

High-Energy Factorization of Massive Amplitudes

Li Lin Yang
Zhejiang University

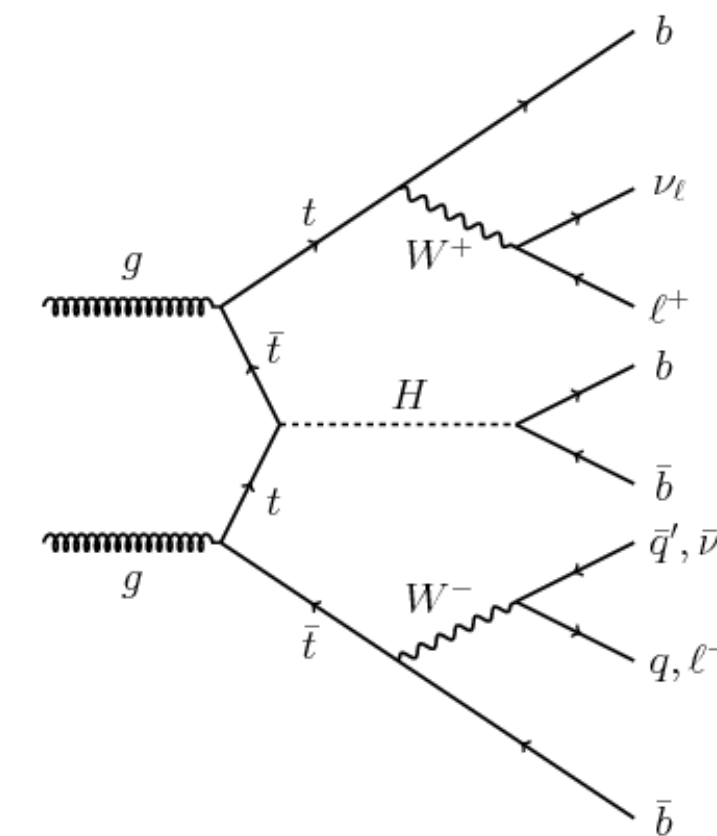
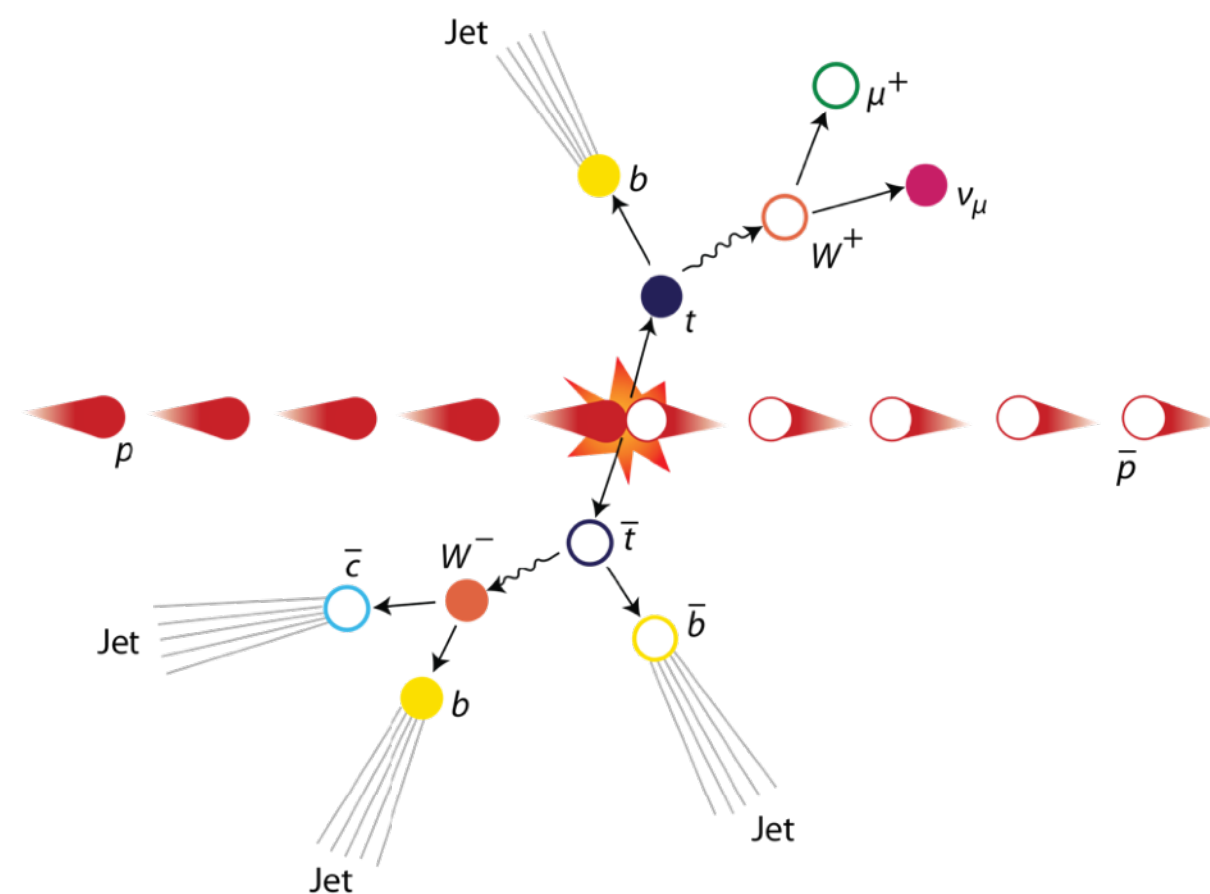
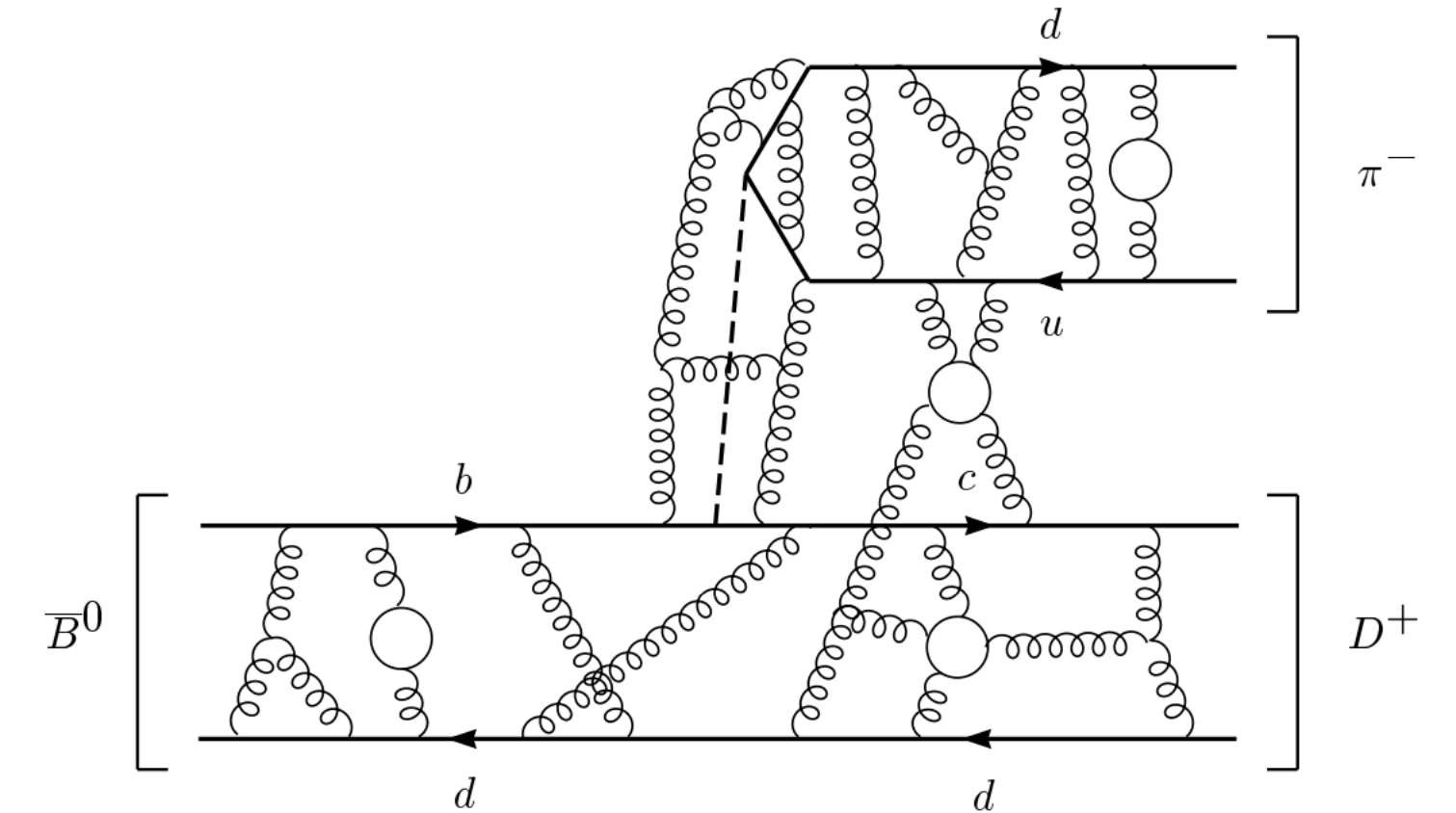
第七届全国重味物理和量子色动力学研讨会，2025.4.18-22，南京

Factorization in heavy flavor physics

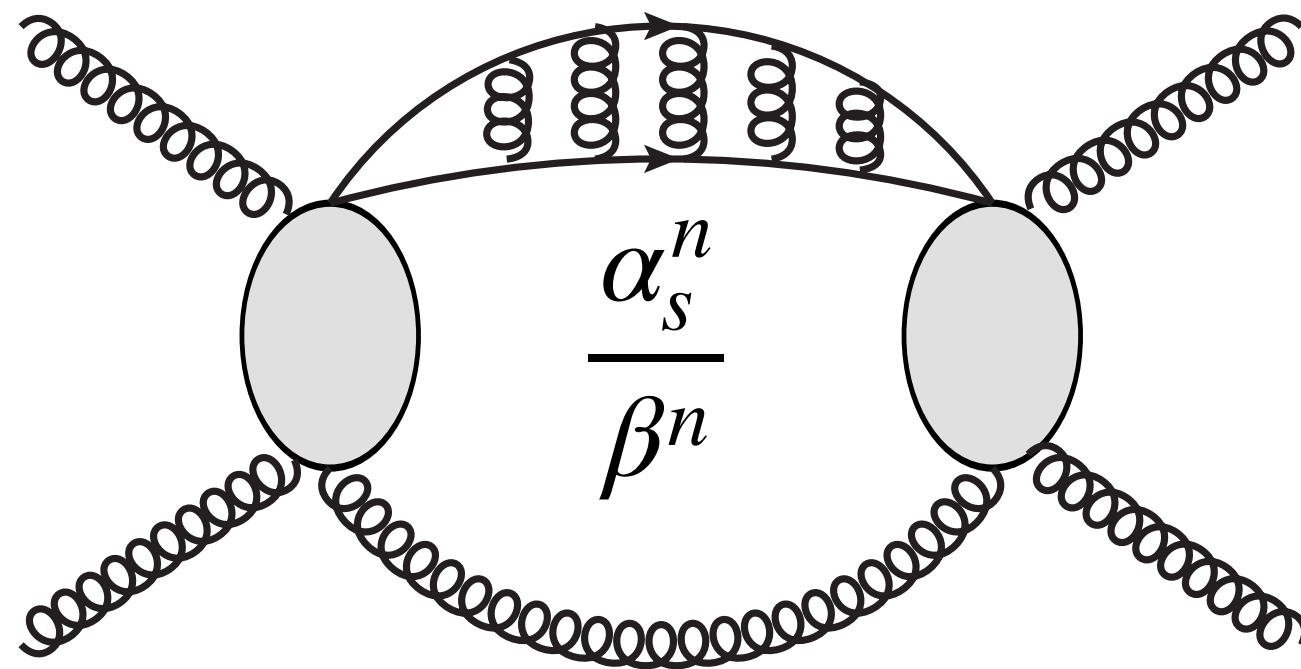
Factorization is the main theme in heavy flavor physics:
natural appearance of multiple physical scales

- Disentangle dynamics at different energies
- Resum large logarithms through RGEs

My focus will be on top quarks: the heaviest flavor in the SM
(but the results could be / have been applied to bottoms as well)

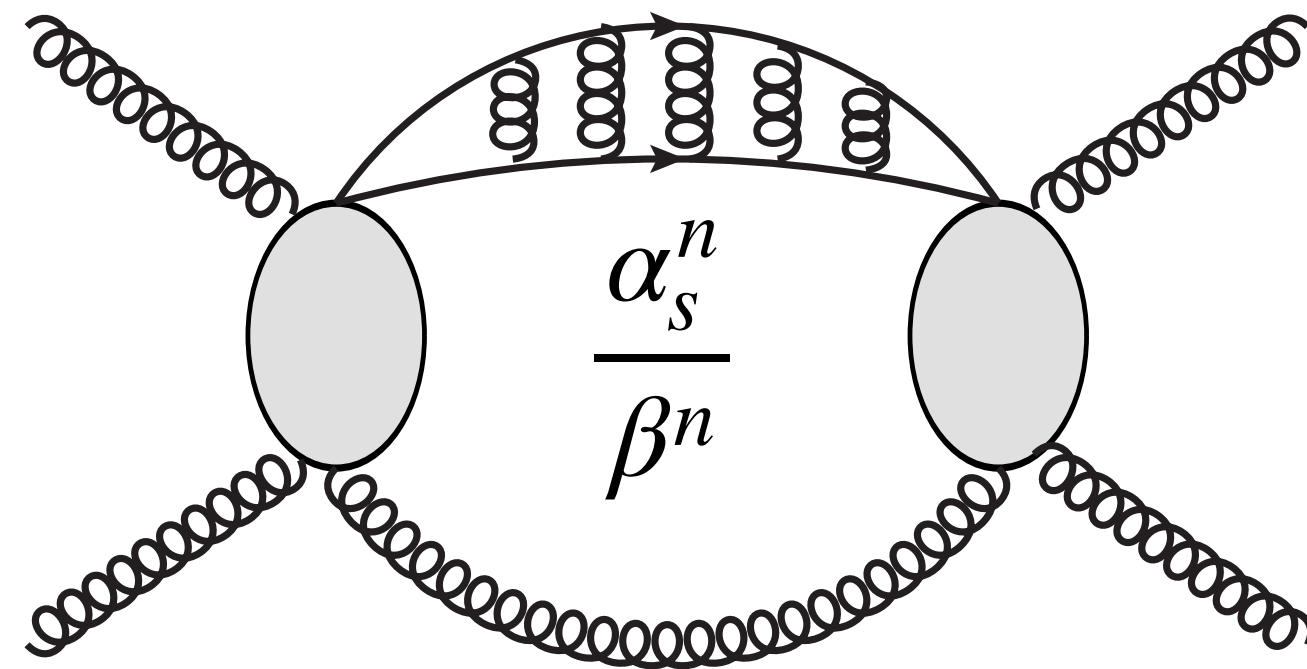


Factorization and resummation at low energies

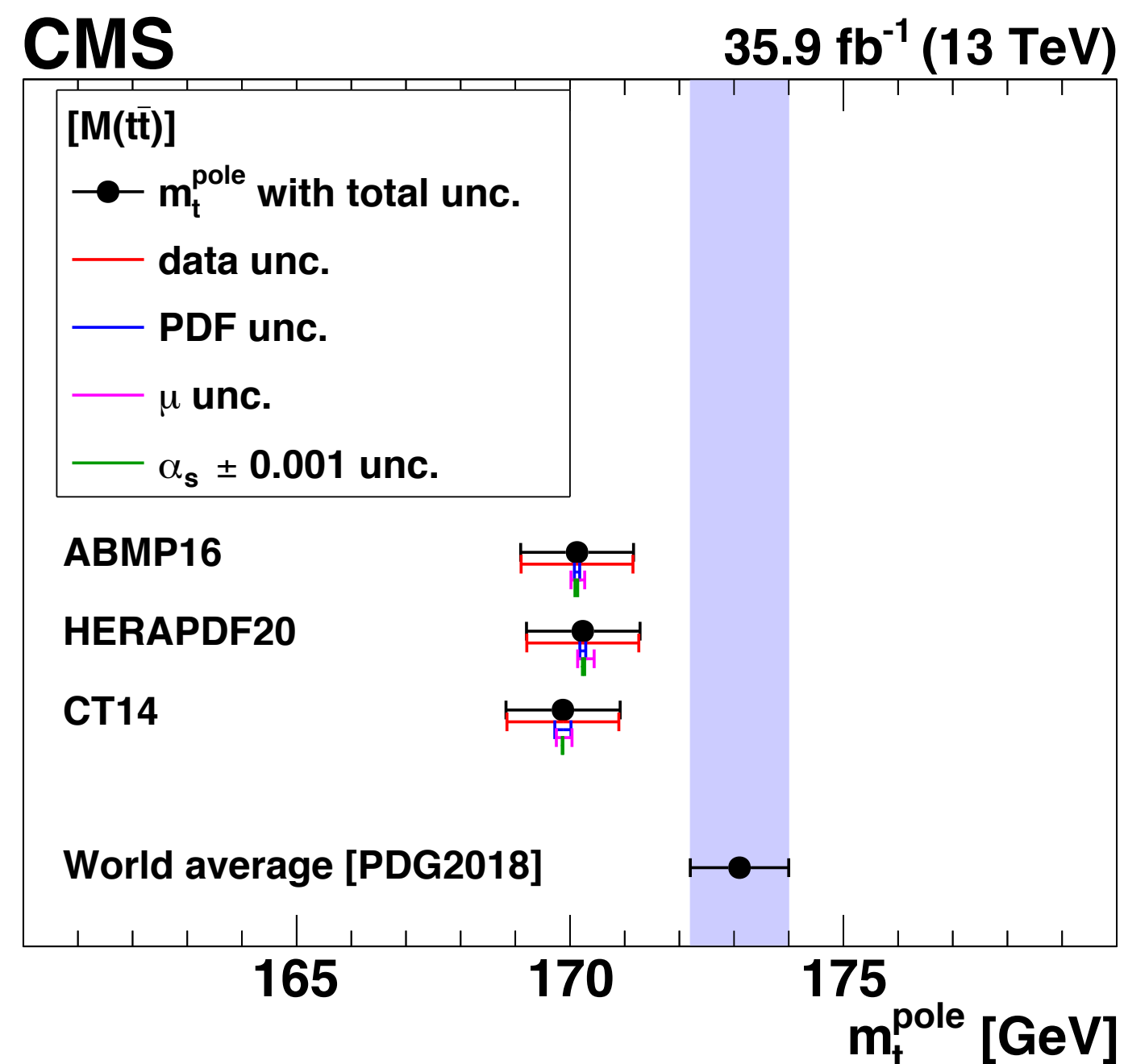


- Non-relativistic effects in $Q\bar{Q}$ system near threshold
- Well-studied in quarkonium systems
- Relevant for threshold $t\bar{t}$ production and top quark mass measurement

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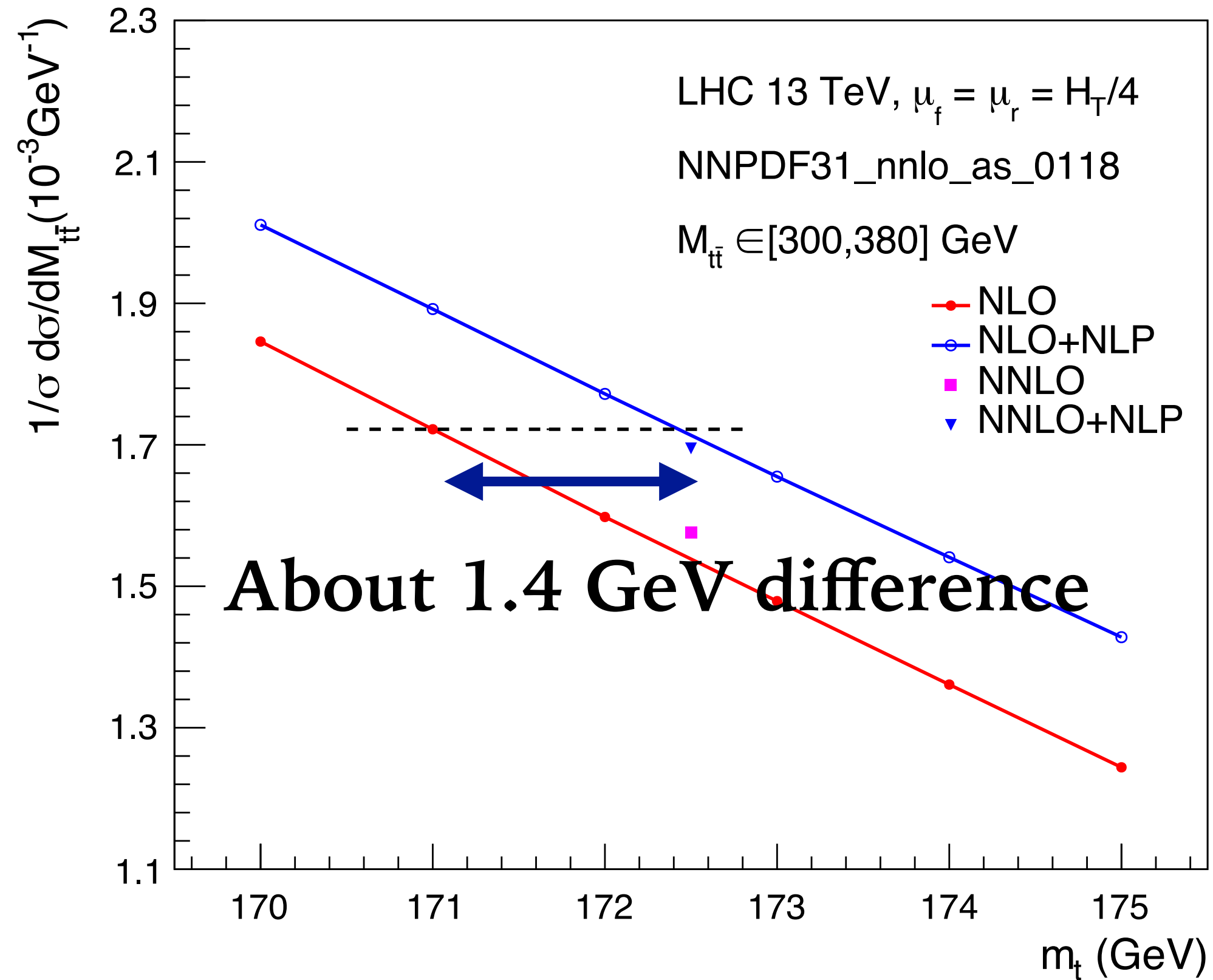
ATLAS collaboration: 1905.02302

CMS collaboration: 1904.05237

The measured value would deviate if such effects were not considered!

Bound-state effects in top quark pair production

Ju, Wang, Wang, Xu, Xu, LLY:
1908.02179, 2004.03088



$$\frac{d\sigma}{dM_{t\bar{t}}d\Theta} \sim \int H \times J \times f \times f$$

We demonstrated that bound-state effects
can account for most of the deviation

See also:

Kiyo et al.: 0812.0919

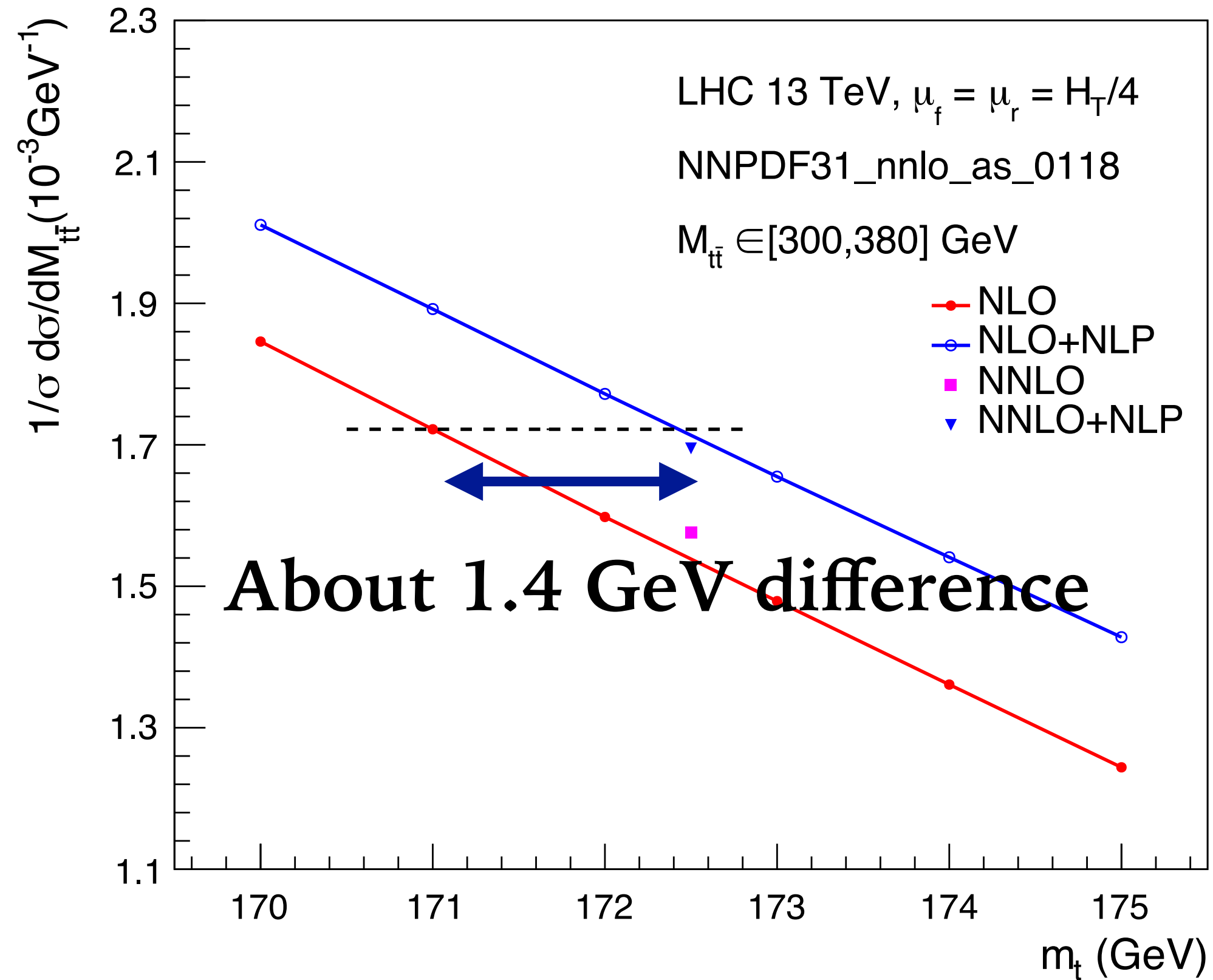
Sumino and Yokoya: 1007.0075

Fuks et al.: 2102.11281

Garzelli et al.: 2412.16685

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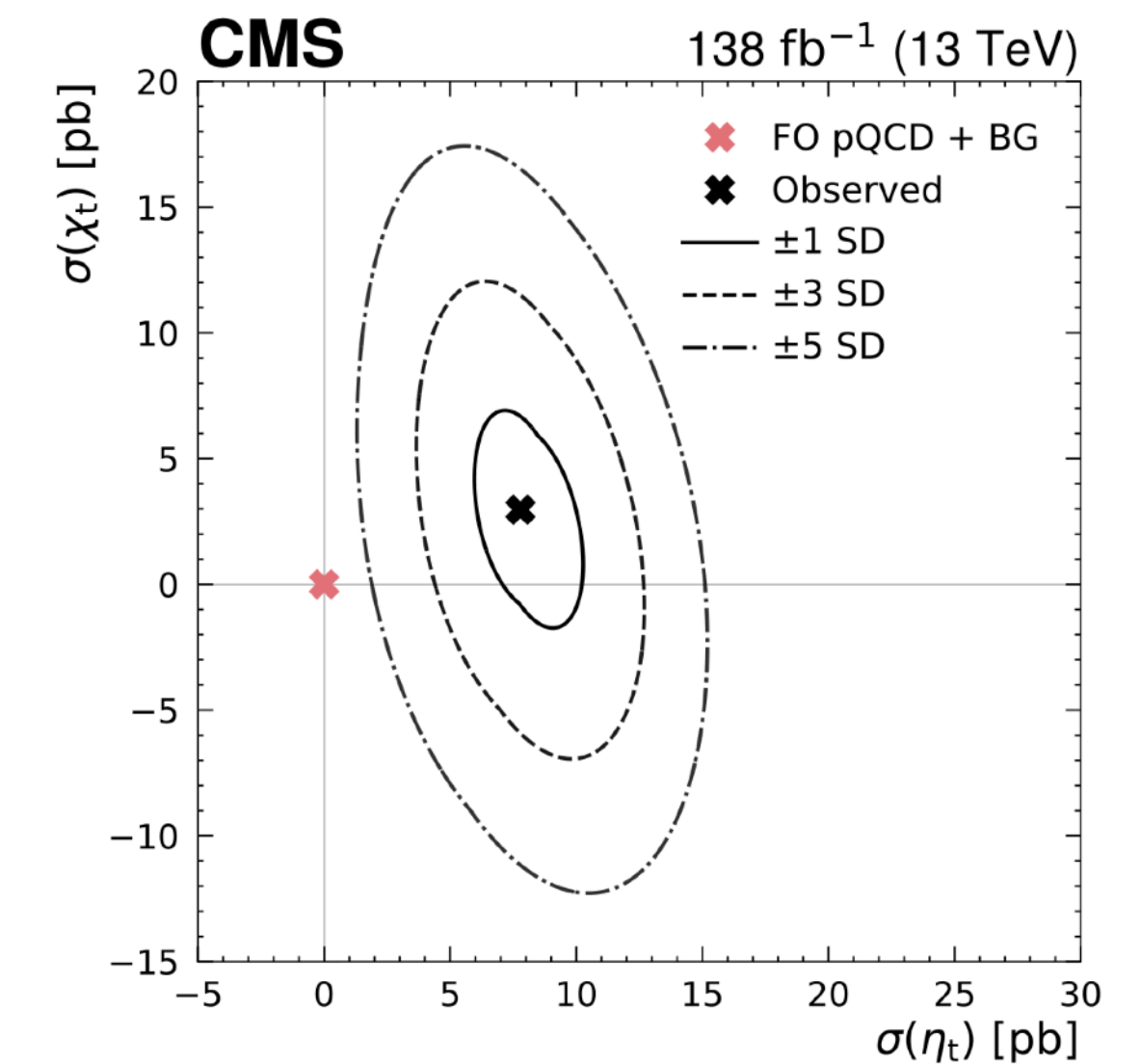
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Recently, such bound-state effects, or the “toponium”, has been confirmed by the CMS experiment



See also:

Kiyo et al.: 0812.0919

Sumino and Yokoya: 1007.0075

Fuks et al.: 2102.11281

Garzelli et al.: 2412.16685

CMS Collaboration: 2503.22382

Factorization and resummation at high energies

$$\frac{\hat{s} - M^2}{\hat{s}} \ll 1$$

At high energies, two kinds of scale hierarchy:

$$\frac{m_t^2}{M^2} \ll 1$$

A universal framework to resum both kinds of large logarithms

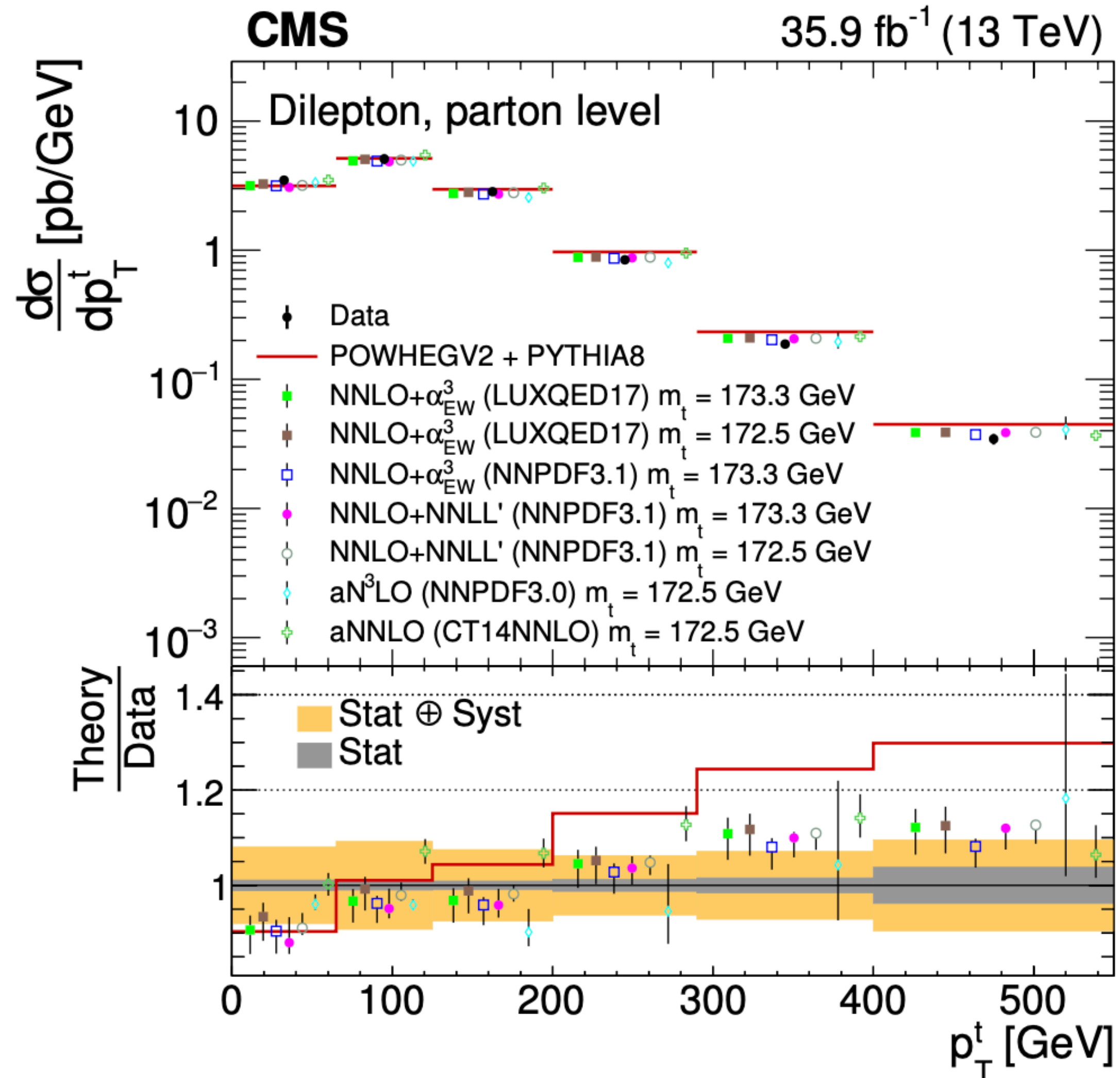
Ferrogia, Pejack, LLY: 1205.3662

$$C_{ij}(z, M, m_t, \cos \theta, \mu_f) = C_D^2(m_t, \mu_f) \text{Tr} \left[\mathbf{H}_{ij}(M, t_1, \mu_f) \mathbf{S}_{ij}(\sqrt{\hat{s}}(1-z), t_1, \mu_f) \right]$$

$$\otimes C_{ff}^{ij}(z, m_t, \mu_f) \otimes C_{t/t}(z, m_t, \mu_f) \otimes C_{t/t}(z, m_t, \mu_f)$$

$$\otimes S_D(m_t(1-z), \mu_f) \otimes S_D(m_t(1-z), \mu_f) + \mathcal{O}(1-z) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m_t}{M}\right)$$

Application to top quark pair production



Pecjak, Scott, Wang, LLY: 1601.07020
Czakon et al.: 1803.07623, 1901.08281

State-of-the-art theoretical prediction
NNLO+NNLL' in QCD + NLO in EW

Factorization in the high energy limit

It was suggested that a massive amplitude can be factorized in the high-energy limit into a massless amplitude and a collinear factor for each leg

$$\mathcal{M}^{[p],(m)} \left(\{k_i\}, \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2}, \alpha_s(\mu^2), \varepsilon \right) =$$

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

$$\prod_{i \in \{\text{all legs}\}} \left(Z_{[i]}^{(m|0)} \left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2}, \alpha_s(\mu^2), \varepsilon \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \times \mathcal{M}^{[p],(m=0)} \left(\{k_i\}, \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2}, \alpha_s(\mu^2), \varepsilon \right)$$

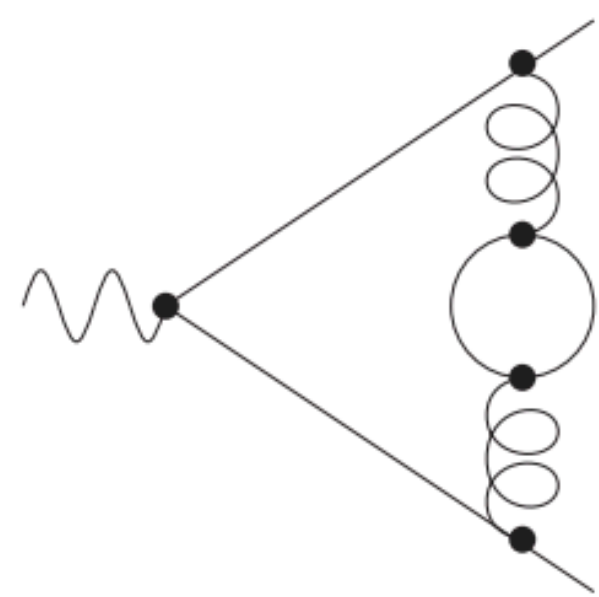
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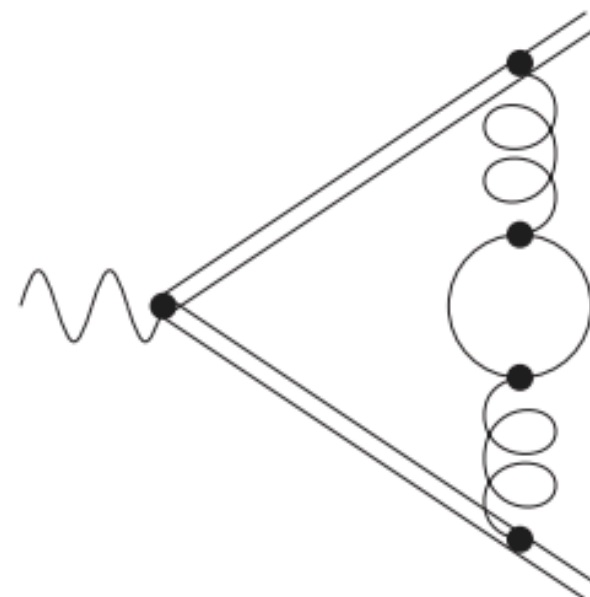
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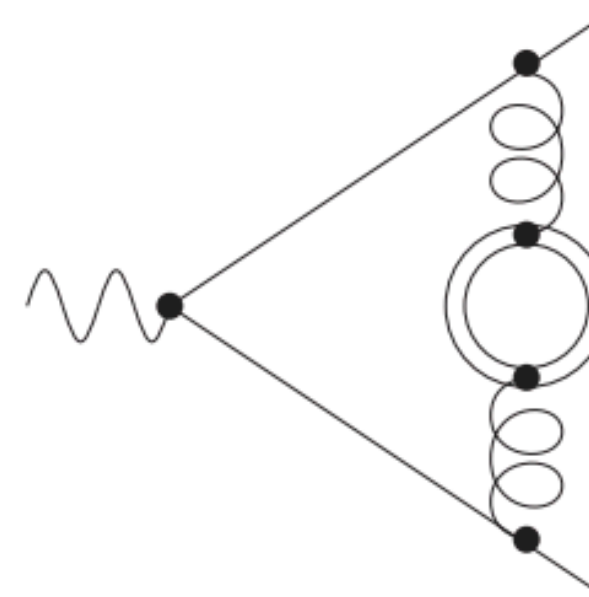
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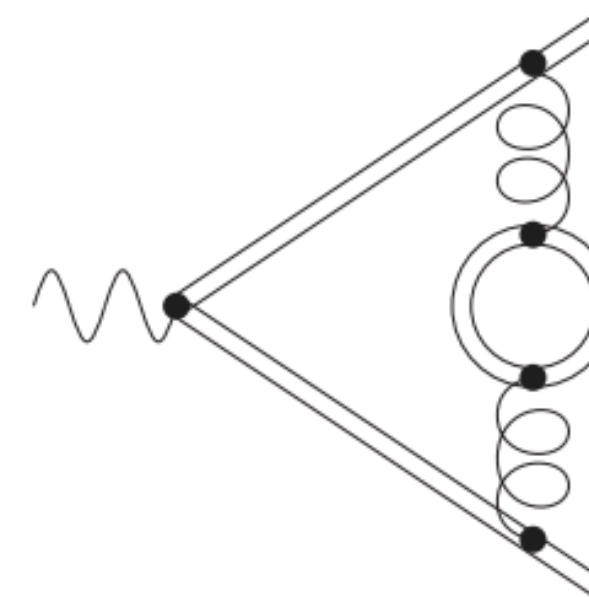
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hl



lh



hh

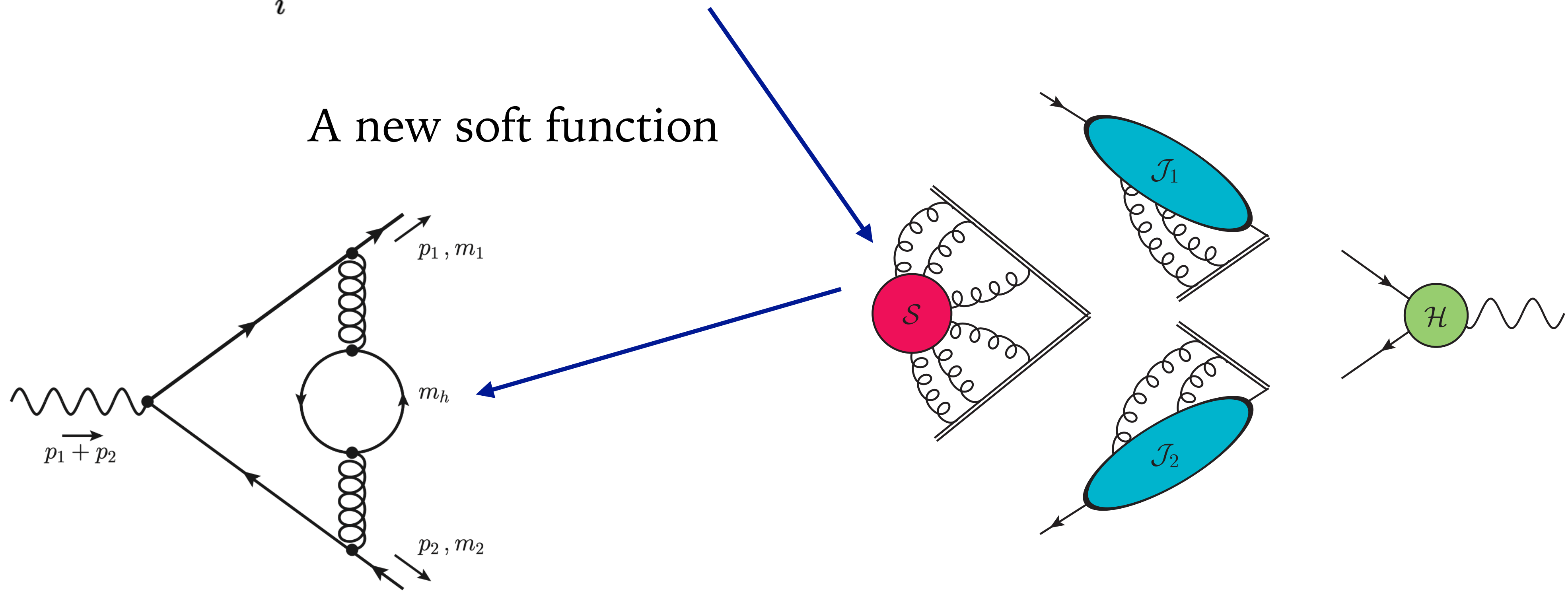
But the heavy-quark bubbles were not included!

Improved factorization formula

Wang, Xia, LLY, Ye: 2312.12242

$$|\mathcal{M}^{\text{massive}}(\{p\}, \{m\})\rangle = \prod_i \left(\mathcal{Z}_{[i]}^{(m|0)}(\{m\}) \right)^{1/2} \mathcal{S}(\{p\}, \{m\}) |\mathcal{M}^{\text{massless}}(\{p\})\rangle$$

A new soft function

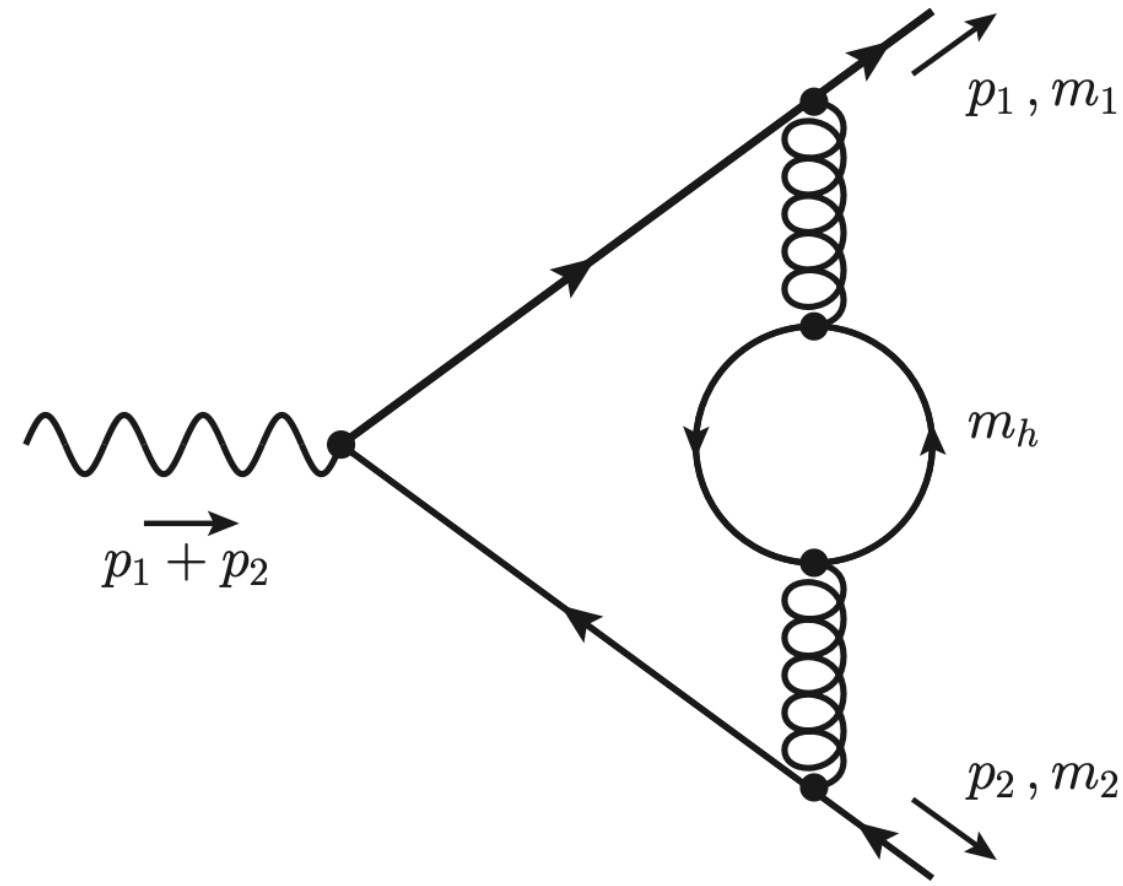


Applied to bottom quark production in, e.g.:

Mazzitelli et al.: 2404.08598
 Biello et al.: 2412.09510

The new soft function

Wang, Xia, LLY, Ye: 2312.12242



hard : $k^\mu \sim \sqrt{|s|}$,

n_i -collinear : $(n_i \cdot k, \bar{n}_i \cdot k, k_\perp) \sim \sqrt{|s|} (\lambda^2, 1, \lambda)$

soft : $k^\mu \sim \sqrt{|s|} \lambda$.

Rapidity divergence: analytic regulator

$$I_{\{a_i\}} \equiv \mu^{4\epsilon} \int \frac{dk_1}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{dk_2}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{[k_1^2 - m_h^2]^{a_1}} \frac{1}{[k_2^2 - m_h^2]^{a_2}} \frac{1}{[(k_1 + k_2)^2]^{a_3}} \frac{1}{[(k_1 + k_2 - p_1)^2 - m_1^2]^{a_4}} \\ \times \frac{(-\tilde{\mu}^2)^\nu}{[(k_1 + k_2 + p_2)^2 - m_2^2]^{a_5 + \nu}} \frac{1}{[(k_1 - p_1)^2]^{a_6}} \frac{1}{[(k_1 + p_2)^2]^{a_7}}, \quad (3.4)$$

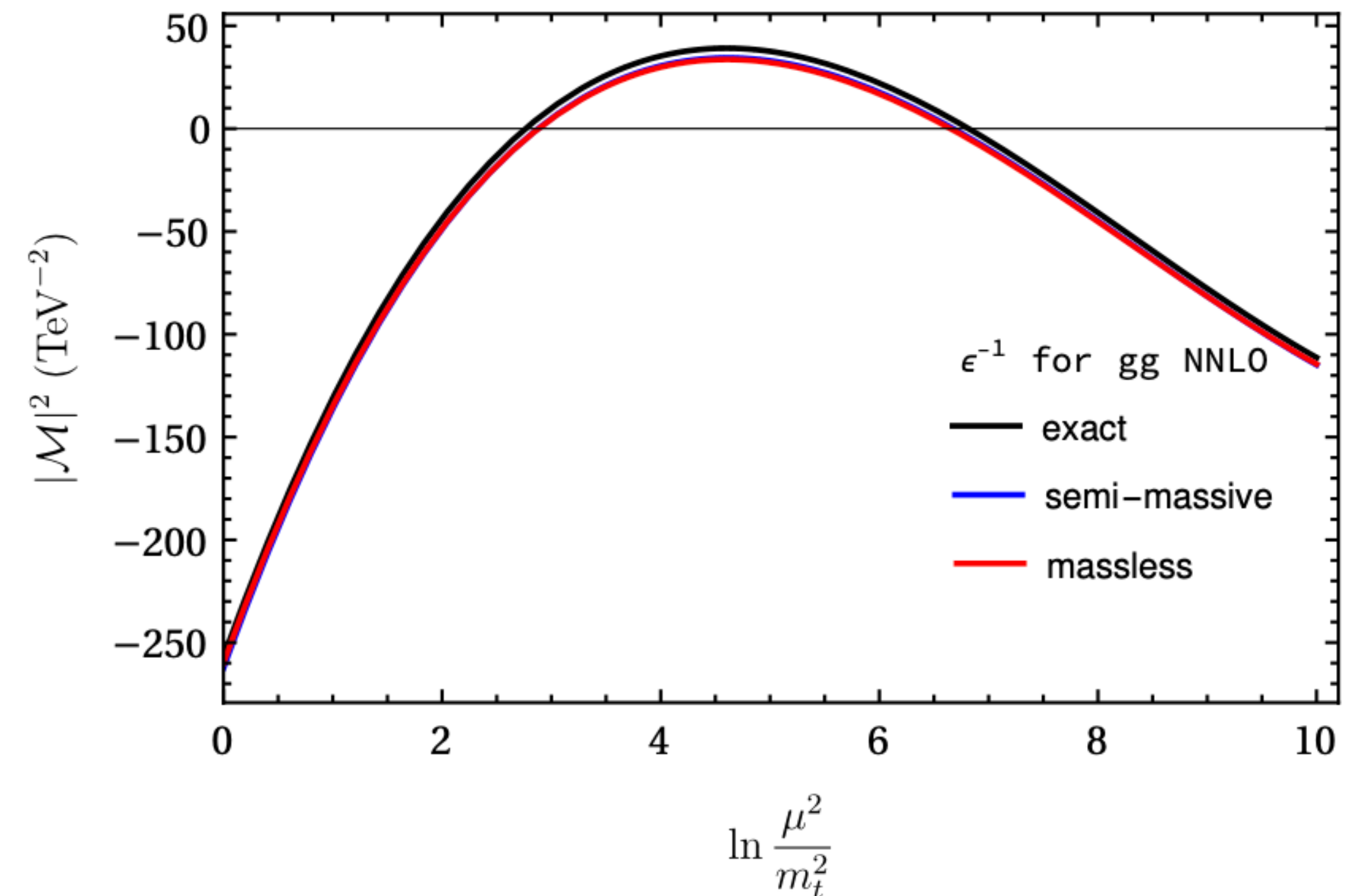
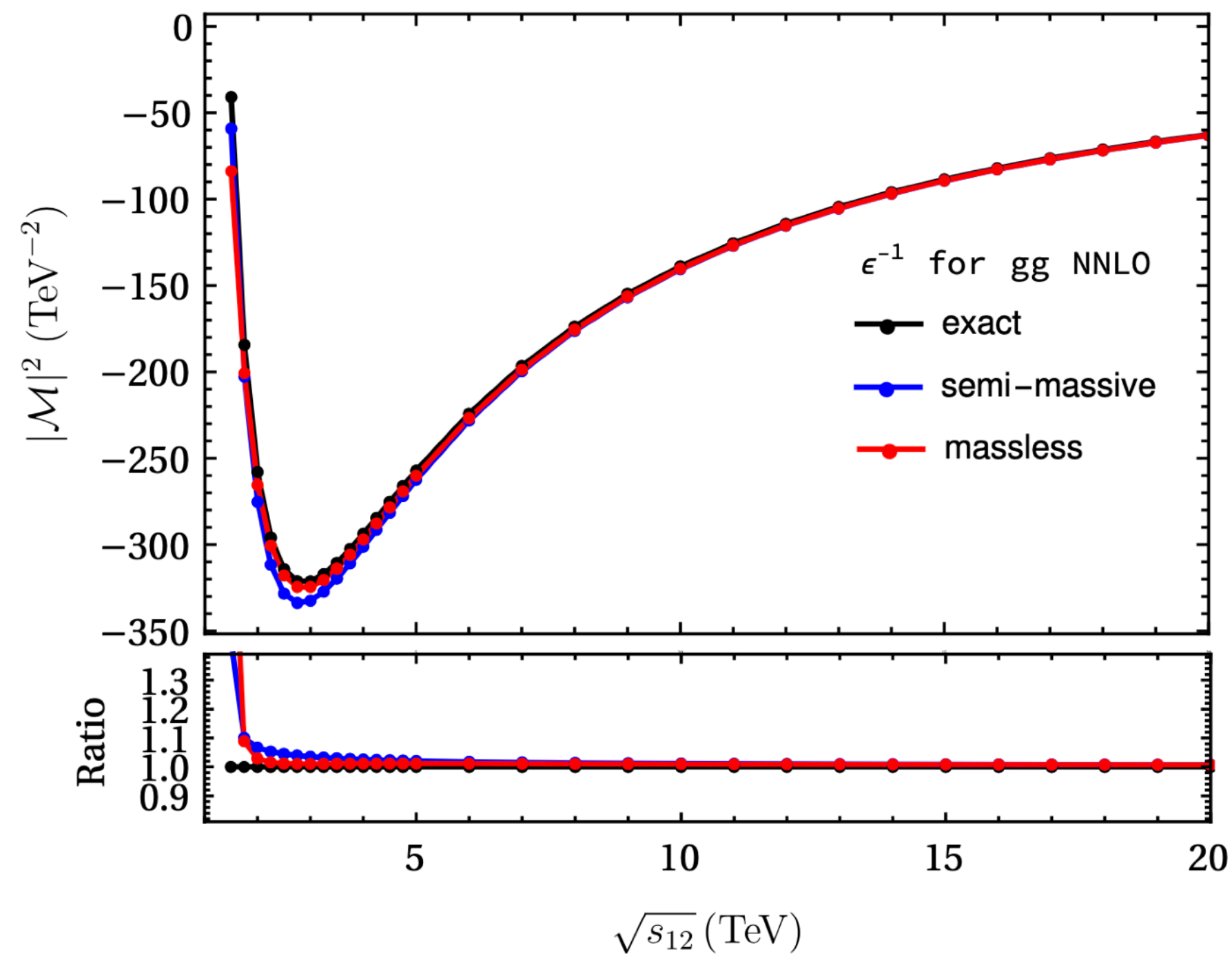
$$\mathcal{S}(\{p\}, \{m\}) = 1 + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right)^2 \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i \neq j}} (-\mathbf{T}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_j) \sum_h \mathcal{S}^{(2)}(s_{ij}, m_h^2) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$$

$$\mathcal{S}^{(2)}(s_{ij}, m_h^2) = T_F \left(\frac{\mu^2}{m_h^2}\right)^{2\epsilon} \left(-\frac{4}{3\epsilon^2} + \frac{20}{9\epsilon} - \frac{112}{27} - \frac{4\zeta_2}{3}\right) \ln \frac{-s_{ij}}{m_h^2}$$

Application: two-loop amplitudes for tTH production

$$|\mathcal{M}^{\text{massive}}(\{p\}, \{m\})\rangle = \prod_i \left(\mathcal{Z}_{[i]}^{(m|0)}(\{m\}) \right)^{1/2} \mathcal{S}(\{p\}, \{m\}) |\mathcal{M}^{\text{massless}}(\{p\})\rangle$$

Wang, Xia, LLY, Ye: 2402.00431



IR poles validated against exact results in [Chen, Ma, Wang, LLY, Ye: 2202.02913](#)

Note: without our new factorization formula, the scale-dependence would be wrong!

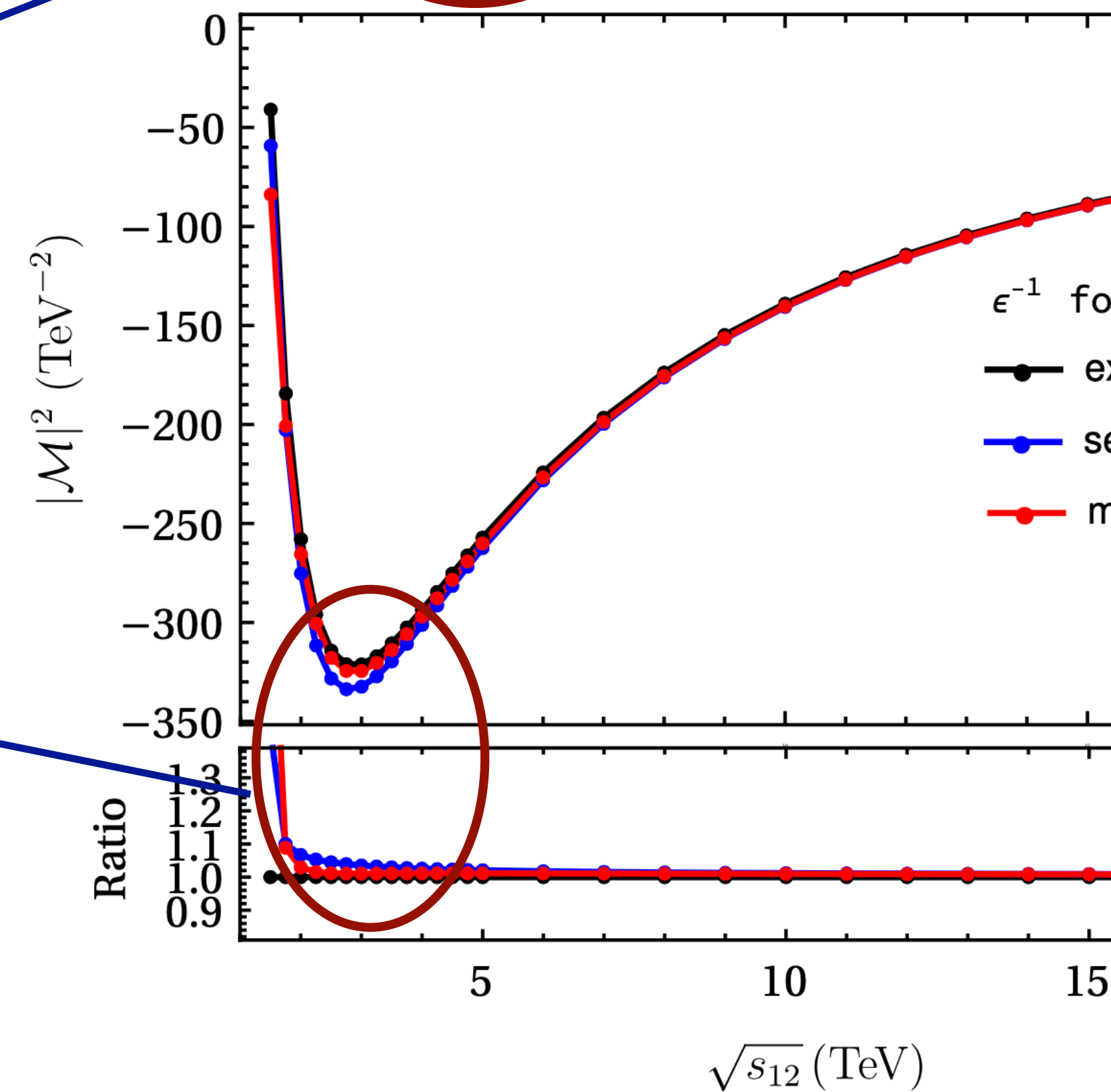
Towards sub-leading factorization

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Power corrections to the factorization formula

Important for intermediate energy range

Important for combining the threshold region and the high-energy region



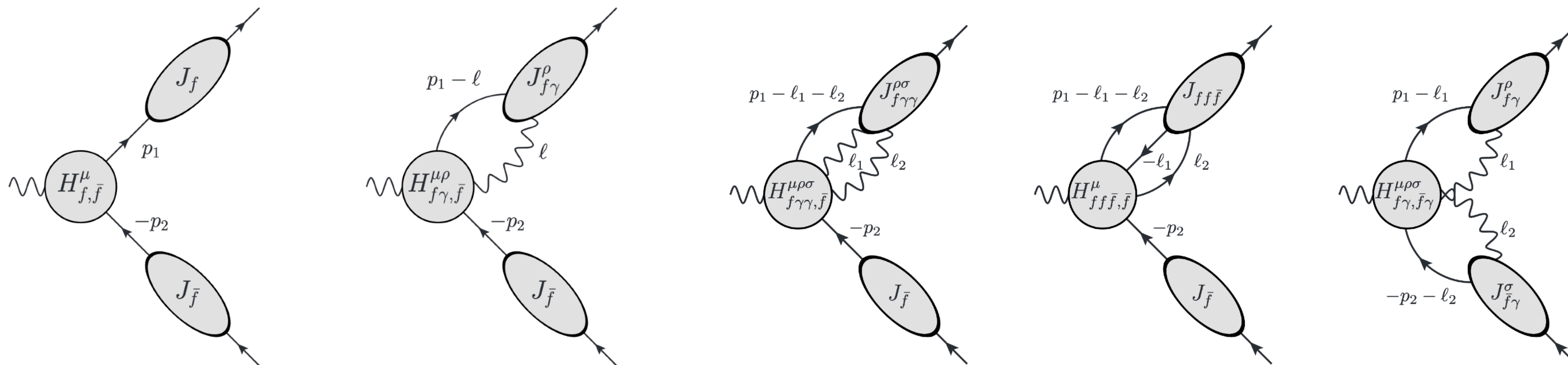
Towards sub-leading factorization

Partial results available at the next-to-leading power

Laenen et al.: 2008.01736
 ter Hoeve et al: 2311.16215
 van Bijleveld et al.: 2503.10810

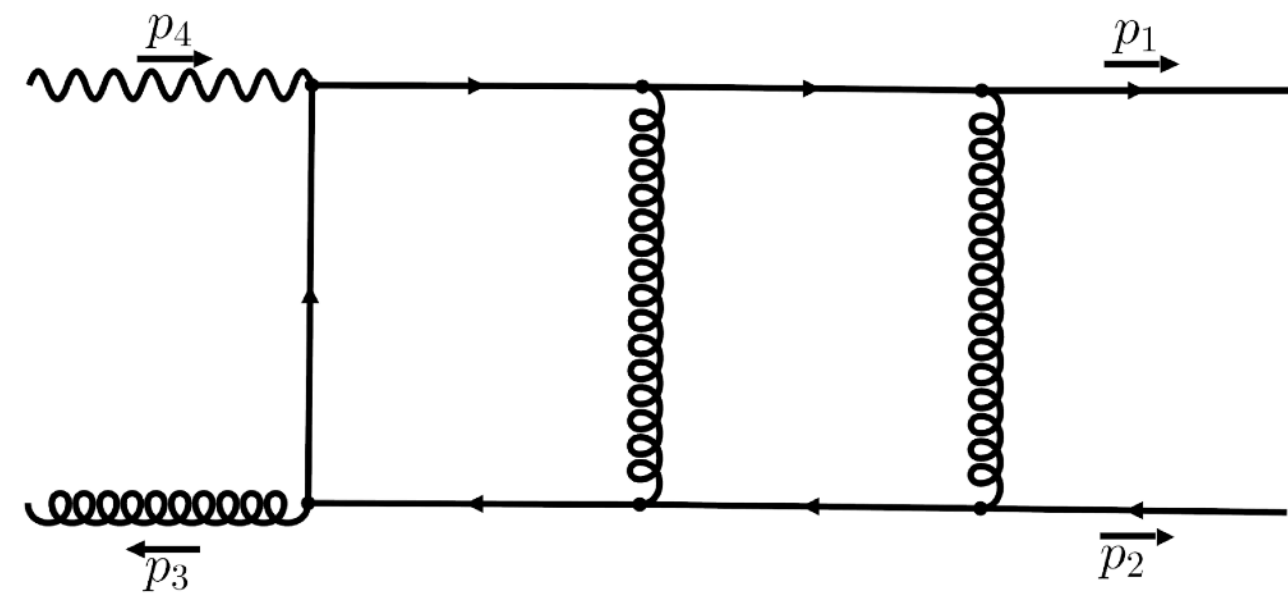
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{\text{coll.}} = & \left(\prod_{i=1}^n J_f^i \right) \otimes H_f S + \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\prod_{j \neq i} J_f^j \right) \left[J_{f\gamma}^i \otimes H_{f\gamma}^i + J_{f\partial\gamma}^i \otimes H_{f\partial\gamma}^i \right] S \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\prod_{j \neq i} J_f^j \right) J_{f\gamma\gamma}^i \otimes H_{f\gamma\gamma}^i S + \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\prod_{j \neq i} J_f^j \right) J_{fff}^i \otimes H_{fff}^i S \\ & + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \left(\prod_{k \neq i, j} J_f^k \right) J_{f\gamma}^i J_{f\gamma}^j \otimes H_{f\gamma, f\gamma}^{ij} S + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^3), \end{aligned}$$

- Analysis in the collinear region
- Validated against 1 → 2 form factors



Towards sub-leading factorization

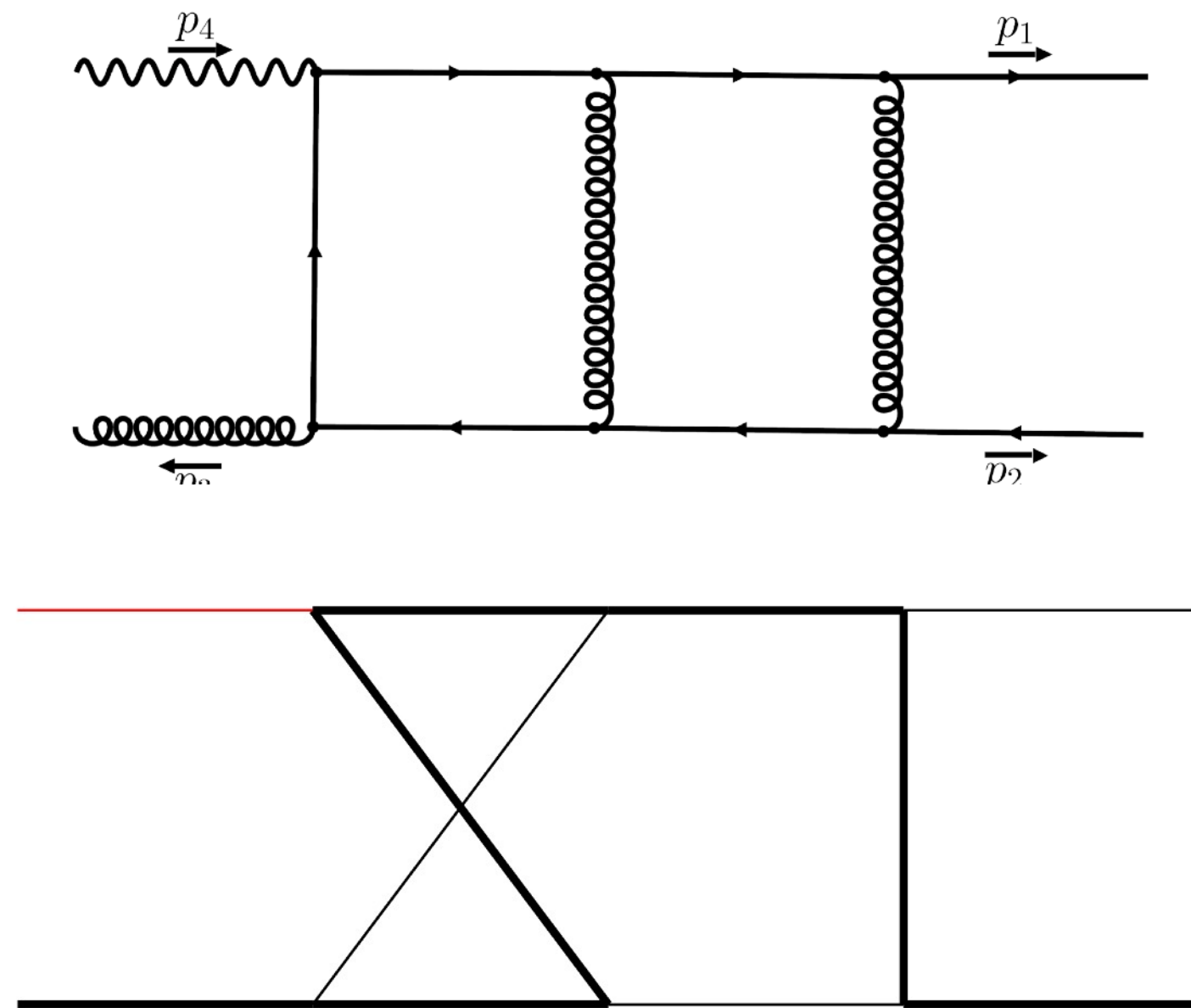
Ongoing: analyzing sub-leading corrections in $1 \rightarrow 3$ form factors



- Small-mass expansion of the full form factor (planar contributions)
- Using differential equations w.r.t. m^2 to set up relations among expansion coefficients
- Solving differential equations w.r.t. other kinematic invariants

Towards sub-leading factorization

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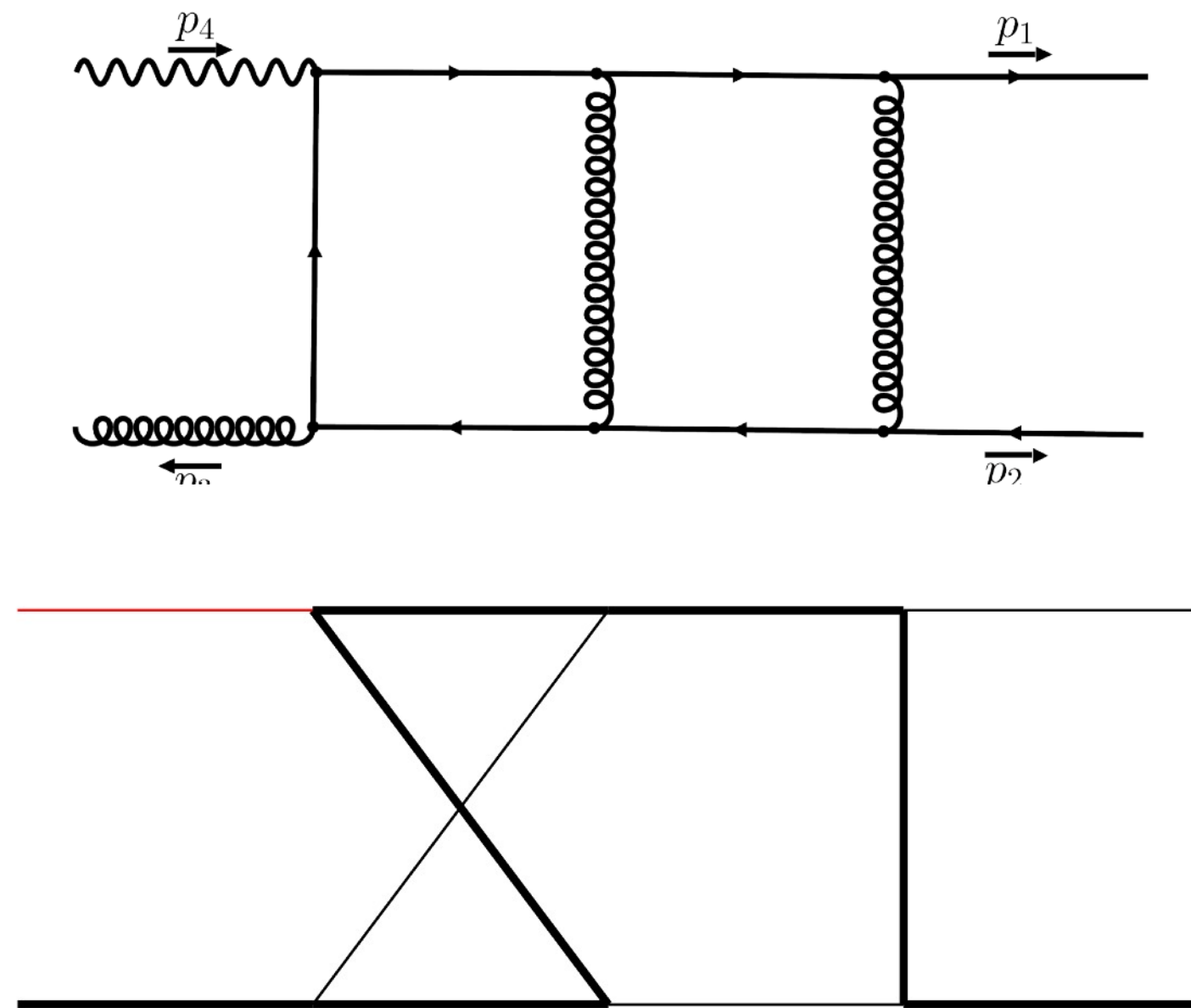


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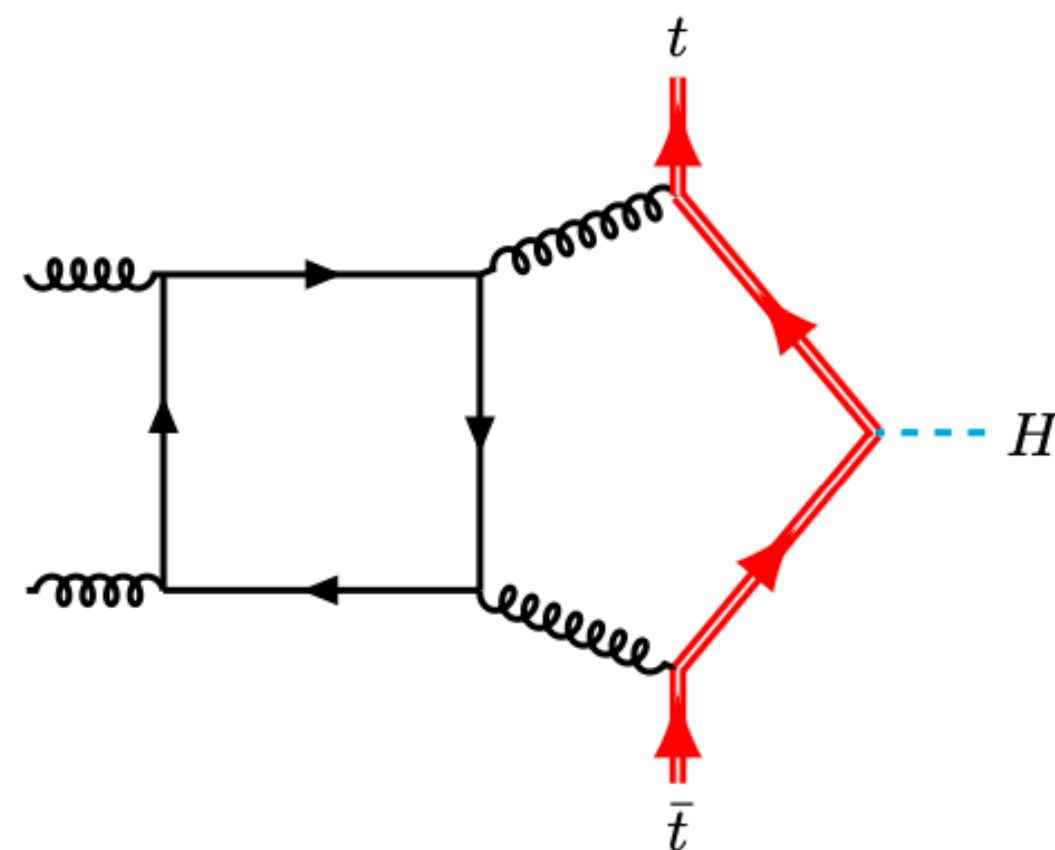
Bottleneck towards non-planar families: integral reduction

Towards sub-leading factorization

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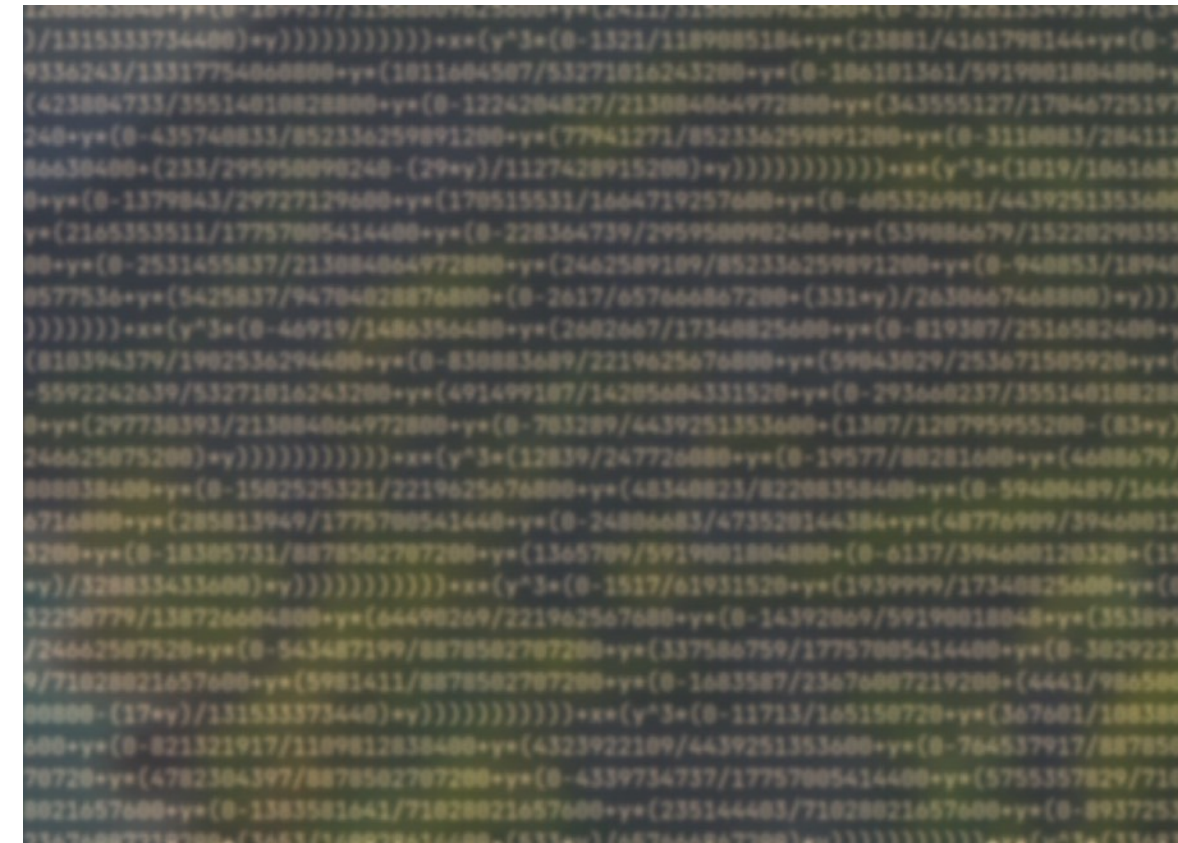
Bottleneck towards non-planar families: integral reduction

Improved reduction techniques are also necessary to tackle more complicated processes

Reduction coefficients as a power expansion

A reduction coefficients is a (very large) rational expression of m^2 and other variables \vec{x}

$$C(\vec{x}, m^2) =$$



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In practice, we are interested in the first few terms in the expansion

$$C(\vec{x}, m^2) = C_0(\vec{x}) + C_1(\vec{x}) m^2 + C_2(\vec{x}) m^4 + \dots$$

Much simpler expressions

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Much simpler expressions

Can we obtain $C_i(\vec{x})$ without knowing $C(\vec{x}, m^2)$?

Reduction coefficients as a power expansion

Finite field reconstruction has been widely used to reconstruct reduction coefficients (Kira, FIRE, FiniteFlow, ...)

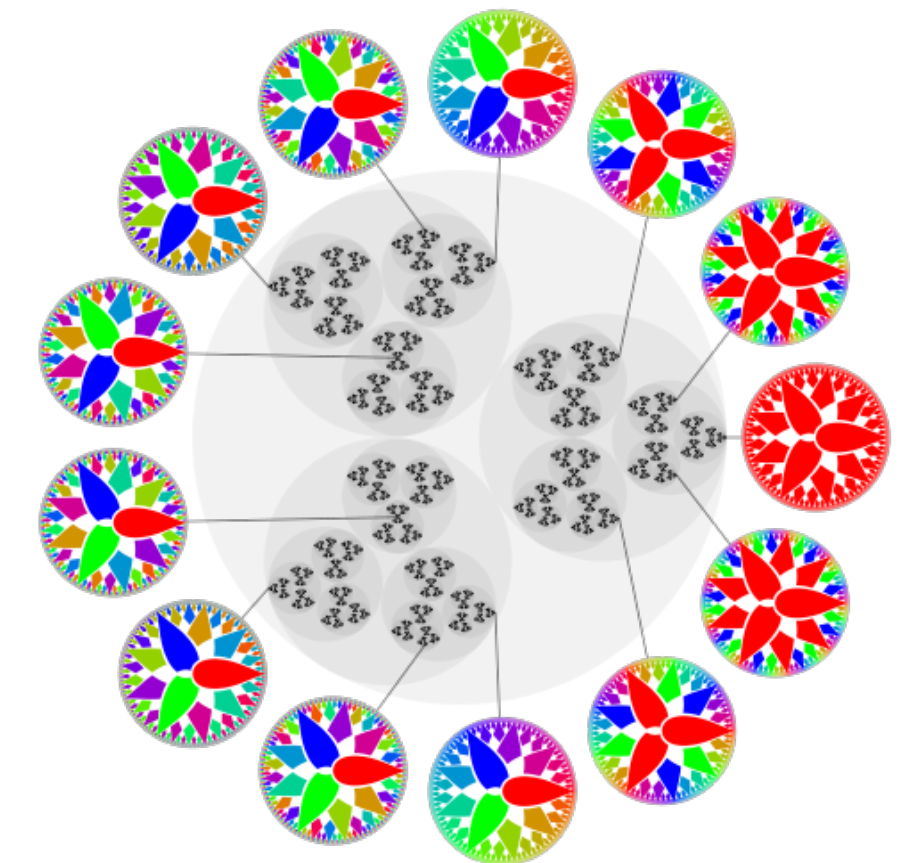
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An extension: p-adic numbers

$$\frac{1}{5} = 0.01210121 \dots \text{ (base 3)} = 0 \cdot 3^0 + 0 \cdot 3^{-1} + 1 \cdot 3^{-2} + 2 \cdot 3^{-3} + \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{5} = \dots 121012102 \text{ (3-adic)} = \dots + 2 \cdot 3^3 + 1 \cdot 3^2 + 0 \cdot 3^1 + 2 \cdot 3^0.$$



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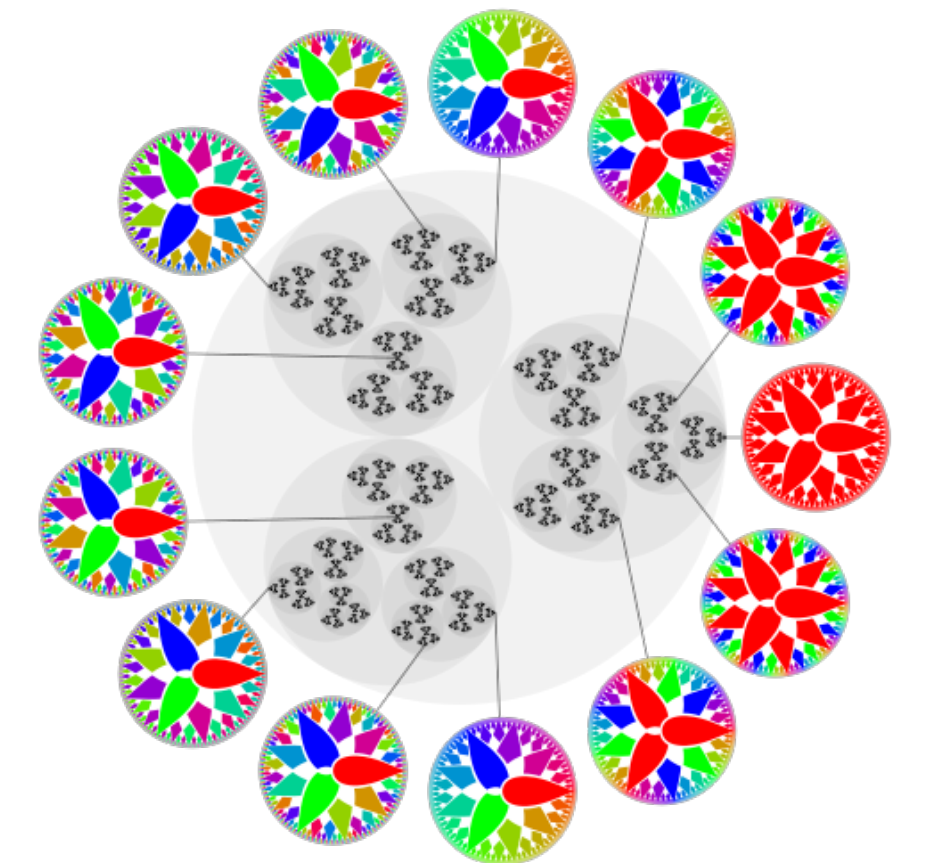
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$$s = \sum_{i=k}^{\infty} a_i p^i = a_k p^k + a_{k+1} p^{k+1} + a_{k+2} p^{k+2} + \dots$$

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Similar!



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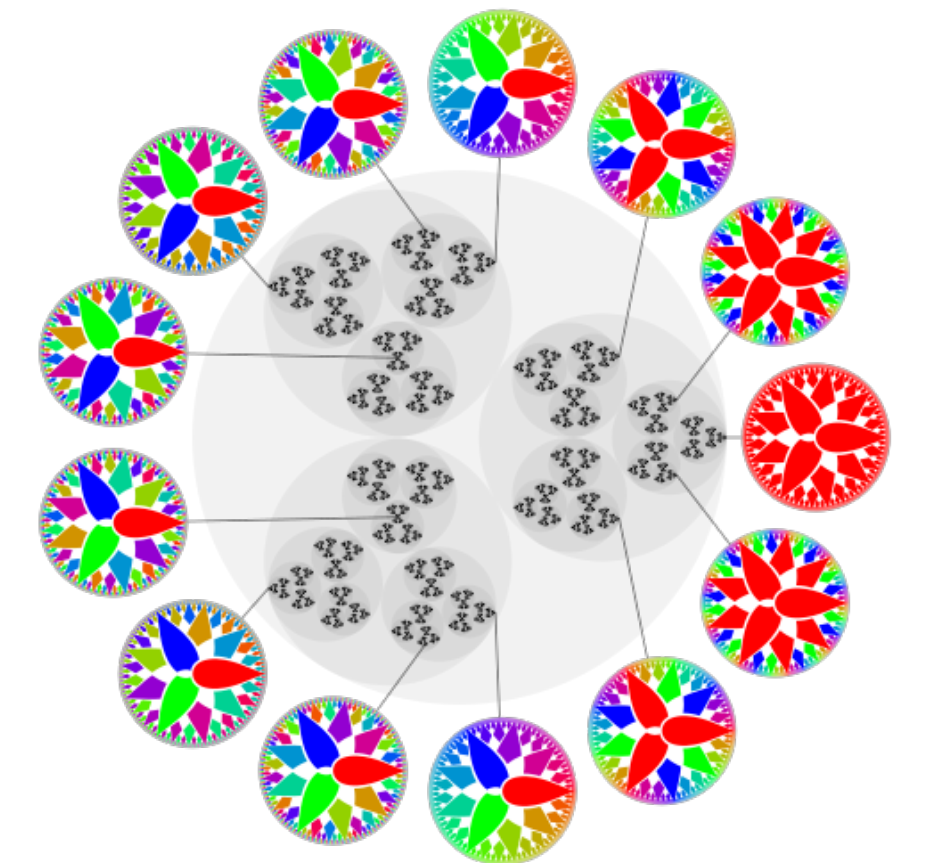
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Similar!



Initial studies show that p-adic reconstruction of the first 2~3 terms can be orders-of-magnitude faster than finite field reconstruction of the full expression

Can be applied to expansion in ϵ as well...

Reduction with intersection theory

Intersection theory provides a promising approach for integral reduction

Frellesvig et al.: 1901.11510, 1907.02000, 2008.04823

$$\langle \varphi | = \sum_{i=1}^{\nu} c_i \langle e_i | \quad \langle e_i | d_j \rangle = \delta_{ij} \quad \longrightarrow \quad c_i = \langle \varphi | d_i \rangle$$

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A lot of development for the computation of intersection numbers: successful application to 2-loop 5-point problems (11-layer intersection numbers)

Brunello et al.: 2401.01897, 2408.16668

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Reduction with intersection theory is usually formulated in the Baikov representation, we recently reformulated it in the **Feynman parametrization**

Lu, Wang, LLY: 2411.05226

- **Fewer variables** → fewer layers in multivariable intersection numbers
- **Simpler polynomials** → easier manipulation

Reduction with intersection theory and branch representation

Lu, Wang, LLY: 2411.05226

It turns out that our reformulation can be combined with a **new representation** modifying the Feynman parametrization in a clever way

Huang, Huang, Ma: 2412.21053

See the talk by Y.-Q. Ma for more details about this new representation

$$I = \int_0^\infty J(\mathbf{X}) d^n \mathbf{X} \longrightarrow n = 2L + 1 \text{ for } L\text{-loop integrals (independent of the number of external legs)}$$

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3-loop 5-point: **5-layer** intersection numbers instead of **11** (Feynman parameters)

6 layers “for free”!

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To appear



stay tuned!

Summary

- Factorization is extremely important in heavy flavor physics, including top quark physics
- Bound-state effects near $t\bar{t}$ threshold: important for top quark mass measurement, and confirmed by experiments
- High-energy factorization: resummation of large logarithms and construction of approximate multi-loop amplitudes
- Partial results for high-energy factorization beyond leading power
- Requiring new integral reduction techniques:
 - Reduction coefficients as a power expansion using p-adic numbers
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