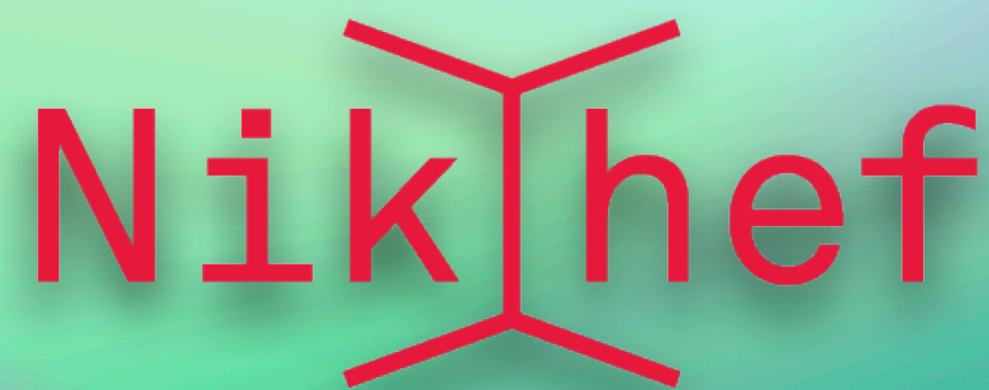


The NNPDF4.0 αN^3 LO PDFs

Giacomo Magni,
on behalf of NNPDF

*Higgs WG1: αN^3 LO PDF for Run3 & YR5
26 June 2024*



PDFs determination at aN³LO

The NNPDF4.0 timeline

Sep 2021:
NNPDF4.0 [[code](#) & [paper](#)]

Jan 2024:
NNPDF4.0 MHO
NNPDF4.0 QED

Feb 2024:
NNPDF4.0 aN3LO

Jun 2024:
NNPDF4.0 QED aN3LO

Several theoretical inputs are needed in a PDF fit:

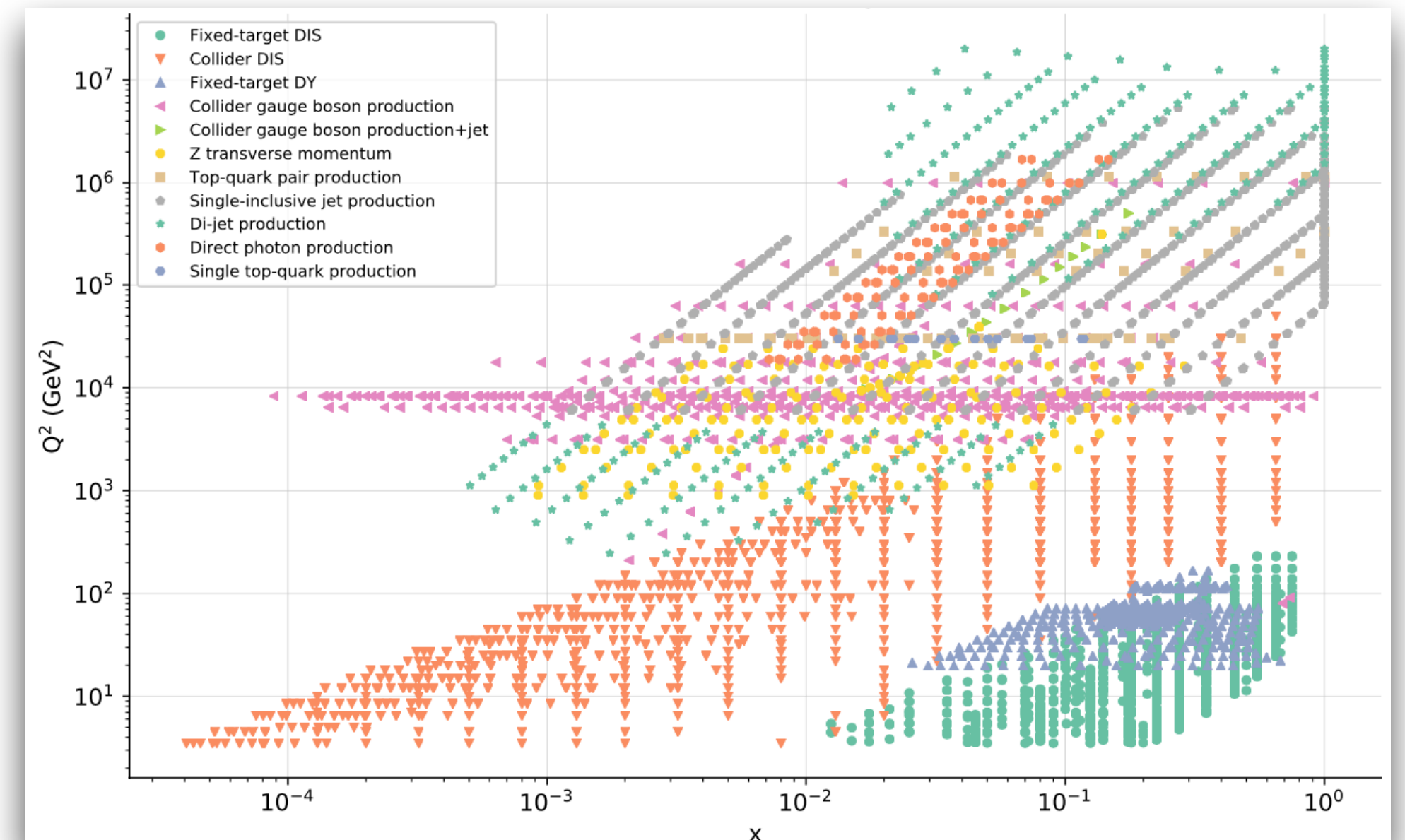
- ▶ QCD **splitting functions** which controls the DGLAP evolution.
- ▶ **VFNS matching conditions** for each running component.

$$f_i^{(n_f+1)}(x, Q^2) = A_{ij}(x, \alpha_s) f_j^{(n_f)}(x, Q^2)$$

- ▶ **Partonic coefficients** functions, accounting for massive corrections when possible.

$$\sigma(x, Q^2) = \sum_{i=0}^{n_f} C_{k,i}(x, \alpha_s) \otimes f_i(x, Q^2)$$

NNPDF4.0 Kinematic coverage



aN³LO splitting functions

Analytical calculations of the complete N³LO splitting functions are not available.
Large number of partial results available.

- ▶ **Large- n_f :** $\mathcal{O}(n_f^3)$, $P_{NS}^{(n_f^2)}$, Vogt et al. [[arxiv:1610.07477](#)]; $P_{qq,PS}^{(n_f^2)}$ Gehrmann et al. [[arxiv:2308.07958](#)]; $P_{gq}^{(n_f^2)}$ Falcioni et al. [[arxiv:2310.01245](#)];

- ▶ **NS small- x :** Davies et al. [[arxiv:2202.10362](#)] $P_{NS}^{(3)} \supset \sum_{k=0}^6 \ln^k(x)$

- ▶ **Singlet small- x :** Bonvini, Marzani [[arxiv:1805.06460](#)] $P_{ij}^{(3)} \supset \sum_{k=0}^3 \frac{\ln^k(x)}{x}$

- ▶ **Large- x :** Duhr et al. [[arxiv:2205.04493](#)]; Mistlberger et al. [[arxiv:1911.10174](#)]; Moch et al [[arxiv:0912.0369](#)].

$$P_{ii}^{(3)} \approx A_{4,i} \frac{1}{(1-x)_+} + B_{4,i} \delta(1-x) + C_{4,i} \ln(1-x) + D_{4,i}$$

$$P_{ij}^{(3)} \approx \sum_k \ln^k(1-x)$$

- ▶ 5 or 10 lowest **Mellin Moments:** Moch et al. [[arxiv:1707.08315](#)] [[arxiv:2111.15561](#)]; Falcioni et al. [[arxiv:2302.07593](#)], [[arxiv:2307.04158](#)] (more recent [[arxiv:2404.09701](#)], not included)

How do we combine the different limits?

- ▶ The approximation procedure is performed in **Mellin space** for each n_f part independently:

$$\gamma_{ij}^{(3)} = \gamma_{ij,n_f^3}^{(3)} + \gamma_{ij,N \rightarrow \infty}^{(3)} + \gamma_{ij,N \rightarrow 0}^{(3)} + \tilde{\gamma}_{ij}^{(3)}$$

- ▶ The parametrised part is constructed as:

$$\tilde{\gamma}_{ij} = \sum_l a_{ij}^{(l)} G_l(N)$$

- ▶ Vary the functions G_l to generate a set of approximation and determine **IHO**

$$COV_{nm}^{(ij)} = \frac{1}{N_{ij}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{ij}} \Delta_n^{(k)} \Delta_m^{(k)}, \quad \Delta_n^{(k)} = T_n^{(k)} - \bar{T}_n$$

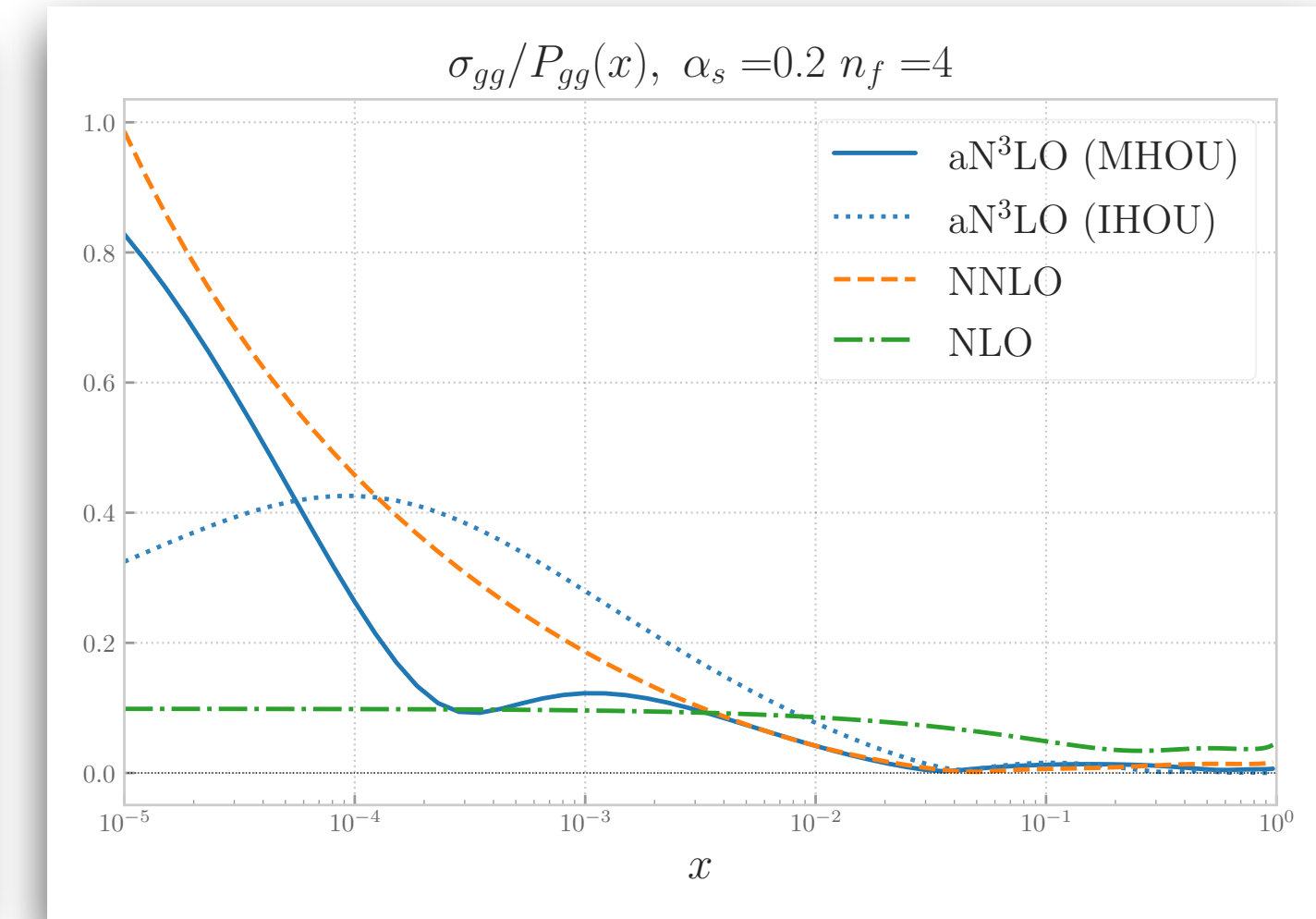
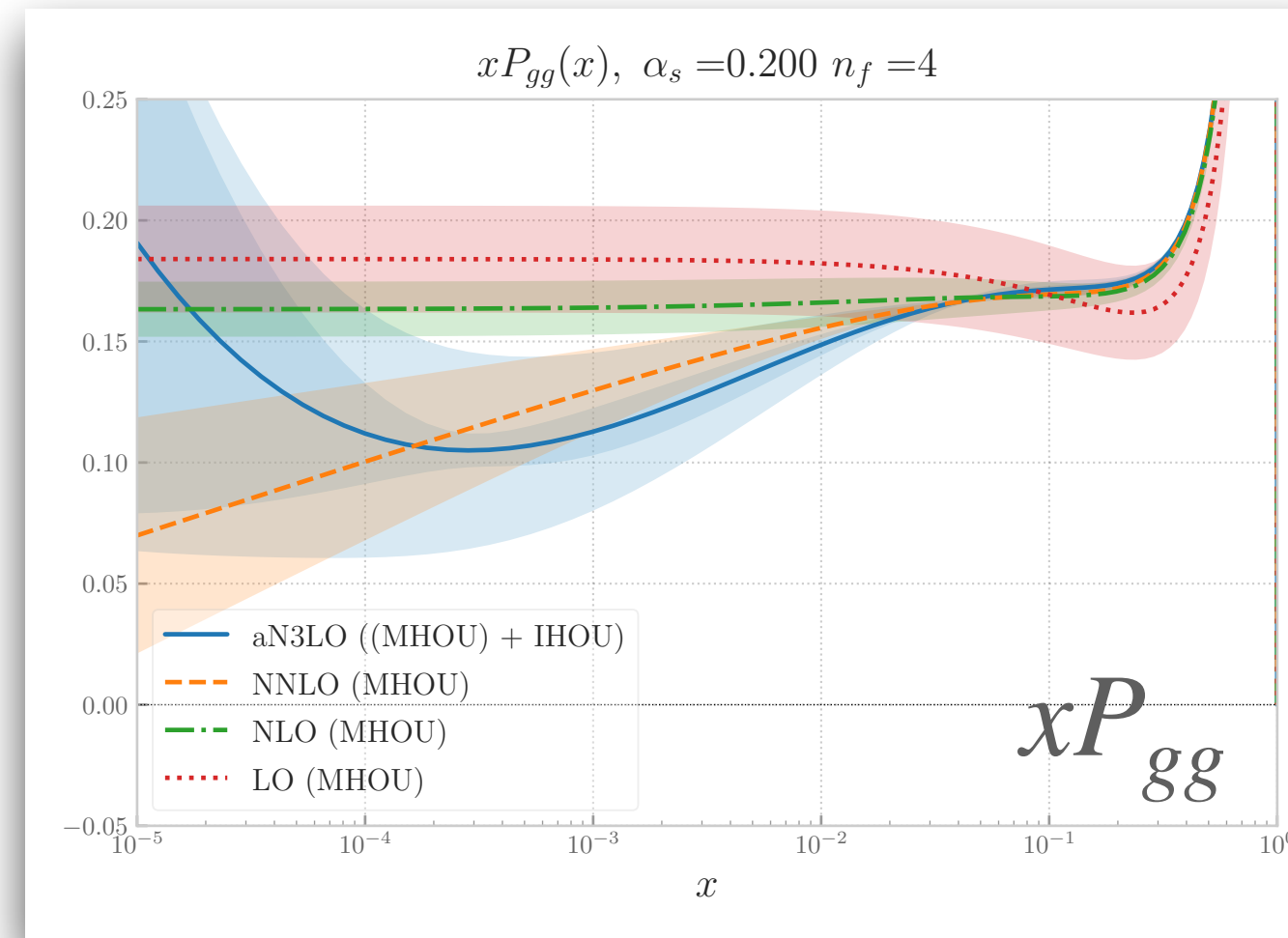
- ▶ Determine **MHO** from **scale variation**.

$$COV_{nm} = COV_{MHO} + COV_{IHO}$$

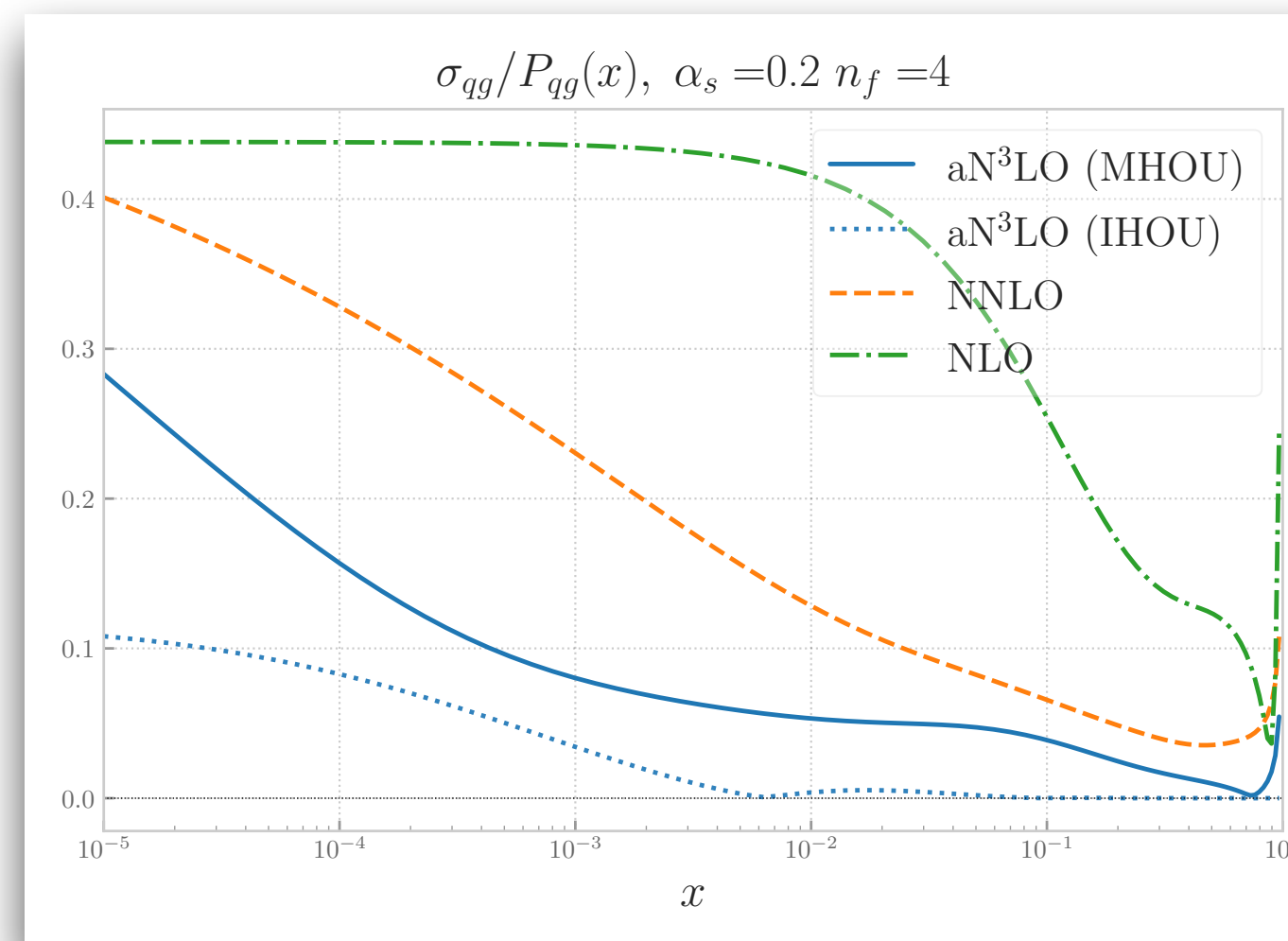
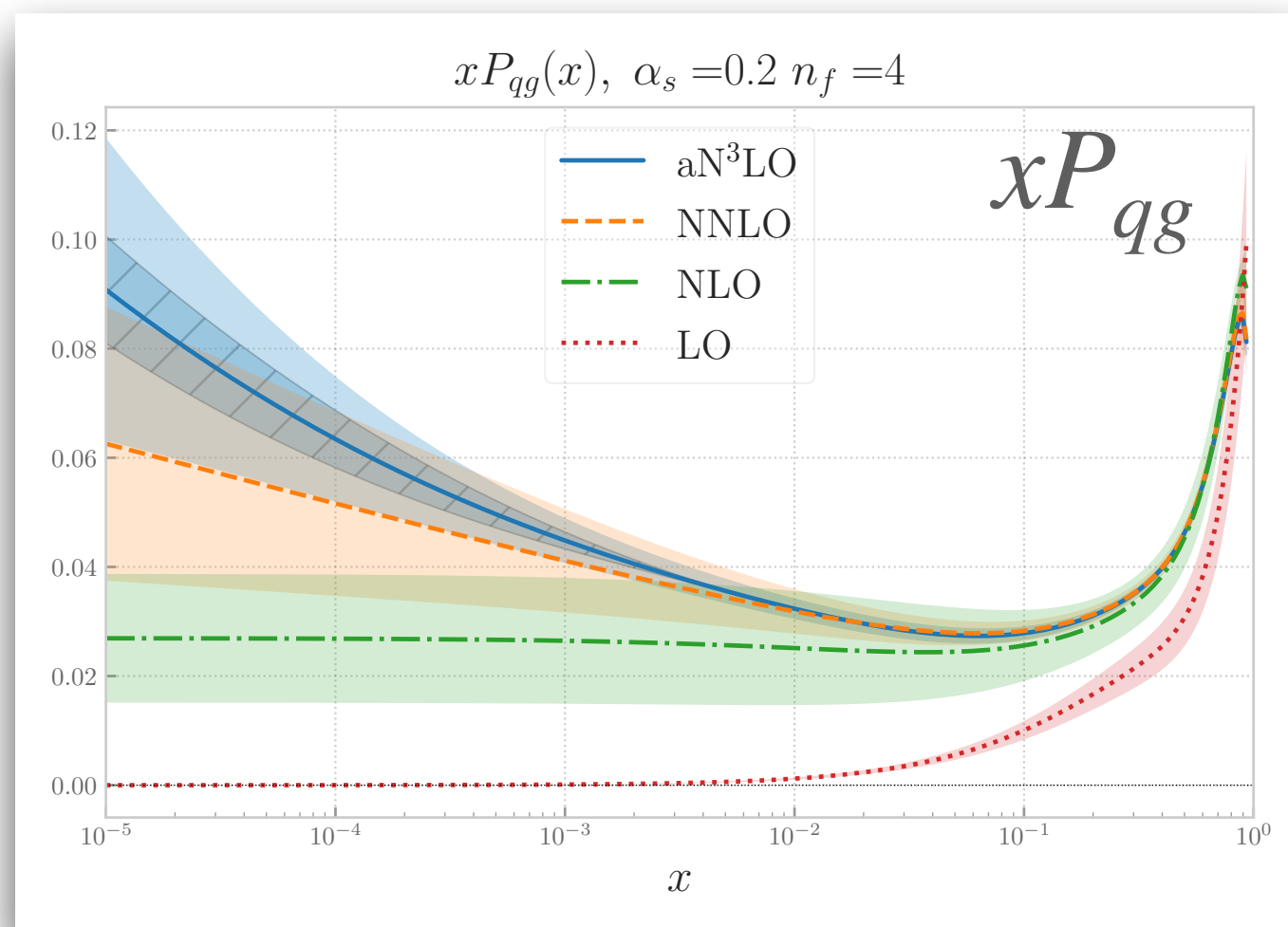
aN³LO splitting functions

- ▶ For P_{qg} , P_{qq} , P_{gq} the N³LO **approximation uncertainty is negligible** [IHOU < MHO].
- ▶ In P_{gg} the N³LO **approximation uncertainty is significant** [IHOU > MHO for $x \geq 10^{-4}$].

Gluon sector



Quark sector



- ▶ **IHO** = incomplete higher order uncertainties [only for aN³LO].
- ▶ **MHO** = missing higher order uncertainties.

aN³LO DIS coefficient functions

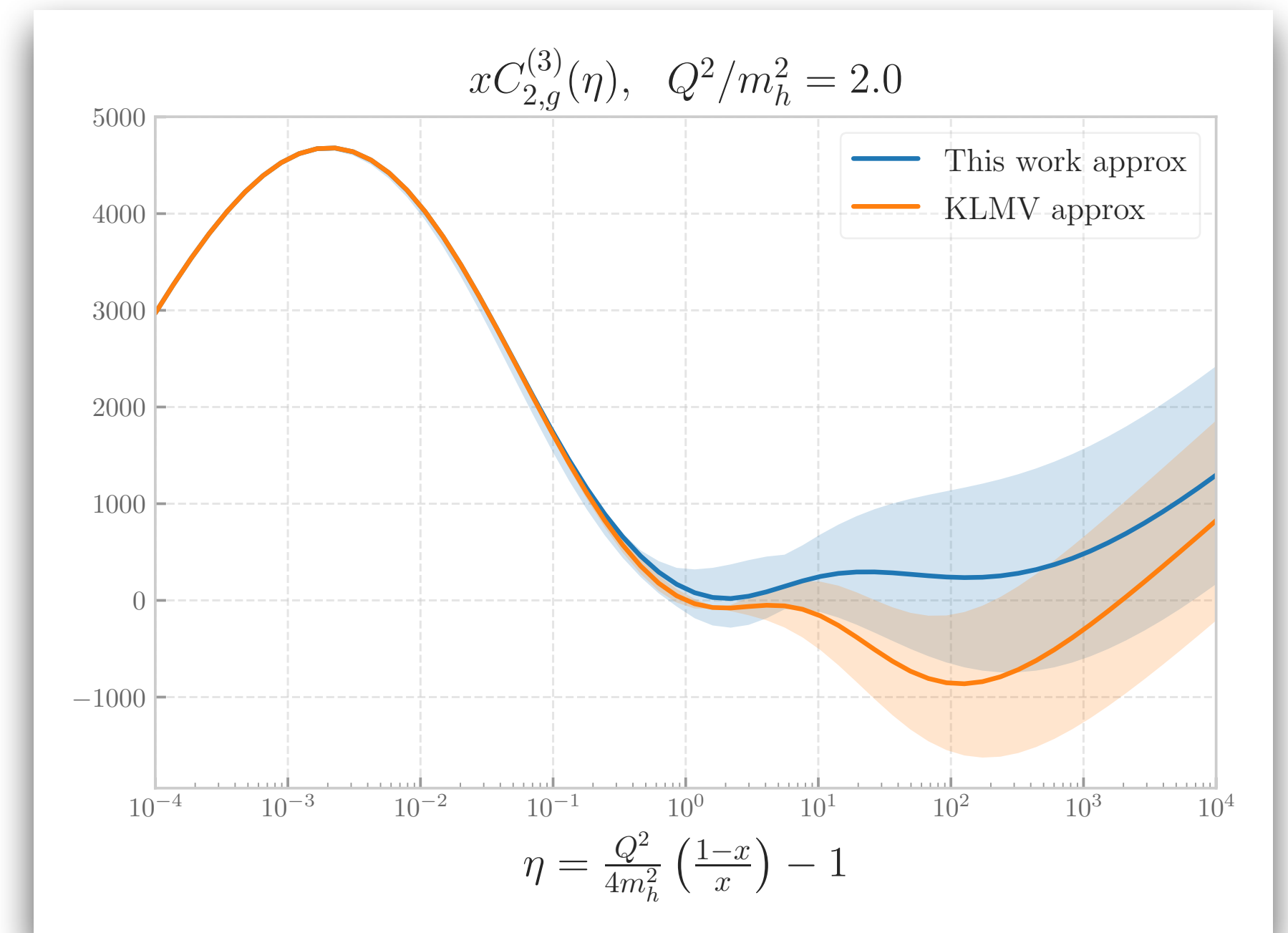
DIS structure functions are known at N³LO in the **massless limit** for F_2, F_L, F_3 :

- ▶ DIS NC: Larin, Nogueira, Van Ritbergen, Vermaseren [[arxiv:9605317](#)] Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt [[arxiv:0411112](#)], [[arxiv:0504242](#)] Blümlein et al. [[arxiv:2208.14325](#)].
- ▶ DIS CC: Davies, Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt [[arxiv:0812.4168](#)] [[arxiv:1606.08907](#)]

DIS **Heavy structure functions** can be parametrised joining the known limits ($Q \rightarrow m_h^2$ $Q \gg m_h^2$ and $x \rightarrow 0$) with proper damping functions f_1, f_2 : N.Laurenti [[arxiv:2401.12139](#)]

$$C_{g,h}^{(3,0)} = C_{g,h}^{thr}\left(z, \frac{m_h}{Q}\right) f_1(z) + C_{g,h}^{asy}\left(z, \frac{m_h}{Q}\right) f_2(z)$$

Approximate N³LO massive DIS



IHOUs from massive coefficients are also taken into account.

DIS VFNS at aN³LO

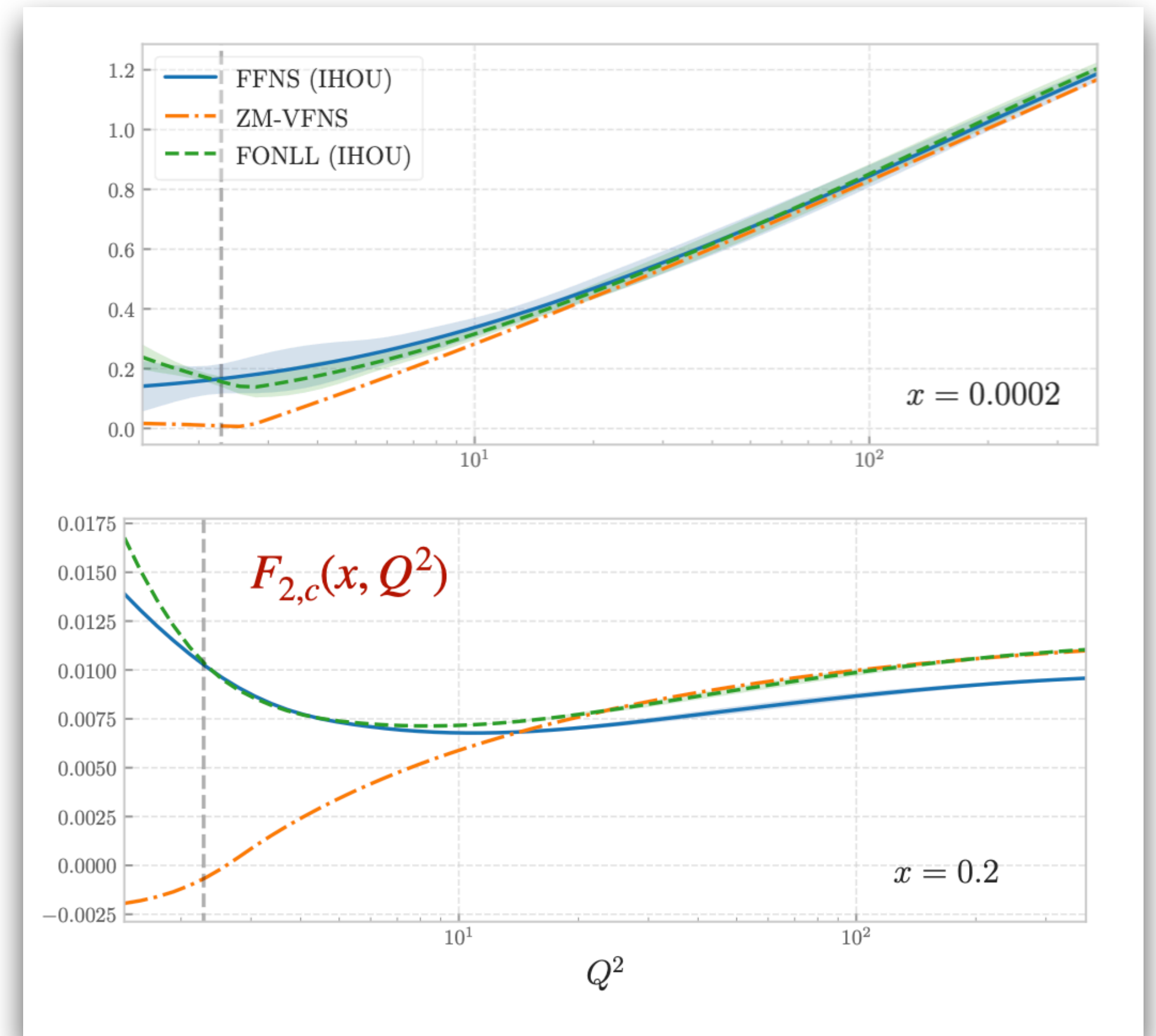
To treat heavy quarks consistently during a PDF fit we must adopt a **Variable Flavor Number Scheme**.

PDFs matching conditions included at N³LO almost completely: Blümlein et al. [[arxiv:0904.3563](#)] [[arxiv:1008.3347](#)] [[arxiv:1402.0359](#)] [[arxiv:1409.1135](#)] [[arxiv:1406.4654](#)] [[arxiv:2211.0546](#)] [[arxiv:2311.00644](#)] exception of $a_{H,g}^{(3)}$, computed in [[arxiv:2403.00513](#)]

$$\begin{pmatrix} g \\ \Sigma \\ h^+ \end{pmatrix}^{n_f+1}(\mu_h^2) = \mathbf{A}_{S,h^+}^{(n_f)}(\mu_h^2) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} g \\ \Sigma \\ h^+ \end{pmatrix}^{n_f}(\mu_h^2)$$

DIS structure functions are computed in the **FONLL** procedure: [[arxiv:1001.2312](#)]

- ▶ Extended up to N³LO for the Heavy structure functions F_{heavy}
- ▶ Extended up to NNLO for light F_{light} + massless N³LO contributions.



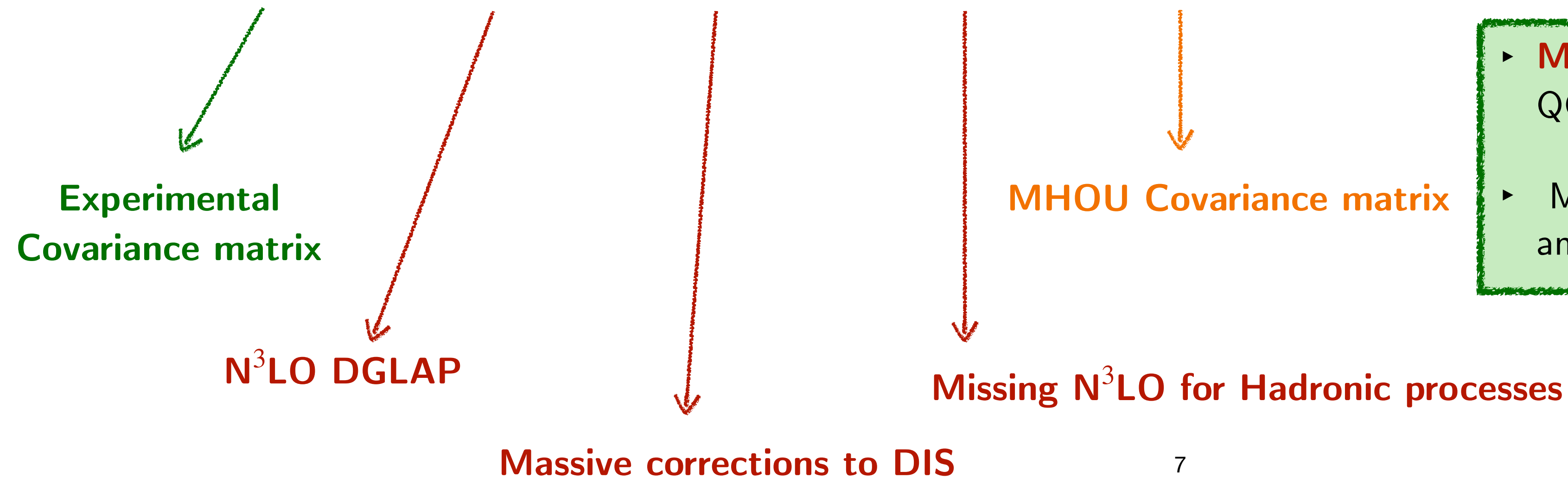
$$F_{h,FONLL} = F_{ZM}^{(n_f+1)} + F_{FFNS}^{(n_f)} - \lim_{m_h \rightarrow 0} F_{FFNS}^{(n_f)}$$

aN³LO theory predictions

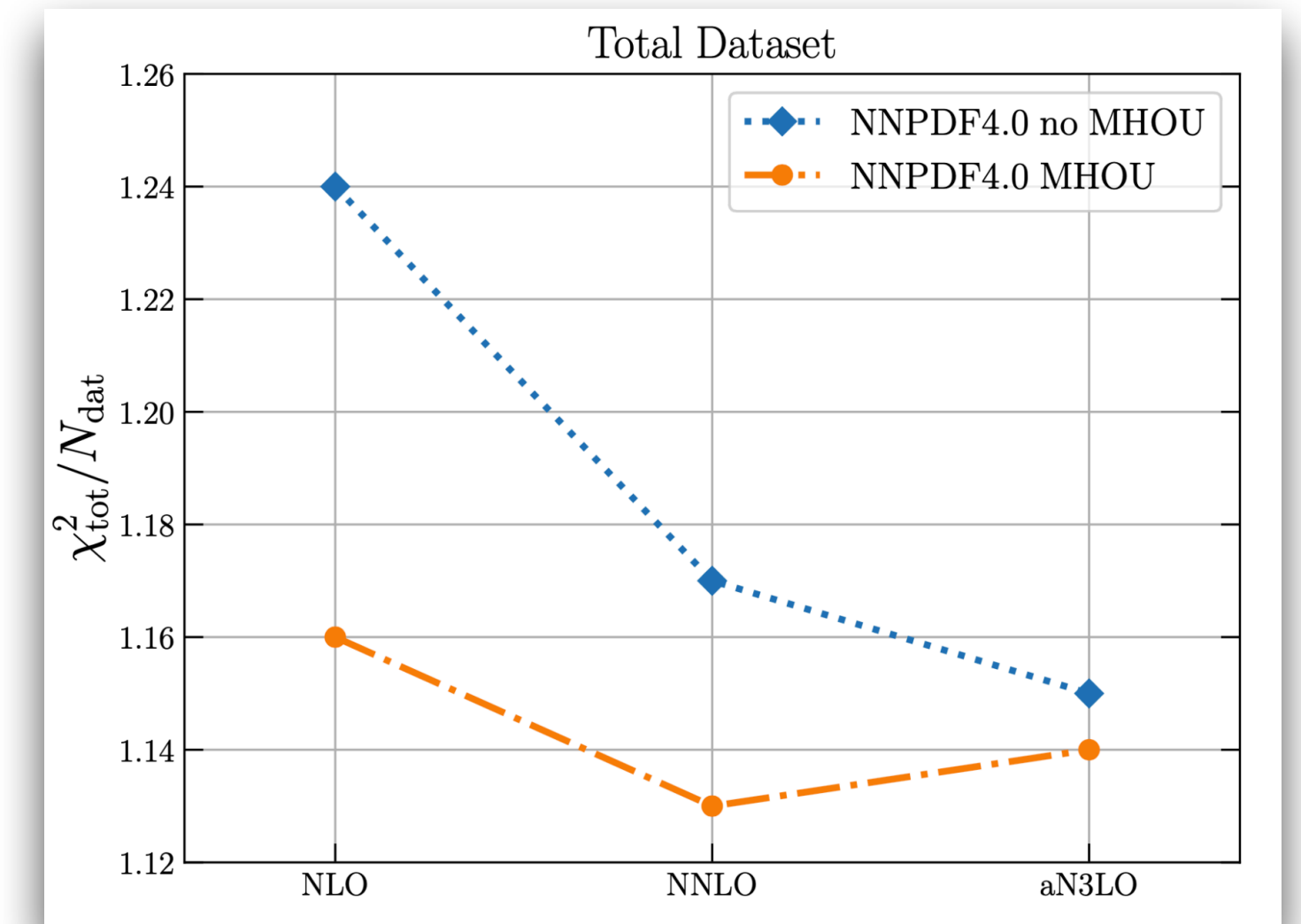
To produce our N³LO PDF fit:

- ▶ We include **N³LO corrections in DIS and DGLAP** with their respective IHOU.
- ▶ We adopt NNLO scale variation to estimate *unknown* N³LO effects in DY, jets and top data.
- ▶ **MHOU and IHOU** are propagated to PDF fit with the **covariance formalism**:

$$\text{Cov}_{tot} = \text{Cov}_{exp} + \text{Cov}_{DGLAP,IHOU} + \text{Cov}_{DIS,IHOU} + \text{Cov}_{HAD,MHOU} [+ \text{Cov}_{MHOU}]$$



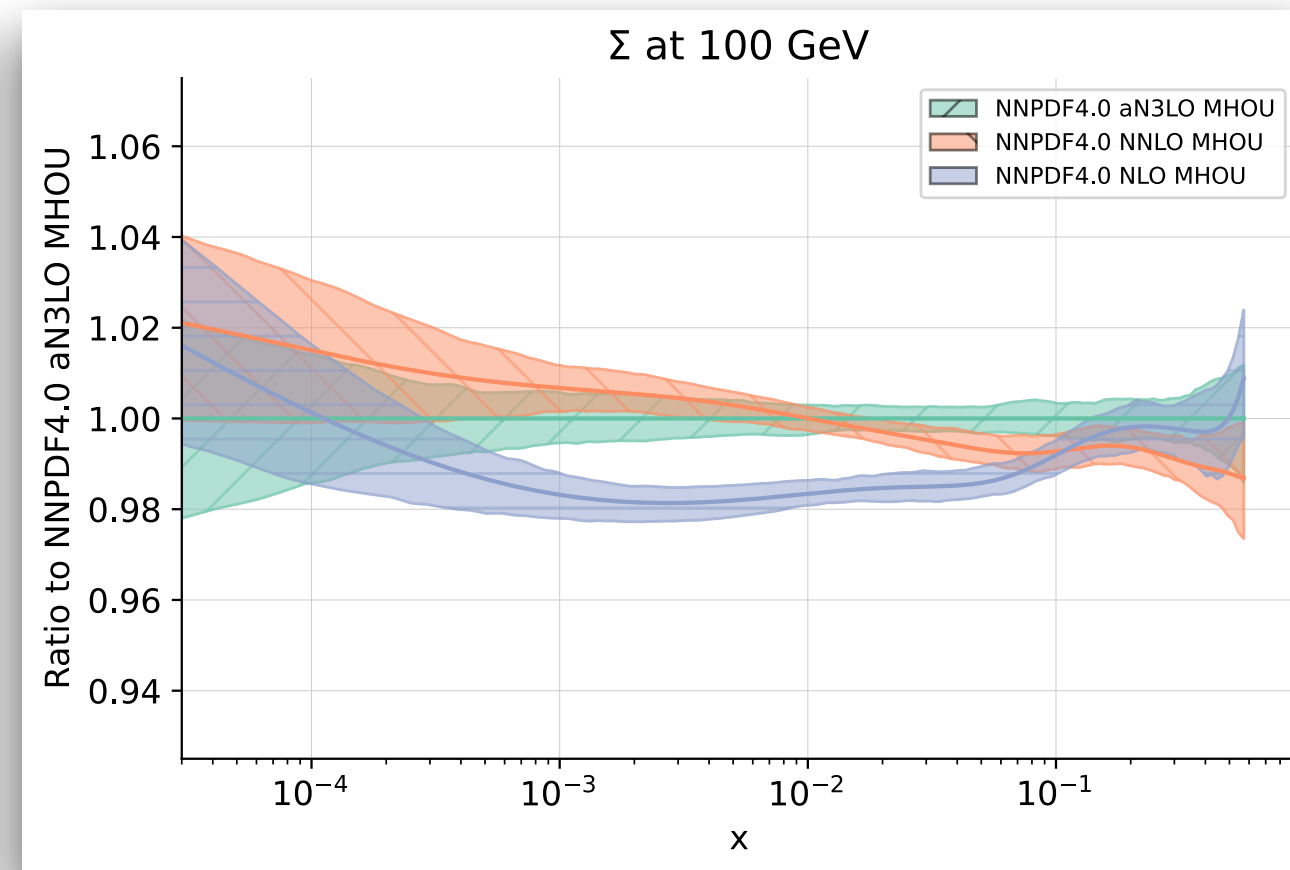
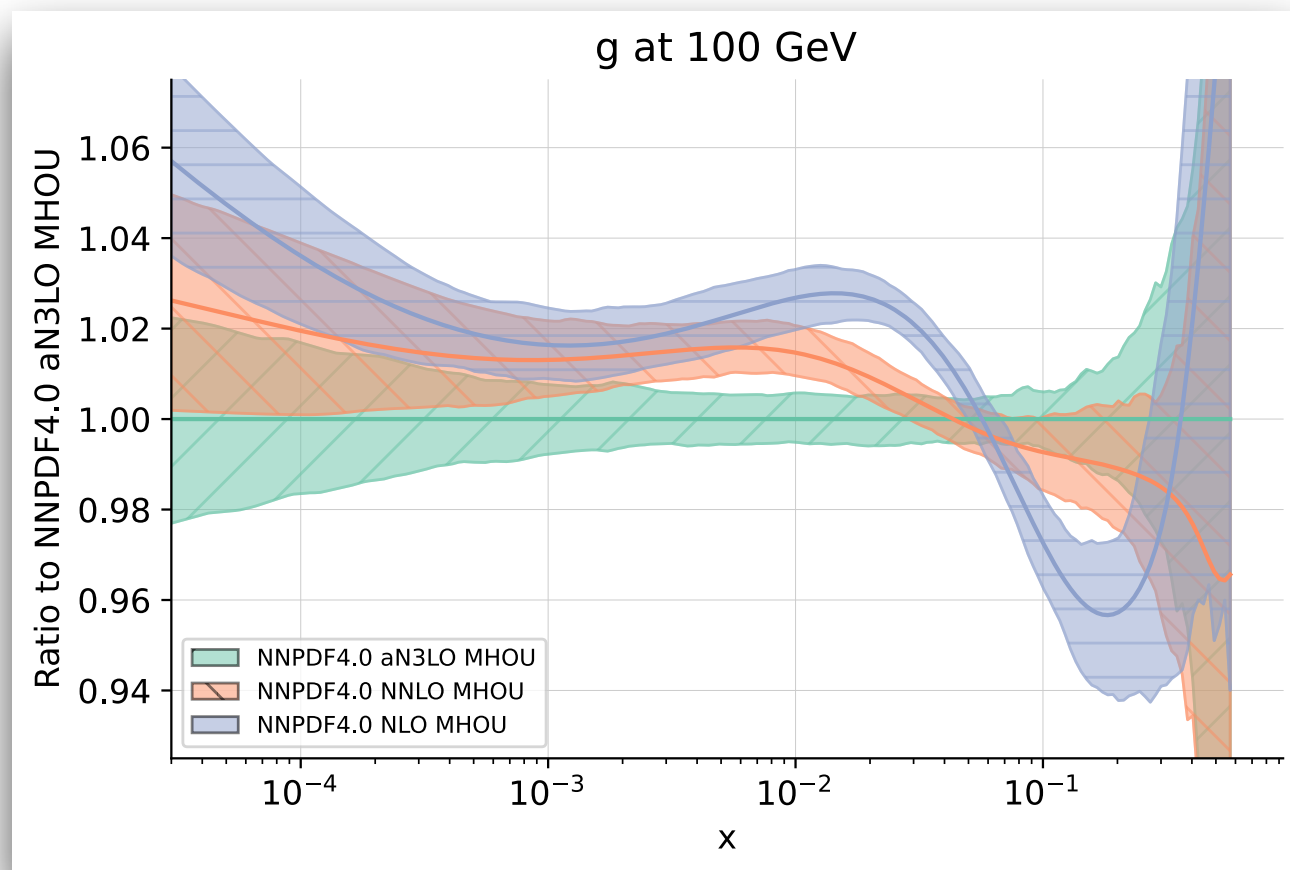
Total χ^2 at different QCD orders



- ▶ **MHOU stabilise the fit:** χ^2 is less dependent on QCD order.
- ▶ MHOU can shift central value, resolve tensions among datasets. Mainly de-weight jets datasets.

The NNPDF4.0 aN3LO PDF set

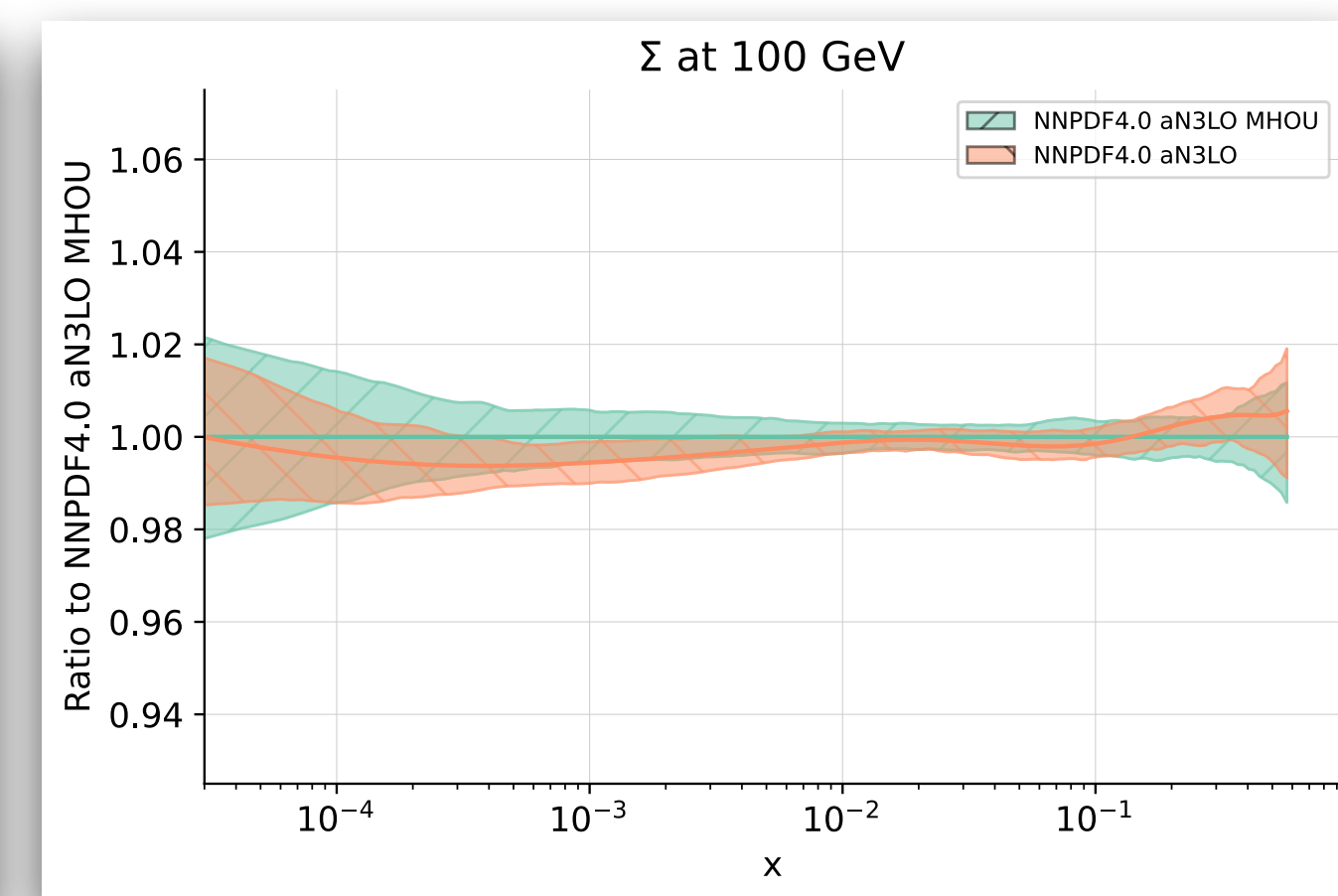
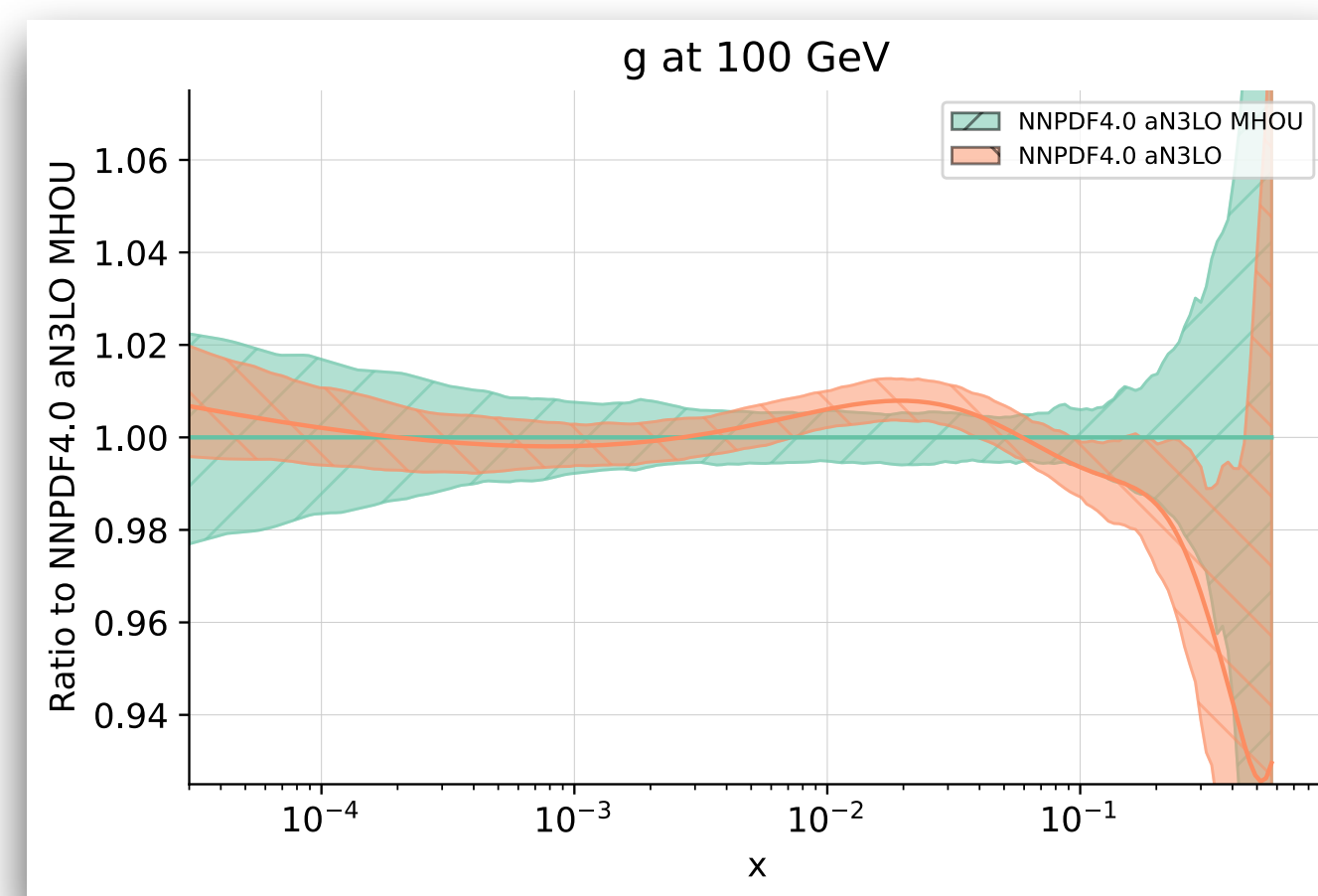
Perturbative convergence



- ▶ Good perturbative convergence in the data region.
- ▶ Impact of **aN³LO** corrections is **mild on quarks PDFs**.
- ▶ **~ 2%** effect on the **gluon around $x \approx 10^{-2}$** .

Impact of MHOUs

- ▶ aN³LO PDFs with/without MHOUs are compatible.
- ▶ aN³LO corrections have a larger effect on the small-x, low-Q DIS data.



LHC phenomenology: Higgs production

- ▶ aN³LO PDFs effects are visible in gluon fusion, leading to a **2.1 % suppression w.r.t NNLO PDFs.**

NNLO PDF: $\sigma(gg \rightarrow H) = 44.73 \pm 0.26$ (pdf) ± 2.1 (scale) [pb]

aN³LO PDF: $\sigma(gg \rightarrow H) = 43.78 \pm 0.24$ (pdf) ± 2.0 (scale) [pb]

- ▶ Higgs VBF is more stable at different perturbative orders, although the PDF dependency is not negligible.
- ▶ More faithful estimation of NNLO TH uncertainties due to HO, YR4 estimate is too optimistic ($\sim 1\%$):

Effect of aN³LO PDF

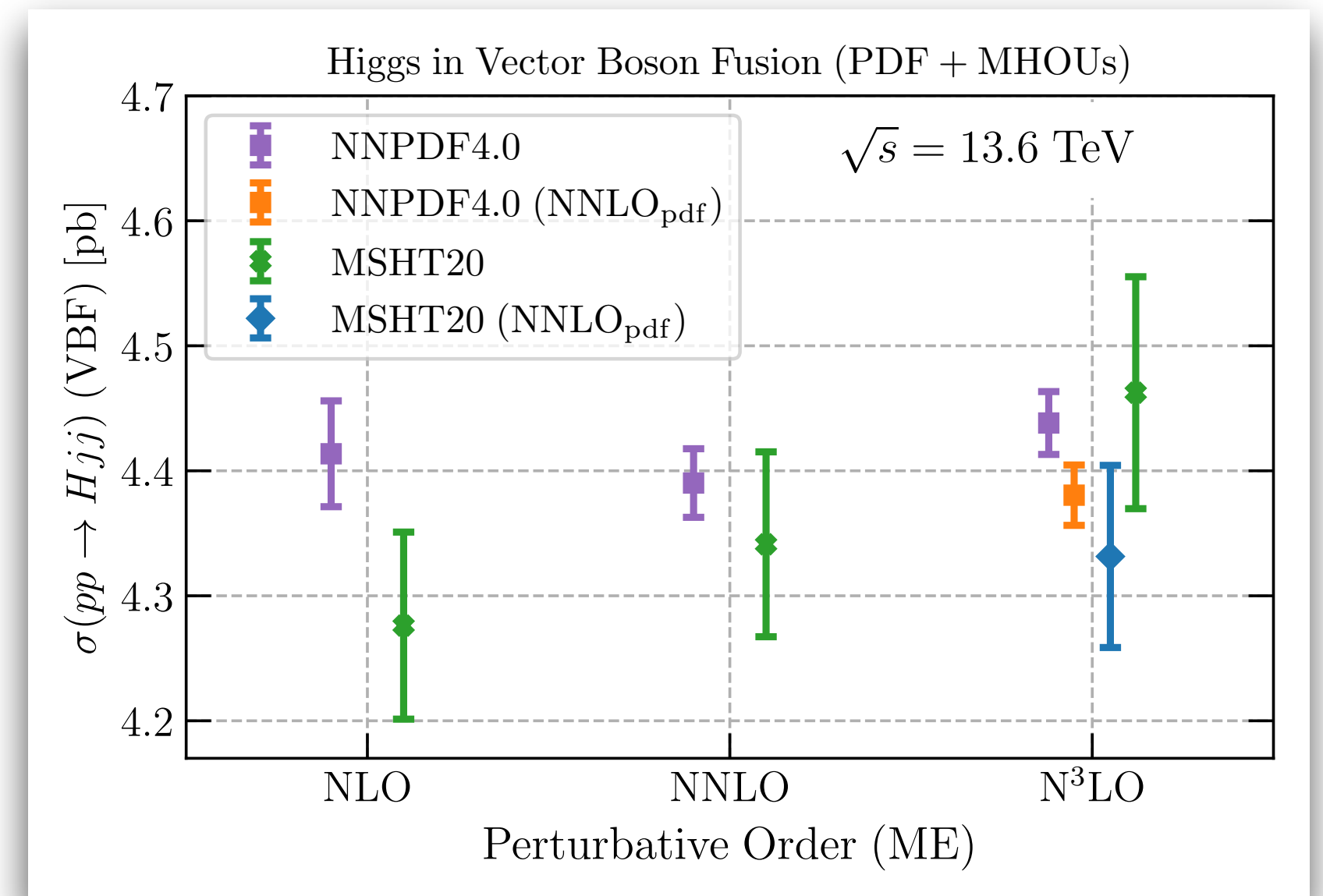
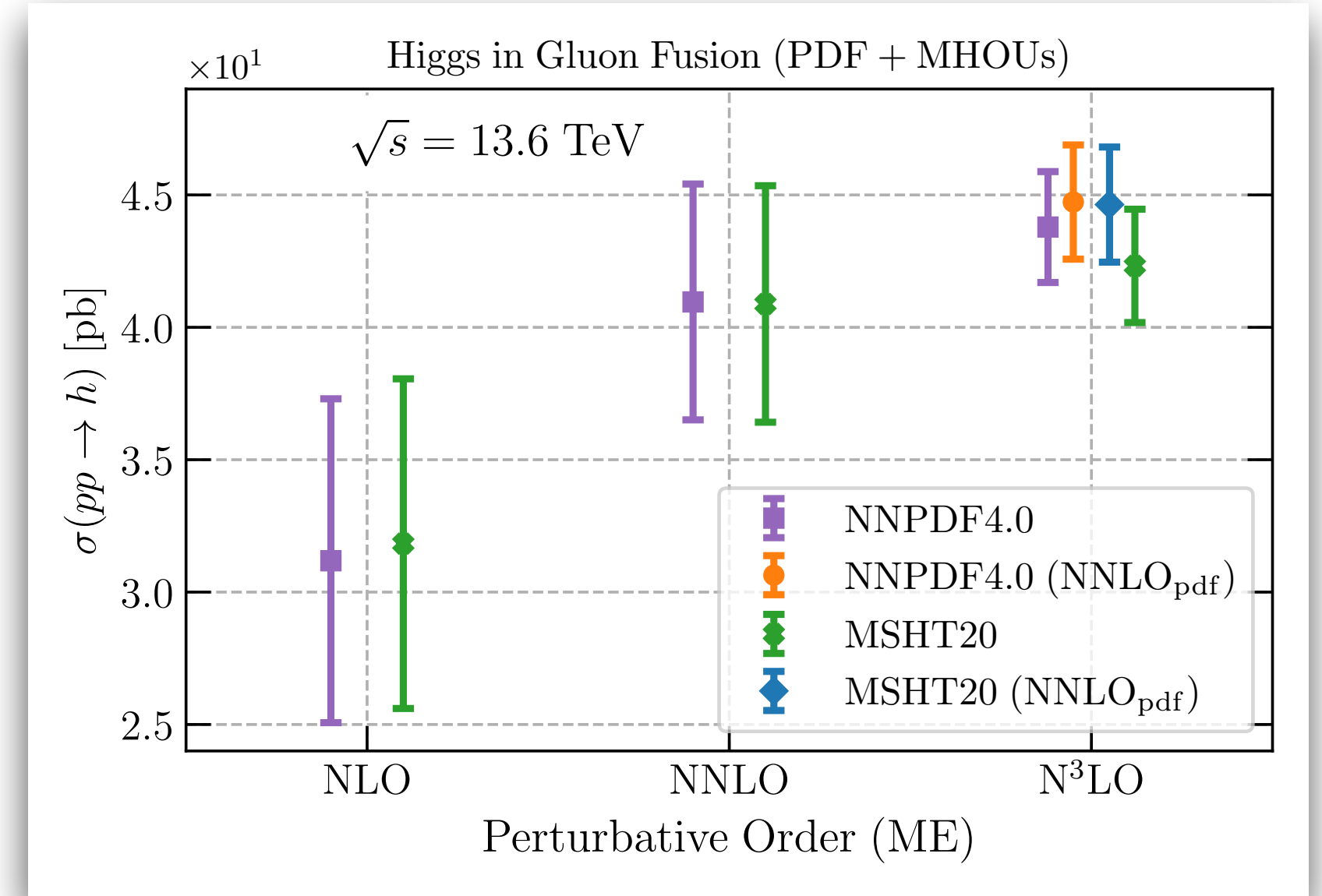
$$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{exact}} \equiv \left| \frac{\sigma_{\text{N}^3\text{LO-PDF}}^{\text{N}^3\text{LO}} - \sigma_{\text{NNLO-PDF}}^{\text{N}^3\text{LO}}}{\sigma_{\text{N}^3\text{LO-PDF}}^{\text{N}^3\text{LO}}} \right|$$

YR4 estimate

$$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{app}} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{\sigma_{\text{NNLO-PDF}}^{\text{NNLO}} - \sigma_{\text{NLO-PDF}}^{\text{NNLO}}}{\sigma_{\text{NNLO-PDF}}^{\text{NNLO}}} \right|$$

Relative uncertainty (%)

Process	NNPDF4.0				$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{app}}$	$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{exact}}$
	σ (pb)	δ_{th}	$\delta_{\text{PDF}}^{\text{noMHO}}$	$\delta_{\text{PDF}}^{\text{MHO}}$		
$gg \rightarrow h$	43.8	4.8	0.6	0.7	0.2	2.2
h VBF	4.44	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.2	1.3
hW^+	0.97	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.5
hW^-	0.61	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.3
hZ	0.87	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.3



aN³LO PDF with QED corrections

Barontini, Laurenti, Rojo [[arxiv:2406.01779](https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.01779)]

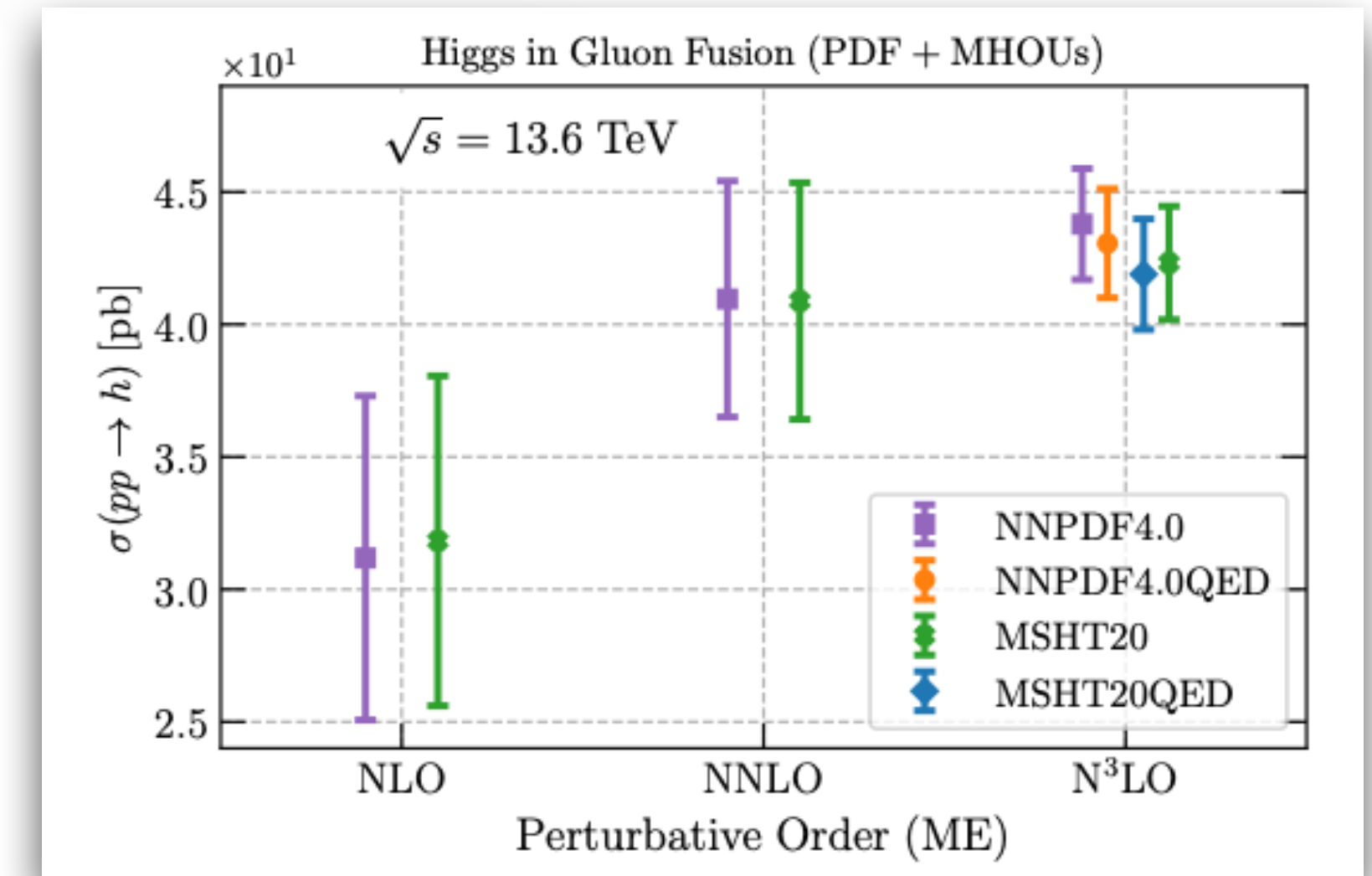
Recently we have also provided an additional global fits:

✓ **NNPDF40 QED aN3LO**

The photon PDF is computed from DIS structure functions at a given **high Q^2** scale.

[LuxQED Manohar et al. [[arxiv:1607.04266](https://arxiv.org/abs/1607.04266)] [[arxiv:1708.01256](https://arxiv.org/abs/1708.01256)]]

DGLAP with mixed $QED \otimes QCD : \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha_{em}), \mathcal{O}(\alpha_{em}^2)$

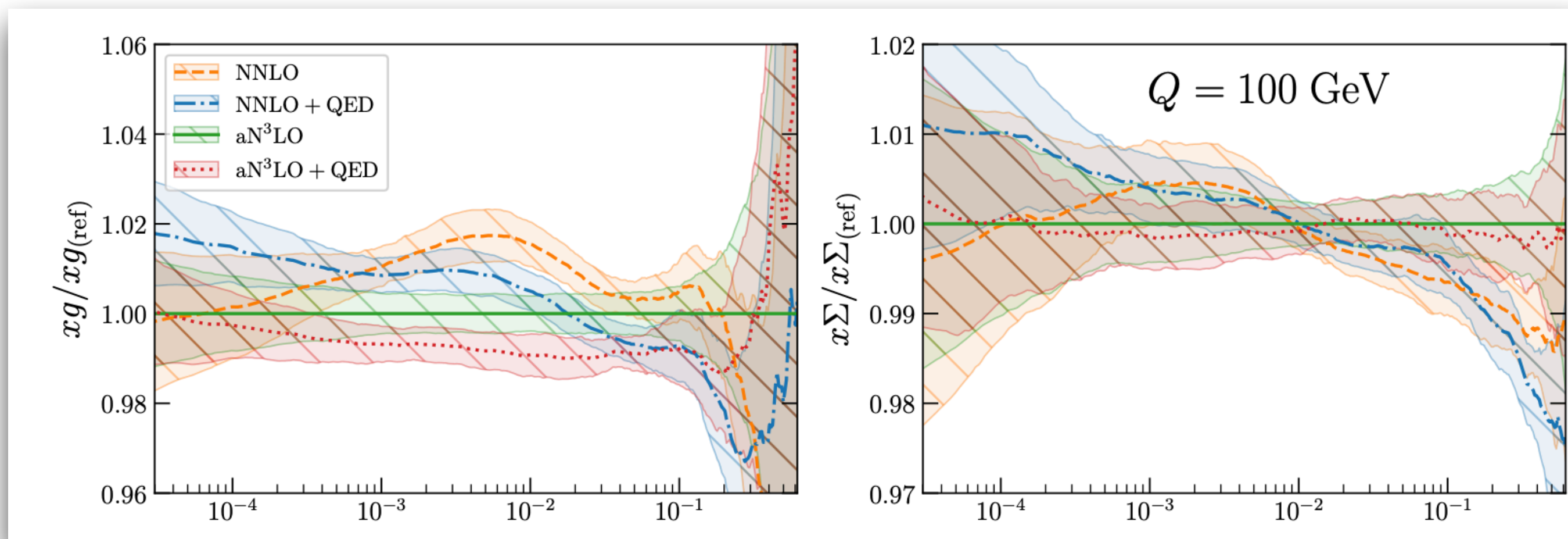


- ▶ The photon PDF subtracts some momentum from other partons (especially gluon):

$$\int_0^1 dx \left(g(x) + \sum_i q_i^+(x) + \gamma(x) \right) = 1$$

- ▶ **QED** effects on the PDFs **are comparable to QCD aN³LO** corrections, **both must be taken into account** to achieve best accuracy.

- ▶ At large- x , similar effect on the $\gamma(x, Q^2)$ PDF as in MSTH20 aN3LO QED Cridge et al. [[arxiv:2312.07665](https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.07665)]



Summary & outlook

Newest NNPDF4.0 releases:

- ✓ NNLO theory uncertainties through scale variations.
- ✓ aN³LO QCD: state of the art **DGLAP** and **DIS**, along with theory uncertainties.
- ✓ Determination of Photon PDF.
- aN³LO PDFs can be used both **with N³LO partonic matrix elements**.
- aN³LO PDFs can be used to **evaluate** more precisely **missing higher order** effects.
- Reduction of the N³LO $gg \rightarrow H$ cross section:
−2.1% (aN³LO PDF), −3.7% (aN³LO + QED PDF)
w.r.t. NNLO PDFs (and fixed matrix element)

Possible combination of NNPDF4.0 aN³LO and MSTH20 aN³LO is technically feasible (PDF4LHC like combination)

Jan 2024:
NNPDF4.0 MHO
NNPDF4.0 QED

Feb 2024:
NNPDF4.0 aN3LO

Jun 2024:
NNPDF4.0 QED aN3LO

...

WIP:
Towards **NNPDF4.1**

Summary & outlook

Newest NNPDF4.0 releases:

- ✓ Theory uncertainties [**NNPDF4.0 MHO**U]
- ✓ aN³LO effects in DGLAP and DIS [**NNPDF4.0 aN3LO**]
- ✓ Photon PDF [**NNPDF4.0 QED**, **NNPDF4.0 QED aN3LO**].

Possible combination of NNPDF4.0 aN3LO and MSTH20 aN3LO is technically feasible (PDF4LHC like combination)

Towards NNPDF4.1 :

- Full NNLO: removal of NNLO k-factors (Matrix-Pineapple interface)
- EWK corrections through k-factors
- Improved methodology: for ex. extended Hyperoptimization
- Extension of fitted data (LHC 13 TeV): DY, Top, Jets; DIS + Jet

Jun 2024:
NNPDF4.0 QED aN3LO

Jun 2024:
NNPDF4.0 MC

WIP:
Determination of α_s

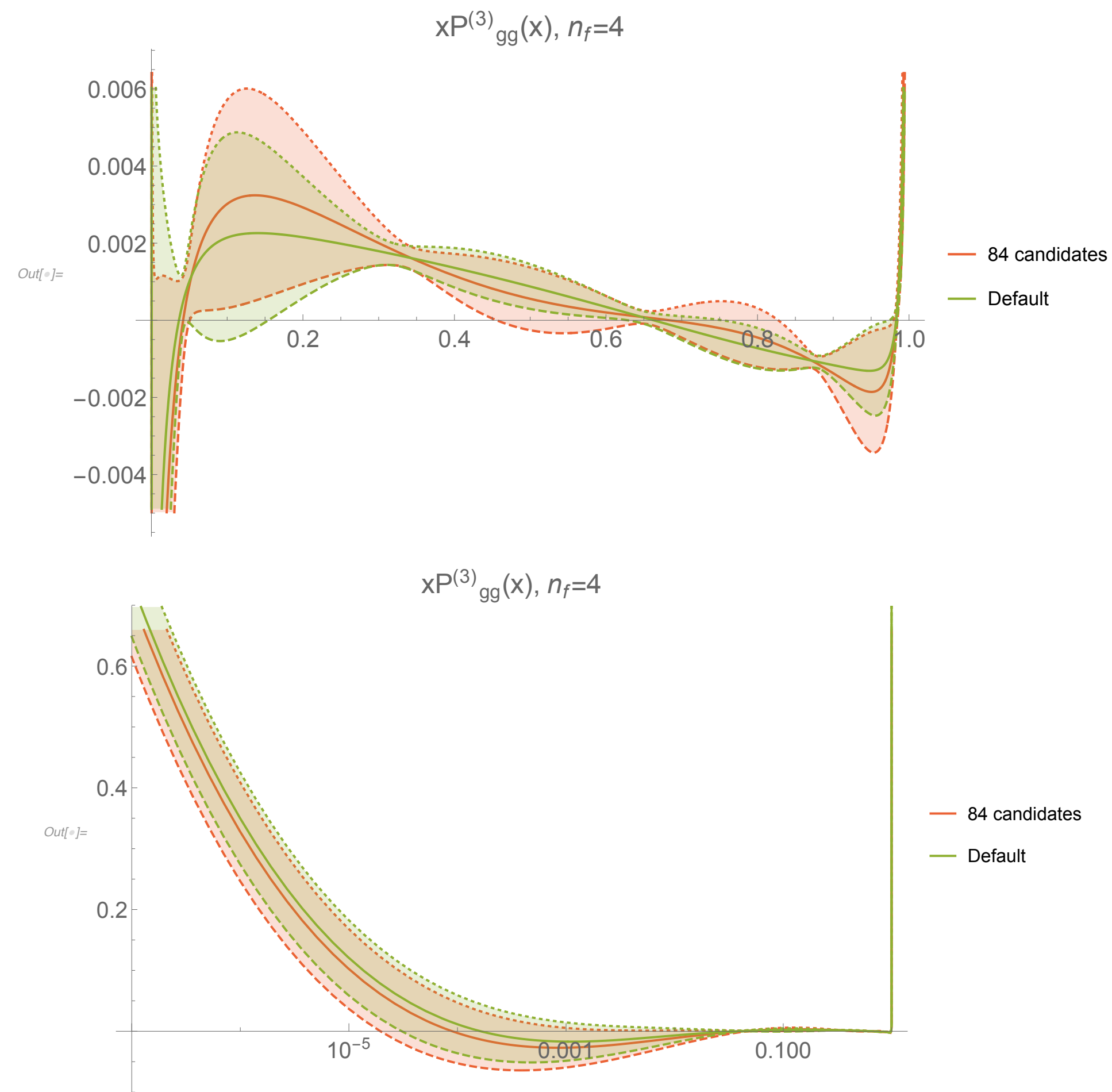
...

WIP:
Towards **NNPDF4.1**

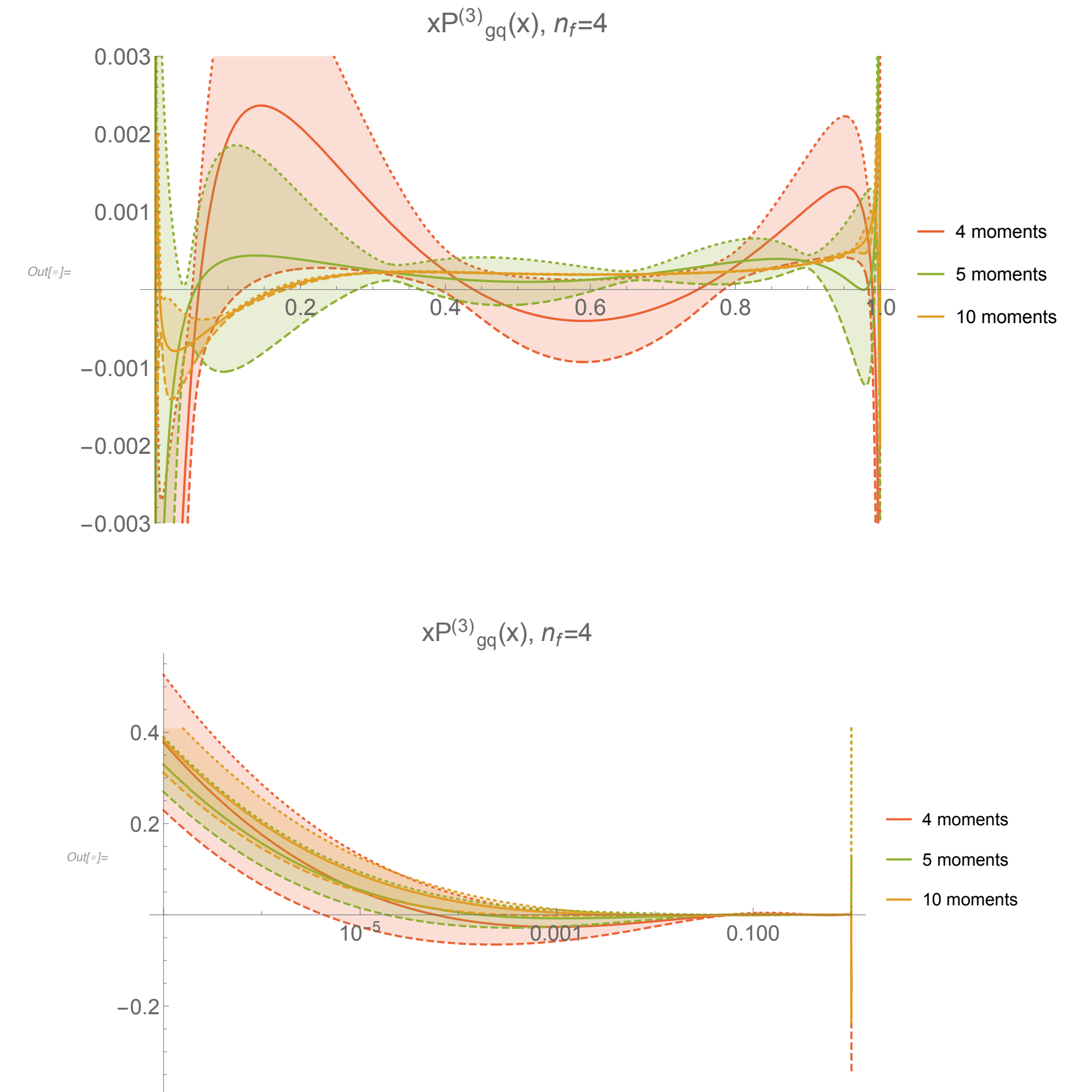


aN³LO splitting functions approximation

How does the approximation change if we add more test functions?



How does the approximation change if we add more Mellin moments?



Hadronic processes: DY, Jets, Top

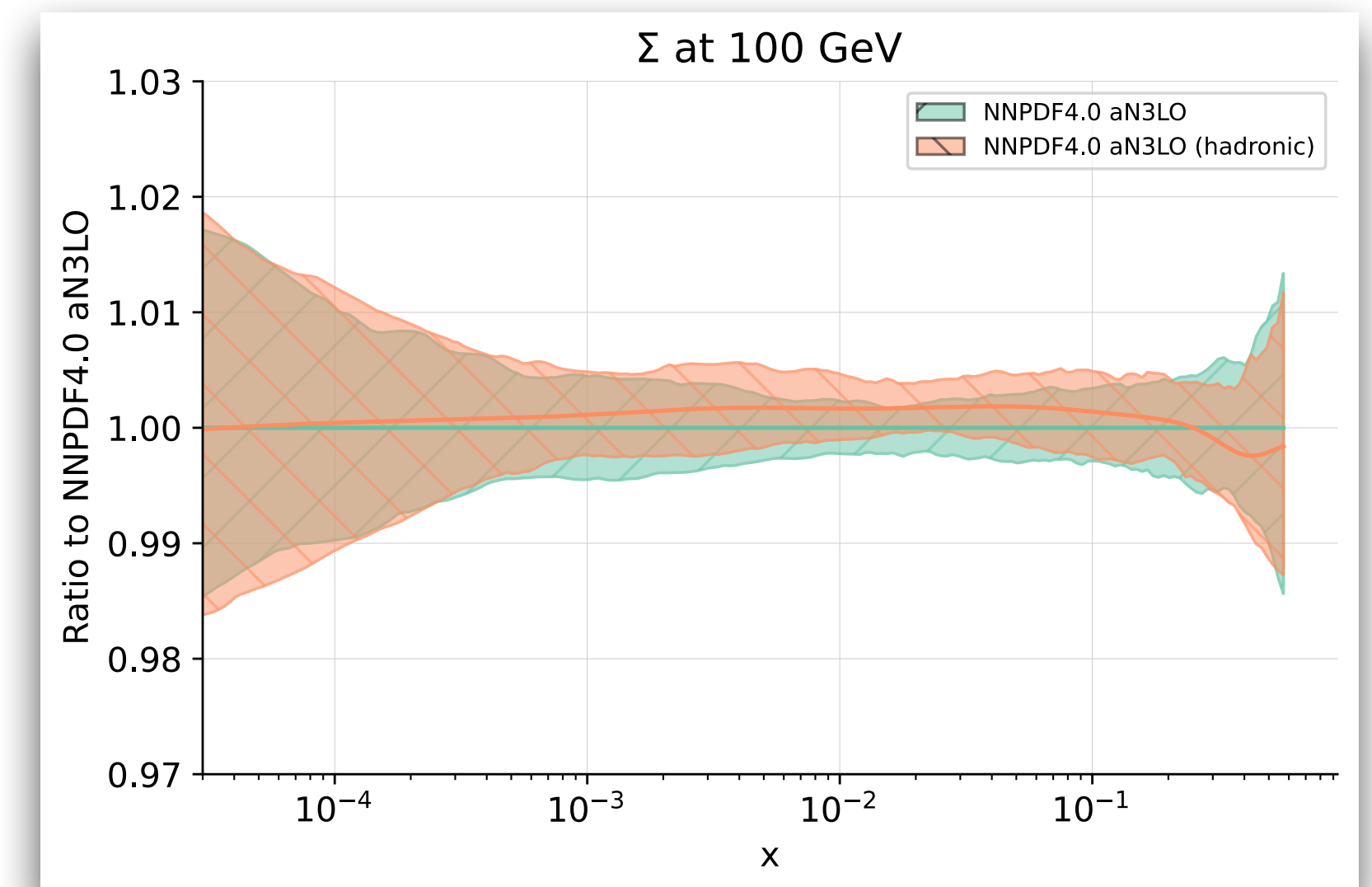
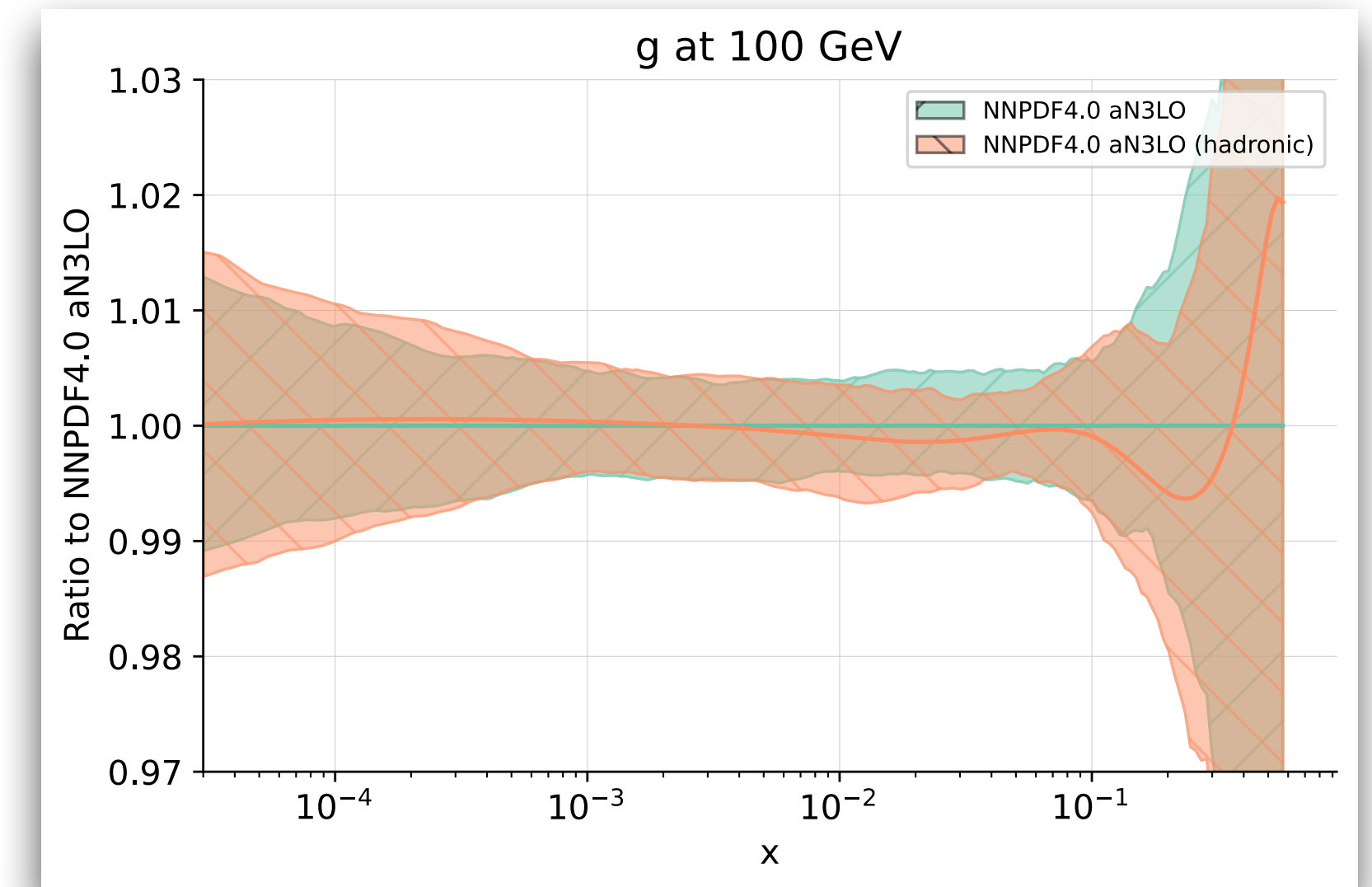
Single boson production (DY):

- ▶ $N^3\text{LO}$ corrections to Z and W^\pm differential in $m_{\ell\ell}$ or y_Z , can be included through k-factors. Effects are around 1-2% of the total cross sections, and quite flat in the boson rapidity.
- ▶ Effect at PDF level is negligible (limited number of data). **$N^3\text{LO}$ DY k-factors not included in the default fit.**
- ▶ Differential distributions in p_t are available only up to NNLO.

Jets, Dijets, Top:

- ▶ $N^3\text{LO}$ corrections are not known or public available.

We use NNLO MHOU from 3pt renormalisation scale variation to estimate unknown $N^3\text{LO}$ effects.



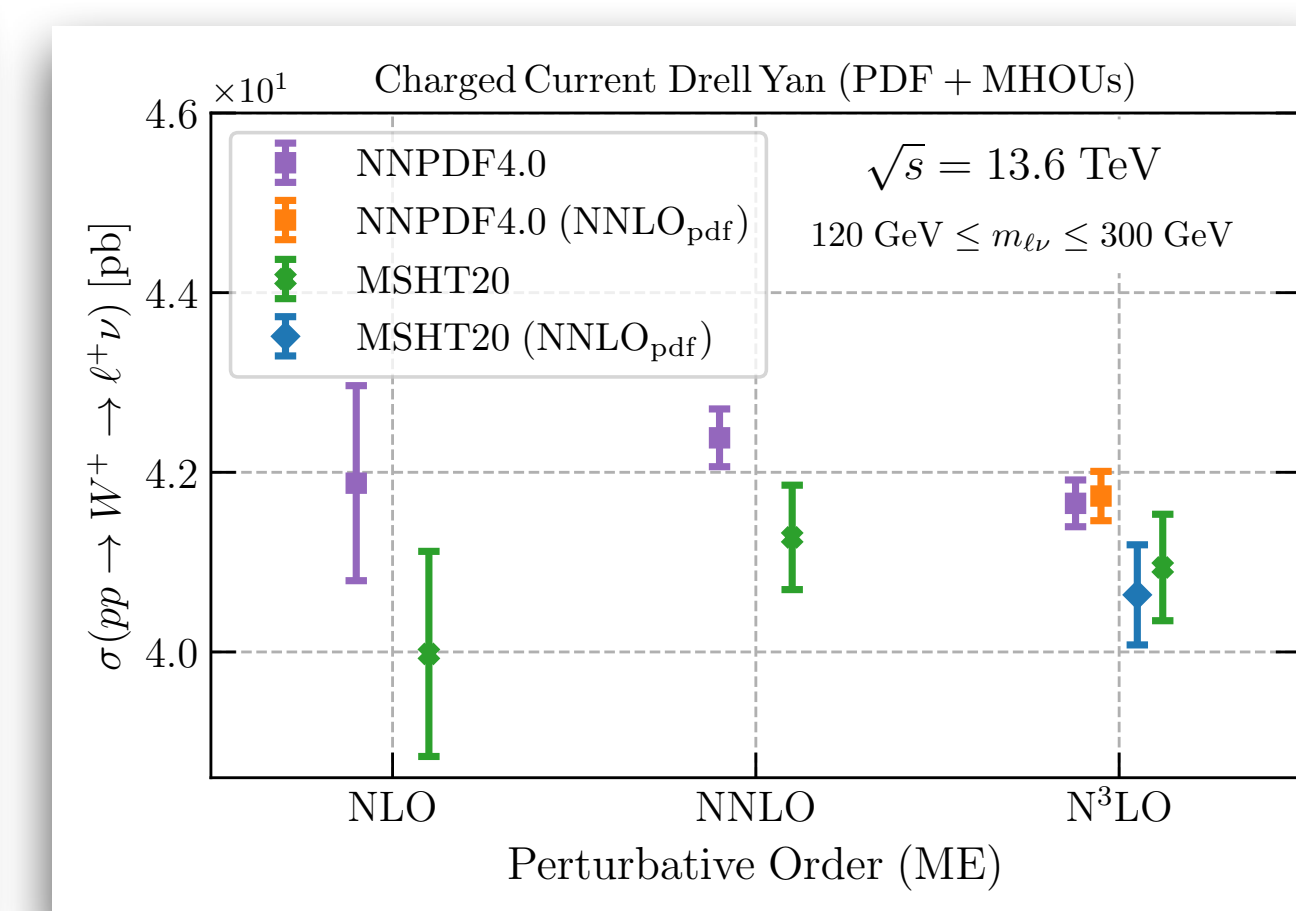
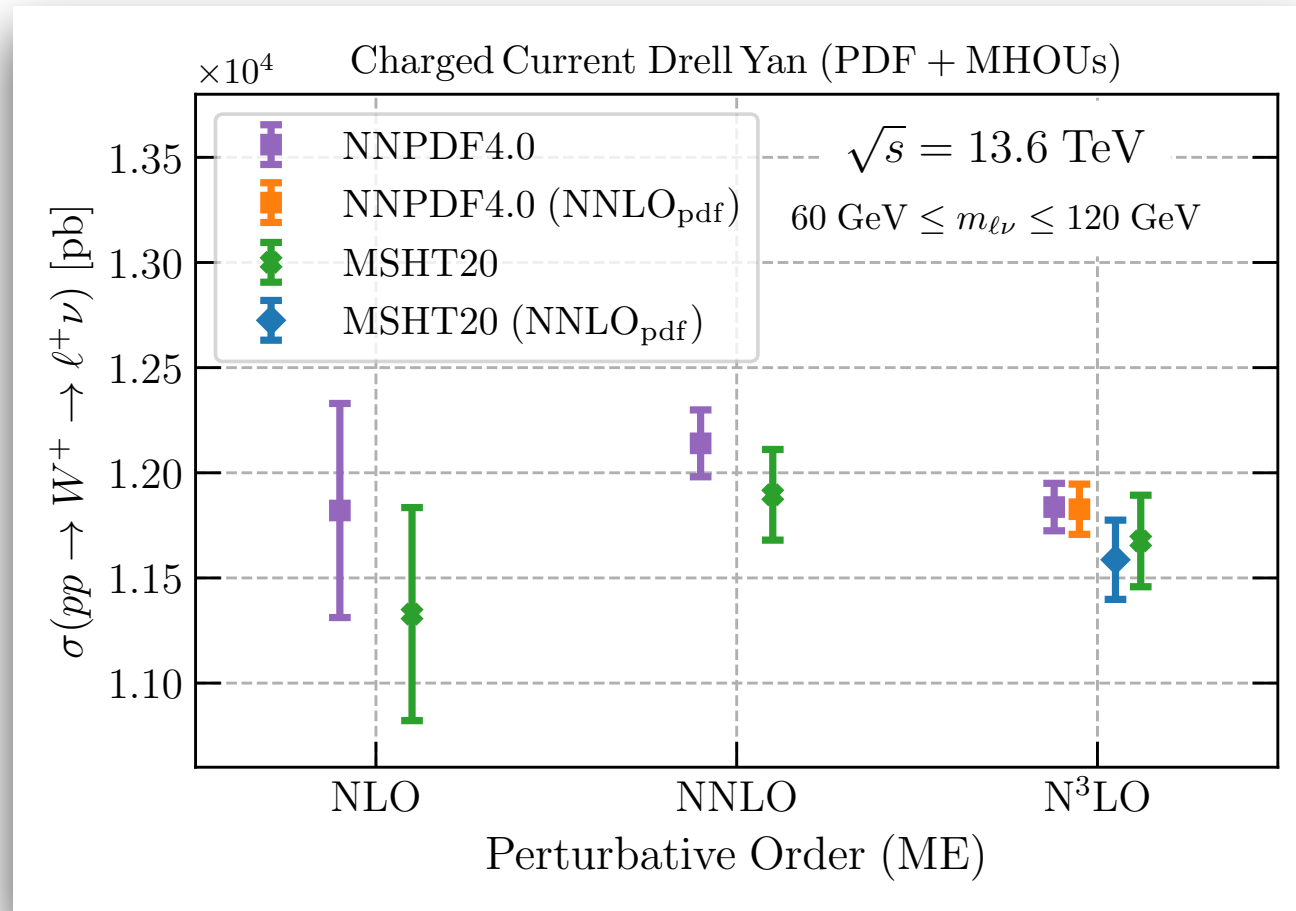
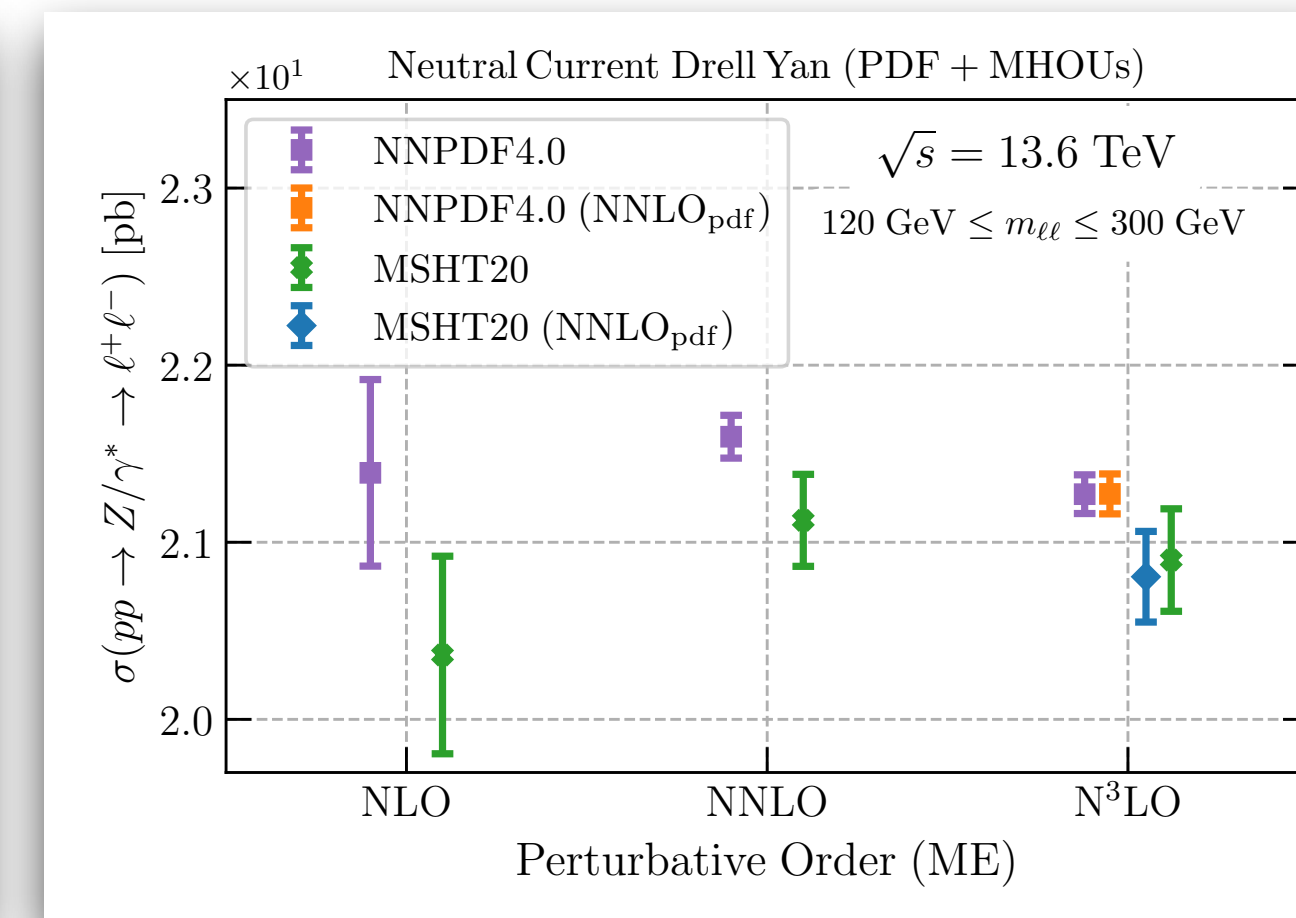
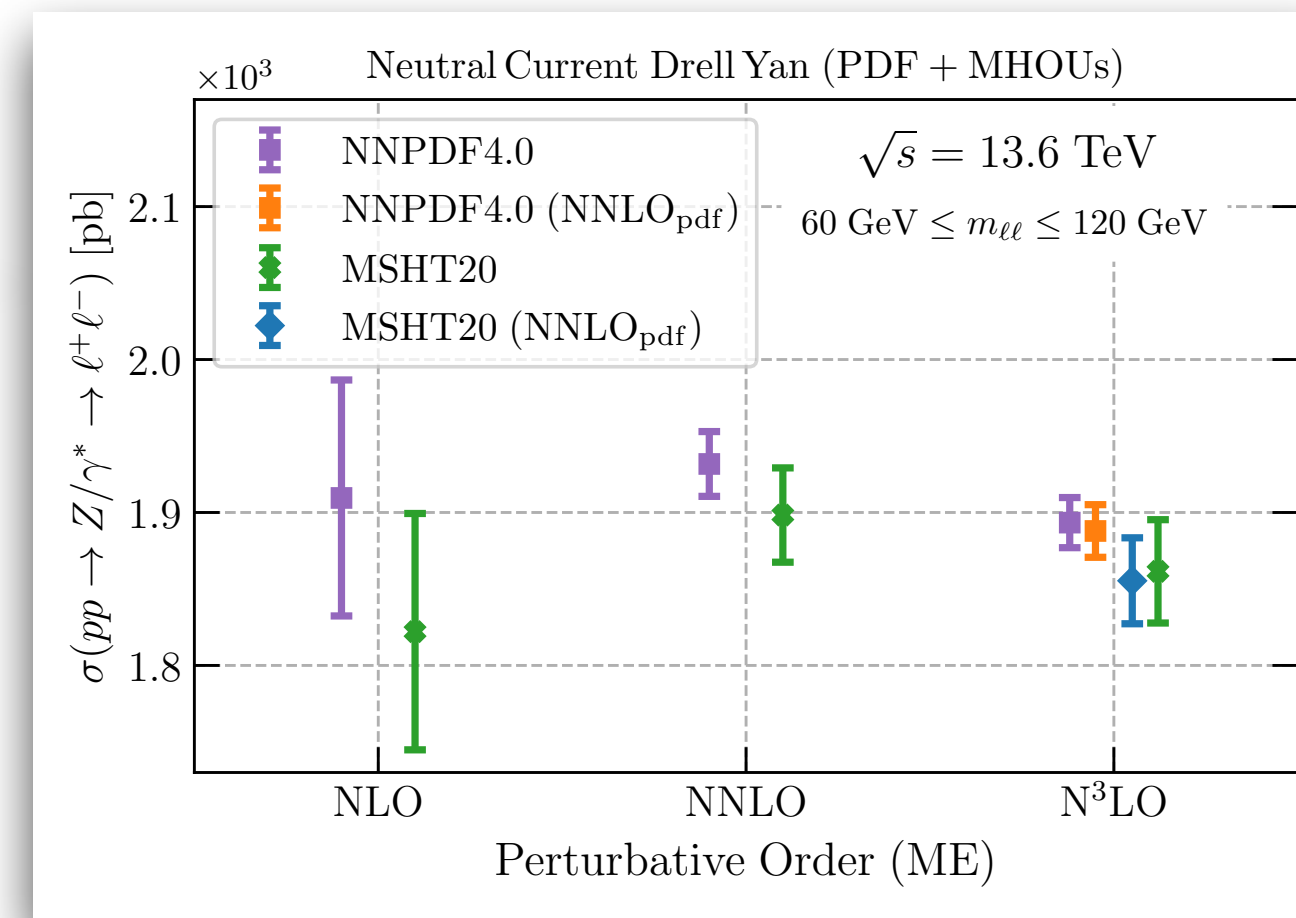
LHC phenomenology: Drell-Yan

- Also for gauge boson production (depending on quark luminosities), the usage of aN³LO PDFs **improve the perturbative convergence.**

- Similar N³LO/NNLO ratio** to MSHT20 aN3LO.

- For DY processes we find: $\Delta_{NNLO}^{exact} \leq \Delta_{NNLO}^{app}$

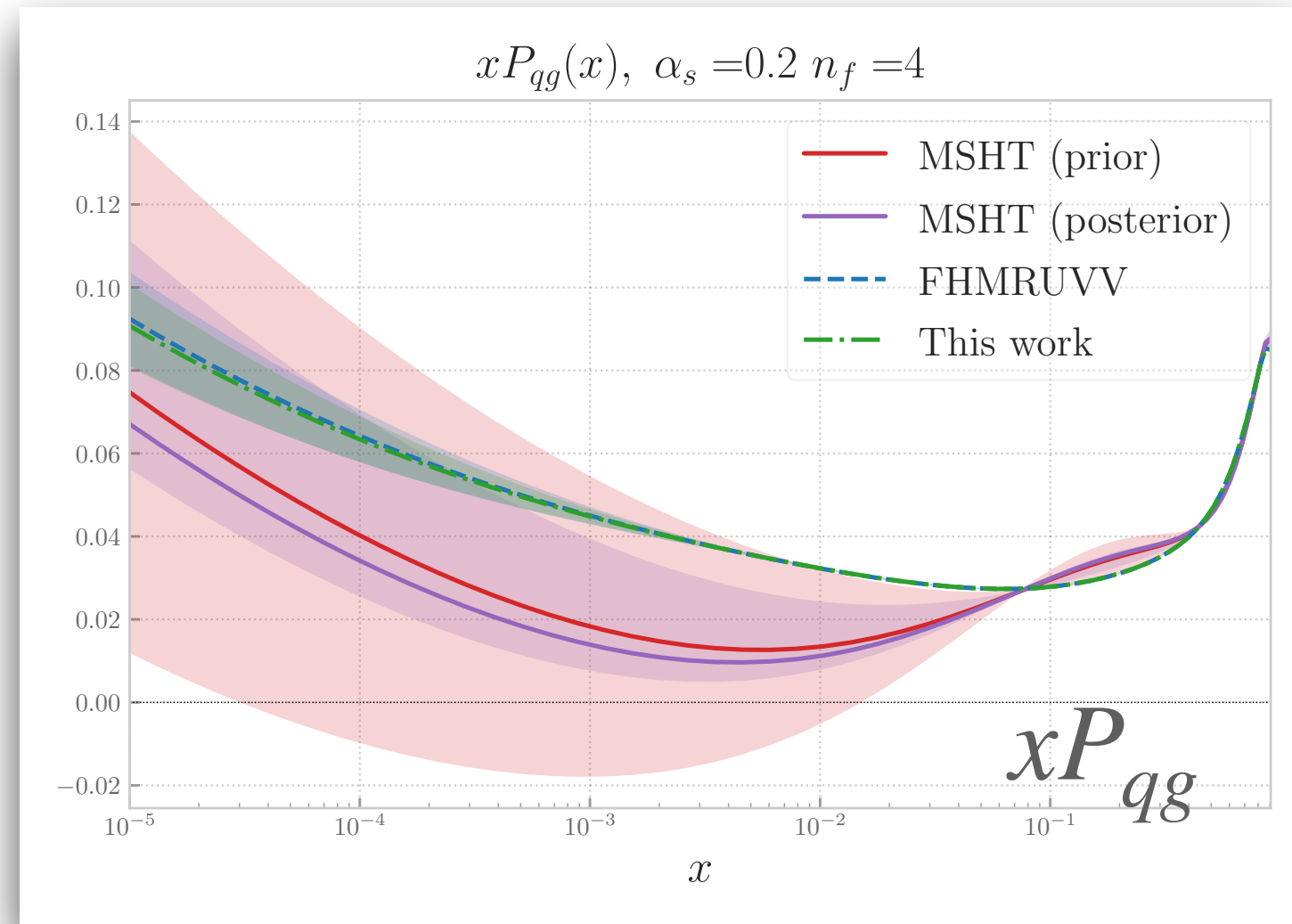
Process	σ (pb)	δ_{th}	NNPDF4.0		Δ_{NNLO}^{app}	Δ_{NNLO}^{exact}
			δ_{PDF}^{noMHOU}	δ_{PDF}^{MHOU}		
W^+ (p)	1.2×10^4	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.1
W^- (p)	8.8×10^3	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.1
Z (p)	1.9×10^3	0.9	0.4	0.5	1.1	0.3
W^+ (hm)	4.7×10^{-4}	2.8	2.8	3.3	3.2	1.1
W^- (hm)	1.4×10^{-4}	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.3	0.1
Z (hm)	2.1×10^{-4}	2.3	2.3	2.5	3.4	0.3



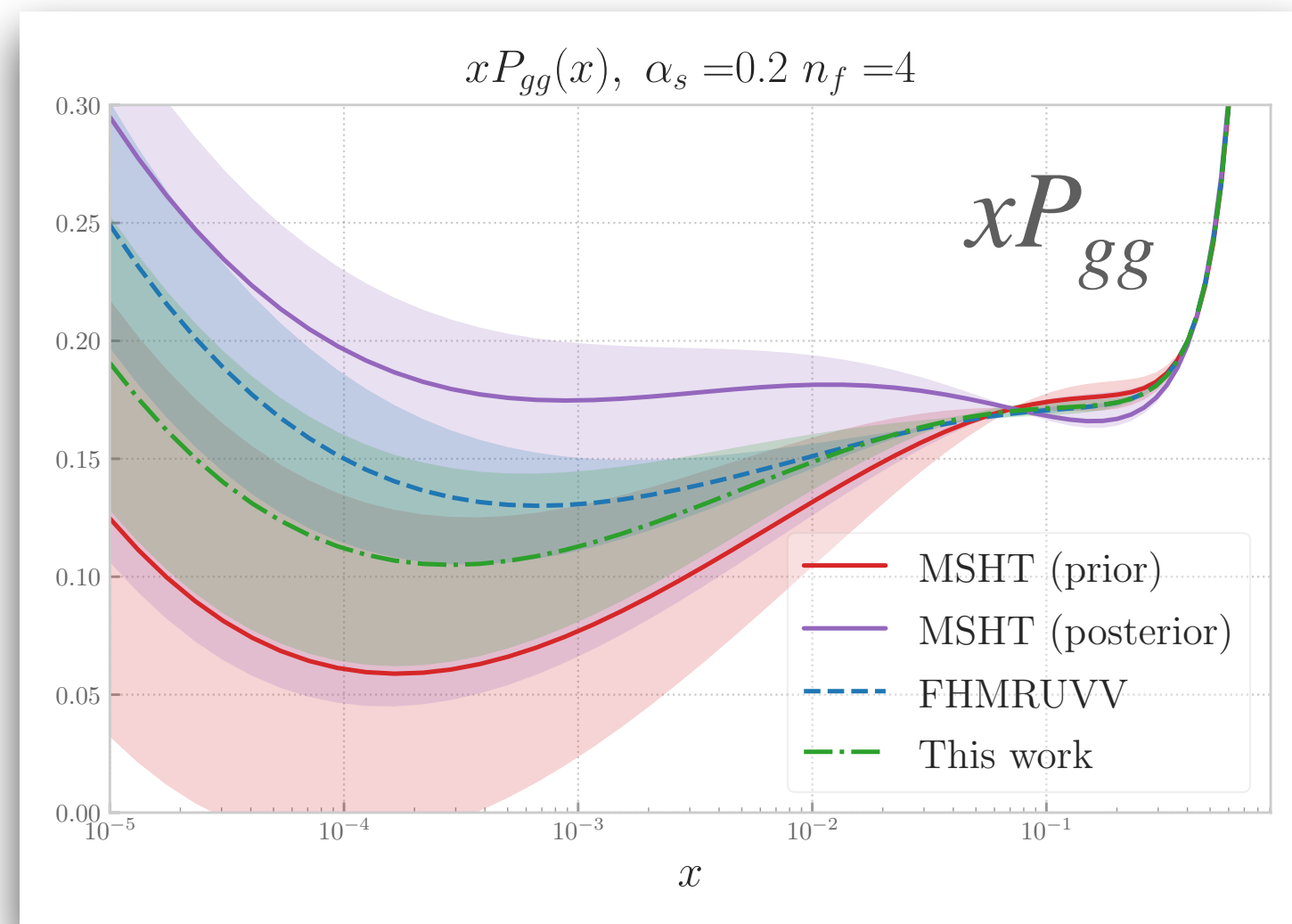
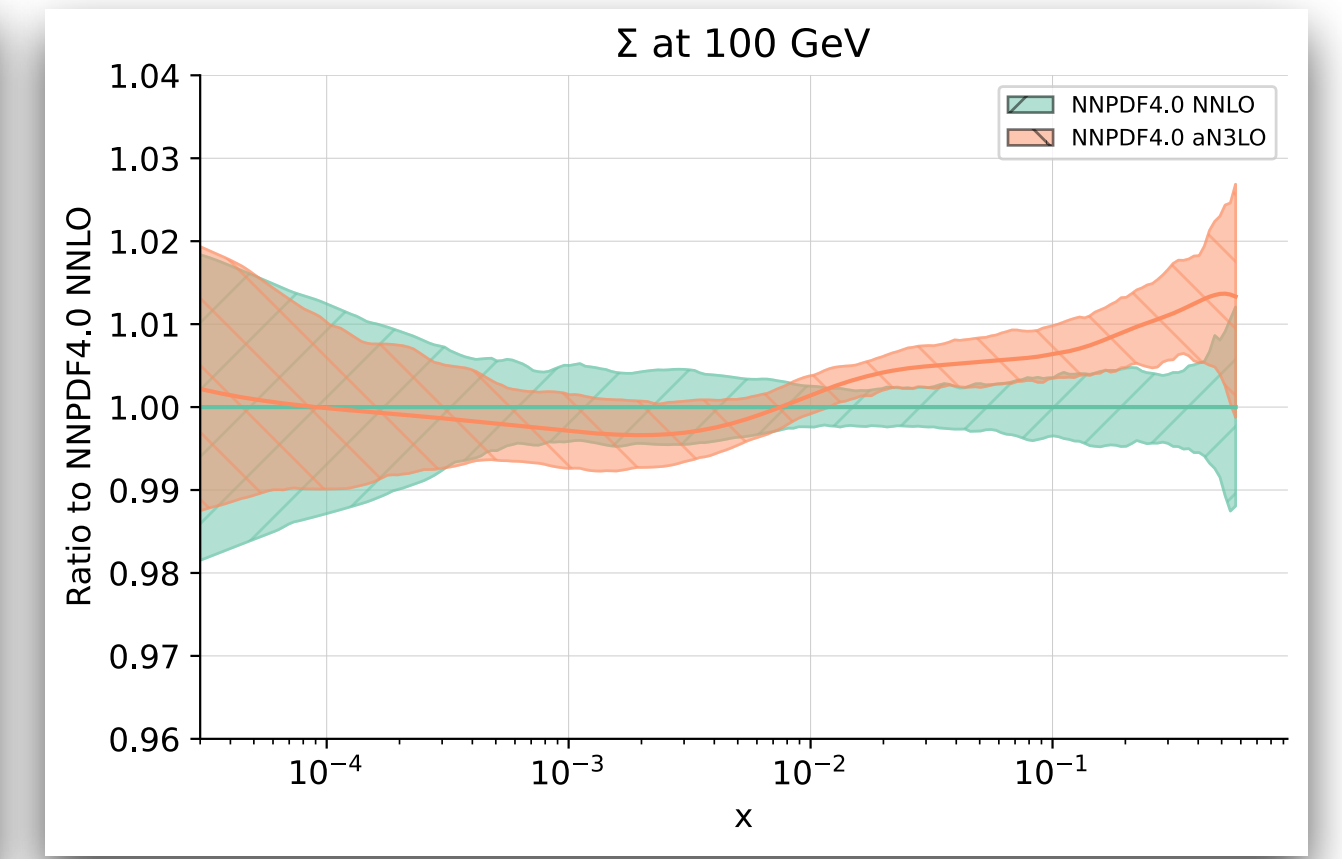
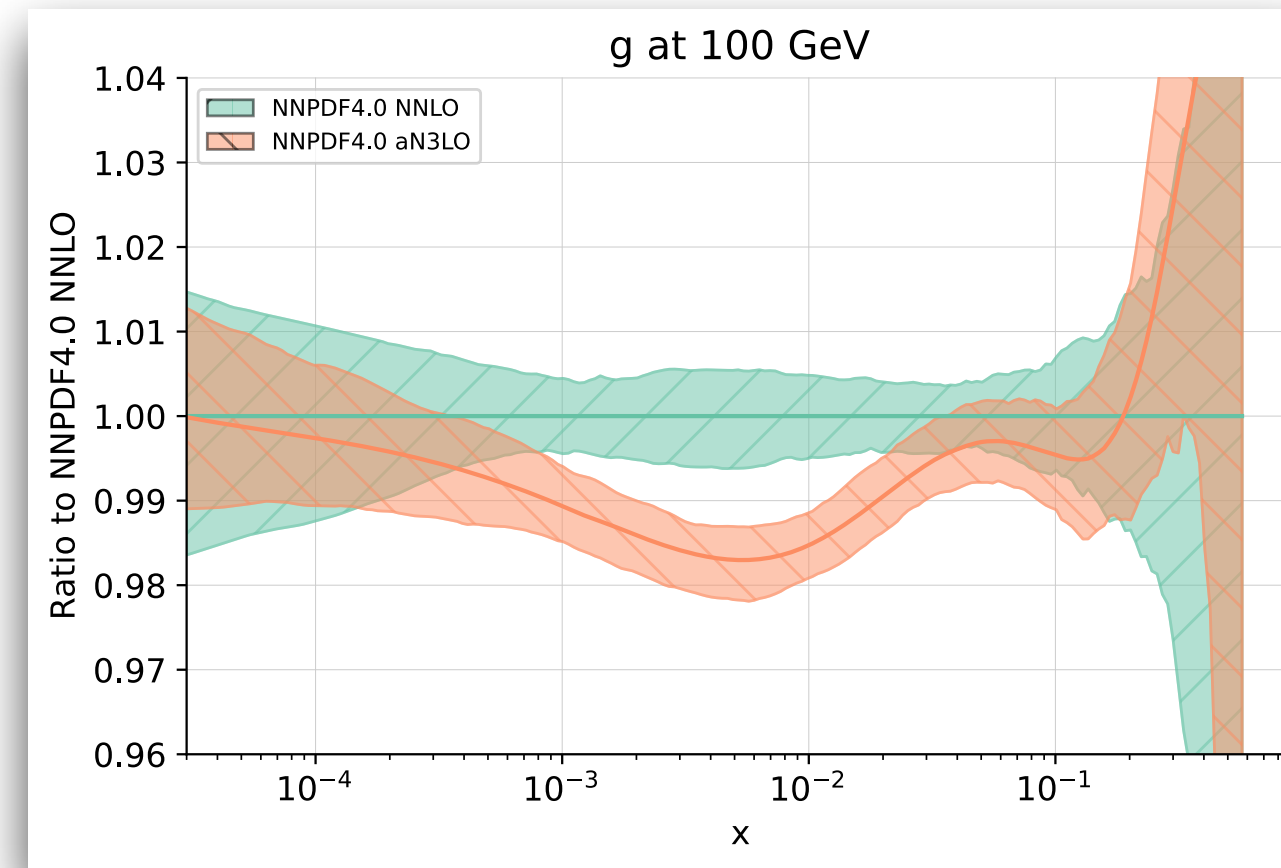
Comparison to MSHT20 aN3LO

McGowan, Cridge, Harland-Lang, Thorne [\[arxiv:2207.04739\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.04739)

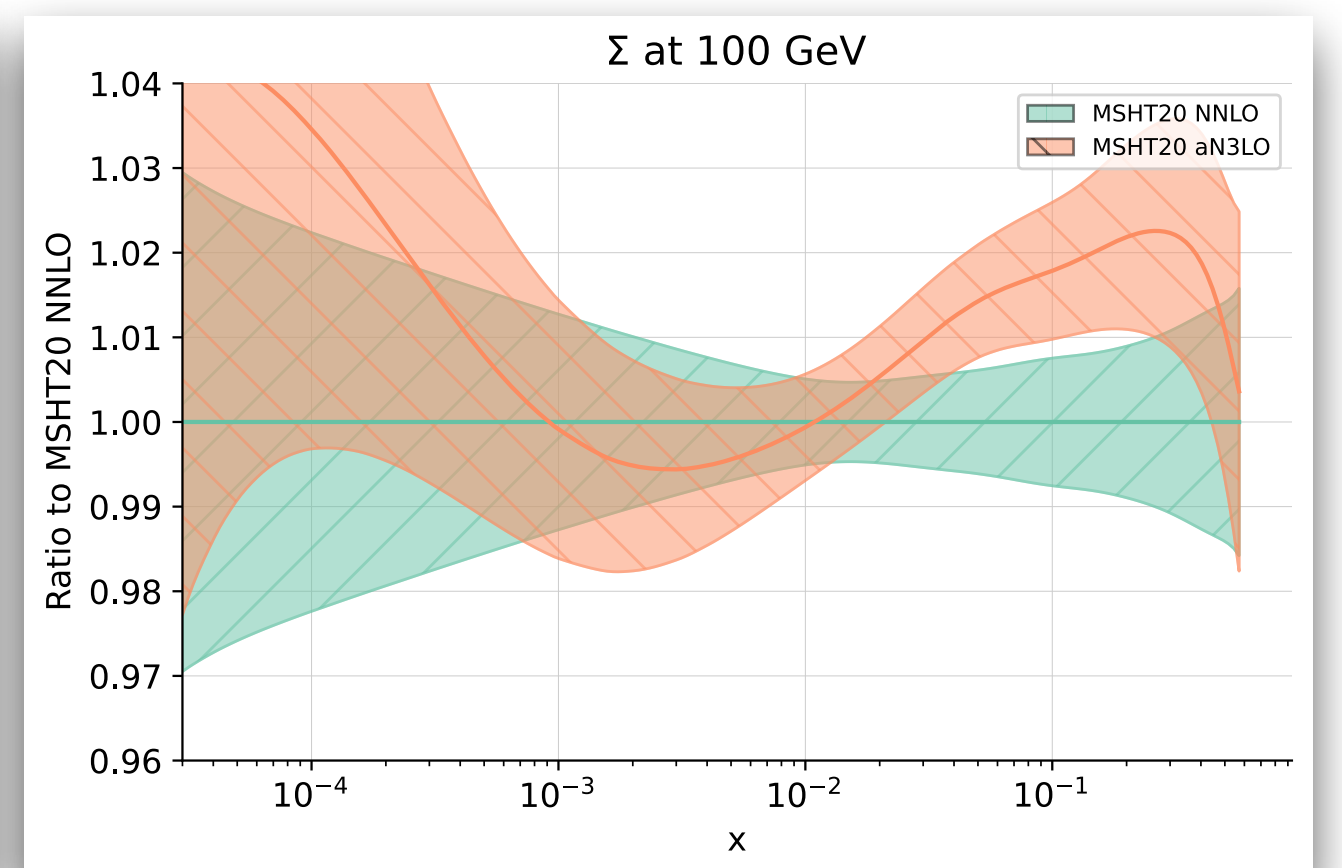
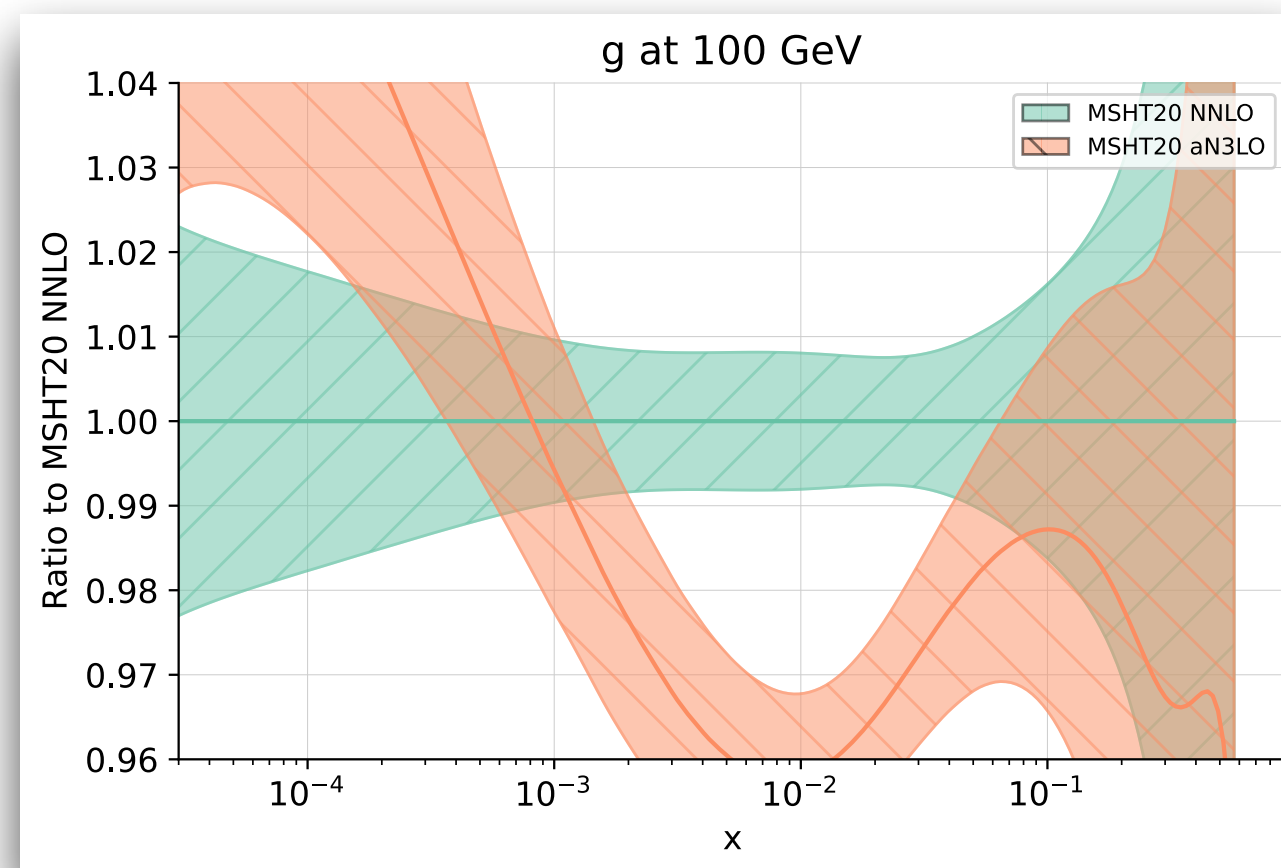
N^3LO Splitting functions



NNPDF4.0 aN³LO / NNLO



MSHT20 aN³LO / NNLO



Comparison to MSHT20 aN3LO [pheno]

McGowan, Cridge, Harland-Lang, Thorne [[arxiv:2207.04739](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.04739)]

$$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{exact}} \equiv \left| \frac{\sigma_{\text{N}^3\text{LO-PDF}}^{\text{N}^3\text{LO}} - \sigma_{\text{NNLO-PDF}}^{\text{N}^3\text{LO}}}{\sigma_{\text{N}^3\text{LO-PDF}}^{\text{N}^3\text{LO}}} \right| \quad \Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{app}} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{\sigma_{\text{NNLO-PDF}}^{\text{NNLO}} - \sigma_{\text{NLO-PDF}}^{\text{NNLO}}}{\sigma_{\text{NNLO-PDF}}^{\text{NNLO}}} \right|$$

Relative uncertainty (%)

Process	NNPDF4.0						MSHT20				
	σ (pb)	δ_{th}	$\delta_{\text{PDF}}^{\text{noMHO}}$	$\delta_{\text{PDF}}^{\text{MHO}}$	$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{app}}$	$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{exact}}$	σ (pb)	$\delta_{\text{th}}\sigma$	δ_{PDF}	$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{app}}$	$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{exact}}$
$gg \rightarrow h$	43.8	4.8	0.6	0.7	0.2	2.2	42.3	5.1	1.7	1.4	5.3
h VBF	4.44	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.2	1.3	4.46	2.1	2.0	1.3	2.9
hW^+	0.97	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.95	1.5	1.4	0.8	0.9
hW^-	0.61	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.60	1.6	1.5	0.9	1.0
hZ	0.87	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.85	1.4	1.4	1.1	0.8

Process	NNPDF4.0						MSHT20				
	σ (pb)	δ_{th}	$\delta_{\text{PDF}}^{\text{noMHO}}$	$\delta_{\text{PDF}}^{\text{MHO}}$	$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{app}}$	$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{exact}}$	σ (pb)	$\delta_{\text{th}}\sigma$	δ_{PDF}	$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{app}}$	$\Delta_{\text{NNLO}}^{\text{exact}}$
W^+ (p)	1.2×10^4	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.1	1.2×10^4	1.9	1.7	2.3	0.8
W^- (p)	8.8×10^3	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.1	8.7×10^3	1.9	1.6	2.1	0.0
Z (p)	1.9×10^3	0.9	0.4	0.5	1.1	0.3	1.9×10^3	1.8	1.6	2.6	0.3
W^+ (hm)	4.7×10^{-4}	2.8	2.8	3.3	3.2	1.1	4.6×10^{-4}	4.0	3.9	2.0	1.3
W^- (hm)	1.4×10^{-4}	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.3	0.1	1.5×10^{-4}	4.2	4.2	2.0	0.6
Z (hm)	2.1×10^{-4}	2.3	2.3	2.5	3.4	0.3	2.2×10^{-4}	3.6	3.6	2.7	0.2

QED corrections in Higgs gluon fusion

- ▶ The **photon induced effects** (Blue vs Orange) are essentially negligible.
- ▶ The **QED corrections** to quarks and gluons (Red vs Orange) are at most $\mathcal{O}(2\%)$.

