

Theory precision for collider explorations



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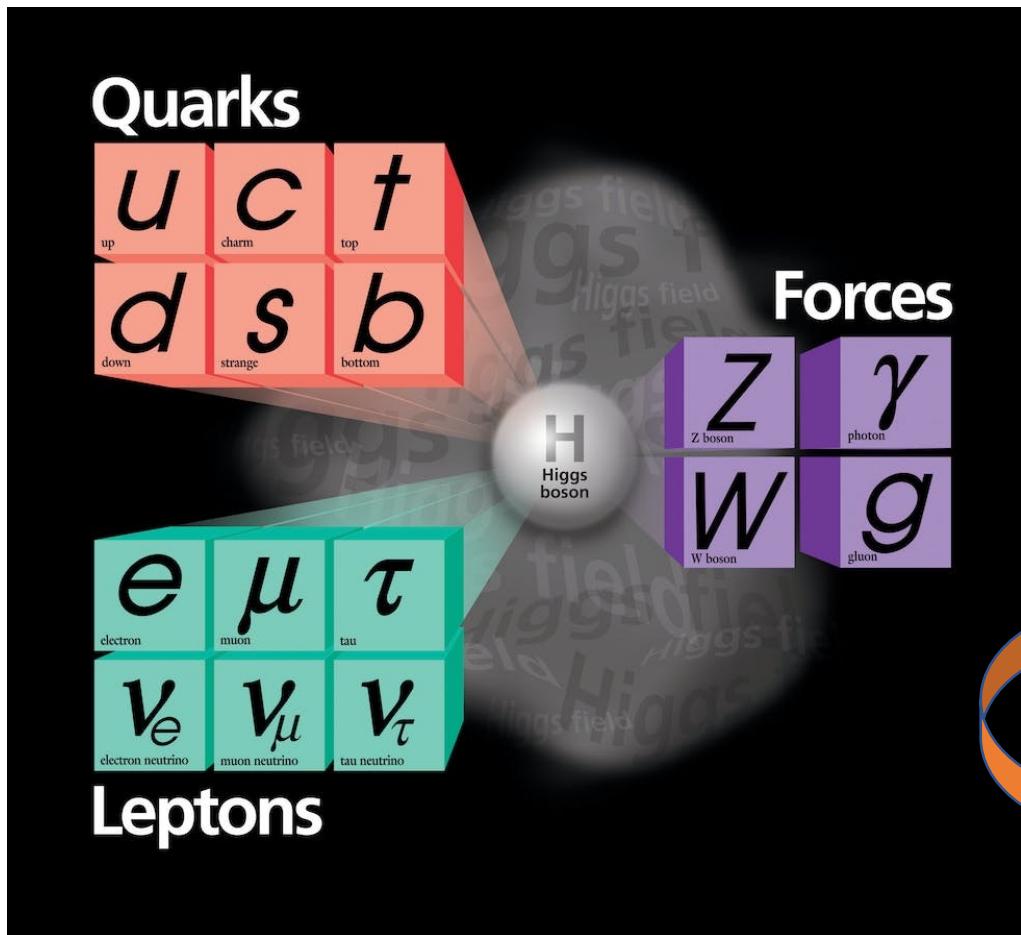


SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Why collider physics and why precision (a history of synergy between energy and precision)

- Our current knowledge of particle physics is based on the **Standard Model (SM)** which has been **confirmed by discoveries and precision measurements at colliders** to correctly describe particle physics at the EW scale.
- The **strength and success of the SM** at the EW scale allows to **identify its weaknesses** and potentially **use them as a handle to explore physics beyond the SM (BSM)**.
- The **breadth of the physics program of colliders is unique** to test evidence of BSM physics from other domains and of course can also deliver the unexpected on its own.
- **Collider physics** will not answer all the remaining big question (origin of DM, DE, baryon asymmetry, etc.) but will play an **essential complementary role** in exploring them.
- **Future directions** will have to **promote both energy and precision in collider physics**.

The Standard Model of particle physics



A very minimal quantum field theory describing strong, weak, and electromagnetic interactions, based on a local (gauge) symmetry

$$SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \rightarrow SU(3)_C \times U(1)_Q$$

Strong interactions: gluons $\rightarrow m_g = 0$

Electromagnetic interactions: photon $\rightarrow m_\gamma = 0$

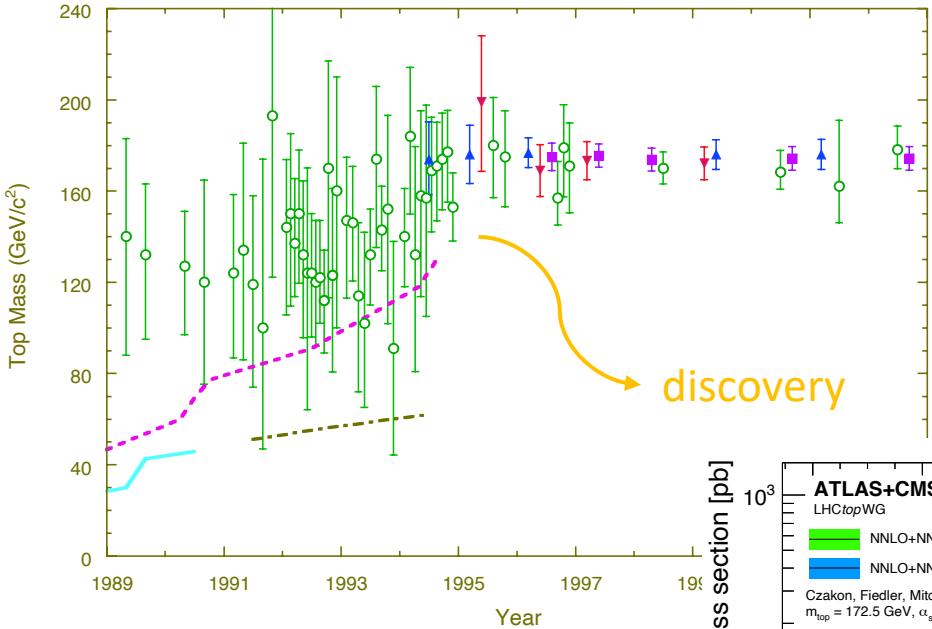
Weak interactions: W^\pm and $Z \rightarrow M_W, M_Z \neq 0$

Due to the presence of a scalar field whose potential spontaneously breaks the gauge symmetry of electroweak interactions and gives origin to massive gauge bosons (W,Z)

The Higgs boson (H) is the physical particle associated with such field

Top

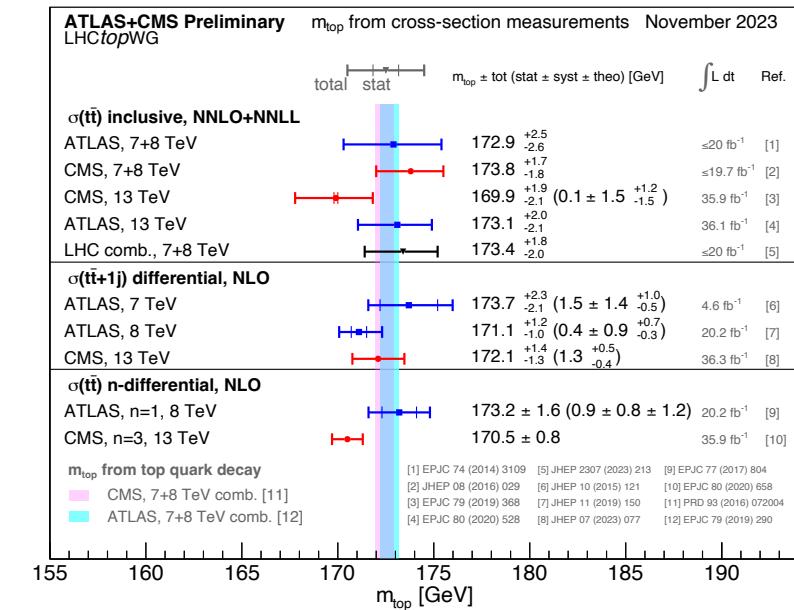
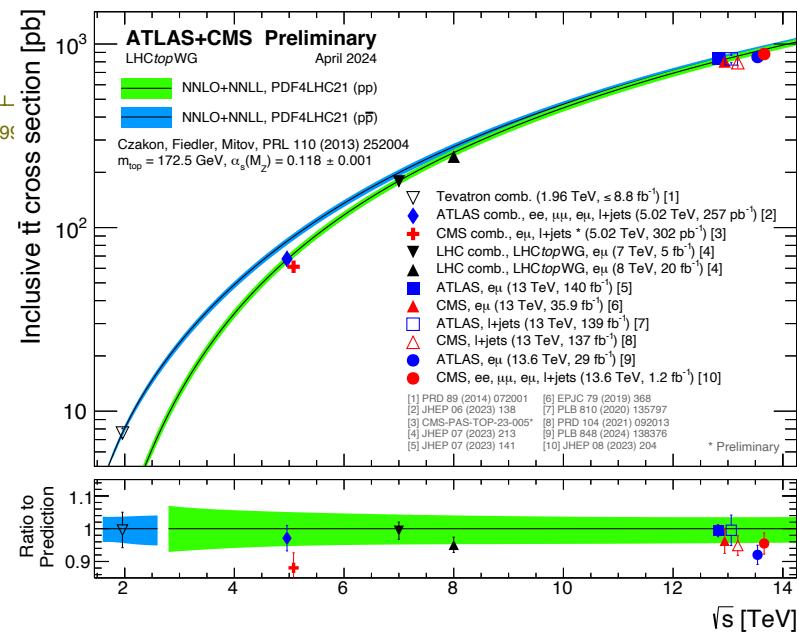
From prediction to discovery to precision



C. Quigg [hep-ph/0404228]

M_t becomes a crucial input in precision fits of the SM (including flavor)

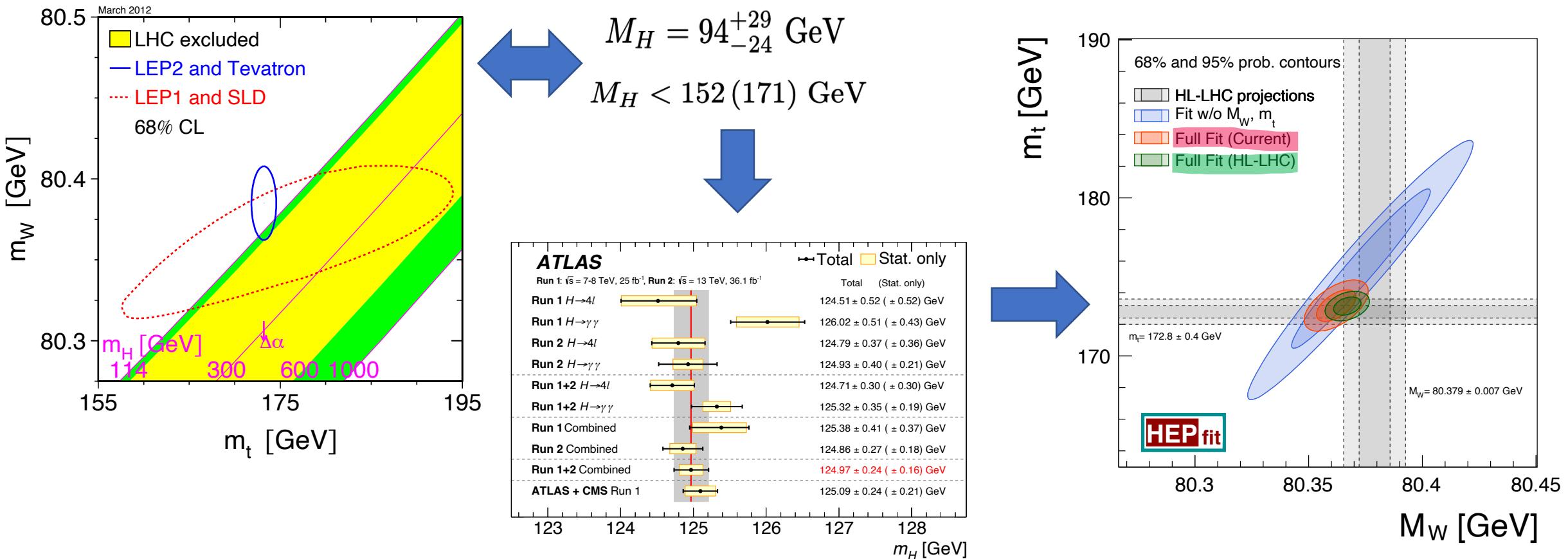
green dots → indirect fits
 blue triangles → CDF
 red triangles → D0
 purple squares → world average
 lines → various lower bounds

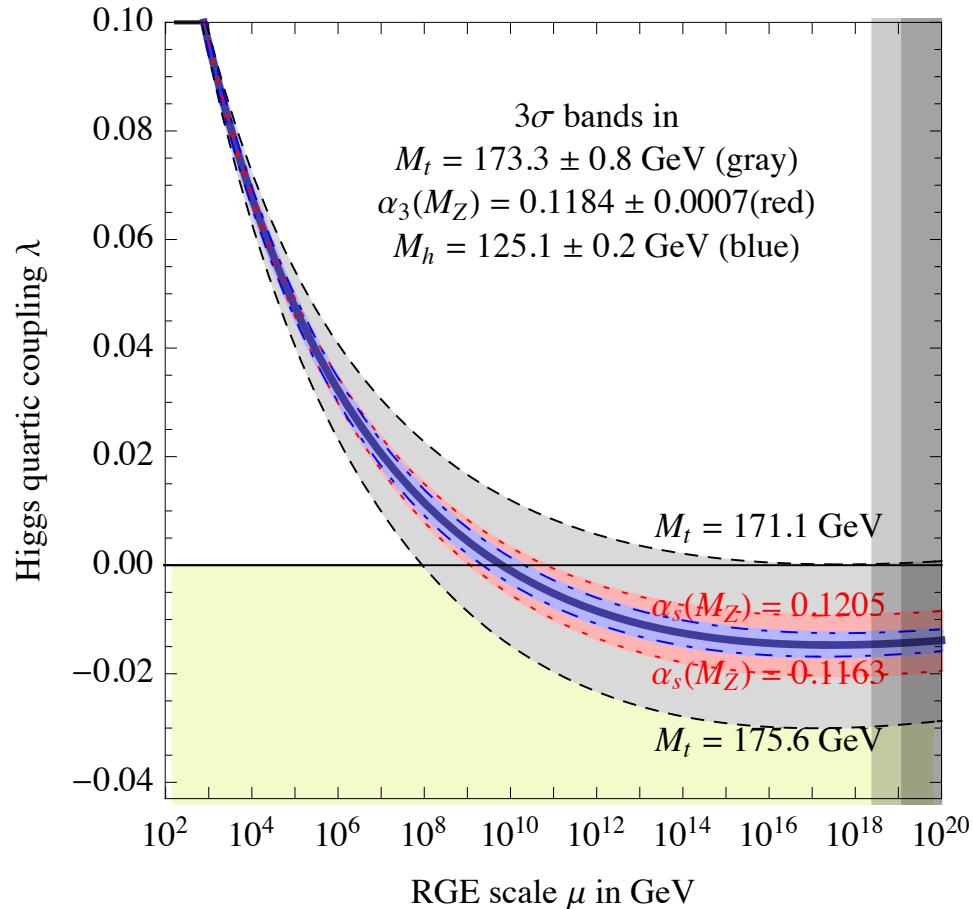


Anomalies in Top-quark EW couplings (W,Z,H) possible hint of BSM physics

From prediction to discovery to precision

Global fits of precision EW observables gave us strong indications of where to find the SM Higgs boson and we now use its mass as one of the EW precision observables of the EW global fit to constrain new physics.

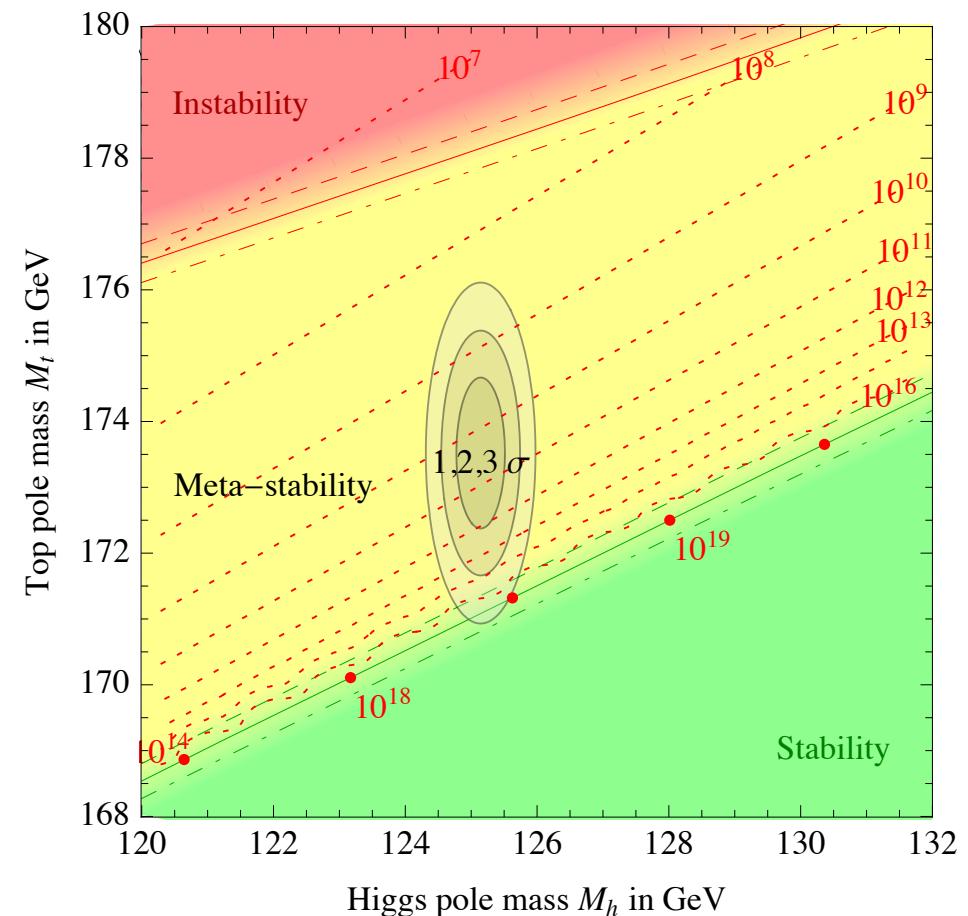




Buttazzo et al., arXiv:1307.3536

Criticality ($\lambda \rightarrow 0$) condition reached for $\Lambda \approx 10^{10} - 10^{12}$ GeV.
 Is this a signal of NP below the Planck scale?

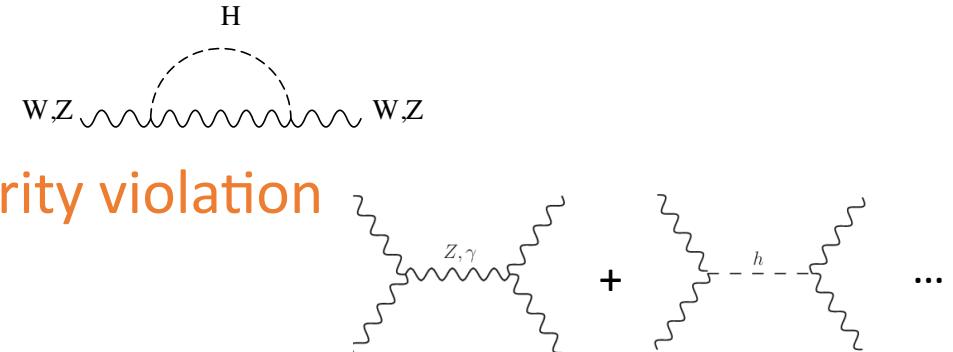
$M_t \leftrightarrow M_h$, the EW phase transition,
 and the history of the universe



But the origin of such pattern escapes the SM

The Higgs is necessary to the consistency of the SM as a quantum theory, W and Z have longitudinal components that can be problematic without a Higgs:

- Loop corrections are not finite without a Higgs



- Scattering amplitudes grows with energy: unitarity violation

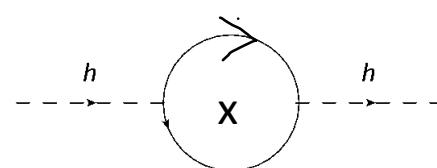
But the origin of SSB and ultimately of the EW scale is unexplained by the SM

- Why the Higgs potential? Why $\mu^2 < 0$?

➤ Dynamical origin? What induces it?

- Why $M_H = 125 \text{ GeV}$? → Hierarchy problem - Naturalness

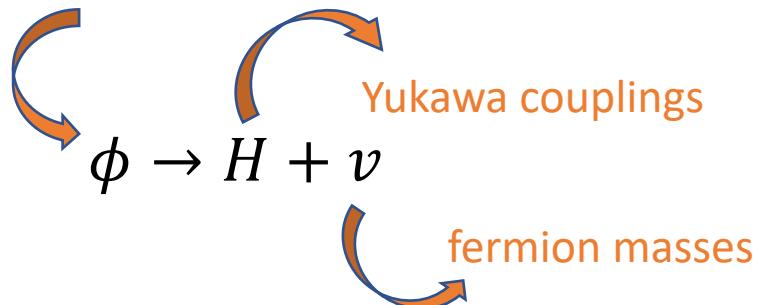
➤ Mass of scalar not protected by symmetry, receives large quantum corrections



$$\Delta M_H^2 \propto \pm \frac{\lambda_X}{16\pi^2} M_X^2$$

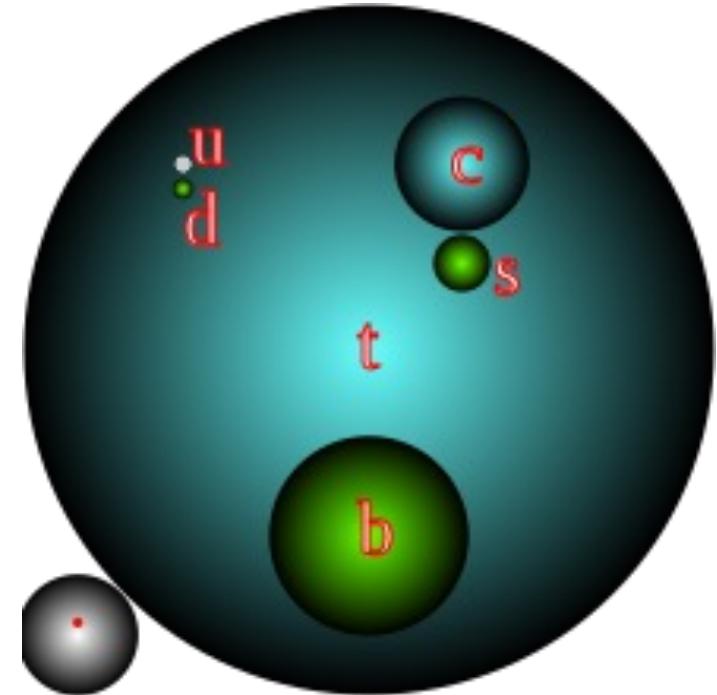
Yukawa couplings to fermions: an even deeper mystery

$$L_{Yuk} = y_{ij} \bar{\psi}_L^i \phi \psi_R^j + h.c.$$



- Why the hierarchy of fermion masses?
- Why the hierarchy of Yukawa couplings?
(arbitrary in the SM)
- Why flavor-diagonal scalar couplings? \leftrightarrow Why one Higgs?
(With more than one Higgs mass and current eigenstates can be different)

$$y_{ij} \rightarrow \frac{m_f}{v} \delta_{ij} = y_f$$



➤ Is this a new force all together??

SM – weaknesses and strengths

Apart from not explaining nor including

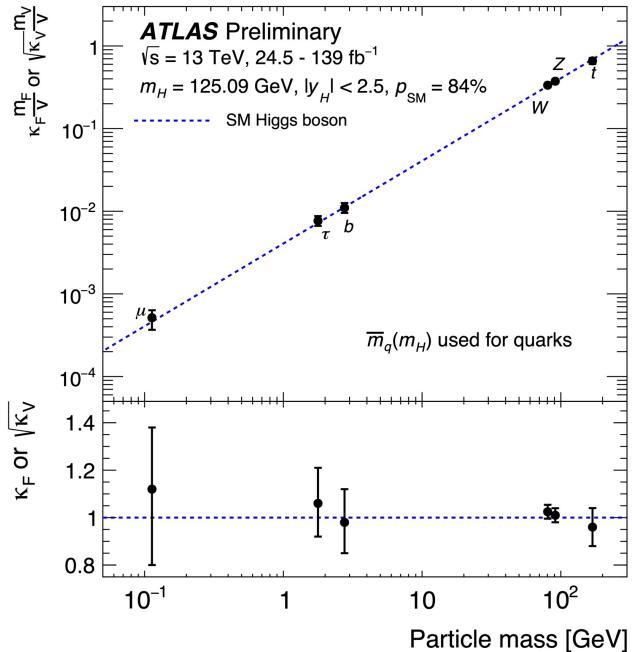
- The nature of dark matter and dark energy
- The origin of the baryon asymmetry of the universe
- Gravity as a quantum theory

The scalar sector of the SM leaves lots of questions unexplained and mainly fails to explain the origin of the EW scale itself.

This could also be the strength of the SM:

The incredible success of the SM theory in describing the EW scale phenomenology, all the way to the discovery of the Higgs boson and the measurement of its properties, is giving us a **unique handle on physics beyond the SM (BSM)** if we can identify and interpret its signals.

The LHC experiments can probe it for the first time!



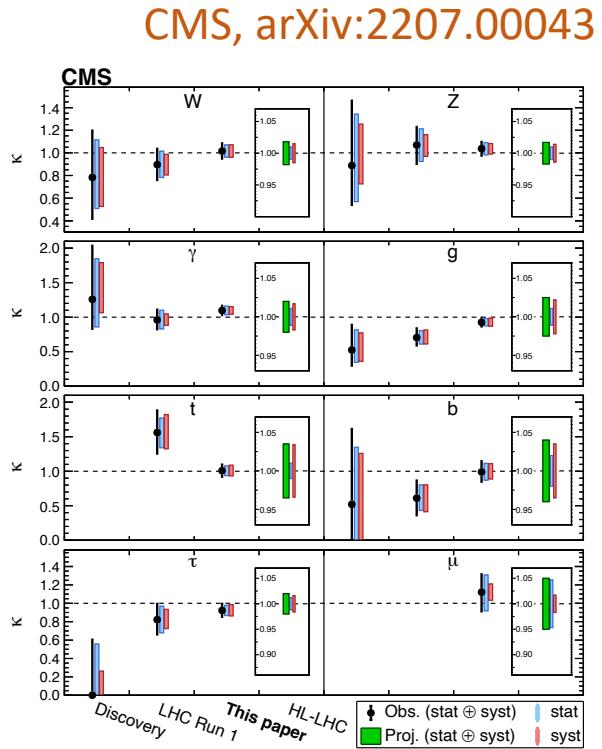
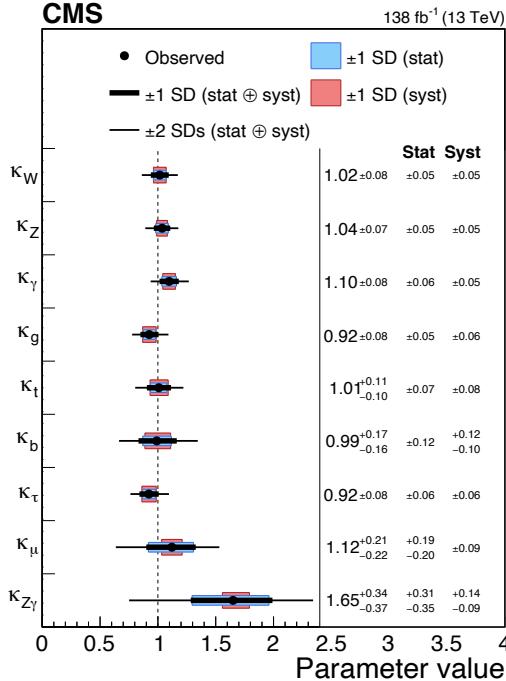
$$\kappa = g_x / g_x^{\text{SM}} = 1 + \Delta \kappa$$

$$\Delta \kappa \propto v^2 / \Lambda_{\text{BSM}}^2$$

Precision on $\Delta \kappa$



reach for Λ_{BSM}

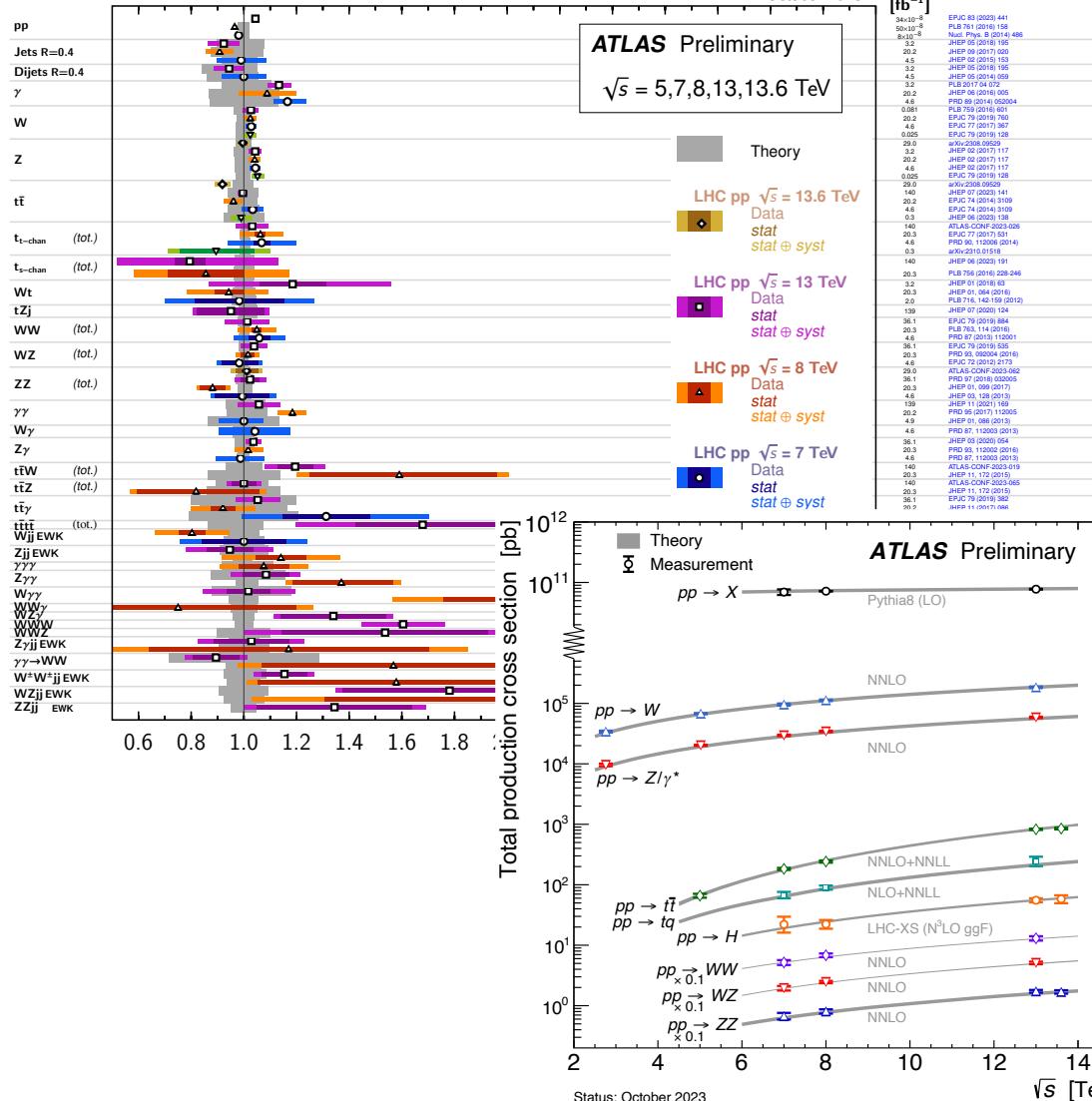


- Couplings to W/Z at 5-10 %
- Couplings to 3rd generation to 10-20%
- First measurements of 2nd generation couplings

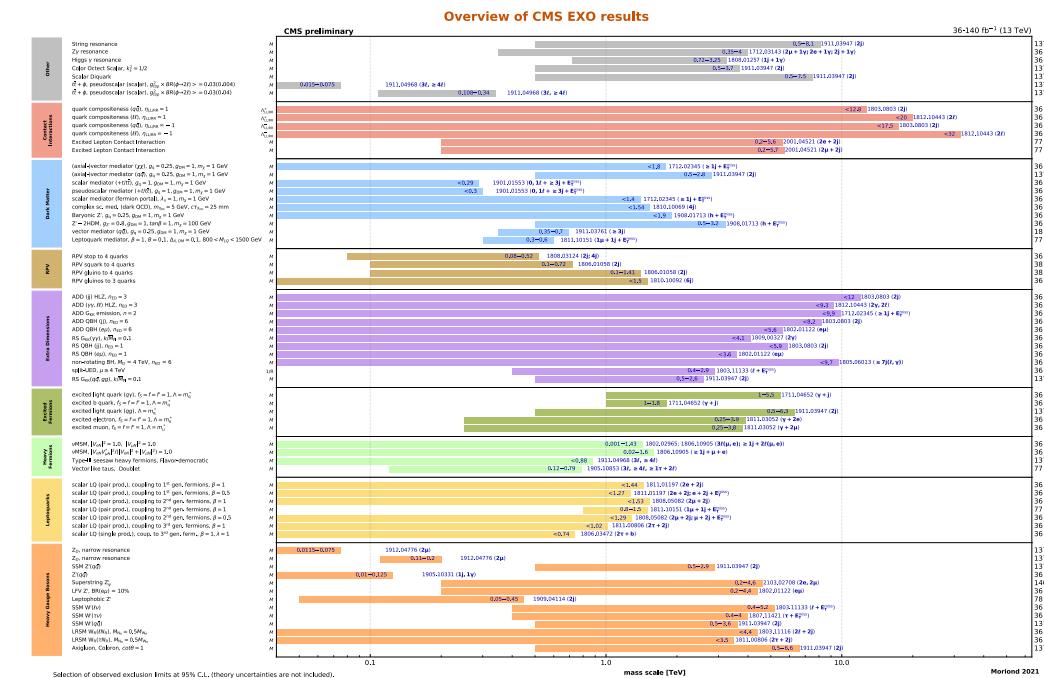
- HL-LHC projections from partial Run 2 data (YR):
 - 2-5 % on most couplings
 - < 50% on Higgs self-coupling.
- Full Run2 results drastically improve partial Run 2 results: better projections expected

Standard Model Production Cross Section Measurements Status: October 2022

5

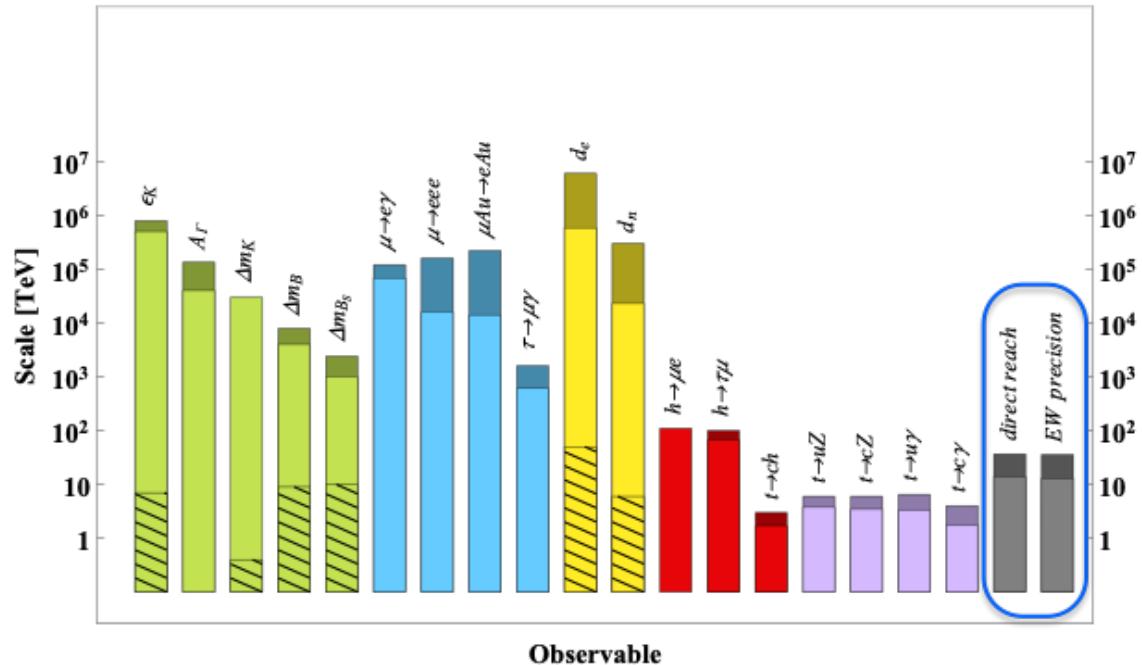


The breadth of collider physics program: a unique spectrum of SM measurements and BSM direct searches!



The realization of this program largely depend on theoretical progress

Emphasizing the breadth of collider physics



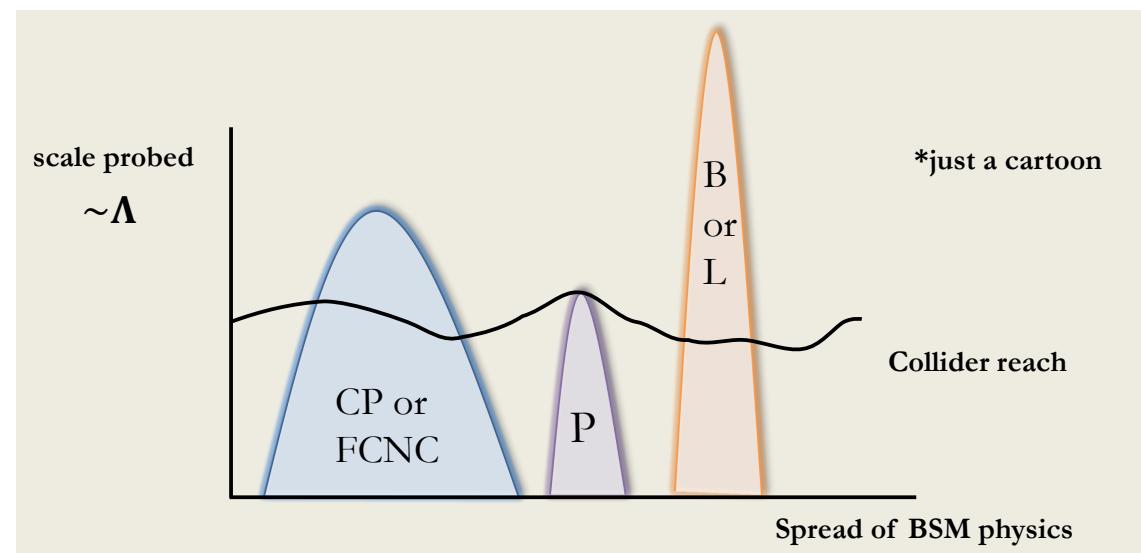
[European Strategy, arXiv:1910.11775]

Any new physics hypothesis will have to stand the test of colliders

Colliders may not be able to indirectly probe scales as high as e.g. flavor physics, but they provide a huge spectrum of measurements



complementarity

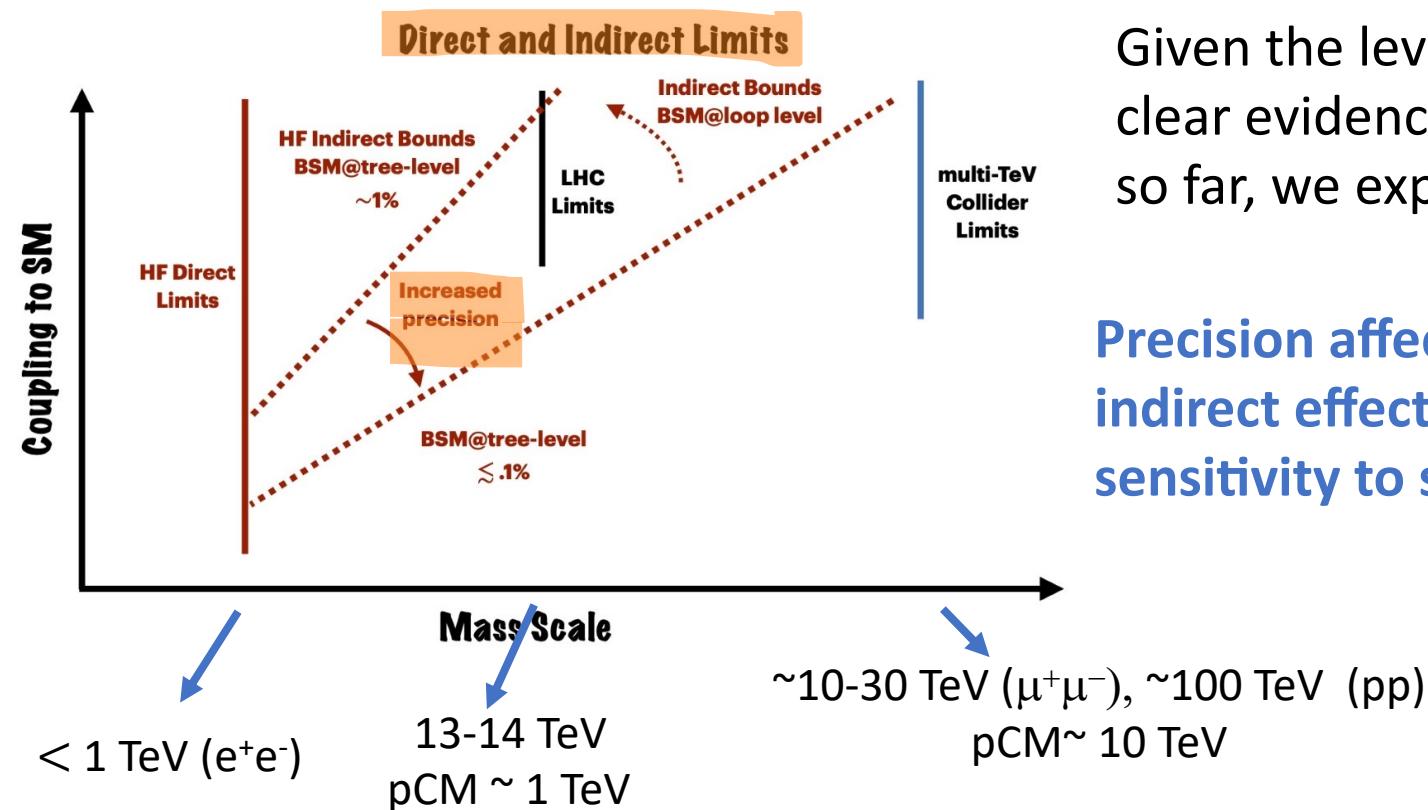


[J. de Vries, talk at Snowmass 21 CPM]

Future directions: energy and precision

Answering the big Open Questions via energy and precision

- Origin of the EW scale (SSB via Higgs mechanism, naturalness, flavor)
- Origin of Baryon Asymmetry, Dark Matter, Dark Energy
- ...



Given the level of consistency of the SM, and no clear evidence of new particles in LHC searches so far, we expect new physics effects to be small.

Precision affects the sensitivity to both direct and indirect effects of new physics since it enhances sensitivity to small deviations.

Precision collider phenomenology (theory precision for collider experiments)

- Precision is **intrinsic to a predictive theory**, such as the Standard Model (SM).
- Percent-level **collider phenomenology** offers a **unique opportunity to explore some of the core questions of particle physics and uncover new physics**.
- The **physics potential of the (HL-)LHC and future colliders greatly depends on** enabling and successfully executing a **broad precision phenomenology program**.
- Precision **requires theory and experiments to reach comparable accuracy**.

Precision phenomenology at the (HL)-LHC

Universal limitations

Luminosity	ATLAS, 2212.09379
Energy resolution (particles, jets)	CMS, 2104.01927
	ATLAS, 1703.09665
	CMS, 1607.03663

Both about 1 %



20 -fold increase in statistics
by the end of HL-LHC

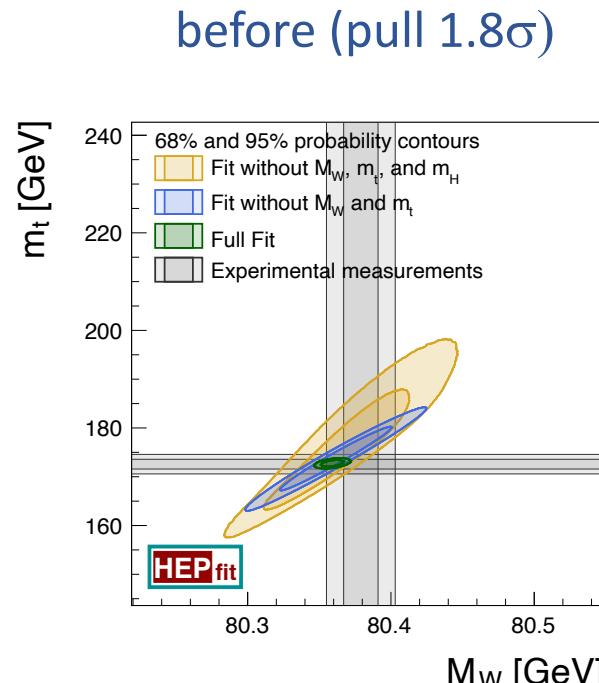
Statistical limitations will be overcome for
a very large number of observables

Focus on systematics!

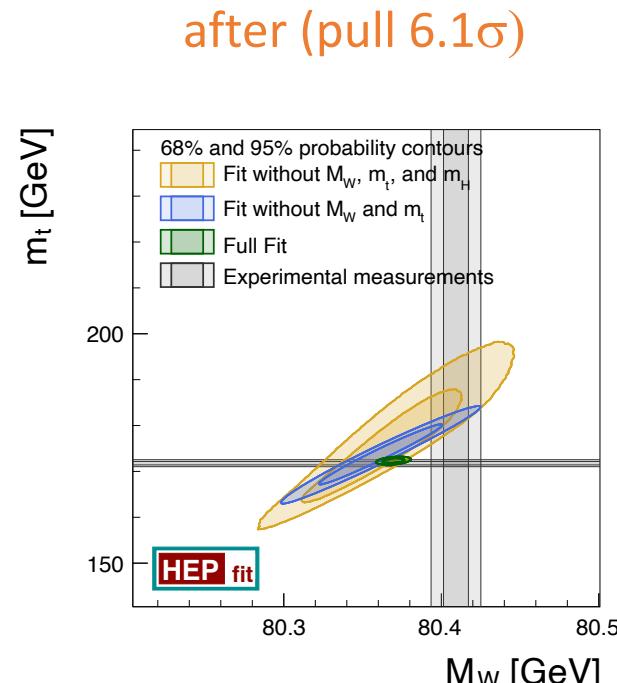
Theoretical systematics could become the main limitation

Precision intrinsic to a predictive theory: SM global fits

A recent challenge: CDF new M_W measurement



De Blas et al. [2204.04204]



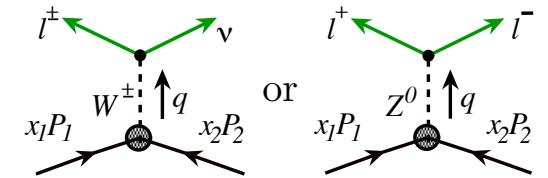
Tensions could become real indications of NP effects with the precision of the HL-LHC or a future e^+e^- machine, if theory matches the precision of experiments.

EWPO uncertainties	Current theory error	Projected theory error	Current param. error	Projected param. error	
				Scenario 1	Scenario 2
Δm_W (MeV)	4	1	5	2.8	0.6
$\Delta \Gamma_Z$ (MeV)	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.1
$\Delta \sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^{\ell} (\times 10^5)$	4.5	1.5	4.2	3.7	1.1
$\Delta A_{\ell} (\times 10^5)$	32	11	30	25	7.5
$\delta R_{\ell} (\times 10^3)$	6	1.5	6	3.2	1.3

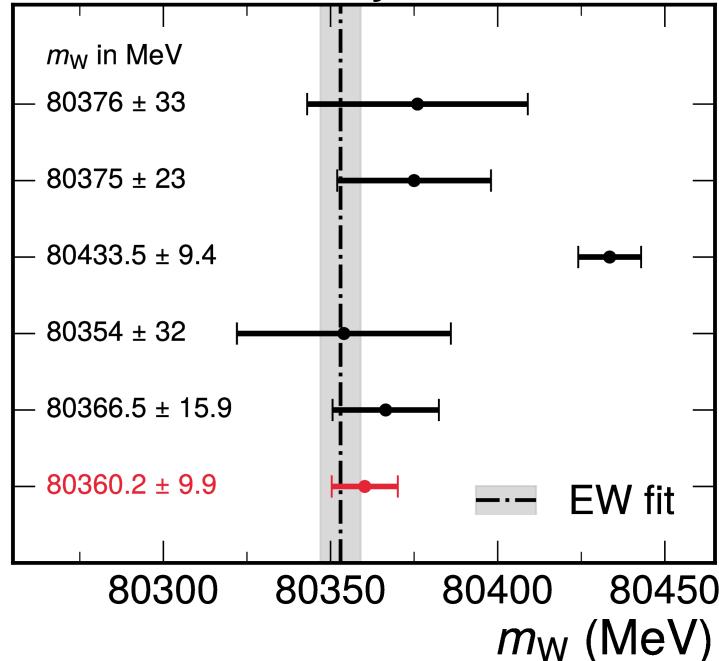
EWPO Uncertainties	Current	HL-LHC
Δm_W (MeV)	12 / 9.4 [†]	5
Δm_Z (MeV)	2.1	
$\Delta \Gamma_Z$ (MeV)	2.3	
Δm_t (GeV)	0.6*	0.2

Quantity	current	ILC250	ILC-GigaZ	FCC-ee	CEPC	CLIC380
$\Delta \alpha(m_Z)^{-1} (\times 10^3)$	17.8*	17.8*		3.8 (1.2)	17.8*	
Δm_W (MeV)	12*	0.5 (2.4)		0.25 (0.3)	0.35 (0.3)	
Δm_Z (MeV)	2.1*	0.7 (0.2)	0.2	0.004 (0.1)	0.005 (0.1)	
Δm_H (MeV)	170*	14		2.5 (2)	5.9	78
$\Delta \Gamma_W$ (MeV)	42*	2		1.2 (0.3)	1.8 (0.9)	
$\Delta \Gamma_Z$ (MeV)	2.3*	1.5 (0.2)	0.12	0.004 (0.025)	0.005 (0.025)	2.3*

SM global fits: the M_W puzzle



CMS Preliminary



LEP combination
Phys. Rep. 532 (2013) 119

D0
PRL 108 (2012) 151804

CDF
Science 376 (2022) 6589

LHCb
JHEP 01 (2022) 036

ATLAS
arxiv:2403.15085, subm. to EPJC

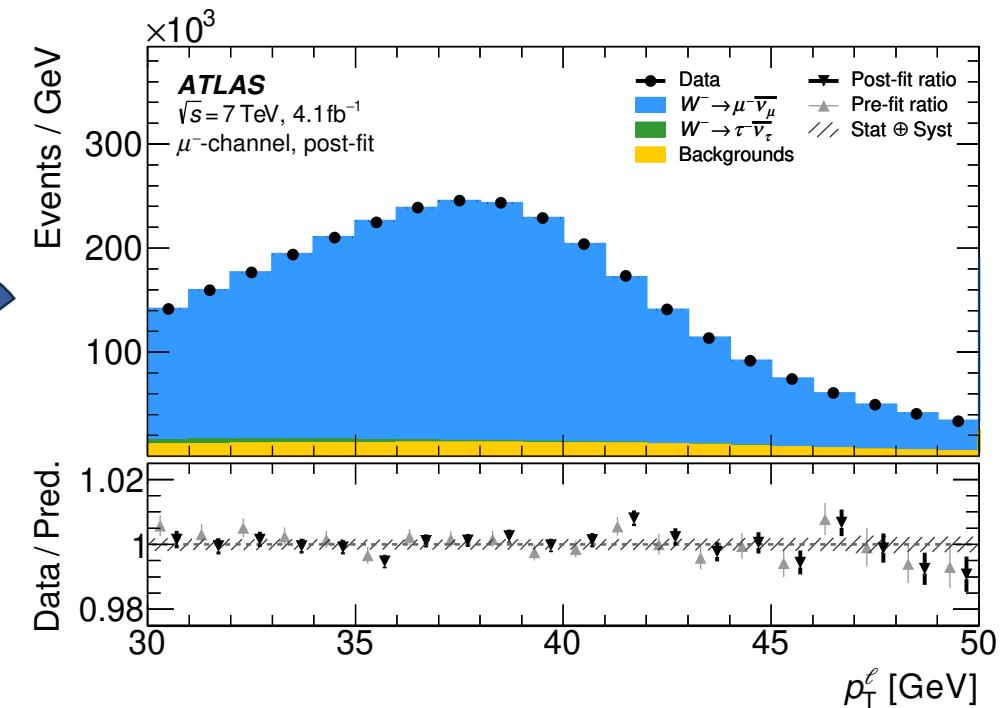
CMS
This Work

CMS-PAS-SMP-23-002

$\Delta M_W \sim 10$ MeV $\rightarrow 0.1\%$ control
on kinematic distributions

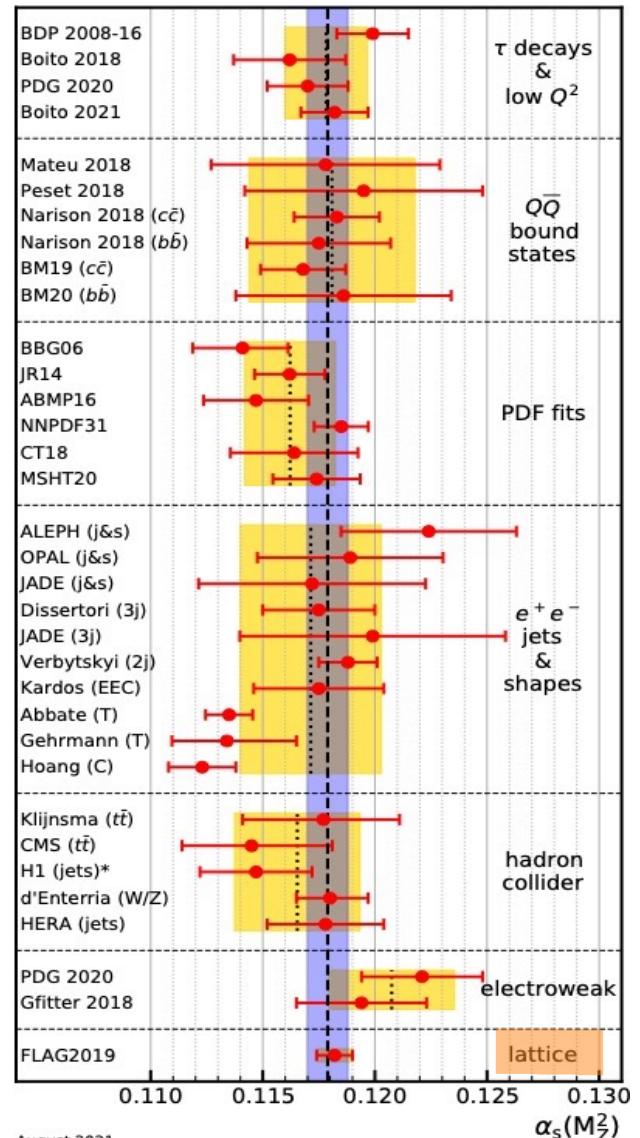
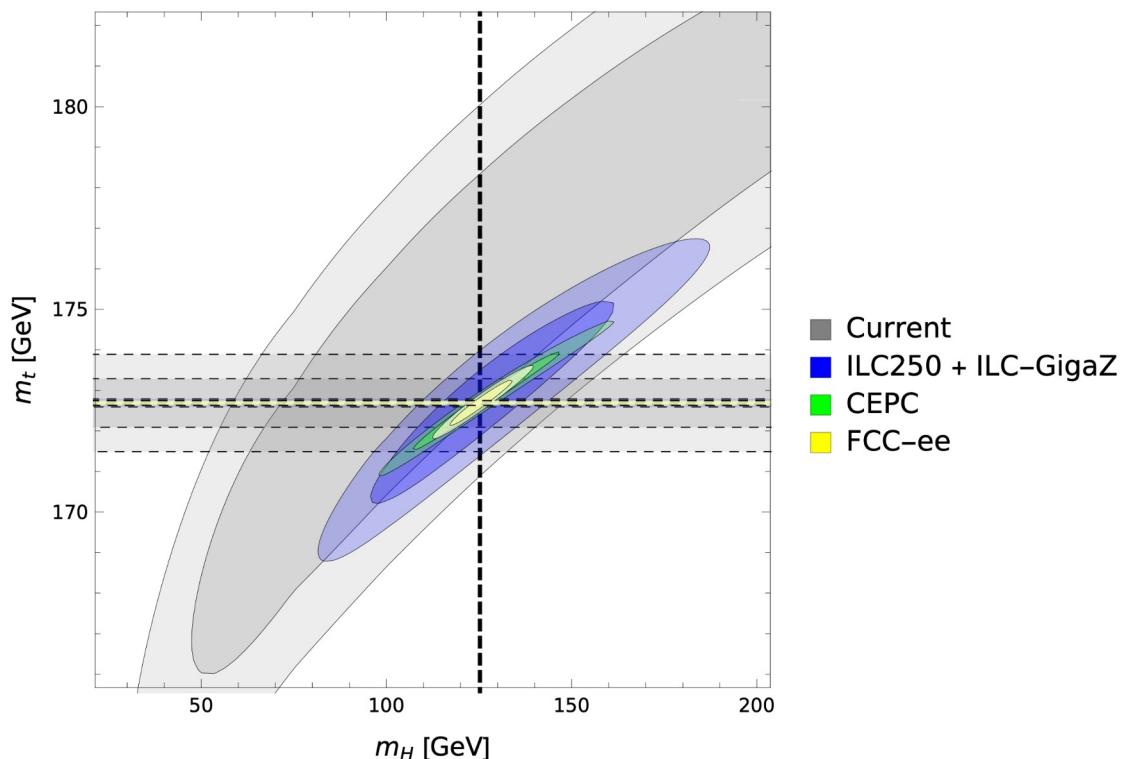
Mass measured by fitting template distributions
of transverse momentum and mass

Template fitting is acceptable if theory
describes data with high accuracy

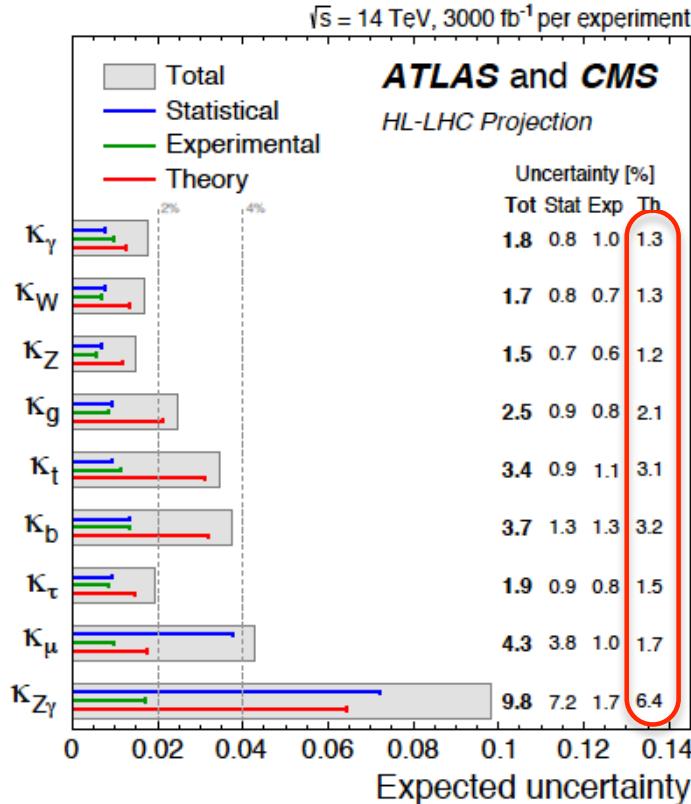
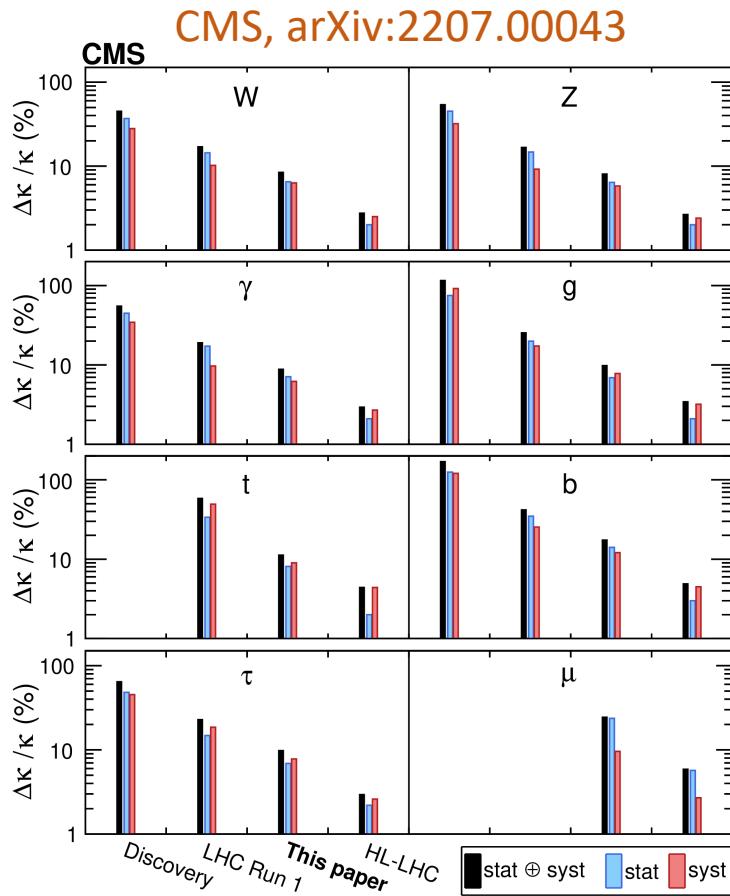


More constraining parameters

Parameter	HL-LHC	ILC 500	FCC-ee	FCC-hh
\sqrt{s} [TeV]	14	0.5	0.36	100
Yukawa coupling y_t (%)	3.4	2.8	3.1	1.0
Top mass m_t (MeV/%)	170/0.10	50/0.031	40/0.025	–



Establishing the scalar sector of the SM and probing Λ_{NP}



$$\kappa = g_x / g_x^{\text{SM}} = 1 + \Delta\kappa$$

$$\Delta\kappa / \kappa \sim \mathcal{O}(v^2 / \Lambda^2)$$

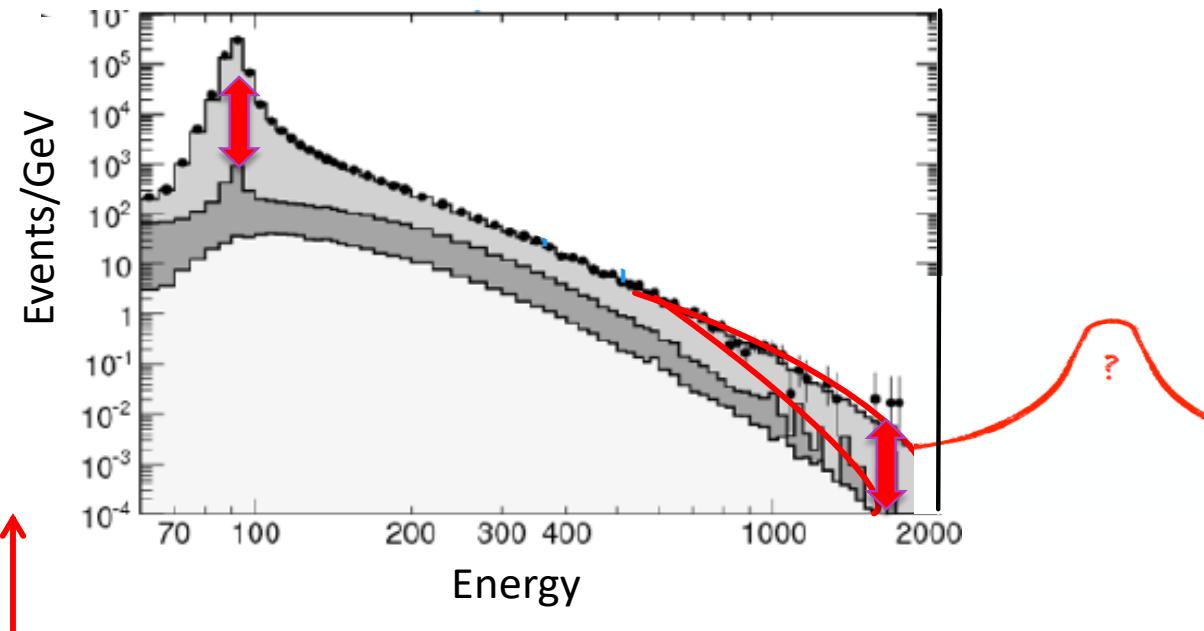
For new physics at 1 TeV
expect deviations of $\mathcal{O}(6\%)$

Improved systematics
probes higher scales

Theory could become the
main limitation

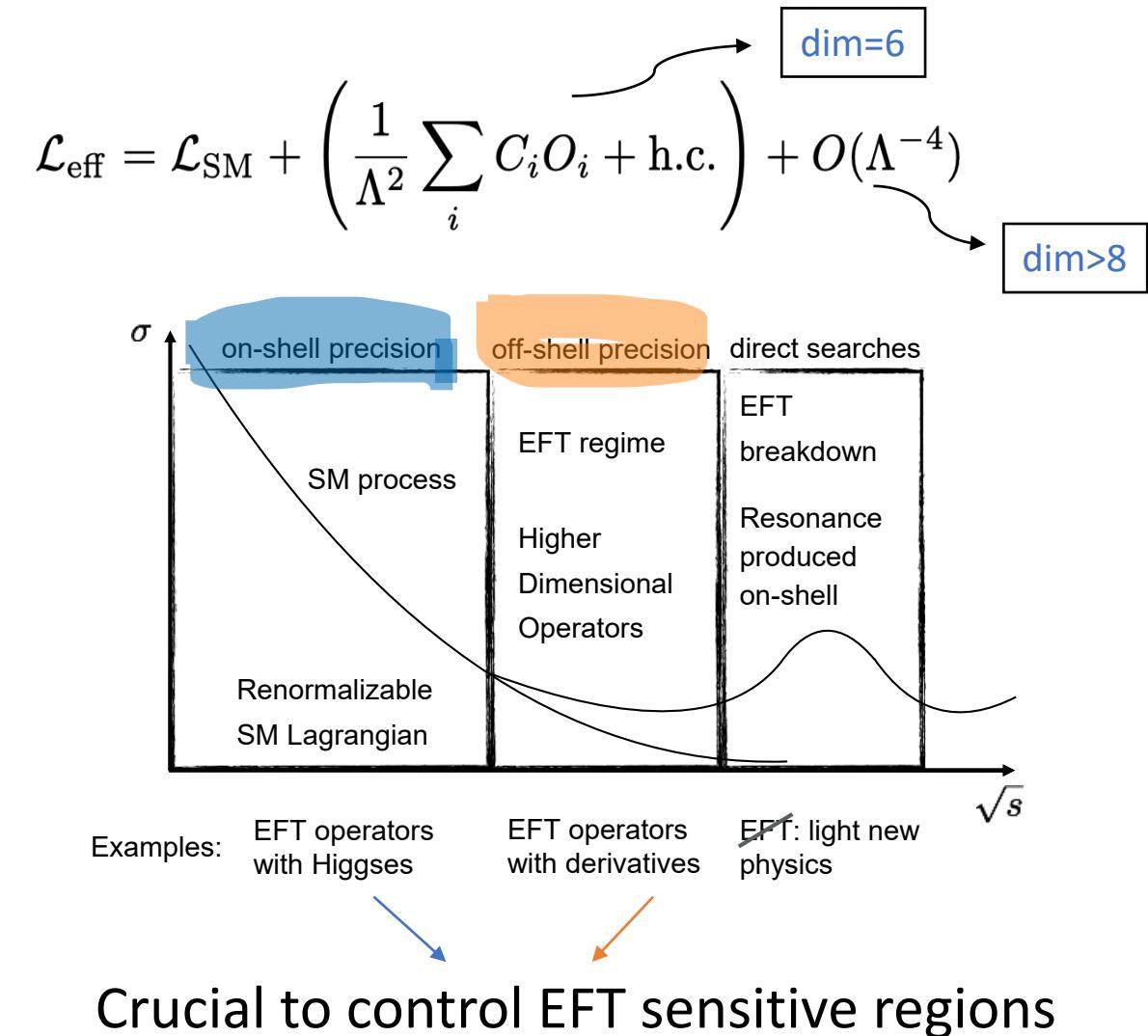
Theory need to improve modeling and interpretation of LHC events, in particular when new physics may not be a simple rescaling of SM interactions

Beyond total rates



Need SM precision calculations at differential level both at **lower energy**, where rates are large and at **higher energy** where rates are small but effects of new physics may be more visible.

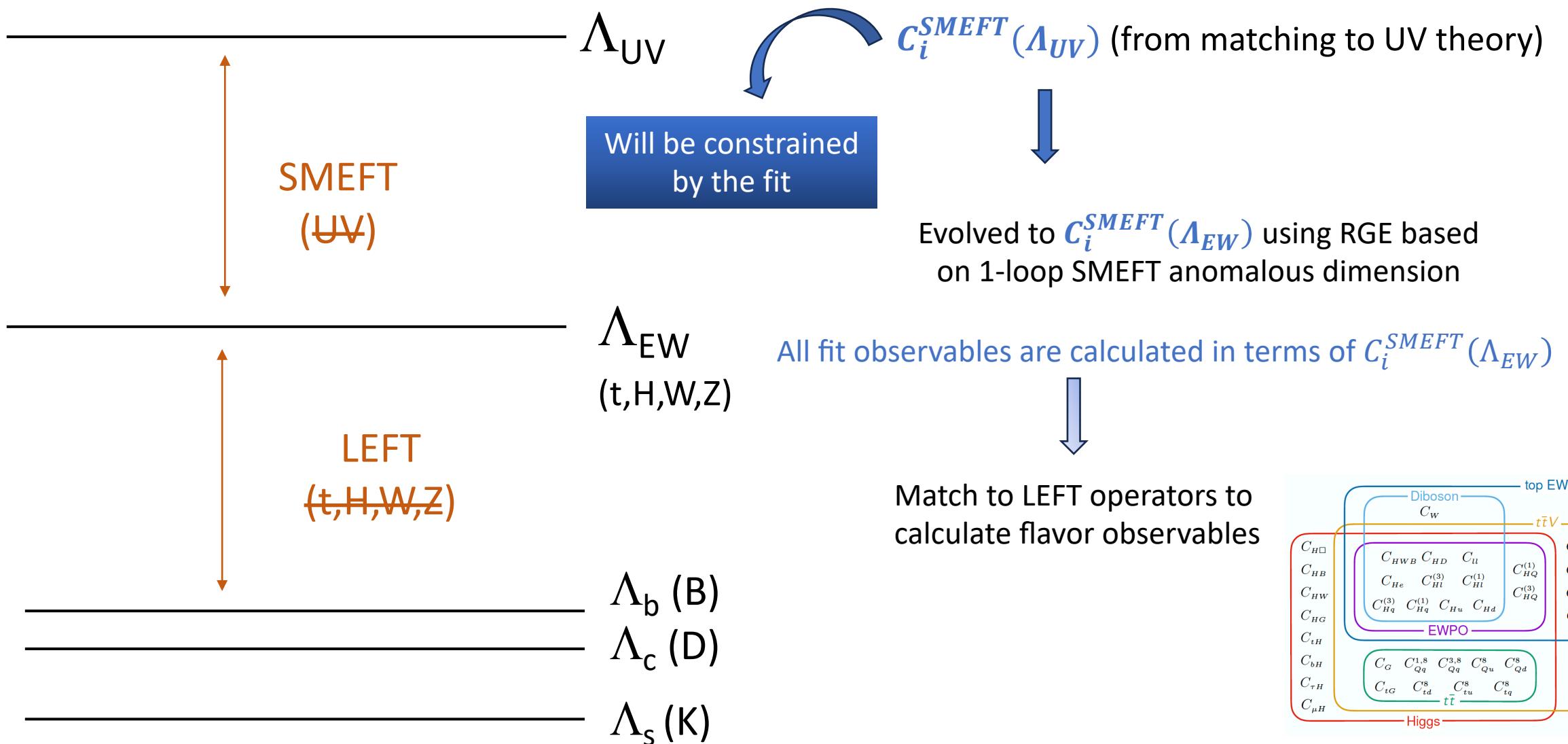
Extending the SM via effective interactions above the EW scale \rightarrow **SMEFT**



Crucial to control EFT sensitive regions

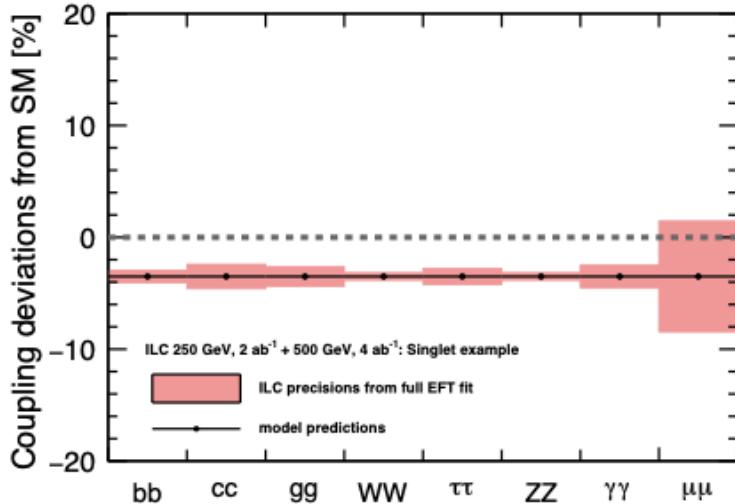
Beyond EW fits – Higgs, top, flavor observables

Connecting far apart scales naturally lends itself to the EFT framework

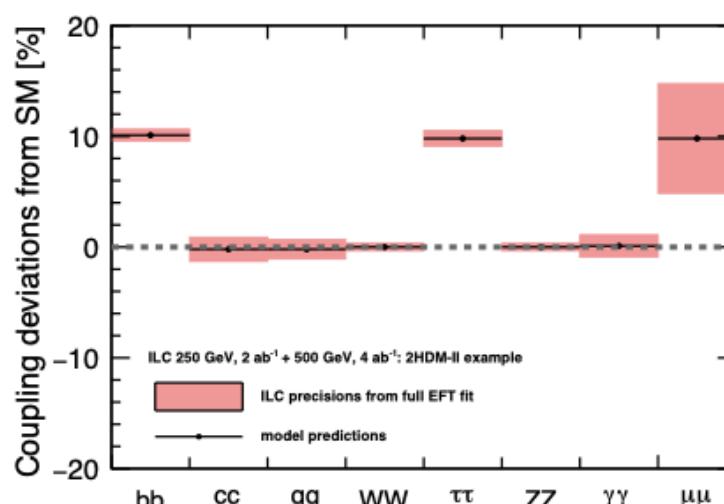


Disentangling models from EFT patterns

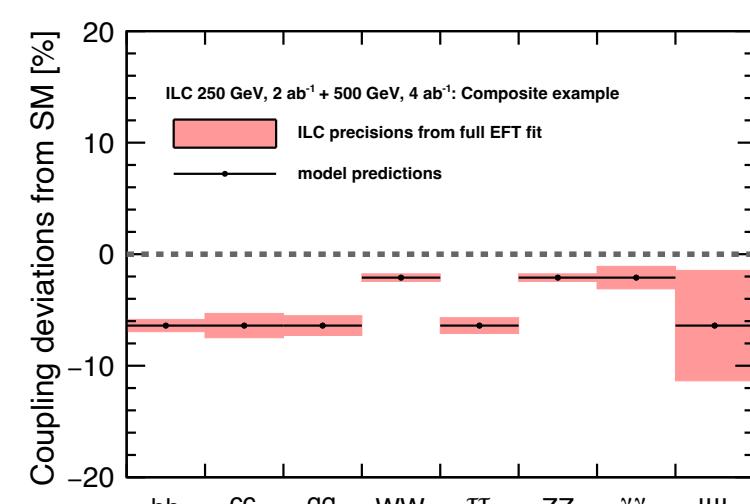
The “inverse Higgs” problem



additional scalar singlet
($m_S=2.8$ TeV, max mixing)



2HDM-II
($M_H=600$ GeV, $\tan\beta=7$)



Composite Higgs
($f=1.2$ TeV)

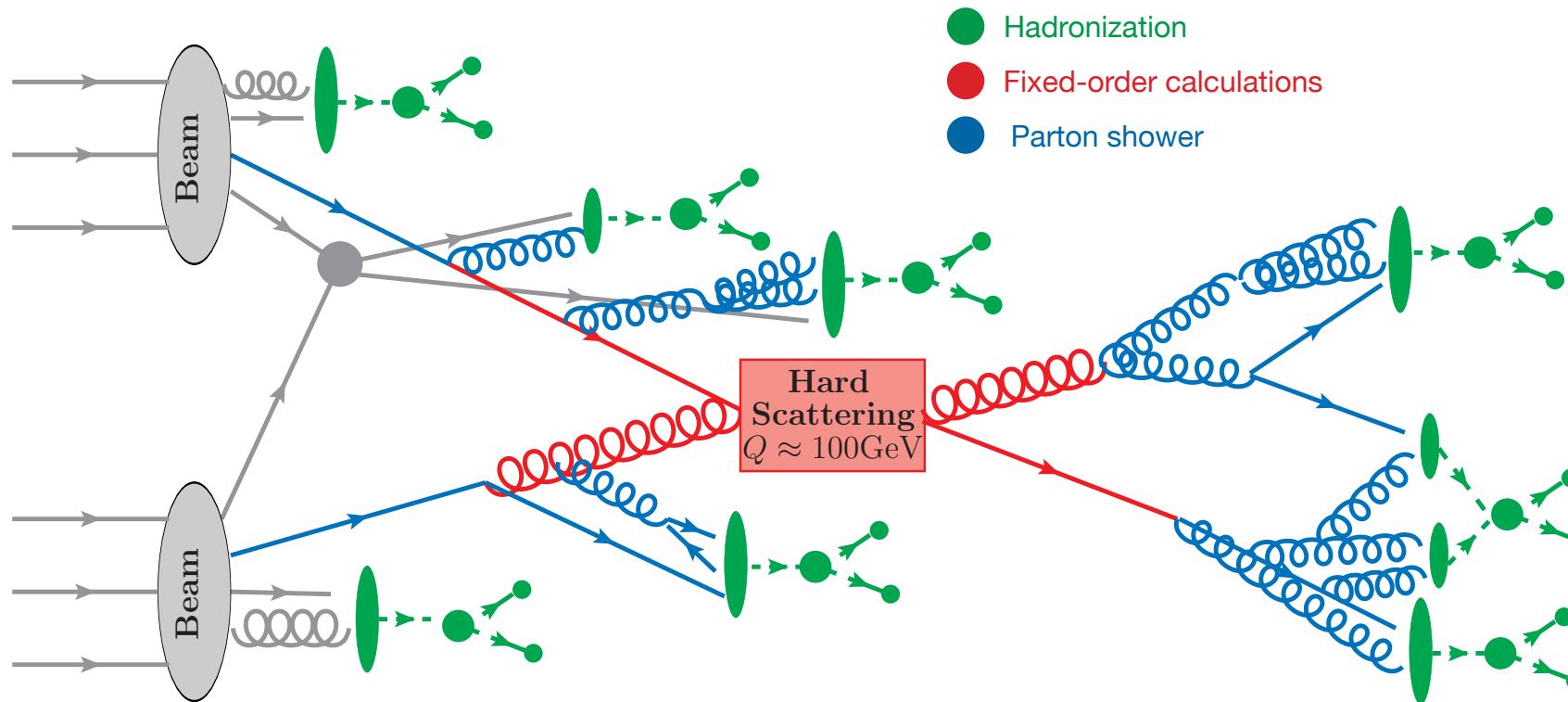
Snowmass 2021: ILC white paper (arXiv: 2203.07622)

Examples to illustrate the **different patterns of Higgs coupling deviations**
from **different BSM models**

Theory for percent-level phenomenology

- A realm where mathematical progress and phenomenological studies and intuition are strongly intertwined and have brought so much progress, paving the way to tackle future challenges.

Dissecting the challenge



From S. Ferrario Ravasio,
RADCOR 2023

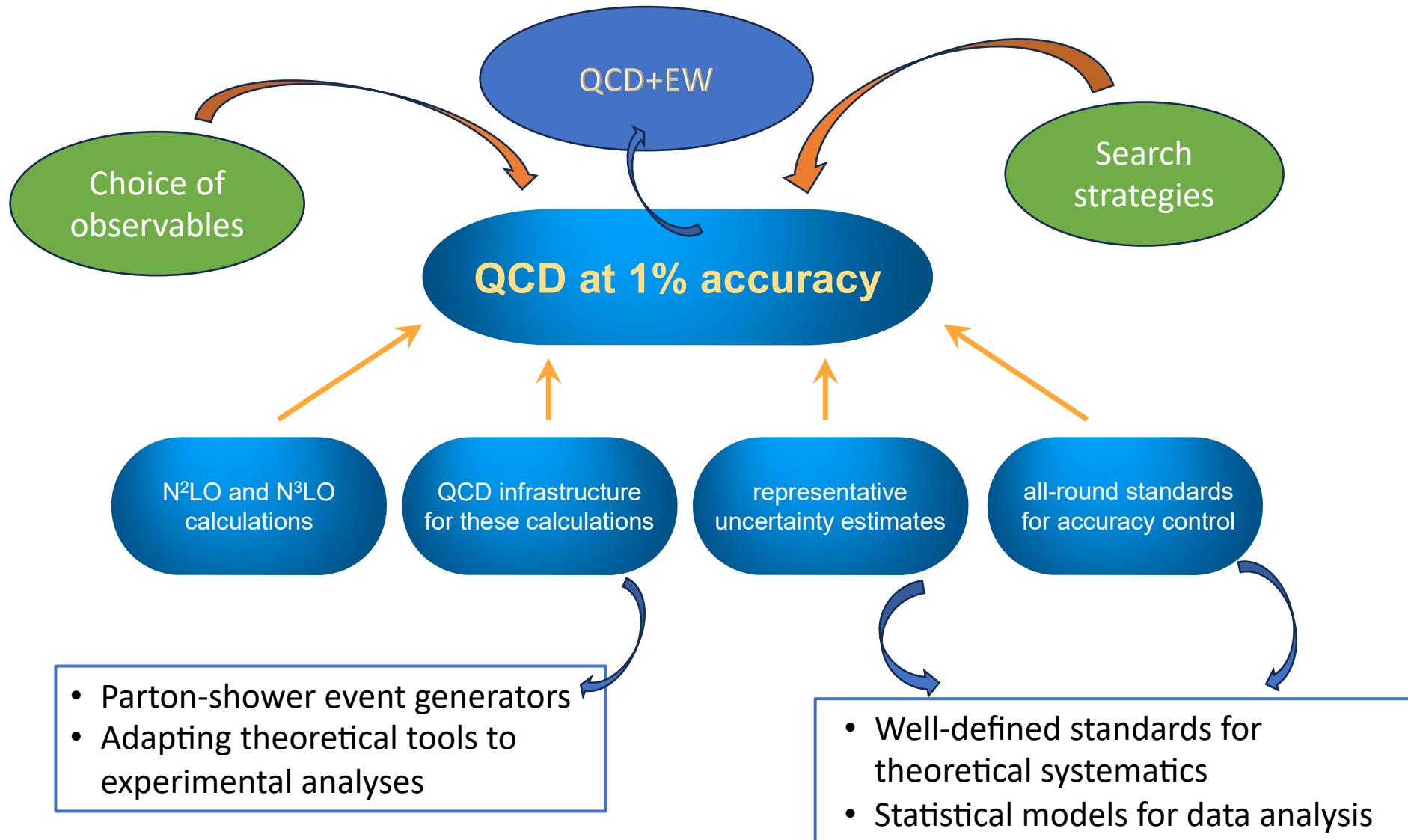
$$d\sigma = \sum_{ij} \int dx_1 dx_2 f_{p,i}(x_1) f_{p,j}(x_2) \widehat{d\sigma}(x_1 x_2 s) + O((\Lambda_{QCD}/Q)^p)$$

Parton Distribution
Functions (PDF)

hard-scattering partonic
xsection (pQCD+EW)

Hadronization,
non-p QCD

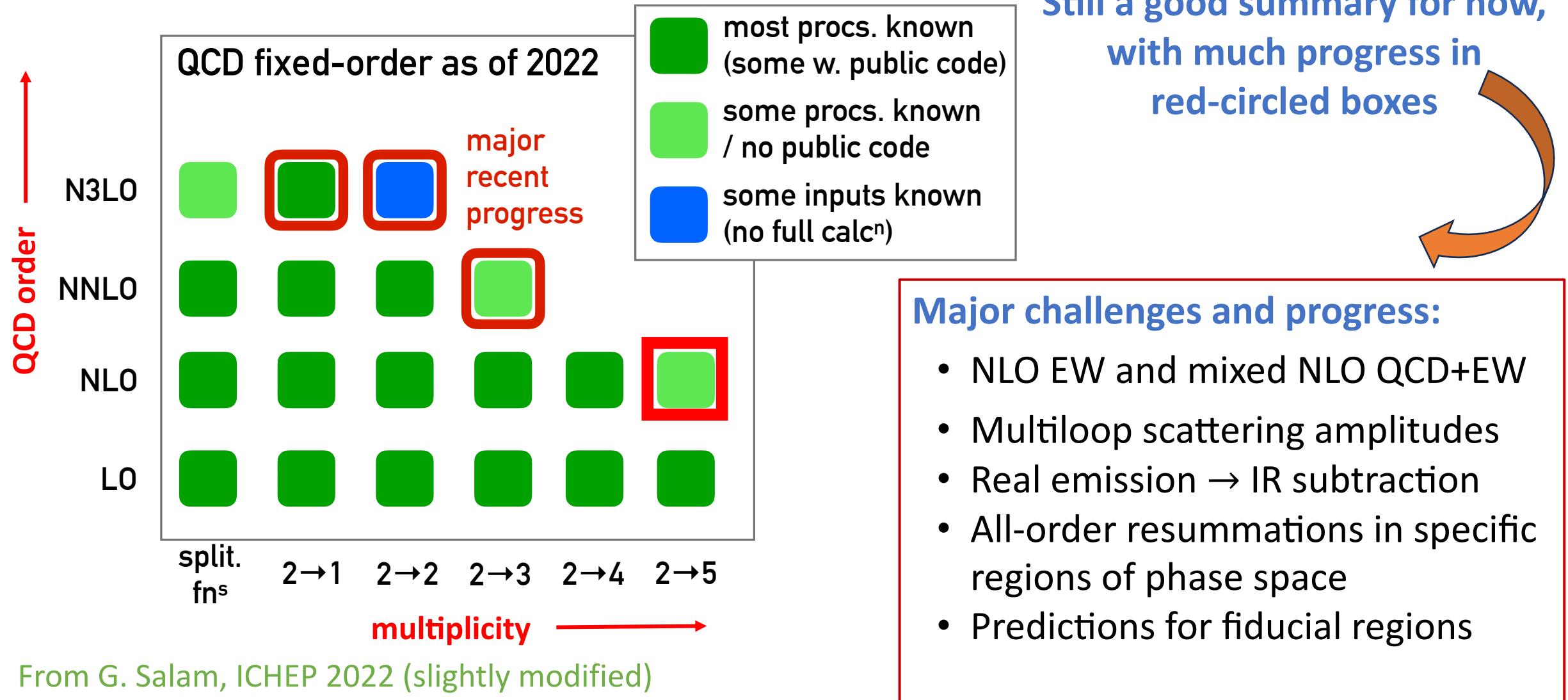
Many components to percent precision



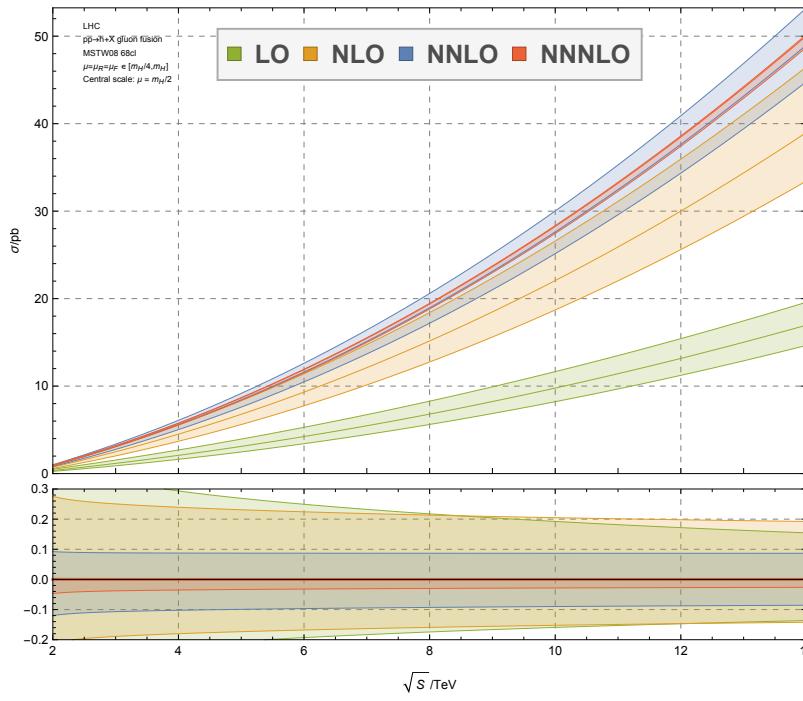
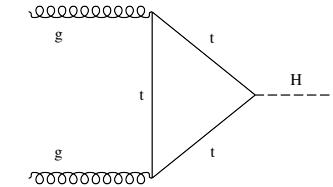
N^XLO predictions - state of the art

For a complete summary of existing and auspicable results see

[Les Houches list \[Huss et al., 2207.02122, updated 2023\]](#)



Higgs production via gg fusion at N³LO

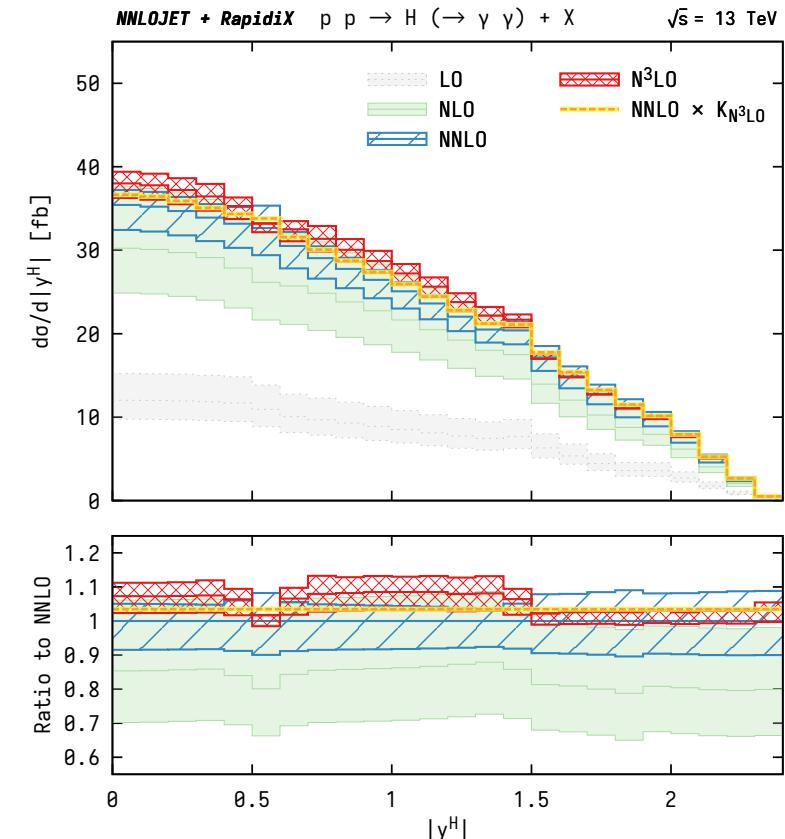
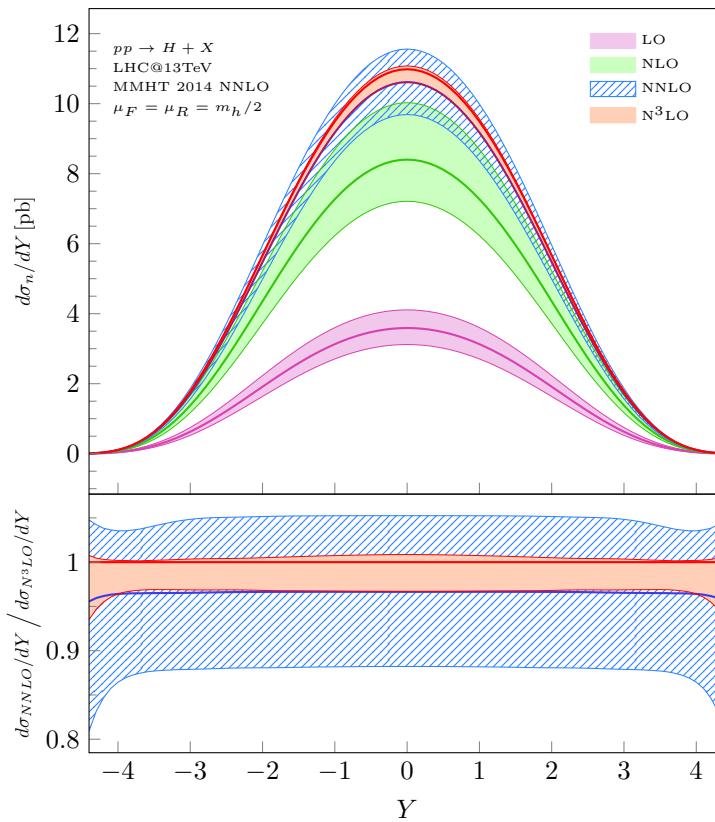


Anastasiou, Duhr, Dulat,
Herzog, Mistlberger
1503.06056

Dulat, Mistlberger, Pelloni
1810.09462

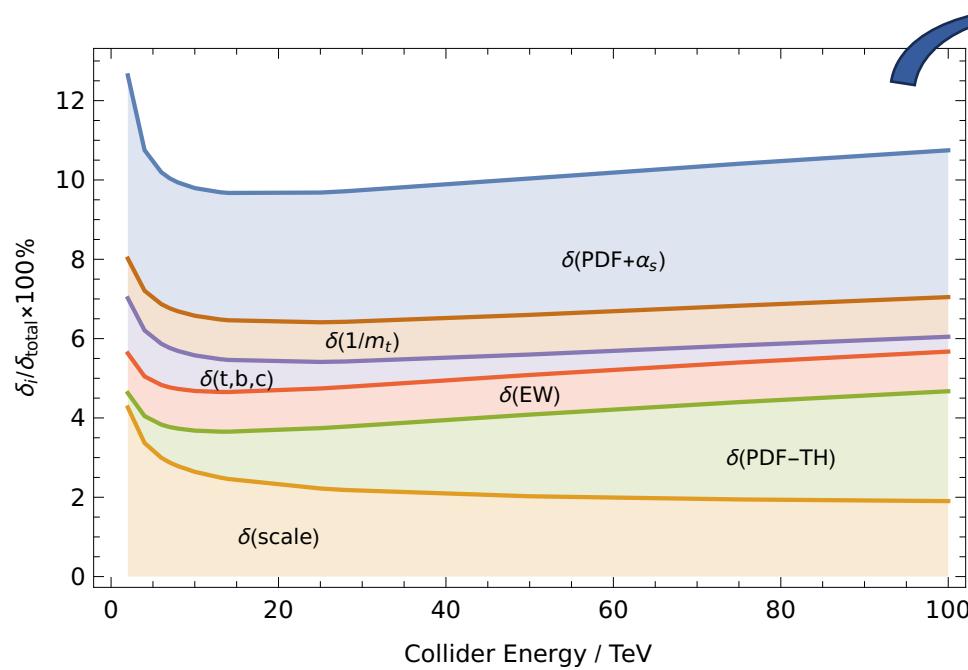
Continuous progress on a crucial process

- The leading Higgs production mode
- A benchmark test of QCD, and QCD+EW, including H+j production
- An excellent testing ground to probe theoretical accuracy



Chen, Gehrmann, Glover, Huss,
Mistlberger, Pelloni, 2102.07607

... crucial to map residual uncertainties



LHC @ 13 TeV

Dulat, Lazopoulos, Mistlberger
1802.00827 (iHixis)

$\delta(\text{theory})$	$=$	$+0.13pb$	$(+0.28\%)$	$\delta(\text{scale})$
	$+$	$-1.20pb$	(-2.50%)	$\delta(\text{PDF-TH})$
	$+$	$\pm 0.56pb$	$(\pm 1.16\%)$	$\delta(\text{EWK})$
	$+$	$\pm 0.49pb$	$(\pm 1.00\%)$	$\delta(t,b,c)$
	$+$	$\pm 0.41pb$	$(\pm 0.85\%)$	$\delta(1/m_t)$
$\delta(\text{PDF})$	$+$	$\pm 0.49pb$	$(\pm 1.00\%)$	
$\delta(\alpha_s)$	$=$	$+2.08pb$	$(+4.28\%)$	
	$=$	$-3.16pb$	(-6.5%)	
	$=$	$\pm 0.89pb$	$(\pm 1.85\%)$	
	$=$	$+1.25pb$	$(+2.59\%)$	
	$=$	$-1.26pb$	(-2.62%)	

Future challenges:

- **N3LO PDF!** $\rightarrow \delta(\text{PDF-TH})$
- Light-quark mass effects $\rightarrow \delta(b,c)$
- More EW corrections
- Large logs resummation (fiducial)?

Uncertainty removed by calculation of exact NNLO m_t dependence

Czakon, Harlander, Klappert, Nieggetied, 2105.04436

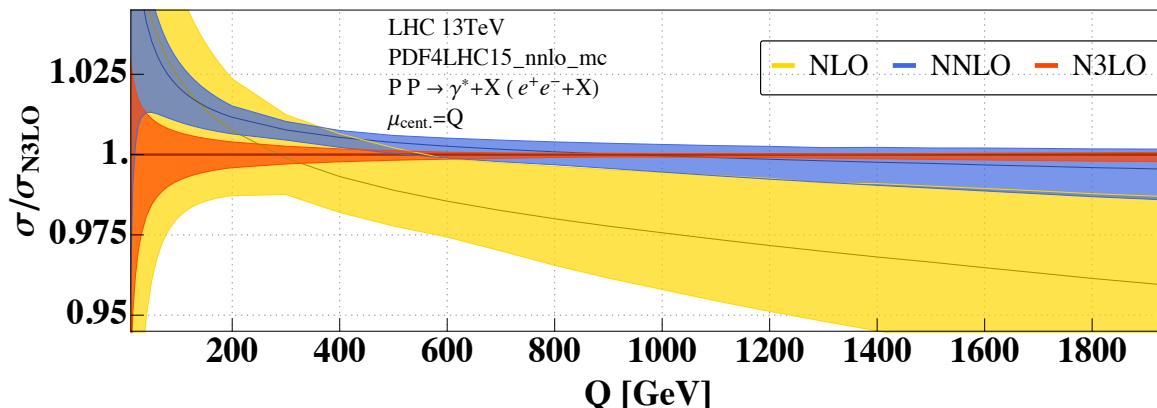
Reduced uncertainty to 0.26% by calculation of NLO mixed QCD+EW

Becchetti, Bonciani, Del Duca, Hirschi, Moriello, Schweitzer, 2010.09451

4-loop splitting functions (low moments) – Moch, Ruijl, Ueda, Vermaseren, Vogt, 2111.15561
 DY@N3LO QCD – Duhr, Dulat, Mistlberger, 2001.07717, 2007.13313

DY at N³LO – input to PDF fits and M_W measurement

NC-DY



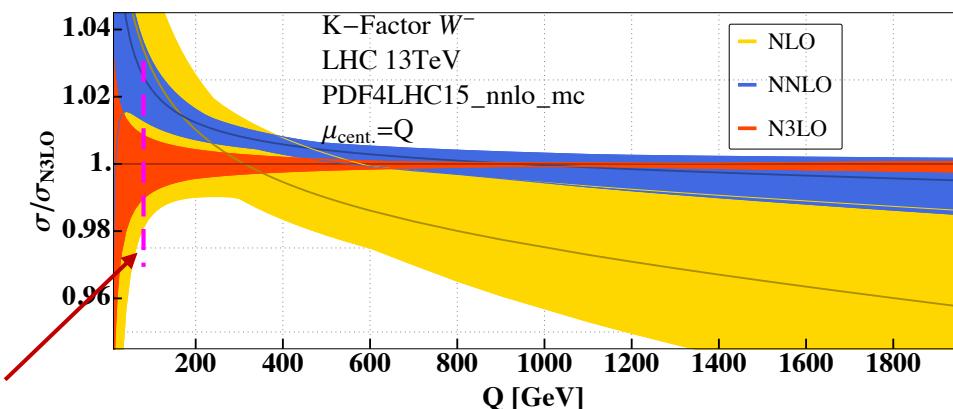
Duhr, Dulat, Mistlberger, 2001.07717

- Scale dependence: non-uniform behavior in all Q -regions
- Important input for PDFs (not yet included)
- **Region around $Q \sim M_W$:** reconsider how to estimate theoretical uncertainty from scale variation

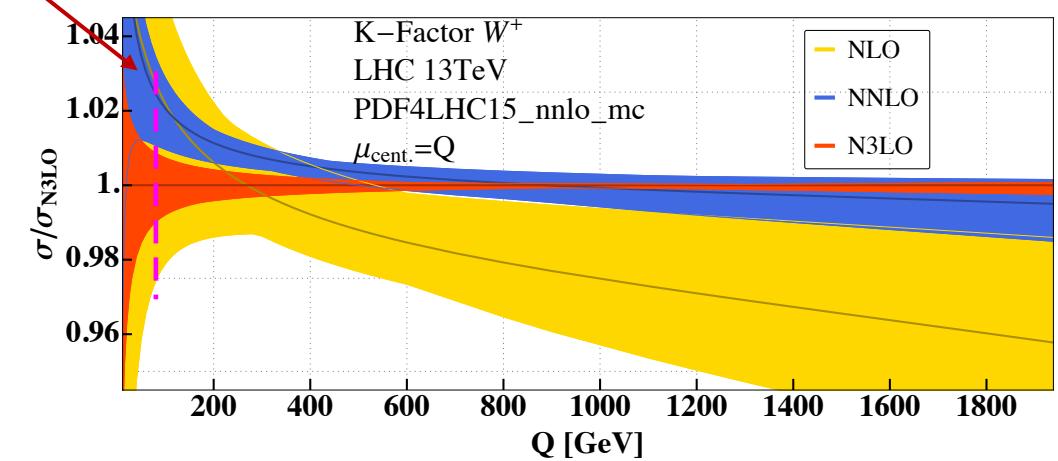


Recall from before: **need 0.1% accuracy in template distributions in order to achieve $\Delta M_W \sim 10$ MeV**

CC-DY

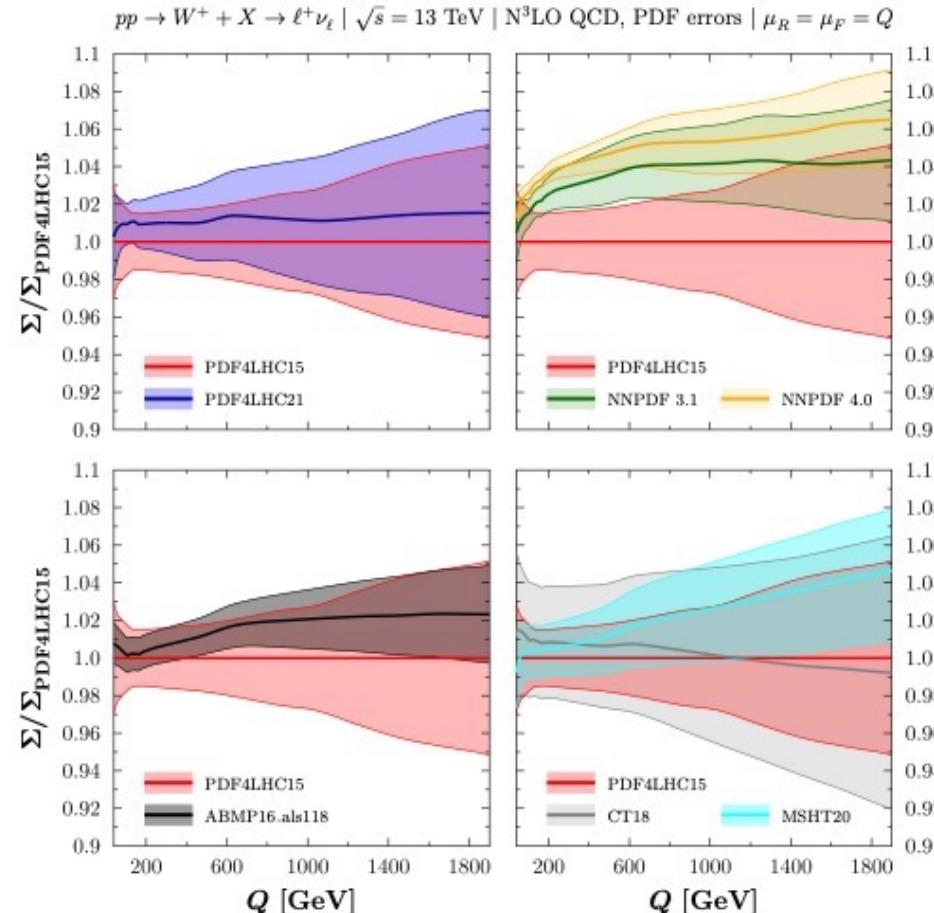
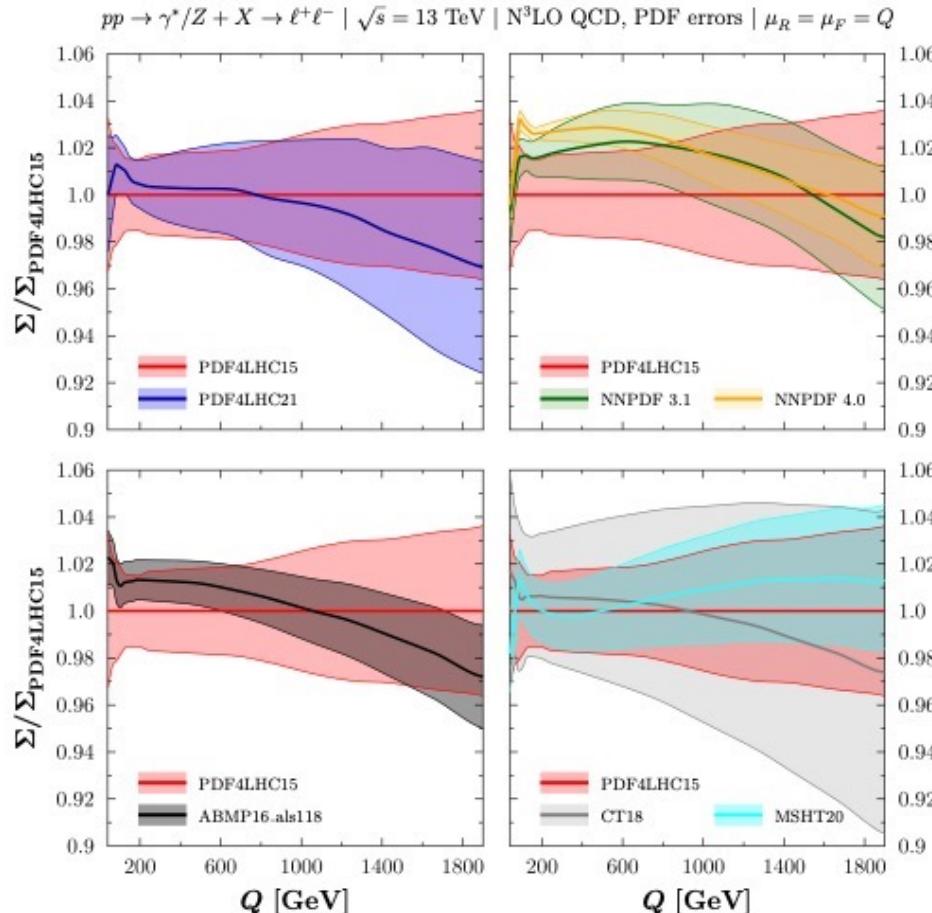


M_W



Duhr, Dulat, Mistlberger, 2007.13313

DY at N³LO – dedicated PDF study



Overall consistency among different sets

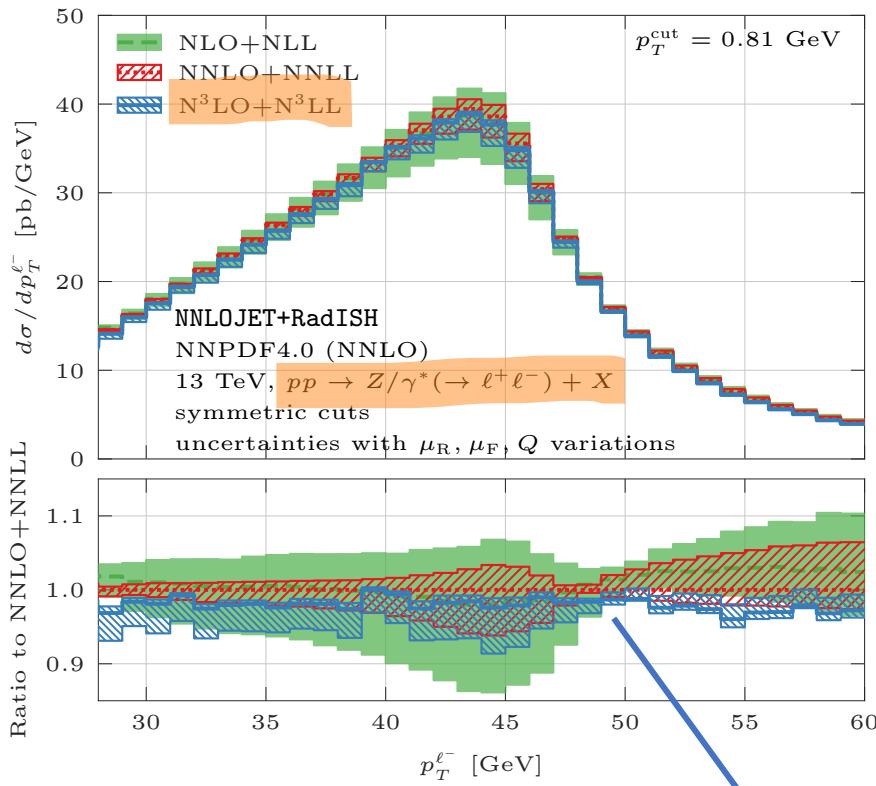
Large variation in error bands

Systematics introduced by choosing different sets can be substantial

Baglio, Duhr, Mistlberger, Szafron, 2209.06138
(n3loxs – public numerical code)

Different patterns observed in CC vs NC cannot be ignored for precision measurements, since the introduced bias can be sizable at percent level.

DY at N^3LO+N^3LL – differential

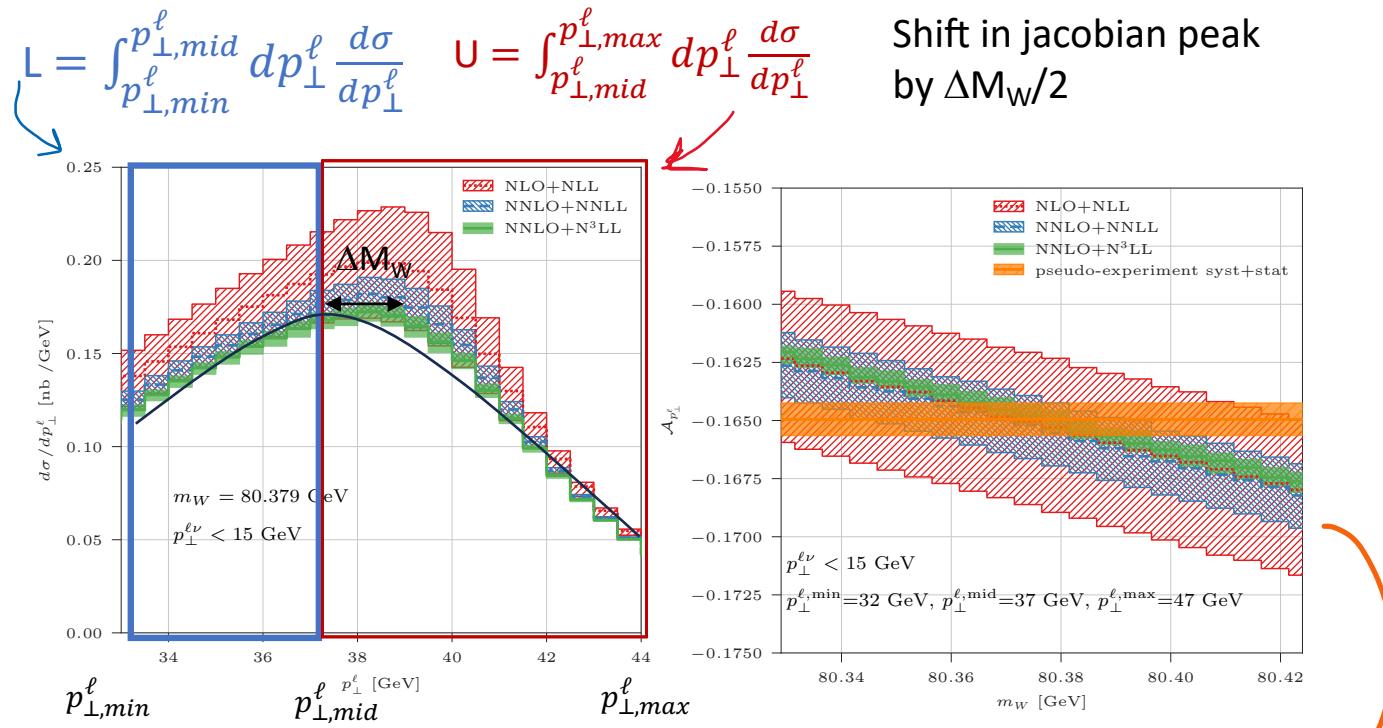


Chen, Gehrmann, Glover, Huss, Monni, Re, Rottoli, Torrielli, 2203.01565

Challenging to control theoretical uncertainties below percent level!

Consider different observable?

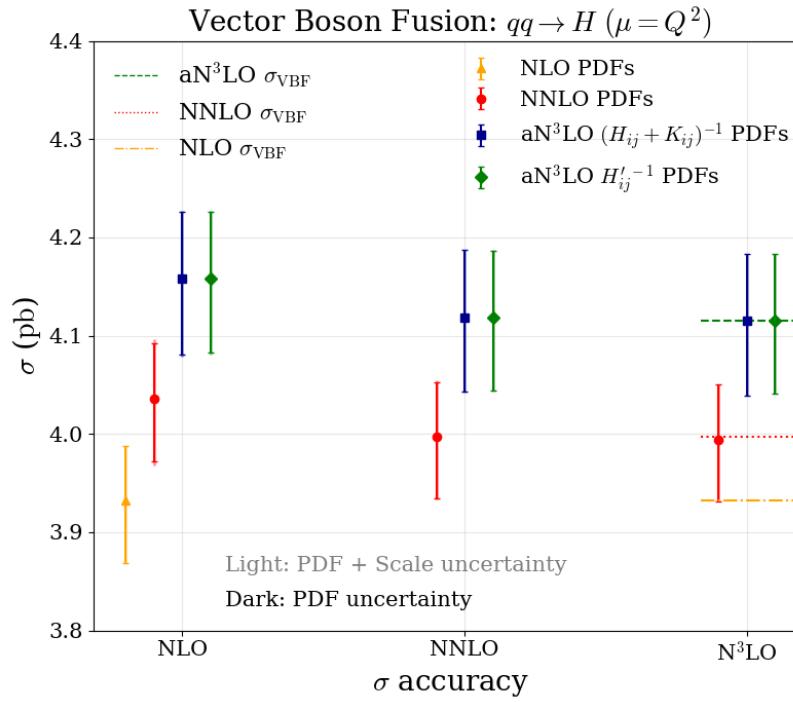
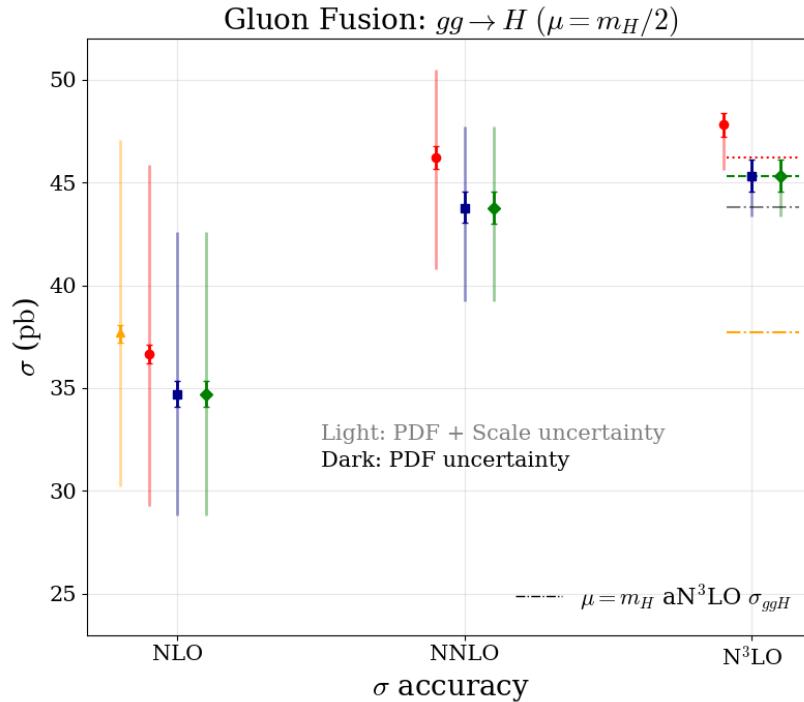
$$A_{p_\perp^\ell}(p_{\perp,\min}^\ell, p_{\perp,\text{mid}}^\ell, p_{\perp,\max}^\ell) = \frac{L - U}{L + U}$$



Rottoli, Torrielli, Vicini, 2301.04059

$\Delta M_W \sim \pm 15$ MeV feasible

PDF – first approximate N³LO sets



- **Gluon fusion to H**: the increase in the cross section prediction at N³LO is compensated by the N³LO PDF, suggesting a cancellation between terms in the PDF and cross section theory at N³LO → **matching orders matters!**
- **Vector Boson Fusion**: no relevant change in going from N²LO to N³LO PDF, due to different partonic channel involved.

aN³LO → MSHT20aN³LO

McGowan, Cridge, Harland-Lang, Thorne, 2207.04739

- Based on N³LO approximation to structure functions and DGLAP evolution
- Making use of all available knowledge to constrain PDF parametrization, including both exact, resummed, and approximate estimates of N³LO results
- Including PDF uncertainty from missing higher-orders (MHOU) as theoretical uncertainty in the fit

NNLO for $2 \rightarrow 3$ processes

- Several recent results for $pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma, \gamma\gamma j, \gamma jj, jjj$
Chawdry, Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet; Kallweit, Sotnikov, Wiesemann; Badger, Gerhmann, Marcoli, Moodie;
- Most recently first NNLO results for multi-scale processes: $b\bar{b}W, t\bar{t}W, t\bar{t}H$

Major impact on LHC phenomenology

Major bottle neck: 2-loop 5-point amplitudes
Evaluated in $t\bar{t}W, t\bar{t}H$ calculation by soft-W/H approximation

Very recently first results
for 2-loop amplitudes

1 massive final-state
particle (b massless)

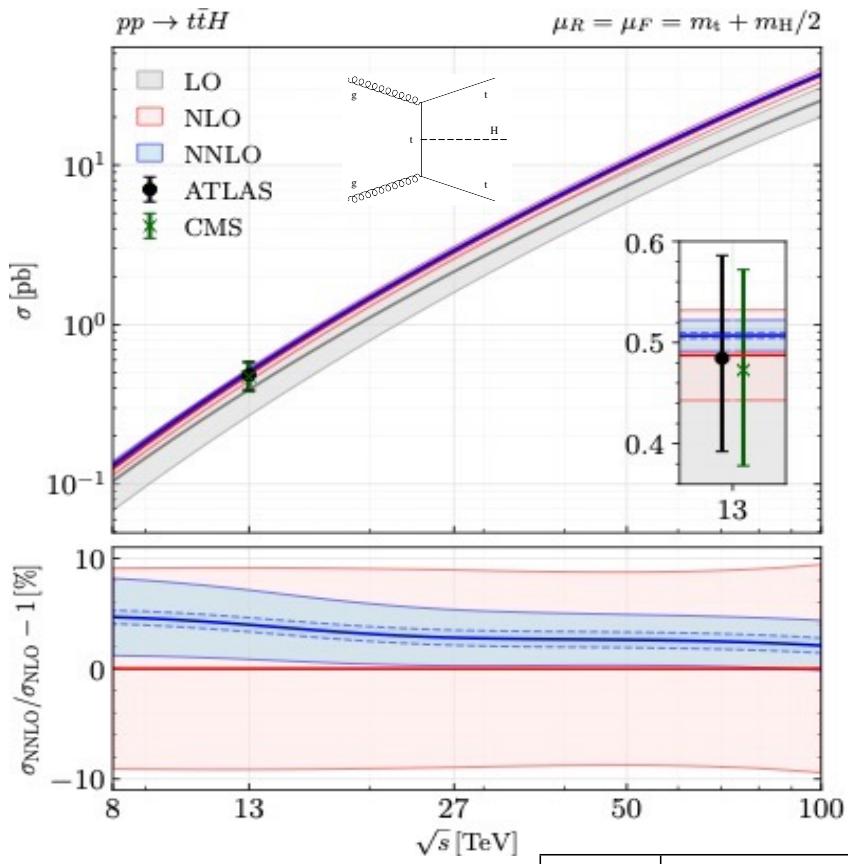
Hartanto, Poncelet, Popescu, Zoia
2205.01687

3 massive final-state
particles

Buonocore, Devoto, Grazzini, Kallweit,
Mazzitelli, Rotoli, Savoini , 2306.16311
Catani, Devoto, Grazzini, Kallweit,
Mazzitelli, Savoini , 2210.07846

Febres Cordero, Figueiredo, Krauss, Page, Reina, 2312.08131
Buccioni, Kreer, Liu, Tancredi, 2312.10015
Agarwal, Heinrich, Jones, Kerner, Klein, 2402.03301

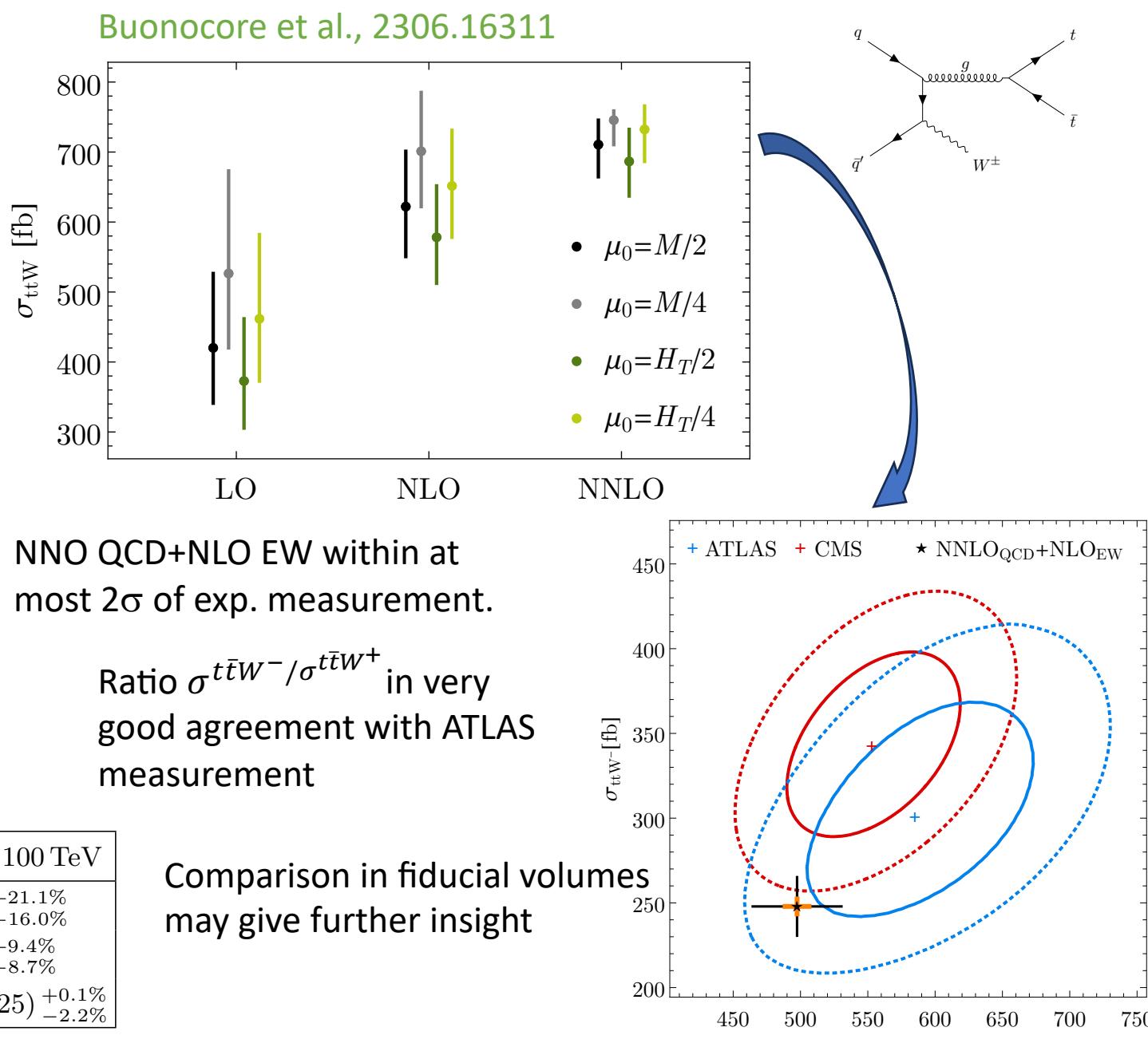
$t\bar{t}W$ and $t\bar{t}H$ at NNLO



Catani et al., 2210.07846

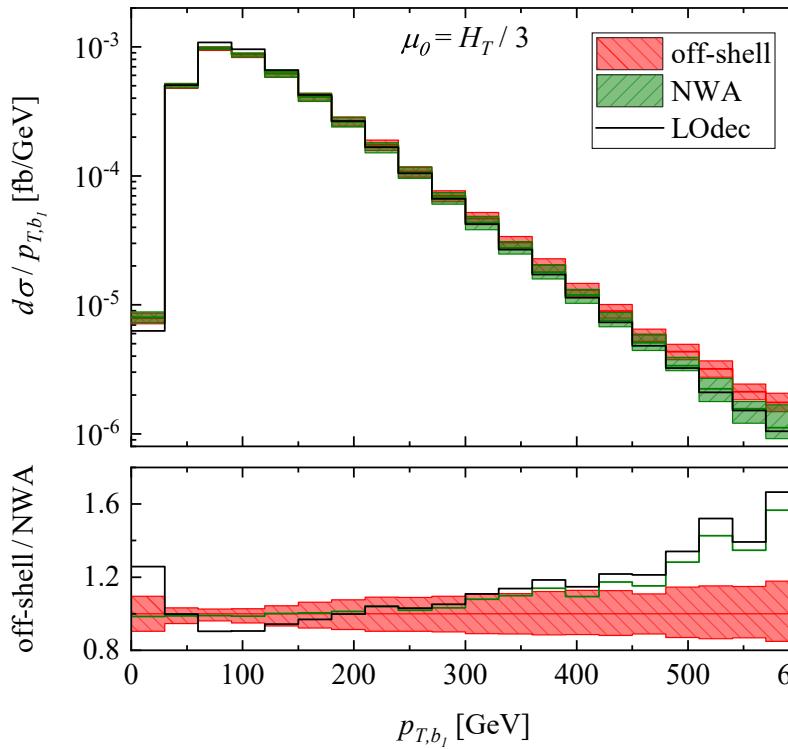
Theoretical uncertainty
reduced to 3% level

σ [pb]	$\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV	$\sqrt{s} = 100$ TeV
σ_{LO}	$0.3910^{+31.3\%}_{-22.2\%}$	$25.38^{+21.1\%}_{-16.0\%}$
σ_{NLO}	$0.4875^{+5.6\%}_{-9.1\%}$	$36.43^{+9.4\%}_{-8.7\%}$
σ_{NNLO}	$0.5070(31)^{+0.9\%}_{-3.0\%}$	$37.20(25)^{+0.1\%}_{-2.2\%}$

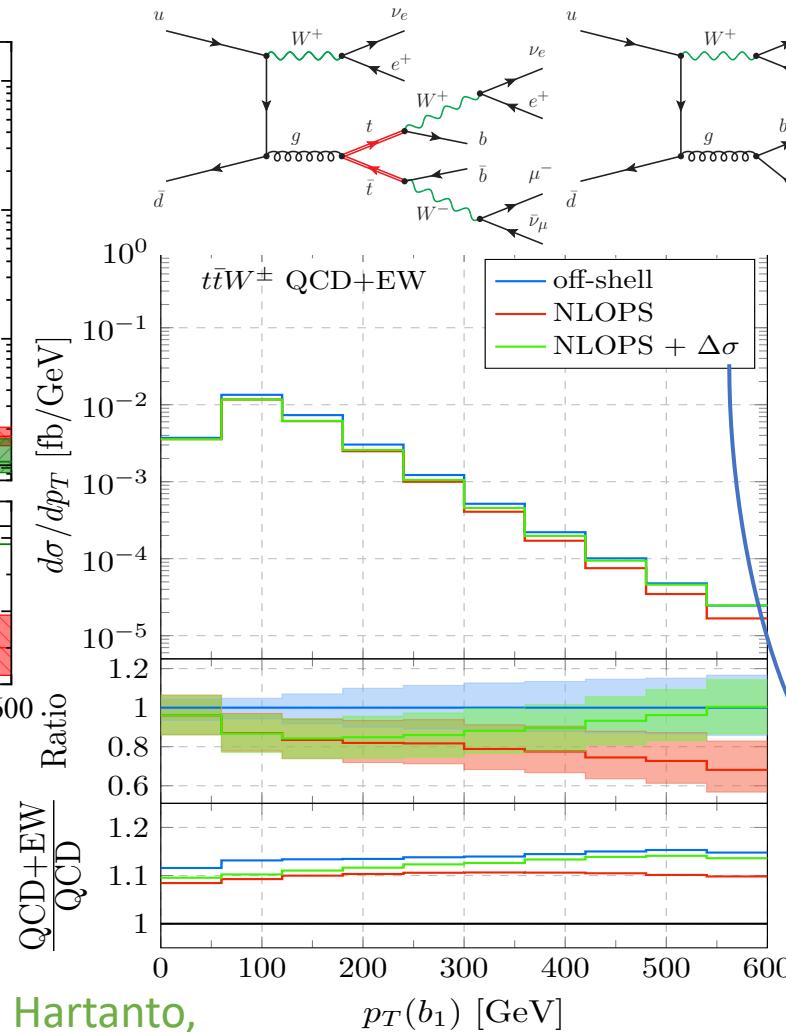


NLO: push the multiplicity challenge

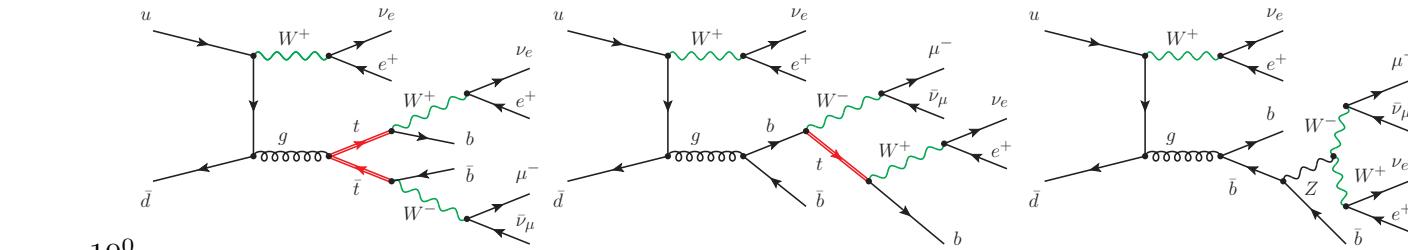
Beyond on-shell production to match fiducial measurements



Bevilacqua, Bi, Hartanto,
Kraus, Worek, 2005.09427



Bevilacqua, Bi, Febres Cordero, Hartanto,
Kraus, Nasufi, LR, Worek, 2109.15181



Modelling full process crucial to
match experimental fiducial cuts
and estimate theoretical systematic

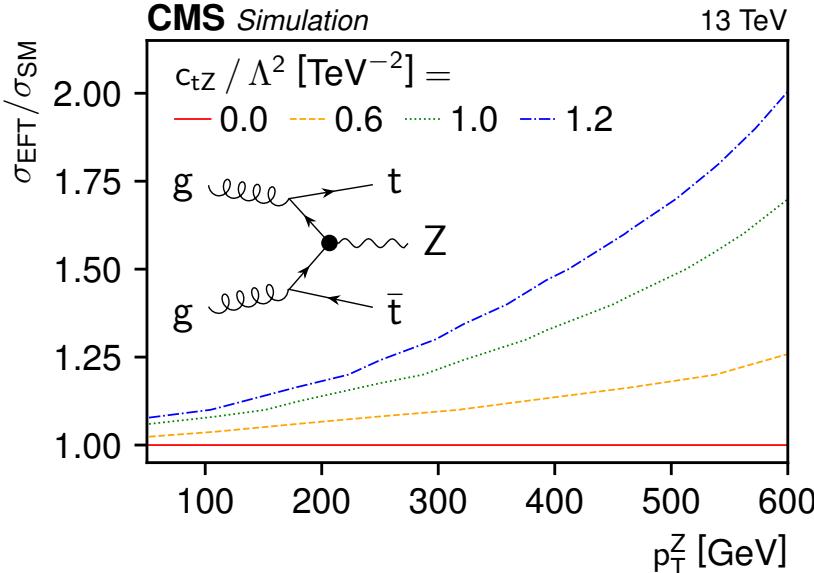
Off-shell effects most relevant in tails
and end-points of distributions, where
new physics effects can be hidden

$$\frac{d\sigma^{th}}{dX} = \frac{d\sigma^{NLO+PS}}{dX} + \frac{d\Delta_{off-shell}}{dX}$$

$$\frac{d\Delta_{off-shell}}{dX} = \frac{d\sigma_{off-shell}^{NLO}}{dX} - \frac{d\sigma_{NWA}^{NLO}}{dX}$$

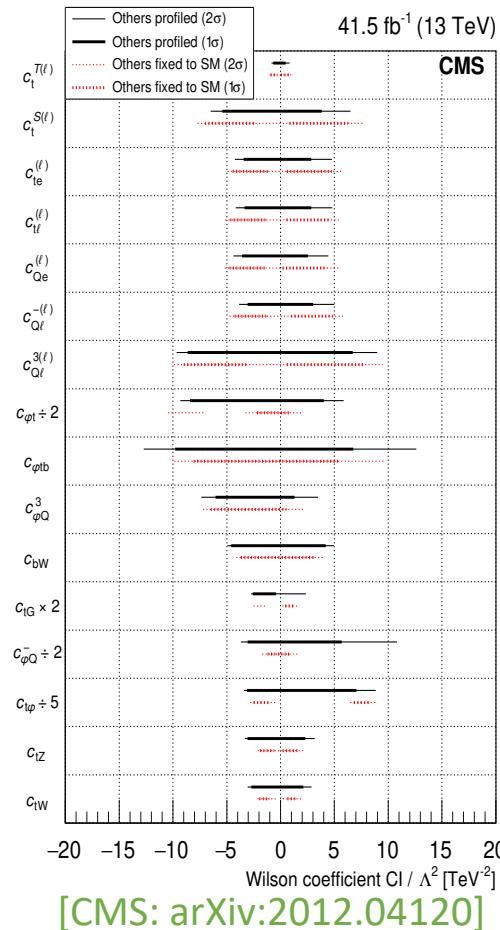
NLO: exploring boosted kinematics and off-shell signatures

Top pair + boosted Z/H

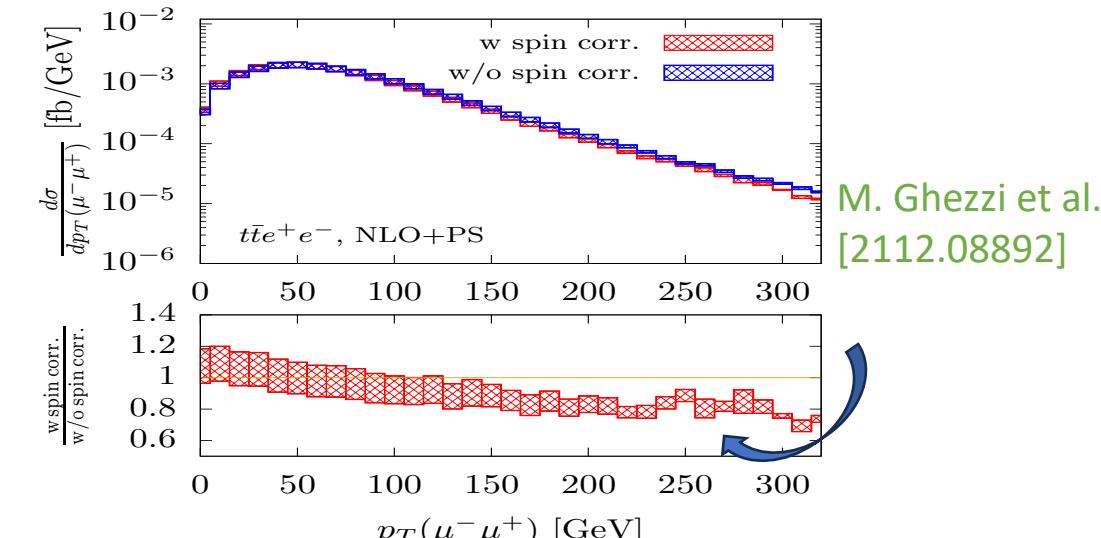


$\delta\eta_{\text{SM}} \sim g_{\text{BSM}}^2 \frac{E^2}{M^2}$ Effects in tails of distributions but also anomalous shapes

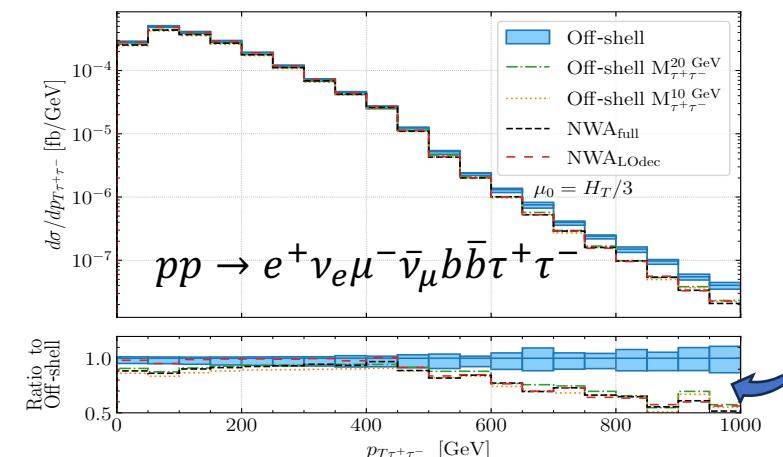
Top+additional leptons



Pointing to the need for precision in modelling signatures from $t\bar{t} + X$ processes in regions where on-shell calculations may not be accurate enough



Off-shell studies



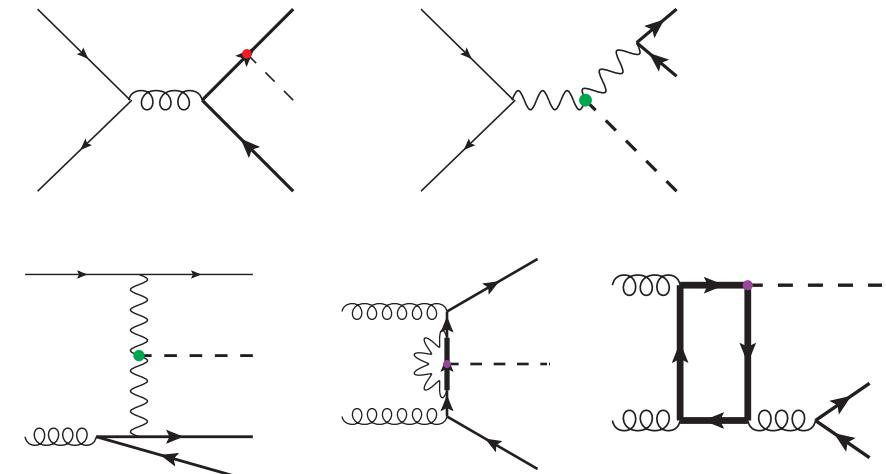
... deploying new techniques to interpret complex signatures

The case of **bbH** production including QCD+EW corrections

The extraction of y_b seems lost

``**RIP Hbb**'' [Pagani et al., arXiv:2005.10277]

ratios	$\frac{\sigma(y_b^2)}{\sigma(y_b^2) + \sigma(\kappa_Z^2)} \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\text{NLO QCD+EW}}}{\sigma_{\text{NLO all}}}$ (y_b vs. κ_Z)	$\frac{\sigma(y_b^2)}{\sigma(y_b^2) + \sigma(y_t^2) + \sigma(y_b y_t)}$ (y_b vs. y_t)	$\frac{\sigma(y_b^2)}{\sigma(y_b^2) + \sigma(y_t^2) + \sigma(y_b y_t) + \sigma(\kappa_Z^2)}$ (y_b vs. κ_Z and y_t)
NO CUT	0.69	0.32	0.28
$N_{j_b} \geq 1$	0.37 (0.48)	0.19	0.14
$N_{j_b} = 1$	0.46 (0.60)	0.20	0.16
$N_{j_b} \geq 2$	0.11	0.11	0.06

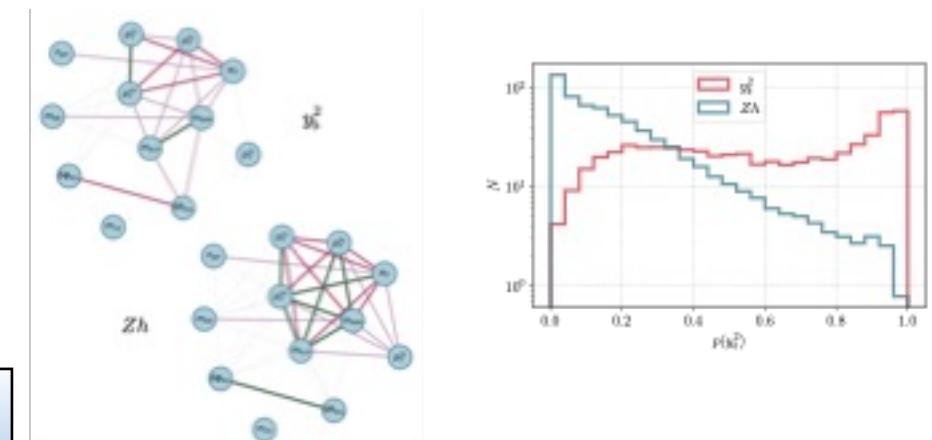


A kinematic-shape based analysis based on game theory
(Shapley values) and BDT techniques opened new possibilities

“Resurrecting Hbb with kinematic shapes”

[Grojean et al., arXiv:2011.13945]

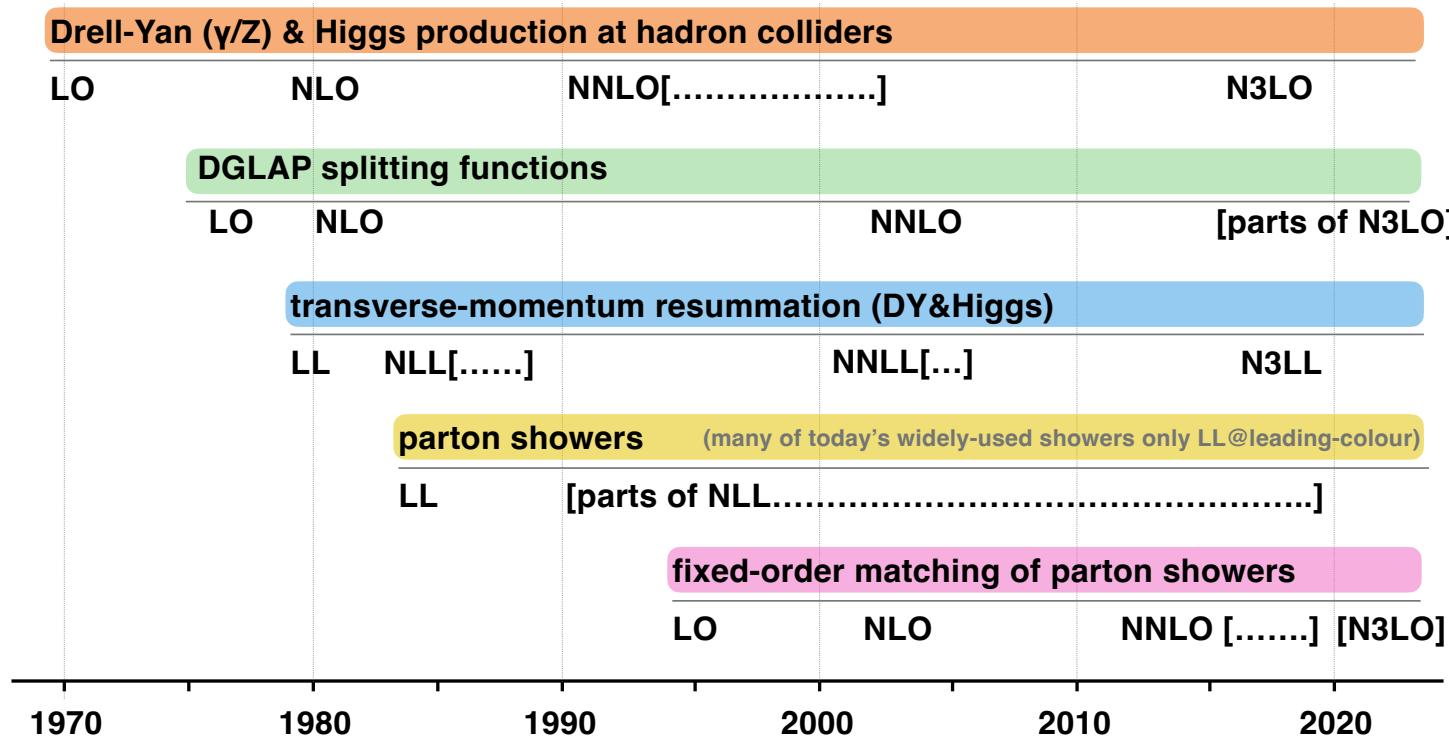
New techniques will open the possibility of turning problematic processes into powerful probes of the quantum structure of the SM



Parton-shower event generators

It's time for better Parton Showers!

Slide from G. Salam



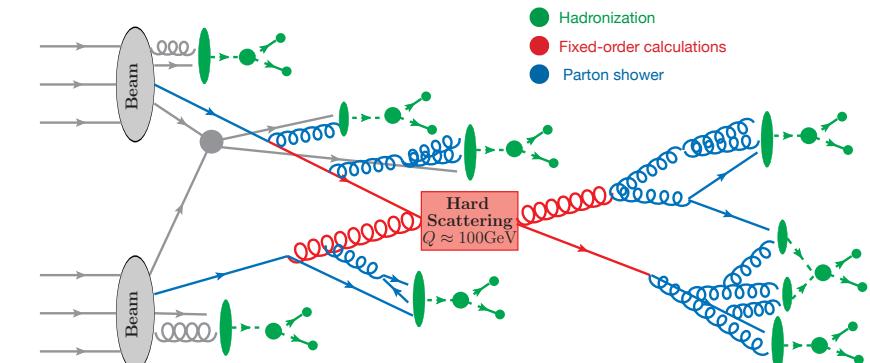
From S. Ferrario Ravasio, RADCOR 2023

- Standard PS are Leading Logarithmic (LL) → becoming a limitation
- Several groups aiming for NLL hadron-collider PS

Nagy&Soper, PanScales, Holguin- Forshaw-Platzer, Herren-Höche-Krauss- Reichelt

Crucial ingredient to reproduce the complexity of collider events

Often unknown or with poor formal accuracy (built in approx., tunings, etc.)



More challenges: non-perturbative effects $O((\Lambda_{QCD}/Q)^p)$

Estimate of “p” for all relevant processes crucial to LHC precision program

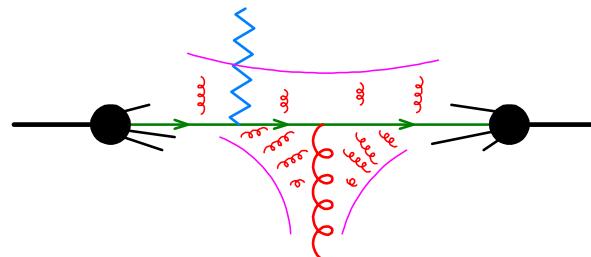
A few tens GeV $< Q <$ a few hundreds GeV $\rightarrow (\Lambda_{QCD}/Q)^p \sim (0.01)^p - (0.001)^p$

Perturbative predictions at percent level will have to be supplemented with non-perturbative effects if $p = 1$ for a particular process or observable.

No general theory. Direct calculations have shown that there are no linear non-perturbative power corrections in:

- Z transverse-momentum distributions

Ferrario Ravasio, Limatola, Nason, 2011.14114



- Observables that are inclusive with respect to QCD radiation

Caola, Ferrario Ravasio, Limatola, Melnikov, Nason, 2108.08897, same+Ozcelik 2204.02247

Summary

- **Collider physics** remains as a **unique and necessary test of any BSM hypothesis**, and in this context **precision phenomenology will play a crucial role**.
- The **HL-LHC** will accumulate 20 times what it has so far and **will deliver precision measurements beyond expectations**.
- **Increasing the theoretical accuracy on SM observables** (Higgs, top, EW) is **crucial**: a factor of 10 in precision could allow to test scale in the 10 TeV and beyond.
- Reaching this level of theoretical accuracy has **multiple components**, all of which have been the focus of **intense and highly creative theoretical work**.
- **Direct evidence of new physics could boost this process**, as the discovery of the Higgs boson has prompted us in this new era of LHC physics.