

The strong coupling and the top-quark mass

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Based on work done in collaboration with:

- *Determination of the strong coupling from high-energy data*
S. Alekhin, M.V. Garzelli, S. M. and O. Zenaiev [arXiv:2510.21435](#)
- *NNLO PDFs driven by top-quark data*
S. Alekhin, M.V. Garzelli, S. M. and O. Zenaiev [arXiv:2407.00545](#)
- *Top-quark pole mass extraction at NNLO accuracy, from total, single- and double-differential cross sections for $t\bar{t} + X$ production at the LHC*
M.V. Garzelli, J. Mazzitelli, S. M. and O. Zenaiev [arXiv:2311.05509](#)
- *NLO PDFs from the ABMP16 fit*
S. Alekhin, J. Blümlein and S. M. [arXiv:1803.07537](#)
- *Parton distribution functions, α_s , and heavy-quark masses for LHC Run II*
S. Alekhin, J. Blümlein, S. M. and R. Plačakytė [arXiv:1701.05838](#)
- Many more papers of **ABM** and friends ...
[2008](#) – ...

Top-quark mass

What is the value of the top-quark mass ?

$$m_t = ?$$

Introduction (I)

Classical mechanics

- Measurement of mass through interaction with gravitational force



- Mass is defined as product of density and volume of matter
 - classical concept

Introduction (II)

- Subatomic physics needs different concepts

Special relativity

- Equivalence principle

$$E = mc^2 \text{ Einstein}$$

Standard Model

- Higgs boson gives mass to matter fields via Higgs-Yukawa coupling
 - large top-quark mass m_t

Quantum field theory

- Classical part of QCD Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_b^{\mu\nu} + \sum_{\text{flavors}} \bar{q}_i (\mathrm{i}\not{D} - m_q)_{ij} q_j$$

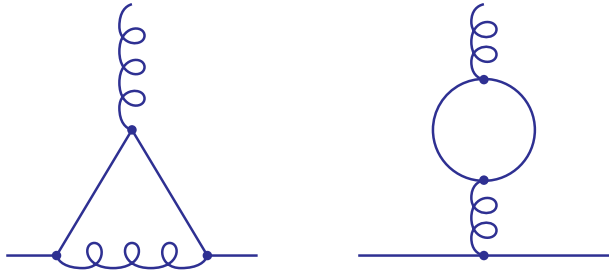
- field strength tensor $F_{\mu\nu}^a$ and matter fields $q_i, \bar{q}_j$
- covariant derivative $D_{\mu,ij} = \partial_\mu \delta_{ij} + \mathrm{i}g_s (t_a)_{ij} A_\mu^a$
- Formal parameters of the theory (no observables)
 - strong coupling $\alpha_s = g_s^2/(4\pi)$, quark masses m_q
- Parameters of Lagrangian have no unique physical interpretation
 - radiative corrections require definition of renormalization scheme

Challenge

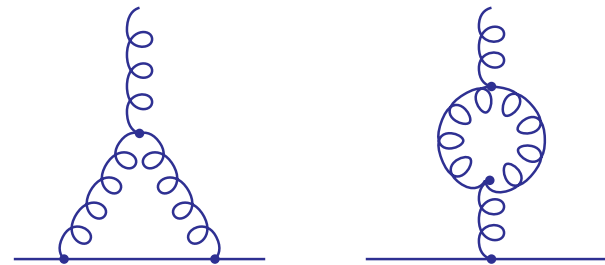
- Suitable observables for measurements of $\alpha_s, m_q, \dots$
 - comparison of theory predictions and experimental data

Coupling renormalization

- Effective coupling α_s depends on resolution
- QCD distinguished by self-interaction of gluons; e.g. vertex corrections



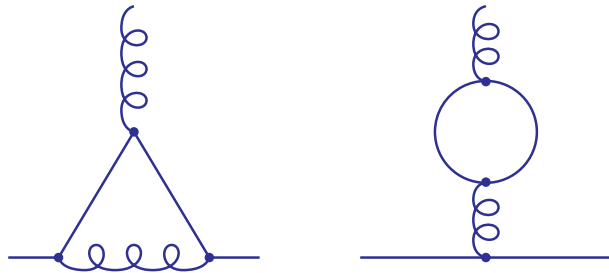
– screening (like in QED)



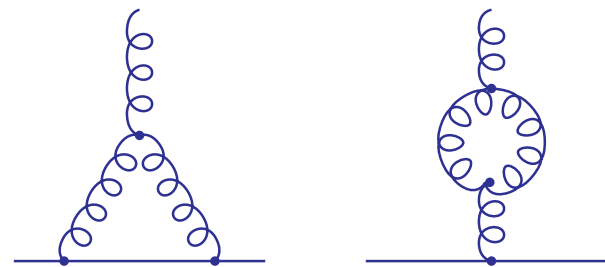
– anti-screening (color charge of g)

Coupling renormalization

- Effective coupling α_s depends on resolution
- QCD distinguished by self-interaction of gluons; e.g. vertex corrections



– screening (like in QED)



– anti-screening (color charge of g)

- Scale dependence governed by β -function of QCD

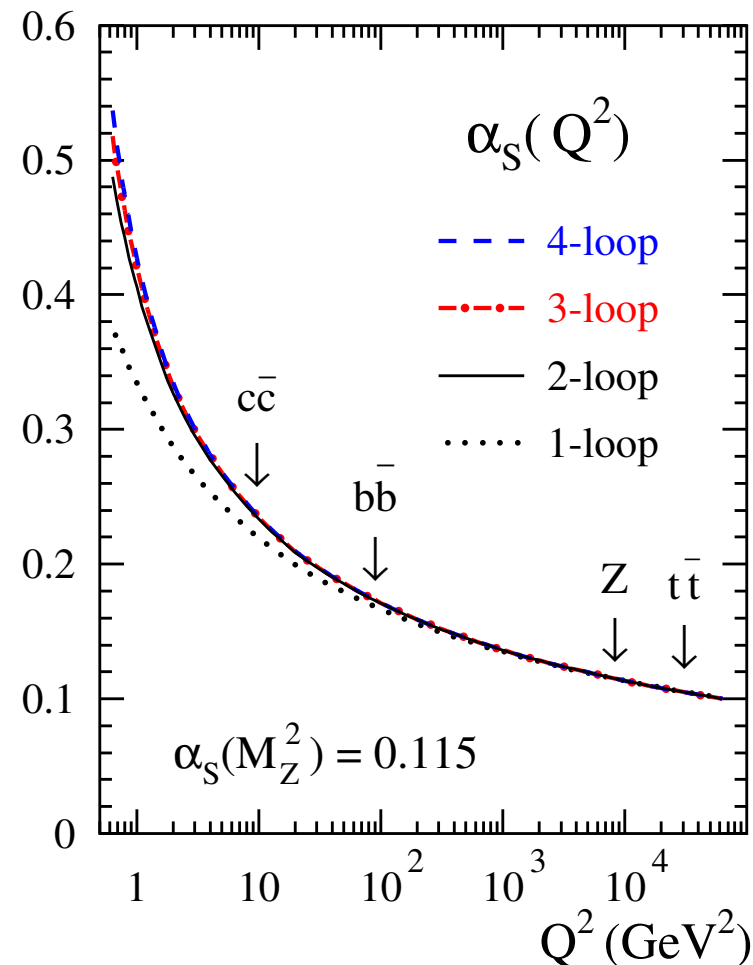
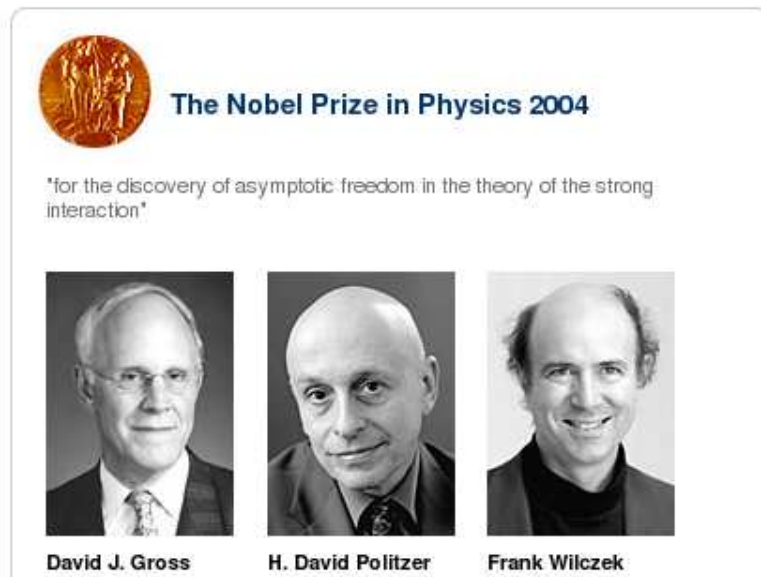
$$\mu^2 \frac{d}{d\mu^2} \alpha_s(\mu) = \beta(\alpha_s) = -\beta_0 \alpha_s^2 - \beta_1 \alpha_s^3 - \beta_2 \alpha_s^4 - \beta_3 \alpha_s^5 - \dots$$

- QCD β -function has negative sign
- perturbative expansion with coefficients $\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots$

$$\beta_0 = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{11}{3} C_A - \frac{2}{3} n_f \right) = \frac{1}{4\pi} (7) \quad (\text{for } n_f = 6)$$

Asymptotic freedom

- Perturbative solution of QCD β -function to five loops
Baikov, Chetyrkin, Kühn '16; Herzog, Ruijl, Ueda, Vermaseren, Vogt '17; Luthe, Maier, Marquard, Schröder '17; Chetyrkin, Falcioni, Herzog, Vermaseren '17
 - very good convergence of perturbative series even at low scales
(but $\alpha_s \gg \alpha_{\text{QED}}$)



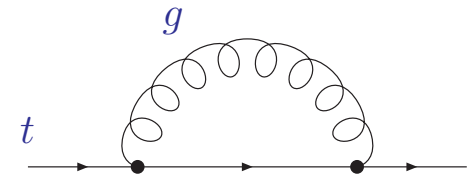
Quark mass renormalization

- Heavy-quark self-energy $\Sigma(p, m_q)$

$$\text{---} + \text{---} \circlearrowleft \Sigma \text{---} + \text{---} \circlearrowleft \Sigma \text{---} \circlearrowleft \Sigma \text{---} + \dots = \frac{i}{\not{p} - m_q - \Sigma(p, m_q)}$$

QCD

- QCD corrections to self-energy $\Sigma(p, m_q)$
 - dimensional regularization $D = 4 - 2\epsilon$
 - one-loop: UV divergence $1/\epsilon$ (Laurent expansion)



$$\Sigma^{(1), \text{bare}}(p, m_q) = \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \left(\frac{\mu^2}{m_q^2} \right)^\epsilon \left\{ (\not{p} - m_q) \left(-C_F \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \text{fin.} \right) + m_q \left(3C_F \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \text{fin.} \right) \right\}$$

- Relate bare and renormalized mass parameter $m_q^{\text{bare}} = m_q^{\text{ren}} + \delta m_q$

$$\text{---} \circ \text{---} = \text{---} + \text{---} \circlearrowleft \text{---} + \text{---} \times \text{---} + \dots$$

$$\Sigma^{\text{ren}}(p, m_q) \qquad (Z_\psi - 1)\not{p} - (Z_m - 1)m_q$$

Mass renormalization scheme

Pole mass

- Based on (unphysical) concept of top-quark being a free parton
 - m_q^{ren} coincides with pole of propagator at each order

$$\not{p} - m_q - \Sigma(p, m_q) \Big|_{\not{p}=m_q} \rightarrow \not{p} - m_q^{\text{pole}}$$

- Definition of pole mass ambiguous up to corrections $\mathcal{O}(\Lambda_{QCD})$
 - heavy-quark self-energy $\Sigma(p, m_q)$ receives contributions from regions of all loop momenta – also from momenta of $\mathcal{O}(\Lambda_{QCD})$

$\overline{MS}$ scheme

- $\overline{MS}$ mass definition
 - one-loop minimal subtraction

$$\delta m_q^{(1)} = m_q \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} 3C_F \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} - \gamma_E + \ln 4\pi \right)$$

- $\overline{MS}$ scheme induces scale dependence: $m(\mu)$

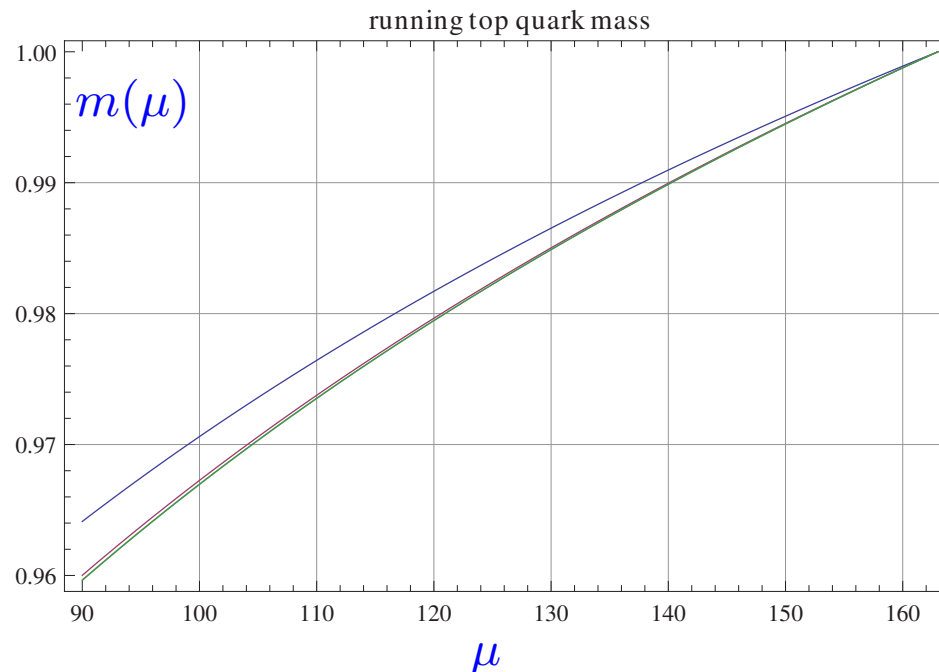
Running quark mass

Scale dependence

- Renormalization group equation for scale dependence
 - mass anomalous dimension γ known to five loops
Baikov, Chetyrkin, Kühn '14, Luthe, Maier, Marquard, Schröder '17

$$\left(\mu^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu^2} + \beta(\alpha_s) \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha_s} \right) m(\mu) = \gamma(\alpha_s) m(\mu)$$

- Plot mass ratio $m_t(163\text{GeV})/m_t(\mu)$



Top-quark measurements

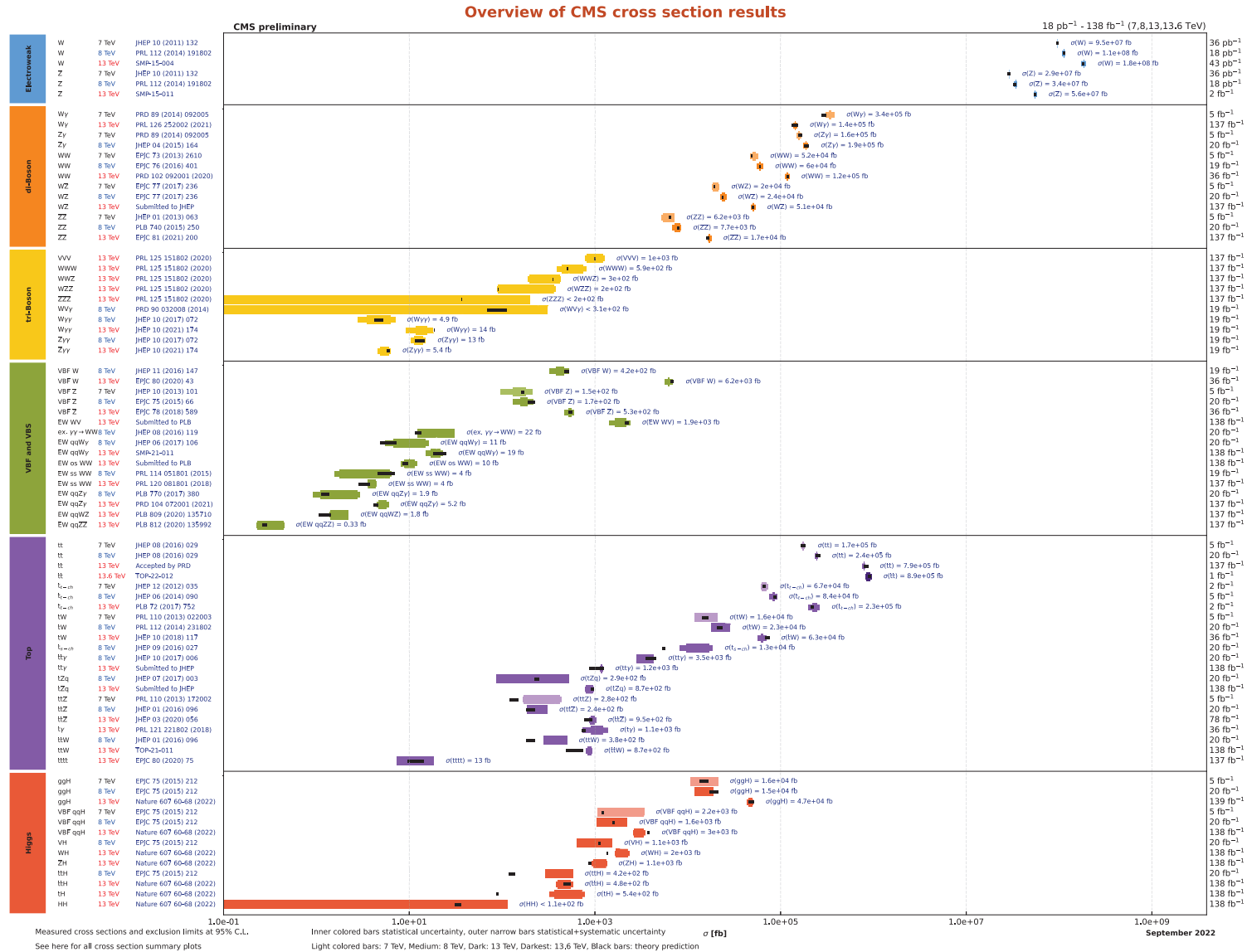
The LHC

- Highest energies at colliders until 203x



Standard Model cross sections

- Standard Model cross sections and predictions at the LHC CMS coll. '22



Data on top-quark cross sections

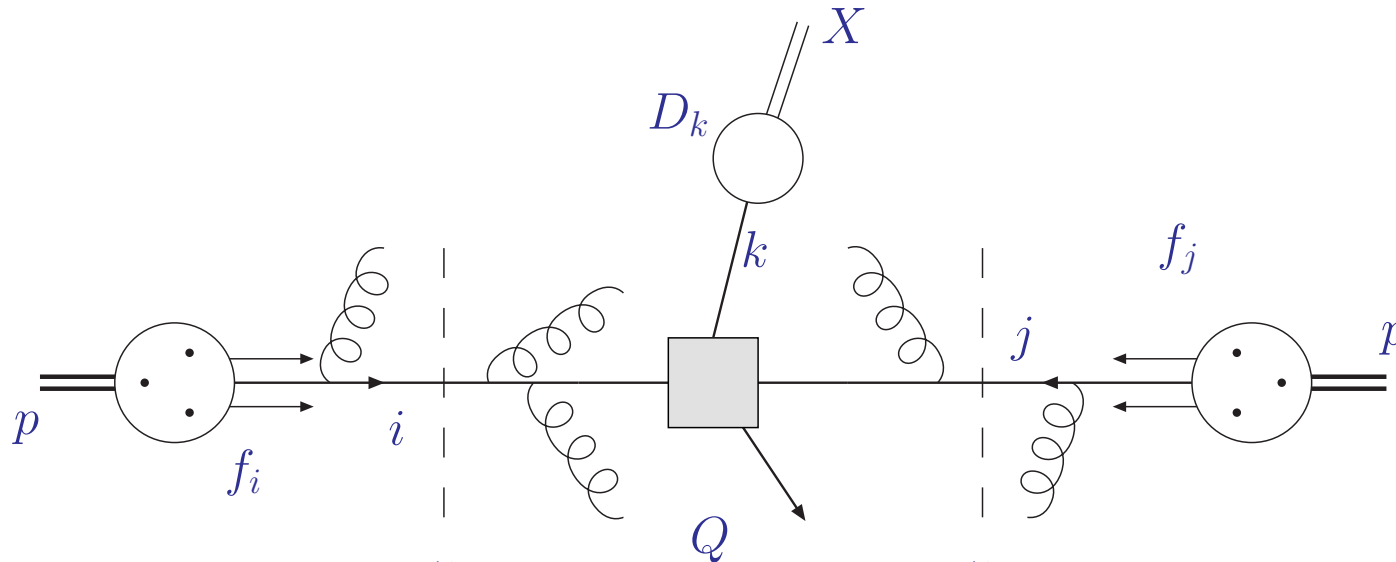
experiment	decay channel	dataset	luminosity	$\sqrt{s}$	ref.
ATLAS & CMS	combined	2011	5 fb ⁻¹	7 TeV	2205.13830
ATLAS & CMS	combined	2012	20 fb ⁻¹	8 TeV	2205.13830
ATLAS	dileptonic, semileptonic	2011	257 pb ⁻¹	5.02 TeV	2207.01354
CMS	dileptonic	2011	302 pb ⁻¹	5.02 TeV	2112.09114
ATLAS	dileptonic	2015-2018	140 fb ⁻¹	13 TeV	2303.15340
ATLAS	semileptonic	2015-2018	139 fb ⁻¹	13 TeV	2006.13076
CMS	dileptonic	2016	35.9 fb ⁻¹	13 TeV	1812.10505
CMS	semileptonic	2016-2018	137 fb ⁻¹	13 TeV	2108.02803
ATLAS	dileptonic	2022	11.3 fb ⁻¹	13.6 TeV	ATLAS-CONF-2023-006
CMS	dileptonic, semileptonic	2022	1.21 fb ⁻¹	13.6 TeV	2303.10680

Experiment	decay channel	dataset	luminosity	$\sqrt{s}$	observable(s)	n	ref.
CMS	semileptonic	2016–2018	137 fb ⁻¹	13 TeV	$M(t\bar{t}), y(t\bar{t}) $	34	2108.02803
CMS	dileptonic	2016	35.9 fb ⁻¹	13 TeV	$M(t\bar{t}), y(t\bar{t}) $	15	1904.05237
ATLAS	semileptonic	2015–2016	36 fb ⁻¹	13 TeV	$M(t\bar{t}), y(t\bar{t}) $	19	1908.07305
ATLAS	all-hadronic	2015–2016	36.1 fb ⁻¹	13 TeV	$M(t\bar{t}), y(t\bar{t}) $	10	2006.09274
CMS	dileptonic	2012	19.7 fb ⁻¹	8 TeV	$M(t\bar{t}), y(t\bar{t}) $	15	1703.01630
ATLAS	semileptonic	2012	20.3 fb ⁻¹	8 TeV	$M(t\bar{t})$	6	1511.04716
ATLAS	dileptonic	2012	20.2 fb ⁻¹	8 TeV	$M(t\bar{t})$	5	1607.07281
ATLAS	dileptonic	2011	4.6 fb ⁻¹	7 TeV	$M(t\bar{t})$	4	1607.07281
ATLAS	semileptonic	2011	4.6 fb ⁻¹	7 TeV	$M(t\bar{t})$	4	1407.0371

- Measurements of top-quark hadro-production **ATLAS, CMS**
 - total inclusive $t\bar{t} + X$ cross sections ($NDP = 10$)
 - differential $t\bar{t} + X$ cross sections in $M(t\bar{t}), y(t\bar{t})$ ($NDP = 112$)

QCD factorization

QCD factorization

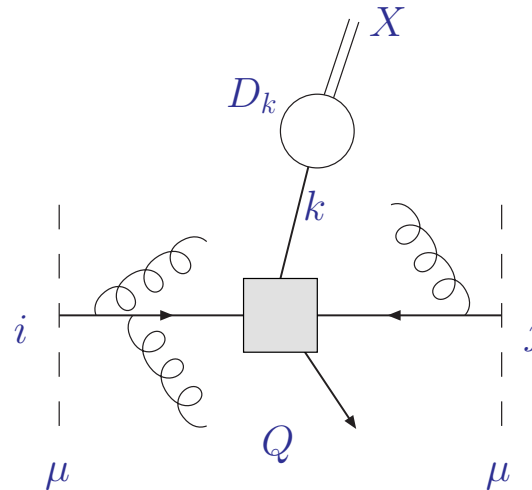


$$\sigma_{pp \rightarrow X} = \sum_{ij} f_i(\mu^2) \otimes f_j(\mu^2) \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{ij \rightarrow X}(\alpha_s(\mu^2), Q^2, \mu^2, m_X^2)$$

- Factorization at scale μ
 - separation of sensitivity to dynamics from long and short distances
- Hard parton cross section $\hat{\sigma}_{ij \rightarrow X}$ calculable in perturbation theory
 - cross section $\hat{\sigma}_{ij \rightarrow k}$ for parton types i, j and hadronic final state X
- Non-perturbative parameters: parton distribution functions f_i , strong coupling α_s , particle masses m_X
 - known from global fits to exp. data, lattice computations, ...

Hard scattering cross section

- Parton cross section $\hat{\sigma}_{ij \rightarrow k}$ calculable perturbatively in powers of α_s
 - known to NLO, NNLO, ... ($\mathcal{O}(\text{few}\%)$ theory uncertainty)



- Accuracy of perturbative predictions
 - LO (leading order) ($\mathcal{O}(50 - 100\%)$ unc.)
 - NLO (next-to-leading order) ($\mathcal{O}(10 - 30\%)$ unc.)
 - NNLO (next-to-next-to-leading order) ($\lesssim \mathcal{O}(10\%)$ unc.)
 - N³LO (next-to-next-to-next-to-leading order)
 - ...

Parton luminosity

- Long distance dynamics due to proton structure



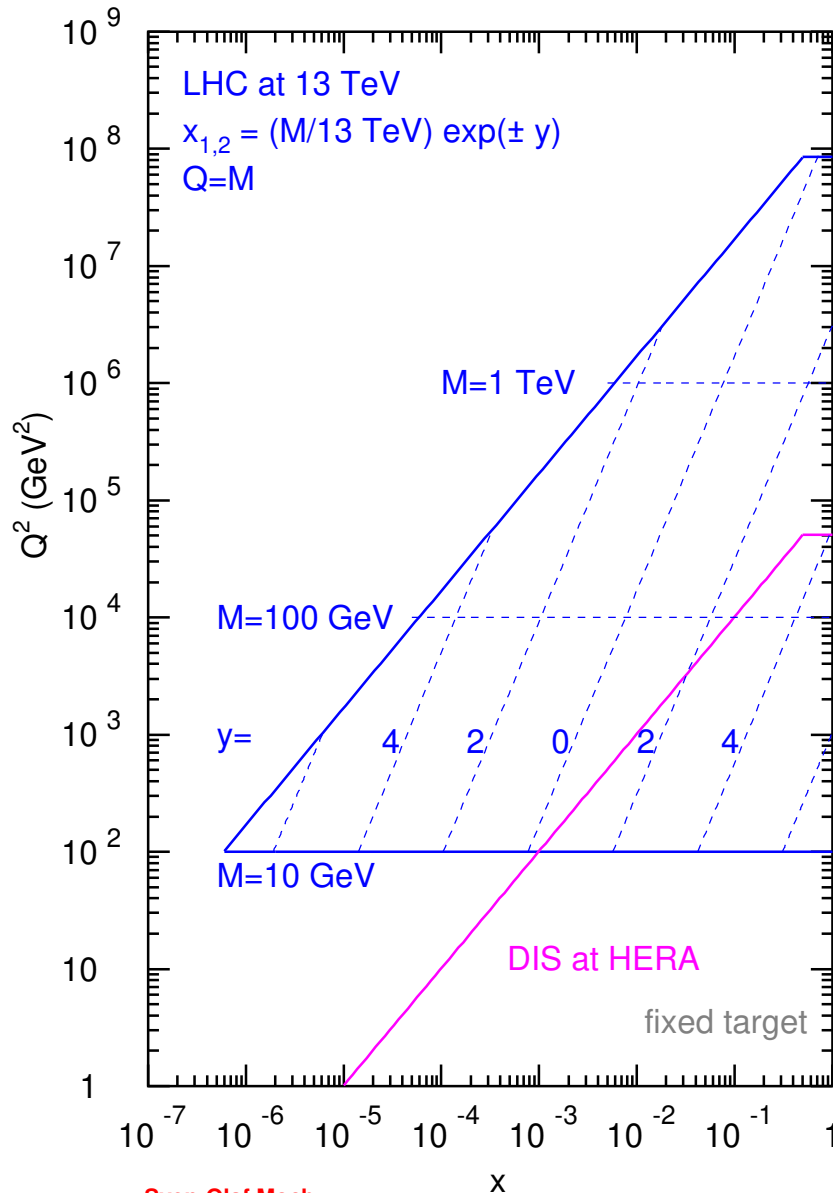
- Cross section depends on parton distributions f_i

$$\sigma_{pp \rightarrow X} = \sum_{ij} f_i(\mu^2) \otimes f_j(\mu^2) \otimes [\dots]$$

- Parton distributions known from global fits to exp. data
 - available fits accurate to NNLO
 - information on proton structure depends on kinematic coverage

Parton kinematics at LHC

- Information on proton structure depends on kinematic coverage

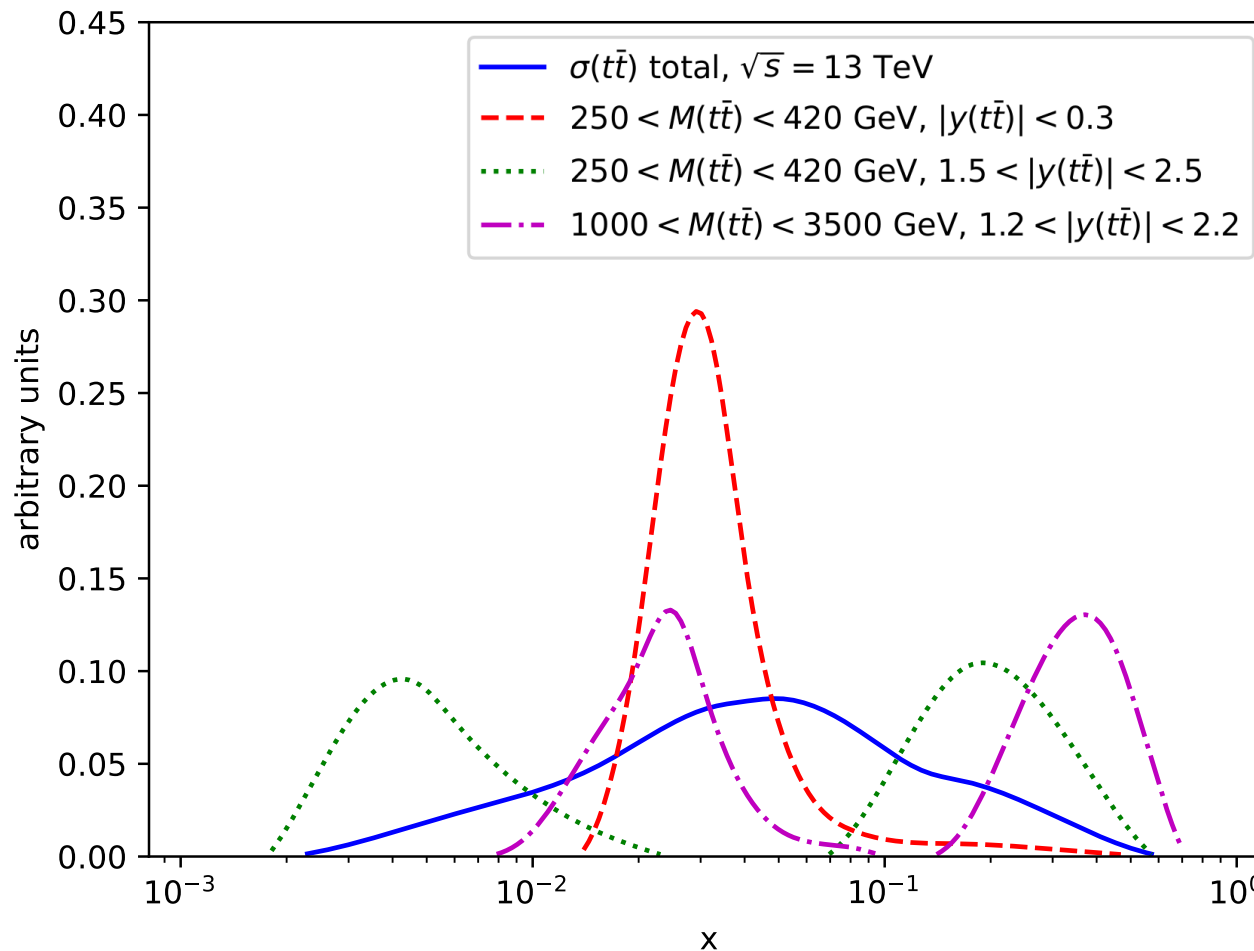


- LHC run at $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$
 - parton kinematics well covered by HERA and fixed target experiments
- Parton kinematics with $x_{1,2} = M/\sqrt{s} e^{\pm y}$
 - forward rapidities sensitive to small- x
- Cross section depends on convolution of parton distributions
 - small- x part of f_i and large- x PDFs f_j

$$\sigma_{pp \rightarrow X} = \sum_{ij} f_i(\mu^2) \otimes f_j(\mu^2) \otimes [\dots]$$

Parton kinematics of top quark data

- Parton x values for rapidity bins $y(t\bar{t})$ Alekhin, Garzelli, SM, Zenaiev '24
 - local probes of x values in parton luminosity $f_i(\mu^2) \otimes f_j(\mu^2)$



Theory status

- NNLO QCD differential predictions for top-quark pairs at the LHC
Czakon, Heymes, Mitov '15
- Top-quark pair hadroproduction at NNLO in QCD
Catani, Devoto, Grazzini, Kallweit, Mazzitelli, Sargsyan '19
 - to be implemented in future public release of **MATRIX** code
Catani, Devoto, Grazzini, Kallweit, Mazzitelli '19
- NNLO event generation for top-quark pair production
Mazzitelli, Monni, Nason, Re, Wieseemann and Zanderighi '20
- Top-pair production at the LHC with MiNNLO_PS
Mazzitelli, Monni, Nason, Re, Wieseemann and Zanderighi '21
- Narrow-width-approximation at NNLO
 - NNLO QCD corrections to leptonic observables in top-quark pair production and decay
 - implemented in private **STRIPPER** code
Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet '20

Differential cross sections (I)

Challenges

- NNLO codes not easily publicly usable/accessible
- Very long run times (few CPU years) for distributions with fixed input parameters (m_t , PDFs, ...)
- Accuracy of NNLO subtraction schemes
 - local sector subtraction (STRIPPER)
 - phase space slicing with q_T^{cut} (MATRIX)

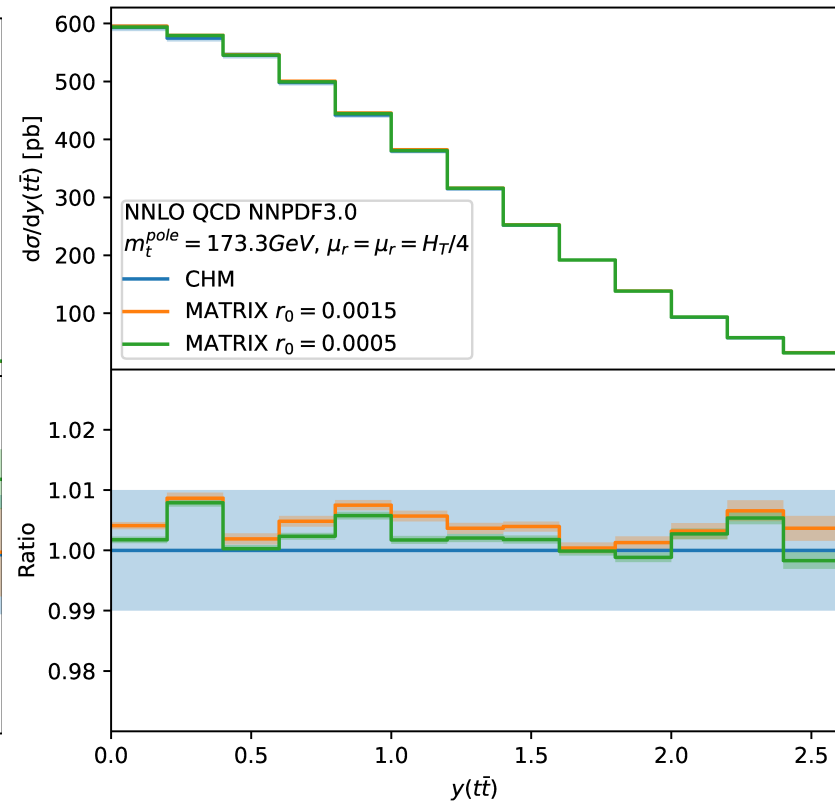
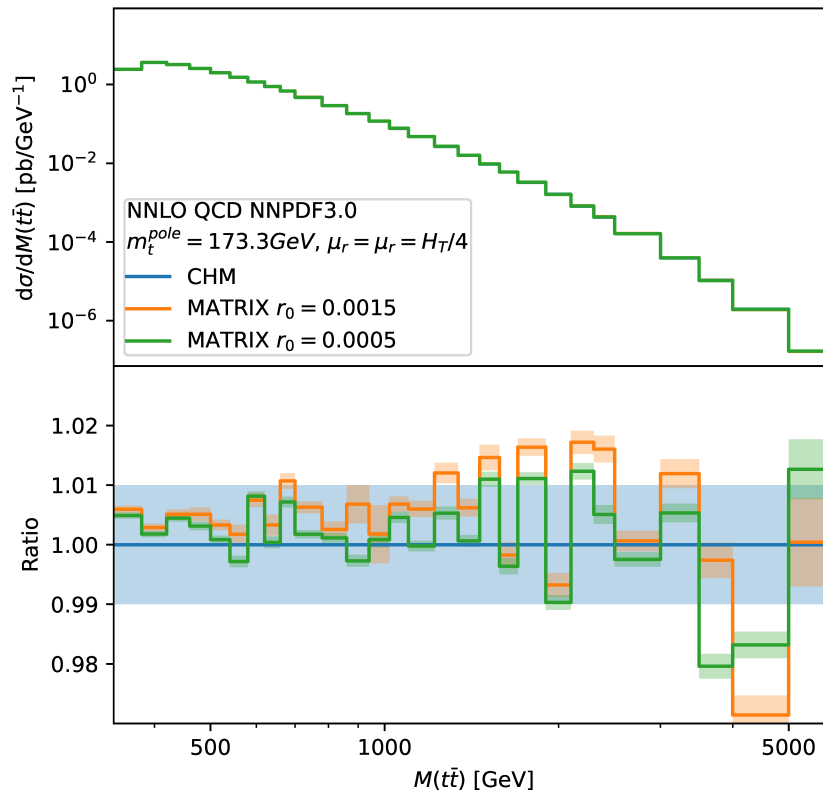
Needs

- NNLO QCD predictions for range of m_t values
- Variation of PDFs (complete set of eigenvectors)

Solution

- Customized version of MATRIX Garzelli, Mazzitelli, SM, Zenaiev '23
 - interface to PineAPPL library for storage of grids

Differential cross sections (II)



- Validation of **MATRIX** using cuts $r_0 = 0.0015$ and $r_0 = 0.0005$ with results from **Czakon, Heymes, Mitov '17** with their numerical uncertainties
- NNLO differential cross sections
 - left: for invariant mass of $t\bar{t}$ -pair
 - right: the rapidity of $t\bar{t}$ -pair

Garzelli, Mazzitelli, SM, Zenaiev '23

Differential cross sections (III)

Grids and tables

- Grids interfaced to **PineAPPL** library available on
<https://ploughshare.web.cern.ch/ploughshare/#table1-w>

xfitter-cms-ttbar-mt1650-arxiv-2108.02803
xfitter-cms-ttbar-mt1675-arxiv-2108.02803
xfitter-cms-ttbar-mt1700-arxiv-2108.02803
xfitter-cms-ttbar-mt1720-arxiv-2108.02803
xfitter-cms-ttbar-mt1750-arxiv-2108.02803
xfitter-cms-ttbar-mt1775-arxiv-2108.02803
- Tables with experimental $t\bar{t} + X$ data available through **xFitter** project
<https://gitlab.cern.ch/fitters/xfitter>

Ultimate goal

- Implementation of complete framework for **ABMP** PDF fit in **xFitter**
 - PDFs public available and reproducible

Data in global PDF fits (I)

Data sets considered in ABMP16 analysis

Alekhin, Blümlein, S.M., Placakyte '17

- Analysis of world data for deep-inelastic scattering, fixed-target data for Drell-Yan process and collider data ($W^\pm$ -, Z -bosons, top-quarks)
 - inclusive DIS data HERA, BCDMS, NMC, SLAC ($NDP = 2155$)
 - semi-inclusive DIS charm-, bottom-quark data HERA ($NDP = 81$)
 - Drell-Yan data (fixed target) E-605, E-866 ($NDP = 158$)
 - neutrino-nucleon DIS (di-muon data) CCFR/NuTeV, CHORUS, NOMAD ($NDP = 232$)
 - $W^\pm$ -, Z -boson production data D0, ATLAS, CMS, LHCb ($NDP = 172$)
 - inclusive top-quark hadro-production CDF&D0, ATLAS, CMS ($NDP = 24$)

Iterative cycle of PDF fits

- i) check of compatibility of new data set with available world data
- ii) study of potential constraints due to addition of new data set to fit
- iii) perform high precision measurement of PDFs, strong coupling $\alpha_s(M_Z)$ and heavy quark masses m_c , m_b , m_t ,

Top-quark data in ABMP fit (I)

ABMPtt PDF fit

Alekhin, Garzelli, S.M., Zenaiev '24

- New PDF fit with differential LHC top-quark data in ABMP framework
 - differential $t\bar{t} + X$ cross sections in $M(t\bar{t})$, $y(t\bar{t})$ ($NDP = 112$)
- Results
 - top-quark $\overline{\text{MS}}$ mass $m_t(m) = 160.6 \pm 0.6 \text{ GeV}$
 - pole mass $m_t(m) = 170.2 \pm 0.7 \text{ GeV}$
 - strong coupling $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1150 \pm 0.0009$

Upshot

- Good compatibility of PDFs from ABMP16tt and ABMP16
- Confirmation of gluon PDF in range $x \simeq 10^{-2}$ with reduced uncertainties compared to ABMP16
- PDFs sets available in LHAPDF for fixed number of flavors, $n_f = 3, 4, 5$

ABMPtt_3_nnlo (0+29)

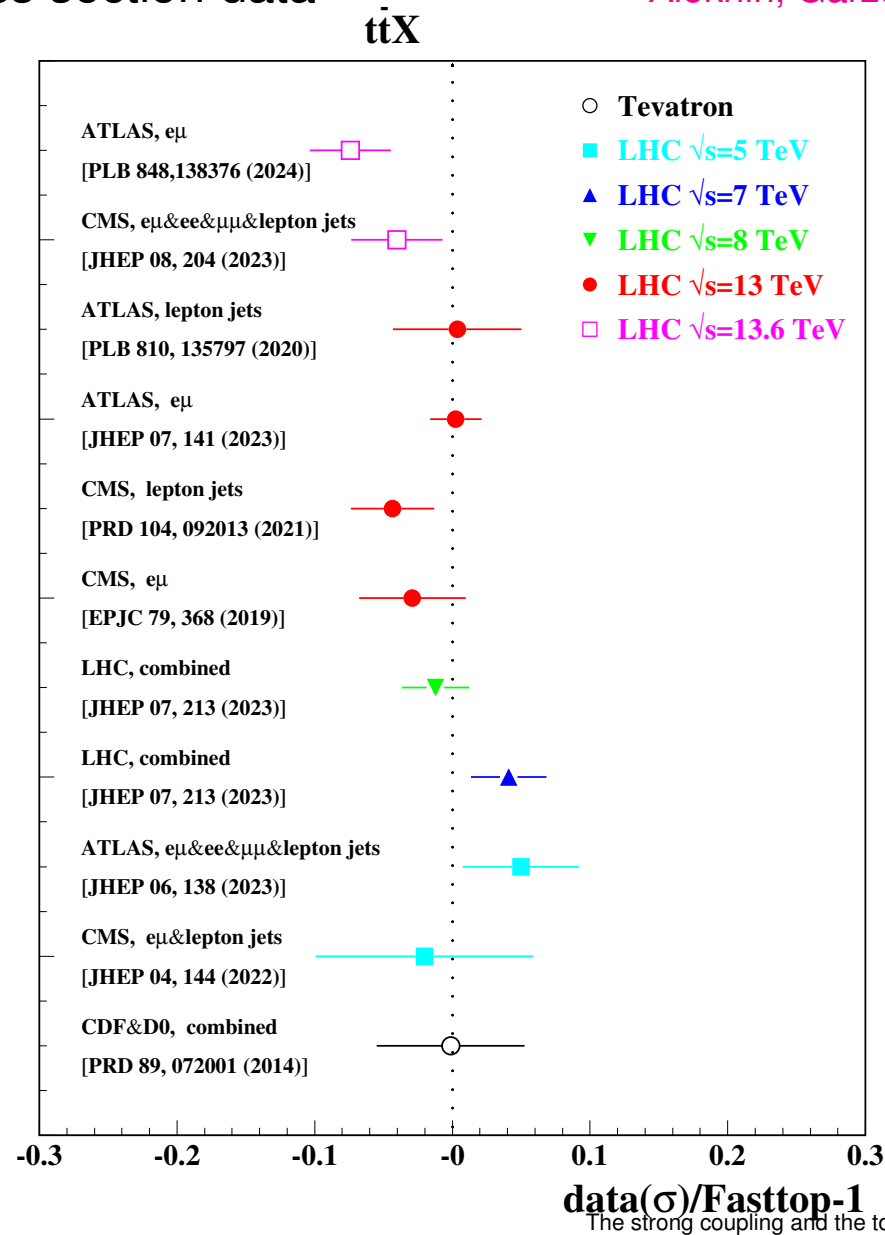
ABMPtt_4_nnlo (0+29)

ABMPtt_5_nnlo (0+29)

Top-quark data in ABMPtt fit (II)

- Pulls for total cross section data

Alekhin, Garzelli, SM, Zenaiev '24

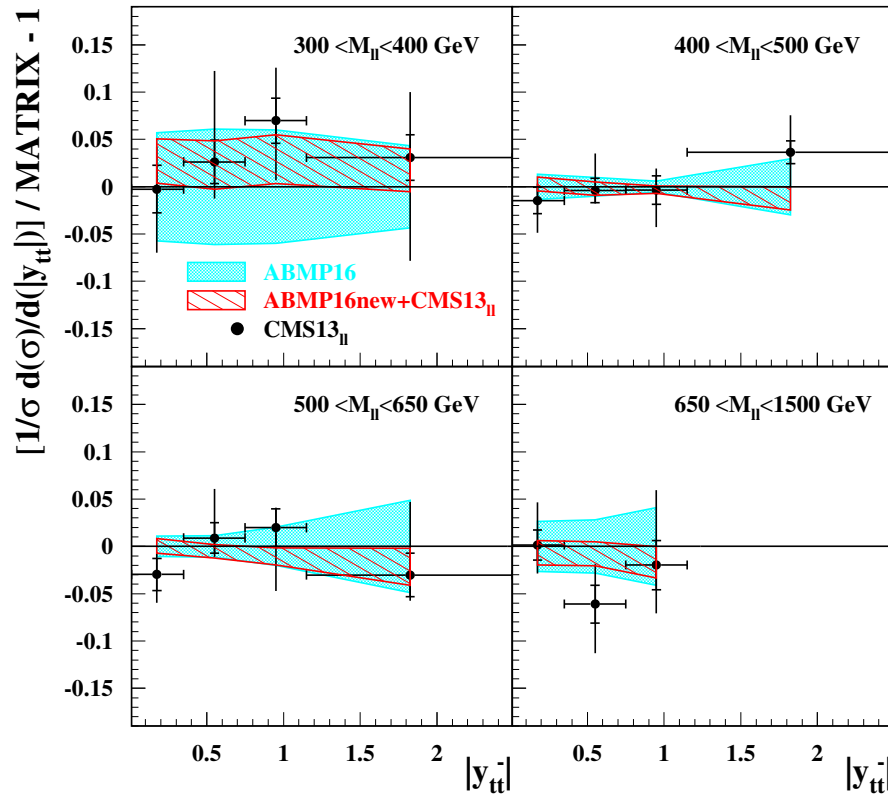


Top-quark data in ABMPtt fit (III)

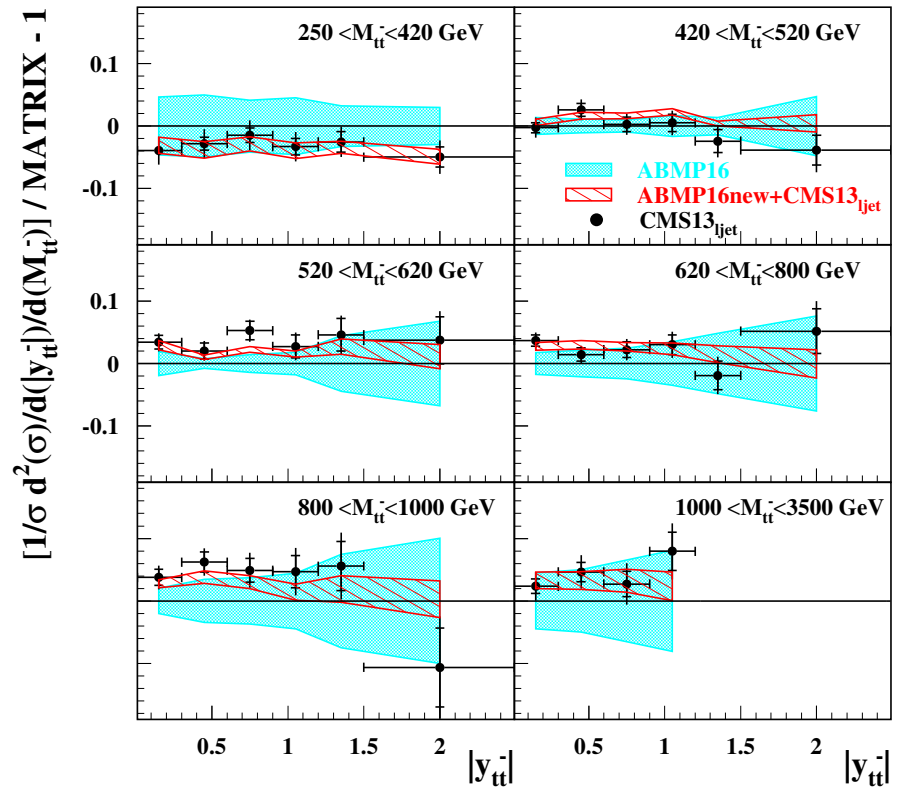
- Data from CMS

Alekhin, Garzelli, SM, Zenaiev '24

CMS ($\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV, 36 fb^{-1} , $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}X \rightarrow l^+\bar{l}X$) 1904.05237



CMS ($\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV, 137 fb^{-1} , $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}X \rightarrow l\text{jet}X$) 2108.02803

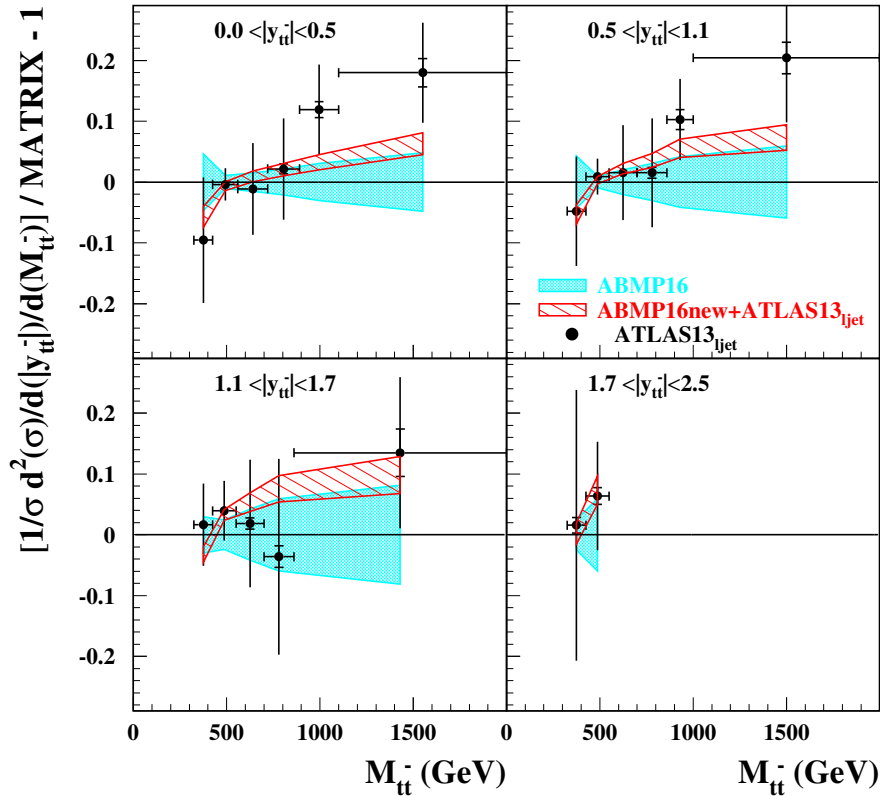


Top-quark data in ABMPtt fit (IV)

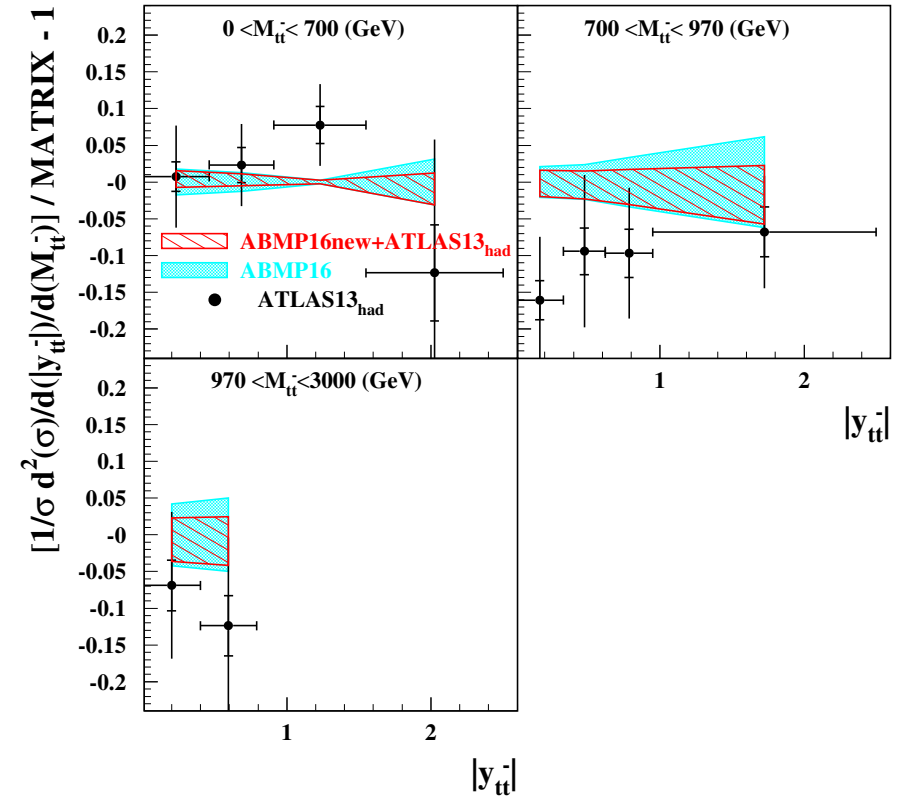
- Data from ATLAS

Alekhin, Garzelli, SM, Zenaiev '24

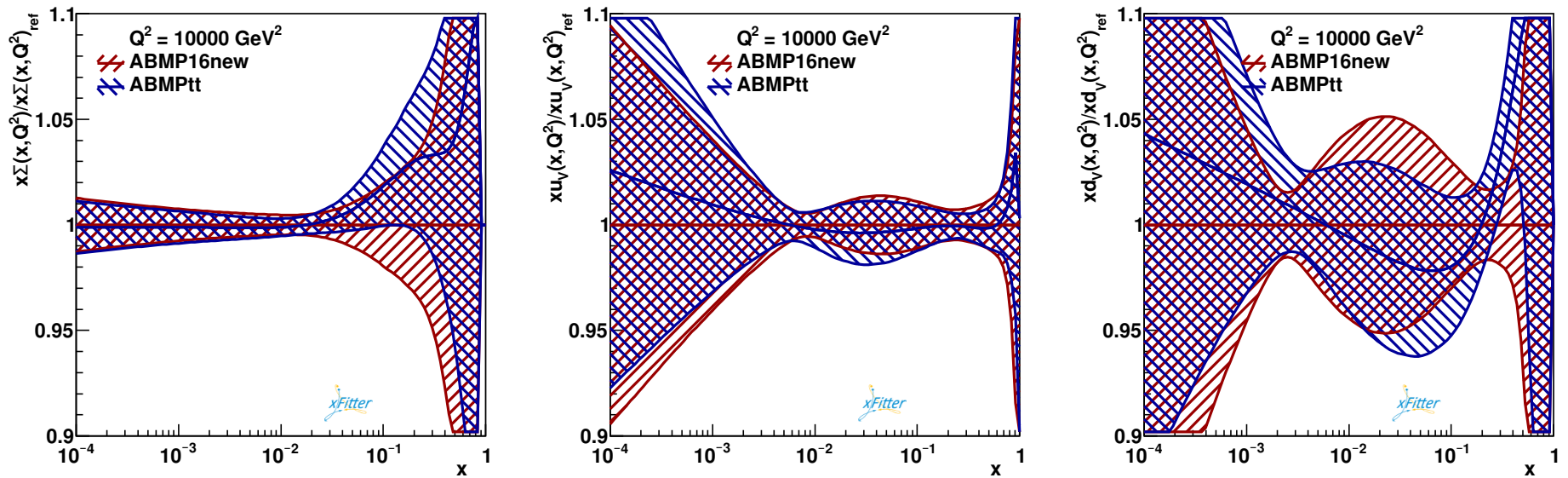
ATLAS ($\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV, 36 fb^{-1} , $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}X \rightarrow l\text{jet}X$) 1908.07305



ATLAS ($\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV, 36 fb^{-1} , $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}X \rightarrow \text{hadrons}X$) 2006.09274

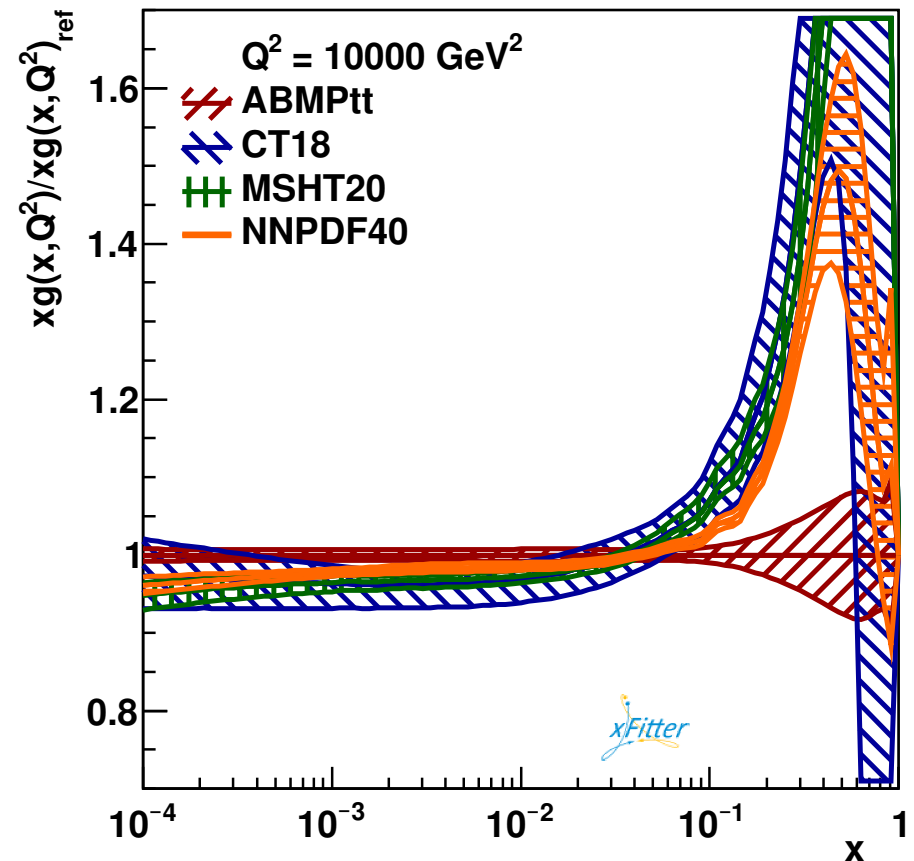
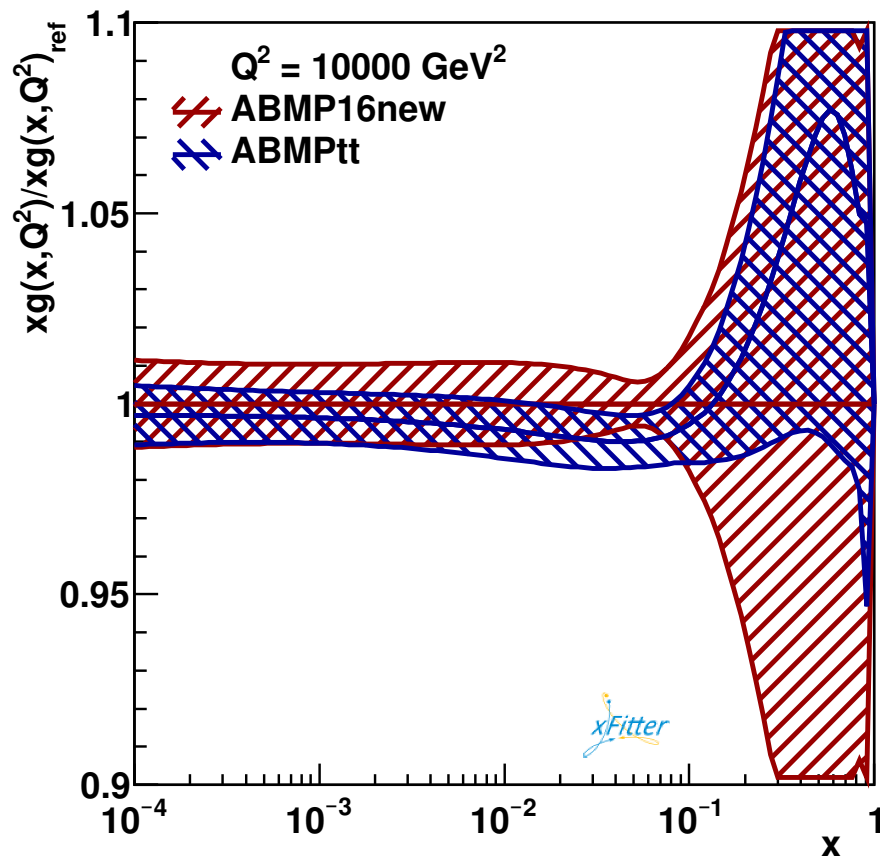


ABMPtt PDFs (I)



- Ratio of PDFs (sea-quark, valence up- and down-quark) at scale $Q = 100 \text{ GeV}$ for $n_f = 5$
 - fit **ABMP16tt** vs. **ABMP16**

ABMPtt PDFs (II)



- Ratio of gluon PDF at scale $Q = 100 \text{ GeV}$ for $n_f = 5$
 - fit ABMP16tt vs. ABMP16 $\rightarrow$ confirmation of gluon PDF
 - comparison to different PDF sets CT18, MHST20, NNPDF4.0

Strong coupling

Strong coupling (I)

Essential facts

- $\alpha_s(M_Z)$ from e^+e^- data high
- $\alpha_s(M_Z)$ from DIS data low
- NLO QCD theory
- World average 1992
 $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.117 \pm 0.004$

Bethke, Catani CERN TH-6484/92

Process	Ref.	Q [GeV]	$\alpha_s(Q)$	$\alpha_s(M_{Z^0})$	$\Delta\alpha_s(M_{Z^0})$ exp. theor.		order of perturb.
1 R_τ [LEP]	[7-10]	1.78	$0.318 \pm^{+0.048}_{-0.039}$	$0.117 \pm^{+0.006}_{-0.005}$	$\pm^{+0.003}_{-0.004}$	$\pm^{+0.005}_{-0.004}$	NNLO
2 R_τ [world]	[2]	1.78	0.32 ± 0.04	$0.118 \pm^{+0.004}_{-0.006}$	–	–	NNLO
3 DIS [ν]	[3]	5.0	$0.193 \pm^{+0.019}_{-0.018}$	$0.111 \pm^{+0.006}_{-0.007}$	$\pm^{+0.004}_{-0.006}$	0.004	NLO
4 DIS [μ]	[12]	7.1	0.180 ± 0.014	0.113 ± 0.005	0.003	0.004	NLO
5 $J/\Psi, \Upsilon$ decay	[4]	10.0	$0.167 \pm^{+0.015}_{-0.011}$	$0.113 \pm^{+0.007}_{-0.005}$	–	–	NLO
6 e^+e^- [σ_{had}]	[14]	34.0	0.163 ± 0.022	0.135 ± 0.015	–	–	NNLO
7 e^+e^- [shapes]	[15]	35.0	0.14 ± 0.02	0.119 ± 0.014	–	–	NLO
8 $p\bar{p} \rightarrow b\bar{b}X$	[11]	20.0	$0.136 \pm^{+0.025}_{-0.024}$	$0.108 \pm^{+0.015}_{-0.014}$	0.006	$\pm^{+0.014}_{-0.013}$	NLO
9 $p\bar{p} \rightarrow W$ jets	[13]	80.6	0.123 ± 0.027	0.121 ± 0.026	0.018	0.020	NLO
10 $\Gamma(Z^0 \rightarrow had.)$	[5]	91.2	0.133 ± 0.012	0.133 ± 0.012	0.012	$\pm^{+0.003}_{-0.001}$	NNLO
11 Z^0 ev. shapes							
ALEPH	[7]	91.2	$0.119 \pm^{+0.008}_{-0.010}$		–	–	NLO
DELPHI	[8]	91.2	0.113 ± 0.007		0.002	0.007	NLO
L3	[9]	91.2	0.118 ± 0.010		–	–	NLO
OPAL	[10]	91.2	$0.122 \pm^{+0.006}_{-0.005}$		0.001	$\pm^{+0.006}_{-0.005}$	NLO
SLD	[6]	91.2	$0.120 \pm^{+0.015}_{-0.013}$		0.009	$\pm^{+0.012}_{-0.009}$	NLO
Average	[6-10]	91.2		0.119 ± 0.006	0.001	0.006	NLO
12 Z^0 ev. shapes							
ALEPH	[7]	91.2	0.125 ± 0.005		0.002	0.004	resum.
DELPHI	[8]	91.2	0.122 ± 0.006		0.002	0.006	resum.
L3	[9]	91.2	0.126 ± 0.009		0.003	0.008	resum.
OPAL	[10]	91.2	$0.122 \pm^{+0.003}_{-0.006}$		0.001	$\pm^{+0.003}_{-0.006}$	resum.
Average	[7-10]	91.2		0.123 ± 0.005	0.001	0.005	resum.

Table 1: Summary of measurements of α_s . For details see text.

Strong coupling (II)

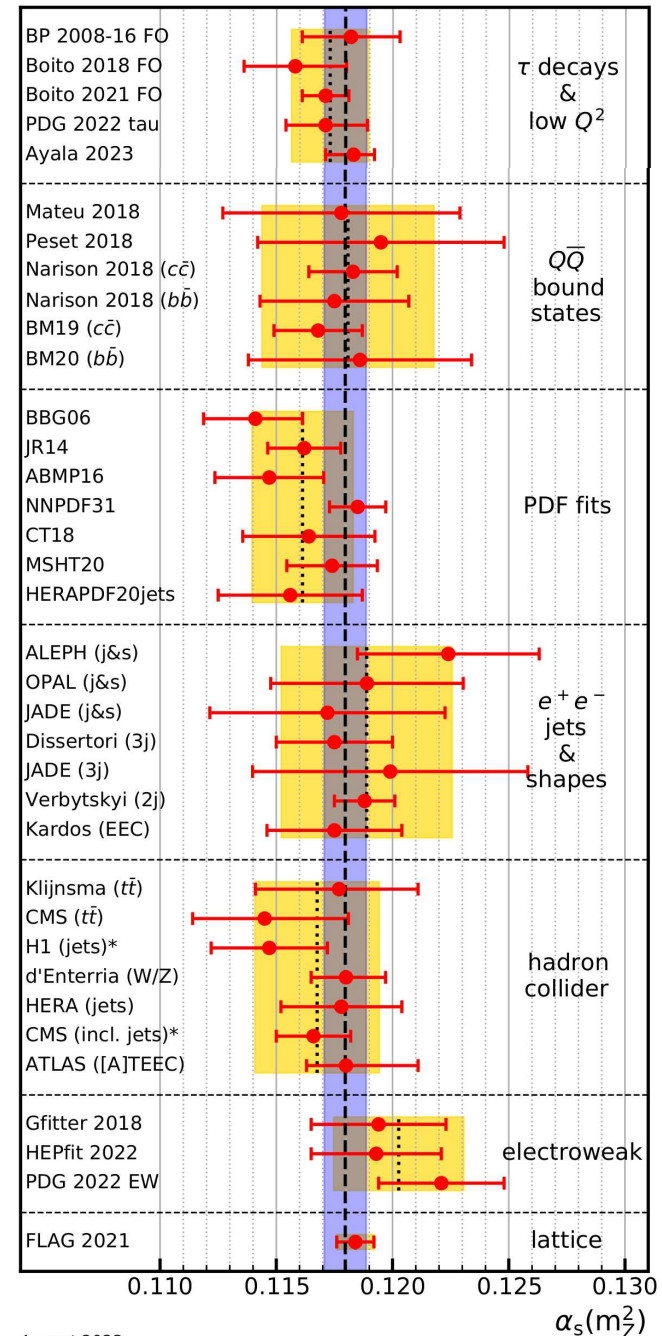
α_s 2024

- $\alpha_s(M_Z)$ from e^+e^- data high
- $\alpha_s(M_Z)$ from DIS data low
- NNLO QCD theory + lattice

FCC-ee

- Potential of FCC-ee:
 $\alpha_s(M_Z)$ at 1% precision

PDG 2024



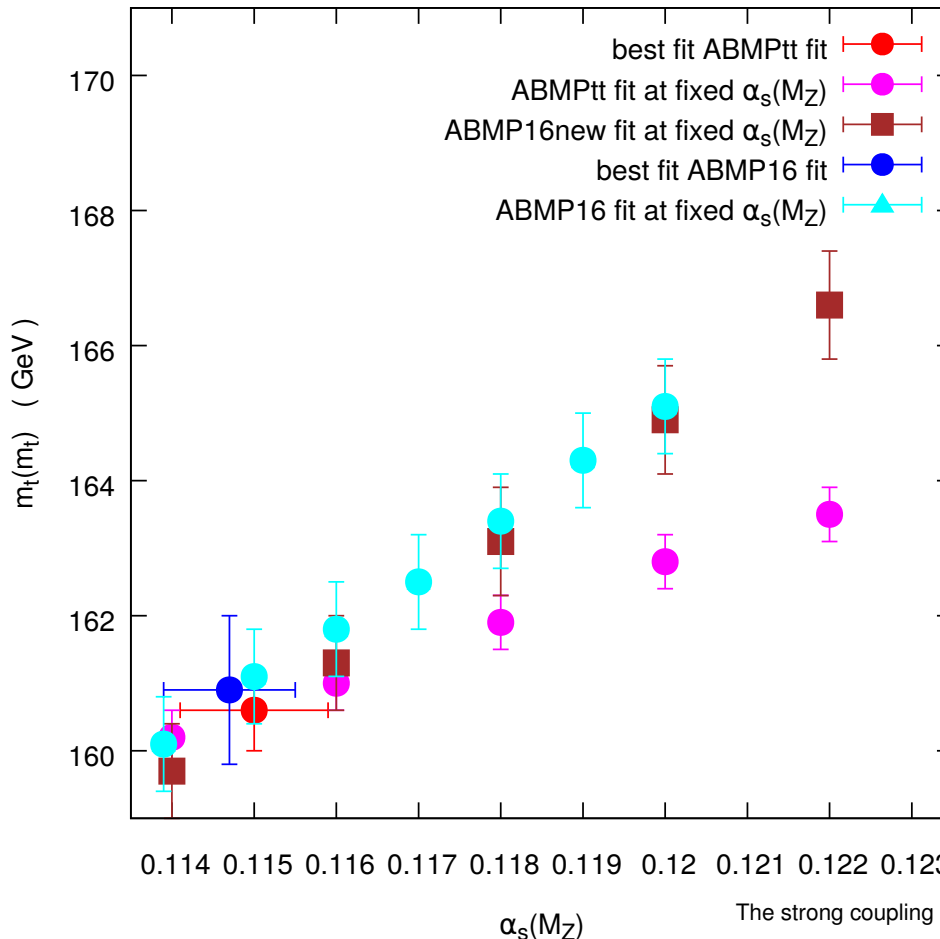
Strong coupling (III)

- Correlation of $\alpha_s(M_Z)$ and m_t values

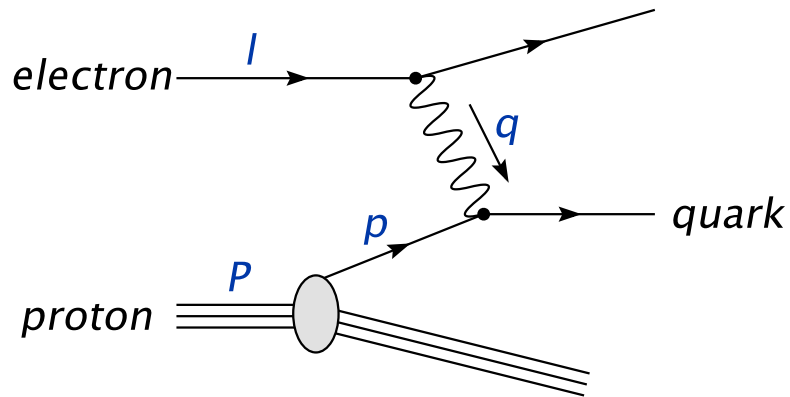
Alekhin, Garzelli, SM, Zenaiev '24

- full correlations with PDFs need to be taken into account
- data on differential $t\bar{t} + X$ cross sections decreases correlation
- best fit in ABMPtt:

$$\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1150 \pm 0.0009 \text{ and } m_t = 170.2 \pm 0.7 \text{ GeV}$$



Theory description of deep-inelastic scattering



Kinematic variables

- momentum transfer $Q^2 = -q^2$
- Bjorken variable $x = Q^2 / (2p \cdot q)$

- Structure functions (up to order $\mathcal{O}(1/Q^2)$)

$$F_a(x, Q^2) = \sum_i [C_{a,i}(\alpha_s(\mu^2), \mu^2/Q^2) \otimes PDF(\mu^2)](x)$$

- Perturbative expansion of coefficient functions up to **N³LO**

$$C_{a,i} = \alpha_s^n \left(c_{a,i}^{(0)} + \alpha_s c_{a,i}^{(1)} + \alpha_s^2 c_{a,i}^{(2)} + \alpha_s^3 c_{a,i}^{(3)} + \dots \right)$$

- Application to DIS data requires careful consideration of kinematic region in Q^2 and x
 - invariant mass of the hadronic system $W^2 = M_P^2 + Q^2(1 - x)/x$
 - cuts $W^2 \geq 12.5 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $Q^2 \geq 2.5 \div 10 \text{ GeV}^2$

- Additional corrections for $F_a(x, Q^2)$ necessary dependent on cuts
 - higher twist and target mass corrections

Higher twist

- Operator product expansion predicts infinite tower of $(1/Q^2)^n$ of power corrections (higher twist terms)
- Physical interpretation as multi-parton correlations
- Higher twist terms modify structure functions (up to order $\mathcal{O}(1/Q^4)$)

$$F_i^{\text{ht}}(x, Q^2) = F_i^{\text{TMC}}(x, Q^2) + \frac{H_i^{\tau=4}(x)}{Q^2}, \quad i = 2, T$$

Target mass corrections

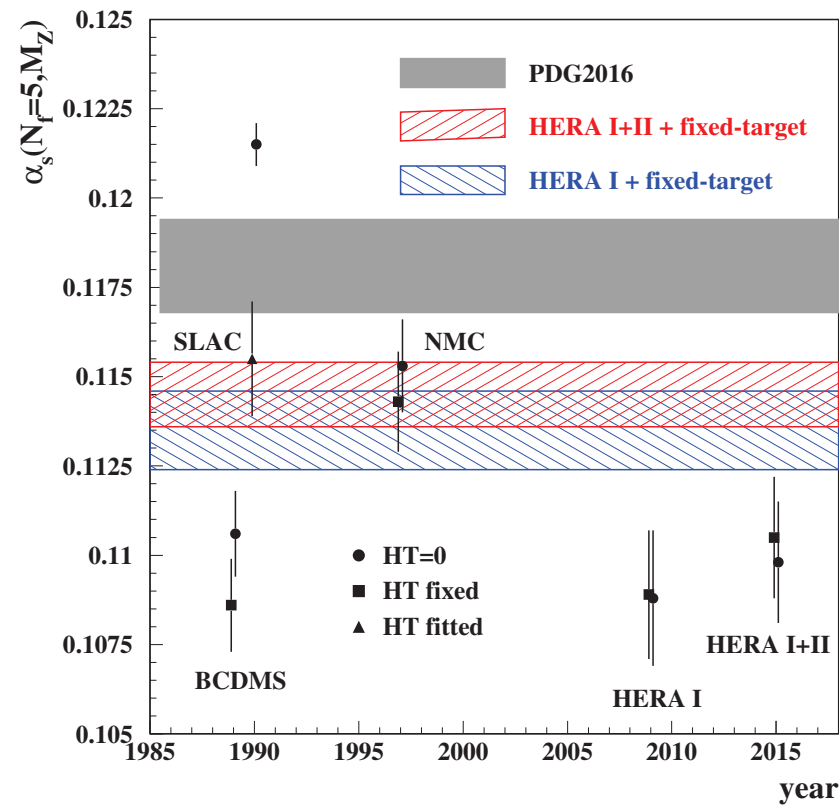
- Finite nucleon mass leads to target mass corrections up to $\mathcal{O}(M_N^2/Q^2)$

$$F_2^{\text{TMC}}(x, Q^2) = \frac{x^2}{\xi^2 \gamma^3} F_2(\xi, Q^2) + 6 \frac{x^3 M_N^2}{Q^2 \gamma^4} \int_{\xi}^1 \frac{d\xi'}{\xi'^2} F_2(\xi', Q^2)$$

- kinematic variable $\xi = 2x/(1 + \gamma)$
- Nachtmann variable $\gamma = (1 + 4x^2 M_N^2/Q^2)^{1/2}$

Impact on α_s determinations

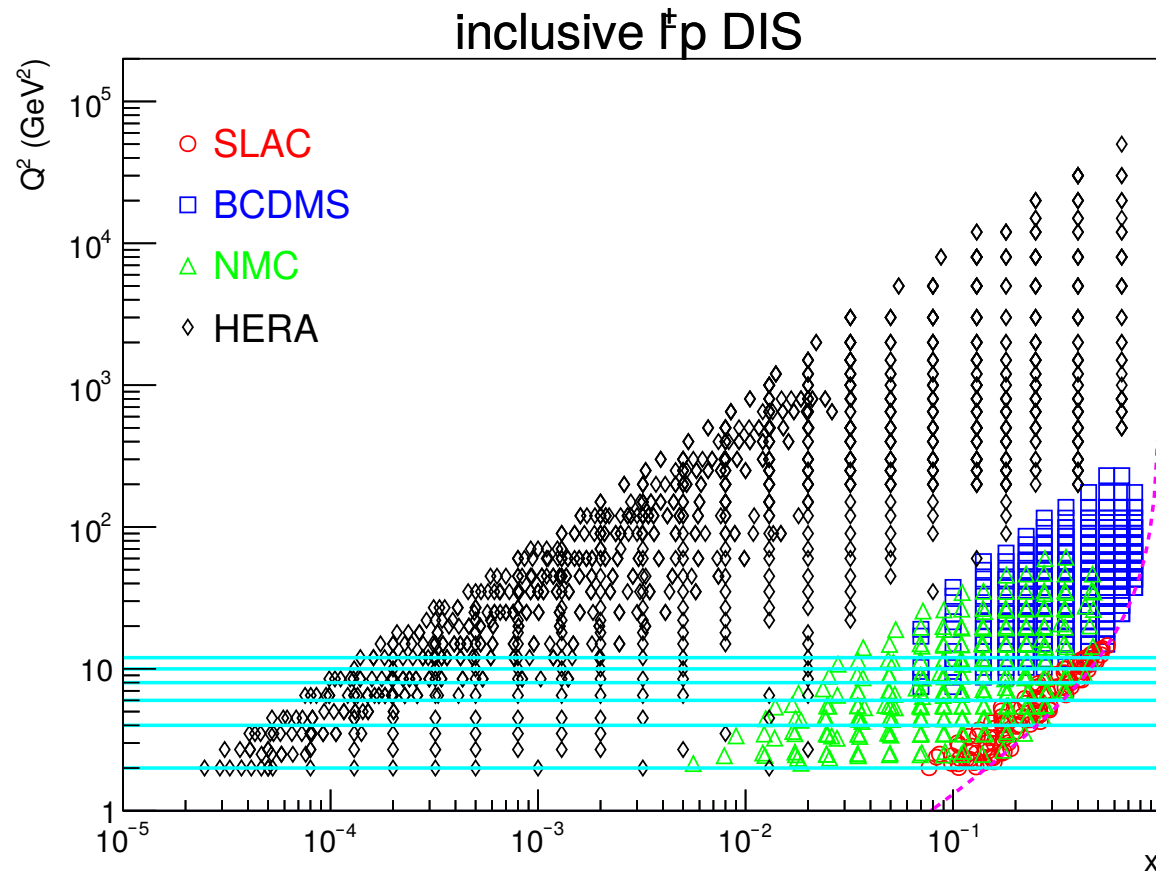
- Correlation of errors among different data DIS sets
- Target mass corrections (powers of nucleon mass M_N^2/Q^2)
- Variants with no higher twist give larger α_s values Alekhin, Blümlein, S.M. '17



- Theoretical uncertainty of α_s at NNLO from DIS data $\gtrsim \mathcal{O}(1 \dots 2)\%$

Kinematics of world DIS data

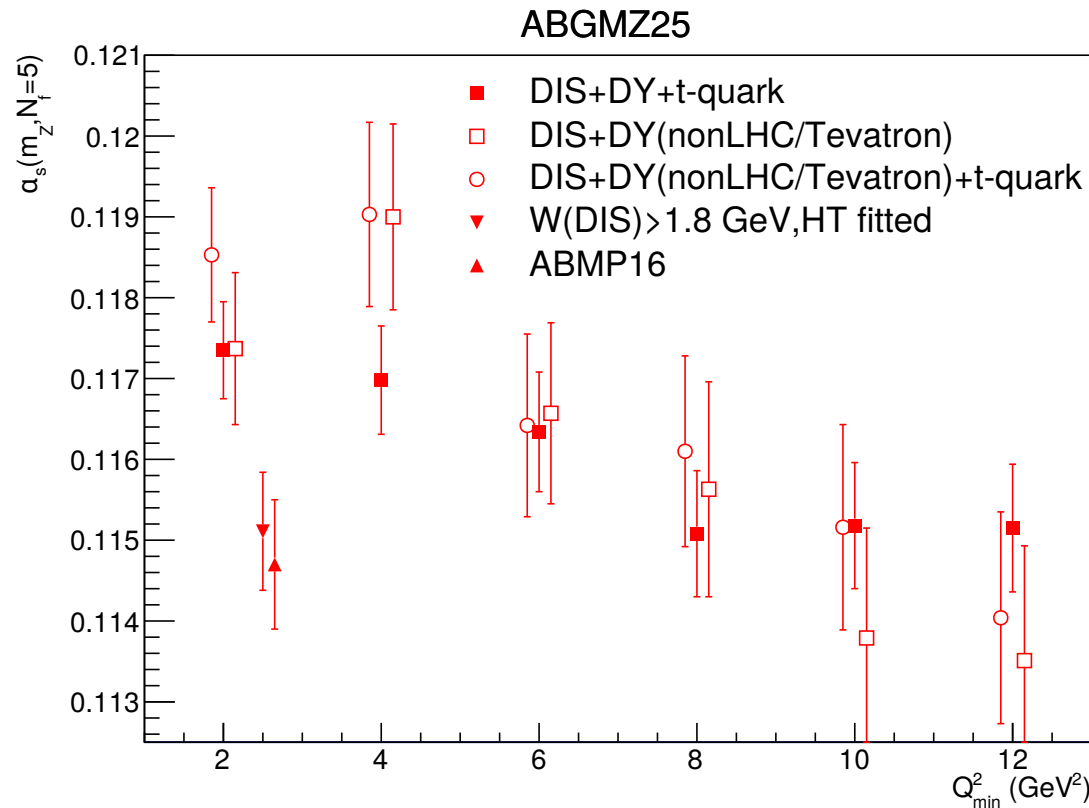
- World DIS data with cuts on kinematics



- cuts $W^2 \geq 12.5 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $Q^2 \geq 2 \div 12 \text{ GeV}^2$

Strong coupling from high energy data

- Strong coupling as a function of cut on Q^2
 - fit of $\alpha_s(M_Z)$ without higher twist corrections in DIS



- Sensitivity to higher twist terms reduced for larger cuts $Q^2 \geq 10 \text{ GeV}^2$
- Strong coupling $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1152 \pm 0.0008$ with cut $Q^2 \geq 10 \text{ GeV}^2$

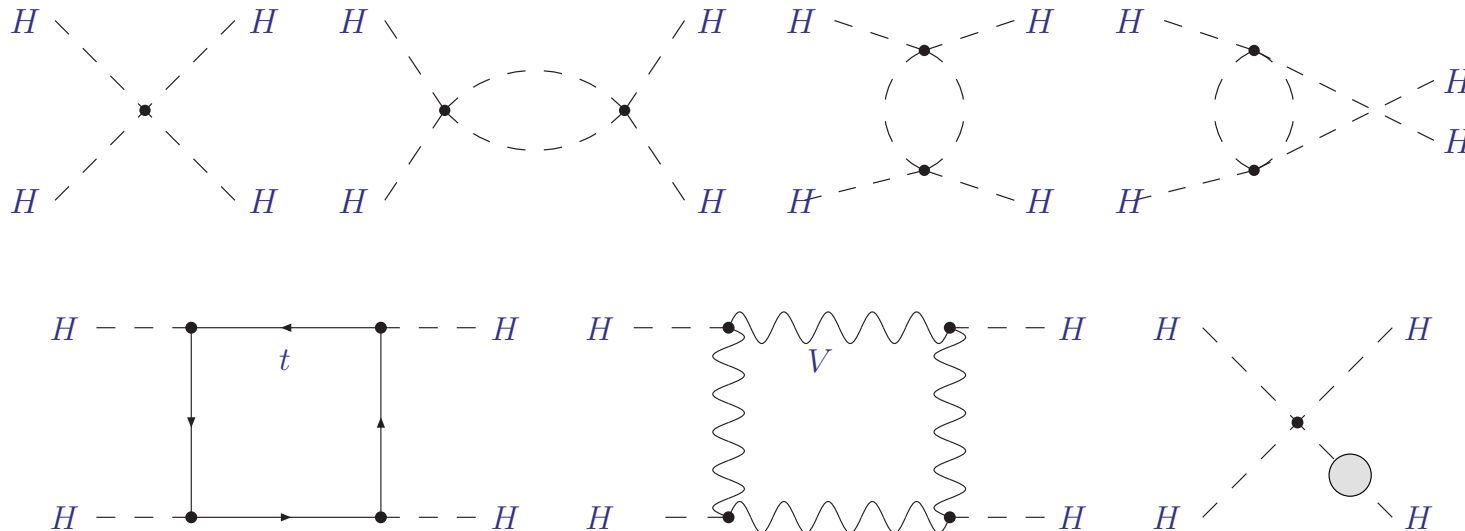
Physics implications

Higgs potential

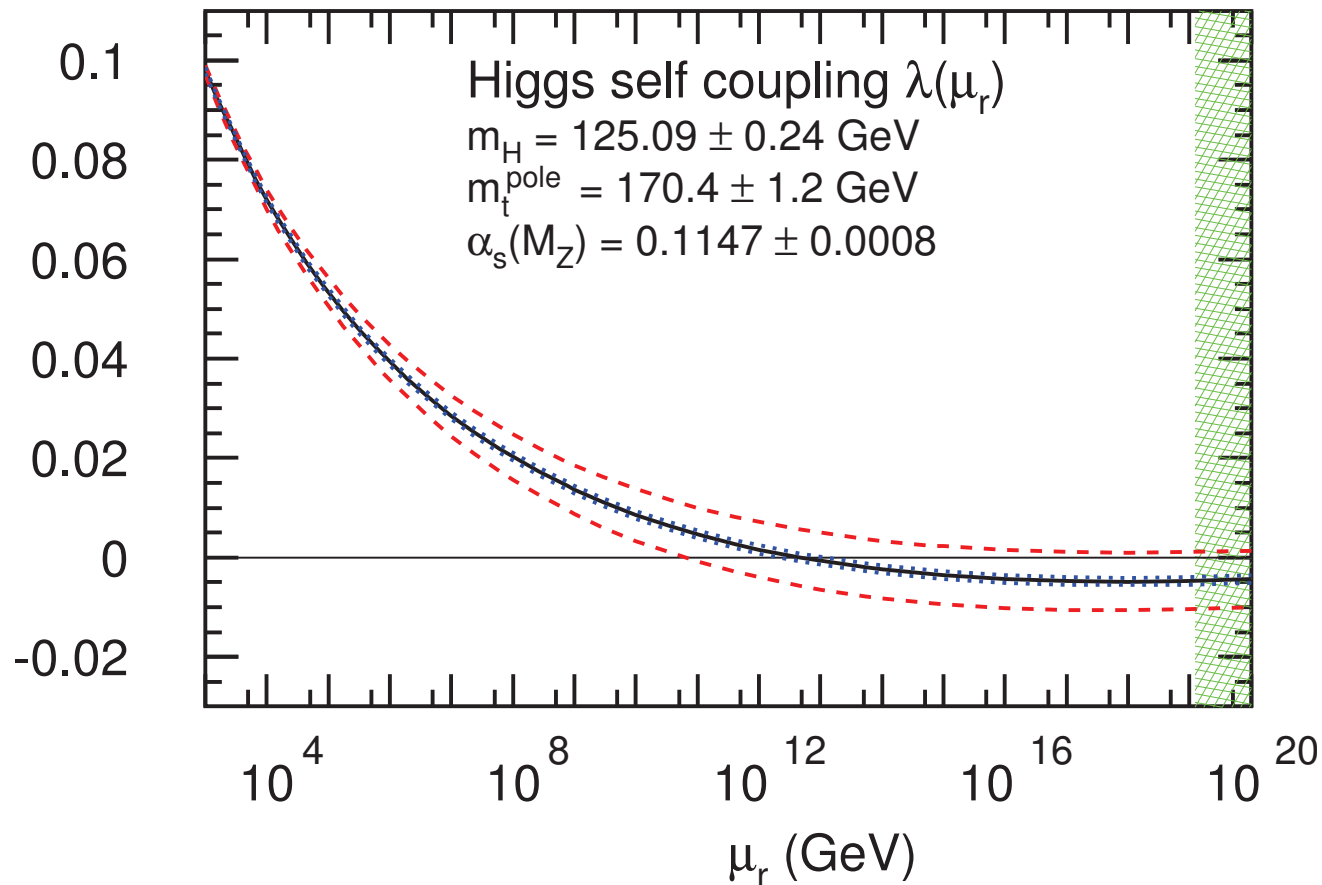
Renormalization group equation

- Quantum corrections to Higgs potential $V(\Phi) = \lambda \left| \Phi^\dagger \Phi - \frac{v}{2} \right|^2$
- Radiative corrections to Higgs self-coupling λ
 - electro-weak couplings g and g' of $SU(2)$ and $U(1)$
 - top-Yukawa coupling y_t

$$16\pi^2 \frac{d\lambda}{dQ} = 24\lambda^2 - (3g'^2 + 9g^2 - 12y_t^2) \lambda + \frac{3}{8}g'^4 + \frac{3}{4}g'^2 g^2 + \frac{9}{8}g^4 - 6y_t^4 + \dots$$



Higgs self-coupling



- Renormalization group evolution of λ with uncertainties in m_H , m_t and α_s up to $\mu_r = M_{\text{Planck}}$ (using program mr [Kniehl, Pikelner, Veretin '16](#))
 - top-quark mass least precise parameter
- $\lambda(\mu_r = M_{\text{Planck}}) \simeq 0$ implies “fate of universe” may not be fatal, after all

Summary

- Experimental precision of $\lesssim 1\%$ makes theoretical predictions at NNLO in QCD mandatory
 - theoretical predictions at NNLO in QCD nowadays standard
- Need public NNLO QCD codes for Standard Model processes in hadro-production (incl. benchmarking)
- Precision studies of hadron structure
 - dedicated analysis of experimental data
 - correlations of PDFs with $\alpha_s(M_Z)$ and top-quark mass extraction
- New **ABMPt** PDF fit
 - confirmation of gluon PDF in x -range of LHC kinematics
- New $\alpha_s(M_Z)$ extraction with cuts on Q^2
 - kinematic cuts eliminate sensitivity to higher twist terms

Future tasks

- Joint effort theory and experiment