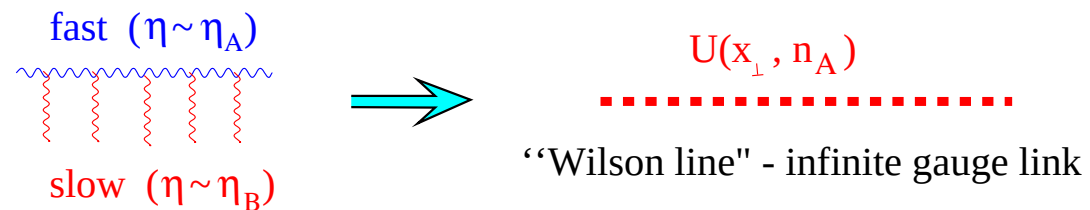
Wilson lines $\equiv$ effective degrees of freedom



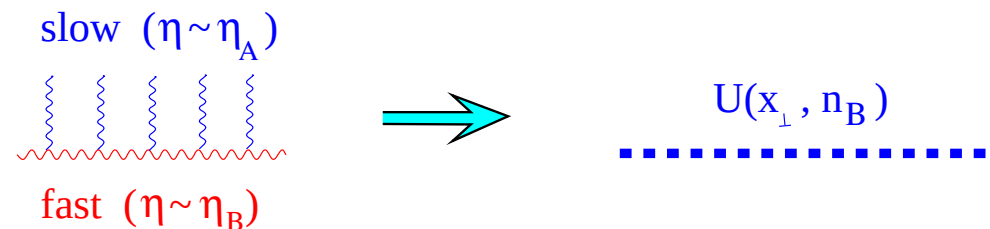
$\Rightarrow U(x_{\perp}, \eta)$ ($\eta \equiv$ slope) is the relevant degree of freedom for high-energy scattering.

Particles from clusters with different rapidity perceive each other as Wilson lines.

In the target frame



In the spectator frame



$$U(x_{\perp}, \eta) \equiv [-\infty n + x_{\perp}, \infty n + x_{\perp}]$$

$$[x, y] \equiv P e^{ig \int_0^1 du (x-y)_{\mu} A^{\mu}(ux + (1-u)y)}$$

A search for the 2+1 effective theory

Wanted:

$$\langle e^{i\rho_i^A U_i(\eta_A)} e^{i\rho_i^B U_i(\eta_B)} \rangle_{\text{QCD}} \xrightarrow{s \rightarrow \infty}$$

$$\int \mathcal{D}U(z_\perp, \eta) e^{i\rho_i^A U_i(\eta_A)} e^{i\rho_i^B U_i(\eta_B)} \exp \left\{ i \int_{\eta_B}^{\eta_A} d\eta \int d^2 z_\perp \mathcal{L}(U) \right\}$$

$$U_i \equiv U^\dagger \frac{i}{g} \partial_i U \text{ and } e^{i\rho_i^A U_i(\eta_A)} \equiv e^{\int d^2 z_\perp \rho_i^A(z_\perp) U_i(z_\perp, \eta_A)}$$

$\rho_i^A(z_\perp)$ and $\rho_i^B(z_\perp)$ - sources for the Wilson-line operators ($\rho_i \equiv \rho^\dagger \frac{i}{g} \partial_i \rho$, $\rho \in SU_3$).

How to approach this goal?

- pQCD
- sQCD (s for semiclassical)
- symmetries?

Power counting for sources in the LLA

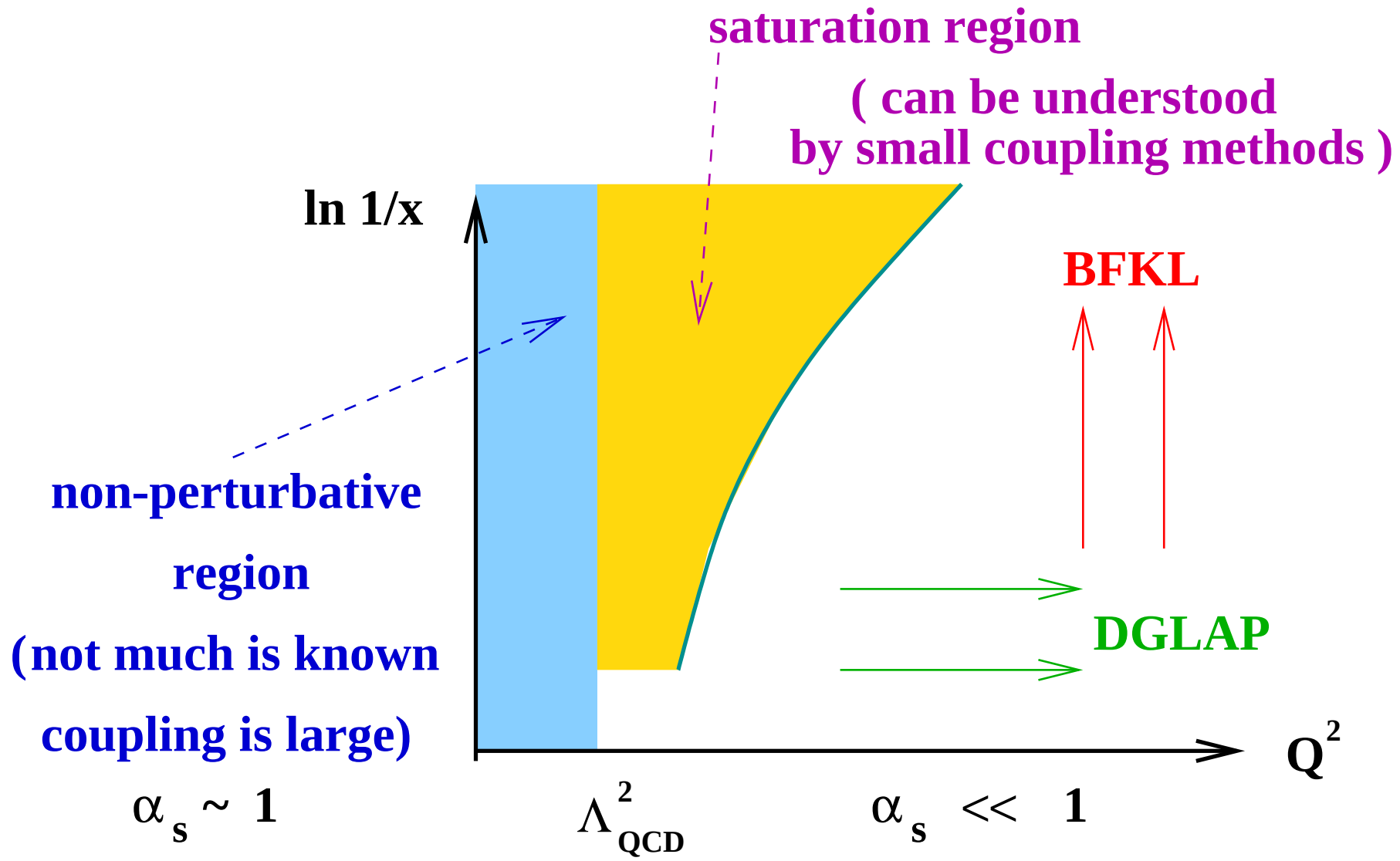
In pQCD, the parameters of the expansion are g^2 , $g^2\eta$, and $g^2[\rho_i^A, \rho_j^B]\eta$ ($\eta \equiv \ln s$).

LLA: $g^2 \ll 1$, $g^2\eta \sim 1$ (NLO is $\sim g^4\eta \ll 1$).

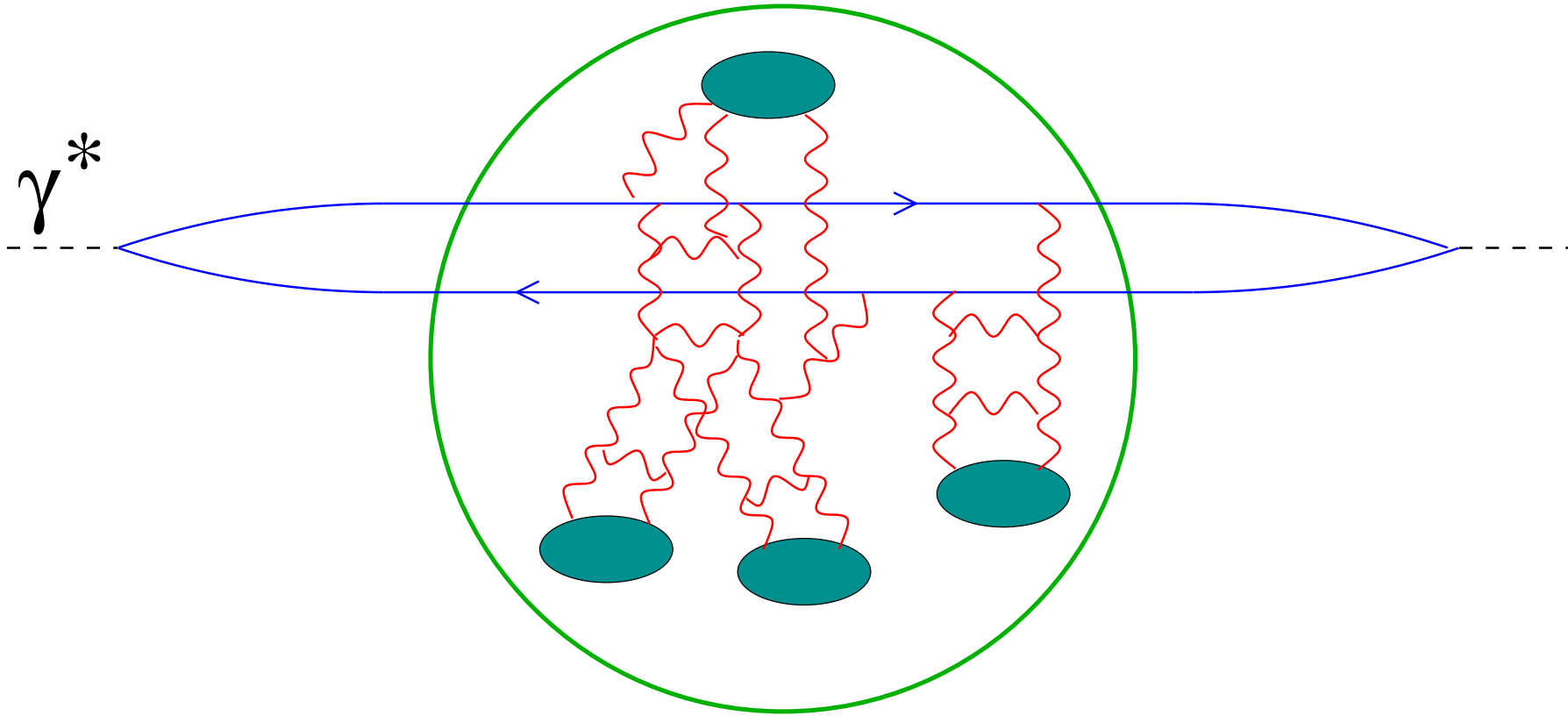
3 regimes:

- $\rho_i \sim 1$ ($\gamma^*\gamma^*$ scattering) $\xrightarrow{\text{LLA}}$ BFKL pomeron
- $\rho_i \sim \frac{1}{g} \gg 1$ ($\rho \sim A^{1/3}$ for the heavy-ion collisions) $\Rightarrow g^2 \rho_i^A \rho_j^B \eta \gg 1$
 $\Rightarrow g^4 \rho_i^A \rho_j^B \eta \ll 1 \Rightarrow$ beyond the LLA.
Best hope for this region is sQCD.
- $\rho_i^A \sim 1$, $\rho_i^B \sim \frac{1}{g}$ (DIS from the heavy nuclei) $\Rightarrow g^2 \rho_i^A \rho_j^B \eta \gg 1$ but
 $g^4 \rho_i^A \rho_j^B \eta \ll 1 \Rightarrow$ LLA is OK.

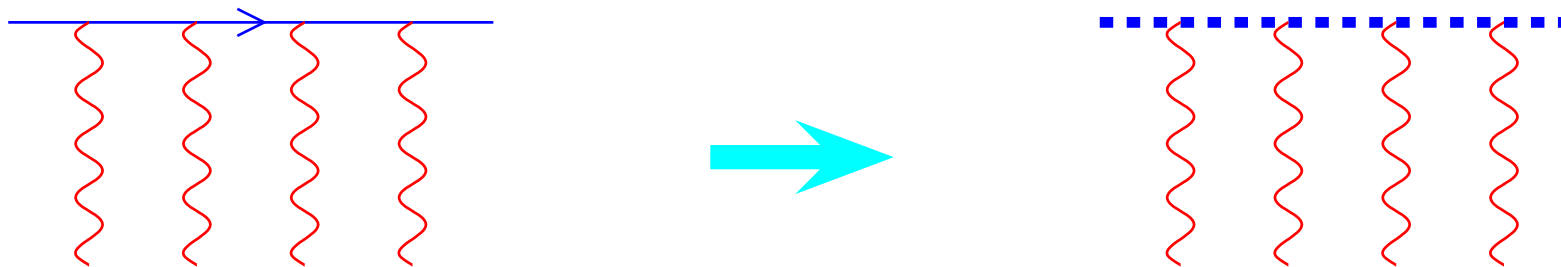
“Phase diagram” for DIS



Small- x DIS from the nucleus

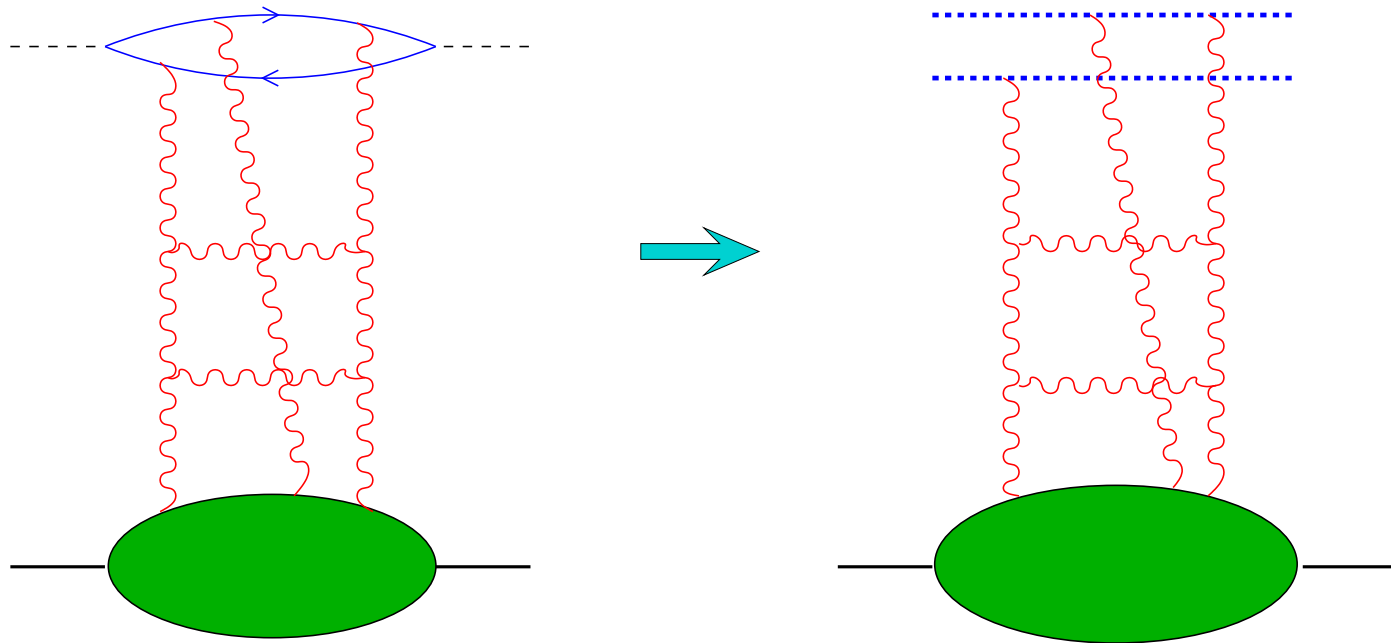


Fast quark moves along the straight line $\Rightarrow$



quark propagator reduces to the Wilson line collinear to quark's velocity

At high energies, the amplitude of $\gamma^* A \rightarrow \gamma^* A$ scattering reduces to the matrix element of a two-Wilson-line operator (“color dipole”).



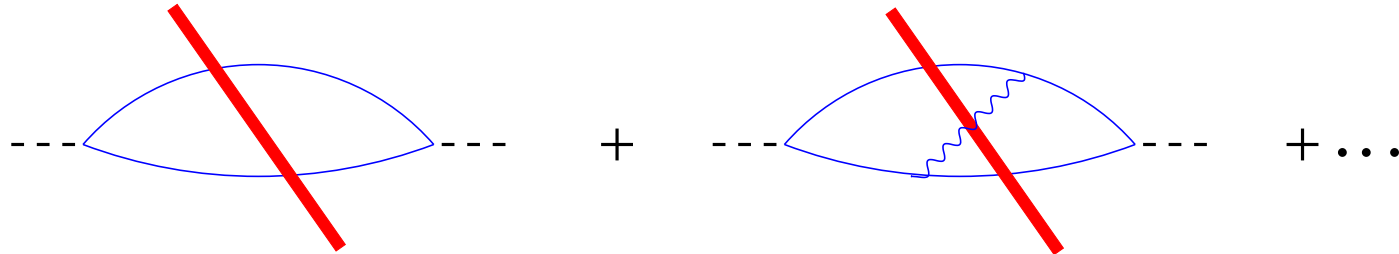
$$A(s) = \int \frac{d^2 k_\perp}{4\pi^2} I(k_\perp) \langle A | \text{Tr} \{ U^{\eta_A}(k_\perp) U^{\dagger \eta_A}(-k_\perp) \} | A \rangle + \dots$$

Energy dependence of the amplitude $A(s)$ is determined by the dependence of the Wilson lines on the rapidity η_A defined by the slope of the line.

In the spectator frame

Technically, it is more convenient to use the spectator frame

High-speed nucleus shrinks to a “pancake” $\Rightarrow$



= Feynman diagrams in a shock-wave background.

Quarks (and gluons) do not have time to deviate in the transverse direction $\Rightarrow$

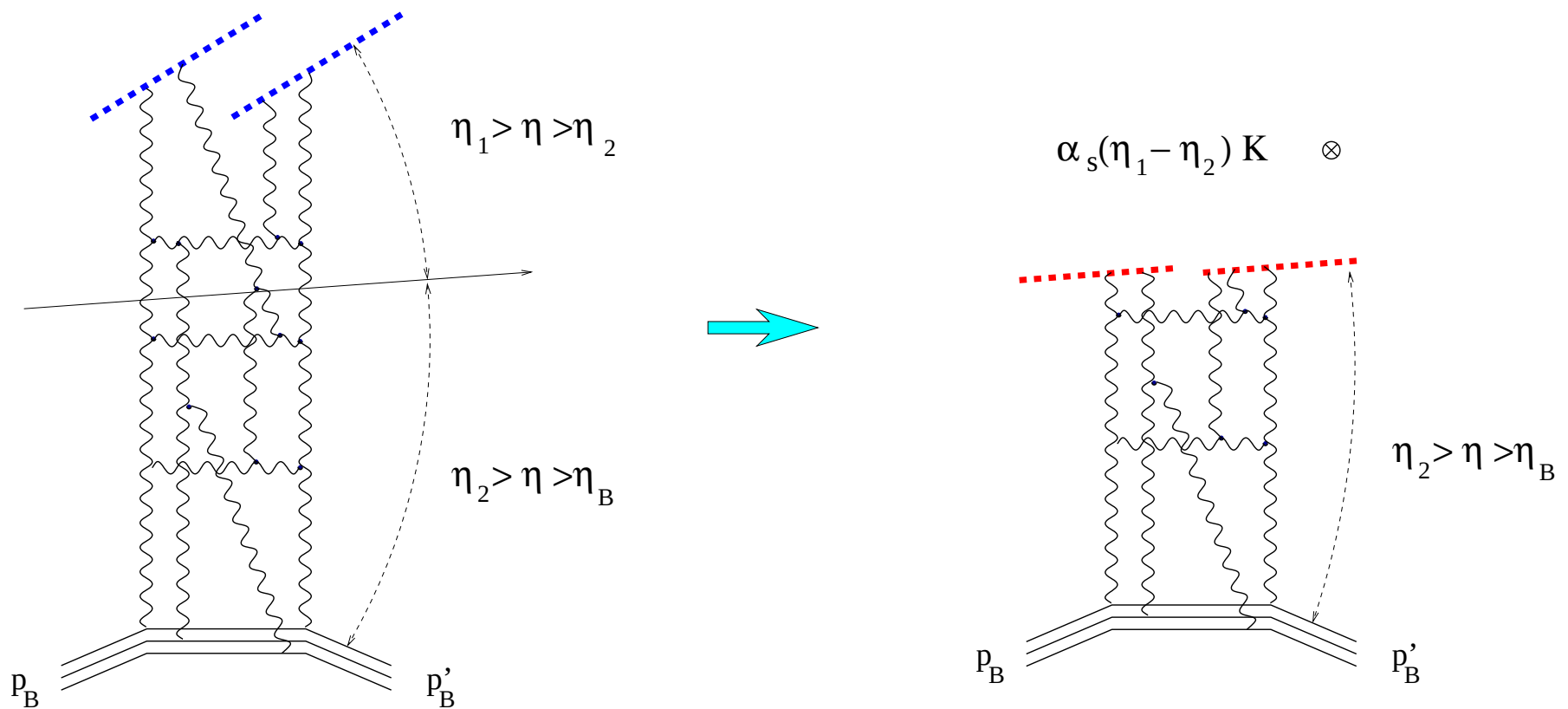
$$\int d^4x d^4z e^{-ip_A \cdot x} \langle T \{ j_A(x+z) j'_A(z) \} \rangle_A$$

$$= \int \frac{d^2k_\perp}{4\pi^2} I^A(k_\perp) \text{Tr} \{ U^{\eta_A}(k_\perp) U^{\dagger\eta_A}(-k_\perp) \} + \dots \Rightarrow$$

$$A(s) = \int \frac{d^2k_\perp}{4\pi^2} I(k_\perp) \langle A | \text{Tr} \{ U^{\eta_A}(k_\perp) U^{\dagger\eta_A}(-k_\perp) \} | A \rangle + \dots$$

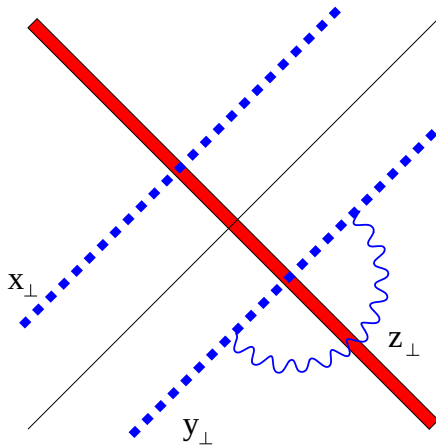
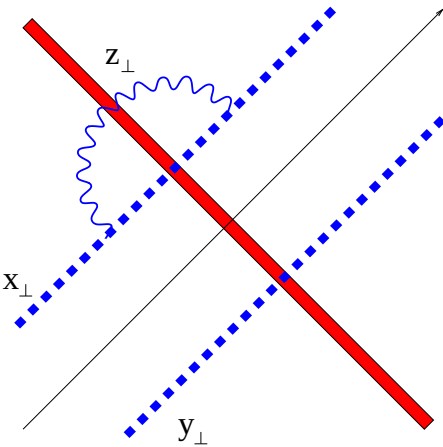
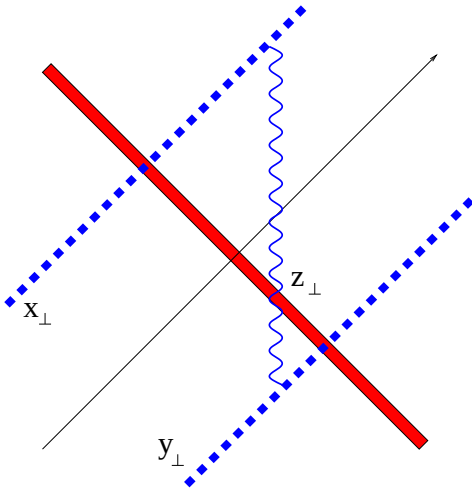
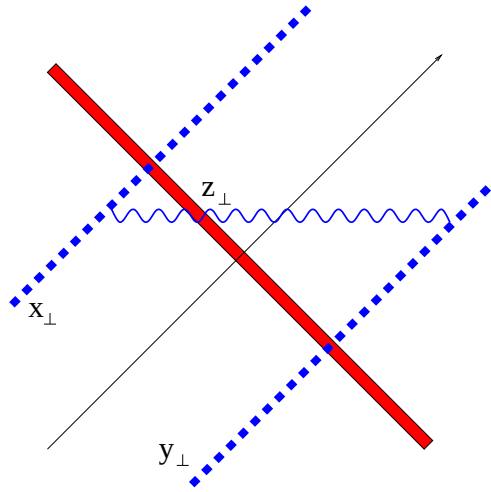
Evolution equation

To get the evolution equation, consider the dipole with the slope $\parallel \eta_1$ and integrate over the gluons with rapidities $\eta_1 > \eta > \eta_2$. This integral gives the kernel of the evolution equation (multiplied by the dipole(s) with the slope corresponding to η_2).



In the frame $\parallel \eta_1$ the gluons with $\eta < \eta_2$ are seen as a pancake $\Rightarrow$

One-loop evolution



The structure is

[$x \rightarrow z$: free propagation]

×

[$U^{ab}(z_\perp)$ - instantaneous interaction with the $\eta < \eta_2$ shock wave]

×

[$z \rightarrow y$: free propagation]

$$U_z^{ab} = \text{Tr}\{t^a U_z t^b U_z^\dagger\} \Rightarrow (U_x U_y^\dagger)^{\eta_1} = (U_x U_y^\dagger)^{\eta_1} + \alpha_s (\eta_1 - \eta_2) (U_x U_z^\dagger U_z U_y^\dagger)^{\eta_2}$$

⇒ non-linear evolution

Non-linear evolution equation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) = & \\ & - \frac{\bar{\alpha}}{4\pi} \int dz_{\perp} \frac{(\vec{x} - \vec{y})_{\perp}^2}{(\vec{x}_{\perp} - \vec{z}_{\perp})^2 (\vec{z}_{\perp} - \vec{y}_{\perp})^2} \\ & \times \left\{ \mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, z_{\perp}) + \mathcal{U}(z_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) - \mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) - \mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, z_{\perp}) \mathcal{U}(z_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) \equiv \frac{1}{N_c} (\text{Tr}\{U(x_{\perp})U^{\dagger}(y_{\perp})\} - N_c)$$

LLA for DIS in pQCD $\Rightarrow$ BFKL

LLA for DIS in sQCD $\Rightarrow$ NL eqn

(s for semiclassical)

Non-linear evolution equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) =$$
$$-\frac{\bar{\alpha}}{4\pi} \int dz_{\perp} \frac{(\vec{x} - \vec{y})_{\perp}^2}{(\vec{x}_{\perp} - \vec{z}_{\perp})^2 (\vec{z}_{\perp} - \vec{y}_{\perp})^2}$$
$$\times \left\{ \underbrace{\mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, z_{\perp}) + \mathcal{U}(z_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) - \mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp})}_{\mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp})} - \mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, z_{\perp}) \mathcal{U}(z_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) \right\}$$

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Non-linear evolution equation

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$$\times \left\{ \mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, z_{\perp}) + \mathcal{U}(z_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) - \mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, y_{\perp}) - \underbrace{\mathcal{U}(x_{\perp}, z_{\perp}) \mathcal{U}(z_{\perp}, y_{\perp})} \right\}$$

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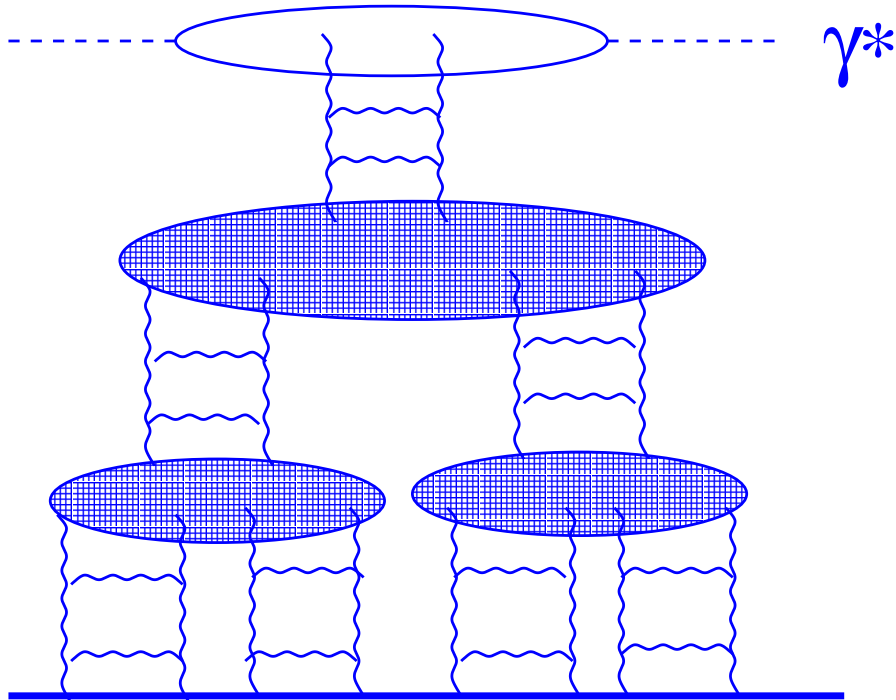
LLA for DIS in pQCD $\Rightarrow$ BFKL

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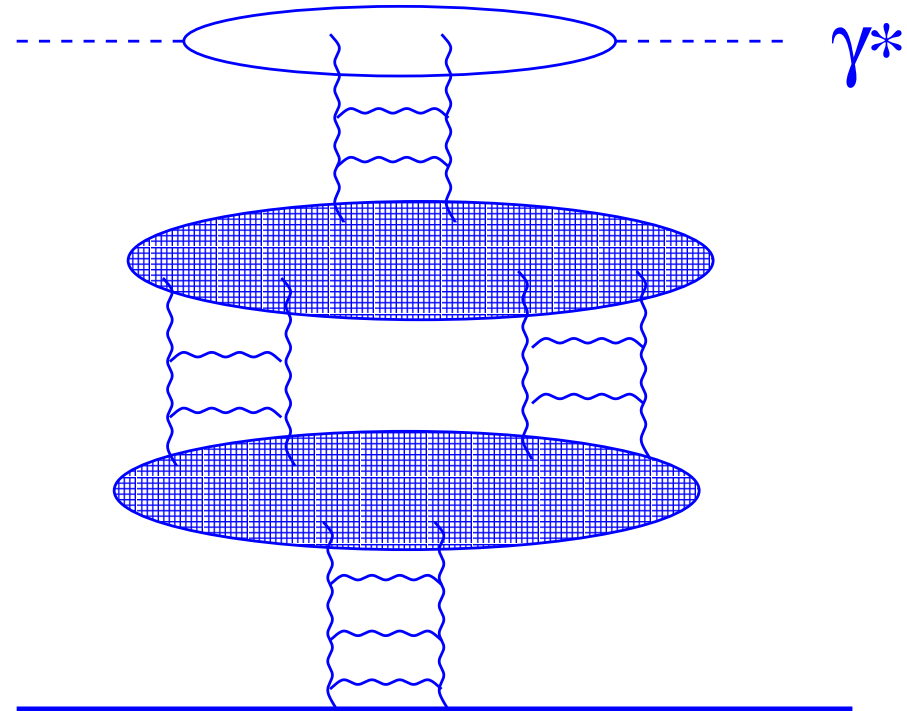
(s for semiclassical)

Example - LLA for the structure functions of large nuclei: $\alpha_s \ln \frac{1}{x} \sim 1$,
 $\alpha_s^2 A^{1/3} \sim 1$

Non-linear equation sums up the “fan” diagrams



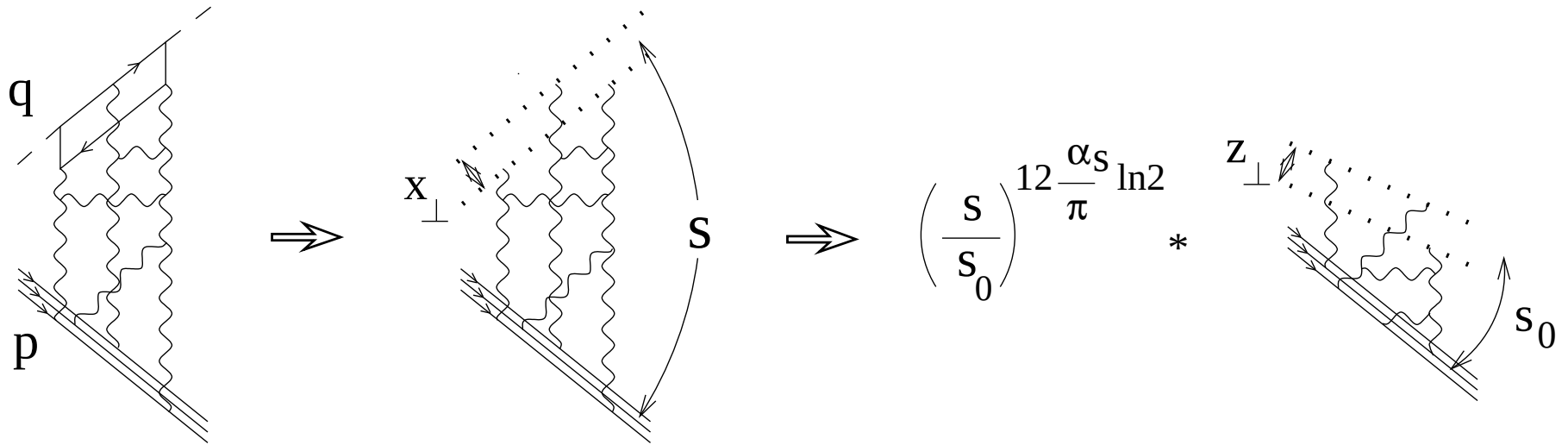
Example of the diagrams left behind by the NL eqn: pomeron loops



- Gribov, Levin, Ryskin (1983) - GLR eqn suggested
- Mueller, Qui (1986) - DLA limit of GLR eqn proved
- I.B. (1996) - the above eqn derived
- Kovchegov (1999) - the above eqn rederived (in the dipole model) and used for the large nuclei
- Braun (M.A.) (2000) - NL = GLR + 3-pomeron vertex from Bartels *et. al.*
- JIMWLK(2000) - obtained from the RG eqn for Color Glass Condensate

Initial conditions for the small-x evolution

BFKL evolution in terms of Wilson lines:



$\langle N | \text{Tr} \{ U(z_{\perp}, \eta_0) U^{\dagger}(0, \eta_0) \} | N \rangle$ - color dipole with the energy $s_0 = s\omega_0$

Initial point of the evolution s_0 :

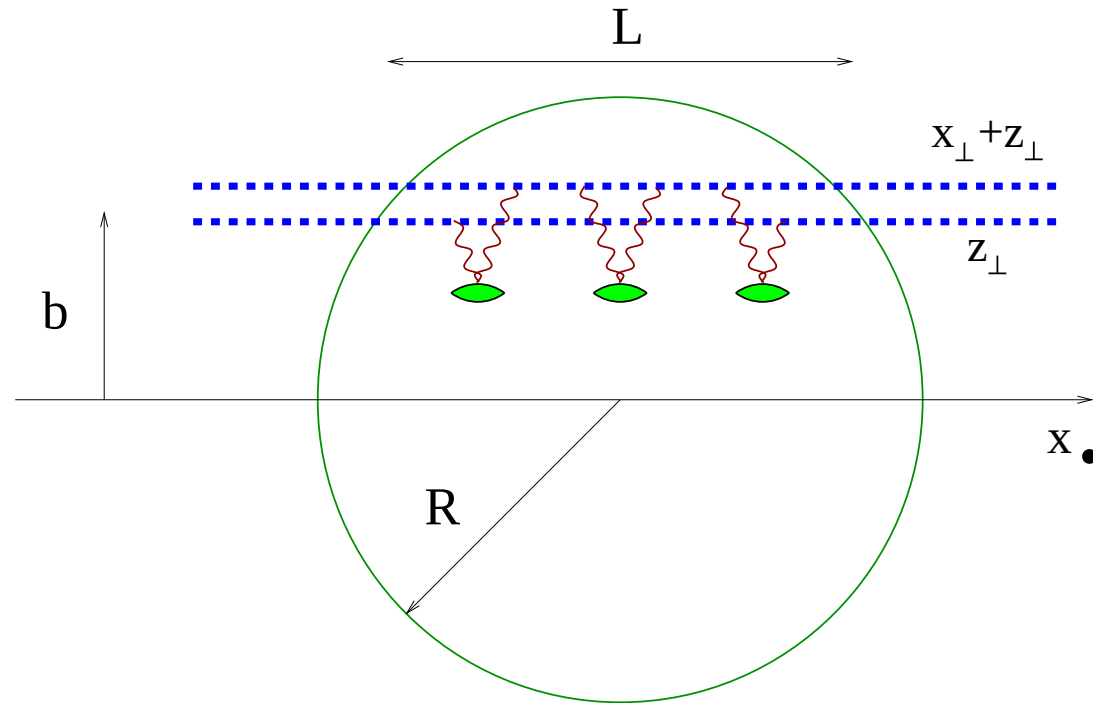
- small from the high-energy viewpoint: $\alpha_s \ln \frac{s_0}{m^2} \ll 1$
- large from the viewpoint of the low-energy physics: $\frac{s_0}{m^2} \gg 1$

For small dipoles (size $\ll 1\text{fm}$)

$$\langle N | \text{Tr} \{ U(z_{\perp}, \eta_0) U^{\dagger}(0, \eta_0) \} | N \rangle \simeq z_{\perp}^2 \omega_0 G(\omega_0, \mu^2 = \frac{1}{z_{\perp}^2})$$

Nuclear structure functions

Large nuclei: initial conditions $\Leftarrow$ Mueller-Glauber formula.



$$N_\eta(x_\perp, b_\perp) \equiv \frac{1}{N_c} \langle A | \text{Tr} U(x_\perp + z) U^\dagger(z) | A \rangle$$

$$N_\eta(x_\perp, b_\perp) = \left[1 - e^{-g^2 c_F \mathcal{G}(x_\perp^2) L_b} \right]$$

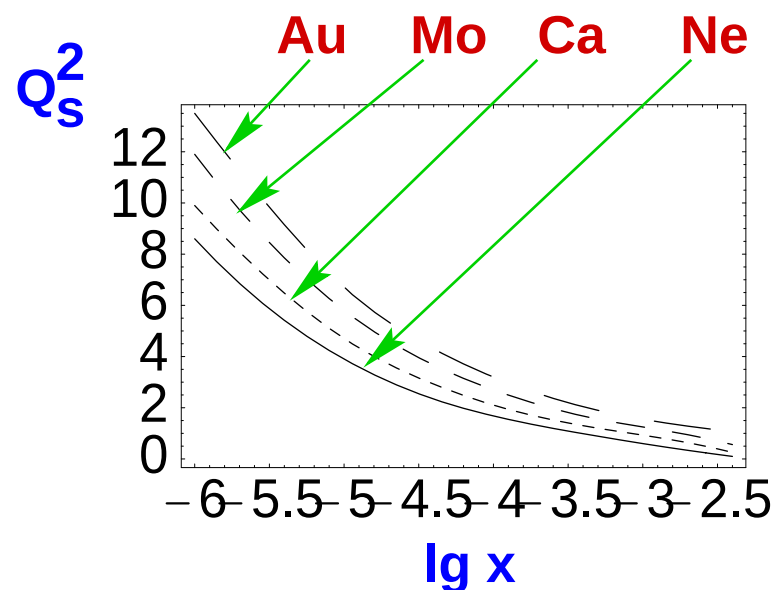
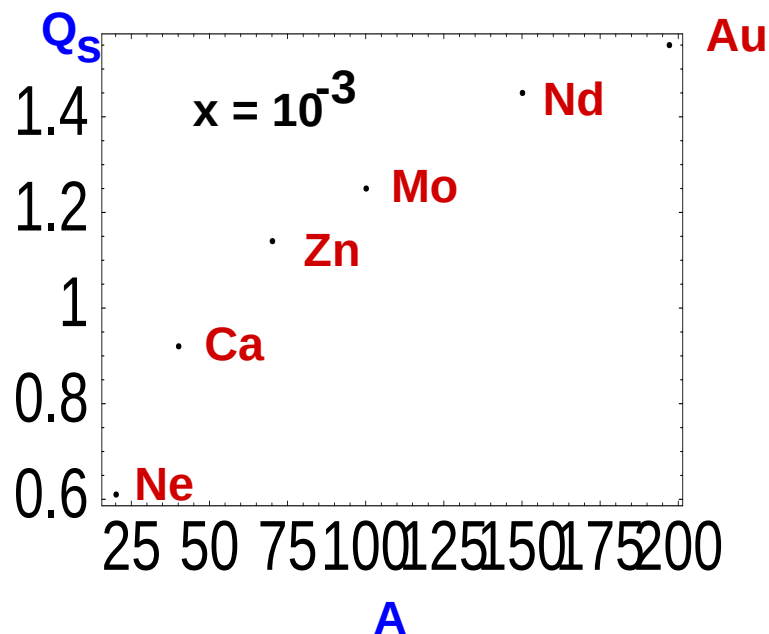
$$\mathcal{G}(x_\perp^2) \equiv \frac{\pi x_\perp^2}{4(N_c^2 - 1)} \rho \sigma_0 G(\sigma_0, \mu^2 = \frac{1}{x_\perp^2}).$$

Saturation scale: $Q_s^2 = 1/x_{s\perp}^2$ such that $S_\eta(x_{s\perp}, b_\perp) = 1 - N(x_{s\perp}, b_\perp) \sim 1$

Theoretical estimates yield $Q_s(\eta) \sim Q_0 e^{\lambda \alpha_s \eta}$

x_B decreases $\Rightarrow \alpha_s(Q_s) \rightarrow 0$.

Numerical results (E. Levin, from THERA book)



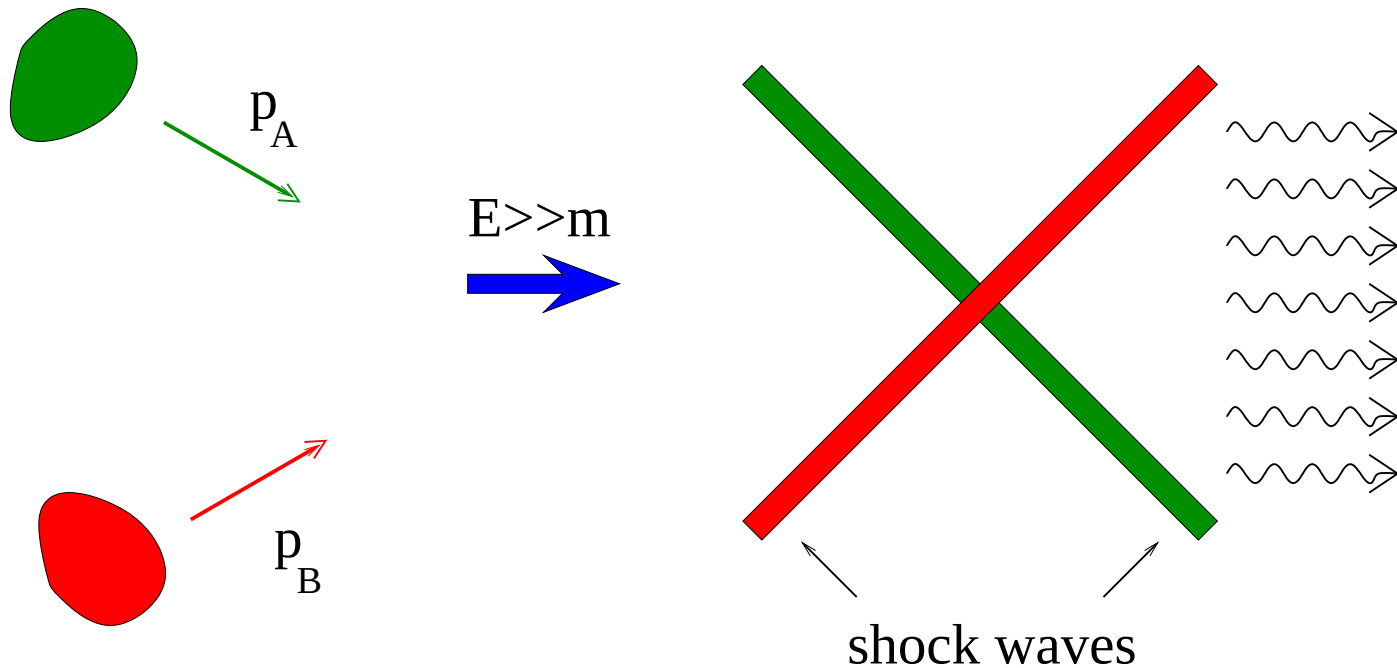
Both numerical and theoretical estimates show that even if we start from small target fields (e.g. γ^*) with $S_\eta(x_\perp) \ll 1$

$x_B \rightarrow 0 \xRightarrow{\text{BFKL}} S_\eta(x_\perp) \text{ increases} \xRightarrow{\text{NL}} \text{saturation} \Rightarrow \text{CGC?}$

High-energy scattering as a collision of shock waves

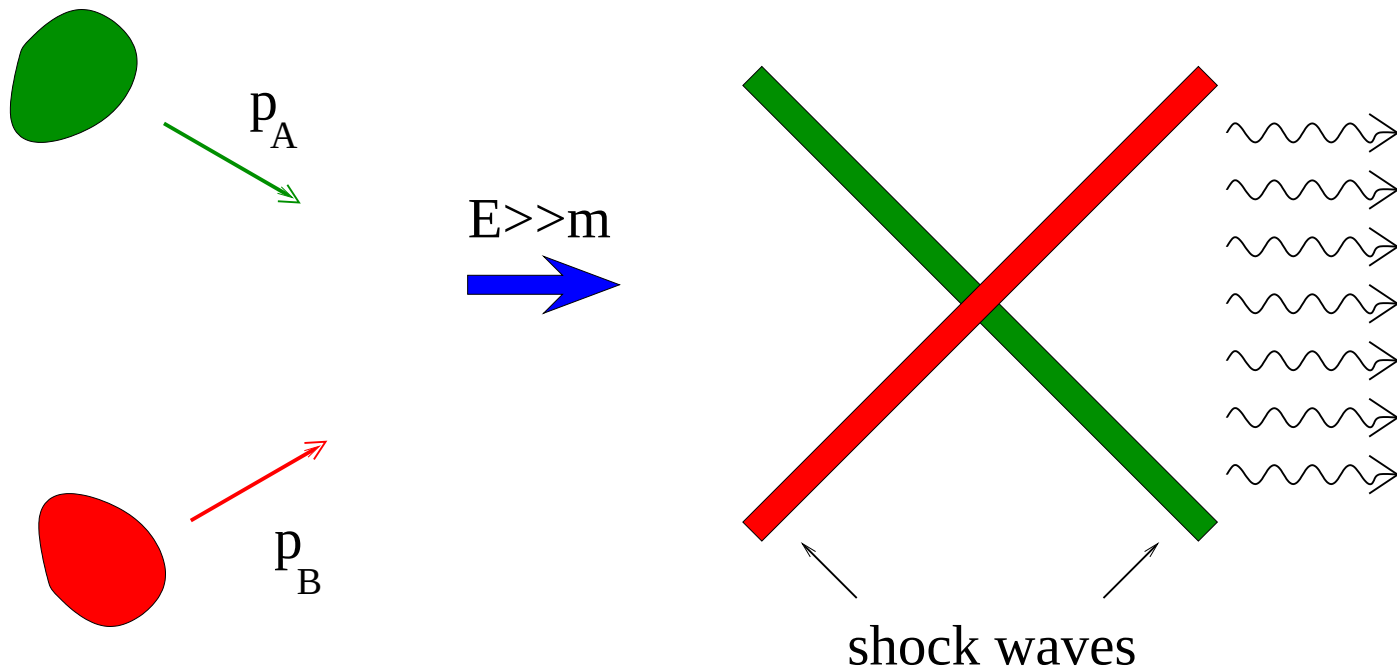
A typical hadron-hadron collision viewed from the c.m. frame has the form of scattering of two shock waves.

Regge limit: $E \gg$ everything else



High-energy scattering as a collision of shock waves

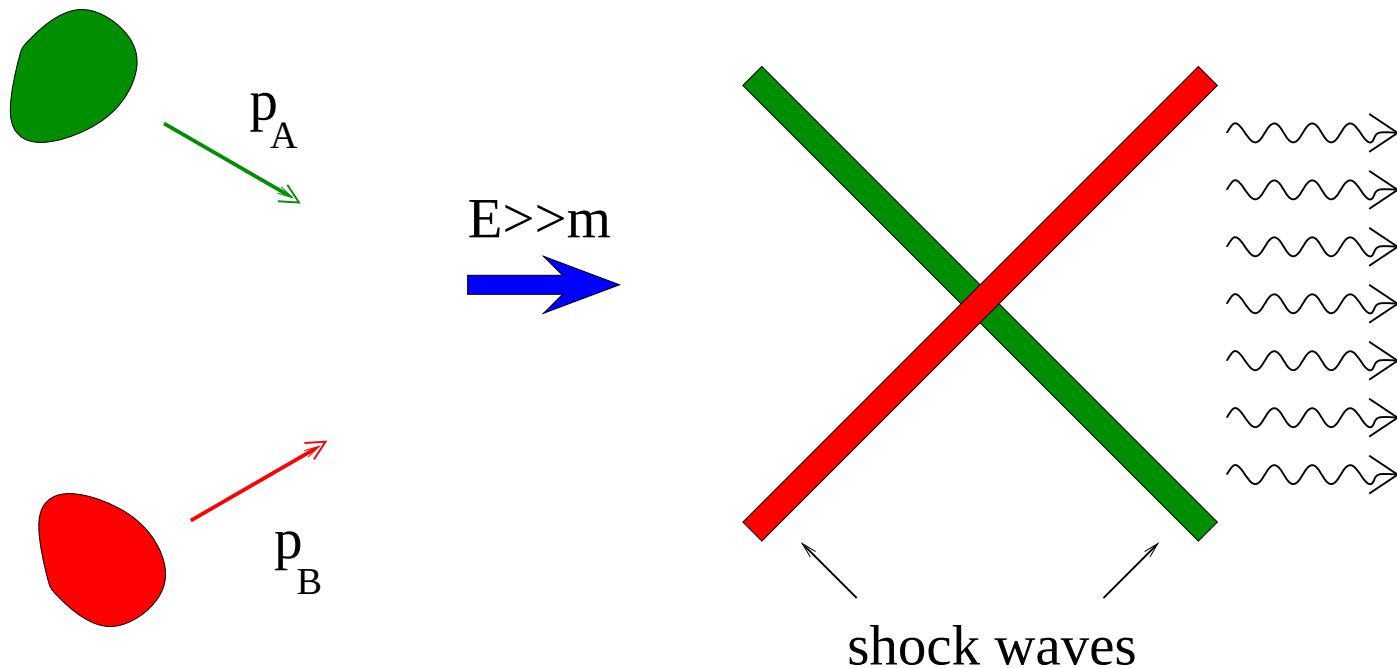
A typical hadron-hadron collision viewed from the c.m. frame has the form of scattering of two shock waves.



• **Big Q: Produced particles/fields $\Leftrightarrow S_{\text{eff}}$?**

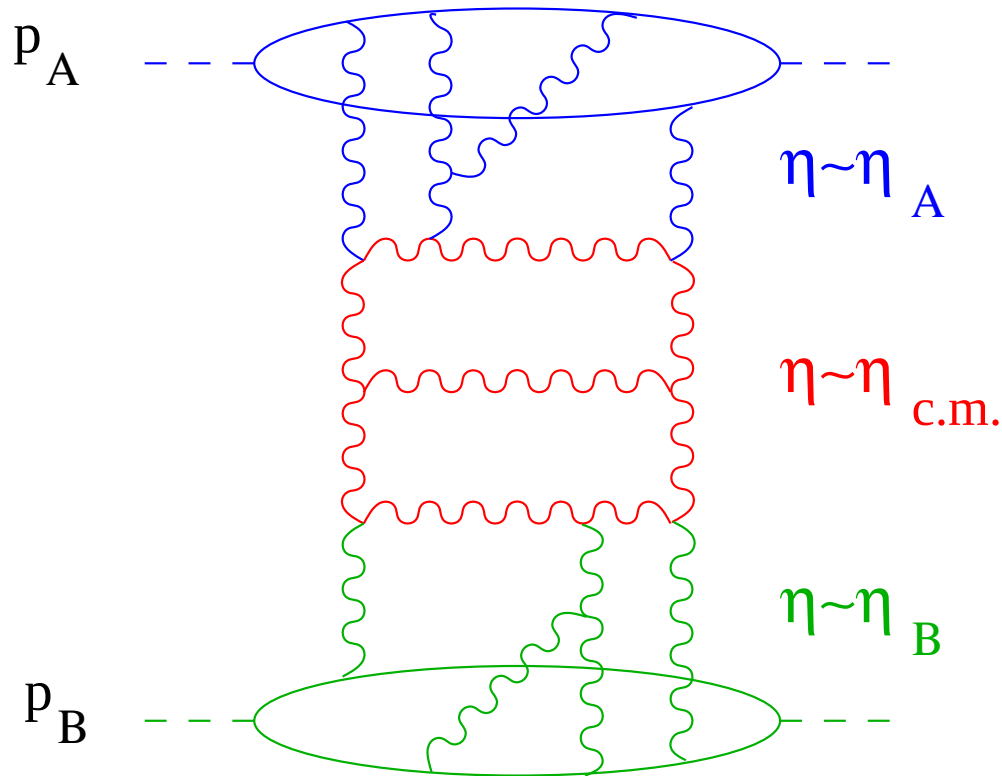
High-energy scattering as a collision of shock waves

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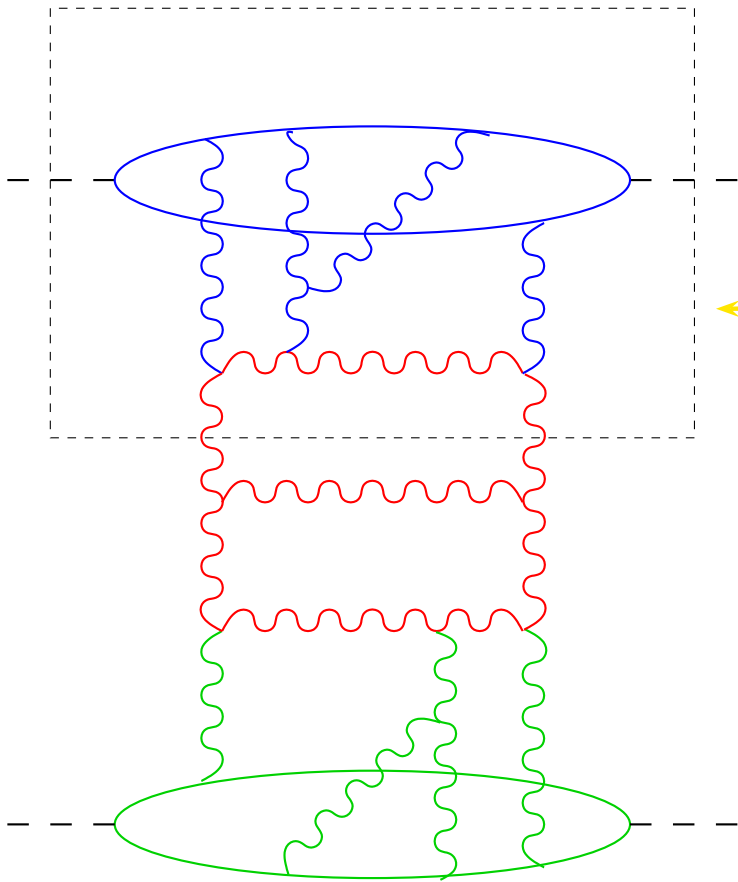
- Q # 0: What is a scattering of two QCD shock waves?
- Big Q: Produced particles/fields $\Leftrightarrow S_{\text{eff}}$?

Rapidity factorization



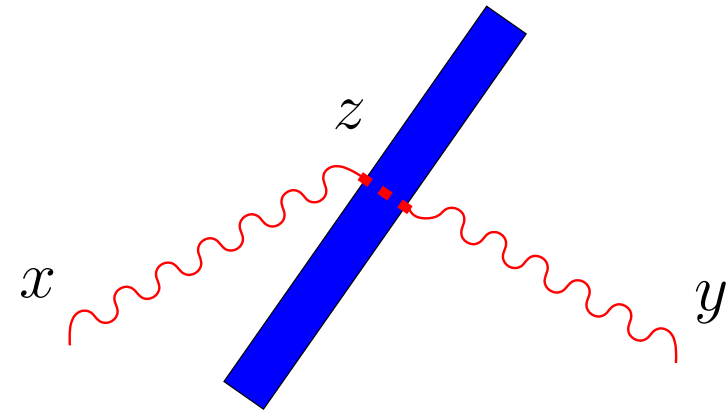
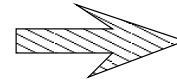
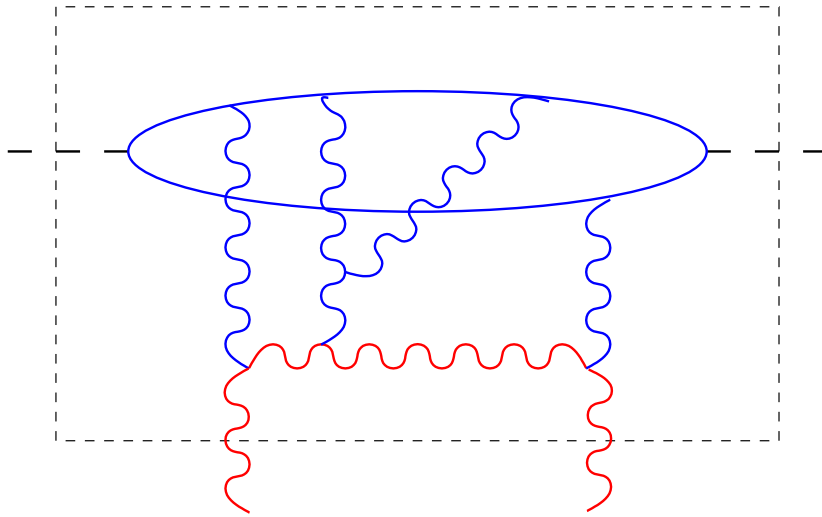
At first, we integrate over “red” gluons moving with rapidities in the central region $\eta \sim \eta_{c.m.}$. They interact with the “external” fields (to be integrated over later) with rapidities $\eta \sim \eta_A$ and $\eta \sim \eta_B$

Rapidity factorization



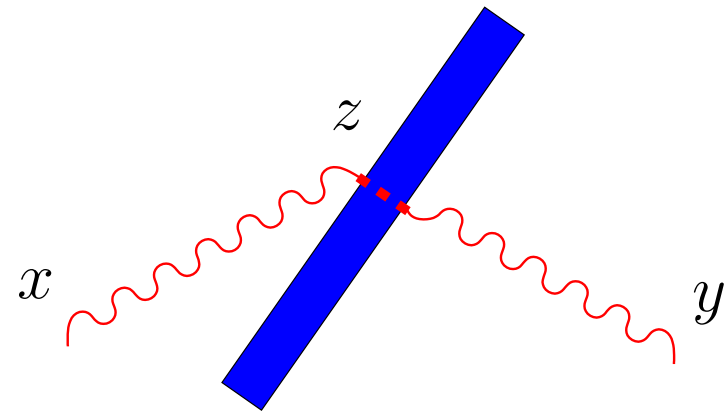
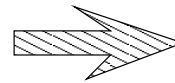
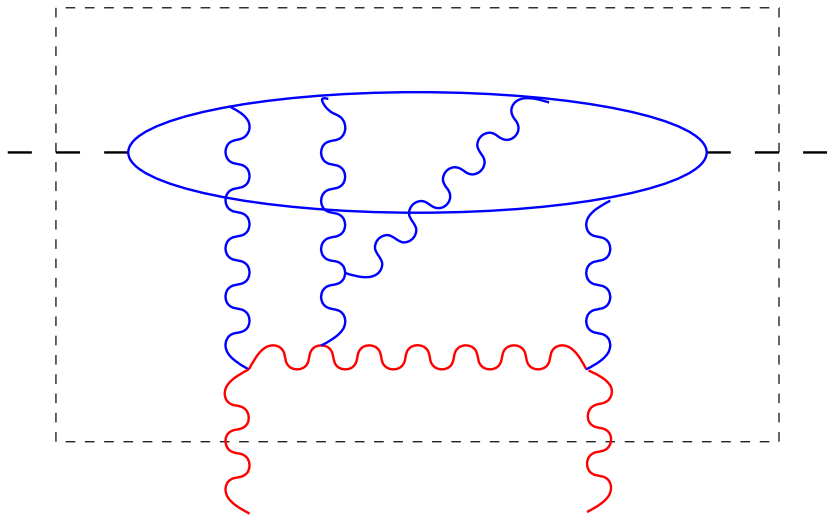
Consider the propagation of the *red* gluon in the background of *blue* gluons with greater rapidity

Fast-moving hadron $\Rightarrow$ QCD shock wave



Fast-moving (blue) fields shrink into a pancake $A_+ \sim \delta(x_-)$.

Fast-moving hadron $\Rightarrow$ QCD shock wave

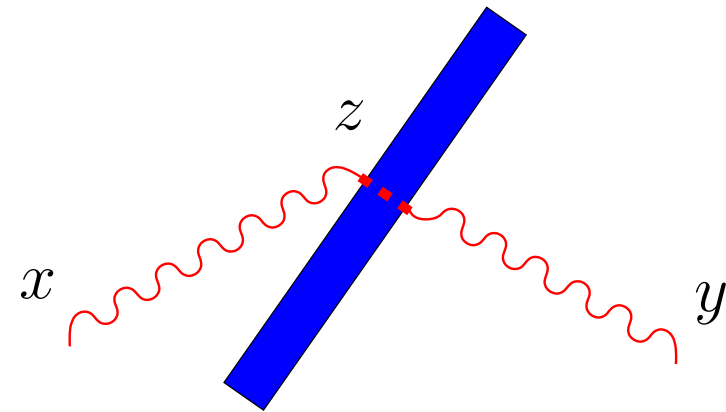
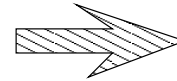
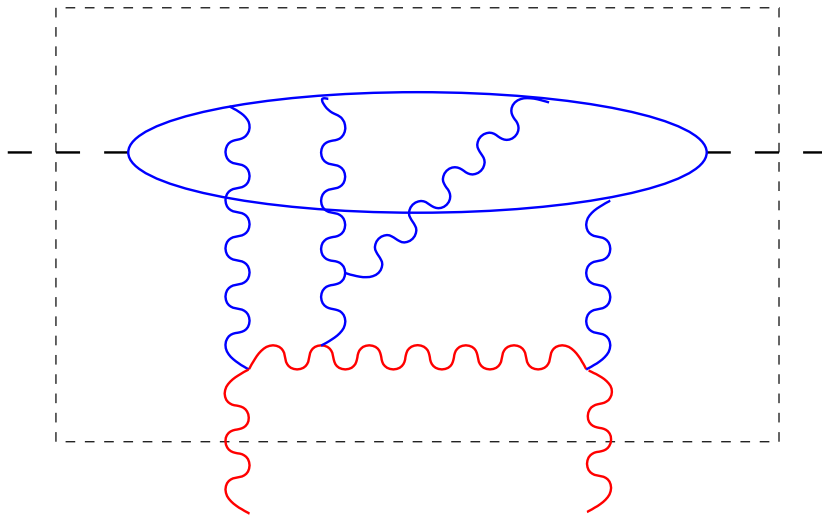


Fast-moving (blue) fields shrink into a pancake $A_+ \sim \delta(x_-)$.

Interaction with the shock wave is instantaneous

$\Rightarrow$ no time to deviate in transverse plane

Fast-moving hadron $\Rightarrow$ QCD shock wave



Fast-moving (blue) fields shrink into a pancake $A_+ \sim \delta(x_-)$.

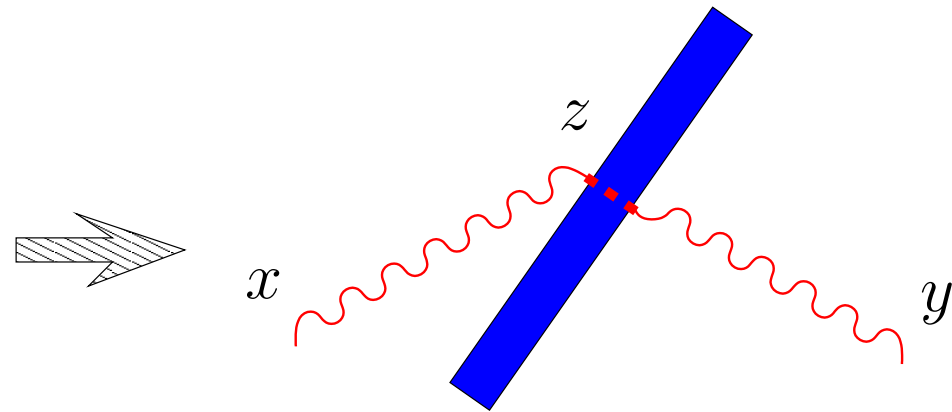
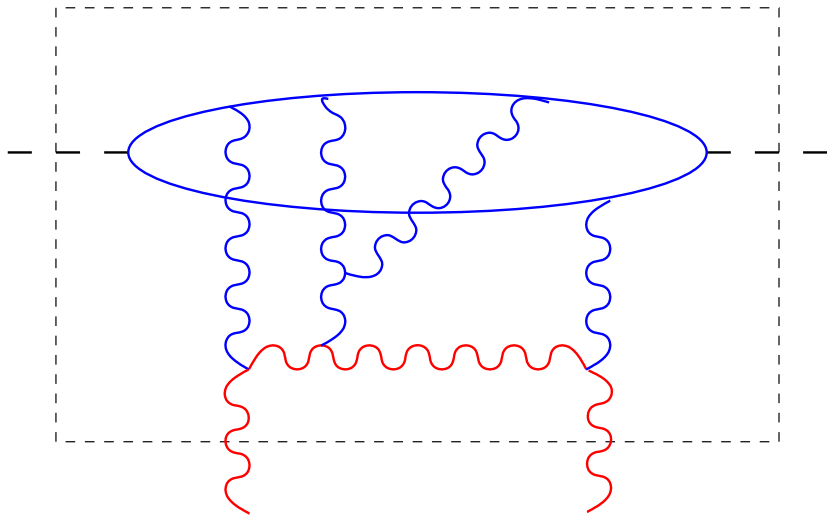
Interaction with the shock wave is instantaneous

$\Rightarrow$ no time to deviate in transverse plane

$\Rightarrow$ the interaction is described by the *Wilson line*

$$V_z = [\infty p_2 + z_\perp, -\infty p_2 + z_\perp], \quad [x, y] \equiv P e^{ig \int_0^1 du (x-y)^\mu A_\mu(ux + (1-u)y)}$$

Fast-moving hadron $\Rightarrow$ QCD shock wave



$$G(x, y) = \int dz \frac{1}{(x-z)^2} V(z_{\perp}) \delta(z_{-}) \frac{1}{(z-y)}$$

Fast-moving (blue) fields shrink into a pancake $A_{+} \sim \delta(x_{-})$

Interaction with the shock wave is instantaneous

$\Rightarrow$ no time to deviate in transverse plane

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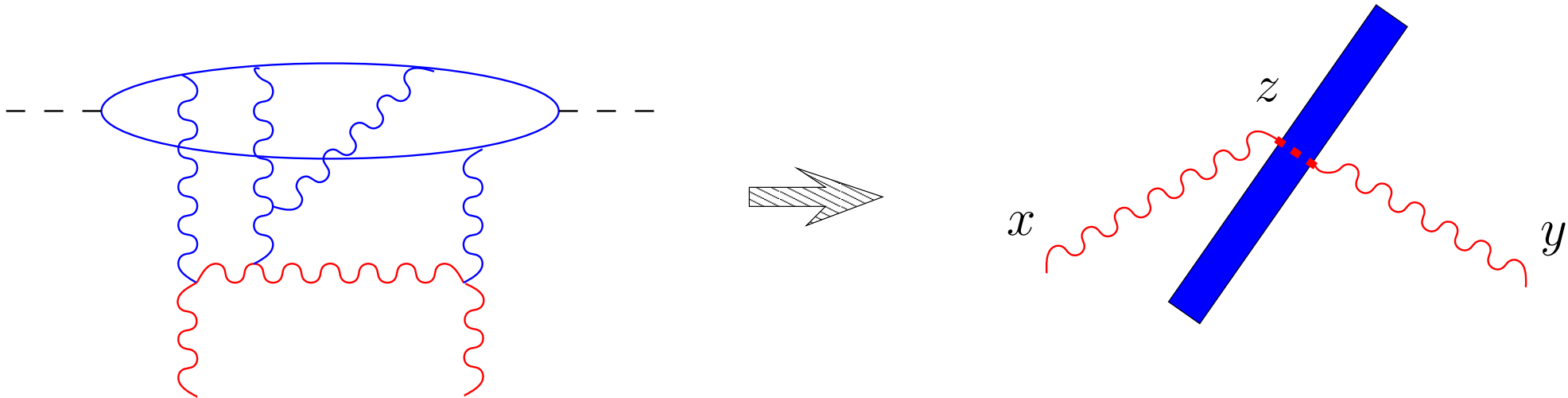
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Propagator in the shock-wave background = (free propagator)

$\times$ (instantaneous interaction with the shock wave $\sim V$) $\times$ (free propagator)

Covariant vs axial gauge

Covariant gauges: the shock wave is a pancake: $A_+ \sim \delta(x_-)$, $A_- = A_i = 0$.

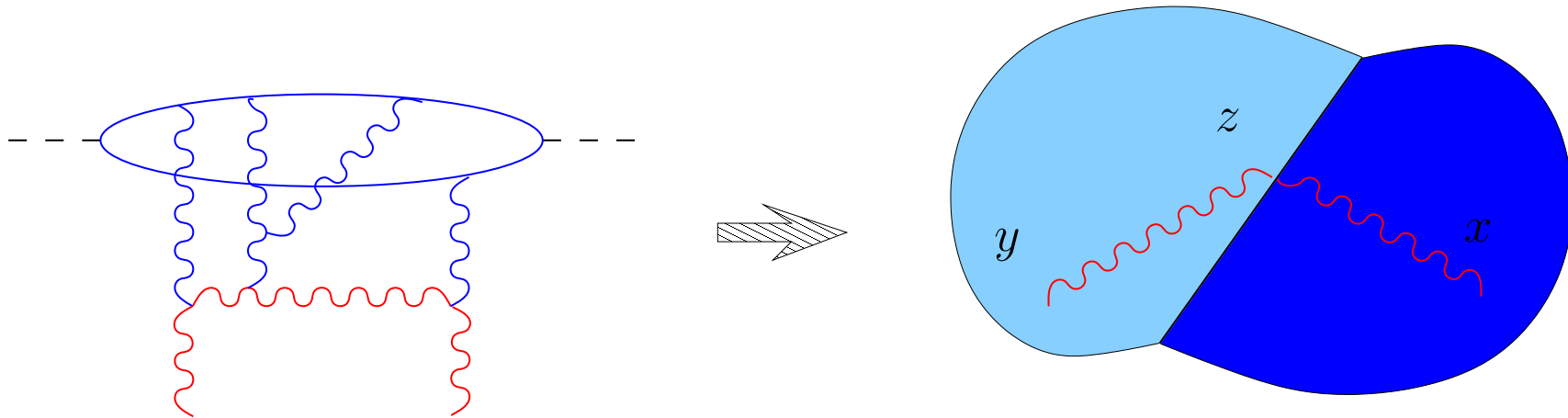


Covariant vs axial gauge

Covariant gauges: the shock wave is a pancake: $A_+ \sim \delta(x_-)$, $A_- = A_i = 0$.

Axial (temporal) gauges: the shock wave is a piece-wise pure gauge

$$A^i = \mathcal{V}_1^i(z_\perp)\theta(z_+) + \mathcal{V}_2^i(z_\perp)\theta(-z_+), \quad A_+ = A_- = 0, \quad \mathcal{V}_i \equiv V^\dagger \frac{i}{g} \partial_i V$$



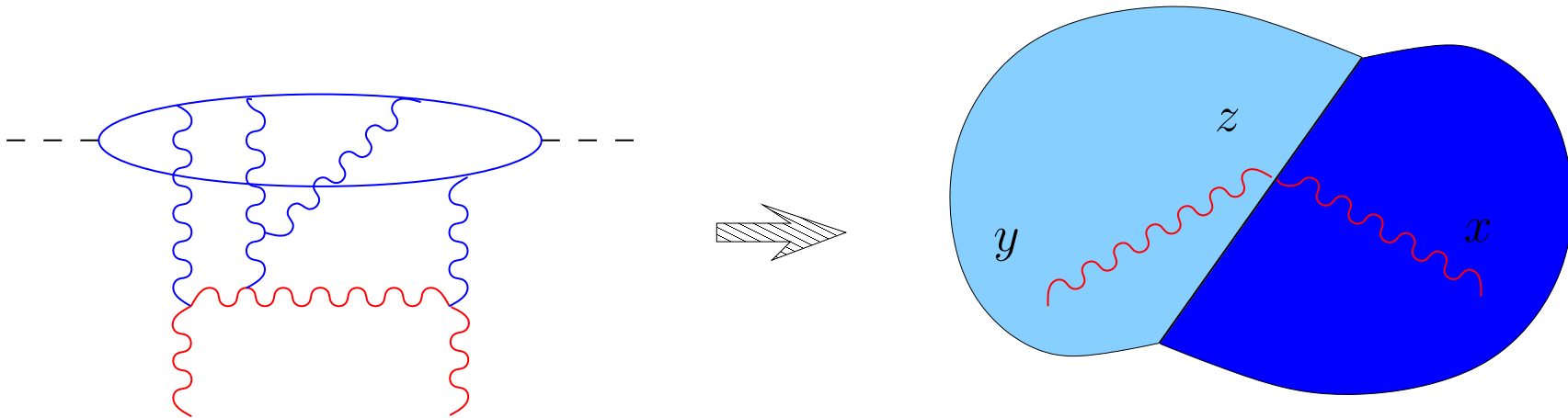
$$G(x, y) = \int dz V_1^\dagger(x_\perp) \frac{1}{(x-z)^2} V_1(z_\perp) \delta(z_-) V_2^\dagger(z_\perp) \frac{1}{(z-y)^2} V_2(y_\perp)$$

Covariant vs axial gauge

Covariant gauges: the shock wave is a pancake: $A_+ \sim \delta(x_-)$, $A_- = A_i = 0$.

Axial (temporal) gauges: the shock wave is a piece-wise pure gauge

$$A^i = \mathcal{V}_1^i(z_\perp)\theta(z_+) + \mathcal{V}_2^i(z_\perp)\theta(-z_+), \quad A_+ = A_- = 0, \quad \mathcal{V}_i \equiv V^\dagger \frac{i}{g} \partial_i V$$



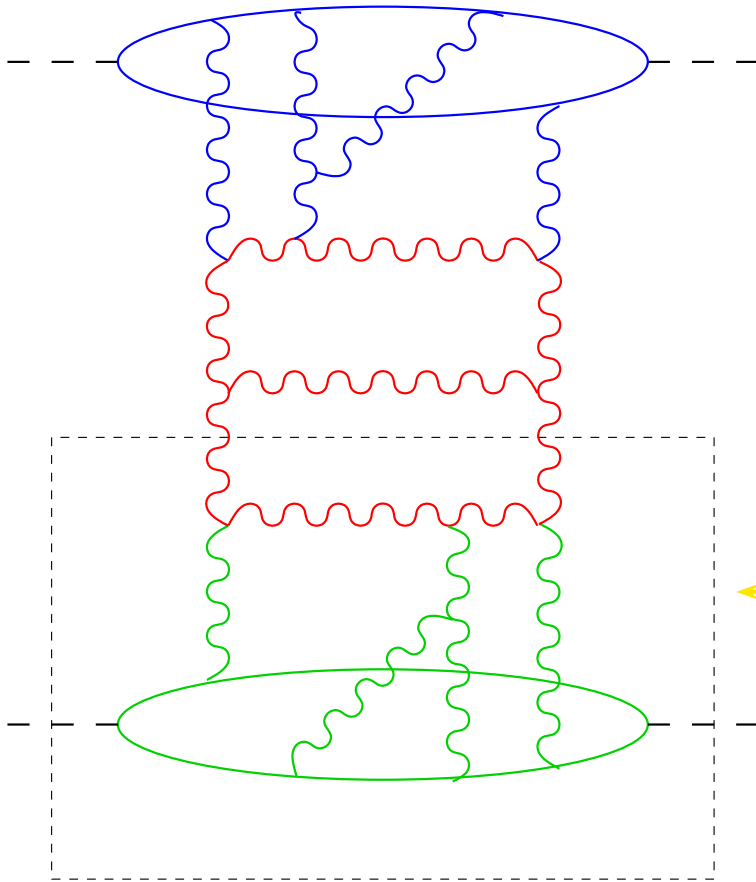
$$G(x, y) = \int dz V_1^\dagger(x_\perp) \frac{1}{(x-z)^2} V_1(z_\perp) \delta(z_-) V_2^\dagger(z_\perp) \frac{1}{(z-y)^2} V_2(y_\perp)$$

The source for such a field is

$$\exp\left\{i \int d^2 z_\perp \{\mathcal{V}_1^i(z_\perp) - \mathcal{V}_2^i(z_\perp)\} (0, F_{-i}, 0)_z\right\}$$

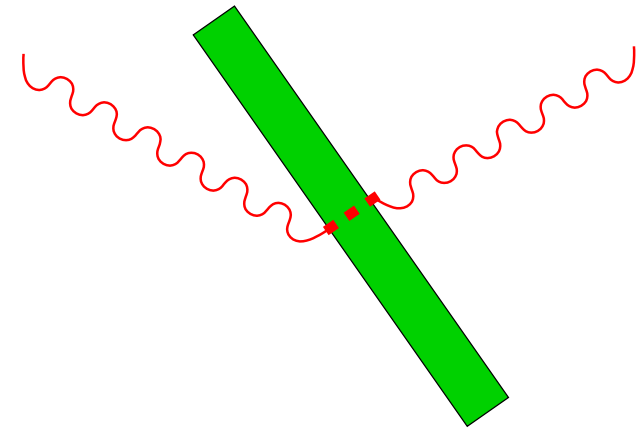
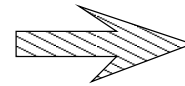
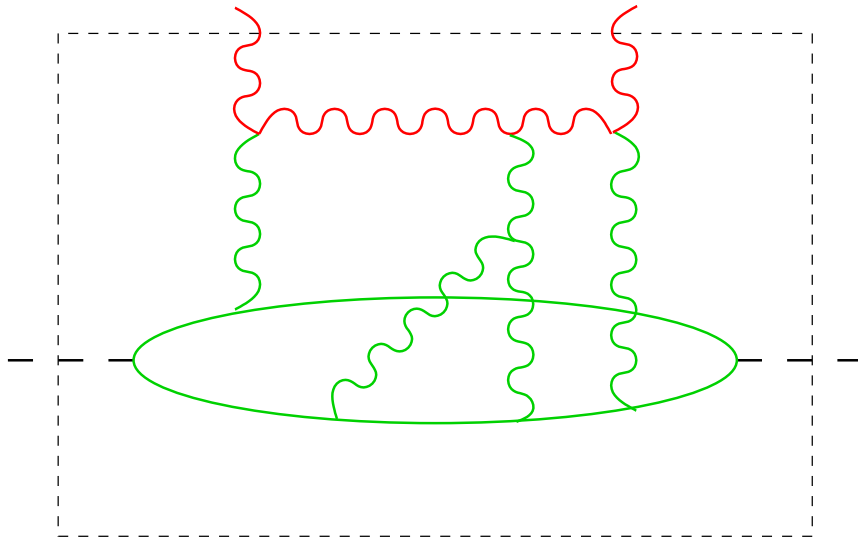
$$(0, F_{-i}, 0)_z \equiv \int du [z_\perp, up_1 + z_\perp] F_{-i}(up_1 + z_\perp) [up_1 + z_\perp, z_\perp]$$

Second shock wave



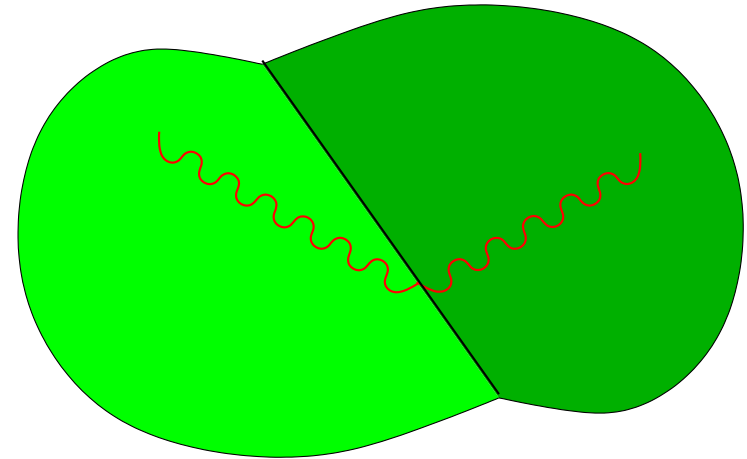
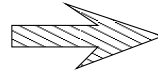
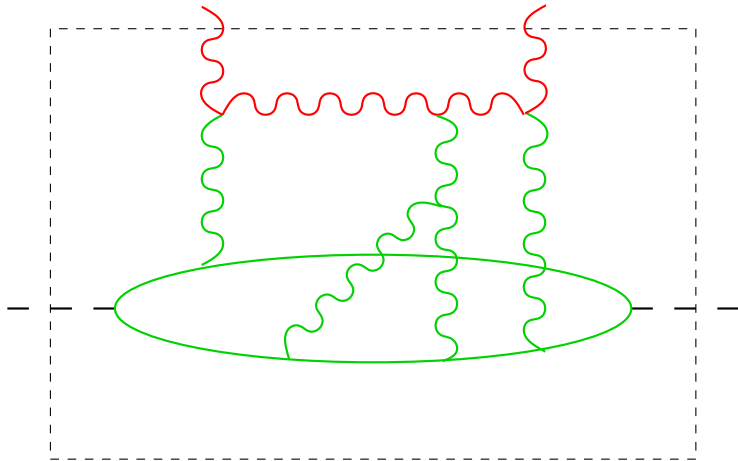
Consider now the propagation of the **red** gluon in the background of **green** gluons with greater rapidity

Covariant gauges:



Axial gauges:

$$\mathcal{U}_i \equiv U^\dagger \frac{i}{g} \partial_i U$$



The source is

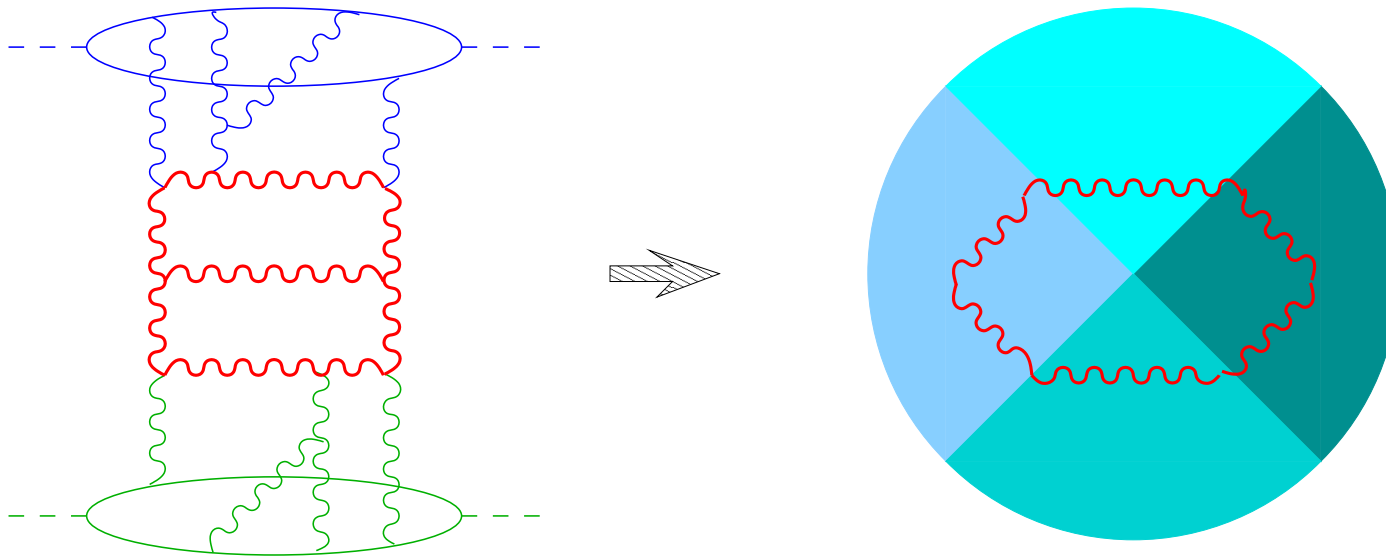
$$\exp\left\{i \int d^2 z_\perp (\mathcal{U}_1^i - \mathcal{U}_2^i)(z_\perp) (0, F_{+i}, 0)_z\right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} [0, F_{+i}, 0] &\equiv \int du [z_\perp, up_2 + z_\perp] F_{+i}(up_2 + z_\perp) [up_2 + z_\perp, z_\perp] \\ &= [0, \infty p_2]_z i \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} [\infty p_2, 0]_z + [0, -\infty p_2]_z i \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} [-\infty p_2, 0]_z \end{aligned}$$

Scattering of two shock waves

Gluons in the central region of rapidity move in the “external” fields of two shock waves

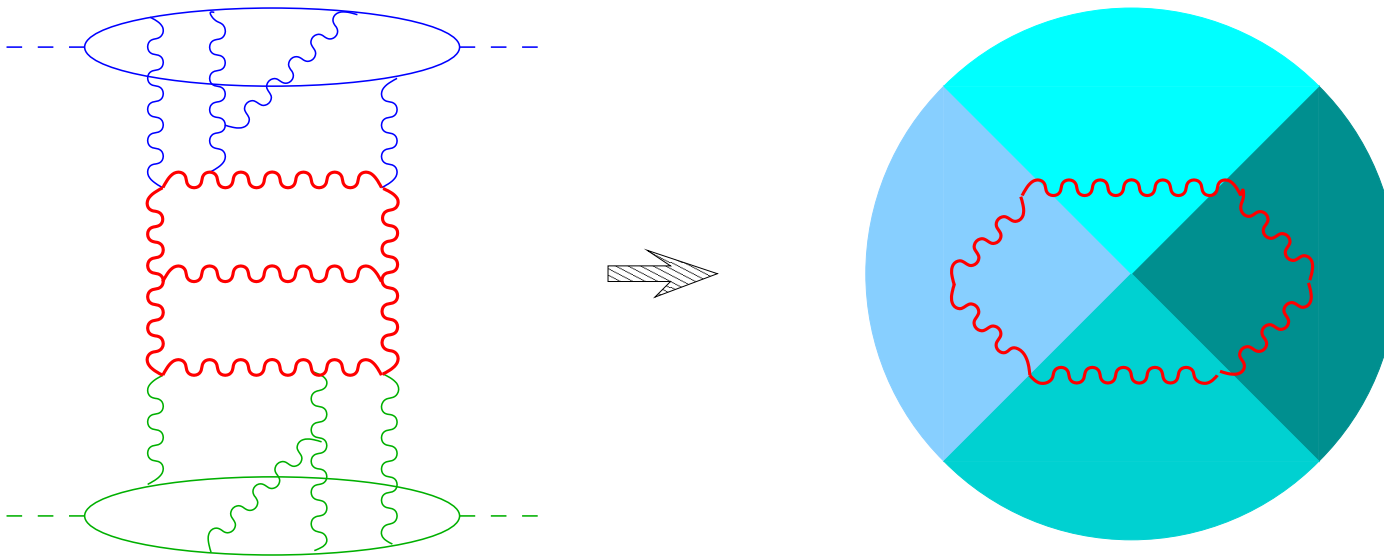
In the axial gauges



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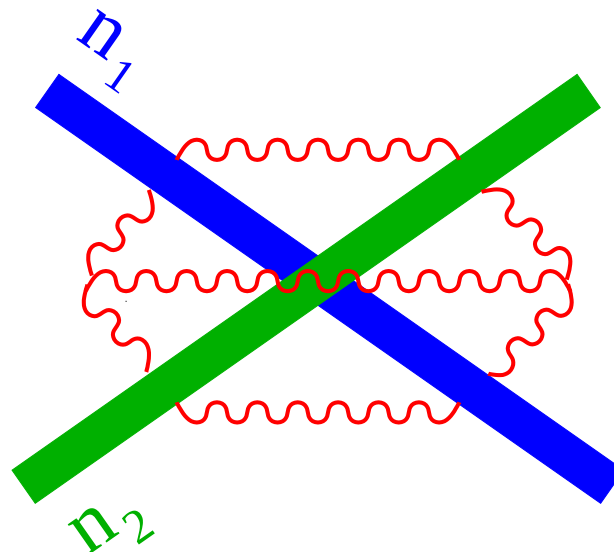
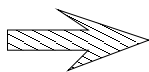
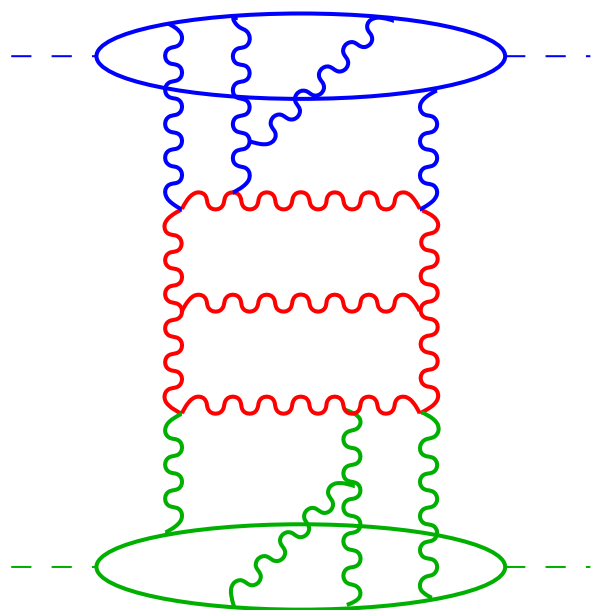


Integration over A fields gives the effective action

$$e^{iS_{\text{eff}}(\mathcal{U}_i, \mathcal{V}_i, \Delta\eta)} = \int D\mathcal{A} e^{iS_{\text{QCD}}(\mathcal{A}) + i \int d^2 z_{\perp} \{ (\mathcal{V}_1^i - \mathcal{V}_2^i)_z (0, F_{-i}, 0)_z + (\mathcal{U}_1^i - \mathcal{U}_2^i)_z [0, F_{+i}, 0]_z \}}$$

Rapidity $\Leftrightarrow$ slope of the Wilson line

$$\Delta\eta = \eta_1 - \eta_2$$



$$e^{iS_{\text{eff}}(U_i, V_i, \Delta\eta)} = \int D\mathbf{A} e^{iS_{\text{QCD}}(\mathbf{A}) + i \int d^2 z_{\perp} \{ (\mathcal{V}_1^i - \mathcal{V}_2^i)_z (0, F_{-i}, 0)_z + (\mathcal{U}_1^i - \mathcal{U}_2^i)_z [0, F_{+i}, 0]_z \}}$$

$$(0, F_{-i}, 0)_z = (0, \infty n_1)_z i \partial_i (\infty n_1, 0)_z + (0, -\infty n_1)_z i \partial_i (-\infty n_1, 0)_z,$$

$$[0, F_{-i}, 0]_z = [0, \infty n_2]_z i \partial_i [\infty n_2, 0]_z + [0, -\infty n_2]_z i \partial_i [-\infty n_2, 0]_z$$

S_{eff} gives the small- x evolution of the Wilson-line operators

BASIC IDEA: $\alpha_s = \alpha_s(Q_s) \ll 1 \Rightarrow$ SEMICLASSICS IS RELEVANT

McLerran & Venugopalan

Classical YM equation

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$$D^\mu F_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial}{\partial A_\mu} (\text{sources})$$

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Two methods of the solution on the market:

- Numerical simulations.
- Perturbative expansion in strength of one of the shock waves

Venugopalan & Krasnitz

McLerran et al, Kovchegov & Mueller

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- Perturbative expansion in strength of one of the shock waves

McLerran et al, Kovchegov & Mueller

$\Leftrightarrow$ expansion in powers of commutators $[U, V]$ (calculated up to $[U, V]^2$)

The expansion in commutators

If $[U, V] = 0$

$$\bar{A}_+ = \bar{A}_- = 0, \quad \bar{A}^i = \mathcal{U}_1^i \theta(x_+) + \mathcal{U}_2^i \theta(-x_+) + \mathcal{V}_1^i \theta(x_-) + \mathcal{V}_2^i \theta(-x_-)$$

= piece-wise pure gauge .

QED-like: no interaction $\Rightarrow$ no particle production

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QED-like: no interaction $\Rightarrow$ no particle production

If $[U, V] \neq 0$ one can take this ansatz

$$\bar{A}_+^{(0)} = \bar{A}_-^{(0)} = 0, \quad \bar{A}^{i(0)} = \mathcal{U}_1^i \theta(x_+) + \mathcal{U}_2^i \theta(-x_+) + \mathcal{V}_1^i \theta(x_-) + \mathcal{V}_2^i \theta(-x_-)$$

as a trial configuration for the classical solution and improve it order by order in $[U, V]$ by calculating Feynman diagrams in the background of the trial configuration.

The expansion in commutators

Linear term (source) for the trial configuration

$$T_\mu = -D_k^{(0)}([\mathcal{U}_{\mu\perp}^1, \mathcal{V}_1^k] - \mu \leftrightarrow k)\theta(z_+)\theta(z_-) + 3 \text{ similar terms}$$

$$\bar{A}_\mu = \mathcal{U}_{1\mu}^\perp \theta(x_+) + \mathcal{U}_{2\mu}^\perp \theta(-x_+) + \mathcal{V}_{1\mu}^\perp \theta(x_-) + \mathcal{V}_{2\mu}^\perp \theta(-x_-) + Q_\mu$$

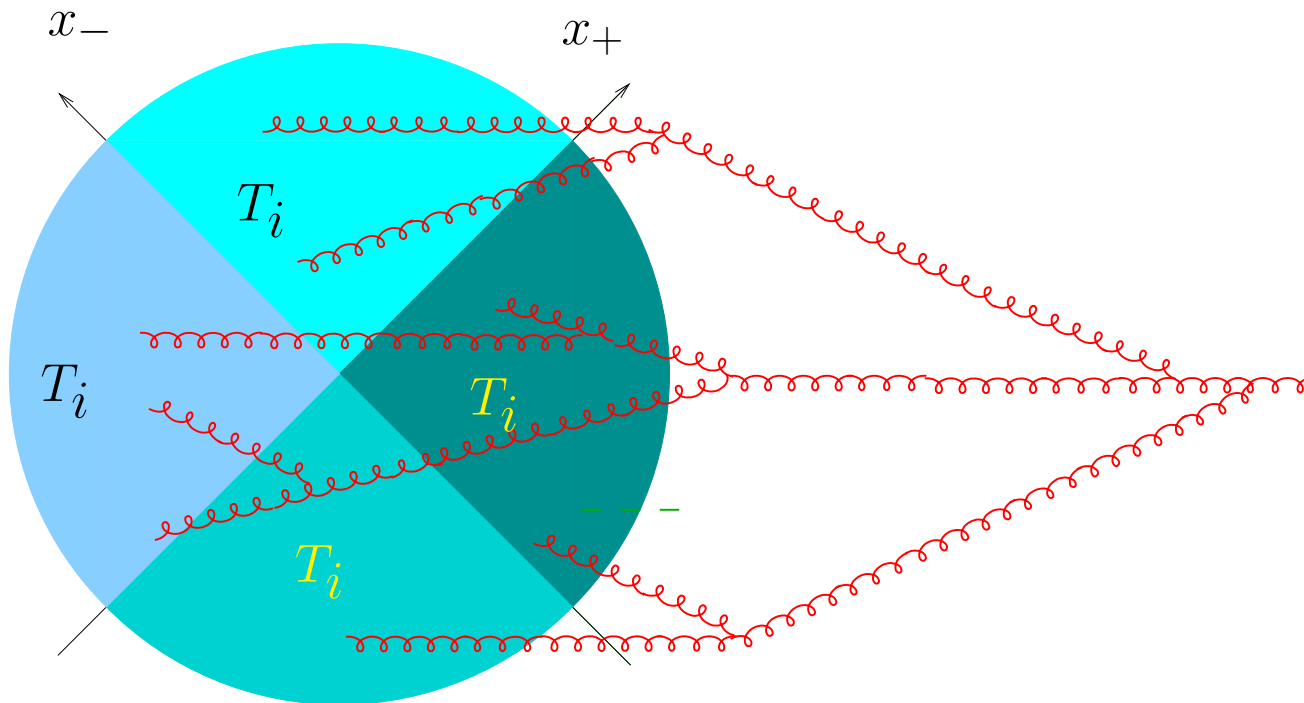
The expansion in commutators

Linear term (source) for the trial configuration

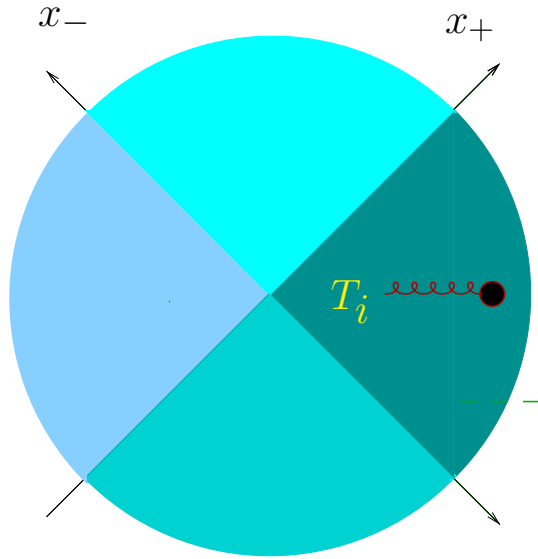
$$T_\mu = -D_k^{(0)}([\mathcal{U}_{\mu\perp}^1, \mathcal{V}_1^k] - \mu \leftrightarrow k)\theta(z_+)\theta(z_-) + 3 \text{ similar terms}$$

$$\bar{A}_\mu = \mathcal{U}_{1\mu}^\perp \theta(x_+) + \mathcal{U}_{2\mu}^\perp \theta(-x_+) + \mathcal{V}_{1\mu}^\perp \theta(x_-) + \mathcal{V}_{2\mu}^\perp \theta(-x_-) + Q_\mu$$

Solve the YM eqn for $Q_\mu(x)$ by iterations $\Leftrightarrow$ calculate Feynman diagrams in the external field $\bar{A}^{(0)}$



1/2-order approximation: a piece-wise pure gauge field



$$\bar{A}_+ = \bar{A}_- = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A}^i = & \mathcal{W}_F^i \theta(x_+) \theta(x_-) + \mathcal{W}_L^i \theta(-x_+) \theta(x_-) \\ & + \mathcal{W}_R^i \theta(x_+) \theta(-x_-) + \mathcal{W}_B^i \theta(-x_+) \theta(-x_-) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{W}_F^i(x_\perp) = \mathcal{U}_1^i + \mathcal{V}_1^i + E_F^i = \text{pure gauge}$$

$$\mathcal{W}_L^i(x_\perp) = \mathcal{U}_2^i + \mathcal{V}_1^i + E_L^i = \dots$$

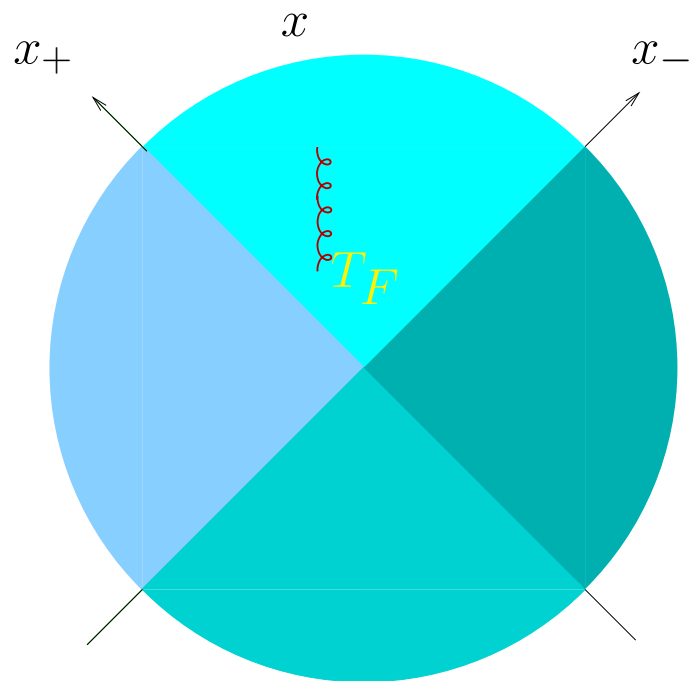
$$\mathcal{W}_R^i(x_\perp) = \mathcal{U}_1^i + \mathcal{V}_2^i + E_R^i = \dots$$

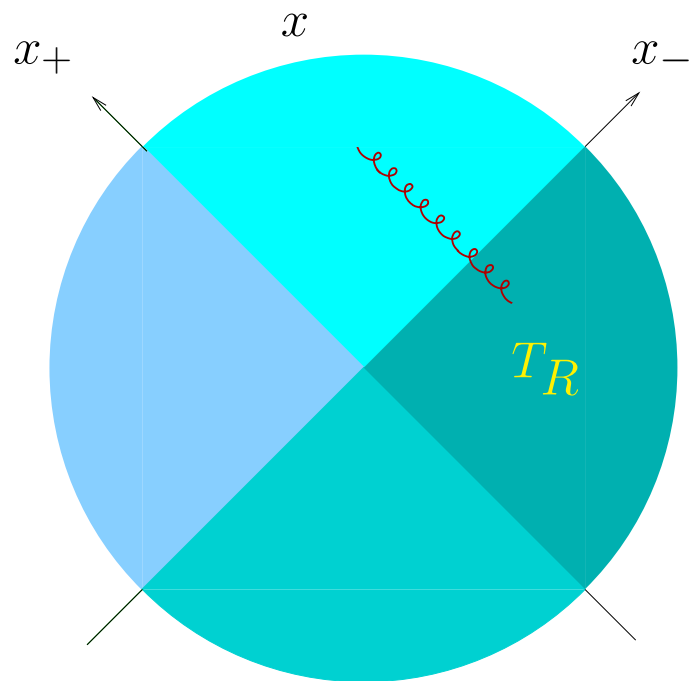
$$\mathcal{W}_B^i(x_\perp) = \mathcal{U}_2^i + \mathcal{V}_2^i + E_B^i = \dots$$

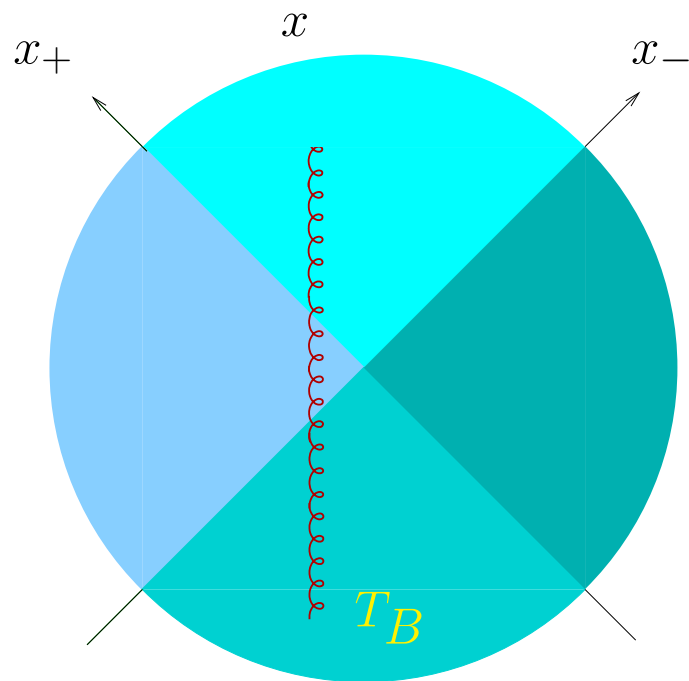
In the first order

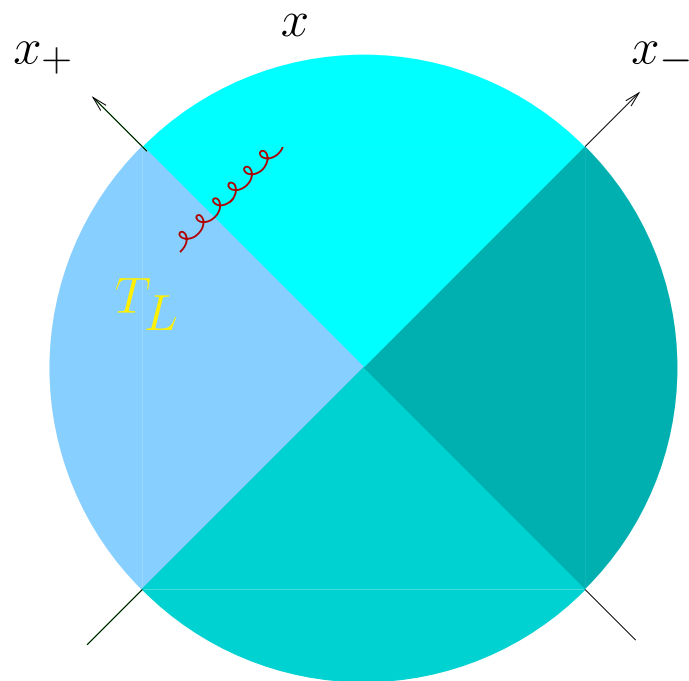
$$E_i^a(x_\perp) = ig \int d^2 z (U_x U_z^\dagger + V_x V_z^\dagger - 1)^{ab} \frac{(x-z)_\perp^k}{2\pi^2 (x-z)_\perp^2} ([\mathcal{U}_i, \mathcal{V}_k]_z - i \leftrightarrow k)^b$$

$$\text{bF gauge } D^\mu Q_\mu = 0 \rightarrow (i\partial_i + g[\mathcal{U}_i + \mathcal{V}_i, \cdot]) E^i = 0$$









$$Q_{(1)\mu}^{\mathcal{W}_F}(k) \equiv W_F Q_{(1)\mu}^{\mathcal{W}_F} W_F^\dagger = \frac{1}{k^2} \left\{ 2 \frac{p_{1\mu}}{k_-} [\mathcal{V}_{1i} - \mathcal{V}_{2i}, E_R^i - E_B^i] + 2 \frac{p_{2\mu}}{k_+} [\mathcal{U}_{1i} - \mathcal{U}_{2i}, E_L^i - E_B^i] + 2 E_\mu^\perp \right\}$$

$$E^i \equiv E_F^i - E_L^i - E_R^i + E_B^i = \mathcal{W}_F^i - \mathcal{W}_L^i - \mathcal{W}_R^i + \mathcal{W}_B^i$$

Check: bF gauge condition $(i\partial^\mu + g[\mathcal{W}_F^\mu, \cdot])Q_\mu = 0$

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$$E^i \equiv E_F^i - E_L^i - E_R^i + E_B^i = \mathcal{W}_F^i - \mathcal{W}_L^i - \mathcal{W}_R^i + \mathcal{W}_B^i$$

Check: bF gauge condition $(i\partial^\mu + g[\mathcal{W}_F^\mu, \cdot])Q_\mu = 0$

Lipatov vertex (effective vertex of gluon emission):

$$L_\mu^{(1)}(k) = k^2 Q_{(1)\mu}^{\mathcal{W}_F}(k) \Big|_{k^2=0} = 2E_\perp^\mu + 2 \frac{p_1^\mu}{k_-} [\mathcal{V}_{1i} - \mathcal{V}_{2i}, E_R^i - E_2^i] + 2 \frac{p_2^\mu}{k_+} [\mathcal{U}_{1i} - \mathcal{U}_{2i}, E_L^i - E_2^i]$$

Effective action = product of two Lipatov vertices.

In the $[U, V]^2$ order

$$L_\mu^a L^{a\mu} = 4 E_a^i E^{ai}$$

Shortcut to the effective action

The trial configuration:

$$A_- = A_+ = 0 \text{ and}$$

$$A_i = \theta(x_+)\theta(x_-)\mathcal{W}_{Fi} + \theta(x_+)\theta(-x_+)\mathcal{W}_{Ri} \\ + \theta(-x_+)\theta(x_-)\mathcal{W}_{Li} + \theta(-x_+)\theta(-x_-)\mathcal{W}_{Bi}$$

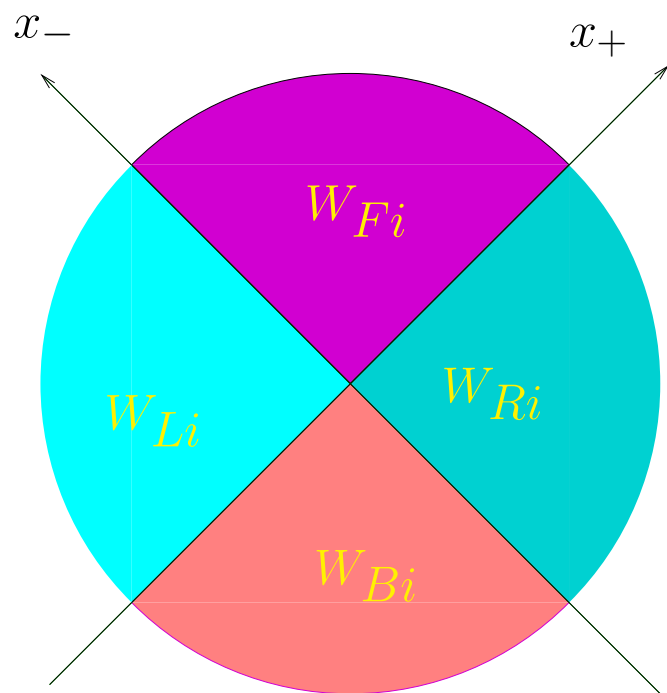
In each of the four quadrants of the space the field is a pure gauge

$$\mathcal{W}_{Fi} = \mathcal{U}_{1i} + \mathcal{V}_{1i} + E_{Fi}$$

$$\mathcal{W}_{Li} = \mathcal{U}_{2i} + \mathcal{V}_{1i} + E_{Li}$$

$$\mathcal{W}_{Ri} = \mathcal{U}_{1i} + \mathcal{V}_{2i} + E_{Ri}$$

$$\mathcal{W}_{Bi} = \mathcal{U}_{2i} + \mathcal{V}_{2i} + E_{Fi}$$



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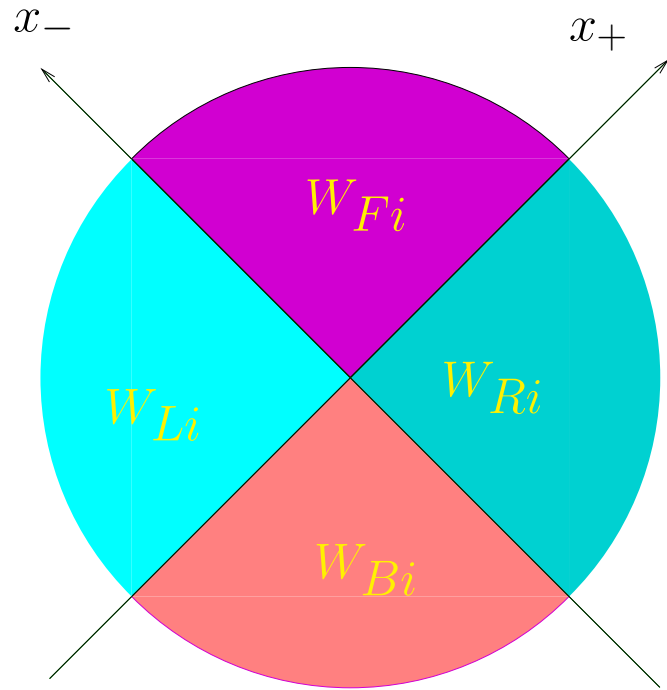
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$$\mathcal{W}_{Li} = \mathcal{U}_{2i} + \mathcal{V}_{1i} + E_{Li}$$

$$\mathcal{W}_{Ri} = \mathcal{U}_{1i} + \mathcal{V}_{2i} + E_{Ri}$$

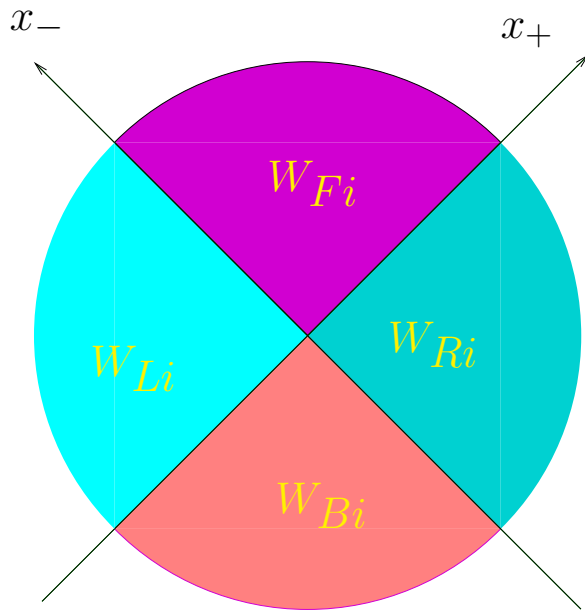
$$\mathcal{W}_{Bi} = \mathcal{U}_{2i} + \mathcal{V}_{2i} + E_{Fi}$$



$$T_i = 2\delta(x_+)\delta(x_-)E_i \Rightarrow$$

$$S_{\text{eff}} = \int dz dz' T_i^a(z) T^{ai}(z') \simeq \alpha_s \Delta \eta \int d^2 z_{\perp} E_i^a(z_{\perp}) E^{ai}(z_{\perp})$$

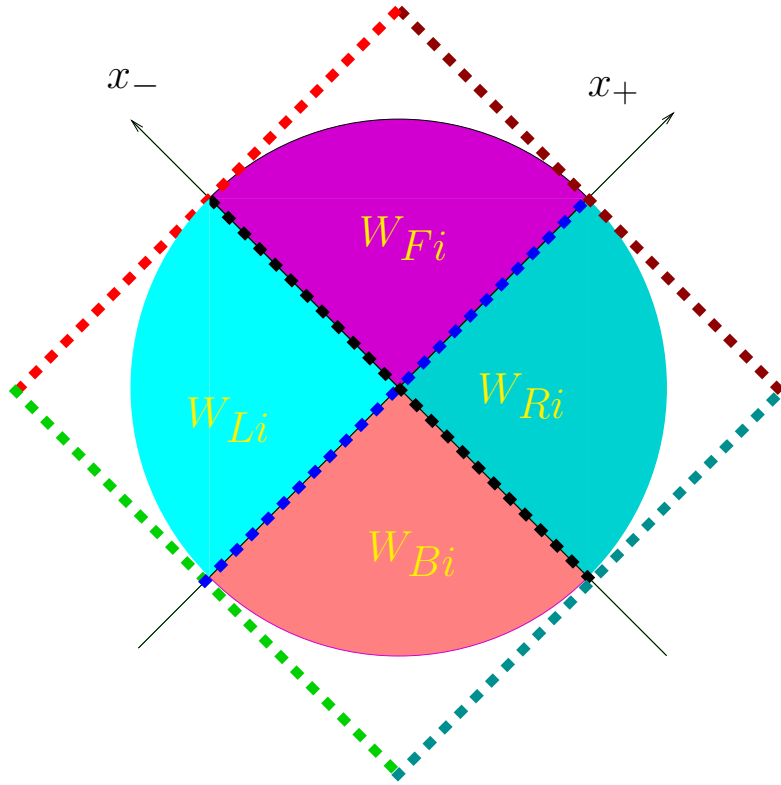
Gauge-invariant form of the effective action



$$S_{\text{eff}}(V_1, V_2, U_1, U_2; \Delta\eta) = (\mathcal{V}_1 - \mathcal{V}_2)^{ai} (\mathcal{U}_1 - \mathcal{U}_2)_i^a + \frac{\alpha_s \Delta\eta}{4} L_i^a L^{ai}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L_i^a &= 2(\mathcal{W}_F - \mathcal{W}_L - \mathcal{W}_R + \mathcal{W}_B)_i^a \\ &= 2(E_F - E_L - E_R + E_B)_i^a \end{aligned}$$

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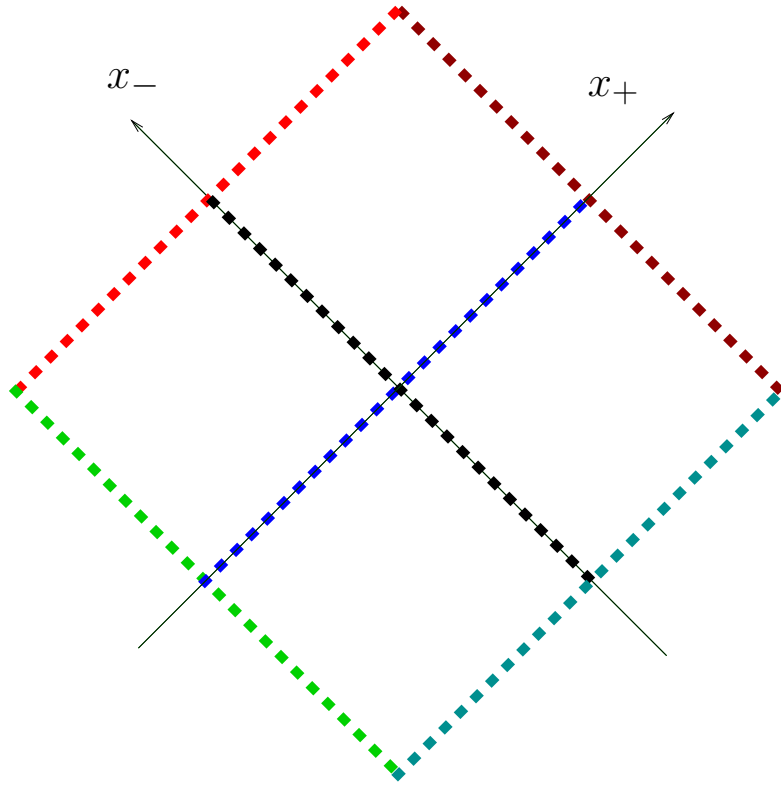
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Gauge invariant representation (SMITH):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{4} L^{ai} L_i^a &= \text{tr} [\infty p_1, F_{-i}, -\infty p_1]_{\infty p_2} [\infty p_2, F_{+i}, -\infty p_2]_{\infty p_1} \\ &\quad \times [\infty p_1, -\infty p_1]_{-\infty p_2} [-\infty p_2, \infty p_2]_{-\infty p_1} + \text{cyclic perm.} \end{aligned}$$

$$[\infty p_1, F_{-i}, -\infty p_1] \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} du [\infty p_1, up_1] F_{-i}(up_1) [up_1, -\infty p_1]$$

Gauge-invariant form of the effective action



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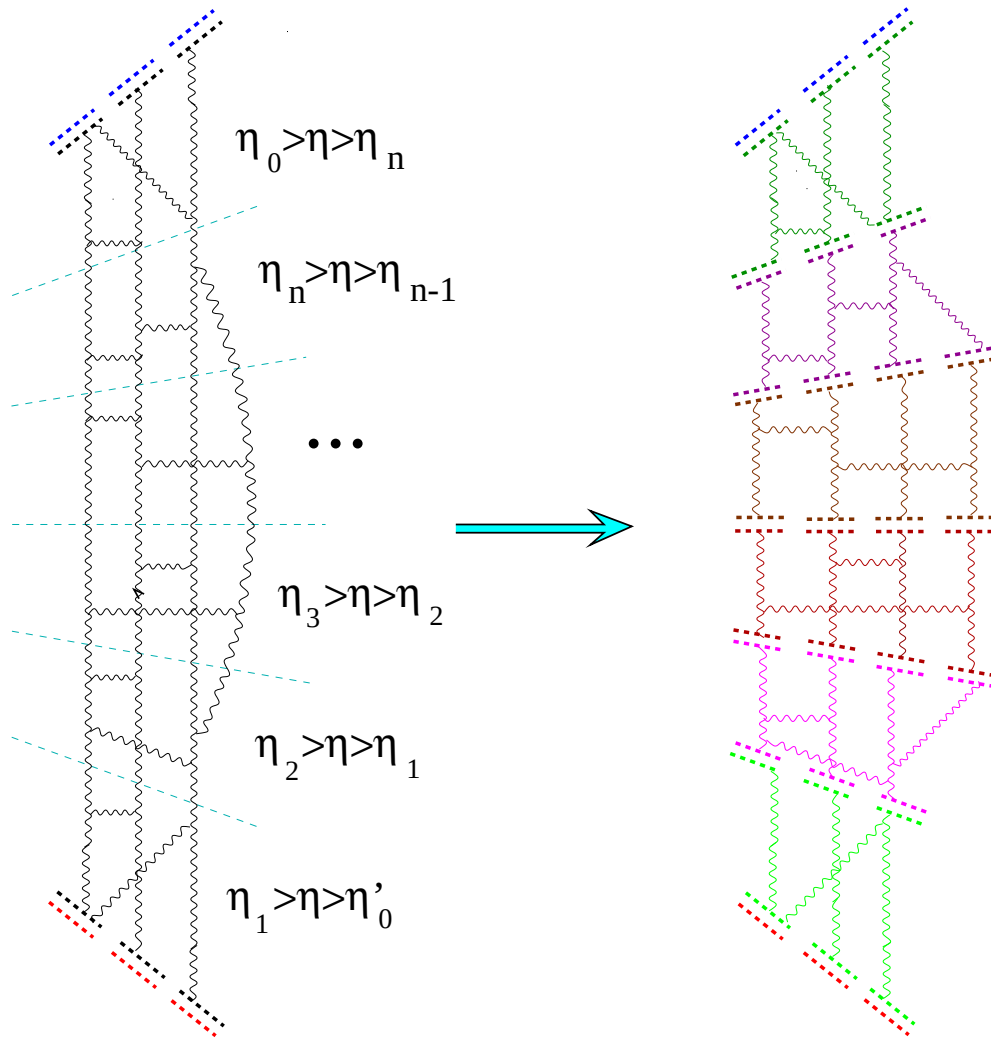
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$$[\infty p_1, F_{-i}, -\infty p_1] \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} du [\infty p_1, up_1] F_{-i}(up_1) [up_1, -\infty p_1]$$

Functional integral over the Wilson-line variables



$$\begin{aligned}
 & e^{(\mathcal{V}_1^{\eta n} - \mathcal{V}_2^{\eta n})_i^a (\mathcal{U}_1^{\eta n} - \mathcal{U}_2^{\eta n})^{ai}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \int D\tilde{U}_1^{\eta n} D\tilde{U}_2^{\eta n} D\tilde{V}_1^{\eta n} D\tilde{V}_2^{\eta n} \\
 & \exp \left\{ (\mathcal{V}_1^{\eta n} - \mathcal{V}_2^{\eta n})_i^a (\tilde{\mathcal{U}}_1^{\eta n} - \tilde{\mathcal{U}}_2^{\eta n}) \right. \\
 & \quad - (\tilde{\mathcal{U}}_1^{\eta n} - \tilde{\mathcal{U}}_2^{\eta n})^{ai} (\tilde{\mathcal{V}}_1^{\eta n} - \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_2^{\eta n})^{ai} \\
 & \quad \left. + (\tilde{\mathcal{V}}_1^{\eta n} - \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_2^{\eta n})^{ai} (\mathcal{U}_1^{\eta n} - \mathcal{U}_2^{\eta n})^{ai} \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\eta_{n-1}}^{\eta_n} D\mathcal{A} e^{iS + i(\tilde{\mathcal{V}}_1^{\eta n} - \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_2^{\eta n})_i^a (\mathcal{U}_1^{\eta n} - \mathcal{U}_2^{\eta n})^{ai} + i(\mathcal{V}_1^{\eta n-1} - \mathcal{V}_2^{\eta n-1})_n^a (\tilde{\mathcal{U}}_1^{n-1} - \tilde{\mathcal{U}}_2^{n-1})^{ai}} \\
 &= e^{i(\tilde{\mathcal{V}}_1^{\eta n} - \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_2^{\eta n})_i^a (\tilde{\mathcal{U}}_1^{n-1} - \tilde{\mathcal{U}}_2^{n-1})^{ai} + \frac{\alpha_s}{4} L_i(\tilde{\mathcal{V}}^{\eta n}, \tilde{\mathcal{U}}^{n-1}) L_i(\tilde{\mathcal{V}}^{\eta n}, \tilde{\mathcal{U}}^{n-1})}
 \end{aligned}$$

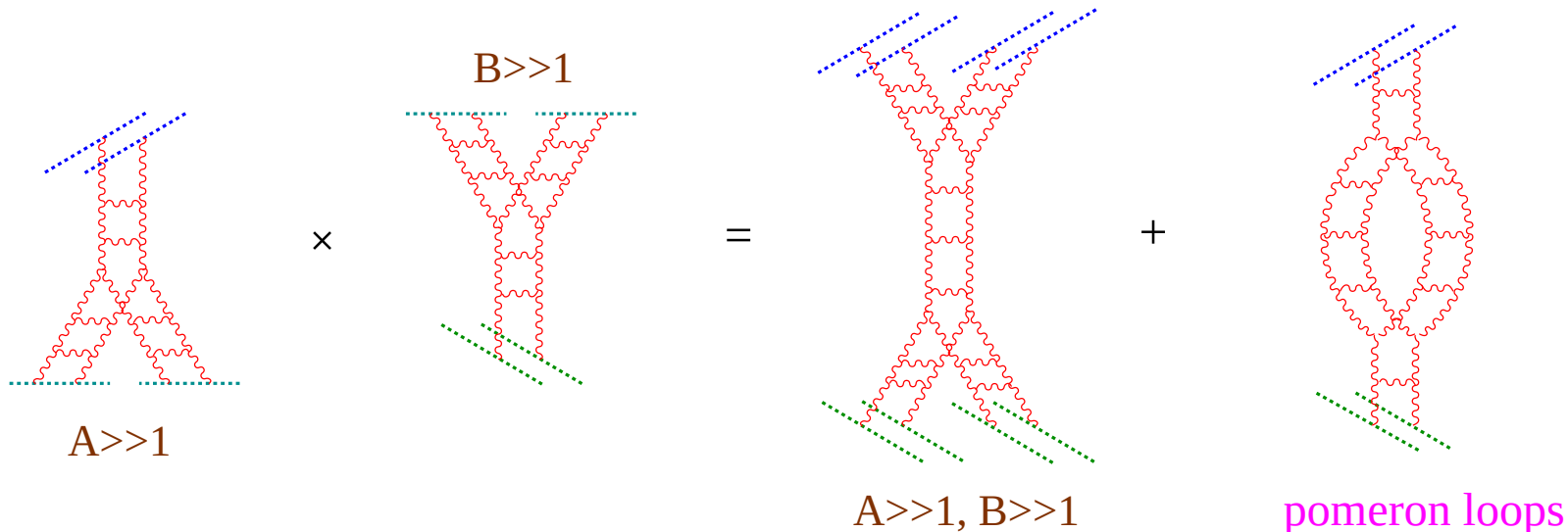
Functional integral over the Wilson-line variables

$$e^{iS_{\text{eff}}(U_1, U_2, V_1, V_2; \eta_1 - \eta_2)} = \int_{U_{\eta_2}=U} DU_{1x}^\eta DU_{2x}^\eta DV_{1x}^\eta DV_{2x}^\eta e^{i \int d^2 x_\perp [(\mathcal{V}_1 - \mathcal{V}_2)_i^a (\mathcal{U}_1^{\eta_1} - \mathcal{U}_2^{\eta_1})^{ai} + \int_{\eta_2}^{\eta_1} d\eta \mathcal{L}(U_1, U_2, V_1, V_2, \eta)]}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(U_k, V_k, \eta) = -(\mathcal{V}_1^\eta - \mathcal{V}_2^\eta)_i^a \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} (\mathcal{U}_1^\eta - \mathcal{U}_2^\eta)^{ai} - i \frac{\alpha_s}{4} L_i^a(U, V) L^{ai}(U, V) \}$$

L_i is local in terms of W 's but unfortunately non-local in terms of U and V .

This formula contains both “upside down” and “bottom up” small- x “fan” evolutions $\Rightarrow$ pomeron loops



$S_{\text{eff}} \Rightarrow$ non-linear evolution eqn: proof

At small V

$$L_i = -2(U_1^\dagger \frac{p_i p^k}{p_\perp^2} U_1 - U_2^\dagger \frac{p_i p^k}{p_\perp^2} U_2)^{ab} (\mathcal{V}_1 - \mathcal{V}_2)_k^b$$

$\Rightarrow$ the integral over V is gaussian.

Rewrite

$$e^{iS_{\text{eff}}(U_1, U_2, V_1, V_2; \eta_1 - \eta_2)} = \int_{U_{\eta_2}=U} DU_{1x}^\eta DU_{2x}^\eta DV_{1x}^\eta DV_{2x}^\eta D\lambda_i^{a,\eta} e^{i \int d^2 x_\perp (\mathcal{V}_1 - \mathcal{V}_2)_i^a (\mathcal{U}_1^{\eta 1} - \mathcal{U}_2^{\eta 1})^{ai}} e^{[i(\mathcal{V}_1 - \mathcal{V}_2)_i^a (\mathcal{U}_1^{\eta 1} - \mathcal{U}_2^{\eta 1})^{ai} + \int_{\eta_2}^{\eta_1} d\eta \int d^2 x_\perp \{ -i(\mathcal{V}_1^\eta - \mathcal{V}_2^\eta)_i^a \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} (\mathcal{U}_1^\eta - \mathcal{U}_2^\eta)^{ai} - \alpha_s \lambda_\eta^{ai} \lambda_i^{a,\eta} + \alpha_s \lambda_\eta^{ai} L_i^a(U, V) \}]}$$

$$\lambda_\eta^{ai} = \text{"white noise"} : \quad 2\alpha_s \langle \lambda_\eta^{ai}(x_\perp) \lambda_{\eta'}^{ai}(y_\perp) \rangle = \delta^2(x - y)_\perp \delta(\eta - \eta')$$

Integral over $V \Rightarrow$

$$\delta(\partial_i [\dot{\mathcal{U}}_1^i - \dot{\mathcal{U}}_2^i - \frac{ig}{2\pi} (U_1^\dagger \frac{\partial_i \partial_k}{\partial_\perp^2} U_1 - U_2^\dagger \frac{\partial_i \partial_k}{\partial_\perp^2} U_2) \lambda^k])$$

$S_{\text{eff}} \Rightarrow$ non-linear evolution eqn: proof

$$\dot{\mathcal{U}}_{1\eta}^{ai} - \dot{\mathcal{U}}_{2\eta}^{ai} = \frac{ig}{2\pi} (U_{1\eta}^\dagger \frac{\partial_i \partial_k}{\partial_\perp^2} U_{1\eta} - U_{2\eta}^\dagger \frac{\partial_i \partial_k}{\partial_\perp^2} U_{2\eta})^{ab} \lambda_\eta^{kb}$$

Solution: $U_i^\eta = e^{2\alpha_s t^a \int_{\eta_B}^\eta d\eta' \frac{\partial_i}{\partial_\perp^2} (U_{i\eta'}^{ab} \lambda_{\eta'}^{ib})} U_i$

For the dipole

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(U_{1x} U_{2x}^\dagger U_{2y} U_{1y}^\dagger)^\eta &= \int D\lambda_i^{a,\eta} e^{-\alpha_s \int_{\eta_B}^\eta d\eta \int d^2 x_\perp \lambda_\eta^{ai} \lambda_i^{a,\eta}} \\ &\times \text{tr} \left\{ e^{2\alpha_s t^a \int_{\eta_B}^\eta d\eta' \frac{\partial_i}{\partial_\perp^2} (U_{1x\eta'}^{ab} \lambda_{\eta'}^{ib})} U_{1x} U_{2x}^\dagger e^{-2\alpha_s t^a \int_{\eta_B}^\eta d\eta' \frac{\partial_i}{\partial_\perp^2} (U_{2x\eta'}^{ab} \lambda_{\eta'}^{ib})} \right. \\ &\times e^{2\alpha_s t^a \int_{\eta_B}^\eta d\eta' \frac{\partial_i}{\partial_\perp^2} (U_{2y\eta'}^{ab} \lambda_{\eta'}^{ib})} U_{2y} U_{1y}^\dagger e^{-2\alpha_s t^a \int_{\eta_B}^\eta d\eta' \frac{\partial_i}{\partial_\perp^2} (U_{1y\eta'}^{ab} \lambda_{\eta'}^{ib})} \left. \right\} \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \text{tr}(U_{1x} U_{2x}^\dagger U_{2y} U_{1y}^\dagger) &= \int dz_\perp \frac{(x-y)^2}{(x-z)^2 (z-y)^2} \left[-N_c \text{tr}(U_{1x} U_{2x}^\dagger U_{2y} U_{1y}^\dagger) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \text{tr}(U_{1x} U_{2x}^\dagger U_{2z} U_{1z}^\dagger) \text{tr}(U_{1z} U_{2z}^\dagger U_{2y} U_{1y}^\dagger) \right] \end{aligned}$$

- High-energy hadron-hadron scattering $\Leftrightarrow$ collision of two QCD shock waves (Color Glass Condensates?)
- For two nuclei, A and B, the expansion in commutators of Wilson lines is a symmetric expansion in both $\frac{B}{A}$ or $\frac{A}{B}$ parameters.
- $\mathcal{L}(U, V) \ni$ pomeron loops ($\Rightarrow$ unitarity?)

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Outlook

- The $[U, V]^2$ term in $\mathcal{L}$
- Big Q: What is the field produced by the collision (in all orders in $[U, V]$)?
- $\Leftrightarrow$ Big Q: S_{eff} in (in all orders in $[U, V]$) ?

An example of Feynman diagram not taken into account by the diamond action

