

# Soft gluons and top quark pair production

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Peking University

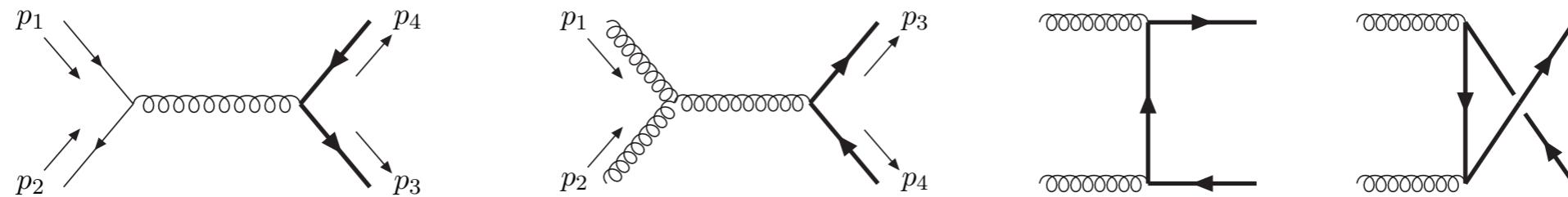
Based on: 1804.05218 (with Czakon, Ferroglio, Heymes, Mitov, Pecjak, Scott, Wang)  
1803.07623 (with Wang, Xu, Zhu)

LOOPS AND LEGS IN QUANTUM FIELD THEORY

14th DESY Workshop on Elementary Particle Theory,  
St. Goar, Germany, April 29 – May 04, 2018



# Top quark pair production



**A standard candle for the LHC and future colliders**

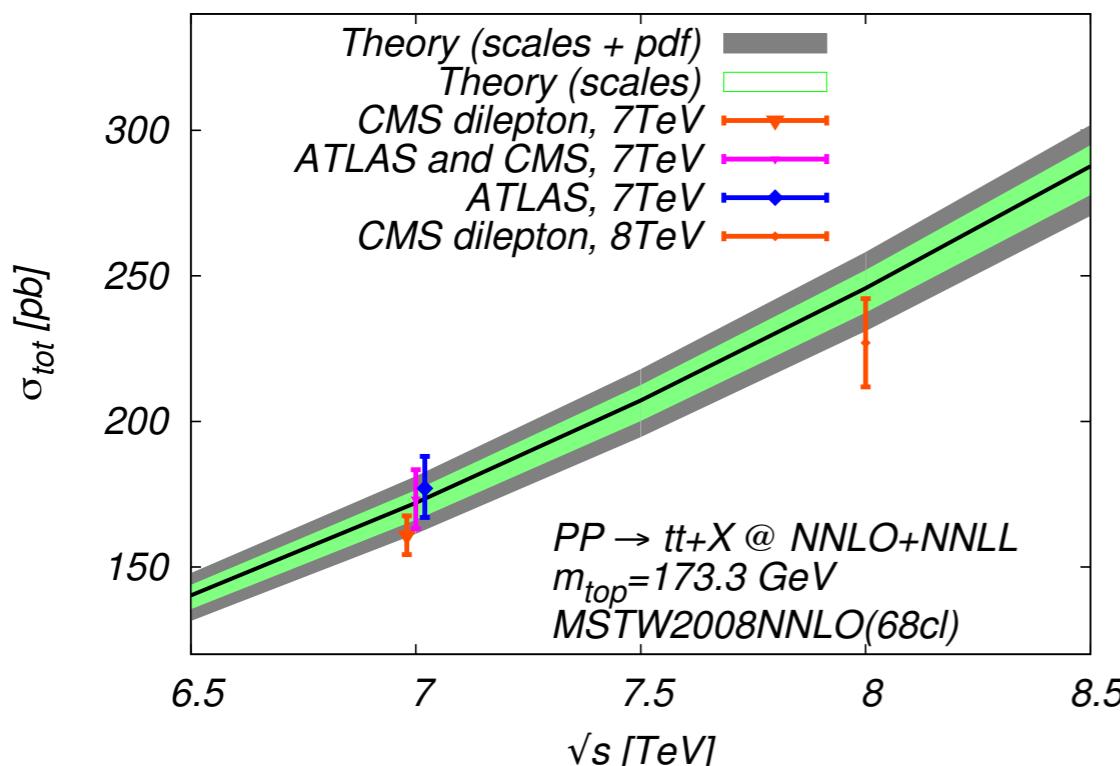
- \* Top quark related to many important issues: hierarchy problem, vacuum stability, origin of fermion masses, ...
- \* Major background to many searches

# NNLO QCD for top pair

## A milestone in precision calculations

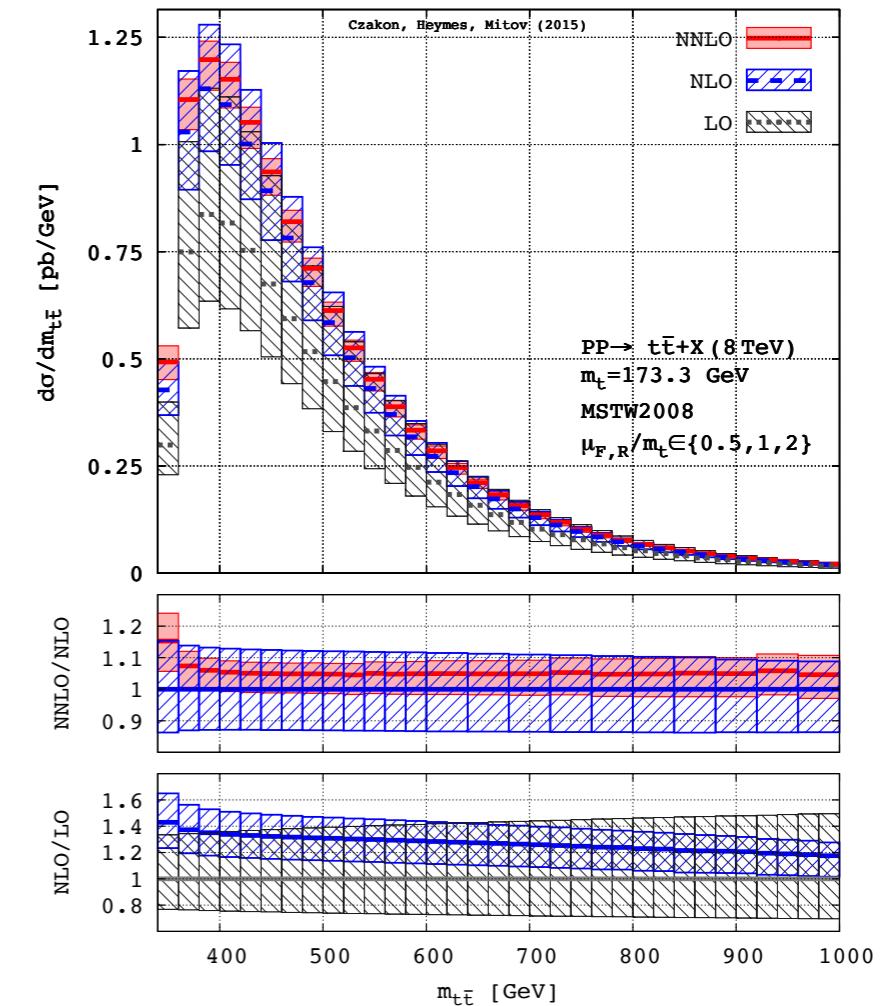
### Total cross section

Baernreuther, Czakon, Mitov: 1204.5201;  
 Czakon, Fiedler, Mitov: 1303.6254



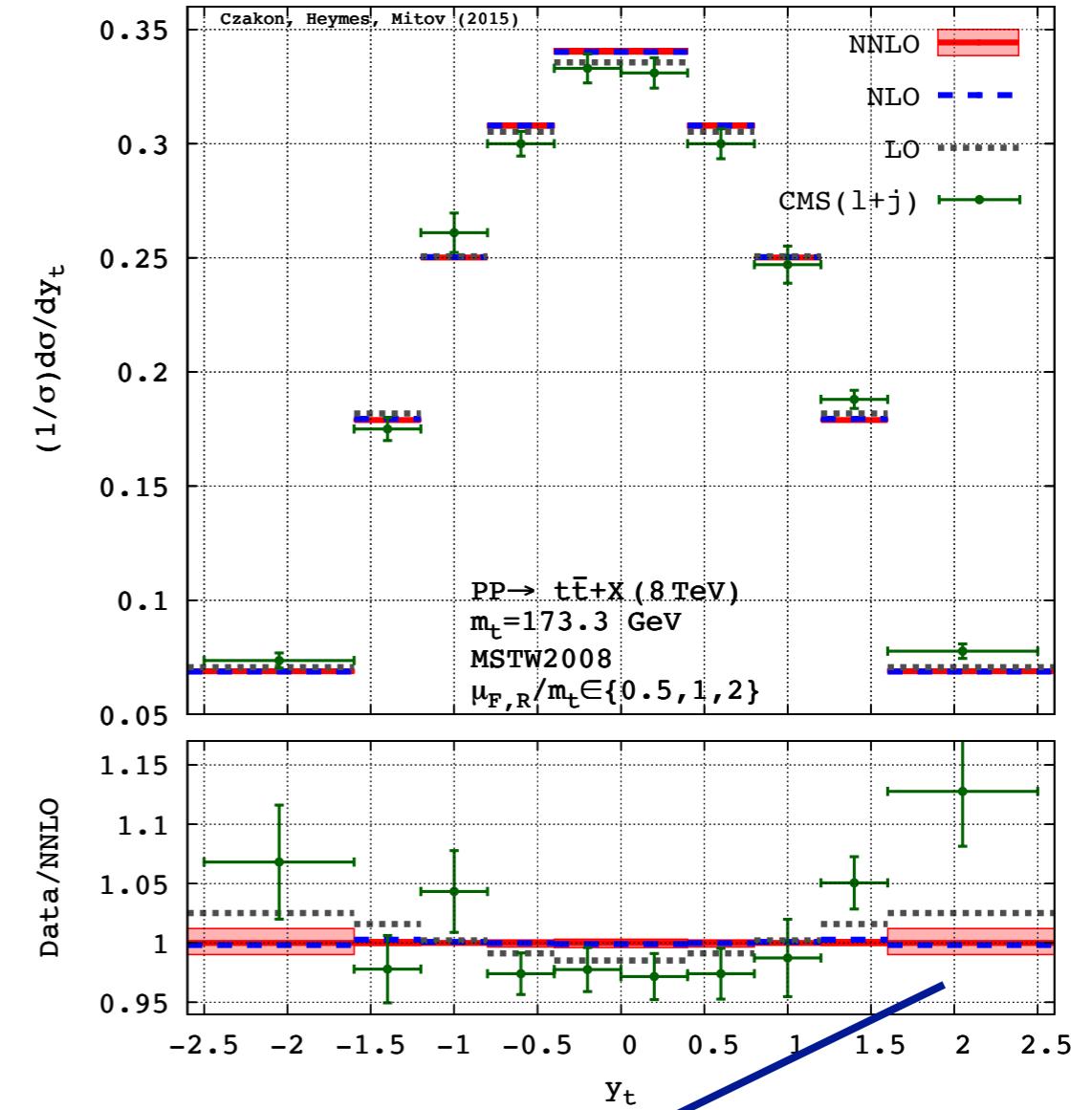
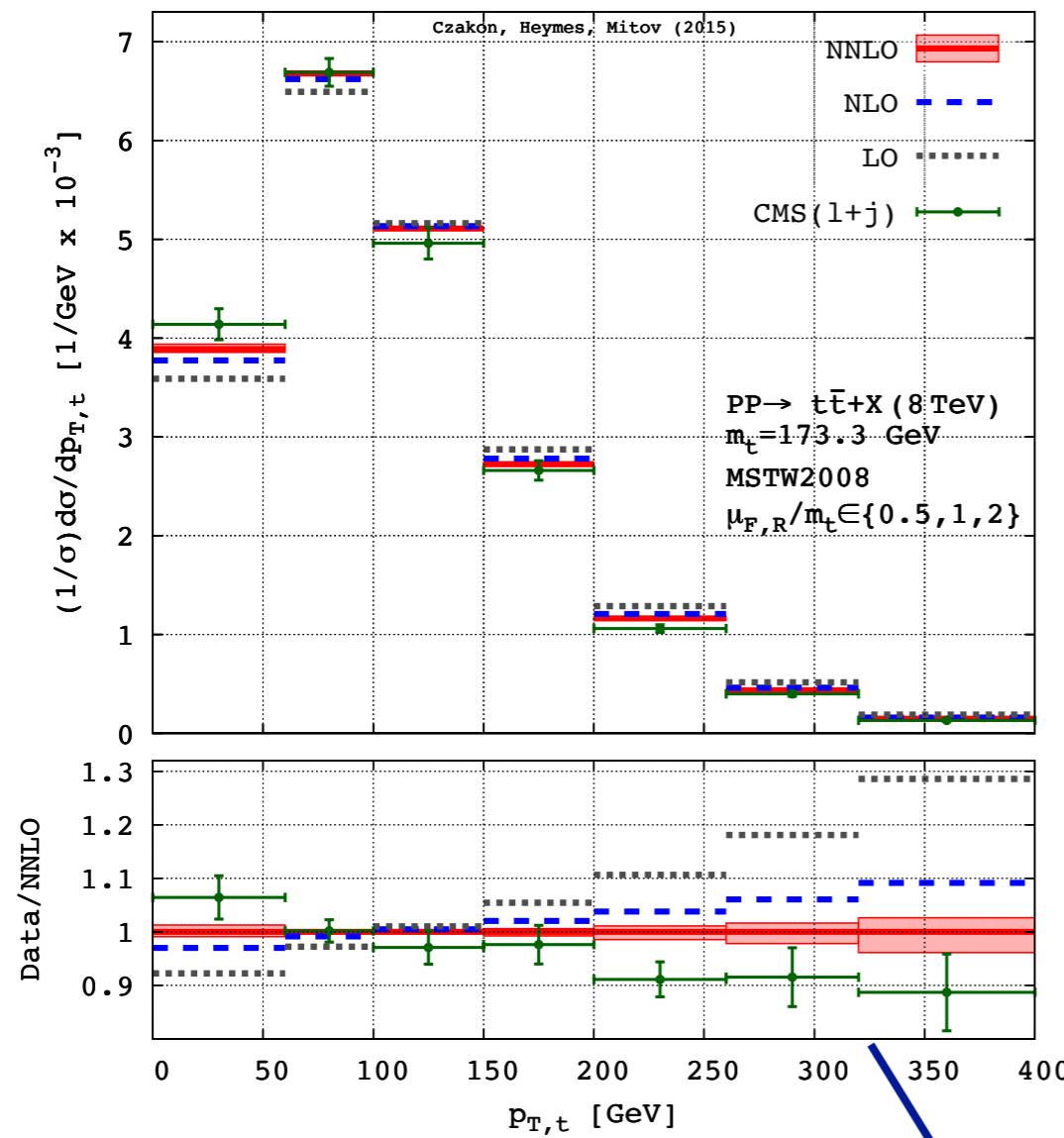
### Differential distributions

Czakon, Heymes, Mitov: 1511.00549



# Differential distributions

Czakon, Heymes, Mitov: 1511.00549



Some tension at high energy (boosted kinematics)

# NNLO with dynamic scale

Czakon, Heymes, Mitov: 1606.03350

The problem here: it's a multiple-scale process with complicated kinematics!

$$\mu_0 \sim m_t ,$$

$$\mu_0 \sim m_T = \sqrt{m_t^2 + p_T^2} ,$$

$$\mu_0 \sim H_T = \sqrt{m_t^2 + p_{T,t}^2} + \sqrt{m_t^2 + p_{T,\bar{t}}^2} ,$$

$$\mu_0 \sim H'_T = \sqrt{m_t^2 + p_{T,t}^2} + \sqrt{m_t^2 + p_{T,\bar{t}}^2} + \sum_i p_{T,i} ,$$

$$\mu_0 \sim E_T = \sqrt{\sqrt{m_t^2 + p_{T,t}^2} \sqrt{m_t^2 + p_{T,\bar{t}}^2}} ,$$

$$\mu_0 \sim H_{T,\text{int}} = \sqrt{(m_t/2)^2 + p_{T,t}^2} + \sqrt{(m_t/2)^2 + p_{T,\bar{t}}^2} ,$$

$$\mu_0 \sim m_{t\bar{t}} ,$$

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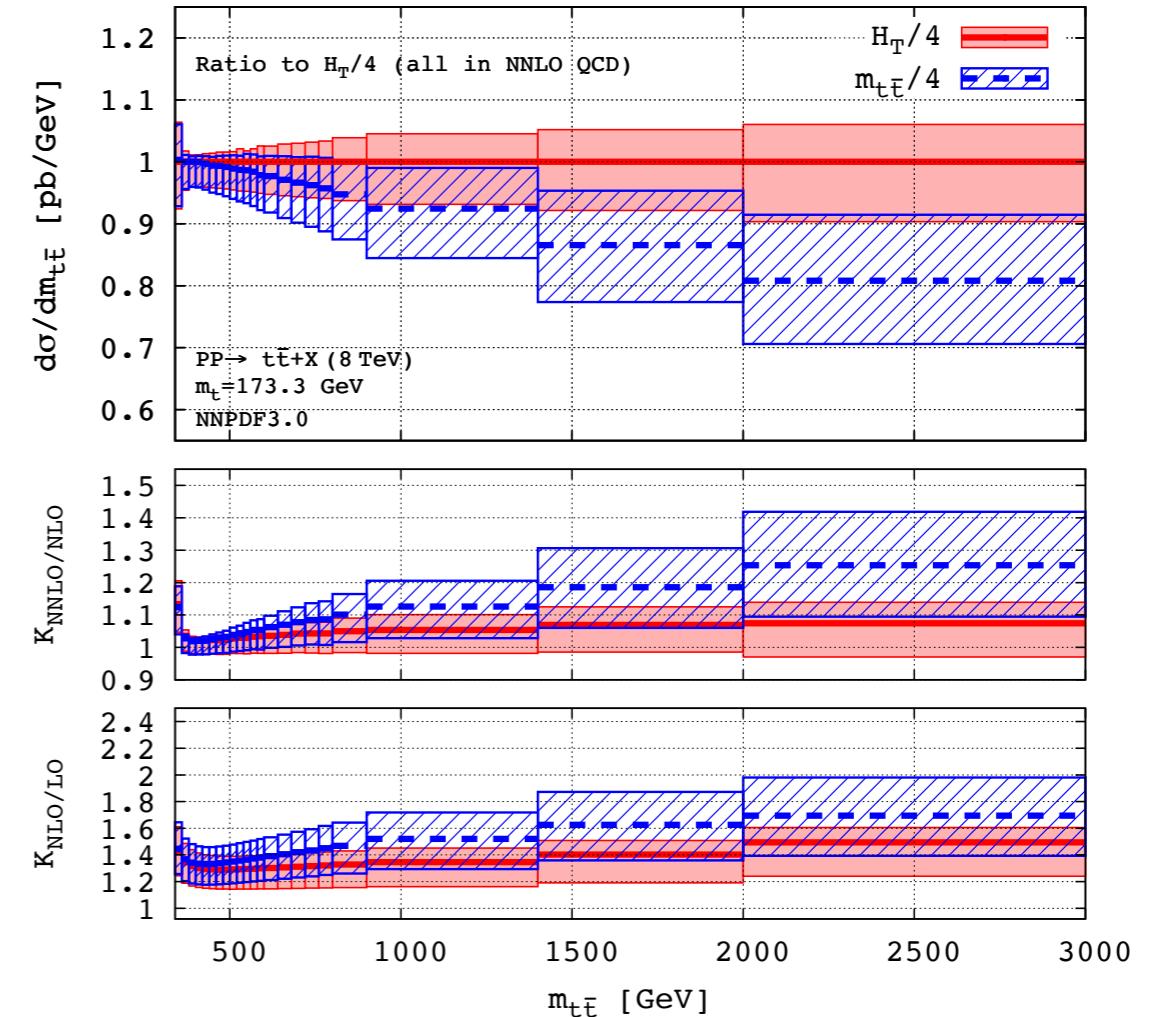
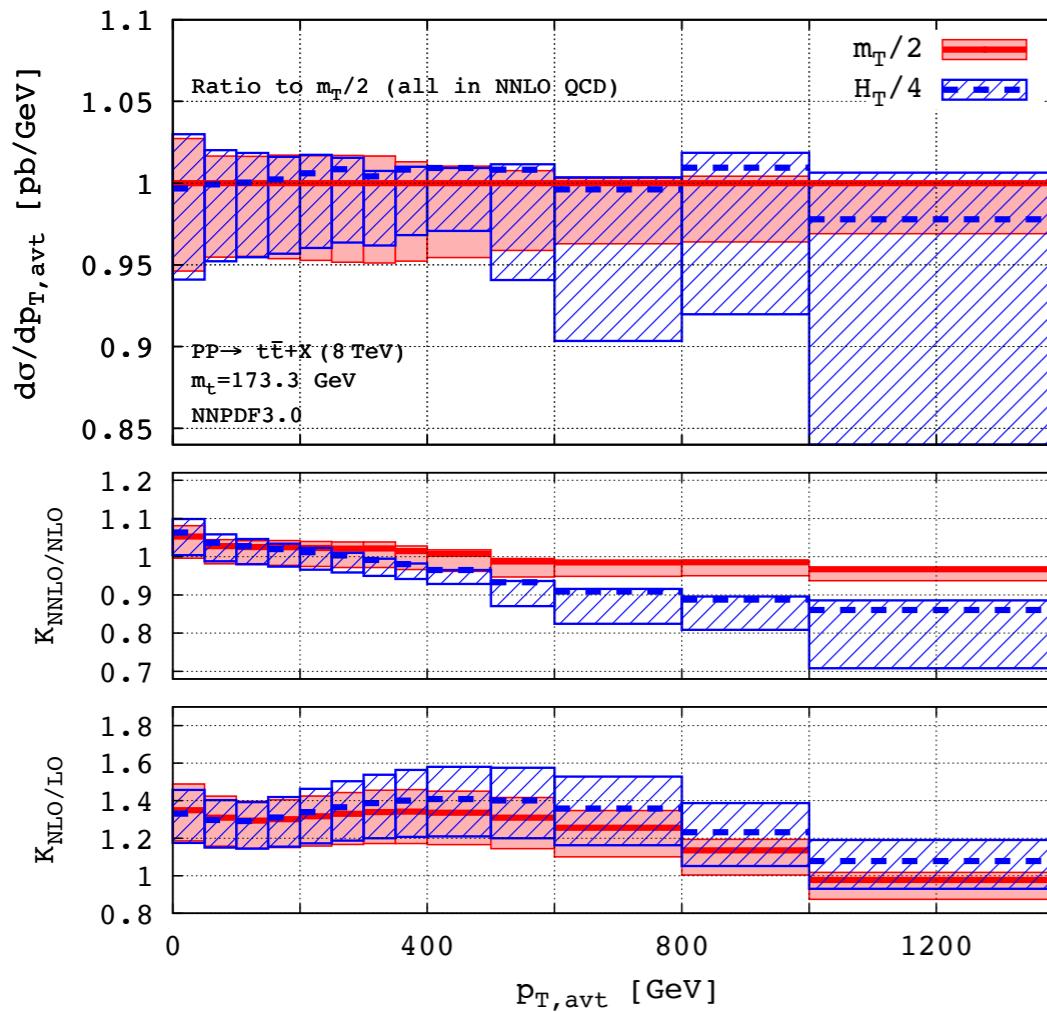


$$\mu_0 = \begin{cases} \frac{m_T}{2} & \text{for : } p_{T,t}, p_{T,\bar{t}} \text{ and } p_{T,t/\bar{t}}, \\ \frac{H_T}{4} & \text{for : all other distributions.} \end{cases}$$

Determine optimal “scale scheme” by minimizing higher order corrections

# NNLO with dynamic scale

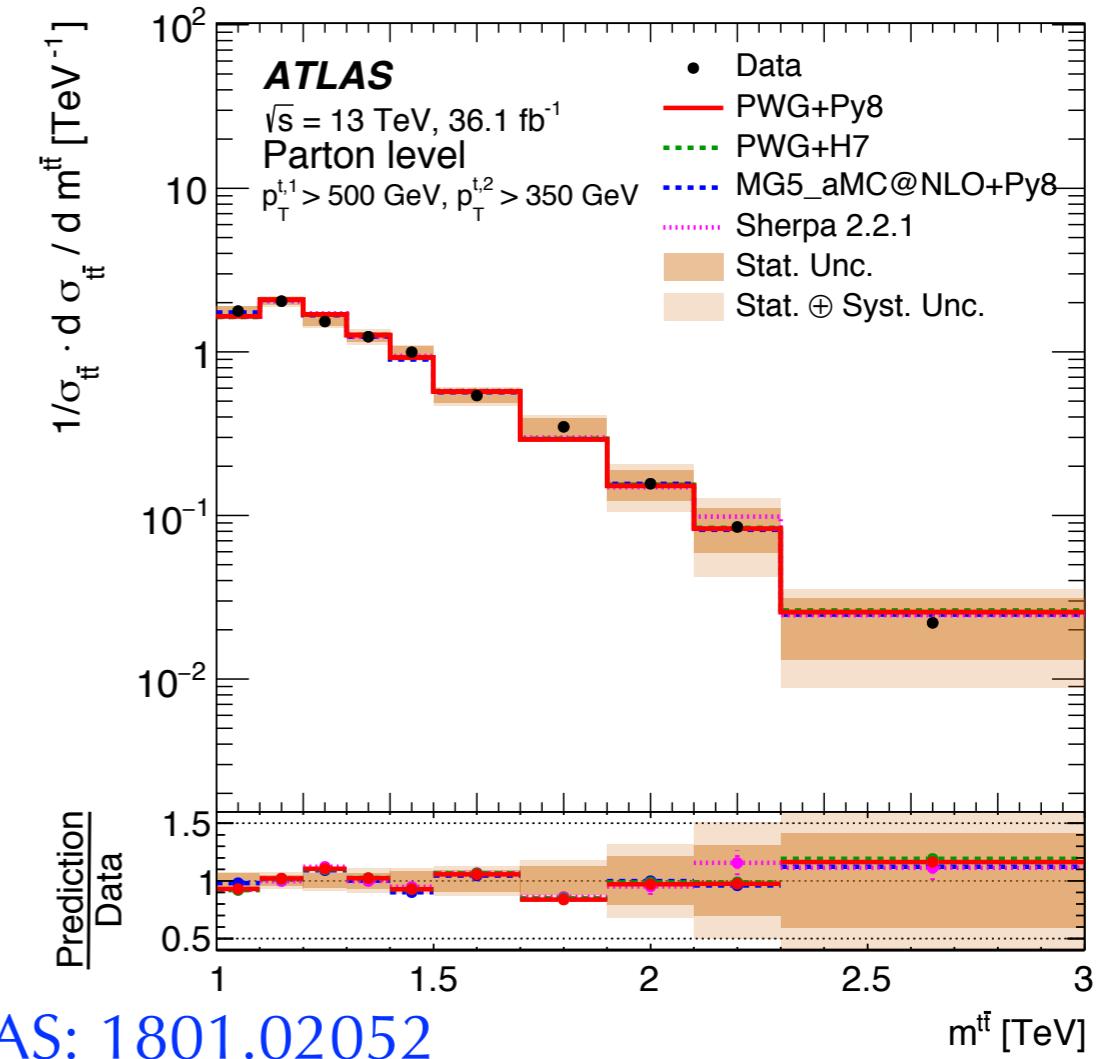
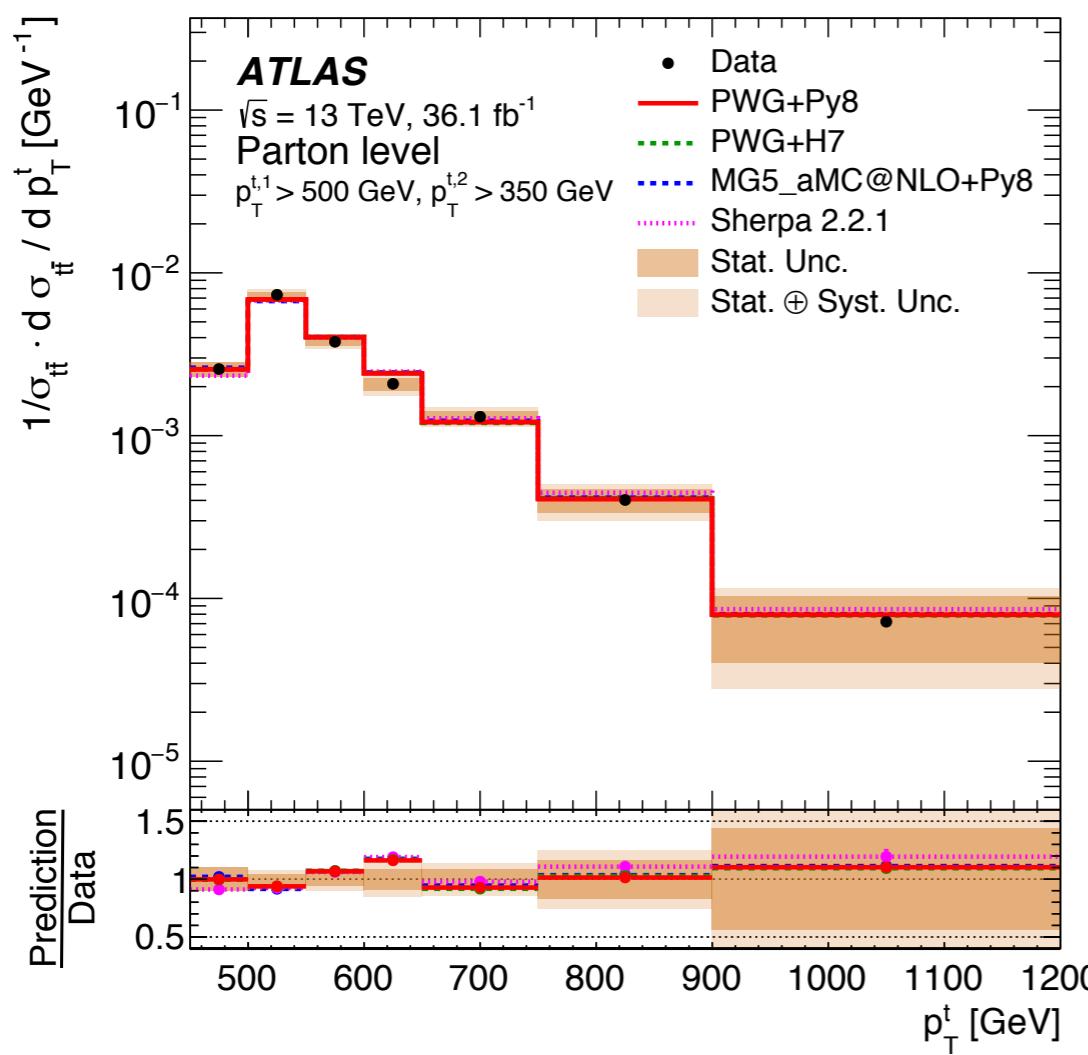
Czakon, Heymes, Mitov: 1606.03350



Vastly different behaviors with different scheme choices  
(especially in the boosted region)

# Boosted top quarks

Sensitive to new physics, interesting in its own right!

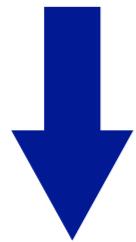


ATLAS: 1801.02052

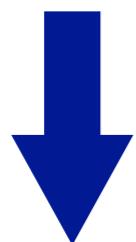
Actively being probed by LHC experiments

# Producing boosted tops

Hard extra emissions  
suppressed



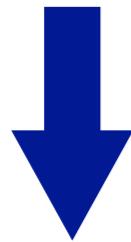
**soft gluons**



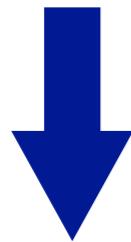
$$\ln \frac{\hat{s} - M_{t\bar{t}}^2}{M_{t\bar{t}}^2}$$

# Producing boosted tops

Hard extra emissions  
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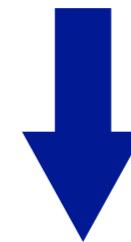


**soft gluons**



$$\ln \frac{\hat{s} - M_{t\bar{t}}^2}{M_{t\bar{t}}^2}$$

Top quark nearly massless



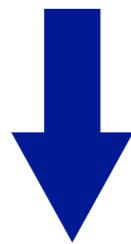
**quasi-collinear gluons**



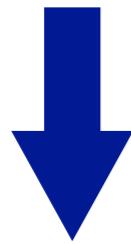
$$\ln \frac{m_t^2}{M_{t\bar{t}}^2}$$

# Producing boosted tops

Hard extra emissions  
suppressed

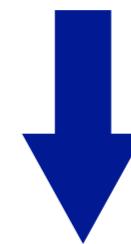


soft gluons



$$\ln \frac{\hat{s} - M_{t\bar{t}}^2}{M_{t\bar{t}}^2}$$

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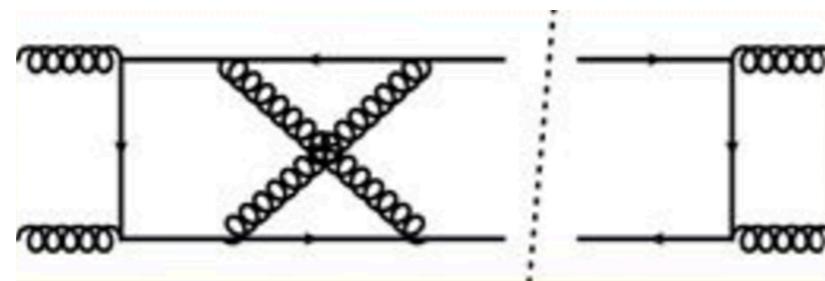


$$\ln \frac{m_t^2}{M_{t\bar{t}}^2}$$

**Need to resum both!**  
Ferroglio, Pecjak, [LLY: 1205.3662](#)

# Soft gluon resummation

## Hard function



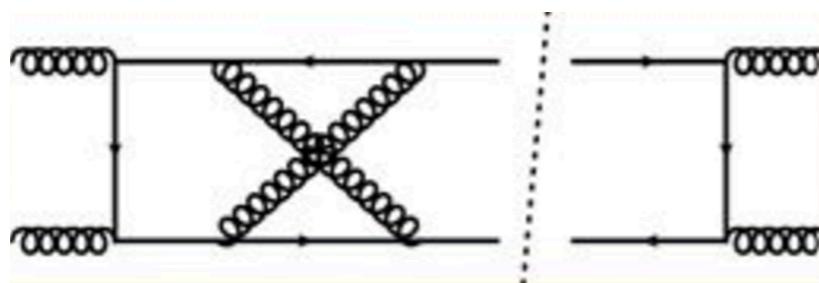
Kidonakis, Sterman: hep-ph/9705234

Ahrens, Ferroglia, Neubert,  
Pecjak, **LLY**: 1003.5827

Evolving from the scale of  
hard scatterings

# Soft gluon resummation

## Hard function



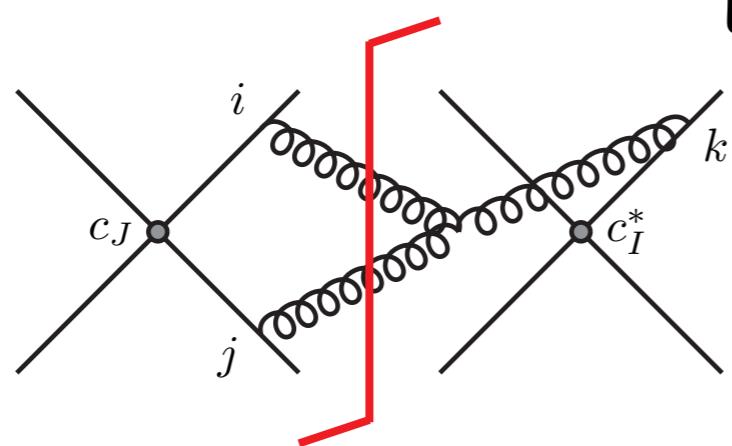
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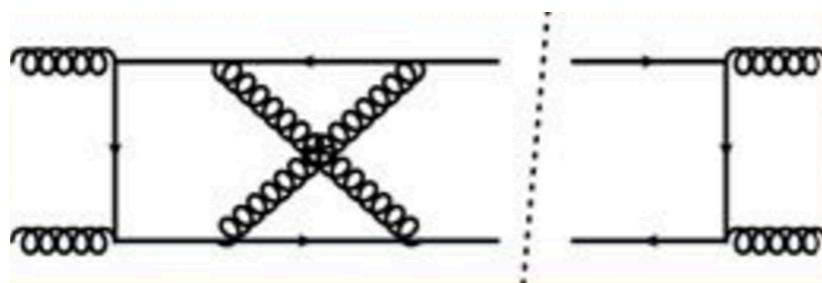
to the scale of soft interactions



Soft function

# Soft gluon resummation

**Hard function**

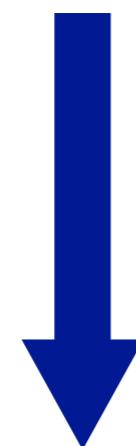


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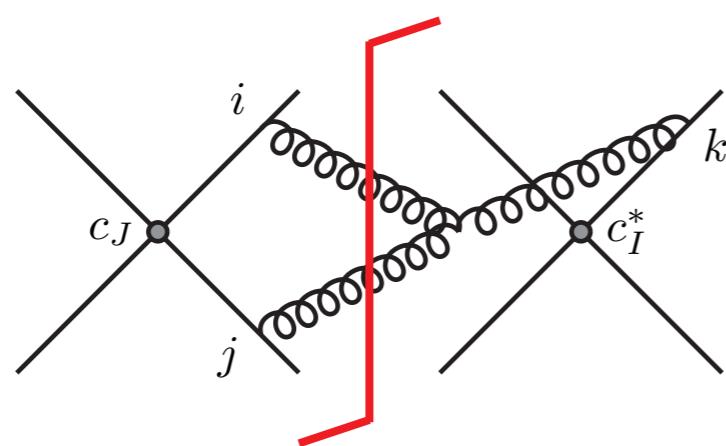
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**Governed by  
IR structure**

Evolving from the scale of  
hard scatterings



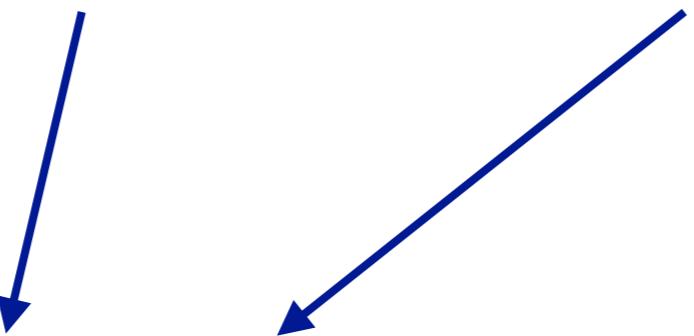
to the scale of soft interactions



**Soft function**

# IR anomalous dimension

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Gamma = & \sum_{(i,j)} \frac{\mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j}{2} \gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\alpha_s) \ln \frac{\mu^2}{-s_{ij}} + \sum_i \gamma^i(\alpha_s) \\
 & - \sum_{(I,J)} \frac{\mathbf{T}_I \cdot \mathbf{T}_J}{2} \gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\beta_{IJ}, \alpha_s) + \sum_I \gamma^I(\alpha_s) \\
 & + \sum_{I,j} \mathbf{T}_I \cdot \mathbf{T}_j \gamma_{\text{cusp}}(\alpha_s) \ln \frac{m_I \mu}{-s_{Ij}} \\
 & + \sum_{(I,J,K)} i f^{abc} \mathbf{T}_I^a \mathbf{T}_J^b \mathbf{T}_K^c F_1(\beta_{IJ}, \beta_{JK}, \beta_{KI}) \\
 & + \sum_{(I,J)} \sum_k i f^{abc} \mathbf{T}_I^a \mathbf{T}_J^b \mathbf{T}_k^c f_2\left(\beta_{IJ}, \ln \frac{-\sigma_{Jk} v_J \cdot p_k}{-\sigma_{Ik} v_I \cdot p_k}\right)
 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

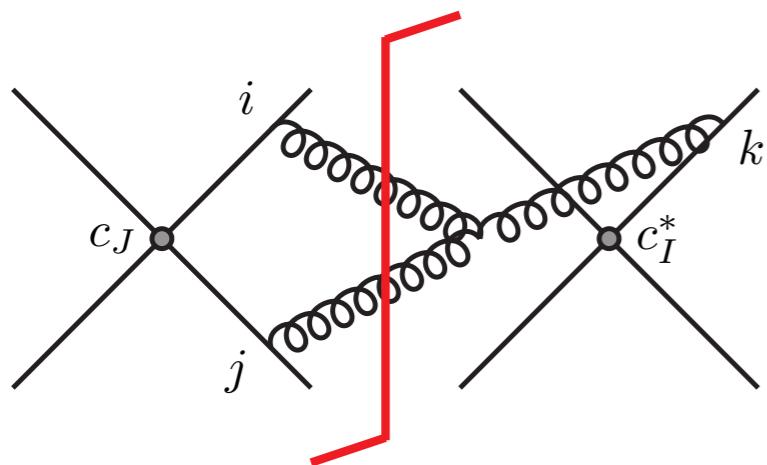

  
 3-parton correlations

Becher, Neubert: 0904.1021

Ferroglio, Neubert, Pecjak, **LLY**:  
0907.4791; 0908.3676

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_1(\beta_{12}, \beta_{23}, \beta_{31}) &= \frac{\alpha_s^2}{12\pi^2} \sum_{i,j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} g(\beta_{ij}) r(\beta_{ki}) \\
 r(\beta) &= \beta \coth \beta, \\
 g(\beta) &= \coth \beta \left[ \beta^2 + 2\beta \ln(1 - e^{-2\beta}) - \text{Li}_2(e^{-2\beta}) + \frac{\pi^2}{6} \right] \\
 &\quad - \beta^2 - \frac{\pi^2}{6}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

# The soft function



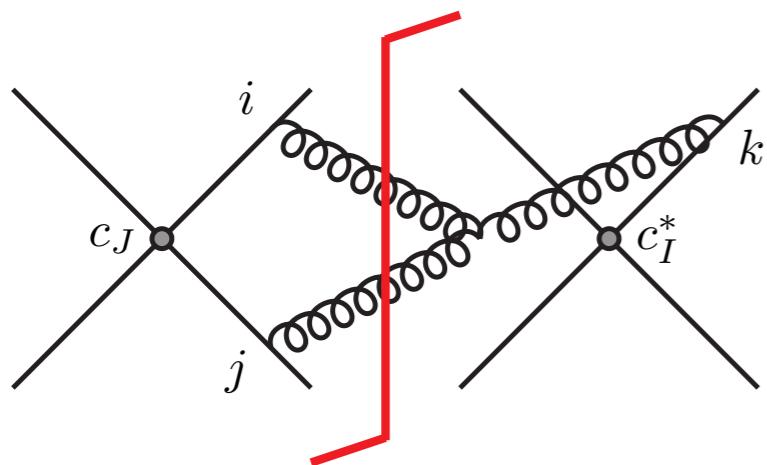
Known at NLO

Ahrens, Ferroglia, Neubert,  
Pecjak, **LLY**: 1003.5827

Known at NNLO in the massless limit  
(except an off-diagonal 3-parton piece)

Ferroglia, Pecjak, **LLY**: 1207.4798

# The soft function



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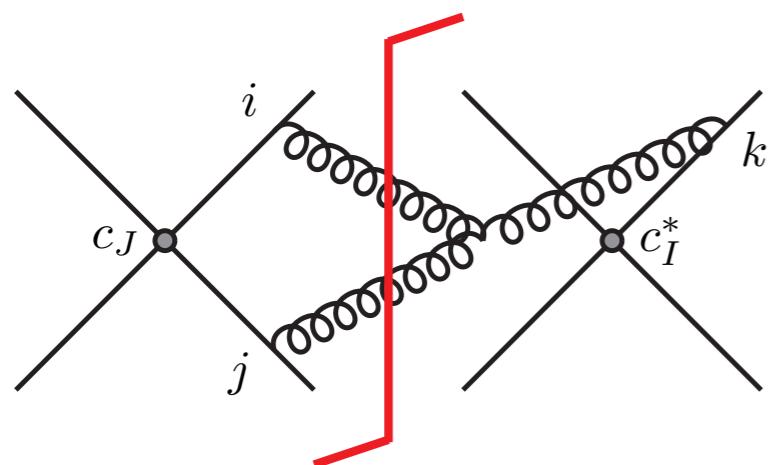
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**Recent calculation at NNLO with massive tops**

Wang, Xu, **LLY**, Zhu: 1804.05218

# The soft function



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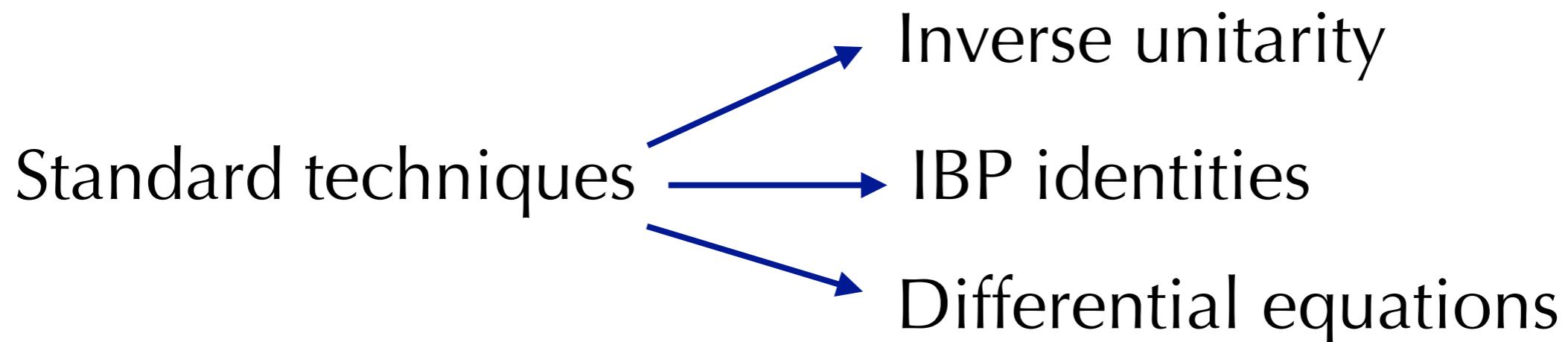
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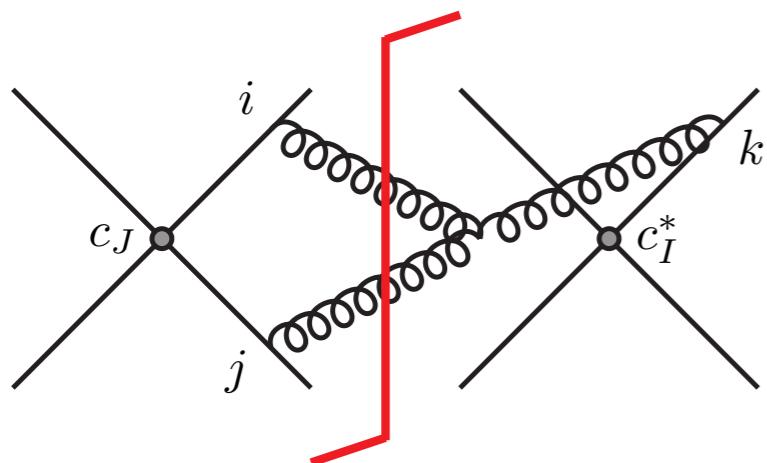
Ferroglia, Pecjak, **LLY**: 1207.4798

## Recent calculation at NNLO with massive tops

Wang, Xu, **LLY**, Zhu: 1804.05218



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Ahrens, Ferroglia, Neubert,  
Pecjak, LLY: 1003.5827

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Ferroglia, Pecjak, LLY: 1207.4798

## Recent calculation at NNLO with massive tops

Wang, Xu, LLY, Zhu: 1804.05218

Standard techniques

Inverse unitarity

IBP identities

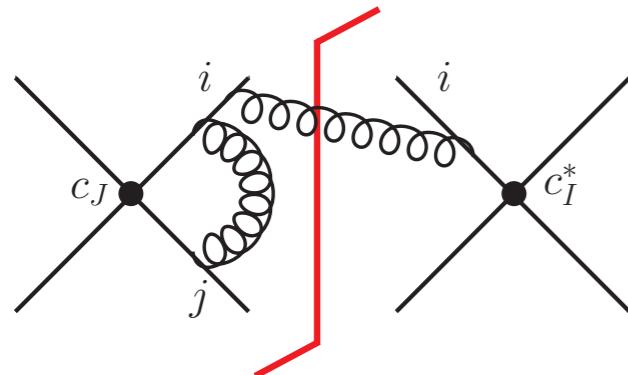
Differential equations

**Non-trivial: boundary conditions**

# The boundary conditions

We choose the boundary to be

$$\beta \equiv \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_t^2}{M_{t\bar{t}}}} \rightarrow 0$$



Some virtual-real integrals develop Coulomb/Glauber-type singularities in this limit

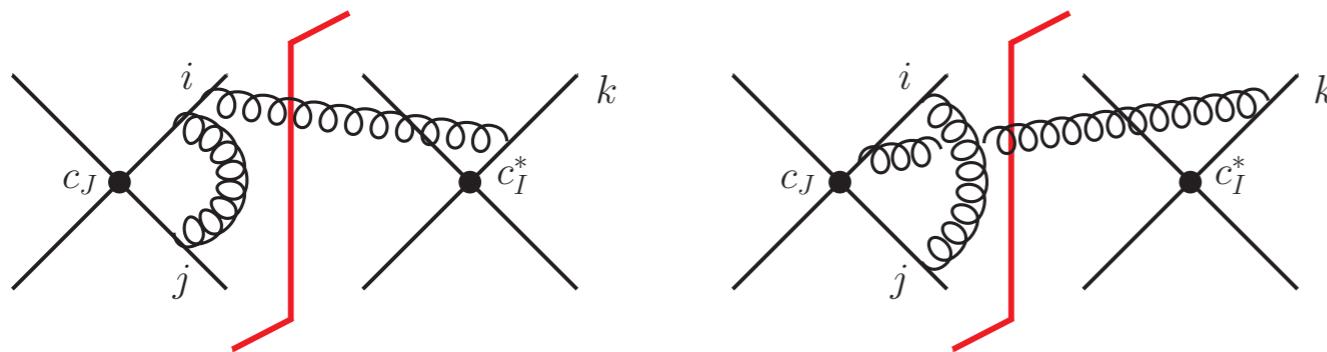
Carefully extract the asymptotic behavior, e.g.

$$g_6^{(4)}(\epsilon, \beta \rightarrow 0, y) \approx \frac{(e^{-2i\pi\epsilon} - 1) \beta^{2\epsilon} \Gamma(1 - 2\epsilon) \Gamma(1 + \epsilon)}{4^{1-2\epsilon} \Gamma(1 - \epsilon)}$$

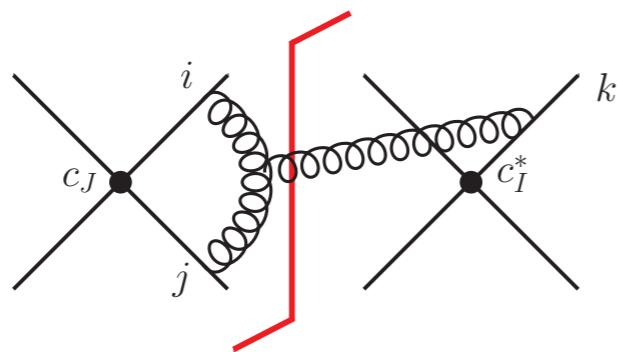
Note: virtual integrals available in

Bierenbaum, Czakon, Mitov: 1107.4384  
Czakon, Mitov: 1804.02069

# The 3-parton terms



$$if^{abc} T_i^a T_j^b T_k^c$$



- \* Off-diagonal purely-imaginary contributions
- \* Do not enter the NNLO cross section
- \* Not calculated in the massless case

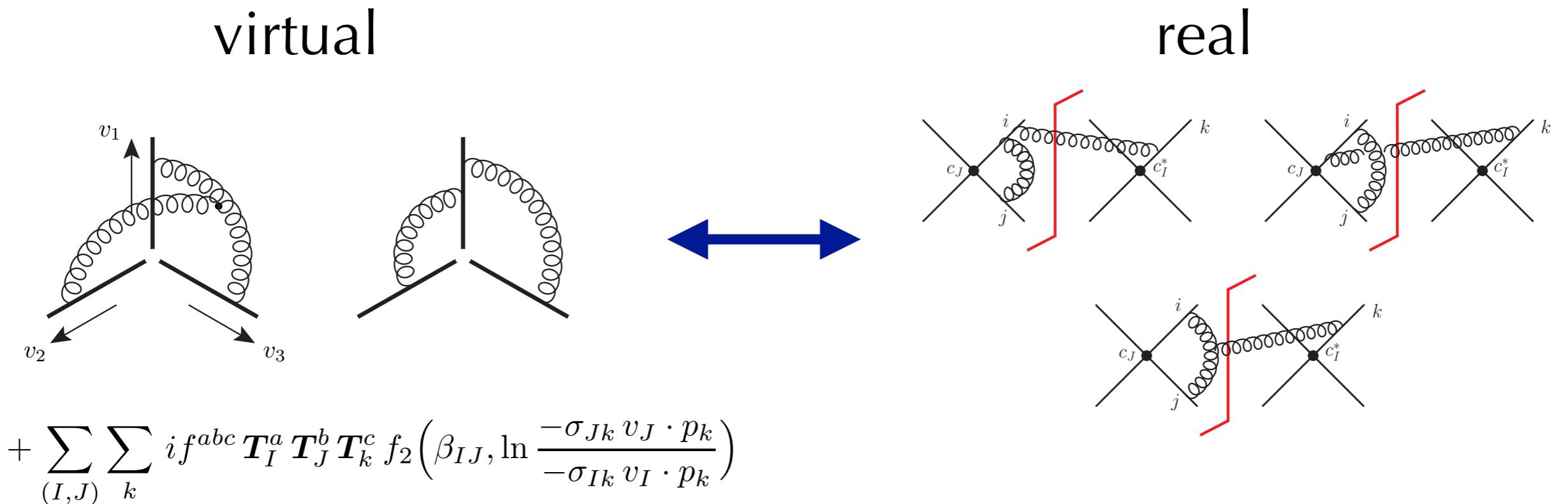
# A piece of final result

$$\begin{aligned}
& \tilde{s}_{22}^{q\bar{q},(2)}(0, \beta, y) \Big|_{T_F N_l} = \frac{16(7\beta^2 - 126\beta + 127)}{243\beta} G_1 + \frac{8(5\beta^2 + 90\beta + 53)}{81\beta} (G_{-1,-1} - G_{-1,1} - 2G_{0,-1}) \\
& - \frac{16(7\beta^2 + 126\beta + 127)}{243\beta} G_{-1} + \frac{8(5\beta^2 - 90\beta + 53)}{81\beta} (G_{1,-1} - G_{1,1} + 2G_{0,1}) \\
& + \frac{8(\beta^2 + 18\beta + 1)}{27\beta} (-G_{-1,-1,-1} + G_{-1,-1,1} + 2G_{-1,0,-1} - 2G_{-1,0,1} - G_{-1,1,-1} + G_{-1,1,1} \\
& + 2G_{0,-1,-1} - 2G_{0,-1,1} - 4G_{0,0,-1}) + \frac{8(\beta^2 - 18\beta + 1)}{27\beta} (4G_{0,0,1} + 2G_{0,1,-1} - 2G_{0,1,1} \\
& - G_{1,-1,-1} + G_{1,-1,1} + 2G_{1,0,-1} - 2G_{1,0,1} - G_{1,1,-1} + G_{1,1,1}) \\
& + \frac{32}{243} \left[ 28G_{-1/y} + 98G_{1/y} + 30(2G_{0,-1/y} + G_{-1/y,-1} + G_{-1/y,1} - 2G_{-1/y,-1/y}) \right. \\
& + 105(2G_{0,1/y} + G_{1/y,-1} + G_{1/y,1} - 2G_{1/y,1/y}) + 18(4G_{0,0,-1/y} + 2G_{0,-1/y,-1} + 2G_{0,-1/y,1} \\
& - 4G_{0,-1/y,-1/y} - G_{-1/y,-1,-1} + G_{-1/y,-1,1} + 2G_{-1/y,0,-1} + 2G_{-1/y,0,1} - 4G_{-1/y,0,-1/y} \\
& + G_{-1/y,1,-1} - G_{-1/y,1,1} - 2G_{-1/y,-1/y,-1} - 2G_{-1/y,-1/y,1} + 4G_{-1/y,-1/y,-1/y}) \\
& + 63(4G_{0,0,1/y} + 2G_{0,1/y,-1} + 2G_{0,1/y,1} - 4G_{0,1/y,1/y} - G_{1/y,-1,-1} + G_{1/y,-1,1} + 2G_{1/y,0,-1} \\
& + 2G_{1/y,0,1} - 4G_{1/y,0,1/y} + G_{1/y,1,-1} - G_{1/y,1,1} - 2G_{1/y,1/y,-1} - 2G_{1/y,1/y,1} + 4G_{1/y,1/y,1/y}) \\
& \left. - \frac{332}{3} - \frac{5\pi^2}{2} + 6\zeta_3 \right], \tag{84}
\end{aligned}$$

It is remarkable that all the results can be written in terms of multiple polylogarithms

# Validation: IR structure

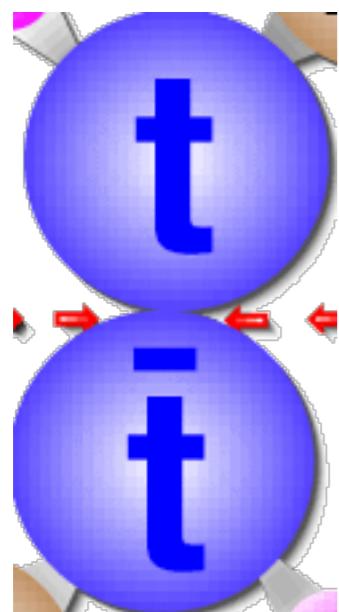
The soft divergence generated from real emissions should be the same as the virtual amplitude! (required by KLN theorem)



3-parton correlations: non-trivial cross-check!

# Validation: threshold limit

It is interesting to check the threshold limit where the top quarks are produced at rest



Color singlet: same as Drell-Yan  
and Higgs production

Belitsky: hep-ph/9808389

Color octet [Czakon, Fiedler: 1311.2541](#)

Note: singlet-octet mixing terms do NOT vanish in the threshold limit!

# Validation: boosted limit

In the limit where the top quarks are highly boosted



Factorization [Ferroglia, Pecjak, LLY: 1205.3662](#)

$$S_{\text{massive}}(s, t, m_t, N) \rightarrow S_{\text{massless}}(s, t, N) S_D^2(m_t/N)$$

# Validation: boosted limit

In the limit where the top quarks are highly boosted



Factorization Ferroglia, Pecjak, [LLY: 1205.3662](#)

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Ferroglia, Pecjak, [LLY: 1207.4798](#)

Also obtain the missing  
3-parton piece for free

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Ferroglio, Pecjak, [LLY](#): 1207.4798

Also obtain the missing  
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Allows to extract the soft fragmentation function

# Soft and small-mass factorization

Ferroglio, Pecjak, **LLY**: 1205.3662

In Mellin space:  $Q \sim \sqrt{s}, \sqrt{-t} \gg Q/N \gg m_t \gg m_t/N$

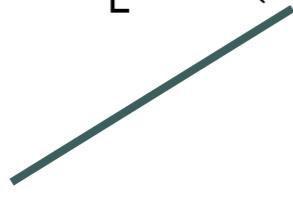
$$\hat{\sigma}(N, \mu_f) \sim \text{Tr}[\mathbf{H}(L_h, \mu_f) \mathbf{S}(L_s, \mu_f)] C_D^2(L_c, \mu_f) S_D^2(L_{sc}, \mu_f)$$

# Soft and small-mass factorization

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$$\ln \frac{Q^2}{\mu_f^2}$$


hard log

# Soft and small-mass factorization

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$$\ln \frac{Q^2}{\mu_f^2}$$

$$\ln \frac{Q^2}{N^2 \mu_f^2}$$

hard log                          soft log

# Soft and small-mass factorization

Ferroglio, Pecjak, LLY: 1205.3662

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$$\ln \frac{Q^2}{\mu_f^2}$$

hard log

$$\ln \frac{Q^2}{N^2 \mu_f^2}$$

soft log

$$\ln \frac{m_t^2}{\mu_f^2}$$

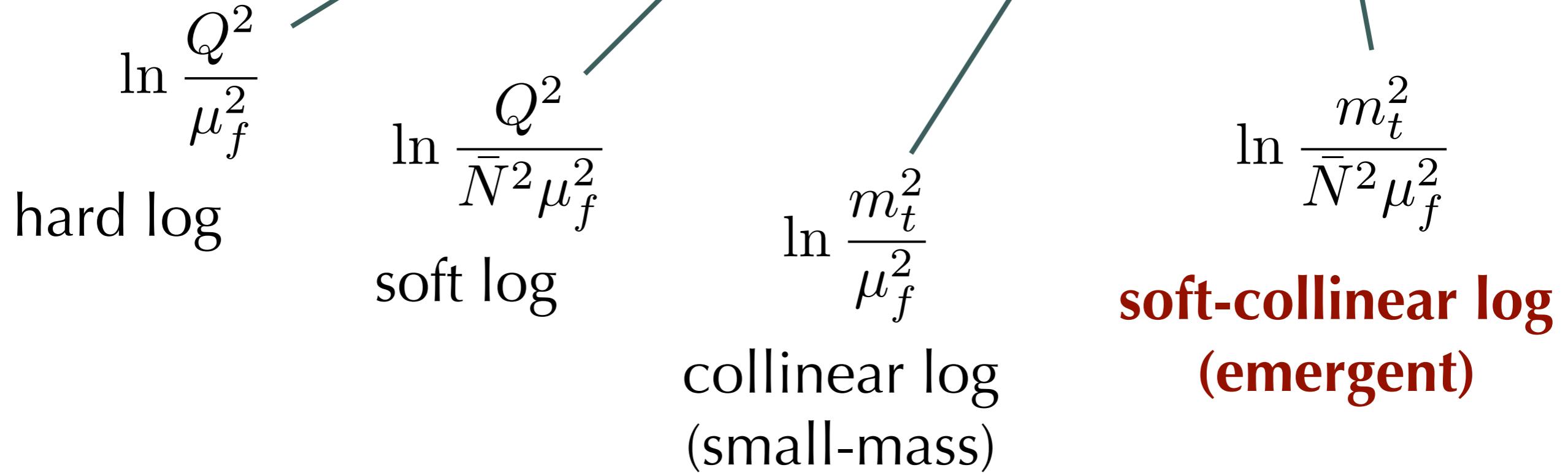
collinear log  
(small-mass)

# Soft and small-mass factorization

Ferroglio, Pecjak, LLY: 1205.3662

In Mellin space:  $Q \sim \sqrt{s}, \sqrt{-t} \gg Q/N \gg m_t \gg m_t/N$

$$\hat{\sigma}(N, \mu_f) \sim \text{Tr} [\mathbf{H}(L_h, \mu_f) \mathbf{S}(L_s, \mu_f)] C_D^2(L_c, \mu_f) S_D^2(L_{sc}, \mu_f)$$



# Consistency of factorizations

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Mitov, Moch: [hep-ph/0612149](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0612149)

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Wang, Xu, [LLY](#), Zhu: 1804.05218

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Fragmentation function

Korchemsky, Marchesini: [hep-ph/9210281](#)

Cacciari, Catani: [hep-ph/0107138](#)

Gardi: [hep-ph/0501257](#)

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**All consistent at NNLO!**

# Soft and small-mass resummation

Massless hard function

$$H(L_h, \mu_h \sim Q)$$

$$C_D(L_c, \mu_c \sim m_t)$$

Massless soft function

$$S(L_s, \mu_s \sim Q/\bar{N})$$

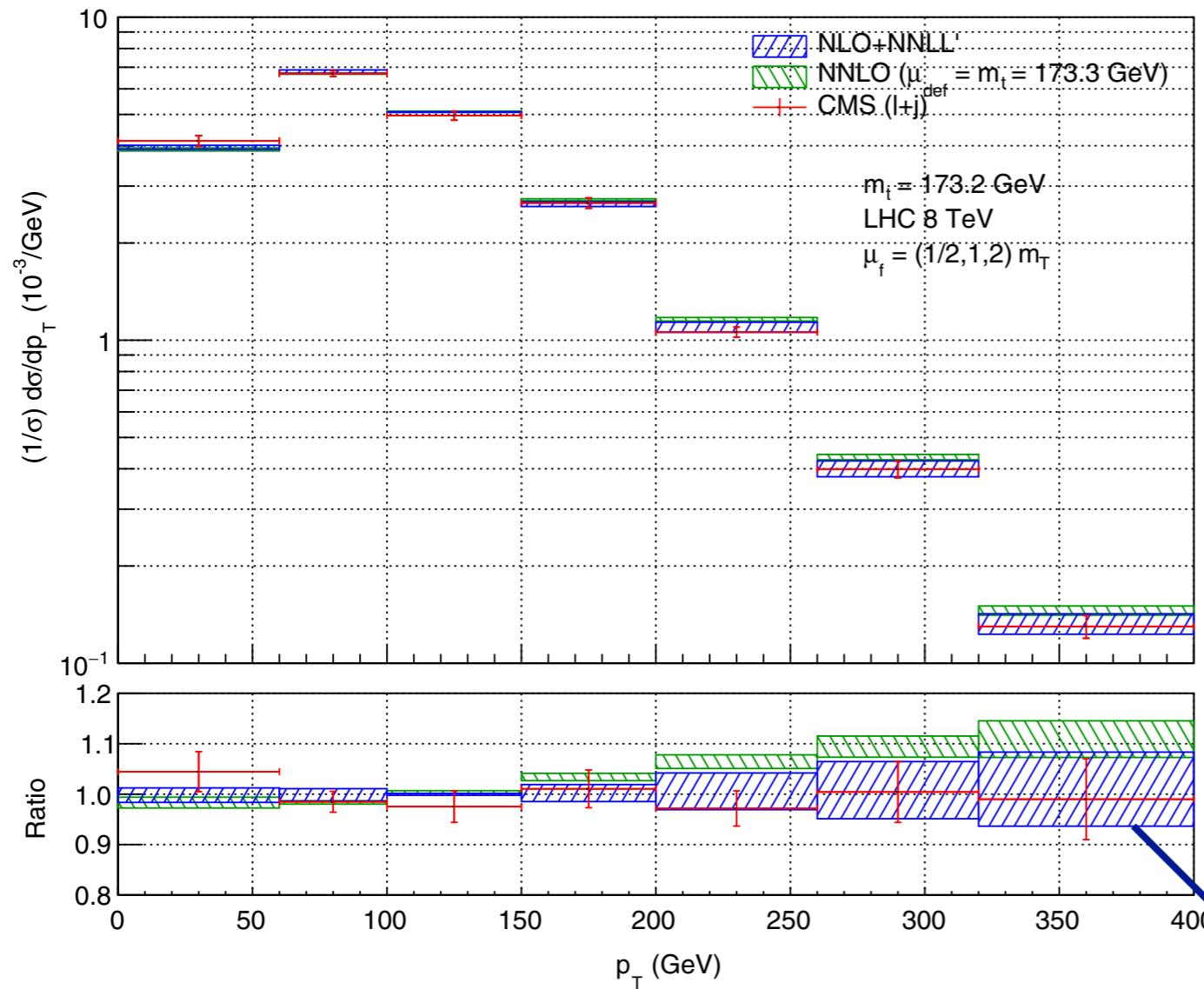
RG flow

$$S_D(L_{sc}, \mu_{sc} \sim m_t/\bar{N})$$

All ingredients known at NNLO (for NNLL' resummation)

# NLO+NNLL'

Pecjak, Scott, Wang, **LLY**: 1601.07020



Resummation  
soften the spectrum

# NNLO+NNLL'

A joint effort of the NNLO group  
and the resummation group

Czakon, Ferroglia, Heymes, Mitov, Pecjak,  
Scott, Wang, **LLY**: 1803.07623

$$d\sigma^{(N)NLO+NNLL'} = d\sigma^{NNLL'_{b+m}} + \left( d\sigma^{(N)NLO} - d\sigma^{NNLL'_{b+m}} \Big|_{\substack{(N)NLO \\ \text{expansion}}} \right)$$

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Czakon, Ferroglia, Heymes, Mitov, Pecjak,  
Scott, Wang, LLY: 1803.07623

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$$d\sigma^{\text{NNLL}'_b} + \left( d\sigma^{\text{NNLL}_m} - d\sigma^{\text{NNLL}_m} \Big|_{m_t \rightarrow 0} \right)$$

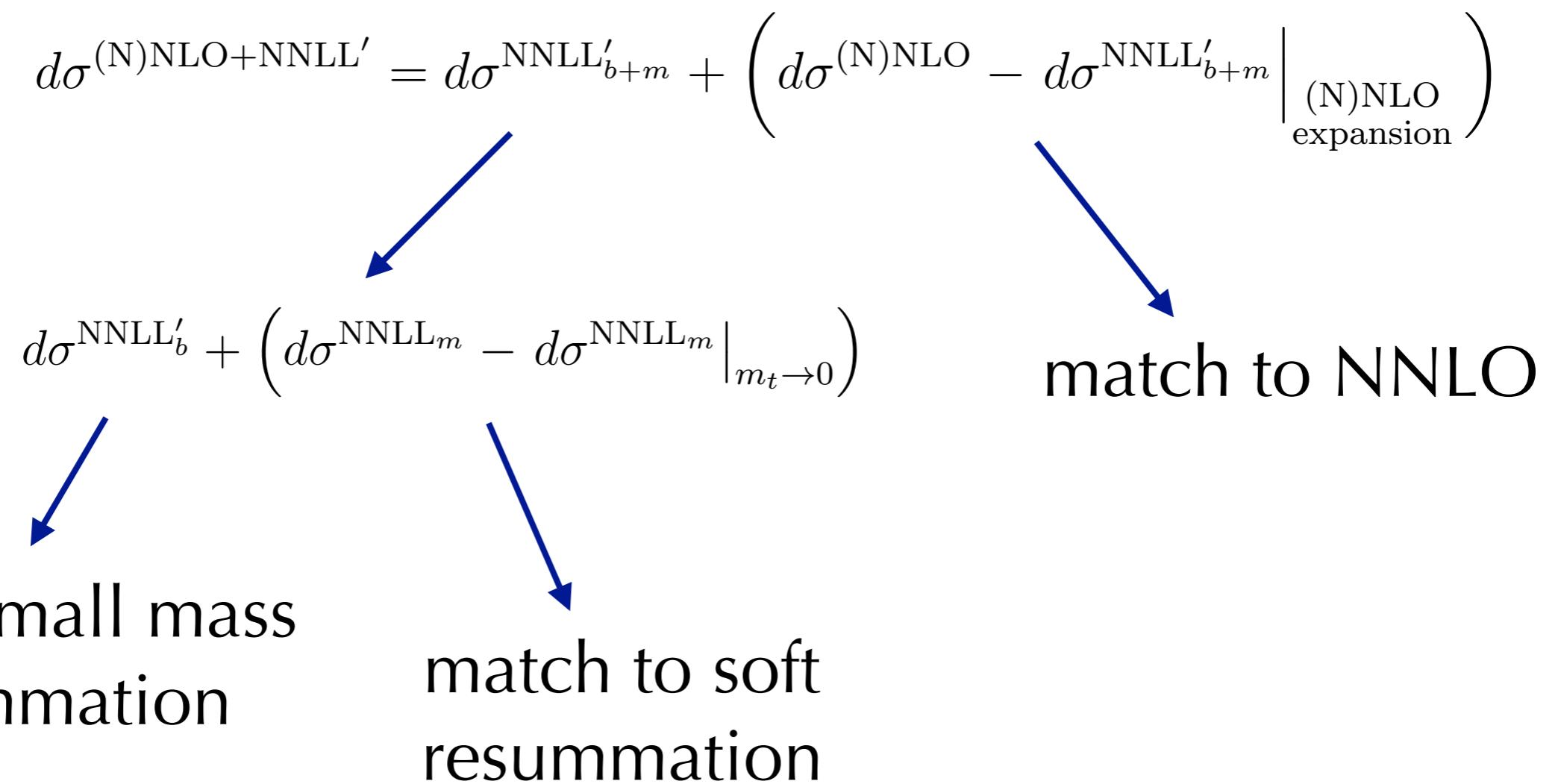
soft & small mass  
resummation

match to soft  
resummation

# NNLO+NNLL'

A joint effort of the NNLO group  
and the resummation group

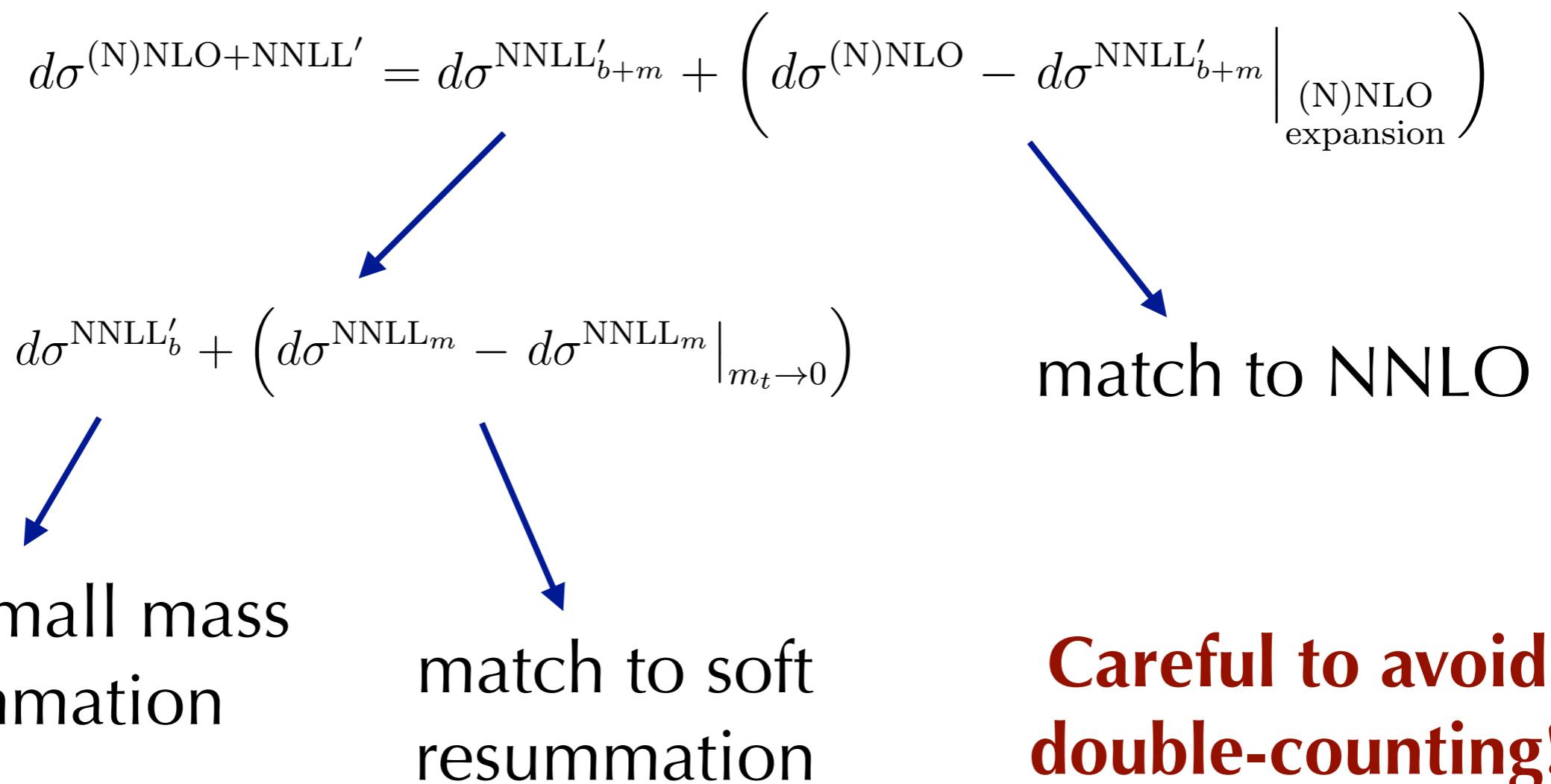
Czakon, Ferroglia, Heymes, Mitov, Pecjak,  
Scott, Wang, **LLY**: 1803.07623



# NNLO+NNLL'

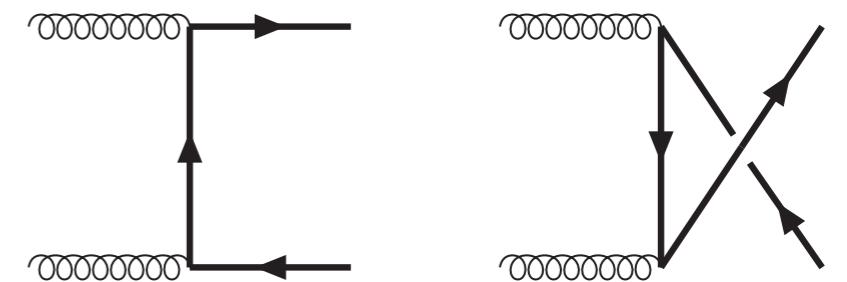
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# Scale choices

In the boosted limit, t- and u-channel propagators push the effective hard scale to

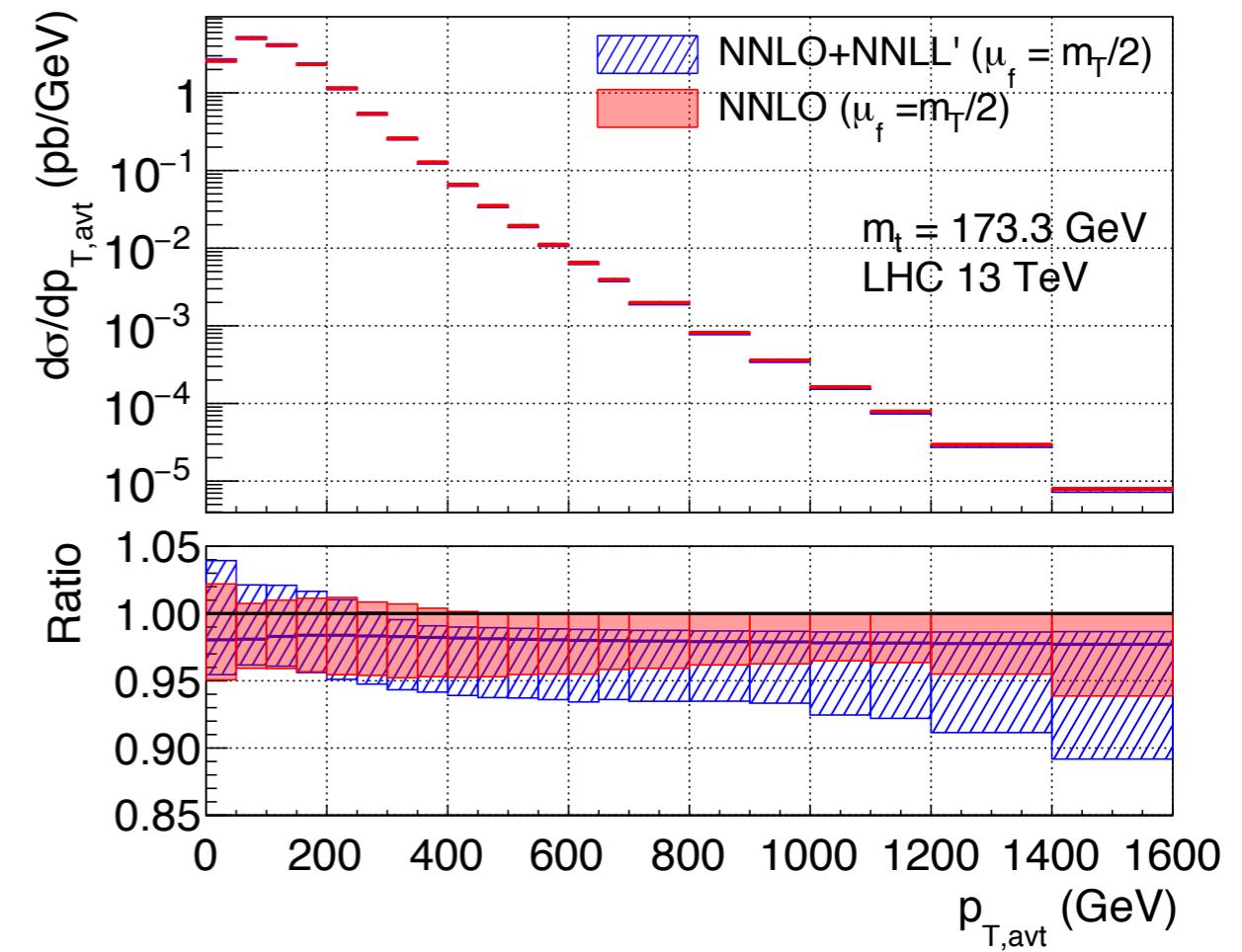
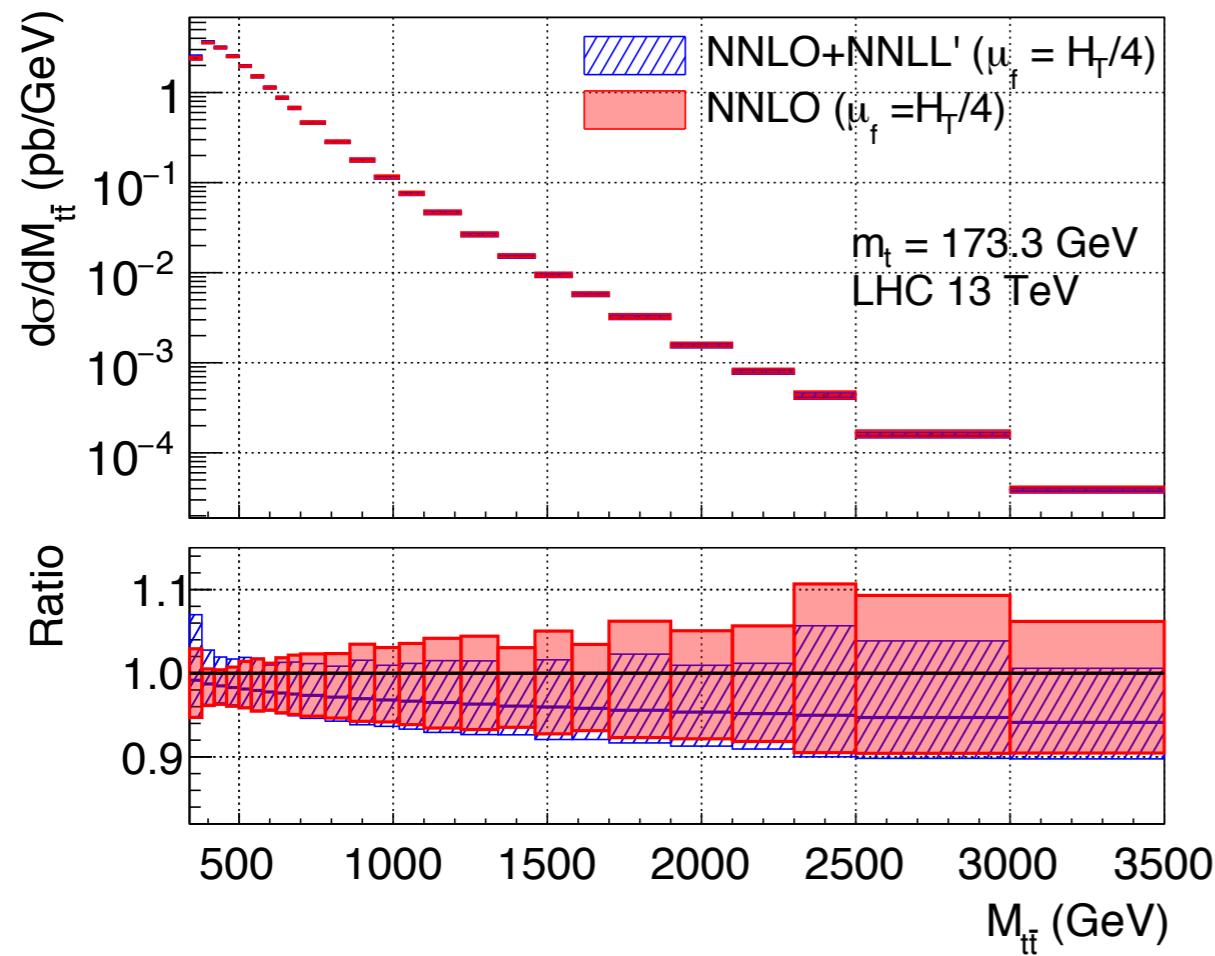


$$\begin{aligned} -t_1 \Big|_{m_t \rightarrow 0} &\approx \frac{M_{t\bar{t}}^2}{2} (1 - \cos \theta) + m_t^2 \cos \theta \xrightarrow{\cos \theta \rightarrow 1} p_T^2 + m_t^2 \equiv m_T^2 = H_T^2 / 4, \\ -u_1 \Big|_{m_t \rightarrow 0} &\approx \frac{M_{t\bar{t}}^2}{2} (1 + \cos \theta) - m_t^2 \cos \theta \xrightarrow{\cos \theta \rightarrow -1} m_T^2 = H_T^2 / 4. \end{aligned}$$

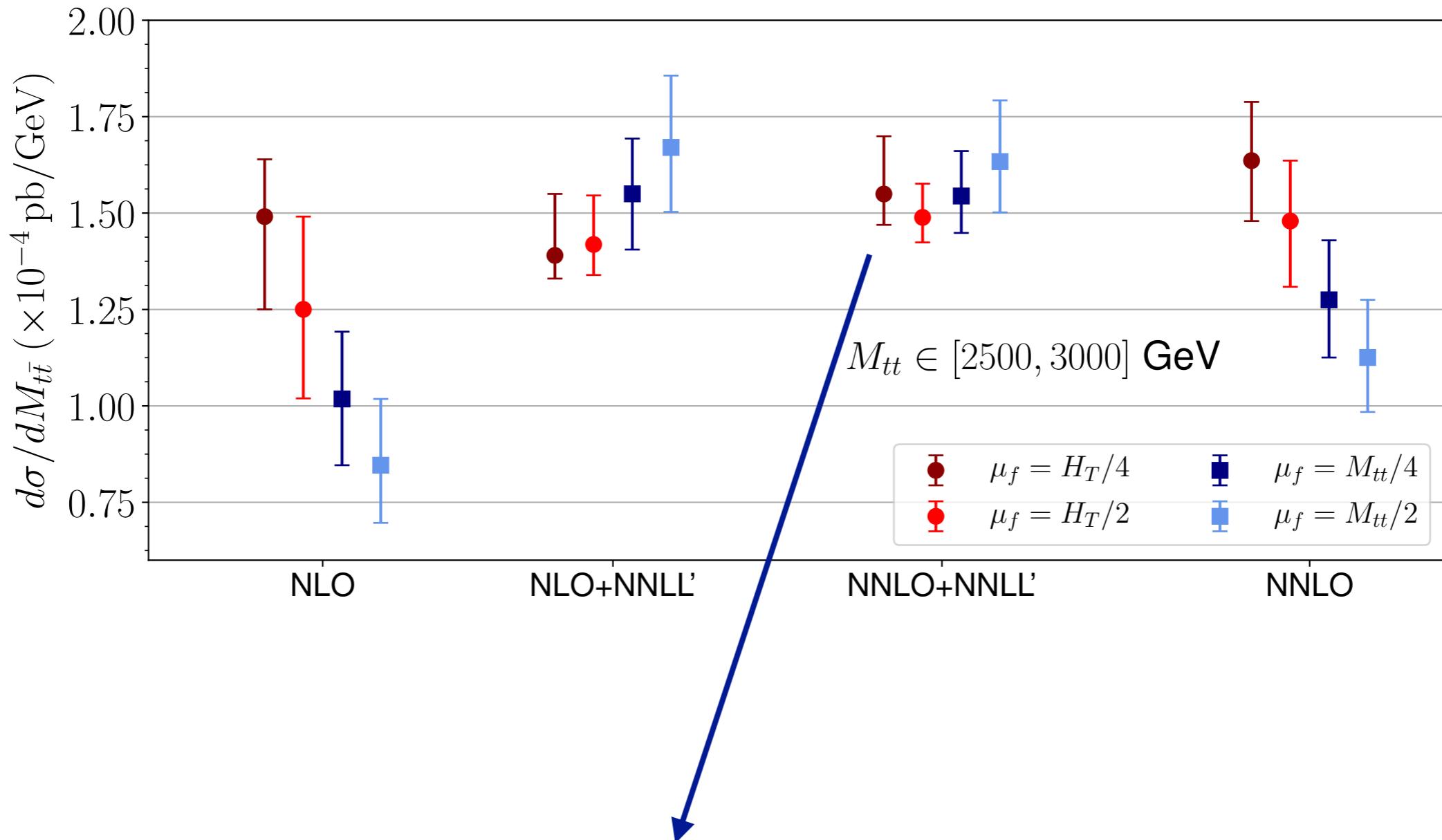
$$\left. \frac{\mathcal{H}_{gg}^{\text{NLO}}(\mu_h)}{\mathcal{H}_{gg}^{\text{LO}}(\mu_h)} \right|_{t_1 \rightarrow 0} = 1 + \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_h)}{36\pi} \left[ -78 \ln^2 \left( \frac{-t_1}{\mu_h^2} \right) + 24 \ln \left( \frac{-t_1}{\mu_h^2} \right) (3 + 2 \ln x_t) + 37\pi^2 - 168 \right]$$

Support the findings of [Czakon, Heymes, Mitov: 1606.03350](#)

# NNLO+NNLL'



# NNLO+NNLL'



Matched result insensitive to scale scheme choices

# Summary and outlook

- \* Soft gluons are important in top quark pair production
- \* We have studied their impacts at NNLO and beyond
  - \* Two-loop IR divergences
  - \* NNLO soft real emissions
  - \* Resummation of soft logarithms (+small-mass logarithms)
- \* Future prospects
  - \* Numerical results for rapidity distributions
  - \* From on-shell top quarks to top jets

**Thank you!**