Determination of $\alpha_{\rm S}$ from the Z-boson transverse-momentum distribution at the Tevatron

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Based on:

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Eur.Phys.J.C 84 (2024), e-Print: 2203.05394

Workshop α_{s} -2024 ECT* - Trento - 7/2/2024

Stefano Catani (1958-2024)



Wonderful person, outstanding physicist

Giancarlo Ferrera – Milan University & INFN Determination of α_S from the Z-boson q_T distribution



The idea: α_{S} from semi-inclusive processes

QCD COHERENT BRANCHING AND SEMI-INCLUSIVE PROCESSES AT LARGE x*

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Received 22 June 1990

 $\alpha_{\rm s}^{\rm (MC)} = \alpha_{\rm s}^{\rm (\overline{MS})} \left(1 + K \frac{\alpha_{\rm s}^{\rm (\overline{MS})}}{2\pi} \right),$

 $\Lambda_{\rm MC} = \Lambda_{\rm \overline{MS}} \exp(K/4\pi\beta_0)$ $\approx 1.569 \Lambda_{\rm \overline{MS}} \quad \text{for } N_{\rm f} = 5.$

In this paper we have studied [...] the next-to-leading logarithmic terms in semi-inclusive hard processes such as the DIS and DY processes at large x. Since the Monte Carlo algorithm with these improvements is accurate to next-to-leading order in the large-x region, it can be used to determine the fundamental QCD scale Λ_{MS}

The idea: $\alpha_{\rm S}$ from semi-inclusive processes

Advantages:

- higher sensitivity to α_s w.r.t. *inclusive* observables;
- calculable at **higher theoretical accuracy** w.r.t. *exclusive* observables.

Challenges:

- sensitivity to infrared (Sudakov) logs;
- sensitivity non perturbative QCD effects.

Classical semi-inclusive obs. at hadron colliders: high invariant-mass Drell–Yan lepton pair at small transverse-momentum (q_T).

α_{S} from Z-boson q_T distribution



Drell–Yan q_T distribution

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}_1) + \mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{p}_2) &\to \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{X} \to \ell_1 + \ell_2 + \mathbf{X} \\ \text{where} \quad V = Z^0 / \gamma^*, W^{\pm} \end{split}$$

QCD factorization formula:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dq_T^2} = \sum_{a,b} \int_0^1 dx_1 \int_0^1 dx_2 f_{a/h_1}(x_1,\mu_F^2) f_{b/h_2}(x_2,\mu_F^2) \frac{d\hat{\sigma}_{ab}}{dq_T^2} (\alpha_S(\mu_R^2),\mu_R^2,\mu_F^2).$$

Fixed-order perturbative expansion reliable

only for $q_T \sim M$. When $q_T \ll M$:

$$\int_{0}^{q_T^2} d\bar{q}_T^2 \frac{d\hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}}{d\bar{q}_T^2} \sim 1 + \alpha_S \bigg[c_{12} L_{q_T}^2 + c_{11} L_{q_T} + \cdots \bigg]$$
$$+ \alpha_S^2 \bigg[c_{24} L_{q_T}^4 + \cdots + c_{21} L_{q_T} + \cdots \bigg] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_S^3)$$

with $\alpha_S^n L_{q_T}^m \equiv \alpha_S^n \log^m (M^2/q_T^2) \gtrsim 1.$

Resummation of logarithmic corrections mandatory.



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q_T resummation in QCD [Catani,deFlorian,Grazzini('01)] [Bozzi,Catani,deFlorian,Grazzini('03,'06)]

$$rac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dq_T^2} = rac{d\hat{\sigma}^{(res)}}{dq_T^2} + rac{d\hat{\sigma}^{(fin)}}{dq_T^2};$$

In the impact parameter space: $q_T \ll M \Leftrightarrow Mb \gg 1$, $\log M/q_T \gg 1 \Leftrightarrow \log Mb \gg 1$

$$\frac{d\hat{\sigma}^{(res)}}{dq_T^2} = \frac{M^2}{\hat{s}} \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{b}}{4\pi} e^{i\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{q}_{\mathsf{T}}} \, \mathcal{W}(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{M}),$$

In the Mellin space (with respect to $z = M^2/\hat{s}$) we have:

$$\mathcal{W}_{N}(b,M) = \mathcal{H}_{N}(\alpha_{S}) \times \exp \left\{ \mathcal{G}_{N}(\alpha_{S},L) \right\}$$

with $L \equiv \log(M^2 b^2)$ and $\alpha_S L \sim 1$

$$\mathcal{G}(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}, \mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{L}g^{(1)}(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}\mathcal{L}) + g^{(2)}(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}\mathcal{L}) + \frac{\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}}{\pi}g^{(3)}(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}\mathcal{L}) + \cdots \qquad \mathcal{H}(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}) = \hat{\sigma}^{(0)}\left(1 + \frac{\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}}{\pi}\mathcal{H}^{(1)} + \left(\frac{\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}}{\pi}\right)^{2}\mathcal{H}^{(2)} + \cdots\right)$$

 $\mathsf{LL} \ (\sim \alpha_S^n L^{n+1}): \ \mathbf{g}^{(1)}, \ (\hat{\sigma}^{(0)}); \ \mathsf{NLL} \ (\sim \alpha_S^n L^n): \ \mathbf{g}^{(2)}, \ \mathcal{H}^{(1)}; \ \cdots \ \mathsf{N}^k \mathsf{LL} \ (\sim \alpha_S^n L^{n+k-1}): \ \mathbf{g}^{(k+1)}, \ \mathcal{H}^{(k)};$

Resummed result at small q_T matched with corresponding fixed "finite" part at large q_T : uniform accuracy for $q_T \ll M$ and $q_T \sim M$.

- Resummed effects exponentiated in a universal of Sudakov form factor, process-dependence factorized in the hard-virtual factor $H_c^F(\alpha_S)$ via all-order formula [Catani,Cieri,deFlorian,G.F.,Grazzini('14)].
- Resummation performed at partonic cross section level: (collinear) PDF evaluated at $\mu_F \sim M$, $f_N(b_0^2/b^2) = \exp\left\{-\int_{b_0^2/b^2}^{\mu_F^2} \frac{dq^2}{q^2} \gamma_N(\alpha_S(q^2))\right\} f_N(\mu_F^2)$: no PDF extrapolation in the non perturbative region, study of μ_R and μ_F dependence as in fixed-order calculations.
- No need for NP models: Landau singularity of α_S regularized using a Minimal Prescription without power-suppressed corrections [Laenen et al.('00)], [Catani et al.('96)].
- Introduction of resummation scale $Q \sim M$: variations give an estimate of the uncertainty from uncalculated logarithmic corrections.

$$\ln(M^2b^2) \rightarrow \ln(Q^2b^2) + \ln(M^2/Q^2)$$

 Perturbative unitarity constraint: recover *exactly* the total cross-section (upon integration on q_T)

$$\ln(Q^2b^2) \rightarrow \widetilde{L} \equiv \ln(Q^2b^2 + 1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \exp\left\{\alpha_S^n \widetilde{L}^k\right\}\Big|_{b=0} = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int_0^\infty dq_T^2 \left(\frac{d\widehat{\sigma}}{dq_T^2}\right) = \widehat{\sigma}^{(tot)};$$

• General procedure to treat the q_T recoil [Catani, de Florian, G.F., Grazzini('15)]:

$$\frac{d\hat{\sigma}^{(0)}}{d\Omega} = \hat{\sigma}^{(0)}(M^2) F(\mathbf{q}_{\mathsf{T}}; M^2, \Omega) \text{ with } F(\mathbf{q}_{\mathsf{T}}; M^2, \Omega) = F(\mathbf{0}; M^2, \Omega) + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{q}_{\mathsf{T}}^2/M^2)$$

q_T resummation: perturbative accuracy

• Formalism implemented in numerically efficient and publicly available code:

DYTurbo: computes resummed and fixed-order fiducial cross section and related distributions it retains full kinematics of the vector boson and of its leptonic decay products [Camarda,Boonekamp,Bozzi,Catani,Cieri,Cuth,G.F.,deFlorian,Glazov, Grazzini,Vincter,Schott('20)]

https://dyturbo.hepforge.org.

• We have explicitly included in DYTurbo up to:

- N⁴LL logarithmic contributions to all orders (i.e. up to $exp(\sim \alpha_s^n L^{n-3})$);
- Approximated N⁴LO corrections (i.e. up to $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_S^4)$) at small q_T ;
- NLO corrections (i.e. up to $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_S^2)$) at large q_T ;
- Matching with NNLO corrections (i.e. up to O(α_S³)) at large q_T from results in [Boughezal et al.('16)], [Gehrmann-DeRidder et al.('16)], [MCFM ('23)];
- Results up to N³LO (i.e. up to $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_{S}^{3})$) recovered for the total cross section (from unitarity).

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${\rm Z}/\gamma^*$ production at ${\rm N^3LL} + {\rm N^3LO}$ (resummed and matched)

[Camarda,Cieri,G.F.('21)]



DYTurbo results. Resummed (left) and matched (right) NLL, NNLL and N³LL bands for $Z/\gamma^* q_T$ spectrum.

Lower panel: ratio with respect to the N^3LL central value.

\mathbf{Z}/γ^* production: finite part

[Camarda,Cieri,G.F.('21)]



Finite part at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_5)$, $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_5^2)$ and $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_5^3)$ (left) and ratio wrt matched results (right).

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\mathbf{Z}/γ^* production at $\mathbf{N}^4\mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}+\mathbf{N}^4\mathbf{L}\mathbf{O}\mathbf{a}$ resummed

[Camarda,Cieri,G.F.('23)]



DYTurbo results. Left: Resummed NLL, NNLL, N³LL and N⁴LLa bands for Z/γ^* (left). Right: Uncertainties from approximations of the perturbative coefficients at N4LL+N4LOa compared to scale variations.

\mathbf{Z}/γ^* production theory vs data



DYTurbo results at N⁴LLa accuracy compared with data [ATLAS Coll.('23)]. Time performance of $\mathcal{O}(seconds)$: (with exception of V+jet term with fiducial lepton cuts).

Modelling Z (and W) production for $\sin^2 \theta'_{eff}$ and M_W determinations



Comparison of the measurements of the $\sin^2\theta_{eff}^{l}.$



Measured values of M_W compared with the prediction of from the global electroweak fit

Combining QED and QCD q_T resummation

[Cieri,G.F.,Sborlini('18)]

We start considering QED contributions to the q_T spectrum in the case of colourless and **neutral** high mass systems, e.g. on-shell Z boson production

$$h_1 + h_2 \rightarrow Z^0 + X$$

In the impact parameter and Mellin spaces resummed partonic cross section reads:

 $\mathcal{W}_{N}(b,M) = \hat{\sigma}^{(0)} \mathcal{H}'_{N}(\alpha_{S},\alpha) \times \exp\left\{\mathcal{G}'_{N}(\alpha_{S},\alpha,L)\right\}$

$$\mathcal{G}'(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}, \alpha, L) = \mathcal{G}(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}, L) + L g'^{(1)}(\alpha L) + g'^{(2)}(\alpha L) + \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{n-2} g'^{(n)}(\alpha L)$$

+
$$g'^{(1,1)}(\alpha_{\mathsf{S}}\mathsf{L},\alpha\mathsf{L})$$
 + $\sum_{\substack{n,m=1\\n+m\neq 2}}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha_{\mathsf{S}}}{\pi}\right)^{n-1} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{m-1} g_{\mathsf{N}}'^{(n,m)}(\alpha_{\mathsf{S}}\mathsf{L},\alpha\mathsf{L})$

$$\mathcal{H}'(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}, \alpha) \quad = \quad \mathcal{H}(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}) + \ \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \mathcal{H}'^{(1)} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^n \ \mathcal{H}_N^{\prime(n)} \ + \ \sum_{n,m=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}}{\pi}\right)^n \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^m \ \mathcal{H}_N^{\prime F(n,m)}$$

LL QED
$$(\sim \alpha^n L^{n+1})$$
: $g'^{(1)}$; NLL QED $(\sim \alpha^n L^n)$: $g'^{(2)}$, $\mathcal{H}'^{(1)}$; LL mixed QCD-QED $(\sim \alpha_5^n \alpha^n L^{2n})$: $g'^{(1,1)}$;

Combined QED and QCD q_T resummation for Z production at

[Cieri,G.F.,Sborlini('18)]



the Tevatron



Z qT spectrum at the LHC. NNLL+NNLO QCD combined with the LL (red dashed) and NLL+NLO (blue solid) QED with corresponding QED uncertainty bands. Ratio of the resummation (upper panel) and renormalization (lower panel) QED scale-dependent results with respect to the central value NNLL+NNLO QCD result.

Non perturbative effects



- Up to now discussed result in a complete perturbative framework (except for PDFs).
- Non perturbative intrinsic k_T effects parametrized by a NP form factor S_{NP} = exp{-gb²} with 0<g<1.2 GeV²:

 $\exp\{\mathcal{G}_{N}(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}},\widetilde{L})\} \quad \rightarrow \quad \exp\{\mathcal{G}_{N}(\alpha_{\mathcal{S}},\widetilde{L})\} \; \underline{S}_{NP}$

- NP effects increase the hardness of the q_T spectrum at small values of q_T. Non trivial interplay of perturbative and NP effects.
- However possible to disentangle the effects: scale of the NP effects is $\langle q_T \rangle \sim 1 \ GeV$ $(g \sim 0.5 \ GeV^2)$, scale of "soft gluon" recoil is $\langle q_T \rangle \sim 10 \ GeV$.

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Z-boson q_T measurement at CDF

The CDF measurement of $Z/\gamma^* \rightarrow e^+e^-$ ($\sqrt{s} = 1.96 \, TeV$ with $\int \mathcal{L} = 2.1 f b^{-1}$) [CDF Coll.('10)] is ideal for $\alpha_S(m_Z)$ determination.



[CDF Coll.('10)]

- Measurement in full-lepton phase space with small extrapolation using angular coefficients method ⇒ allows fast analytic predictions with DYTurbo.
- $p\bar{p}$ collisions: small contribution from heavy-flavour in initial state (0.4% $b\bar{b} \rightarrow Z$, 1.3% $c\bar{c} \rightarrow Z$). Quark mass effects negligible.
- Low pile-up and good electron resolution.
 Fine q_T bins (0.5GeV) with relatively small bin-to-bin correlations.

Methodology



- DYTurbo interfaced to xFitter. Fit region: $Z q_T < 30 \text{ GeV}$, predictions at $N^3LL+\mathcal{O}(\alpha_5^3)$ (i.e. N^3LL+N^3LO at low q_T) with NNPDF4.0 PDF at NNLO.
- Defined χ^2 with experimental (β_{exp}) and PDFs (β_{th}) uncertainties (equivalent to including the new dataset in the PDF using profiling/reweighting).
- The non-perturbative form factor is $S_{NP} = \exp\{-gb^2\}$ with g left free in the fit.

$$\begin{split} \chi^2(\beta_{\mathrm{exp}},\beta_{\mathrm{th}}) &= \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\mathrm{data}}} \frac{\left(\sigma_i^{\mathrm{exp}} + \sum_j \Gamma_{ij}^{\mathrm{exp}} \beta_{j,\mathrm{exp}} - \sigma_i^{\mathrm{th}} - \sum_k \Gamma_{ik}^{\mathrm{th}} \beta_{k,\mathrm{th}}\right)^2}{\Delta_i^2} \\ &+ \sum_j \beta_{j,\mathrm{exp}}^2 + \sum_k \beta_{k,\mathrm{th}}^2 \,. \end{split}$$

	PDF fit	Hessian profiling
$\alpha_S(m_Z)$ g [GeV ²]	$\begin{array}{c} 0.1188 \pm 0.0008 \\ 0.69 \pm 0.05 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.1184 \pm 0.0006 \\ 0.71 \pm 0.05 \end{array}$
Dataset	χ^2 /points	χ^2 /points
NC DIS H1-ZEUS e ⁺ p	955/905	
CC DIS H1-ZEUS e^+p	46/39	
NC DIS H1-ZEUS e^-p	219/159	
CC DIS H1-ZEUS e ⁻ p	53/42	
H1-ZEUS correlated χ^2	91	
CDF Z p_T	41/55	40/55
Total	1405 / 1184	

Bias from α_S-PDFs correlations [Forte,Kassabov('20)] → PDFs refitted.

- Other PDF sets considered. CT18, CT18Z, MSHT20, HERAPDF2.0, ABMP16 (NNLO) and MSHT20an3lo. The midpoint value is the nominal result and the PDF envelope as an additional uncertainty.
- Uncertainty from missing higher orders: $m_{II}/2 < \{\mu_R, \mu_F, Q\} < 2m_{II}$ with $0.5 < \{\mu_R/\mu_F, \mu_R/Q, \mu_F/Q\} < 2.$
- NP effects: b_* -pr. $b_* = b/\sqrt{1 + b^2/b_{lim}^2}$ ($b_{lim} = 2 - 3 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$) and minimal pr. ($b_{lim} \to \infty$); quartic term exp ($-qb^4$) and different parametrization of S_{NP} [Collins,Rogers('15)].
- Uncerainty from finite component at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_S^3)$.
- Check with D0 data and fit boundaries.

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	$\alpha_S(m_Z)$	g [GeV ²]	χ^2/dof
NNPDF4.0	0.1192 ± 0.0008	0.66 ± 0.05	41/53
CT18	0.1189 ± 0.0010	0.67 ± 0.05	40/53
CT18Z	0.1198 ± 0.0009	0.62 ± 0.05	41/53
MSHT20	0.1185 ± 0.0009	0.72 ± 0.05	40/53
HERAPDF2.0	0.1188 ± 0.0008	0.69 ± 0.05	40/53
ABMP16	0.1185 ± 0.0007	0.62 ± 0.05	42/53
MSHT20an3lo (N ⁴ LL)	0.1184 ± 0.0009	0.73 ± 0.05	40/53
PDF fit	0.1184 ± 0.0006	0.71 ± 0.05	1405/1184

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- NP effects: b_* -pr. $b_* = b/\sqrt{1 + b^2/b_{lim}^2}$ ($b_{lim} = 2 - 3 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$) and minimal pr. ($b_{lim} \to \infty$); quartic term exp ($-qb^4$) and different parametrization of S_{NP} [Collins,Rogers('15)].
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$\mu_R/m_{\ell\ell}$	$\mu_F/m_{\ell\ell}$	$Q/m_{\ell\ell}$	$\alpha_S(m_Z)$	g [GeV ²]	χ ² /dot
1	1	1	0.1192 ± 0.0008	0.66 ± 0.05	41/53
1	1	2	0.1183 ± 0.0007	0.77 ± 0.05	40/53
1	1	0.5	0.1196 ± 0.0008	0.57 ± 0.05	42/53
1	2	1	0.1194 ± 0.0008	0.66 ± 0.05	41/53
1	2	2	0.1183 ± 0.0007	0.77 ± 0.05	41/53
1	0.5	1	0.1193 ± 0.0008	0.68 ± 0.05	42/53
1	0.5	0.5	0.1196 ± 0.0008	0.59 ± 0.05	42/53
2	1	1	0.1193 ± 0.0008	0.67 ± 0.05	42/53
2	1	2	0.1194 ± 0.0008	0.70 ± 0.05	41/53
2	2	1	0.1192 ± 0.0008	0.65 ± 0.05	42/53
2	2	2	0.1192 ± 0.0008	0.67 ± 0.05	41/53
0.5	1	1	0.1184 ± 0.0007	0.75 ± 0.05	42/53
0.5	1	0.5	0.1192 ± 0.0007	0.64 ± 0.05	41/53
0.5	0.5	1	0.1183 ± 0.0007	0.75 ± 0.05	42/53
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- Uncerainty from finite component at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$.
- Check with D0 data and fit boundaries.



	$\alpha_S(m_Z)$	$g [{\rm GeV^2}]$
$b_{lim} = 2 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$	0.1187 ± 0.0007	0.83 ± 0.05
$b_{\lim} \rightarrow \infty$	0.1199 ± 0.0008	0.42 ± 0.05
g _k	0.1186 ± 0.0008	0.65 ± 0.05
$q = 0.1 \text{ GeV}^4$	0.1197 ± 0.0008	0.51 ± 0.05
VFN PDF evolution	0.1190 ± 0.0007	0.71 ± 0.05

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- NP effects: b_* -pr. $b_* = b/\sqrt{1 + b^2/b_{lim}^2}$ $(b_{lim} = 2 - 3 \text{ GeV}^{-1})$ and minimal pr. $(b_{lim} \to \infty)$; quartic term exp $(-qb^4)$ and different parametrization of S_{NP} [Collins,Rogers('15)].
- Uncerainty from finite component at O(α³₅).
- Check with D0 data and fit boundaries.



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 - $(b_{lim} = 2 3 \text{ GeV}^{-1})$ and minimal pr. $(b_{lim} \rightarrow \infty)$; quartic term $\exp(-qb^4)$ and different parametrization of S_{NP} [Collins,Rogers('15)].
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Fit results



Statistical uncertainty		±0.7	
Experimental systematic uncertainty		± 0.1	
PDF uncertainty (NNPDF4.0)		± 0.4	
PDF uncertainty (envelope of PDFs)		± 0.7	
Scale variations uncertainties	+0.4		- 0.9
Matching at $O(\alpha_S^3)$		± 0.1	
Non-perturbative model		± 0.7	
Flavour model	0		- 0.3
QED ISR		$< \pm 0.1$	
Lower limit of fit range		± 0.2	
Total	+1.3		- 1.6

Simultaneous fit of $\alpha_5(m_Z)$ and g at N³LL+ $O(\alpha_5^3)$ (N³LL+N³LO):

 $\alpha_{\rm S}({\rm m_Z}) = 0.1191^{+0.0013}_{-0.0016}$

$$g = 0.66 \pm 0.05 ~GeV^2$$

Determination of α_S from the Z-boson q_T distribution



Conclusions

- Novel methodology for determination of $\alpha_S(m_Z)$ based on Z-boson small- q_T distribution.
- Based on N^3LL+N^3LO resummed QCD predictions.
- Result in agreement with the world average. Uncertainty comparable to other determinations.
- Precise collider determination: 1.2% relative uncerainty.
- Crucial development of DYTurbo program to compute fast and accurate theoretical predictions:

https://dyturbo.hepforge.org