



# Parton Showers

Simon Plätzer

Institute of Physics — NAWI, University of Graz

Particle Physics — University of Vienna

At the

QCD@LHC workshop

Freiburg | 7 October 2024

# Parton Showers (& Hadronization)

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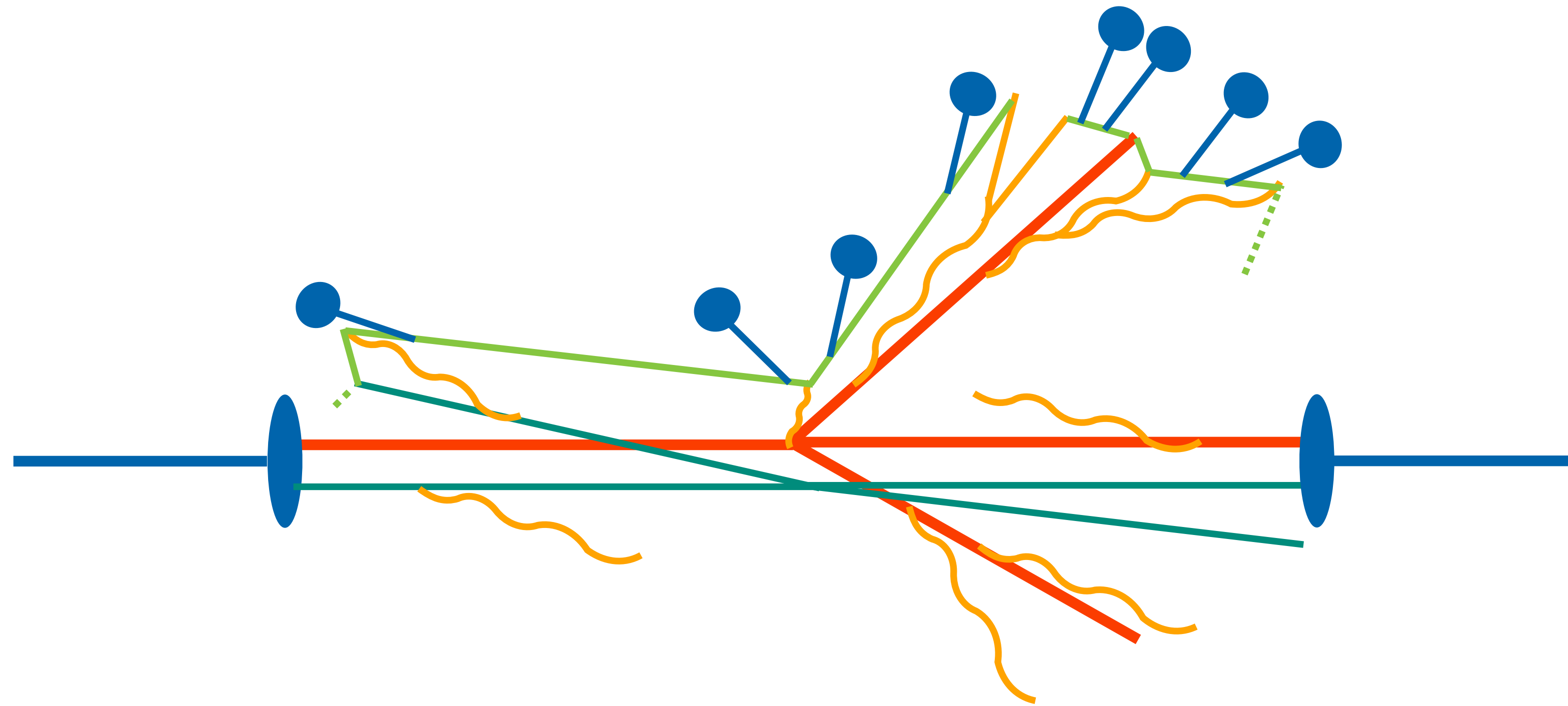
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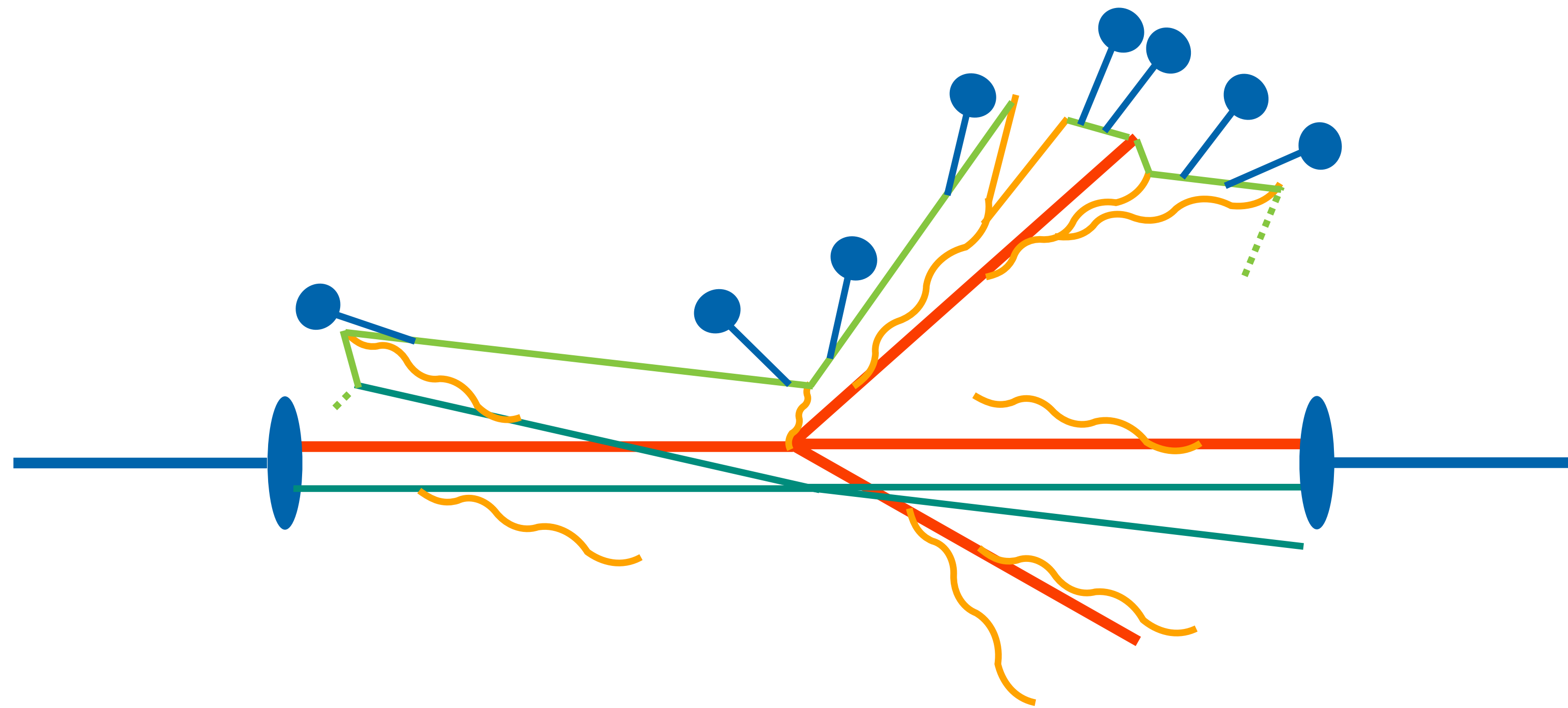
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# Setting the scene



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

# Setting the scene



100's of GeV

1-2 GeV

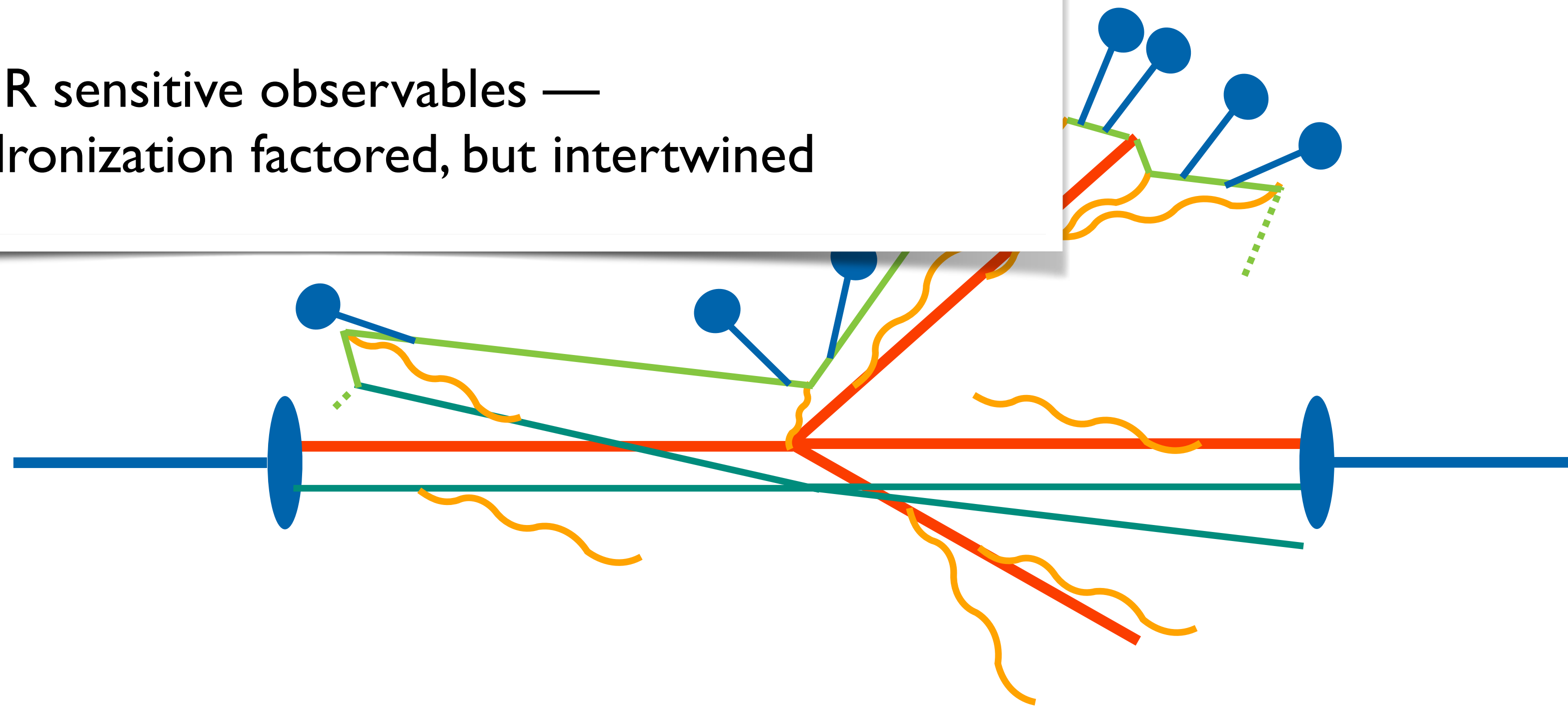
few 100's MeV

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

# Setting the scene

Central for realistic description of the observed complexity.

Description of IR sensitive observables —  
shower and hadronization factored, but intertwined

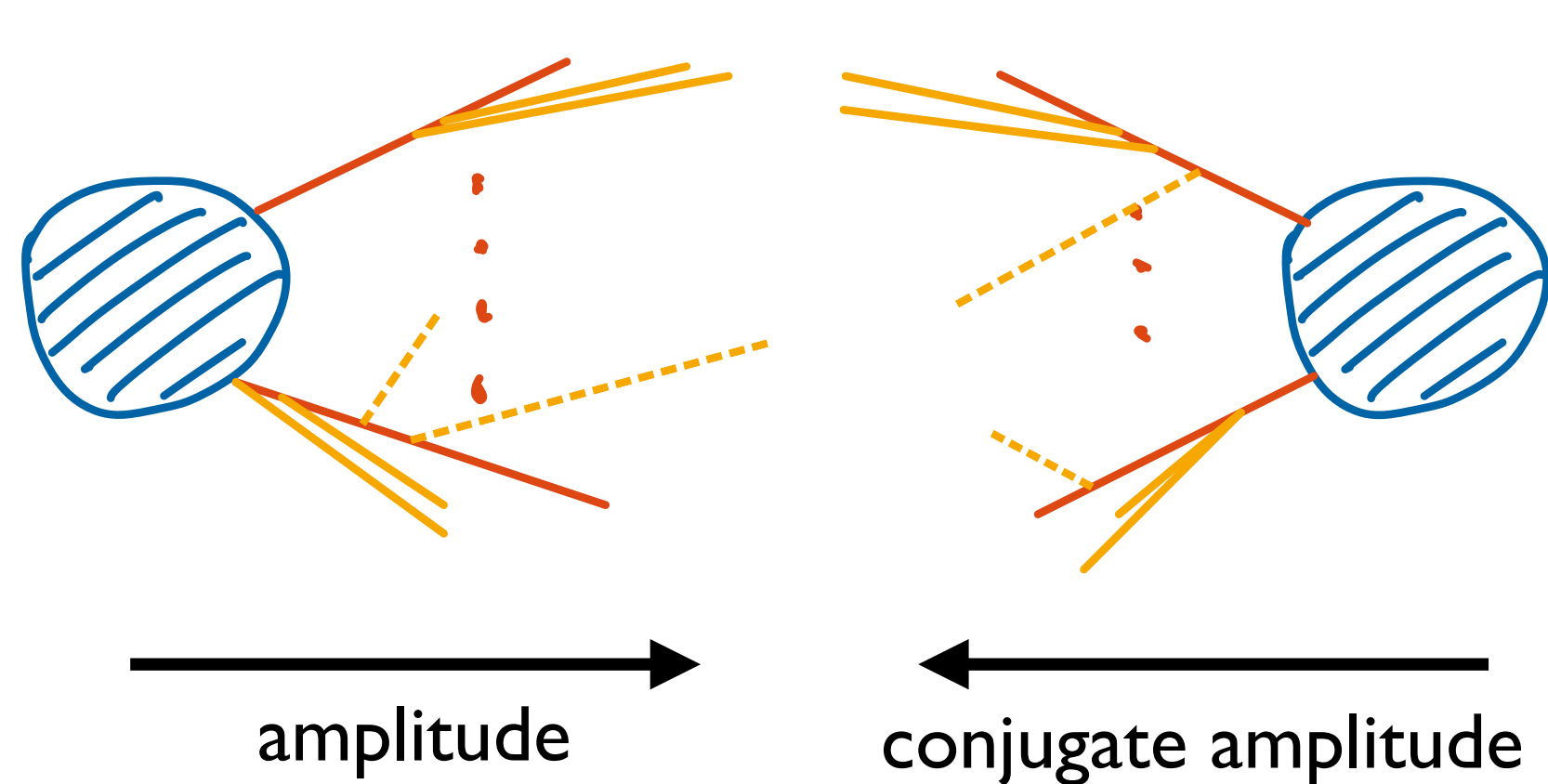


$$d\sigma \sim L \times d\sigma_H(Q) \times \text{PS}(Q \rightarrow \mu) \times \text{MPI} \times \text{Had}(\mu \rightarrow \Lambda) \times \dots$$

100's of GeV                      1-2 GeV                      few 100's MeV

# Probabilistic algorithms with QCD coherence or large-N limit

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



$$\sim M_n^\dagger(p_1, \dots, p_n) T \dots T \circ T \dots T M_n(p_1, \dots, p_n)$$

Exploit QCD coherence:

$$\sum_e \sum_i T_{e \rightarrow i} \sim \sum_e T_{e \rightarrow i} + \dots$$

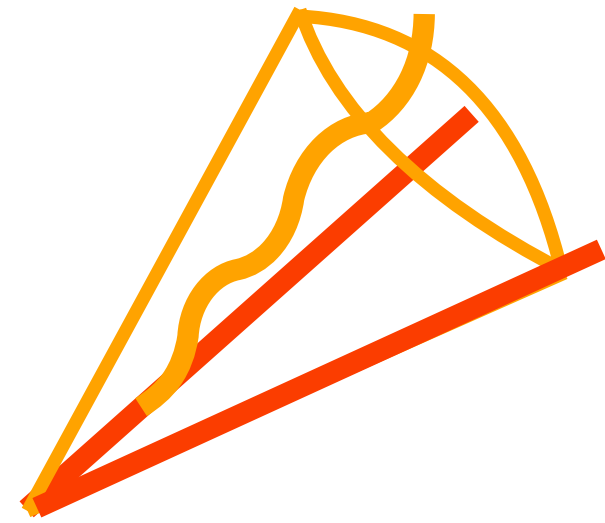
$$dS = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{d\tilde{q}_i^2}{\tilde{q}_i^2} dz P(z_i) \exp \left( - \int_{\tilde{q}_i^2}^{Q^2} \frac{dq^2}{q^2} \int_{z_-(k^2)}^{z_+(k^2)} d\xi \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P(z) \right)$$

emission rate

no emission probability

All probabilistic algorithms determine the effect of gluon exchange and virtual corrections by unitarity.

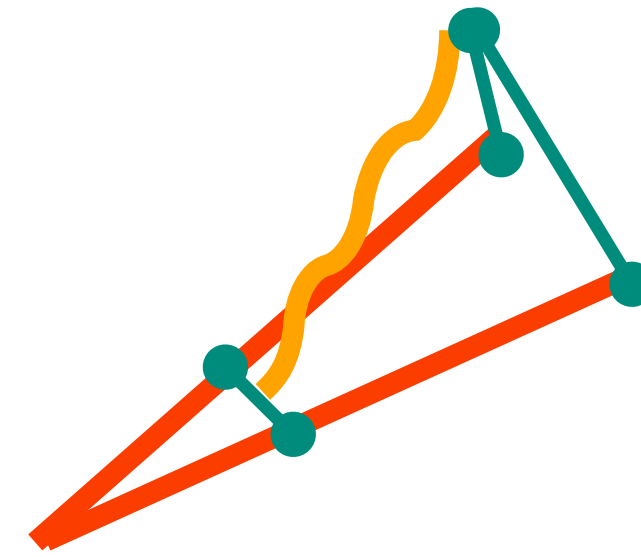
# Favorite probabilistic algorithms



Parton branchings order in angle.

- Driven by QCD coherence
- Recoil global
- Links to analytic use of coherent branching




## Herwig 7



Dipole branchings order in transverse momentum.

- Driven by large-N dipole pattern and colour flows
- Momentum conservation for each emission
- Advantageous for matching & merging

## Herwig 7, Pythia 8, Sherpa, PanScales, Deductor

Current release	Hard matrix	Shower algorithms	NLO Matching	Multijet merging	MPI	Hadronization	Shower variations
 Herwig 7	Internal, libraries, event files	QTilde, Dipoles	Internally automated	Internally automated	Eikonal	Clusters, (Strings)	Yes
 Pythia 8	Internal, event files	Pt ordered, DIRE, VINCIA	External	Internal, ME via event files	Interleaved	Strings	Yes
 Sherpa 2	Internal, libraries	CSShower, DIRE, ALARIC	Internally automated	Internally automated	Eikonal	Clusters, Strings	Yes

Plethora of approaches to compare — need to go beyond in understanding and controlling shower algorithms.

# Main lines of current parton shower research

Shower development is a broad field, fortunately back on the agenda.  
Hadronization is not exactly shower development, but enters at a similar level,

See Schumann's talk. Always needs to accompany shower development.

Matching/Merging

Amplitude evolution

Genuine quantum effects:  
not limited to subleading colour.

Control and demonstration of perturbative accuracy.

(N)NLL accuracy

Hadronization

Comprehensive, factorized picture and construction of algorithms.

Description of electroweak effects and BSM scenarios.

Interactions beyond QCD

Remaining focus of this talk:

- Perturbative accuracy
- Beyond probabilistic algorithms.
- Factorisation and hadronization.



# The struggle with QED, EW and other interactions

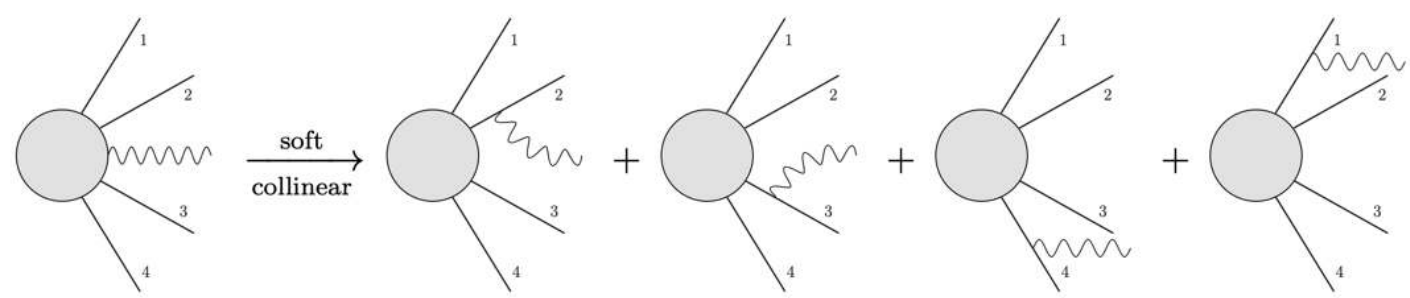
- The absence of a large-N limit forces us to question existing structures
- Accuracy from interleaving with QCD needs to be carefully addressed
- The inner workings and role of coherence is entirely unknown

Interactions beyond QCD

Halfway safe ground in the quasi-collinear limit, should be exploring these algorithms. Spin correlations are vital — amplitude evolution will be crucial to build algorithms.

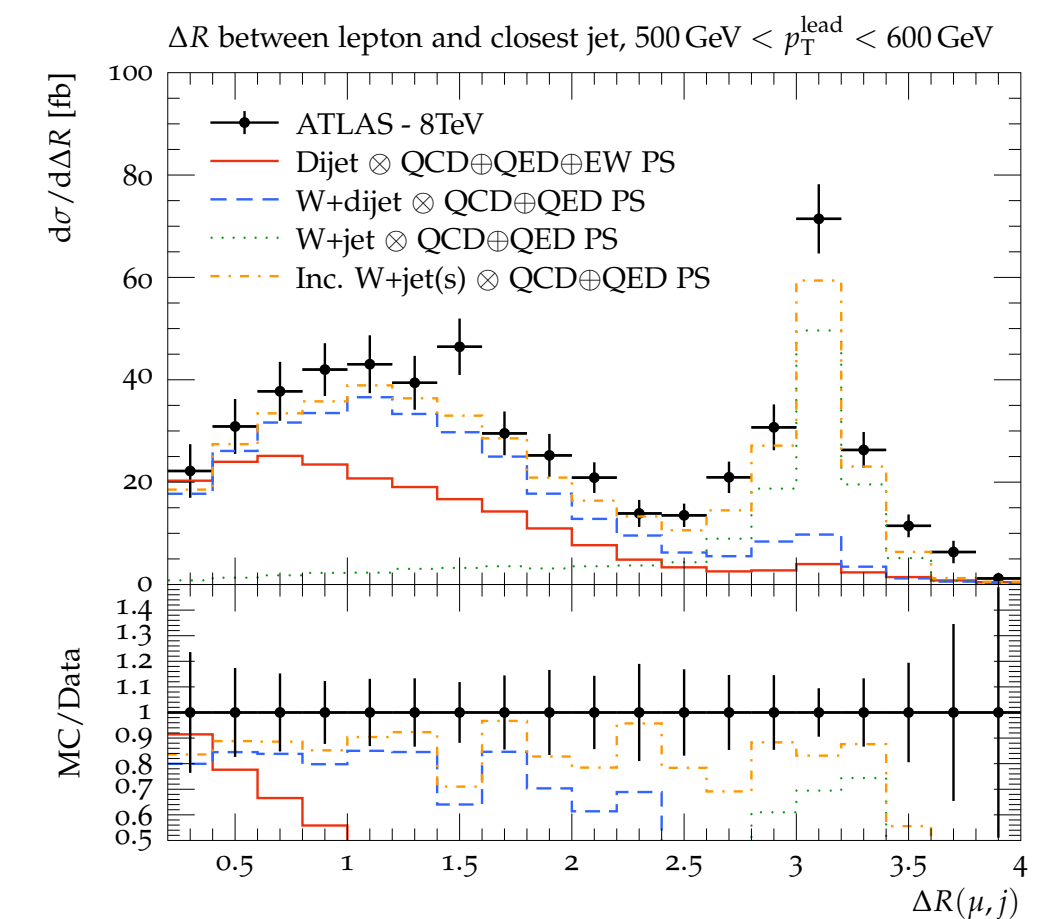
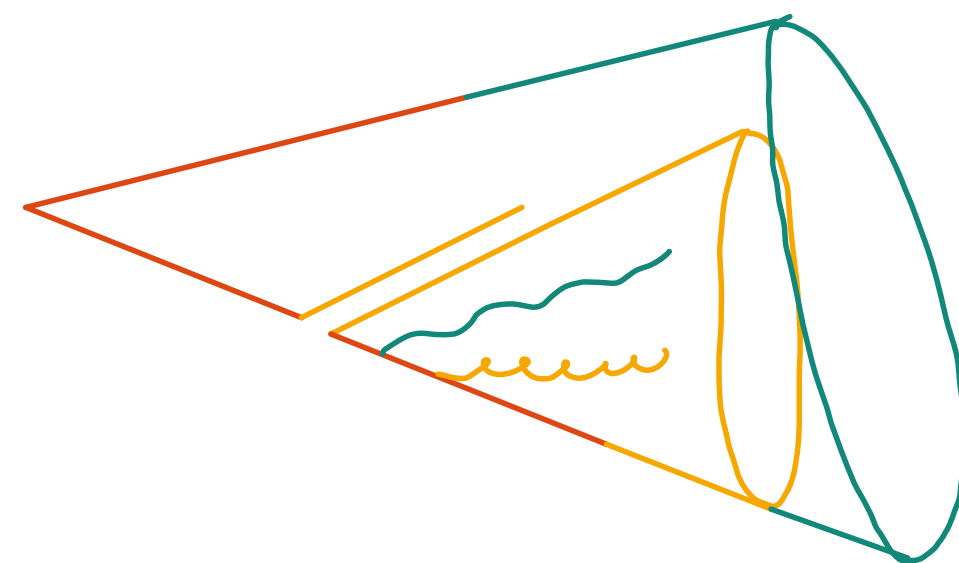
Recent examples:

Sectorised QED multipoles and electroweak splittings in VINCIA



[Verheyen, Skands — '21]

Multiscale interleaved angular ordering in Herwig



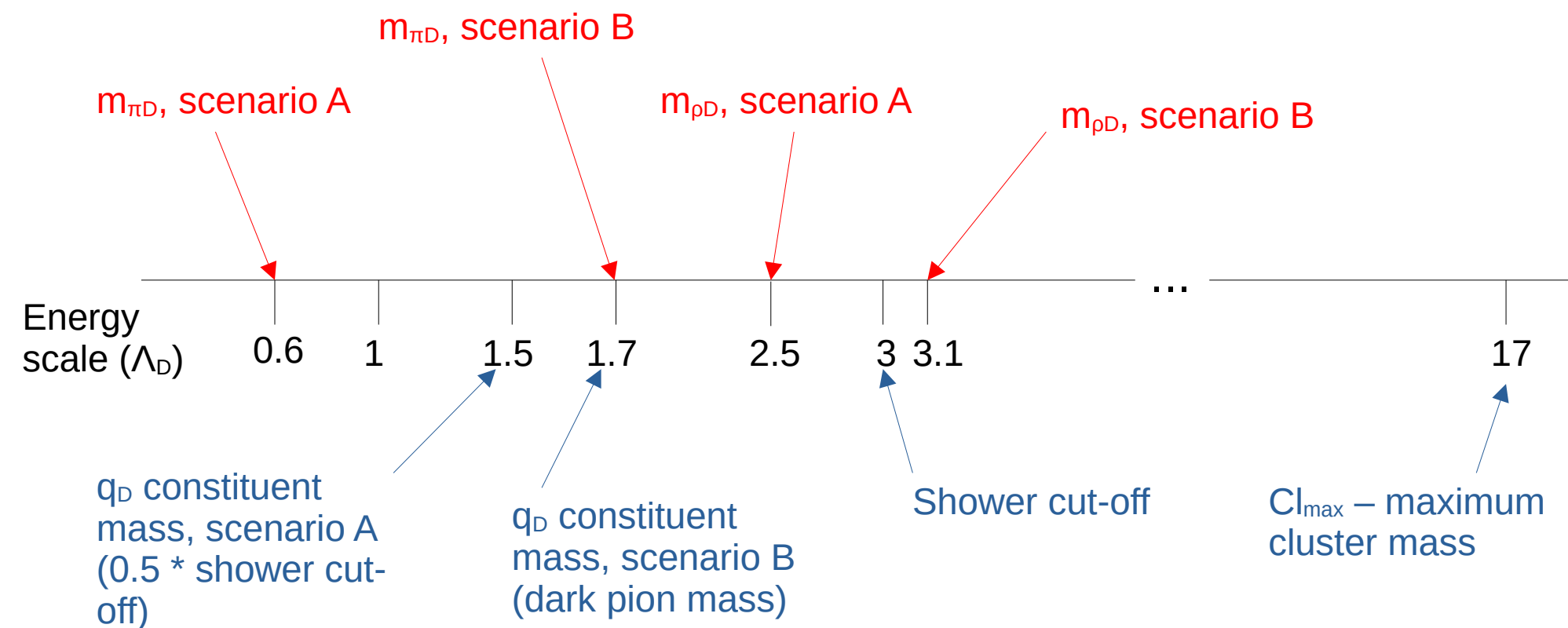
[Masouminia, Richardson — '21]

QCD-like dark sectors can in principle build on existing QCD showering. Hadronization and scale hierarchy can differ significantly: no safe territory.

Interactions beyond QCD

New in Herwig and the cluster model — more investigations and pheno to follow.

## Scale Hierarchies



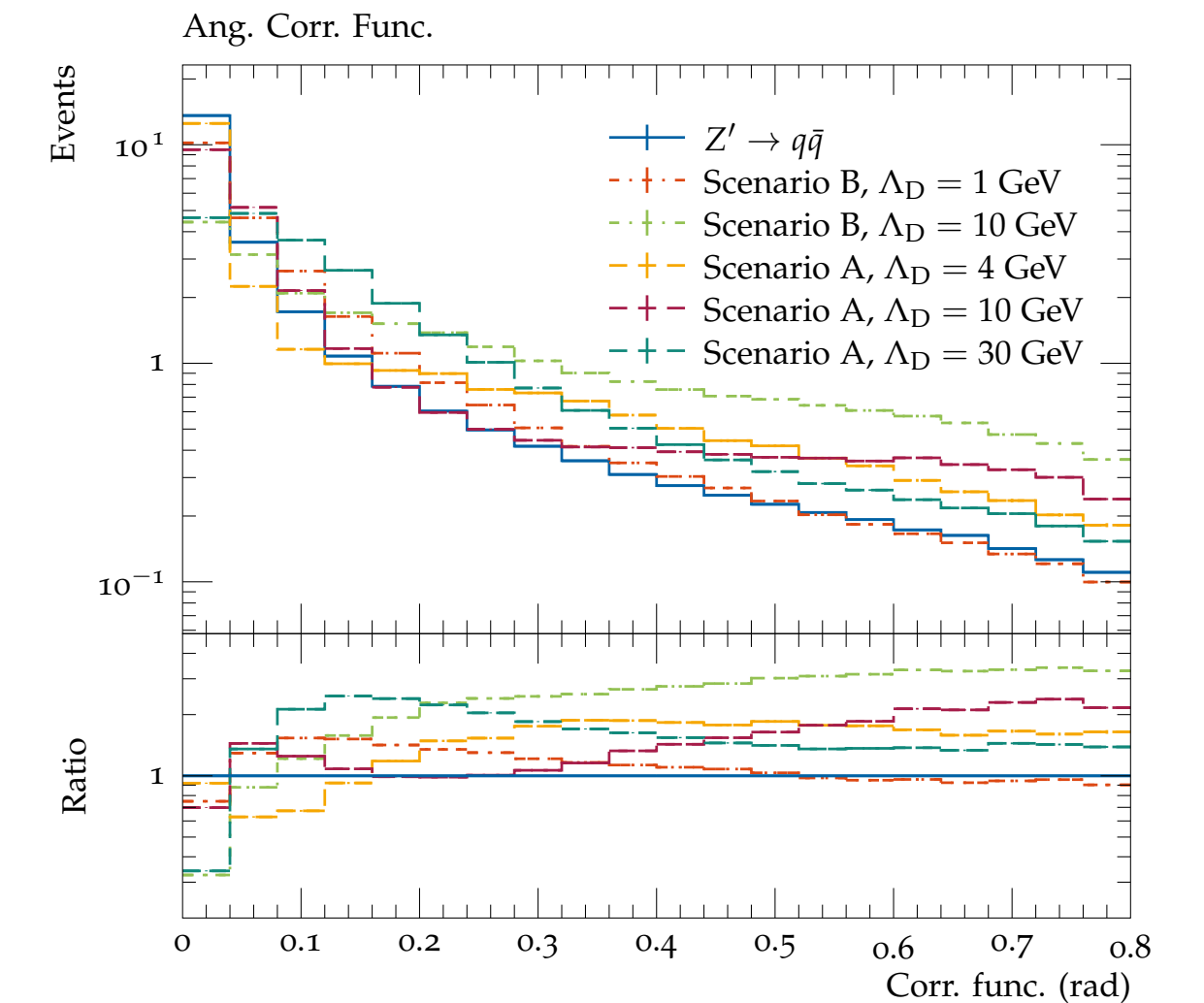
9

Angularities, correlations ... extremely useful observables.

[See also recent Les Houches study (in progress) and Kiebacher @ PSR '24].

$$EEC^\gamma(\rho) =$$

$$\frac{1}{N_\gamma} \sum_{i < j \in \text{jet}} (E_i E_j)^\gamma \delta(\Delta R_{ij} - \rho)$$

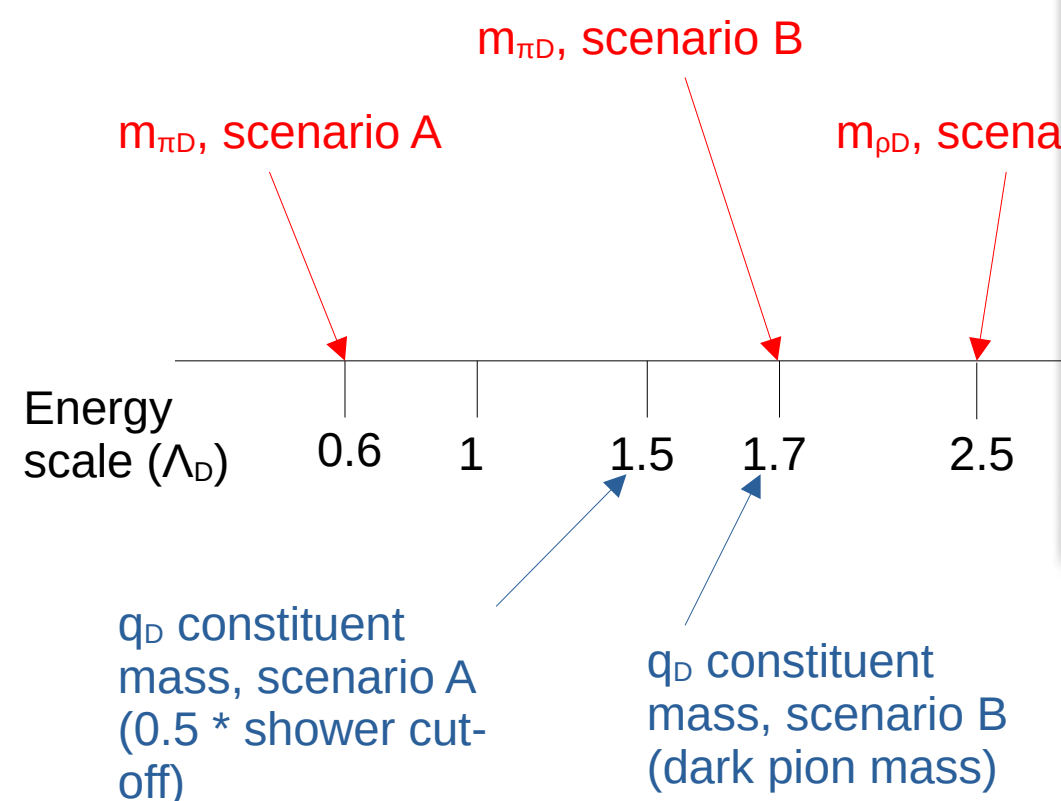


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Scale Hierarchies



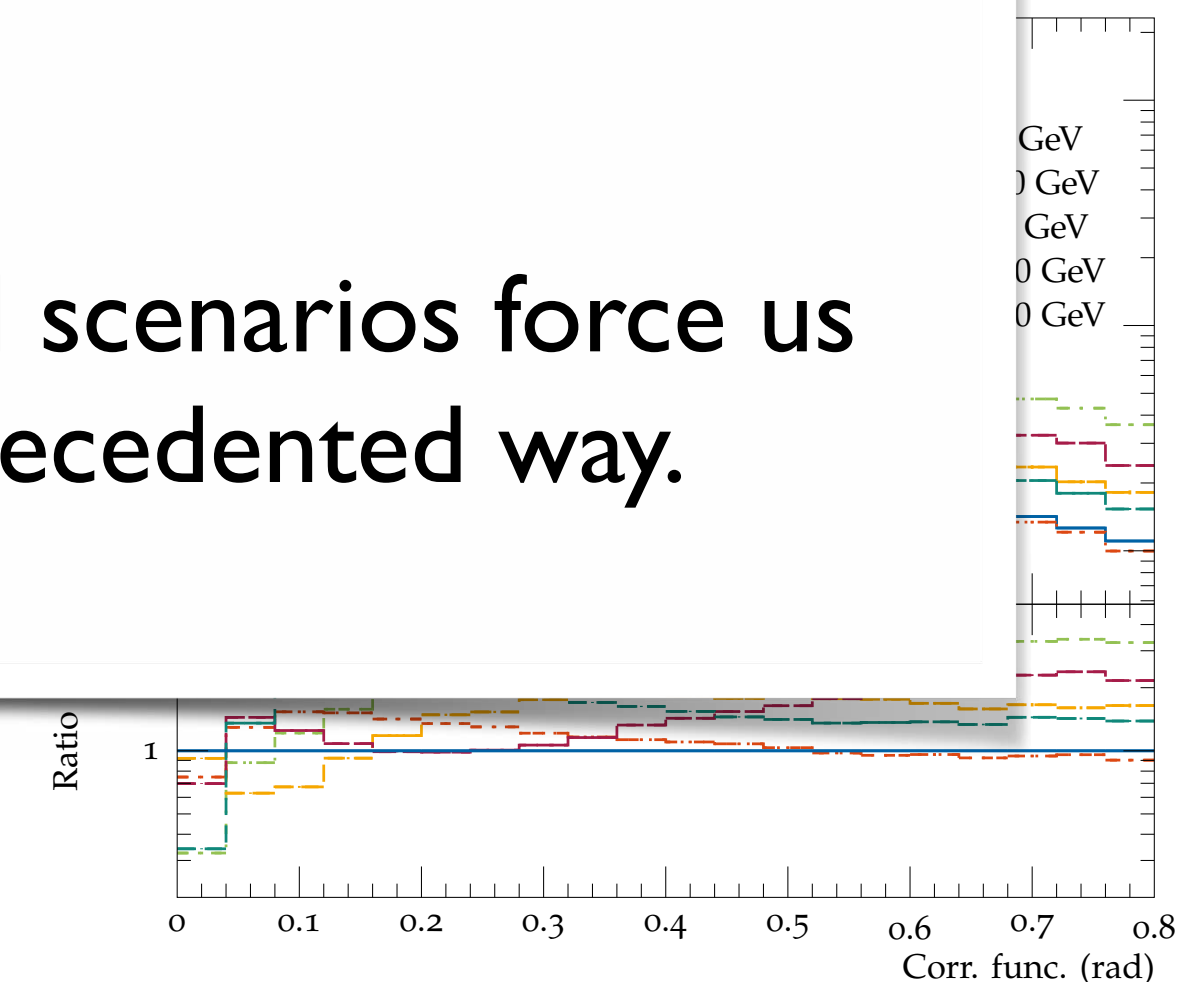
This is QCD@LHC — why bother?

Think of this as BSM4QCD: all of QED, EW and BSM scenarios force us to think about showers and hadronisation in an unprecedented way.

Shower cut-off

$Cl_{max}$  — maximum cluster mass

$$\frac{1}{N_\gamma} \sum_{i < j \in \text{jet}} (E_i E_j)^\gamma \delta(\Delta R_{ij} - \rho)$$



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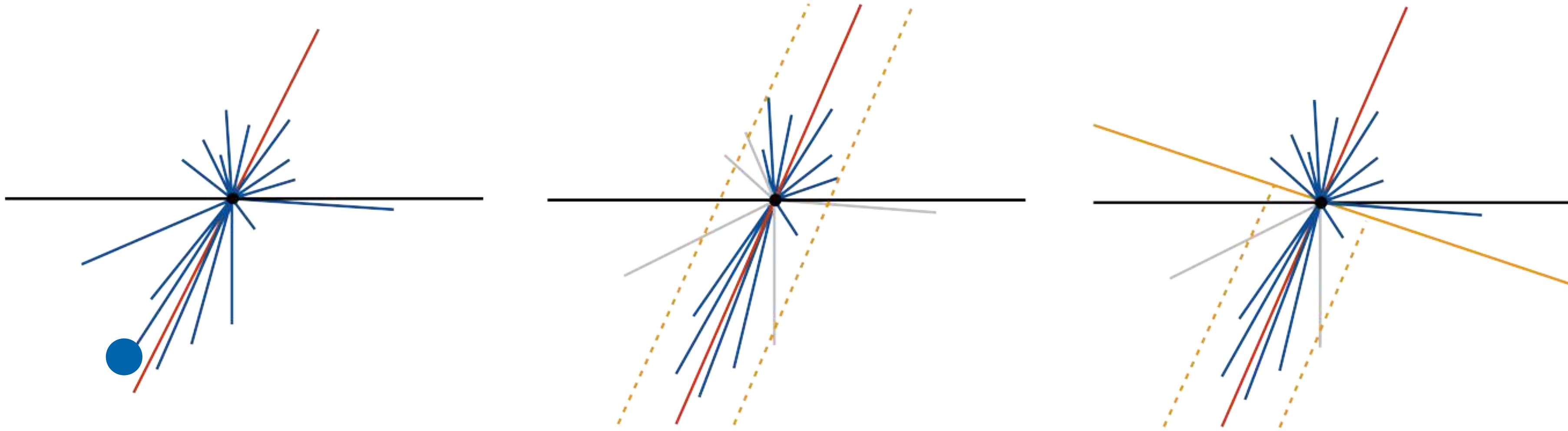
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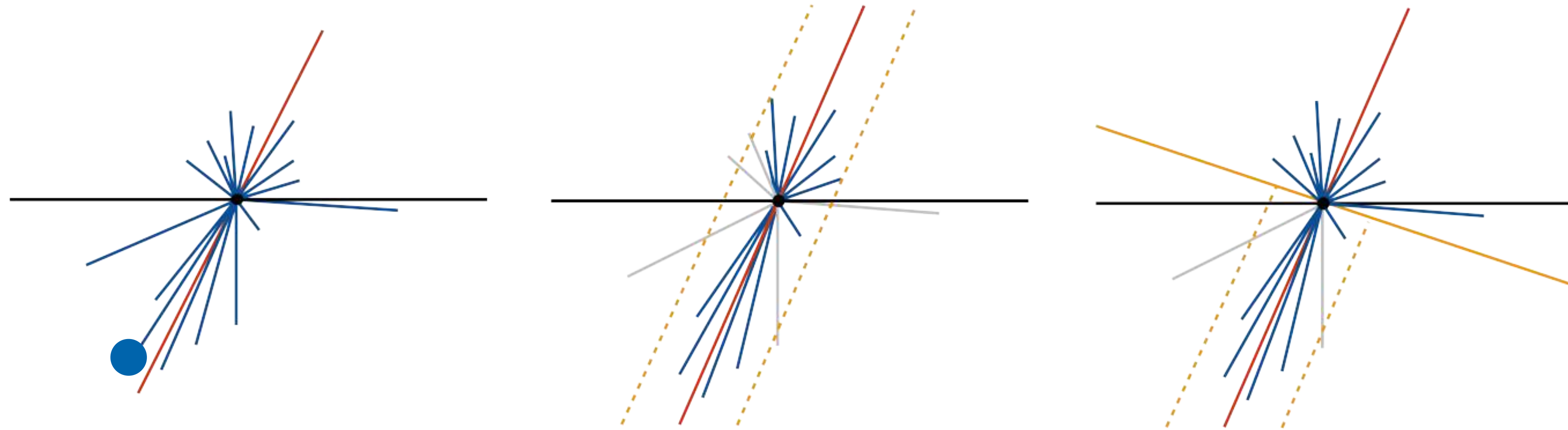
# Accuracy of parton showers



Fragmentation is fine if we get collinear physics right.

# Accuracy of Parton Showers

[Catani, Trentadue, Webber, Marchesini ...]



Fragmentation is fine if we get collinear physics right.

Global event shapes from coherent branching — for two jets.

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

LL — qualitative

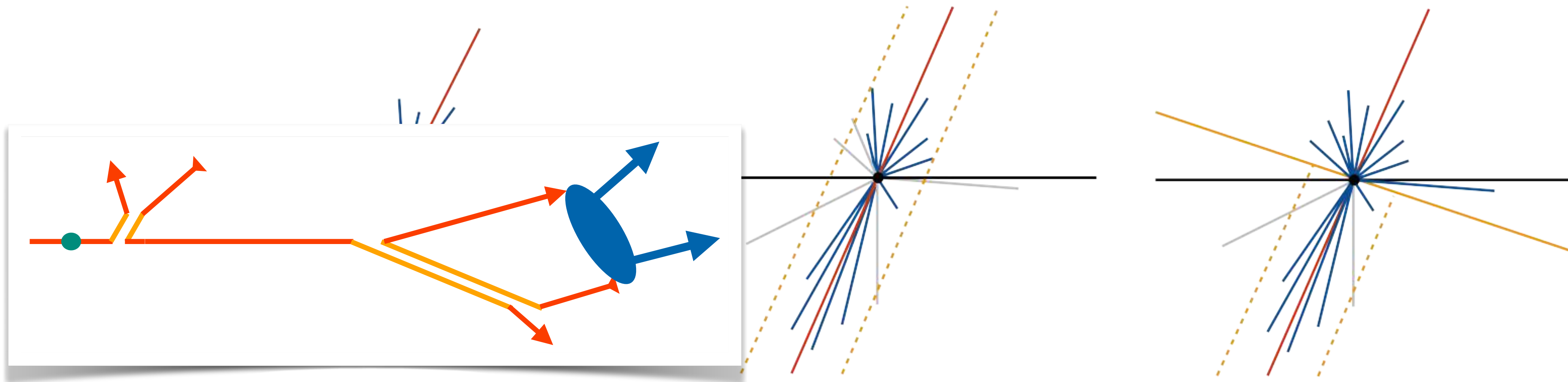
NLL — quantitative

NNLL — precision

$$\alpha_s L \sim 1$$

# Accuracy of Parton Showers

[Catani, Trentadue, Webber, Marchesini ...]



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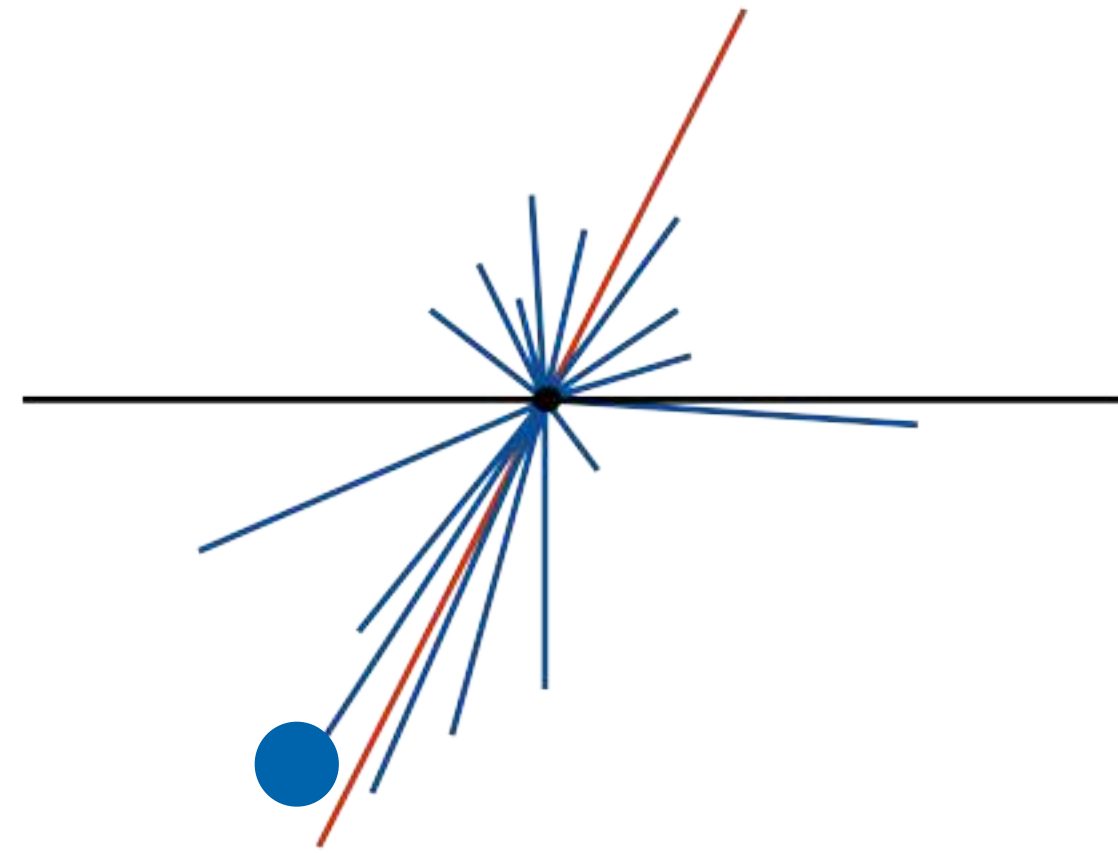
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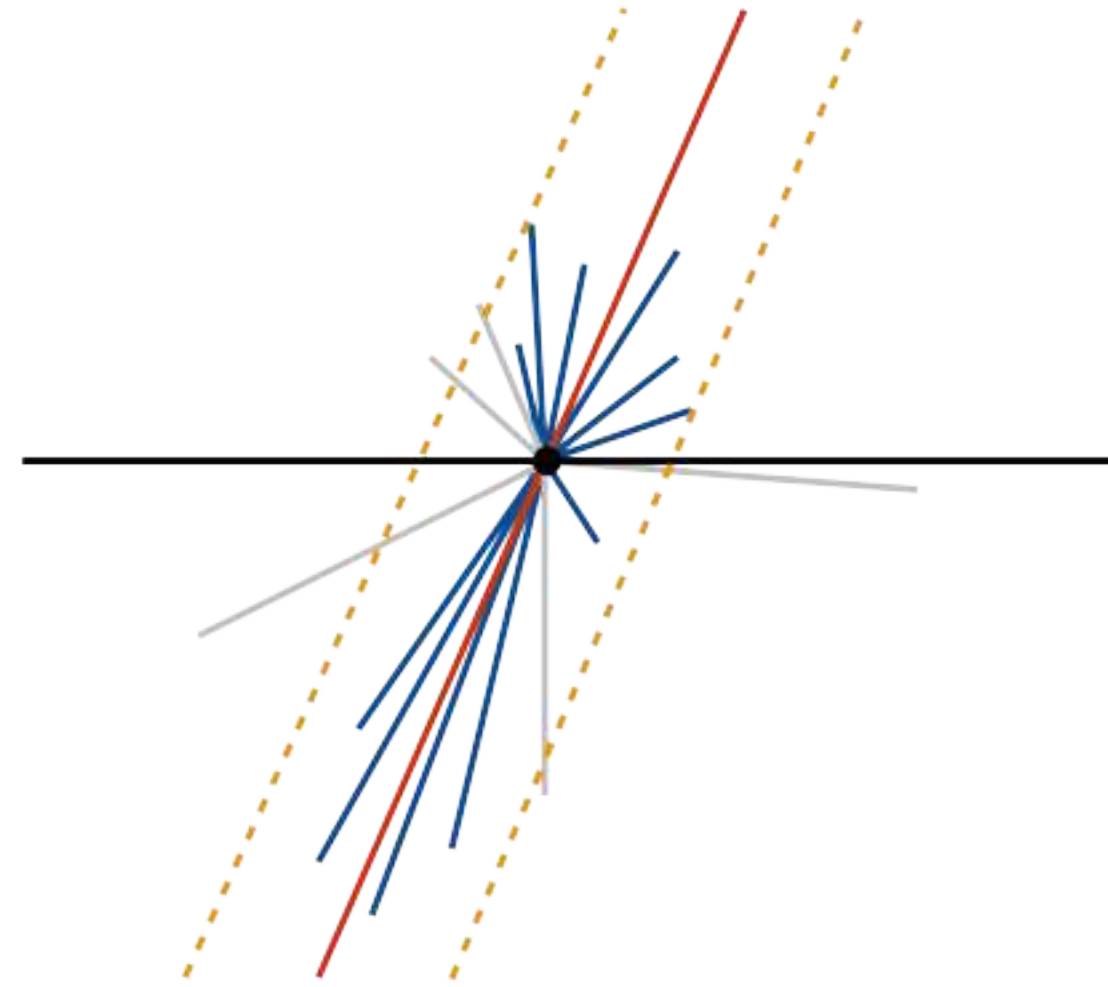
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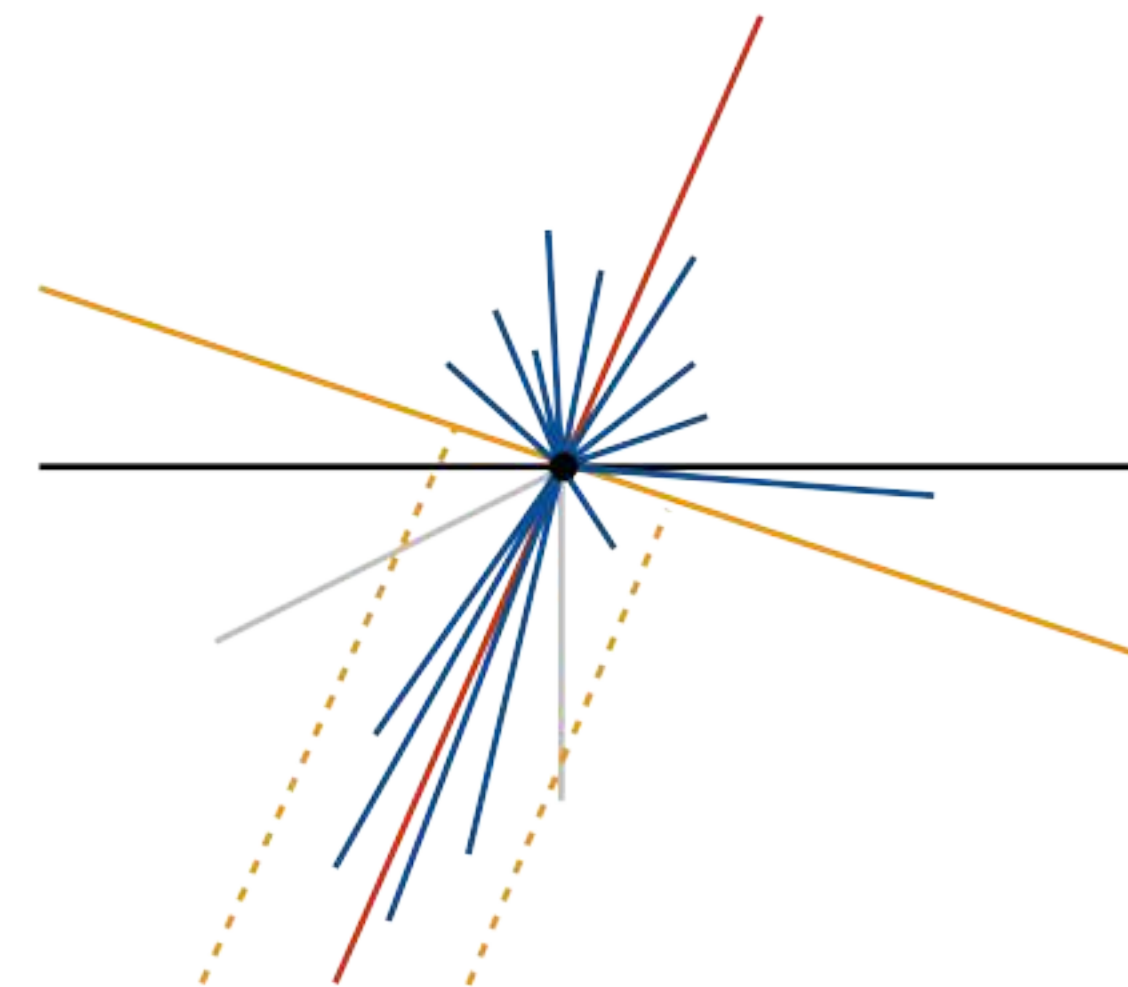
# Accuracy of Parton Showers



Fragmentation is fine if we get collinear physics right.



Global event shapes from coherent branching — for two jets.



Coherence breaks down for non-global observables.

$$T_h T_e T_i \circ T_j T_m T_n$$

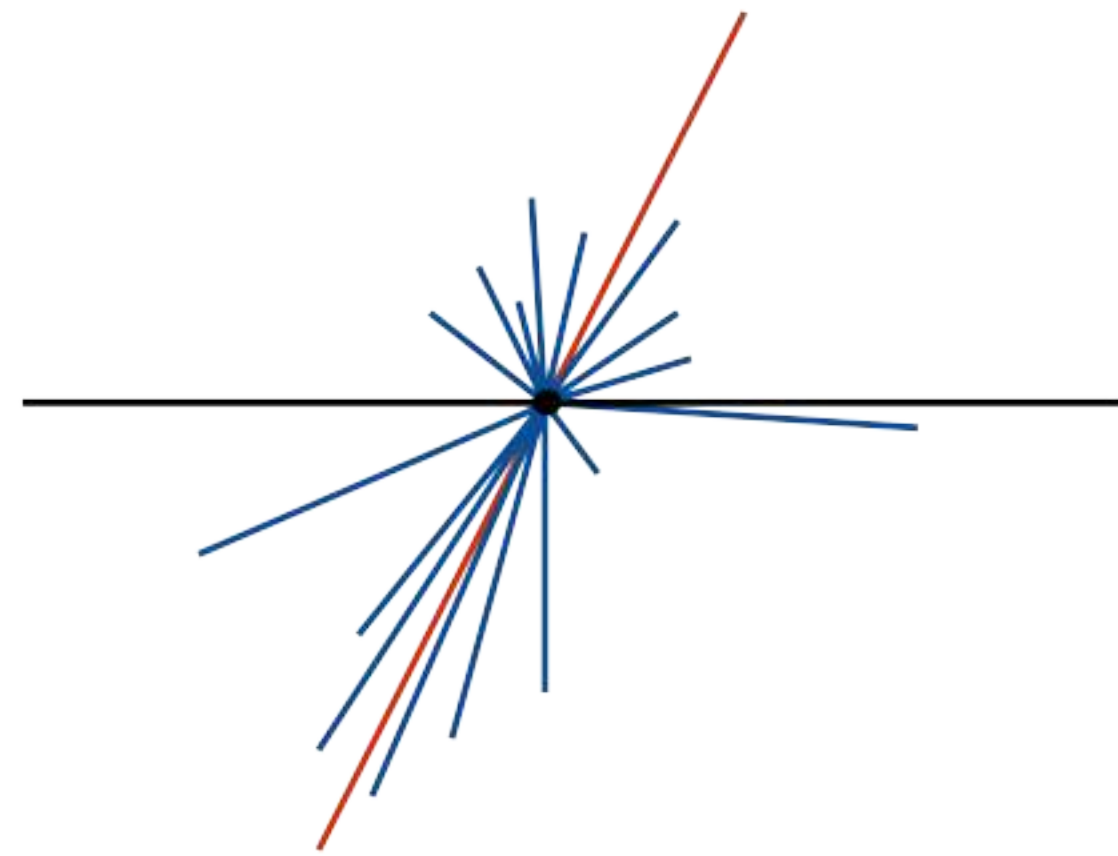
large-N limit ↓

$$\frac{\partial G_{ab}(t)}{\partial t} = - \int_{\text{in}} \frac{d\Omega_k}{4\pi} \omega_{ab}(k) G_{ab}(t) + \int_{\text{out}} \frac{d\Omega_k}{4\pi} \omega_{ab}(k) [G_{ak}(t) G_{kb}(t) - G_{ab}(t)]$$

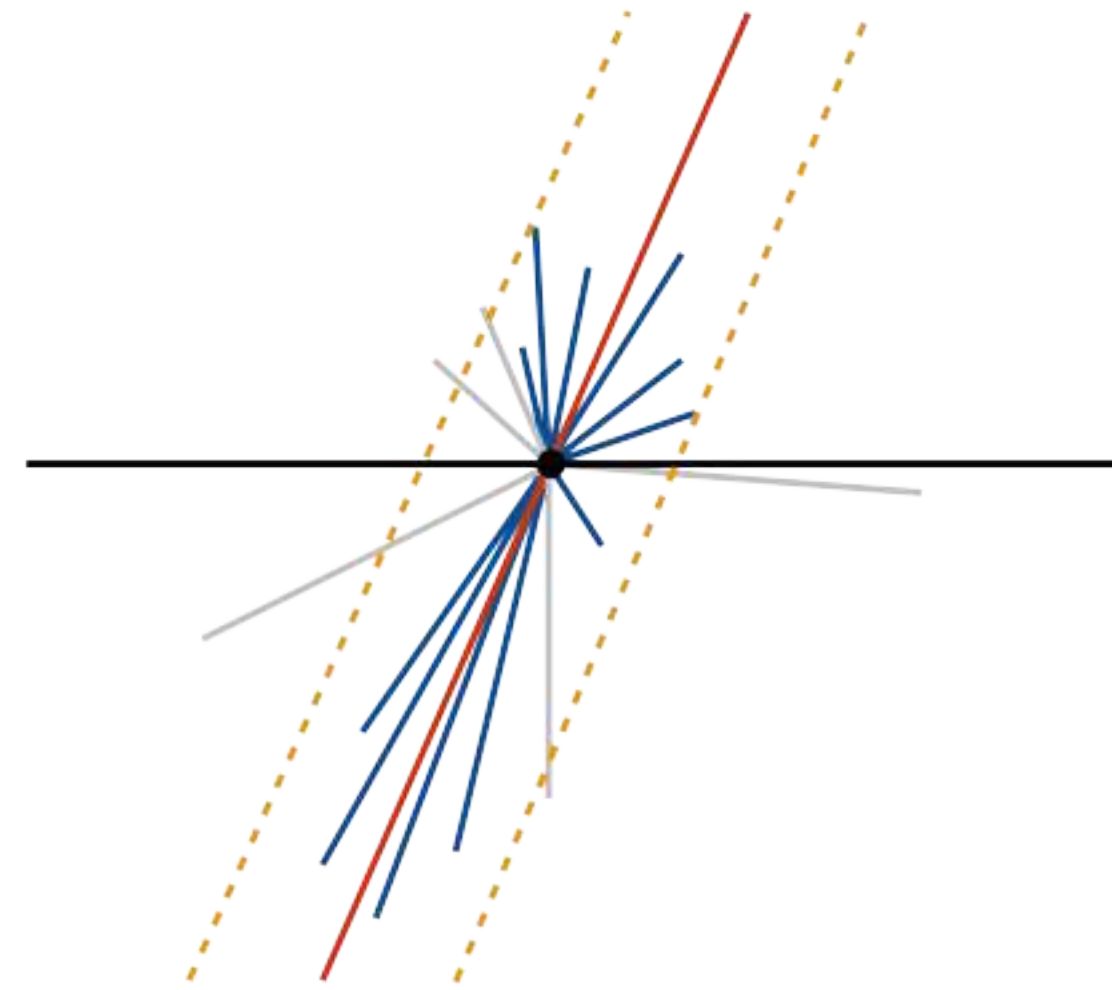
[Banfi, Marchesini, Smye '02]



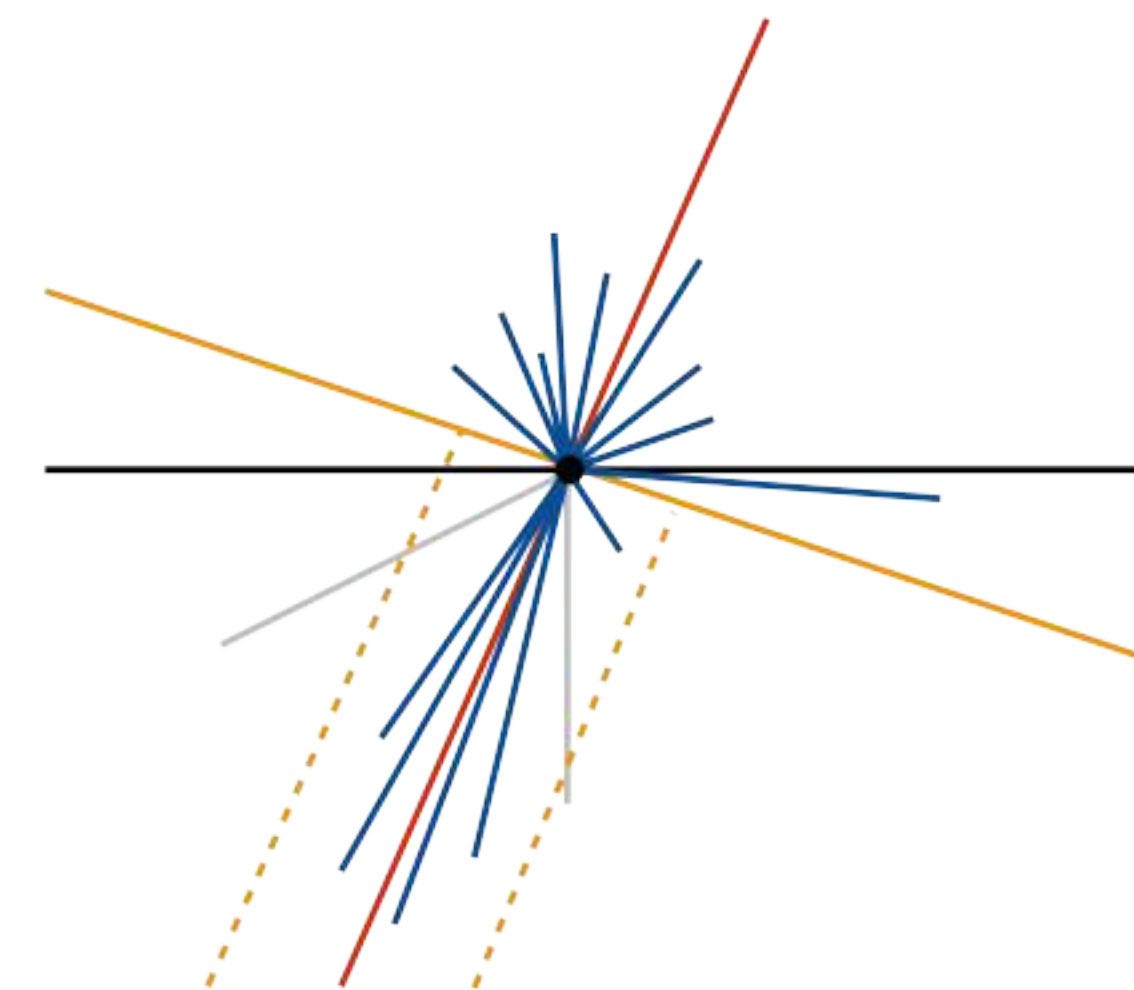
# The quest for NLL precision



(N)NLO with matching



NLL with coherent branching  
Issues in dipole showers



Issues in coherent branching  
LL with dipole showers

Can we push this to  $NLL_{\text{global}}$  /  $LL_{\text{non-global}}$  in one (dipole) algorithm?

$$\alpha_s L \sim 1 \quad \alpha_s N^2 \sim 1$$

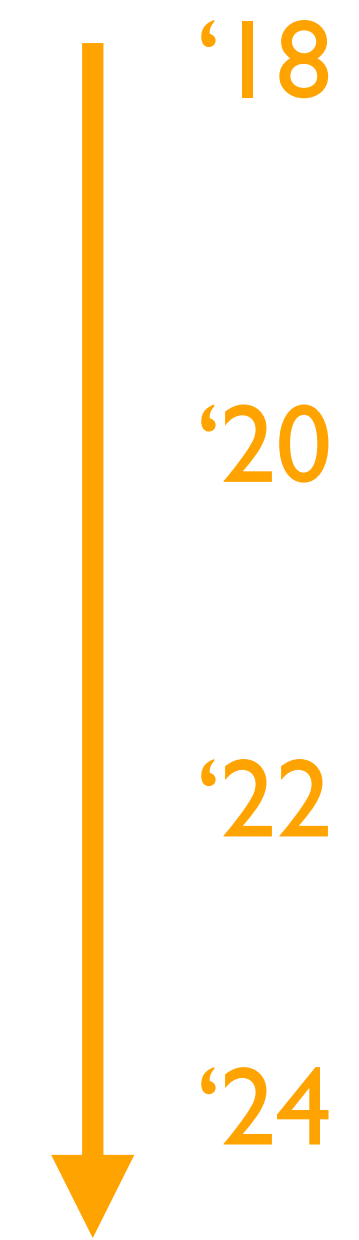
# The quest for NLL precision

Demonstrate NLL accurate evolution:

- PanScales — numerical  
[PanScales — Dasgupta, Monni, Salam, Soyez + ....]
- Forshaw/Holguin/Plätzer — analytical  
[aim at improving Herwig 7 dipole shower]
- Deductor — numerical/analytical  
[Nagy, Soper]
- Sherpa — numerical/analytical  
[Herren, Höche, Krauss, Reichelt, Schönherr]
- Apollo — numerical  
[Preuss]

} Based on  
amplitude  
evolution.

enormous progress

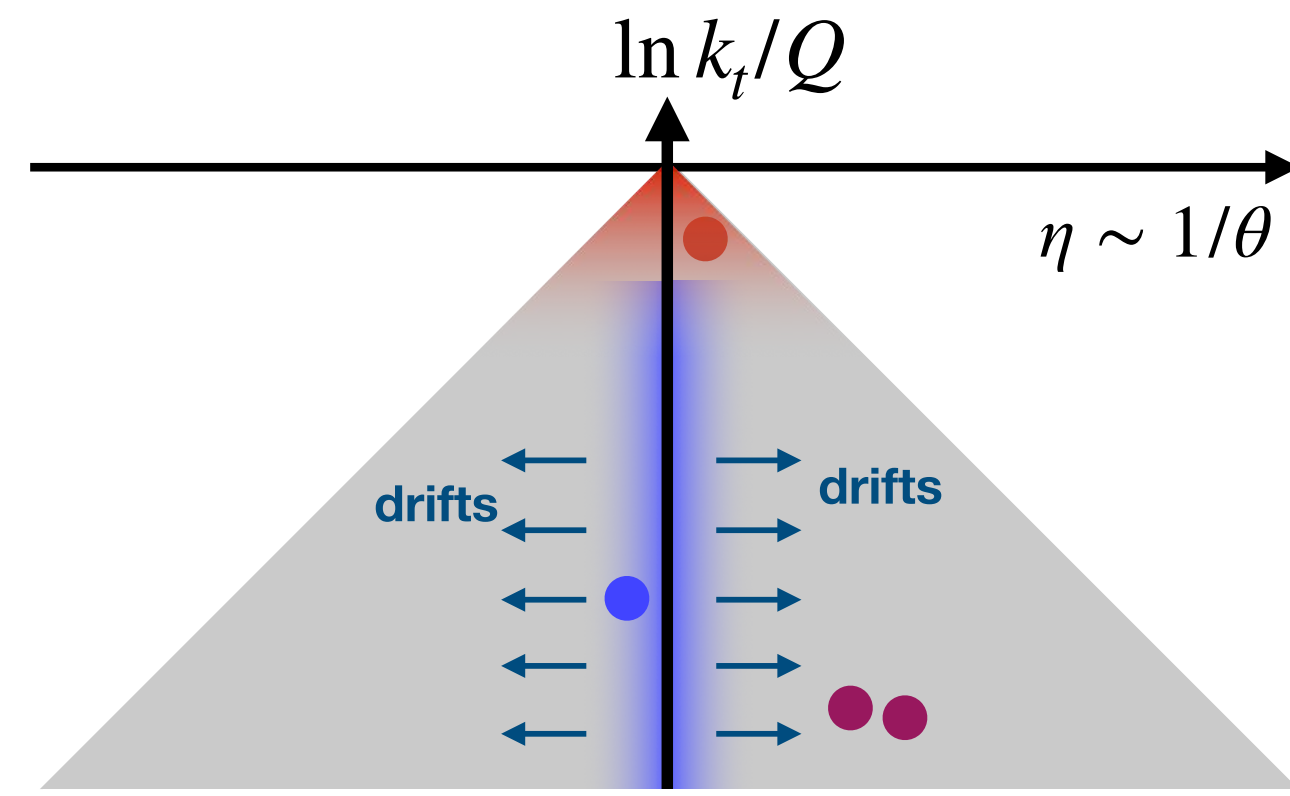
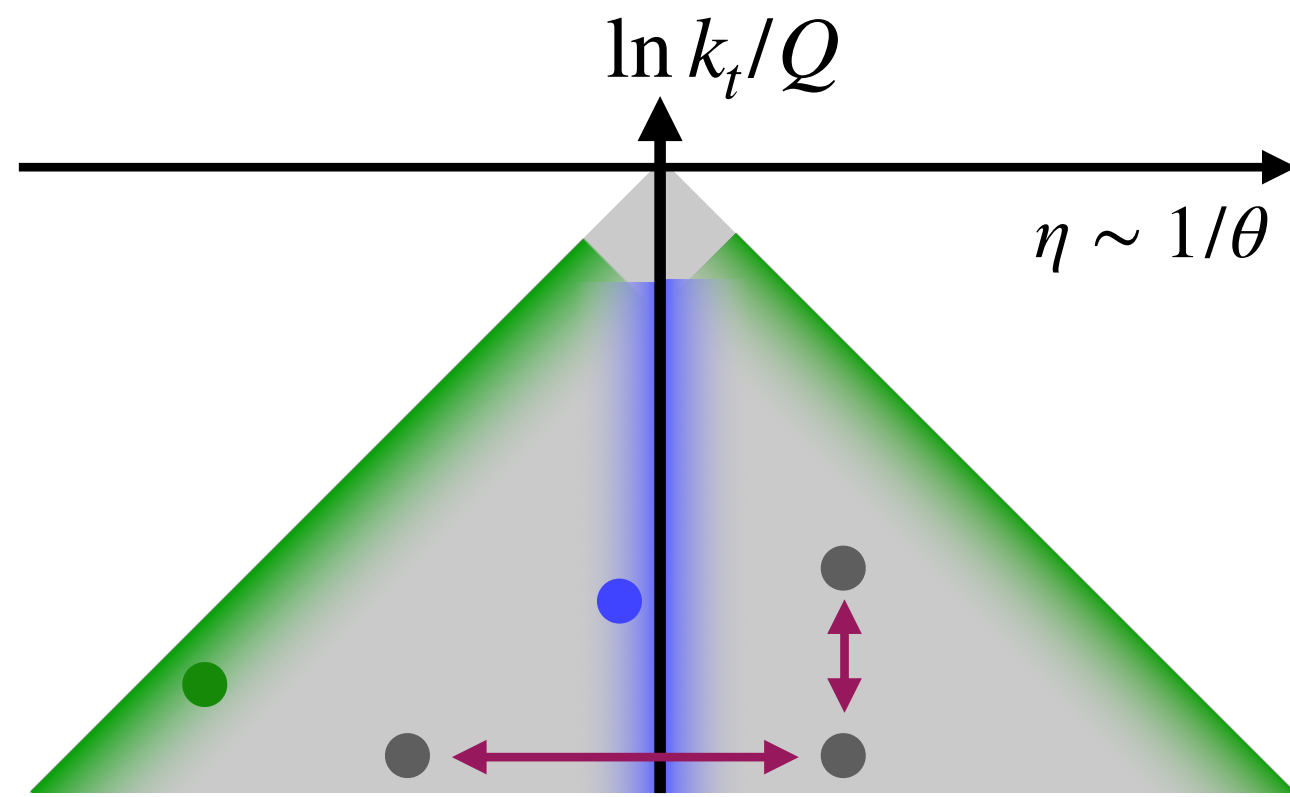


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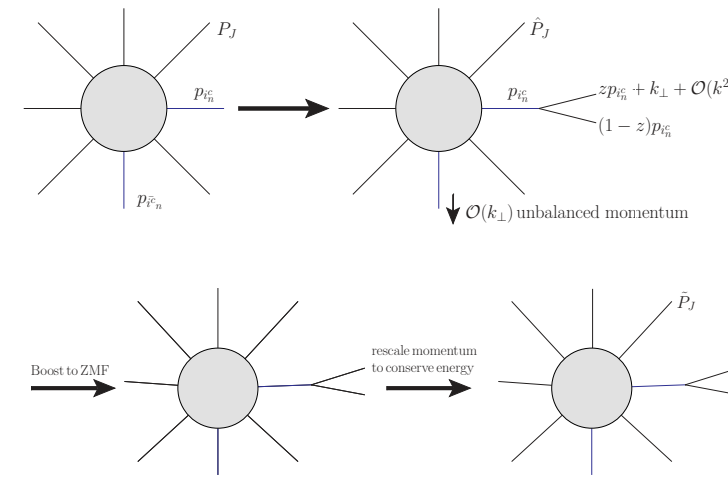
$$\alpha_s L \sim 1 \quad \alpha_s N^2 \sim 1$$

# Improving Shower Accuracy — Tools

## Lund plane as a tool

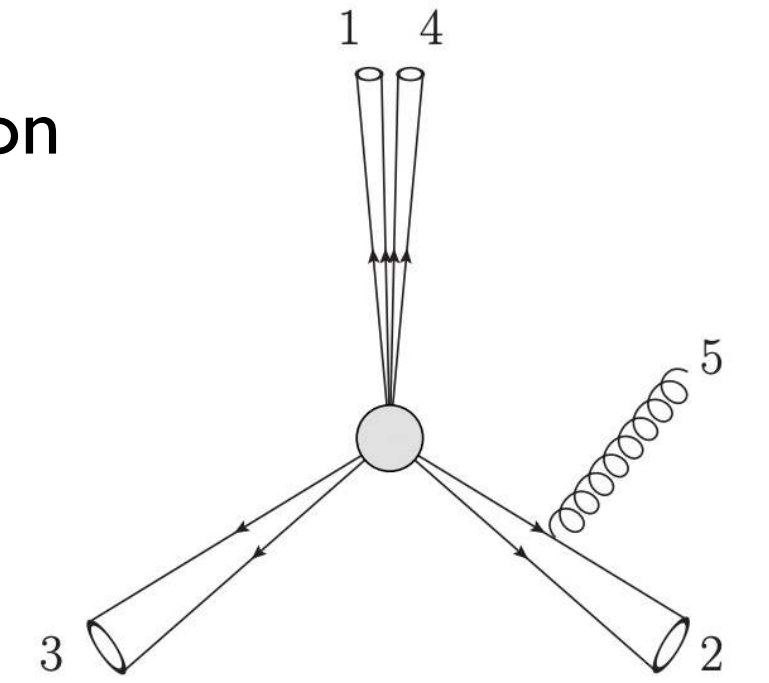


[van Bleekveld @ MBI '24]



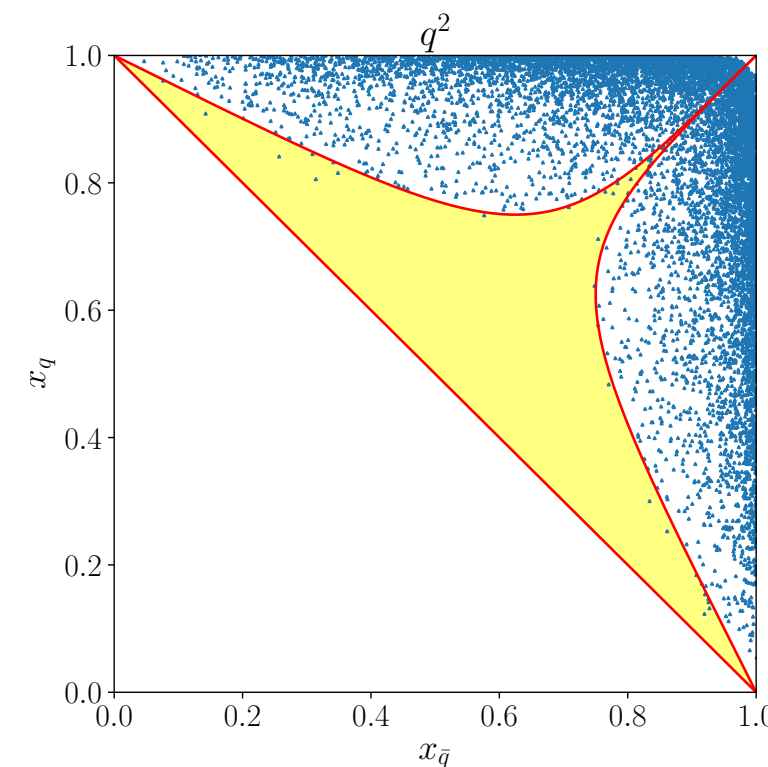
Analytic insight and amplitude evolution as a theoretical tool, extending probabilistic algorithms.

$$\delta\Sigma(L) \approx \frac{4\alpha_s^2 C_F^2 \sigma_{n\text{H}}}{\pi^2} \int_0^Q \frac{dq_{1\perp}^{(a_1,b_1)}}{q_{1\perp}^{(a_1,b_1)}} \int_{-\ln Q/q_{1\perp}^{(a_1,b_1)}}^{\ln Q/q_{1\perp}^{(a_1,b_1)}} dy_1 \int_0^{q_{1\perp}^{(a_1,b_1)}} \frac{dq_{2\perp}^{(a_2,b_2)}}{q_{2\perp}^{(a_2,b_2)}} \int_{-\ln Q/q_{2\perp}^{(a_2,b_2)}}^{\ln Q/q_{2\perp}^{(a_2,b_2)}} dy_2 \times \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\phi_2}{2\pi} [\Theta(e^{-L} - V(\{p\}_2)) - \Theta(e^{-L} - V(\{p\}_{\text{correct}}))].$$



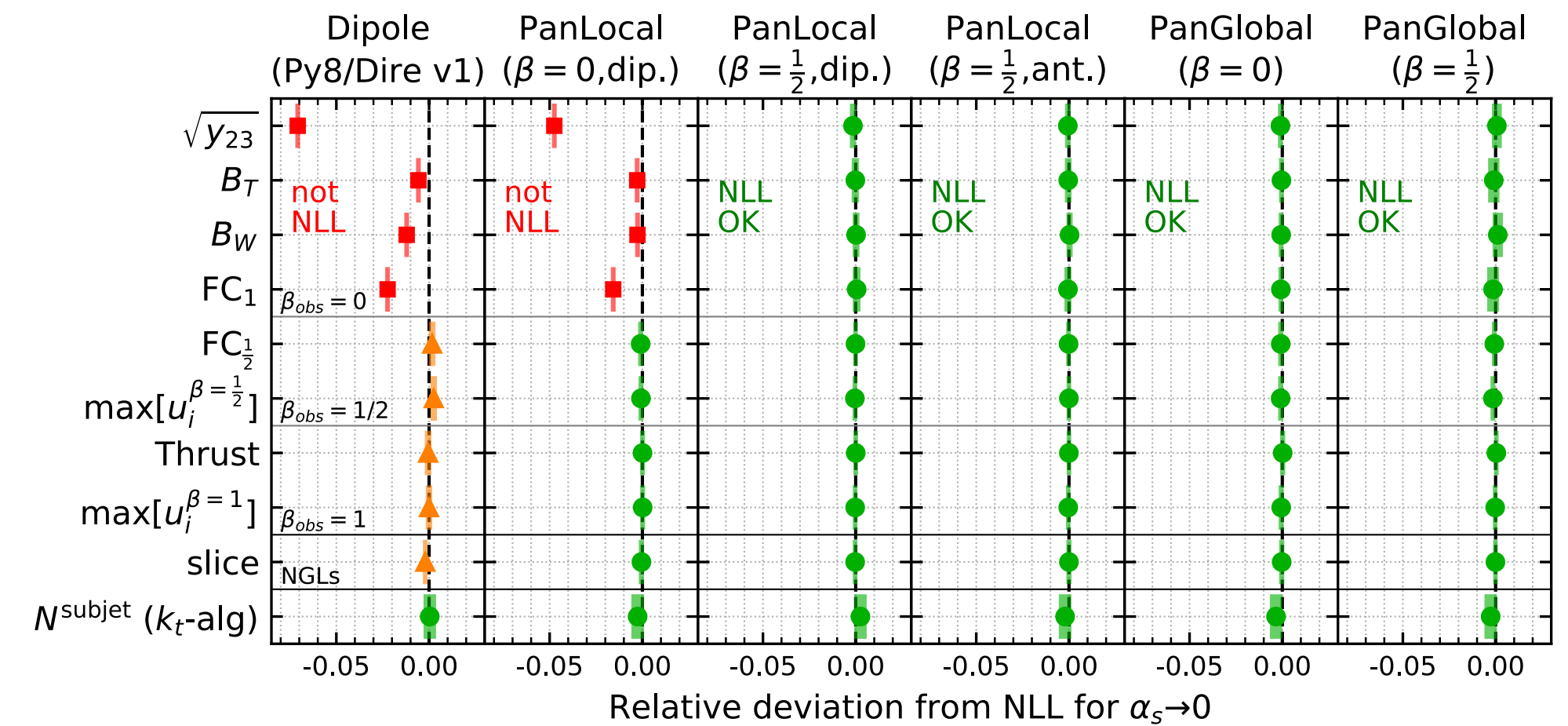
[Forshaw, Holguin, Plätzer — '21, '22]

## Detailed analysis of coherent branching.



[Bewick, Ferrario, Richardson, Seymour — '19, '20]

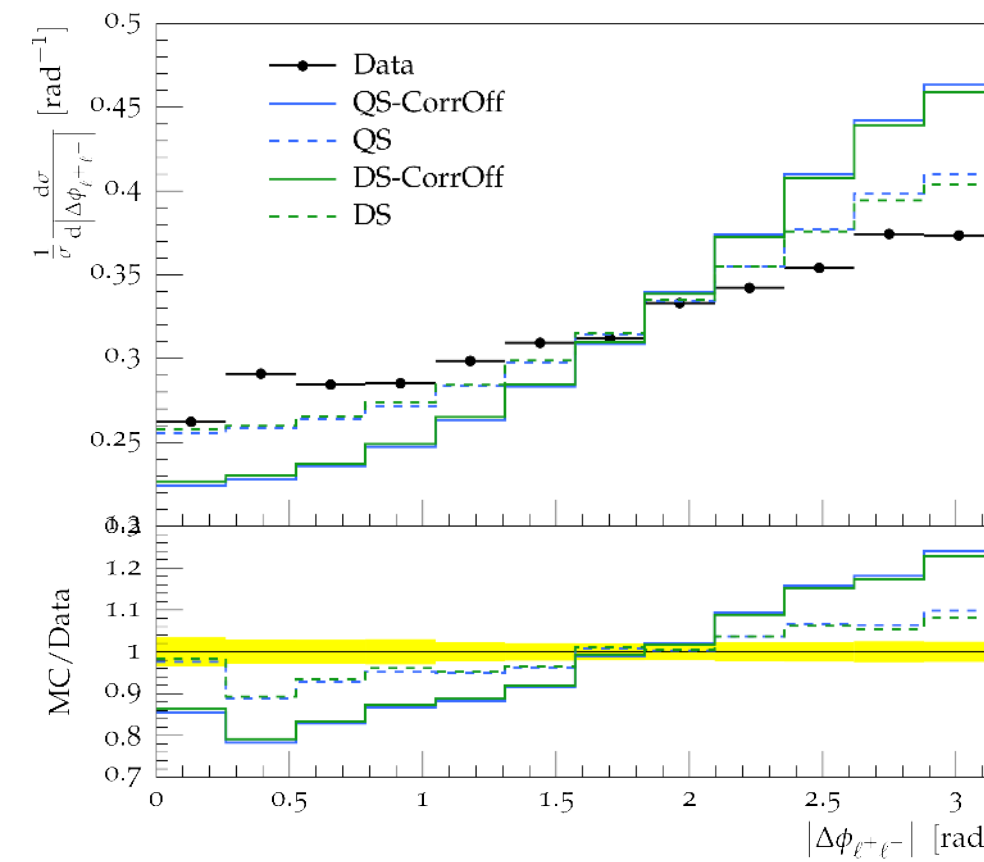
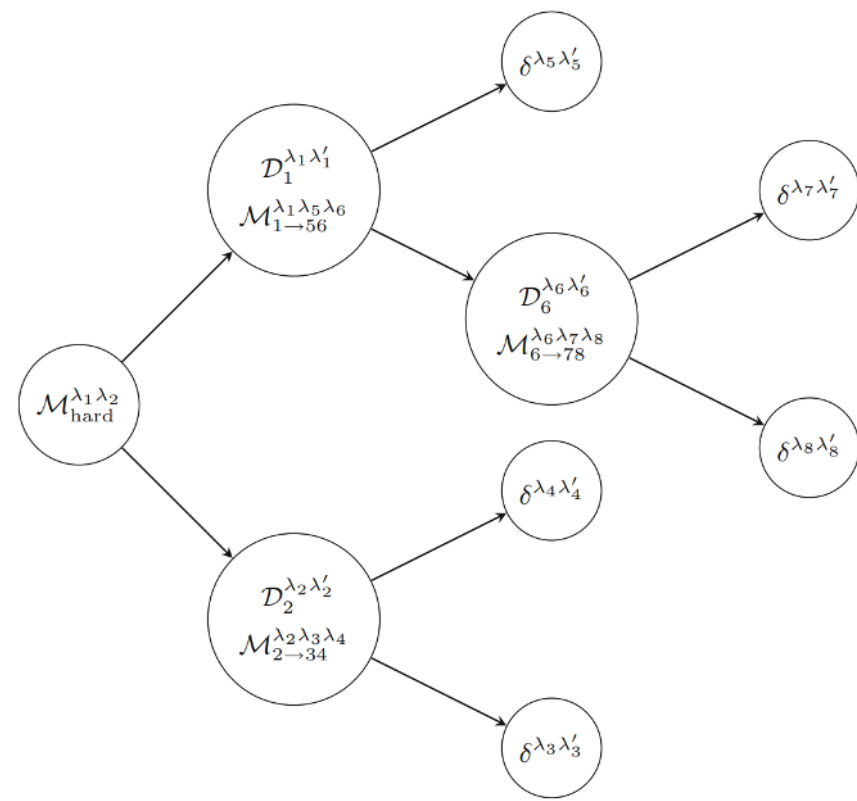
## Detailed numerical checks against well-known benchmarks.



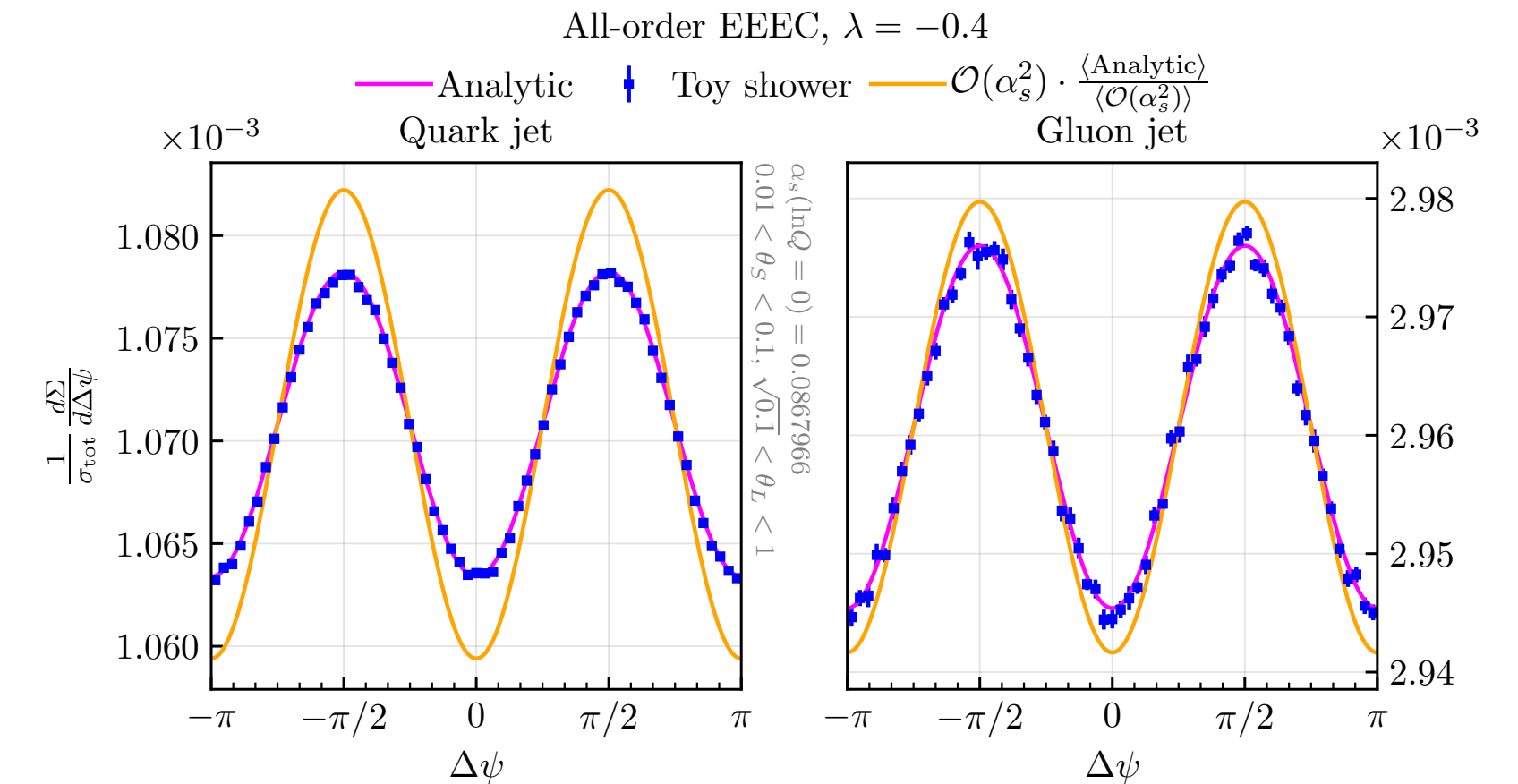
[PanScales]

# Improving Shower Accuracy — Spin & Colour Correlations

## Spin correlations building on Collins-Knowles algorithm



[Webster, Richardson - '20]

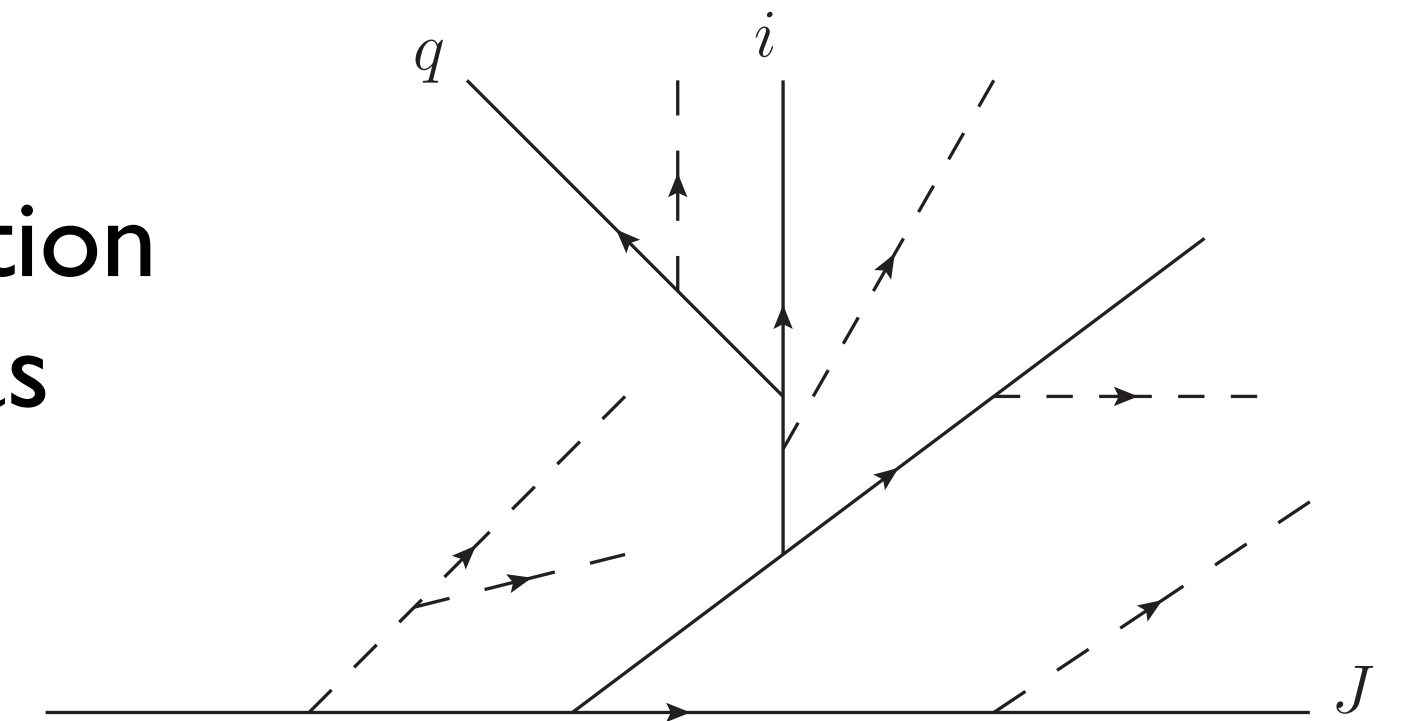


[Karlberg, Salam, Scyboz, Verheyen — '21]

## Dynamic colour factors in dipole showers

$$C_{iJ}(\theta_{iq}, \theta_{LJ}) = \left( C_F \delta_i^{(q)} + \frac{C_A}{2} \delta_i^{(g)} \right) \theta(\theta_{iq} < \theta_{LJ}) + \left( \frac{C_A}{2} \delta_J^{(g)} + C_F \delta_J^{(q)} \right) \theta(\theta_{iq} > \theta_{LJ})$$

Track angular extent of evolution to reproduce colour factors as dictated by coherence.



[Forshaw, Holguin, Plätzer — '21]

[Hamilton, Medves, Salam, Scyboz, Soyez — '21]

# Where it (also) matters

Coherent branching jet mass including mass effects:

$$z(1-z)\tilde{q}^2 = -m_{\tilde{ij}}^2 + \frac{m_i^2}{z} + \frac{m_j^2}{1-z} - \frac{p_{\perp}^2}{z(1-z)}$$

using [Gieseke, Stephens, Webber – '03]

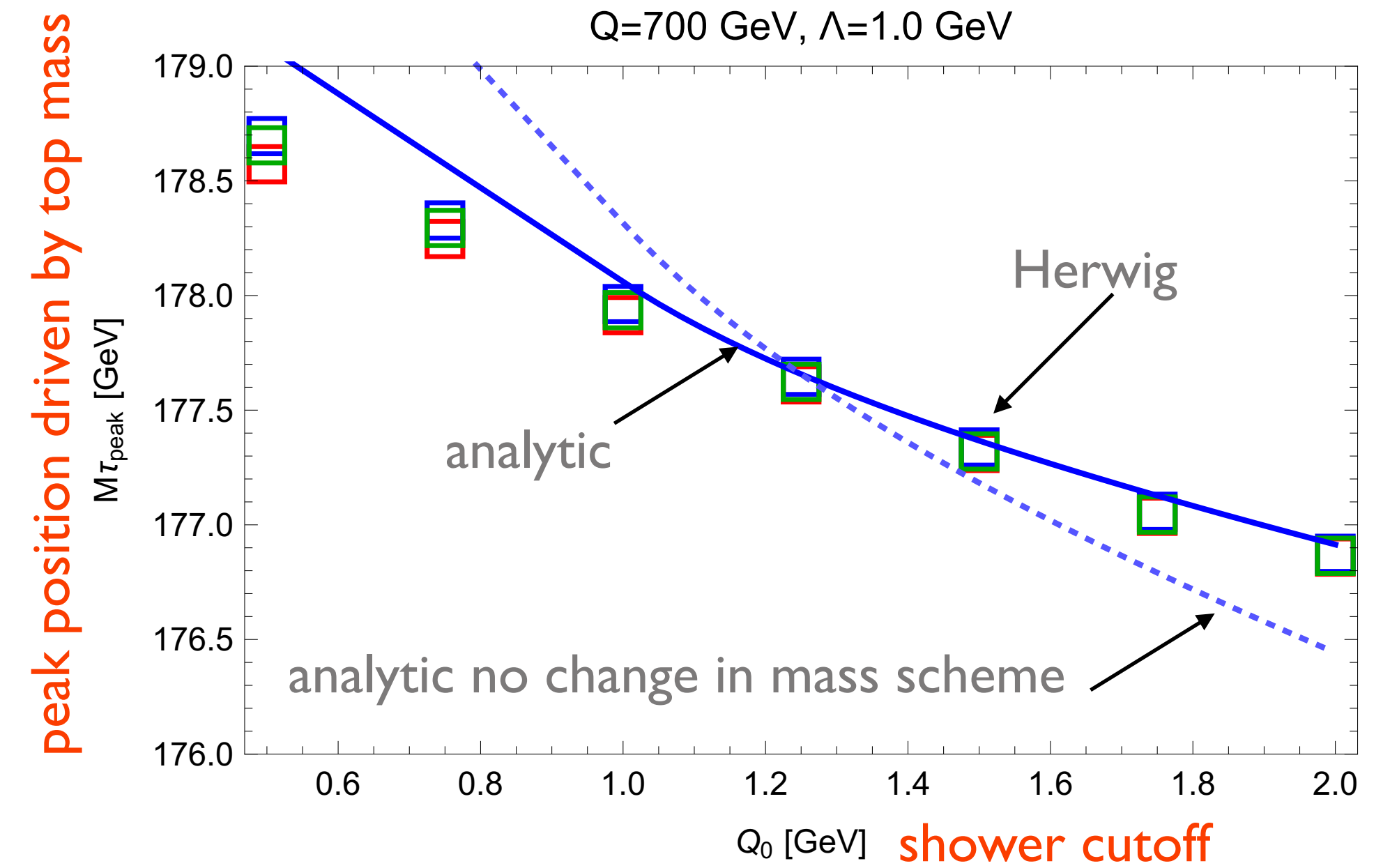
NLL accurate for global observables with massive quarks.

Top mass definition from coherent branching.

[Hoang, Plätzer, Samitz — '18]

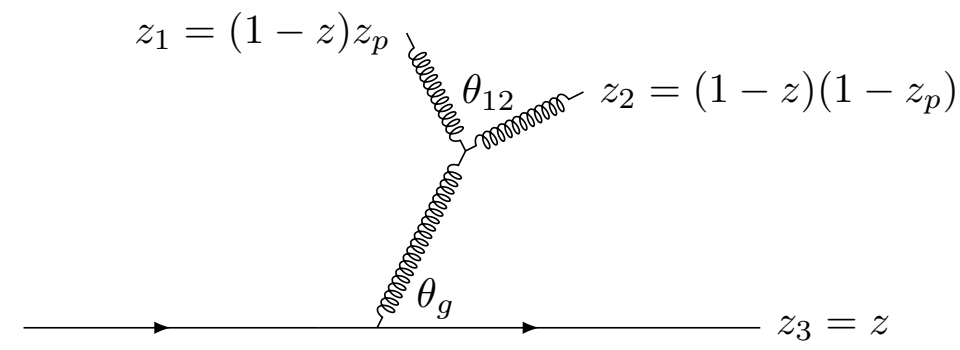
$$m_t^{\text{MC}} = m_t^{\text{pole}} + \Delta_m^{\text{pert}} + \Delta_m^{\text{non-pert}}$$

$$m_t^{\text{CB}}(Q_0) = m_t^{\text{pole}} - \frac{2}{3} Q_0 \alpha_s(Q_0) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$$



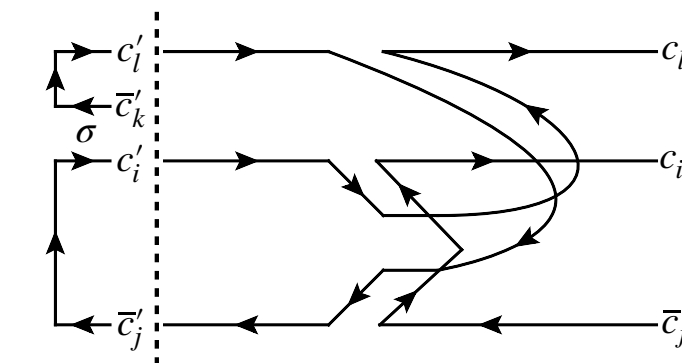
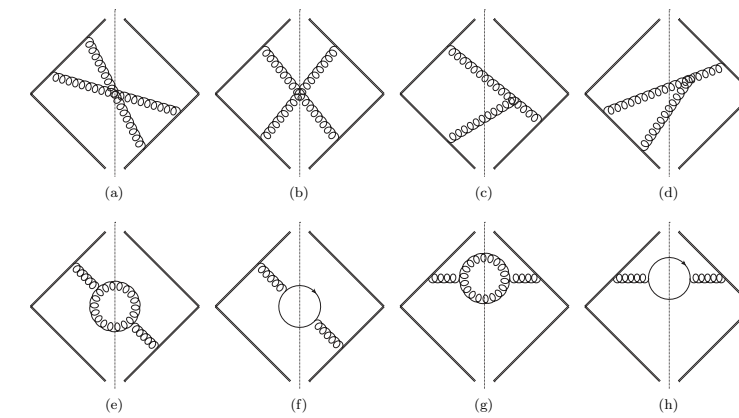
Take home message: hadronization and mass scheme **compensate for shower cutoff dependence.**

Structure of second order ingredients and dedicated resummations: uncover algorithms and benchmarks.



[Dasgupta, El-Menoufi — '21]

Kinematic and colour structure of emission kernels beyond LO



[Plätzer, Ruffa — '21]

Effective couplings and collinear fragmentation

$$\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} K(z_g) = \frac{V_{q\bar{q}g}}{B_{q\bar{q}g}} - \frac{V_{q\bar{q}}}{B_{q\bar{q}}} + \int_0^{\tilde{v}_g} \frac{d\Phi_{q\bar{q}ij}}{d\Phi_{q\bar{q}g}} \frac{B_{q\bar{q}ij}}{B_{q\bar{q}g}} - \int_0^{v_g} \frac{d\Phi_{q\bar{q}g'}}{d\Phi_{q\bar{q}}} \frac{B_{q\bar{q}g'}}{B_{q\bar{q}}}$$

[Dulat, Höche, Prestel — '18]

[Gellersen, Höche, Prestel — '22]

Building amplitude evolution at the second order.

$$\Gamma_{S,n}^{(2)} = -\hat{V}_n^{(2)} [\partial_S \Xi_{n,2}] + \hat{V}_n^{(1)} [\partial_S \Xi_{n,1}] \hat{V}_n^{(1)} [1 - \Xi_{n,1}]$$

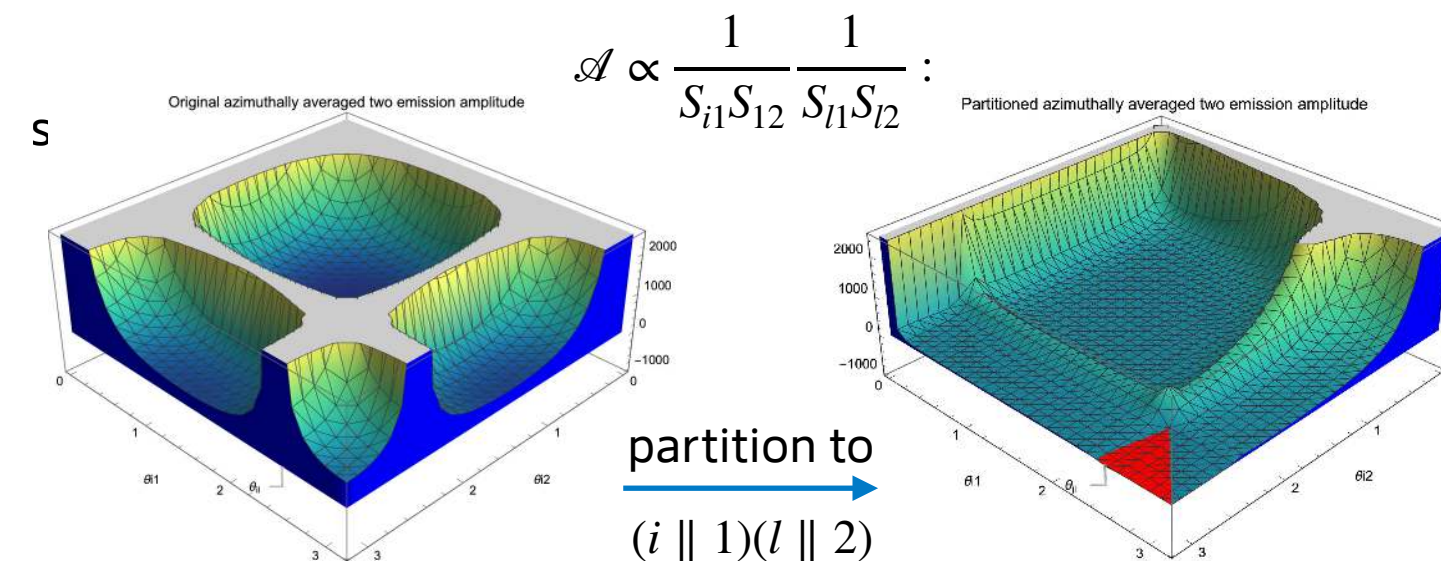
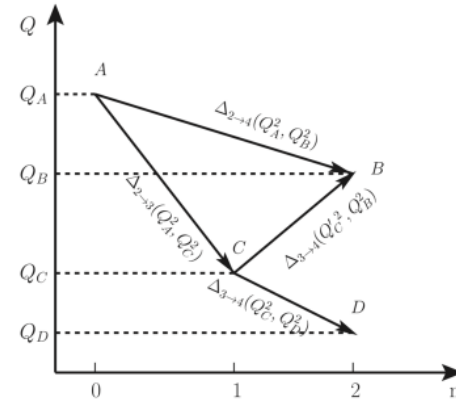
$$\mathbf{R}_n^{(1,1)} \circ \mathbf{R}_n^{(1,0)\dagger} = \left( \hat{\mathbf{D}}_n^{(1,1)} [1 - \Xi_{n,1}] - \hat{\mathbf{D}}_n^{(1,0)} \hat{V}_{n-1}^{(1)} [1 - \Xi_{n-1,1}] \right) \circ \hat{\mathbf{D}}_n^{(1,0)\dagger} \partial_S \Theta_{n,1} + \left( \hat{\mathbf{D}}_n^{(1,1)} [\partial_S \Xi_{n,1}] - \hat{V}_n^{(1)} [\partial_S \Xi_{n,1}] \hat{\mathbf{D}}_n^{(1,0)} \right) \circ \hat{\mathbf{D}}_n^{(1,0)\dagger} (1 - \Theta_{n,1}),$$

[Van Beekveld, Dasgupta, El-Menoufi, Halliwell, Karlberg, Monni — '24]

Double emission matrix element corrections

Towards second-order showers: unordered contributions

- sector showers allow to include **direct**  $2 \rightarrow 4$  branchings in a simple way
- divide phase space into **strongly-ordered** and **unordered** region
  - ▶ s.o. region: only **single-unresolved** limits
  - ▶ u.o. region: only **double-unresolved** limits
- $2 \rightarrow 4$  branchings important ingredient to NNLO+PS (+ virtual corrections to  $2 \rightarrow 3$ )



[C. Preuss for Vincia — PSR 21]  
[PanScales double soft algorithms]

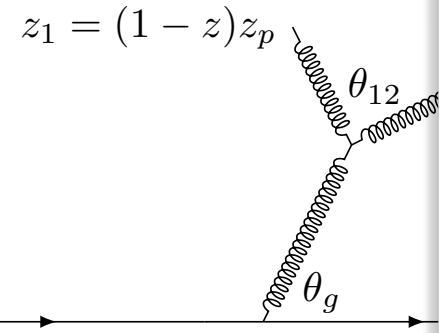
[Löschner — PSR '24]  
[Löschner, Plätzer, Simpson — '21]

[Plätzer — '22]  
[Nagy, Soper — PSR '24]

# Beyond $NLL_{\text{global}}$ — more differential, $NLL_{\text{nonglobal}}$ , $NNLL_{\text{global}}$ , ...



Structure of s



Effective couplings

$$\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} K(z_g) = \frac{V_{q\bar{q}g}}{B_{q\bar{q}g}} - \frac{V}{E}$$

[Van Beekveld, Da  
Halliwell, Karlberg

Double emission n

Towards second-order showers:

- sector showers allow to include dire a simple way
- divide phase space into **strongly-or** region
  - ▶ s.o. region: only **single-unreso**
  - ▶ u.o. region: only **double-unres**
- 2 → 4 branchings important ingred (+ virtual corrections to 2 → 3)

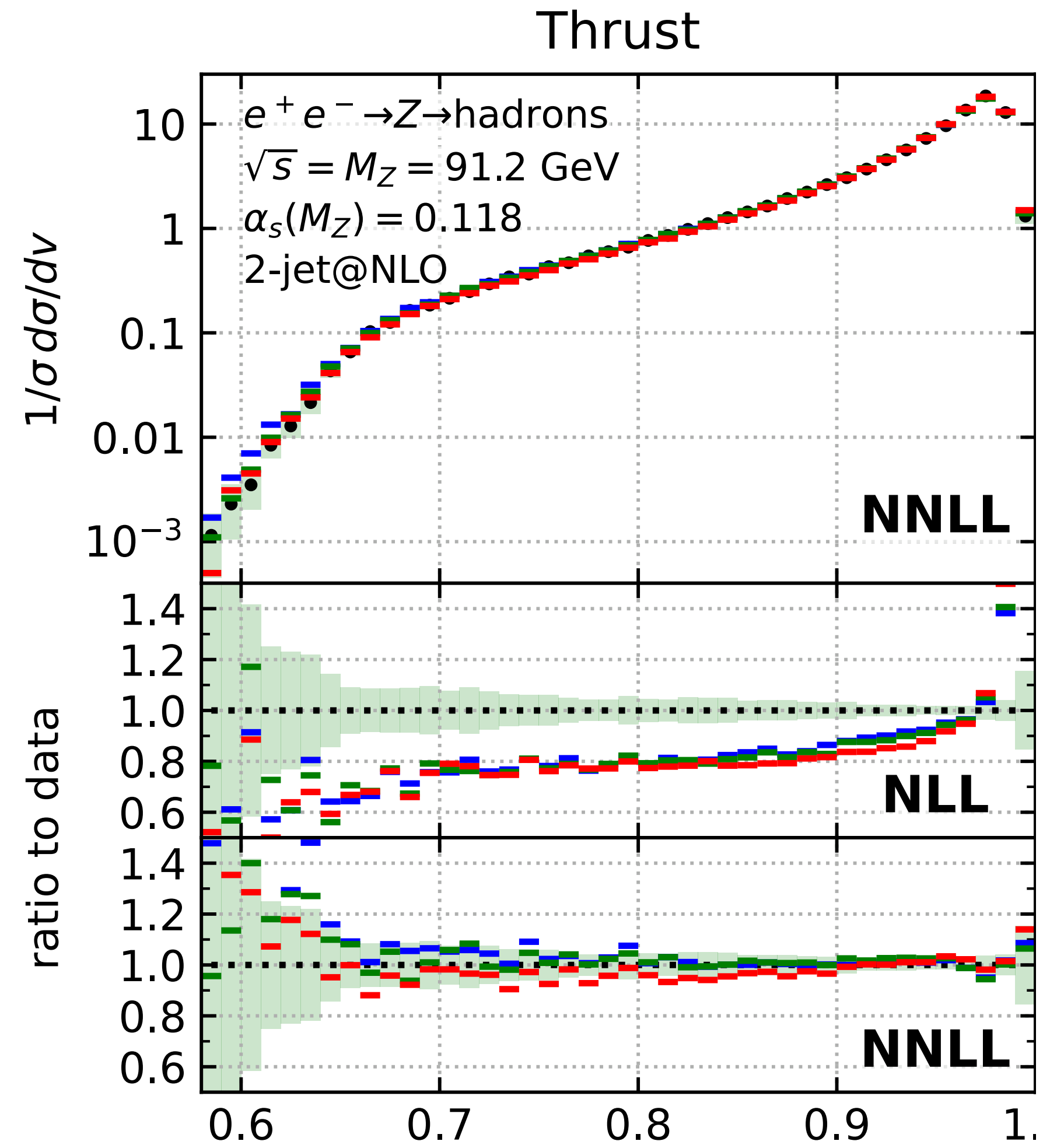
Algorithms are more than the sum of their ingredients.

Way forward is hard, but possible — we need to find systematic formulations.

Demonstrate accuracy for certain observables, but strive for most differential/flexible algorithms.

Role of data comparisons not always clear but encouraging.

See Karlberg's talk



[Ferrario Ravasio @ PSR '24]  $v = T$

marks.

]

second order.

$$r_n^{(1)} [1 - \Xi_{n,1}]$$

$$] \circ \hat{D}_n^{(1,0)\dagger} \partial_S \Theta_{n,1}$$

$$\hat{D}_n^{(1,0)\dagger} (1 - \Theta_{n,1}),$$

$$\Theta_{n-1,1}) \partial_S \Theta_{n,1}$$

zer — '22]

— PSR '24]

[C. Preuss for Vincia

[PanScales double s

[Eoschmer, Platzer, Simpson — 21]

# Main lines of current parton shower research

Shower development is a broad field, fortunately back on the agenda.  
Hadronization is not exactly shower development, but enters at a similar level,

See Schumann's talk. Always needs to accompany shower development.

Matching/Merging

Amplitude evolution

Genuine quantum effects:  
not limited to subleading colour.

Control and demonstration of perturbative accuracy.

(N)NLL accuracy

Hadronization

Comprehensive, factorized picture and construction of algorithms.

Description of electroweak effects and BSM scenarios.

Interactions beyond QCD

Remaining focus of this talk:

- Perturbative accuracy
- Beyond probabilistic algorithms.
- Factorisation and hadronization.



# Full colour and interferences are central to go beyond



Colour reconnection and hadronization is about subleading-N.  
So are shower accuracy and interference terms.

Colour factor algorithms

Coherent, NLL-accurate  
dipole showers

[Gustafson] [PanScales '21]  
[Forshaw, Holguin, Plätzer '21]

Colour ME corrections

Colour-exact real  
emissions as far as possible

[Plätzer, Sjö Dahl '12, '18]  
[Höche, Reichelt '20]

Full amplitude evolution

Colour-exact real and  
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[Forshaw, Plätzer + ... '13 ...]  
[Nagy, Soper '07 ...]

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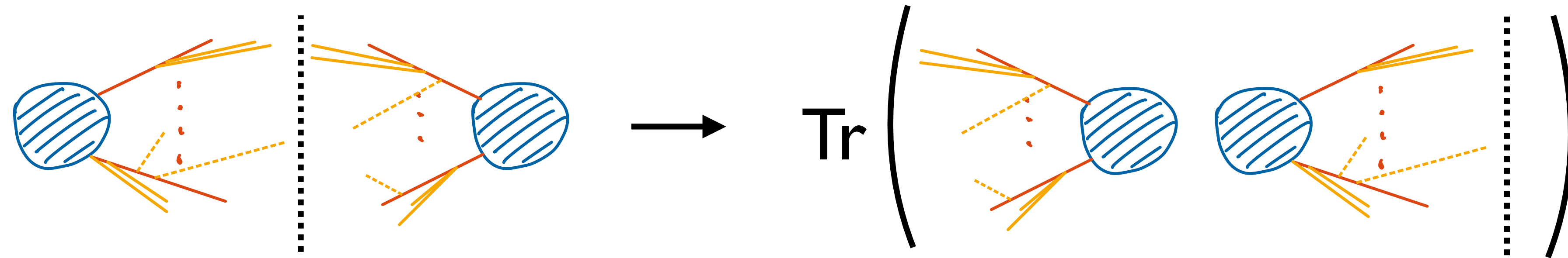
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# The amplitude evolution equation

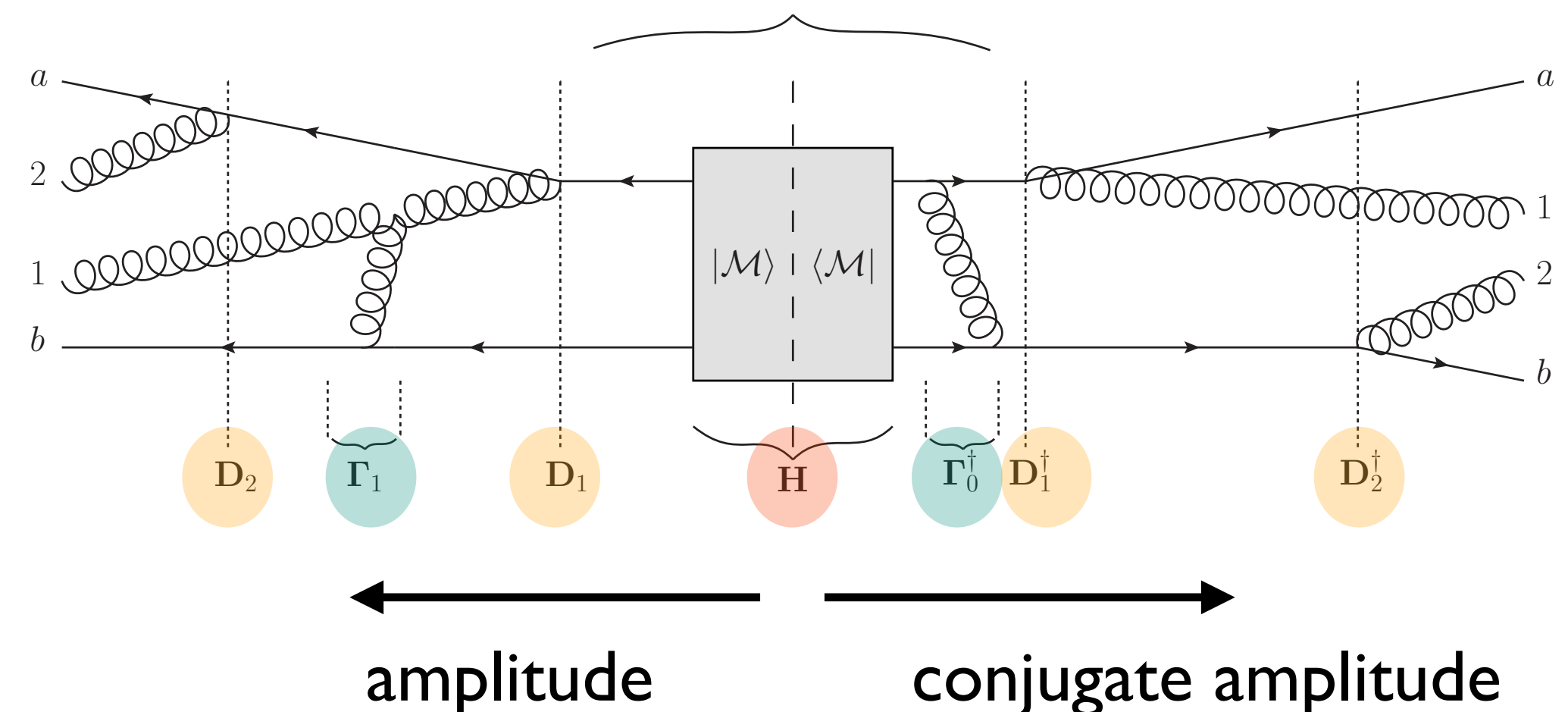
see Torre's talk



$$q \frac{d}{dq} \text{ (diagram) } = \sum_{ij} \left\{ \text{diagram} + \text{diagram} \right\} - \sum_{ij} \text{diagram}$$

Markovian algorithm at the amplitude level:  
Iterate **gluon exchanges** and **emission**.

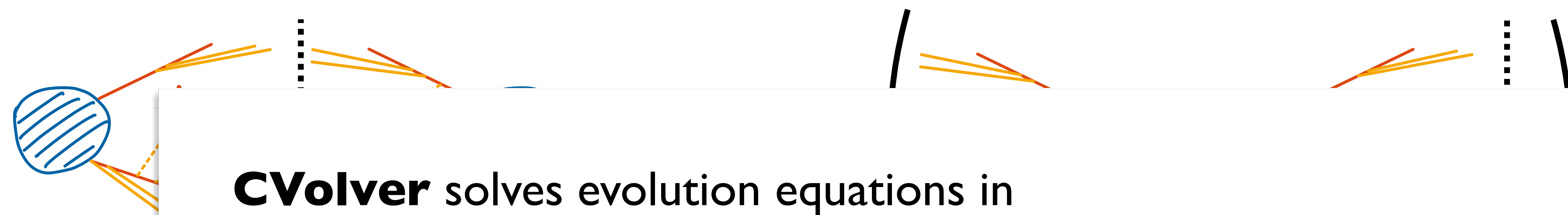
Different histories in amplitude and conjugate amplitude needed to include interference.



[Forshaw, Plätzer, De Angelis, Torre, ... — '18 ... '24]

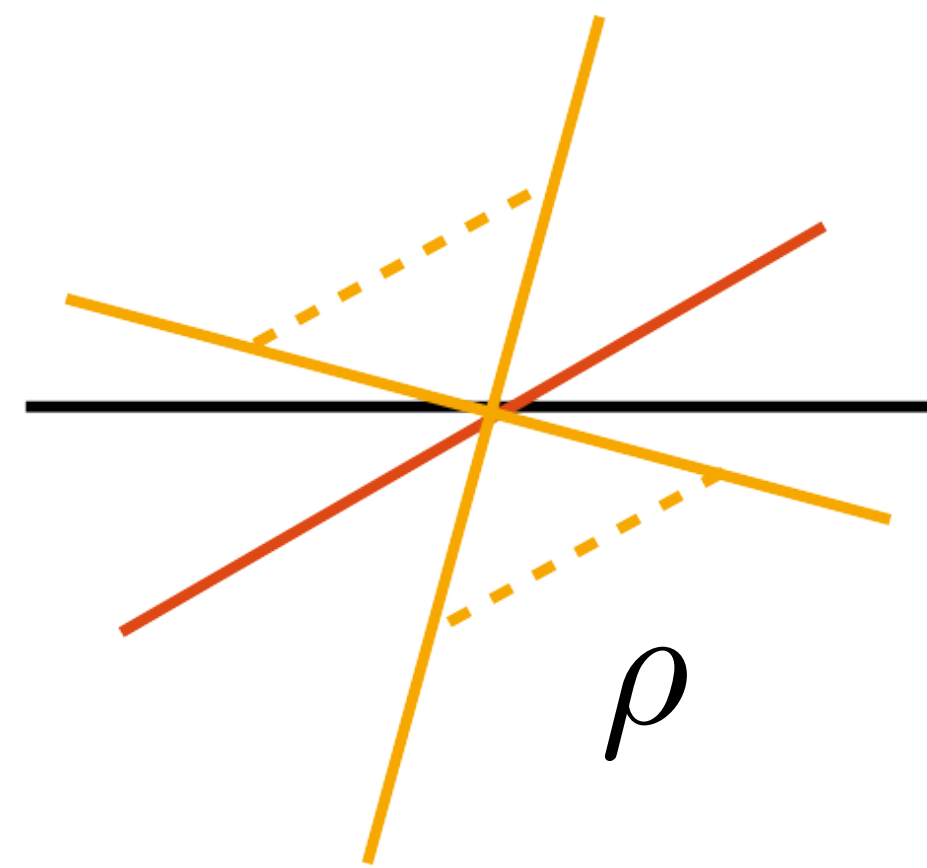
# The amplitude evolution equation

see Torre's talk



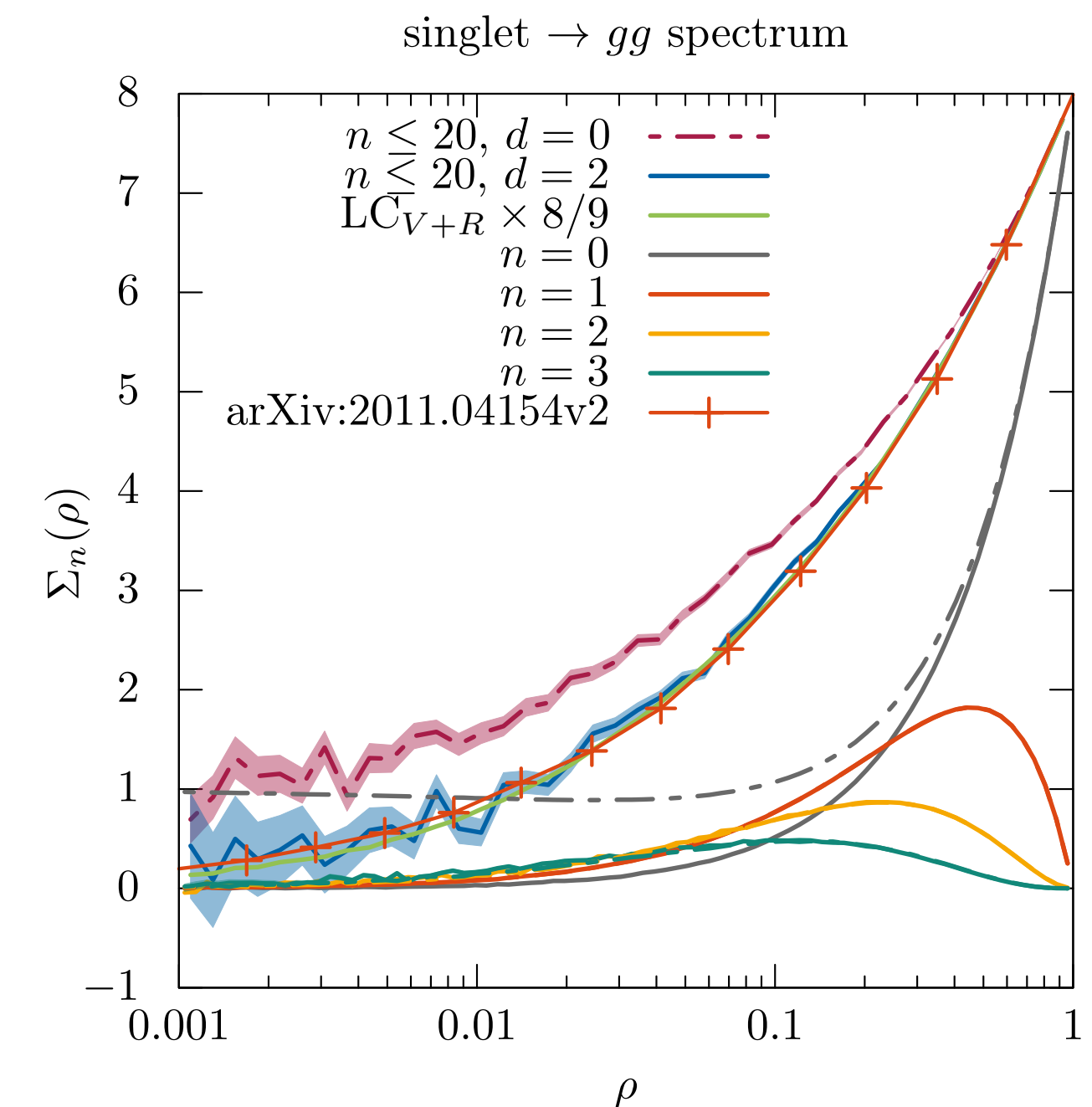
**CVolver** solves evolution equations in colour flow space. Flexible for dedicated resummation and new parton showers.

$$q \frac{d}{dq}$$



Jet vetoes studied first — benchmarks available.

$$\Sigma(\rho) = \sum_n \int d\sigma(\{p_i\}) \prod_i \theta_{\text{in}}(\rho - E_i)$$



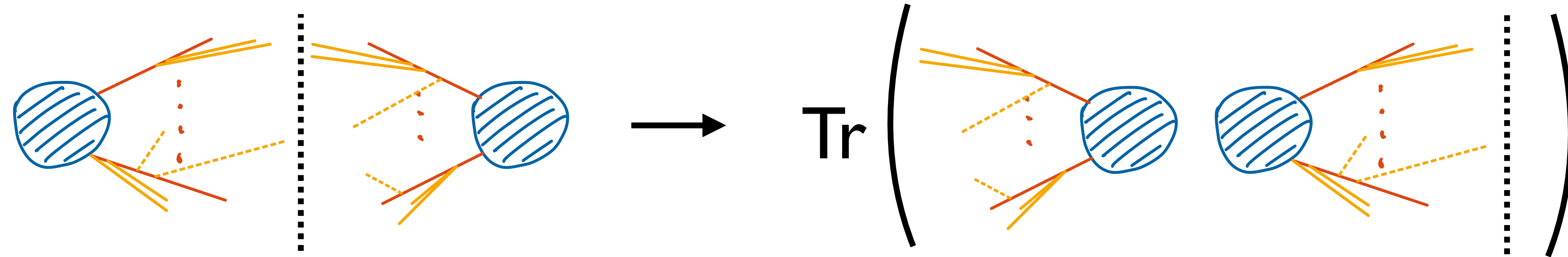
[Forshaw, Plätzer, DeAngelis, Torre ...]

Markovian algorithm and iterate gluon exchange

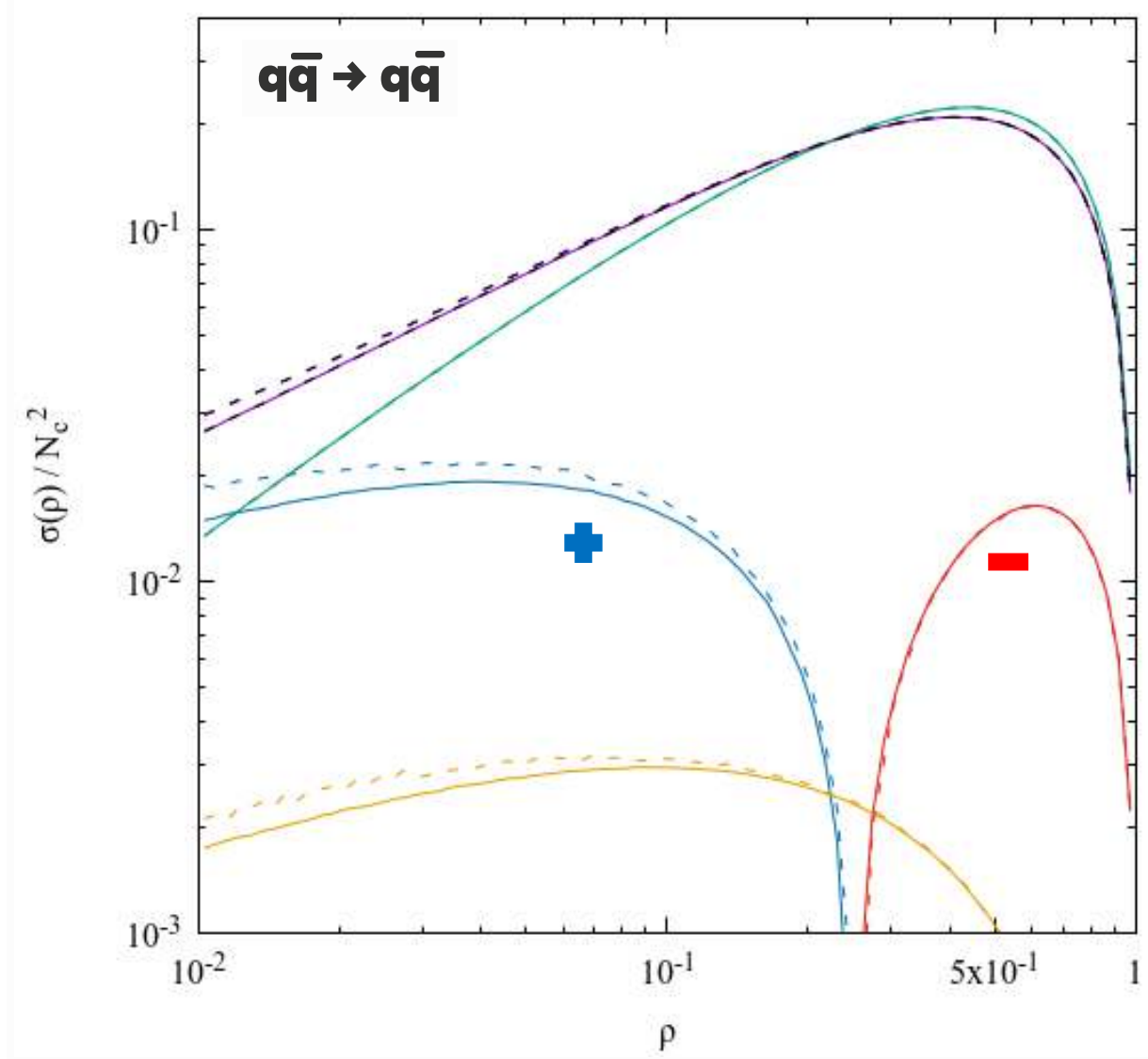
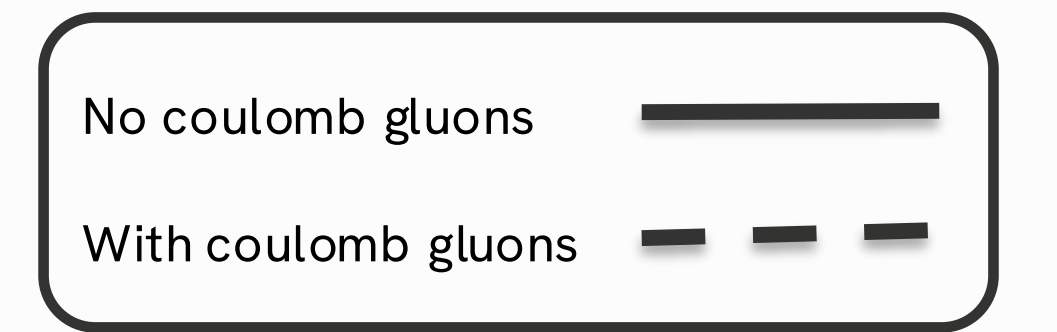
Different histories in amplitude needed to i

# Amplitude evolution at hadron colliders

see Torre's talk

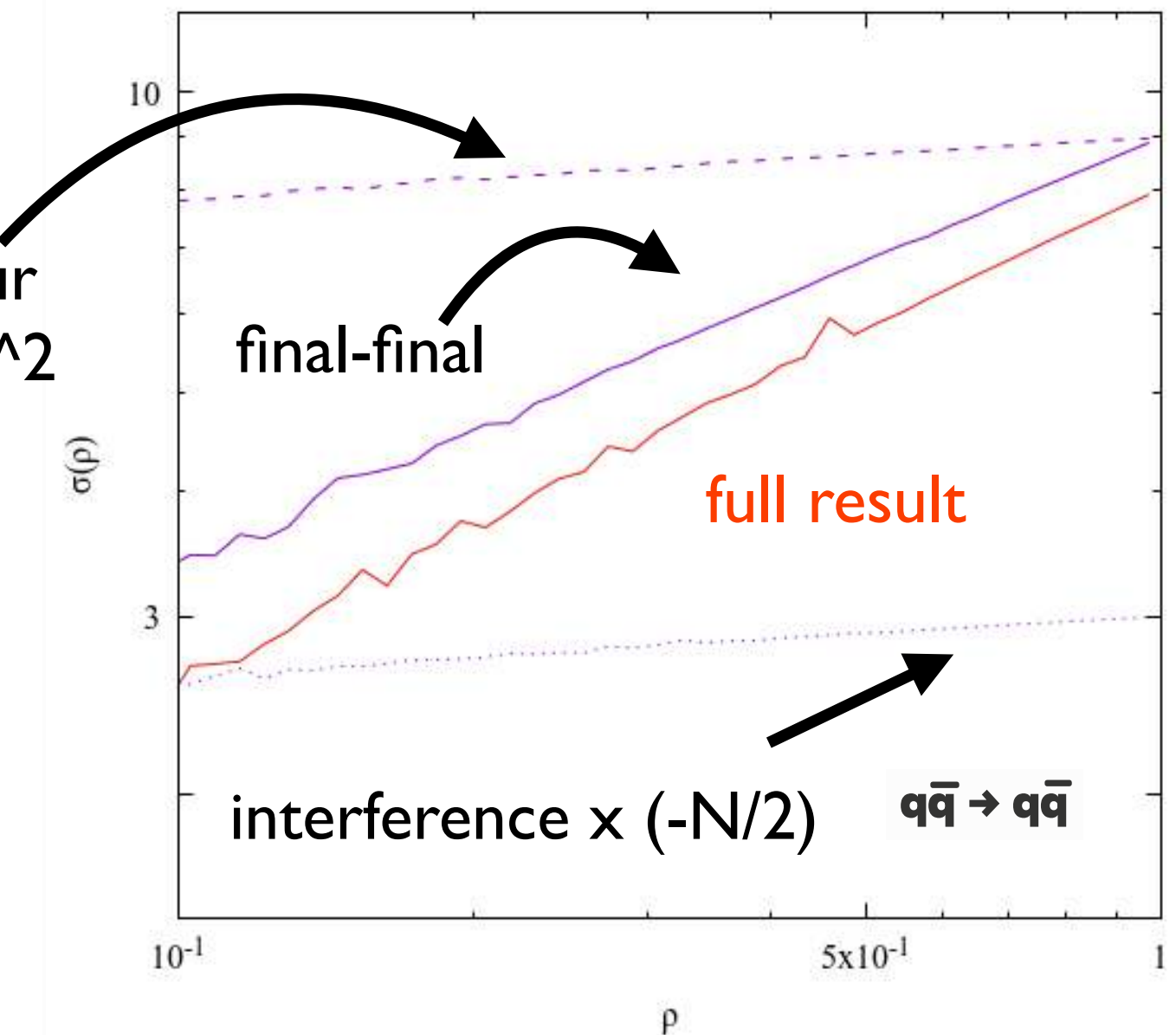


## Impact of Coulomb modes



## Showering of hard process interferences

initial-final colour connection  $\times N^2$



Differential predictions soon.

[Forshaw, Plätzer, De Angelis, Torre, ... — in progress]  
Baseline jet veto cross sections in agreement with Hatta '20

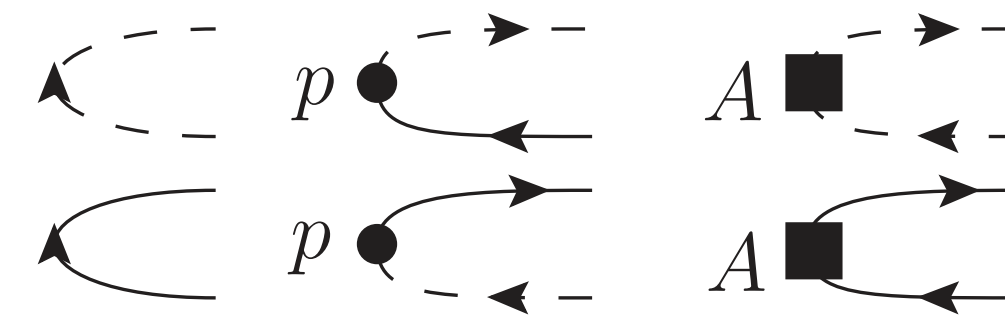
## Factorizing momentum mappings

$$K_{i,s}^\mu = \Lambda^\mu{}_\nu (Q_{i,s}^\nu + \delta_{i,s} n_{i,s}^\nu)$$

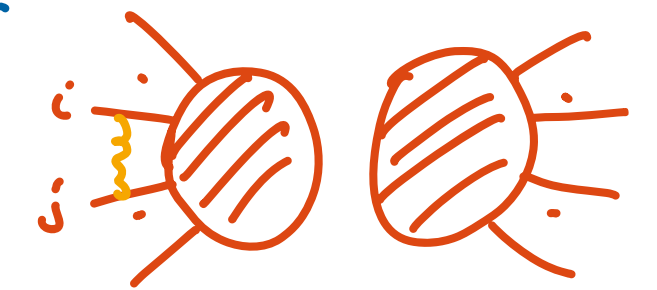
$$q_i^\mu = \Lambda^\mu{}_\nu \left( \alpha p_i^\nu + \frac{(1 - \alpha^2) M_i^2 + p_i \cdot Q_{i,s}}{2\alpha n_{i,s} \cdot p_i} n_{i,s}^\nu \right) - K_{i,s}^\mu$$

Momentum mappings to systematically factor renormalised matrix elements.

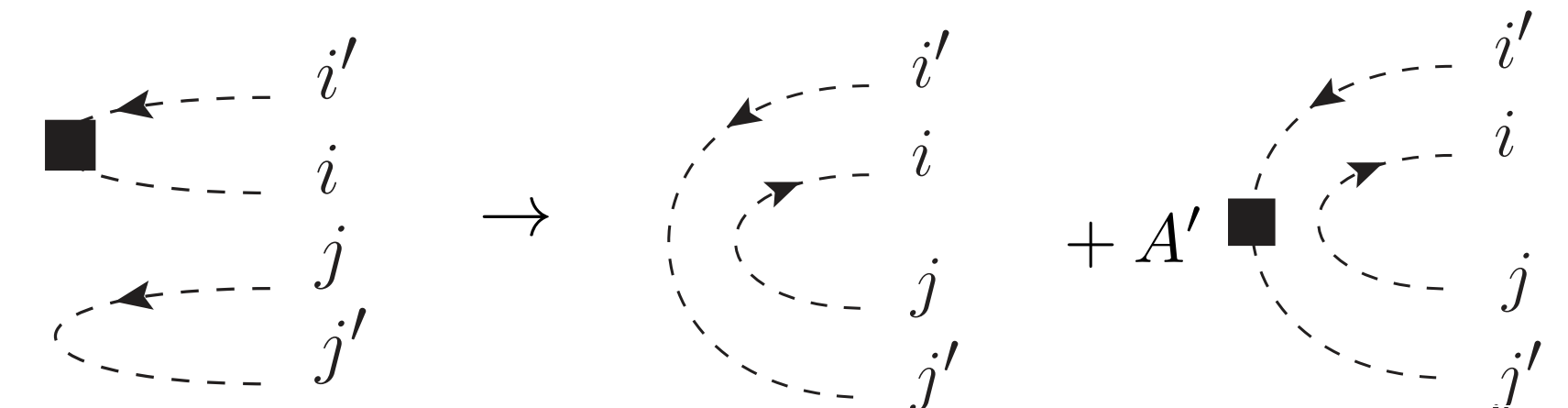
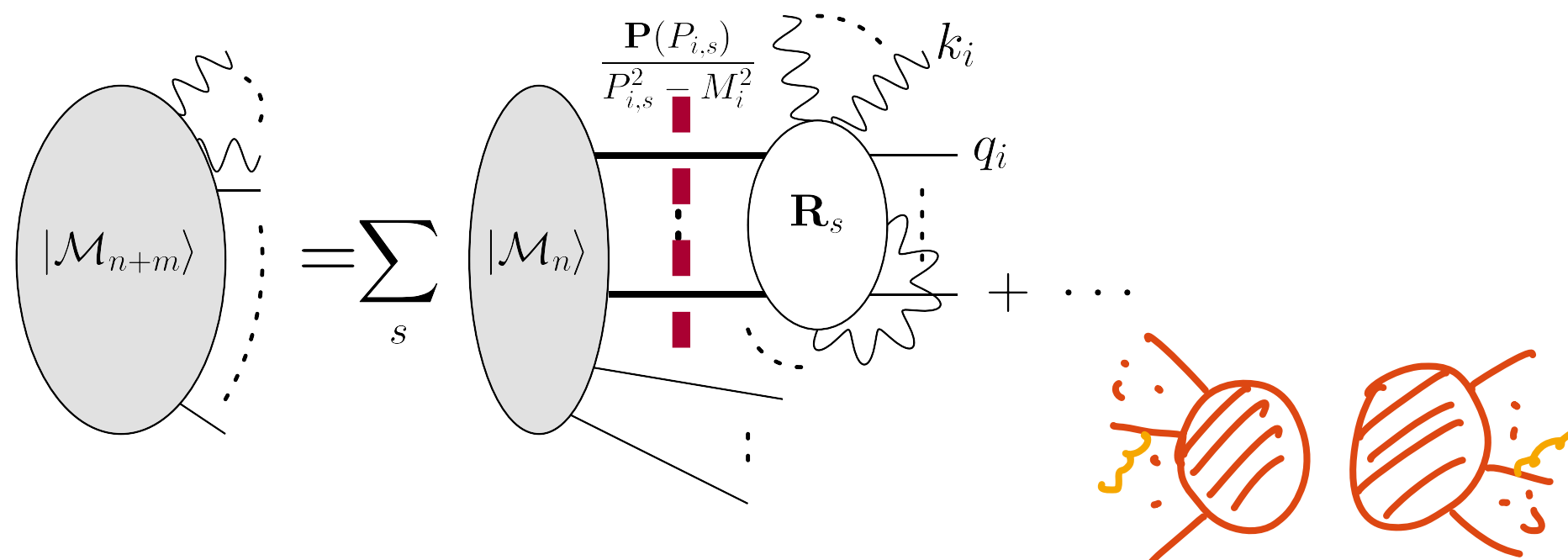
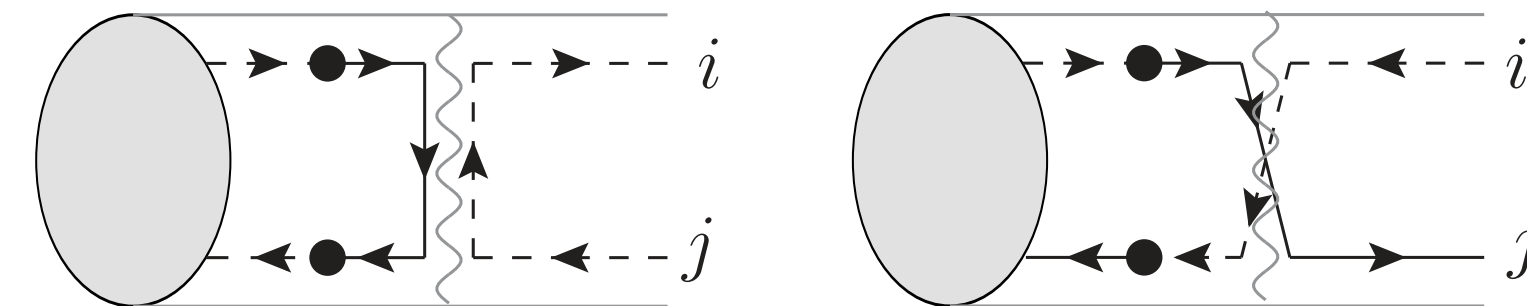
Find a basis of spin structures, together with isospin and colour.



Electroweak bosons now mix different chiral basis states.



$$\text{[Diagram of a fermion loop]} = \frac{1}{2p_i \cdot Q_{i,s}} \frac{\Psi(\Lambda p_i, M_i) \bar{\Psi}(\Lambda p_i, M_i)}{1 - \Sigma'(M_i^2)} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda)$$



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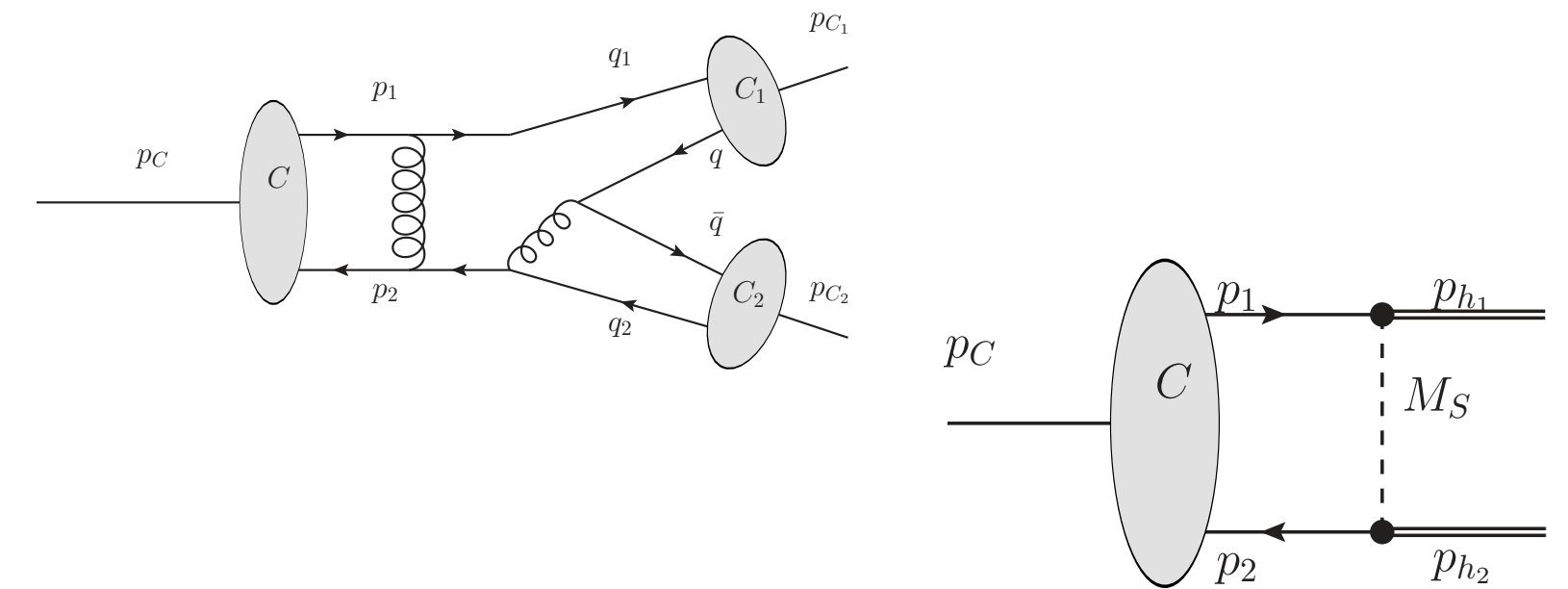
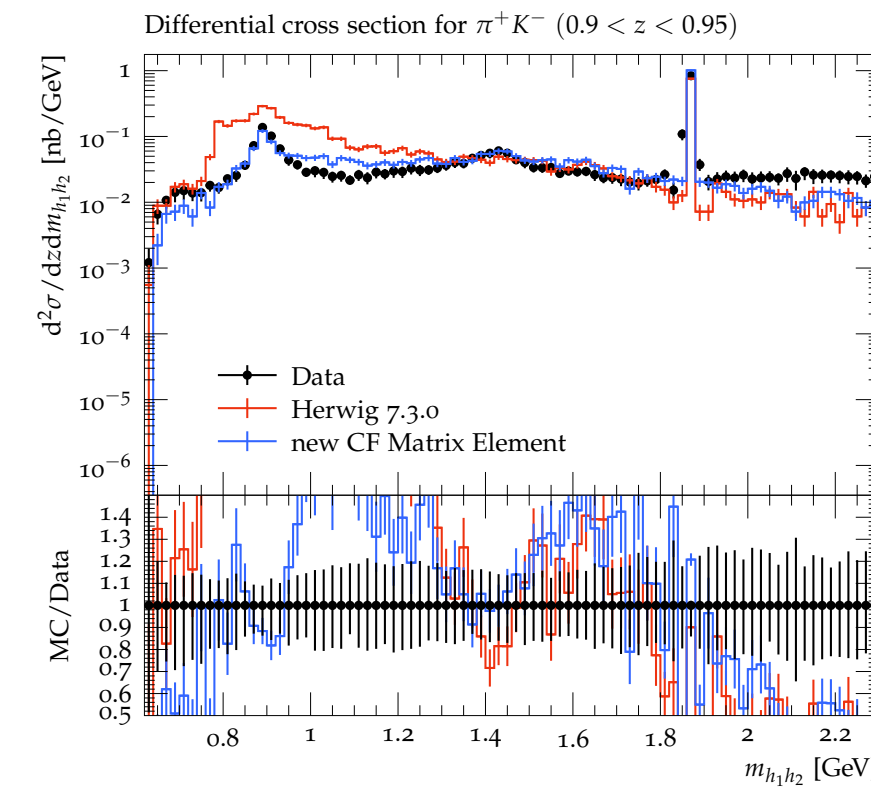
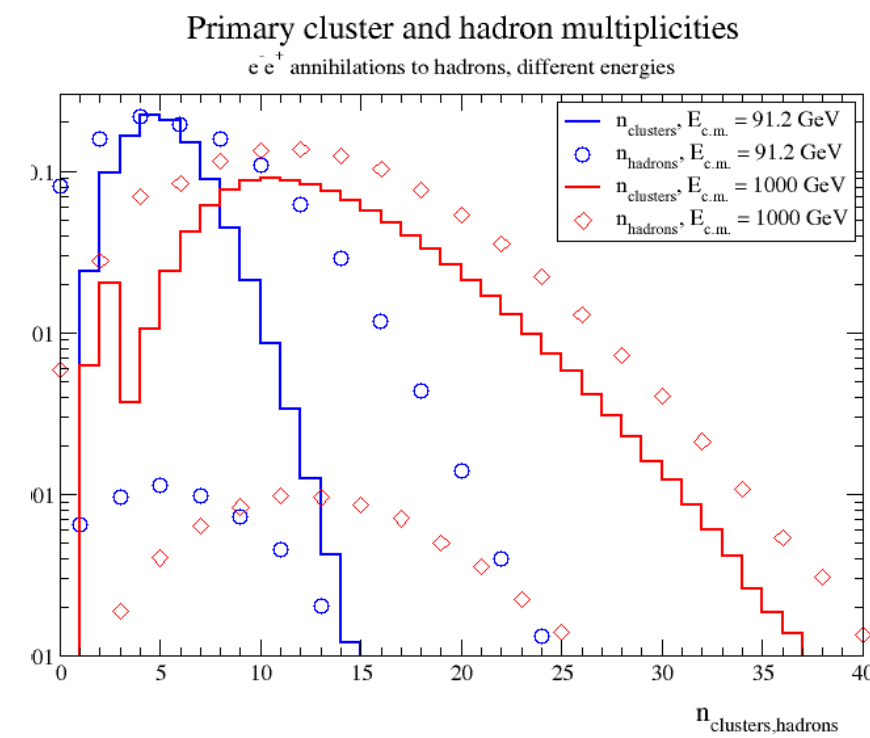
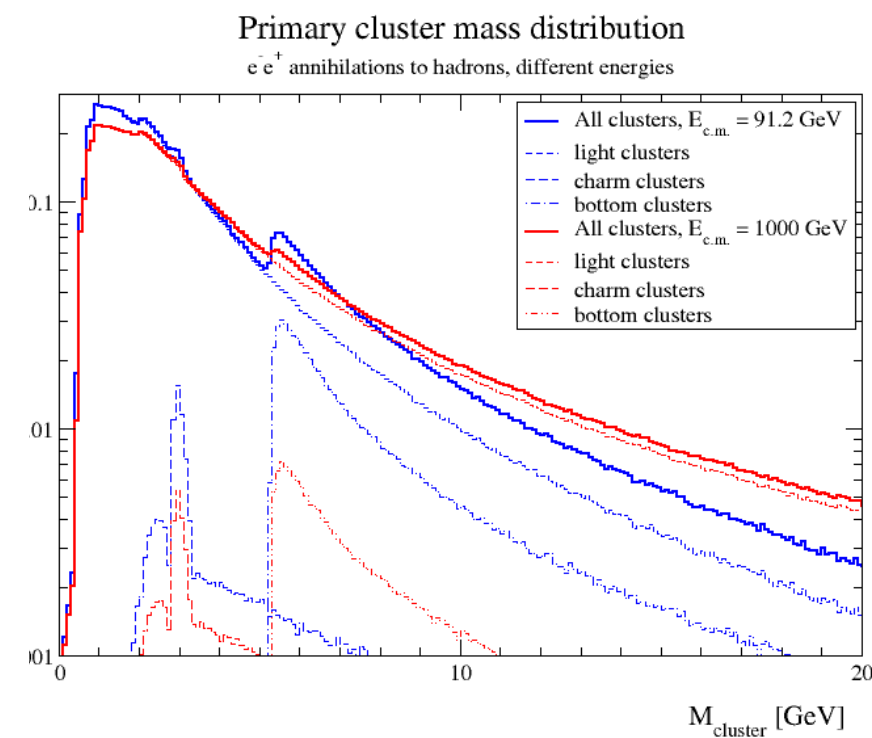
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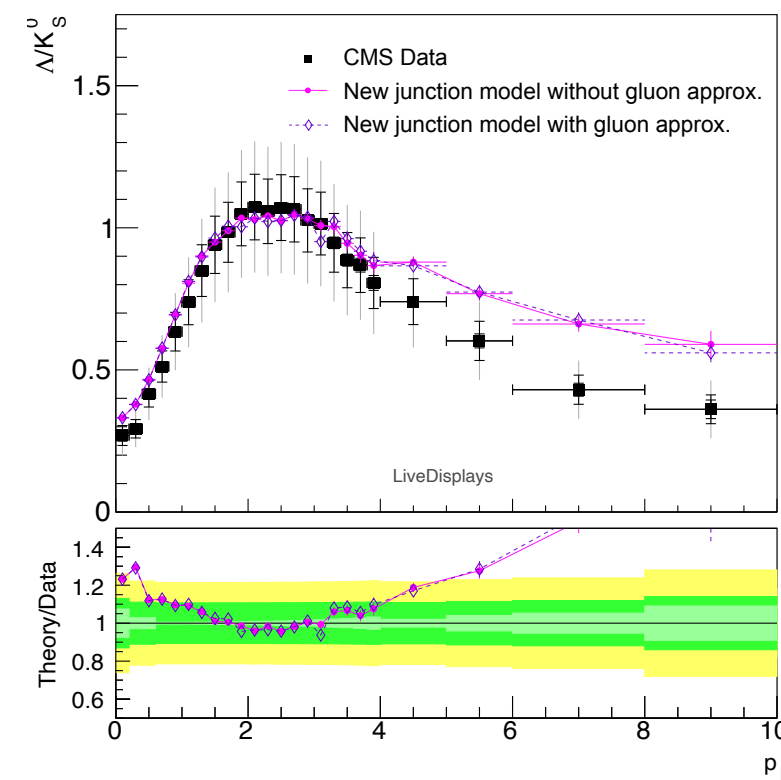
- Perturbative accuracy
- Beyond probabilistic algorithms.
- Factorisation and hadronization.

# Hadronization in general purpose event generators



[Chahal, Krauss — '22]

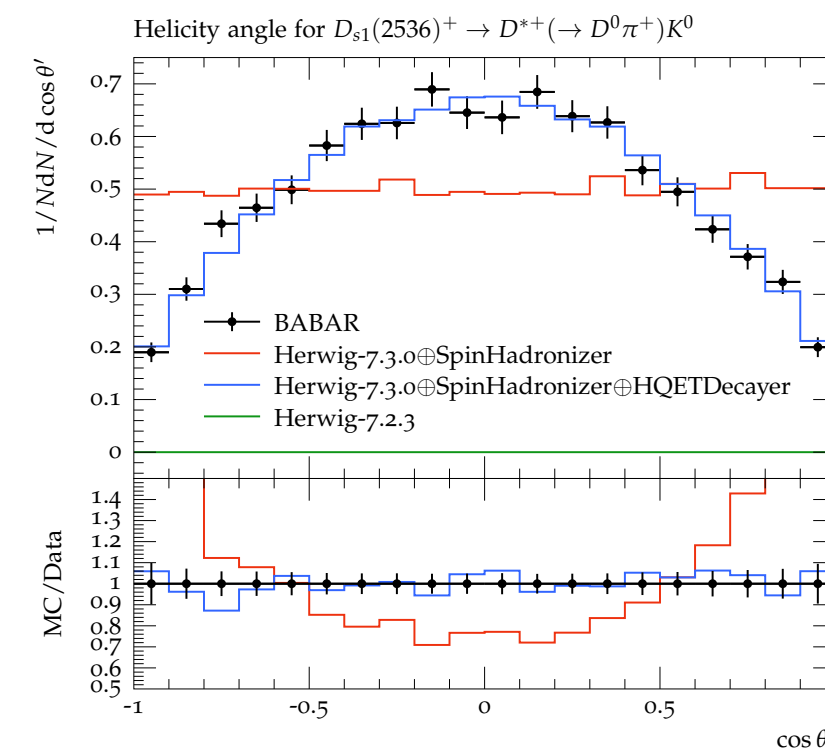
[Gieseke, Kiebacher, Platzer, Priedigkeit — in progress]



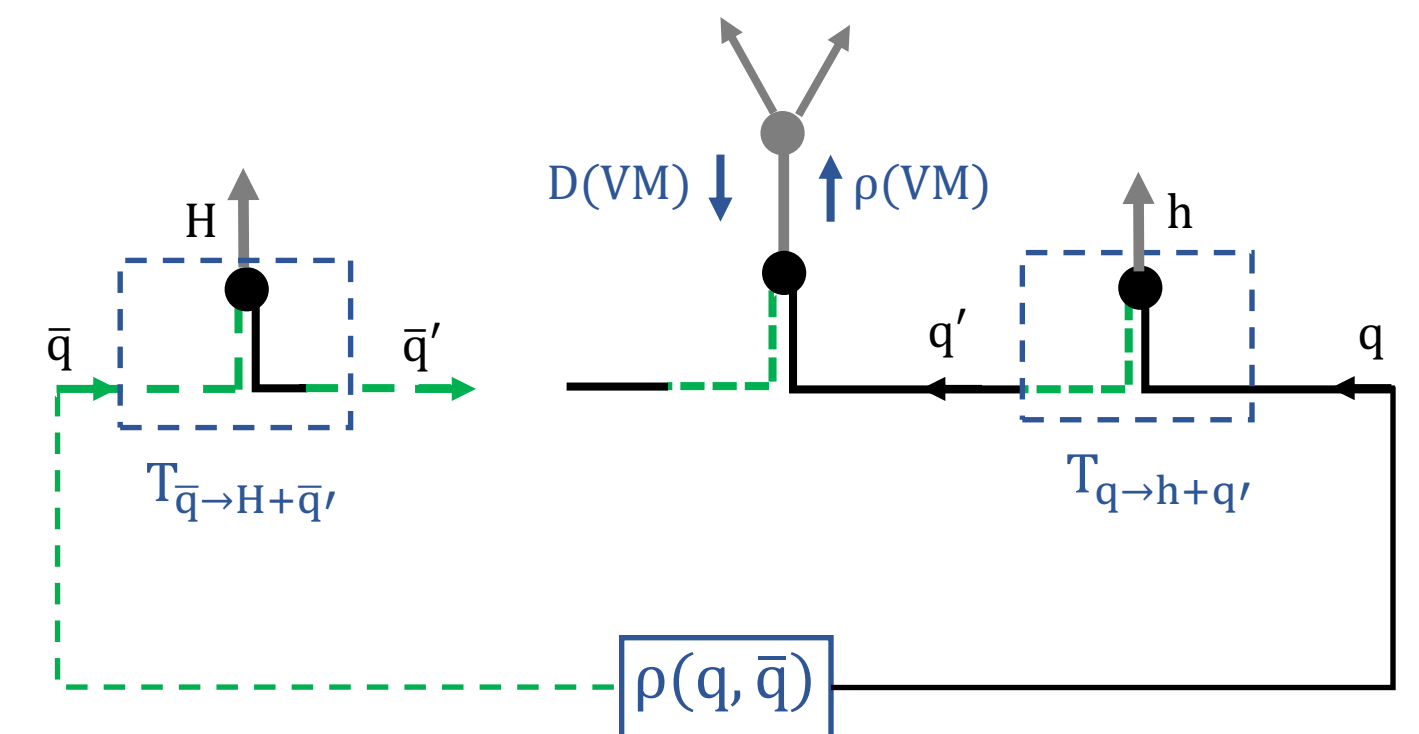
## Back to an active field

- Colour reconnection
- Spin physics
- Kinematics and low energy hadronization

[Altmann, Skands — '24]



[Masouminia, Richardson — '23]

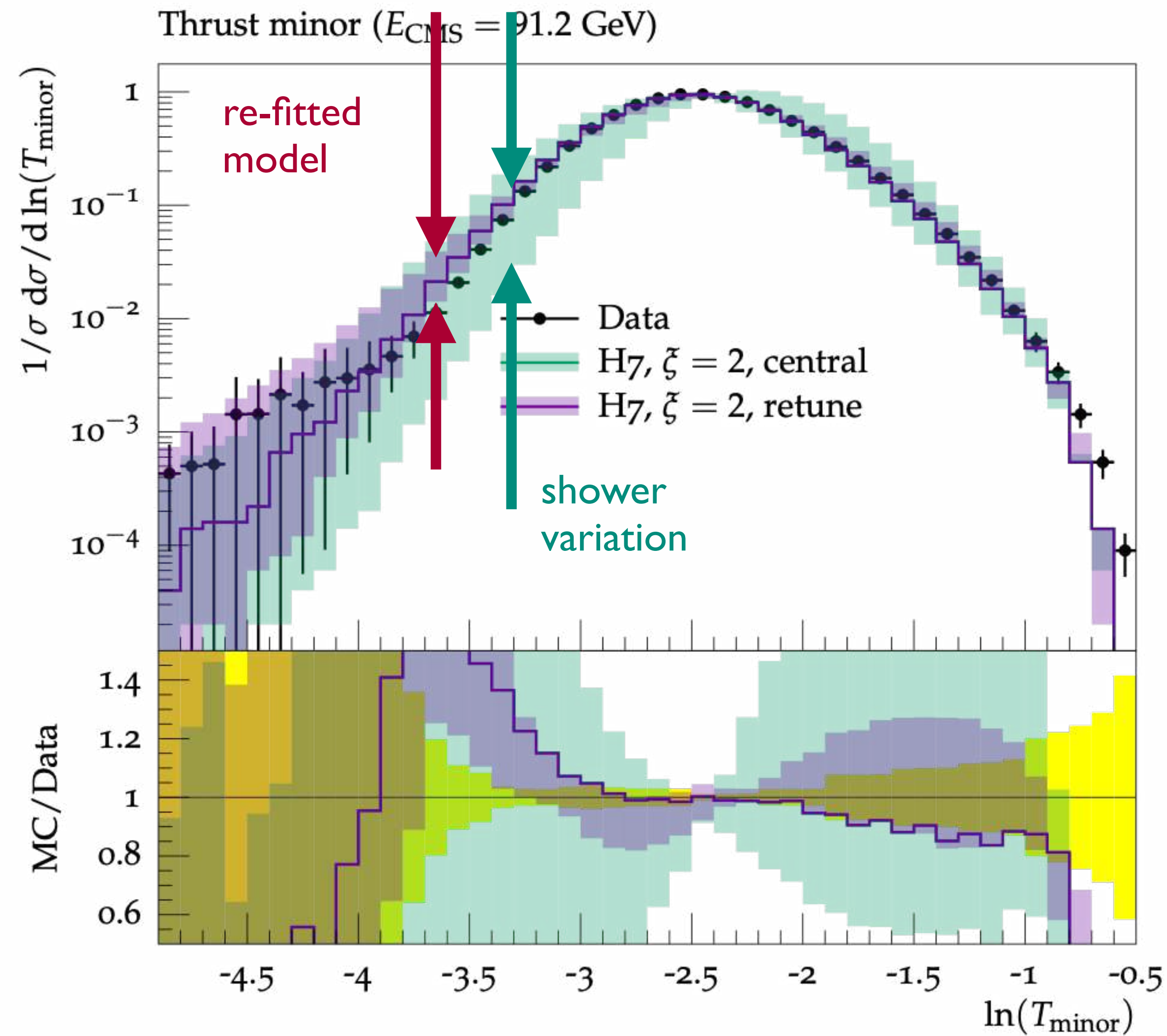


[Kerbizi, Lonnblad, Martin — '24]



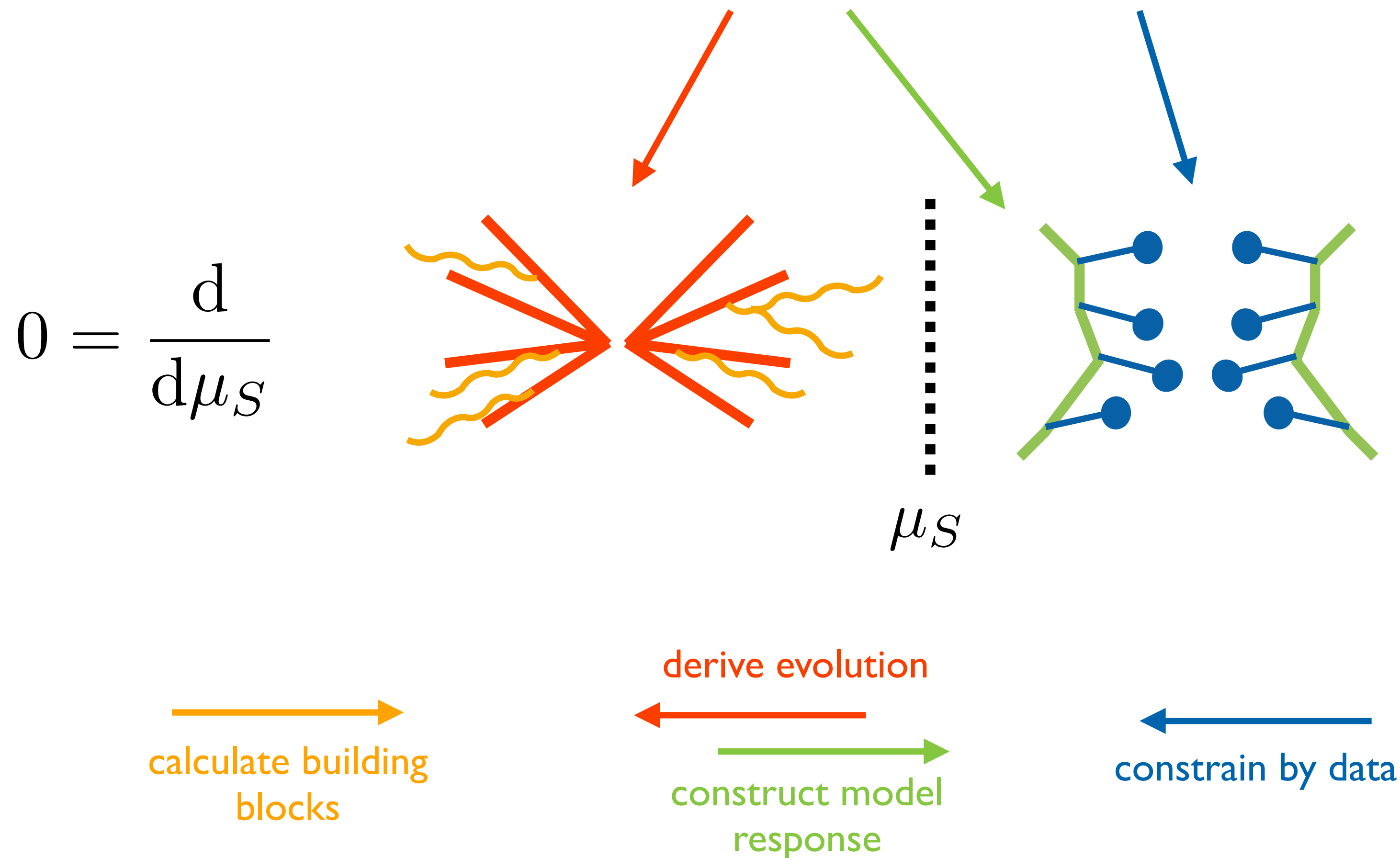
# Why we should worry about PS x Hadronization

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

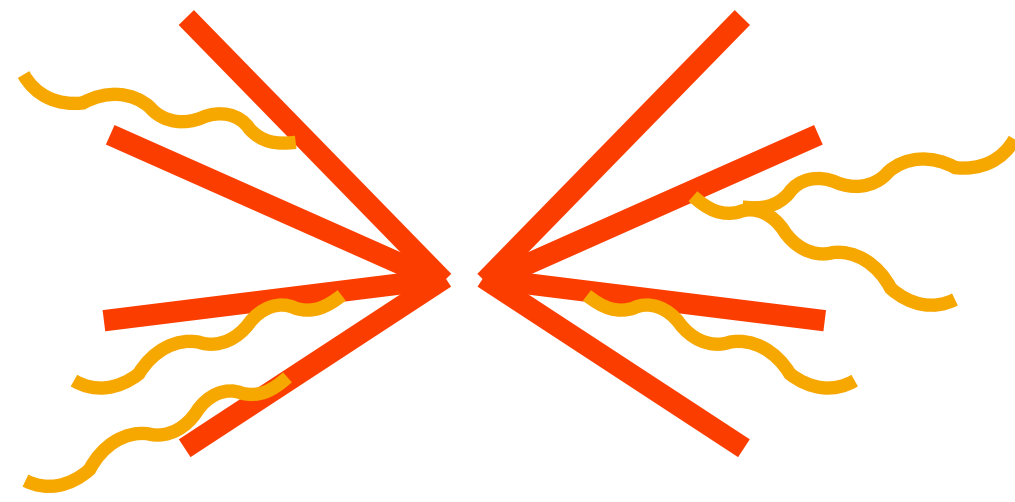


# A factorised approach

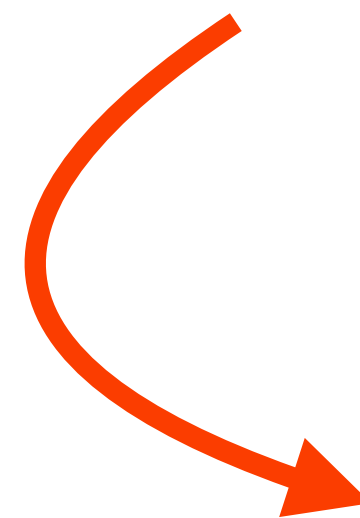
$$\sigma = \sum_{n,m} \int \int \text{Tr}_n [\mathbf{M}_n \mathbf{U}_{nm}] d\phi_m u(\phi_m)$$



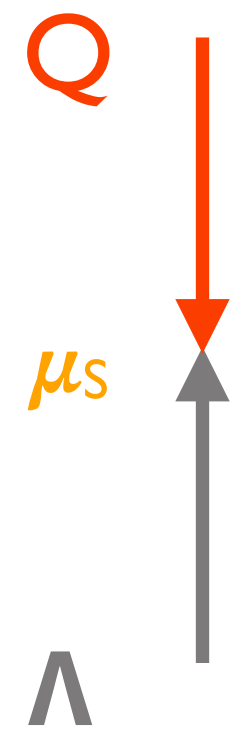
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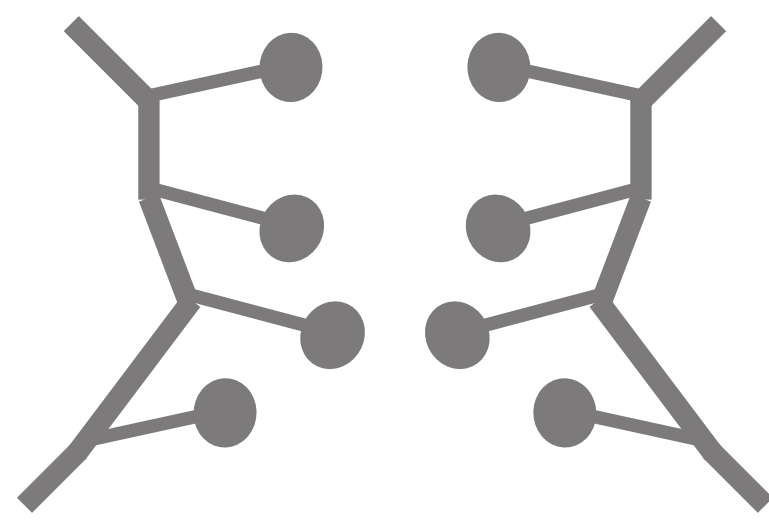


Systematic construction of amplitude evolution algorithms.



Subtract IR divergencies  
in unresolved regions

Re-arrange to resum  
IR enhancements

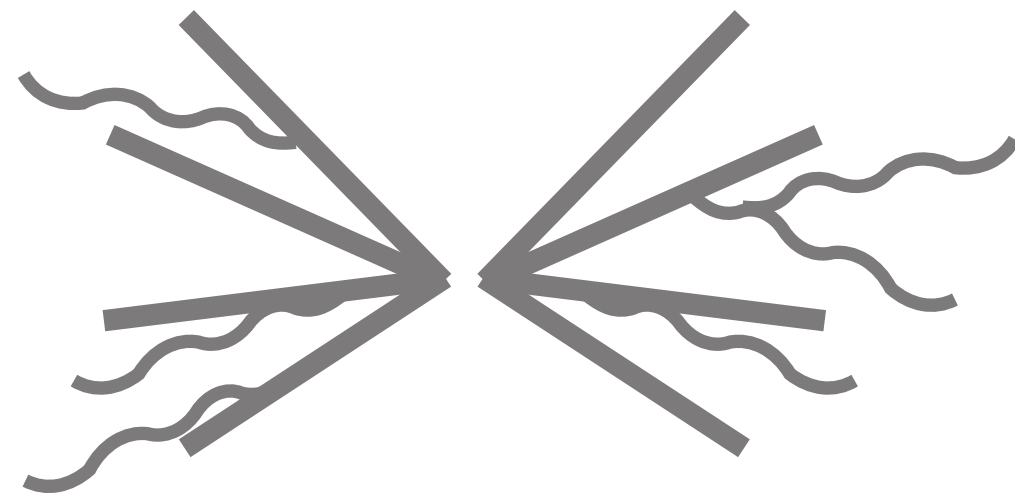


$$\mathbf{U}_n = \mathcal{X}_n [\mathbf{S}(\mu_S), \mu_S]$$

$$\sigma = \sum_n \alpha_S^n \int \text{Tr} [\mathbf{A}_n(\mu_S) \mathbf{S}_n(\mu_S)] d\phi_n$$

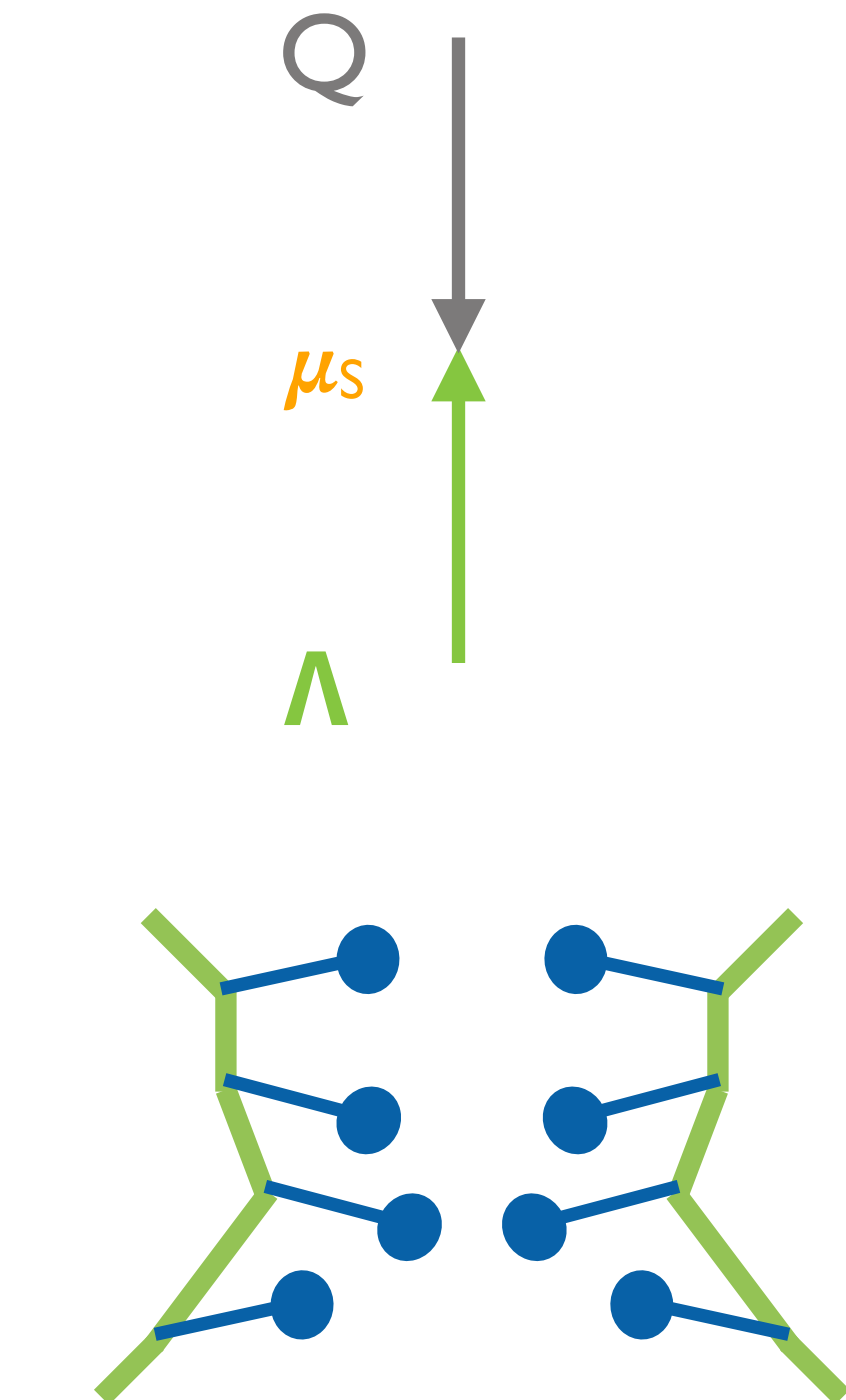
$$\mathbf{M}_n Z_g^n = \mathcal{Z}_n [\mathbf{A}(\mu_S), \mu_S]$$

# A factorised approach

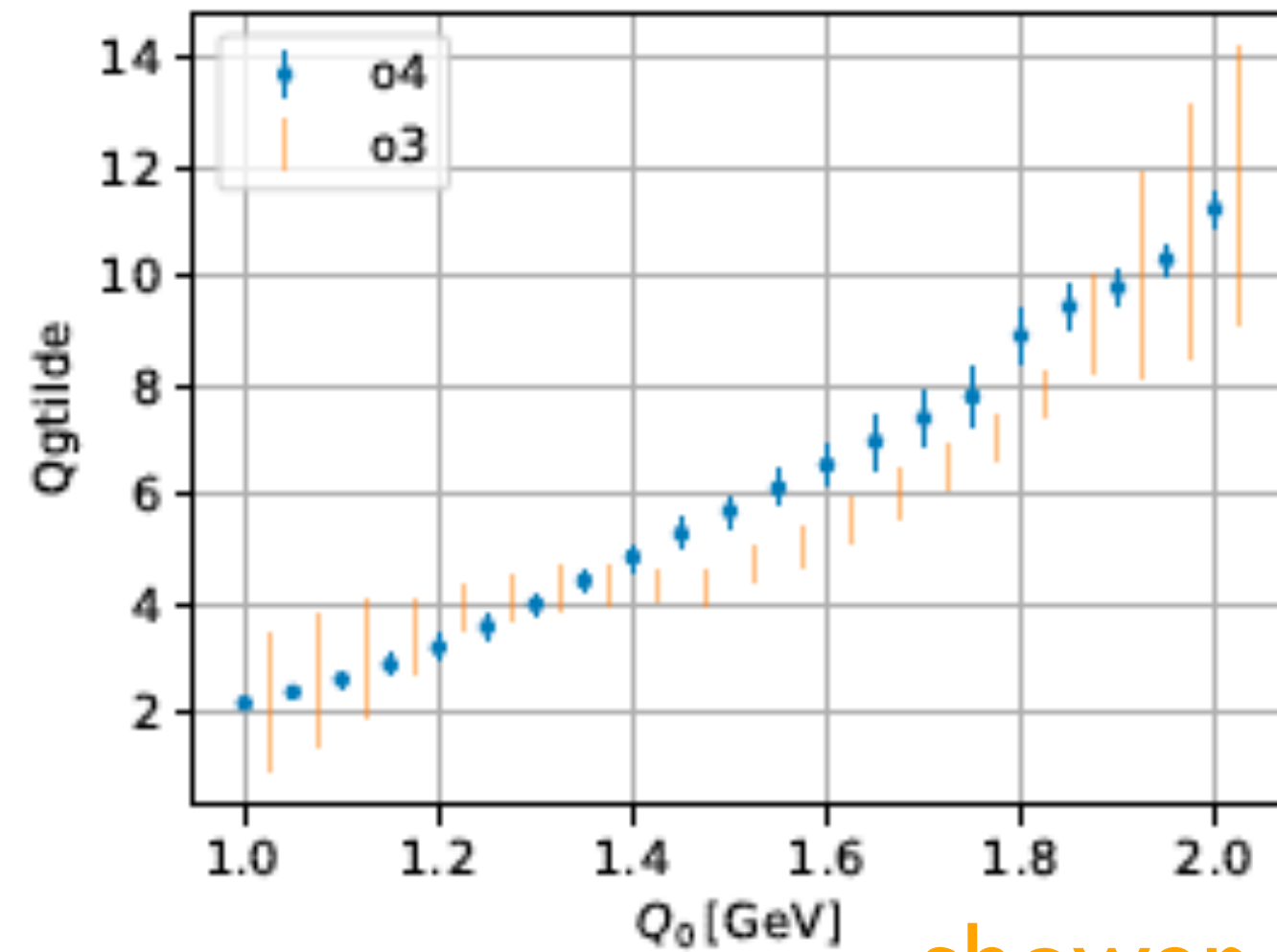


Leads to constructive prescription for “high energy” end of hadronization.

First steps demonstrated:



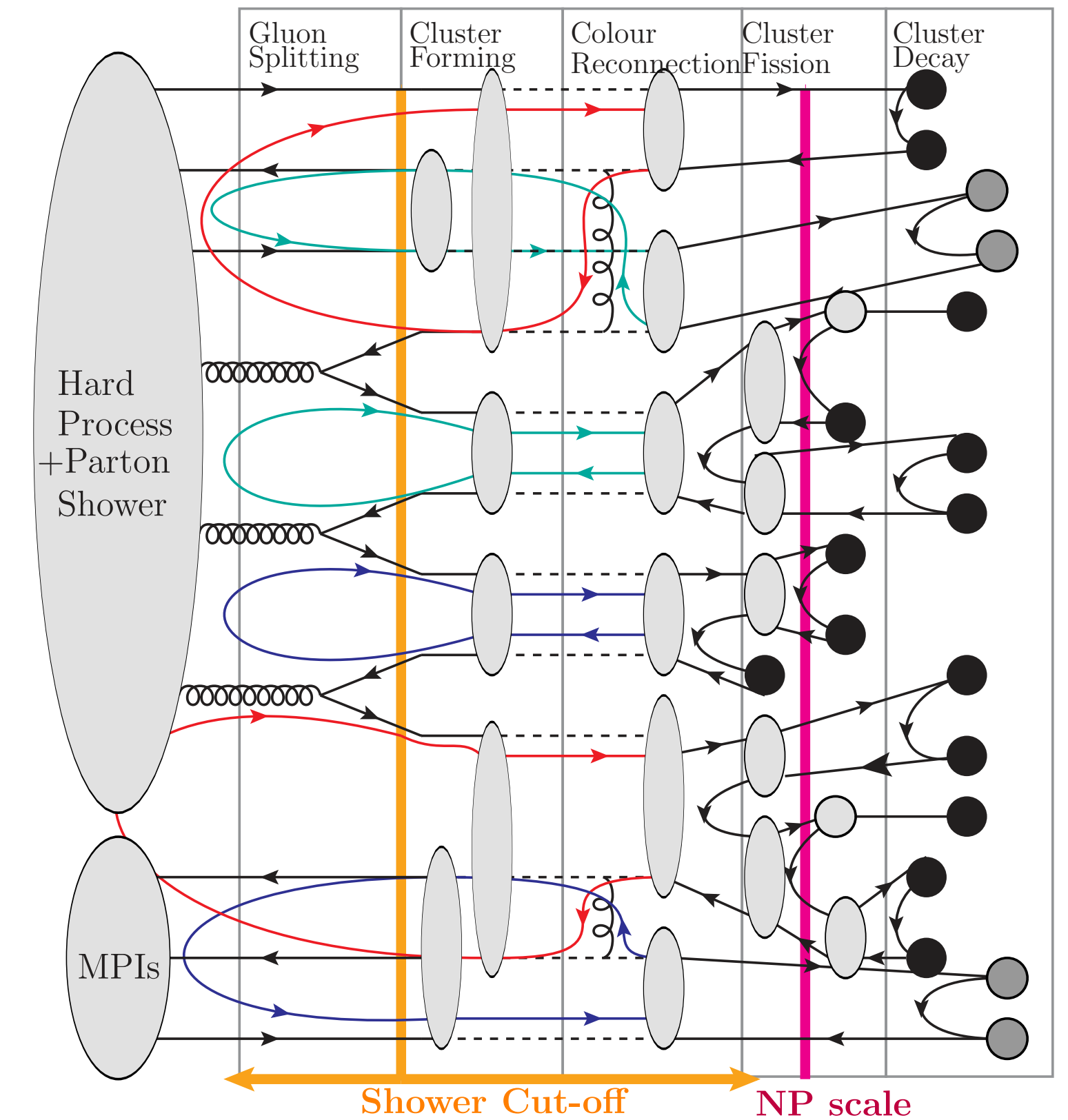
hadronization  
UV cutoff



shower IR cutoff

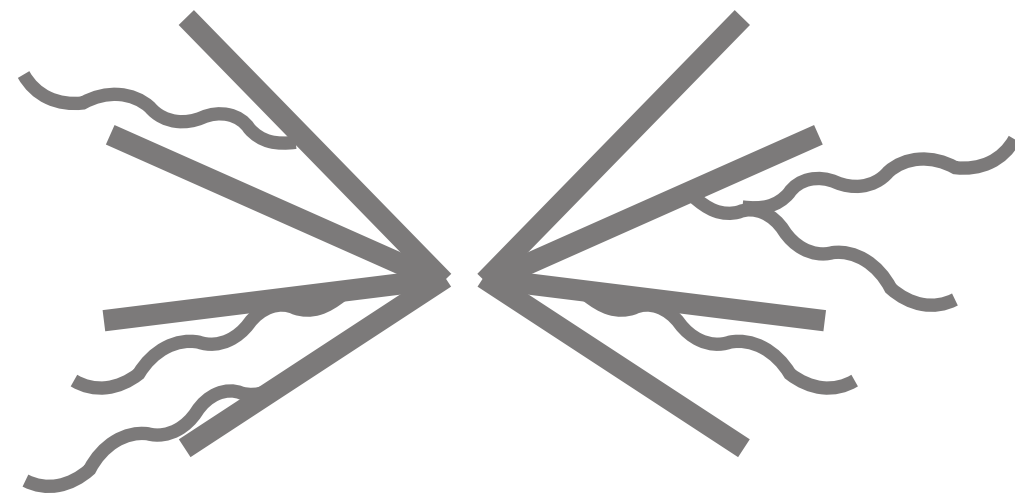
Lower energy dynamics in the model not sensitive to cutoff anymore.

[Hoang, Jin, Plätzer, Samitz — '24]  
[Gieseke, Kiebacher, Plätzer, Priedigkeit — in progress]



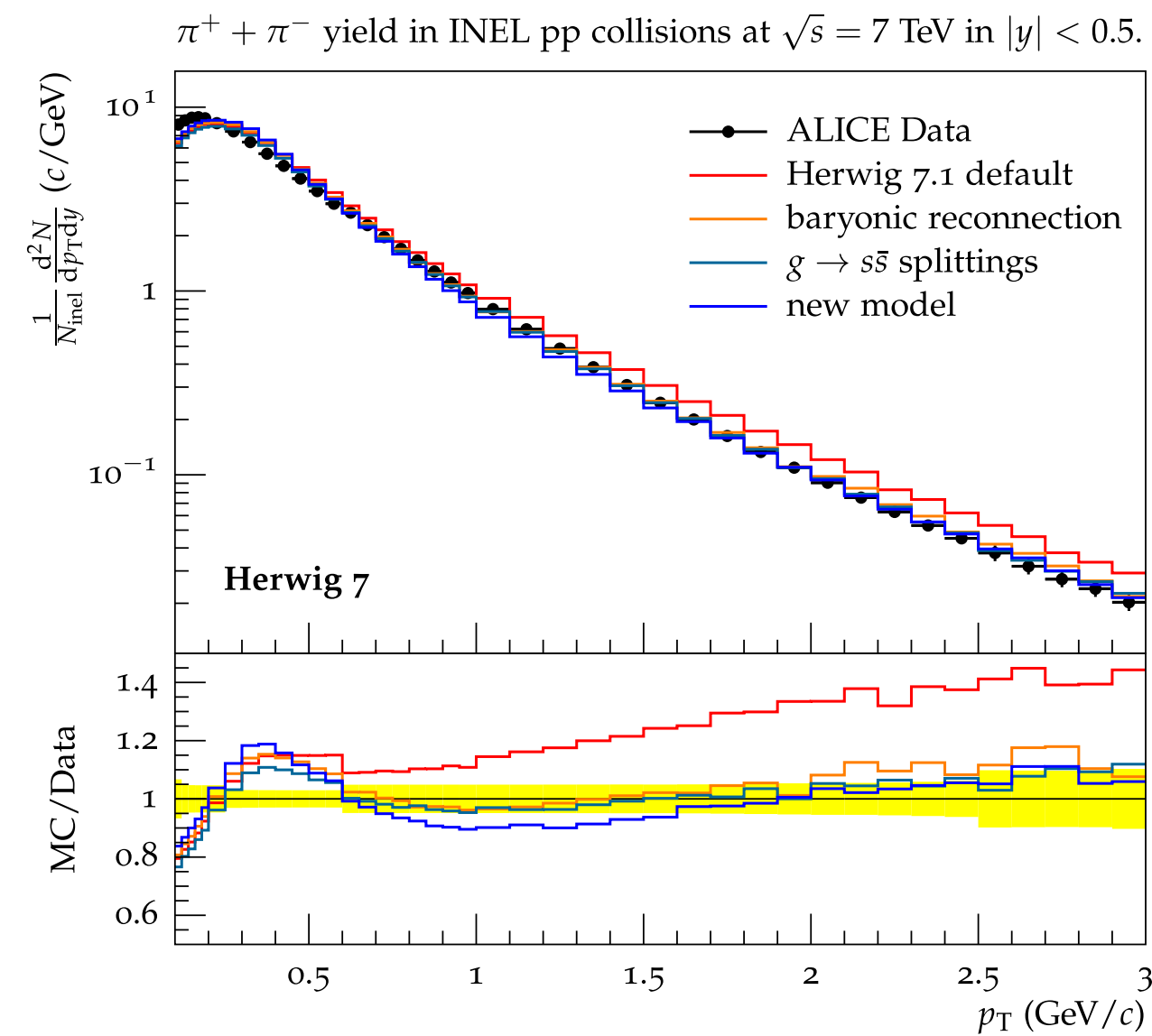
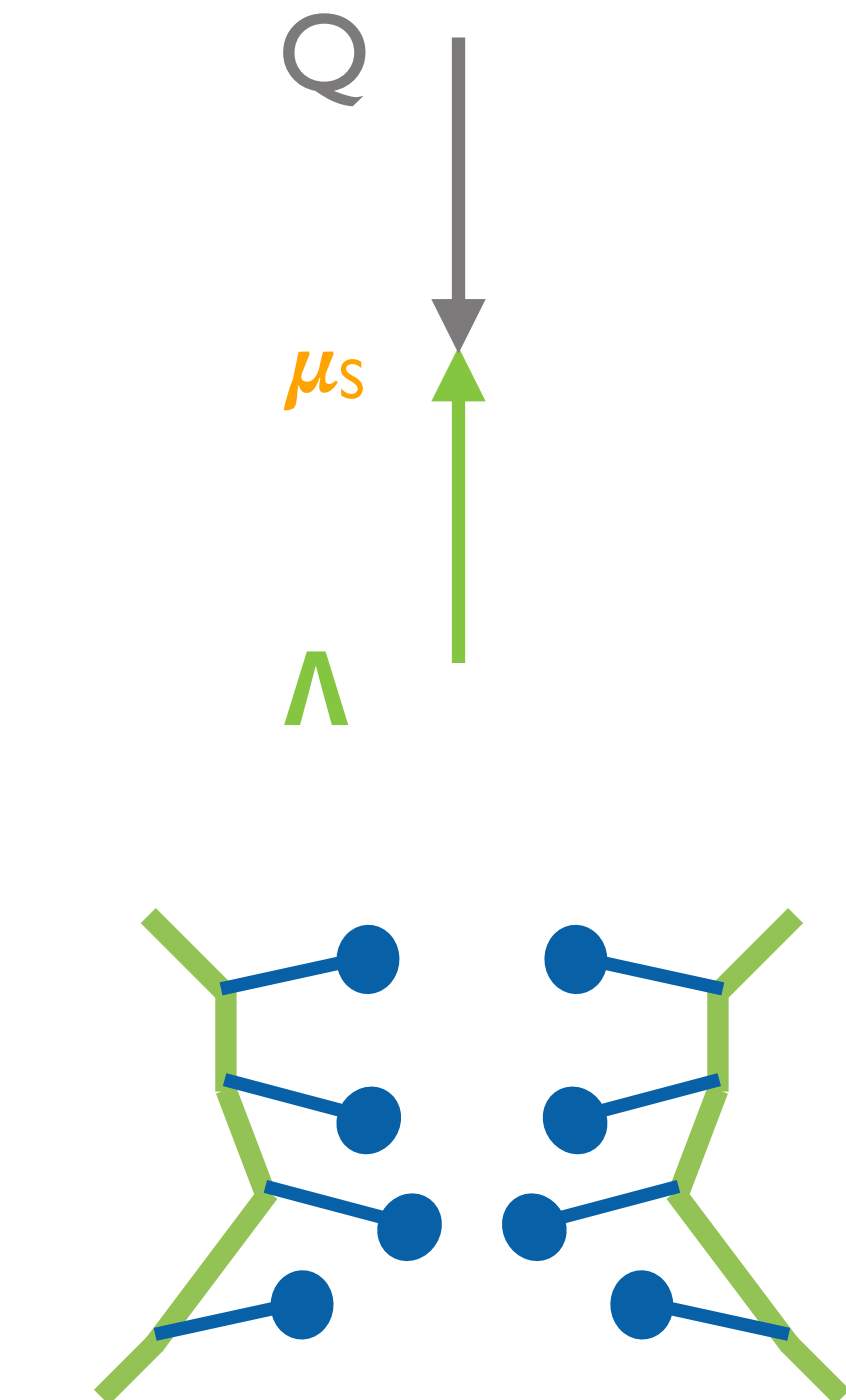
[Kiebacher @ PSR '24]

# A factorised approach



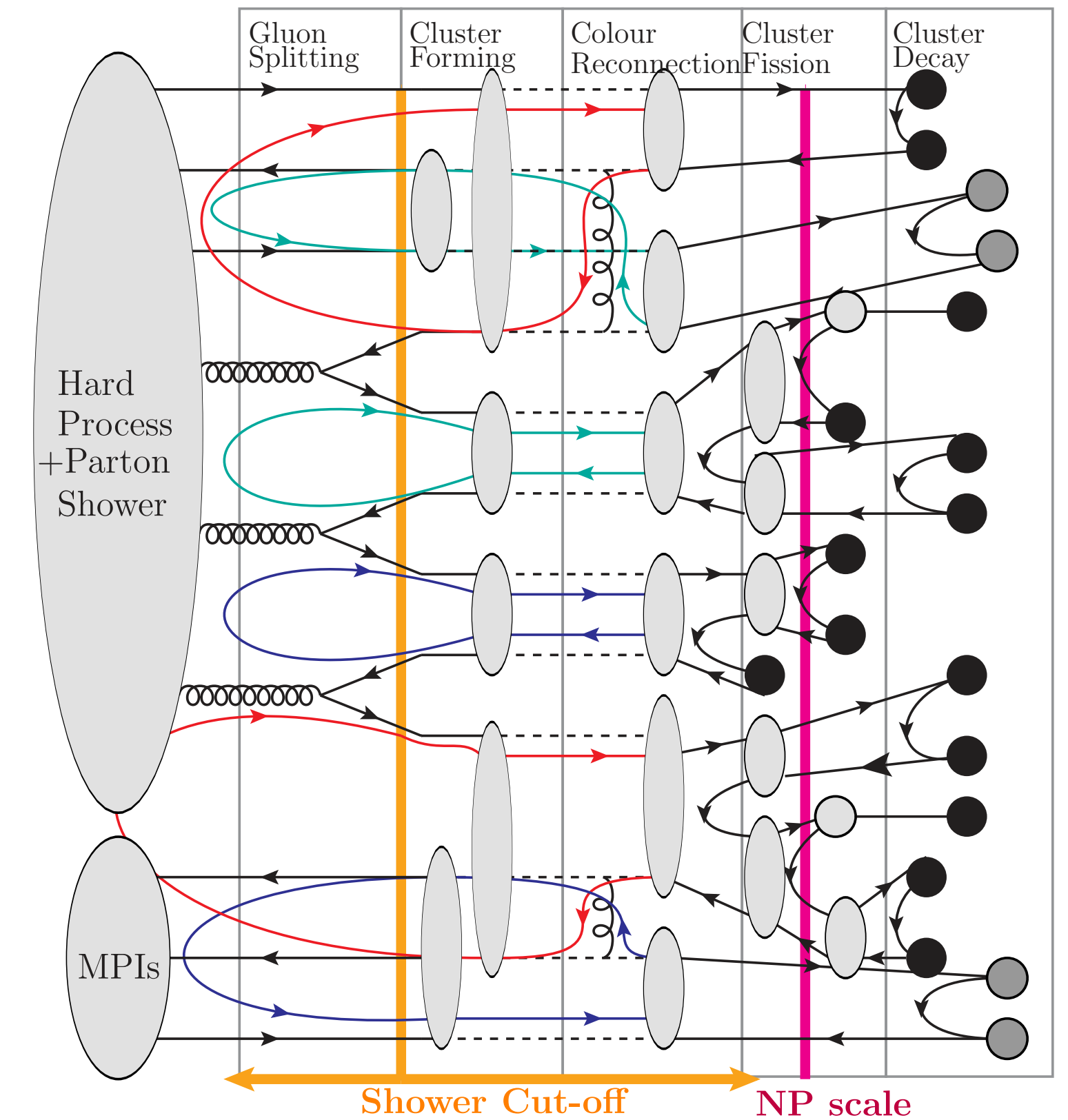
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Colour reconnection dynamics implied from amplitude evolution structures:



[Gieseke, Kirchgaesser, Plätzer, Siodmok — ’17, ’18]

[Hoang, Jin, Plätzer, Samitz — ’24]  
[Gieseke, Kiebacher, Plätzer, Priedigkeit — in progress]



[Kiebacher @ PSR ’24]

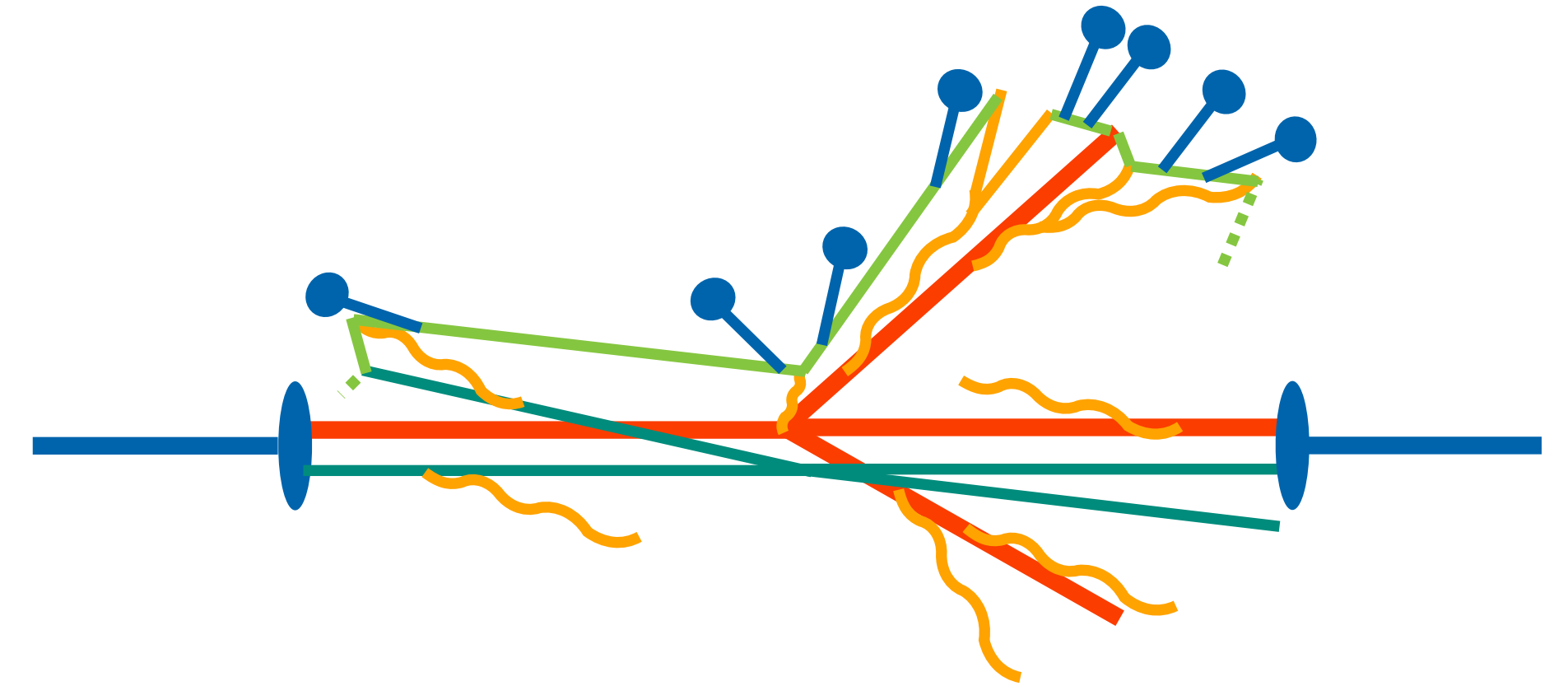
Parton showers are central to event generators.

I emphasise that we study shower *algorithms* rather than shower *models* — predict QCD effects in a hierarchy of strongly ordered energy scales.

We can, and need, to assess their accuracy and strive for underlying, well-defined, construction principles.

Infrared sensitive observables are of course the prime test bed — matching will do remaining aspects for jet observables. Hadronization can not be looked at in isolation but is intertwined with parton showering.

Amplitude evolution provides us with a new paradigm which we can use to construct parton showers, as a dedicated resummation tools and eventually to study the structure of amplitudes using simulation.



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

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Many of the current developments happen at e+e- — that's a matter of fact, and we need to start simple.  
But several of the current projects start to port algorithms to hadron colliders — stay tuned.

Thank you

