

# MSHT PDF updates.

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## MSHT PDFs [1] - a variety of updates.

- A first set of PDF at approximate  $N^3\text{LO}$ , i.e.  $aN^3\text{LO}$  - very brief reminder plus updates.
- $aN^3\text{LO}$  PDFs with QED corrections and the photon PDF - summary.
- Comparison of global fits using either inclusive jet or alternatively dijet LHC data.
- A study of the best-fit  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2)$  at  $aN^3\text{LO}$ , and interplay of jet/dijet data on the strong coupling.
- Implications of EIC pseudodata for  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2)$ .

Also dedicated studies on (different aspects of) methodologies and relationship to uncertainties (Harland-Lang, Reader – tomorrow), and  $aN^3\text{LO}$  PDF combinations and implications (Magni later today) .

**N<sup>3</sup>LO** - What do we know?

Zero-mass structure function **N<sup>3</sup>LO** coefficient functions are known [2].

Splitting functions, some information from leading terms in the small  $x$  and large  $x$  regime [3-12], e.g.

$$P_{qg}^{(3)}(x) \rightarrow \frac{C_A^3}{3\pi^4} \left( \frac{82}{81} + 2\zeta_3 \right) \frac{1 \ln^2 1/x}{2x} + \rho_{qg} \frac{\ln 1/x}{x},$$

Also numerical constraints (Low-integer Mellin moments) [3-12], and intuition from lower orders and expectations from perturbation theory. (Transition matrix elements recently completed [13-14]).

Splitting Functions at **aN<sup>3</sup>LO** –  $N_m$  Mellin moments and small- $x$  constraints can be used to define

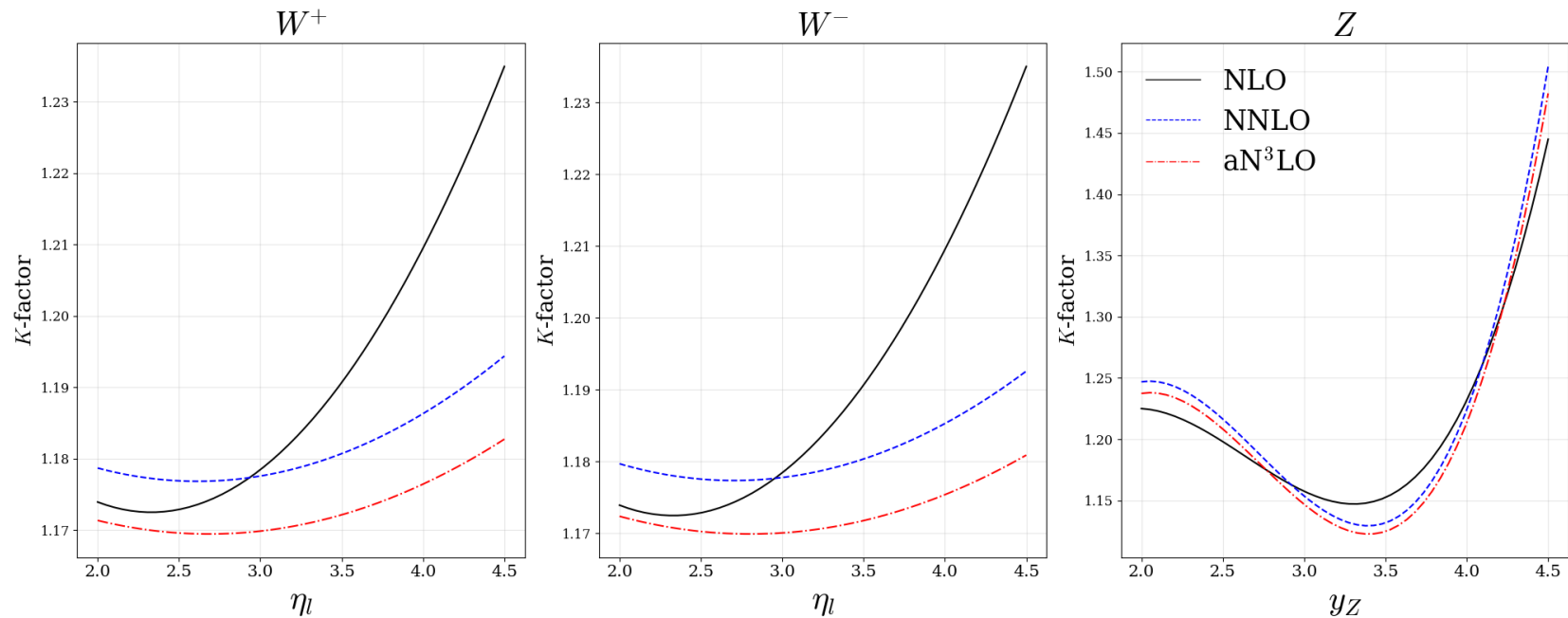
$$F(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_m} A_i f_i(x) + f_e(x).$$

Choose a set of relevant functions and solve for  $A_i$ .

Very little about many cross-sections (K-factors). Parameterise the  $N^3LO$  K-factor as a superposition of both NNLO and NLO K-factors.

$$K(y) = 1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} D(y) + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi}\right)^2 E(y) + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi}\right)^3 F(y) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4).$$

$$K^{N^3LO/LO} = K^{NNLO/LO} \left( 1 + \alpha_s^3 \hat{a}_1 \frac{\mathcal{N}^2}{\pi} D + \alpha_s^3 \hat{a}_2 \frac{\mathcal{N}}{\pi^2} E \right).$$



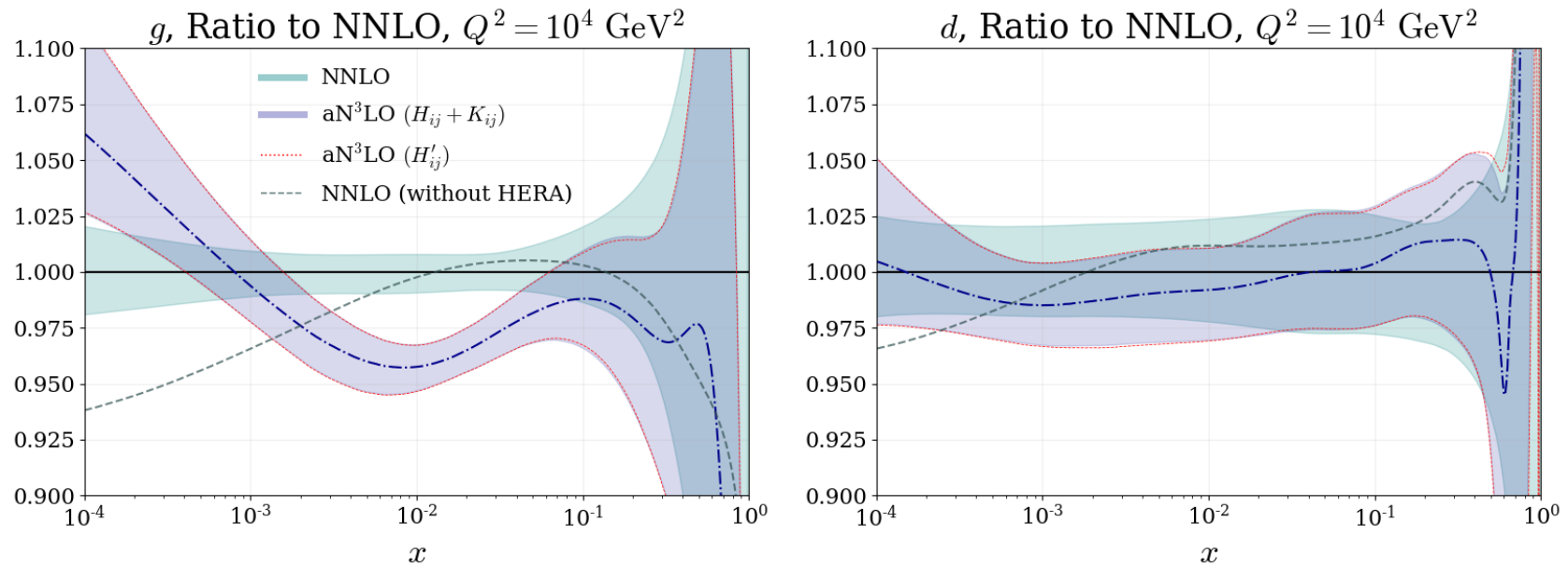
Calculations of  $N^3LO$  Drell Yan production now exist [19-21].

## Global Fit Quality at aN<sup>3</sup>LO

The overall  $\chi^2$  follows the general trend one may expect from perturbation theory.

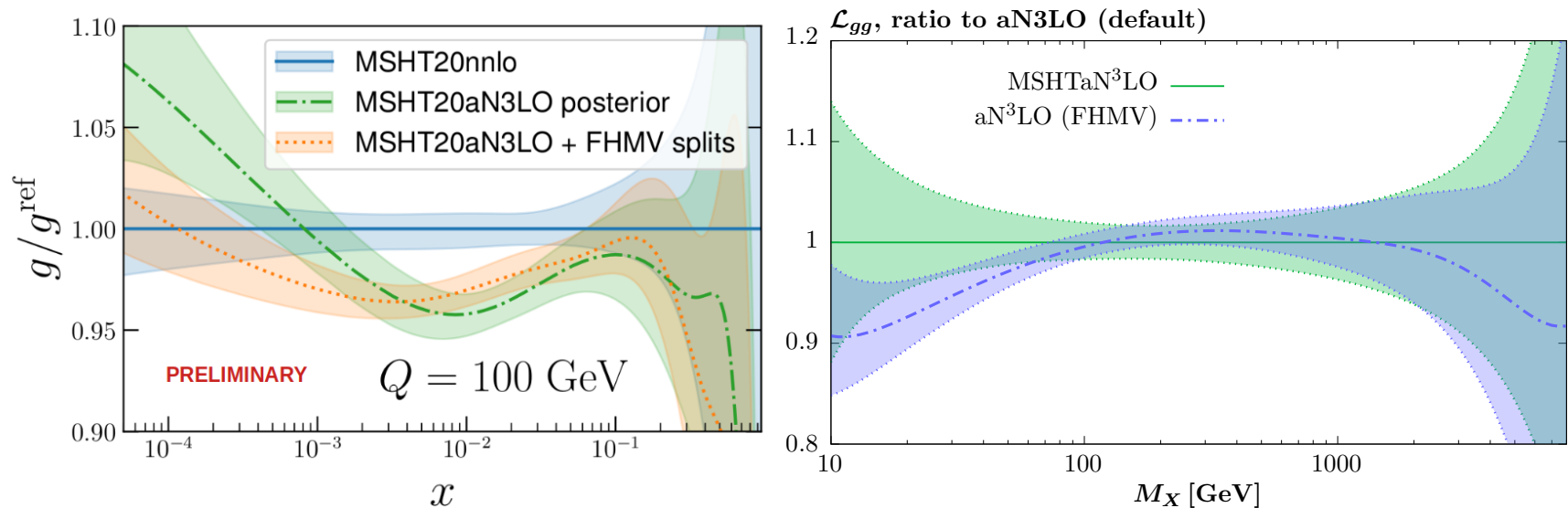
	LO	NLO	NNLO	aN <sup>3</sup> LO
$\chi^2_{N_{pts}}$	2.57	1.33	1.17	1.14

Evidence that including aN<sup>3</sup>LO has reduced tensions between small and large- $x$ .



The gluon is enhanced at small- $x$  due to the large logarithms present at higher orders. Light quarks enhanced at high  $x$ .

## MSHT fits with improved [14-16] splitting functions.



No uncertainties used for improved splitting functions - only central value.

$\chi^2 \sim 50$  worse than before (over 100 lower than NNLO) very largely at small  $x$  - would improve at some level once uncertainty accounted for.

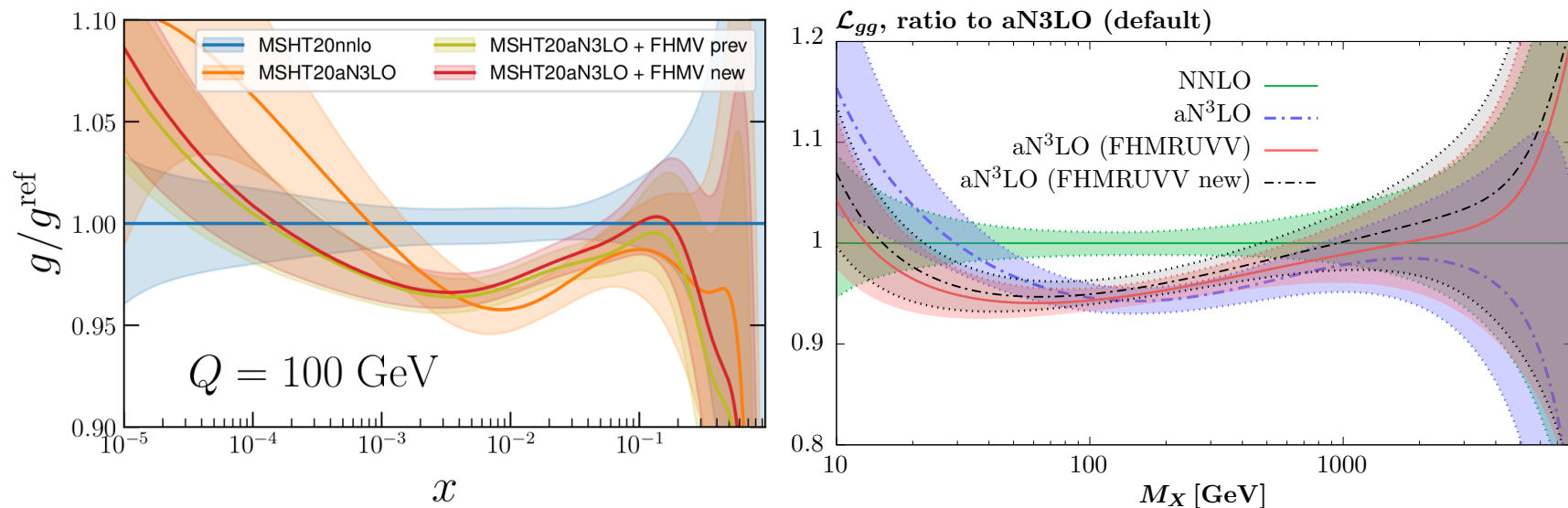
Use of improved aN<sup>3</sup>LO splitting functions changes aN<sup>3</sup>LO gluon a little compared to published MSHT PDFs, raising 1.5% near  $x = 0.01$ . Washes out somewhat in luminosity.

Main features of aN<sup>3</sup>LO comparison to NNLO remain the same.

# Further improvements with even more updates to splitting functions [17,18]

Now all splitting functions contain 10 known moments.

Again only central values of best estimates used (no PDF evolution uncertainty).



$\chi^2$  improves by  $\sim 10$  compared to first update.

Gluon rises very slightly further, but dip compared to NNLO still very apparent.

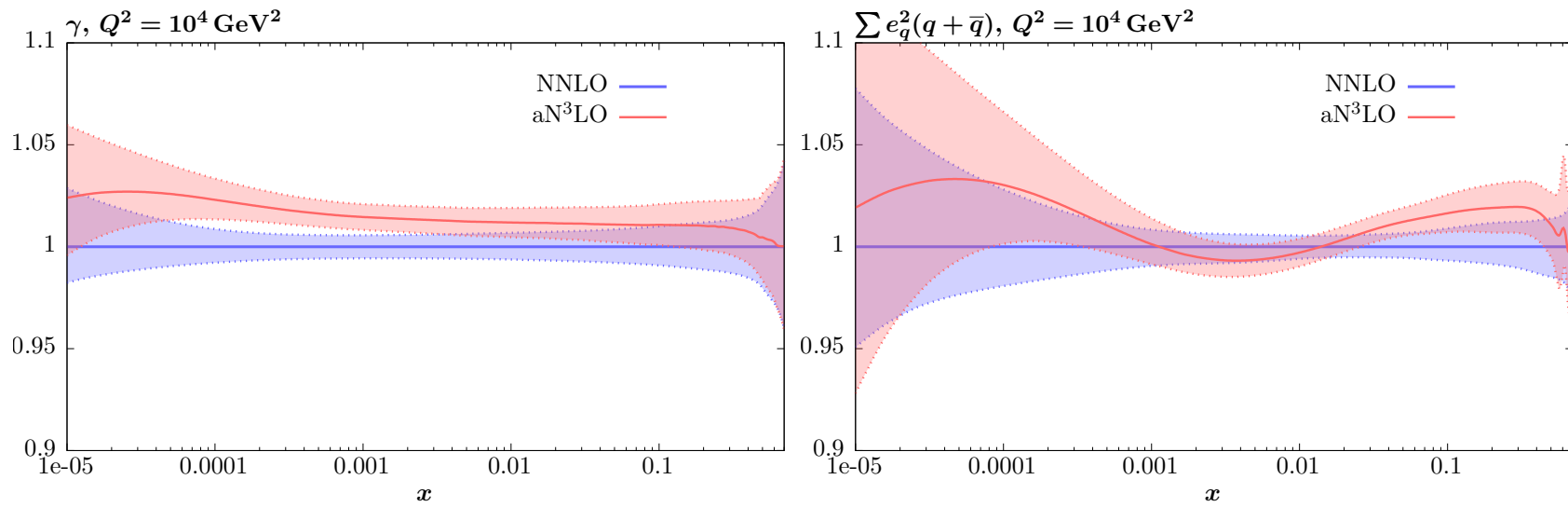
## aN<sup>3</sup>LO PDFs with QED corrections. SciPost Phys. 17 (2024) 1, 026

We saw slight deterioration in QED corrected fits at lower orders (photon takes PDF momentum). Now largely eliminated at aN<sup>3</sup>LO.

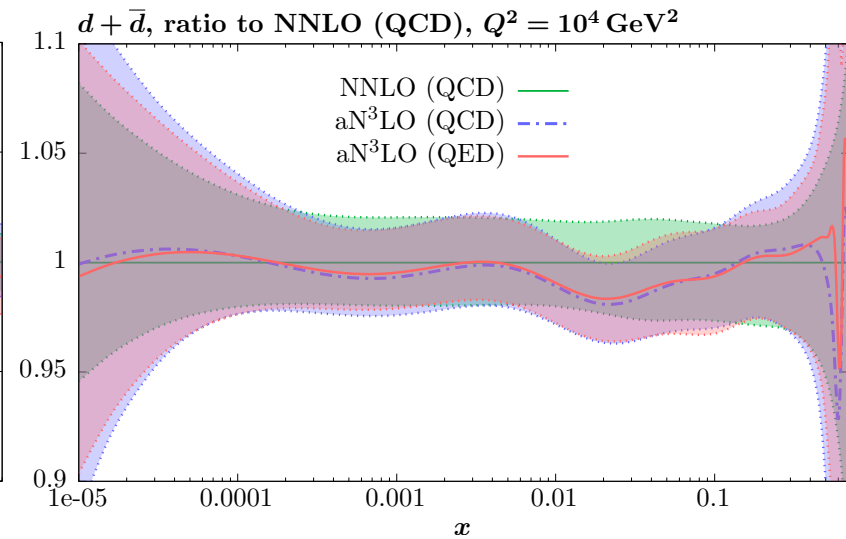
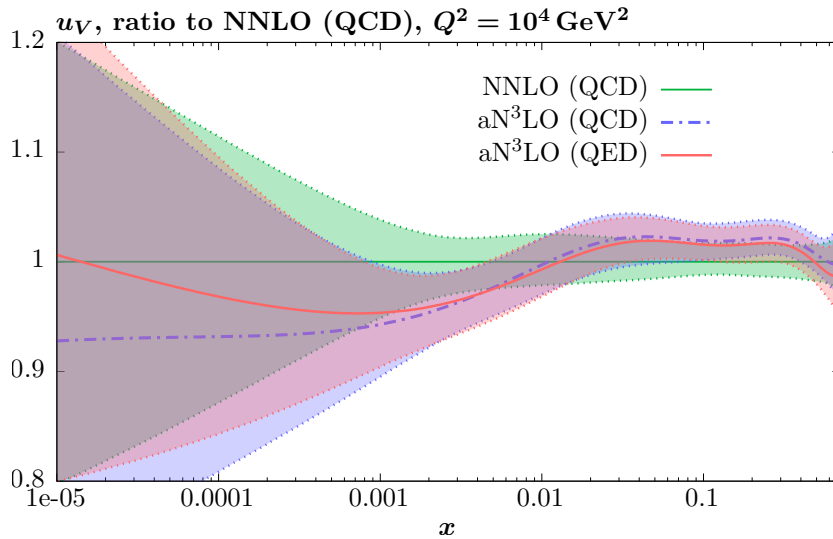
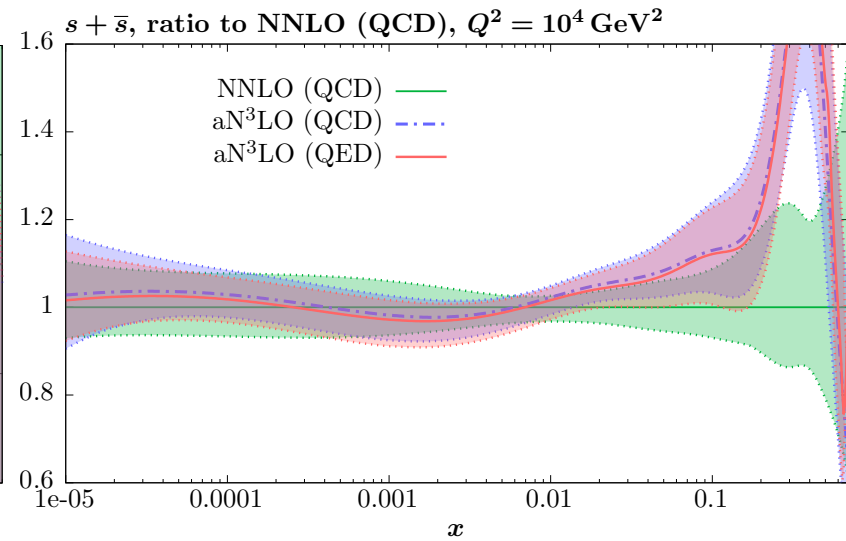
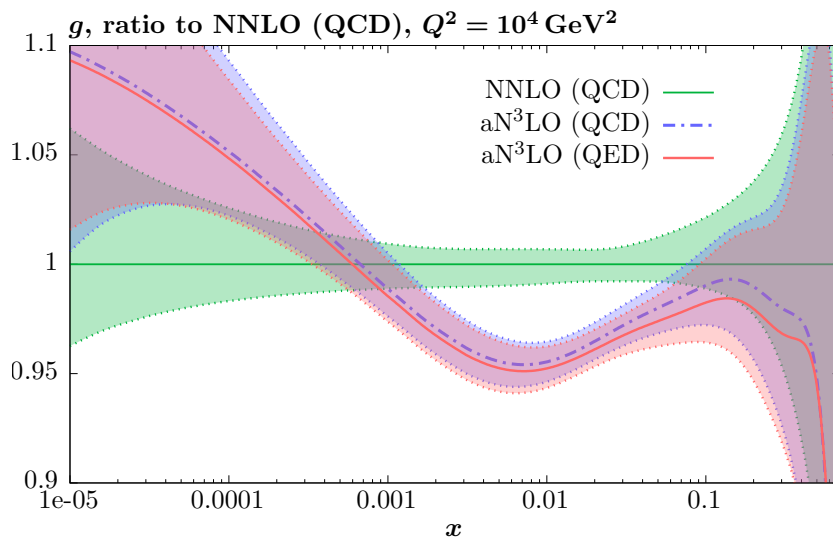
- Global fit quality:

	$\chi^2/N_{\text{pt}}$ aN <sup>3</sup> LO (QED)	$\Delta\chi^2_{\text{aN}^3\text{LO}}$ QED-QCD	$\Delta\chi^2_{\text{NNLO}}$ QED-QCD	$\Delta\chi^2_{\text{QCD,QED}}$ aN <sup>3</sup> LO-NNLO
Total	5323.6/4534	(+3.6)	(+17.3)	(-209.3, -223.1)

The photon PDF is a couple of percent bigger at high  $Q^2$  at aN<sup>3</sup>LO – simply due to increased quarks and structure function.

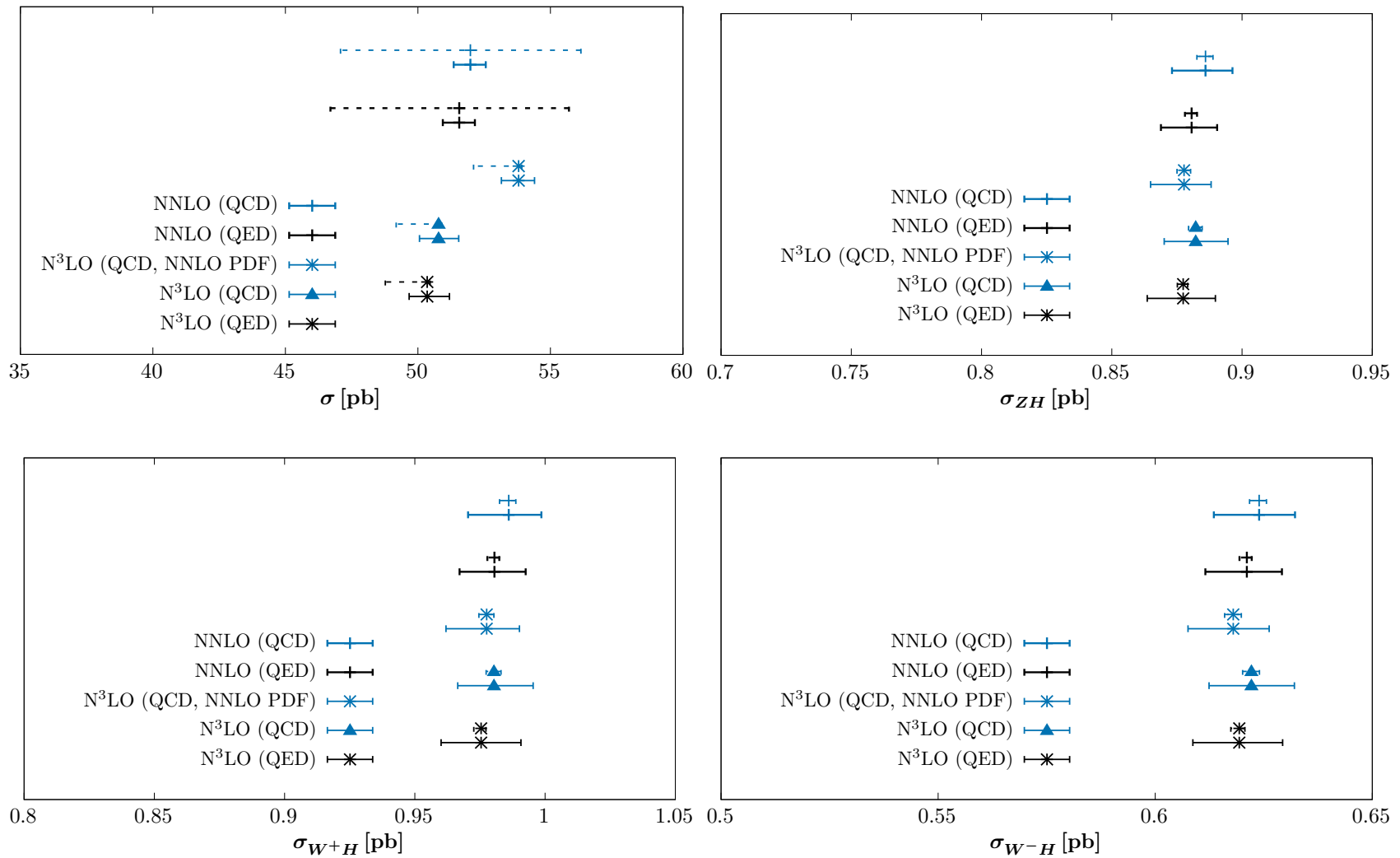






Change in PDFs due to QED much smaller than from NNLO  $\rightarrow$  aN<sup>3</sup>LO.  
 Relative change similar to NNLO, i.e. greater radiation of very high- $x$  quarks and reduction in gluon due to photon momentum.

# Benchmark cross-section comparisons.



Changes in cross sections due to QED similar to that at NNLO. Generally a slight reduction.

# Jet, Dijet and $Zp_T$ data at **aN<sup>3</sup>LO**. Eur.Phys.J.C 84 (2024) 4, 446

- Focussing on Run-I data (i.e. current PDF fits):  $d^2\sigma/dp_\perp dy$ 
  - **Inclusive jets:**  $0.0 < |y| < 2.5 - 3.0$

★ CMS 2.76 TeV: 81 points – 5.43 pb<sup>-1</sup> –  $74 < p_\perp < 592$  GeV

★ CMS 7 TeV: 158 points – 5.0 fb<sup>-1</sup> –  $74 < p_\perp < 2500$  GeV

★ CMS 8 TeV: 174 points – 19.7 fb<sup>-1</sup> –  $60 < p_\perp < 1300$  GeV

★ ATLAS 7 TeV: 140 points – 4.5 fb<sup>-1</sup> –  $100 < p_\perp < 2000$  GeV

★ **ATLAS 8 TeV:** 171 points – 20.2 fb<sup>-1</sup> –  $70 < p_\perp < 2500$  GeV

→ 724 points in total, v.s. ~4500 in global MSHT fit (inc.).

- **Dijets:**

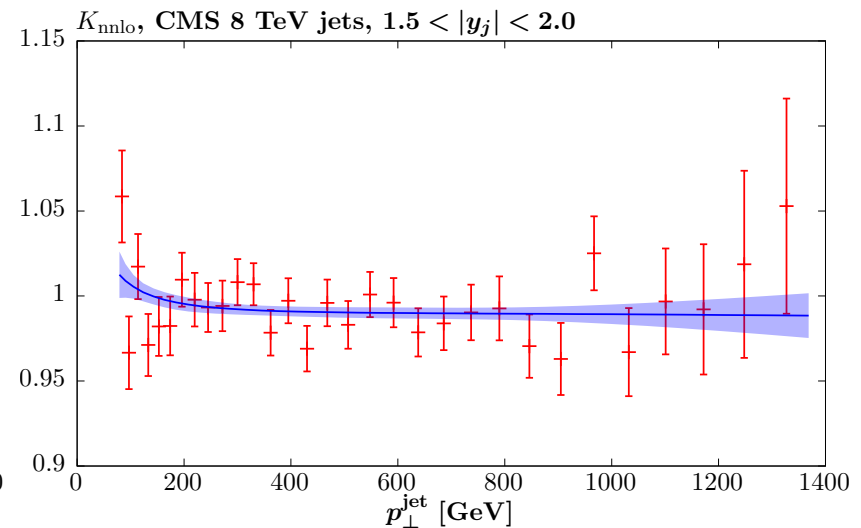
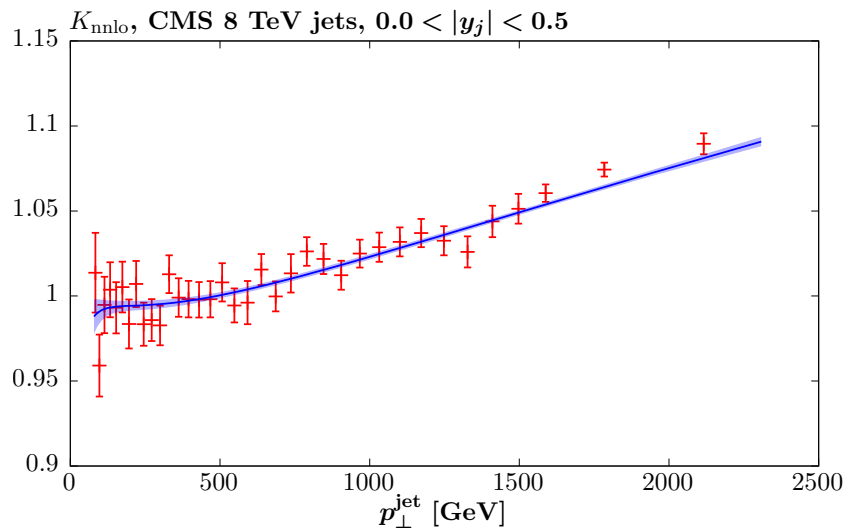
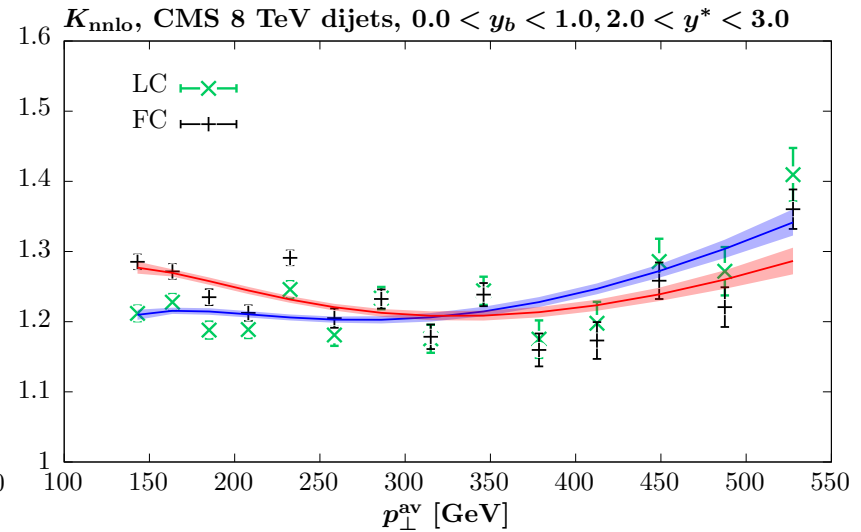
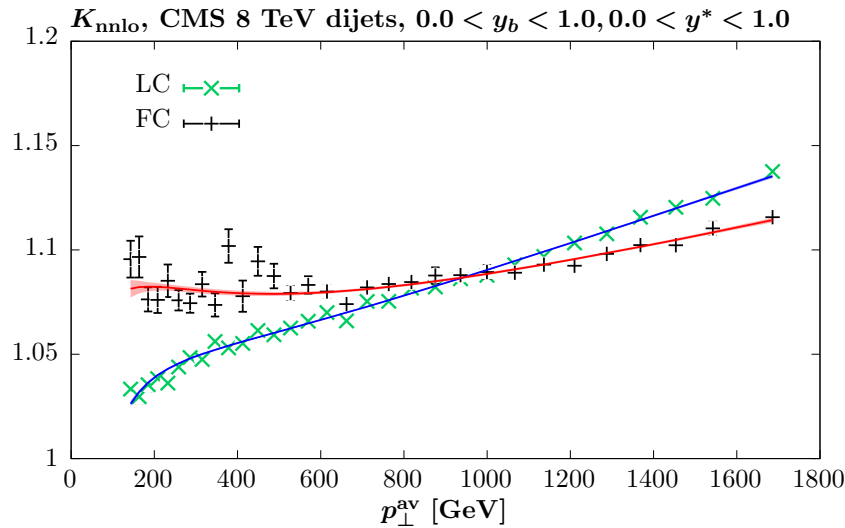
★ ATLAS 7 TeV: 90 points – 4.5 fb<sup>-1</sup> –  $\frac{d^2\sigma/dm_{jj}d|y_{\max}|}{0.26 < m_{jj} < 5.04 \text{ TeV}}$

★ CMS 7 TeV: 54 points – 5.0 fb<sup>-1</sup> –  $\frac{d^2\sigma/dm_{jj}d|y^*|}{0.25 < m_{jj} < 4.48 \text{ TeV}}$

★ CMS 8 TeV: 122 points – 19.7 fb<sup>-1</sup> –  $\frac{d^3\sigma/dp_{\perp,avg}dy_bdy^*}{143 < p_{\perp,avg} < 1638 \text{ GeV}}$

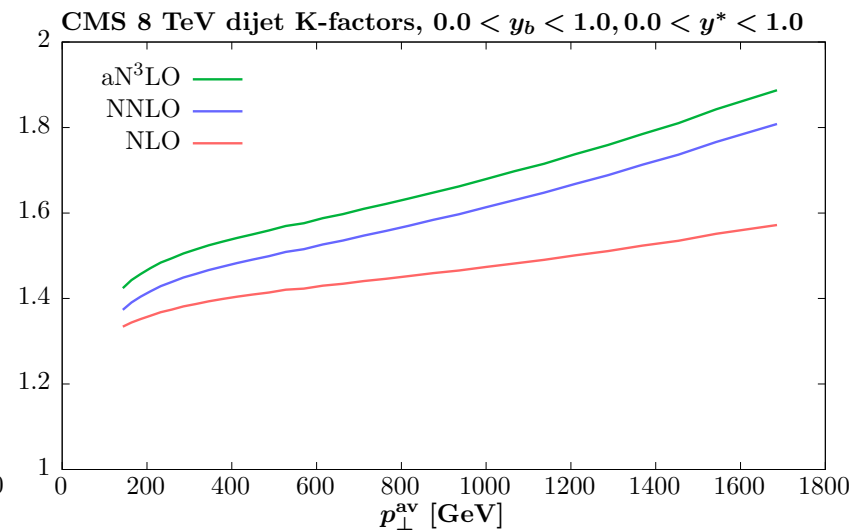
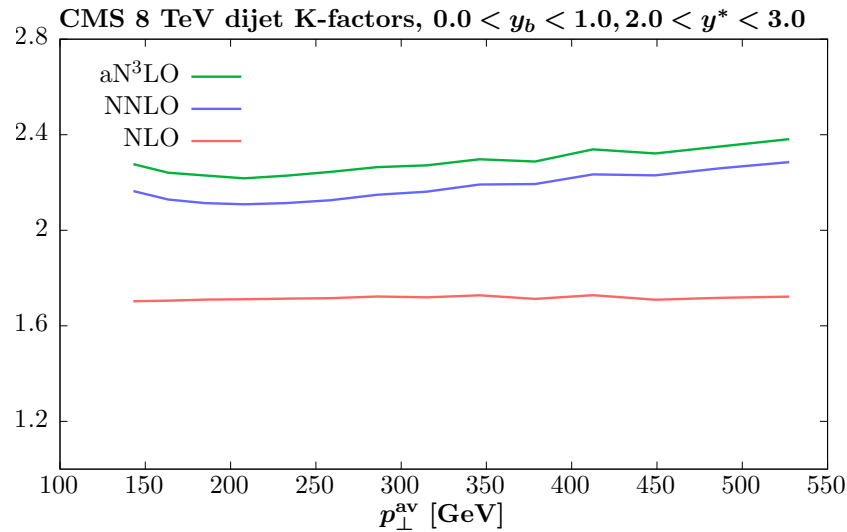
→ 266 points in total, v.s. ~4000 in global MSHT fit (inc.).

We convert  $K$ -factor points into smooth functions with uncertainties.



Investigate full colour where available. Clearly different from leading colour approx.

We find  $N^3LO$  K-factors by fitting nuisance parameters related to lower-order corrections.



Results show convergence in large perturbative corrections.

	$N_{\text{pts}}$	NNLO			aN <sup>3</sup> LO			aN <sup>3</sup> LO ( $K_{\text{nnlo}}$ )	
		No jets/dijets	Jets	Dijets	No jets/dijets	Jets	Dijets	Jets	Dijets
ATLAS 7 TeV jets [39]	140	1.60	<b>1.54</b>	1.64	1.72	<b>1.46</b>	1.54	<b>1.56</b>	1.44
CMS 7 TeV jets [40]	158	1.39	<b>1.29</b>	1.54	1.51	<b>1.32</b>	1.34	<b>1.33</b>	1.10
ATLAS 8 TeV jets [44]	171	2.02	<b>1.96</b>	1.92	2.03	<b>1.90</b>	1.94	<b>1.93</b>	1.83
CMS 8 TeV jets [41]	174	1.80	<b>1.83</b>	1.85	1.86	<b>1.80</b>	1.74	<b>1.90</b>	2.06
Total (jets)	643	1.71	<b>1.67</b>	1.75	1.79	<b>1.63</b>	1.65	<b>1.69</b>	1.63
ATLAS 7 TeV dijets [27]	90	1.08	1.09	<b>1.05</b>	1.13	1.13	<b>1.12</b>	1.13	<b>1.12</b>
CMS 7 TeV dijets [28]	54	1.51	1.64	<b>1.44</b>	1.47	1.47	<b>1.40</b>	1.48	<b>1.42</b>
CMS 8 TeV dijets [29]	122	1.22	1.47	<b>1.22</b>	1.06	1.01	<b>0.86</b>	0.90	<b>0.98</b>
Total (dijets)	266	1.23	1.38	<b>1.21</b>	1.19	1.14	<b>1.06</b>	1.10	<b>1.12</b>
CMS 2.76 TeV jets [56]	81	<b>1.28</b>	<b>1.25</b>	1.32	1.34	<b>1.37</b>	<b>1.32</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>1.42</b>
ATLAS 8 TeV $Z p_T$ [35]	104	<b>1.75</b>	<b>1.87</b>	1.66	<b>0.99</b>	<b>1.04</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>1.37</b>	<b>1.24</b>
Differential $t\bar{t}$ [57, 60]	54	<b>1.23</b>	<b>1.10</b>	1.26	1.11	<b>1.06</b>	<b>1.09</b>	<b>1.06</b>	<b>1.17</b>
Total	-	<b>1.15</b>	<b>1.22</b>	1.15	<b>1.09</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>1.09</b>	<b>1.19</b>	<b>1.11</b>

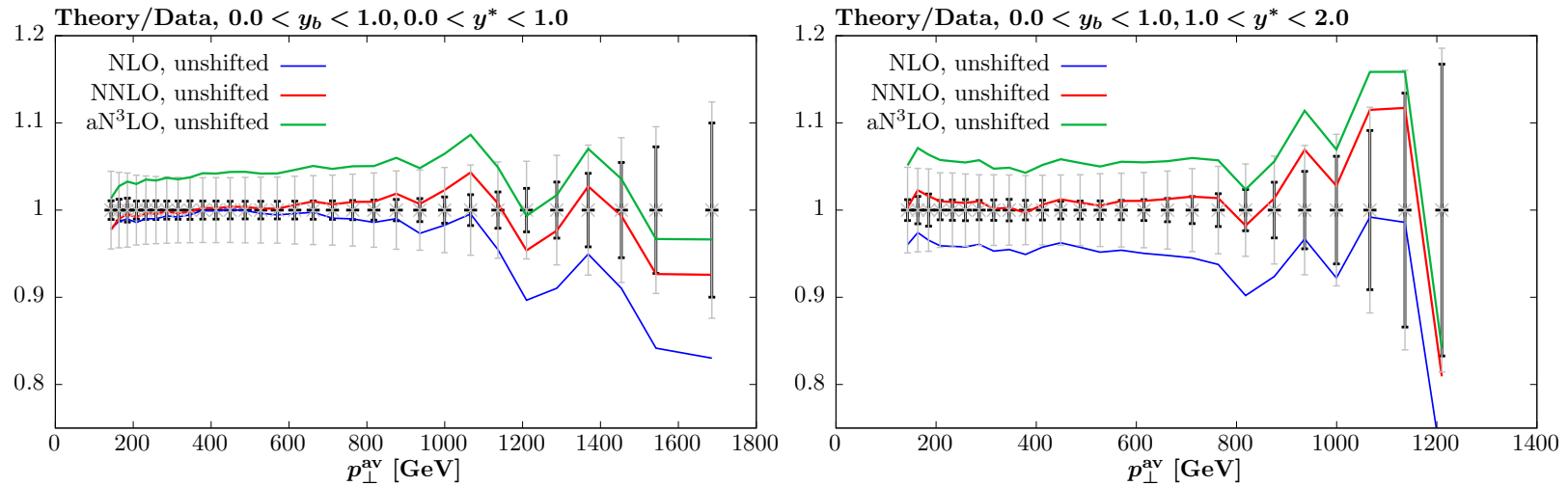
	$N_{\text{pts}}$	NLO	
		Jets	Dijets
ATLAS 7 TeV jets [39]	140	<b>1.60</b>	1.83
CMS 7 TeV jets [40]	158	<b>1.37</b>	1.81
ATLAS 8 TeV jets [44]	171	<b>2.25</b>	2.34
CMS 8 TeV jets [41]	174	<b>1.66</b>	1.92
Total (jets)	643	<b>1.73</b>	1.98
ATLAS 7 TeV dijets [27]	90	1.51	<b>1.12</b>
CMS 7 TeV dijets [28]	54	2.24	<b>1.70</b>
CMS 8 TeV dijets [29]	122	7.84	<b>5.27</b>
Total (dijets)	266	4.56	<b>3.14</b>
Total	-	<b>1.35</b>	<b>1.42</b>

Dijet fit at **NLO** very poor.

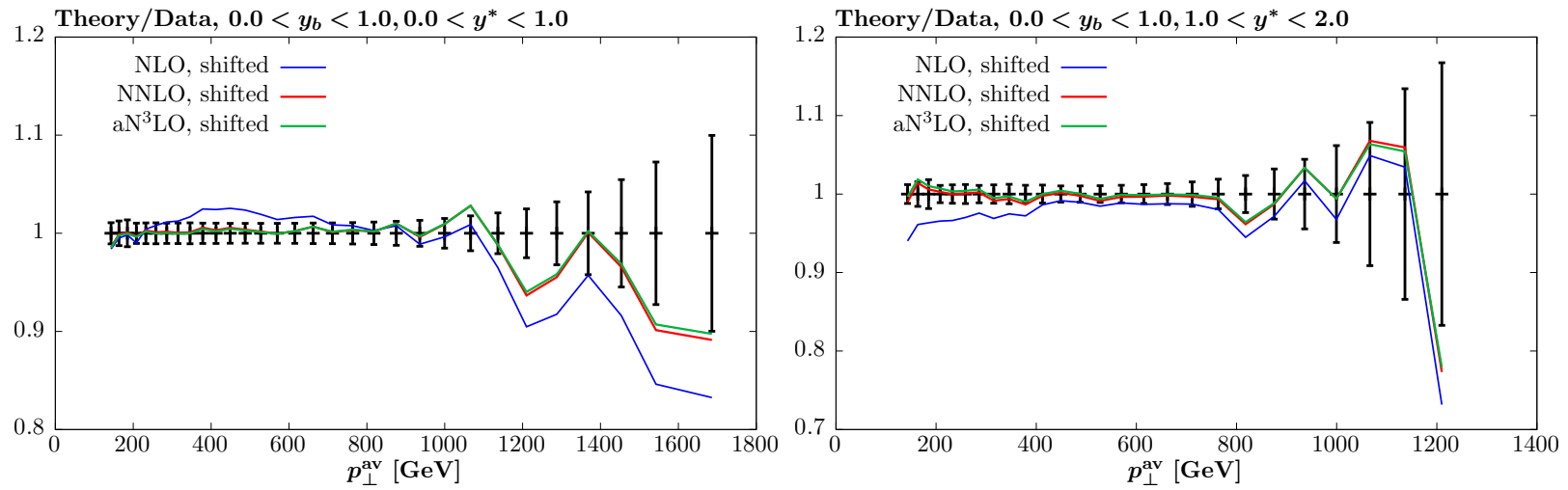
Fit quality to dijet data at **NNLO** and **aN<sup>3</sup>LO** shows an improvement from inclusive jet data.

Dijet → much better fit to  $Z p_T$  data, worse fit to top data at **NNLO**.

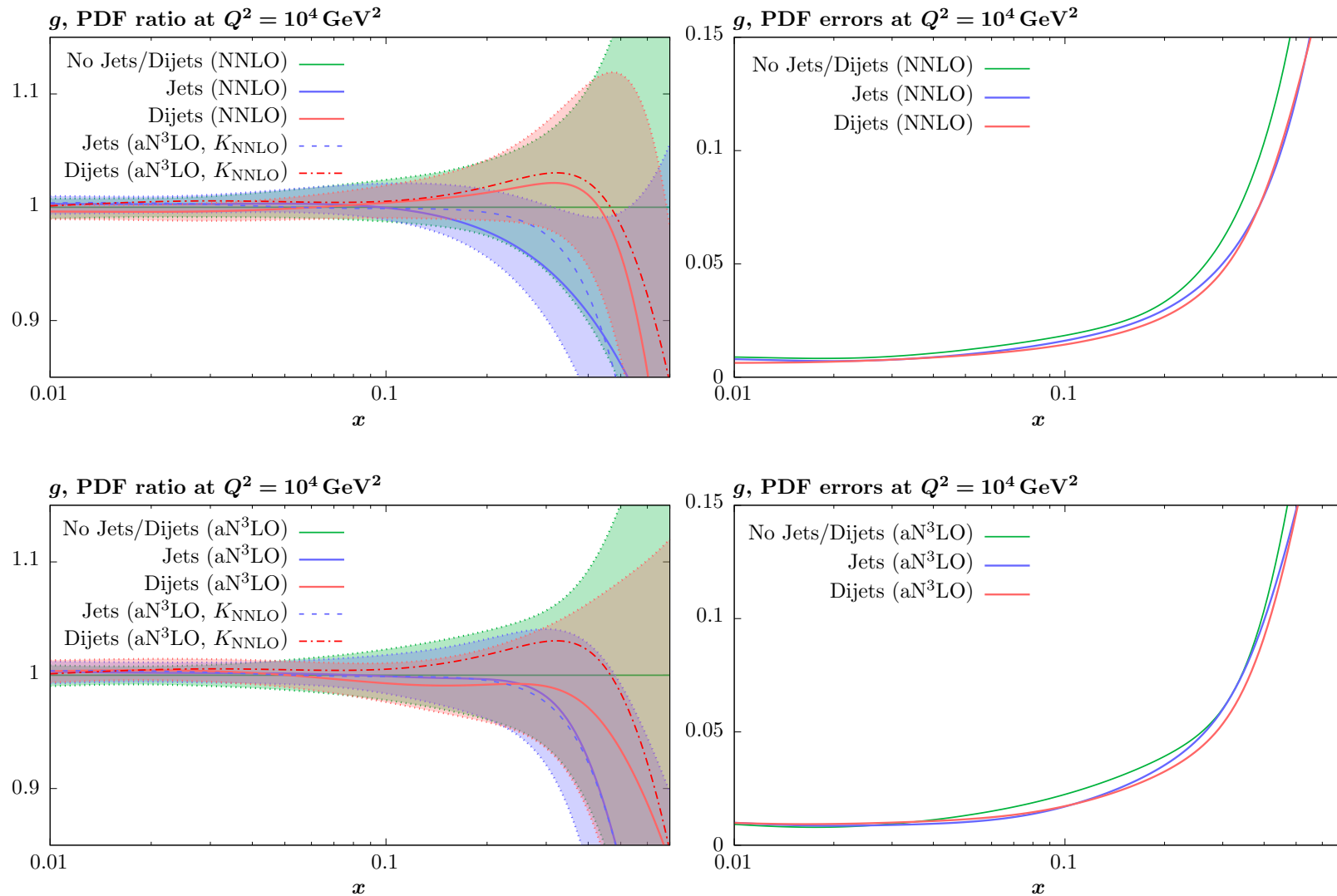
Difficult to appreciate fit quality by comparing theoretical predictions to experimental data without applying shifts corresponding to best fit of correlated systematic uncertainty parameters.



With shifts applied see that at **NLO** the shape as a function of  $p_T$  is incorrect.



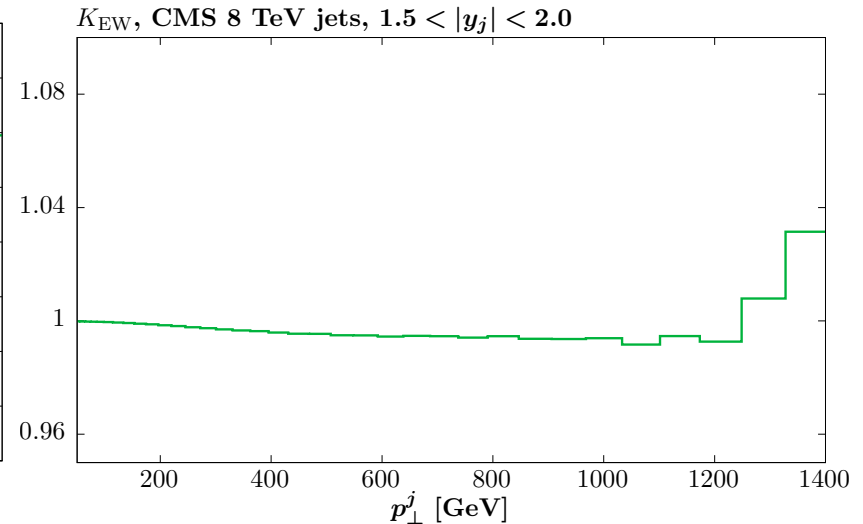
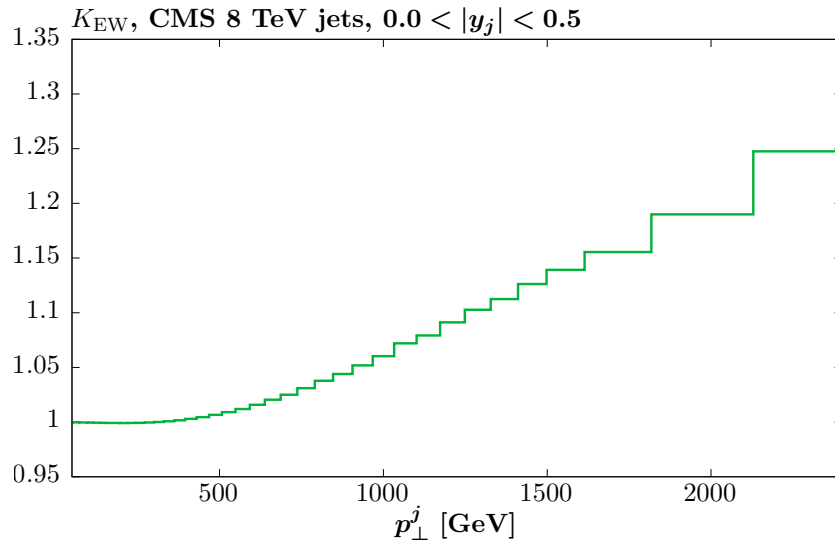
Slightly different pulls on gluon from jet and dijet data. Reduced a little at  $aN^3LO$ .



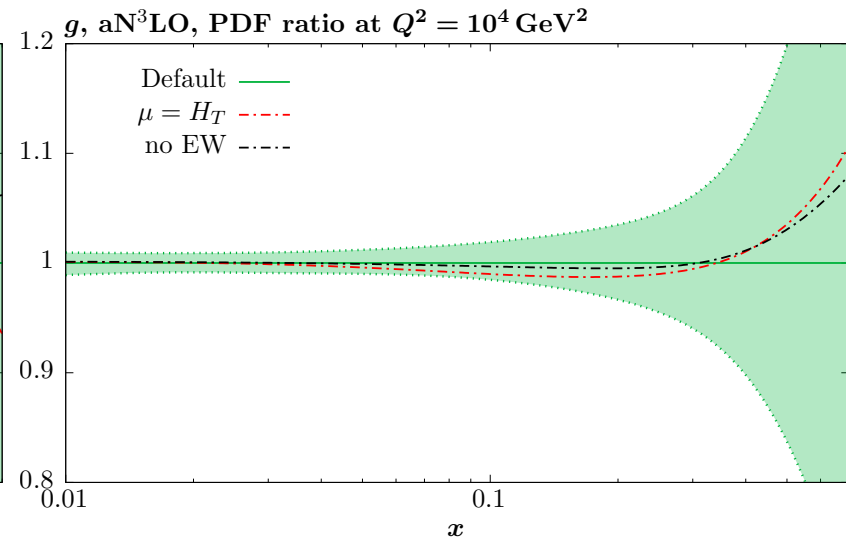
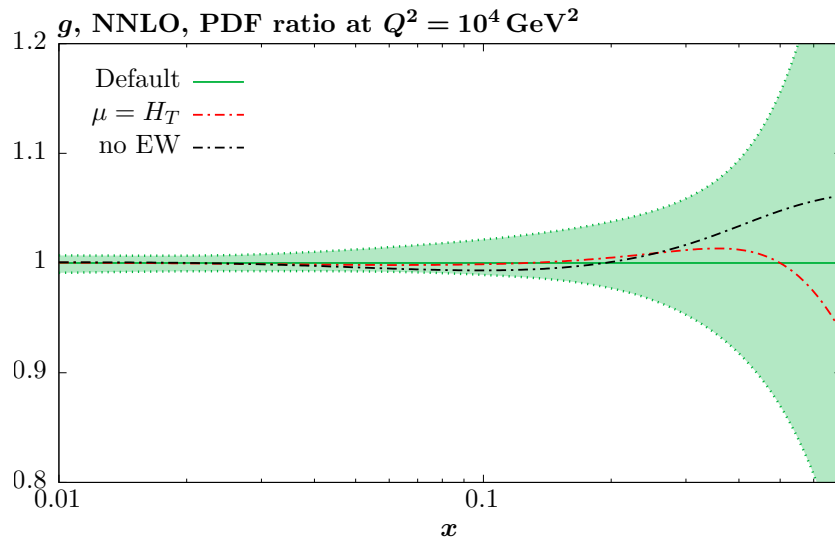
Little difference on uncertainty determination.



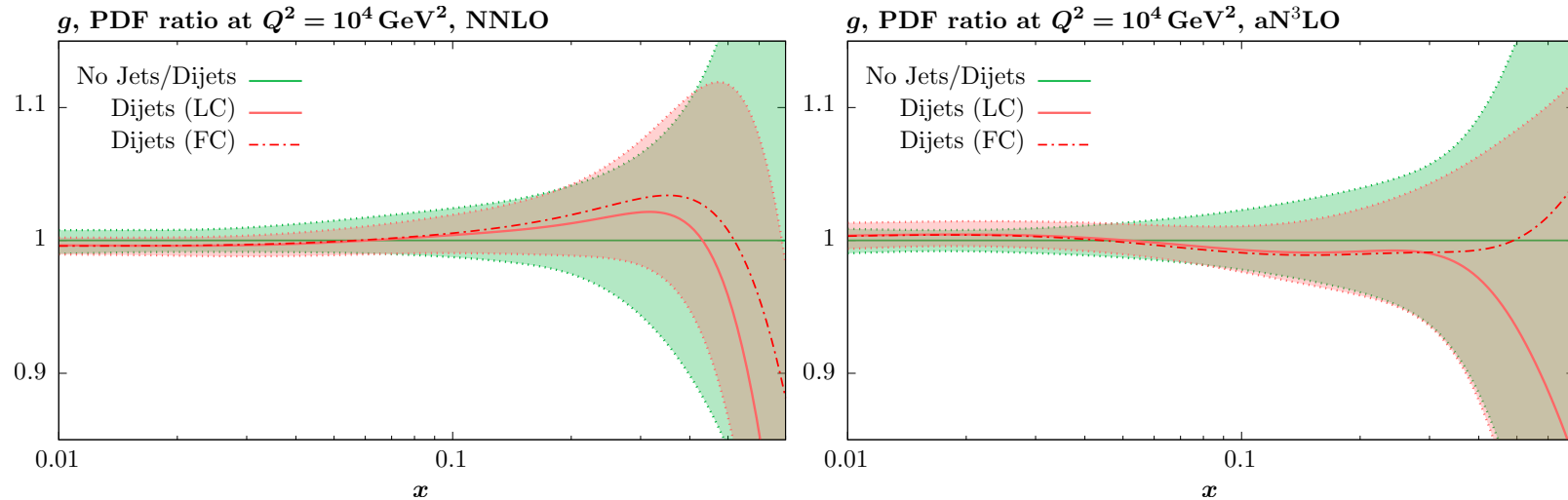
**Electroweak corrections** very similar in form for jet and dijets, i.e. largest at highest  $p_T$ . Improvement in fit quality for dijet data but not with inclusive jets.



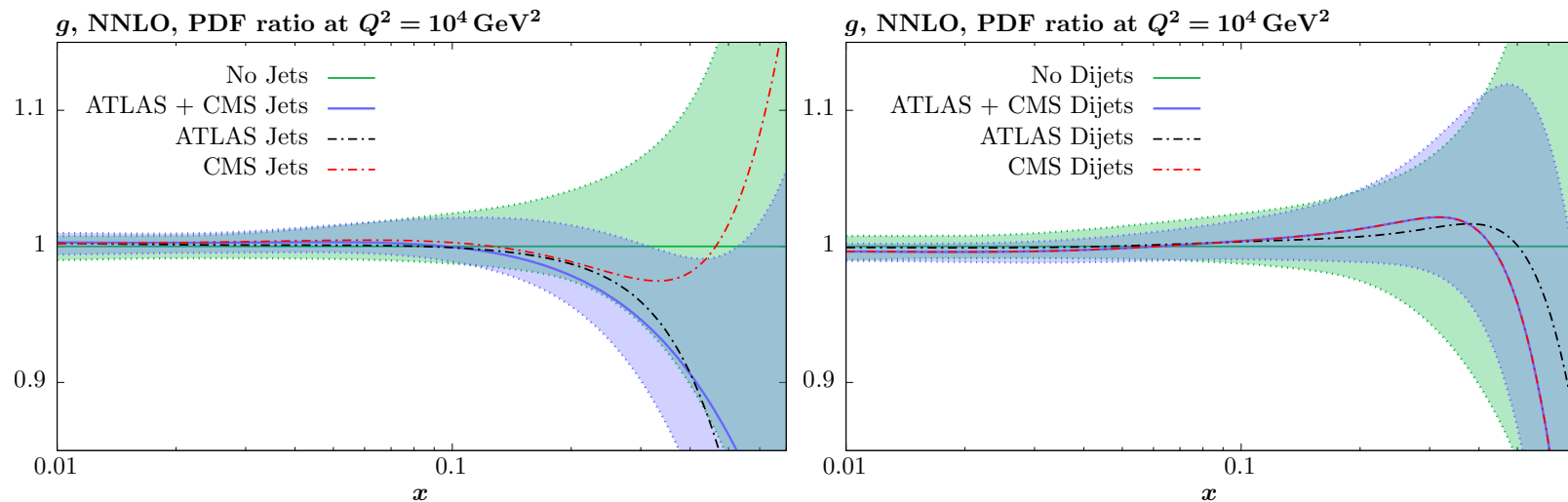
EW corrections and choice of scales have minimal impact on the gluon.



Impact of leading colour corrections on gluon significant, mainly at very high  $x$ , but not dramatic. Impact on fit quality relatively mild.

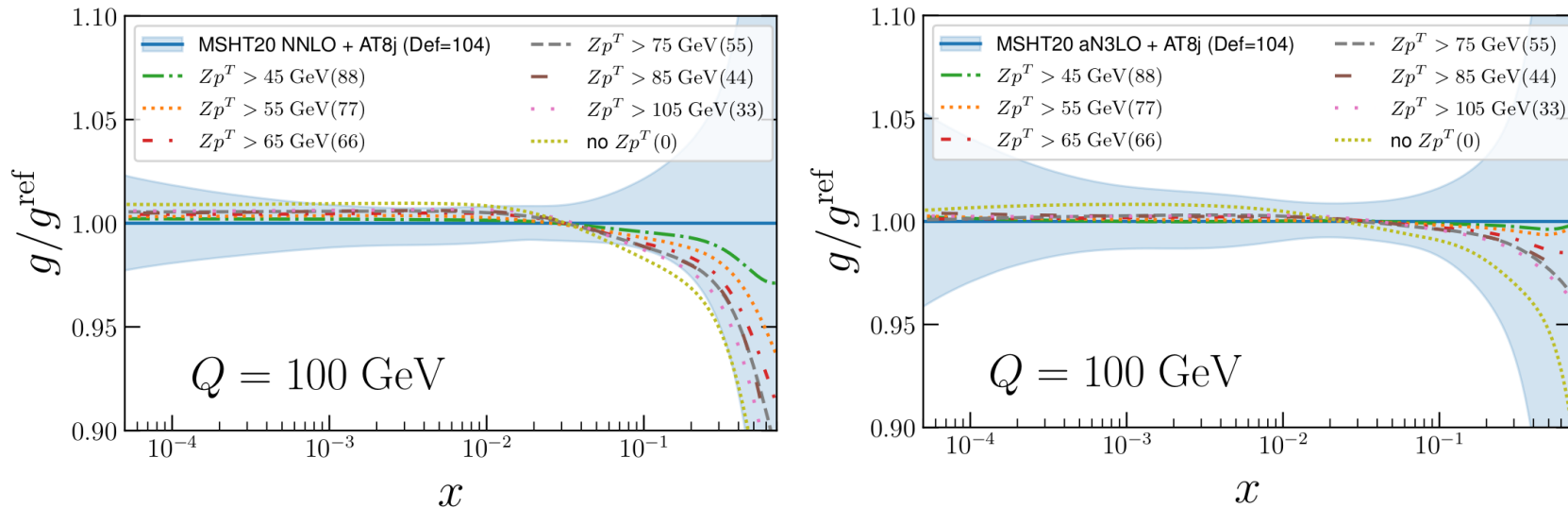


Some tension between preferred gluon using either **ATLAS** or **CMS** inclusive jet data. Reduced when using dijet data.



## Study of choice of ATLAS $Zp_T$ data.

Raise the lower cut on ATLAS  $Zp_T$  data incrementally. Change in gluon distribution is continuous and smooth, though less at  $aN^3LO$ .

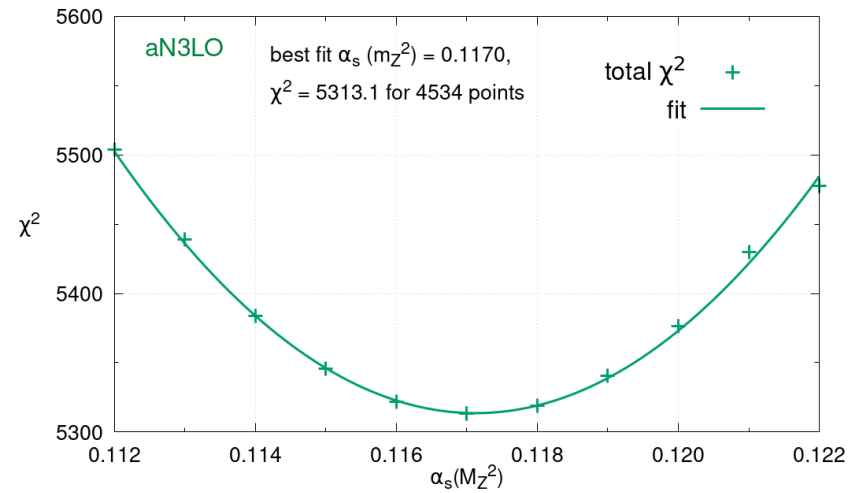
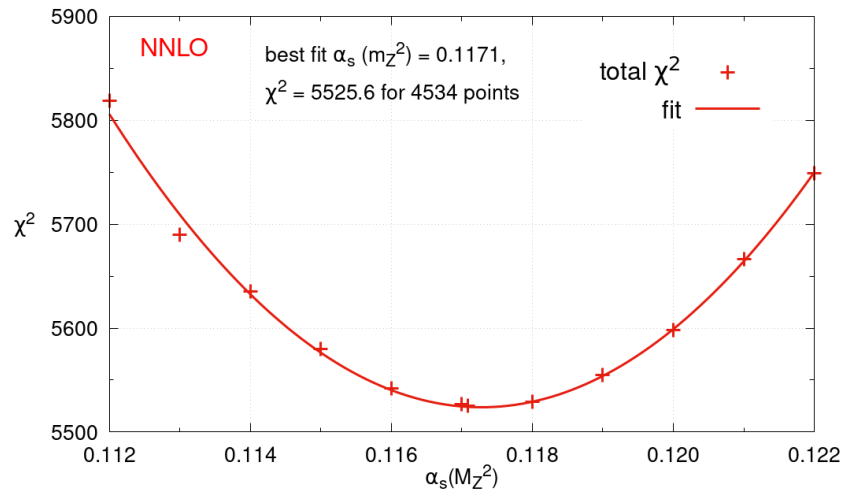


Fit quality also improves slowly and smoothly, again less at  $aN^3LO$ .

Fit Order	$p_T^H$ minimum cut (GeV)							$p_T^H$ maximum cut (GeV)
	Default (30)	45	55	65	75	85	105	150
NNLO	1.87	1.73	1.72	1.47	1.45	1.47	1.24	1.91
$aN^3LO$	1.04	0.97	1.03	0.86	0.88	0.71	0.83	1.08
$N_{pts}$	104	88	77	66	55	44	33	82

No sign of impact of resummation/nonperturbative effects strongly impacting normal analysis with  $p_T > 30$  GeV.

# Best fit value of $\alpha_S(M_Z^2)$ at **aN<sup>3</sup>LO**. Eur.Phys.J.C 84 (2024) 10, 1009

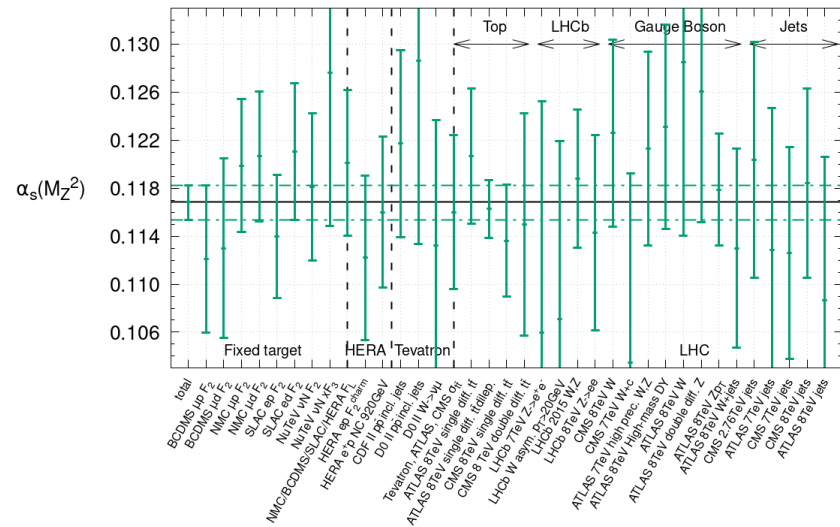
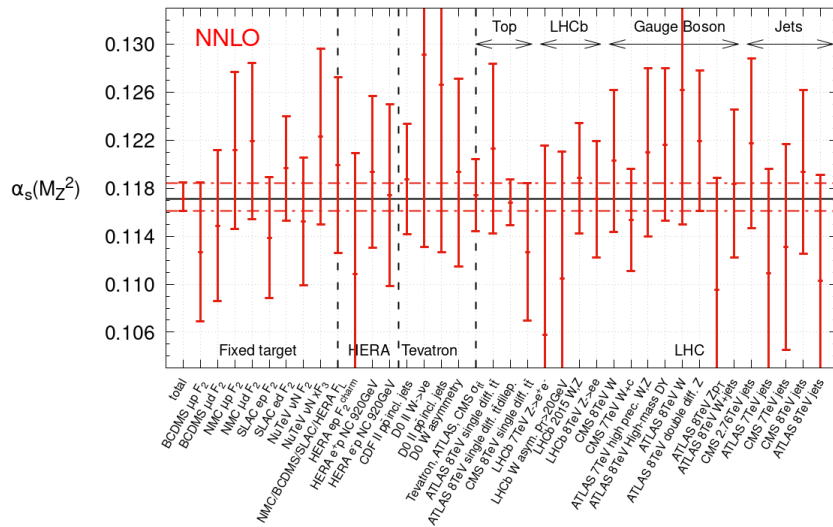


Previously [21] we found at **NNLO** that  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.1174 \pm 0.0013$ .

Repeat analysis at **NNLO** with new baseline (**ATLAS 8 TeV** inclusive jet data) and also at **aN<sup>3</sup>LO**.

$$\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.1171 \pm 0.0014 \text{ NNLO}$$

$$\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.1170 \pm 0.0016 \text{ aN}^3\text{LO}$$



Determine uncertainty by dynamical tolerance procedure, same as for eigenvector uncertainties.

Examine fit quality with varying  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  for each data set, and find most limiting set in each direction.

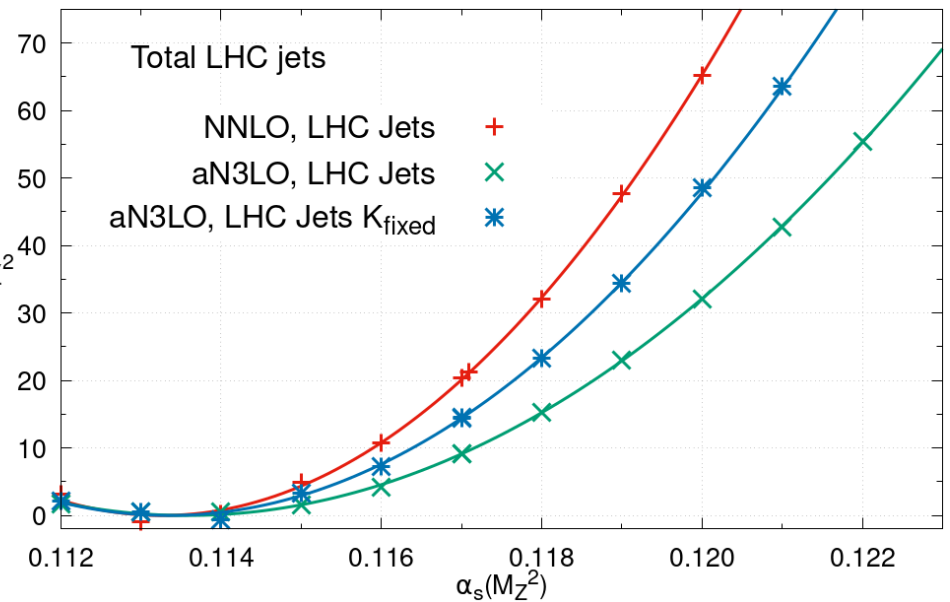
Find very similar constraints regarding datasets at each order, though slightly wider bounds at  $aN^3LO$  on data types with current  $N^3LO$   $K$ -factors freedom. Better measure of true theoretical uncertainty.

Uncertainty corresponds to  $\Delta\chi^2 = 13$   $N^3LO$ ,  $\Delta\chi^2 = 16$   $N^3LO$ .

Look in detail at fit quality of inclusive jet data for varying  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$ .

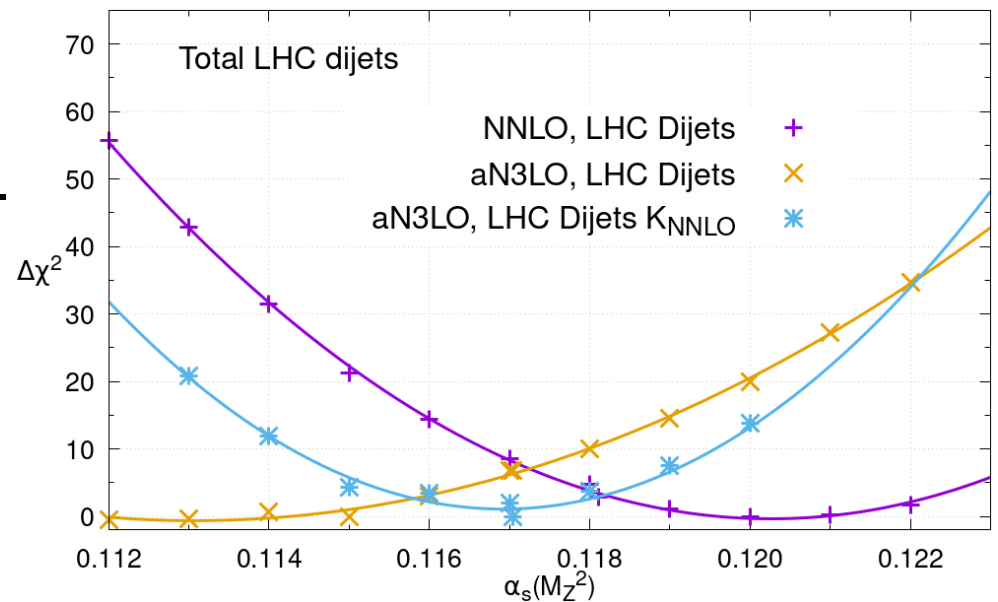
Consistent for minimum between  $\Delta\chi^2$  orders.

Width greater at **aN<sup>3</sup>LO**, partially due to **K**-factor freedom.



For dijets best fit value changes.

Partially due to **K**-factor freedom.

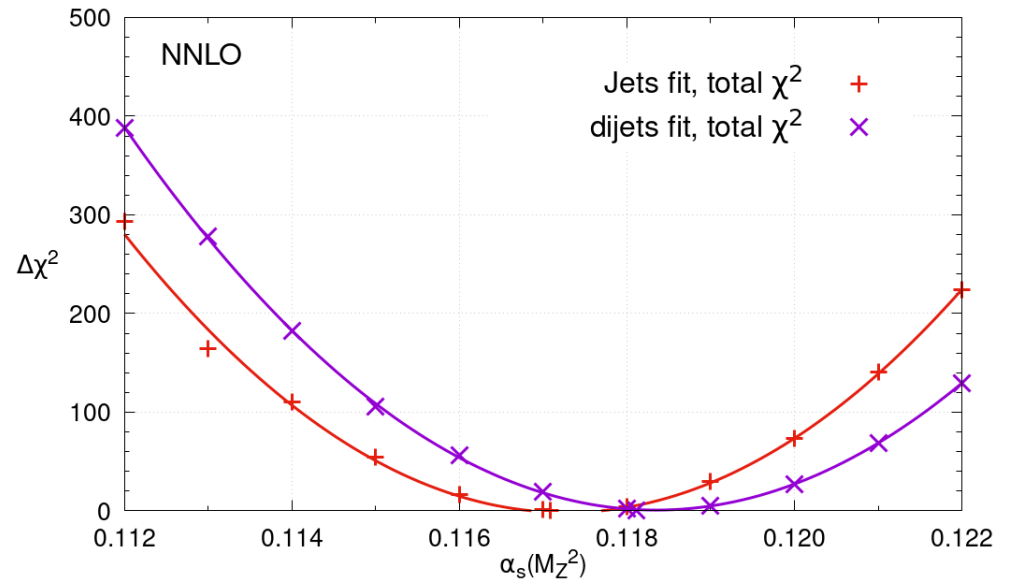


For total  $\chi^2$  some variation between inclusive jets at dijets at **NNLO**.

$$\alpha_S(M_Z^2)_{\text{dijet}} = 0.1181 \pm 0.0012$$

**NNLO**.

$$(\alpha_S(M_Z^2)_{\text{jet}} = 0.1171 \pm 0.0014).$$

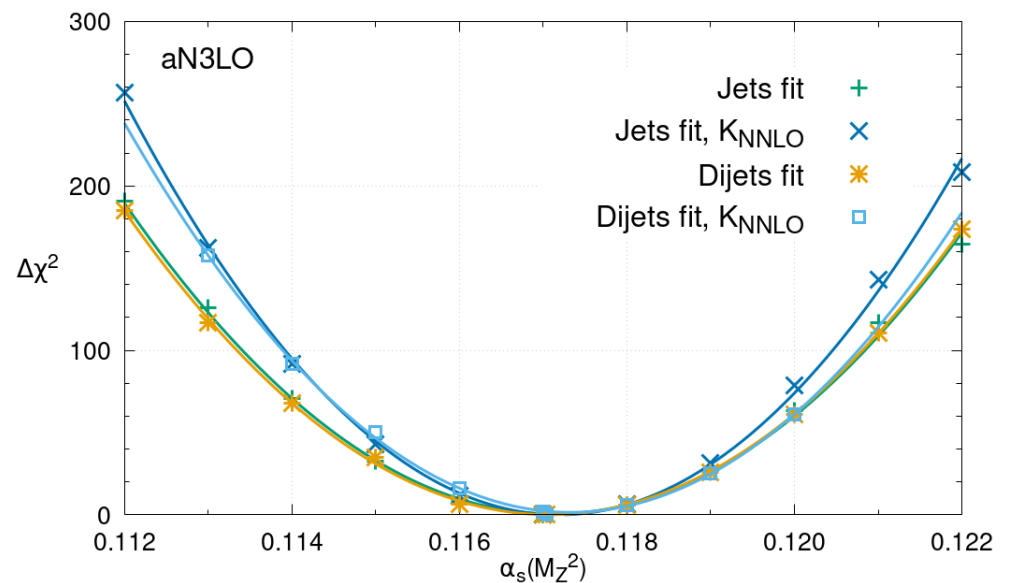


At **aN<sup>3</sup>LO** much more stability with data choice.

$$\alpha_S(M_Z^2)_{\text{dijet}} = 0.1170 \pm 0.0013$$

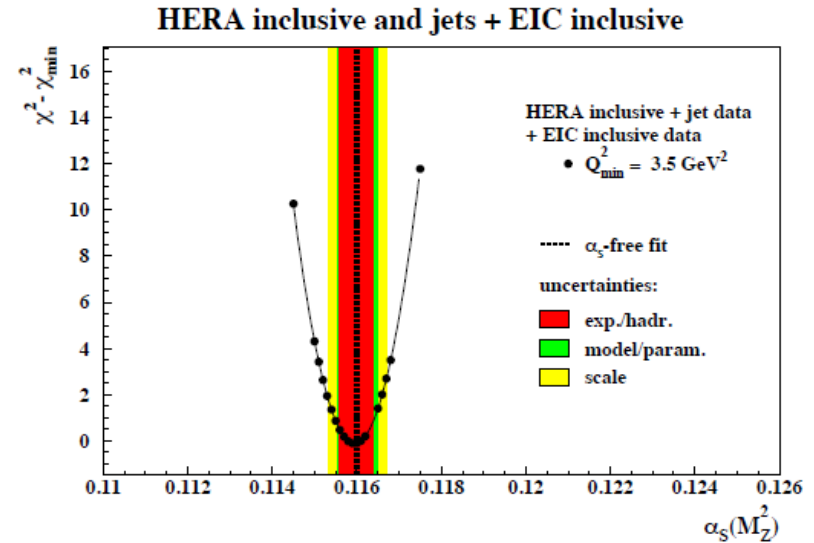
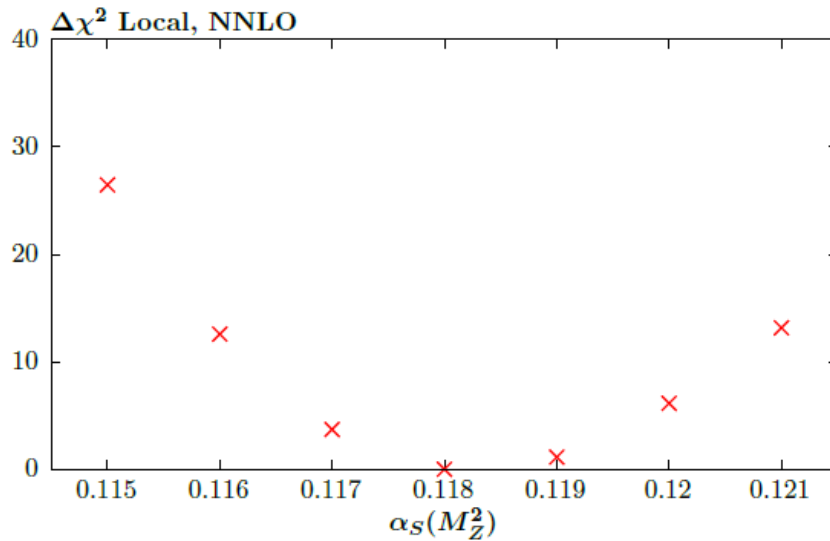
**aN<sup>3</sup>LO**.

$$(\alpha_S(M_Z^2)_{\text{jet}} = 0.1170 \pm 0.0016).$$



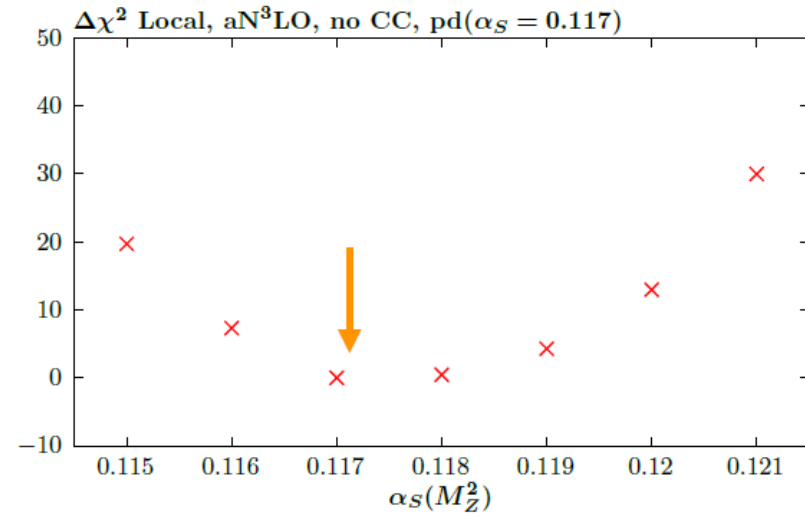
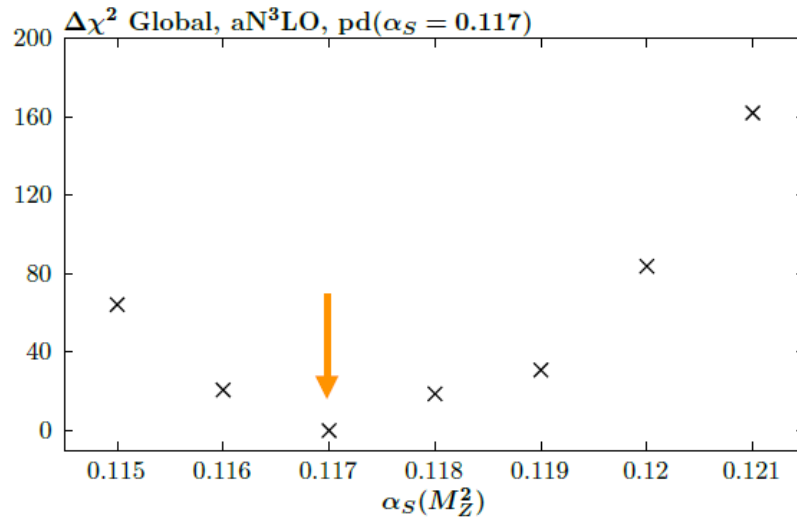
# Best fit $\alpha_S(M_Z^2)$ including EIC pseudo data (with P Newman, K Wichmann).

First check consistency with previous results (Eur. Phys. J.C 83 (2023) 11, 1011) using NNLO pseudo data with  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.118$ .



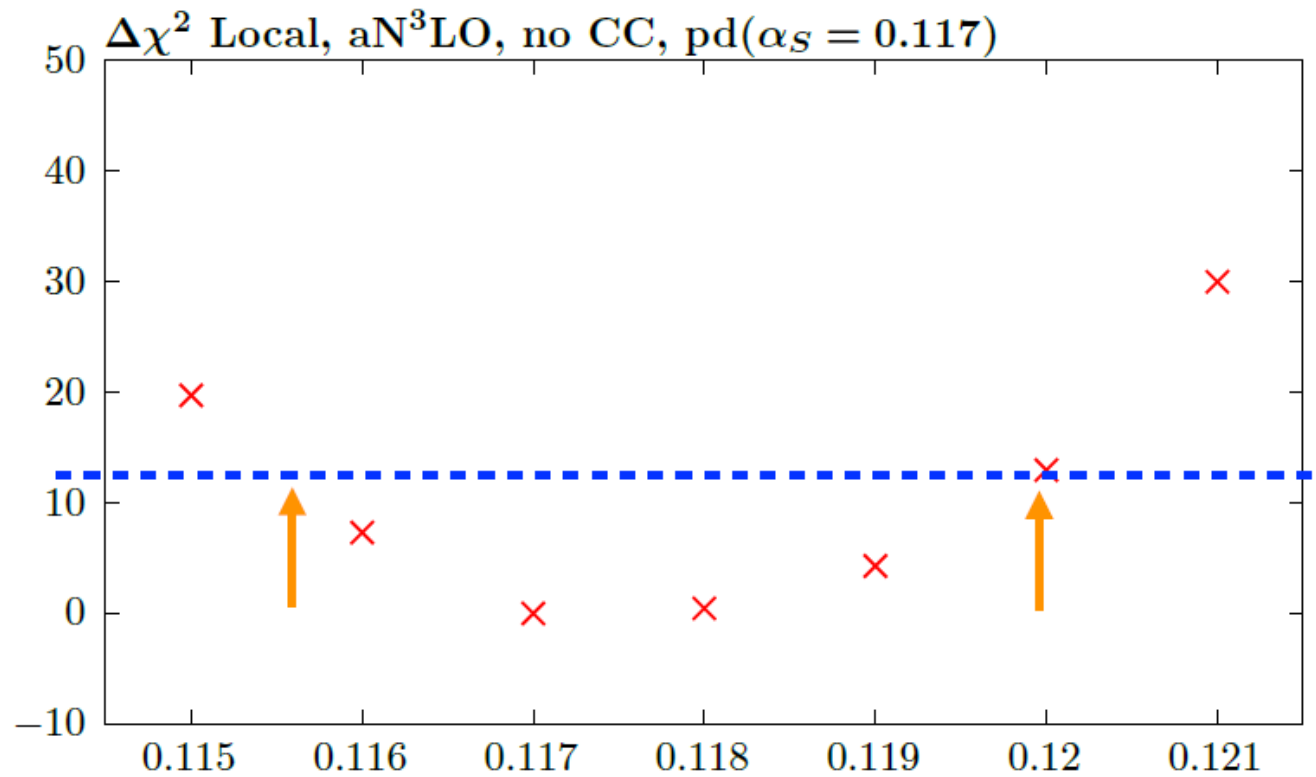


Next look at impact of using self-consistent pseudo data with  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.117$  in aN<sup>3</sup>LO MSHT fit.



Results as expected.

Investigate implications for bounds using dynamical tolerance procedure.

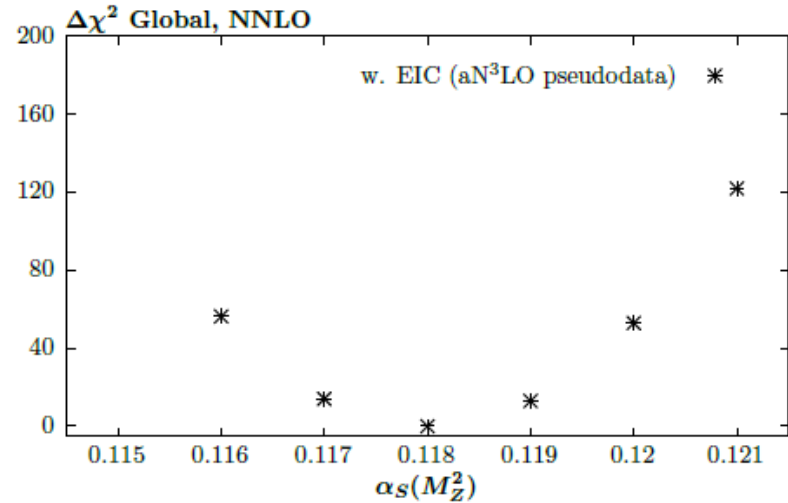
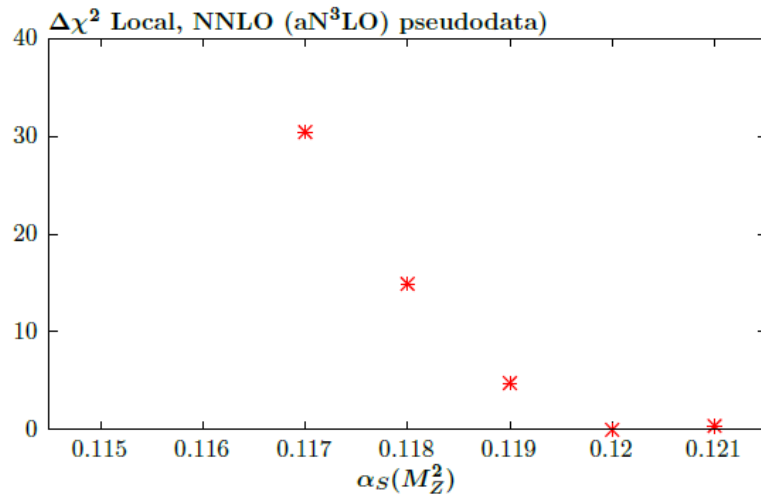


Set by  $\Delta\chi^2 \leq 12.5$  for EIC NC data.

Lower limit better than current bounds (SLAC, NMC).

## Possible sources of theoretical uncertainty.

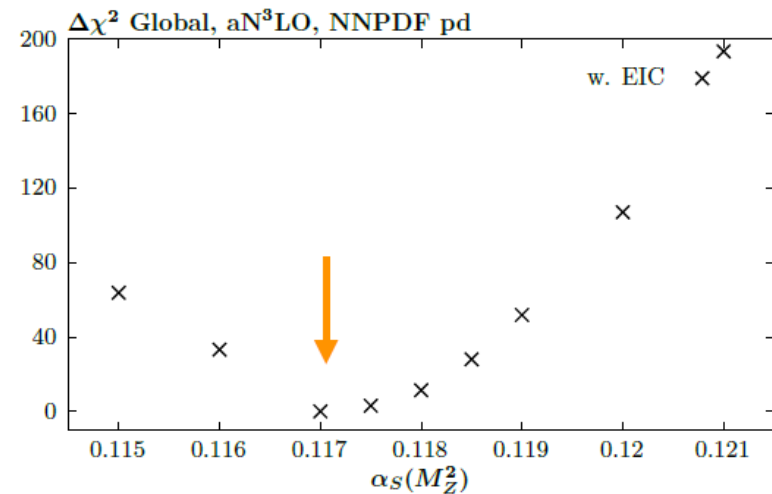
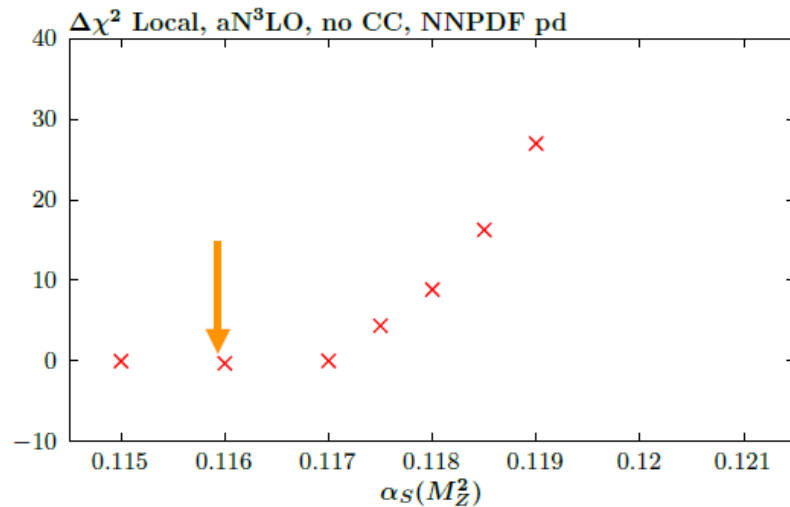
Try fitting pseudodata generated for  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.118$  at **aN<sup>3</sup>LO** in **NNLO MSHT** fit.



Examining only  $\chi^2$  of **EIC** pseudo data get significant shift up in best fit coupling (**aN<sup>3</sup>LO** data runs more quickly than **NNLO** pseudo data).

Moderated within global fit by impact of all the existing real data.

Try fitting with **EIC** pseudo data generated using **NNPDF4.0** PDFs at  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.118$ .



Now fit to **EIC** pseudo data only prefers  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.116$ . Data now lies a little lower than for **MSHT**

Also fit quality to **EIC** pseudo data deteriorates by  $\Delta\chi^2 \sim 40$  and to global data by  $\Delta\chi^2 \sim 120$  (**BCDMS**, **CMS** jets largest).

Again best fit  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2)$  moderated in global fit.

## Conclusions

Numerous updates associated with MSHT PDFs; aN<sup>3</sup>LO, QED, study of dijets vs. inclusive jets, best fit  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2)$  at aN<sup>3</sup>LO.

First PDF set at aN<sup>3</sup>LO. Confirmed main features essentially preserved with more up to date info.

QED effects similar at aN<sup>3</sup>LO, but fit quality affected less than lower orders. PDFs with QED at LO.

See small but significant effects on gluon using dijets. Overall better fits and consistency using dijets at NNLO and aN<sup>3</sup>LO. No sign of issues with use of  $Z_{p_T}$  data.

Best fit value  $\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.1170 \pm 0.0016$  aN<sup>3</sup>LO (inclusive jets)  
 $\alpha_S(M_Z^2) = 0.1170 \pm 0.0013$  aN<sup>3</sup>LO (dijets). Better stability at aN<sup>3</sup>LO, and larger, more accurate uncertainty.

EIC DIS data can be one of the strongest constraints. Need to be careful with theory uncertainties, especially in “local” fit. More investigation underway.

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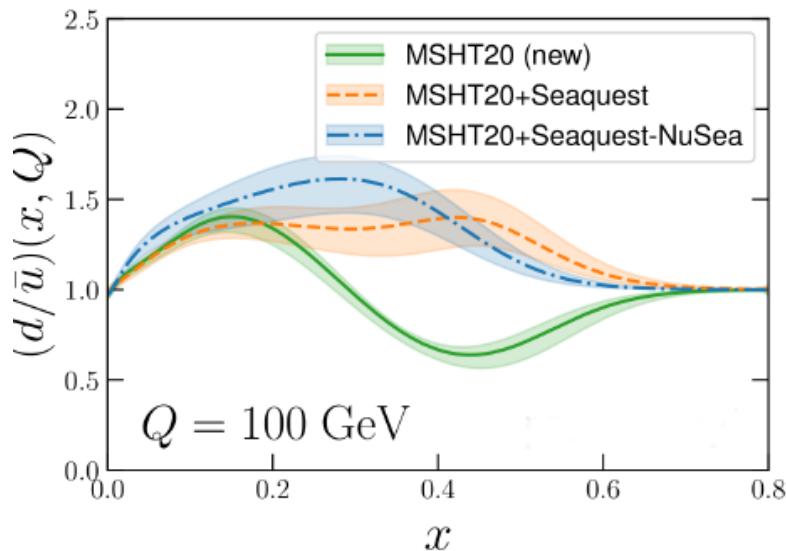
# Back-up



# New data - Seaquest (NNLO)

Preliminary!

- Seaquest (E906) fixed target DY data - sensitivity to high  $x$ ,  $\bar{q}$ :  
 $\Rightarrow \sigma_D/\sigma_H \sim 1 + \bar{d}/\bar{u}$ . Direct measurement of  $\bar{d}/\bar{u}$  at high  $x$ .
- Various models for  $\bar{d}/\bar{u}$  at high  $x$ : Pauli blocking, pion cloud, etc.
- Previous questions of NuSea (E866) data preferring  $\bar{d} < \bar{u}$  at  $x \approx 0.4$ .
- Clearly raises high  $x$   $\bar{d}/\bar{u}$ . Tension with NuSea which pulls it down.



Dataset	$N_{\text{pts}}$	MSHT20	New
Seaquest	6	-	8.2
NuSea	15	9.8	19.0
Total (without Seaquest or NuSea)	4348	5102.3	5112.1

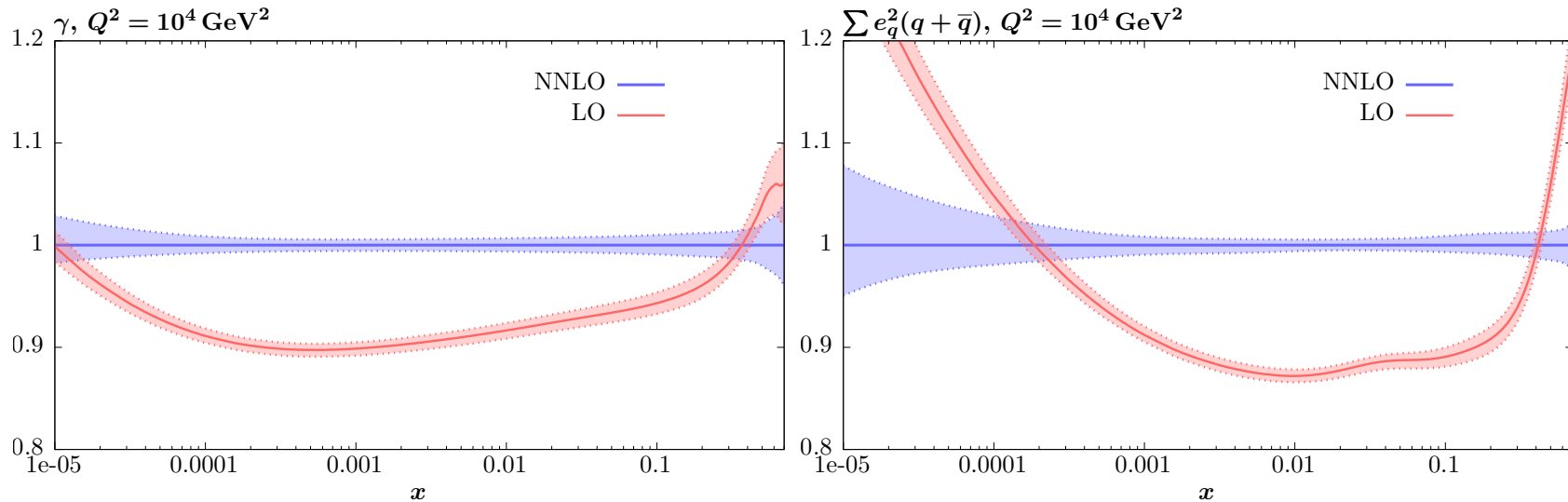
- NuSea  $\chi^2/N_{\text{pts}}$ :  $0.65 \rightarrow 1.27$ , when Seaquest added.

- Rest of data also worsens in  $\chi^2$  by 9 points, with 4.5 in E866 absolute DY (rather than ratio), 4.4 in NMC  $n/p$ , 4.3 in DØ  $W$  asymmetry.

Slide credit: T. Cridge

## Photon PDF at LO.

Potentially useful in some MC generators (requested).



Considerably smaller than at higher orders. Due to reduced high- $Q^2$  structure function due to intrinsically smaller quark evolution at LO.

Other PDFs at LO change much less than uncertainties under addition of QED, and less systematically than at higher orders due to fit difficulties.