

# Collider Phenomenology

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MANCHESTER  
1824



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

**STFC school, Oxford**  
**9-16/9/22**

# Plan for the lectures

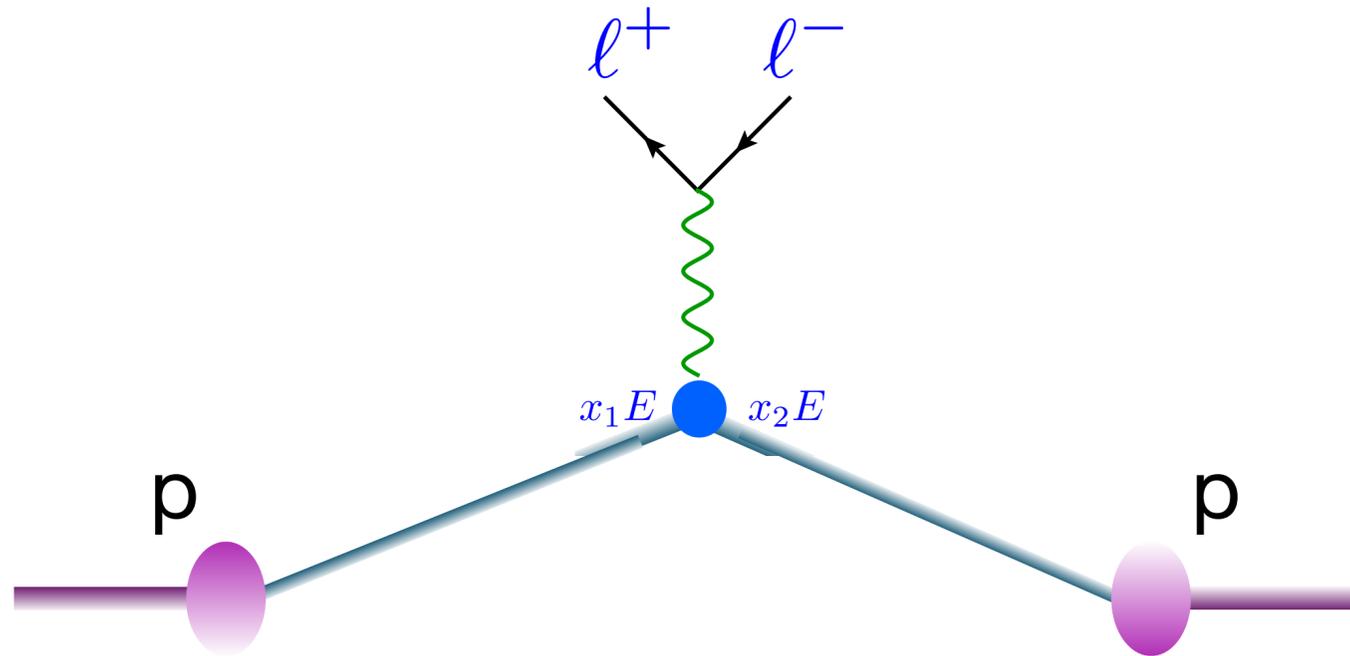
- Basics of collider physics
- Basics of QCD
  - DIS and the Parton Model
  - Higher order corrections
  - Asymptotic freedom
  - QCD improved parton model
- State-of-the-art computations for the LHC
- Monte Carlo generators
- Higgs phenomenology
- Top phenomenology
- Searching for New Physics: EFT

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# Fixed order computations

## Going to higher orders



$$\sum_{a,b} \int dx_1 dx_2 d\Phi_{\text{FS}} f_a(x_1, \mu_F) f_b(x_2, \mu_F) \hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow X}(\hat{S}, \mu_F, \mu_R)$$

$$\hat{\sigma} = \sigma^{\text{Born}} \left( 1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \sigma^{(1)} + \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right)^2 \sigma^{(2)} + \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right)^3 \sigma^{(3)} + \dots \right)$$

LO

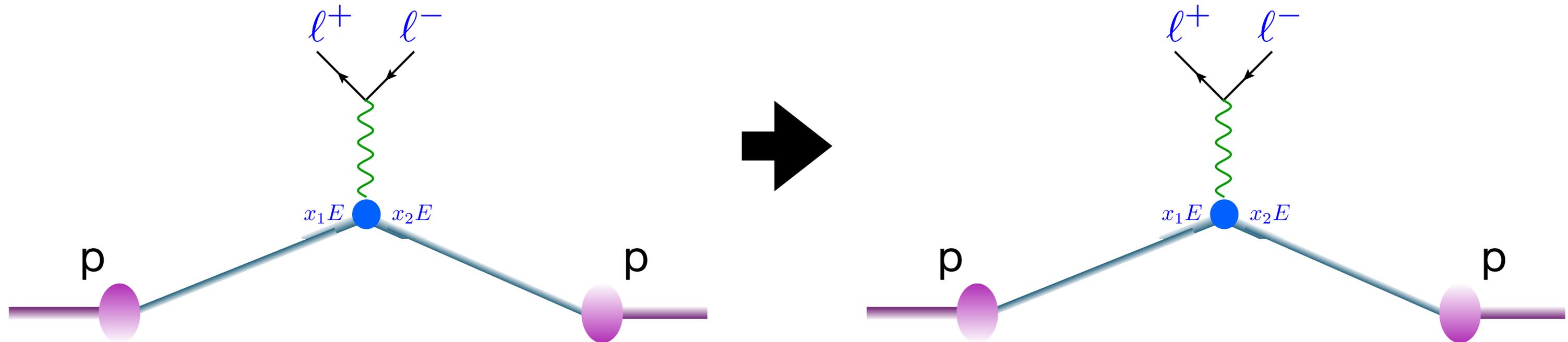
NLO

NNLO

N3LO

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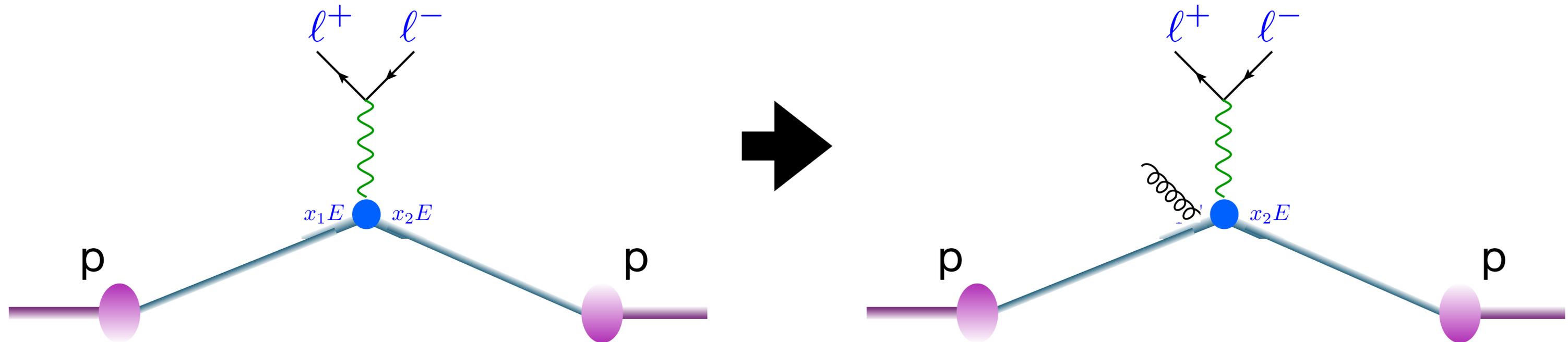
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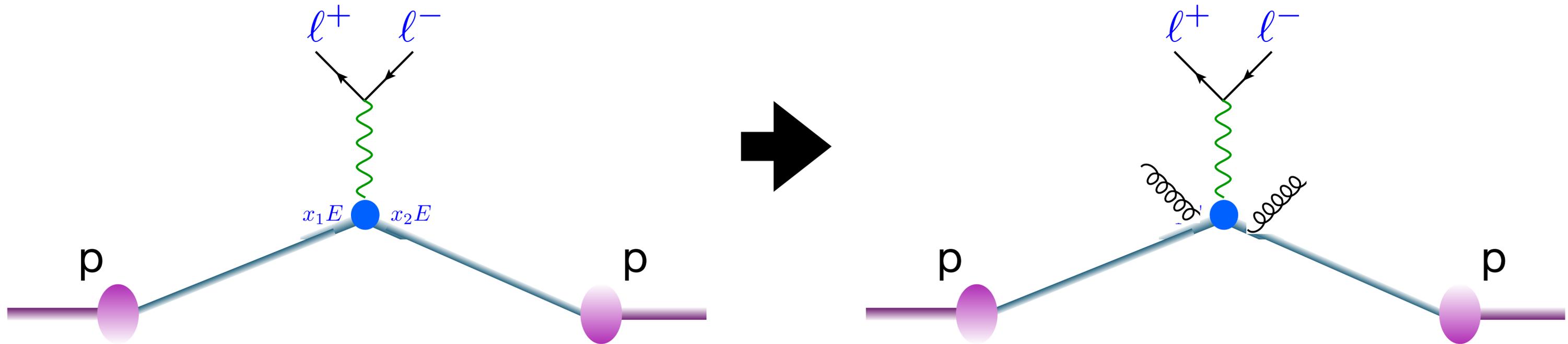
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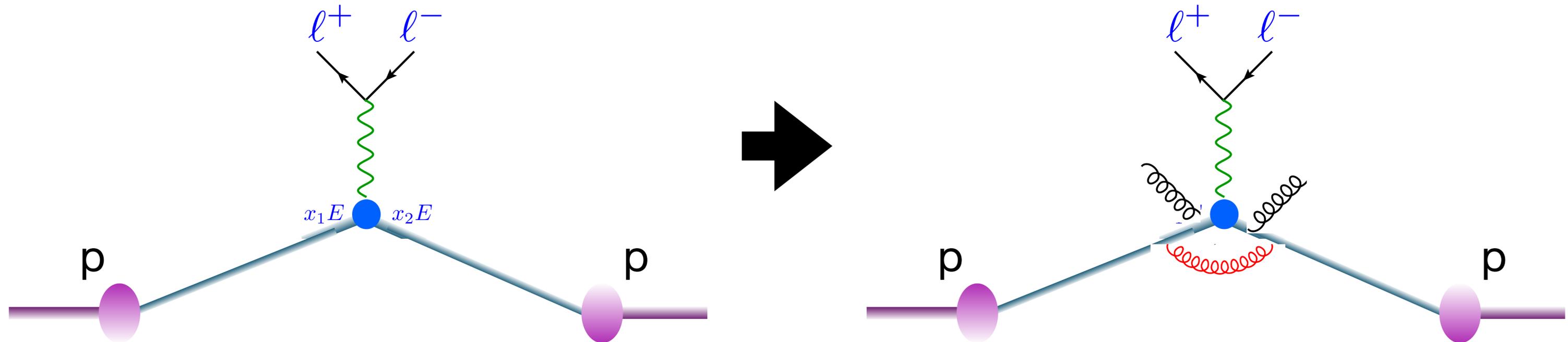
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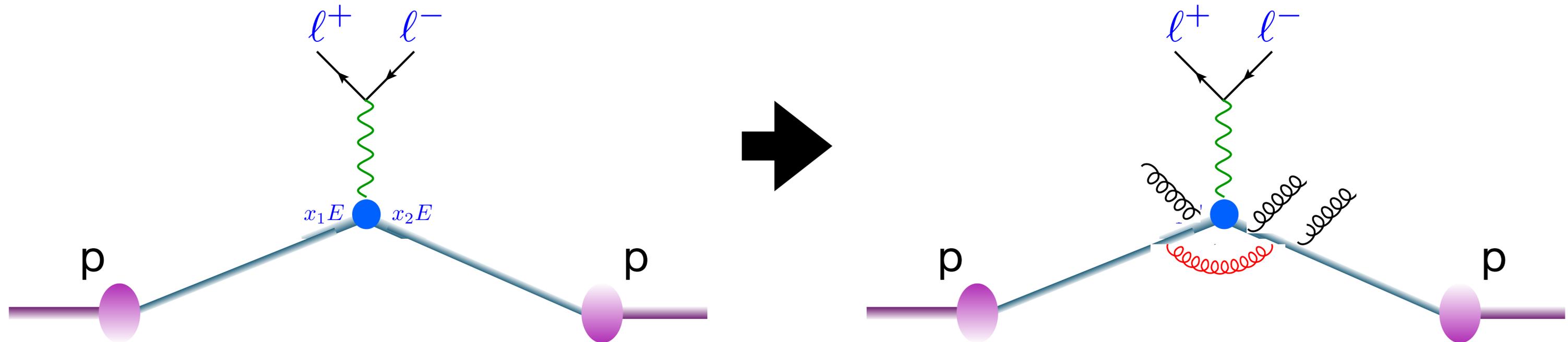
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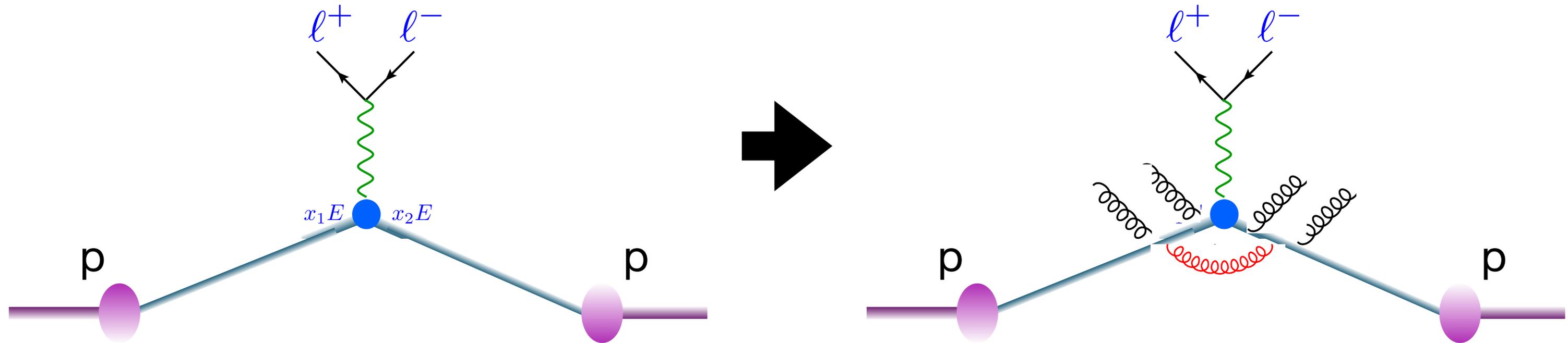
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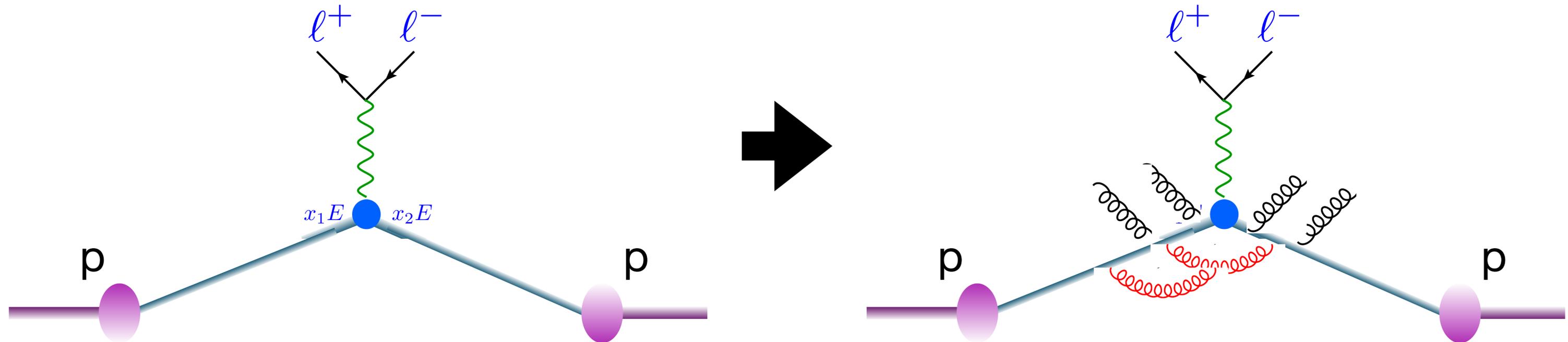
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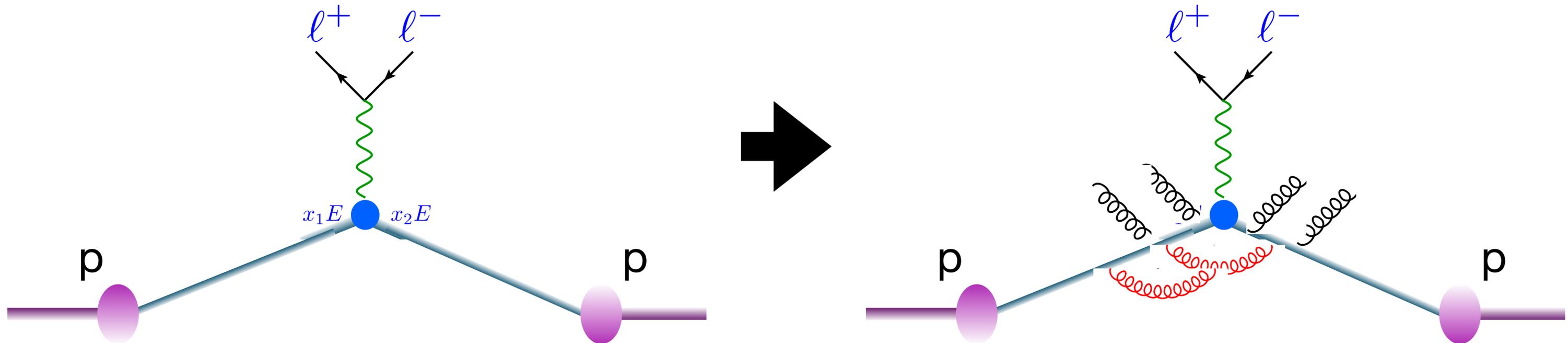
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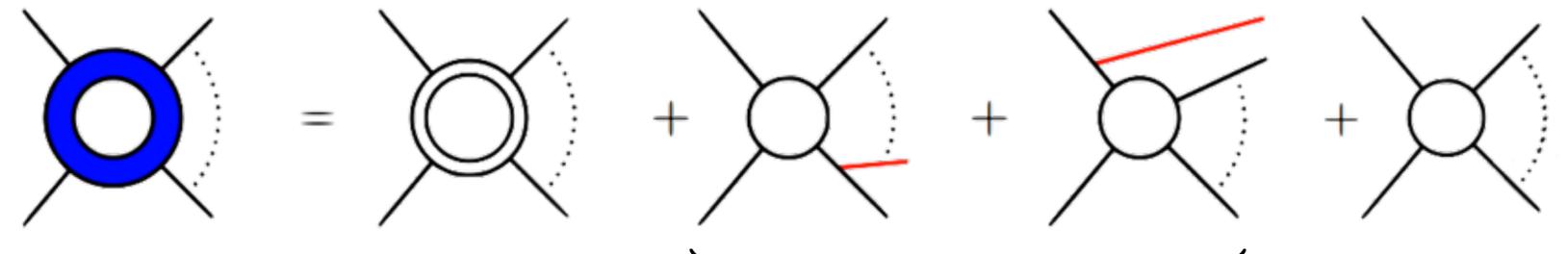
## Going to higher orders



We need to add real and **virtual** corrections to the hard scattering dealing with singularities

Relatively straightforward at NLO (automated), complicated at NNLO (tens of processes), extremely hard at NNNLO (handful of processes known)

# Structure of an NLO calculation



The diagram shows the structure of an NLO calculation. On the left, a blue circle with four external lines represents the NLO cross-section. This is equal to the sum of three terms: a virtual correction (a circle with two internal lines), a real emission correction (two diagrams with an extra external line, one red), and the Born term (a simple circle with four external lines). Below the diagrams, the mathematical expression is given as:

$$\sigma^{\text{NLO}} = \int_m d^{(d)} \sigma^V + \underbrace{\int_{m+1} d^{(d)} \sigma^R}_{\text{Real emission part}} + \int_m d^{(4)} \sigma^B$$

The terms are labeled: Virtual part, Real emission part, and Born.

## Difficulties:

- Loop calculations: tough and time consuming
- Divergences: Both real and virtual corrections are divergent
- More channels, more phase space integrations

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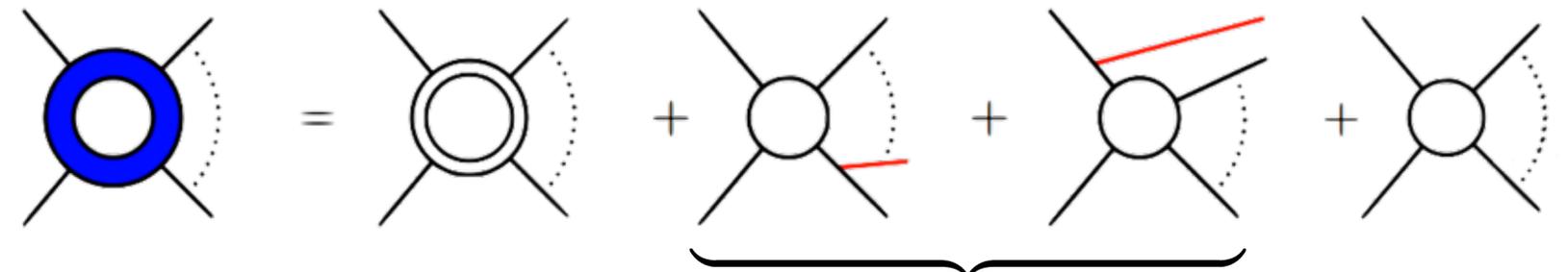
Virtual part
Real emission part
Born

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Difficulty

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Virtual part                      Real emission part                      Born

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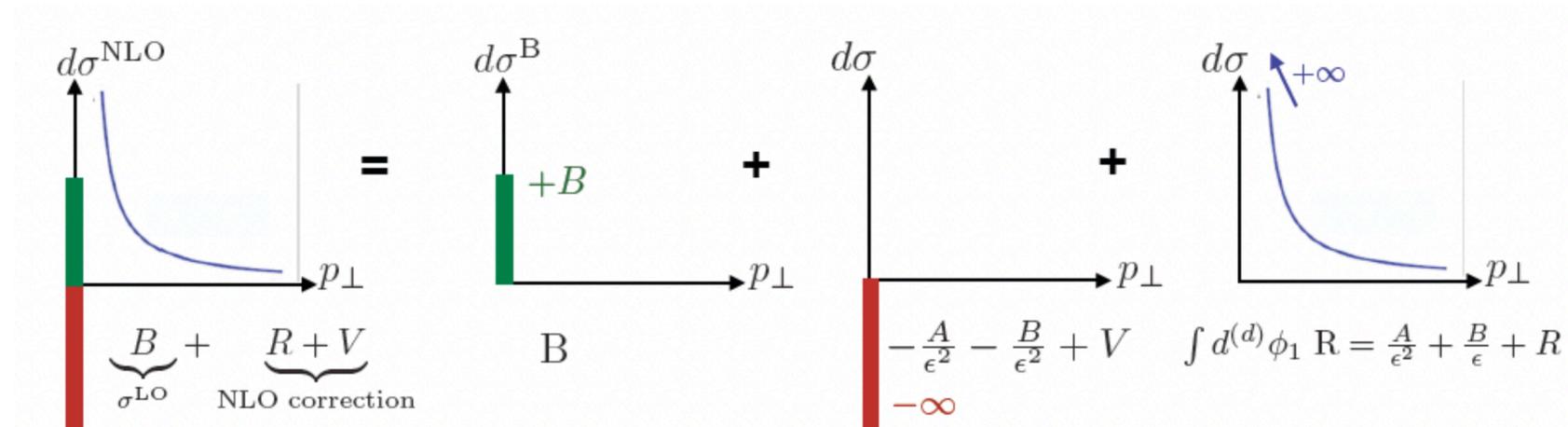
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Difficulty



# How to deal with NLO in practice?

NLO corrections involve divergences: Divergences are bad for numerical computations



Subtraction:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\text{NLO}} &= \int d\Phi^{(n)} \mathcal{B} + \int d\Phi^{(n)} \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi^{(n+1)} \mathcal{R} \\ &= \int d\Phi^{(n)} \mathcal{B} + \int d\Phi^{(n)} \left[ \mathcal{V} + \int d\Phi^{(1)} \mathcal{S} \right] + \int d\Phi^{(n+1)} [\mathcal{R} - \mathcal{S}] \end{aligned}$$

**finite**                      **finite**

# Subtraction techniques at NLO

## Dipole subtraction

- Catani, Seymour hep-ph/9602277
- Automated in MadDipole, Sherpa, HELAC-NLO

## FKS subtraction

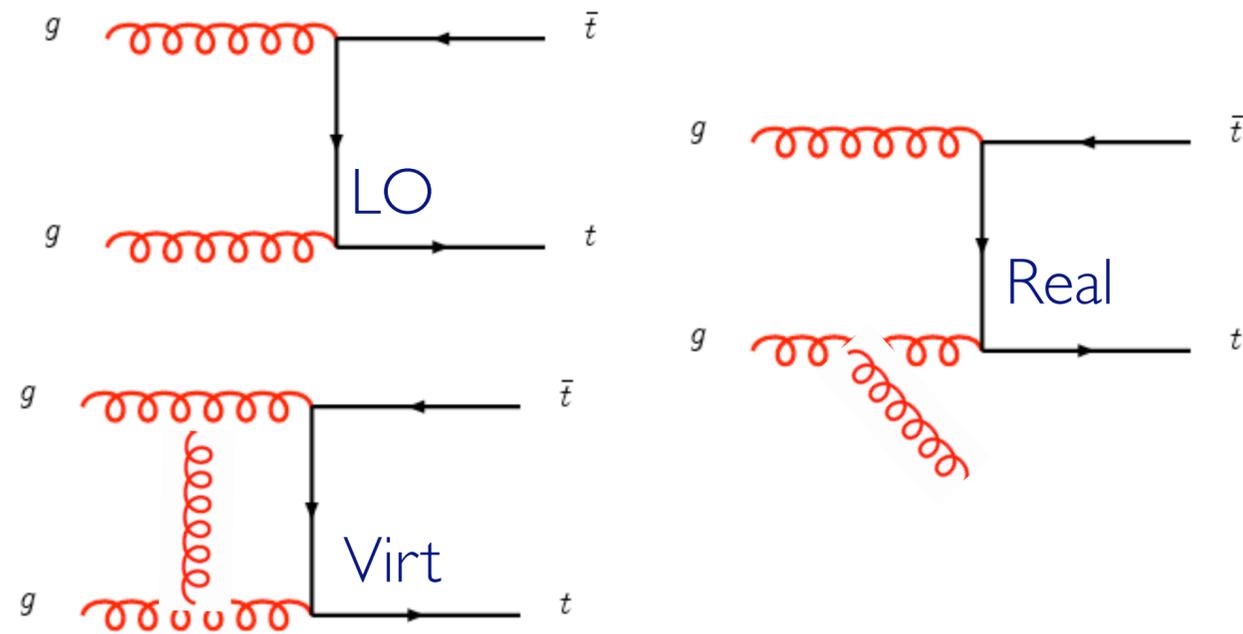
- Frixione, Kunszt, Signer hep-ph/9512328
- Automated in MadGraph5\_aMC@NLO and Powheg/Powhel

Detailed discussion of these could be another lecture course!

# A note about NLO

## NLO is relative

Example: top pair production



NLO

Which observables do we compute at NLO?

Total cross-section

$p_T$  of a top quark

$p_T$  of top pair

$p_T$  of hardest jet

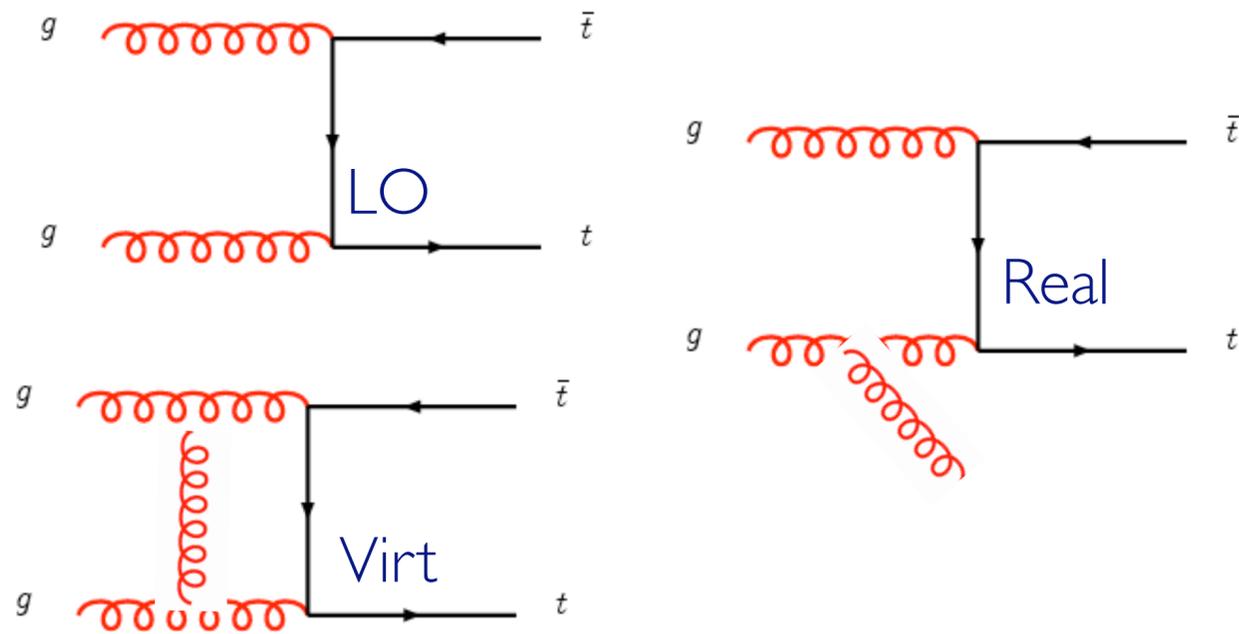
$t\bar{t}$  invariant mass

It is certain observables which are computed at NLO

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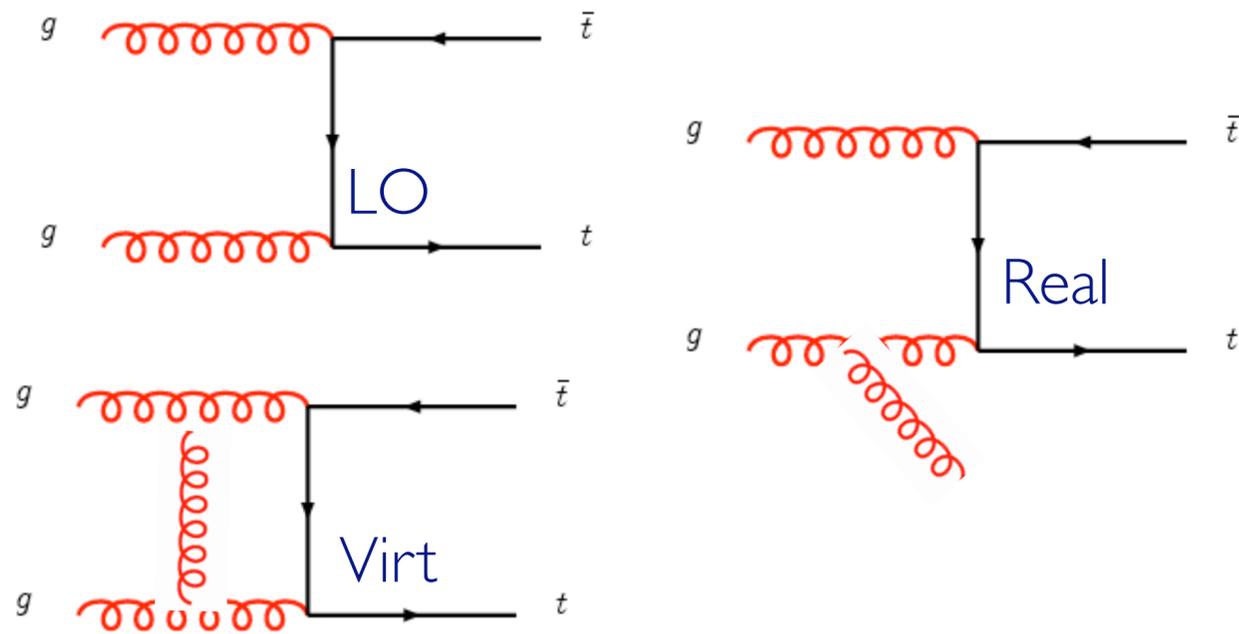
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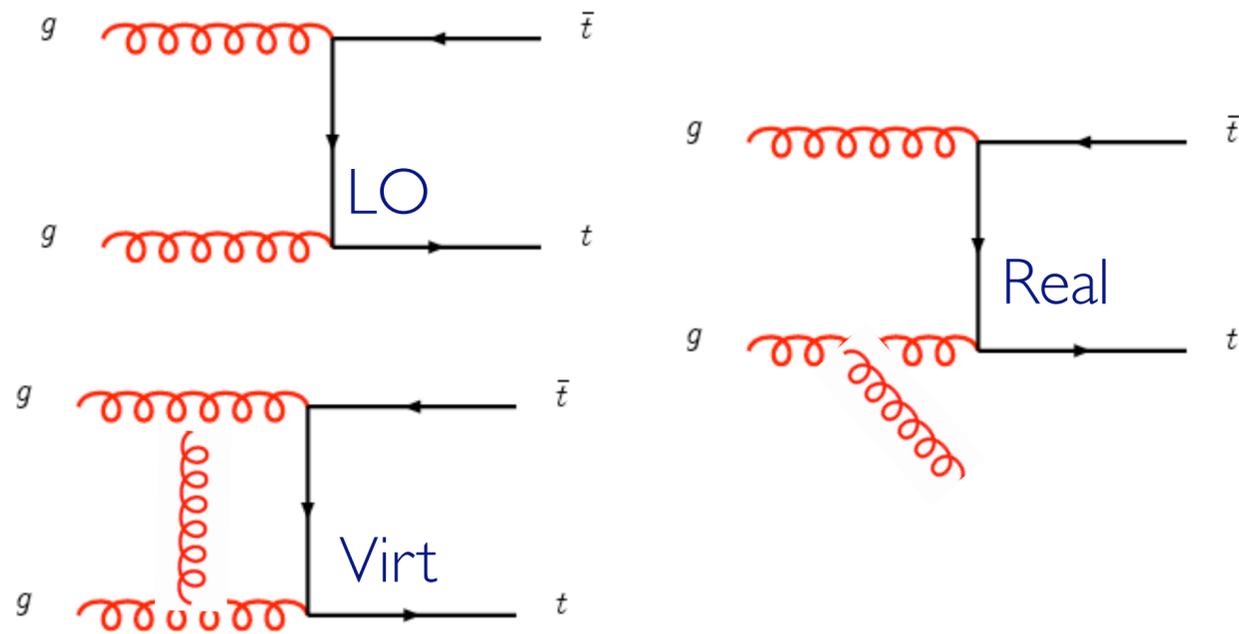
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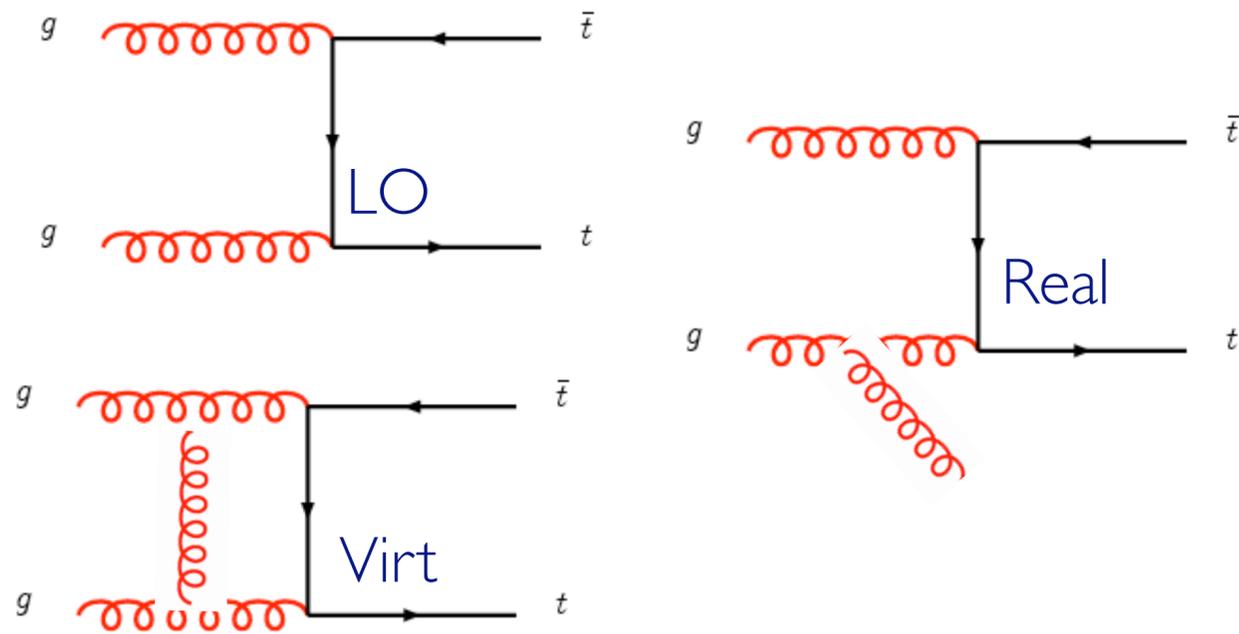
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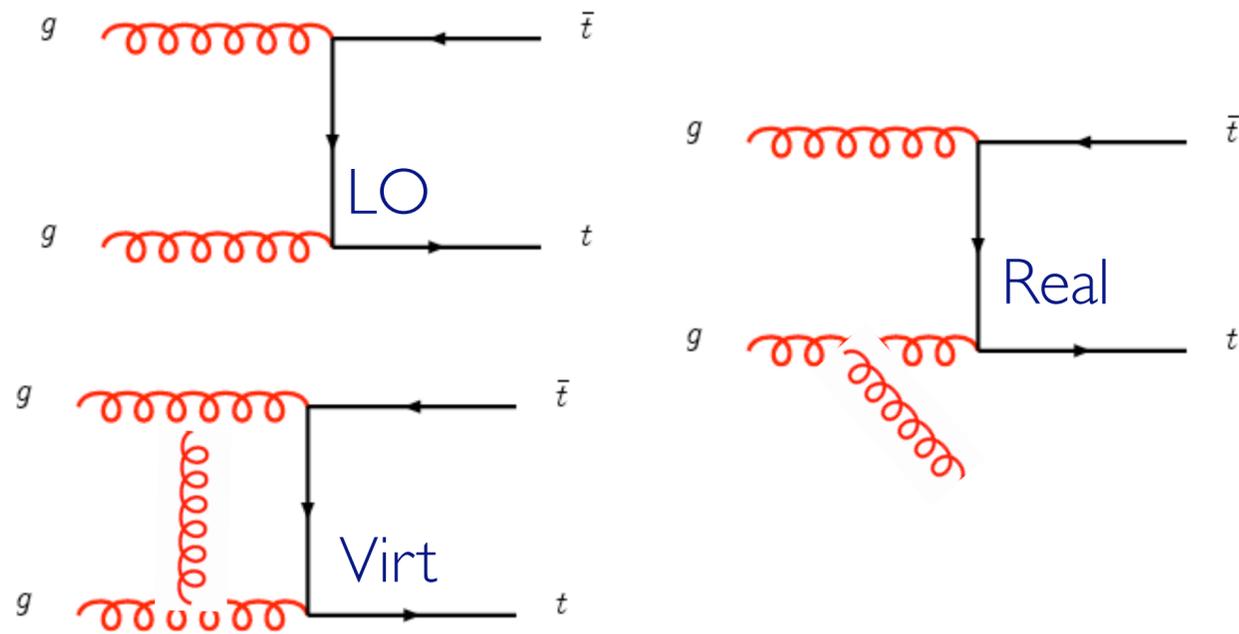
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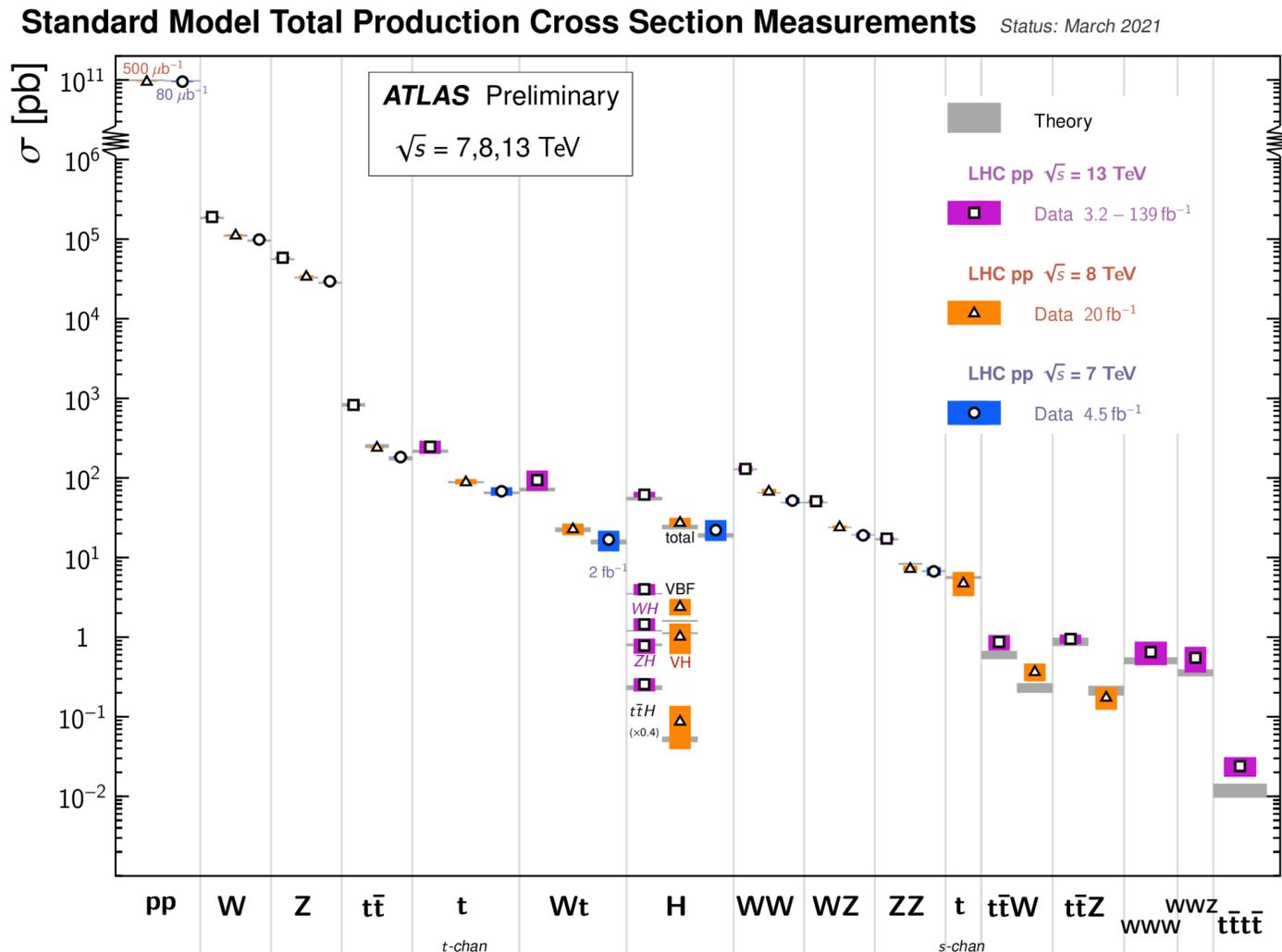
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tt invariant mass ✓

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# Need for higher-orders

## Why is this so important?

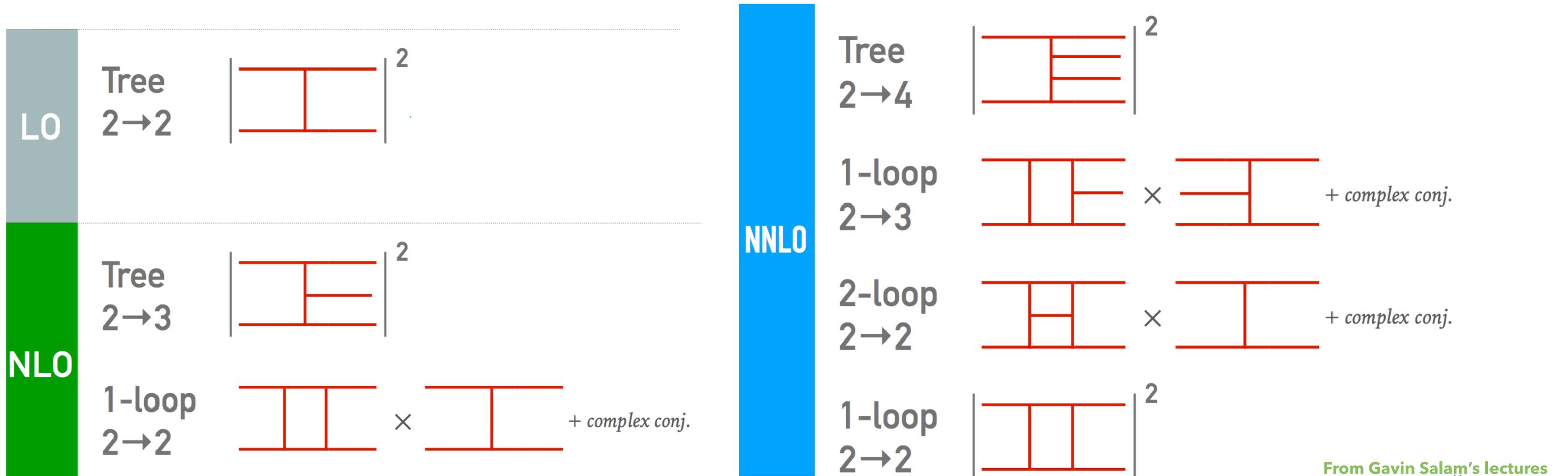


Reminder:

Level of experimental precision demands precise theoretical predictions

Theorists are not simply having fun!!!

# Higher order computations



From Gavin Salam's lectures  
Quy Nhon Vietnam 2018

Complexity rises a lot with each N!

# Status of hard scattering cross-sections

LO automated

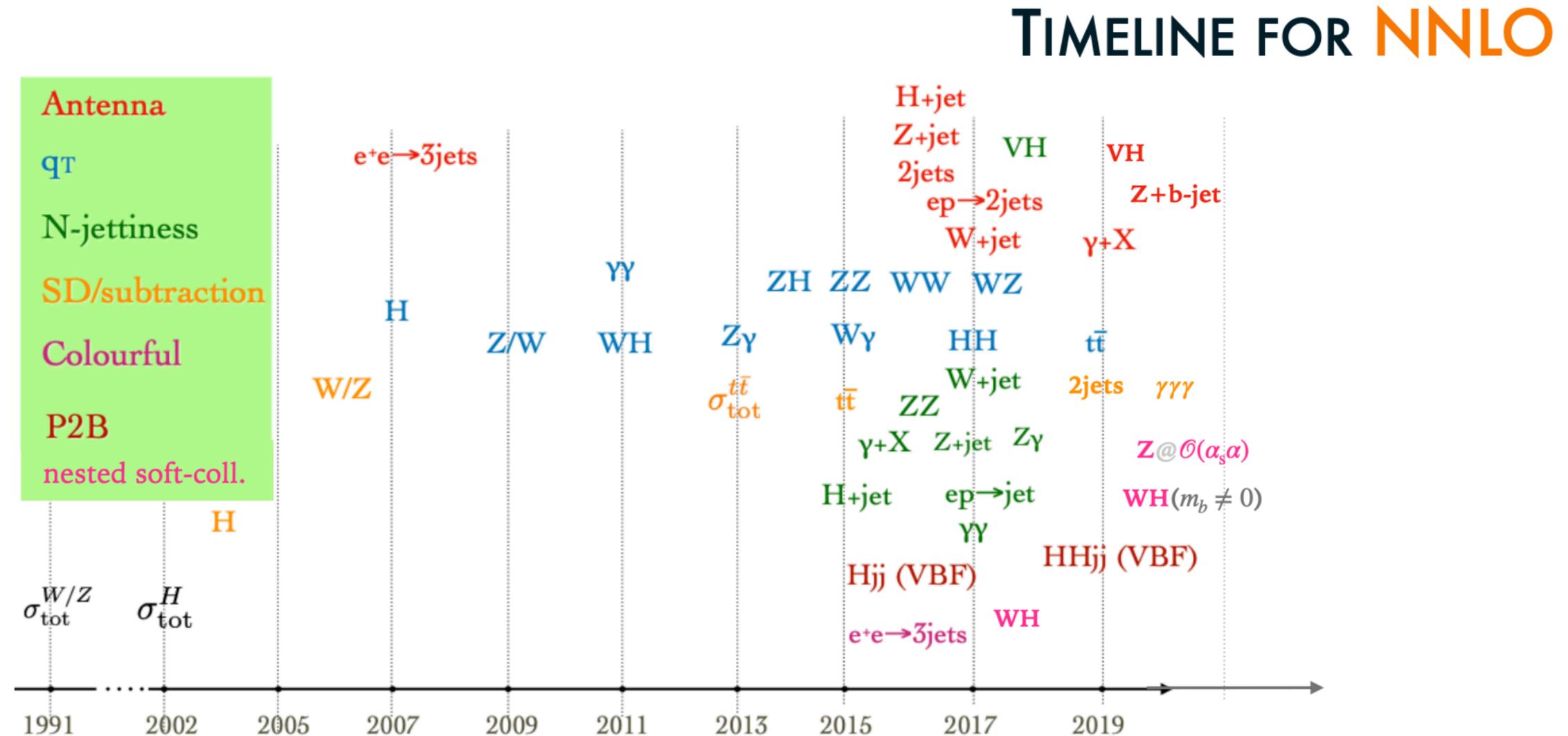
NLO automated

NNLO: Several processes known (VV production, top pair production, all  $2 \rightarrow 1$  processes)

NNNLO: only a handful of processes!

- Higgs in gluon fusion (Anastasiou et al, arXiv:1602.00695)
- Higgs in VBF (Dreyer et al, arXiv:1811.07906)
- Higgs in bottom annihilation (Duhr et al, arXiv:1904.09990)
- Drell-Yan (Duhr et al, arXiv:2001.07717, 2007.13313)

# Progress in higher-order computations



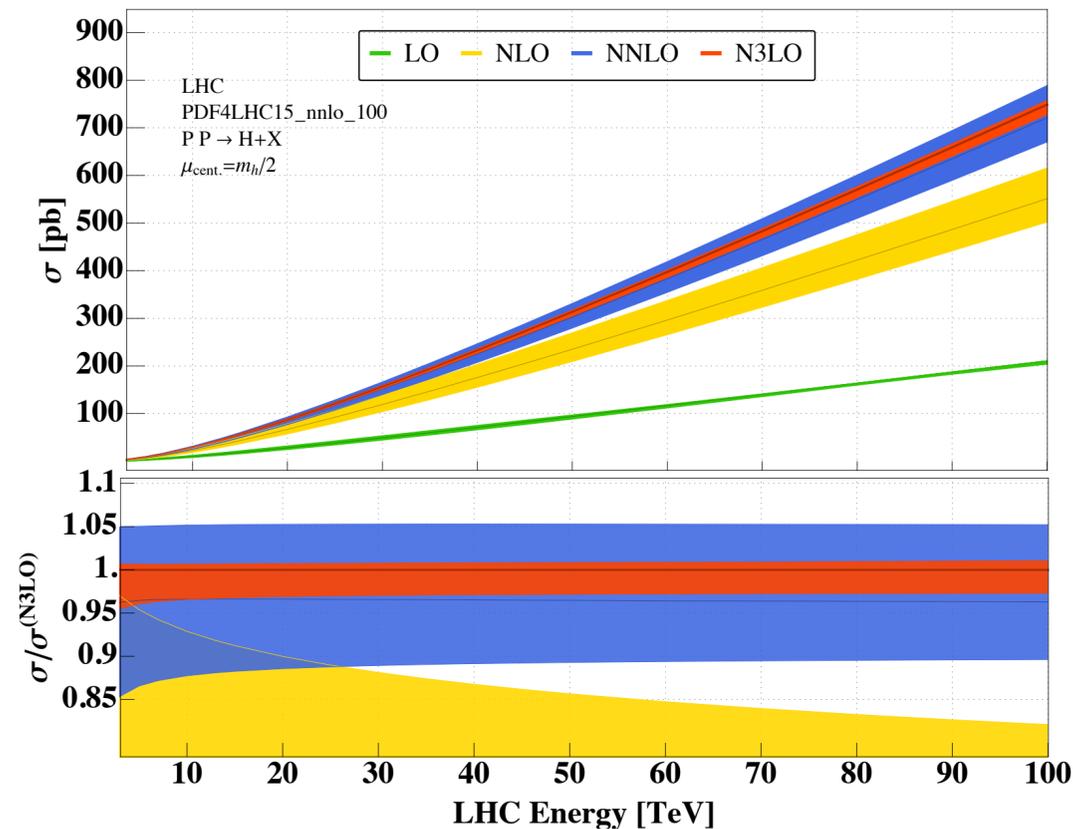
A. Huss, QCD@LHC-X 2020

# Hard scattering cross-section

## Perturbative expansion

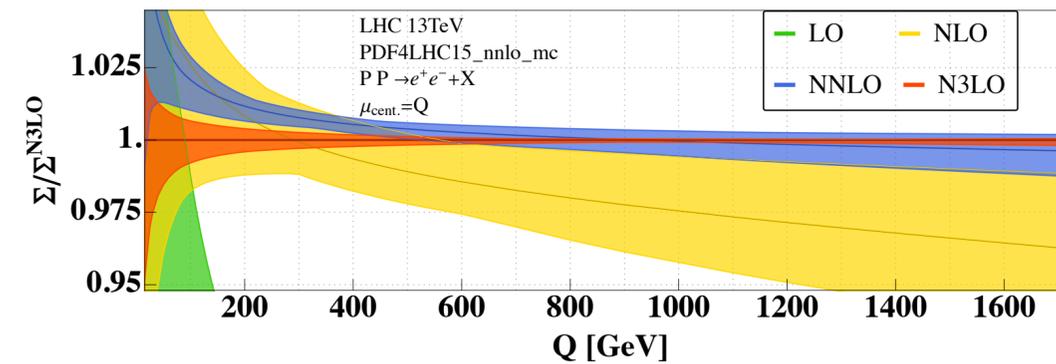
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LO
NLO
NNLO
N3LO



Higgs production

## Improved accuracy and precision



Dilepton production

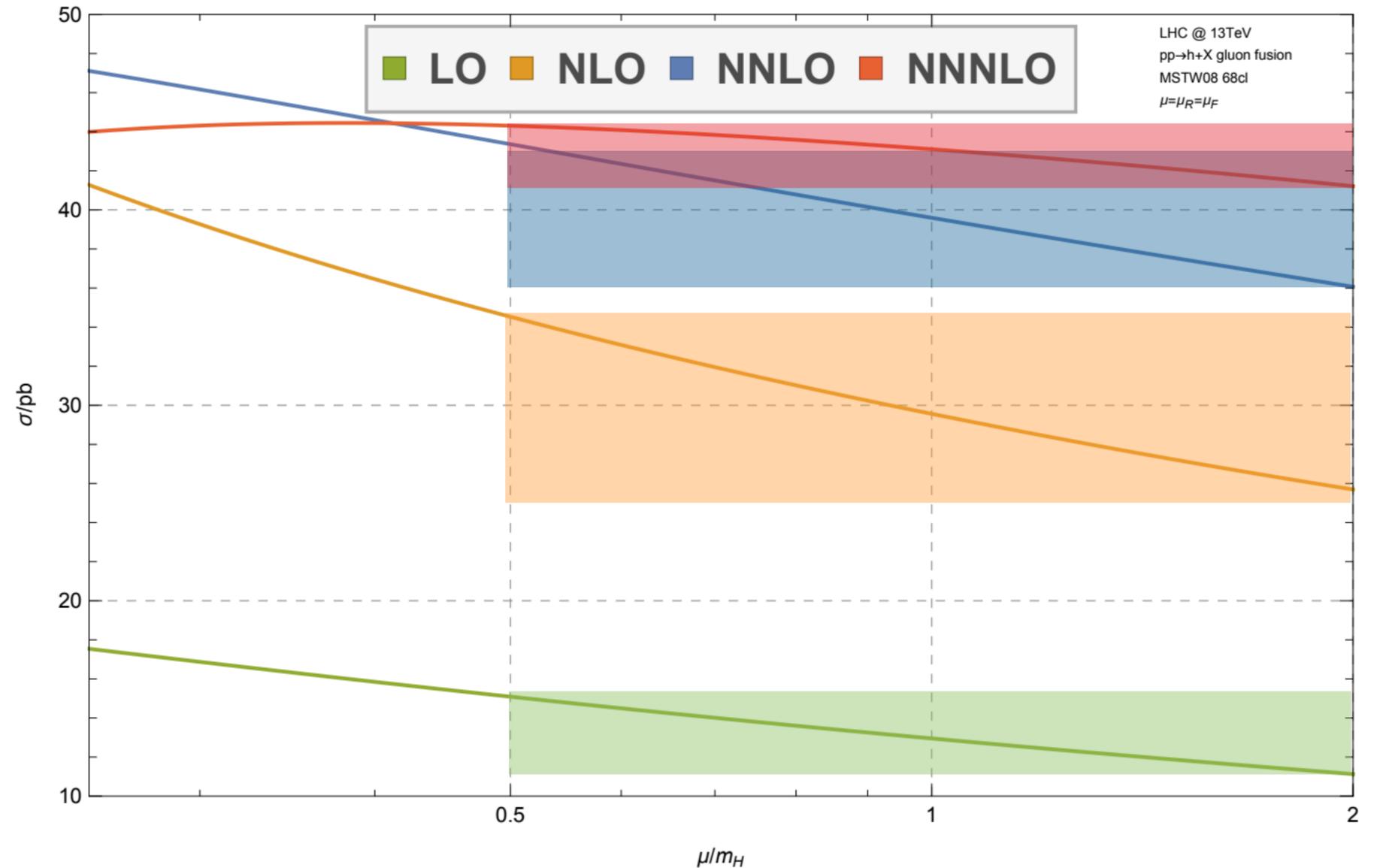
arXiv:2203.06730

# Uncertainties in theory predictions

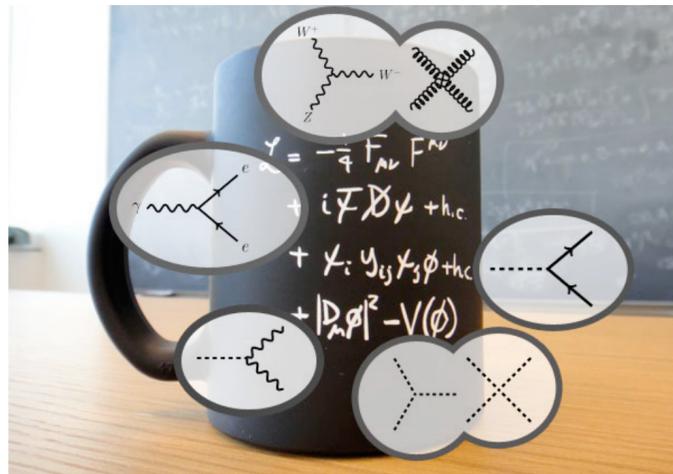
How do we estimate uncertainties?

Vary the renormalisation and factorisation scale

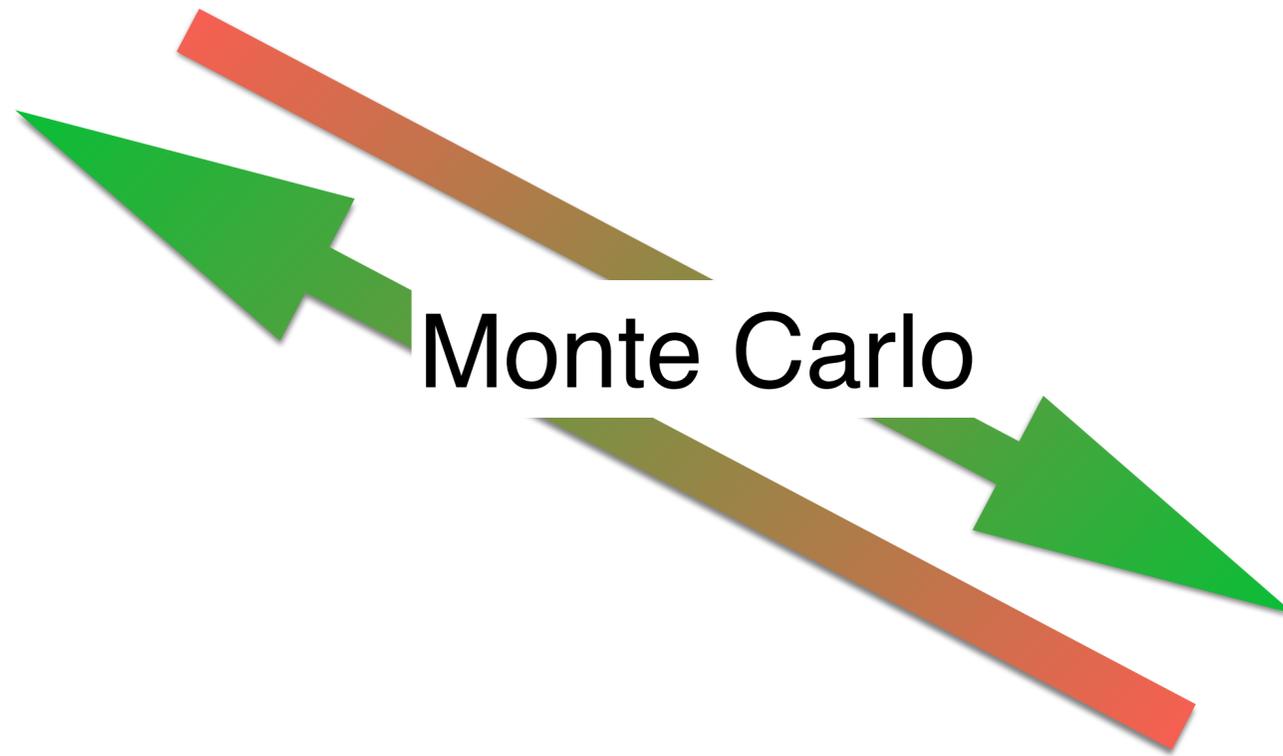
Typically pick some central scale  $\mu_0$  and vary the scale up and down by a factor of 2



# How do we actually compute all of these?

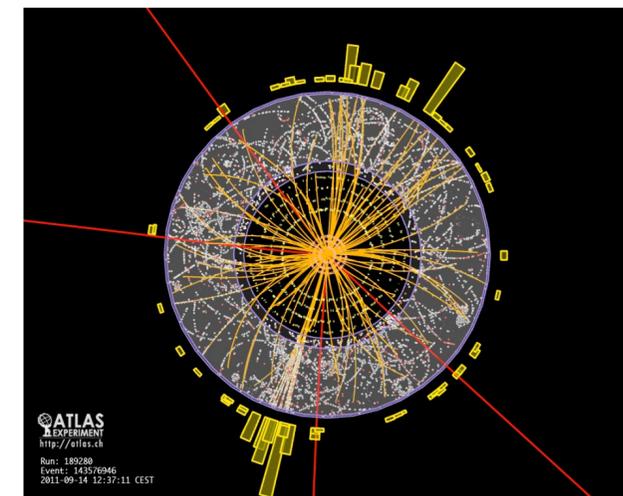


Theory



Monte Carlo

Experiment



# Focusing on LO

## How to compute a LO cross-section

Example: 3 jet production in pp collisions

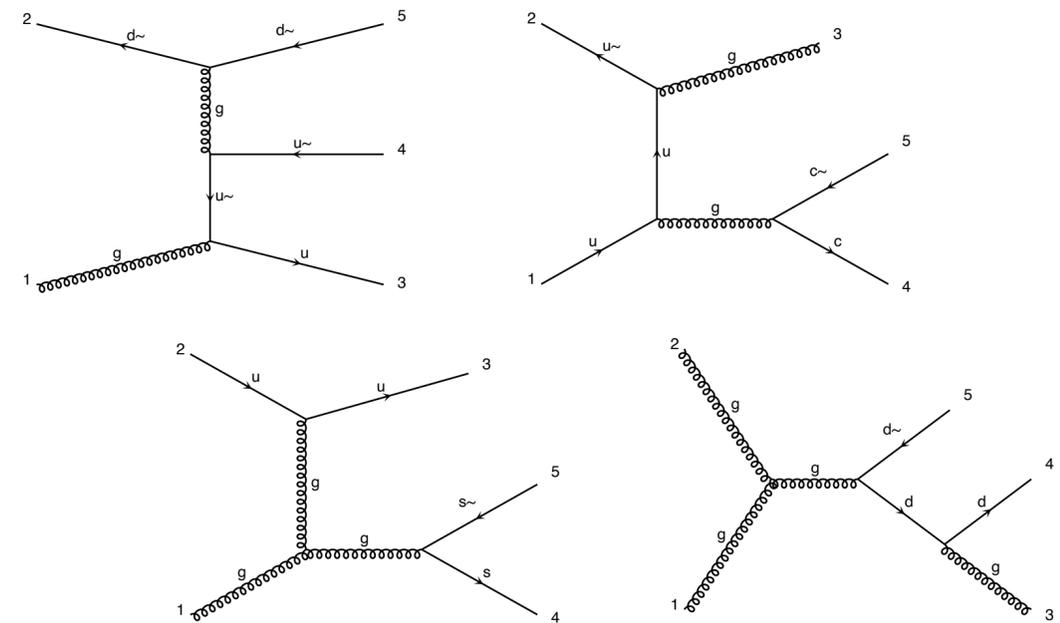
1. Know the Feynman rules (SM or BSM)
2. Find all possible Subprocesses

97 processes with 781 diagrams generated in 2.994 s

Total: 97 processes with 781 diagrams

3. Compute the amplitude
4. Compute  $|M|^2$  for each subprocess, sum over spin and colour
5. Integrate over the phase space

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{2s} \int |\mathcal{M}|^2 d\Phi(n)$$



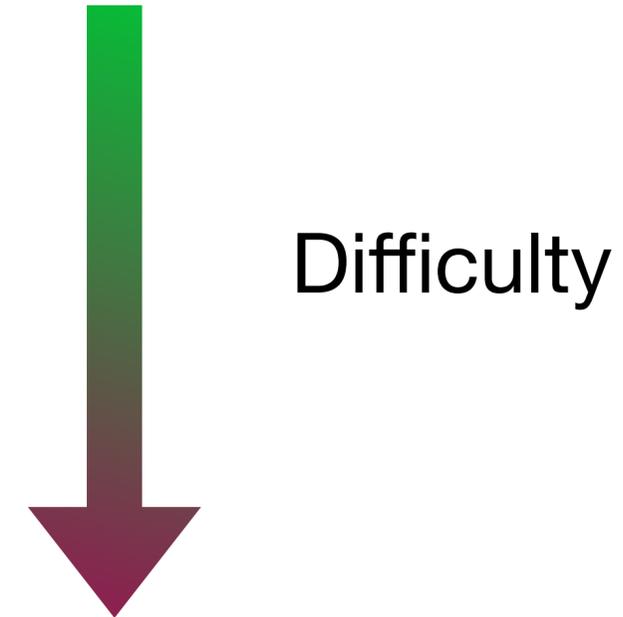
# LO calculation of a cross-section

How many subprocesses?

Amplitude computation (Feynman diagrams)

Square the amplitude, sum over spin and colour

Integrate over the phase space



Complexity increases with

- number of particles in the final state
- number of Feynman diagrams for the process (typically organise these in terms of leading couplings: see tutorial)

# Structure of an automated MC generator

- I. Input Feynman rules
- II. Define initial and final state
- III. Automatically find all subprocesses
- IV. Compute matrix element (including tricks like helicity amplitudes)
- V. Integrate over the phase space by optimising the PS parametrisation and sampling
- VI. Unweight and write events in the Les Houches format

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Next: Shower+Hadronisation  
Detector simulation and reconstruction

# Output of LO MC generators

## Les houches events

Example: gg>ZZ

```
<event>
4 0 +1.1211000e+00 1.89058500e+02 7.81859000e-03 1.15931300e-01
 21 -1 0 0 502 501 +0.0000000000e+00 +0.0000000000e+00 +4.6570159241e+01 4.6570159241e+01 0.0000000000e+00 0.0000e+00 1.0000e+00
 21 -1 0 0 501 502 -0.0000000000e+00 -0.0000000000e+00 -1.9187776299e+02 1.9187776299e+02 0.0000000000e+00 0.0000e+00 1.0000e+00
 23 1 1 2 0 0 +1.3441082214e+01 +1.3065682927e+01 -5.1959303141e+01 1.0661295577e+02 9.1187600000e+01 0.0000e+00 1.0000e+00
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</event>
```

PDG

Momenta

Mass

All Information needed to pass to parton shower is included in the event

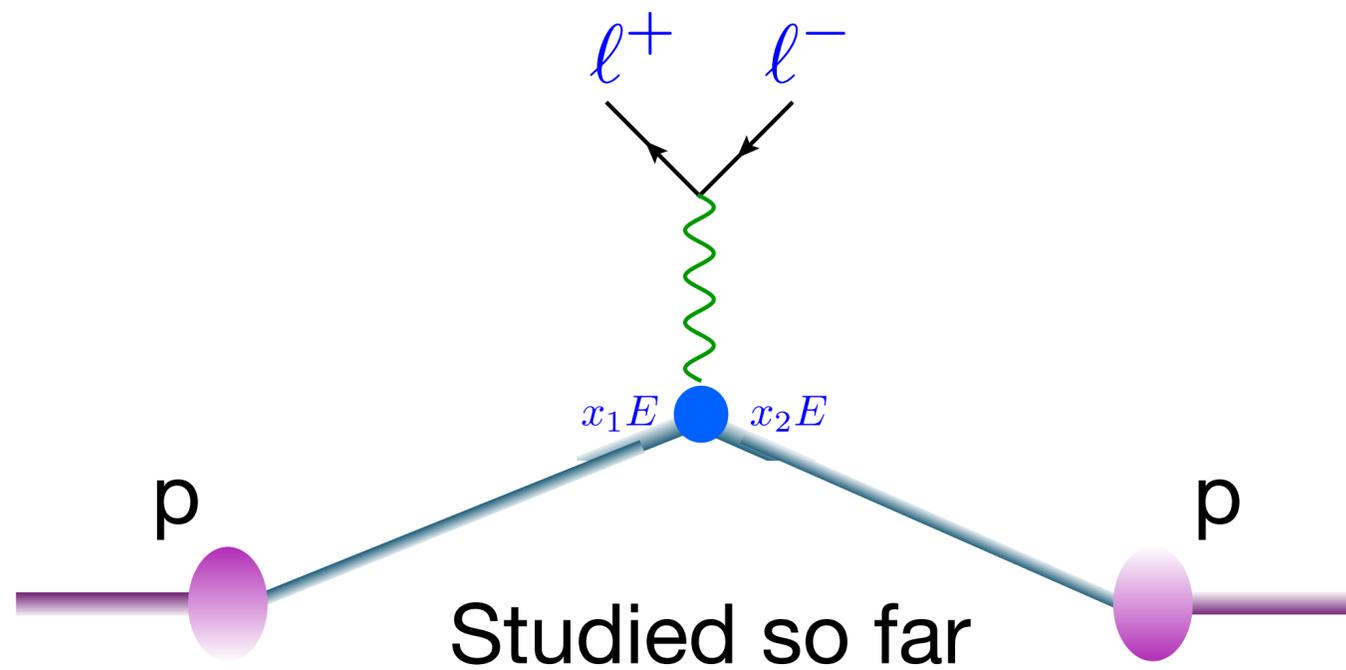
# Available public MC generators

Matrix element generators (and integrators):

- MadGraph/MadEvent
- Comix/AMEGIC (part of Sherpa)
- HELAC/PHEGAS
- Whizard
- CalcHEP/CompHEP

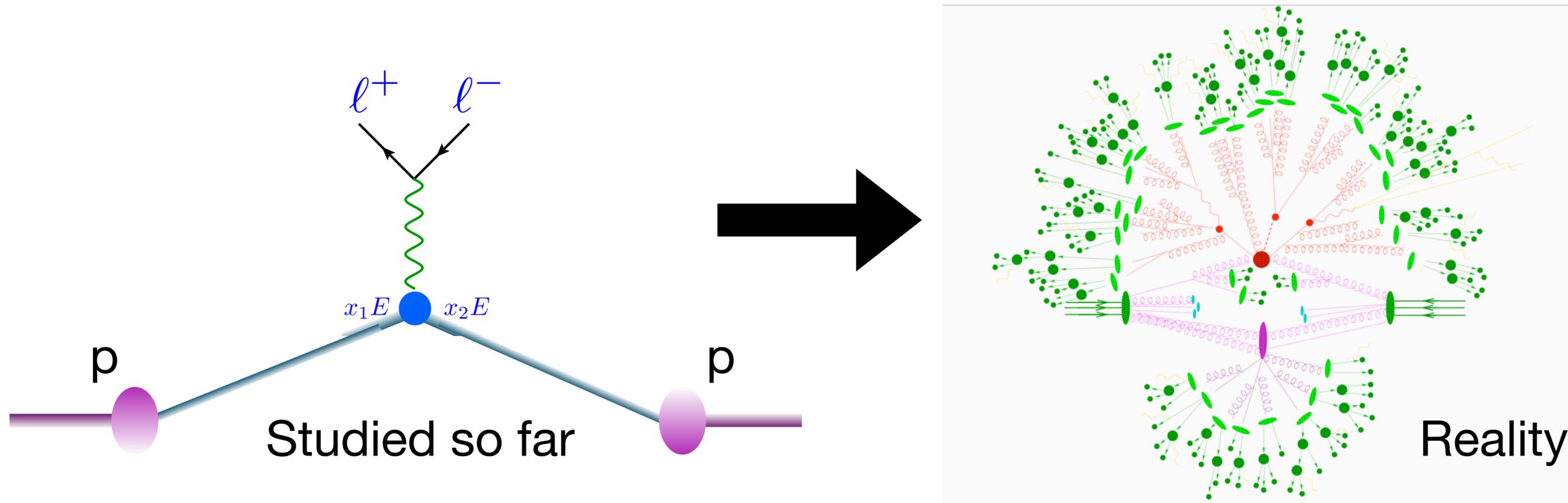
# Is Fixed Order enough?

Fixed order computations can't give us the full picture of what we see at the LHC

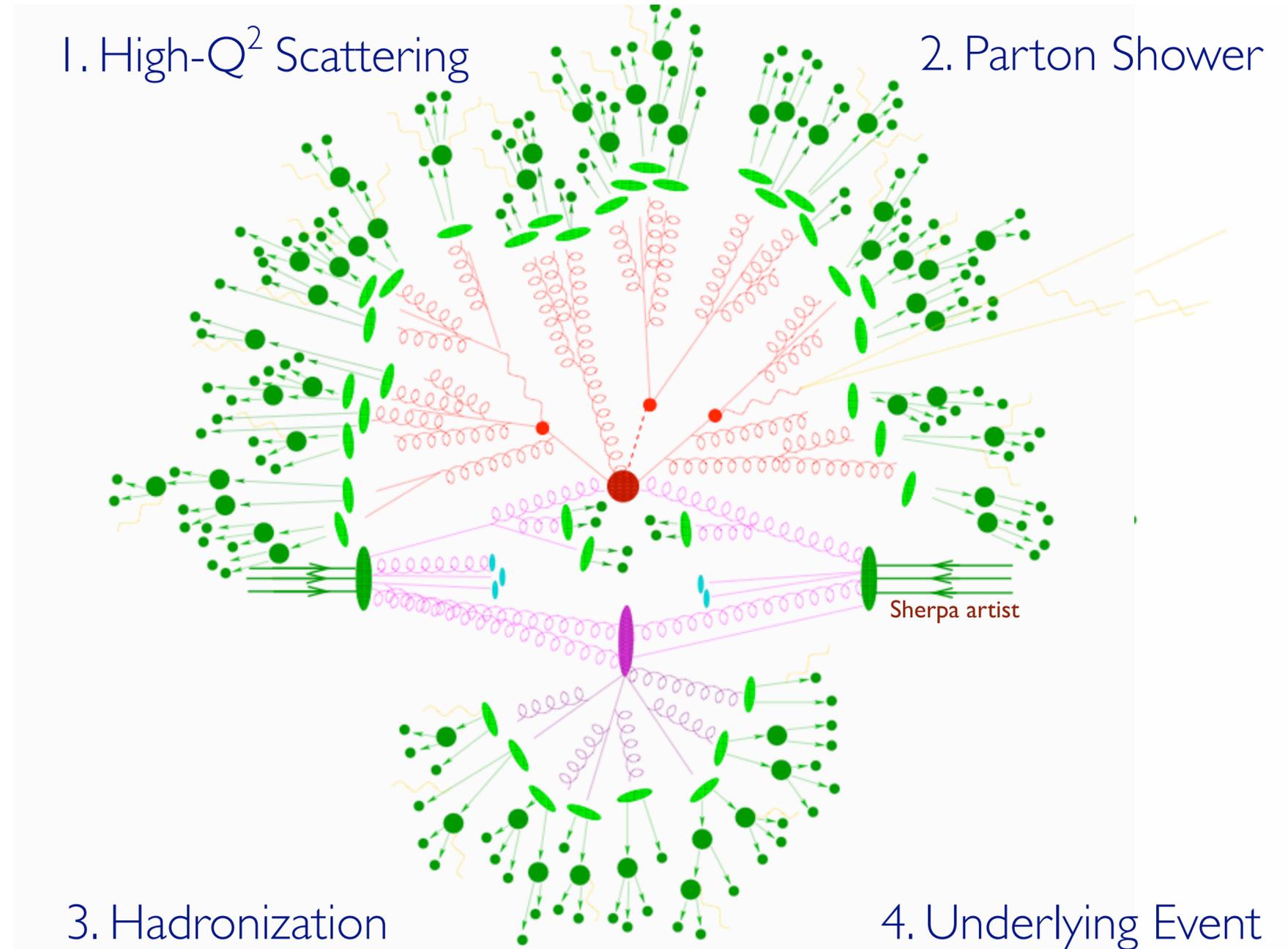


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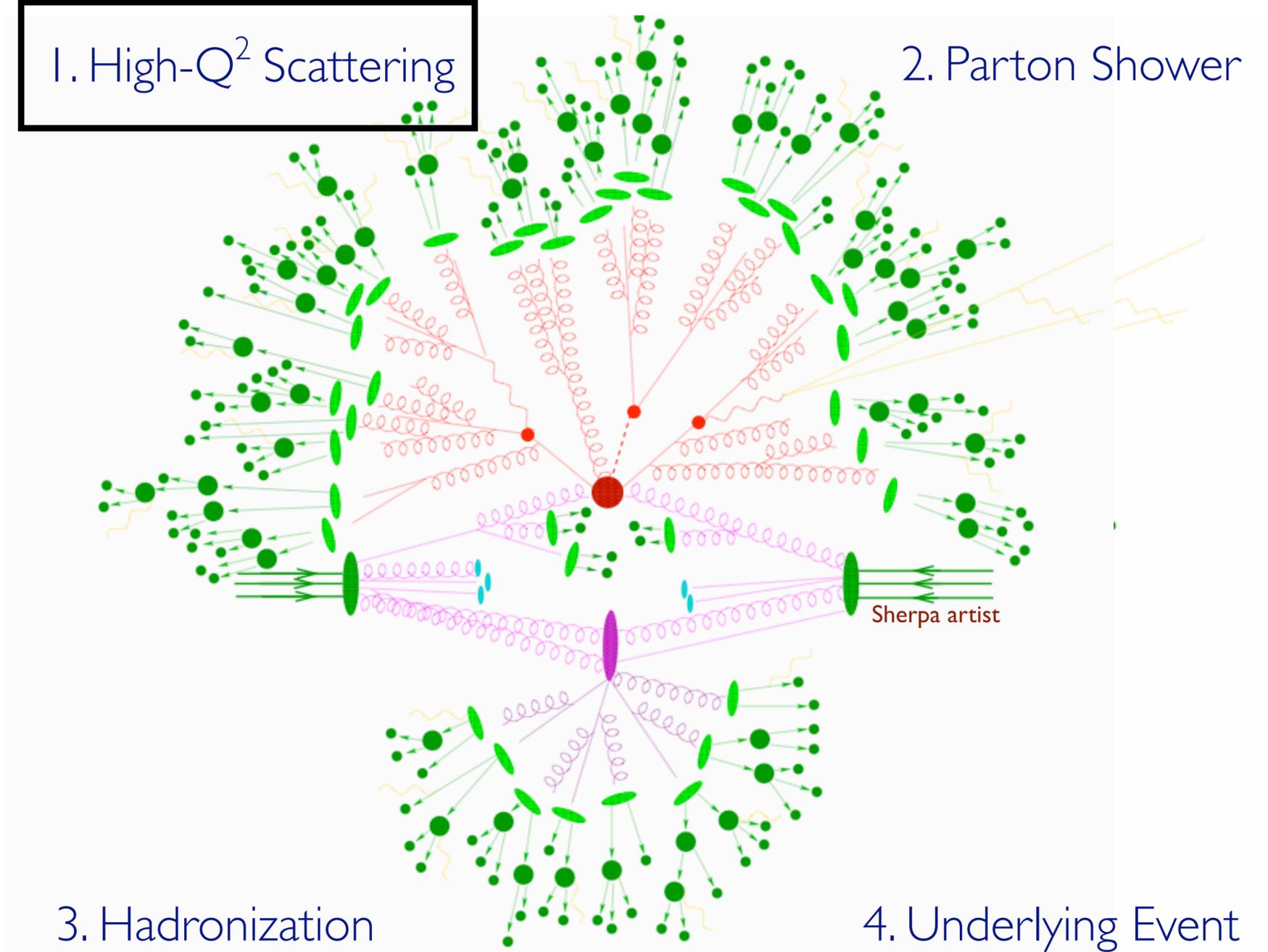
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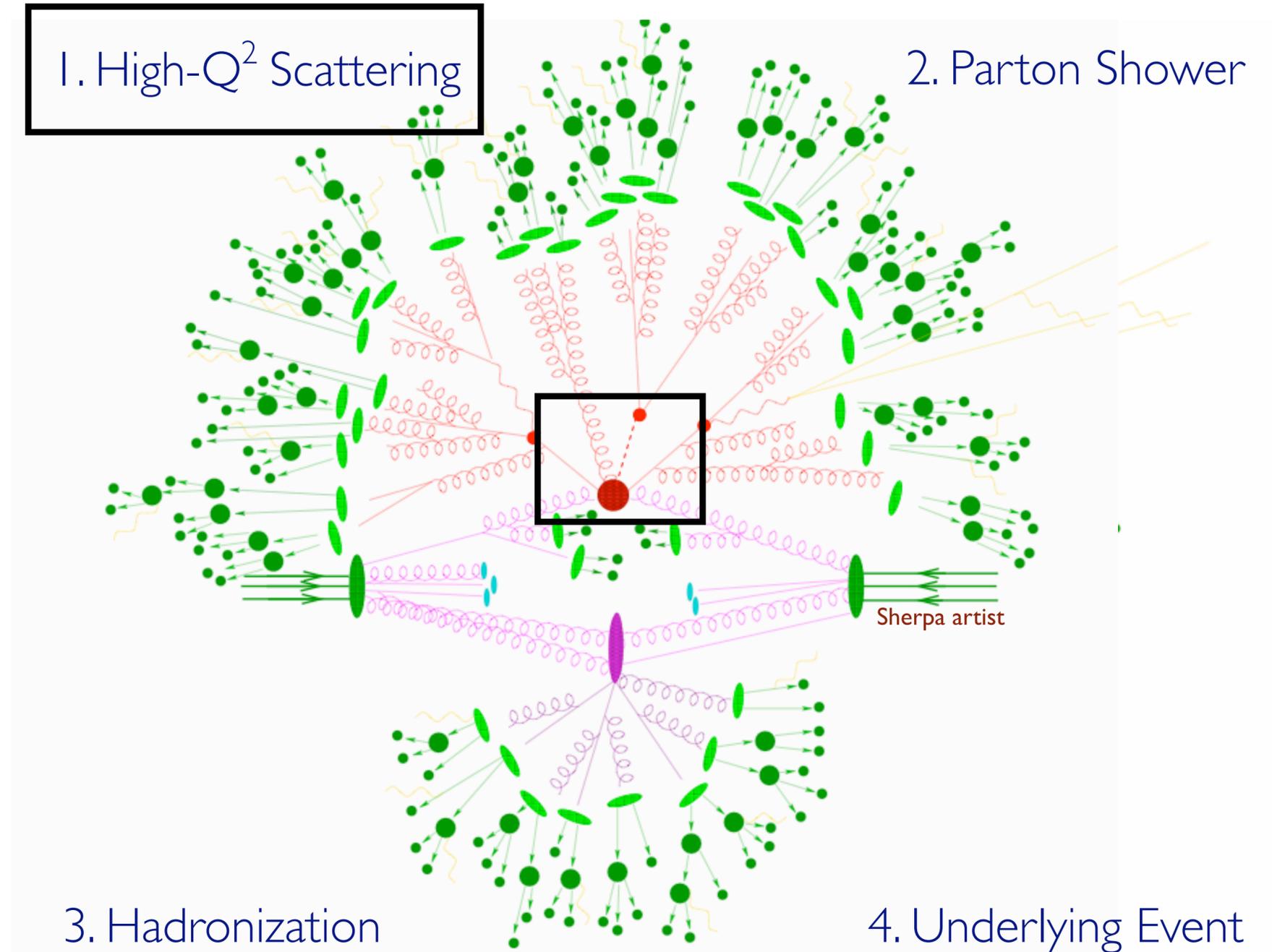
# An LHC event



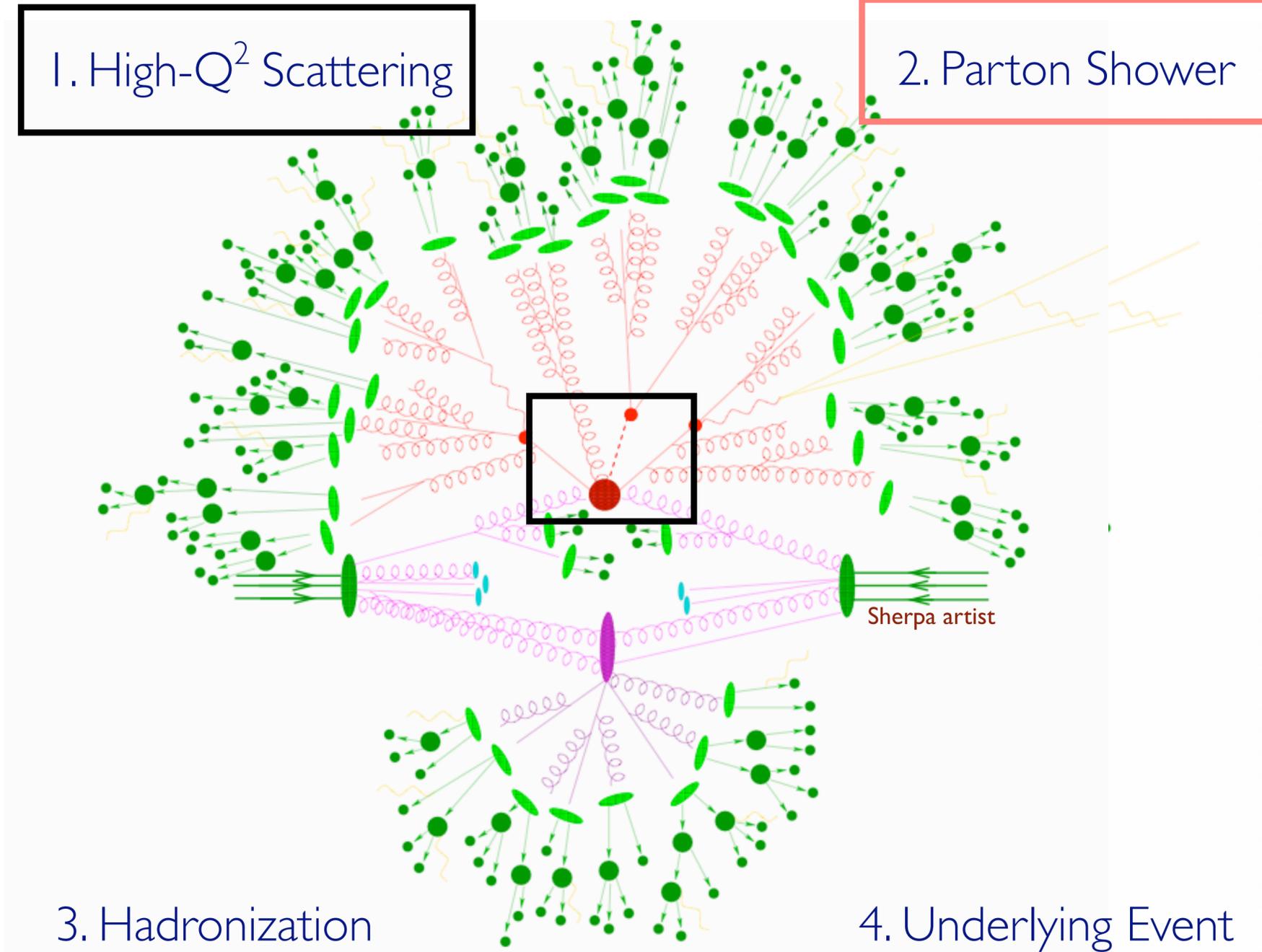
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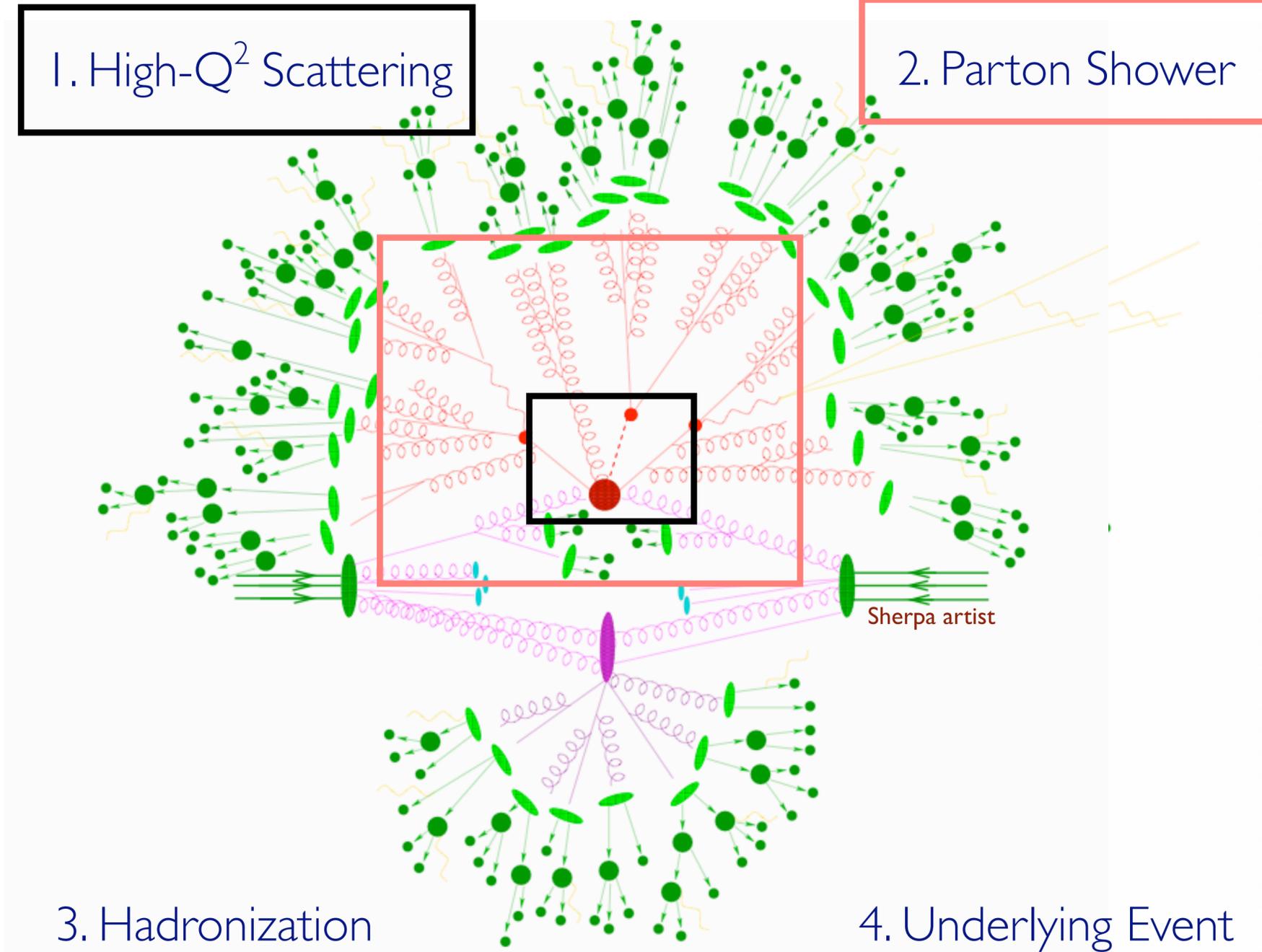
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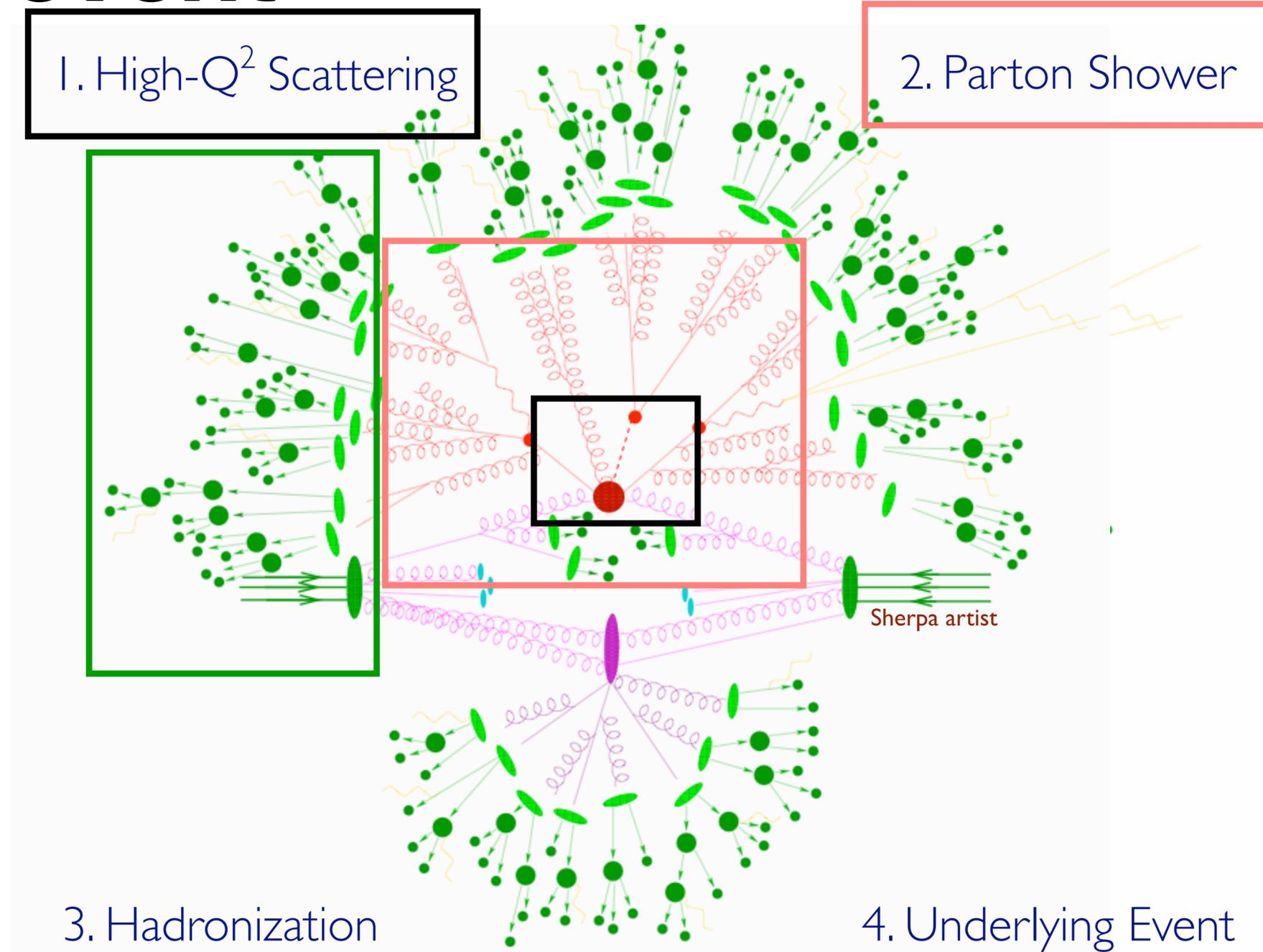
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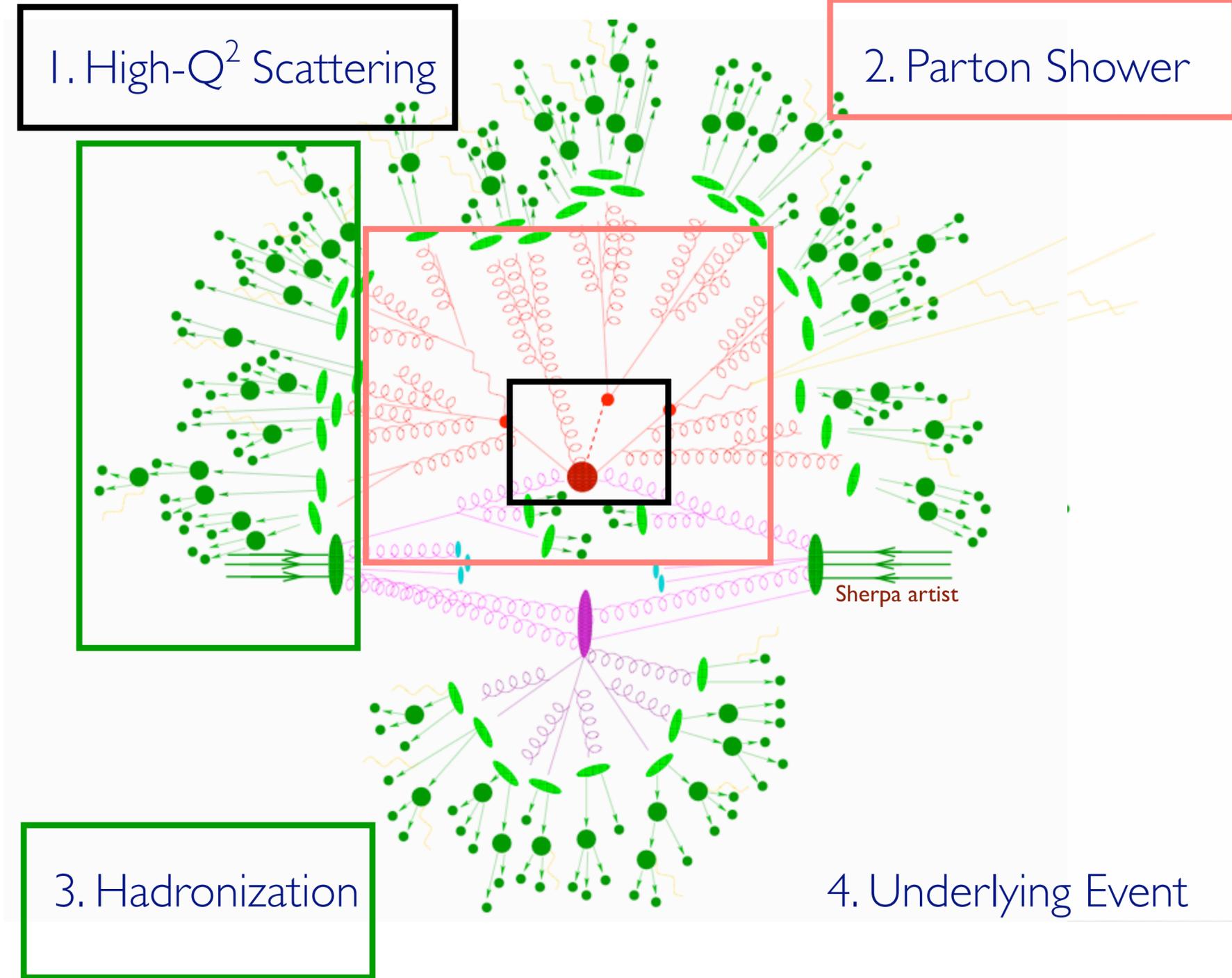
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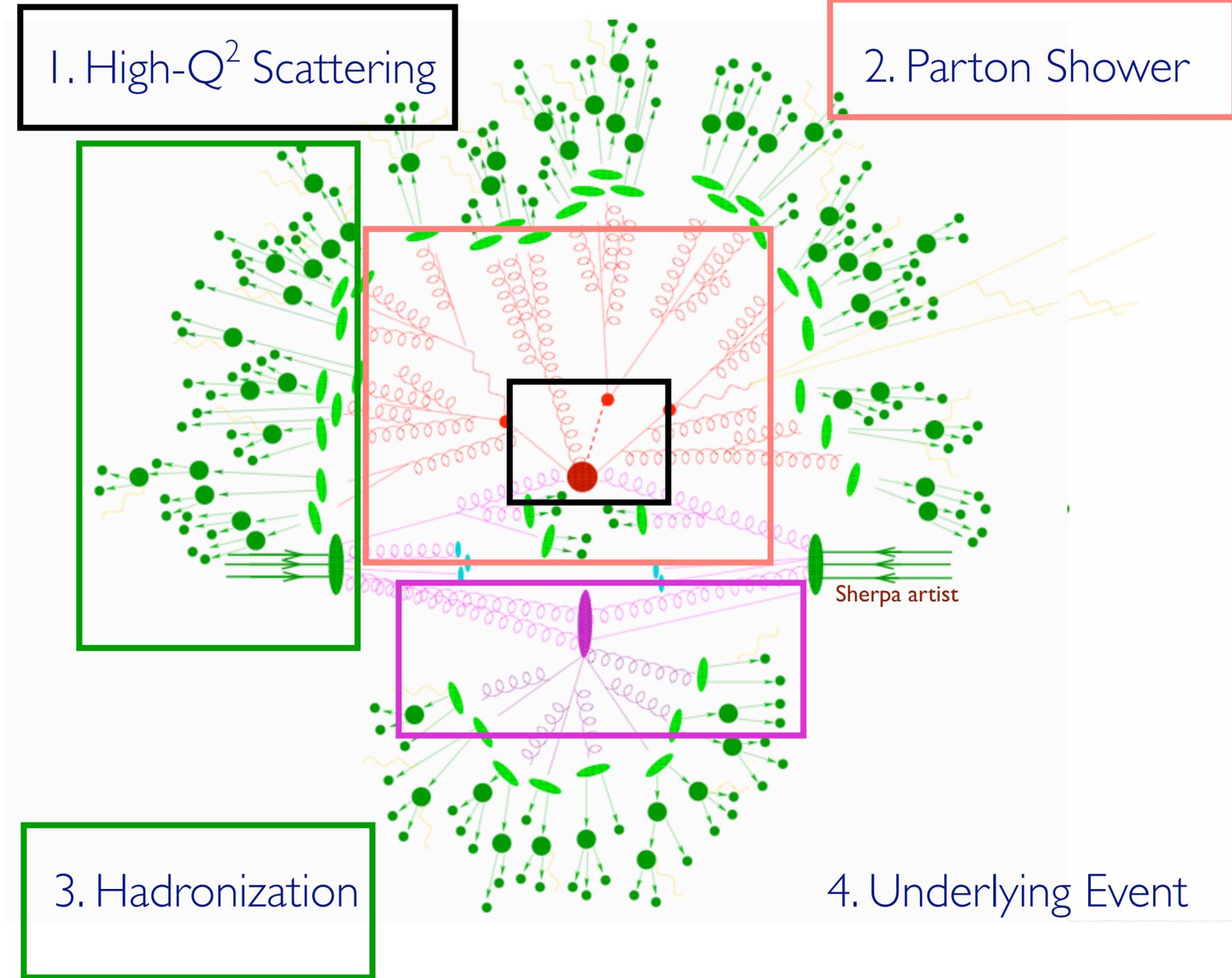
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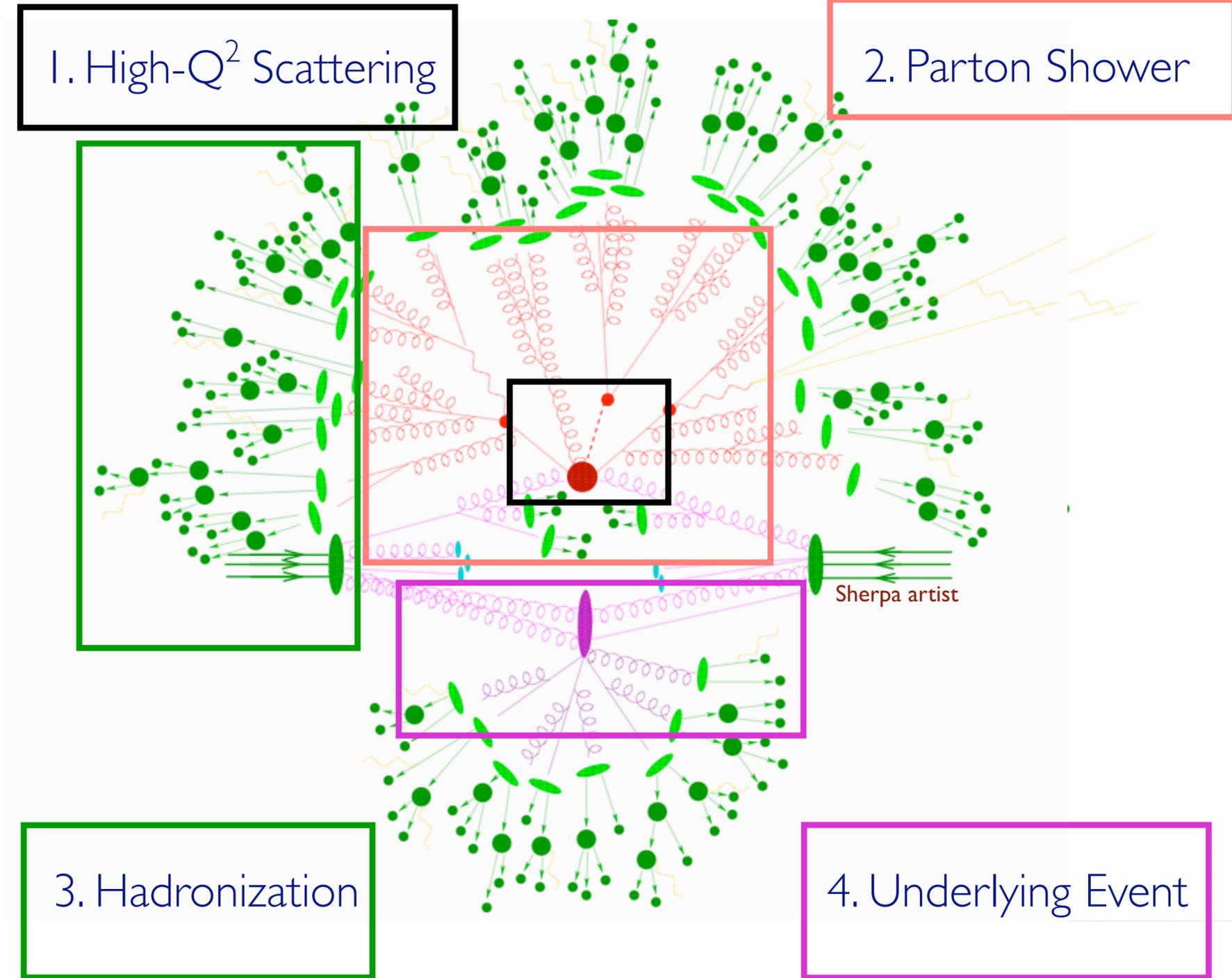
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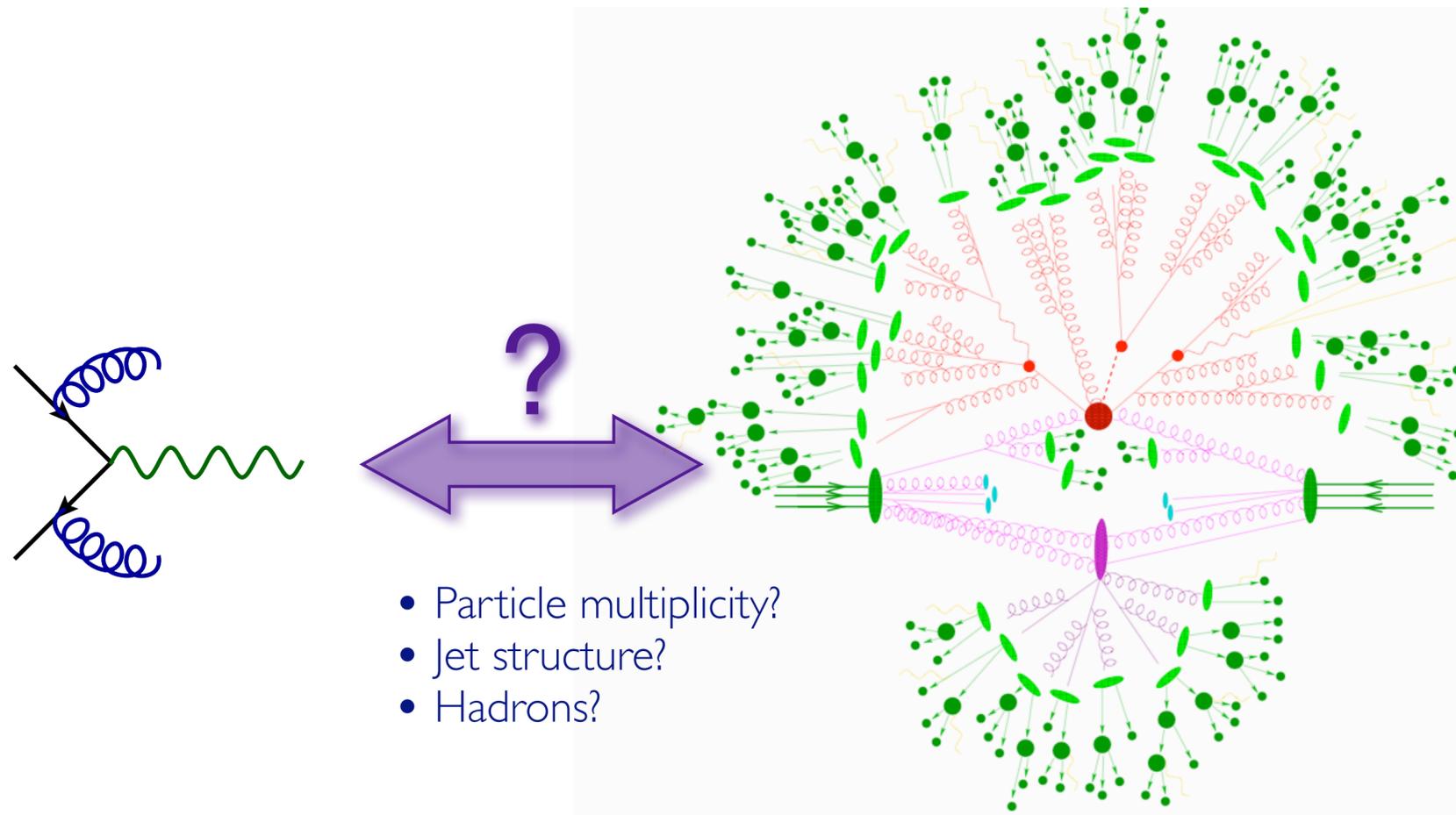
# An LHC event



# An LHC event



# Is fixed order enough?



- Fixed order calculations involve only a few partons
- Not what we see in detectors
- Need Shower and Hadronisation

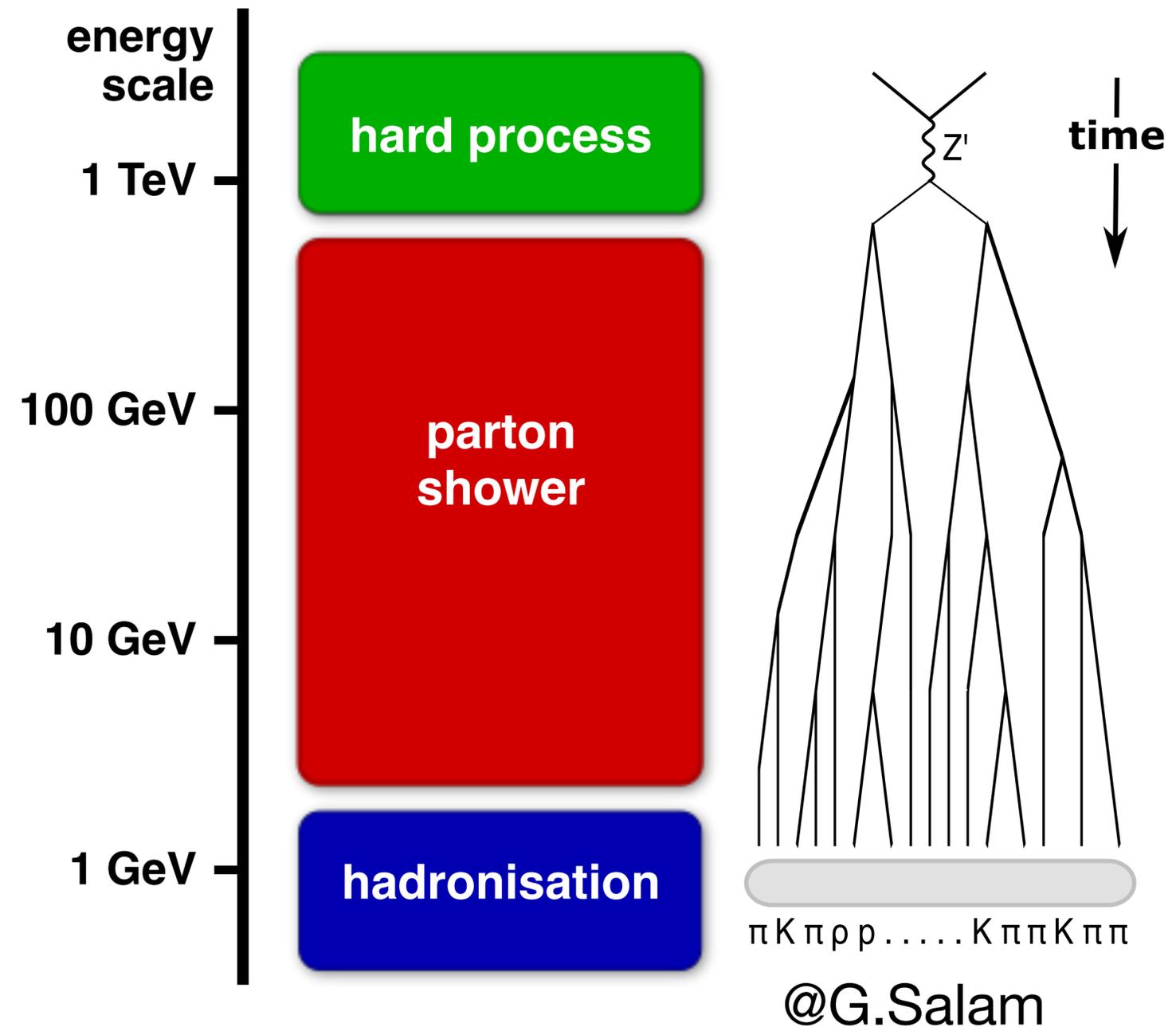
# A multiscale story

High- $Q^2$  scattering: process dependent, systematically improvable with higher order corrections, where we expect new physics

Parton Shower: QCD, universal, soft and collinear physics

Hadronisation: low  $Q^2$ , universal, based on different models

Underlying event: low  $Q^2$ , involves multiple interactions



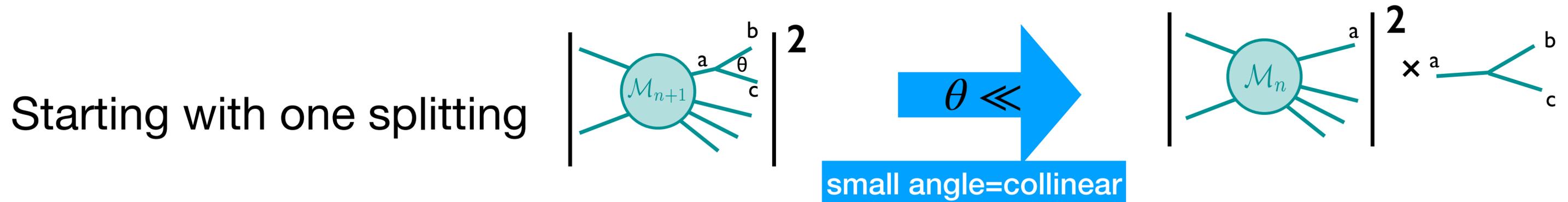
# Parton Shower

## What does the parton shower do/should do?

- Dress partons with radiation with an arbitrary number of branchings
- Preserve the inclusive cross-section: unitary
- Needs to evolve in scale from  $Q \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$  (hard scattering) down to  $\sim \text{GeV}$

# Basics of parton shower

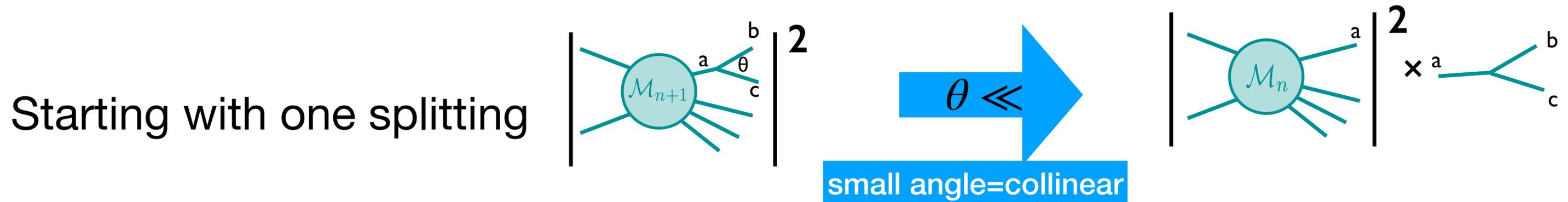
## Collinear factorisation



- Time scale associated with splitting much longer than the one of the hard scattering
- This kind of splitting should be described by a branching probability
- The parton shower will quantify the probability of emission

# Basics of parton shower

## Collinear factorisation



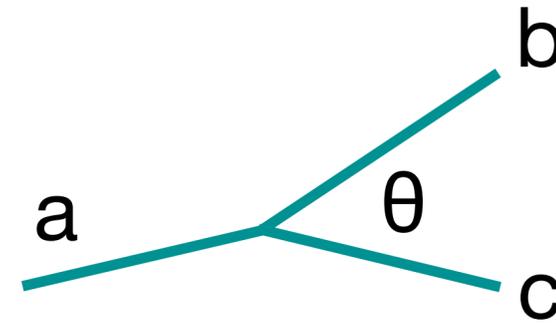
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Collinear factorisation:

$$|\mathcal{M}_{n+1}|^2 d\Phi_{n+1} \simeq |\mathcal{M}_n|^2 d\Phi_n \frac{dt}{t} dz \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}(z)$$

# Collinear factorisation and splitting functions

$$|\mathcal{M}_{n+1}|^2 d\Phi_{n+1} \simeq |\mathcal{M}_n|^2 d\Phi_n \left( \frac{dt}{t} dz \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}(z) \right)$$



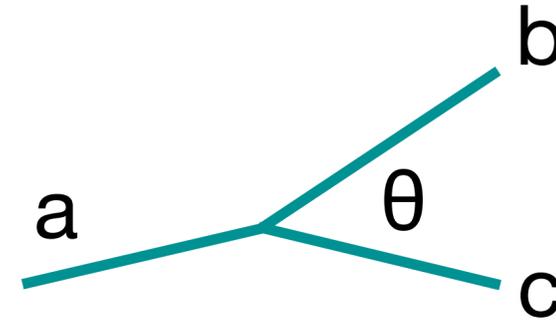
- $t$  is the evolution variable
  - $t$  tends to zero in the collinear limit (this factor is singular)
- $z$  energy fraction transferred from parton  $a$  to parton  $b$  in splitting ( $z \rightarrow 1$  in the soft limit)
- $\phi$  azimuthal angle

The branching probability has the same form for all quantities  $\propto \theta^2$

- transverse momentum  $k_{\perp} \sim z^2(1-z)^2\theta^2 E^2$
- invariant mass  $Q^2 \sim z(1-z)\theta^2 E^2$

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$$\frac{d\theta^2}{\theta^2} = \frac{dk_{\perp}^2}{k_{\perp}^2} = \frac{dQ^2}{Q^2}$$

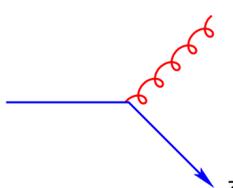
$$t \in \{\theta^2, k_{\perp}^2, Q^2\}$$

# Altarelli-Parisi Splitting functions

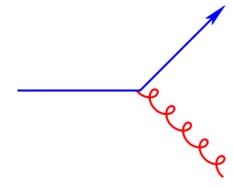
Branching has a universal form given by the Altarelli-Parisi splitting functions (as we saw in DIS)

$$\frac{dt}{t} dz \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}(z)$$

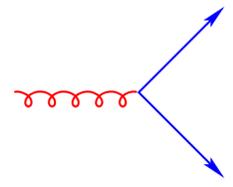
➔



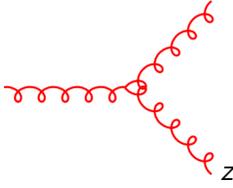
$$P_{q \rightarrow qg}(z) = C_F \left[ \frac{1+z^2}{1-z} \right],$$



$$P_{q \rightarrow gq}(z) = C_F \left[ \frac{1+(1-z)^2}{z} \right].$$



$$P_{g \rightarrow qq}(z) = T_R [z^2 + (1-z)^2],$$

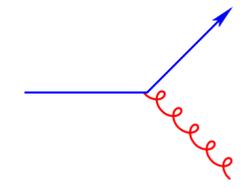
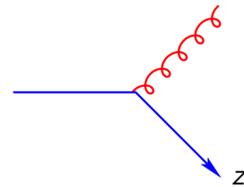


$$P_{g \rightarrow gg}(z) = C_A \left[ z(1-z) + \frac{z}{1-z} + \frac{1-z}{z} \right]$$

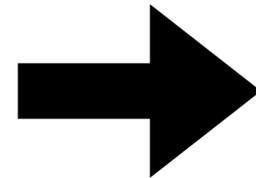
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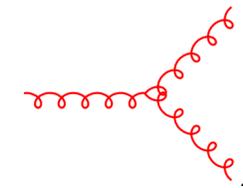
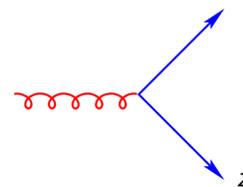
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$$\frac{dt}{t} dz \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}(z)$$



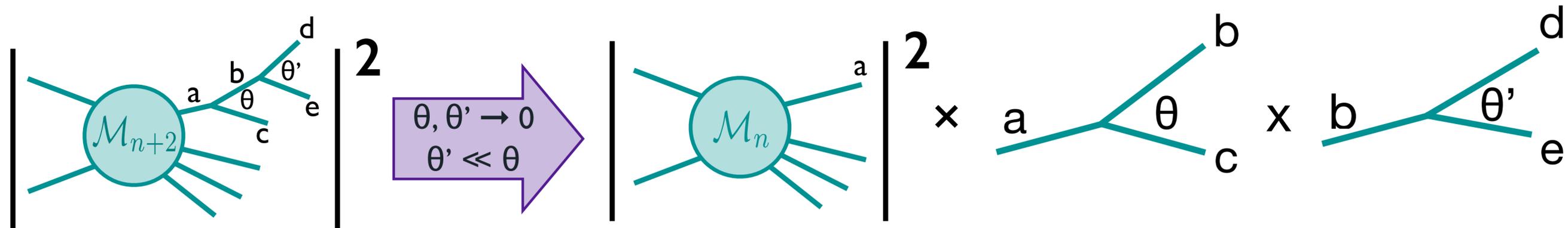
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**These functions are universal for each type of splitting**

# Multiple emissions

How does this change with multiple emissions?



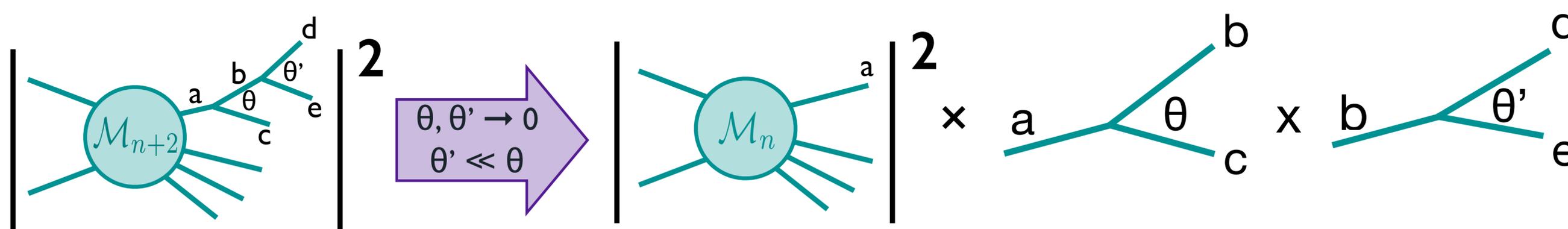
$$|\mathcal{M}_{n+2}|^2 d\Phi_{n+2} \simeq |\mathcal{M}_n|^2 d\Phi_n \frac{dt}{t} dz \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}(z) \times \frac{dt'}{t'} dz' \frac{d\phi'}{2\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{b \rightarrow de}(z')$$

We can generalise this for an arbitrary number of emissions

Iterative sequence of emissions which does not depend on the history  
(Markov Chain)

# Multiple emissions

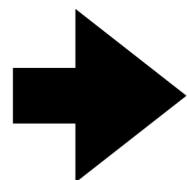
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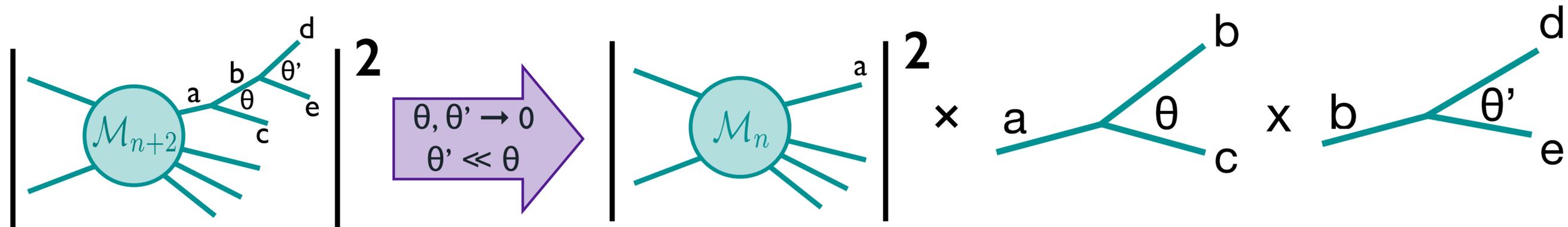
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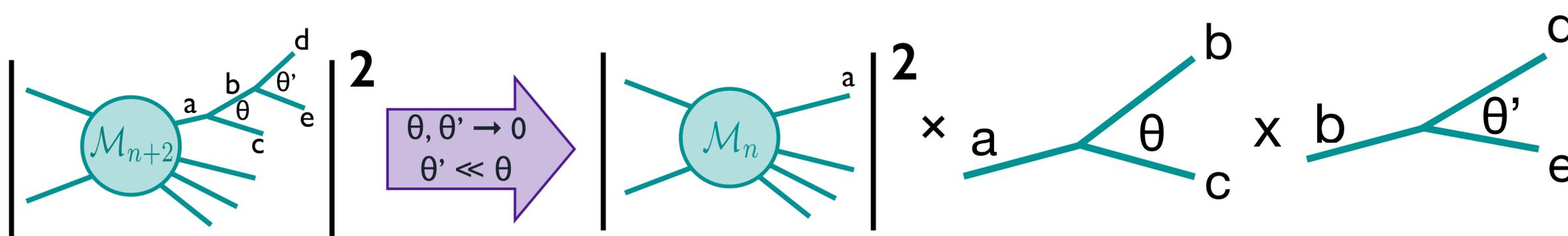
We can generalise this for an arbitrary number of emissions

Iterative sequence of emissions which does not depend on the history  
(Markov Chain)

**No interference: Classical**

# Multiple emissions

How does this change with multiple emissions?



Dominant contribution comes from subsequent emissions which satisfy strong ordering  $\theta \gg \theta' \gg \theta''$

For  $k$  emissions the rate takes the form:

$$\sigma_{n+k} \propto \alpha_s^k \int_{Q_0^2}^{Q^2} \frac{dt}{t} \int_{Q_0^2}^t \frac{dt'}{t'} \cdots \int_{Q_0^2}^{t^{(k-2)}} \frac{dt^{(k-1)}}{t^{(k-1)}} \propto \sigma_n \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right)^k \log^k(Q^2/Q_0^2)$$

- $Q$  is the hard scale and  $Q_0$  is an infrared cut off (separating non-perturbative regime)
- Each power of  $\alpha_s$  comes with a logarithm (breakdown of perturbation theory when large)

# Basics of PS

## What we saw so far

- Collinear factorisation allows subsequent branchings from the hard process scale down to the non-perturbative regime
- Different legs and subsequent emissions are uncorrelated
- No interference effects
- Captures leading contributions
  - Resummed calculation
  - Bridge between fixed order and hadronisation

# Sudakov form factor

We need to take the survival probability into account, i.e. a parton can split at scale  $t$  if it has not branched at  $t' > t$

The probability of branching between scale  $t$  and  $t + dt$  (with no emission before) is:

$$dp(t) = \sum_{bc} \frac{dt}{t} \int dz \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}(z)$$

The no-splitting probability between scale  $t$  and  $t + dt$  is  $1 - dp(t)$

The probability of no emission between  $Q^2$  and  $t$  is:

$$\Delta(Q^2, t) = \prod_k \left[ 1 - \sum_{bc} \frac{dt_k}{t_k} \int dz \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}(z) \right] = \exp \left[ - \sum_{bc} \int_t^{Q^2} \frac{dt'}{t'} dz \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{a \rightarrow bc}(z) \right] = \exp \left[ - \int_t^{Q^2} dp(t') \right]$$

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**Sudakov form factor**

**Sudakov form factor = No emission probability**

# Sudakovs

The Sudakov is used to create the branching tree of a parton

The probability of  $k$  ordered splittings form a leg at given scale is

$$\begin{aligned}dP_1(t_1) &= \Delta(Q^2, t_1) dp(t_1) \Delta(t_1, Q_0^2), \\dP_2(t_1, t_2) &= \Delta(Q^2, t_1) dp(t_1) \Delta(t_1, t_2) dp(t_2) \Delta(t_2, Q_0^2) \Theta(t_1 - t_2) \\&\dots = \dots \\dP_k(t_1, \dots, t_k) &= \Delta(Q^2, Q_0^2) \prod_{l=1}^k dp(t_l) \Theta(t_{l-1} - t_l)\end{aligned}$$

The shower selects the  $t_i$  scales for the splitting randomly but weighted with no emission probability (before or after)

# Unitarity

The parton shower is unitary. **Sum of all possibilities should be 1.**

Probability of  $k$  ordered splittings:

$$dP_k(t_1, \dots, t_k) = \Delta(Q^2, Q_0^2) \prod_{l=1}^k dp(t_l) \Theta(t_{l-1} - t_l)$$

Integrating this gives us:

$$P_k \equiv \int dP_k(t_1, \dots, t_k) = \Delta(Q^2, Q_0^2) \frac{1}{k!} \left[ \int_{Q_0^2}^{Q^2} dp(t) \right]^k, \quad \forall k = 0, 1, \dots$$

Summing over all possible numbers of emissions (0 to  $\infty$ ):

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P_k = \Delta(Q^2, Q_0^2) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} \left[ \int_{Q_0^2}^{Q^2} dp(t) \right]^k = \Delta(Q^2, Q_0^2) \exp \left[ \int_{Q_0^2}^{Q^2} dp(t) \right] = 1$$

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**Probability is conserved**



# Evolution parameter in parton shower

A parton shower is constructed:

- Within the simplest collinear approximation, the splitting functions are universal, and fully **factorized from the “hard” cross section**
- Within the simplest approximation, **decays are independent** (apart from being ordered in a decreasing sequence of scales)

Other variables can be used as evolution parameter:

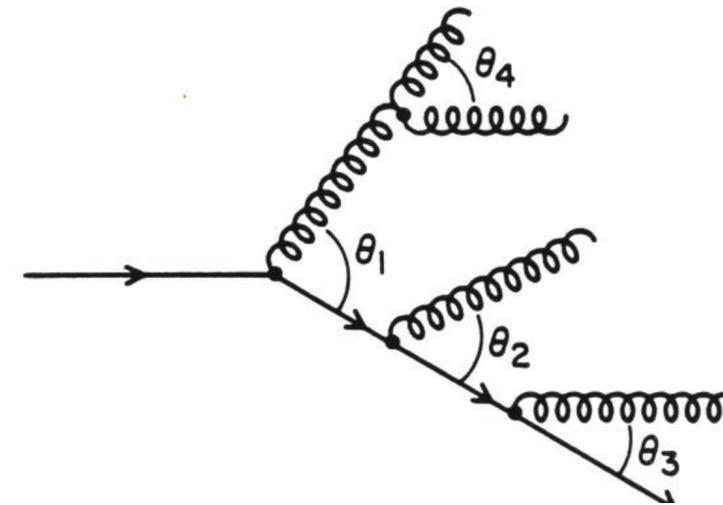
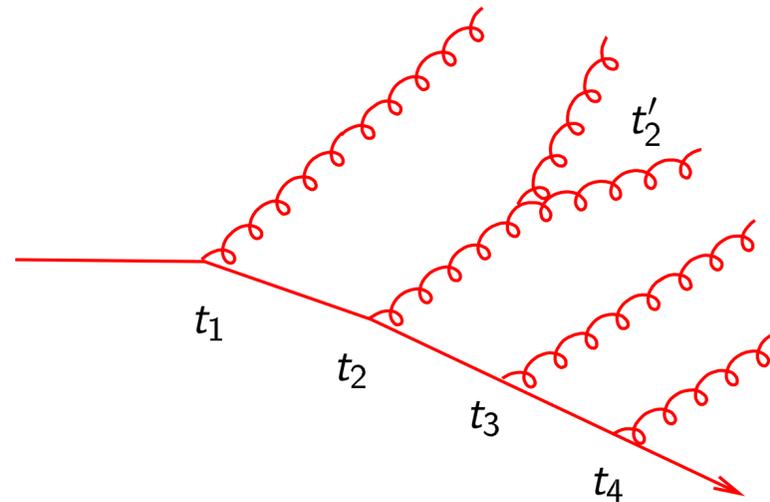
$$\frac{d\theta^2}{\theta^2} \sim \frac{dQ^2}{Q^2} \sim \frac{dp_{\perp}^2}{p_{\perp}^2} \sim \frac{d\tilde{q}^2}{\tilde{q}^2} \sim \frac{dt}{t}$$

- $\theta$ : HERWIG
- $Q^2$ : PYTHIA  $\leq 6.3$ , SHERPA.
- $p_{\perp}$ : PYTHIA  $\geq 6.4$ , ARIADNE, Catani–Seymour showers.
- $\tilde{q}$ : Herwig++.

Same collinear behaviour, differences in the soft limit

# Ordered branchings

## Angular ordering



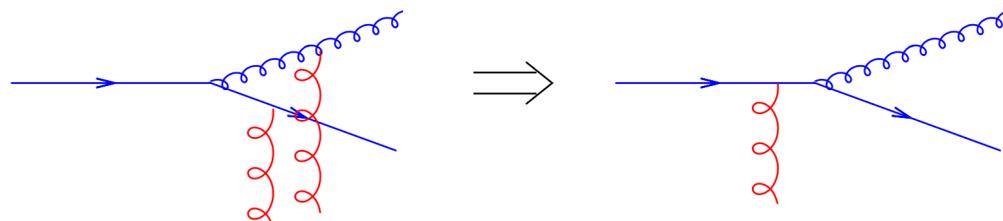
Shower is based on ordered splittings

$$t_1 \gg t_2 \gg t_3 \gg t_4 \text{ and } t_2 \gg t'_2$$

Emission with smaller and smaller angles

$$\theta_1 > \theta_2 > \theta_3 \quad \theta > \theta_4$$

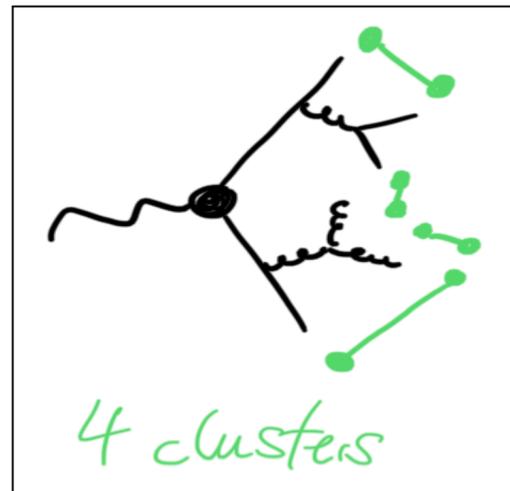
### Note:



Inside the cones partons emit as independent charges, outside radiation is **coherent** as if coming directly from the initial colour charge

# Hadronisation

- Colourless hadrons observed in detectors, not partons.
- Hadronisation describes creation of hadrons in QCD at low scales where  $\alpha_s \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$
- Requires non perturbative input
- Two models: cluster and string



Color-singlet parton pairs end up “close” in phase space. This is called preconfinement. Involves collecting  $q\bar{q}$  pairs into color-singlet clusters.

Cluster hadronisation



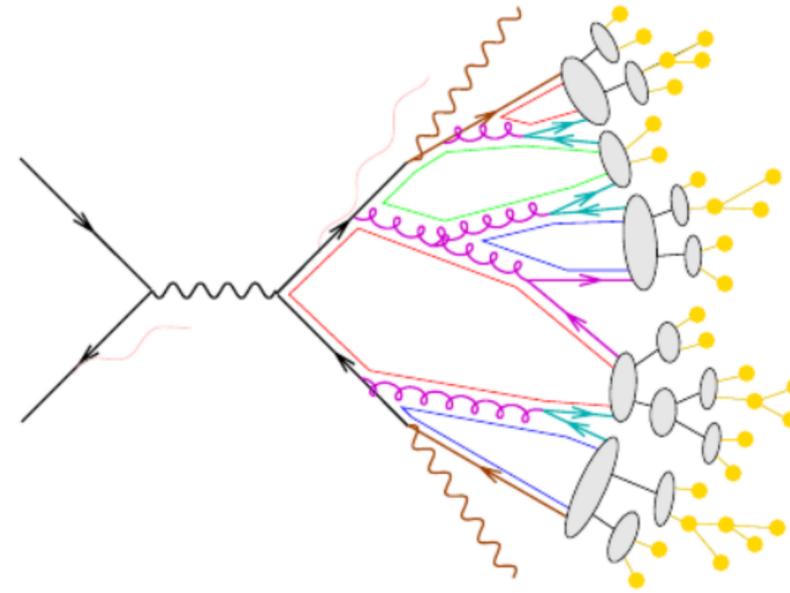
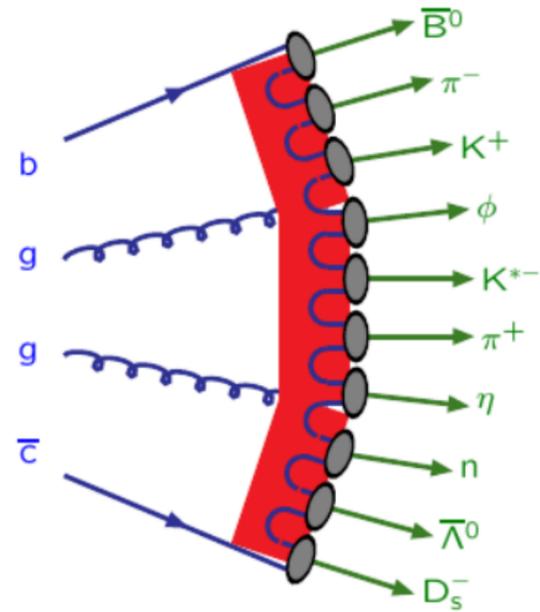
Create strings from color string, with gluons “stretching the string” locally. It uses non-perturbative insights

String hadronisation

# Hadronisation

## String vs Cluster

Sjöstrand, Durham '09



program model	PYTHIA string	HERWIG cluster
energy-momentum picture	powerful	simple
parameters	predictive	unpredictive
flavour composition	few	many
parameters	messy	simple
	unpredictive	in-between
	many	few

# Summary: Parton shower

- A parton shower dresses partons with radiation such that the sum of probabilities is one.
  - Predictions become exclusive.
  - General-purpose, process-independent tools
  - Based on collinear factorisation and build around the Sudakov form factors provide a resummed prediction
  - Similar ideas can be used for the initial state shower (need to account for PDFs- deconstruction of the DGLAP evolution, **backwards evolution**)
- Full description starting from hard scattering, shower and hadronisation (also underlying event)
- Move to hadronisation at a cut off at which perturbative QCD can't be trusted
  - Hadronisation is also universal and independent of the collider energy

# Parton shower programs



Current release series	Hard matrix elements	Shower algorithms	MPI	Hadronization
Herwig 7	Internal, libraries, event files	QTilde, Dipoles	Eikonal	Clusters, (Strings)
Pythia 8	Internal, event files	Pt ordered, DIRE, VINCIA	Interleaved	Strings
Sherpa 2	Internal, libraries	CSShower, DIRE	Eikonal	Clusters, Strings

Herwig and Pythia use LHE files e.g. produced in MG5\_aMC