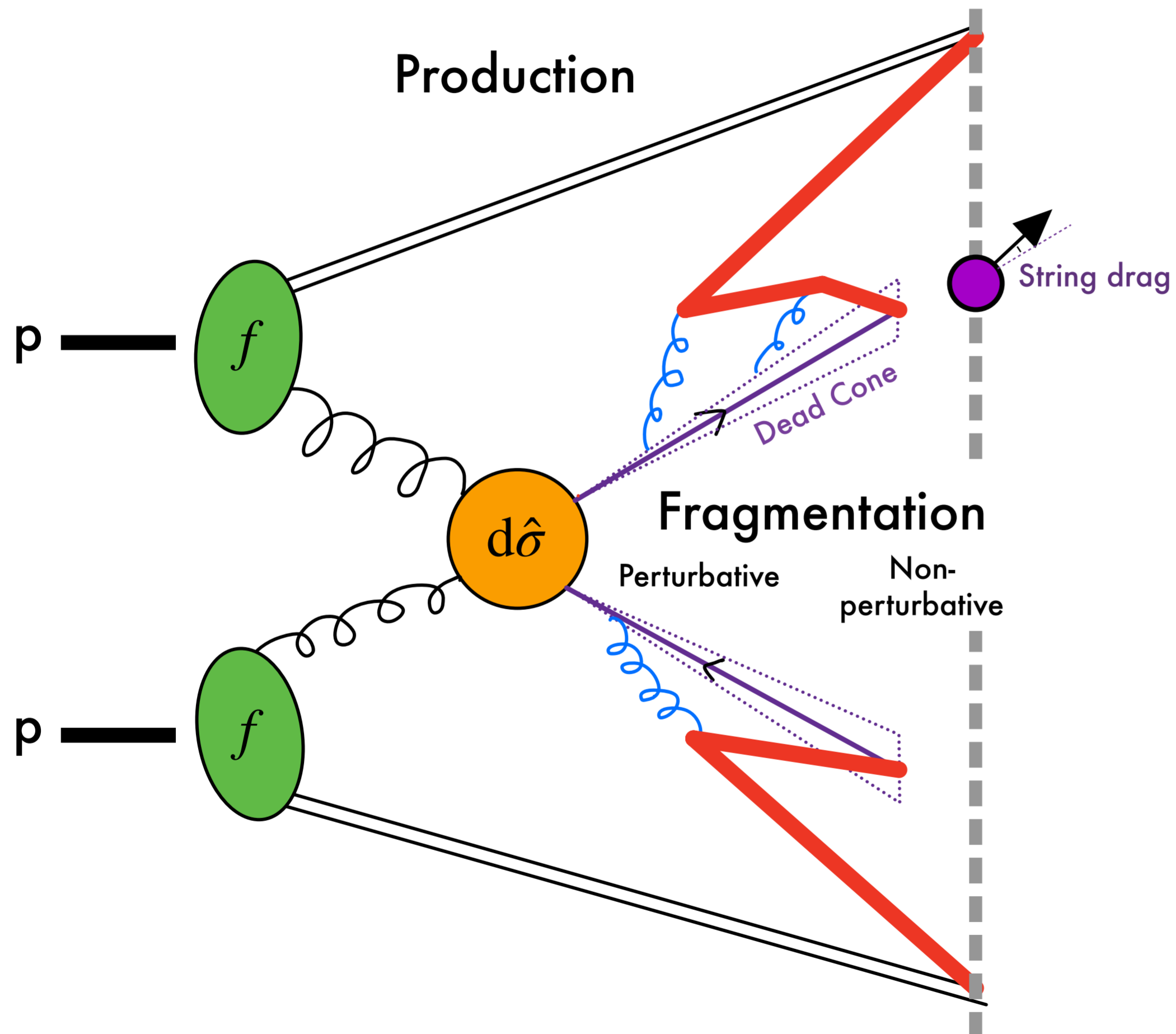
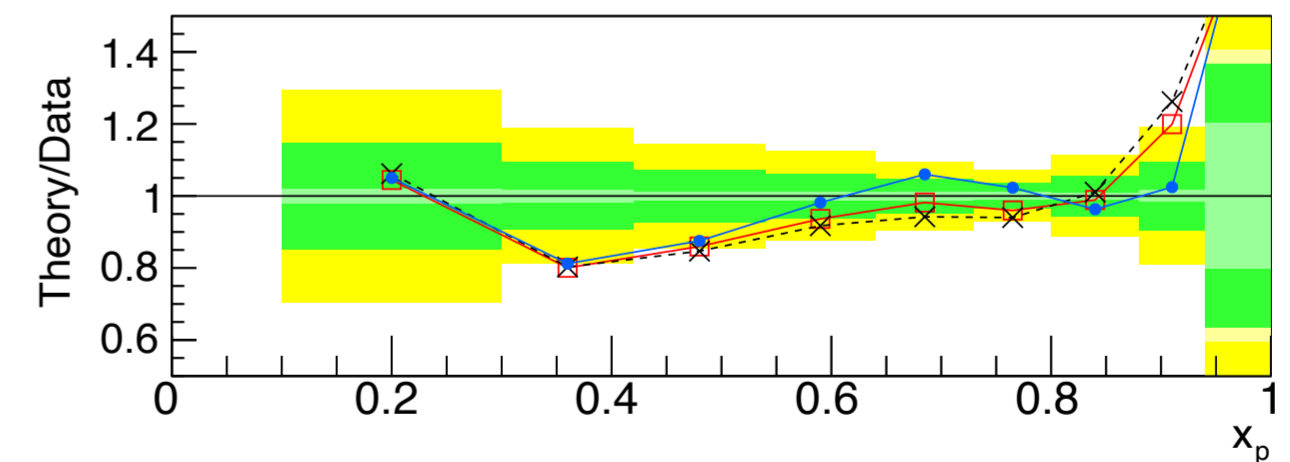
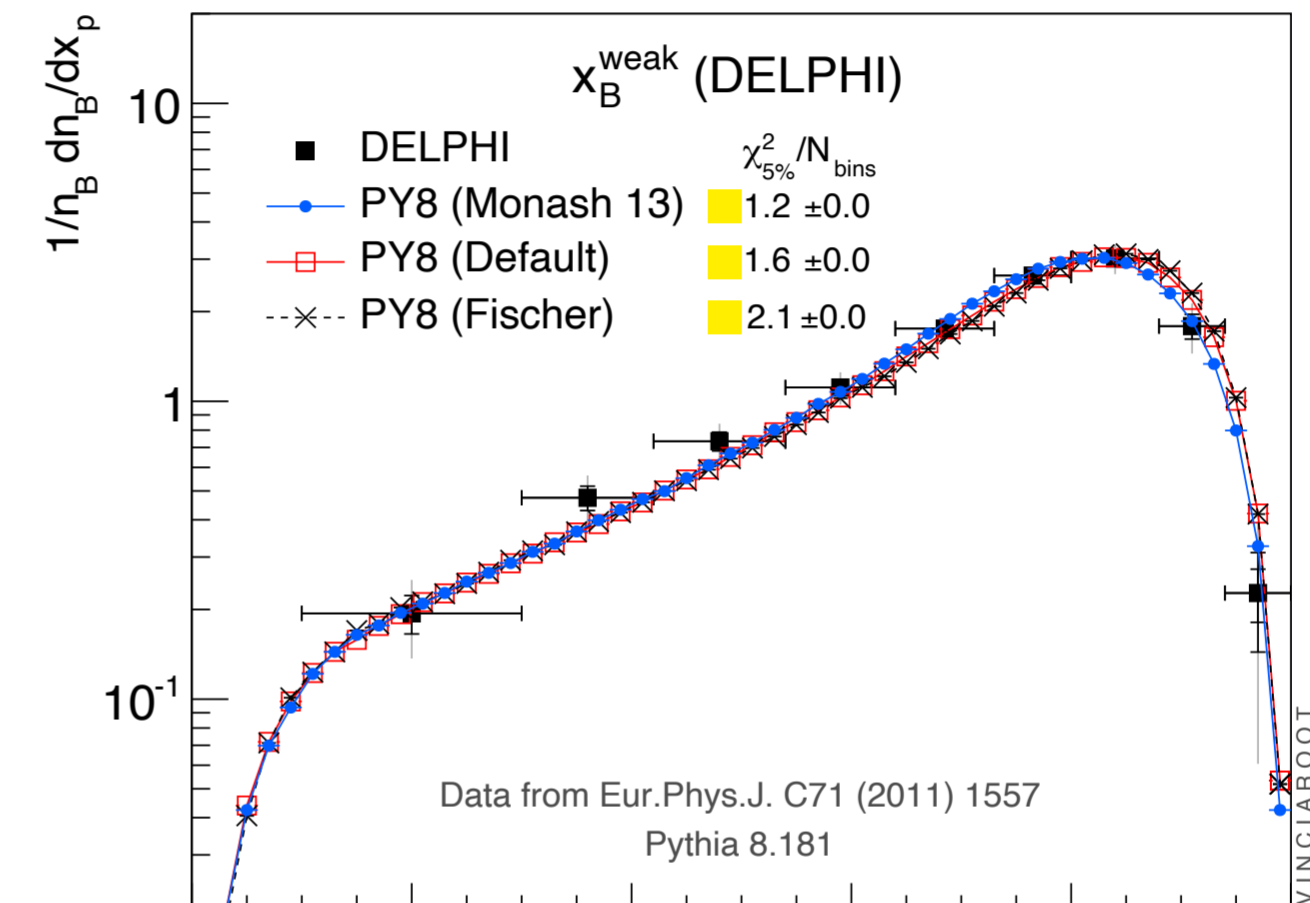


Heavy Flavours in PYTHIA – Status and News

Peter Z Skands — U of Oxford & Monash U



Tuning

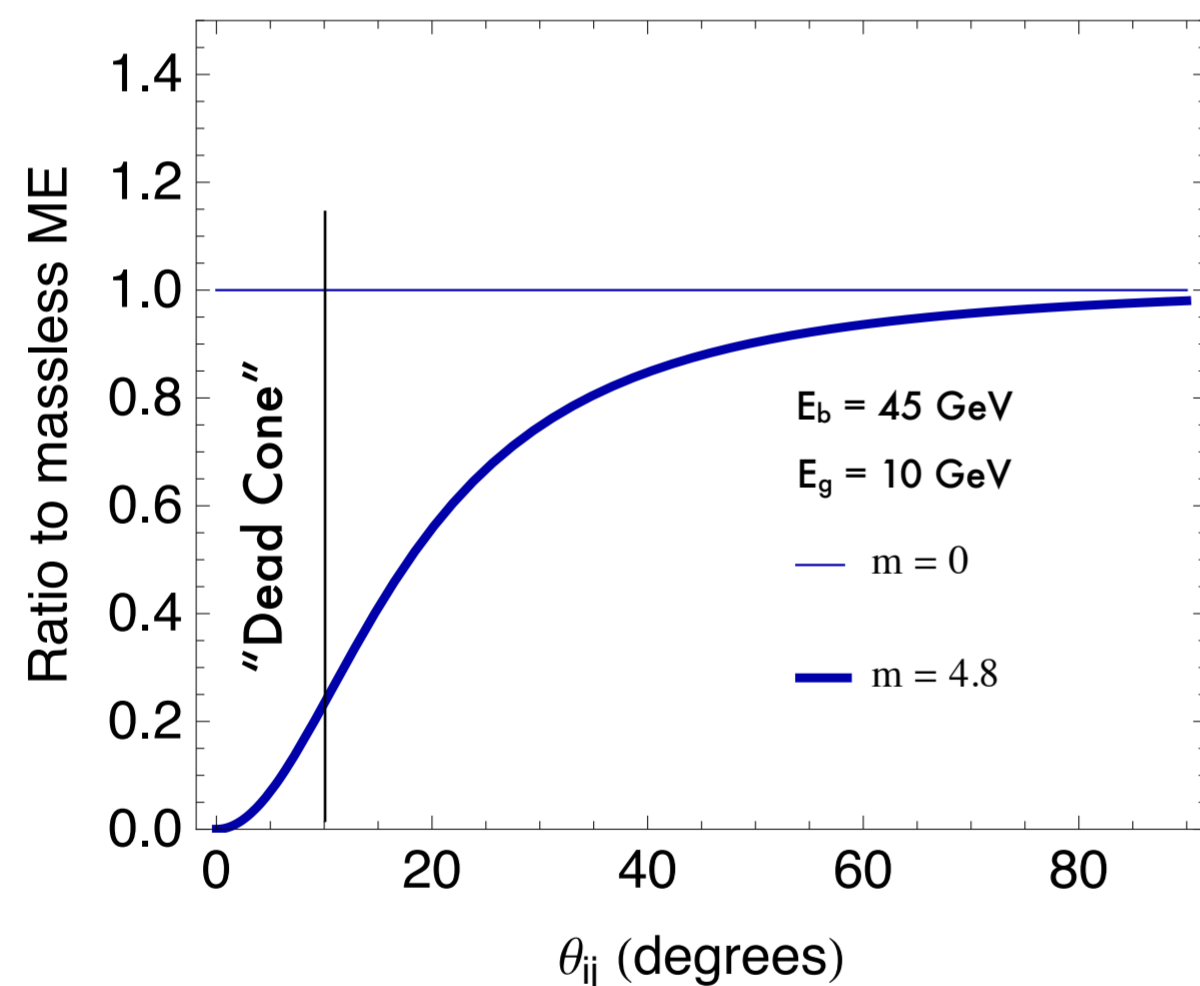


⊗ Decay(s) ⊗ QED Radiation

Exact Phase Space

Dalitz Plots: \longrightarrow

Eikonal Mass Corrections



(a) $Q\bar{q} \rightarrow Qg\bar{q}$ (Q massive, \bar{q} massless)

(b) $q\bar{q} \rightarrow qg\bar{q}$ (q massless)

(+ analogous ones for $g \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$)

Combination of phase space and mass corrections \implies Dead Cone for $\theta \lesssim \frac{m}{E}$

Also: careful treatment of "quasi-collinear" limit + Soon: iterated MECs.

Production — Nonperturbative Aspects

B spectrum = Perturbative Fragmentation (α_s) \otimes Lund-Bowler Fragmentation Function:

$$f(z) = N \frac{(1-z)^a}{z^{1+r_c b m_Q^2}} \exp\left(\frac{-b m_{\perp h}^2}{z}\right)$$

Monash Tune

Light-flavour event shapes $\rightarrow \alpha_s$

N_{ch} and x_{ch} spectra \rightarrow Lund a and b parameters

ALEPH D^* spectrum $\rightarrow r_c$

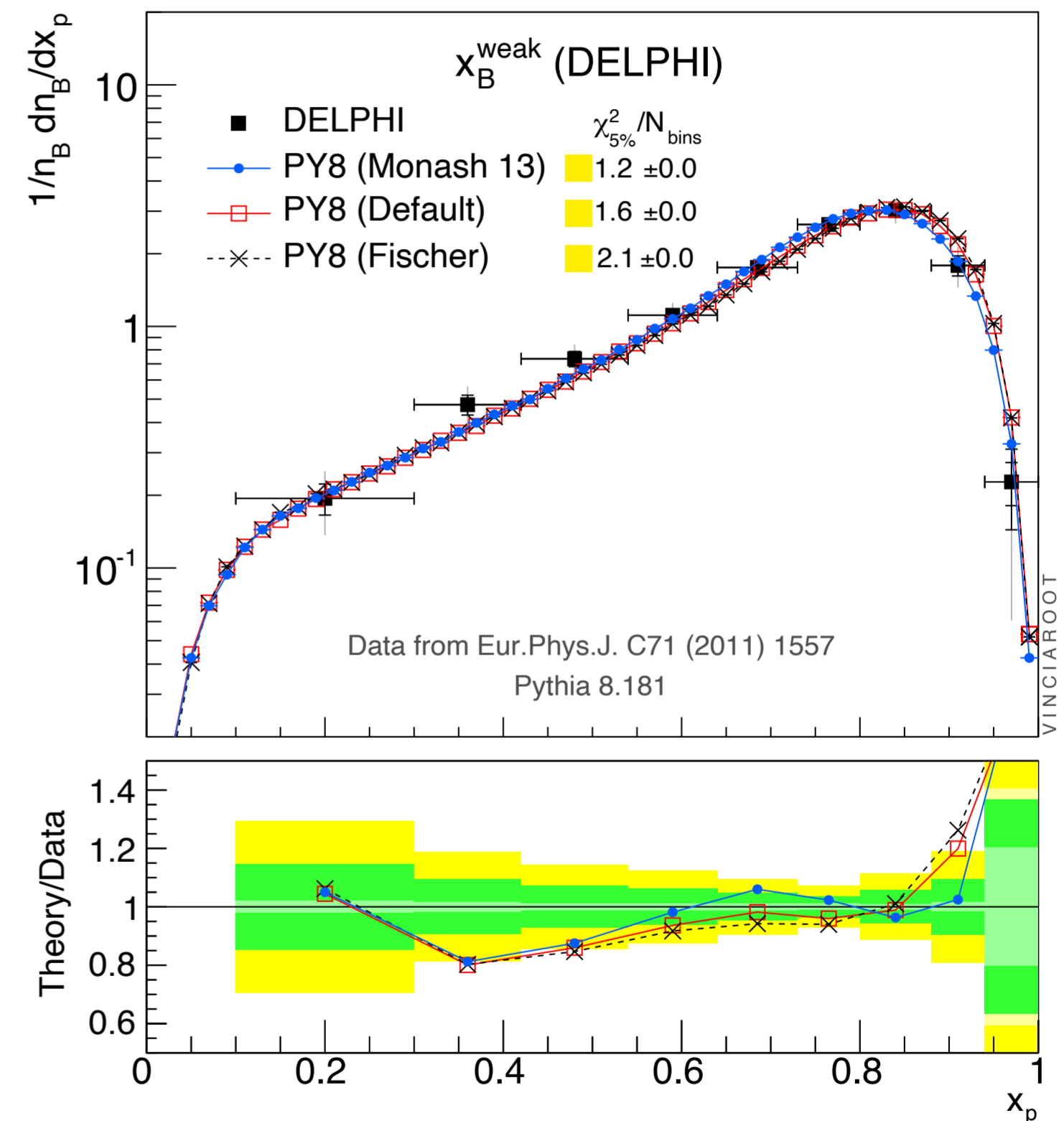
DELPHI & SLD B spectra $\rightarrow r_b$

Interplay between matching, retuning, and HF fragmentation (r_c , r_b , etc) needs dedicated study?

Aware of some efforts. Coordinated? Person-power ... ?

Alternatives?

By default, Peterson (or similar) not consistent with string fragmentation, but ...



Note on Heavy-Flavour Tagging

Taggers trained on combination of data-driven & MCs

Performance (& Uncertainties!) depend (at least partially?) on:

Fidelity of MC modelling

+ in-situ constraints

Fundamental physics of confinement **not a solved issue**

LHC discoveries: Strangeness and baryon enhancements, collectivity, ...

→ **New (more advanced) MC hadronization models are being developed**

Colour reconnections,

Octet (gluon) vs triplet
(quark) fragmentation,

Colour ropes,

String Junctions

Coalescence

Close-packing,

String interactions,

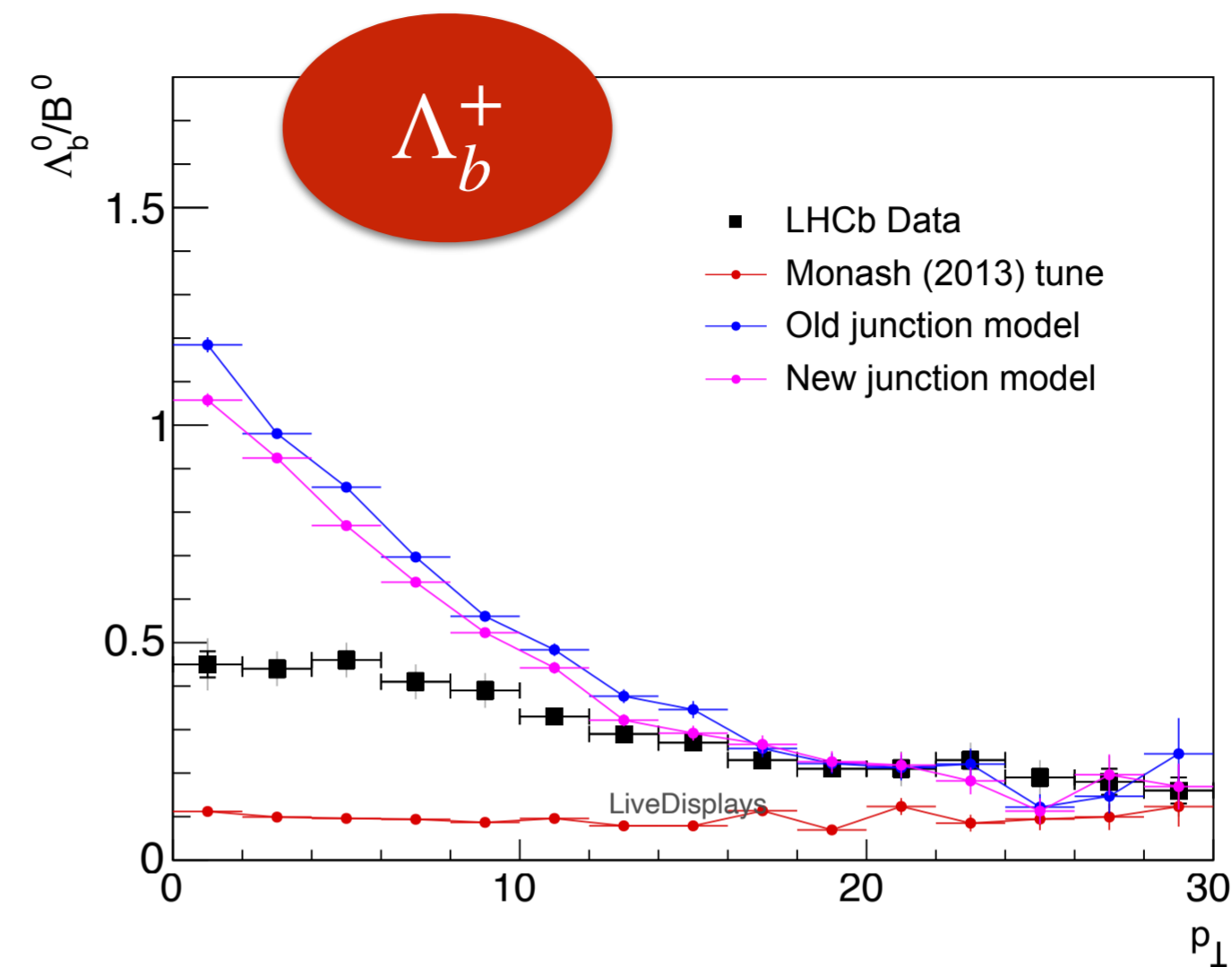
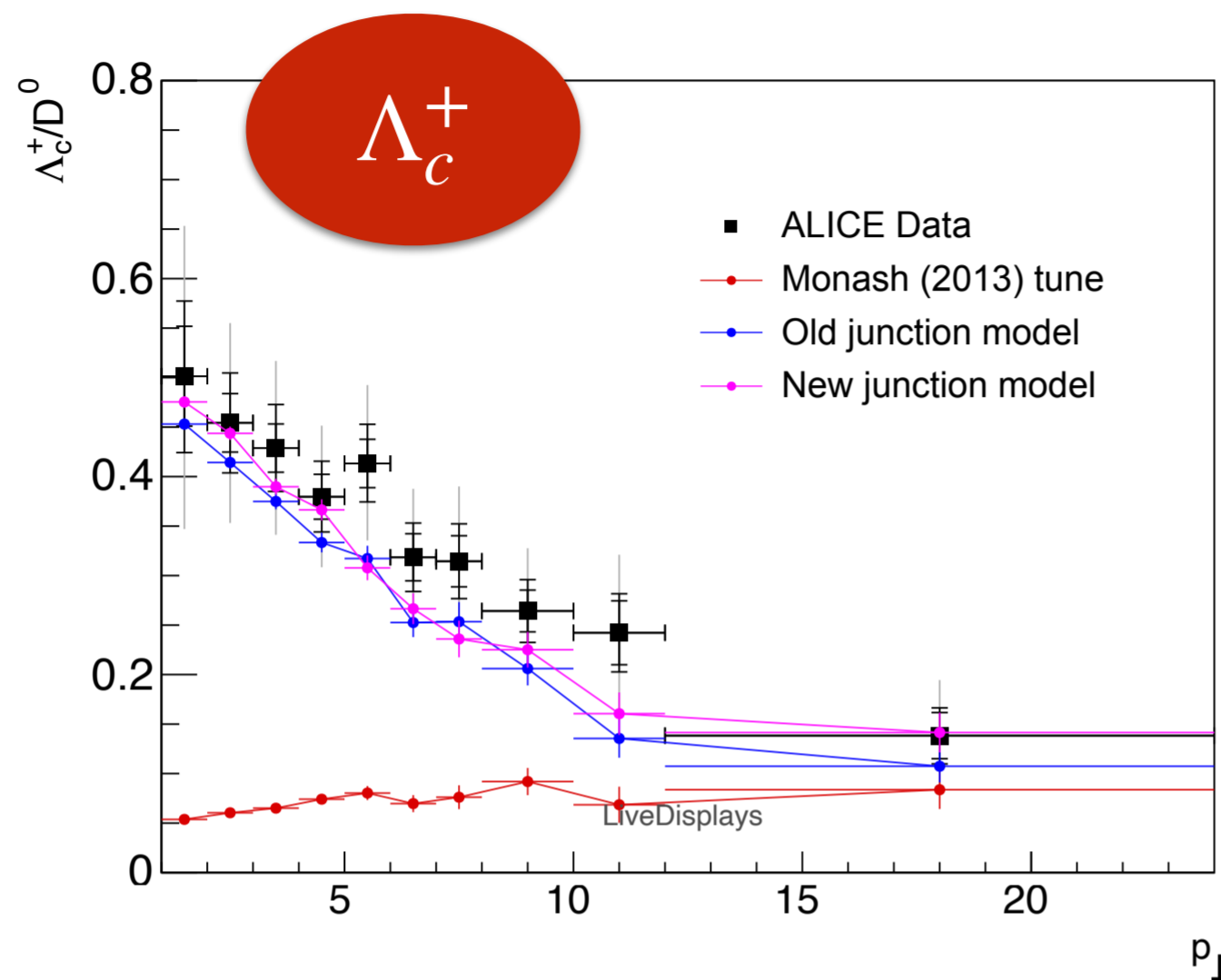
Flow / String Shoving,

Hot strings,

Excited strings,

...

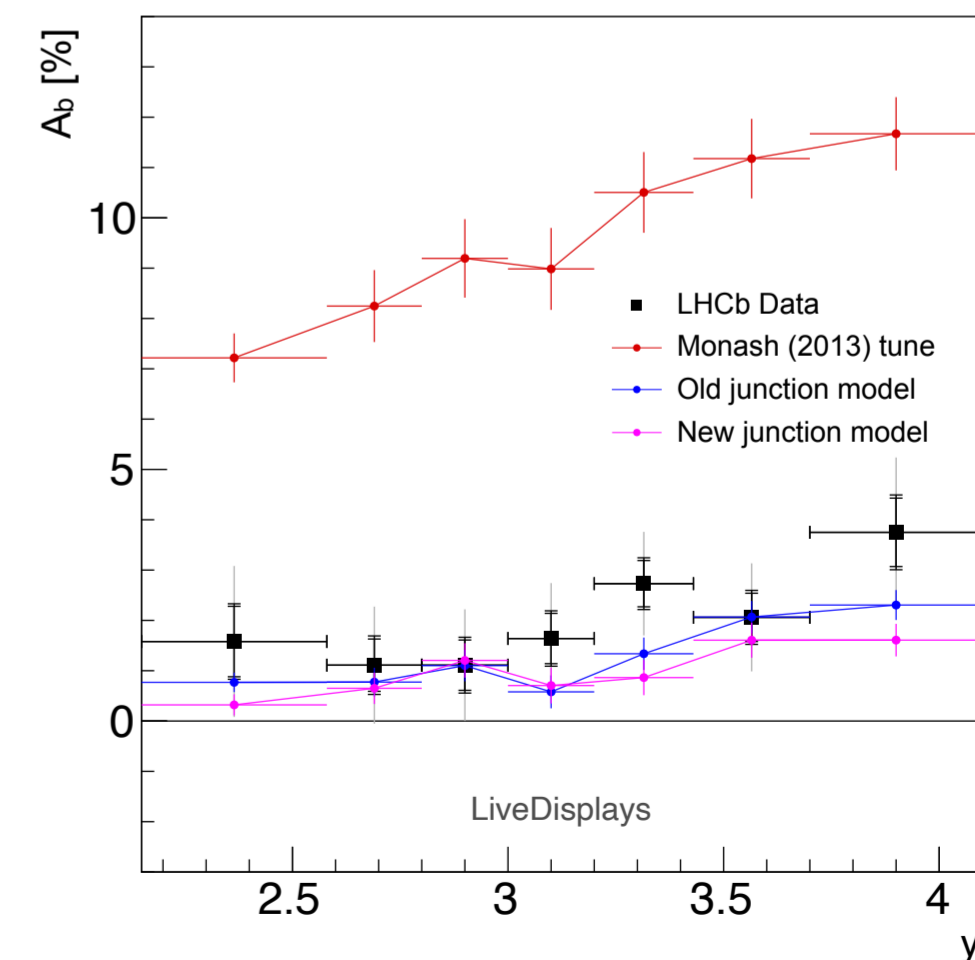
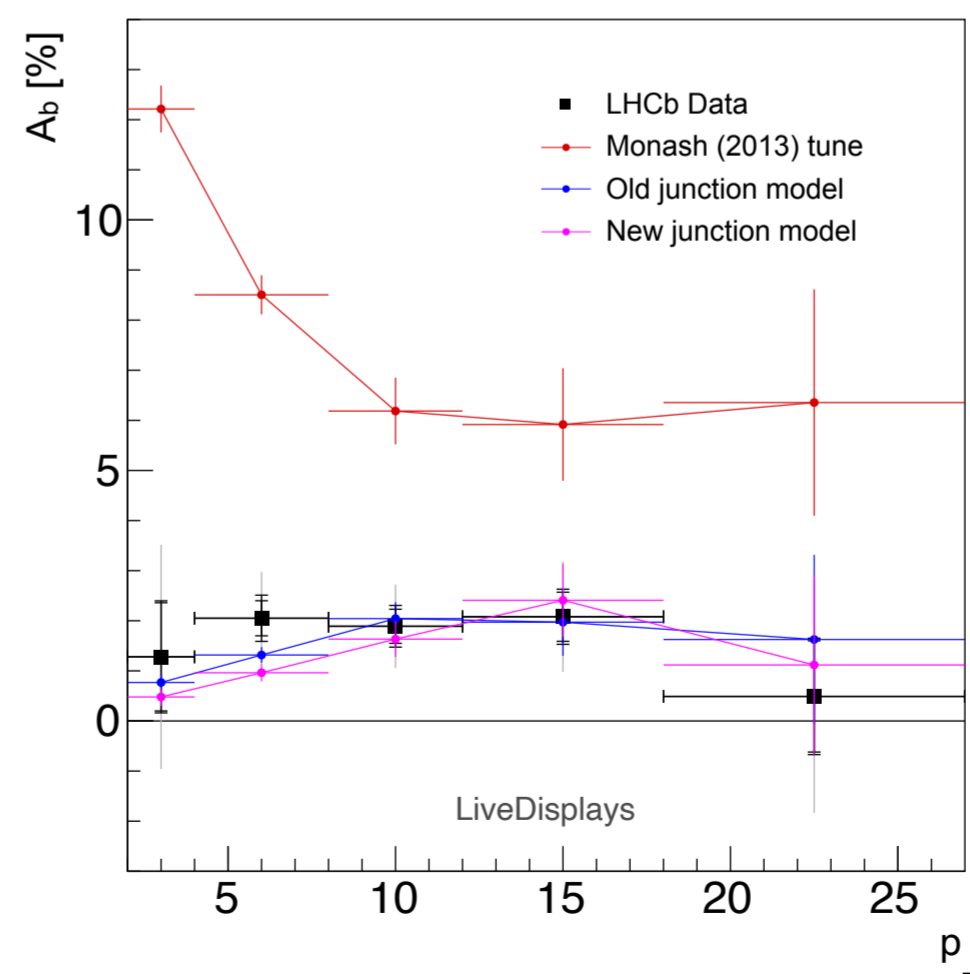
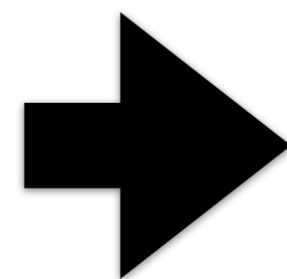
Recent Example: Heavy-Flavour Baryons at Low p_T



String Formation Beyond Leading Colour,
Christiansen & PZS, 1505.01681

New: *String Junctions Revisited,*
Altmann & PZS, [2404.12040](#)

Also: baryon asymmetry
diluted by extra baryon pairs



Hard Processes

NRQCD MEs

Question: not totally clear how to match the two

New: "Fragmentation"

Shower with $g \rightarrow \text{Onium} + X$

(LETO — P. Ilten & N. Cooke [2312.05203](#))

+ Colour Reconnections?

"Accidental" low-mass $Q\bar{Q}$ singlets

Question: space-time suppression due to small size?

(depends on CR assumptions & rate of low-mass $Q\bar{Q}$ pairs)

Related: PYTHIA study of Bc and other doubly-heavy hadrons via MPI + CR, T. Hadavizadeh et al., [2205.15681](#)

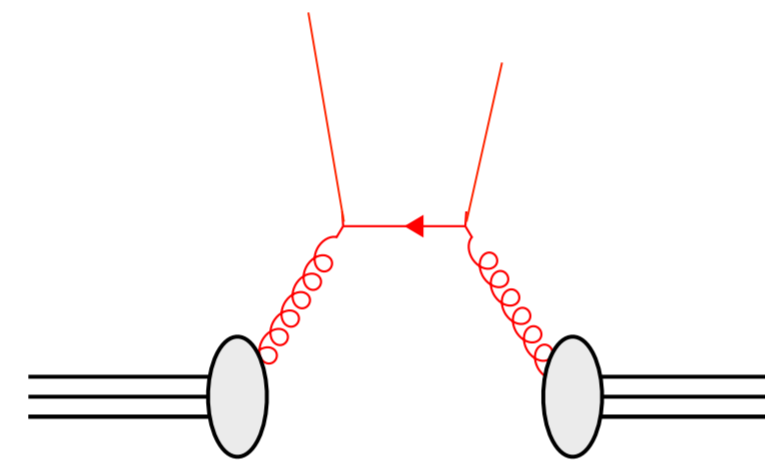
Optimisation

Egede, Hadavizadeh, Singla, PZS, Vesterinen, 2205.15681:

Userhooks

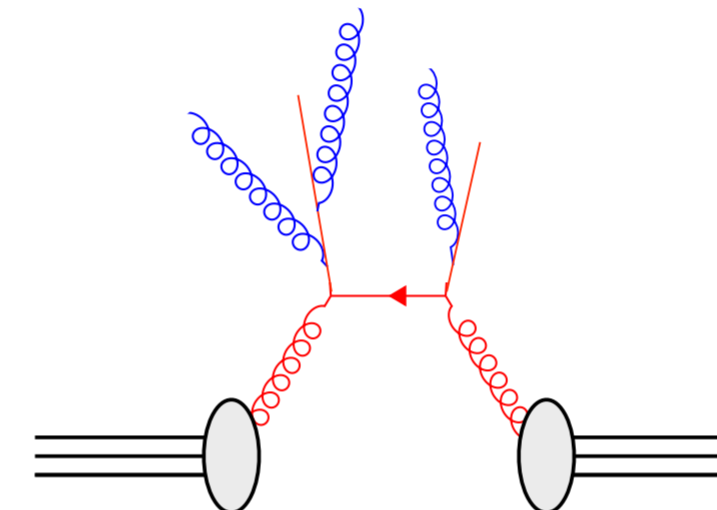
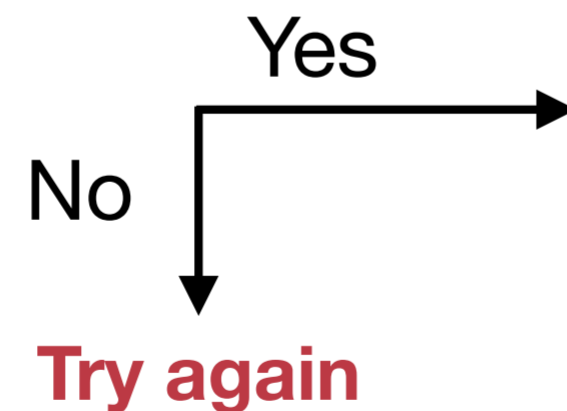
Inspect the event and **veto** if there isn't what we want

We can check at difference energy scales μ



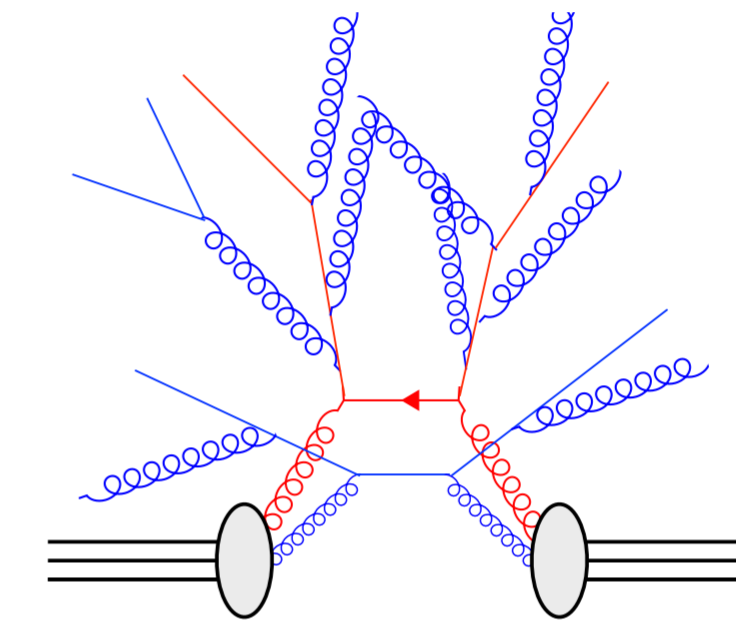
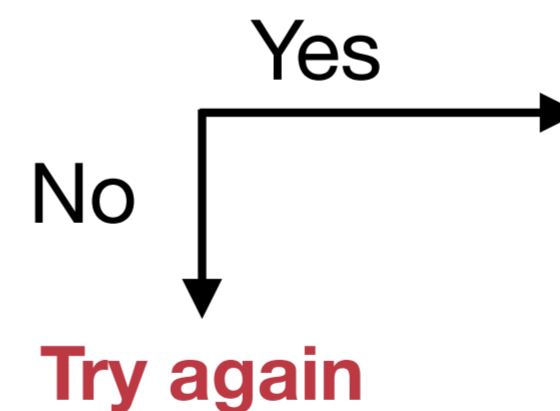
$$\mu = \sqrt{s}$$

Is there the required heavy quark, or enough energy to create one?



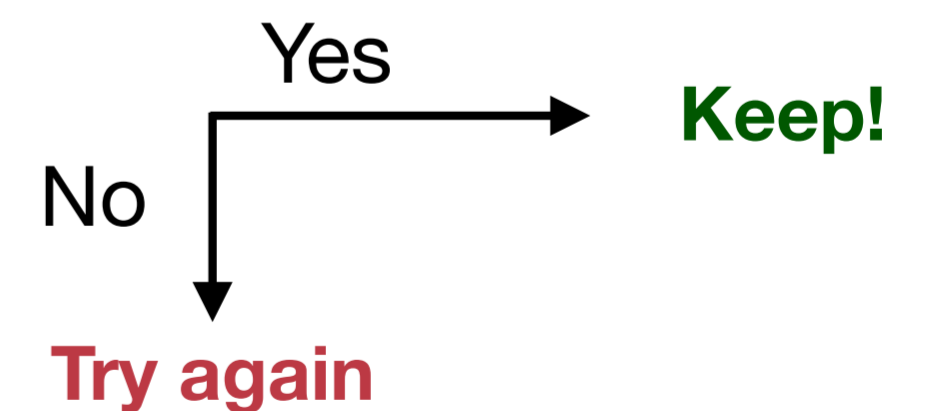
$$\mu = m_b$$

Is there the required heavy quark?



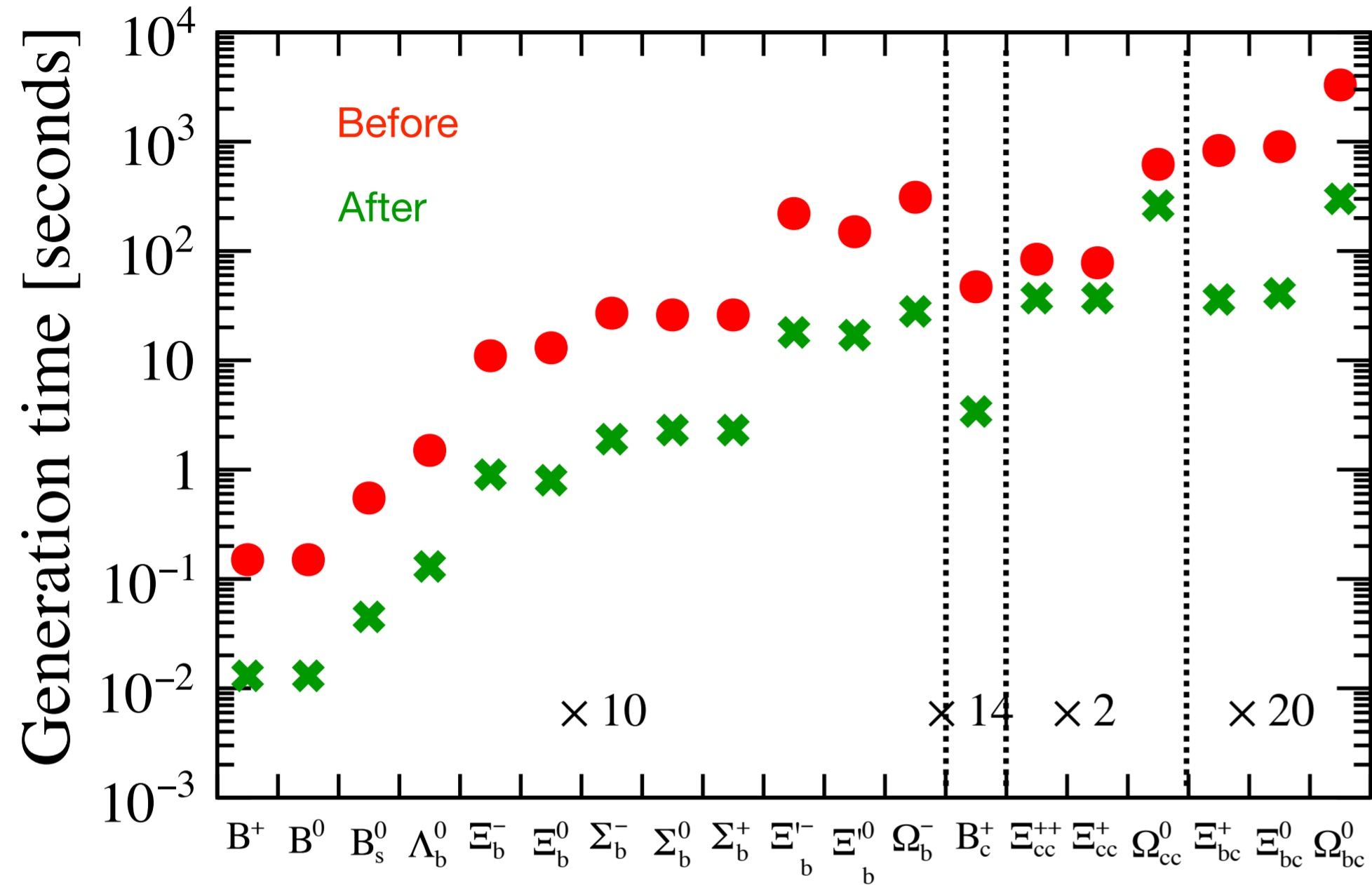
$$\mu = \Lambda_{QCD}$$

Are there the required heavy quarks? (If you want more than one)



Saves time spent evolving and hadronising events that would be discarded

Speed Gains & Subtlety

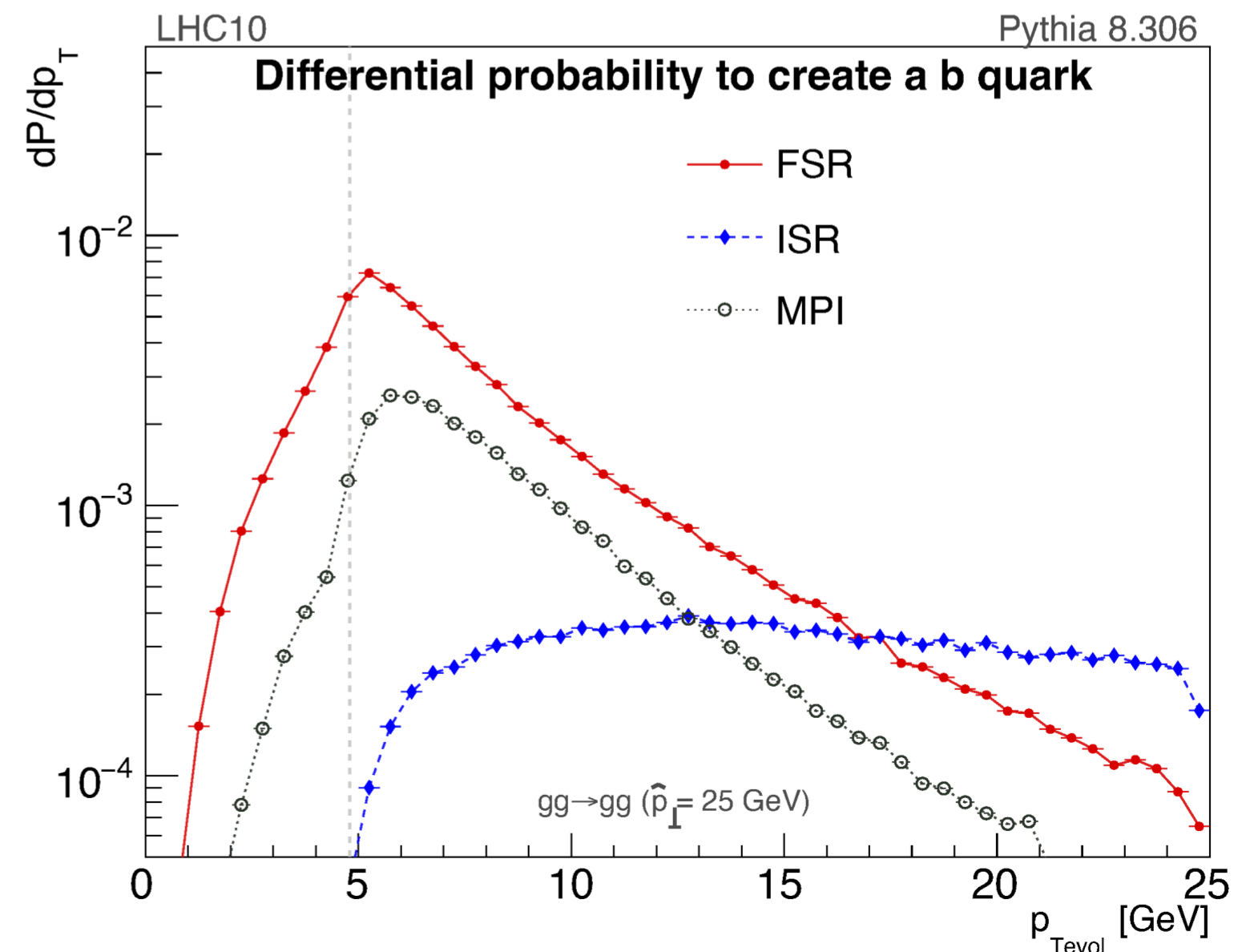


These user hooks have **significantly** reduced generation times

Current implementation isn't perfect

- Small probability for heavy quarks to be produced at scales *below* their mass

→ Work in progress with T. Hadavizadeh



30% of B meson decays modelled as partonic transitions, with spectator

Passed back to PYTHIA for re-hadronisation (with simple phase-space models).

How reliable is this modelling? Not aware anyone has looked closely at that since org papers.

These tend to be high-multiplicity (multi-prong) modes

Rarely used as signals. But enter as backgrounds, and tagging modes?

Experimental constraints on these? Belle II, LHCb, ALICE ... ?

Example: <https://journals.aps.org/prd/pdf/10.1103/PhysRevD.101.092004>

QED Radiative Corrections in B Decays

HERWIG and SHERPA have dedicated modules, based on “YFS” formalism

For PYTHIA, QED in hadron decays is normally done with **PHOTOS**

Now: looking at adapting the **QED Multipole Shower Module from VINCIA**

Native C++ and built-in in PYTHIA → thread-safe and trivial to parallelise

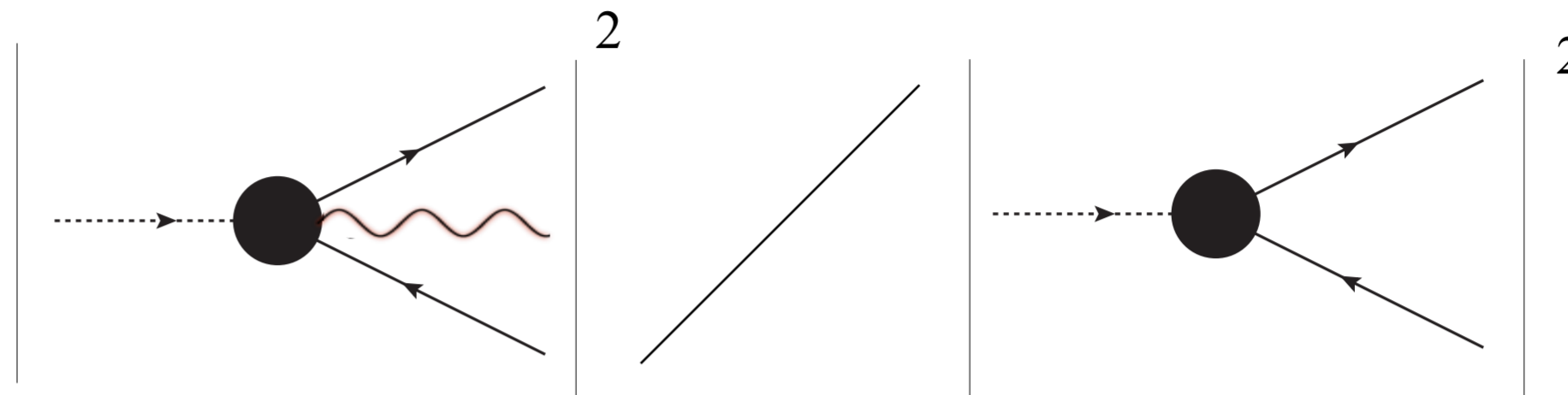
May be superior to YFS in some ways + modern shower formalism

⇒ matching, merging, finite-width effects, form factors?, ...

Types of (QED) Showers

Simple case:

neutral scalar \rightarrow 2 charged fermions
 = **A single QED dipole**



LO QED

$$\propto \frac{2s_{e^-e^+}}{s_{e^- \gamma} s_{\gamma e^+}} + \frac{1}{M_0^2} \left(\frac{s_{\gamma e^+}}{s_{e^- \gamma}} + \frac{s_{e^- \gamma}}{s_{\gamma e^+}} + 2 \right)$$

eikonal term collinear terms

PYTHIA

DGLAP

e^- -collinear limit

e^+ -collinear limit

$$\frac{P_{e^- \rightarrow e^- \gamma}(z_1)}{s_{1\gamma}} + \frac{P_{e^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma}(z_2)}{s_{2\gamma}}$$

VINCIA

Antenna

All Singular Terms

$$\frac{2s_{e^-e^+}}{s_{e^- \gamma} s_{\gamma e^+}} + \frac{1}{M_0^2} \left(\frac{s_{\gamma e^+}}{s_{e^- \gamma}} + \frac{s_{e^- \gamma}}{s_{\gamma e^+}} \right)$$

Soft limit

HERWIG, SHERPA, PHOTOS

YFS

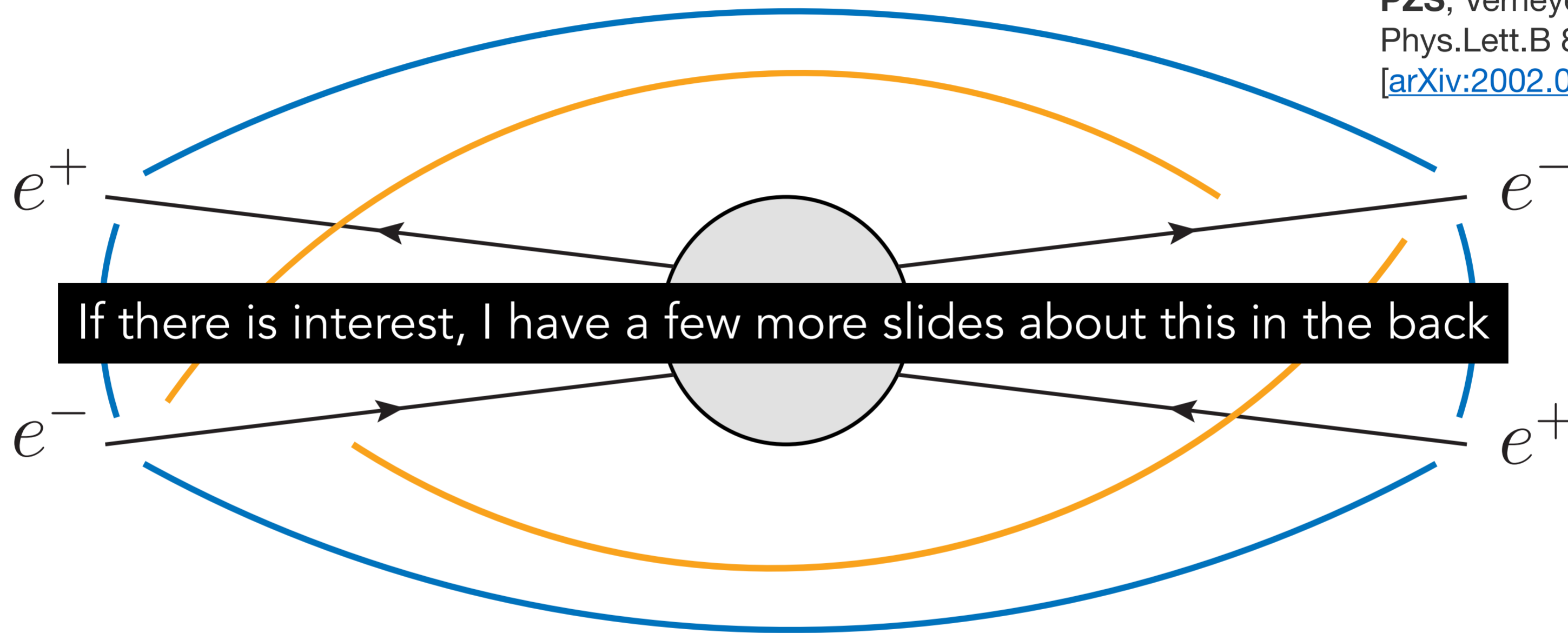
$$\frac{2s_{e^-e^+}}{s_{e^- \gamma} s_{\gamma e^+}}$$

Note: this is (intentionally) oversimplified. Many subtleties (recoil strategies, gluon parents, initial-state partons, and mass terms) not shown.

QED Multipole Radiation Patterns

Example: Quadrupole final state (4-fermion: $e^+e^+e^-e^-$)

PZS, Verheyen,
Phys.Lett.B 811 (2020) 135878
[\[arXiv:2002.04939\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2002.04939)

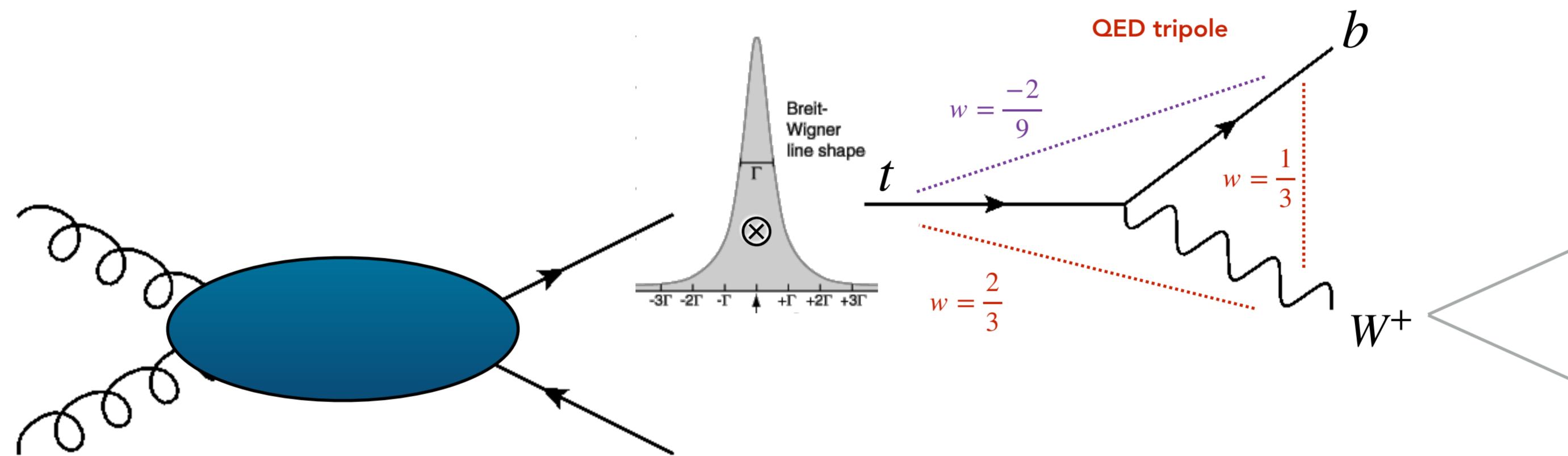


Soft Photon Emission: $|M_{n+1}(\{p\}, p_j)|^2 = -8\pi\alpha \sum_{x,y}^n \sigma_x Q_x \sigma_y Q_y \frac{s_{xy}}{s_{xj} s_{yj}} |M_n(\{p\})|^2$
[\[Dittmaier, 2000\]](#)

- Opposite-charge pairs \blacktriangleright positive terms
- Same-charge pairs \blacktriangleright negative terms

Conventional "sequential" treatment

Treat each decay (sequentially) as if alone in the universe



Question:

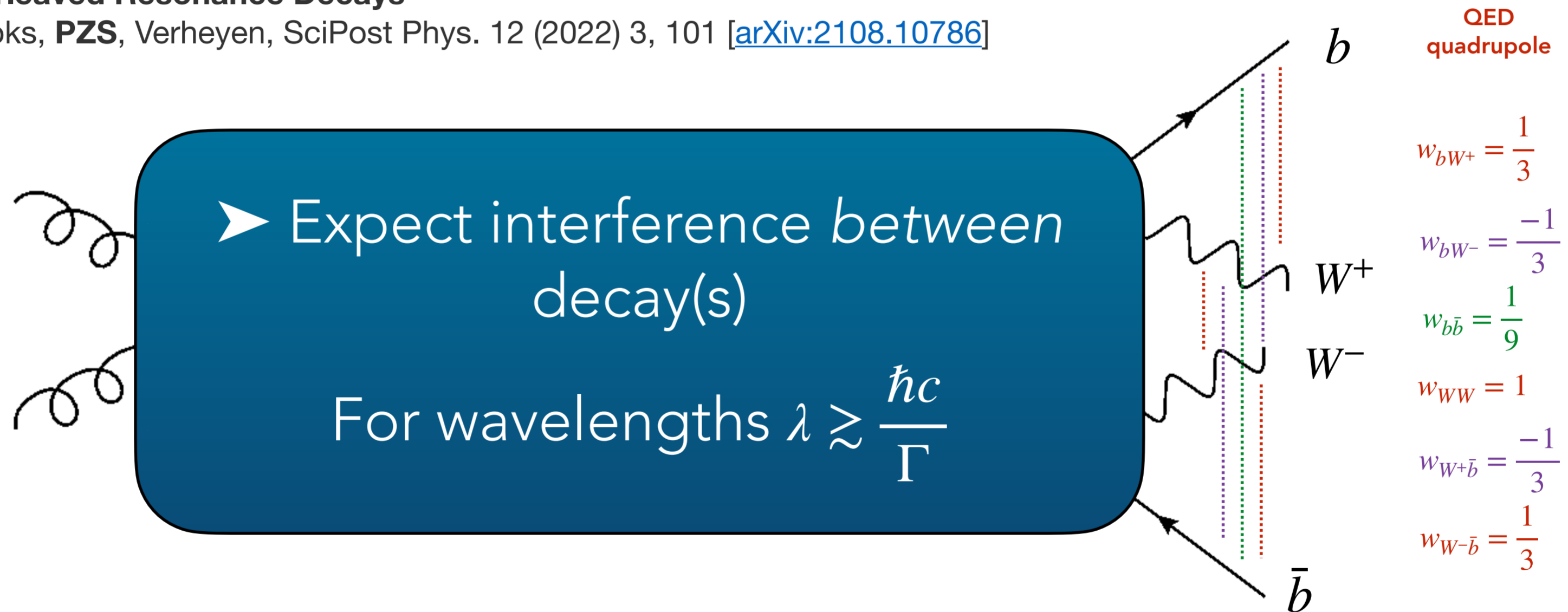
What about radiation at energies $E_\gamma \lesssim \Gamma_t$ (and $E_\gamma \lesssim \Gamma_W$)?

What does a long-wavelength photon see?

It should not be able to resolve the (short-lived) intermediate state

Interleaved Resonance Decays

Brooks, PZS, Verheyen, SciPost Phys. 12 (2022) 3, 101 [[arXiv:2108.10786](https://arxiv.org/abs/2108.10786)]



Should affect radiation spectrum, for energies $E_\gamma \lesssim \Gamma$

+ Interferences and recoils *between* systems => **non-local BW modifications**

What does a long-wavelength photon see?

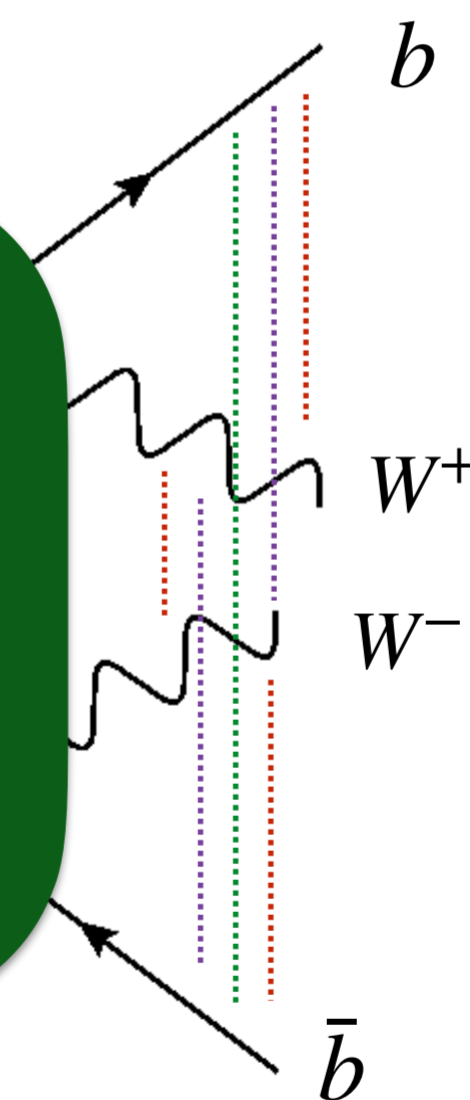
It should not be able to resolve the (short-lived) intermediate state

Interleaved Resonance Decays

Brooks, PZS, Verheyen, SciPost Phys. 12 (2022) 3, 101 [[arXiv:2108.10786](https://arxiv.org/abs/2108.10786)]

Idea: apply this to Hadron Decays + QED

=> Sophisticated Model of interplay between radiation and decays
(finite-width effects, beyond NWA)



QED
quadrupole

$$w_{bW^+} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$w_{bW^-} = -\frac{1}{3}$$

$$w_{b\bar{b}} = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$w_{WW} = 1$$

$$w_{W^+\bar{b}} = -\frac{1}{3}$$

$$w_{W^-\bar{b}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Should affect radiation spectrum, for energies $E_\gamma \lesssim \Gamma$

+ Interferences and recoils *between* systems => **non-local BW modifications**

Summary / Plans

During 2024: New Pythia Tuning, to replace Monash Tune as default

What input/constraints/requirements are crucial for you?

Continue work on heavy-flavour baryons & HF+strangeness

String Junctions Revisited [arXiv:2404.12040](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.12040)

[...] heavy quarks hadronization: from leptonic to heavy-ion collisions [2405.19137](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.19137)

Optimisation

Improved mass thresholds in PYTHIA's FSR & MPI algorithms, with T. Hadavizadeh (Monash).

Forced hadronization to specific species, with weights calculated, instead of re-hadronization.

Decays

New Project with Warwick/EvtGen to apply new state-of-the-art perturbative techniques to hadron decays, including:

[QED Multipole Showers](#), [Modern Fixed-Order Matching Techniques](#) (e.g., MECs), [Interleaved Resonance Decays](#)

New theory post doc starting at Monash in October: Jack Helliwell (+ F. Abudinen at Warwick.)

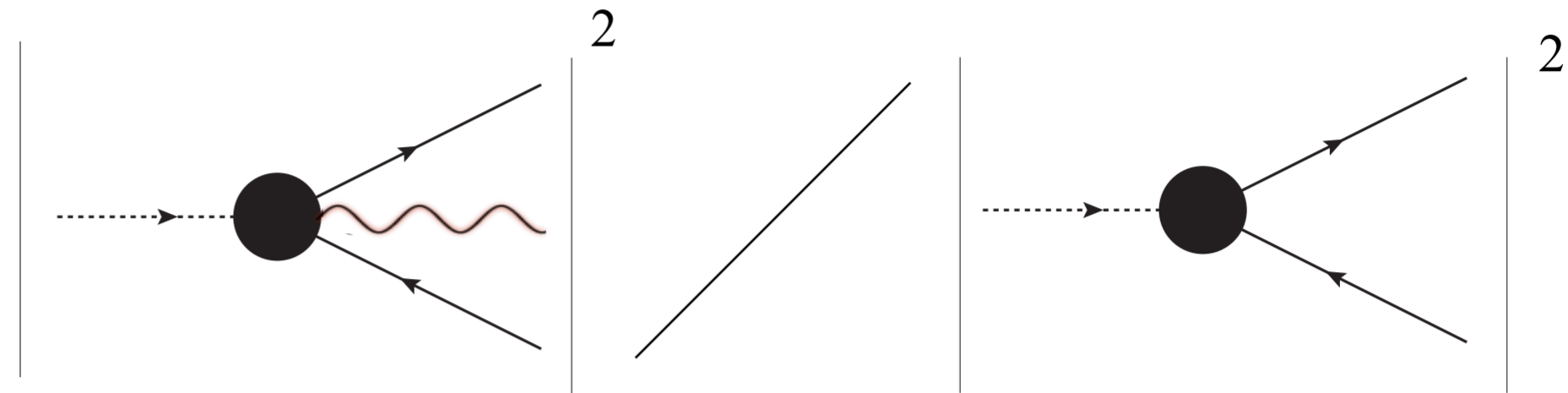
Iterated MECs in VINCIA

Extra Slides

1. Types of (QED) Showers

Simple case:

neutral scalar \rightarrow 2 charged fermions
 = **A single QED dipole**



LO QED

$$\propto \frac{2s_{e^-e^+}}{s_{e^-}\gamma s_{\gamma e^+}} + \frac{1}{M_0^2} \left(\frac{s_{\gamma e^+}}{s_{e^-}} + \frac{s_{e^-}}{s_{\gamma e^+}} + 2 \right)$$

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Soft limit

HERWIG, SHERPA, PHOTOS

YFS

$$\frac{2s_{e^-e^+}}{s_{e^-}\gamma s_{\gamma e^+}}$$

Note: this is (intentionally) oversimplified. Many subtleties (recoil strategies, gluon parents, initial-state partons, and mass terms) not shown.

Beyond 2-body Systems: QED Multipoles

PYTHIA QED

Determines a “best” set of dipoles. No genuine multipole effects.

I.e., interference beyond dipole level only treated via “principle of maximal screening”

Works as a parton shower evolution (+ MECs) ► interleaved with QCD, MPI, ...

YFS QED [Yennie-Frautschi-Suura, 1961 ► several modern implementations]

Allows to take full (multipole) soft interference effects into account

“Scalar QED”; no spin dependence.

I.e., starts from purely soft approximation; collinear terms not automatic

Is not a shower; works as pure afterburner, adding a number of photons to a final state with predetermined kinematics; no interleaving

VINCIA QED [Kleiss-Verheyen, 2017 ► Brooks-Verheyen-PS, 2020]

Allows to take full (multipole) soft interference effects into account

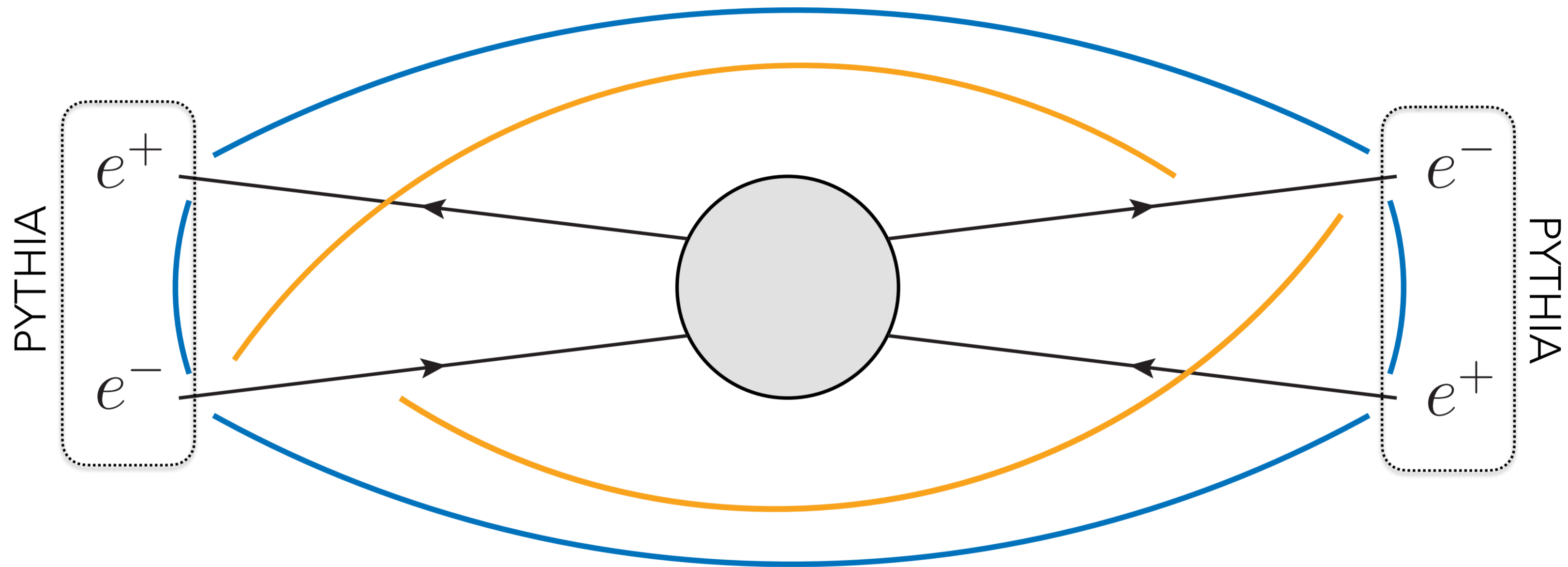
Not limited to scalar QED; includes spin dependence

I.e., starts from antenna approximation; including collinear terms

Works as a parton shower evolution; can be interleaved (+ MECs).

What's the problem?

Example: Quadrupole final state (4-fermion: $e^+e^+e^-e^-$)

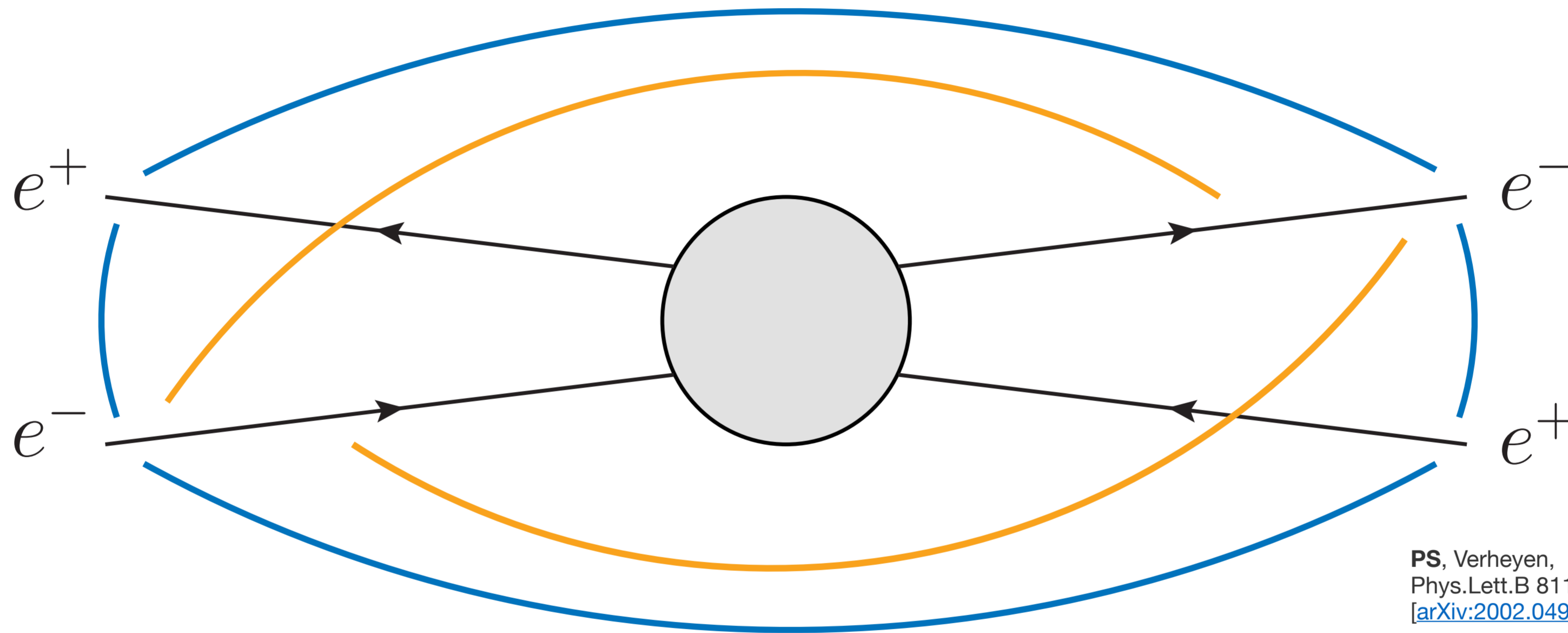


Why was this not done as a shower before?

The orange terms are negative ➤ negative weights (+ big cancellations)
YFS gets around that by not being formulated as a shower (& no spin dependence)
Utilises that the sum is always non-negative.

What does VINCIA do differently?

Example: Quadrupole final state (4-fermion: $e^+e^+e^-e^-$)



PS, Verheyen,
Phys.Lett.B 811 (2020) 135878
[\[arXiv:2002.04939\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2002.04939)

Sectorize phase space: for each possible photon emission kinematics p_γ , find the 2 charged particles with respect to which that photon is softest \blacktriangleright "Dipole Sector"

Use dipole kinematics for that sector, but sum **all** the positive and negative *antenna* terms (w spin dependence) to find the **coherent emission probability**.