



Quark-Mass Effects in Higgs Production

Tom Schellenberger

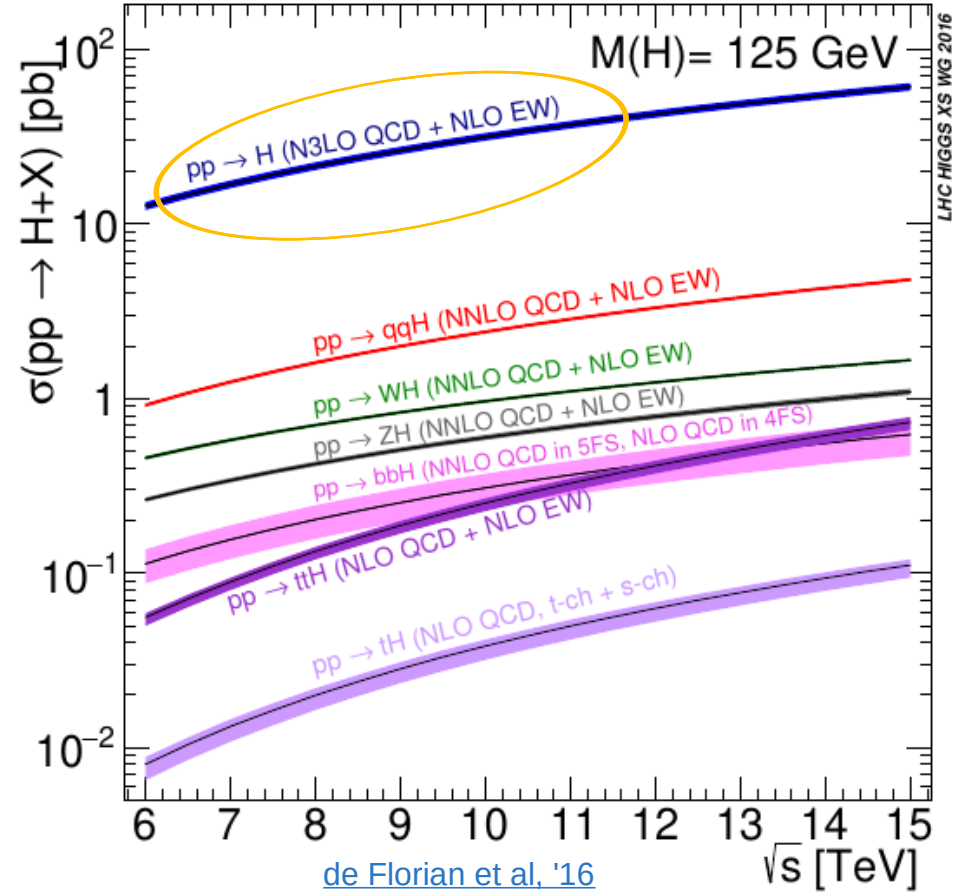
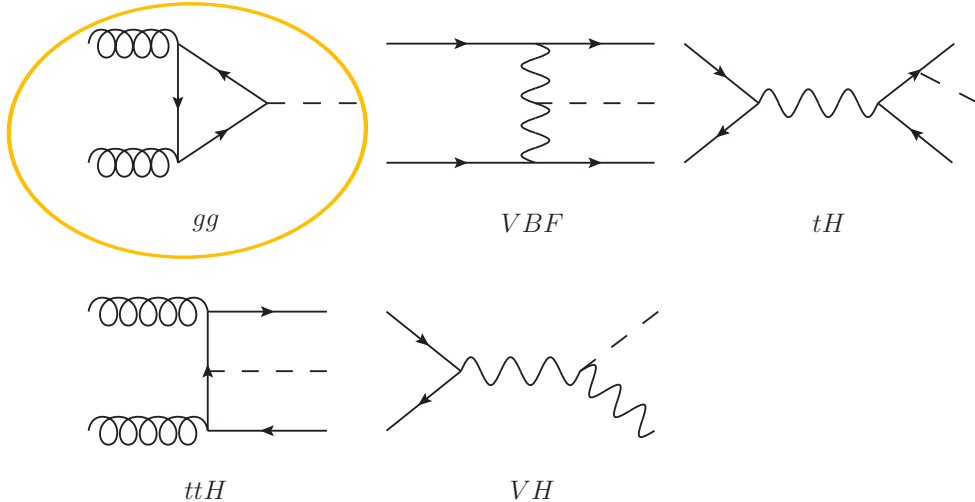
with M. Czakon, F. Eschment, M. Niggetiedt, R. Ponecelet

Based on [Phys.Rev.Lett. 132 \(2024\) 21, 211902](#) & [2407.12413](#)

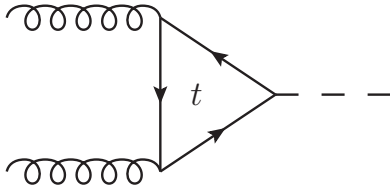
CRC Young Scientist Meeting

Motivation

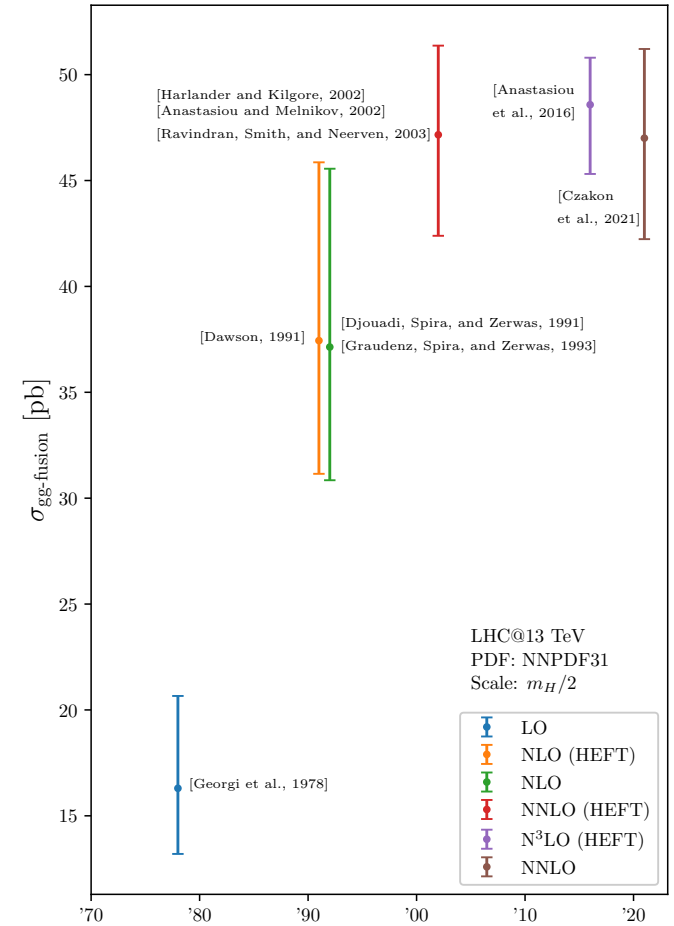
- Higgs production cross section is central observable
- Gluon fusion channel is the dominant production channel
- Crucial to reduce Theory uncertainties



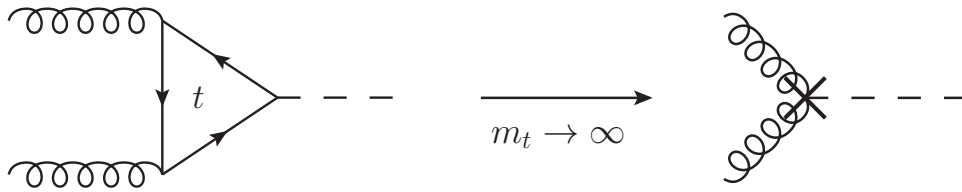
The Gluon Fusion Channel



- Gluon-fusion receives large corrections ($\sim 100\%$ at NLO)

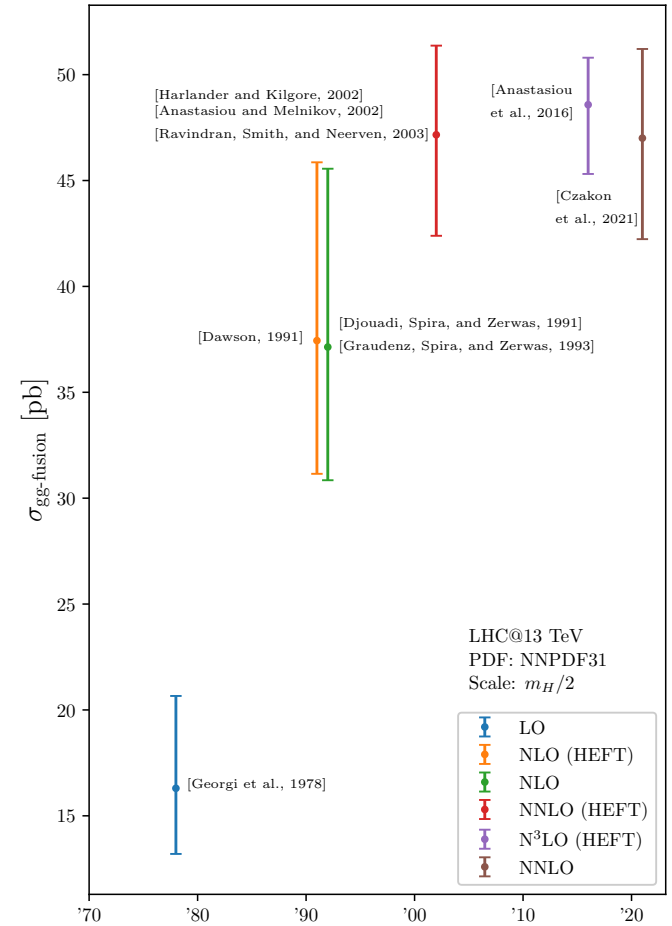


The Gluon Fusion Channel



- Gluon-fusion receives large corrections ($\sim 100\%$ at NLO)
- Calculations in full QCD are hard! \rightarrow Instead work in the **Heavy-Top-Limit (HTL)**
 - One less loop
 - One less scale
- Better agreement after rescaling
 - Higgs-Effective-Field-Theory (HEFT)

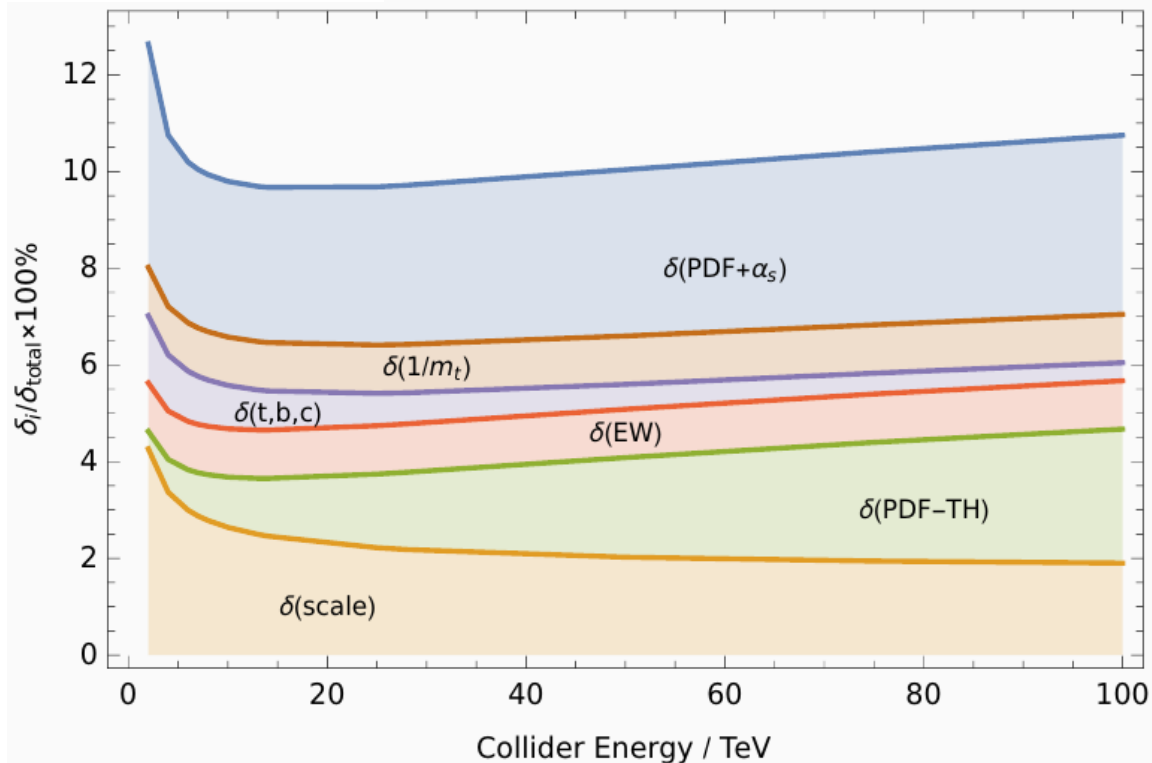
$$r = \left| \frac{\left[\text{Top Loop Diagram} \right]^2}{\left[\text{Gluon Fusion Vertex} \right]} \right| \approx 1.065$$



Theory Status

- Current state of the art is **N3LO** [Anastasiou et al., 2016](#)

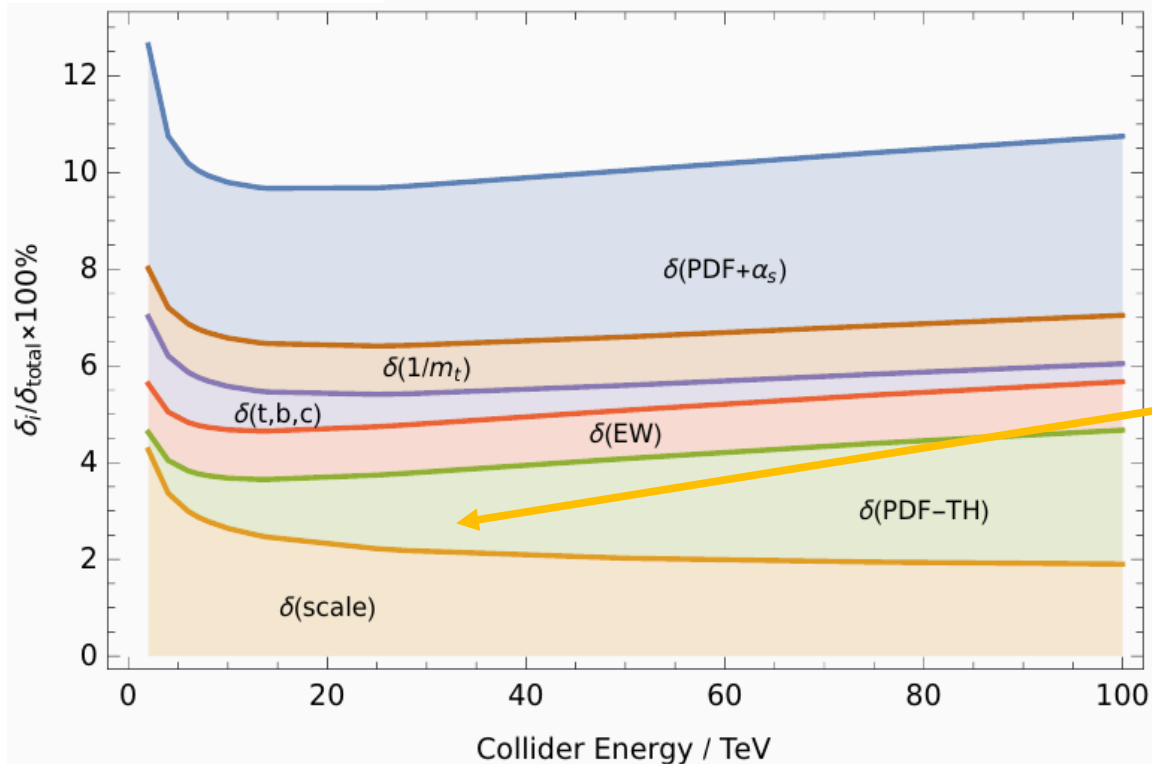
$$\sigma = 48.58 \text{ pb}^{+2.22 \text{ pb}(+4.56\%)}_{-3.27 \text{ pb}(-6.72\%)} (\text{theory}) \pm 1.56 \text{ pb} (3.20\%) (\text{PDF} + \alpha_s)$$



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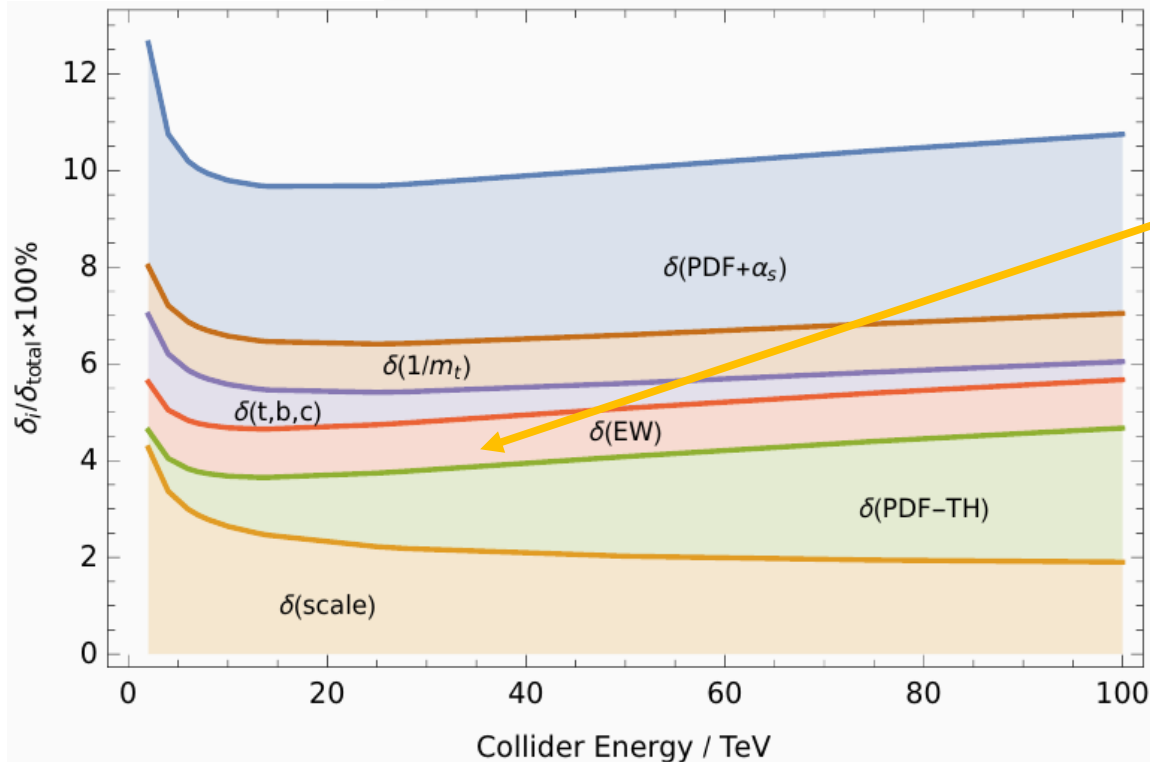
PDFs and their evolution only known at NNLO. Much progress towards N3LO PDF set:

- [Moch et al., 2021](#)
- [Falcioni et al., 2023](#)
- [McGowan et al., 2022](#)
- [Ball et al., 2024](#)
- [Guan et al., 2024](#)

Theory Status

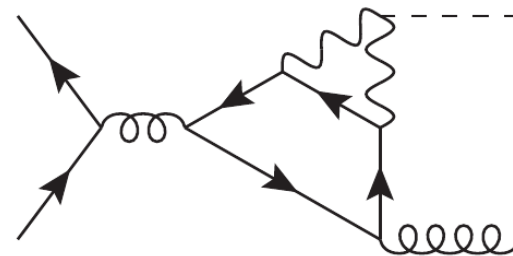
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Mixed electro-weak corrections.
Reduced substantially:

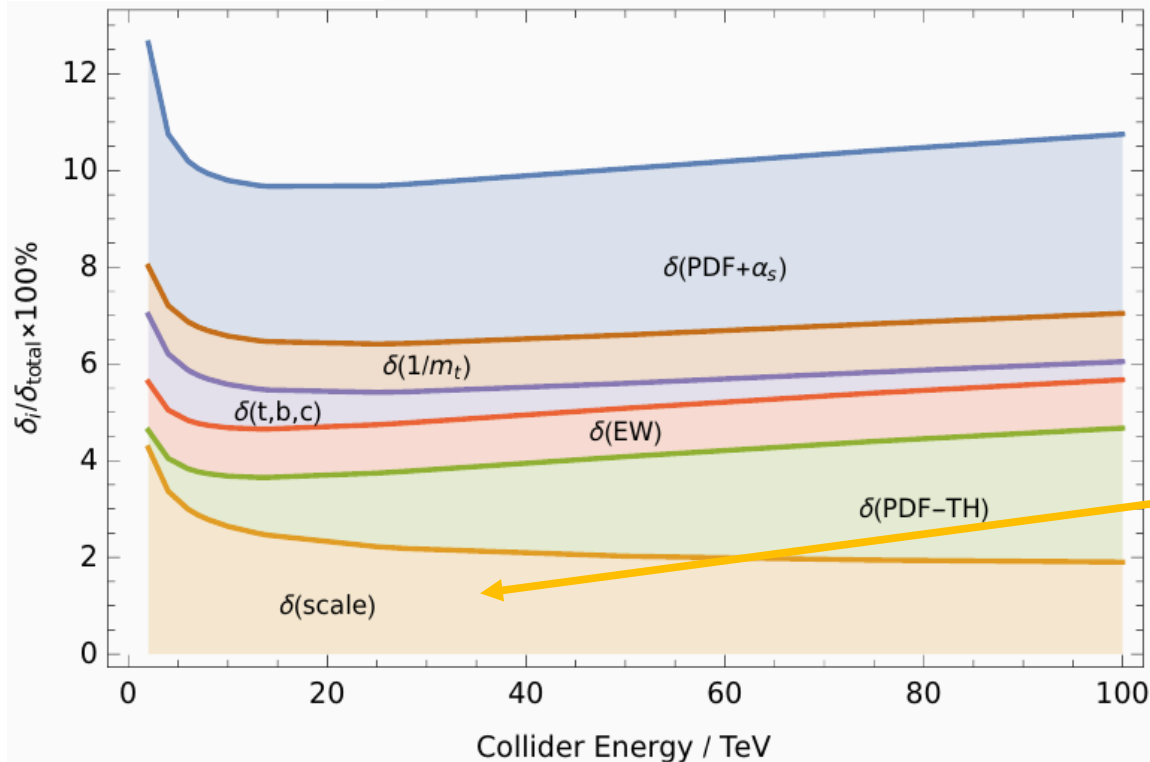
- [Becchetti et al., 2010](#)
- [Becchetti et al., 2021](#)
- [Bonetti et al., 2018](#)
- [Bonetti et al., 2020](#)
- [Bonetti et al., 2022](#)



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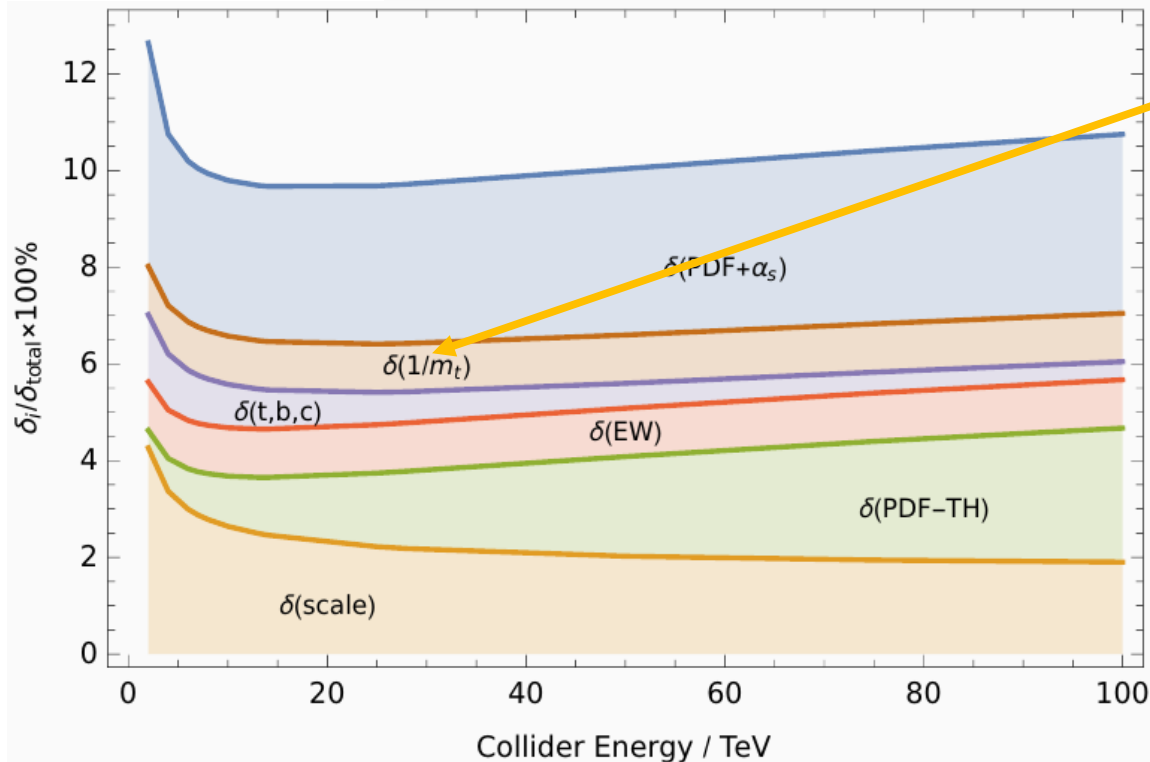
Reduced through N4LO calculation in the soft-virtual approximation:

- [Das et al. 2020](#)

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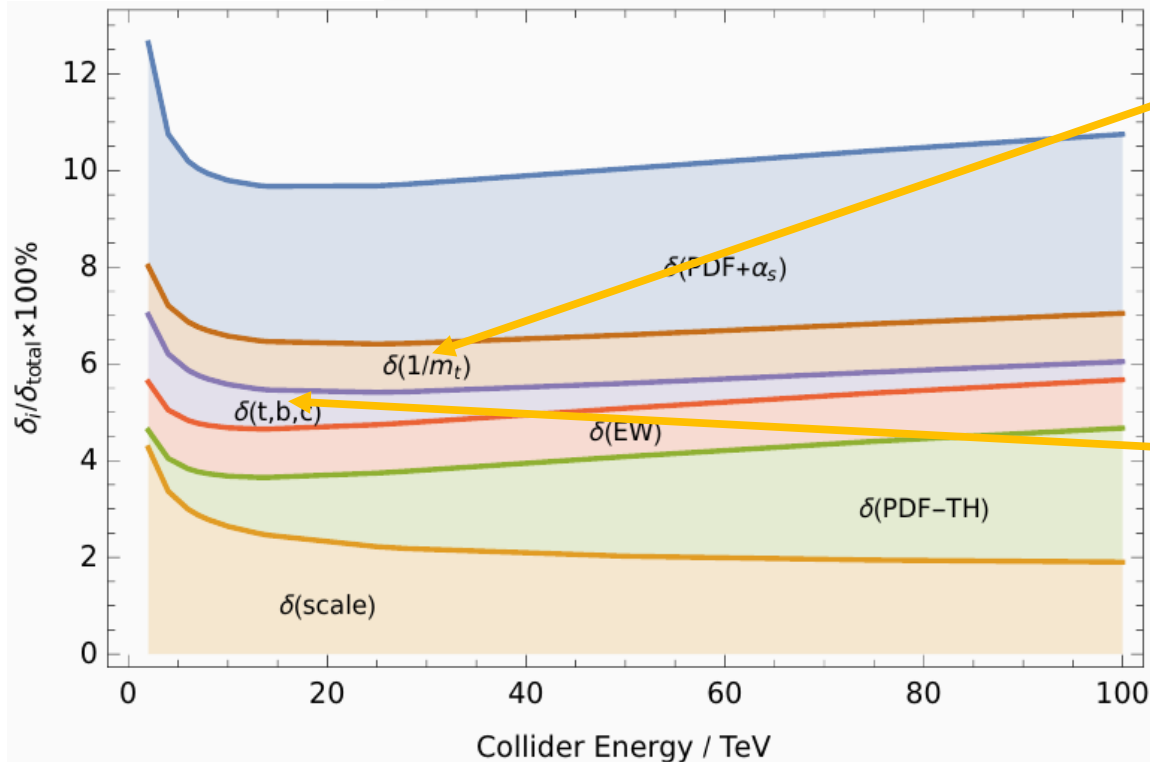
Finite top-mass effects. Basically removed:

- [Czakon et al., 2021](#)

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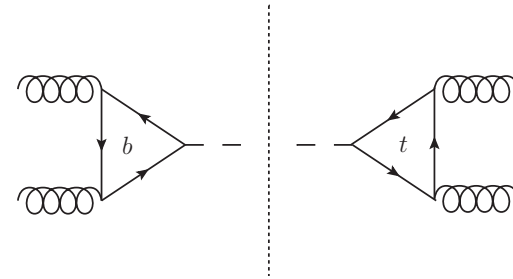
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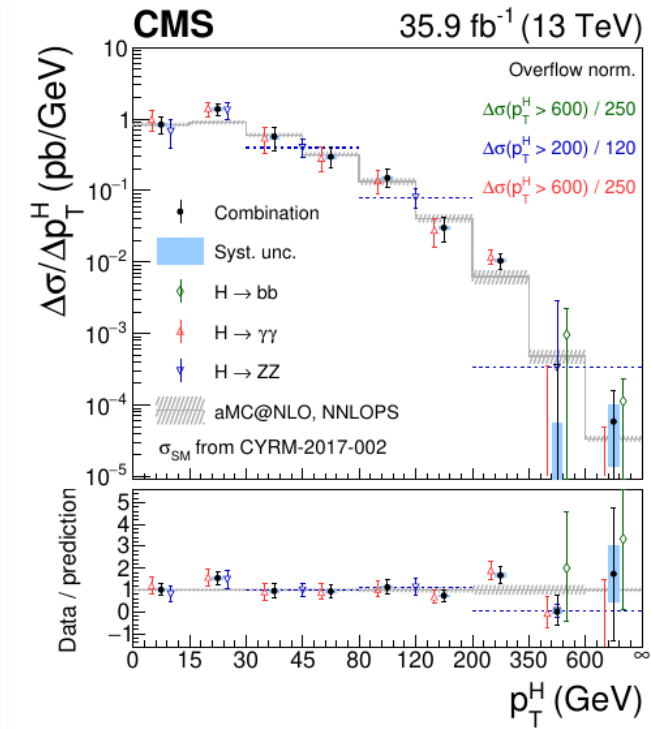
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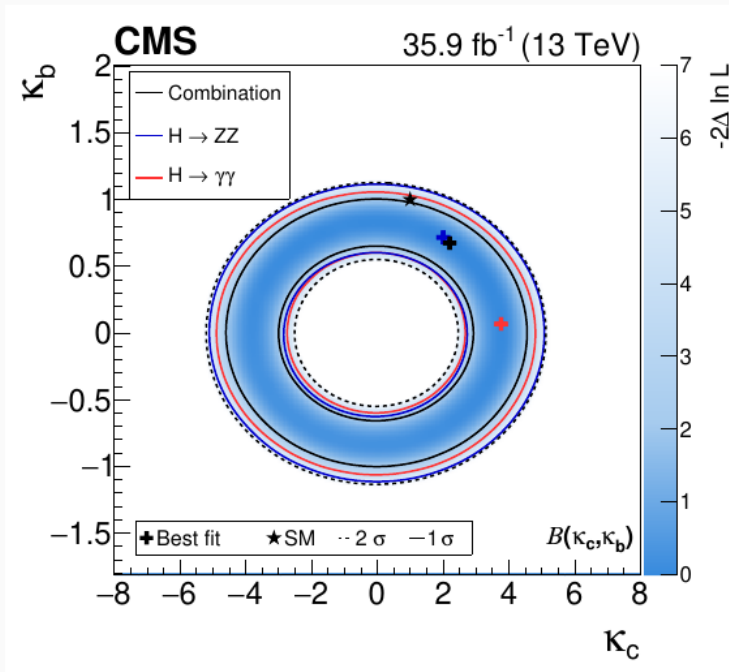
Finite bottom and charm quark mass effects. **Our Goal!**



Yukawa-Couplings

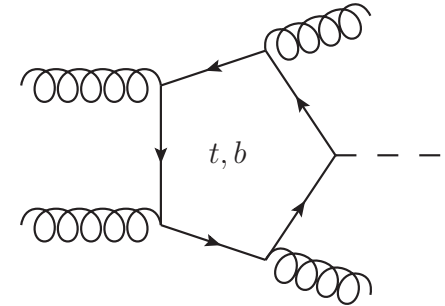
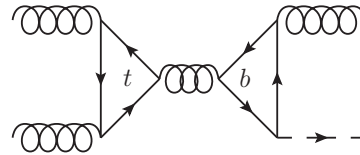
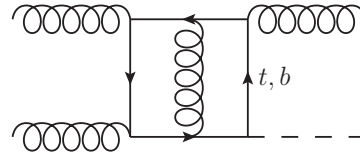
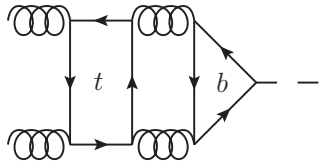
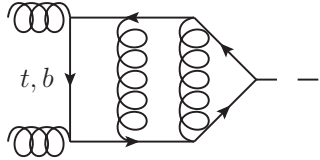


CMS Collaboration



- Higgs-pT and -rapidity distributions can be used to measure the couplings to the lighter quark flavors
- Charm quark Yukawa coupling almost in reach with HL-LHC.

Ingredients for NNLO

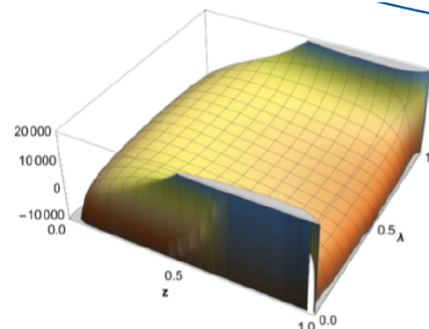


Double-Virtual

- Deep asymptotic expansion in $m_H^2/m_t^2, m_b^2/m_H^2$
- Single massive quark flavor [Czakon et al., 2020](#)
- Two massive quark flavors [Niggetiedt et al., 2023](#)

Real-Virtual

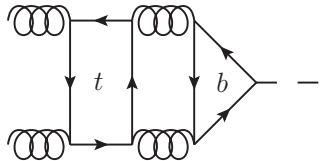
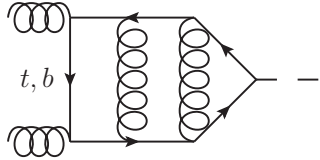
- Single massive flavor amplitudes through interpolation of **numerical grid**
- Two different quark flavors result in factorization \rightarrow One-loop integrals



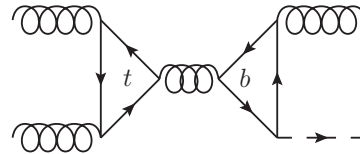
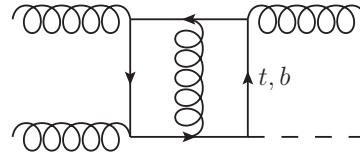
Double-Real

- Calculated in [Del Duca et al., 2001](#)
- We use calculation from [Budge et al., 2020](#) as implemented in MCFM [Campbell et al., 1999](#)
- Scalar integrals with QCDLOOP [Carrazza et al., 2016](#)

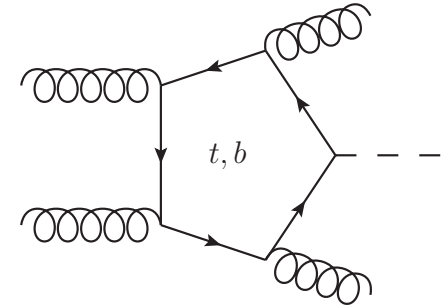
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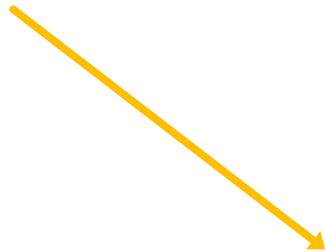
Double-Virtual



Real-Virtual



Double-Real

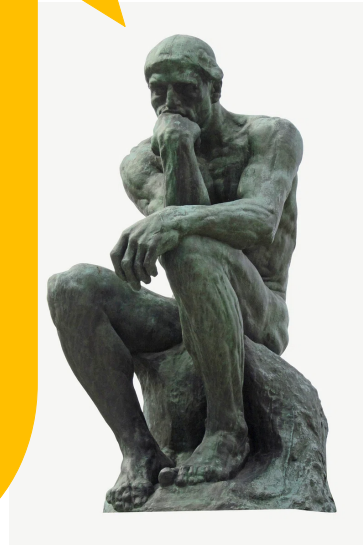
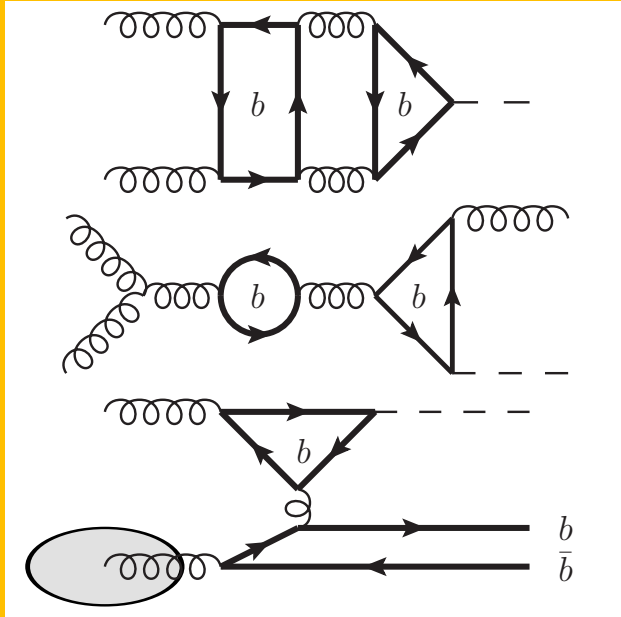


Phase-space integration with sector-improved residue subtraction (Czakon, 2010) as implemented in C++ code Stripper

How to Treat massive b-quarks?

4 Flavor-Scheme (4FS)

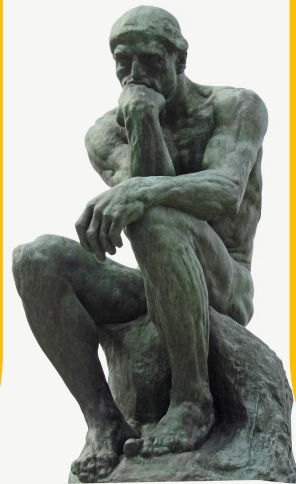
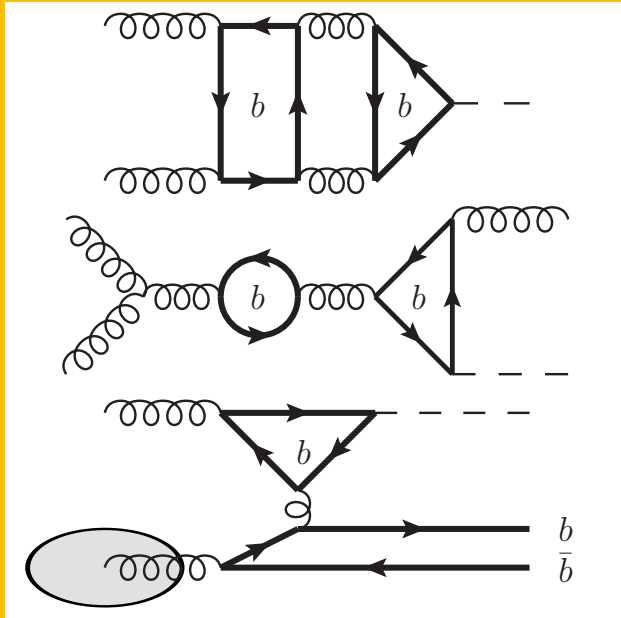
- Consistently treat bottom quark as massive
- Exclude bottom-quark from initial state
- Also consider massive bottom-quark radiation



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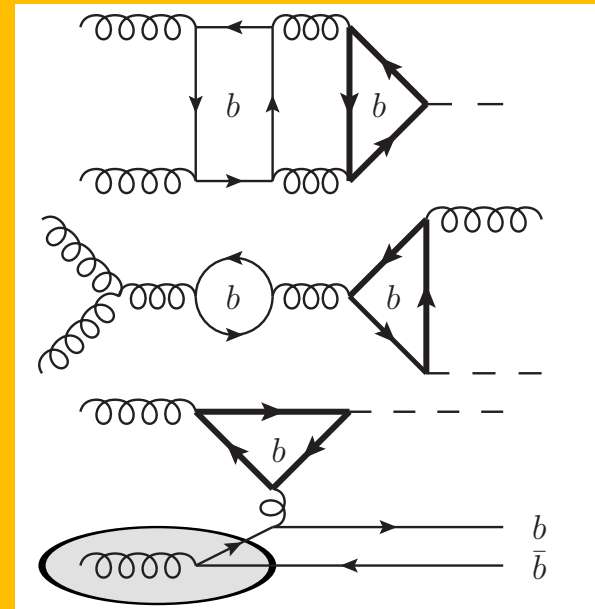
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5 Flavor-Scheme (5FS)

- Treat bottom-quark as a massless particle
- Except for **closed** fermion loops that **couple to the Higgs**



4FS vs 5FS

Order	$\sigma_{\text{HEFT}} [\text{pb}]$				
	$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$				
	5FS	4FS $m_b = 0.01 \text{ GeV}$	4FS $m_b = 0.1 \text{ GeV}$	4FS $m_b = 4.78 \text{ GeV}$	4FS $\bar{m}_b(\bar{m}_b) = 4.18 \text{ GeV}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$	+16.30	+16.27	+16.27	+16.27	16.27
LO	$16.30^{+4.36}_{-3.10}$	$16.27^{+4.63}_{-3.22}$	$16.27^{+4.63}_{-3.22}$	$16.27^{+4.63}_{-3.22}$	$16.27^{+4.63}_{-3.22}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$	+21.14	+20.08(3)	+20.08(3)	+20.08(3)	+20.08(3)
NLO	$37.44^{+8.42}_{-6.29}$	$36.35(3)^{+8.57}_{-6.32}$	$36.35(3)^{+8.57}_{-6.32}$	$36.35(3)^{+8.57}_{-6.32}$	$36.35(3)^{+8.57}_{-6.32}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4)$	+9.72	+10.8(4)	+11.1(4)	+9.5(2)	+9.6(2)
NNLO	$47.16^{+4.21}_{-4.77}$	$47.2(4)^{+5.4}_{-5.4}$	$47.5(4)^{+5.4}_{-5.5}$	$45.9(2)^{+4.3}_{-4.9}$	$46.0(2)^{+4.4}_{-5.0}$

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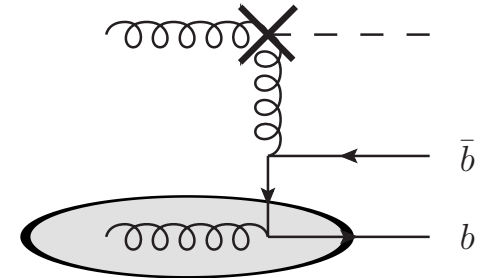
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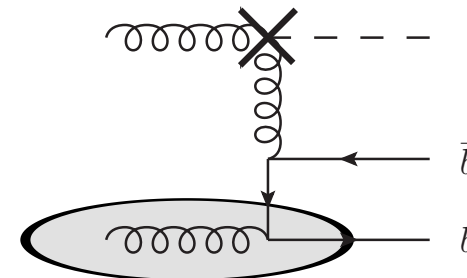
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- More significant difference at NLO because additional channel opens up



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- Difference at LO only caused by normalization of the PDFs
- More significant difference at NLO because additional channel opens up
- At NNLO we have real mass dependence
 - Nice convergence for $m_b \rightarrow 0$
 - Effect of finite m_b is $\sim 3\%$, order of magnitude as estimated in [Pietrulewicz et al., 2023](#)



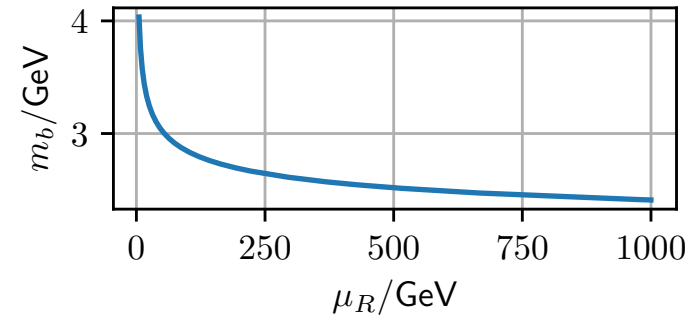
Mass renormalization?

On-shell Scheme

- Renormalized mass is the pole mass
- Mass is constant

$\overline{\text{MS}}$ Scheme

- Only remove divergent parts
- Mass is now running



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$$Z_m^{\overline{\text{MS}}} \overline{m} = Z_m^{\text{OS}} m^{\text{OS}}$$

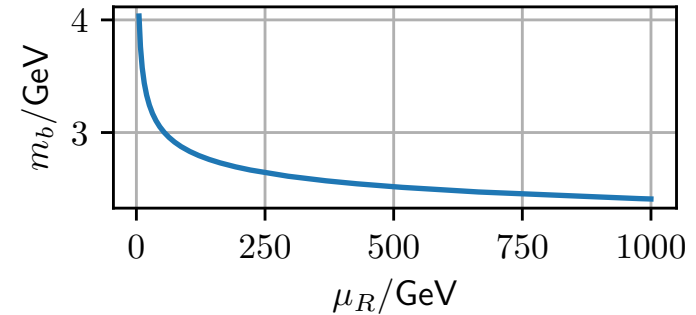
[Gray et al., 1990](#)

$$m^{\text{OS}} = \overline{m} \left(1 + c_1 \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} + c_2 \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^3) \right)$$

Consistency with flavor scheme!

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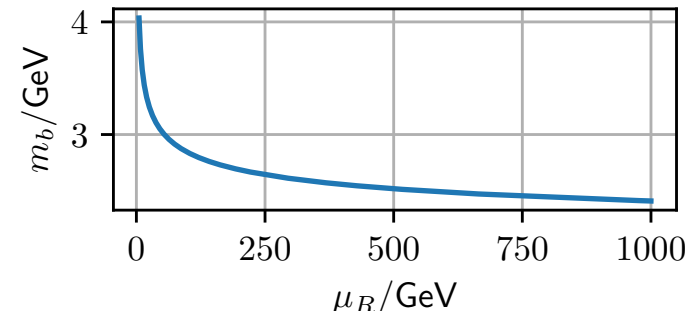
$$\mathcal{M}^{\overline{\text{MS}}} = \mathcal{M}^{\text{OS}} + \delta\mathcal{M},$$

$$\delta\mathcal{M}^{(1)} = \bar{m} c_1 \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \left. \frac{d\mathcal{M}^{\text{OS},(0)}}{dm} \right|_{m=\bar{m}},$$

$$\delta\mathcal{M}^{(2)} = \bar{m} \left[c_1 \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \left. \frac{d\mathcal{M}^{\text{OS},(1)}}{dm} \right|_{m=\bar{m}} + c_2 \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \left. \frac{d\mathcal{M}^{\text{OS},(0)}}{dm} \right|_{m=\bar{m}} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \left(\bar{m} c_1 \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \left. \frac{d^2\mathcal{M}^{\text{OS},(0)}}{dm^2} \right|_{m=\bar{m}}$$

$\overline{\text{MS}}$ Scheme

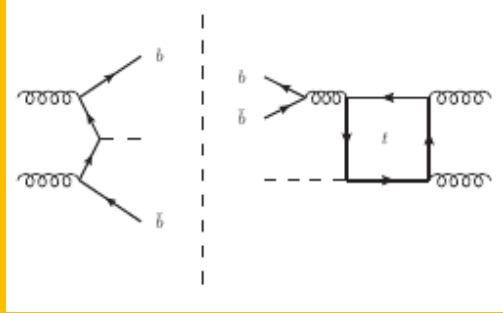
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A Story About Consistency

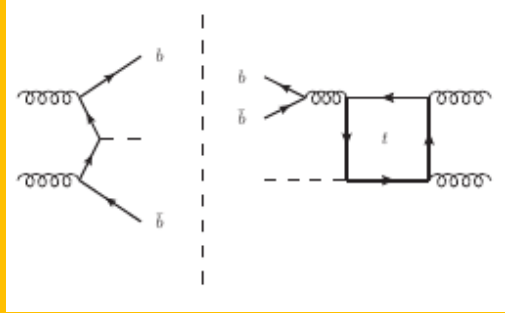
A Story About Consistency

- Why don't you consider the interference to $b\bar{b}H$?
- Is our observable even infrared safe?



A Story About Consistency

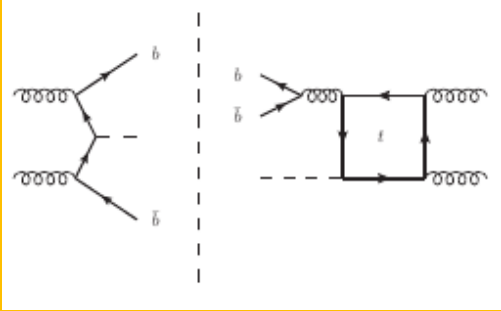
- Why don't you consider the interference to bbH?
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- This contribution is considered for corrections of bbH [Dittmaier et al.](#)
- If we consider a theory with n_b bottom quarks, then all divergences and gauge dependencies must cancel independent from n_b and Y_b

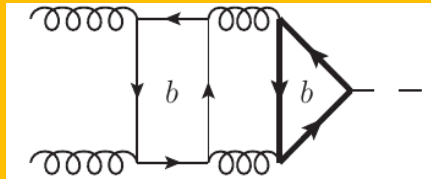
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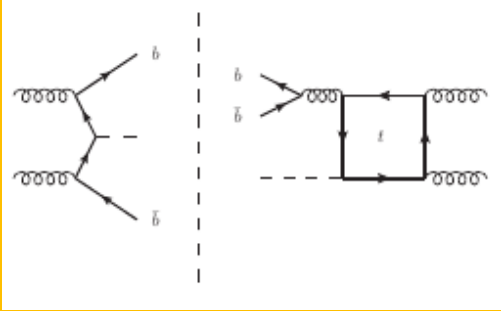
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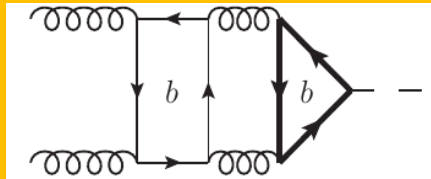
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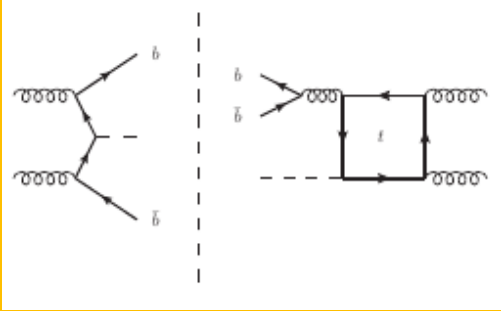
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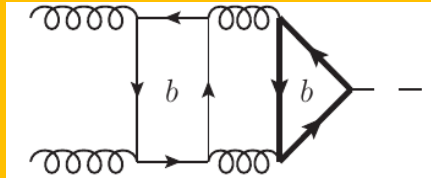
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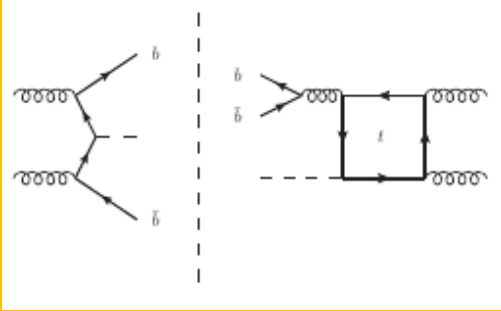


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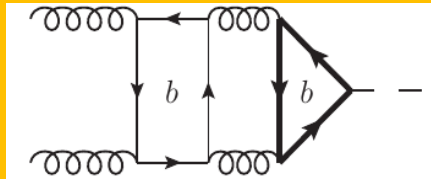
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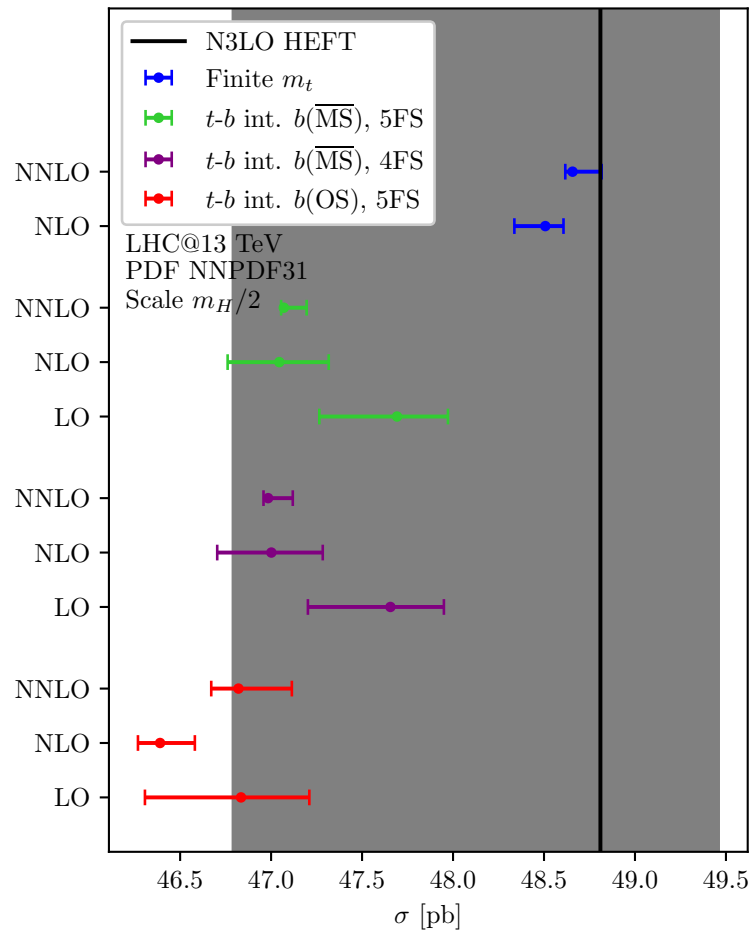


- Same argument

- Can we renormalize the Yukawa coupling separately from the mass?

- Yes, for QCD corrections
- But no for EW corrections

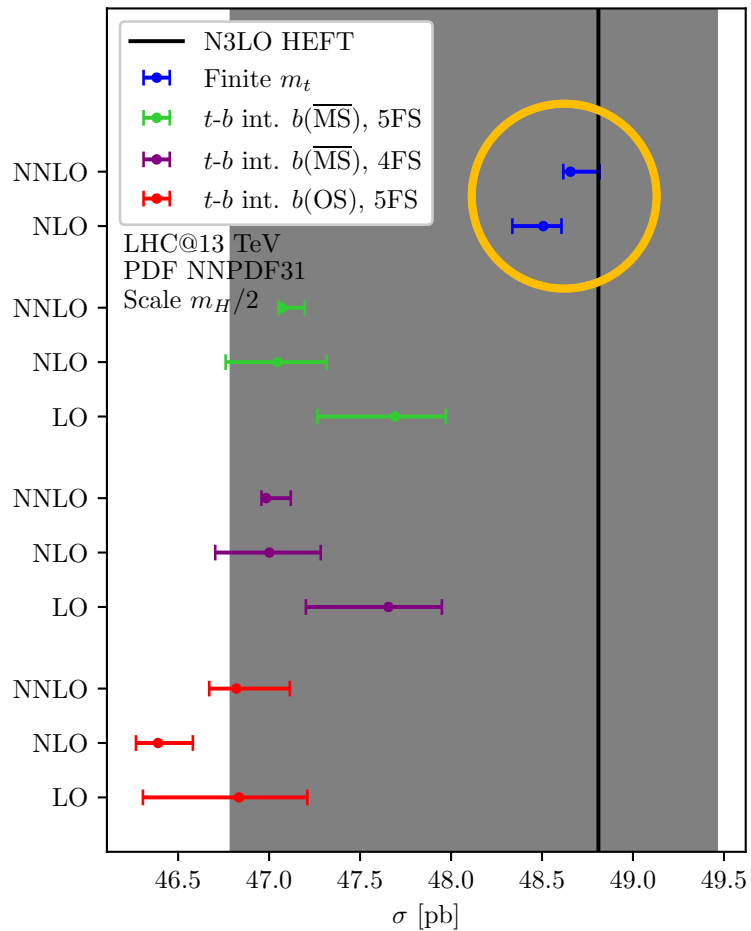
Results



Order	$(\sigma_t^{\overline{\text{MS}}} - \sigma_t^{\text{OS}})$ [pb]
$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$	
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$	-0.04
LO	$-0.04^{+0.12}_{-0.17}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$	+0.02
NLO	$-0.02^{+0.14}_{-0.30}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4)$	+0.01
NNLO	$-0.01^{+0.12}_{-0.24}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_H &= 125 \text{ GeV} \\
 m_t &= 173.1 \text{ GeV} \\
 m_t(m_t) &= 162.7 \text{ GeV} \\
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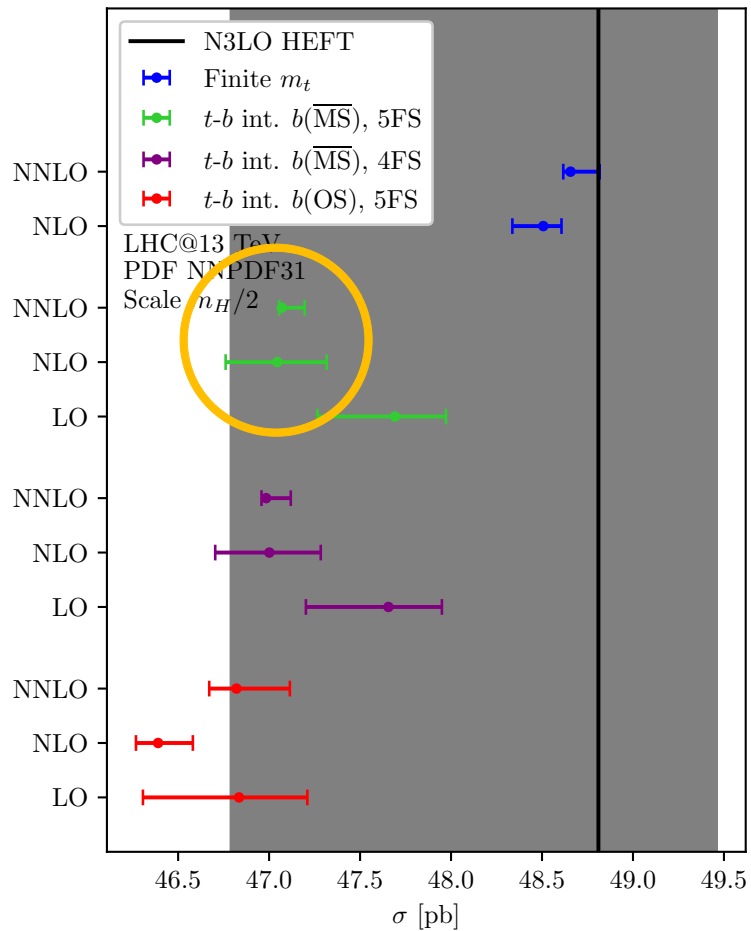


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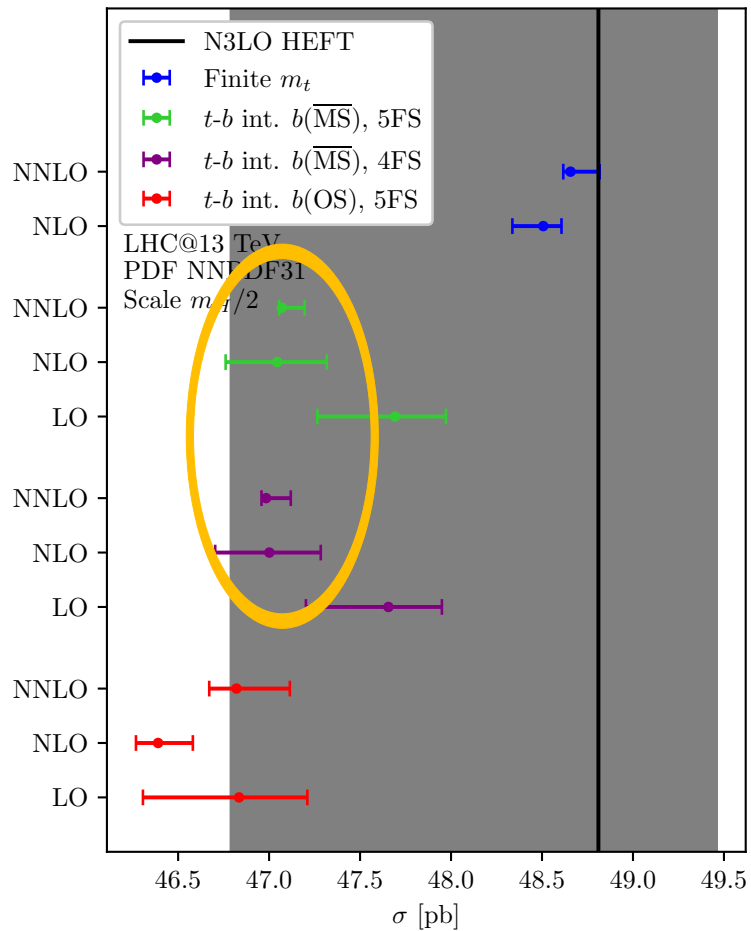


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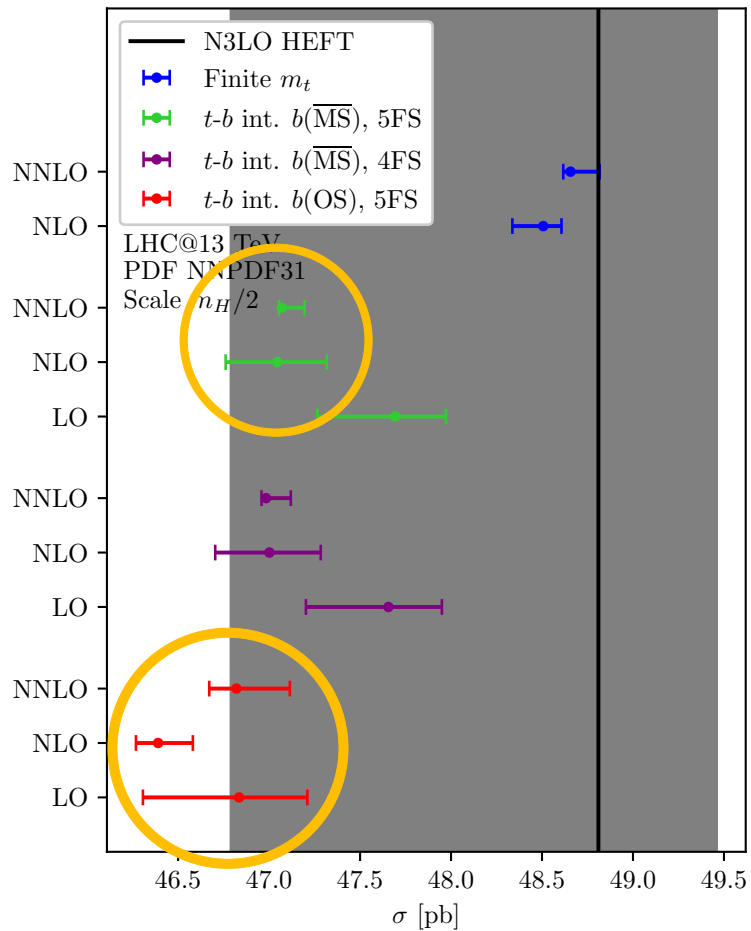


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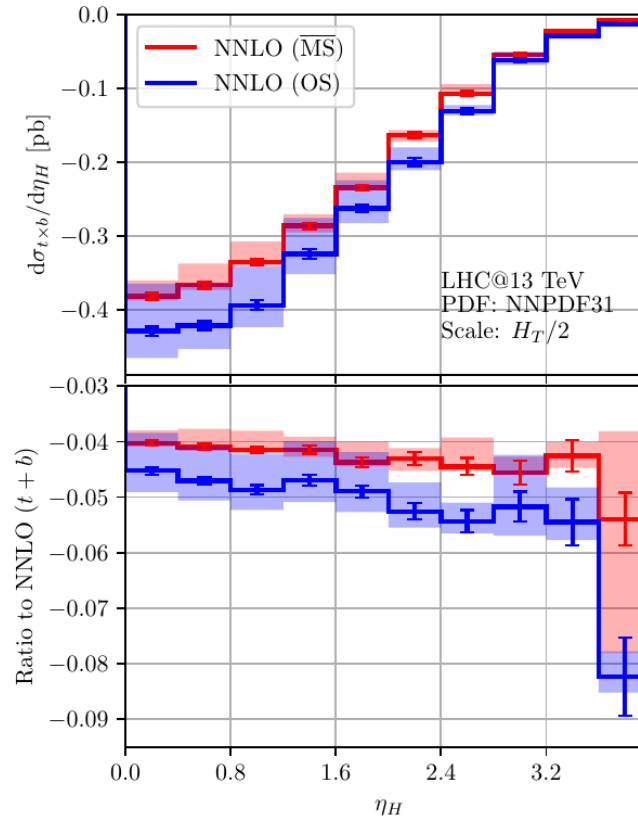
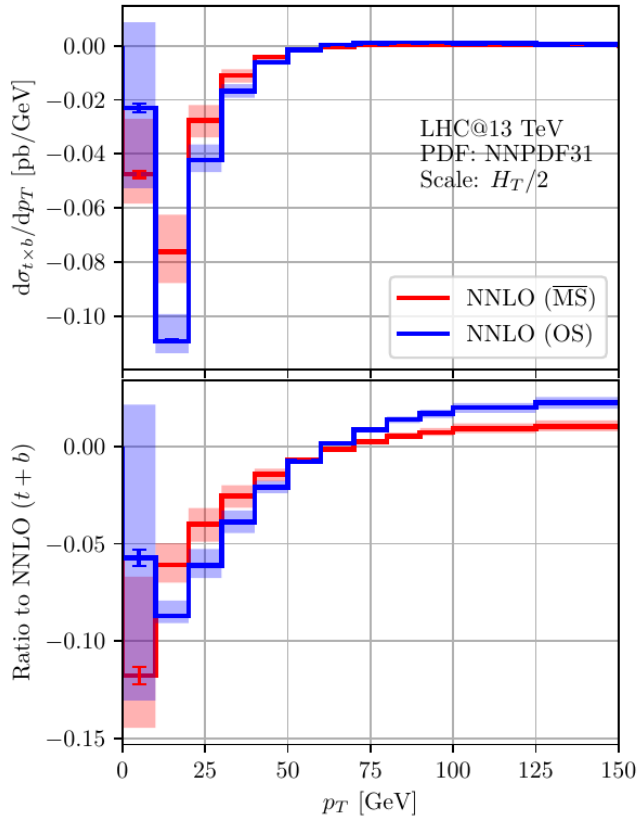
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- Scale uncertainties for top-bottom interference contribution are reduced significantly
- Influence of the flavor scheme on the top-bottom interference is negligible
- $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -scheme shows much better perturbative convergence + smaller scale uncertainties
 - Results are compatible within scale uncertainties

Top-Bottom Interference Effects

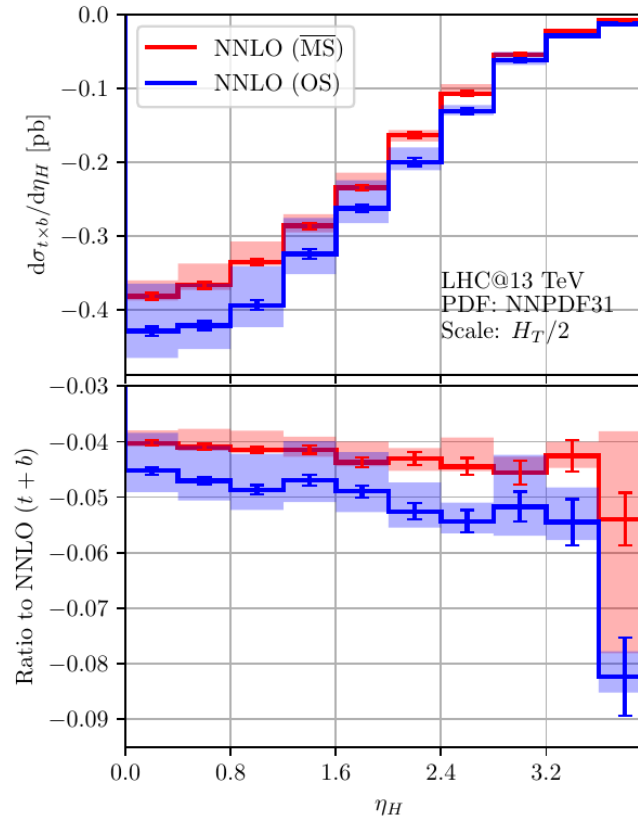
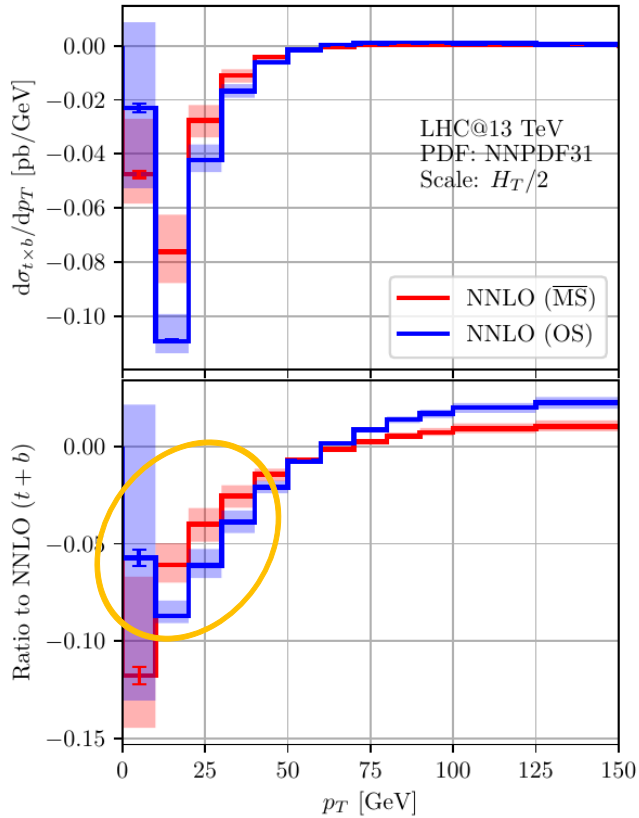
$$H_T = \sqrt{m_H^2 + p_T^2} + \sum_i |p_{i,T}|$$



- p_T -distribution known (except for the zero-bin) and we find good agreement
 - [Lindert et al., 2017](#)
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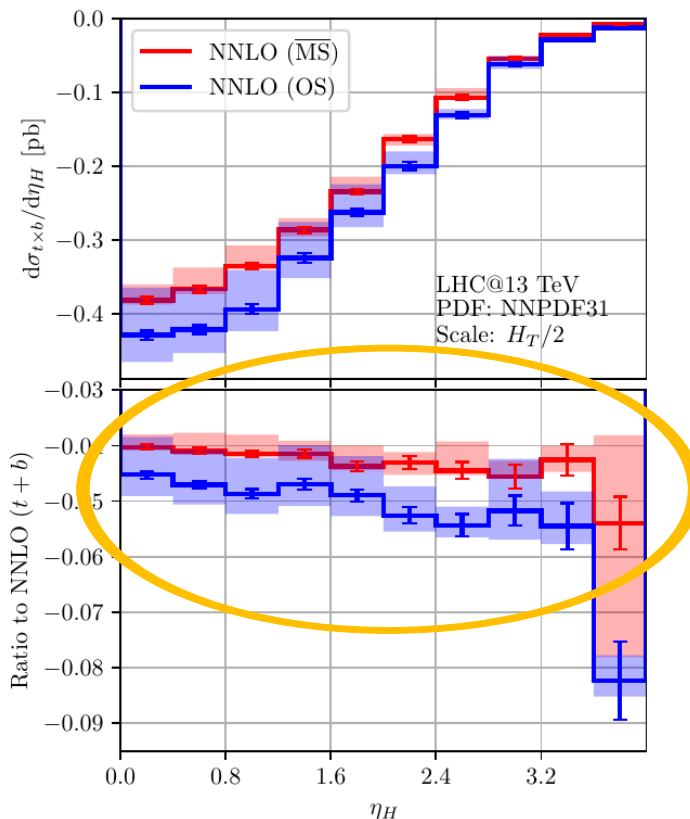
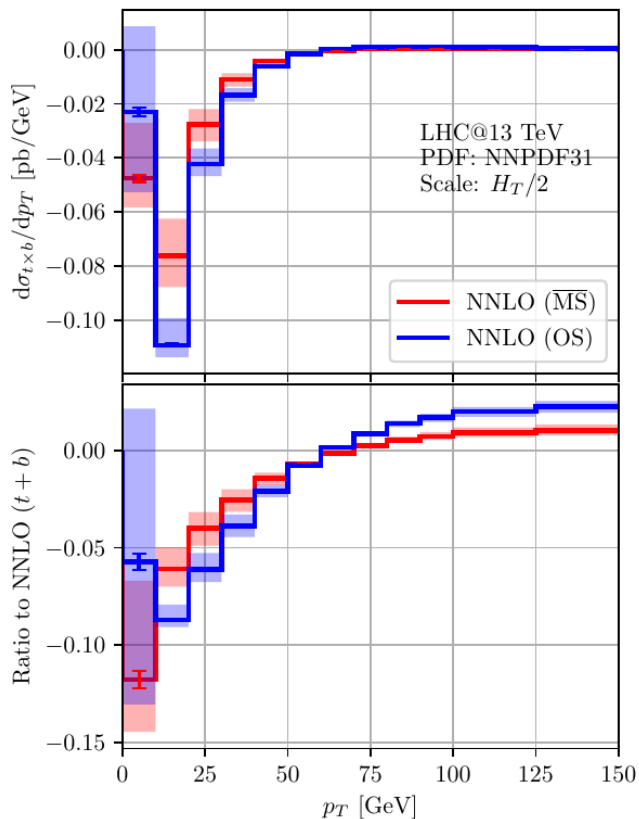
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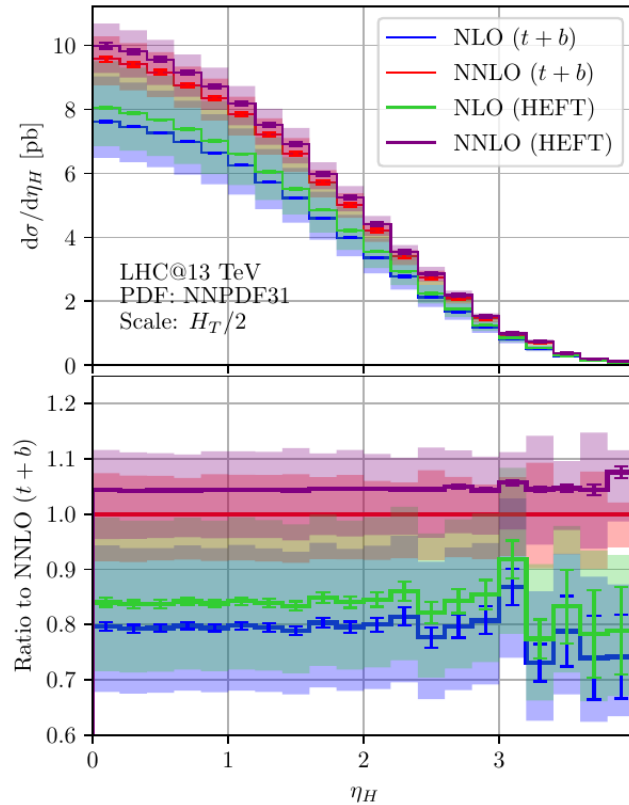
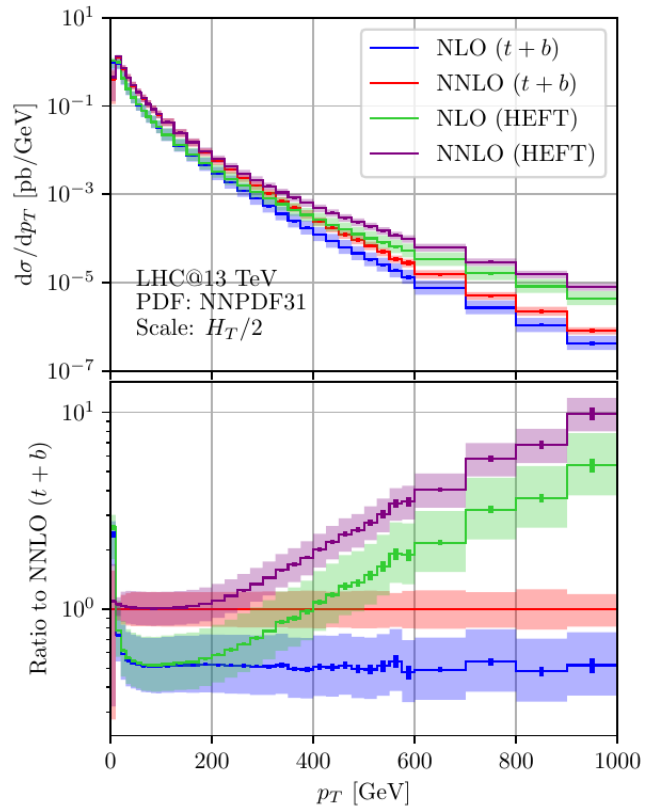
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- Mass-effects most notable at low p_T
- Mass-effects remain relatively constant in rapidity ($\sim -4\%$ shift)

Distributions: HEFT vs. Full Theory



- Full theory: At very high p_T , p_T is the only relevant scale

$$d\sigma/dp_T^2 \sim 1/p_T^4$$

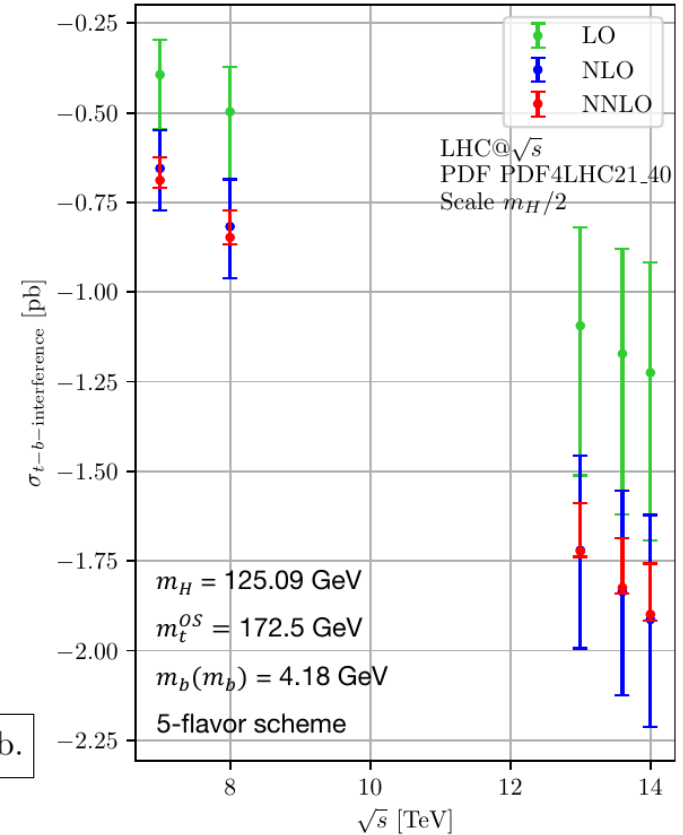
- Effective theory: dimensionful coupling

$$d\sigma/dp_T^2 \sim 1/(v^2 p_T^2)$$

Conclusions

- Complete analysis of top-bottom-interference effects on the Higgs production cross section at NNLO
- Addresses one of the leading theory uncertainties
- $\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme shows better perturbative convergence and smaller scale uncertainties than OS scheme
- Good agreement between 4- and 5-flavor scheme
- Differential distributions, including novel rapidity spectra

$$\sigma_{ggH} = 48.81(1)^{+0.65}_{-2.02}(\text{N}^3\text{LO HEFT}) - 0.16^{+0.13}_{-0.03}(\text{NNLO } t) - 1.74(2)^{+0.13}_{-0.03}(\text{NNLO } t \times b) \text{ pb.}$$

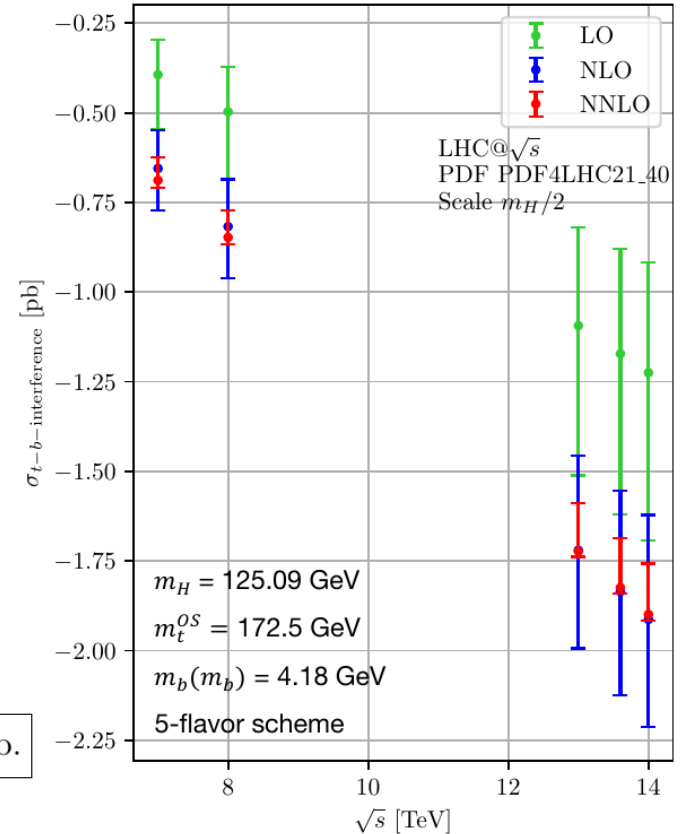


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Thanks for your attention!



Backup

Top-Bottom Interference Contribution

Order	$\sigma_{t \times b}$ [pb]			
	$\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV			
	5FS	5FS	5FS	4FS
	$m_t = 173.06$ GeV	$m_t = 173.06$ GeV	$m_t(m_t) = 162.7$ GeV	$m_t = 173.06$ GeV
	$\bar{m}_b(\bar{m}_b) = 4.18$ GeV	$m_b = 4.78$ GeV	$\bar{m}_b(\bar{m}_b) = 4.18$ GeV	$\bar{m}_b(\bar{m}_b) = 4.18$ GeV
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$	-1.11	-1.98	-1.12	-1.15
LO	$-1.11^{+0.28}_{-0.43}$	$-1.98^{+0.38}_{-0.53}$	$-1.12^{+0.28}_{-0.42}$	$-1.15^{+0.29}_{-0.45}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$	-0.65	-0.44	-0.64	-0.66
NLO	$-1.76^{+0.27}_{-0.28}$	$-2.42^{+0.19}_{-0.12}$	$-1.76^{+0.27}_{-0.28}$	$-1.81^{+0.28}_{-0.30}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4)$	+0.02	+0.43	-0.02	-0.02
NNLO	$-1.74(2)^{+0.13}_{-0.03}$	$-1.99(2)^{+0.29}_{-0.15}$	$-1.78(1)^{+0.15}_{-0.03}$	$-1.83(2)^{+0.14}_{-0.03}$

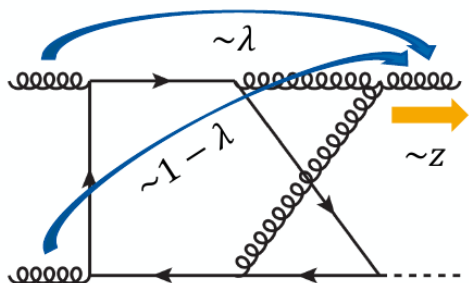
Finite Top-Quark Mass Effects

Order	$(\sigma_t - \sigma_{\text{HEFT}})$ [pb]	
	$\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV	
	5FS	4FS
	$m_t = 173.06$ GeV	$m_t = 173.06$ GeV $\bar{m}_b(\bar{m}_b) = 4.18$ GeV
LO	-	-
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$	-0.30	-0.27
NLO	$-0.30^{+0.10}_{-0.17}$	$-0.27^{+0.09}_{-0.16}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4)$	+0.14	+0.12
NNLO	$-0.16^{+0.13}_{-0.03}$	$-0.15^{+0.10}_{-0.02}$

Real-Virtual Corrections

- Variables: $\hat{s}, \hat{t}, \hat{u}, m_H^2, m_q^2$
- Introduce dimensionless variables and **fix ratio** m_q^2/m_H^2
 - z parametrizes **soft** limit
 - λ Parametrizes **collinear** limit

$\hat{t}/\hat{s} = z \lambda$ $\hat{u}/\hat{s} = z (1-\lambda)$	\Rightarrow	$z = 1 - m_H^2/\hat{s}$ $\lambda = \hat{t}/(\hat{t} + \hat{u})$
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generate Feynman diagrams

map to topologies and prototypes

generate FORM-Code

project onto form factors

reduce to master integrals

DiaGen
Czakon (private)

FORM
[Vermaseren '00](#)

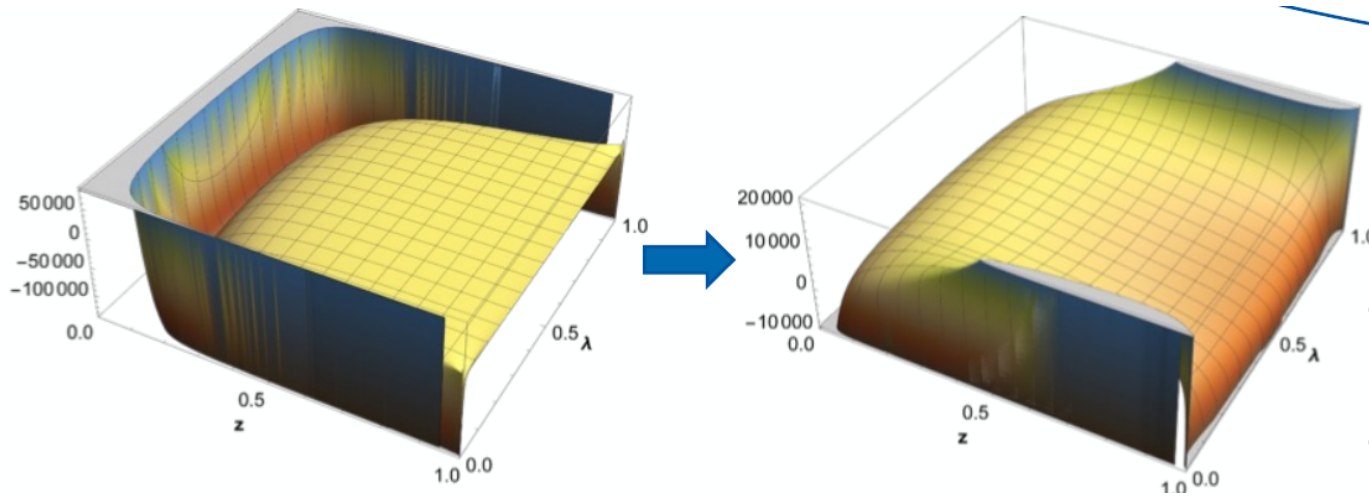
Kira⊕FireFly
[Klappert, Lange, et al. '20](#)

- Solve master integrals with differential equation in m_q^2/m_H^2 , z and λ
- Boundary condition $m_q^2/m_H^2 \rightarrow \infty$ with large mass expansion

Real-Virtual Corrections

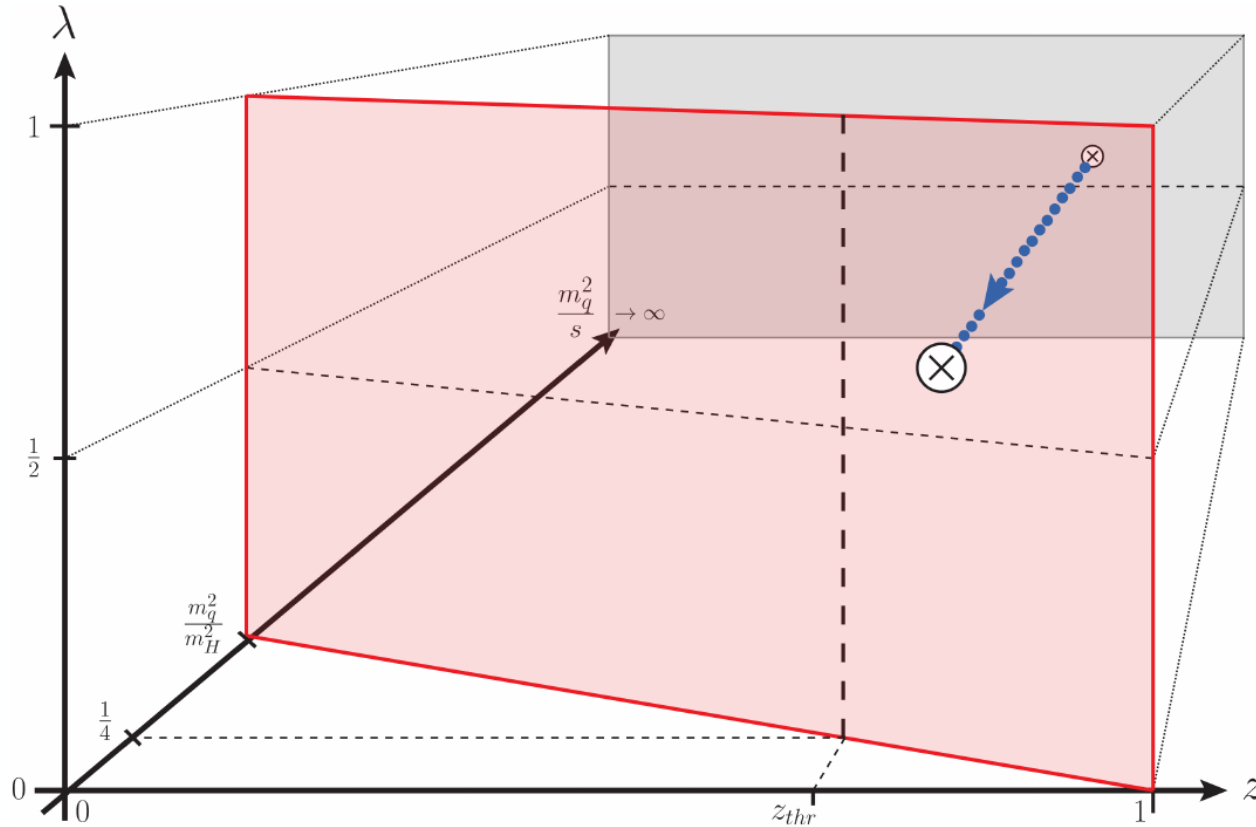
- Create grid with numerical values of squared amplitude
- Subtract IR singularities:

$$\langle M_{gg \rightarrow Hg}^{(0)} | M_{gg \rightarrow Hg}^{(1)} \rangle |_{\text{regulated}} \equiv \langle M_{gg \rightarrow Hg}^{(0)} | M_{gg \rightarrow Hg}^{(1)} \rangle - \left[r \langle M_{gg \rightarrow Hg, \text{HTL}}^{(0)} | M_{gg \rightarrow Hg, \text{HTL}}^{(1)} \rangle + \frac{8\pi\alpha_s}{\hat{t}} \langle P_{gg}^{(0)} \left(\frac{\hat{s}}{\hat{s} + \hat{u}} \right) \rangle \langle M_{gg \rightarrow H}^{(0)} | M_{gg \rightarrow H}^{(1)} - M_{gg \rightarrow H, \text{HTL}}^{(1)} \rangle \right]$$



- Interpolate to any phase space point with cubic splines
- Add back subtracted terms using analytical expressions

Evolution of differential equations



$$z = 1 - m_H^2 / \hat{s}$$

$$\lambda = \hat{t} / (\hat{t} + \hat{u})$$

$$m_t^2 / m_H^2 = 23/12$$

Range of parameters:

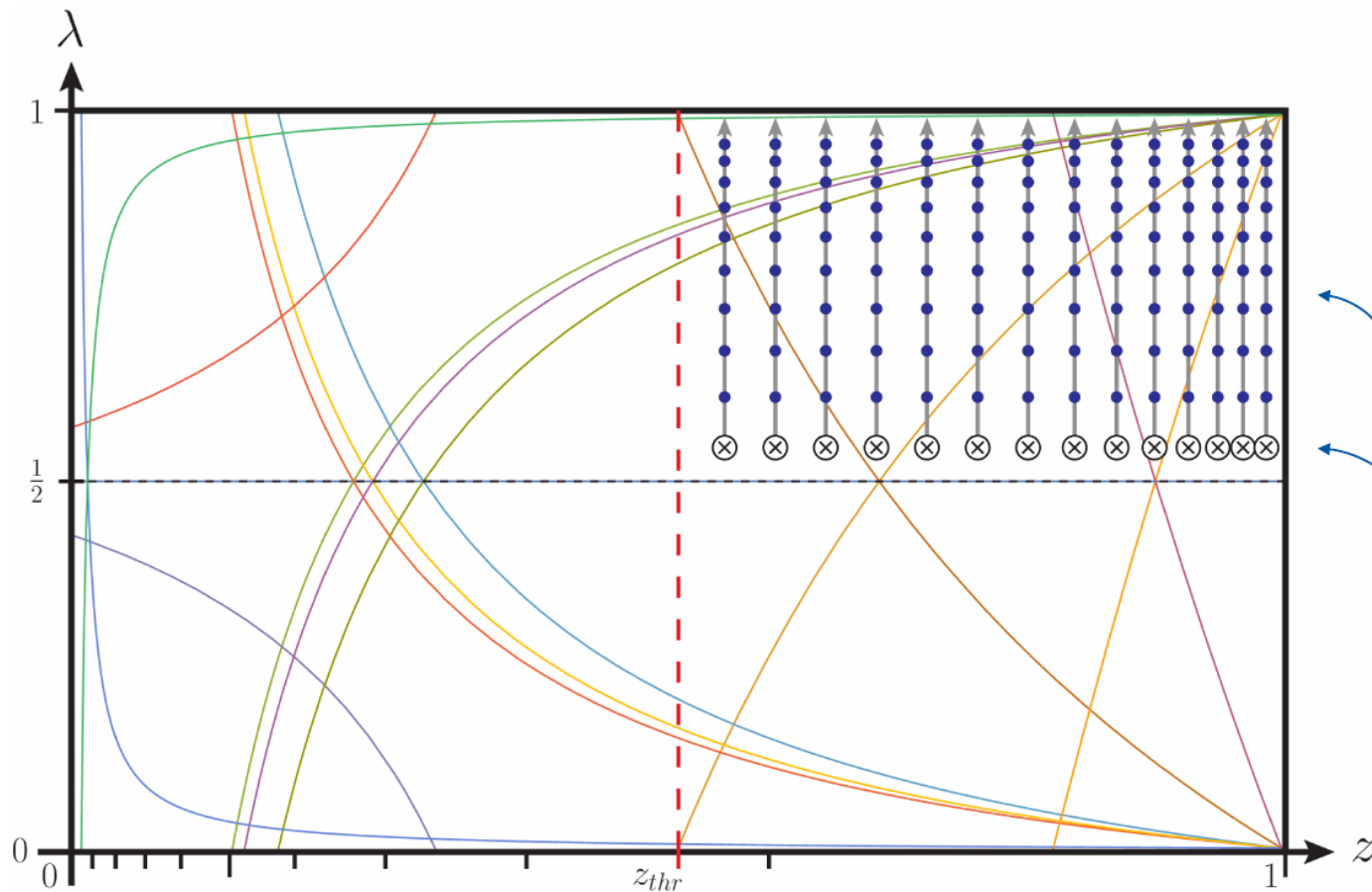
- $\lambda \in (0, 1)$
- $z \in (0, 1)$

$$z_{thr} = 1 - \frac{m_H^2}{4m_q^2}$$

For $m_t^2 / m_H^2 = 23/12$:

$$z_{thr} = 20/23 \approx 0.87$$

Evolution in the (z, λ) -plane



$$z = 1 - m_H^2 / \hat{s}$$
$$\lambda = \hat{t} / (\hat{t} + \hat{u})$$
$$m_t^2 / m_H^2 = 23/12$$

Range of parameters:

- $\lambda \in (0, 1)$
- $z \in (0, 1)$

Collect numerical samples for MI along straight integration contours

Boundaries from numerical integration in the mass