

# Measuring $\alpha_s$ with jets

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Physics 290e Seminar, Fall 2023

# The strong coupling constant

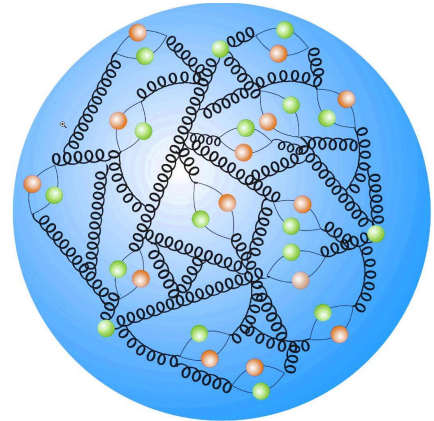
- “Strength of interactions between quarks and gluons”
- Only free parameter in the QCD Lagrangian, besides quark masses

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_q \bar{\psi}_{q,a} (i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \delta_{ab} - \underbrace{g_s \gamma^\mu t_{ab}^C}_{\text{color rotation term (from quark-gluon interaction)}} \mathcal{A}_\mu^C - m_q \delta_{ab}) \psi_{q,b} - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^A F^{A\mu\nu}$$

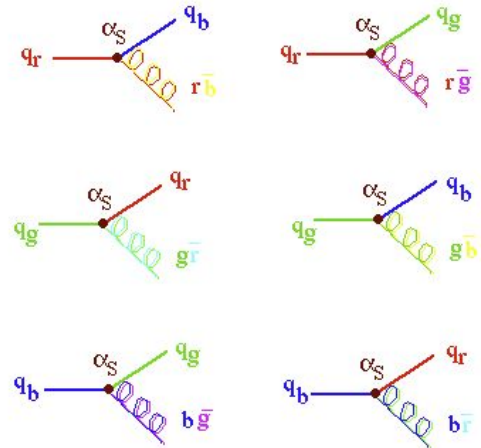
$$\alpha_s = \frac{g_s^2}{4\pi}$$

Strong coupling constant

QCD coupling constant



- QCD predictions often given in terms of  $\alpha_s(\mu_R^2)$  for some (unphysical) renormalization scale  $\mu_R$
- $\alpha_s(\mu_R^2 \simeq Q^2)$  = effective strength of strong interaction for the process
- $\mu_R^2 = M_Z^2$  (Z boson mass) often the choice



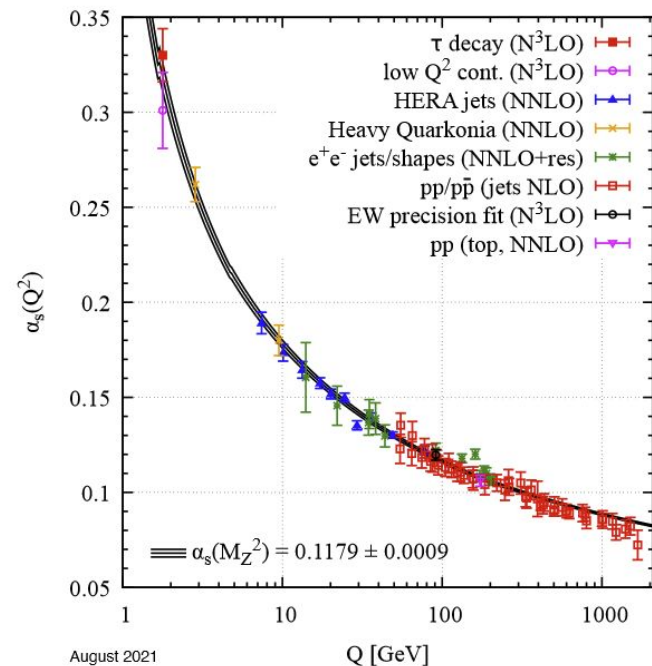
# “Running” of the strong coupling constant

- $\alpha_s$  varies (“runs”) with energy scale of interaction,  $Q^2$
- The Beta function gives the behavior of a coupling parameter ‘g’ as a function of interaction energy scale ‘Q’
- In some non-abelian gauge theories, the beta function can be negative
- “Asymptotic freedom” discovered for QCD in 1973 by David Gross, Frank Wilczek, David Politzer (2004 Physics Nobel)

$$\alpha_s(Q^2) = \frac{g_s^2(Q^2)}{4\pi} \approx \frac{1}{\beta_0 \ln(Q^2/\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2)}$$

$$\mu_R^2 \frac{d\alpha_s}{d\mu_R^2} = \beta(\alpha_s) = -(b_0\alpha_s^2 + b_1\alpha_s^3 + b_2\alpha_s^4 + \dots)$$

- Low energies -> stronger coupling -> confinement
- High energies -> weaker coupling -> perturbative calculations



[Phys. Rev. Lett. 30, 1343,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 30, 1346,  
Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2022, 083C01 (2022)]

# Examples of $\alpha_s(\mu_R^2)$ in QCD predictions

Fully inclusive cross-sections for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$

$$\frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}, Q)}{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-, Q)} \equiv R(Q) = R_{\text{EW}}(Q)(1 + \delta_{\text{QCD}}(Q))$$

Correction for QCD effects  
Expressed for arbitrary scale  $\mu_R$   
Independent of choice

$$\delta_{\text{QCD}}(Q) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \bar{c}_n \left( \frac{\mu_R^2}{Q^2} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_R^2)}{\pi} \right)^n + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{\Lambda^4}{Q^4} \right)$$

Deep-inelastic scattering for  $ep \rightarrow e + X$

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dx dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{2xQ^4} \left[ (1 + (1 - y)^2) F_2(x, Q^2) - y^2 F_L(x, Q^2) \right]$$

$$F_2(x, Q^2) = x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha_s^n(\mu_R^2)}{(2\pi)^n} \sum_{i=q,g} \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} C_{2,i}^{(n)}(z, Q^2, \mu_R^2, \mu_F^2) f_{i/p} \left( \frac{x}{z}, \mu_F^2 \right) + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{Q^2} \right)$$

Structure function  $F_2$  is a series in powers of  $\alpha_s(\mu_R^2)$

Incalculable from first principles, but calculable when PDFs  $f_{i/p}$  are known

# Measuring $\alpha_s$

- Not directly observable, or calculable from first principles
  - Theory prediction + experimentally measured observables needed

## Experimental cross section

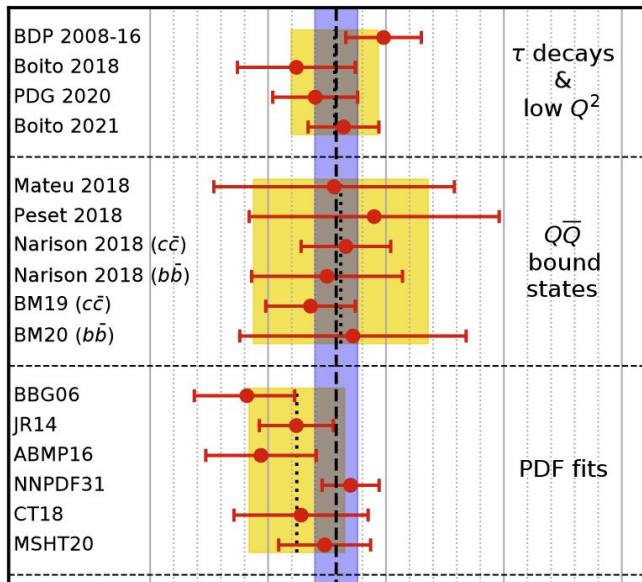
## Theoretical cross section

### $\alpha_s$ extraction plan

- 1) Pick your favorite observable
- 2) Get a pQCD prediction of it in terms of  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  as a free parameter, PDFs
- 3) Apply non-perturbative corrections
- 4) Go measure the observable in a collider experiment
- 5) Construct  $\chi^2$  comparison of data and theory, minimize it wrt  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$
- 6) Evolve  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  with the renormalization group eqn to find  $\alpha_s(Q^2)$

- Uncertainties in both theory calculation and experiment propagate to central value

# Manyyyy ways to extract...



- Tau hadronic decays, spectral functions
- precise at  $M \sim \tau$  mass
- N3LO predictions

- Heavy quarkonia decay predictions
- NNLO

Electron-positron annihilation measured around  $M_Z$  peak  
Re-analyzed LEP2 with NNLO

- Analyzing structure functions at NNLO
- Combined with hadron collider data

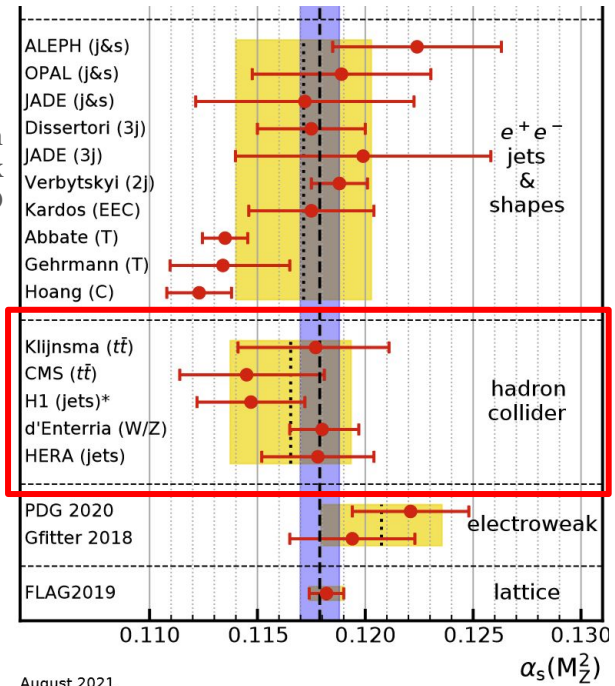
Jet observable and  $t\bar{t}$  production  
Hadron colliders, precise at mid-to-high energy scales

LHC top quark and W mass measurements

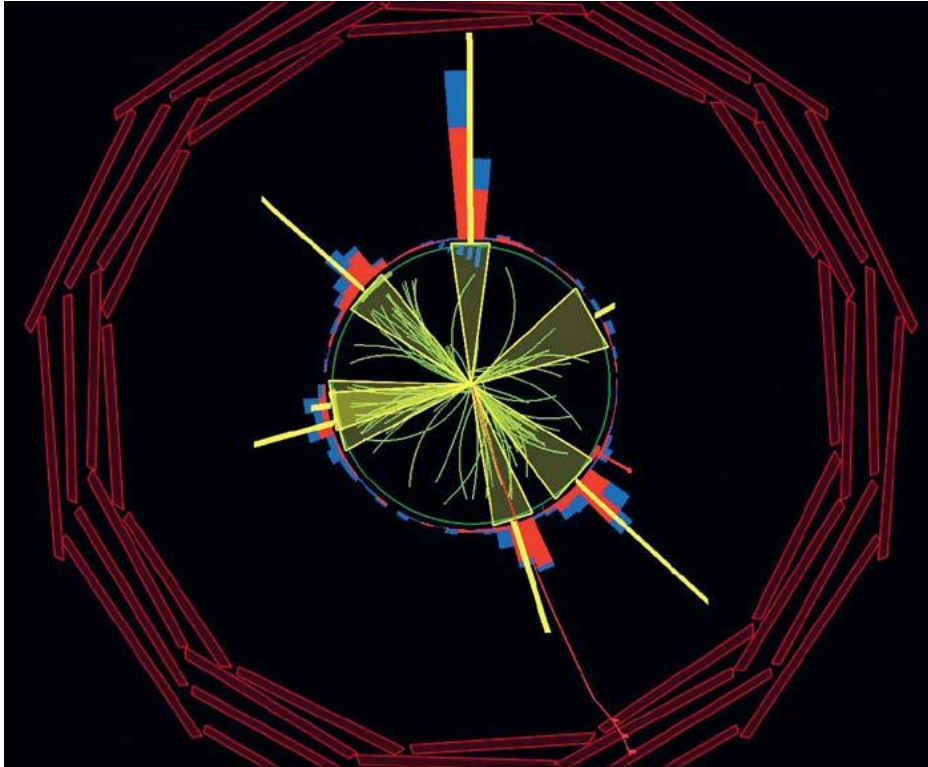
Lattice QCD prediction

$$\alpha_s(M_Z^2) = 0.1179 \pm 0.0009.$$

(PDG world average)

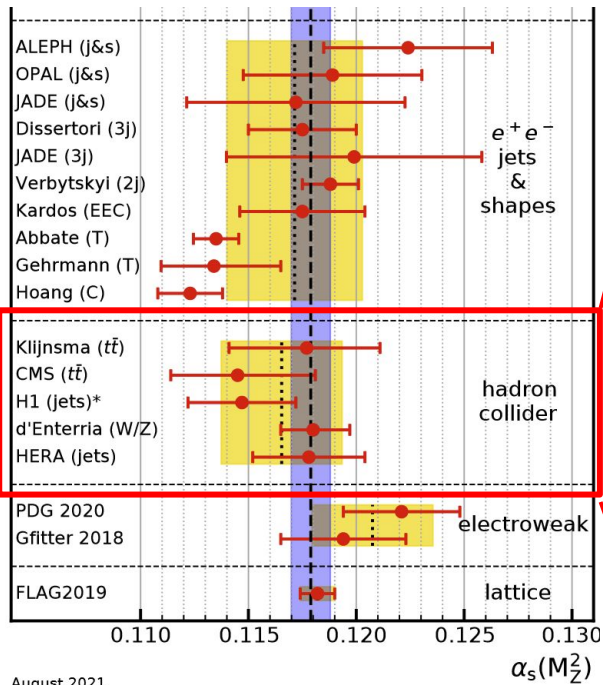


# Why jets?

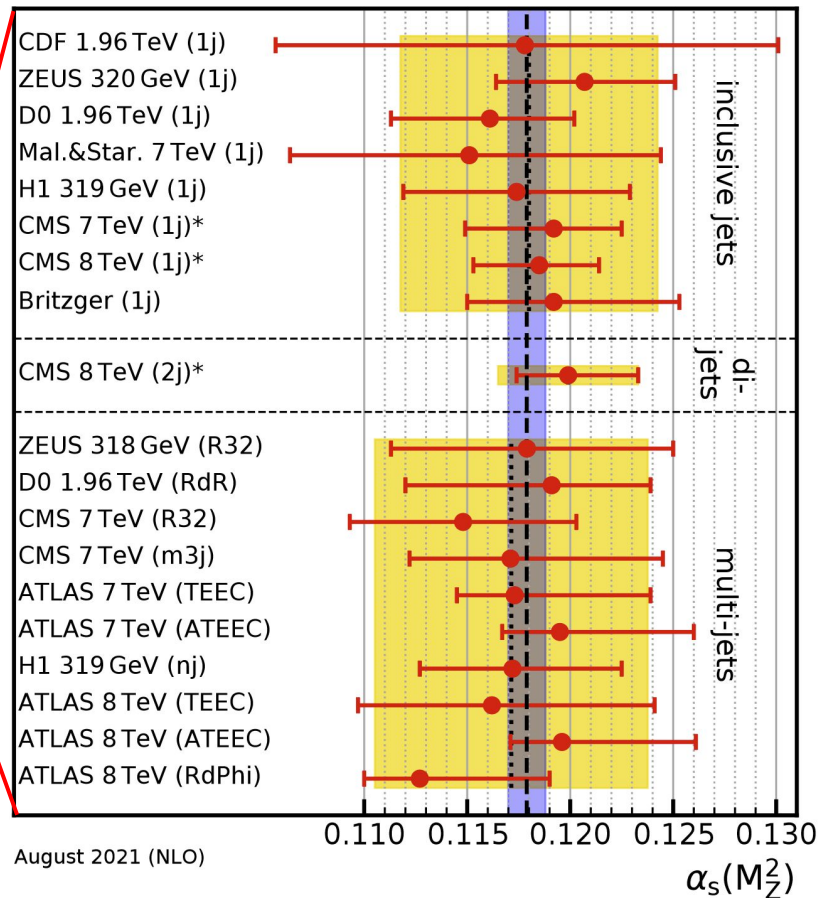


- Sensitive to pQCD effects in general
- Cross sections straight forward to measure in collider experiments
- Precise constraint on  $\alpha_s(Q^2)$  at high energy scales O(100 GeV - 10 TeV)
- Possible to fit PDF and  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  simultaneously
- NNLO calculation available for increasingly more jet observables
- Jet observables typically well described by pQCD calculations over full accessible range (as opposed to event shape observables)

# Using jets to extract $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$ , NLO theory prediction



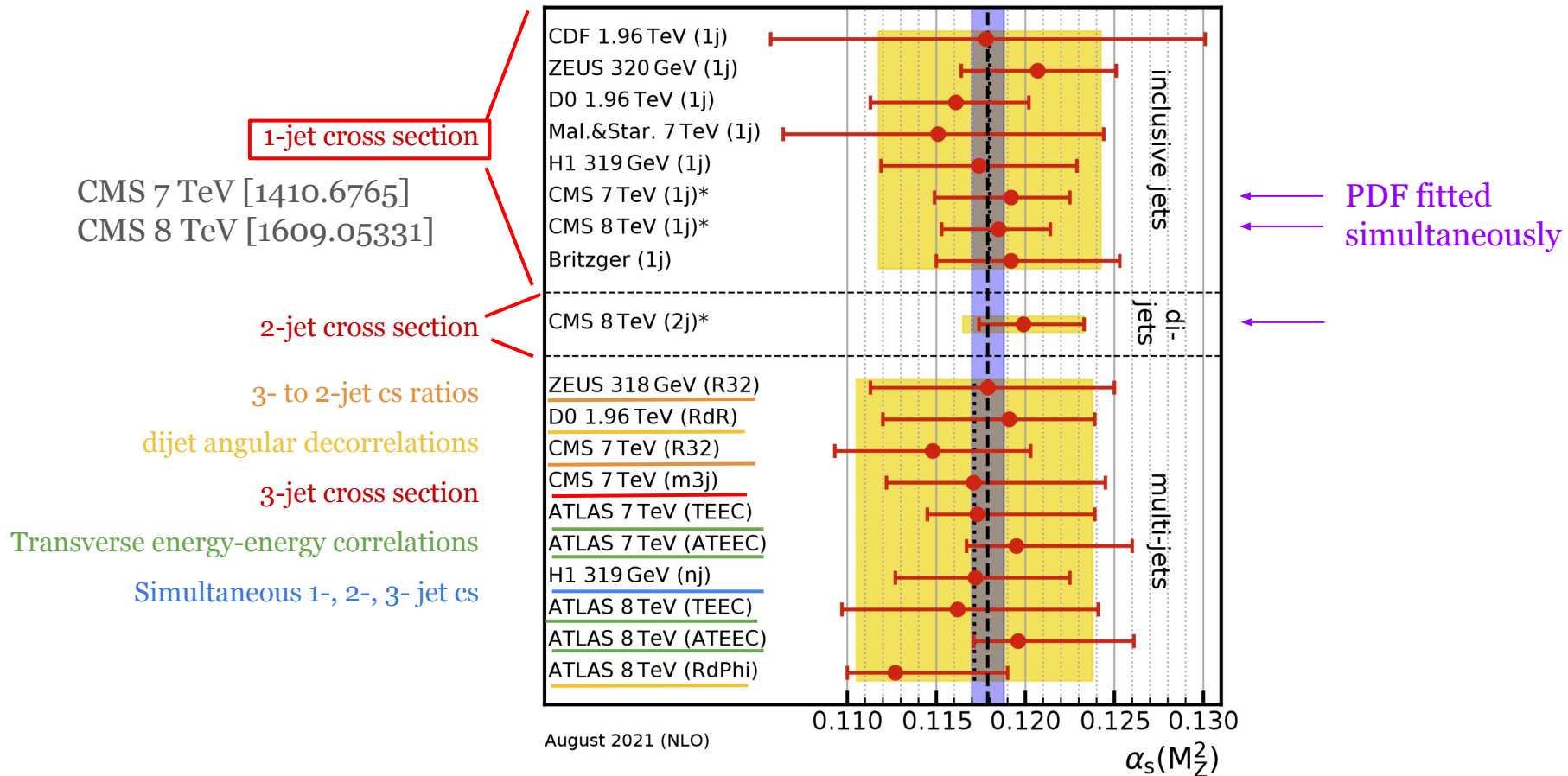
August 2021



August 2021 (NLO)



# Using jets to extract $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$



# Extraction using inclusive single jet cs (CMS 2015, 2016)

1-jet cross section (CMS)

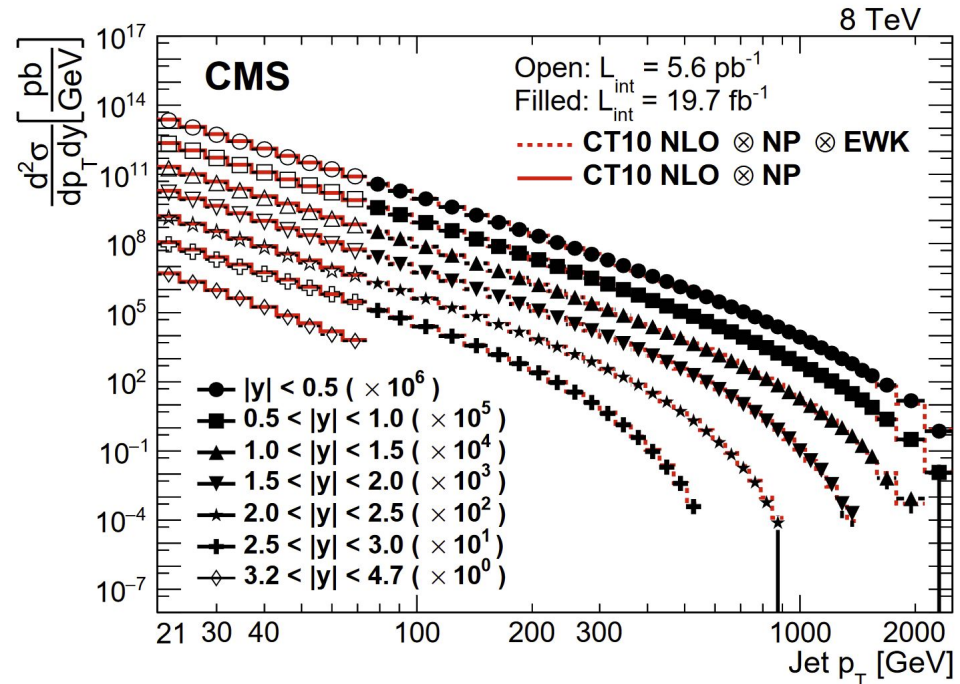
## Experimental cross section

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dp_T dy} = \frac{1}{\epsilon \cdot \mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}} \frac{N_{\text{jets}}}{\Delta p_T (2 \cdot \Delta|y|)},$$

- Double-differential measurement
- Corrected for detector effects (unfolded at this step)
- Uncertainties
  - Jet energy scale
  - Luminosity
  - Unfolding
  - other uncorrelated effects

Two ingredients

## Theoretical cross section



# 1-jet cs: theoretical cross section

1-jet cross section (CMS)

Two ingredients

Experimental cross section

Theoretical cross section

$$\frac{d^2\sigma_{\text{theo}}}{dp_T dy} = \frac{d^2\sigma_{\text{NLO}}}{dp_T dy} \cdot C_{\text{NLO}}^{\text{NP}} \cdot C_{\text{NLO}}^{\text{PS}}$$

Correction terms

- Nonperturbative (hadronization)
- Parton shower
- Generated with POWHEG+PYTHIA6

$$C_{\text{NLO}}^{\text{PS}} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{NLO+PS}}}{\sigma_{\text{NLO}}}$$

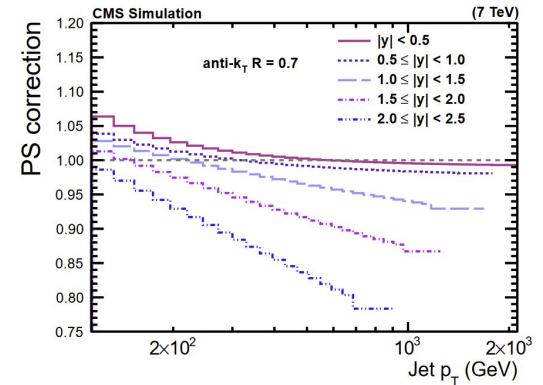
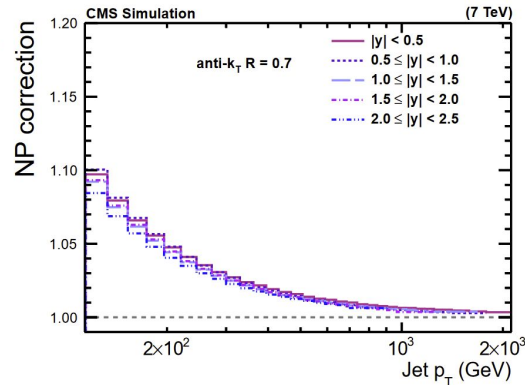
Nonperturbative correction

Parton shower correction

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dp_T} = \alpha_S^2(\mu_R) \hat{X}^{(0)}(\mu_F, p_T) [1 + \alpha_S(\mu_R) K1(\mu_R, \mu_F, p_T)],$$

NLO prediction

- from parton-level program NLOJet++ and FastNLO
- Input energy scale “jet pT”
- Input chosen PDF set
- Input for  $\alpha_s(Q^2)$



# $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$ extraction via $\chi^2$ minimization

1-jet cross section (CMS)

Two ingredients

Experimental cross section

Theoretical cross section

$$\chi^2(\alpha_s(M_Z)) = (D - T(\alpha_s(M_Z)))^T C^{-1} (D - T(\alpha_s(M_Z))),$$

N samples of ...

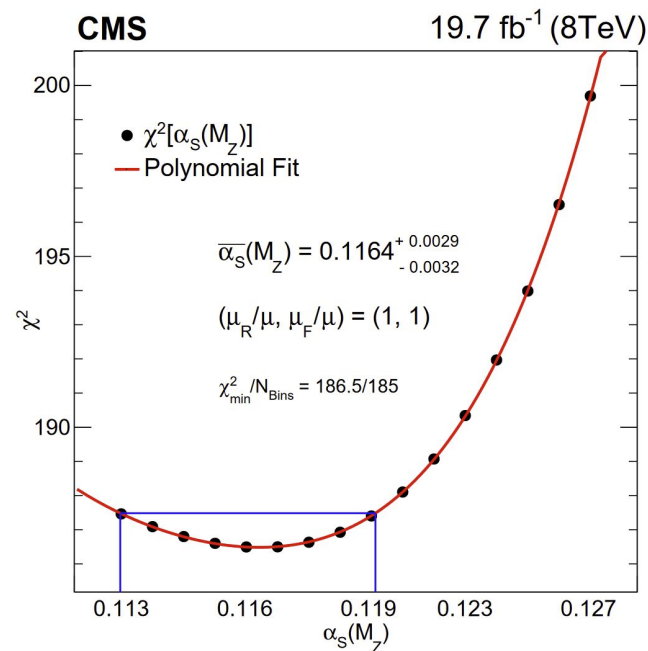
D : measurements

T : theoretical predictions

$$C = C^{\text{stat}} + C^{\text{unfolding}} + \sum C^{\text{JES}} + C^{\text{uncor}} + C^{\text{lumi}} + C^{\text{PDF}} + C^{\text{NP}},$$

Covariance matrix gives uncertainty

- The theoretical predictions are varied in  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  over the range 0.110-0.130 with steps of 0.001
- $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  central value taken to be that which minimizes  $\chi^2$



# $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$ fit visualization

## 1-jet cross section (CMS)

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\text{exp}}}{dp_T dy} \bigg/ \frac{d\sigma_{\text{theo}}}{dp_T dy}$$

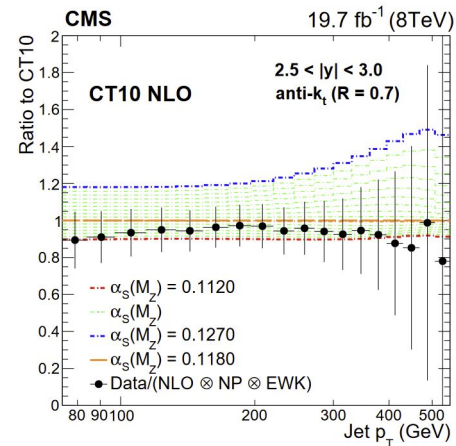
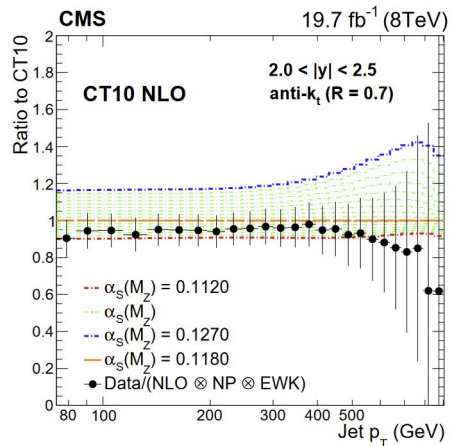
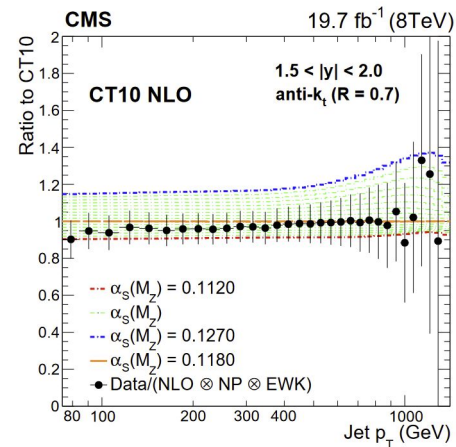
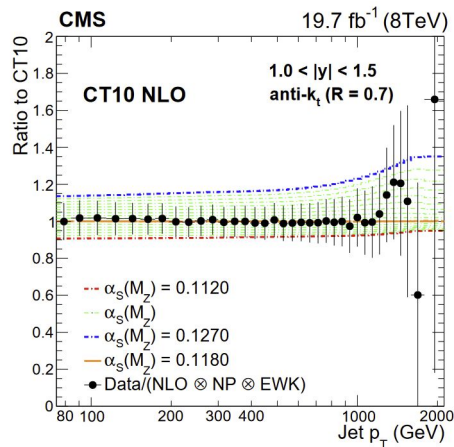
- For one PD set choice: C10
- Note large variation in performance for different PDF sets

$ y $	$N_{\text{bins}}$	CT10	HERAPDF1.5	MSTW2008	NNPDF2.1	ABM11	NNPDF3.0
0.0–0.5	37	49.2	66.3	68.0	58.3	136.6	62.5
0.5–1.0	37	28.7	47.2	39.0	35.4	155.5	42.2
1.0–1.5	36	19.3	28.6	27.4	20.2	111.8	25.9
1.5–2.0	32	65.7	49.0	55.3	54.5	168.1	64.7
2.0–2.5	25	38.7	32.0	53.1	34.6	80.2	36.0
2.5–3.0	18	14.5	19.1	18.2	15.4	43.8	16.3

$\chi^2$

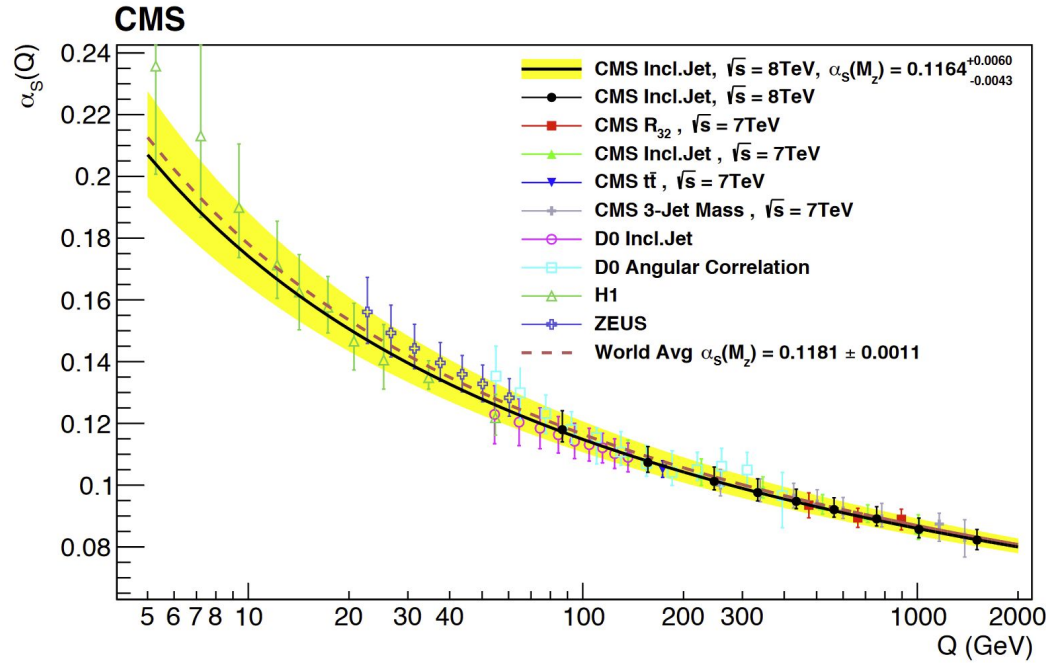
$\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$

PDF set	Refs.	Order	$N_f$	$M_t$ (GeV)	$M_Z$ (GeV)	$\alpha_s(M_Z)$	$\alpha_s(M_Z)$ range
ABM11	[41]	NLO	5	180	91.174	0.1180	0.110–0.130
CT10	[36]	NLO	$\leq 5$	172	91.188	0.1180	0.112–0.127
HERAPDF1.5	[40]	NLO	$\leq 5$	180	91.187	0.1176	0.114–0.122
MSTW2008	[37]	NLO	$\leq 5$	$10^{10}$	91.1876	0.1202	0.110–0.130
NNPDF2.1	[38]	NLO	$\leq 6$	175	91.2	0.1190	0.114–0.124
NNPDF3.0	[39]	NLO	$\leq 5$	175	91.2	0.1180	0.115–0.121



# Running of $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$

## 1-jet cross section (CMS)



- Obtained by evolving the fitted  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  values using the NLO renormalization group eqn

$$\alpha_s(Q^2) = \frac{1}{\beta_0 \log x} \left[ 1 - \frac{\beta_1}{\beta_0^2} \frac{\log(\log x)}{\log x} \right]; \quad x = \frac{Q^2}{\Lambda^2},$$

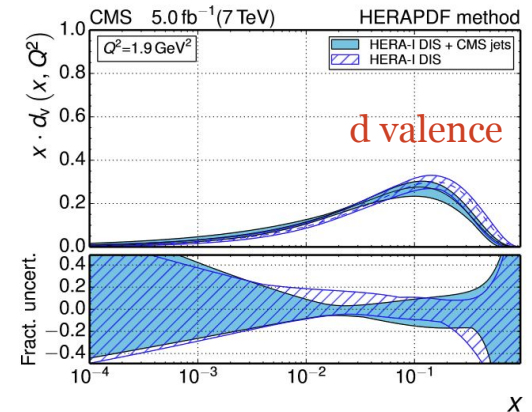
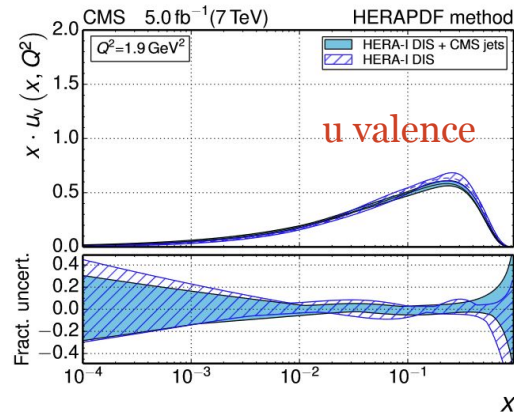
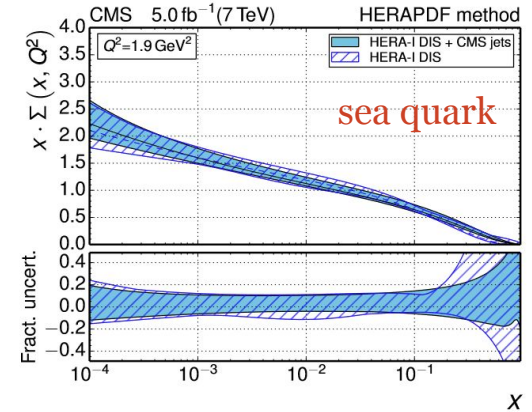
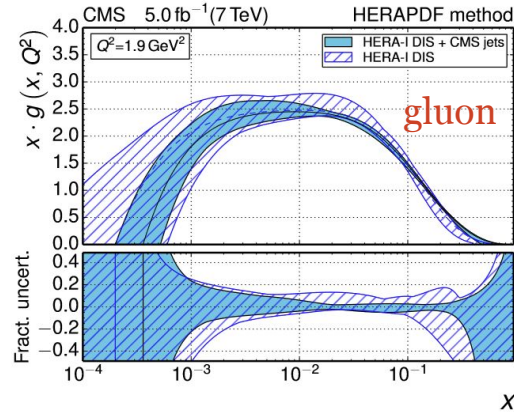
$$\beta_0 = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( 11 - \frac{2}{3} n_f \right); \quad \beta_1 = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left( 102 - \frac{38}{3} n_f \right),$$

- Extends HERA (H1, ZEUS) and Do results into TeV region
- Still using CT10 NLO PDF set
  - What about fitting pdfs simultaneously?

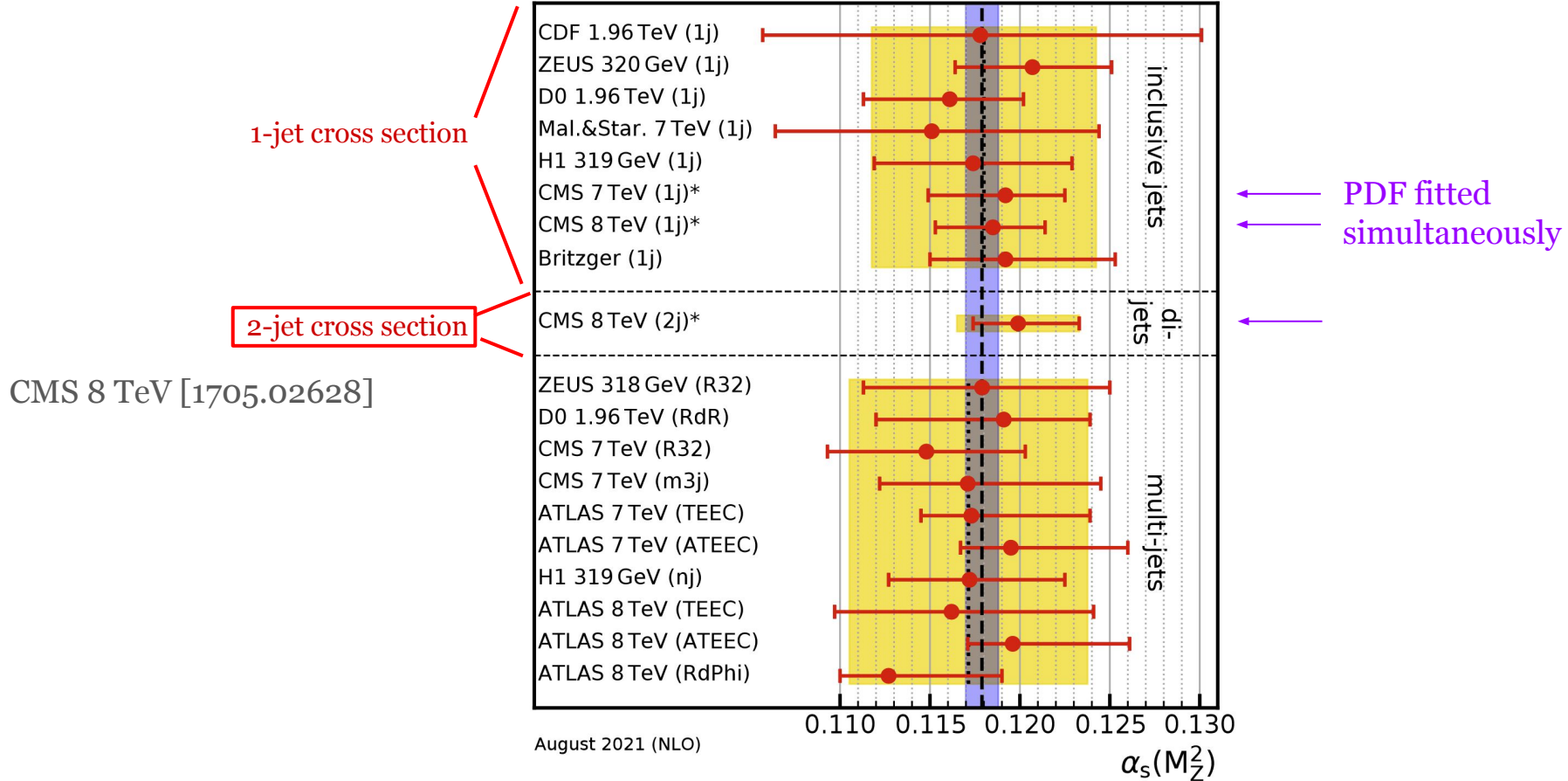
# Simultaneous PDF fit

## 1-jet cross section (CMS)

- Extraction of PDFs from inclusive jet cs depends on
  - By fitting the PDFs taking  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  as a free parameter, both can be fit simultaneously
  - Less correlation between the gluon PDF and  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$
- Performed using the HERAPDF method
- Jet measurement important since this can't be done in HERA-1 DIS measurements alone



# Extraction using dijet cs (CMS 2017)



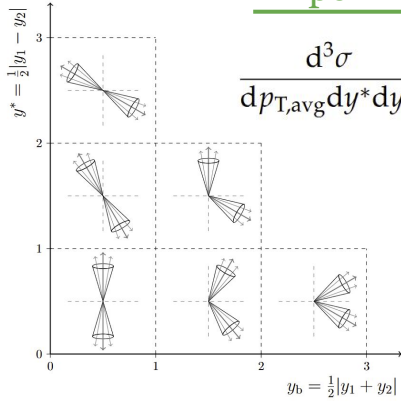


# Extraction using dijet cs (CMS 2017)

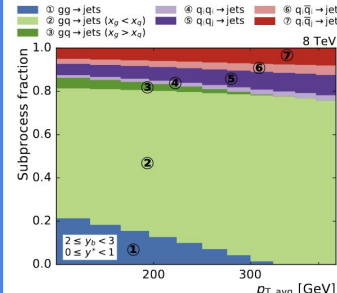
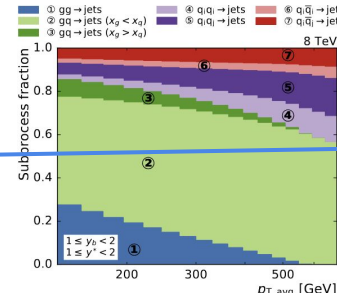
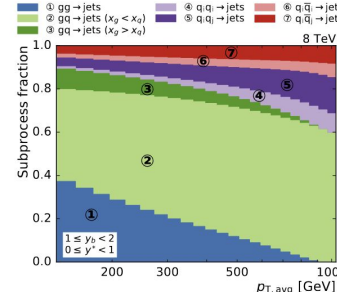
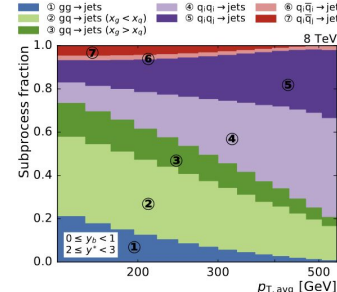
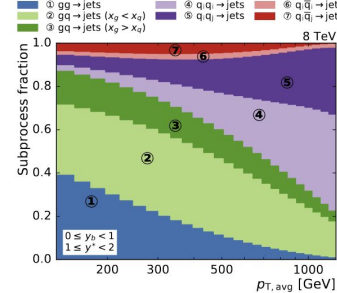
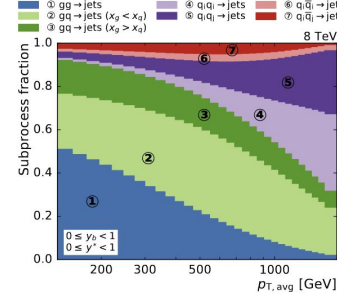
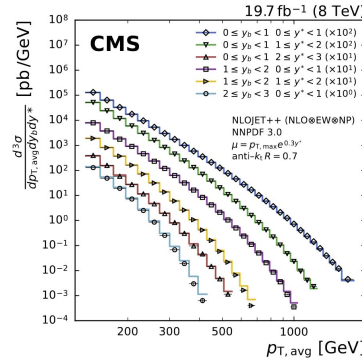
## 2-jet cross section (CMS)

### Experimental cross section

$$\frac{d^3\sigma}{dp_{T,avg} dy^* dy_b} = \frac{1}{\epsilon \mathcal{L}_{int}^{eff}} \frac{N}{\Delta p_{T,avg} \Delta y^* \Delta y_b'}$$



- Triple-differential measurement
- $y^*$  and  $y_b$  parameterize jet orientations
- Main idea: more sensitive probe to PDFs in highly boosted regime
  - For large  $y_b$ , ~80% of cross section has gluon participating in interaction
  - Higher sensitivity to gluon PDF



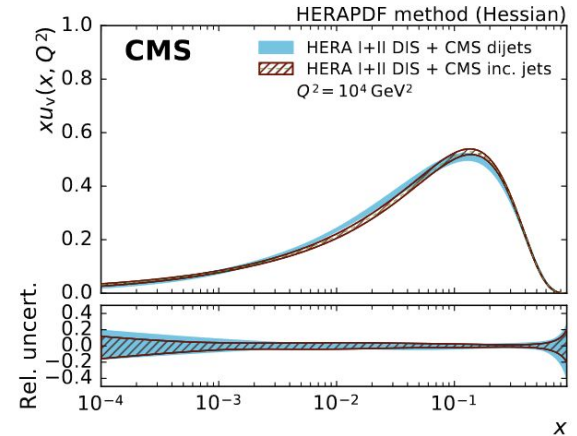
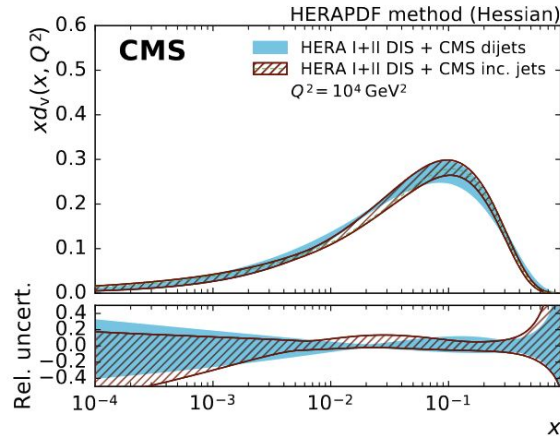
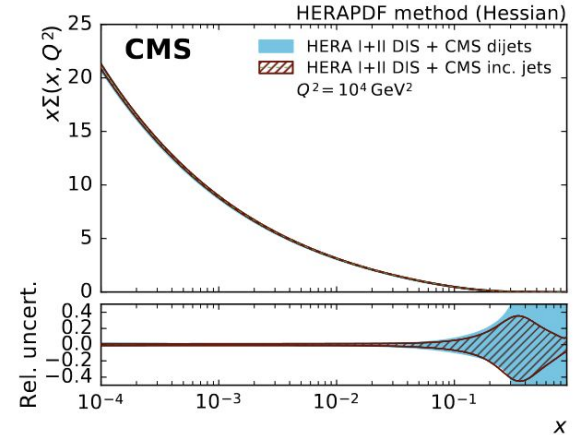
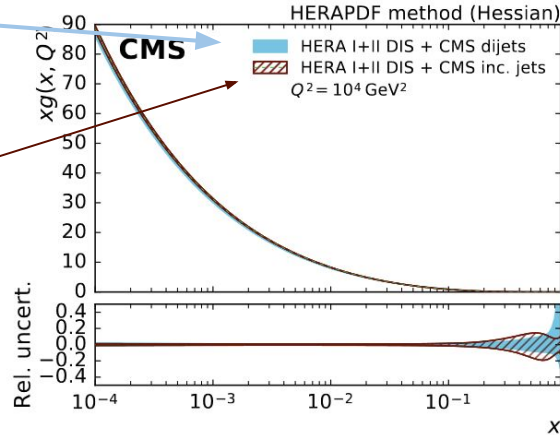
# Extraction using dijet cs (CMS 2017)

2-jet cross section (CMS)

$$\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1199 \pm 0.0015 \text{ (exp)} \begin{matrix} +0.0031 \\ -0.0020 \end{matrix} \text{ (theo)}$$

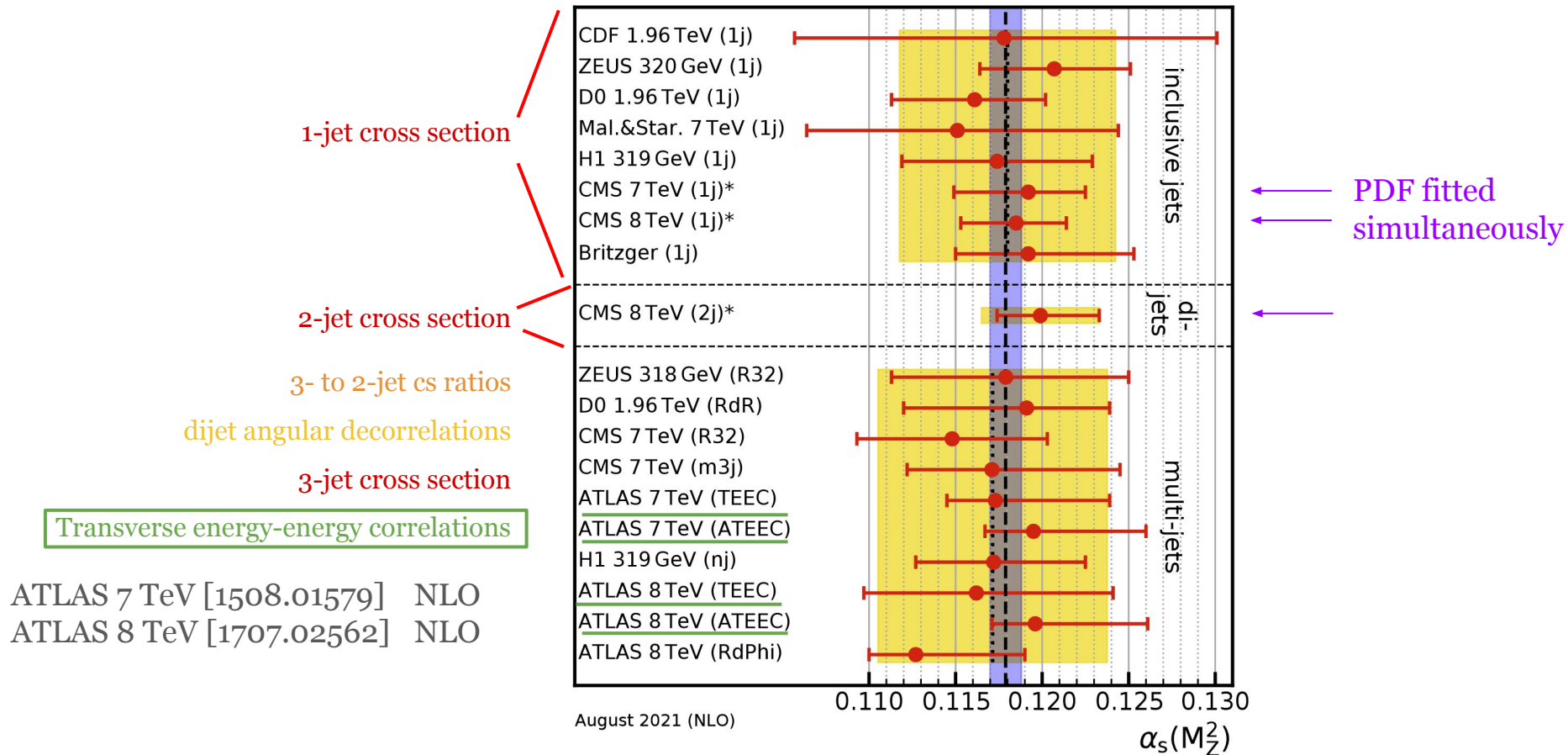
1-jet cross section (CMS)

$$\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1164 \begin{matrix} +0.0060 \\ -0.0043 \end{matrix}$$



- Slightly tighter constraint on  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$
- When dijets included, increased gluon PDF at high-x
- Uncertainties of the PDF, esp the gluon PDF, is significantly reduced compared to inc. jet

# Extraction using transverse energy-energy correlators (ATLAS 2015, 2017)



# Extraction using transverse energy-energy correlators (ATLAS 2015, 2017)

## TEEC (ATLAS)

### Experimental cross section

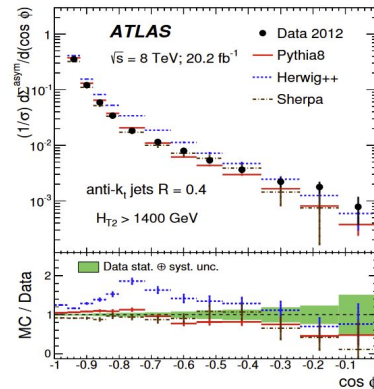
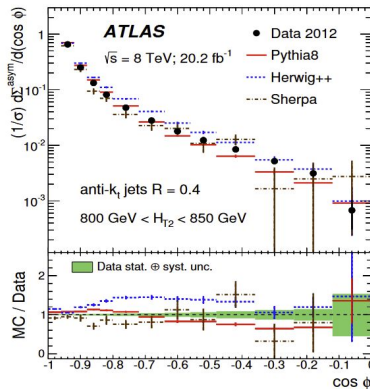
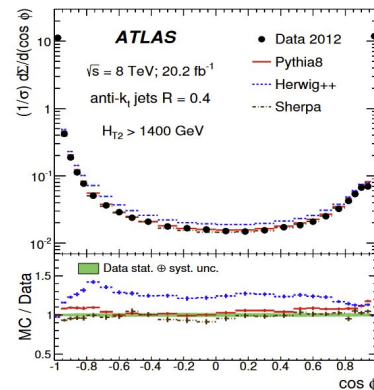
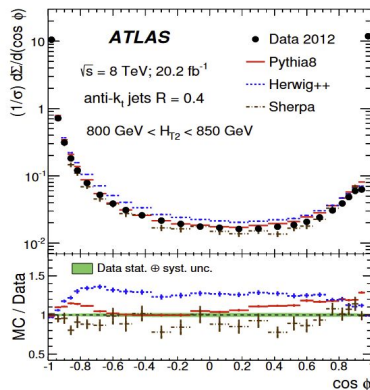
$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\Sigma}{d \cos \phi} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{A=1}^N \sum_{ij} \frac{E_{Ti}^A E_{Tj}^A}{\left(\sum_k E_{Tk}^A\right)^2} \delta(\cos \phi - \cos \phi_{ij}), \quad (\text{TEEC})$$

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\Sigma^{asym}}{d \cos \phi} \equiv \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\Sigma}{d \cos \phi} \Big|_{\phi} - \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\Sigma}{d \cos \phi} \Big|_{\pi-\phi}. \quad (\text{ATEEC})$$

- Multijet observable
- TEECs are a generalization of EECs (as used in electron-positron collisions) to hadron colliders
- Energy-weighted angular distribution of jet pairs in an event
- Analyzed quickly after the NLO prediction was made available

## Two ingredients

$H_{T2}$ range [GeV]	Number of events	$\langle Q \rangle = \langle H_{T2} \rangle / 2$ [GeV]
[800, 850]	1 809 497	412
[850, 900]	1 240 059	437
[900, 1000]	1 465 814	472
[1000, 1100]	745 898	522
[1100, 1400]	740 563	604
[1400, 5000]	192 204	810



# TEEC: theoretical cross section

TEEC (ATLAS)

Experimental cross section

Two ingredients

Theoretical cross section

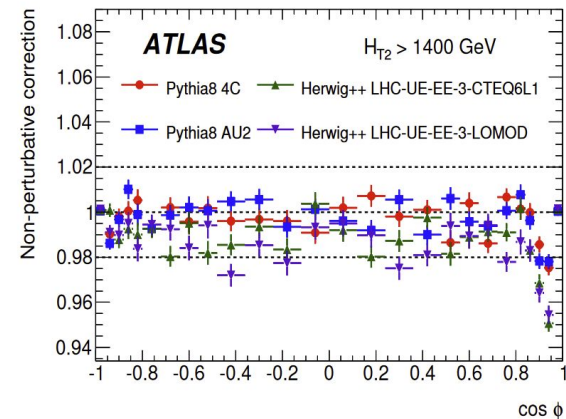
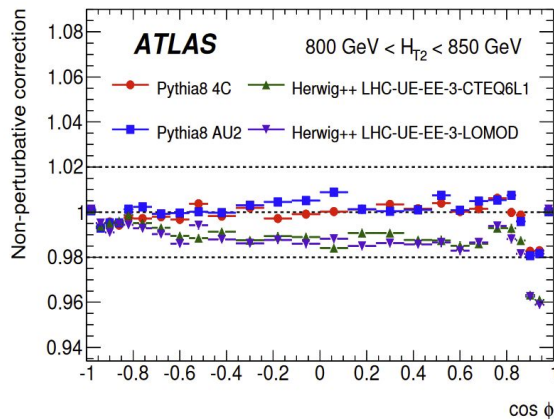
$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\Sigma}{d\phi} = \frac{\sum_{a_i, b_i} f_{a_1/p}(x_1) f_{a_2/p}(x_2) \otimes \hat{\Sigma}^{a_1 a_2 \rightarrow b_1 b_2 b_3}}{\sum_{a_i, b_i} f_{a_1/p}(x_1) f_{a_2/p}(x_2) \otimes \hat{\sigma}^{a_1 a_2 \rightarrow b_1 b_2}},$$

NLO prediction

- Convolved with NNLO PDF sets
- Numerator: PDFs convolved with 2->3 partonic subprocess at NLO
- Denominator: PDFs convolved with 2->2 subprocesses

Non-perturbative corrections

- Bin-by-bin correction calculated from ratio of MC and TEEC distributions
- Hadronization and underlying event turned on/off
- PYTHIA, HERWIG, SHERPA compared



# $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$ extraction via $\chi^2$ minimization

TEEC (ATLAS)

Two ingredients

Experimental cross section

Theoretical cross section

$$\chi^2(\alpha_s, \vec{\lambda}) = \sum_{\text{bins}} \frac{(x_i - F_i(\alpha_s, \vec{\lambda}))^2}{\Delta x_i^2 + \Delta \xi_i^2} + \sum_k \lambda_k^2, \quad F_i(\alpha_s, \vec{\lambda}) = \psi_i(\alpha_s) \left( 1 + \sum_k \lambda_k \sigma_k^{(i)} \right).$$

$x_i$  : measurements

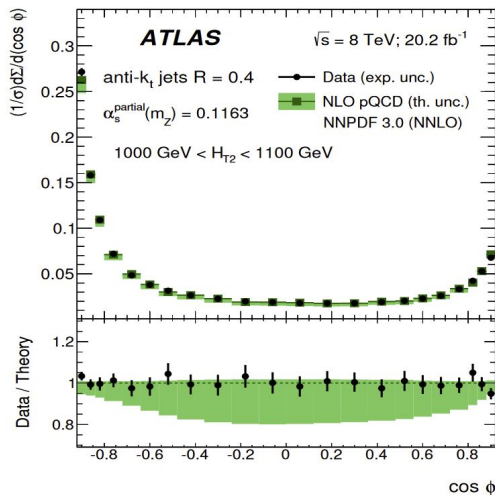
$F_i$  : theoretical predictions weighed with nuisance parameters

- Minimization done in 74-dimensional space
  - 1 parameter for  $\alpha_s$
  - 73 parameters for nuisance variables  $\lambda$  (1 per source of uncertainty)
- $\psi$  found by fitting TEEC (ATEEC) prediction to data in each  $(H_{T2}, \cos \phi)$  bin to a second-degree polynomial

# $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$ fit visualization

## TEEC (ATLAS)

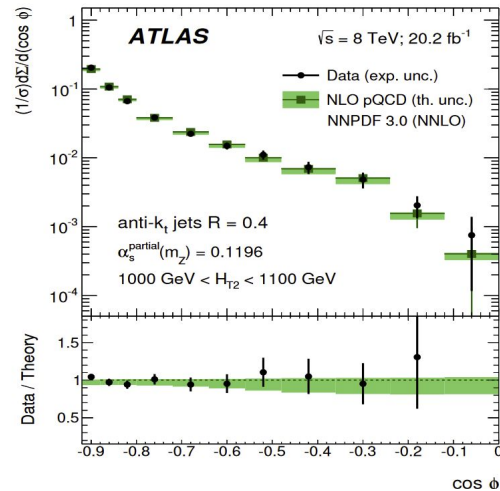
TEEC



$\langle Q \rangle$ (GeV)	$\alpha_s(m_Z)$ value (NNPDF 3.0)	$\chi^2/N_{\text{dof}}$
412	$0.1209 \pm 0.0036$ (exp.) $^{+0.0085}_{-0.0031}$ (scale) $\pm 0.0013$ (PDF) $\pm 0.0004$ (NP)	10.6 / 10
437	$0.1211 \pm 0.0026$ (exp.) $^{+0.0064}_{-0.0014}$ (scale) $\pm 0.0015$ (PDF) $\pm 0.0010$ (NP)	6.8 / 10
472	$0.1203 \pm 0.0028$ (exp.) $^{+0.0060}_{-0.0013}$ (scale) $\pm 0.0016$ (PDF) $\pm 0.0002$ (NP)	8.8 / 10
522	$0.1196 \pm 0.0025$ (exp.) $^{+0.0054}_{-0.0010}$ (scale) $\pm 0.0017$ (PDF) $\pm 0.0004$ (NP)	10.9 / 10
604	$0.1176 \pm 0.0031$ (exp.) $^{+0.0058}_{-0.0008}$ (scale) $\pm 0.0020$ (PDF) $\pm 0.0005$ (NP)	6.4 / 10
810	$0.1172 \pm 0.0037$ (exp.) $^{+0.0053}_{-0.0009}$ (scale) $\pm 0.0022$ (PDF) $\pm 0.0001$ (NP)	9.8 / 10

$$\alpha_s(m_Z) = 0.1162 \pm 0.0011 \text{ (exp.) } ^{+0.0076}_{-0.0061} \text{ (scale)} \pm 0.0018 \text{ (PDF)} \pm 0.0003 \text{ (NP)},$$

ATEEC



$\langle Q \rangle$ (GeV)	$\alpha_s(m_Z)$ value (NNPDF 3.0)	$\chi^2/N_{\text{dof}}$
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$$\alpha_s(m_Z) = 0.1196 \pm 0.0013 \text{ (exp.) } ^{+0.0061}_{-0.0013} \text{ (scale)} \pm 0.0017 \text{ (PDF)} \pm 0.0004 \text{ (NP)},$$

How to improve?

Majority of error stems from theoretical side, missing terms in the NLO prediction, PDF fits

NNLO required to make better progress...

scale values  $Q$ , derived again with the FASTNLO framework, are identical within about 1 GeV for different PDFs. To emphasise that theoretical uncertainties limit the achievable precision, Tables 6 and 7 present for the six bins in  $p_T$  the total uncertainty as well as the experimental, PDF, NP, and scale components, where the six experimental uncertainties are all correlated.

Not until recently did NNLO calculations for many observables become available



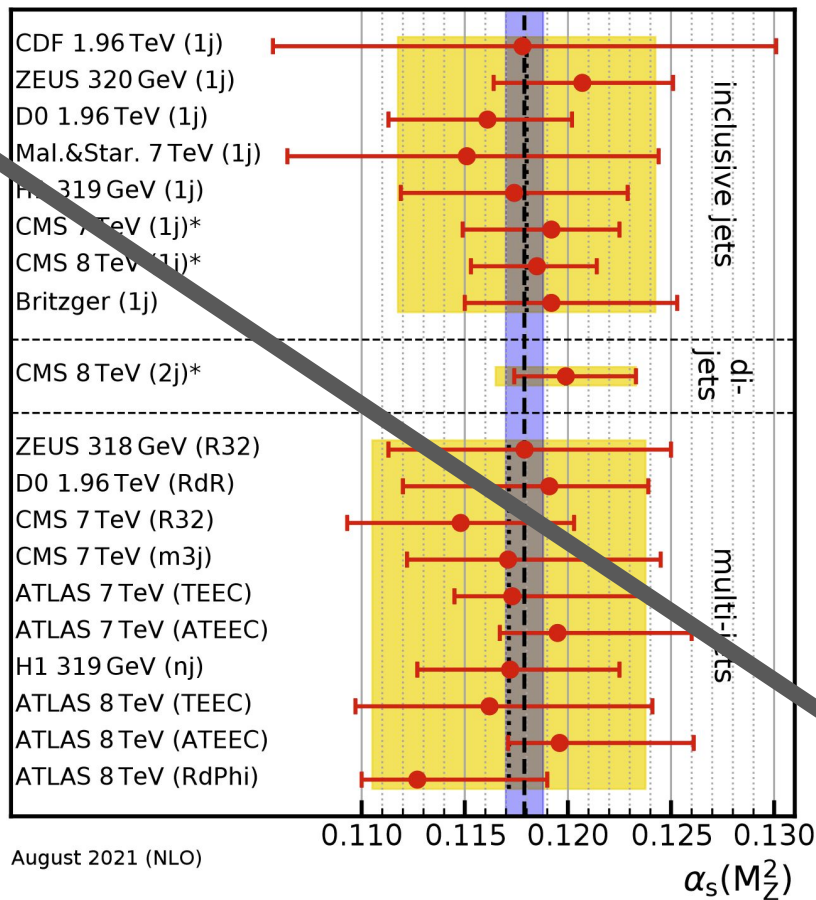
# Moving beyond NLO: NNLO

All these measurements use NLO theory predictions

NNLO is now the standard (only NNLO considered for PDG)

Transverse energy-energy correlations

ATLAS 7 TeV [1508.01579] NLO  
ATLAS 8 TeV [1707.02562] NLO  
**ATLAS 13 TeV [2301.09351] NNLO!!**



# TEEC: theoretical cross section NNLO

## TEEC (ATLAS)

Two ingredients

### Experimental cross section

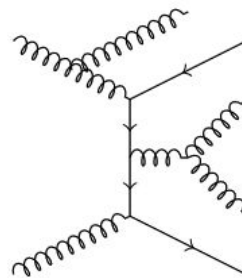
#### NNLO prediction

- Scattering amplitudes calculated in OpenLoops2, FivePointAmplitudes, and PentagonFunctions++
- Calculated with  $O(1E13)$  events
- Real-real, real-virtual, virtual-virtual terms included
- NNLO PDF sets used

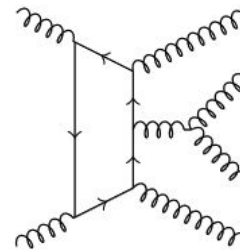
#### Corrections

- Scale uncertainties reduced three fold going NLO to NNLO
- PDF uncertainties  $\sim 1\%$  range (extrapolated from NLO result)
- Nonperturbative corrections dominant - corrected with PYTHIA8, HERWIG simulation for hadronization and UE effects

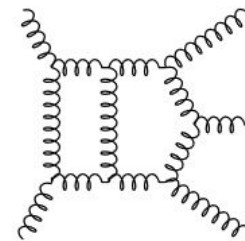
### Theoretical cross section



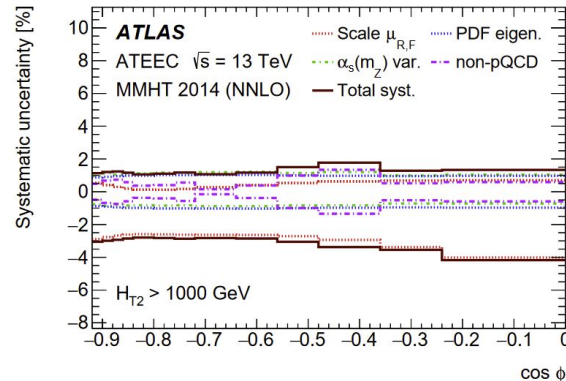
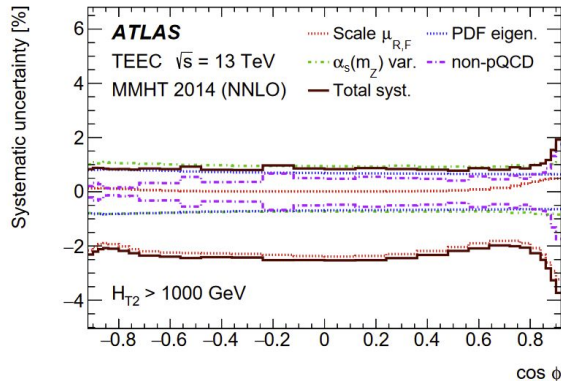
(a)



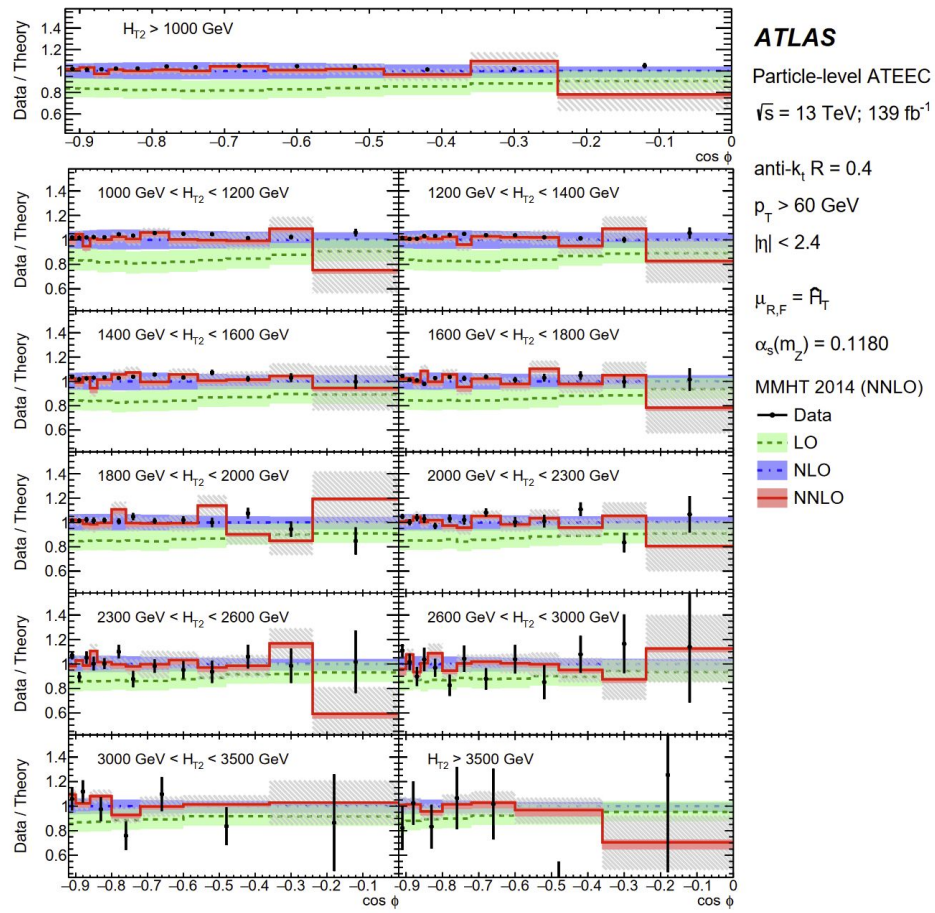
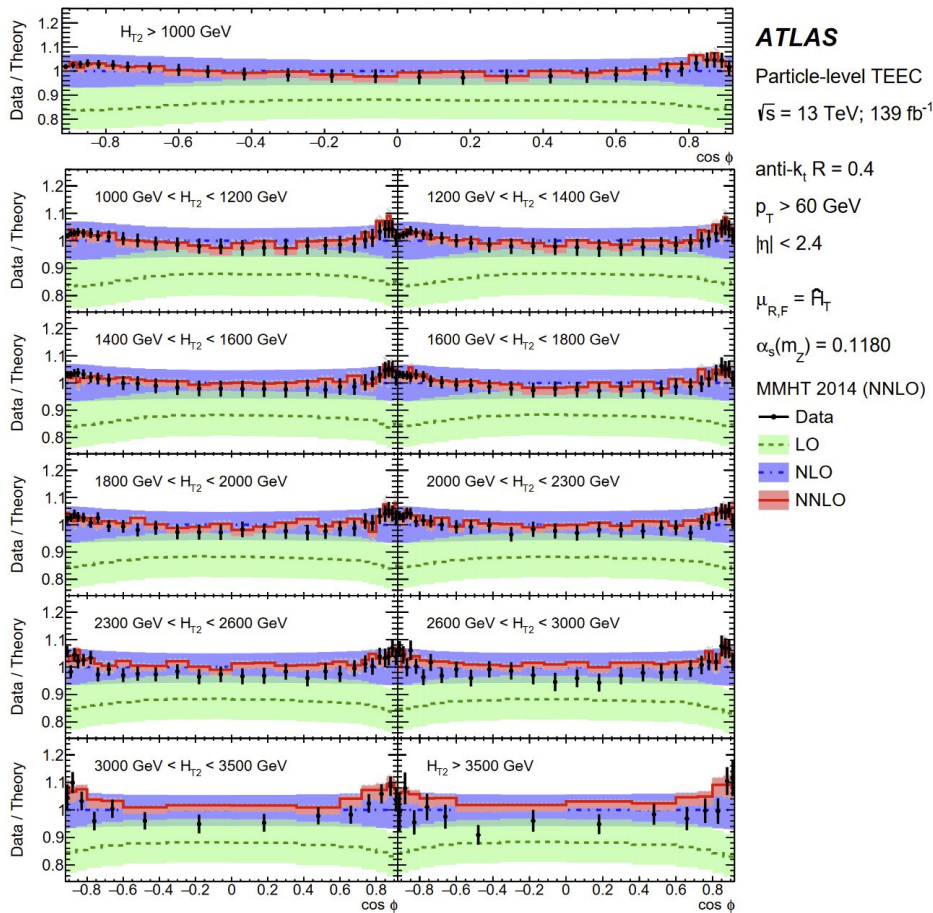
(b)



(c)



# NNLO $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$ fit visualization



# Comparison NNLO with NLO

**TEEC (ATLAS)**

**NLO**

TEEC

$$\alpha_s(m_Z) = 0.1162 \pm 0.0011 \text{ (exp.) }^{+0.0076}_{-0.0061} \text{ (scale)} \pm 0.0018 \text{ (PDF)} \pm 0.0003 \text{ (NP)},$$

AATEEC

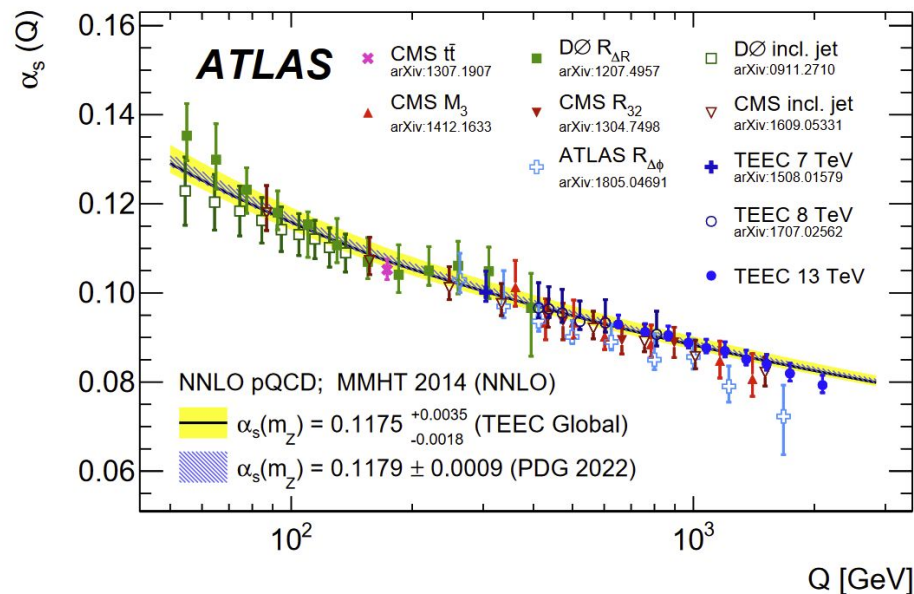
$$\alpha_s(m_Z) = 0.1196 \pm 0.0013 \text{ (exp.) }^{+0.0061}_{-0.0013} \text{ (scale)} \pm 0.0017 \text{ (PDF)} \pm 0.0004 \text{ (NP)},$$

**NNLO**

$$\alpha_s(m_Z) = 0.1175 \pm 0.0006 \text{ (exp.) }^{+0.0034}_{-0.0017} \text{ (theo.)}$$

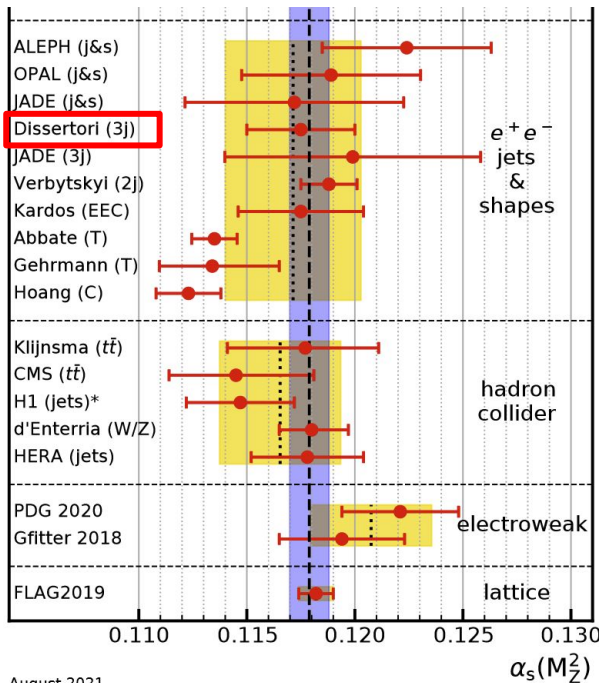
$$\alpha_s(m_Z) = 0.1185 \pm 0.0009 \text{ (exp.) }^{+0.0025}_{-0.0012} \text{ (theo.)}.$$

- Theoretical bounds significantly improved
- Extends previous results further into TeV region



# Using jets to extract $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$ , LEP 3-jet rate

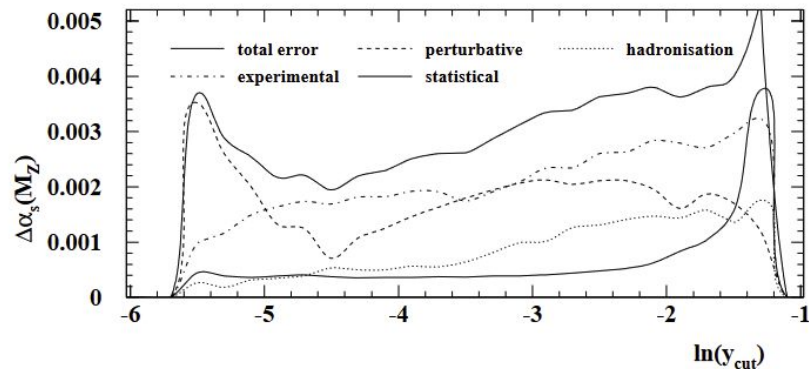
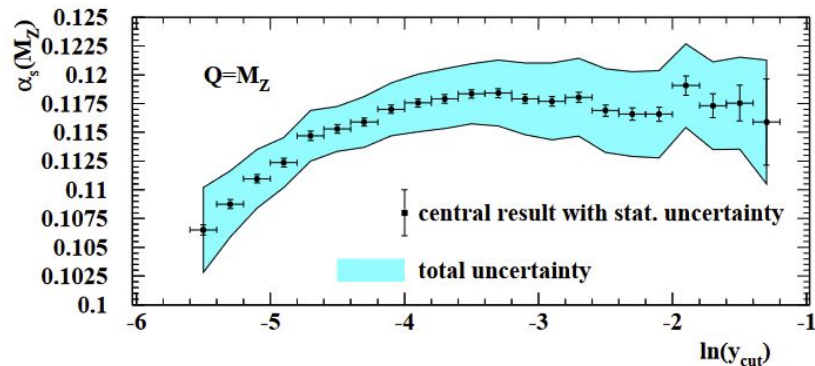
- LEP electron-positron annihilation re-analyzed, ALEPH data
- NNLO calculation available for 3-jet production, recently available
- Measured at the Z peak



August 2021

$$y_{ij,D} = \frac{2 \min(E_i^2, E_j^2)(1 - \cos \theta_{ij})}{E_{\text{vis}}^2} \quad \text{Durham jet algorithm}$$

$y_{ij,D} < y_{\text{cut}}$  : jet resolution parameter



[0910.4283]

# Summary

- $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  is a significant parameter in the standard model, but relatively poorly known
- Jets measurements are powerful for constraining the strong coupling constant  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$  at high energy scales
- Possible to fit PDFs simultaneously with  $\alpha_s(M_Z^2)$ , obtaining better constraints on both
- In general good, pQCD predictions for inclusive and dijet production are good, but NNLO calculations are needed for further progress

Thank you

