

# Introduction to LHC physics

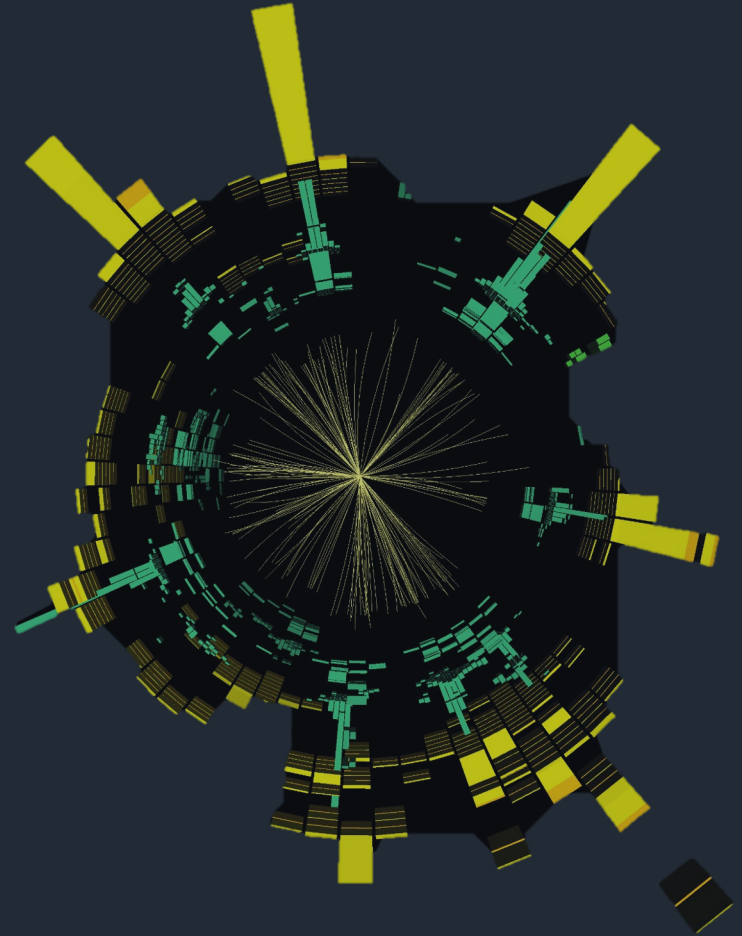
Adam Takacs  
Heidelberg University

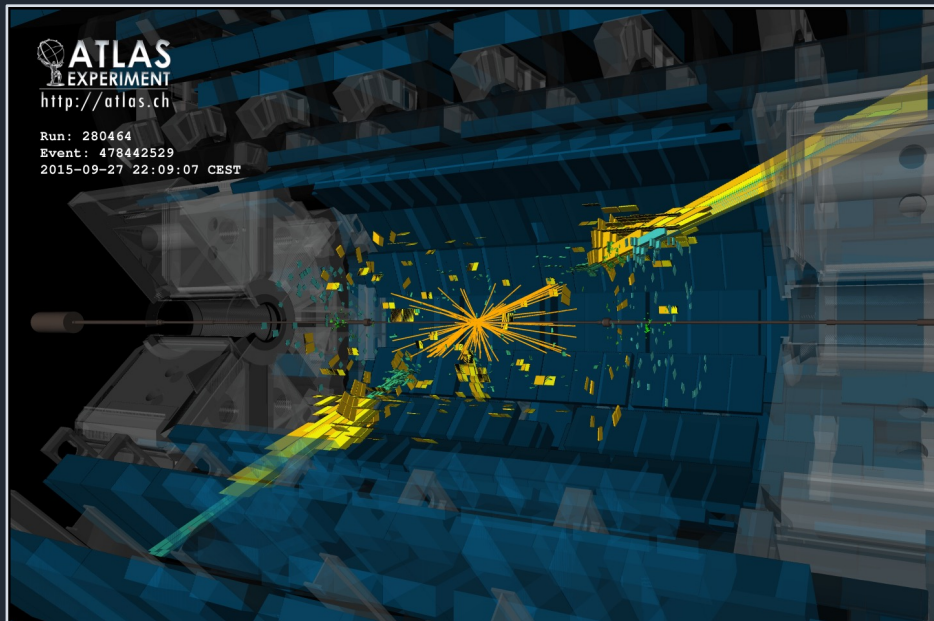
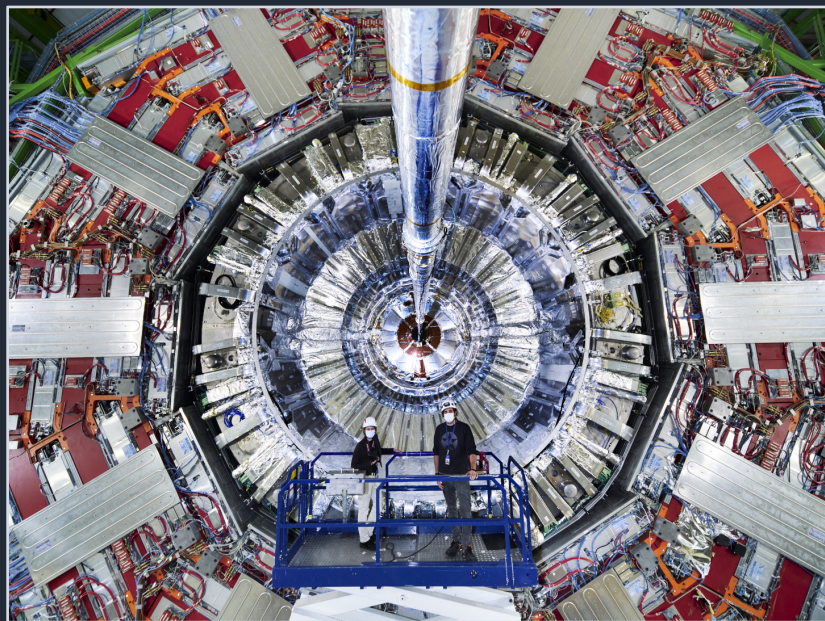
special thanks to A.Mazeliauskas, P.Mommi, U.Wiedemann



UNIVERSITÄT  
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ZUKUNFT  
SEIT 1386

# 1. LHC: Stress-testing the SM

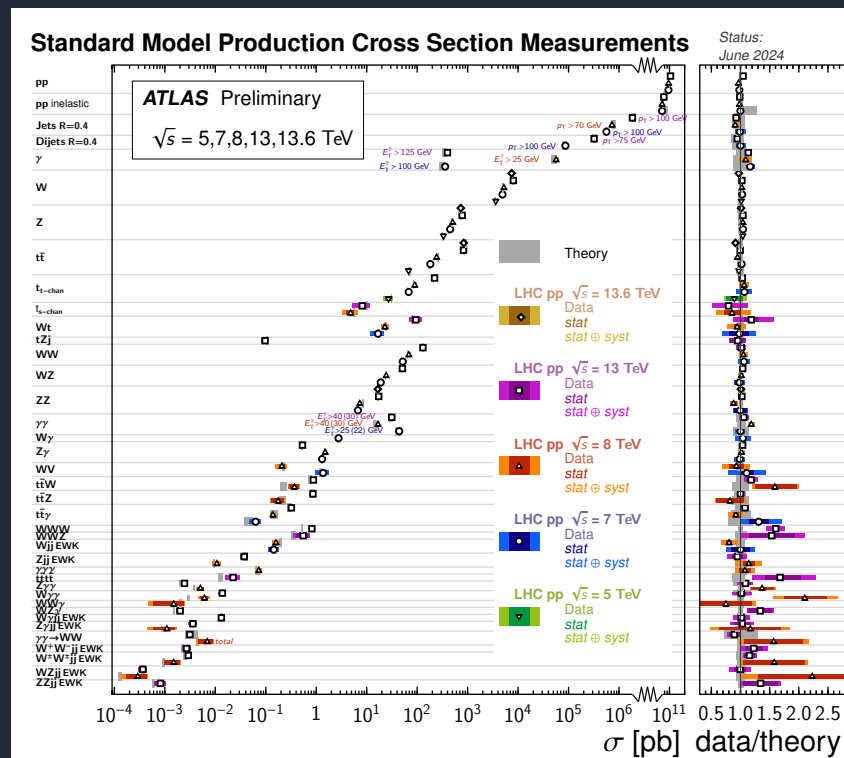




images: home.cern

# The Standard Model

- no free parameters (since  $M_H$ )  
→ fully predictive
- Stress-testing the SM at LHC  
Very good overall agreement!



[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2024-011]

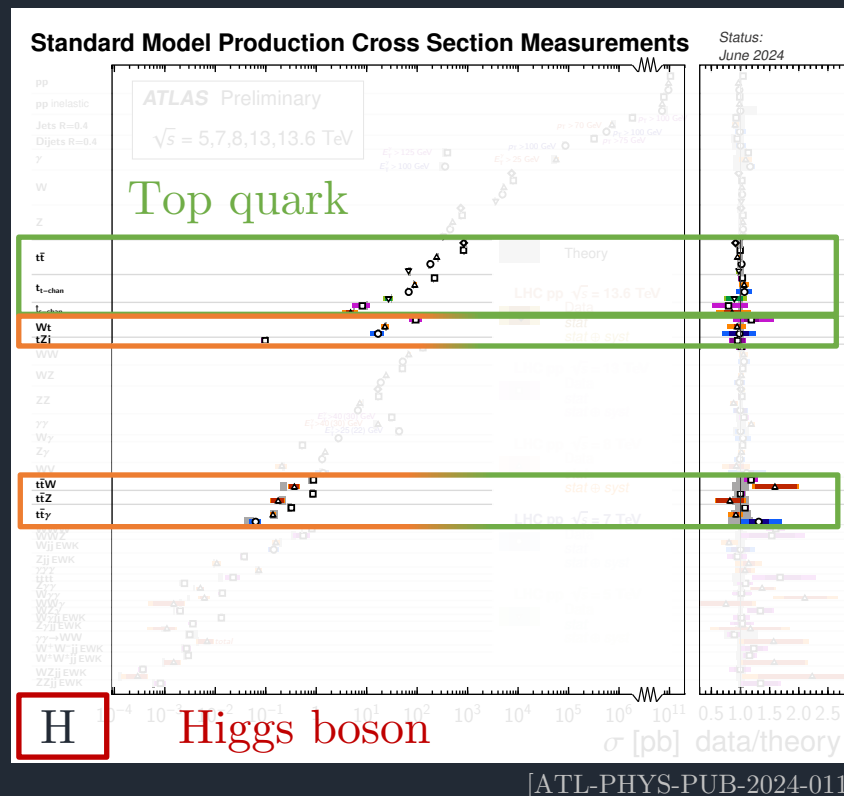




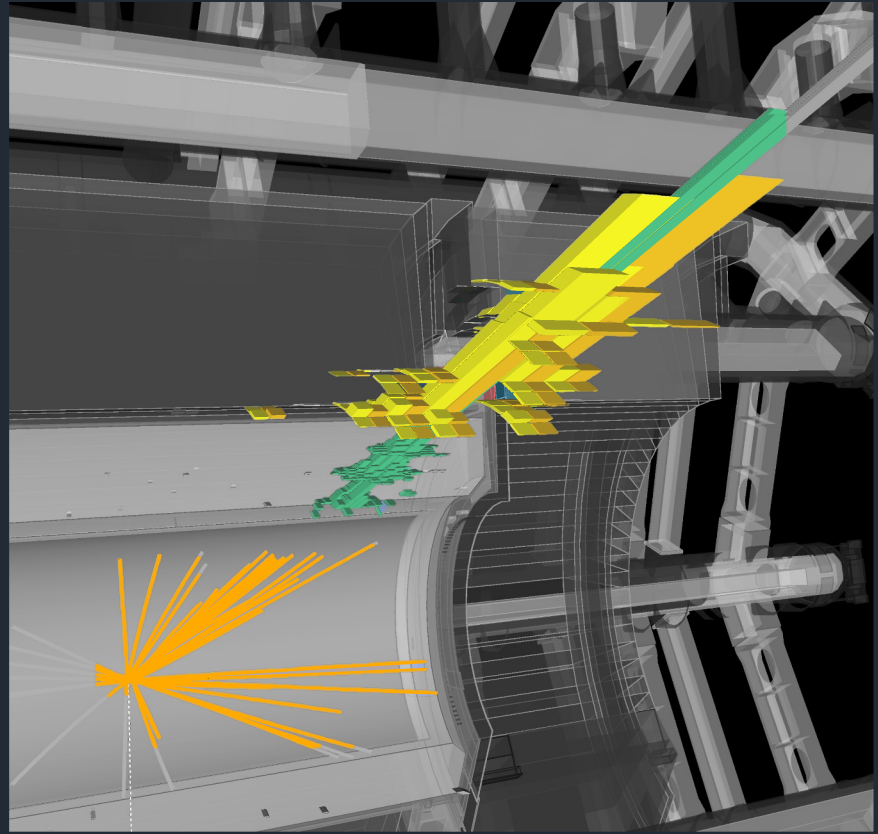


# The Standard Model

- **Top quarks:** heaviest particle  
small hadronization corr, sensitive to BSM
- **Higgs boson:** priority of LHC  
first non-electrodynamics like interaction
- New physics searches  
direct: data driven methods  
indirect: tension in SM ( $g_\mu - 2, M_W$ )?



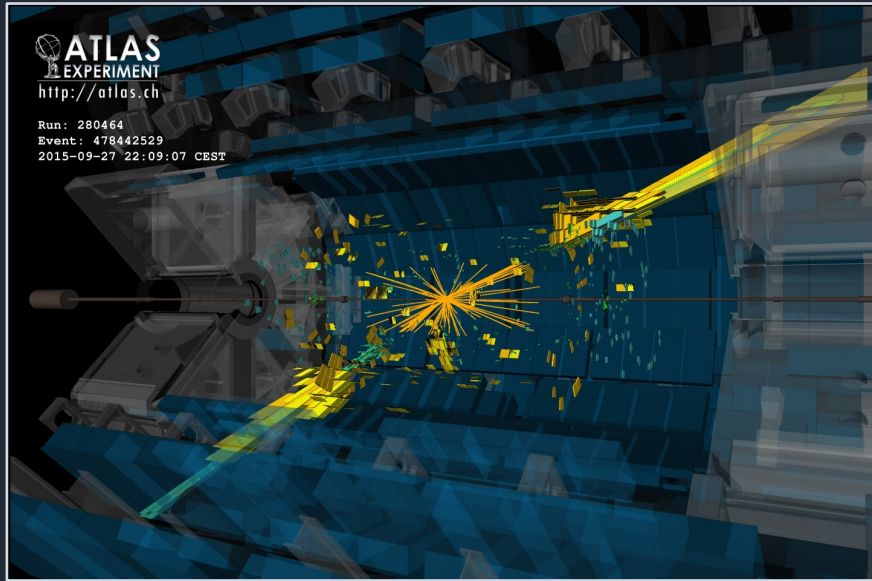
## 2. Precision phenomenology with the SM



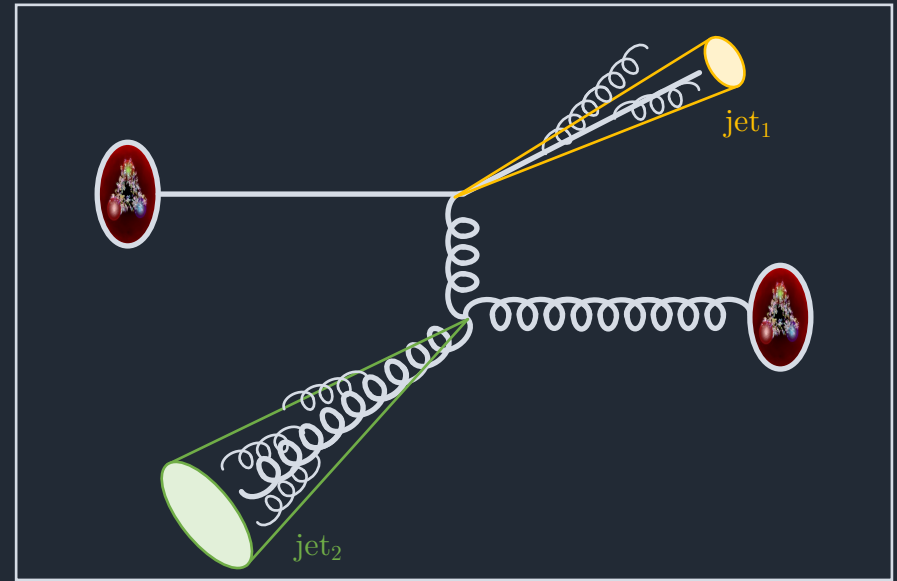


# Most\* common process: jets

experiment



theory

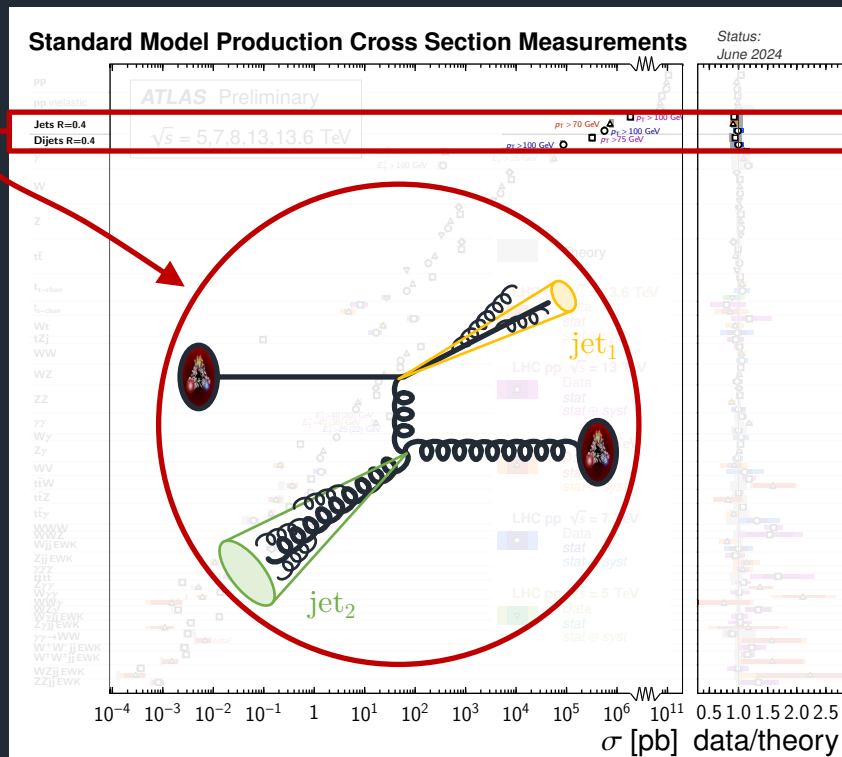
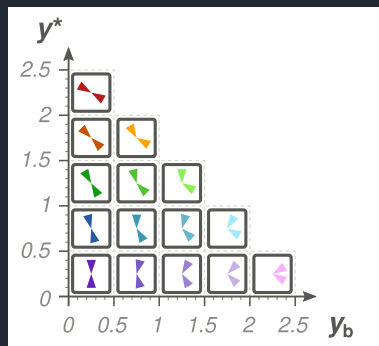


\*The most common is when nothing happens...

# Jet measurements

- Underlying  $2 \rightarrow 2$  scattering:  
3 independent variables (+  $\varphi$ )

$$\frac{d^3\sigma}{dy^* dy_b dm_{jj}}$$



[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2024-011]

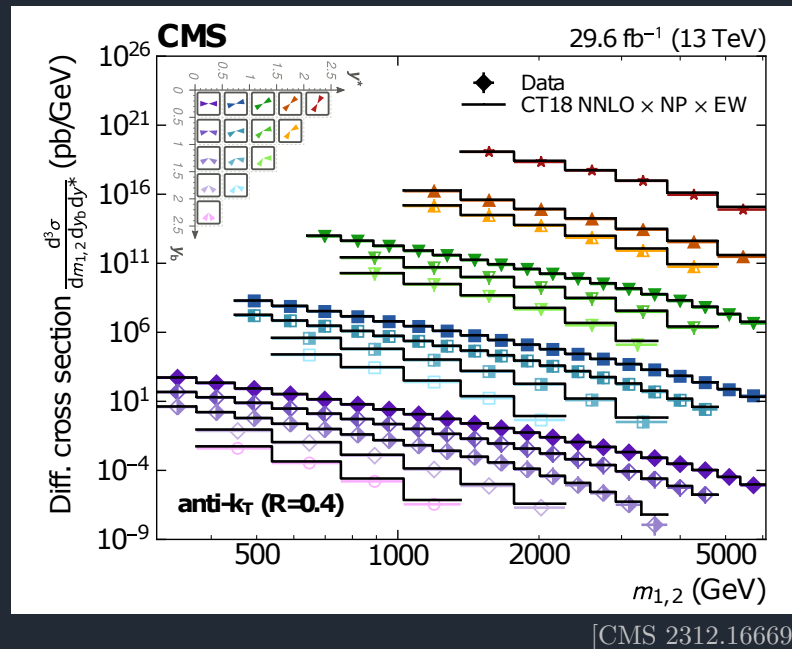
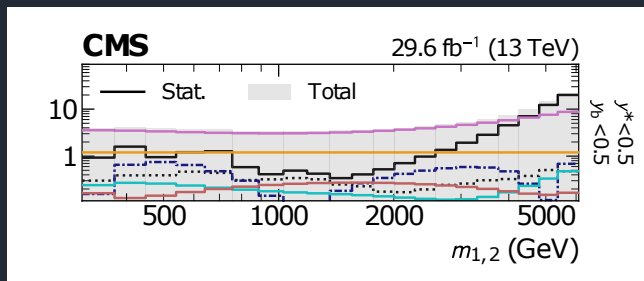
# Jet measurements

- Underlying  $2 \rightarrow 2$  scattering:

3 independent variables (+  $\varphi$ )

$$\frac{d^3\sigma}{dy^* dy_b dm_{jj}}$$

200 bins, few % uncertainty



How to make reliable predictions?

# Calculating cross sections

- Observables = combinations of outgoing momenta

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\mathcal{O}} = \int d\Phi_n \sigma_{pp \rightarrow n} \delta(\mathcal{O} - \hat{\mathcal{O}}(p_1, \dots, p_n))$$

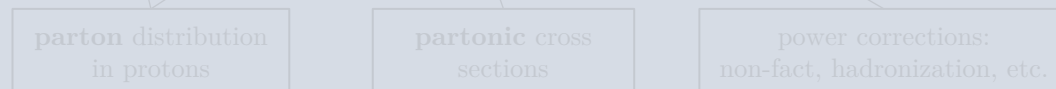


- Separation of scales:  $Q_{hard} \gtrsim Q_{jet} \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$

← Implied by choosing clever  $\mathcal{O}$ !

Collinear factorization:

$$\sigma_{pp \rightarrow n} = \int dx_i dx_j f_i^p(x_i) f_j^p(x_j) \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{ij \rightarrow n} \otimes \left[ 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\Lambda}{Q}\right)^p \right]$$

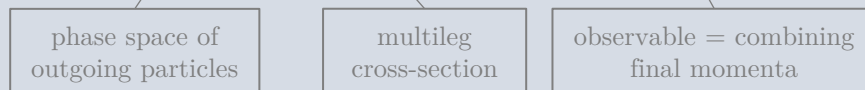




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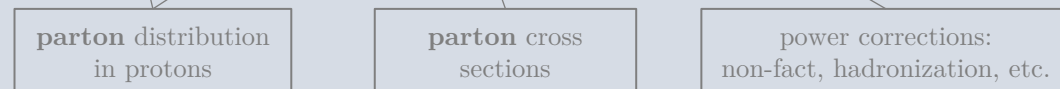


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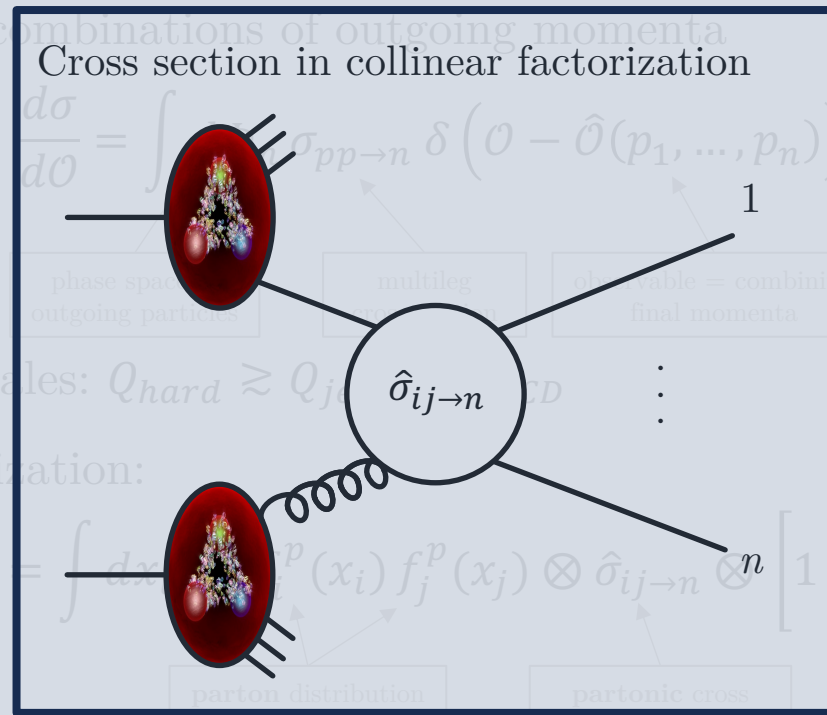
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# Calculating cross sections



- Observables = combinations of outgoing momenta
- Separation of scales:  $Q_{hard} \gtrsim Q_j$
- Collinear factorization:

# Evaluate cross sections with precision!

$$\sigma_{pp \rightarrow n} = \int dx_i dx_j f_i^{h_1}(x_i) f_j^{h_2}(x_j) \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{ij \rightarrow n} \otimes \left[ 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\Lambda}{Q}\right) \right]$$

pdf

LO  $\lesssim 20\%$   
 NLO  $\lesssim 10\%$   
 N<sup>2</sup>LO  $\lesssim 5\%$

$ij \rightarrow n$

LO $\lesssim 40\%$	LL $\lesssim 100\%$
NLO* $\lesssim 20\%$	NLL $\lesssim 20\%$
N <sup>2</sup> LO $\lesssim 5\%$	N <sup>2</sup> LL $\lesssim 5\%$

pow. corr.

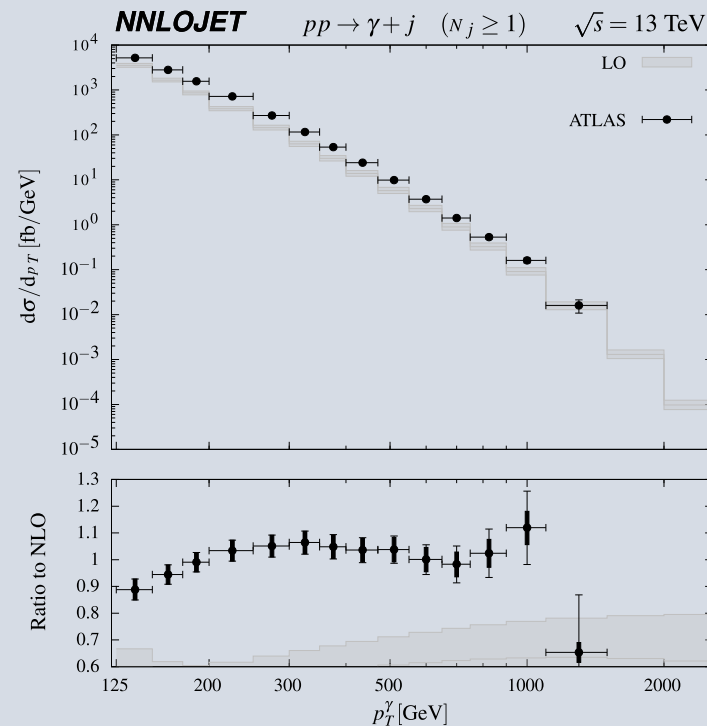
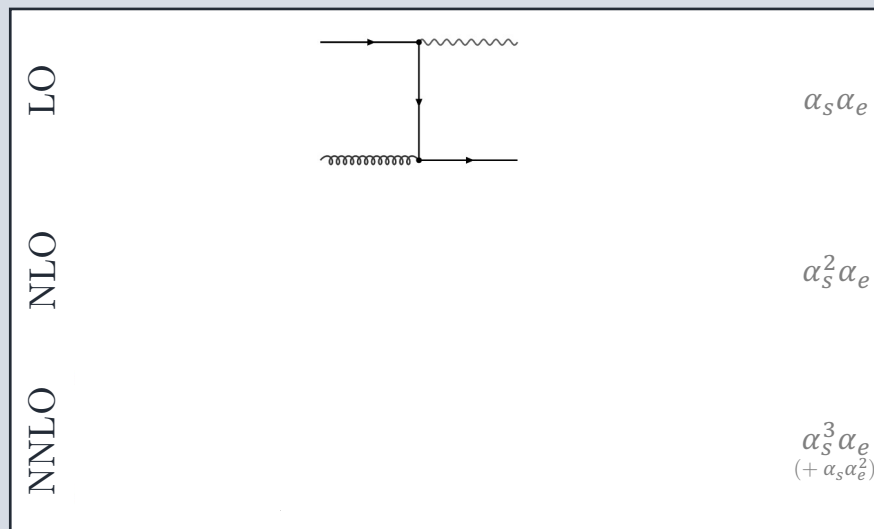
non- fact,  
 hadronization,  
 MPI, etc.

\*also mixtures of  $\alpha_s$  &  $\alpha_e$ !

# Case study: photon + jet

[adapted from [A.Huss](#)]

Coupling (loop) expansion



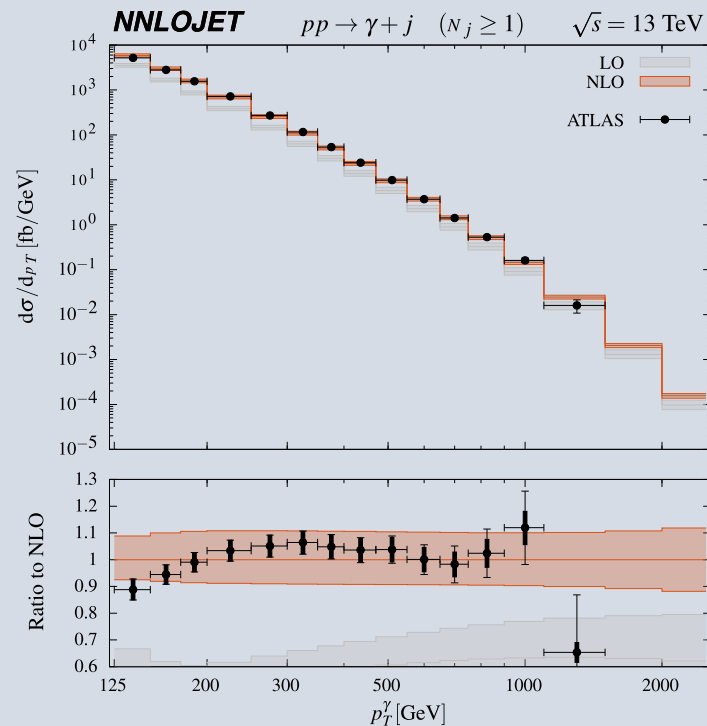
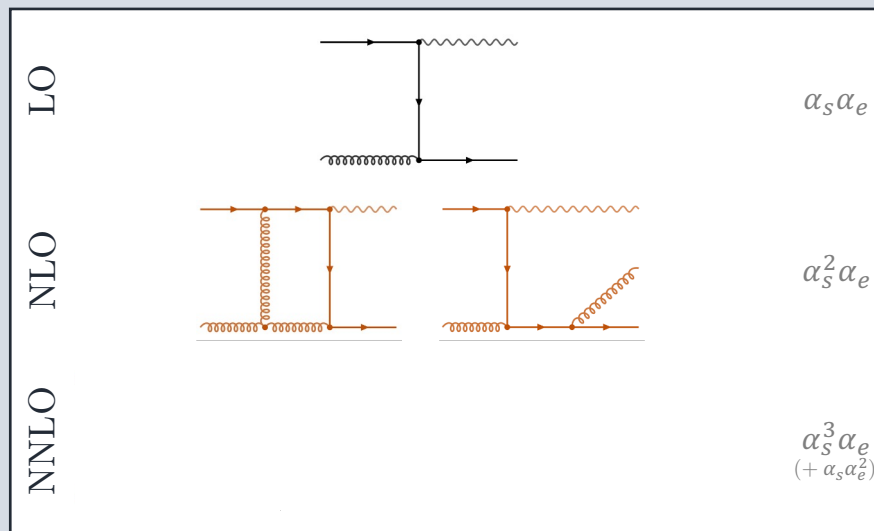
[Chen, Ghermann, Glover, Hofer, Huss 1904.01044]



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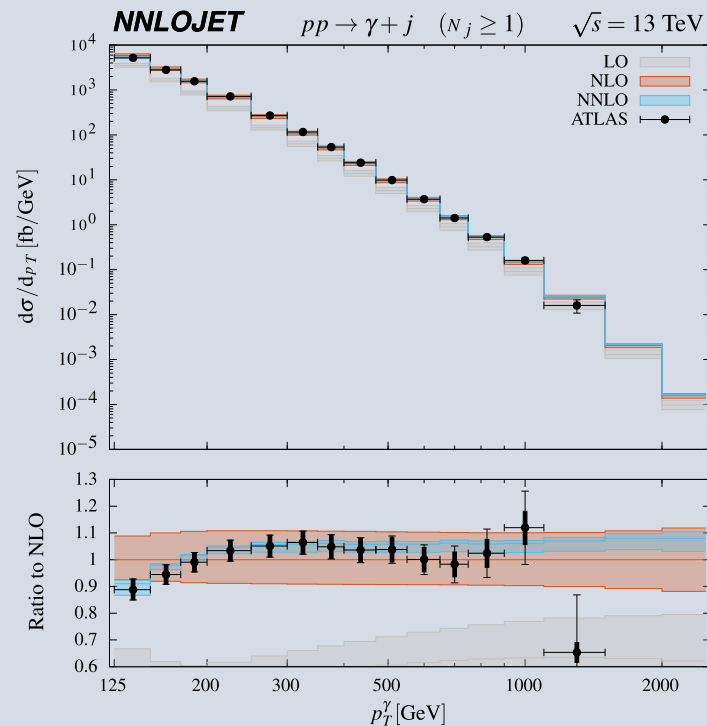
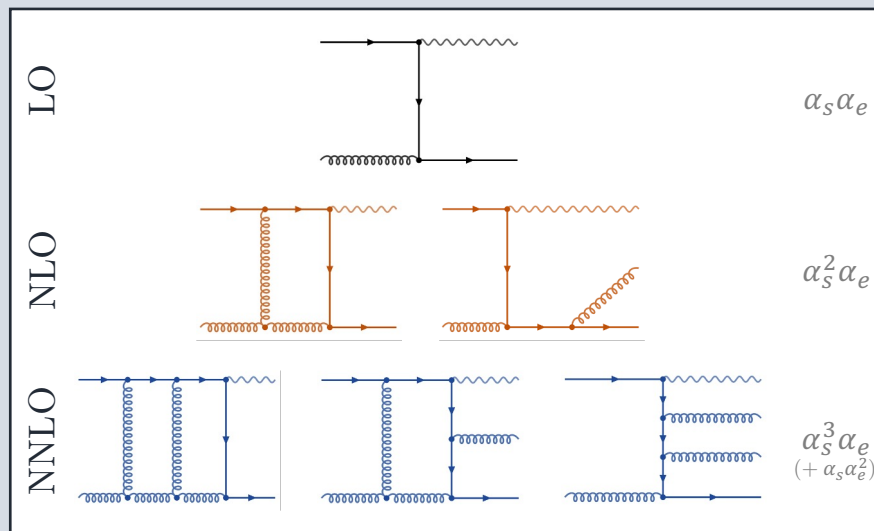


[Chen, Ghermann, Glover, Hofer, Huss 1904.01044]

# Case study: photon + jet

[adapted from [A.Huss](#)]

Coupling (loop) expansion



HL-LHC 1% uncertainty target ( $\alpha_s \approx 0.1$ ,  $\alpha_e \approx 0.01$ ):  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2, \alpha_e)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3, \alpha_s \alpha_e^2)$ .

[Chen, Ghermann, Glover, Hofer, Huss 1904.01044]

# Case study: photon + jet

[adapted from [A.Huss](#)]

## Main challenges:

### 1. Multi-dimensional integral

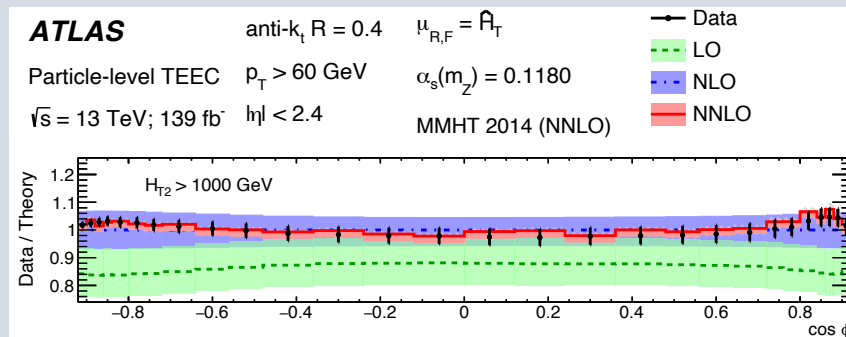
NNLO  $pp \rightarrow jjj$  needs 100M CPUh to measure  $\alpha_s$ .

[ATLAS 2301.09351]

### 2. Infrared singularity

matrix elements are divergent but their sum is finite

### 3. Multi-loops complexity



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### 1. Multi-dimensional integral

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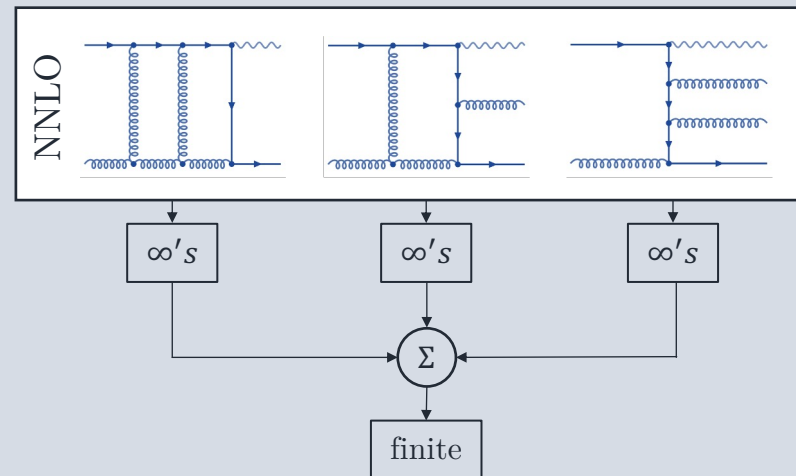
[ATLAS 2301.09351]

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### 3. Multi-loops complexity

→ Feasible for a few legs ☹️





# Jet resummation

Separation of scales:  $Q_{hard} \gtrsim Q_{jet} \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$

Collinear (to the beam) factorization:

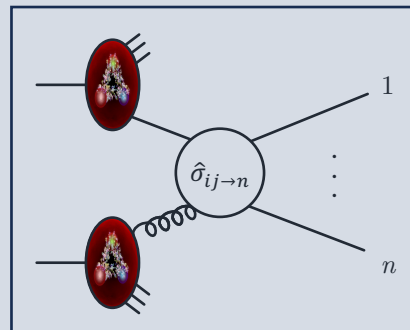
$$\sigma_{pp \rightarrow n} = \int f_i^p(x_i) f_j^p(x_j) \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{ij \rightarrow n}$$

- Additionally:  $Q_{hard} \gg Q_{jet} \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$

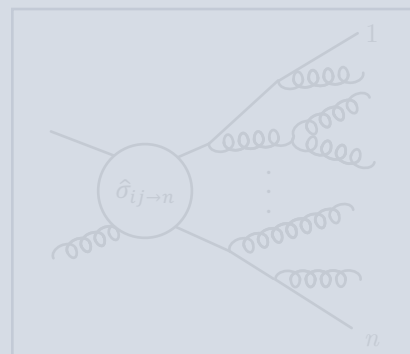
Soft or collinear limit (to the jet)

$$\hat{\sigma}_{ij \rightarrow (n+1)} = \hat{\sigma}_{ij \rightarrow n} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{1 \rightarrow 2}$$

Markov-like process  $\rightarrow$  parton shower



Only for a few legs.



For many legs!

# Jet resummation and event generators

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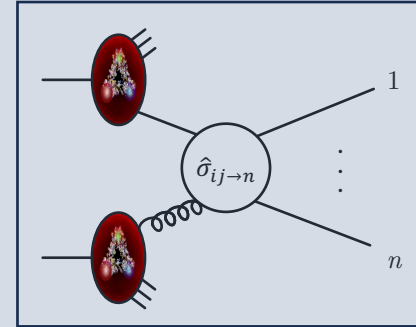
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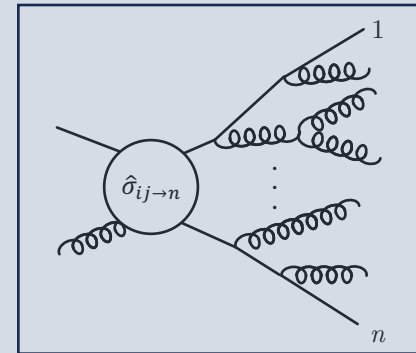
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**Recent progression in (N)NLL parton showers!**



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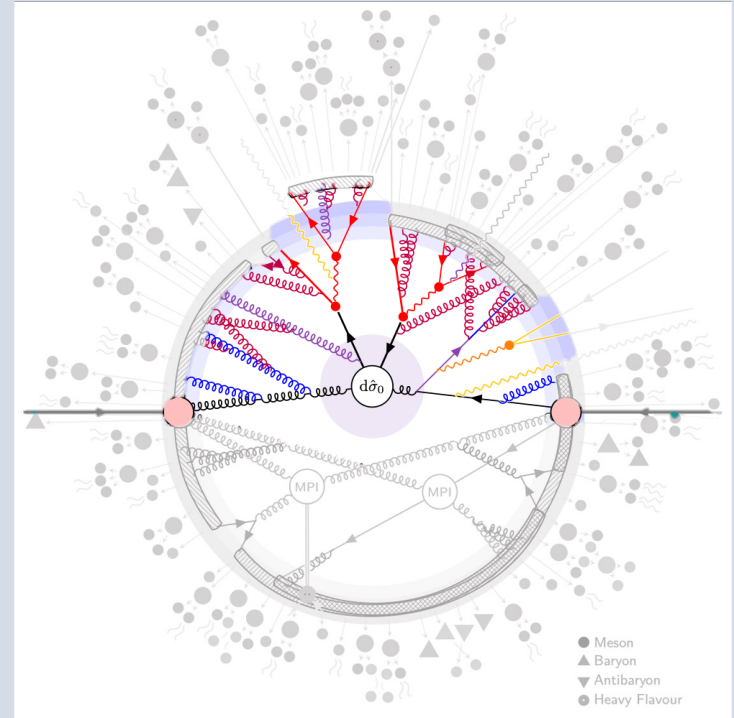
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**Theory behind event generators.**



[Pythia8: P. Skands]

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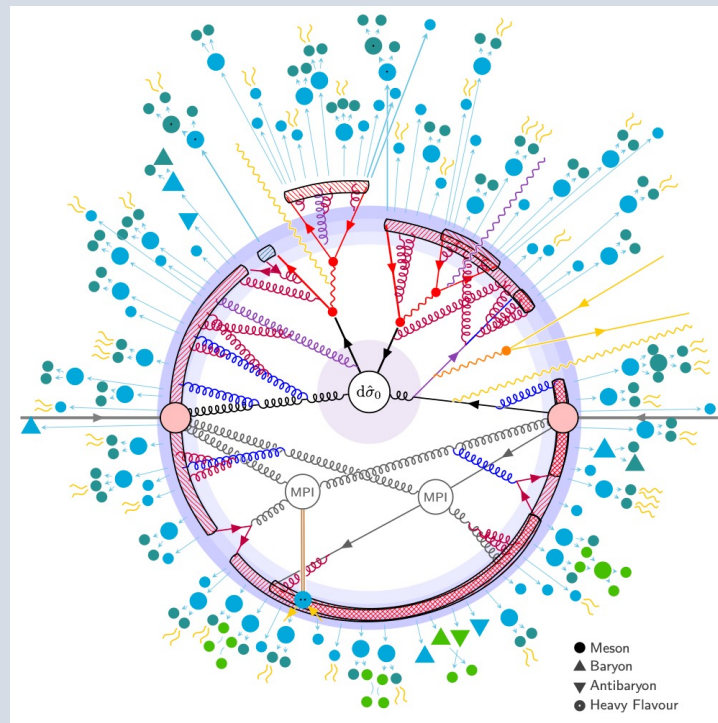
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Event generators also include: hadronization, MPI, ...



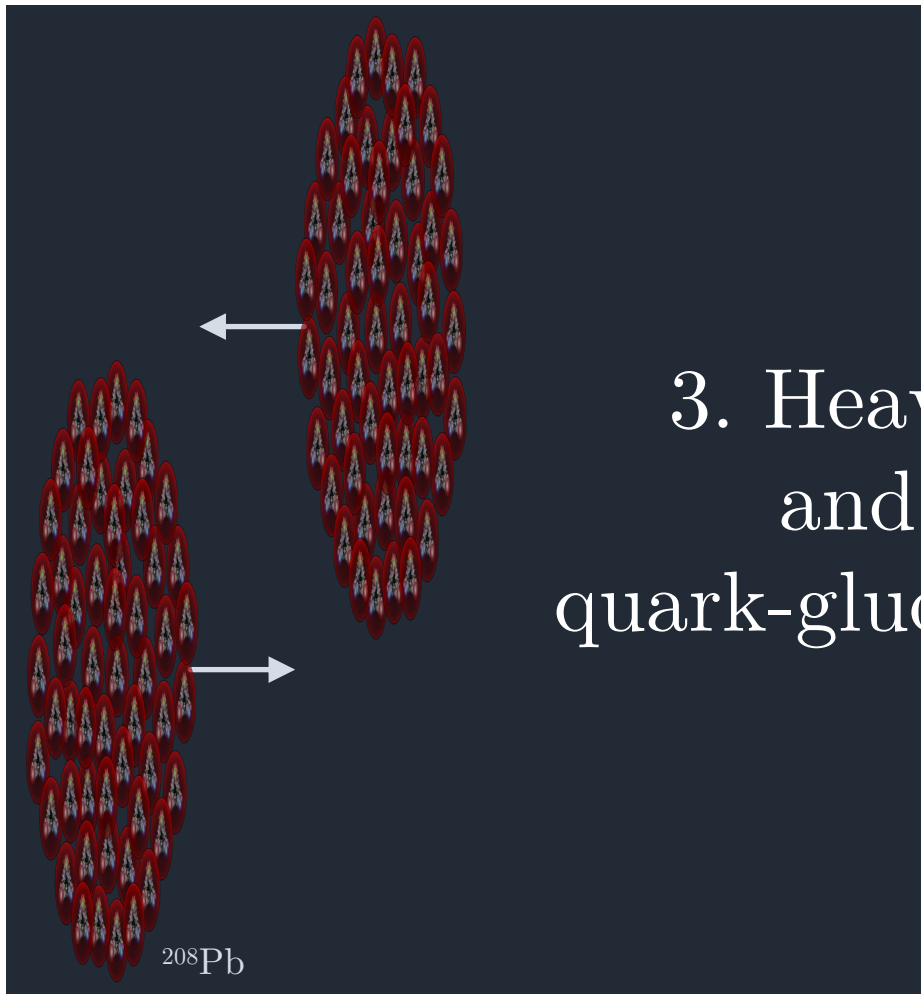
[Pythia8: P. Skands]



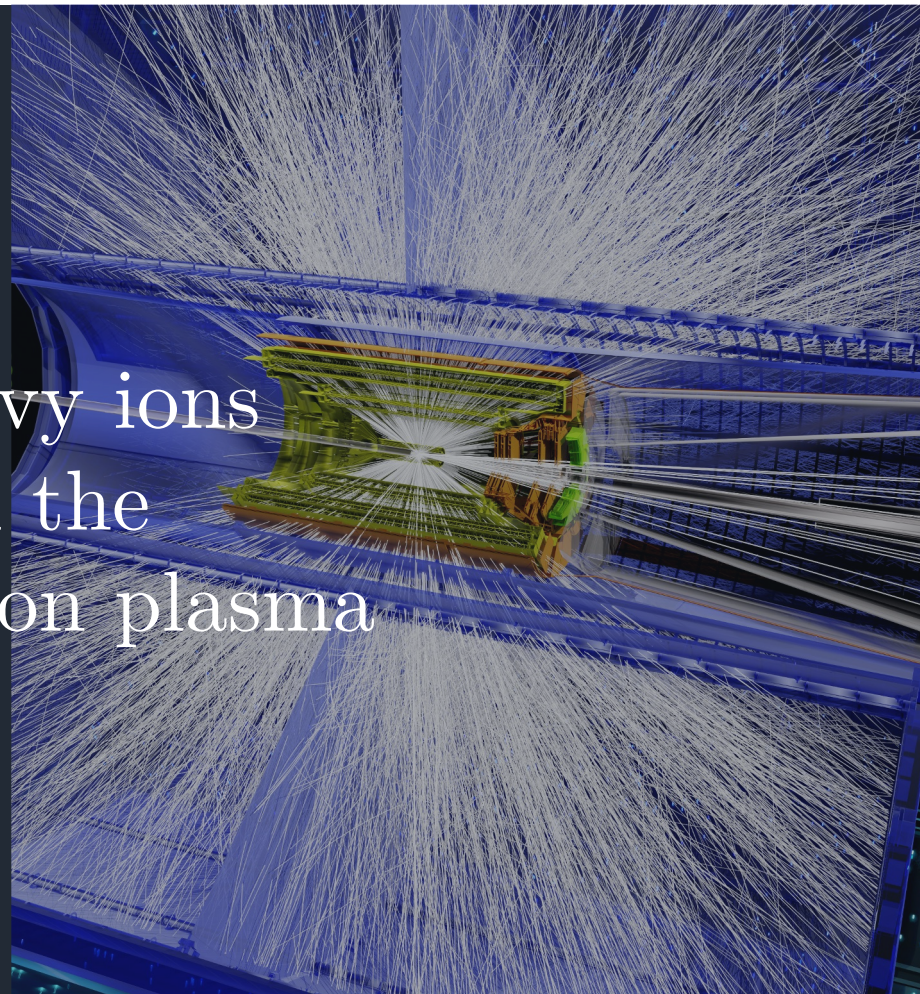
# Summary of SM studies:

- SM is complete: stress testing with LHC → good agreement!
- Predictions are based on perturbation theory.
- At high accuracies QCD & EW diagrams are needed.
- At 1% precision non-perturbative effects also comes to play



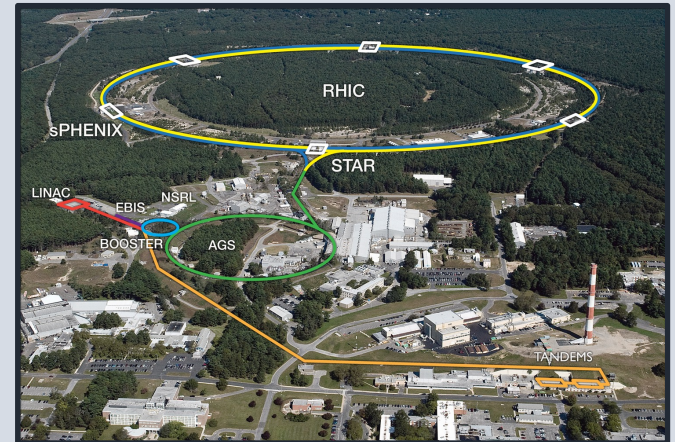


### 3. Heavy ions and the quark-gluon plasma



# Heavy-ion collisions

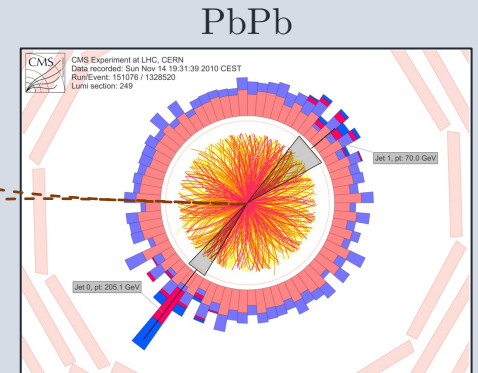
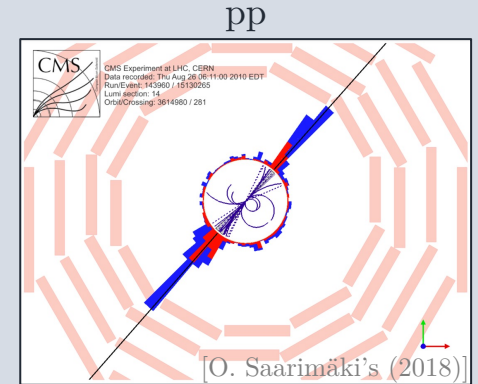
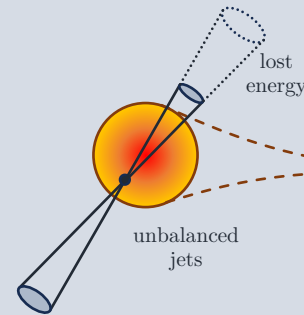
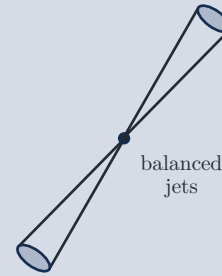
- Heavy-ion program at LHC and RHIC
- Nuclear matter at high energy
- Discovery of the quark-gluon plasma:
  - Quenching (= energy loss)
  - Collective flow
  - Soft photon excess
  - Strangeness enhancement
  - etc.





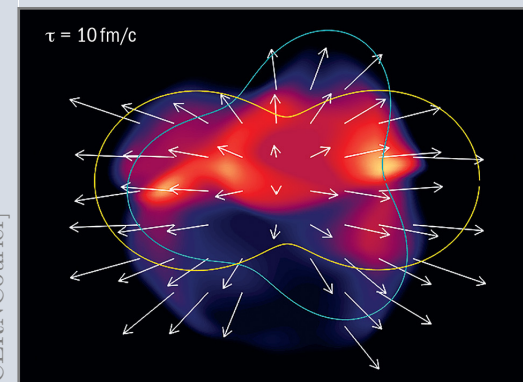
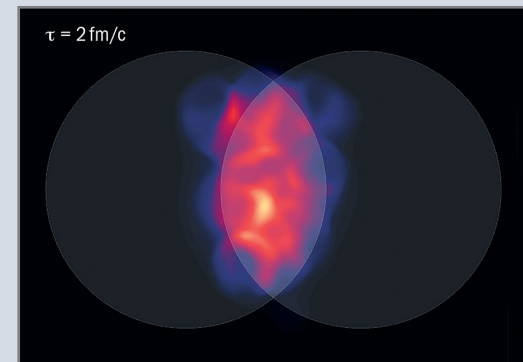
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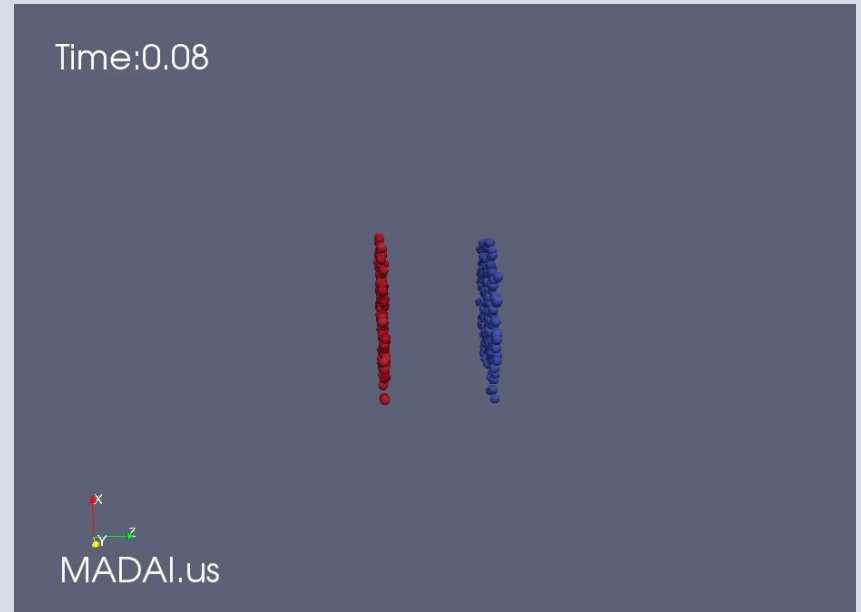


[CERN Courier]

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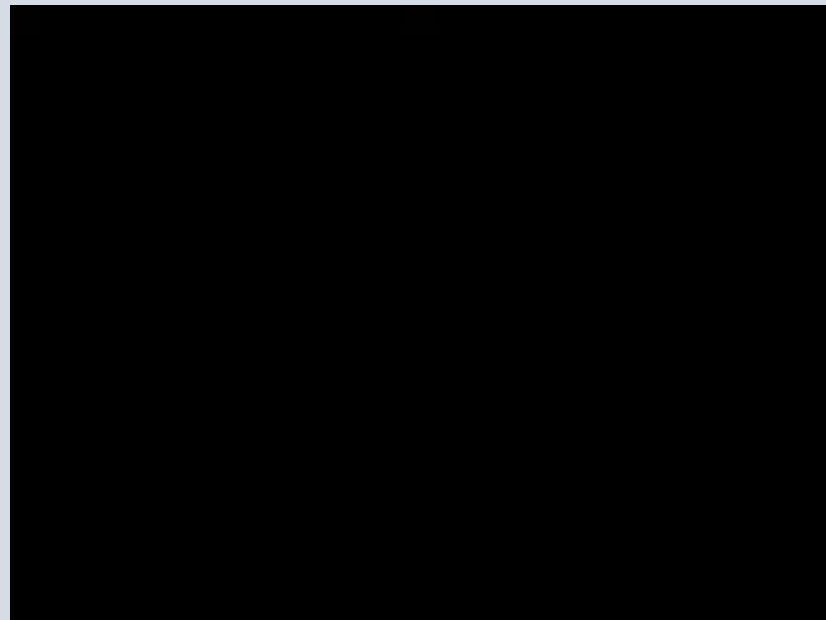
“Hydrodynamic” picture of AA collisions!



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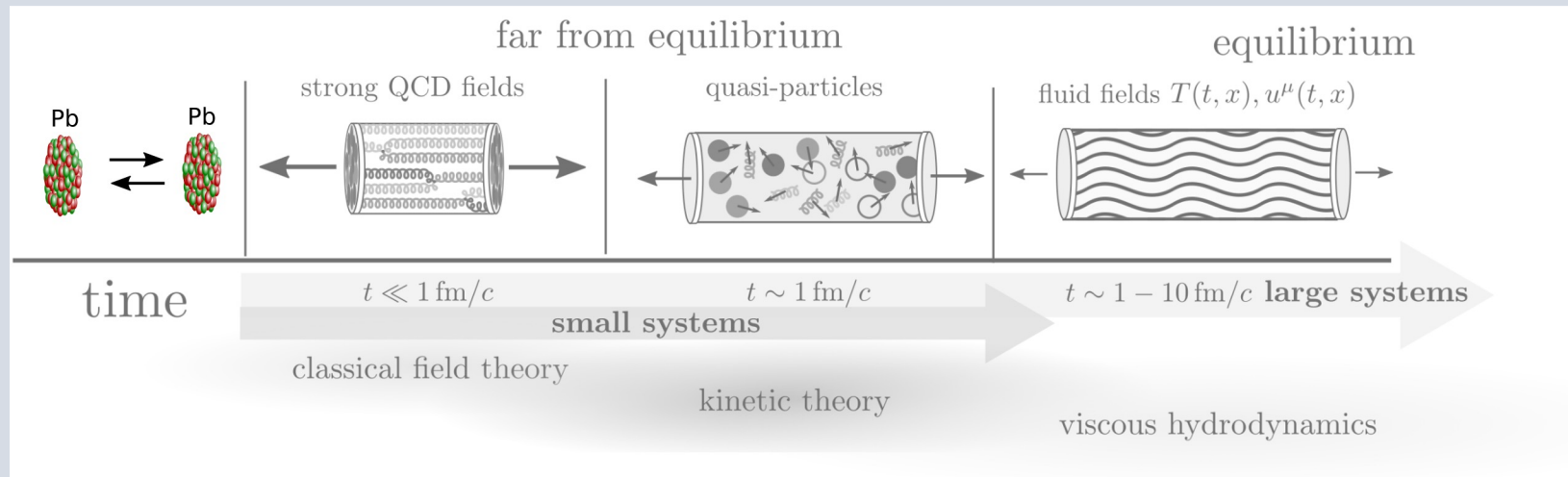
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[Chun Shen]

# Real-time dynamics of HI collisions

[Berges,Heller,Mazeliauskas,Venugopalan 2005.12299]



## 1. Initial state:

- Nucleus geometry
- (Sub)nucleon structure
- Fluctuations

## 2. Reaching-equilibrium:

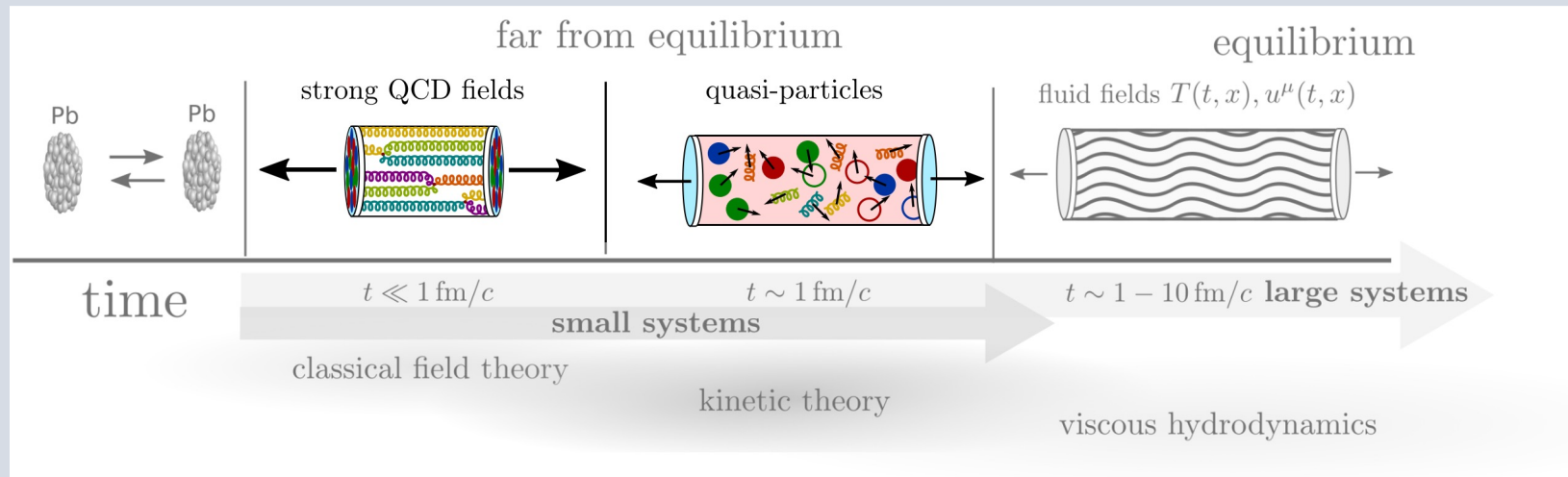
- Dense gluon fields (glasma)
- Far-from-equilibrium evolution
- Attractor behavior

## 3. Hydrodynamics:

- Close to equilibrium
- Very small viscosity
- Freeze-out.

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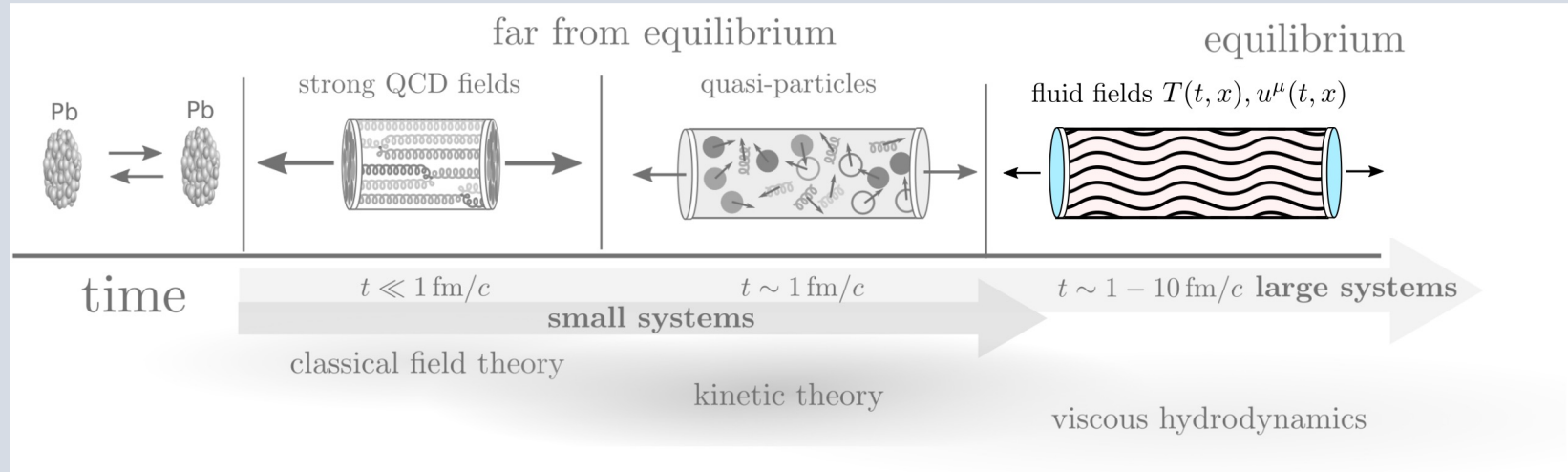
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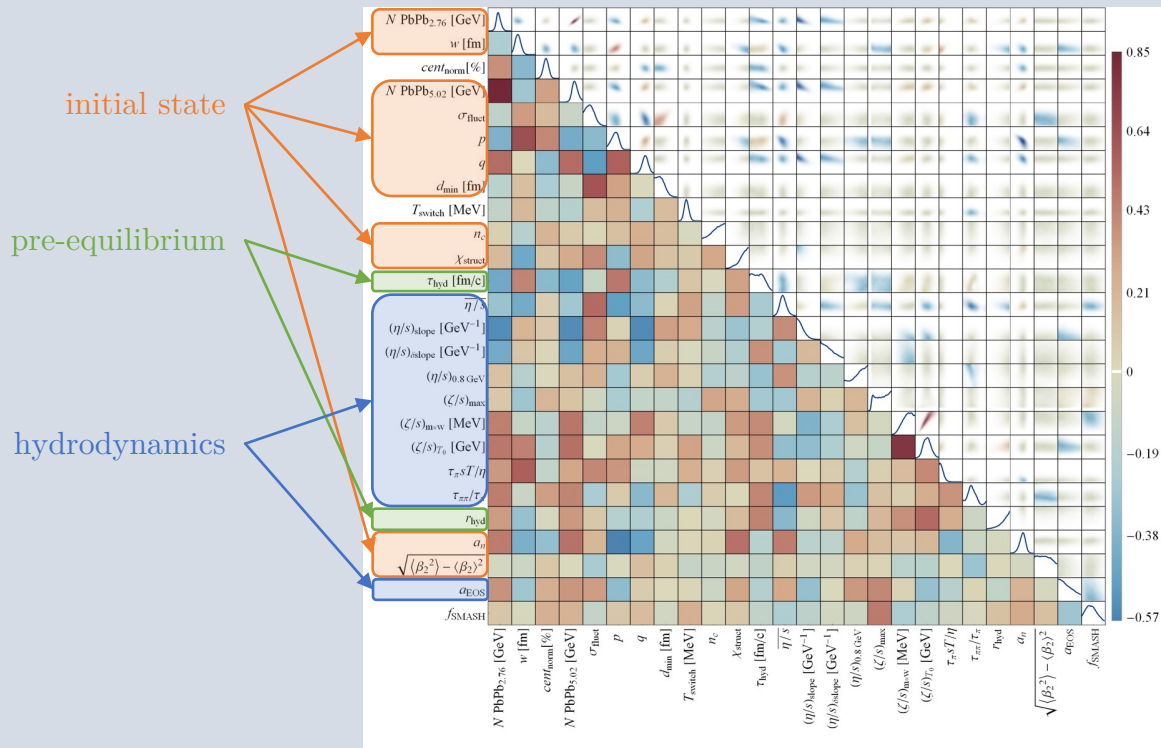
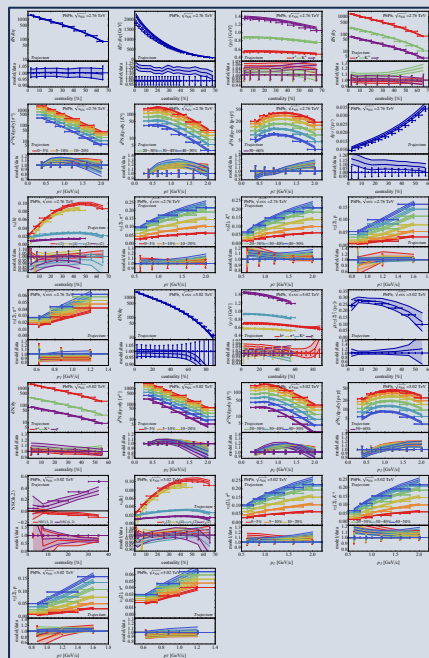
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# Success of the “hydrodynamic picture”

Bayesian analysis:



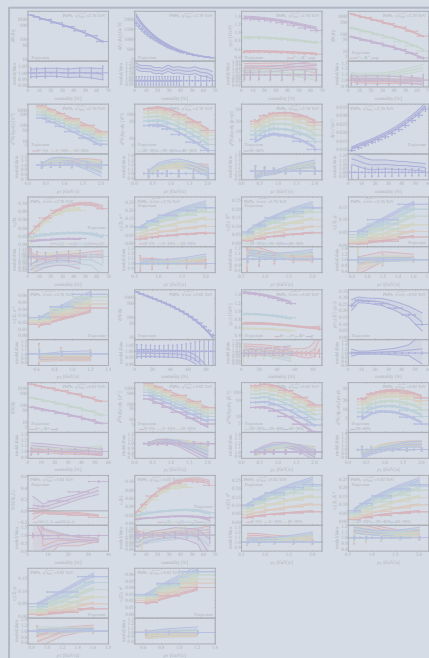
[Giacalone, Nijss, van der Schee, PRL 131.202302]



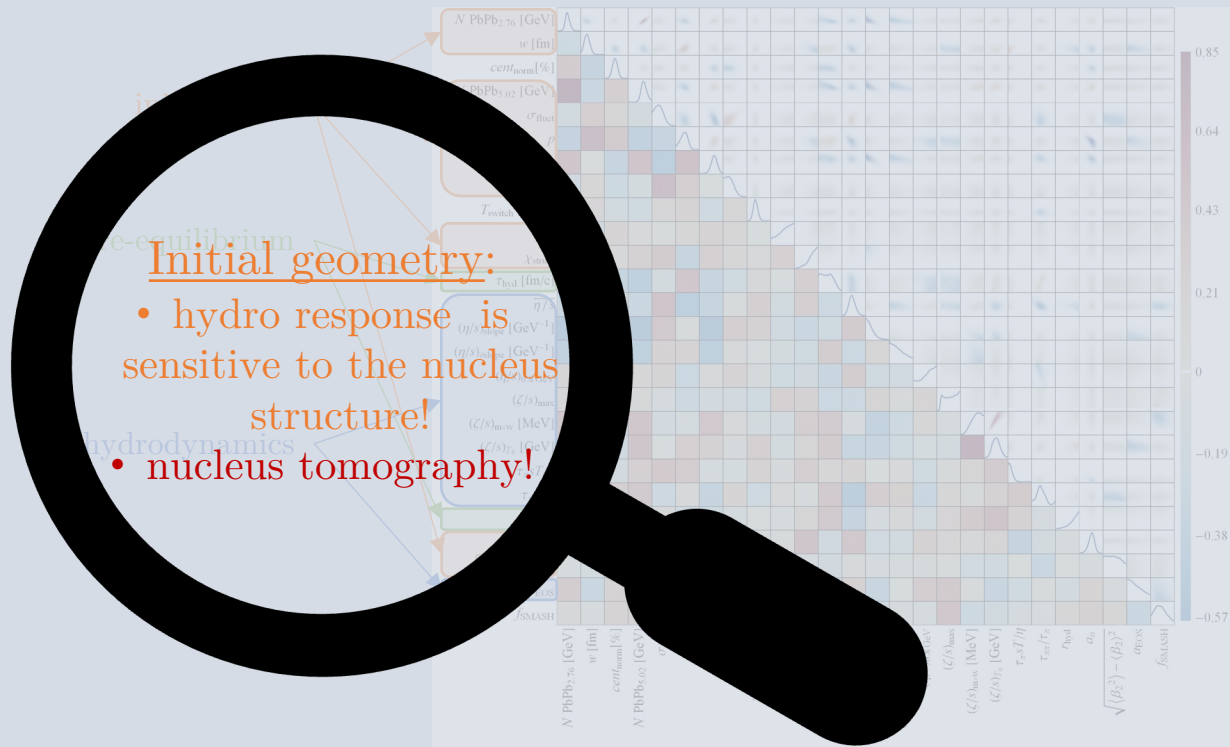


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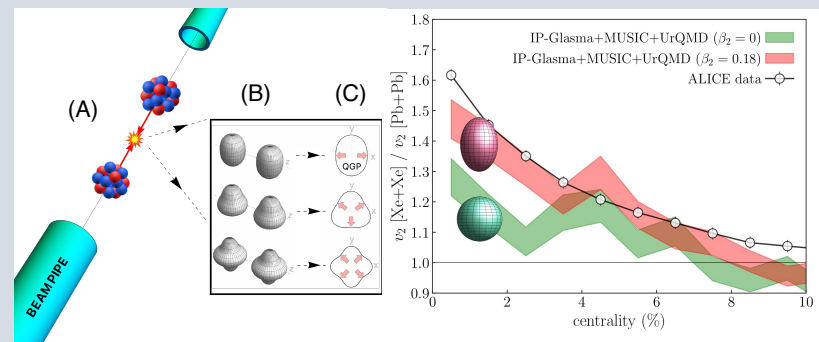
- Initial geometry:
- hydro response is sensitive to the nucleus structure!
  - nucleus tomography!



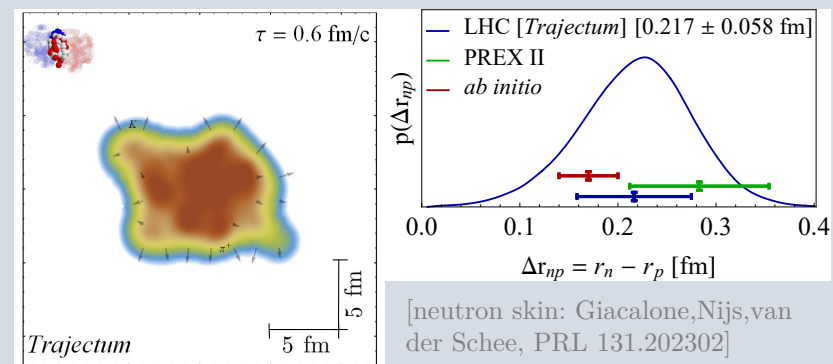
[Giacalone, Nijss, van der Schee, PRL 131.202302]

# Nucleus structure in heavy-ion collisions

- Hydro response is sensitive to the nucleus shape
- Clever measurements constrains nucleus structures
- State-of-the-art precision in:
  - nucleus shape
  - neutron skin

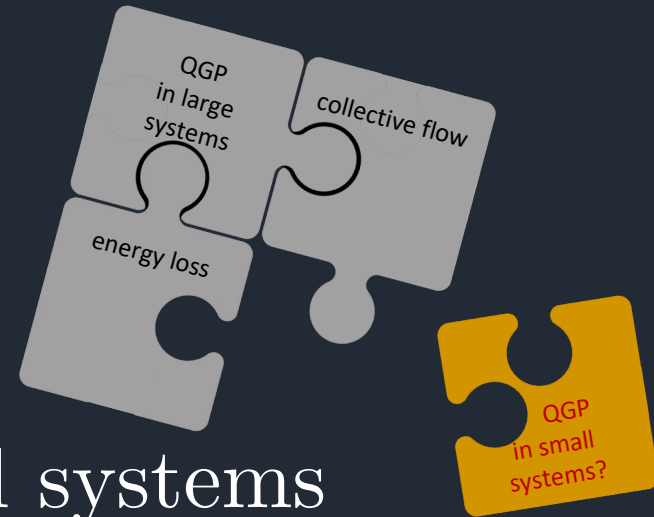


[Xe shape: Bali et al, 2209.11042]



[neutron skin: Giacalone, Nijs, van der Schee, PRL 131.202302]

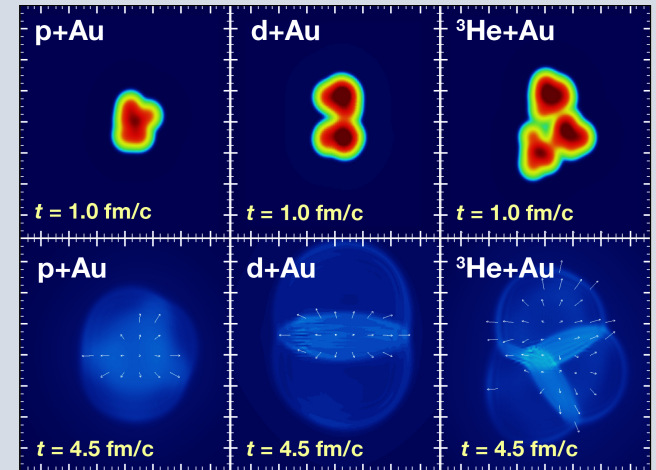
# The puzzle of small systems



# Small system collectivity

[Grosse-Oetringhaus, Wiedemann 2407.07484]

- flow-like signals in: pA, pp,  $\gamma$ A
- strangeness enhancement in: pA, pp
- Hydro description works!
- Quenching haven't been observed
- Why does hydro work?!
- Where is energy loss?
- precision is needed! (jets)

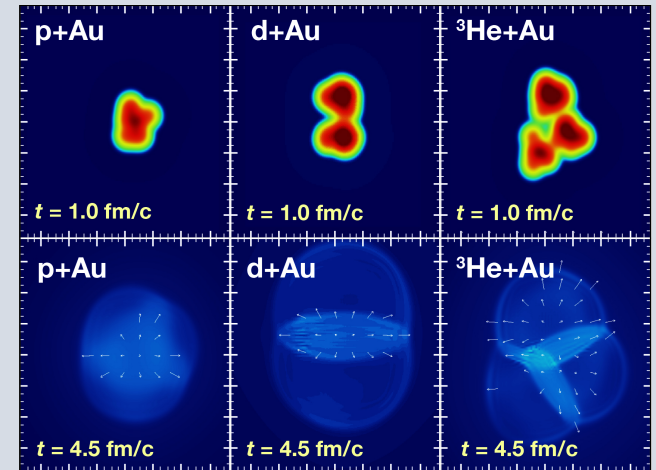


[ALICE: Nature13 (2017)]  
[PHENIX pA: Nature15.214]  
[STAR pA: PRL.130.242301]  
[CMS pp: PRL116.172302]  
[ALICE pp: PRL.132.172302]

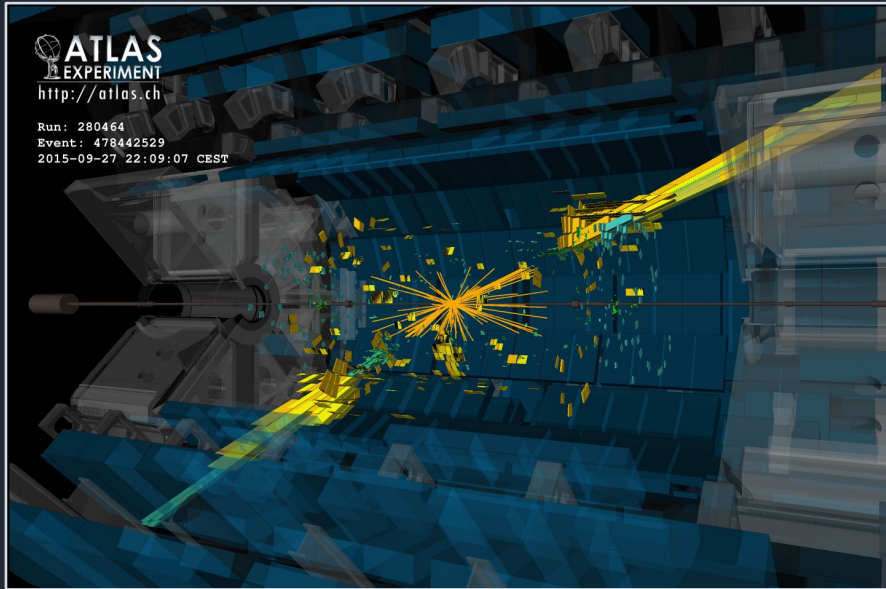
# Small system collectivity

[Grosse-Oetringhaus, Wiedemann 2407.07484]

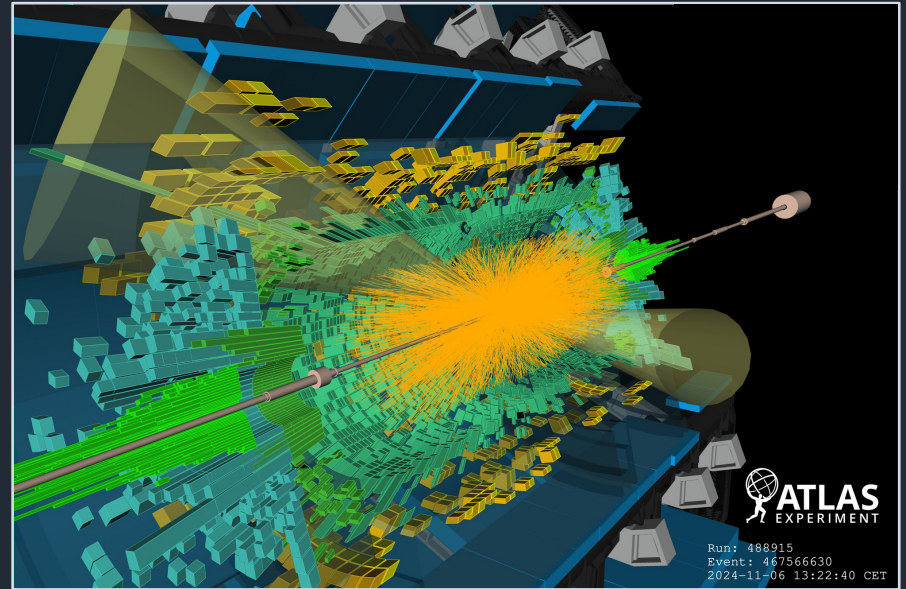
- flow-like signals in: pA, pp,  $\gamma$ A
- strangeness enhancement in: pA, pp
- Hydro description works!
- Quenching haven't been observed
- Why does hydro work?!
- Where is energy loss?
- precision is needed! (**jets**)



[ALICE: Nature13 (2017)]  
[PHENIX pA: Nature15.214]  
[STAR pA: PRL.130.242301]  
[CMS pp: PRL116.172302]  
[ALICE pp: PRL.132.172302]



2-jets in pp collision



2-jets in PbPb collision

Use jets to learn about the PbPb, and pPb!

# Summary:

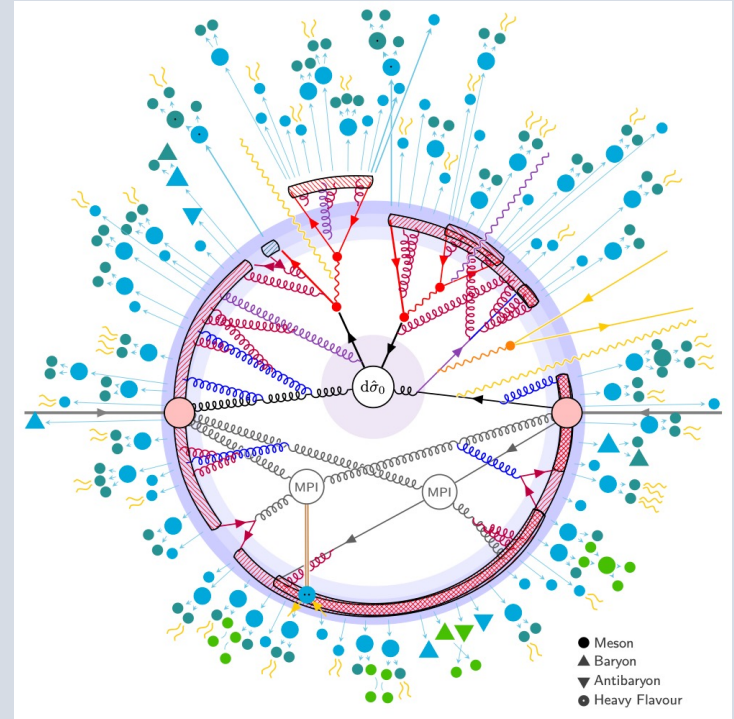
- Heavy-ion collisions → nuclear matter under extreme conditions
- Heavy-ion “standard model” = hydro picture
- Success of hydro:
  - thermodynamic properties of QGP
  - nuclear structure!
- QGP-droplets creates a great challenge for the future



Thank you for your attention!

# Precision with jets

- Adding flavor and masses ( $c$ -,  $b$ -quark jet)
- Identified particles (isolated photons, hadrons)
- mixing QCD & EW corrections
- Resummation at NNLL
- Matching to (N)NLO
- Improve hadronization
- +1 Improve underlying event (needed)



[Pythia8: P. Skands]

# Early-time dynamics in HI collisions

[Berges, Heller, Mazeliauskas, Venugopalan 2005.12299]

