

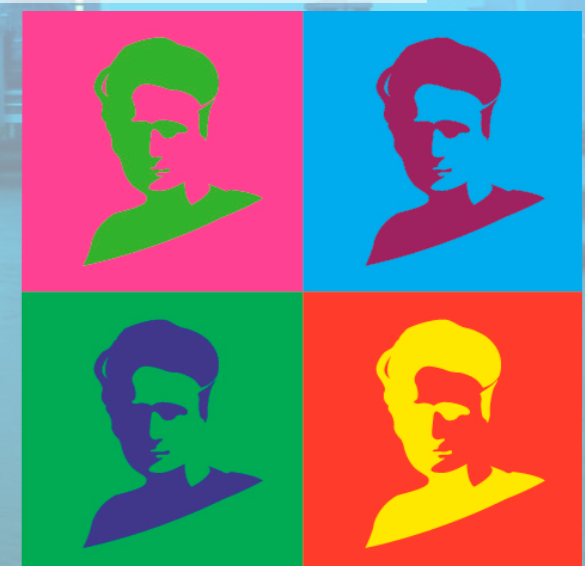
# Computing NLO cross sections and matching to parton shower

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LPTHE - Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris VI



MadGraph School 2015  
Shanghai



MARIE CURIE

ACTIONS

# Introduction:

## Why do we need $N^{(k)}$ LO?

*why?*

**why?**

**why?**

*why?*

*why?*

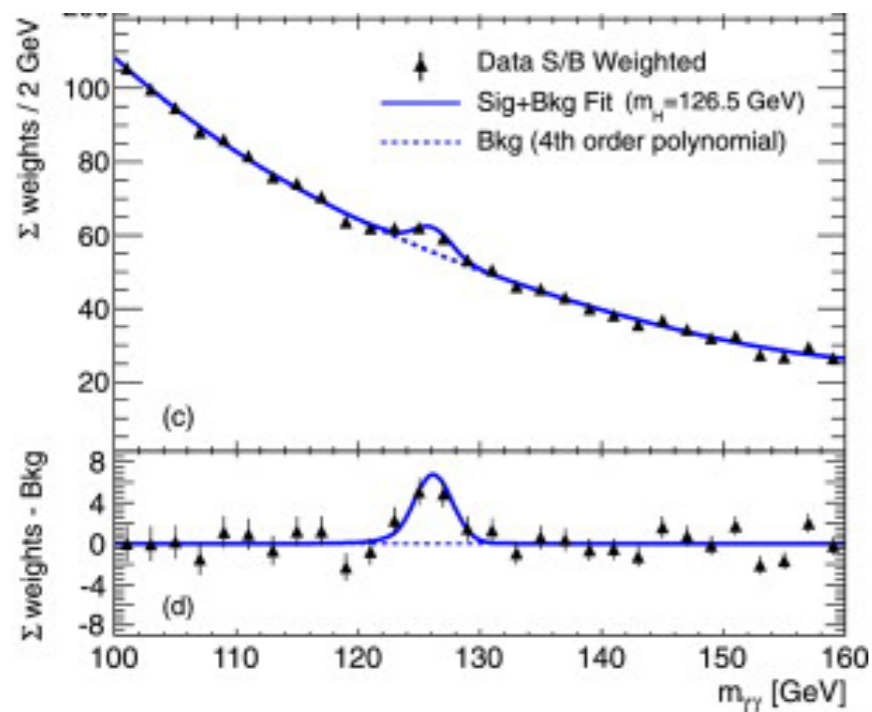


# I) Discoveries at hadron colliders

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Peak

$H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$



**EASY**

Background directly measured from **data**.

Theory needed only for parameter extraction

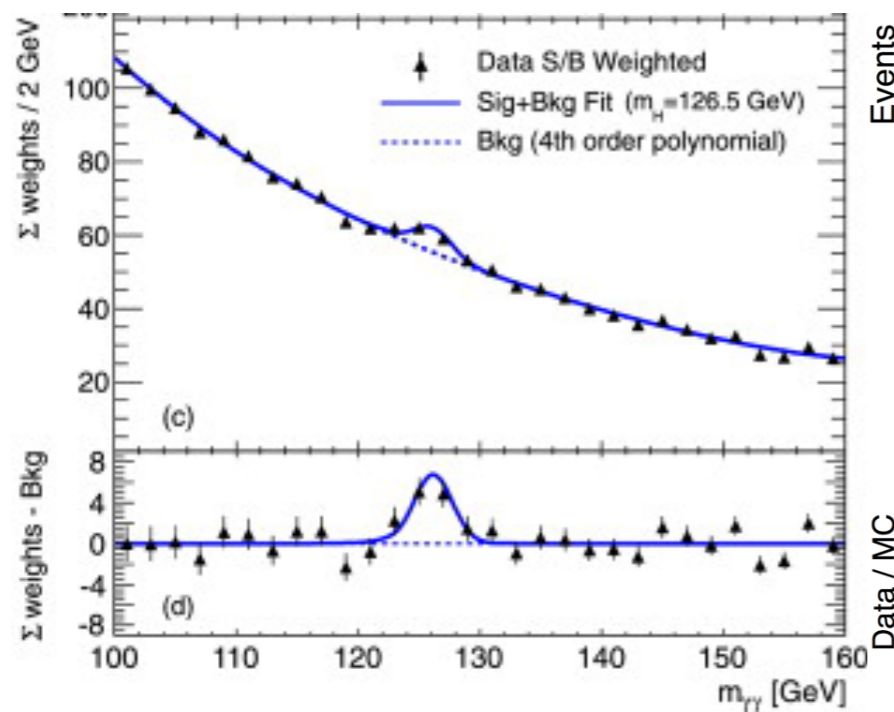
# I) Discoveries at hadron colliders

## Peak

$$H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$$

## Shape

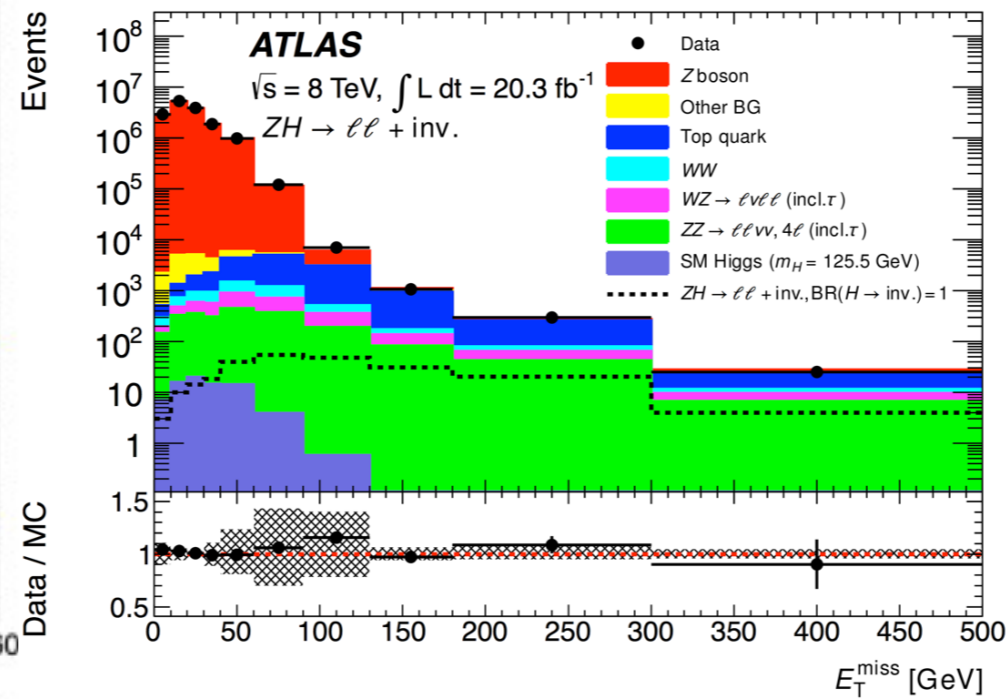
$$ZH \rightarrow ll + inv.$$



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**HARD**

Background **SHAPE** needed. Flexible MC for both signal and background validated and tuned to data

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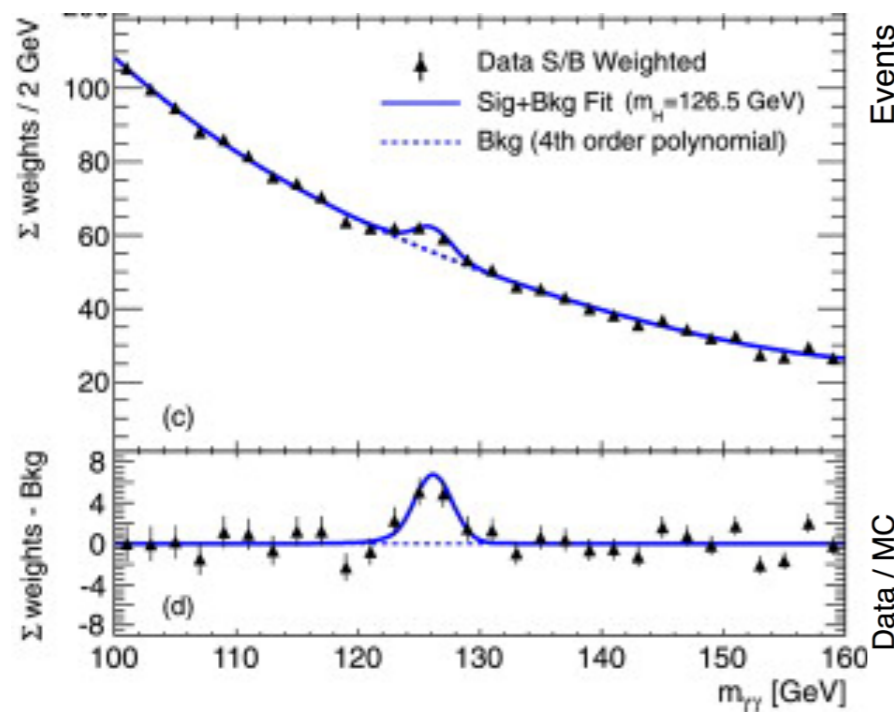
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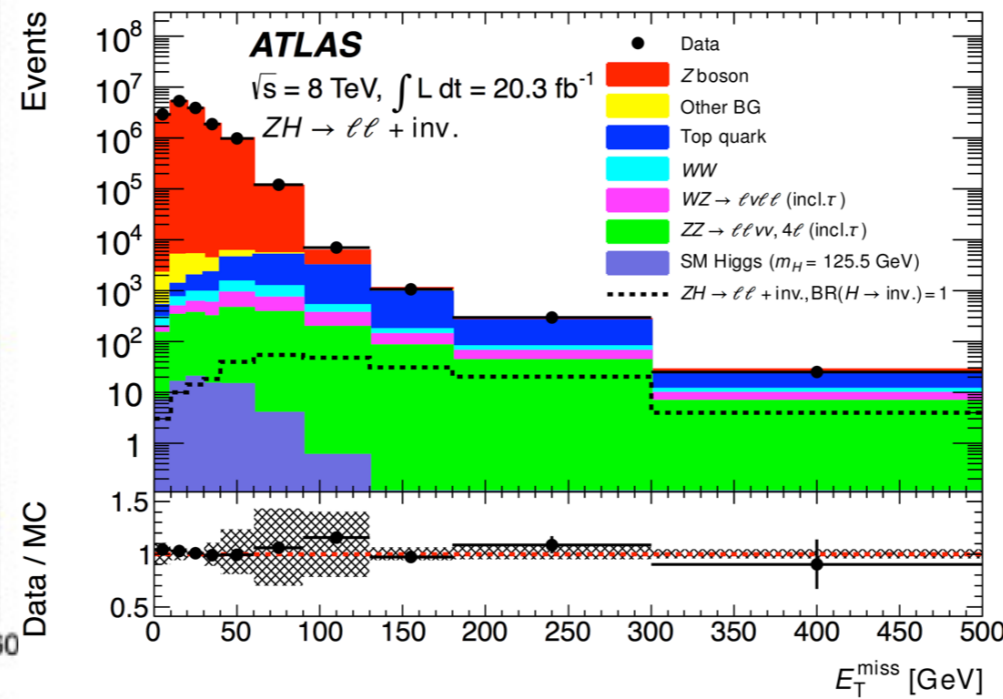
$$ZH \rightarrow ll + inv.$$

Rate

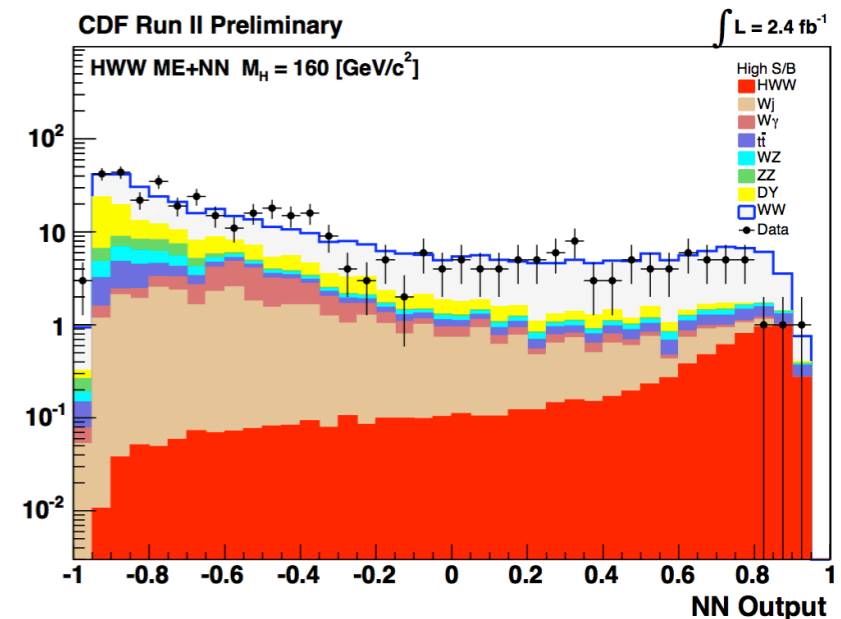
$$H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$$



EASY



HARD



VERY HARD

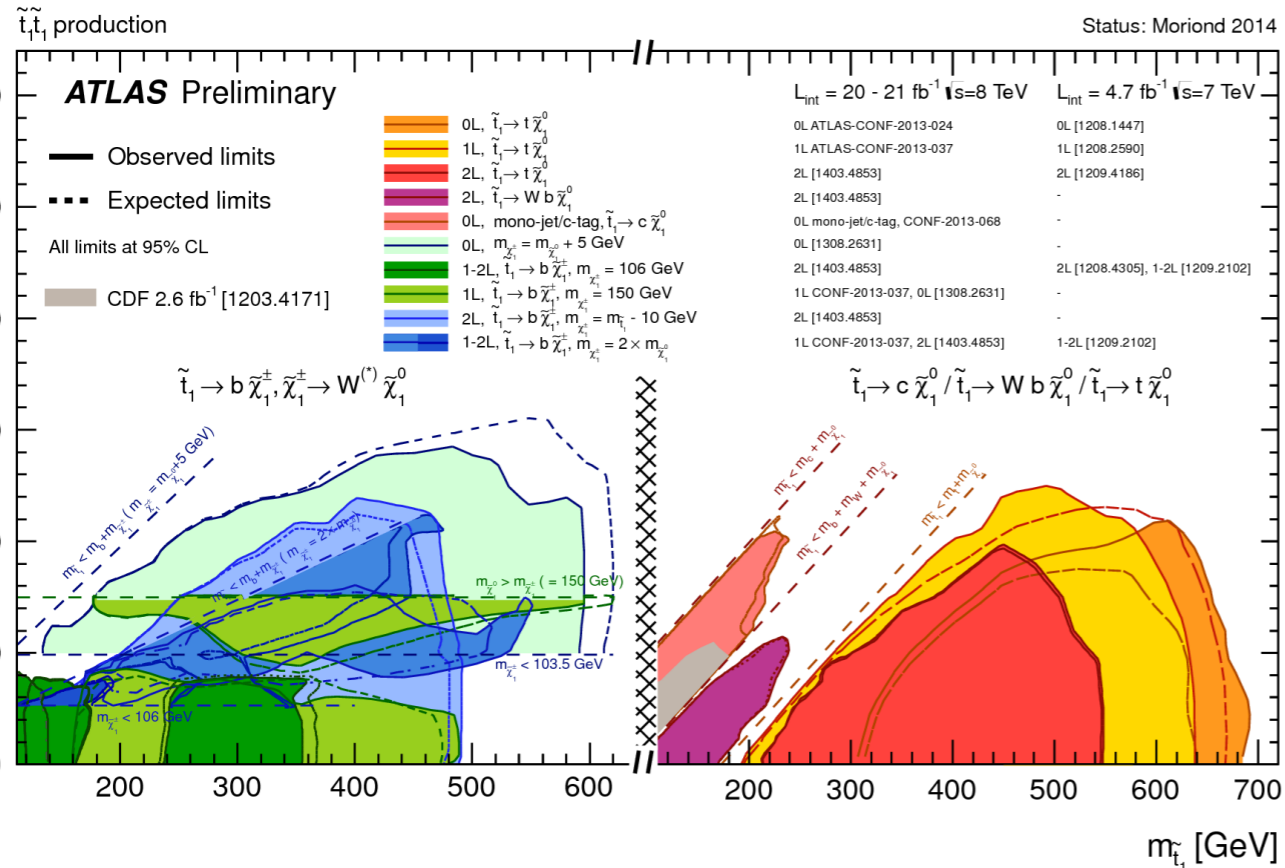
Background directly measured from **data**.

Theory needed only for parameter extraction

Background **SHAPE** needed. Flexible MC for both signal and background validated and tuned to data

Relies on prediction for both **shape** and **normalization**. Complicated interplay of best simulations and data

# New physics?



**ATLAS SUSY Searches\* - 95% CL Lower Limits**  
Status: Moriond 2014

$\int \mathcal{L} dt = (4.6 - 22.9) \text{ fb}^{-1}$   $\sqrt{s} = 7, 8 \text{ TeV}$

Model	$\epsilon, \mu, \tau, \gamma$	Jets	$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$	$\int \mathcal{L} dt [\text{fb}^{-1}]$	Mass limit	Reference	
Inclusive Searches	MSUGRA/CMSSM	0	2-6 jets	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{g}, \tilde{u}, \tilde{d}$	$m(\tilde{g})=m(\tilde{u})$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-047
	MSUGRA/CMSSM	1 $\epsilon, \mu$	3-6 jets	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{g}$	any $m(\tilde{g})$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-062
	MSUGRA/CMSSM	0	7-10 jets	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{g}$	1308.1841
	$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}, \tilde{g} \rightarrow q\bar{q}$	0	2-6 jets	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{g}$	740 GeV ATLAS-CONF-2013-047
	$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}, \tilde{g} \rightarrow q\bar{q}\tilde{t}_1$	0	2-6 jets	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{g}$	1.3 TeV ATLAS-CONF-2013-047
	$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}, \tilde{g} \rightarrow q\bar{q}\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow qgW\tilde{t}_1^0$	1 $\epsilon, \mu$	3-6 jets	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{g}$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) < 200 \text{ GeV}, m(\tilde{t}_1^{\pm}) = 0.5(m(\tilde{t}_1^0) + m(\tilde{g}))$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-062
	$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}, \tilde{g} \rightarrow q\bar{q}(l\bar{l}(\nu\nu)\nu\bar{\nu})\tilde{t}_1^0$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$	0-3 jets	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{g}$	1.12 TeV ATLAS-CONF-2013-069
	GMSB ( $\tilde{t}_1$ NLSP)	2 $\epsilon, \mu$	2-4 jets	Yes	4.7	$\tilde{g}$	1.24 TeV 1208.4888
	GMSB ( $\tilde{t}_1$ NLSP)	1-2 $\tau$	0-2 jets	Yes	20.7	$\tilde{g}$	$\tan\beta > 18$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-026
	GGM (bino NLSP)	2 $\gamma$	-	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{g}$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) > 50 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2014-001
GGM (wino NLSP)	1 $\epsilon, \mu + \gamma$	-	Yes	4.8	$\tilde{g}$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) > 50 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2012-144	
GGM (higgsino-bino NLSP)	7	1 b	Yes	4.8	$\tilde{g}$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) > 220 \text{ GeV}$ 1211.1167	
GGM (higgsino NLSP)	2 $\epsilon, \mu$ (Z)	0-3 jets	Yes	5.8	$\tilde{g}$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) > 200 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2012-152	
Gravitino LSP	0	mono-jet	Yes	10.5	$\tilde{g}$	$m(\tilde{g}) > 10^{-4} \text{ eV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2012-147	
$\tilde{g}, \tilde{u}, \tilde{d}$ med.	$\tilde{g} \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tilde{t}_1^0$	0	3 b	Yes	20.1	$\tilde{g}$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) < 600 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-061
	$\tilde{g} \rightarrow t\bar{t}\tilde{t}_1^0$	0	7-10 jets	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{g}$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) < 350 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-061
	$\tilde{g} \rightarrow t\bar{t}\tilde{t}_1^0$	0-1 $\epsilon, \mu$	3 b	Yes	20.1	$\tilde{g}$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) < 400 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-061
	$\tilde{g} \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tilde{t}_1^0$	0-1 $\epsilon, \mu$	3 b	Yes	20.1	$\tilde{g}$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) < 300 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-061
$\tilde{g}, \tilde{u}, \tilde{d}$ squarks direct production	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow b\tilde{\chi}_1^{\pm}$	0	2 b	Yes	20.1	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) < 90 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-007
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$ (SS)	0-3 b	Yes	20.7	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = 2 m(\tilde{t}_1^0)$ 1208.4305, 1209.2102
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1$ (light), $\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow Wb\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	1-2 $\epsilon, \mu$	1-2 b	Yes	4.7	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = 55 \text{ GeV}$ 1403.4853
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1$ (medium), $\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow Wb\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$	0-2 jets	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = m(\tilde{t}_1^0) + m(W) + 50 \text{ GeV}, m(\tilde{t}_1) < m(\tilde{t}_1^0)$ 1308.2631
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1$ (medium), $\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow b\tilde{\chi}_1^{\pm}$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$	2 jets	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = 1 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-037
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1$ (heavy), $\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	1 $\epsilon, \mu$	1 b	Yes	20.7	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) < 200 \text{ GeV}, m(\tilde{t}_1^{\pm}) = m(\tilde{t}_1^0) + 5 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-037
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1$ (heavy), $\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	0	2 b	Yes	20.5	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = 0 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-024
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1$ (natural GMSB)	0	mono-jet/c-tag	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = m(\tilde{t}_1^0) < 85 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-068
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow c\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$ (Z)	1 b	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) > 150 \text{ GeV}$ 1403.5222
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$ (Z)	1 b	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) < 200 \text{ GeV}$ 1403.5222
EW direct	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$	0	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) < 0 \text{ GeV}$ 1403.5294
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$	0	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = 0 \text{ GeV}, m(\tilde{t}_1^{\pm}) = 0.5(m(\tilde{t}_1^0) + m(\tilde{t}_1^0))$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-028
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	2 $\tau$	-	Yes	20.7	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = 0 \text{ GeV}, m(\tilde{t}_1^{\pm}) = 0.5(m(\tilde{t}_1^0) + m(\tilde{t}_1^0))$ 1402.7029
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	3 $\epsilon, \mu$	0	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = m(\tilde{t}_1^0), m(\tilde{t}_1^{\pm}) = 0, m(\tilde{t}_1^{\pm}) = 0.5(m(\tilde{t}_1^0) + m(\tilde{t}_1^0))$ 1403.5294, 1402.7029
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow W\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	2-3 $\epsilon, \mu$	0	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = m(\tilde{t}_1^0), m(\tilde{t}_1^{\pm}) = 0, \text{ sleptons decoupled}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-058
	$\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow W\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	1 $\epsilon, \mu$	2 b	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$m(\tilde{t}_1) = m(\tilde{t}_1^0), m(\tilde{t}_1^{\pm}) = 0, \text{ sleptons decoupled}$ 1304.6319
Long-lived particles	Direct $\tilde{t}_1\tilde{t}_1$ prod., long-lived $\tilde{t}_1^0$	Disapp. trk	1 jet	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1^0$	$m(\tilde{t}_1^0) = m(\tilde{t}_1^0) = 160 \text{ GeV}, \tau(\tilde{t}_1^0) = 0.2 \text{ ns}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-069
	Stable, stopped $\tilde{g}$ R-hadron	0	1-5 jets	Yes	22.9	$\tilde{t}_1^0$	$m(\tilde{t}_1^0) = 100 \text{ GeV}, 10 \mu\text{s} < \tau(\tilde{t}_1^0) < 1000 \text{ s}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-057
	GMSB, stable $\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{t}_1^{\pm} \rightarrow \tilde{t}_1^0, \tilde{t}_1^{\pm} \rightarrow \tilde{t}_1^0 + \tau$	1-2 $\mu$	-	-	15.9	$\tilde{t}_1^0$	$10 < \text{clan}_{\tilde{t}_1^0} < 50$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-058
	GMSB, $\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow \tilde{g}\tilde{t}_1^0$ , long-lived $\tilde{t}_1^0$	2 $\gamma$	-	Yes	4.7	$\tilde{t}_1^0$	$0.4 < \tau(\tilde{t}_1^0) < 2 \text{ ns}$ 1304.6319
RPV	$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow q\bar{q}\mu$ (RPV)	1 $\mu$ , displ. vtx	-	-	20.3	$\tilde{t}_1$	$1.5 < \tau < 156 \text{ mm}, \text{BR}(\mu) = 1, m(\tilde{t}_1^0) = 108 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS-CONF-2013-092
	LFV $pp \rightarrow \tilde{t}_1 + X, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow e + \mu$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$	-	-	4.6	$\tilde{t}_1$	$A_{111} = 0.10, A_{122} = 0.05$ 1212.1272
	LFV $pp \rightarrow \tilde{t}_1 + X, \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow e + \mu + \tau$	1 $\epsilon, \mu + \tau$	-	-	4.6	$\tilde{t}_1$	$A_{111} = 0.10, A_{122} = 0.05$ 1212.1272
Other	Scalar gluon pair, sgluon $\rightarrow q\bar{q}$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$ (SS)	0	Yes	14.3	sgluon	incl. limit from 1110.2693 1210.4826
	Scalar gluon pair, sgluon $\rightarrow t\bar{t}$	2 $\epsilon, \mu$ (SS)	2 b	Yes	14.3	sgluon	ATLAS-CONF-2013-051
	WIMP interaction (D5, Dirac $\chi$ )	0	mono-jet	Yes	10.5	$\tilde{g}$ scale	$m(\tilde{t}_1) > 80 \text{ GeV}$ , limit of 687 GeV for D8 ATLAS-CONF-2012-147

**Legend for Mass Limits:**

- $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$  full data
- $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$  partial data
- $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$  full data

**Mass scale [TeV]**

- No NP has been discovered yet
- Either there is no NP, or it is hiding very well
- If it is there, it will be a 'Hard' or 'very Hard' discovery
- Need for accurate predictions for signal and background

## 2) Measurement of parameters

- E.g.: Extracting the top mass from leptonic observables
  - Start with pseudo-data with  $m_t^{\text{pd}} = 174.3 \text{ GeV}$
  - Use theoretical predictions with different accuracy

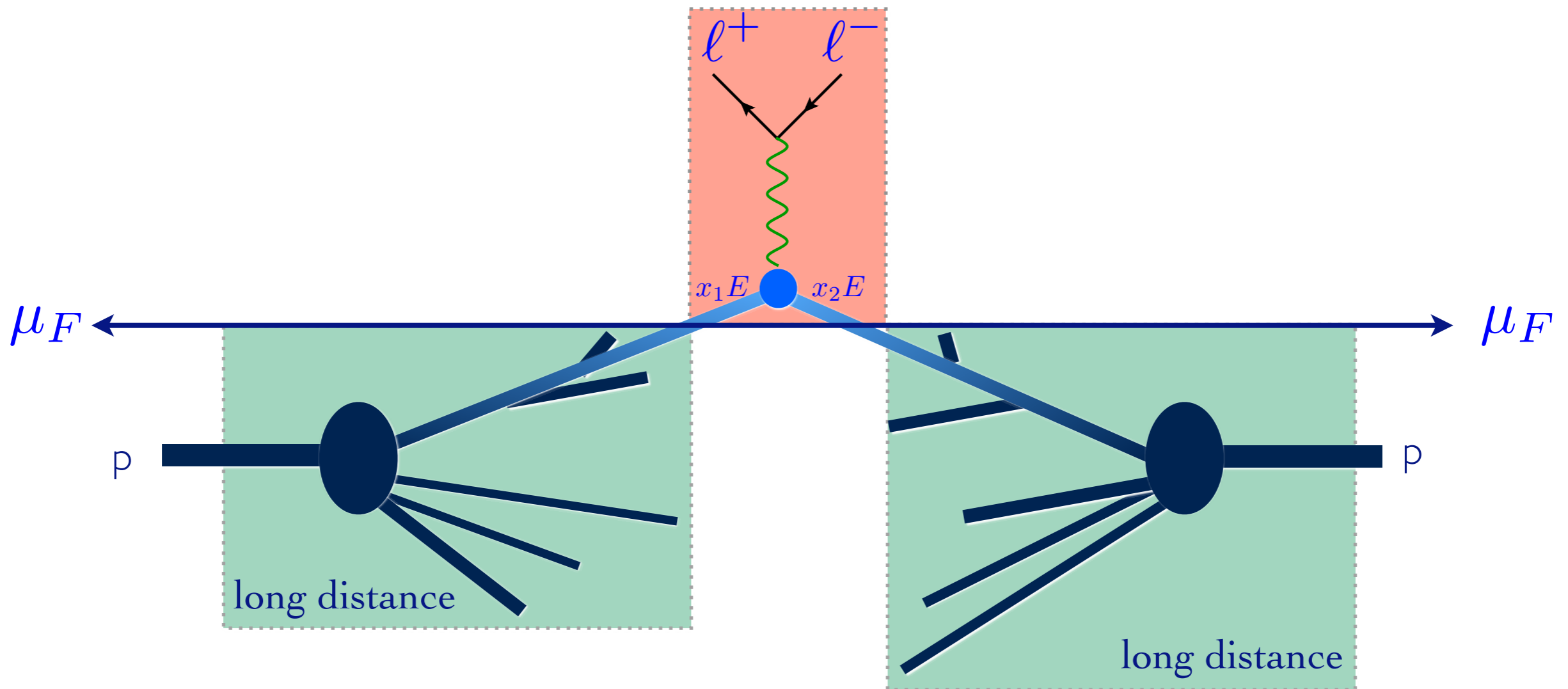
TH. ACC.	$m_t$
NLO+PS+MS	$174.48^{+0.73}_{-0.77} [5.0]$
LO+PS+MS	$175.98^{+0.63}_{-0.69} [16.9]$
NLO+PS	$175.43^{+0.74}_{-0.80} [29.2]$
LO+PS	$187.90^{+0.6}_{-0.6} [428.3]$
fNLO	$174.41^{+0.72}_{-0.73} [96.6]$
fLO	$197.31^{+0.42}_{-0.35} [2496.1]$

- Large differences appear in the reconstructed  $m_t$ , due to different TH accuracies
- Better TH simulations improve central value *and reliability of uncertainties*

Frixione, Mitov arXiv:1407.2763



# How to compute a cross-section



$$\sum_{a,b} \int dx_1 dx_2 d\Phi_{\text{FS}} f_a(x_1, \mu_F) f_b(x_2, \mu_F) \hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow X}(\hat{S}, \mu_F, \mu_R)$$

Phase-space integral
Parton density functions
Parton-level cross section

# Perturbation theory at work

$$\hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow X}(\hat{S}, \mu_F, \mu_R) \quad \text{Parton-level cross section}$$

- The parton-level cross section can be computed as a series in perturbation theory, using the coupling constant as an expansion parameter

$$\hat{\sigma} = \alpha_s^b \sigma_0 + \alpha_s^{b+1} \sigma_1 + \alpha_s^{b+2} \sigma_2 + \alpha_s^{b+3} \sigma_3 + \dots$$

- Remember:

$$\alpha_s = \alpha_s(\mu_R) \quad \sigma_i = \sigma_i(\mu_R, \mu_F)$$

Both coupling and cross section depend on *unphysical* scales

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LO

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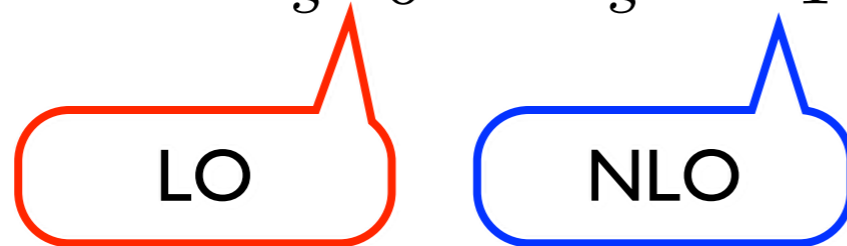
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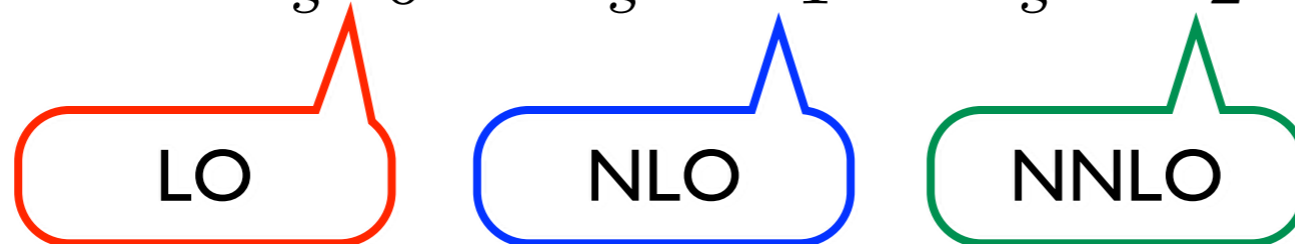
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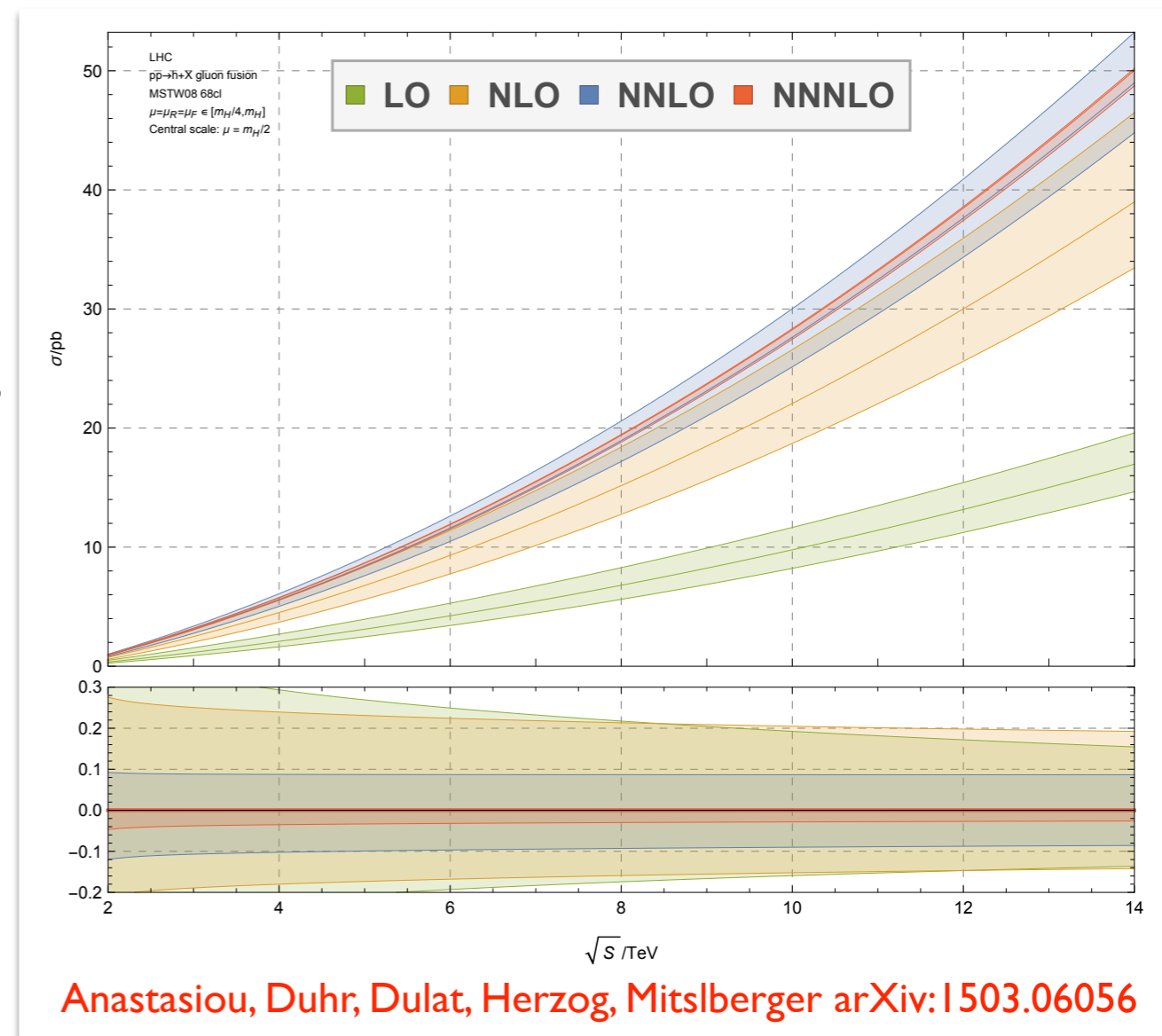
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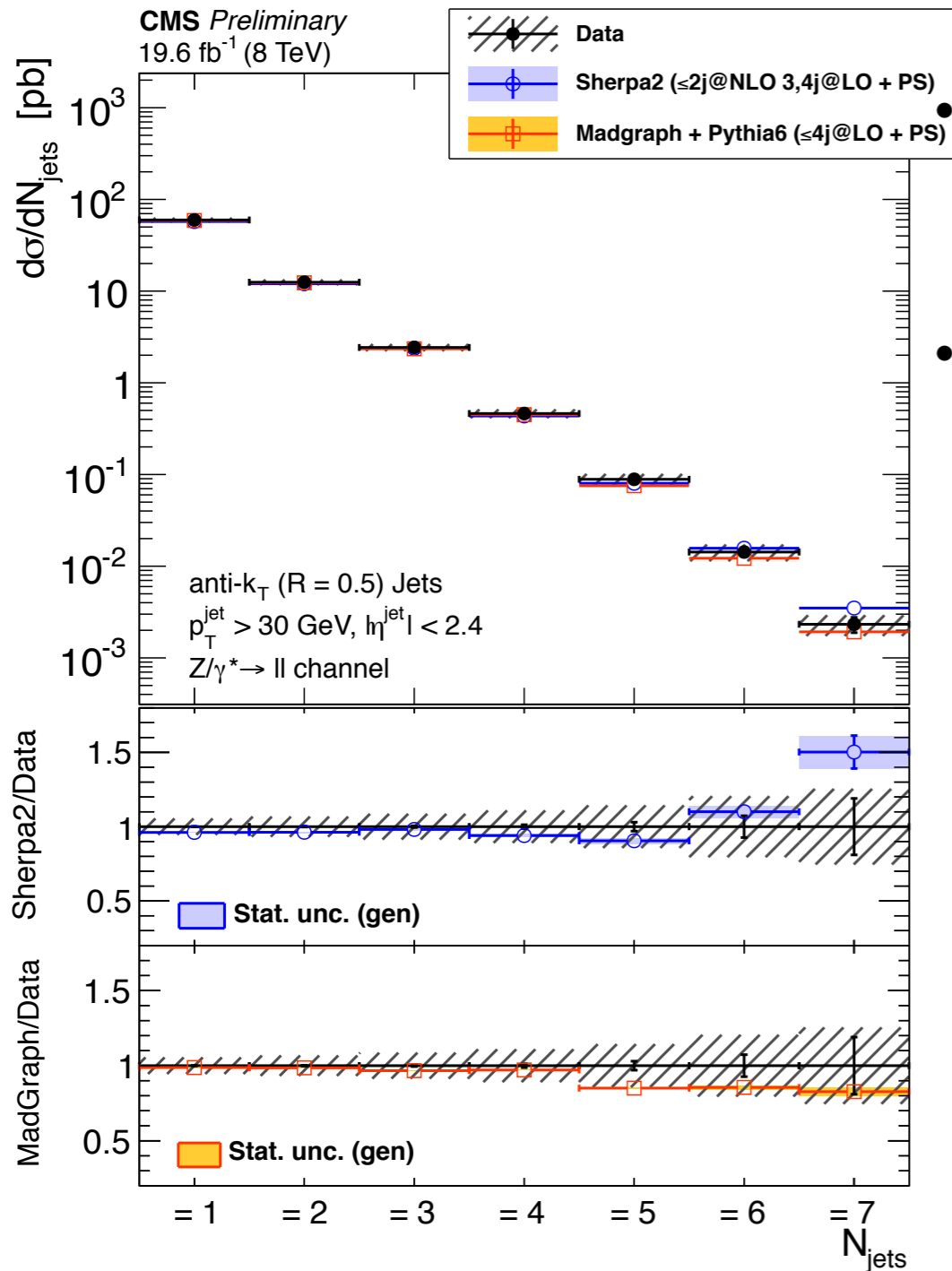
Both coupling and cross section depend on *unphysical* scales

# Perturbation theory at work

- The inclusion of higher orders improves the reliability of a given computation
  - More reliable description of total rates and shapes
  - Residual uncertainties related to the arbitrary scales in the process decrease
  - The computational complexity grows exponentially
  - NLO is mandatory for LHC physics (in particular at RunII)!



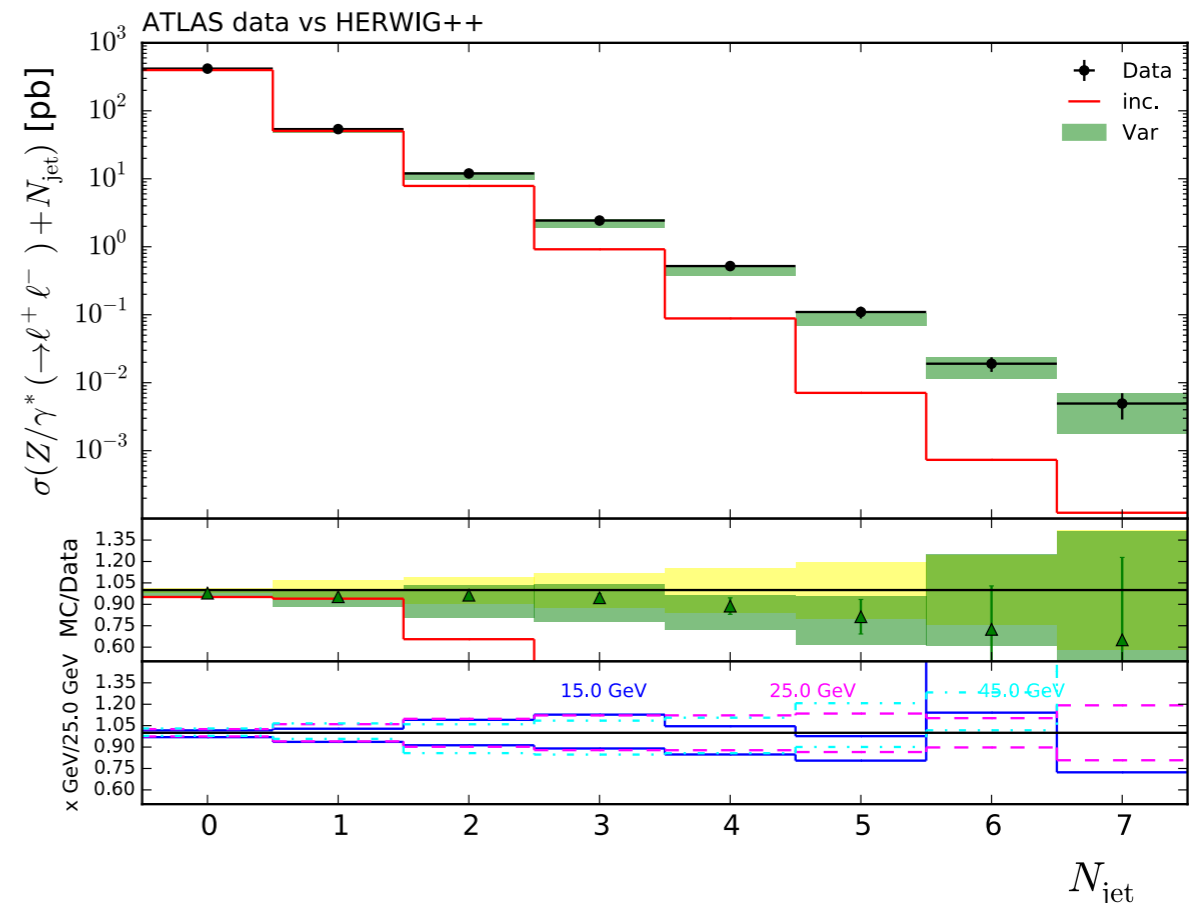
# Perturbation theory at work



## CMS PAS SMP-13-007

- Tree level with parton shower computed with MADGRAPH 5 [1] interfaced with PYTHIA 6, for parton shower and hadronization, with the same configuration as described in section 3. The total cross section is normalised to the NNLO cross section computed with FEWZ. This NNLO normalisation is not applied to the other prediction that follows.
- Multileg NLO with parton shower computed with Sherpa 2 [2] and Blackhat [33, 34] for the one-loop corrections. The matrix elements include the five processes  $pp \rightarrow Z + N \text{ jet}, N = 0 \dots 4$ , with an NLO accuracy for  $N \leq 2$  and LO accuracy for  $N = 3, 4$ . The CT10 PDF is used. The merging of parton shower and matrix elements is done with the MEPS@NLO method [35] and QCUT parameter set to 20 GeV.

Frederix, Frixione, Papaefstathiou,  
 Prestel, Torrielli, arXiv:1511.00847



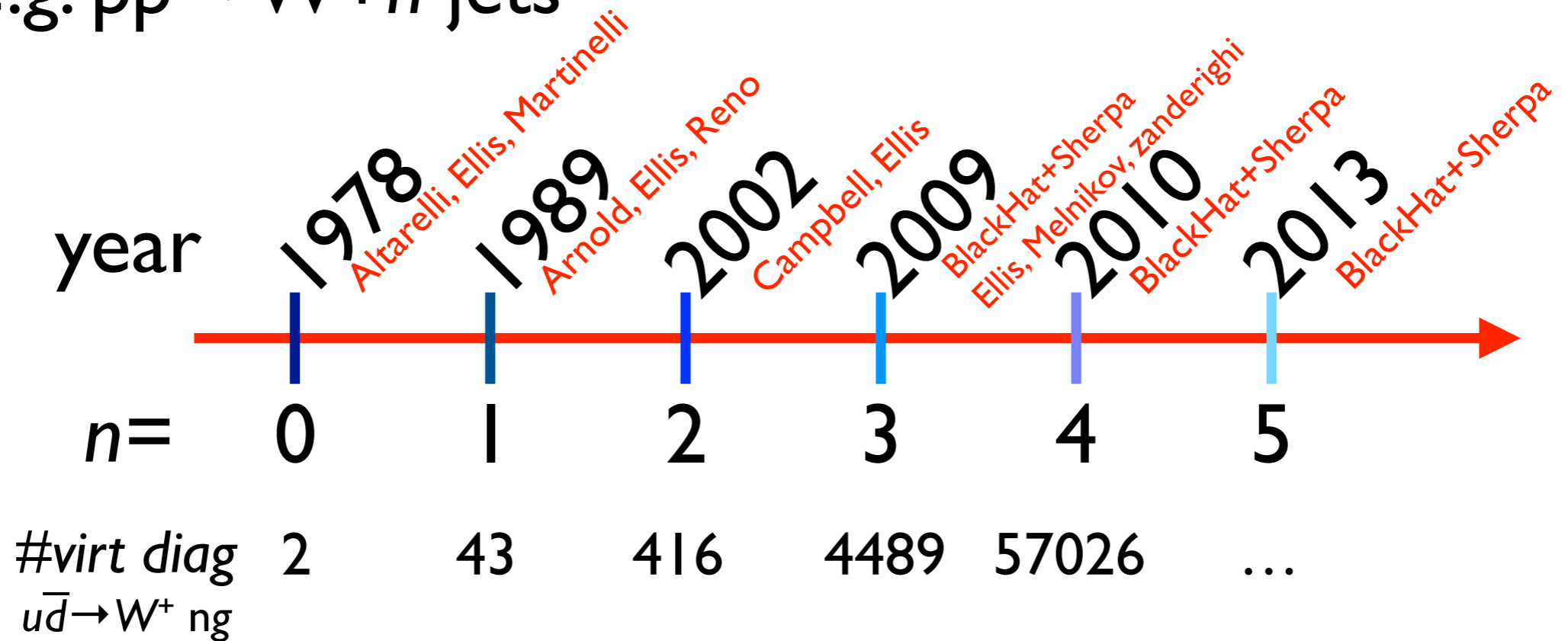


## In these lectures:

- How to compute effectively a NLO cross section?
- How to compute loops?
- How to deal with infrared divergences?
- How to generate events to be showered at NLO?

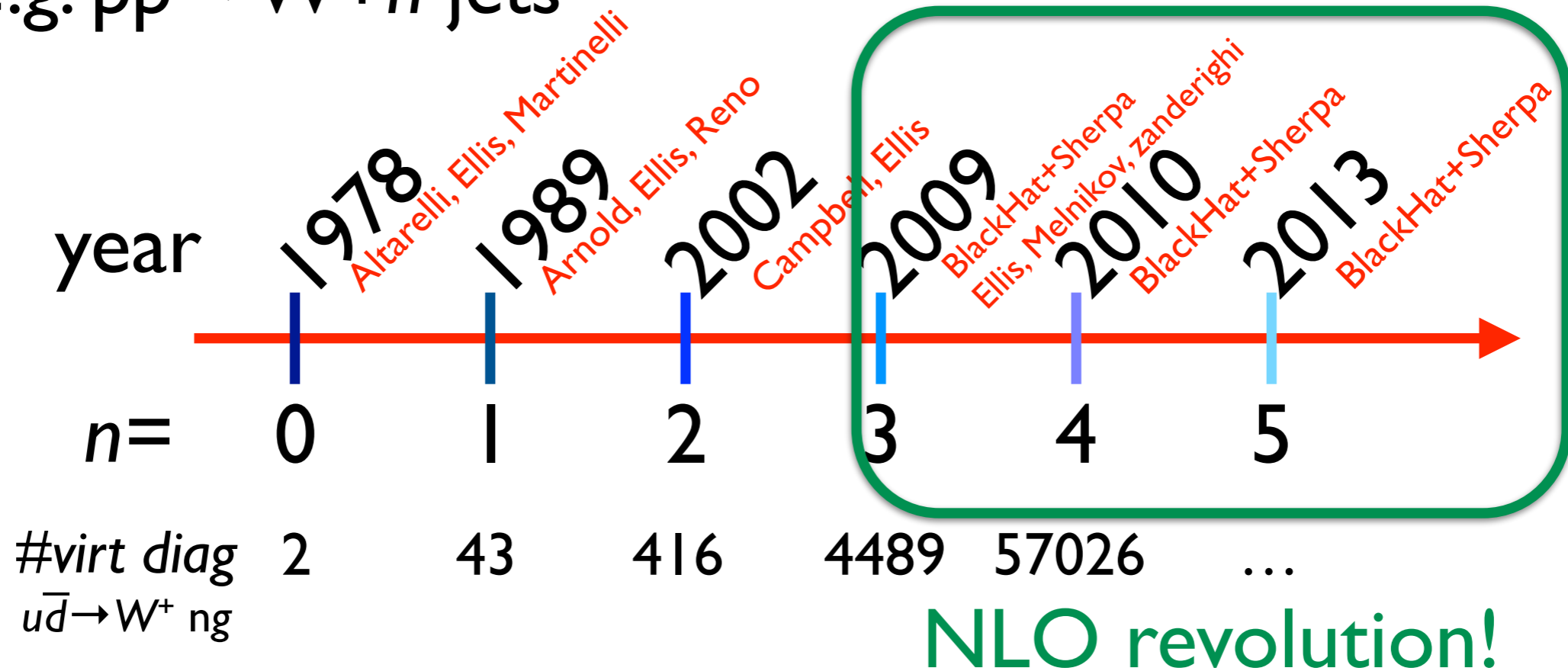
# NLO

- NLO evolution:
  - e.g.  $pp \rightarrow W+n$  jets



# NLO

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# NLO revolution

- Amazing development of computational techniques to tackle *any* process at NLO
  - Local subtraction
  - Computation of loop MEs
    - Tensor reduction
    - Generalized unitarity
    - Integrand reduction

Frixione, Kunszt, Signer, hep-ph/9512328  
Catani, Seymour, hep-ph/9605323

Passarino, Veltman, 1979  
Denner, Dittmaier, hep-ph/509141  
Binoth, Guillet, Heinrich, Pilon, Reiter, arXiv:0810.0992

Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower, hep-ph/9403226 + ...  
Ellis, Giele, Kunszt, arXiv:0708.2398  
+ Melnikov, arXiv:0806.3467

Ossola, Papadopoulos, Pittau, hep-ph/0609007  
Del Aguila, Pittau, hep-ph/0404120  
Mastrolia, Ossola, Reiter, Tramontano, arXiv:1006.0710

# Going NLO

$$\hat{\sigma} = \alpha_s^b \sigma_0 + \alpha_s^{b+1} \sigma_1 + \alpha_s^{b+2} \sigma_2 + \alpha_s^{b+3} \sigma_3 + \dots$$

- NLO is the first order where the scale dependence in  $\alpha_s$  and PDFs is compensated by loop corrections
  - First reliable predictions for rates and uncertainties
- Better description of final state (inclusion of extra radiation)
- Opening of new partonic channels from real emissions

# Going NLO

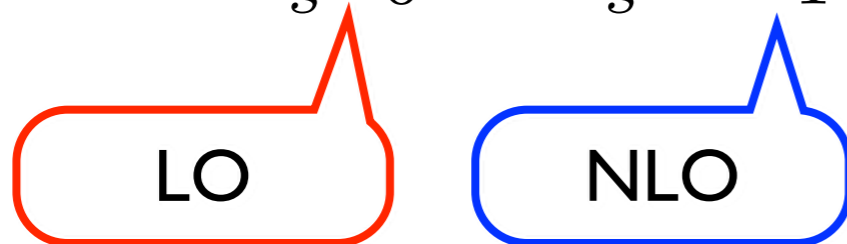
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LO

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- Opening of new partonic channels from real emissions

# Going NLO

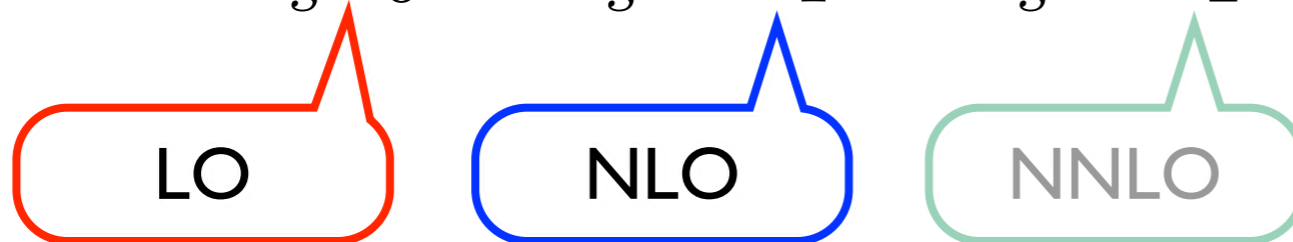
$$\hat{\sigma} = \alpha_s^b \sigma_0 + \alpha_s^{b+1} \sigma_1 + \alpha_s^{b+2} \sigma_2 + \alpha_s^{b+3} \sigma_3 + \dots$$



- NLO is the first order where the scale dependence in  $\alpha_s$  and PDFs is compensated by loop corrections
  - First reliable predictions for rates and uncertainties
- Better description of final state (inclusion of extra radiation)
- Opening of new partonic channels from real emissions

# Going NLO

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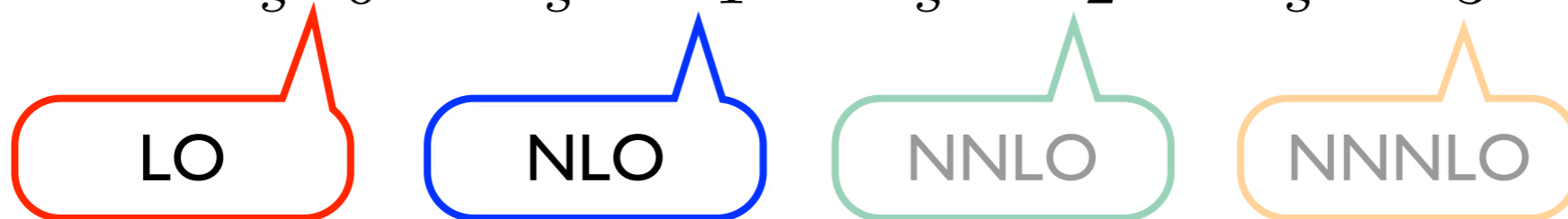


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# Going NLO

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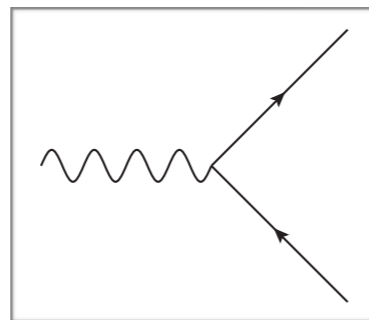
- NLO is the first order where the scale dependence in  $\alpha_s$  and PDFs is compensated by loop corrections
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# NLO: how to?

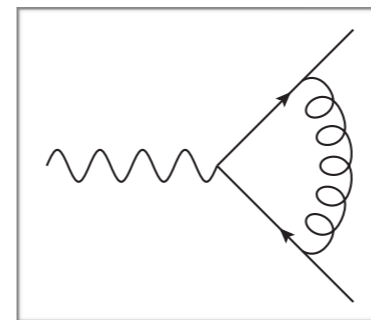
- Three ingredients need to be computed at NLO

$$\sigma_{NLO} = \int_n \alpha_s^b d\sigma_0 + \int_n \alpha_s^{b+1} d\sigma_V + \int_{n+1} \alpha_s^{b+1} d\sigma_R$$

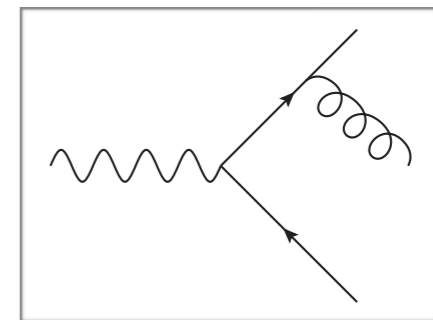
  
**Born**  
**cross section**



  
**Virtual**  
**corrections**

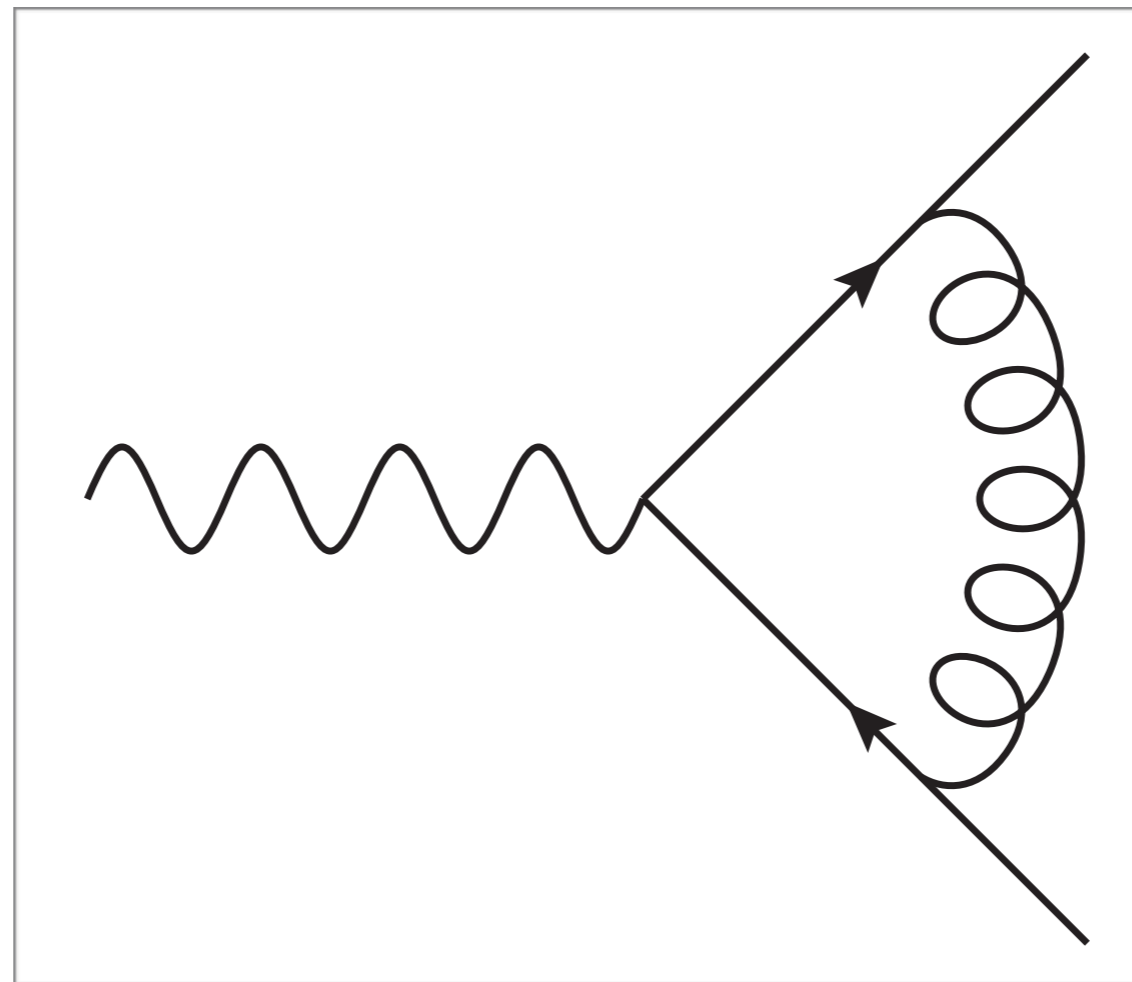


  
**Real-emission**  
**corrections**

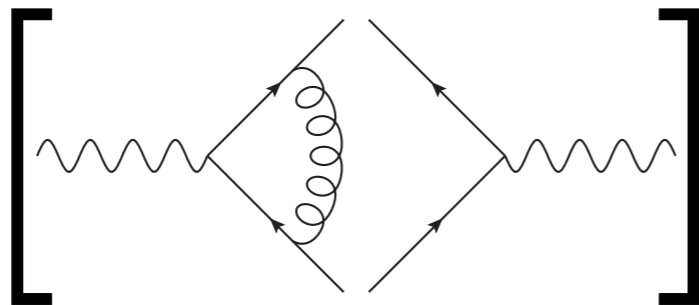


- Remember: virtual and reals are not separately finite, but their sum is (KLN theorem). Divergences have to be subtracted before numerical integration. We will shortly see how

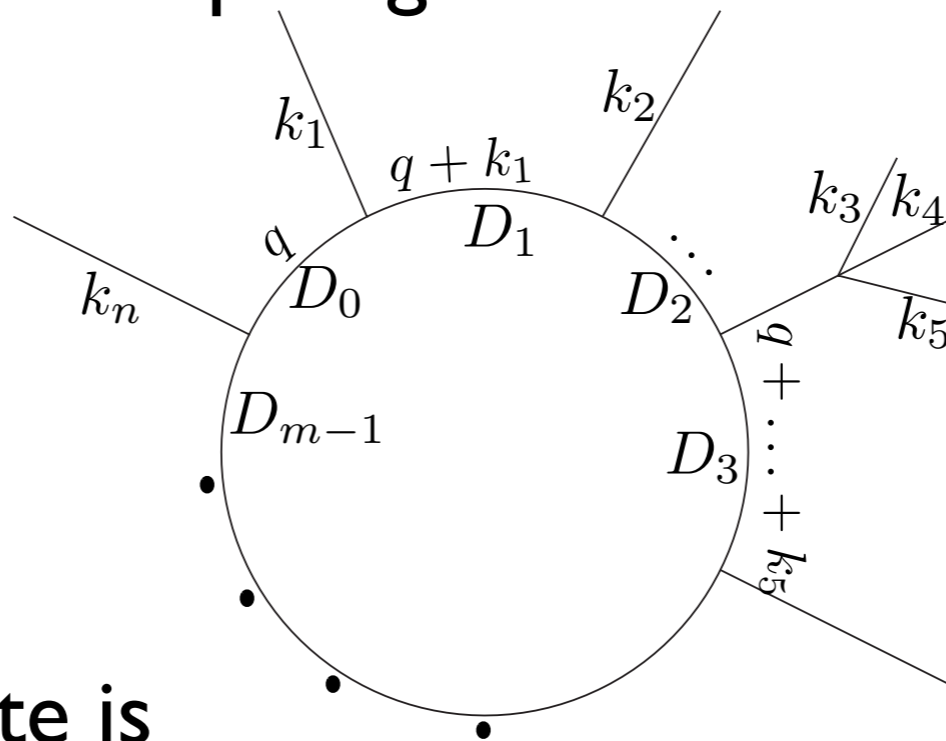
# How to compute loops?



# Computing loops numerically

$$d\sigma_V = 2\Re \left[ \text{Diagram} \right]$$


- Consider a  $m$ -point one-loop diagram with  $n$  external momenta



- The integral to compute is

$$\int d^d l \frac{N(l)}{D_0 D_1 \dots D_{m-1}}$$

$$D_i = (l + p_i)^2 - m_i^2$$

# A hint...

- Any one-loop integral can be cast in the form

$$\int d^d l \frac{N(l)}{D_0 D_1 \dots D_{m-1}} = \sum \text{coeff}_i \int d^d l \frac{1}{D_{i_0} D_{i_1} \dots}$$

- that is, a linear combination of **scalar integrals**
- Only scalar integrals with up to 4 denominators are needed  $\rightarrow$  the basis is finite!
- The coefficients depend only on external momenta and parameters.

# Scalar integrals

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}^{\text{1loop}} = & \sum_{i_0, i_1, i_2, i_3} d_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} \mathcal{D}_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} \\
 & + \sum_{i_0, i_1, i_2} c_{i_0 i_1 i_2} \mathcal{C}_{i_0 i_1 i_2} \\
 & + \sum_{i_0, i_1} b_{i_0 i_1} \mathcal{B}_{i_0 i_1} \\
 & + \sum_{i_0} a_{i_0} \mathcal{A}_{i_0} \\
 & + R + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Box**  $\mathcal{D}_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} = \int d^d l \frac{1}{D_{i_0} D_{i_1} D_{i_2} D_{i_3}}$

**Triangle**  $\mathcal{C}_{i_0 i_1 i_2} = \int d^d l \frac{1}{D_{i_0} D_{i_1} D_{i_2}}$

**Bubble**  $\mathcal{B}_{i_0 i_1} = \int d^d l \frac{1}{D_{i_0} D_{i_1}}$

**Tadpole**  $\mathcal{A}_{i_0} = \int d^d l \frac{1}{D_{i_0}}$

- Scalar integrals are known and available as libraries

FF (van Oldenborgh, CPC 66,1991)

QCDDLoop (Ellis, Zanderighi, arXiv:0712.1851)

OneLOop (Van Hameren, arXiv:1007.4716)

# How to compute the coefficients?

- Several techniques exist
- Computation of loop MEs
  - Tensor reduction
  - Generalized unitarity
  - Integrand reduction



In these lectures

Passarino, Veltman, 1979  
 Denner, Dittmaier, hep-ph/509141  
 Binoth, Guillet, Heinrich, Pilon, Reiter, arXiv:0810.0992  
  
 Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower, hep-ph/9403226 + ...  
 Ellis, Giele, Kunszt, arXiv:0708.2398  
 + Melnikov, arXiv:0806.3467  
  
 Ossola, Papadopoulos, Pittau, hep-ph/0609007  
 Del Aguila, Pittau, hep-ph/0404120  
 Mastrolia, Ossola, Reiter, Tramontano, arXiv:1006.0710

# Integrand reduction

$$\int d^d l \frac{N(l)}{D_0 D_1 \dots D_{m-1}} = \sum \text{coeff}_i \int d^d l \frac{1}{D_{i_0} D_{i_1} \dots}$$

- Can we take away the integral?

$$\frac{N(l)}{D_0 D_1 \dots D_{m-1}} \neq \sum \text{coeff}_i \frac{1}{D_{i_0} D_{i_1} \dots}$$

- Of course not, we must take into account for terms which integrate to 0, the so-called **spurious** terms:

$$\frac{N(l)}{D_0 D_1 \dots D_{m-1}} = \sum (\text{coeff}_i + \text{spurious}_i(l)) \frac{1}{D_{i_0} D_{i_1} \dots}$$



# Spurious terms

- The functional form of the spurious terms is known and depends on the rank (powers of  $l$  in the numerator) and on the number of denominators. [Del Aguila, Pittau, hep-ph/0404120](#)
- E.g. a rank-1 box

$$\tilde{d}_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3}(l) = \tilde{d}_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} l^\mu p_1^\nu p_2^\rho p_3^\sigma$$

- The integral is 0

$$\int d^d l \frac{\tilde{d}_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3}(l)}{D_0 D_1 D_2 D_3} = \tilde{d}_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} \int d^d l \frac{\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} l^\mu p_1^\nu p_2^\rho p_3^\sigma}{D_0 D_1 D_2 D_3} = 0$$

# OPP decomposition

Ossola, Papadopoulos, Pittau, hep-ph/0609007

$$\frac{N(l)}{D_0 D_1 \dots D_{m-1}} = \sum (\text{coeff}_i + \text{spurious}_i(l)) \frac{1}{D_{i_0} D_{i_1} \dots}$$

- If we multiply both sides times  $D_0 D_1 \dots D_{m-1}$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} N(l) = & \sum_{i_0, i_1, i_2, i_3} (d_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} + \tilde{d}_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3}) \prod_{i \neq i_0, i_1, i_2, i_3} D_i \\ & + \sum_{i_0, i_1, i_2} (c_{i_0 i_1 i_2} + \tilde{c}_{i_0 i_1 i_2}) \prod_{i \neq i_0, i_1, i_2} D_i \\ & + \sum_{i_0, i_1} (b_{i_0 i_1} + \tilde{b}_{i_0 i_1}) \prod_{i \neq i_0, i_1} D_i \\ & + \sum_{i_0} (a_{i_0} + \tilde{a}_{i_0}) \prod_{i \neq i_0} D_i \\ & + \tilde{P}(l) \prod_i D_i + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon) \end{aligned}$$

# Getting the coefficients

- $N(l)$  is known from the diagrams and the functional form of spurious terms is known too
  - We can sample  $N(l)$  at various values of the loop momentum, and get a system of linear equations
  - The sampling can be done numerically
  - By choosing smart values of  $l$  (in the complex plane), the system can be greatly simplified
  - E.g. we can choose  $l$  such that

$$D_1(l^\pm) = D_2(l^\pm) = D_3(l^\pm) = D_4(l^\pm) = 0$$



$$N(l^\pm) = (d_{1234} + \tilde{d}_{1234}(l^\pm)) \prod_{i \neq 1,2,3,4} D_i(l^\pm)$$

# Getting the coefficients

- Two values of  $l$  and the knowledge of the spurious terms functional form are enough to extract the box coefficient

$$d_{1234} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{N(l^+)}{\prod_{i \neq 1,2,3,4} D_i(l^+)} + \frac{N(l^-)}{\prod_{i \neq 1,2,3,4} D_i(l^-)} \right)$$

- Similarly, all the box coefficients can be determined
- Then one can move on to the triangles (choosing  $l$  such that 3 denominators vanish)
- Then to the bubbles, and finally to the tadpoles

# Getting the coefficient: recap

- For each PS point, we have to solve a system of equations numerically
- The system reduces when special values of the loop momentum are chosen
- $N(l)$  can be the numerator of the full matrix element, of a single diagram or anything in between
- For a given PS point, the numerator has to be sampled several times ( $\sim 50$  for a 4-point diagrams)

# The evil is in the *d* details:

## Complications in *d* dimensions

- So far, we did not care much about the number of dimensions we were using
- In general, external momenta and polarisations are in 4 dimensions; only the loop momentum is in *d*
- To be more rigorous, we compute the integral

$$\int d^d l \frac{N(l, \tilde{l})}{\bar{D}_0 \bar{D}_1 \dots \bar{D}_{m-1}}$$

$\bar{l}$   
 $\nearrow$   
*d*-dim

 $= l + \tilde{l}$ 

$\nwarrow$   
 $\tilde{l}$   
 $\leftarrow$   
 $\varepsilon$ -dim

$l$   
 $\uparrow$   
 4-dim

$$\bar{D}_i = (\bar{l} + p_i)^2 - m_i^2 = (l + p_i)^2 - m_i^2 + \tilde{l}^2 = D_i + \tilde{l}^2$$

$$l \cdot \tilde{l} = 0 \quad \bar{l} \cdot p_i = l \cdot p_i \quad \bar{l} \cdot \bar{l} = l \cdot l + \tilde{l} \cdot \tilde{l}$$

# Implications

- The reduction should be consistently done in  $d$  dimensions

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}^{\text{1loop}} = & \sum_{i_0, i_1, i_2, i_3} d_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} \bar{\mathcal{D}}_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} \\
 & + \sum_{i_0, i_1, i_2} c_{i_0 i_1 i_2} \bar{\mathcal{C}}_{i_0 i_1 i_2} \\
 & + \sum_{i_0, i_1} b_{i_0 i_1} \bar{\mathcal{B}}_{i_0 i_1} \\
 & + \sum_{i_0} a_{i_0} \bar{\mathcal{A}}_{i_0} \\
 & + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)
 \end{aligned}$$

# Implications

- The reduction should be consistently done in  $d$  dimensions

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M}^{\text{1loop}} &= \sum_{i_0, i_1, i_2, i_3} d_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} \bar{\mathcal{D}}_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} & \mathcal{M}^{\text{1loop}} &= \sum_{i_0, i_1, i_2, i_3} d_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} \mathcal{D}_{i_0 i_1 i_2 i_3} \\
 &+ \sum_{i_0, i_1, i_2} c_{i_0 i_1 i_2} \bar{\mathcal{C}}_{i_0 i_1 i_2} & &+ \sum_{i_0, i_1, i_2} c_{i_0 i_1 i_2} \mathcal{C}_{i_0 i_1 i_2} \\
 &+ \sum_{i_0, i_1} b_{i_0 i_1} \bar{\mathcal{B}}_{i_0 i_1} & &+ \sum_{i_0, i_1} b_{i_0 i_1} \mathcal{B}_{i_0 i_1} \\
 &+ \sum_{i_0} a_{i_0} \bar{\mathcal{A}}_{i_0} & &+ \sum_{i_0} a_{i_0} \mathcal{A}_{i_0} \\
 &+ \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon) & &+ \mathcal{R} + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)
 \end{aligned}$$



That is why the *rational terms* are needed



# The rational terms

OPP, arXiv:0802.1876

- In the OPP method, two types of rational terms are there:  
 $R=R_1+R_2$
- Both originate from the UV part of the model, but only  $R_1$  can be computed in the OPP decomposition
- $R_1$  originates from the *denominators* (propagators) in the loops

$$\frac{1}{\bar{D}_i} = \frac{1}{D_i} \left( 1 - \frac{\tilde{l}^2}{D_i} \right)$$

- The denominator structure is known, so these terms can be directly included in the OPP reduction
- $R_1$  contributions are proportional to

$$\int d^d l \frac{\tilde{l}^2}{\bar{D}_i \bar{D}_j} = -\frac{i\pi^2}{2} \left[ m_i^2 + m_j^2 - \frac{(p_i - p_j)^2}{2} \right] + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$$

$$\int d^d l \frac{\tilde{l}^2}{\bar{D}_i \bar{D}_j \bar{D}_k} = -\frac{i\pi^2}{2} + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$$

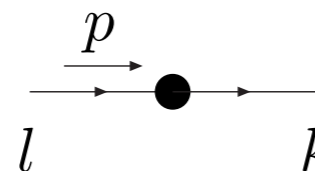
$$\int d^d l \frac{\tilde{l}^2}{\bar{D}_i \bar{D}_j \bar{D}_k \bar{D}_l} = -\frac{i\pi^2}{6} + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$$

# $R_2$

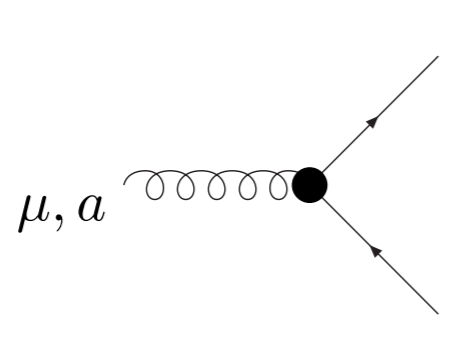
- $R_2$  terms originate from the numerator.  
Integrals with rank  $\geq 2$  can have terms in the numerator  $\sim$  to  $\tilde{l}^2$
- This dependence can be quite hidden and become explicit only after having done the Clifford algebra
- Since we want a fully numerical approach, these terms cannot be obtained directly with the OPP reduction
- Within a given (renormalizable) model, only a finite set of terms that can give rise to these terms exists. They can be identified and computed as the “ $R_2$  counterterms”

# $R_2$ Feynman rules

- In a renormalizable theory, only up to 4-point integrals contribute to the  $R_2$  terms
- They can be included in the computation using special Feynman rules (as it is done for the UV renormalisation). For example:



$$= \frac{ig^2}{16\pi^2} \frac{N_{col}^2 - 1}{2N_{col}} \delta_{kl} (-\not{p} + 2m_q) \lambda_{HV}$$



$$= \frac{ig^3}{16\pi^2} \frac{N_{col}^2 - 1}{2N_{col}} t_{kl}^a \gamma_\mu (1 + \lambda_{HV})$$

Draggiotis, Garzelli, Papadopoulos, Pittau, arXiv:0903.0356

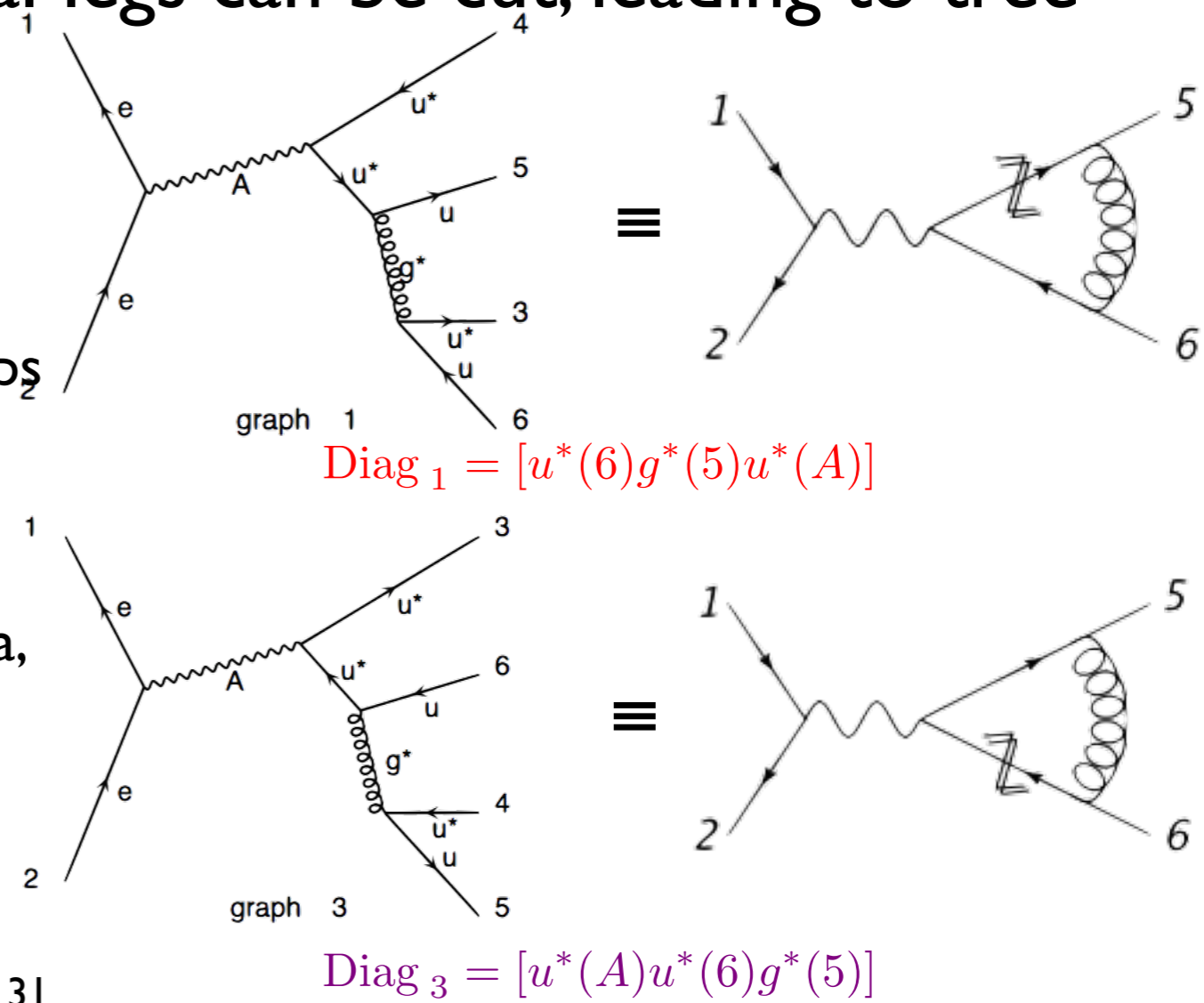
- Similarly to the UV counterterms, the  $R_2$  terms are model dependent and need to be explicitly computed for BSM models  
This is now automated for renormalizable theories

# MadLoop

Hirschi et al, arXiv:1103.0621

- How to automate loop computation?
- Exploit MadGraph's capabilities to generate tree-level diagrams
- Loop diagrams with  $n$  external legs can be cut, leading to tree diagrams with  $n+2$  legs

- All diagrams with 2 extra particles are generated, those which are needed are filtered out
- Each diagram is assigned a tag, which helps removing mirror/cyclic configurations
- Additional filters to remove tadpole/bubbles on external legs
- Contract with Born, do the color algebra, re-glue the cut particle, etc...
- Add UV and R2 counterterms as extra vertices



# Results with the older (MG4) version

	Process	$\mu$	$n_{lf}$	Cross section (pb)	
				LO	NLO
a.1	$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}$	$m_{top}$	5	$123.76 \pm 0.05$	$162.08 \pm 0.12$
a.2	$pp \rightarrow tj$	$m_{top}$	5	$34.78 \pm 0.03$	$41.03 \pm 0.07$
a.3	$pp \rightarrow tjj$	$m_{top}$	5	$11.851 \pm 0.006$	$13.71 \pm 0.02$
a.4	$pp \rightarrow t\bar{b}j$	$m_{top}/4$	4	$25.62 \pm 0.01$	$30.96 \pm 0.06$
a.5	$pp \rightarrow t\bar{b}jj$	$m_{top}/4$	4	$8.195 \pm 0.002$	$8.91 \pm 0.01$
b.1	$pp \rightarrow (W^+ \rightarrow)e^+\nu_e$	$m_W$	5	$5072.5 \pm 2.9$	$6146.2 \pm 9.8$
b.2	$pp \rightarrow (W^+ \rightarrow)e^+\nu_e j$	$m_W$	5	$828.4 \pm 0.8$	$1065.3 \pm 1.8$
b.3	$pp \rightarrow (W^+ \rightarrow)e^+\nu_e jj$	$m_W$	5	$298.8 \pm 0.4$	$300.3 \pm 0.6$
b.4	$pp \rightarrow (\gamma^*/Z \rightarrow)e^+e^-$	$m_Z$	5	$1007.0 \pm 0.1$	$1170.0 \pm 2.4$
b.5	$pp \rightarrow (\gamma^*/Z \rightarrow)e^+e^- j$	$m_Z$	5	$156.11 \pm 0.03$	$203.0 \pm 0.2$
b.6	$pp \rightarrow (\gamma^*/Z \rightarrow)e^+e^- jj$	$m_Z$	5	$54.24 \pm 0.02$	$56.69 \pm 0.07$
c.1	$pp \rightarrow (W^+ \rightarrow)e^+\nu_e b\bar{b}$	$m_W + 2m_b$	4	$11.557 \pm 0.005$	$22.95 \pm 0.07$
c.2	$pp \rightarrow (W^+ \rightarrow)e^+\nu_e t\bar{t}$	$m_W + 2m_{top}$	5	$0.009415 \pm 0.000003$	$0.01159 \pm 0.00001$
c.3	$pp \rightarrow (\gamma^*/Z \rightarrow)e^+e^- b\bar{b}$	$m_Z + 2m_b$	4	$9.459 \pm 0.004$	$15.31 \pm 0.03$
c.4	$pp \rightarrow (\gamma^*/Z \rightarrow)e^+e^- t\bar{t}$	$m_Z + 2m_{top}$	5	$0.0035131 \pm 0.0000004$	$0.004876 \pm 0.000002$
c.5	$pp \rightarrow \gamma t\bar{t}$	$2m_{top}$	5	$0.2906 \pm 0.0001$	$0.4169 \pm 0.0003$
d.1	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-$	$2m_W$	4	$29.976 \pm 0.004$	$43.92 \pm 0.03$
d.2	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^- j$	$2m_W$	4	$11.613 \pm 0.002$	$15.174 \pm 0.008$
d.3	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^+ jj$	$2m_W$	4	$0.07048 \pm 0.00004$	$0.1377 \pm 0.0005$
e.1	$pp \rightarrow HW^+$	$m_W + m_H$	5	$0.3428 \pm 0.0003$	$0.4455 \pm 0.0003$
e.2	$pp \rightarrow HW^+ j$	$m_W + m_H$	5	$0.1223 \pm 0.0001$	$0.1501 \pm 0.0002$
e.3	$pp \rightarrow HZ$	$m_Z + m_H$	5	$0.2781 \pm 0.0001$	$0.3659 \pm 0.0002$
e.4	$pp \rightarrow HZ j$	$m_Z + m_H$	5	$0.0988 \pm 0.0001$	$0.1237 \pm 0.0001$
e.5	$pp \rightarrow Ht\bar{t}$	$m_{top} + m_H$	5	$0.08896 \pm 0.00001$	$0.09869 \pm 0.00003$
e.6	$pp \rightarrow Hb\bar{b}$	$m_b + m_H$	<b>32</b>	$0.16510 \pm 0.00009$	$0.2099 \pm 0.0006$
e.7	$pp \rightarrow Hjj$	$m_{top}$	5	$1.104 \pm 0.002$	$1.036 \pm 0.002$

Process	Syntax	Cross section (pb)				
Vector boson +jets		LO 13 TeV		NLO 13 TeV		
a.1	$pp \rightarrow W^\pm$	$p p > wpm$	$1.375 \pm 0.002 \cdot 10^5$	$+15.4\% +2.0\%$ $-16.6\% -1.6\%$	$1.773 \pm 0.007 \cdot 10^5$	$+5.2\% +1.9\%$ $-9.4\% -1.6\%$
a.2	$pp \rightarrow W^\pm j$	$p p > wpm j$	$2.045 \pm 0.001 \cdot 10^4$	$+19.7\% +1.4\%$ $-17.2\% -1.1\%$	$2.843 \pm 0.010 \cdot 10^4$	$+5.9\% +1.3\%$ $-8.0\% -1.1\%$
a.3	$pp \rightarrow W^\pm jj$	$p p > wpm j j$	$6.805 \pm 0.015 \cdot 10^3$	$+24.5\% +0.8\%$ $-18.6\% -0.7\%$	$7.786 \pm 0.030 \cdot 10^3$	$+2.4\% +0.9\%$ $-6.0\% -0.8\%$
a.4	$pp \rightarrow W^\pm jjj$	$p p > wpm j j j$	$1.821 \pm 0.002 \cdot 10^3$	$+41.0\% +0.5\%$ $-27.1\% -0.5\%$	$2.005 \pm 0.008 \cdot 10^3$	$+0.9\% +0.6\%$ $-6.7\% -0.5\%$
a.5	$pp \rightarrow Z$	$p p > z$	$4.248 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^4$	$+14.6\% +2.0\%$ $-15.8\% -1.6\%$	$5.415 \pm 0.021 \cdot 10^4$	$+4.6\% +1.9\%$ $-8.6\% -1.5\%$
a.6	$pp \rightarrow Zj$	$p p > z j$	$2.919 \pm 0.001 \cdot 10^4$	$+14.6\% +2.0\%$ $-15.8\% -1.6\%$	$9.441 \pm 0.033 \cdot 10^3$	$+4.6\% +1.9\%$ $-8.6\% -1.5\%$
a.7	$pp \rightarrow Zjj$	$p p > z j j$	$2.348 \pm 0.001 \cdot 10^4$	$+24.4\% +0.6\%$ $-18.8\% -0.6\%$	$2.663 \pm 0.011 \cdot 10^4$	$+4.5\% +0.7\%$ $-6.8\% -0.7\%$
a.8	$pp \rightarrow Zjjj$	$p p > z j j j$	$6.314 \pm 0.008 \cdot 10^2$	$+40.8\% +0.5\%$ $-27.0\% -0.5\%$	$6.996 \pm 0.028 \cdot 10^2$	$+1.1\% +0.5\%$ $-6.8\% -0.5\%$
a.9	$pp \rightarrow \gamma j$	$p p > a j$	$1.964 \pm 0.001 \cdot 10^4$	$+31.2\% +1.7\%$ $-26.0\% -1.8\%$	$5.218 \pm 0.025 \cdot 10^4$	$+24.5\% +1.4\%$ $-21.4\% -1.6\%$
a.10	$pp \rightarrow \gamma jj$	$p p > a j j$	$7.815 \pm 0.008 \cdot 10^3$	$+32.8\% +0.9\%$ $-24.2\% -1.2\%$	$1.004 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^4$	$+5.9\% +0.8\%$ $-10.9\% -1.2\%$

Process	Syntax	Cross section (pb)				
Vector-boson pair +jets		LO 13 TeV		NLO 13 TeV		
b.1	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-$ (4f)	$p p > w+ w-$	$7.355 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^1$	$+5.0\% +2.0\%$ $-6.1\% -1.5\%$	$1.028 \pm 0.003 \cdot 10^2$	$+4.0\% +1.9\%$ $-4.5\% -1.4\%$
b.2	$pp \rightarrow ZZ$	$p p > z z$	$1.097 \pm 0.002 \cdot 10^1$	$+4.5\% +1.9\%$ $-5.6\% -1.5\%$	$1.415 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^1$	$+3.1\% +1.8\%$ $-3.7\% -1.4\%$
b.3	$pp \rightarrow ZW^\pm$	$p p > z wpm$	$2.777 \pm 0.003 \cdot 10^1$	$+3.6\% +2.0\%$ $-4.7\% -1.5\%$	$4.487 \pm 0.013 \cdot 10^1$	$+4.4\% +1.7\%$ $-4.4\% -1.3\%$
b.4	$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	$p p > a a$	$2.510 \pm 0.002 \cdot 10^1$	$+22.1\% +2.4\%$ $-22.4\% -2.1\%$	$6.593 \pm 0.021 \cdot 10^1$	$+17.6\% +2.0\%$ $-18.8\% -1.9\%$
b.5	$pp \rightarrow \gamma Z$	$p p > a z$	$2.523 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^1$	$+9.9\% +2.0\%$ $-11.2\% -1.6\%$	$3.695 \pm 0.013 \cdot 10^1$	$+5.4\% +1.8\%$ $-7.1\% -1.4\%$
b.6	$pp \rightarrow \gamma W^\pm$	$p p > a wpm$	$2.954 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^1$	$+9.5\% +2.0\%$ $-11.0\% -1.7\%$	$7.124 \pm 0.026 \cdot 10^1$	$+9.7\% +1.5\%$ $-9.9\% -1.3\%$
b.7	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-j$ (4f)	$p p > w+ w- j$	$2.865 \pm 0.003 \cdot 10^1$	$+11.6\% +1.0\%$ $-10.0\% -0.8\%$	$3.730 \pm 0.013 \cdot 10^1$	$+4.9\% +1.1\%$ $-4.9\% -0.8\%$
b.8	$pp \rightarrow ZZj$	$p p > z z j$	$3.662 \pm 0.003 \cdot 10^0$	$+10.9\% +1.0\%$ $-9.3\% -0.8\%$	$4.830 \pm 0.016 \cdot 10^0$	$+5.0\% +1.1\%$ $-4.8\% -0.9\%$
b.9	$pp \rightarrow ZW^\pm j$	$p p > z wpm j$	$1.605 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^1$	$+11.6\% +0.9\%$ $-10.0\% -0.7\%$	$2.086 \pm 0.007 \cdot 10^1$	$+4.9\% +0.9\%$ $-4.8\% -0.7\%$
b.10	$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma j$	$p p > a a j$	$1.022 \pm 0.001 \cdot 10^1$	$+20.3\% +1.2\%$ $-17.7\% -1.5\%$	$2.292 \pm 0.010 \cdot 10^1$	$+17.2\% +1.0\%$ $-15.1\% -1.4\%$
b.11*	$pp \rightarrow \gamma Zj$	$p p > a z j$	$8.310 \pm 0.017 \cdot 10^0$	$+14.5\% +1.0\%$ $-12.8\% -1.0\%$	$1.220 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^1$	$+7.3\% +0.9\%$ $-7.4\% -0.9\%$
b.12*	$pp \rightarrow \gamma W^\pm j$	$p p > a wpm j$	$2.546 \pm 0.010 \cdot 10^1$	$+13.7\% +0.9\%$ $-12.1\% -1.0\%$	$3.713 \pm 0.015 \cdot 10^1$	$+7.2\% +0.9\%$ $-7.1\% -1.0\%$

Process	Syntax	Cross section (pb)				
Three vector bosons +jet		LO 13 TeV		NLO 13 TeV		
c.1	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-W^\pm$ (4f)	$p p > w+ w- wpm$	$1.307 \pm 0.003 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$+0.0\% +2.0\%$ $-0.3\% -1.5\%$	$2.109 \pm 0.006 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$+5.1\% +1.6\%$ $-4.1\% -1.2\%$
c.2	$pp \rightarrow ZW^+W^-$ (4f)	$p p > z w+ w-$	$9.658 \pm 0.065 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+0.8\% +2.1\%$ $-1.1\% -1.6\%$	$1.679 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$+6.3\% +1.6\%$ $-5.1\% -1.2\%$
c.3	$pp \rightarrow ZZW^\pm$	$p p > z z wpm$	$2.996 \pm 0.016 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+1.0\% +2.0\%$ $-1.4\% -1.6\%$	$5.550 \pm 0.020 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+6.8\% +1.5\%$ $-5.5\% -1.1\%$
c.4	$pp \rightarrow ZZZ$	$p p > z z z$	$1.085 \pm 0.002 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+0.0\% +1.9\%$ $-0.5\% -1.5\%$	$1.417 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+2.7\% +1.9\%$ $-2.1\% -1.5\%$
c.5	$pp \rightarrow \gamma W^+W^-$ (4f)	$p p > a w+ w-$	$1.427 \pm 0.011 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$+1.9\% +2.0\%$ $-2.6\% -1.5\%$	$2.581 \pm 0.008 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$+5.4\% +1.4\%$ $-4.3\% -1.1\%$
c.6	$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma W^\pm$	$p p > a a wpm$	$2.681 \pm 0.007 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+4.4\% +1.9\%$ $-5.6\% -1.6\%$	$8.251 \pm 0.032 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+7.6\% +1.0\%$ $-7.0\% -1.0\%$
c.7	$pp \rightarrow \gamma ZW^\pm$	$p p > a z wpm$	$4.994 \pm 0.011 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+0.8\% +1.9\%$ $-1.4\% -1.6\%$	$1.117 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$+7.2\% +1.2\%$ $-5.9\% -0.9\%$
c.8	$pp \rightarrow \gamma ZZ$	$p p > a z z$	$2.320 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+2.0\% +1.9\%$ $-2.9\% -1.5\%$	$3.118 \pm 0.012 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+2.8\% +1.8\%$ $-2.7\% -1.4\%$
c.9	$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma Z$	$p p > a a z$	$3.078 \pm 0.007 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+5.6\% +1.9\%$ $-6.8\% -1.6\%$	$4.634 \pm 0.020 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+4.5\% +1.7\%$ $-5.0\% -1.3\%$
c.10	$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma$	$p p > a a a$	$1.269 \pm 0.003 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+9.8\% +2.0\%$ $-11.0\% -1.8\%$	$3.441 \pm 0.012 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+11.8\% +1.4\%$ $-11.6\% -1.5\%$

Process	Syntax	Cross section (pb)				
Three vector bosons +jet		LO 13 TeV		NLO 13 TeV		
c.11	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-W^\pm j$ (4f)	$p p > w+ w- wpm j$	$9.167 \pm 0.010 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+15.0\% +1.0\%$ $-12.2\% -0.7\%$	$1.197 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$+5.2\% +1.0\%$ $-5.6\% -0.8\%$
c.12*	$pp \rightarrow ZW^+W^-j$ (4f)	$p p > z w+ w- j$	$8.340 \pm 0.010 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+15.6\% +1.0\%$ $-12.6\% -0.7\%$	$1.066 \pm 0.003 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$+4.5\% +1.0\%$ $-5.3\% -0.7\%$
c.13*	$pp \rightarrow ZZW^\pm j$	$p p > z z wpm j$	$2.810 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+16.1\% +1.0\%$ $-13.0\% -0.7\%$	$3.660 \pm 0.013 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+4.8\% +1.0\%$ $-5.6\% -0.7\%$
c.14*	$pp \rightarrow ZZZj$	$p p > z z z j$	$4.823 \pm 0.011 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$+14.3\% +1.4\%$ $-11.8\% -1.0\%$	$6.341 \pm 0.025 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$+4.9\% +1.4\%$ $-5.4\% -1.0\%$
c.15*	$pp \rightarrow \gamma W^+W^-j$ (4f)	$p p > a w+ w- j$	$1.182 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$+13.4\% +0.8\%$ $-11.2\% -0.7\%$	$1.233 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^0$	$+18.9\% +1.0\%$ $-19.9\% -1.5\%$
c.16	$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma W^\pm j$	$p p > a a wpm j$	$4.107 \pm 0.015 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+11.8\% +0.6\%$ $-10.2\% -0.8\%$	$5.807 \pm 0.023 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+5.8\% +0.7\%$ $-5.5\% -0.7\%$
c.17*	$pp \rightarrow \gamma ZW^\pm j$	$p p > a z wpm j$	$5.833 \pm 0.023 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+14.4\% +0.7\%$ $-12.0\% -0.6\%$	$7.764 \pm 0.025 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+5.1\% +0.8\%$ $-5.5\% -0.6\%$
c.18*	$pp \rightarrow \gamma ZZj$	$p p > a z z j$	$9.995 \pm 0.013 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$+12.5\% +1.2\%$ $-10.6\% -0.9\%$	$1.371 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+5.6\% +1.2\%$ $-5.5\% -0.9\%$
c.19*	$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma Zj$	$p p > a a z j$	$1.372 \pm 0.003 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+10.9\% +1.0\%$ $-9.4\% -0.9\%$	$2.051 \pm 0.011 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$+7.0\% +1.0\%$ $-6.3\% -0.9\%$

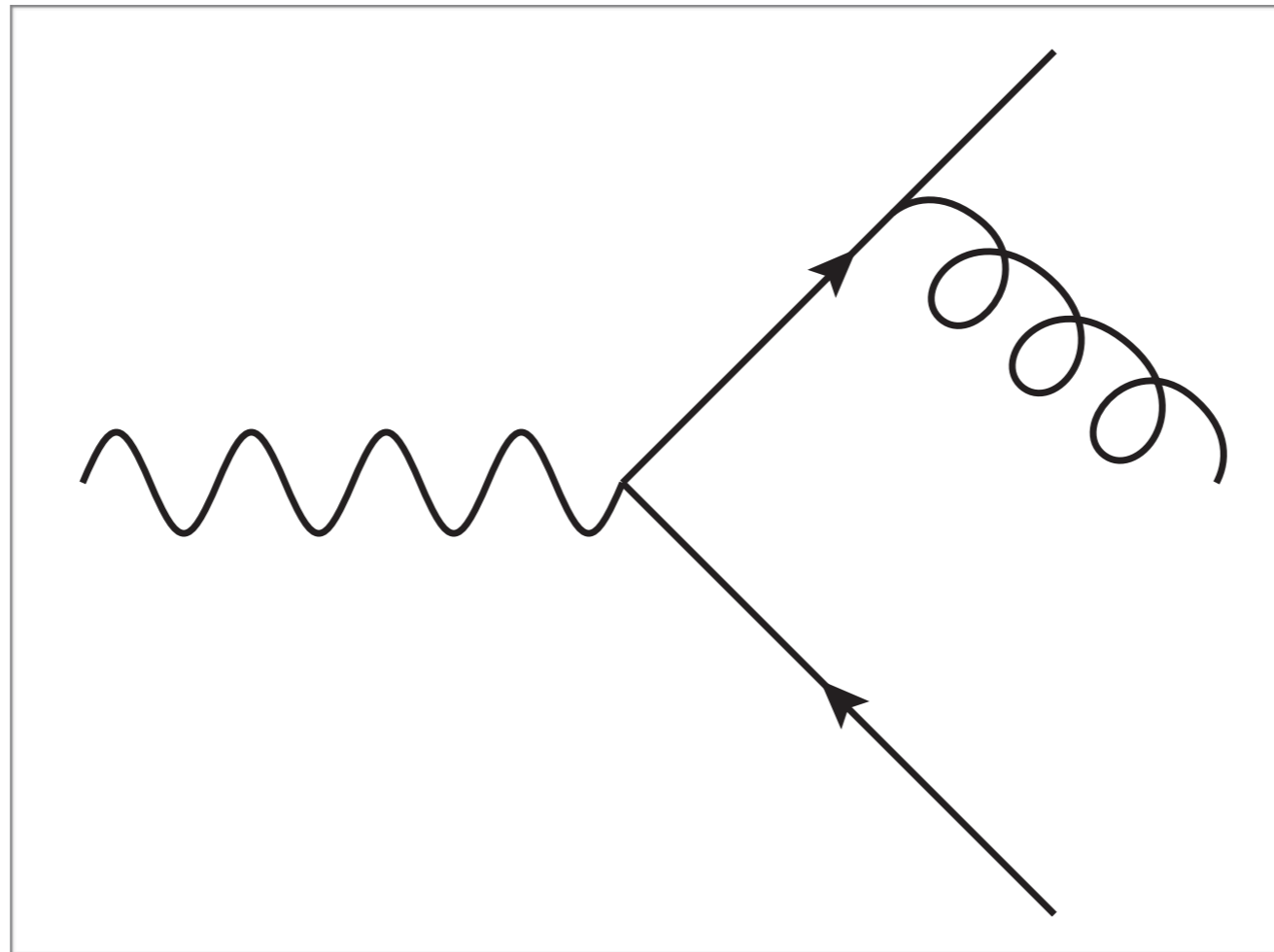
Process	Syntax	Cross section (pb)				
Four vector bosons		LO 13 TeV		NLO 13 TeV		
c.21*	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-W^+W^-$ (4f)	$p p > w+ w- w+ w-$	$5.721 \pm 0.014 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+3.7\% +2.3\%$ $-3.5\% -1.7\%$	$9.959 \pm 0.035 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+7.4\% +1.7\%$ $-6.0\% -1.2\%$
c.22*	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-W^\pm Z$ (4f)	$p p > w+ w- wpm z$	$6.391 \pm 0.076 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+4.4\% +2.4\%$ $-4.1\% -1.8\%$	$1.188 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$+8.4\% +1.7\%$ $-6.8\% -1.2\%$
c.23*	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-W^\pm \gamma$ (4f)	$p p > w+ w- wpm a$	$8.115 \pm 0.064 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+2.5\% +2.2\%$ $-2.5\% -1.5\%$	$1.546 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$+7.9\% +1.5\%$ $-6.3\% -1.1\%$
c.24*	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-ZZ$ (4f)	$p p > w+ w- z z$	$4.320 \pm 0.013 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+4.4\% +2.4\%$ $-4.1\% -1.7\%$	$7.107 \pm 0.020 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+7.0\% +1.8\%$ $-5.7\% -1.3\%$
c.25*	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-Z\gamma$ (4f)	$p p > w+ w- z a$	$8.403 \pm 0.016 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+3.0\% +2.3\%$ $-2.9\% -1.7\%$	$1.483 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$+7.2\% +1.6\%$ $-5.8\% -1.2\%$
c.26*	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-Z\gamma\gamma$ (4f)	$p p > w+ w- z a a$	$5.108 \pm 0.012 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+0.6\% +1.1\%$ $-0.1\% -1.6\%$	$9.381 \pm 0.032 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+6.7\% +1.4\%$ $-5.3\% -1.1\%$
c.27*	$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-ZZZ$ (4f)	$p p > wpm z z z$	$5.362 \pm 0.010 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+5.5\% +1.4\%$ $-4.7\% -1.8\%$	$1.240 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+9.9\% +1.7\%$ $-8.0\% -1.2\%$
c.28*	$pp \rightarrow W^\pm ZZ\gamma$	$p p > wpm z z a$	$1.148 \pm 0.003 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+3.6\% +2.2\%$ $-3.5\% -1.7\%$	$2.945 \pm 0.008 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+10.8\% +1.3\%$ $-8.7\% -1.0\%$
c.29*	$pp \rightarrow W^\pm Z\gamma\gamma$	$p p > wpm z a a$	$1.054 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+1.7\% +2.1\%$ $-1.9\% -1.7\%$	$3.033 \pm 0.010 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+10.6\% +1.1\%$ $-8.6\% -0.8\%$
c.30*	$pp \rightarrow W^\pm \gamma\gamma\gamma$	$p p > wpm a a a$	$3.600 \pm 0.013 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+0.4\% +2.0\%$ $-1.0\% -1.6\%$	$1.246 \pm 0.005 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$+9.8\% +0.9\%$ $-8.1\% -0.8\%$
c.31*	$pp \rightarrow ZZZZ$	$p p > z z z z$	$1.989 \pm 0.002 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+3.8\% +2.2\%$ $-3.6\% -1.7\%$	$2.629 \pm 0.008 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+3.5\% +2.2\%$ $-3.0\% -1.7\%$
c.32*	$pp \rightarrow ZZZ\gamma$	$p p > z z z a$	$3.945 \pm 0.007 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+1.9\% +2.1\%$ $-2.1\% -1.6\%$	$5.224 \pm 0.016 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+3.3\% +2.1\%$ $-2.7\% -1.6\%$
c.33*	$pp \rightarrow ZZ\gamma\gamma$	$p p > z z a a$	$5.513 \pm 0.017 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+0.0\% +2.1\%$ $-0.3\% -1.6\%$	$7.518 \pm 0.032 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+3.4\% +2.0\%$ $-2.6\% -1.5\%$
c.34*	$pp \rightarrow Z\gamma\gamma\gamma$	$p p > z a a a$	$4.790 \pm 0.012 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+2.3\% +2.0\%$ $-3.1\% -1.6\%$	$7.103 \pm 0.026 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+3.4\% +1.6\%$ $-3.2\% -1.5\%$
c.35*	$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$	$p p > a a a a$	$1.594 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+4.7\% +1.9\%$ $-5.7\% -1.7\%$	$3.389 \pm 0.012 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$+7.0\% +1.3\%$ $-6.7\% -1.3\%$

Process	Syntax	Cross section (pb)				
Heavy quarks and jets		LO 13 TeV		NLO 13 TeV		
d.1	$pp \rightarrow jj$	$p p > j j$	$1.162 \pm 0.001 \cdot 10^6$	$+24.9\% +0.8\%$ $-18.8\% -0.9\%$	$1.580 \pm 0.007 \cdot 10^6$	$+8.4\% +0.7\%$ $-9.0\% -0.9\%$
d.2	$pp \rightarrow jjj$	$p p > j j j$	$8.940 \pm 0.021 \cdot 10^4$	$+43.8\% +1.2\%$ $-28.4\% -1.4\%$	$7.791 \pm 0.037 \cdot 10^4$	$+2.1\% +1.1\%$ $-23.2\% -1.3\%$
d.3	$pp \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ (4f)	$p p > b b\sim$	$3.743 \pm 0.004 \cdot 10^3$	$+25.2\% +1.5\%$ $-18.9\% -1.8\%$	$6.438 \pm 0.028 \cdot 10^3$	$+15.9\% +1.5\%$ $-13.3\% -1.7\%$
d.4*	$pp \rightarrow b\bar{b}j$ (4f)	$p p > b b\sim j$	$1.050 \pm 0.002 \cdot 10^3$	$+44.1\% +1.6\%$ $-28.5\% -1.8\%$	$1.327 \pm 0.007 \cdot 10^3$	$+6.8\% +1.5\%$ $-11.6\% -1.8\%$
d.5*	$pp \rightarrow b\bar{b}jj$ (4f)	$p p > b b\sim j j$	$1.852 \pm 0.006 \cdot 10^2$	$+61.8\% +2.1\%$ $-35.6\% -2.4\%$	$2.471 \pm 0.012 \cdot 10^2$	$+8.2\% +2.0\%$ $-16.4\% -2.3\%$
d.6	$pp \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ (4f)	$p p > b b\sim b b\sim$				

# How to compute loops: Summary

- There has been an enormous progress in loop computation techniques in the recent years
- For one-loop computation, we need to find the coefficient which multiply the scalar integrals
- OPP is a powerful method to compute the coefficients numerically. Some cares need to be taken because of dimensional regularisation

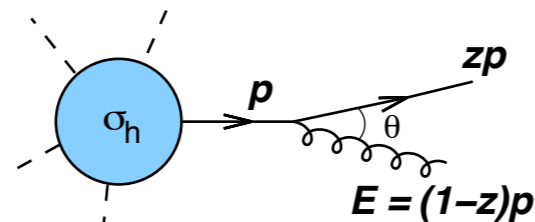
# Infrared divergences





# Branching

- Let us consider the branching of a gluon from a quark

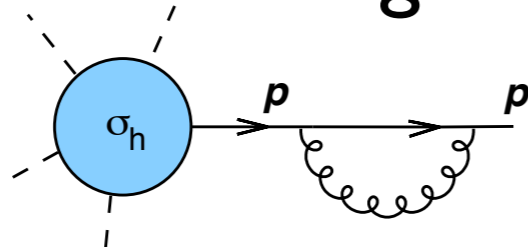


$$\sigma_{h+g} \simeq \sigma_h \frac{\alpha_s C_F}{\pi} \frac{dz}{1-z} \frac{dk_t^2}{k_t^2}$$

Where  $k_t$  is the transverse momentum of the gluon  $k_t = E \sin \theta$ .

It diverges in the soft ( $z \rightarrow 1$ ) and collinear ( $k_t \rightarrow 0$ ) region

- These singularities cancel with the virtual contribution, which comes from the integration of the loop momentum



$$\sigma_{h+V} \simeq -\sigma_h \frac{\alpha_s C_F}{\pi} \frac{dz}{1-z} \frac{dk_t^2}{k_t^2}$$

- The cancelation happens if we cannot distinguish between the case of no branching, and of a soft or collinear branching

# Cancelation of divergences


- The KLN theorem tells us that divergences from the virtual and real emission cancel in the sum if observables are insensitive to soft and collinear branchings (IR-safety)
- When doing an analytic computation in dimensional regularisation, divergences appear as poles in the regularisation parameter  $\varepsilon$
- In the real emissions, poles appear *after* the phase space integration in  $d$  dimension

# Infrared safety

- In order to have meaningful predictions in fixed-order perturbation theory, observables must be IR-safe, *i.e.* not sensitive to the emission of soft or collinear partons.
- In particular, if an observable depends on the momentum  $p_i$ , it must not be sensitive on the branching  $p_i \rightarrow p_j + p_k$ , where either  $p_j$  is soft or  $p_j$  and  $p_k$  are collinear
- For example
  - The number of gluons in an event is not IR-safe
  - The number of jets with  $p_T > p_T^{\min}$  is IR-safe

# Phase space integration

$$\sigma_{NLO} = \int d^4\Phi_n \mathcal{B} + \int d^4\Phi_n \mathcal{V} + \int d^4\Phi_{n+1} \mathcal{R}$$


  
contains  $\int d^d l$

- For complicated processes the integrations have to be done via MonteCarlo techniques, in an integer number of dimensions
- Divergences have to be canceled explicitly
- Slicing/Subtraction methods have been developed to extract divergences from the phase-space integrals

# Example

- Suppose that we can cast the phase space integral in the form

$$\int_0^1 dx f(x) \quad \text{with} \quad f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{x} \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) \text{ a regular function}$$

- We introduce a regulator which renders the integral finite

$$\int_0^1 dx x^\varepsilon f(x) = \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}}$$

- The divergence shows as a pole in  $\varepsilon$ . How can we extract the pole?

# Phase space slicing

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx x^\varepsilon f(x) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}}$$

- We introduce a small parameter  $\delta \ll 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left( \int_0^\delta dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} \right) \\ &\simeq \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left( \int_0^\delta dx \frac{g(0)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} \right) \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta^\varepsilon}{\varepsilon} g(0) + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x} \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon} + \log \delta \right) g(0) + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x} \end{aligned}$$

# Phase space slicing

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx x^\varepsilon f(x) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}}$$

- We introduce a small parameter  $\delta \ll 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left( \int_0^\delta dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} \right) \\ &\simeq \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left( \int_0^\delta dx \frac{g(0)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} \right) \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta^\varepsilon}{\varepsilon} g(0) + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x} \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon} + \log \delta \right) g(0) + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x} \end{aligned}$$

pole in  $\varepsilon$

# Phase space slicing

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx x^\varepsilon f(x) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}}$$

- We introduce a small parameter  $\delta \ll 1$ :

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left( \int_0^\delta dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} \right)$$

$$\simeq \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left( \int_0^\delta dx \frac{g(0)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta^\varepsilon}{\varepsilon} g(0) + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x}$$

$$= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon} + \log \delta \right) g(0) + \int_\delta^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x}$$

pole in  $\varepsilon$

finite integral

(can be computed numerically)



# Subtraction method

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx x^\varepsilon f(x) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}}$$

- Add and subtract  $g(0)/x$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx x^\varepsilon \left( \frac{g(0)}{x} + \frac{g(x)}{x} - \frac{g(0)}{x} \right) \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \left( \frac{g(0)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} + \frac{g(x) - g(0)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} \right) \\ &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} g(0) + \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x) - g(0)}{x} \end{aligned}$$

# Subtraction method

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx x^\varepsilon f(x) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}}$$

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pole in  $\varepsilon$

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$$= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_0^1 dx \left( \frac{g(0)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} + \frac{g(x) - g(0)}{x^{1-\varepsilon}} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \boxed{\frac{1}{\varepsilon} g(0)} + \int_0^1 dx \boxed{\frac{g(x) - g(0)}{x}}$$

pole in  $\varepsilon$

finite integral  
(can be computed numerically)

# Slicing vs Subtraction

- In both cases the pole is extracted and we end up with a finite remainder:

$$g(0) \log \delta + \int_{\delta}^1 dx \frac{g(x)}{x}$$

$$\int_0^1 dx \frac{g(x) - g(0)}{x}$$

- Subtraction acts like a plus distribution
- Slicing works only for small  $\delta$ , and one has to prove the  $\delta$ -independence of cross section and distribution; subtraction is exact
- In both methods there are cancellation between large numbers. If for a given observable  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} O(x) \neq O(0)$  or we choose a too small bin size, instabilities will arise (we cannot ask for an infinite resolution)
- Subtraction is more flexible: good for automation

# NLO with subtraction

$$\sigma_{NLO} = \int d^4\Phi_n \mathcal{B} + \int d^4\Phi_n \mathcal{V} + \int d^4\Phi_{n+1} \mathcal{R}$$

- Including the subtraction terms the expression becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{NLO} = & \int d^4\Phi_n \mathcal{B} \\ & + \int d^4\Phi_n \left( \mathcal{V} + \int d^d\Phi_1 \mathcal{C} \right)_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \\ & + \int d^4\Phi_{n+1} (\mathcal{R} - \mathcal{C}) \end{aligned}$$

- Terms in brackets are finite and can be integrated numerically in  $d=4$  and independently one from another

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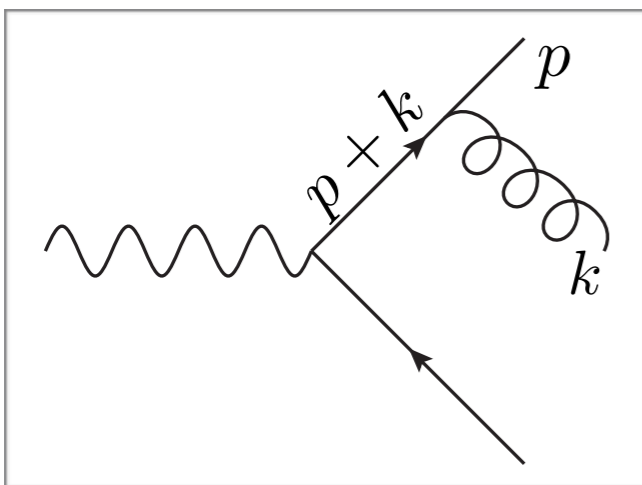
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- Terms in brackets are finite and can be integrated numerically in  $d=4$  and independently one from another

# The subtraction term

- The subtraction term  $C$  should be chosen such that:
  - It exactly matches the singular behaviour of  $R$
  - It can be integrated numerically in a convenient way
  - It can be integrated exactly in  $d$  dimension, leading to the soft and/or collinear poles in the dimensional regulator
  - It is process independent (overall factor times Born)
- QCD comes to help: structure of divergences is universal:



$$(p+k)^2 = 2E_p E_k (1 - \cos \theta_{pk})$$

- **Collinear singularity:**

$$\lim_{p//k} |M_{n+1}|^2 \simeq |M_n|^2 P^{AP}(z)$$

- **Soft singularity:**

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} |M_{n+1}|^2 \simeq \sum_{ij} |M_n^{ij}|^2 \frac{p_i p_j}{p_i k p_j k}$$



# Two subtraction methods

## Dipole subtraction

Catani, Seymour, [hep-ph/9602277](#) & [hep-ph/9605323](#)

- Most used method
- Recoil taken by one parton  
→  $N^3$  scaling
- Method evolves from cancelation of soft divergences
- Proven to work for simple and complicated processes
- Automated in MadDipole, AutoDipole, Sherpa, Helac-NLO, ...

## FKS subtraction

Frixione, Kunszt, Signer, [hep-ph/9512328](#)

- Less known method
- Recoil distributed among all particles  
→  $N^2$  scaling
- Probably (?) more efficient because less subtraction terms are needed
- Method evolves from cancelation of collinear divergences
- Proven to work for simple and complicated processes
- Automated in MadGraph5\_aMC@NLO and in the Powheg box/Powhel

# FKS subtraction #1

## Phase space partition

- Let us consider the real emission

$$d\sigma_R = |M^{n+1}|^2 d\Phi_{n+1}$$

- The matrix element  $|M^{n+1}|^2$  diverges as

$$|M^{n+1}| \sim \frac{1}{\xi_i^2} \frac{1}{1 - y_{ij}}$$

$$\xi_i = E_i \sqrt{\hat{s}}$$

$$y_{ij} = \cos \theta_{ij}$$

- Partition the phase space in order to have at most one soft and one collinear singularity

$$d\sigma_R = \sum_{ij} S_{ij} |M^{n+1}|^2 d\Phi_{n+1} \quad \sum_{ij} S_{ij} = 1$$

$$S_{ij} \rightarrow 1 \text{ if } k_i \cdot k_j \rightarrow 0$$

$$S_{ij} \rightarrow 0 \text{ if } k_{m \neq i} \cdot k_{n \neq j} \rightarrow 0$$

# FKS subtraction #2

## Plus prescriptions

- Use plus prescriptions in  $y_{ij}$  and  $\xi_i$  to subtract the divergences

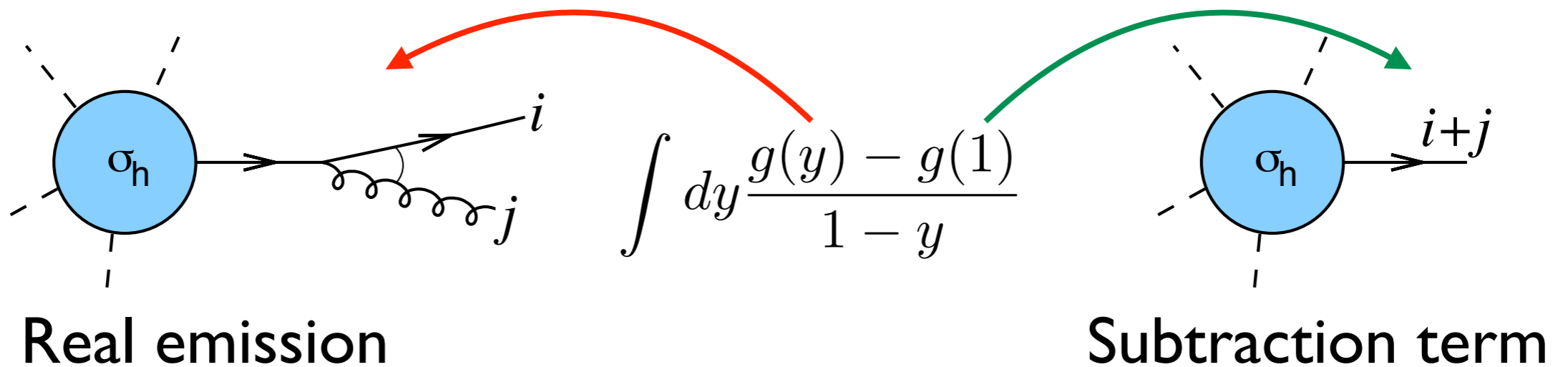
$$d\sigma_{\tilde{R}} = \sum_{ij} \left( \frac{1}{\xi_i} \right)_+ \left( \frac{1}{1-y_{ij}} \right)_+ \xi_i (1-y_{ij}) S_{ij} |M^{n+1}|^2 d\Phi_{n+1}$$

- Plus prescriptions are defined as

$$\int d\xi \left( \frac{1}{\xi} \right)_+ f(\xi) = \int d\xi \frac{f(\xi) - f(0)}{\xi} \quad \int dy \left( \frac{1}{1-y} \right)_+ g(y) = \int dy \frac{g(y) - g(1)}{1-y}$$

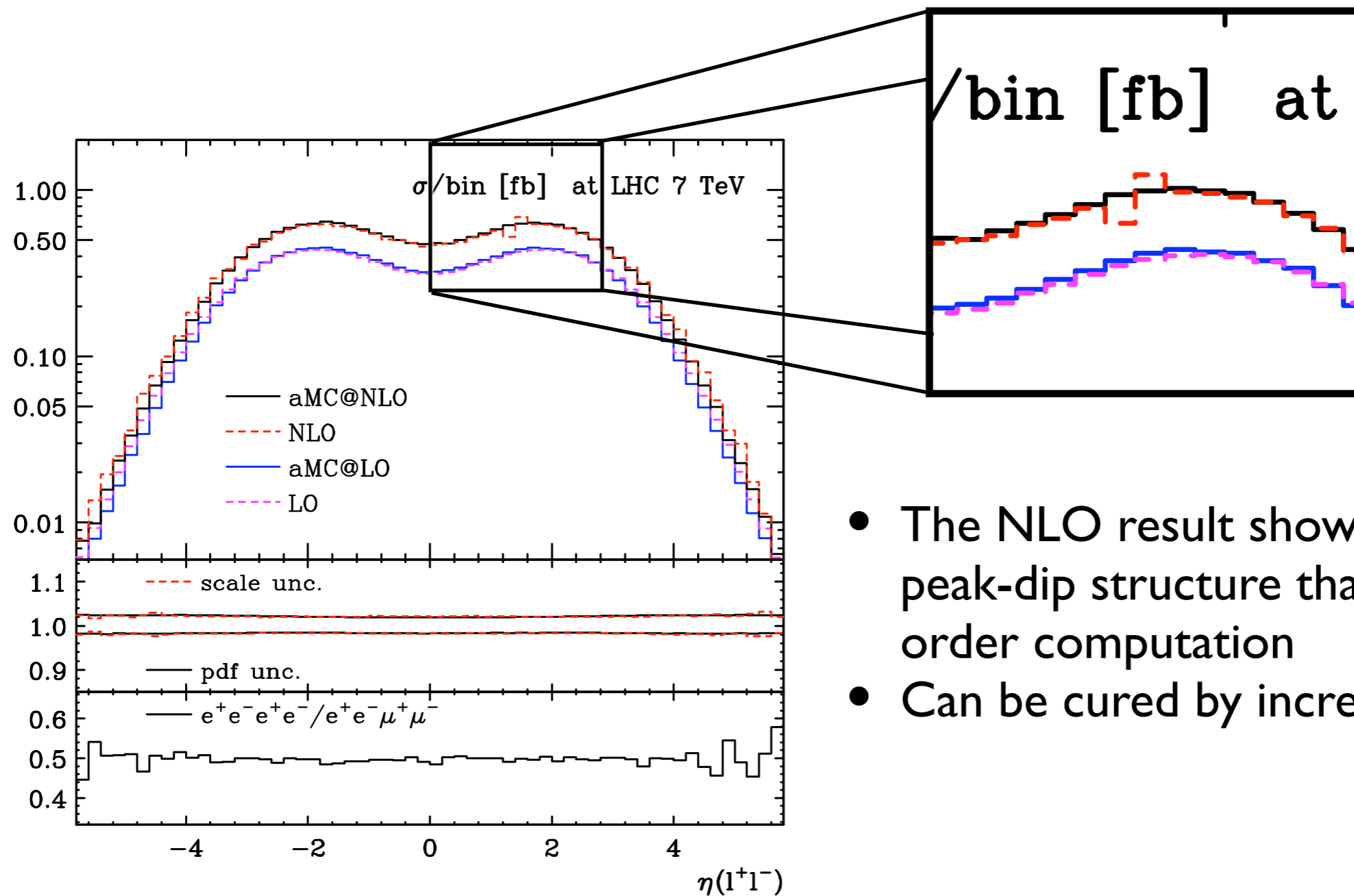
- Maximally three counterevents are needed
  - Soft counterevent ( $\xi_i \rightarrow 0$ )
  - Collinear counterevents ( $y_{ij} \rightarrow 1$ )
  - Soft-collinear counterevents ( $\xi_i \rightarrow 0$  and  $y_{ij} \rightarrow 1$ )

# Kinematics of counterevents



- If  $i$  and  $j$  are on-shell in the event, for the counterevent the combined particle  $i+j$  must be on shell
- $i+j$  can be put on shell only by reshuffling the momenta of the other particles
- It can happen that event and counterevent end up in different histogram bins
  - Use IR-safe observables and don't ask for infinite resolution!
  - Still, these precautions do not eliminate the problem...

# An example in 4-lepton production



- The NLO result shows the typical peak-dip structure that hampers fixed-order computation
- Can be cured by increasing the statistics

# Can we generate unweighted events at NLO?

- Another consequence of the kinematic mismatch is that we cannot generate events at NLO
- $n+1$ -body contribution and  $n$ -body contribution are not bounded from above  $\rightarrow$  unweighting not possible
- Further ambiguity on which kinematics to use for the unweighted events

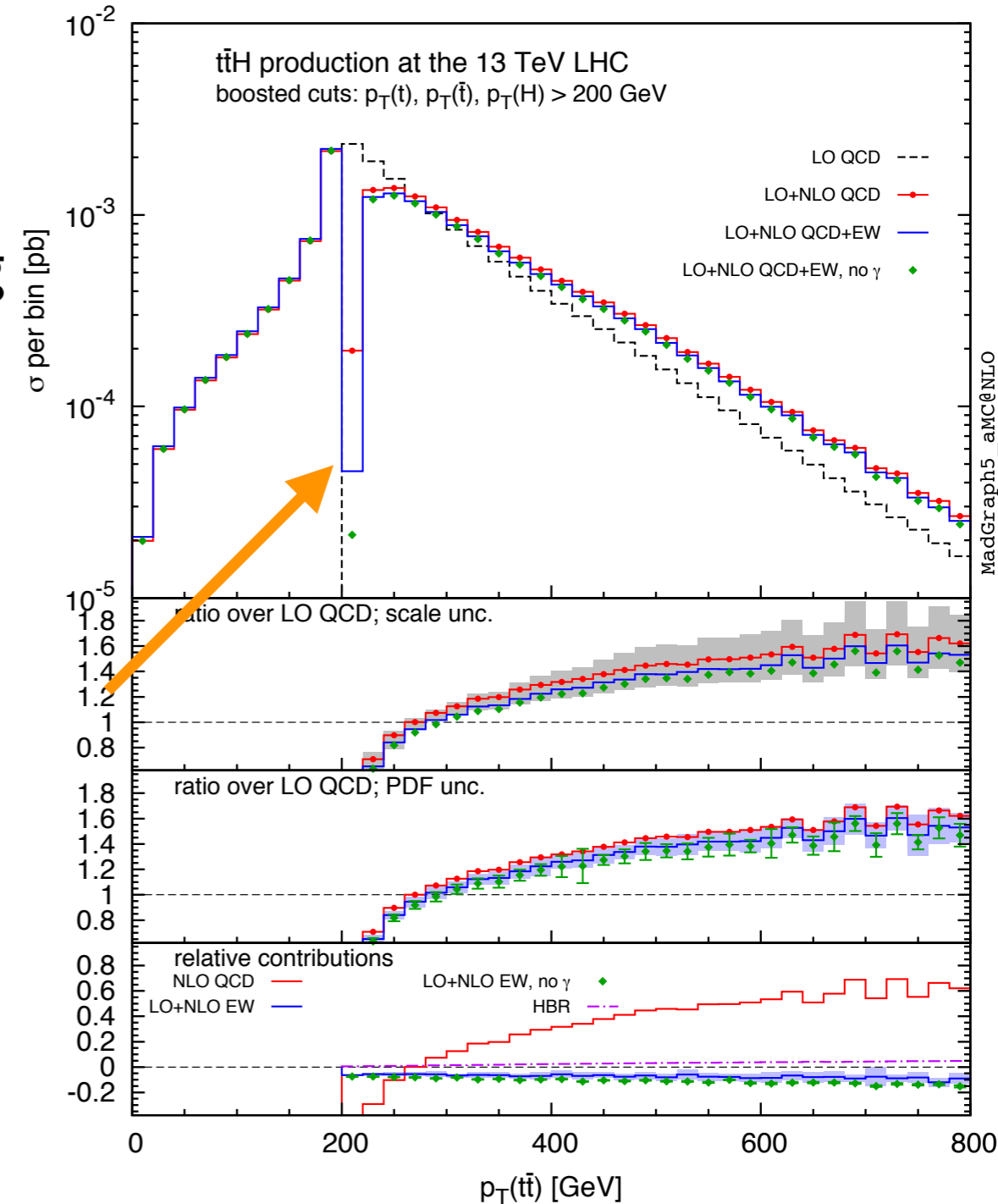
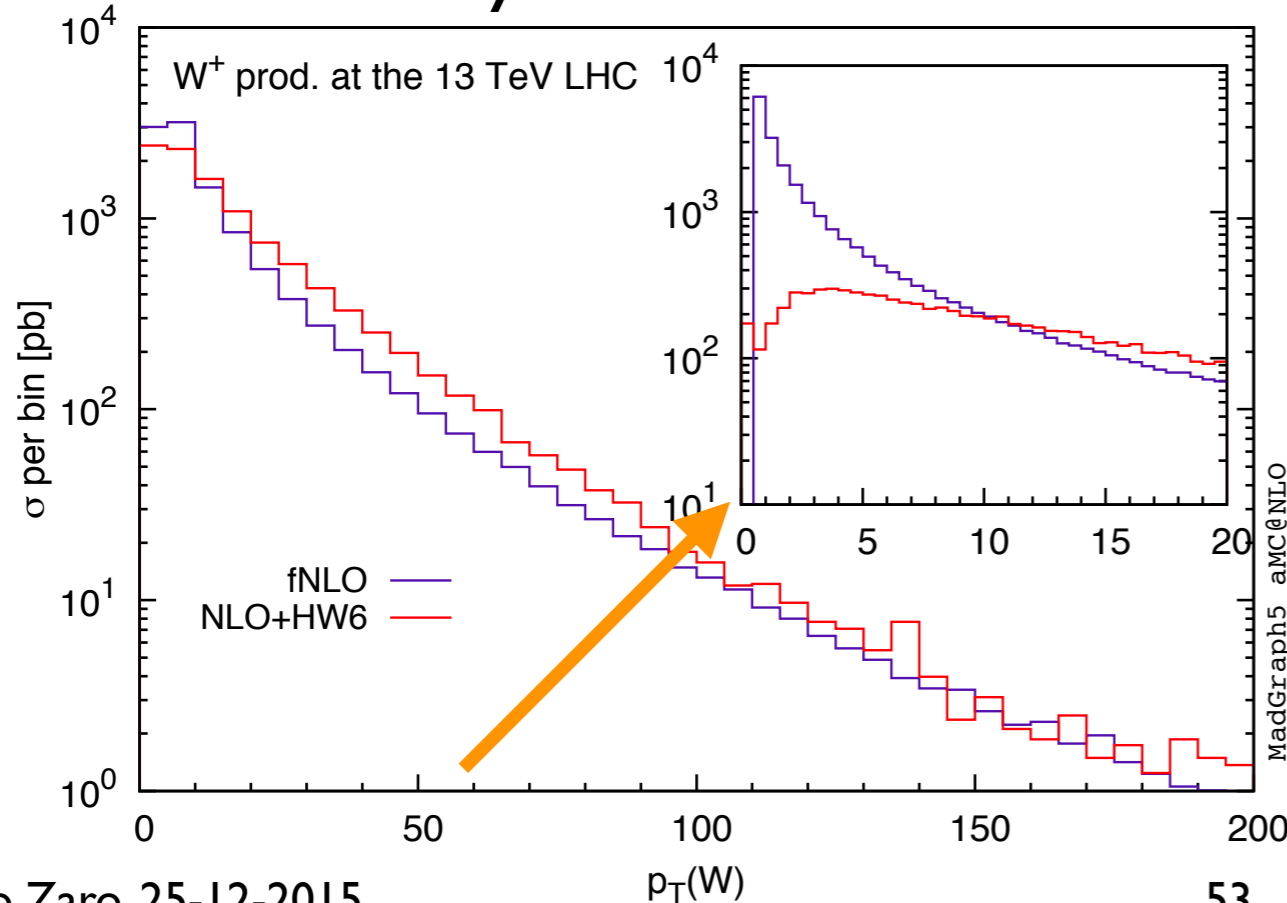
# Filling histograms on-the-fly

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{NLO} = & \int d^4\Phi_n \mathcal{B} \\ & + \int d^4\Phi_n \left( \mathcal{V} + \int d^d\Phi_1 \mathcal{C} \right)_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \\ & + \int d^4\Phi_{n+1} (\mathcal{R} - \mathcal{C}) \end{aligned}$$

- In practice, two set of momenta are generated during the MC integration
  - A  $n$ -body set, for Born, virtuals and counterterms
  - A  $n+1$ -body set, for the real emission
- The various terms are computed. Cuts are applied on the corresponding momenta and histograms are filled with the weight and kinematics of each term

# Instabilities at fixed order

- Besides the mis-binning problem, the kinematics mismatch can lead to odd behaviours of certain observables, in particular when some constraint coming from the  $n$ -body kinematics is relaxed in the  $n+1$ -body one





# Subtracting IR divergences: Summary

- Virtual and real matrix element are not finite, but their sum is. Subtraction methods can be used to extract divergences for real-emission matrix elements and cancel explicitly the poles from the virtuals
- Event and counterevents have different kinematics. Unweighting is not possible, we need to fill plots on-the-fly with weighted events
- For plots, only IR-safe observable with finite resolution must be used!

# Intermezzo:

## Is it all at NLO?

- Suppose we have a code for  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  @NLO. Are all the following (IR-safe) variables described at NLO?
  - top  $p_T$
  - $t\bar{t}$  pair  $p_T$
  - $t\bar{t}$  pair invariant mass
  - jet  $p_T$
  - $t\bar{t}$  azimuthal distance

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YES

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YES  
NO

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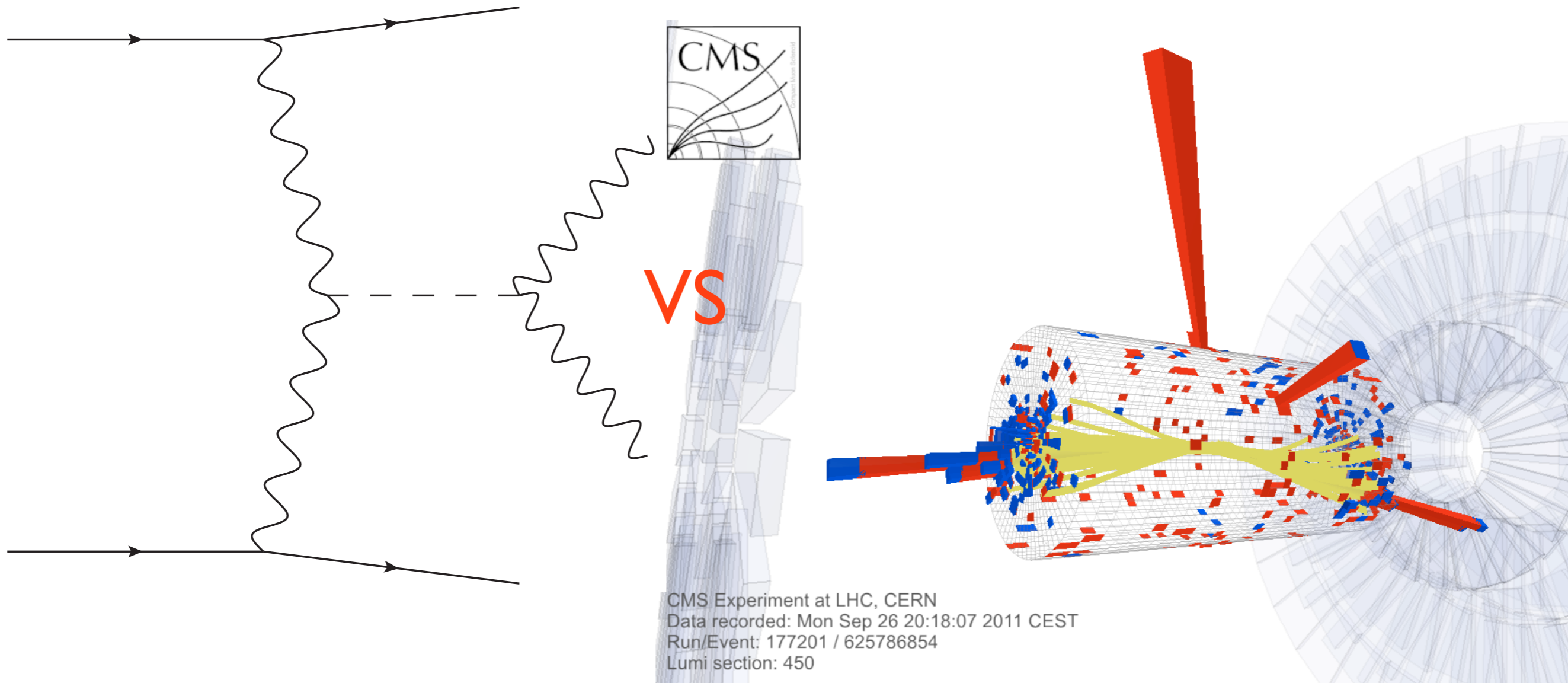
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# Matching NLO predictions and parton showers



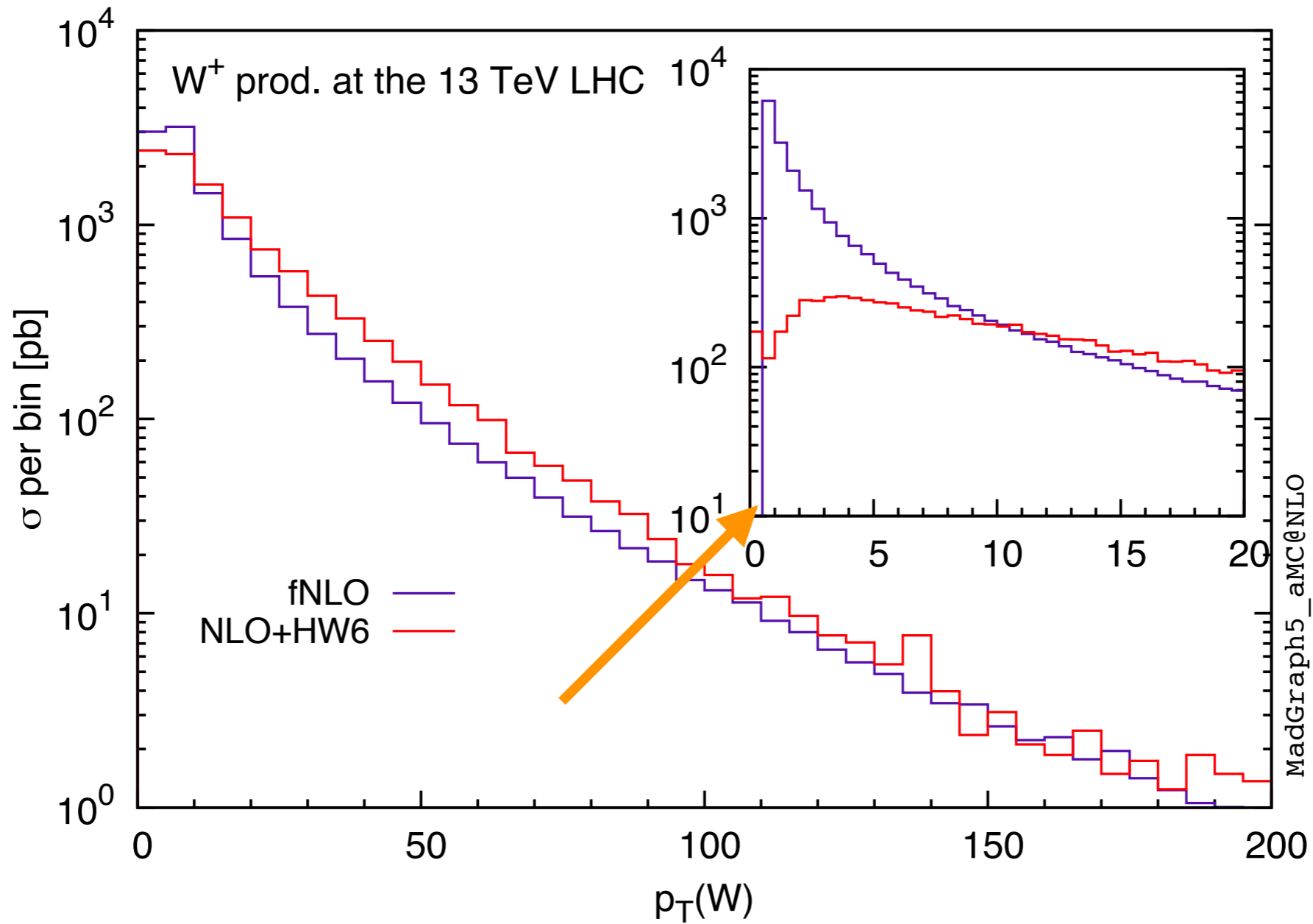


# Matching NLO predictions and parton showers

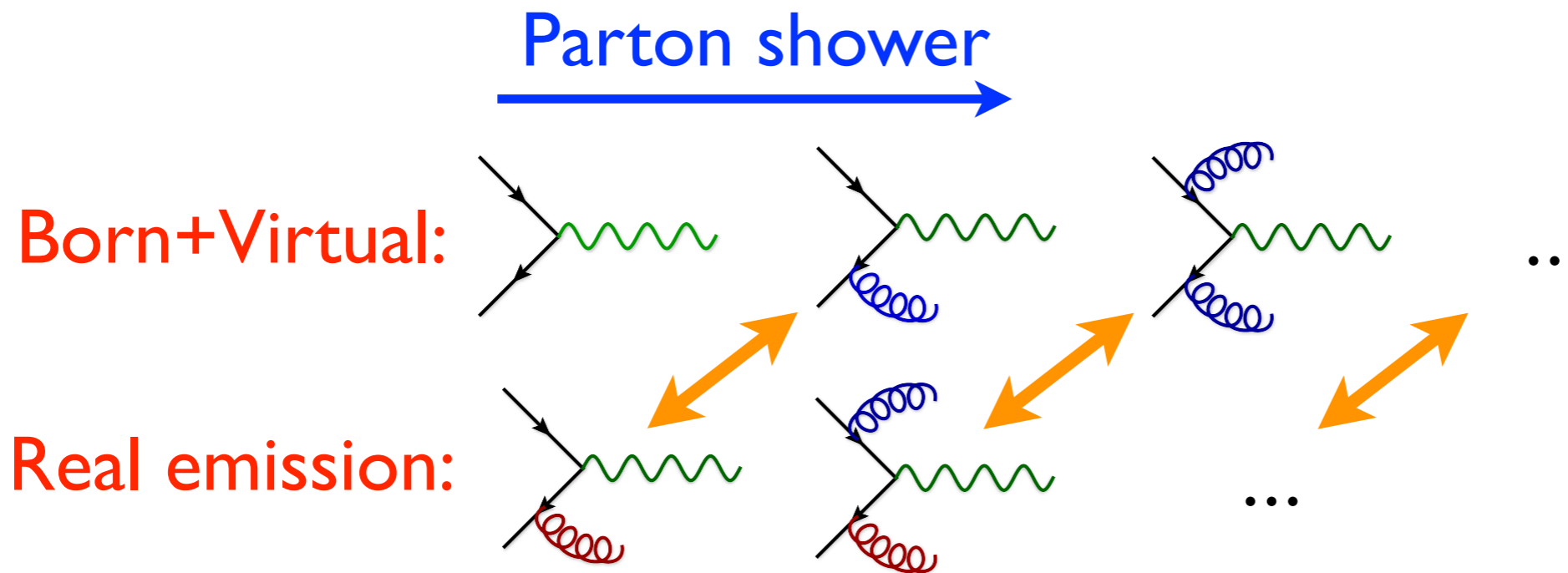
- Parton showers evolve hard partons by emitting extra QCD radiation down to a more realistic final state made of hadrons
- This resums the effect of soft gluon radiations, and cures fixed-order instabilities
- After the parton shower, a fully exclusive description of the event is available
- NLO corrections are inclusive by definition, but they provide the first reliable estimate of rates and uncertainties

**Can we attach a parton shower to NLO simulations?**

# Fixed order instabilities, again



# Warning: double counting!



- There is a double counting between real emission and the parton shower
- There is also double counting between the virtuals and the non-emission probability from the Sudakov factor

# Double counting the virtuals

- The Sudakov factor  $\Delta$ , which is responsible for the resummation performed by the shower, is the no-emission probability ( $1-P$ ,  $P$  being the emission probability)
- $\Delta$  therefore contains implicitly contributions from the virtual corrections
- We should therefore avoid to double counting the contribution from the virtuals in the matrix element and in the Sudakov
- Because of unitarity, what is double counted in the virtuals is exactly opposite to what is double counted by the reals

# How to avoid double counting at NLO?

- Two methods exist:
  - MC@NLO [Frixione, Webber hep-ph/0204244](#)
  - Powheg [Nason, hep-ph/0409146](#)

# Naive (wrong) matching

- Let us *assume* we can generate events separately for Born, virtuals and real emissions, and that we pass them to a parton shower

$$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{"NLO+PS"}}}{dO} = [\mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V}] d\Phi_n I_{MC}^n(O) + d\Phi_{n+1} \mathcal{R} I_{MC}^{n+1}(O)$$

- Do we get the NLO cross section?

- Let us expand the shower operator at order  $\alpha_s$  (0 or 1 emission)

$$I_{MC} = \Delta_a(Q, Q_0) + \Delta_a(Q, Q_0) d\Phi_1 \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}$$

$$\Delta_a(Q, Q_0) = \exp \left[ - \int d\Phi_1 \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc} \right] \simeq 1 - \int d\Phi_1 \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}$$

$$I_{MC} \simeq 1 - \int d\Phi_1 \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc} + d\Phi_1 \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}$$

# Naive (wrong) matching

- At order  $\alpha_s$  we get

$$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{“NLO+PS”}}}{dO} = [\mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V}] d\Phi_n + d\Phi_{n+1} \mathcal{R}$$

$$- \mathcal{B} d\Phi_n \int d\Phi_1 \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc} + \mathcal{B} d\Phi_n d\Phi_1 \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}$$

- Which is **not** the NLO

# MC@NLO matching

- In the MC@NLO formalism, double counting can be cured by the so-called Monte Carlo counterterms, defined as

$$\Delta(Q^2, Q_0) = \exp \left( \int d\Phi_1 \frac{MC}{\mathcal{B}} \right) \quad MC = \left| \frac{\partial \Phi_1^{MC}}{\partial \Phi_1} \right| \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}$$

- The MC@NLO cross section is defined as

$$\frac{d\sigma_{MC@NLO}}{dO} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 MC \right) d\Phi_n I_{MC}^n(O) + (\mathcal{R} - MC) d\Phi_{n+1} I_{MC}^{n+1}(O)$$

- Again, if we expand up to  $\alpha_s$  we recover the NLO

$$I_{MC} = 1 - \int d\Phi_1 MC + d\Phi_1 MC$$

$$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{“MC@NLO”}}}{dO} = \left[ \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 MC \right] d\Phi_n + d\Phi_{n+1} [\mathcal{R} - MC]$$

$$+ \mathcal{B} \left[ - \int d\Phi_1 MC + d\Phi_1 MC \right] d\Phi_n$$



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$$+ \mathcal{B} \left[ - \int d\Phi_1 MC + \int d\Phi_1 MC \right] d\Phi_n$$

# The *MC* counterterm

- *MC* has some remarkable properties:
  - It avoids double counting when matching to PS ← Just shown
  - It matches the singular behaviour of the real-emission ME, making it possible to unweight events (some special cares are needed for the soft region)
  - It ensures a smooth matching: NLO+PS has the same shape of the shower in the soft/collinear region; in the hard region, it approaches the NLO
  - It is PS dependent, as it depends on the PS details. For each PS, we need its own *MC* counterterms

# Unweighting

$$\frac{d\sigma_{MC@NLO}}{dO} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 MC \right) d\Phi_n I_{MC}^n(O) + (\mathcal{R} - MC) d\Phi_{n+1} I_{MC}^{n+1}(O)$$

- $MC$  is by construction what the shower does to go from  $n$  to  $n+1$ . It matches exactly  $R$  in the soft-collinear region. Furthermore, it has the same kinematics as  $R$ , therefore there is no reshuffling needed. The  $n$  and  $n+1$  body contributions are separately finite and bounded. Unweighted events can be generated!
  - **S-events**, with  $n$ -body kinematics
  - **H-events**, with  $n+1$ -body kinematics

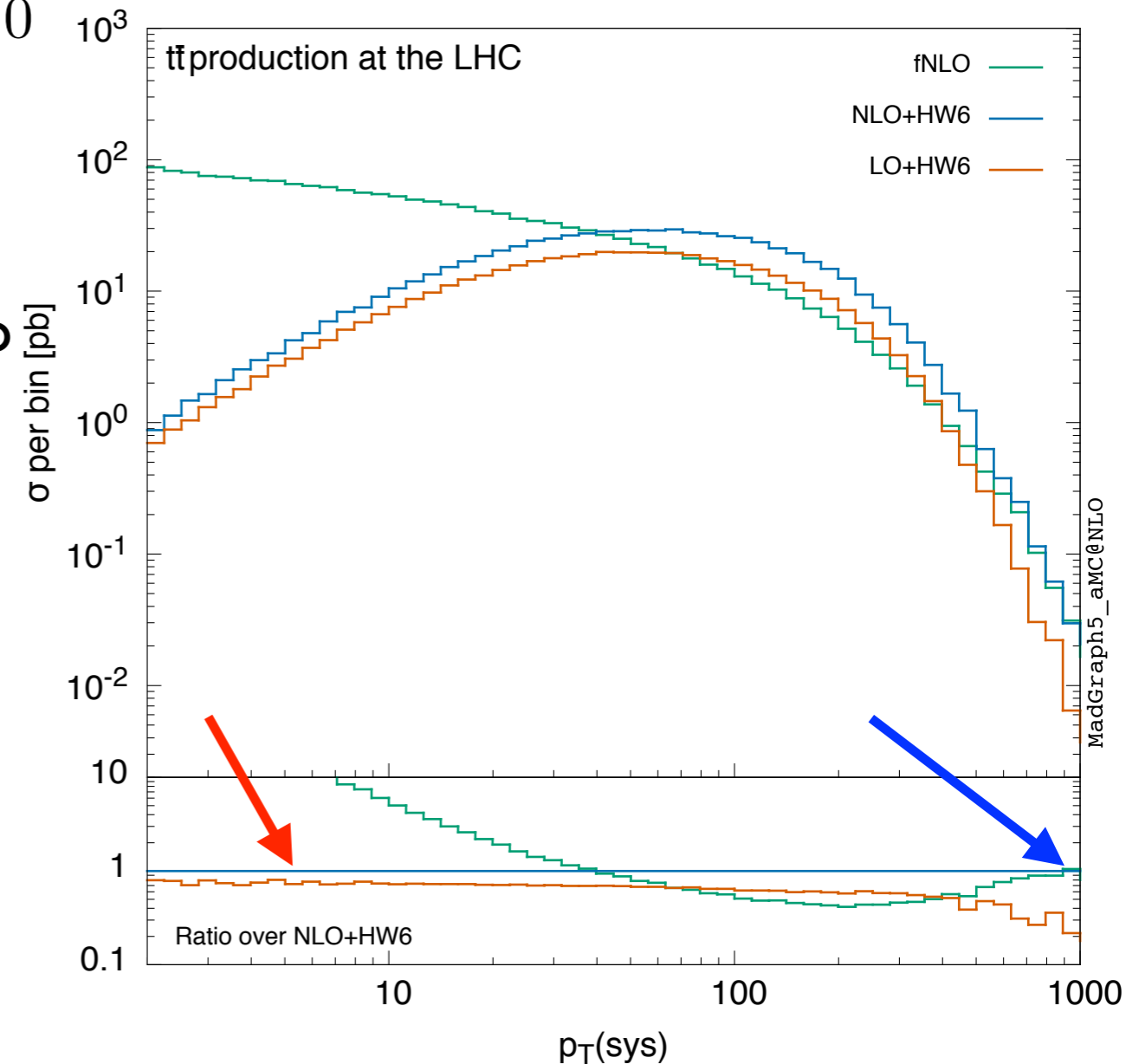
# Smooth matching

$$\frac{d\sigma_{MC@NLO}}{dO} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 MC \right) d\Phi_n I_{MC}^n(O) + (\mathcal{R} - MC) d\Phi_{n+1} I_{MC}^{n+1}(O)$$

- In the **soft/collinear region**,  $\mathcal{R} - MC \sim 0$  so that

$$\frac{d\sigma_{MC@NLO}}{dO} \simeq I_{MC}^n(O)$$

- In the **hard region**,  $MC=0$  (it is bound to be zero far from singular regions). The only contribution comes from the real-emission ME



# The $MC$ counterterms and the FKS subtraction

$$\frac{d\sigma_{MC@NLO}}{dO} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 MC \right) d\Phi_n I_{MC}^n(O) + (\mathcal{R} - MC) d\Phi_{n+1} I_{MC}^{n+1}(O)$$

- The  $MC$  counterterms already make the cross-section finite. Are the local counterterms still needed?
- **Yes**, because we cannot integrate  $MC$  analytically to extract the poles
- In practice, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma_{MC@NLO}}{dO} = & \left[ \mathcal{B} + \left( \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 \mathcal{C} \right) + \int d\Phi_1 (MC - \mathcal{C}) \right] d\Phi_n I_{MC}^n(O) \\ & + (\mathcal{R} - MC) d\Phi_{n+1} I_{MC}^{n+1}(O) \end{aligned}$$

# Negative weights

$$\frac{d\sigma_{MC@NLO}}{dO} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 MC \right) d\Phi_n I_{MC}^n(O) + (\mathcal{R} - MC) d\Phi_{n+1} I_{MC}^{n+1}(O)$$

- Events are generated for  $n$ - and  $n+1$ -body kinematics separately
- Nothing guarantees that the two contributions are separately positive
- The unweighting has to be done up to a sign, and the sign should be taken into account when filling plots
- **Remember: results are physical only after having showered the events!**

# Powheg

- Let us consider the LO+PS cross-section expanded up to the first emission:

$$d\sigma_{LO+PS} = \mathcal{B} d\Phi_n \left[ \Delta(Q, Q_0) + \Delta(Q, Q_0) d\Phi_1 \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} P \right]$$

- We could think of going NLO by replacing the Born with the NLO cross section

$$d\sigma_{\text{“}NLO+PS\text{”}} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 \mathcal{R} \right) d\Phi_n \left[ \Delta(Q, Q_0) + \Delta(Q, Q_0) d\Phi_1 \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} P \right]$$

- Of course, there is double counting. This is in particular due by the fact that the integral in the Sudakov does not contain  $R$



# A modified Sudakov

- In order to avoid double counting one could use a modified Sudakov

$$\tilde{\Delta}(Q, Q_0) = \exp \left( - \int_{Q_0^2}^{Q^2} d\Phi_1 \frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{B}} \right)$$

- Such that

$$d\sigma_{\text{“NLO+PS”}} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 \mathcal{R} \right) d\Phi_n \left[ \tilde{\Delta}(Q, Q_0) + \tilde{\Delta}(Q, Q_0) d\Phi_1 \frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{B}} \right]$$

- But the total rate is not the NLO! The **second parentheses** does not integrate to 1. It has to be modified to

$$d\sigma_{\text{“NLO+PS”}} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 \mathcal{R} \right) d\Phi_n \left[ \tilde{\Delta}(Q, Q_0) + \tilde{\Delta}(Q, t) d\Phi_1 \frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{B}} \right]$$

- Where  $t$  is the scale at which  $R/B$  is evaluated

# Properties

$$d\sigma_{Powheg} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 \mathcal{R} \right) d\Phi_n \left[ \tilde{\Delta}(Q, Q_0) + \tilde{\Delta}(Q, t) d\Phi_1 \frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{B}} \right]$$

- Note that

$$\tilde{\Delta}(Q, t) \frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{B}} = \frac{d\tilde{\Delta}(Q, t)}{dt}$$

- Therefore

$$\int_{Q_0}^Q dt \tilde{\Delta}(Q, t) \frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{B}} = \tilde{\Delta}(Q, Q) - \tilde{\Delta}(Q, Q_0) = 1 - \tilde{\Delta}(Q, Q_0)$$

- So the  $\square$  integrates to 1. The NLO normalisation is kept

- If one expands at order  $\alpha_S$ :

$$d\sigma_{Powheg} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 \mathcal{R} \right) d\Phi_n \left[ 1 - \int d\Phi_1 \frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{B}} + d\Phi_1 \frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{B}} \right] = d\sigma_{NLO}$$

- Double counting is avoided

# Comments

$$d\sigma_{Powheg} = \left( \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 \mathcal{R} \right) d\Phi_n \left[ \tilde{\Delta}(Q, Q_0) + \tilde{\Delta}(Q, t) d\Phi_1 \frac{\mathcal{R}}{\mathcal{B}} \right]$$

- The Powheg cross section has the same structure as an ordinary shower, with a **global K-factor** correction and a **different Sudakov** for the first emission
- Note that when matching to PS one has to veto emissions harder than  $t$  (in the Powheg formalism, it has to be interpreted as transverse momentum), even for showers with a different ordering variable
  - Formula to be modified for angular-ordered PS in order to keep color coherence
- MC@NLO and Powheg are formally equivalent at NLO level. In practice, there are many differences between the two

# MC@NLO vs Powheg

- The two matching procedure can be cast in a single formula

$$d\sigma_{NLO+PS} = d\Phi_n \bar{\mathcal{B}}^s \left[ \Delta^s(Q, Q^0) + d\Phi_1 \frac{\mathcal{R}^s}{\mathcal{B}} \Delta^s(Q, t) \right] + d\Phi_{n+1} \mathcal{R}^f$$

- With

$$\bar{\mathcal{B}}^s = \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi_1 \mathcal{R}^s$$

- And the real-emission ME has been split in a singular and non-singular (finite) part

$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}^s + \mathcal{R}^f$$

- The difference between the two methods is in  $\mathcal{R}^s$ :

**MC@NLO**  $\mathcal{R}^s = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P\mathcal{B} = MC$

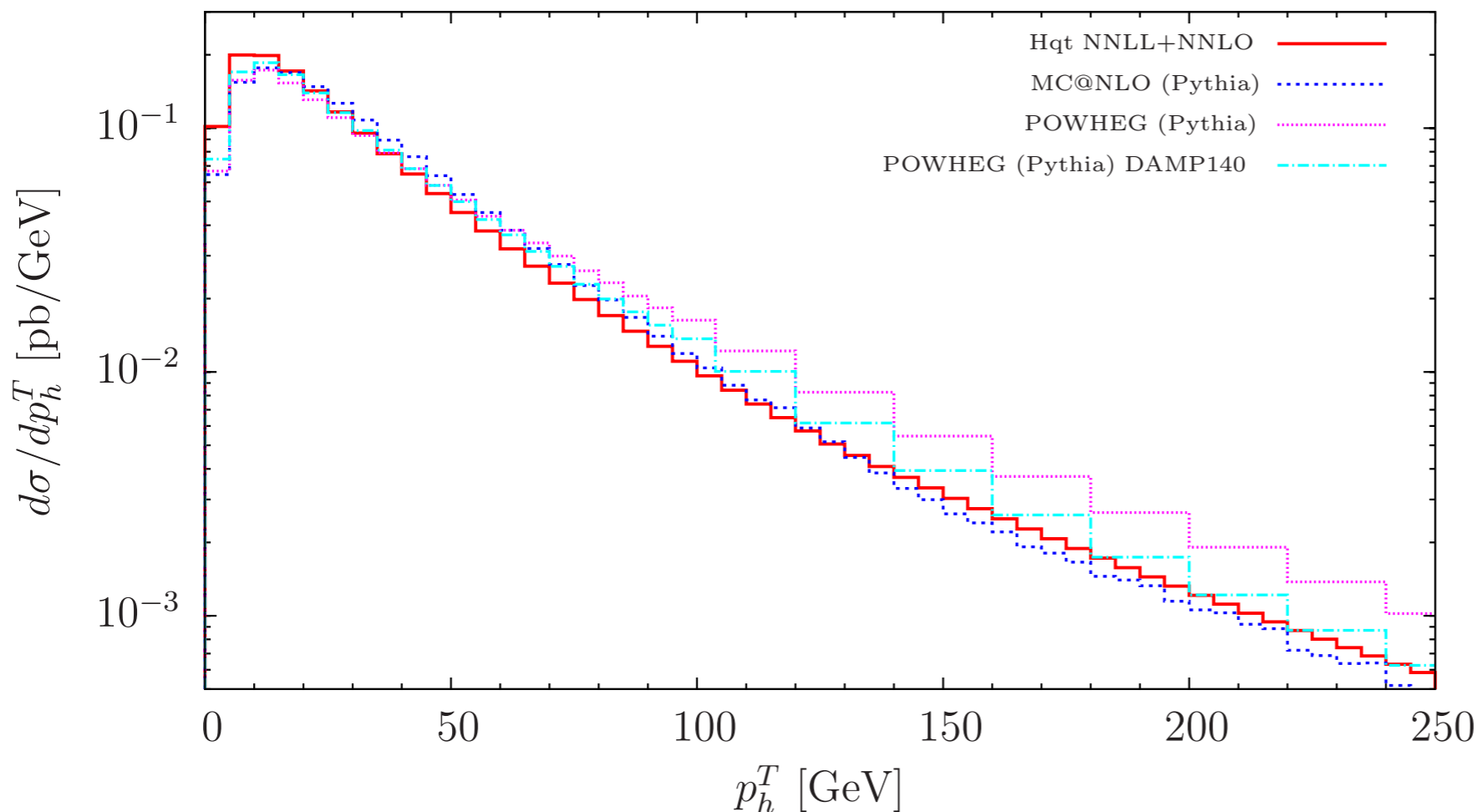
**Powheg**  $\mathcal{R}^s = F\mathcal{R} \quad \mathcal{R}^f = (1 - F)\mathcal{R}$

default  $F=1$ ,  
but can be tuned in order to  
suppress non-singular part of  $\mathcal{R}$

# Effect of $F$











$$F = \frac{h^2}{h^2 + p_T^2} \quad p_T \gg h \text{ are suppressed}$$

$m_h = 140 \text{ GeV} - \text{LHC@7TeV}$



MC@NLO naturally matches **analytic resummation+FO curve** at large  $p_T$   
 Powheg (without damping) overshoots the FO  
 Damping recovers matching at large  $p_T$

# Comparison and summary

	MC@NLO	POWHEG
Parton showers are (usually) not exact in the soft limit: MC@NLO needs an artificial smoothing		
MC@NLO does not exponentiate the non-singular part of the real emission amplitudes		
MC@NLO does not require any tricks for treating Born zeros		
POWHEG is independent from the parton shower (although, in general the shower should be a truncated vetoed)		
POWHEG has (almost) no negatively weighted events		
Automation of the methods: <a href="http://amcatnlo.cern.ch">http://amcatnlo.cern.ch</a> , <a href="http://powhegbox.mib.infn.it">http://powhegbox.mib.infn.it</a> , <a href="http://www.sherpa-mc.de">http://www.sherpa-mc.de</a>	