



# The 3-Loop Heavy Flavor Corrections to Deep-Inelastic Scattering

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DESY AND TU DORTMUND

- J. Ablinger et al., The unpolarized and polarized single-mass three-loop heavy flavor operator matrix elements  $A_{gg,Q}$  and  $\Delta A_{gg,Q}$ , JHEP **12** (2022) 134.
- A. Behring, J.B., and K. Schönwald, The inverse Mellin transform via analytic continuation, JHEP **06** (2023) 62.
- J. Ablinger et al., The first-order factorizable contributions to the three-loop massive operator matrix elements  $A_{Qg}^{(3)}$  and  $\Delta A_{Qg}^{(3)}$ , Nucl. Phys.B 999 (2024) 116427.
- J. Ablinger et al., The non-first-order-factorizable contributions to the three-loop single-mass operator matrix elements  $A_{Qg}^{(3)}$  and  $\Delta A_{Qg}^{(3)}$ , 2403.00513 [hep-ph].

# The Collaboration

[DESY-JKU Linz & younger colleagues]

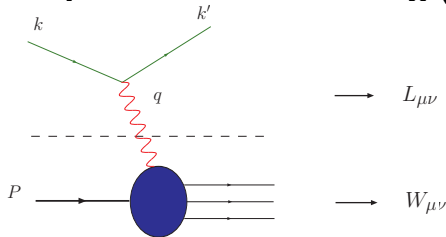


- **2007-2009:**  
2-loop general  $N$ -results and 3-loop moments  
I. Bierenbaum, JB. S. Klein
- **2010-now:**  
Individual 3-loop OMEs and HQ Wilson-coefficients at general  $N$  and  $x$   
J. Ablinger, A. Behring, JB, A. De Freitas, A. Hasselhuhn, S. Klein, A. von Manteuffel, M. Round, M. Saragnese, C. Schneider, K. Schönwald, F. Wißbrock
- **Some special 2-loop applications** (including massive QED)  
also: G. Falcioni, W. van Neerven, T. Pfoh, C. Raab

## Earlier calculations

- **1976-1982; 1991: Analytic 1-loop results**  
E. Witten; J. Babcock, D. W. Sivers, S. Wolfram; M.A. Shifman, A.I. Vainshtein, V.I. Zakharov; J.P. Leveille, T.J. Weiler; M. Glück, E. Hoffmann, E. Reya; C. Watson, W. Vogelsang
- **1995-1998: Analytic 2-loop results**  
M. Buza, Y. Matiounine, R. Migneron, W. van Neerven, J. Smith  
**1992-1995: Numeric 2-loop results** E. Laenen, W. van Neerven, S. Riemersma, J. Smith

# Deep-Inelastic Scattering (DIS):



$$Q^2 := -q^2, \quad x := \frac{Q^2}{2P \cdot q} \quad \text{Bjorken-}x$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dQ^2 dx} \sim W_{\mu\nu} L^{\mu\nu}$$

$$W_{\mu\nu}(q, P, s) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^4\xi \exp(iq\xi) \langle P, s | [J_\mu^{em}(\xi), J_\nu^{em}(0)] | P, s \rangle =$$

$$\frac{1}{2x} \left( g_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2} \right) F_L(x, Q^2) + \frac{2x}{Q^2} \left( P_\mu P_\nu + \frac{q_\mu P_\nu + q_\nu P_\mu}{2x} - \frac{Q^2}{4x^2} g_{\mu\nu} \right) F_2(x, Q^2) \\ + i\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \frac{q^\lambda S^\sigma}{P \cdot q} g_1(x, Q^2) + i\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \frac{q^\lambda (P \cdot q S^\sigma - S \cdot q P^\sigma)}{(P \cdot q)^2} g_2(x, Q^2).$$

The structure functions  $F_{2,L}$  and  $g_{1,2}$  contain light and heavy quark contributions.  
 At 3-loop order also graphs with two heavy quarks of different mass contribute.  
 $\Rightarrow$  Single and 2-mass contributions:  $c$  and  $b$  quarks in one graph.

# Factorization of the Structure Functions



At leading twist the structure functions factorize in terms of a Mellin convolution

$$F_{(2,L)}(x, Q^2) = \sum_j \underbrace{C_{j,(2,L)}\left(x, \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}\right)}_{\text{perturbative}} \otimes \underbrace{f_j(x, \mu^2)}_{\text{nonpert.}}$$

into (pert.) **Wilson coefficients** and (nonpert.) **parton distribution functions (PDFs)**.

$\otimes$  denotes the Mellin convolution

$$f(x) \otimes g(x) \equiv \int_0^1 dy \int_0^1 dz \delta(x - yz) f(y) g(z).$$

Many of the subsequent calculations are performed in Mellin space, where  $\otimes$  reduces to a multiplication, due to the Mellin transformation

$$\hat{f}(N) = \int_0^1 dx x^{N-1} f(x).$$

Wilson coefficients:

$$C_{j,(2,L)} \left( N, \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} \right) = C_{j,(2,L)} \left( N, \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} \right) + H_{j,(2,L)} \left( N, \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} \right).$$

At  $Q^2 \gg m^2$  the heavy flavor part

$$H_{j,(2,L)} \left( N, \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} \right) = \sum_i C_{i,(2,L)} \left( N, \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} \right) A_{ij} \left( \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, N \right)$$

[Buza, Matiounine, Smith, van Neerven 1996]

factorizes into the light flavor Wilson coefficients  $C$  and the massive operator matrix elements (OMEs) of local operators  $O_i$  between partonic states  $j$

$$A_{ij} \left( \frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, N \right) = \langle j | O_i | j \rangle.$$

→ additional Feynman rules with local operator insertions for partonic matrix elements.

The unpolarized light flavor Wilson coefficients are known up to NNLO

[Vermaseren, Moch, Vogt, 2005; JB, Marquard, Schneider, Schönwald, 2022].

For  $F_2(x, Q^2)$  : at  $Q^2 \gtrsim 10m^2$  the asymptotic representation holds at the 1% level.

# The main time-line for the 3-loop corrections



- **2005**  $F_L$  [no massive 3-loop OMEs needed]
- **2010** All unpolarized  $N_F$  terms and  $A_{qg,Q}^{(3)}, A_{qq,Q}^{(3),PS}$
- **2014** unpolarized logarithmic 3-loop contributions and  $A_{gq,Q}^{(3)}, (\Delta)A_{qq,Q}^{(3),NS}, A_{Qq}^{(3),PS}$
- **2017** two-mass corrections  $A_{gq,Q}^{(3)}, (\Delta)A_{qq,Q}^{(3),NS}, A_{Qq}^{(3),PS}$
- **2018** two-mass corrections  $A_{gg,Q}^{(3)}$
- **2019** 2-loop correction:  $(\Delta)A_{Qq}^{(2),PS}$  whole kinematic region and  $\Delta A_{Qq}^{(3),PS}$
- **2019** two-mass corrections  $\Delta A_{Qq}^{(3),PS}$
- **2020** two-mass corrections  $\Delta A_{gg,Q}^{(3)}$
- **2021** polarized logarithmic 3-loop contributions and  $\Delta A_{qg,Q}^{(3)}, \Delta A_{qq,Q}^{(3),PS}, \Delta A_{gq}^{(3)}$
- **2022** 3-loop polarized massless Wilson coefficients [JB, Marquard, Schneider, Schönwald]
- **2022** corrected the polarized 2-loop contributions
- **2022**  $(\Delta)A_{gg,Q}^{(3)}$
- **2023**  $(\Delta)A_{Qg}^{(3)}$ : 1st order factorizing parts
- **2024**  $(\Delta)A_{Qg}^{(3)}$ , [two-mass corrections  $(\Delta)A_{Qg}^{(3)}$ ]

- [45 physics papers \(journals\)](#)
- [26 mathematical papers](#)
  - **1998** Harmonic sums [ Vermaseren; JB]
  - **2000,2005** Analytic continuations of harmonic sums to  $N \in \mathbb{C}$  [ JB; JB, S. Moch]
  - **2003** Concrete shuffle algebras [JB]
  - **2009** Guessing large recurrences [ JB, M. Kauers, S. Klein, C. Schneider]
  - **2009** Structural relations of harmonic sums [ JB]
  - **2009** MZV Data mine [ JB, D. Broadhurst, J. Vermaseren]
  - **2011** Cyclotomic harmonic sums and harmonic polylogarithms [ Ablinger, JB, Schneider]
  - **2013** Generalized harmonic sums and harmonic polylogarithms [ Ablinger, JB, Schneider]; **2001** [Moch, Uwer, Weinzierl]
  - **2014** Finite binomial sums and root-valued iterated integrals [Ablinger, JB, Raab, Schneider]
  - **2017**  ${}_2F_1$  solutions (iterated non-iterative integrals) [ J. Ablinger, JB, A. De Freitas, M. van Hoeij, E. Imamoglu, C. Raab, C.S. Radu, C. Schneider]
  - **2017** Methods of arbitrary high moments [JB, Schneider]
  - **2018** Automated solution of first-order factorizing differential equation systems in an arbitrary basis [J. Ablinger, JB, P. Marquard, N. Rana, C. Schneider]
  - **2023** Analytic continuation from  $t$  to  $x$ -space [ JB, Behring, Schönwald]

## Important Computer-Algebra Packages

**C. Schneider:** Sigma, EvaluateMultiSums, SumProduction, SolveCoupledSystem

**J. Ablinger:** HarmonicSums

# The Wilson Coefficients at large $Q^2$



$$L_{q,(2,L)}^{NS}(N_F + 1) = a_s^2 [A_{qq,Q}^{(2),NS}(N_F + 1)\delta_2 + \hat{C}_{q,(2,L)}^{(2),NS}(N_F)] + a_s^3 [A_{qq,Q}^{(3),NS}(N_F + 1)\delta_2 + A_{qq,Q}^{(2),NS}(N_F + 1)C_{q,(2,L)}^{(1),NS}(N_F + 1) + \hat{C}_{q,(2,L)}^{(3),NS}(N_F)]$$

$$L_{q,(2,L)}^{PS}(N_F + 1) = a_s^3 [A_{qq,Q}^{(3),PS}(N_F + 1)\delta_2 + N_F A_{qq,Q}^{(2),NS}(N_F) \tilde{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(1),NS}(N_F + 1) + N_F \hat{C}_{q,(2,L)}^{(3),PS}(N_F)]$$

$$L_{g,(2,L)}^S(N_F + 1) = a_s^2 [A_{gg,Q}^{(1)}(N_F + 1)N_F \tilde{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(2)}(N_F + 1) + a_s^3 [A_{qq,Q}^{(3)}(N_F + 1)\delta_2 + A_{gg,Q}^{(1)}(N_F + 1)N_F \tilde{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(2)}(N_F + 1) + A_{gg,Q}^{(2)}(N_F + 1)N_F \tilde{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(1)}(N_F + 1) + A_{Qg}^{(1)}(N_F + 1)N_F \tilde{C}_{q,(2,L)}^{(2),PS}(N_F + 1) + N_F \hat{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(3)}(N_F)]$$

$$H_{q,(2,L)}^{PS}(N_F + 1) = a_s^2 [A_{Qq}^{(2),PS}(N_F + 1)\delta_2 + \tilde{C}_{q,(2,L)}^{(2),PS}(N_F + 1)] + a_s^3 [A_{Qq}^{(3),PS}(N_F + 1)\delta_2 + A_{qq,Q}^{(2)}(N_F + 1)\tilde{C}_{g,(1,L)}^{(2)}(N_F + 1) + A_{Qq}^{(2),PS}(N_F + 1)\tilde{C}_{q,(2,L)}^{(1),NS}(N_F + 1) + \tilde{C}_{q,(2,L)}^{(3),PS}(N_F + 1)]$$

$$H_{g,(2,L)}^S(N_F + 1) = a_s [A_{Qg}^{(1)}(N_F + 1)\delta_2 + \tilde{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(1)}(N_F + 1)] + a_s^2 [A_{Qg}^{(2)}(N_F + 1)\delta_2 + A_{Qg}^{(1)}(N_F + 1)\tilde{C}_{q,(2,L)}^{(1)}(N_F + 1) + A_{gg,Q}^{(1)}(N_F + 1)\tilde{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(1)}(N_F + 1) + \tilde{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(2)}(N_F + 1)] + a_s^3 [A_{Qg}^{(3)}(N_F + 1)\delta_2 + A_{Qg}^{(2)}(N_F + 1)\tilde{C}_{q,(2,L)}^{(1)}(N_F + 1) + A_{gg,Q}^{(2)}(N_F + 1)\tilde{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(1)}(N_F + 1) + A_{Qg}^{(1)}(N_F + 1)\tilde{C}_{q,(2,L)}^{(2),S}(N_F + 1) + A_{gg,Q}^{(1)}(N_F + 1)\tilde{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(1)}(N_F + 1) + \tilde{C}_{g,(2,L)}^{(3)}(N_F + 1)]$$

- The case for two different masses obeys an analogous representation.
- Note the contributions of the **massless Wilson coefficients**.



# The variable flavor number scheme



- Matching conditions for parton distribution functions:

$$f_k(N_F + 2) + \bar{f}_k(N_F + 2) = A_{qq,Q}^{\text{NS}} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) \cdot [f_k(N_F) + \bar{f}_k(N_F)] + \frac{1}{N_F} A_{qq,Q}^{\text{PS}} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) \cdot \Sigma(N_F) \\ + \frac{1}{N_F} A_{qg,Q} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) \cdot G(N_F),$$

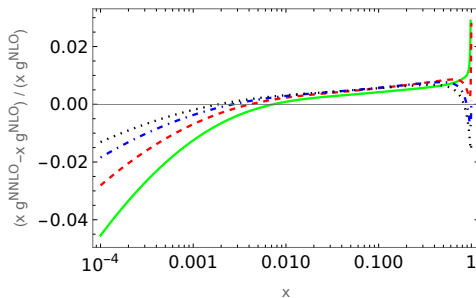
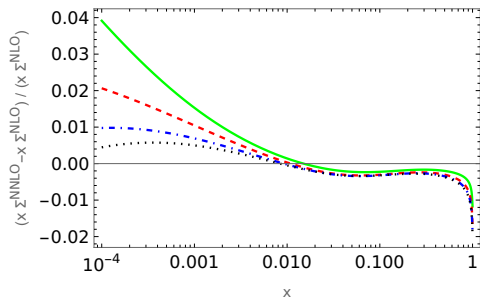
$$f_Q(N_F + 2) + \bar{f}_Q(N_F + 2) = A_{Qq}^{\text{PS}} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) \cdot \Sigma(N_F) + A_{Qg} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) \cdot G(N_F),$$

$$\Sigma(N_F + 2) = \left[ A_{qq,Q}^{\text{NS}} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) + A_{qq,Q}^{\text{PS}} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) + A_{Qq}^{\text{PS}} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right] \cdot \Sigma(N_F) \\ + \left[ A_{qg,Q} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) + A_{Qg} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right] \cdot G(N_F),$$

$$G(N_F + 2) = A_{gq,Q} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) \cdot \Sigma(N_F) + A_{gg,Q} \left( N_F + 2, \frac{m_1^2}{\mu^2}, \frac{m_2^2}{\mu^2} \right) \cdot G(N_F).$$

The charm and bottom quark masses are not that much different.

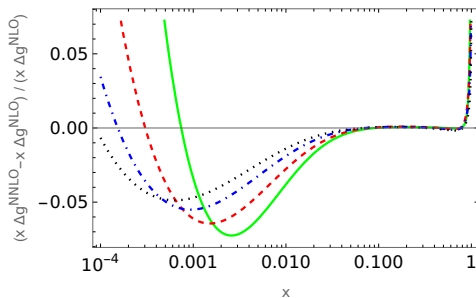
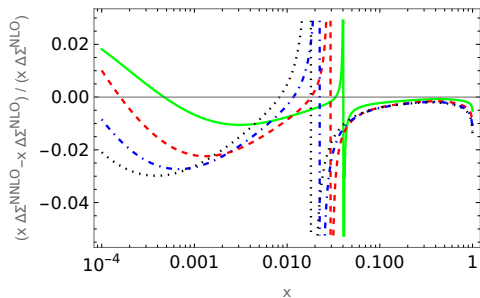
# Relative effect in unpolarized NNLO evolution



$Q^2 = 10, 10^2, 10^3, 10^4 \text{ GeV}^2$  dotted, dash-dotted, dashed, full lines. [M. Saragnese, 2022]

The unpolarized world deep-inelastic data have a precision of  $O(1\%)$ .

# Relative effect in polarized NNLO evolution



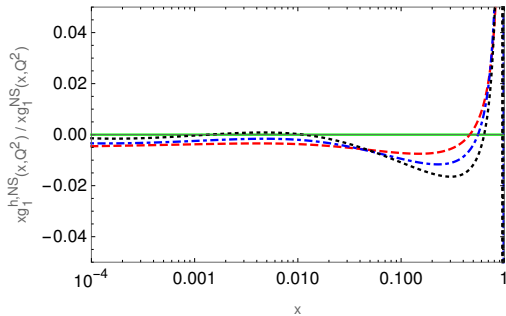
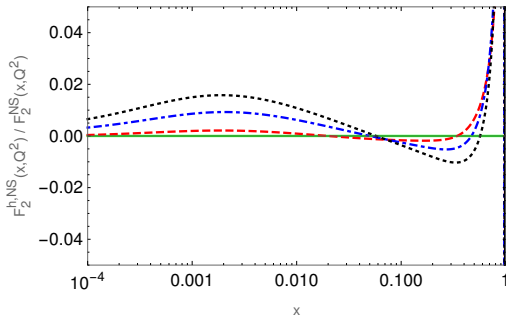
$Q^2 = 10, 10^2, 10^3, 10^4 \text{ GeV}^2$  dotted, dash-dotted, dashed, full lines. [M. Saragnese, 2022]

The future polarized data at the **EIC** will reach a precision of  $O(1\%)$ .

# The relative contribution of HQ to non-singlet structure functions at N<sup>3</sup>LO



## Scheme-invariant evolution

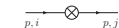


Left: The relative contribution of the heavy flavor contributions due to  $c$  and  $b$  quarks to the structure function  $F_2^{\text{NS}}$  at N<sup>3</sup>LO; dashed lines: 100 GeV<sup>2</sup>; dashed-dotted lines: 1000 GeV<sup>2</sup>; dotted lines: 10000 GeV<sup>2</sup>. Right: The same for the structure function  $xg_1^{\text{NS}}$  at N<sup>3</sup>LO. [JB, M. Saragnese, 2021].

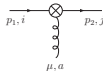
# Calculation of the 3-loop operator matrix elements



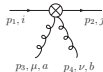
The OMEs are calculated using the QCD Feynman rules together with the following operator insertion Feynman rules:



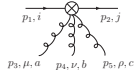
$$\delta^{ij} \Delta \gamma_{\pm} (\Delta \cdot p)^{N-1}, \quad N \geq 1$$



$$g^{\mu\nu} \Delta^{\alpha} \Delta^{\beta} \Delta \gamma_{\pm} \sum_{j=0}^{N-2} (\Delta \cdot p_1)^j (\Delta \cdot p_2)^{N-j-2}, \quad N \geq 2$$

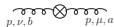


$$g^2 \Delta^{\mu} \Delta^{\nu} \Delta^{\alpha} \Delta^{\beta} \Delta \gamma_{\pm} \sum_{j=0}^{N-3} \sum_{l=m-j+1}^{N-2} (\Delta p_2)^j (\Delta p_1)^{N-l-2} \left[ (t^{\alpha l})_{ji} (\Delta p_1 + \Delta p_4)^{l-j-1} + (t^{\beta l})_{ji} (\Delta p_1 + \Delta p_3)^{l-j-1} \right], \quad N \geq 3$$

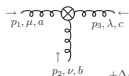


$$g^2 \Delta_{\mu} \Delta_{\nu} \Delta_{\rho} \Delta_{\sigma} \Delta \gamma_{\pm} \sum_{j=0}^{N-4} \sum_{l=m-j+1}^{N-3} \sum_{m=l+1}^{N-2} (\Delta \cdot p_2)^j (\Delta \cdot p_1)^{N-m-2} \left[ (t^{\alpha l t^{\rho}})_{ji} (\Delta p_4 + \Delta p_5 + \Delta p_1)^{l-j-1} (\Delta p_5 + \Delta p_1)^{m-l-1} + (t^{\alpha t^{\rho} t^{\beta}})_{ji} (\Delta p_4 + \Delta p_5 + \Delta p_1)^{l-j-1} (\Delta p_4 + \Delta p_1)^{m-l-1} + (t^{\beta t^{\rho} t^{\alpha}})_{ji} (\Delta p_3 + \Delta p_5 + \Delta p_1)^{l-j-1} (\Delta p_5 + \Delta p_1)^{m-l-1} + (t^{\beta t^{\rho} t^{\alpha}})_{ji} (\Delta p_3 + \Delta p_5 + \Delta p_1)^{l-j-1} (\Delta p_3 + \Delta p_1)^{m-l-1} + (t^{\alpha t^{\rho} t^{\beta}})_{ji} (\Delta p_3 + \Delta p_4 + \Delta p_1)^{l-j-1} (\Delta p_4 + \Delta p_1)^{m-l-1} + (t^{\alpha t^{\rho} t^{\beta}})_{ji} (\Delta p_3 + \Delta p_4 + \Delta p_1)^{l-j-1} (\Delta p_3 + \Delta p_1)^{m-l-1} \right], \quad N \geq 4$$

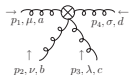
$$\gamma_{+} = 1, \quad \gamma_{-} = \gamma_{5}.$$



$$\frac{1+i(-1)^N}{2} f^{abc} (\Delta \cdot p)^{N-2} \left[ g_{\mu\nu} (\Delta \cdot p)^2 - (\Delta_{\mu} p_{\nu} + \Delta_{\nu} p_{\mu}) \Delta \cdot p + p^2 \Delta_{\mu} \Delta_{\nu} \right], \quad N \geq 2$$



$$-i g \frac{1+i(-1)^N}{2} f^{abc} \left( \left[ (\Delta_{\nu} g_{\lambda\mu} - \Delta_{\lambda} g_{\mu\nu}) \Delta \cdot p_1 + \Delta_{\mu} (p_{1,\nu} \Delta_{\lambda} - p_{1,\lambda} \Delta_{\nu}) \right] (\Delta \cdot p_1)^{N-2} + \Delta_{\lambda} \left[ \Delta \cdot p_1 p_{2,\mu} \Delta_{\nu} + \Delta \cdot p_2 p_{1,\nu} \Delta_{\mu} - \Delta \cdot p_1 \Delta \cdot p_2 g_{\mu\nu} - p_1 \cdot p_2 \Delta_{\mu} \Delta_{\nu} \right] \times \sum_{j=0}^{N-3} (-\Delta \cdot p_1)^j (\Delta \cdot p_2)^{N-3-j} + \left\{ \begin{matrix} p_1 \cdot p_2 - p_2 \cdot p_1 \\ \mu \rightarrow \nu, \lambda \rightarrow \mu \end{matrix} \right\} \right), \quad N \geq 2$$



$$g^2 \frac{1+i(-1)^N}{2} \left( f^{abc} f^{cde} O_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} (p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4) + f^{ace} f^{bdc} O_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} (p_1, p_3, p_2, p_4) + f^{abc} f^{bdc} O_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} (p_1, p_4, p_2, p_3) \right), \quad O_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} (p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4) = \Delta_{\nu} \Delta_{\lambda} \left\{ -g_{\mu\sigma} (\Delta \cdot p_3 + \Delta \cdot p_4)^{N-2} + [p_{4,\mu} \Delta_{\sigma} - \Delta \cdot p_4 g_{\mu\sigma}] \sum_{i=0}^{N-3} (\Delta \cdot p_3 + \Delta \cdot p_4)^i (\Delta \cdot p_4)^{N-3-i} - [p_{1,\sigma} \Delta_{\mu} - \Delta \cdot p_1 g_{\mu\sigma}] \sum_{i=0}^{N-3} (-\Delta \cdot p_1)^i (\Delta \cdot p_3 + \Delta \cdot p_4)^{N-3-i} + [\Delta \cdot p_1 \Delta \cdot p_4 g_{\mu\sigma} + p_1 \cdot p_4 \Delta_{\mu} \Delta_{\sigma} - \Delta \cdot p_4 p_{1,\sigma} \Delta_{\mu} - \Delta \cdot p_1 p_{4,\mu} \Delta_{\sigma}] \times \sum_{i=0}^{N-4} \sum_{j=0}^i (-\Delta \cdot p_1)^{N-4-i} (\Delta \cdot p_3 + \Delta \cdot p_4)^{i-j} (\Delta \cdot p_4)^j \right\} - \left\{ \begin{matrix} p_1 \cdot p_2 \\ \mu \rightarrow \nu \end{matrix} \right\} - \left\{ \begin{matrix} p_2 \cdot p_1 \\ \lambda \rightarrow \sigma \end{matrix} \right\} + \left\{ \begin{matrix} p_1 \cdot p_2, p_3 \cdot p_4 \\ \mu \rightarrow \nu, \lambda \rightarrow \sigma \end{matrix} \right\}, \quad N \geq 2$$

# Calculation methods



- Diagram generation: QGRAF [Nogueira, 1993]
- Lorentz and Dirac algebra: Form [Vermaseren, 2000]
- Color algebra: Color [van Ritbergen, Schellekens, Vermaseren, 1999]
- IBP reduction: Reduze 2 [von Manteuffel, Studerus 2009,2012]
- $N$  space calculations:
  - Method of arbitrary large moments [JB, Schneider, 2017]
  - Summation theory and solving first-order factorizing recurrences: Sigma [Schneider, 2007,2013]
  - Reduce the results in the respective function spaces: HarmonicSums [Ablinger, 2009, 2012, etc.]
- $x$  space calculations
  - solve 1st order factorizing differential equations
  - transform from  $N \rightarrow t$ -space, solve the respective systems of differential equations (not necessarily factorizing to first order) [Behring, JB, Schönwald, 2023]
  - Reduce the results in the respective function spaces; iterated integrals over alphabets containing also higher transcendental letters [Ablinger et al. 2017]
  - The higher transcendental letters have to be known **in analytic form** for  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ .
- **Both  $N$  and  $x$  space techniques** are needed to solve the present problem. The recurrences for  $A_{Qg}^{(3)}$  need far more than 15000 moments to be found & there are no technologies yet to solve non-first order factorizing recurrences analytically.
- Final numerical representation: In the most complicated cases: local series expansions in  $x$  at **high precision**.



# Mathematical Background

- massless and massive contributions to two-loops: **harmonic sums**
- all pole terms to three-loops: **harmonic sums**
- all massless Wilson coefficients to three-loops: **harmonic sums**

## Single-mass OMEs

- all  $N_F$  of the massive OMEs three-loops: **harmonic sums**
- $(\Delta)A_{qq,Q}^{(3),NS}$ ,  $(\Delta)A_{gq,Q}^{(3)}$ ,  $(\Delta)A_{qg,Q}^{(3)}$ ,  $(\Delta)A_{qq,Q}^{(3),PS}$  to three-loops: **harmonic sums**
- $(\Delta)A_{Qq}^{(3),PS}$  to three-loops: **generalized harmonic sums** and also  $H_{\bar{a}}(1 - 2x)$
- $(\Delta)A_{gg,Q}^{(3)}$  to three-loops: **finite binomial sums** and square-root valued iterated integrals
- $(\Delta)A_{Qg}^{(3)}$  to three-loops:
  - first-order factorizing contributions: **finite binomial sums**; all iterated integrals in  $x$ -space can be rationalized
  - non-first-order factorizing contributions:  ${}_2F_1$  **letters** in iterated integrals in  $x$ -space

## Two-mass OMEs

- $(\Delta)A_{qq,Q}^{(3),NS}$ ,  $(\Delta)A_{gq,Q}^{(3)}$ : **harmonic sums**
- $(\Delta)A_{Qq}^{(3),PS}$ : analytic solutions in  $x$ -space only; **different supports; root-values letters**
- $(\Delta)A_{gg,Q}^{(3)}$ : **root-valued iterated integrals**

# Inverse Mellin transform via analytic continuation: $a_{Qg}^{(3)}$



Resumming Mellin  $N$  into a continuous variable  $t$ , observing crossing relations. Ablinger et al. 2012

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} t^k (\Delta \cdot p)^k \frac{1}{2} [1 \pm (-1)^k] = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{1 - t\Delta \cdot p} \pm \frac{1}{1 + t\Delta \cdot p} \right]$$

$$\mathfrak{A} = \{f_1(t), \dots, f_m(t)\}, \quad G(b, \vec{a}; t) = \int_0^t dx_1 f_b(x_1) G(\vec{a}; x_1), \quad \left[ \frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{f_{a_{k-1}}(t)} \frac{d}{dt} \dots \frac{1}{f_{a_1}(t)} \frac{d}{dt} \right] G(\vec{a}; t) = f_{a_k}(t).$$

The  $f_i(t)$  include higher transcendental letters. Regularization for  $t \rightarrow 0$  needed.

$$F(N) = \int_0^1 dx x^{N-1} [f(x) + (-1)^{N-1} g(x)]$$

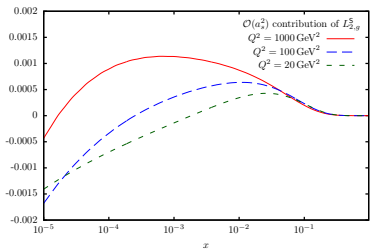
$$\tilde{F}(t) = \sum_{N=1}^{\infty} t^N F(N)$$

$$f(x) + (-1)^{N-1} g(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \left[ \text{Disc}_x \tilde{F} \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) + (-1)^{N-1} \text{Disc}_x \tilde{F} \left( -\frac{1}{x} \right) \right]. \quad (1)$$

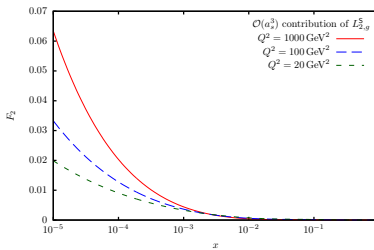
$t$ -space is still Mellin space. One needs closed expressions to perform the analytic continuation (1). Analytic continuation is needed to calculate the **small  $x$  behaviour**. The **final expansion** maps the problem into a **very large number** of  $G$ -constants, including those with higher transcendental letters.



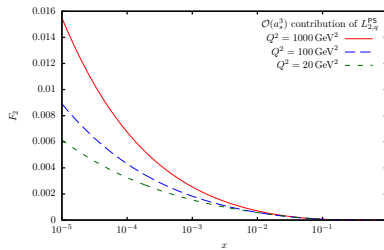
# Numerical Results : $L_{g,2}^S$ and $L_{q,2}^{PS}$



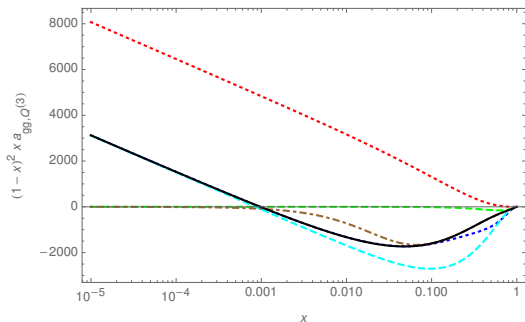
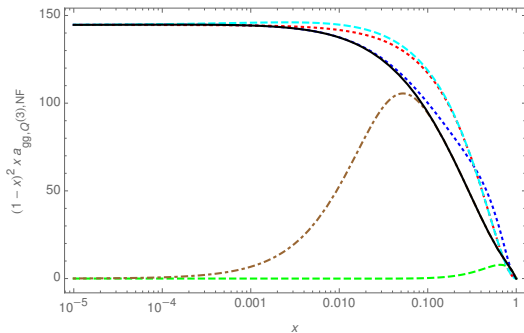
$O(a_s^2) L_{2,g}^S$



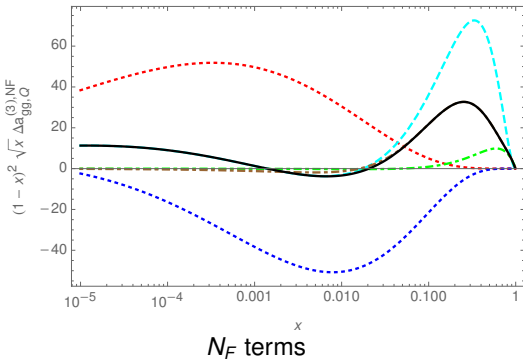
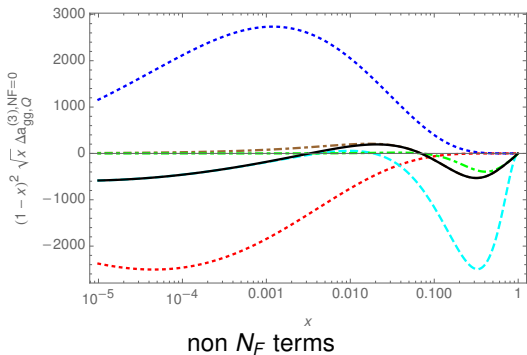
$O(a_s^3) L_{2,g}^S$



$L_{q,2}^{PS}$

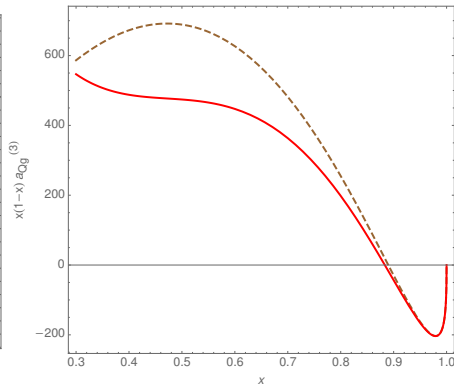
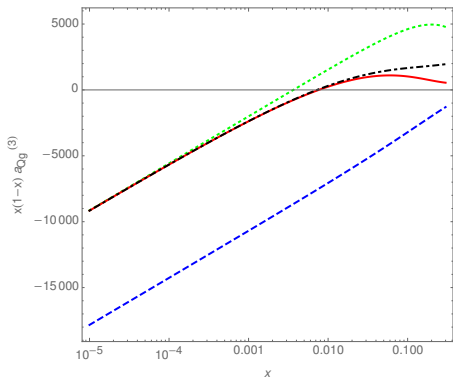
non  $N_F$  terms $N_F$  terms

Left panel: The non- $N_F$  terms of  $a_{gg,Q}^{(3)}(N)$  (rescaled) as a function of  $x$ . Full line (black): complete result; upper dotted line (red): term  $\propto \ln(x)/x$ ; lower dashed line (cyan): small  $x$  terms  $\propto 1/x$ ; lower dotted line (blue): small  $x$  terms including all  $\ln(x)$  terms up to the constant term; upper dashed line (green): large  $x$  contribution up to the constant term; dash-dotted line (brown): complete large  $x$  contribution. Right panel: the same for the  $N_F$  contribution.

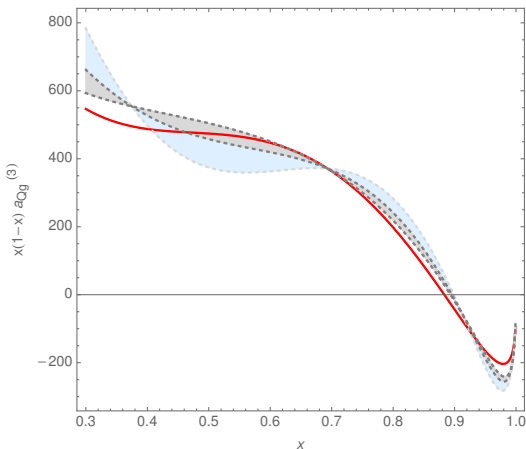
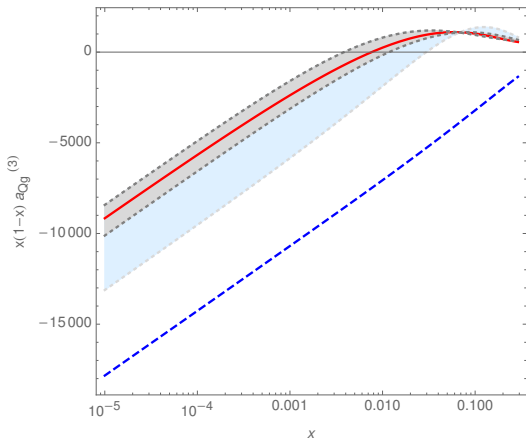


The non- $N_F$  terms of  $\Delta a_{gg,Q}^{(3)}(N)$  (rescaled) as a function of  $x$ . Full line (black): complete result; lower dotted line (red): term  $\ln^5(x)$ ; upper dotted line (blue): small  $x$  terms  $\propto \ln^5(x)$  and  $\ln^4(x)$ ; upper dashed line (cyan): small  $x$  terms including all  $\ln(x)$  terms up to the constant term; lower dash-dotted line (green): large  $x$  contribution up to the constant term; dash-dotted line (brown): full large  $x$  contribution. Right panel: the same for the  $N_F$  contribution.

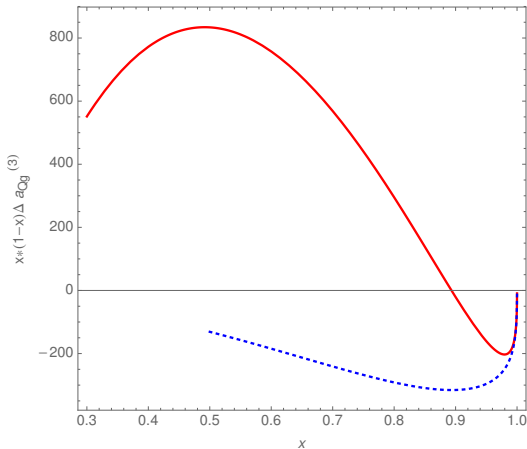
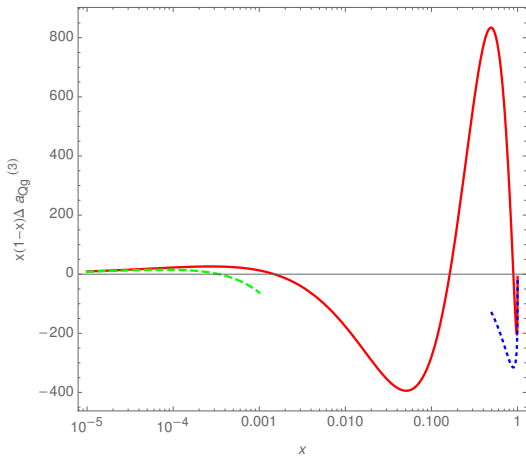
1009 of the total 1233 Feynman diagrams have first-order factorizing contributions only and are given by  $G$ -functions up to root-values letters. The letters for all constants can be rationalized.



$a_{Qg}^{(3)}(x)$  as a function of  $x$ , rescaled by the factor  $x(1-x)$ . Left panel: smaller  $x$  region. Full line (red):  $a_{Qg}^{(3)}(x)$ ; dashed line (blue): leading small- $x$  term  $\propto \ln(x)/x$  [Catani, Ciafaloni, Hautmann, 1990]; dotted line (green):  $\ln(x)/x$  and  $1/x$  term; dash-dotted line (black): all small- $x$  terms, including also  $\ln^k(x)$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, 5\}$ . Right panel: larger  $x$  region. Full line (red):  $a_{Qg}^{(3)}(x)$ ; dashed line (brown): leading large- $x$  terms up to the terms  $\propto (1-x)$ , covering the logarithmic contributions of  $O(\ln^k(1-x))$ ,  $k \in \{1, 4\}$ .



$a_{Qg}^{(3)}(x)$  as a function of  $x$ , rescaled by the factor  $x(1-x)$ . Left panel: smaller  $x$  region. Full line (red):  $a_{Qg}^{(3)}(x)$ ; dashed line (blue): leading small- $x$  term  $\propto \ln(x)/x$  [Catani, Ciafaloni, Hautmann, 1990]; light blue region: estimates of [Kawamura et al., 2012]; gray region: estimates of [ABMP 2017]. Right panel: larger  $x$  region. Full line (red):  $a_{Qg}^{(3)}(x)$ ; light blue region: estimates of [Kawamura et al., 2012] gray region: estimates of [ABMP 2017].

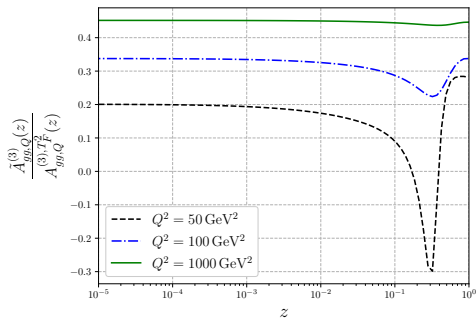


$\Delta a_{Qg}^{(3)}(x)$  as a function of  $x$ , rescaled by the factor  $x(1-x)$ . Left panel: full line (red):  $\Delta a_{Qg}^{(3)}(x)$ ; dashed line (green): the small- $x$  terms  $\ln^k(x)$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, 5\}$ ; dotted line (blue): the large- $x$  terms  $\ln^l(1-x)$ ,  $l \in \{1, \dots, 4\}$ . Right panel: larger  $x$  region. Full line (red):  $\Delta a_{Qg}^{(3)}(x)$ ; dotted line (blue): the large- $x$  terms  $\ln^l(1-x)$ ,  $l \in \{1, \dots, 4\}$ .

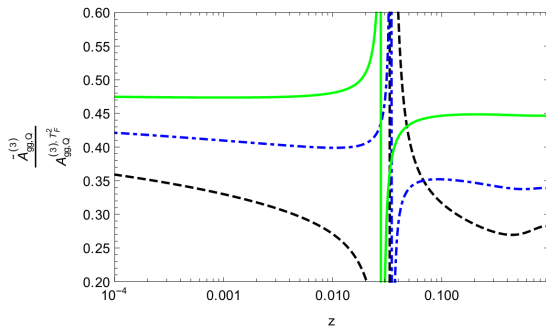
# Two-mass Results: $\tilde{A}_{gg,Q}^{(3)}$



The two mass contributions over the whole  $T_F^2$ -contributions to the OME  $\tilde{A}_{gg,Q}^{(3)}$ :

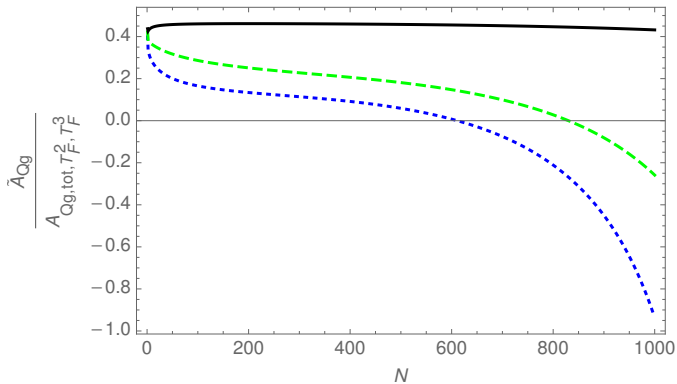


unpolarized



polarized

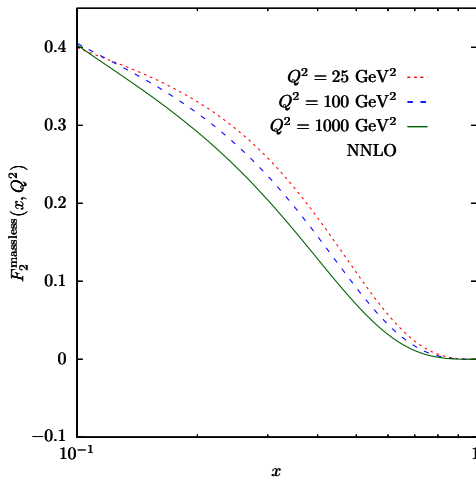
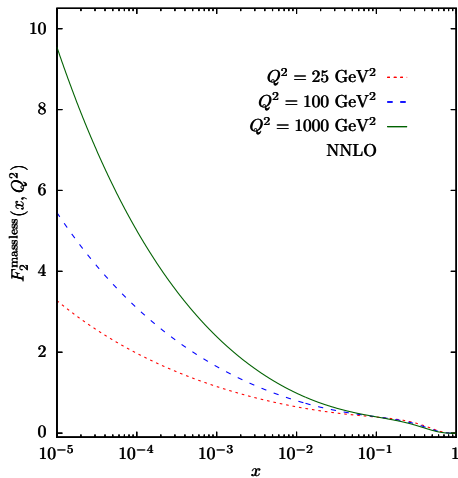
# Relative contribution of $\tilde{A}_{Qg}^{(3)}(N)$



$Q^2 = 30 \text{ GeV}^2$ : dotted line;  $Q^2 = 10^2 \text{ GeV}^2$ : dashed line;  $Q^2 = 10^4 \text{ GeV}^2$ : full line.

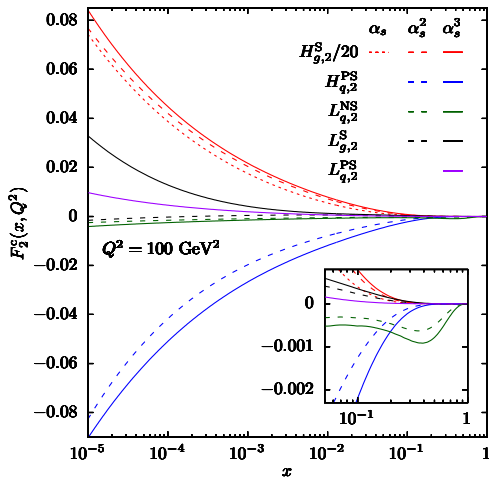


# The massless contributions to $F_2$



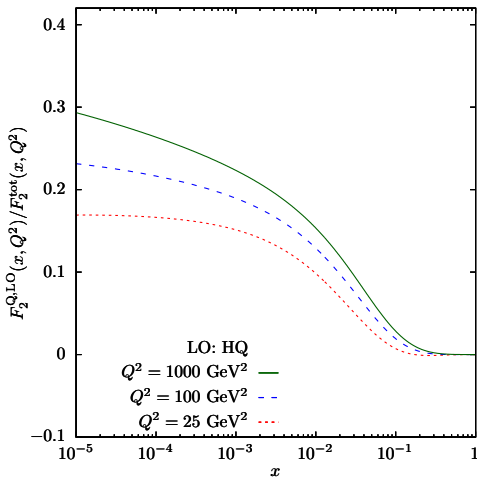
$N_F = 3$  massless quarks.

# Single-mass contributions to $F_2^{c,b}$



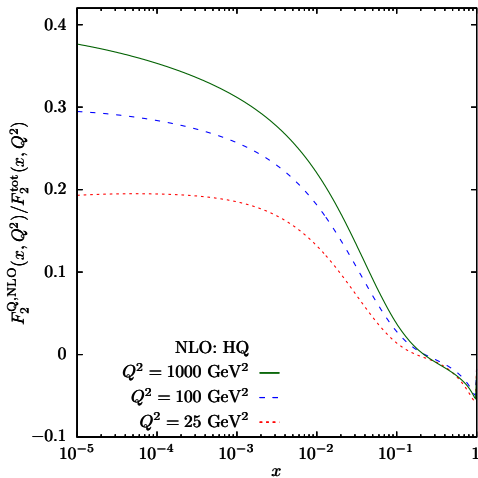
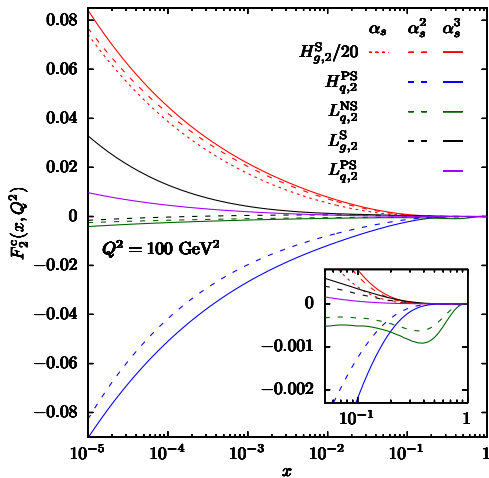
charm for  $Q^2 = 100 \text{ GeV}^2$ .

Allows to strongly reduce the current theory error on  $m_c$ .



$c$  and  $b$  single mass contributions

# Single-mass contributions to $F_2^{c,b}$

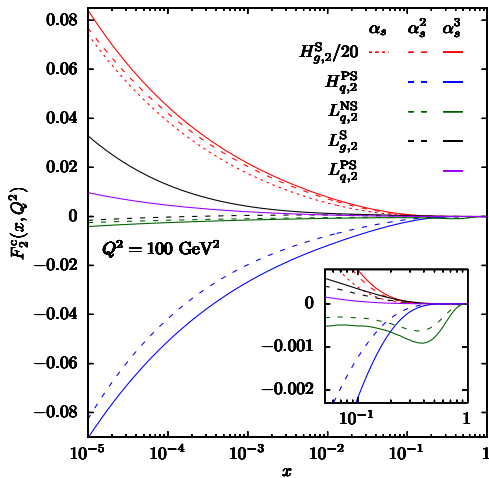


charm for  $Q^2 = 100 \text{ GeV}^2$ .

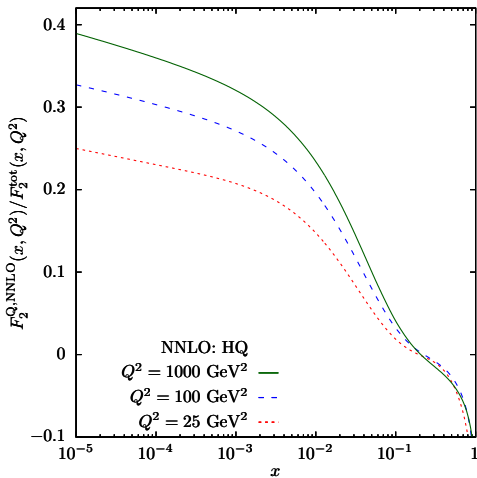
c and b single mass contributions

Allows to strongly reduce the current theory error on  $m_c$ .

# Single-mass contributions to $F_2^{c,b}$



charm for  $Q^2 = 100 \text{ GeV}^2$ .



$c$  and  $b$  single mass contributions

Allows to strongly reduce the current theory error on  $m_c$ .

# Conclusions



- All unpolarized and polarized **single-mass** OMEs and the associated massive Wilson coefficients for  $Q^2 \gg m_Q^2$  have been calculated. The unpolarized and **polarized** massless three-loop Wilson coefficients were calculated and contribute to the present results.
- The calculation of all unpolarized and polarized **two-mass OMEs**, except for  $(\Delta)A_{Qg}^{(3)}$ , are finished and the remaining OMEs will be available very soon.
- Various new **mathematical and technological** methods were developed during the present project. They are available for use in further single- and two-mass calculations in other QFT projects.
- Very soon new precision analyses of the world DIS-data to measure  $\alpha_s(M_Z)$  and  $m_c$  at higher precision can be carried out.
- Both the single- and two-mass **VFNS at 3-loop** order will be available in form of a numerical program, to be used e.g. in applications at hadron colliders.
- The results in the **polarized case** prepare the analysis of the precision data, which will be taken at the **EIC** starting at the end of this decade.
- For all sub-processes it turned out that the small  $x$  **BFKL approaches fail** to present the physical result due to quite a series of missing subleading terms, which substantially correct the LO behaviour. The correct description requires the full calculation.