

Towards NNLO Event Generators for the LHC

Emanuele Re

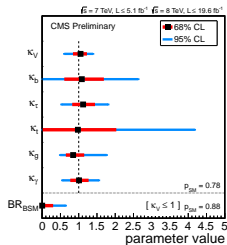
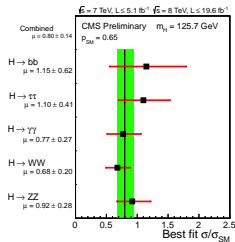
Rudolf Peierls Centre for Theoretical Physics,
University of Oxford



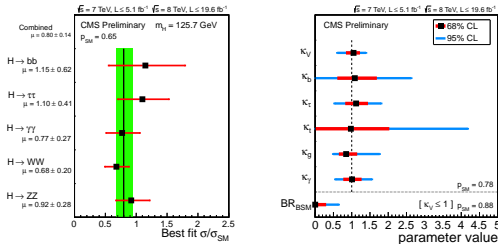
LAPTh, Annecy, 5 February 2015

Status after LHC “run I”

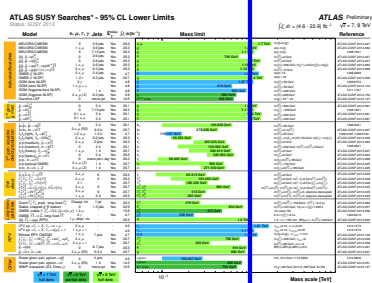
- Scalar at 125 GeV found, study of properties begun



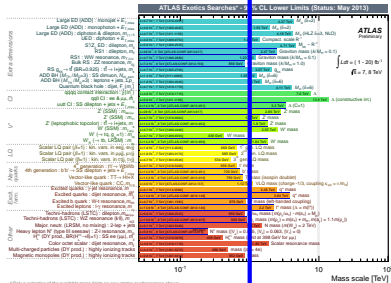
- Scalar at 125 GeV found, study of properties begun



- ▶ In general no smoking-gun signal of new-physics



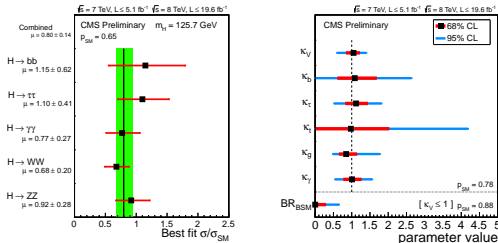
*Only a selection of the available mass limits on new states or affirmations is shown. All limits quoted are observed minus expected.



*Only a selection of the available mass limits on new states or phenomena shown.

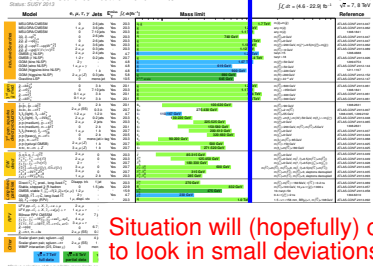
Status after LHC "run I"

- Scalar at 125 GeV found, study of properties begun

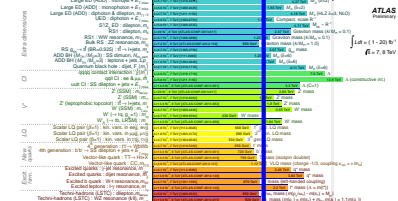


- In general no smoking-gun signal of new-physics

ATLAS SUSY Searches^a - 95% CL Lower Limits

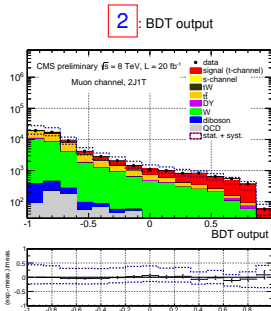
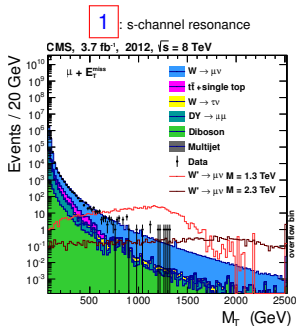


ATLAS Preliminary



Situation will (hopefully) change at 13-14 TeV. If not, then we have to look in small deviations wrt SM: "precision physics".

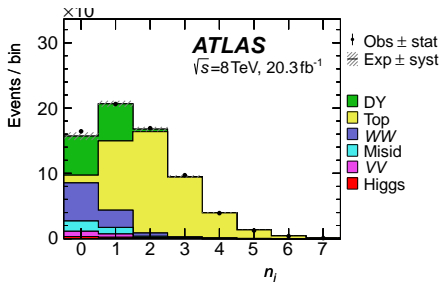
Where are QCD precision and MC important?



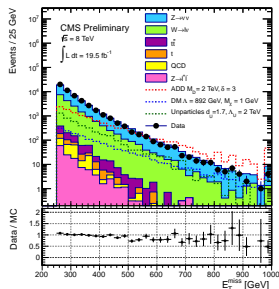
- s-channel resonance “easy” to discover; Higgs discovery in $\gamma\gamma$ and ZZ belongs to 1
- Some analysis techniques (e.g. 2) heavily relies on using MC event generators to separate signal and backgrounds
- MC very often needed also in more standard analysis...

Where are QCD precision and MC important?

3 : jet-binned x-section



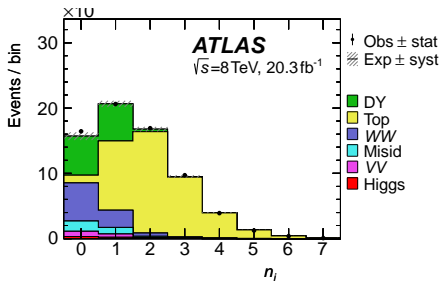
4 : high-pt excess



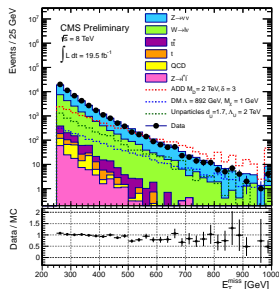
- For 3 and 4, need to control as much as possible QCD effects (i.e. rates and shapes, and also uncertainties!).
- Similar issues when extracting a SM parameters very precisely (e.g. the W mass).

Where are QCD precision and MC important?

3 : jet-binned x-section



4 : high-pt excess



- at some level, MC event generators enter in **almost all experimental analyses**

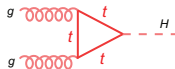
precise tools \Rightarrow smaller uncertainties on measured quantities



“small” deviations from SM accessible

Event generators: what they are?

ideal world: high-energy collision and detection of elementary particles

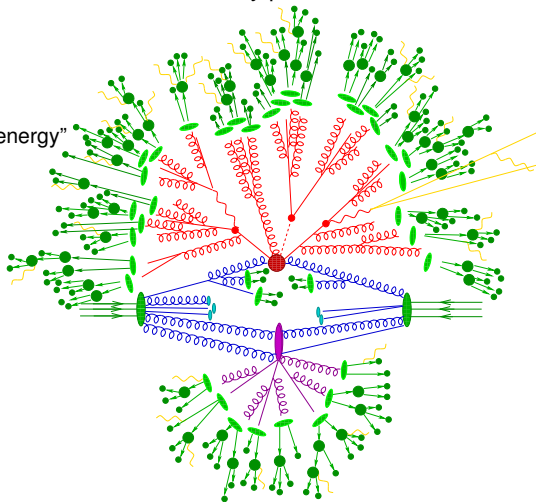


Event generators: what they are?

ideal world: high-energy collision and detection of elementary particles

real world:

- ▶ collide non-elementary particles
- ▶ we detect e, μ, γ , hadrons, “missing energy”
- ▶ we want to predict final state
 - realistically
 - precisely
 - from first principles



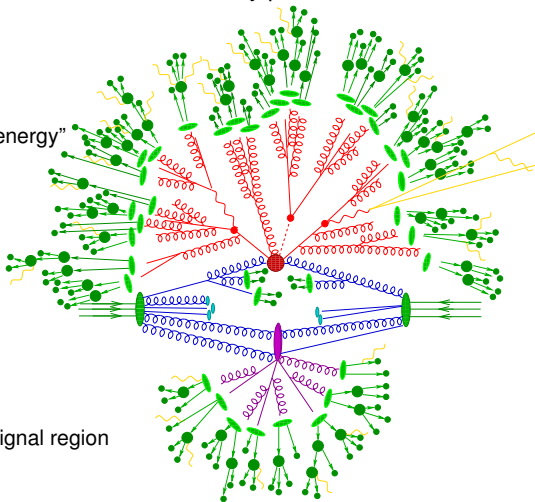
[sherpa's artistic view]

Event generators: what they are?

ideal world: high-energy collision and detection of elementary particles

real world:

- ▶ collide non-elementary particles
 - ▶ we detect e, μ, γ , hadrons, “missing energy”
 - ▶ we want to predict final state
 - realistically
 - precisely
 - from first principles
- ⇒ full event simulation needed to:
- compare theory and data
 - estimate how backgrounds affect signal region
 - test/build analysis techniques
 - ...

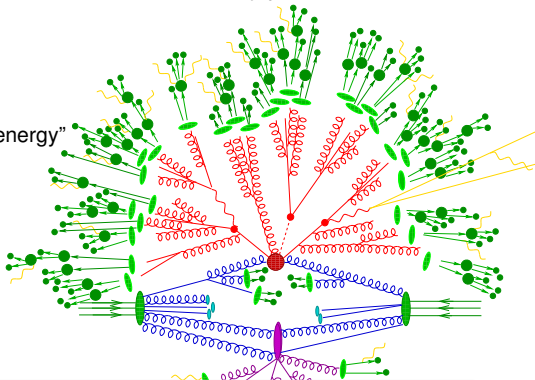


[sherpa's artistic view]

Event generators: what they are?

ideal world: high-energy collision and detection of elementary particles
real world:

- ▶ collide non-elementary particles
- ▶ we detect e, μ, γ , hadrons, “missing energy”
- ▶ we want to predict final state
 - realistically
 - precisely
 - from first principles



- ▶ hard scattering: QCD, EW, BSM (fixed order)
- ▶ multiple soft and collinear emissions
 - ↪ pQCD (parton shower approximation)
- ▶ large distance: hadronisation

$$\mu \approx Q \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} < \mu < Q$$

$$\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$$

↪ non-perturbative QCD → phenomenological models, tuned on data.

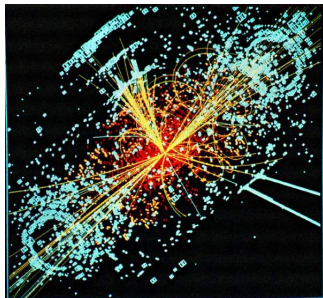
Event generators: what's the output?

- in practice: momenta of all outgoing **leptons and hadrons**:

IHEP	ID	IDPDG	IST	MO1	MO2	DA1	DA2	P-X	P-Y	P-Z	ENERGY
31	NU_E	12	1	29	22	0	0	60.53	37.24	-1185.0	1187.1
32	E+	-11	1	30	22	0	0	-22.80	2.59	-232.4	233.6
148	K+	321	1	109	9	0	0	-1.66	1.26	1.3	2.5
151	PI0	111	1	111	9	0	0	-0.01	0.05	11.4	11.4
152	PI+	211	1	111	9	0	0	-0.19	-0.13	2.0	2.0
153	PI-	-211	1	112	9	0	0	0.84	-1.07	1626.0	1626.0
154	K+	321	1	112	9	0	0	0.48	-0.63	945.7	945.7
155	PI0	111	1	113	9	0	0	-0.37	-1.16	64.8	64.8
156	PI-	-211	1	113	9	0	0	-0.20	-0.02	3.1	3.1
158	PI0	111	1	114	9	0	0	-0.17	-0.11	0.2	0.3
159	PI0	111	1	115	18	0	0	0.18	-0.74	-267.8	267.8
160	PI-	-211	1	115	18	0	0	-0.21	-0.13	-259.4	259.4
161	N	2112	1	116	23	0	0	-8.45	-27.55	-394.6	395.7
162	NBAR	-2112	1	116	23	0	0	-2.49	-11.05	-154.0	154.4
163	PI0	111	1	117	23	0	0	-0.45	-2.04	-26.6	26.6
164	PI0	111	1	117	23	0	0	0.00	-3.70	-56.0	56.1
167	K+	321	1	119	23	0	0	-0.40	-0.19	-8.1	8.1
186	PBAR	-2212	1	130	9	0	0	0.10	0.17	-0.3	1.0

Plan of the talk

1. brief review how these tools work
2. discuss how their accuracy can be improved
3. explain how to build an event generator that is NNLO accurate (NNLOPS)



parton showers and fixed order

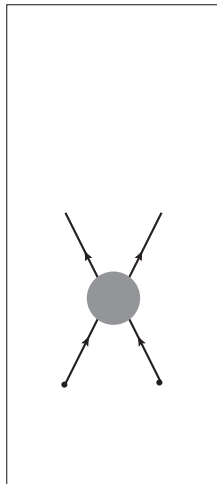
Parton showers I

- connect the hard scattering ($\mu \approx Q$) with the final state hadrons ($\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$)
- need to simulate production of many quarks and gluons

Parton showers I

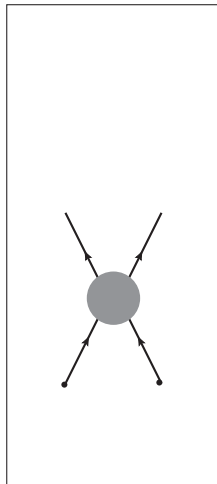
- connect the hard scattering ($\mu \approx Q$) with the final state hadrons ($\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$)
- need to simulate production of many quarks and gluons

1. start from low multiplicity at high Q^2



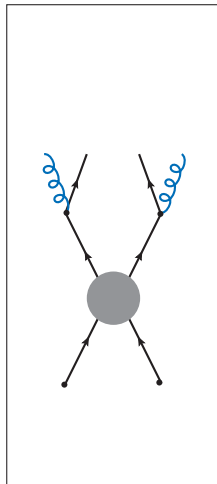
Parton showers I

- connect the hard scattering ($\mu \approx Q$) with the final state hadrons ($\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$)
 - need to simulate production of many quarks and gluons
1. start from low multiplicity at high Q^2
 2. quarks and gluons are color-charged \Rightarrow they radiate



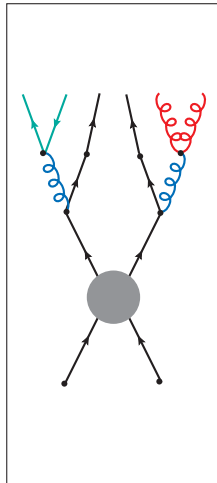
Parton showers I

- connect the hard scattering ($\mu \approx Q$) with the final state hadrons ($\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$)
 - need to simulate production of many quarks and gluons
1. start from low multiplicity at high Q^2
 2. quarks and gluons are **color-charged** \Rightarrow they radiate



Parton showers I

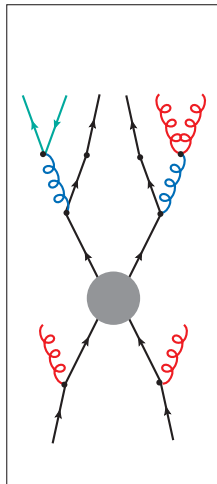
- connect the hard scattering ($\mu \approx Q$) with the final state hadrons ($\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$)
 - need to simulate production of many quarks and gluons
1. start from low multiplicity at high Q^2
 2. quarks and gluons are **color-charged** \Rightarrow they radiate



Parton showers I

- connect the hard scattering ($\mu \approx Q$) with the final state hadrons ($\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$)
- need to simulate production of many quarks and gluons

1. start from low multiplicity at high Q^2
2. quarks and gluons are **color-charged** \Rightarrow they radiate



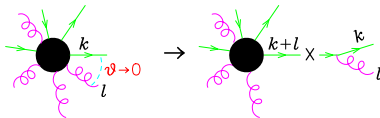
Parton showers I

- connect the hard scattering ($\mu \approx Q$) with the final state hadrons ($\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$)
- need to simulate production of many quarks and gluons

1. start from low multiplicity at high Q^2
2. quarks and gluons are **color-charged** \Rightarrow they radiate
3. soft-collinear emissions are enhanced:

$$\frac{1}{(p_1 + p_2)^2} = \frac{1}{2E_1 E_2 (1 - \cos \theta)}$$

4. in soft-collinear limit, **factorization properties** of QCD amplitudes



$$|\mathcal{M}_{n+1}|^2 d\Phi_{n+1} \rightarrow |\mathcal{M}_n|^2 d\Phi_n$$

$$\frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi} \frac{dt}{t} P_{q,qg}(z) dz \frac{d\varphi}{2\pi}$$

$$z = k^0 / (k^0 + l^0)$$

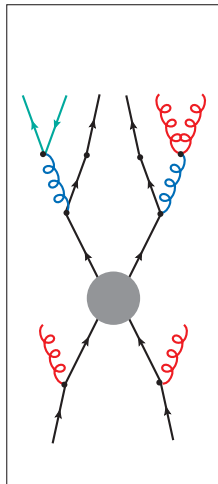
quark energy fraction

$$t = \{(k+l)^2, l_T^2, E^2 \theta^2\}$$

splitting hardness

$$P_{q,qg}(z) = C_F \frac{1+z^2}{1-z}$$

AP splitting function



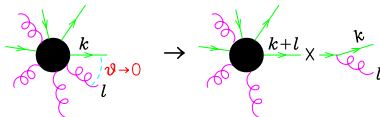
Parton showers I

- connect the hard scattering ($\mu \approx Q$) with the final state hadrons ($\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$)
- need to simulate production of many quarks and gluons

1. start from low multiplicity at high Q^2
2. quarks and gluons are **color-charged** \Rightarrow they radiate
3. soft-collinear emissions are enhanced:

$$\frac{1}{(p_1 + p_2)^2} = \frac{1}{2E_1 E_2 (1 - \cos \theta)}$$

4. in soft-collinear limit, **factorization properties** of QCD amplitudes



$$|\mathcal{M}_{n+1}|^2 d\Phi_{n+1} \rightarrow |\mathcal{M}_n|^2 d\Phi_n$$

$$\frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi} \frac{dt}{t} P_{q,qg}(z) dz \frac{d\varphi}{2\pi}$$

$$z = k^0 / (k^0 + l^0)$$

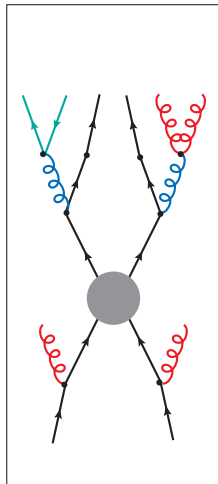
$$t = \{(k+l)^2, l_T^2, E^2 \theta^2\}$$

$$P_{q,qg}(z) = C_F \frac{1+z^2}{1-z}$$

quark energy fraction

splitting hardness

AP splitting function



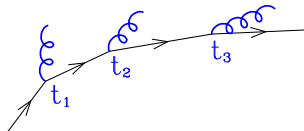
probabilistic interpretation!

Parton showers II

5. dominant contributions for multiparticle production due to **strongly ordered** emissions

$$t_1 > t_2 > t_3 \dots$$

6. at any given order, we also have **virtual corrections**: for consistency we should include them with the same approximation



- LL virtual contributions included by assigning to each internal line a **Sudakov form factor**:

$$\Delta_a(t_i, t_{i+1}) = \exp \left[- \sum_{(bc)} \int_{t_{i+1}}^{t_i} \frac{dt'}{t'} \int \frac{\alpha_s(t')}{2\pi} P_{a,bc}(z) dz \right]$$

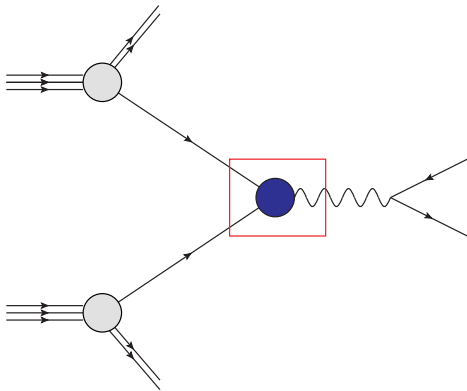
- Δ_a corresponds to the **probability of having no resolved emission** between t_i and t_{i+1} off a line of flavour a

☞ resummation of collinear logarithms

-
7. At scales $\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$, $\alpha_S \gtrsim 1$ and hadrons form: non-perturbative effect, simulated with models fitted to data

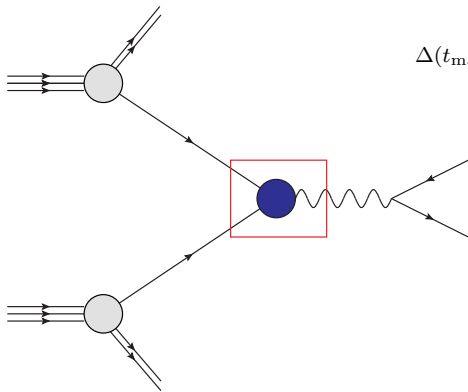
Parton showers: summary

$$d\sigma_{\text{SMC}} = \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 d\Phi_B}_{d\sigma_B} \left\{ \right.$$



Parton showers: summary

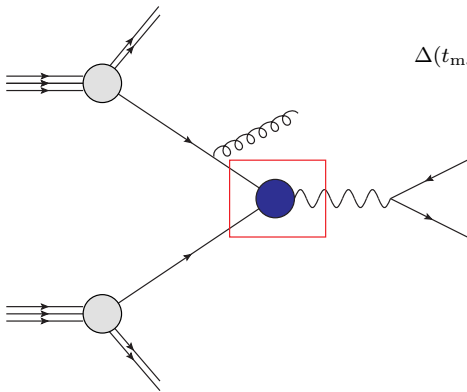
$$d\sigma_{\text{SMC}} = \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 d\Phi_B}_{d\sigma_B} \left\{ \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t_0) \right\}$$



$$\Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t) = \exp \left\{ - \int_t^{t_{\text{max}}} d\Phi'_r \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t'} P(z') \right\}$$

Parton showers: summary

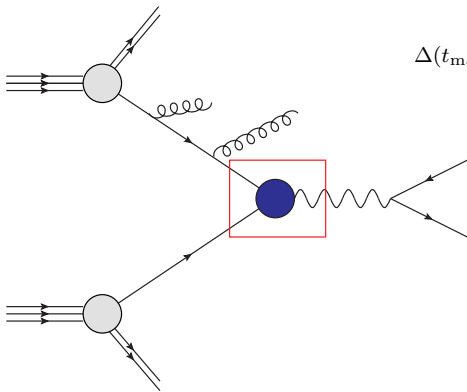
$$d\sigma_{\text{SMC}} = \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 d\Phi_B}_{d\sigma_B} \left\{ \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t_0) + \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t) \underbrace{\frac{d\mathcal{P}_{\text{emis}}(t)}{\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t} P(z) d\Phi_r}} \right\}$$



$$\Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t) = \exp \left\{ - \int_t^{t_{\text{max}}} d\Phi'_r \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t'} P(z') \right\}$$

Parton showers: summary

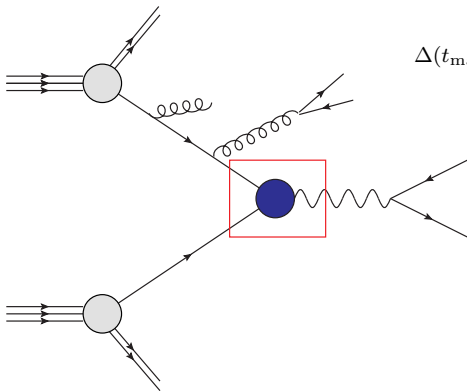
$$d\sigma_{\text{SMC}} = \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 d\Phi_B}_{d\sigma_B} \left\{ \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t_0) + \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t) \underbrace{\frac{d\mathcal{P}_{\text{emis}}(t)}{\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t} P(z) d\Phi_r}}_{\substack{\text{emission} \\ \text{probability}}} \underbrace{\{\Delta(t, t_0) + \Delta(t, t') d\mathcal{P}_{\text{emis}}(t')\}}_{t' < t} \right\}$$



$$\Delta(t_{\max}, t) = \exp \left\{ - \int_t^{t_{\max}} d\Phi'_r \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t'} P(z') \right\}$$

Parton showers: summary

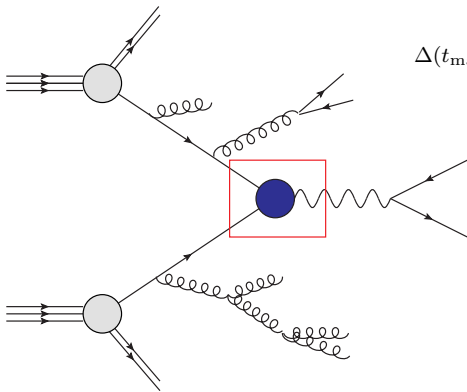
$$d\sigma_{\text{SMC}} = \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 d\Phi_B}_{d\sigma_B} \left\{ \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t_0) + \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t) \underbrace{\frac{d\mathcal{P}_{\text{emis}}(t)}{\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t} P(z) d\Phi_r}}_{\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t} P(z) d\Phi_r} \underbrace{\{\Delta(t, t_0) + \Delta(t, t') d\mathcal{P}_{\text{emis}}(t')\}}_{t' < t} \right\}$$



$$\Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t) = \exp \left\{ - \int_t^{t_{\text{max}}} d\Phi'_r \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t'} P(z') \right\}$$

Parton showers: summary

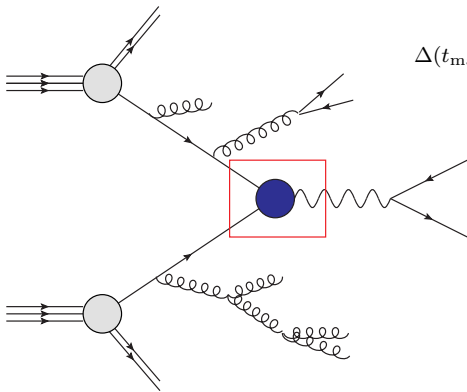
$$d\sigma_{\text{SMC}} = \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 d\Phi_B}_{d\sigma_B} \left\{ \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t_0) + \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t) \underbrace{\frac{d\mathcal{P}_{\text{emis}}(t)}{\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t} P(z) d\Phi_r}}_{\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t} P(z) d\Phi_r} \underbrace{\{\Delta(t, t_0) + \Delta(t, t') d\mathcal{P}_{\text{emis}}(t')\}}_{t' < t} \right\}$$



$$\Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t) = \exp \left\{ - \int_t^{t_{\text{max}}} d\Phi'_r \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t'} P(z') \right\}$$

Parton showers: summary

$$d\sigma_{\text{SMC}} = \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}_B|^2 d\Phi_B}_{d\sigma_B} \left\{ \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t_0) + \Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t) \underbrace{\frac{d\mathcal{P}_{\text{emis}}(t)}{\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t} P(z) d\Phi_r}}_{\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t} P(z) d\Phi_r} \underbrace{\{\Delta(t, t_0) + \Delta(t, t') d\mathcal{P}_{\text{emis}}(t')\}}_{t' < t} \right\}$$

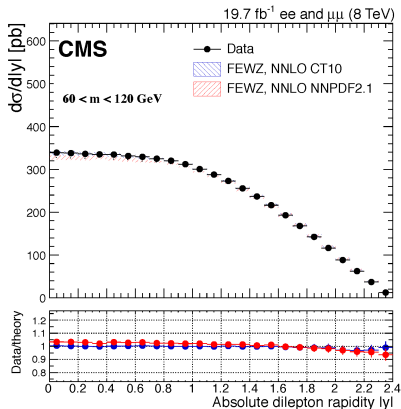
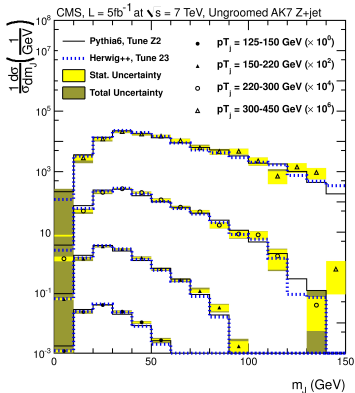


$$\Delta(t_{\text{max}}, t) = \exp \left\{ - \int_t^{t_{\text{max}}} d\Phi'_r \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t'} P(z') \right\}$$

This is “LOPS”

- A parton shower changes shapes, not the overall normalization, which stays LO (*unitarity*)

Do they work?



- ▶ ok when observables dominated by soft-collinear radiation [✓]
- ▶ not surprisingly, they **fail** when looking for **hard multijet kinematics** [✗]
- ▶ they are **only LO+LL** accurate (whereas we want **(N)NLO QCD corrections**) [✗]

⇒ Not enough if interested in precision (10% or less), or in multijet regions

Next-to-Leading Order

$\alpha_S \sim 0.1 \Rightarrow$ to improve the accuracy, use exact perturbative expansion

$$d\sigma = d\sigma_{\text{LO}} + \left(\frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi}\right) d\sigma_{\text{NLO}} + \left(\frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi}\right)^2 d\sigma_{\text{NNLO}} + \dots$$

LO: *Leading Order*

NLO: *Next-to-Leading Order*

...

Next-to-Leading Order

$\alpha_S \sim 0.1 \Rightarrow$ to improve the accuracy, use exact perturbative expansion

$$d\sigma = d\sigma_{\text{LO}} + \left(\frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi}\right) d\sigma_{\text{NLO}} + \left(\frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi}\right)^2 d\sigma_{\text{NNLO}} + \dots$$

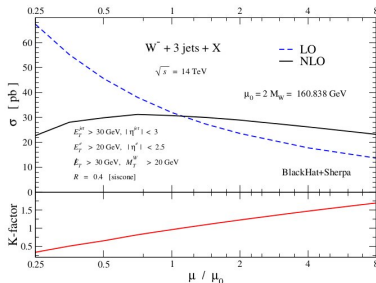
LO: *Leading Order*

NLO: *Next-to-Leading Order*

...

Why NLO is important?

- ▶ first order where **rates are reliable**
- ▶ **shapes** are, in general, **better described**
- ▶ possible to attach **sensible theoretical uncertainties**



Next-to-Leading Order

$\alpha_S \sim 0.1 \Rightarrow$ to improve the accuracy, use exact perturbative expansion

$$d\sigma = d\sigma_{\text{LO}} + \left(\frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi}\right) d\sigma_{\text{NLO}} + \left(\frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi}\right)^2 d\sigma_{\text{NNLO}} + \dots$$

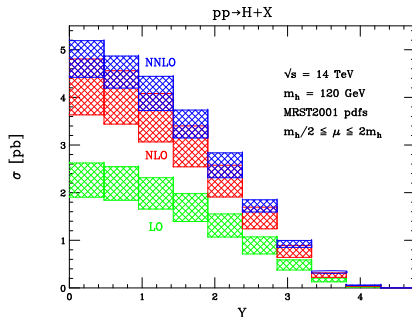
LO: *Leading Order*
NLO: *Next-to-Leading Order*
...

Why NLO is important?

- ▶ first order where **rates are reliable**
- ▶ **shapes** are, in general, **better described**
- ▶ possible to attach **sensible theoretical uncertainties**

When NNLO is needed?

- ▶ NLO corrections large
 - ▶ very high-precision needed
- \Rightarrow **Drell-Yan**, **Higgs**, $t\bar{t}$ production



plot from [Anastasiou et al., '03]

NLO

- ✓ precision
- ✓ nowadays this is the standard
- ✗ limited multiplicity
- ✗ (fail when resummation needed)

parton showers

- ✓ realistic + flexible tools
- ✓ widely used by experimental coll's
- ✗ limited precision (LO)
- ✗ (fail when multiple hard jets)

👉 can we merge them and build an NLOPS generator?

Problem:

PS vs. NLO

NLO

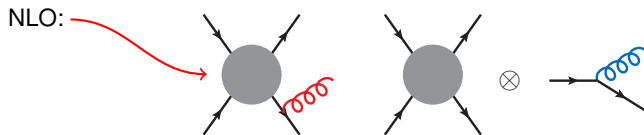
- ✓ precision
- ✓ nowadays this is the standard
- ✗ limited multiplicity
- ✗ (fail when resummation needed)

parton showers

- ✓ realistic + flexible tools
- ✓ widely used by experimental coll's
- ✗ limited precision (LO)
- ✗ (fail when multiple hard jets)

👉 can we merge them and build an NLOPS generator?

Problem: overlapping regions!



PS vs. NLO

NLO

- ✓ precision
- ✓ nowadays this is the standard
- ✗ limited multiplicity
- ✗ (fail when resummation needed)

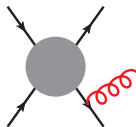
parton showers

- ✓ realistic + flexible tools
- ✓ widely used by experimental coll's
- ✗ limited precision (LO)
- ✗ (fail when multiple hard jets)

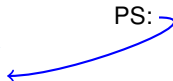
👉 can we merge them and build an NLOPS generator?

Problem: overlapping regions!

NLO:



PS:



PS vs. NLO

NLO

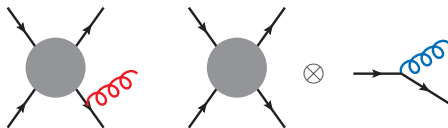
- ✓ precision
- ✓ nowadays this is the standard
- ✗ limited multiplicity
- ✗ (fail when resummation needed)

parton showers

- ✓ realistic + flexible tools
- ✓ widely used by experimental coll's
- ✗ limited precision (LO)
- ✗ (fail when multiple hard jets)

👉 can we merge them and build an NLOPS generator?

Problem: overlapping regions!



- ✓ many proposals, 2 well-established methods available to solve this problem:

MC@NLO and POWHEG

[Frixione-Webber '03, Nason '04]

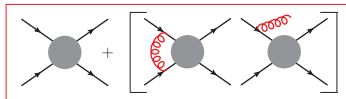
matching NLO and PS

- ▶ POWHEG (POsitive Weight Hardest Emission Generator)

$$d\sigma_{\text{POW}} = d\Phi_n \bar{B}(\Phi_n) \left\{ \Delta(\Phi_n; k_{\text{T}}^{\text{min}}) + \Delta(\Phi_n; k_{\text{T}}) \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{R(\Phi_n, \Phi_r)}{B(\Phi_n)} d\Phi_r \right\}$$

NLOPS: POWHEG I

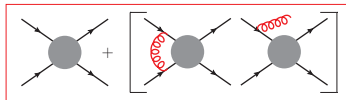
$$B(\Phi_n) \Rightarrow \bar{B}(\Phi_n) = B(\Phi_n) + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \left[V(\Phi_n) + \int R(\Phi_{n+1}) d\Phi_r \right]$$



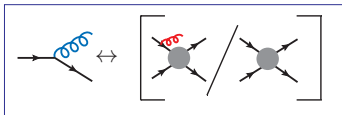
$$d\sigma_{\text{POW}} = d\Phi_n \bar{B}(\Phi_n) \left\{ \Delta(\Phi_n; k_T^{\min}) + \Delta(\Phi_n; k_T) \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{R(\Phi_n, \Phi_r)}{B(\Phi_n)} d\Phi_r \right\}$$

NLOPS: POWHEG I

$$B(\Phi_n) \Rightarrow \bar{B}(\Phi_n) = B(\Phi_n) + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \left[V(\Phi_n) + \int R(\Phi_{n+1}) d\Phi_r \right]$$



$$d\sigma_{\text{POW}} = d\Phi_n \quad \bar{B}(\Phi_n) \quad \left\{ \Delta(\Phi_n; k_{\text{T}}^{\text{min}}) + \Delta(\Phi_n; k_{\text{T}}) \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{R(\Phi_n, \Phi_r)}{B(\Phi_n)} d\Phi_r \right\}$$



$$\Delta(t_{\text{m}}, t) \Rightarrow \Delta(\Phi_n; k_{\text{T}}) = \exp \left\{ -\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \int \frac{R(\Phi_n, \Phi'_r)}{B(\Phi_n)} \theta(k'_{\text{T}} - k_{\text{T}}) d\Phi'_r \right\}$$

NLOPS: POWHEG II

$$d\sigma_{\text{POW}} = d\Phi_n \bar{B}(\Phi_n) \left\{ \Delta(\Phi_n; k_T^{\min}) + \Delta(\Phi_n; k_T) \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{R(\Phi_n, \Phi_r)}{B(\Phi_n)} d\Phi_r \right\}$$

[+ p_T -vetoing subsequent emissions, to avoid double-counting]

- inclusive observables: @NLO
- first hard emission: full tree level ME
- (N)LL resummation of collinear/soft logs
- extra jets in the shower approximation

This is “NLOPS”

$$d\sigma_{\text{POW}} = d\Phi_n \bar{B}(\Phi_n) \left\{ \Delta(\Phi_n; k_T^{\min}) + \Delta(\Phi_n; k_T) \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{R(\Phi_n, \Phi_r)}{B(\Phi_n)} d\Phi_r \right\}$$

[+ p_T -vetoing subsequent emissions, to avoid double-counting]

- inclusive observables: @NLO
- first hard emission: full tree level ME
- (N)LL resummation of collinear/soft logs
- extra jets in the shower approximation

This is “NLOPS”

POWHEG BOX

[Alioli,Nason,Oleari,ER '10]

- ▶ large library of SM processes, (largely) automated
- ▶ widely used by LHC collaborations and other theorists, also thanks to standardised interfaces (BLHA)
- ▶ not really a closed chapter; some important issues are still to be addressed...

NNLO+PS: why and where?

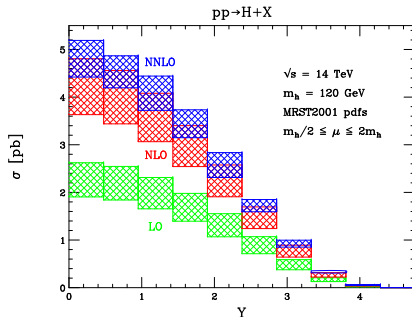
NLO(+PS) not always enough: NNLO needed when

1. large NLO/LO “K-factor”
[as in Higgs Physics]
 2. very high precision needed
[e.g. Drell-Yan, top pairs]
- last couple of years:
huge progress in NNLO

NNLO+PS: why and where?

NLO(+PS) not always enough: NNLO needed when

1. large NLO/LO “K-factor”
[as in Higgs Physics]
 2. very high precision needed
[e.g. Drell-Yan, top pairs]
- last couple of years:
huge progress in NNLO

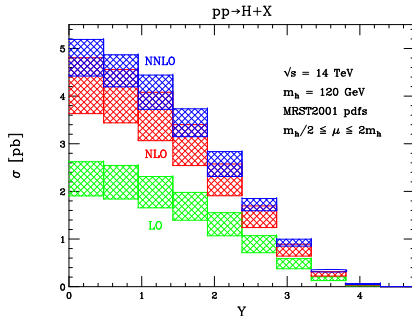


[Anastasiou et al., '03]

NNLO+PS: why and where?

NLO(+PS) not always enough: NNLO needed when

1. large NLO/LO “K-factor”
[as in Higgs Physics]
 2. very high precision needed
[e.g. Drell-Yan, top pairs]
- last couple of years:
huge progress in NNLO



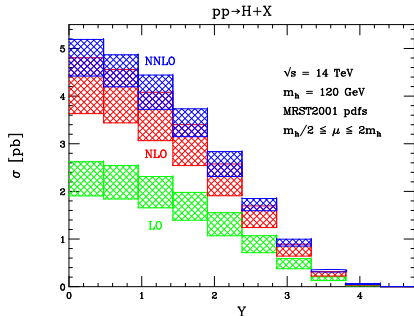
Q: can we merge NNLO and PS?

[Anastasiou et al., '03]

NNLO+PS: why and where?

NLO(+PS) not always enough: NNLO needed when

1. large NLO/LO “K-factor”
[as in Higgs Physics]
 2. very high precision needed
[e.g. Drell-Yan, top pairs]
- last couple of years:
huge progress in NNLO



Q: can we merge NNLO and PS?

[Anastasiou et al., '03]

- 👉 realistic event generation with **state-of-the-art** perturbative accuracy !
- 👉 important for **precision studies** for several processes

► **method presented here**: based on **POWHEG+MiNLO**, used so far for

- Higgs production

[Hamilton,Nason,ER,Zanderighi, 1309.0017]

- neutral & charged Drell-Yan

[Karlberg,ER,Zanderighi, 1407.2940]

towards NNLO+PS

- ▶ what do we need and what do we already have?

	H (inclusive)	H+j (inclusive)	H+2j (inclusive)
H @ NLOPS	NLO	LO	shower
HJ @ NLOPS	/	NLO	LO
H @ NNLOPS	NNLO	NLO	LO

towards NNLO+PS

- ▶ what do we need and what do we already have?

	H (inclusive)	H+j (inclusive)	H+2j (inclusive)
H @ NLOPS	NLO	LO	shower
HJ @ NLOPS	/	NLO	LO
H-HJ @ NLOPS	NLO	NLO	LO
H @ NNLOPS	NNLO	NLO	LO

👉 a merged H-HJ generator is almost OK

towards NNLO+PS

- ▶ what do we need and what do we already have?

	H (inclusive)	H+j (inclusive)	H+2j (inclusive)
H @ NLOPS	NLO	LO	shower
HJ @ NLOPS	/	NLO	LO
H-HJ @ NLOPS	NLO	NLO	LO
H @ NNLOPS	NNLO	NLO	LO

👉 a merged H-HJ generator is almost OK

- ▶ many of the multijet NLO+PS merging approaches work by combining 2 (or more) NLO+PS generators, introducing a merging scale
- ▶ POWHEG + MiNLO: **no need of merging scale**: it extends the validity of an NLO computation with jets in the final state to phase-space regions where jets become unresolved

rest of the talk: explain how to do this...

rest of the talk:

Higgs at NNLO:



loops: 0 1 2



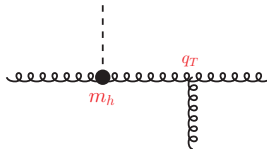
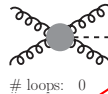
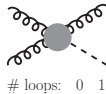
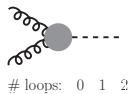
loops: 0 1



loops: 0

rest of the talk:

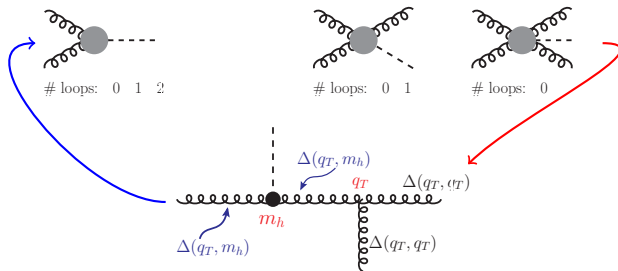
Higgs at NNLO:



(a) 1 and 2 jets: POWHEG H+1j

rest of the talk:

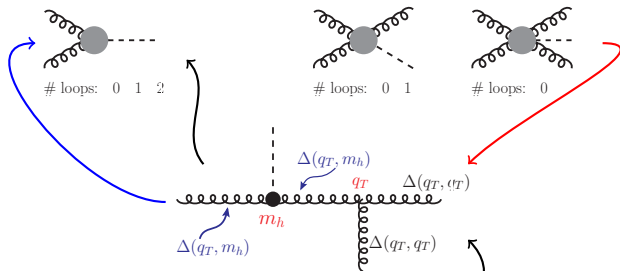
Higgs at NNLO:



- (b) - integrate down to $q_T = 0$ with MiNLO
 - “Improved MiNLO” allows to build a H-HJ @ NLOPS generator
- (a) 1 and 2 jets: POWHEG H+1j

rest of the talk:

Higgs at NNLO:



(c) 2 loops missing: from exact fixed-order NNLO

$$W(y) = \frac{d\sigma(y)_{\text{NNLO}}}{d\sigma(y)_{\text{MINLO}}}$$

(b) - integrate down to $q_T = 0$ with MiNLO

- "Improved MiNLO" allows to build a H-HJ @ NLOPS generator

(a) 1 and 2 jets: POWHEG H+1j

NLOPS merging

- ▶ MiNLO (Multiscale Improved NLO)

Multiscale Improved NLO

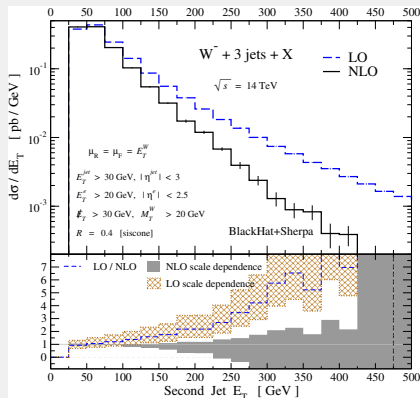
[Hamilton,Nason,Zanderighi, 1206.3572]

- ▶ original goal: method to **a-priori** choose scales in **multijet** NLO computation
- ▶ non-trivial task, since phase space is by construction probed also in presence of widely separated energy scales

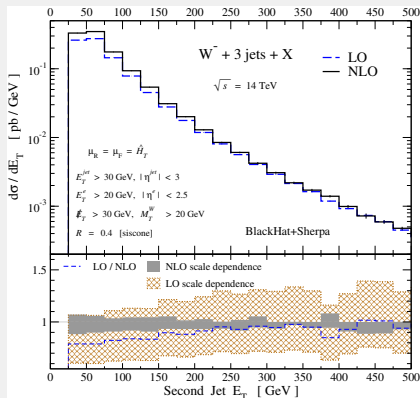
Multiscale Improved NLO

[Hamilton,Nason,Zanderighi, 1206.3572]

- original goal: method to **a-priori** choose scales in **multijet** NLO computation
- non-trivial task, since phase space is by construction probed also in presence of widely separated energy scales



$$\mu = E_{T,W}$$



$$\mu = H_T$$

plot from [Berger et al., '09]

Multiscale Improved NLO

[Hamilton,Nason,Zanderighi, 1206.3572]

- ▶ original goal: method to **a-priori** choose scales in **multijet** NLO computation
- ▶ how: correct weights of different NLO terms with CKKW-inspired approach (**without spoiling formal NLO accuracy**)

Multiscale Improved NLO

[Hamilton,Nason,Zanderighi, 1206.3572]

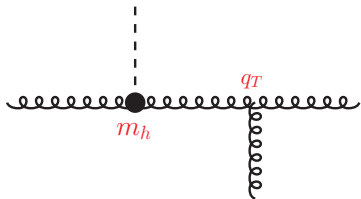
- ▶ original goal: method to **a-priori** choose scales in **multijet** NLO computation
- ▶ how: correct weights of different NLO terms with CKKW-inspired approach (**without spoiling formal NLO accuracy**)
 - for each point sampled, build the “more-likely” shower history that would have produced that kinematics (can be done by clustering kinematics with k_T -algo, then, by undoing the clustering, build “skeleton”)
 - “CKKW-correct” original NLO: α_S evaluated at **nodal scales** and **Sudakov FFs**

Multiscale Improved NLO

[Hamilton,Nason,Zanderighi, 1206.3572]

- ▶ original goal: method to **a-priori** choose scales in **multijet** NLO computation
- ▶ how: correct weights of different NLO terms with CKKW-inspired approach (**without spoiling formal NLO accuracy**)

$$\bar{B}_{\text{NLO}} = \alpha_s^3(\mu_R) \left[B + \alpha_s V(\mu_R) + \alpha_s \int d\Phi_r R \right]$$



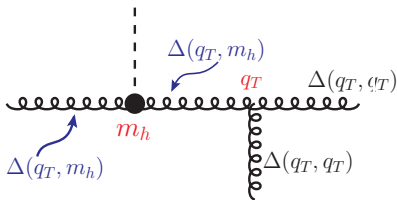
Multiscale Improved NLO

[Hamilton, Nason, Zanderighi, 1206.3572]

- ▶ original goal: method to **a-priori** choose scales in **multijet** NLO computation
- ▶ how: correct weights of different NLO terms with CKKW-inspired approach (**without spoiling formal NLO accuracy**)

$$\bar{B}_{\text{NLO}} = \alpha_S^3(\mu_R) \left[B + \alpha_S V(\mu_R) + \alpha_S \int d\Phi_r R \right]$$

$$\bar{B}_{\text{MiNLO}} = \alpha_S^2(m_h) \alpha_S(q_T) \Delta_g^2(q_T, m_h) \left[B \left(1 - 2\Delta_g^{(1)}(q_T, m_h) \right) + \alpha_S V(\bar{\mu}_R) + \alpha_S \int d\Phi_r R \right]$$



$$\begin{aligned} \cdot \bar{\mu}_R &= (m_h^2 q_T^2)^{1/3} \\ \cdot \log \Delta_f(q_T, m_h) &= - \int_{q_T^2}^{m_h^2} \frac{dq^2}{q^2} \frac{\alpha_S(q^2)}{2\pi} \left[A_f \log \frac{m_h^2}{q^2} + B_f \right] \\ \cdot \Delta_f^{(1)}(q_T, m_h) &= - \frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi} \left[\frac{1}{2} A_{1,f} \log^2 \frac{m_h^2}{q_T^2} + B_{1,f} \log \frac{m_h^2}{q_T^2} \right] \\ \cdot \mu_F &= q_T \end{aligned}$$

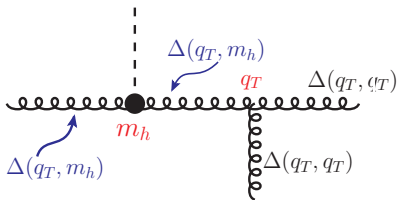
Multiscale Improved NLO

[Hamilton,Nason,Zanderighi, 1206.3572]

- ▶ original goal: method to **a-priori** choose scales in **multijet** NLO computation
- ▶ how: correct weights of different NLO terms with CKKW-inspired approach (**without spoiling formal NLO accuracy**)

$$\bar{B}_{\text{NLO}} = \alpha_s^3(\mu_R) \left[B + \alpha_s V(\mu_R) + \alpha_s \int d\Phi_r R \right]$$

$$\bar{B}_{\text{MiNLO}} = \alpha_s^2(\mathbf{m}_h) \alpha_s(\mathbf{q}_T) \Delta_g^2(\mathbf{q}_T, \mathbf{m}_h) \left[B \left(1 - 2\Delta_g^{(1)}(\mathbf{q}_T, \mathbf{m}_h) \right) + \alpha_s V(\bar{\mu}_R) + \alpha_s \int d\Phi_r R \right]$$



Sudakov FF included on $H+j$
[Born kinematics](#)

- ▶ MiNLO-improved HJ yields **finite results** also when 1st jet is **unresolved** ($q_T \rightarrow 0$)
- ▶ \bar{B}_{MiNLO} ideal to extend validity of HJ-POWHEG [called “HJ-MiNLO” hereafter]

“Improved” MiNLO & NLOPS merging

- ▶ formal accuracy of HJ-MiNLO for inclusive observables carefully investigated

[Hamilton et al., 1212.4504]

- ▶ HJ-MiNLO describes inclusive observables at order α_s
- ▶ to reach genuine NLO when fully inclusive ($\text{NLO}^{(0)}$), “spurious” terms must be of relative order α_s^2 , *i.e.*

$$O_{\text{HJ-MiNLO}} = O_{\text{H@NLO}} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^{2+2}) \quad \text{if } O \text{ is inclusive}$$

- ▶ “Original MiNLO” contains **ambiguous “ $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^{2+1.5})$ ” terms**
-

“Improved” MiNLO & NLOPS merging

- ▶ formal accuracy of HJ-MiNLO for inclusive observables carefully investigated

[Hamilton et al., 1212.4504]

- ▶ HJ-MiNLO describes inclusive observables at order α_s
- ▶ to reach genuine NLO when fully inclusive ($\text{NLO}^{(0)}$), “spurious” terms must be of relative order α_s^2 , *i.e.*

$$O_{\text{HJ-MiNLO}} = O_{\text{H@NLO}} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^{2+2}) \quad \text{if } O \text{ is inclusive}$$

- ▶ “Original MiNLO ” contains **ambiguous “ $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^{2+1.5})$ ” terms**

-
- ▶ Possible to improve HJ-MiNLO such that inclusive NLO is recovered ($\text{NLO}^{(0)}$), without spoiling NLO accuracy of $H+j$ ($\text{NLO}^{(1)}$).
 - ▶ accurate **control of subleading small- p_T logarithms is needed** (scaling in low- p_T region is $\alpha_s L^2 \sim 1$, *i.e.* $L \sim 1/\sqrt{\alpha_s}$!)

“Improved” MiNLO & NLOPS merging

- ▶ formal accuracy of HJ-MiNLO for inclusive observables carefully investigated [Hamilton et al., 1212.4504]
- ▶ HJ-MiNLO describes inclusive observables at order α_S
- ▶ to reach genuine NLO when fully inclusive ($\text{NLO}^{(0)}$), “spurious” terms must be of relative order α_S^2 , *i.e.*

$$O_{\text{HJ-MiNLO}} = O_{\text{H@NLO}} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_S^{2+2}) \quad \text{if } O \text{ is inclusive}$$

- ▶ “Original MiNLO ” contains **ambiguous “ $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_S^{2+1.5})$ ” terms**

-
- ▶ Possible to improve HJ-MiNLO such that inclusive NLO is recovered ($\text{NLO}^{(0)}$), without spoiling NLO accuracy of $H+j$ ($\text{NLO}^{(1)}$).
 - ▶ accurate **control of subleading small- p_T logarithms** is **needed** (scaling in low- p_T region is $\alpha_S L^2 \sim 1$, *i.e.* $L \sim 1/\sqrt{\alpha_S}$!)

Effectively as if we merged $\text{NLO}^{(0)}$ and $\text{NLO}^{(1)}$ samples, **without merging** different samples (no merging scale used: there is just one sample).

“Improved” MiNLO & NLOPS merging

- Resummation formula

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dq_T^2 dy} = \sigma_0 \frac{d}{dq_T^2} \left\{ [C_{ga} \otimes f_a](x_A, q_T) \times [C_{gb} \otimes f_b](x_B, q_T) \times \exp S(q_T, Q) \right\} + R_f$$

$$S(q_T, Q) = -2 \int_{q_T^2}^{Q^2} \frac{dq^2}{q^2} \frac{\alpha_S(q^2)}{2\pi} \left[A_f \log \frac{Q^2}{q^2} + B_f \right]$$

- If $C_{ij}^{(1)}$ included and R_f is $\text{LO}^{(1)}$, then upon integration we get $\text{NLO}^{(0)}$
- Take derivative, then compare with MiNLO :

$$\sim \sigma_0 \frac{1}{q_T^2} [\alpha_S, \alpha_S^2, \alpha_S^3, \alpha_S^4, \alpha_S L, \alpha_S^2 L, \alpha_S^3 L, \alpha_S^4 L] \exp S(q_T, Q) + R_f \quad L = \log(Q^2/q_T^2)$$

- highlighted terms are needed to reach $\text{NLO}^{(0)}$:

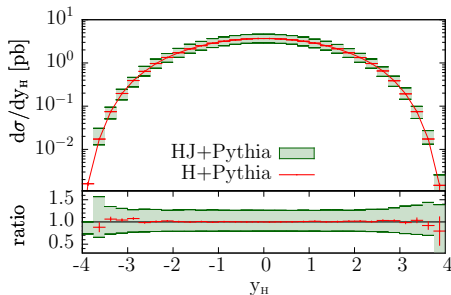
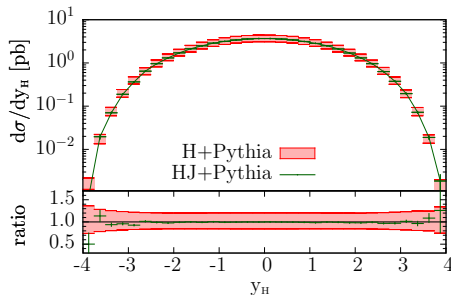
$$\int^{Q^2} \frac{dq_T^2}{q_T^2} L^m \alpha_S^n(q_T) \exp S \sim (\alpha_S(Q^2))^{n-(m+1)/2}$$

(scaling in low- p_T region is $\alpha_S L^2 \sim 1!$)

- if I don't include B_2 in MiNLO Δ_g , I miss a term $(1/q_T^2) \alpha_S^2 B_2 \exp S$
- upon integration, violate $\text{NLO}^{(0)}$ by a term of relative $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_S^{3/2})$

MinLO merging: results

[Hamilton et al., 1212.4504]



- ▶ “H+Pythia”: standalone POWHEG ($gg \rightarrow H$) + PYTHIA (PS level) [7pts band, $\mu = m_H$]
- ▶ “HJ+Pythia”: HJ-MiNLO* + PYTHIA (PS level) [7pts band, μ from MiNLO]
- ▶ very good agreement (both value and band) [✓]

👉 Notice: band is $\sim 20 - 30\%$

matching NNLO with PS

- ▶ Higgs and Drell-Yan production at NNLOPS

Higgs at NNLO+PS I

- ▶ HJ-MiNLO+POWHEG generator gives H-HJ @ NLOPS

	H (inclusive)	H+j (inclusive)	H+2j (inclusive)
✓ H-HJ @ NLOPS	NLO	NLO	LO
H @ NNLOPS	NNLO	NLO	LO

Higgs at NNLO+PS I

- ▶ HJ-MiNLO+POWHEG generator gives H-HJ @ NLOPS

	H (inclusive)	H+j (inclusive)	H+2j (inclusive)
✓ H-HJ @ NLOPS	NLO	NLO	LO
H @ NNLOPS	NNLO	NLO	LO

- ▶ reweighting (differential on Φ_B) of “MiNLO-generated” events:

$$W(\Phi_B) = \frac{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Phi_B}\right)_{\text{NNLO}}}{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Phi_B}\right)_{\text{HJ-MiNLO}^*}}$$

- ▶ by construction NNLO accuracy on fully inclusive observables ($\sigma_{\text{tot}}, y_H; m_{\ell\ell}, \dots$) [✓]
- ▶ to reach NNLOPS accuracy, need to be sure that the reweighting doesn't spoil the NLO accuracy of HJ-MiNLO in 1-jet region []

- ▶ HJ-MiNLO+POWHEG generator gives H-HJ @ NLOPS

	H (inclusive)	H+j (inclusive)	H+2j (inclusive)
✓ H-HJ @ NLOPS	NLO	NLO	LO
✓ H @ NNLOPS	NNLO	NLO	LO

- ▶ reweighting (differential on Φ_B) of “MiNLO-generated” events:

$$W(\Phi_B) = \frac{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Phi_B}\right)_{\text{NNLO}}}{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Phi_B}\right)_{\text{HJ-MiNLO}^*}} = \frac{\alpha_s^2 c_0 + c_1 \alpha_s^3 + c_2 \alpha_s^4}{\alpha_s^2 c_0 + c_1 \alpha_s^3 + d_2 \alpha_s^4} \simeq 1 + \frac{c_2 - d_2}{c_0} \alpha_s^2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$$

- ▶ by construction NNLO accuracy on fully inclusive observables ($\sigma_{\text{tot}}, y_H; m_{\ell\ell}, \dots$) [✓]
- ▶ to reach NNLOPS accuracy, need to be sure that the reweighting doesn't spoil the NLO accuracy of HJ-MiNLO in 1-jet region [✓]

- ▶ HJ-MiNLO+POWHEG generator gives H-HJ @ NLOPS

	H (inclusive)	H+j (inclusive)	H+2j (inclusive)
✓ H-HJ @ NLOPS	NLO	NLO	LO
✓ H @ NNLOPS	NNLO	NLO	LO

- ▶ reweighting (differential on Φ_B) of “MiNLO-generated” events:

$$W(\Phi_B) = \frac{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Phi_B}\right)_{\text{NNLO}}}{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Phi_B}\right)_{\text{HJ-MiNLO}^*}} = \frac{\alpha_s^2 c_0 + c_1 \alpha_s^3 + c_2 \alpha_s^4}{\alpha_s^2 c_0 + c_1 \alpha_s^3 + d_2 \alpha_s^4} \simeq 1 + \frac{c_2 - d_2}{c_0} \alpha_s^2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$$

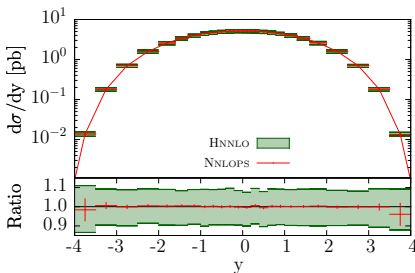
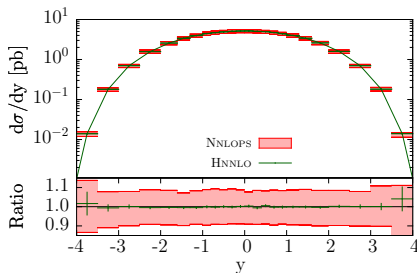
- ▶ by construction NNLO accuracy on fully inclusive observables ($\sigma_{\text{tot}}, y_H; m_{\ell\ell}, \dots$) [✓]
- ▶ to reach NNLOPS accuracy, need to be sure that the reweighting doesn't spoil the NLO accuracy of HJ-MiNLO in 1-jet region [✓]
- ▶ notice: formally works because no spurious $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^{2+1.5})$ terms in H-HJ @ NLOPS

H@NNLOPS (fully incl.)

To reweight, use y_H

- ▶ NNLO with $\mu = m_H/2$, HJ-MiNLO “core scale” m_H
- ▶ $(7_{\text{Mi}} \times 3_{\text{NN}})$ pts scale var. in NNLOPS, 7pts in NNLO

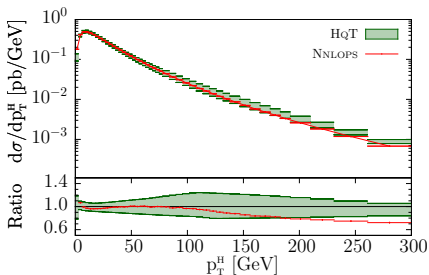
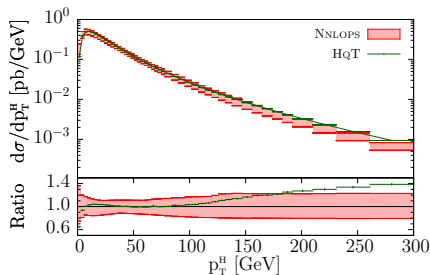
[NNLO from HNNLO, Catani, Grazzini]



☞ Notice: band is 10% (at NLO would be $\sim 20\text{-}30\%$)



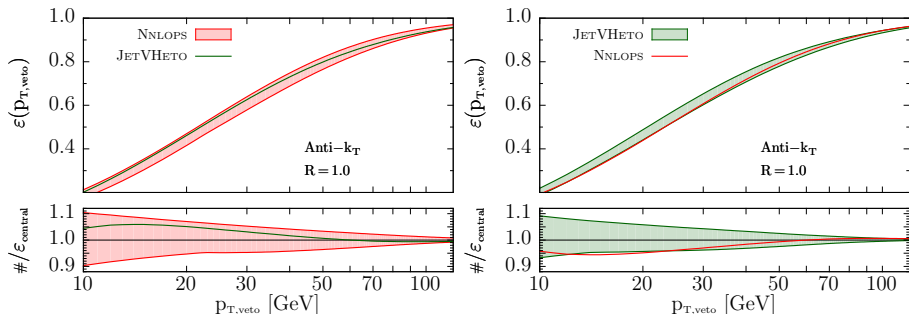
[Until and including $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_S^4)$, PS effects don't affect y_H (first 2 emissions controlled properly at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_S^4)$ by MiNLO+POWHEG)]



- ▶ HqT: NNLL+NNLO, $\mu_R = \mu_F = m_H/2$ [7pts], $Q_{\text{res}} \equiv m_H/2$

[HqT, Bozzi et al.]

- ✓ uncertainty bands of HqT contain NNLOPS at low-/moderate p_T
- ▶ HqT tail harder than NNLOPS tail ($\mu_{\text{HqT}} < \mu_{\text{NNLO}}$)
HJ @ NNLO will allow to say more for large $p_{T,H}$
- ▶ very good agreement with HqT resummation
["~ expected", since $Q_{\text{res}} \equiv m_H/2$, and $\beta = 1/2$]



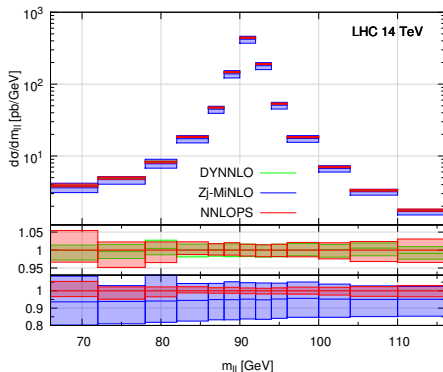
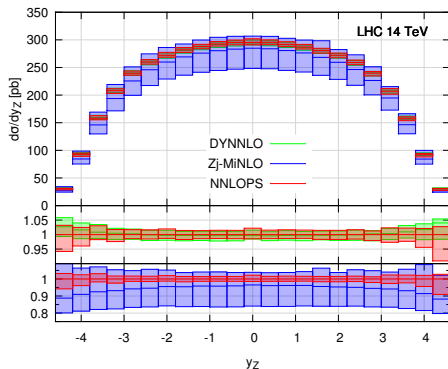
$$\varepsilon(p_{T,\text{veto}}) = \frac{\Sigma(p_{T,\text{veto}})}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}} \int d\sigma \theta(p_{T,\text{veto}} - p_T^{j_1})$$

- ▶ JetVHeto: NNLL resum, $\mu_R = \mu_F = m_H/2$ [7pts], $Q_{\text{res}} \equiv m_H/2$, (a)-scheme only
[JetVHeto, Banfi et al.]
- ▶ nice agreement, differences never more than 5-6 %

👉 Separation of $H \rightarrow WW$ from $t\bar{t}$ bkg: x-sec binned in N_{jet}
0-jet bin \Leftrightarrow jet-veto accurate predictions needed !

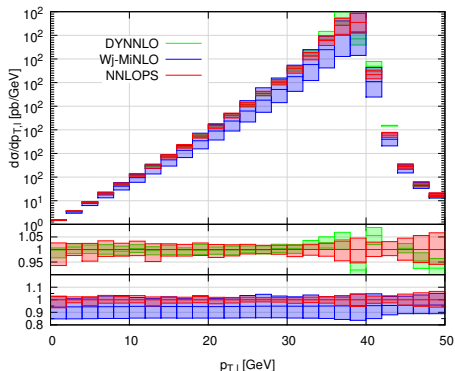
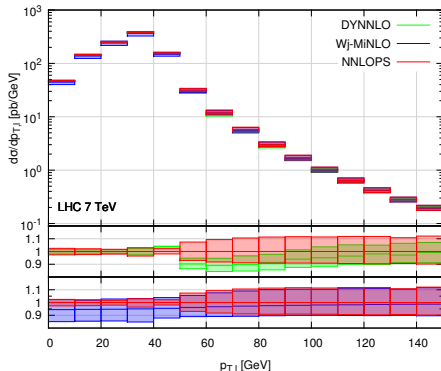
Z@NNLOPS, PS level

To reweight, use $(y_{\ell\ell}, m_{\ell\ell}, \cos \theta_\ell)$



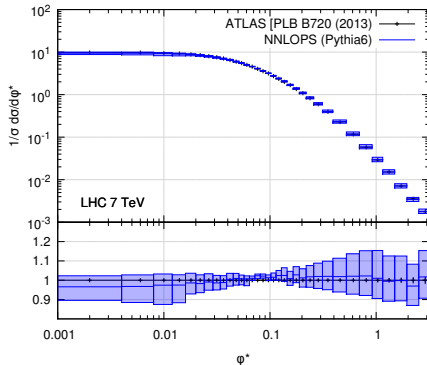
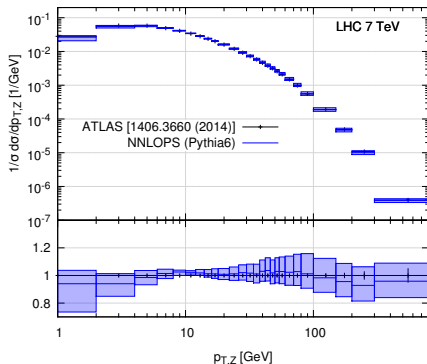
- ▶ $(7_{\text{Mi}} \times 3_{\text{NN}})$ pts scale var. in NNLOPS, 7pts in NNLO
- ▶ agreement with DYNNLO
- ▶ scale uncertainty reduction wrt ZJ-MINLO

W@NNLOPS, PS level



- ▶ **not** the observables we are using to do the NNLO reweighting
 - **observe** exactly **what we expect**:
 $p_{T,\ell}$ has NNLO uncertainty if $p_T < M_W/2$, NLO if $p_T > M_W/2$
 - smooth behaviour when close to Jacobian peak (also with small bins)
(due to resummation of logs at small $p_{T,V}$)
- ▶ just above peak, DYNNLO uses $\mu = M_W$, WJ-MiNLO uses $\mu = p_{T,W}$
 - here $0 \lesssim p_{T,W} \lesssim M_W$ (so resummation region does contribute)

Vector boson: comparison with data ($p_{T,Z}$, ϕ^*)



- ▶ good agreement with data (PS+hadronisation+MPI)
- ▶ ϕ^* is an alternative probe to measure low- $p_{T,V}$ domain

$$\phi^* = \tan\left(\frac{\pi - \Delta\phi}{2}\right) \sin\theta^*$$

- θ^* : angle between electron and beam axis, in Z boson rest frame
- ATLAS uses slightly different definition: $\cos\theta^* = \tanh((y_{l-} - y_{l+})/2)$

Conclusions and Outlook

- ▶ Especially in absence of very clear signals of new-physics, accurate tools are needed for LHC phenomenology
- ▶ In the last decade, impressive amount of progress: **new ideas**, and **automated tools**
- ⇒ briefly reviewed how Event Generators work, and how they can be upgraded to NLO
- ⇒ shown results of **merging NLOPS for different jet-multiplicities** *without* merging scale
- ⇒ shown **first working examples of NNLOPS**

What next?

Conclusions and Outlook

- ▶ Especially in absence of very clear signals of new-physics, accurate tools are needed for LHC phenomenology
- ▶ In the last decade, impressive amount of progress: **new ideas**, and **automated tools**
- ⇒ briefly reviewed how Event Generators work, and how they can be upgraded to NLO
- ⇒ shown results of **merging NLOPS for different jet-multiplicities** *without merging scale*
- ⇒ shown **first working examples of NNLOPS**

What next?

- ▶ NLOPS merging for higher multiplicity
- ▶ NNLOPS for more complicated processes (color-singlet in principle doable, in practice a more analytic-based approach might be needed)
- ▶ Real phenomenology in experimental analyses

Conclusions and Outlook

- ▶ Especially in absence of very clear signals of new-physics, accurate tools are needed for LHC phenomenology
- ▶ In the last decade, impressive amount of progress: **new ideas**, and **automated tools**
- ⇒ briefly reviewed how Event Generators work, and how they can be upgraded to NLO
- ⇒ shown results of **merging NLOPS for different jet-multiplicities** *without merging scale*
- ⇒ shown **first working examples of NNLOPS**

What next?

- ▶ NLOPS merging for higher multiplicity
- ▶ NNLOPS for more complicated processes (color-singlet in principle doable, in practice a more analytic-based approach might be needed)
- ▶ Real phenomenology in experimental analyses

Thank you for your attention!