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FACULTÉ
DES SCIENCES
D'ORSAY



Extensions of MadGraph5_aMC@NLO for QCD studies

Implementation of quarkonium production

EPS-HEP 2025

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in collaboration with C. Flett, J.-P. Lansberg, O. Mattelaer, H.-S. Shao, L. Simon

July 11, 2025

MadGraph5_aMC@NLO = diagram/amplitude/event generator

★ compute matrix element in helicity-amplitude formalism

$$\sigma(h_A h_B \rightarrow k+X) = \sum_{i,j} \int dx_i dx_j d\Phi f_{i/h_A}(x_i) f_{j/h_B}(x_j) \hat{\sigma}(x_i, x_j, \mu_F, \mu_R)$$

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- Lagrangian → Feynman rules → matrix element → parton events
- Hadronise events and detector events possible
- (Differential) cross-section computation
- LHE weighted-unweighted event generation

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NEW in MG5: **Quarkonium states** and **Asymmetric collisions**

Introduction: motivation (why quarkonia?)

Quarkonium = meson made of a heavy quark Q and its $\bar{Q}$

↪ *charmonium* ($c\bar{c}$): J/ψ , Ψ' , η_c , χ_c ...

↪ *bottomonium* ($b\bar{b}$): Υ , η_b , χ_b ...

Many reasons why quarkonia are interesting: QCD studies, investigation of the internal structure of nucleons...

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Focus on inclusive processes $\rightarrow$ **NRQCD** formalism:

$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow Q + X) = \sum_{i,j,n} \int dx_1 dx_2 f_{i/p}(x_1) f_{j/p}(x_2) \\ \times \hat{\sigma}(ij \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}[n] + X) \langle \mathcal{O}_n^Q \rangle$$

$$n = 2s+1 \quad L_J^c$$

MadOnia:

JHEP 02 (2008) 102

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JHEP 07 (2014) 079

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Automation of S-wave LO quarkonium with P-waves and NLO in sight

JHEP 07 (2024), 050

Quarkonium implementation in MG5

$$a(k_1)b(k_2) \rightarrow Q(k_3)\bar{Q}(k_4) + \dots$$

$$\boxed{Q\bar{Q}[n] \quad n = 2s+1 \quad L_J^c}$$

Quarkonium amplitudes: colour and spin projectors

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$$\mathcal{A}(r) = \bar{u}_{\lambda_Q}(k_3)\Gamma(r)v_{\lambda_{\bar{Q}}}(k_4)$$

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Colour projectors

$$\mathbb{P}_1 = \delta_{ij}/\sqrt{N_c} \text{ and } \mathbb{P}_8 = \sqrt{2}t_{ij}^c$$

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$$\mathcal{A}_{\{C,S\}}(r) = \sum_{\lambda_Q, \lambda_{\bar{Q}}} \mathbb{P}_S \mathcal{A}_{\{C\}}(r)$$

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Spin projectors

$$\mathbb{P}_S = \frac{\bar{v}_{\lambda_{\bar{Q}}}(k_4)\Gamma_S u_{\lambda_Q}(k_3)}{2\sqrt{2m_Q m_{\bar{Q}}}}$$

$$\Gamma_0 = \gamma_5 \text{ and } \Gamma_1 = \not{K}$$

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Now implemented in MadGraph5

$$|J/\psi\rangle = J/\psi(1|3S11) + J/\psi(1|1S08) + J/\psi(1|3S18) + \dots$$

boundstates.py

```
81 # J/psi
82 jpsi_13s11 = Boundstate(pdg_code = 443,
83                          name = 'Jpsi(1|3S11)',
84                          particle = 'c',
85                          antiparticle = 'c~',
86                          principal = 1,
87                          spin = 3,
88                          orbital = 0,
89                          J = 1,
90                          color = 1,
91                          charge = 0,
92                          texname = 'jpsi13S11')
93
94 jpsi_11s08 = Boundstate(pdg_code = 9941003,
95                          name = 'Jpsi(1|1S08)',
96                          particle = 'c',
```

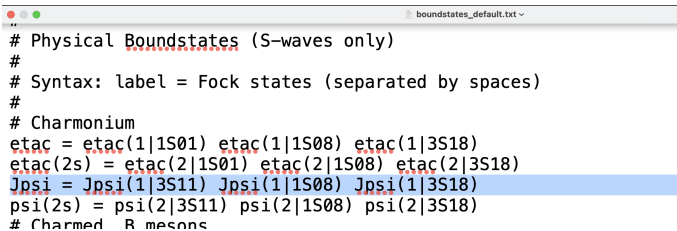
(Boundstate class similar to Particle)

$$|J/\psi\rangle = J/\psi(1|3S11) + J/\psi(1|1S08) + J/\psi(1|3S18) + \dots$$

A list of ALL available Fockstates can be shown with the prompt

```
MG_aMC > display fockstates
```

$$|J/\psi\rangle = J/\psi(1|3S11) + J/\psi(1|1S08) + J/\psi(1|3S18) + \dots$$



```
boundstates_default.txt
# Physical Boundstates (S-waves only)
#
# Syntax: label = Fock states (separated by spaces)
#
# Charmonium
eta_c = eta_c(1|1S01) eta_c(1|1S08) eta_c(1|3S18)
eta_c(2s) = eta_c(2|1S01) eta_c(2|1S08) eta_c(2|3S18)
Jpsi = Jpsi(1|3S11) Jpsi(1|1S08) Jpsi(1|3S18)
psi(2s) = psi(2|3S11) psi(2|1S08) psi(2|3S18)
# Charmed B mesons
```

boundstates_default.txt
(similar to multiparticle_default.txt)

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Generate process: single, associated and multiple production

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★ Example: $p + p \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$

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1. Benchmarked our matrix elements squared against Helac-Onia

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1. Benchmarked our matrix elements squared against Helac-Onia
2. Benchmarked cross section for quarkonium production processes

Matrix-element benchmarking

Using the standalone mode within MadGraph5:

- $g g > J/\psi(1|3S18) g$

Phase-space point (input)			
E	px	py	pz
0.5000000E+03	0.0000000E+00	0.0000000E+00	0.5000000E+03
0.5000000E+03	0.0000000E+00	0.0000000E+00	-0.5000000E+03
0.5000048E+03	0.1109232E+03	0.4448265E+03	-0.1995510E+03
0.4999952E+03	-0.1109232E+03	-0.4448265E+03	0.1995510E+03



Matrix-element results:

MadGraph5	0.004119538625333256 GeV ⁰
Helac-Onia	0.0041195386253842555 GeV ⁰

- $g g > J/\psi(1|3S18) J/\psi(1|3S18) g$

MadGraph5	$7.834108245259083 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ GeV}^0$
Helac-Onia	$7.834108245162441 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ GeV}^0$

- $g g > J/\psi(1|3S11) \Upsilon(1|3S18) g$

MadGraph5	$1.1567670809229112 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ GeV}^0$
Helac-Onia	$1.1567669436267628 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ GeV}^0$

- $g g > J/\psi(1|3S11) e^+ e^- g$

MadGraph5	$1.1045368093659422 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ GeV}^0$
Helac-Onia	$1.1045244940481948 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ GeV}^0$

Cross-section benchmarking

MadGraph5 employs multichannelling for integration (VEGAS)

Quarkonium in the final state is a single particle, not two

⚠ $2 \rightarrow 1$ process interpreted as $2 \rightarrow 2$...

Default integration in MG5 works well for our purpose

Phase-space integration performed without multi-channeling



Sufficient for all phenomenologically relevant cases

Benchmarked cross-sections predictions against Helac-Onia



Benchmarked cross sections against Helac-Onia

Process	MadGraph5 Helac-Onia	Process	MadGraph5 Helac-Onia
$u\bar{u} \rightarrow J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[8]}] + H$	42.055(2) yb 42.056(3) yb	$gg \rightarrow J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[8]}] + H$	1.8530(7) ab 1.8523(7) ab
$gg \rightarrow J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[8]}] + HH$	15.927(3) yb 15.93(2) yb	$gg \rightarrow J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[8]}] + HHH$	1.9802(5) rb 1.967(4) rb
$gg \rightarrow J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[8]}] + g$	8.9215(7) μ b 8.927(2) μ b	$gg \rightarrow J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[1]}] + J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[1]}]$	8.921(2) nb 8.916(4) nb
$gg \rightarrow J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[8]}] + J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[8]}]$	86.240(7) pb 86.27(2) pb	$gg \rightarrow \eta_c[{}^1S_0^{[8]}] + \eta_b[{}^1S_0^{[8]}]$	195.984(9) fb 195.987(9) fb
$u\bar{u} \rightarrow \eta_c[{}^1S_0^{[1]}] + J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[8]}]$	152.79(1) fb 152.73(6) fb	$u\bar{u} \rightarrow \eta_c[{}^1S_0^{[1]}] + \Upsilon[{}^3S_1^{[1]}]$	212.90(2) zb 212.9(1) zb
$u\bar{u} \rightarrow B_c^+[{}^1S_0^{[1]}] + B_c^{*-}[{}^3S_1^{[1]}]$	2.7920(5) pb 2.7925(7) pb	$e^+e^- \rightarrow J/\psi[{}^3S_1^{[1]}] + Z$	1.61586(9) fb 1.61584(8) fb

$\mathcal{Q}[n]$	$\langle \mathcal{O}_n^{\mathcal{Q}} \rangle [\text{GeV}^3]$	$\mathcal{Q}[n]$	$\langle \mathcal{O}_n^{\mathcal{Q}} \rangle [\text{GeV}^3]$
$\eta_c \left[{}^1S_0^{[1]} \right]$	0.3866666666666667	$J/\psi \left[{}^3S_1^{[1]} \right]$	1.16
$\eta_c \left[{}^3S_1^{[8]} \right]$	0.0146	$J/\psi \left[{}^1S_0^{[8]} \right]$	0.0146
$\eta_c \left[{}^1S_0^{[8]} \right]$	0.003009743333333	$J/\psi \left[{}^3S_1^{[8]} \right]$	0.00902923
$\eta_c(2S) \left[{}^1S_0^{[1]} \right]$	0.2533333333333333	$\psi(2S) \left[{}^3S_1^{[1]} \right]$	0.76
$\eta_c(2S) \left[{}^3S_1^{[8]} \right]$	0.02	$\psi(2S) \left[{}^1S_0^{[8]} \right]$	0.02
$\eta_c(2S) \left[{}^1S_0^{[8]} \right]$	0.0004	$\psi(2S) \left[{}^3S_1^{[8]} \right]$	0.0012
$\eta_b \left[{}^1S_0^{[1]} \right]$	3.093333333333333	$\Upsilon \left[{}^3S_1^{[1]} \right]$	9.28
$\eta_b \left[{}^3S_1^{[8]} \right]$	0.000170128	$\Upsilon \left[{}^1S_0^{[8]} \right]$	0.000170128
$\eta_b \left[{}^1S_0^{[8]} \right]$	0.0099142	$\Upsilon \left[{}^3S_1^{[8]} \right]$	0.0297426
$\eta_b(2S) \left[{}^1S_0^{[1]} \right]$	1.543333333333333	$\Upsilon(2S) \left[{}^3S_1^{[1]} \right]$	4.63
$\eta_b(2S) \left[{}^3S_1^{[8]} \right]$	0.0612263	$\Upsilon(2S) \left[{}^1S_0^{[8]} \right]$	0.0612263
$\eta_b(2S) \left[{}^1S_0^{[8]} \right]$	0.003197393333333	$\Upsilon(2S) \left[{}^3S_1^{[8]} \right]$	0.00959218
$B_c^\pm \left[{}^1S_0^{[1]} \right]$	0.736	$B_c^{*\pm} \left[{}^3S_1^{[1]} \right]$	2.208
$B_c^\pm \left[{}^3S_1^{[8]} \right]$	0.00736	$B_c^{*\pm} \left[{}^1S_0^{[8]} \right]$	0.02208
$B_c^\pm \left[{}^1S_0^{[8]} \right]$	0.00736	$B_c^{*\pm} \left[{}^3S_1^{[8]} \right]$	0.02208

Cross-section results

Disclaimer! Cross sections only to show the flexibility of the code

+ hierarchy of the processes depend on LDMEs

Jet cuts: $p_{T,j} > 10$ GeV, $\eta_j < 5$

Single-quarkonium production

process	σ	process	σ
$pp \rightarrow \eta_c$	$2.9366(5) \mu\text{b}$	$pp \rightarrow \eta_b$	$5.4935(7) \mu\text{b}$
$pp \rightarrow J/\psi$	$536.14(6) \text{nb}$	$pp \rightarrow \Upsilon$	$6.0655(4) \text{nb}$

+

process	σ	process	σ
$pp \rightarrow \eta_c + j$	$805.4(4) \text{nb}$	$pp \rightarrow \eta_b + j$	$315.4(2) \text{nb}$
$pp \rightarrow J/\psi + j$	$329.8(2) \text{nb}$	$pp \rightarrow \Upsilon + j$	$19.85(1) \text{nb}$

Cross-section results for quarkonia: some examples

Photon cuts: $p_{T,\gamma} > 2 \text{ GeV}$, $\eta_\gamma < 2.5$

Associated-quarkonium production

process	σ	process	σ
$pp \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$	19.13(1) nb	$pp \rightarrow \Upsilon + \gamma$	897.4(5) pb
$pp \rightarrow J/\psi + W^+$	1.9328(6) pb	$pp \rightarrow \Upsilon + W^+$	102.81(4) fb

Quarkonium-pair production

process	σ	process	σ
$pp \rightarrow \eta_c + \eta_c$	35.81(1) nb	$pp \rightarrow \eta_b + \eta_b$	75.64(3) pb
$pp \rightarrow \eta_c + J/\psi$	7.233(3) nb	$pp \rightarrow \eta_b + \Upsilon$	1.9244(6) pb
$pp \rightarrow J/\psi + J/\psi$	10.756(3) nb	$pp \rightarrow \Upsilon + \Upsilon$	44.63(1) pb

HEFT: quarkonium in association to Higgs boson

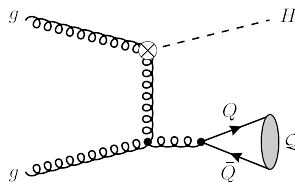
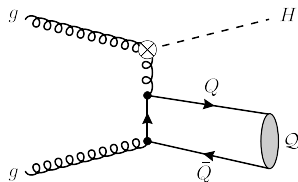
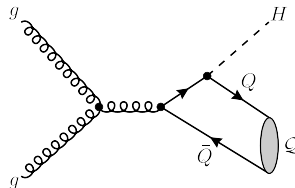
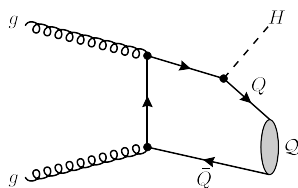
PRD 66 (2002) 114002, PRD 104 (2021) 054006

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with $Q = J/\psi$ or Υ

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From the mg5amcnlo folder: type `./bin/mg5_aMC`

MG_aMC >

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with $Q = J/\psi$ or Υ

From the mg5amcnlo folder: type `./bin/mg5_aMC`

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MG_aMC >
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```
MG_aMC > import model heft_onia
```


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MG_aMC > generate g g > Upsilon H
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similar for J/ψ

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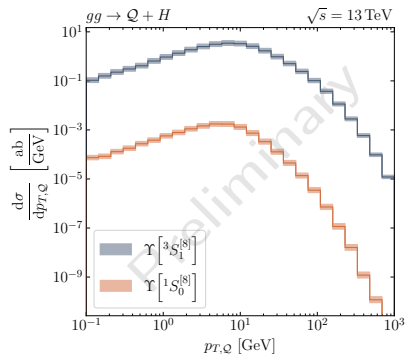
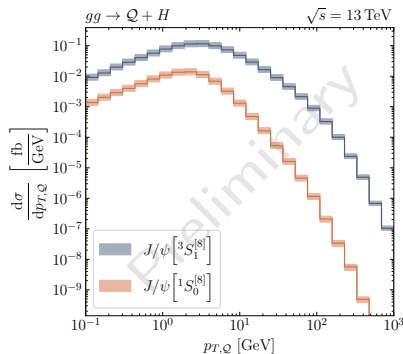
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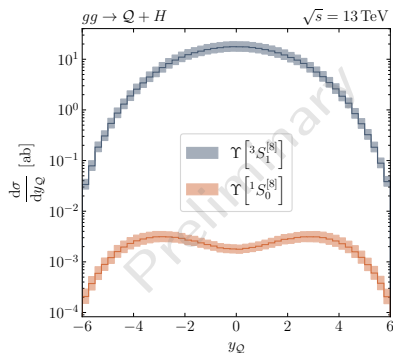
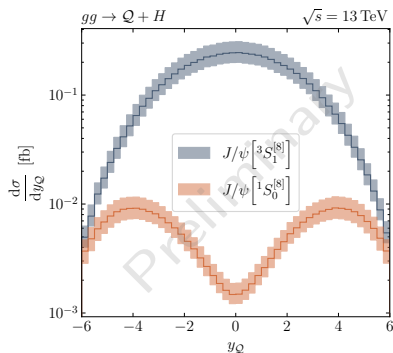
$$\sigma(gg \rightarrow J/\psi + H) = 1.53^{+0.40}_{-0.29} \text{ fb}$$

$$\sigma(gg \rightarrow \Upsilon + H) = 91^{+23}_{-17} \text{ ab}$$

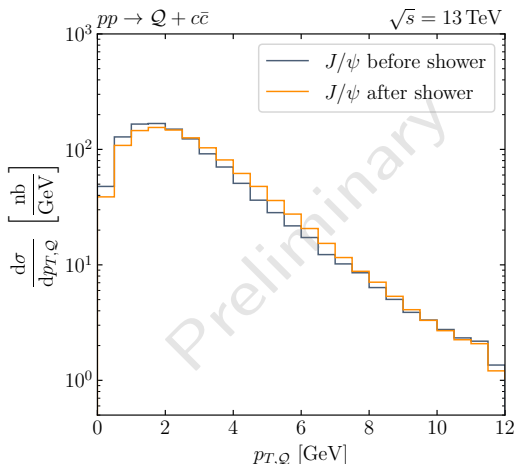
★ p_T distributions for J/ψ and Υ



★ rapidity distributions for J/ψ and Υ



p_T distribution of J/ψ in $pp \rightarrow J/\psi c \bar{c} + \text{Pythia8 showering}$



Implementation of LO S-wave quarkonia in MG5: done ✓

- leptonium states also included (lepton-antilepton)
- final testing, cross-section results, parton showering
- *Automating S-wave NRQCD and NRQED bound-state calculations within the MadGraph5_aMC@NLO framework* in preparation 2508.XXXXXX

Next steps: include ★ P-wave states ★ NLO extension JHEP 07 (2024), 050

Implementation of asymmetric collisions in MG5: done ✓

- hadron-hadron (AB) results PLB 866 (2025) 139554, 2501.14487
- photoproduction (eA) results + publication soon 2410.17061

Next: ★ All codes on online platform: <https://nloaccess.in2p3.fr>

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Thank you!

Backup slides

Motivation: why automation of quarkonium cross sections?

Many reasons, including:

- global data-theory comparisons
- physics cases for future experimental facilities
- global NRQCD fits

Matrix element/event generators publicly available

(↪ interfacing of e.g. HERWIG or PYTHIA with e.g. MG5_aMC)



facilitates complete computation

- ✓ versatility and enhanced physics simulation capabilities
- ✗ integration complexity, computational overhead, code compatibility and increased learning requirements

- Implementation of quarkonia in MadGraph5_aMC@NLO at LO
 - ↪ Single and multiple S-wave inclusive quarkonium production
 - Colour projectors
 - Spin projectors
 - Interface
 - Phase space adaptation

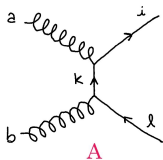
- Extensions to states with leading P-wave Fock states
LO implementation → □ NLO in the easiest way possible!

- TMD factorisation also to be implemented
 - ↪ for example $gg \rightarrow di-J/\psi$ (... not only for quarkonia)

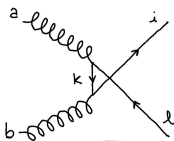
Quarkonium in the quantum state $n \rightarrow$ colour singlet or octet?

$$\mathbb{P}_1 = \delta_{ij} / \sqrt{N_c}$$
$$\mathbb{P}_8 = \sqrt{2} t_{ij}^c$$

- Example: $gg \rightarrow c\bar{c}$ **3 diagrams at LO**

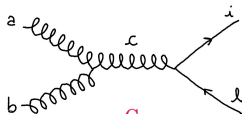


A



B

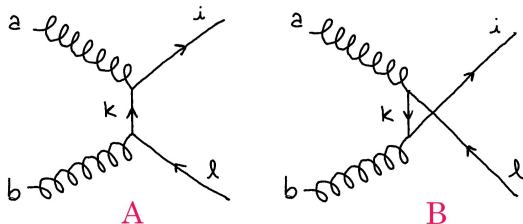
Colour Singlet contribution



C

Colour Octet contribution

Colour projectors $\mathbb{P}_C$ (2)

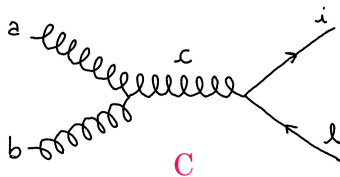


$$(A) \sim (t_{ik}^a t_{kl}^b) = (t^a t^b)_{il} \quad \rightarrow \text{we set } (t^a t^b)_{il} = c1$$

$$(B) \sim (t_{ik}^b t_{kl}^a) = (t^b t^a)_{il} \quad \rightarrow \text{we set } (t^b t^a)_{il} = c2$$

$\hookrightarrow$ open $c\bar{c}$ colour basis of $\dim = 2$

Colour projectors $\mathbb{P}_C$ (3)



$$(\mathbf{C}) \sim f^{abc}(t_{ij}^c) = (t^a t^b)_{ij} - (t^b t^a)_{ij}$$

$$= c1 - c2$$

$$c1 c1^\dagger = (t^a t^b)_{ij} (t^b t^a)_{ij} = \text{Tr}(t^a t^b t^b t^a) = \frac{16}{3}$$

$\vdots$

$$\longrightarrow \text{colour matrix: } \begin{pmatrix} c1 c1^\dagger & c1 c2^\dagger \\ c2 c1^\dagger & c2 c2^\dagger \end{pmatrix}$$

Colour projectors $\mathbb{P}_C$ (4)

Apply colour projectors: $\mathbb{P}_1 = \delta^{il}$ and $\mathbb{P}_8 = t_{il}^c$

- Colour singlet:

$$(t^a t^b)_{il} \delta^{il} = \text{Tr}(t^a t^b) \quad (\text{A})$$

$$(t^b t^a)_{il} \delta^{il} = \text{Tr}(t^b t^a) \quad (\text{B})$$

- Colour octet:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (t^a t^b)_{il} t_{il}^c &= \text{Tr}(t^a t^b t^c) = \frac{1}{4}(d^{abc} + if^{abc}) & (1) \\ (t^b t^a)_{il} t_{il}^c &= \text{Tr}(t^b t^a t^c) = \frac{1}{4}(d^{bac} + if^{bac}) & (2) \end{aligned} \right\} (1) - (2): \quad (\text{C})$$

The amplitude will be given by the sum of the three contributions

$$\mathcal{A} = A(\text{A}) + A(\text{B}) + A(\text{C})$$

Colour projectors for m colour singlet and colour octet quarkonia production and associated production implemented ✓

Metacode: quarkonium formalism implemented via extension of python files which produce fortran code → numerical manipulations

In /mg5amcnlo/madgraph/core

- color_algebra.py
- color_amp.py
- helas_objects.py

Quarkonium in the quantum state $n \rightarrow$ spin singlet or triplet?

- Considering $a(k_1)b(k_2) \rightarrow Q(k_3)\bar{Q}(k_4)$:

JHEP 07 (2024), 050

$$\mathcal{A}(r) = \bar{u}_{\lambda_Q}(k_3)\Gamma(r)v_{\lambda_{\bar{Q}}}(k_4)$$

- Apply colour projector: $\mathcal{A}_{\{C\}}(r) = \sum_{c_3, c_4} \mathbb{P}_C \mathcal{A}(r)$
- Apply spin projector: $\mathcal{A}_{\{C, S\}}(r) = \sum_{\lambda_Q, \lambda_{\bar{Q}}} \mathbb{P}_S \mathcal{A}_{\{C\}}(r)$

$$\mathbb{P}_S = \frac{\bar{v}_{\lambda_{\bar{Q}}}(k_4)\Gamma_S u_{\lambda_Q}(k_3)}{2\sqrt{2m_Q m_{\bar{Q}}}} \quad S = 0, \Gamma_S = \gamma_5; 1, \Gamma_S = \not{K}$$

Declaration of new effective spinors in:

- `/mg5amcnlo/aloha/template_files/aloha_functions.f`
- `/mg5amcnlo/madgraph/core/helas_objects.py`

Python: calls `template_files` $\rightarrow$ `matrix_i.f` files

Amplitudes organised into colour basis JAMPs

$$\mathcal{A} = \sum_i A_i \stackrel{\text{example}}{=} A(\text{A}) + A(\text{B}) + A(\text{C})$$

$$A(\text{A}) = c_1 A_1$$

$$A(\text{B}) = c_2 A_2$$

$$A(\text{C}) = c_1 A_{31} - c_2 A_{32}$$

$$\underline{\text{JAMP decomposition}} \quad \begin{cases} \text{JAMP}_1 &= A_1 + A_{31} \propto c_1 \\ \text{JAMP}_2 &= A_2 - A_{32} \propto c_2 \end{cases}$$

$$|\mathcal{A}|^2 = \sum_{i,j=1,2} \text{JAMP}_i^* \langle c_i | c_j \rangle \text{JAMP}_j$$

(Depends on spin projectors - constructed from helas routines)

Efficiency: large number of Feynman diagrams possible...

...but colour basis much smaller!

New parts in the code: search

ONIA

GitHub: release **onia** branch of MG5
version 3.x

Master integral for asymmetric collisions

Currently in MadGraph5 (symmetric AA collisions):

$$\sigma(AA \rightarrow X) = \sum_{i,j} \int dx_i dx_j f_i^A(x_i, \mu_F; \text{LHAID}) f_j^A(x_j, \mu_F; \text{LHAID}) \hat{\sigma}_{(ij \rightarrow X)}$$

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For asymmetric collisions (hadron-hadron AB):

$$\sigma(AB \rightarrow X) = \sum_{i,j} \int dx_i dx_j f_i^A(x_i, \mu_F; \text{LHAID1}) f_j^B(x_j, \mu_F; \text{LHAID2}) \hat{\sigma}_{(ij \rightarrow X)}$$

↔ work done by C. Flore, D. Kikoła, A. Kusina, J-P. Lansberg, O. Mattelaer and A. Safronov

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For asymmetric collisions (photoproduction eA):

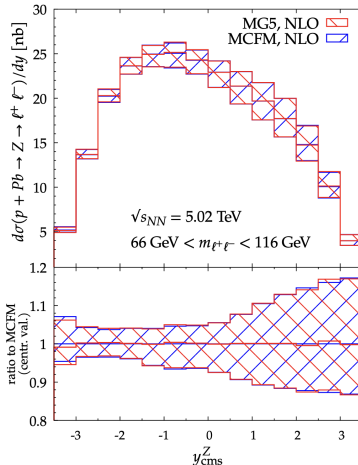
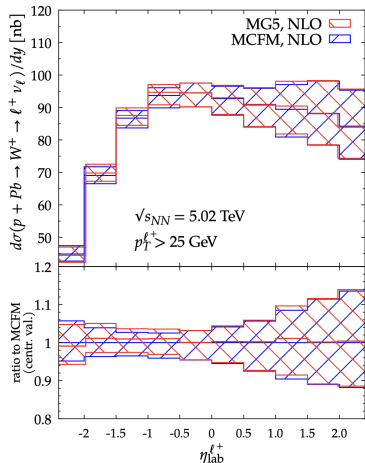
$$\sigma(eA \rightarrow X) = \sum_j \int dx_\gamma dx_j f_\gamma^e(x_\gamma, Q_{\max}^2) f_j^A(x_j, \mu_F; \text{LHAID}) \hat{\sigma}_{(\gamma j \rightarrow X)}$$

↔ work done by C. Flore, D. Kikoła, J-P. Lansberg, O. Mattelaer and L. Manna

Asymmetric collisions (hadron-hadron AB)

Automated NLO calculations for asymmetric hadron-hadron collisions in MadGraph5_aMC@NLO
2501.14487

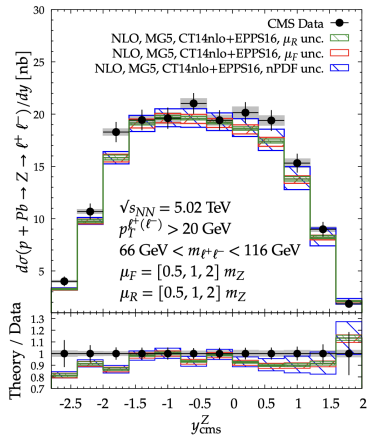
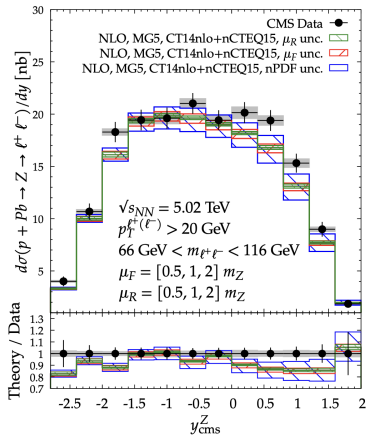
Validation with MCFM for $\star W^+$ and $\star Z$ production in pPb



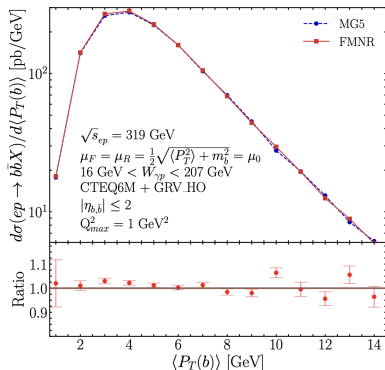
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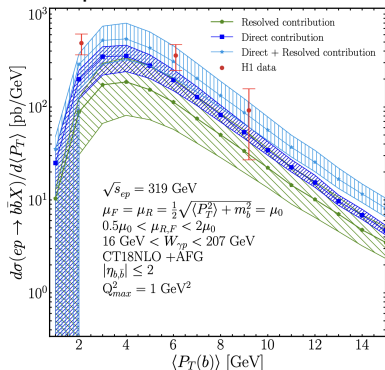
NLO computation of Z production in pPb and CMS data



★ validation with FMNR



★ comparison to HERA H1 data



b quark direct and resolved photoproduction at ★ 45 GeV ★ 140 GeV

