

Spin-orbit coupling in QCD

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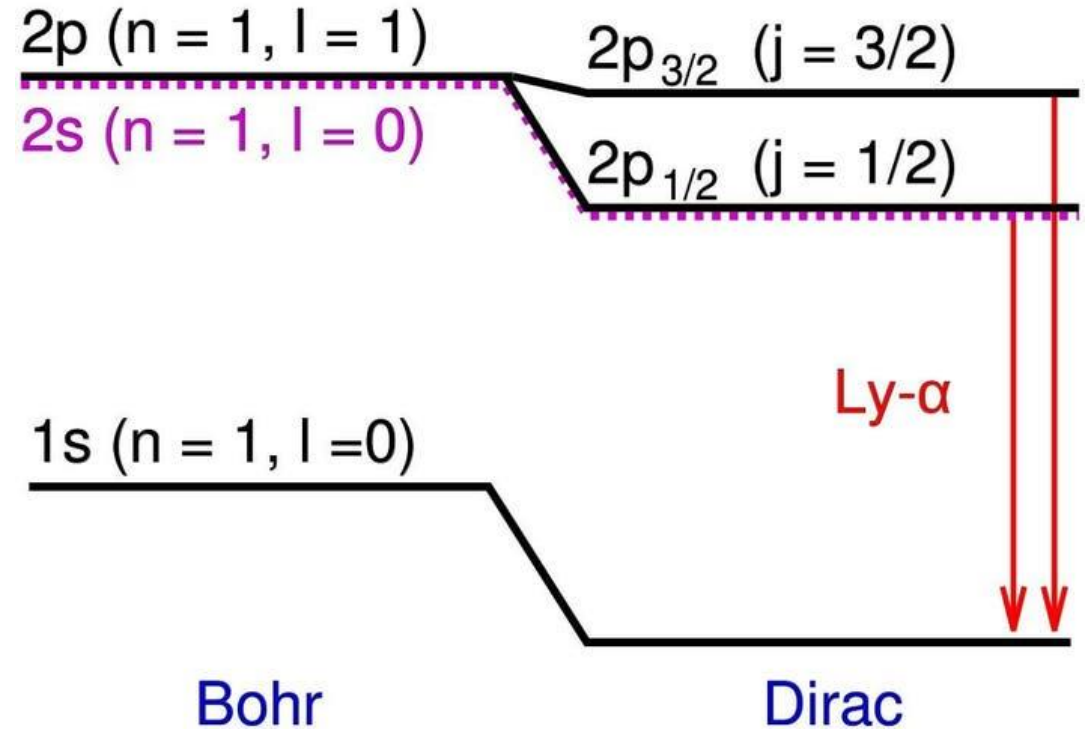
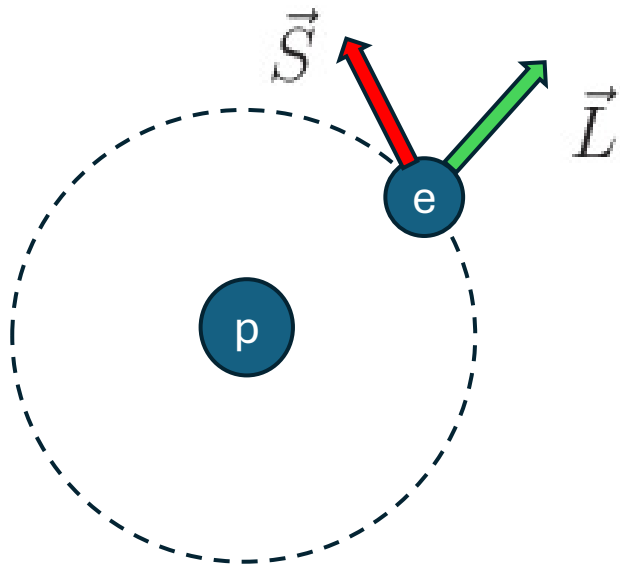
2404.04208; 2404.04209 with Shohini Bhattacharya, Renaud Boussarie,

2404.18872 with Jakob Schoenleber

2410.16082 with Jake Montgomery

Spin-orbit coupling in atoms

$$V = -\frac{\mu_B e}{mc^2 r^3} \vec{S} \cdot \vec{L}$$



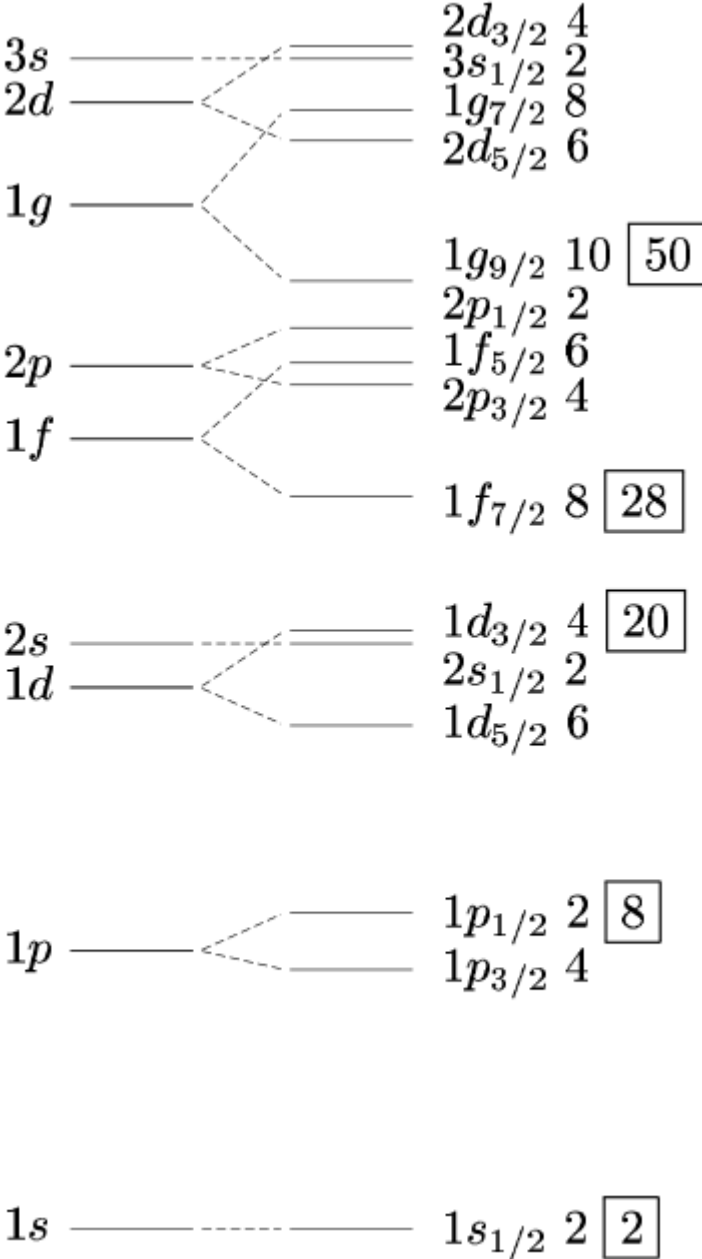
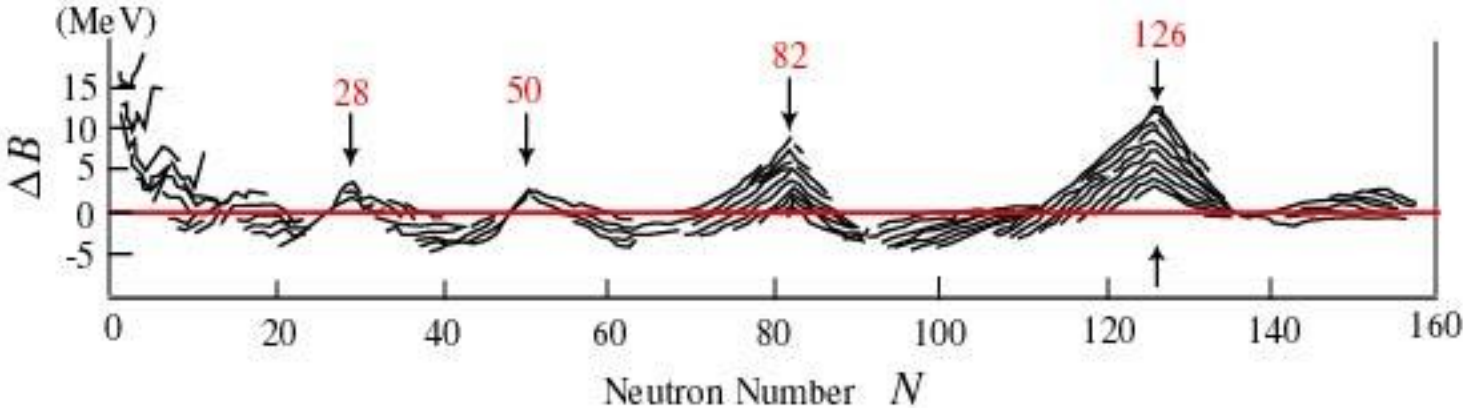
$\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B}$ in the electron rest frame + relativistic effects contributes to the **fine structure** of atoms

Spin-orbit coupling in nuclei

In the nuclear shell model, nucleons orbiting inside a nucleus feel a spin-orbit force

Strong spin-orbit coupling → **magic numbers**

Mayer & Jensen Nobel prize (1963)



Spin-orbit coupling in nucleons?

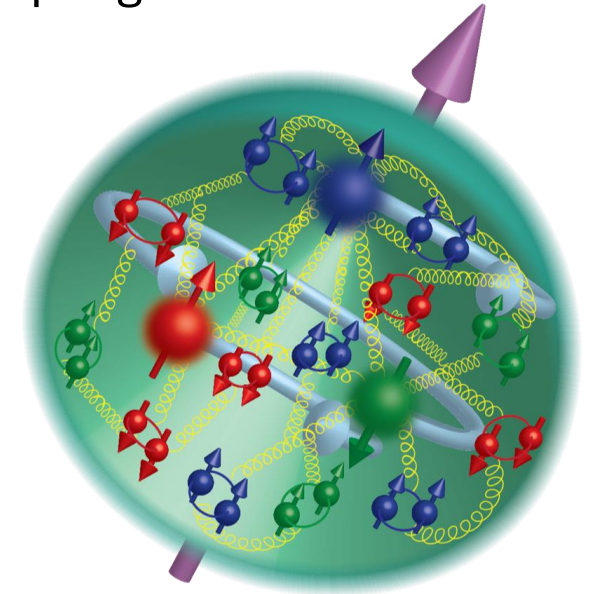
Quarks and gluons carry spin and OAM. Naturally there should be spin-orbit coupling

The number of quarks and gluons indefinite
Gluon spin and OAM need to be carefully defined

- Go to infinite momentum frame
- Gauge invariant **canonical** OAM

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\Delta\Sigma}_{\text{spin}} + \underbrace{\Delta G}_{\text{spin}} + \underbrace{L_q}_{\text{orbit}} + \underbrace{L_g}_{\text{orbit}}$$

Consider correlation $\mathbf{S}^z \mathbf{L}^z$, closest analog of $\vec{S} \cdot \vec{L}$ in nonrelativistic systems



Quark spin-orbit correlation

Polarized quark GTMD

Meissner, Metz, Schlegel (2008)

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{f}_q(x, \xi, k_\perp, \Delta_\perp) &= \int \frac{d^3 z}{2(2\pi)^3} e^{ixP^+ z^- - ik_\perp \cdot z_\perp} \langle p' s' | \bar{q}(-z/2) W_\pm \gamma^+ \gamma_5 q(z/2) | ps \rangle \\ &= \frac{-i}{2M} \bar{u}(p' s') \left[\frac{\epsilon_{ij} k_\perp^i \Delta_\perp^j}{M^2} G_{1,1}^q + \frac{\sigma^{i+} \gamma_5}{P^+} (k_\perp^i G_{1,2}^q + \Delta_\perp^i G_{1,3}^q) + \sigma^{+-} \gamma_5 G_{1,4}^q \right] u(ps)\end{aligned}$$

Quark spin-orbit correlation

Lorce, Pasquini (2011)

$$C_q = \int dx \int d^2 k_\perp \frac{k_\perp^2}{M^2} G_{1,1}^q(x, k_\perp, 0) \sim \langle S^z L^z \rangle$$

Associated PDF

$$C_q(x) = \int d^2 k_\perp \frac{k_\perp^2}{M^2} G_{1,1}^q(x, k_\perp, 0)$$

$C_q > 0$ if helicity and OAM are aligned, $C_q < 0$ if they are anti-aligned

Gluon spin-orbit correlation

Polarized gluon GTMD

$$\begin{aligned} x\tilde{f}_g(x, \xi, k_\perp, \Delta_\perp) &= i \int \frac{d^3 z}{(2\pi)^3 P^+} e^{ixP^+ z^- - ik_\perp \cdot z_\perp} \langle p' | \tilde{F}^{+\mu}(-z/2) \widetilde{W}_\pm F_\mu^+(z/2) | p \rangle \\ &= \frac{-i}{2M} \bar{u}(p') \left[\frac{\epsilon_{ij} k^i \Delta^j}{M^2} G_{1,1}^g + \frac{\sigma^{i+} \gamma_5}{P^+} (k^i G_{1,2}^g + \Delta^i G_{1,3}^g) + \sigma^{+-} \gamma_5 G_{1,4}^g \right] u(p) \end{aligned}$$

$$xC_g(x) = \int d^2 k_\perp \frac{k_\perp^2}{M^2} G_{1,1}^g(x, k_\perp, 0)$$

$C_g(x)$ is odd. The first moment vanishes $\int dx C_g(x) = 0$

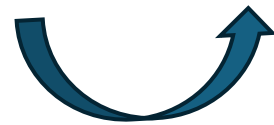
Orbital angular momentum and spin-orbit correlation

unpol Wigner

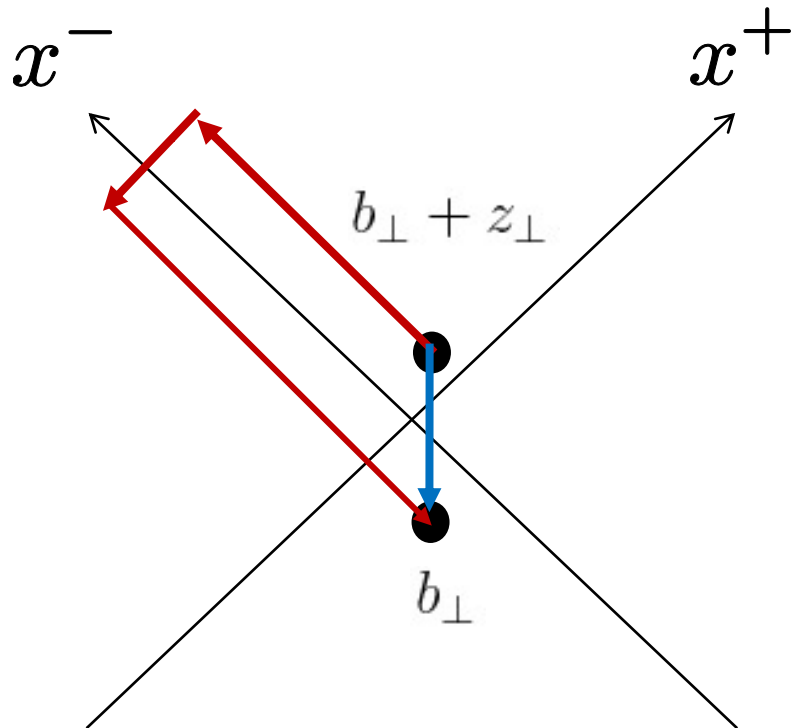
$$L_q(x) = \int dk_{\perp} db_{\perp} b_{\perp} \times k_{\perp} f_q(x, k_{\perp}, b_{\perp})$$

polarized Wigner

$$C_q(x) = \int dk_{\perp} db_{\perp} b_{\perp} \times k_{\perp} \tilde{f}_q(x, k_{\perp}, b_{\perp})$$



γ_5 rotation



Staple-shaped Wilson line \rightarrow canonical OAM [YH \(2011\)](#)

Straight Wilson line \rightarrow kinetic OAM [Ji, Xiong, Yuan \(2012\)](#)

Twist structure of OAM

YH, Yoshida (2012)

$$L_{can}^q(x) = x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'} (H_q(x') + E_q(x')) - x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} \tilde{H}_q(x')$$

Wandzura-Wilczek part

$$-x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int_{-1}^1 dx_2 \Phi_F(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{P} \frac{3x_1 - x_2}{x_1^2 (x_1 - x_2)^2}$$

genuine twist-3

$$-x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int_{-1}^1 dx_2 \tilde{\Phi}_F(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{P} \frac{1}{x_1^2 (x_1 - x_2)} .$$

$$\Phi_F \sim \langle P' | \bar{\psi} \gamma^+ F^{+i} \psi | P \rangle$$

$$M_F \sim \langle P' | F^{+\mu} F^{+i} F_{\mu}^+ | P \rangle$$

$$L_{can}^g(x) = \frac{x}{2} \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} (H_g(x') + E_g(x')) - x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} \Delta G(x')$$

$$+ 2x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^3} \int dX \Phi_F(X, x') + 2x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int_{-1}^1 dx_2 \tilde{M}_F(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{P} \frac{1}{x_1^3 (x_1 - x_2)}$$

$$+ 2x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int_{-1}^1 dx_2 M_F(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{P} \frac{2x_1 - x_2}{x_1^3 (x_1 - x_2)^2}$$

Twist structure of spin-orbit correlation

YH, Schoenleber (2024)

Unpol PDF

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_q(x) = & x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} x' \Delta q(x') - x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} q(x') \\
 & - x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int_{-1}^1 dx_2 \frac{\Psi_{qF}(x_1, x_2)}{x_1 - x_2} P \frac{3x_1 - x_2}{x_1^2(x_1 - x_2)} \\
 & - x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int_{-1}^1 dx_2 \tilde{\Psi}_{qF}(x_1, x_2) P \frac{1}{x_1^2(x_1 - x_2)},
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_g(x) = & x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} x' \Delta G(x') - 2x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} G(x') - 4x \sum_q \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^3} \int dX \tilde{\Psi}_{qF}(X, x') \\
 & + 4x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int dx_2 P \frac{\tilde{N}_F(x_1, x_2)}{x_1^3(x_1 - x_2)} + 4x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int dx_2 \frac{N_F(x_1, x_2)}{x_1^3(x_1 - x_2)} P \frac{2x_1 - x_2}{x_1 - x_2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Unexpected connection to $g_T(x)$

$$C_q(x) = \frac{\tilde{g}^q(x)}{2} - x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} q(x') + \dots$$

same

$$g_T^q(x) = -\frac{1}{2x} \tilde{g}^q(x) - \frac{1}{2x} \int dx' \frac{\tilde{G}_{Fq}(x, x') + G_{Fq}(x, x')}{x - x'} + \frac{m_q}{M} \frac{h_1^q(x)}{x}$$

`kinematical twist-3 part' of the $g_T(x)$ distribution

2 spin sum rules, 1 momentum sum rule?

Spin

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_q (A_{q+\bar{q}} + B_{q+\bar{q}}) + \frac{1}{2}(A_g + B_g) \quad \text{Ji (1996)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Delta\Sigma + \Delta G + L_q + L_g \quad \text{Jaffe, Manohar (1990)}$$

Momentum

$$1 = \sum_q A_{q+\bar{q}} + A_g \quad \text{Feynman (1969)}$$

2 spin sum rules, 2 momentum sum rules!

Spin

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_q (A_{q+\bar{q}} + B_{q+\bar{q}}) + \frac{1}{2}(A_g + B_g) \quad \text{Ji (1996)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Delta\Sigma + \Delta G + L_q + L_g \quad \text{Jaffe, Manohar (1990)}$$

Momentum

$$1 = \sum_q A_{q+\bar{q}} + A_g \quad \text{Feynman (1969)}$$

$$= -3C_q^{(2)} - \frac{3}{2}C_g^{(2)} + \frac{3}{2} \int_{-1}^1 dx dx' \left[\Lambda_q(x, x') + \frac{2x\tilde{\Lambda}_q(x, x') + \tilde{\Lambda}_G(x, x')}{x - x'} \right]$$

YH, Schoenleber (2024)

Physical meaning of the sum rule

2404.18872

$$1 = \underbrace{-3C_q^{(2)} - \frac{3}{2}C_g^{(2)}}_{\text{kinetic energy}} + \underbrace{\frac{3}{2} \int_{-1}^1 dx dx' \left[\Lambda_q(x, x') + \frac{2x\tilde{\Lambda}_q(x, x') + \tilde{\Lambda}_G(x, x')}{x - x'} \right]}_{\text{potential energy}}$$

$$\langle p' | \bar{q} \gamma^+ F^{+i} q | p \rangle \approx i \Delta^i \int dx dx' \Lambda_q(x, x')$$

Transverse force

$$F_a^{+i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})_a^i$$

color Lorentz force

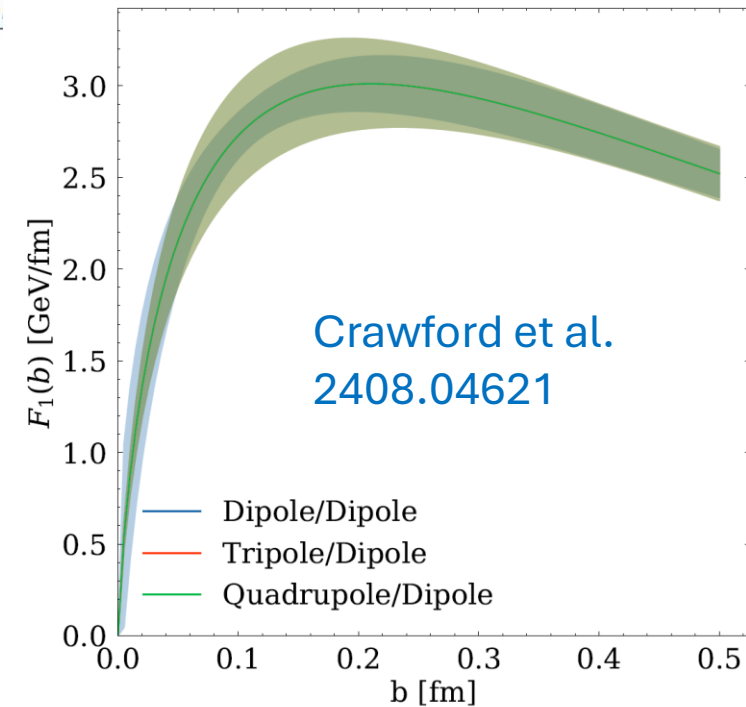
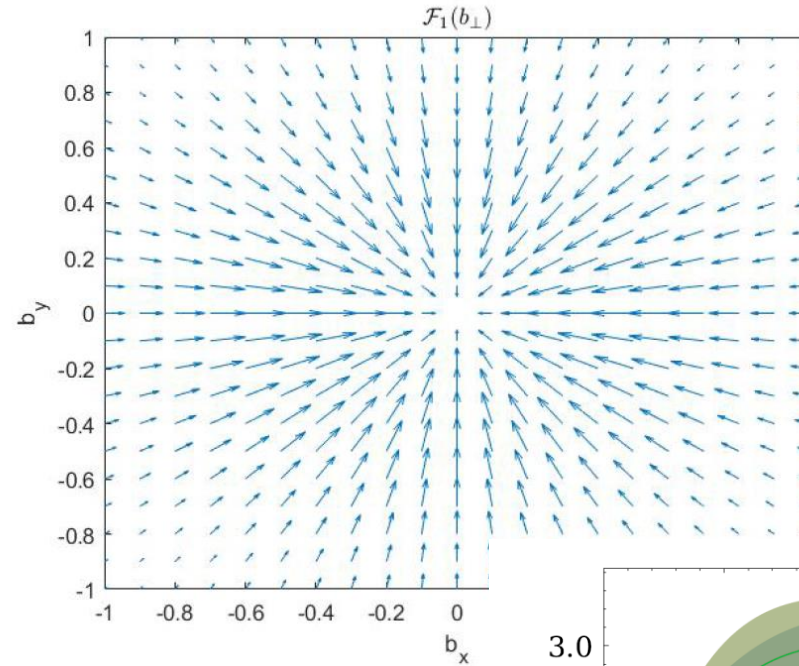
Burkardt (2008)

Force \rightarrow gradient of a **potential**

$$\mathcal{F}_q^i(b_\perp) \equiv -\frac{\partial}{\partial b^i} V_q(b_\perp)$$

$$\frac{3}{2} \int dx dx' \Lambda_q(x, x') = \int d^2 b_\perp V_q(b_\perp)$$

Aslan, Burkardt, Schlegel (2019)



Dual transverse force

$$\tilde{F}_a^{+i} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\vec{B} - \vec{v} \times \vec{E})_a^i \quad \text{Would-be Lorentz force acting on a magnetic monopole}$$

$$\langle p' | \bar{q}(0) \not{n} \gamma_5 g \left(t^b i \vec{D}^n - i \overleftarrow{D}^n t^b \right) q(0) \int_0^{\pm\infty} d\tau \mathcal{W}_{0,\tau n}^{ba} \tilde{F}_a^{ni}(\tau n) | p \rangle \xrightarrow{\Delta} i\Delta^i \int dx dx' \frac{2x \tilde{\Lambda}_q(x, x')}{x - x'}$$

final state interaction

Associated potential

$$\frac{3}{2} \int dx dx' \frac{2x \tilde{\Lambda}_q(x, x')}{x - x'} = \int d^2 b_\perp \tilde{V}_q(b_\perp) = \tilde{V}_q$$

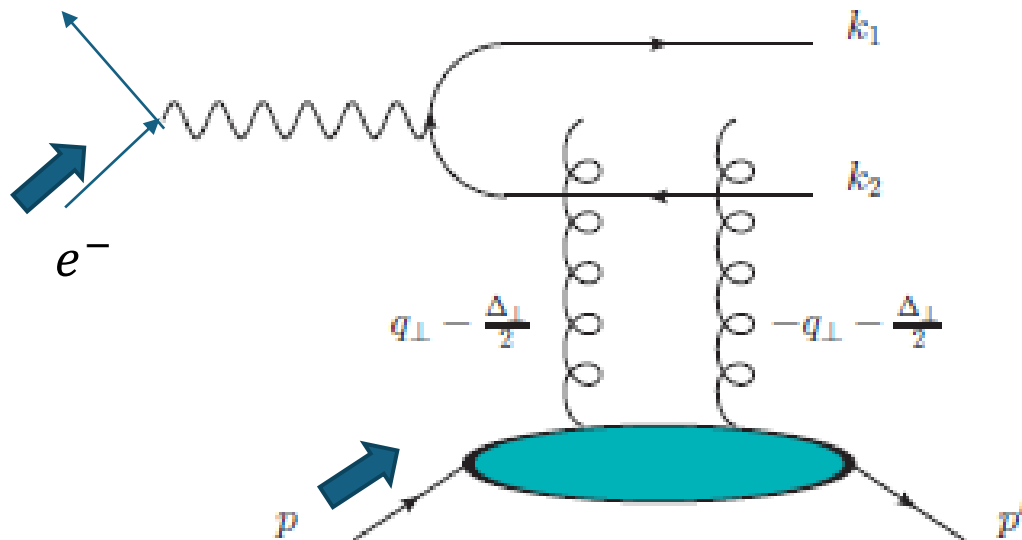
$$1 = T_q + T_G + V_q + \tilde{V}_q + \tilde{V}_G$$

Measuring spin-orbit correlation at the EIC

Quark and gluon GTMDs $G_{1,1}$ appeared in certain exclusive reactions,
e.g., [Bhattacharya, Metz, Zhou \(2017\)](#)
but no quantitative estimate made.

Longitudinal double spin asymmetry in diffractive dijets
→ previously proposed as a signal of **gluon OAM**

[Bhattacharya, Boussarie, YH, \(2022\)](#)



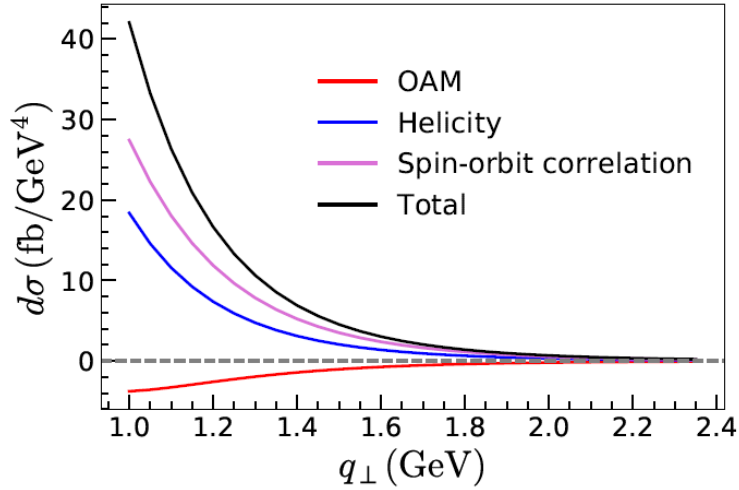
$$L^z \sim b_\perp \times k_\perp$$

conjugate to Δ_\perp
proton recoil momentum

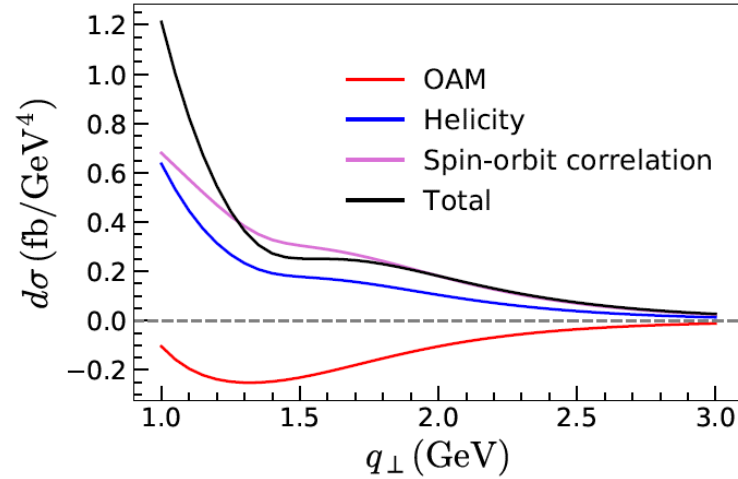
correlated with jet
transverse momentum

Cross section at the EIC (revised)

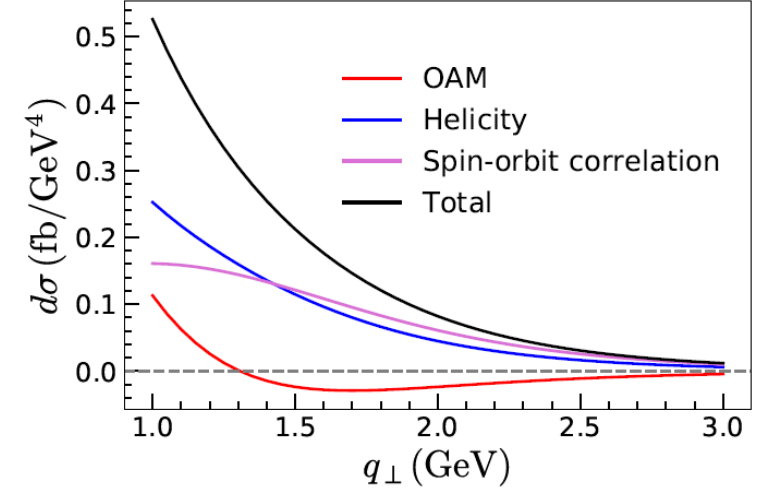
Bhattacharya, Boussarie, YH (2024)



$$Q^2 = 2.7 \text{ GeV}^2$$



$$Q^2 = 4.8 \text{ GeV}^2$$



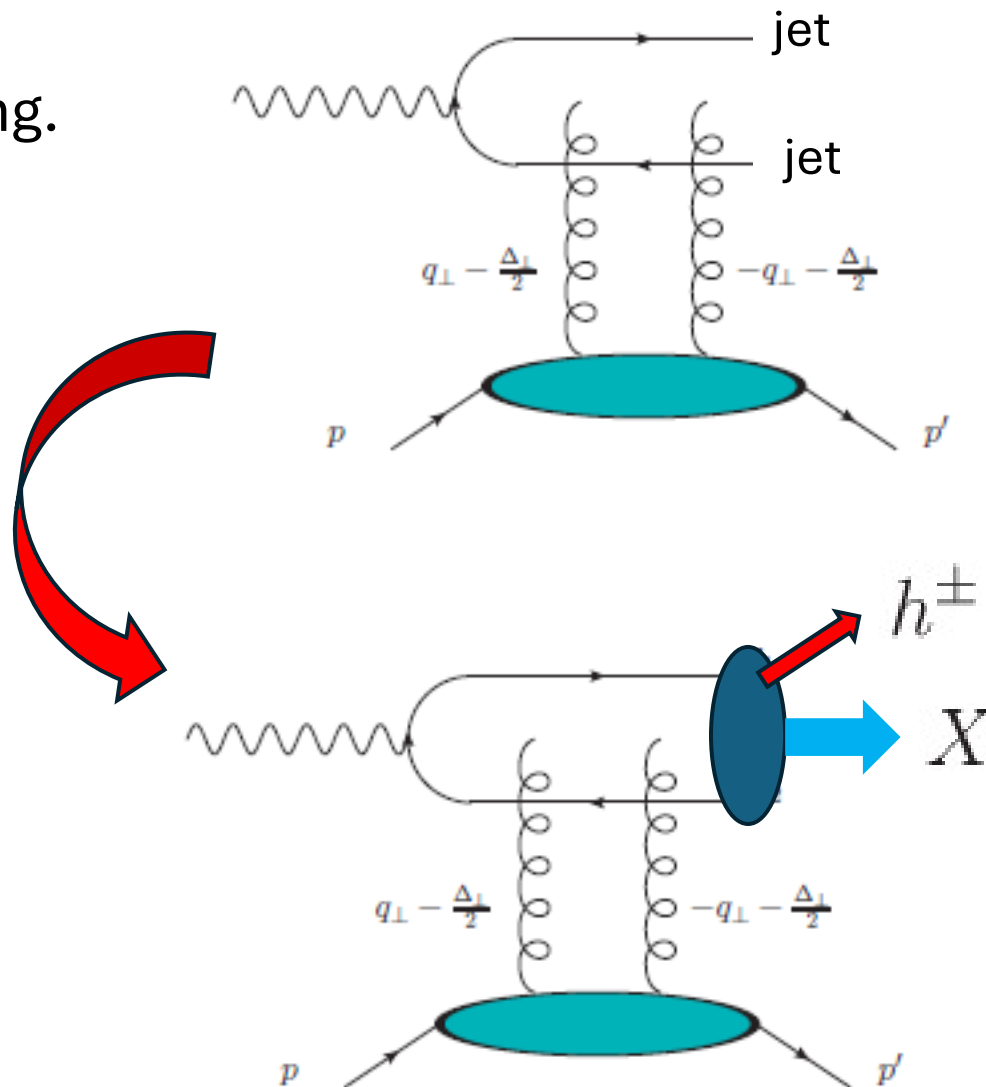
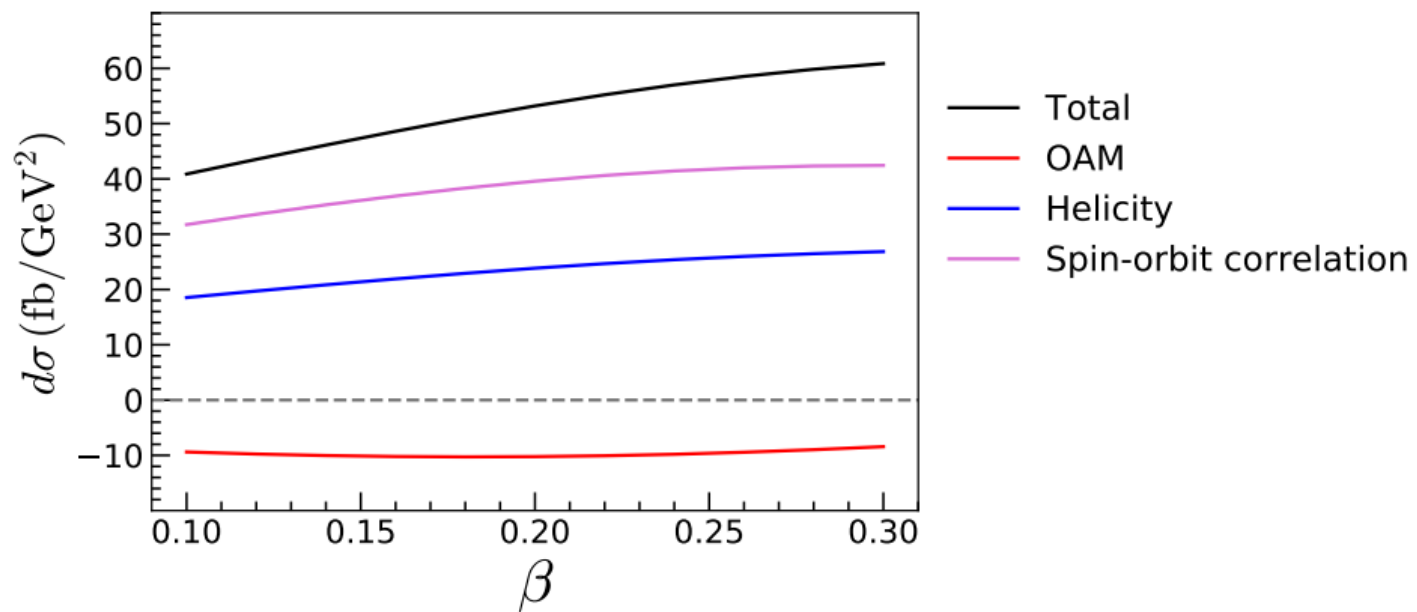
$$Q^2 = 10 \text{ GeV}^2$$

Semi-inclusive diffractive DIS (SIDDIS)

In practice, jet reconstruction at low-Pt is challenging.

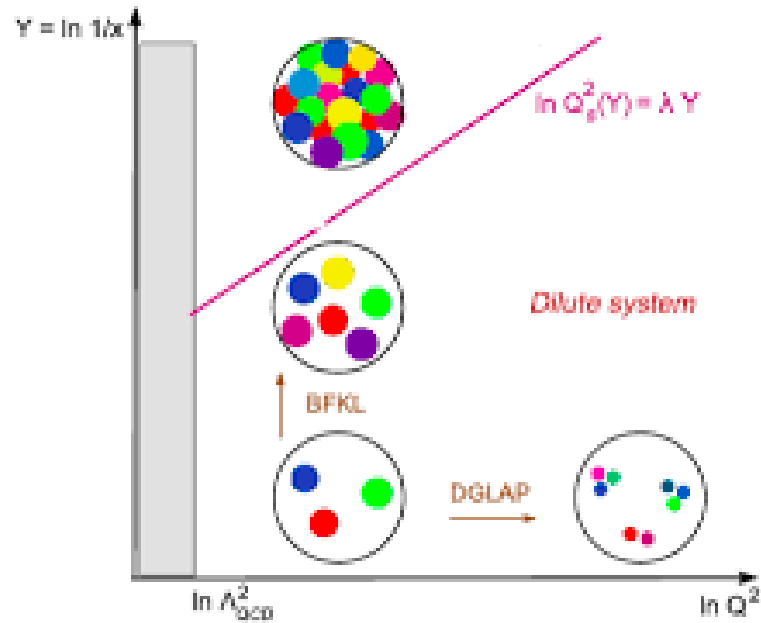
Re-interpret as SIDDIS

YH, Xiao, Yuan (2022)



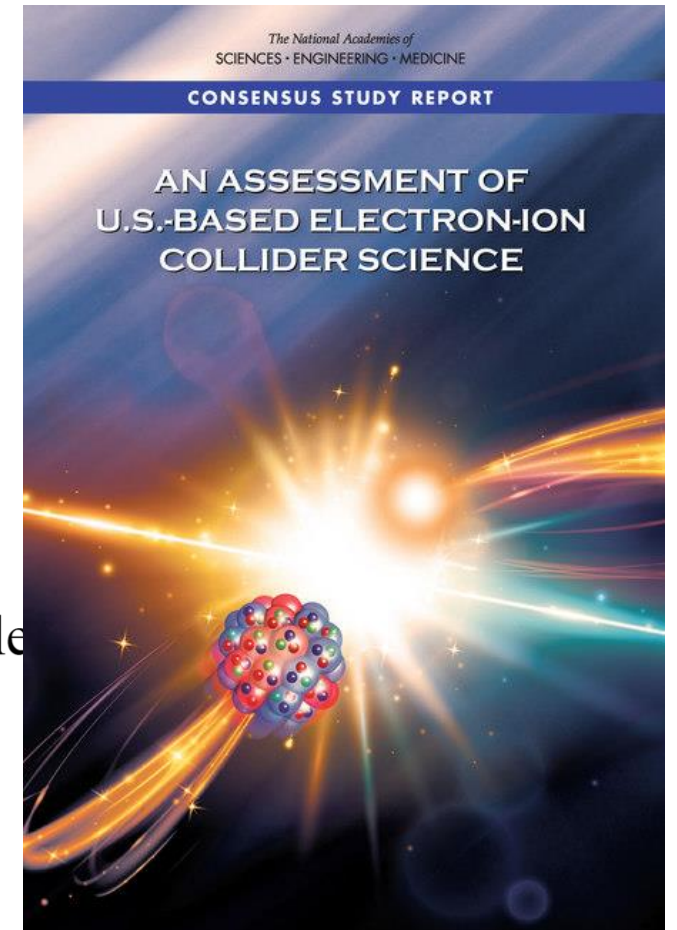
Spin-orbit correlation at small-x

Gluon saturation at small-x:
one of the core topics of EIC



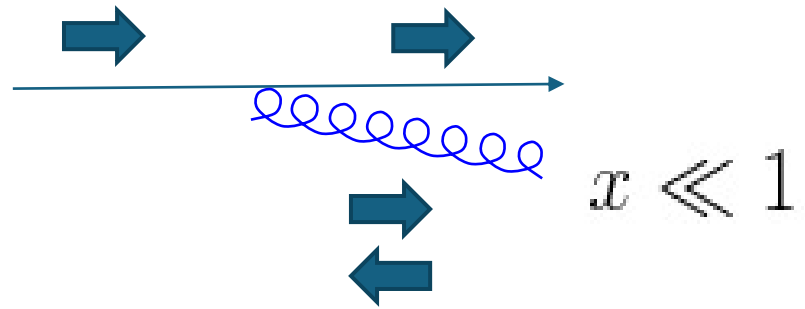
Finding 1: An EIC can uniquely address three profound questions about nucleon structure and how protons—and how they are assembled to form the nuclei of atoms:

- How does the mass of the nucleon arise?
- How does the spin of the nucleon arise?
- What are the emergent properties of dense systems of gluons?



Intuitive argument

Imagine a very energetic quark emits a soft gluon

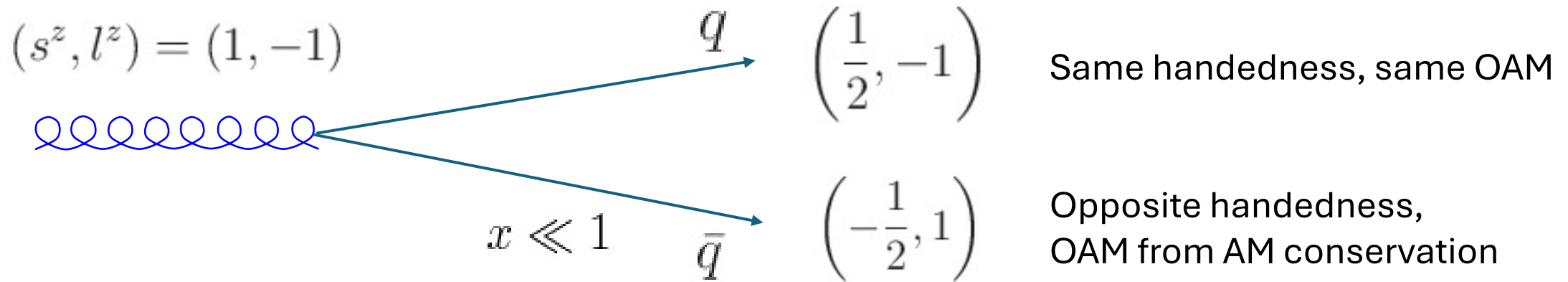


Quark spin and momentum (and OAM) unchanged.

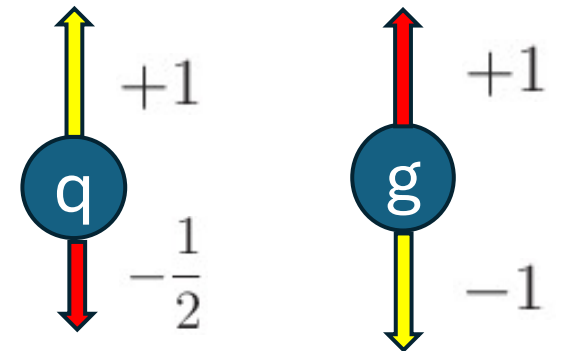
From angular momentum conservation, the total angular momentum of the emitted gluon must be zero

$$(s^z, l^z) = (\pm 1, \mp 1)$$

Imagine the emitted soft gluon further splits into a $q\bar{q}$ pair



Helicity and OAM are always in opposite directions
 Remarkably, only $L^z = \pm 1$ states appear in this argument



Gluon spin-orbit coupling at small-x

$$\frac{i}{x} \int \frac{d^3 z}{(2\pi)^3 P^+} e^{ixP^+ z^- - ik_\perp \cdot z_\perp} \langle p' | 2\text{Tr}[W_+ \tilde{F}^{+\mu}(-z/2) W_\pm F_\mu^+(z/2)] | p \rangle = -i \frac{\epsilon_{ij} k_\perp^i \Delta_\perp^j}{M^2} C_g^{[+\pm]}(x, \xi, k_\perp, \Delta_\perp),$$

Two gluon GTMDs from different configurations of Wilson lines

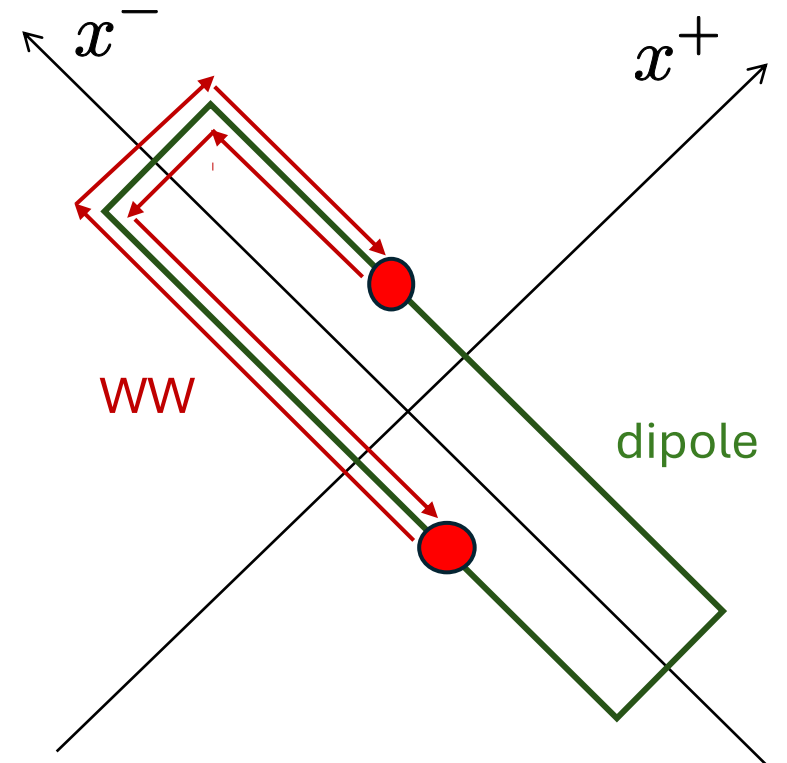
Weiszacker-Williams type

Dipole type

Bomhof, Mulders, Pijlman (2006)

Dominguez, Marquet, Xiao, Yuan (2011)

Approximate $e^{ixP^+ z^-} \approx 1$ (eikonal approximation)



Dipole gluon

$$\frac{x C_g^{\text{dip}}(x, k_\perp)}{M^2} = -\frac{2N_c}{\alpha_s} \int \frac{d^2 w_\perp d^2 z_\perp}{(2\pi)^4} e^{-ik_\perp \cdot (z_\perp - w_\perp)} \frac{\langle p | \frac{1}{N_c} \text{Tr} U(w_\perp) U^\dagger(z_\perp) - 1 | p \rangle}{\langle p | p \rangle}$$

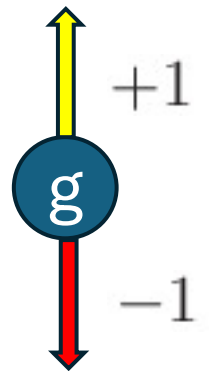
cf. Boer, van Daal, Mulders, Petreska (2018)

WW gluon

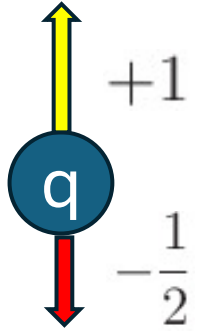
$$k_\perp^2 \frac{C_g^{\text{WW}}(x, k_\perp)}{M^2} = -f_g^{\text{WW}}(x, k_\perp) - \frac{C_F}{\pi \alpha_s x} \int \frac{d^2 b_\perp d^2 r_\perp}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-ik_\perp \cdot r_\perp} \partial_i^r D(r_\perp) \partial_i^r \left(\frac{1 - e^{\frac{N_c}{C_F} D(r_\perp)}}{D(r_\perp)} \right)$$

$$C_g^{\text{dip}}(x) = C_g^{\text{WW}}(x) = -G(x)$$

$-1 \times 1 = -1$ times the number of gluons



Quark spin-orbit coupling at small-x

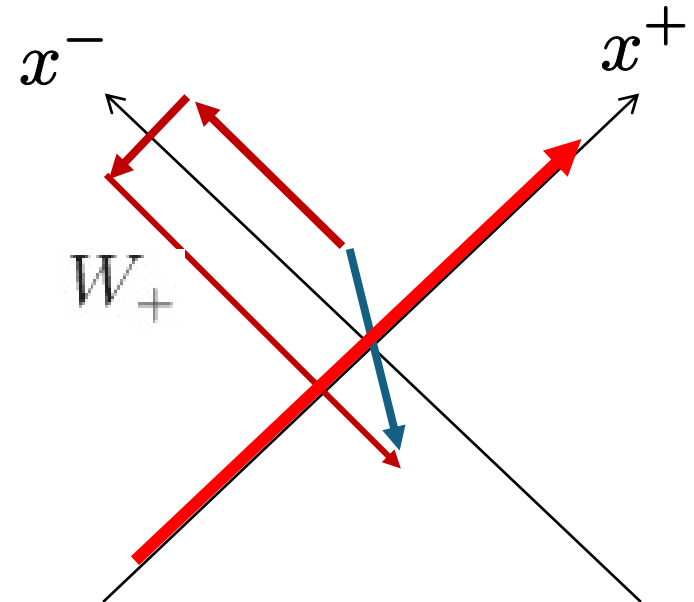


$$\int \frac{d^3 z}{2(2\pi)^3} e^{ixP^+ z^- - ik_\perp \cdot z_\perp} \langle p' | \bar{\psi}(-z/2) \gamma^+ \gamma_5 W_\pm \psi(z/2) | p \rangle = -i \frac{\epsilon_{ij} k_\perp^i \Delta_\perp^j}{M^2} C_q(x, \xi, k_\perp, \Delta_\perp)$$

$$\frac{C_q(x, k_\perp)}{M^2} = \frac{N_c S_\perp}{8\pi^4 x k_\perp^2} \int d^2 k_{g\perp} (k_\perp - k_{g\perp}) \cdot k_\perp \frac{\ln \frac{k_\perp^2}{(k_\perp - k_{g\perp})^2}}{k_\perp^2 - (k_\perp - k_{g\perp})^2} \frac{\langle p | \left(\frac{1}{N_c} \text{Tr} U U^\dagger - 1 \right) (k_{g\perp}) | p \rangle}{\langle p | p \rangle}$$

$$C_q(x) = -\frac{1}{2} q(x)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} \times 1 = -\frac{1}{2} \text{ times the number of quarks}$$



Quantum entanglement of spin and OAM

Bhattacharya, Boussarie, YH (2024)

$$s^z = \pm 1 \quad \text{Qubit (Alice)} \quad l^z = \pm 1 \quad \text{Qubit (Bob)}$$

Perfect spin-orbit **anti**-correlation at small-x \rightarrow 'Bell states'

$$|\Psi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|+\rangle_s |-\rangle_l + |-\rangle_s |+\rangle_l), \quad |\Psi^-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}i} (|+\rangle_s |-\rangle_l - |-\rangle_s |+\rangle_l)$$

Every single quark and gluon at small-x is a maximally entangled Bell state

$$\langle S^z \rangle = \langle L^z \rangle = 0 \quad \text{but} \quad \langle S^z L^z \rangle = -1$$

True nature of the system encoded in correlations

QED example

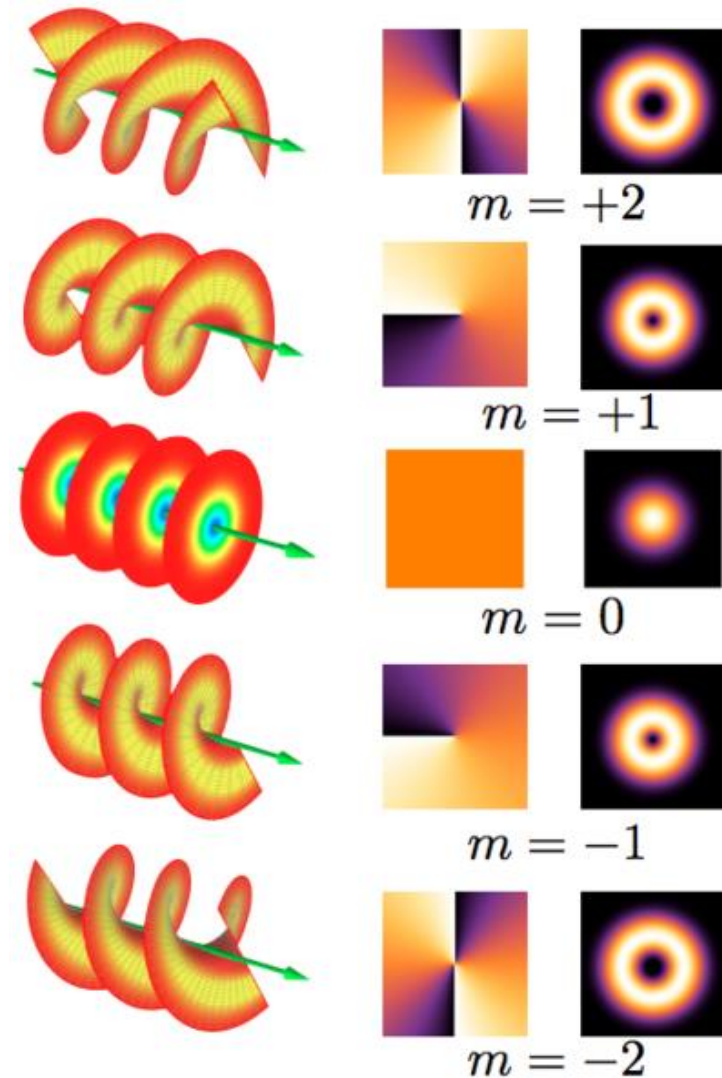
Photon OAM

$$|\pm\rangle_l \sim e^{\pm i\phi}$$

e.g., Laguerre-Gaussian beam

$$|\Psi^+\rangle \sim (1, i)e^{-i\phi} + (1, -i)e^{i\phi} \sim (\cos \phi, \sin \phi)$$

$$|\Psi^-\rangle \sim -i((1, i)e^{-i\phi} - (1, -i)e^{i\phi}) \sim (-\sin \phi, \cos \phi)$$



Quantum entanglement of the spin and orbital angular momentum of photons using metamaterials

TOMER STAV , ARKADY FAERMAN , ELHANAN MAGUID , DIKLA OREN , [...], AND MORDECHAI SEGEV

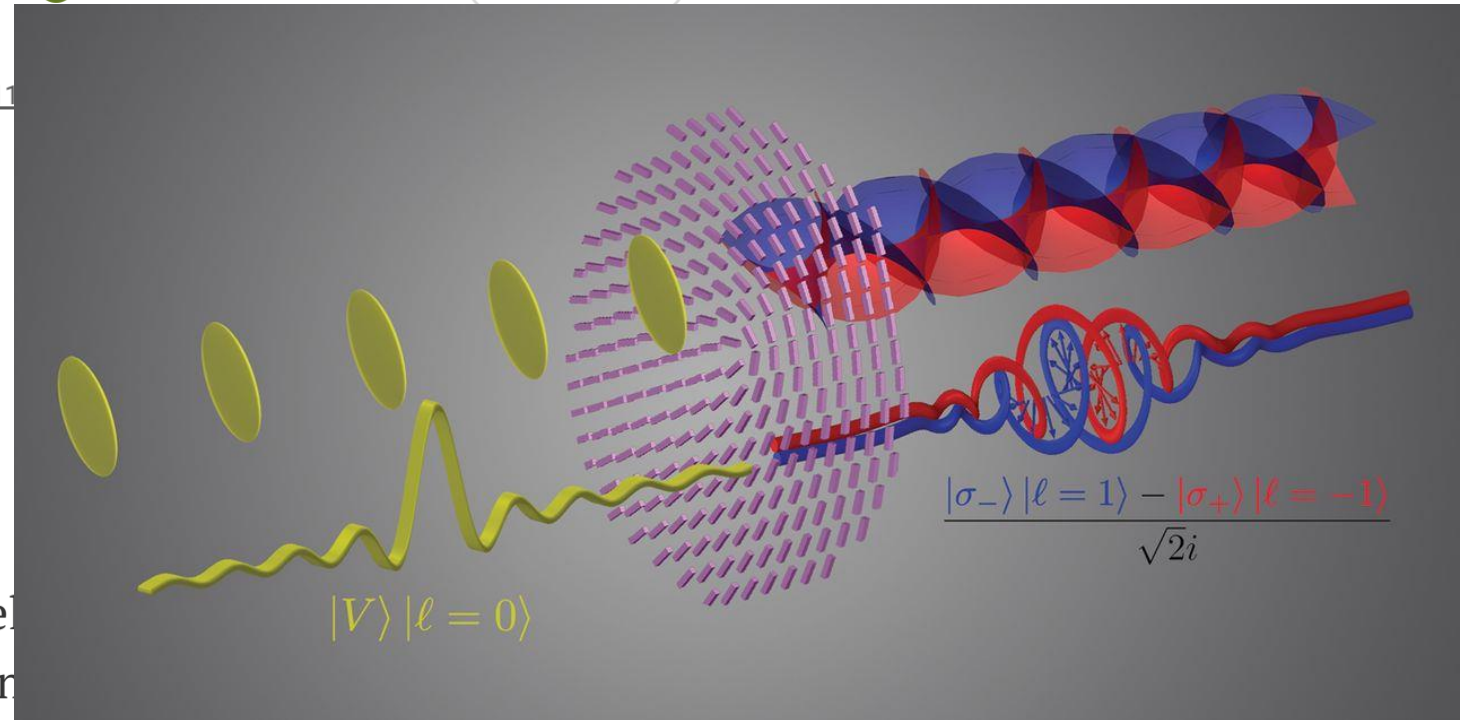
+2 authors

[Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

SCIENCE 14 Sep 2018 Vol 361, Issue 6407 pp. 1101-1104 DOI: 10.1126/science.1257511

Abstract

Metamaterials constructed from deep subwavelength phenomena ranging from negative refractive index to general relativity, and superresolution imaging. More recently, metamaterials have been suggested as a new platform for quantum optics. We present the use of a dielectric metasurface to generate entanglement between the spin and orbital angular momentum of photons. We demonstrate the genera-



In QCD, spin-orbit entanglement is a default property of soft partons!

Extension to arbitrary $0 < x < 1$

YH, Montgomery, 2410.16082

Bell states in the limit $x \rightarrow 0$, both quarks and gluons

$$|\Phi\rangle \approx |\Phi_{\pm}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(|+\rangle| -1\rangle \pm |-\rangle|1\rangle \right)$$

What happens when $x = \mathcal{O}(1)$?

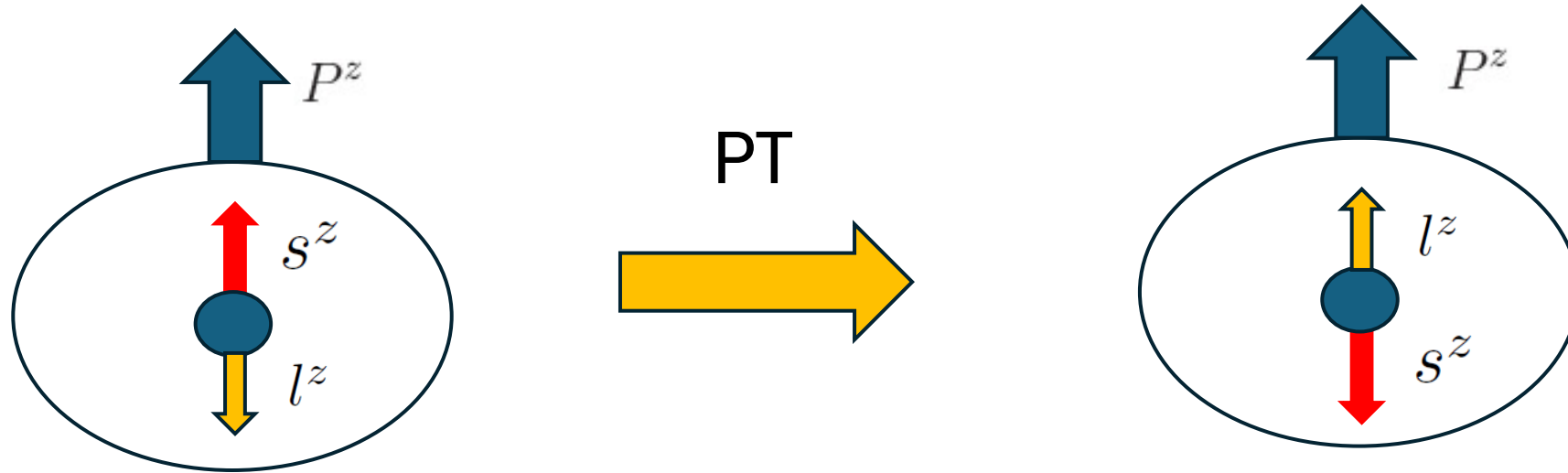
One can no longer argue that only $l^z = \pm 1$ are relevant

Qubit $l^z = \pm 1$  Qudit $l^z = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$

$$|\Phi\rangle = |+\rangle \left\{ a_1|1\rangle + a_0|0\rangle + a_{-1}| -1\rangle + \dots \right\} + |-\rangle \left\{ b_1|1\rangle + b_0|0\rangle + b_{-1}| -1\rangle + \dots \right\}$$

Parton as an entangled system of a qubit and a qudit

Parity & time-reversal



$$|\Phi\rangle = |+\rangle \left\{ a_1|1\rangle + a_0|0\rangle + a_{-1}|-1\rangle + \dots \right\} + |-\rangle \left\{ b_1|1\rangle + b_0|0\rangle + b_{-1}|-1\rangle + \dots \right\}$$

$$PT|\Phi\rangle = e^{i\varphi}|\Phi\rangle \quad \longrightarrow \quad b_l = e^{-i\varphi}(-1)^l a_{-l}^*$$

Caveat: The argument works only for gluons, not quarks (**Kramers degeneracy**)

Qutrit

Restrict to $l^z = 0, \pm 1$ \longrightarrow Qutrit

$$|l^z| \sim |\vec{k} \times \vec{b}| \sim 1 \quad \longleftarrow \quad \begin{aligned} |\vec{k}| &\lesssim \Lambda_{QCD} \sim 200 \text{ MeV} \\ |\vec{b}| &\lesssim 1 \text{ fm} \end{aligned}$$

Gluon as an entangled state between a qubit and a qutrit

$$|a_1|^2 + |a_0|^2 + |a_{-1}|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \quad |a_1|^2 - |a_{-1}|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{C_g(x)}{G(x)}$$

Maximal entanglement

Most general evolution of a qubit-qutrit system \rightarrow **U(6)** $(a_1, a_0, a_{-1}, b_1, b_0, b_{-1})$

PT & norm conservation $|a_1|^2 + |a_0|^2 + |a_{-1}|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow$ **U(3) x U(2)**

Local unitary transformations conserve entanglement entropy

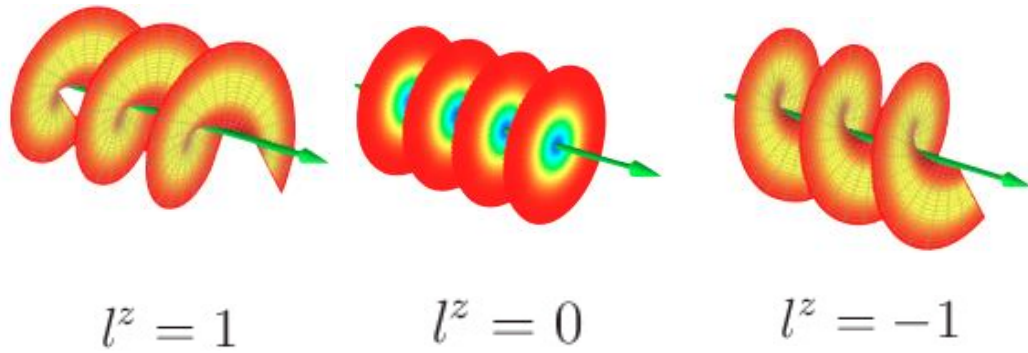
Gluons maximally entangled for any $0 < x < 1$ $\epsilon = \frac{1 + \frac{C_g(x)}{G(x)}}{2}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_0 \\ a_{-1} \end{pmatrix} = e^{i\theta} \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \epsilon & e^{i\chi} \sqrt{2\epsilon(1 - \epsilon)} & e^{2i\chi}\epsilon \\ -e^{-i\chi} \sqrt{2\epsilon(1 - \epsilon)} & 1 - 2\epsilon & e^{i\chi} \sqrt{2\epsilon(1 - \epsilon)} \\ e^{-2i\chi}\epsilon & -e^{-i\chi} \sqrt{2\epsilon(1 - \epsilon)} & 1 - \epsilon \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

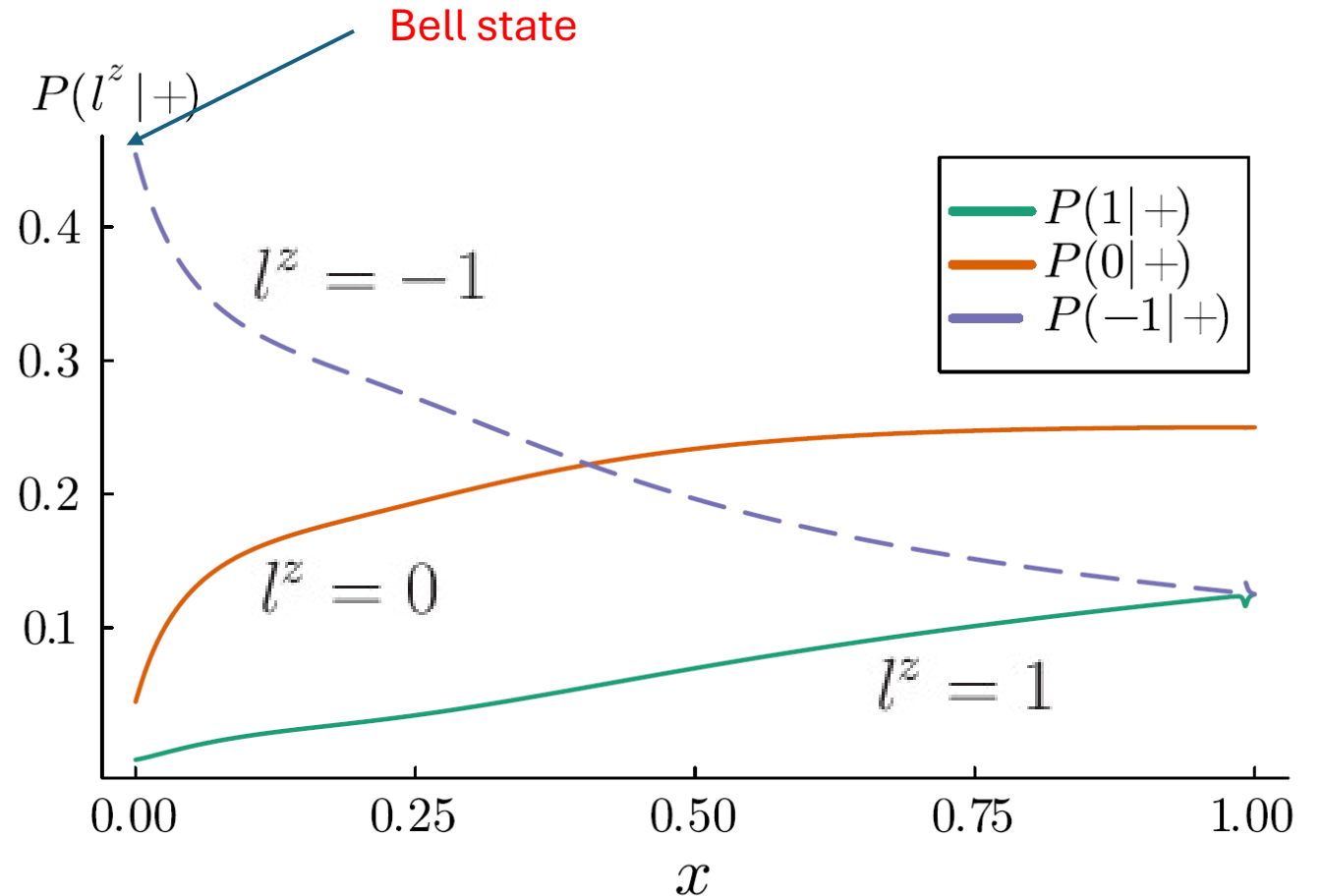
OAM conditional probability

Pick a gluon with $s^z = 1$

What are the probabilities that different values of l^z are realized?



$$C_g(x) \approx -2x \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z^2} g(z)$$



Conclusions

Spin-orbit coupling: ubiquitous phenomena in atomic physics, chemistry, and QCD

New momentum sum rule: momentum version of Jaffe-Manohar

New QCD-QIS connection:

Maximal entanglement between spin and OAM for quarks and gluons

Finding 1: An EIC can uniquely address three profound questions about nucleons—protons—and how they are assembled to form the nuclei of atoms:

- How does the mass of the nucleon arise?
- How does the spin of the nucleon arise?
- What are the emergent properties of dense systems of gluons?