

Precision calculations in QCD

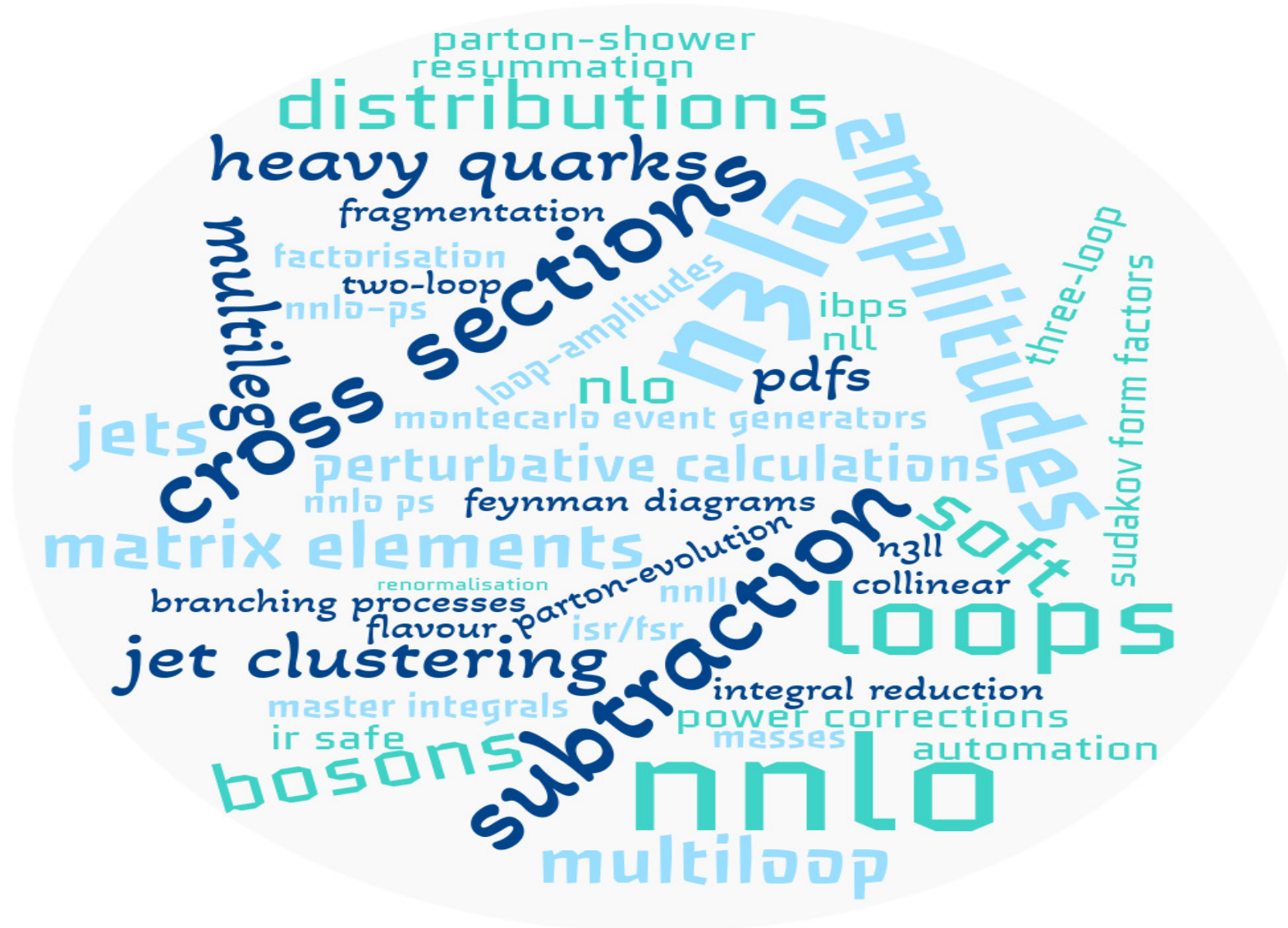
Federico Buccioni

Physik-Department
Technische Universität München

Large Hadron Collider Physics Conference
22nd May 2023



Precision QCD



Purpose and intention of this talk

Current and future vast LHC precision phenomenology program:

Main **challenges** to and
requirements from
precise theory predictions



- diverse signatures (jets, heavy-quarks, vector bosons, associated productions...)
- larger multiplicities
- higher-order perturbative calculations

How do we go about it and **how to improve**? **Where do we stand** and what can we **expect next**?

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Main focus of this talk: **fixed-order predictions in QCD**

- **methods** and frameworks (status and progress)
- (some) pheno **results** at the current frontier

fixed-order does not give you events but:

- Theoretically well defined framework, improvable (parametrically)
- ingredients for resummation/matching
- analysis of main higher-order effects

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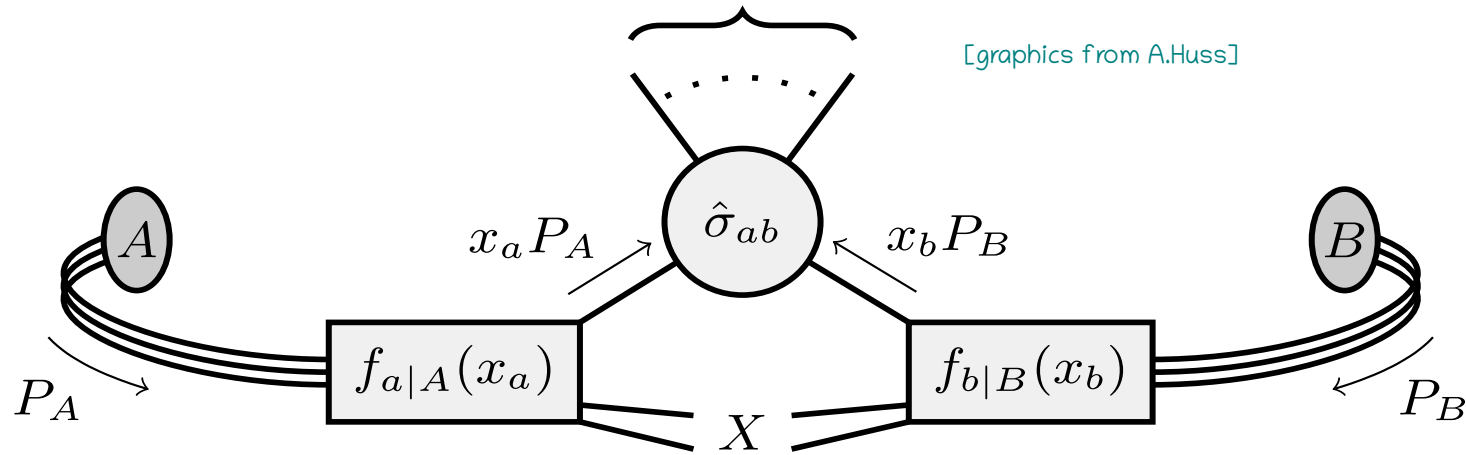
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Beyond fixed order QCD and complementary to this talk:

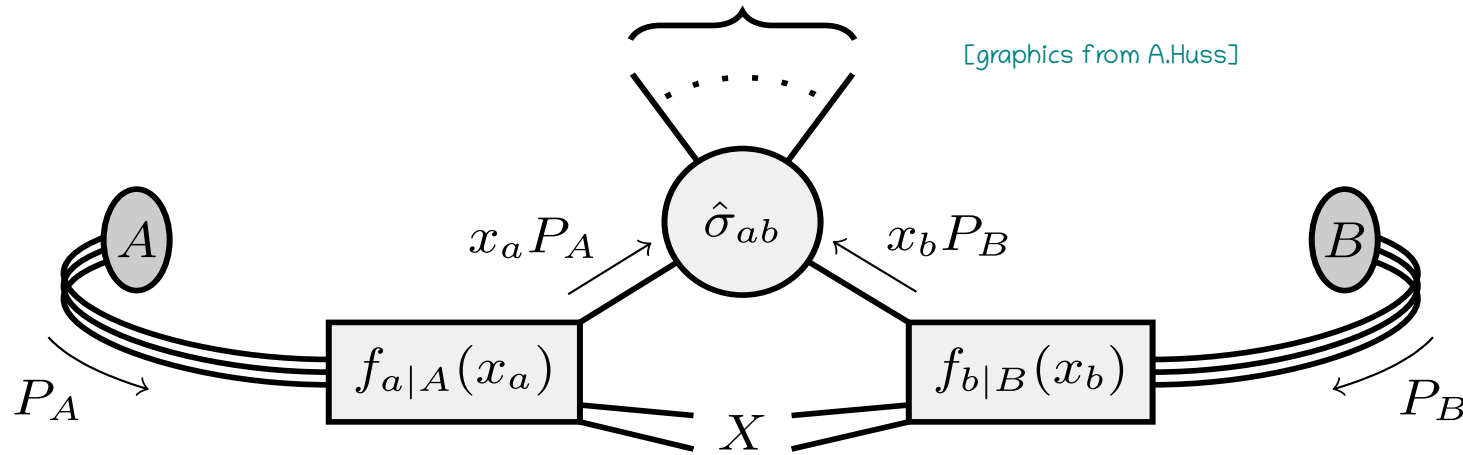
- Broader discussion on current status of pheno studies and events generation: **Zanderighi** (Tue)
- Jets substructure + flavour: **Stagnitto** (after this talk)
- Improvements on showers: **Herren** (Thu)
- generators: Diboson **Zanoli**, polarised V **Pelliccioli** (Thu)
- PDFs: **Cruz-Martinez** (Thu)
- Precise predictions for heavy-quarks: **Grazzini** (Thu)
- EW + QCDxEW: **Lindert** (Fri)

Higher-order QCD predictions



$$\frac{d\sigma_{AB}}{dO} = \sum_{ab} \int_0^1 dx_1 dx_2 f_{a/A}(x_1) f_{b/B}(x_2) \frac{d\hat{\sigma}_{ab}(x_1, x_2)}{dO} \times \left(1 + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^p}{Q^p} \right) \right)$$

Higher-order QCD predictions

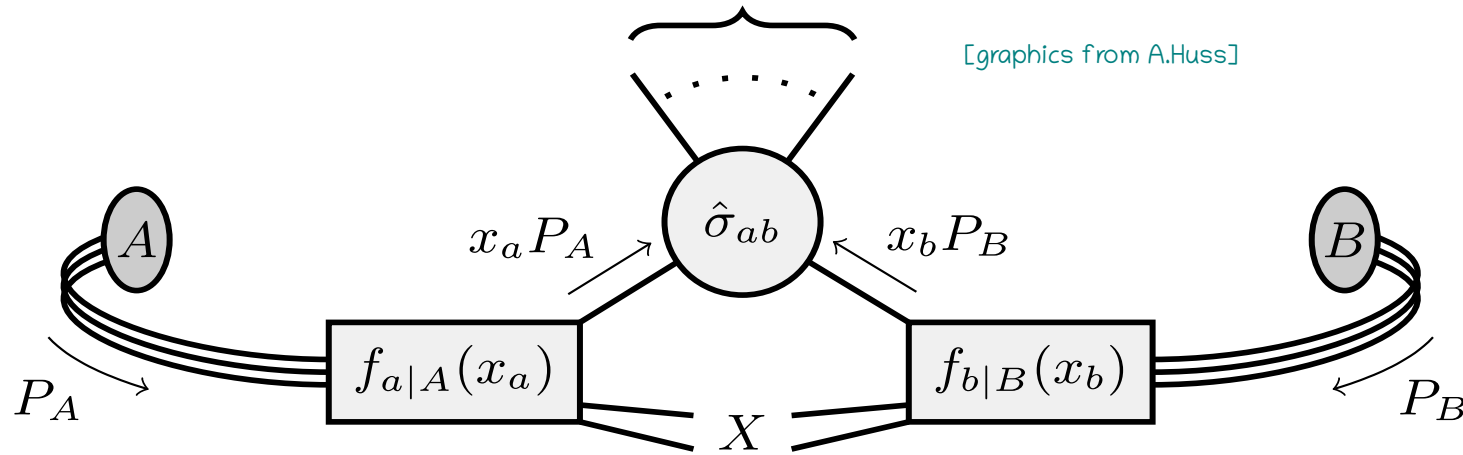


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PDFs: non-perturbative

evolution through DGLAP
4-loop splitting functions
for N³LO evolution

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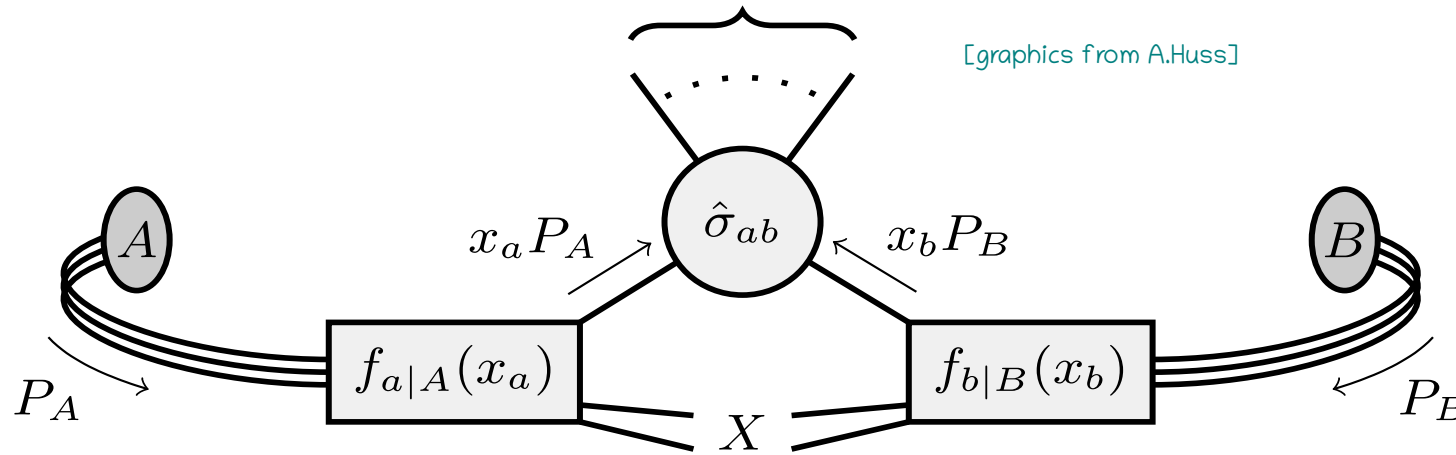
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Fully-differential partonic cross-section

Improved parametrically in perturbation theory
Main ingredients to push pert. predictions:
Amplitudes + Subtraction of IR singularities

Higher-order QCD predictions



Non-perturbative power corrections

Interesting recent progress on pow. corrections for collider observables

see G. Zanderighi (Tue)

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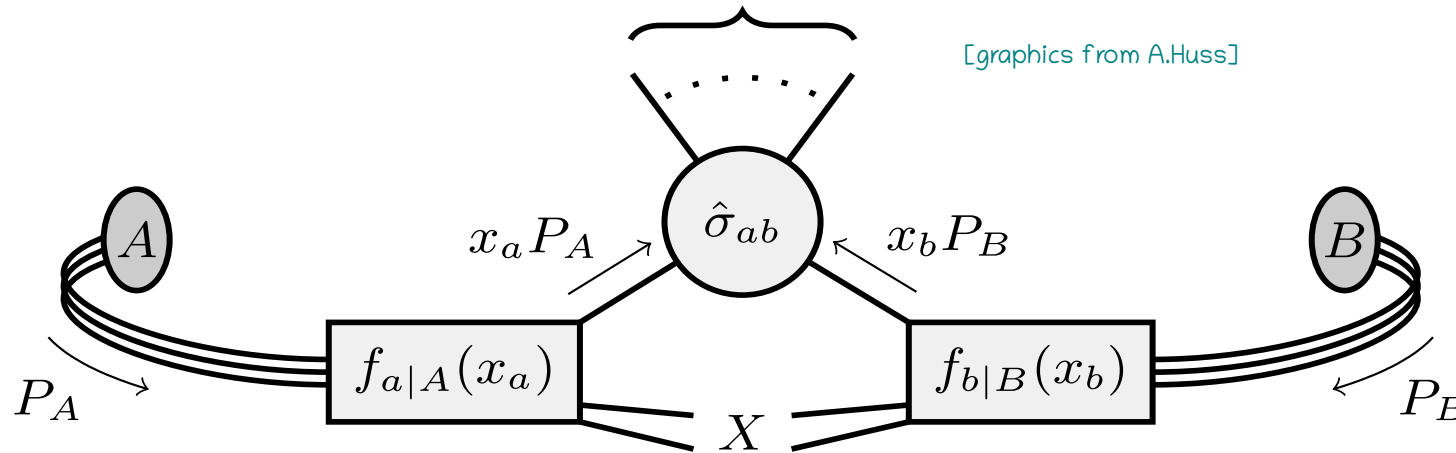
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Focus of this talk

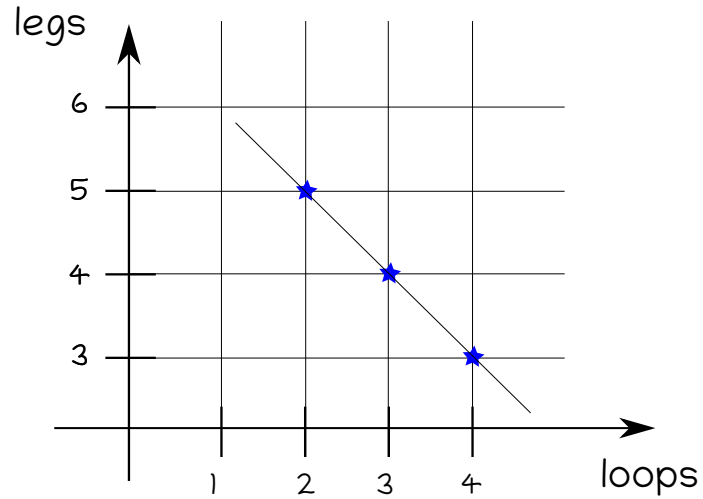
Scattering Amplitudes

Status of multiloop scattering amplitudes

Complexity increases fast with loops and scales:

availability of multiscale-multiloop amplitudes are now arguably the bottleneck of NNLO predictions

Current frontier (loops > 1): loops + legs = 7

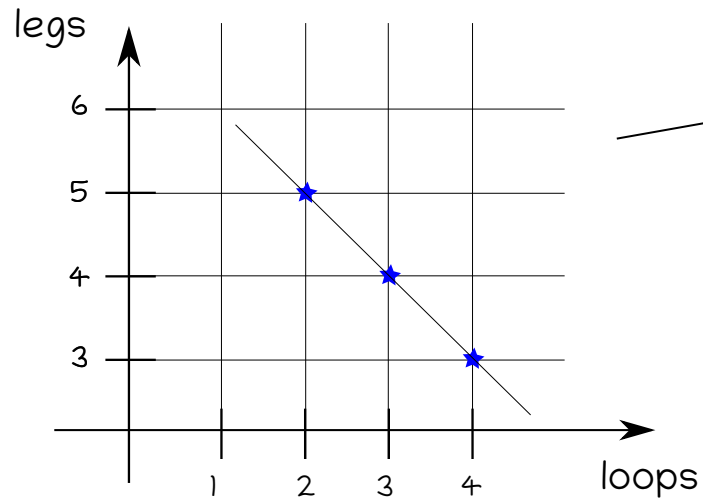


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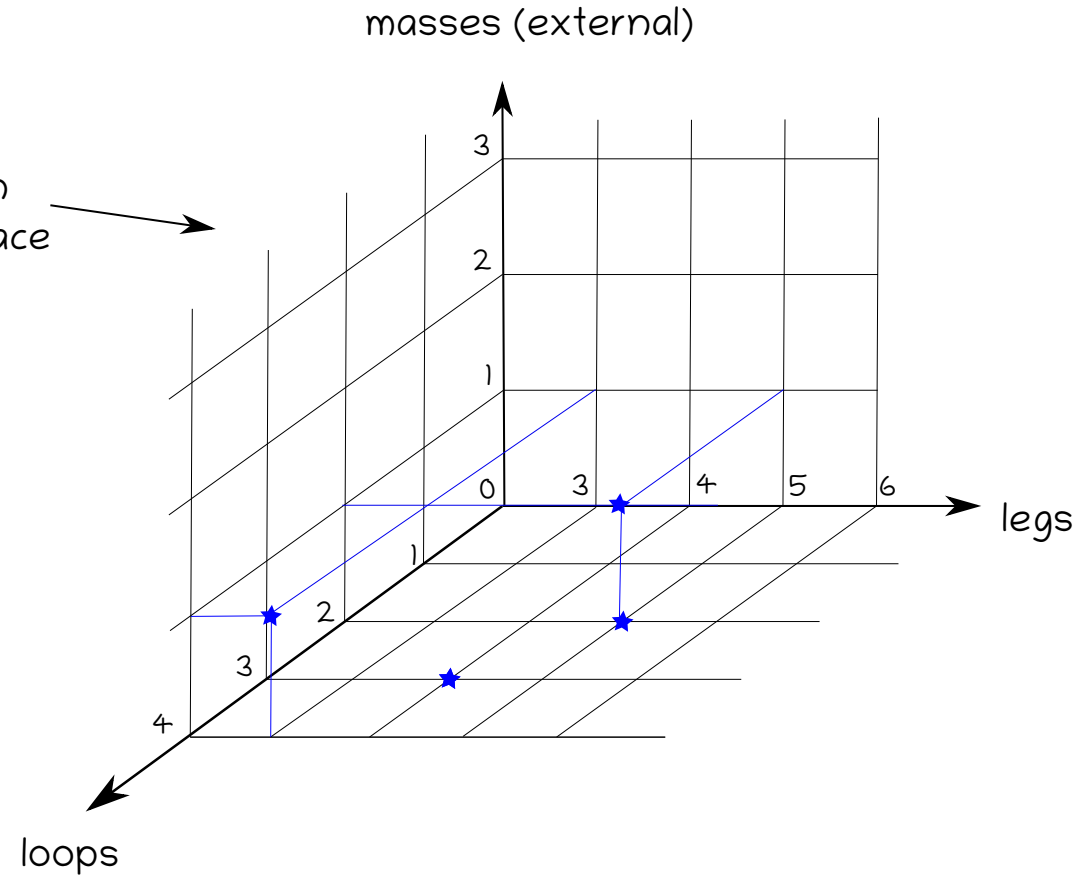
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★ Done

Third direction
in complexity space

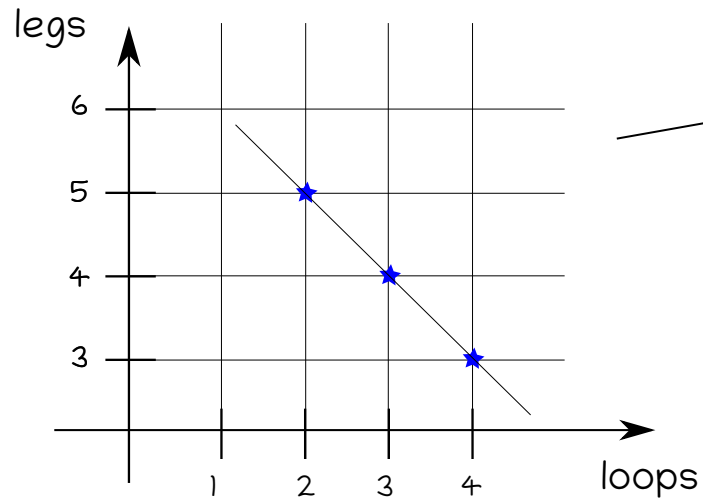


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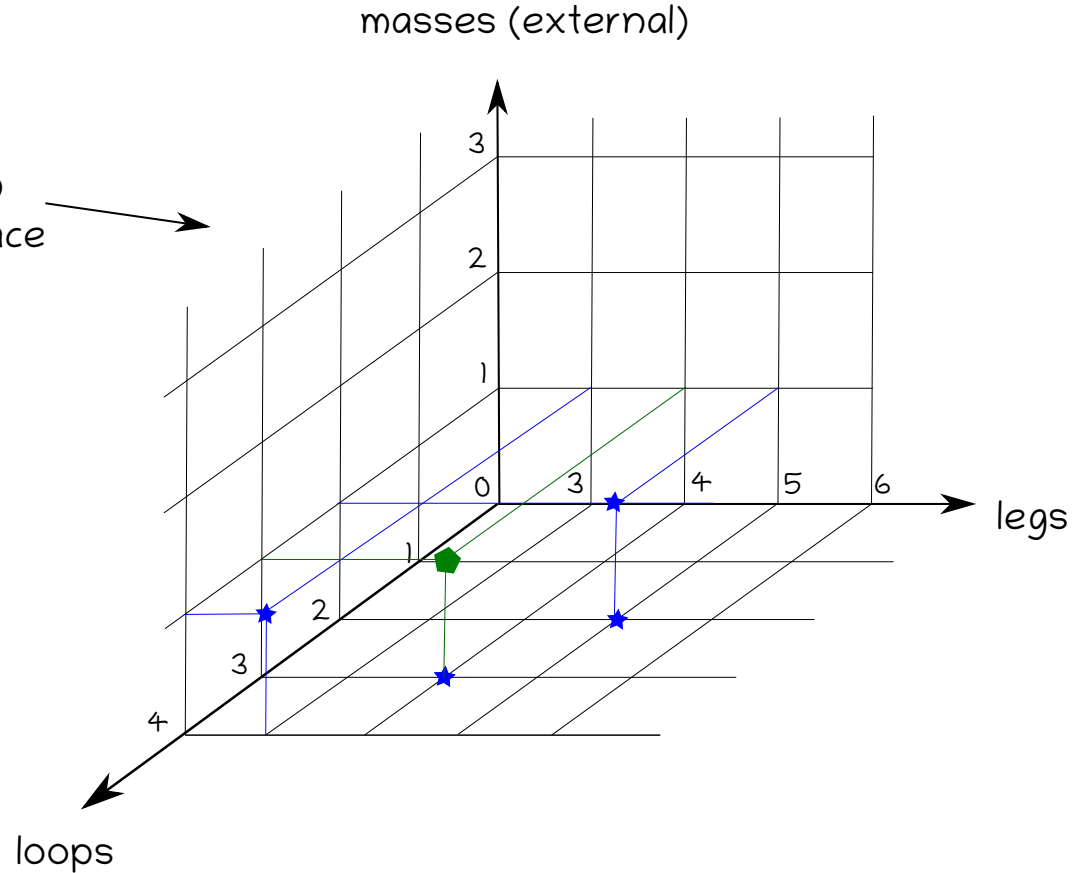
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◆ In-sight (X+jet @3-loop)

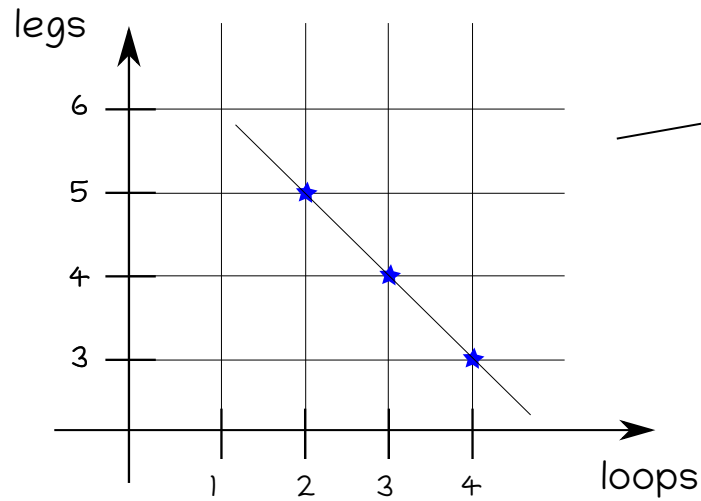
Mostly manageable with analytical methods

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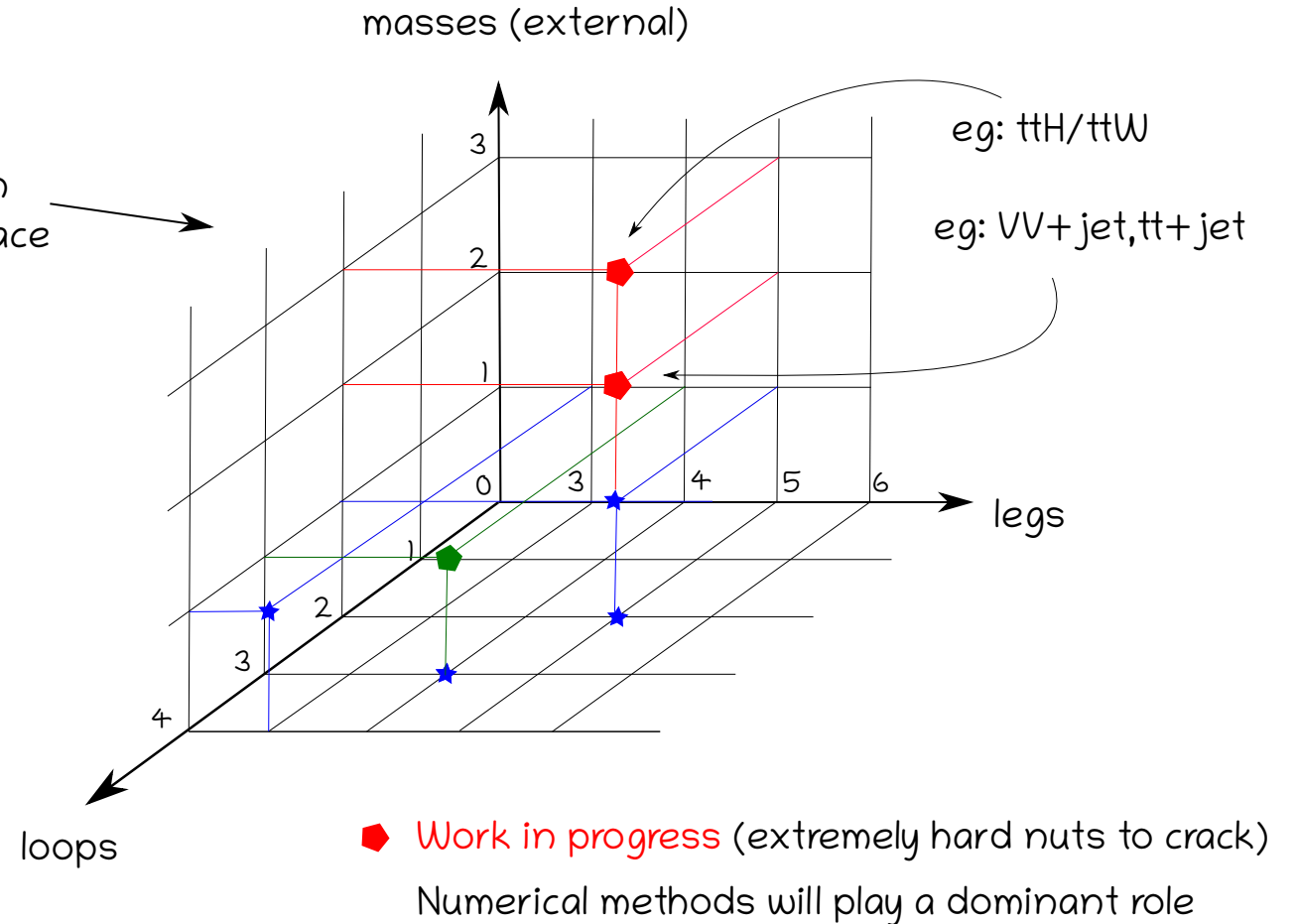


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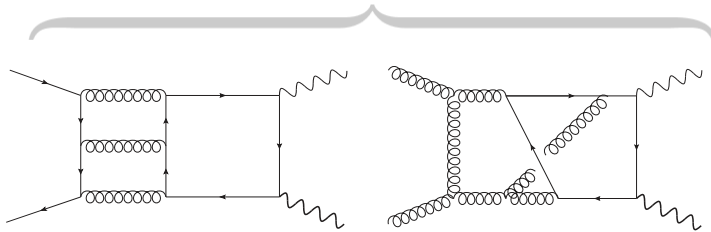


Scattering amplitudes: $2 \rightarrow 2$ @ 3-loops in QCD

All 3-loop $2 \rightarrow 2$ amplitudes with external massless partons are now available

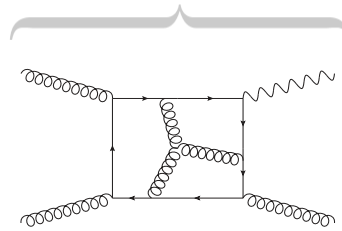
Master Integrals [Henn, Mistlberger, Wasser '20] + Calculation of the amplitudes [Bargiela, Caola, Chakraborty, Gambuti, von Manteuffel, Tancredi '21,'22]

diphoton



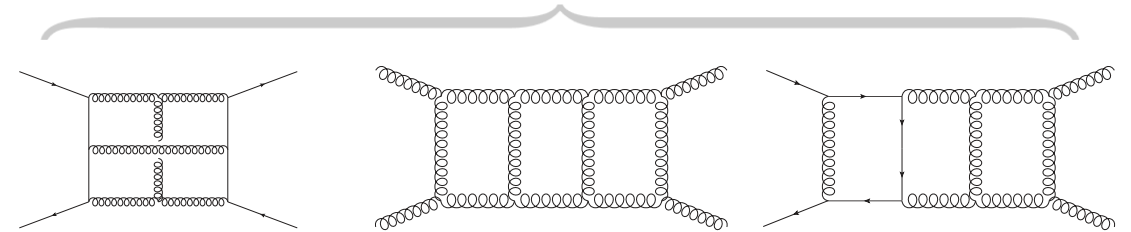
N^3 LO pheno application in sight

single photon



next-to-hardest

dijet

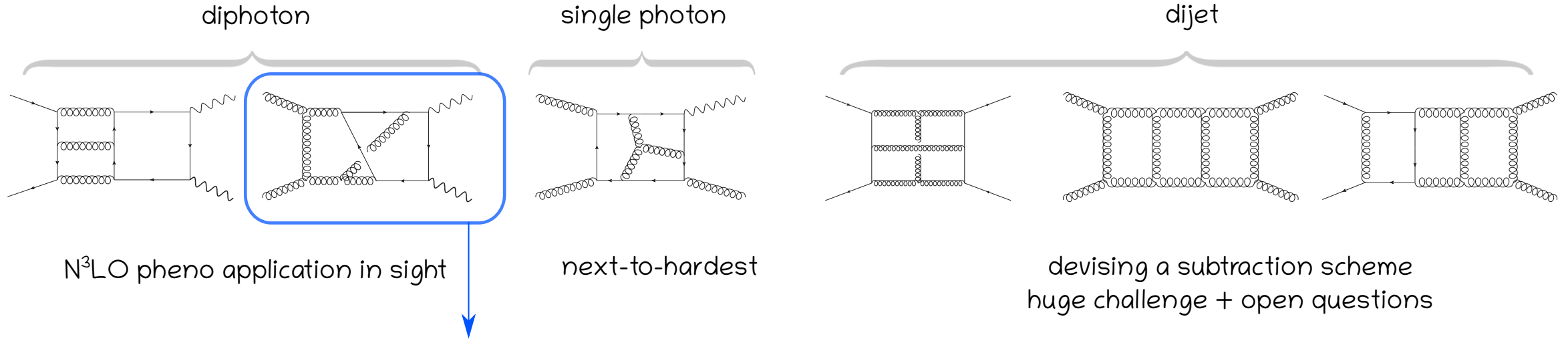


devising a subtraction scheme
huge challenge + open questions

Scattering amplitudes: 2→2 @ 3-loops in QCD

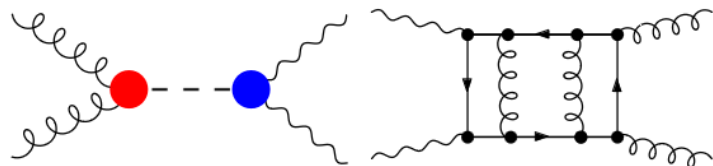
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First pheno application of a 3-loop QCD amplitude

Signal-background interference in Higgs-mediated diphoton production [Bargiela, FB, Caola, Devoto, von Manteuffel, Tancredi '23]



Interesting effects:

- Apparent mass shift $O(50-80 \text{ MeV})$
- Destructive interference effects $\sim 1.6\%$ reduction of signal XS
- Looser indirect bounds on Γ_H 😞

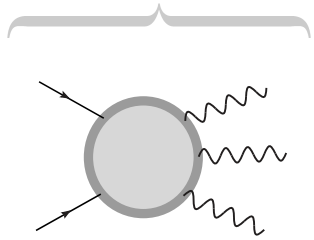
Scattering amplitudes: $2 \rightarrow 3$ @ 2-loops in QCD

Contributors: [Abreu, Agarwal, Badger, FB, Chawhdry, Chicherin, Czakon, Cordero Febres, Gehrmann, Brønnum-Hansen, Hartanto, Henn, Ita, Klinkert, Kryś, Marcoli, Mitov, Moodie, Page, Pascual, Peraro, Poncelet, Sotnikov, Tancredi, Manteuffel von, Zoia]

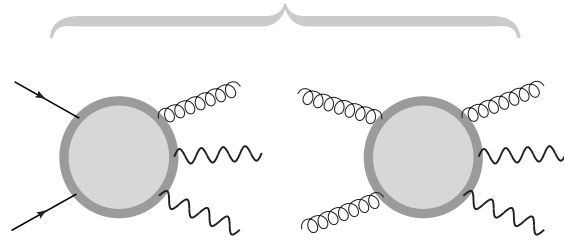
All $2 \rightarrow 3$ massless amplitudes basically available (some in leading-colour approx. some exact)

Big boost from availability & fast evaluation of "Pentagon Functions" [Chicherin, Sotnikov '20] + new methods to cope with algebraic complexity

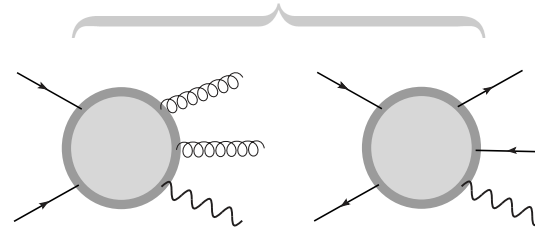
three photons



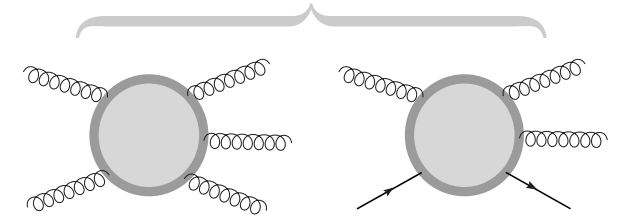
diphoton + jet



dijet + photon

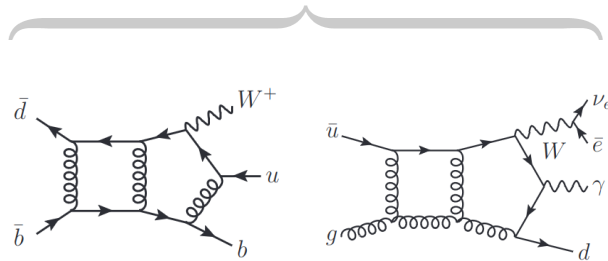


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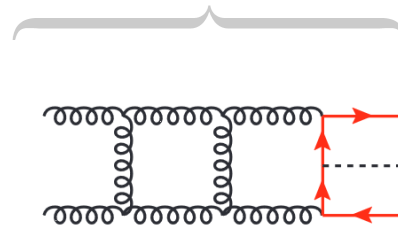


First results and steady progress on $2 \rightarrow 3$ amplitudes with one massive external particle (all available in leading-colour)

$W + bb/j\gamma$



$H + bb$



One-mass Pentagon functions [Chicherin, Sotnikov, Zoia '22]

Looking ahead

- two external masses, eg $t\bar{t} + j/\gamma$, $VV + j/\gamma$
- three external masses, eg $t\bar{t} + H/W$

Promising numerical methods:

- [pySecDec](#) [Borowka, Heinrich, Jahn, Jones, Kerner, Langer, Magerya, Poldaru, Schlenk, Villa, Zirke]
- [DiffExp](#) [Hidding] + [Seasyde](#) [Armadillo, Bonciani, Devoto, Rana, Vicini]
- [AMFlow](#) [Chen, Liu, Ma, Tao, Zhang]

questions: efficiency, grids (?)

Subtraction frameworks

IR-subtraction schemes

Two main approaches:

Local subtraction

$$\int |\mathcal{M}|^2 F_J d\Phi^{(d)} = \int \left(|\mathcal{M}|^2 F_J - S d\Phi^{(4)} \right) + \int S d\Phi^{(d)}$$

Antenna [Gehrmann-de Ridder, Gehrmann, Glover et al]

Stripper [Czakon, Heymes, Mitov, Poncelet]

Nested Soft Collinear [Caola, Melnikov, Röntsch]

Projection-2-Born [Cacciari, Dreyer, Karlberg, Salam, Zanderighi]

Local analytic [Magnea, Maina, Pelliccioli, Signorile-Signorile, Torrielli, Uccirati]

Colorfull [Del Duca, Duhr, Kardos, Somogyi, Trocsanyi]

Slicing

$$\int |\mathcal{M}|^2 F_J d\Phi^{(d)} = \int_0^\Lambda |\mathcal{M}|^2 F_J d\Phi^{(d)} + \int_\Lambda^1 S d\Phi^{(4)} + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda)$$

q_T [Catani, Grazzini], [Bozzi, Catani, Grazzini, Ferrera, de Florian, Cieri, Devoto, Mazzitelli, Sargsyan, Torre]

N-jettiness [Boughezal, Liu, Petriello, Ellis, Campbell, Williams; Tackmann, Gaunt, Stahlhofen, Walsh]

k_⊥-ness [Buonocore, Grazzini, Haag, Rottoli, Savoini]

Both approaches (in various incarnations)
have proved very successful

Key requirements to success:

- **Subtraction**: deal with singularities of multi-particle amplitudes: Sector decomposition vs Exploit property of amplitudes
- **Slicing**: good slicing parameter Λ + ability to express the cross section for $\Lambda \rightarrow 0$
- Devising a NNLO IR subtraction scheme is not a (conceptual) bottleneck anymore
- In practice we are far from an NLO-like situation: completely generic, simple and automatable framework (e.g. CS, FKS)

IR subtraction schemes: Slicing

Example: N-jettiness

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow V+X}^{N^k LO} \approx B \otimes B \otimes S \otimes H \otimes d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow V}^{LO}$$

[Stewart, Tackmann, Waalewijn]

q_T

Similar factorisation + resummation formula
[Collins, Soper, Sterman] [Catani, De Florian, Grazzini] [Becher, Neubert]

NNLO:

- N-jettiness: amenable to describe low jet-multiplicity cross-sections: 0/1 jets + colour singlets
- q_T : developed for colour-singlet, extended to heavy-quarks pair and recently heavy-quarks + col. singlet

see M. Grazzini's talk on Friday

Pros: 1) implementation less involved → publicly available programs

2) offer natural matching procedure (NNLO-PS)

Matrix [Grazzini, Kallweit, Wiesemann] MCFM [Campbell, Ellis, Neumann, Williams]

MINNLO-PS (q_T)
[Nason, Lombardi, Mazzitelli, Monni, Re, Wiesemann, Zanderighi]

GENEVA (N-jettiness)
[Alioli, Bauer, Berggren, Guns, Tackmann, Walsh]

N³LO:

Slicing methods conceptually simpler than subtraction: easier to extend to N³LO

V+j @NNLO & knowledge (factorisation/resummation) of cross-section at small values of the slicing parameter

N-jettiness

- N³LO Beam-functions [Ebert, Mistlberger, Vita '20] [Baranowski, Behring, Melnikov, Tancredi, Wever '22]
- 0-jettiness soft function, first results [Baranowski, Delto, Melnikov, Wang '22]
- The higher the jettiness, the (much) harder the soft function

q_T

All ingredients for colour singlet @N³LO available

- N³LO Soft function [Li, Zhu '16]
- N³LO Beam-functions [Ebert, Mistlberger, Vita '20]

IR subtraction scheme: local subtractions

Fully local, therefore very efficient (although comparison between methods not really well defined)

a given approach to the various ensuing aspects/complexities define a local subtraction scheme


Conceptually (rather) insensitive to jets multiplicity, but implementation highly non-trivial

Frontier of jets multiplicity: 3 jets @ NNLO [Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet '22]

In principle, we can now address any final state signature/multiplicity

Most robust and well developed subtraction schemes:

X+jet @ NNLO
key ingredient for X@N³LO



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Antenna subtraction

- complete pheno for X+jet @NNLO
- full-colour dijet@NNLO [Chen, Huss, Gehrmann, Glover, Mo '22]
- automation for 3-jets, gluonic case [Chen, Huss, Gehrmann, Glover, Marcoli '22]
- first ingredients for N³LO antennae from inclusive colour-singlet decays at N³LO [Chen, Jakubčik, Marcoli, Stagnitto '23]

Sector-Improved Residue Subtraction (Stripper)

- full-colour dijet@NNLO [Czakon, van Hameren, Mitov, Poncelet, '19]
- vast 2→3 pheno studies@NNLO [Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet]
- three-jets @NNLO [Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet '21]

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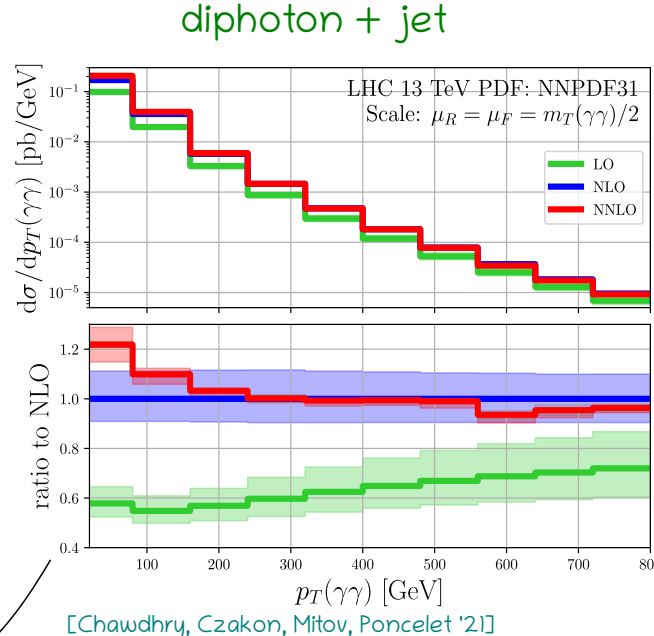
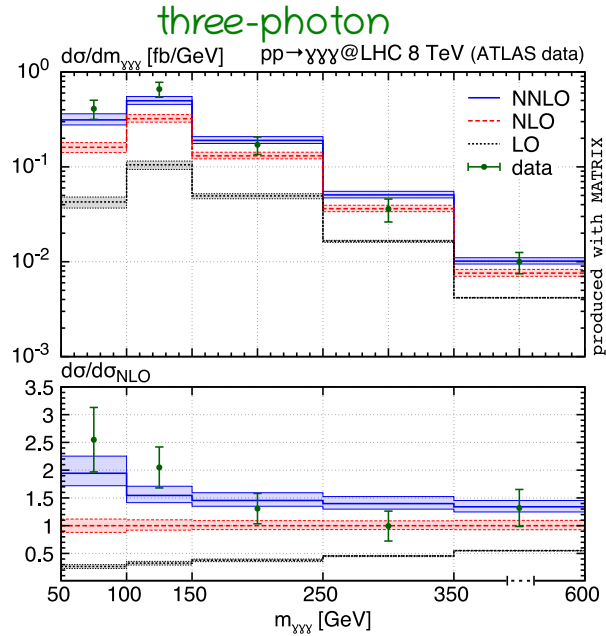
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Sector-Improved Residue Subtraction (Stripper)

- A central goal of the present work is to demonstrate the feasibility of three-jet hadron collider computations with NNLO precision.
 - On the technical side, the enormous computational cost of the present calculation ($\sim 10^6$ CPUh) makes it clear that further refinements in the handling of real radiation contributions to NNLO calculations are desirable.
- [Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet '22]

Selection of recent phenomenological studies

Fixed-order predictions: 2→3 massless (aka jets) @ NNLO



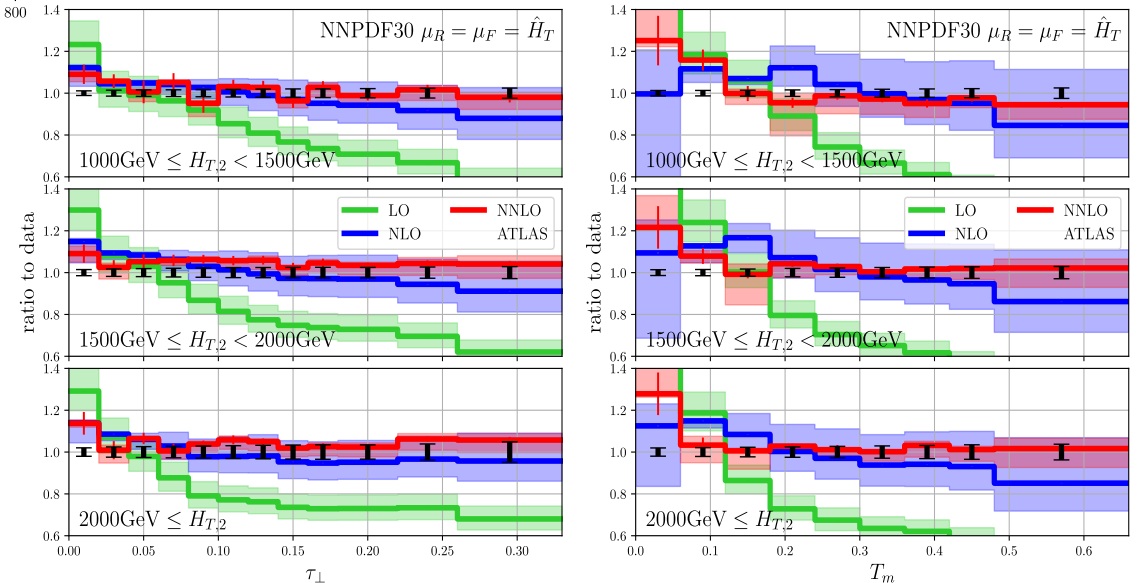
Impressive progress on 2→3 cross sections:

- three-photons [Chawdhry, Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet '19] [Kallweit, Sotnikov, Wiesemann '20]
- diphoton+jet: qq/qg [Chawdhry, Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet '21]
- diphoton+jet: gg [Badger, Gehrmann, Marcoli, Moodie '21]
- dijet+photon: [Badger, Czakon, Hartanto, Moodie, Peraro, Poncelet, Zoia '23]
- three-jets: [Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet '21]

[Kallweit, Sotnikov, Wiesemann '20]

[Chawdhry, Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet '21]

three-jet production



[Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet '22] [Alvarez, Cantero, Czakon, Lorente, Mitov, Poncelet '23]

Outlook: diphoton+jet + qT → diphoton@N³LO

Rich and interesting pheno: 3-jets

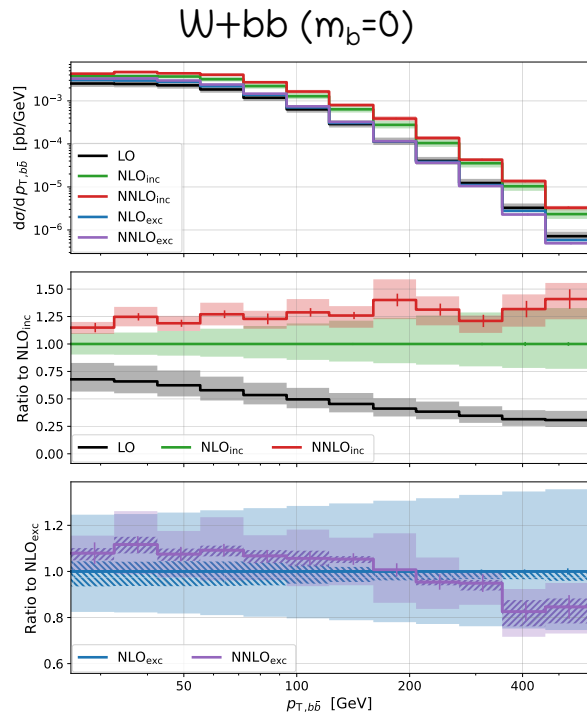
Jet rates

$$R_{3/2}(X, \mu_R, \mu_F) = \frac{d\sigma_3(\mu_R, \mu_F)/dX}{d\sigma_2(\mu_R, \mu_F)/dX}$$

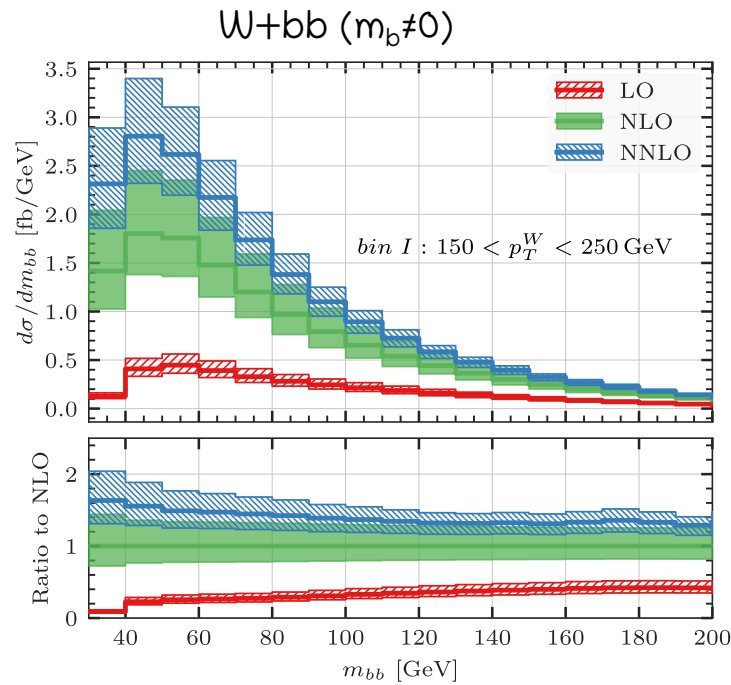
Event shapes @ LHC

$$T_{\perp} = \frac{\sum_i |\vec{p}_{T,i} \cdot \hat{n}_{\perp}|}{\sum_i |\vec{p}_{T,i}|} \quad T_m = \frac{\sum_i |\vec{p}_{T,i} \times \hat{n}_{\perp}|}{\sum_i |\vec{p}_{T,i}|}$$

Fixed-order predictions: 2→3 associated productions @ NNLO



[Hartanto, Poncet, Popescu, Zoia, '22]



[Buoncore, Devoto, Kallweit, Mazzitelli, Rottoli, Savoini '22]

2L amplitudes:

- $W+bb (m_b \neq 0)$: $Wbb (m_b = 0)$ + "massification"
 $\epsilon^{-1}_{coll} \rightarrow \log(m_b/Q)$
- $t\bar{t}H$: 2-loop $t\bar{t}$ + soft Higgs, $p_H \rightarrow 0$

→ qT soft-function for 2 massive radiators recoiling against X

$t\bar{t}H$ @ NNLO

σ [pb]	$\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV	$\sqrt{s} = 100$ TeV
σ_{LO}	0.3910 $^{+31.3\%}_{-22.2\%}$	25.38 $^{+21.1\%}_{-16.0\%}$
σ_{NLO}	0.4875 $^{+5.6\%}_{-9.1\%}$	36.43 $^{+9.4\%}_{-8.7\%}$
σ_{NNLO}	0.5070 (31) $^{+0.9\%}_{-3.0\%}$	37.20(25) $^{+0.1\%}_{-2.2\%}$

[Catani, Devoto, Grazzini, Kallweit, Mazzitelli, Savoini '23]

- $m_b=0$: no large $\log(m_b/p_T)$, but flavour tagging non-trivial
- $m_b \neq 0$: flavoured jet tagging unambiguous, potentially large $\log(m_b/p_T)$

4FS vs 5FS:

generally good agreement, 4FS lower cross-section
 improved by change of scheme: PDFS + α_s

→ see G. Stagnitto's talk on flavour tagging

→ see J. Mazzitelli's talk (Fri)

N³LO for colour singlet: fully differential predictions

Higgs production at N³LO [Chen, Gehrmann, Glover, Huss, Mistlberger, Pelloni '21]

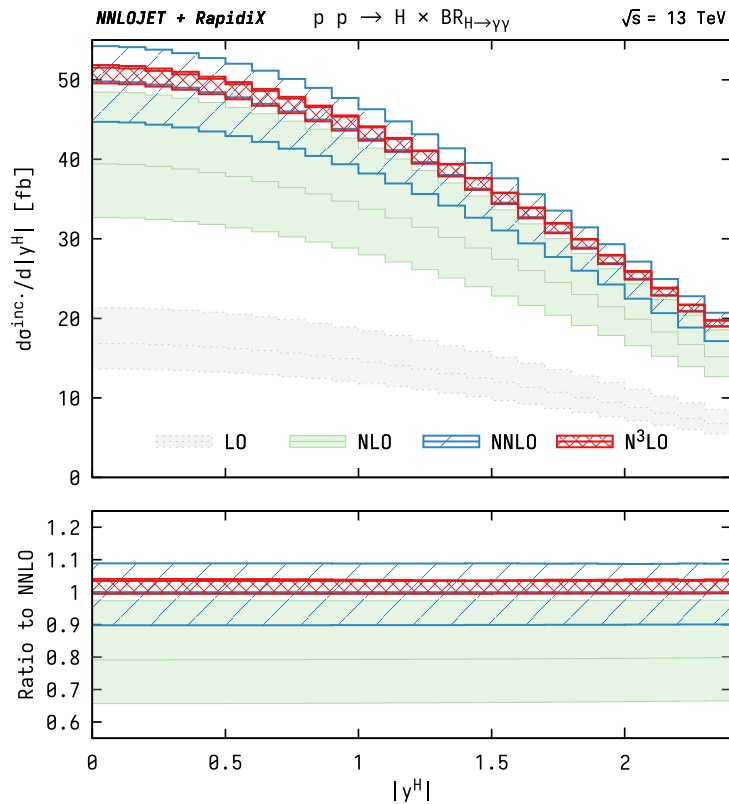
Higgs+jet@NNLO + Projection 2 Born

relies on calculation of include Higgs rapidity distribution [Dulat, Mistlberger, Pelloni '18]

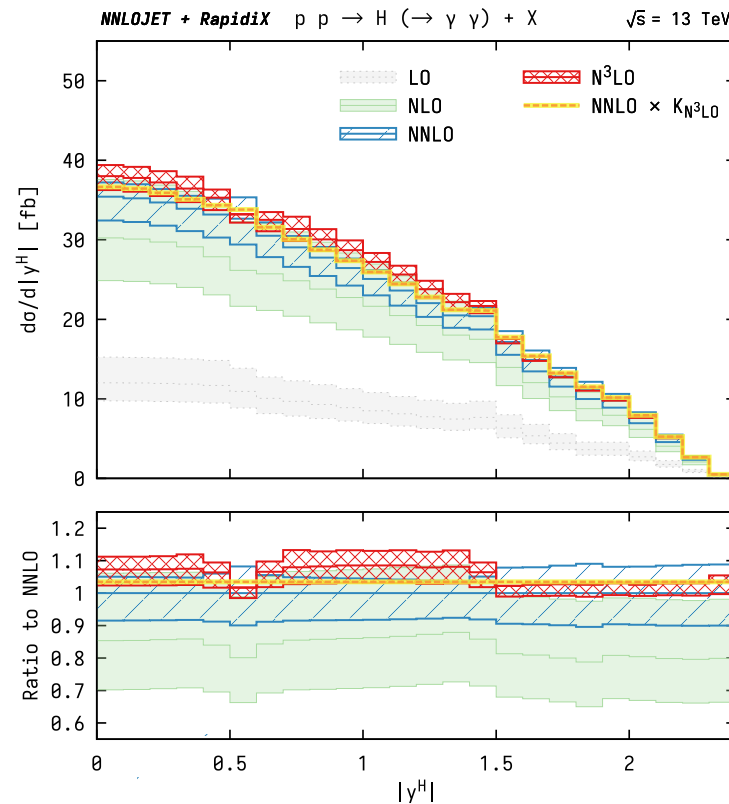
Run-time is that of a Higgs+jet@NNLO

Highly efficient

Inclusive



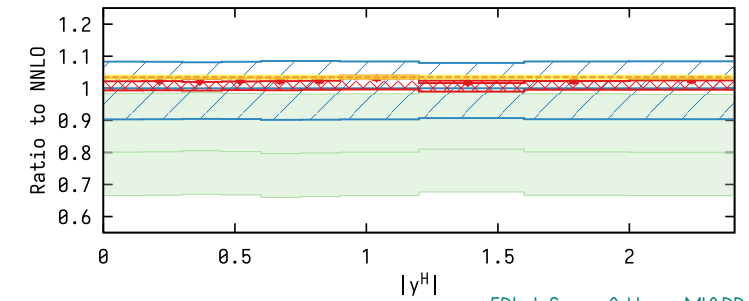
Fully Differential



$$\begin{aligned}
 p_T^{\gamma 1} > 0.35 \cdot m_{\gamma\gamma} & \quad \text{reject} \quad 1.37 < |y^\gamma| < 1.52 \\
 p_T^{\gamma 2} > 0.25 \cdot m_{\gamma\gamma} & \quad \text{photon isolation in } \Delta R < 0.2 \\
 |y^\gamma| < 2.37 & \quad \Leftrightarrow \sum_{\Delta R_{i\gamma} < 0.2} p_{T,i} < 0.05
 \end{aligned}$$

Product cuts on photons p_T [Salam, Slade '21]

$$\sqrt{p_T^{\gamma 1} p_T^{\gamma 2}} \geq 0.35 \cdot M_H$$



[Plot from A.Huss MIAPP '22]

N³LO for colour singlet: fully differential predictions

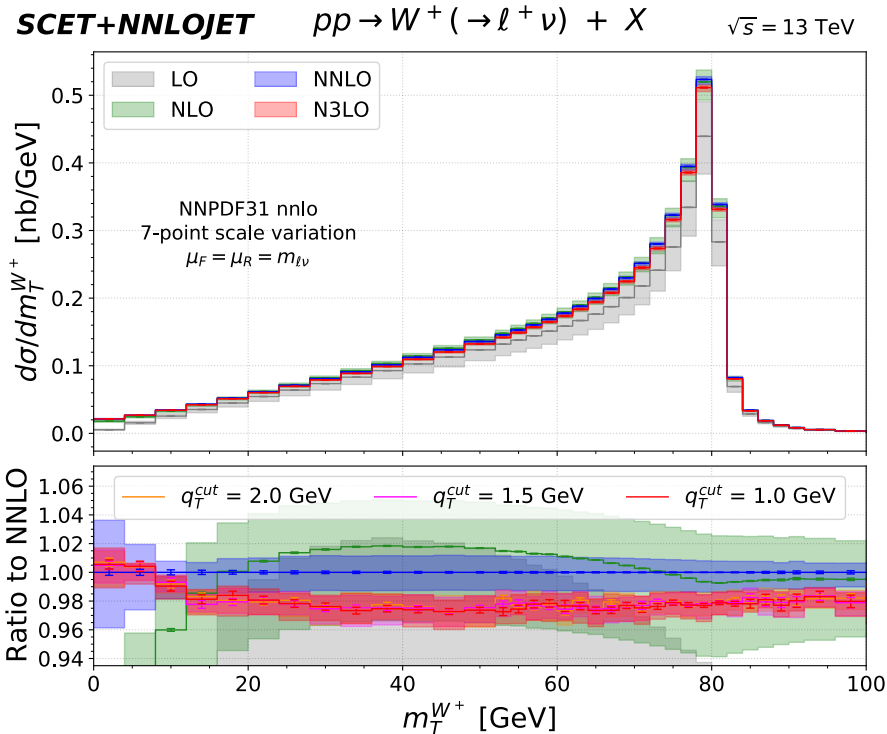
N³LO predictions for **vector boson production**: W/Z

V+jet @ NNLO + q_T to achieve N³LO

to guarantee good stability + insensitivity to slicing cut: **few million CPU hours**

W@N³LO

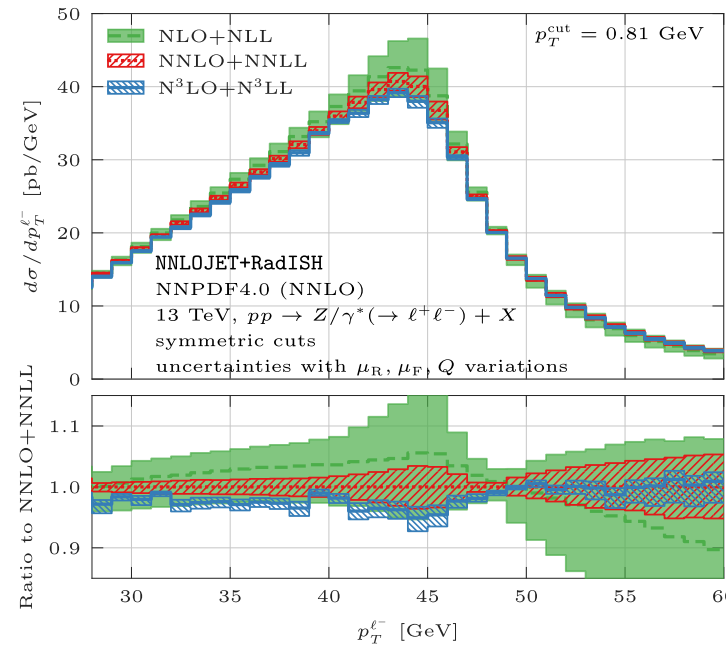
Z@N³LO + Resummation



[Chen, Gehrmann, Glover, Huss, Yang, Zhu '22]

Transverse mass + charge asymmetry

N³LO + N³LL

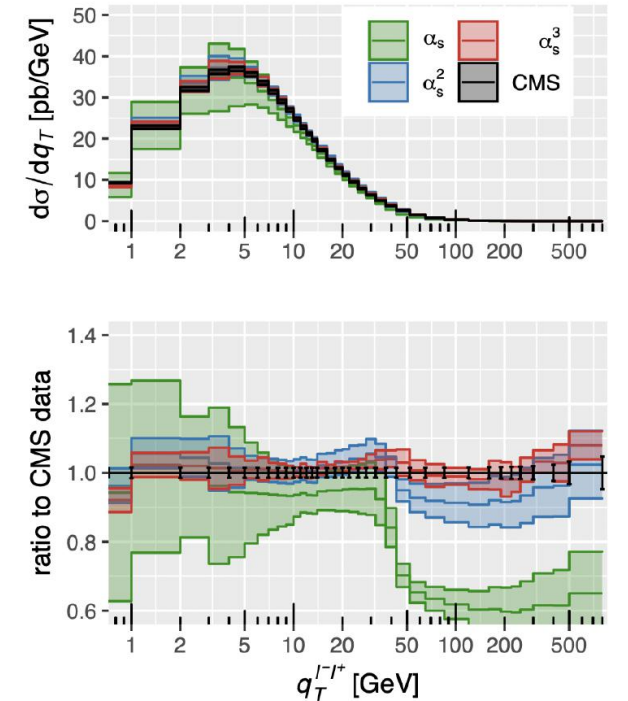


[Chen, Gehrmann, Glover, Huss, Monni, Rottoli, Re, Torrielli '22]

Resummation is crucial for reliable description of transverse observables

more in **T. Neumann's talk** (Fri)

N³LO + N⁴LL [Neumann, Campbell, '22]



PDFs and four-loop splitting functions

For consistent N³LO predictions: N³LO PDFs are needed

see Cruz-Martinez's talk for status on PDFs

First approximate N³LO PDFs set [J. McGowan, T. Cridge, L. A. Harland-Lang, R. S. Thorne '22]

see G. Zanderighi's talk for pheno discussion

$$Q^2 \frac{df_i(x, Q^2)}{dQ^2} = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} P_{ij}(\alpha_s, z) f_j\left(\frac{x}{z}, Q^2\right) \quad P_{ij}(\alpha_s, z) = P_{ij}^{(0)}(z) + aP_{ij}^{(1)}(z) + a^2P_{ij}^{(2)}(z) + \underbrace{a^3P_{ij}^{(3)}(z)}_{\text{N}^3\text{LO splitting kernels}} \quad a = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi}$$

$i = g, q, \bar{q}$

Effectively a 4-loop calculation

N³LO splitting kernels

Problem conveniently formulated in Mellin space:

$$\gamma_{ij}^{(k)}(N) = - \int_0^1 x^{N-1} P_{ij}^{(k)}(z) \quad \xrightarrow{\text{work very hard}} \quad \text{Inverse Mellin transformation to get result in z-space}$$

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Methods to get the anomalous-dimension:

- Forward Compton scattering $\gamma(q) + p(k) \rightarrow \gamma(q) + p(k)$
- Renormalization of twist-2 operators/
Operator Matrix Elements (OMEs)
Promising approach in covariant gauge
[Gehrmann, von Manteuffel, Yang '23]

Current status and results:

- (Non-)singlet P_{qq} large n_f [Davies, Ruijl, Vogt, Ueda, Vermaseren '16]
[Basdev-Sharma, Pelloni, Herzog, Vogt '22]
- Non-singlet P_{qq} large N_c + approx. subleading [Moch, Ruijl, Ueda, Vermaseren, Vogt '17]
- Pure singlet P_{qq} [Falcioni, Herzog, Moch, Vogt '23]

basically complete the calculation of P_{qq}

Summary and outlook

Fast and steady progress on fixed-order predictions

Large class of processes are now accessible with higher than NLO accuracy

New studies for **processes** with **diverse** and **high-multiplicities** at **higher order** published monthly

Take-home regarding methods:

✓ Great progress on **multiloop amplitudes** for massless processes, enabling broad pheno studies

✓ **Subtraction** methods can now address any signature. Slicing is pushing the **N³LO frontier**

✗ Multiloop amplitudes with **many scales are hard**. Current bottleneck, **need efficient, modern numerical methods**

✗ Story not yet over for subtraction: **high-jet multiplicities** or **N³LO slicing very expensive**. Lots of room for improvements

Outlook: selected suggestions on what to expect for the near future:

- Zbb@NNLO (same technology as Wbb)
- Colour singlets @N³LO: ZH, WH and $\gamma\gamma$

and farther future:

- Jet cross sections @N³LO

But clever ideas are around the corner!