



New physics simulations at the next-to-leading order

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High-energy physics seminar

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A need for precision predictions for BSM?

- ◆ Final words on any potential new physics at the LHC
 - ❖ Accurate measurements + precision predictions (NLO QCD + PS)
- ◆ New physics is standard in the simulation tools
 - ❖ 20-25 years of developments
 - ❖ Simulations at the NLO accuracy in QCD can be easily achieved
 - ★ For any model → the MADGRAPH5_aMC@NLO framework

Outline

1. Automating NLO calculations in QCD for new physics
2. Phenomenology: supersymmetry, dark matter & vector-like quarks
3. Summary - conclusions

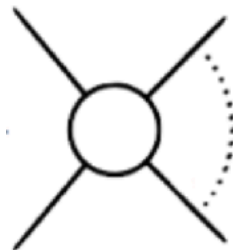
NLO calculations in a nutshell

◆ Dissecting an NLO calculation in QCD

♣ Three ingredients: the Born, virtual loop and real emission contributions

$$\sigma_{NLO} = \int d^4\Phi_n \mathcal{B} + \int d^4\Phi_n \int_{\text{loop}} d^d\ell \mathcal{V} + \int d^4\Phi_{n+1} \mathcal{R}$$

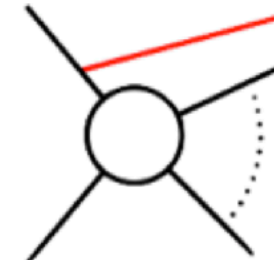
Born



Virtuals: one extra power of α_s and divergent



Reals: one extra power of α_s and divergent



Loop calculations

◆ Dimensional regularisation: calculations in $d = 4 - 2\epsilon$

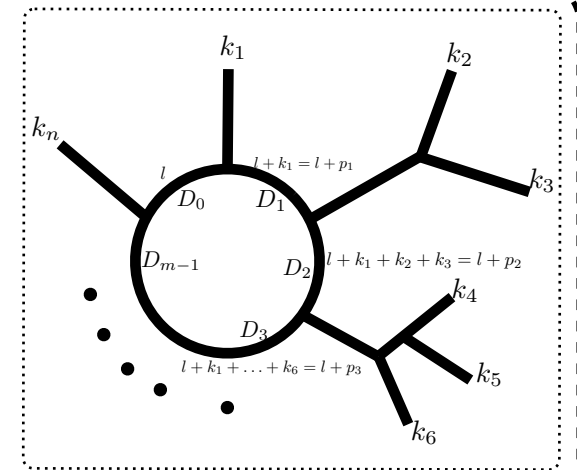
- ♣ Divergences explicit ($1/\epsilon^2, 1/\epsilon$)
- ♣ Reduction of tensor loop-integrals to scalar integrals

◆ The reduction must be performed in d dimensions

- ♣ Numerical methods work in **4 dimensions** $\rightarrow R_1$ and R_2 terms

$$\int d^d \ell \frac{N(\ell, \tilde{\ell})}{\bar{D}_0 \bar{D}_1 \cdots \bar{D}_{m-1}} \quad \text{with } \bar{\ell} = \ell + \tilde{\ell}$$

D-dim
4-dim
(-2 ϵ)-dim



[Ossala, Papadopoulos, Pittau (NPB'07; JHEP'08)]

◆ The R_1 terms originate from the denominators

$$\frac{1}{\bar{D}} = \frac{1}{D} \left(1 - \frac{\tilde{\ell}^2}{\bar{D}} \right)$$

- ♣ **3 generic** non-vanishing integrals

MADLOOP

[Hirschi et al. (JHEP'11)]

◆ The R_2 terms originate from the numerator

- ♣ Process-dependent contributions proportional to $\tilde{\ell}^2$
- ♣ Renormalisable theory: finite number of R_2 's $\rightarrow R_2$ Feynman rules

NLOCT

[Degrande (CPC'15)]

Subtraction of the IR divergences

◆ Subtracting the poles

- ❖ The structure of the poles is known \Rightarrow subtraction methods

$$\sigma_{NLO} = \int d^4\Phi_n \mathcal{B} + \int d^4\Phi_{n+1} [\mathcal{R} - \mathcal{C}] + \int d^4\Phi_n \left[\int_{\text{loop}} d^d\ell \mathcal{V} + \int d^d\Phi_1 \mathcal{C} \right]$$

- ★ \mathcal{C} subtracted from the reals \rightarrow finite
- ★ \mathcal{C} integrated and added back to the virtuals \rightarrow finite
- ★ Integrals can be calculated numerically (and in 4D)

◆ Choice of the subtraction terms

- ❖ Must match the infrared structure of the real
- ❖ Should be integrable over the one-body phase space conveniently (cf. virtuals)
- ❖ Should be integrable numerically conveniently

◆ FKS subtraction

[Frixione, Kunszt, Signer (NPB'96)]

- ❖ Decomposition \rightarrow at most one singularity per term \rightarrow regulators

$$d\sigma^{(n+1)} = \sum_{ij} \mathcal{S}_{ij} d\sigma_{ij}^{(n+1)}$$

- ★ $\mathcal{S}_{ij} \rightarrow 1$ if the partons i and j are collinear
- ★ $\mathcal{S}_{ij} \rightarrow 1$ if the parton i is soft
- ★ $\mathcal{S}_{ij} \rightarrow 0$ for all other infrared limits

Events and counter-events

◆ Regulators: events and counter-events

MADFKS

Controls the soft pieces $\xi_i = E_i \sqrt{\hat{s}}$ Controls the collinear pieces $y_{ij} = \cos \theta_{ij}$

$$d\sigma_{ij}^{(n+1)} = \left[\frac{1}{\xi_i} \right]_c \left[\frac{1}{1-y_{ij}} \right]_\delta \Sigma_{ij}(\xi_i, y_{ij}) d\xi_i dy_{ij}$$

$$= \int_0^{\xi_{\max}} d\xi_i \int_{-1}^{+1} dy_{ij} \frac{1}{\xi_i(1-y_{ij})} \left[\Sigma_{ij}(\xi_i, y_{ij}) - \Sigma_{ij}(\xi_i, 1)\Theta(y_{ij} - 1 + \delta) \right.$$

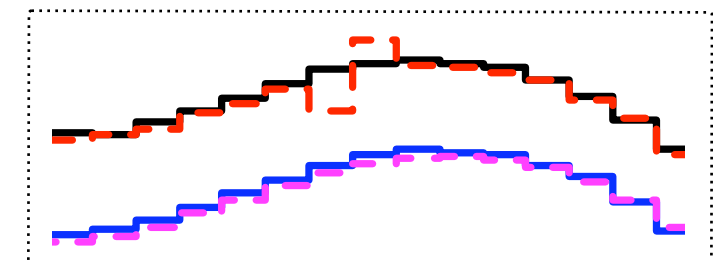
$$\left. - \Sigma_{ij}(0, y_{ij})\Theta(\xi_{\text{cut}} - \xi_i) + \Sigma_{ij}(0, 1)\Theta(y_{ij} - 1 + \delta)\Theta(\xi_{\text{cut}} - \xi_i) \right]$$

Event Counter-event

[Frederix, Frixione, Maltoni & Stelzer (JHEP'09)]

◆ Some properties

- ❖ i and j on-shell (event) \Leftrightarrow combined ij parton on-shell (counter-event)
 - Reshuffling of all particle momenta
 - Events and counter-events kinematically mismatched
 - Unweighting not possible
- ❖ Events and counter-events can fill \neq histogram bins
 - ★ Peak-dip structure for the (fixed-order) distributions



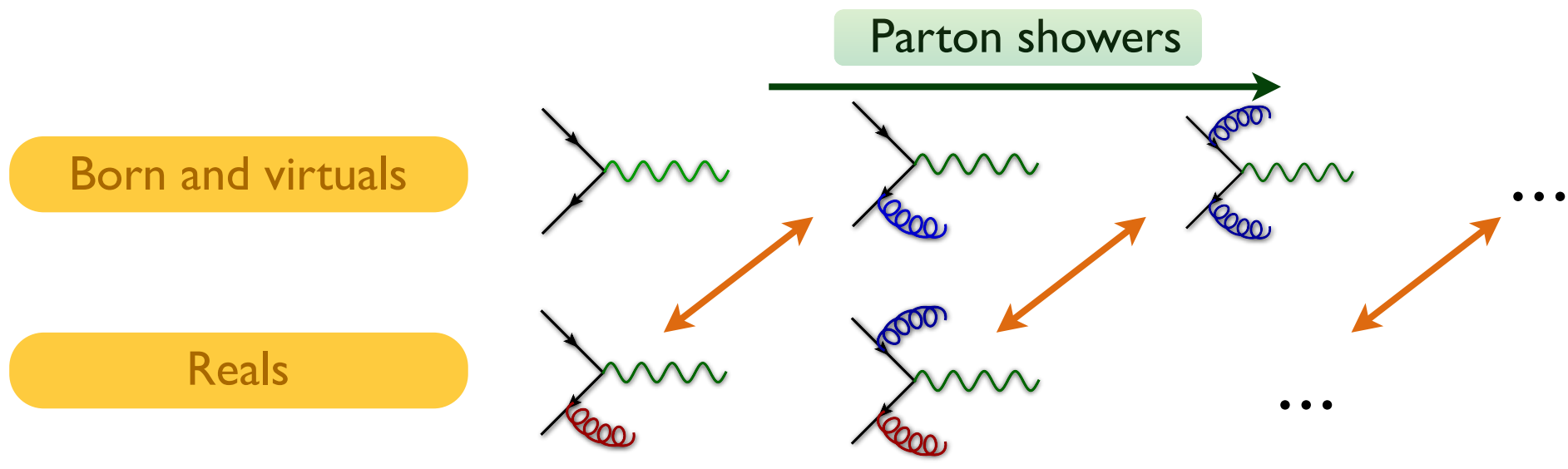
Matching with parton showers

◆ Parton shower / hadronisation effects

- ❖ Evolution of hard partons to **more realistic final states made of hadrons**
 - ★ Fully exclusive description of the events
- ❖ **Resummation of the soft-collinear QCD radiation**
 - ★ Cures the fixed-order instabilities

◆ Matching with parton showers

MC@NLO



❖ Two sources of double counting

- ★ Radiation: reals vs. shower
- ★ No radiation: virtuals vs. no-emission probability

◆ Properties of the MC counterterms

$$\sigma_{NLO} = \int d^4\Phi_n \left[\mathcal{B} + \int_{\text{loop}} d^d\ell \mathcal{V} + \int d^4\Phi_1 \mathcal{MC} \right] \mathcal{I}_{\text{MC}}^{(n)} + \int d^4\Phi_{n+1} \left[\mathcal{R} - \mathcal{MC} \right] \mathcal{I}_{\text{MC}}^{(n+1)}$$

- ✦ Exact **NLO normalisation** (after α_s -expansion)
- ✦ Definition: MC counterterms **match the reals in the IR**
 - ★ Same kinematics: no need for reshuffling \rightarrow **exact cancellation**
 - ★ Weights for the n and $n+1$ components bounded from above \rightarrow **unweighting possible**
- ✦ **Smooth transition** between the hard and soft-collinear regions
 - ★ Soft-collinear: $\mathcal{R} \approx \mathcal{MC} \rightarrow$ shower-dominated
 - ★ Hard: $\mathcal{MC} \approx 0$, $\mathcal{I}_{\text{MC}}^{(n)} \approx 0$, $\mathcal{I}_{\text{MC}}^{(n+1)} \approx 1 \rightarrow$ hard-radiation-dominated
- ✦ **The MC counterterms are shower-dependent**

Monte Carlo and FKS counterterms

◆ The MC counterterms cannot be integrated numerically

aMC@NLO

- ❖ Issue for the virtuals (pole cancellation)
- ❖ Simultaneous usage of the FKS and MC counterterms

$$\sigma_{NLO} = \int d^4\Phi_n \left[\mathcal{B} + \left(\int_{\text{loop}} d^d\ell \mathcal{V} + \int d^d\Phi_1 \mathcal{C} \right) + \int d^4\Phi_1 (\mathcal{MC} - \mathcal{C}) \right] \mathcal{I}_{\text{MC}}^{(n)} + \int d^4\Phi_{n+1} \left[\mathcal{R} - \mathcal{MC} \right] \mathcal{I}_{\text{MC}}^{(n+1)}$$

S-events H-events

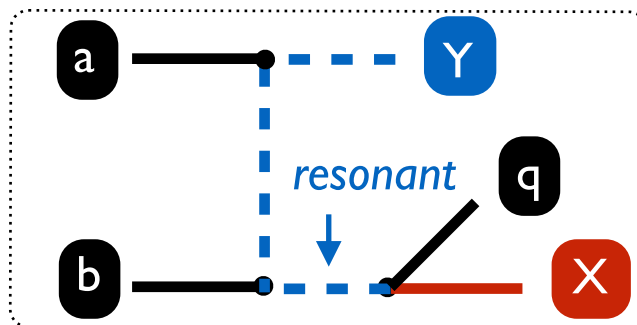
- ❖ Separated generation of the S-events and H-events
→ Negative weights

[Alwall, Frederix, Frixione, Hirschi, Mattelaer, Shao, Stelzer, Torrielli & Zaro (JHEP'14)]

Intermediate resonances

[Frixione, BF, Hirschi, Mawatari, Shao, Sunder & Zaro (1907.04898)]

◆ Resonant contribution could appear at NLO (real emission)



♣ Overlap

- ★ YY @ LO \otimes Y \rightarrow Xq decay
- ★ YX @ NLO (real emission)

- ♣ Possible (huge) enhancement w.r.t. LO (if YY dominates over XY)
 - ★ **Spoiling the perturbative expansion for the original process**
- ♣ All potential subprocesses may need to be considered separately
 - ★ **Resonances must be subtracted**

◆ Resonance subtraction/removal from the squared matrix element

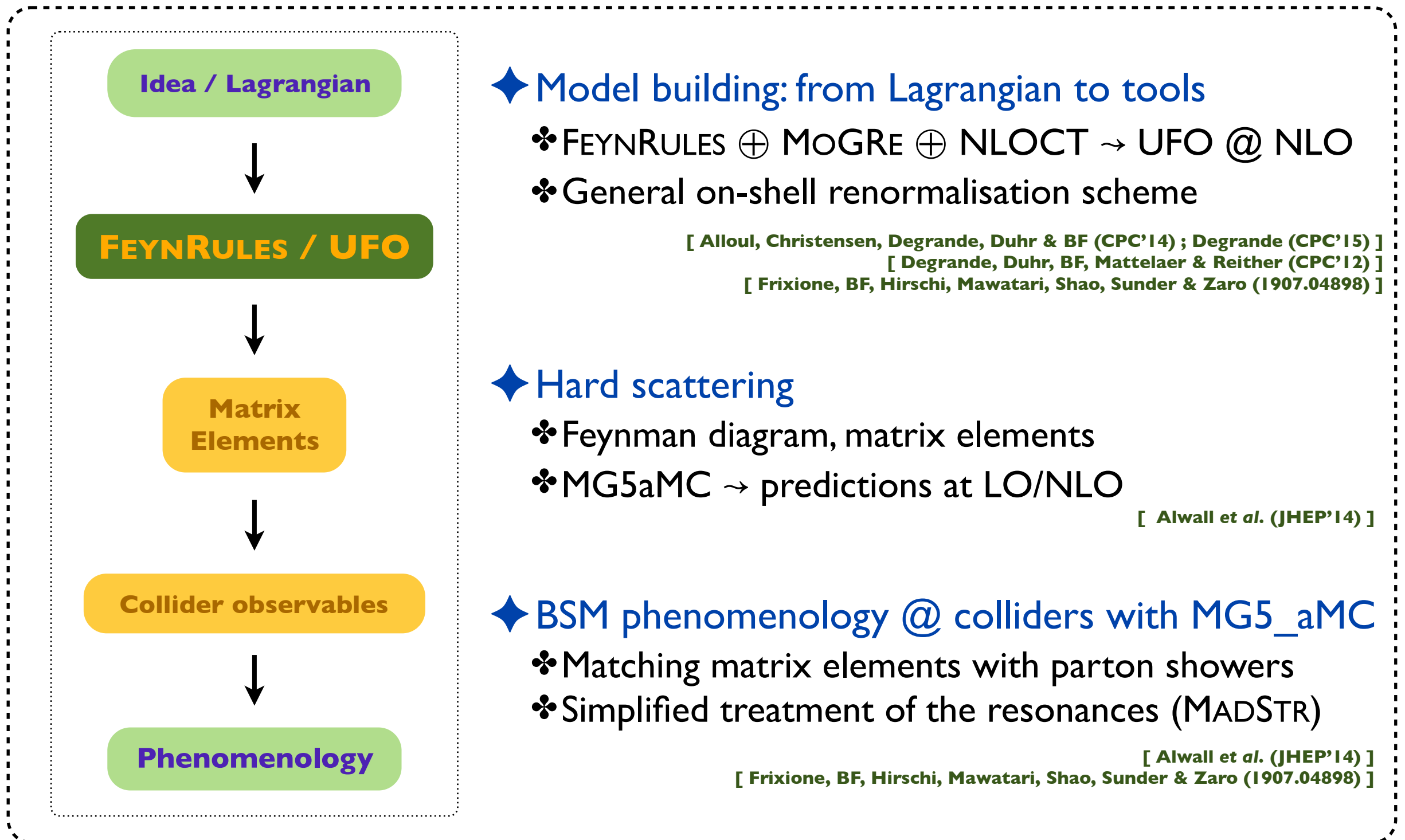
$$|\mathcal{A}|^2 = |\mathcal{A}^{(\text{non-res.})}|^2 + 2\Re\left(\mathcal{A}^{(\text{non-res.})} \mathcal{A}^{(\text{res.})\dagger}\right) + |\mathcal{A}^{(\text{res.})}|^2$$

- ♣ **DR**: the resonant diagrams are removed
- ♣ **DR+I**: diagram removal while keeping the interferences
- ♣ **DS**: the purely resonant part is subtracted from the last term
 - ★ There are different ways to handle this (momenta projections)

MadSTR

A comprehensive approach to new physics calculations

[Christensen, de Aquino, Degrande, Duhr, BF, Herquet, Maltoni & Schumann (EPJC'11)]



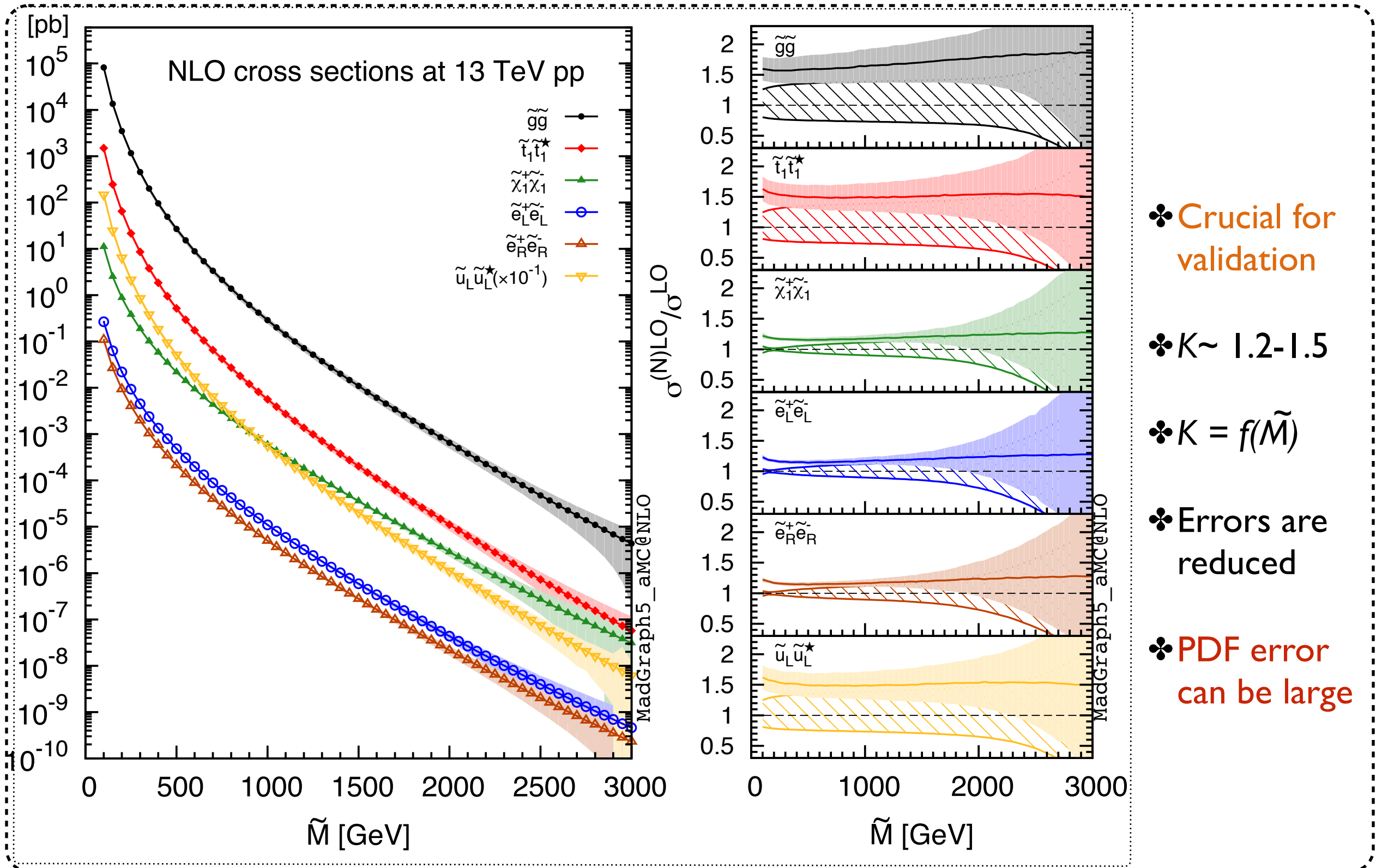
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Supersymmetry @ NLO

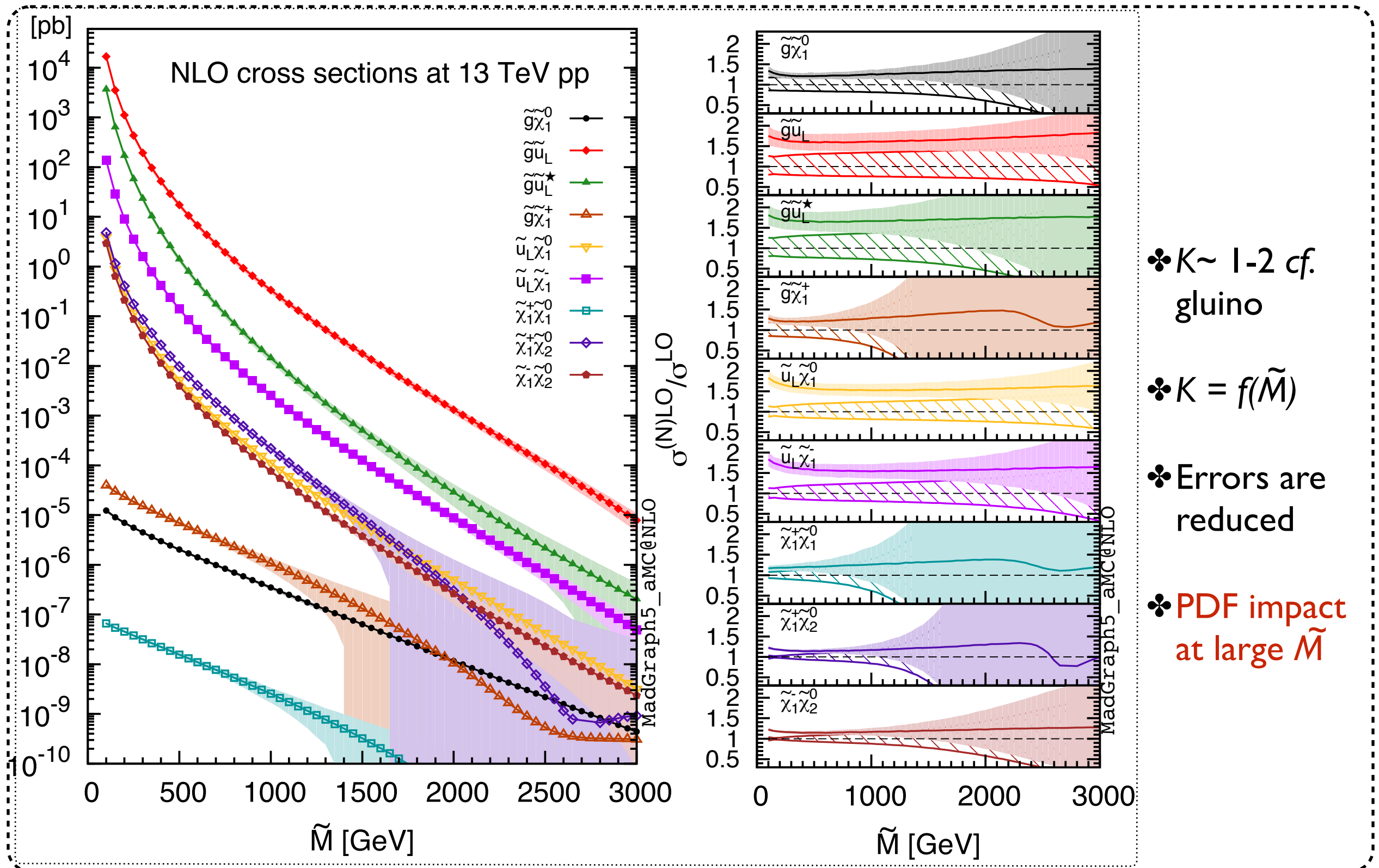
SUSY rates: simplified models

[Frixione, BF, Hirschi, Mawatari, Shao, Sunder & Zaro (1907.04898)]



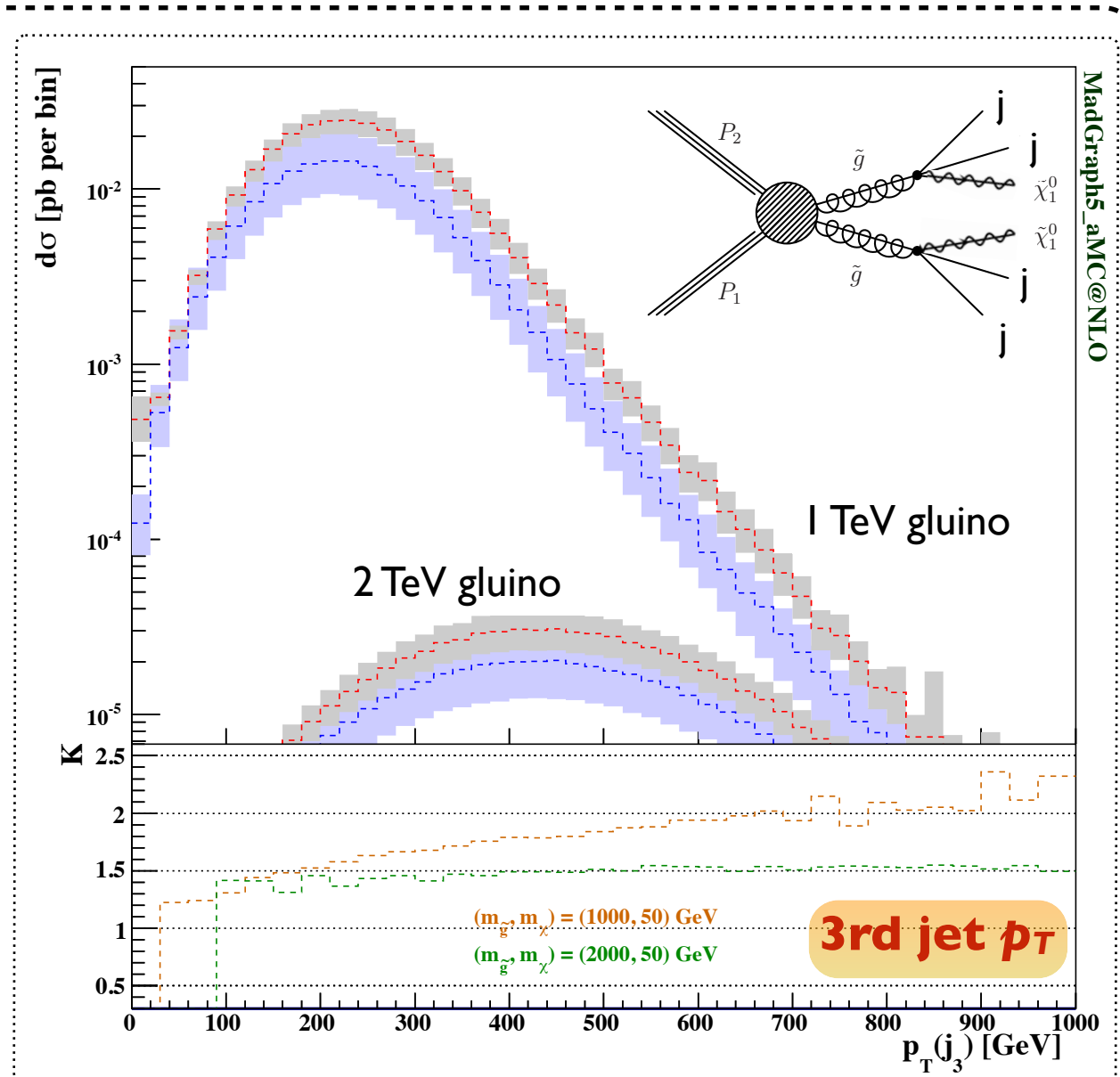
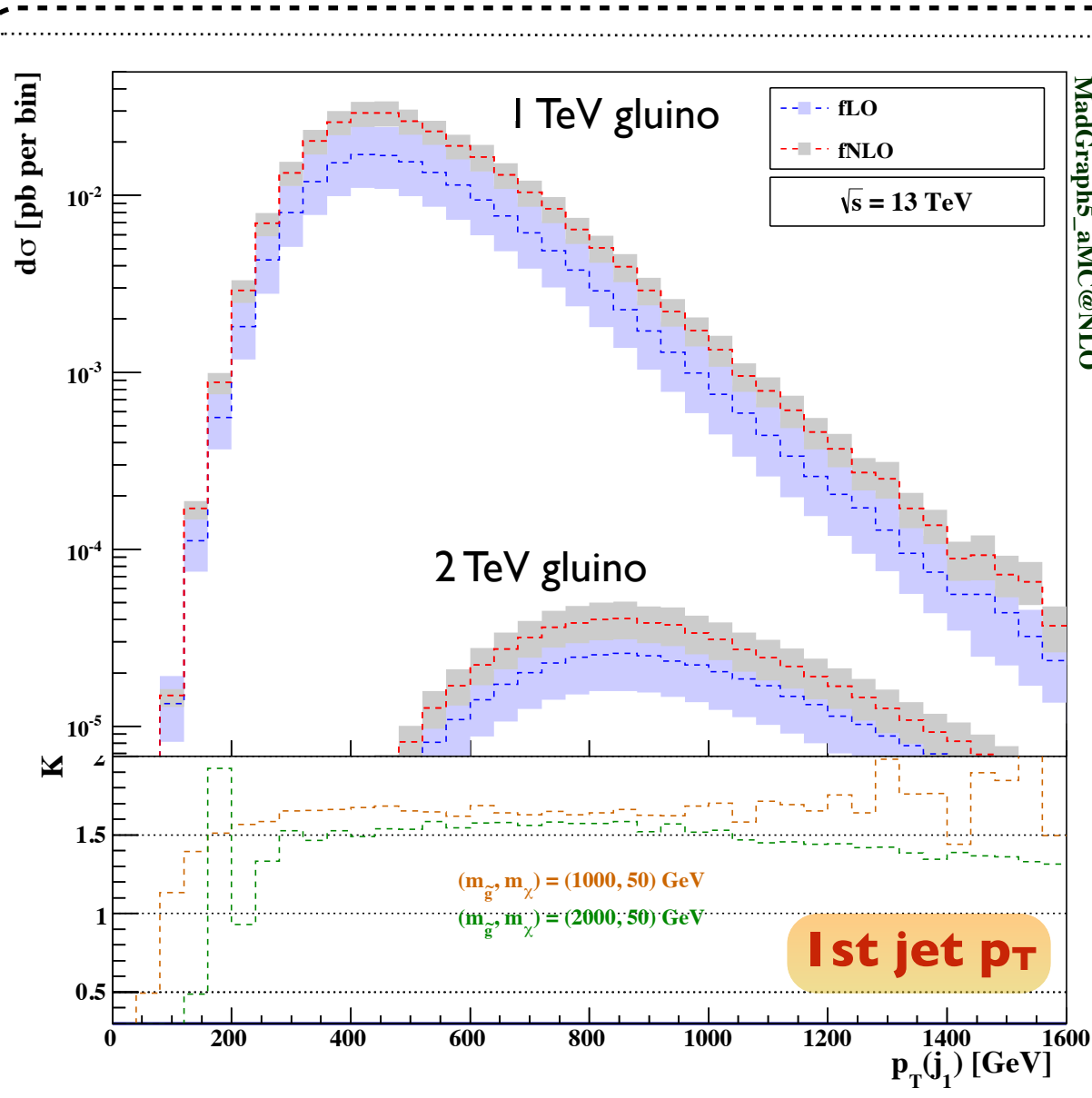
SUSY rates: next-to-simplified models

[Frixione, BF, Hirschi, Mawatari, Shao, Sunder & Zaro (1907.04898)]



Fixed-order distributions: jet properties

[Degrande, BF, Hirschi, Proudome & Shao (PRD'15; PLB'16)]

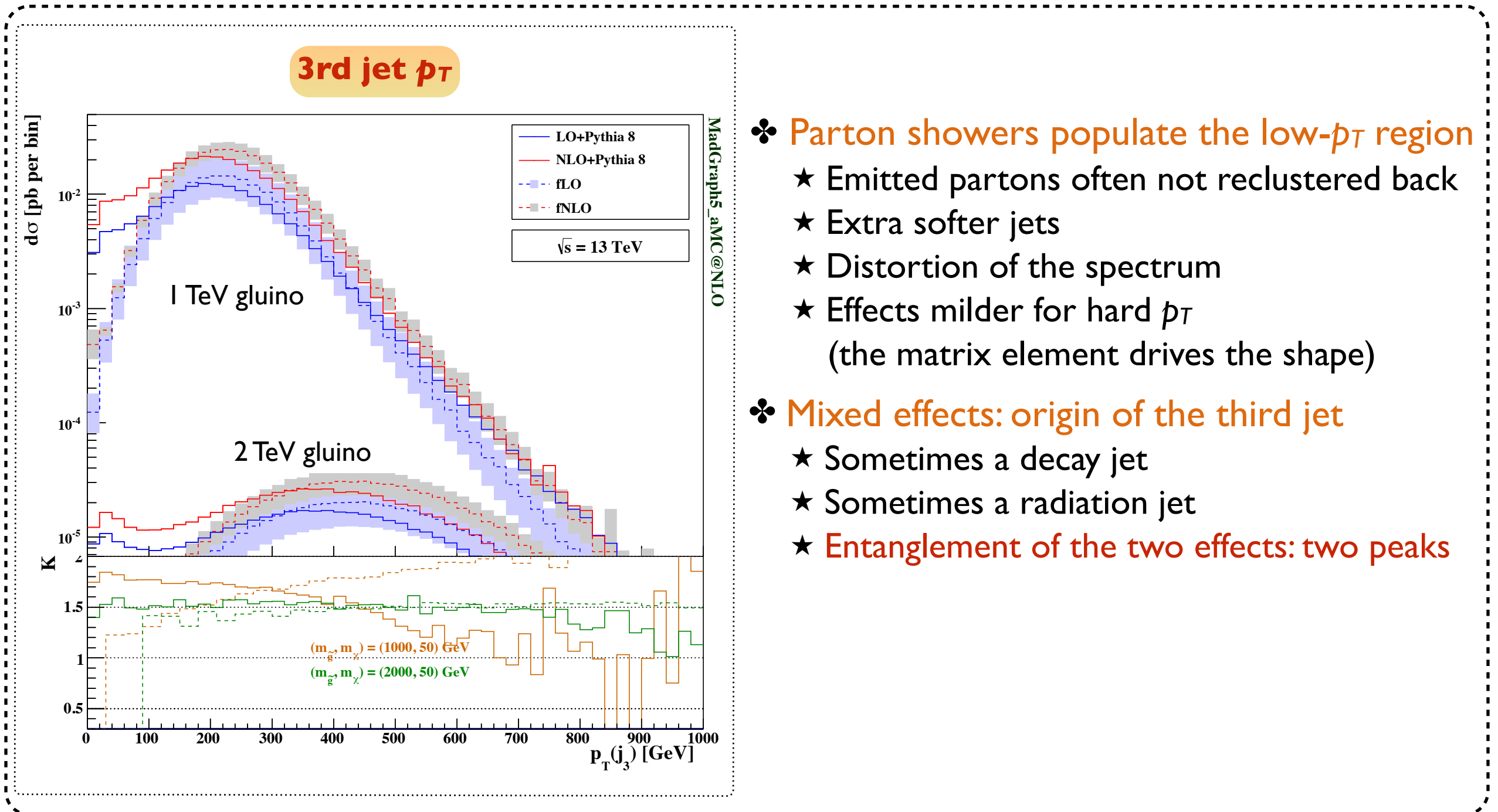


- ❖ Two potential jet origins
 - ★ Decay jet (hard)
 - ★ Radiation jet (soft, not for the 1st/2nd jets)

- ❖ Constant K -factors not accurate
 - ★ Normalisation modification
 - ★ Distortion of the shapes
 - ★ Reduction of the theoretical uncertainties

NLO+PS distributions: jet properties

[Degrande, BF, Hirschi, Proudome & Shao (PRD'15; PLB'16)]

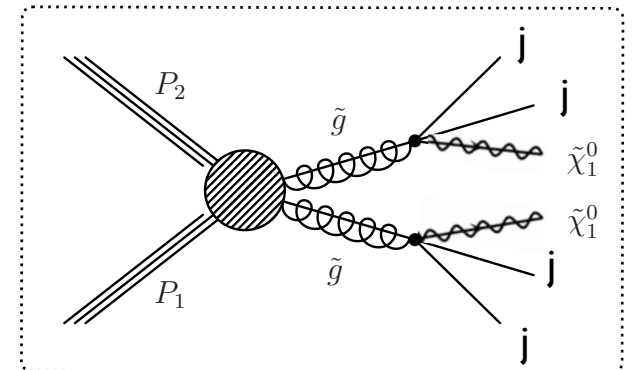


Impact of the uncertainties \rightarrow future colliders

[Araz, Frank & BF (1910.11418)]

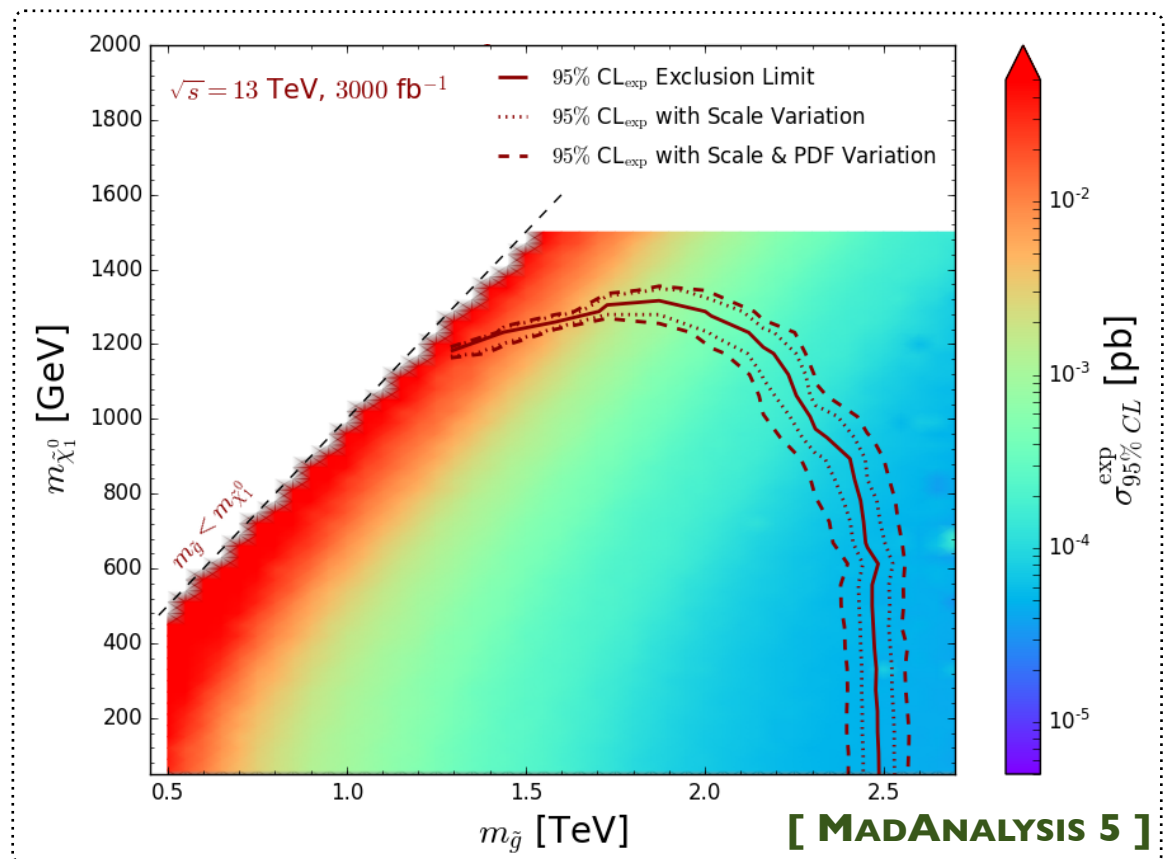
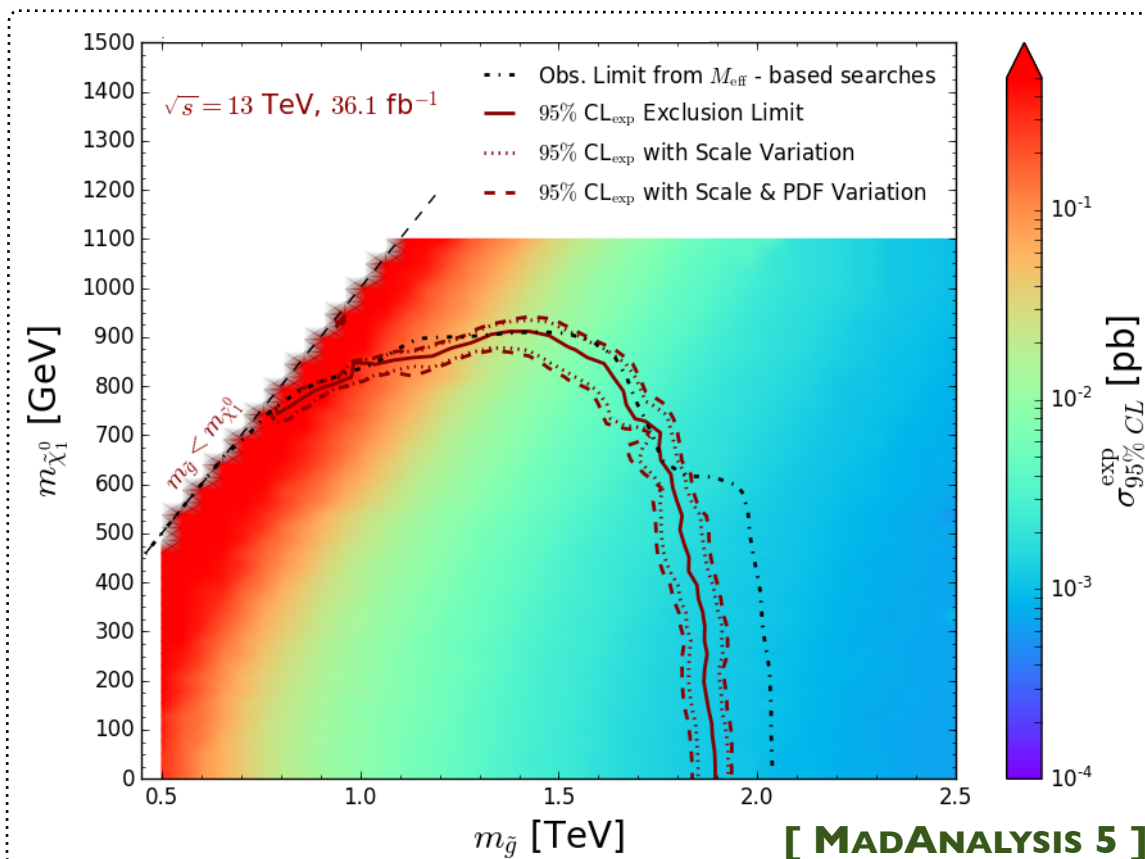
◆ Constraining gluino pair production and decay @ LHC

- ♣ NLO impact on the shapes of the distributions
- ♣ Impact on the limits?
- ♣ Impact of the theory uncertainties?



◆ Recasting ATLAS multijet + MET analysis (ATLAS SUSY 2016-07)

- ♣ Left: reproduction of the ATLAS results (LO-merged; $\sigma_{\text{NLL/NLO}}$) with NLO signals
- ♣ Right: extrapolation for HL-LHC \rightarrow **impact of the errors**



Treatment of the resonances: rates

[Frixione, BF, Hirschi, Mawatari, Shao, Sunder & Zaro (1907.04898)]

	[fb]	DR	DR + I	DS				LO
$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}$	$\sigma_{\text{inclusive}}$	0.331	$0.330^{+19\%}_{-18\%} \pm 28\%$	0.327	0.322	0.330	0.330	$0.187^{+44\%}_{-29\%} \pm 27\%$
	σ_{fiducial}	0.228	$0.227^{+19\%}_{-18\%} \pm 28\%$	0.225	0.222	0.228	0.227	$0.128^{+44\%}_{-29\%} \pm 27\%$
$\tilde{g}\tilde{q}$	$\sigma_{\text{inclusive}}$	8.42	$8.39^{+12\%}_{-14\%} \pm 6.9\%$	8.38	8.35	8.41	8.40	$5.49^{+38\%}_{-25\%} \pm 7.0\%$
	σ_{fiducial}	5.93	$5.91^{+12\%}_{-14\%} \pm 6.9\%$	5.90	5.87	5.93	5.92	$3.86^{+38\%}_{-26\%} \pm 7.0\%$
$\tilde{q}\tilde{q}$	$\sigma_{\text{inclusive}}$	20.4	$20.4^{+7.8\%}_{-10\%} \pm 2.2\%$	20.4	20.4	20.4	20.4	$14.9^{+30\%}_{-22\%} \pm 2.2\%$
	σ_{fiducial}	14.8	$14.8^{+7.8\%}_{-9.9\%} \pm 2.2\%$	14.8	14.7	14.8	14.8	$10.8^{+30\%}_{-21\%} \pm 2.2\%$

❖ Benchmark (allowed by data)

- ★ Multi-TeV squarks and gluinos
- ★ 50 GeV lightest neutralino (decays into jets and missing energy)
- ★ Typical H_T/MET selection (+ N_{jets} requirement)

❖ NLO impact

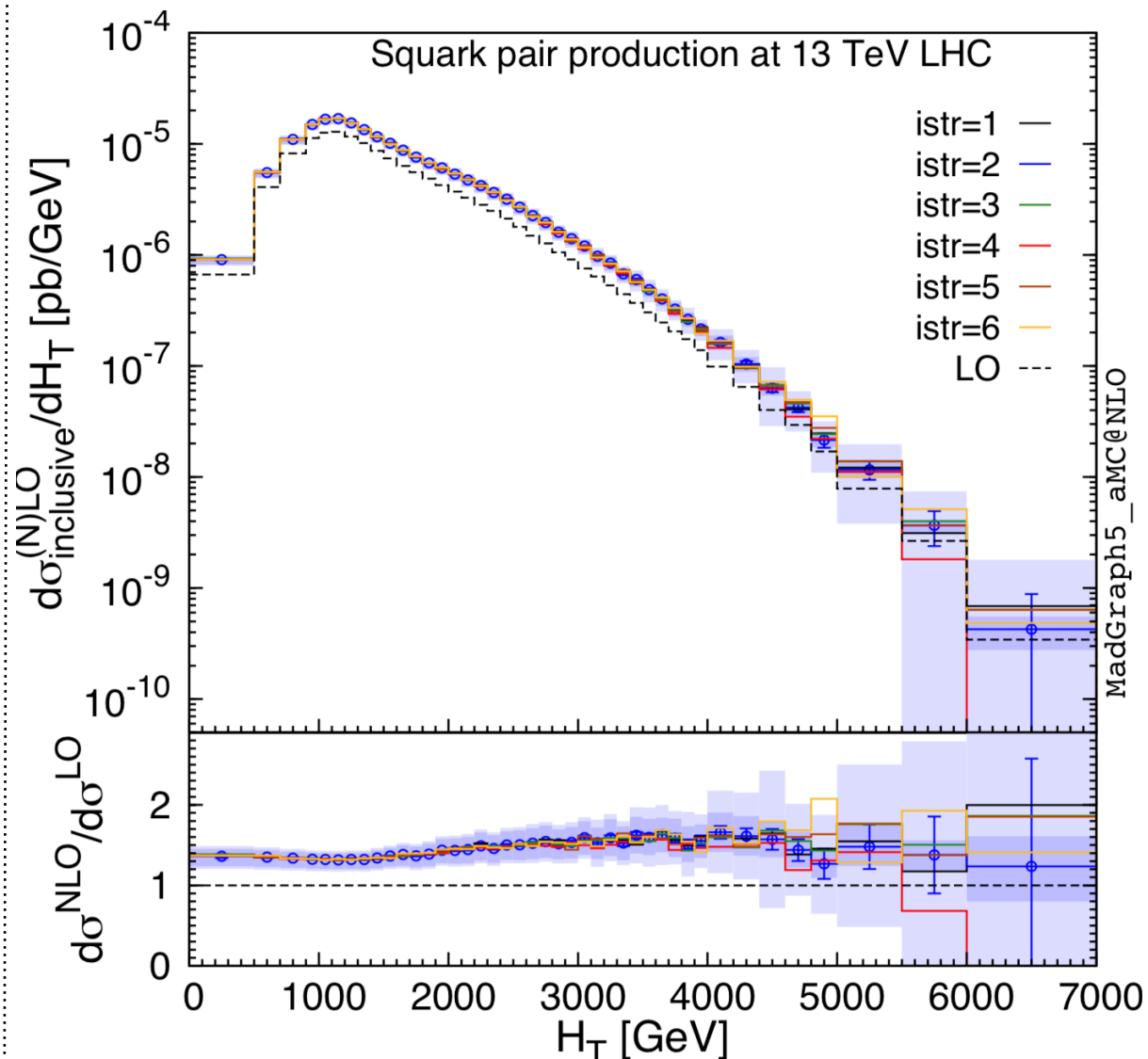
- ★ Large K-factors (especially for $\tilde{g}\tilde{g}$), reduction of the theory errors
- ★ 50 GeV lightest neutralino (decays into jets and missing energy)
- ★ Results compatible regardless of how resonances are treated

No double counting

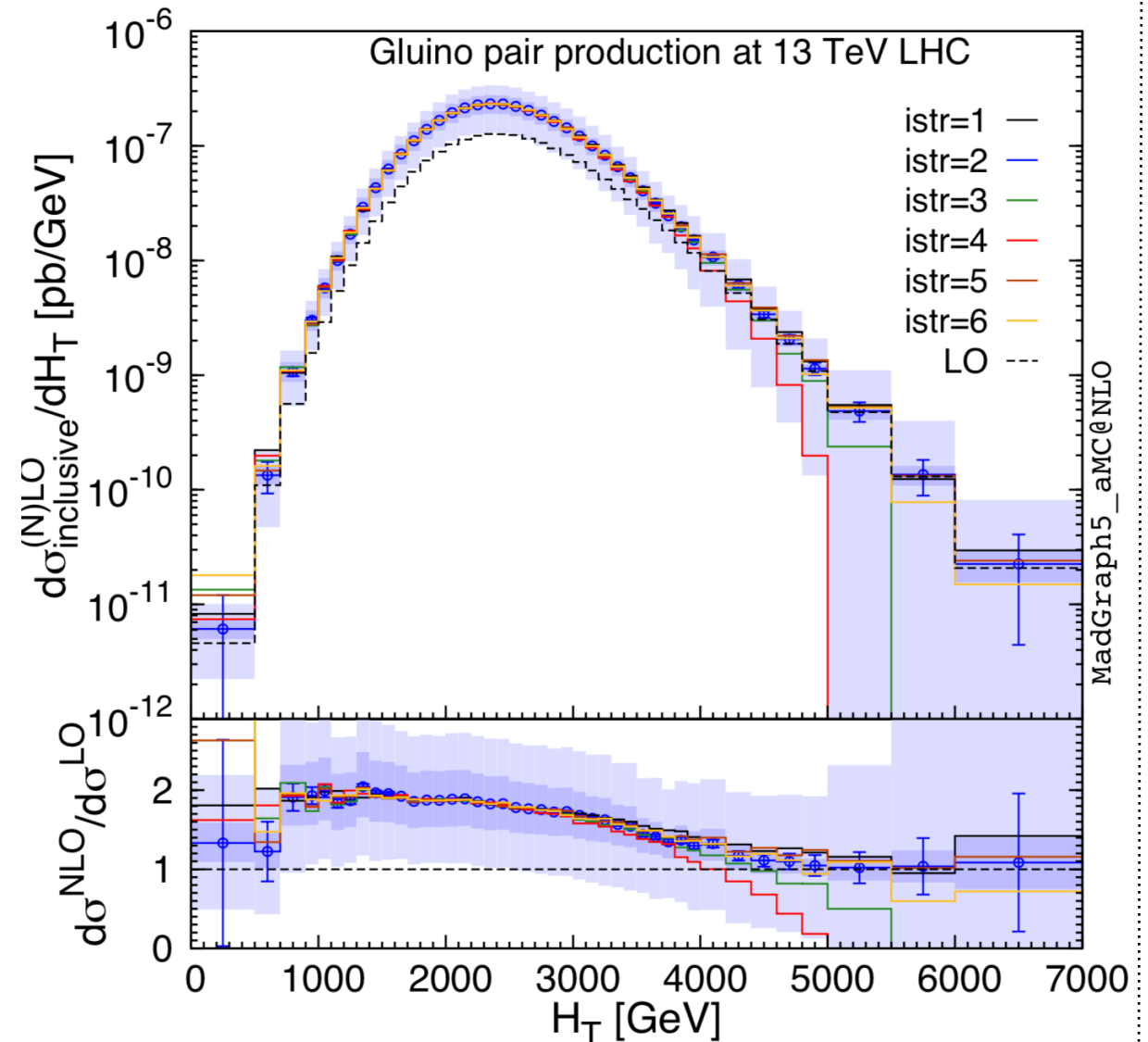
Treatment of the resonances: spectra

[Frixione, BF, Hirschi, Mawatari, Shao, Sunder & Zaro (1907.04898)]

H_T for squark pair production



H_T for gluino pair production



- ❖ Initial momenta reshuffled for some STR options (and some observables)
- ★ Large dependence related to the gluon PDF at large $x \rightarrow$ large TH uncertainties

Dark matter @ NLO

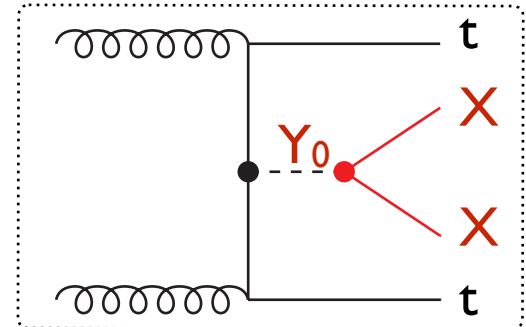
Top-philic dark matter

[Arina, Backovic, Conte, BF, Guo, Heisig, Hespel, Krämer, Maltoni, Martini, Mawatari, Pellen & Vryonidou (JHEP'16)]

◆ A simplified model for top-philic dark matter

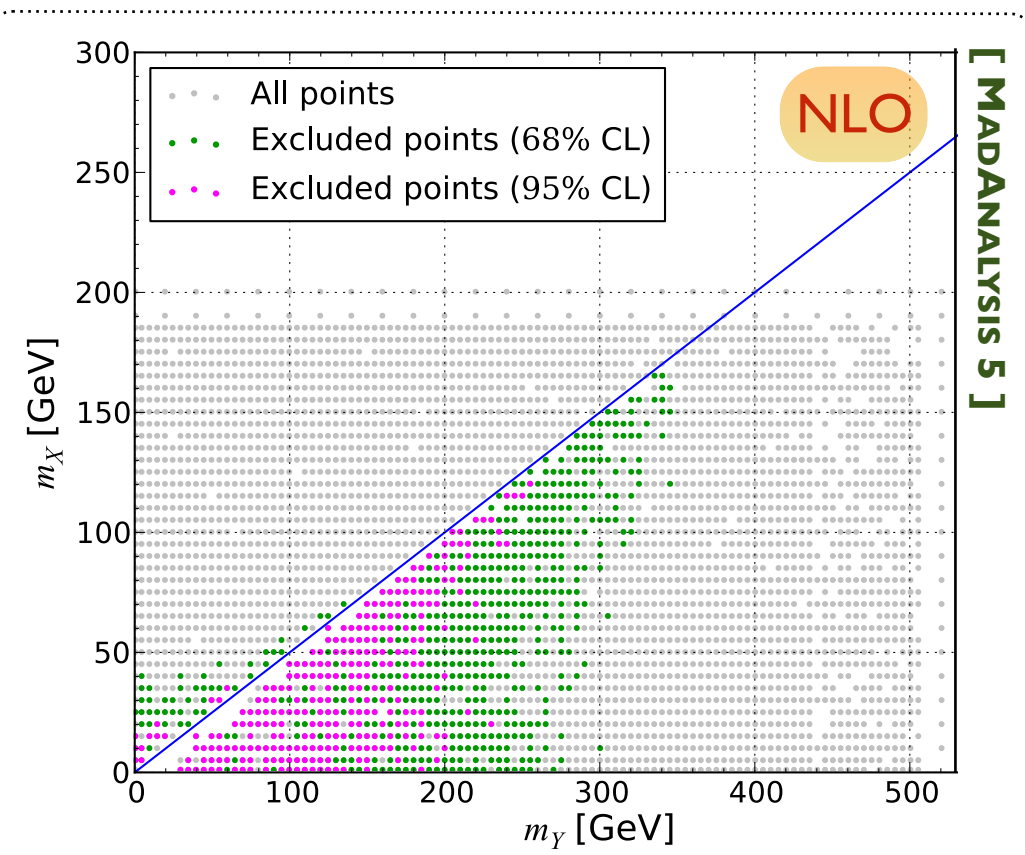
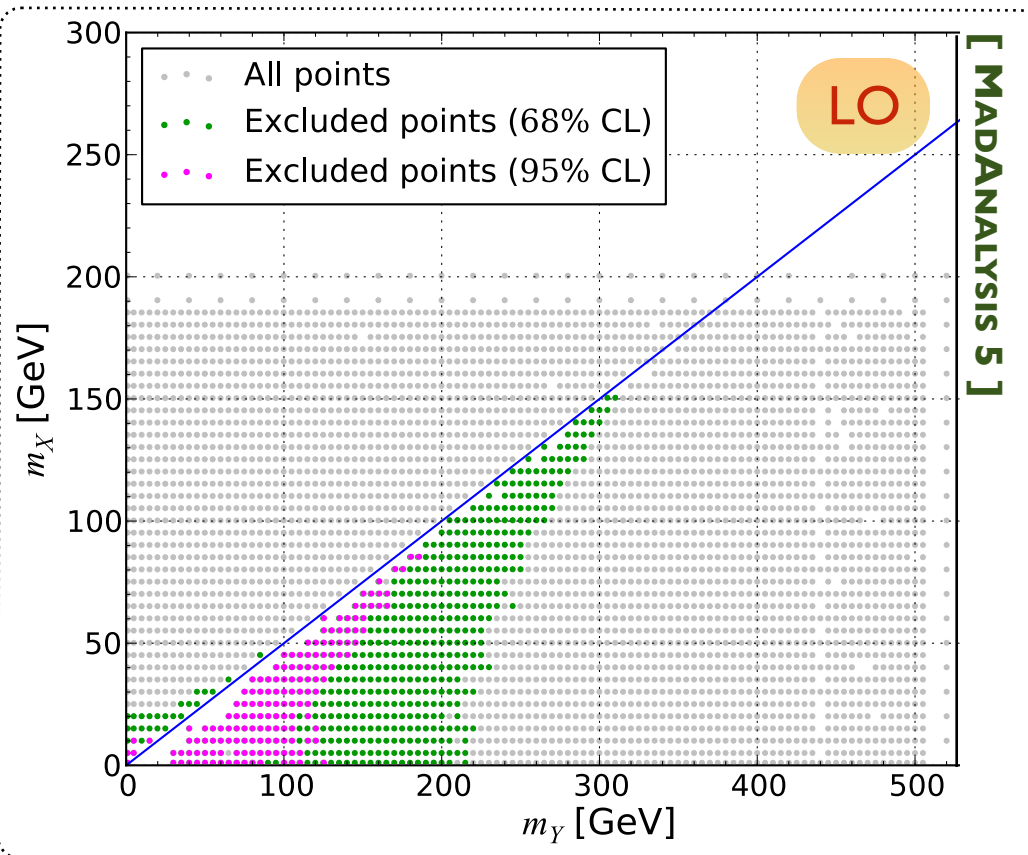
- ❖ A dark sector with a fermionic **dark matter candidate** X
- ❖ A (scalar) **mediator** Y_0 linking the dark sector and the top

$$\mathcal{L}_{t,X}^{Y_0} = - \left(g_t \frac{y_t}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{t}t + g_X \bar{X}X \right) Y_0$$



- ❖ **Could be probed with $t\bar{t}$ +MET events (CMS-B2G-14-004)**

◆ For central scales: mild (but visible) NLO effects on the exclusions



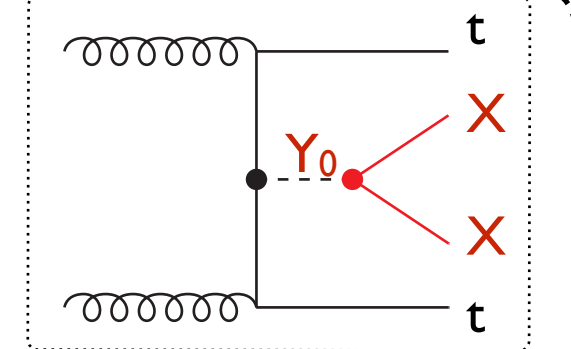
- ❖ **How is the picture changing when including scale variations?**

NLO effects on a CLs

[Arina, Backovic, Conte, BF, Guo, Heisig, Hespel, Krämer, Maltoni, Martini, Mawatari, Pellen & Vryonidou (JHEP'16)]

◆ There are theoretical uncertainties on a CLs number

	(m_Y, m_X)	σ_{LO} [pb]	CL _{LO} [%]	σ_{NLO} [pb]	CL _{NLO} [%]
I	(150, 25) GeV	$0.658^{+34.9\%}_{-24.0\%}$	$98.7^{+0.8\%}_{-13.0\%}$	$0.773^{+6.1\%}_{-10.1\%}$	$95.0^{+2.7\%}_{-0.4\%}$
II	(40, 30) GeV	$0.776^{+34.2\%}_{-24.1\%}$	$74.7^{+19.7\%}_{-17.7\%}$	$0.926^{+5.7\%}_{-10.4\%}$	$84.2^{+0.4\%}_{-14.4\%}$
III	(240, 100) GeV	$0.187^{+37.1\%}_{-24.4\%}$	$91.6^{+6.4\%}_{-18.1\%}$	$0.216^{+6.7\%}_{-11.4\%}$	$86.5^{+8.6\%}_{-5.5\%}$



- ❖ An excluded point may not be excluded when accounting for uncertainties
- ❖ The CLs number can increase / decrease at NLO
- ❖ **The error band is reduced**

3rd generation VLQ @ NLO

Single VLQ production: third generation

[Cacciapaglia, Carvalho, Deandrea, Flacke, BF, Majumder, Panizzi & Shao (PLB`19)]

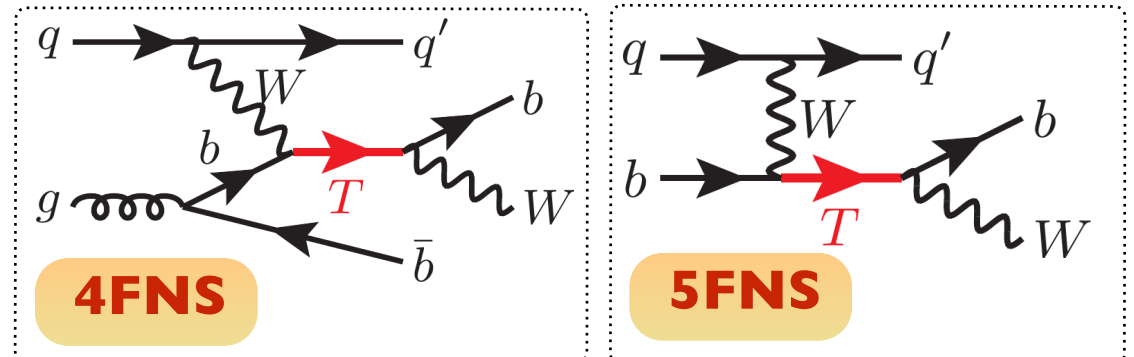
◆ Single VLQ production (top partner)

◆ Lagrangian and diagrams

♣ Production through W-couplings

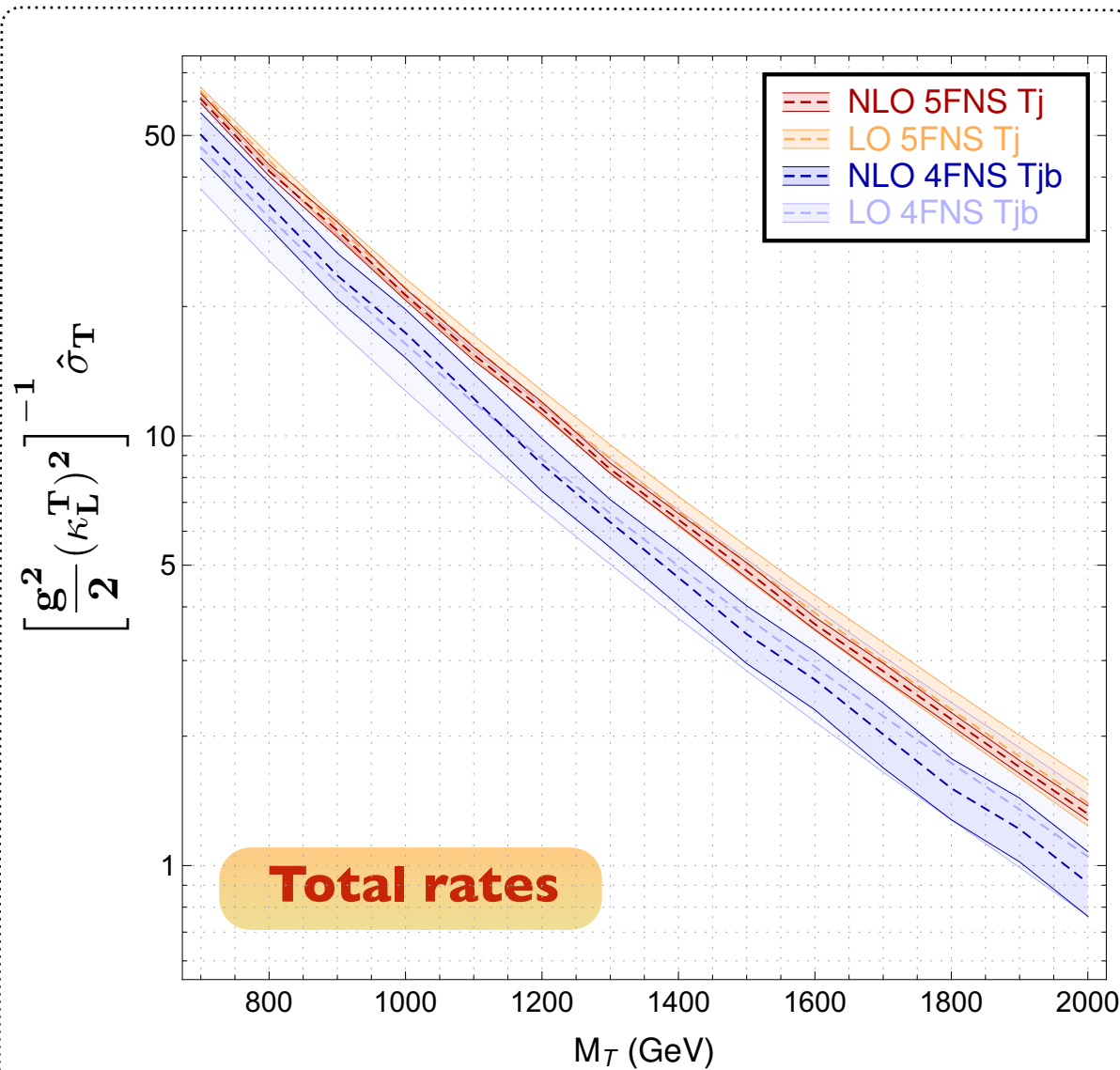
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{VLQ}} = i\bar{T}\not{D}T - m_T\bar{T}T + \frac{\sqrt{2}g}{2} \kappa_L^T \left[\bar{T}W P_L q_d + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

♣ Diagrams



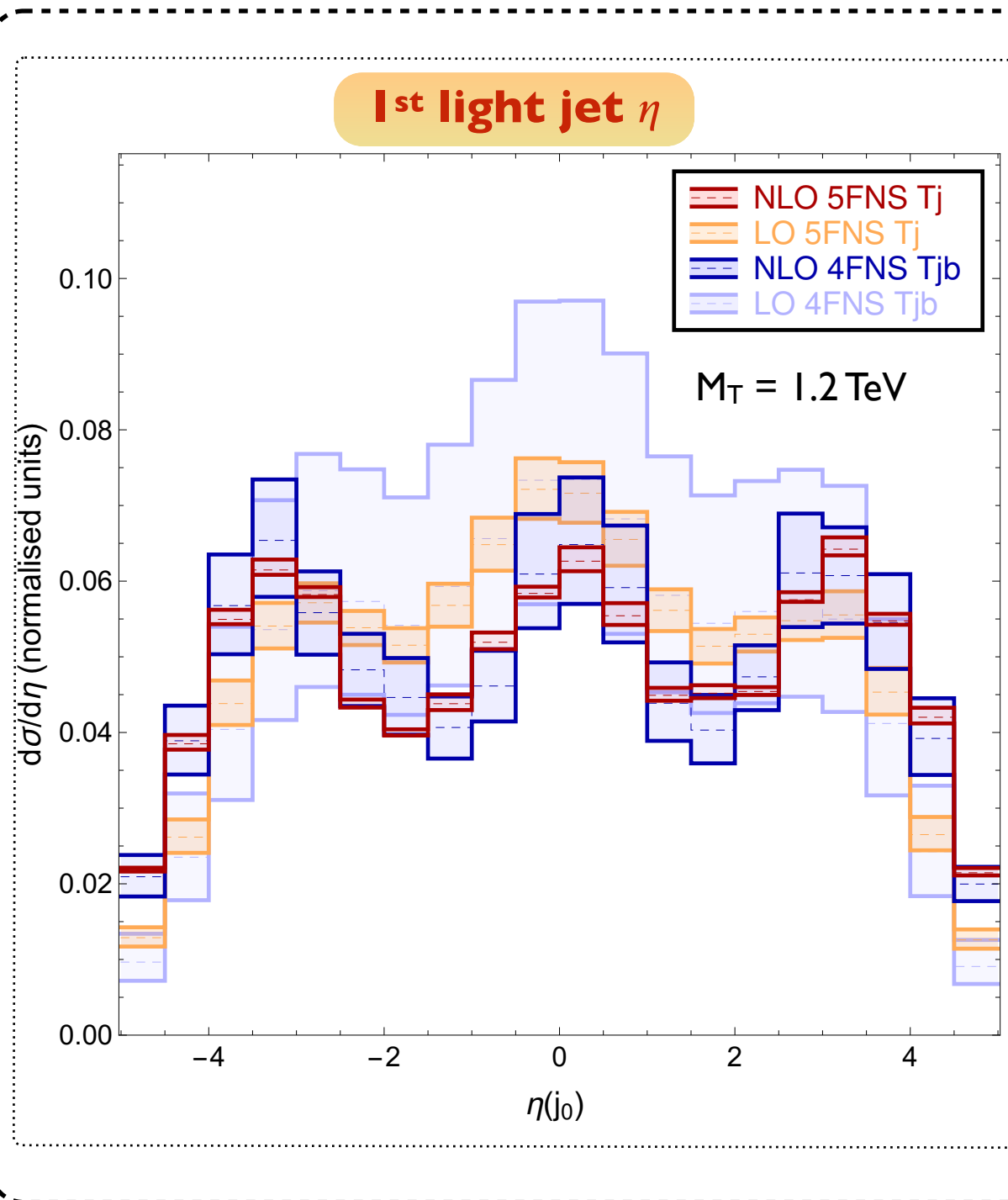
◆ Total rates at NLO (4 and 5 FNS)

- ♣ 5FNS: $K < 1$ (virtuals)
- ♣ 4FNS: $K = f(M_T)$
- ♣ Reduction of the uncertainties
- ♣ Log Q/ m_b resummation (5FNS) (differences at NLO for large masses)



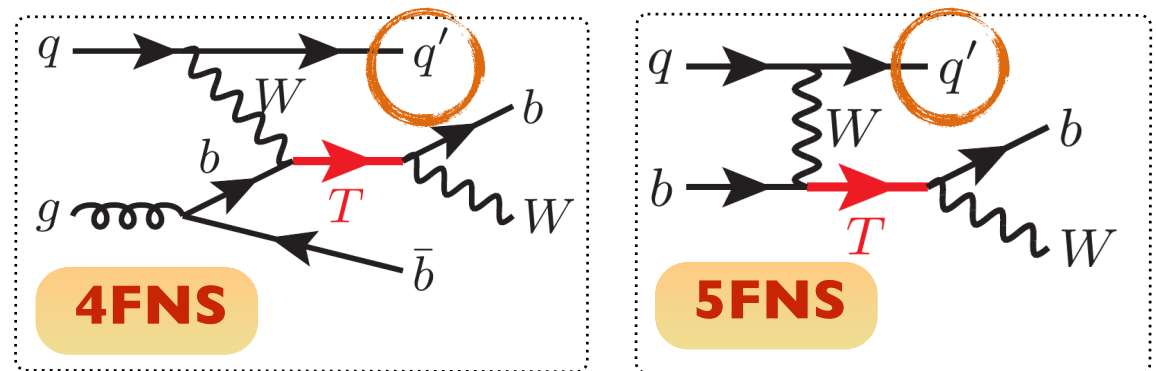
Leading jet pseudorapidity

[Cacciapaglia, Carvalho, Deandrea, Flacke, BF, Majumder, Panizzi & Shao (PLB`19)]



❖ Top-partner VLQ coupled to the W-boson

❖ The leading jet: key handle on the signal



❖ **4FNS/5FNS shape agreement @NLO**

★ Forward jets crucial for signal selection

❖ NLO effects

★ Important distortion of the shapes

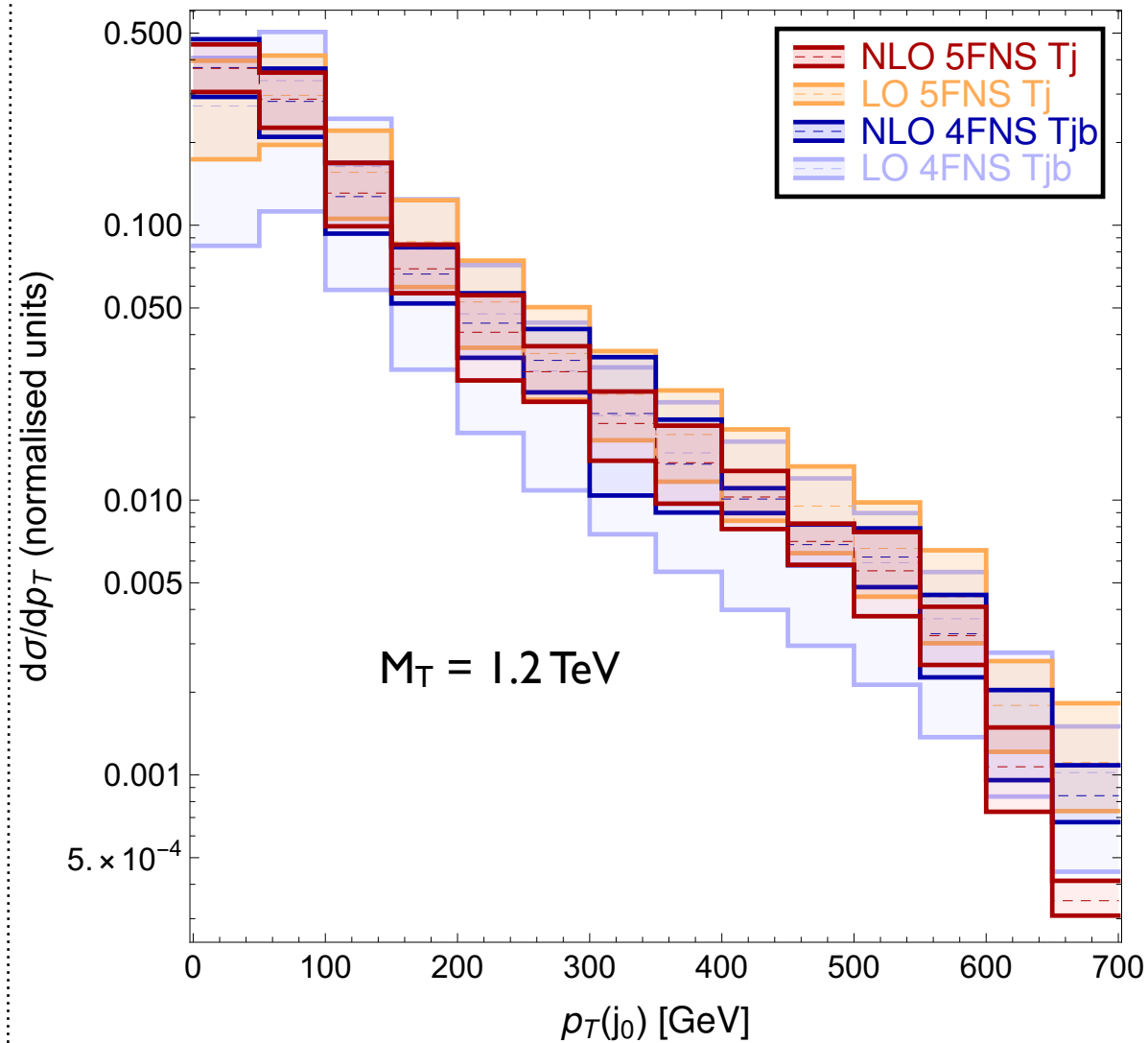
➤ **K factors are NOT constant**

★ Reduction of the uncertainties at NLO

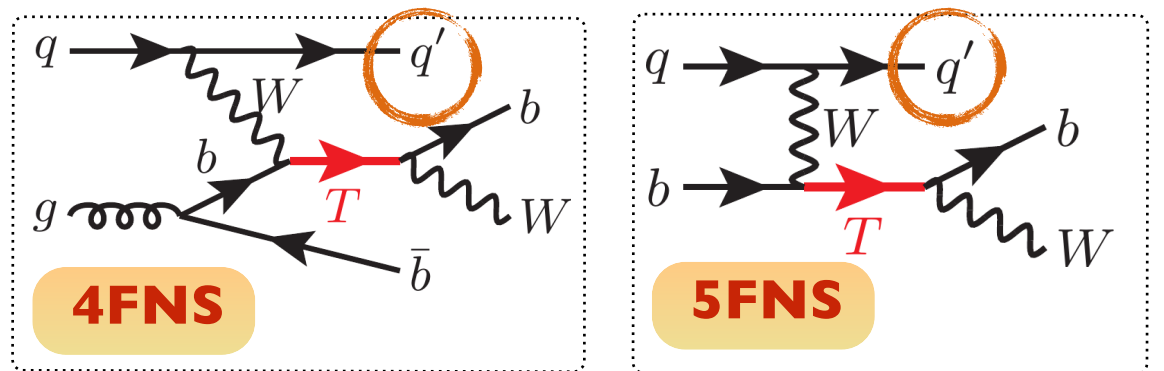
Leading jet transverse momentum

[Cacciapaglia, Carvalho, Deandrea, Flacke, BF, Majumder, Panizzi & Shao (PLB 19)]

1st light jet p_T



- ❖ Top-partner VLQ coupled to the W-boson
- ❖ The leading jet: key handle on the signal

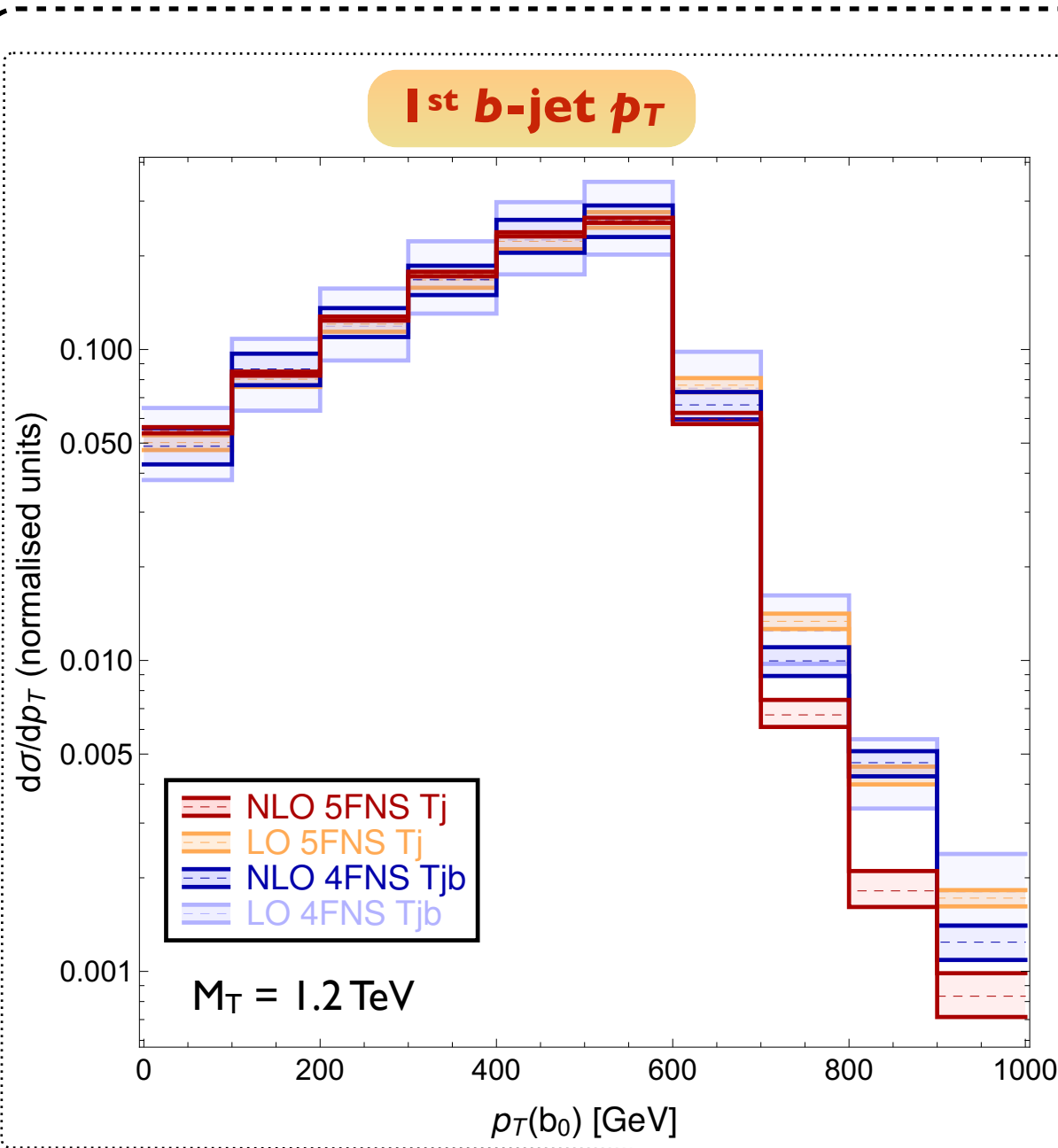


- ❖ **NLO effects**
 - ★ Reduction of the uncertainties at NLO
 - ★ Important distortion of the shapes
- ❖ **4FNS/5FNS: large differences at high p_T**
 - ★ **A gg channel kicks in at NLO**
 - impact the tails

Impact on a search investigated...

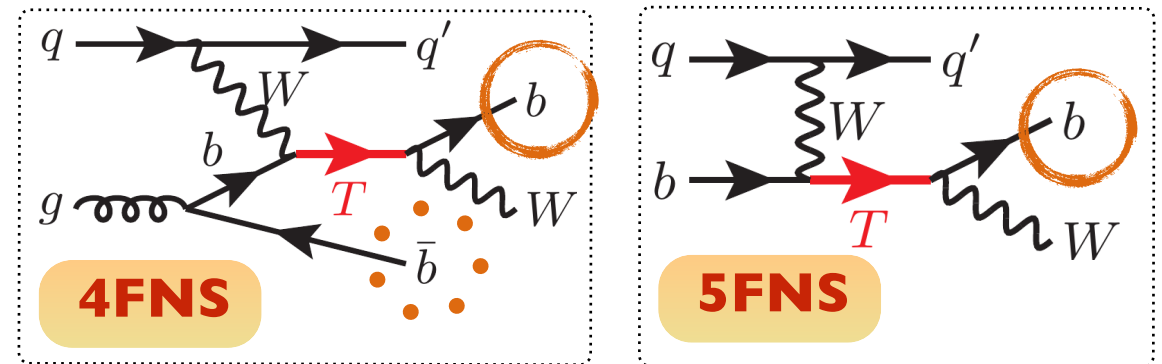
Leading b-jet transverse momentum

[Cacciapaglia, Carvalho, Deandrea, Flacke, BF, Majumder, Panizzi & Shao (PLB 19)]



❖ Top-partner VLQ coupled to the W-boson

❖ The leading b-jet: T-quark reconstruction



❖ The leading b-jet originates from the T-decay

- ★ No scheme/accuracy dependence (LO decays)
- ★ Impact at high p_T : gg channel contributions
→ Crucial at the analysis level?
- ★ Reduction of the uncertainties at NLO

❖ Peak at $M_T/2$

- ★ The VLQ is mainly produced at rest
- ★ Its energy is shared between the b and the W

Impact on a search investigated...

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Summary

◆ NLO-QCD simulations for new physics are easy to handle

- ❖ In particular via a joint use of FEYNRULES and MADGRAPH5_aMC@NLO
- ❖ Many models are publicly available
 - ★ Supersymmetric (simplified or not) models
 - ★ BSM Higgs models
 - ★ Dark matter simplified models
 - ★ Higgs and top effective field theories
 - ★ Vector-like quark models
 - ★ Extra gauge bosons

[<http://feynrules.irmp.ucl.ac.be/wiki/NLOModels>]

◆ Impact

- ❖ NLO effects are important and should be accounted for
- ❖ Shape distortion, large K-factors
- ❖ Uncertainties under better control
- ❖ **More robust predictions**