

# Standard model at the LHC: QCD

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# No LHC without understanding QCD

QCD at the LHC operates in new regime: high energy, large multiplicities. It produces interesting needles

- ▶ Higgs, top, SM, BSM, ...

and enormous amounts of hay

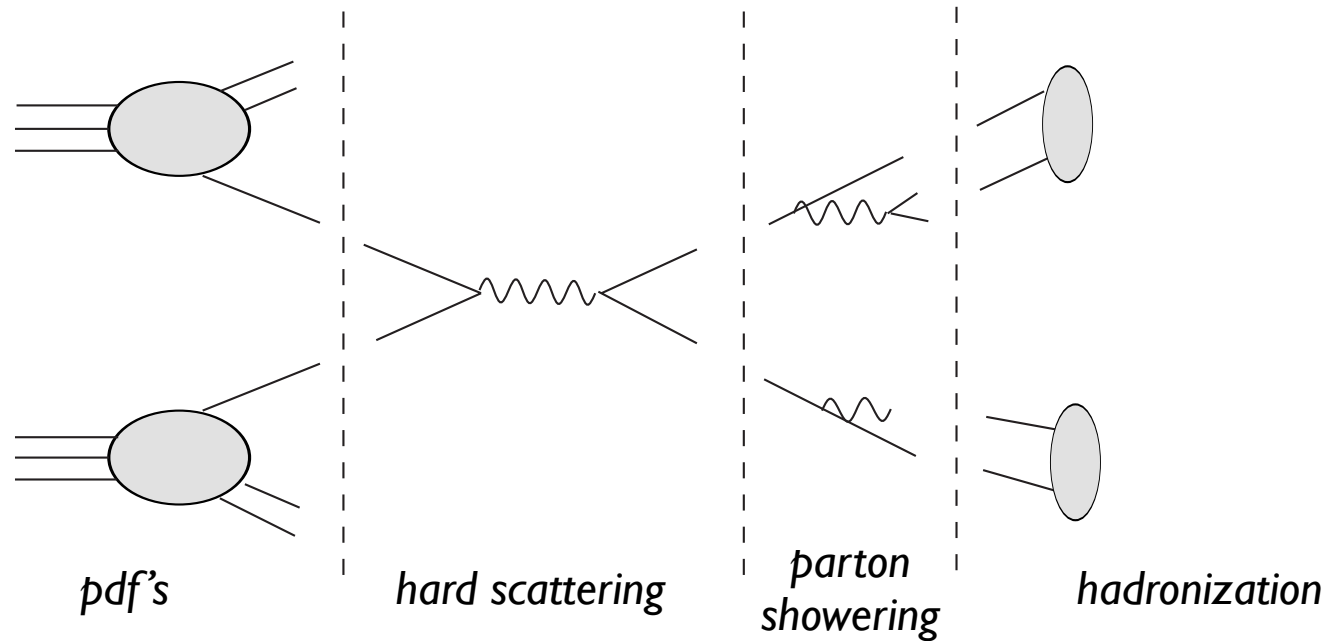
- ▶ Jets, b's, underlying events, multi-parton scattering

How to separate?

- ▶ Develop/use the best theoretical tools available
- ▶ Much interaction among theorists and experimenters

LHC poses a daunting challenge to QCD theorists

# QCD predictions at the LHC



## Factorization theorem

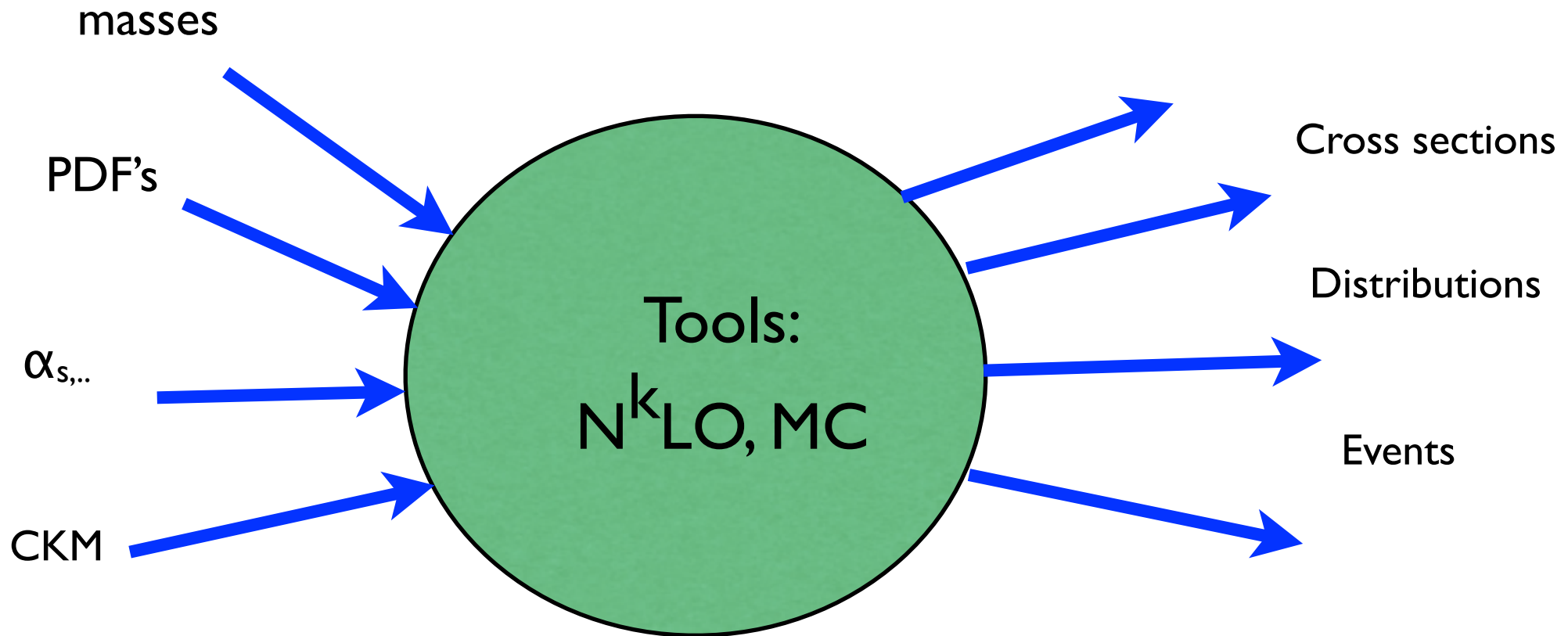
Collins, Soper, Sterman; Bodwin

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle O \rangle &= \frac{1}{2s} \int dx_1 f(x_1) \int dx_2 f(x_2) \frac{1}{(2s_1 + 1)(2s_2 + 1)n_1 n_2} \\
 &\quad \times \sum_n \int d\phi_{n-2} O(p_1, \dots, p_n) |A(n)|^2 + \sum_{p=1} c_p \left(\frac{\Lambda}{Q}\right)^p
 \end{aligned}$$

*pdf's*
*initial state spin etc averaging*

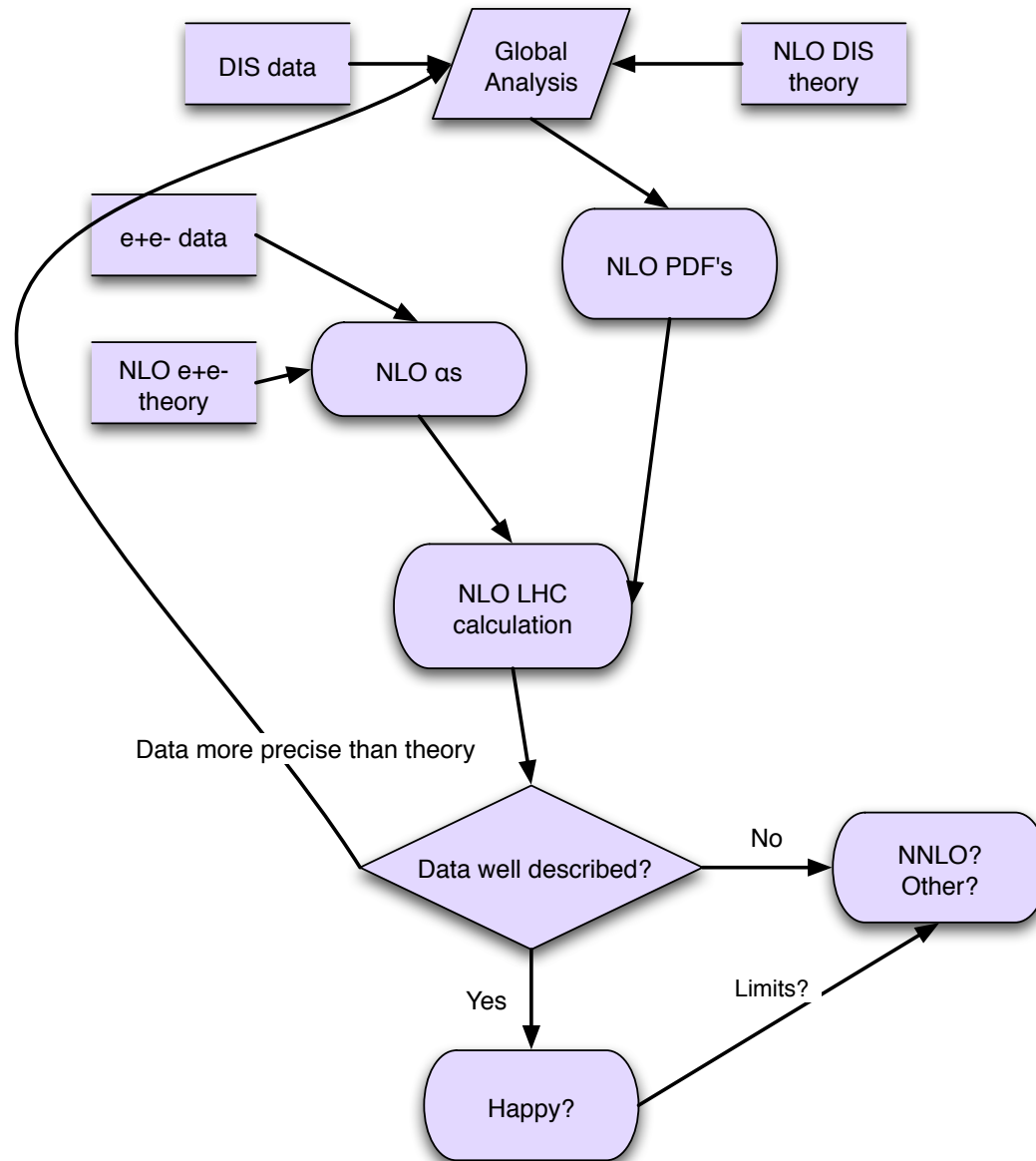
*phase space integral*
*observable*
*amplitude*
*power corrections*

# QCD predictions, simplified



- ▶ Each input has uncertainty
- ▶ Tools have intrinsic accuracy

# QCD predictions, less simplified



# This talk

Flavor of state-of-the-art in

- ▶ LO, NLO, NNLO
- ▶ Resummation
- ▶ Monte Carlo

with some recent applications and present challenges

Disclaimer: vastly incomplete referencing

# Higher order QCD

# LO, NLO cross sections

Multi-differential hadronic NLO cross section

NLO PDF's

$$\frac{d\sigma^{pp \rightarrow X}}{d^3p_1 \dots d^3p_n} = \sum_{a,b} \int dx_1 dx_2 f_a(x_1, \mu_F) f_b(x_2, \mu_F)$$

$$\times \hat{\sigma}_{ab}(p_a + p_b \rightarrow p_X, \alpha_s(\mu_R), \mu_R, \mu_F) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\Lambda^2}{Q^2}\right)$$

Multi-differential parton-level NLO cross section

Power corrections

Renormalization and Factorization scale

For NNLO, add “N” in all the right places..



# Parton distribution functions

$$f_{i/P}(x, \mu_F)$$

Probability for parton of type “i” inside proton P  
to interact having momentum fraction “x”

- ✓ There are 13.
- ✓ Universal, and crucial for accurate predictions at LHC
- ✓ Sophisticated approaches, various groups, publicly available
- ✓ No time to do justice..

# Status of Higher Order

Order	$2 \rightarrow 1$	$2 \rightarrow 2$	$2 \rightarrow 3$	$2 \rightarrow 4$	$2 \rightarrow 5$	$2 \rightarrow 6$
1	LO					
$\alpha_s$	NLO	LO				
$\alpha_s^2$	NNLO	NLO	LO			
$\alpha_s^3$	NNNLO	NNLO	NLO	LO		
$\alpha_s^4$				NLO	LO	
$\alpha_s^5$					NLO	LO
						NLO

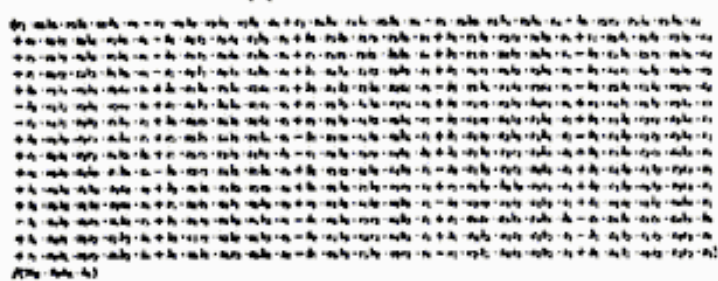
- ▶ LO well-understood, now more efficient than ever
- ▶ NLO: a flood of new developments
- ▶ NNLO  $2 \rightarrow 2$  starting now..
- ✓ Show now also start including NLO QCD + EW
- ▶ NNNLO: for  $F_2(x, Q)$ , from same (Nikhef) foundry as NNLO splitting functions
 

Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt

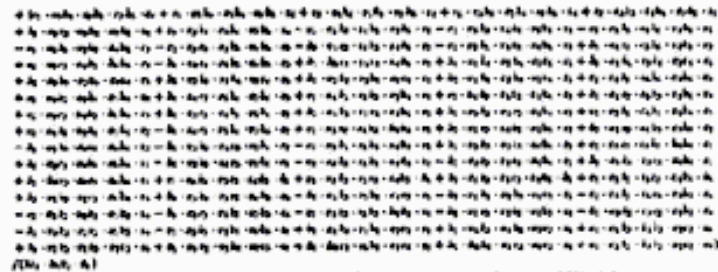
# Need for computer algebra!!

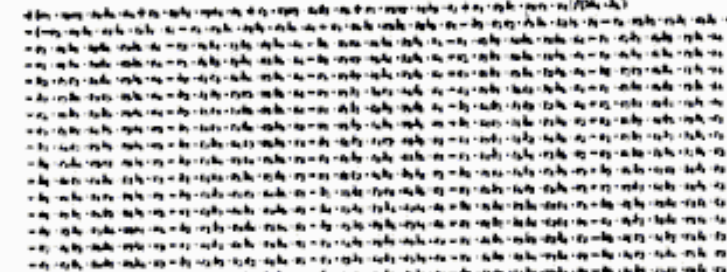
FORM Vermaseren


Result of a brute force calculation (actually only a small part of it):

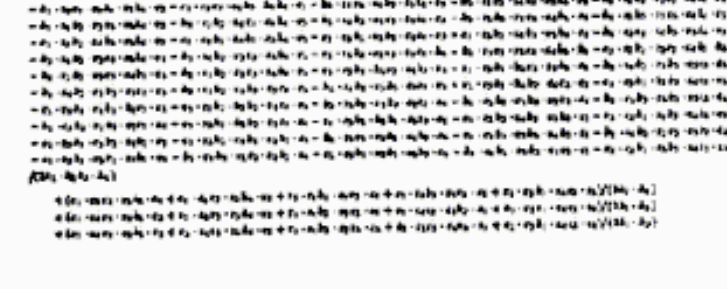














$$k_1 \cdot k_4 \epsilon_2 \cdot k_1 \epsilon_1 \cdot \epsilon_3 \epsilon_4 \cdot \epsilon_5$$

# NLO: all it took was a wish...



- ▶ First composed in Les Houches in 2005, added to in 2007, 2009 by Joey Huston
- ▶ List of “doable” calculations needed for LHC
- ▶ They have now all been done
  - ▶ (except  $t\bar{t}t$ )

Process ( $V \in \{Z, W, \gamma\}$ )	Comments
<b>Calculations completed since Les Houches 2005</b>	
1. $pp \rightarrow VV$ jet	$WW$ jet completed by Dittmaier/Kallweit/Uwer [27, 28]; Campbell/Ellis/Zanderighi [29]. $ZZ$ jet completed by Binoth/Gleisberg/Karg/Kauer/Sanguinetti [30]
2. $pp \rightarrow \text{Higgs}+2$ jets	$WZ$ jet, $W\gamma$ jet completed by Campanario et al. [31, 32] NLO QCD to the $gg$ channel completed by Campbell/Ellis/Zanderighi [33]; NLO QCD+EW to the VBF channel completed by Ciccolini/Denner/Dittmaier [34, 35] Interference QCD-EW in VBF channel [36, 37]
3. $pp \rightarrow VVV$	$ZZZ$ completed by Lazopoulos/Melnikov/Petriello [38] and $WWZ$ by Hankele/Zepfenfeld [39]. see also Binoth/Ossola/Papadopoulos/Pittau [40] VBFNLO [41, 42] meanwhile also contains $WWW, ZZW, ZZZ, WW\gamma, ZZ\gamma, WZ\gamma, W\gamma\gamma, Z\gamma\gamma, \gamma\gamma\gamma, W\gamma\gamma j$ [43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 21]
4. $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$	relevant for $t\bar{t}H$ , computed by Breidenstein/Denner/Dittmaier/Pozzorini [48, 49] and Bevilacqua/Czakon/Papadopoulos/Pittau/Worek [50]
5. $pp \rightarrow V+3$ jets	$W+3$ jets calculated by the Blackhat/Sherpa [51] and Rocket [52] collaborations $Z+3$ jets by Blackhat/Sherpa [53]
<b>Calculations remaining from Les Houches 2005</b>	
6. $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}+2$ jets	relevant for $t\bar{t}H$ , computed by Bevilacqua/Czakon/Papadopoulos/Worek [54, 55]
7. $pp \rightarrow VVb\bar{b}$ , 8. $pp \rightarrow VV+2$ jets	Pozzorini et al. [25], Bevilacqua et al. [23] $W^+W^++2$ jets [56], $W^+W^-+2$ jets [57, 58], VBF contributions calculated by (Bozzi)Jäger/Oleari/Zepfenfeld [59, 60, 61]
<b>NLO calculations added to list in 2007</b>	
9. $pp \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$	Binoth et al. [62, 63]
<b>NLO calculations added to list in 2009</b>	
10. $pp \rightarrow V+4$ jets	top pair production, various new physics signatures Blackhat/Sherpa: $W+4$ jets [22], $Z+4$ jets [20] see also HEJ [64] for $W+n$ jets
11. $pp \rightarrow Wb\bar{b}j$ 12. $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}t$	top, new physics signatures, Reina/Schutzmeier [11] various new physics signatures
also completed: $pp \rightarrow W\gamma\gamma$ jet $pp \rightarrow 4$ jets	Campanario/Englert/Rauch/Zepfenfeld [21] Blackhat/Sherpa [19]

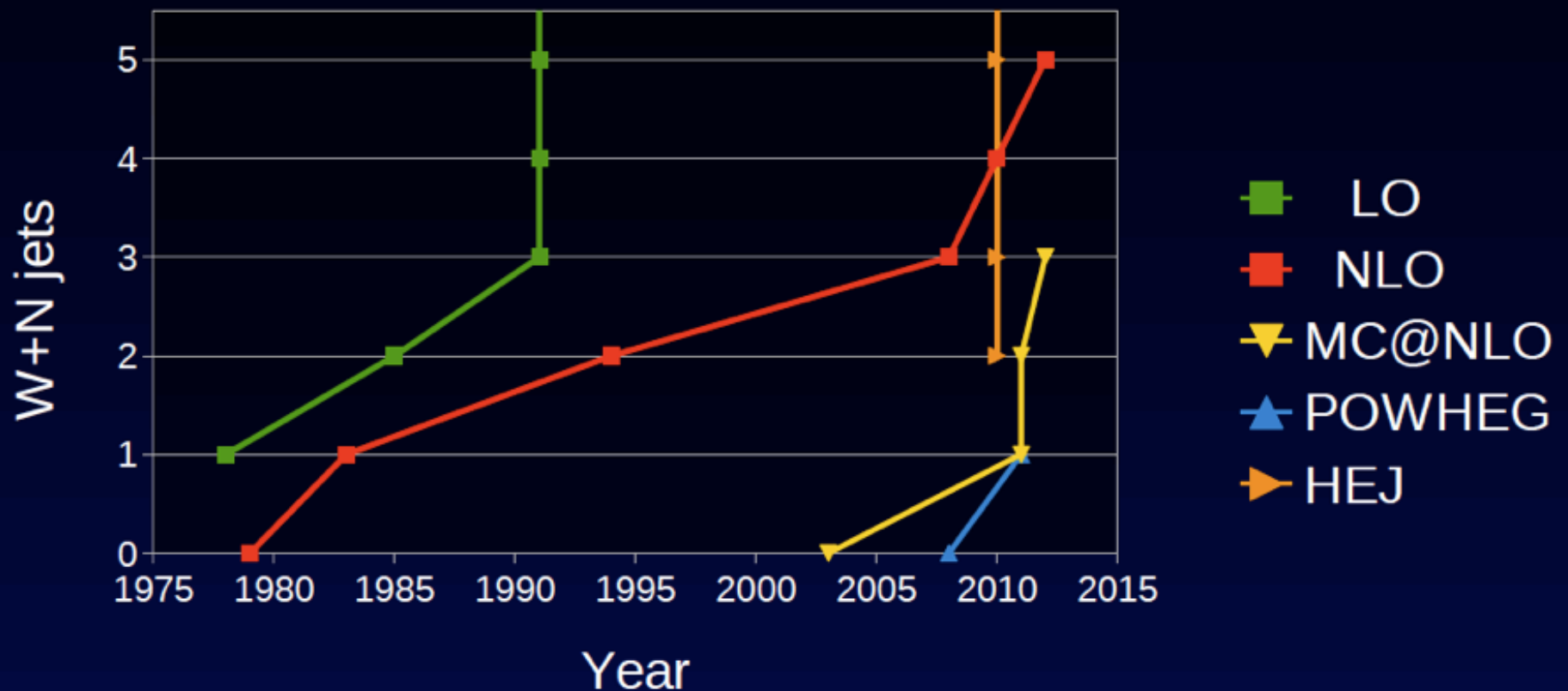
..and a revolution in calculational methods

# Nonlinear progress in $W+n$ jets

D. Maitre, Talk at SM@LHC workshop, NBI

## Recent progress

- Number of jets in addition to the vector boson



Berger, Bern, Dixon, Febres-Cordero, Forde  
Ita, Kosower, Maitre

# Leading order

The problem here is not handling divergences, but handling complexity.  
For  $gg \rightarrow ng$  number of diagrams grows factorially

n	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
diagrams	4	25	220	2485	34300	559405	1.05E+07

Nowadays routinely handled:

- ▶ Madgraph/Madevent (helicity amplitudes), Sherpa/Amegic++, Helac/Phegas, Alpgen (recursion), Comphep (matrix elements)
- ✓ after many inventions

# LO scattering: know your quantum numbers

## Color-decomposition

$$\mathcal{A}_n(1, \dots, n) = g^{n-2} \sum_{\sigma} \text{Tr}(T^{a_{\sigma(1)}} \dots T^{a_{\sigma(n)}}) A_n(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(n))$$

Color-ordered amplitudes

For n=6: 34300 → 501 color-ordered amplitudes

Specify all helicities → can use efficient spinor techniques

$A(1^{\pm}, 2^{\oplus}, \dots, n^{\pm})$ 
helicity
 $u_{+}(p) = |p+\rangle, \quad \bar{u}_{-} = \langle p-|$

$\langle pq \rangle \equiv \langle p-|q+\rangle, \quad [pq] \equiv \langle p+|q-\rangle$

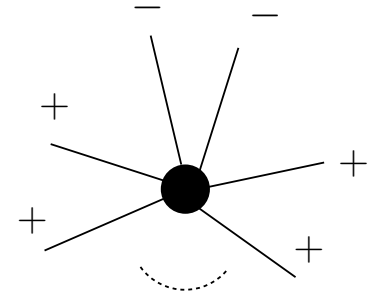
## MHV amplitude

$$A_n^{tree}(1^+, \dots, j^-, \dots, k^-, \dots, n^+) = i(\sqrt{2})^{n-2} \frac{\langle jk \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \dots \langle n1 \rangle}$$

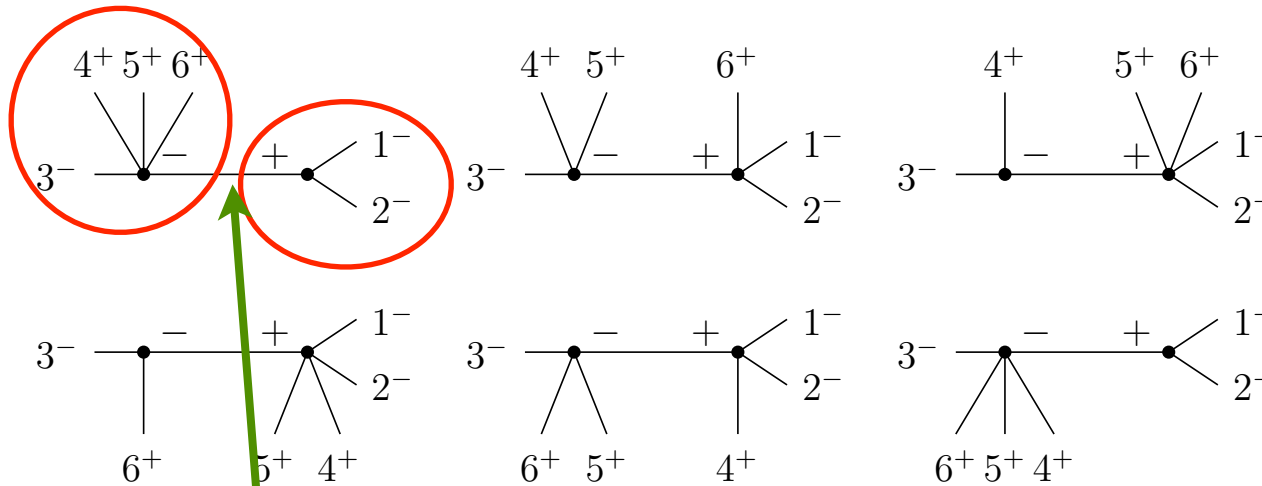
Parke, Taylor

But what about more minuses?

From twistor approach (Witten): use these as building blocks



# Post-twistor recursion



Construct helicity amplitude by sewing together **MHV building blocks** using  $I$  propagator.

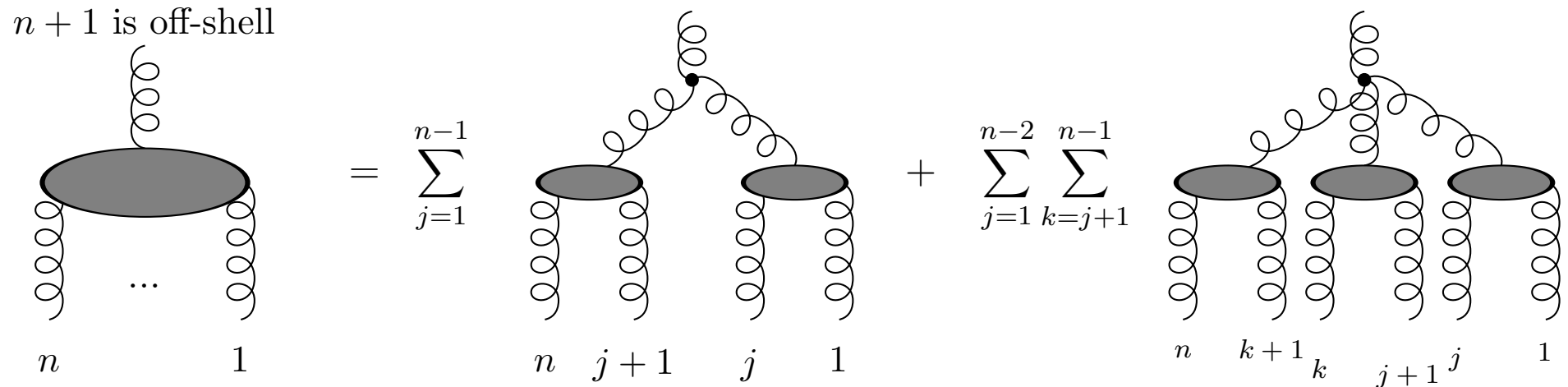
Cachazo, Svrcek, Witten

Six diagrams only! (Was 220 in this case..)



# Pre-twistor recursion (Leiden, 1980's and 90's)

Berends, Giele



- ▶ Define “currents”: one gluon off-shell,  $n$  off-shell. Obey “obvious” recursion.
- ▶ Analytically elegant, numerically efficient, was important for top-quark discovery (VECBOS: Berends, Kuijf, Tausk, Giele)

What is faster, the old or the new?

# Speed

Duhr, Hoche, Maltoni

Final State	BG		BCF		CSW	
	CO	CD	CO	CD	CO	CD
2g	0.24	0.28	0.28	0.33	0.31	0.26
3g	0.45	0.48	0.42	0.51	0.57	0.55
4g	1.20	1.04	0.84	1.32	1.63	1.75
5g	3.78	2.69	2.59	7.26	5.95	5.96
6g	14.2	7.19	11.9	59.1	27.8	30.6
7g	58.5	23.7	73.6	646	146	195
8g	276	82.1	597	8690	919	1890
9g	1450	270	5900	127000	6310	29700
10g	7960	864	64000	-	48900	-

Dinsdale, Ternick, Weinzier

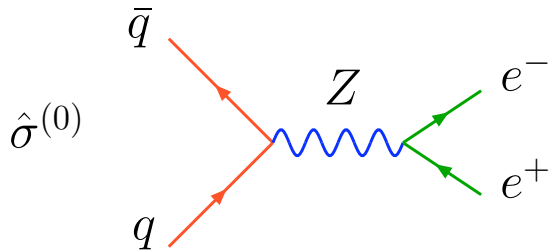
<i>n</i>	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Berends-Giele	0.00005	0.00023	0.0009	0.003	0.011	0.030	0.09	0.27	0.7
Scalar	0.00008	0.00046	0.0018	0.006	0.019	0.057	0.16	0.4	1
MHV	0.00001	0.00040	0.0042	0.033	0.24	1.77	13	81	—
BCF	0.00001	0.00007	0.0003	0.001	0.006	0.037	0.19	0.97	5.5

The old is still faster (except for MHV)...

Badger, Biedemann, Hackl, Plefka, Schuster, Uwer

# LO, NLO, etc

LO

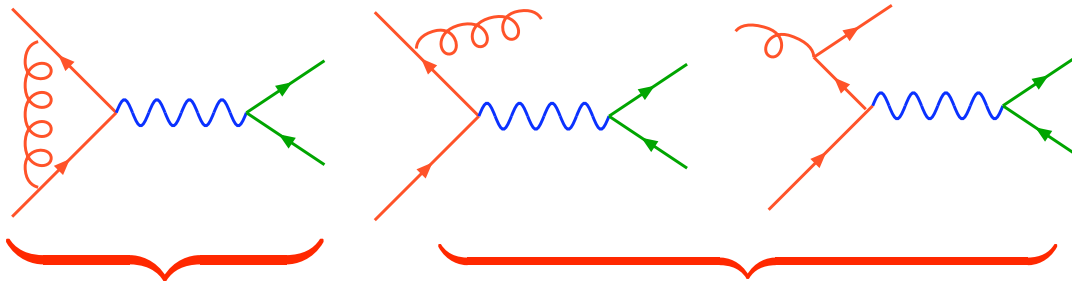


Combine with PDF's,  
put in MC integrator,  
apply cuts etc

Calculate in  $D=4-2\epsilon$  dimensions

NLO

$\hat{\sigma}^{(1)}$



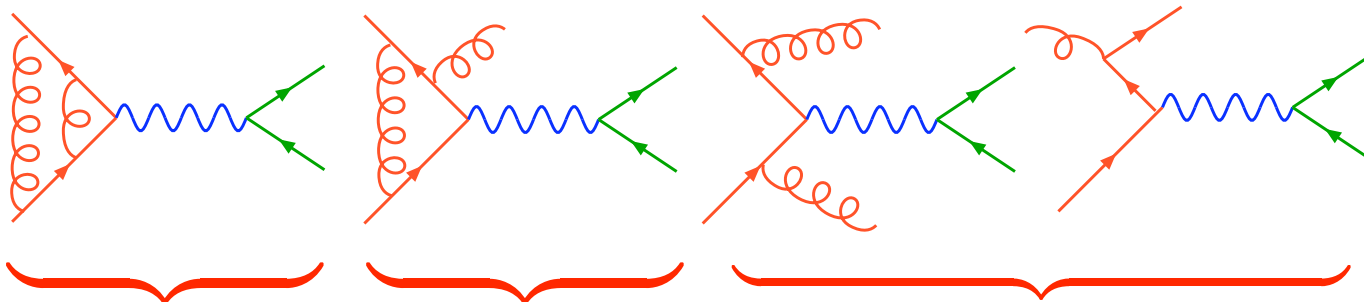
1 loop

1 extra parton

Cancel IR poles  $1/\epsilon^2$  before  
anything else

NNLO

$\hat{\sigma}^{(2)}$



2 loop

1 loop +  
1 extra parton

2 extra partons

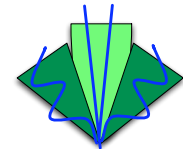
Cancel IR poles  $1/\epsilon^4$  etc before  
anything else; hard!

# Handling intermediate IR divergences

$$d\sigma_{NLO} = \int_{d\Phi_{n+1}} \left( d\sigma_{NLO}^R - d\sigma_{NLO}^S \right) + \left[ \int_{d\Phi_n} d\sigma_{NLO}^V + \int_{d\Phi_n} \left( \int_{d\Phi_1} d\sigma_{NLO}^S \right) \right]$$

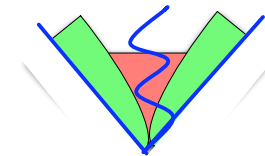
Subtraction schemes (Ellis, Ross, Terrano): find clever  $d\sigma_{NLO}^S$

- ▶ Dipole (Catani, Seymour): emitter + spectator + soft-collinear parton



- ✓ Color-charge operators; collinear split + half of soft

- ▶ Antenna (Kosower): 2 radiators + soft-collinear parton



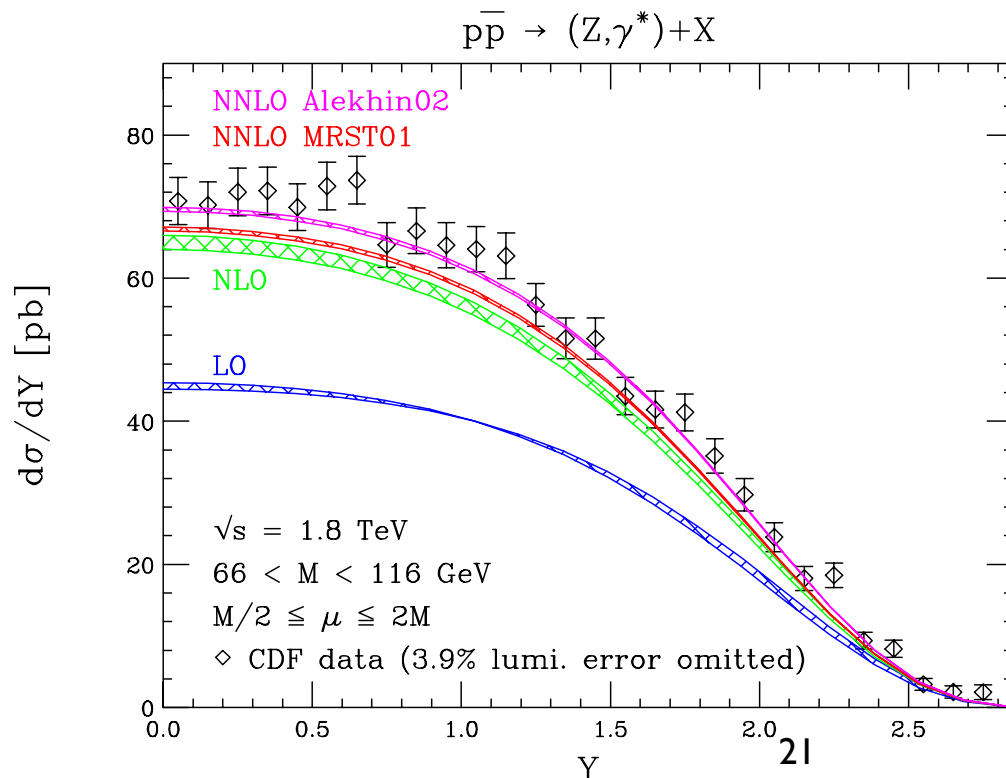
- ✓ Color-ordering; soft + half collinear splits

- ▶ FKS (Frixione, Kunszt, Signer): isolate each singularity with projectors. Use plus prescriptions to define IR-finite part.

# Why go beyond LO?

## Precision!

- ▶ Accurate prediction of production rates
- ▶ Better modelling of distribution shapes due to extra partons
- ▶ Self-diagnostics of PT
- ▶ New channels open up beyond LO, not necessarily small



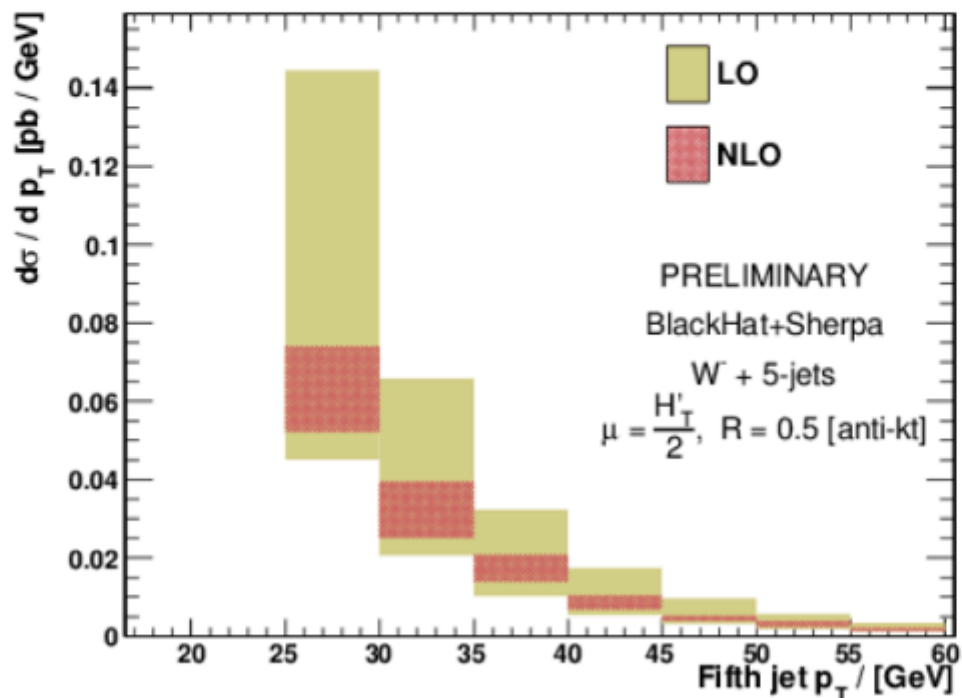
Anastasiou, Petriello, Melnikov

# NLO benefit

D. Maitre, Talk at SM@LHC workshop, NBI, April 2012

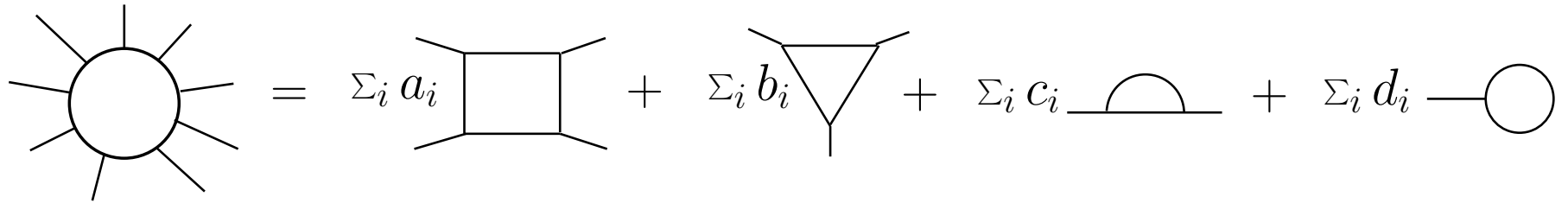
## Preliminary results for W+5 jets

- First 2 --> 6(7) calculation at NLO for the LHC



# One-loop revolution

Vermaseren, van Neerven; Bern, Dixon, Kosower,...



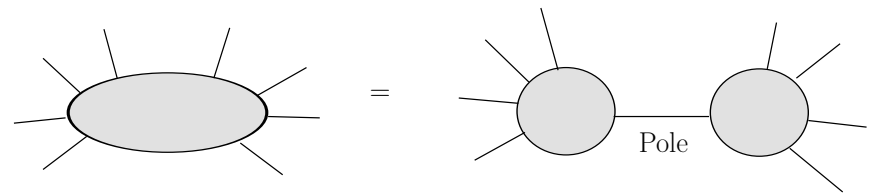
$$\mathcal{M} = \sum_i a_i(D) \text{Boxes}_i + \sum_i b_i(D) \text{Triangles}_i + \sum_i c_i(D) \text{Bubbles}_i + \sum_i d_i(D) \text{Tadpoles}_i$$

Since boxes, triangles etc are standard basis: *find coefficients*

Many ideas based on unitarity: construct a function from its poles and branch cuts

▶ poles: lower # of external lines

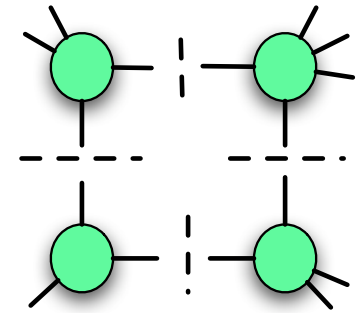
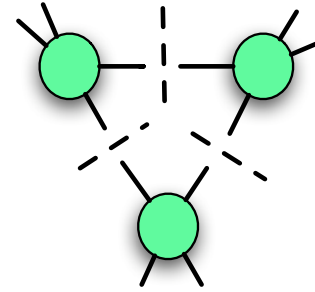
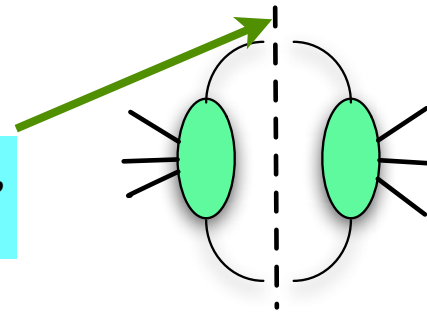
▶ branch cuts: lower # of loops



# Generalized unitarity

$$\frac{1}{p^2 + i\epsilon} \longrightarrow -i2\pi\delta_+(p^2)$$

Replace propagator by cut one, as in phase space



$$\mathcal{M} = \sum_i a_i(4) \text{Boxes}_i + \sum_i b_i(4) \text{Triangles}_i + \sum_i c_i(4) \text{Bubbles}_i + \sum_i d_i(4) \text{Tadpoles}_i + \text{Rational term}$$

## Basis set of integrals

- ✓ Calculate cuts of M on left
- ✓ Cut on right only in Boxes etc
- ✓ Match, find coefficients a,b,c,d
- ✓ Use other methods to find Rational term

Bern, Dixon, Dunbar, Kosower, Britto, Cachazo, Feng, Anastasiou, Kunstz, Mastrolia



# More one-loop ideas

- ✓ Numerical loop integration Nagy, Soper

- ✓ Numerical solution to BG recursions Ellis, Giele, Zanderighi

$$I_{\mu_1\mu_2\dots\mu_n} = \int \frac{d^D l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{l_{\mu_1} \cdots l_{\mu_n}}{D_0 D_1 \cdots D_N} \quad \text{Tensor integral}$$

- ✓ Better Passarino-Veltman Denner, Dittmaier; Binoth, Guillet, Pilon, Heinrich, Schubert

- ✓ Sector decomposition of multiple Feynman parameter integrals plus contour deformation Anastasiou, Beerli, Daleo

$$\int d^D l \frac{1}{D_1 D_2 D_3} = \int d^D l \int_0^1 dx \int_0^{1-x} dy \frac{1}{[xD_1 + yD_2 + (1-x-y)D_3]^3}$$

- ✓ Algebraic inversion of coefficients of scalar integrals at integrand level, using unitarity conditions, and partial fractioning (pp → VVV)

Ossola, Papadopoulos, Pittau  
Ellis, Giele, Kunszt; Melnikov

Lively marketplace of ideas, now settling on a few vendors

# Web tools: MadGraph, aMC@NLO

MadGraph Home Page

http://madgraph.cism.ucl.ac.be/

Center for Particle Physics and Phenomenology - CP3

The MadGraph homepage  
UCL UIUC Launchpad  
by the MG/ME Development team

[Generate Process](#) [Register](#) [Tools](#) [My Database](#) [Cluster Status](#) [Downloads \(needs account\)](#) [Wiki](#) [Answers](#) [Bug reports](#)

## Generate processes online using MadGraph 5

To improve our web services we request that you register. Registration is quick and free. You may register for a password by clicking [here](#). Please note the correct reference for MadGraph 5, [JHEP 1106\(2011\)128](#), [arXiv:1106.0522 \[hep-ph\]](#). You can still use **MadGraph 4** [here](#).

Code can be generated either by:

I. Fill the form:

Model:

[Model descriptions](#)

Input Process:

[Examples/format](#)

Example:  $p p > w+ j j$  QED=3,  $w+ > l+ \nu l$

p and j definitions:

sum over leptons:

# Web tools: MadGraph, aMC@NLO

MadGraph Home Page

http://madgraph.cism.ucl.ac.be/

Google

## aMC@NLO web page

**The project**

- Home
- People
- Contact
- News

**MC Tools**  
(registration needed)

- Online MC generation
- My DataBase
- Codes Download
- Compare with MadLoop
- Event samples DB

**Communication**

- Citations
- Publications
- Talks & Seminars

**Resources**

- Useful links
- File Sharing

MadLoop results for process  $u g > t b^- d$ , in the 5 light flavours SM, QED power 2

---

Status: Completed!

- **PS point # 1:**

Born = +3.47867369141388E-07  
 $c_0$  = -4.62998838291617E-07  
 $c_{-1}$  = +1.86859865079271E-07  
 $c_{-2}$  = -4.57313341661980E-08

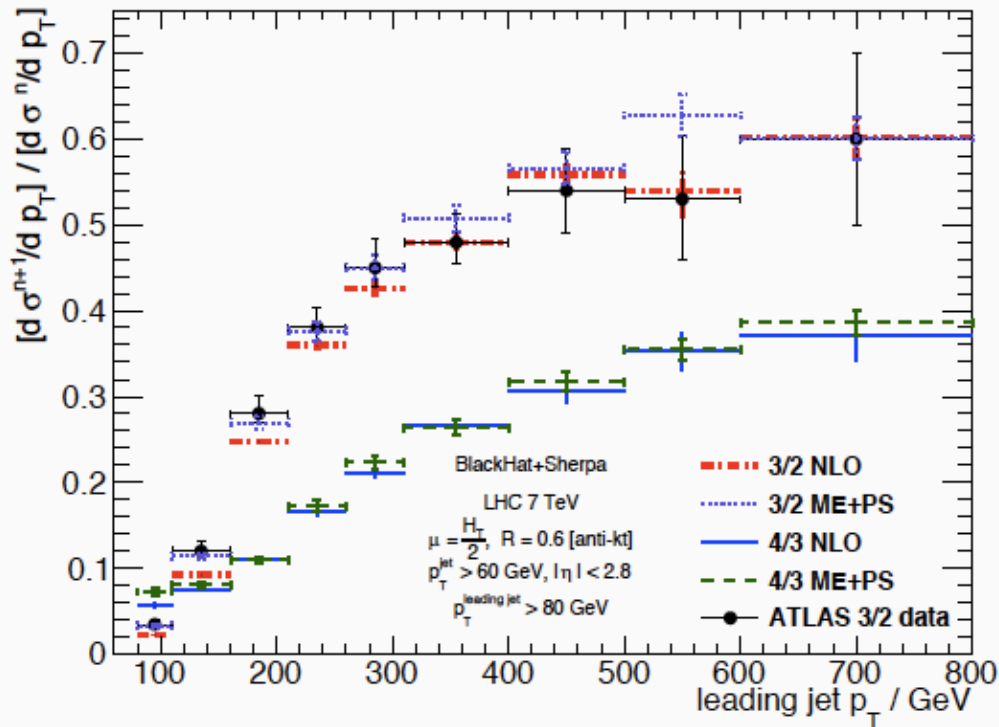
#	PDG	E	$P_x$	$P_y$	
1	2	+1.00000000000000E+03	+0.00000000000000E+00	+0.00000000000000E+00	+1.0
2	21	+1.00000000000000E+03	+0.00000000000000E+00	+0.00000000000000E+00	-1.0
3	6	+9.06726648404084E+02	+4.02305316456112E+01	-8.88902778955366E+02	+2.4
4	-5	+4.46909530065018E+02	-3.07136746737082E+02	+3.08528664834847E+02	-1.0
5	1	+6.46363821530899E+02	+2.66906215091471E+02	+5.80374114120519E+02	+9.8

- **PS point # 2:**

Born = +1.55330837443265E-06

# NLO, does it work?

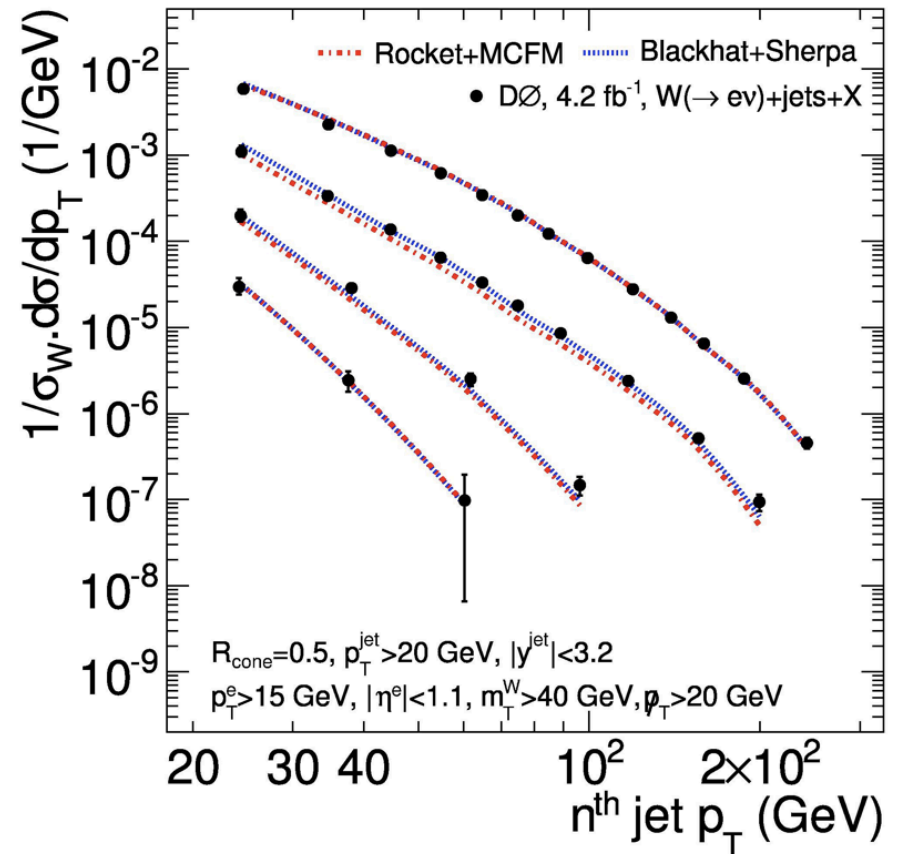
pp → 4 jets



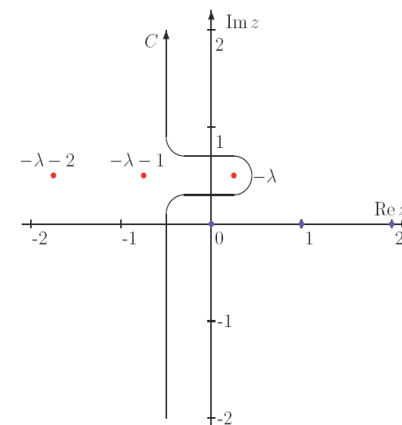
Bern et al  
[Blackhat]

Yes

W+n jets



# Two-loop methods



Laporta algorithm: reduce all tensor integrals to basis of scalar integrals.

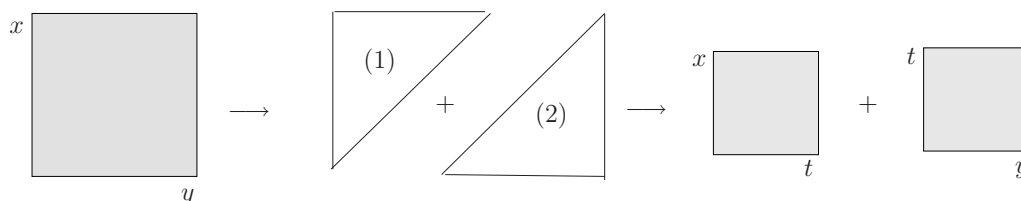
Mellin-Barnes transform:  $\frac{1}{(A+B)^\nu} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\nu)} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_C dz \frac{A^z}{B^{\nu+z}} \Gamma(-z) \Gamma(\nu+z)$

Smirnov; Tausk

- ▶ Inverse Feynman parameter trick. Can do FP integrals now easily.  
Contour integrals automatized (AMBRE) Czakon

Sector decomposition: Binoth, Heinrich; Roth, Denner

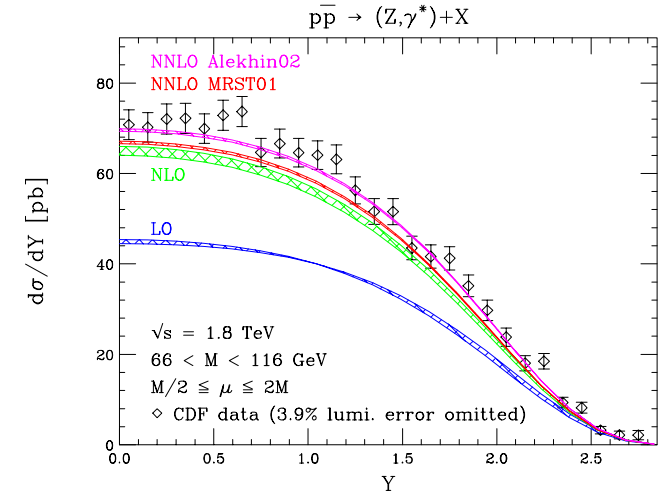
- ▶ Hack up multi-dimensional FP parameter space, such that 1 singularity per region.



# NNLO

## Why/when NLO not enough?

- ✓ When uncertainties at NLO are still large
- ✓ For extracting precise values from data
- ✓ When NLO corrections are large

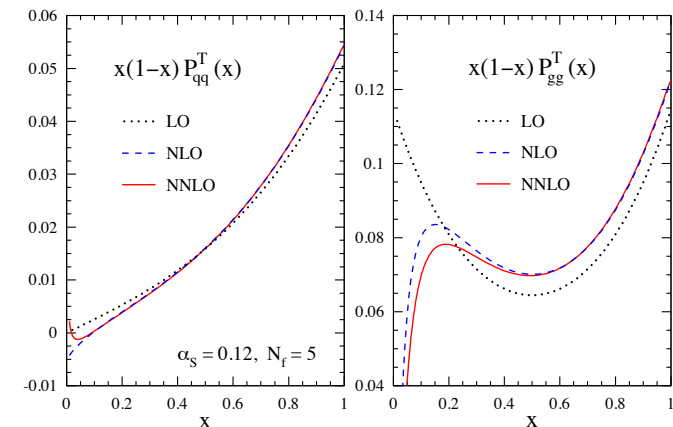


## We have now for hadron colliders:

van Neerven, Harlander, Kilgore, Anastasiou, Melnikov, Ravindran, Smith, Dixon, Petriello

- ✓ Inclusive W,Z and H cross sections, and rapidity distributions
- ✓ Fully differential V and H production Anastasiou, Melnikov, Petriello; Catani, Grazzini
- ✓ Spacelike, and diagonal time-like, splitting functions

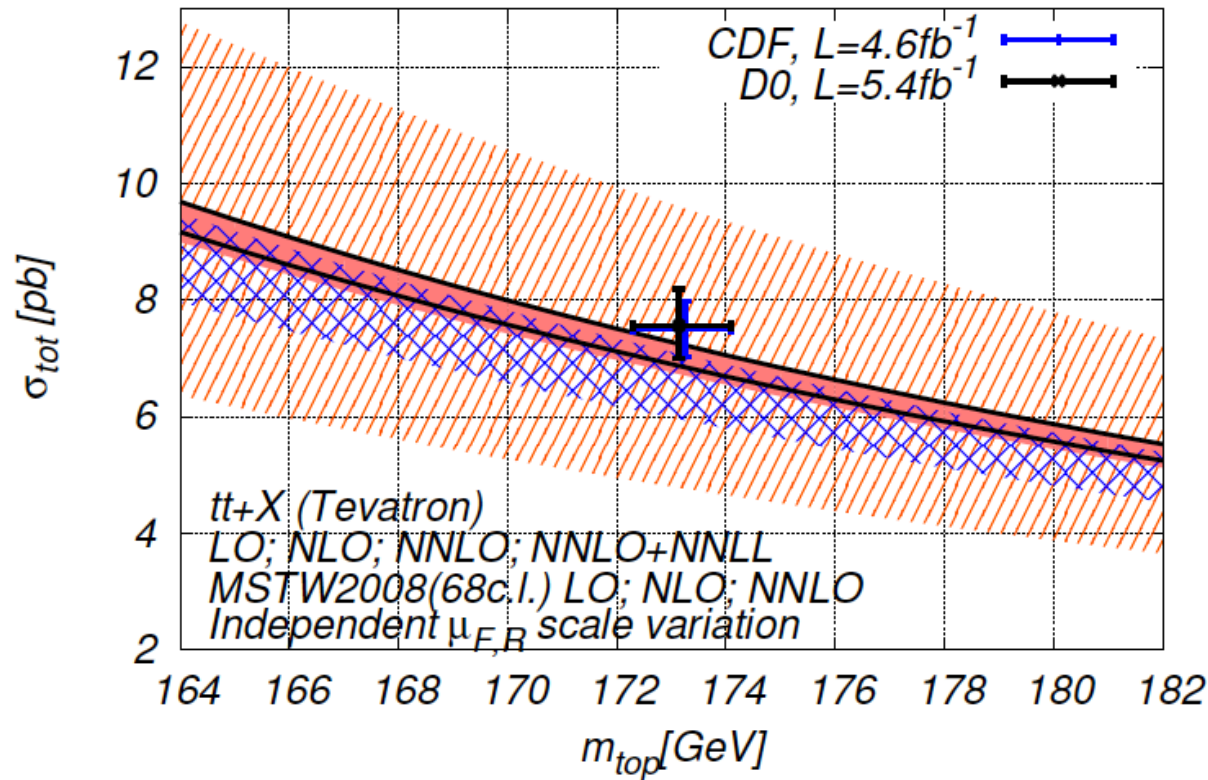
Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt



# Excitement: NNLO top cross section finally here

(at least for  $qq \rightarrow QQ$ )

Baernreuther, Mitov, Czakon  
[spring 2012]



$$\sigma_{tot}^{res} = 7.067^{+0.143(2.0\%)}_{-0.232(3.3\%)} [\text{scales}]^{+0.186(2.6\%)}_{-0.122(1.7\%)} [\text{pdf}]$$

Best prediction at NNLO+NNLL

- ✓ Uncertainty now only a few % at NNLO.
- ✓ First NNLO calculation with initial hadrons and full color structure

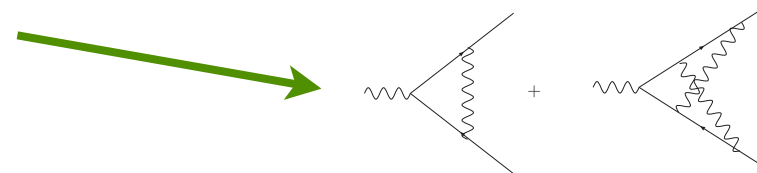
# All order QCD: resummation

- ✓ Effects of soft gluons can be summed to all orders
- ✓ Many ways to derive exponential form
- ✓ Algebraic: PT is exponent of “webs”, after eikonal approximation Gatheral; Frenkel, Taylor; Sterman
- ✓ Webs: subset of diagrams, with modified color factors
- ✓ For Higgs/Drell-Yan inclusive cross section:

$$\hat{O} = 1 + \alpha_s(L^2 + L + 1) + \alpha_s^2(L^4 + L^3 + L^2 + L + 1) + \dots$$

$$= \exp \left( \underbrace{\underbrace{Lg_1(\alpha_s L) + g_2(\alpha_s L) + \alpha_s g_3(\alpha_s L) + \dots}_{LL}}_{NLL} \right) \underbrace{C(\alpha_s)}_{\text{constants}}$$

+ suppressed terms



$$\hat{\sigma}_i(N) = C(\alpha_s) \times \exp \left[ \int_0^1 dz \frac{z^{N-1} - 1}{1-z} \left\{ 2 \int_{\mu_F^2}^{(1-z)^2 Q^2} \frac{d\mu^2}{\mu^2} A_i(\alpha_s(\mu^2)) + D_i(\alpha_s(1-z)Q^2) \right\} \right]$$

Sterman; Catani, Trentadue, Grazzini, de Florian, Forte, Ridolfi, Vogelsang, Kidonakis, EL, Magnea, Stavenga, White, Ridolfi, Moch, Vogt, Eynck, Ravindran, Becher, Neubert, Ji, Idilbi,...



# WEBS FOR QCD AMPLITUDES

Gardi, EL, Stavenga, White

Mitov, Sterman, Sung

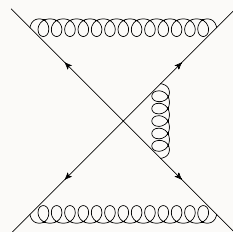
- Found purely exponential structure

- $$\sum \mathcal{F}(D)C(D) = \exp\left[\sum_{d,d'} \mathcal{F}(d) R_{dd'} C(d')\right]$$

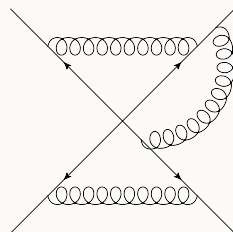
$\sum_{d'} R_{dd'} = 0$   
**Eigenvalues 0 or 1**

**Projector matrix**

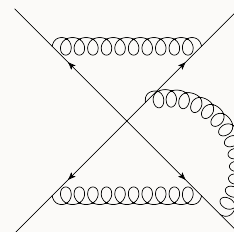
- multi-parton webs are “closed sets” of diagrams, with modified color factors



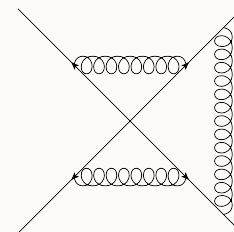
(3a)



(3b)



(3c)



(3d)

**= Web**

- $$\frac{1}{6} \left[ C(3a) - C(3b) - C(3c) + C(3d) \right] \times \left[ M(3a) - 2M(3b) - 2M(3c) + M(3d) \right]$$

# Resummation

- ✓ State of the art NNLL
- ✓ Different approaches, healthy competition
- ✓ Much progress in analytical understanding:
  - Approaching all order knowledge of IR structure of QCD amplitudes

# Monte Carlo simulation of QCD

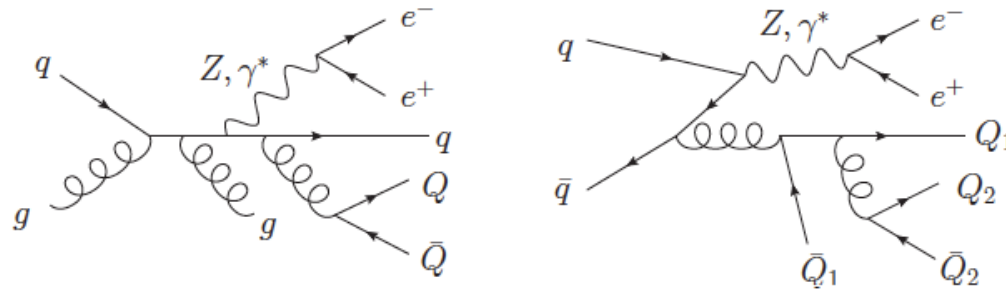
# Monte Carlo

Great advances in Monte Carlo in recent years

- ▶ Multipurpose: PYTHIA 8 (C++), HERWIG++, SHERPA
  - ▶ Matrix element based: Alpgen, Madgraph/Madevent, Comphep, Helac
  - ▶ NLO combined with parton showers: MC@NLO, POWHEG,
  - ▶ Renaissance after many theorists entered field recently, many new ideas
- ✓ ..but it don't really count when there ain't code.

# Matrix element generators

Good description when no two partons are too collinear, or one is soft

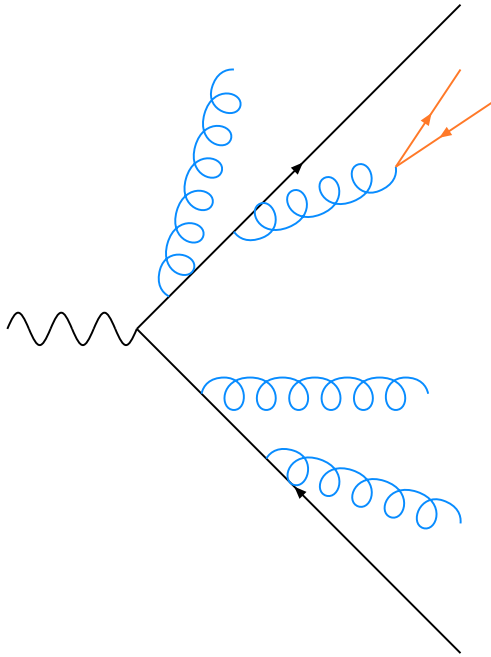


Calculate full tree-level matrix element using

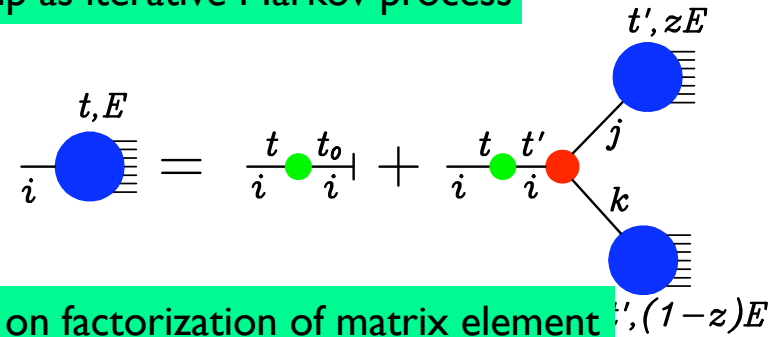
- ▶ Diagrams
  - ✓ Helicity amplitudes (MadEvent, Amegic++), squared amplitudes (Comphep)
- ▶ Leiden recursion relations (Alpgen, Helac/Phegas)
- ▶ Always fixed number of partons
  - ✓ MadEvent:  $2 \rightarrow 6$ , HELAC, Alpgen, Amegic++  $2 \rightarrow 8$

# Parton showers

Approximate description of matrix element when radiation is mostly collinear and soft



Set up as iterative Markov process



based on factorization of matrix element and phase

Sudakov form factor: probability of no emission between two emissions (virtual graphs)

$$\Delta_i(t_1, t_2) = \exp \left[ - \sum_{(jk)} \int_{t_2}^{t_1} \frac{dt}{t} \frac{\alpha_S(t)}{2\pi} \int dz P_{i,jk}(z) \int \frac{d\varphi}{2\pi} \right]$$

Number of partons per event not fixed

How to combine best of both?

# Matching ME to PS

CKKW

Catani, Krauss, Kuhn, Webber

MLM

Mangano

- ✓ Small (large) angles: use PS (ME)
- ✓ Define matching angle (scale)
- ✓ Above: dress up ME with Sudakov form factors
- ✓ Below: use PS, but don't allow  $p_T$  above matching scale

- ✓ Generate N-jet with ME.
- ✓ Define matching angle (scale) and start PS
- ✓ Demand hard jets have original parton, otherwise reject
- ✓ For each N the shower cannot increase N

# Matching NLO to PS

Match to avoid double counting again

- ▶ emission from NLO and PS should be counted once
- ▶ virtual part of NLO and Sudakov should not overlap
- ▶ two main approaches:

Frixione, Webber; Nason

✓ MC@NLO exact to NLO, no overshoot, some negative weights

✓ POWHEG insists on having positive weights, exponentiates complete real matrix element.

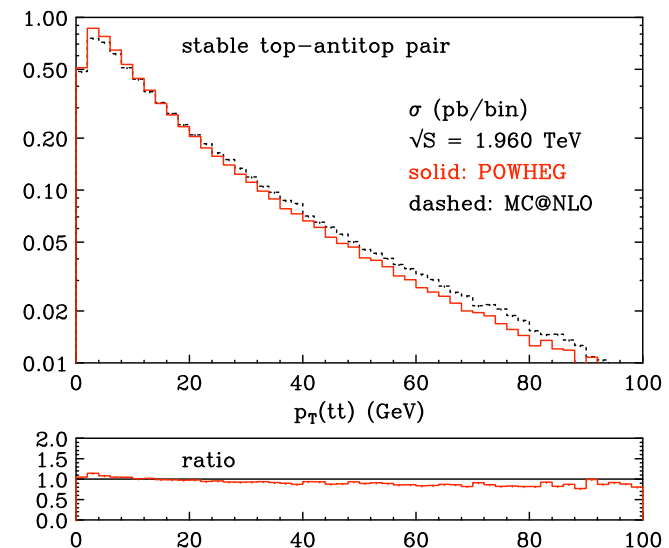
Nason; Frixione, Oleari

Match both to NLO  
and ME: Vincia

Giele, Kosower, Skands

Effective theory  
based: GenEvA

Bauer, Tackmann,  
Thaler



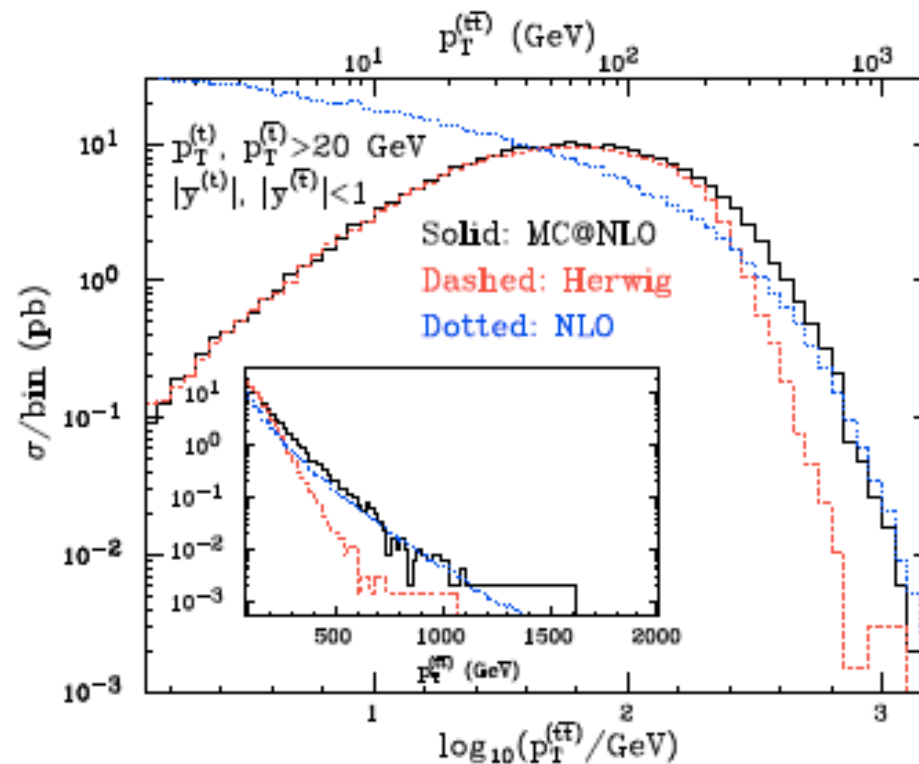


# MC@NLO and $t\bar{t}$

Frixione, Nason, Webber

- ▶ First process in MC@NLO with final state colored partons, multiple color flows
- ▶ Interpolates well between NLO and parton showers

Combine the best parts of MC and Feynman-diagram approach



# Automatic NLO + PS

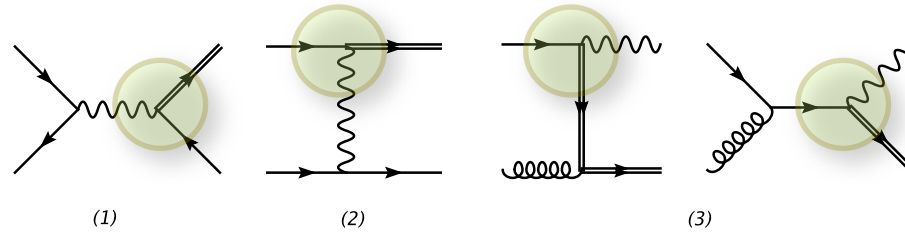
## ▶ Is well-underway

- POWHEG Box
- aMC@NLO

## ▶ Mashups:

- POWHEG + Madgraph4
- Sherpa + MC@NLO
- ...

# Single top at NLO



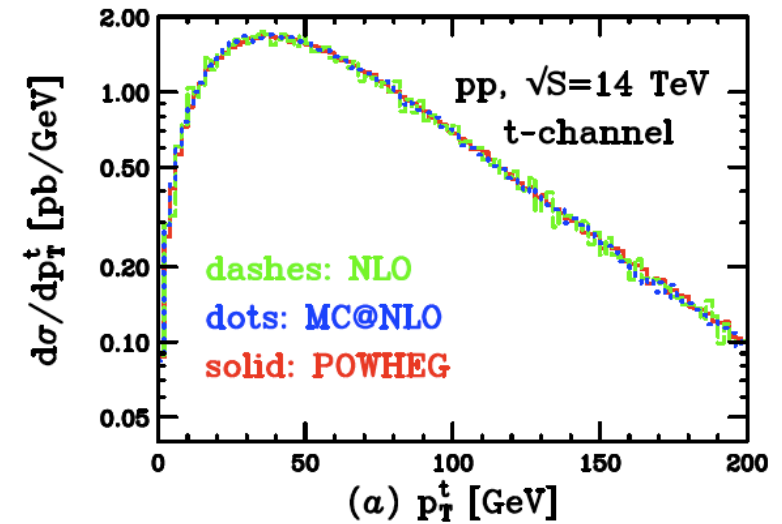
s-channel:  
timelike W

t-channel:  
spacelike W

Wt channel: real W

## Important process for LHC

- ▶ Allows measurement of  $V_{tb}$  per channel
- ▶ Easier check of chiral structure of  $Wtb$  vertex than ...
- ▶ Infer the b-density
- ▶ Sensitive to FCNC's (t-channel), or  $W'$  resonances (s-channel)



Included in MC@NLO & POWHEG

Frixione, EL, Motylinski, Webber

Harris,EL,Phaf,Sullivan, Weinzierl; Cao, Schwienhorst, Yuan; Zhu; Campbell, Ellis, Tramontano

# Challenges, an incomplete (wish)list

- ▶ **Near:** Complete full NLO automation
  - ✓ fast, accurate, flexible, easy code
  - ✓ matched to LL parton showers
- ▶ **Far-ish:** begin NNLO wishlist, leading to automation
  - ✓ also NLO QCD + NLO EW corrections
- ▶ **Near-ish:** NLL parton showers, and matching
- ▶ **Near:** Full NNLL resummation for QCD processes
  - ✓ including next-to-eikonal corrections

# Conclusions

- ▶ Remarkable developments in perturbative QCD
  - ✓ higher order calculations, Monte Carlo's, and their combinations
  - ✓ with some remarkable engineering
- ▶ Due to young and experienced researchers alike

QCD theorists are up to the LHC challenge