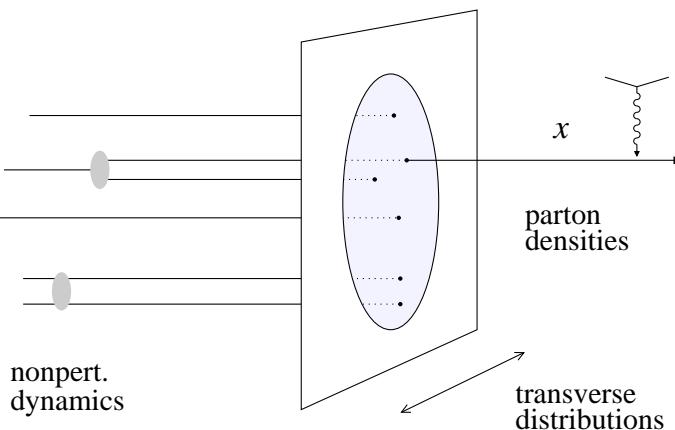


# Generalized parton distributions: Low-energy nucleon structure in pp@LHC

C. Weiss (Jefferson Lab), NPPD Conference, Glasgow, 04–Apr–11



- Parton picture of nucleon

Slow vs. fast nucleon in QCD

Physical properties

- Transverse distribution of partons

Charge density

Elastic form factors  
*low-energy eN*

Quark/gluon  
distributions

Exclusive processes  
 $\gamma^* N \rightarrow M + N$   
HERMES, COMPASS, JLab 12 GeV  
HERA, EIC

Nucleon structure from  $eN$

Input for  
precision  
physics



New probes

Hard processes in  $pp$  collisions

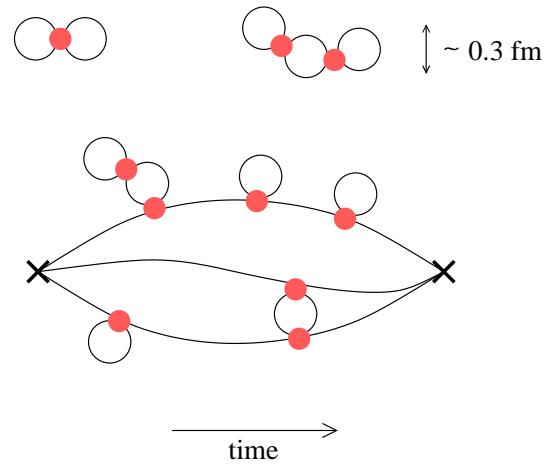
- Transverse structure in  $pp$  collisions

Geometry of parton–parton processes

Spectator interactions, underlying event  
*ATLAS, CMS*

Multiparton correlations    *CDF, D0*

# Parton picture: Nucleon structure in QCD



- QCD vacuum not empty

Strong gluon fields of size  $\mu_{\text{vac}}^{-1} \ll 1 \text{ fm}$   
Condensate of  $\bar{q}q$  pairs

- Nucleon at rest

$t \rightarrow i\tau$  statistical mechanics [Lattice](#)  
 $\langle N|O|N \rangle$  from correlation functions

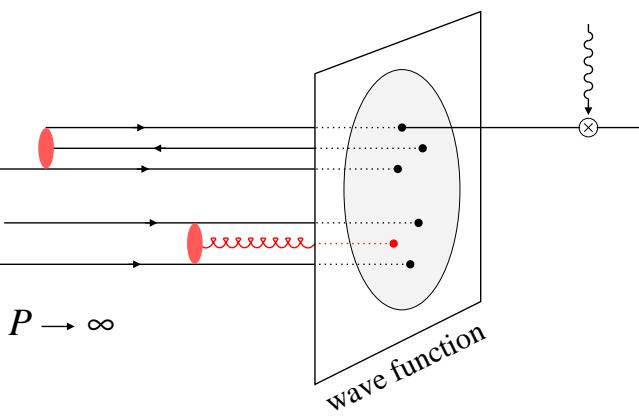
No concept of “particle content!”

- Fast-moving nucleon  $P \gg \mu_{\text{vac}}$

Closed system: Wave function description,  
components with different particle number  
[Feynman, Gribov](#)

Short-distance probe: “Snapshot”

- Physical properties

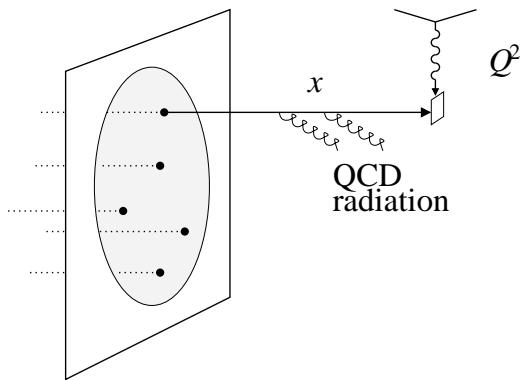


Number densities  $f(x)$

Transverse spatial distributions

Correlations

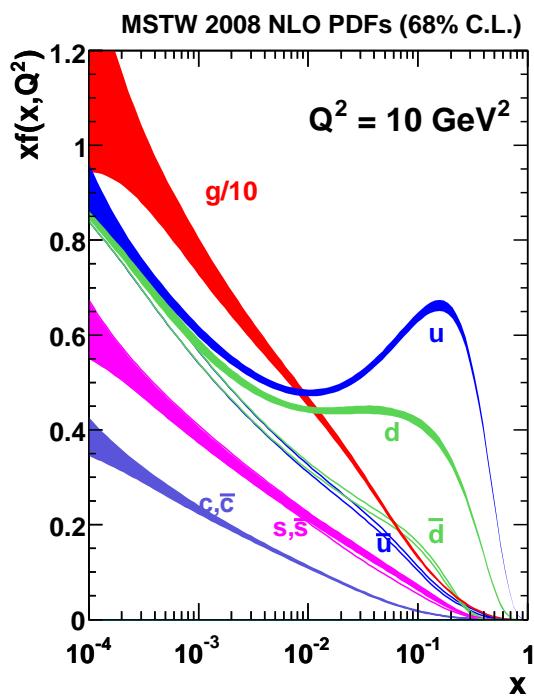
# Parton picture: Number densities



- Deep-inelastic processes  $Q^2 \gg 1 \text{ GeV}^2$

$f(x|Q^2)$  longitudinal momentum densities  
 $Q^2$  dependence from QCD radiation

Factorization theorem: Process-independent,  
 $\langle N | \text{twist-2} | N \rangle$  QCD operator definition  
→ Non-perturbative methods, lattice



- Parton densities from global fits

Much progress, controlled errors  
Martin, Stirling, Thorne, Watt 09;  
Gluck, Jimenez-Delgado, Reya 08;  
CTEQ10, . . .

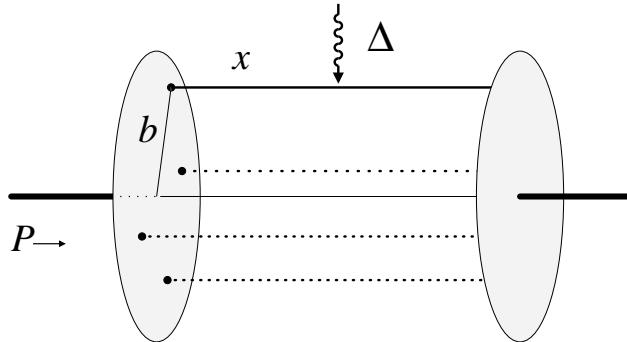
Open questions:  $s \neq \bar{s}$ ,  $\bar{u}/\bar{d}$ ,  $x \rightarrow 1$   
LHC, JLab 12 GeV

Basic particle content of nucleon in QCD

What about transverse distributions?

# Transverse structure: Charge density

- Elastic form factors Low-energy  $eN$  scattering → K. De Jager



Local current  $\langle N | J_\mu | N \rangle \sim F_{1,2}(t)$

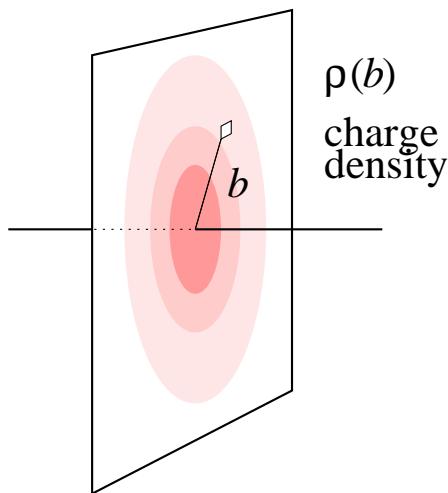
Transverse momentum transfer  $|t| = \Delta^2$

- Transverse charge density Soper 76, Miller 07

$$\rho(b) = \int \frac{d^2 \Delta}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\Delta b} F_1(-\Delta^2) \quad \text{2D Fourier}$$

Cumulative charge of constituents  
at transverse position  $b$

Integrates over  $x$ , counts only  $q - \bar{q}$



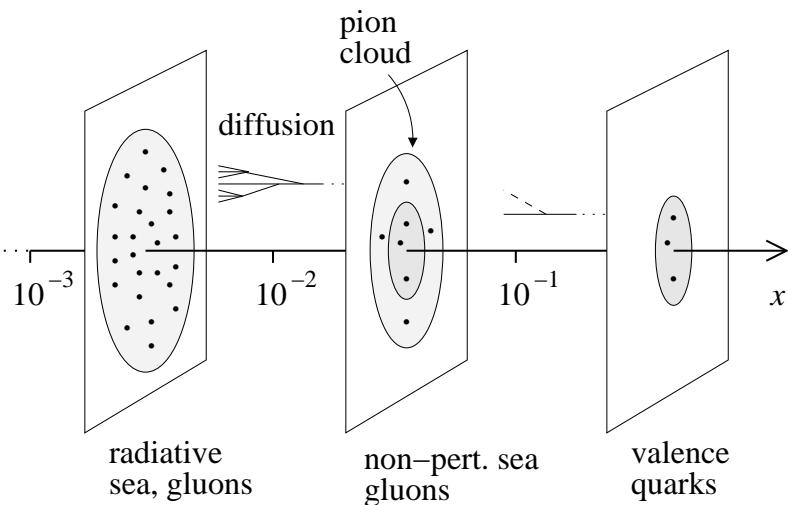
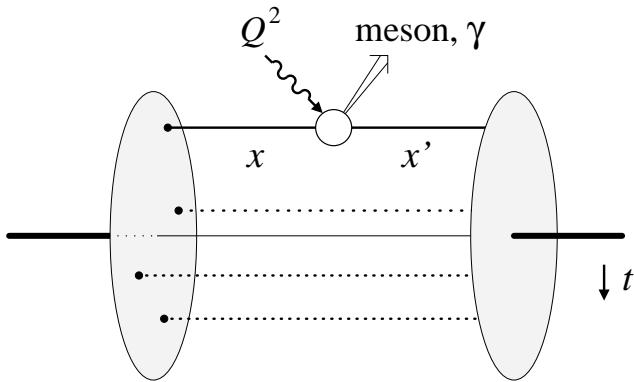
- New insight in nucleon structure

Neutron negative at  $b = 0$ ,  $d$  quarks at center

Yukawa tail  $e^{-m\pi b}$  from chiral dynamics,  
visible only at  $b > 2$  fm Strikman, CW PRC82 (2010) 042201

What about quarks, gluons,  $x$ -dependence?

# Transverse structure: Quarks and gluons



- Hard exclusive processes  $\gamma^* N \rightarrow M + N$ 
  - $Q^2 \gg 1 \text{ GeV}^2$  probes single quark/gluon
  - $|t|$  small leaves nucleon intact

- Generalized parton distribution  $F(x, t | Q^2)$

D. Müller et al. 94; Ji 96; Radyushkin 96

Form factor of partons with momentum  $x$   
 $x' \neq x$  in exp. kinematics

Factorization theorem: Process-independent,  
 $\langle N' | \text{twist-2} | N \rangle$  operator definition

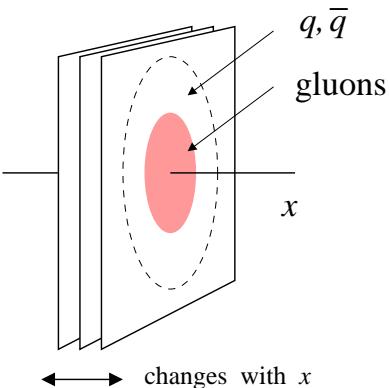
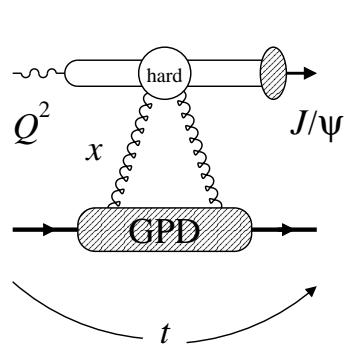
- Transverse spatial distribution of partons

$$f(x, b) = \int \frac{d^2 \Delta}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\Delta b} F(x, -\Delta^2)$$

Tomographic image of nucleon at fixed  $x, Q^2$   
New window on dynamics! → M. Guidal

3D view of nucleon's partonic structure

# Transverse structure: Gluons

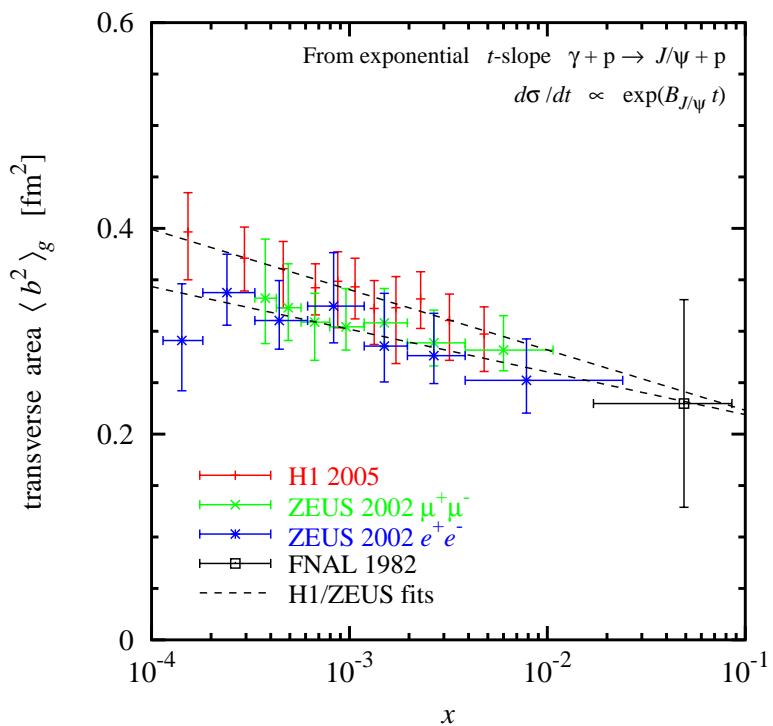


- Exclusive production  $\gamma^* N \rightarrow J/\psi + N$   
also  $\phi, \rho$

Clean probe of gluon GPD

Reaction mechanism and universality  
tested at HERA

Transverse distribution from  $d\sigma / dt$

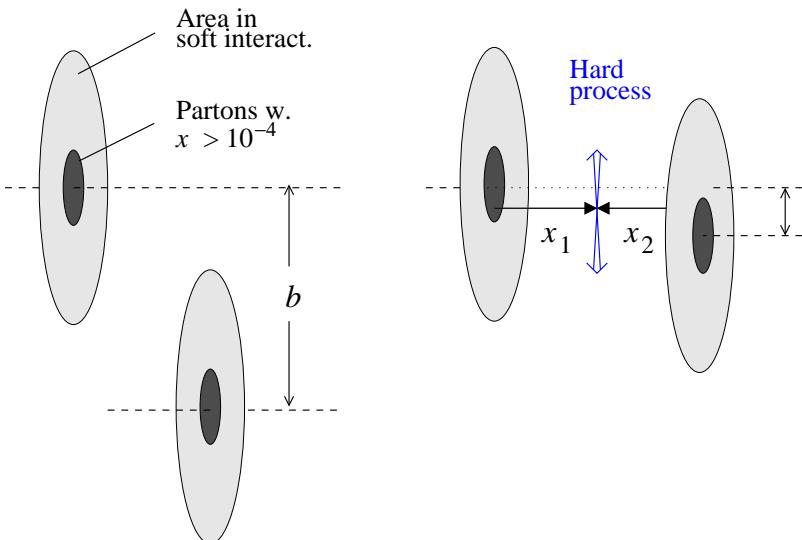


- Transverse gluon image of nucleon

Gluons concentrated at center  
 $\langle b^2 \rangle_g(x \sim 10^{-2}) < \langle b^2 \rangle_{\text{charge}}$

Radius grows slowly with decreasing  $x$   
 $\alpha'_g \ll \alpha'_P = 0.25 \text{ GeV}^{-2}$   
Gribov diffusion in wave function

# Proton–proton: Transverse geometry



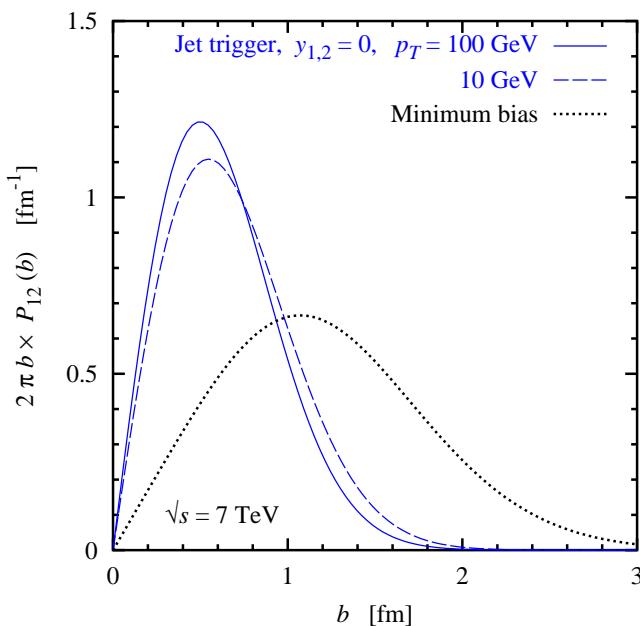
- Two different sizes

$$R^2(\text{soft}) \gg R^2(\text{partons } x > 10^{-4})$$

Hard parton–parton processes require central  $pp$  collisions

- Trigger on high- $p_T$  particle selects central  $pp$  collisions!

Impact parameter dependence of cross secn  
calculable with transverse distributions from  $ep$   
Frankfurt, Strikman, CW 04; PRD83 (2011) 054012



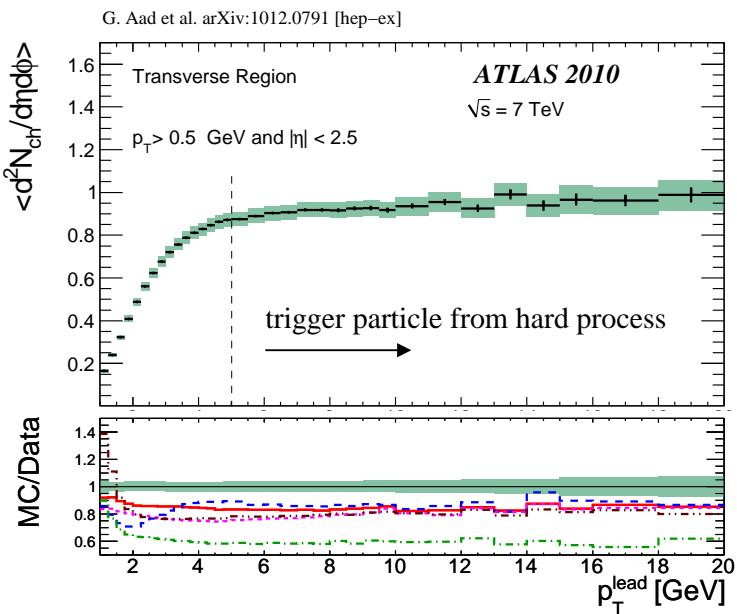
- Proton impact parameter governs spectator interactions

“Underlying event” in hard processes

Geometric correlations:  
High- $p_T$  trigger  $\rightarrow$  centrality  $\rightarrow$  event char's

Model-independent! Many applications!

# Proton–proton: Geometric correlations



- Transverse multiplicity

Min-bias trigger	mostly peripheral	low multiplicity
High- $p_T$ trigger	central	high multiplicity $p_T$ -independent

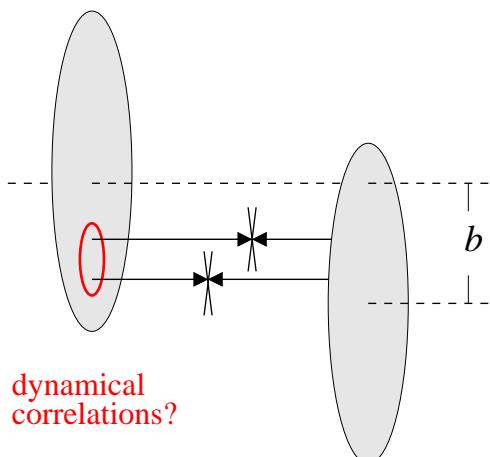
Reveals minimum  $p_T$  for hard production  
 Benchmarks for MC. Also: Rapidity dependence, energy flow, . . .

- Multiple hard processes

Geometric probability calculable from transverse parton distributions

Dynamical correlations?  
 Tevatron CDF 3 jet +  $\gamma$  show enhancement

High rates expected at LHC:  
 Background to new particle production  
 New field of study! MPI@LHC 2010



- Exclusive diffraction  $pp \rightarrow p + H + p$

Gap survival probability  
 Hard process  $\leftrightarrow$  soft spectator interactions

# Summary

- Transverse spatial distribution of partons key concept in nucleon structure
  - 3D view of nucleon in QCD
  - New insights into non-perturbative dynamics
- Input to analysis of high-energy  $pp$  collisions with hard processes
  - Transverse geometry explains many features of underlying event New data coming!
  - Model-independent approach sets benchmarks for detailed MC studies
  - Multiparton processes can probe dynamical correlations
- Future  $eN/\mu N$  programs exploring transverse nucleon structure
  - JLab 12 GeV
    - High- $t$  form factors → K. De Jager
    - GPDs in valence region → M. Guidal
  - COMPASS
    - GPDs through Compton,  $J/\psi$
  - Electron–Ion Collider
    - Sea quark and gluon imaging