

# Future of VBF? Challenges.

Simon Plätzer

Institute of Physics — NAWI, University of Graz

Particle Physics — University of Vienna

At the

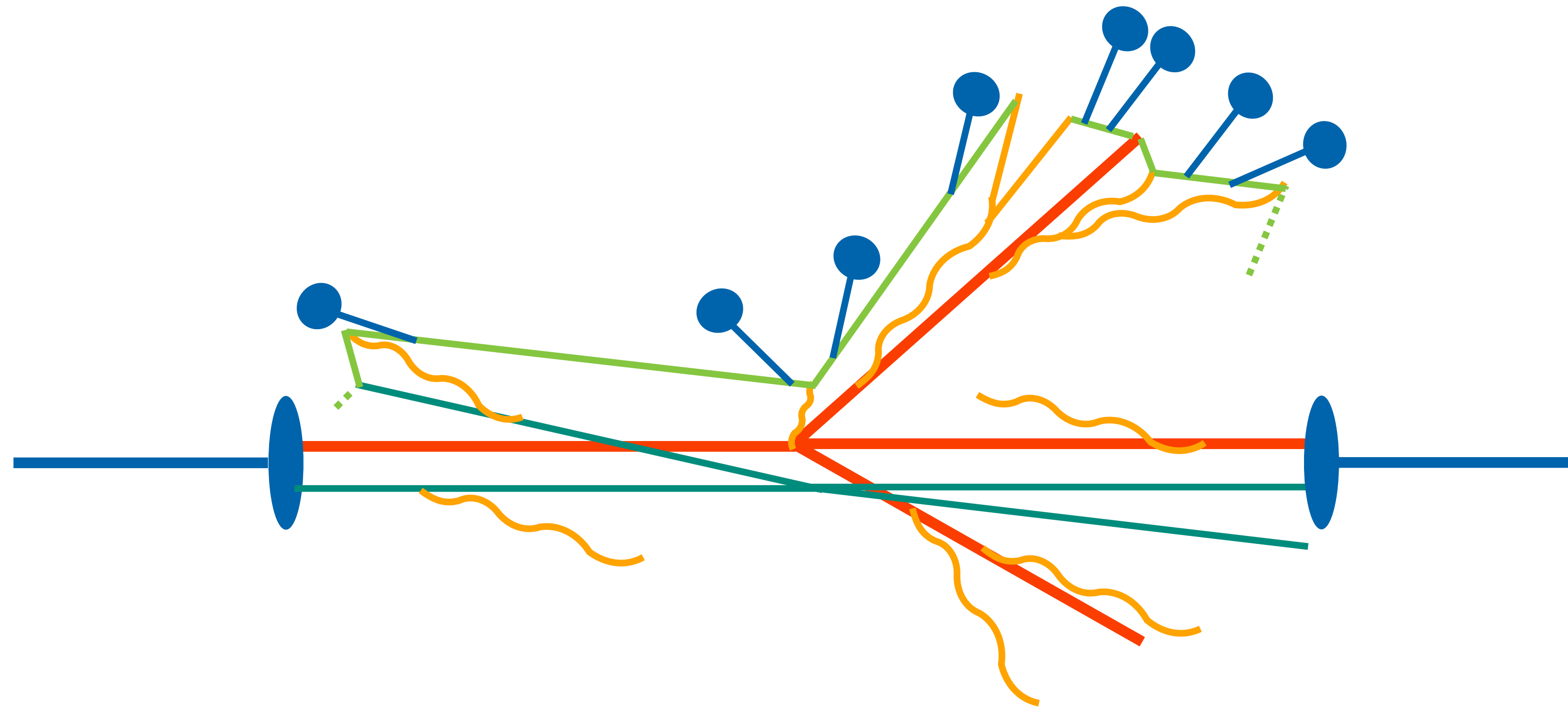
Past, Present and Future of VBF workshop

CERN/Online | 21 October 2022

How do we, most **accurately**, describe VBF/VBS final states?

- Complexity in final states (parton showers, decays, definition of final states)?
- “Contamination” from soft physics?
- Interferences and description of radiation patterns (non-factorizable contributions, loose cuts)?
- Are there issues in matching and merging (the “generation cuts” problem)?
- Pushing towards a few percent: electroweak, hadronization, ....

# Multi-purpose event generators

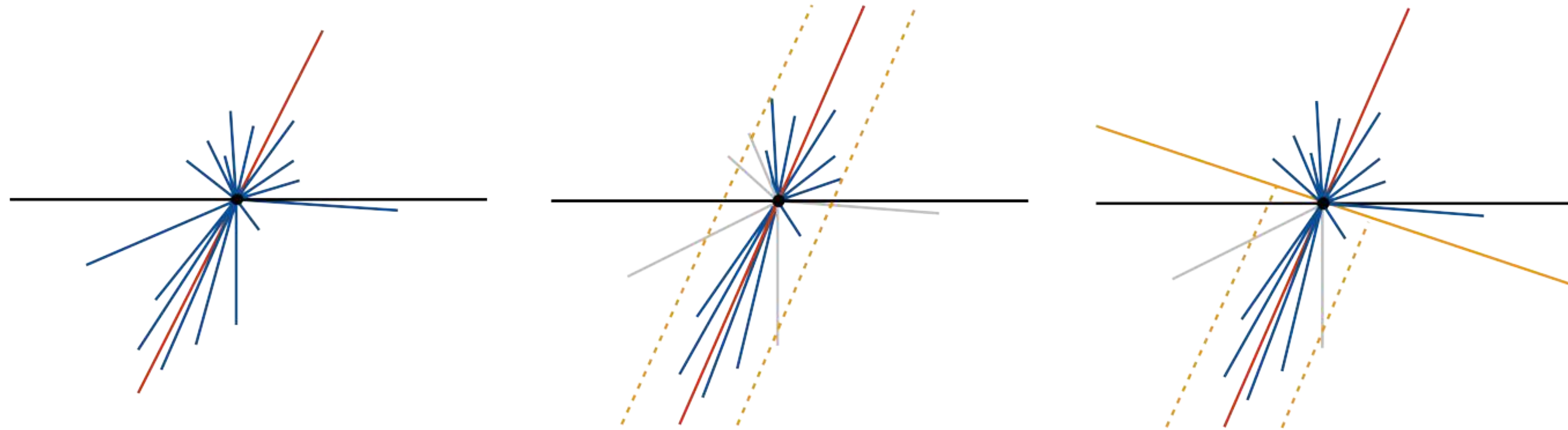


$$d\sigma \sim L \times d\sigma_H(Q) \times PS(Q \rightarrow \mu) \times MPI \times Had(\mu \rightarrow \Lambda) \times \dots$$

# More to parton showers

Silvia & Christian have already done a terrific job at summarising most of fixed order corrections and matching.

# Accuracy of Parton Showers



Global event shapes from coherent branching

$$H(\alpha_s) \times \exp \left( Lg_1(\alpha_s L) + g_2(\alpha_s L) + \alpha_s g_3(\alpha_s L) + \dots \right)$$

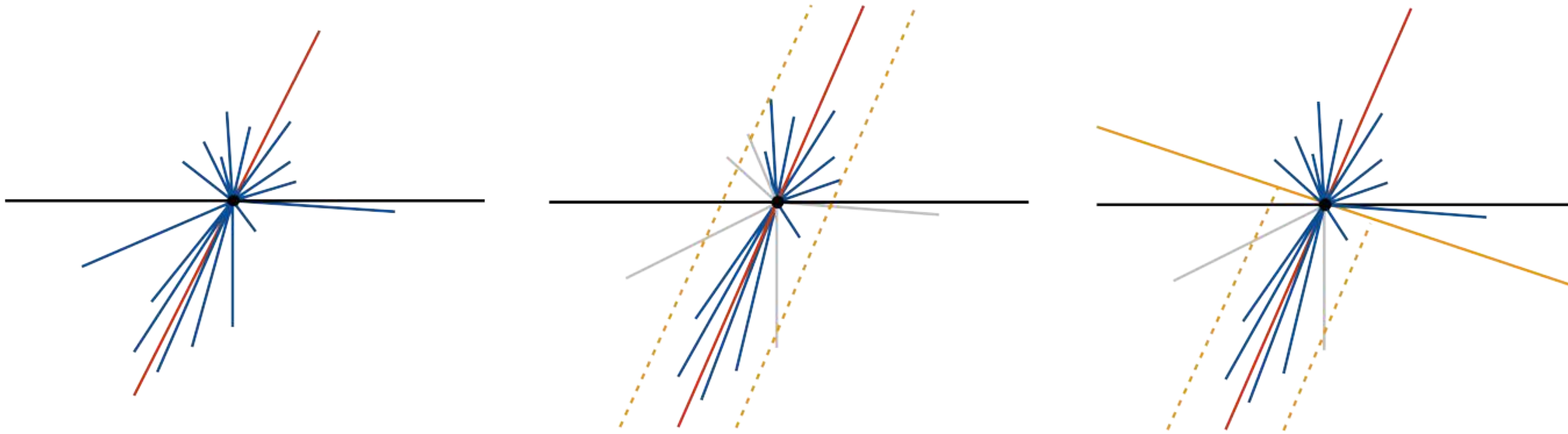
LL — qualitative

NLL — quantitative

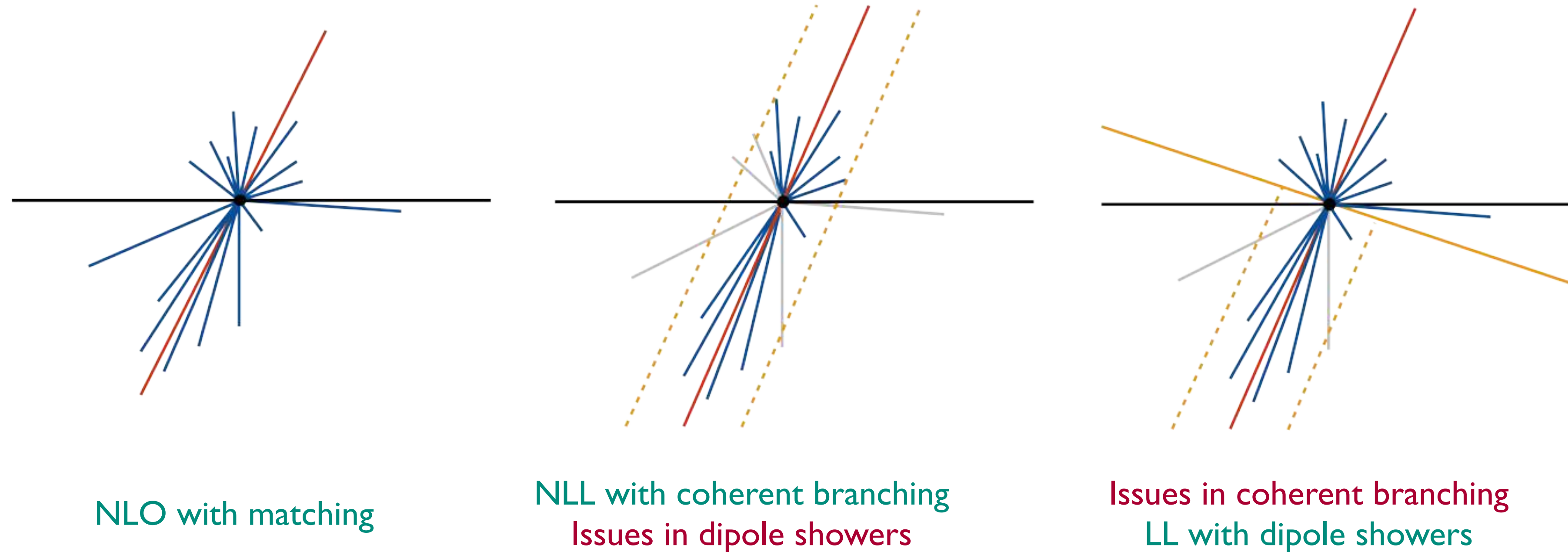
NNLL — precision

$$\alpha_s L \sim 1$$

# Accuracy of Parton Showers



# Accuracy of Parton Showers



Strictly only in the 2-jet limit for global observables.

Non-globals always fine with dipoles in large-N limit but mind  $\alpha_s N^2 \sim 1$

[Dasgupta, Dreyer, Hamilton, Monni, Salam et al. — JHEP 09 (2018) 033, ...]

[Hoang, Plätzer, Samitz — JHEP 1810 (2018) 200]

[Bewick, Ferrario, Richardson, Seymour — JHEP 04 (2020) 019]

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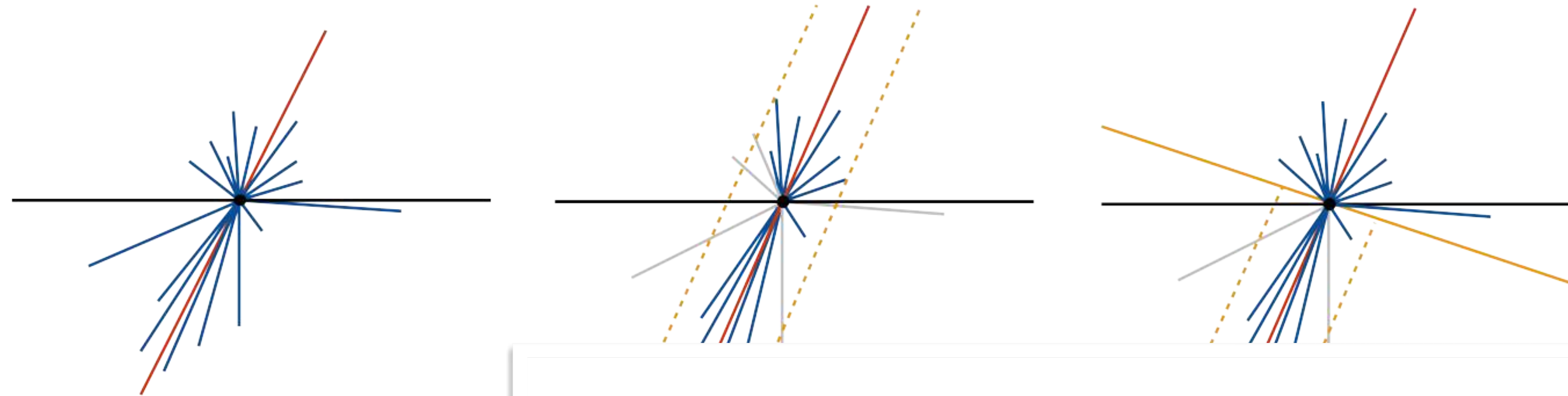
$\alpha_s L \sim 1$

LL

NLL

NNLL

# Accuracy of Parton Showers



NLO with matching

Dipole showers reproducing coherent branching:  
NLL & NLC global, LL & LC non-global

[Dasgupta, Dreyer, Hamilton, Monni, Salam — PRL 125 (2020) 5]  
[Forshaw, Holguin, Plätzer — JHEP 09 (2020) 014 & EPC C81 (2021) 4]  
recently also implemented in Sherpa

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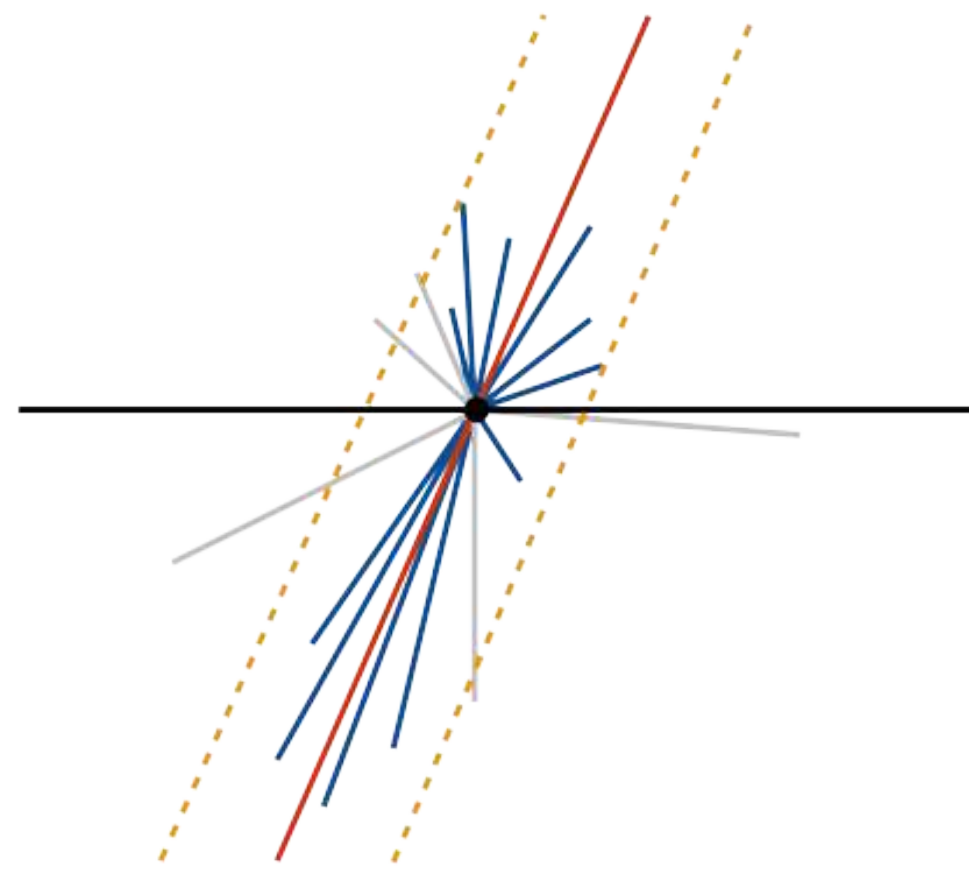
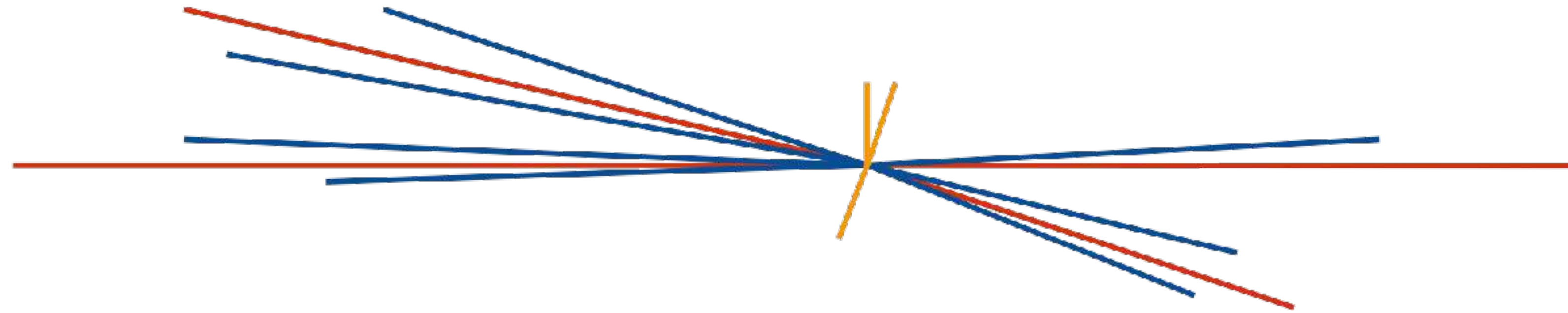
LL

NLL

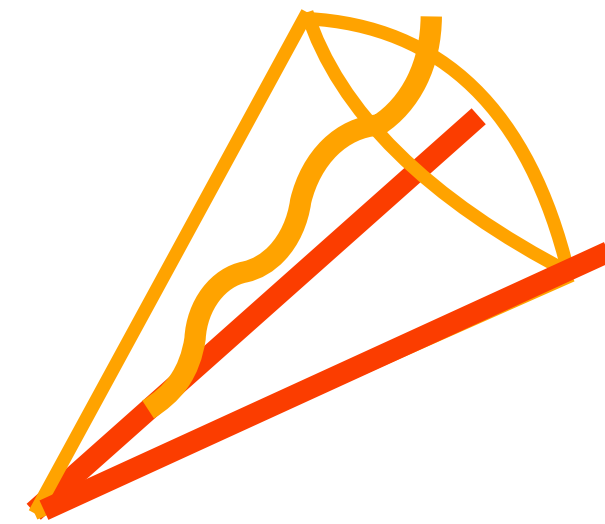
NNLL



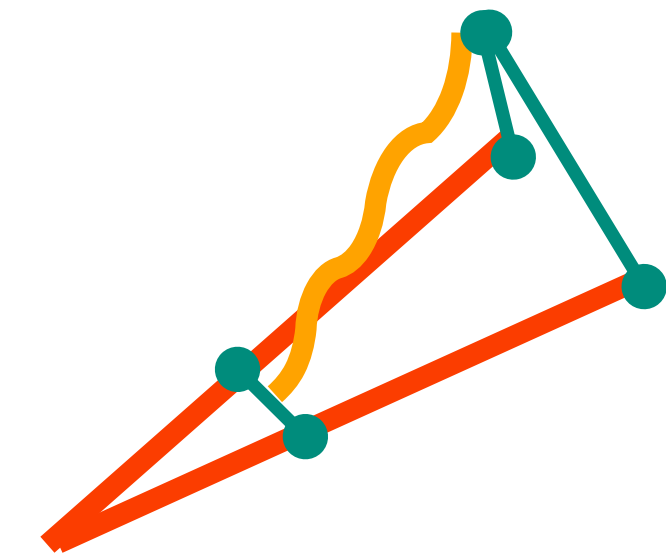
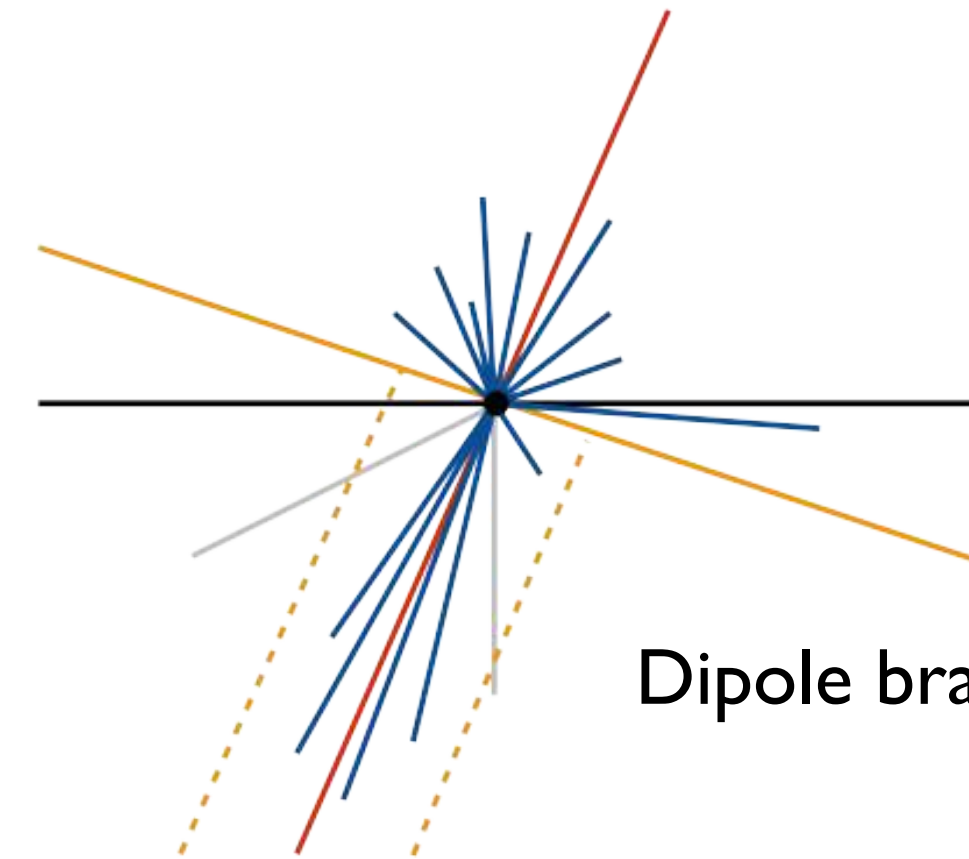
Coherent emission of soft large angle gluons from systems of collinear partons.



Parton branchings order in angle:  
Driven by QCD coherence, recoils  
at the end of showering.

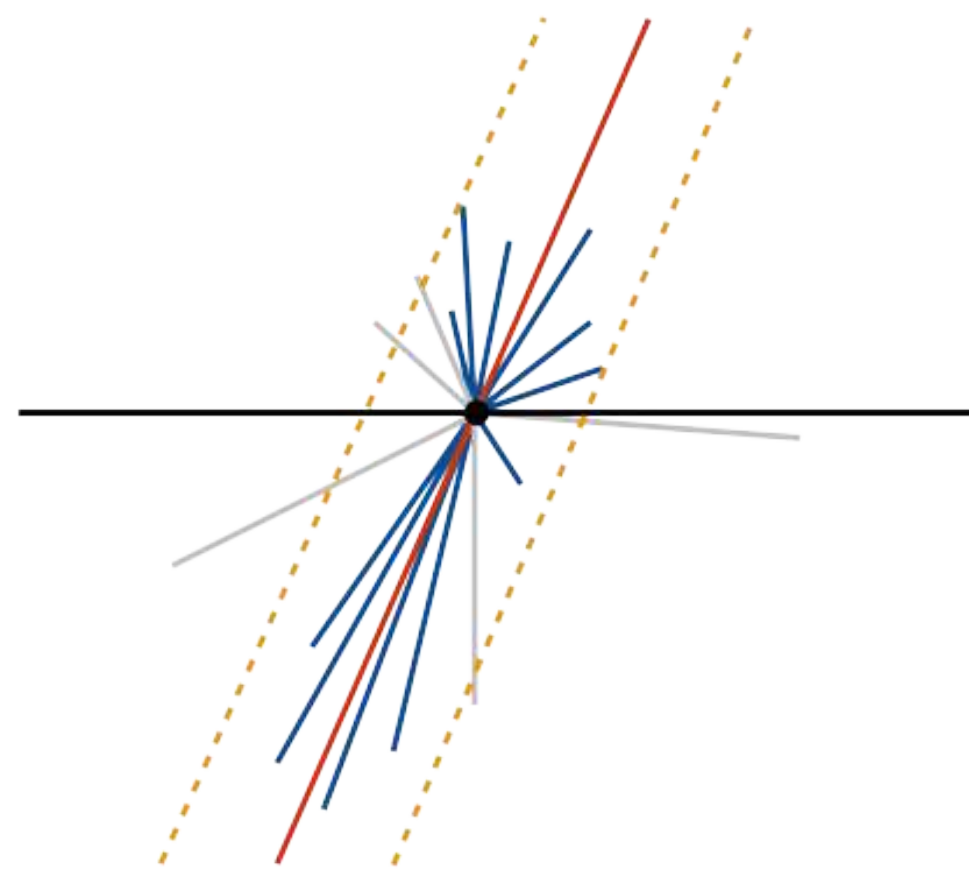
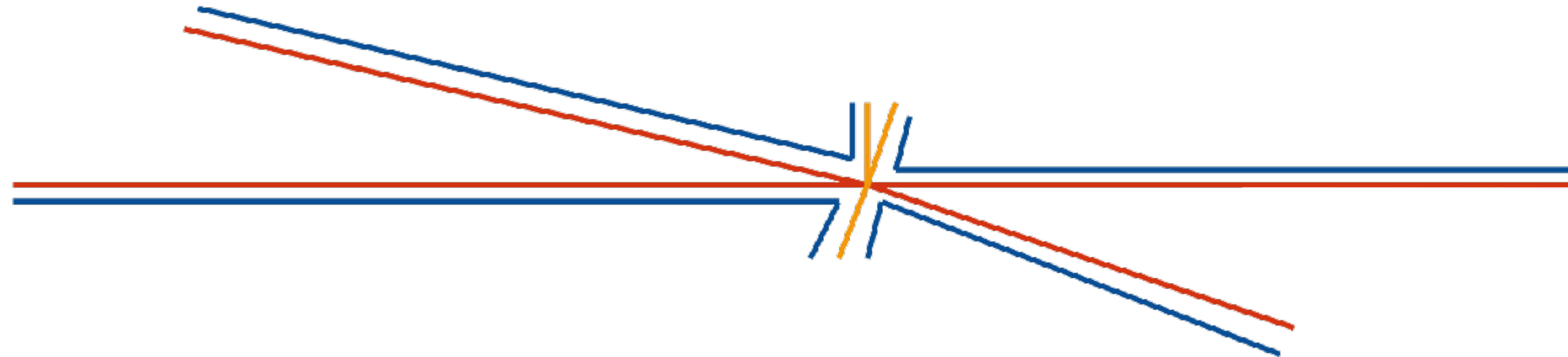


Dipole branchings order in transverse momentum:  
Driven by large-N colour flow.  
Allow to conserve momentum locally.

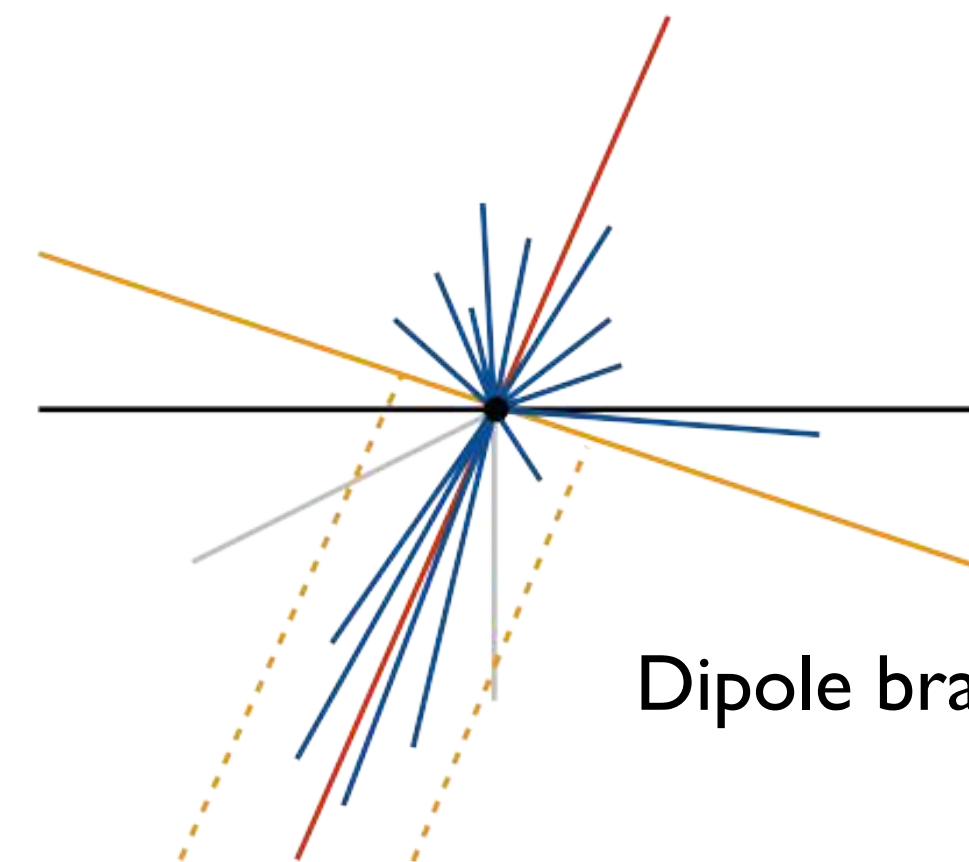
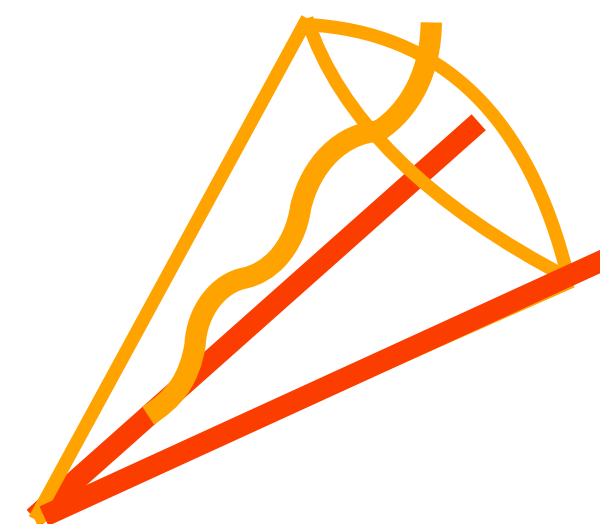


“Bad” recoil choices can destroy this pattern even if everything else is right.

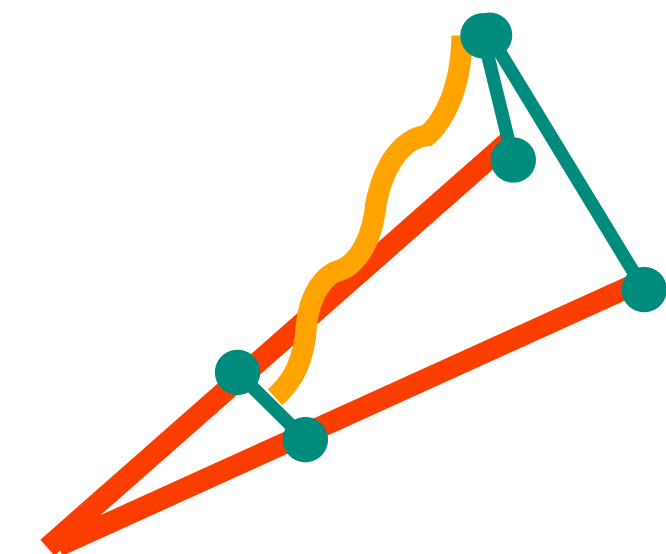
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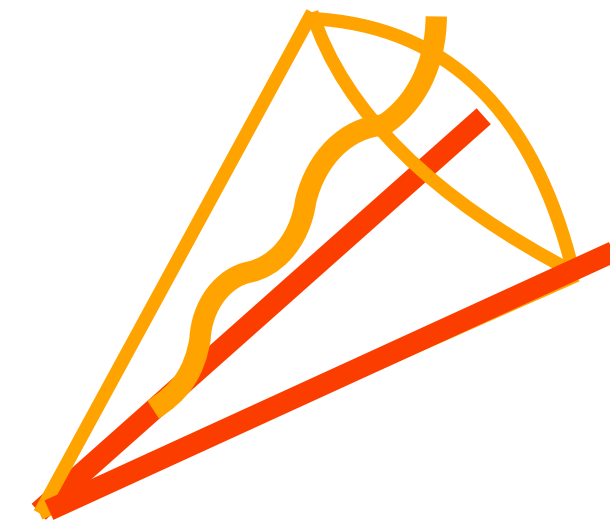
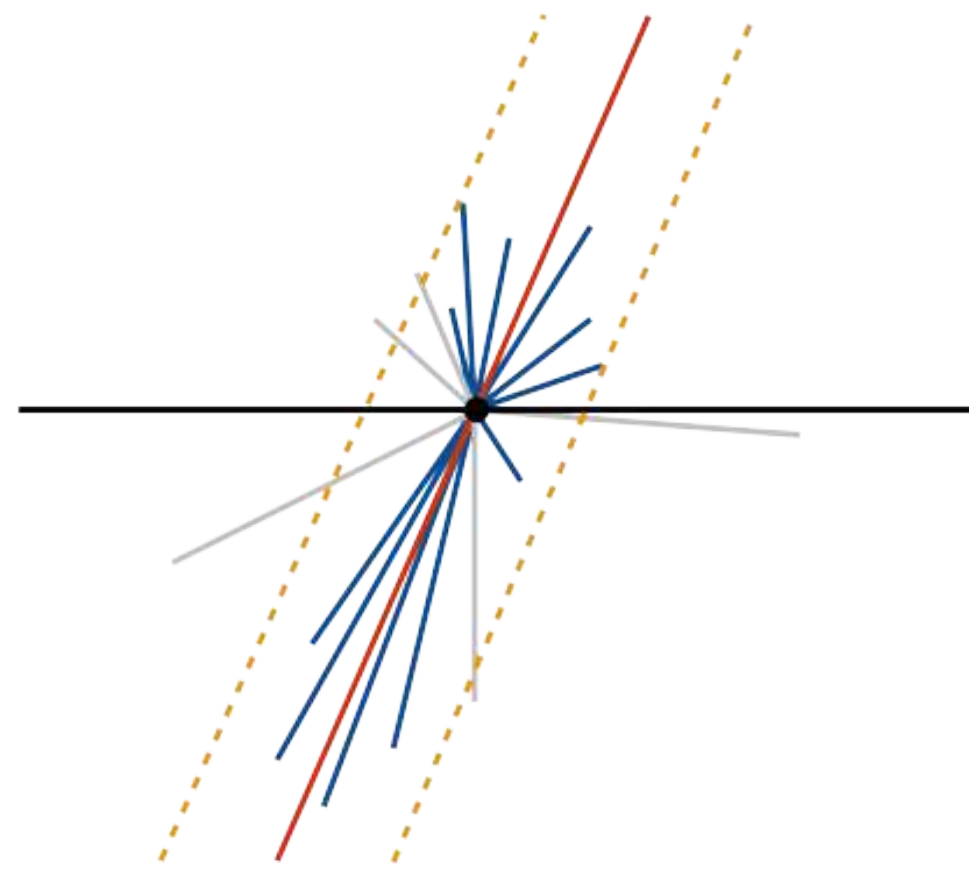
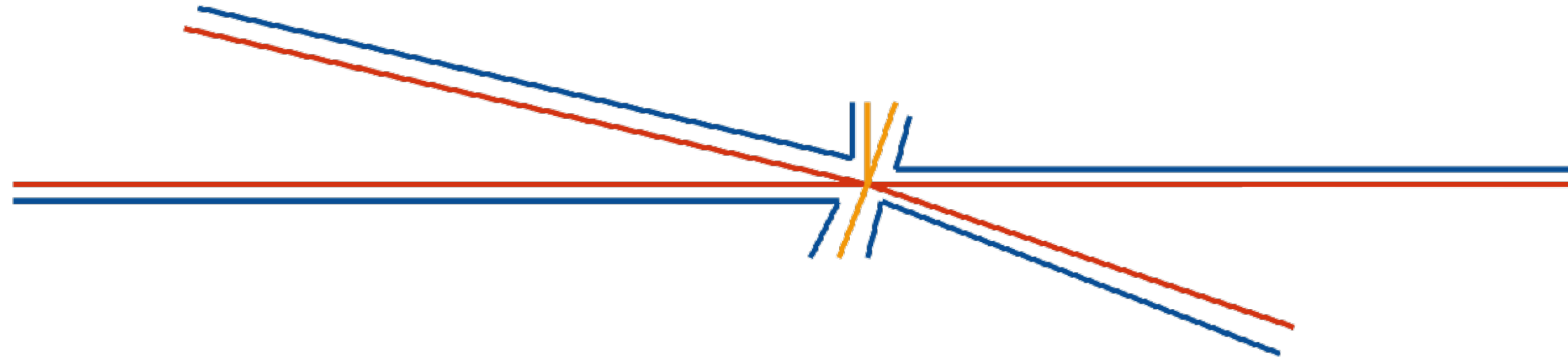


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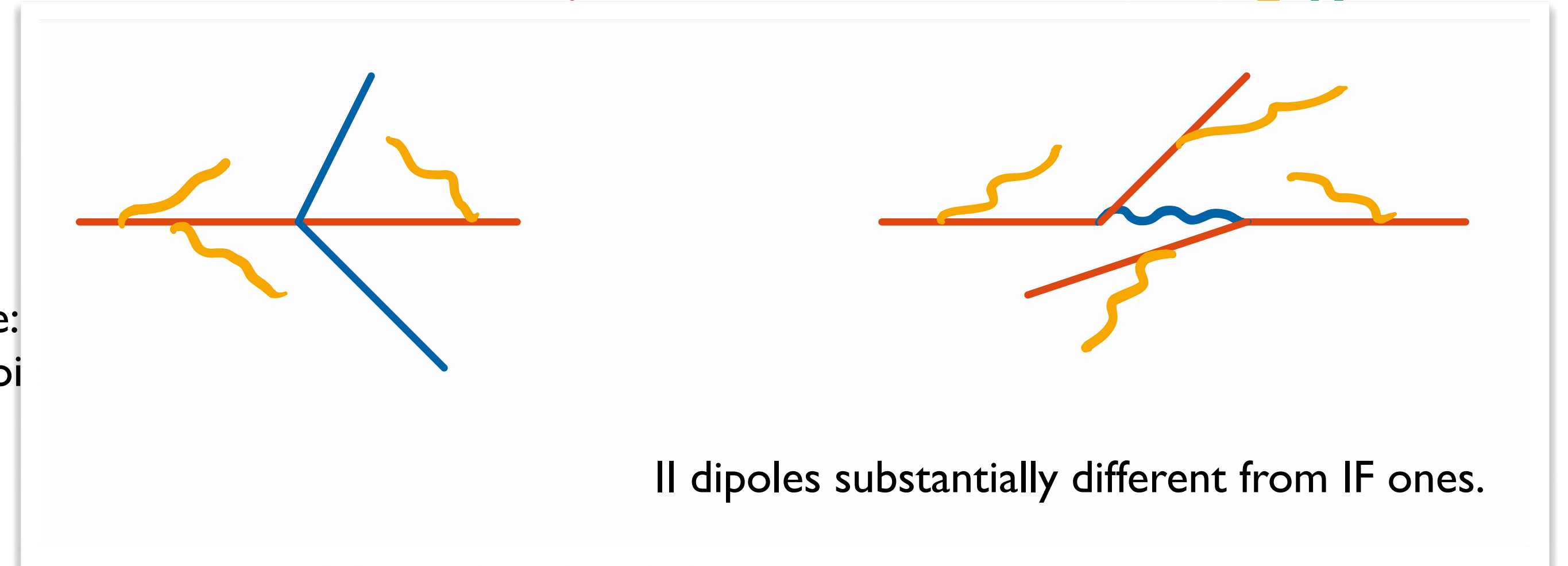


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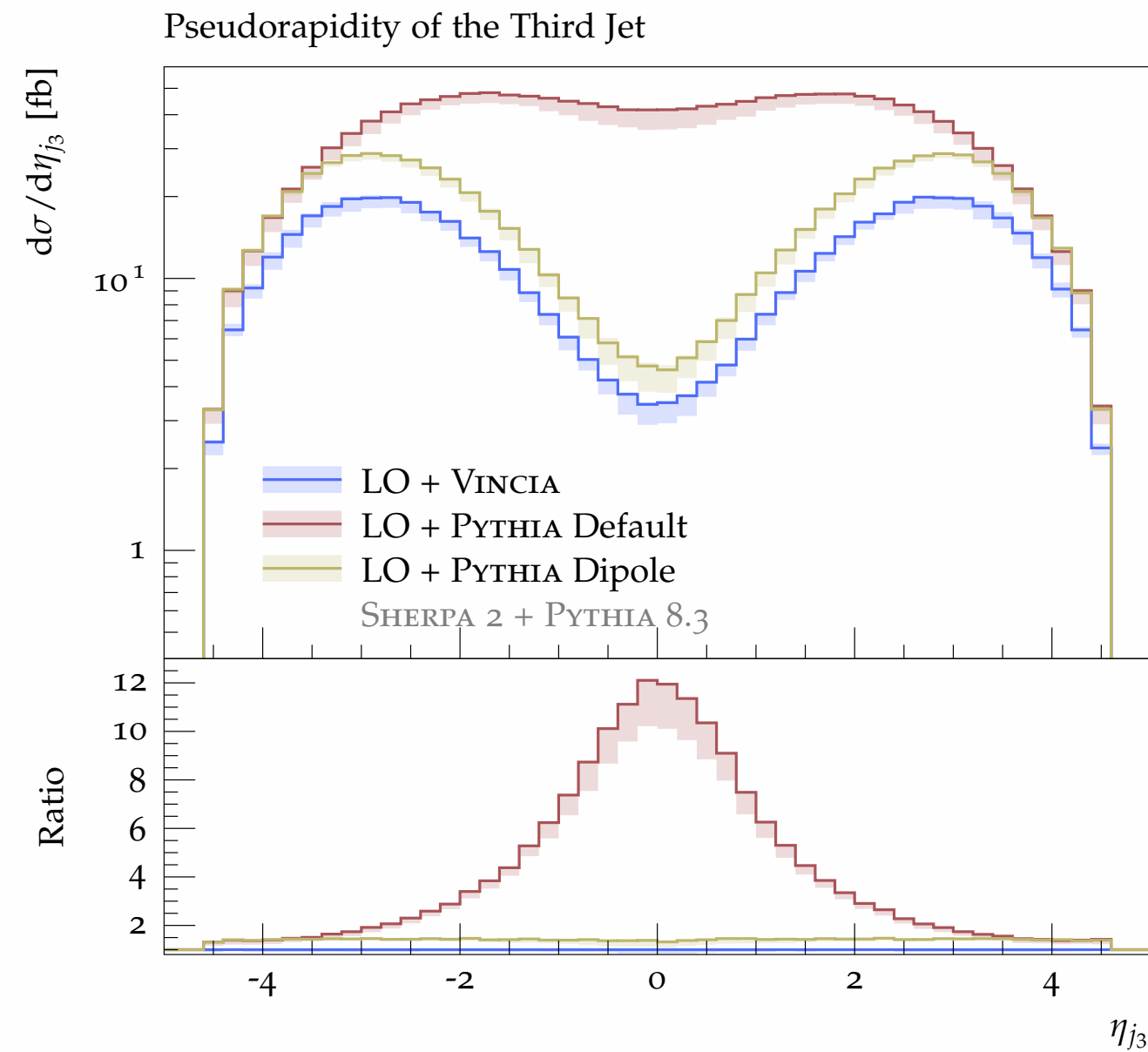


Parton branchings order in angle:  
Driven by QCD coherence, recoil  
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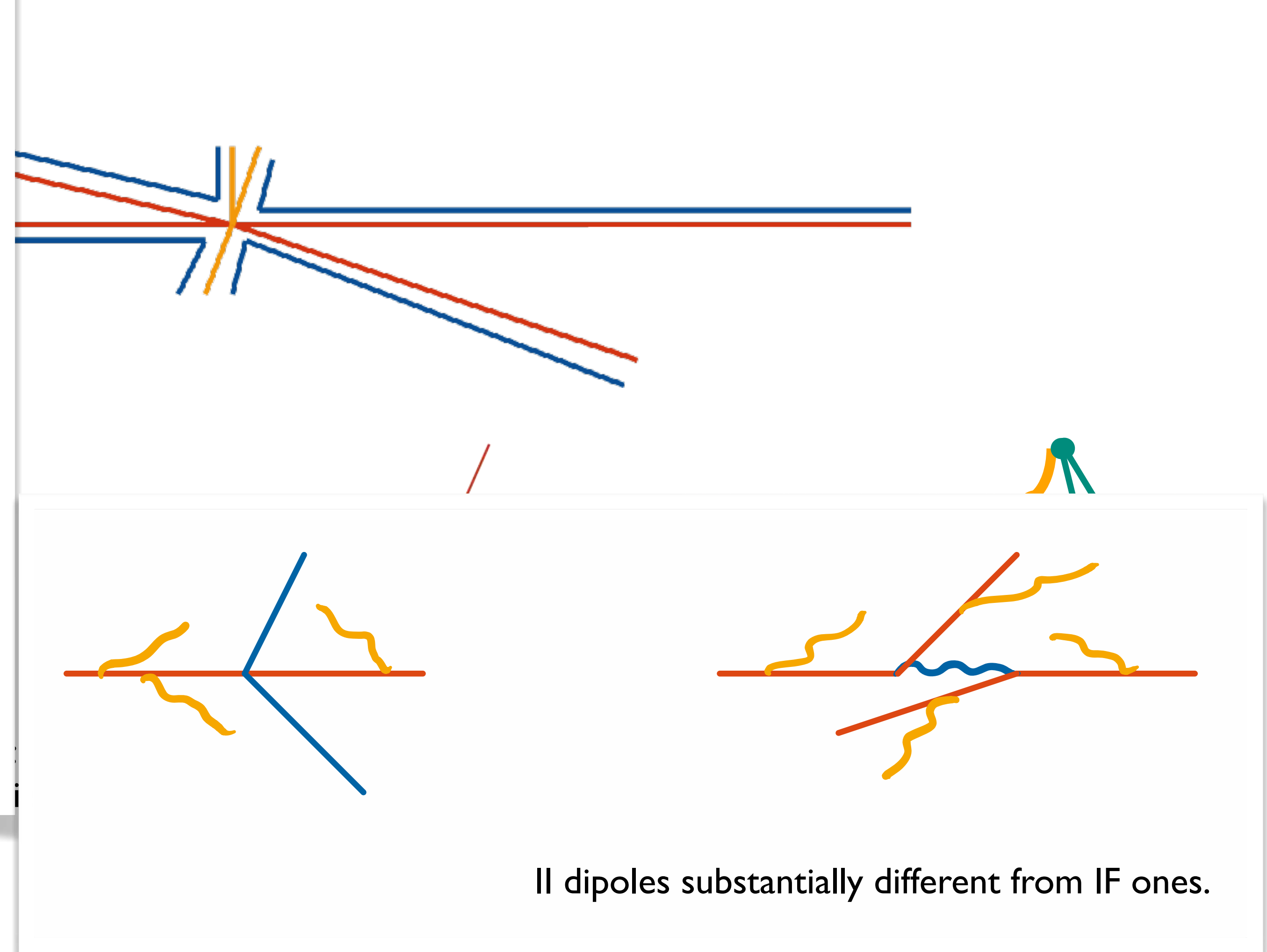


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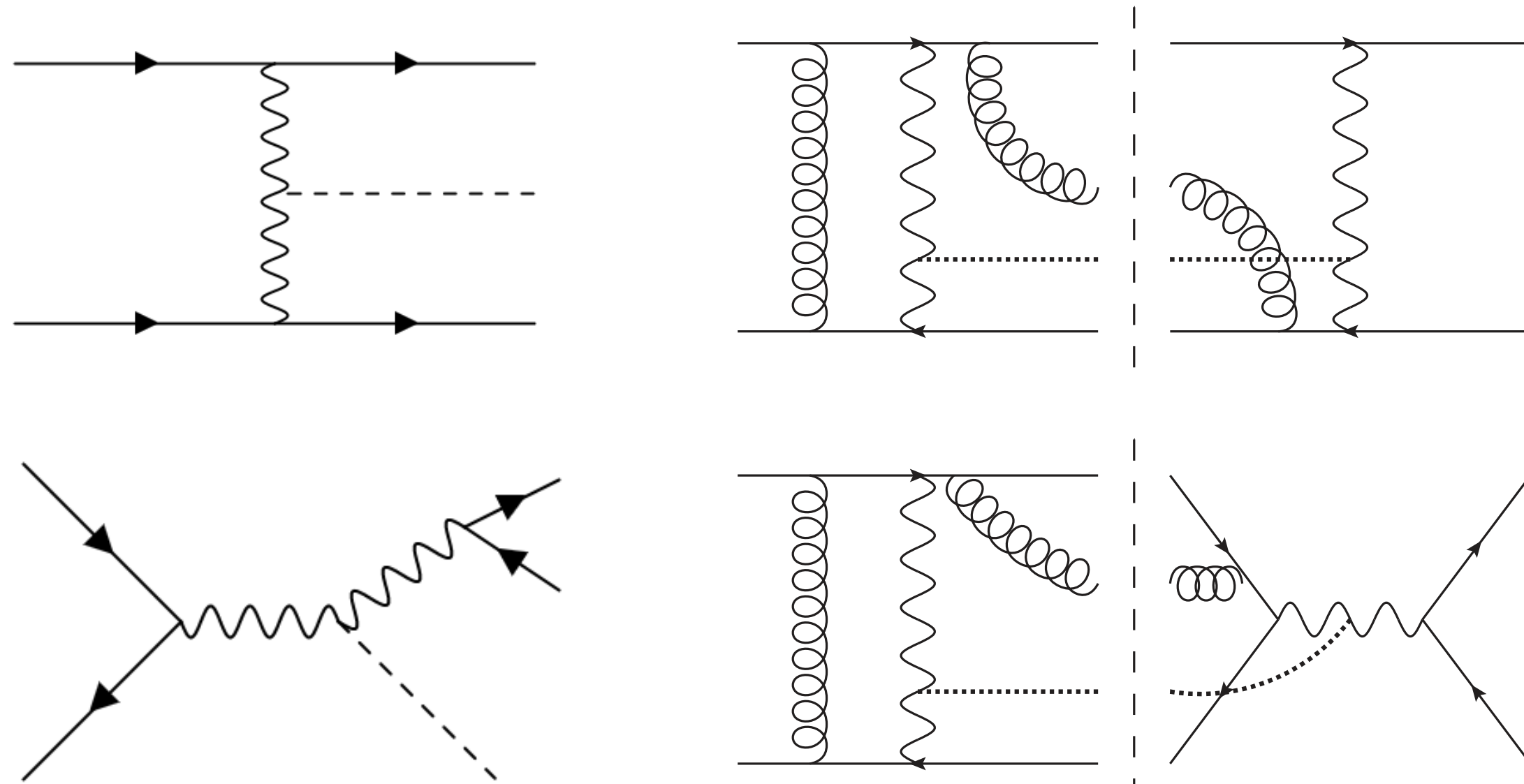
[Höche, Mrenna, Payne, Preuss, Skands — arXiv:2106.10987]  
similar findings earlier in  
[Jäger, Karlberg, Plätzer, Scheller, Zaro — EPJ C80 (2020) 756]  
[Ballesterro et al. — Eur.Phys.J.C 78 (2018) 8, 671]

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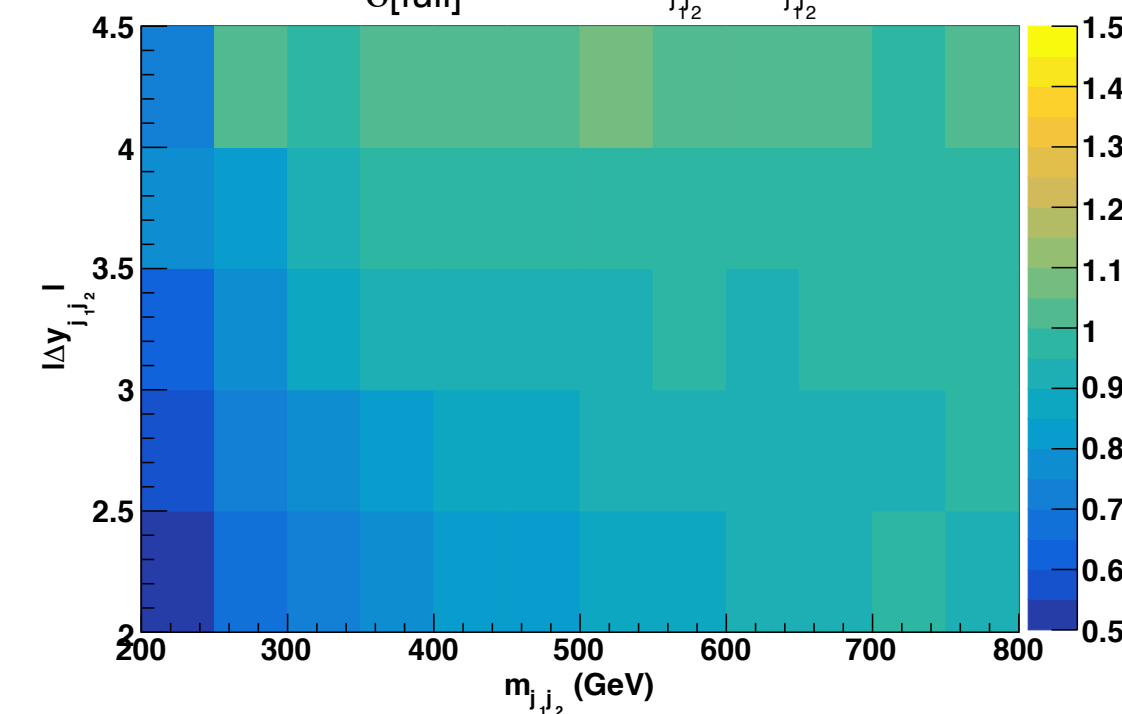
In essence, coherence is about getting interferences right — for more than two (three) partons we inevitably need to resort to the large-N limit.



no s channels

$$\alpha_s \alpha^6 : \frac{\sigma[|t|^2 + |u|^2]}{\sigma[\text{full}]}$$

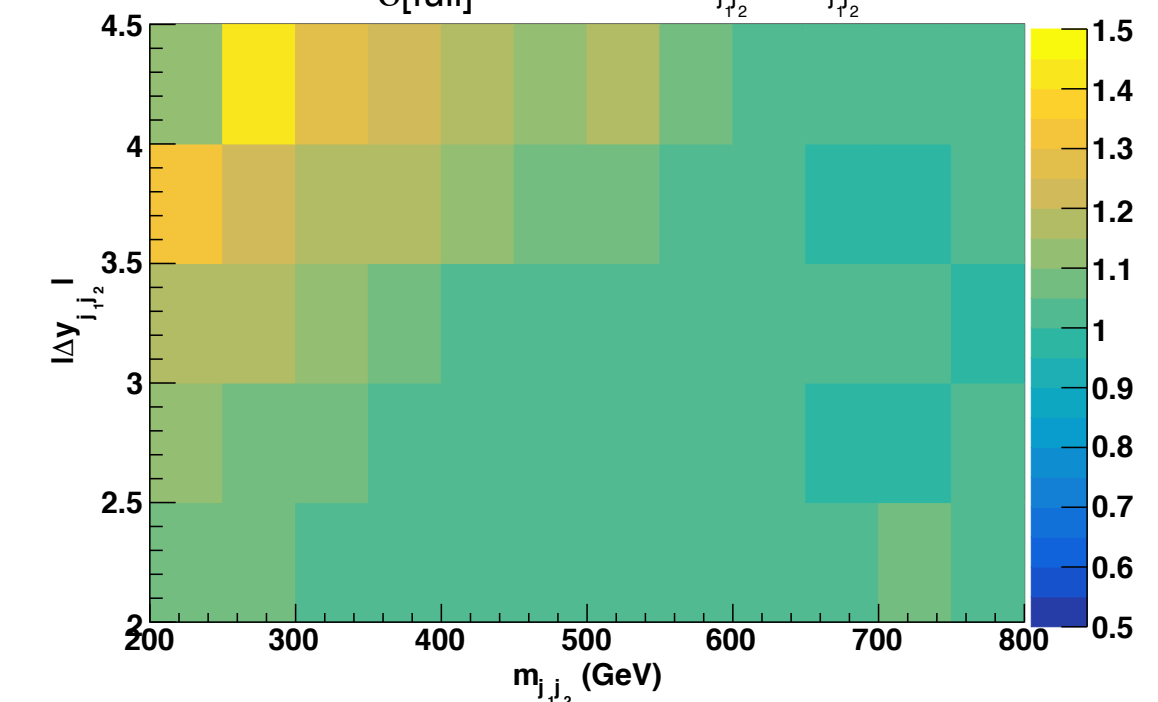
in the  $(m_{j_1 j_2}, \Delta y_{j_1 j_2})$  plane



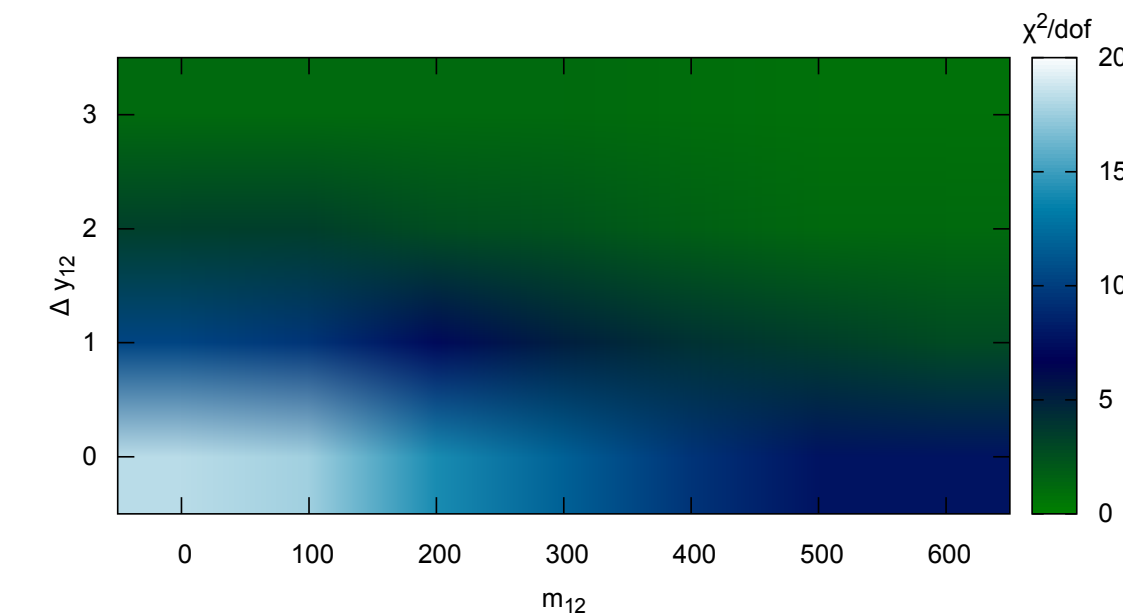
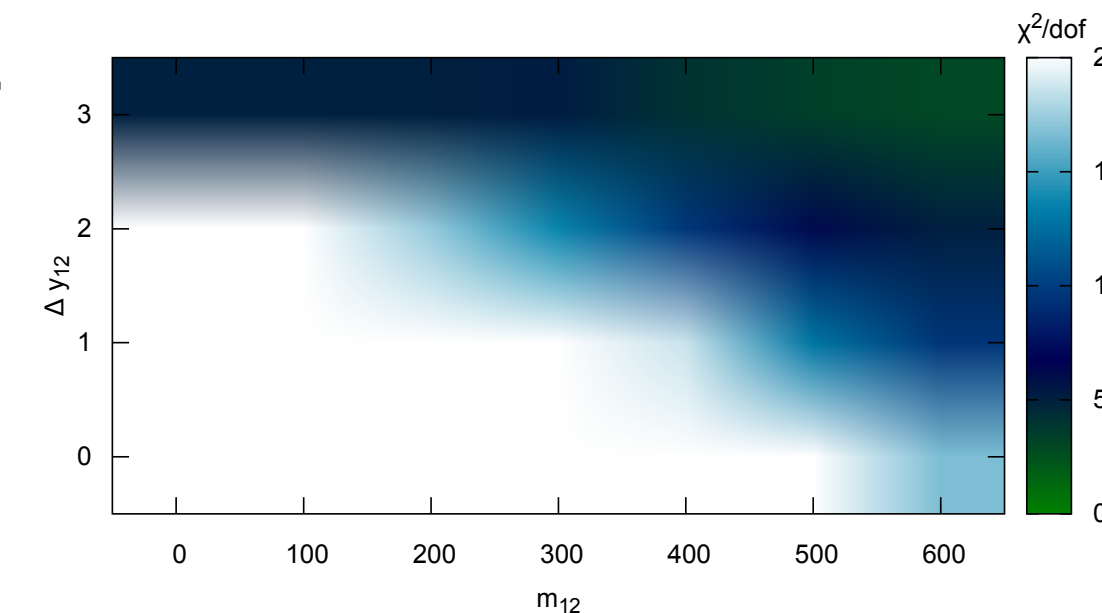
s channels in approximation

$$\alpha_s \alpha^6 : \frac{\sigma[|s|^2 + |t|^2 + |u|^2]}{\sigma[\text{full}]}$$

in the  $(m_{j_1 j_2}, \Delta y_{j_1 j_2})$  plane



$\Delta y_{12}$



s channels un-suppressed

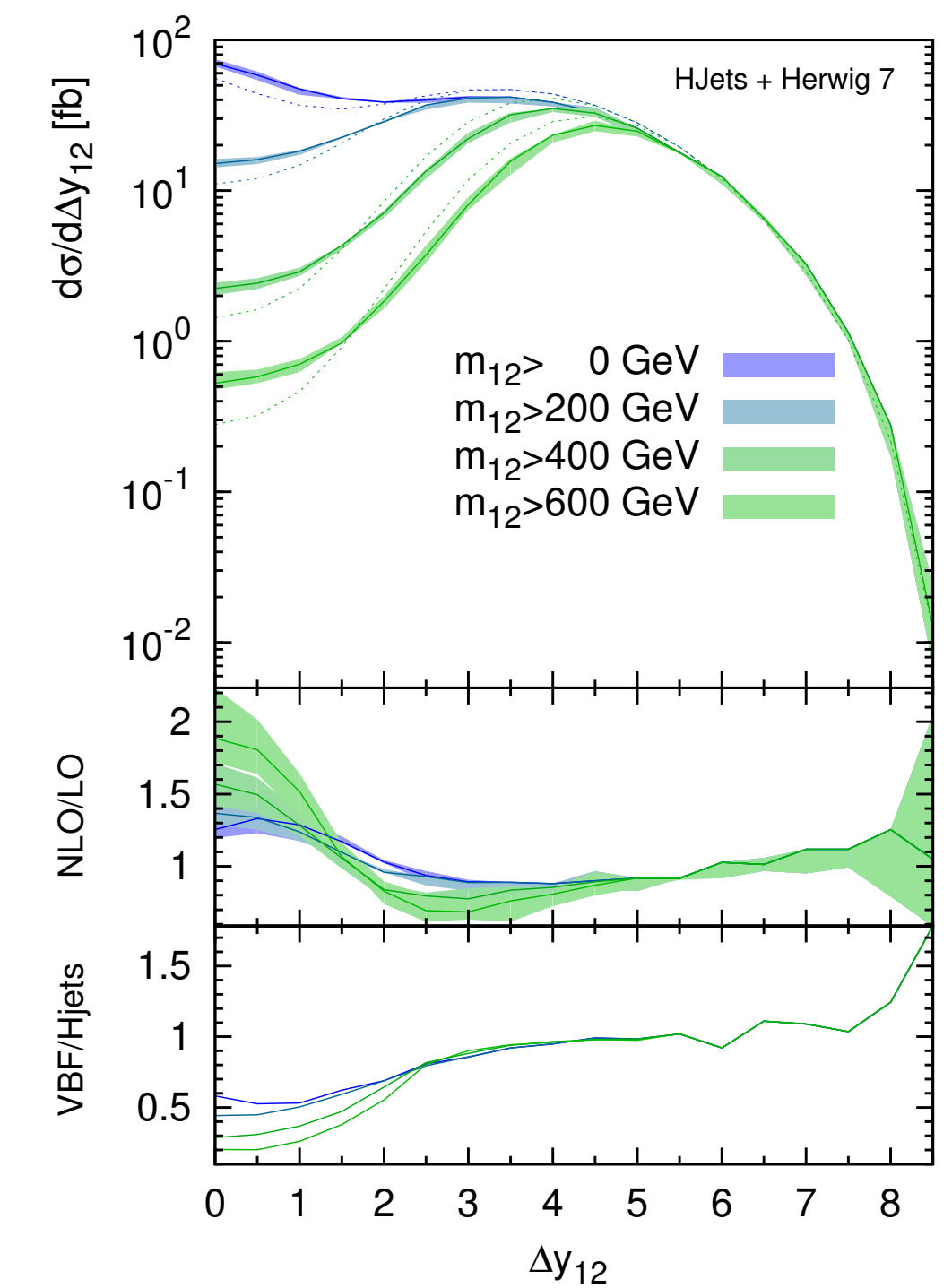
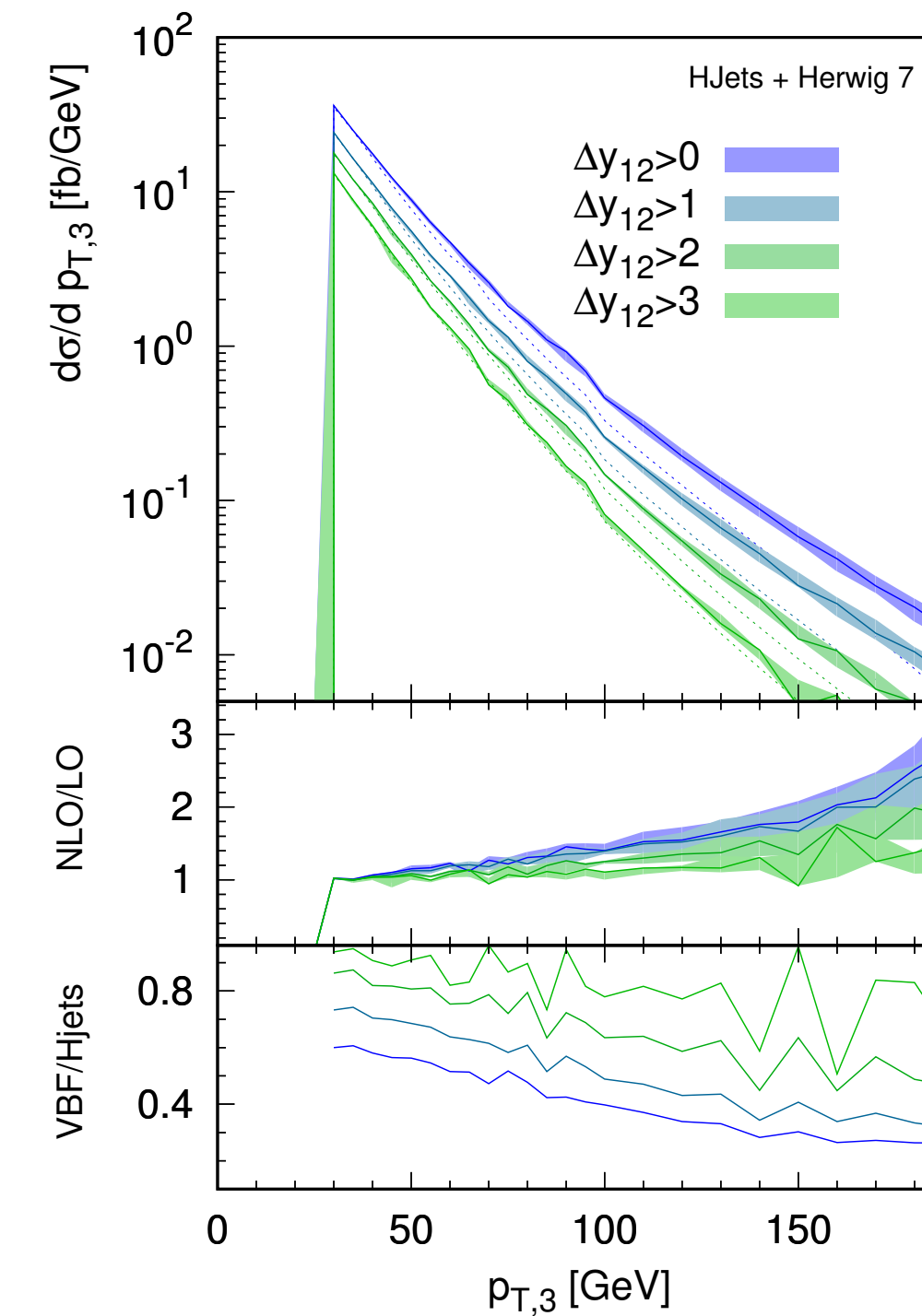
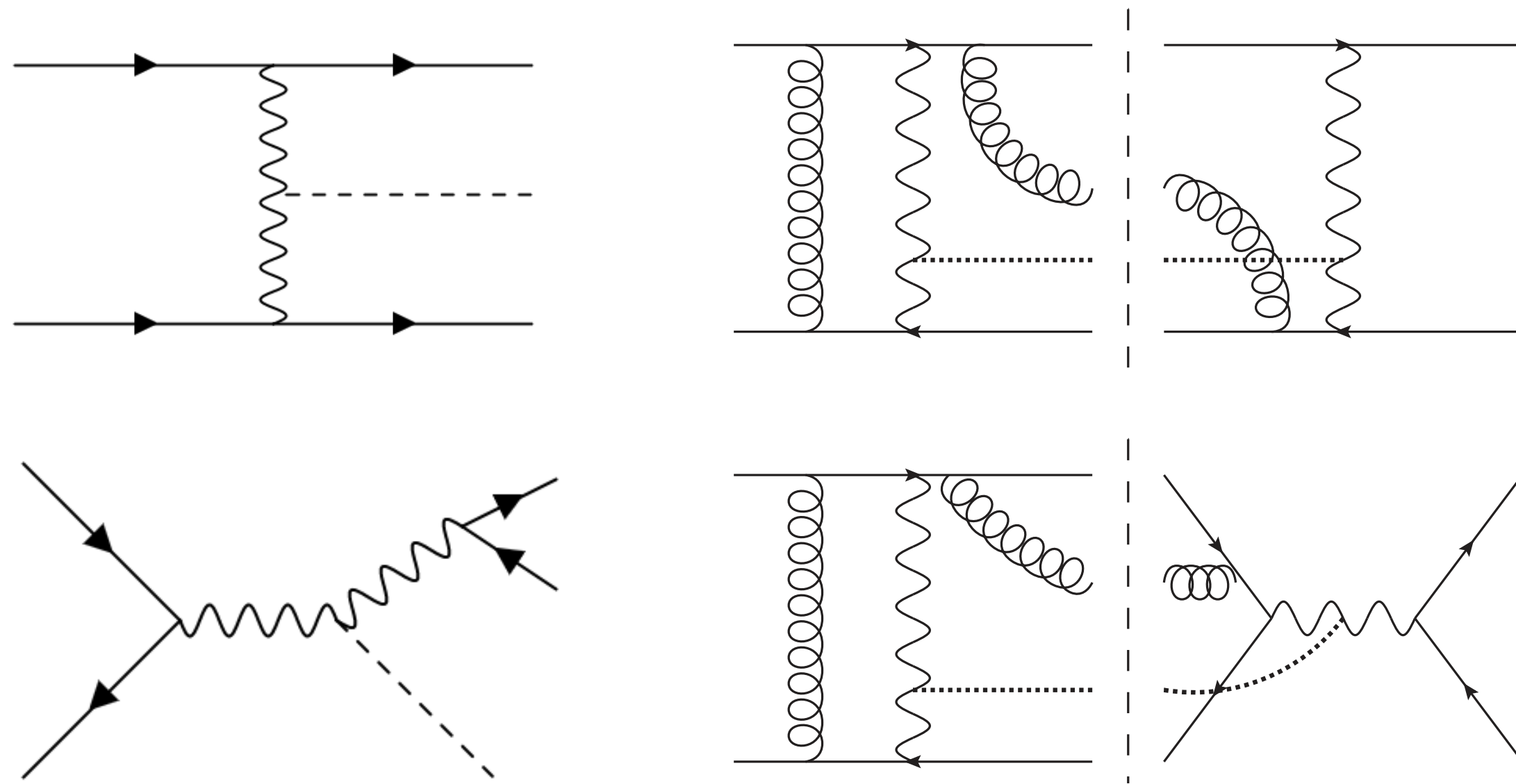
s channels vetoed

Beyond fixed-order largely uncharted territory.

[Campanario, Figy, Plätzer, Rauch, Schichtel, Sjödalh – PRD 98 (2018) 033]

[Ballesterio et al. — Eur.Phys.J.C 78 (2018) 8, 671]

In essence, coherence is about getting interferences right — for more than two (three) partons we inevitably need to resort to the large- $N$  limit.



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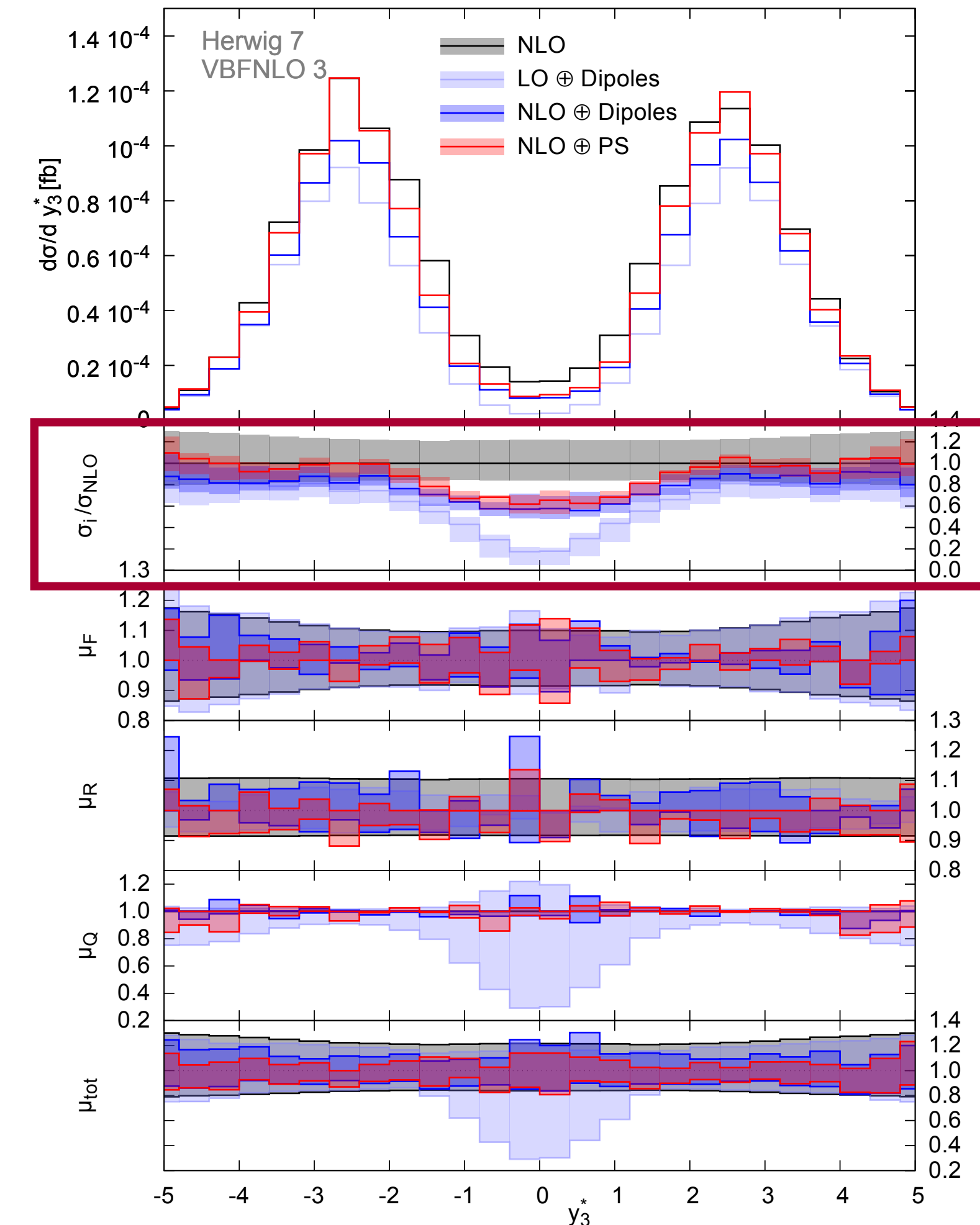
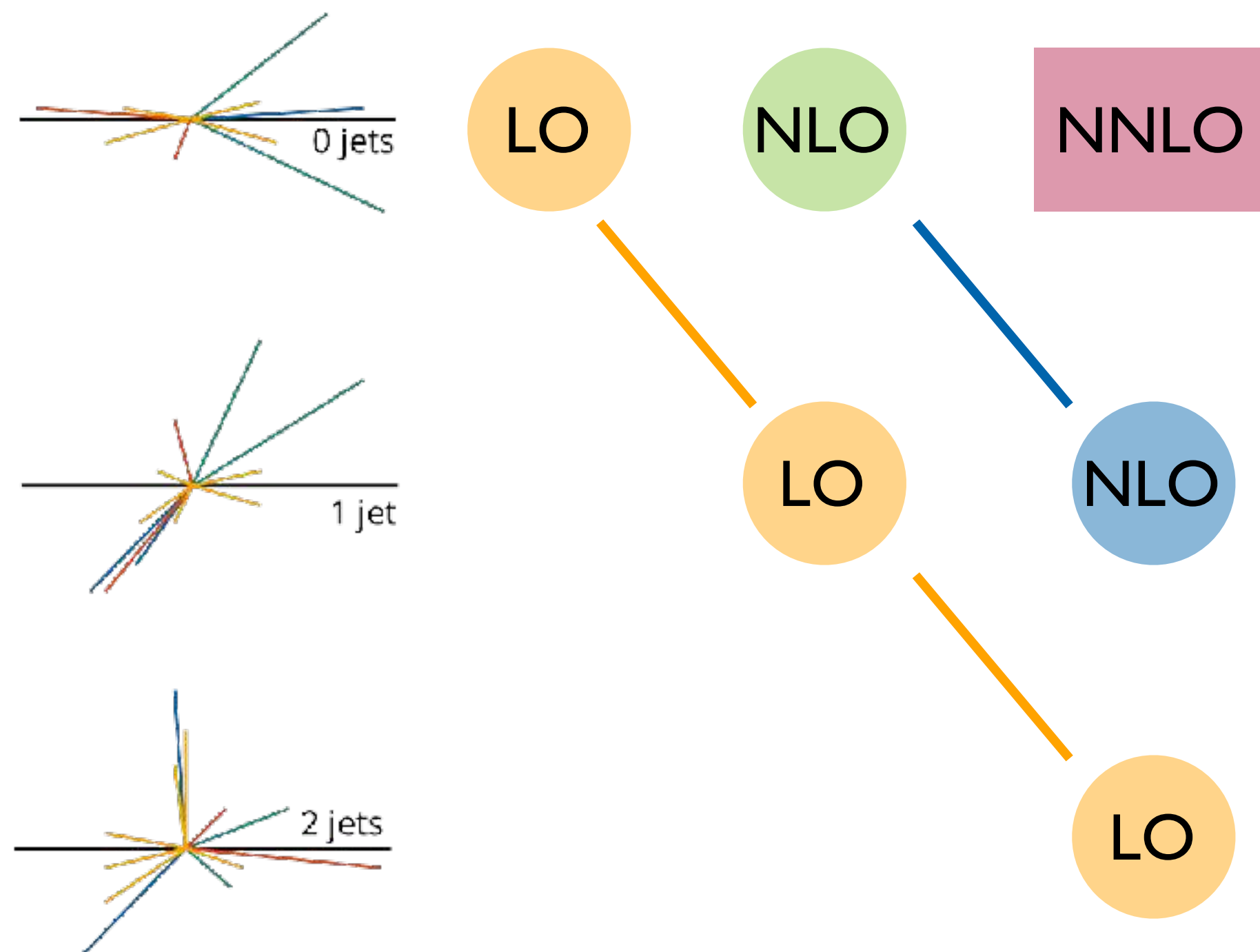
[Campanario, Figy, Plätzer, Rauch, Schichtel, Sjödalh – PRD 98 (2018) 033]  
[Ballesterio et al. — Eur.Phys.J.C 78 (2018) 8, 671]

# Challenges for Matching and Merging

## Jets at Born level:

- Generation cut uncertainties: what NLO calculation are we actually matching to?!
- Merging algorithms specifically challenged — solved within modified unitarized merging.

[Bellm, Gieseke, Plätzer — EPJ C78 (2018) 244]  
[Chen, Figy, Plätzer — EPJ C82 (2022) 8]

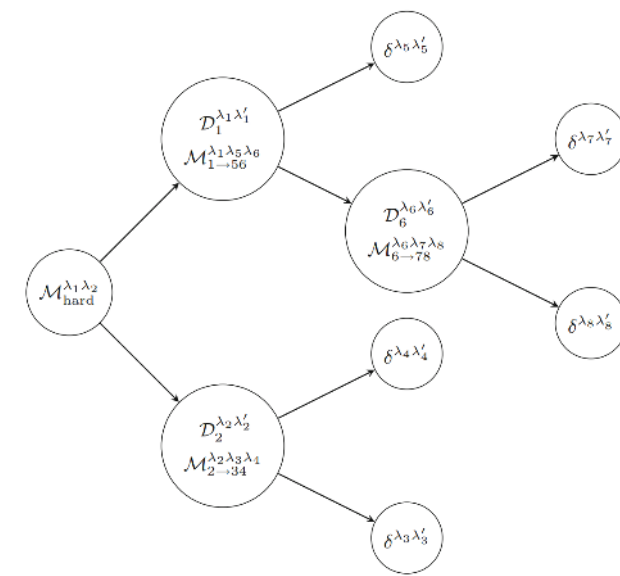


[Rauch, Plätzer – EPJ C77 (2017) 293]

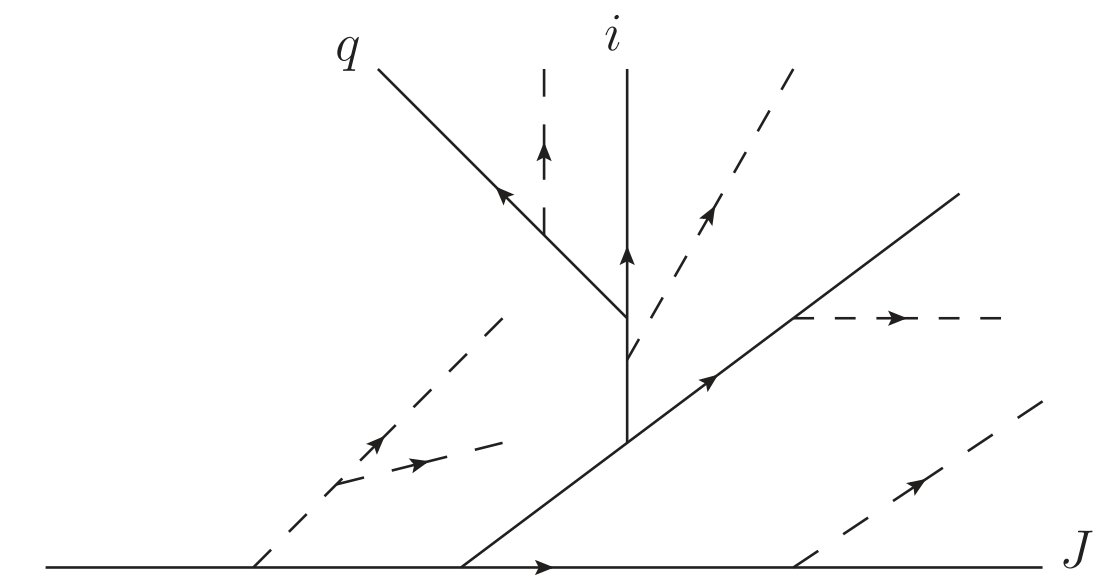
# Correlations and measurements

Spin and colour correlations need to be propagated through the shower — definition of final states becomes important possibly including and beyond hadronization models.

Spin correlations in traditional shower algorithms largely understood.

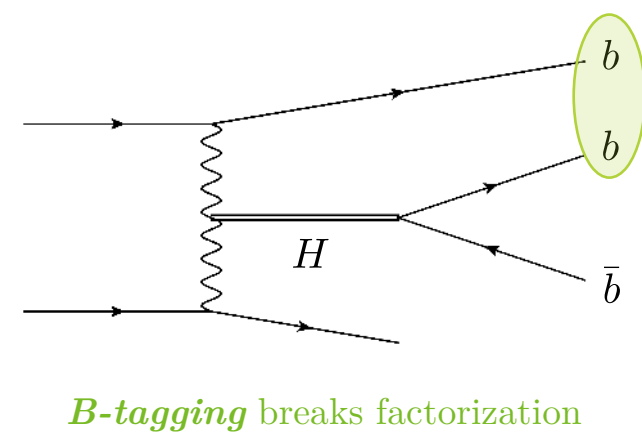
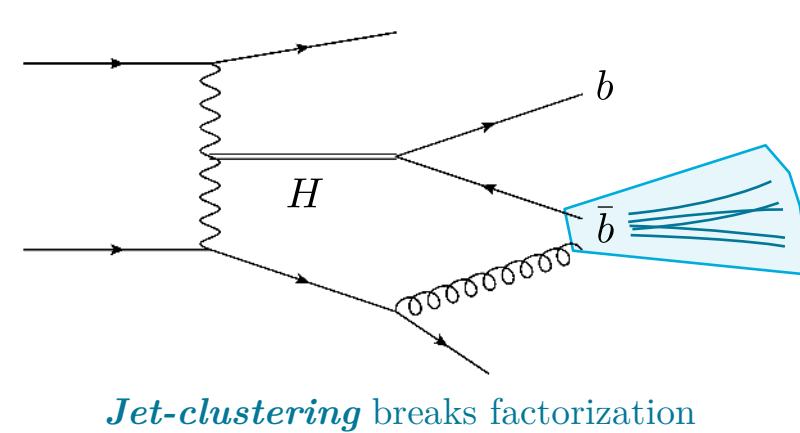


Dynamic colour charges crucial in newer coherent branching algorithms.



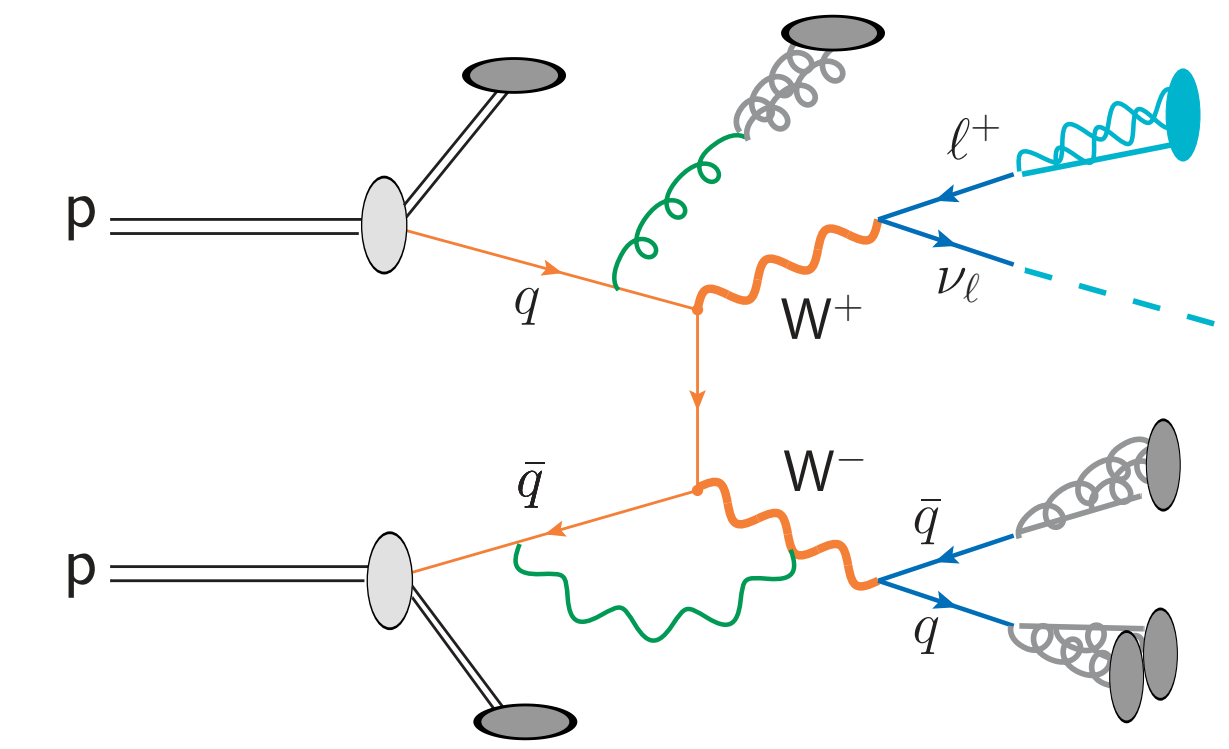
[Webster, Richardson - Eur.Phys.J.C 80 (2020) 2]  
[Karlberg, Salam, Scyboz, Verheyen — Eur.Phys.J.C 81 (2021) 8, 681]

[Forshaw, Holguin, Plätzer — EPJ C81 (2021) 4]  
[Hamilton, Medves, Salam, Scyboz, Soyez — JHEP 03 (2021) 041]

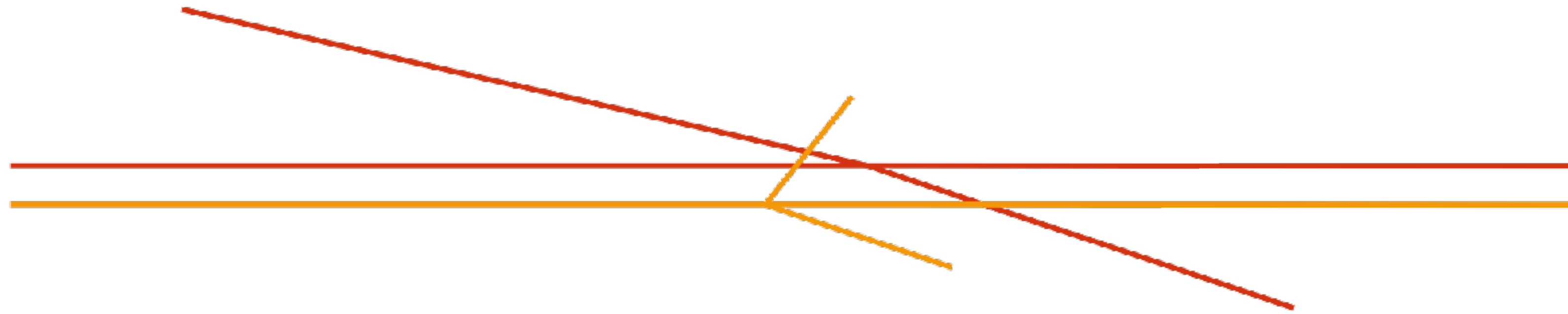


Looking at VBF processes from a polarization perspective

Giovanni Pelliccioli  
Max-Planck-Institut für Physik

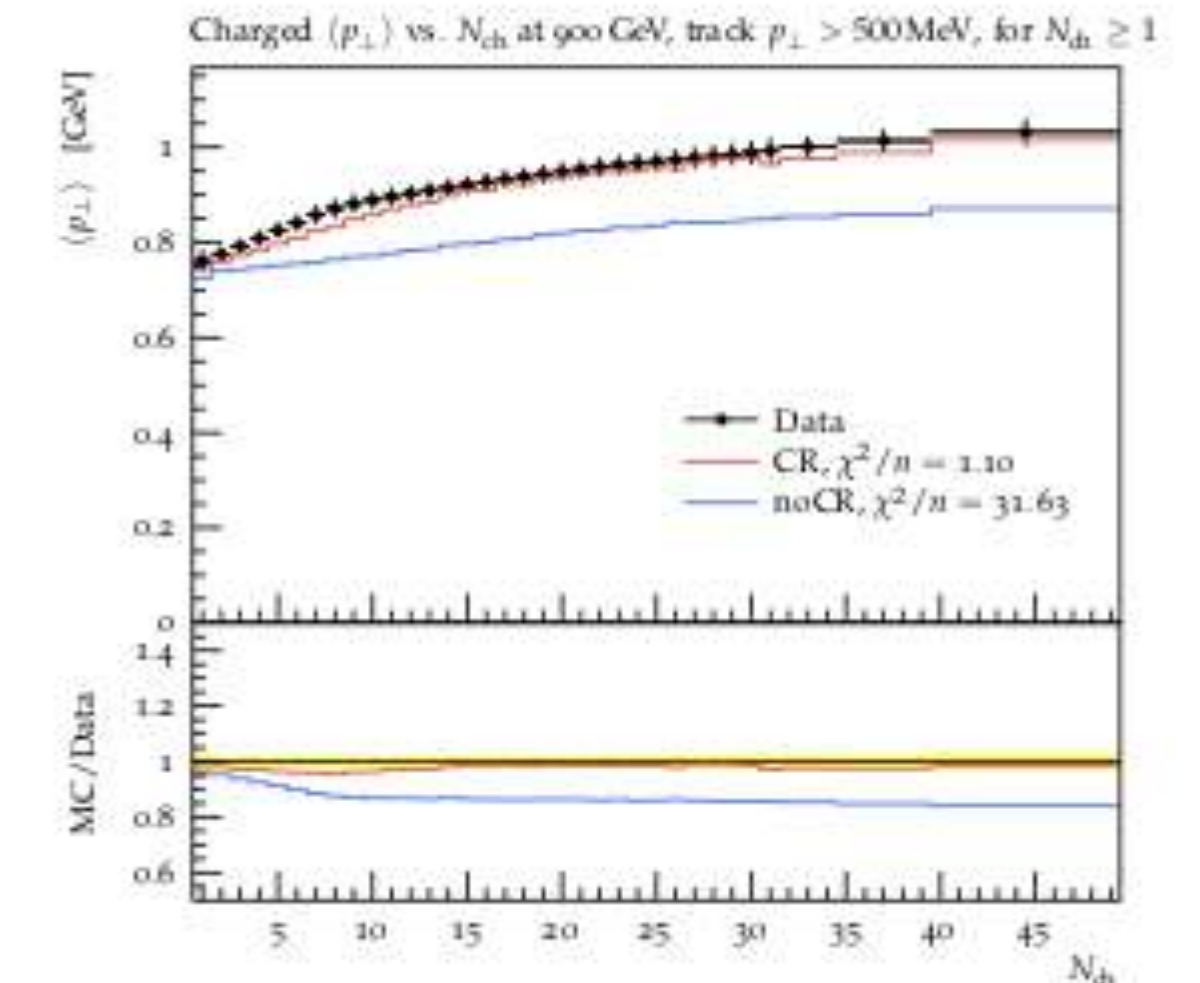
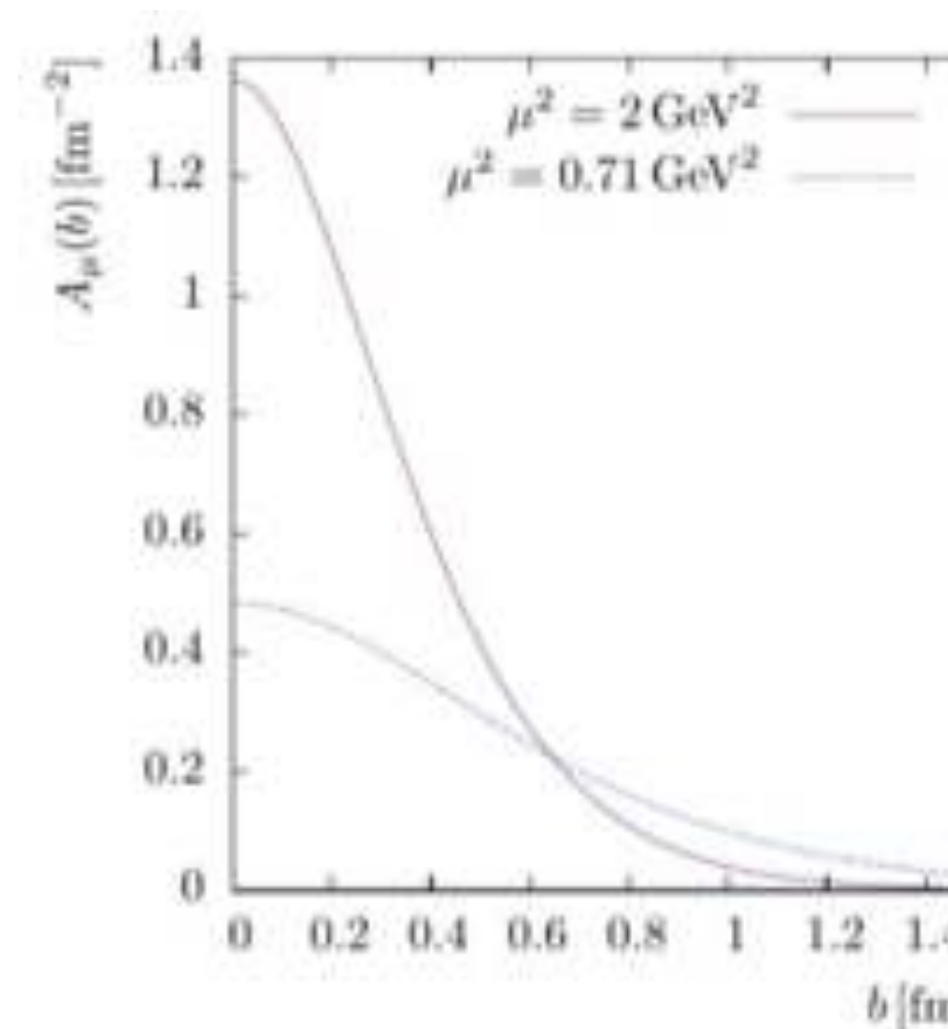


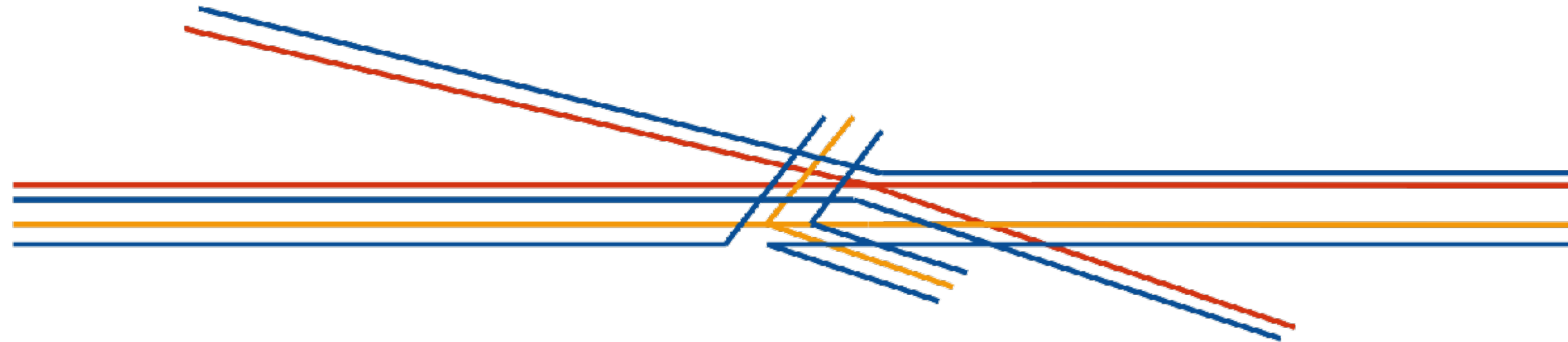




Assume some matter distribution in the proton, and effective multiplicity distribution of additional scatters.

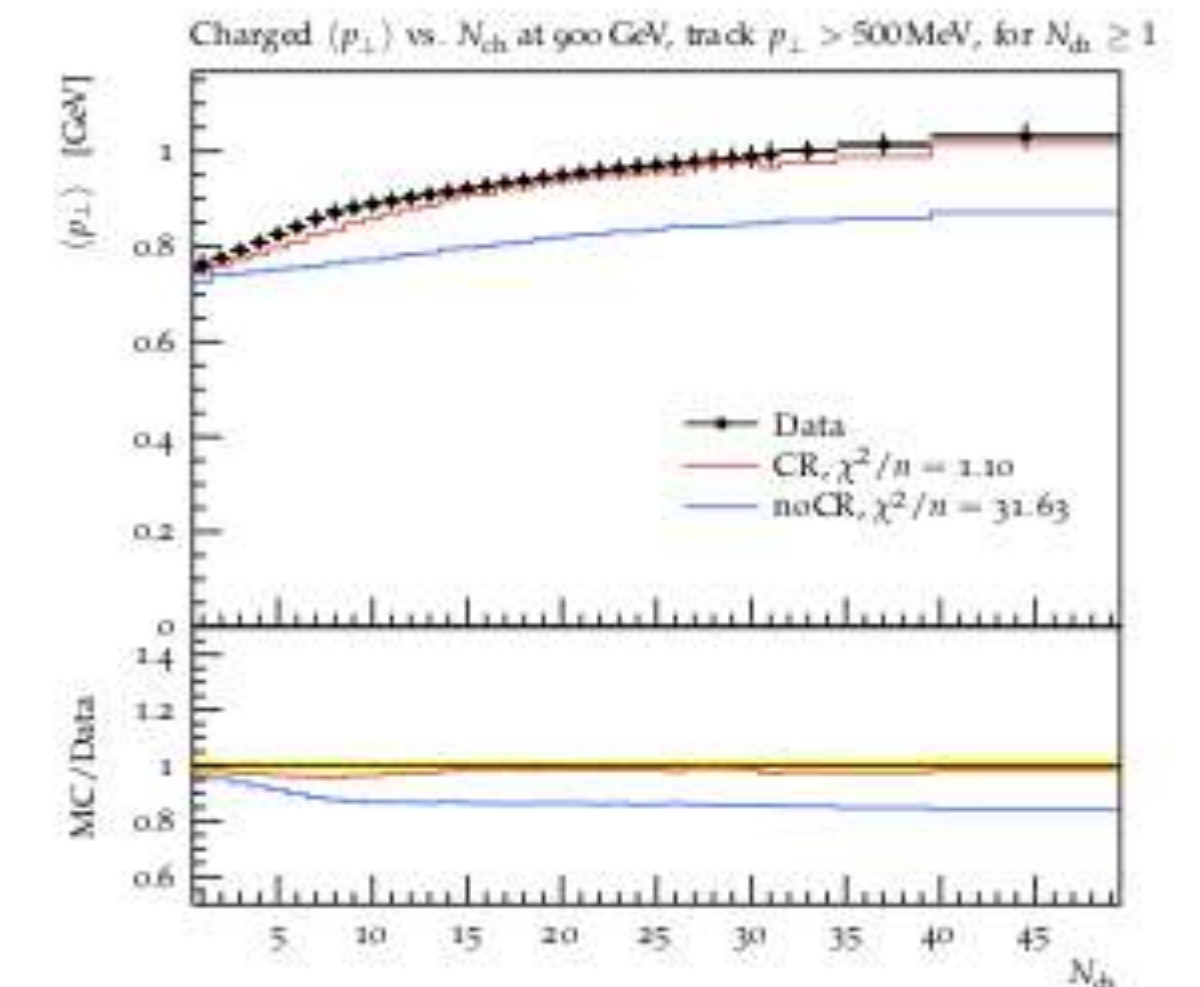
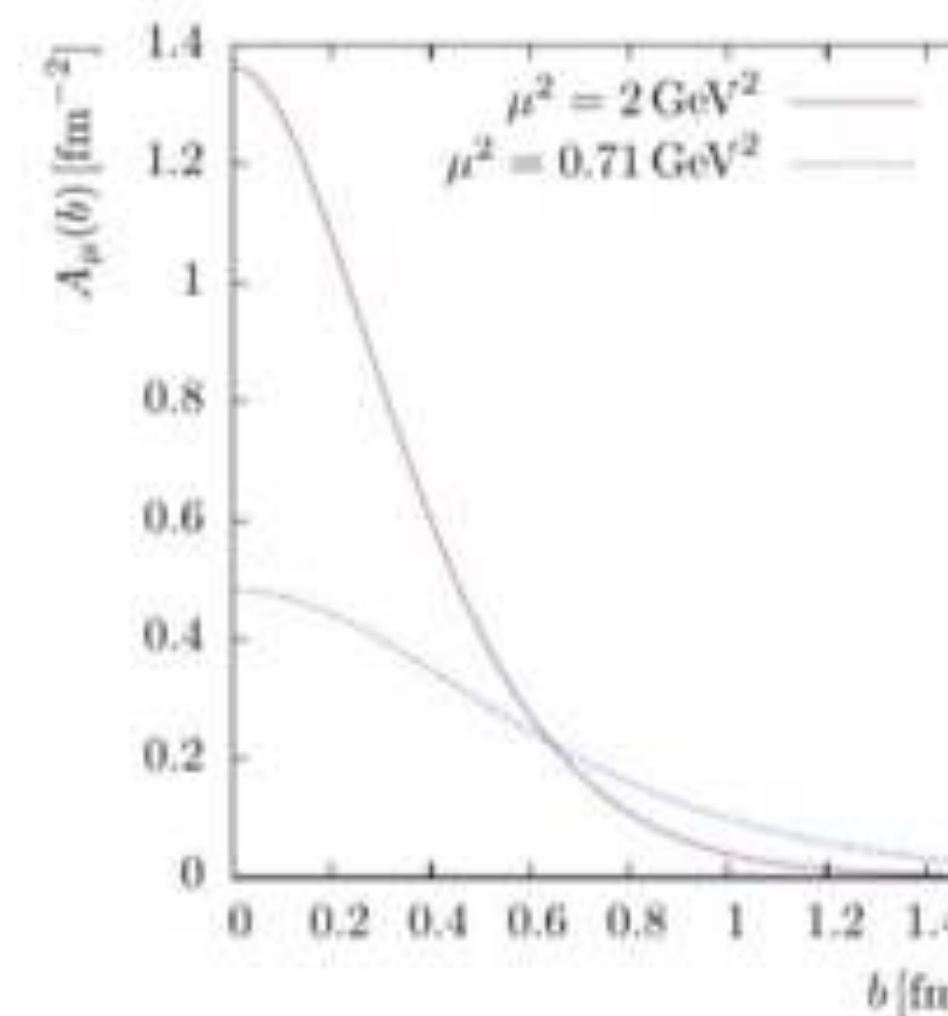
Colour reconnection crucial to describe MinBias and UE data: lack of knowledge about colour correlations.

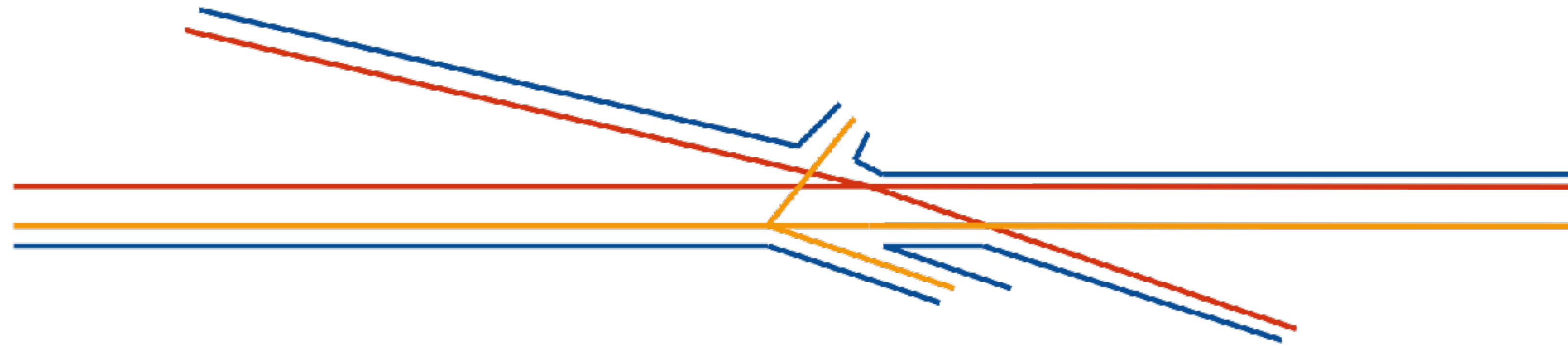




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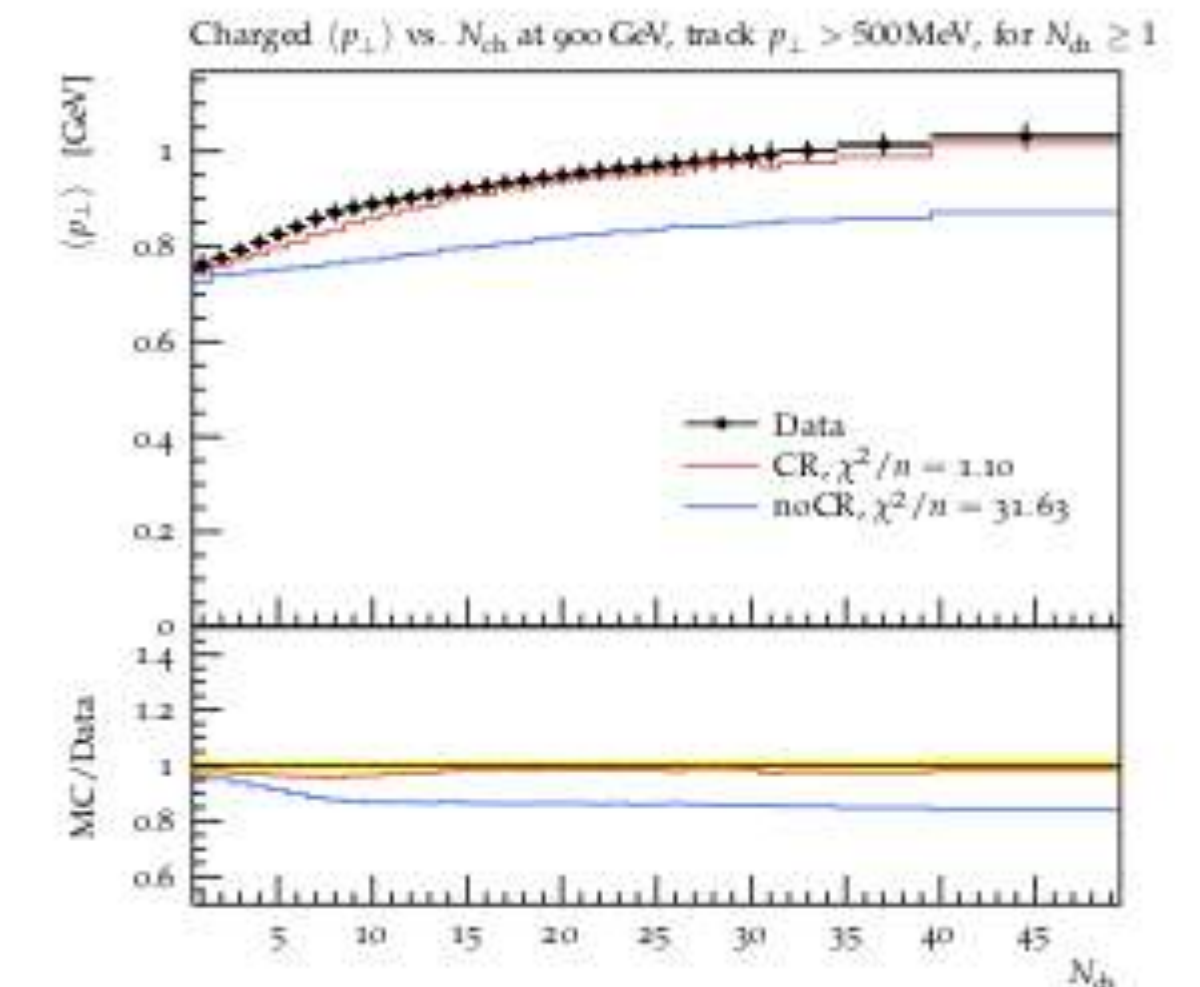
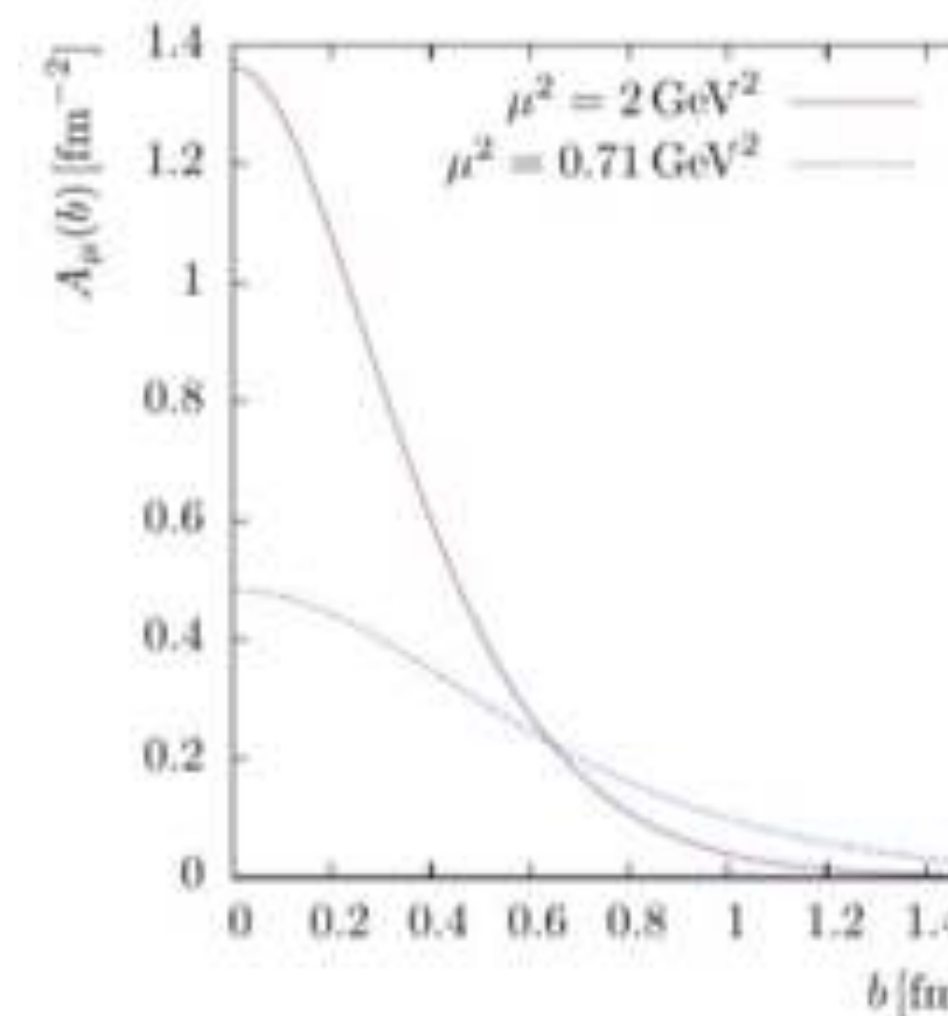
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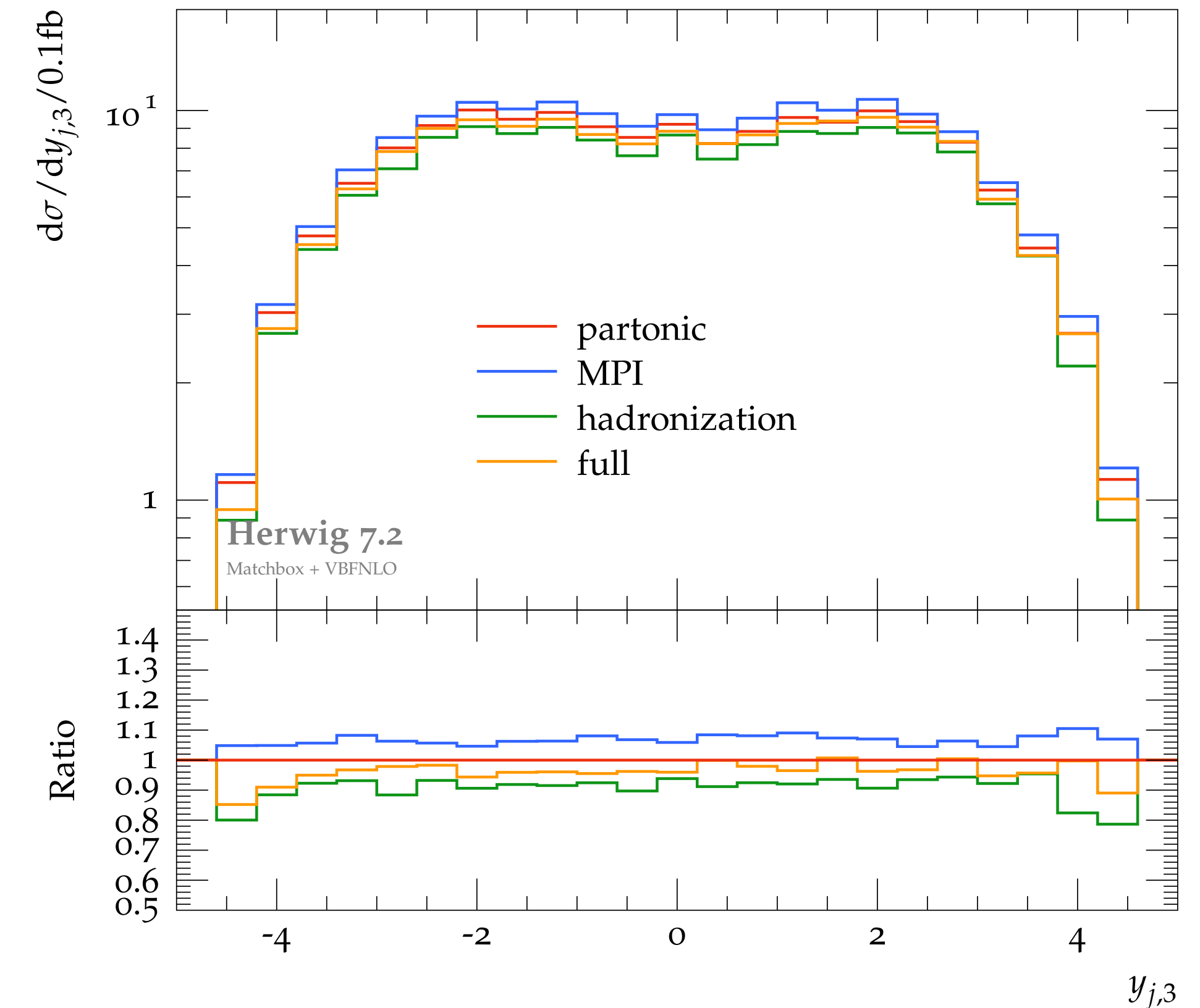


[Bittrich, Kirchgaesser, Papaefstathiou, Plätzer, Todt — EPJ C82 (2022) 9]

Soft QCD effects are not absent: significant impact on interjet activity and jet shapes. **On/off exercise will only hint at their relative importance.**

## Questions to be raised:

- Quantify impact (and how certain that is)
- Determine interplay with perturbative variations and models
- Watch out for lack of perturbative dynamics beyond current NLO+PS



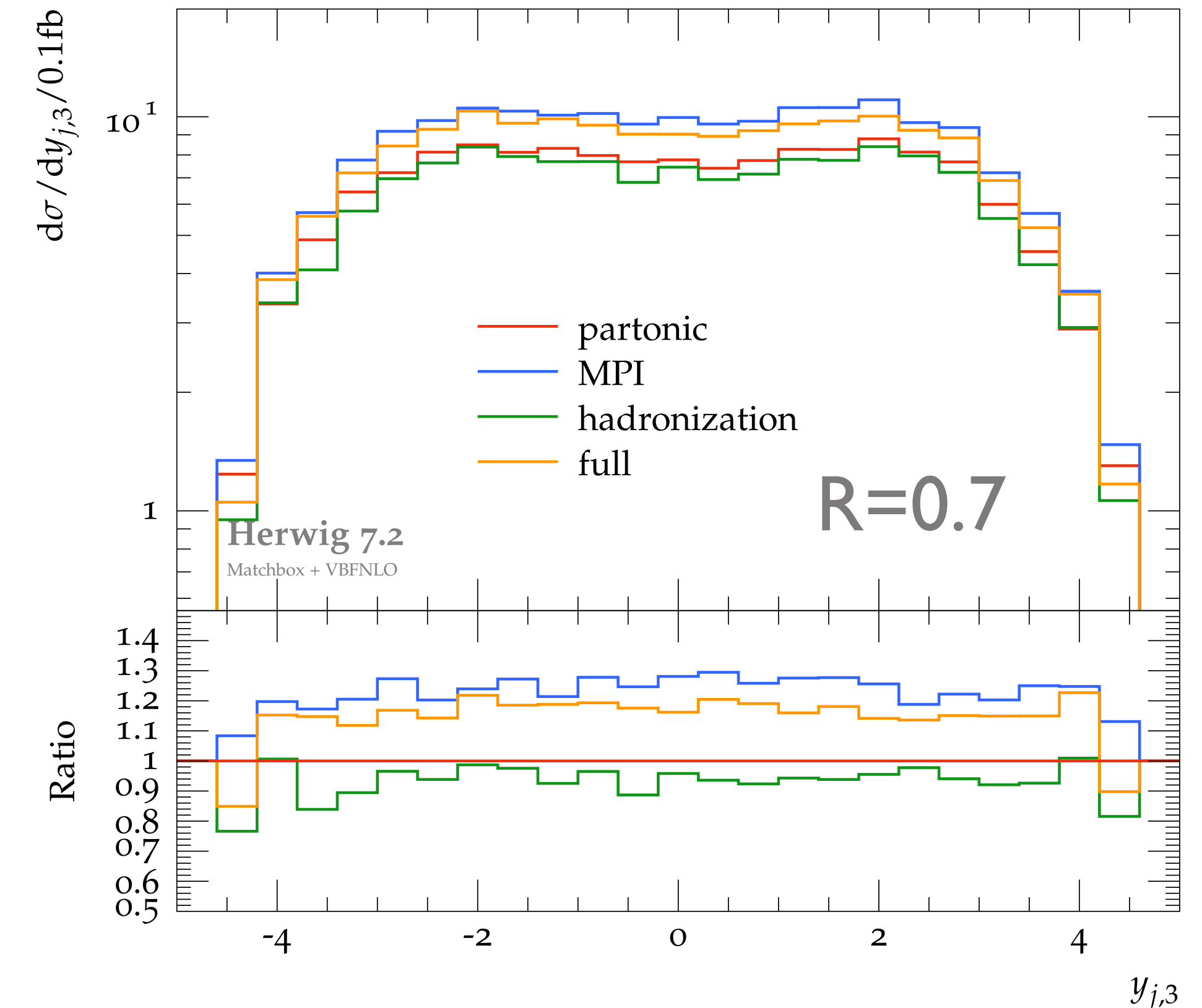
Benchmark is VBF Z production, but findings should be  $\sim$  universal.

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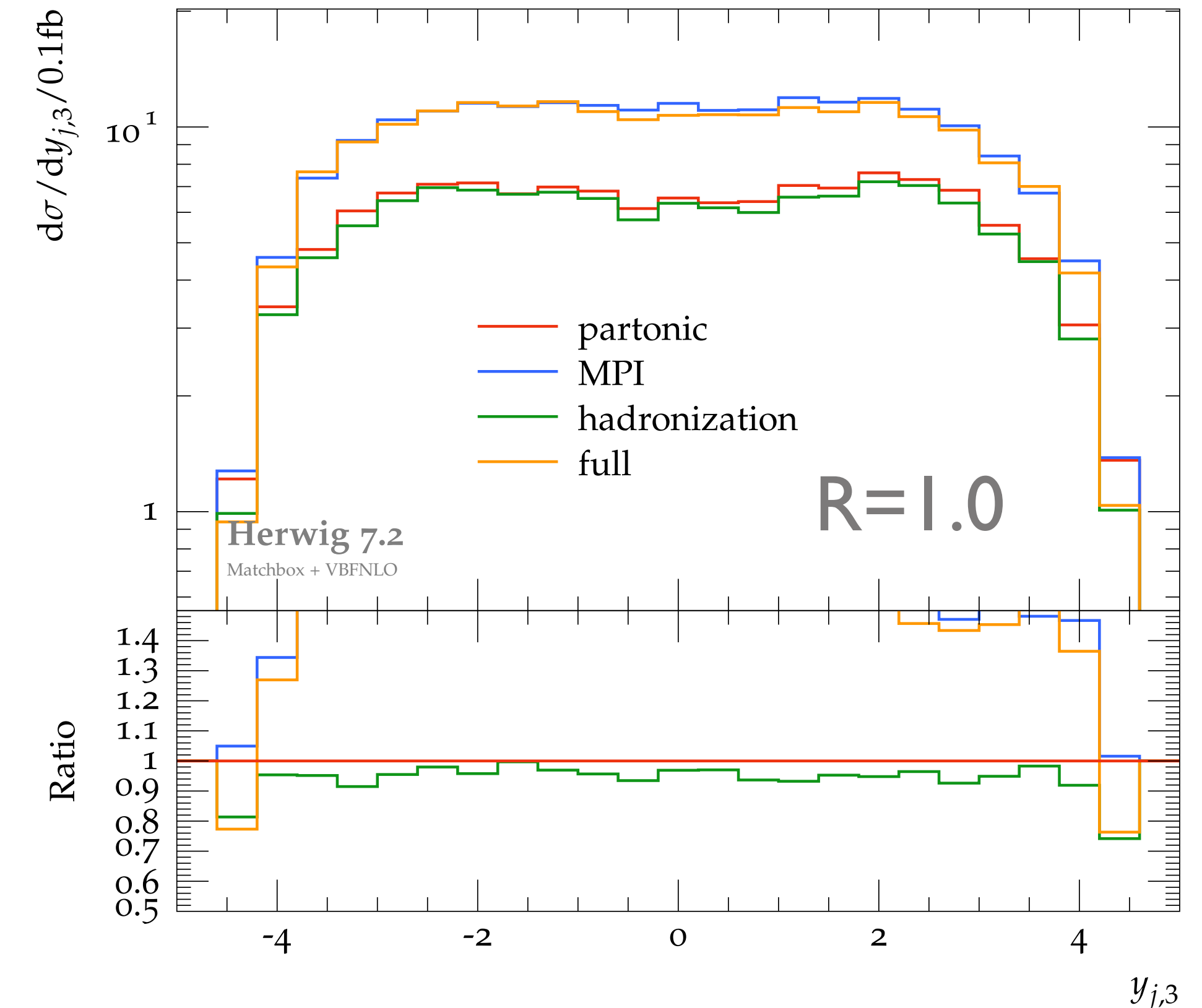
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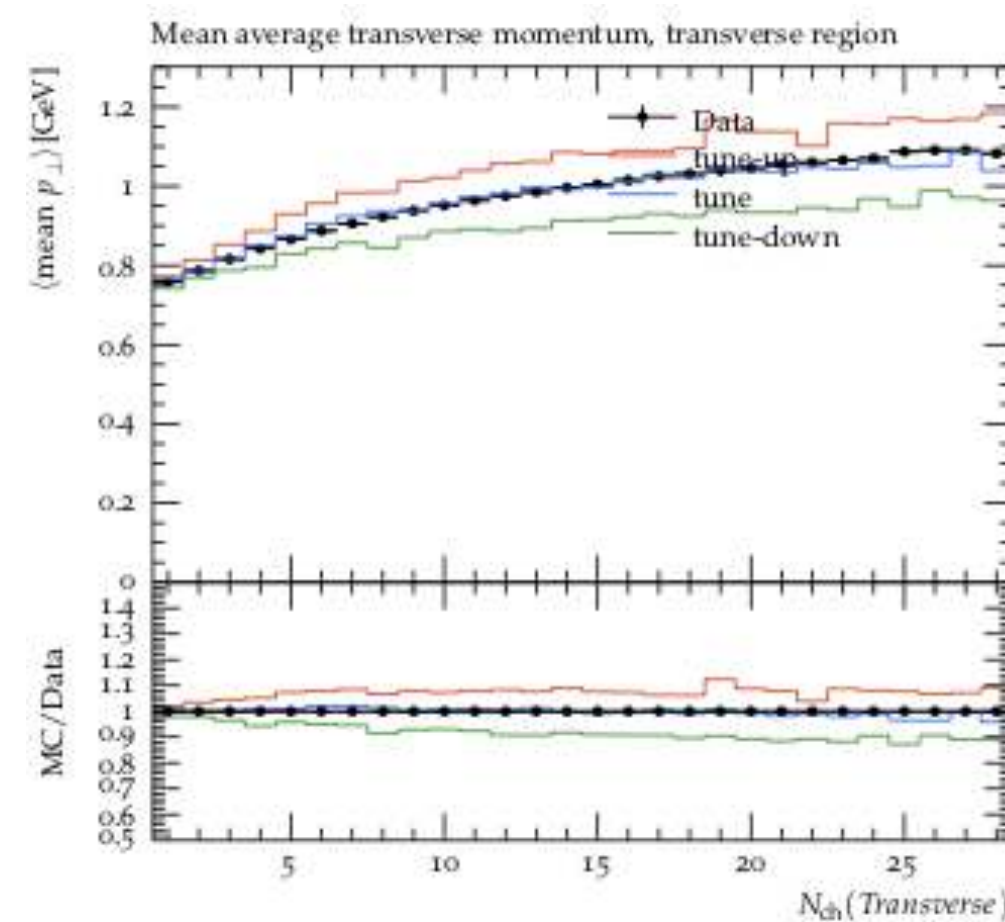
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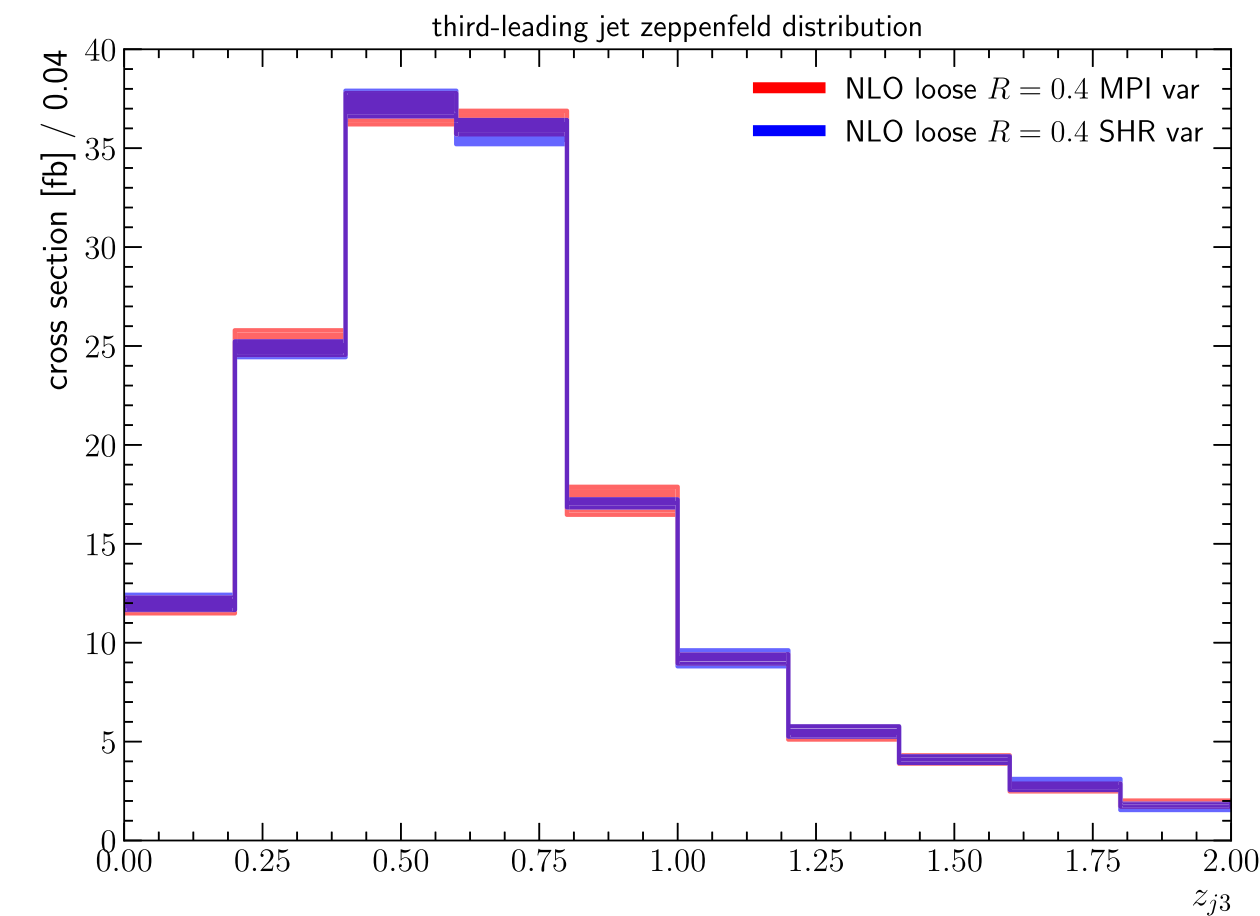
## Strategy

- Vary colour reconnection and MPI parameters to stay within  $\sim 10\%$  agreement of typical tuning observables
- Vary perturbative scales, specifically shower hard scale

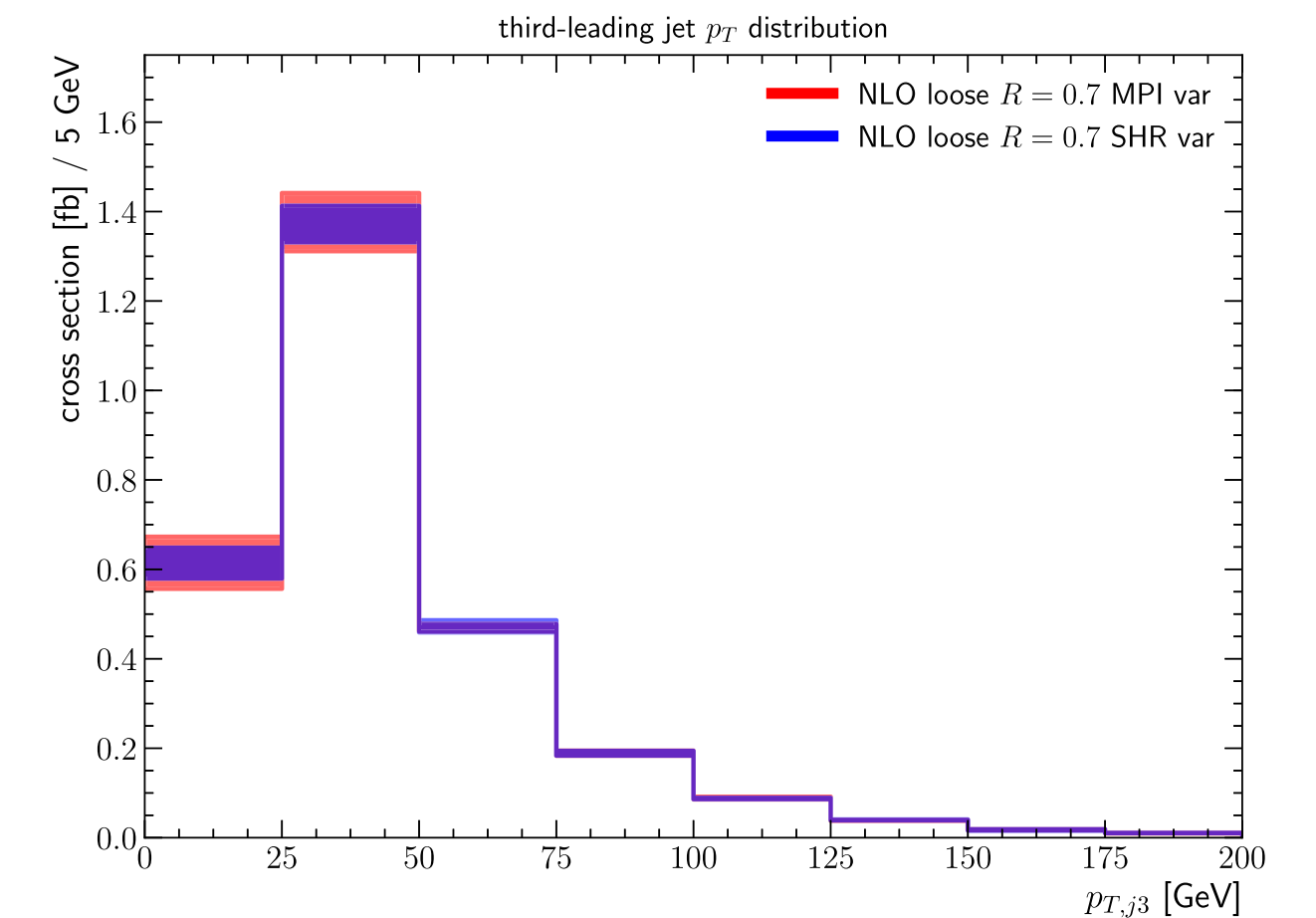


Loose selection

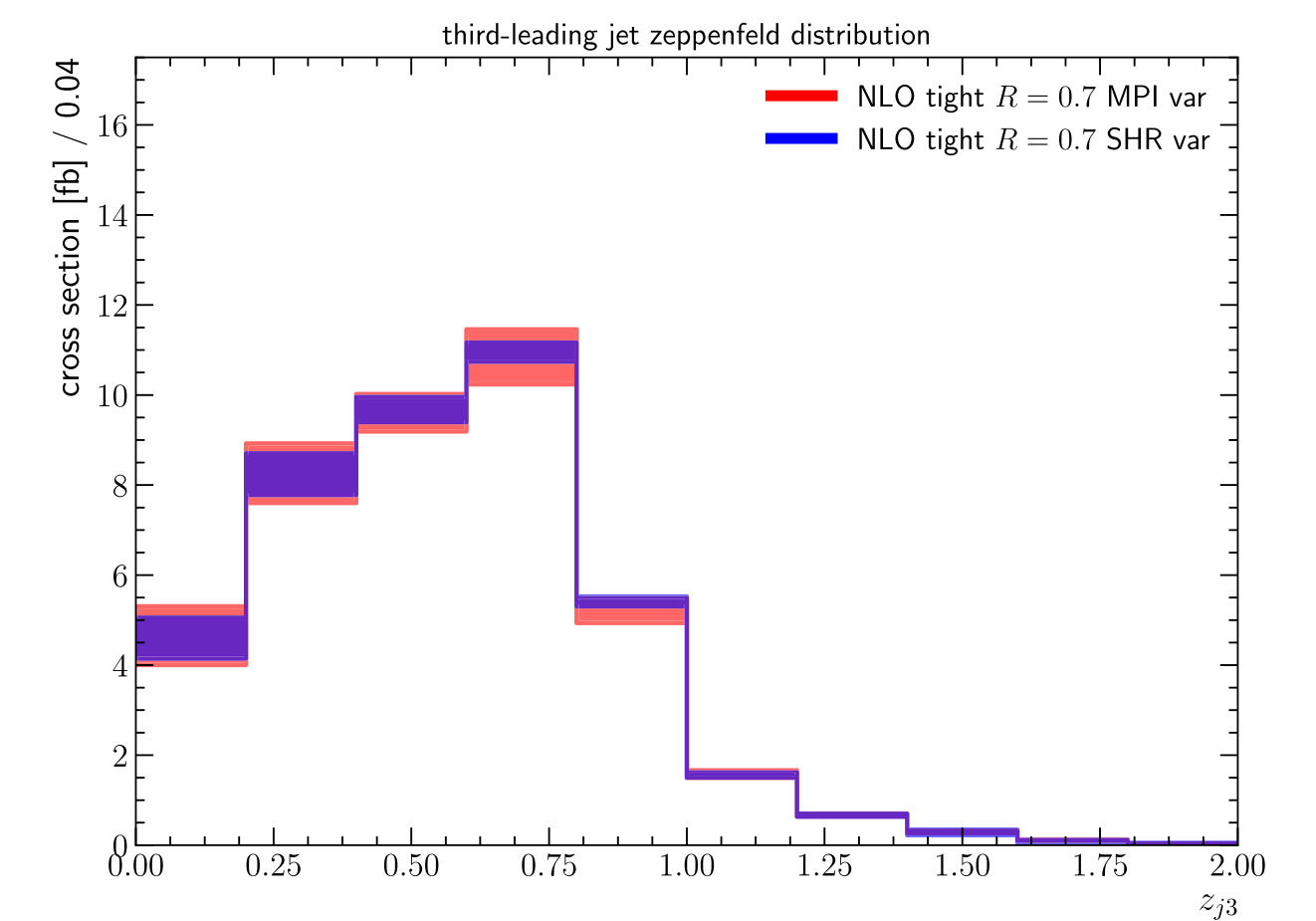
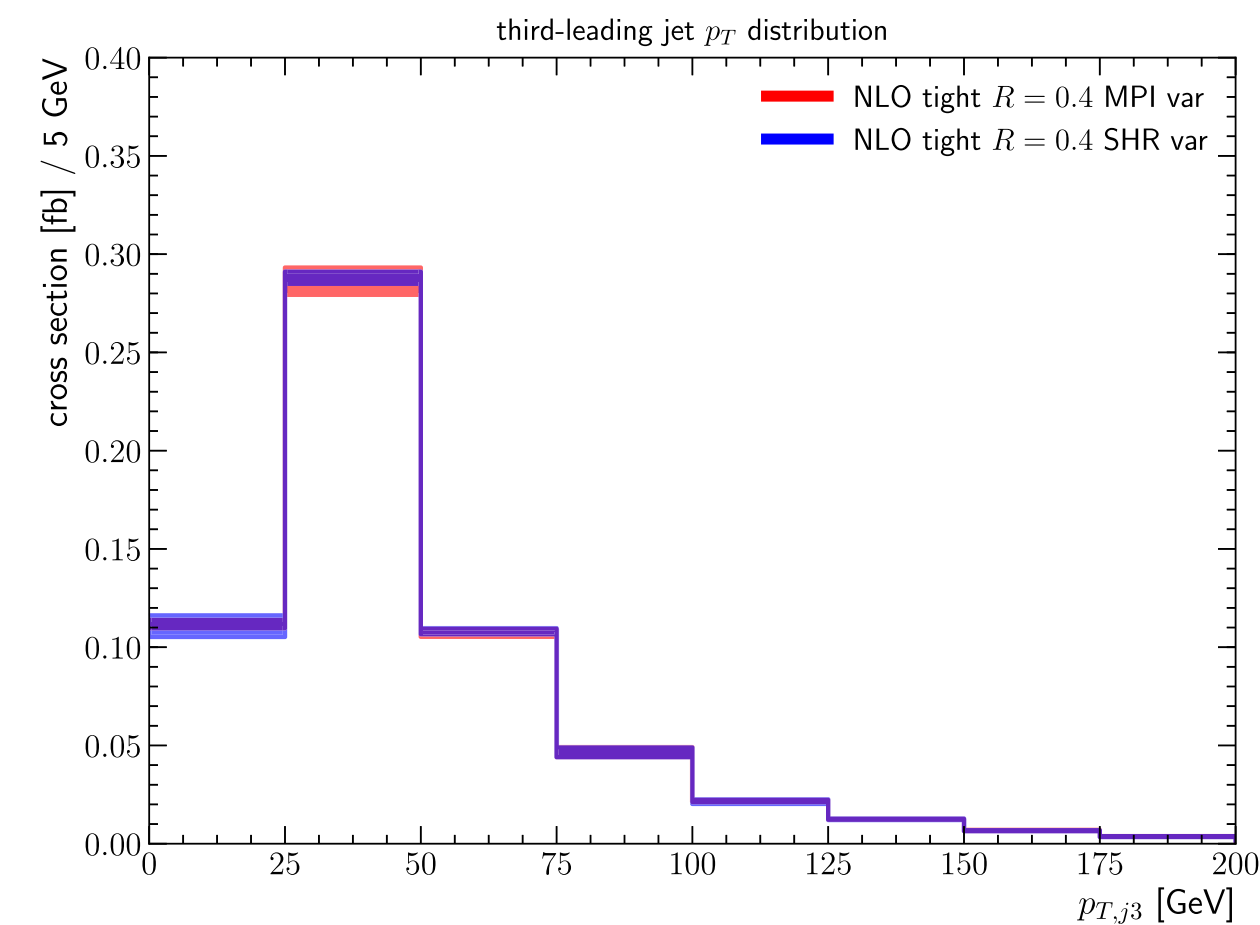
R=0.4



R=0.7



Tight selection

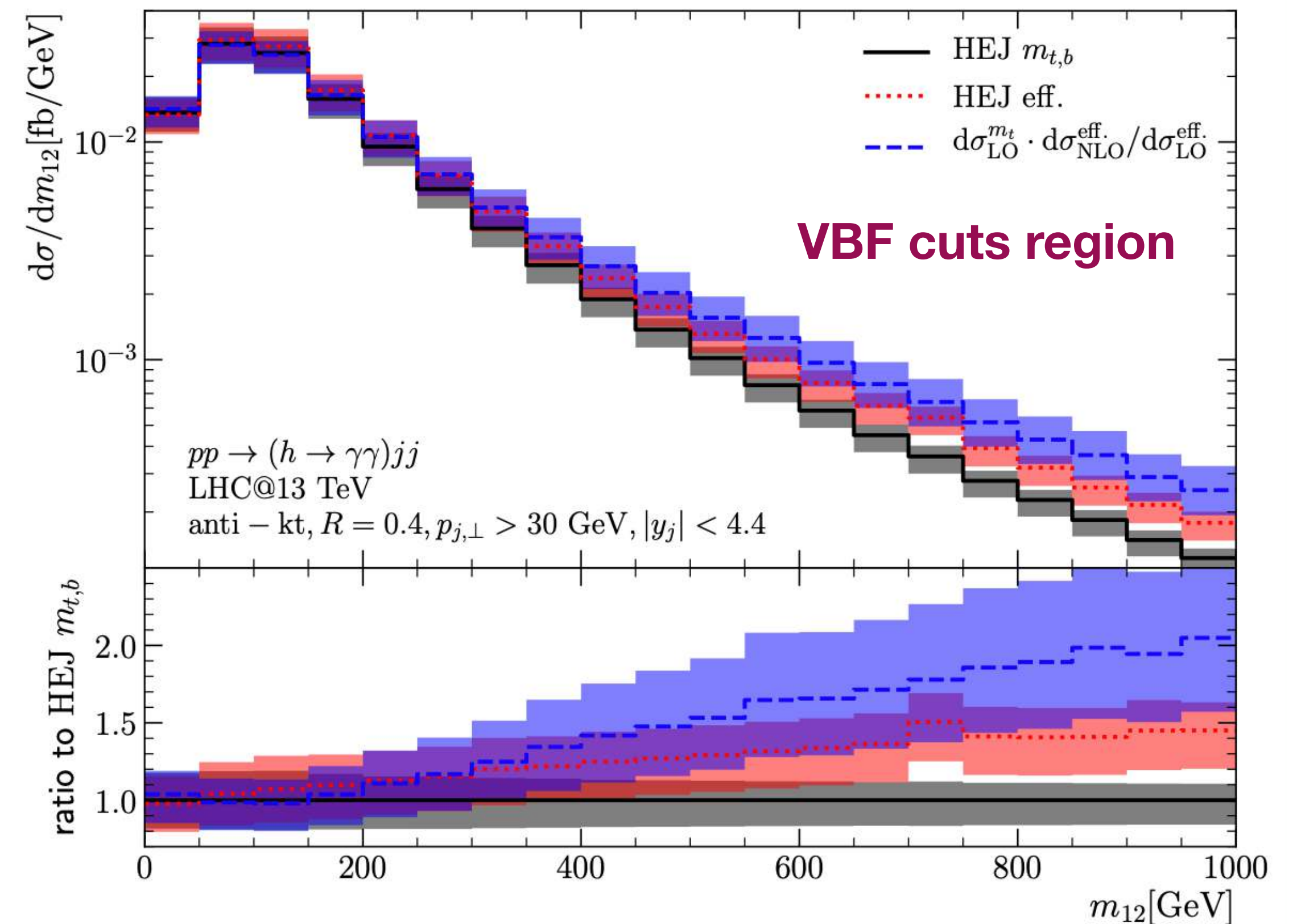


VBF cut region is special in terms of kinematics:  
Need to control HE effects in both ggf and VBF.

## HEJ Applied to Inclusive H+jets Production

Jérémy Paltrinieri  
University of Edinburgh

How do we extrapolate this outside of the  
multi-Regge dominated region, what about  
interferences?





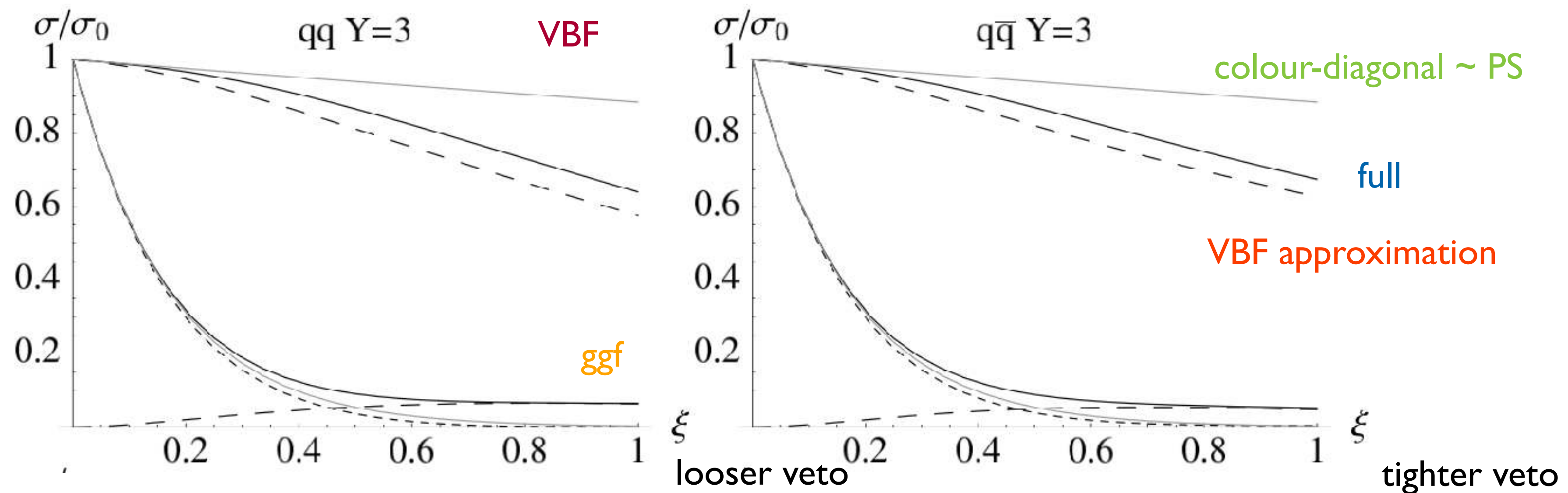
# Colour Evolution in VBF & ggf

Parton showers with colour matrix element corrections can account for subleading N effects from real emissions.

[Plätzer, Sjö Dahl – JHEP 1207 (2012) 042]  
[Plätzer, Sjö Dahl, Thoren – JHEP 11 (2018) 009]  
[Höche, Reichelt — Phys.Rev.D 104 (2021) 3, 034006]

Virtual exchanges can be resummed at fixed jet multiplicity.

[Forshaw, Sjö Dahl — JHEP 09 (2007) 119]



Neither one gives a complete picture.

# Jet vetos & Non-global Observables

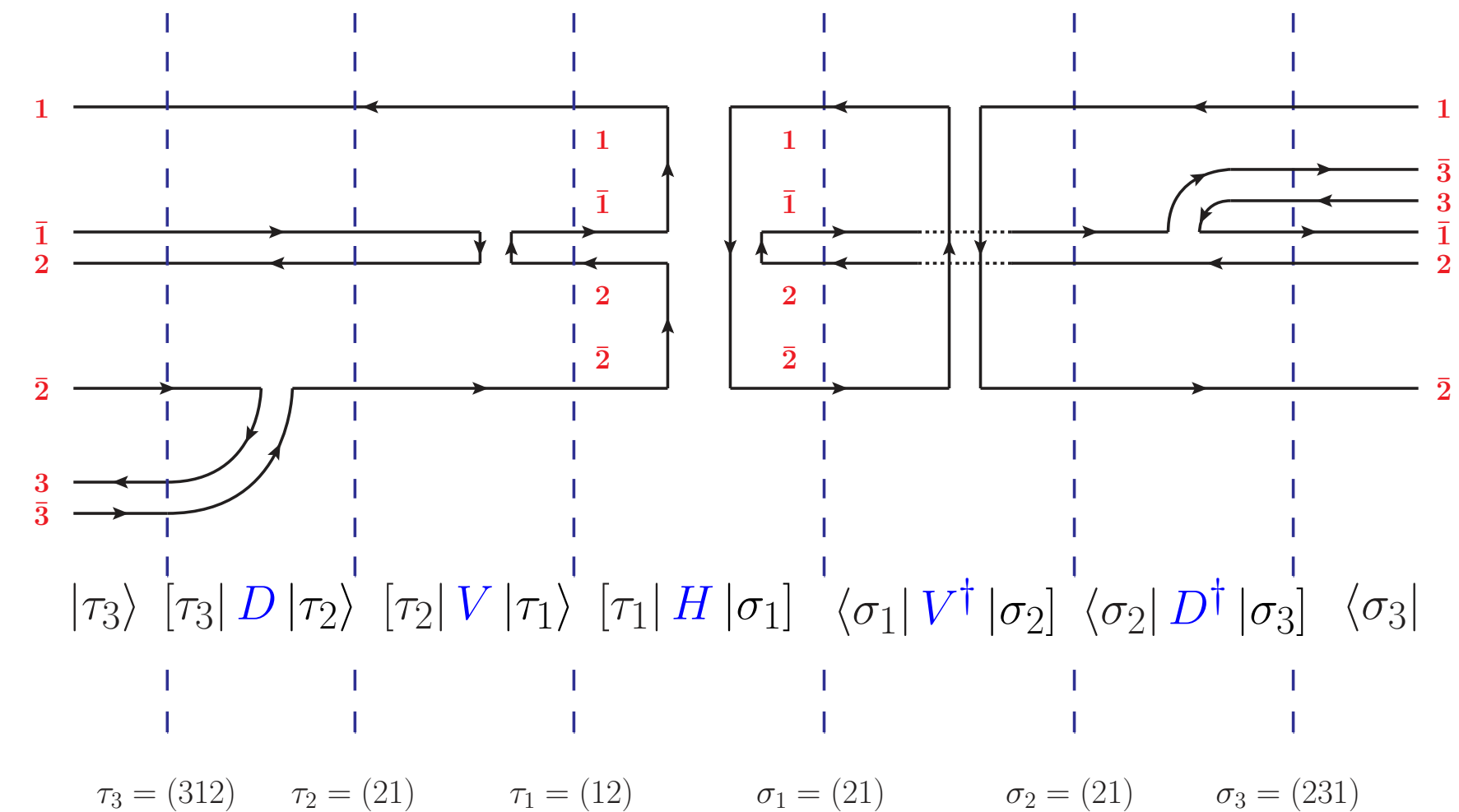
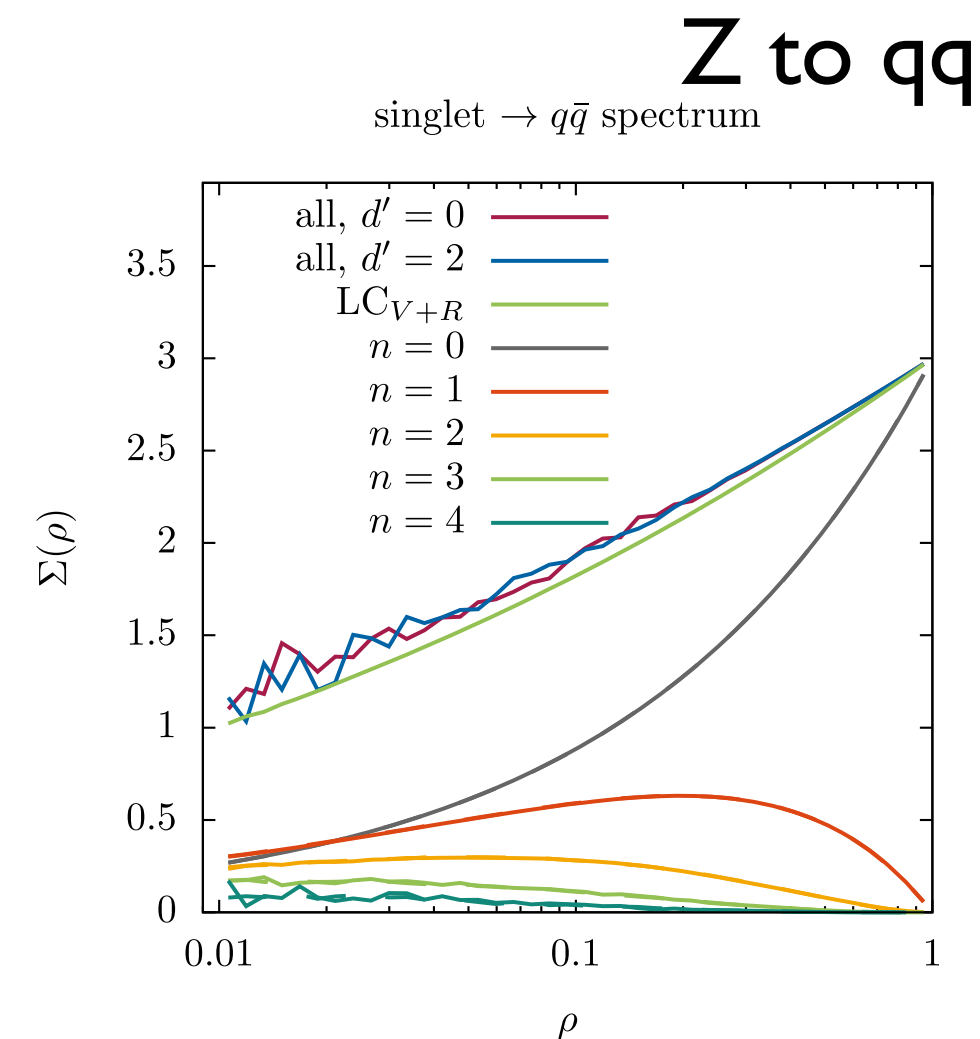
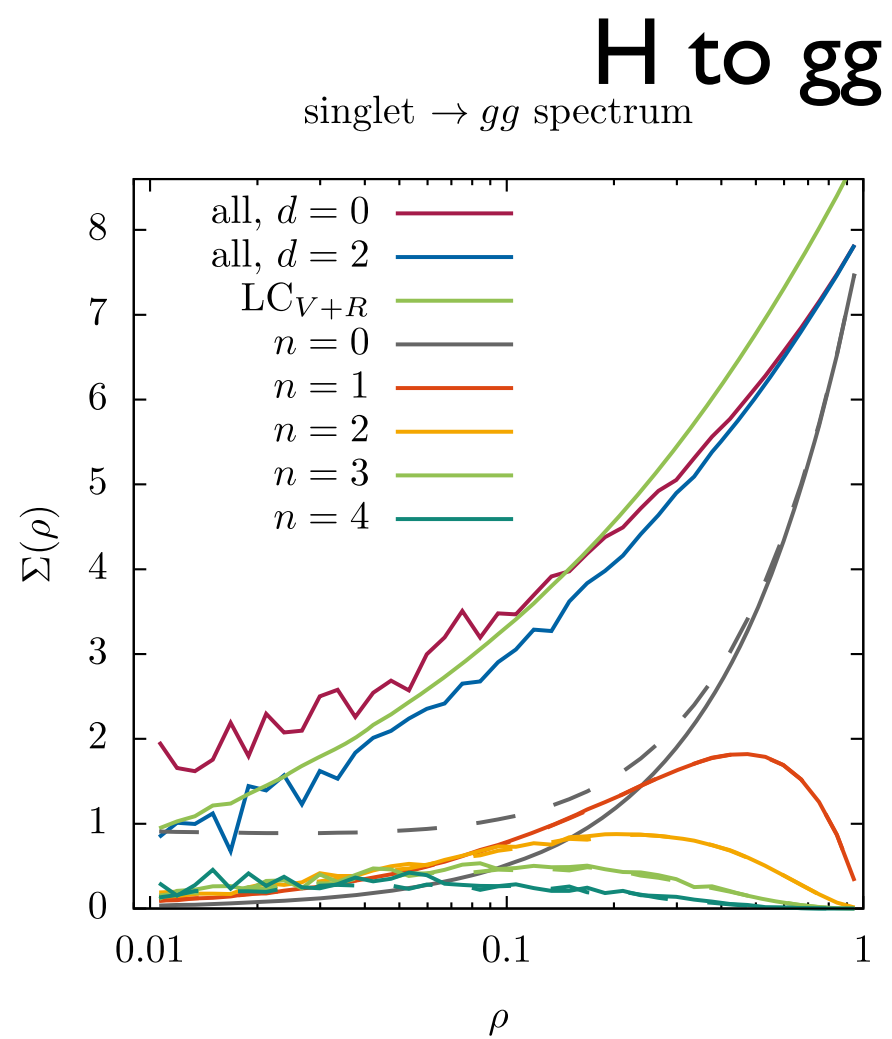
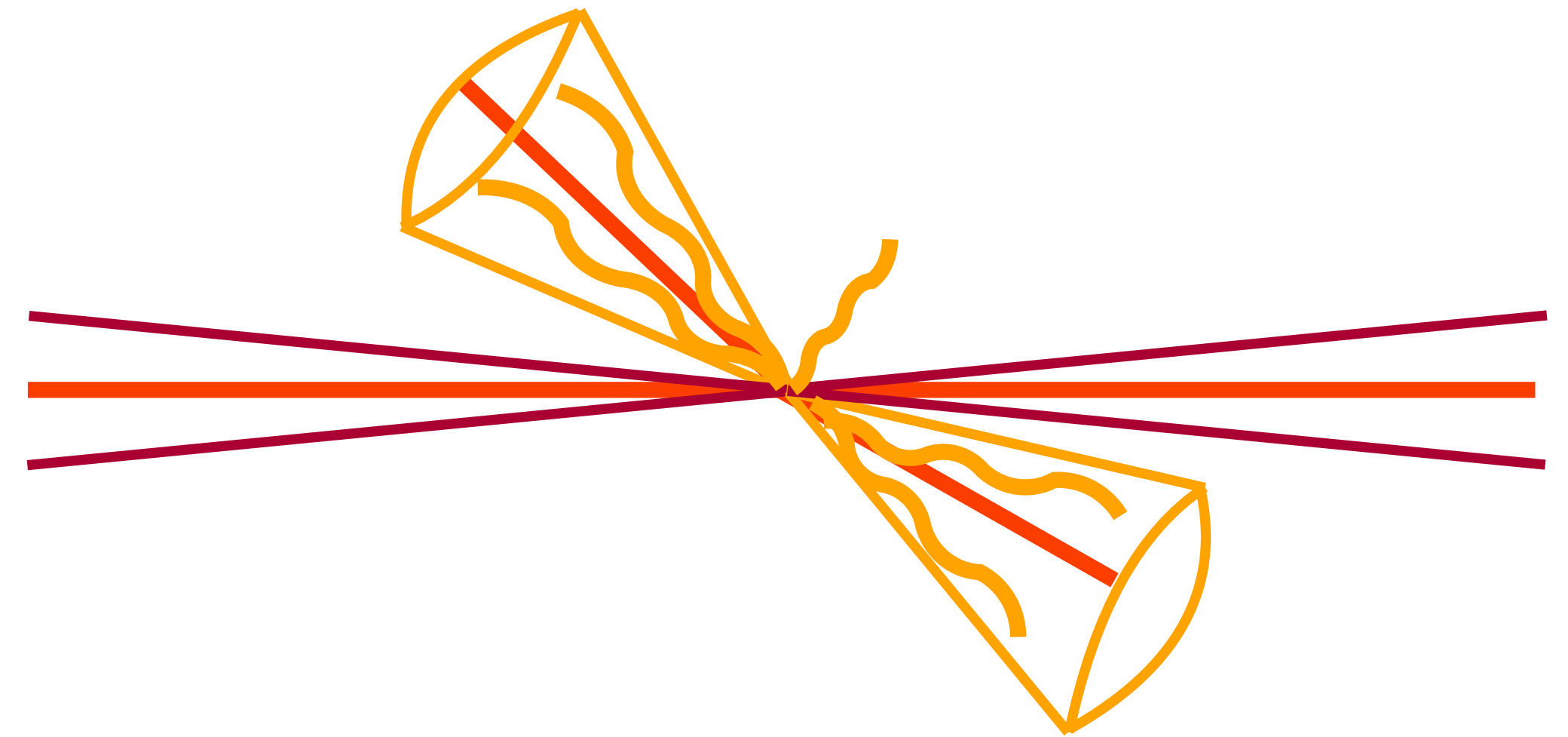
Jet vetos beyond leading-N and Glauber phases  
require amplitude level evolution.

[Liu, Melnikov, Penin]

[Forshaw, Holguin, Plätzer – JHEP 1908 (2019) 145]

Recent results on jet vetos from CVolver  
on jet vetos in  $e^+e^-$  collisions.

[De Angelis, Forshaw, Plätzer — PRL 126 (2021) 11]



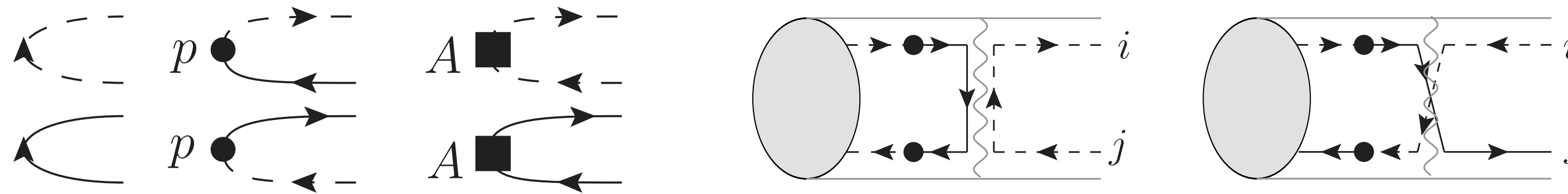
Complementary approach through Langevin  
dynamics, but not in form of an event generator.

[Hatta et al. — Nucl.Phys.B 962 (2021) 115273]

← amplitude → conjugate amplitude

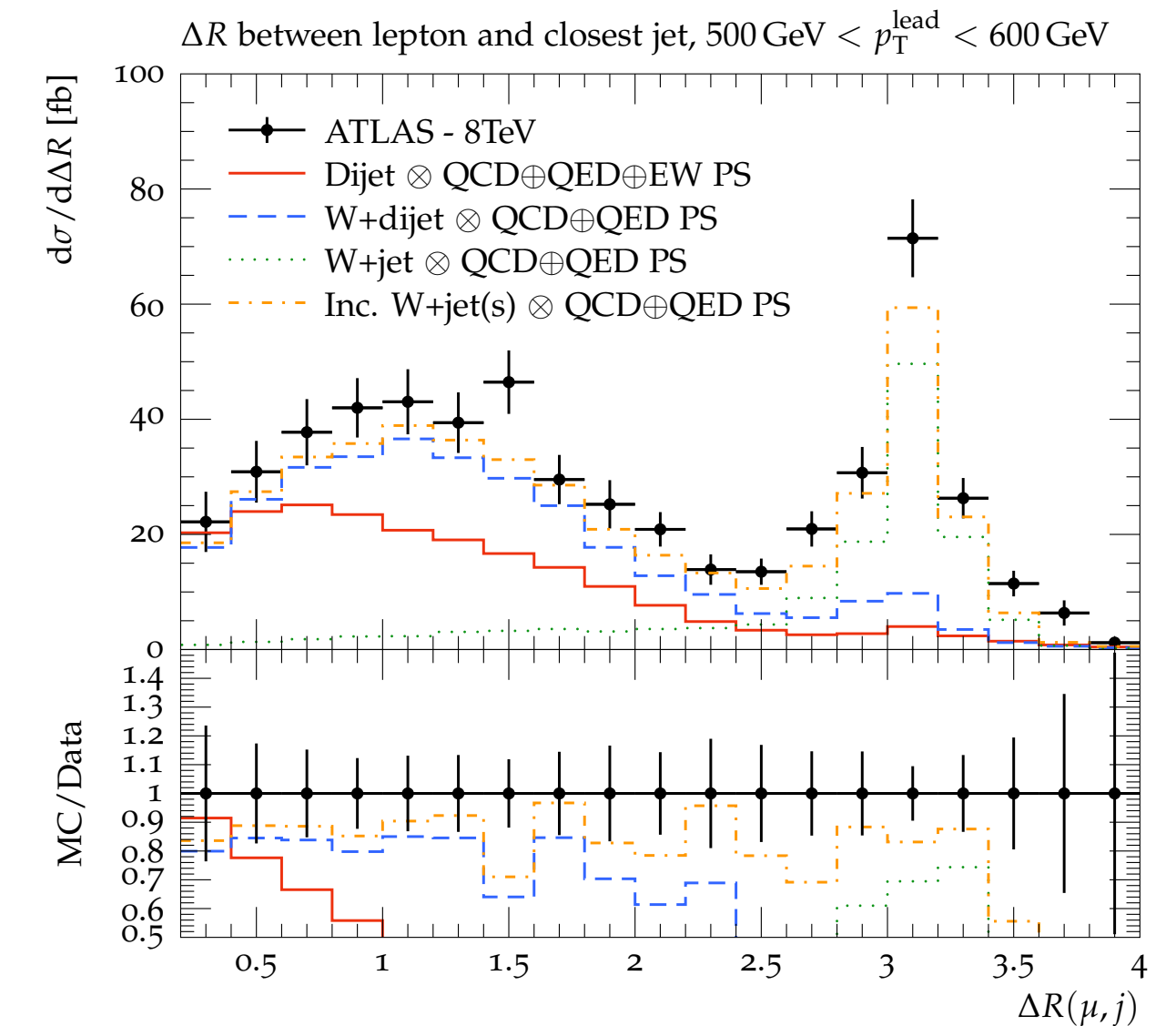
# Electroweak (amplitude) evolution

Amplitudes evolve in chirality & isospin, recoil even more important.



[Plätzer, Sjö Dahl — arXiv:2204.03258]

- More differential knowledge and higher energies will require a coherent treatment of the full Standard Model.
- Might resolve conceptual issues in defining VBF/VBS processes themselves.
- VBF/VBS at lepton colliders!



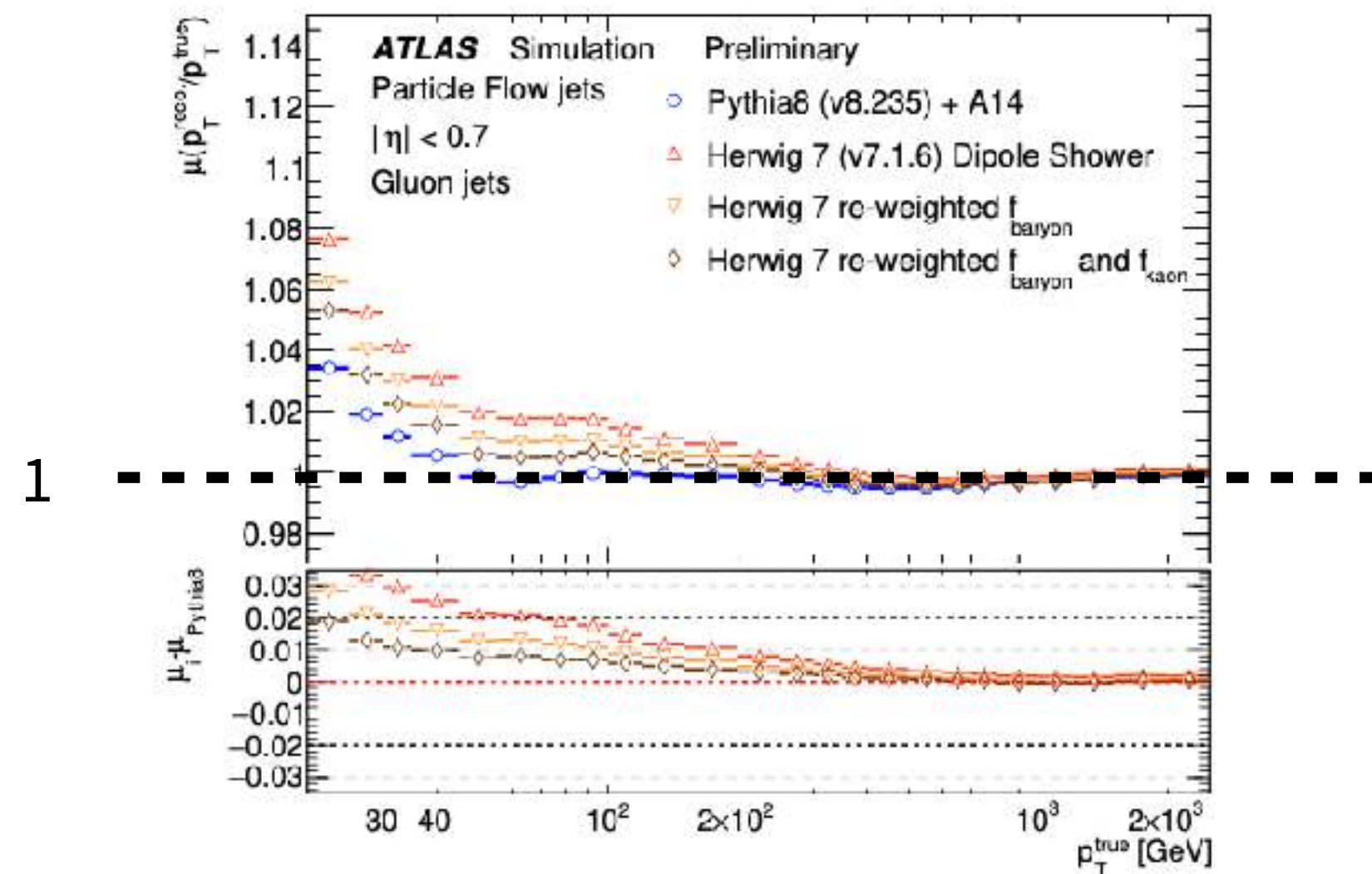
Start to build EW showers, but understanding their structure is far from the level we have for QCD.

[Masouminia, Richardson — arXiv:2108.10817]

[Christiansen, Sjöstrand, Bauer, Webber, Brooks, Verheyen, Skands ....]

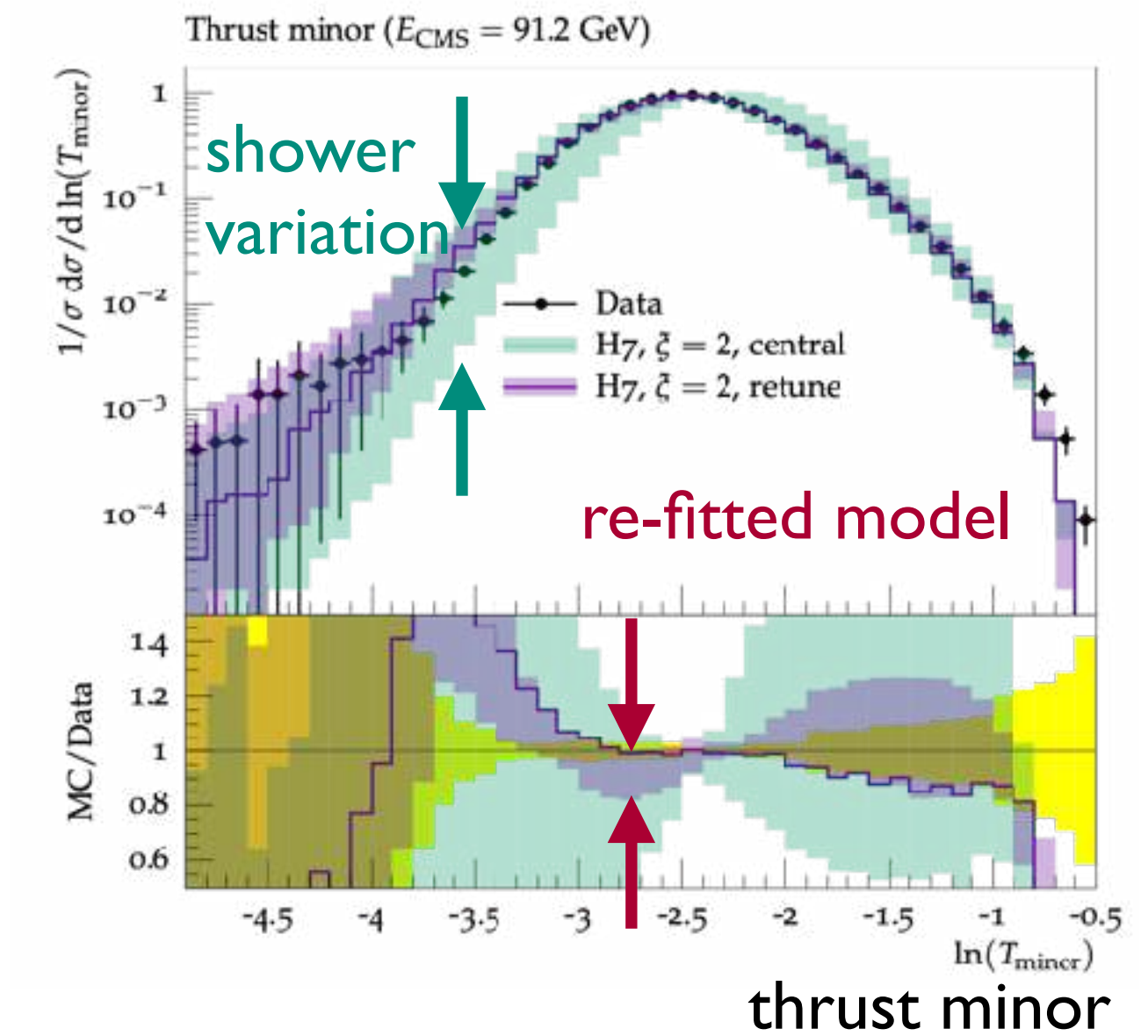
# Last not least: Hadronization models?!

relative deviation of  
measured jet momentum



simulated jet momentum

[ATLAS-PUB-2022-021]



[Bellm, Lönnblad, Plätzer, Prestel, Samitz, Siodmok — Les Houches 2017]  
[Hoang, Plätzer, Samitz — '18 ...]

We cannot look at shower uncertainties in isolation, nor can we ignore other soft physics models.

VBF is among those processes which challenge predictions **at all scales and all levels of detail.**

We should not rest assured on fixed order (possibly matched) studies.

We should not think, that we have a full command of event generator uncertainties and an understanding of their physics down to the percent level — this really is what we are progressing with now.

Thank you!

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