

Gruppo IV (SPIF)

Stefano Carrazza, Giancarlo Ferrera, Stefano Forte,
Claudia Frugiuele, **Raoul Röntsch**, Alessandro Vicini,
Ramon Winterhalder, Marco Zaro + postdocs & students



Consiglio di Sezione INFN

15/07/2025

Overlap with other INFN groups/initiatives

- Machine learning: Stefano Carrazza, Stefano Forte, Alessandro Vicini, Ramon Winterhalder, Marco Zaro
- Quantum computing: Stefano Carrazza
- JUNO: Vito Antonelli

+ synergies with ATLAS & LHCb groups

The Standard Model of Particle Physics

Theoretical description of elementary particles:

- Quantum mechanics + special relativity + gauge invariance → **Quantum Field Theory**
- Mathematical formulation of high energy particle physics.

→ Quantum Electrodynamics (QED)

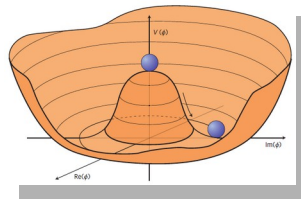
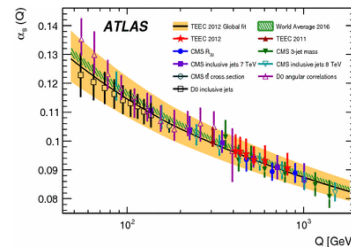
$$a_e^{\text{th.}} = 1.15965218188(78) \times 10^{-3}$$

$$a_e^{\text{expt}} = 1.15965218073(28) \times 10^{-3}$$

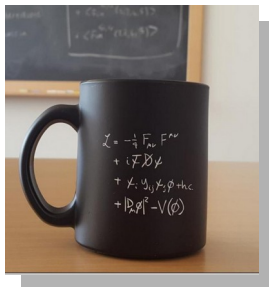
→ Electroweak force (EW)

with spontaneous symmetry breaking of electroweak symmetry (EWSB) through Higgs mechanism.

→ Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)

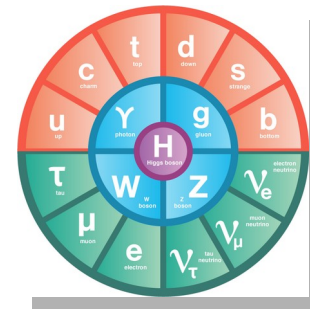


The Standard Model of Particle Physics



QCD + electroweak theory + Higgs mechanism
= **Standard Model** of Particle Physics:

Mathematically consistent & concise
description of nature at fundamental level.



- **New questions:**

- Is it really the *SM Higgs*?
- What is the *exact form* of the Higgs potential?
- How does it couple to the rest of the SM?
- Is it *solely* responsible for EWSB?
- ...
-

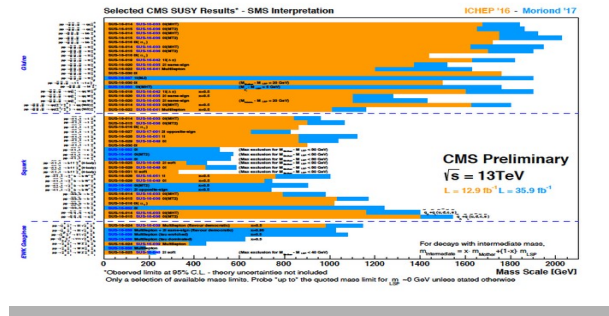


In-depth investigations of the Higgs boson

Fundamental properties (mass, spin,...), couplings to other SM particles, self-couplings, high energy behavior,

Beyond the Standard Model

- **Abundant evidence that SM cannot be complete...**
(Gravity not included in the SM; astrophysical and cosmological evidence for dark matter; neutrinos oscillate and therefore have mass; matter-antimatter asymmetry; hierarchy problem...)
- **...but no evidence for BSM physics at LHC.**



- **Stress-test** SM in search of new physics:
 - Can we observe **traces of BSM physics** in SM processes?
→ use **Effective Field Theory** to parametrize BSM physics
(Analogous to Fermi theory for weak interactions)
 - Test **self-consistency** of SM

$$m_W^2 = \frac{m_Z^2}{2} \left(1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\pi\alpha}{G_\mu \sqrt{2} m_Z^2} (1 + \Delta r)} \right)$$

→ compare **predictions** and **measurements** of m_W

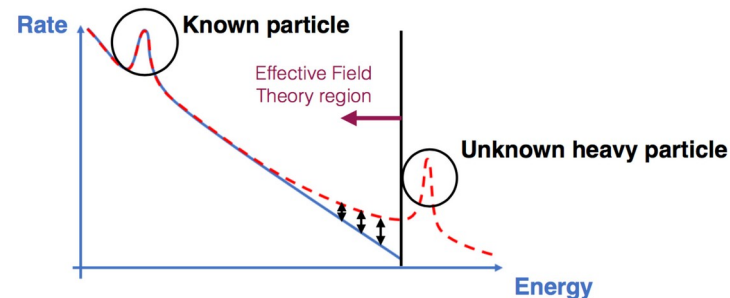


Image: E. Vryonidou

Theoretical Predictions

Schematic view of collision at LHC:

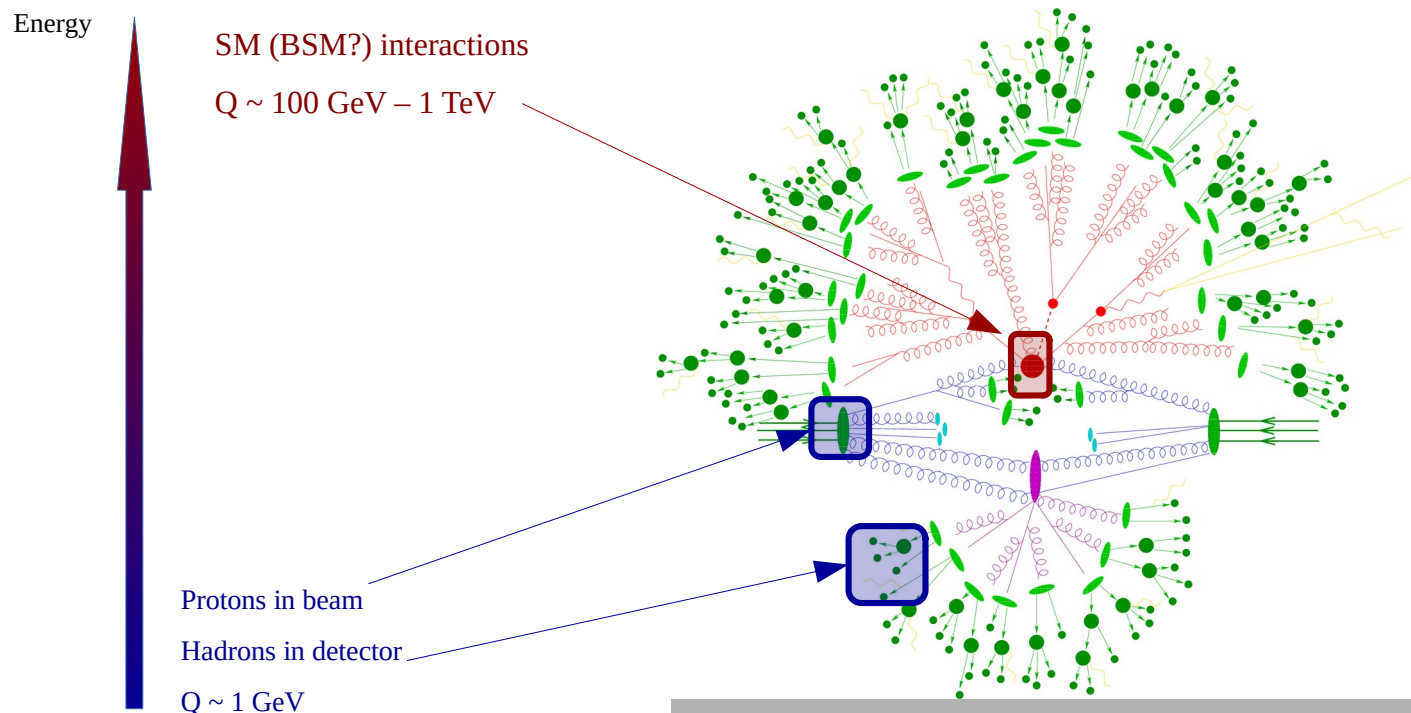


Image: F. Kraus

Theoretical Predictions

Schematic view of collision at LHC:

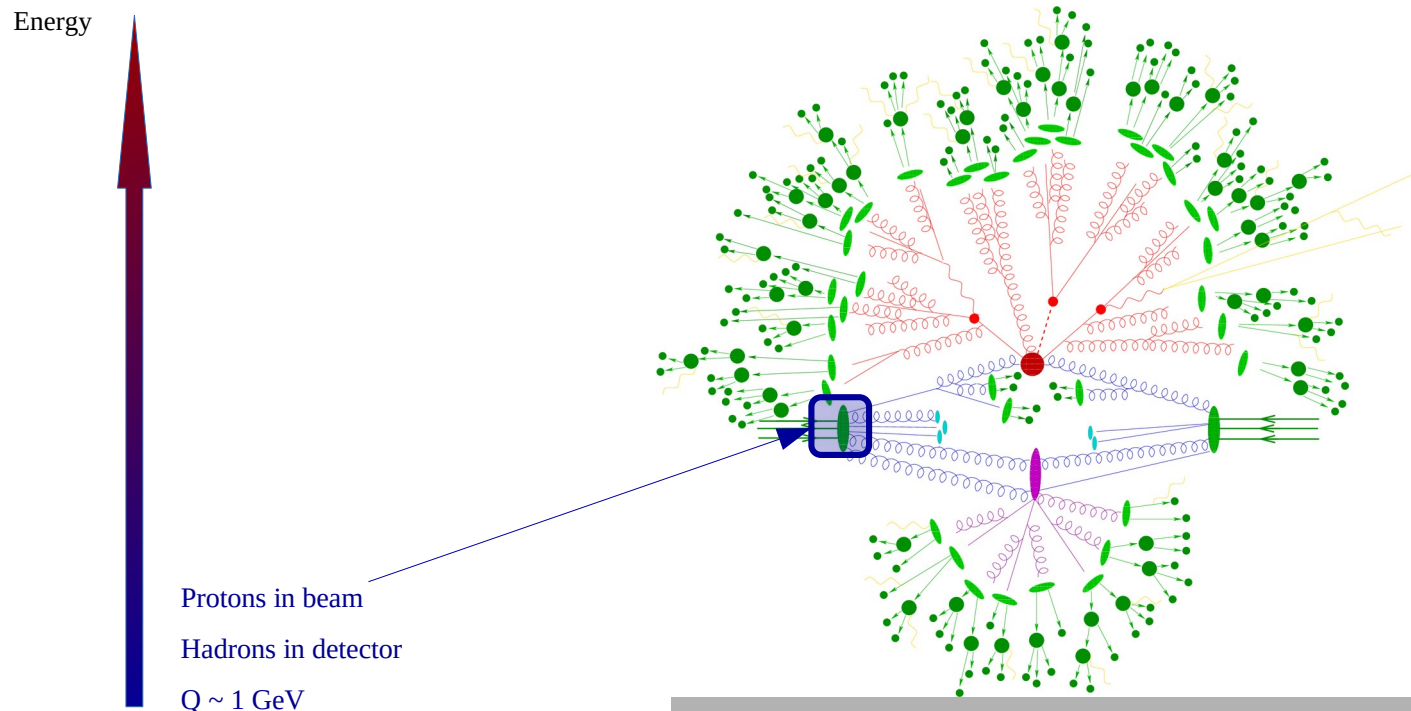


Image: F. Kraus

Challenge #1: understand behavior of **partons** (=quarks and gluons) inside protons

→ **parton distribution functions**

Parton distribution functions

- PDFs not analytically computable (confinement), determined from **fits to data**.

NNPDF → using **neural nets / machine learning** to perform fit

(Stefano Carrazza,
Stefano Forte)

- Inclusion of higher order QCD/QED effects in pdfs;
- Photon content of proton;
- Estimating theory uncertainties;
- Faithfulness of fits with inconsistent data;
- Determination of strong coupling;
- ...

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- ...

Evaluating the faithfulness of PDF uncertainties in the presence of inconsistent data

Andrea Barontini,^a Mark N. Costantini,^c Giovanni De Crescenzo,^b Stefano Forte,^a
and Maria Ubiali^c

in which uncorrected inconsistencies are present. Taken together, these results provide a reassuring indication that as more data are included in global PDF determination, thereby making PDFs more precise, it will be possible to achieve an accuracy that matches the level of precision.

[hep-ph/2503.17447](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2503.17447)

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- Faithfulness of fits with inconsistent data;
- Determination of strong coupling;**
 - Impacts **every LHC process**
 - Significant source of uncertainty** for e.g. Higgs investigations.

A Determination of $\alpha_s(m_Z)$ at $\text{aN}^3\text{LO}_{\text{QCD}} \otimes \text{NLO}_{\text{QED}}$ Accuracy from a Global PDF Analysis

The NNPDF Collaboration:

Richard D. Ball¹, Andrea Barontini², Juan Cruz-Martinez³, Stefano Forte²,
Felix Hekhorn^{4,5}, Emanuele R. Nocera⁶, Juan Rojo^{7,8}, and Roy Stegeman¹

- Its methodology is validated by a closure test.
- Uncertainties include the MHOU's on the processes used for PDF determination both at NNLO and aN^3LO .
- Effects of mixed QCD $\otimes$ QED evolution and the photon PDF are accounted for.

[hep-ph/2506.13871](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2506.13871)

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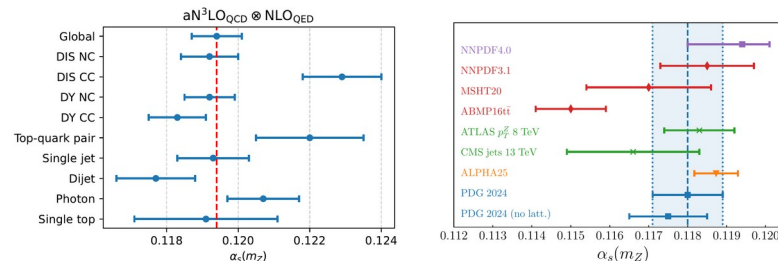
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[hep-ph/2506.13871](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2506.13871)

Parton distribution functions

- PDFs assume **zero transverse momentum**
- Extend to **small** (but **non-zero**) transverse momentum → **transverse momentum distribution**

JI

A Neural-Network Extraction of Unpolarised Transverse-Momentum-Dependent Distributions

The **MAP** (Multi-dimensional Analyses of Partonic distributions) Collaboration

Alessandro Bacchetta,^{1,2,*} Valerio Bertone,^{3,†} Chiara Bissolotti,^{4,‡} Matteo Cerutti,^{5,6,§} Marco Radici,^{2,¶} Simone Rodini,^{7,**} and Lorenzo Rossi^{8,9,††}

[hep-ph/2502.04166](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2502.04166)

Conclusions

In this work, we presented the first extraction of the unpolarised quark TMD PDFs in the proton from a comprehensive set of DY data using a parametrisation for the nonperturbative part based on a NN. Our results employ

Theoretical Predictions

Schematic view of collision at LHC:

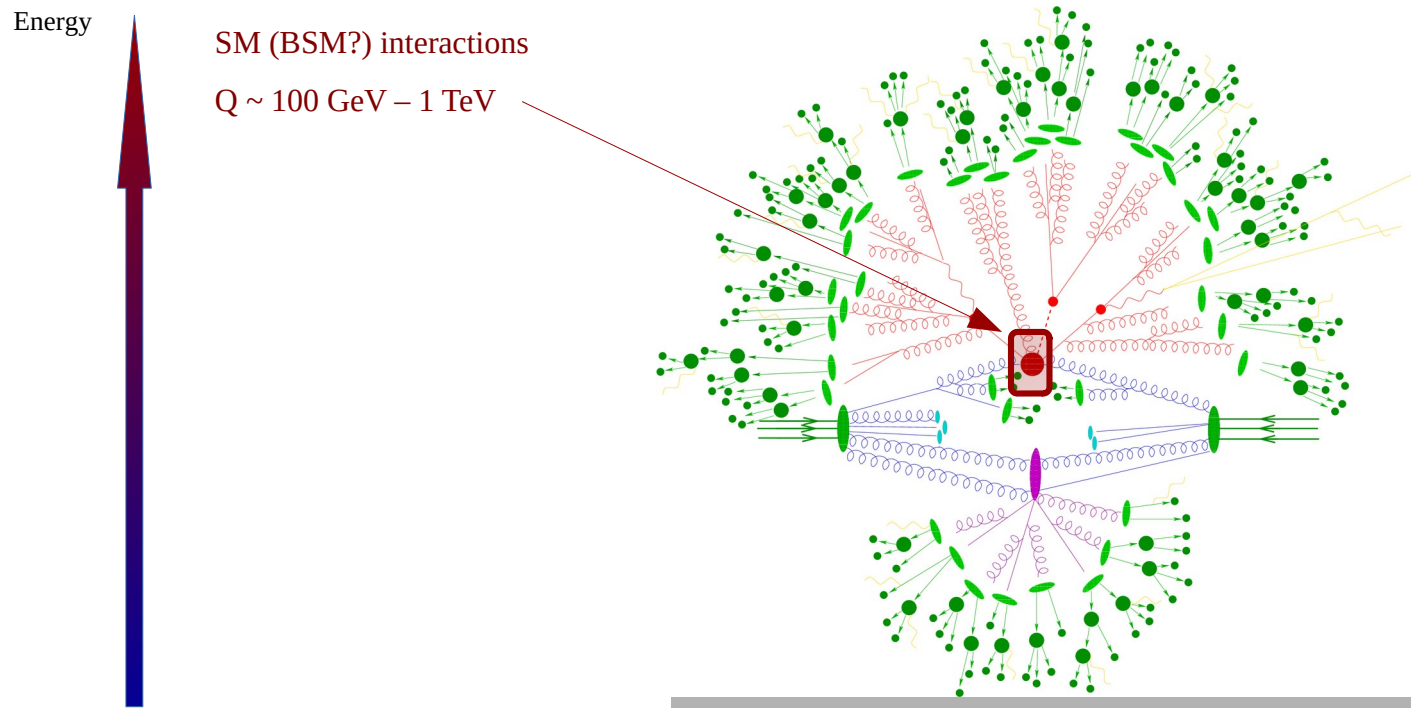


Image: F. Kraus

Challenge #2: compute
hard (high-energy)
scattering process

Theoretical Predictions

Schematic view of collision at LHC:

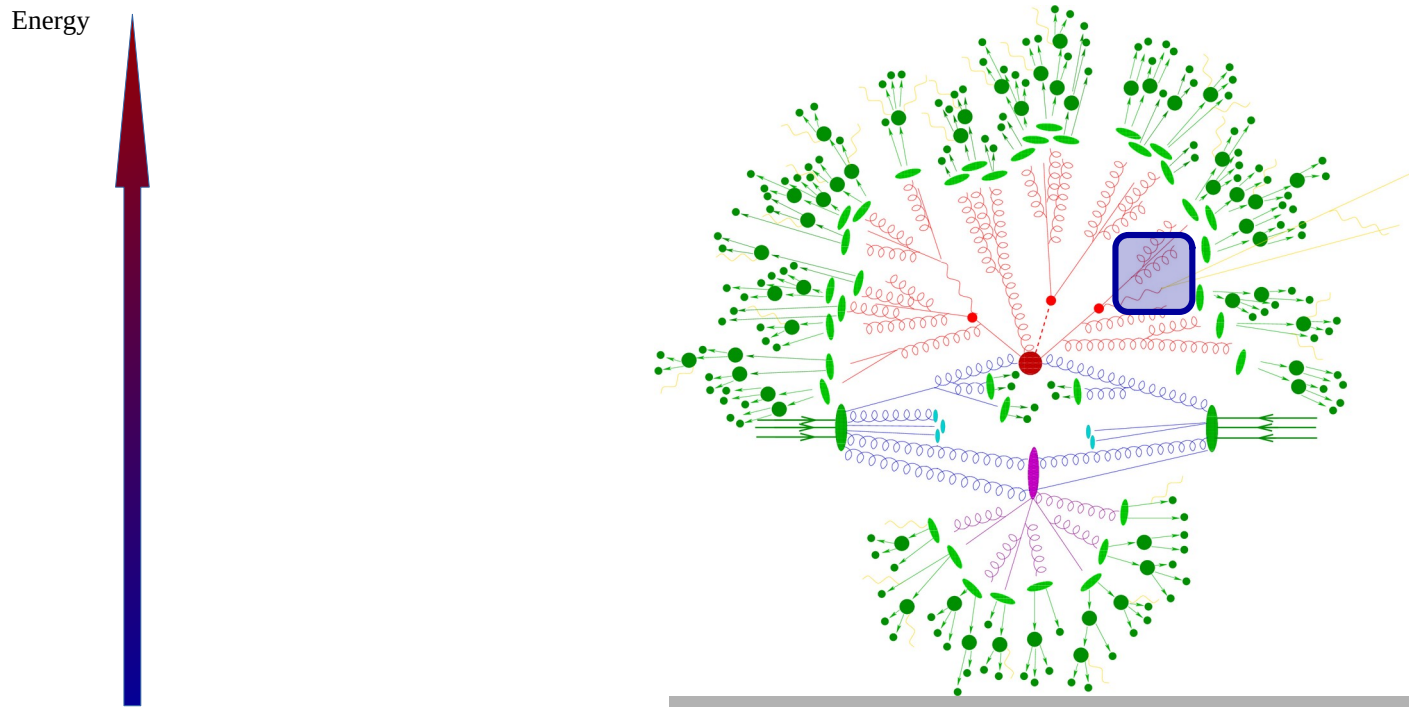


Image: F. Kraus

Challenge #3: account
for **multiple radiated
partons**

Theoretical Predictions

- QFTs of SM not analytically solvable – compute **perturbatively** in strong and EW couplings

$$d\hat{\sigma} = d\hat{\sigma}^{(0,0)} + \alpha_s d\hat{\sigma}^{(1,0)} + \alpha_s^2 d\hat{\sigma}^{(2,0)} + \alpha_s^3 d\hat{\sigma}^{(3,0)} + \alpha d\hat{\sigma}^{(0,1)} + \alpha\alpha_s d\hat{\sigma}^{(1,1)} + \dots$$

Leading
Order
(LO)NLO
QCDNNLO
QCDN3LO
QCDNLO
EWMixed
QCD-EW

- Two major obstacles in computing higher order corrections:

- 1) Calculating multi-loop amplitudes (Feynman integrals)
- 2) Treatment of infrared singularities

(Giancarlo Ferrera, Stefano Forte, Raoul Röntsch, Alessandro Vicini, Marco Zaro)

Techniques for higher-order calculations

- Current state-of-the-art: $2 \rightarrow 3$ processes at NNLO QCD
- Often require ~ 10 million CPU hours
- Improvements in calculational techniques is an active field

**Towards a general subtraction formula for NNLO
QCD corrections to processes at hadron colliders:
final states with quarks and gluons**

Federica Devoto,^a Kirill Melnikov,^b Raoul Röntsch,^c Chiara Signorile-Signorile,^d
Davide Maria Tagliabue,^{b,c} Matteo Tresoldi^b

[hep-ph/2503.15251](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2503.15251)

**Saddle-point method for
resummed form factors in QCD**

Ugo Giuseppe Aglietti^(a), Giancarlo Ferrera^(b) and Wan-Li Ju^(c)

[hep-ph/2506.18707](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2506.18707)

Theoretical Predictions

- Want calculations to be used by community → **efficient, stable, public codes**

**Hardware acceleration for next-to-leading order event
generation within MadGRAPH5_AMC@NLO**

(Ramon Winterhalder, Marco Zaro)

Zenny Wettersten^{1,2,}, Olivier Mattelaer³, Stefan Roiser¹, Andrea Valassi¹, and Marco Zaro⁴*

[hep-ph/2503.07439](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2503.07439)

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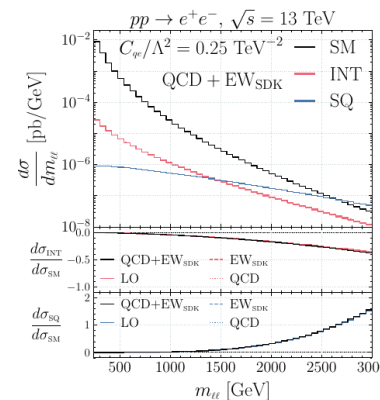
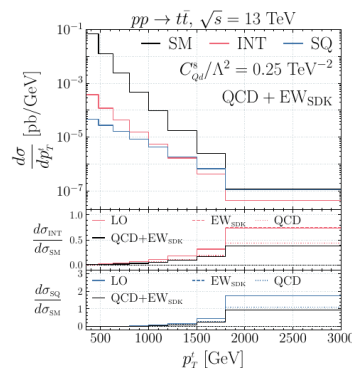
(Ramon Winterhalder, Marco Zaro)

- Interplay of **SMEFT effects** and **higher-order corrections**

**Electroweak corrections in the SMEFT:
four-fermion operators at high energies**

Hesham El Faham,^a Ken Mimasu,^b Davide Pagani,^c Claudio Severi,^a Eleni Vryonidou,^a Marco Zaro^{d,e}

[hep-ph/2412.16076](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2412.16076)



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Zenny Wettersten^{1,2,*}, Olivier Mattelaer³, Stefan Roiser¹, Andrea Valassi¹, and Marco Zaro⁴

[hep-ph/2503.07439](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2503.07439)

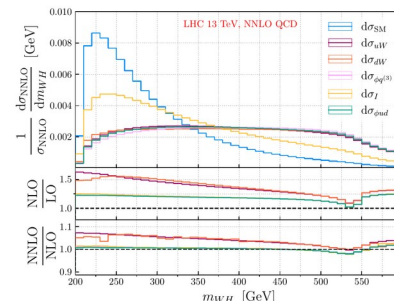
(Ramon Winterhalder, Marco Zaro)

- Interplay of **SMEFT effects** and **higher-order corrections**

**WH production at the LHC within SMEFT at
next-to-next-to-leading order QCD**

Marco Bonetti,^{1,2,3,*} Robert V. Harlander,^{3,†} Dmitrii Korneev,^{3,‡} Ming-Ming Long,^{4,§} Kirill Melnikov,^{4,¶} Raoul Röntschi,^{5,6,**} and Davide Maria Tagliabue^{4,5,6,††}

[hep-ph/2502.12846](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2502.12846)



Lepton colliders

- Revisiting old LEP data and planning for future e+e- collider

Double neutral-current corrections to NLO
electroweak leptonic cross sections

Stefano Frixione,^a Fabio Maltoni,^{b,c,d} Davide Pagani,^d Marco Zaro^{e,f}

[hep-ph/2506.10732](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2506.10732)

Thrust distribution in electron-positron annihilation
at full N³LL+NNLO (and beyond) in QCD

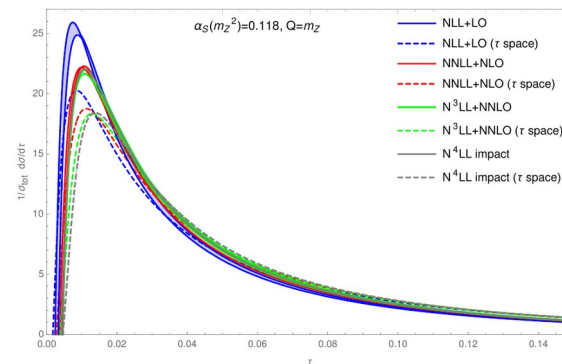
Ugo Giuseppe Aglietti^(a), Giancarlo Ferrera^(b,c), Wan-Li Ju^(c,d) and Jiahao Miao^(b)

[hep-ph/2502.01570](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2502.01570)

Heavy quark mass effects in the Energy-Energy
Correlation in the back-to-back region

Ugo Giuseppe Aglietti^(a) and Giancarlo Ferrera^(b)

[hep-ph/2412.02629](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2412.02629)



Machine Learning

ML becoming ubiquitous in HEP – need to understand its **limits** as well as **opportunities** it provides.

- **Improving** HEP simulations using ML...

... while keeping **computational costs** low

Accurate Surrogate Amplitudes with Calibrated Uncertainties

Henning Bahl¹, Nina Elmer¹, Luigi Favaro^{1,2},
Manuel Haußmann³, Tilman Plehn^{1,4}, and Ramon Winterhalder⁵

[hep-ph/2412.12069](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2412.12069)

BitHEP — The Limits of Low-Precision ML in HEP

Claudius Krause¹, Daohan Wang¹ and Ramon Winterhalder²

[hep-ph/2504.03387](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/2504.03387)

Quantum Computing

- Quantum sensors for DM searches

Transmon qubit modeling and characterization for Dark Matter search

R. Moretti,^{1,2,3} D. Labranca,^{1,2,3,4} P. Campana,^{1,2,3} R. Carobene,^{1,2,3} M. Gobbo,^{1,2,3}
M. A. Castellanos-Beltran,⁴ D. Olaya,^{4,5} P. Hopkins,⁴ L. Banchi,^{6,7} M. Borghesi,^{1,2,3}
A. Candido,⁸ S. Carrazza,^{8,9,10,11} H. A. Corti,^{1,2,3} A. D'Elia,¹² M. Faverzani,^{1,2,3} E.
Ferri,² A. Nucciotti,^{1,2,3} L. Origo,^{1,2,3} A. Pasquale,^{9,10,11} A. S. Piedjou Komnang,¹² A.
Rettaroli,¹² S. Tocci,¹² C. Gatti,¹² and A. Giachero^{1,2,3,13}

[hep-ph/2409.05988](#)

- Middleware for quantum computing emulation and calibration (Qibo)

Synergy with INFN Gruppo V: QUART&T

- ML for QC

AI-Powered Noisy Quantum Emulation: Generalized Gate-Based Protocols for Hardware-Agnostic Simulation

Matthew Ho,^{1,*} Jun Yong Khoo,^{1,†} Adrian M. Mak,¹ and Stefano Carrazza^{2,3,4,5}

[hep-ph/2502.19872](#)

Qibocal: an open-source framework for calibration of self-hosted quantum devices

Andrea Pasquale,^{1,2,3} Edoardo Pedicillo,^{1,2} Juan Cereijo,² Sergi Ramos-Calderer,^{2,4} Alessandro Candido,⁵
Gabriele Palazzo,^{2,6} Rodolfo Carobene,^{7,8,9} Marco Gobbo,^{7,8,9} Stavros Efthymiou,² Yuanzheng
Paul Tan,¹⁰ Ingo Roth,² Matteo Robbiati,^{1,11} Jadwiga Wilkens,^{2,12} Alvaro Orgaz-Fuertes,² David
Fuentes-Ruiz,² Andrea Giachero,^{7,8,9} Frederico Brito,^{13,2} José I. Latorre,^{2,14,4} and Stefano Carrazza^{5,1,3,2}

[hep-ph/2410.00101](#)

Community-wide involvement

**State-of-the-art cross sections for $t\bar{t}H$:
NNLO predictions matched with NNLL resummation
and EW corrections**

Roger Balsach¹ Alessandro Broggio² Simone Devoto³ Andrea Ferroglia⁴ Rikkert Frederix⁵ Massimiliano Grazzini⁶ Stefan Kallweit⁶ Anna Kulesza¹ Javier Mazzitelli⁷ Leszek Motyka⁸ Davide Pagani⁹ Benjamin D. Pecjak¹⁰ Chiara Savoini¹¹ Tomasz Stebel⁸ Malgorzata Worek¹² Marco Zaro¹³

hep-ph/2503.15043

**Quantum Information meets High-Energy Physics: Input to
the update of the European Strategy for Particle Physics**

Contact Persons: Yoav Afik^{*1}, Federica Fabbri^{12,3}, Matthew Low¹⁴, Luca Marzola^{5,6}, Juan Antonio Aguilar-Saavedra⁷, Mohammad Mahdi Altakach⁸, Nedaa Alexandra Asbah⁹, Yang Bai^{10,11}, Hannah Banks¹², Alan J. Barr¹³, Alexander Bernal⁷, Thomas E. Browder¹⁴, Pawel Caban¹⁵, J. Alberto Casas⁷, Kun Cheng⁴, Frédéric Déliot¹⁶, Regina Demina¹⁷, Antonio Di Domenico^{18,19}, Michał Eckstein²⁰, Marco Fabbrichesi²¹, Benjamin Fuks²², Emidio Gabrielli^{5,21,23}, Dorival Gonçalves²⁴, Radosław Grabarczyk²⁵, Michele Grossi⁹, Tao Han⁴, Timothy J. Hobbs¹¹, Paweł Horodecki^{26,27}, James Howarth²⁸, Shih-Chieh Hsu²⁹, Stephen Jiggins³⁰, Eleanor Jones³⁰, Andreas W. Jung³¹, Andrea Helen Knue³², Steffen Korn³³, Theodota Lagouri³⁴, Priyanka Lamba^{2,3}, Gabriel T. Landi¹⁷, Haifeng Li³⁵, Qiang Li³⁶, Ian Low^{11,37}, Fabio Maltoni^{2,3,38}, Josh McFayden³⁹, Navin McGinnis⁴⁰, Roberto A. Morales⁴¹, Jesús M. Moreno⁷, Juan Ramón Muñoz de Nova⁴², Giulia Negro³¹, Davide Pagani³, Giovanni Pelliccioli^{43,44}, Michele Pinamonti^{45,46}, Laura Pintucci^{45,46}, Baptiste Ravina⁹, Alim Ruzi³⁶, Kazuki Sakurai⁴⁷, Ethan Simpson⁴⁸, Maximiliano Sioli^{2,3}, Shufang Su⁴⁰, Sokratis Trifinopoulos⁴⁹, Sven E. Vahsen¹⁴, Sofia Vallecorsa⁹, Alessandro Vicini^{50,51}, Marcel Vos⁵², Eleni Vryonidou⁴⁸, Chris D. White⁵³, Martin J. White⁵⁴, Andrew J. Wildridge³¹, Tong Arthur Wu⁴, Laura Zani⁵⁵, Yulei Zhang²⁹, and Knut Zoch⁵⁶

hep-ph/2504.00086

**Theoretical modeling of QCD radiation in off-shell Higgs
production through gluon fusion**

Rafael Coelho Lopes de Sá^{1*}, Martina Javurkova^{1,2†}, Matteo Lazzeretti^{3‡} and Raoul Röntsch^{3,4◦}

hep-ph/2506.17022

**Les Houches 2023 - Physics at TeV Colliders:
Report on the Standard Model Precision Wishlist**

Alexander Huss¹, Joey Huston², Stephen Jones³, Mathieu Pellen⁴, Raoul Röntsch⁵

hep-ph/2504.06689

Community-wide involvement

Looking to the future:

Precision phenomenology at multi-TeV muon
colliders

Stefano Frixione,^a Fabio Maltoni,^{b,c,d} Davide Pagani,^d Marco Zaro^{e,f}

[hep-ph/2506.10733](#)

**ECFA Higgs, electroweak,
and top factory study**

[hep-ph/2506.15390](#)

**Future Circular Collider
Feasibility Study Report**

[hep-ph/2505.00274](#)

Summary

Group is extremely active:

- Covers most areas of **perturbative QCD** & **precision collider physics**:
 - PDFs
 - Fixed-order perturbative calculation
 - Resummation
 - Public availability of codes
- Different aspects of **collider phenomenology**: Drell-Yan, Higgs physics, top physics, jets, ...
- BSM physics through **SMEFT**, **ML** in HEP, **quantum computing**, ...
- Strong involvement across HEP community



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION