



Quasi parton distributions and the gradient flow

Chris Monahan

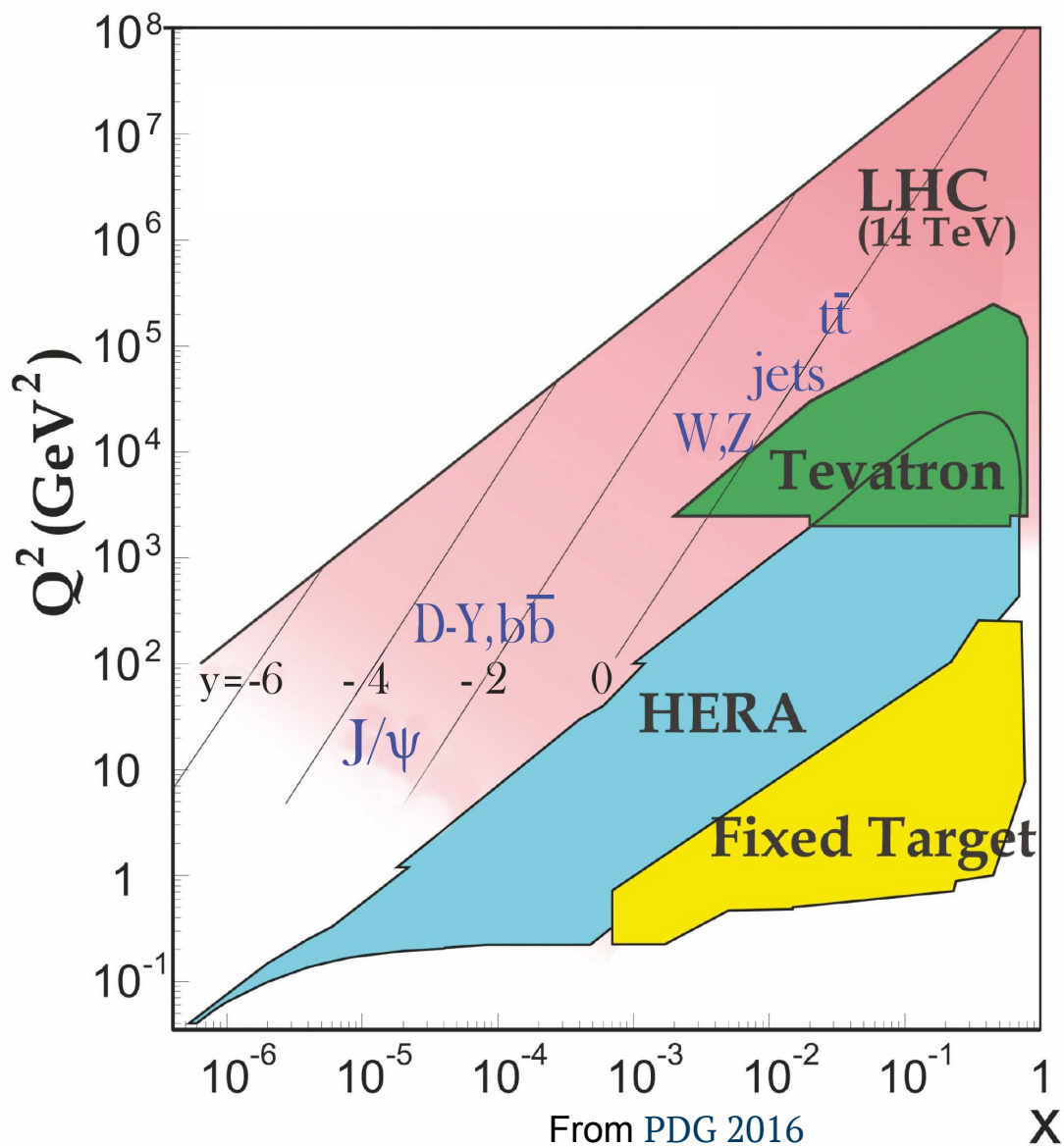
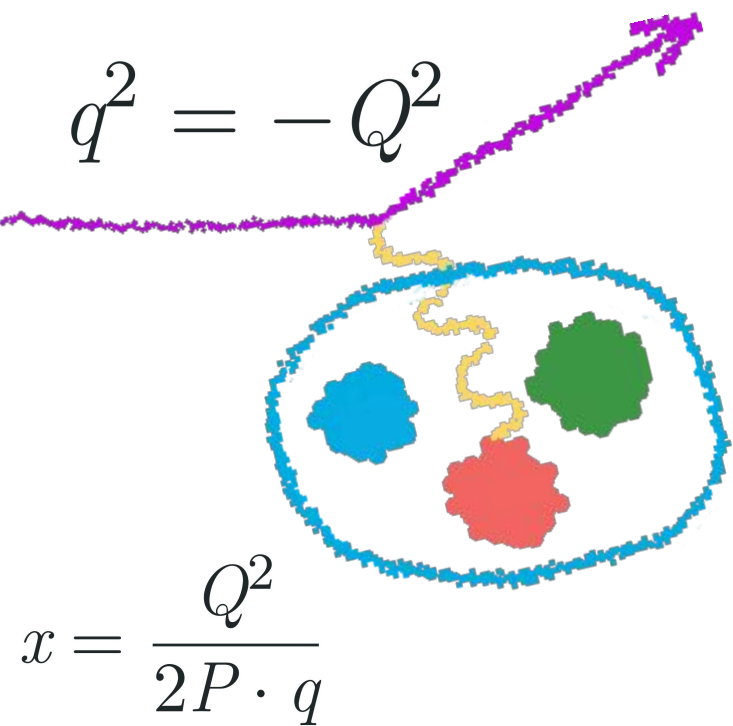
*New High Energy Theory Center
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With Kostas Orginos

HOW FAST DO PARTONS TRAVEL?

How is the momentum of a fast-moving nucleon distributed amongst its constituents?

EXPERIMENTAL EXTRACTION



○ **PDFs FROM FIRST PRINCIPLES: QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS**

○ **THE GRADIENT FLOW**

○ **SMEARED QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS**

PDFS FROM FIRST PRINCIPLES

An unsolved challenge

DIS

Decompose cross-section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega dE} = \frac{e^4}{16\pi^2 Q^4} \ell^{\mu\nu} W_{\mu\nu}$$

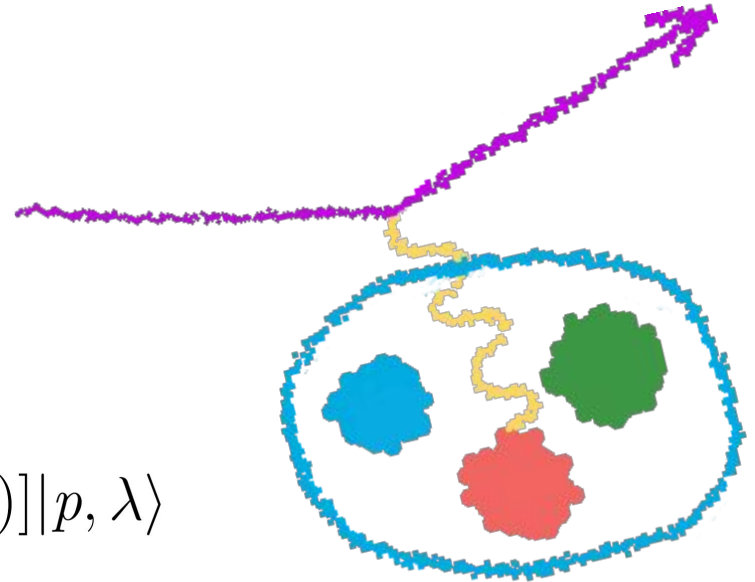
Hadronic contribution

$$W_{\mu\nu}(p, q) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^4x e^{iq \cdot x} \langle p, \lambda' | [j_\mu(x), j_\nu(x)] | p, \lambda \rangle$$

in turn, expressed in terms of structure functions

$$F(x, Q^2) = \int dy C\left(\frac{x}{y}, \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2}\right) f(x, \mu^2)$$

parton distribution functions (PDFs)



PDFs

Defined as

$$f^{(0)}(\xi) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega^-}{4\pi} e^{-i\xi P^+ \omega^-} \left\langle P \left| T \bar{\psi}(0, \omega^-, \mathbf{0}_T) W(\omega^-, 0) \gamma^+ \frac{\lambda^a}{2} \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle_{\mathbf{C}}$$

where

$$W(\omega^-, 0) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[-ig_0 \int_0^{\omega^-} dy^- A_{\alpha}^+(0, y^-, \mathbf{0}_T) T_{\alpha} \right]$$

and

$$\langle P' | P \rangle = (2\pi)^3 2P^+ \delta(P^+ - P'^+) \delta^{(2)}(\mathbf{P}_T - \mathbf{P}'_T)$$

Renormalised PDFs

$$f(\xi, \mu) = \int_x^1 \frac{d\zeta}{\zeta} \mathcal{Z} \left(\frac{\zeta}{\xi}, \mu \right) f^{(0)}(\zeta)$$

PDFs

Mellin moments of PDFs

$$a^{(n)}(\mu) = \int_0^1 d\xi \xi^{n-1} [f(\xi, \mu) + (-1)^n \bar{f}(\xi, \mu)] = \int_{-1}^1 d\xi \xi^{n-1} f(\xi, \mu)$$

related to matrix elements

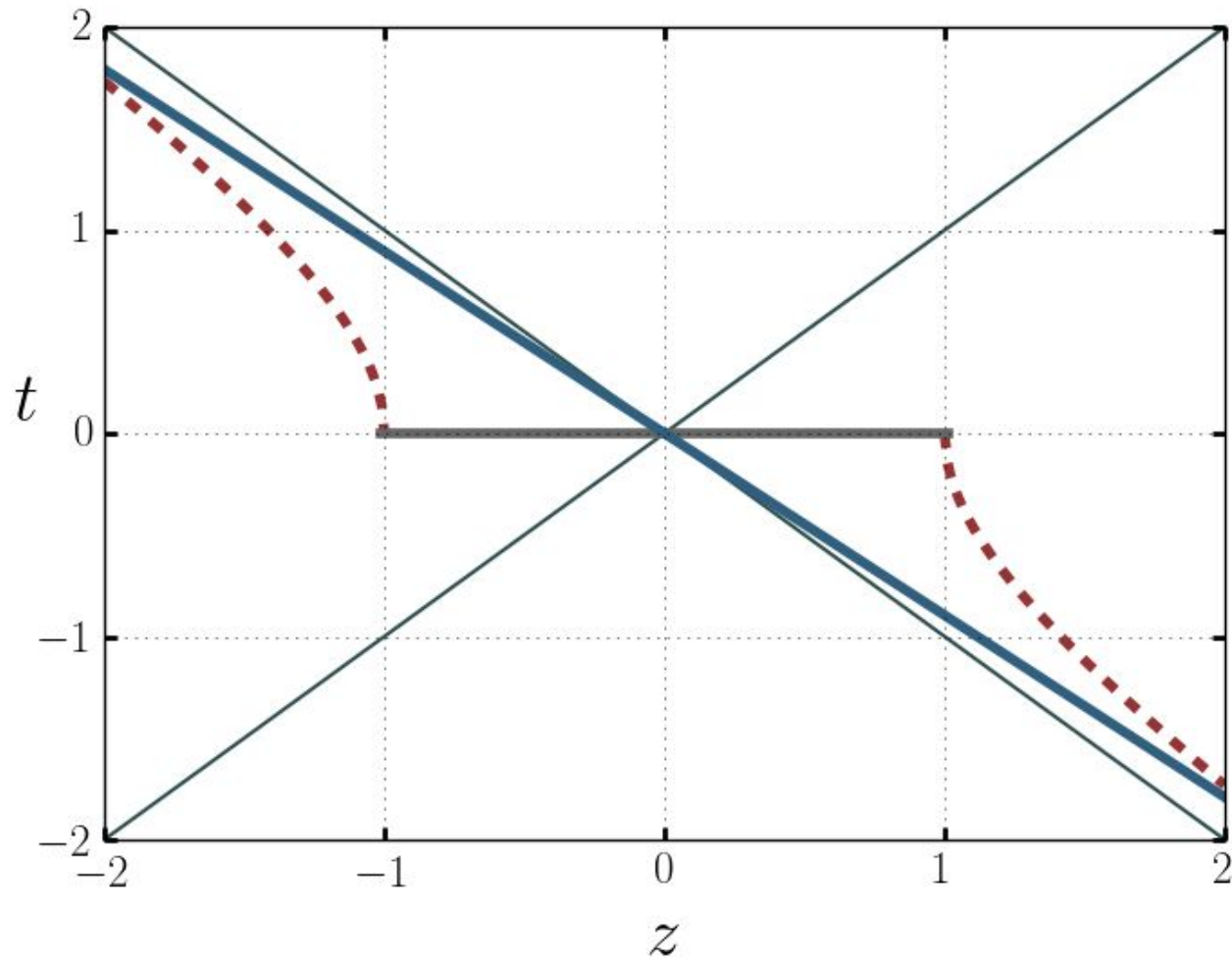
$$\langle P | \mathcal{O}^{\{\nu_1 \dots \nu_n\}}(\mu) | P \rangle = 2a^{(n)}(\mu) (P^{\nu_1} \dots P^{\nu_n} - \text{traces})$$

of local twist-two operators

$$\mathcal{O}^{\{\nu_1 \dots \nu_n\}}(\mu) = Z_{\mathcal{O}}(\mu) \left[i^{n-1} \bar{\psi}(0) \gamma^{\{\mu_1} D^{\mu_2} \dots D^{\mu_n\}} \frac{\lambda^a}{2} \psi(0) - \text{traces} \right]$$

QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS

X. Ji, PRL 110 (2013) 262002
X. Ji, Sci.Ch. PMA 57 (2014) 1407



QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS

X. Ji, PRL 110 (2013) 262002
X. Ji, Sci.Ch. PMA 57 (2014) 1407

Defined as

$$q(x, \mu^2, P^z) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixzk^z} \langle P | \bar{\psi}(z) \gamma^z e^{-ig \int_0^z dz' A^z(z')} \psi(0) | P \rangle_C$$

Recall

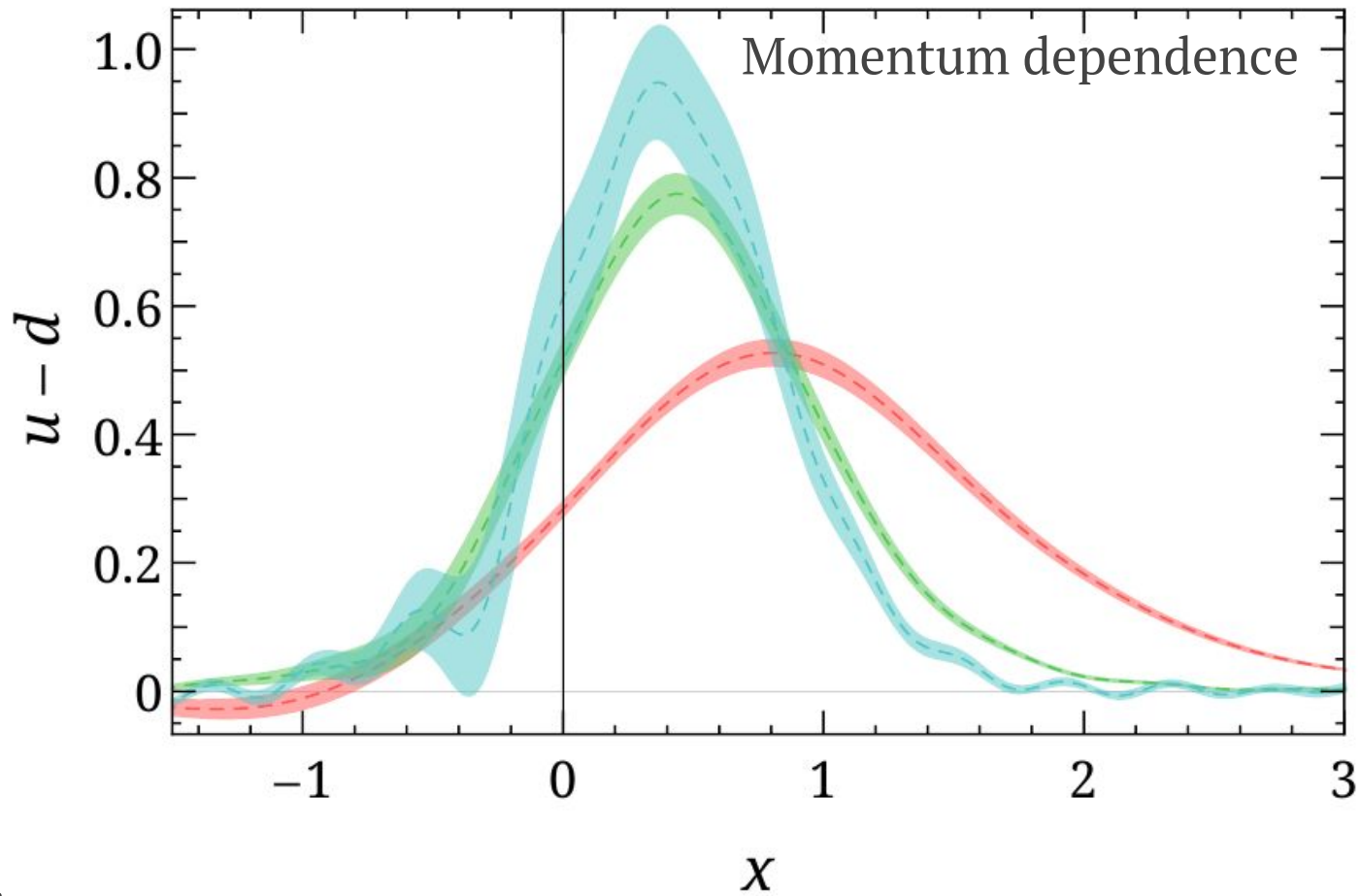
$$f^{(0)}(\xi) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega^-}{4\pi} e^{-i\xi P^+ \omega^-} \left\langle P \left| T \bar{\psi}(0, \omega^-, \mathbf{0}_T) W(\omega^-, 0) \gamma^+ \frac{\lambda^a}{2} \psi(0) \right| P \right\rangle_C$$

Related to light-front PDFs via

$$q(x, \mu^2, P^z) = \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} Z\left(\frac{x}{y}, \frac{\mu}{P^z}\right) f(y, \mu^2) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{(P^z)^2}, \frac{M^2}{(P^z)^2}\right)$$

QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS

From J.-W. Chen et al., NPB 911 (2016) 246



See also:

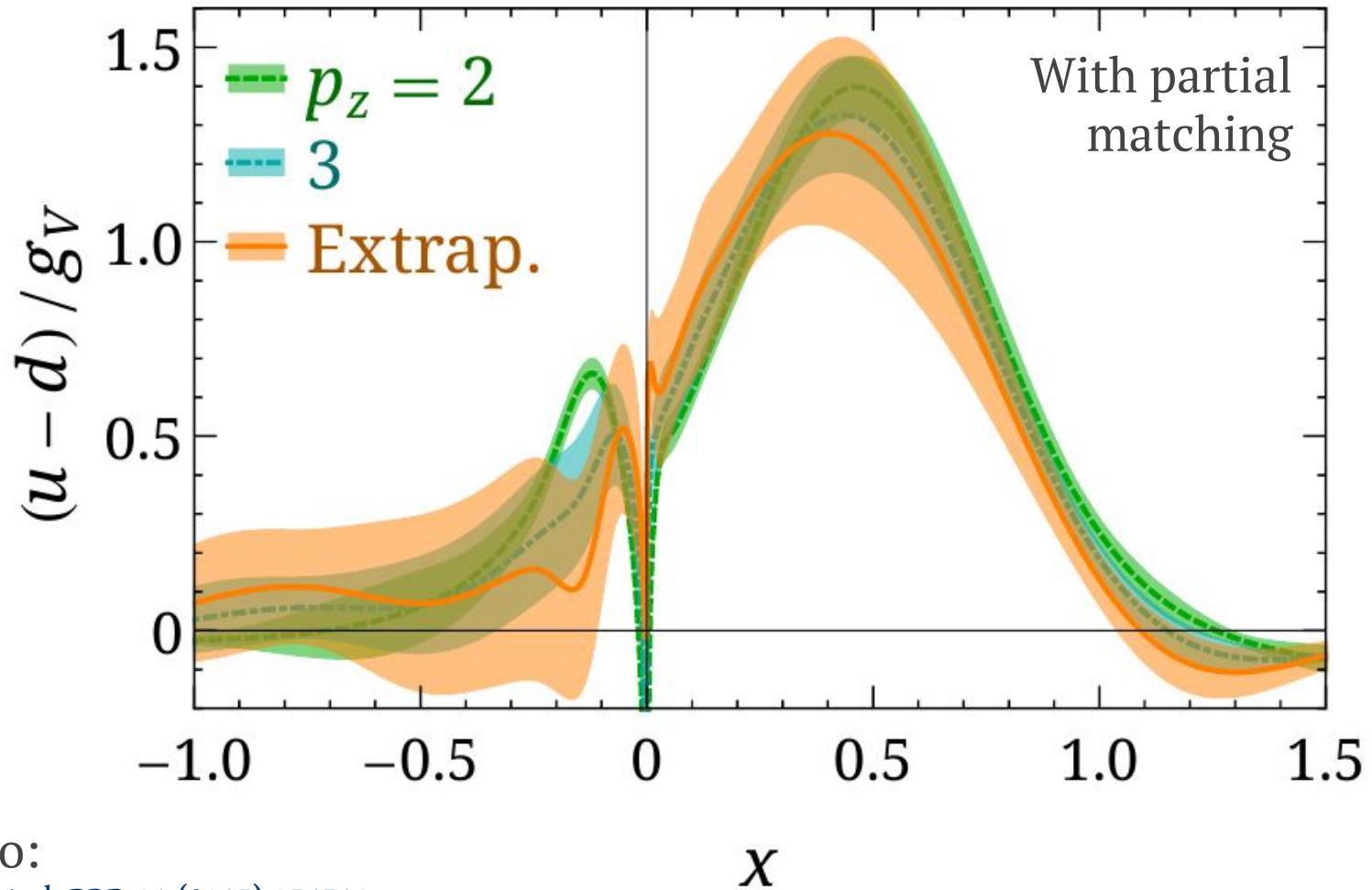
H.-W. Lin et al, PRD 91 (2015) 054510

C. Alexandrou et al., PRD 92 (2015) 014502

J.-H. Zhang et al., arXiv:1702.00008

QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS

From J.-W. Chen et al., NPB 911 (2016) 246



See also:

H.-W. Lin et al, PRD 91 (2015) 054510

C. Alexandrou et al., PRD 92 (2015) 014502

J.-H. Zhang et al., arXiv:1702.00008

A MORE GENERAL FRAMEWORK

Define lattice “cross-sections”

Y.-Q. Ma & J.-W. Qiu, arXiv:1404.6860

$$\lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \sigma(x, a, P^z) = \tilde{\sigma}(x, \tilde{\mu}, P^z)$$

Quasi distributions - lattice “cross-section” from which one can extract PDFs

$$\tilde{\sigma}(x, \tilde{\mu}, P^z) = \sum_{\alpha} H_{\alpha} \left(x, \frac{\tilde{\mu}}{P^z}, \frac{\tilde{\mu}}{\mu} \right) \otimes f_{\alpha}(x, \mu^2) + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{\tilde{\mu}^2} \right)$$

See also:

K.-F. Liu, PRD 62 (2000) 074501

W. Detmold & C.J.D. Lin, PRD 73 (2006) 014501

A. Radyushkin, PLB (2017) 02 019

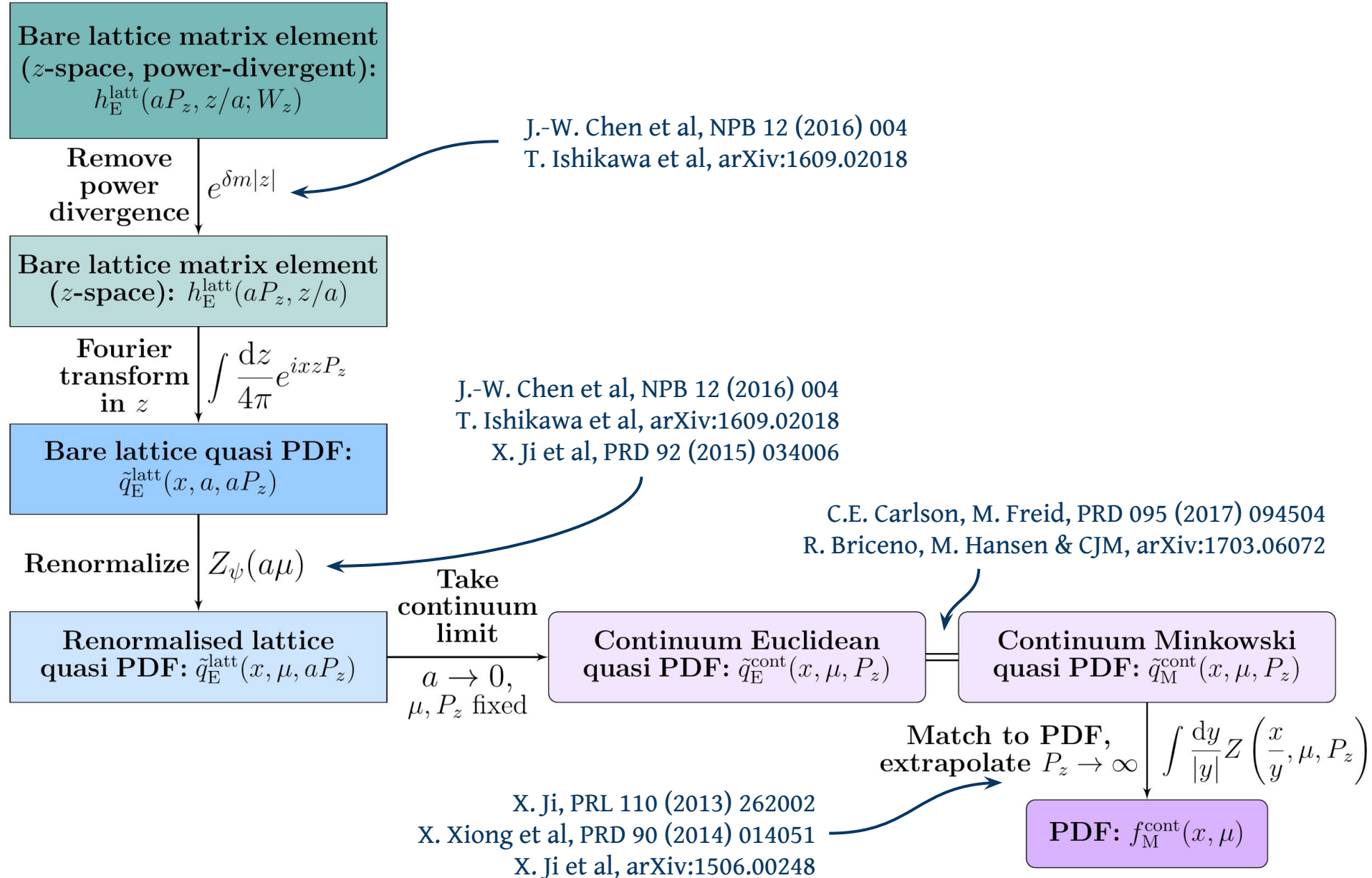
GENERAL PROCEDURE

Bare lattice matrix element
(z -space, power-divergent):

$$h_E^{\text{latt}}(aP_z, z/a; W_z)$$

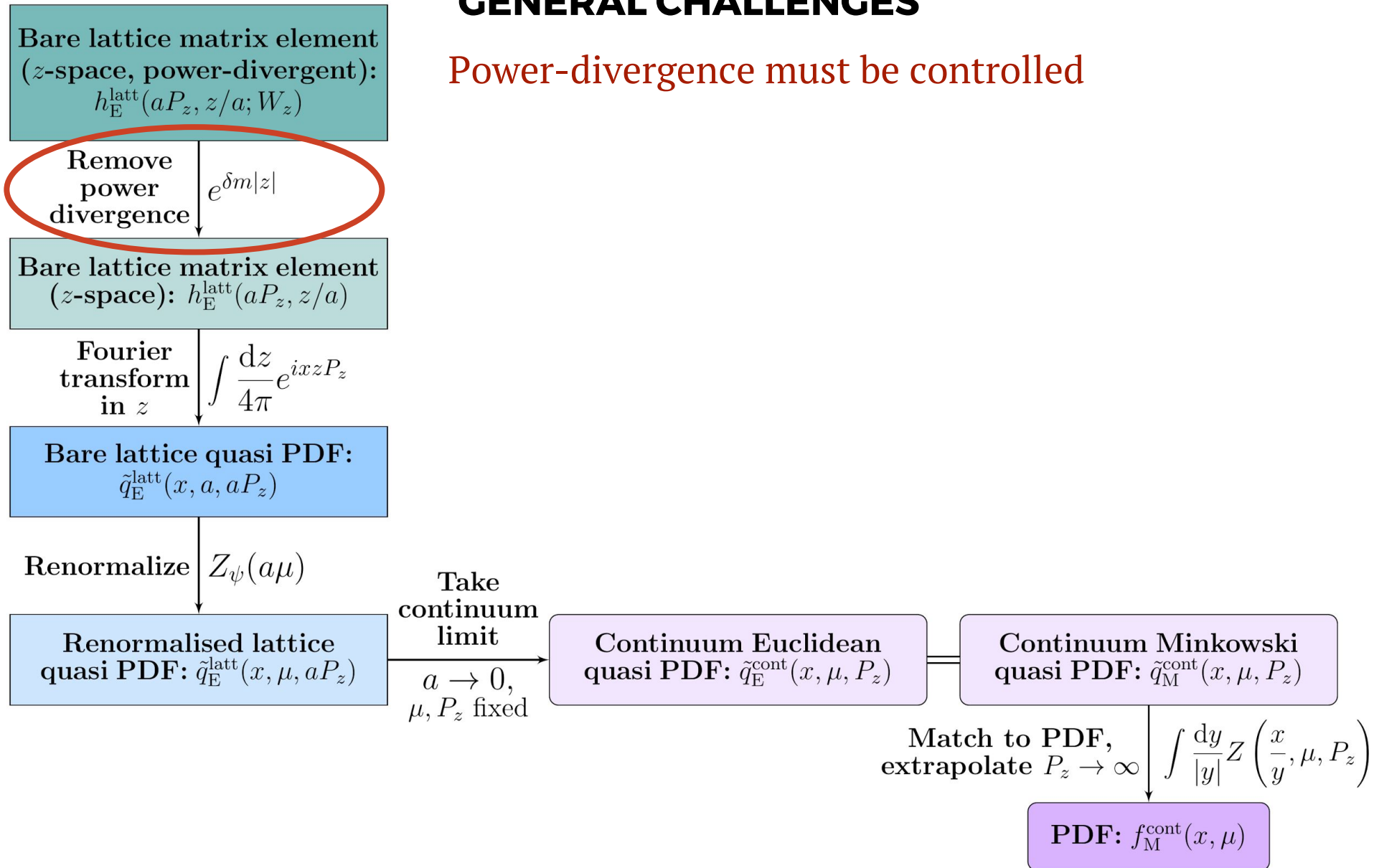
PDF: $f_M^{\text{cont}}(x, \mu)$

GENERAL PROCEDURE



GENERAL PROCEDURE: GENERAL CHALLENGES

Power-divergence must be controlled

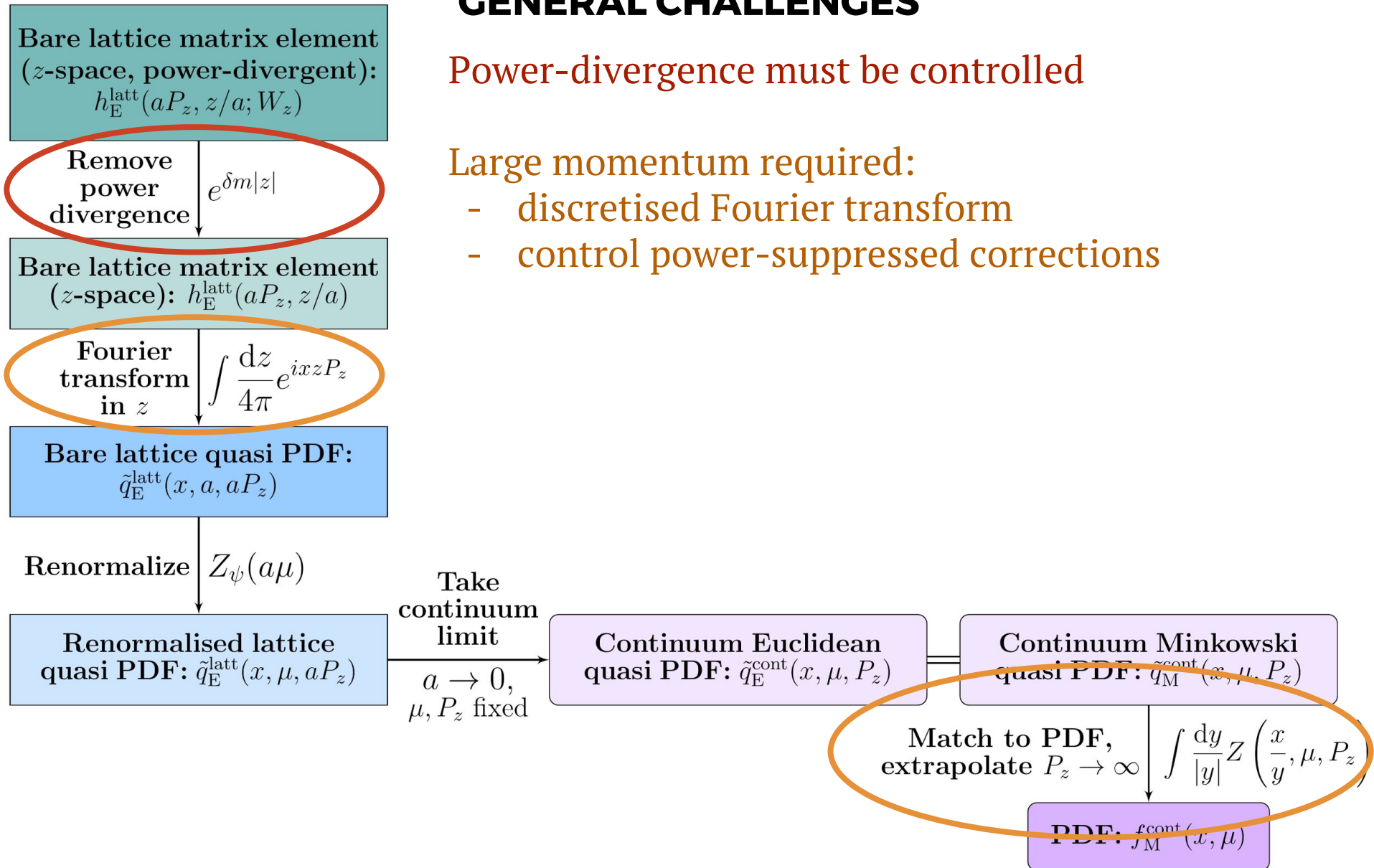


GENERAL PROCEDURE: GENERAL CHALLENGES

Power-divergence must be controlled

Large momentum required:

- discretised Fourier transform
- control power-suppressed corrections



GENERAL PROCEDURE: GENERAL CHALLENGES

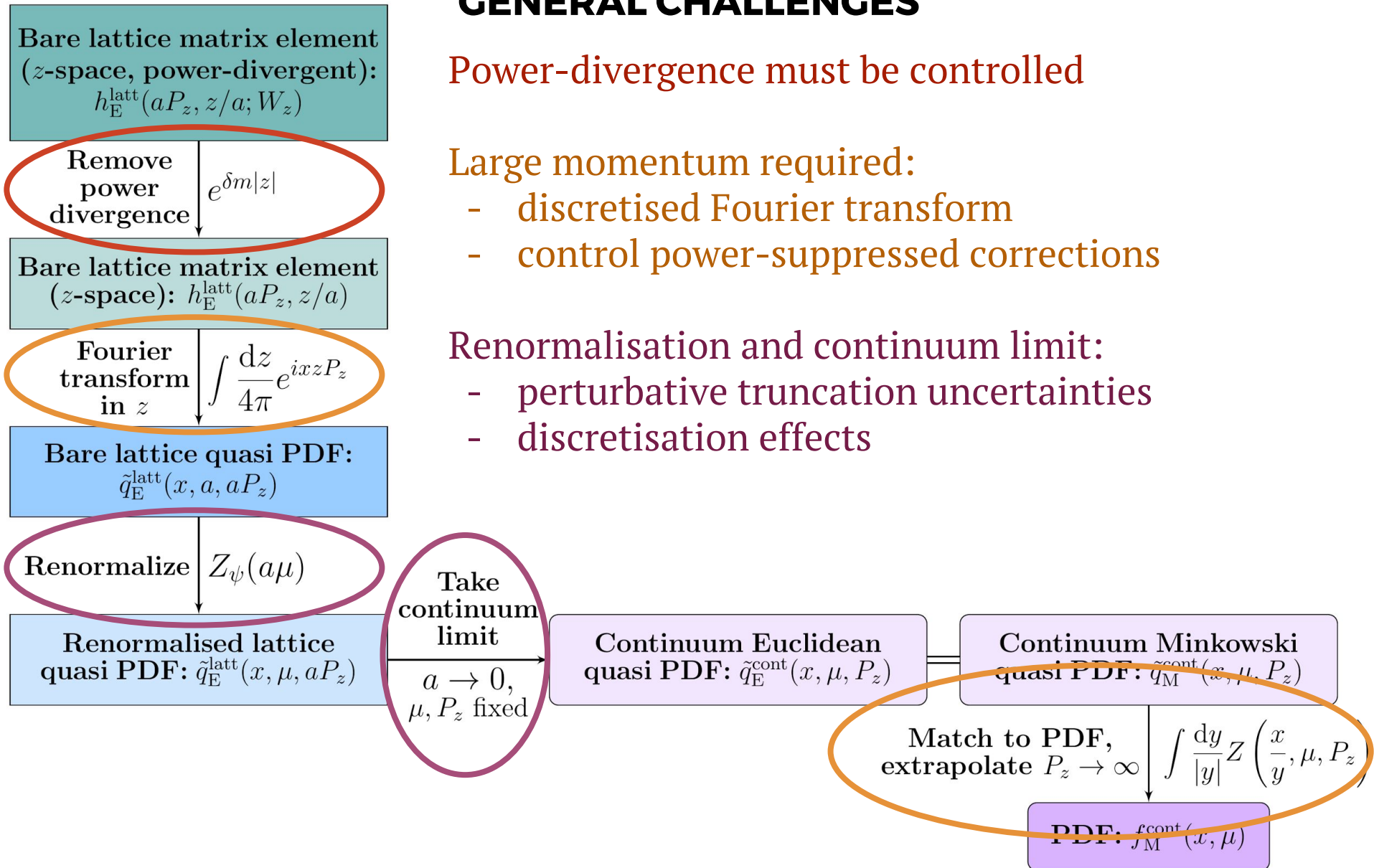
Power-divergence must be controlled

Large momentum required:

- discretised Fourier transform
- control power-suppressed corrections

Renormalisation and continuum limit:

- perturbative truncation uncertainties
- discretisation effects



GENERAL PROCEDURE: GENERAL CHALLENGES

Power-divergence must be controlled

Large momentum required:

- discretised Fourier transform
- control power-suppressed corrections

Renormalisation and continuum limit:

- perturbative truncation uncertainties
- discretisation effects

Bare lattice matrix element
(z -space, power-divergent):
 $h_E^{\text{latt}}(aP_z, z/a; W_z)$

Remove
power
divergence
 $e^{\delta m|z|}$

Bare lattice matrix element
(z -space): $h_E^{\text{latt}}(aP_z, z/a)$

Fourier
transform
in z
 $\int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixzP_z}$

Bare lattice quasi PDF:
 $\tilde{q}_E^{\text{latt}}(x, a, aP_z)$

Renormalize $Z_\psi(a\mu)$

Renormalised lattice
quasi PDF: $\tilde{q}_E^{\text{latt}}(x, \mu, aP_z)$

Take
continuum
limit
 $a \rightarrow 0,$
 μ, P_z fixed

Continuum Euclidean
quasi PDF: $\tilde{q}_E^{\text{cont}}(x, \mu, P_z)$

C.E. Carlson, M. Freid, PRD 095 (2017) 094504
R. Briceno, M. Hansen & CJM, arXiv:1703.06072

Continuum Minkowski
quasi PDF: $q_M^{\text{cont}}(x, \mu, P_z)$

Match to PDF,
extrapolate $P_z \rightarrow \infty$
 $\int \frac{dy}{|y|} Z\left(\frac{x}{y}, \mu, P_z\right)$

PDF: $f_M^{\text{cont}}(x, \mu)$

THE GRADIENT FLOW

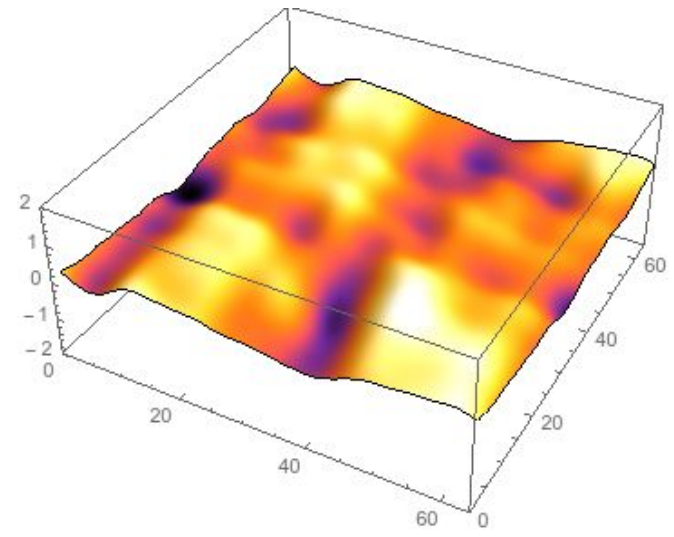
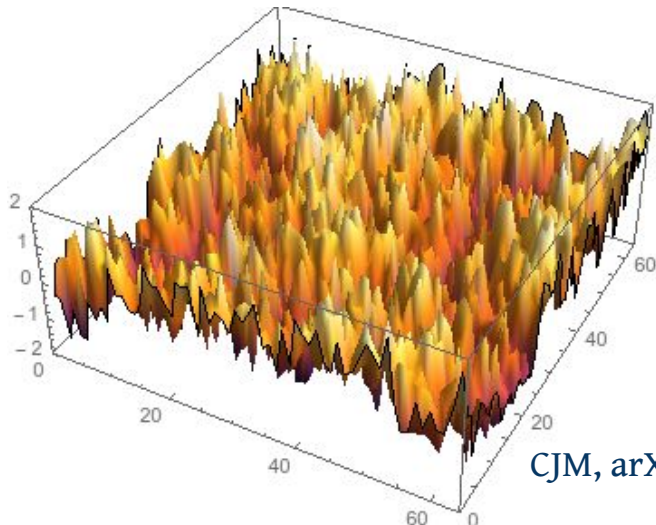
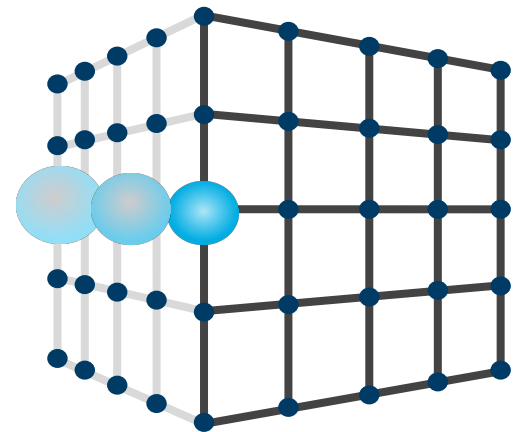
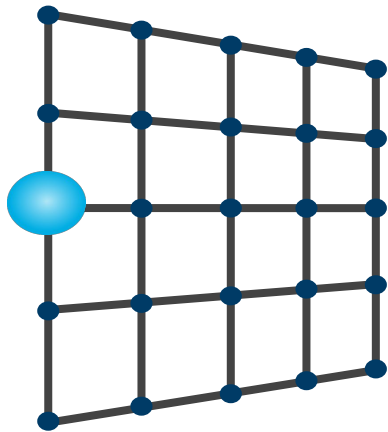
A continuum hammer for lattice nails

GRADIENT FLOW

Deterministic evolution in new parameter - flow time

Drives fields to minimise action - removes UV fluctuations

Correlation functions of “bulk” fields provide probe of underlying field theory



A 3D surface plot showing a smooth, bell-shaped surface. The surface is colored with a gradient from purple at the base to yellow at the peak. The plot is set within a 3D coordinate system with axes labeled from 0 to 60. The surface is centered around a value of 1 on the vertical axis.

FINITE CORRELATION FUNCTIONS

Renormalised correlation functions remain finite at non-zero flow time.

GRADIENT FLOW

Gradient flow is a smearing (smoothing) tool that:

- generates more continuum-like operators
- provides a method to fix smearing length scale

Flow time serves as a nonperturbative, rotationally-invariant cutoff

Matrix elements of operators at fixed flow time are finite

Fixing the flow time (physical units) allows a continuum limit

Roughly speaking: exchange lattice for gradient flow regulator

SMEARED QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS

Provides continuum limit

SMEARED QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS

CJM & K. Orginos, JHEP 03 (2017) 116

Defined as

$$q(x, \sqrt{\tau} P^z, \sqrt{\tau} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, \sqrt{\tau} M_N) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixz k^z} \langle P | \bar{\chi}(z, \tau) \gamma^z e^{-ig \int_0^z dz' B^z(z', \tau)} \chi(0, \tau) | P \rangle_C$$

Related to light-front PDFs via

$$q(x, \mu^2, P^z) = \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} Z\left(\frac{x}{y}, \frac{\mu}{P^z}\right) f(y, \mu^2) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{(P^z)^2}, \frac{M^2}{(P^z)^2}\right)$$

Here “ringed” fermions remove need for wavefunction renormalisation

H. Makino and H. Suzuki, PTEP (2014) 063B02
K. Hieda and H. Suzuki, MPLA 31 (2016) 1650214

$$\chi(x, \tau) = \sqrt{\frac{-2 \dim(R) N_f}{(4\pi)^2 \tau^2 \langle \bar{\psi}(x, \tau) \overleftrightarrow{D} \psi(x, \tau) \rangle}} \psi(x, \tau)$$

SMEARED QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS

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Defined as

$$q(x, \sqrt{\tau} P^z, \sqrt{\tau} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, \sqrt{\tau} M_N) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixz k^z} \langle P | \bar{\chi}(z, \tau) \gamma^z e^{-ig \int_0^z dz' B^z(z', \tau)} \chi(0, \tau) | P \rangle_C$$

If we write

$$q^{(s)}(\xi, \sqrt{\tau} P_z, \sqrt{\tau} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, \sqrt{\tau} M_N) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dz}{2\pi} e^{i\xi z P_z} P_z h^{(s)}(\sqrt{\tau} z, \sqrt{\tau} P_z, \sqrt{\tau} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, \sqrt{\tau} M_N)$$

then, in practice,

$$h^{(s)}\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{\tau}}, \sqrt{\tau} P_z, \sqrt{\tau} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, \sqrt{\tau} M_N\right) = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} h\left(\frac{z}{a}, \frac{\sqrt{\tau}}{a}, a P_z, a \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, a M_N\right)$$

where

$$h\left(\frac{z}{a}, \frac{\sqrt{\tau}}{a}, a P_z, a \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, a M_N\right) = \frac{1}{2a P_z} \left\langle a P_z \left| \bar{\chi}\left(\frac{z}{a}; \frac{\sqrt{\tau}}{a}\right) W\left(0, \frac{z}{a}; \frac{\sqrt{\tau}}{a}\right) \gamma_z \frac{\lambda^a}{2} \chi\left(0; \frac{\sqrt{\tau}}{a}\right) \right| a P_z \right\rangle_C$$

RELATION TO PDFs

CJM & K. Orginos, JHEP 03 (2017) 116

Introduce Mellin moments

$$b_n \left(\sqrt{\tau} P^z, \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{P^z}, \frac{M_N}{P^z} \right) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx x^{n-1} q(x, \sqrt{\tau} P^z, \sqrt{\tau} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, \sqrt{\tau} M_N)$$

In limit of vanishing separation z

$$b_n \left(\sqrt{\tau} P^z, \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{P^z}, \frac{M_N}{P^z} \right) = \frac{c_n(\sqrt{\tau} P^z)}{2P^z} \left\langle P^z \left| \chi(z, \tau) \gamma_z (iD_z)^{n-1} \frac{\lambda^a}{2} \chi(0, \tau) \right| P^z \right\rangle_C$$

Unlike PDFs these matrix elements are not twist-2, but related via

$$b_n \left(\sqrt{\tau} P^z, \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{P^z}, \frac{M_N}{P^z} \right) = C(\sqrt{\tau} \mu, \sqrt{\tau} P^z) a_n(\mu) + \mathcal{O} \left(\sqrt{\tau} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{(P^z)^2} \right)$$

RELATION TO PDFs

CJM & K. Orginos, JHEP 03 (2017) 116

Introduce a kernel with Mellin moments

$$\left[C_n^{(0)}(\sqrt{\tau}\mu, \sqrt{\tau}P_z) \right]^{-1} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx x^{n-1} Z(x, \sqrt{\tau}\mu, \sqrt{\tau}P_z)$$

Then, assuming one corrects for target mass effects and that

$$\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, M_N \ll P_z \ll \tau^{-1/2}$$

This leads to

$$q(x, \sqrt{\tau}\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, \sqrt{\tau}P_z) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{dy}{y} Z\left(\frac{x}{y}, \sqrt{\tau}\mu, \sqrt{\tau}P_z\right) f(y, \mu^2) + \mathcal{O}\left(\sqrt{\tau}\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{(P_z)^2}\right)$$

DGLAP EQUATION

CJM & K. Orginos, JHEP 03 (2017) 116

PDFs obey

$$\mu \frac{d f(x, \mu)}{d\mu} = \frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{\pi} \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} f(y, \mu) P\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$$

and (renormalised) moments obey

$$\left[\mu \frac{d}{d\mu} - \frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{\pi} \gamma^{(n)} \right] a^{(n)}(\mu) = 0$$

with

$$\int_0^1 dx x^{n-1} P(x) = \gamma^{(n)}$$

DGLAP EQUATION

CJM & K. Orginos, JHEP 03 (2017) 116

Introducing a small-flow time expansion

$$b_n^{(s)}(\sqrt{\tau}\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}) = C_n^{(0)}(\sqrt{\tau}\mu, \sqrt{\tau}P_z) a^{(n)}(\mu) + \mathcal{O}\left(\sqrt{\tau}\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{P_z^2}\right)$$

such that

$$\left[\mu \frac{d}{d\mu} + \frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{\pi} \gamma^{(n)} \right] C_n^{(0)}(\sqrt{\tau}\mu, \sqrt{\tau}P_z) = 0 + \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{\tau}\Lambda_{\text{QCD}})$$

The matching kernel satisfies

$$\mu \frac{d}{d\mu} Z(x, \sqrt{\tau}\mu, \sqrt{\tau}P_z) = \frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{\pi} \int_x^\infty \frac{dy}{y} Z(y, \sqrt{\tau}\mu, \sqrt{\tau}P_z) P\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$$

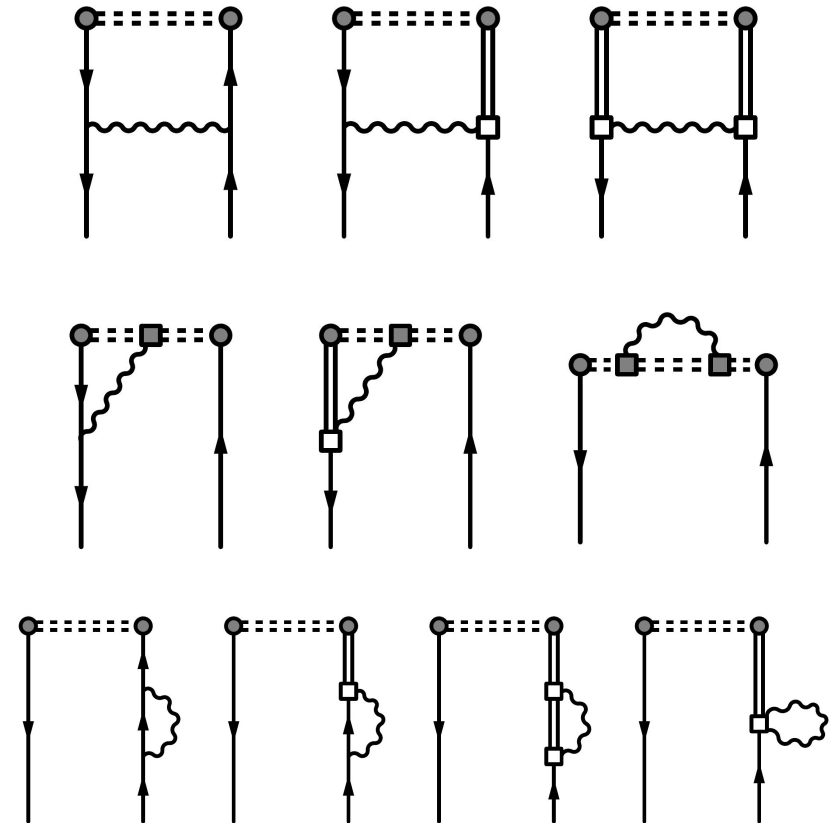
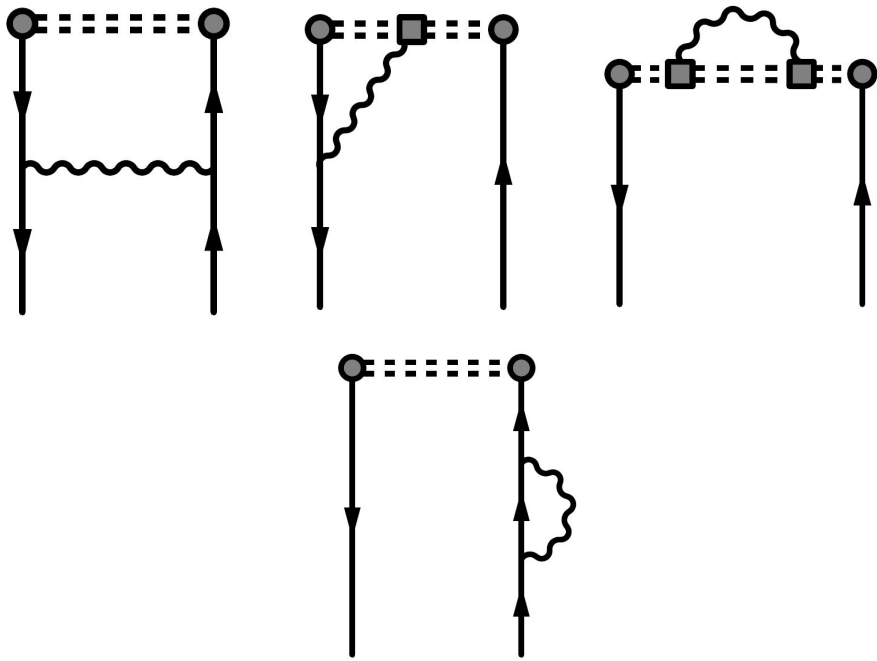
MATCHING IN PERTURBATION THEORY

MATCHING IN PERTURBATION THEORY

Axial gauge simplest. But gradient flow requires generalised Feynman gauge.

Quasi distribution

Smeared quasi distribution



MATCHING IN PERTURBATION THEORY

In principle, one can calculate these diagrams directly.

In practice, integrals not solvable analytically

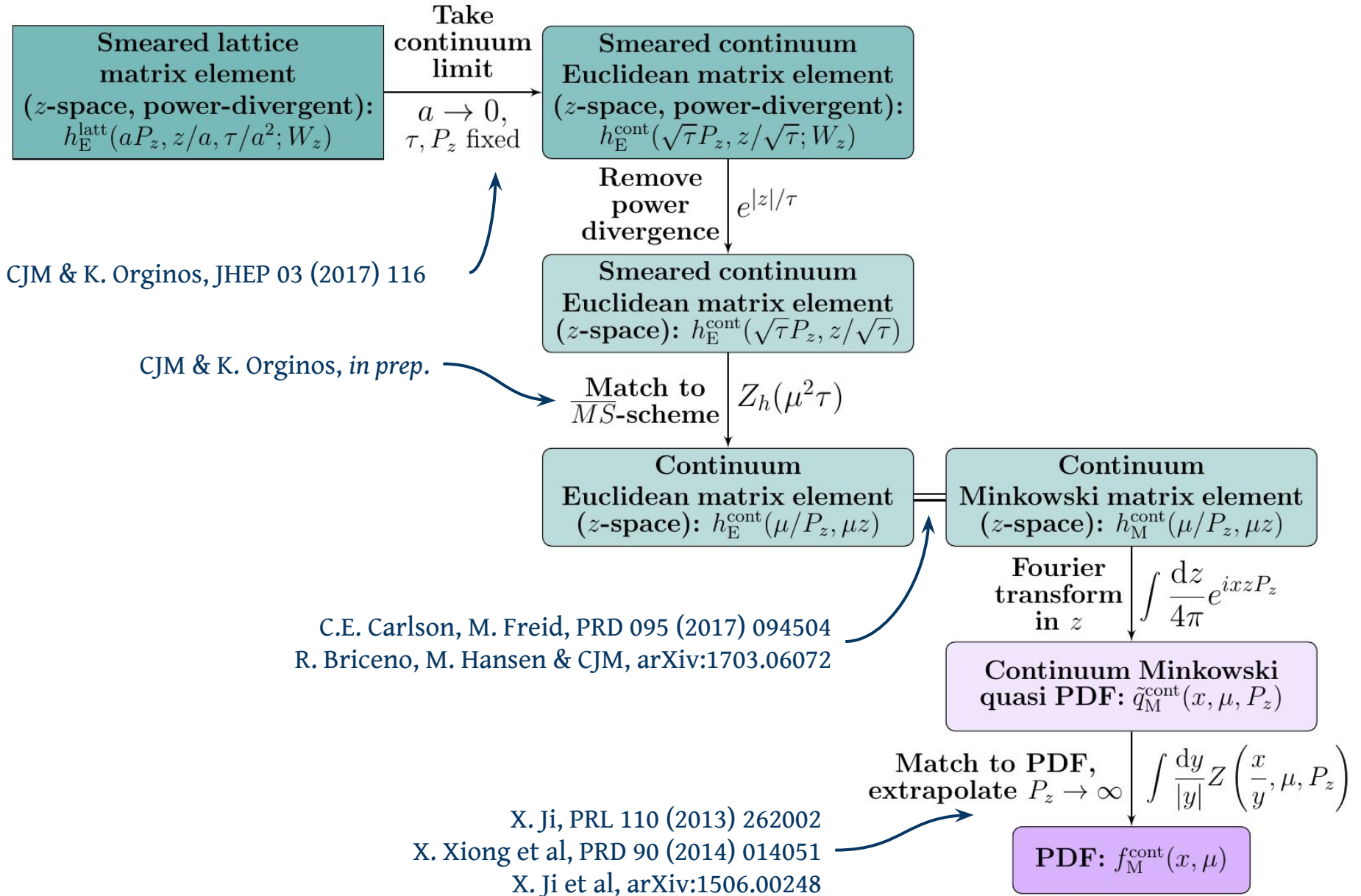
- usual techniques (or at least, all the ones I can think of) fail

Matching procedure considerably simplified in coordinate space:

- infrared behaviour identical
- set external mass and momentum to zero
- reduces number of diagrams and simplifies remaining integrals

One-loop calculation complete - but not checked

GRADIENT FLOW PROCEDURE



SUMMARY

◦ **PDFs FROM FIRST PRINCIPLES: QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS**

Quasi distributions

Current issues - the continuum limit

◦ **THE GRADIENT FLOW**

Matrix elements finite at fixed flow time

◦ **SMEARED QUASI DISTRIBUTIONS**

Finite continuum distributions

Matching in perturbation theory ~ complete

Nonperturbative study of systematics underway

THANK YOU

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QCD

QCD

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} B_\mu(\tau, x) = D_\nu \left(\partial_\nu B_\mu - \partial_\mu B_\nu + [B_\nu, B_\mu] \right) \quad D_\mu = \partial_\mu + [B_\mu, \cdot]$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \chi(\tau, x) = D_\mu^F D_\mu^F \chi(\tau, x) \quad D_\mu^F = \partial_\mu + B_\mu$$

Exact solution not possible (even with Dirichlet boundary conditions)

$$B_\mu(\tau, x) = \int d^4 y \left\{ K_\tau(x-y)_{\mu\nu} A_\nu(y) + \int_0^\tau d\sigma K_{\tau-\sigma}(x-y)_{\mu\nu} R_\nu(\sigma, y) \right\}$$

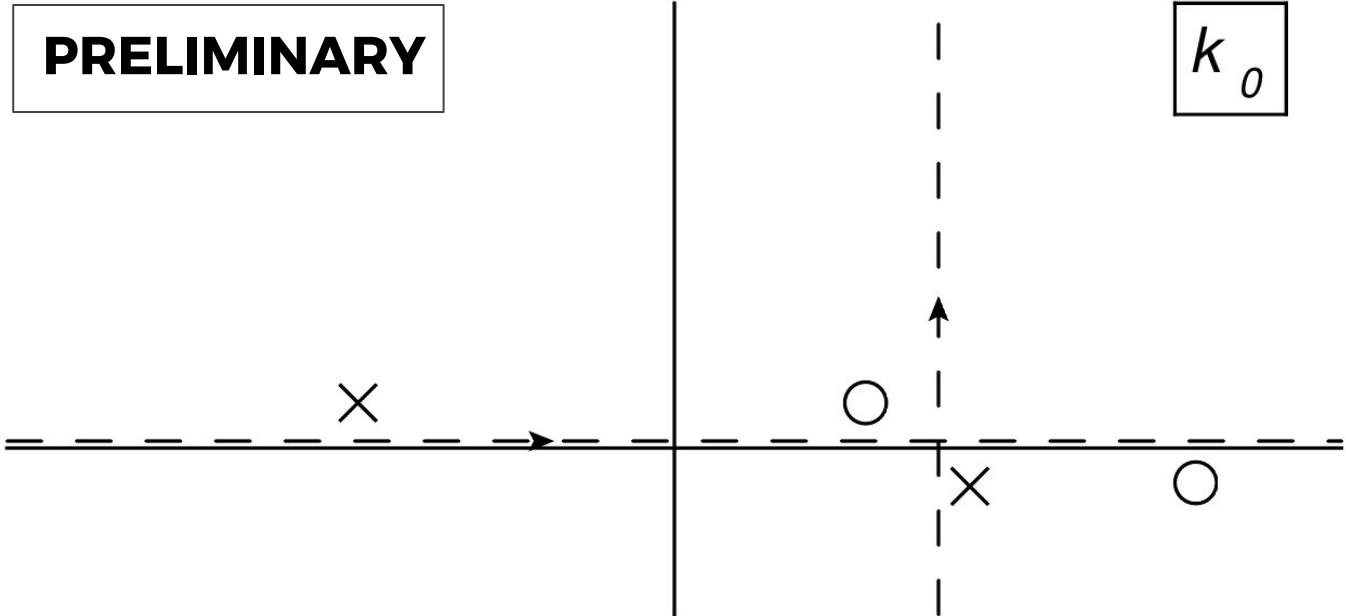
$$K_\tau(x)_{\mu\nu} = \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{e^{ipx}}{p^2} \left\{ (\delta_{\mu\nu} p^2 - p_\mu p_\nu) e^{-\tau p^2} + p_\mu p_\nu \right\}$$

$$R_\mu(\tau, x) = 2[B_\nu, \partial_\nu B_\mu] - [B_\nu, \partial_\mu B_\nu] - [B_\mu, \partial_\nu B_\nu] + [B_\nu, [B_\nu, B_\mu]]$$

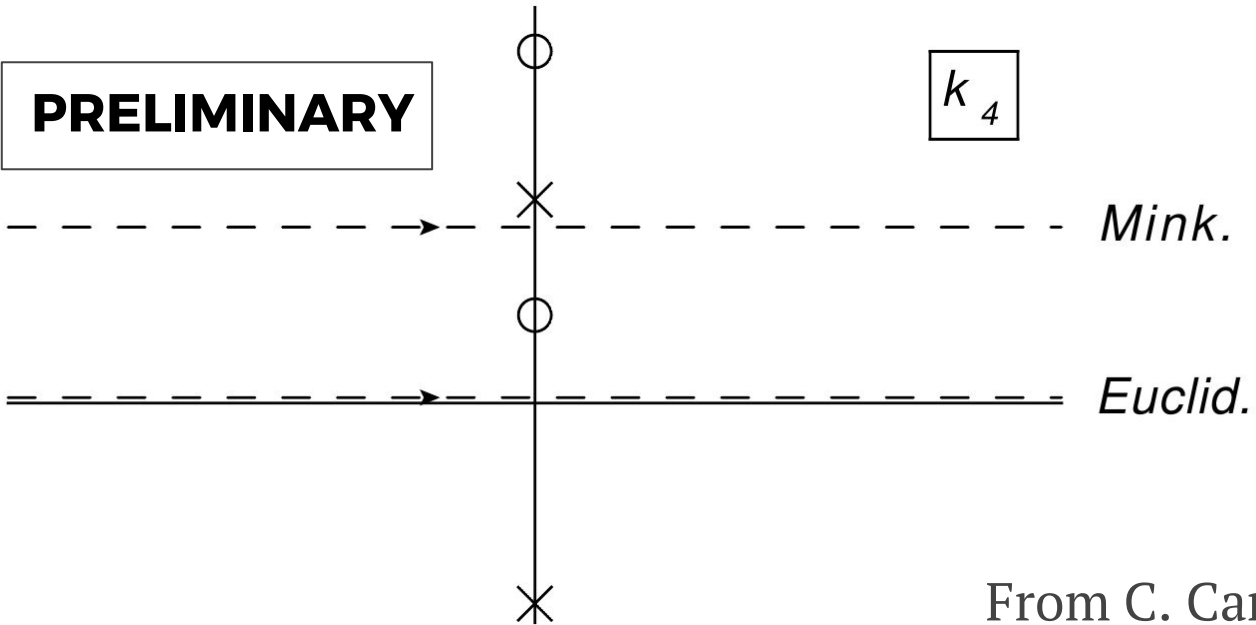
Smearing radius $s_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{8\tau}$

Interactions occur at non-zero flow time: generalised BRST symmetry guarantees renormalised correlation functions remain finite.

PRELIMINARY



PRELIMINARY



From C. Carlson & M. Freid (2017)
“Lattice corrections to the quark quasidistribution at one-loop”

EXPERIMENTAL EXTRACTION

Process	Subprocess	Partons	x range
$\ell^\pm \{p, n\} \rightarrow \ell^\pm X$	$\gamma^* q \rightarrow q$	q, \bar{q}, g	$x \gtrsim 0.01$
$\ell^\pm n/p \rightarrow \ell^\pm X$	$\gamma^* d/u \rightarrow d/u$	d/u	$x \gtrsim 0.01$
$pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- X$	$u\bar{u}, d\bar{d} \rightarrow \gamma^*$	\bar{q}	$0.015 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.35$
$pn/pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- X$	$(u\bar{d})/(u\bar{u}) \rightarrow \gamma^*$	\bar{d}/\bar{u}	$0.015 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.35$
$\nu(\bar{\nu}) N \rightarrow \mu^-(\mu^+) X$	$W^* q \rightarrow q'$	q, \bar{q}	$0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.5$
$\nu N \rightarrow \mu^- \mu^+ X$	$W^* s \rightarrow c$	s	$0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.2$
$\bar{\nu} N \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- X$	$W^* \bar{s} \rightarrow \bar{c}$	\bar{s}	$0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.2$
$e^\pm p \rightarrow e^\pm X$	$\gamma^* q \rightarrow q$	g, q, \bar{q}	$10^{-4} \lesssim x \lesssim 0.1$
$e^+ p \rightarrow \bar{\nu} X$	$W^+ \{d, s\} \rightarrow \{u, c\}$	d, s	$x \gtrsim 0.01$
$e^\pm p \rightarrow e^\pm c\bar{c}X, e^\pm b\bar{b}X$	$\gamma^* c \rightarrow c, \gamma^* g \rightarrow c\bar{c}$	c, b, g	$10^{-4} \lesssim x \lesssim 0.01$
$e^\pm p \rightarrow \text{jet}+X$	$\gamma^* g \rightarrow q\bar{q}$	g	$0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.1$
$p\bar{p}, pp \rightarrow \text{jet}+X$	$gg, qg, qq \rightarrow 2j$	g, q	$0.00005 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.5$
$p\bar{p} \rightarrow (W^\pm \rightarrow \ell^\pm \nu) X$	$ud \rightarrow W^+, \bar{u}\bar{d} \rightarrow W^-$	u, d, \bar{u}, \bar{d}	$x \gtrsim 0.05$
$pp \rightarrow (W^\pm \rightarrow \ell^\pm \nu) X$	$u\bar{d} \rightarrow W^+, d\bar{u} \rightarrow W^-$	$u, d, \bar{u}, \bar{d}, g$	$x \gtrsim 0.001$
$p\bar{p}(pp) \rightarrow (Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) X$	$uu, dd, ..(u\bar{u}, ..) \rightarrow Z$	$u, d, ..(g)$	$x \gtrsim 0.001$
$pp \rightarrow W^- c, W^+ \bar{c}$	$gs \rightarrow W^- c$	s, \bar{s}	$x \sim 0.01$
$pp \rightarrow (\gamma^* \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) X$	$u\bar{u}, d\bar{d}, .. \rightarrow \gamma^*$	\bar{q}, g	$x \gtrsim 10^{-5}$
$pp \rightarrow b\bar{b} X, t\bar{t} X$	$gg \rightarrow b\bar{b}, t\bar{t}$	g	$x \gtrsim 10^{-5}, 10^{-2}$
$pp \rightarrow \text{exclusive } J/\psi, \Upsilon$	$\gamma^*(gg) \rightarrow J/\psi, \Upsilon$	g	$x \gtrsim 10^{-5}, 10^{-4}$
$pp \rightarrow \gamma X$	$gq \rightarrow \gamma q, g\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma\bar{q}$	g	$x \gtrsim 0.005$