

# Recent developments in QCD

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# QCD

- an unbroken **Yang-Mills** gauge field theory featuring **asymptotic freedom** and confinement
- in non-perturbative regime (low  $Q^2$ ) many approaches: lattice, Regge theory,  $\chi$  PT, large  $N_c$ , **HQET**
- in perturbative regime (high  $Q^2$ ) **QCD** is a precision toolkit for exploring **Higgs** & **BSM** physics

# QCD at LHC

Precise determination of

- strong coupling constant  $\alpha_s$
- parton distributions
- LHC parton luminosity

Precise prediction for

- Higgs production
- new physics processes
- their backgrounds

**Goal:** to make theoretical predictions of signals and backgrounds as accurate as the LHC data

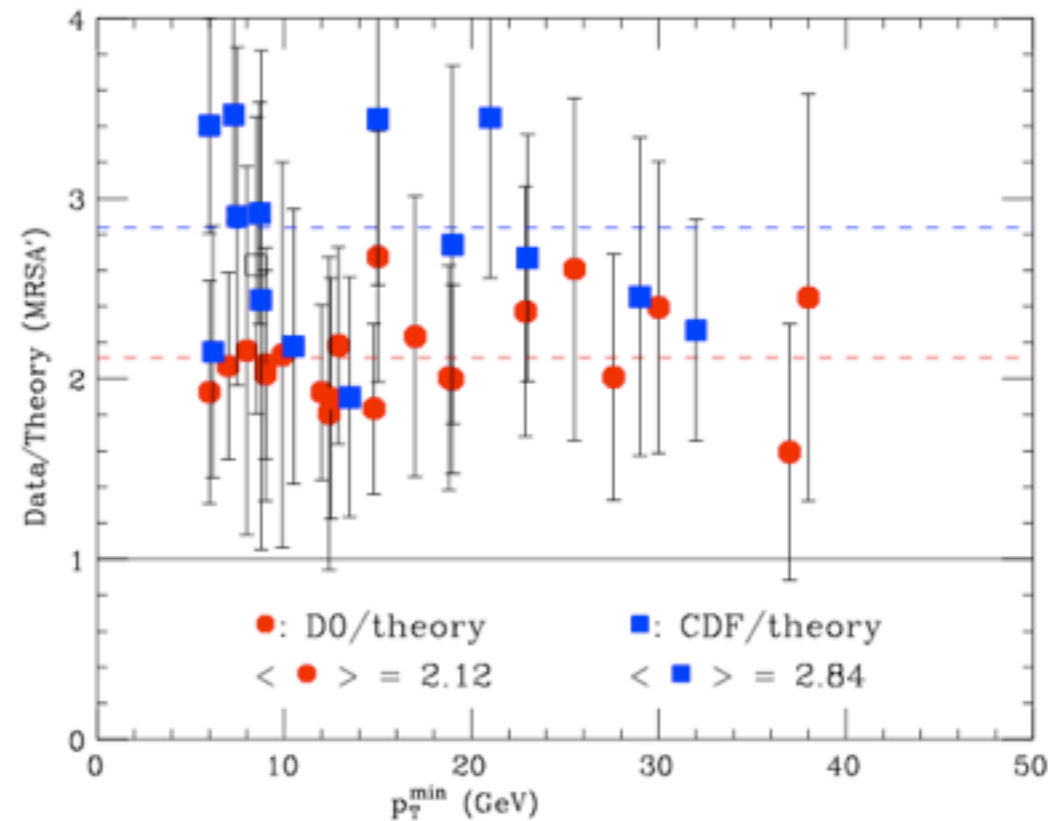
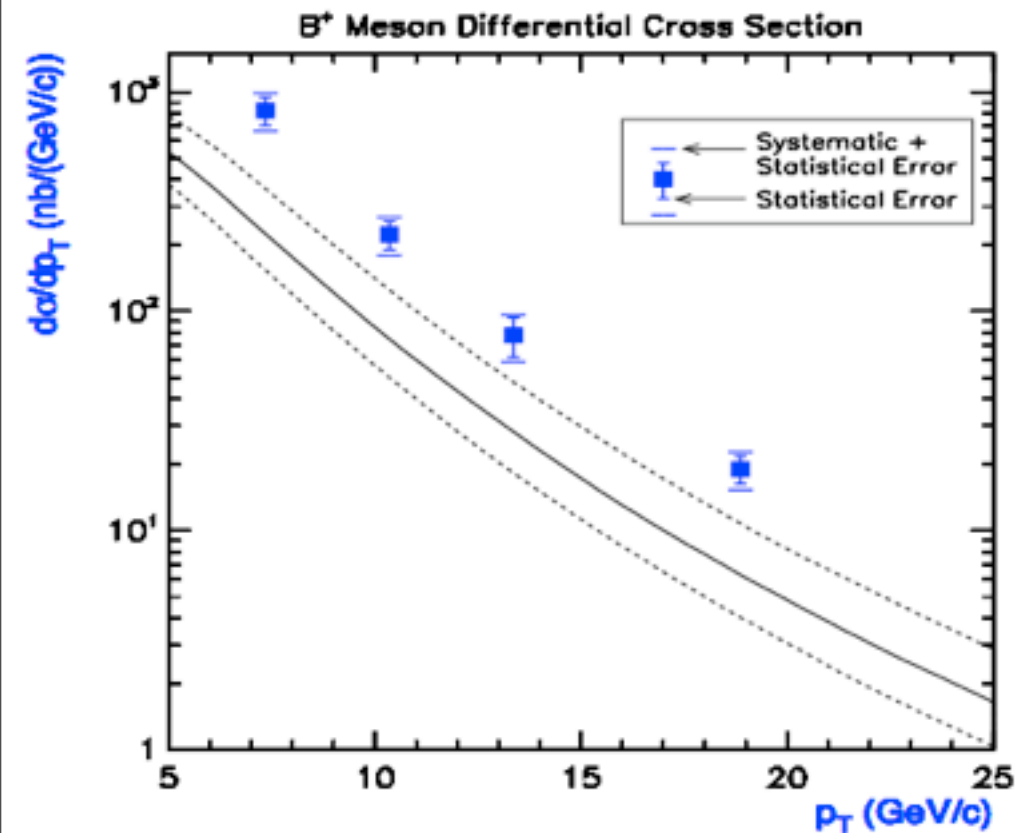
# LHC: present & future

- calibrate the detectors, and re-discover the SM  
i.e. measure known cross sections: jets,  $W$ ,  $Z$ ,  $t\bar{t}$
- understand the EWSB/find New-Physics signals  
(ranging from  $Z'$  to leptons, to gluinos in SUSY  
decay chains, to finding the Higgs boson)
- constrain and model the New-Physics theories

in all the steps above (except probably  $Z'$  to leptons)  
precise QCD predictions play a crucial role

# Tales from the past

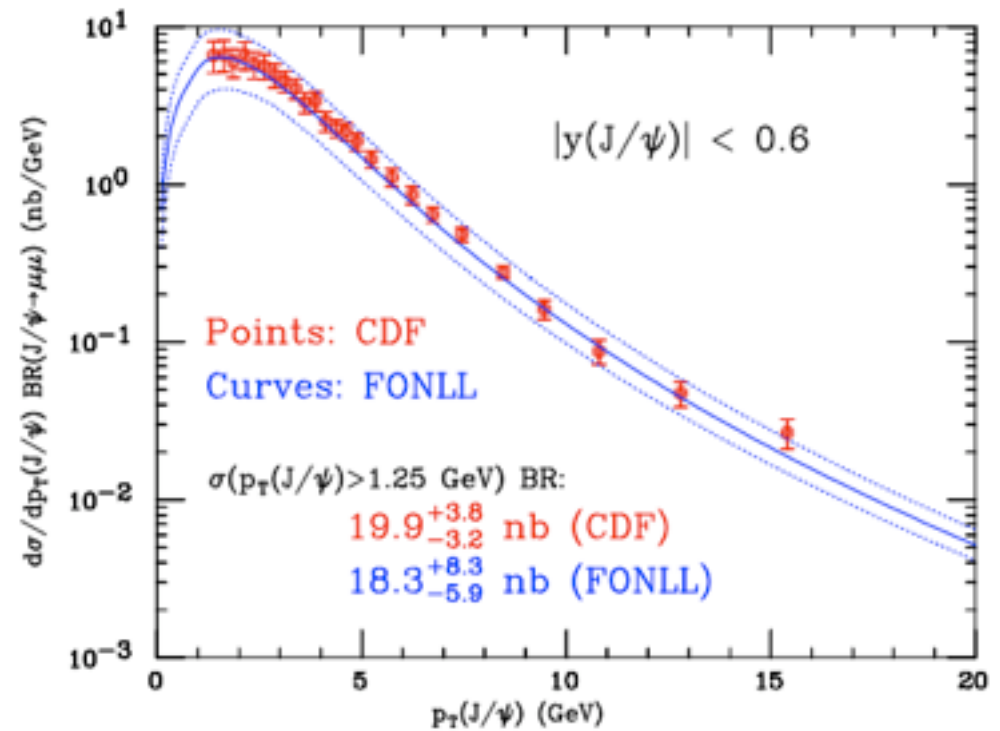
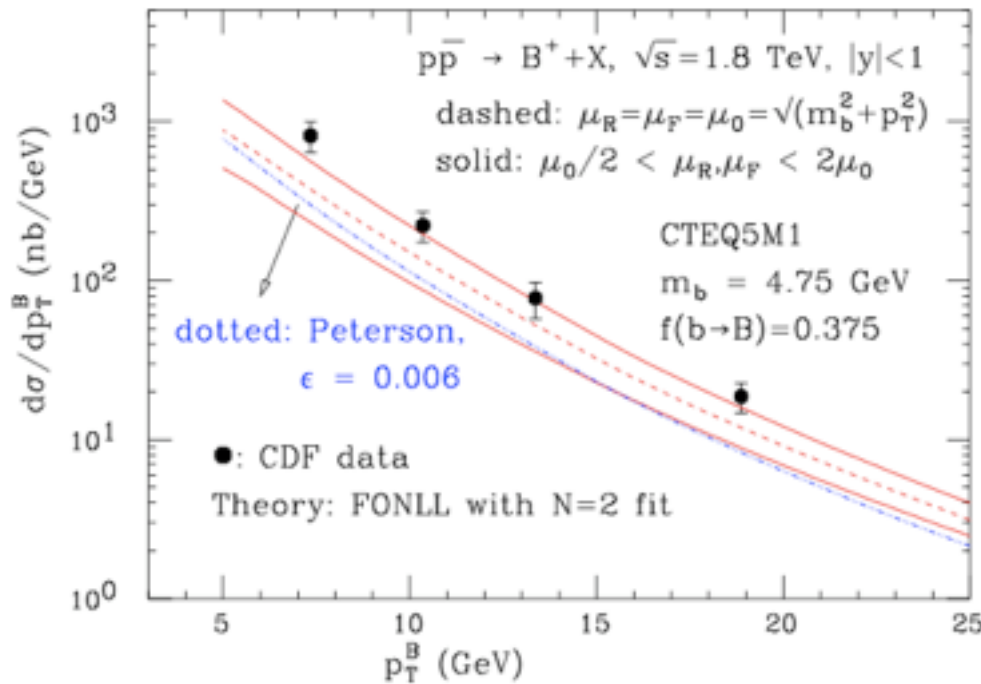
## B production in the 90's



discrepancy between Tevatron data and **NLO** prediction

# B cross section in $p\bar{p}$ collisions at 1.96 TeV

$$d\sigma(p\bar{p} \rightarrow H_b X, H_b \rightarrow J/\psi X)/dp_T(J/\psi)$$



**FONLL = NLO + NLL**

total x-sect is  $19.4 \pm 0.3(stat)_{-1.9}^{+2.1}(syst)$  nb

Cacciari, Frixione, Mangano, Nason, Ridolfi 2003

CDF hep-ex/0412071

use of updated fragmentation functions by Cacciari & Nason  
and resummation



good agreement with data



no **New Physics**

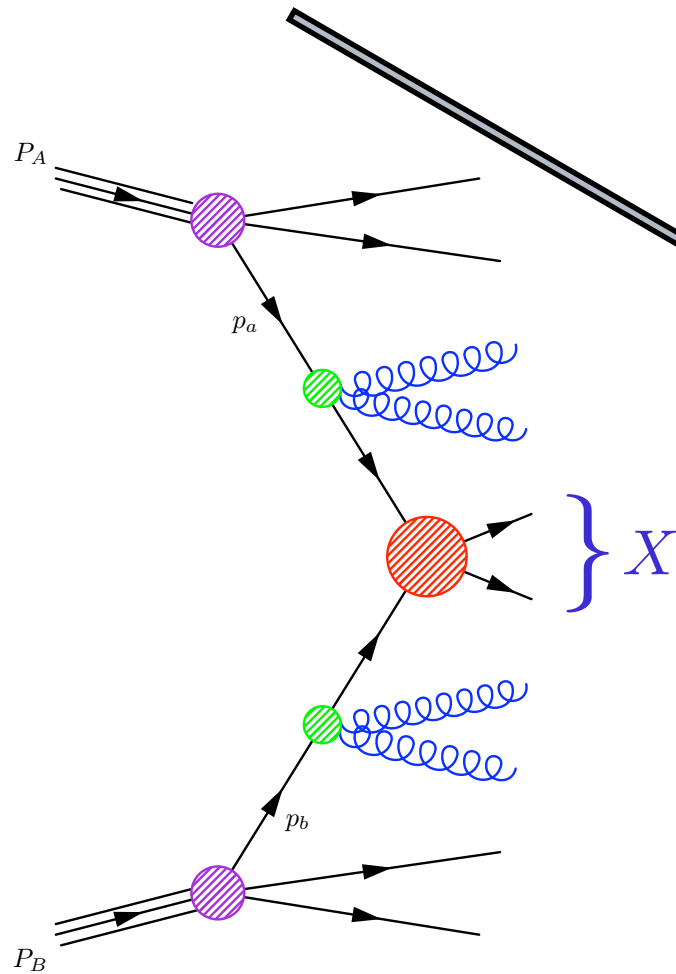
# QCD at high $Q^2$

- Parton model
- Perturbative QCD
  - factorisation
  - universality of IR behaviour
  - cancellation of IR singularities
  - IR safe observables: inclusive rates
    - jets
    - event shapes

# Factorisation

extracted from data  
evolved through DGLAP

computed in pQCD



is the separation between  
the short- and the long-range interactions

$$\sigma_X = \sum_{a,b} \int_0^1 dx_1 dx_2 f_{a/A}(x_1, \mu_F^2) f_{b/B}(x_2, \mu_F^2) \times \hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow X} \left( x_1, x_2, \{p_i^\mu\}; \alpha_S(\mu_R^2), \alpha(\mu_F^2), \frac{Q^2}{\mu_R^2}, \frac{Q^2}{\mu_F^2} \right)$$

$$X = W, Z, H, Q\bar{Q}, \text{high-}E_T \text{jets}, \dots$$

$\hat{\sigma}$  is known as a fixed-order expansion in  $\alpha_S$

$$\hat{\sigma} = C \alpha_S^n (1 + c_1 \alpha_S + c_2 \alpha_S^2 + \dots)$$

$$c_1 = \text{NLO} \quad c_2 = \text{NNLO}$$

or as an all-order resummation

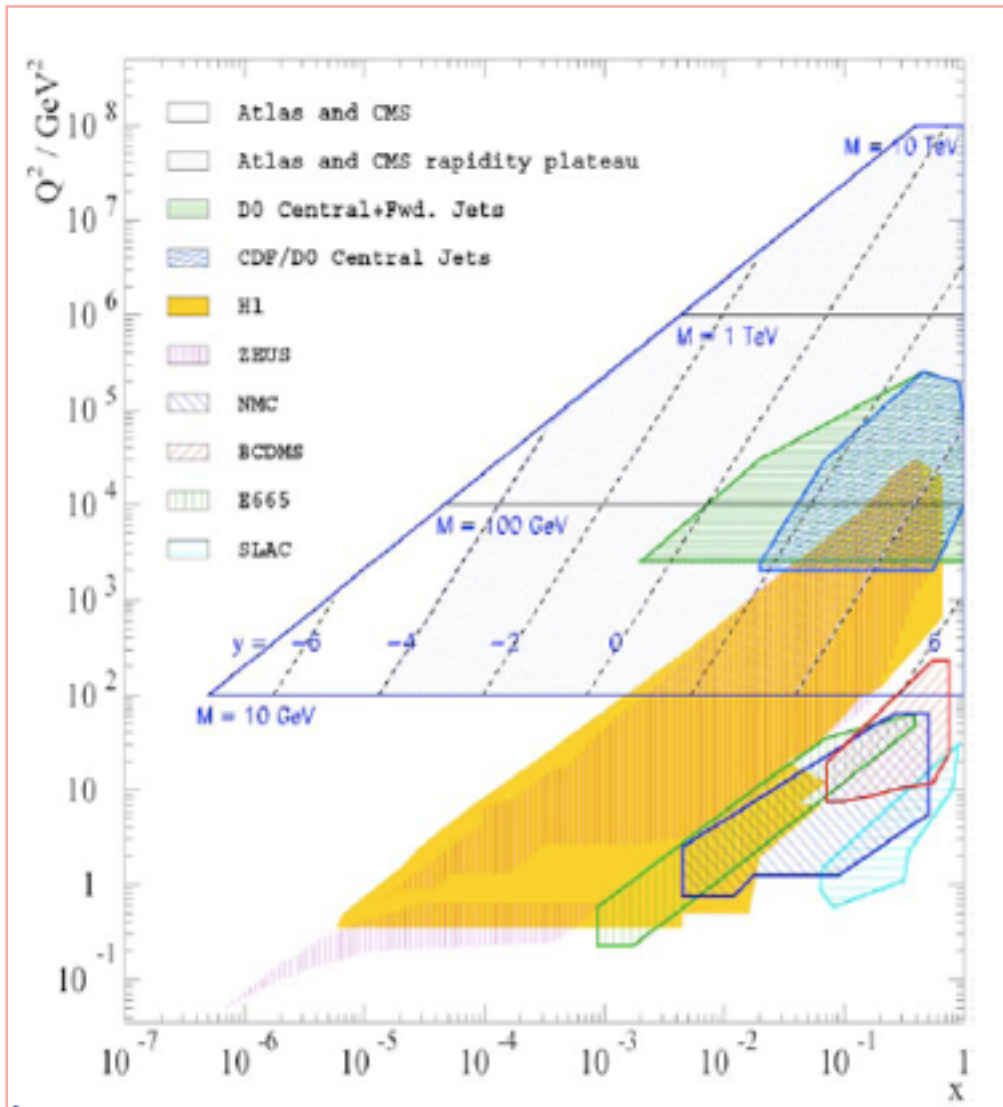
$$\hat{\sigma} = C \alpha_S^n [1 + (c_{11}L + c_{10})\alpha_S + (c_{22}L^2 + c_{21}L + c_{20})\alpha_S^2 + \dots]$$

where  $L = \ln(M/q_T), \ln(1-x), \ln(1/x), \ln(1-T), \dots$

$$c_{11}, c_{22} = \text{LL} \quad c_{10}, c_{21} = \text{NLL} \quad c_{20} = \text{NNLL}$$



# LHC kinematic reach



LHC opens up a new kinematic range

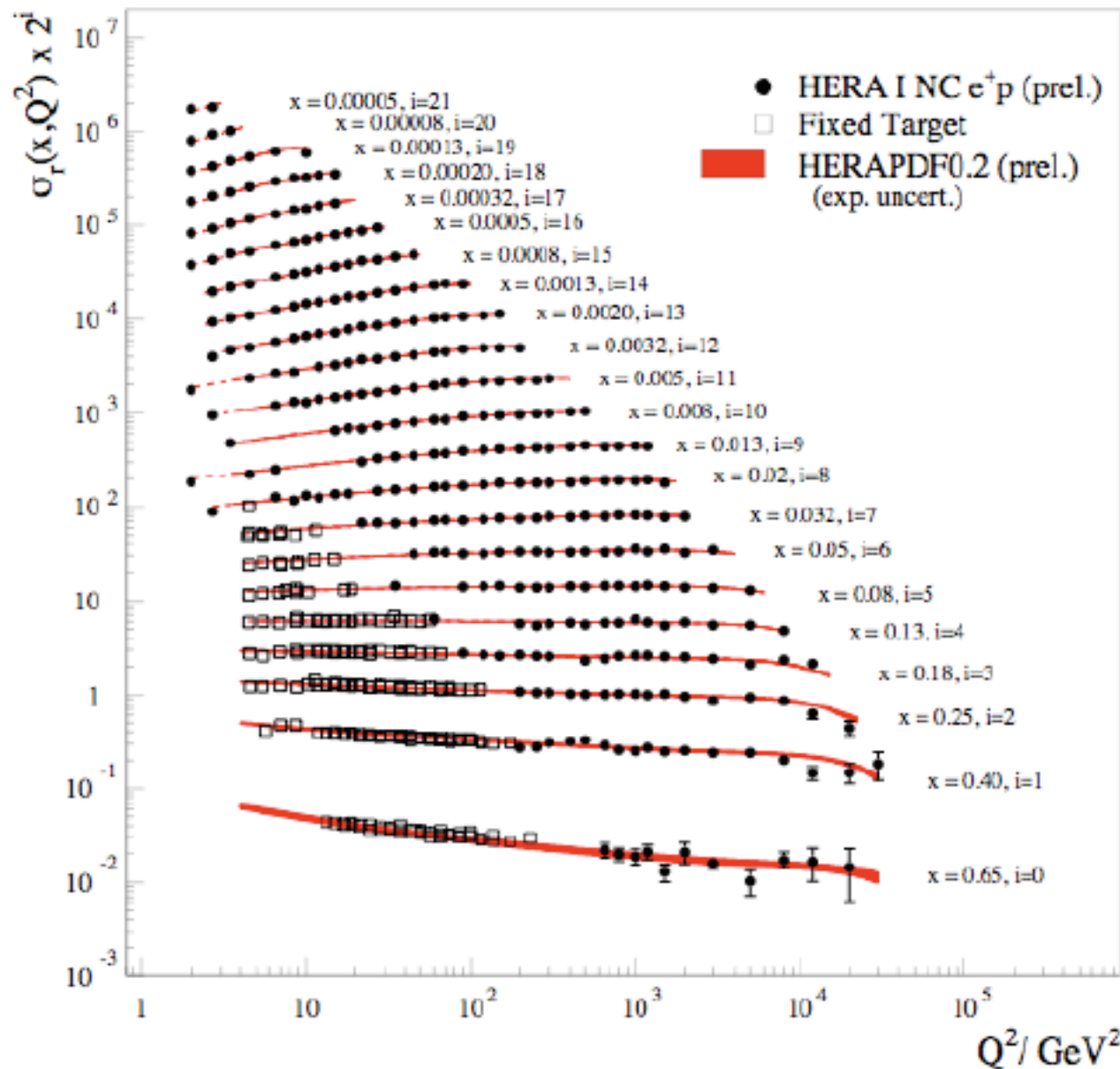
$x$  range covered by HERA but  $Q^2$  range must be provided by DGLAP evolution

100-200 GeV physics is large  $x$  physics (valence quarks) at Tevatron, but smaller  $x$  physics (gluons & sea quarks) at the LHC

rapidity distributions span widest  $x$  range

Feynman  $x$ 's for the production of a particle of mass  $M$   $x_{1,2} = \frac{M}{14 \text{ TeV}} e^{\pm y}$

### H1 and ZEUS Combined PDF Fit



April 2009

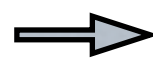
HERA Structure Functions Working Group

large violations at small x



small violations at large x

horizontal lines



Bjorken scaling

straight (non-horizontal) lines



scaling violations, logarithmic in  $Q^2$

# PDF global fits

J. Stirling, KITP collider conf 2004

## global fits

MRST, MSTW: Martin *et al.*

CTEQ: Pumplin *et al.*

Alekhin (DIS data only)

## method

Perform fit by minimising  $\chi^2$  to all data, including both statistical and systematic errors

Start evolution at some  $Q_0^2$ , where PDF's are parametrised with functional form, e.g.

$$xf(x, Q_0^2) = (1-x)^\eta (1 + \epsilon x^{0.5} + \gamma x) x^\delta$$

Cut data at  $Q^2 > Q_{\min}^2$  and at  $W^2 > W_{\min}^2$  to avoid higher twist contamination

Allow  $\bar{u} \neq \bar{d}$  as implied by

E866 Drell-Yan asymmetry data

## accuracy

NNLO evolution

H1, ZEUS  $F_2^{e^+p}(x, Q^2), F_2^{e^-p}(x, Q^2)$

BCDMS  $F_2^{\mu p}(x, Q^2), F_2^{\mu d}(x, Q^2)$

NMC  $F_2^{\mu p}(x, Q^2), F_2^{\mu d}(x, Q^2), (F_2^{\mu n}(x, Q^2)/F_2^{\mu p}(x, Q^2))$

SLAC  $F_2^{\mu p}(x, Q^2), F_2^{\mu d}(x, Q^2)$

E665  $F_2^{\mu p}(x, Q^2), F_2^{\mu d}(x, Q^2)$

CCFR  $F_2^{\nu(\bar{\nu})p}(x, Q^2), F_3^{\nu(\bar{\nu})p}(x, Q^2)$

→  $q, \bar{q}$  at all  $x$  and  $g$  at medium, small  $x$

H1, ZEUS  $F_{2,c}^{e^+p}(x, Q^2) \rightarrow c$

E605, E772, E866 Drell-Yan  $pN \rightarrow \mu\bar{\mu} + X \rightarrow \bar{q}(g)$

E866 Drell-Yan p,n asymmetry →  $\bar{u}, \bar{d}$

CDF W rapidity asymmetry →  $u/d$  ratio at high  $x$

CDF, D0 Inclusive jet data →  $g$  at high  $x$

CCFR, NuTeV Dimuon data constrains strange sea  $s, \bar{s}$



no prompt photon data included in the fits

# PDF: recent developments

- more systematic treatment of uncertainties in global fits

MSTW, CTEQ, Alekhin

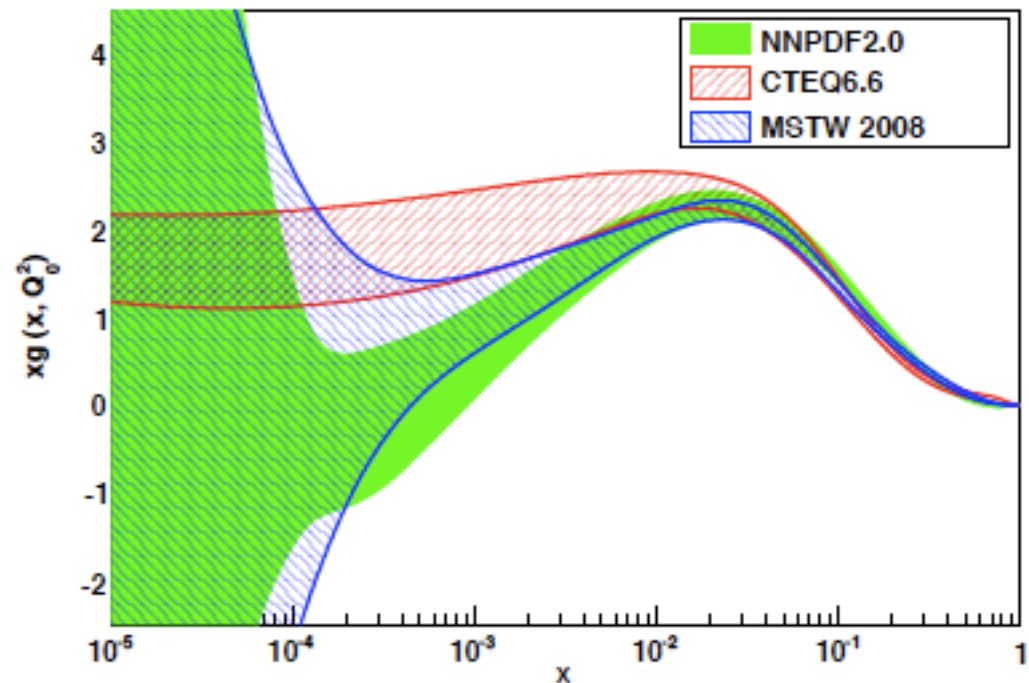
- more accurate treatment of heavy flavours in the vicinity of the quark mass (few % effect on Drell-Yan at the LHC)

- PDF's from neural network global fit (NNPDF), based on unbiased priors

NNPDF2.0 arXiv:1002.4407

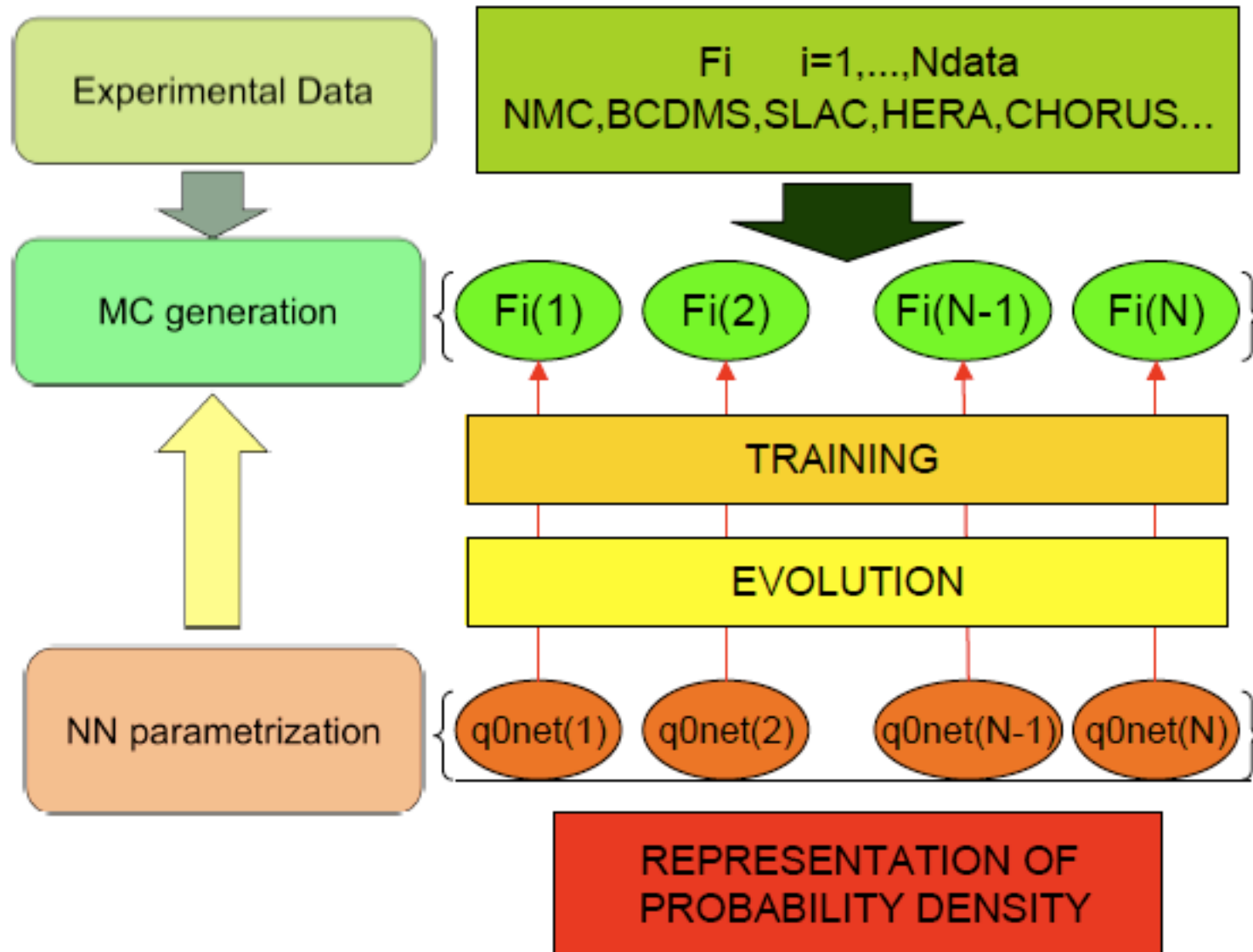
gluon distribution

note the larger uncertainty in NNPDF at small  $x$



# NNPDF

Ubiali (NNPDF Coll.) DIS09



stop before over-training: NN fitting of statistical fluctuations

# NNPDF

Ubiali (NNPDF Coll.) DIS09

Determination of unbiased PDFs with faithful estimation of their uncertainties.

$$\langle \mathcal{F}[f_i(x)] \rangle = \int [\mathcal{D}f_i] \mathcal{F}[f_i(x)] \mathcal{P}[f_i(x)] \rightarrow \frac{1}{N_{\text{rep}}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\text{rep}}} \mathcal{F}[f_i^{(k)(\text{net})}(x)]$$
$$\sigma_{\mathcal{F}[f(x)]} = \sqrt{\langle \mathcal{F}[f(x)]^2 \rangle - \langle \mathcal{F}[f(x)] \rangle^2}$$

- \* The measure  $\mathcal{P}[f_i(x)]$  in space of PDFs is determined with MC method.
- \* Use all information contained in experiments.
- \* Redundant parametrization of PDFs: reduce bias.
- \* Statistic estimators to assess errors, correlations, stability and size of systematics.

sort of path-integral method in the space of PDFs



# Parton cross section

## 3 complementary approaches to $\hat{\sigma}$

	matrix-elem MC's	fixed-order x-sect	shower MC's
final-state description	hard-parton jets. Describes geometry, correlations, ...	limited access to final-state structure	full information available at the hadron level
higher-order effects: loop corrections	hard to implement: must introduce negative probabilities	straightforward to implement (when available)	included as vertex corrections (Sudakov FF's)
higher-order effects: hard emissions	included, up to high orders (multijets)	straightforward to implement (when available)	approximate, incomplete phase space at large angles
resummation of large logs	?	feasible (when available)	unitarity implementation (i.e. correct shapes but not total rates)

M.L. Mangano KITP collider conf 2004

# Parton shower MonteCarlo generators

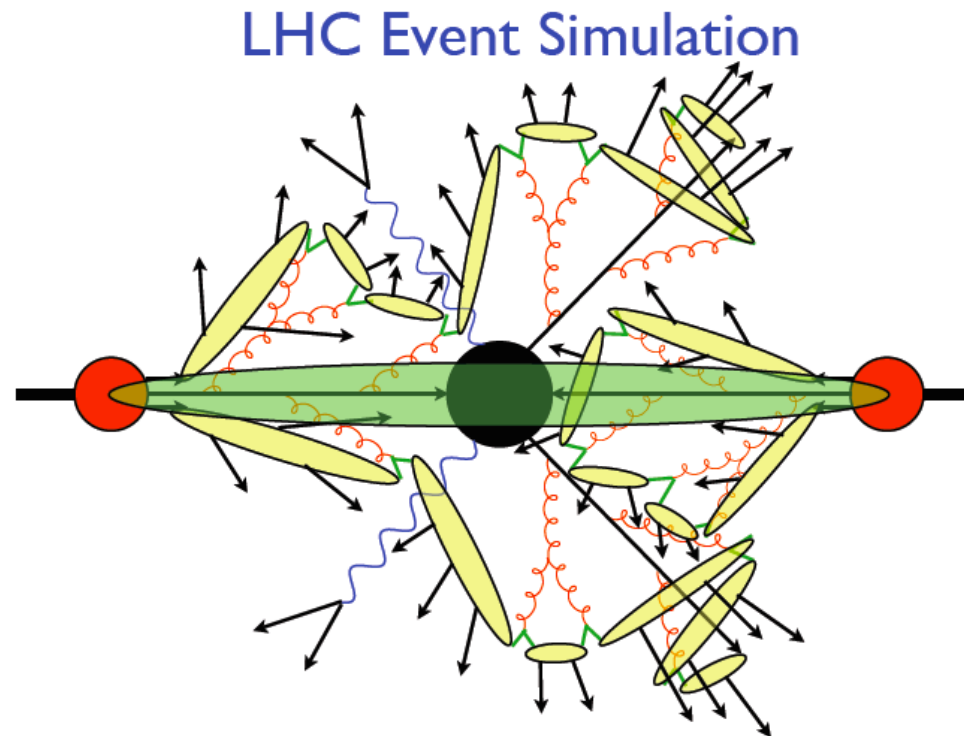
● HERWIG *B. Webber et al. 1992*

re-written as a C++ code (HERWIG++)

● PYTHIA *T. Sjostrand 1994* (also re-written as a C++ code)

● SHERPA *F. Krauss et al. 2003*

model parton showering and hadronisation





# Matrix-element MonteCarlo generators

- ↑ several automated codes to yield large number of (up to 8-9) final-state partons
- ↑ can be straightforwardly interfaced to parton-shower MC's
- ↑ ideal to scout new territory
- ↓ large dependence on ren/fact scales  
example: Higgs (via gluon fusion) + 2 jets is  $\alpha_s^4(Q^2)$ 
  - unreliable for precision calculations

# Matrix-element MonteCarlo generators

- multi-parton LO generation: processes with many jets (or V/H bosons)
  - ALPGEN M.L.Mangano M. Moretti F. Piccinini R. Pittau A. Polosa 2002
  - MADGRAPH/MADEVENT W.F. Long F. Maltoni T. Stelzer 1994/2003
  - COMPHEP A. Pukhov et al. 1999
  - GRACE/GR@PPA T. Ishikawa et al. K. Sato et al. 1992/2001
  - HELAC C. Papadopoulos et al. 2000
- processes with 6 final-state fermions
  - PHASE E.Accomando A. Ballestrero E. Maina 2004
- merged with parton showers
  - all of the above, merged with HERWIG or PYTHIA

# MonteCarlo interfaces



**CKKW** S. Catani F. Krauss R. Kuhn B. Webber 2001

**MLM** L. Lonnblad 2002 M.L. Mangano 2005

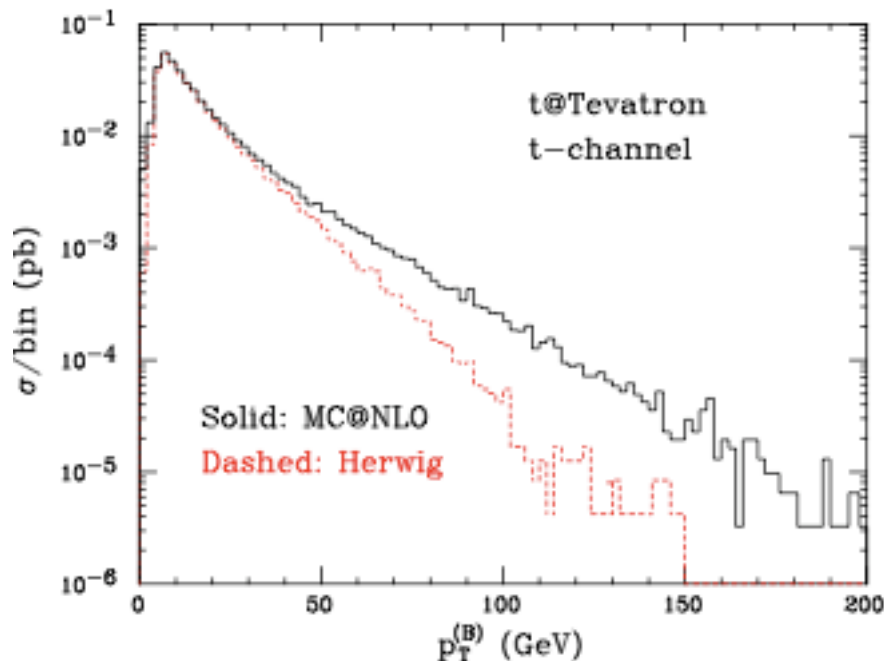
procedures to interface parton subprocesses with a different number of final states to parton-shower MC's



**MC@NLO** S. Frixione B. Webber 2002

**POWHEG** P. Nason 2004

procedures to interface NLO computations to parton-shower MC's



## Single top in MC@NLO

Frixione Laenen Motylinski Webber 2005

at low  $p_T$ , parton shower models collinear radiation

at high  $p_T$ , NLO models hard radiation

# Matrix-element MonteCarlo generator at NLO

- desirable to have a multi-parton NLO generator interfaced to a parton shower:  
a sort of MadGraph cum MC@NLO
- a step in this direction: automation of subtraction of IR divergences  
Frederix Frixione Maltoni Stelzer 2009

MadGraph provides real amplitude  
user inputs virtual amplitude  
procedure provides subtraction counterterms

# Next to Leading Order

- Jet structure: final-state collinear radiation
- PDF evolution: initial-state collinear radiation
- Opening of new channels
- Reduced sensitivity to fictitious input scales:  $\mu_R, \mu_F$ 
  - predictive normalisation of observables
    - first step toward precision measurements
    - accurate estimate of signal and background for Higgs and new physics
- Matching with parton-shower MC's:  
**MC@NLO POWHEG**

# NLO cross sections: experimenter's wishlist

## 2005 Les Houches

QCD, EW & Higgs working group [hep-ph/0604210](http://hep-ph/0604210)

Table 42: The LHC “priority” wishlist for which a NLO computation seems now feasible.

process ( $V \in \{Z, W, \gamma\}$ )	relevant for
1. $pp \rightarrow V V \text{ jet}$	$t\bar{t}H$ , new physics
2. $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} b\bar{b}$	$t\bar{t}H$
3. $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} + 2 \text{ jets}$	$t\bar{t}H$
4. $pp \rightarrow V V b\bar{b}$	VBF $\rightarrow H \rightarrow VV$ , $t\bar{t}H$ , new physics
5. $pp \rightarrow V V + 2 \text{ jets}$	VBF $\rightarrow H \rightarrow VV$
6. $pp \rightarrow V + 3 \text{ jets}$	various new physics signatures
7. $pp \rightarrow V V V$	SUSY tripleton

High (**EXP**) demand for cross sections of  $Y + n$  jets

$Y$  = vector boson(s), Higgs, heavy quark(s), ...

Big **TH** community effort

To compute the cross section of  $Y + n$  jets, we need:

- 1) tree-level amplitude for  $Y + (n+3)$  partons
- 2) one-loop amplitude for  $Y + (n+2)$  partons
- 3) a method to cancel the IR divergences  
and so to compute the cross section

3: until the mid 90's, we did not have systematic methods  
to cancel the IR divergences

2: until 2007-8, we did not have systematic methods  
to compute the one-loop amplitudes

# NLO history of final-state distributions

- $e^+e^- \rightarrow 3 \text{ jets}$  K. Ellis Ross Terrano 1981
- $e^+e^- \rightarrow 4 \text{ jets}$  Bern *et al.*; Glover *et al.*; Nagy Trocsanyi 1996-97
- $e^+e^- \rightarrow 4 \text{ fermions}$  Denner Dittmaier Roth Wieders 2005
- $pp \rightarrow 1, 2 \text{ jets}$  K. Ellis Sexton 1986 Giele Glover Kosower 1993
- $pp \rightarrow 3 \text{ jets}$  Bern Dixon Kosower; Kunszt Signer Trocsanyi 1993-1995  
Nagy 2001
- $pp \rightarrow V + 1 \text{ jet}$  Giele Glover Kosower 1993
- $pp \rightarrow V + 2 \text{ jet}$  Bern Dixon Kosower Weinzierl; Campbell Glover Miller 1996-97  
Campbell K. Ellis 2003
- $pp \rightarrow V + 3 \text{ jet}$  Berger *et al.* (BlackHat); K. Ellis Melnikov Zanderighi 2009
- $pp \rightarrow V b \bar{b}$  Campbell K. Ellis 2003
- $pp \rightarrow VV$  Ohnemus Owens, Baur *et al.* 1991-96; Dixon *et al.* 2000
- $pp \rightarrow VV + \text{jet}$  Dittmaier Kallweit Uwer; Campbell K. Ellis Zanderighi 2007
- $pp \rightarrow VVV$  Lazopoulos Melnikov Petriello; Hankele Zeppenfeld 2007  
Binoth Ossola Papadopoulos Petriello 2008
- $pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  Bailey *et al.* 1992; Binoth *et al.* 1999
- $pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + 1 \text{ jet}$  Bern *et al.* 1994 Del Duca Maltoni Nagy Trocsanyi 2003



# NLO history of final-state distributions



$$pp \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$$

Dawson K. Ellis Nason 1989 Mangano Nason Ridolfi 1992

$$pp \rightarrow Q\bar{Q} + 1 \text{ jet}$$

Brandenburg Dittmaier Uwer Weinzierl 2005-7

Dittmaier Kallweit Uwer 2007-8

$$pp \rightarrow Q\bar{Q} + 2 \text{ jets}$$

van Hameren Papadopoulos Pittau 2009

Bevilacqua Czakon Papadopoulos Worek 2010



$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}Z$$

Lazopoulos McElmurry Melnikov Petriello 2008



$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$$

Bredenstein Denner Dittmaier Pozzorini 2009



$$pp \rightarrow t (+ W)$$

Harris Laenen Phaf Sullivan Weinzierl 2002

Campbell K. Ellis Tramontano 2004; Cao Yuan et al. 2004-5

W: Campbell Tramontano 2005



$$pp \rightarrow H + 1 \text{ jet}$$

(GGF;  $\infty m_t$ ) C. Schmidt 1997 De Florian Grazzini Kunstz 1999

$$pp \rightarrow H + 2 \text{ jets}$$

(GGF;  $\infty m_t$ ) Campbell K. Ellis Zanderighi 2006

(WBF) Campbell K. Ellis; Figy Oleari Zeppenfeld 2003

Ciccolini Denner Dittmaier 2007 (includes s channel)

$$pp \rightarrow H + 3 \text{ jets}$$

(WBF) Figy Hankele Zeppenfeld 2007



$$pp \rightarrow H Q\bar{Q}$$

Beenakker et al.; Dawson et al. 2001



$$pp \rightarrow H Q$$

t: Maltoni Paul Stelzer Willenbrock 2001

b: Campbell, K. Ellis Maltoni Willenbrock 2002

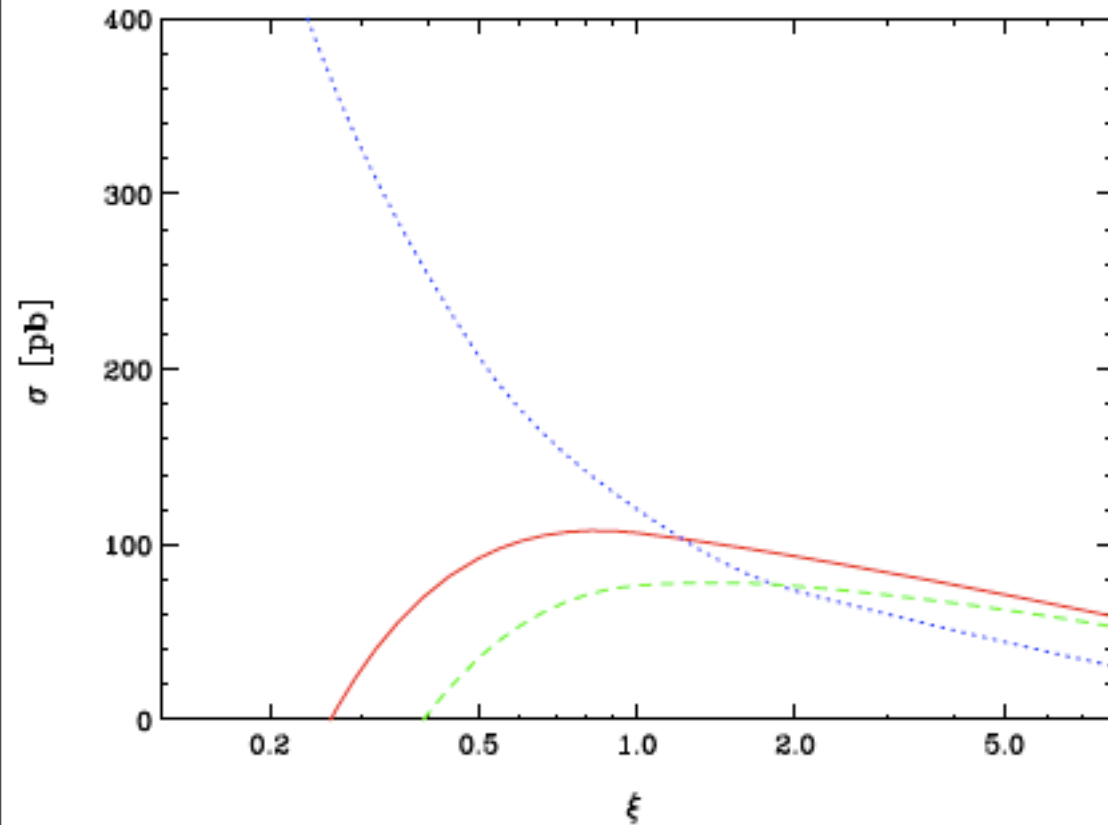
## ... summarising

- in the past, long time span to add one more jet to a x-section
- 2 → 2 and 2 → 3 processes:  
almost all computed and included into NLO packages
- 2 → 4 processes: very few computed
  - $e^+e^- \rightarrow 4$  fermions      Denner Dittmaier Roth Wieders 2005
  - $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$       Bredenstein Denner Dittmaier Pozzorini 2009
  - $pp \rightarrow V + 3$  jet      Berger *et al.* (BlackHat); K. Ellis Melnikov Zanderighi 2009
  - $pp \rightarrow Q\bar{Q} + 2$  jets      Bevilacqua Czakon Papadopoulos Worek 2010
- 2 → 5 processes: none

# $pp \rightarrow t \bar{t} + 2 \text{ jets}$ at **NLO**

Scale dependence of total x-sect

Bevilacqua Czakon Papadopoulos Worek 2010



$$\mu_R = \mu_F = \xi \mu_0 \quad \text{with} \quad \mu_0 = m_t$$

dots: **LO**

solid: **NLO**

dash: **NLO** with jet veto of 50 GeV

- reducible background to  $pp \rightarrow H t \bar{t}$
- **NLO/LO**  $\equiv$   $K$  factor = 0.89
- Reduced theoretical error: 40-70% at **LO**; 12-13% at **NLO**

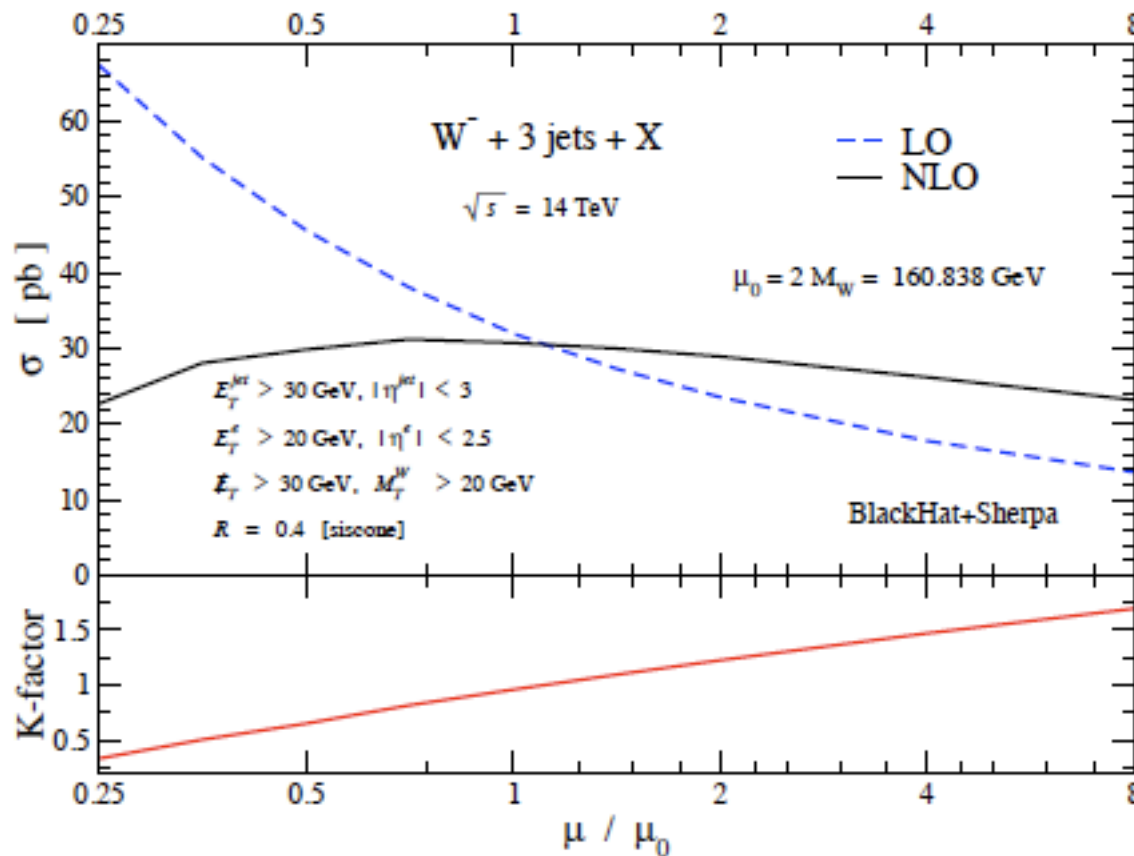
# W + 3-jet cross section at NLO

BlackHat: [Berger et al. 2008](#)

A C++ code based on generalised unitarity,  
and on-shell recursion for the rational parts

computes

- one-loop 6-gluon (and MHV 7- and 8-gluon) amplitudes
- one-loop W + 5-parton amplitudes
- NLO W + 3-jet cross section



# one-loop amplitudes

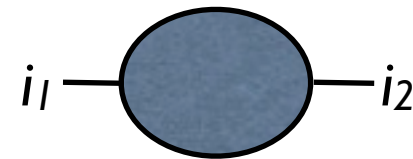
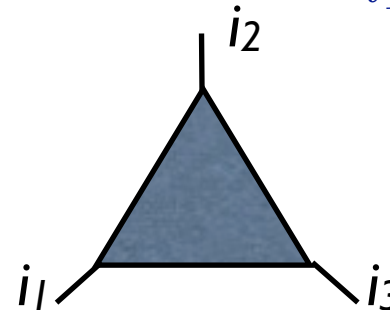
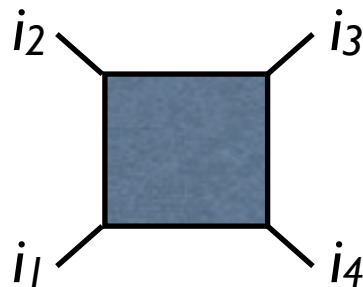
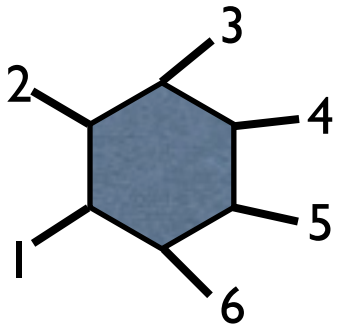
one-loop  $n$ -point amplitudes  $A_n$  are IR divergent

↑ IR divergences are universal [Kunszt Signer Trocsanyi 1994; Catani 1998](#)

↓ IR finite terms are process dependent:  
many final-state particles → many scales → lengthy expressions

$A_n$  can be reduced to boxes, triangles and bubbles with rational coefficients

$$A_n = \sum_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} d_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} I_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4}^D + \sum_{i_1 i_2 i_3} c_{i_1 i_2 i_3} I_{i_1 i_2 i_3}^D + \sum_{i_1 i_2} b_{i_1 i_2} I_{i_1 i_2}^D$$



$I$ : master integrals

$b, c, d$ : rational functions of kinematic variables

higher polygons contribute only to  $O(\epsilon)$

# NLO progress: unitarity method

use unitarity cuts: Cutkovsky rule  $\frac{1}{p^2 + i0} \rightarrow 2\pi i \delta^+(p^2)$

to factorise coefficients of  $A_n$  into products of tree amplitudes

compute  $b, c, d$  with  $D=4$ : cut-constructible terms

$O(\epsilon)$  part of  $b, c, d$ : rational term  $R_n$  Bern Dixon Dunbar Kosower 1994

$$A_n = \sum_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} d_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} I_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4}^4 + \sum_{i_1 i_2 i_3} c_{i_1 i_2 i_3} I_{i_1 i_2 i_3}^4 + \sum_{i_1 i_2} b_{i_1 i_2} I_{i_1 i_2}^4 + R_n$$

$R_n$  computable through on-shell recursion

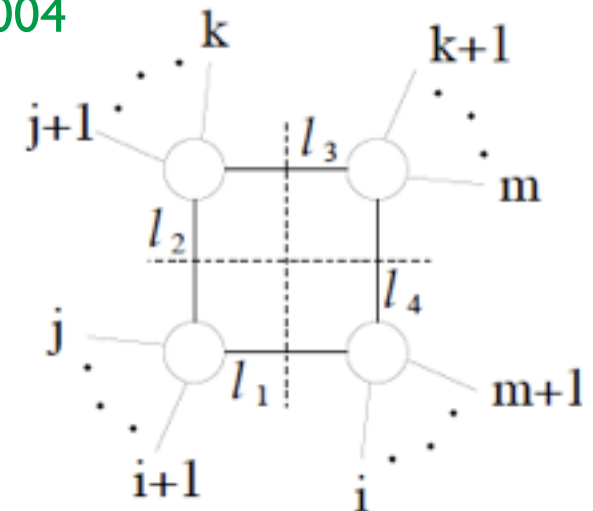
Berger Bern Dixon Forde Kosower 2006

generalized unitarity: Britto Cachazo Feng 2004

quadruple cuts with complex momenta

box coefficient  $d_i$  determined by product of 4 tree amplitudes

however,  $c_i, b_i$  still difficult to extract from triple and double cuts because terms already included in  $d_i$  must be subtracted



# NLO progress: OPP method

Ossola Papadopoulos Pittau 2006

- reduction of one-loop amplitude at integrand level

$$A(q') = \frac{N(q)}{\bar{D}_1 \cdots \bar{D}_m} \quad \bar{D}_i = (q' + p_i)^2 - m_i^2 \quad q' = q + \tilde{q} \quad q \cdot \tilde{q} = 0$$

$q'$  lives in  $D$  dimensions;  $q$  lives in 4 dimensions  
 $\epsilon$  part of numerator treated separately

- partial fraction the numerator into terms with 4, 3, 2, 1 denominator factors

$$N(q) = \sum_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} (d_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} + \tilde{d}_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4}) \prod_{i \neq i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} D_i \\ + \sum_{i_1 i_2 i_3} (c_{i_1 i_2 i_3} + \tilde{c}_{i_1 i_2 i_3}) \prod_{i \neq i_1 i_2 i_3} D_i + \sum_{i_1 i_2} (b_{i_1 i_2} + \tilde{b}_{i_1 i_2}) \prod_{i \neq i_1 i_2} D_i$$

$\tilde{d}, \tilde{c}, \tilde{b}$  vanish upon integration

- reduced to problem of fitting  $d, c, b$  by evaluating  $N(q)$  at different values of  $q$ , e.g. singling out choices of  $q$  such that 4, 3, 2, 1 among all  $D_i$  vanish, and then inverting the system. First find all possible 4-pt functions, then 3-pt functions, etc.
- for quadruple cuts, similar to BCF, but algorithmic: can be automated

# NLO progress: integer dimensions

Giele Kunszt Melnikov 2008

- in  $D$  dimensions the one-loop amplitude  $A_n$  can be reduced to pentagons, boxes, triangles and bubbles

$$A_n = \sum_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4 i_5} e_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4 i_5} I_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4 i_5}^D + \sum_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} d_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} I_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4}^D \\ + \sum_{i_1 i_2 i_3} c_{i_1 i_2 i_3} I_{i_1 i_2 i_3}^D + \sum_{i_1 i_2} b_{i_1 i_2} I_{i_1 i_2}^D$$

take  $D_s = \#$  of spin states of internal particles

in  $D_s$  dimensions, gluons have  $D_s - 2$  spin states, quarks have  $2^{(D_s - 2)/2}$  spin states

$$A_n^{(D, D_s)} = \int d^D q \frac{N^{(D_s)}(q)}{d_1 \cdots d_n} \quad \text{with } D \leq D_s$$

- dependence of  $A$  on  $D_s$  is linear  $N^{(D_s)}(q) = N_0(q) + (D_s - 4)N_1(q)$

- compute  $N_0, N_1$  numerically separately through 2 different integer values of  $D_s$
- on  $D_s$ -dimension cuts, spin density matrix is well defined
- choose basis of master integrals with no explicit  $D$  dependence in the coefficients
- after reduction to master integrals, continue  $D$  to  $4 - 2\epsilon$

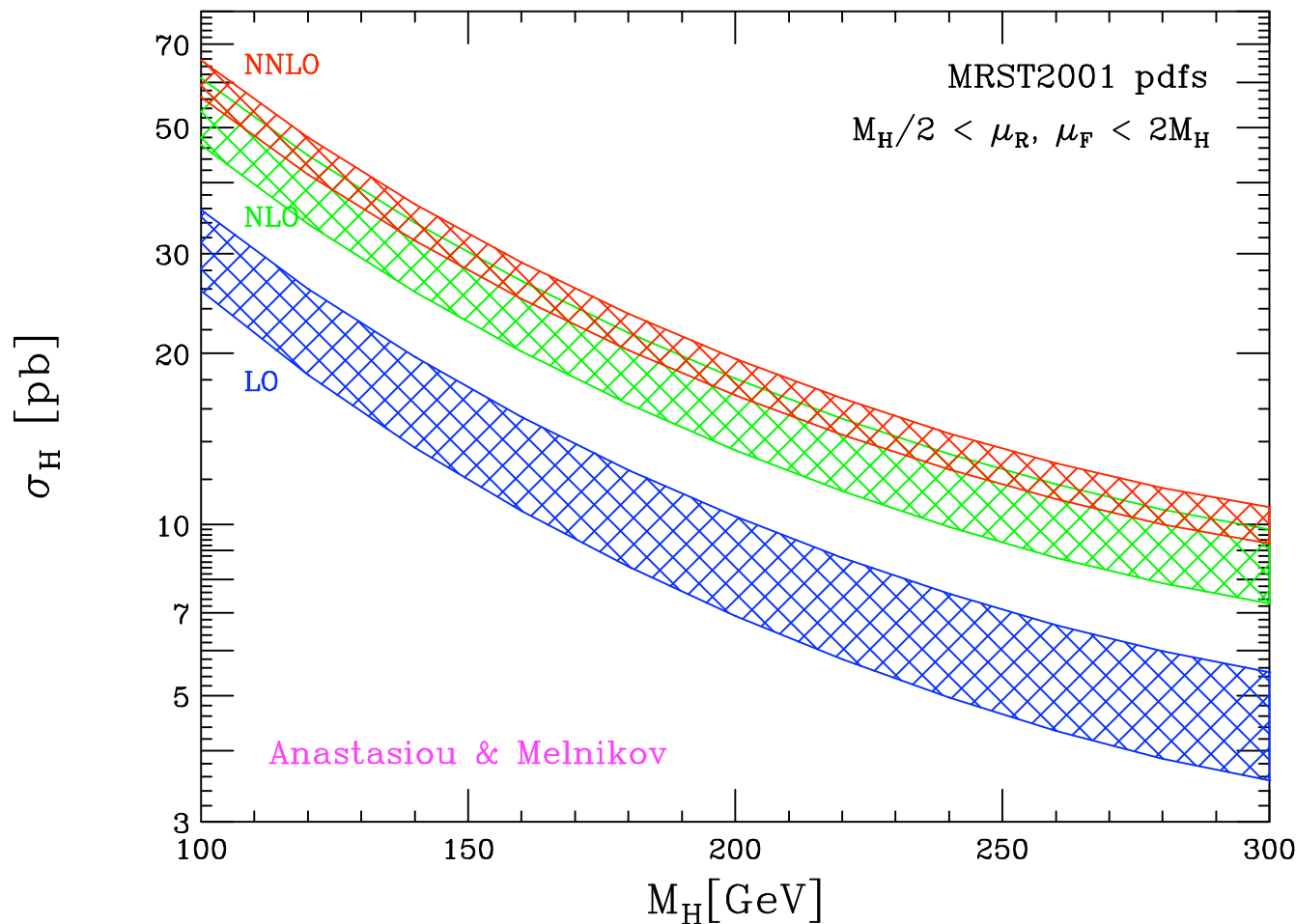
- procedure can be completely automated



# Is **NLO** enough to describe data ?

## Total cross section for inclusive **Higgs** production at LHC

pp → H+X Cross section at LHC



contour bands are  
lower

$$\mu_R = 2M_H \quad \mu_F = M_H/2$$

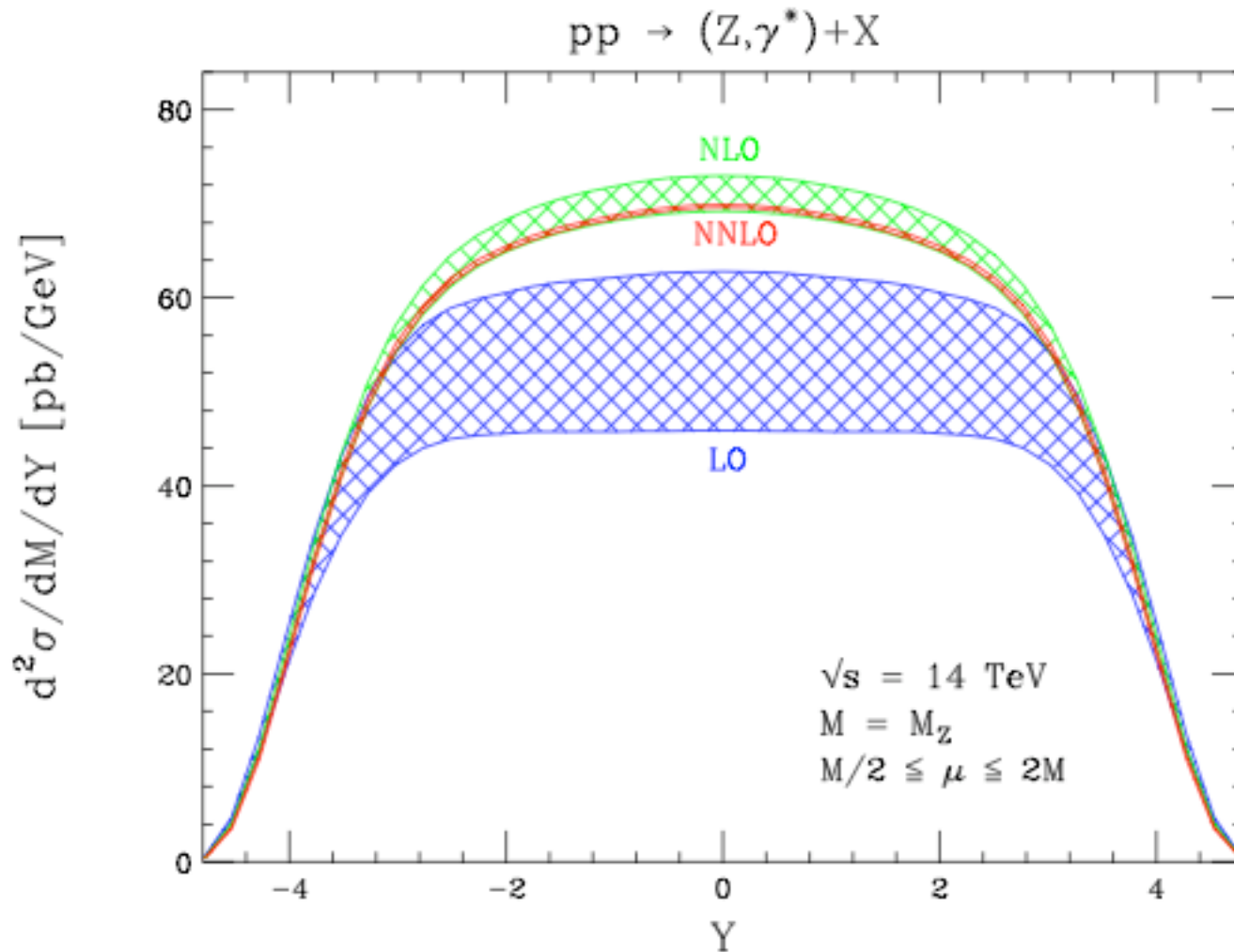
upper

$$\mu_R = M_H/2 \quad \mu_F = 2M_H$$

scale uncertainty  
is about 10%

**NNLO** prediction stabilises the perturbative series

# Drell-Yan $Z$ production at LHC



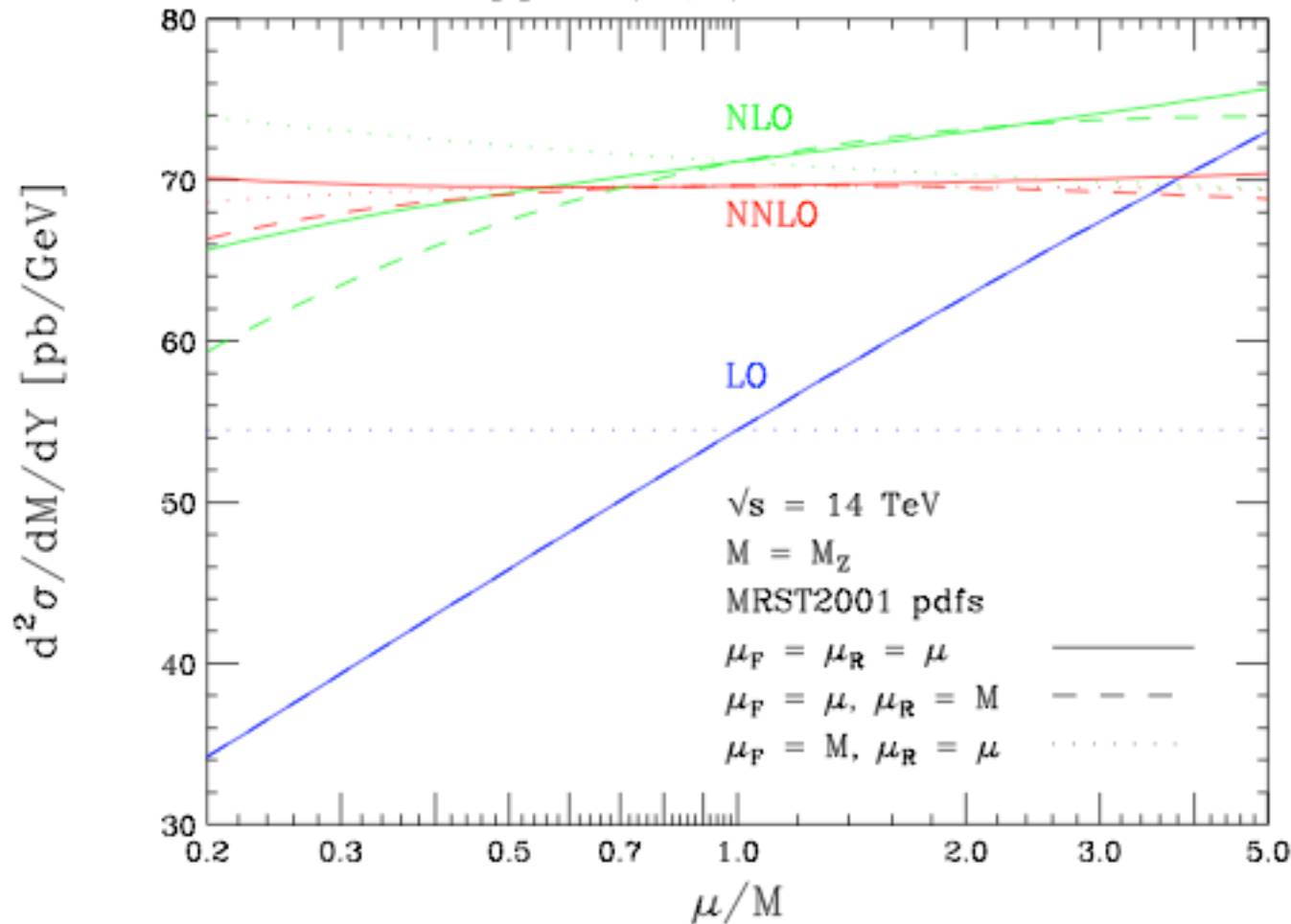
Rapidity distribution for an on-shell  $Z$  boson

- 30% (15%) **NLO** increase wrt to LO at central  $Y$ 's (at large  $Y$ 's)  
**NNLO** decreases **NLO** by 1 – 2%
- scale variation:  $\approx 30\%$  at LO;  $\approx 6\%$  at **NLO**; less than 1% at **NNLO**

C. Anastasiou L. Dixon K. Melnikov F. Petriello 2003

# Scale variations in Drell-Yan $Z$ production

$pp \rightarrow (Z, \gamma^*) + X$  at  $Y=0$



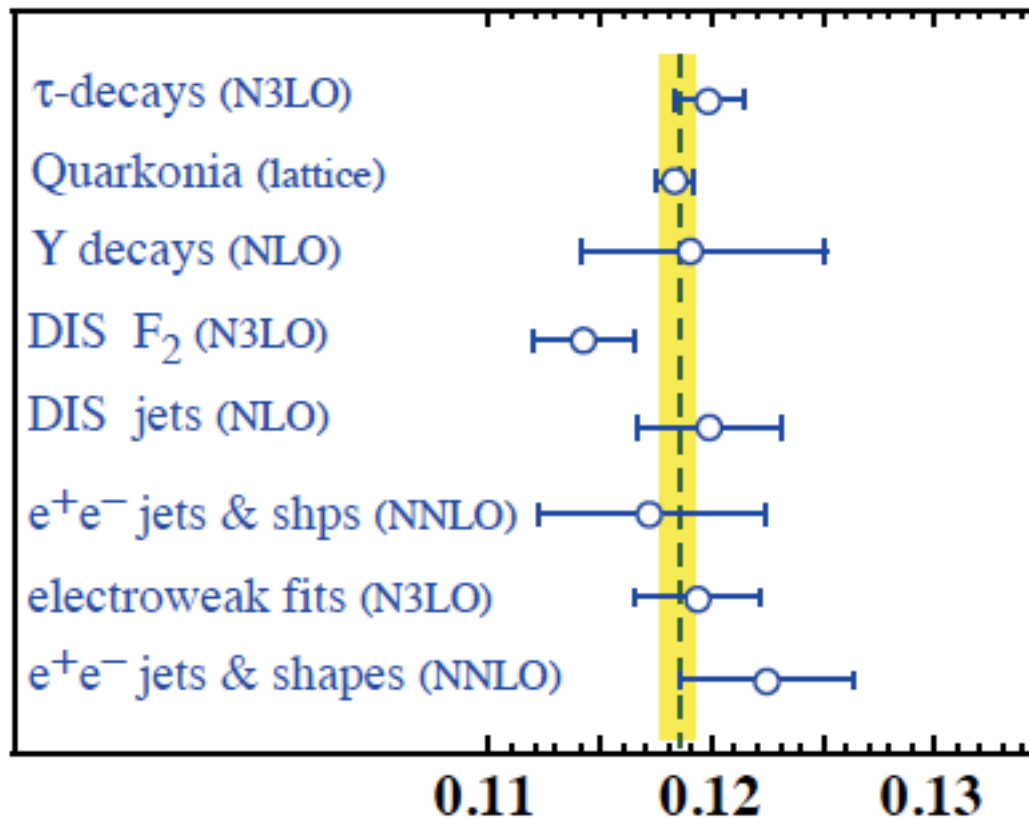
- solid: vary  $\mu_R$  and  $\mu_F$  together
- dashed: vary  $\mu_F$  only
- dotted: vary  $\mu_R$  only

C. Anastasiou L. Dixon K. Melnikov F. Petriello 2003

# World average of $\alpha_s(M_Z)$

$$\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1184 \pm 0.0007$$

S. Bethke arXiv:0908.1135



vertical line and shaded band mark the world average



first time that shapes are included at NNLO

# NNLO corrections may be relevant if

- the main source of uncertainty in extracting info from data is due to NLO theory:  $\alpha_s$  measurements
- NLO corrections are large:  
Higgs production from gluon fusion in hadron collisions
- NLO uncertainty bands are too large to test theory vs. data:  $b$  production in hadron collisions
- NLO is effectively leading order:  
energy distributions in jet cones

# NNLO state of the art

## Drell-Yan $W, Z$ production

total cross section

Hamberg van Neerven Matsuura 1990  
Harlander Kilgore 2002

fully differential x-section

Melnikov Petriello 2006  
Catani Cieri Ferrera de Florian Grazzini 2009

## Higgs production

total cross section

Harlander Kilgore; Anastasiou Melnikov 2002  
Ravindran Smith van Neerven 2003

fully differential x-section

Anastasiou Melnikov Petriello 2004  
Catani de Florian Grazzini 2007

## $e^+e^- \rightarrow 3$ jets

event shapes,  $\alpha_s$

de Ridder Gehrmann Glover Heinrich 2007  
Weinzierl 2008

$$\alpha_s(M_Z^2) = 0.1224 \pm 0.0009 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.0009 \text{ (exp)} \pm 0.0012 \text{ (had)} \pm 0.0035 \text{ (theo)}$$

$$\alpha_s(M_Z^2) = 0.1224 \pm 0.0039 \text{ combined in quadrature}$$

Dissertori et al. 2009

**NNLO + NLL** accuracy

TH uncertainty much reduced

# NNLO cross sections

## Analytic integration

Hamberg, van Neerven, Matsuura 1990  
Anastasiou Dixon Melnikov Petriello 2003

↑ first method

→ flexible enough to include a limited class of acceptance cuts by modelling cuts as “propagators”

## Sector decomposition

Denner Roth 1996; Binoth Heinrich 2000  
Anastasiou, Melnikov, Petriello 2004

↑ flexible enough to include any acceptance cuts

↑ cancellation of divergences is performed numerically

→ can it handle many final-state partons ?

## Subtraction

Kosower 1998, 2003; Weinzierl 2003  
Frixione Grazzini 2004  
de Ridder Gehrmann Glover 2004-5  
Somogyi Trocsanyi VDD 2005-6

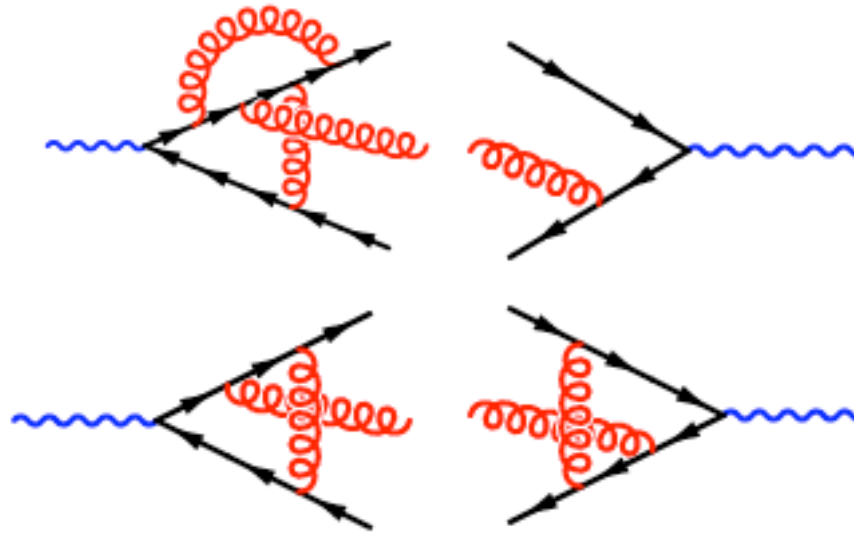
↑ process independent

→ cancellation of divergences is semi-analytic  
can it be fully automatised ?

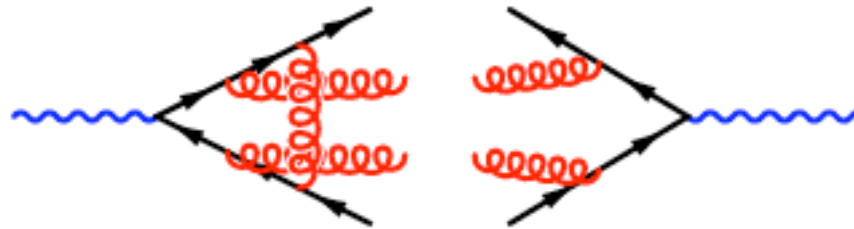
# NNLO assembly kit

$e^+e^- \rightarrow 3 \text{ jets}$

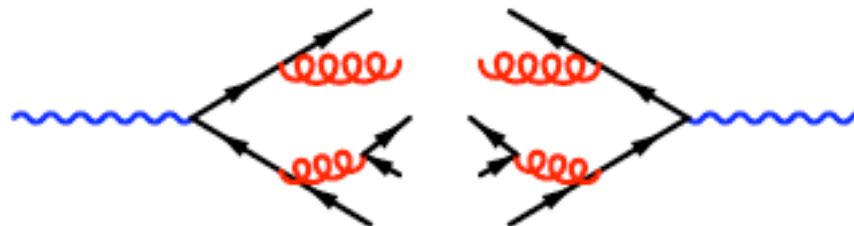
double virtual



real-virtual



double real





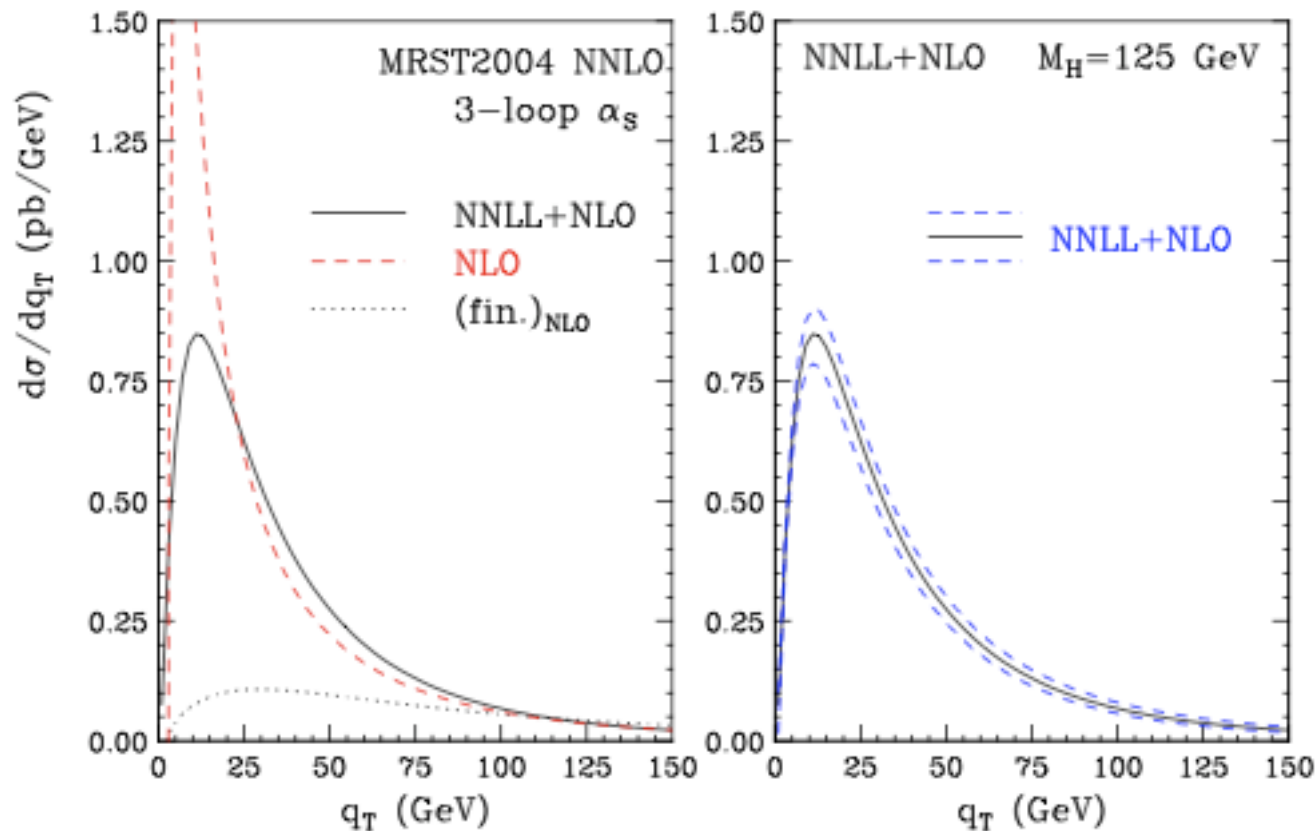
# Two-loop matrix elements

- two-jet production  $qq' \rightarrow qq', q\bar{q} \rightarrow q\bar{q}, q\bar{q} \rightarrow gg, gg \rightarrow gg$   
C. Anastasiou N. Glover C. Oleari M. Tejada-Yeomans 2000-01  
Z. Bern A. De Freitas L. Dixon 2002
- photon-pair production  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, gg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$   
C. Anastasiou N. Glover M. Tejada-Yeomans 2002  
Z. Bern A. De Freitas L. Dixon 2002
- $e^+e^- \rightarrow 3$  jets  $\gamma^* \rightarrow q\bar{q}g$   
L. Garland T. Gehrmann N. Glover A. Koukoutsakis E. Remiddi 2002
- $V + 1$  jet production  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow Vg$   
T. Gehrmann E. Remiddi 2002
- Drell-Yan  $V$  production  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow V$   
R. Hamberg W. van Neerven T. Matsuura 1991
- Higgs production  $gg \rightarrow H$  (in the  $m_t \rightarrow \infty$  limit)  
R. Harlander W. Kilgore; C. Anastasiou K. Melnikov 2002

# Resummations: Higgs production from gluon fusion

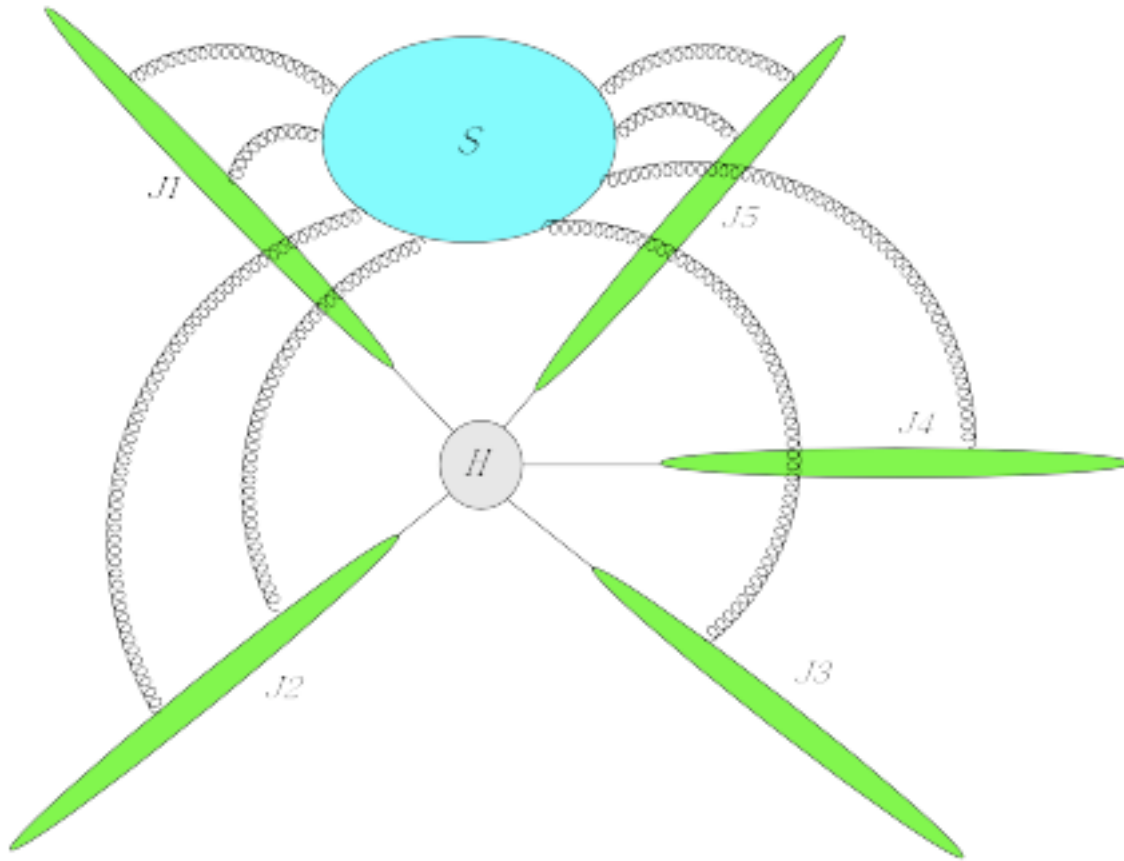
- gluon density is rapidly increasing as  $x \rightarrow 0$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Higgs production occurs near partonic threshold
- total energy of gluons in the final state is  $E_X = \frac{\hat{s} - m_H^2}{2m_H} \rightarrow 0$   
 need to resum soft-gluon emission

Higgs  $q_T$  distribution Bozzi Catani de Florian Grazzini 2005



At small  $q_T$ ,  
**NLO** blows up

# Factorisation of a multi-leg amplitude



Mueller 1981  
 Sen 1983  
 Botts Sterman 1987  
 Kidonakis Oderda Sterman 1998  
 Catani 1998  
 Tejada-Yeomans Sterman 2002  
 Kosower 2003  
 Aybat Dixon Sterman 2006  
 Becher Neubert 2009  
 Gardi Magnea 2009

$$\mathcal{M}_N(p_i/\mu, \epsilon) = \sum_L \mathcal{S}_{NL}(\beta_i \cdot \beta_j, \epsilon) H_L \left( \frac{2p_i \cdot p_j}{\mu^2}, \frac{(2p_i \cdot n_i)^2}{n_i^2 \mu^2} \right) \prod_i \frac{\mathcal{J}_i \left( \frac{(2p_i \cdot n_i)^2}{n_i^2 \mu^2}, \epsilon \right)}{\mathcal{J}_i \left( \frac{2(\beta_i \cdot n_i)^2}{n_i^2}, \epsilon \right)}$$

$p_i = \beta_i Q_0 / \sqrt{2}$  value of  $Q_0$  is immaterial in  $S, J$

to avoid double counting of soft-collinear region (IR double poles),

$J_i$  removes eikonal part from  $J_i$ , which is already in  $S$

$J_i/J_i$  contains only single collinear poles

# Soft anomalous dimension

evolution equation for reduced soft anomalous dimension

$$\sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln \rho_{ij}} \Gamma^{\bar{S}}(\rho_{ij}, \alpha_s) = \frac{1}{4} \gamma_K^{(i)}(\alpha_s)$$

Becher Neubert; Gardi Magnea 2009

solution

$$\Gamma^{\bar{S}}(\rho_{ij}, \alpha_s) = -\frac{1}{8} \hat{\gamma}_K(\alpha_s) \sum_{i \neq j} \ln(\rho_{ij}) T_i \cdot T_j + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\delta}_{\bar{S}}(\alpha_s) \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$$

with

$$\gamma_K^{(i)} = C_i \hat{\gamma}_K(\alpha_s) \quad \hat{\gamma}_K = 2 \frac{\alpha_s(\mu^2)}{\pi} + K \left( \frac{\alpha_s(\mu^2)}{\pi} \right)^2 + K^{(2)} \left( \frac{\alpha_s(\mu^2)}{\pi} \right)^3 + \dots$$

- only 2-eikonal-line correlations
- generalises 2-loop solution

Are there any 3(or more)-line correlations ?

Gardi Magnea say maybe; Becher Neubert say no

# Conclusions

- QCD is an extensively developed and tested gauge theory
- a lot of progress in the last few years in
  - MonteCarlo generators
  - NLO computations with many jets
  - NNLO computations
  - resummations
- better and better approximations of signal and background for Higgs and New Physics