

# Higgs Monte Carlo Simulation



Silvia Ferrario Ravasio

7<sup>th</sup> November 2024



# Monte Carlo event generators — why are they so important?

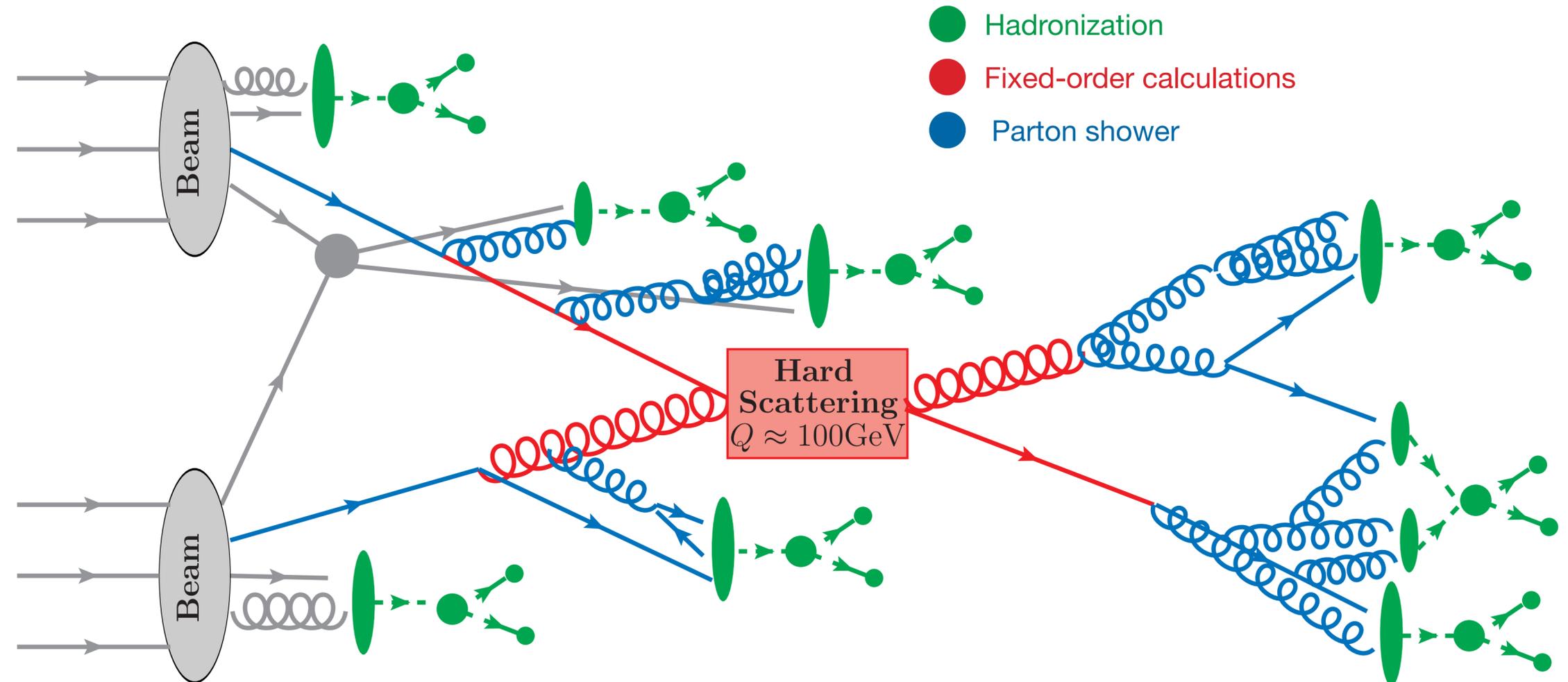
- **Shower Monte Carlo** Event generator are the **default theoretical** tool to interpret collider data

Pythia

Herwig



Sherpa



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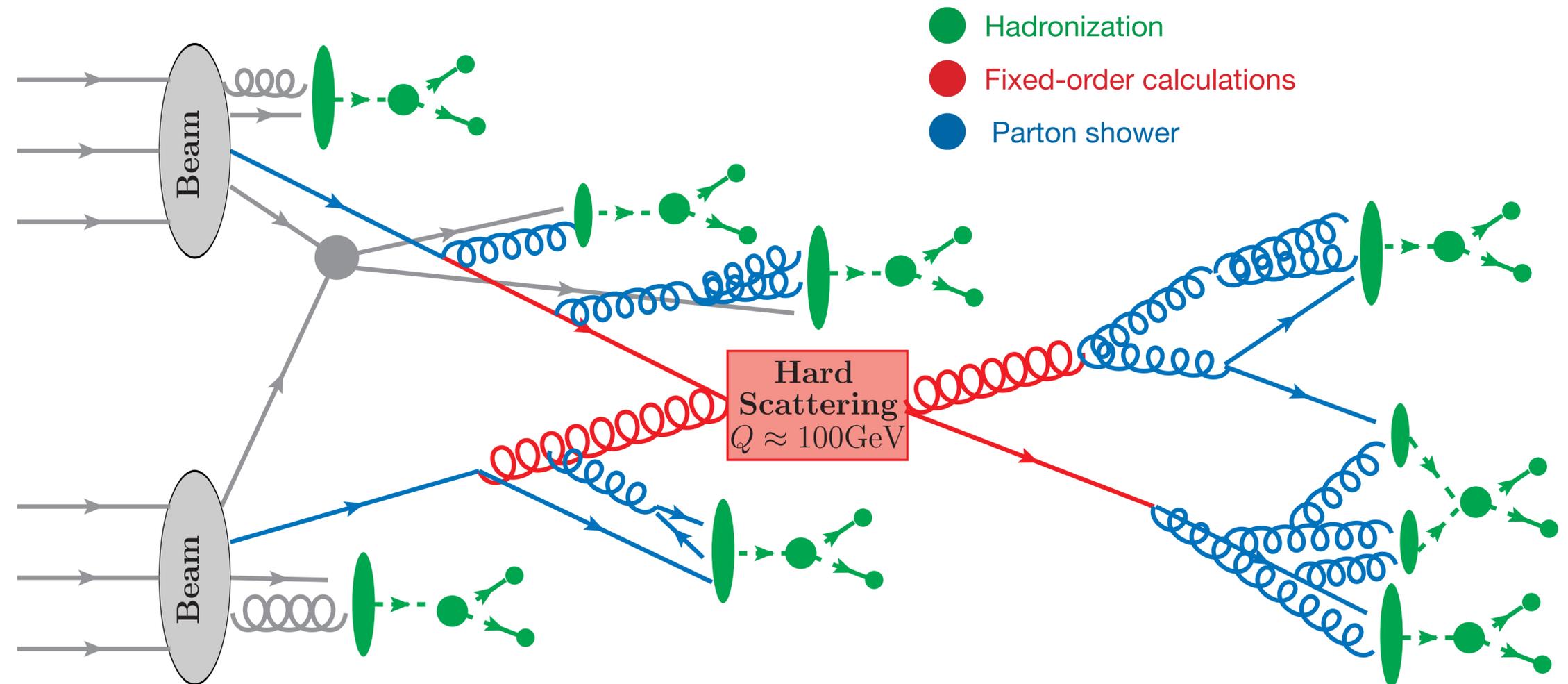
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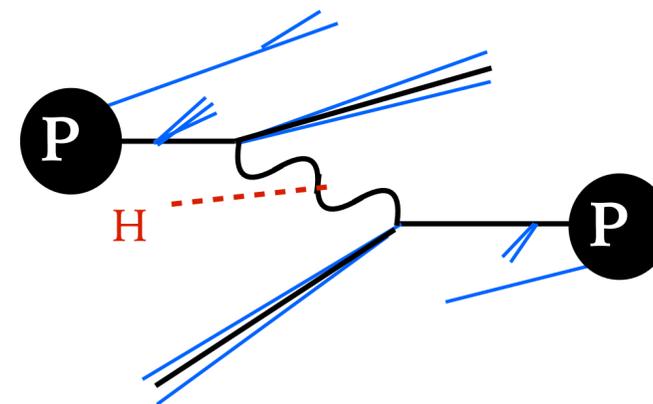


**ARE CURRENT SMC GOOD ENOUGH (FOR HIGGS PHYSICS)?**

# A snapshot of theory uncertainties

- Example: theory uncertainties in typical **Vector Boson Fusion** measurements

|                      | <b>VBF H</b> | <b>ggH (in VBF-enriched region)</b> |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>PDF</b>           | <1%          | <3%                                 |
| <b>QCD scale</b>     | <1%          | <b>2-20%</b>                        |
| <b>UE</b>            | <1.5%        | <2-3%                               |
| <b>Parton shower</b> | <b>5-15%</b> | <b>4-10%</b>                        |

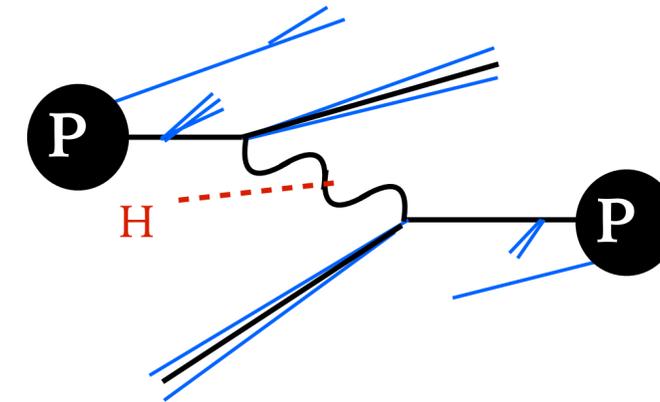


*M. Pellen, HXWG meeting, 2023*

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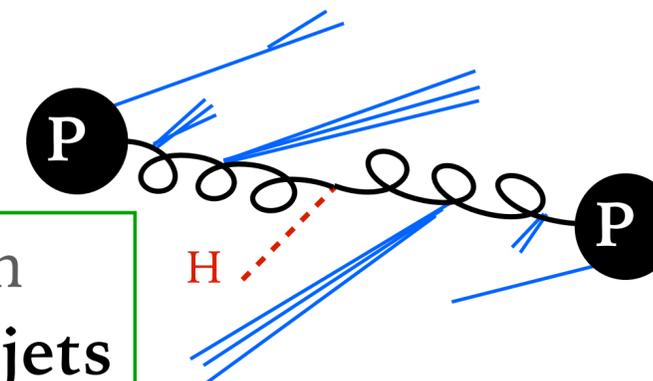


Primary theory uncertainties affecting experimental measurements are:

→ **Scale uncertainty** in the ggH background

*M. Pellen, HXWG meeting, 2023*

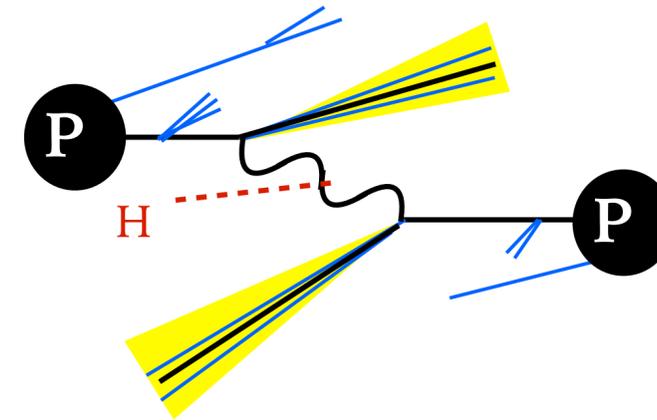
We need to include an accurate **Higgs+2 hard jets** description in our SMC



# A snapshot of theory uncertainties

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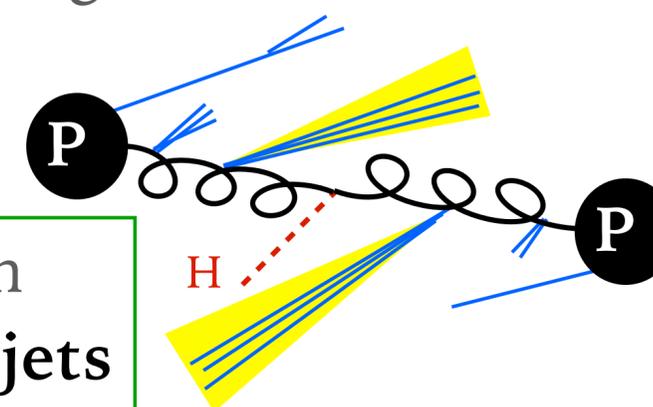


Better constraint the accuracy of **PS**

Primary theory uncertainties affecting experimental measurements are:

► **Scale uncertainty** in the ggH background

► Modelling of soft **radiation** inside the jets



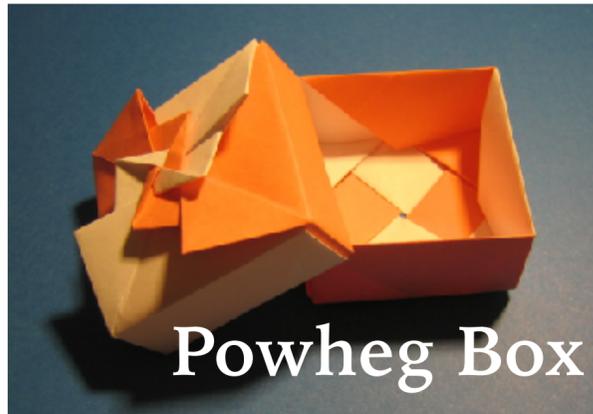
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# Improving the fixed order accuracy of SMC

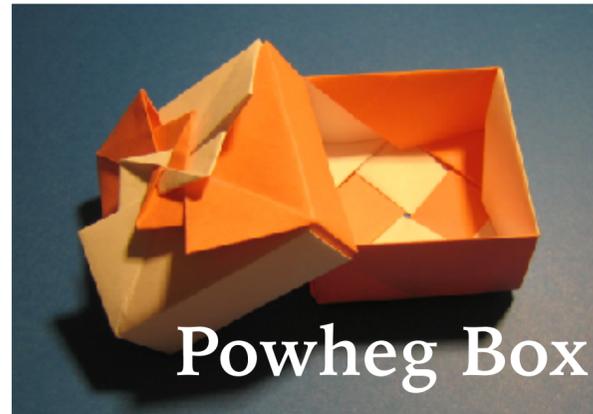
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- For more than 2 decades the standard way to improve **showers** was to combine them with **fixed-order calculations** via a matching procedure that removes the double counting and preserves the fixed-order accuracy of the result

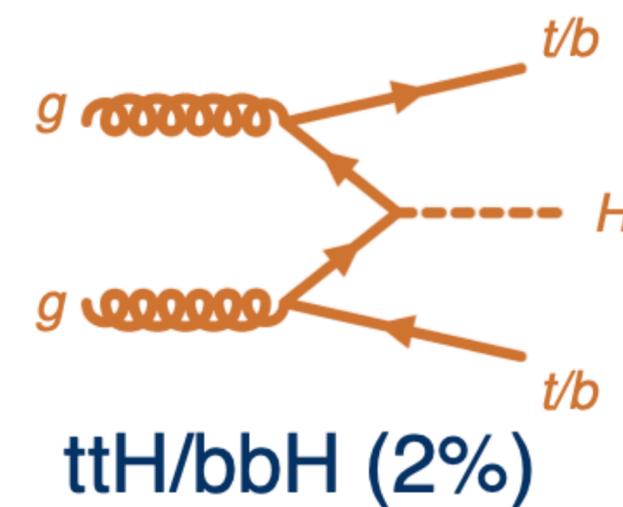
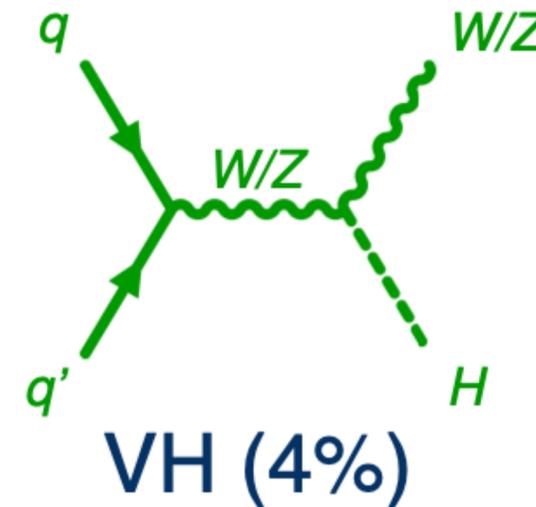
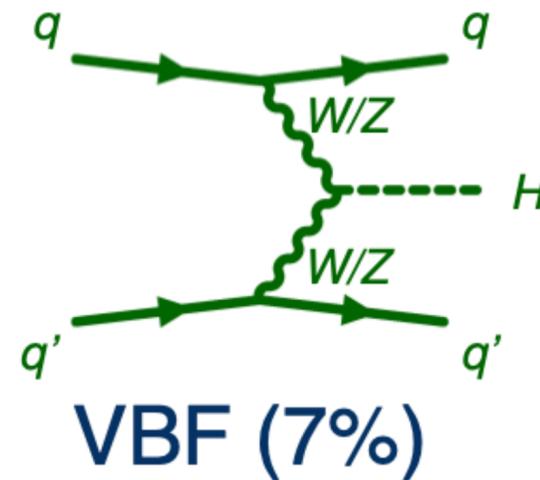
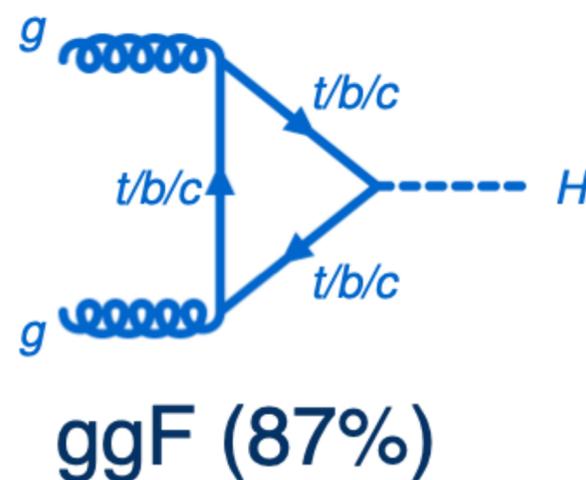


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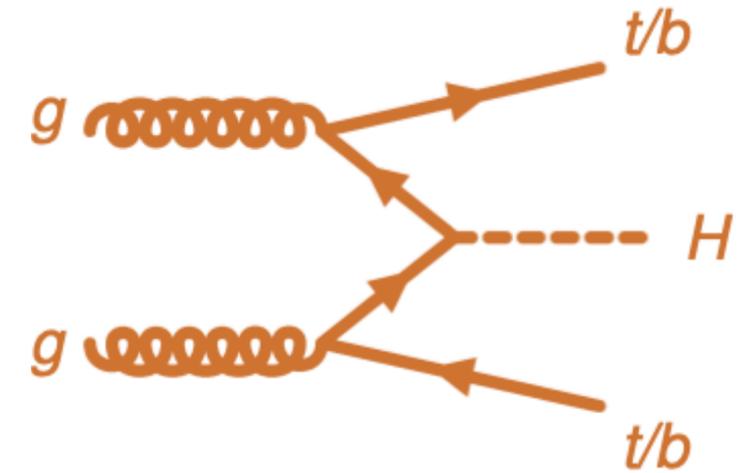
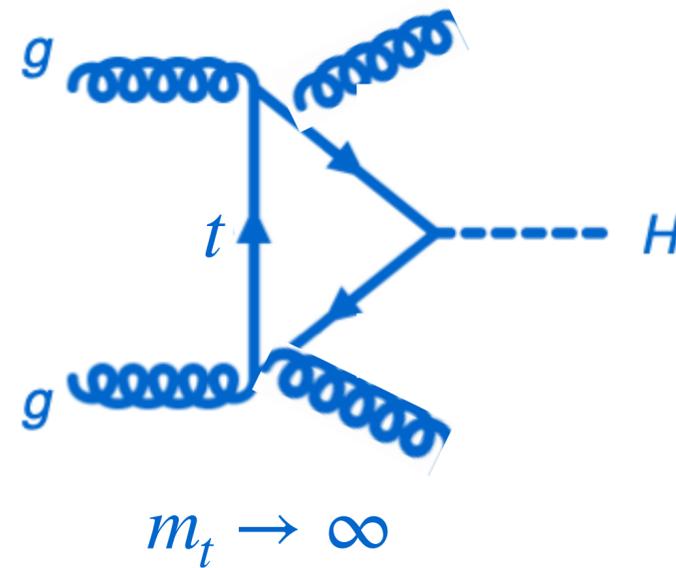
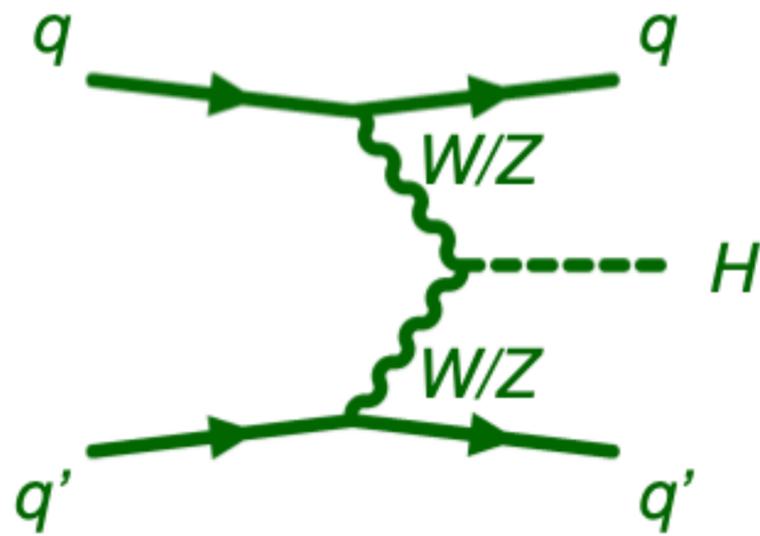


- What is the fixed-order accuracy we can reach for these processes?



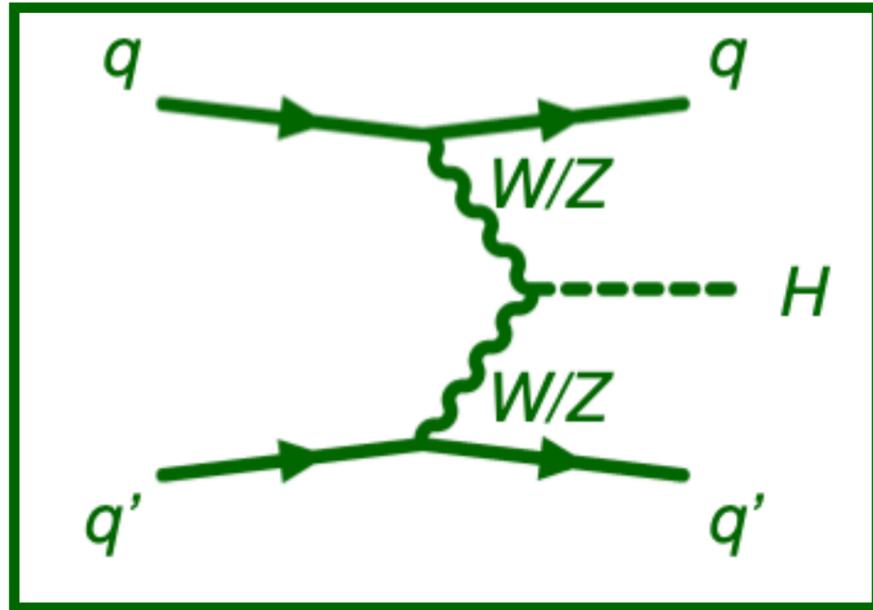
# Higgs with jets

- For processes where the Higgs appears with hard jets, state of the art is **NLO+PS**



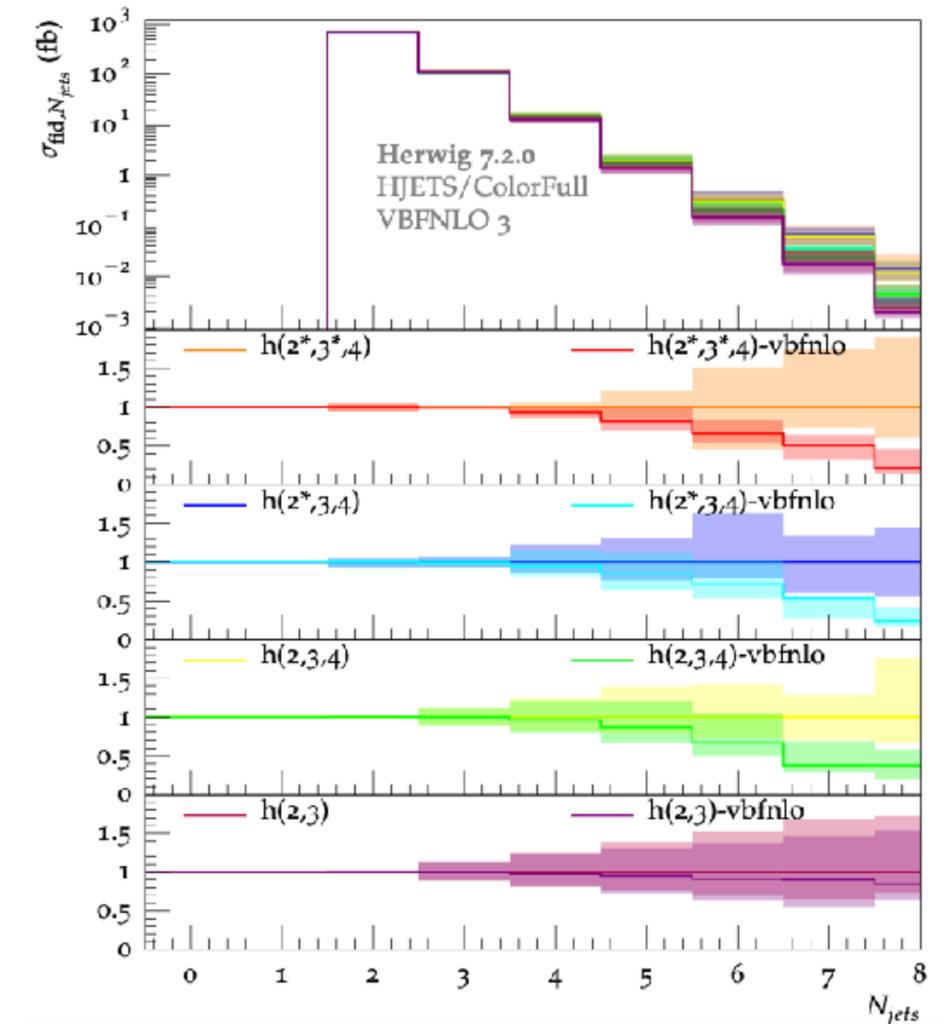
# Fixed-order accuracy for VBF

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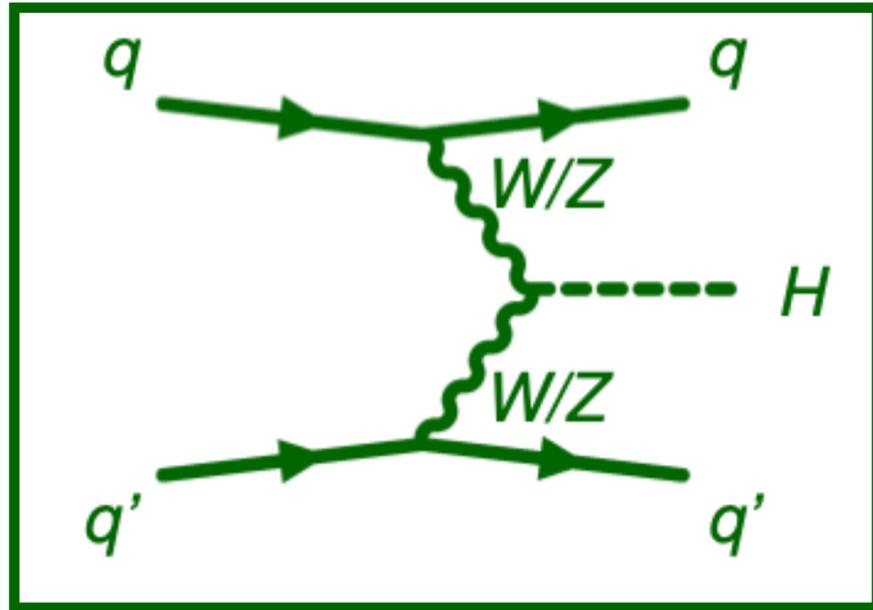
Can have **2 and 3 jets** at NLO via **multi-jet merging**

[Chen, Figy, Platzer, 2109.0373]



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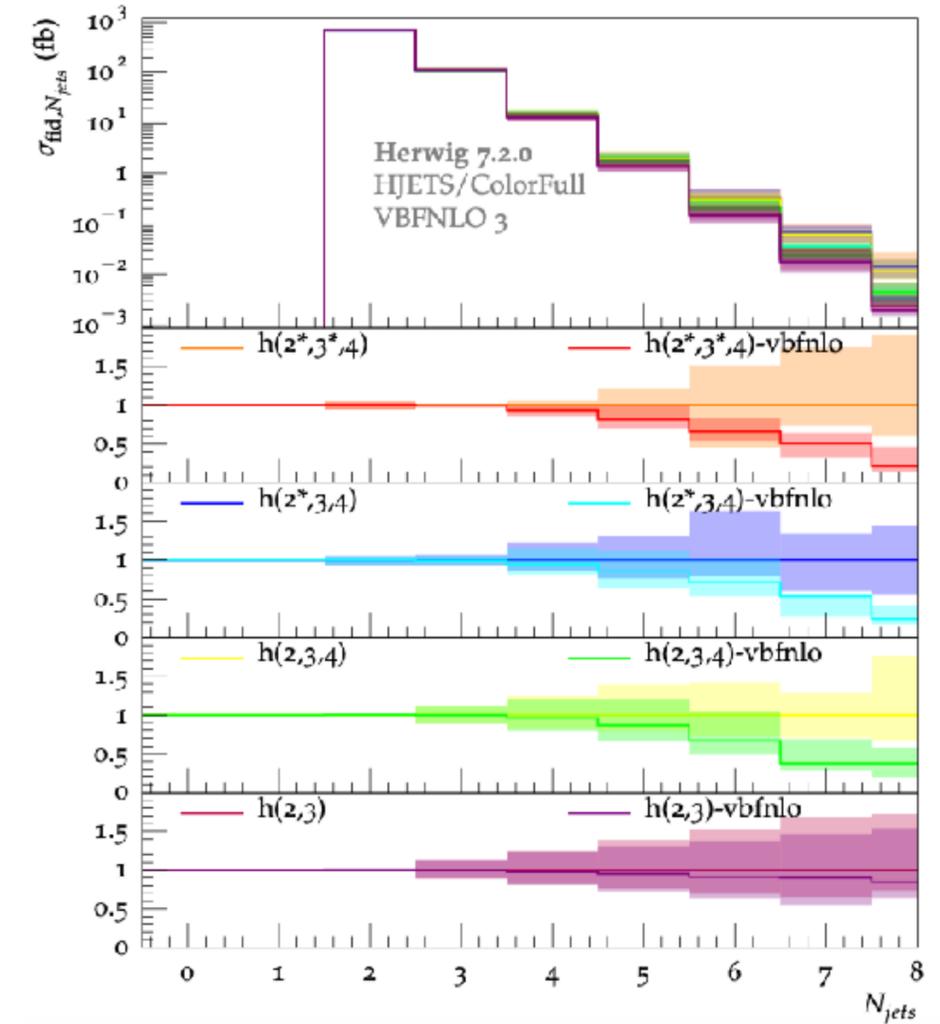
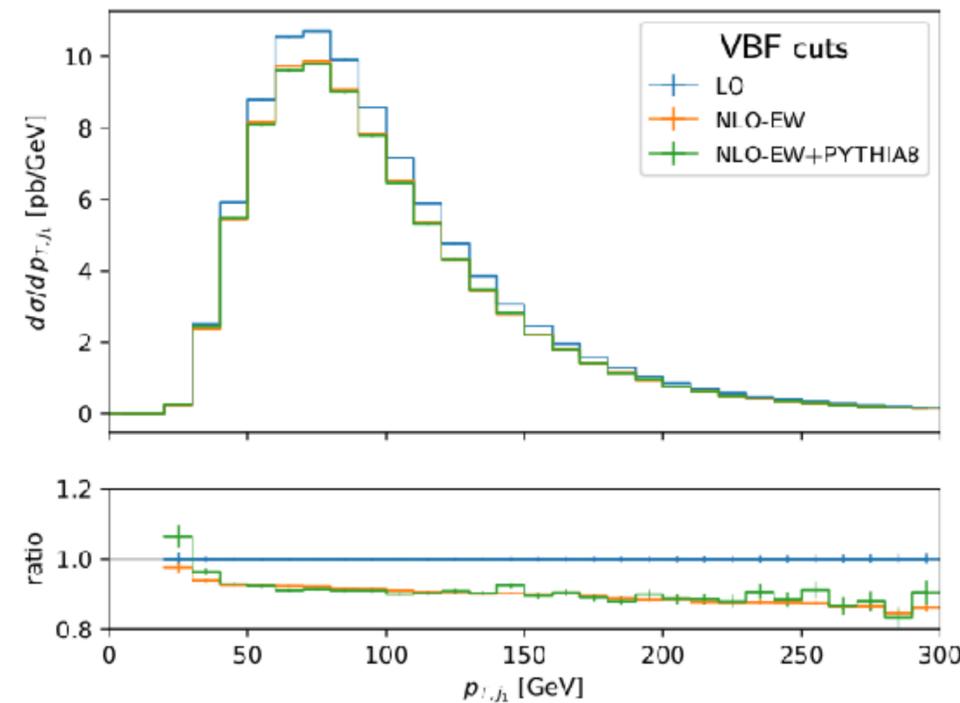
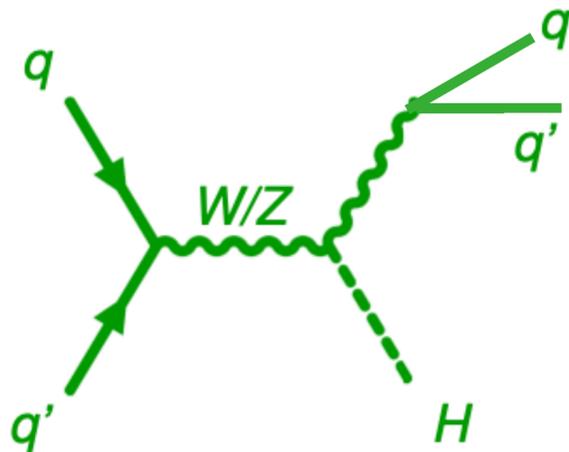
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[Chen, Figy, Platzer, 2109.0373]

Interference effects with *HV* available in **Powheg, Mg5, Sherpa, Herwig**

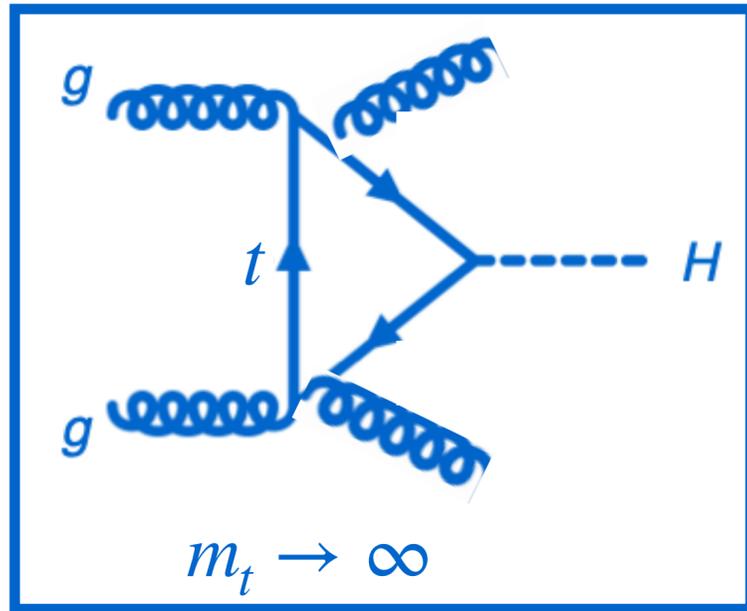


**EW corrections in Powheg** (yet to be combined with QCD)

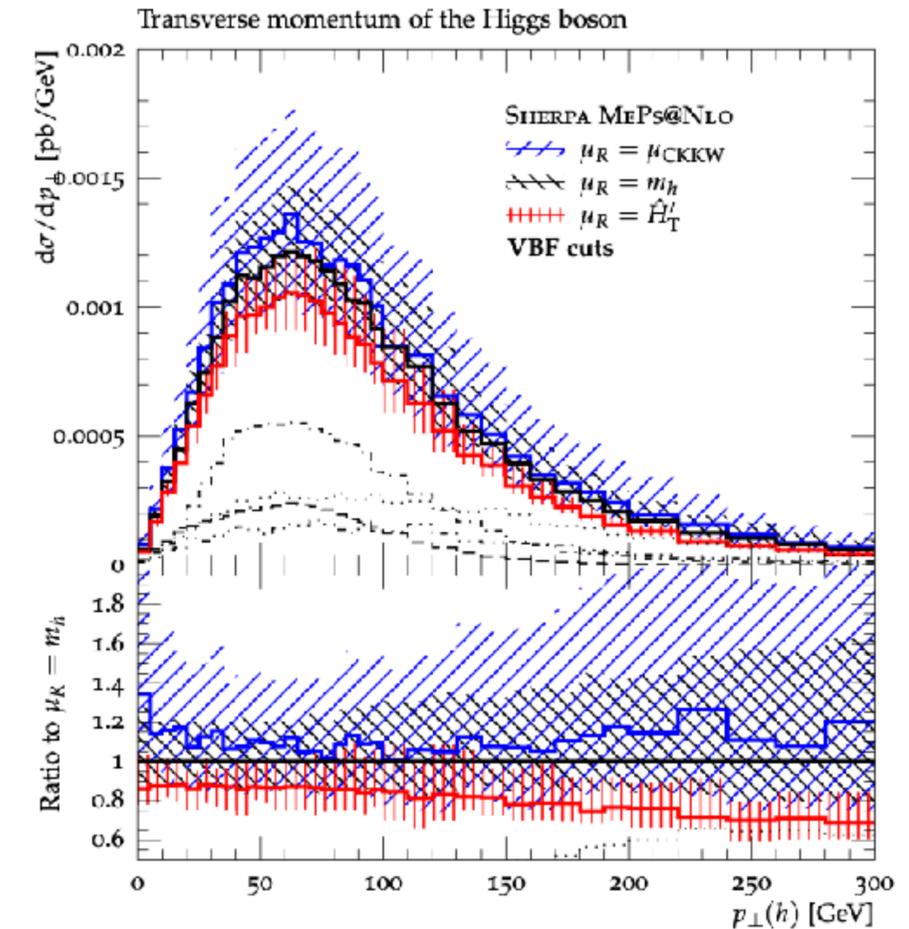
[Jager, Scheller, 2208.00013]

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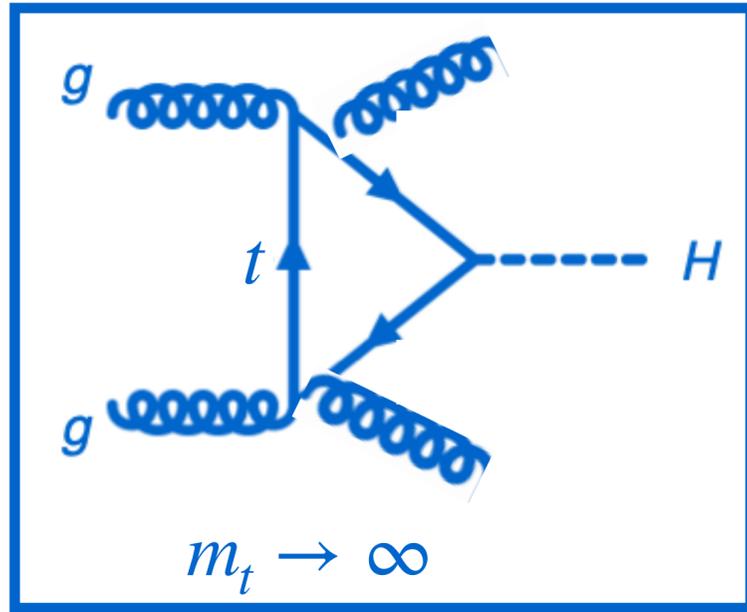


Can have 0,1,2 at NLO via **multi-jet merging**, in **Sherpa** [Hoche, Krauss, Schonherr, 1401.7971] and **Herwig** [Bellm, Gieseke, Platzer 1705.06700]

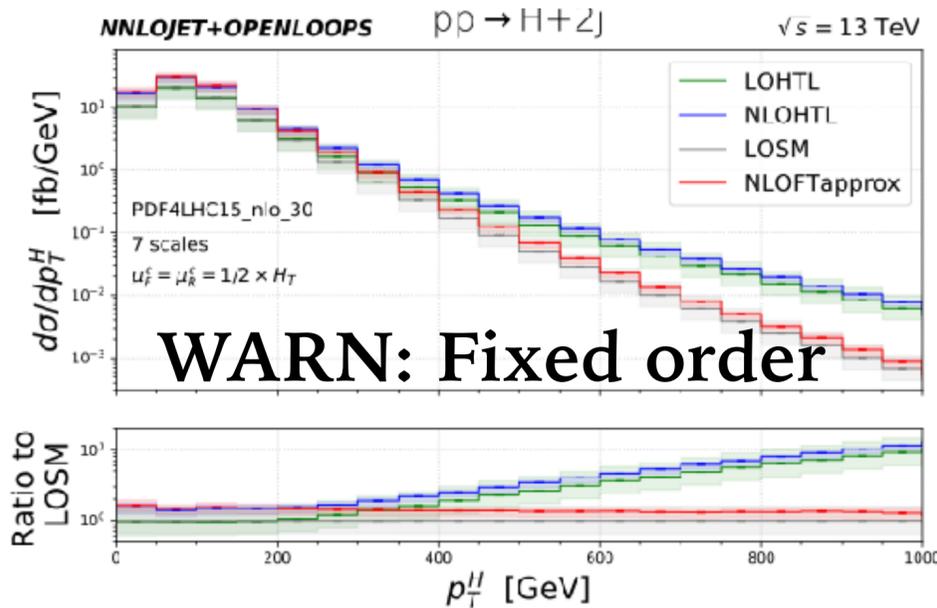
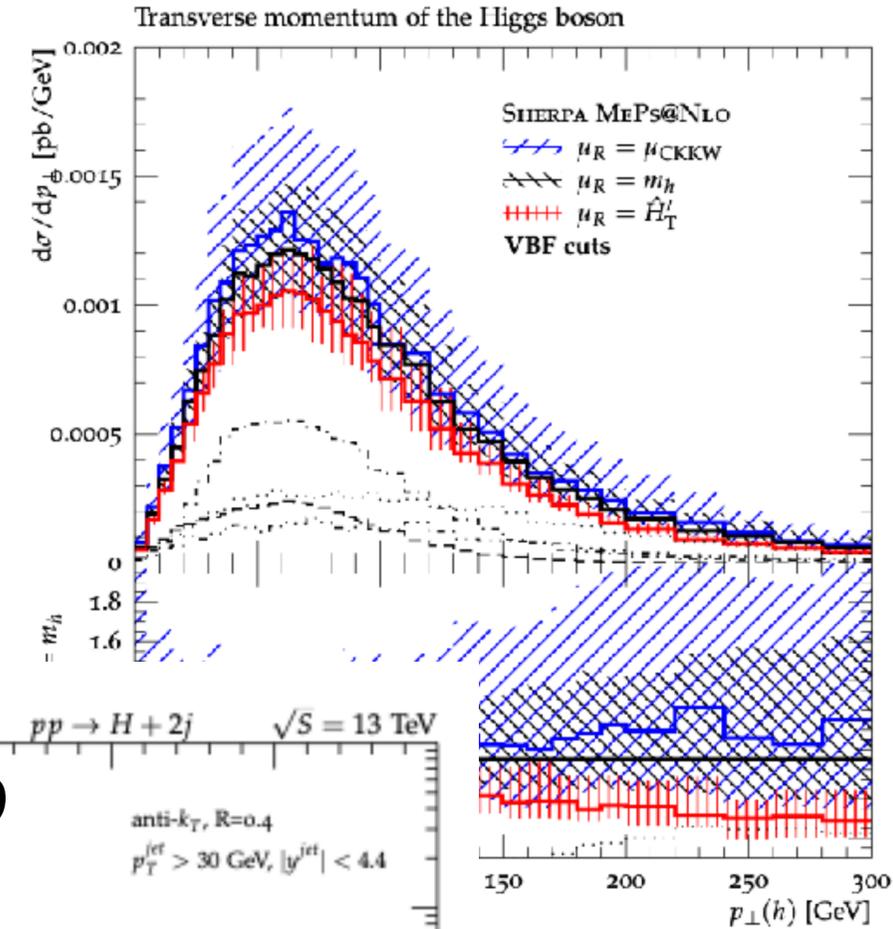


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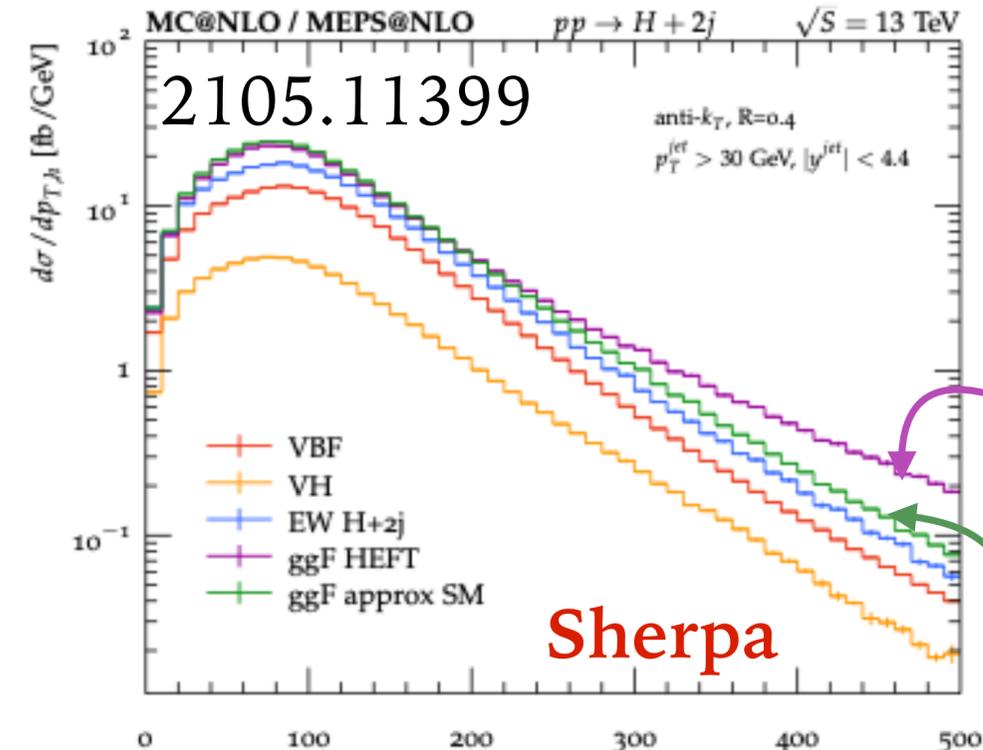
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$m_t$  effects are **important** but not known for the **2-loop amplitudes**: can be captured **LO reweighing** [Chen, Huss, Jones, Kerner, Lang, Lindert, Zhang; 2110.06953]

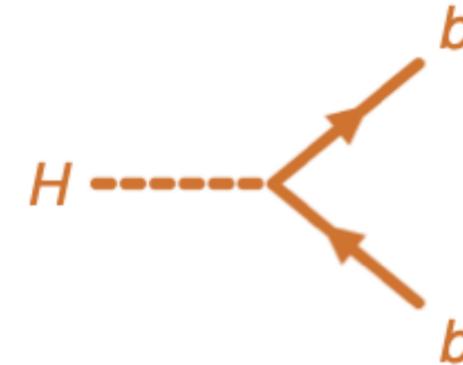
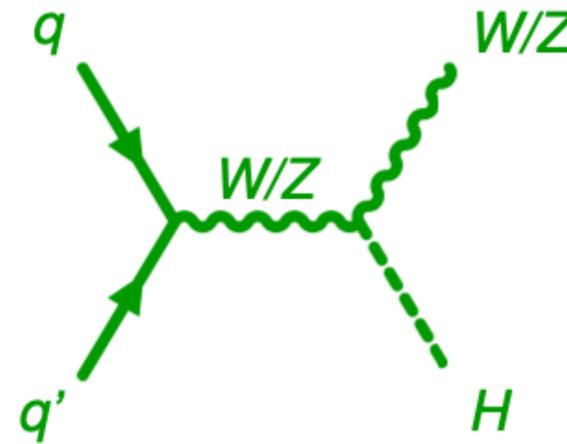
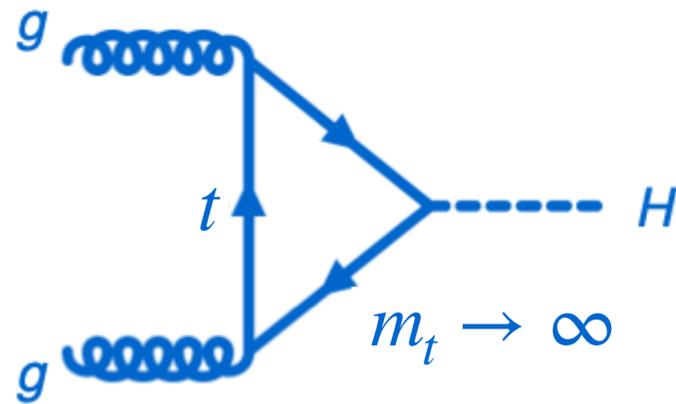


ggF+0,1,2 jets at NLO,  $m_t \rightarrow \infty$   
Including approx  $m_t$  effects

**Sherpa**

# Higgs (without jets)

- **Higgs** production (plus **bosons**) and  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  decay is known at **NNLO+PS**

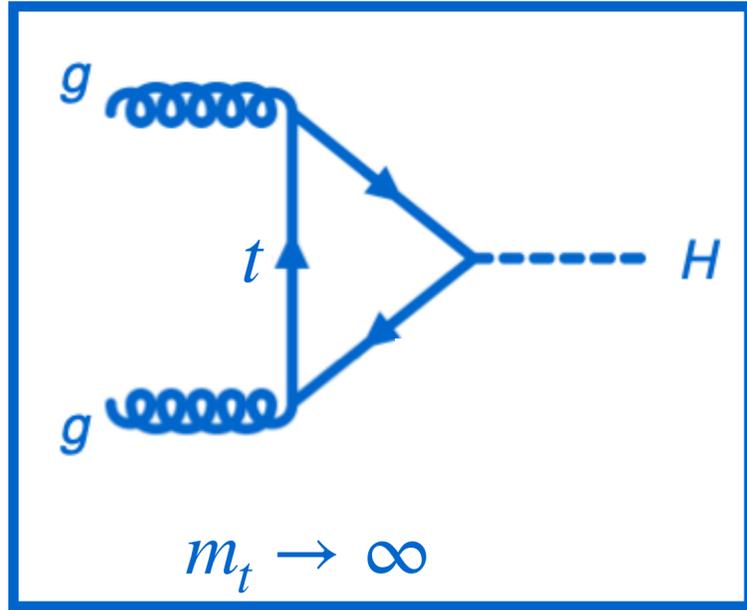


- NNLO event generators used in experiments:



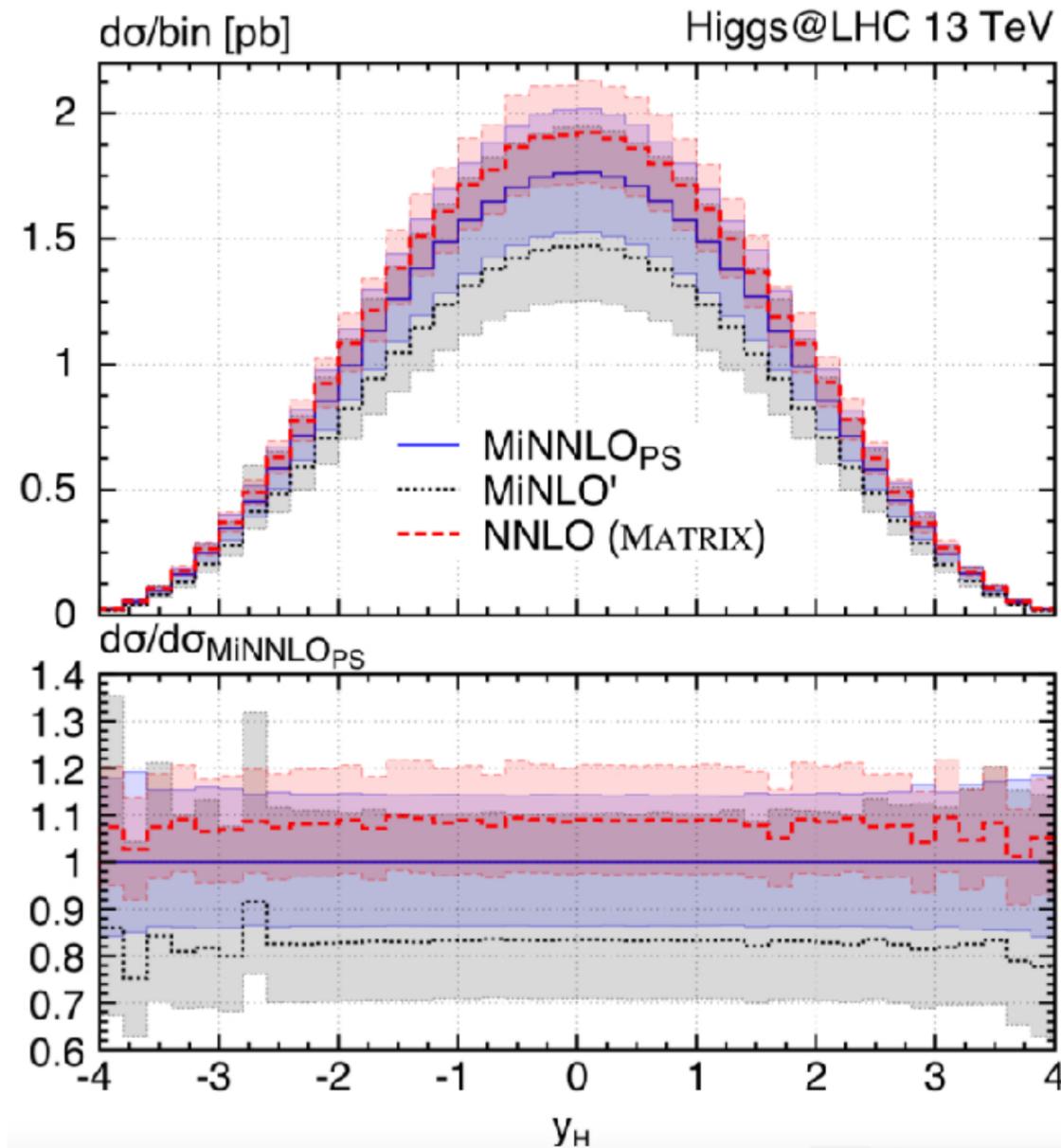
- Other NNLO+PS methods exist: **UNNLOPS** [Hoeche, Li, Prestel, 1405.3607], NNLOPS with **sector showers** [Cambell, Hoche, Li, Preuss, Skands, 2108.07133]

# NNLO+PS with MiNNLO and Geneva



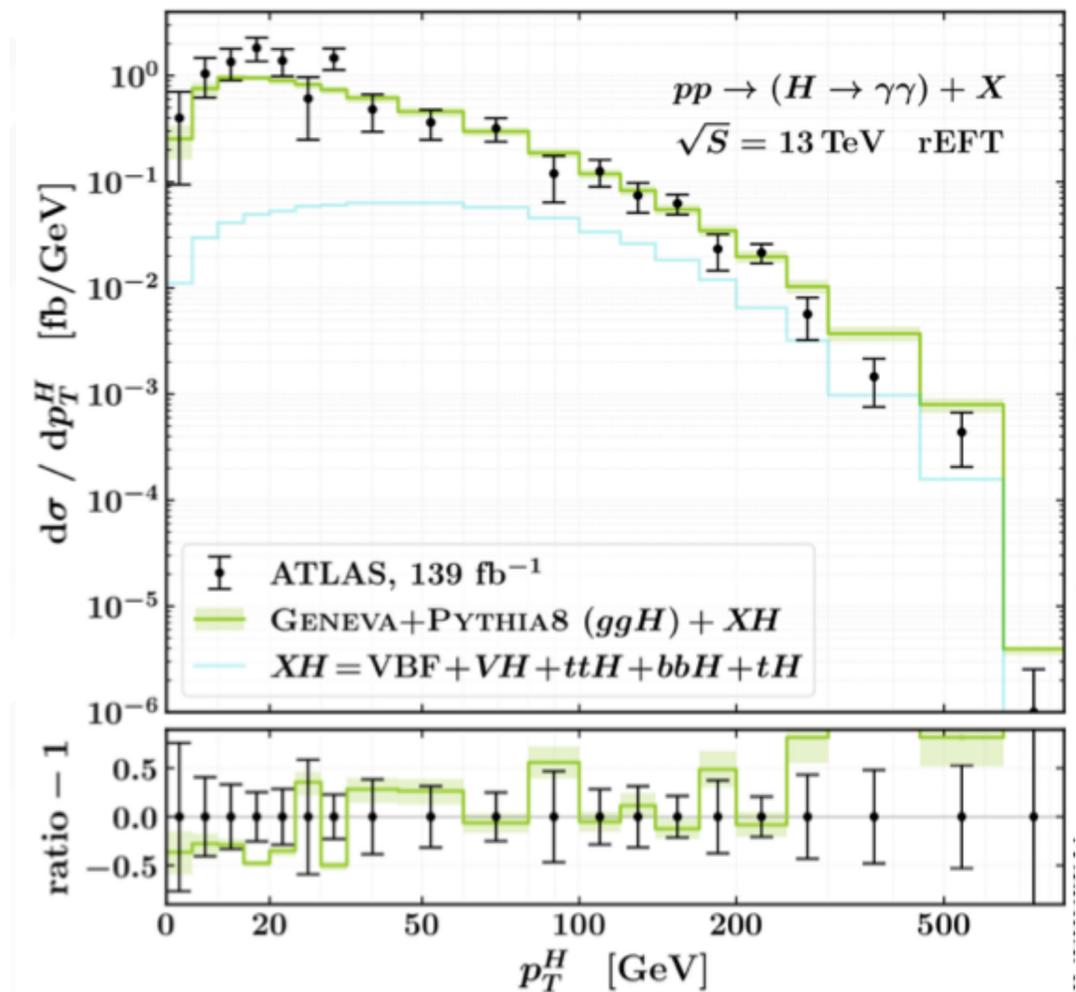
The idea behind both methods is to use ingredients from **analytic resummation** at  $N^3LL$  for an observable such as  $0$ -jettines or  $p_T^H$  to cast the FO calculation in a “parton-shower” like way before the matching

**MiNNLO** [Monni, Nason et al., 1908.06987]

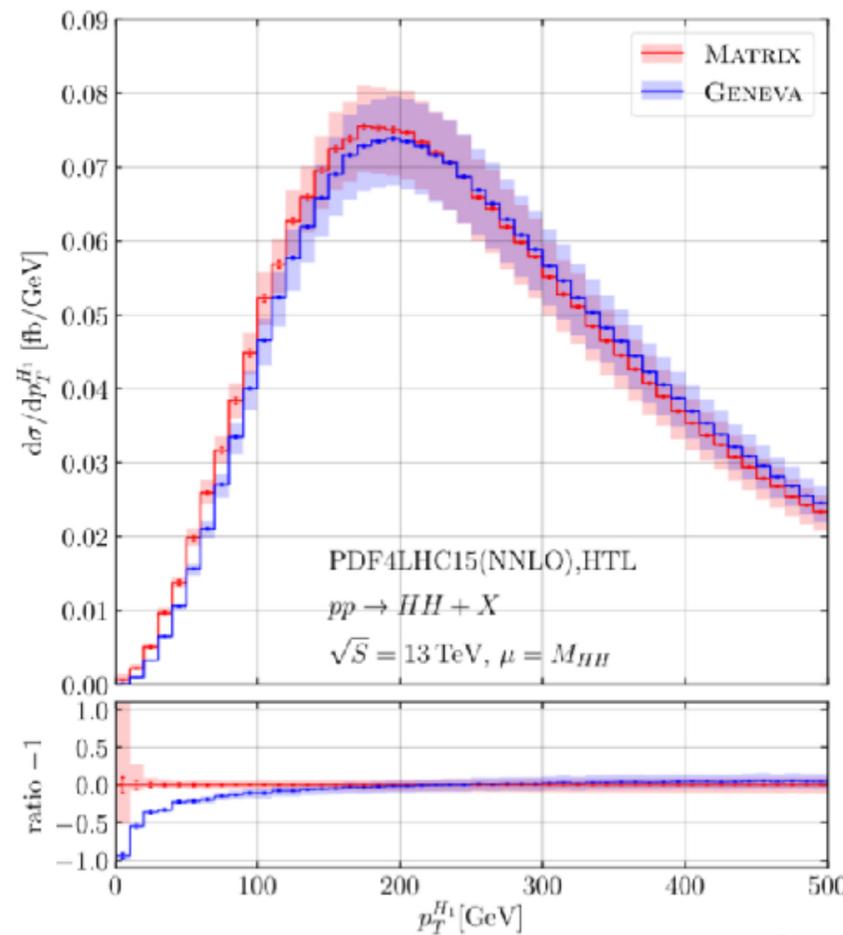
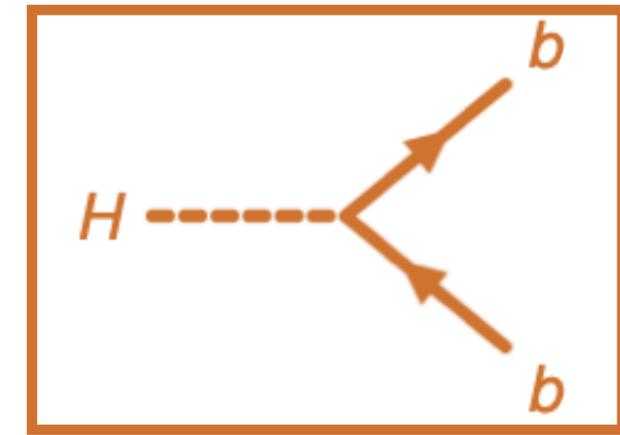
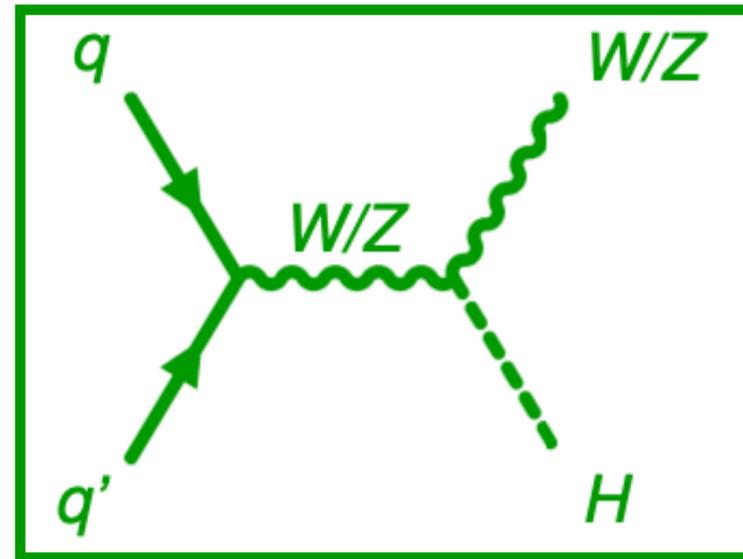
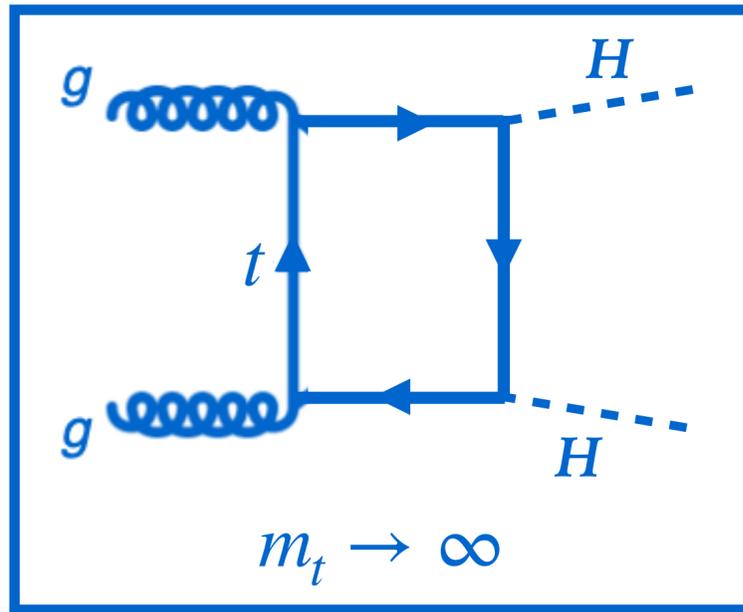


Both methods have **recently** been “refined” for ggF

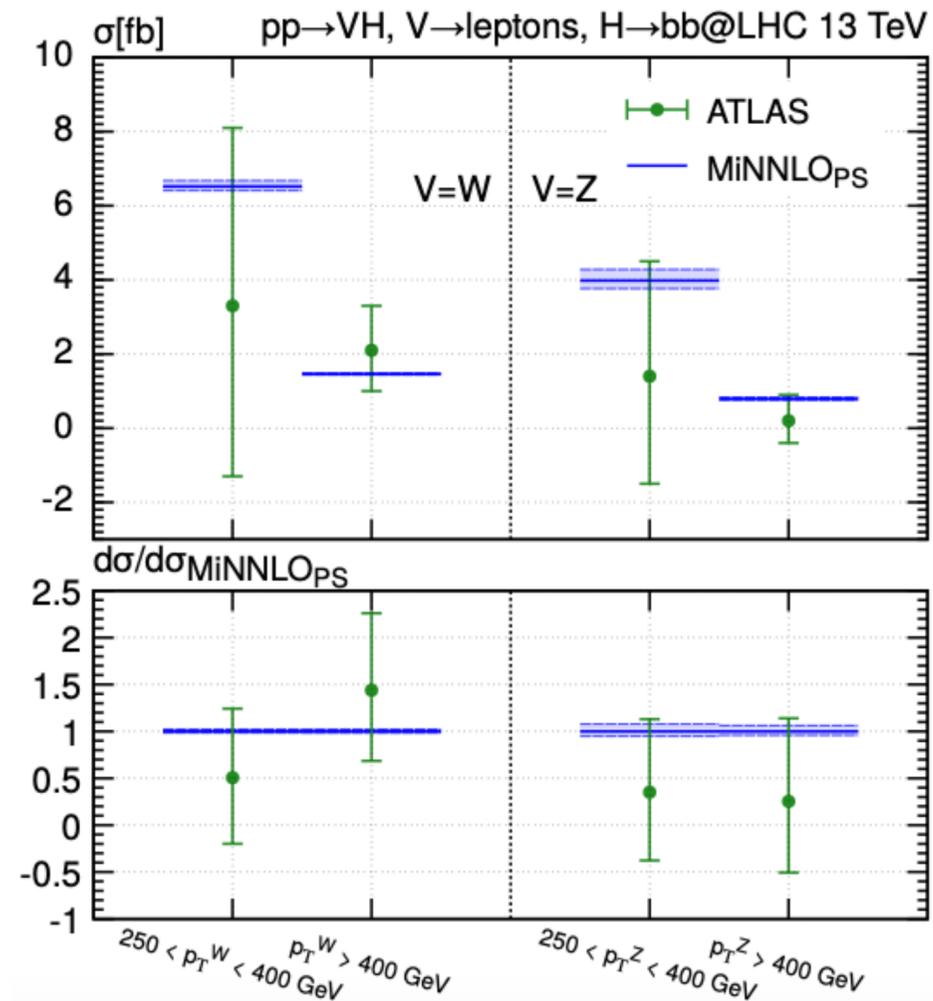
**Geneva** [Alioli, Billis et al., 2301.11875 ]



# NNLO+PS with MiNNLO and Geneva



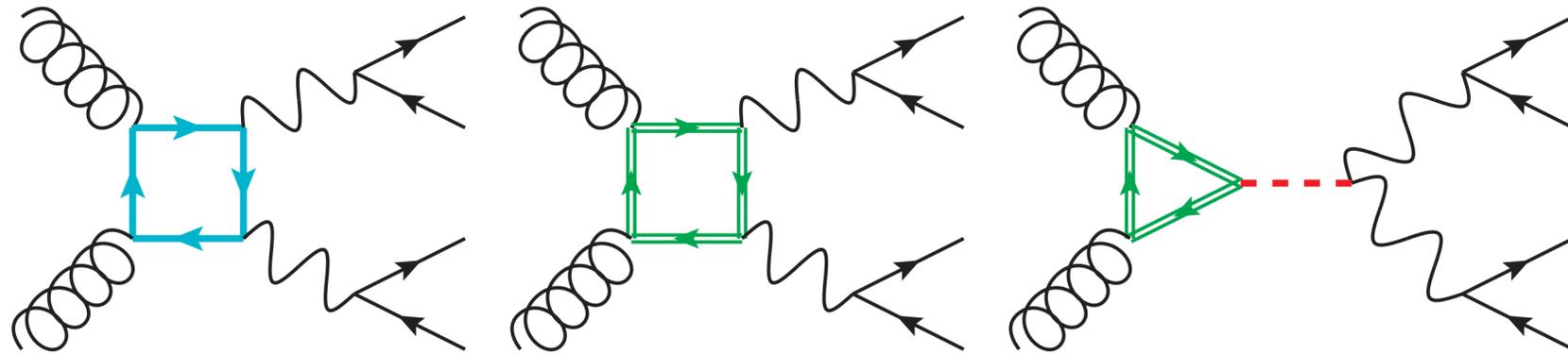
Geneva [Alioli et al., 2212.10489]



MiNNLO [Zanoli et al., 2112.04168]

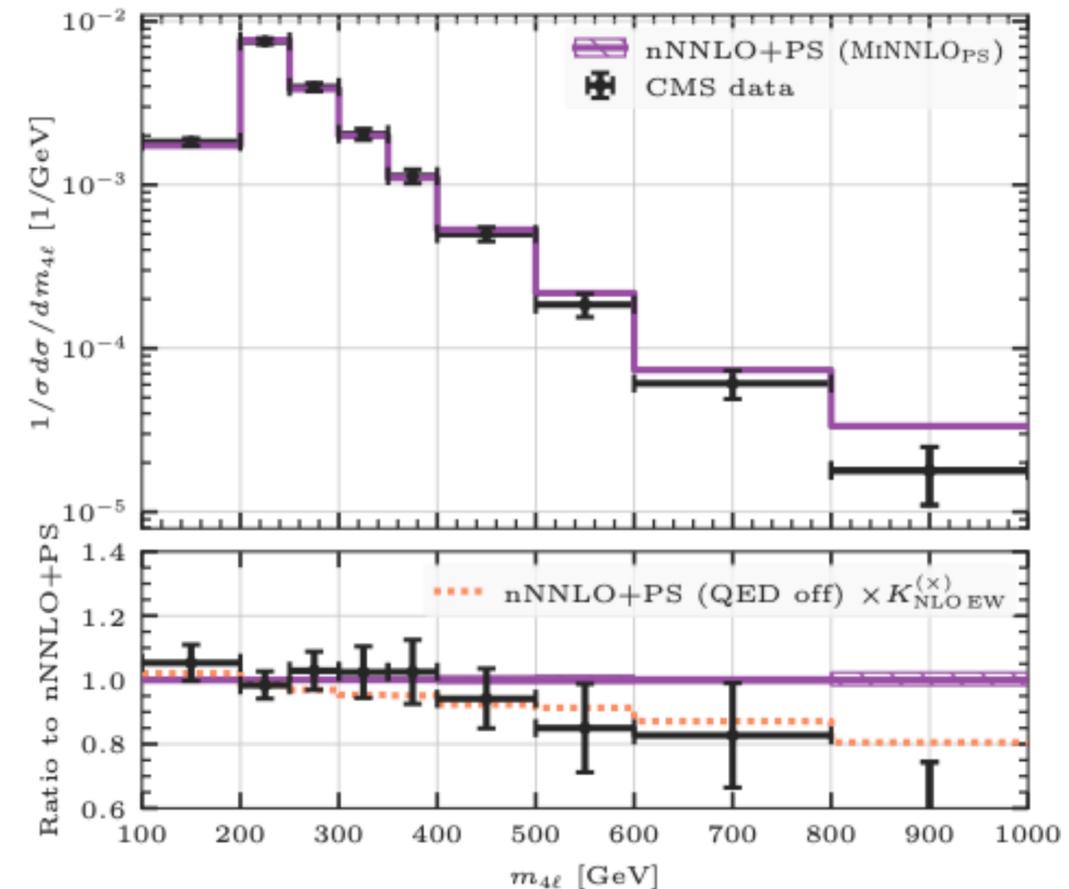
# Loop-induced processes with an Higgs

- **Loop-induced** processes (where  $m_t \rightarrow \infty$  cannot be used) obtained from gluon fusion are formally NNLO, but due to their size are being computed at **NLO+PS**



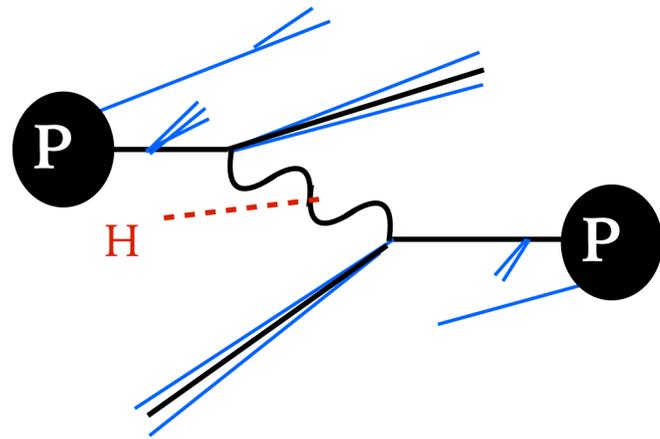
$gg \rightarrow 4\ell$  in the **Powheg Box**  
[Alioli, SFR. et al., 2102.07783]

Combined with “standard”  
**MINNLO** for  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$   
[Buonocore et al,  
2108.05337]



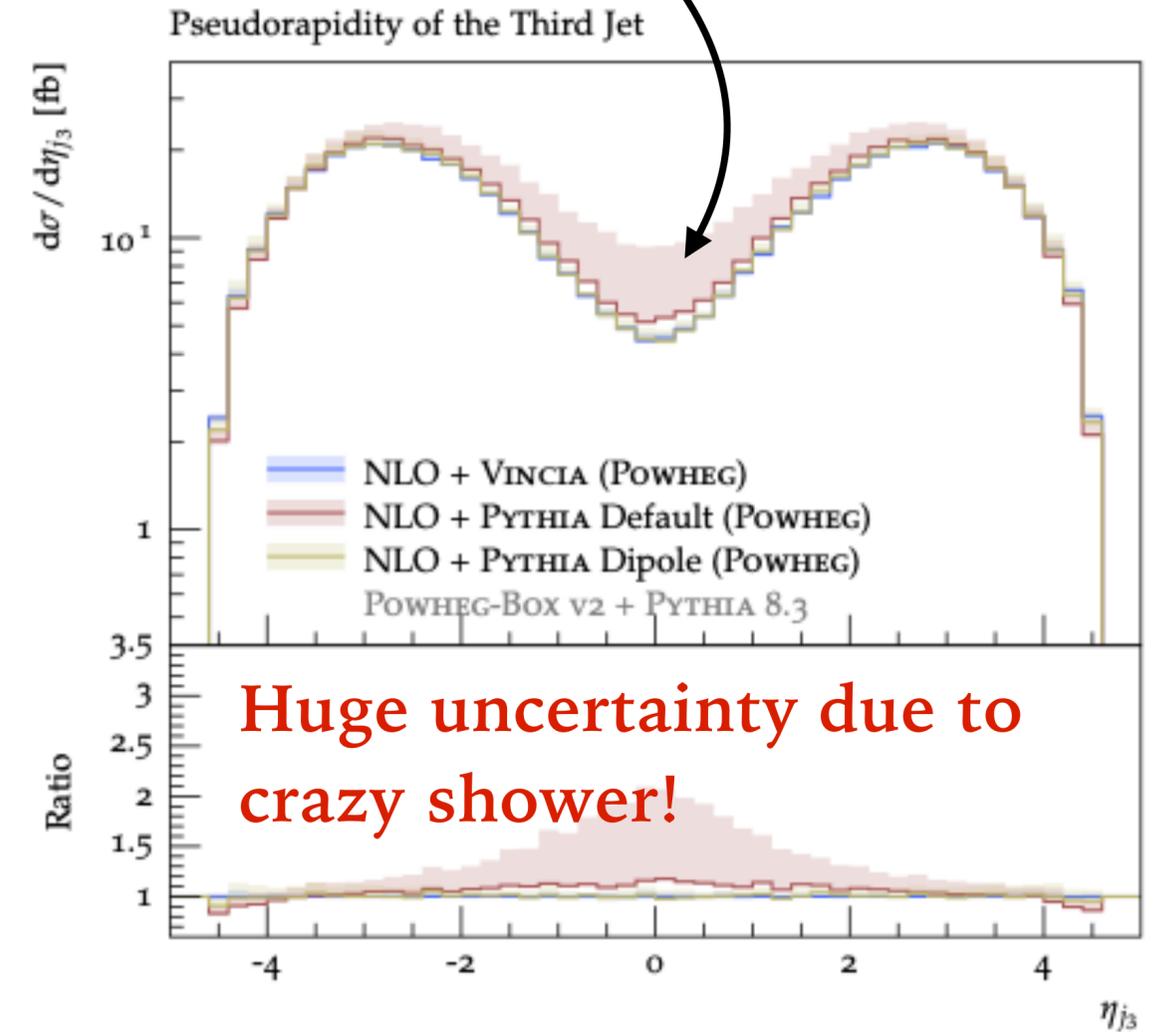
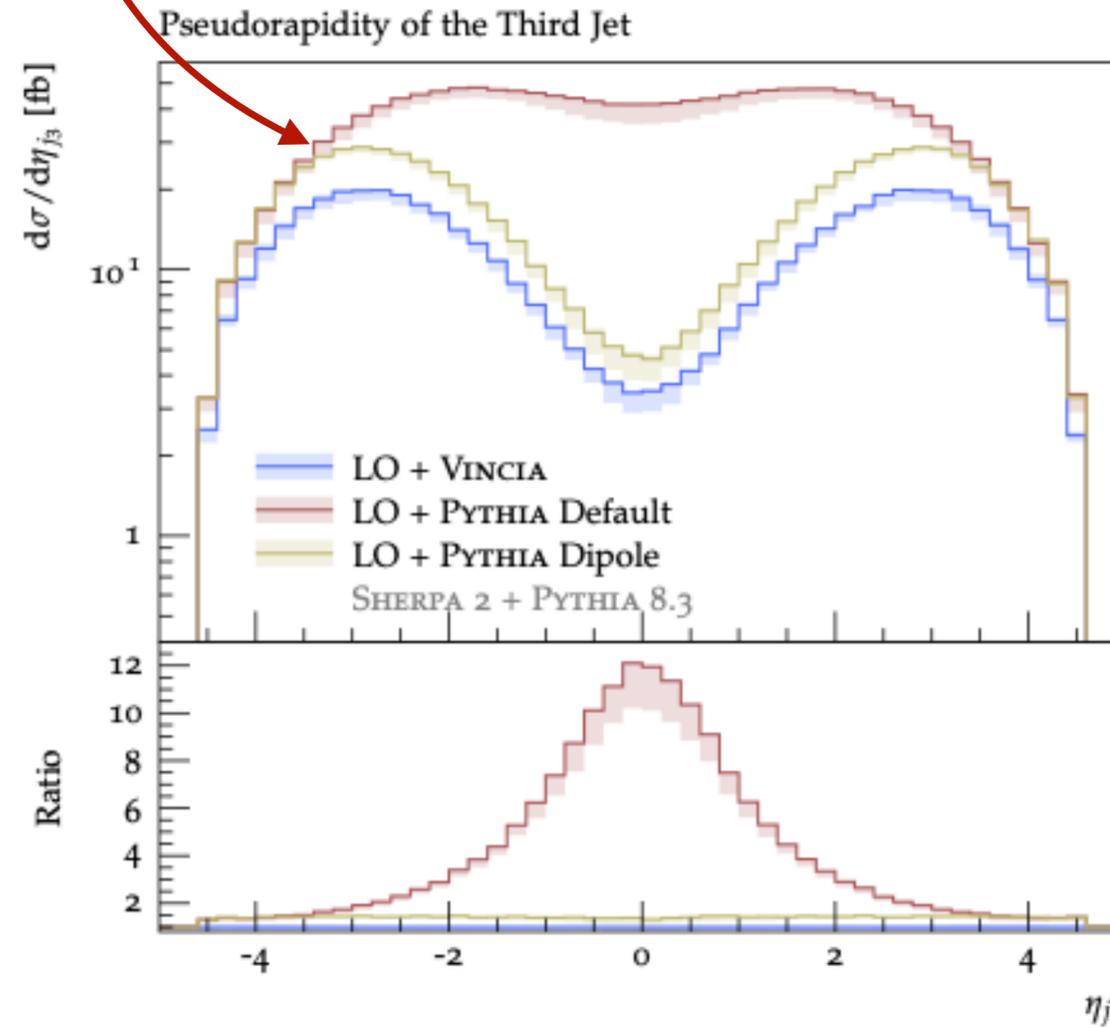
# Is matching all we need?

- If you have a **bad parton shower** (e.g. default Pythia8 shower), will **matching** save you? **NO!**

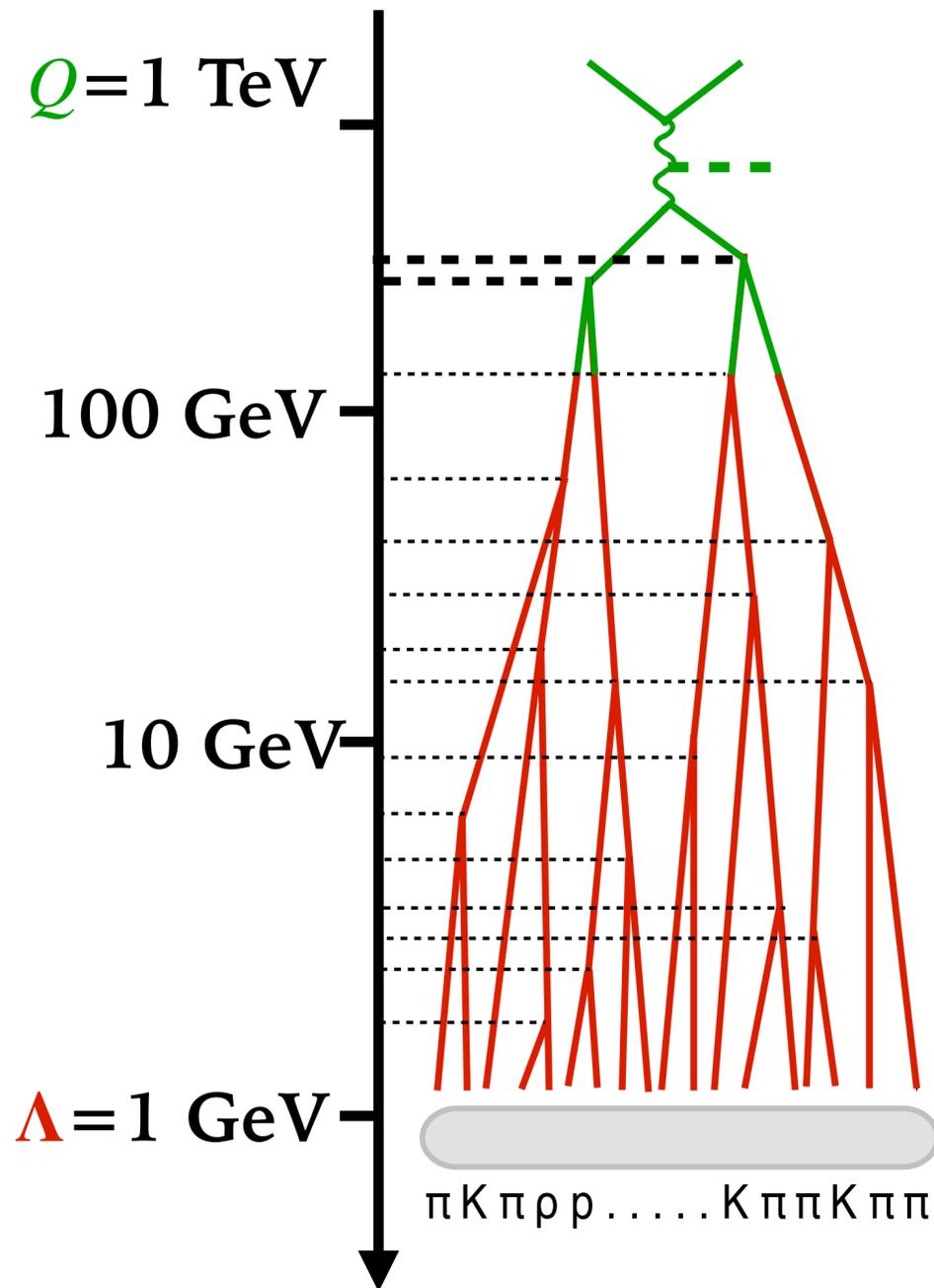


**VBF:** suppression of radiation at large angles

[Hoche, Mrenna, Payne, Preuss, Skands, 2106.10987]



# What shall we aim for in a shower?



**Parton shower**: logarithmically-enhanced terms at

all-orders in  $\alpha_s$ ; correct when  $L = \ln \frac{Q}{\Lambda} \gg 1$

$$\Sigma_{\text{PS}} = \exp \left( L g_{\text{LL}}(\alpha_s L) + g_{\text{NLL}}(\alpha_s L) + \alpha_s g_{\text{NNLL}}(\alpha_s L) + \dots \right)$$

**NLL**  $\approx 20 - 40\%$  correction  
and not entirely under  
control in standard GPMC :’(

**NNLL** necessary  
for %-level  
pheno!

# NLL showers

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- Recipe to get **NLL showers** known, at least in theory ([Catani, Webber, Marchesini '91; Dasgupta, Dreyer, Hamilton, Monni, Salam, Soyez '20])

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- This enabled the **PanScales** to devise the **first** showers with **general** NLL accuracy for

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow j_1j_2$$

Dasgupta, Dreyer, Hamilton,  
Monni, Salam, Soyez,  
2002.11114

$$pp \rightarrow \text{colour singlet}$$

van Beekveld, SFR, Soto-Ontoso,  
Salam, Soyez, Verheyen, 2205.02237, +  
Hamilton 2207.09467

DIS & VBF

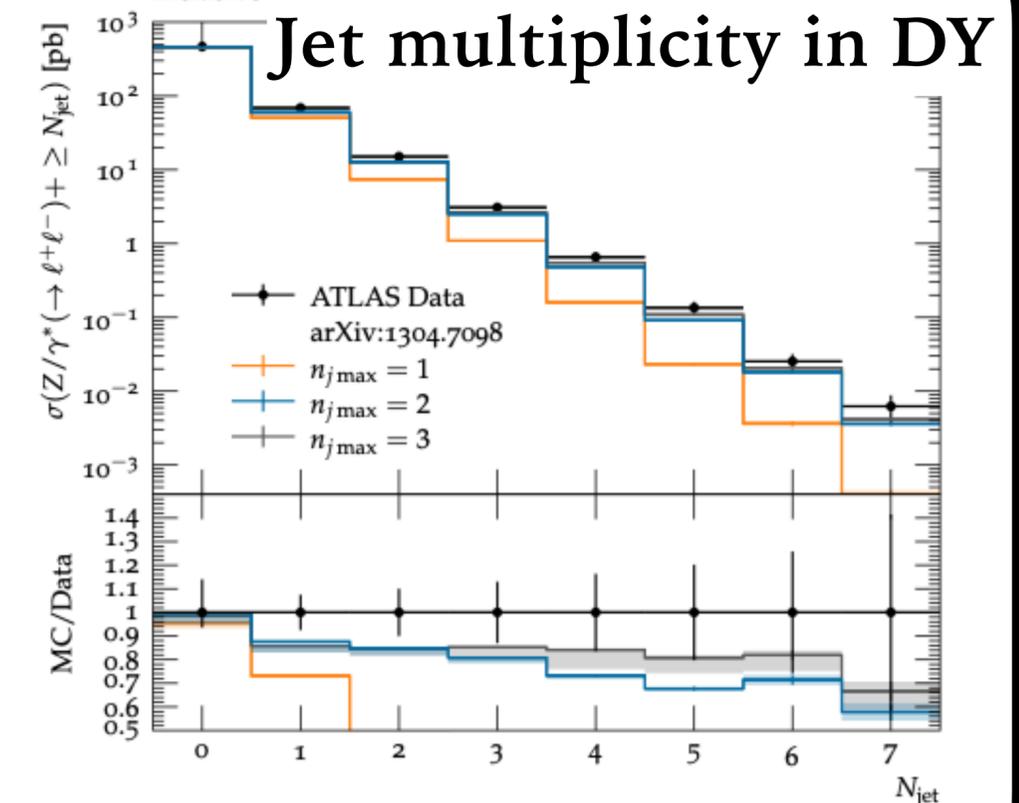
van Beekveld, SFR,  
2305.08645

...with **subleading colour** (2011.10054) and **spin correlations** (2103.16526, 2111.01161)

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- ▶ **PanScales** devised the **first** showers with **general** NLL accuracy for processes with two coloured partons, including  $H \rightarrow gg$  (2002.11114), **ggF** (2205.02237, 2207.09467) and **VBF** (2305.08645), with **subleading colour** (2011.10054) and **spin correlations** (2103.16526, 2111.01161)

- ▶ **Alaric** (Sherpa) NLL shower for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow j_1 j_2$  [Hoche, Krauss, Reichelt, 2404.14360], with **mass effects** [Assi, Hoche, 2307.00728], recently extended to generic process in **hadron-hadron collisions** [Hoche, Krauss, Reichelt, 2404.14360]



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- **Alaric** (Sherpa) NLL shower for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow j_1j_2$  (2404.14360), with **mass effects** (2307.00728), recently extended to generic process in **hadron-hadron collisions** (2404.14360), supports **LO multi-jet merging**.

- **Apollo** (Pythia) NLL shower for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow j_1j_2$  [2403.19452, Preuss]
- **FHP** (soon in Herwig) NLL shower for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow j_1j_2$  [Forshaw, Holguin, Platzer, 2003.06400]
- **Deductor** NLL accuracy shown **at least** for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow j_1j_2$  [Nagy, Soper 2011.04777]

# Matching with NLL showers

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Status of matching with NLL showers:

- **PanScales** [Hamilton et al, [2301.09645](#)] and **Apollo** [Preuss, [2403.19452](#)] have **NLO** matching for **colour-singlet decay into 2 jets**
- **Alaric** [Hoche et al, [2404.14360](#)] has **LO multi-jet merging** for  $e^+e^-$  and  $pp \rightarrow$  jets w/wo colour singlet

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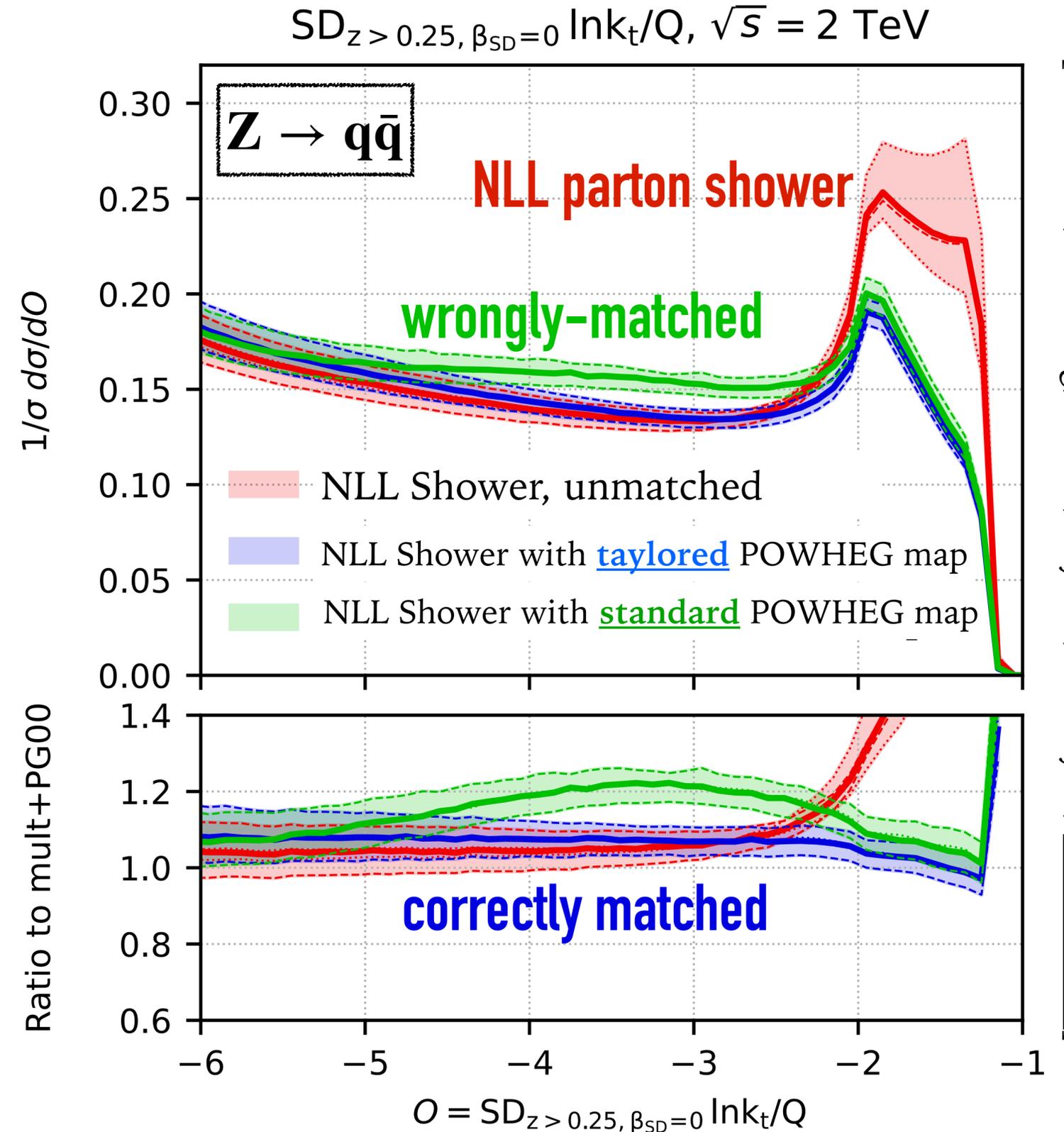
What is so difficult about getting NLO for generic process?

Find a nice NLO subtraction with kinematic mappings and counterterms compatible with the emission kernels of the shower!

Can we simply use an **existing external generator** not tailored to the shower, such as the **Powheg Box** (and **MiNNLO**) and **Geneva**?

# Matching and Logarithmic Accuracy

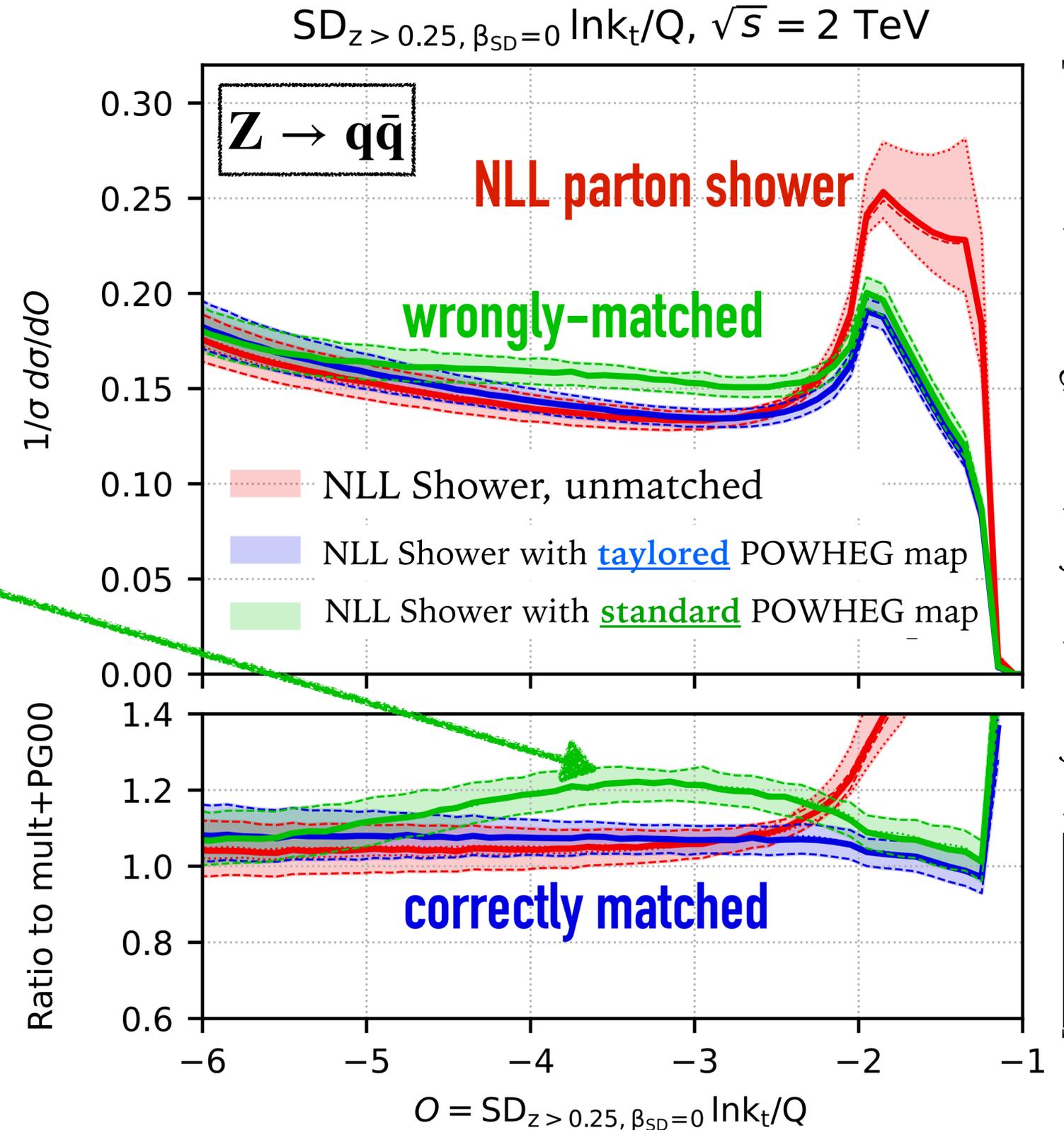
- Take a **NLL shower**, match it using the **standard POWHEG BOX** mappings, then **taylor** them to match the shower, see any difference?



[Hamilton, Karlberg, Salam, Scyboz, Verheyen, 2301.09645]

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- ▶ Not tayloring the mappings/ordering variable will **downgrade the NLL accuracy** of the shower

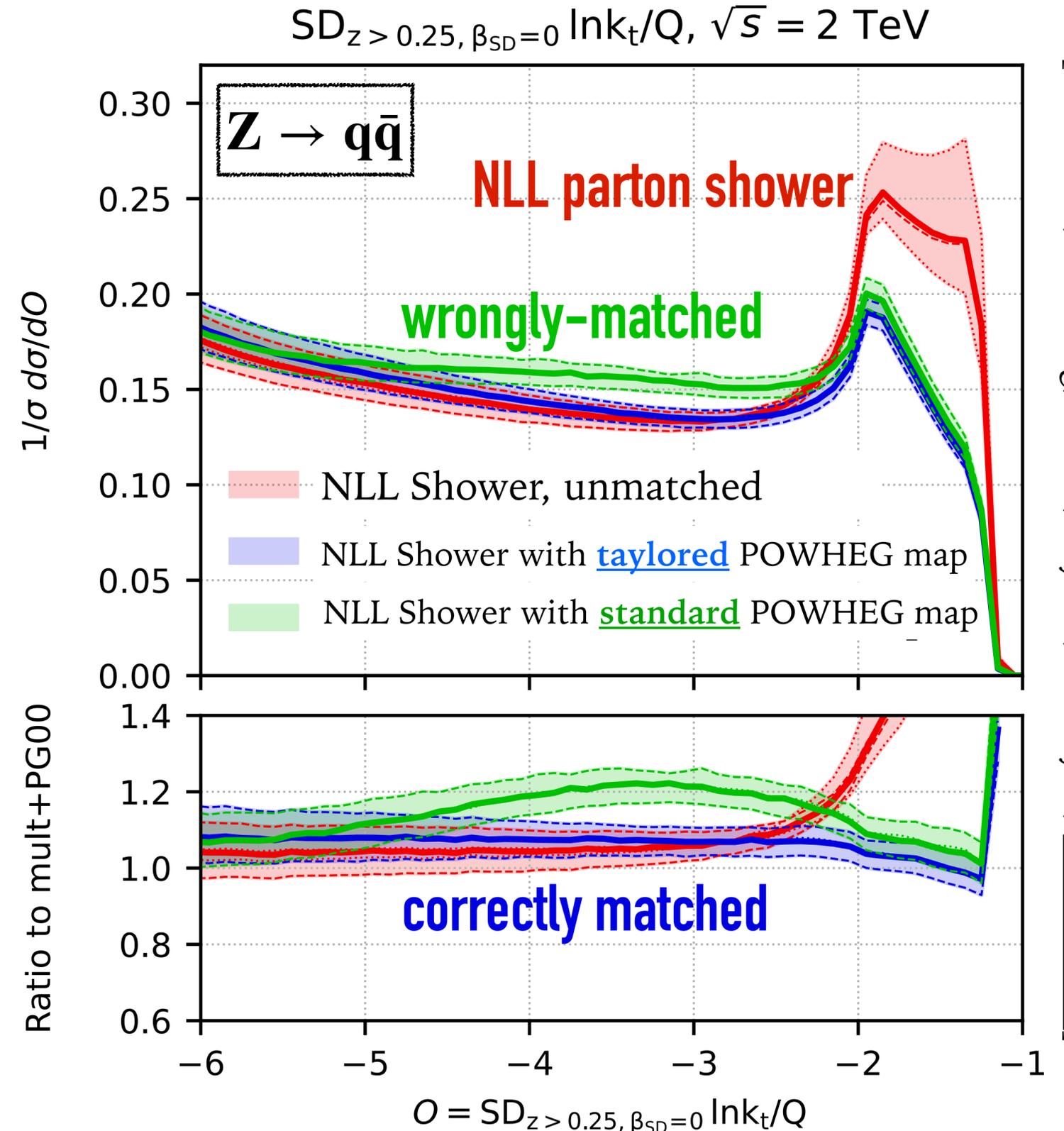


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- ▶ Not tayloring the mappings/ordering variable will **downgrade the NLL accuracy** of the shower
- ▶ While a **correct matching** will provide some **ingredients** necessary for **NNLL!**

$$\Sigma_{\text{NNLL}} = (1 + \boxed{\alpha_s C}) \exp(Lg_{\text{LL}}(\alpha_s L) + g_{\text{NLL}}(\alpha_s L) + \dots)$$



[Hamilton, Karlberg, Salam, Scyboz, Verheyen, 2301.09645]

# Going Beyond NLL

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The identification of the **relation** between critical **NNLL analytic resummation** ingredients and their **parton-shower counterparts** is the recipe to build a NNLL shower

► NLO matching

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➤ **NLO matching**

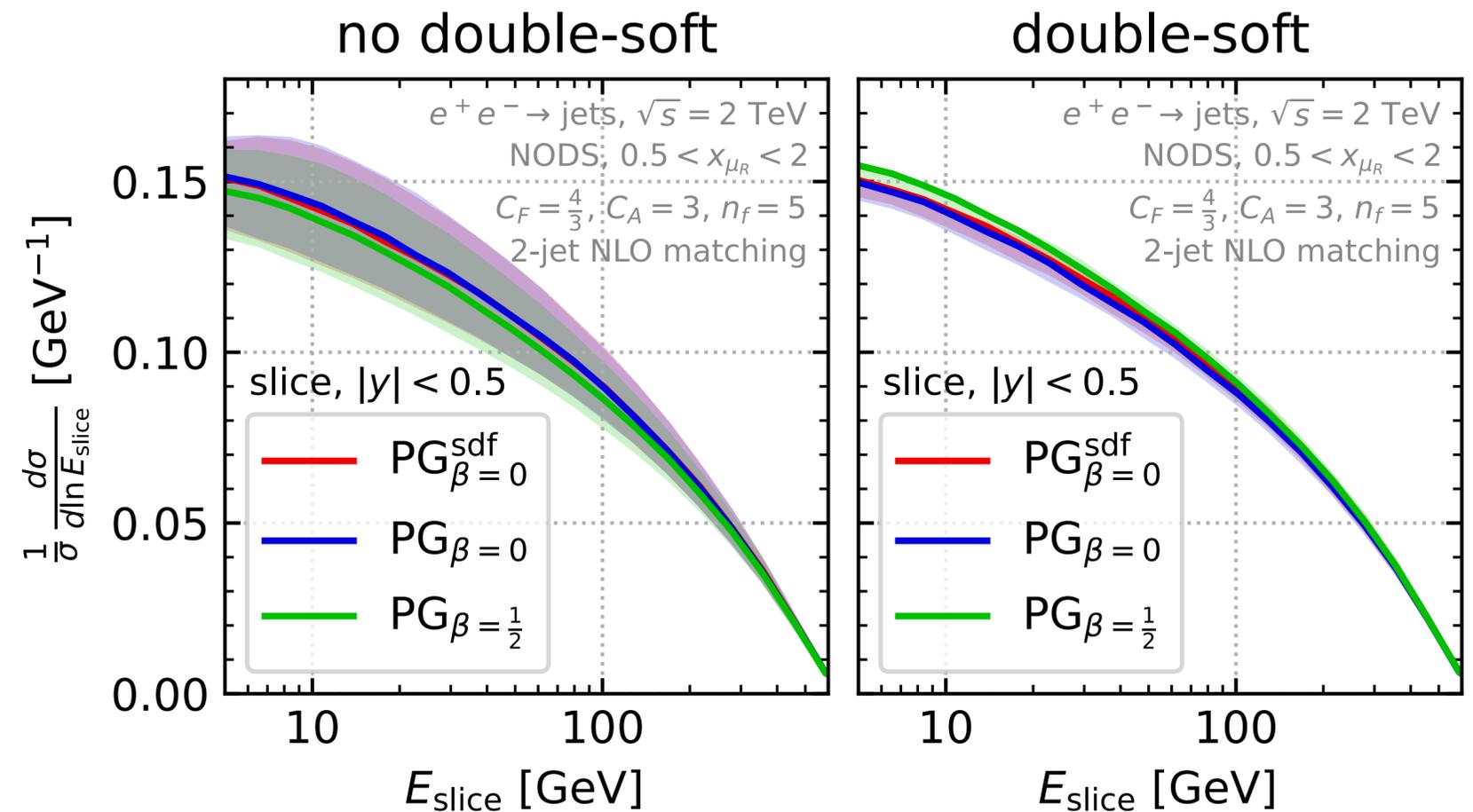
$$\Sigma_{\text{NNLL}} = (1 + \alpha_s C) \exp(Lg_{\text{LL}}(\alpha_s L) + g_{\text{NLL}}(\alpha_s L) + \dots)$$

➤ **Soft-radiation** pattern at **NLO**

➔ NNLL accuracy for **non-global observables** such as central jet vetoes (important e.g. for ggF vs VBF discrimination); so far applied only to

$e^+e^- \rightarrow j_1 j_2$  [S.F.R., Hamilton, Karlberg, Salam, Scyboz, Soyez [2307.11142](#)]

➔ NNLL → NLL sizeable **reduction of the scale uncertainty**



# Going Beyond NLL

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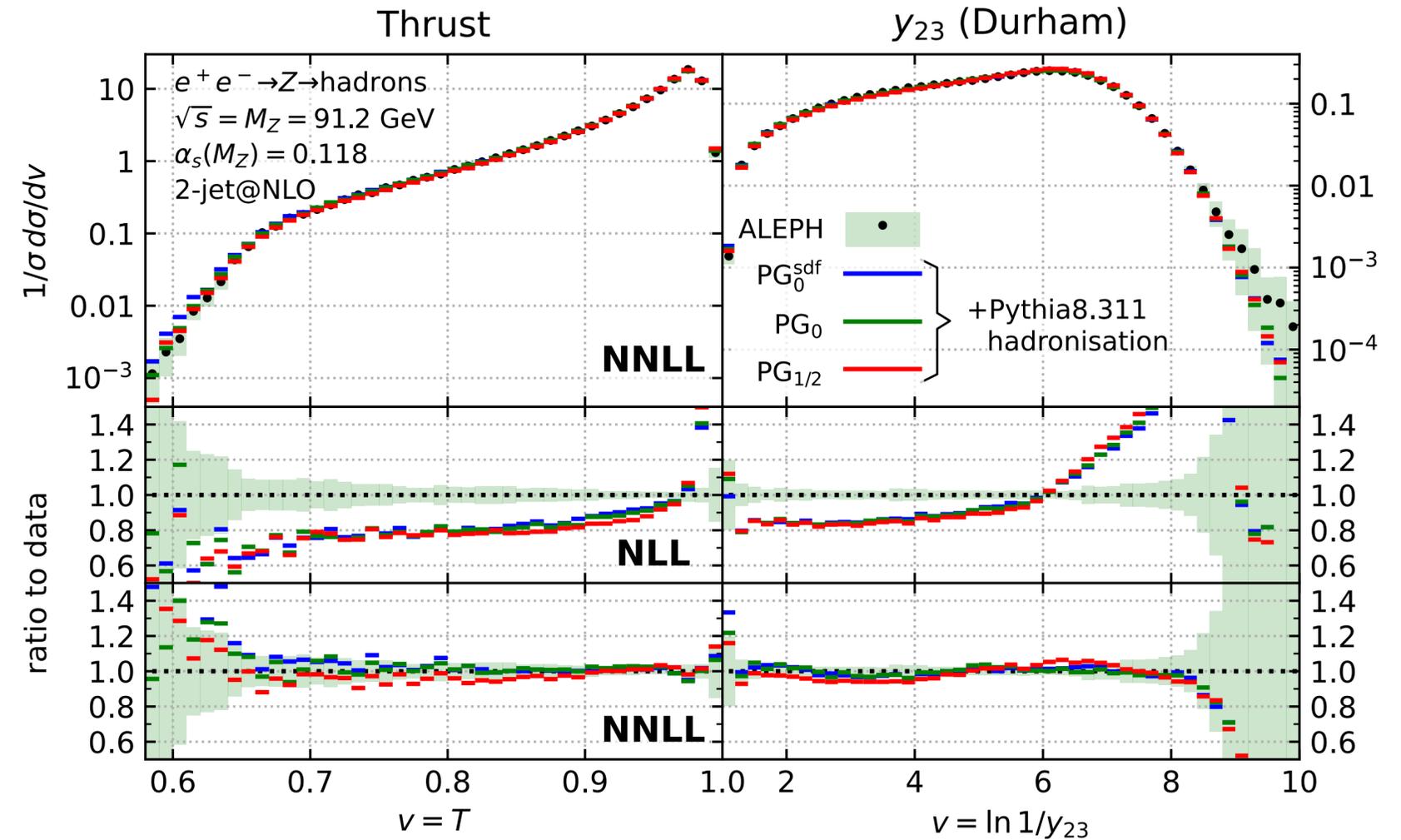
The identification of the **relation** between critical **NNLL analytic resummation** ingredients and their **parton-shower counterparts** is the recipe to build a NNLL shower

- NLO matching
- Soft-radiation pattern at NLO
- Collinear-radiation pattern at NLO
- Soft-collinear-radiation pattern at NNLO

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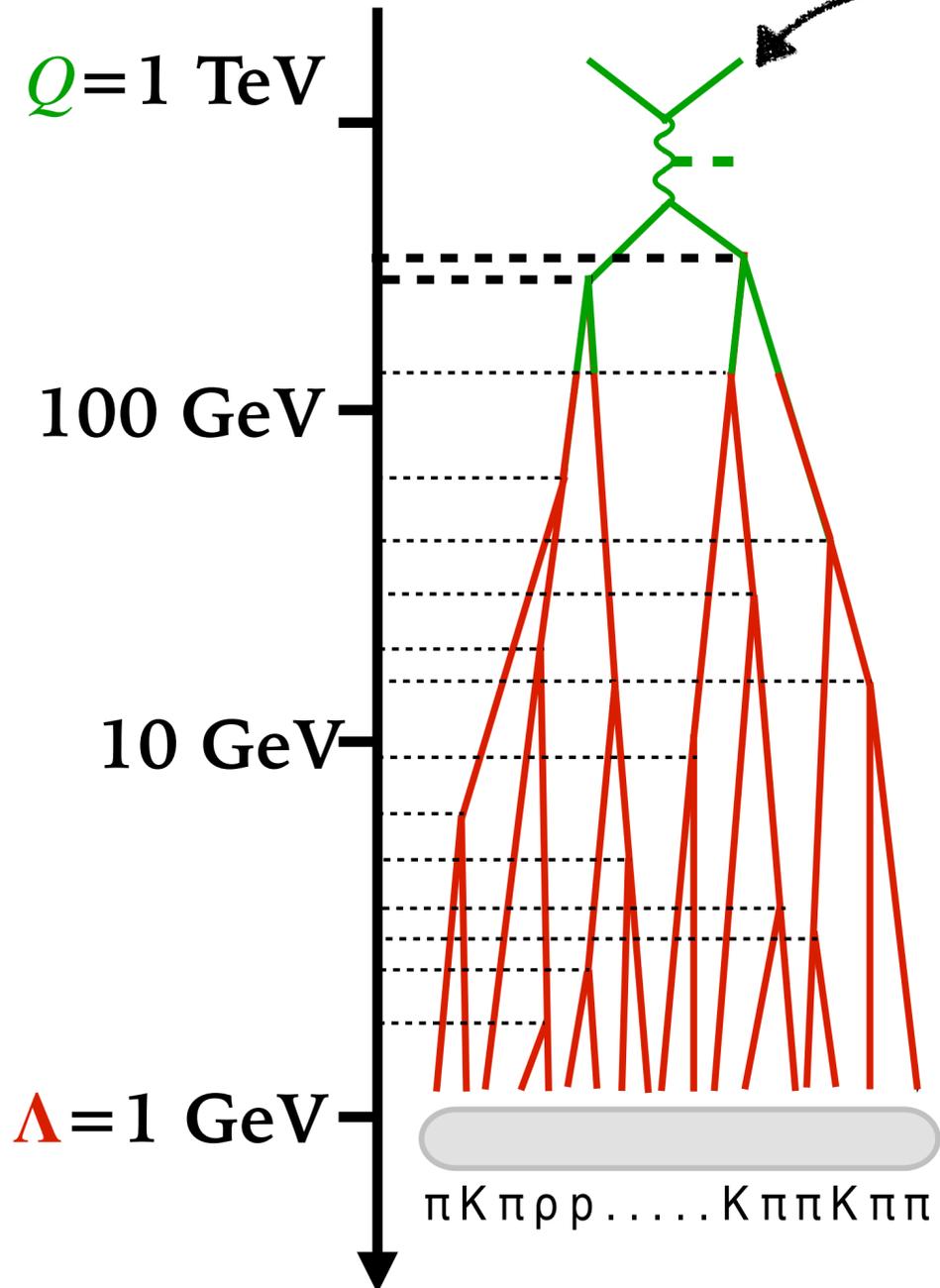
- NLO matching
- Soft-radiation pattern at NLO
- Collinear-radiation pattern at NLO
- Soft-collinear-radiation pattern at NNLO



With this, we can build the **first** shower for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow j_1j_2$ , and  $H \rightarrow gg$ , with **NNLL accuracy for global event shapes** [van Beekveld, Dasgupta, El-Menoufi, SFR et al, 2406.02661]

# What to do

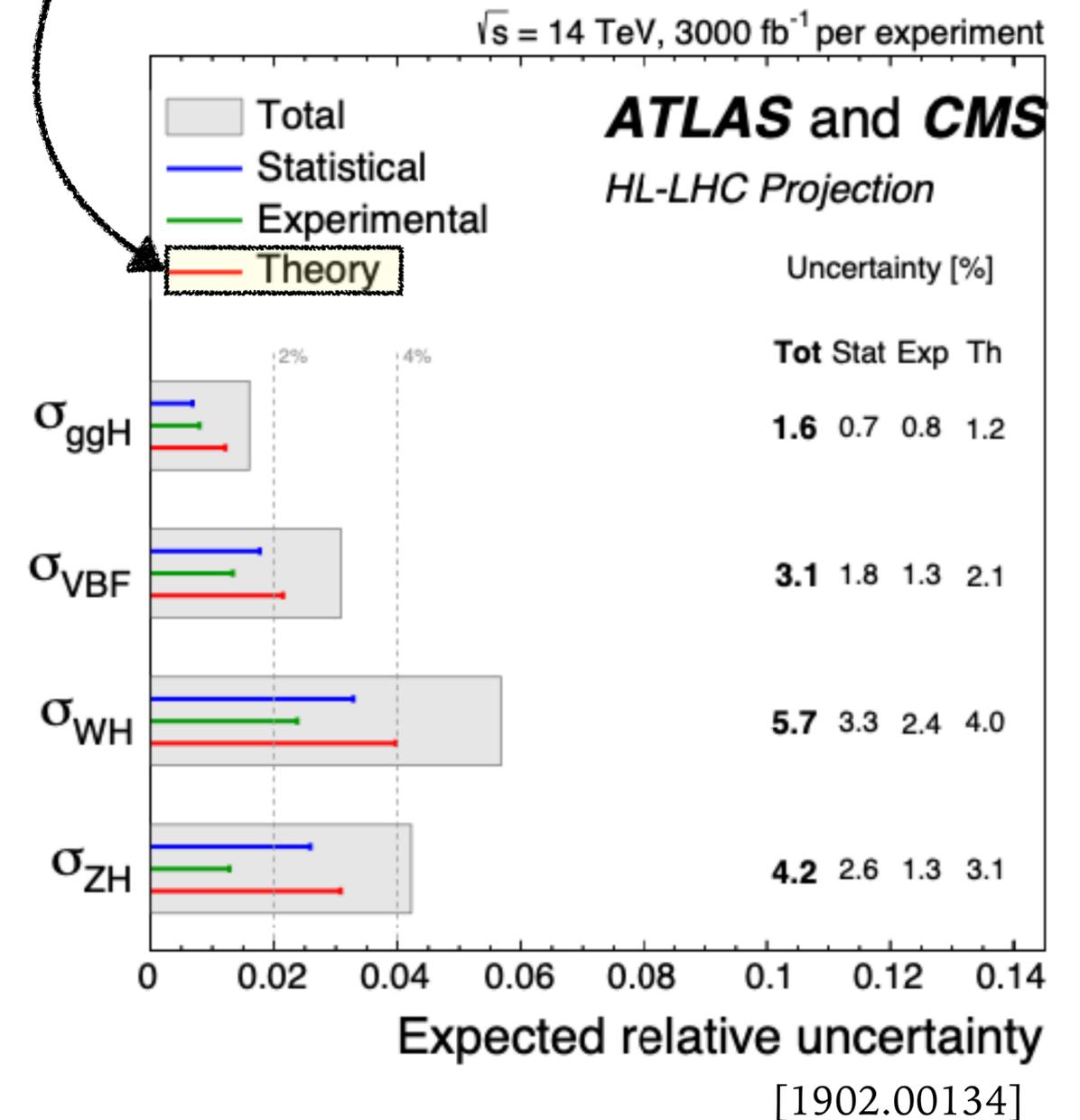
To exploit the physics potential of the LHC and future colliders, we need **theoretical predictions** spanning **several energy-regimes** with **percent-level precision**



Combine higher-order calculations with showers: NNLO current frontier

**SIMULTANEOUSLY??**

New showers with improved formal and practical accuracy: NNLL current frontier



# NLL showers

- Recipe to get **NLL showers** known, at least in theory ([Catani, Webber, Marchesini '91; Dasgupta, Dreyer, Hamilton, Monni, Salam, Soyez '20])

- This enabled the **PanScales** to devise the **first** showers with **general** NLL accuracy for

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow j_1 j_2$$

Dasgupta, Dreyer, Hamilton,  
Monni, Salam, Soyez,  
2002.11114

$$pp \rightarrow \text{colour singlet}$$

van Beekveld, **SFR**, Soto-Ontoso,  
Salam, Soyez, Verheyen, 2205.02237, +  
Hamilton 2207.09467

DIS & VBF

van Beekveld, **SFR**,  
2305.08645

...with **subleading colour**  
(2011.10054) and  
**spin correlations**  
(2103.16526,  
2111.01161)

