

# Women in Theoretical Physics

## Premio Nazionale "Milla Baldo Ceolin" 2024

**Camilla Forgiione**

**GGI, Firenze, 04/11/2025**





**UNIVERSITÀ  
DI TORINO**

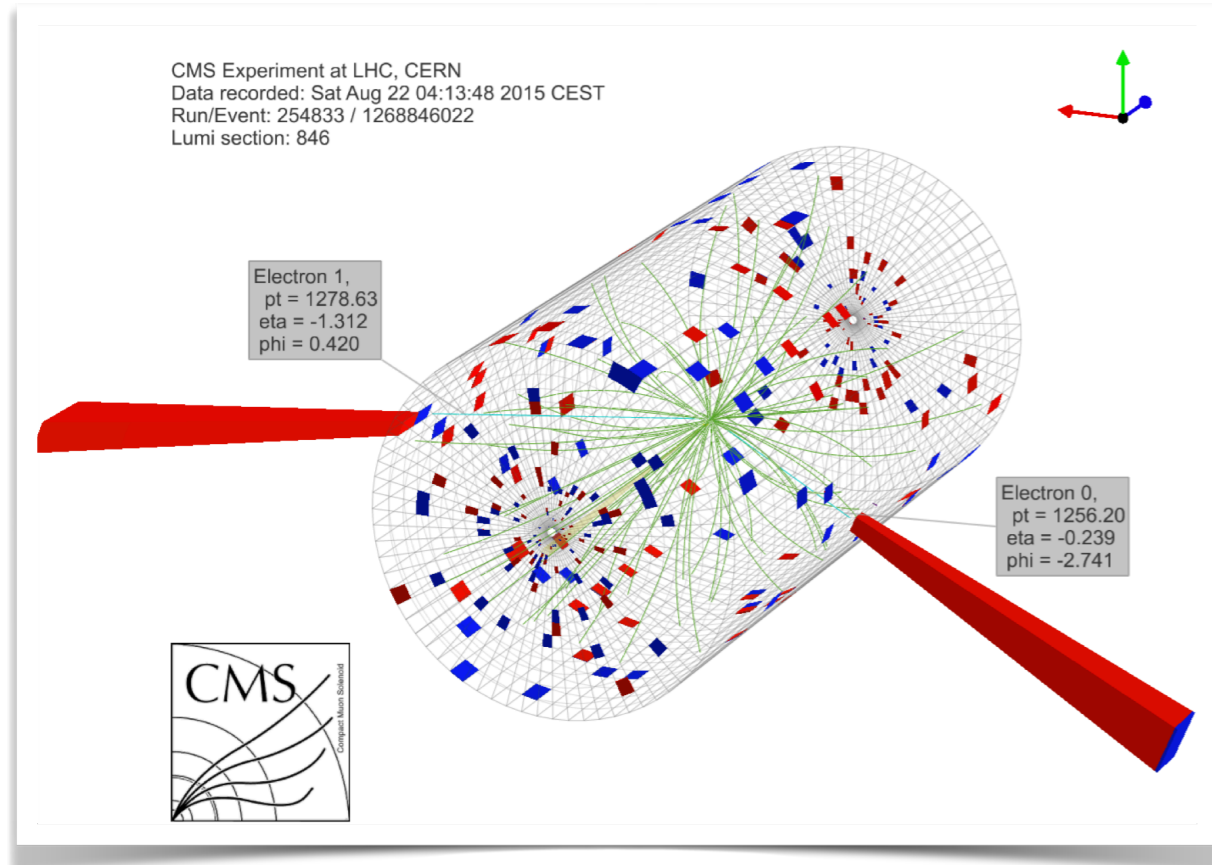
**Matching NLO QED  
computations and parton-  
shower simulations with  
MC@NLO**

**Precise predictions for  
heavy flavour production  
at colliders**

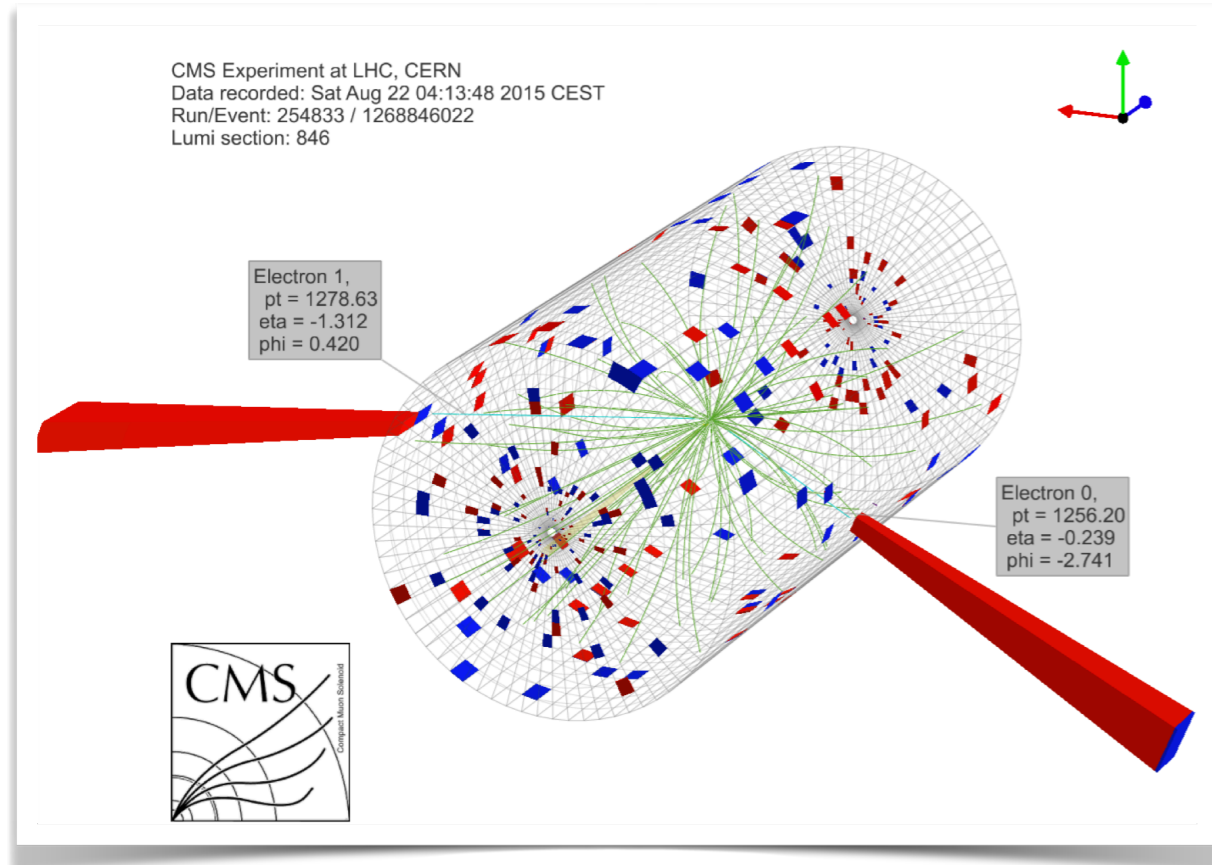


**MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT  
FÜR PHYSIK**

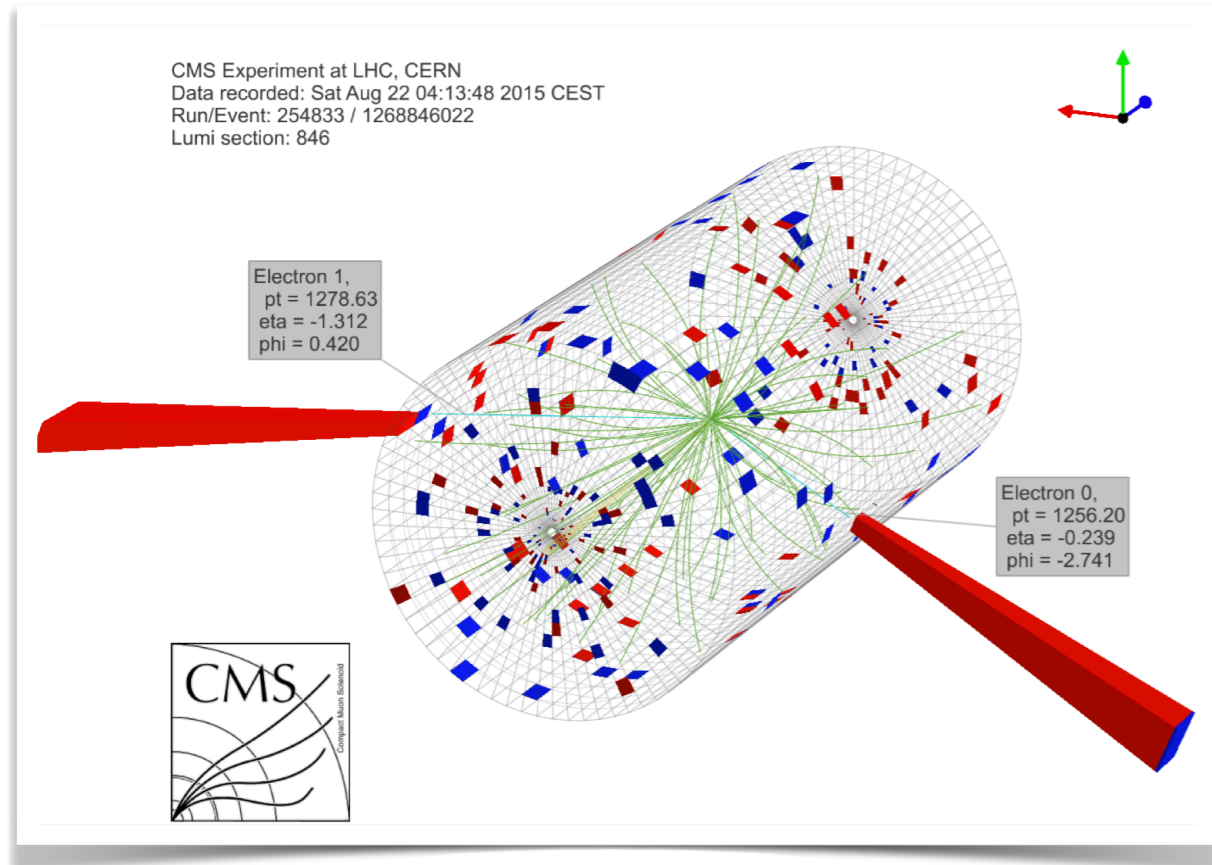
# High-precision collider physics



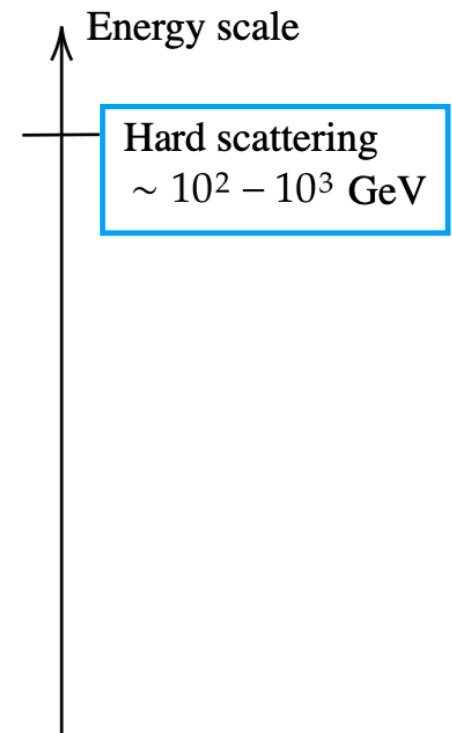
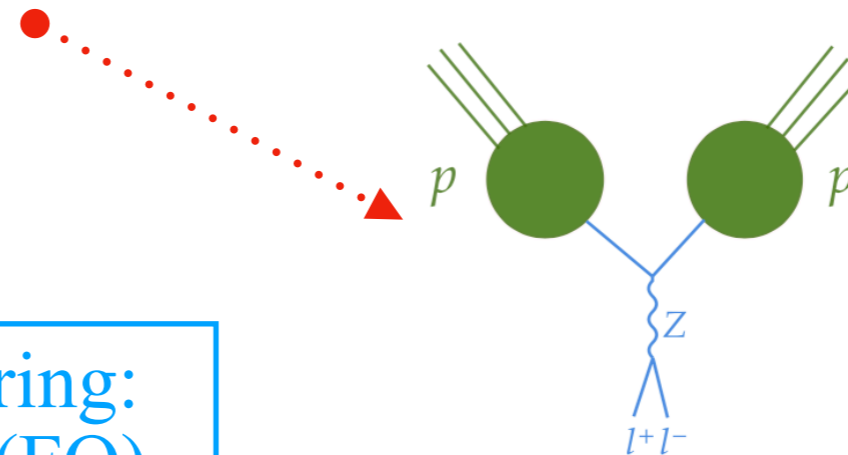
# High-precision collider physics



# High-precision collider physics

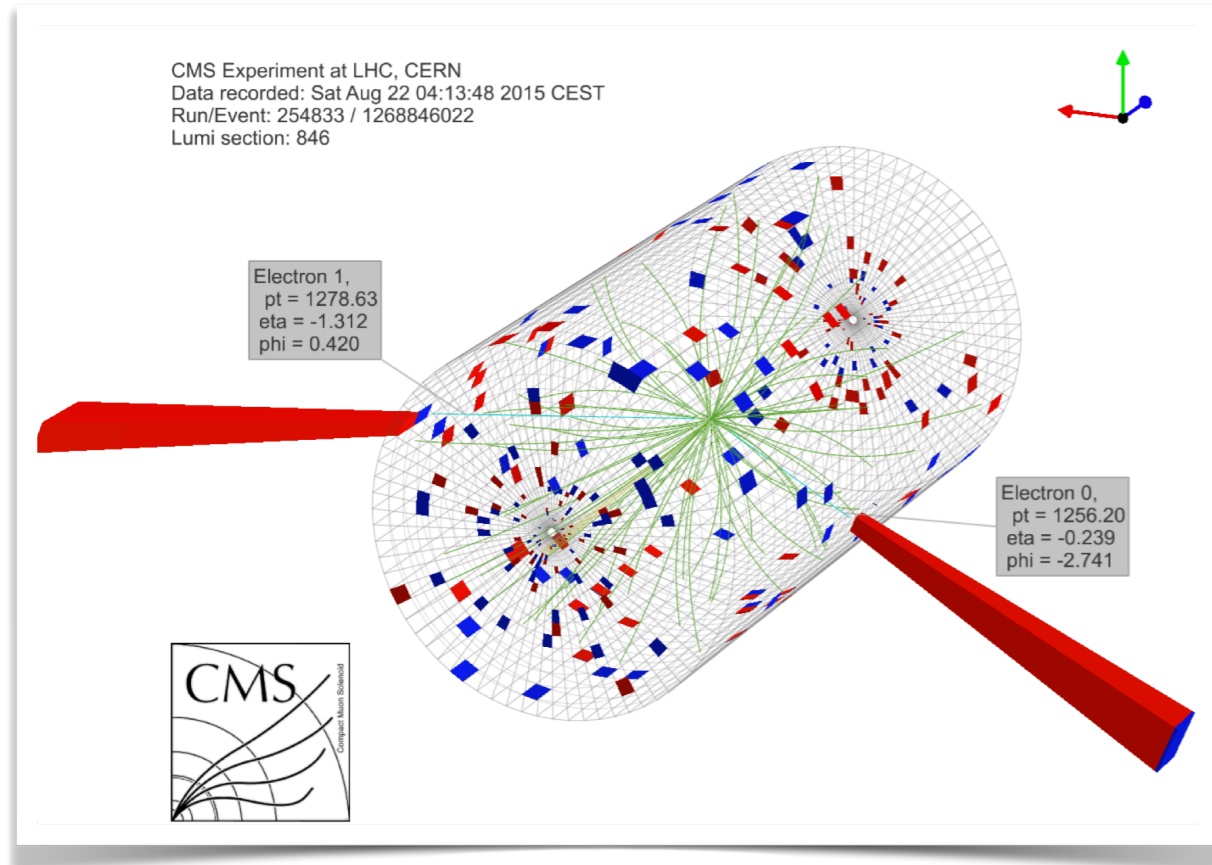


$$pp \rightarrow Z \rightarrow l^+l^-$$

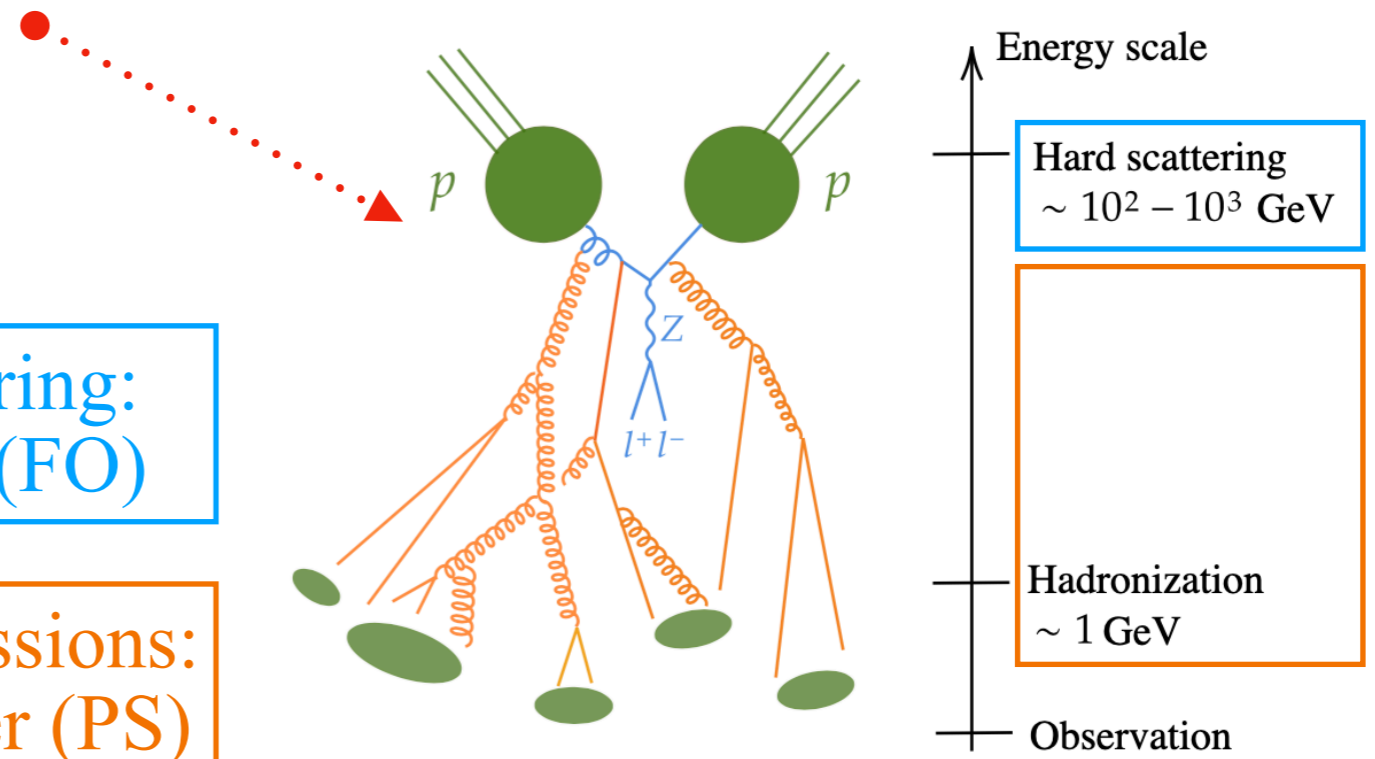


Hard scattering:  
fixed order (FO)

# High-precision collider physics



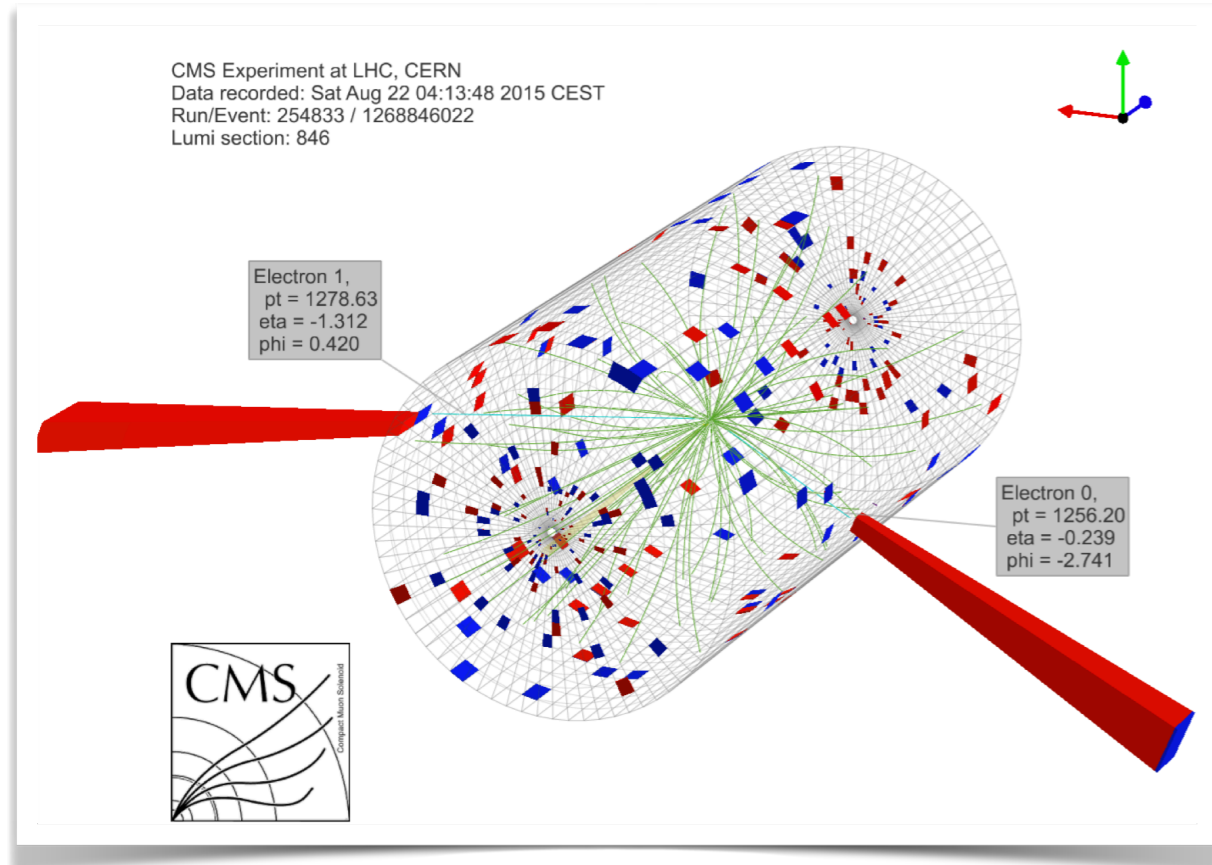
$$pp \rightarrow Z \rightarrow l^+l^-$$



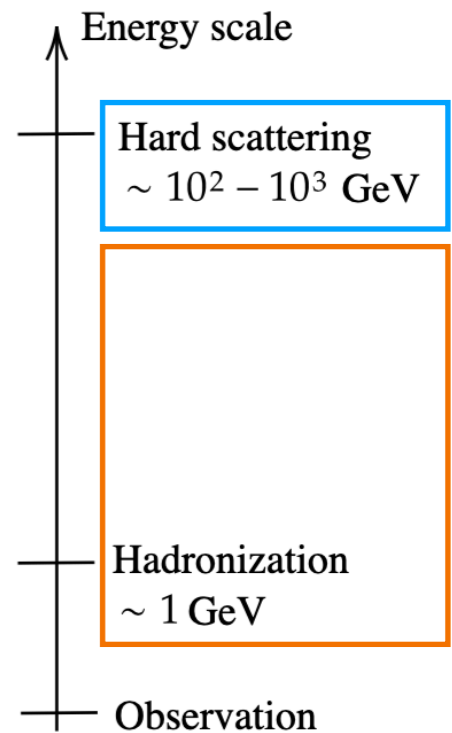
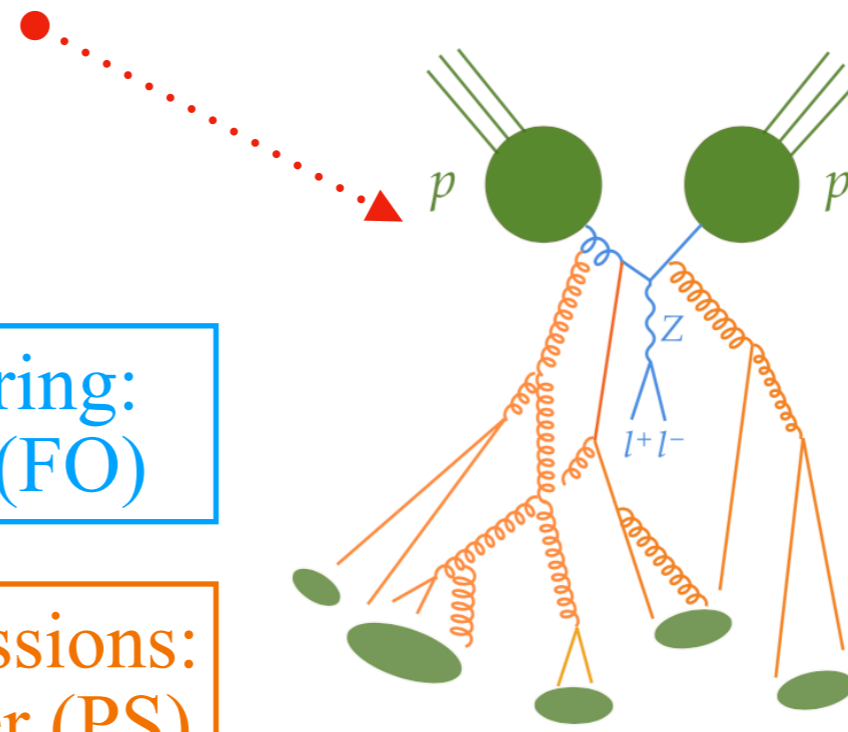
Hard scattering:  
 fixed order (FO)

Multiple emissions:  
 parton shower (PS)

# High-precision collider physics



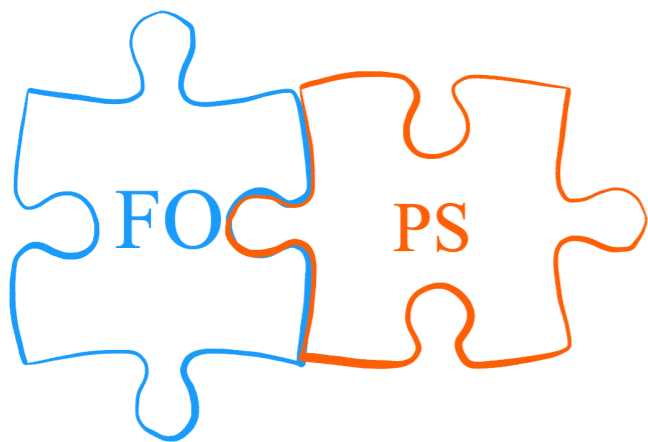
$$pp \rightarrow Z \rightarrow l^+l^-$$



## Matching

Hard scattering:  
 fixed order (FO)

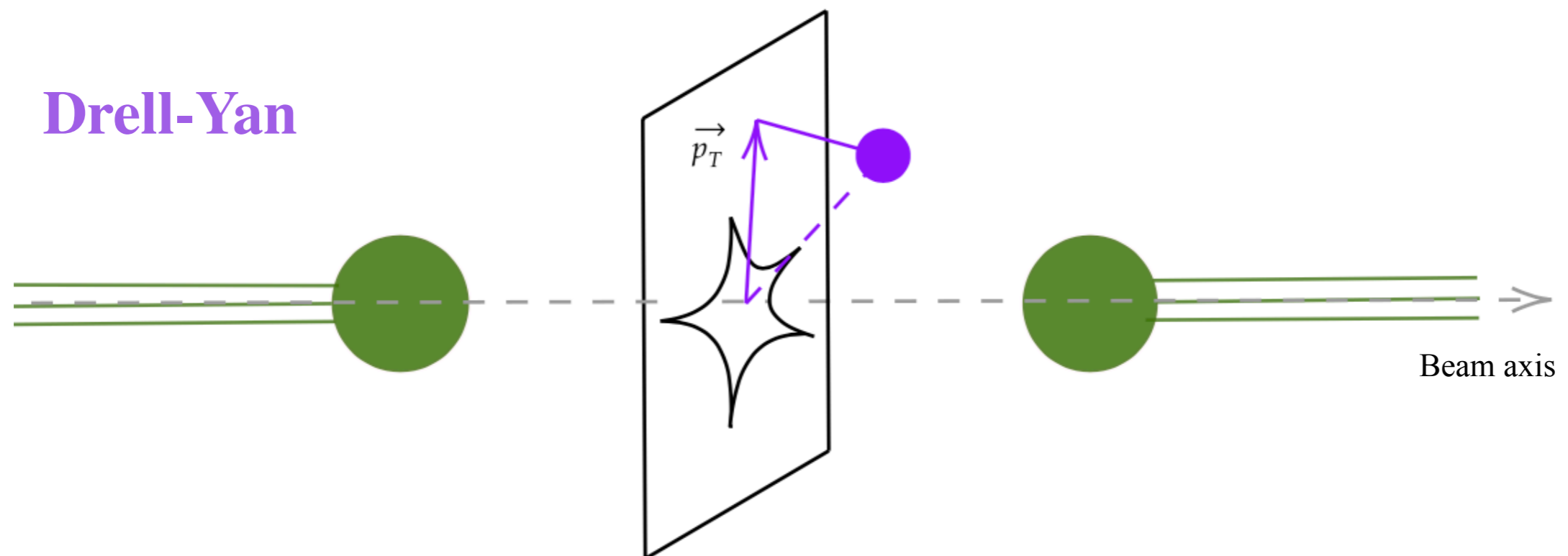
Multiple emissions:  
 parton shower (PS)



# Differential collider observables: e.g. transverse momentum

In collider experiments, the focus is on measuring and analysing kinematic distributions:  $\frac{d\sigma}{dO}$

An example is the Z transverse momentum  $p_T$ .



# The $Z$ transverse momentum spectrum in QCD

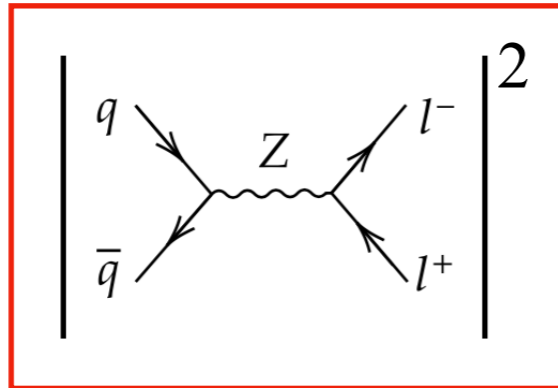
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dp_T} =$$

# The $Z$ transverse momentum spectrum in QCD

**LO**

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dp_T} = \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^0)$$

Born ( $B$ )



Fixed order (FO)

**LO** = Leading Order

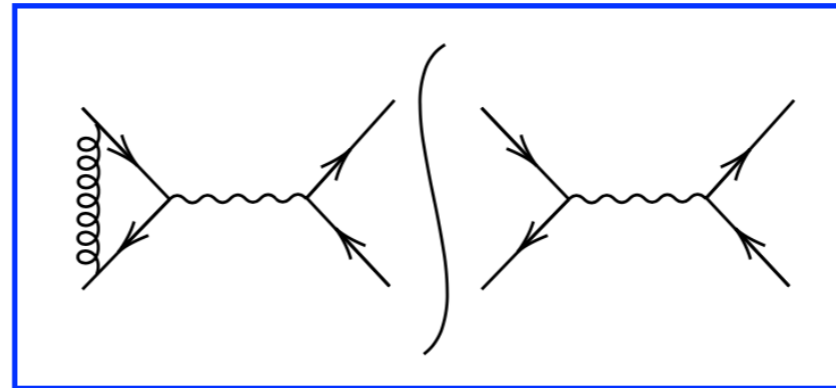
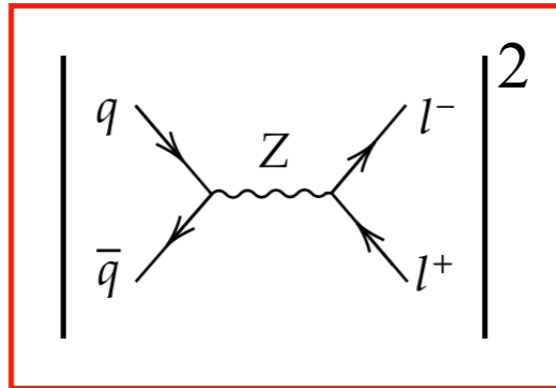
# The Z transverse momentum spectrum in QCD

**LO**

**NLO**

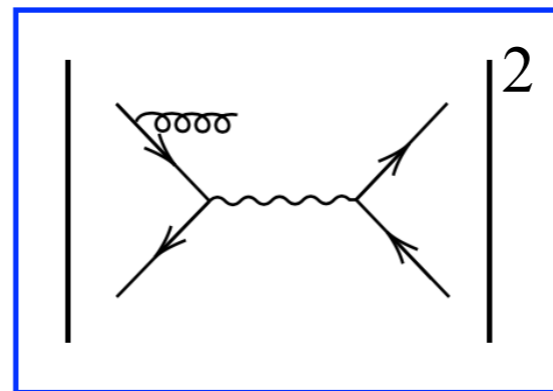
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dp_T} = \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^0) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^1) + \dots$$

Born (*B*)



Virtual (*V*)

...



Real (*R*)

Fixed order (FO)

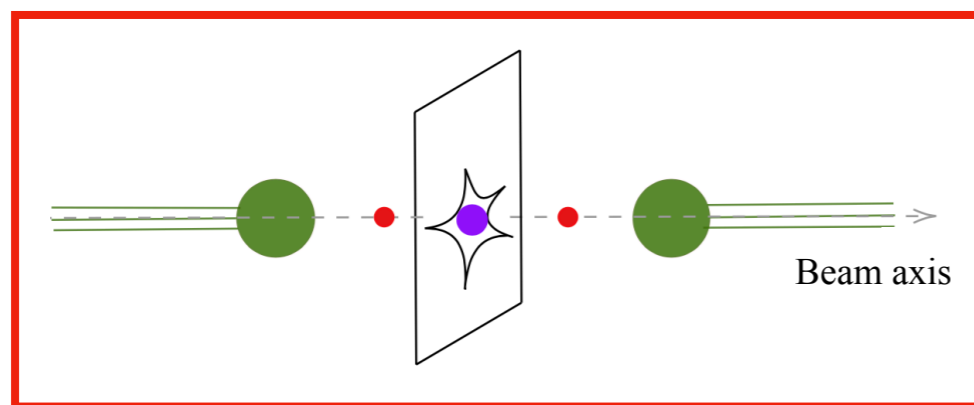
**LO** = Leading Order

**NLO** = Next to Leading Order

⋮

# The Z transverse momentum spectrum in QCD

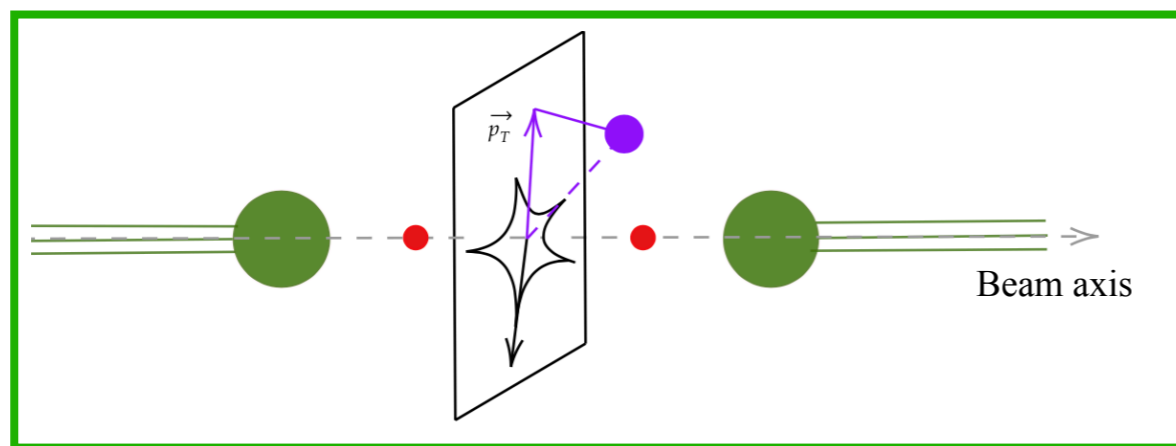
LO



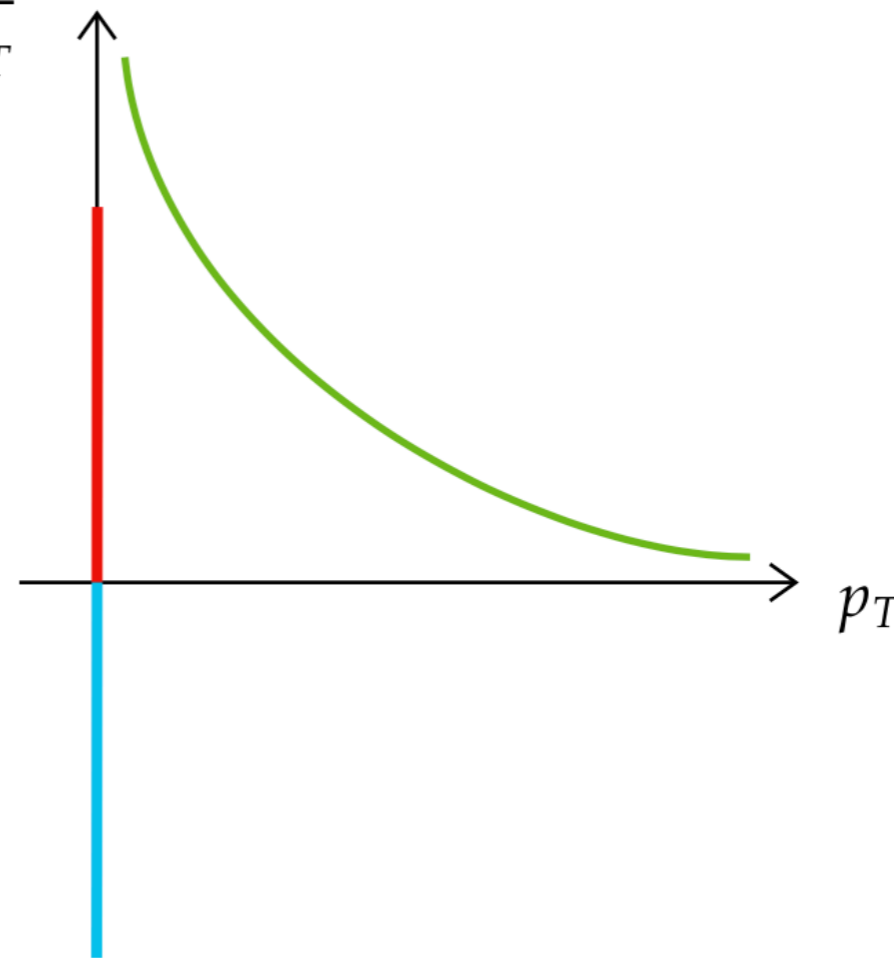
NLO

Virtual

Real

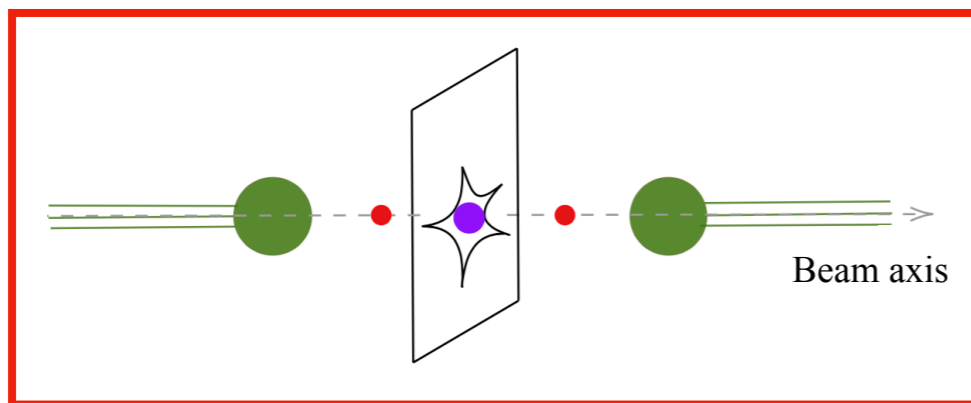


$$\frac{d\sigma}{dp_T}$$



# The Z transverse momentum spectrum in QCD

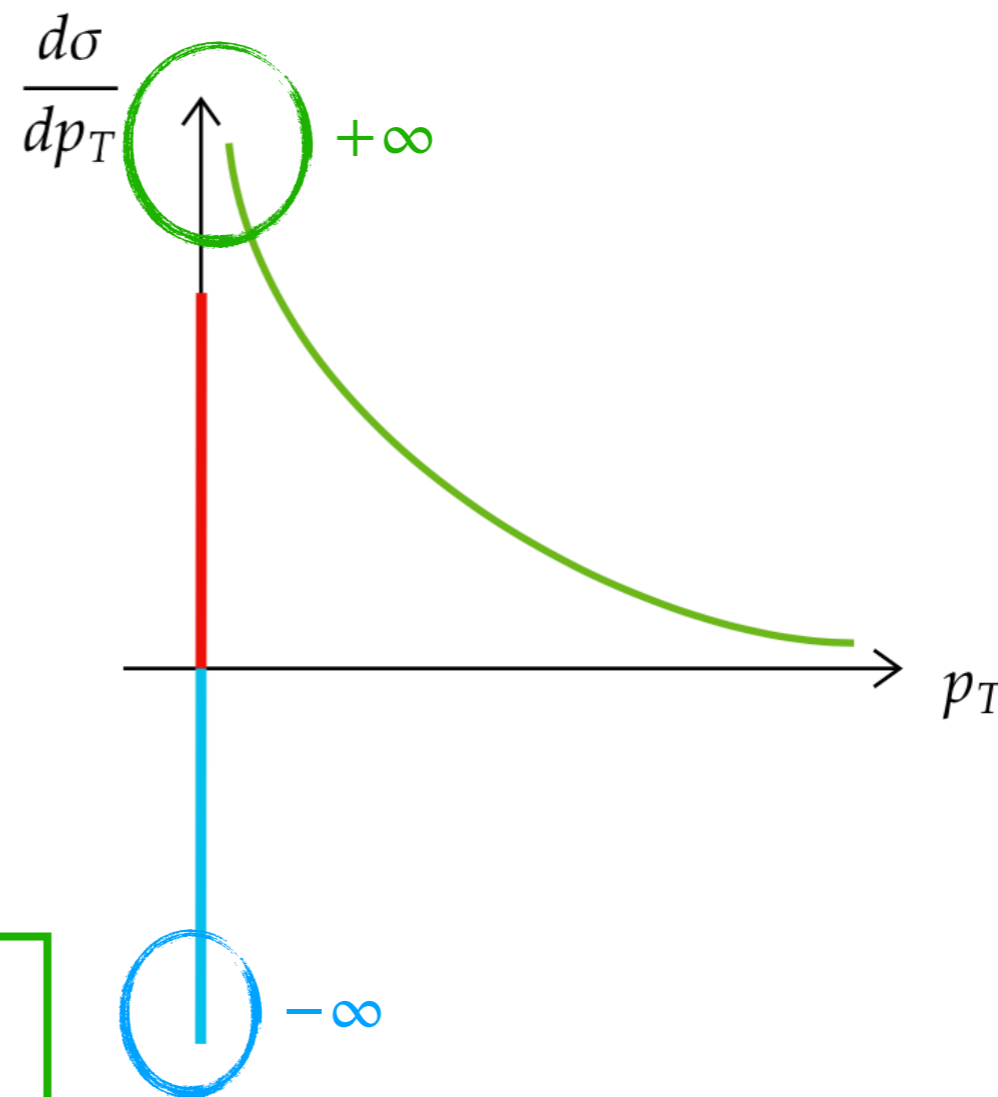
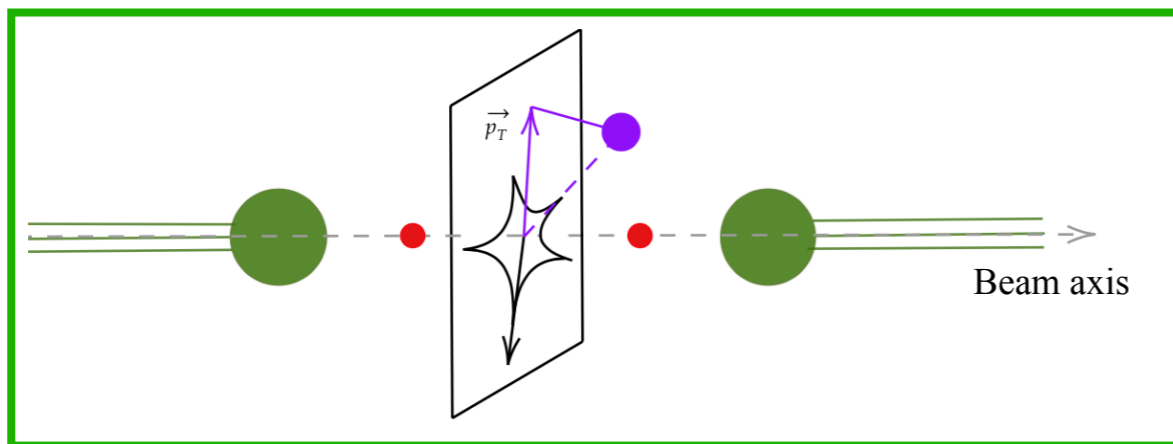
LO



NLO

Virtual

Real

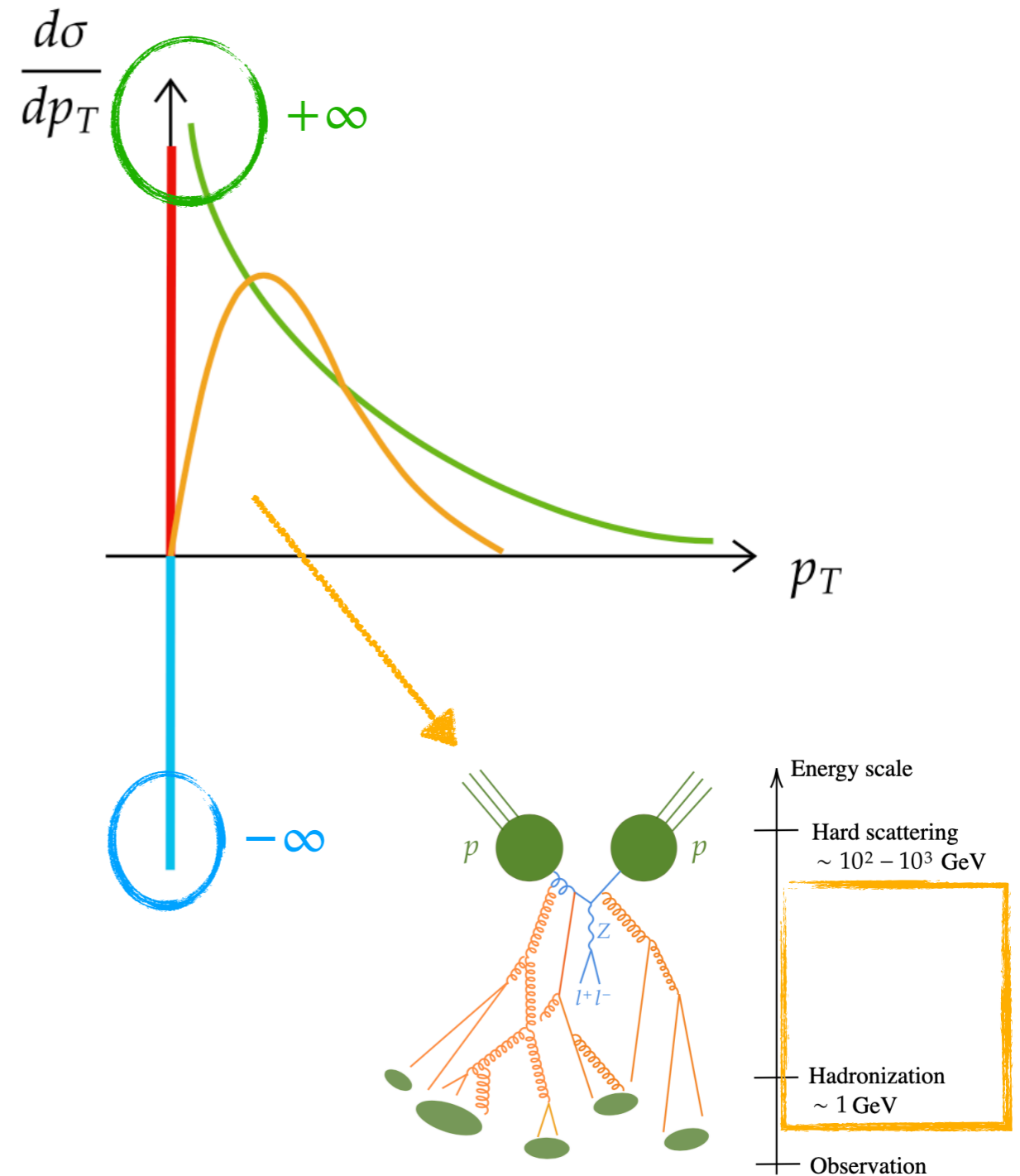


# The $Z$ transverse momentum spectrum in QCD

The fixed-order description breaks down.  
We need for multiple emissions to describe  
the low  $p_T$  region.

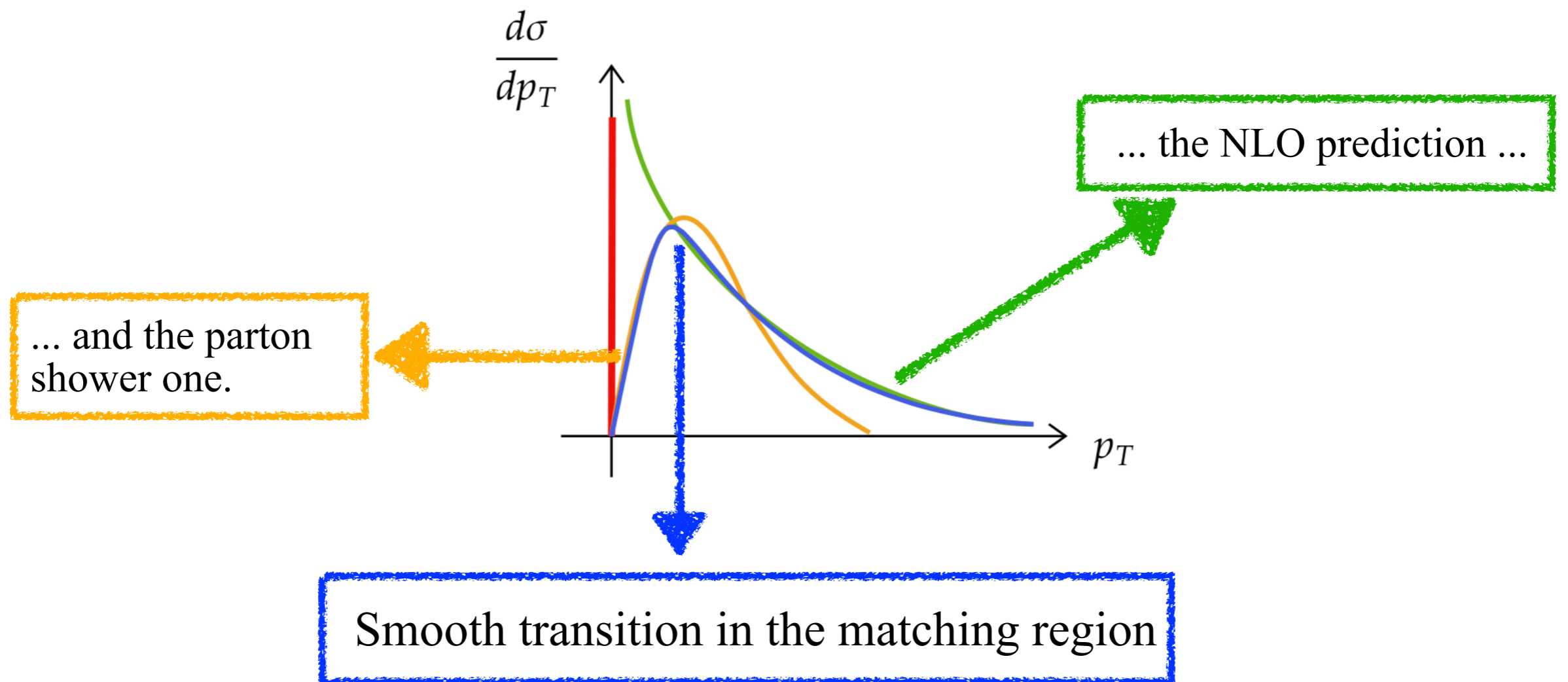


## PARTON SHOWERS



# Matching formalism

The matched prediction combines...





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## Matching NLO QED computations and parton-shower simulations with MC@NLO

Supervisor: Paolo Torrielli (UniTo), in  
collaboration with Marco Zaro  
(UniMi) and Davide Pagani (UniBo)



Center for Particle Physics and Phenomenology - CP3

The MadGraph5\_aMC@NLO homepage

UCL Milan Launchpad Github  
by the MG5aMC@NLO Development team

Generate  
Process

aMC@NLO

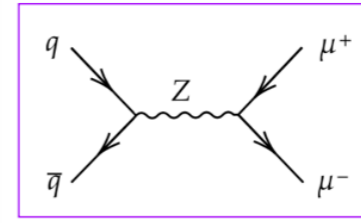
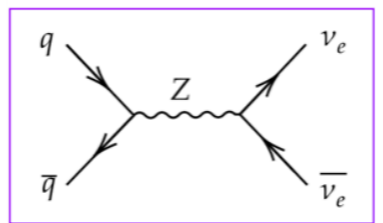
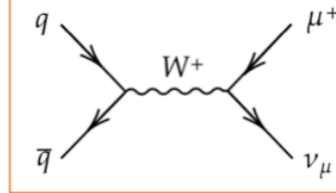
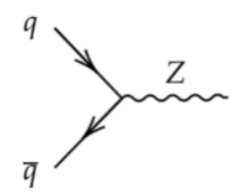
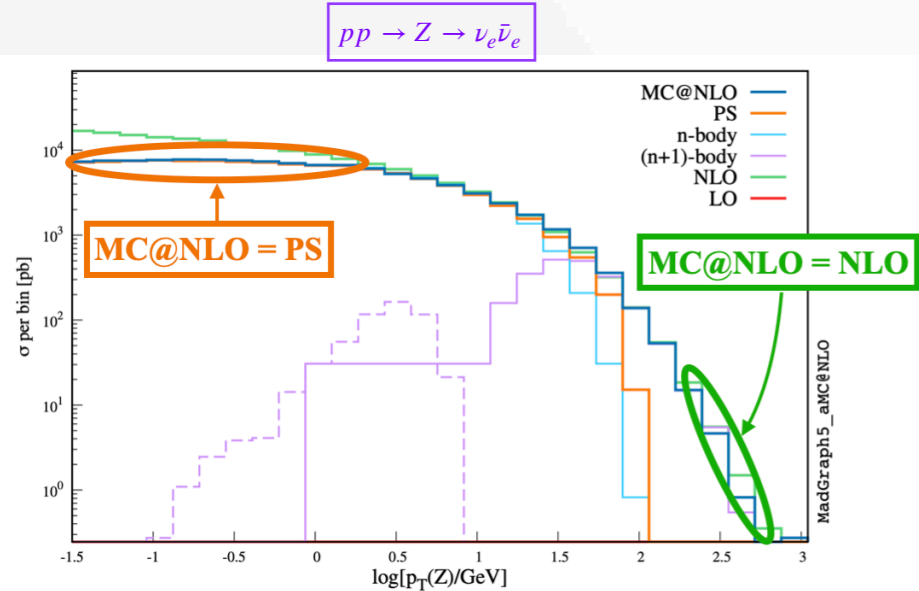
Downloads

Wiki

Answers

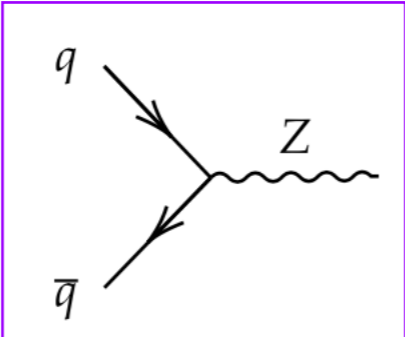
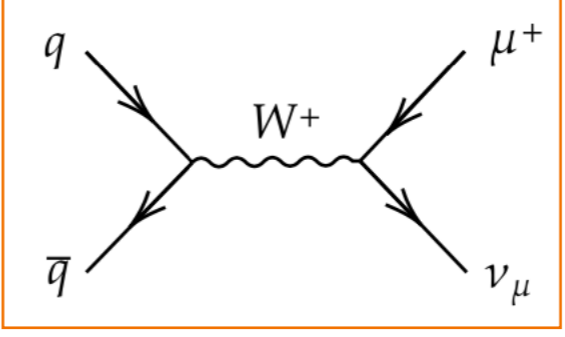
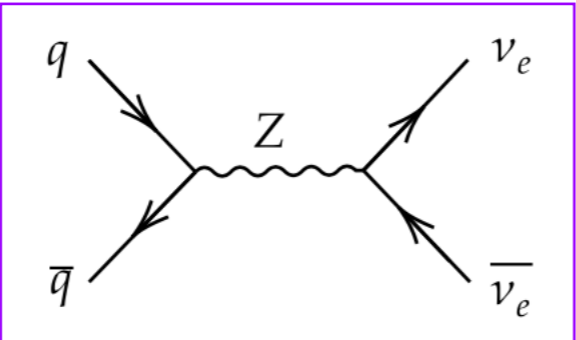
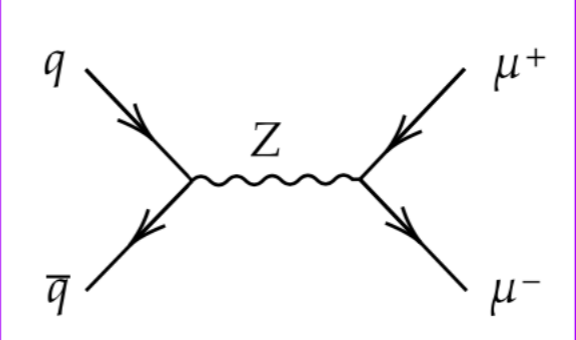
Bug reports

Citation



# Studied processes

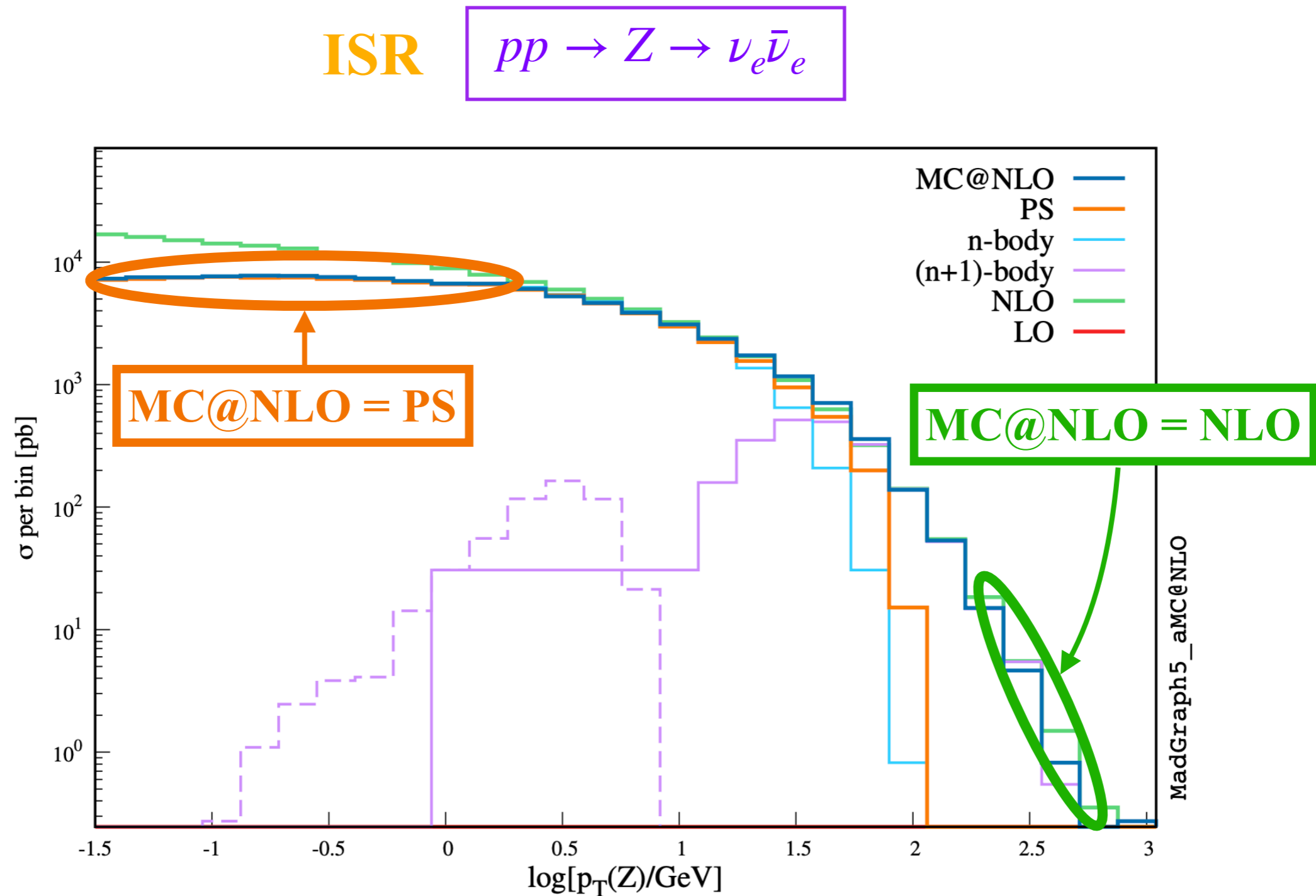
We simulated two processes: **charged Drell-Yan** and **neutral Drell-Yan (in 3 versions)**

ISR	ISR + FSR
<p><math>pp \rightarrow Z</math> (stable)</p> 	 <p><math>pp \rightarrow W^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu</math></p>
<p><math>pp \rightarrow Z \rightarrow \nu_e \bar{\nu}_e</math></p> 	 <p><math>pp \rightarrow Z \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-</math></p>

**ISR** = initial state radiation

**FSR** = final state radiation

# Differential cross section w.r.t. the $Z$ transverse momentum

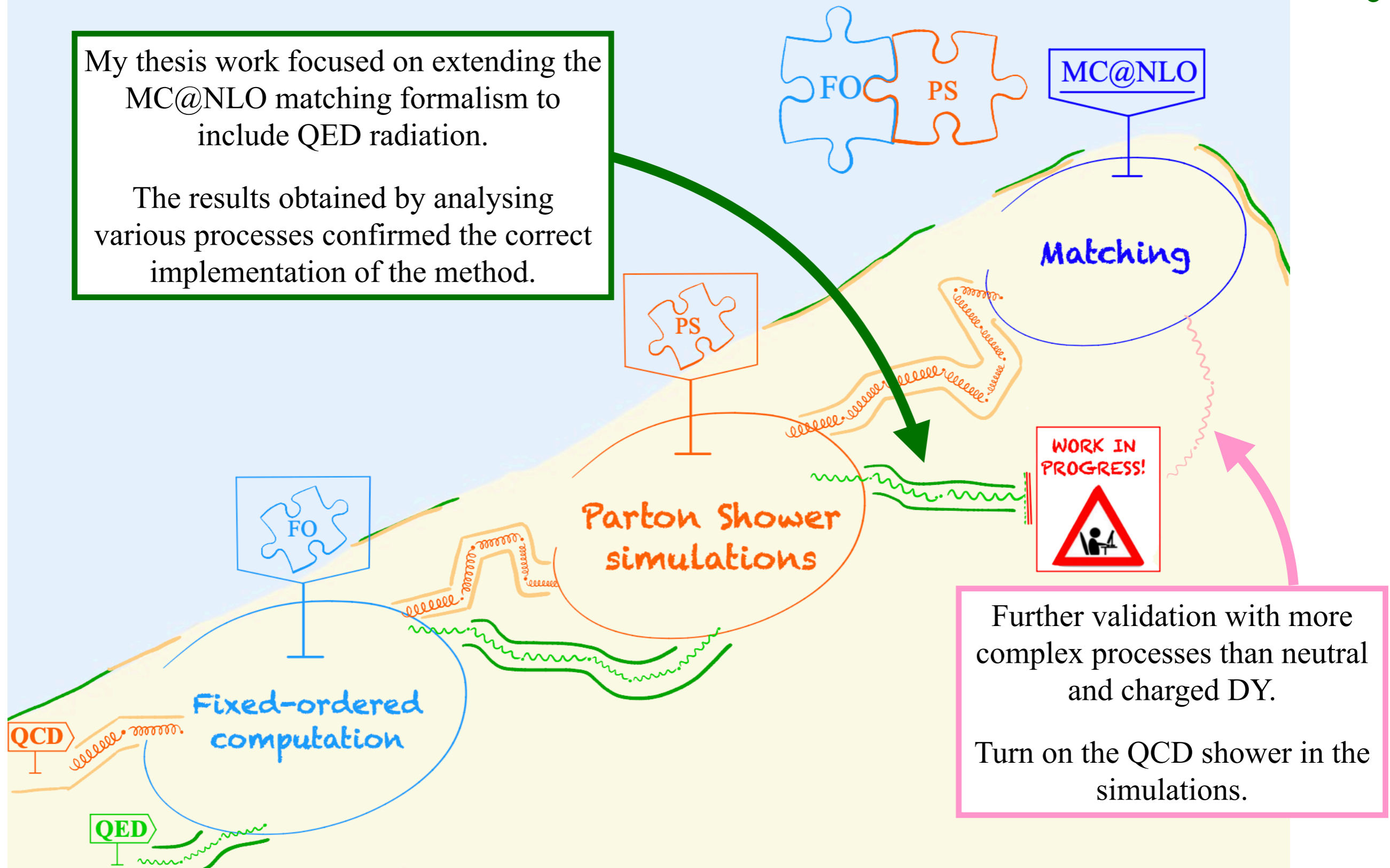


Validation phase

# Conclusions and future prospects

My thesis work focused on extending the MC@NLO matching formalism to include QED radiation.

The results obtained by analysing various processes confirmed the correct implementation of the method.





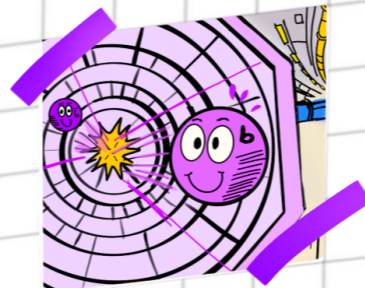
If your dreams do not scare you, they are non big enough

and yet it moves

Be less curious about people, and more about ideas.

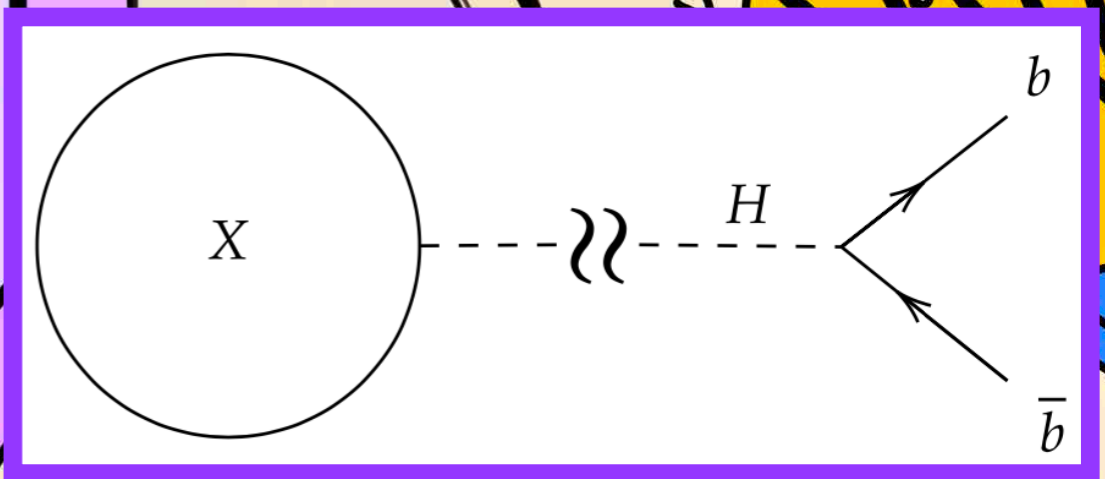
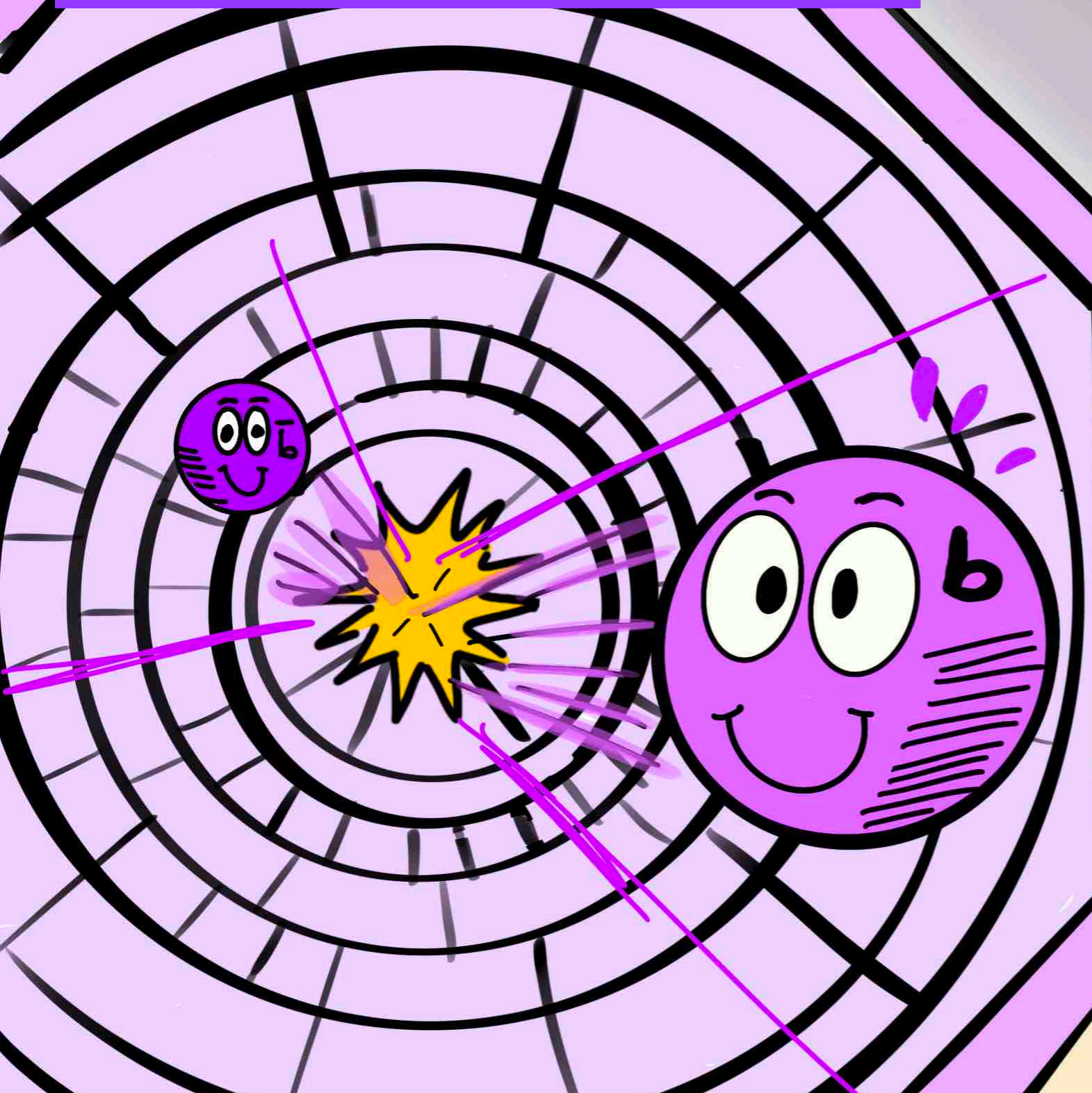


# Projects



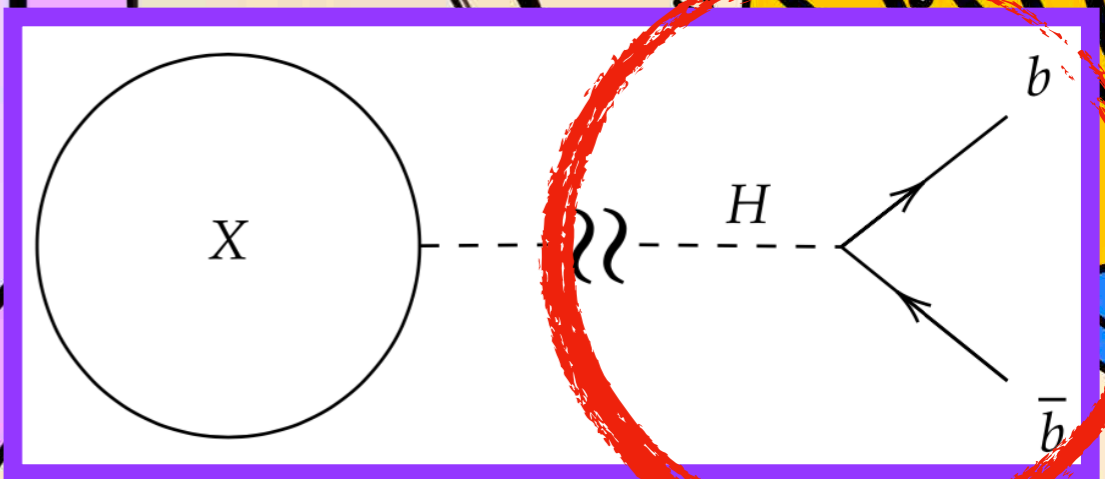
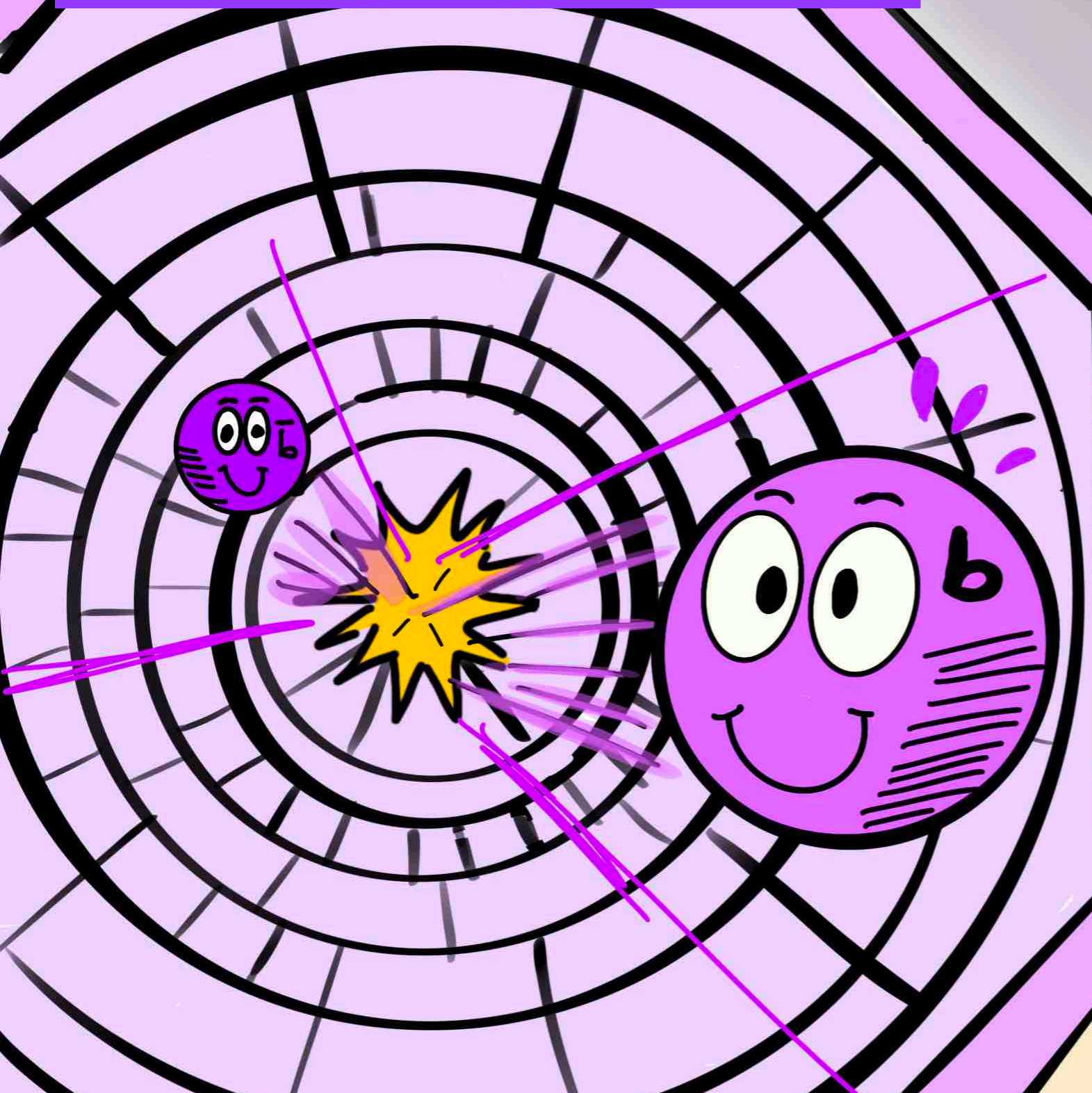
# Collider Phenomenology

Supervisor: Giulia Zanderighi,  
in collaboration with Arnd  
Behring, Rhorry Gauld and  
Marius Wiesemann



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Supervisor: Giulia Zanderighi,  
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Marius Wiesemann





...



La loro luce si è spenta, com'è destino tra gli esseri umani.



...

Ma la loro traccia è indelebile, lungo il cammino del progresso, non solo scientifico, dell'umanità.



...



...



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Thank you!



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