

An aerial night view of Buffalo, New York, with a physics diagram overlay. The diagram features several thick, curved lines in red, orange, and yellow, representing particle paths or jets. A large, complex structure of thin yellow lines radiates from a central point, resembling a particle detector or a complex Feynman diagram. The city lights are visible in the background, and the overall color palette is dominated by blues and oranges.

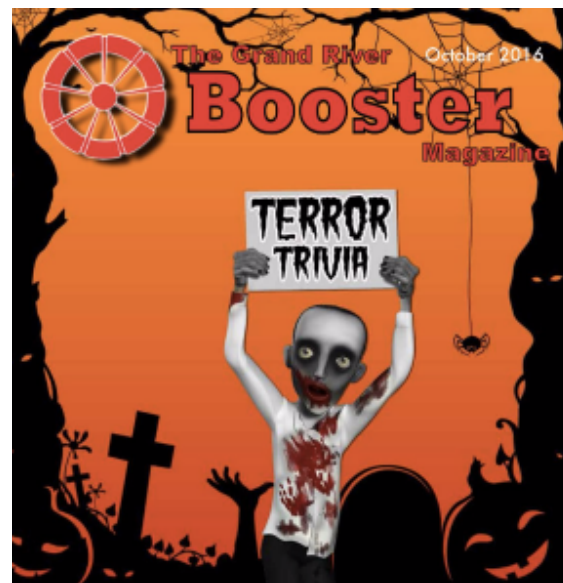
QCD at NNLO

John Campbell, Fermilab

BOOST 2017, Buffalo, July 18 2017

Personal perspective

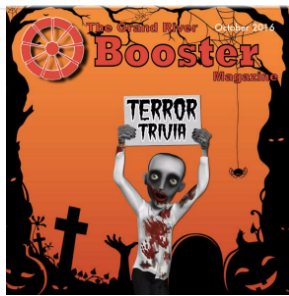
- Brief from the organizers: *“stimulate discussion on the role of higher-order corrections in the description of jet properties, perhaps in the presence of substructure algorithms”*.
- Disclaimer: I am a practitioner of higher-order corrections and have not worked on typical BOOST topics, substructure, ...
- I am using opportunity to inform myself and see what I can add.
- More generally, hope to help stimulate dialogue between **boosters** and **loopers**.



CMS inclusive $H \rightarrow bb$: a tour de force

CMS PAS HIG-17-010

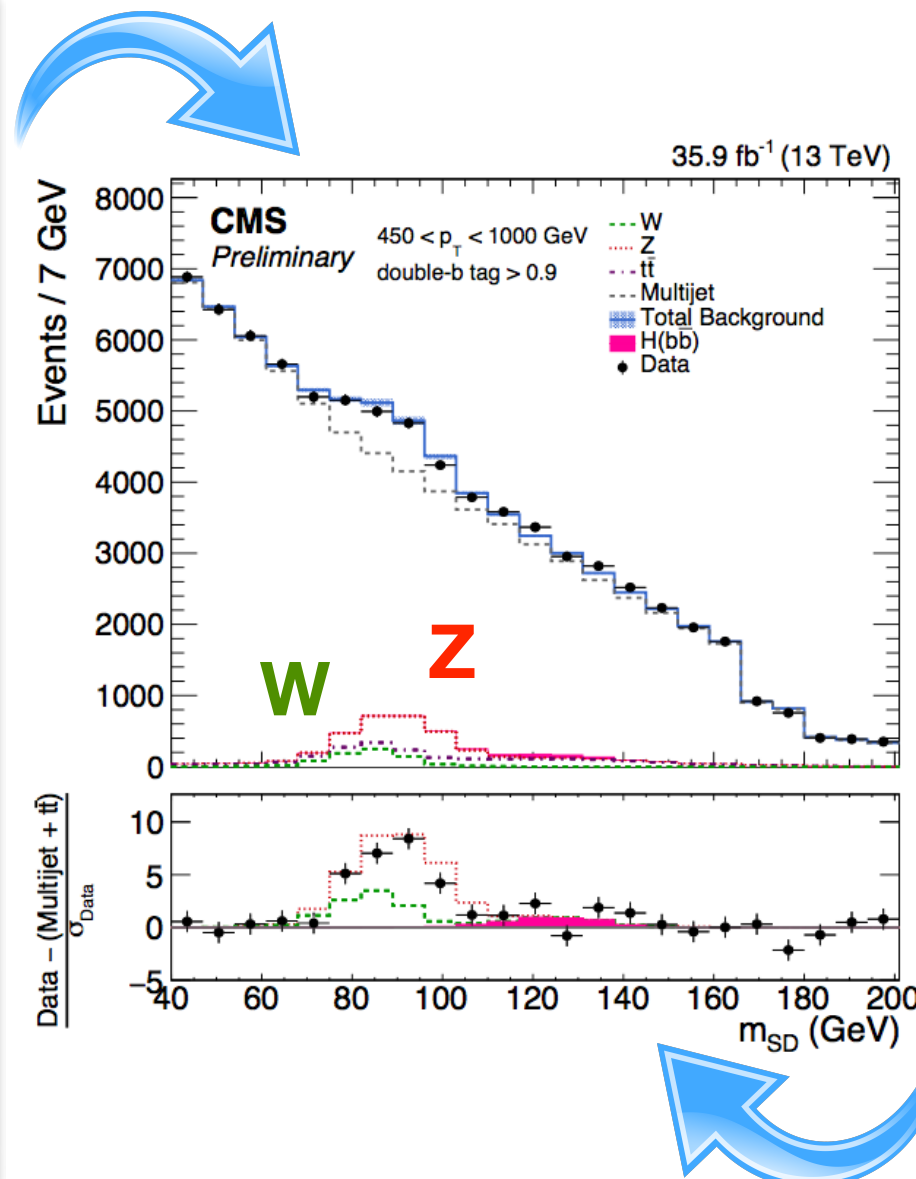
- Search for $H \rightarrow bb$ decay from Higgs boson produced at high p_T : local significance of 1.5σ .
 - Also sensitive to $Z \rightarrow bb$ decays: first observation in single-jet topology (5.1σ)!
- Exciting experimental achievement anchored by confluence of theoretical input.



jet trimming to
remove soft radiation
[Krohn, Thaler, Wang](#)

soft drop algorithm to
remove wide-angle radiation
[Dasgupta et al](#), [Larkoski et al](#)

N_2^1 variable for determining
two-prong substructure
[Moult, Necib, Thaler](#)
[Larkoski, Salam, Thaler](#)



POWHEG event
generator
[Frixione, Nason, Oleari](#)


MG: inclusion
of finite top
mass effects
[Hirschi & Mattelaer](#)

$$\text{Powheg}(1 \text{ jet } m_t \rightarrow \infty) \times \frac{\text{MG LO } 0 - 2 \text{ jet } m_t}{\text{Powheg}(1 \text{ jet } m_t \rightarrow \infty)} \times \frac{\text{NLO } 1 \text{ jet } m_t}{\text{LO } 1 \text{ jet } m_t} \times \frac{\text{NNLO } 1 \text{ jet } m_t \rightarrow \infty}{\text{NLO } 1 \text{ jet } m_t \rightarrow \infty}$$

NLO corrections
with finite m_t
[Neumann & Williams](#)

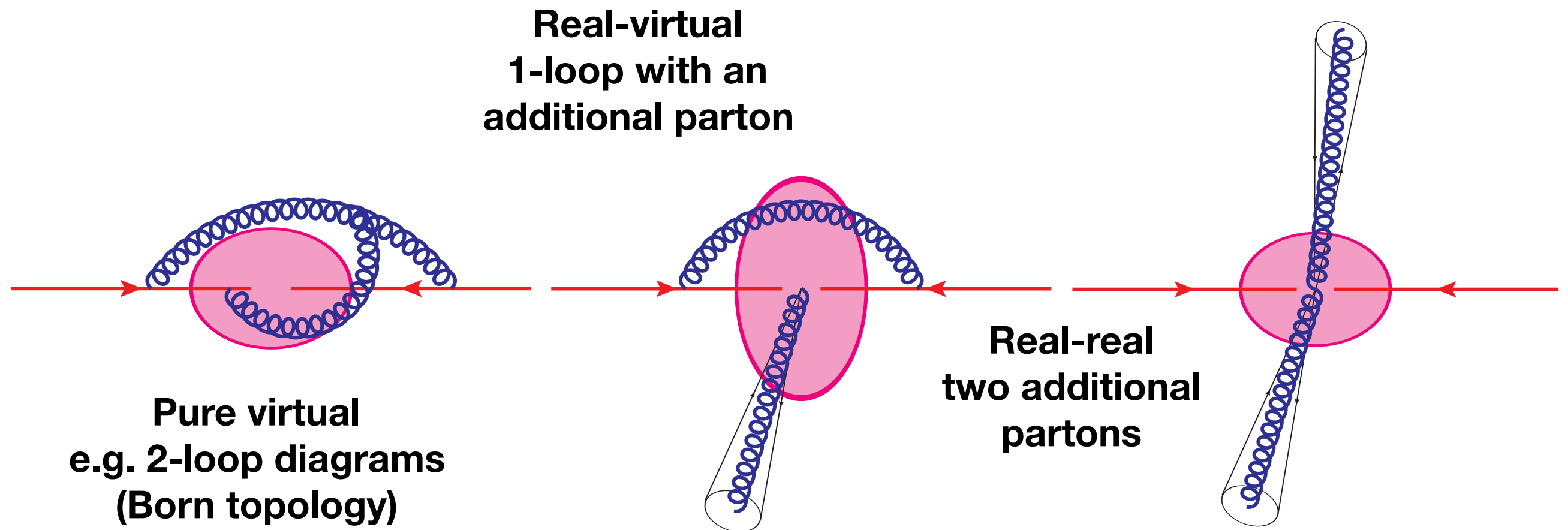
NNLO QCD
corrections
[\[refs later\]](#)

Outline



- Brief survey of NNLO calculations that have been performed.
 - most theoretical work so far has been performed using analytic techniques based on resumming large logs or parton showers.
 - as far as I am aware, no real substructure analyses using NNLO.
- Overview of results from recent “jetty” NNLO calculations.
 - in most cases, there are already many phenomenological studies.
 - rather than dwell on typical features of NNLO, highlight aspects of particular relevance for boosted applications.
- A few words about suitability of calculations for further studies and related applications.

NNLO ingredients



- Two main challenges

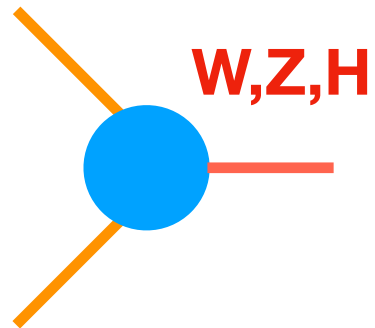
- calculation of 2-loop diagrams with multiple scales;

[for a recent overview see:
[G. Zanderighi @ EPS2017](#)]

- method for isolating singularities and cancelling between contributions.

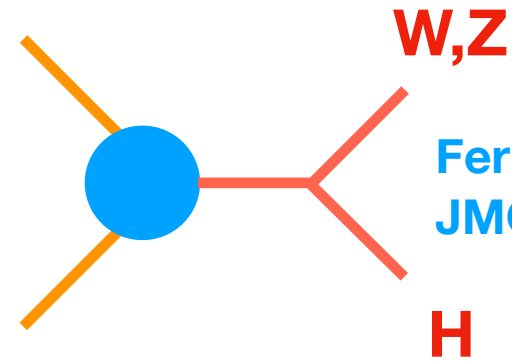
- For simplest cases (~ pre-2014) limited “jet” interest, radiation “all ISR”.

NNLO: no jets

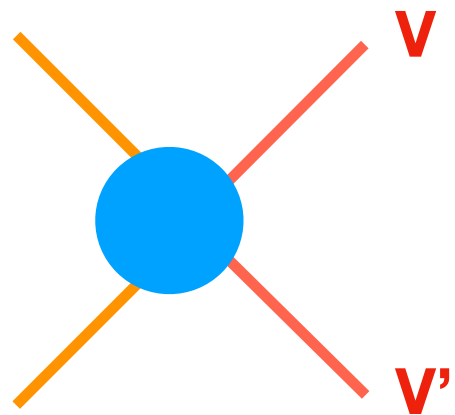


Catani et al, [arXiv:0703012](#), [arXiv:0903.2120](#)
Petriello et al, [arXiv:1201.5896](#)
Boughezal et al, [arXiv:1605.08011](#)

$N^3\text{LO}$: Anastasiou et al, [arXiv:1602.00695](#)

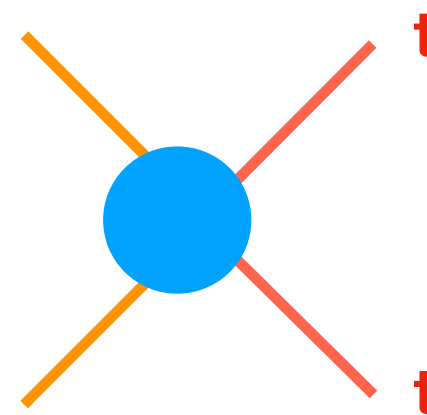


Ferrera et al, [arXiv:1705.10304](#)
JMC et al, [arXiv:1601.00658](#)



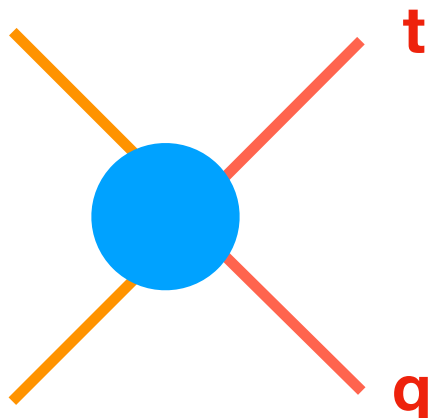
Grazzini et al, recent review:
Wiesemann et al, [Proceedings](#)

Catani et al, [arXiv:1110.2375](#)
JMC et al, [arXiv:1603.02663](#)

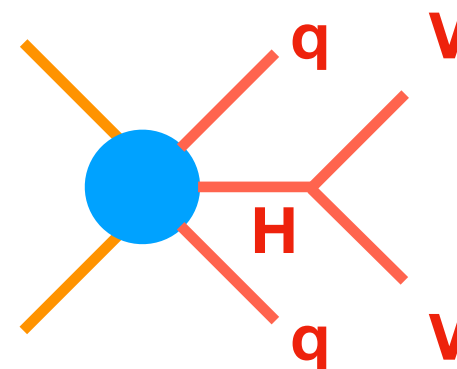


Czakon et al, recently:
[arXiv:1705.04105](#)

[see also approx.
NNLO+decay,
Gao & Papanastasiou,
[arXiv:1705.08903](#)]



t-channel single top
(structure function, no jet)
Berger et al,
[arXiv:1606.08463](#)

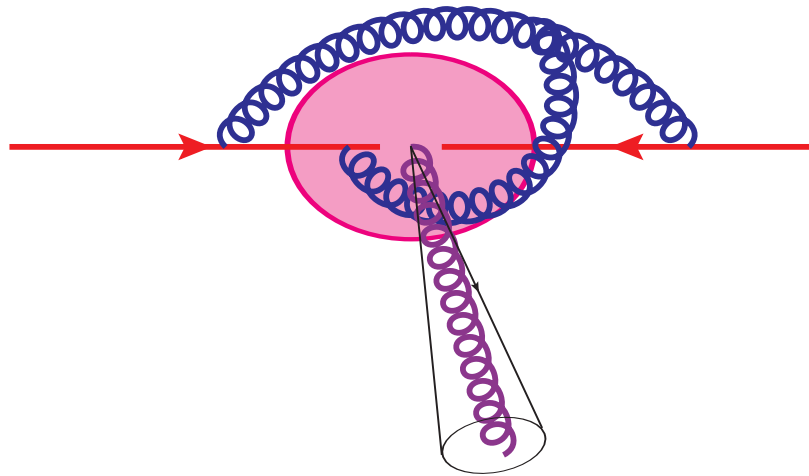


VBF (structure function, no jets)
Bolzoni et al, [arXiv:1003.4451](#)

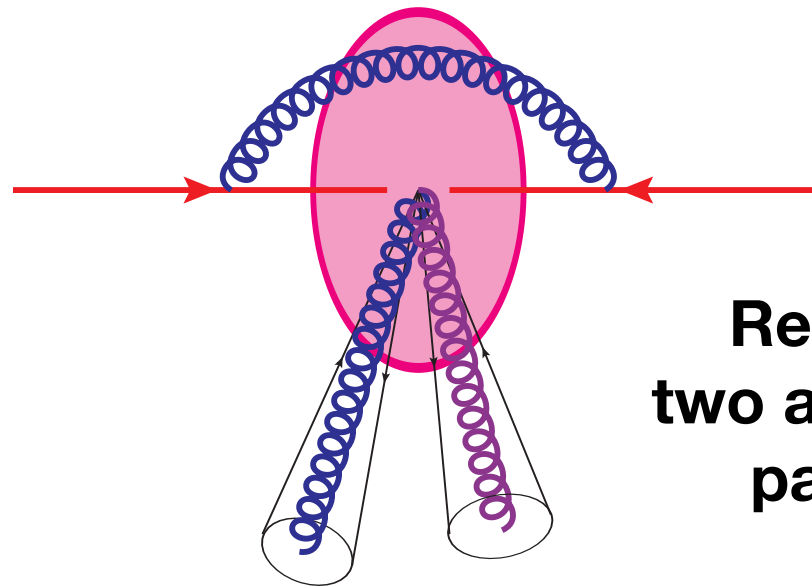
$N^3\text{LO}$: Dreyer and Karlberg,
[arXiv:1606.00840](#)

NNLO ingredients with jet(s)

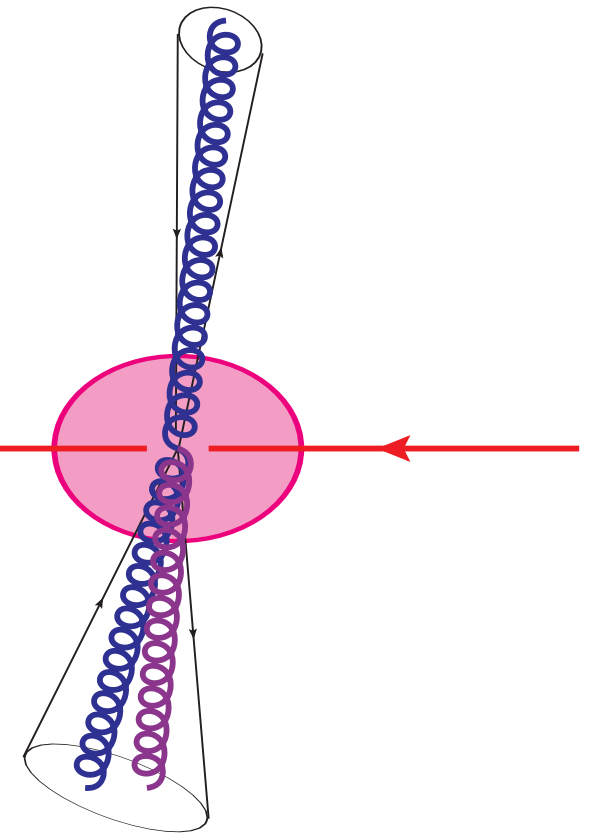
Pure virtual
e.g. 2-loop diagrams
(Born topology)



Real-virtual
1-loop with an
additional parton

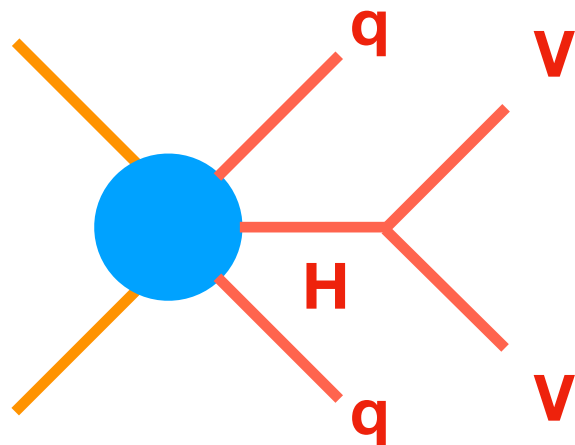


Real-real
two additional
partons



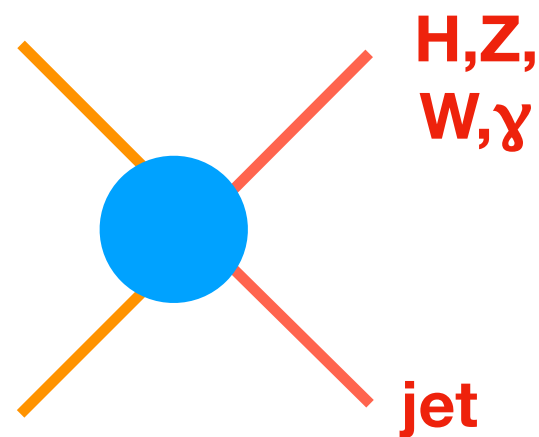
- More recently, results with jets at Born level: $X+\text{jet}$ for EW boson X , or $X=\text{jet}$.
- In addition to usual NNLO benefits of theoretical control and precision, possibility of studying:
 - systems produced at high transverse momentum.
 - jet substructure with up to 3 partons in a jet, with exact ME (e.g. wide-angle emission).
 - corrections to predictions for non-trivial jet properties, e.g. jet mass.

NNLO: jet processes



VBF differential, “projection-to-Born”
[quark jets produced via EW interactions not QCD]

Cacciari et al, [arXiv:1506.02660](https://arxiv.org/abs/1506.02660)



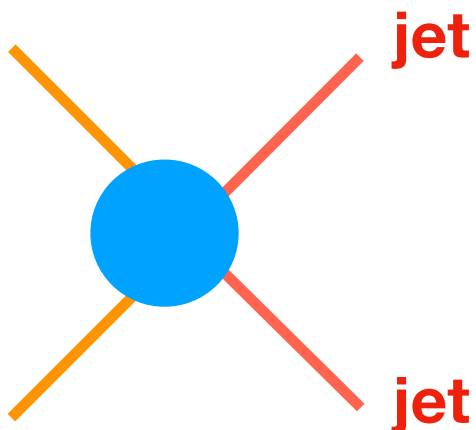
EW boson+jet

Higgs: Boughezal et al, [arXiv:1505.03893](https://arxiv.org/abs/1505.03893), [arXiv:1504.07922](https://arxiv.org/abs/1504.07922);
Caola et al, [arXiv:1508.02684](https://arxiv.org/abs/1508.02684); Chen et al, [arXiv:1607.08817](https://arxiv.org/abs/1607.08817)

Z: Gehrmann-De Ridder et al, [arXiv:1610.01843](https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.01843)
Boughezal et al, [arXiv:1602.08140](https://arxiv.org/abs/1602.08140)

W: Boughezal et al, [arXiv:1602.06965](https://arxiv.org/abs/1602.06965), [arXiv:1602.05612](https://arxiv.org/abs/1602.05612)

γ: JMC et al, [arXiv:1703.10109](https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.10109)



Inclusive jet, dijets

Currie et al, [arXiv:1611.01460](https://arxiv.org/abs/1611.01460), [arXiv:1705.10271](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.10271),
[arXiv:1705.08205](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.08205)

VH production: history

- Venerable boosted heritage for sensitivity to $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decay.

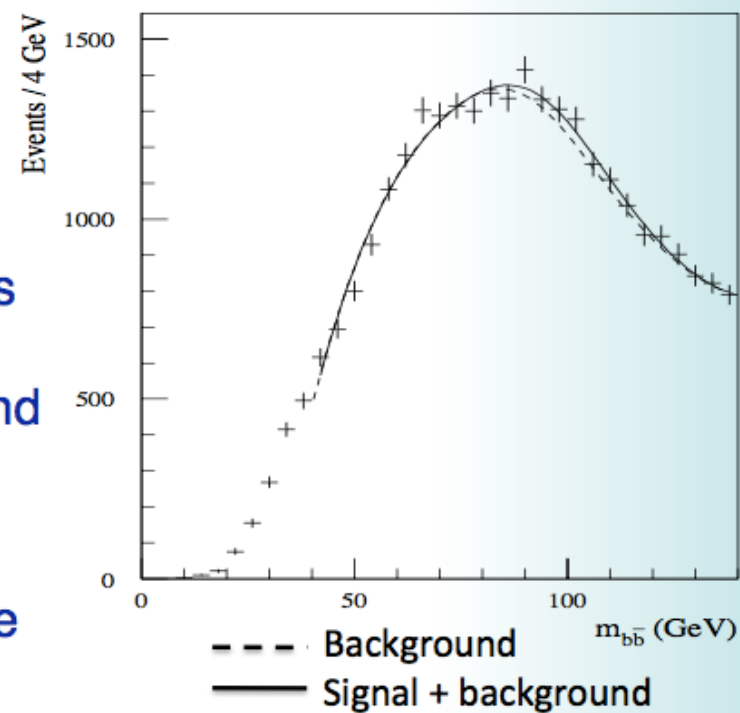
Higgs + (W or Z)

- **Example: ATLAS Physics TDR (1999)**

- Poor acceptance
- Cuts introduce artificial mass scale into the background
- Top anti-top has a similar mass scale
- Large combinatorial background

- **Signal swamped by backgrounds**

- “very difficult ... even under the most optimistic assumptions”



Butterworth, Davison, Rubin, Salam,
[arXiv:0802.2470](https://arxiv.org/abs/0802.2470)

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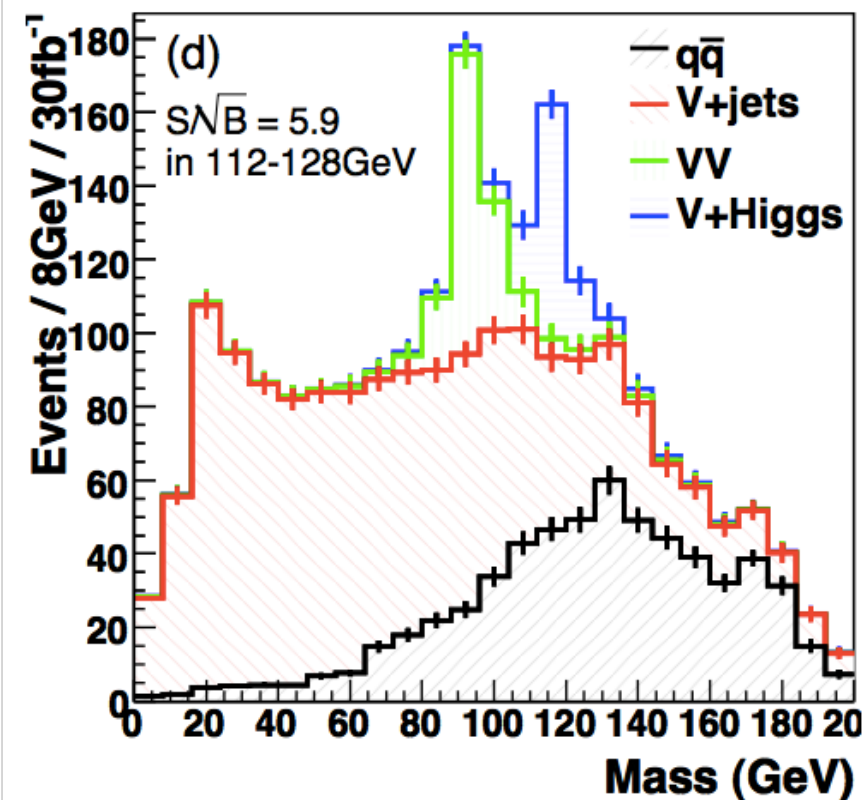
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10/7/09

JMB, Boost 2009 Stanf

Combined particle-level result



- Note excellent Z peak for calibration
- 5.9 σ ; potentially very competitive
- bb branching information critical for extracting Higgs properties
 - “Measuring the Higgs sector” Lafaye, Plehn, Rauch, D.Zerwas, Duhrssen, [arXiv:0904.3866](https://arxiv.org/abs/0904.3866) [hep-ph]
- Studies within ATLAS are promising and nearly public.

10/7/09

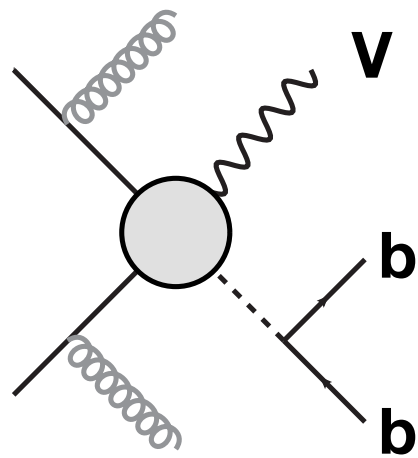
JMB, Boost 2009 Stanford

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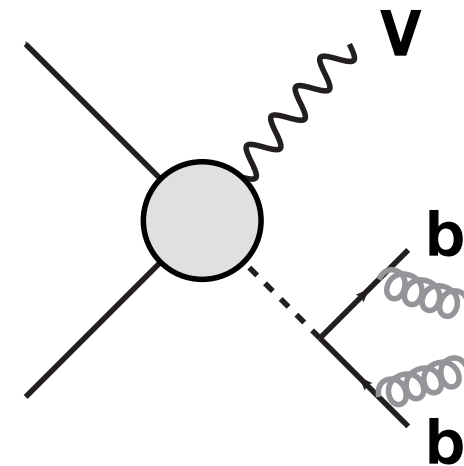
Importance of radiation in decay

- Perturbative QCD treatment should treat radiation in all parts of the process, including decay.

radiation in production



radiation in decay



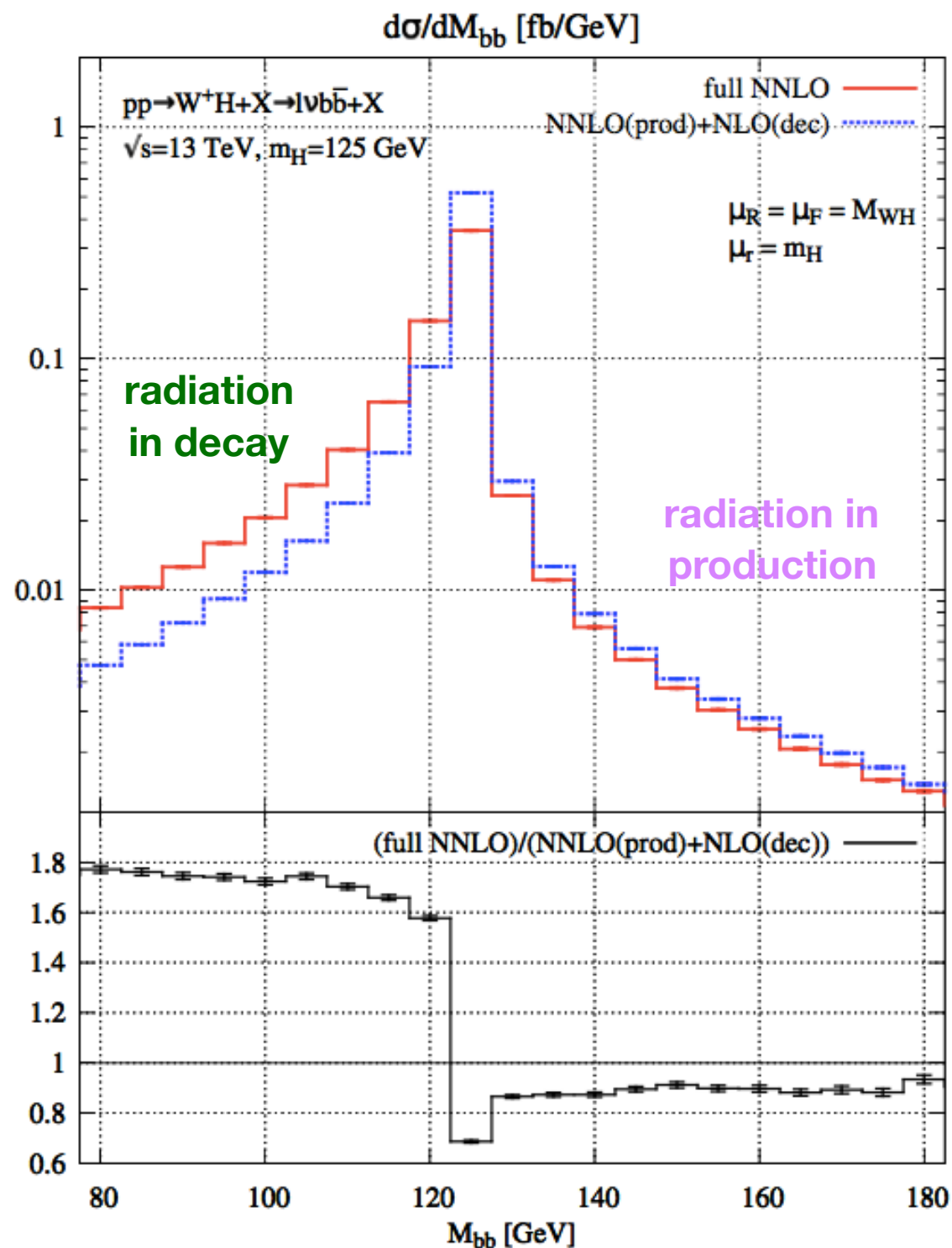
- Multiple calculations including effect of NNLO QCD in production and NLO QCD in Higgs boson decay.

[Ferrera, Grazzini, Tramontano, arXiv:1107.1164, arXiv:1312.1669, arXiv:1407.4747](#)

[JMC, Ellis, Williams, arXiv:1601.00658](#)

- radiation in decay has non-trivial effect under application of experimental cuts.
- might expect to be especially important for substructure analyses.

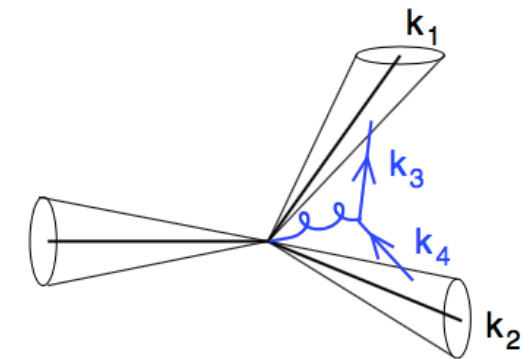
VH production in full NNLO



Ferrera, Somogyi, Tramontano, [arXiv:1705.10304](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.10304)

- New full calculation of NNLO effects in production and decay.
- Infrared safety requires use of flavor k_T algorithm to properly define b -jet at this order.

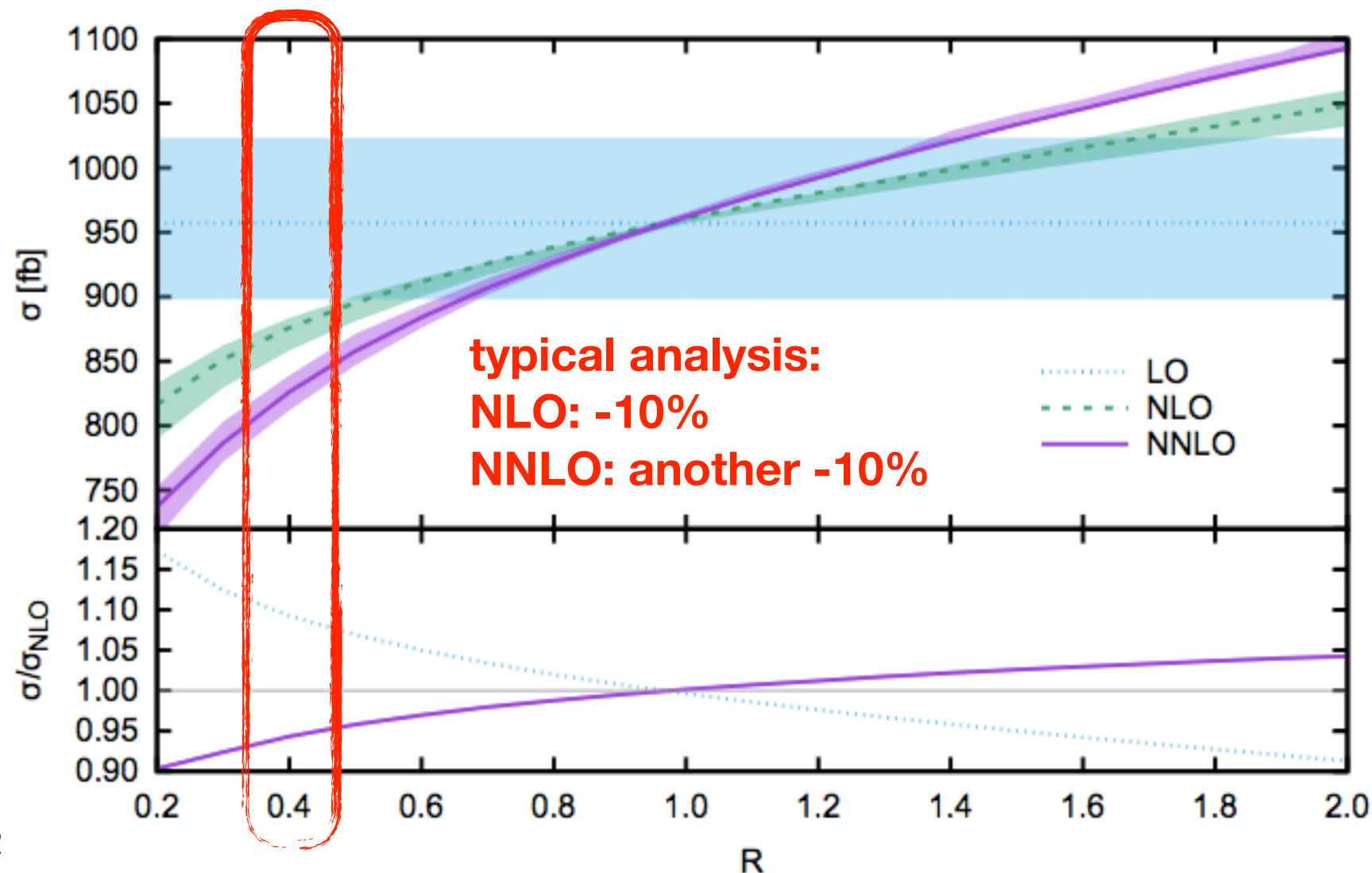
Banfi, Salam, Zanderighi, [arXiv:0601139](https://arxiv.org/abs/0601139)



- Effects of NNLO decay can be $\sim 80\%$.
- Earlier studies (NLO decay) using BDRS fat jet analysis.
 - not yet updated to NNLO.
 - no recent substructure techniques.

Properties of jets in VBF

- Differential calculation reveals larger NNLO corrections ($\sim 10\%$) than might have been expected from inclusive calculation ($\sim 2\%$). [Cacciari et al, arXiv:1506.02660](#)
- New study to examine dependence on jet definition at NNLO. [Rauch and Zeppenfeld, arXiv:1703.05676](#)



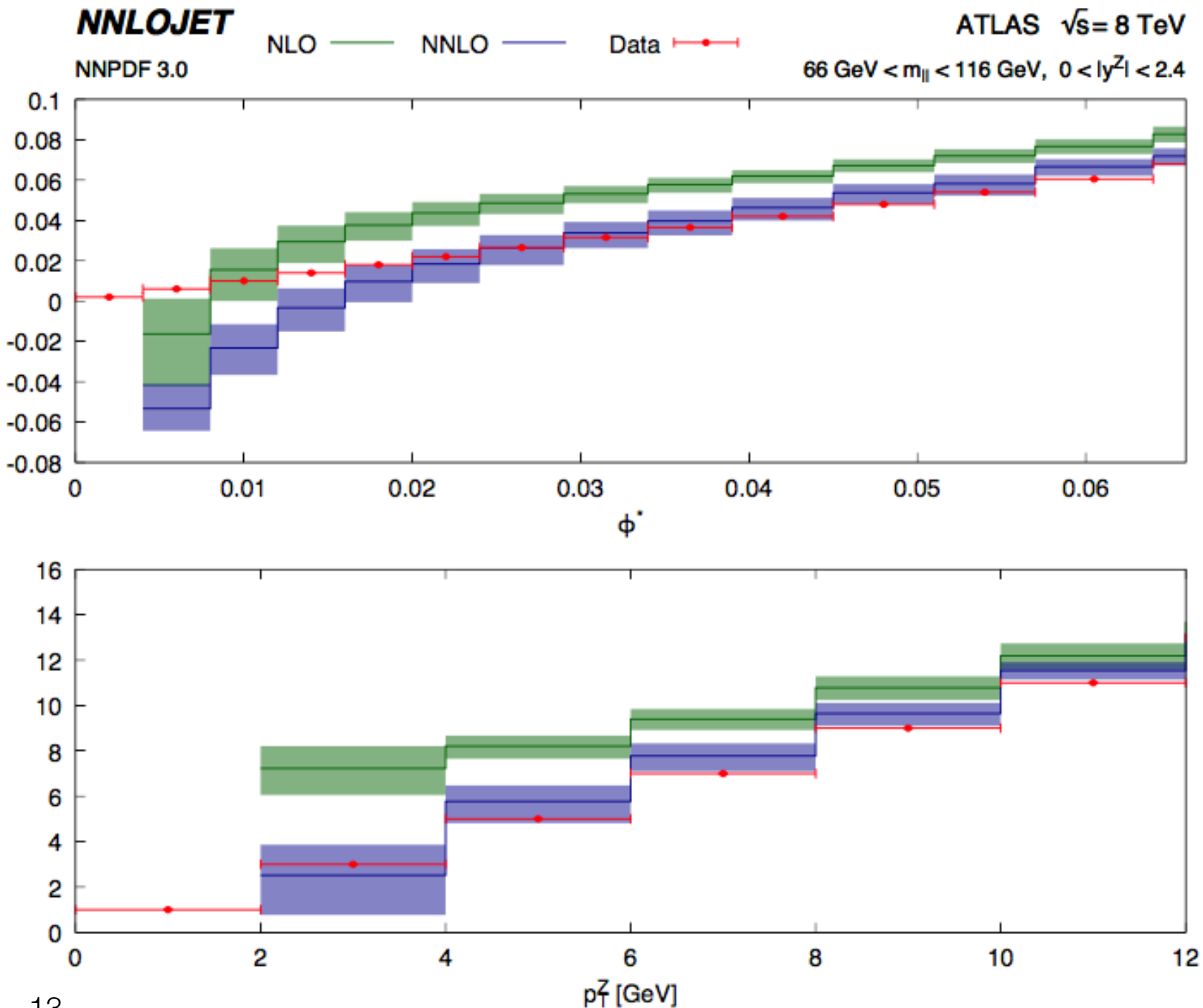
Stronger R-dependence at NNLO than at NLO

- wider energy flow within quark jets at NNLO
- larger jets capture more energy from original quark, more easily pass VBF cuts

R-dependence really only computed at NLO

Z production at low p_T

Gehrmann-De Ridder et al, [arXiv:1610.01843](https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.01843)

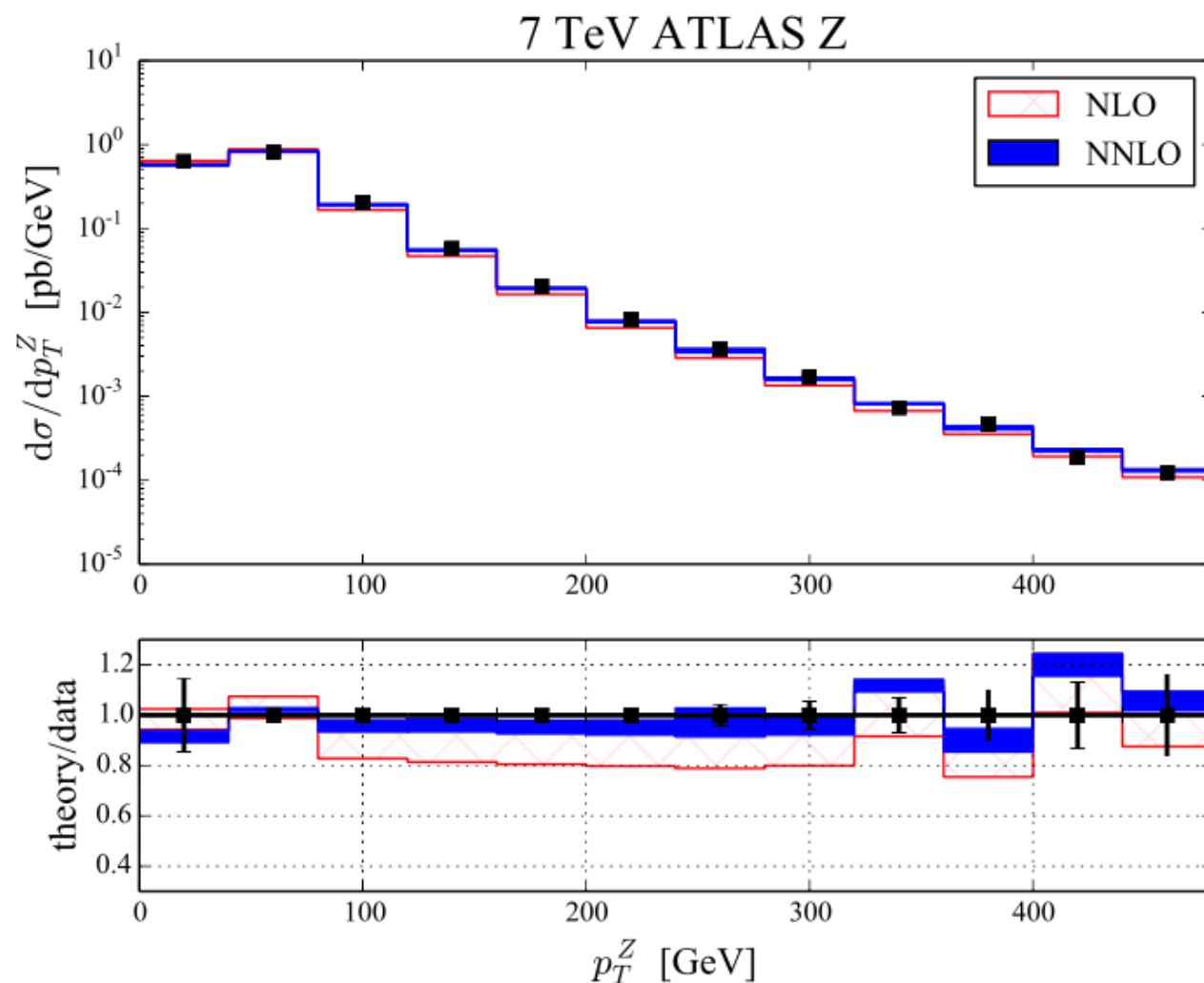


- ... with apologies for being very un-BOOST-y!
- Improved description at small $p_T(Z)$, between 4 and 20 GeV.
 - Range of fixed-order validity extended at NNLO, into traditional "resummation zone".
- Note: alternative angular variable (ϕ^*) measured directly from lepton directions to minimize experimental uncertainty, $p_T(Z) \sim 2m_{\parallel} \phi^*$
[Banfi et al, arXiv:1009.1580](https://arxiv.org/abs/1009.1580)

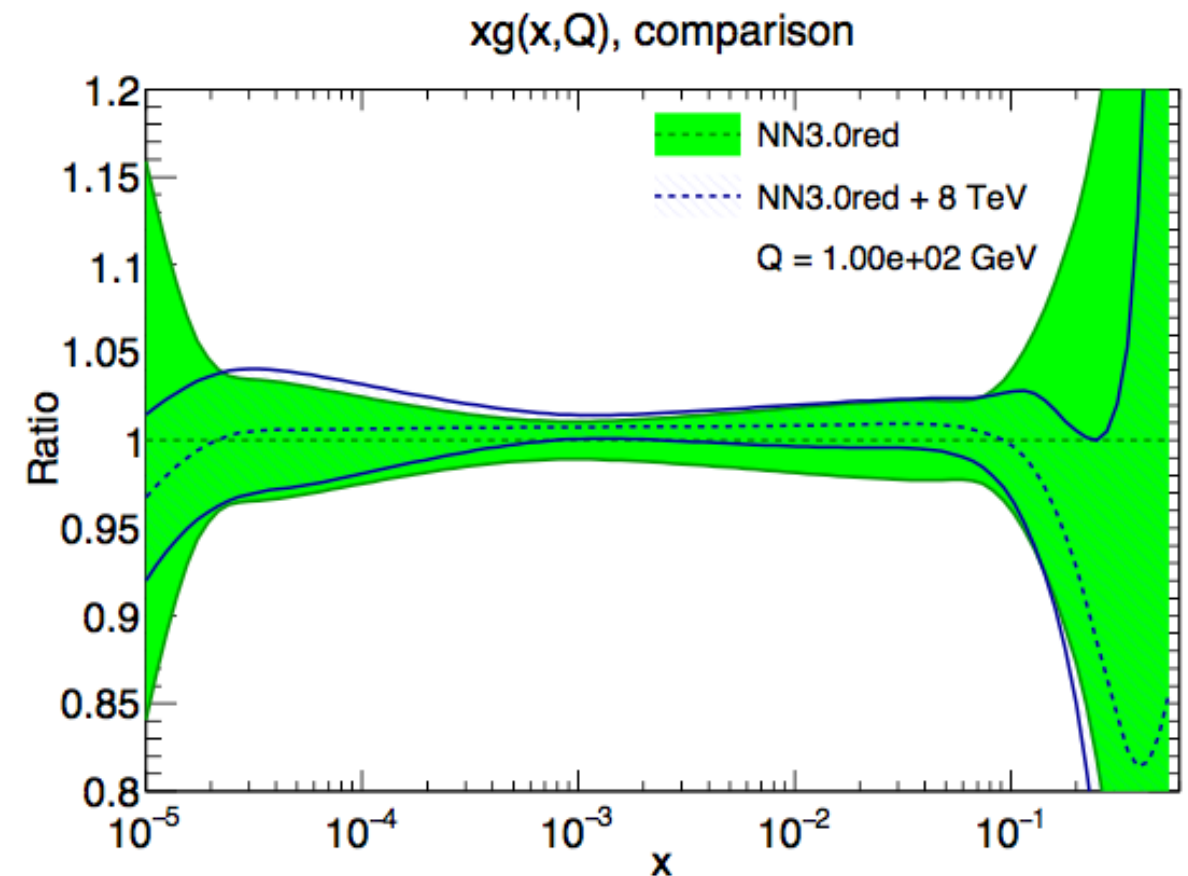
... and at moderate p_T

Gehrmann-De Ridder et al, [arXiv:1507.02850](https://arxiv.org/abs/1507.02850); Boughezal et al, [arXiv:1512.01291](https://arxiv.org/abs/1512.01291);...

- Normalized $p_T(Z)$ distribution well-described at NNLO at moderate transverse momentum.
 - can be used to reduce PDF uncertainties using global fit including LHC Run 1 data.



Boughezal et al, [arXiv:1705.00343](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.00343)



Boughezal et al, [arXiv:1602.05612](https://arxiv.org/abs/1602.05612)

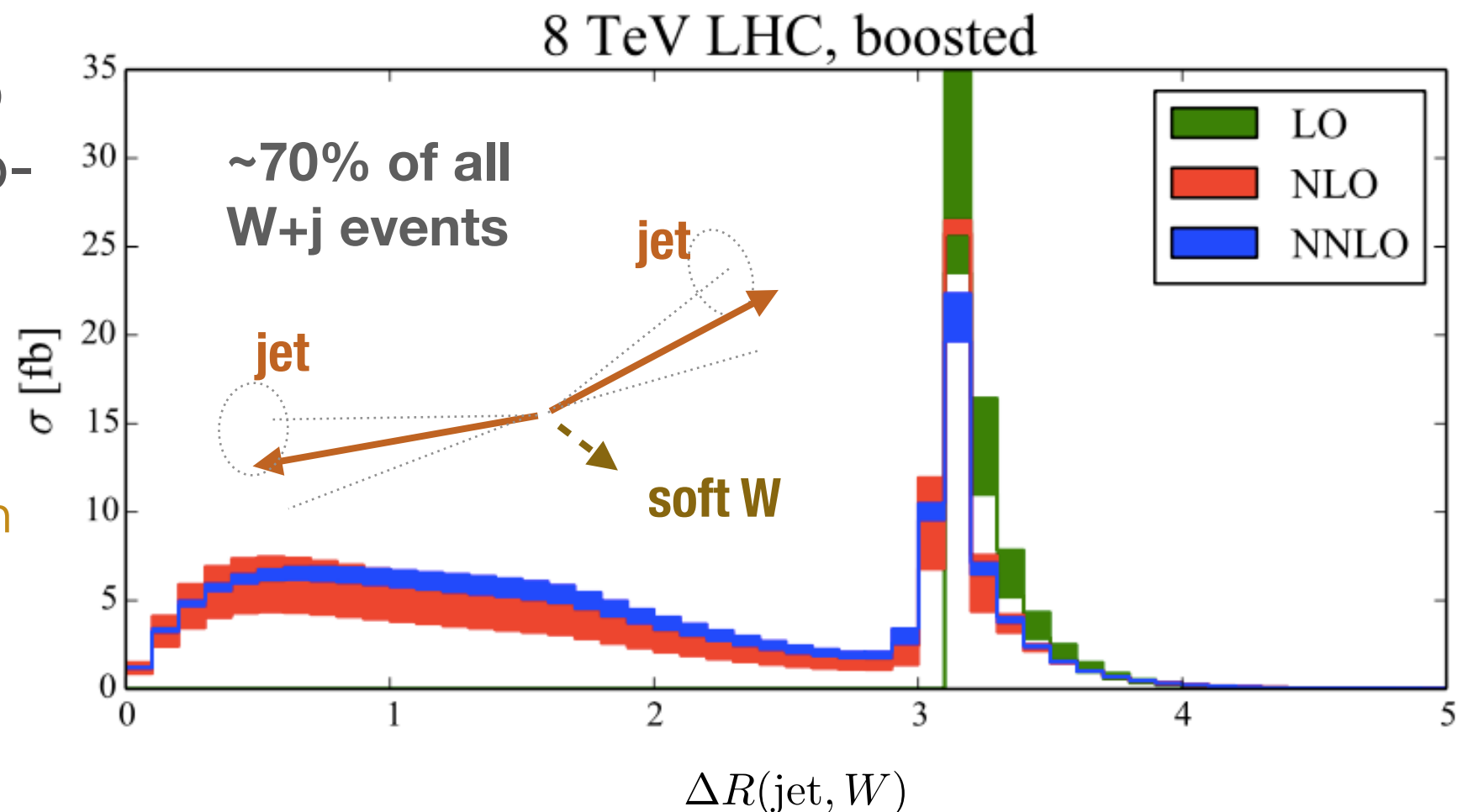
(see also: Boughezal et al, [arXiv:1602.08140](https://arxiv.org/abs/1602.08140), [arXiv:1705.00343](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.00343); ...)

W production at high p_T

Boughezal et al, [arXiv:1504.02131](https://arxiv.org/abs/1504.02131), [arXiv:1602.06965](https://arxiv.org/abs/1602.06965)

- Study of NNLO correction under boosted selection:
- Large NLO corrections ($\sim 300\%$) due to new topology in which two jets produced back-to-back, with soft or collinear W-boson (“giant K-factor”)
 - stabilized by inclusion of NNLO ($\sim 15\%$ correction, $\sim 5\%$ uncertainty).

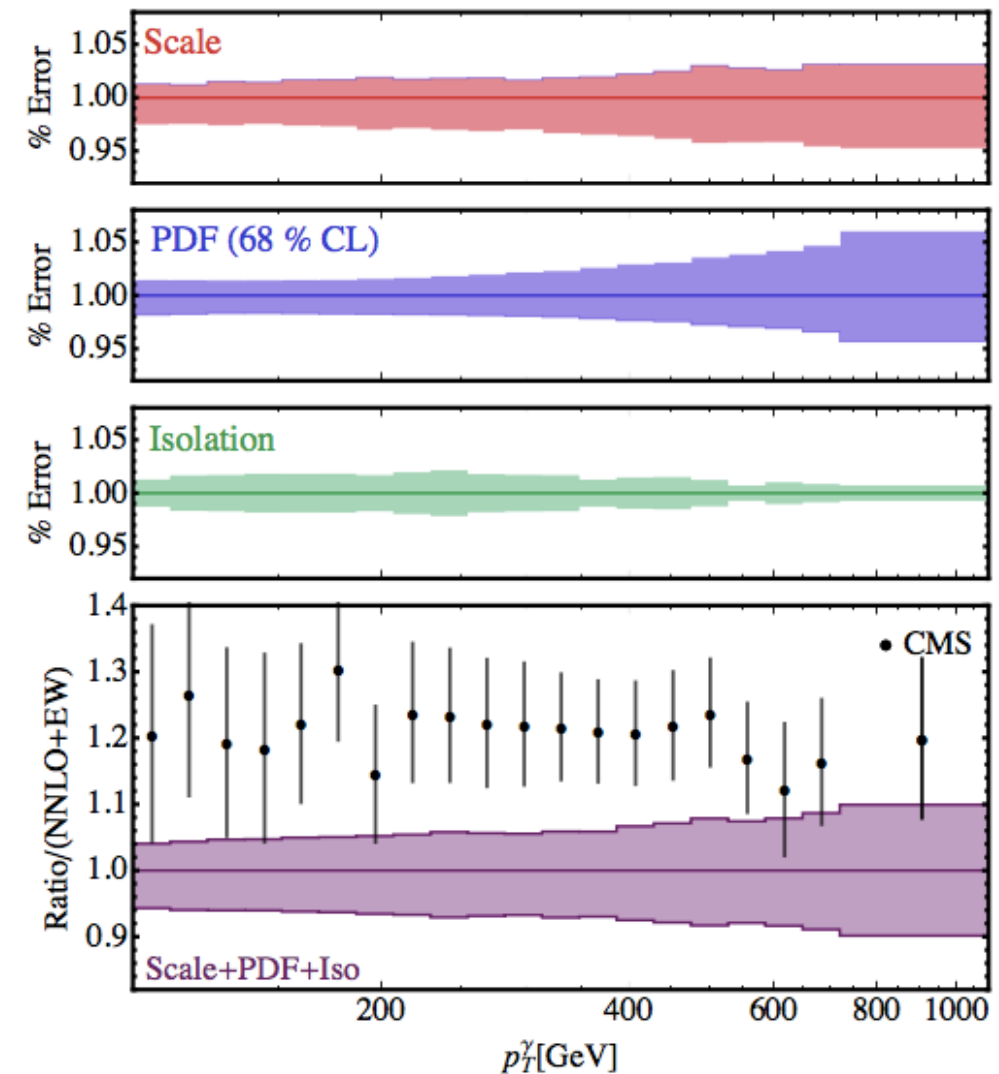
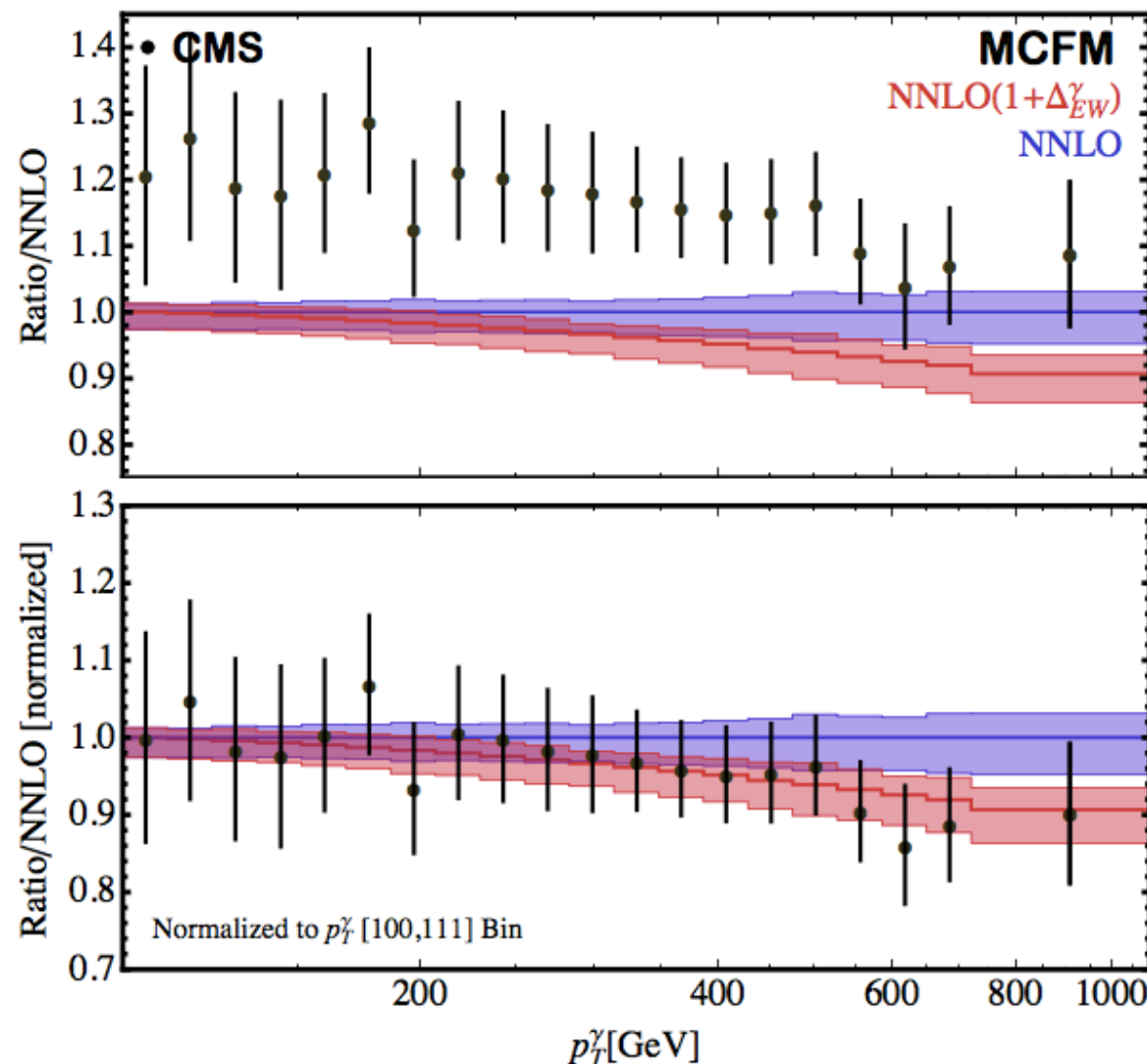
$$p_T^J > 100 \text{ GeV}, \quad |\eta^J| < 2.1, \quad p_T^{J_1} > 500 \text{ GeV}, \\ p_T^{lep} > 25 \text{ GeV}, \quad |\eta^{lep}| < 2.5.$$



High p_T photons

JMC, Ellis, Williams, [arXiv:1612.04333](https://arxiv.org/abs/1612.04333), [arXiv:1703.10109](https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.10109)

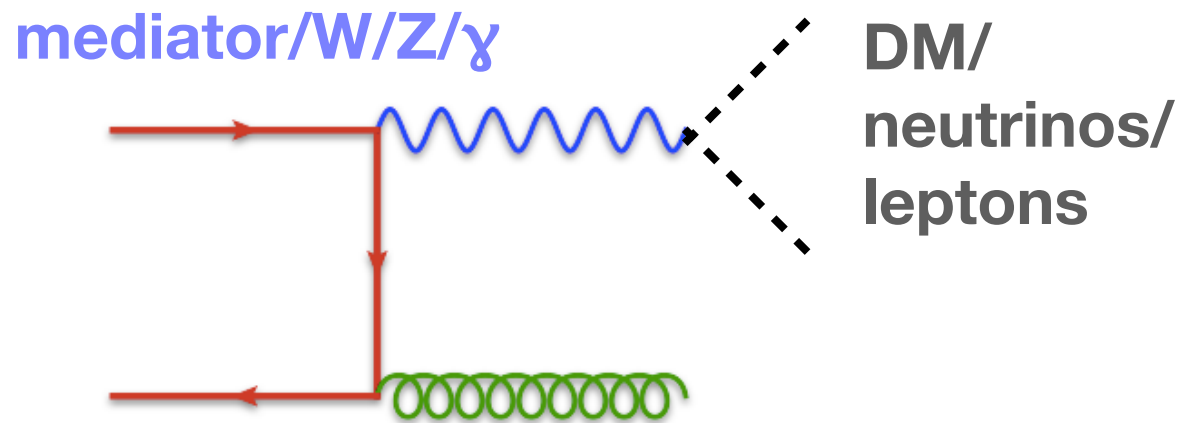
- Good agreement with shape of 8 TeV CMS data, especially after inclusion of suppression from EW Sudakov at high p_T .
- Tension with overall normalization, even after careful error budget.
Missing systematic effect in theory, experiment or both?



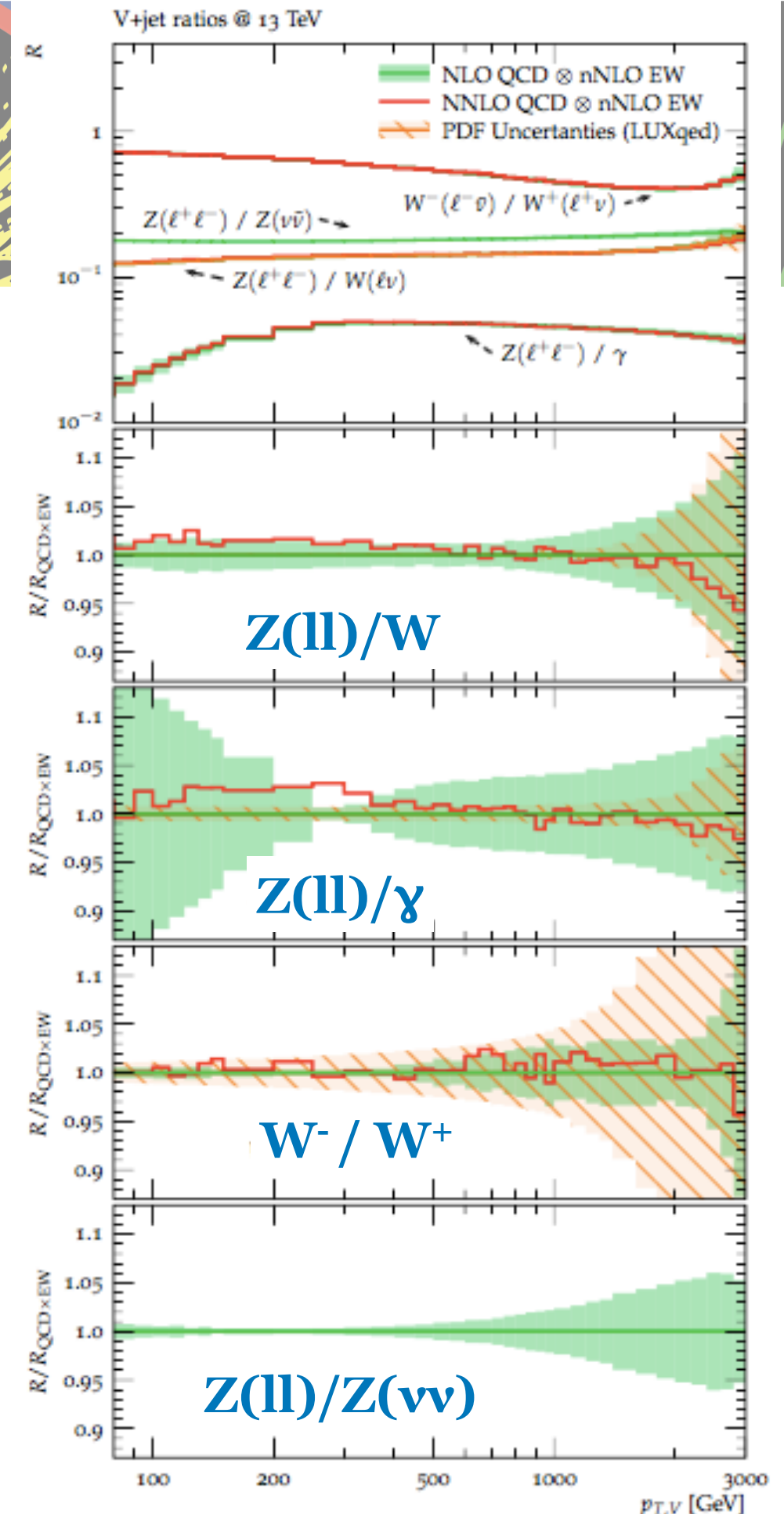
V+jet predictions for DM searches

Lindert, Pozzorini et al, [arXiv:1705.04664](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.04664)

- Aim for precise predictions for leading background to MET+jet searches, $Z(\rightarrow \nu\nu)+\text{jet}$.



- Calibrate through visible decays of Z or W, or γ , + jet events.
- State-of-the-art NNLO QCD + NLO EW.
- After inclusion of NNLO QCD, leading theoretical uncertainty due to pdfs.
 - still very small in ratios, typically $<5\%$ up to 2 TeV.



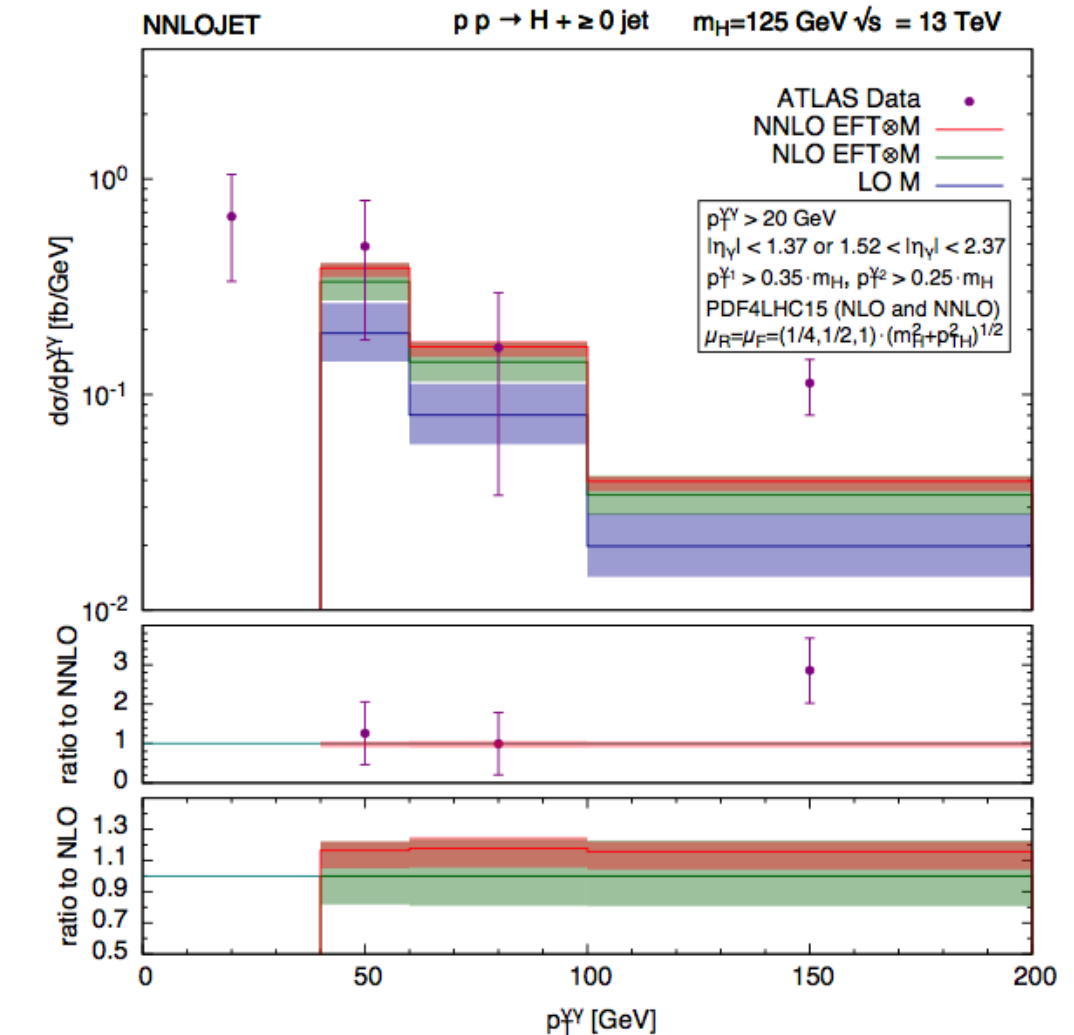
Higgs+jet: limitations of NNLO

Chen et al, [arXiv:1408.5325](https://arxiv.org/abs/1408.5325); Boughezal et al, [arXiv:1505.03893](https://arxiv.org/abs/1505.03893), [arXiv:1504.07922](https://arxiv.org/abs/1504.07922); Caola et al, [arXiv:1508.02684](https://arxiv.org/abs/1508.02684); ...

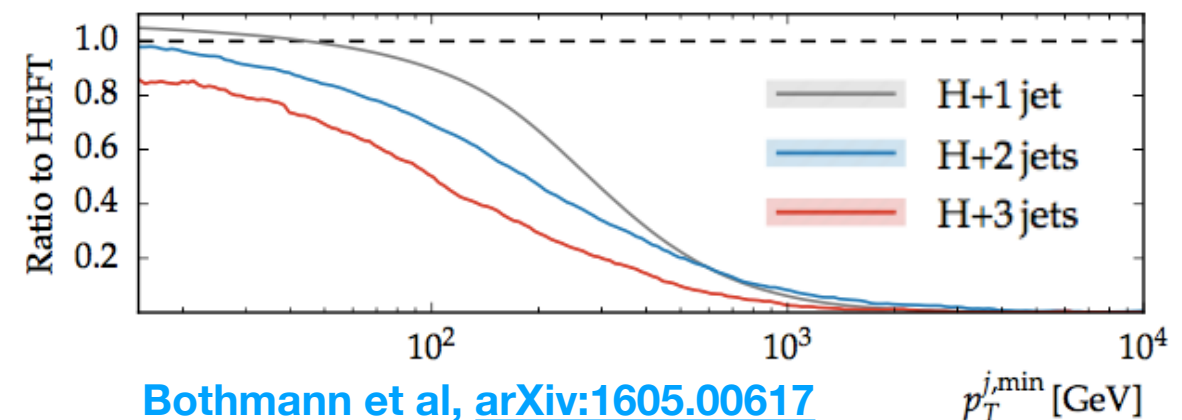
- Sensitive to fact that ggH coupling is not pointlike but can be resolved for Higgs $p_T > m_T$ (finite top mass).
- NNLO in hand from multiple groups.
- Limited differential information so far, from diphoton and ZZ decays of Higgs boson.
- Would benefit greatly from additional statistics, e.g. from boosted analysis of hadronic decay channels.

- State-of-the-art in boosted region is a combination of NNLO pointlike ggH and approximate NLO with finite m_t .

Neumann, Williams, [arXiv:1609.00367](https://arxiv.org/abs/1609.00367)



Chen et al, [arXiv:1607.08817](https://arxiv.org/abs/1607.08817)



Bothmann et al, [arXiv:1605.00617](https://arxiv.org/abs/1605.00617)

$p_T^{j,\min}$ [GeV]

Dijet observables at NNLO

Currie et al, [arXiv:1611.01460](https://arxiv.org/abs/1611.01460), [arXiv:1705.10271](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.10271), [arXiv:1705.08205](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.08205)

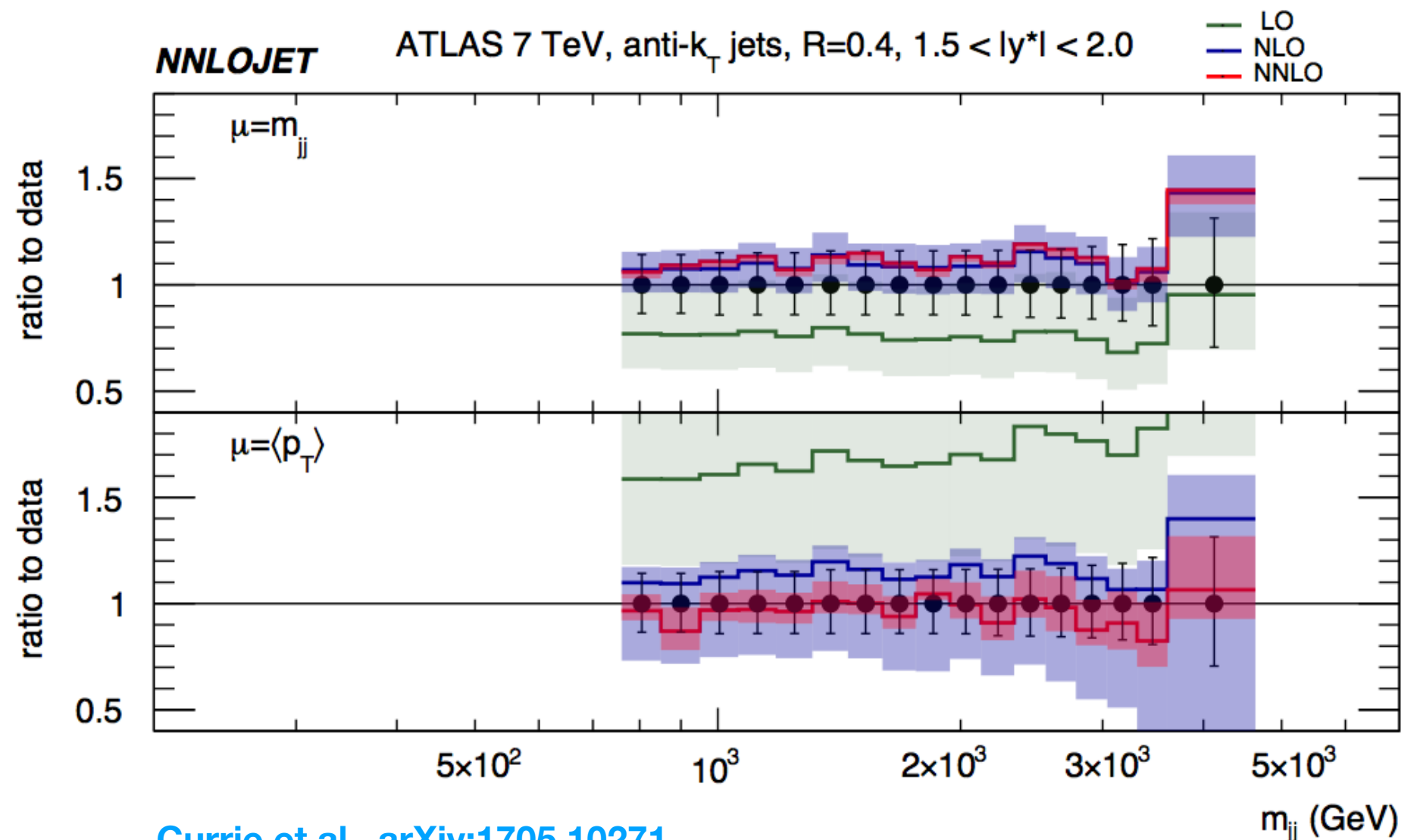
- First calculation of key observables at NNLO: dijet mass and rapidity difference.
- Yields information on convergence of perturbative series and optimal scale choice.

$\mu=m_{jj}$ (not widely used)

- overlapping uncertainty bands at each order
- good convergence and description of data

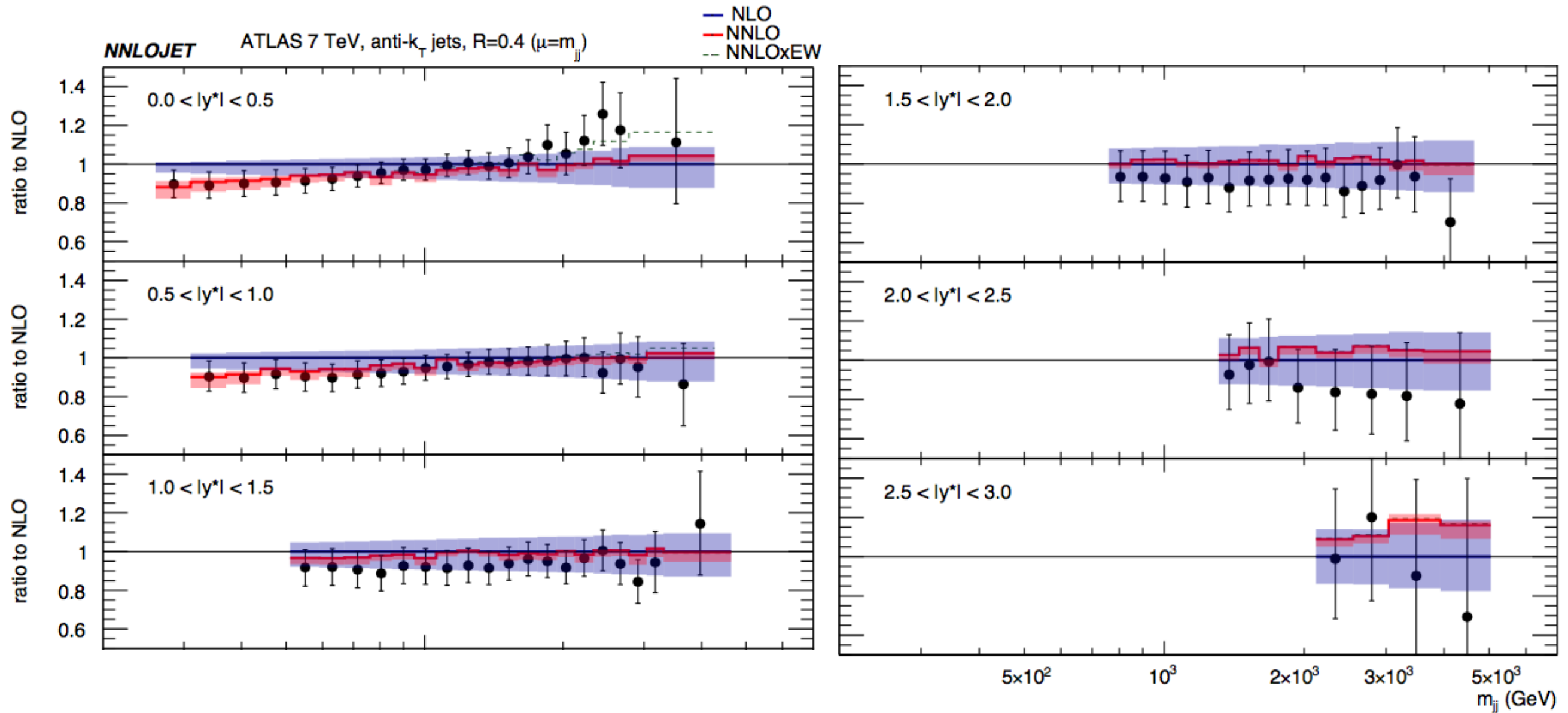
$\mu=\langle p_T \rangle$: (used by CMS, previously D0)

- large corrections at each order
- unphysical behavior
- significant residual uncertainty



Currie et al, [arXiv:1705.10271](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.10271)

Dijet invariant mass at NNLO



- Excellent agreement in all rapidity-separation bins and across range of m_{jj}
- Corrections outside NLO uncertainty at small $|y^*|$ and m_{jj} understood

Jet production outlook

- Prime arena in which to study jet properties:
 - wealth of excellent experimental data.
 - multiple jets at Born level.
 - NNLO calculation in hand and already validated across wide range of kinematics (both inclusive and dijet).
 - Should be ready for analysis of jet properties.
- “On the to-do list” and no particular issues anticipated.

Theoretical applications

- Higher-order calculations implicitly include terms that may be useful to extract for other applications, e.g. coefficients of logarithms or finite terms for matching.
- Example: matching to NNLO soft-drop groomed two-point energy correlation function (e_2) in $e^+e^- \rightarrow$ dijets and $pp \rightarrow Z+j$.
[Frye, Larkoski, Schwartz and Yan, arXiv:1603.09338](#)
 - incredibly computationally demanding (highly singular and complicated phase-space, fine binning required).
 - leverages techniques developed for NNLO: efficient, multi-core computations, similar phase-space sampling requirements.
- This study performed “after market” — would be useful to include suitable tools in-situ.

Outlook

- The most interesting NNLO codes for BOOST (i.e. with jets) are still private.
 - demanding computing requirements – multi-core, multi-thread, long run-times.
 - some bespoke elements – e.g. choice of slicing parameter that regularizes singularities, cross-checks that code is working as intended.
 - as far as I am aware, no applications to heavy ions program.
- Could be extra complications ...
 - implementation of substructure analyses in principle “easy”.
 - computing jet properties and substructure observables should probe deeper infrared regions where phase space generation and/or numerical precision requires further work.
 - “language barrier” may be best overcome by direct collaboration.