

**AN APPROXIMATE  
NNNLO HIGGS CROSS SECTION  
FROM ANALYTICITY**

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CERN

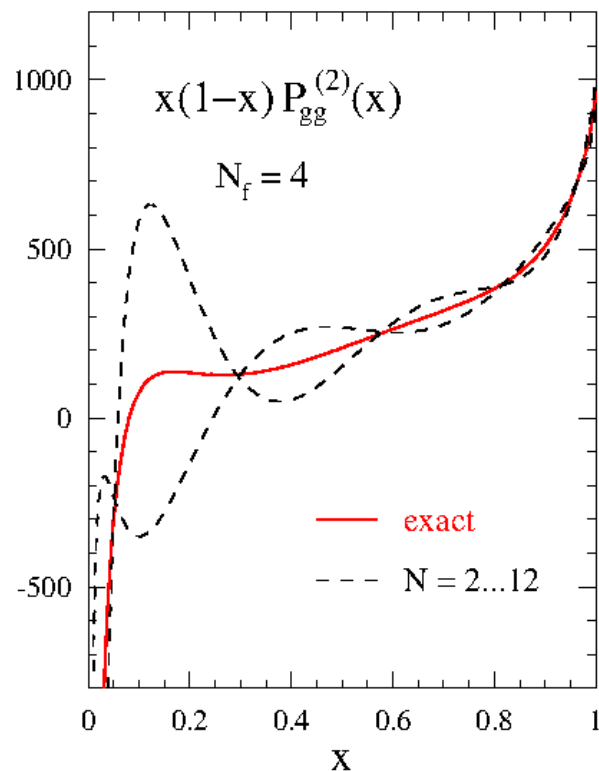
MAY 17, 2013

# APPROXIMATE PARTONIC CROSS SECTIONS?

- **VARIOUS PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS** TO ESTIMATE UNKNOWN HIGHER ORDERS FROM PARTIAL INFORMATION
- **POSSIBLE INGREDIENTS:** LARGE  $x$  RESUMMATION, SMALL  $x$  RESUMMATION, KNOWN MELLIN MOMENTS

**SOME SUCCESSFUL...**

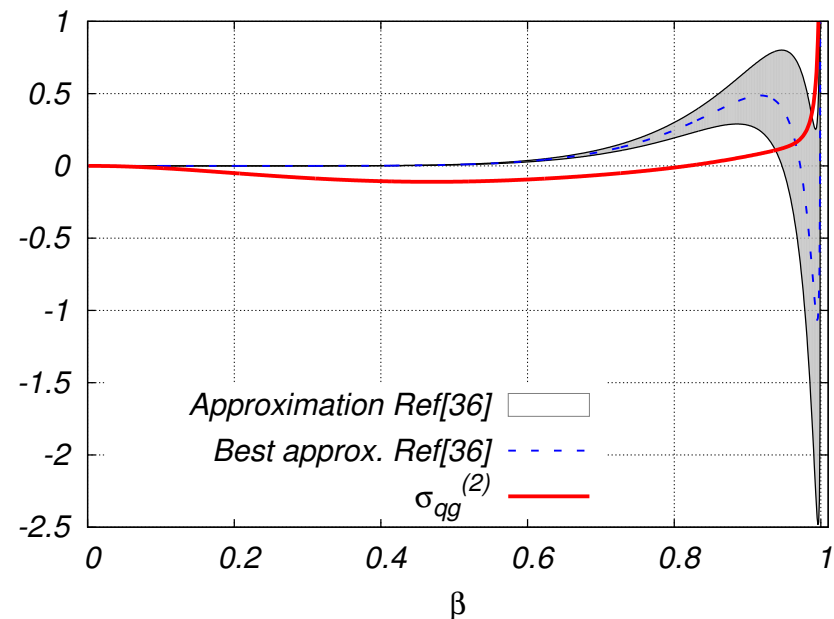
THE NNLO  $P_{GG}$  SPLITTING FUNCTION



(Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt 2005)

**SOME LESS SO...**

THE NNLO QG TOP CROSS SECTION



(Czakon, Mitov, 2013)

- **IS IT JUST GUESSWORK?**
- **CAN ONE CONSTRUCT A CONTROLLED APPROXIMATION?**

# SUMMARY

- THE BASIC IDEA
  - ANALYTICITY AND SADDLE POINTS
  - APPROXIMATION FROM RESUMMATION
- “SUDAKOV” TERMS
  - THE STRUCTURE OF RESUMMED RESULTS
  - SUBLEADING IMPROVEMENTS AND SMALL  $N$  SINGULARITIES
- “BFKL” TERMS
  - SINGLE LOGS AND DOUBLE LOGS
  - MOMENTUM CONSERVATION AND SUBLEADING TERMS
- RESULTS
  - MATCHED PARTONIC CROSS SECTIONS
  - HADRONIC K-FACTORS
  - SCALE DEPENDENCE

# APPROXIMATION FROM ANALYTICITY

# SOME DEFINITIONS

## THE FACTORIZED CROSS SECTION

$$\sigma(\tau, m_H^2) = \tau \sum_{ij} \int_{\tau}^1 \frac{dz}{z} \mathcal{L}_{ij} \left( \frac{\tau}{z}, \mu_F^2 \right) \frac{1}{z} \hat{\sigma}_{ij} \left( z, m_H^2, \alpha_s(\mu_R^2), \frac{m_H^2}{\mu_F^2}, \frac{m_H^2}{\mu_R^2} \right) \quad \tau = \frac{m_H^2}{s}$$

## PARTON LUMINOSITIES

$$\mathcal{L}_{ij}(z, \mu^2) = \int_z^1 \frac{dx}{x} f_i \left( \frac{z}{x}, \mu^2 \right) f_j(x, \mu^2)$$

## COEFFICIENT FUNCTIONS

$$\hat{\sigma}_{ij} \left( z, m_H^2, \alpha_s(\mu_R^2), \frac{m_H^2}{\mu_F^2}, \frac{m_H^2}{\mu_R^2} \right) = z \sigma_0(m_H^2, \alpha_s(\mu_R^2)) C_{ij} \left( z, \alpha_s(\mu_R^2), \frac{m_H^2}{\mu_F^2}, \frac{m_H^2}{\mu_R^2} \right)$$
$$C_{ij}(z, \alpha_s) = \delta(1-z) \delta_{ij} \delta_{jg} + \alpha_s C_{ij}^{(1)}(z) + \alpha_s^2 C_{ij}^{(2)}(z) + \alpha_s^3 C_{ij}^{(3)}(z) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4)$$

## MELLIN-SPACE FACTORIZATION

$$\sigma(N, m_H^2) = \sigma_0(m_H^2, \alpha_s) \mathcal{L}(N) C(N, \alpha_s),$$
$$\sigma(N, m_H^2) \equiv \int_0^1 d\tau \tau^{N-2} \sigma(\tau, m_H^2); \quad \mathcal{L}(N) \equiv \int_0^1 dz z^{N-1} \mathcal{L}(z) \quad C(N, \alpha_s) \equiv \int_0^1 dz z^{N-1} C(z, \alpha_s)$$

## WHAT'S THE PROBLEM

- THE **COEFFICIENT FUNCTION**  $C(z, \alpha_s)$  IS A **DISTRIBUTION**, WITH SUPPORT IN  $0 \leq z \leq 1$  &, AN ORDINARY FUNCTION FOR  $z < 1$
- **SUDAKOV** RESUMMATION DETERMINES THE BEHAVIOUR OF TERMS WHICH AS  $z \rightarrow 1$  ARE **EITHER SINGULAR, OR DISTRIBUTIONS**
- **BFKL** RESUMMATION DETERMINES THE BEHAVIOUR OF TERMS WHICH AS  $z \rightarrow 0$  HAVE THE **STRONGEST SINGULARITY** (UP TO POWERS)

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## THE SOLUTION

- THE **MELLIN-SPACE COEFFICIENT FUNCTION** IS AN **ANALYTIC** (MEROMORPHIC) **FUNCTION** OF COMPLEX  $N$ , WITH A CONVERGENCE ABSCISSA
- **SUDAKOV** RESUMMATION DETERMINES ITS **BEHAVIOUR AT INFINITY**, I.E. ALL TERMS WHICH DO NOT VANISH AS  $N \rightarrow \infty$
- **BFKL** RESUMMATION DETERMINES ITS **RIGHTMOST SINGULARITIES** FOR FINITE  $N$

## BASIC IDEA

AN ANALYTIC FUNCTION CAN BE RECONSTRUCTED FROM KNOWLEDGE OF ITS SINGULARITIES (Cauchy-Liouville)

# A (USEFUL) SIDE REMARK: SADDLE POINT

- THE CROSS SECTION IS **DETERMINED** FROM THE  $N$ -SPACE RESULT **BY MELLIN INVERSION**:

$$\frac{\sigma(\tau, m_H^2)}{\tau} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} dN \tau^{-N} \sigma(N, m_H^2) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} dN e^{E(N, \tau, m_H^2)}$$

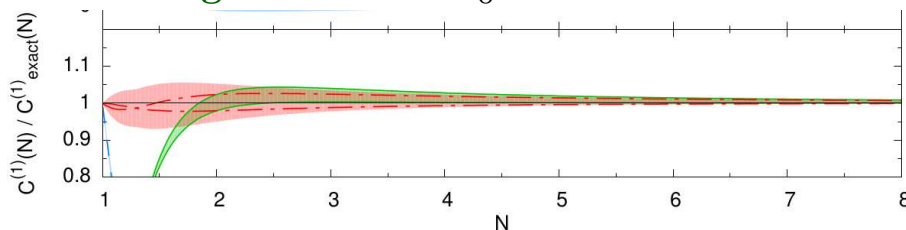
$$E(N, \tau, m_H^2) \equiv N \ln \frac{1}{\tau} + \ln \sigma(N, m_H^2)$$

- **DOMINATED BY SADDLE POINT**  $\left. \frac{\partial E(N, \tau, m_H^2)}{\partial N} \right|_{N=N_0} = 0$
- SADDLE  $N_0$  ON THE REAL AXIS:  $\sigma(N)$  MUST BE A **DECREASING FUNCTION** OF  $N$ ; AS  $\tau \rightarrow 0$ ,  $N_0$  **MOVES LEFTWARDS TOWARDS THE RIGHTMOST SING.**
- MOST OF THE **CONTRIBUTION** COMES FROM A **SMALL NEIGHBORHOOD** OF  $N_0$
- FOR  $m_h = 125$  GEV,  $N_0 \approx 2$  FOR  $s = 7 - 8$  TEV,  $N_0 \approx 1.8$  FOR  $s = 14$  TEV

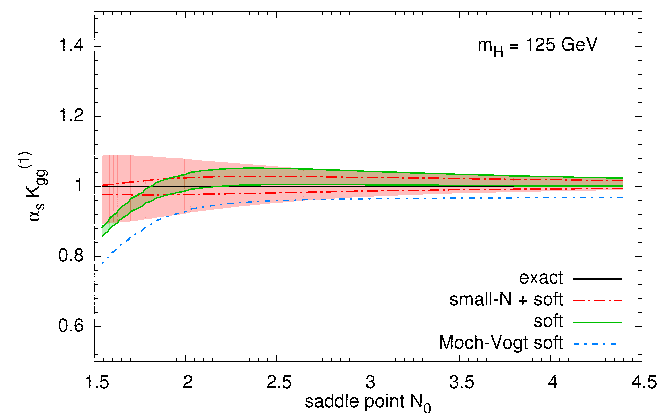
## A TEST

SOME RATIO OF COEFFICIENT FUNCTIONS IN MELLIN SPACE COMPARED TO THE RATIO OF HADRONIC  $K$ -FACTORS COMPUTED AS A FUNCTION OF  $s(N_0)$

COMPARE  $C'(N)/C(N)$  TO  $\sigma'(s(N_0))/\sigma(s(N_0))$ ,  
EQUAL IF **ONLY**  $N_0$  CONTRIBUTES!



Higgs K-factor at NLO (NNLO PDFs)





# THE SINGULARITY STRUCTURE OF (INCLUSIVE) COEFFICIENT FUNCTIONS

- AT LARGE  $N$

- THE COEFFICIENT FUNCTION BEHAVES AS A POWER OF  $\ln N$  THE ORDER OF THE POWER INCREASES BY TWO UNITS AT EACH SUBSEQUENT PERTURBATIVE ORDER (DOUBLE LOGS)
- NOTE THAT THERE ALSO IS A CONSTANT, MELLIN OF  $\delta(1 - z)$ .
- SUBDOMINANT TERMS BEHAVE AS  $\frac{1}{N}$  (OR HIGHER INVERSE POWERS OF  $N$ ), TIMES POWERS OF  $\ln N$

- AT SMALL  $N$

- THE COEFFICIENT FUNCTION HAS ISOLATED POLES ON THE REAL AXIS CANNOT HAVE SINGULARITIES IN THE COMPLEX PLANE (WOULD BE IN PAIRS BY SCHWARTZ REFLECTION)  $\Rightarrow$  BY SADDLE POINT, WOULD LEAD TO OSCILLATING XSECT IN THE  $s \rightarrow \infty$  LIMIT
- RIGHTMOST (LEADING) POLE IS AT  $N = 1$ , IN GLUON CHANNELS
- ORDER OF LEADING POLE INCREASES BY ONE UNIT AT EACH SUBSEQUENT PERTURBATIVE ORDER (SIMPLE LOGS)  
(RECALL  $\frac{1}{N^k}$  IS THE MELLIN OF  $\ln^{k-1} x$ )

# THE LARGE $N$ TERMS

# THE STRUCTURE OF RESUMMED RESULTS

## THE RESUMMED COEFFICIENT FUNCTION

$$C_{\text{res}}(N, \alpha_s) = g_0(\alpha_s) \exp \left[ \frac{1}{\alpha_s} g_1(\alpha_s \ln N) + g_2(\alpha_s \ln N) + \alpha_s g_3(\alpha_s \ln N) + \dots \right];$$

$$g_0(\alpha_s) = 1 + \alpha_s g_{0,1} + \alpha_s^2 g_{0,2} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3); \quad g_1(\lambda) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} g_{1,k} \lambda^k, \quad g_i(\lambda) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} g_{i,k} \lambda^k \quad \text{FOR } i \geq 2$$

<b>LOG APPROX.</b>	<b>XSECT ACCURACY</b>	<b>EXP. ACCURACY:</b> $\alpha_s^n L^k$	<b><math>g_0</math> ACCURACY:</b> $\alpha_s^i$
LL	$k = 2n$	$k = n + 1$	0
NLL	$2n - 2 \leq k \leq 2n$	$k = n$	1
NNLL	$2n - 4 \leq k \leq 2n$	$k = n - 1$	2

FOR **HIGGS INCLUSIVE**:

- $g_1, g_2, g_3$  **KNOWN**;  $g_0$  **KNOWN UP TO**  $O(\alpha_s^2)$
- **N<sup>3</sup>LL** **KNOWN FOR EXPONENT BUT FULLY NOT CROSS-SECTION**
- TO  $O(\alpha_s^3)$  (**N<sup>3</sup>LO**) **ALL LOGS KNOWN, BUT NOT CONSTANT**
- THE  $m_t$  **DEPENDENCE IS ENTIRELY CONTAINED** IN THE  $g_{0,i}$  COEFFICIENTS;  
 $g_{0,1}(m_t)$  **KNOWN EXACTLY**,  $g_{0,2}(m_t)$  **KNOWN AS A POWER SERIES** IN  $\left(\frac{m_h}{m_t}\right)^2$ .

# CONSTRUCTING THE LARGE $N$ TERMS

## A SIMPLE EXAMPLE

### THE NLO CROSS SECTION IN THE POINTLIKE LIMIT

#### THE $z$ -SPACE RESULT

$$C^{(1)}(z) = 4A_g(z) \left[ \frac{\log \frac{1-z}{\sqrt{z}}}{1-z} \right]_+ + \left( \frac{4C_A}{\pi} \zeta_2 + \frac{11}{2\pi} \right) \delta(1-z) - \frac{11}{2\pi} \frac{(1-z)^3}{z};$$

$$P_{gg}(z) = \frac{A_g(z)}{[1-z]_+} + \beta_0 \delta(1-z); \quad \beta_0 = \frac{11C_A - 2n_f}{12\pi}; \quad A_g(z) = \frac{C_A}{\pi} \frac{1-2z+3z^2-2z^3+z^4}{z}$$

- THE **LOGS** ARE ENTIRELY CONTAINED IN THE **FIRST TERM**:  $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_1(z) \equiv \left[ \frac{\log \frac{1-z}{\sqrt{z}}}{1-z} \right]_+$
- THE **SECOND TERM** CONTRIBUTES TO THE **CONSTANT**
- THE **THIRD TERM** IS **SUPPRESSED** BY A (HIGH) **NEGATIVE POWER** OF  $N$  AS  $N \rightarrow \infty$

#### $N$ -SPACE LOGS

**MELLIN TRANSF.:**  $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_1(N) \equiv \mathcal{M} \left[ \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_1(z) \right] = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \psi_0^2(N) + 2\gamma_E \psi_0(N) + \gamma_E^2 \right]$

**THE LARGE  $N$  LOGS:**  $\psi_0(N) = \log \left( N - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{1}{N^2} \right) = \log(N) + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{1}{N} \right)$

## THE NAIVE RESULT...

- **EXPAND** THE RESUMMED RESULT:  $C_{\text{res}}(N, \alpha_s) = 1 + \alpha_s C_{\text{res}}^{(1)}(N) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$
- USE RESULT AS **NLO ESTIMATE**:  $C_{\text{res}}^{(1)}(N) = g_{1,2} \ln^2 N + g_{2,1} \ln N + g_{0,1}$ ;  
 $g_{1,2} = \frac{2C_A}{\pi}$ ,  $g_{2,1} = \frac{4C_A}{\pi} \gamma_E$
- **HOWEVER**:  $\ln N$  HAS A CUT AT  $N = 0$ ! **SUBLEADING, M BUT SINGULARITY STRUCTURE RADICALLY CHANGED**

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## ...AND ITS IMPROVEMENTS

### FIRST IMPROVEMENT: SMALL $N$ POLES VS CUTS

- THE **INVERSE MELLIN** OF  $C_{\text{res}}^{(1)}(N)$  IS  $C_{\text{res}}^{(1)}(z, \alpha_s) = \frac{4C_A}{\pi} \mathcal{D}_1^{\log}(z)$  (UP TO DELTA);  
 $\mathcal{D}_1^{\log}(z) \equiv \left[ \frac{\ln \ln \frac{1}{z}}{\ln \frac{1}{z}} \right]_+$
- BUT THE EXACT RESULT CONTAINS  $\mathcal{D}_1(z) \equiv \left[ \frac{\log(1-z)}{1-z} \right]_+$ , NOT  $\mathcal{D}_1^{\log}(z)$
- **IMPROVEMENT I**: EXPRESS THE RESUMMED RESULT IN TERMS OF  $\mathcal{D}_1(N) \equiv \mathcal{M}[\mathcal{D}_1(z)] = \frac{1}{2} [\psi_0^2(N) - \psi_1(N) + 2\gamma_E \psi_0(N) + \zeta_2 + \gamma_E^2]$
- THIS HAS **SIMPLE POLES**, NOT CUTS

# MORE IMPROVEMENTS

## SECOND IMPROVEMENT: PHASE SPACE

- ACTUALLY, THE EXACT RESULT HAS  $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_1(z) = \left[ \frac{\log \frac{1-z}{\sqrt{z}}}{1-z} \right]_+$ , NOT  $\mathcal{D}_1(z) = \left[ \frac{\log(1-z)}{1-z} \right]_+$
- DUE TO UNIVERSAL STRUCTURE OF PHASE SPACE FOR REAL SOFT GLUON EMISSION  
(S.F., RIDOLFI, 2003):  $p_{gg}(z) \int_{\Lambda}^{\frac{M(1-z)}{\sqrt{z}}} \frac{dk_T}{k_T} = \frac{A_g(z)}{1-z} \left( \ln \frac{1-z}{\sqrt{z}} + \ln \frac{M}{\Lambda} \right)$
- IMPROVEMENT II: EXPRESS THE RESUMMED RESULT IN TERMS OF  
 $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_1(N) \equiv \mathcal{M} \left[ \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_1(z) \right] = \frac{1}{2} [\psi_0^2(N) + 2\gamma_E \psi_0(N) + \gamma_E^2]$
- NOTE: SIMPLER THAN PREVIOUS  $N$ -SPACE RESULTS (SOME SINGULARITIES CANCEL)

# MORE IMPROVEMENTS

## THIRD IMPROVEMENT: SOFT-COLLINEAR

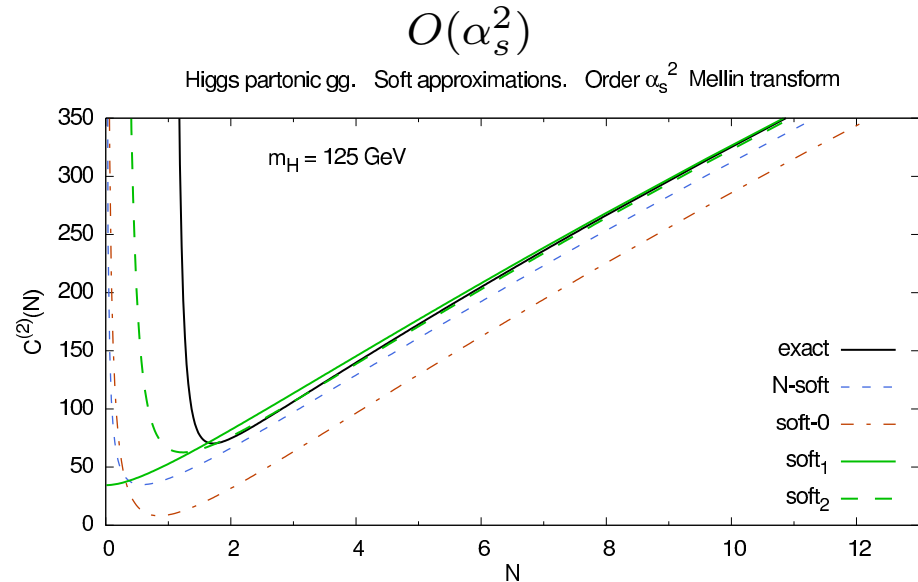
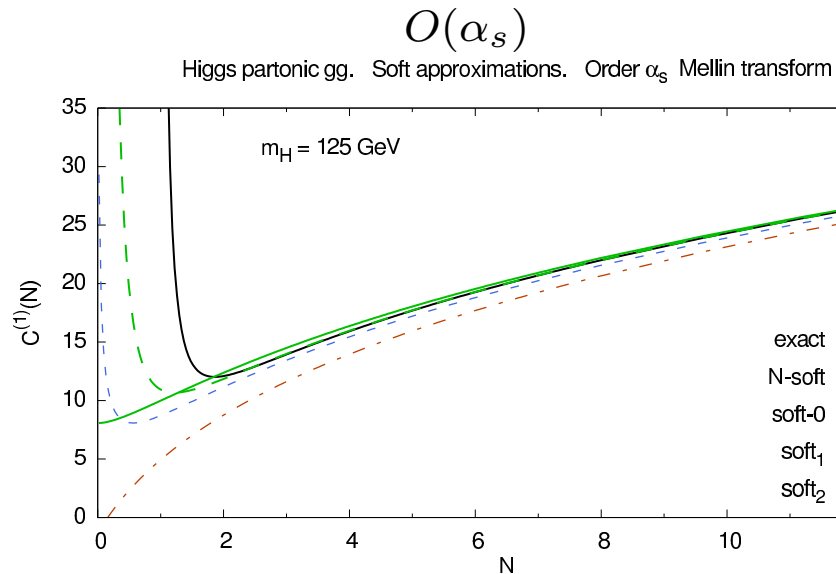
- AGAIN: **SOFT EMISSION** LEADS TO  $p_{gg}(z) \int_{\Lambda} \frac{M(1-z)}{\sqrt{z}} \frac{dk_T}{k_T} = \frac{A_g(z)}{1-z} \left( \ln \frac{1-z}{\sqrt{z}} + \ln \frac{M}{\Lambda} \right)$
- **PREFACTOR** OF  $A_g(z)$  IS THE **ALTARELLI-PARISI NUMERATOR**  $P_{gg}(z) = \frac{A_g(z)}{[1-z]_+}$
- CAN **EXPAND**  $A_g(z) = \frac{C_A}{\pi} \left[ 1 - (1-z) + 2(1-z)^2 + \mathcal{O}[(1-z)^3] \right]$
- **FIRST-ORDER** EXPANSION  $A_{g,1}(z) = \frac{C_A}{\pi} [1 - (1-z)] = z A_g(1)$  **SUMS ALL**  $\frac{\ln^k N}{N}$  **TERMS; ALL** OF WHICH ARE THUS SUMMED **TO ALL ORDERS** (Catani, de Florian, Grazzini, 2001)
- SUBSEQUENT ORDERS SUPPRESSED BY POWERS OF  $\frac{1}{N}$ ; UNIVERSAL, BUT NOT ALL SUCH TERMS THUS INCLUDED
- IN  $N$  SPACE, **1ST ORDER EXPANSION** AMOUNTS TO  $\mathcal{D}_1^{\log}(N) \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_1(N+1)$ ,  
**2ND ORDER EXPANSION** AMOUNTS TO  $\mathcal{D}_k^{\log}(N) \rightarrow 2\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_k(N) - 3\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_k(N+1) + 2\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_k(N+2)$



## FINAL PRESCRIPTION

- EXPAND OUT RESUMMED RESULT, WRITE IT IN TERMS OF  $\mathcal{D}_k^{\log}(N)$ ,  
MELLIN TRANSFORM OF  $\mathcal{D}_k^{\log}(z) \equiv \left[ \frac{\ln^k \ln \frac{1}{z}}{\ln \frac{1}{z}} \right]_+$
- REPLACE  $\mathcal{D}_k^{\log}(N) \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_k(N)$ , MELLIN TRANSFORM OF  $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_1(z) = \left[ \frac{\log \frac{1-z}{\sqrt{z}}}{1-z} \right]_+$   
(PROPER SMALL  $N$  SINGULARITY+ PHASE SPACE FACTOR)
- FURTHER REPLACE  $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_k(N) \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_k(N+1)$  OR COMBINATION OF SHIFTS FOR  
2ND ORDER (SOFT-COLLINEAR IMPROVEMENT)
- ADJUST THE CONSTANT
- INVERT THE MELLIN TRANSFORM

# HOW WELL DOES IT WORK?



- **SOFT1 & SOFT2** (ALL THREE IMPROVEMENTS) PROVIDE **BEST APPROXIMATION TO EXACT**; **DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1ST & 2ND ORDER EXPANSION** TAKEN AS **ESTIMATE OF UNCERTAINTY**
- PURE RESUMMATION **N-SOFT** (NO IMPROVEMENT) SURPRISINGLY GOOD
- 1ST IMPROVEMENT ONLY (**SOFT0**) NOT SO GOOD, 2ND IMPROVEMENT (SQRT FACTOR) HAS NEGLIGIBLE IMPACT

## TECHNICAL ASIDE: WHY IS $N$ -SOFT SO GOOD

COINCIDENTALLY, 
$$\frac{\ln^k \ln \frac{1}{z}}{\ln \frac{1}{z}} = \frac{\sqrt{z}}{1-z} \ln^k \frac{1-z}{\sqrt{z}} \times \left[ 1 + \mathcal{O} \left[ (1-z)^2 \right] \right],$$

SAME AS IMPROVED, UP TO TERMS SUPPRESSED BY TWO POWERS OF  $\frac{1}{N}$ .

# THE SMALL $N$ TERMS

## WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT SMALL $x$ ?

- AT SMALL  $N$  RESUMMATION OF PERTURBATIVE EVOLUTION KNOWN SINCE LONG AT LL LEVEL (Jaroszewicz 1982 using BFKL 1976-78), MORE RECENTLY AT NLL LEVEL (Fadin-Lipatov 1998)
- RESUMMATION OF (INCLUSIVE) COEFFICIENT FUNCTIONS ONLY KNOWN AT LL LEVEL FOR SEVERAL PROCESS, INCLUDING HIGGS, (Marzani, Ball, del Duca, SF, Vicini, 2008)
- SMALL  $x$  BEHAVIOUR FOR HIGGS INCORRECT IN POINTLIKE APPROXIMATION (SPURIOUS DOUBLE LOGS) RESUMMATION OF SPURIOUS DOUBLE LOGS ALSO KNOWN (Hautmann, 2002)
- RESUMMATION OF RAPIDITY DISTRIBUTIONS KNOWN AT LL ONLY FOR HIGGS (Caola, SF, Marzani, 2011)

## THE STRUCTURE OF RESUMMED RESULTS

- THE SMALL  $N$  COEFFICIENT FUNCTION CAN BE WRITTEN AS A FUNCTION OF THE SMALL  $N$  ANOMALOUS DIMENSION  $\gamma^+(N)$  (“LARGE” EIGENVECTOR OF SINGLET ANOMALOUS DIMENSION MATRIX)

(Catani, Ciafaloni, Hautmann, 1990), UP TO RUNNING COUPLING CORRECTIONS

(REQUIRED FOR CORRECT ALL-ORDER SINGULARITY) (Ball, 2007; Altarelli, Ball, SF, 2008): $\Rightarrow [\gamma^+{}^n]$  DENOTES R.C. CORRECTED  $n$ -TH POWER OF AN. DIM.  $\gamma^+$

$$C_{\text{ABF}}(N, \alpha_s) = \sum_{i_1, i_2 \geq 0} c_{i_1, i_2} [\gamma^{+i_1}] [\gamma^{+i_2}] - 1$$

$$= \alpha_s 2c_{1,0} \gamma^{(0)} + \alpha_s^2 \left( (2c_{2,0} + c_{1,1}) \gamma^{(0)2} - 2c_{2,0} \beta_0 \gamma^{(0)} + 2c_{1,0} \gamma^{(1)} \right) + \dots$$

- THE SMALL  $N$  ANOMALOUS DIMENSION IS A SERIES OF POLES; THE HIGHEST TWO (LL & NLL) ARE KNOWN EXACTLY:

$$\gamma^+ = \alpha_s \gamma^{(0)} + \alpha_s^2 \gamma^{(1)} + \alpha_s^3 \gamma^{(2)} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4)$$

$$\gamma^{(0)} = \frac{e_{0,-1}}{N-1} + e_{0,0} + \mathcal{O}(N-1); \quad \gamma^{(1)} = \frac{e_{1,-2}}{(N-1)^2} + \frac{e_{1,-1}}{N-1} + \mathcal{O}(1)$$

$$\gamma^{(2)} = \frac{e_{2,-3}}{(N-1)^3} + \frac{e_{2,-2}}{(N-1)^2} + \mathcal{O}((N-1)^{-1})$$

- THE SMALL  $N$  CONTRIBUTION MUST VANISH AT LARGE  $N$ , & PRESERVE  $N = 1$  SINGULARITIES (TRADEOFF)

INTRODUCE SUBTRACTION

$$C_{\text{ABF-SUB}}^{(n)}(N) = C_{\text{ABF}}^{(n)}(N) - 2C_{\text{ABF}}^{(n)}(N+1) + C_{\text{ABF}}^{(n)}(N+2)$$

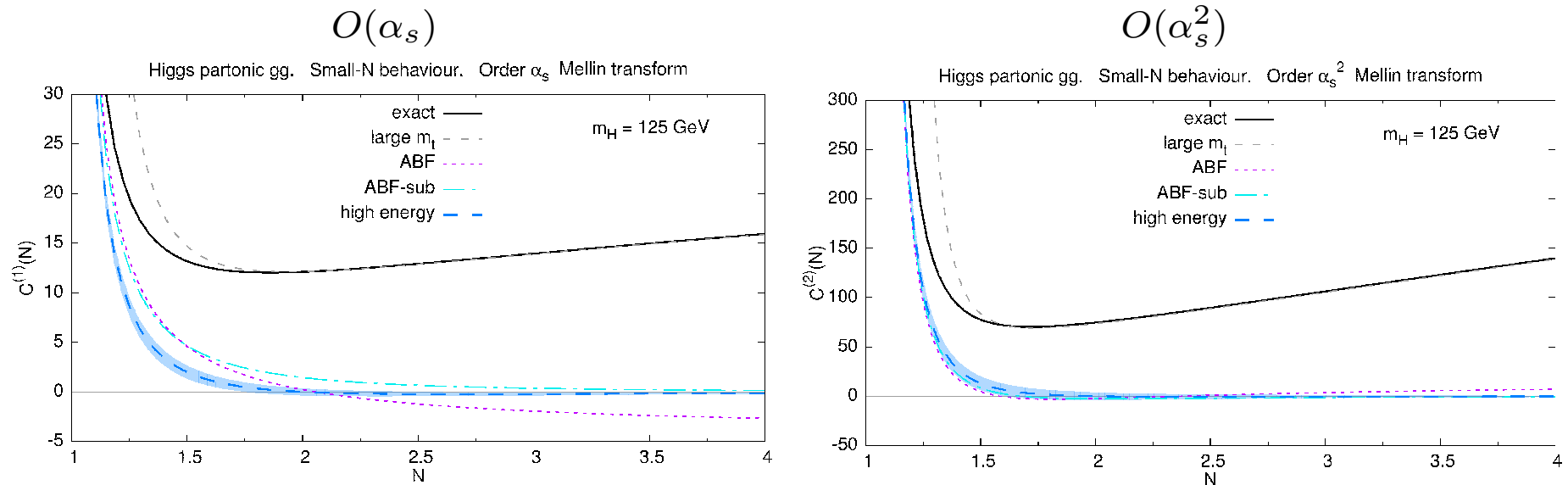
IN  $x$  SPACE CORRESPONDS TO  $(1-z)^2$  DAMPING

## SUBLEADING SMALL $N$ TERMS

- $\gamma^+(2) = 0$  BY **MOMENTUM CONSERVATION**, ORDER BY ORDER IN PERTURBATION THEORY
- $N = 2$  IS THE **NATURAL TRANSITION** BETWEEN SMALL  $N$  & LARGE  $N$  REGION: **ENFORCE VANISHING** OF SMALL  $N$  TERMS BY SUBTRACTION  
 $\gamma^+(N) \rightarrow \gamma^+(N) - f_{\text{MOM}}(N);$   
 $f_{\text{MOM}}(N) = \frac{c}{N}; f_{\text{MOM}}(2) = \gamma^+(2)$   
 FUNCTION  $f_{\text{MOM}}(N)$  AS IN **ABF (OPTIMIZED MATCHING** OF  $LLx$  &  $LLQ^2$  RESUMMATION),  
**DOES NOT CHANGE** LARGE  $N$  BEHAVIOUR & SMALL  $N$  SINGS: AMOUNTS TO  

$$C_{\text{H.E.}}^{(n)}(N) = C_{\text{ABF-SUB}}^{(n)}(N) - \frac{4! k_{\text{mom}}}{N(N+1)(N+2)}$$
- BUT **FULL COEFFICIENT FUNCTION DOES NOT VANISH** AT  $N = 2$  DUE TO **SUBLEADING POLES**.  
**ESTIMATE** THEIR EFFECT BY **VARYING**  $k_{\text{mom}} = C_{\text{ABF-SUB}}(2) \pm 0.05 \times C_{\text{SOFT}}(2)$

# THE IMPACT OF SMALL $N$ TERMS



- **POINTLIKE & FINITE  $m_t$  RESULTS START DIFFERING FOR  $N \lesssim 1.5$**
- **EXACT ONLY REDUCES TO LEADING POLE FOR  $N \lesssim 1.25$**
- **IMPACT OF SUBTRACTION SIGNIFICANT, BUT IN REGION WHERE SMALL  $N$  POLES ARE SURELY IRRELEVANT**
- **RESIDUAL UNCERTAINTY NOT NEGLIGIBLE IN  $N \sim 1.5$  REGION DUE TO LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF NLL AND SUBLEADING TERMS**

# THE HIGGS CROSS SECTION



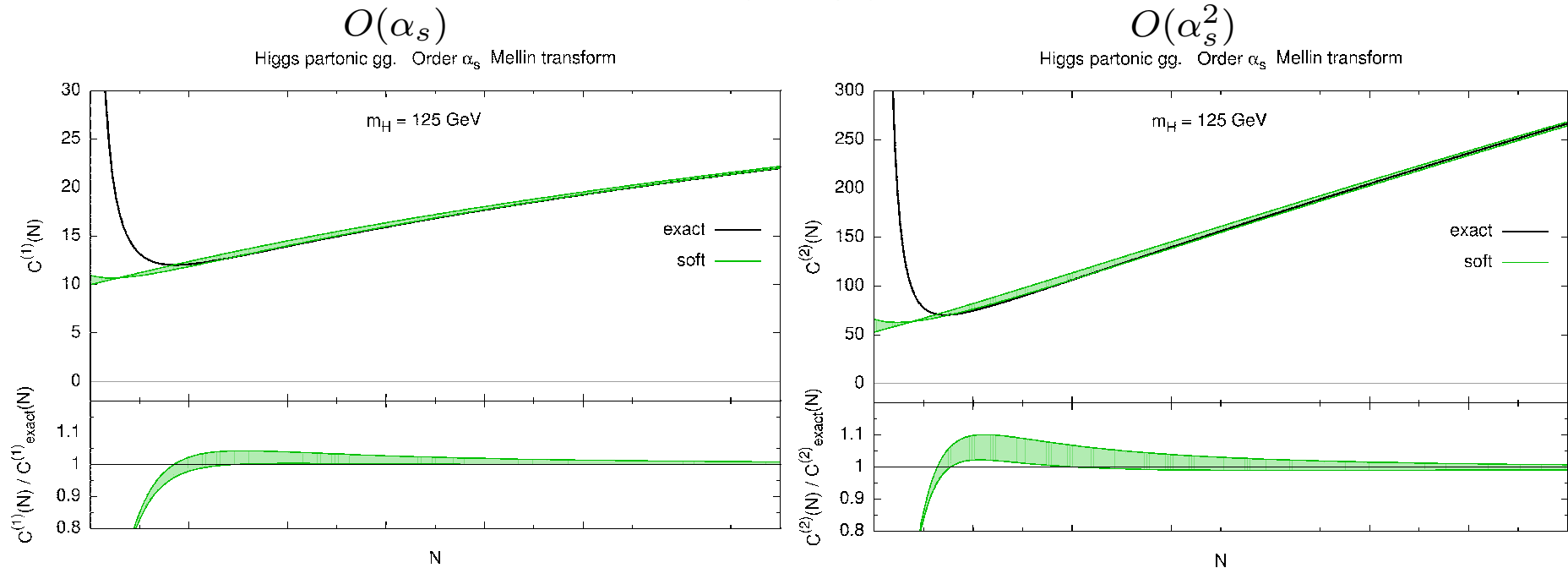
# COMBINING INFORMATION

$$C_{\text{APPROX}}^{(k)}(N) = C_{\text{SOFT}}^{(k)}(N) + C_{\text{H.E.}}^{(k)}(N)$$

NOTHING ELSE TO DO: SINGULARITIES TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES

NLO AND NNLO

EXACT+SOFT



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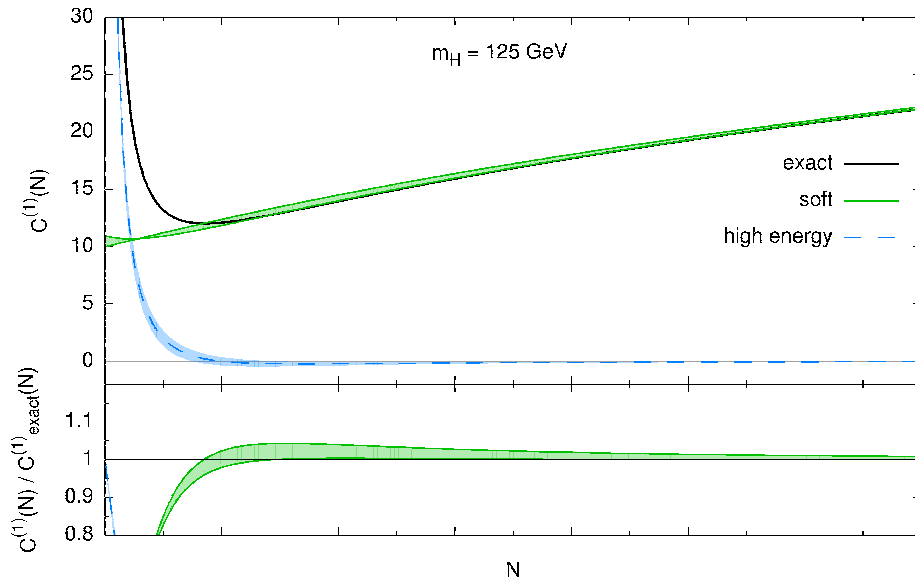
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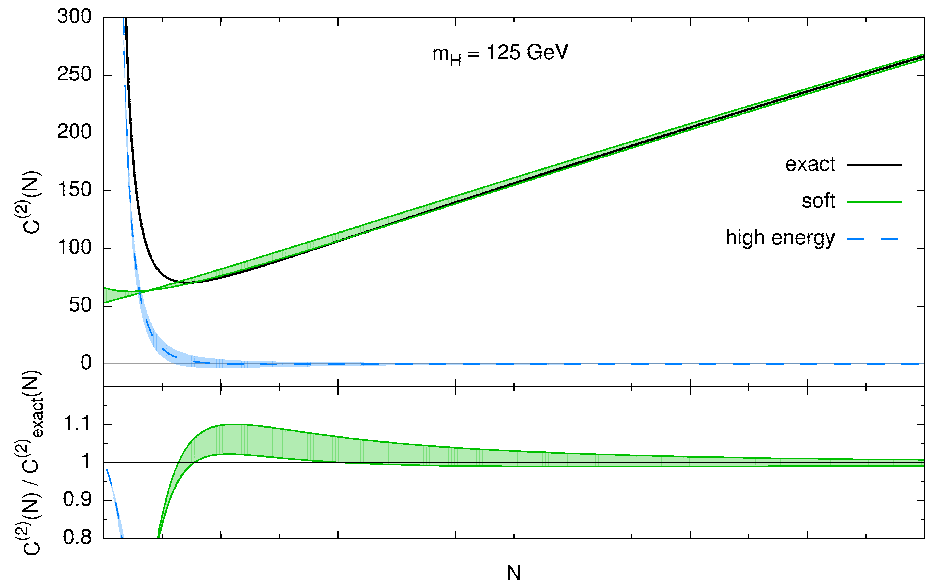
$O(\alpha_s)$

Higgs partonic gg. Order  $\alpha_s$  Mellin transform



$O(\alpha_s^2)$

Higgs partonic gg. Order  $\alpha_s$  Mellin transform



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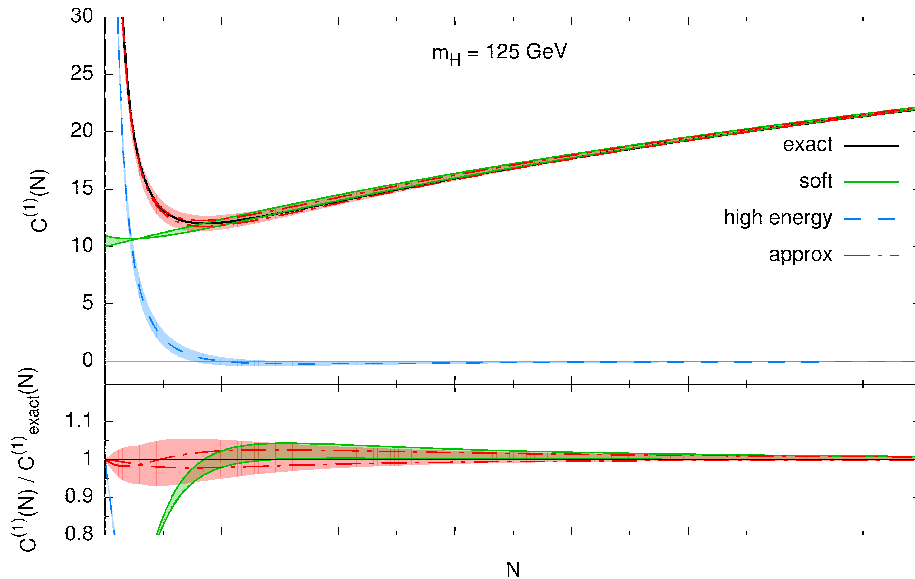
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NLO AND NNLO

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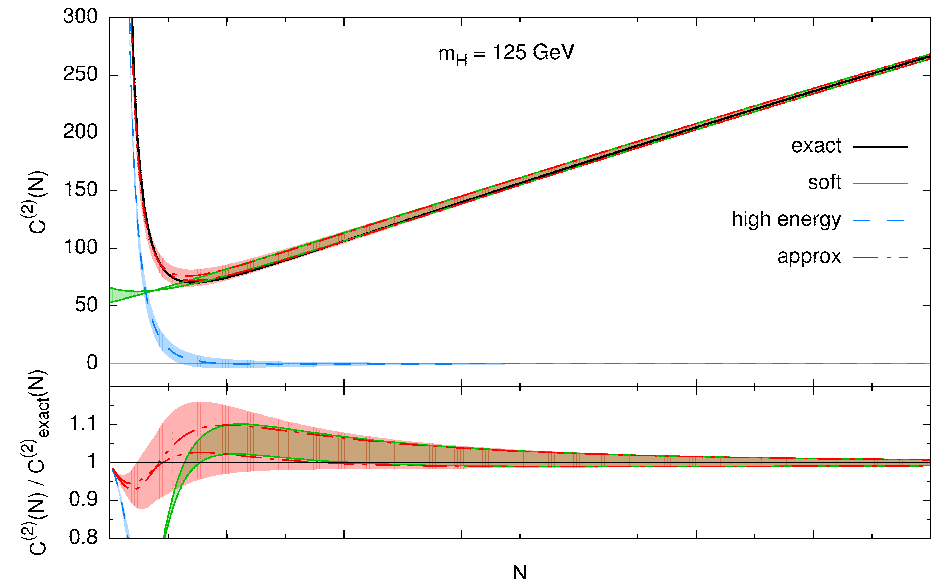
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$O(\alpha_s^2)$

Higgs partonic gg. Order  $\alpha_s$  Mellin transform



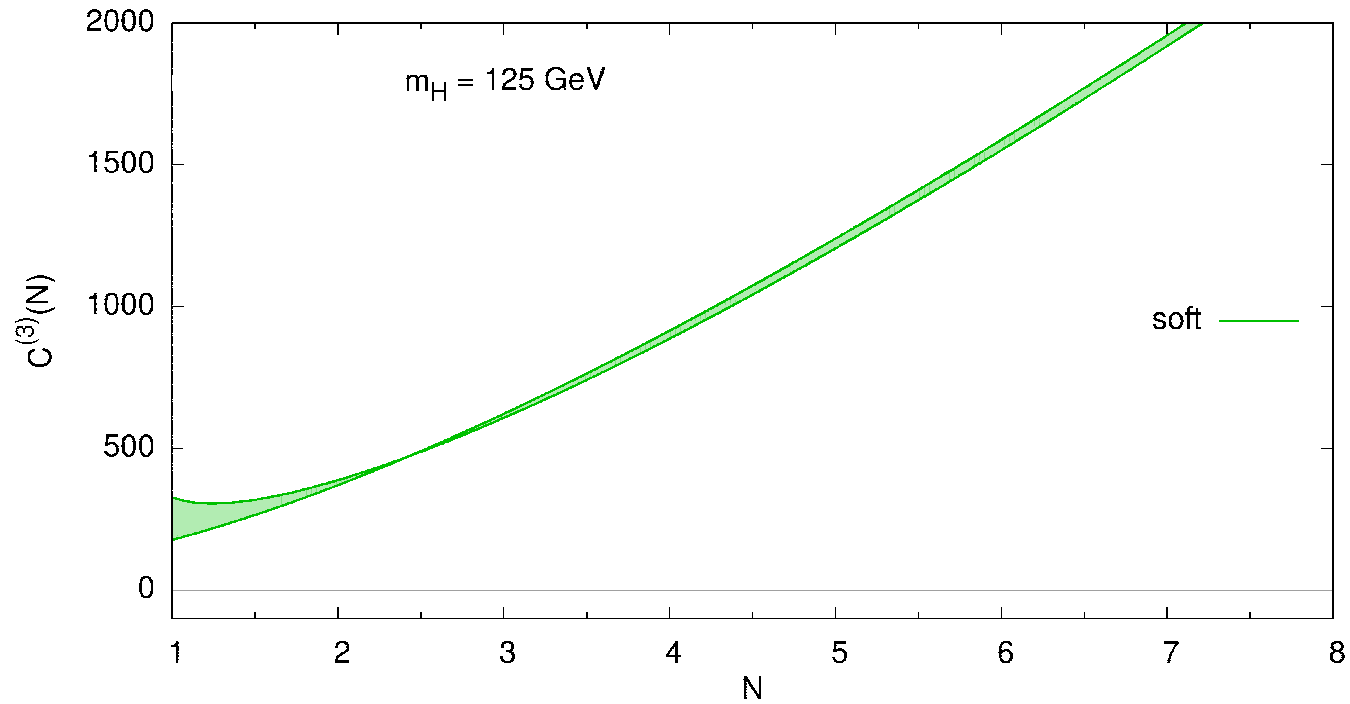
NOTE FOR  $N \sim 1.2$  WHERE SMALL DISCRAPANCY WITH NNLO IS OBSERVED, “EXACT” IS BASED ON AN UNRELIABLE APPROX.

# COMBINING INFORMATION THE N<sup>3</sup>LO PARTON-LEVEL RESULT

## EXACT+SOFT

$$O(\alpha_s^3)$$

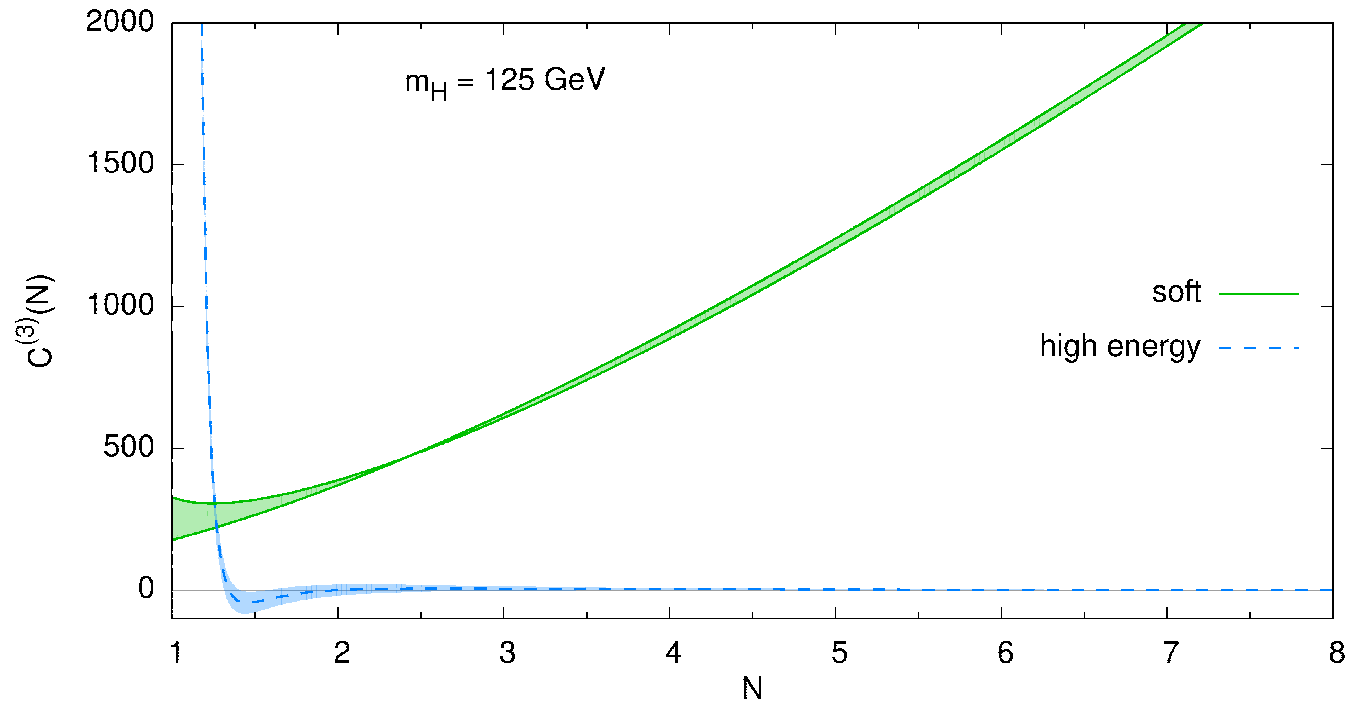
Higgs partonic gg. Order  $\alpha_s^3$  Mellin transform



COMBINING INFORMATION  
THE N<sup>3</sup>LO PARTON-LEVEL RESULT  
EXACT+SOFT+HIGH ENERGY

$$O(\alpha_s^3)$$

Higgs partonic gg. Order  $\alpha_s^3$  Mellin transform

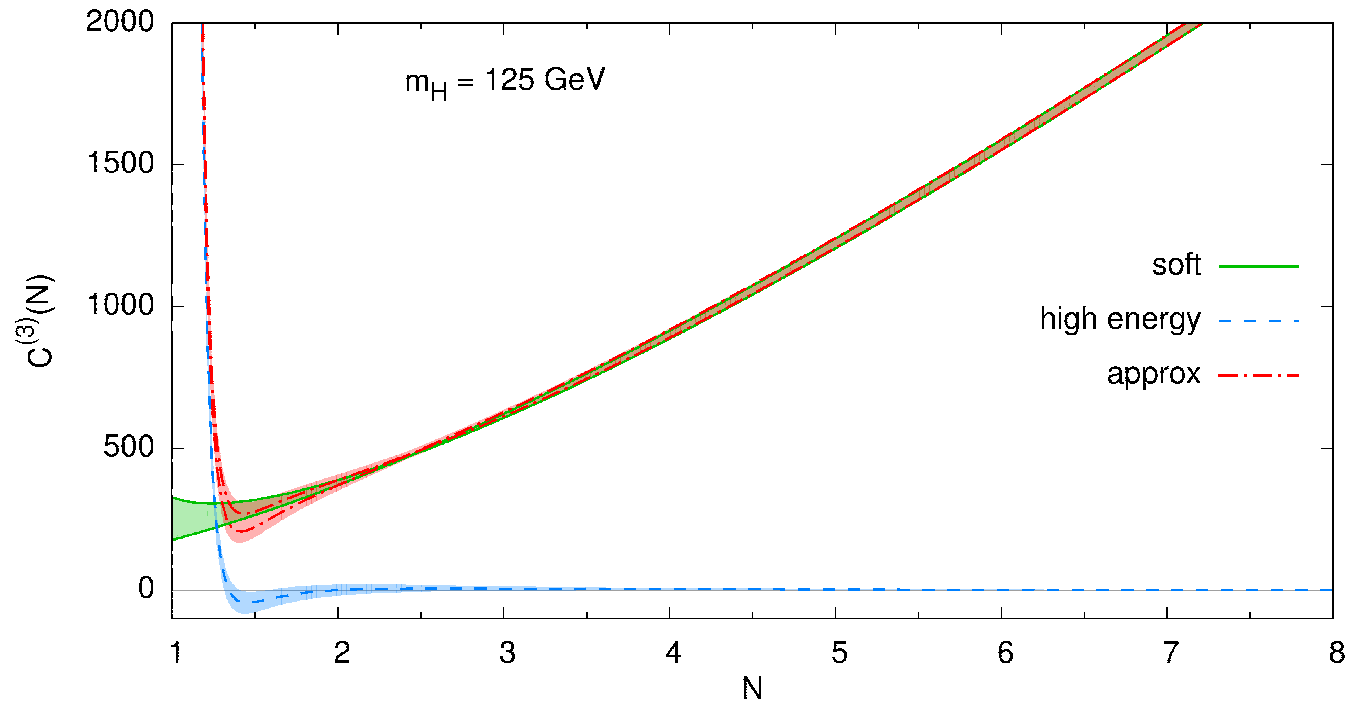


# COMBINING INFORMATION THE N<sup>3</sup>LO PARTON-LEVEL RESULT

EXACT+SOFT+HIGH ENERGY+APPROX.

$$O(\alpha_s^3)$$

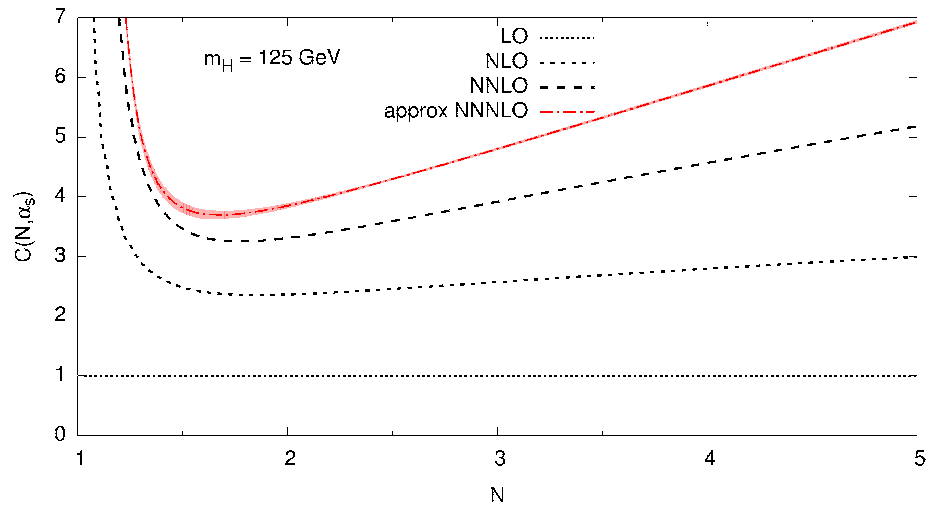
Higgs partonic gg. Order  $\alpha_s^3$  Mellin transform



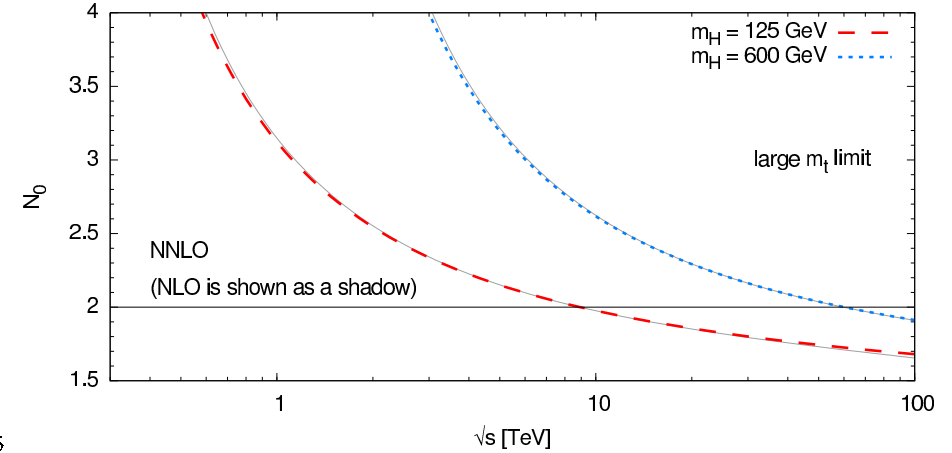
# PERTURBATIVE (IN)STABILITY

## THE N<sup>3</sup>LO PARTON-LEVEL RESULT

PERTURBATIVE EXP.  
Higgs partonic gg. Perturbative expansion



POSITION OF SADDLE  $N_0$

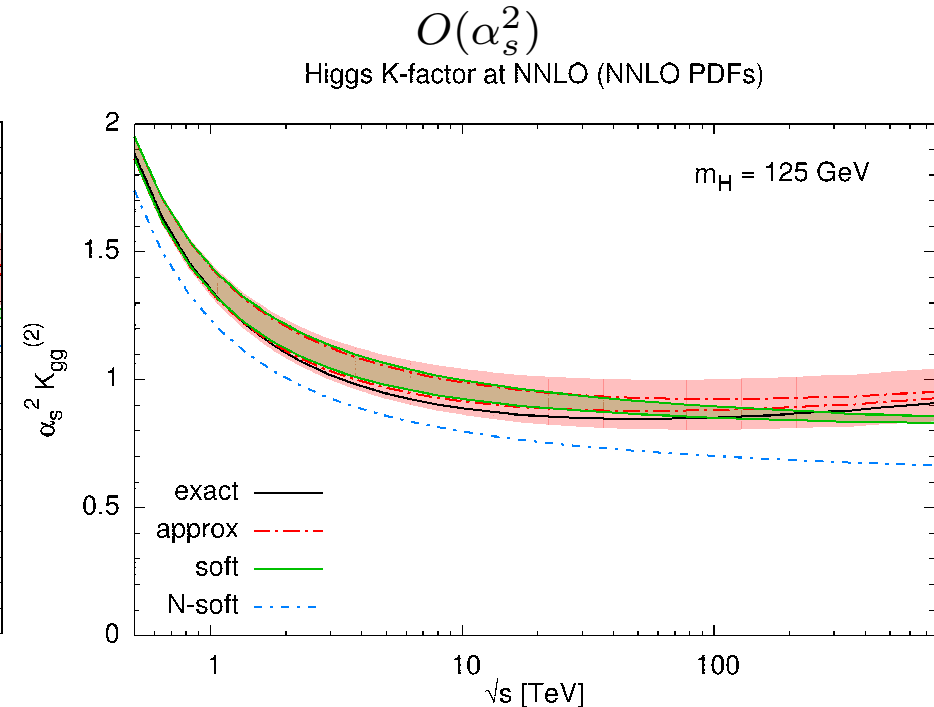
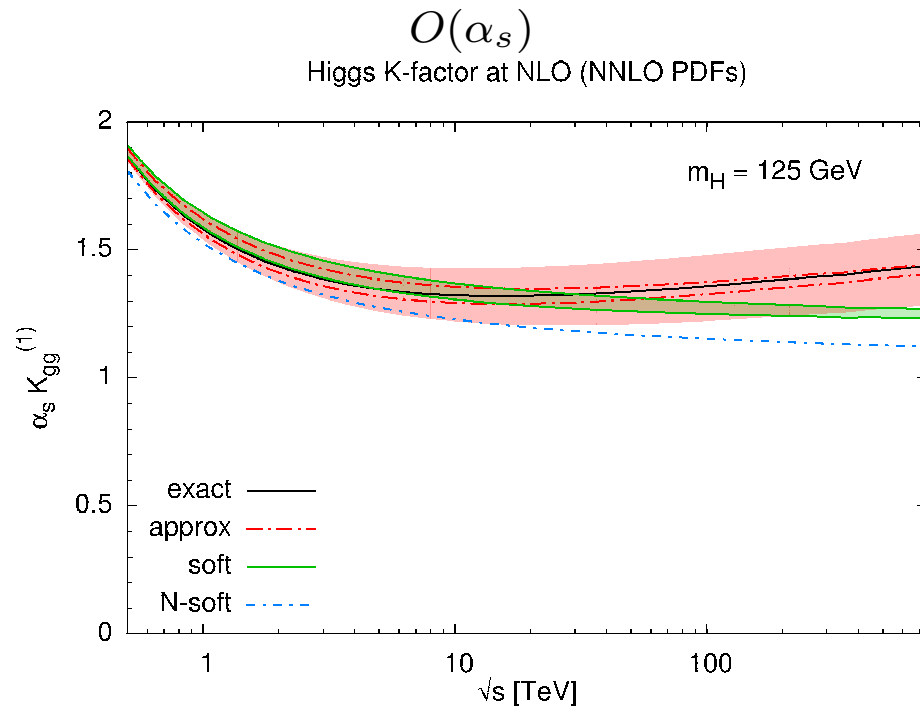


SLOW CONVERGENCE; BEST AT  $\sqrt{s} \sim 100$  TeV

# THE HADRONIC K-FACTORS: NLO & NNLO

$$K_{gg}(\tau, m_H^2) \equiv \sigma_{gg}(\tau, m_H^2)/\sigma^{(0)}(\tau, m_H^2) = 1 + \alpha_s K_{gg}^{(1)} + \alpha_s^2 K_{gg}^{(2)} + \alpha_s^3 K_{gg}^{(3)} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4); \text{ FIXED PDF}$$

	$\mu_R = m_H$			$\mu_R = m_H/2$		
	$C_{\text{EXACT}}^{(n)}$	$C_{\text{APPROX}}^{(n)}$	$C_{N\text{-SOFT}}^{(n)}$	$C_{\text{EXACT}}^{(n)}$	$C_{\text{APPROX}}^{(n)}$	$C_{N\text{-SOFT}}^{(n)}$
$\alpha_s K_{gg}^{(1)}$	1.328	$1.330 \pm 0.099$	1.241	1.262	$1.265 \pm 0.111$	1.167
$\alpha_s^2 K_{gg}^{(2)}$	0.903	$0.968 \pm 0.088$	0.815	0.795	$0.747 \pm 0.109$	0.558



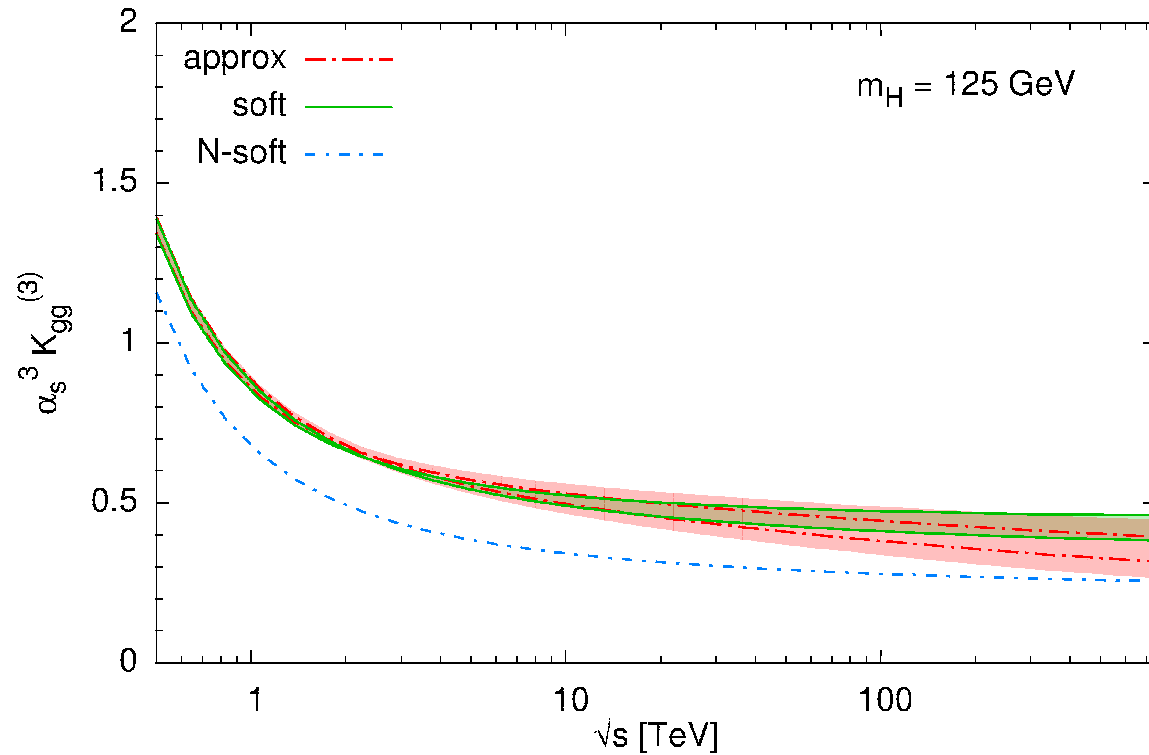
- APPROX IN PERFECT AGREEMENT WITH EXACT
- SOFT APPROX EXCELLENT FOR  $s \lesssim 10 \text{ TeV}$ , THEN FAILS (Bonvini, SF, Ridolfi, 2012)
- N-SOFT (Moch, Vogt 2005) RATHER LESS ACCURATE (EXPANDED RESUMMATION)



# THE HADRONIC K-FACTORS THE N<sup>3</sup>LO PREDICTION

	$\mu_R = m_H$			$\mu_R = m_H/2$		
	$C_{\text{EXACT}}^{(n)}$	$C_{\text{APPROX}}^{(n)}$	$C_{N\text{-SOFT}}^{(n)}$	$C_{\text{EXACT}}^{(n)}$	$C_{\text{APPROX}}^{(n)}$	$C_{N\text{-SOFT}}^{(n)}$
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$\alpha_s^3 K_{gg}^{(3)}$	—	$0.527 \pm 0.043$	0.353	—	$0.323 \pm 0.059$	0.085

$O(\alpha_s^3)$   
Higgs K-factor at NNNLO (NNLO PDFs)



# THE N<sup>3</sup>LO PREDICTION UNCERTAINTIES, ALTERNATIVE APPROXIMATIONS, COMPARISONS

$$\sigma_{\text{APPROX}}^{\text{N}^3\text{LO}}(\tau, m_H^2) = (22.61 \pm 0.27 + 0.91 \cdot 10^{-2} \bar{g}_{0,3}) \text{ PB} \quad \text{FOR } \mu_R = m_H$$

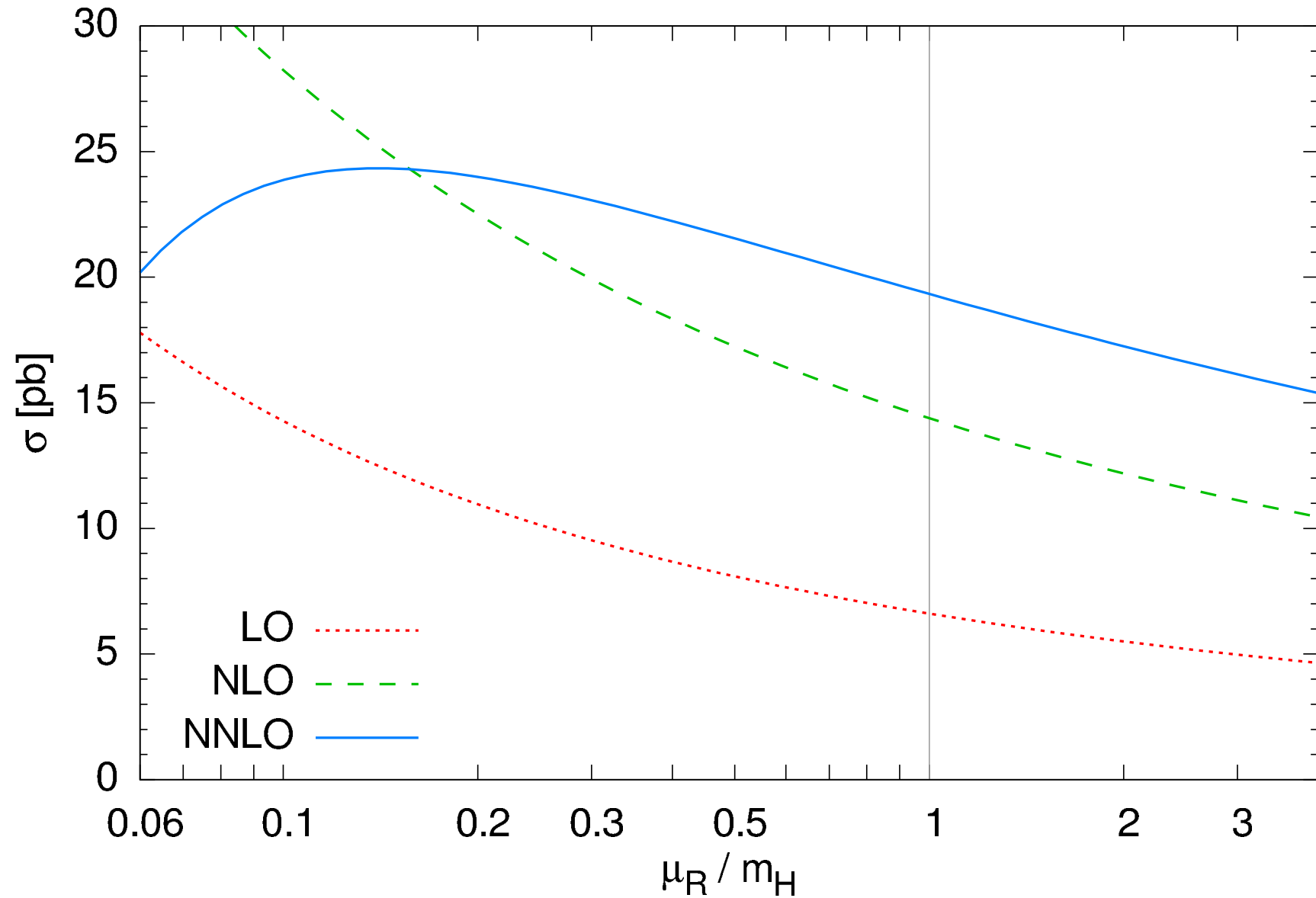
$$\sigma_{\text{APPROX}}^{\text{N}^3\text{LO}}(\tau, m_H^2) = (24.03 \pm 0.45 + 1.55 \cdot 10^{-2} \bar{g}_{0,3}) \text{ PB} \quad \text{FOR } \mu_R = m_H/2,$$

- RECALL  $O(\alpha_s^3)$  CONSTANT  $\bar{g}_{0,3}$ ; **SOME LATITUDE IN DEFINITION OF “CONSTANT”**, WITH OUR DEF.  $\bar{g}_{0,1} \sim 5$ ,  $\bar{g}_{0,2} \sim 10$  (Moch, Vogt 2005)  
(E.G. WITH DEF. FROM EXPANSION OF RESUMMATION  $g_{0,1} \sim 10$ ,  $g_{0,2} \sim 40$ )
- N<sup>3</sup>LO CORRECTS NNLO BY 17% IF  $\mu_r = m_H$ , BY 11.5% IF  $\mu_r = m_H/2$
- NNLL RESUMMATION (de Florian, Grazzini, 2012) CORRECTS NLO BY 8% ( $\mu_r = m_H$ ) OF THIS 6% COMES FROM N<sup>3</sup>LO (RESUMMATION IS PERTURBATIVE)
- N<sup>3</sup>LO TERM FROM RESUMMATION IS IDENTICAL TO  $N$ -SOFT, WITH  $g_{0,3} = 0$  INSTEAD OF  $\bar{g}_{0,3} = 0$
- USING  $g_{0,3} = 0$  INSTEAD OF  $\bar{g}_{0,3} = 0$  REDUCES N<sup>3</sup>LO BY 5% IF  $\mu_r = m_H$ , BY 8.5% IF  $\mu_r = m_H/2$
- USING THE LESS ACCURATE  $N$ -SOFT APPROXIMATION (WHICH CORRESPONDS TO EXPANDING OUT THE RESUMMED RESULT) REDUCES N<sup>3</sup>LO BY 6% IF  $\mu_r = m_H$ , BY 8.5% IF  $\mu_r = m_H/2$
- **OUR APPROX IS THREE TIMES LARGER THAN EXPANSION OF RESUMMATION; HALF DUE TO CONSTANT, HALF DUE TO BETTER APPROX**

# PERTURBATIVE (IN)STABILITY

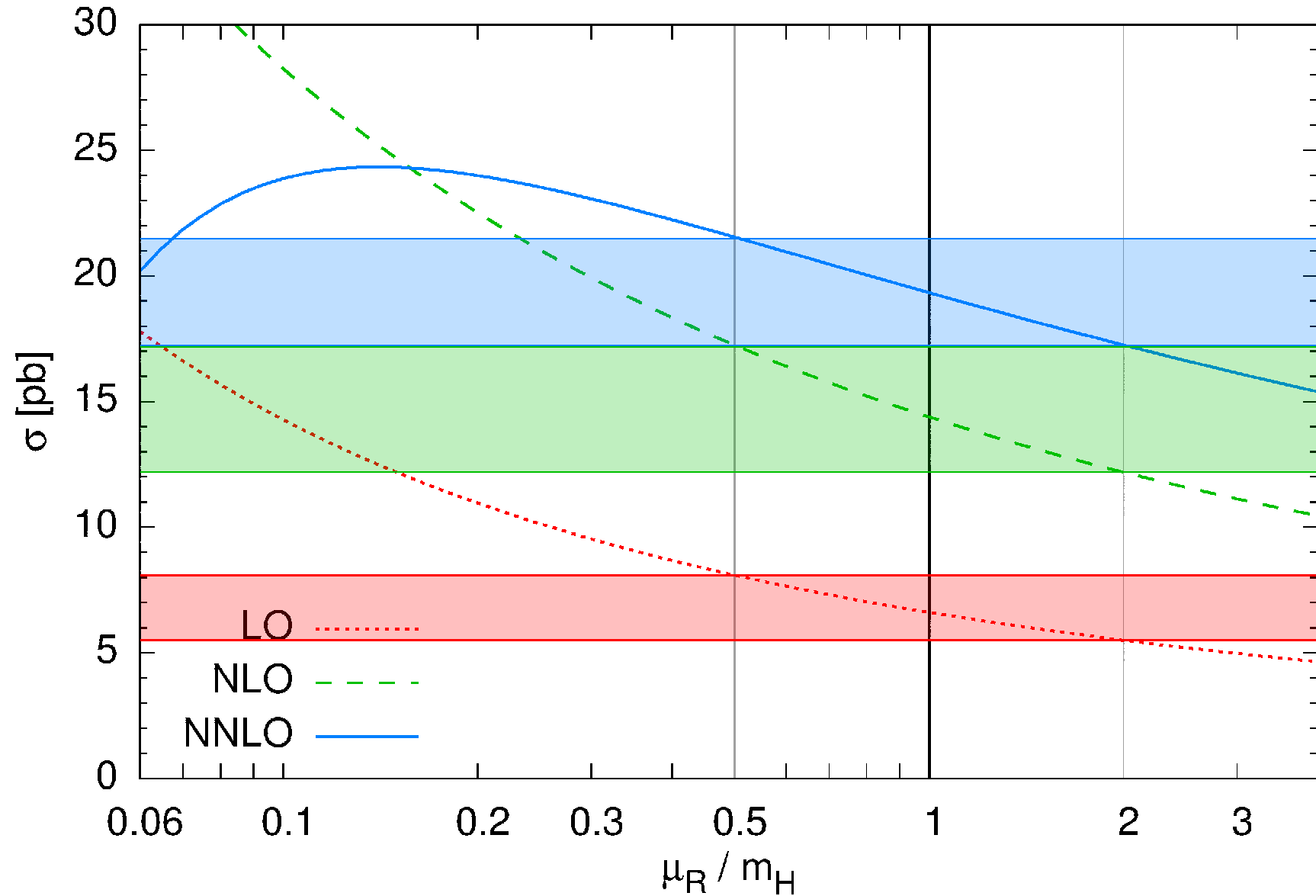
Higgs cross section

$m_H = 125 \text{ GeV}$  @ LHC 8 TeV



# PERTURBATIVE (IN)STABILITY

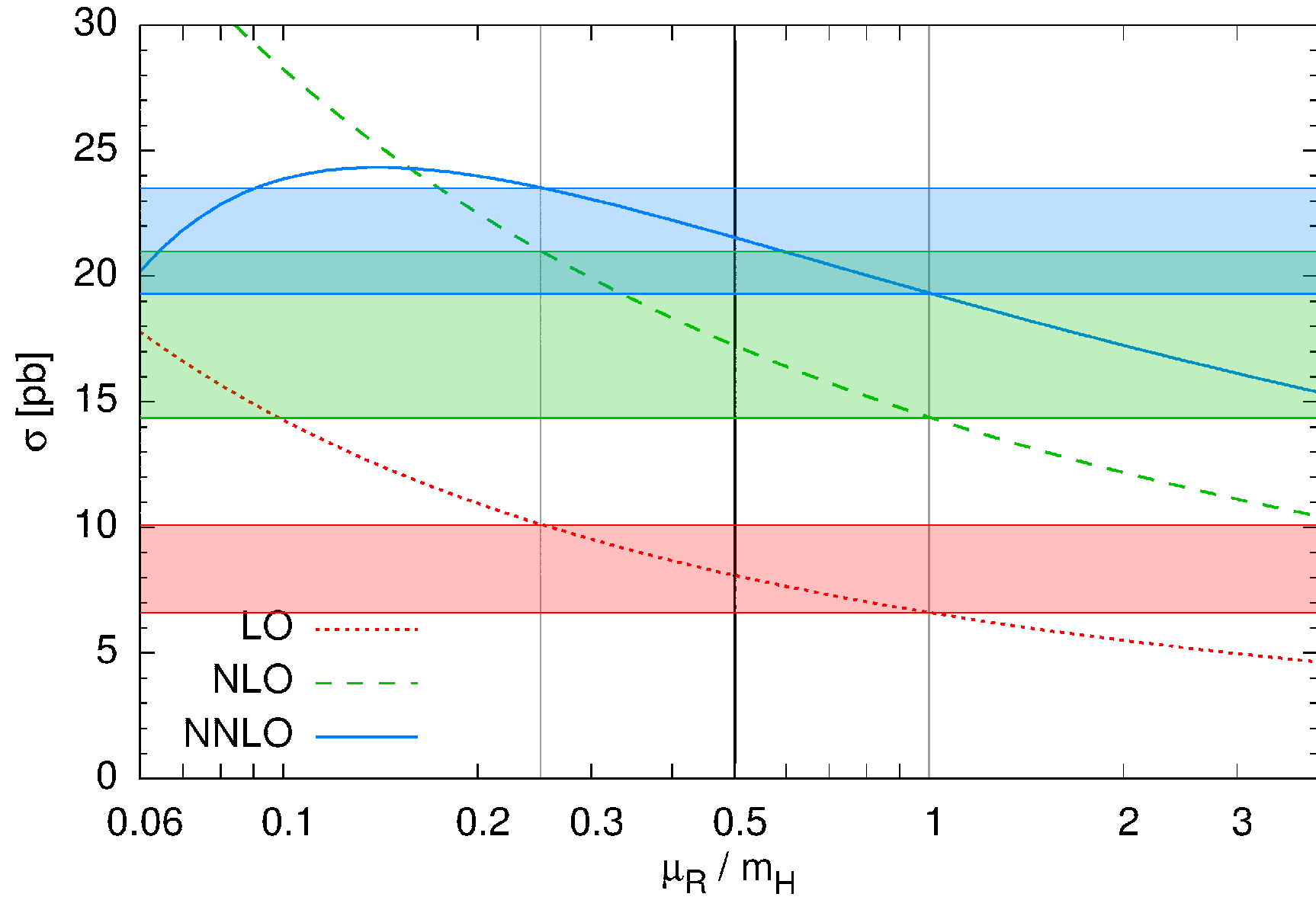
$\mu_R = m_H$   
Higgs cross section  $m_H = 125 \text{ GeV}$  @ LHC 8 TeV



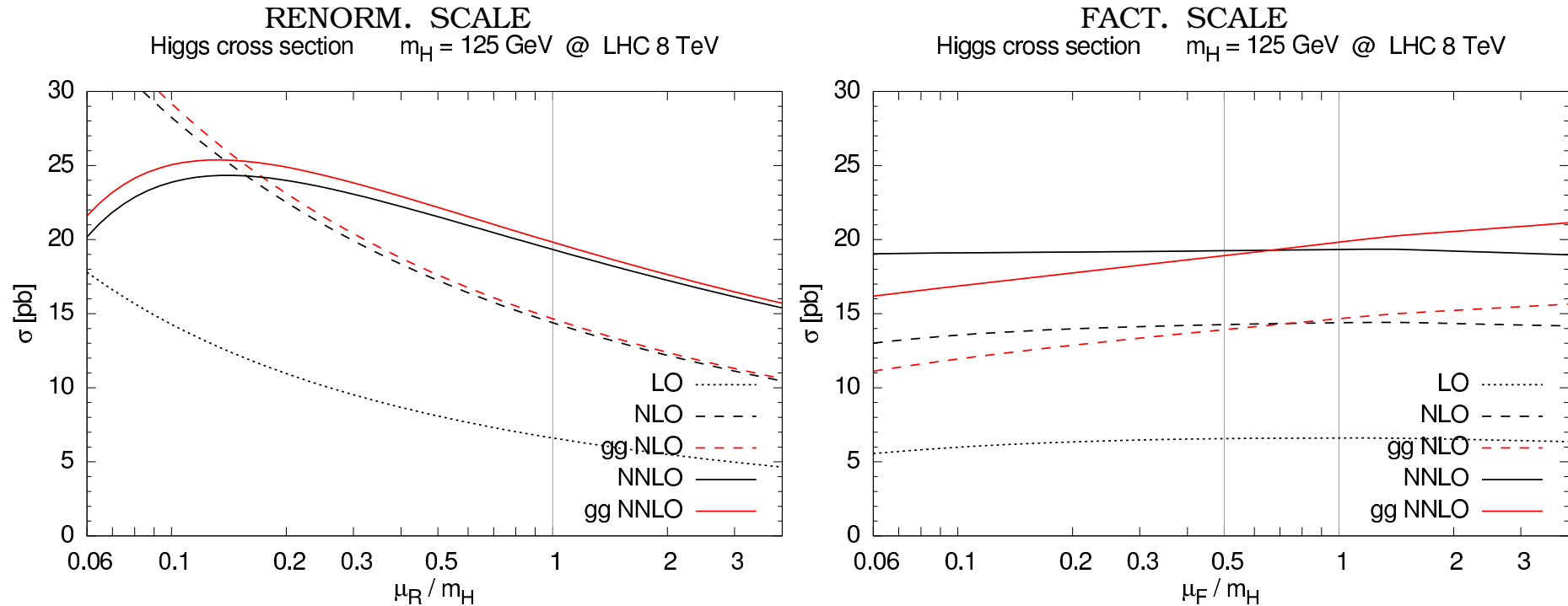
# PERTURBATIVE (IN)STABILITY

$$\mu_R = m_H/2$$

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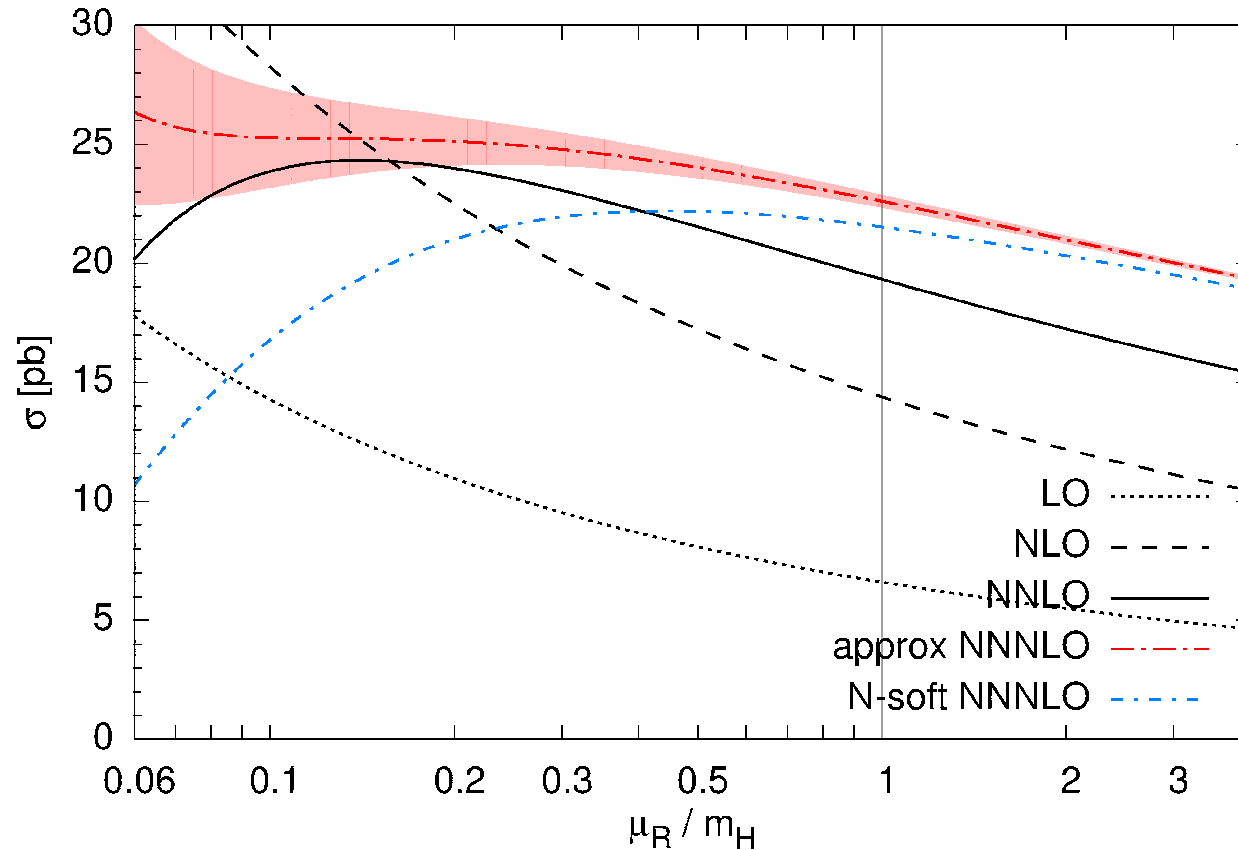
# SCALE DEPENDENCE LO, NLO AND NNLO



- **RENORMALIZATION SCALE STRONG** EVEN AT NNLO
- **FACTORIZATION SCALE WEAK** EVEN AT LO  
SIZABLE CANCELLATION BETWEEN PARTONIC CHANNELS

# THE N<sup>3</sup>LO PREDICTION SCALE DEPENDENCE

RENORMALIZATION SCALE  
Higgs cross section  $m_H = 125 \text{ GeV}$  @ LHC 8 TeV



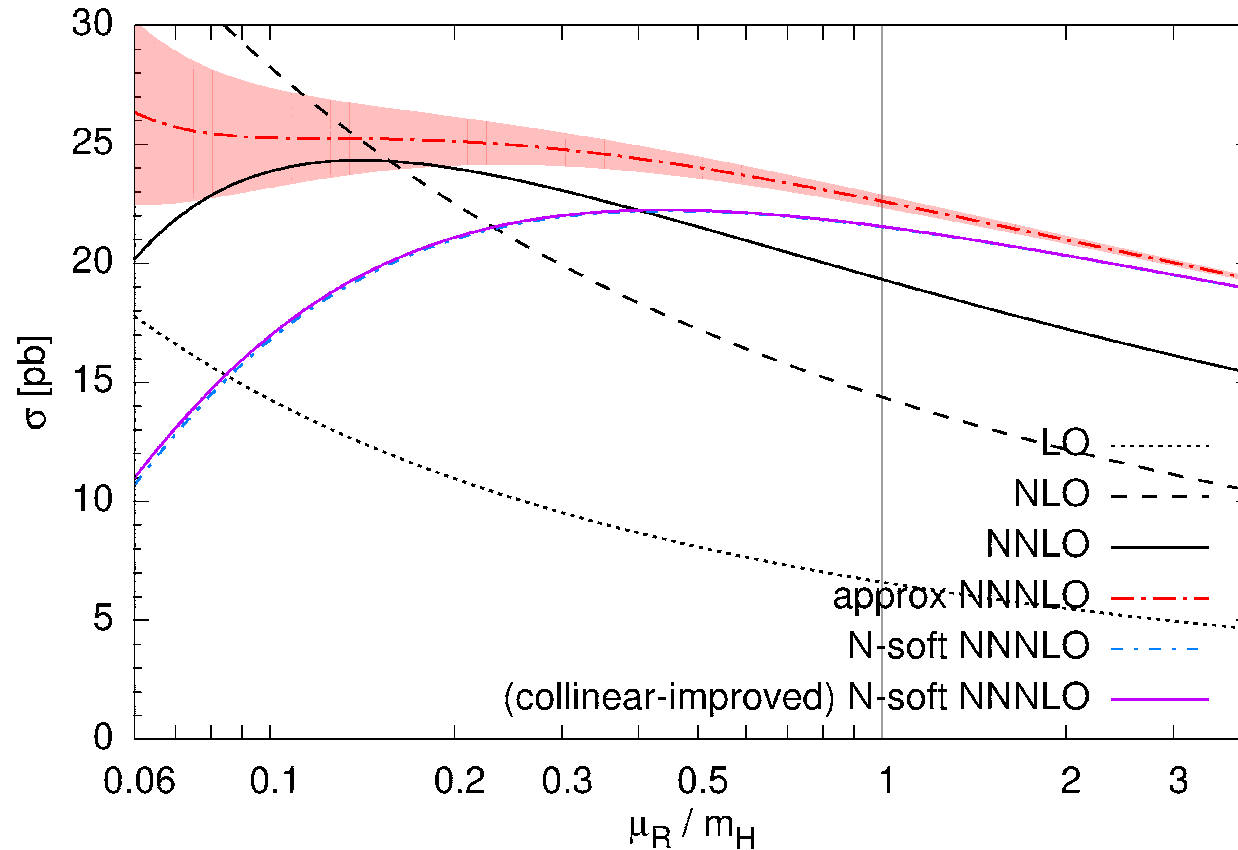
- SCALE DEPENDENCE SIGNIFICANTLY FLATTENED BY N<sup>3</sup>LO CORRECTION
- N-SOFT (RESUMMED RESULT) HAS SIMILARLY WEAK SCALE DEP. FOR HIGH SCALES, BUT STRONG SCALE DEP. FOR LOW SCALES

●

●

# THE N<sup>3</sup>LO PREDICTION SCALE DEPENDENCE

RENORMALIZATION SCALE  
Higgs cross section  $m_H = 125 \text{ GeV}$  @ LHC 8 TeV

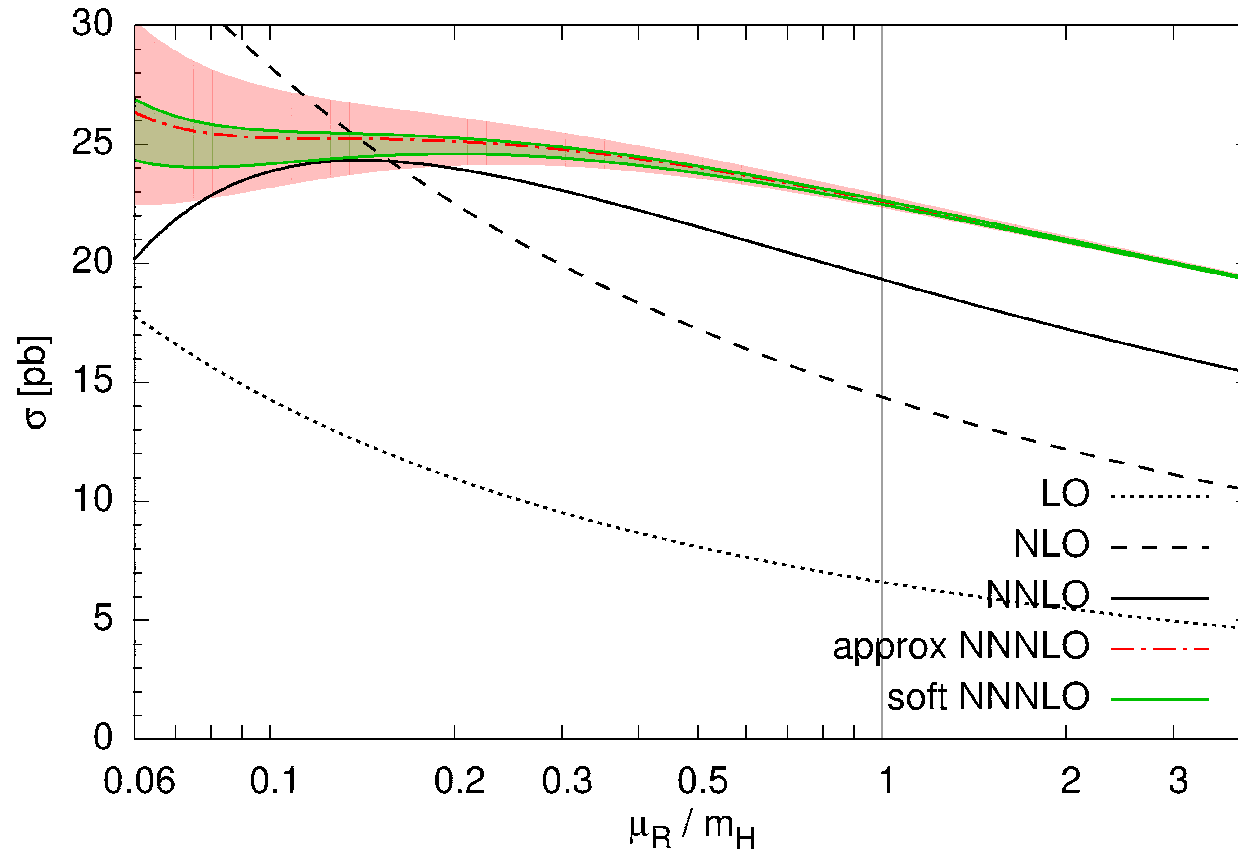


- SCALE DEPENDENCE SIGNIFICANTLY FLATTENED BY N<sup>3</sup>LO CORRECTION
- N-SOFT (RESUMMED RESULT) HAS SIMILARLY WEAK SCALE DEP. FOR HIGH SCALES, BUT STRONG SCALE DEP. FOR LOW SCALES
- PREVIOUS COLLINEAR IMPROVEMENTS (Catani, de Florian, Grazzini, Nason, 2003) INEFFECTIVE
- .



# THE N<sup>3</sup>LO PREDICTION SCALE DEPENDENCE

RENORMALIZATION SCALE  
Higgs cross section  $m_H = 125 \text{ GeV}$  @ LHC 8 TeV



- SCALE DEPENDENCE SIGNIFICANTLY FLATTENED BY N<sup>3</sup>LO CORRECTION
- *N*-SOFT (RESUMMED RESULT) HAS SIMILARLY WEAK SCALE DEP. FOR HIGH SCALES, BUT STRONG SCALE DEP. FOR LOW SCALES
- PREVIOUS COLLINEAR IMPROVEMENTS (Catani, de Florian, Grazzini, Nason, 2003) INEFFECTIVE
- SMALL  $x$  TERMS STABILIZE SCALE DEP. @ VERY LOW  $\mu_R \lesssim 0.2$

# OUTLOOK

- CAN WE DO RAPIDITY DISTRIBUTIONS?
- MIGHT OTHER PROCESSES BE OF SOME INTEREST  
(DRELL-YAN)?
- HOW WELL DOES IT WORK?

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WE'LL SOON KNOW!