

# Precision phenomenology with heavy-flavour jets at the LHC

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Rene Poncelet

based on 2011.01011, 2205.11879, 2212.00467 and 2308.02285  
and preliminary Les Houches studies



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Presented research received  
funding from:

LEVERHULME  
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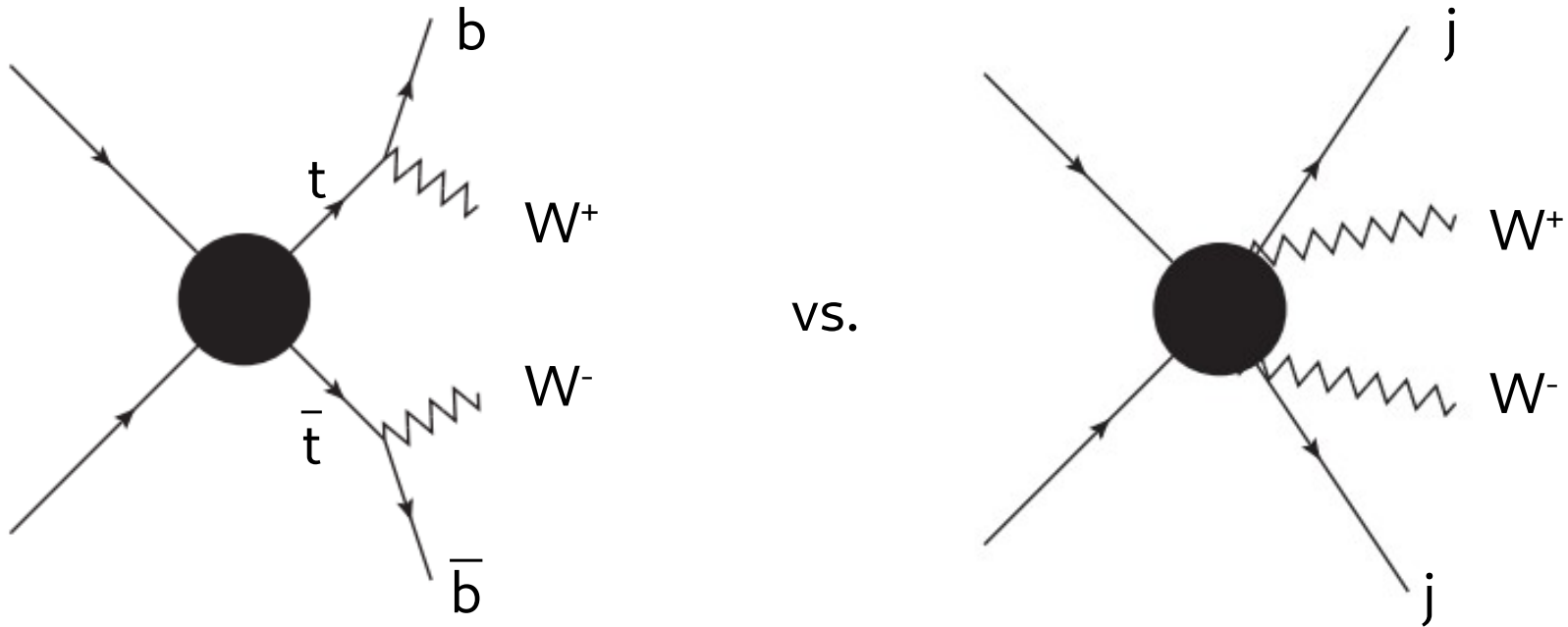


# Outline

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- Why are flavoured jets interesting for LHC physics?
  - Theory vs. Experimental point of view
  - Infrared safety/sensitivity
- Flavoured jet algorithms
  - Definition & Comparison
- NNLO QCD Phenomenology with flavour anti-kT algorithm
  - W+charm

# Top-quark production

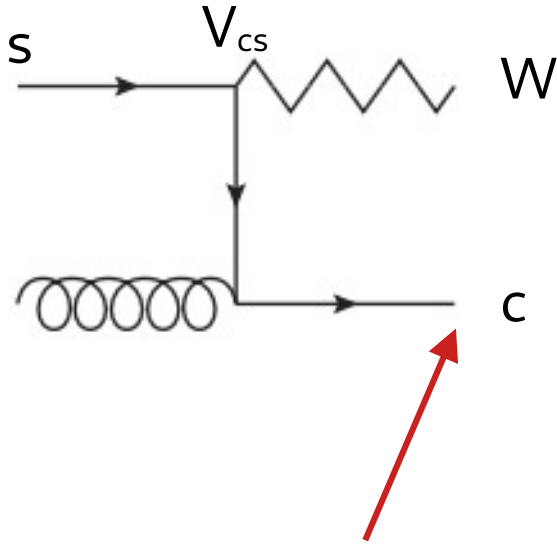


Top-quark pairs:

→ Experimental signature 2 – b-jets + WW

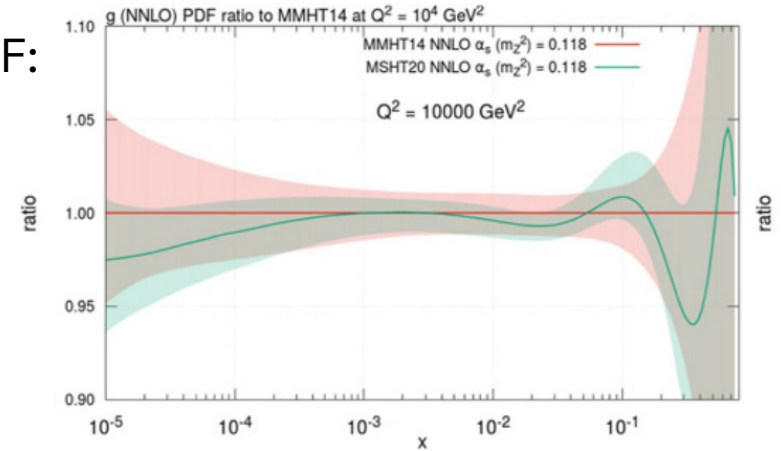
→ b-jet tagging reduces WW+QCD background dramatically.

# W + charm jet

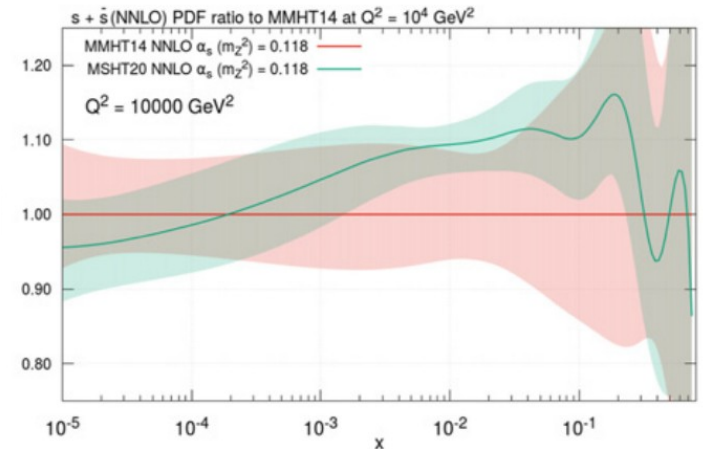


Tagging of charm jet  
to increase sensitivity  
to strange quark PDF

gluon PDF:



s+s PDF:



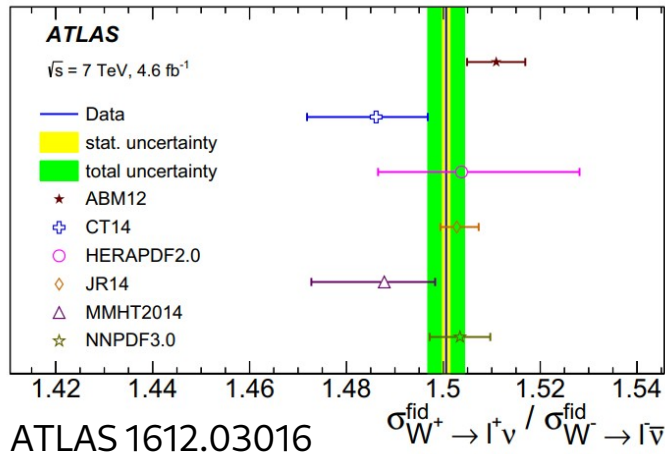
PDF4LHC22 [2203.05506]

# W + charm jet

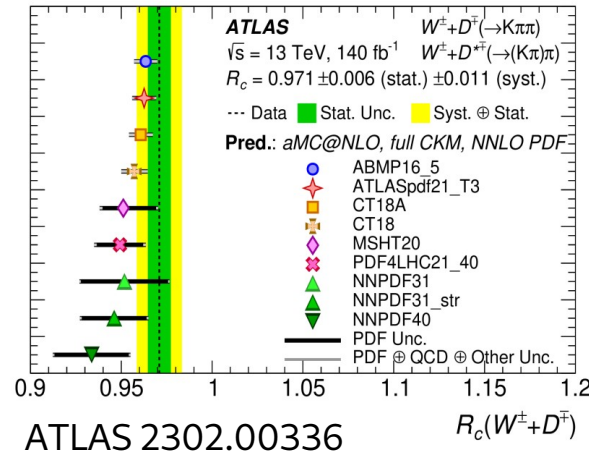
Could solve long-standing puzzle:  
**Strange – anti – strange asymmetry**

- pQCD: Three loop SM prediction  $q \rightarrow q' \neq q \rightarrow \bar{q}'$  small effect  $\langle x(s-\bar{s}) \rangle \sim 10^{-4}$
- Size of non-perturbative effect unknown

7 TeV analysis favours  $s \neq \bar{s}$

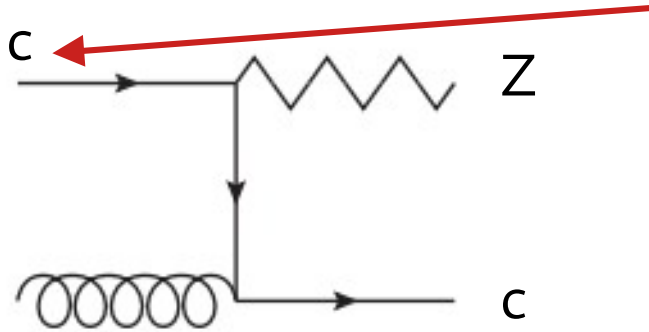


13 TeV analysis favours  $s = \bar{s}$



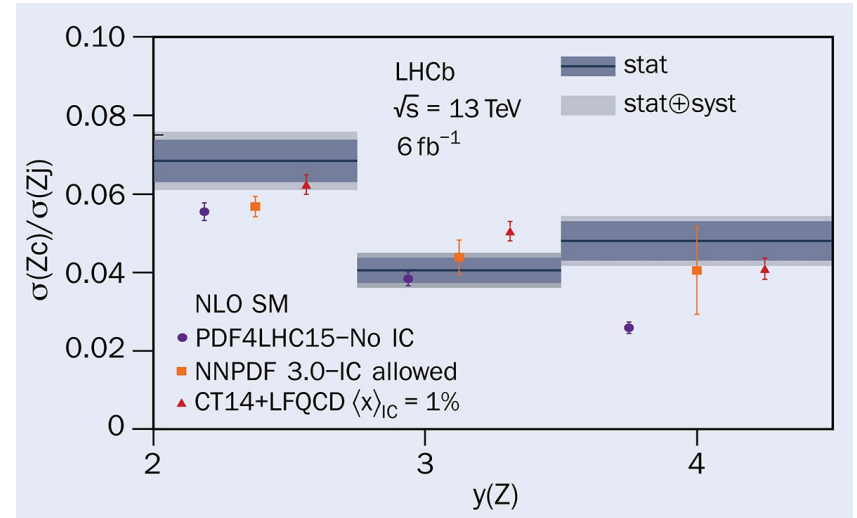
All at NLO QCD  
 higher order  
 corrections needed  
 to fit properly the  
 PDF

# Z + charm jet



Similar to W+charm but for charm PDF

Intrinsic charm component?  
Clarification needs  
→ higher order corrections  
→ charm jet definition



CERN/LHCb 2109.08084

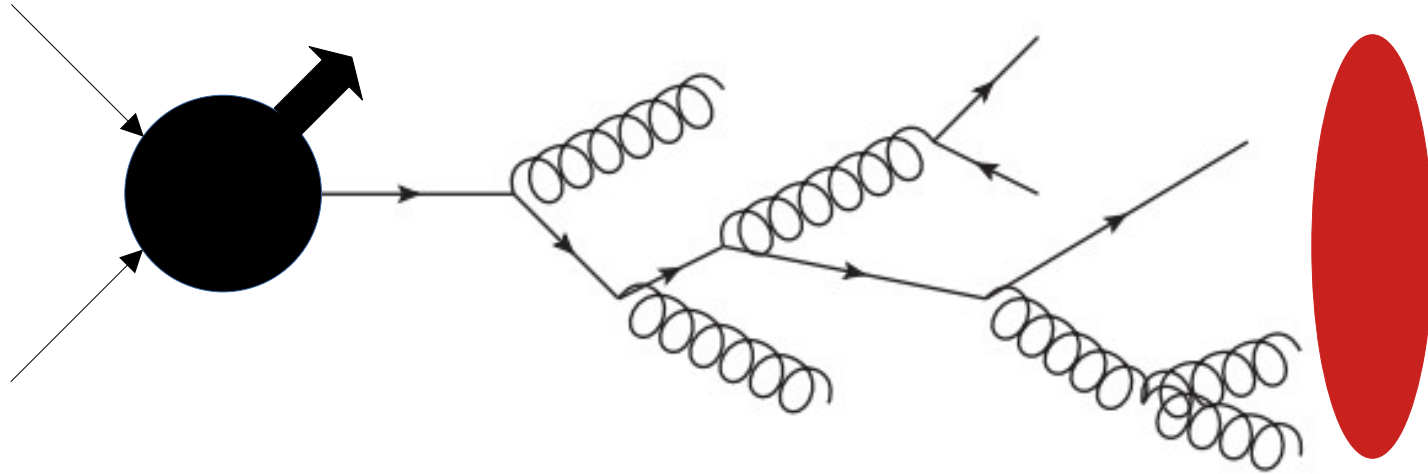
# Flavoured jets are everywhere

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- Top-quarks
- Vector+heavy flavour:  $pp \rightarrow W/Z/A + c/b$
- Higgs  $\rightarrow$  charm, Higgs  $\rightarrow$  bottom
- New physics searches
- ...

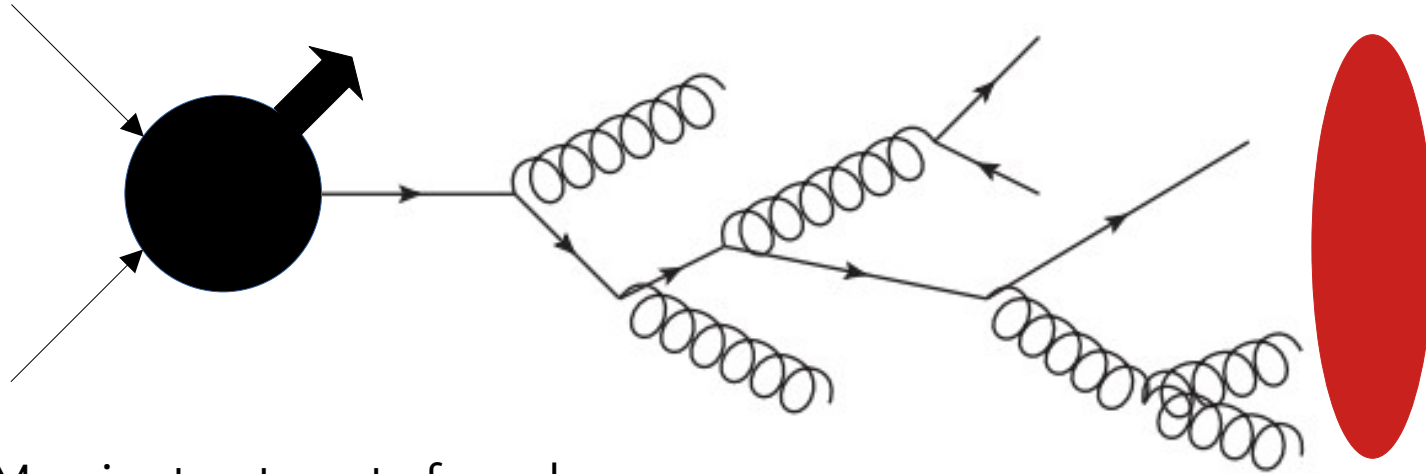
# Partonic jet evolution

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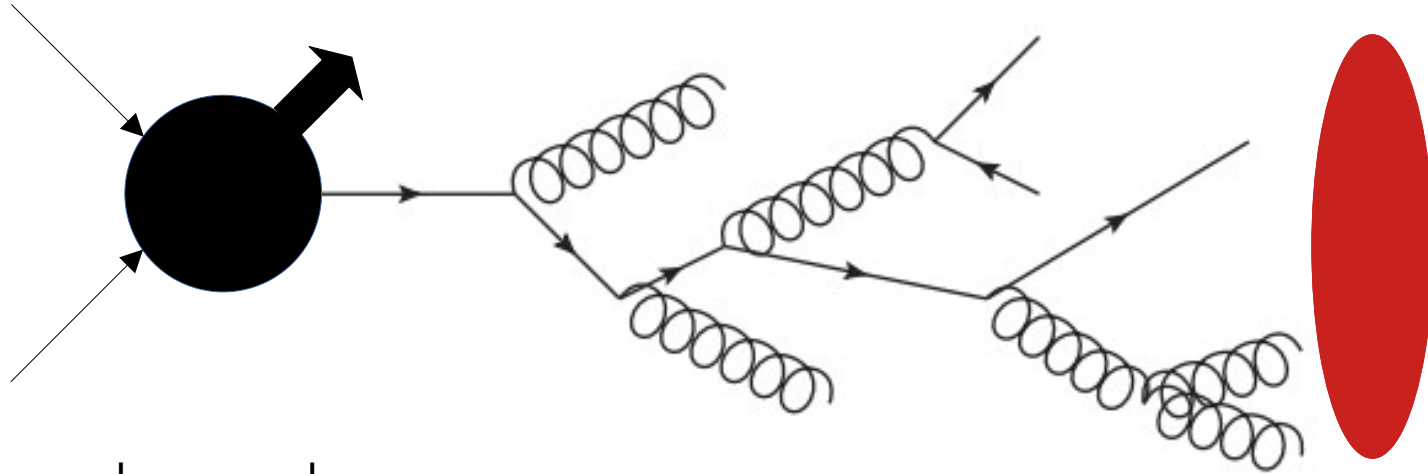
# Partonic jet evolution



## Case I: Massive treatment of quark

- Mass acts as IR regulator  $\rightarrow$  no IR divergences from collinear splitting
  - Price to pay:  $\log(p_T/m)$  will be important at high energy!  
 $\rightarrow$  resummation needed for reliable predictions
  - Parton-showers can do this but at low accuracy
  - Higher order calculations more difficult
  - Some applications (like PDF fits) need fixed order pQCD at higher orders
- } NLO+PS

# Partonic jet evolution

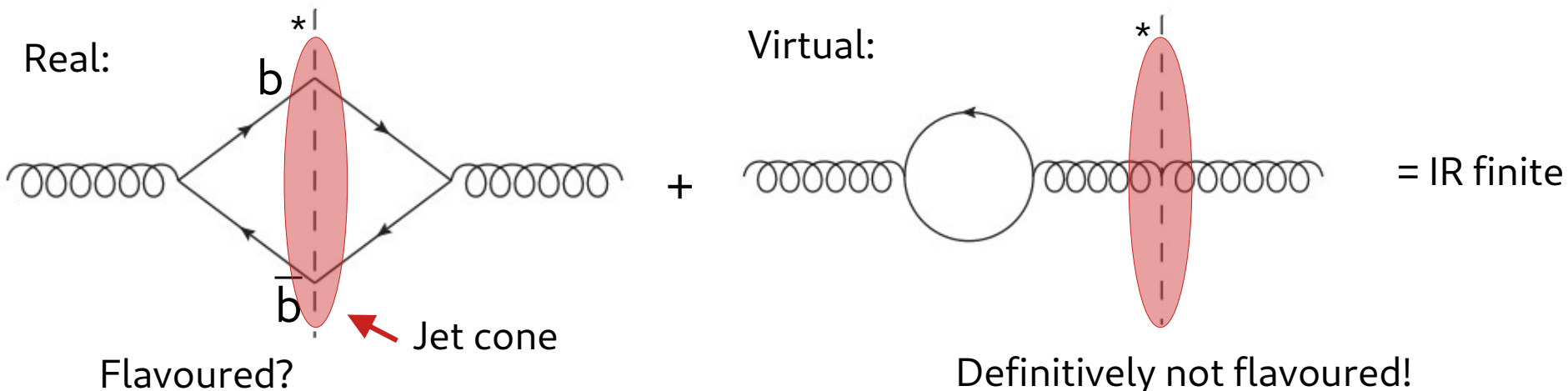


Case II: massless quarks

- Collinear divergences absorbed by renormalisation
- Consistent treatment in junction with PDFs
- Higher order calculations easier  $\rightarrow$  NNLO QCD de-facto standard
- BUT: IR-safety more demanding due to collinear and soft flavoured particles

# IR safety issues starting from NLO QCD

Massless QCD: Cancellation of IR divergences between real and virtual corrections

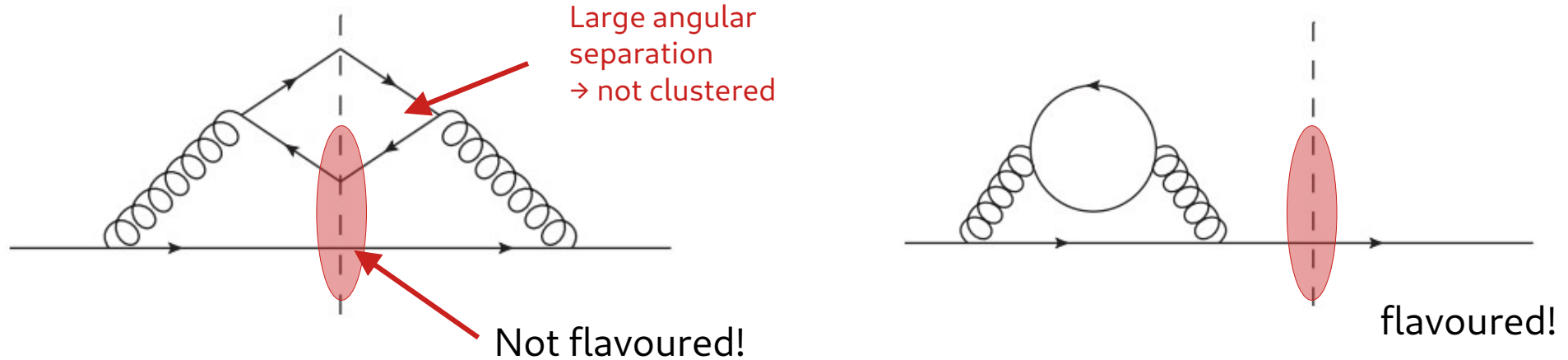


$b \bar{b}$  has to count as a gluon!

\*: cut symbolises the "measured" final state

# IR safety issues starting from NNLO QCD

Double soft limit of quark pairs



- These double soft splittings need to be captured
- Requires to interleave kinematics and flavour information!

# Short summary - theory

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- Massive:
  - Proper description near threshold
  - Identifiable objects  $\rightarrow$  4-momenta IR safe observables (mass is regulator)
  - Fixed-order perturbation theory: large logs at high  $p_T \rightarrow$  Resummation with PS
  - Higher-order corrections more challenging
- Massless:
  - Proper description at high energies, flavour takes part in PDFs/DGLAP
  - Higher-order corrections easier to compute
  - IR-safety requires modified jet algorithms  $\rightarrow$  implications for phenomenology
- In-between solutions:
  - FONLL : matching of massive and massless computation
  - Perturbative fragmentation

How does this compare to experiment?

# Experimental b/c-tagging

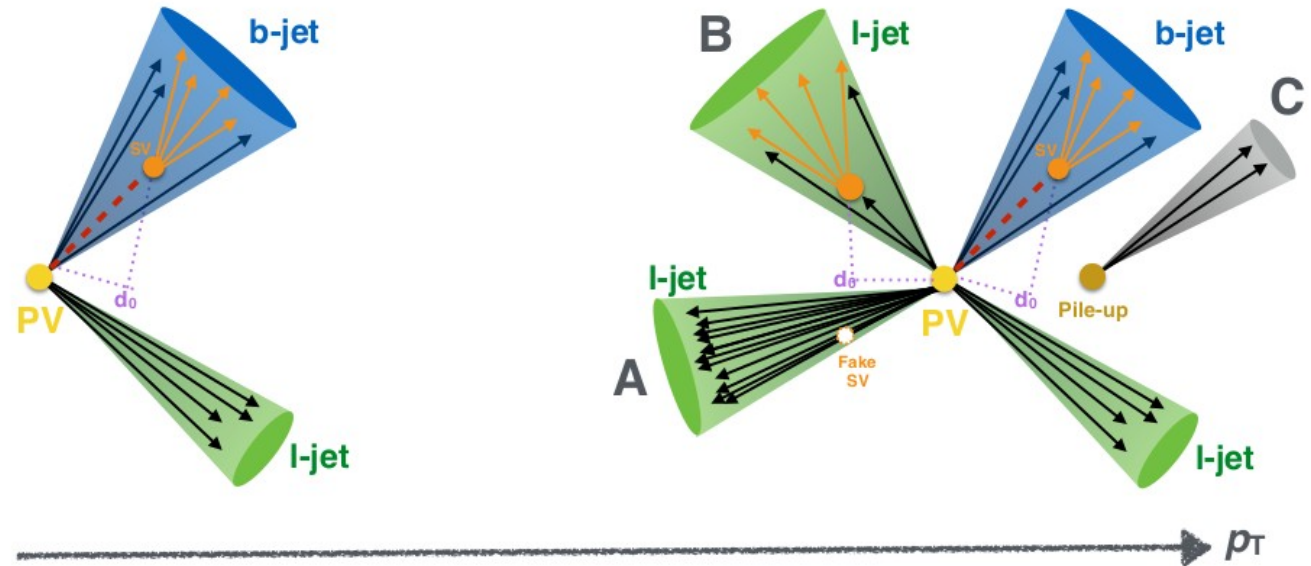
Credit: Arnaud Duperrin (DIS23 talk)

## Secondary vertex (SV) tagging

- Long-life time  
→ several mm flight
- Looking for the decay products of B-hadron decays forming SV

## Challenges

- Fake SV from fragmentation
- Material interactions
- Pile-up



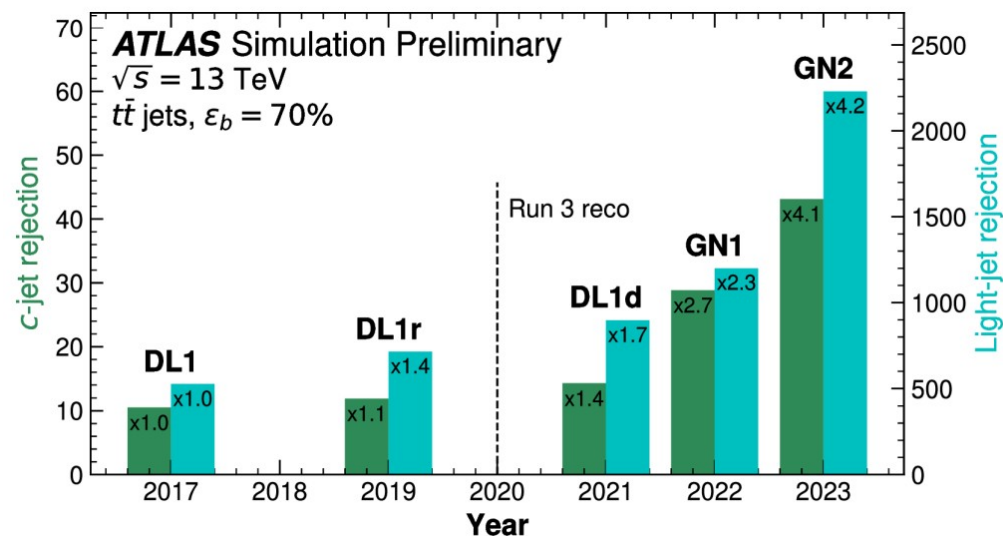
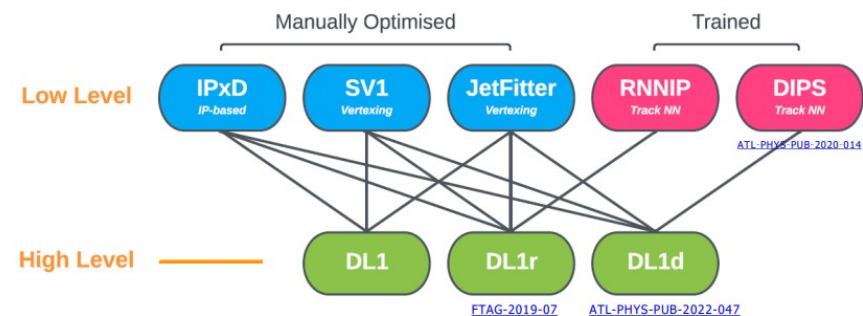
# Experimental b/c-tagging with NN

Credit: Arnaud Duperrin (DIS23 talk)

## Using NN to perform b-tagging

- Many Run II/III analysis use already NN based taggers
- For example ATLAS: DL1
  - uses precomputed low-level infos
- Next generation will directly use hit, track and jet information
  - further performance boost

The truth level information comes from MC simulations



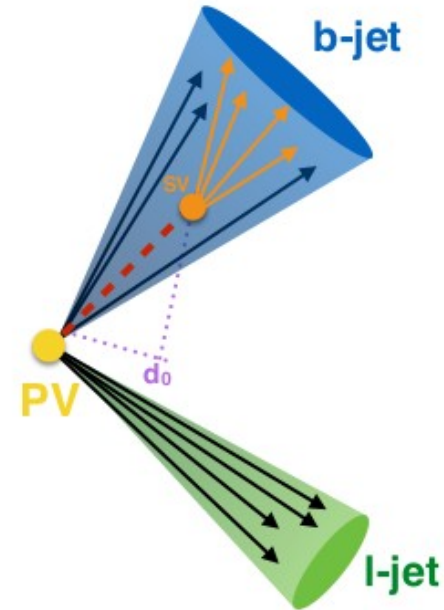
# Ghost tagging

A jet is defined as flavoured if:

- 1) it contains at least one B/D hadron  
FO: IR-unsafe because of  $g \rightarrow b \bar{b}$  splitting
- 2) within  $dR < R$  of jet axis  
FO: IR-unsafe because soft wide angle emission
- 3) with  $p_T > p_{T\_cut}$   
FO: collinear unsafe  $b \rightarrow b g$  splitting  
(okay in fragmentation approach)



“Truth” labelling used in Monte Carlo samples, used to train the NN



*Technically okay for PS+hadronisation models*  
BUT

**Unsatisfactory from theory point of view**  
(trading IR safety with sensitivity)



# Issues for precision phenomenology

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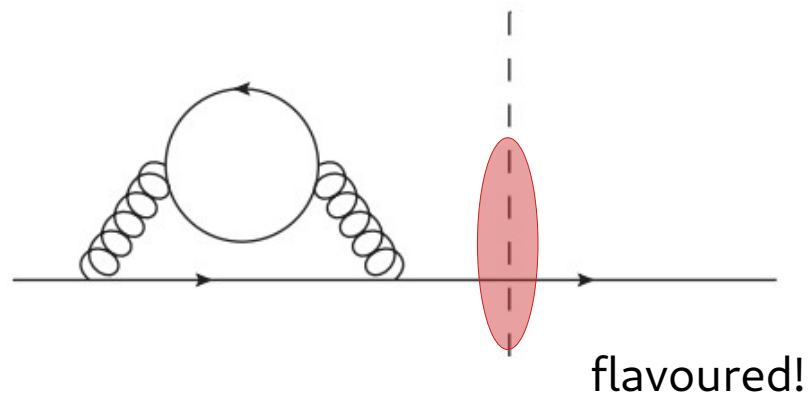
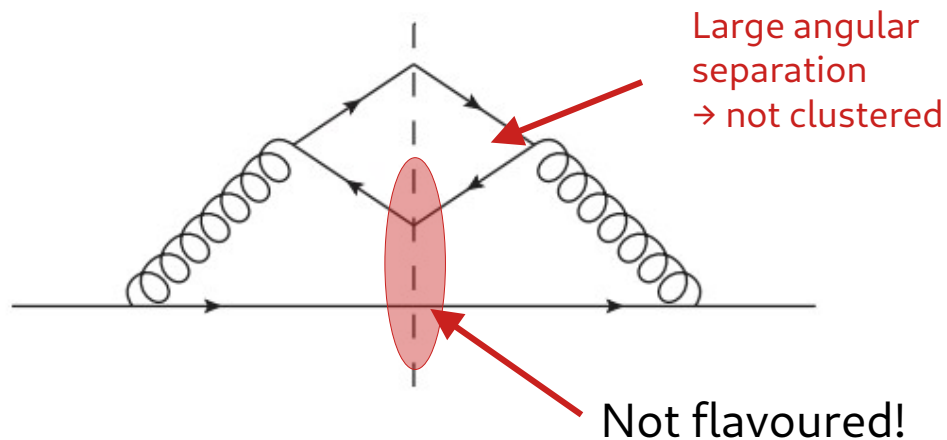
- The flavoured jet algorithms require detailed flavour information  
→ flavour algorithms difficult to implement experimentally  
Limited by detector-resolution & efficiencies!
- For now: comparisons to higher order QCD partonic computations require corrections for the differences in tagging procedures! → Unfolding!
  - 1)  $g \rightarrow b \bar{b}$  splitting if both  $b$ 's hadronise to B-hadrons  
(this is different to  $b \bar{b} = g$  @ fixed order)
  - 2) Hadronisation/non-perturbative models
- Unfolding corrections can be sizeable  $O(5-10\%)$

# Infrared safety of flavoured jet

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# Flavoured jet algorithms

Double soft limit of quark pairs



→ Implies correlated treatment of kinematics and flavour information

# Solution: Modified jet algorithms

→ Implies correlated treatment of kinematics and flavour information

Standard kT algorithm:

Pair distance:

$$d_{ij} = \min(k_{T,i}^2, k_{T,j}^2) R_{ij}^2$$

$$R_{ij}^2 = (\Delta\phi_{ij}^2 + \Delta\eta_{ij}^2) / R^2$$

“Beam” distance for determination condition:

$$d_i = k_{T,i}^2$$

Flavour kT algorithm:

**Infrared safe definition of jet flavor,**  
Banfi, Salam, Zanderighi hep-ph/0601139

Pair distance:

$$d_{ij} = R_{ij}^2 \begin{cases} \max(k_{T,i}, k_{T,j})^\alpha \min(k_{T,i}, k_{T,j})^{2-\alpha} & \text{softer of } i, j \text{ is flavoured} \\ \min(k_{T,i}, k_{T,j})^\alpha & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Beam distance:

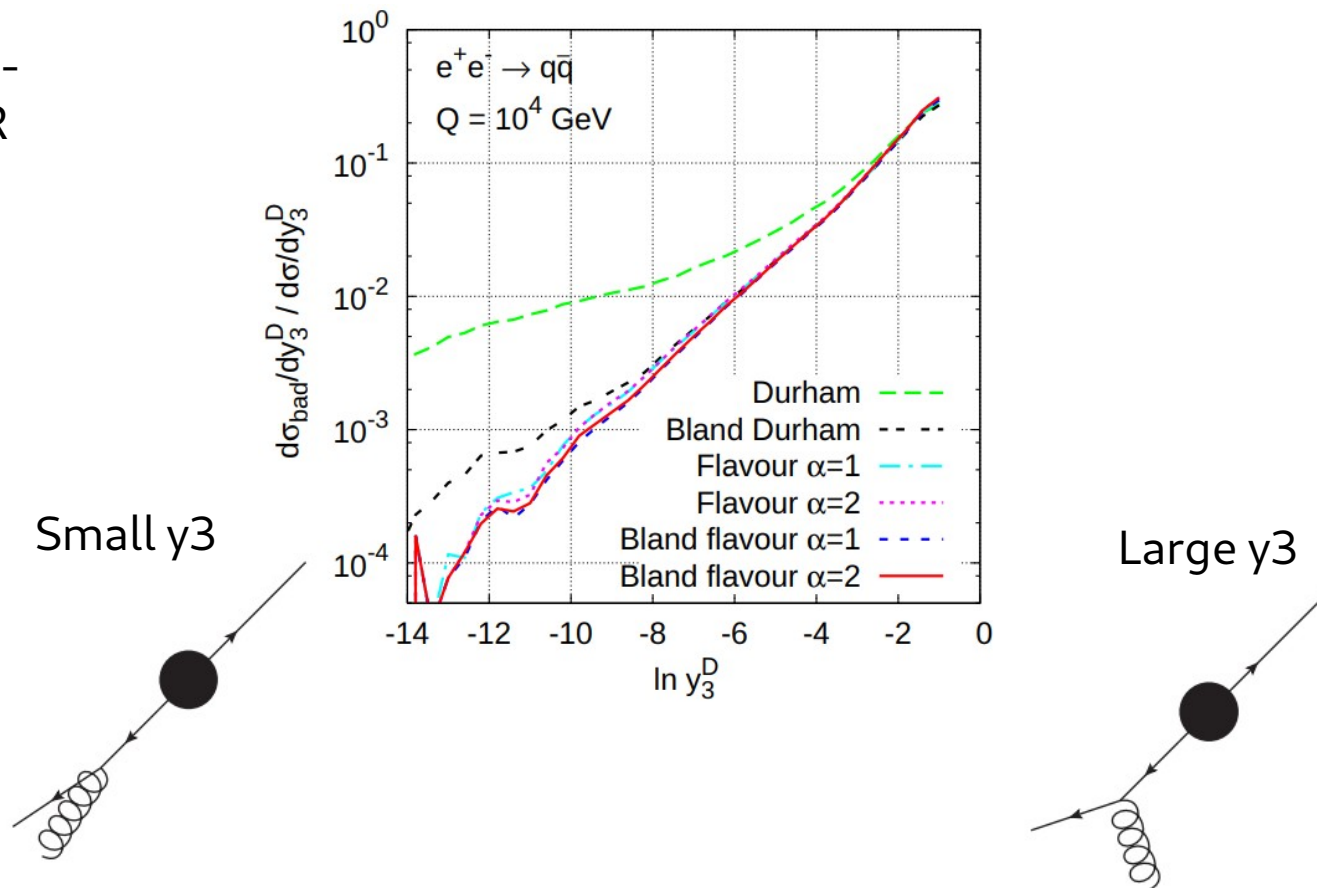
$$d_{i,B} = \begin{cases} \max(k_{T,i}, k_{T,B}(y_i))^\alpha \min(k_{T,i}, k_{T,B}(y_i))^{2-\alpha} & i \text{ is flavoured} \\ \min(k_{T,i}, k_{T,B}(y_i))^\alpha & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$d_B(\eta) = \sum_i k_{T,i} (\theta(\eta_i - \eta) + \theta(\eta - \eta_i)) e^{\eta_i - \eta}$$

$$d_{\bar{B}}(\eta) = \sum_i k_{T,i} (\theta(\eta - \eta_i) + \theta(\eta_i - \eta)) e^{\eta - \eta_i}$$

# Tests of IR safety

- Rate of bad-identified jet-flavour as a function of IR sensitive variable
- Parton-shower to model many emissions



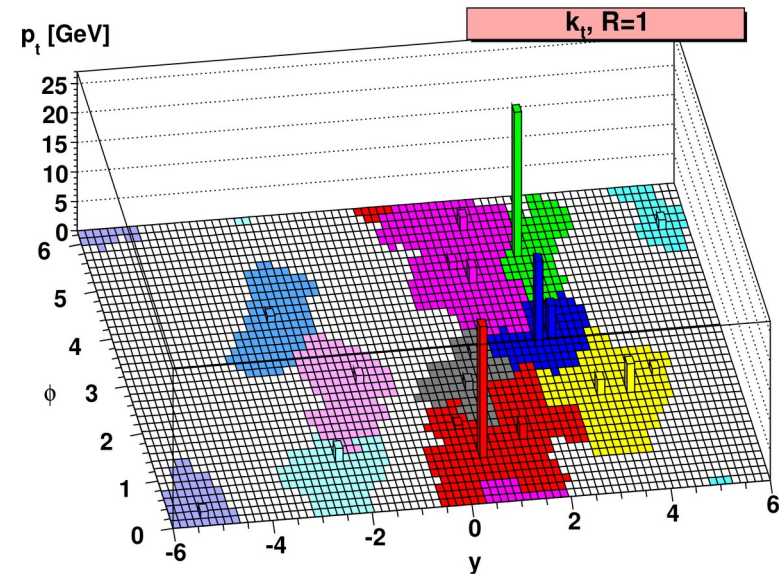
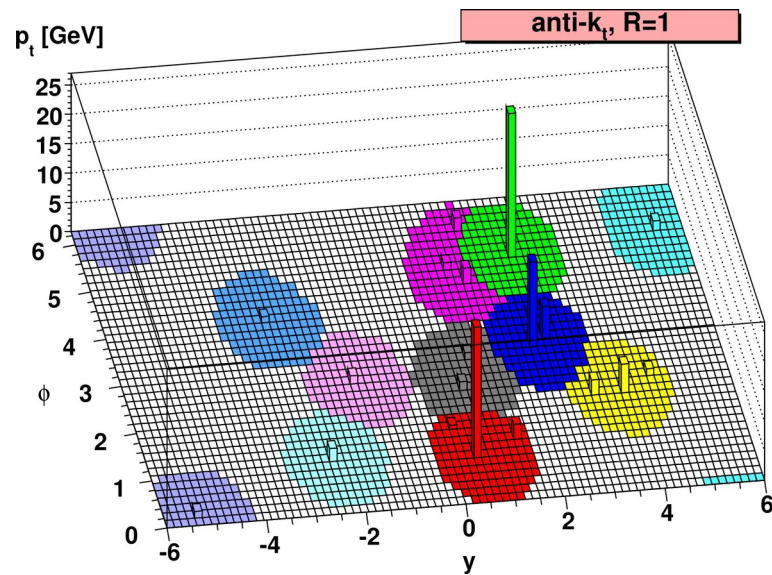
# Flavour anti-kT?

The standard algorithm for the LHC is the anti-kT:

→ nice geometric properties

→ less sensitive to soft physics

Towards Jetography  
Salam 0906.1833



# New proposals for flavour-safe anti-kT jets

- Flavour with Soft-drop **Practical Jet Flavour Through NNLO**  
Caletti, Larkoski, Marzani, Reichelt 2205.01109
- Flavour anti-kT **Infrared-safe flavoured anti-kT jets,**  
Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet 2205.11879
- Fragmentation approach **A Fragmentation Approach to Jet Flavor**  
Caletti, Larkoski, Marzani, Reichelt 2205.01117  
**B-hadron production in NNLO QCD: application to LHC ttbar events with leptonic decays,**  
Czakon, Generet, Mitov and Poncelet, 2102.08267
- Flavour dressing → standard anti-kT + flavour assignment  
**QCD-aware partonic jet clustering for truth-jet flavour labelling**  
Buckley, Pollard 1507.00508  
**A dress of flavour to suit any jet**  
Gauld, Huss, Stagnitto 2208.11138
- Interleaved flavour neutralisation  
**Flavoured jets with exact anti-kT kinematics and tests of infrared and collinear safety**  
Caola, Grabarczyk, Hutt, Salam, Scyboz, Thaler 2306.07314
- TBC...

# Flavour anti-kT

Infrared-safe flavoured anti-kT jets,  
Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet 2205.11879

$$\text{Anti-kT: } d_{ij} = \min(k_{T,i}^{-2}, k_{T,j}^{-2}) R_{ij}^2 \quad d_i = k_{T,i}^{-2}$$

The energy ordering in anti-kT prevents correct recombination of flavoured pairs in the double soft limit.

Proposed modification:

A soft term designed to modify the distance of flavoured pairs.

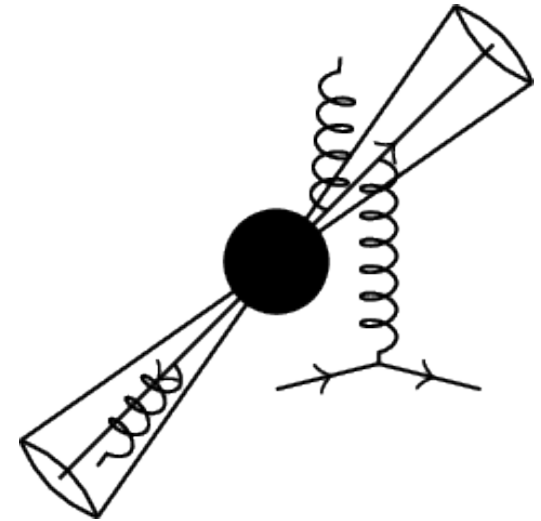
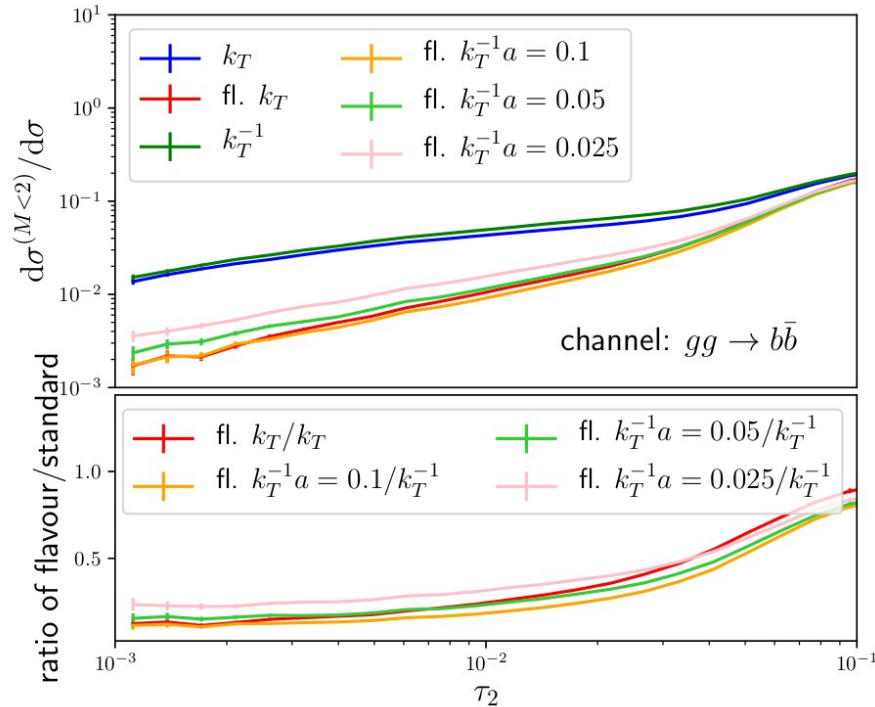
$$d_{ij}^{(F)} = d_{ij} \begin{cases} \mathcal{S}_{ij} & \text{i,j is flavoured pair} \\ 1 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{ij} \equiv 1 - \theta \left( 1 - \kappa_{ij} \right) \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \kappa_{ij} \right) \quad \text{with} \quad \kappa_{ij} \equiv \frac{1}{a} \frac{k_{T,i}^2 + k_{T,j}^2}{2k_{T,\text{max}}^2} .$$



# Tests of IR safety with parton showers

- In the di-jet limit the flavour needs to correspond to tree level flavours
- misidentification rate needs to vanish in di-jet back-to-back limit
- IR sensitive observable 2-jettiness



# Tests of IR safety with NNLO FO computations

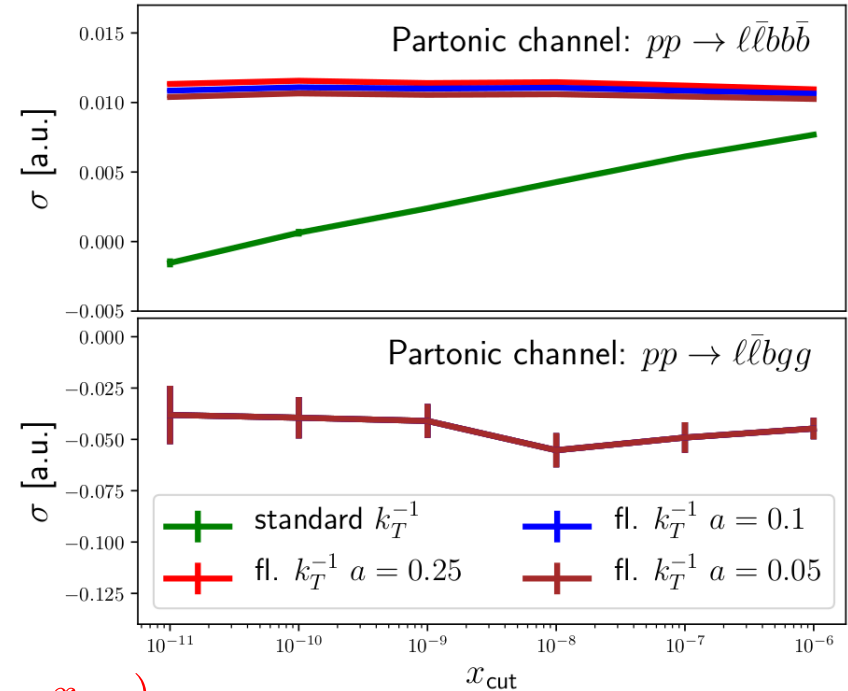
IR sensitivity of jet cross sections on (technical)  
IR regulating parameter  $x$

In the limit  $x_{\text{cut}} \rightarrow 0$ :

IR safe jet flavour  $\rightarrow$  no dependence on  $x_{\text{cut}}$

IR non-safe jet flavour  $\rightarrow$  logarithmic divergent

$$d\sigma \ni d\Phi_{n+2} \left( \text{Diagram 1} \right) F_{n+2} + \dots + d\tilde{\Phi}_{n+2} \mathcal{S}_2 \left( \text{Diagram 2} \right) F_n \theta(x - x_{\text{cut}})$$



# Remarks to the flavour anti-kT

$$d_{ij}^{(F)} = d_{ij} \begin{cases} \mathcal{S}_{ij} & i,j \text{ is flavoured pair} \\ 1 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{ij} \equiv 1 - \theta \left(1 - \kappa_{ij}\right) \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \kappa_{ij}\right) \quad \text{with} \quad \kappa_{ij} \equiv \frac{1}{a} \frac{k_{T,i}^2 + k_{T,j}^2}{2k_{T,\max}^2}.$$

- What is that kT\_max parameter?

Some scale to define what **soft** means. Examples:

1. pT of hardest pseudo jet or lepton at a clustering step
2. Some fixed dynamical scale, e.g. pT(Z), pT(lep), ...
3. Some fixed hard scale: m\_top, m\_Z etc.

→ The choice impacts the clustering.

# New developments...

Issue for double collinear limits wrt. to initial states

Many thanks to  
Caola, Grabarczyk, Hutt, Salam, Scyboz, Thaler



if  $y_{12} - y_3 < R$  ☹️

$$\mathcal{S}_{ij} \equiv 1 - \theta(1 - \kappa_{ij}) \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\kappa_{ij}\right) \quad \text{with} \quad \kappa_{ij} \equiv \frac{1}{a} \frac{k_{T,i}^2 + k_{T,j}^2}{2k_{T,\text{max}}^2}.$$

Their proposal:

$$\mathcal{S}_{ij} \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{S}}_{ij} = \mathcal{S}_{ij} \frac{\Omega_{ij}^2}{\Delta R_{ij}^2} \quad \Omega_{ik}^2 \equiv 2 \left[ \frac{1}{\omega^2} (\cosh(\omega \Delta y_{ik}) - 1) - (\cos \Delta \phi_{ik} - 1) \right]$$


Solves also an issue at  $\alpha_s^3$

# Comparisons

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Les Houches 23 workshop aka FlavourFest :)

- CMP $\Omega$ : Flavour anti-kT (with fixed  $S_{ij}$ )
- SDF: Flavour with Soft-drop
- GHS: Flavour dressing  $\rightarrow$  standard anti-kT + flavour assignment
- IFN: Flavour neutralisation

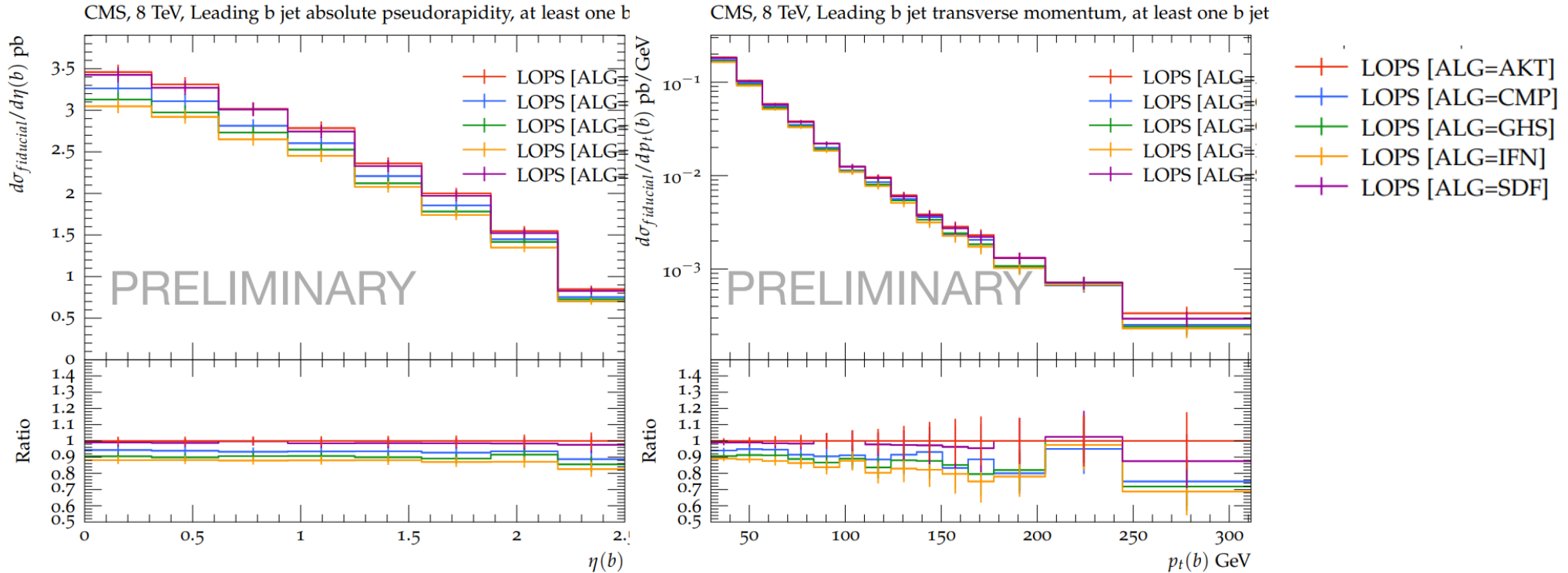


Implementation in  
FastJet package

# Comparison with parton showers

Les Houches Jet Flavour WG

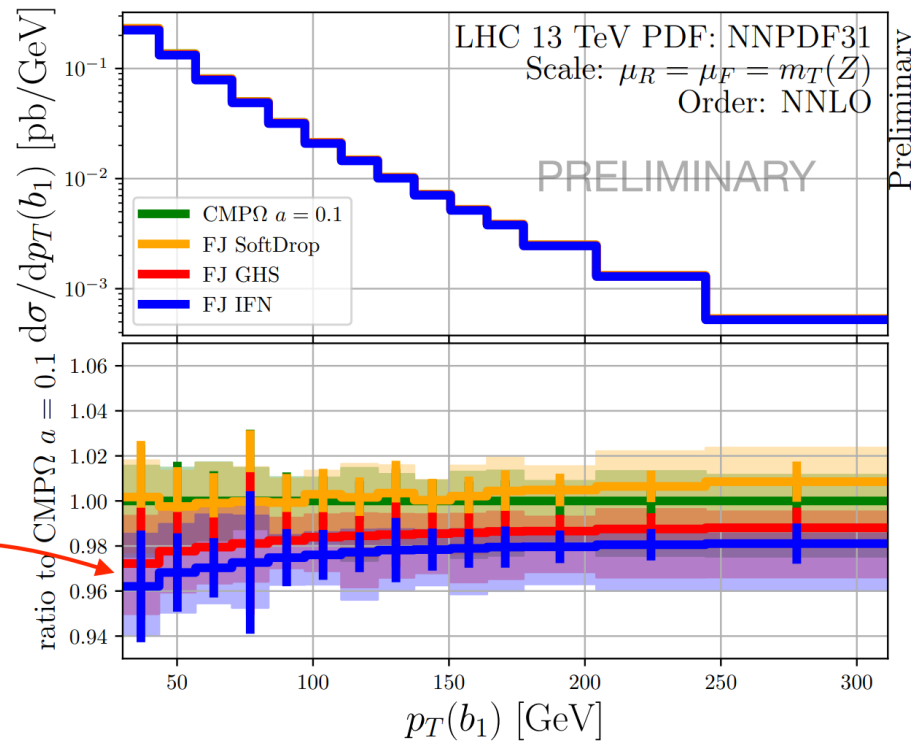
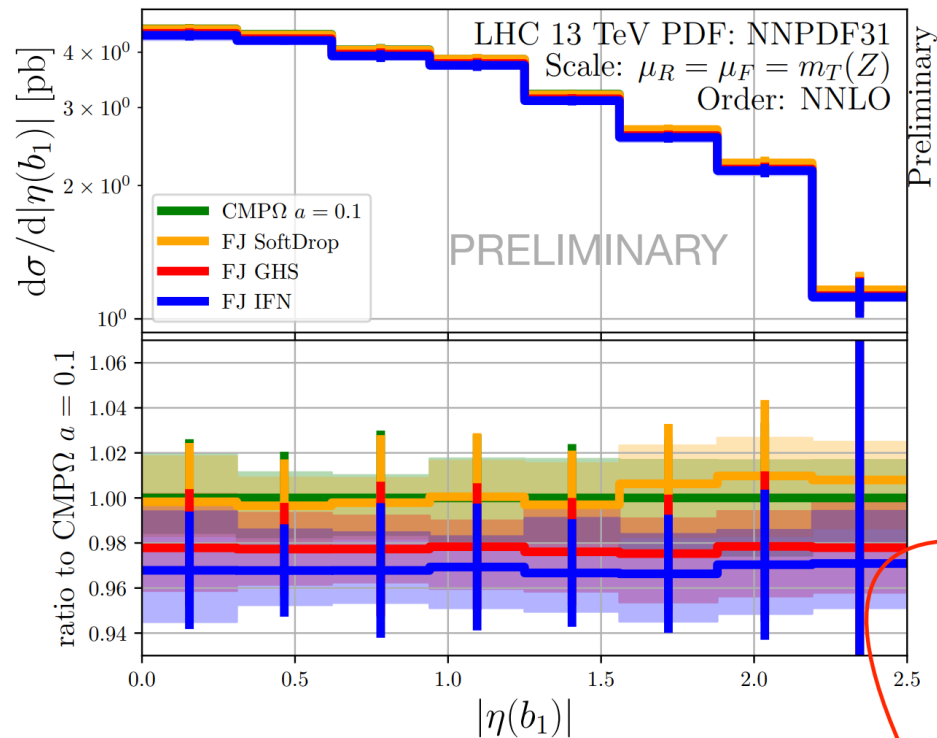
## HERWIG LO PS



# NNLO QCD comparisons

Calculations performed with sector-improved residue subtraction scheme  
1408.2500 & 1907.12911

Les Houches Jet Flavour WG

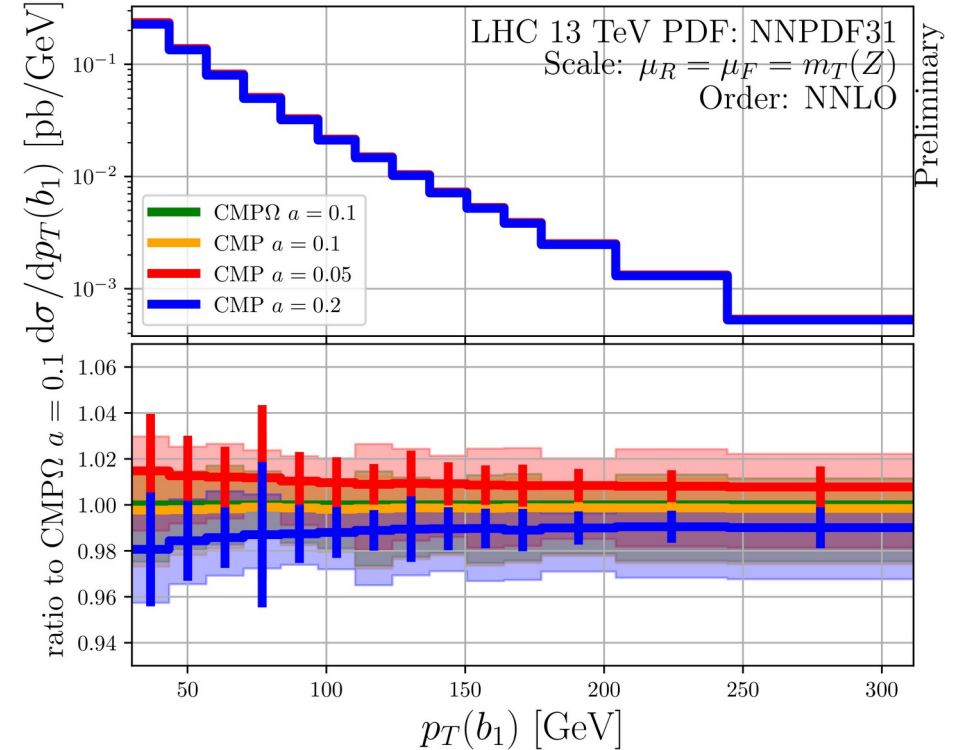
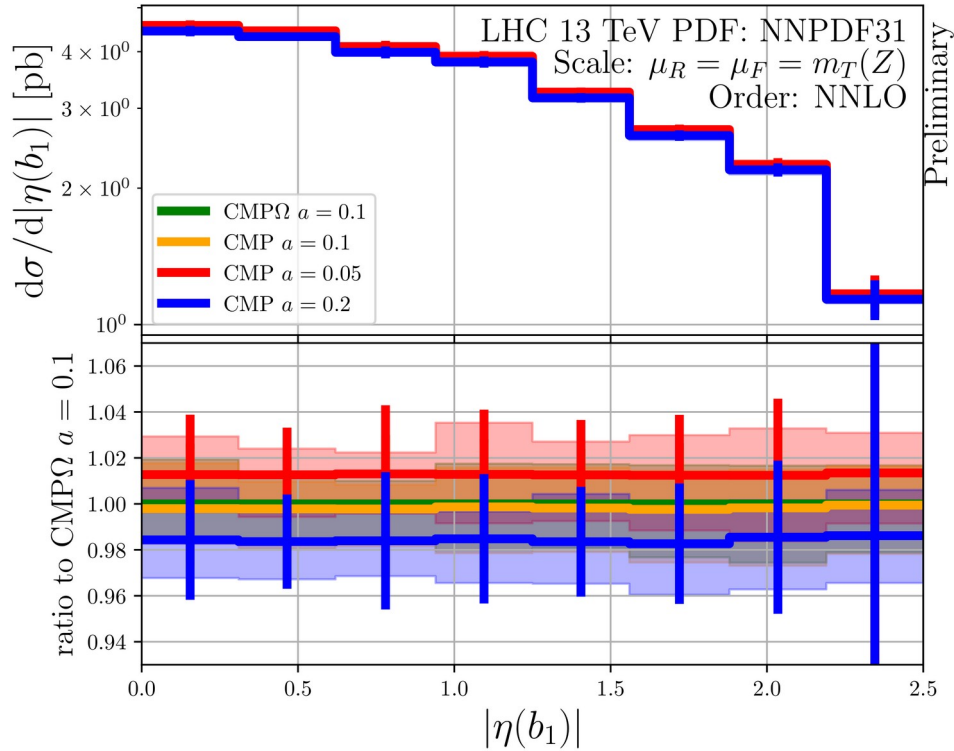


interesting shape difference at low  $p_T$ : it deserves further investigation!

# Flavour anti-kT: impact of $\Omega_{ij}$

Calculations performed with sector-improved residue subtraction scheme  
1408.2500 & 1907.12911

Les Houches Jet Flavour WG



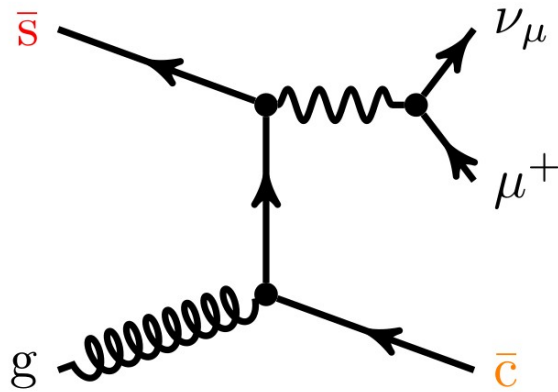
**Negligible difference between CMPΩ and CMP**



# NNLO QCD Phenomenology with flavour anti-kT

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# W+charm production



A detailed investigation of W+c-jet at the LHC,  
Czakon, Mitov, Pellen, Poncelet 2212.00467

Simple phase space:  $p_{T,\ell} > 30 \text{ GeV}, \quad |\eta_\ell| < 2.5$   
 $p_{T,j_c} > 20 \text{ GeV}, \quad |\eta_{j_c}| < 2.5$

Various effects studied:

- EW corrections
- Off-diagonal CKM
- Jet-algorithms: fl. kT & fl. anti-kT

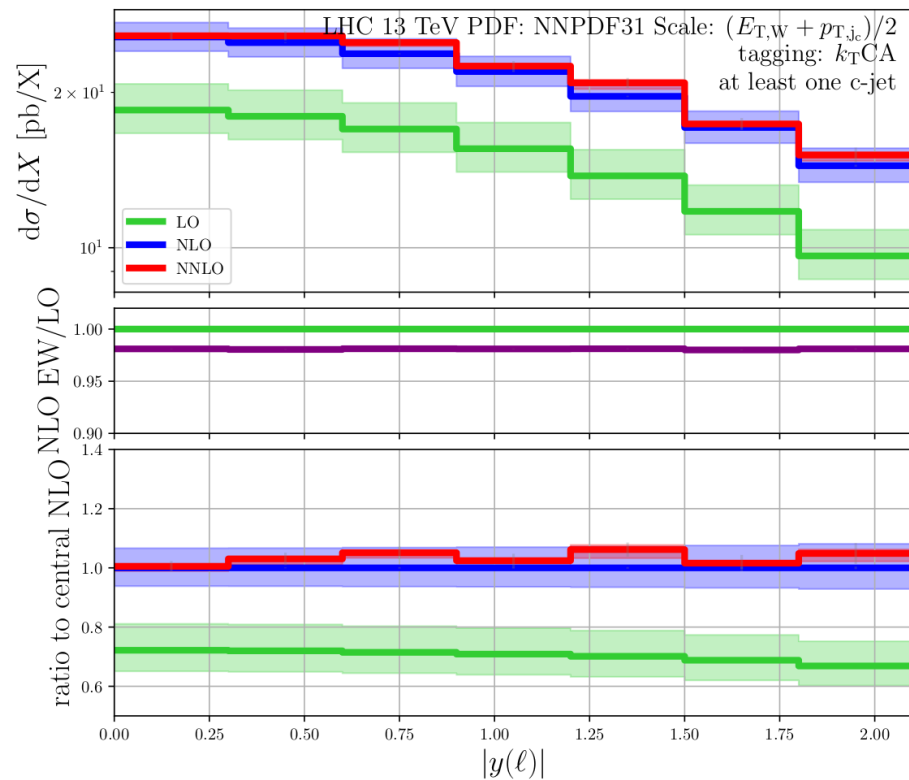
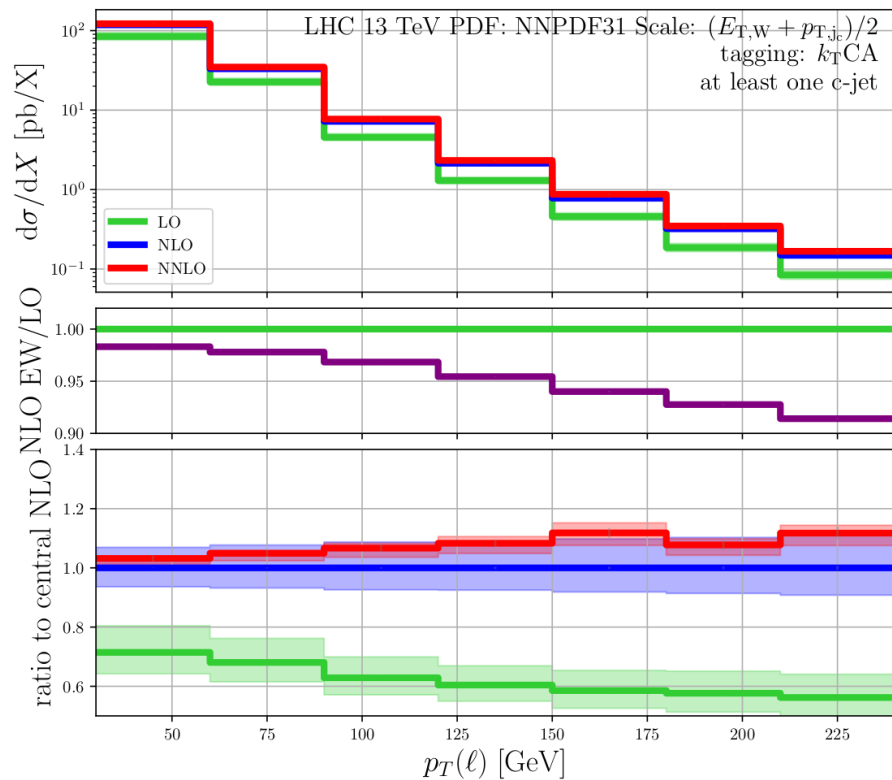
## • Different tagging requirements:

- The leading c-jet (based on its transverse momentum) is of OS type, no requirement on c-jet multiplicity,
- One and only one c-jet is required, no requirement on c-jet charge,
- One and only one c-jet of OS type,
- One and only one c-jet of SS type, ←
- OS-SS (“OS *minus* SS”) cross section.

Sensitive to cc pairs from gluons splittings

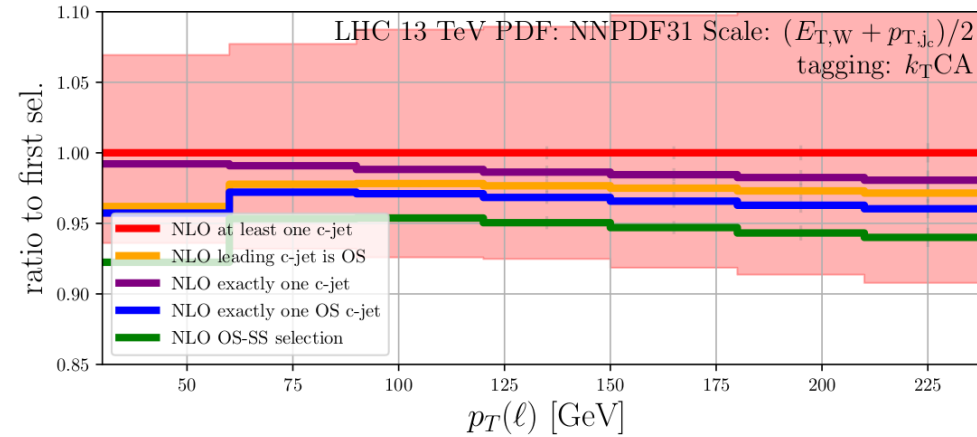
# Perturbative corrections

## Flavour-kT, inclusive c-jet requirements

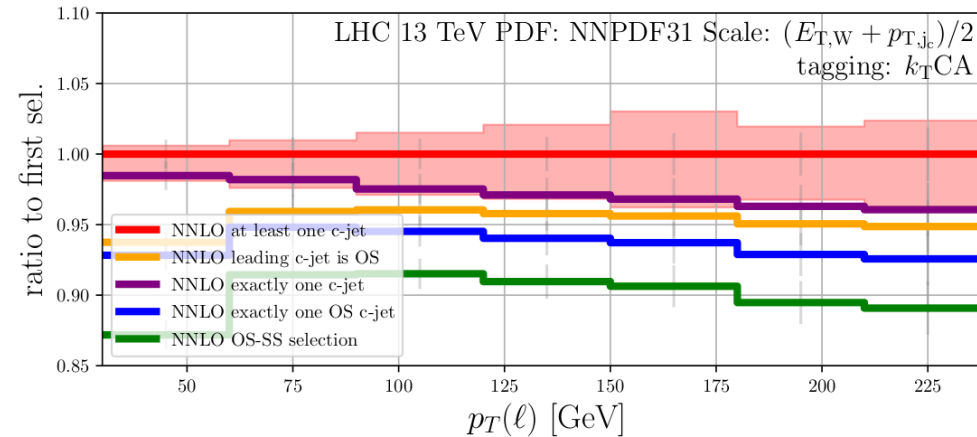


# Different tagging requirements

NLO



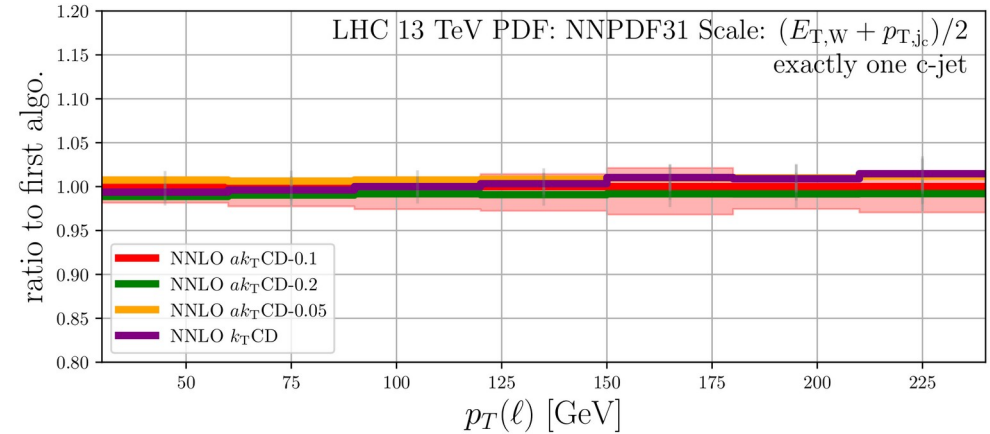
NNLO



# Dependence on the jet algorithm

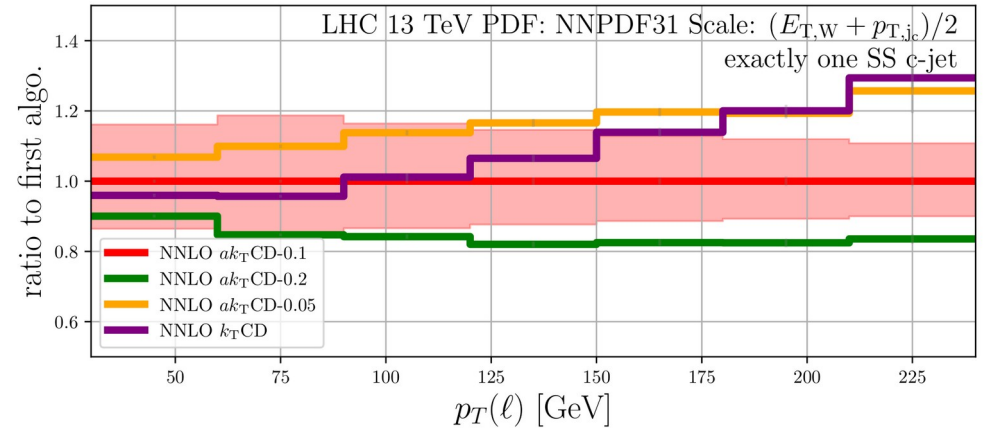
Exactly one c-jet requirement (OS+SS):

- Comparison of parameters a:
  - small dependence < 2%
- Comparison to flv kT:
  - small dependence @ NNLO < 2%



ONLY large effect in SS contribution

- Exactly one c-jet of SS type:
  - Larger dependence ~15%
  - (roughly size of NNLO scale band)
- BUT: SS contribution ~2-5%
- => OS ~0.2-0.5% dependence



# Comparison to CMS data

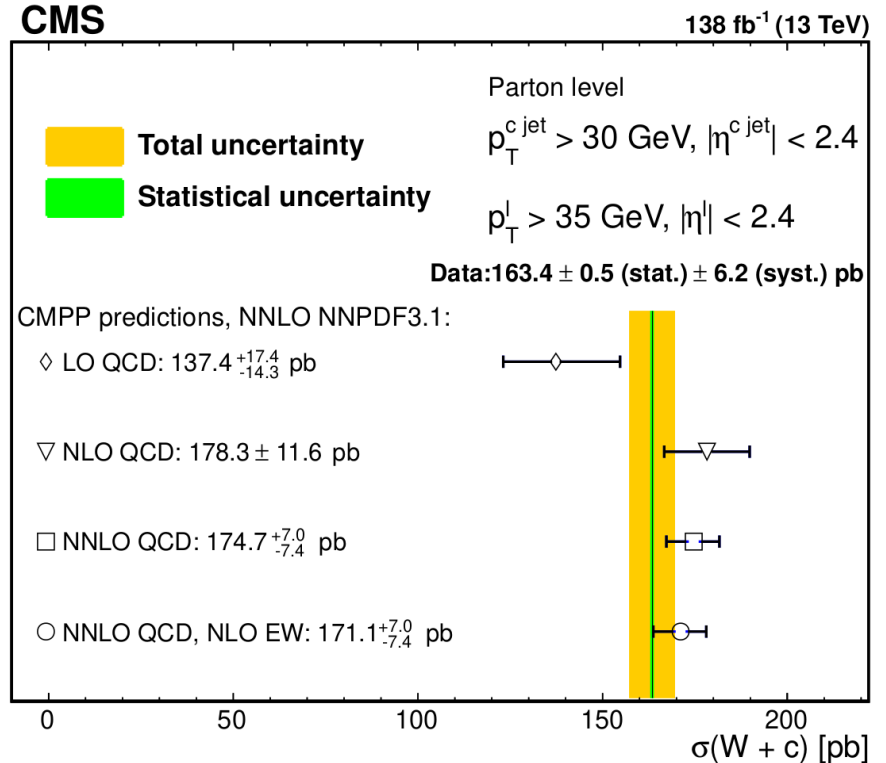
Measurement of the production cross section for a W boson in association with a charm quark in proton-proton collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV  
 CMS 2308.02285

Similar phasespace:

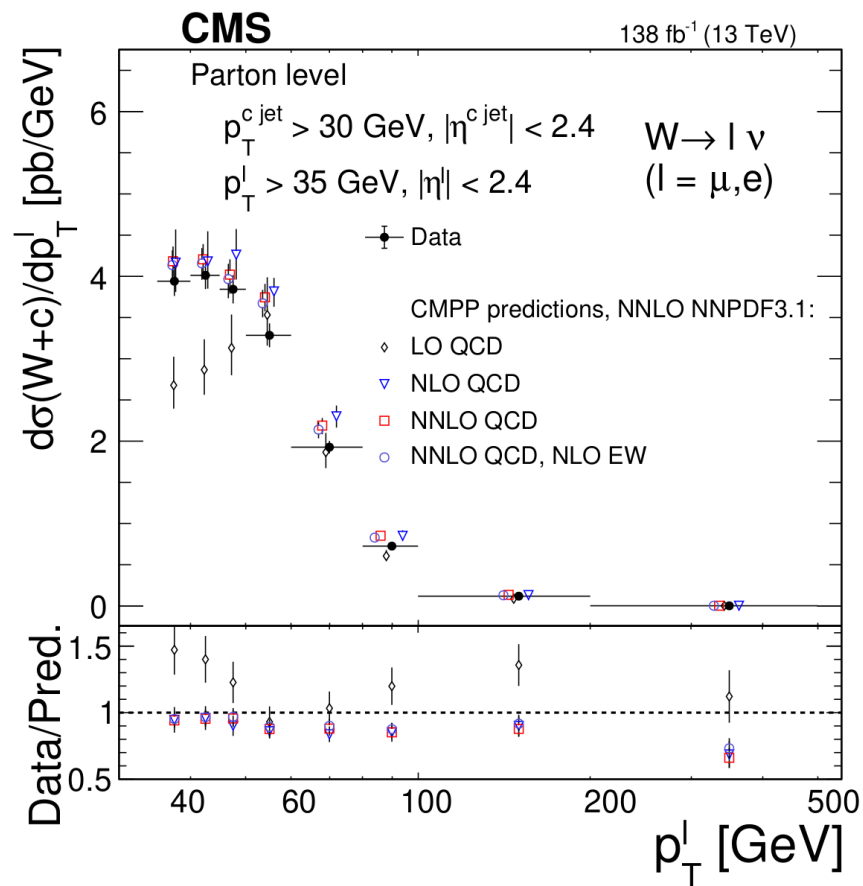
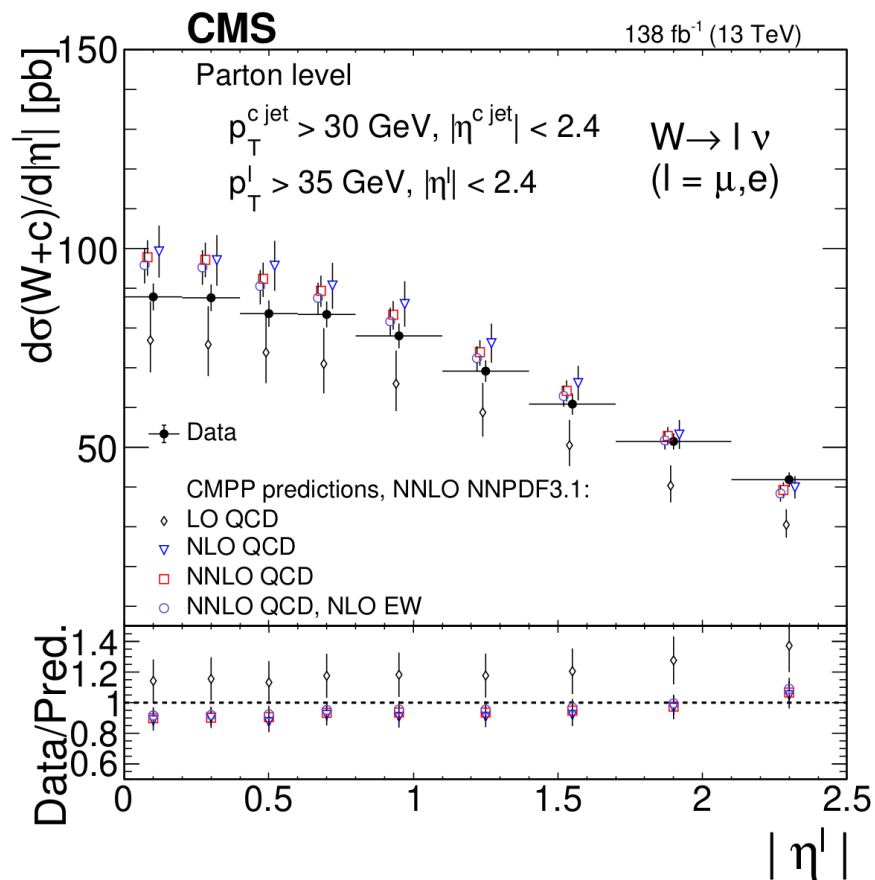
$$p_T^\ell > 35 \text{ GeV}, |\eta^\ell| < 2.4, p_T^{c \text{ jet}} > 30 \text{ GeV}$$

$$|\eta^{c \text{ jet}}| < 2.4, \Delta R(\text{jet}, \ell) > 0.4$$

Measurement of OS – SS cross-section unfolded to parton-level  
 → hadronisation and fragmentation corr. ~ 10%

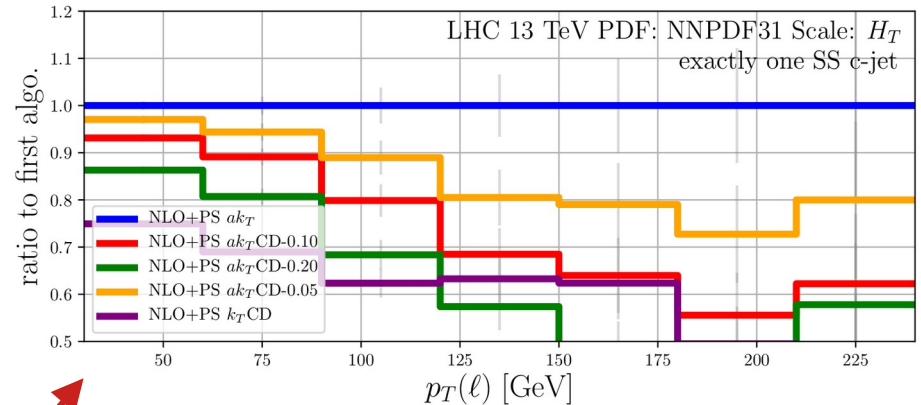
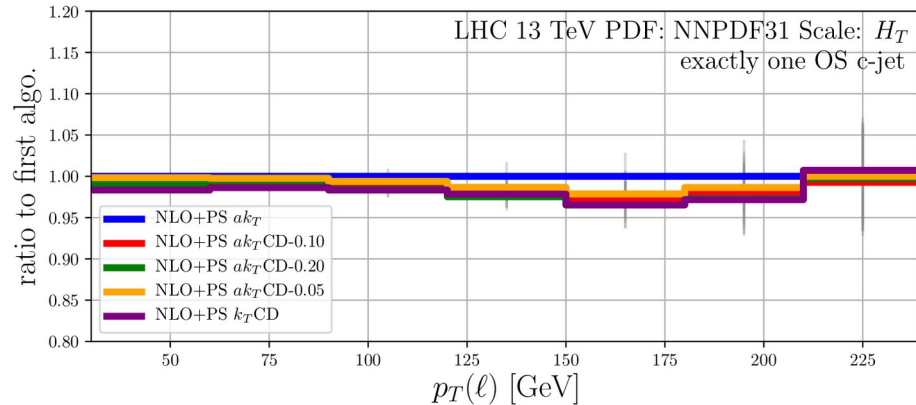


# Comparison to CMS data



# Unfolding corrections: anti-kT vs. fl. anti-kT

NLO+PS (fl. anti-kT) / NLO+PS (anti-kT)



SS ~2-5% of OS  
→ OS – SS unfolding corrections < 2%



# Summary

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# Take home messages

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- 1) Flavoured Jets require modified jet algorithms to avoid IR safety/sensitivity issues
- 2) Solutions exist for anti- $k_T$  jets and are implemented in FastJet:  
SDF, CMP, GHS, IFN, ...  
→ phenomenological applications @ NNLO QCD
- 3) Still open question regarding the best way of comparing state-of-the-art predictions and measurements:  
→ Unfolding? How do the different algorithms compare?  
→ Which flavoured jet algorithm has the most favourable properties?

# Backup

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# LHC precision computations with flavoured jets

## Associated Higgs production + decays in b-quarks:

**Associated production of a Higgs boson decaying into bottom quarks at the LHC in full NNLO QCD**

Ferrera, Somogyi, Tramontano 1705.10304

**NNLO QCD corrections to associated WH production and  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  decay**

Caola, Luisoni, Melnikov, Röntsch 1712.06954

**Associated production of a Higgs boson decaying into bottom quarks and a weak vector boson decaying leptonically at NNLO in QCD**

Gauld, Gehrmann-De Ridder, Glover, Huss, Majer 1907.05836

**Bottom quark mass effects in associated WH production with the  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  decay through NNLO QCD**

Behring, Bizoń, Caola, Melnikov, Röntsch 2003.08321

**VH + jet production in hadron-hadron collisions up to order  $\alpha_s^3$  in perturbative QCD**

Gauld, Gehrmann-De Ridder, Glover, Huss, Majer 2110.12992

## +Partonshower:

**NNLOPS accurate associated HZ production with  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  decay at NLO**

Astill, Bizoń, Re, Zanderighi 1804.08141

**NNLOPS description of the  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  decay with MiNLO**

Bizoń, Re, Zanderighi 1912.09982

**Next-to-next-to-leading order event generation for VH production with  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  decay**

Zanoli, Chiesa, Re, Wiesemann, Zanderighi 2112.04168

# LHC precision computations with flavoured jets

## Vector + flavoured jet(s) production:

**NLO QCD predictions for  $Wb\bar{b}$  production in association with up to three light jets at the LHC**

Anger, Cordero, Ita, Sotnikov 1712.05721

**Predictions for Z-Boson Production in Association with a b-jet at  $O(\alpha_s^3)$**

Gauld, Gehrmann-De Ridder, Glover, Huss, Majer 2005.03016

**NNLO QCD predictions for W+c-jet production at the LHC,**

Czakov, Mitov, Pellen, Poncelet 2011.01011

**NNLO QCD corrections to  $Wb\bar{b}$  production at the LHC,**

Hartanto, Poncelet, Popescu, Zoia 2205.01687

**A detailed investigation of W+c-jet at the LHC,**

Czakov, Mitov, Pellen, Poncelet 2212.00467

**NNLO QCD predictions for Z-boson production in association with a charm jet within the LHCb fiducial region**

Gauld, Gehrmann-De Ridder, Glover, Huss, Rodriguez Garcia, Stagnitto 2302.12844

## Top-quark pair final state modelling:

**Modeling uncertainties of  $t\bar{t}W^+$  - multilepton signatures**

Bevilacqua, Bi, Cordero, Hartanto, Kraus, Nasufi, Reina, Worek 2109.15181

**B-hadron production in NNLO QCD: application to LHC  $t\bar{t}$  events with leptonic decays**

Czakov, Generet, Mitov, Poncelet, 2102.08267

# Benchmark process: Z+b-jet

Well studied up to  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$ :

**Predictions for Z-Boson Production in Association with a b-jet at  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$ ,**  
 Gauld, Gehrmann-De Ridder, Glover, Huss, Majer 2005.03016

- Flavour-kT algorithm
- Unfolding of experimental data (RooUnfold, bin-by-bin unfolding)
- Matching between four- and five-flavour schemes (FONLL)

$$d\sigma^{\text{FONLL}} = d\sigma^{5\text{fs}} + (d\sigma_{m_b}^{4\text{fs}} - d\sigma_{m_b \rightarrow 0}^{4\text{fs}})$$

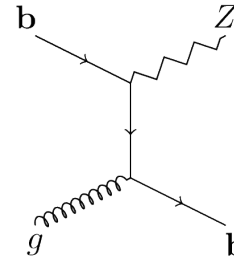
- CMS measurement @ 8 TeV

**Measurements of the associated production of a Z boson and b jets in pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$ , CMS 1611.06507**

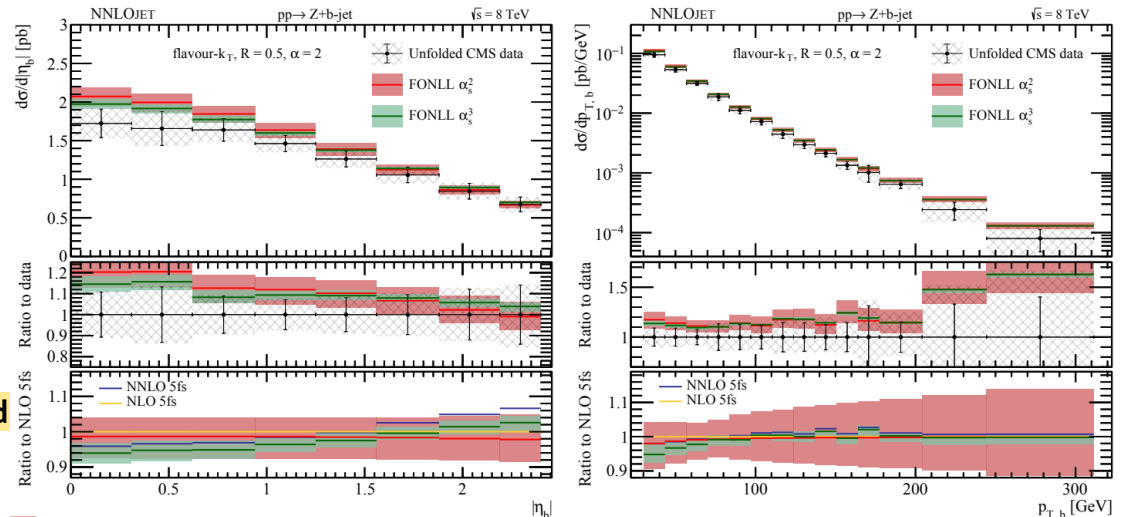
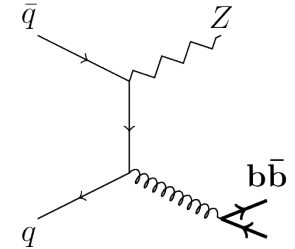
→ Ideal testing ground for flavour anti-kT

$pp \rightarrow Z(\text{ll}) + \text{b-jet}$

5fs:



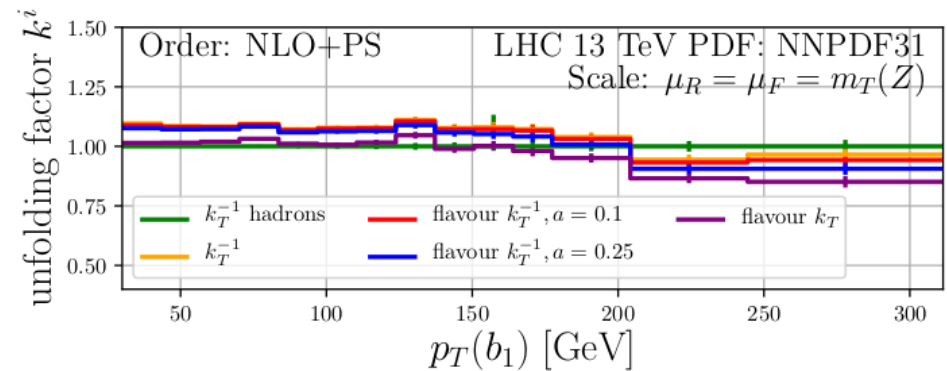
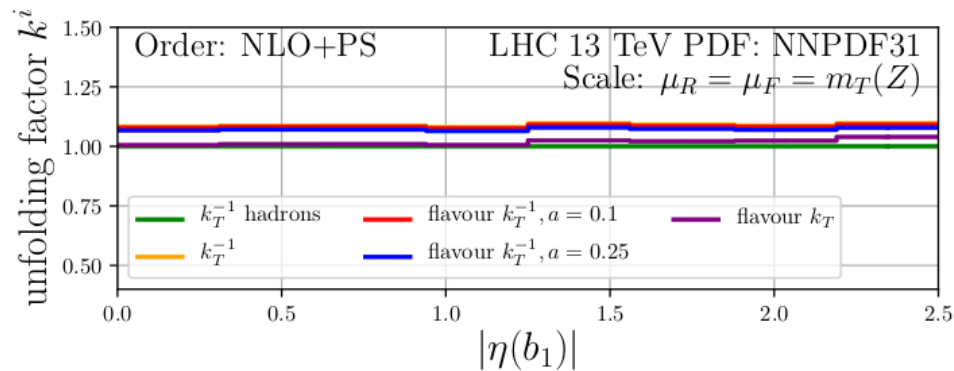
4fs:



# Bin-by-bin unfolding

Estimation of hadronisation and experimental tagging corrections  
→ NLO + PS (Madraph+Pythia8)

Unfolding factor = NLO+PS (had = Off) / NLO+PS (had = On)



# Z+b-jet Phenomenology: Tunable parameter

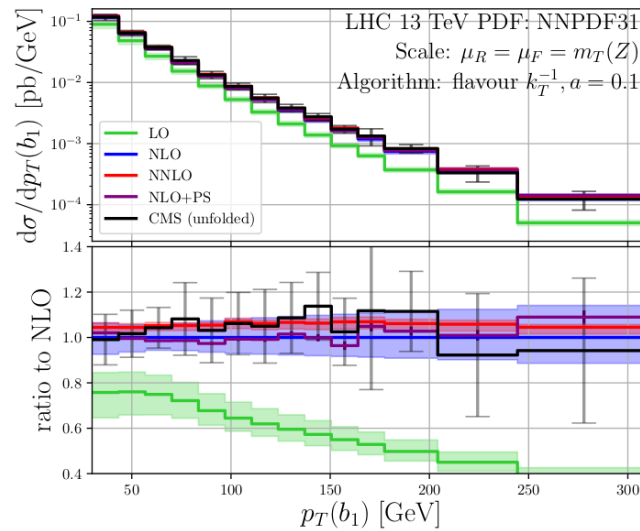
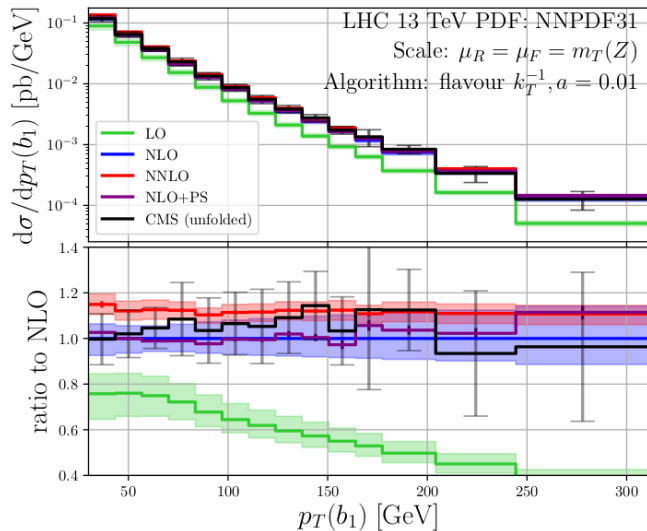
Benchmark process:  $pp \rightarrow Z(\ell\ell) + b\text{-jet}$

Tunable parameter  $a$ :

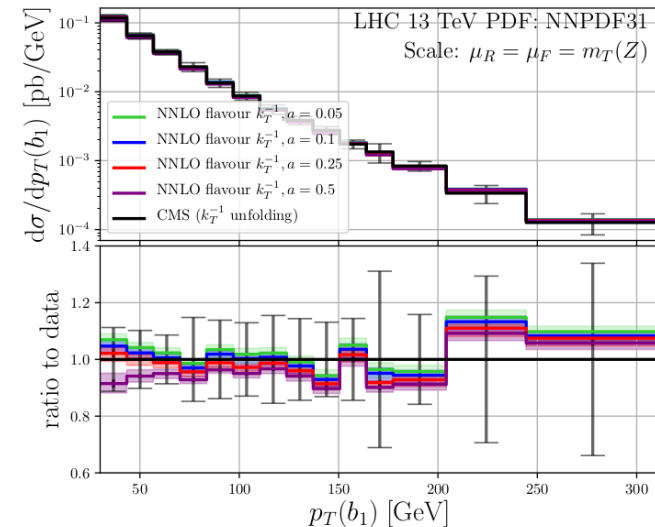
- Limit  $a \rightarrow 0 \Leftrightarrow$  original anti-kT (IR unsafe)
- Large  $a \Leftrightarrow$  large modification of cluster sequence

Flavour anti-kT ( $a=0.01$ ):

Flavour anti-kT ( $a=0.1$ ):



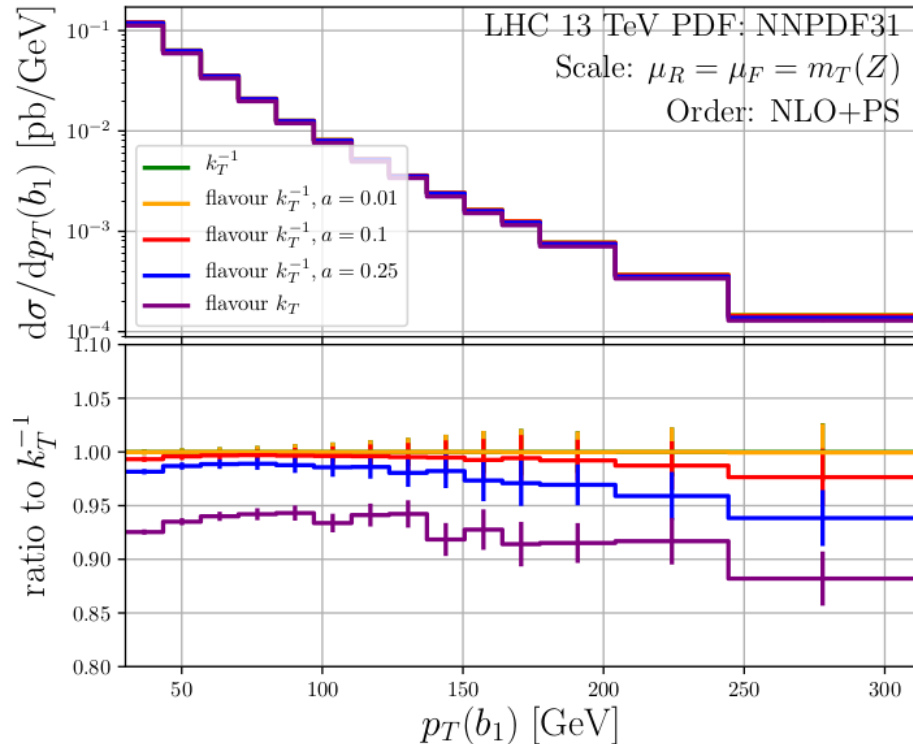
Comparison of different parameter  $a$  to data:





# Z+b-jet Phenomenology: Tunable parameter II

What happens in the presence of many flavoured partons?  $\rightarrow$  NLO PS



Tunable parameter  $a$ :

- Small  $a$ : Flavour anti- $k_T$  results are more similar to standard anti- $k_T$
- Larger  $a$ : Larger modification of clustering

Good FO perturbative convergence +  
Small difference to standard anti- $k_T$   
 $\rightarrow a \sim 0.1$  is a good candidate