

NNLO Soft Function for 0-jettiness in $t\bar{t}$ Production

Sebastian Edelmann
March 2nd, 2026

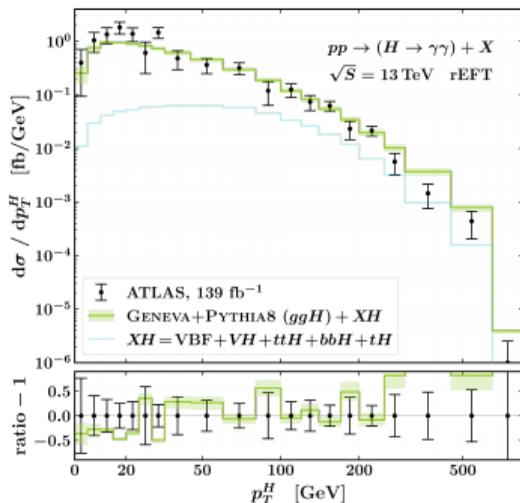
In collaboration with
G. Bell, A. Broggio, M. A. Lim, R. Rahn



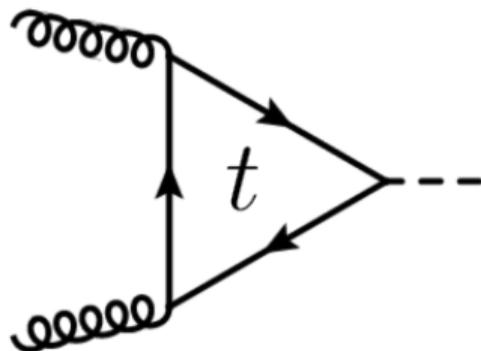
SCET 2026
March 2nd - 5th, KIAS

- Motivation
- Framework
- NLO Soft function
- NNLO Soft function
- Renormalization
- Outlook & Summary

- ▶ Monte Carlo event generator
- ▶ Combines fixed order, resummation and Parton Shower (PS)



[S. Alioli; '21]



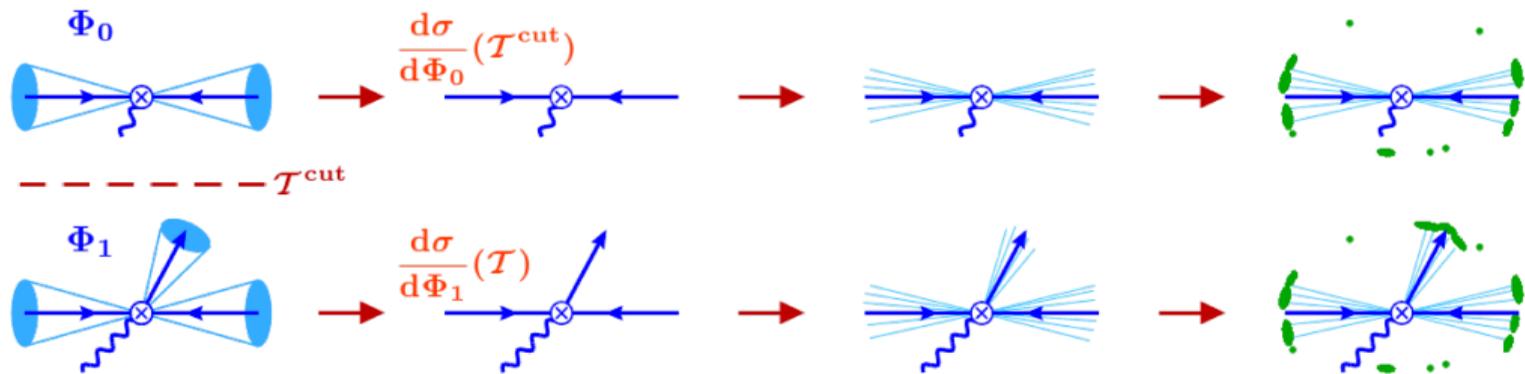
- ▶ Multitude of colour neutral processes already implemented at NNLO+PS accuracy
 - ⇒ Our goal consists in extending *GENEVA* to processes with top quarks in final state

[Stewart, Tackmann, Waalewijn; '10]

$$\tau_N = \sum_k \min \left\{ p_k^+, p_k^-, n_1 \cdot p_k, \dots, n_N \cdot p_k \right\}$$

small values of τ_N indicate N -jet-like event

- N -jettiness is used in *GENEVA* as a jet resolution parameter



- ▶ First automated calculation of dijet soft functions with SoftServe

[Bell, Rahn, Talbert; '18]



- ▶ Automated calculation of N -jettiness soft function

[Bell et al; '23]

- ▶ Automation of jet and beam functions at NNLO

[Bell et al; '24][Brune; PhD thesis]

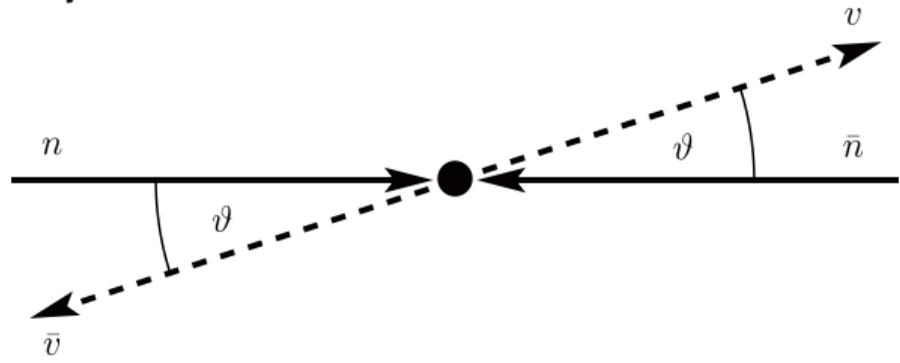
- ▶ So far only for massless final states

⇒ Extension to massive final state

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\phi_0 d\tau_0} = \sum_{m, n \in \{q\bar{q}, \bar{q}q, gg\}} \int dt_a dt_b \mathbf{B}^m(t_a, z_a, \mu) \mathbf{B}^n(t_b, z_b, \mu) \\ \times \mathbf{H}_{JI}^{mn \rightarrow t\bar{t}}(\phi_0, \mu) \mathbf{S}_{IJ}^{mn \rightarrow t\bar{t}} \left(M\tau_0 - \frac{t_a + t_b}{M}, \phi_0, \mu \right)$$

- ▶ The 0-jettiness cross section "factorizes" for small τ_0 [Alioli, Broggio, Lim; '21]
 - ⇒ hard function \mathbf{H}_{JI}^{mn} contains purely virtual extensions of Born amplitude
 - ⇒ beam functions \mathbf{B}^i describe collinear emissions along beam direction n, \bar{n}
 - ⇒ **soft function** is still missing at NNLO

$t\bar{t}$ production in strictly back-to-back case



$$n^\mu = (1, 0, 0, 1)$$

$$\bar{n}^\mu = (1, 0, 0, -1)$$

$$\bar{v}^\mu(\vartheta, \beta) = \frac{p_t^\mu}{m_t}$$

$$v^\mu(\vartheta, \beta) = \frac{p_t^\mu}{m_t}$$

$\beta \equiv$ Velocity of t quarks

$\vartheta \equiv$ Scattering angle of t quarks

$$\begin{aligned}
 S(\kappa, \mu) &= \int_{X_s} \mathcal{M}(\kappa; \{k_i\}) \left| \left\langle X_s \left| \underbrace{\mathcal{S}_n^\dagger(0) \mathcal{S}_{\bar{n}}(0) \mathcal{S}_v^\dagger(0) \mathcal{S}_{\bar{v}}(0)}_{\text{Soft Wilson lines}} \right| 0 \right\rangle \right|^2 \\
 &= 1 + \left(\frac{Z_\alpha \alpha_s}{4\pi} \right) \left(\frac{\mu^2}{\kappa^2} \right)^\varepsilon S^{(1)}(\varepsilon) + \left(\frac{Z_\alpha \alpha_s}{4\pi} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\mu^2}{\kappa^2} \right)^{2\varepsilon} S^{(2)}(\varepsilon) + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

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 \end{aligned}$$

- For massive final-state partons so far only known at NLO [Alioli, Broggio, Lim; '21], [Münker; M thesis]

$$\begin{aligned}
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 &\quad S^{(2)}(\varepsilon) = S^{(2, RV)}(\varepsilon) + S^{(2, q\bar{q})}(\varepsilon) + S^{(2, gg)}(\varepsilon)
 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ For massive final-state partons so far only known at NLO [Alioli, Broggio, Lim; '21], [Münker; M thesis]
- ▶ Automated calculation of NNLO soft function with **massless** partons [Bell, Rahn, Talbert; '19]
- ▶ NNLO soft functions contain both real-virtual corrections and double-real emissions

- ▶ Measurement function is exponential of soft emission momenta k_i

$$\mathcal{M}(\kappa; \{k_i\}) = \exp \left[-\frac{\tau(\{k_i\})}{\kappa} \right]$$

- ▶ For one soft emission k , the measurement function can be described by the ansatz

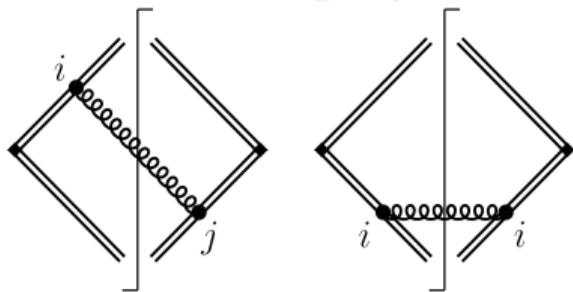
$$\mathcal{M}_1 = \exp \left[-\frac{k_T}{\kappa} \left(y_k^{n/2} f_A(y_k, t_k) \theta(1 - y_k) + y_k^{-n/2} f_B(y_k^{-1}, t_k) \theta(y_k - 1) \right) \right]$$

- ▶ We use the phase space parametrization

$$y_k = \frac{k_+}{k_-}$$

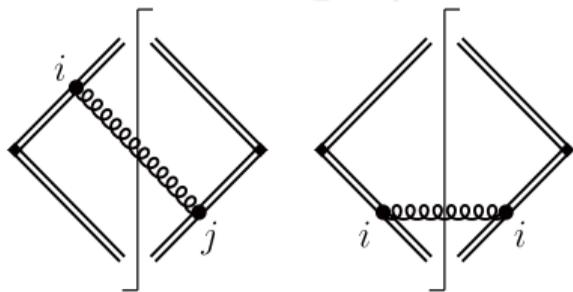
$$k_T = \sqrt{k_+ k_-}$$

$$t_k = \frac{1 - \cos \theta_k}{2}$$



$$S_{ij}^{(1)} = -\frac{2e^{-\gamma_E \varepsilon} \Gamma(-2\varepsilon)}{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon\right)} \int_0^1 \frac{dy_k}{y_k^{1-n\varepsilon}} \int_0^1 \frac{dt_k}{[4t_k(1-t_k)]^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}}$$

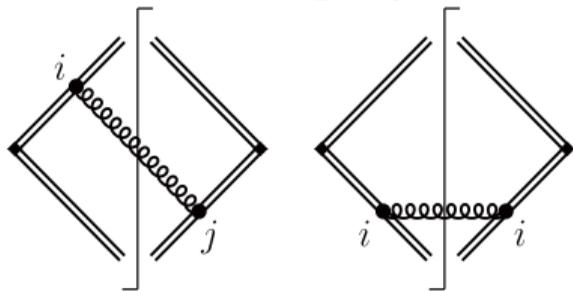
$$\times \left\{ [f_A(y_k, t_k)]^{2\varepsilon} \mathcal{J}_{ij}^{(1)}(y_k, t_k) + [f_B(y_k, t_k)]^{2\varepsilon} \mathcal{J}_{ij}^{(1)}\left(\frac{1}{y_k}, t_k\right) \right\}$$



$$S_{ij}^{(1)} = -\frac{2e^{-\gamma_E \varepsilon} \Gamma(-2\varepsilon)}{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon\right)} \int_0^1 \frac{dy_k}{y_k^{1-n\varepsilon}} \int_0^1 \frac{dt_k}{[4t_k(1-t_k)]^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}}$$

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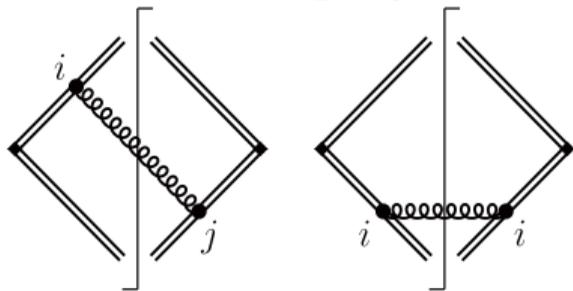
soft divergence



$$S_{ij}^{(1)} = -\frac{2e^{-\gamma_E \varepsilon} \Gamma(-2\varepsilon)}{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon\right)} \int_0^1 \frac{dy_k}{y_k^{1-n\varepsilon}} \int_0^1 \frac{dt_k}{[4t_k(1-t_k)]^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}} \\ \times \left\{ [f_A(y_k, t_k)]^{2\varepsilon} \mathcal{J}_{ij}^{(1)}(y_k, t_k) + [f_B(y_k, t_k)]^{2\varepsilon} \mathcal{J}_{ij}^{(1)}\left(\frac{1}{y_k}, t_k\right) \right\}$$

soft divergence

collinear divergence



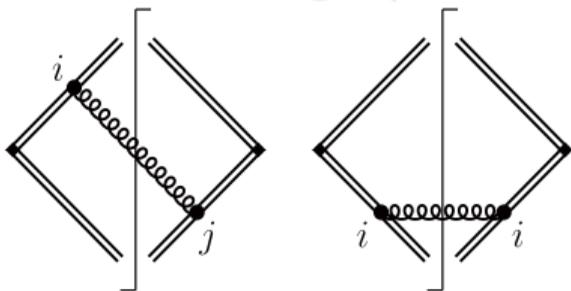
$$S_{ij}^{(1)} = -\frac{2e^{-\gamma_E \epsilon} \Gamma(-2\epsilon)}{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon\right)} \int_0^1 \frac{dy_k}{y_k^{1-n\epsilon}} \int_0^1 \frac{dt_k}{[4t_k(1-t_k)]^{\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon}}$$

$$\times \left\{ [f_A(y_k, t_k)]^{2\epsilon} \mathcal{J}_{ij}^{(1)}(y_k, t_k) + [f_B(y_k, t_k)]^{2\epsilon} \mathcal{J}_{ij}^{(1)}\left(\frac{1}{y_k}, t_k\right) \right\}$$

soft divergence

collinear divergence

observable dependent



$$\mathcal{J}_{ij}^{(1)} = \frac{p_i \cdot p_j}{(p_i \cdot k)(p_j \cdot k)}$$

$$S_{ij}^{(1)} = -\frac{2e^{-\gamma_E \epsilon} \Gamma(-2\epsilon)}{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon\right)} \int_0^1 \frac{dy_k}{y_k^{1-n\epsilon}} \int_0^1 \frac{dt_k}{[4t_k(1-t_k)]^{\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon}}$$

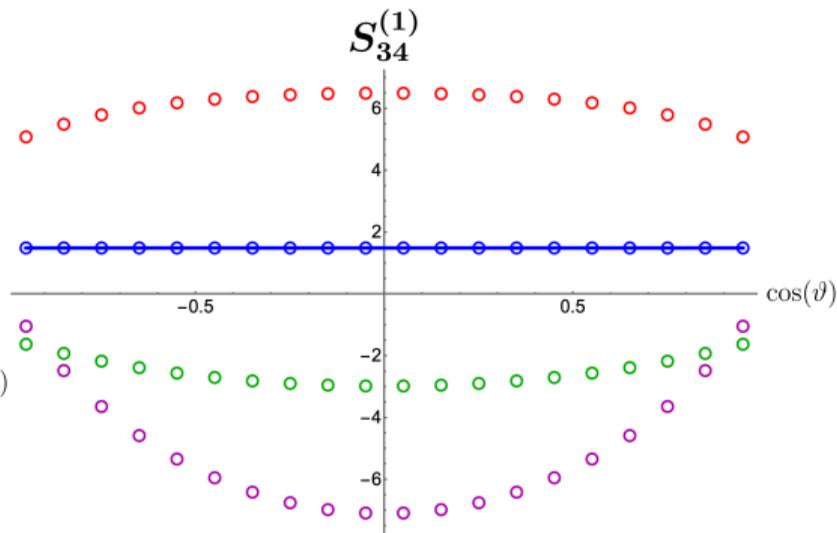
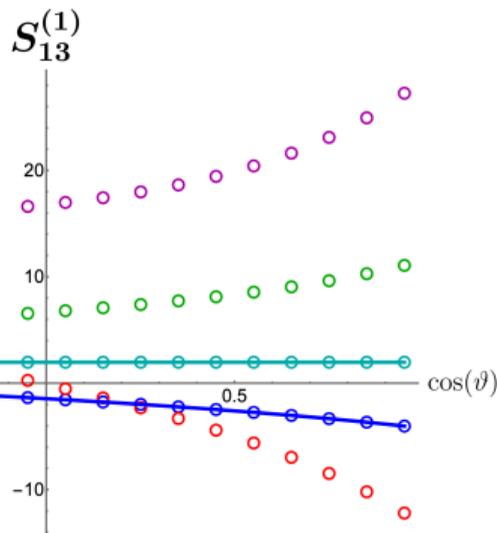
$$\times \left\{ [f_A(y_k, t_k)]^{2\epsilon} \mathcal{J}_{ij}^{(1)}(y_k, t_k) + [f_B(y_k, t_k)]^{2\epsilon} \mathcal{J}_{ij}^{(1)}\left(\frac{1}{y_k}, t_k\right) \right\}$$

soft divergence

collinear divergence

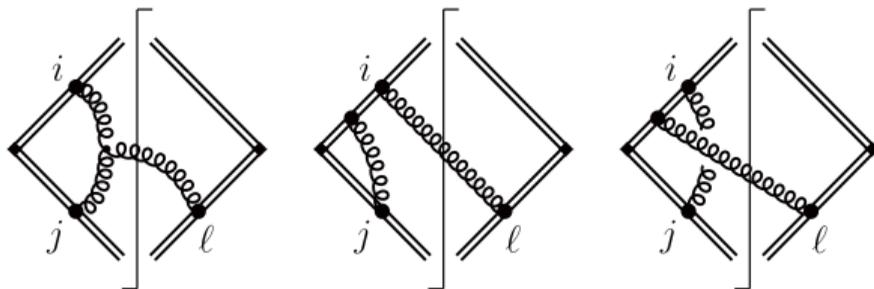
observable dependent

matrix element



$$\text{---} S_{-2} \quad \text{---} S_{-1} \quad \text{---} S_0 \quad \text{---} S_1 \quad \text{---} S_2$$

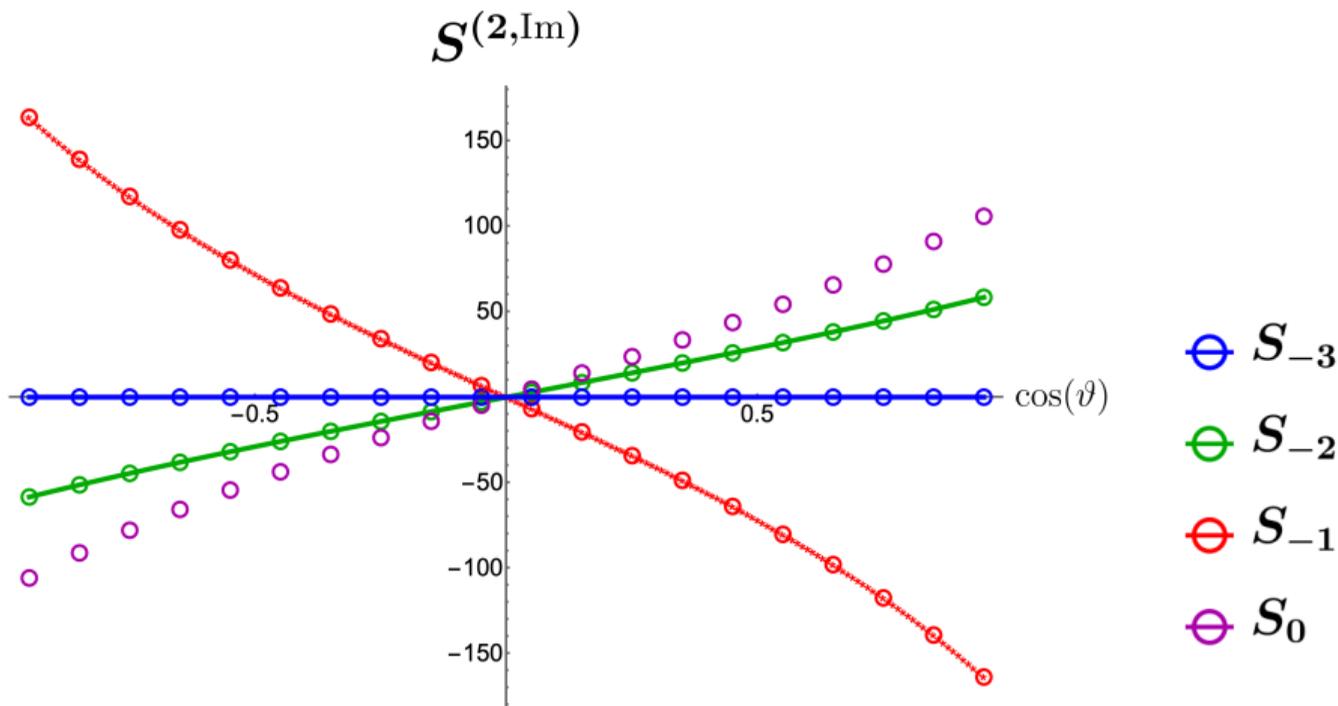
$$S(\cos \vartheta, \beta, \varepsilon) \equiv \frac{S_{-2}}{\varepsilon^2} + \frac{S_{-1}}{\varepsilon} + S_0 + \varepsilon \times S_1 + \varepsilon^2 \times S_2 + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^3)$$



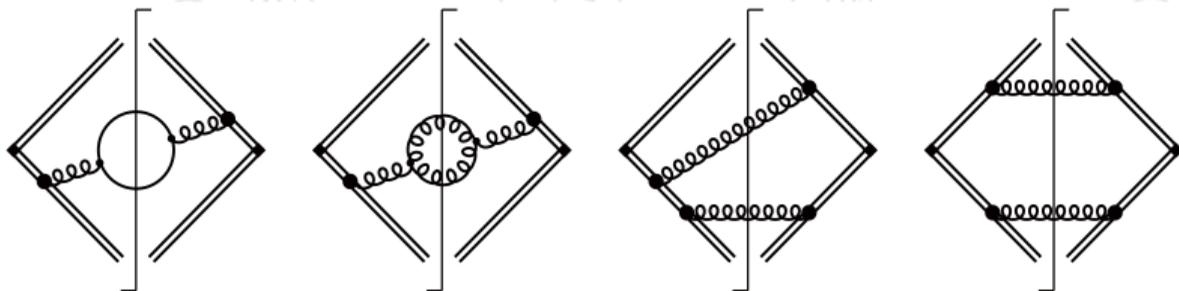
$$\begin{aligned}
 S^{(2, \text{RV})}(\varepsilon) &= C_A \sum_{i \neq j} \mathcal{T}_i \cdot \mathcal{T}_j S_{ij}^{(2, \text{Re})}(\varepsilon) \\
 &+ \sum_{i \neq j \neq l} f^{ABC} \mathcal{T}_i^A \mathcal{T}_j^B \mathcal{T}_l^C S_{ijl}^{(2, \text{Im})}(\varepsilon)
 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Real-virtual matrix elements with massive partons are known
[Bierenbaum, Czakon, Mitov; '12], [Czakon, Mitov; '18]

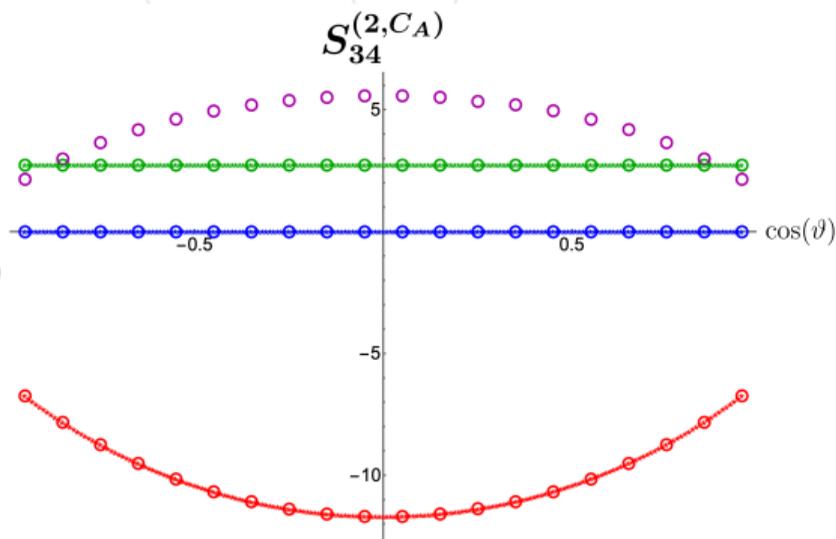
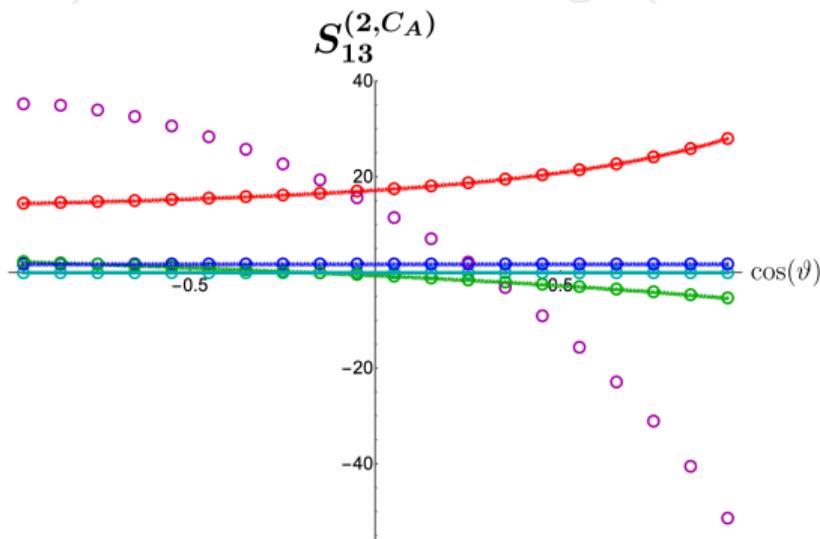
⇒ suitable for numerical calculation



► Pole prediction only possible for sum over all tripoles

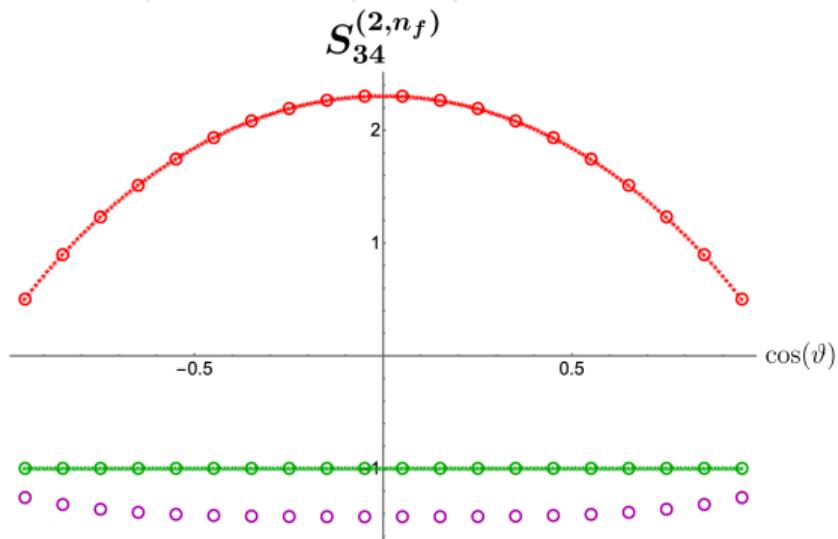
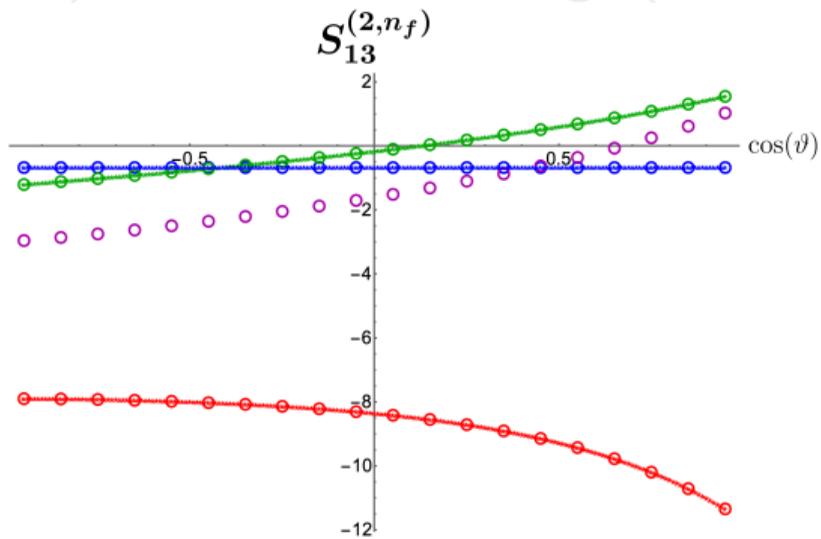


- ▶ Matrix elements already known [Angeles-Martinez, Czakon, Sapeta; '18]
- ▶ Parametrizations of massless case can be carried over [Bell, Rahn, Talbert; '19]
 - ⇒ factorization of phase space divergences more complicated
 - ⇒ beam-beam-parametrization simplifies calculation in transverse phase space



$\ominus S_{-4}$ $\ominus S_{-3}$ $\ominus S_{-2}$ $\ominus S_{-1}$ $\ominus S_0$

- ▶ Both real-virtual and double-real contributions have to be added for C_A pole prediction



$\ominus S_{-3}$ $\ominus S_{-2}$ $\ominus S_{-1}$ $\ominus S_0$

- S_R is matrix in colour space and renormalizes as

$$S_R = Z^\dagger S_b Z = (e^{\ln Z})^\dagger e^{\ln S_b} e^{\ln Z}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ln S_R &= \left(\frac{Z_\alpha \alpha_s}{4\pi} \right) (S_b^{(1)} + Z^{(1)} + Z^{\dagger(1)}) + \left(\frac{Z_\alpha \alpha_s}{4\pi} \right)^2 \left[\ln S_b^{(2)} + \ln Z^{(2)} + \ln Z^{\dagger(2)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} ([S_R^{(1)}, (Z^{(1)} - Z^{\dagger(1)})] + [Z^{\dagger(1)}, Z^{(1)}]) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3) \end{aligned}$$

- Massive NNLO anomalous dimension already known [Becher, Neubert; '09][Ferroglia et al; '09]

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma^S(\kappa, \mu) &= 2Z^{(-1)} \frac{dZ}{dL} = \sum_{i,j} \frac{\mathcal{T}_i \cdot \mathcal{T}_j}{2} \left[-\Gamma L - \Gamma \ln \left(\frac{M_{t\bar{t}}^2}{-s_{ij} - i0} \right) + \gamma^{S,ij} \right] \\ &\quad + \sum_{I,j} \frac{\mathcal{T}_I \cdot \mathcal{T}_j}{2} \left[-\frac{\Gamma}{2} L - \Gamma \ln \left(\frac{m_t M_{t\bar{t}}}{-s_{Ij}} \right) + \gamma^{S,Ij} \right] + \sum_{IJ} \frac{\mathcal{T}_I \cdot \mathcal{T}_J}{2} [\gamma(\beta_{IJ}) + \gamma^{S,IJ}] \\ &\quad + \sum_{IJ} \sum_k i f^{ABC} \mathcal{T}_I^A \mathcal{T}_J^B \mathcal{T}_k^C f_2 \left(\beta_{IJ}, \ln \frac{-\sigma_{Jk} v_J \cdot p_k}{-\sigma_{Ik} v_I \cdot p_k} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2) \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Tripole contributions originate from both the commutators of dipoles and genuine tripole contribution to \mathbf{Z}

$$\frac{1}{2} [\mathbf{Z}^{(1)}, \mathbf{Z}^{\dagger(1)}] = \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^2 f^{ABC} \mathcal{T}_1^A \mathcal{T}_2^B \mathcal{T}_3^C \left[\frac{\Gamma_0^2}{2\varepsilon^2} \pi \ln \left(\frac{-s_{31}}{-s_{32}} \right) + \frac{\pi \Gamma_0}{\varepsilon^2} \frac{1 + \beta^2}{\beta} \ln \left(\frac{-s_{31}}{-s_{32}} \right) \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} [\mathbf{S}_R^{(1)}, (\mathbf{Z}^{(1)} - \mathbf{Z}^{\dagger(1)})] &= - \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^2 f^{ABC} \mathcal{T}_1^A \mathcal{T}_2^B \mathcal{T}_3^C \frac{\pi}{\varepsilon} \left(\Gamma_0 + \frac{2(1 + \beta^2)}{\beta} \right) \\ &\quad \times \left[\Gamma_0 \ln \left(\frac{-s_{31}}{-s_{32}} \right) L - 2\text{Re} [c_{31}^{(1)}] + 2\text{Re} [c_{32}^{(1)}] \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\left[\ln \mathbf{Z}_{\text{Tri}}^{(2)} + \ln \mathbf{Z}_{\text{Tri}}^{\dagger(2)} \right] = \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^2 f^{ABC} \mathcal{T}_1^A \mathcal{T}_2^B \mathcal{T}_3^C \frac{2}{\varepsilon} \text{Im} [g(\beta_{34})] \Gamma_0 \left(\ln \frac{-\sigma_{41} v_4 \cdot p_1}{-\sigma_{31} v_3 \cdot p_1} \right)$$

- There is a finite contribution to the renormalized soft function of the form

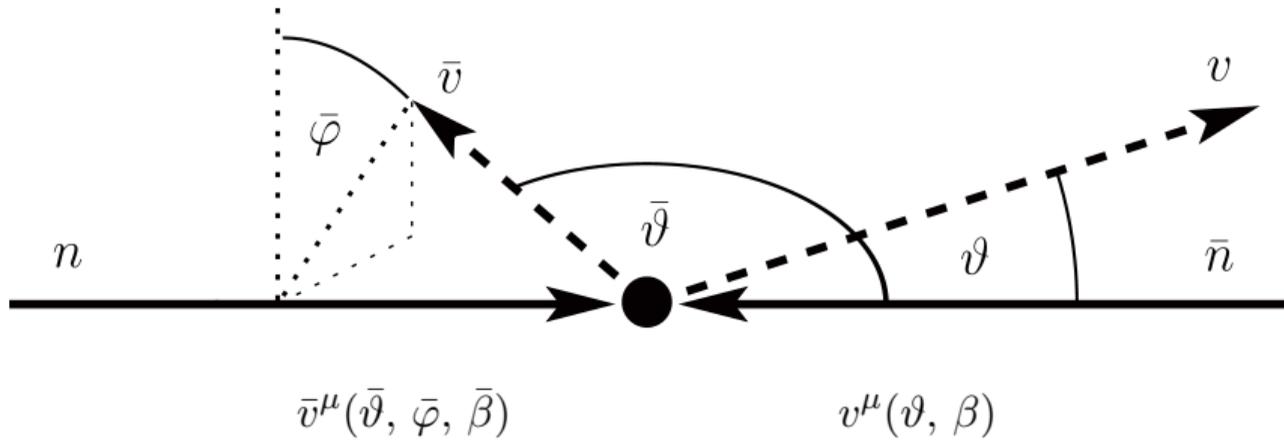
$$\frac{1}{2} \left[\mathbf{S}_R^{(1)}, (\mathbf{Z}^{(1)} - \mathbf{Z}^{\dagger(1)}) \right]_{\text{finite}} = - \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right)^2 f^{abc} \mathcal{T}_1^A \mathcal{T}_2^B \mathcal{T}_3^C \pi \left(\Gamma_0 + \frac{2(1 + \beta^2)}{\beta} \right) \\ \times \left\{ \Gamma_0 \ln \left(\frac{-s_{31}}{-s_{32}} \right) L^2 - 2\text{Re} \left[c_{31}^{(1)} \right] L + 2\text{Re} \left[c_{32}^{(1)} \right] L \right. \\ \left. - 2\text{Re} \left[c_{31}^{(1,\varepsilon)} \right] + 2\text{Re} \left[c_{32}^{(1,\varepsilon)} \right] \right\}$$

- The Dipole structure at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$ originates only from the term

$$\left[\ln \mathbf{Z}^{(2)} + \ln \mathbf{Z}^{\dagger(2)} \right]$$

► Possible next steps include

- ⇒ Calculate NNLO soft function for other SCET_{I/II} observables
- ⇒ Generalized kinematics for **non**-back-to-back case

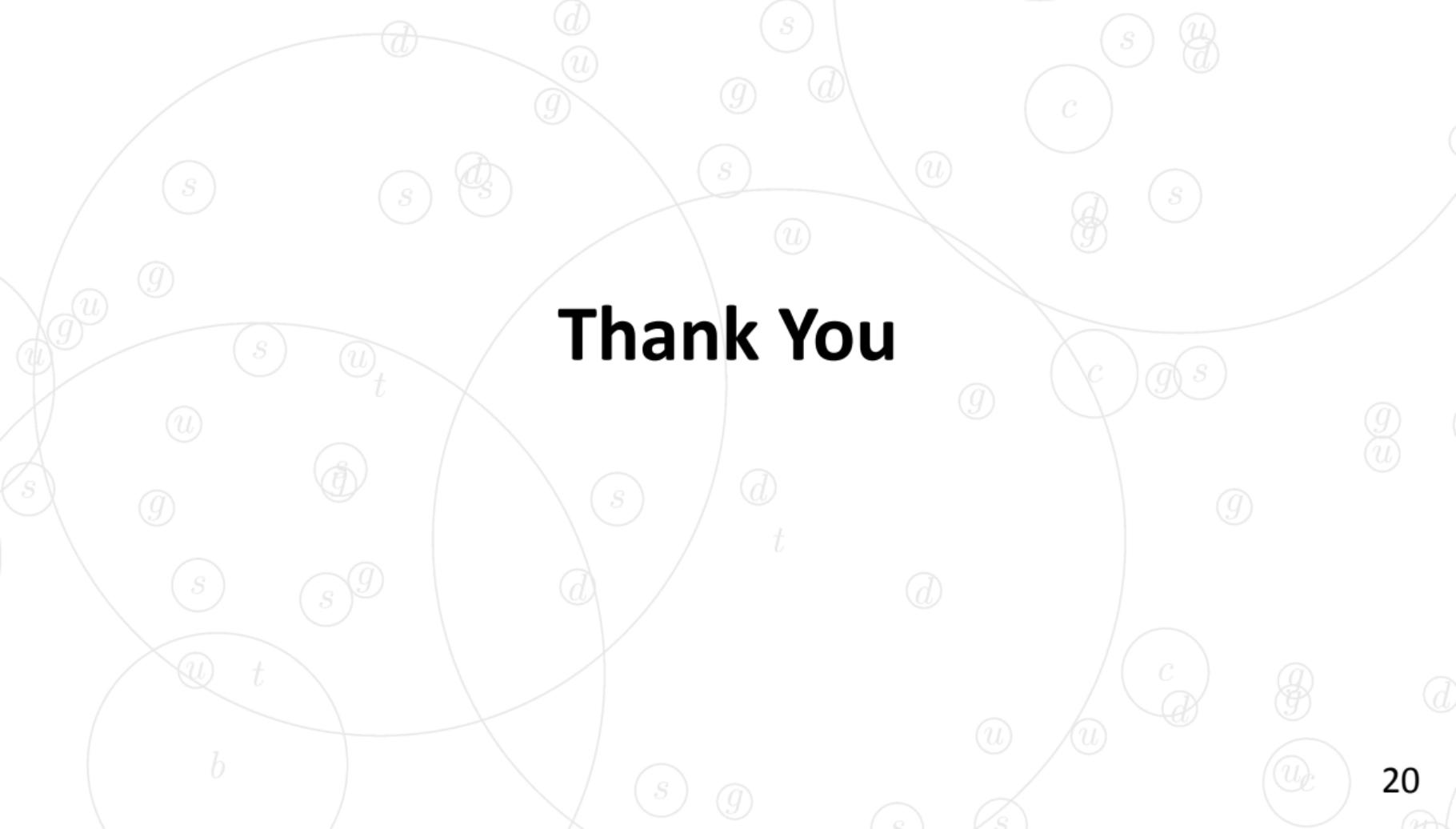


- ▶ NNLO soft functions with massive particles in final state needed for extension of *GENEVA*
- ▶ Numerical calculation of bare soft function finished with good agreement to pole predictions
 - ⇒ easy implementation of new kinematics/observables

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Fully automated NNLO soft functions with massive partons lie in the near future!

⇒ Extension of *GENEVA* to processes with top quarks in final state

The background features several large, overlapping, light-gray circles. Scattered throughout the scene are numerous smaller circles, each containing a lowercase letter. The letters are a mix of 's', 'd', 'u', 'g', 'c', 't', and 'b'. Some letters are bolded, while others are in a regular weight. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, with a focus on typography and geometric shapes.

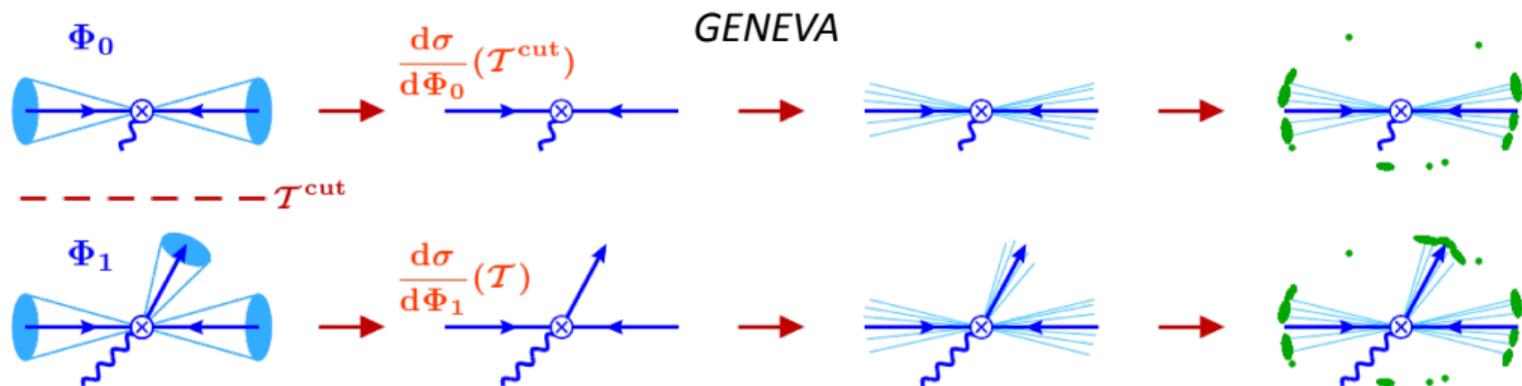
Thank You



Backup Slides

soft Wilson lines

$$\mathcal{S}_{v_i}(x) = P \exp \left[ig \int_{-\infty}^0 ds v_i \cdot A_s(x + sv_i) \right]$$



0-jettiness τ_0 : Measure for how much the soft radiation is aligned to the beam directions

$$\min(k_+, k_-) = \min\left(k_T y_k, \frac{k_T}{y_k}\right)$$

Energy scales:

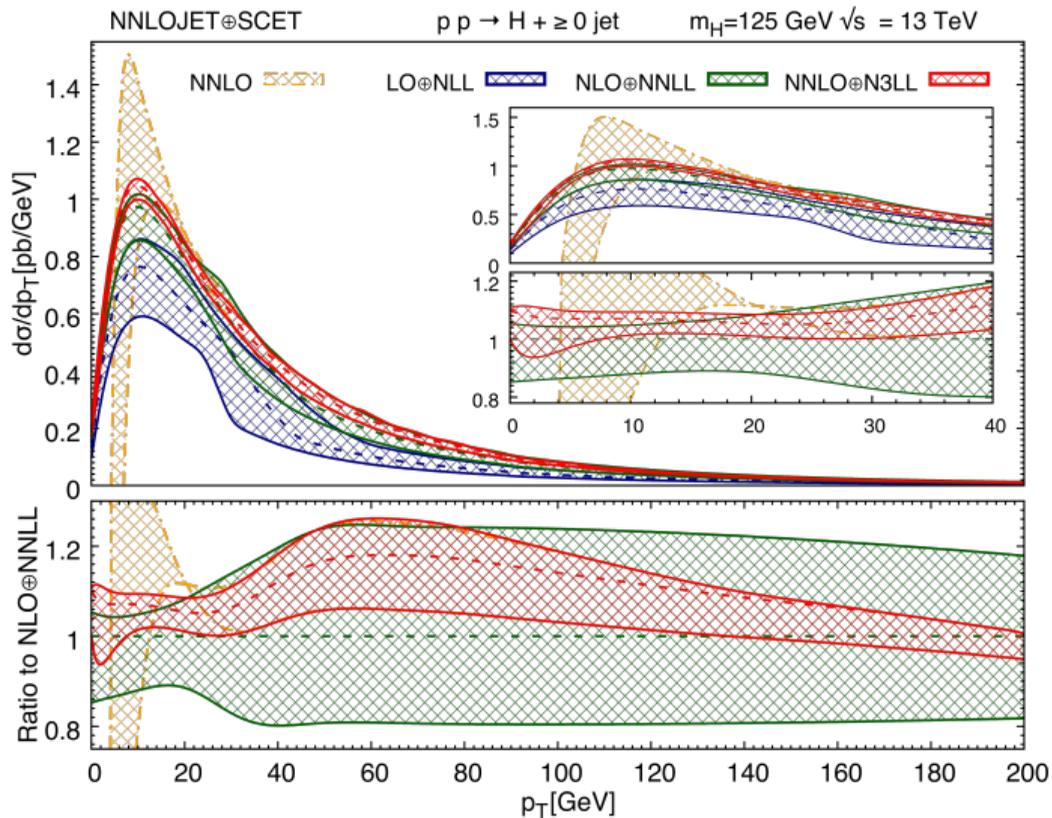
$$\Lambda_{\text{hard}} = Q$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{col.}} = \sqrt{\tau} Q$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{soft}} = \tau Q$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} = \sum_i C_i(\mu) O_i(x)$$

- ▶ Wilson coefficients C_i depend on large energy scale Λ_{high} and matrix elements of operators O_i depend on Λ_{low}
- ▶ Power counting of operators in expansion parameter $\lambda = \Lambda_{\text{low}}/\Lambda_{\text{high}}$
- ▶ Soft Collinear Effective Theory (SCET) allows resummation of Sudakov logarithms at all orders of perturbation theory



[X. Chen, et al.; '18]

$$\text{Decomposition : } q^\mu = \underbrace{(n \cdot q)}_{q_+} \frac{\bar{n}^\mu}{2} + \underbrace{(\bar{n} \cdot q)}_{q_-} \frac{n^\mu}{2} + q_\perp^\mu \equiv \left(\underbrace{\quad}_+, \underbrace{\quad}_-, \perp \right)$$

Incoming partons (energetic, off-shell) with momenta p^μ and l^μ :

$$p^2 \sim l^2 \sim \lambda^2 Q^2$$

$$p^\mu \sim (\lambda^2, 1, \lambda)Q, \quad l^\mu \sim (1, \lambda^2, \lambda)Q$$

► There are four different modes in this process:

1. hard:

$$k^\mu \sim (1, 1, 1)Q$$

2. soft:

$$k^\mu \sim (\lambda^2, \lambda^2, \lambda^2)Q$$

3. collinear to p : $k^\mu \sim (\lambda^2, 1, \lambda)Q$

4. collinear to l : $k^\mu \sim (1, \lambda^2, \lambda)Q$

$$\text{Decomposition : } q^\mu = \underbrace{(n \cdot q)}_{q_+} \frac{\bar{n}^\mu}{2} + \underbrace{(\bar{n} \cdot q)}_{q_-} \frac{n^\mu}{2} + q_\perp^\mu \equiv (\underbrace{+}_{n \cdot q}, \underbrace{-}_{\bar{n} \cdot q}, \perp)$$

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