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# Propagation of uncertainty in a parton shower <sup>a</sup>

Andreas van Hameren

in collaboration with

Philip Stephens

IFJ-PAN, Kraków, Poland

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# Motivation and objective

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- Parton showers are and will be an important tool in the field of collider physics...
- ...will however always be an approximation of the underlying fundamental model of QCD to a certain degree.
- Want to estimate the uncertainty of a MC prediction...
- ...by quantifying the effects of varying different features of the parton shower;
- The solution must leave delicate technical features of original parton shower implementation untouched.

# Method

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The basic building block of a parton-shower is the a probability distribution of the type

$$\mathcal{P}[\boldsymbol{\varphi}(\vec{y})] = F_R[\boldsymbol{\varphi}(\vec{y})] \exp \left( - \int^{\xi(\vec{y})} d^n \vec{y}' F_V[\boldsymbol{\varphi}(\vec{y}')] \right) ,$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\varphi}$  is a vector of functional components representing the variable quantities within the shower, for example

- coupling constant;
- kernel;
- ...,

and  $\vec{y}$  represents evolution variables, the splitting variables,  
...

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# Method

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Varying this distribution following  $\varphi \mapsto \varphi + \delta\varphi$  we find

$$\frac{\mathcal{P}[\varphi + \delta\varphi]}{\mathcal{P}[\varphi]} = \left( 1 + \frac{\delta F_R[\varphi]}{F_R[\varphi]} \right) \exp \left( - \int^{\xi(\vec{y})} d^n \vec{y}' \delta F_V[\varphi(\vec{y}')] \right) ,$$

where

$$\delta F_{R/V}[\varphi] = F_{R/V}[\varphi + \delta\varphi] - F_{R/V}[\varphi] .$$

In order to mimick the effect of the variation, the generation stage is reweighted by

$$1 + \frac{\delta \mathcal{P}[\varphi]}{\mathcal{P}[\varphi]} := \frac{\mathcal{P}[\varphi + \delta\varphi]}{\mathcal{P}[\varphi]} .$$

The full event is reweighted by a product of these weights.

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# Method

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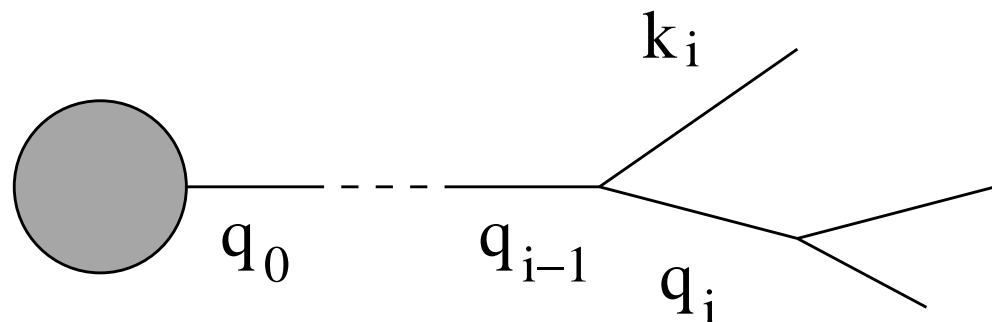
- Using sensible variations, this “simulation” of the effect of the variation by reweighting the events can be used to estimate the uncertainty of the predictions made with the parton shower.
- The parton shower only needs to give a set of weights with each event corresponding to the different variations.

We now look at some examples

- Relaxing collinear approximation
- Inclusion of NLO kernel
- Changing kinematics
- Uncertainty updfs

# Kinematics and evolution

We use a use a Herwig++ type of shower with variables  $z, \tilde{q}$



In the Sudakov basis

$$q_i = \alpha_i p + \beta_i n + q_{\perp i} ,$$

with  $p^2 = m^2$ ,  $n^2 = 0$ ,  $p \cdot n = 1$ , and  $p \cdot q_{\perp i} = n \cdot q_{\perp i} = 0$ . The variables are given by

$$z_i = \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_{i-1}} , \quad \tilde{q}_i^2 = \frac{p_{\perp i}^2}{z_i^2 (1 - z_i)^2} + \frac{\mu^2}{z_i^2} + \frac{Q_g^2}{z_i (1 - z_i)^2}$$

where  $p_{\perp i} = q_{\perp i} - z_i q_{\perp i-1}$  and  $\mu = \max(m, Q_g)$ .

# Kinematics and evolution

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The branching probability is given by

$$dB(q \rightarrow qg) = \frac{C_F}{2\pi} \alpha_S \left( z^2 (1-z)^2 \tilde{q}^2 \right) \frac{d\tilde{q}^2}{\tilde{q}^2} dz P_{qq}(z, \tilde{q}^2).$$

For a final state shower we then identify

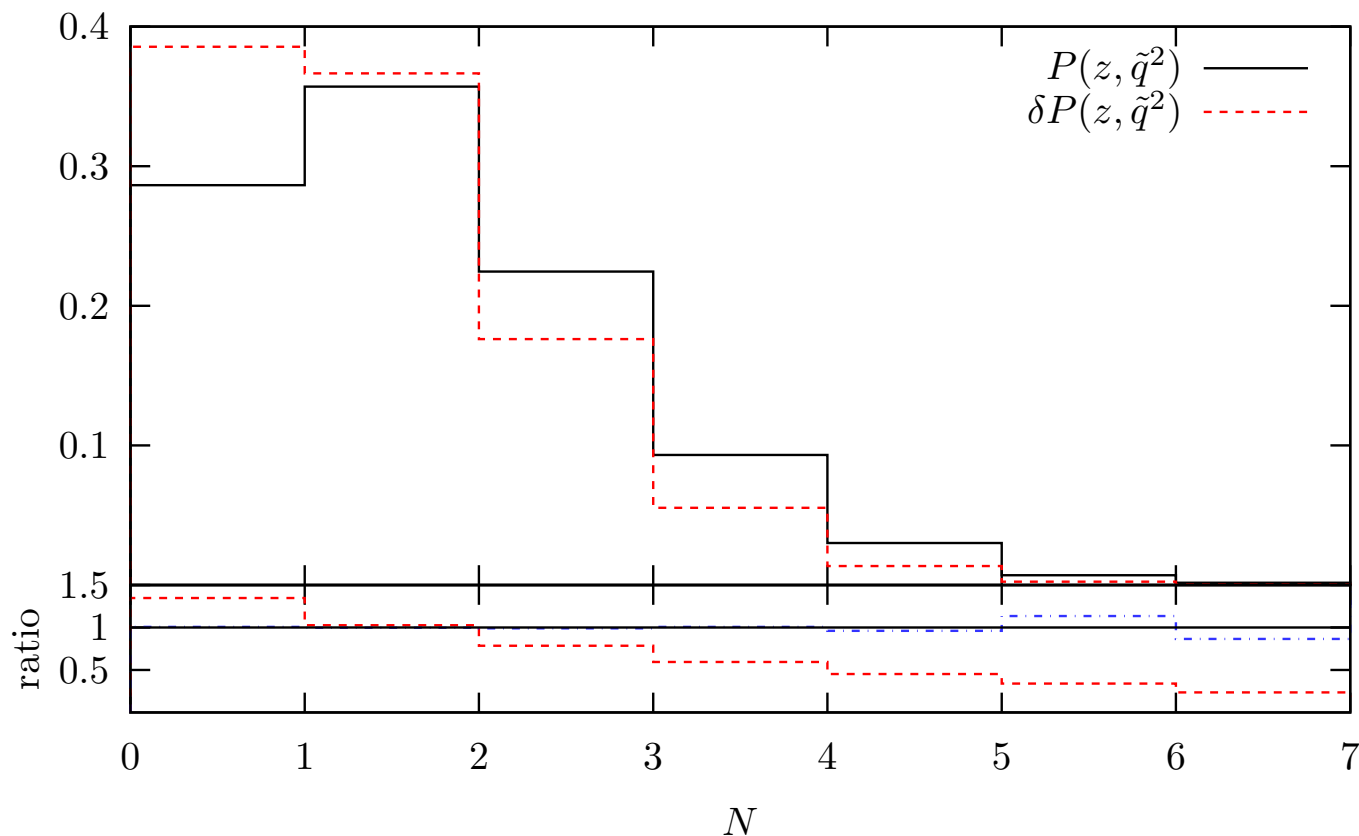
$$F_R[\boldsymbol{\varphi}(z, \tilde{q}^2)] = F_V[\boldsymbol{\varphi}(z, \tilde{q}^2)] = \frac{1}{2\pi\tilde{q}^2} \alpha_S(z, \tilde{q}^2) P_{qq}(z, \tilde{q}^2) .$$

with bounds  $z^- < z < z^+$  and  $\tilde{q}^2 < \tilde{q}_{i-1}^2$ .

# Quasi-Collinear Approximation

Kernel in the quasi-collinear approximation defines variation

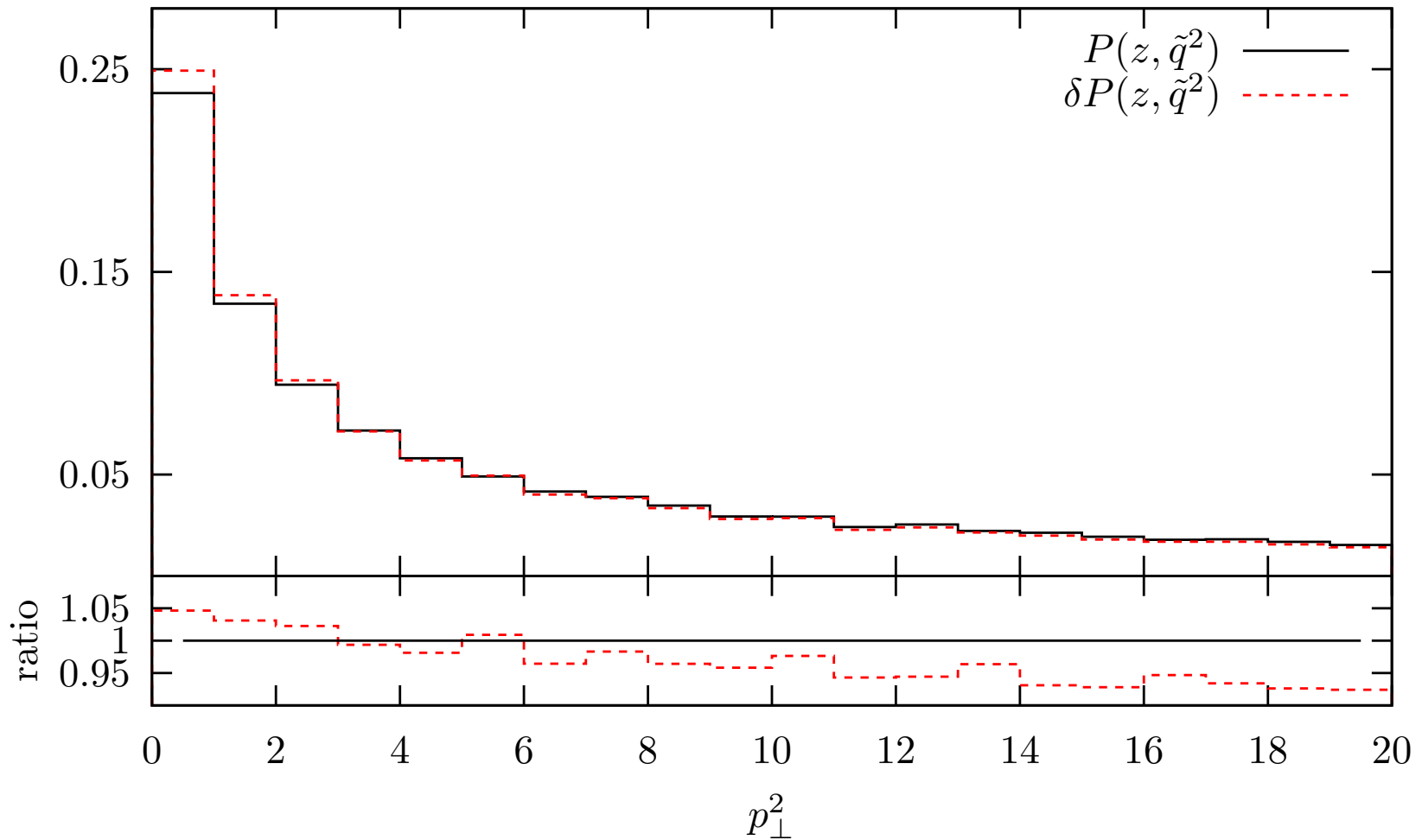
$$\frac{1+z^2}{1-z} - \frac{2m^2}{z(1-z)\tilde{q}^2} = P_{qq}(z, \tilde{q}^2) + \delta P_{qq}(m^2; z, \tilde{q}^2).$$





# Quasi-Collinear Kernel

Distribution of the transverse momentum of each emission.



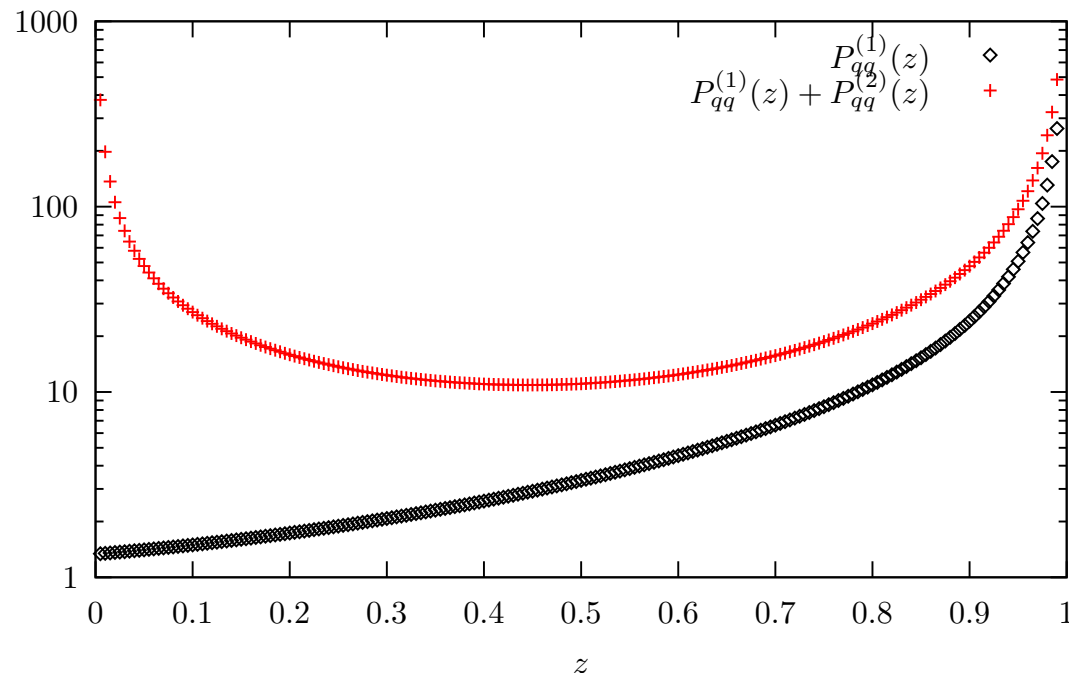
# NLO Kernel

Interpret the NLO contribution to the kernel as a variation

$$\delta F = \frac{1}{2\pi\tilde{q}^2} \alpha_S^2(z, \tilde{q}^2) \delta P_{qq}^{(2)}(z, \tilde{q}^2).$$

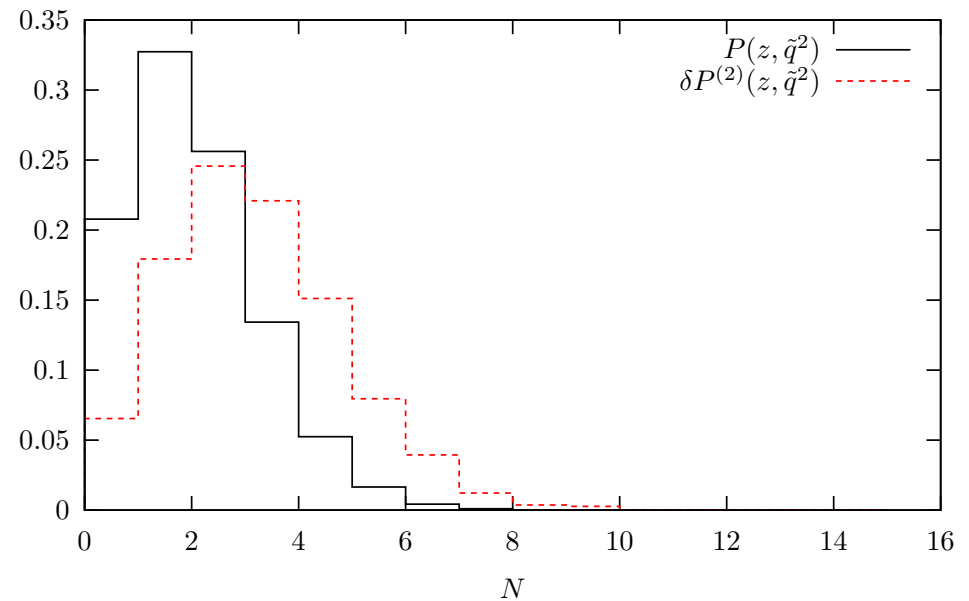
With flavour singlet and non-singlet contributions

$$\delta P_{qq}^{(2)}(z, \tilde{q}^2) = P_{qq}^{S(2)}(z) + P_{qq}^{V(2)}(z).$$

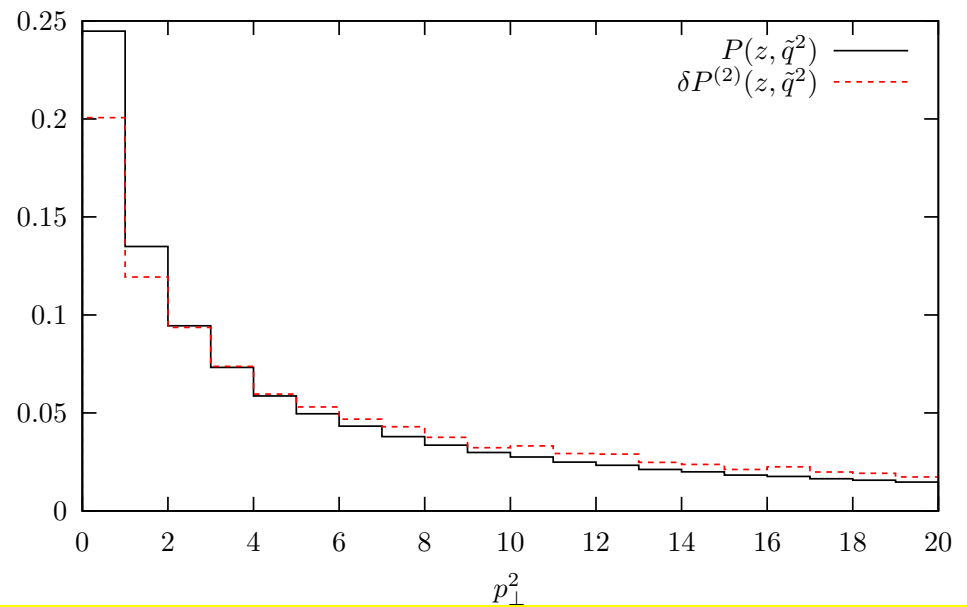


# NLO Kernel

Distribution of the  
number of emissions



Distribution of the  
transverse momentum



# Change of Kinematics

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We also want to simulate a change in kinematics and evolution ordering through the alternative weight

- Phase spaces of emissions are not identical
- Methods of reconstruction are not the same
- Orderings differ
- Infra-red cutoffs differ

# Pythia-like Kinematics

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For a Pythia-like shower, the evolution variables are

$$\bar{z}_i = \frac{E_i}{E_{i-1}} \longleftrightarrow z_i = \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_{i-1}}$$

$$Q_i^2 = q_{i-1}^2 \longleftrightarrow \tilde{q}_i^2 = \frac{\mathbf{p}_{\perp i}^2}{z_i^2(1-z_i)^2} + \frac{\mu^2}{z_i^2} + \frac{Q_g^2}{z(1-z)^2}$$

These variables are reconstructed from the 4-momenta generated with the Herwig++ like shower and then used to calculate the weight. Real part:

$$w_i = \frac{\alpha_S(\bar{z}_i(1-\bar{z}_i)Q^2)P_{qq}(\bar{z}_i)\tilde{q}^2}{\alpha_S(z_i^2(1-z_i^2)\tilde{q}^2)P_{qq}(z_i)Q^2} \mathcal{J}(\bar{z}_i, Q_i^2) \\ \times \theta(Q_{i-1}^2 - Q_i^2)\theta(\bar{z}_+ - \bar{z}_i)\theta(\bar{z}_i - \bar{z}_-),$$

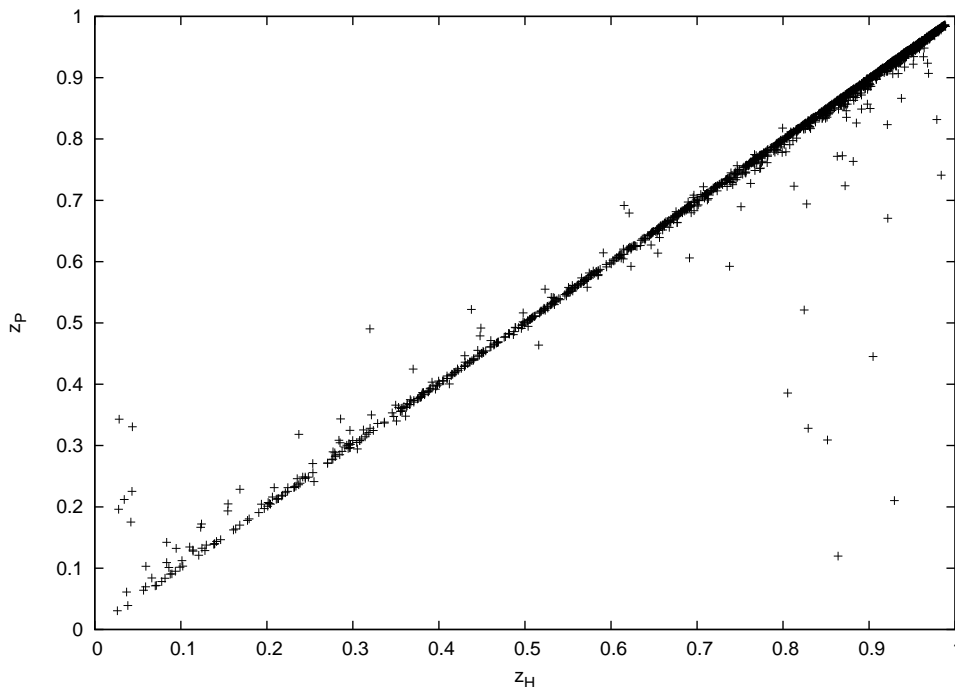
# Pythia-like Kinematics

For the virtual part we take advantage of the analytic behaviour of the Sudakov form factor

$$\Delta(t, t_0) = \Delta(t, t_1)\Delta(t_1, t_0),$$

to directly compute the Sudakov weight

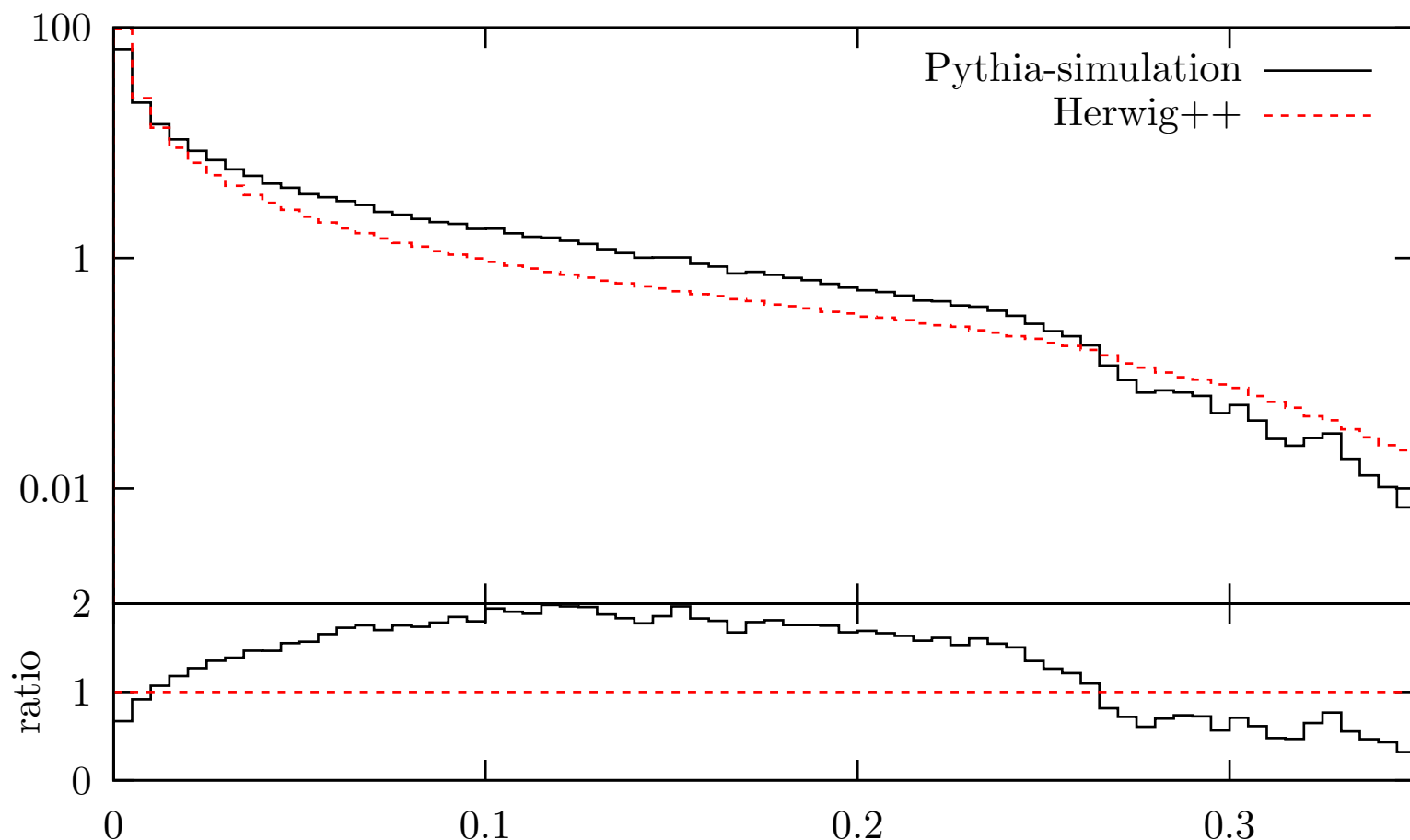
$$w_{\Delta} = \frac{\Delta_P(Q_{\max}^2, Q_0^2)}{\Delta_H(\tilde{q}_{\max}^2, \tilde{q}_0^2)}.$$



Comparison of  $\bar{z}$  and  $z$ .

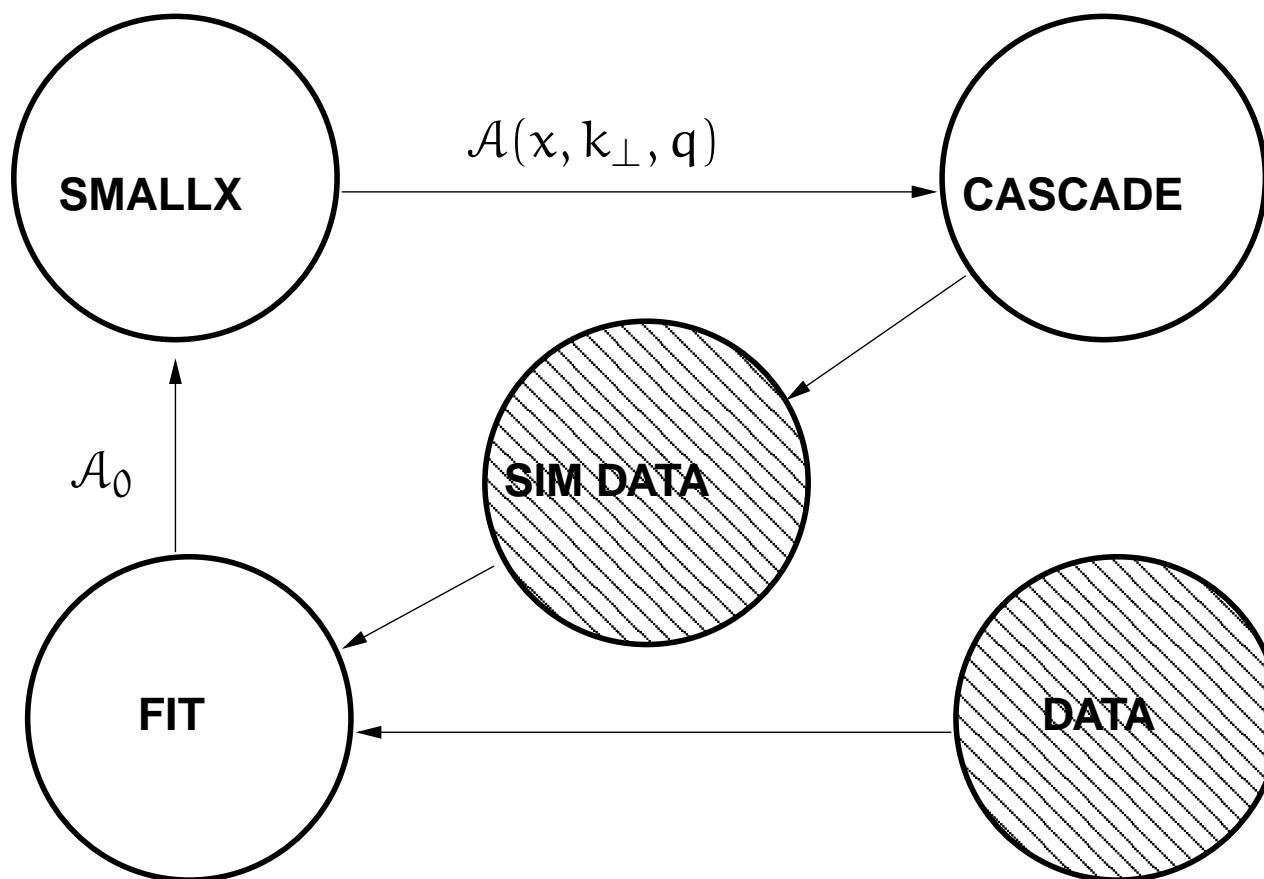
# Change of Kinematics

Distribution of  $1 - T$  with thrust  $T = \max_{\mathbf{n}} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N |\mathbf{p}_i \cdot \mathbf{n}|}{\sum_{i=1}^N |\mathbf{p}_i|}$ .



# Unintegrated PDF

How to assess the uncertainty in the updf delivered by SMALLX to the backward evolving parton shower CASCADE.





# Unintegrated PDF

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The basic building block of the parton shower is

$$\mathcal{P} = \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(z, \frac{\bar{q}}{z}, \mathbf{k}_\perp)}{2\pi z q^2} \mathcal{A}(\frac{x}{z}, \mathbf{k}'_\perp, \frac{\bar{q}}{z})$$
$$\times \exp\left(-\int_q^{\bar{q}} \frac{dq'^2}{q'^2} \int \frac{dz}{z} \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(z, \frac{q'}{z}, \mathbf{k}_\perp) \frac{\mathcal{A}(\frac{x}{z}, \mathbf{k}'_\perp, \frac{q'}{z})}{\mathcal{A}(x, \mathbf{k}_\perp, q')}\right)$$

where  $\mathbf{k}'_\perp = |(1-z)/z\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{k}_\perp|$ .

Define  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(x, \mathbf{k}_\perp, q')$  and  $\mathcal{A}_z = \mathcal{A}(\frac{x}{z}, \mathbf{k}'_\perp, \frac{q'}{z})$

Variation of the real part:  $\delta F_R / F_R = \delta \mathcal{A}_z / \mathcal{A}$

and of the virtual part:  $\delta F_V \approx \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(z, \frac{q'}{z}, \mathbf{k}_\perp)}{2\pi z q'^2 \mathcal{A}} \left( \delta \mathcal{A}_z - \frac{\mathcal{A}_z}{\mathcal{A}} \delta \mathcal{A} \right)$

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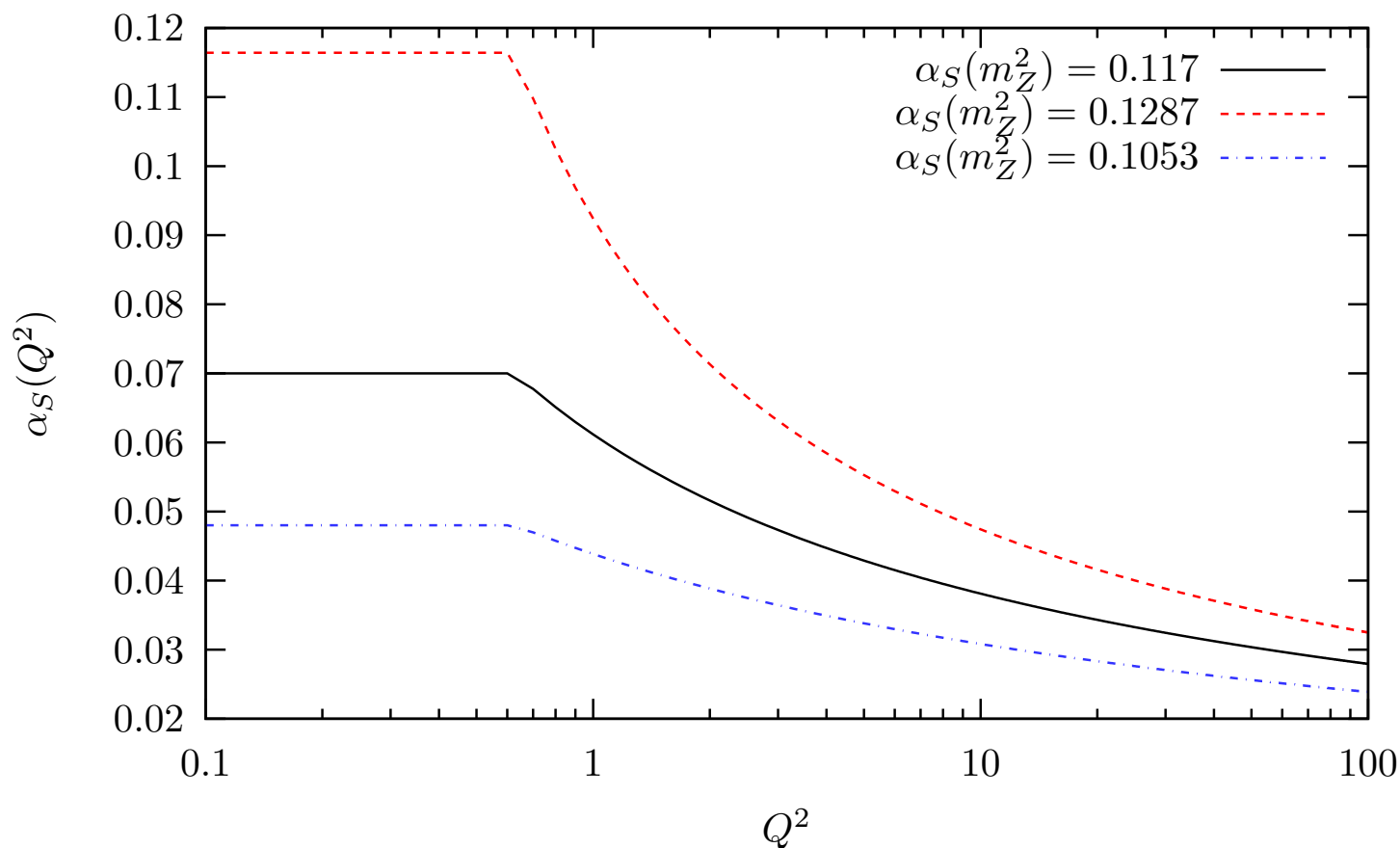
# Conclusion

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- Suggest to estimate uncertainties in parton shower by reweighting events
- Direct study of reweighted results vs. full implementation can highlight physical differences between methods
  - Kinematics bounds
  - Evolution ordering
- Could be used to direct research in regions where Monte Carlo's fail to match data

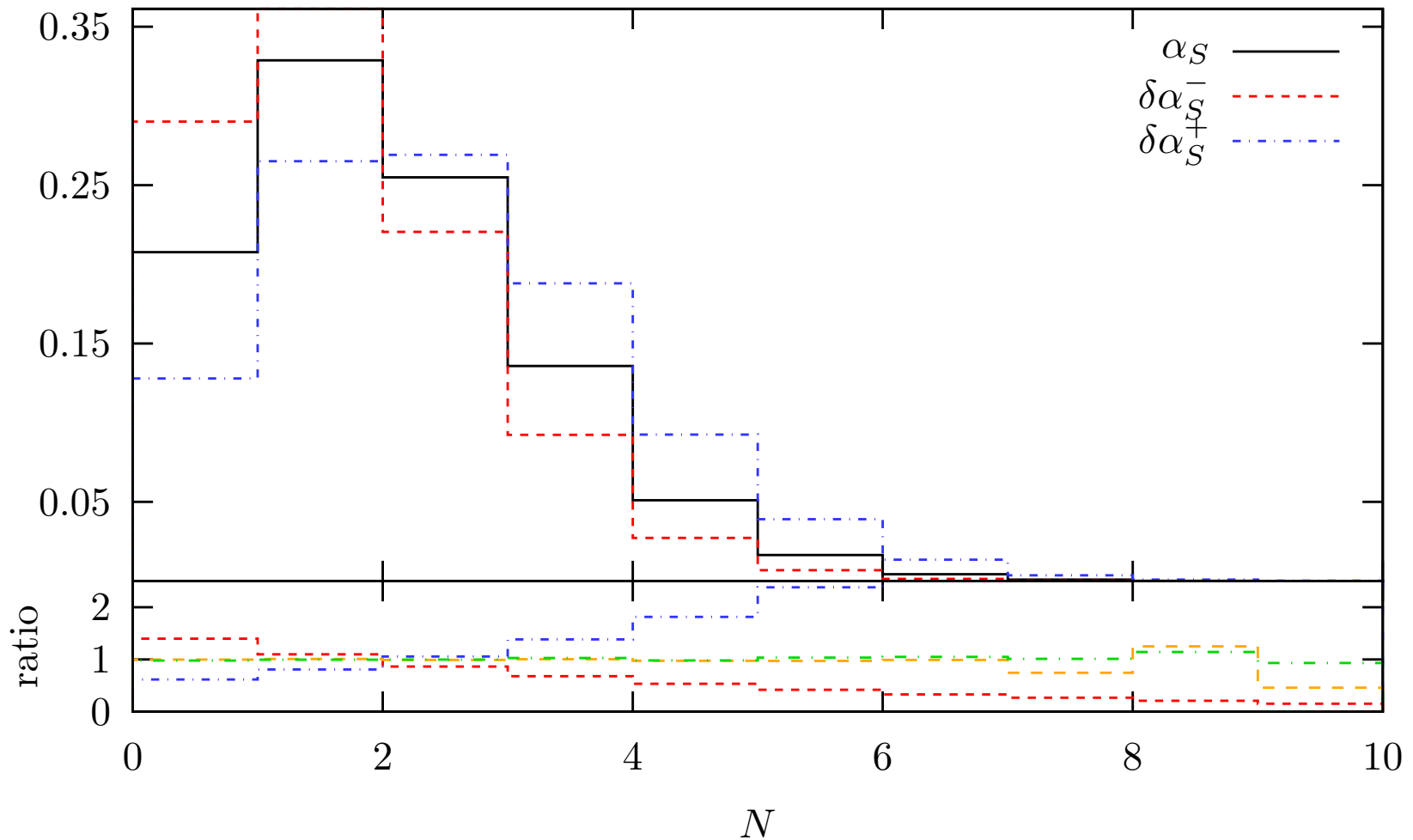
# Uncertainty in Strong Coupling

- Used  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2) \pm \delta\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  to compute  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \pm \delta\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^\pm$
- 2-loop running coupling, frozen at  $Q^2 = 0.630 \text{ GeV}^2$



# Running Coupling

Distribution of  $N$ , the number of emissions.



# Running Coupling

Distribution of  $p_{\perp}$  of each emission.

