



# *A Pixel-Based Bayesian Approach for Model Independent TMD Reconstruction*

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# The Inverse Problem

## The Objective

Reconstruct TMDs in bT-space from data in kT-space

$\widetilde{W}(b_T)$  is a convolution of two TMDs

$$W(k_T) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty db_T b_T J_0(b_T k_T) \widetilde{W}(b_T)$$

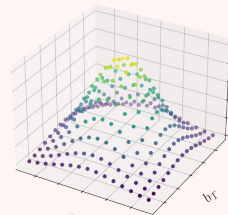
## Standard Approaches

$$\widetilde{W} \equiv \widetilde{W}(\theta) \quad \begin{array}{l} \bullet \text{ Parametrization} \\ \bullet \text{ Neural Networks} \end{array}$$

$\theta$  Find best-fit (hyper)parameters  
Replica Method for Uncertainty Quantification

## New Pixel-based Approach

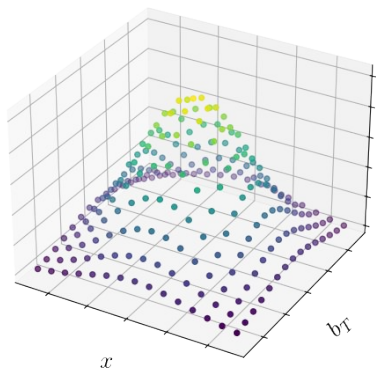
$\widetilde{W} \equiv \widetilde{W}[b_{T1}, \dots, b_{TN}]$  Discretization or “Pixelization”



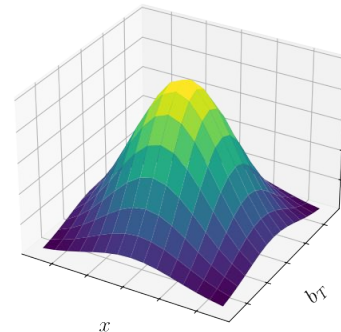
### Advanced Methodology:

- Model Independent
- Generative AI for Pixel Distribution
- MH & Bayes Theorem for Uncertainty Quantification

# The Inverse Problem: Pixel Based Approach



Function recovered  
via interpolation



## Three Closure Tests

- Gaussian Distribution
- TMD PDF
- FUU Structure Function

## Outline

- Methodology
- Normalizing Flow + MH
- Solution Non-uniqueness
- Uncertainty Quantification
- **Null TMDs**

Based on: [ArXiv 2605.06606](https://arxiv.org/abs/2605.06606)

# Gaussian Case: Data generation

Events generation: Inverse Transform Sampling

$$k_T = \sqrt{\sigma^2(\mu^2)} \cdot \operatorname{erfinv}(u), \quad \sigma^2(\mu^2) = \alpha + g_{\text{evo}} \ln \left( \frac{\mu^2}{\mu_0^2} \right).$$
$$g_{\text{evo}} = 1.2 \text{ GeV}^2$$

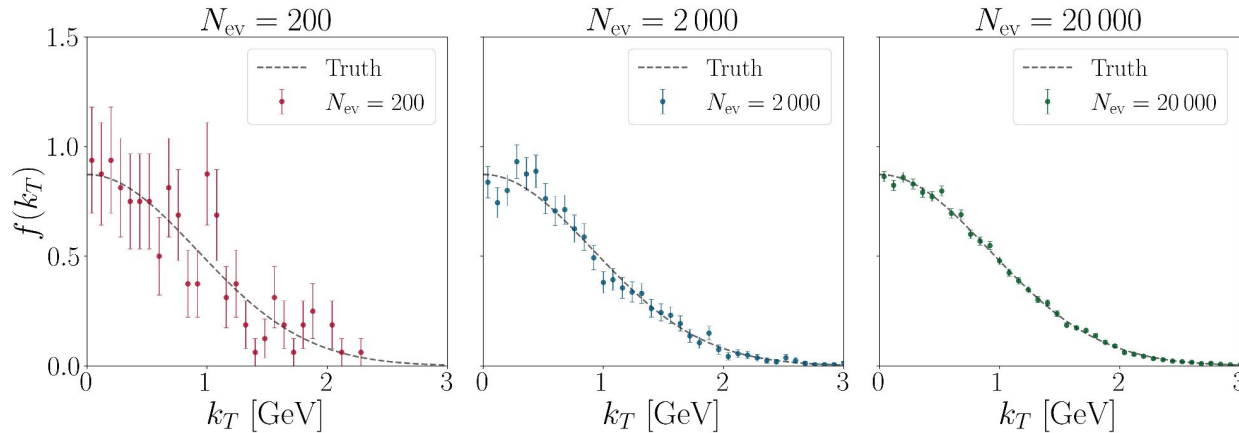
True Distributions

kT-space

$$f(k_T, \mu^2) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi\sigma^2(\mu^2)}} \exp \left( -\frac{k_T^2}{\sigma^2(\mu^2)} \right),$$

bT-space

$$\tilde{f}(b_T, \mu^2) = 2\sqrt{\pi\sigma^2(\mu^2)} \exp \left( -\frac{b_T^2 \sigma^2(\mu^2)}{4} \right).$$



Increasing Event Statistics

- 3 scenarios for Number of events
- Fixed grid for binning
- Data generated at  $\mu^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2$
- Errors shrink as  $N_{\text{ev}}$  increases

$$\sigma \propto 1/\sqrt{N_{\text{ev}}}$$

# Gaussian Case: Discretization and Bayes Theorem

$$f(k_{Tj}) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty db_T b_T J_0(b_T k_{Tj}) \tilde{f}(b_T),$$

$$\tilde{f}(b_T) \approx \sum_{i=1}^N \tilde{f}_i h_i(b_T), \quad \text{Interpolation with Local Interpolators}$$

$$[\mathcal{M}_{\text{ref}}]_{ki} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{b_{T \min}}^{b_{T \max}} db_T b_T J_0(b_T k_{T,k}^{\text{ref}}) h_i(b_T).$$

Transform as Matrix Multiplication

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathcal{M} \tilde{\mathbf{f}}$$

Forward Map

Many methods:

- Ogata
- Trapezoid Rule
- Gaussian Quadrature
- ...

$$\tilde{\mathbf{f}}_i \equiv \tilde{f}(b_{Ti})$$

Interpolation matrices depending on data points

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{total}} = \mathcal{M}_{\text{interp}} \mathcal{M}_{\text{ref}}.$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = [\tilde{f}(b_{T1}), \dots, \tilde{f}(b_{TN})]^T \quad \text{Pixel Vector}$$

$$\mathbf{f} = [f(k_{T1}), \dots, f(k_{TM})]^T \quad \text{Data Vector}$$

It cannot be directly inverted!

$\mathcal{M}$  is rank deficient

The solution is NOT Unique!

# Bayesian Pixel-based approach + Gen AI

$$\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = [\tilde{f}(b_{T1}), \dots, \tilde{f}(b_{TN})]^T \quad \text{Pixel Vector}$$

$\tilde{\mathbf{f}}$  Pixels are Random Variables with a Probability Distribution

Posterior and Bayes Theorem

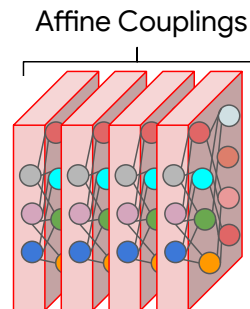
$$P(\tilde{\mathbf{f}}|\mathbf{f}) \propto \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{f}|\tilde{\mathbf{f}}) \pi(\tilde{\mathbf{f}}),$$

Likelihood: Chi-square

$$\chi^2(\mathbf{f}|\tilde{\mathbf{f}}) = \sum_{j=1}^M \left( \frac{[\mathcal{M}\tilde{\mathbf{f}}]_j - f_j}{\sigma_j} \right)^2.$$

Prior

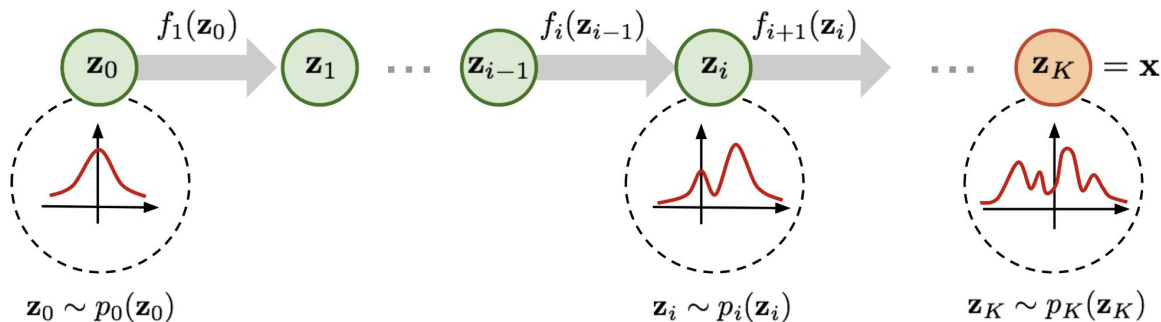
$$\ln \pi(\tilde{\mathbf{f}}) \propto - \sum_{k=0}^2 \lambda_k \Omega_k(\tilde{\mathbf{f}}),$$



Generative AI for pixels reconstruction:  
Normalizing Flow

**No Unique Solution:**  
*The goal is to find all the possible solutions compatible with data and prior*

# Normalizing Flow



Based on Change of variable theorem

$$\int p(x)dx = \int \pi(z)dz = 1$$

$$p(x) = \pi(z) \left| \frac{dz}{dx} \right| = \pi(f^{-1}(x)) \left| \frac{df^{-1}}{dx} \right|$$

Generation of highly realistic pictures

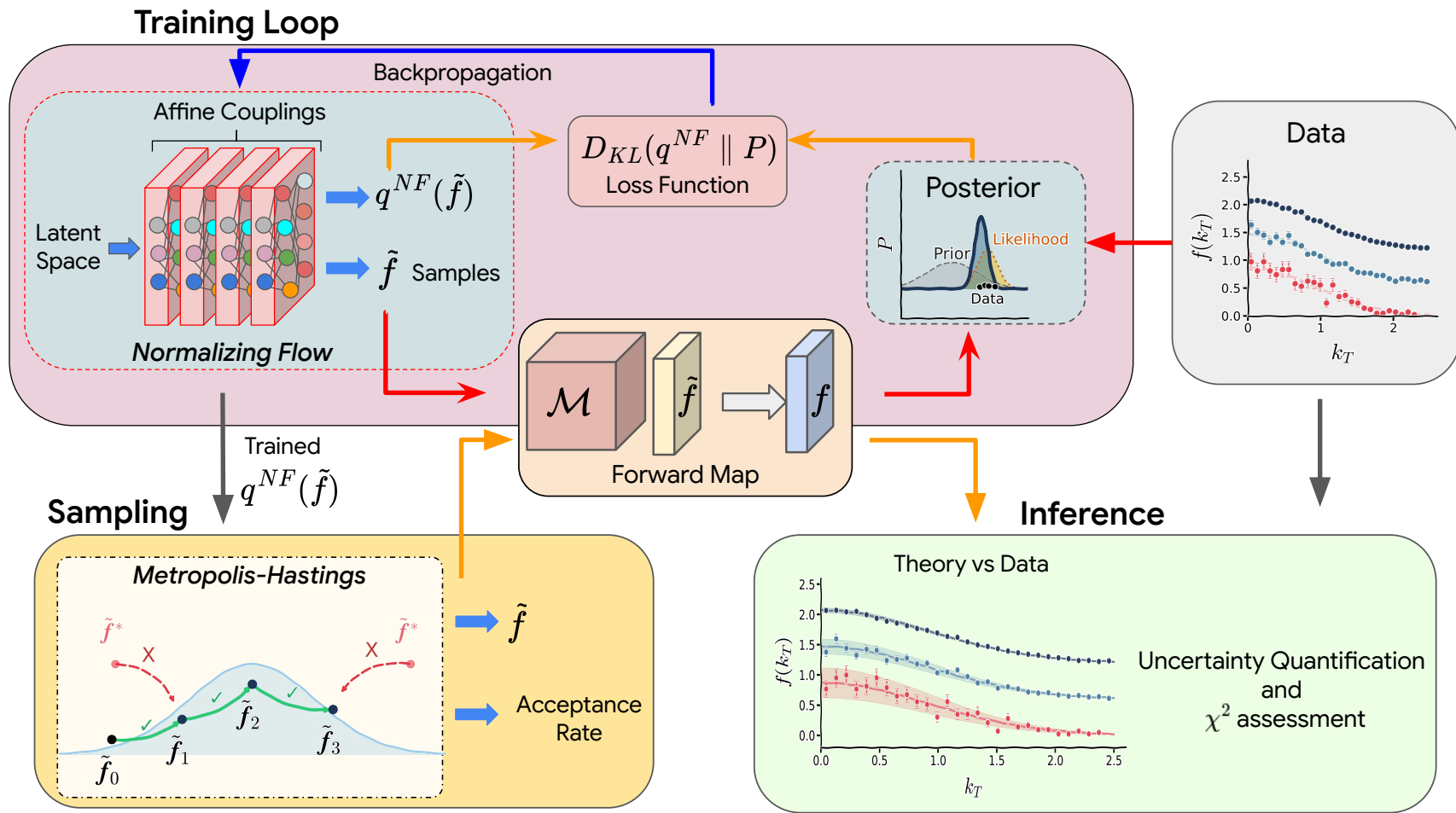


We can approximate a target distribution through a chain of transformation

Target Distribution      Initial Distribution      Jacobian: Neural Networks

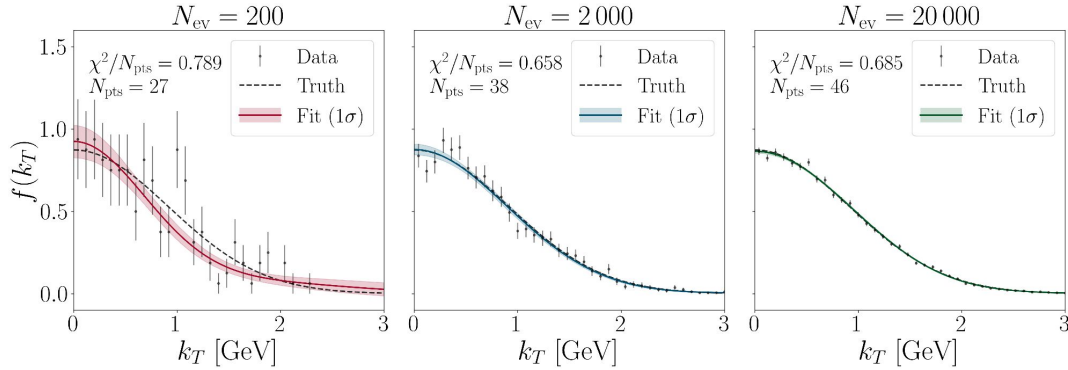
$$\log p(x) = \log \pi_0(z_0) - \sum_{i=1}^K \log \left| \det \frac{df_i}{dz_{i-1}} \right|$$

Density estimation using Real NVP Arxiv:1605.08803



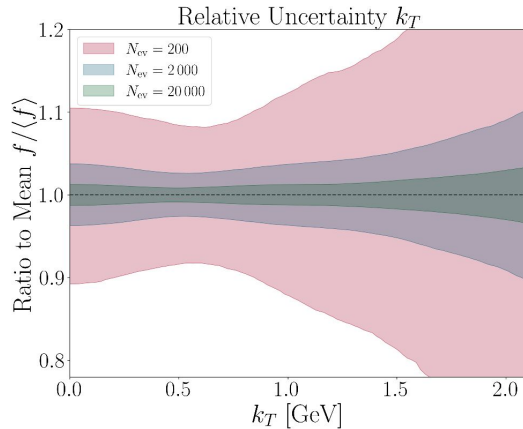
# Gaussian Case: Results in $k_T$ space

Fit vs Data



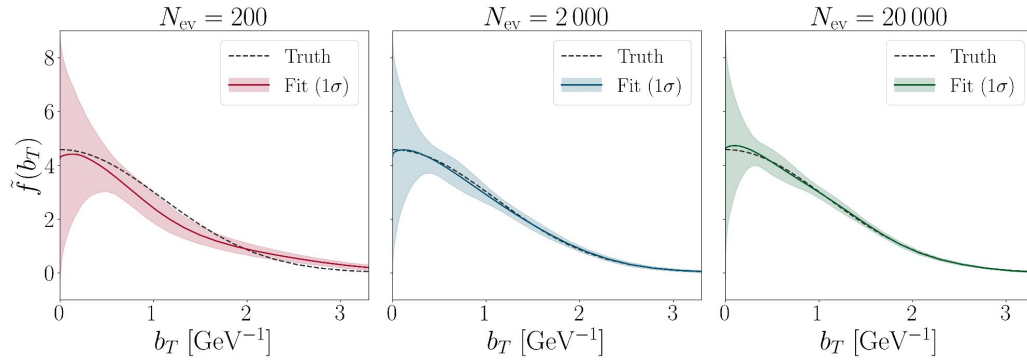
$N_{ev}$	accept. rate	$N_{pts}$	$\chi^2/N_{pts}$
200	61%	27	0.79
2000	76%	38	0.66
20000	78%	46	0.69

Error bands compatible and around the True model



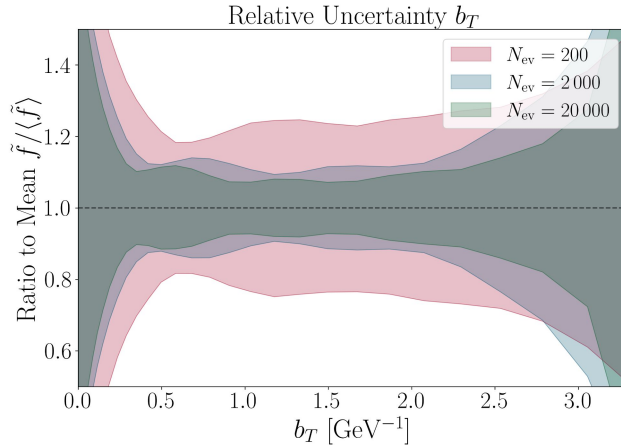
- 3 Different Fits with same methodology
- Good description of Data
- Error bands scale as  $1/\sqrt{N_{ev}}$

# Gaussian Case: Results in $b_T$ space



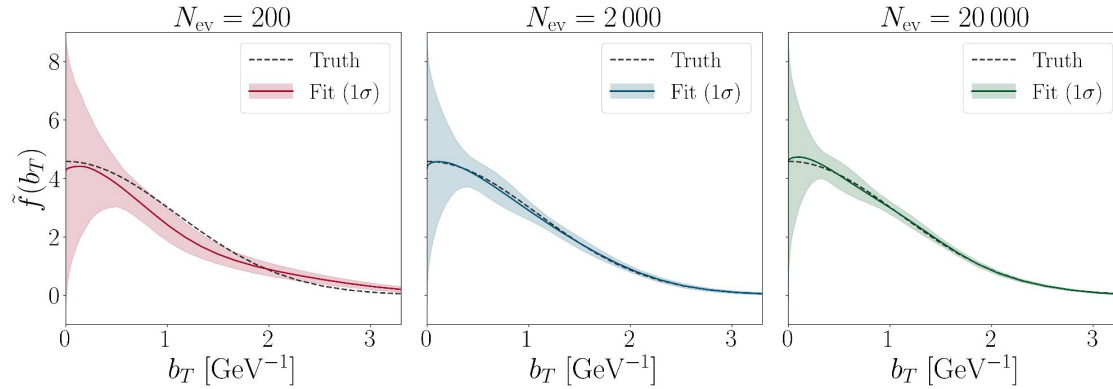
Error bands converge around the True distribution

**Non Trivial Criticalities!**



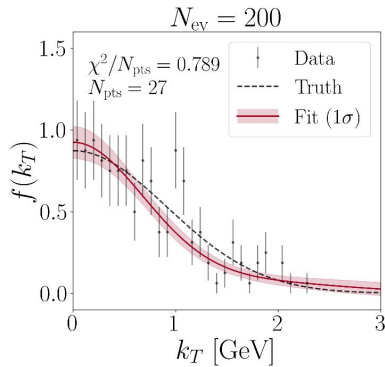
- Error bands DO NOT scale as  $1/\sqrt{N_{ev}}$
- “Precision Floor”
- No real shrinking for small  $b_T$

# Gaussian Case: Results in $b_T$ space



## Non Trivial Criticalities!

- Error bands DO NOT scale as  $1/\sqrt{N_{ev}}$
- “Precision Floor”
- No real shrinking for small  $b_T$

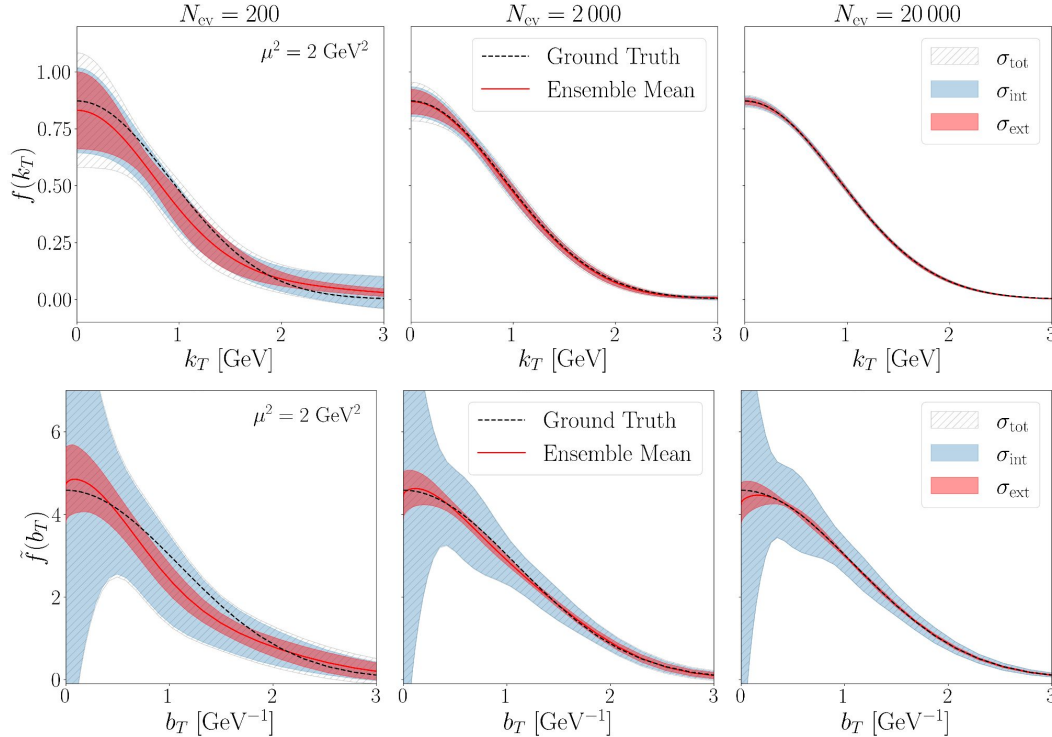


Fit not on top of the Truth

Is this an outcome of the method or a result of the statistics?

# Gaussian Case: Ensemble Analysis

Generated 100 independent pseudo-data replicas and performed 100 independent fits.



The uncertainty can be decomposed in:

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^2(b_T) = \sigma_{\text{int}}^2(b_T) + \sigma_{\text{ext}}^2(b_T)$$

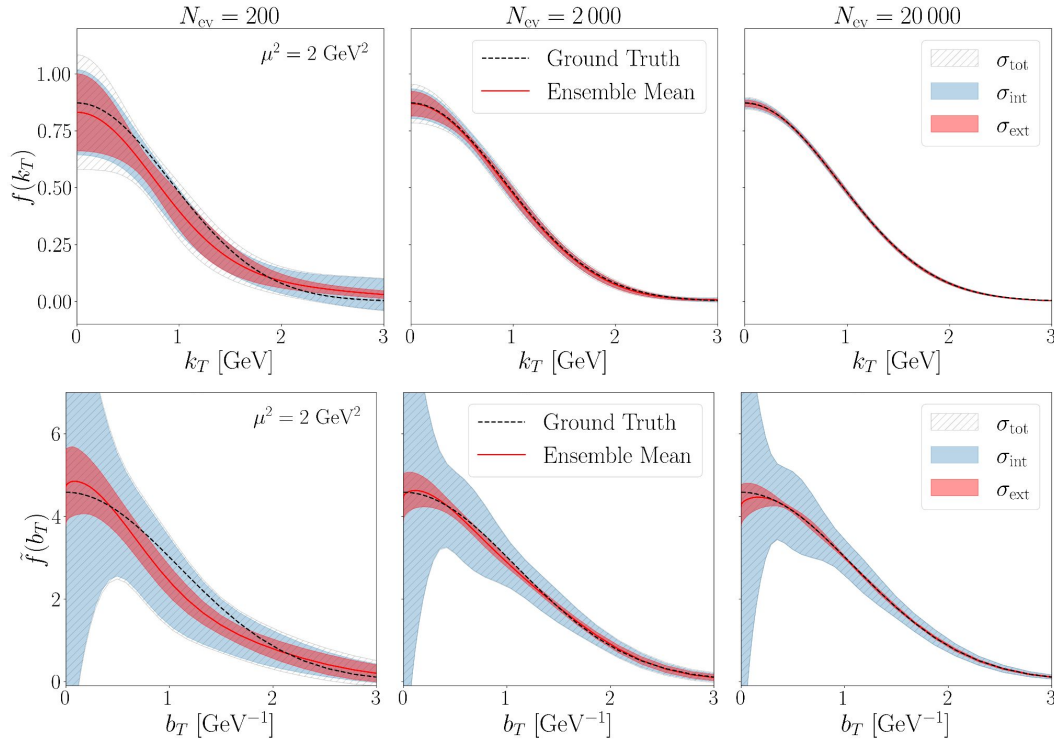
Average of the posterior variances obtained within each individual replica

Variance of the posterior means

- The total uncertainty band consistently encompasses the truth.
- $\sigma_{ext}$  narrows significantly as the number of events increases.
- At small distances, the uncertainty remains substantial even in the high-statistics scenario.
- Non-uniform scaling and precision floor still present.

# Gaussian Case: Ensemble Analysis

Generated 100 independent pseudo-data replicas and performed 100 independent fits.



The uncertainty can be decomposed in:

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^2(b_T) = \sigma_{\text{int}}^2(b_T) + \sigma_{\text{ext}}^2(b_T)$$

Average of the posterior variances obtained within each individual replica

Variance of the posterior means

- The total uncertainty band consistently

**SVD Analysis**

# Singular Value Decomposition - SVD

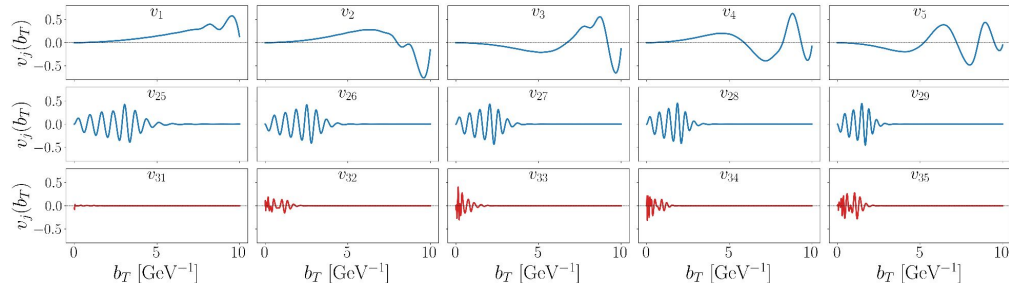
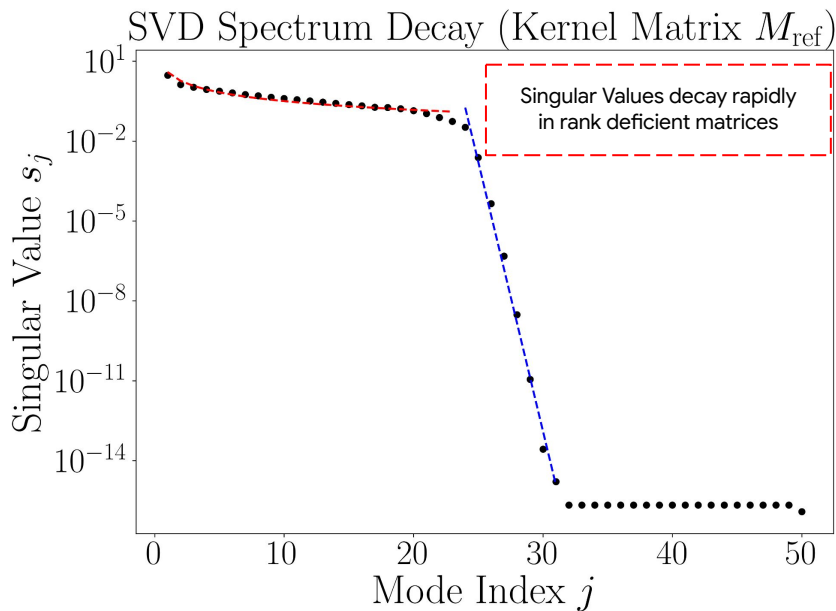
SVD Decomposition

$$\mathcal{M} = U \Sigma V^T$$

U and V are orthonormal matrices

- U (M x M): Span Data Space
- V (N x N) : Span Model Space

$\Sigma$  is a pseudo-diagonal matrix  
with Singular Values  $s_i$



$$\mathcal{M} \mathbf{v}_i = s_i \mathbf{u}_i$$

# Singular Value Decomposition - SVD

If only the first  $p$  singular values are non-zero:

$$V_{\text{obs}} = [\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p]$$

$$V_{\text{null}} = [\mathbf{v}_{p+1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_N]$$

$$P_{\text{obs}} = V_{\text{obs}} V_{\text{obs}}^T = \sum_{i=1}^p \mathbf{v}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$$

$$P_{\text{null}} = V_{\text{null}} V_{\text{null}}^T = \sum_{i=p+1}^N \mathbf{v}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$$

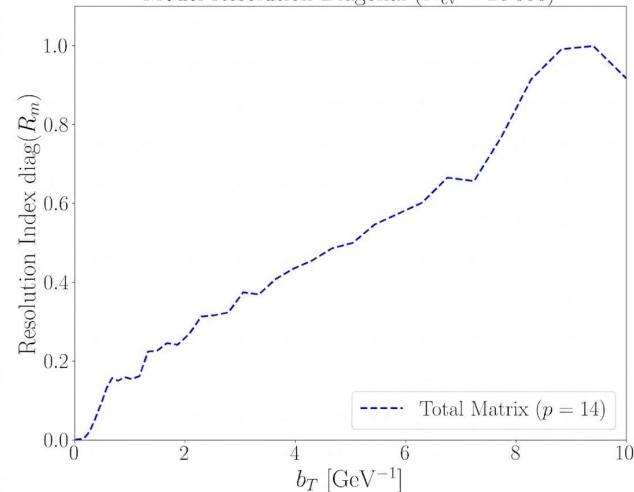
We can split the models into Observable and Null Space

$$\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{obs}} + \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{null}} = P_{\text{obs}} \tilde{\mathbf{f}} + P_{\text{null}} \tilde{\mathbf{f}},$$

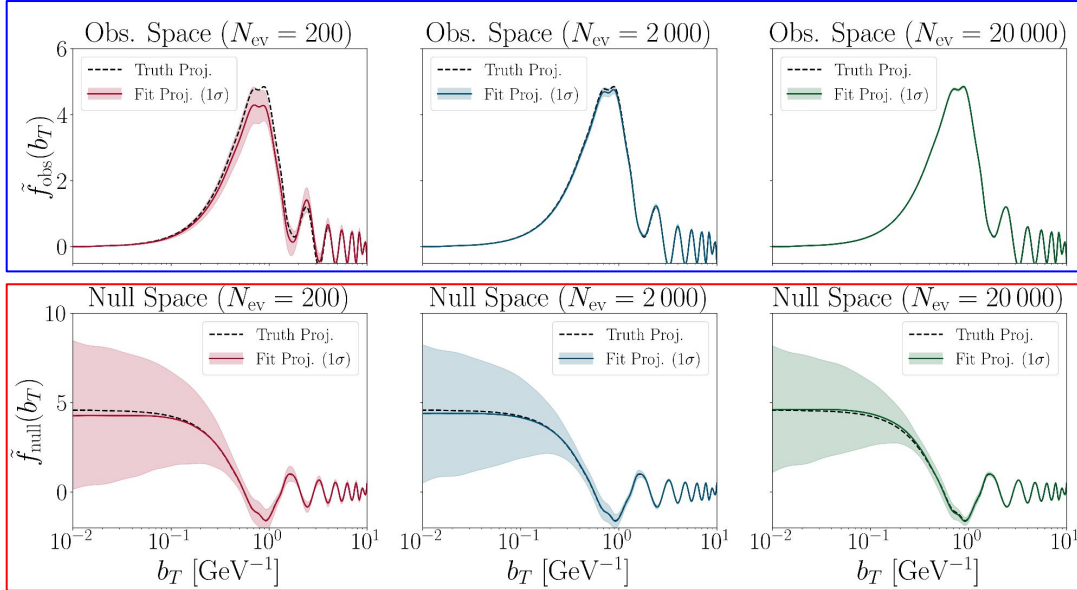
Only the Observable can be reconstructed from Data

$$\mathcal{M} \tilde{\mathbf{f}} = \mathcal{M} \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{obs}} + \mathcal{M} \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{null}} \approx \mathcal{M} \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{obs}}, \quad \chi^2(f|\tilde{\mathbf{f}}) = \sum_{j=1}^M \left( \frac{[\mathcal{M} \tilde{\mathbf{f}}]_j - f_j}{\sigma_j} \right)^2.$$

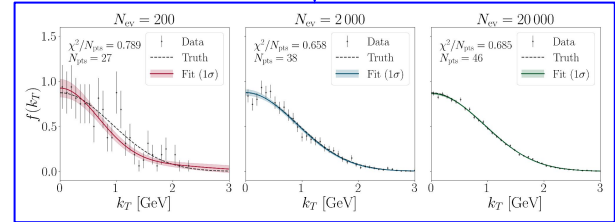
Model Resolution Diagonal ( $N_{\text{ev}} = 20000$ )



# SVD: Fit Projections



Bands shrinks as the statistics increase  
Enough to describe data



Bands DO NOT shrink  
Irrelevant for describing data



As for Shadow GPDs  
adding terms prop. to to the Null component gives the same transform

$$\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{obs}} + \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{null}}$$

Null Models

Null Space is Matrix dependent:  
kt points and range matter!

We can use the evolution for moving the  
Null space and shrink the error band

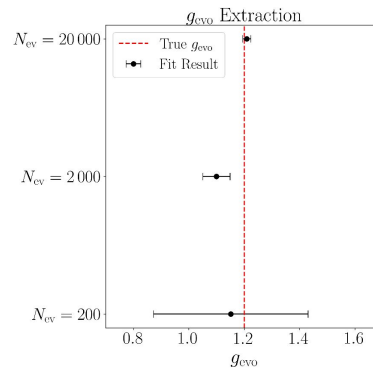
# Multi-scale Analysis

4 different dataset with different energies and kT range

$$\mu_k^2 \in \{2, 5, 20, 50\} \text{ GeV}^2$$

$$\sigma^2(\mu^2) = \alpha + g_{\text{evo}} \ln\left(\frac{\mu^2}{\mu_0^2}\right)$$

$N_{\text{ev}}$	$N_{\text{pts}}$	$\chi^2/N_{\text{pts}}$
200	148	0.99
2 000	207	1.05
20 000	248	0.99

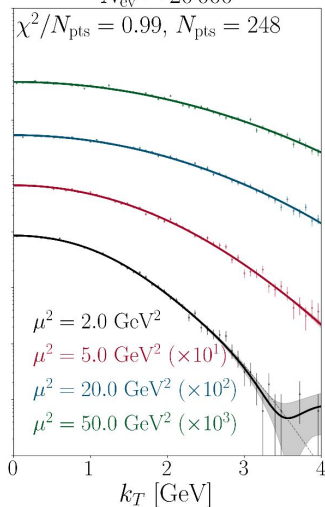


The method is capable of reconstructing  $g_{\text{evo}}$

Fit vs Data

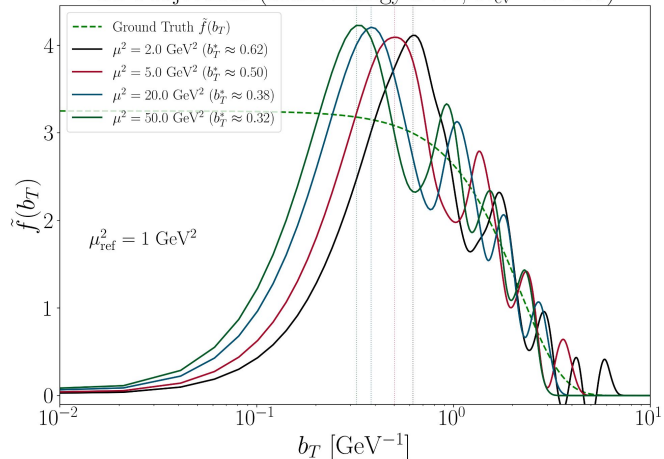
$N_{\text{ev}} = 20\,000$

$\chi^2/N_{\text{pts}} = 0.99, N_{\text{pts}} = 248$



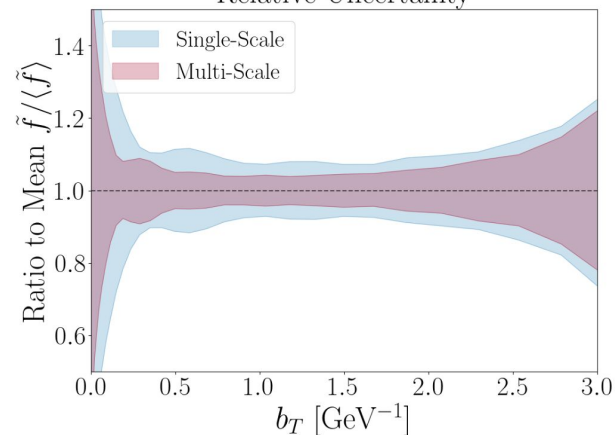
Increasing the kT range moves the Null Space

GT Projections (Multi-Energy SVD,  $N_{\text{ev}} = 20\,000$ )



Single-scale vs Multi-scale

Relative Uncertainty



# TMD Case: Data Generation and Fit

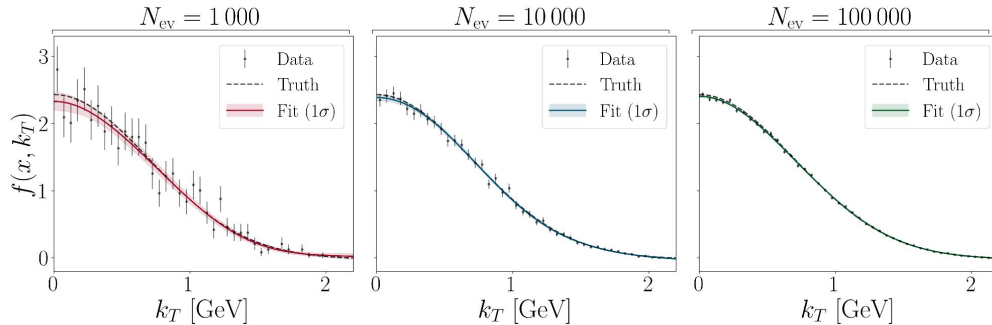
The TMD PDF is the observable

$$\tilde{f}_{f/P}(x, b_T; Q) = \sum_j \int_x^1 \frac{d\hat{x}}{\hat{x}} C_{f/j}(x/\hat{x}, b_*; \mu_b^2, \mu_b, g(\mu_b)) f_{j/P}(\hat{x}, \mu_b) \times \exp[S_{\text{pert}}(b_T; \mu_b, Q)] M_f(x, b_T) \exp\left[-g_K(b_T) \ln \frac{Q}{Q_0}\right]$$

Non-perturbative Models

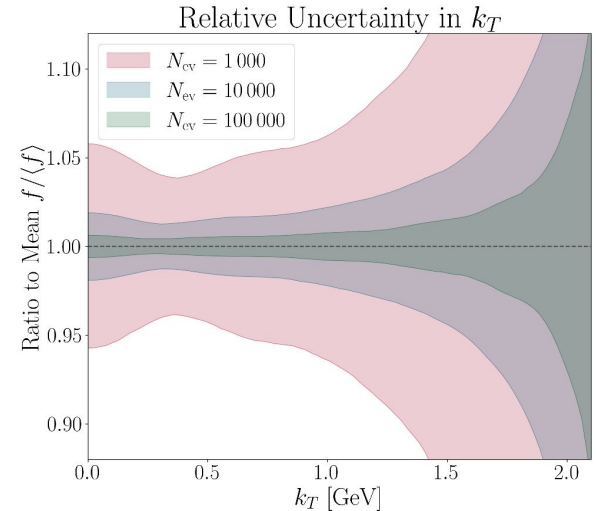
$$M_f(b_T) = R(b_T) + \tilde{p}(b_T)[1 - R(b_T)]$$

$$\tilde{p}_{\text{true}}(b_T) = \exp\left(-\frac{b_T^2 w_f}{4}\right) \quad g_K(b_T) = \frac{g_2}{2} b_T^2 [1 - R(b_T)]$$



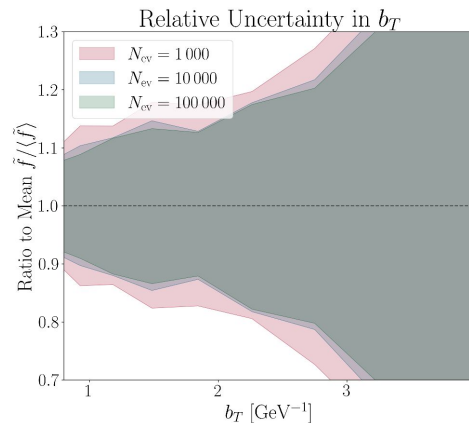
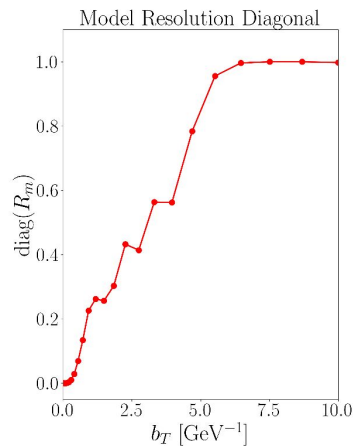
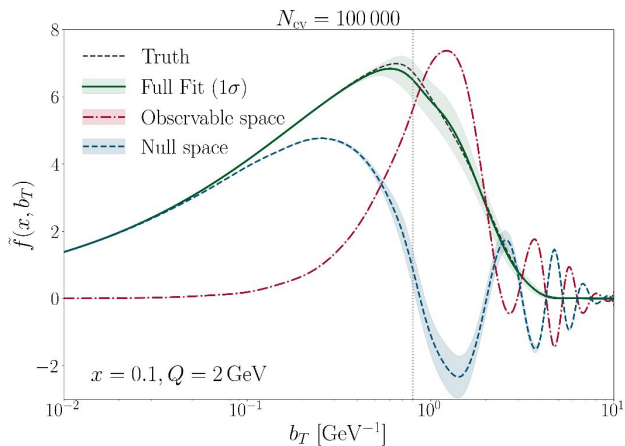
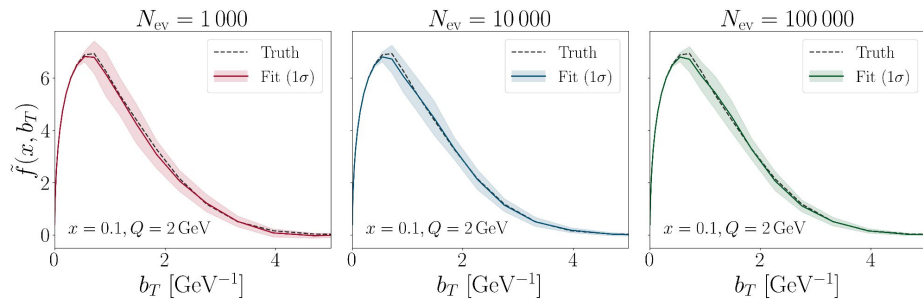
$N_{\text{ev}}$	accept. rate	$N_{\text{pts}}$	$\chi^2/N_{\text{pts}}$
$10^3$	86%	37	0.83
$10^4$	83%	42	0.67
$10^5$	69%	43	0.94

Good description of data  
Uncertainty scales as expected



# TMD Case: bT-space

Error bands converge around the True distribution



TMD bands in bT-space do not shrink as the statistics increase

**FIT** = **OBS** + **NULL**

**OBS** shrinks as the statistics increases

**NULL TMD**: error bands stay the same as the statistics increase

The small  $b_T$  region belongs to the **NULL** space!

$P_{\text{obs}}$  is also referred as Model Resolution Matrix

It tells where we can resolve the function better

# Fuu Case: Data vs Fit

TMD PDF fitted from the convolution

The TMD FF is fixed

$$F_{UU,T}(x, z, q_T, Q^2) = x \sum_a e_a^2 \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty db_T b_T J_0(q_T b_T) \tilde{f}_1^a(x, b_T; Q) \tilde{D}_1^a(z, b_T; Q)$$

$$\mathbf{F}_{UU,T} = \mathcal{M}_{\text{eff}} \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_1$$

TMD FF acts as a kernel

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{M}_{\text{bridge}} \cdot \text{diag} \left( x \sum_a e_a^2 \tilde{\mathbf{D}}_1^a \right)$$

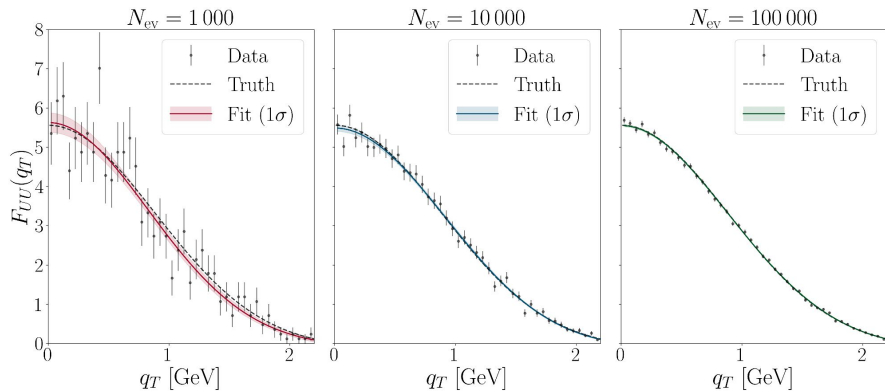
bT to kT Matrix

Only the up quark is considered  
 $x = 0.1$  and  $z = 0.2$

TMD FF

$$\tilde{D}_{H/f}(z, b_T; Q) = \sum_j \int_z^1 \frac{d\hat{z}}{\hat{z}^{3-2\epsilon}} \tilde{C}_{j/f}(z/\hat{z}, b_*, \mu_b^2, \mu_b, g(\mu_b)) d_{H/j}(\hat{z}; \mu_b) \times \exp\{S_{\text{pert}}(b_T; \mu_b, Q)\} M_D(z, b_T) \exp\left\{-g_K(b_T) \ln \frac{Q}{Q_0}\right\}$$

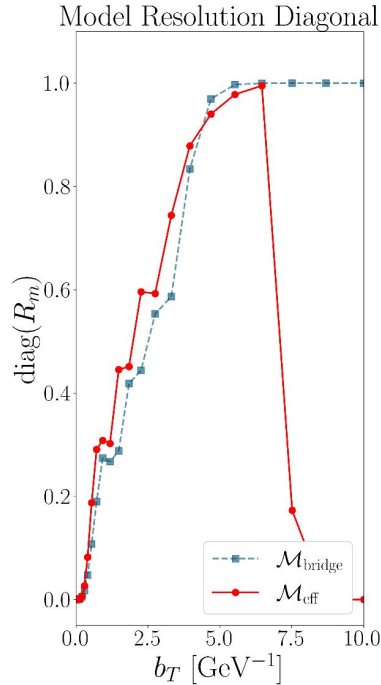
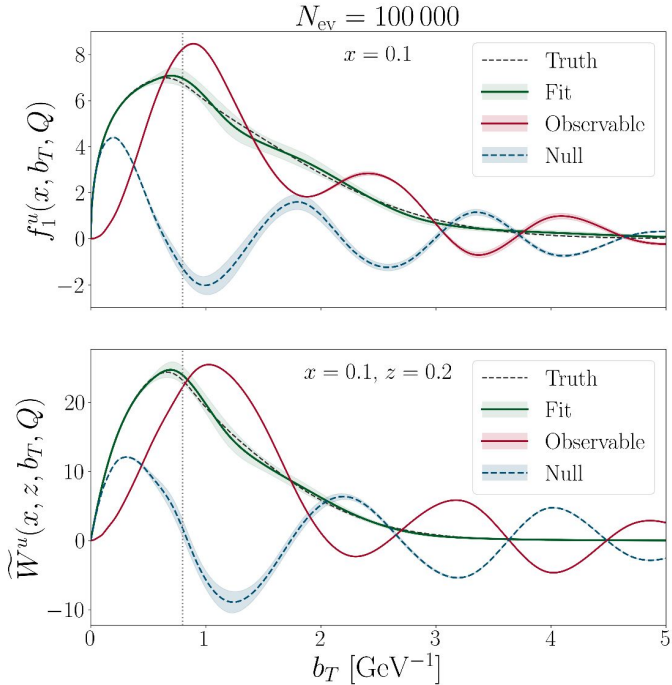
$$M_D(b_T) = R(b_T) + [1 - R(b_T)] \exp\left(-\frac{b_T^2 w_D}{4}\right)$$



The fit tracks the data in  $q_T$  as the statistics  $N_{\text{ev}}$  increase.

$N_{\text{ev}}$	accept. rate	$N_{\text{pts}}$	$\chi^2/N_{\text{pts}}$
$10^3$	89%	45	0.83
$10^4$	89%	48	0.92
$10^5$	84%	48	1.29

# Fuu Case: Data vs Fit



Error bands are around the Ground Truth Model

$$\text{FIT} = \text{OBS} + \text{NULL}$$

OBS shrinks as the statistics increases

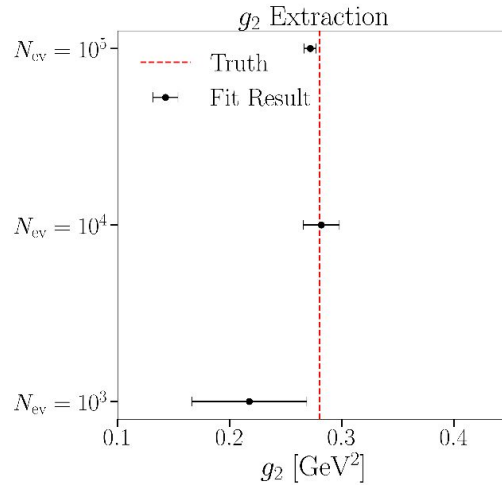
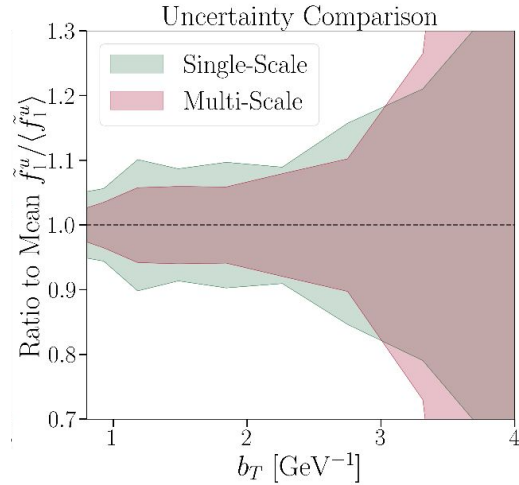
NULL stay the same as the statistics increase

The small  $b_T$  region belongs to the NULL space!

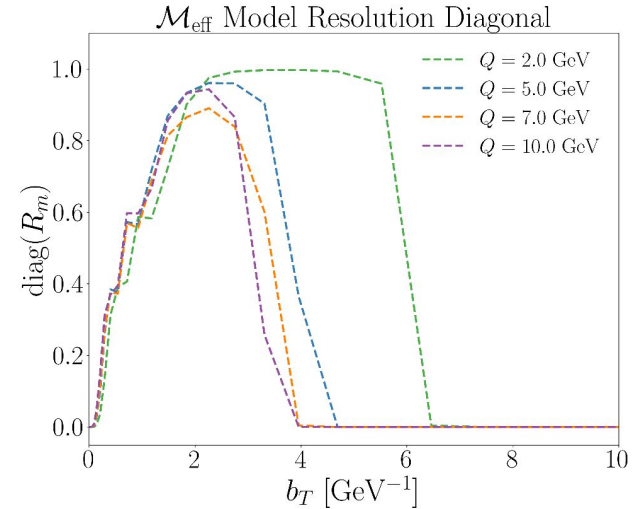
Effective Resolution Matrix: zero for large  $b_T$  values because of TMD FF

# Fuu Case: Multi-Scale Fit vs Data

Multi-Scale analysis allows to shrink the error band compared to Single-Scale analysis

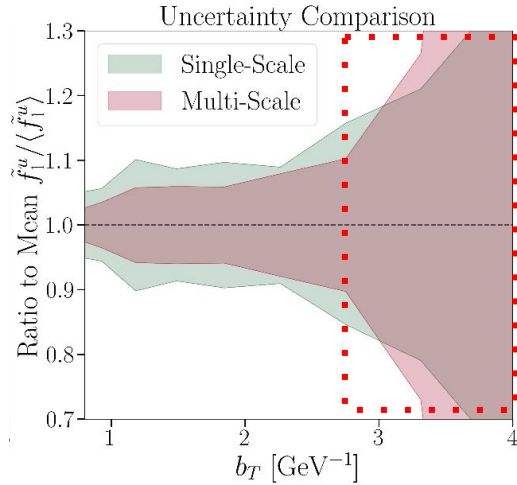


TMD FF is screening some  $b_T$  regions

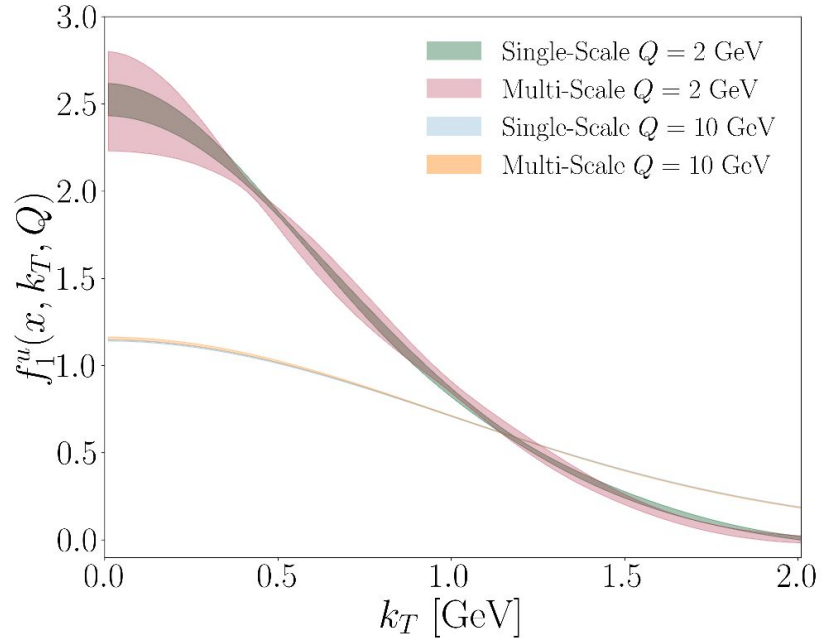


# Fuu Case: Multi-Scale Fit vs Data

Multi-Scale error band is larger than Single-Scale case due to  $g_2$  extraction



At small energy this leads to Multi-Scale band larger than Single-Scale band



# Conclusions

- Developed a pixel-based, model-independent Bayesian approach for TMD reconstruction,
- Utilizing Generative AI (Normalizing Flow) and MH for estimation and uncertainty quantification.
- The non-unique solution involves **Observable** and **Null TMD** components.
- A "Precision Floor" in bT space, attributed to the Null space,
- Highlights the necessity of Multi-Scale analysis to reduce uncertainty and overcome Null space limitations.

TMDs in the Lens of Generative AI:  
A Pixel-Based Approach to Partonic Imaging  
[ArXiv 2605.06606](#)

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