

Transport coefficients of QCD at NLO



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Outline

- Transport coefficients: introduction and motivation
- Transport from an effective kinetic theory
- (almost) NLO kinetic theory and first-order coefficients
 - (full) NLO kinetic theory for jets: pedagogical review in JG Teaney **QGP5** (2015), gritty details in JG Moore Teaney **JHEP1603** (2015)
 - (almost) NLO 1st-order JG Moore Teaney, **JHEP1803** (2018)
- Second-order relaxation: results and bounds
 - JG Moore Teaney, **1805.02663**

Overview



Hydrodynamics

- Field theories admit a **long-wavelength** hydrodynamical limit. Hydrodynamics: Effective Theory based on a **gradient expansion** of the flow velocity
- For hydro **fluctuations** with local flow velocity \mathbf{v} around an **equilibrium state** (with temp. T), at **first order** in the gradients and in \mathbf{v}

$$T^{00} = e, \quad T^{0i} = (e + p)v^i$$

$$T^{ij} = (p - \zeta \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v})\delta^{ij} - \eta \left(\partial_i v^j + \partial_j v^i - \frac{2}{3} \delta^{ij} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} \right)$$

Navier-Stokes hydro, two *transport coefficients*: **bulk** and **shear viscosity**

Estimating η

(or why is η/s natural)

$$T^{00} = e, \quad T^{0i} = (e + p)v^i$$

$$T^{ij} = (p - \zeta \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v})\delta^{ij} - \eta \left(\partial_i v^j + \partial_j v^i - \frac{2}{3} \delta^{ij} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} \right)$$

- Rewrite the first-order T as

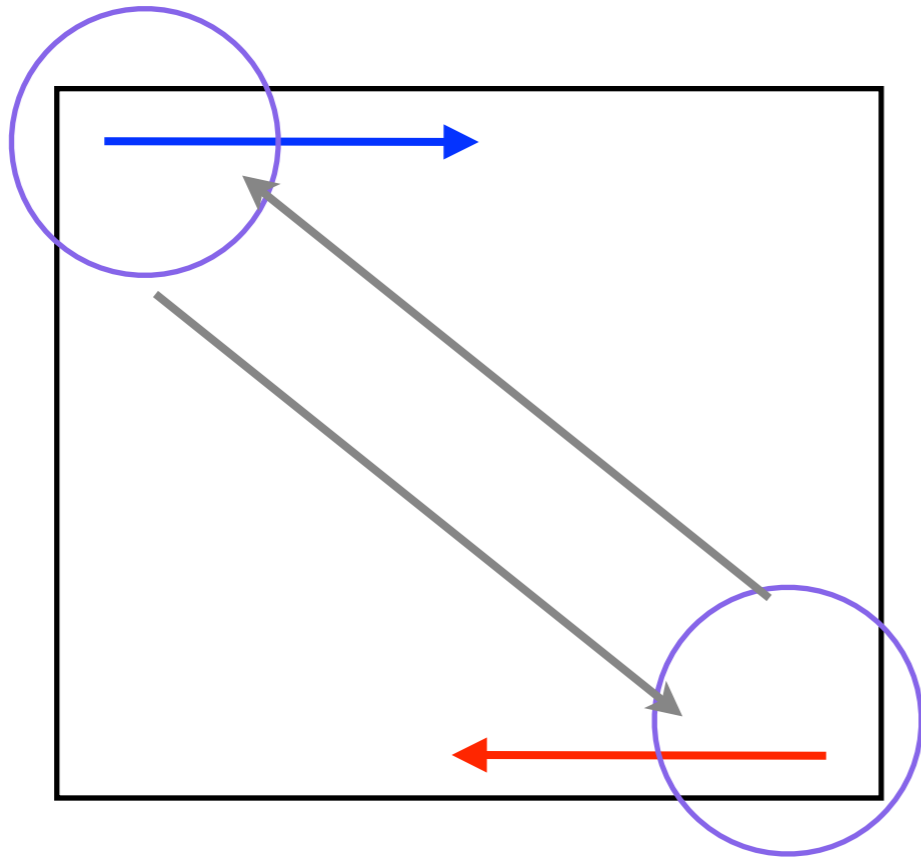
$$T^{xy} = -\frac{\eta}{e + p} \nabla_x T^{0y}$$

- $\eta/(e+p)$ is a (first-order) relaxation timescale. With $e+p=sT$ one gets to the natural, dimensionless η/s
- In cases with well-defined quasi-particles one has naturally

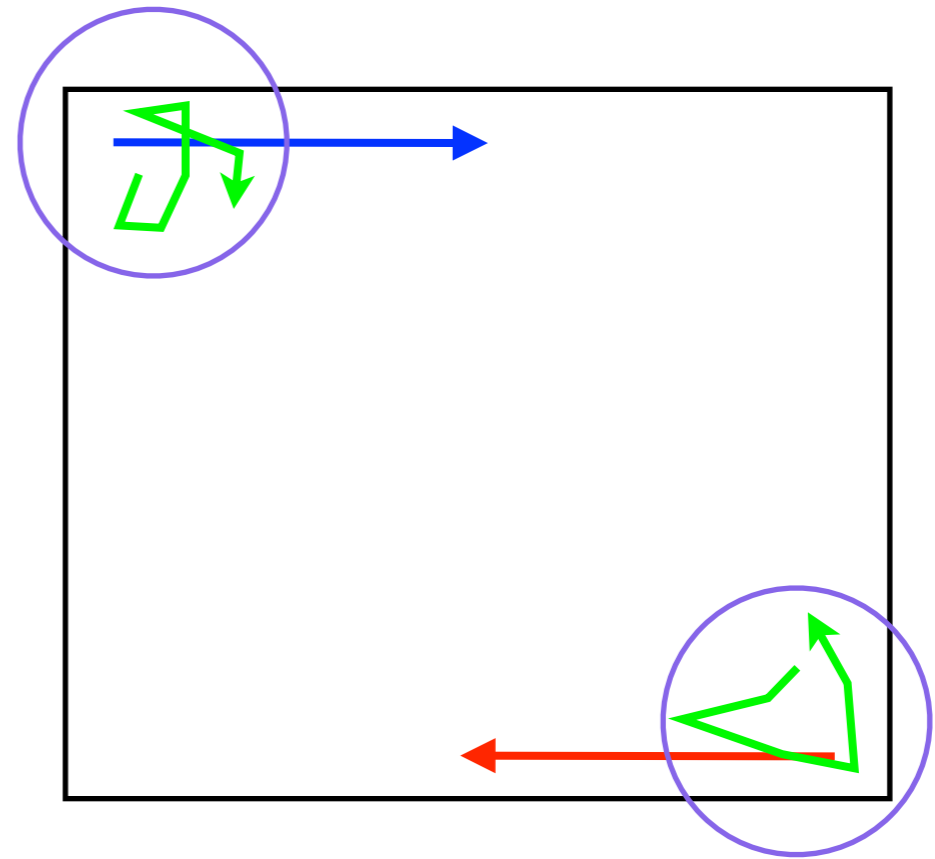
$$\frac{\eta}{s} \sim T l_{\text{mfp}}$$

Estimating η

(or why is η/s natural)



- Weak coupling: long distances between collisions, easy diffusion. **Large η/s**



- Strong coupling: short distances between collisions, little diffusion. **Small η/s**

Estimating η

(or why is η/s natural)

- (Mean free path)⁻¹ \sim cross section \times density

$$\frac{\eta}{s} \sim T l_{\text{mfp}} \sim \frac{T}{n\sigma} \sim \frac{1}{T^2 \sigma}$$

- Cross section in a **perturbative** gauge theory (T only scale*)

$$\sigma \sim \frac{g^4}{T^2} \quad \frac{\eta}{s} \sim \frac{1}{g^4}$$

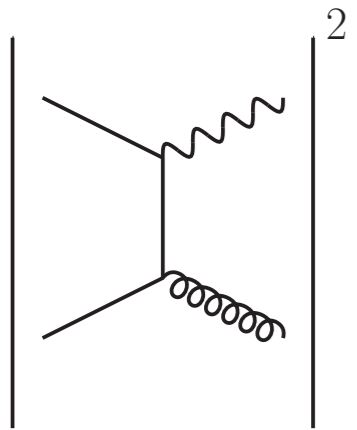
- * Coulomb divergences and screening scales ($m_D \sim gT$) in gauge theories

$$\sigma \sim \frac{g^4}{T^2} \ln(1/g) \quad \frac{\eta}{s} \sim \frac{1}{g^4 \ln(1/g)}$$

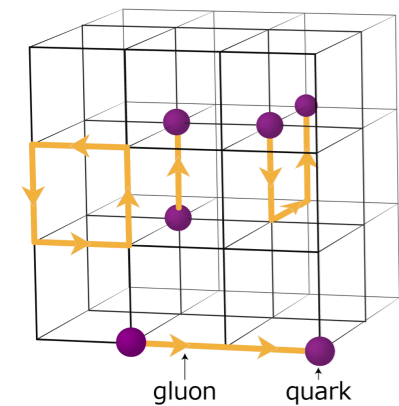
- From **holography** one instead has $\eta/s = 1/(4\pi)$ (for $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM) and a conjectured lower limit

Kovtun Son Starinets Policastro **PRL87** (2001) **PLR94** (2004)

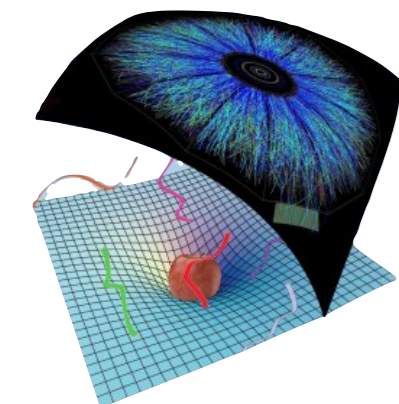
Theory approaches to (QCD) transport coefficients



pQCD: QCD action (and EFTs and kinetic theories thereof). Real world: extrapolate from $g \ll 1$ to $\alpha_s \sim 0.3$

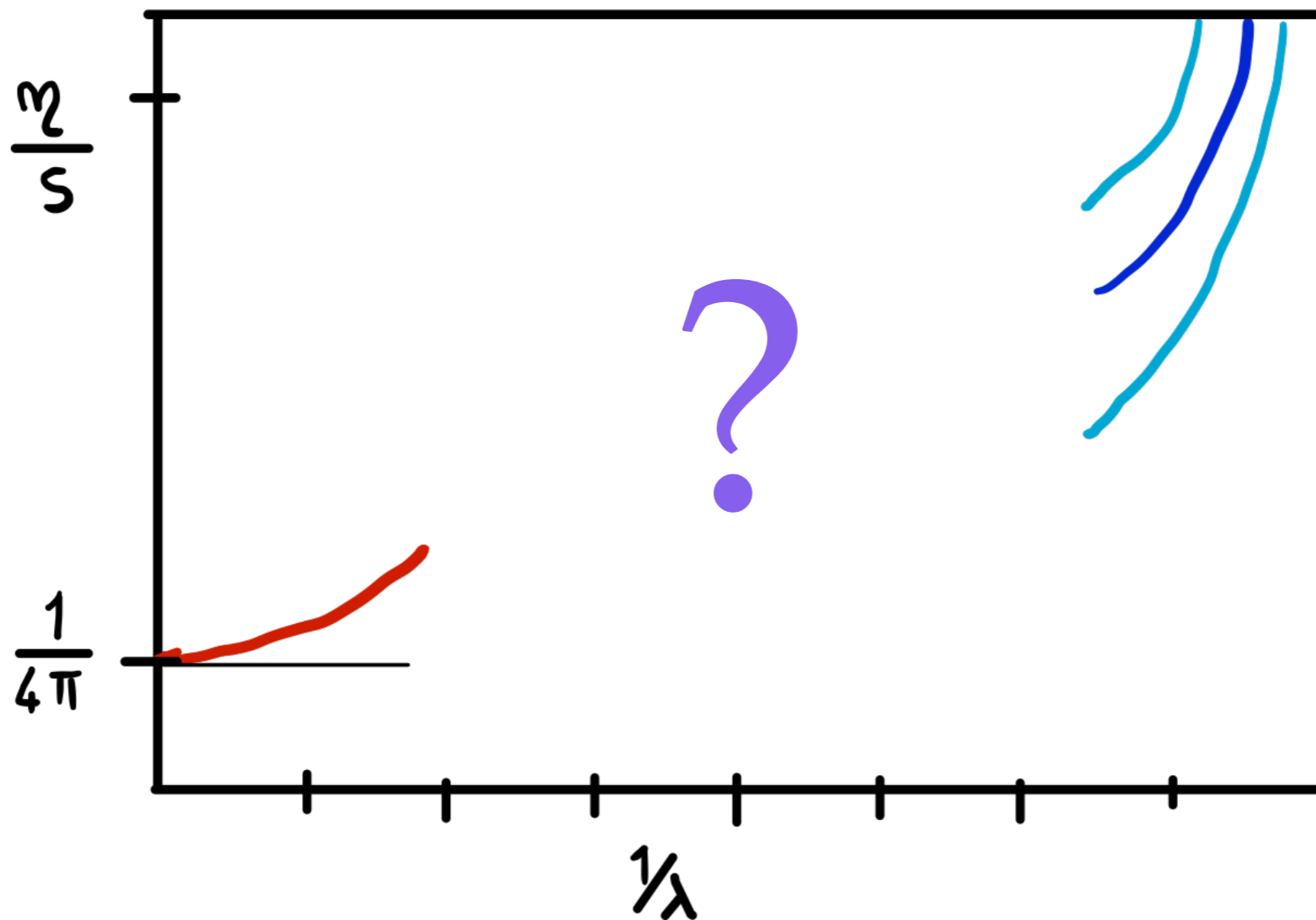


lattice QCD: Euclidean QCD action. Real world: analytically continue to Minkowskian domain (see H. Meyer's talk for a related topic)



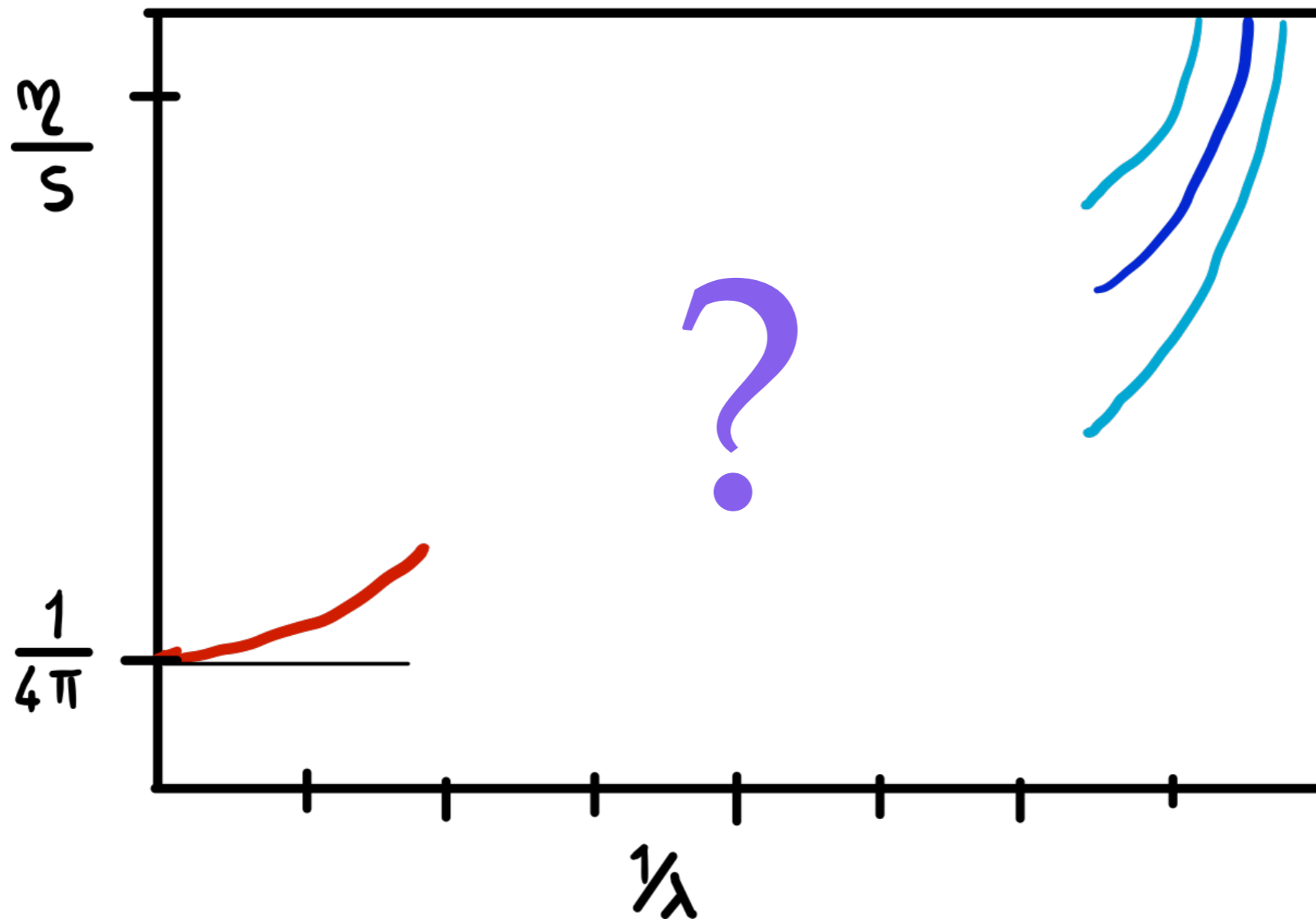
AdS/CFT: $\mathcal{N}=4$ action, weak and strong coupling. Real world: extrapolate to QCD

Motivation



- Holography: Kovtun Son Starinets Policastro **PRL87** (2001) **PLR94** (2004), $\lambda^{-3/2}$ corrections: Buchel et al (2005-2008)
- pQCD: Arnold Moore Yaffe (AMY) (2000-2003)

Motivation



- Add NLO to the right, understand kinetic theory beyond LO

The effective kinetic theory

The weak-coupling picture

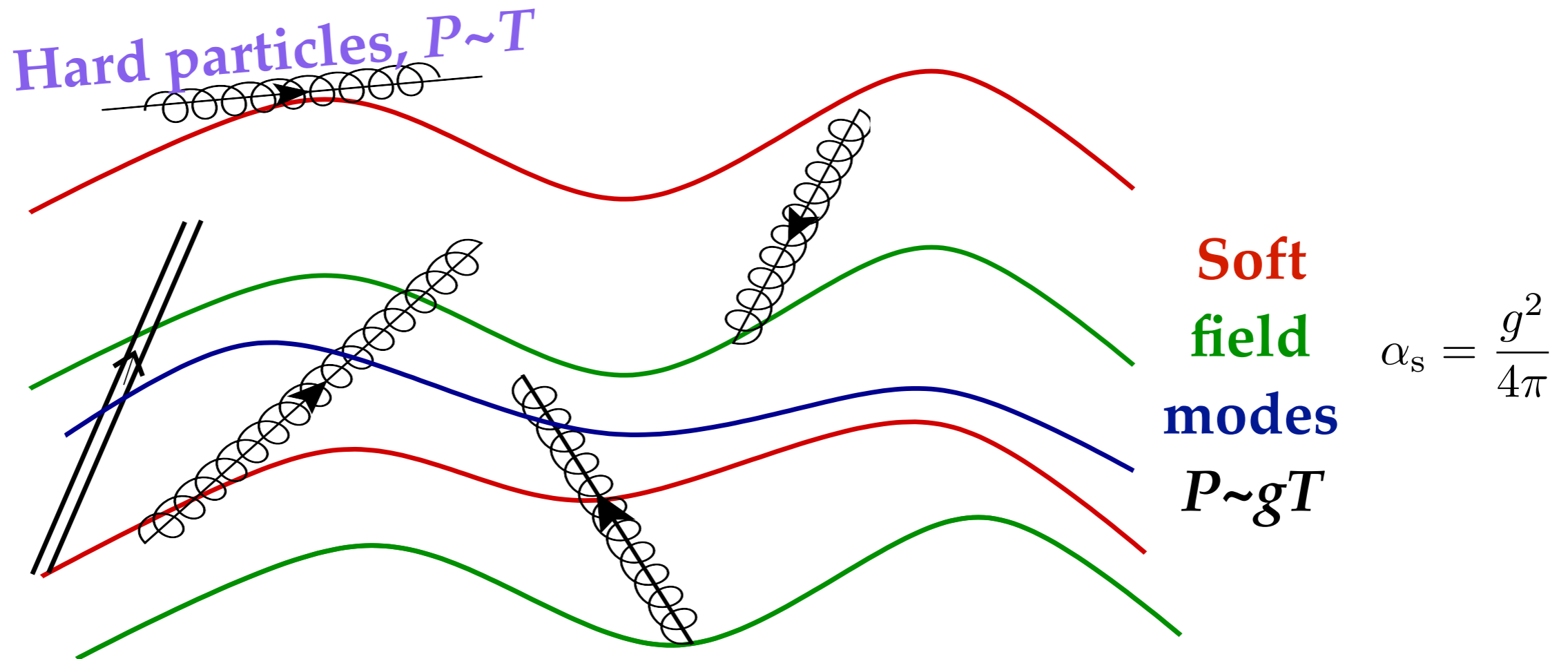
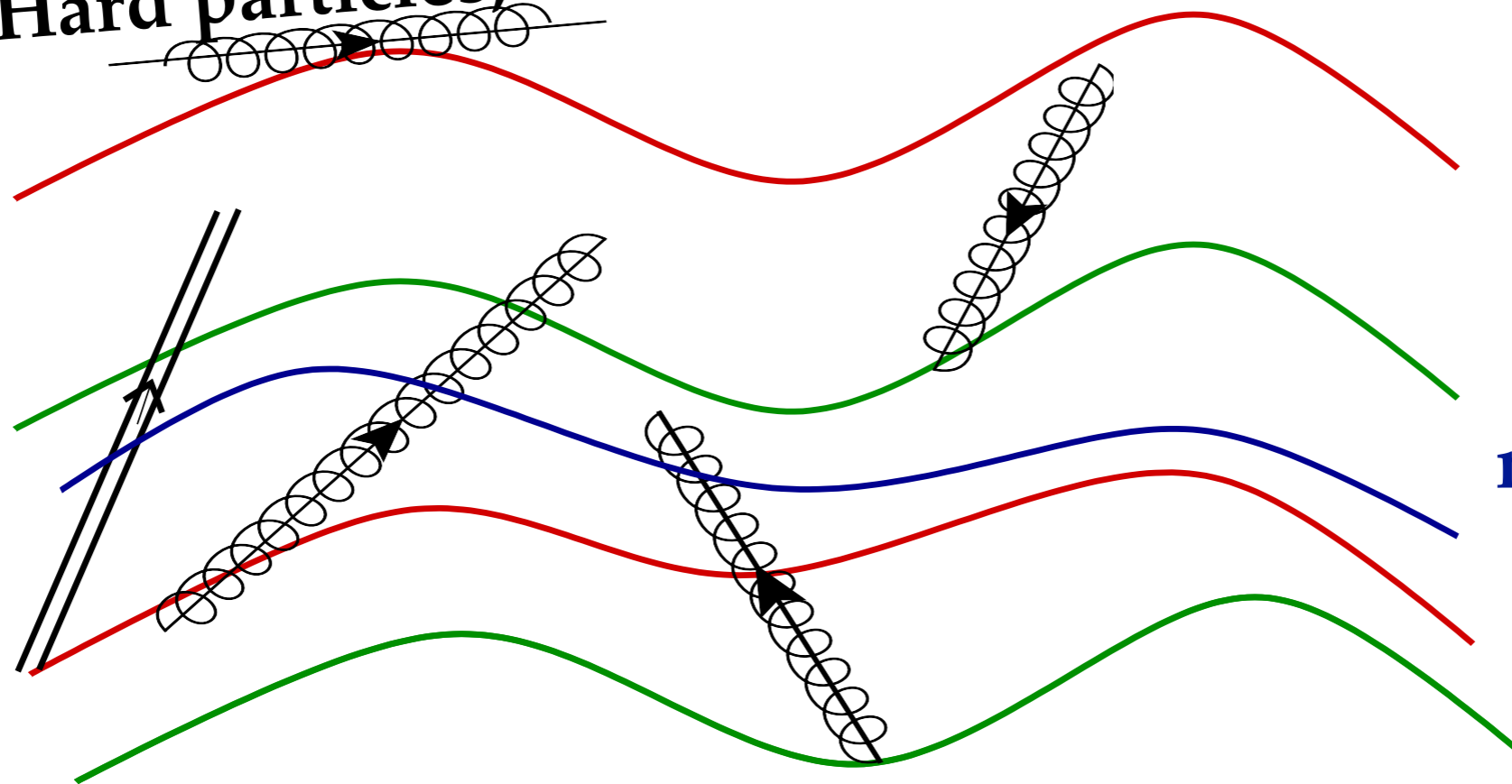


Figure by D. Teaney

- Hard (quasi)-particles carry most of the stress-energy tensor. (Parametrically) largest contribution to thermodynamics

The weak-coupling picture

Hard particles, $P \sim T$



Soft
field
modes
 $P \sim gT$

$$\alpha_s = \frac{g^2}{4\pi}$$

Figure by D. Teaney

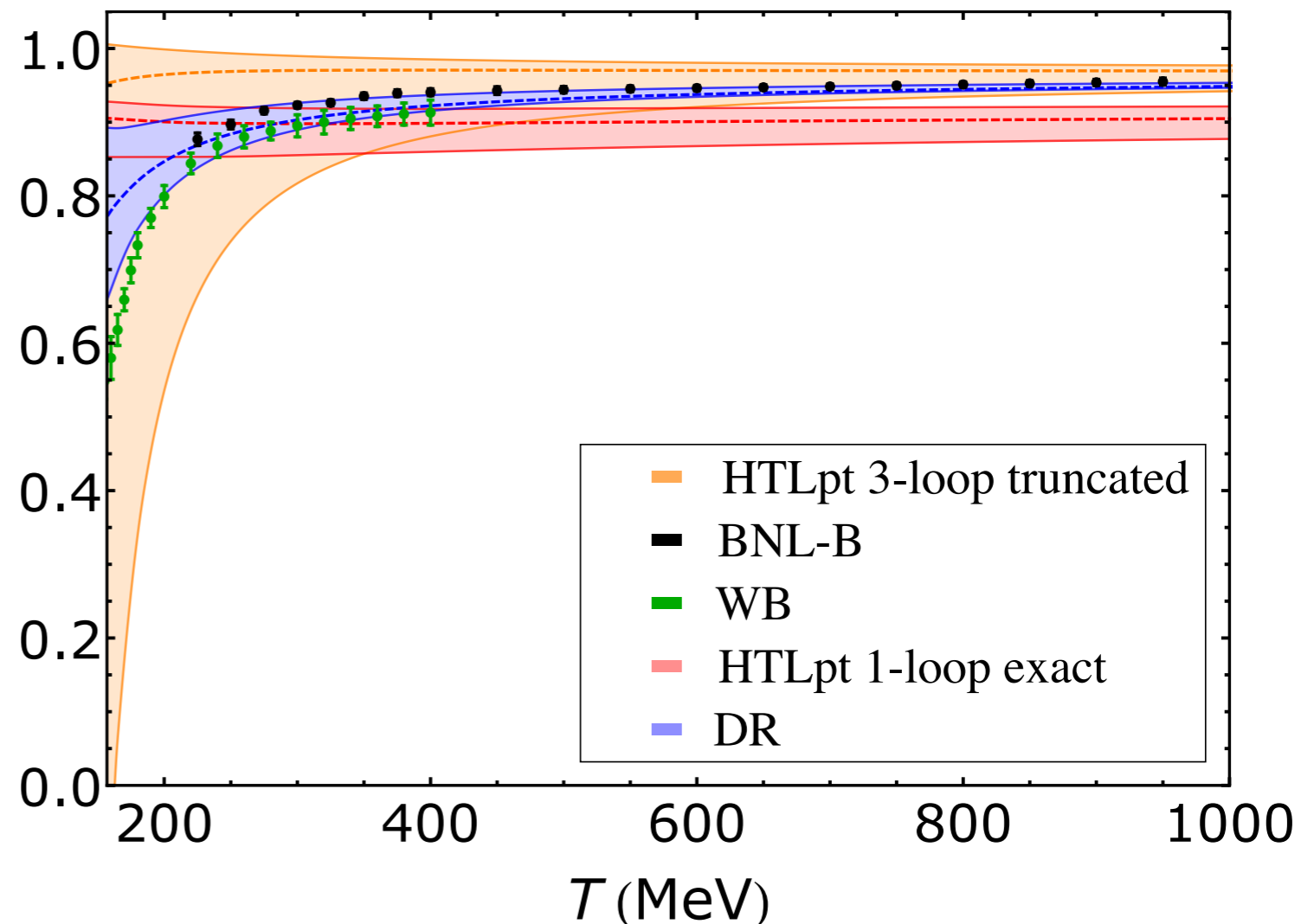
- The **gluonic soft fields** have large occupation numbers \Rightarrow they can be **treated classically**

$$n_B(\omega) = \frac{1}{e^{\omega/T} - 1} \stackrel{\omega \sim gT}{\sim} \frac{T}{\omega} \sim \frac{1}{g}$$

Weak-coupling thermodynamics

$$\chi_{u2} = \frac{\partial^2 p(T, \mu)}{\partial \mu_u^2}$$

$$\frac{\chi_{u2}}{\text{SB}}$$



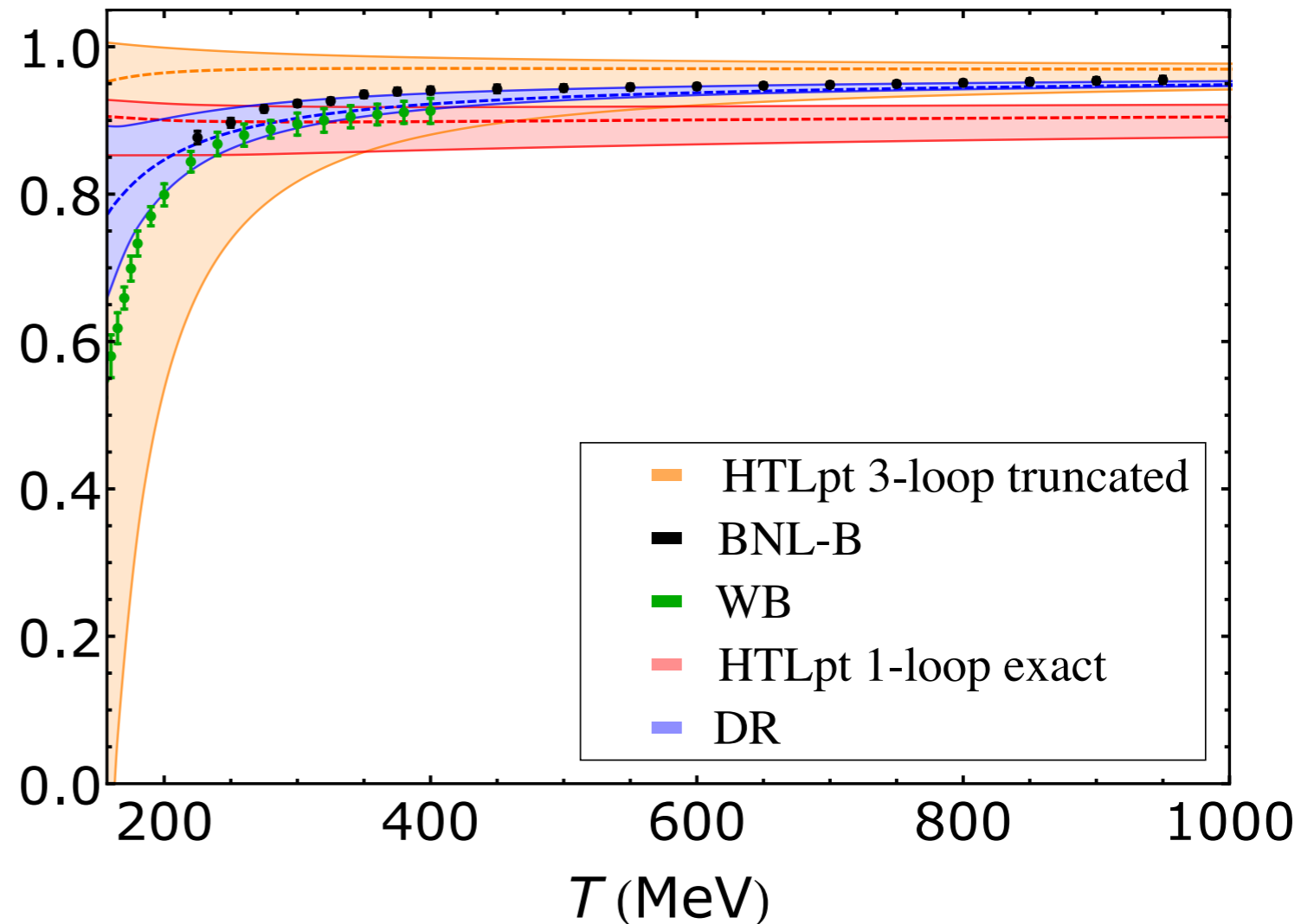
Mogliacci Andersen Strickland Su Vuorinen [JHEP1312 \(2013\)](#)

- Successful for static (thermodynamical) quantities.
Possibility of solving the soft sector non-perturbatively (3D theory on the lattice). See talk by [P. Schicho](#) tomorrow

Weak-coupling thermodynamics

$$\chi_{u2} = \frac{\partial^2 p(T, \mu)}{\partial \mu_u^2}$$

$$\frac{\chi_{u2}}{\text{SB}}$$



Mogliacci Andersen Strickland Su Vuorinen [JHEP1312 \(2013\)](#)

- Extra motivation: understand how to set up a similar resummation program for kinetics

The effective kinetic theory

Baym Braaten Pisarski Arnold Moore Yaffe Baier Dokshitzer Mueller
Schiff Son Peigné Wiedemann Gyulassy Wang Aurenche Gelis Zaraket
Blaizot Iancu . . .

The effective kinetic theory

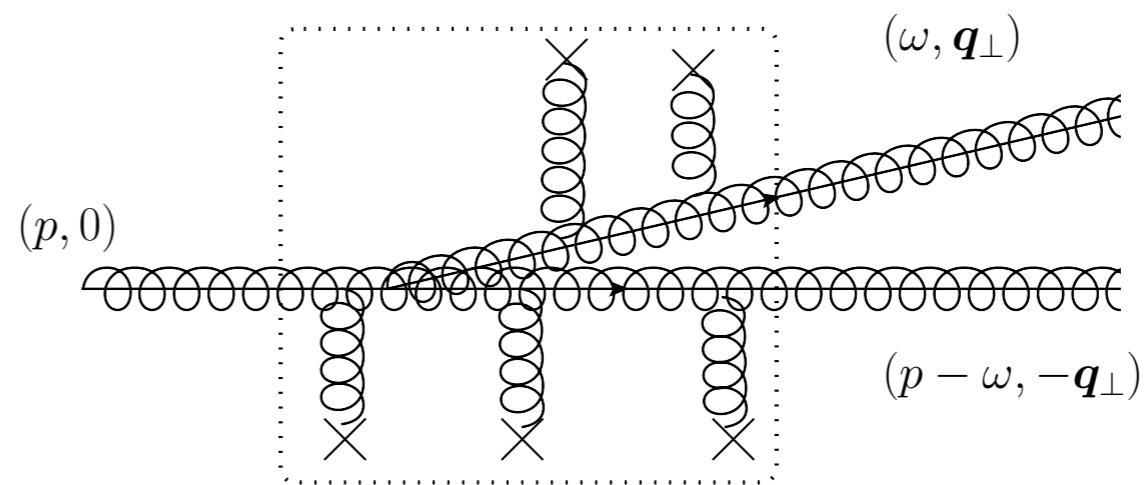
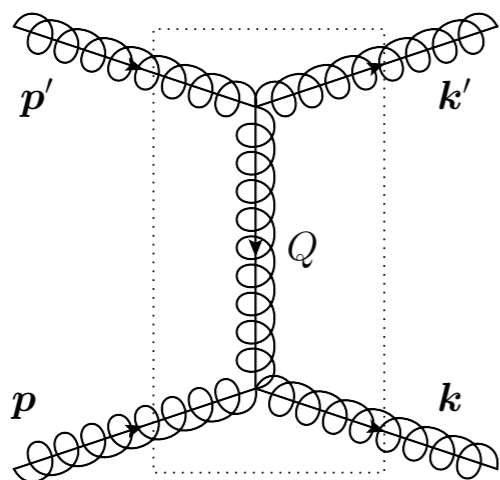
- The effective theory is obtained by **integrating out (off-shell) quantum fluctuations**
- Boltzmann equation for the **single-particle phase space-distribution**: its **convective derivative** equals a **collision operator**
$$(\partial_t + \mathbf{v}_p \cdot \nabla) f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{x}, t) = C[f]$$
- In other words at weak coupling the underlying QFT has **well-defined quasi-particles**. These are weakly interacting with a mean free time $(1/g^4 T)$ larger than the actual duration of an individual collision $(1/T)$
- Justified at weak coupling, can be extended to factor in non-perturbative contributions

The AMY kinetic theory

- Effective Kinetic Theory (**EKT**) for the phase space density of quarks and gluons

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \right) f(\mathbf{p}) = C^{2 \leftrightarrow 2} + C^{1 \leftrightarrow 2}$$

- **At leading order: elastic, number-preserving $2 \leftrightarrow 2$ processes and collinear, number-changing effective $1 \leftrightarrow 2$ processes** AMY (2003)



Landau-Pomeranchuk-Migdal resummation
(Wait for the **next talk**)

Transport coeffs from the EKT

Transport coeffs from the EKT

- To obtain the transport coefficients linearize the theory

$$f(\mathbf{p}) = f_{\text{EQ}}(\mathbf{p}) + \sum_{\ell} \delta f_{\ell}(\mathbf{p})$$

- **Source term** equates **linearized collision operator**

$$\mathcal{S}_{\ell} = \mathcal{C} \delta f_{\ell}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{\ell} \equiv \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \right) f_{\text{EQ}}(\mathbf{p}, u, \beta, \mu)$$

- Since $\langle T^{i \neq j} \rangle \propto \eta$, $\langle \mathbf{J}_q \rangle = -D_q \nabla \langle n_q \rangle$ (light flavor diffusion)

η requires $\ell=2$, D_q $\ell=1$

- Transport coefficients obtained by the kinetic theory definitions of T, J once δf_{ℓ} has been obtained

Transport coeffs from the EKT

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- **Source term** equates **linearized collision operator**

$$\mathcal{S}_{\ell} = \mathcal{C} \delta f_{\ell}$$

- To solve the linear equation, introduce the inner product

$$(f, g) \equiv \int_{\mathbf{p}} f(\mathbf{p}) g(\mathbf{p})$$

and minimize

$$(\delta f_{\ell}, \mathcal{S}_{\ell}) - \frac{1}{2} (\delta f_{\ell}, \mathcal{C} \delta f_{\ell})$$

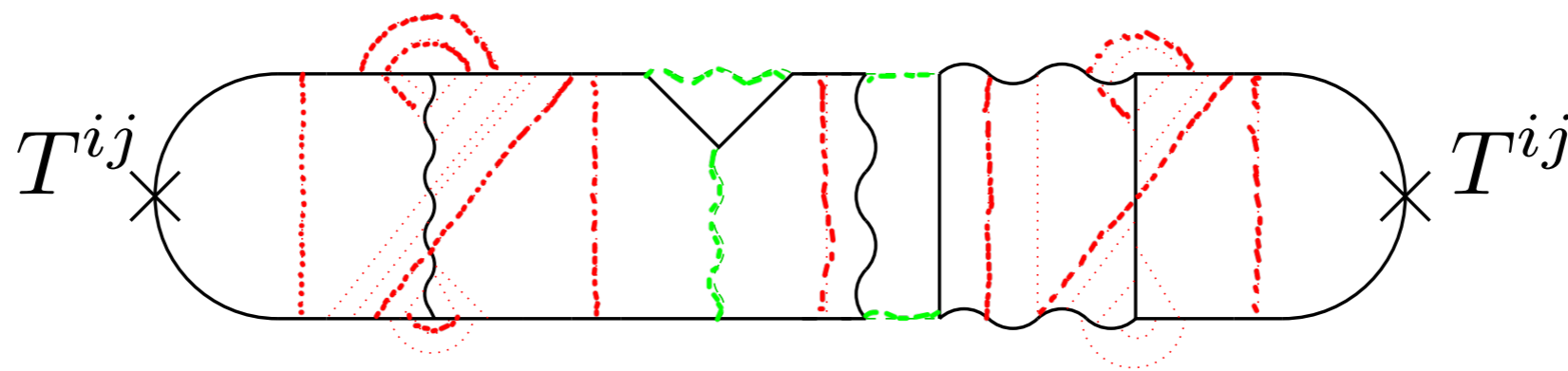
AMY (2000-03)

Transport coeffs from the EKT

- Linearized EKT equivalent to Kubo formula

$$\eta = \frac{1}{20} \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\omega} \int d^4x e^{i\omega t} \langle [T^{ij}(t, \mathbf{x}), T^{ij}(0, \mathbf{0})] \rangle \theta(t)$$

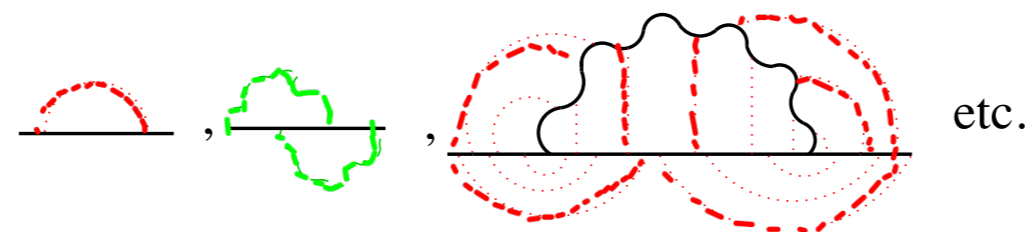
- Not practical at weak coupling: loop expansion breaks down [AMY \(2000-2003\)](#)



--- Hard off-shell

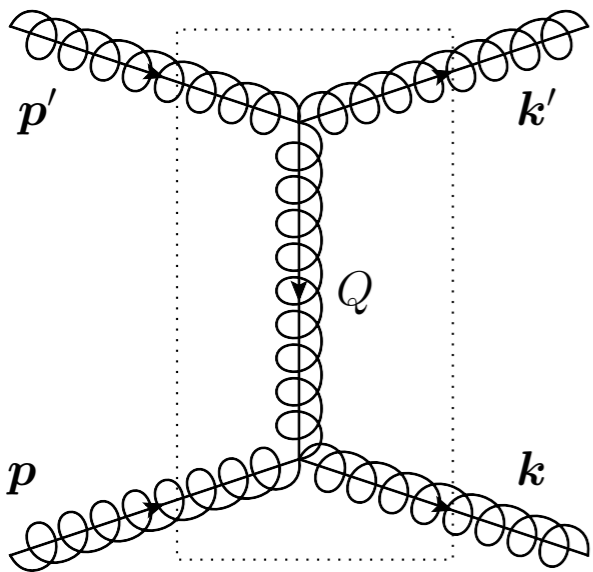
... Soft, spacelike, gauge boson, HTL resummed

— Hard on-shell, resummed with diagrams of form



Reorganization

- The NLO corrections come from **regions sensitive to soft gluons** (no quarks in this illustration)
- Before we get there, let's have a **reorganized perspective** on these regions at LO
- Look at **2↔2 scattering**



$$\int_{\mathbf{p}\mathbf{k}\mathbf{p}'\mathbf{k}'} |\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}; \mathbf{p}', \mathbf{k}')|^2 (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(P+K-P'-K')$$

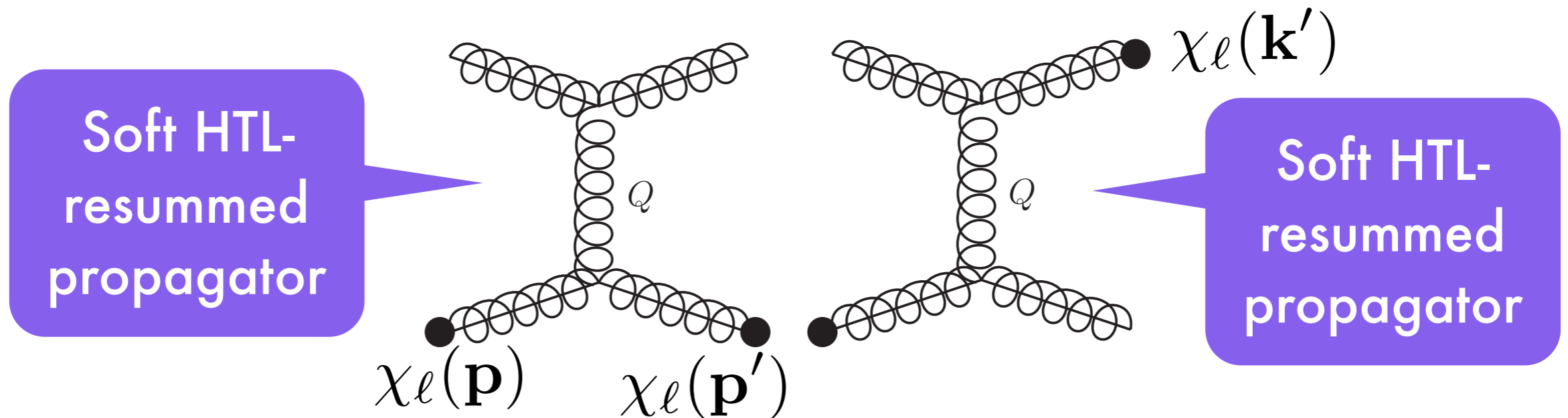
$$\times f_{\text{EQ}}(p) f_{\text{EQ}}(k) [1 + f_{\text{EQ}}(p')] [1 + f_{\text{EQ}}(k')]$$

$$\times \left[\chi_e(\mathbf{p}) + \chi_e(\mathbf{k}) - \chi_e(\mathbf{p}') - \chi_e(\mathbf{k}') \right]^2$$

$$\delta f_e(\mathbf{p}) \equiv f_{\text{EQ}}(\mathbf{p})(1 + f_{\text{EQ}}(\mathbf{p}))\chi_e(\mathbf{p})$$

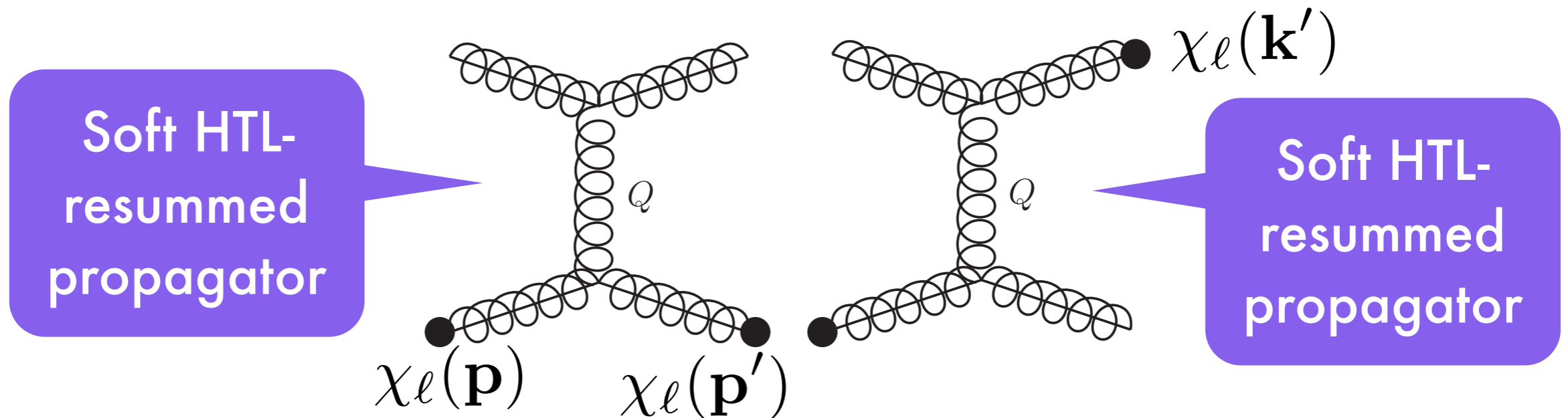
LO soft gluon scattering

- When $Q=P'-P$ becomes **soft** there are two possibilities for $\left[\chi_e(\mathbf{p}) + \chi_e(\mathbf{k}) - \chi_e(\mathbf{p}') - \chi_e(\mathbf{k}') \right]^2$ ($\chi_e(\mathbf{p}) = f_e(\hat{\mathbf{p}})\chi(p)$)



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- Left: **diffusion terms**, \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{p}' strongly correlated

$$(\chi_e(\mathbf{p}) - \chi_e(\mathbf{p}'))^2 = (\hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \mathbf{q})^2 [\chi'(p)]^2 + \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{2} \frac{q^2 - (\hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \mathbf{q})^2}{p^2} [\chi(p)]^2$$

identify a **longitudinal** and a **transverse momentum broadening** contribution, \hat{q}_L and \hat{q}

Light-cone techniques

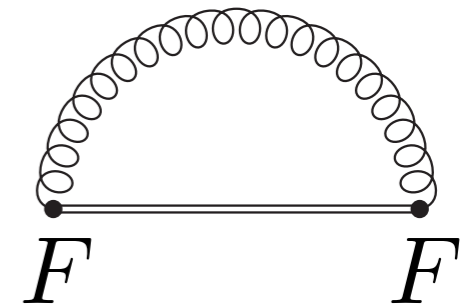
- Key advancement over the past decade: **analytical properties of soft thermal amplitudes at light-like separations**

Caron-Huot **PRD82** (2008) *Review*: JG Teaney **QGP5** (2015)

- In a nutshell, **retarded functions are analytical in the upper half plane in any time-like variable**. In the soft sector to NLO also for **light-like variables** ($q^+ = (q^0 + q^z) / 2$).

$$\hat{q}(\mu_\perp) = g^2 C_A \int^{\mu_\perp} \frac{d^2 q_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} \int \frac{dq^+}{2\pi} \langle F^{\perp-}(Q) F_{\perp}^- \rangle_{q^- = 0}$$

$$\hat{q}_L(\mu_\perp) = g^2 C_A \int^{\mu_\perp} \frac{d^2 q_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} \int \frac{dq^+}{2\pi} \langle F^{\perp+}(Q) F_{\perp}^+ \rangle_{q^- = 0}$$



Light-cone techniques

$$\int \frac{dq^+}{2\pi} \langle F^{-\perp}(Q) F_{\perp}^- \rangle_{q^-=0}$$

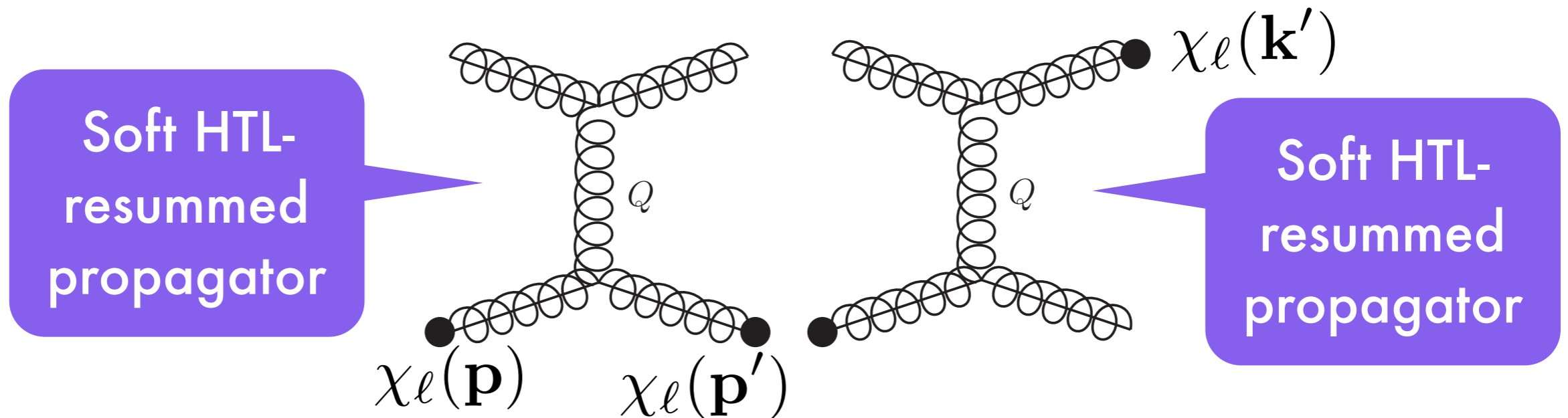
$$\int \frac{dq^+}{2\pi} \langle F^{-+}(Q) F^{-+} \rangle_{q^-=0}$$

$$\langle F^{-\mu}(Q) F^{-\nu} \rangle_{q^-=0} \propto \frac{T}{q^+} (G_R^{-\mu;-\nu}(Q) - G_A^{-\mu;-\nu}(Q))$$

- Only non-analytic feature in each half-plane: **Matsubara zero mode** ($q^+=0$, all other frequencies far away)
 \Rightarrow Transverse function ($\perp\perp$) becomes **Euclidean (EQCD)**
- The longitudinal function ($++$) does not feel the pole, but it does not vanish fast enough on the **arcs at large $|q^+|$**
 \Rightarrow Only sensitive to the **light-cone dispersion relation**

LO soft gluon scattering

- When $Q=P'-P$ becomes soft there are two possibilities for $\left[\chi_e(\mathbf{p}) + \chi_e(\mathbf{k}) - \chi_e(\mathbf{p}') - \chi_e(\mathbf{k}') \right]^2$ ($\chi_e(\mathbf{p}) = f_e(\hat{\mathbf{p}})\chi(p)$)



- Diffusion terms:** summing up, light-cone techniques

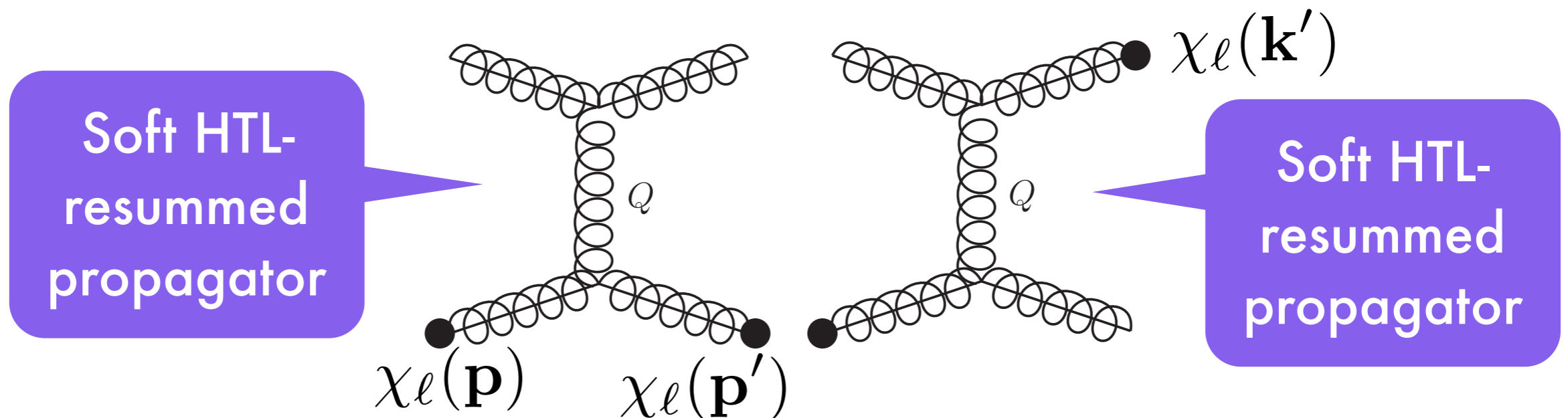
$$\hat{q}_L^a \Big|_{\text{soft}} = \frac{g^2 C_{R_a} T m_D^2}{4\pi} \ln \frac{\sqrt{2} \mu_{\perp}}{m_D} \quad \hat{q}^a \Big|_{\text{soft}} = \frac{g^2 C_{R_a} T m_D^2}{2\pi} \ln \frac{\mu_{\perp}}{m_D}$$

give rise to the leading log contribution

Caron-Huot **PRD82** (2008) JG Moore Teaney **JHEP1603** (2015)

LO soft gluon scattering

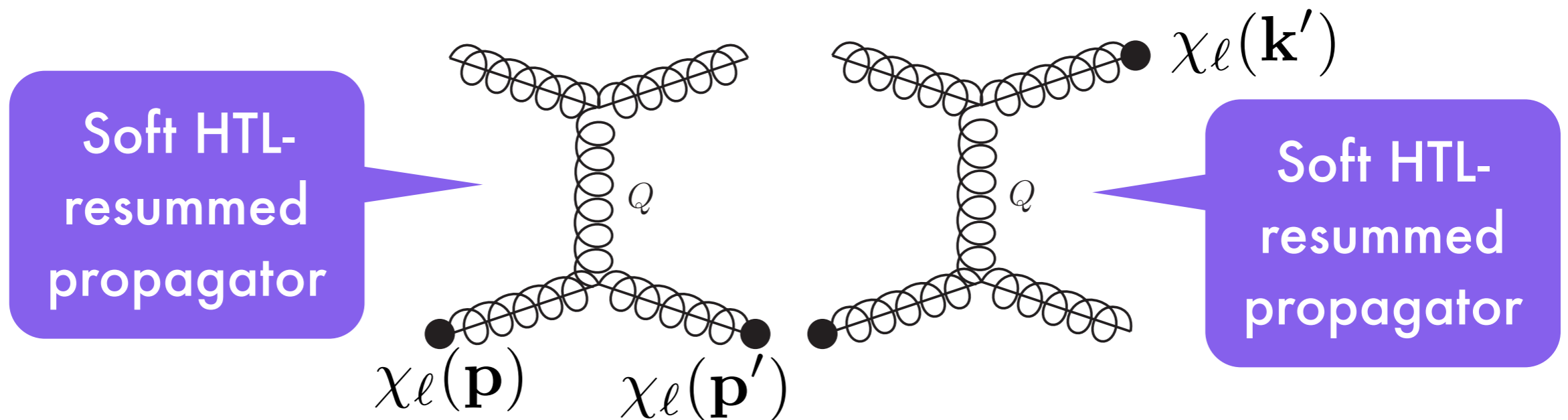
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- Right: **cross terms**, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}' and \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}' not correlated. Two-point function of **two uncorrelated deviations from equilibrium** (diffusion was the response of an off-eq leg to the equilibrium bath)

LO soft gluon scattering

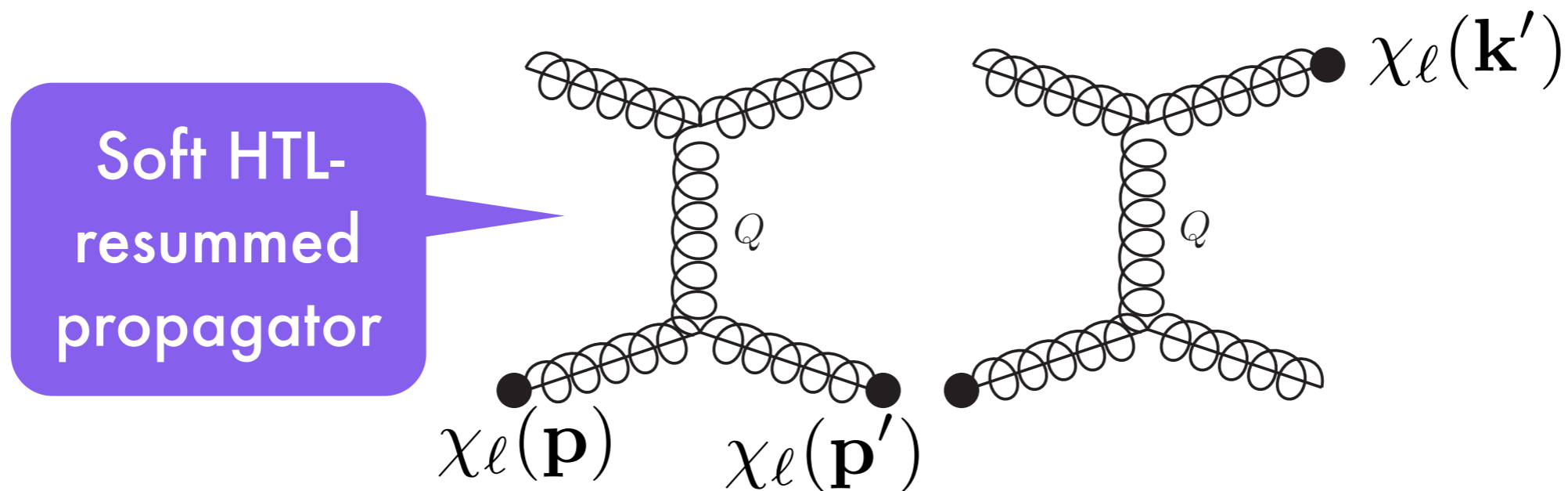
- When $Q=P'-P$ becomes soft there are two possibilities for $\left[\chi_e(\mathbf{p}) + \chi_e(\mathbf{k}) - \chi_e(\mathbf{p}') - \chi_e(\mathbf{k}') \right]^2$ ($\chi_e(\mathbf{p}) = f_e(\hat{\mathbf{p}})\chi(p)$)



- Right: **cross terms**, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}' and \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}' not correlated. **Light-cone techniques not applicable**, have to use numerical integration. Easy at LO, where they are **finite** (no leading log contribution)

LO soft gluon scattering

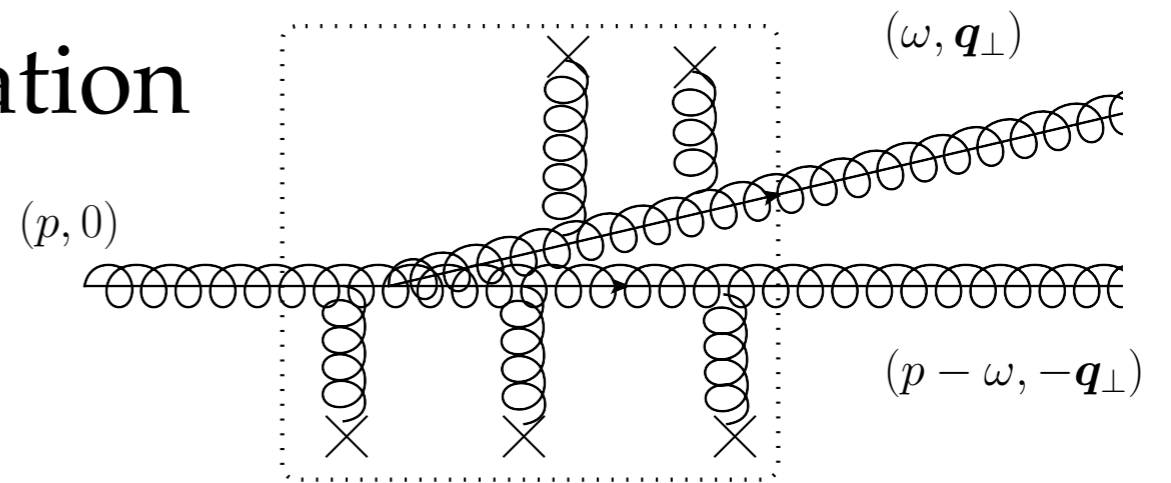
- When $Q=P'-P$ becomes soft there are two possibilities for $\left[\chi_e(\mathbf{p}) + \chi_e(\mathbf{k}) - \chi_e(\mathbf{p}') - \chi_e(\mathbf{k}') \right]^2$ ($\chi_e(\mathbf{p}) = f_e(\hat{\mathbf{p}})\chi(p)$)



- Right: **cross terms**, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}' and \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}' not correlated. The **original Boltzmann equation** becomes a **Fokker-Planck equation** for soft scattering. The diffusion part is there a loss term and these terms are **gain terms**

Reorganization

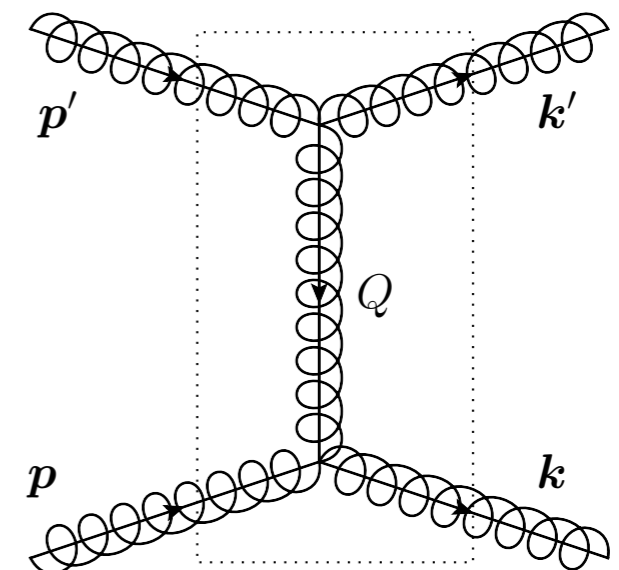
- **1 \leftrightarrow 2 processes:** strictly collinear kinematics, \sim unaffected by reorganization



- Reorganization of the LO collision operator

$$\int_{\mathbf{p}} \delta f_{\ell}(\mathbf{p}) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \right) f_{\text{EQ}}(\mathbf{p}, u, \beta, \mu) = \int_{\mathbf{p}} \delta f_{\ell}(\mathbf{p}) \left[C^{\text{large}}[\mu_{\perp}] + C^{\text{diff}}[\mu_{\perp}] + C^{\text{cross}} + C^{\text{coll}} \right]$$

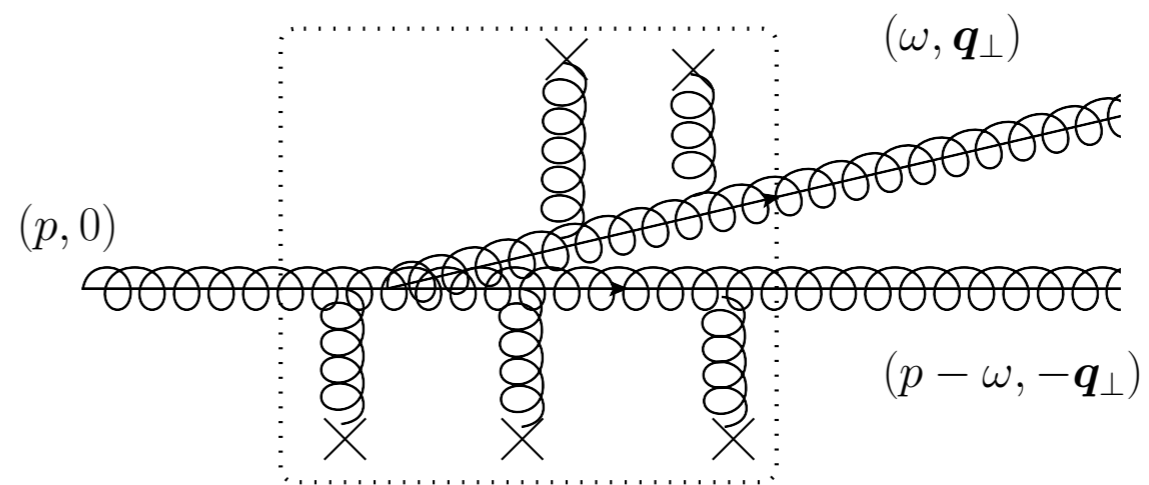
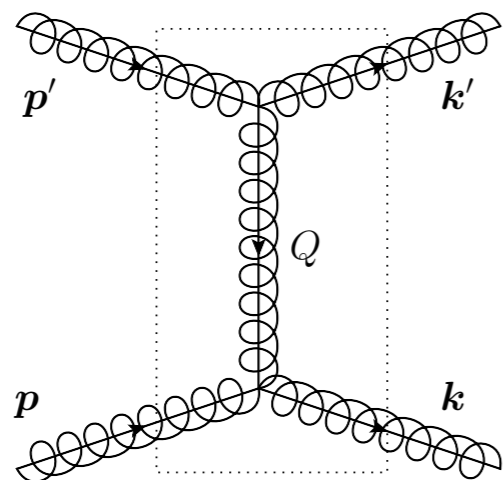
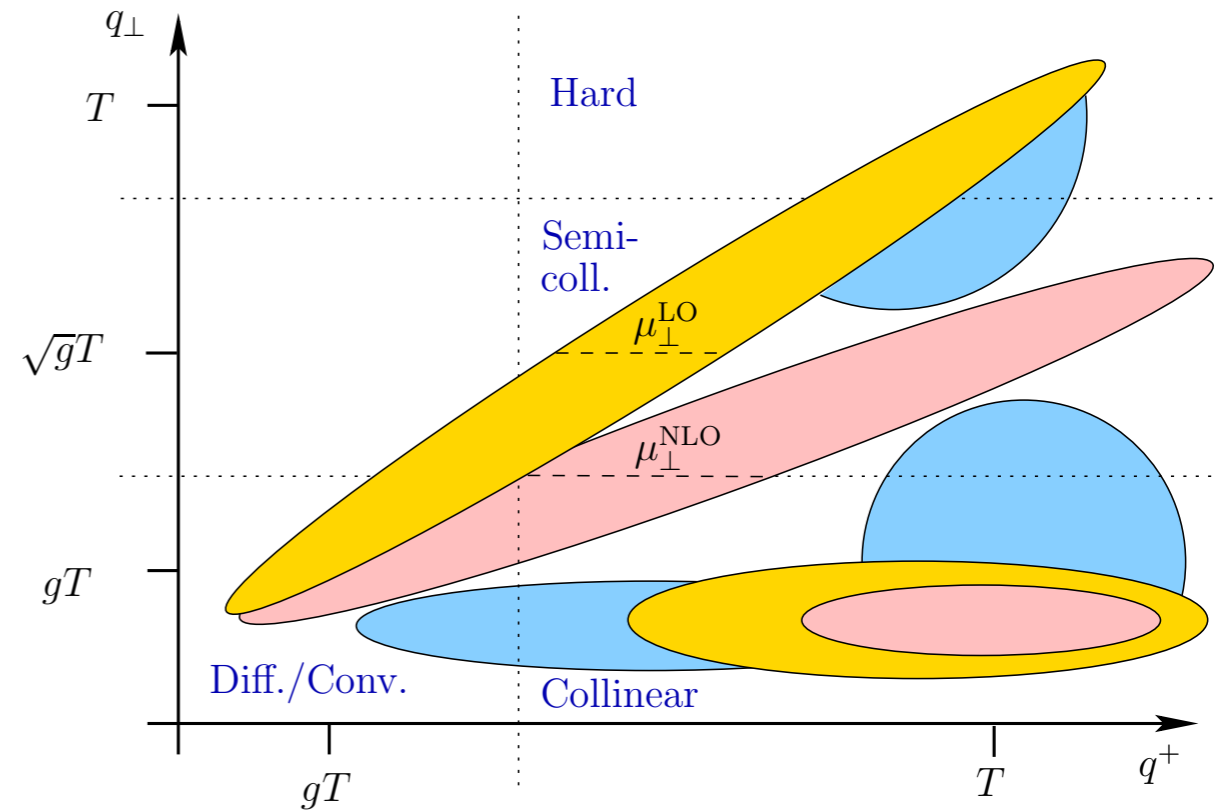
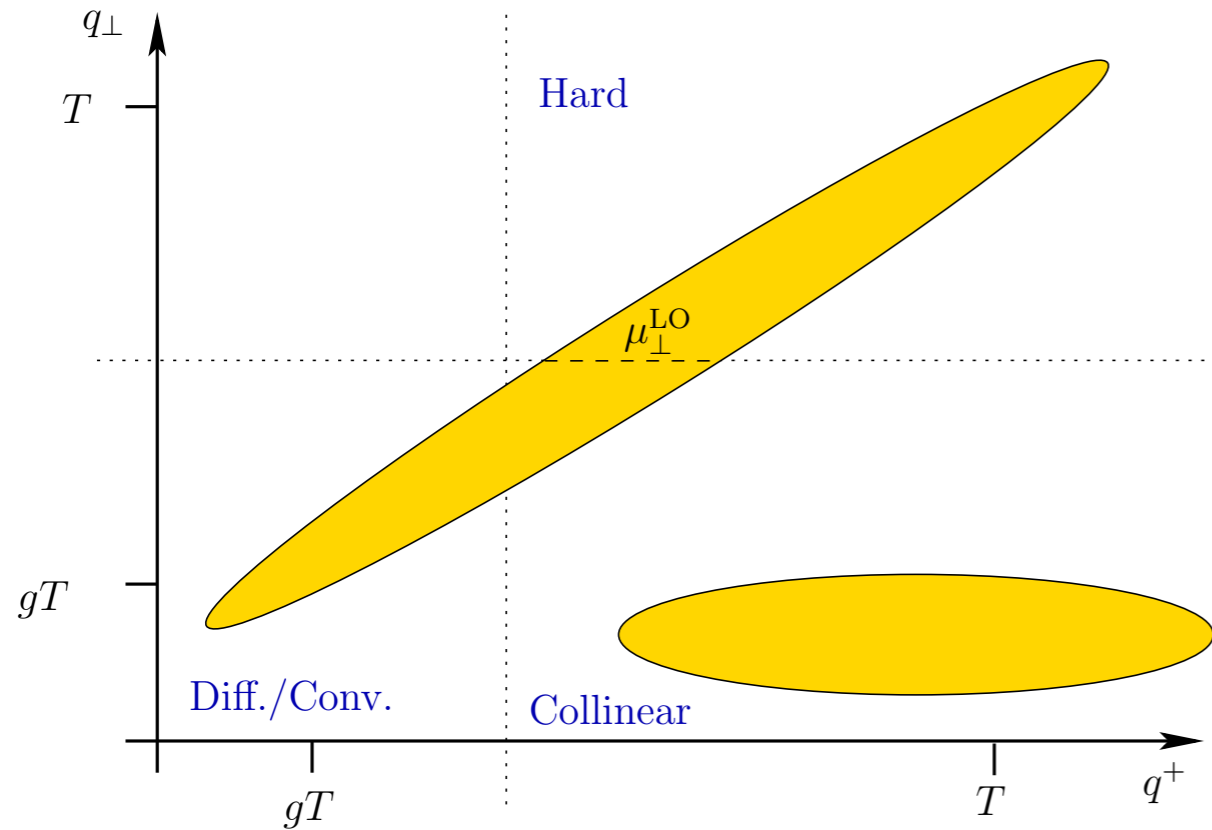
- Final ingredient: **2 \leftrightarrow 2 large angle scatterings**, IR-regulated to avoid the soft region



Going to NLO

- The **diffusion**, **cross** and **collinear terms** receive $O(g)$ corrections
- There is a new **semi-collinear** region

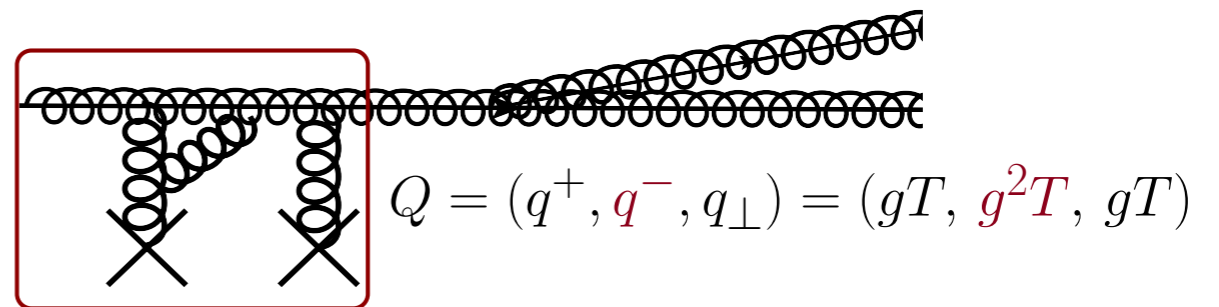
Going to NLO



Collinear corrections

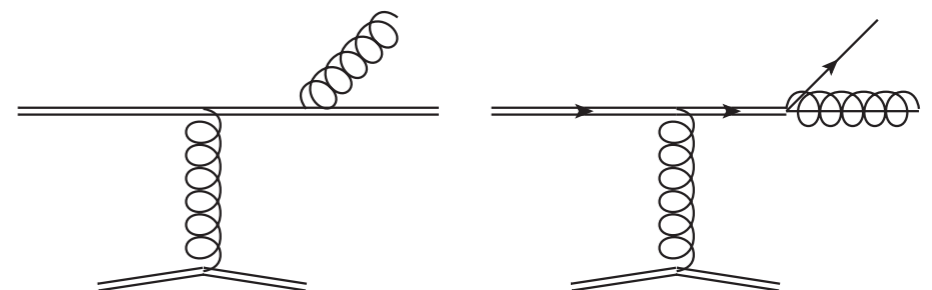
- The differential eq. for LPM resummation gets correction from NLO $C(q_\perp)$ and from the thermal asymptotic mass at NLO (Caron-Huot 2009)

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d^2q_\perp} = C_{\text{LO}}(q_\perp) = \frac{g^2 C_A T m_D^2}{q_\perp^2 (q_\perp^2 + m_D^2)}$$



$C_{\text{NLO}}(q_\perp)$ complicated but analytical (Euclidean tech)
 Caron-Huot PRD79 (2009), Lattice: Panero *et al.* (2013)

- Regions of overlap with the **diffusion** and **semi-collinear** regions need to be subtracted

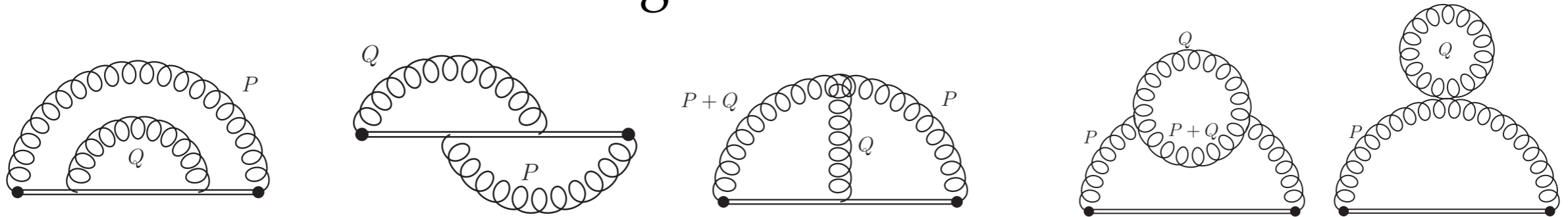


NLO diffusion and cross

- At NLO one needs to understand diffusion and cross/gain with either extra soft gluons in intermediate legs or with external soft scatterers
- For **diffusion**: application of light-cone techniques still possible, huge simplification and closed-form results

Diffusion corrections

- At NLO one has these diagrams



- For transverse: Euclidean calculation [Caron-Huot PRD79 \(2009\)](#)

$$\hat{q}_{\text{NLO}} = \hat{q}_{\text{LO}} + \frac{g^4 C_A^2 T^3}{32\pi^2} \frac{m_D}{T} (3\pi^2 + 10 - 4 \ln 2)$$

- For longitudinal:

$$\hat{q}_L(\mu_\perp)_{\text{LO}} = g^2 C_A T \int \frac{d^2 q_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{m_\infty^2}{q_\perp^2 + m_\infty^2}$$

$$\hat{q}_L(\mu_\perp)_{\text{NLO}} = g^2 C_A T \int \frac{d^2 q_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{m_\infty^2 + \delta m_\infty^2}{q_\perp^2 + m_\infty^2 + \delta m_\infty^2} \approx g^2 C_A T \int \frac{d^2 q_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} \left[\frac{m_\infty^2}{q_\perp^2 + m_\infty^2} + \frac{q_\perp^2 \delta m_\infty^2}{(q_\perp^2 + m_\infty^2)^2} \right]$$

after [collinear subtraction](#) light-cone sum rule still sees only dispersion relation ($O(g)$ correction). **NLO** still UV-log sensitive

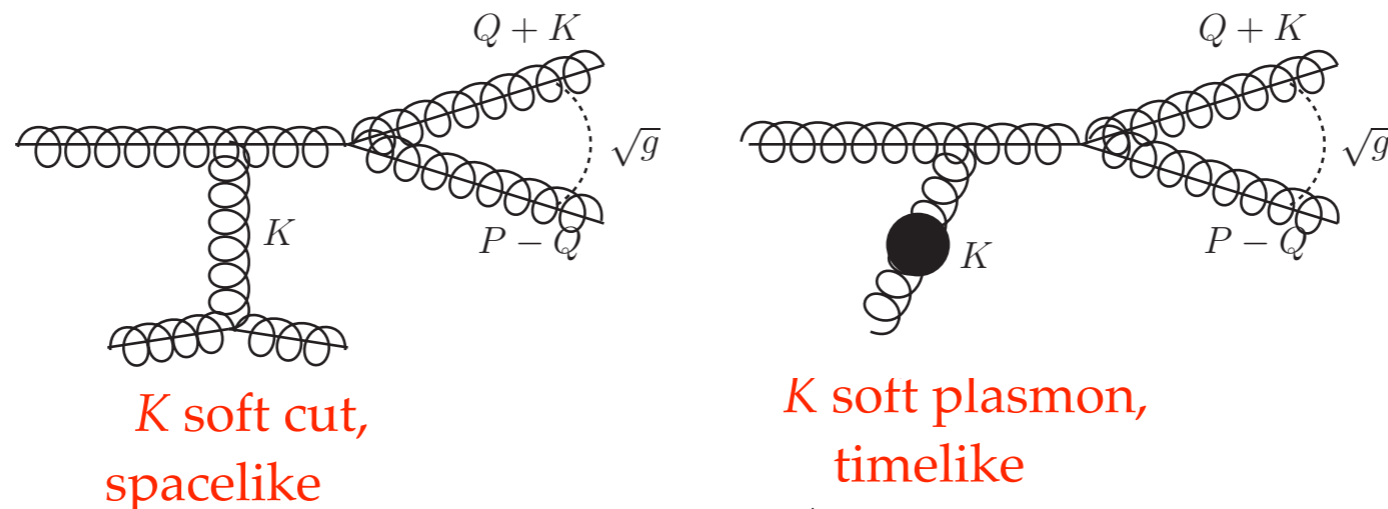
NLO diffusion and cross

- For **cross / gain**: no diffusion picture = no “easy” light-cone sum rules, only way would be brute-force HTL (and understanding how to deal with soft legs in kinetic theory).
- **Missing**, but **silver lining**: they’re finite, so just estimate the number and vary it
- NLO test ansatz: **LO cross** $\times m_D/T$ ($\sim g$) \times **arbitrary constant** that we vary

$$C_{\text{NLO}}^{\text{cross}} = C_{\text{LO}}^{\text{cross}} \times \frac{m_D}{T} \times c_{\text{cross}}$$

Semi-collinear processes

- Seemingly different processes boiling down to **wider-angle radiation**



- Evaluation: introduce “*modified \hat{q}* ” tracking the changes in the small light-cone component p^- of the gluons. Can be evaluated in EQCD

“*standard*”

$$\hat{q} = g^2 C_A \int \frac{d^2 q_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} \int \frac{dq^+}{2\pi} \langle F^{-\perp}(Q) F^{-\perp} \rangle_{q^- = 0}$$

“*modified*”

$$\hat{q}(\delta E) = g^2 C_A \int \frac{d^2 q_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} \int \frac{dq^+}{2\pi} \langle F^{-\perp}(Q) F^{-\perp} \rangle_{q^- = \delta E}$$

- Rate \propto “*modified \hat{q}* ” \times DGLAP splitting. **IR log divergence** makes collision operator finite at NLO

Results

Results (and their fine print)

- Inversion of the collision operator using **variational Ansatz**
- At NLO just **add $O(g)$ corrections to the LO collision operator**, do not treat them as perturbations in the inversion

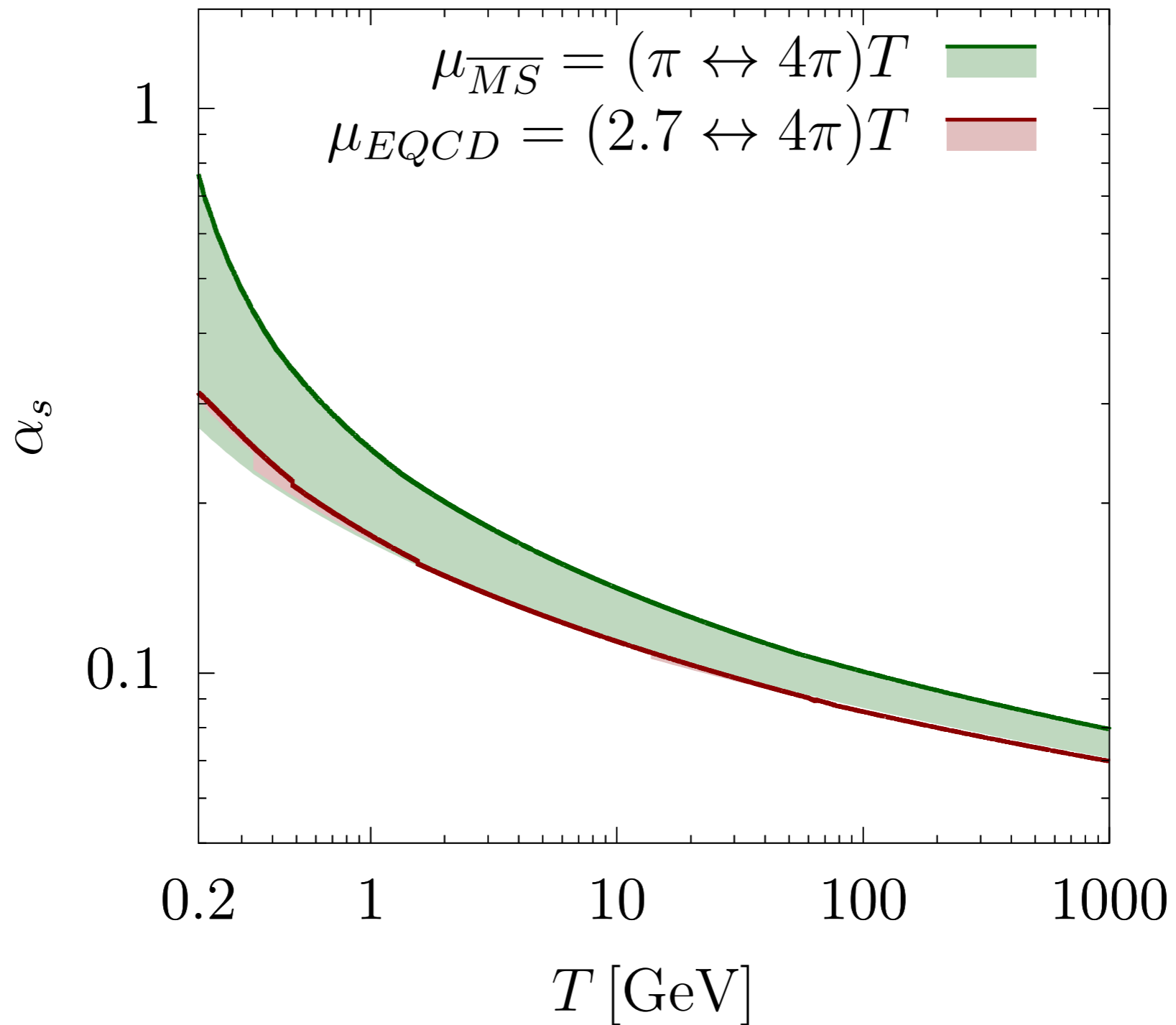
$$\mathcal{S}_\ell = [\mathcal{C} + \delta\mathcal{C}]\delta f_\ell \implies \delta f_\ell = \frac{1}{\mathcal{C} + \delta\mathcal{C}}\mathcal{S}_\ell$$

- First perturbative corrections to s are of order g^2 . Including them would be inconsistent with the treatment of the collision operator
- New implementation for semi-collinear processes. Better behaved as g grows due to **resummations of N^n LO terms ($n \geq 2$)**

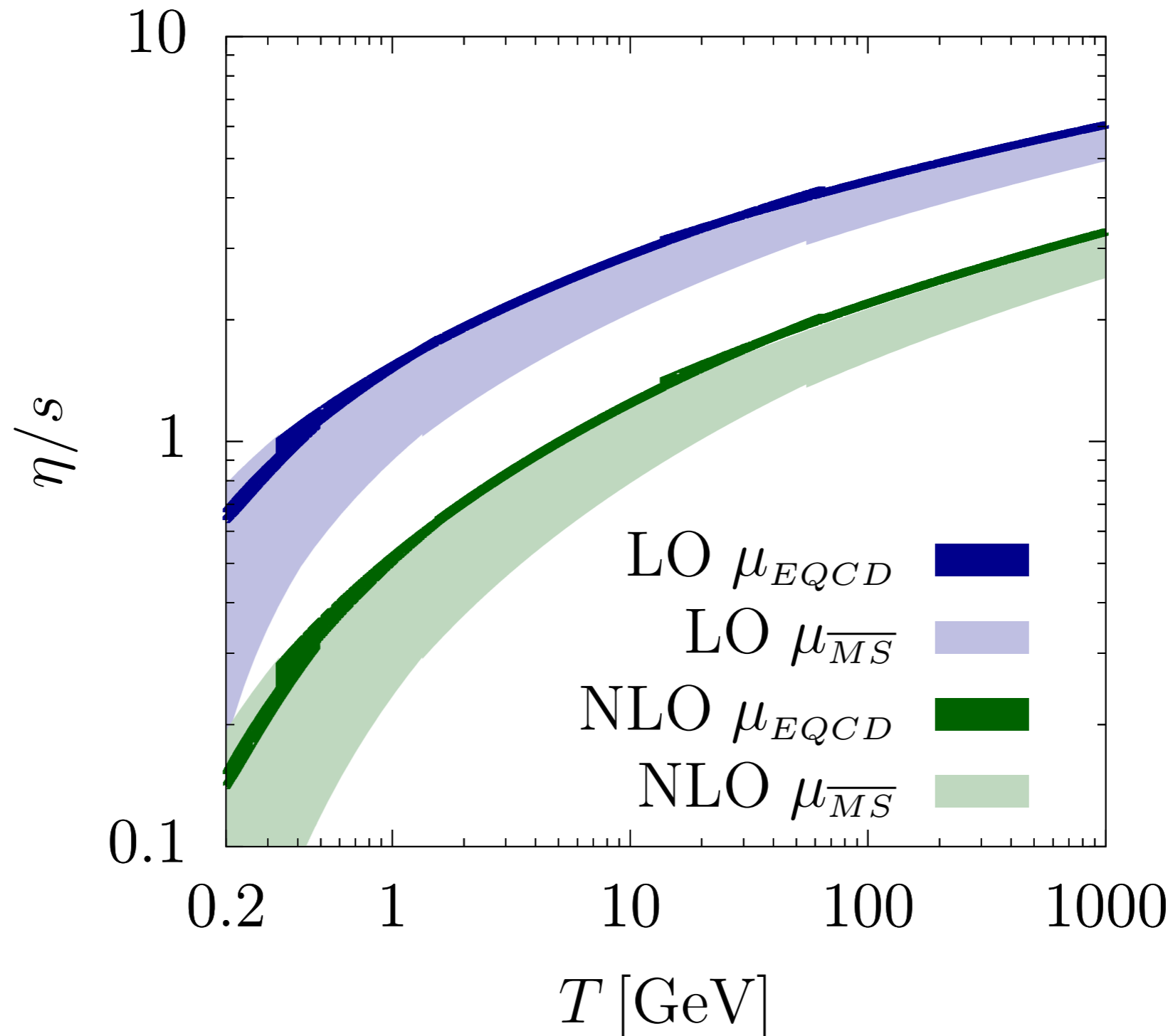
Results (and their fine print) (and their fine print)

- We want to plot $\eta(T)$ and need $g(T)$. But kinetic theory with massless quarks still conformal to NLO: no vacuum UV divergences and no guidance from the calculation on how to set the scale
- Relate parameter $m_D/T \sim g$ to temperature through
 - Two-loop EQCD $g(T)$ as in [Laine Schröder JHEP0503 \(2005\)](#)
 - Simple two-loop MSbar with various μ/T
- Extra degree of arbitrariness in the relation of quark mass thresholds with T

Results

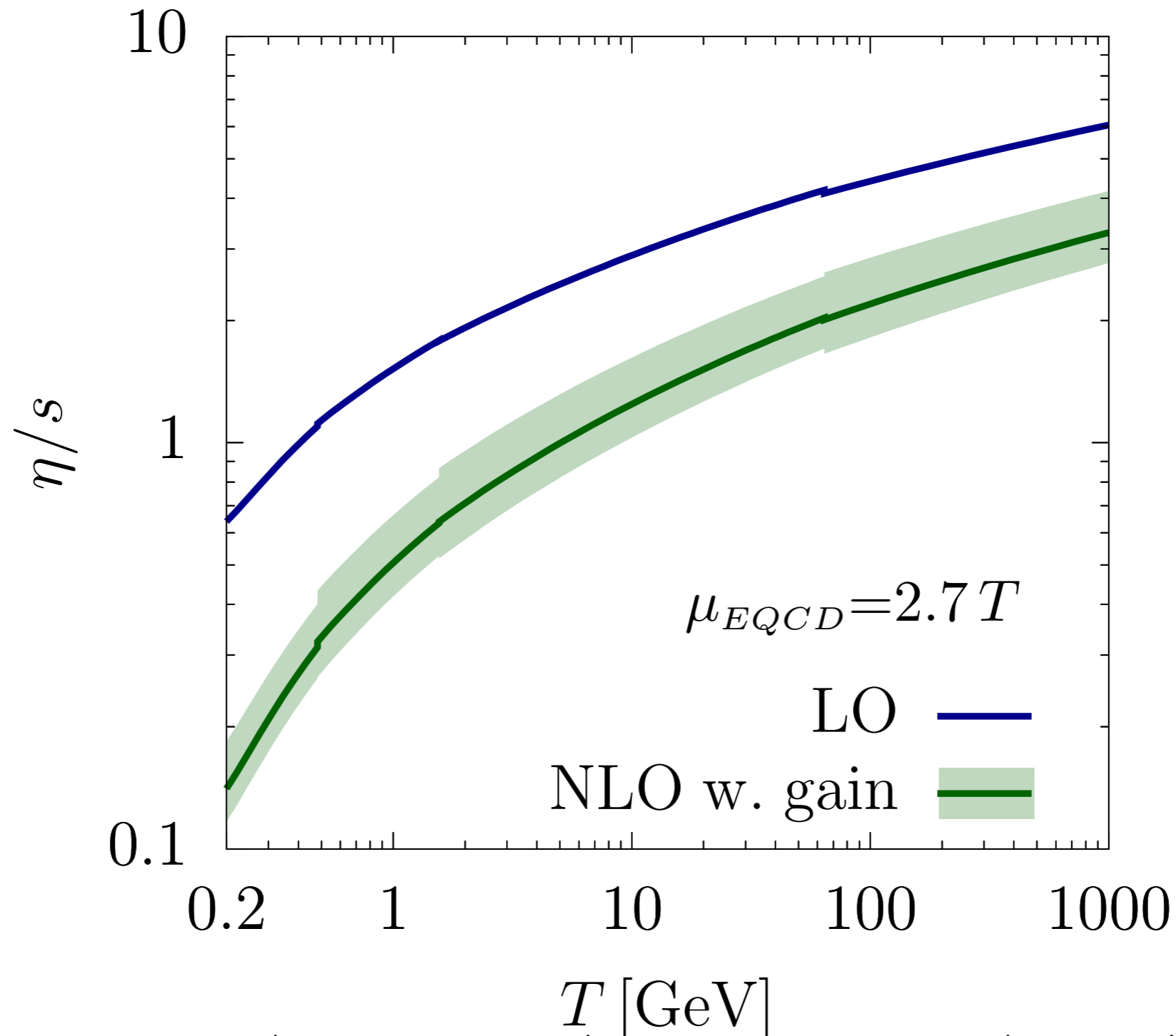


$\eta/s(T)$ of QCD



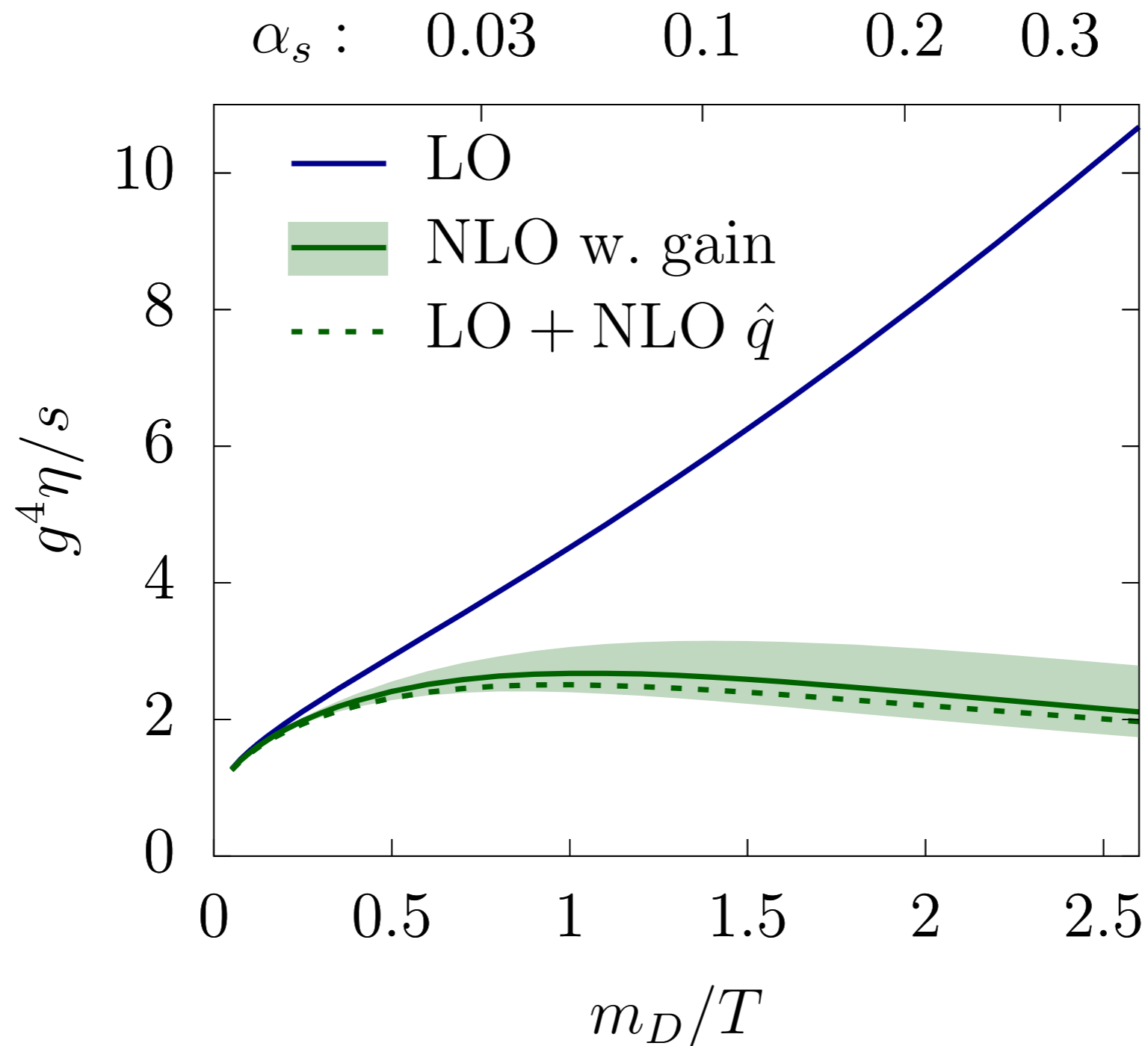
- (almost) NLO has larger effect than running (NNLO)

$\eta/s(T)$ of QCD



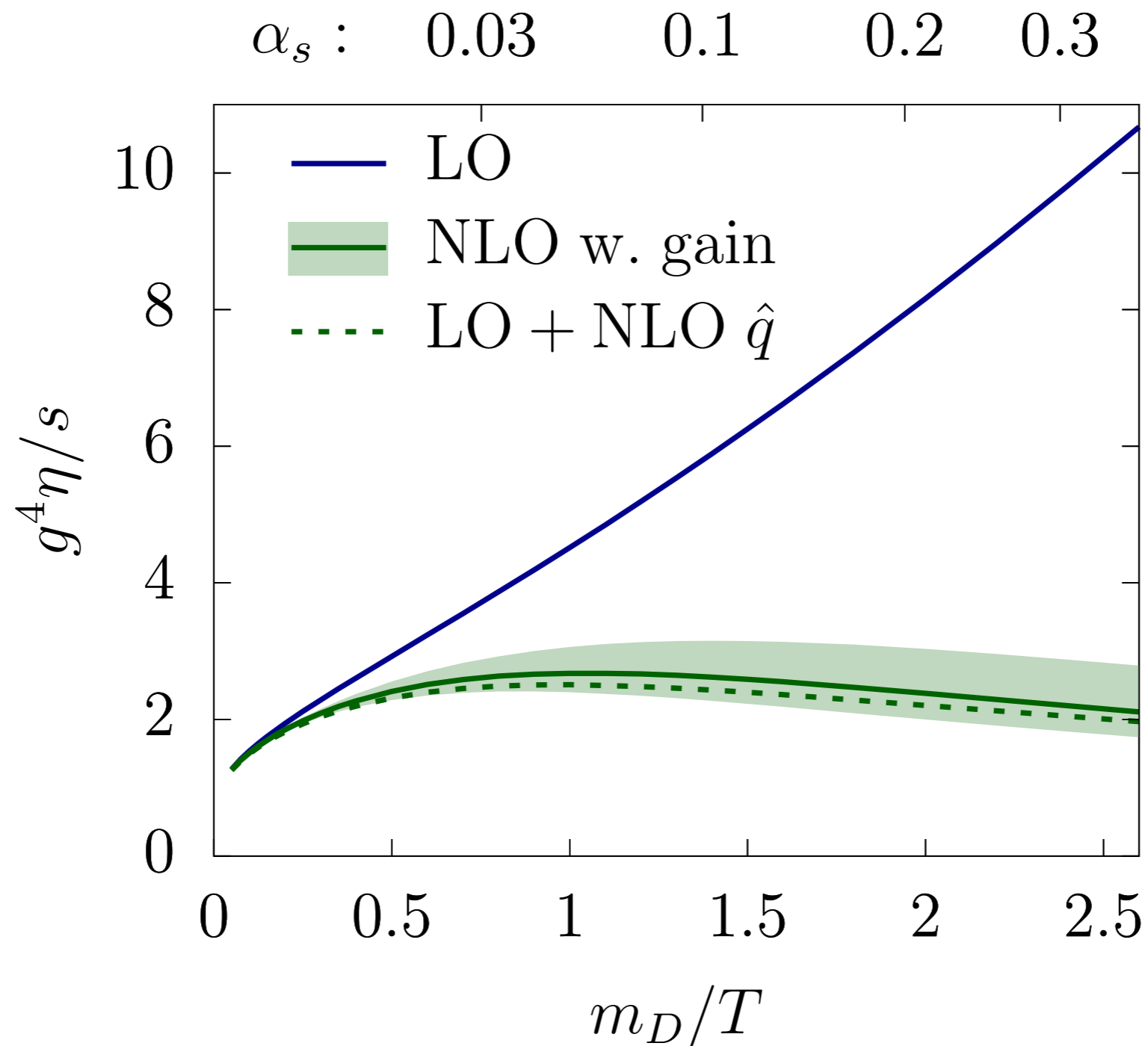
- **Cross / gain ansatz** ($-2 < C_{\text{cross}} < 2$) introduces $O(\pm 30\%)$ uncertainty

η/s convergence



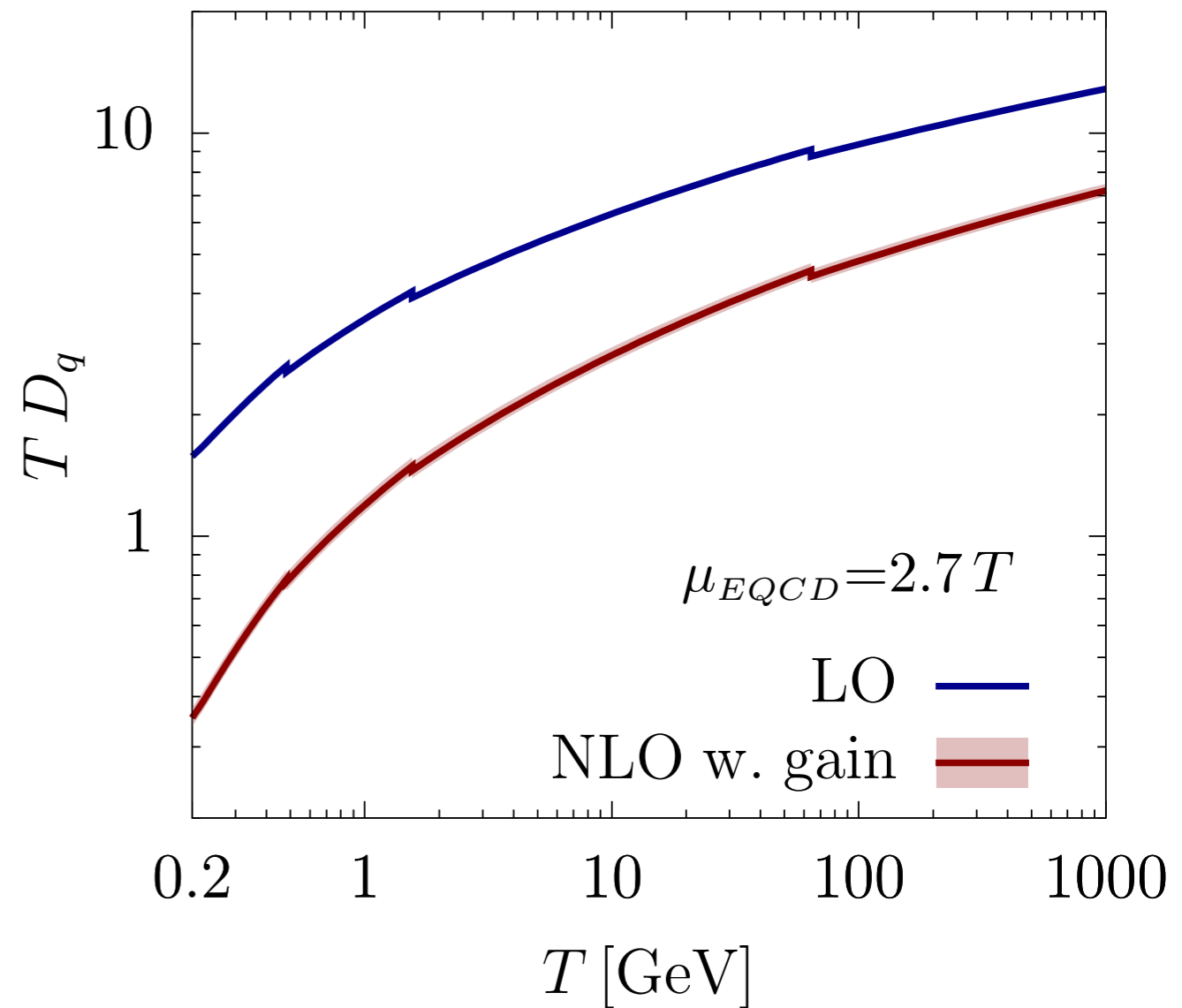
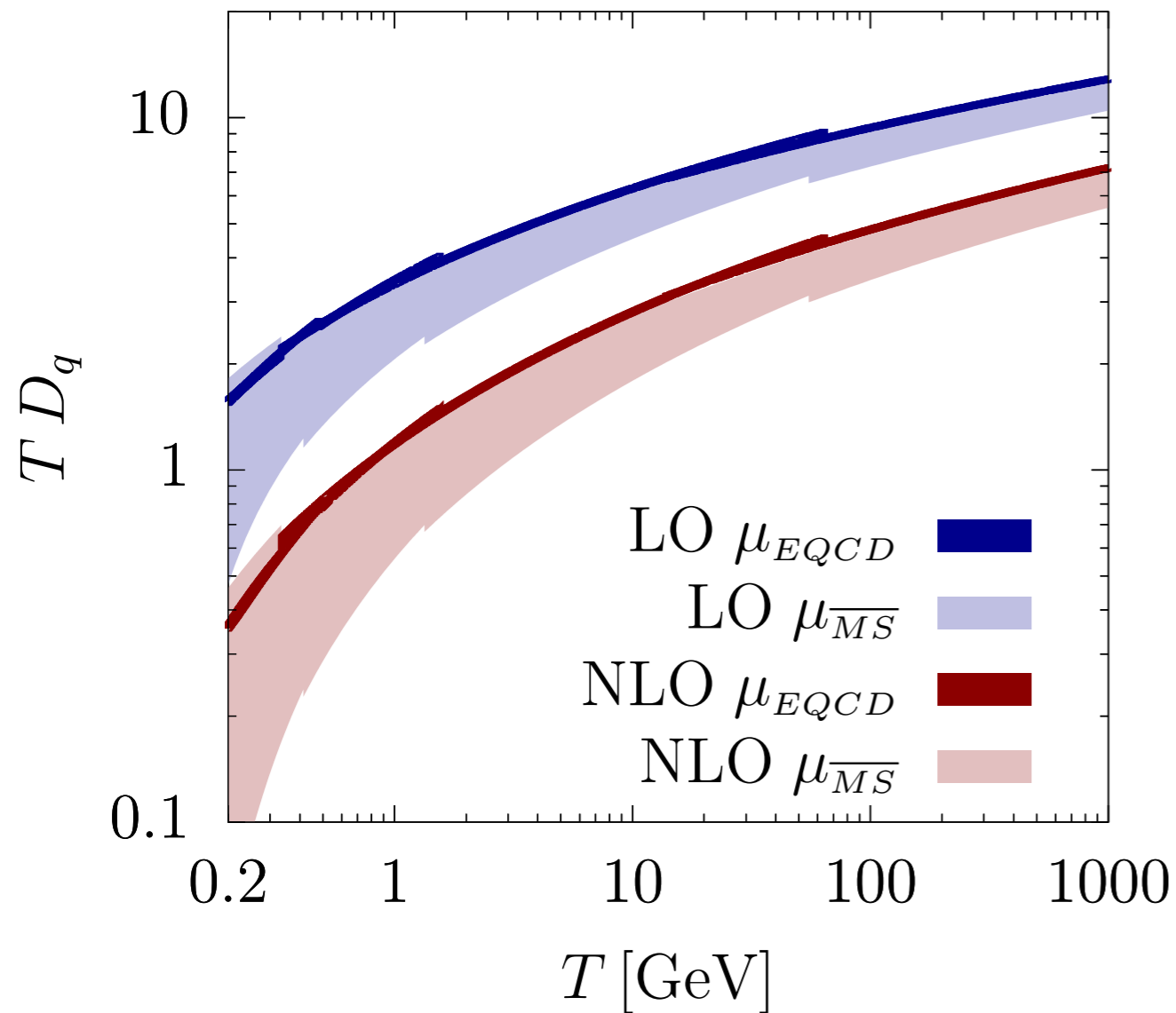
- **Convergence** realized at $m_D \sim 0.5T$

η/s convergence



- The **~entirety** of the downward shift comes from NLO \hat{q}

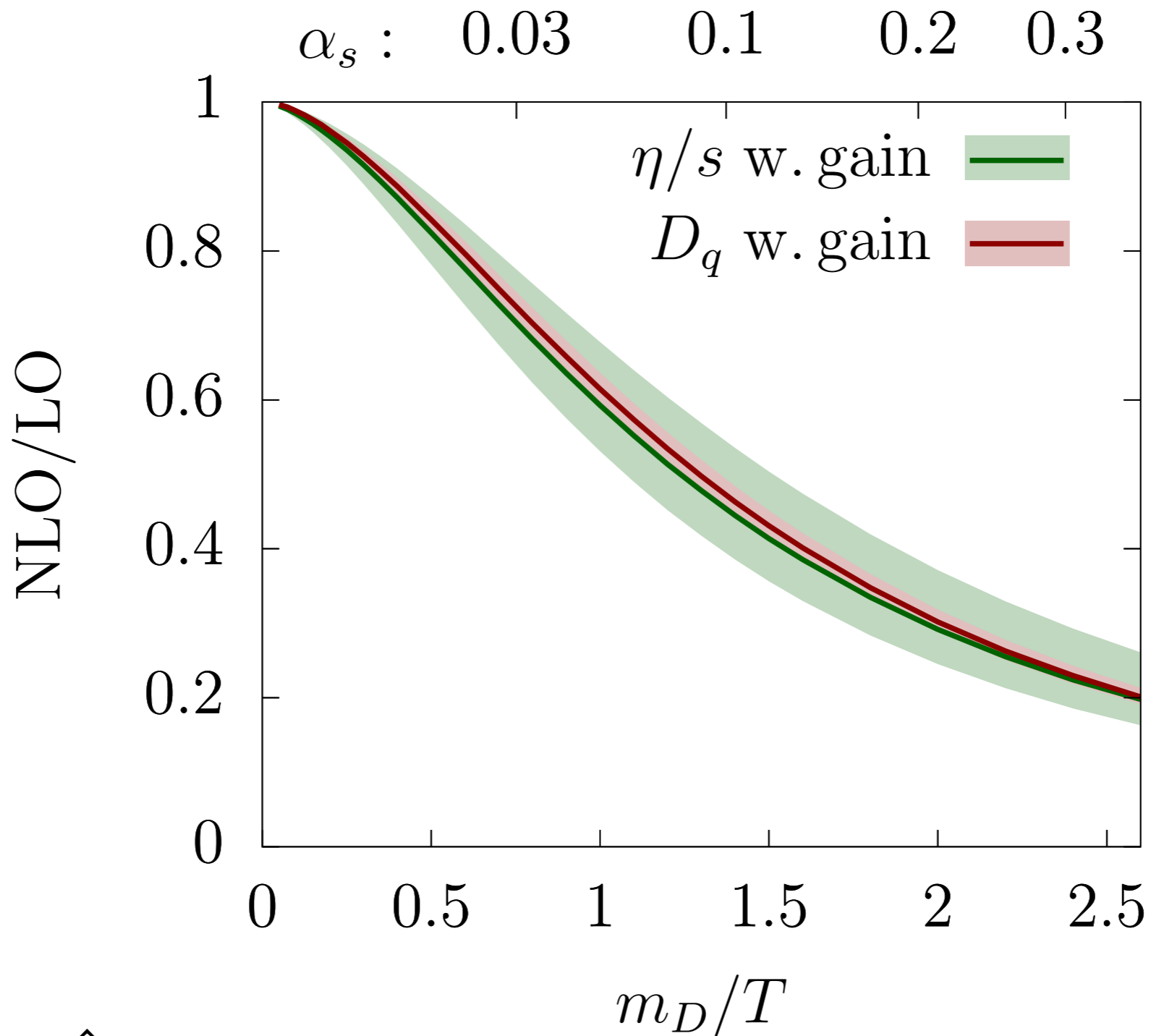
$D_q T(T)$ of QCD



$$\langle \mathbf{J}_q \rangle = -D_q \nabla \langle n_q \rangle$$

- **Cross ansatz** uncertainty much smaller (soft quarks here)

Ratios



- NLO \hat{q} domination makes ratios similar

Second-order relaxation

- To be causal and stable, **second order in the gradients** is required. There, lots of work on writing down/computing all the new transport coefficients that pop up
Baier *et al.* **JHEP0804** (2007), Denicol *et al.* **PRD85** (2012), Battacharyya *et al.* **JHEP0802** (2007)
- We look at the **second-order relaxation** τ_π of the **shear stress tensor** to its **Navier-Stokes form**
$$\tau_\pi \partial_t \pi^{ij} = \pi_1^{ij} - \pi^{ij}$$
- Similarly for a flavor current $\tau_j \partial_t j = j_1 - j$
recalling that $\langle \mathbf{J}_q \rangle = -D_q \nabla \langle n_q \rangle$
- Hydro practitioners usually fix 2nd-order coeffs through the **ratio to the 1st-order ones**. What can we say about that?

Second-order relaxation

- In the kinetic theory, second-order coefficients require second-order expansion of f . τ_π obtained from first-order δf acting as source term
- From the properties of the collision operator and inner product τ_π is given by the square of the first-order departure

$$\eta\tau_\pi = \frac{1}{15T}(\chi, \chi)$$

Moore York **PRD79** (2009) (I have slightly redefined the inner product)

- Two consequences



Can **obtain (a)NLO** results from the same setup



Can **think for one more second** about this inner product

Second-order relaxation

- The shear viscosity and enthalpy can be written as
$$\eta\tau_\pi = \frac{1}{15T}(\chi, \chi) \quad \eta = \frac{1}{15}(\chi, 1) \quad e + p = \frac{T}{3}(1, 1)$$
- Recall that $\mathcal{S}_\ell = \mathcal{C}\delta f_\ell$ $\delta f_\ell(\mathbf{p}) \equiv f_{\text{EQ}}(\mathbf{p})(1 + f_{\text{EQ}}(\mathbf{p}))\chi_\ell(\mathbf{p})$
- The **linearized collision operator** is **symmetric** wrt the inner product and is **positive-definite** (in the $\ell=1,2$ channels)
- We have all the spectral ingredients for a **triangular inequality**
$$\frac{\tau_\pi}{\eta/(e+p)} = 5 \frac{(\chi, \chi)(1, 1)}{(\chi, 1)^2} \geq 5$$
- **Generic bound in any kinetic theory**, as long as enthalpy / charge susceptibility determined consistently within it

Second-order relaxation

- We have all the spectral ingredients for a **triangular inequality**

$$\frac{\tau_\pi}{\eta/(e+p)} = 5 \frac{(\chi, \chi)(1, 1)}{(\chi, 1)^2} \geq 5 \quad \frac{\tau_j}{D_q} \geq 3$$

- **Generic bound in any kinetic theory**, as long as enthalpy / charge susceptibility determined consistently within it
- At infinite coupling in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ (**finite coupling correction also known for τ_π**)

$$\frac{\tau_\pi}{\eta/(e+p)} = 4 - 2 \ln(2) \approx 2.6 \quad \frac{\tau_j}{D_{U(1)}} = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

Baier *et al* **JHEP0804** (2007), Bu Lublinsky Sharon **JHEP1604** (2016)

- Strongly-coupled holographic theories are **very far** from having a kinetic quasiparticle description

Second-order relaxation

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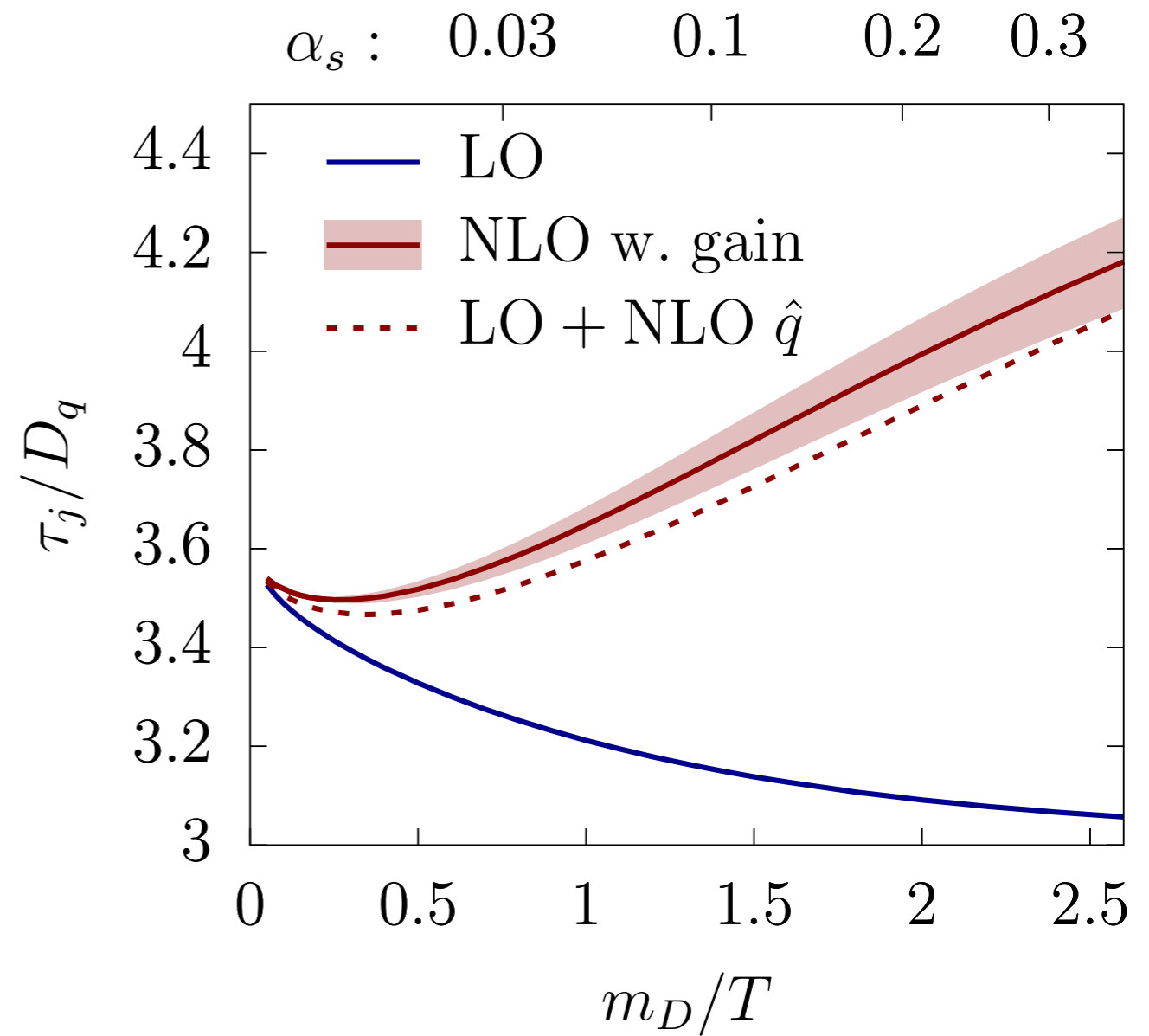
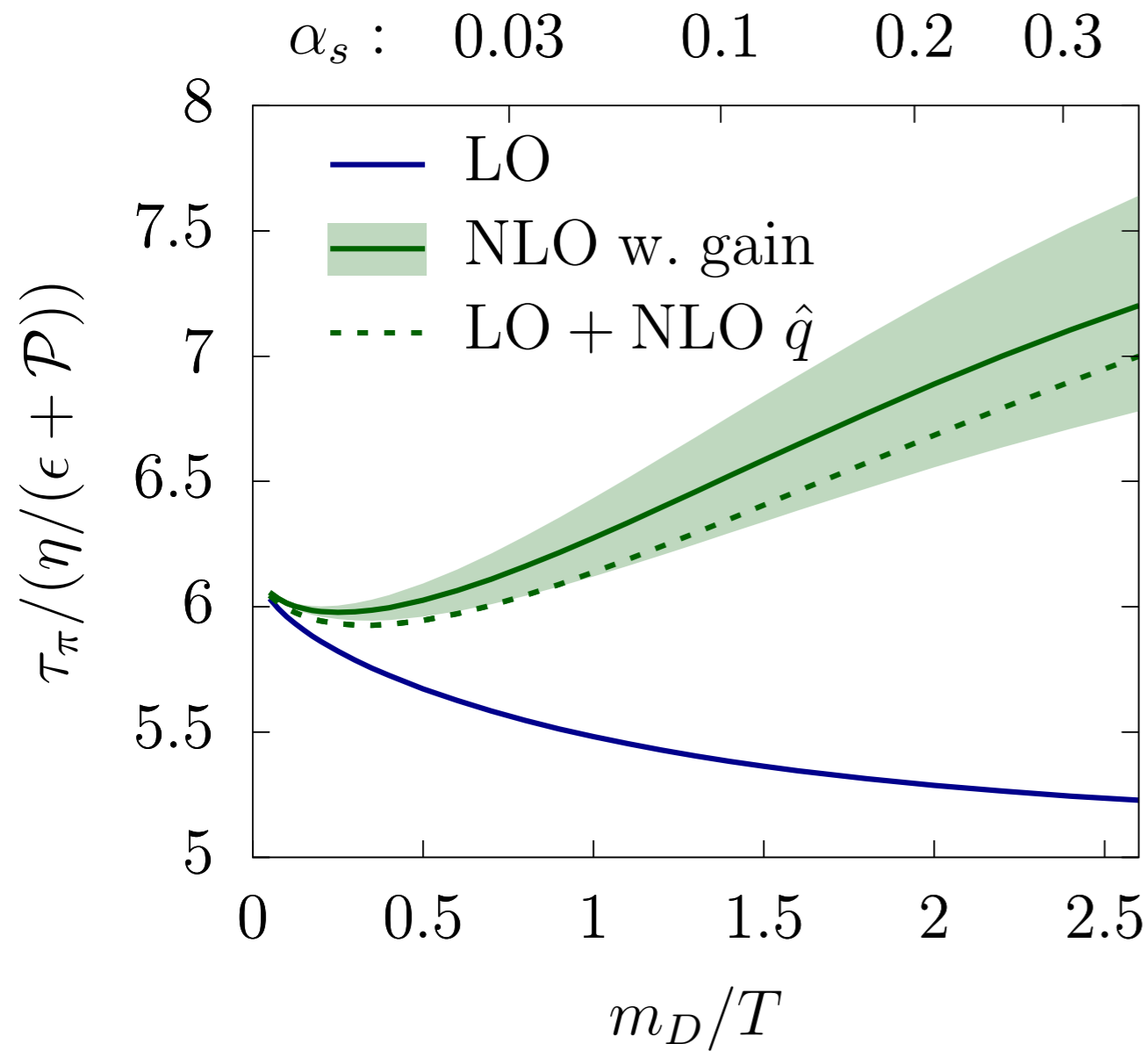
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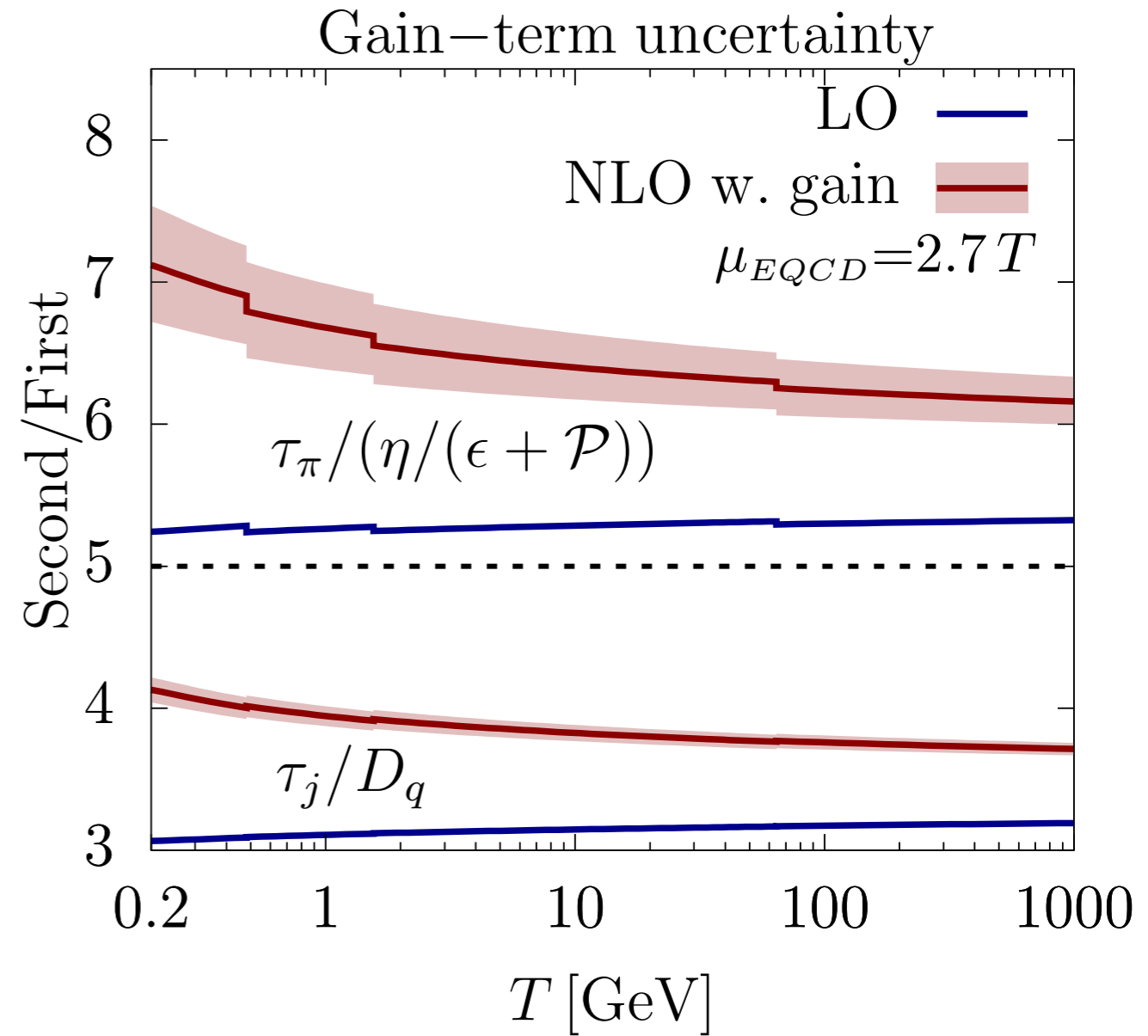
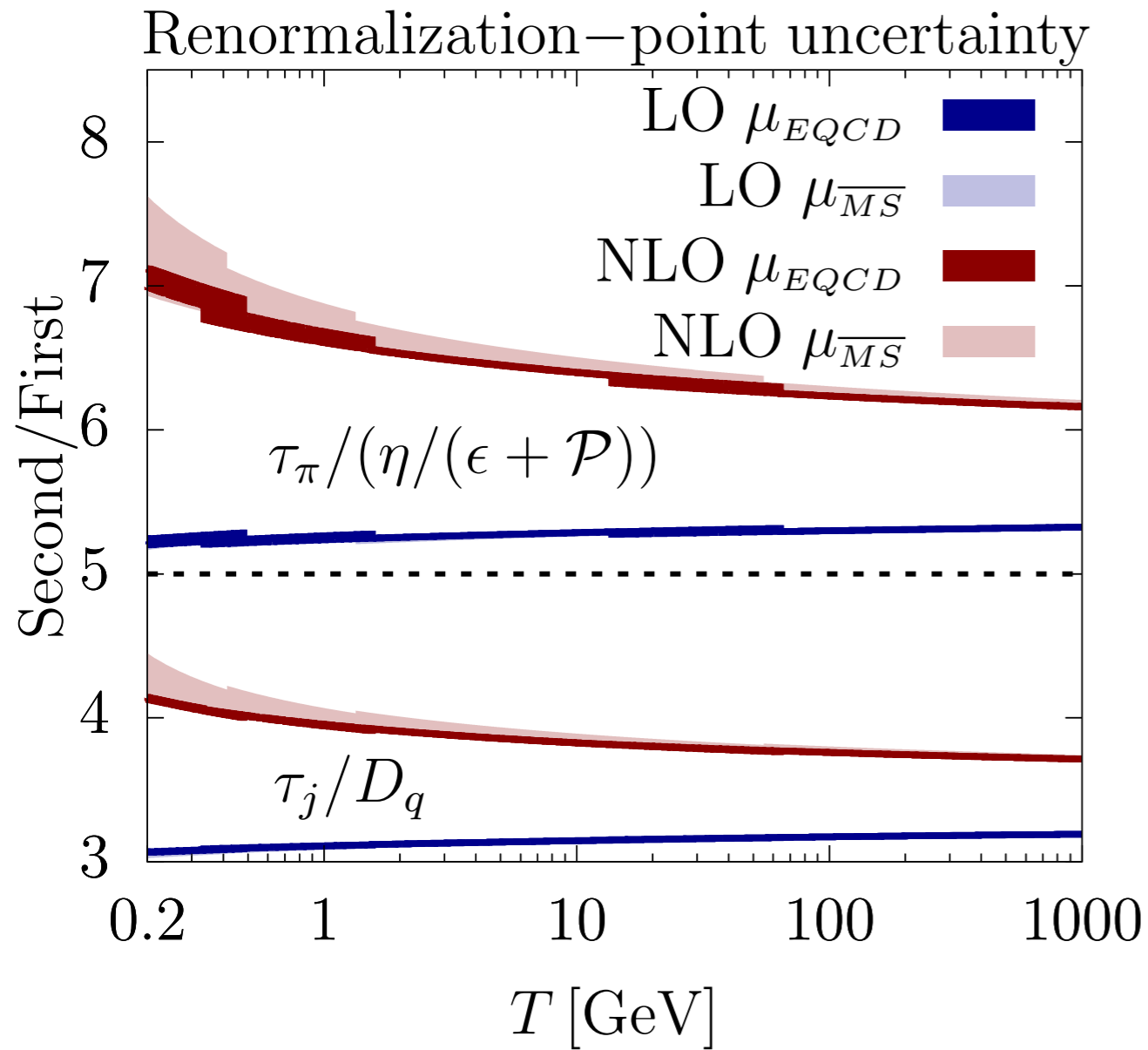
- NLO kinetic theory and holography can give **comparable 1st order coefficients**, but **they differ fundamentally at 2nd order**

2nd-order relaxation: (a) NLO results



- ~40% increase from LO and robustness of these second / first-order coeffs. ratios

2nd-order relaxation: (a) NLO results



- Temperature dependence much milder than for the first- or second-order coefficients alone

Summary

- The effective kinetic theory of QCD has been extended to (almost) NLO
- NLO corrections are large, η and D_q down by a factor of $\sim 4-5$ in the phenomenological region
- Convergence below $m_D \sim 0.5T$ (or at T well above the TeV scale)
- Second-order τ_π is bounded from below in kinetic theory. Strong-coupling holography violates the bounds.
- Milder increase at (a)NLO for the second-order coefficients, weak temperature dependence for the second/first order ratios, good news for hydro simulations.

Conclusions and outlook

- The techniques used / introduced here can be applied for the transport properties of all sorts of SEWM with ultrarelativistic quasi-particle d.o.f.s
- Light-cone techniques are an essential tool. Now being applied to Early Universe physics as well
Anisimov Besak Bödeker (2011-12) JG Laine (2015-18)
- Corrections dominated by NLO \hat{q} . Can we identify the physics responsible for this and **reorganize the perturbative expansion?**
- NLO kinetic theory and holography can give **comparable 1st order coefficients**, but **they differ fundamentally at 2nd order: strongly-coupled thys very far from having quasi-particles**

Backup



Euclideanization of light-cone soft physics

- For $t/x_z=0$: equal time Euclidean correlators.

$$G_{rr}(t=0, \mathbf{x}) = \int_p G_E(\omega_n, p) e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}}$$

Euclideanization of light-cone soft physics

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- Consider the more general case $|t/x^z| < 1$

$$G_{rr}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \int dp^0 dp^z d^2 p_\perp e^{i(p^z x^z + \mathbf{p}_\perp \cdot \mathbf{x}_\perp - p^0 x^0)} \left(\frac{1}{2} + n_B(p^0) \right) (G_R(P) - G_A(P))$$

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- Retarded functions are analytical in the upper plane in any timelike or lightlike variable $\Rightarrow G_R$ analytical in p^0

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$$G_{rr}(t, \mathbf{x}) = T \sum_n \int dp^z d^2 p_\perp e^{i(p^z x^z + \mathbf{p}_\perp \cdot \mathbf{x}_\perp)} G_E(\omega_n, p_\perp, p^z + i\omega_n t/x^z)$$

- Soft physics dominated by $n=0$ (and t -independent)

\Rightarrow EQCD!

Caron-Huot **PRD79** (2009)

Euclideanization of light-cone soft physics

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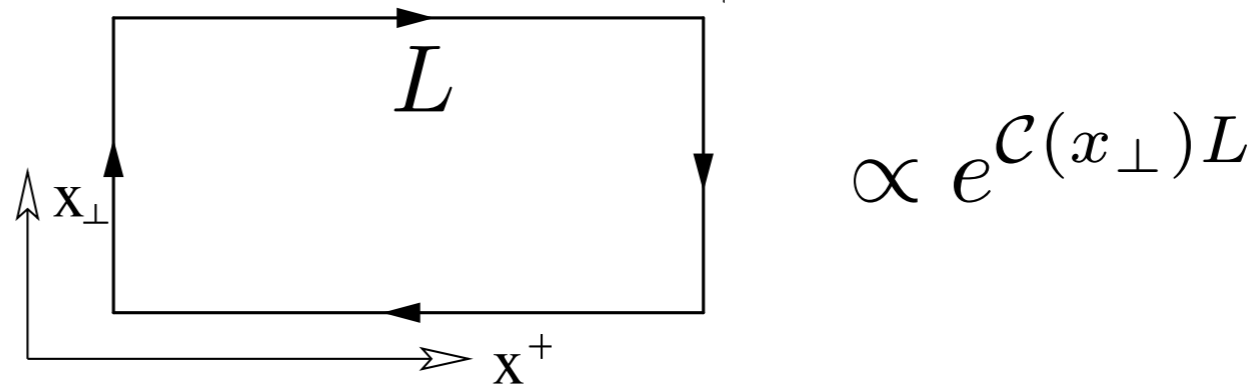
$$G_{rr}(t, \mathbf{x})_{\text{soft}} = T \int d^3 p e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} G_E(\omega_n = 0, \mathbf{p})$$

- Soft physics dominated by $n=0$ (and t -independent)

\Rightarrow EQCD!

Caron-Huot **PRD79** (2009)

LPM resummation



BDMPS-Z, Wiedemann, Casalderrey-Solana Salgado, D'Eramo Liu

Rajagopal, Benzke Brambilla Escobedo Vairo

- All points at spacelike or lightlike separation, only preexisting correlations
- Soft contribution becomes Euclidean! [Caron-Huot PRD79 \(2008\)](#)
 - Can be “easily” computed in perturbation theory
 - Possible lattice measurements [Laine EPJC72 \(2012\)](#) [Laine Rothkopf JHEP1307 \(2013\)](#) [Panero Rummukainen Schäfer 1307.5850](#)



Semi-collinear processes

- Important technical detail: **strict $O(g)$** vs **resummed $N^n\text{LO}$**
- **Strict $O(g)$** semicollinear rate actually involves subtraction of **collinear** and **hard limits**, i.e. $\hat{q}(\delta E) - \hat{q}(0) - \hat{q}(\delta E, m_D \rightarrow 0)$
- This makes it mostly negative: when extrapolating to larger g we risk a **negative collision operator**
- We devised a new implementation that, while equivalent at $O(g)$, is better behaved when extrapolating due to **resummations of $N^n\text{LO}$ terms ($n \geq 2$)**
- In a nutshell, make $C(q_\perp)$ δE -dependent in the first-order of the LPM ladder resummation. **Importance for jet physics?**