



Department of Theoretical Physics

# The path to NNLL accurate parton showers

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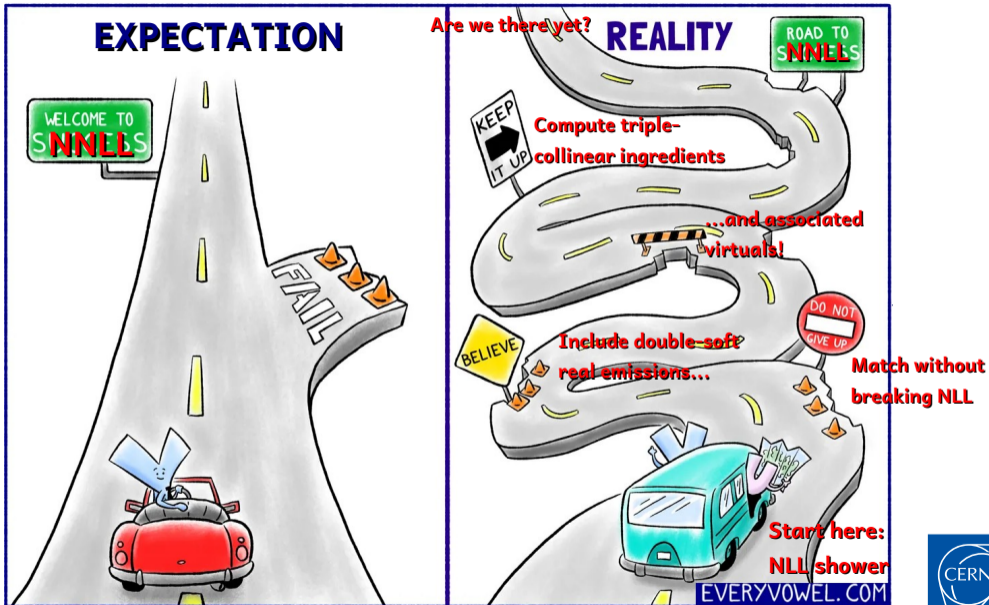
Ringberg 2024: 2nd Workshop on Tools for High Precision LHC Simulations

Based on

JHEP 03 (2023) 224 [K. Hamilton, AK, G. P. Salam, L. Scyboz, R. Verheyen]  
Phys.Rev.Lett. 131 (2023) [S. Ferrario Ravasio, K. Hamilton, AK, G. P. Salam, L. Scyboz, G. Soyez]  
2405.XXXXX [eid. + M. v. Beekveld, M. Dasgupta, B. K. El-Menoufi, J. Helliwell, P. F. Monni, A. Soto-Ontoso]

+

using analytic understanding developed in  
JHEP 01 (2019) 083 [A. Banfi, B. K. El-Menoufi, P. F. Monni]  
JHEP 12 (2021) [M. Dasgupta, B. K. El-Menoufi]  
2307.15734 (accepted in JHEP) [eid. + M. v. Beekveld, J. Helliwell, P. F. Monni]



## Start here: NLL shower

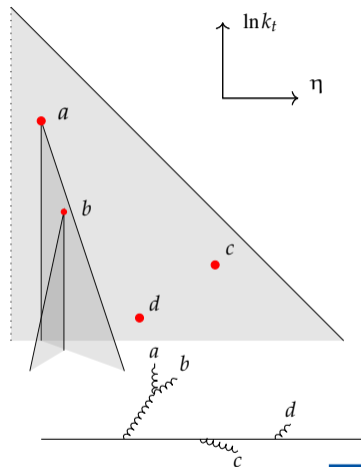
- The **limited accuracy** of parton showers has become one of the main theoretical bottlenecks at the LHC in recent years
- There has been significant progress in improving the hard matrix elements of event generators with **NNLO matching** and **NLO multi-jet merging** now state-of-the-art (see next five talks!)
- However, the most widely-used event generators at the LHC, Pythia, Herwig, and Sherpa, are **all limited to LL** (some exceptions where NLL can be reached, cf. Bewick, Ferrario Ravasio, Richardson, Seymour [1904.11866])
- For this reason, there has been a concerted effort in taking parton showers from **LL**→**NLL**
- This has been achieved by several groups including PanScales [1805.09327], [2002.11114], [2011.10054], [2103.16526], [2111.01161], [2205.02237], [2207.09467], [2305.08645], [2312.13275], ALARIC Herren, Höche, Krauss, Reichelt, Schoenherr [2208.06057], [2404.14360], APOLLO Preuss [2403.19452], DEDUCTOR Nagy, Soper [2011.04773], and Forshaw-Holguin-Plätzer [2003.06400]



# NLL showers in a nutshell

- A necessary condition for a shower to be NLL is that it correctly describes configurations where **all** emissions are well-separated in a Lund plane [Dasgupta, Dreyer, Hamilton, Monni, Salam \[1805.09327\]](#)
- A core principle in this picture is that two emissions that are well-separated, should **not** influence each other (e.g. emission *d* cannot change the kinematics of *c*)<sup>a</sup>.
- This principle is **violated** by most standard dipole-showers, due to the way the recoil is distributed after an emission First observed by Andersson, Gustafson, Sjogren '92
- For NLL 2-loop running coupling in the CMW scheme is also required
- For full NLL one also needs to include **spin-correlations** and sub-leading **colour** corrections

<sup>a</sup>Spin-correlations are an exception in this context as they introduce long-range azimuthal correlations at NLL. Collinear spin understood in angular ordered showers for decades due to work of Collins '88 and Knowles '88. Extension to dipole showers studied in [Richardson, Webster \[1807.01955\]](#). Both **collinear** and **soft** spin-correlations are included in PanScales at NLL.



**PanLocal** $k_t\sqrt{\theta}$  ordered**Recoil** $\perp$ : local

+: local

-: local

**Dipole partition**  
event CoM**PanGlobal** $k_t$  or  $k_t\sqrt{\theta}$  ordered**Recoil** $\perp$ : global

+: local

-: local

**Dipole partition**  
event CoM**Colour**nested ordered  
double soft  
(NODS)Designed to  
ensure LL are  
full colour  
(also gets many  
NLL at full  
colour)Hamilton, Medves,  
Salam, Scyboz, Soyez  
[2011.10054]**Spin**for correct  
azimuthal  
structure in  
collinear and  
soft  $\rightarrow$  collinear[Collins-Knowles  
extended to soft  
sector]AK, Salam, Scyboz, Verheyen  
[2103.16526],  
eid. + Hamilton [2111.01161] $e^+e^-$ : Dasgupta, Dreyer, Hamilton, Monni, Salam, Soyez  
[2002.11114];  $pp$  (w/spin+colour): van Beekveld, Ferrario  
Ravasio, Salam, Soto-Ontoso, Soyez, Verheyen [2205.02237]; +  
 $pp$  tests: eid. + Hamilton [2207.09467]; DIS+VBF: van Beekveld,  
Ferrario Ravasio [2305.08645]



## Oxford



Gavin Salam



Jack Helliwell



Silvia Zanoli

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Melissa van Beekveld

## Manchester



Mrinal Dasgupta

## UCL



Keith Hamilton

## Monash



Basem El-Menoufi



Ludo Scyboz

## IPhT



Gregory Soyez

## CERN



AK



Silvia Ferrario Ravasio



Pier Monni



Alba Soto-Ontoso

## PanScales current members

A project to bring logarithmic understanding and accuracy to parton showers

## Analytic structure beyond NLL

Taking an event shape,  $\mathcal{O}$ , to be less than some value  $e^{-|L|}$  we have at **NNLL** (focusing for now on  $e^+e^-$  only)

$$\Sigma(\mathcal{O} < e^{-|L|}) = (1 + \alpha_s C_1 + \dots) \exp \left[ \frac{1}{\alpha_s} g_1(\alpha_s L) + g_2(\alpha_s L) + \alpha_s g_3(\alpha_s L) + \dots \right] \quad (1)$$

where  $g_1$  accounts for LL terms,  $g_2$  for NLL terms and  $g_3$  and  $C_1$  for NNLL terms<sup>1</sup>. Whereas an analytic resummation in principle retains only the terms that are put in (i.e.  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  at NLL) the shower will instead generate spurious higher order terms

$$\Sigma(\mathcal{O} < e^{-|L|}) = (1 + \alpha_s \tilde{C}_1 + \dots) \exp \left[ \frac{1}{\alpha_s} g_1(\alpha_s L) + g_2(\alpha_s L) + \alpha_s \tilde{g}_3(\alpha_s L) + \dots \right] \quad (2)$$

When thinking about going beyond NLL we need to address two things: 1) what are the necessary **analytic ingredients** from resummation and 2) how do we **compensate** the NNLL terms already present in the shower?

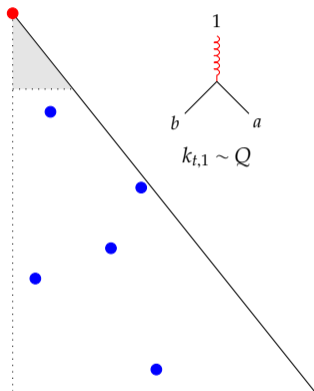
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<sup>1</sup>In the language of  $q_T$  resummation  $A_1$  is responsible for LL terms,  $A_2$  and  $B_1$  for NLL terms and  $A_3$  and  $B_2$  for NNLL terms (together with the hard coefficient function  $C_1(z)$ ).



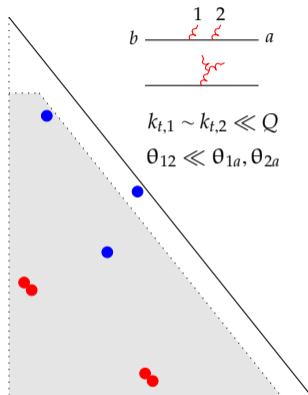


# Lund plane picture



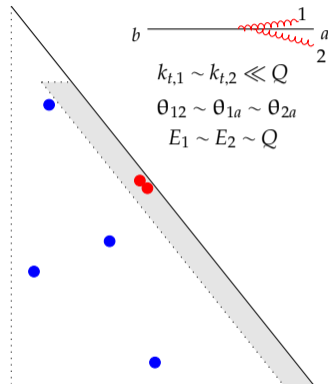
**hard matching**  $\rightarrow$

$\alpha_S$  correct for first emission



**double-soft**  $\rightarrow$

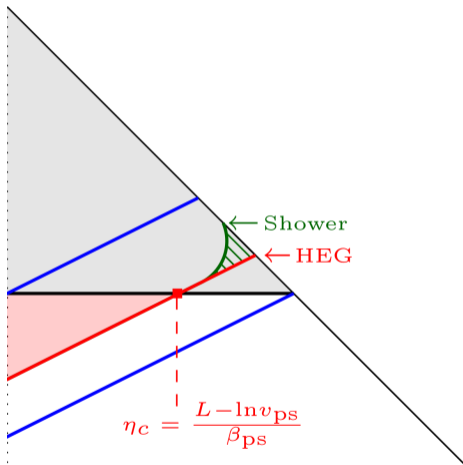
get any pair of soft commensurate energy/angle right



**triple-collinear**  $\rightarrow$

account for genuine  $2 \rightarrow 4$  collinear splittings

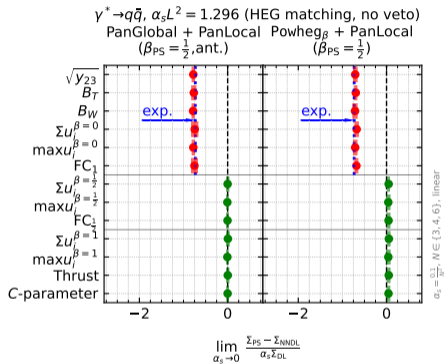
# Match without breaking NLL



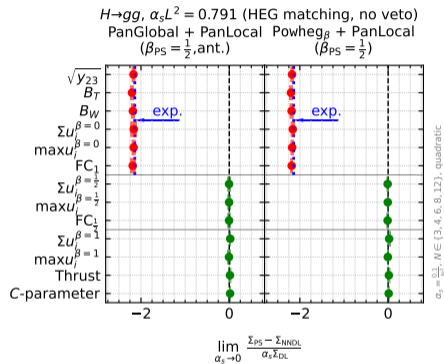
- We have so far explored the two-body decays  $\gamma \rightarrow q\bar{q}$  and  $h \rightarrow gg$  @ NLO
- For matching schemes that rely on the shower to generate the first emission (such as MC@NLO, KrkNLO, and MAcNLOPS) **the matching works more or less out of the box.**
- For POWHEG style matchings (including MiNNLO and GENEVA) **log accuracy is more subtle to maintain.**
- Main concern related to kinematic mismatch between **shower** and **hardest emission generator** (in general they are only guaranteed to agree in the soft-collinear region). This issue has been studied in the past [Corke, Sjöstrand \[1003.2384\]](#) but logarithmic understanding is new.



# HEG-matching without a veto is not NNDL accurate



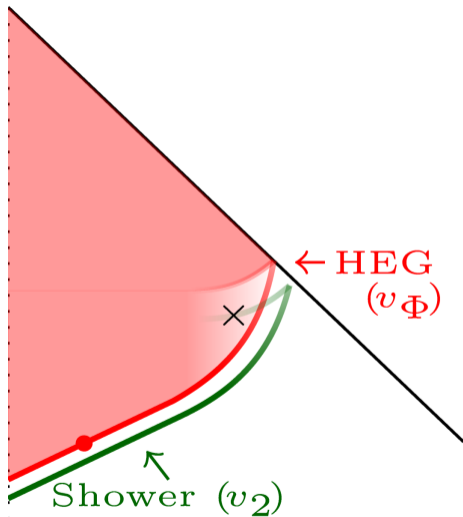
$$\lim_{\alpha_s \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Sigma_{PS} - \Sigma_{NNDL}}{\alpha_s \Sigma_{DL}} \Big|_{\text{fixed } \alpha_s L^2}$$



Without a veto NLL accurate showers **fail** our NNDL ( $\alpha_s^n L^{2n-2}$ ) event shape tests. The failure is  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ , and hence phenomenologically relevant. The **dashed blue** line indicates the analytically calculated expected value.



## Further subtleties



- Even when the contours are fully aligned there are issues associated with how dipole showers **partition** the  $g \rightarrow gg(q\bar{q})$  splitting function.

- In PanScales we use

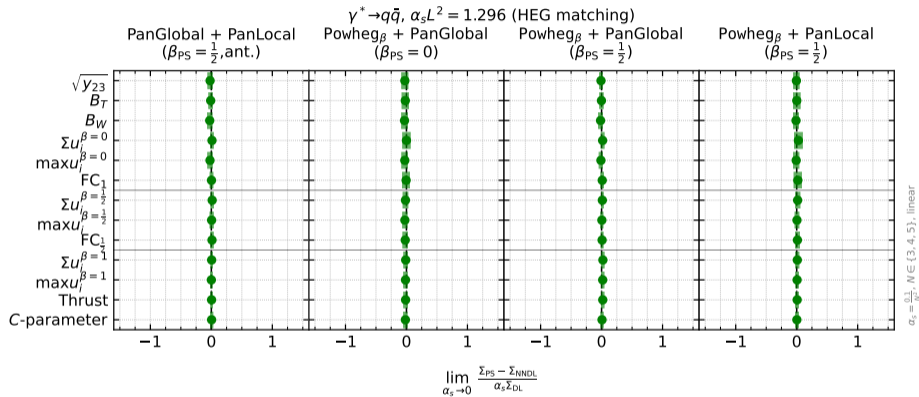
$$\frac{1}{2!} P_{gg}^{\text{asym}}(\zeta) = C_A \left[ \frac{1 + \zeta^3}{1 - \zeta} + (2\zeta - 1) w_{gg} \right],$$

such that  $P_{gg}^{\text{asym}}(\zeta) + P_{gg}^{\text{asym}}(1 - \zeta) = 2P_{gg}(\zeta)$

- This partitioning takes place to isolate the two soft divergences in the splitting function ( $\zeta \rightarrow 0$  and  $\zeta \rightarrow 1$ ), but there is some freedom in how one handles the **non-singular part**.
- The HEG needs to partition in **exactly** the same way. Not clear how easy this is in general, in particular in the soft-large angle region.



# Proper HEG-matching achieves NNLD accuracy



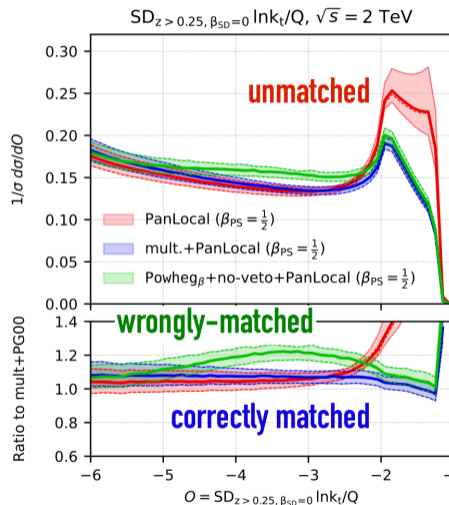
This can be **achieved** through a standard kinematic veto, as long as shower partitioning **matches** the exact matrix element. A veto however **complicates** the inclusion of double-soft emissions, since it effectively alters the **second emission**, complicating the path to further logarithmic enhancement.



# Phenomenological impact

- Contour mismatch by area  $\alpha\Delta$  leads to **breaking** of NLL and exponentiation
- Correct matching on the other hand **augments** the shower from NLL to NLL+NNDL for event shapes.
- Impact of NLL breaking terms vary - for SoftDrop they have a **big impact** due to the single-logarithmic nature of the observable. In particular the breaking manifests as terms with **super-leading** logs

$$\partial_L \Sigma_{SD}(L) = \bar{\alpha} c e^{\bar{\alpha} c L - \bar{\alpha} \Delta} - 2\bar{\alpha} L e^{-\bar{\alpha} L^2} (1 - e^{-\bar{\alpha} \Delta})$$

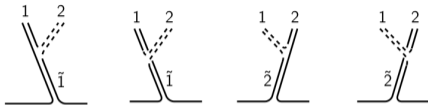


## Include double-soft real emissions

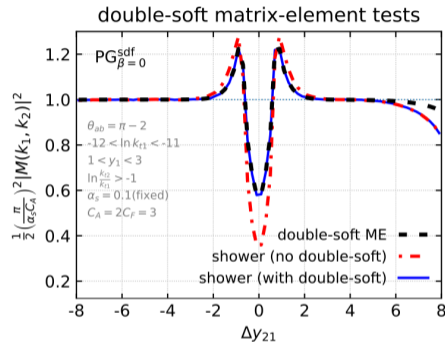
- NLO matching is a necessary ingredient for going beyond NLL, but to some extent NLO matching is a **solved problem**
- **Until recently** the inclusion of double-soft emissions in an NLL shower was still an **open question**
- To get them right we must ensure that **any pair** of soft emissions with commensurate energy and angles should be produced with the **correct ME**
- Any additional soft radiation off that pair must also come with the correct ME
- In addition must get the single-soft emission rate right at NLO (CMW-scheme)
- This should achieve **NNDL accuracy** for multiplicities, ie terms  $\alpha_s^n L^{2n}$ ,  $\alpha_s^n L^{2n-1}$ ,  $\alpha_s^n L^{2n-2}$
- and next-to-single-log (**NSL**) accuracy for non-global logarithms, for instance the energy in a rapidity slice,  $\alpha_s^n L^n$  and  $\alpha_s^n L^{n-1}$  (albeit only at leading- $N_C$  for now)



# The double-soft ME



- For now we have focused on PanGlobal
- Any two-emission configuration in a dipole-shower comes with up to **four histories** (for PanLocal this would in fact be eight)
- We accept any such configuration with the true ME divided by the shower's **effective double-soft ME** summed over all histories that could have lead to that configuration.

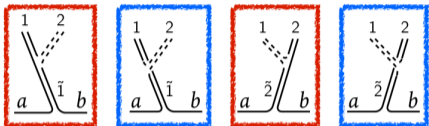


$$P_{\text{accept}} = \frac{|M_{\text{DS}}^2|}{\sum_h |M_{\text{shower},h}^2|}$$

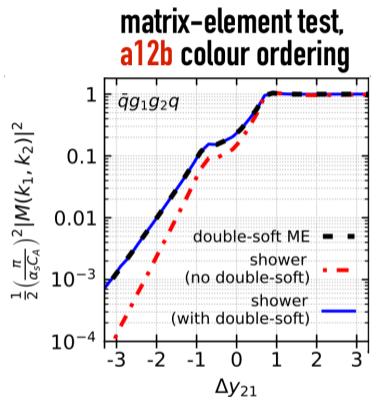




# Correcting the colour-ordering



- We have two distinct colour orderings  $a12b$  and  $a21b$
- We need to get the relative fractions  $F^{(12)}$  and  $F^{(21)}$  right in order to ensure that any further emissions are also correct.
- In practice we **accept** a colour ordering if the shower generates too little of it, and **swap** them if the shower generates too much (and similarly for  $q\bar{q}$  vs  $gg$  branchings).



$$P_{\text{swap}} = \frac{F_{\text{shower}}^{(12)} - F_{\text{DS}}^{(12)}}{F_{\text{shower}}^{(12)}}$$

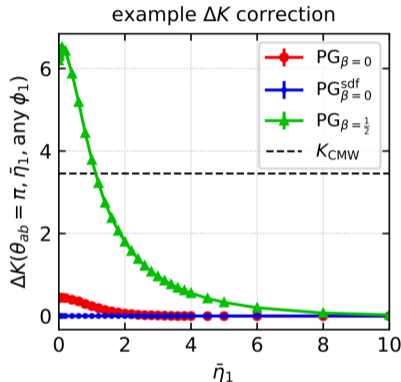


## ...and associated virtuals!

- The PanScales showers have **correct** soft emission intensity at NLO in the **soft-collinear** (sc) region due to the use of the CMW-coupling

$$\alpha_s \rightarrow \alpha_s + \alpha_s^2 K_1 / 2\pi$$

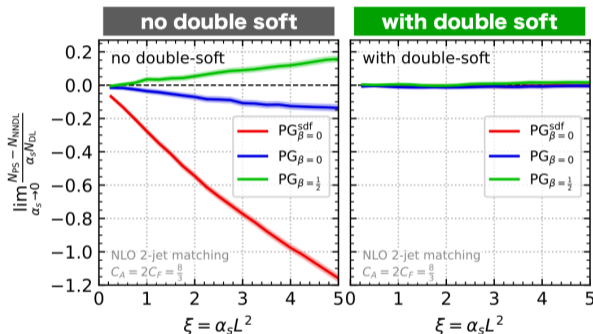
- This in general is not enough to get to soft wide-angle region right and we need to add a  $\Delta K_1$  which depends on the rapidity of the single soft emission
- This is related to the fact, that the shower organises its phase space in such a way, that the rapidity of soft pair,  $y_{12}$ , **does not coincide** with the parent rapidity,  $y_{\bar{1}}$ .



$$\Delta K_1 = \int d\Phi_{12/\bar{1}}^{(PS)} |M_{12/\bar{1}}^{(PS)}|^2 - \int d\Phi_{12/\bar{1}_{sc}}^{(PS)} |M_{12/\bar{1}_{sc}}^{(PS)}|^2.$$



# Lund Multiplicities

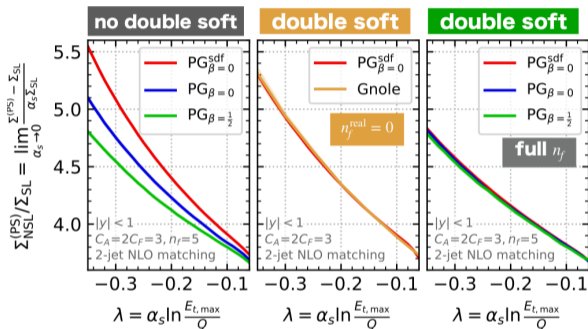


$$\lim_{\alpha_s \rightarrow 0} \frac{N_{(PS)} - N_{NNDL}}{\alpha_s N_{DL}} \Big|_{\text{fixed } \alpha_s L^2}$$

- Reference NNDL ( $\alpha_s^n L^{2n-2}$ ) analytic result from Medves, Soto-Ontoso, Soyez [2205.02861]
- We take  $\alpha_s \rightarrow 0$  limit to isolate NNDL terms. This is **significantly more challenging** than at NDL due to presence of  $1/\alpha_s$  in denominator.
- Showers without double-soft corrections show **clear differences** from reference (and each other).
- Adding the double-soft corrections brings **NNDL agreement**.



# Energy in a slice

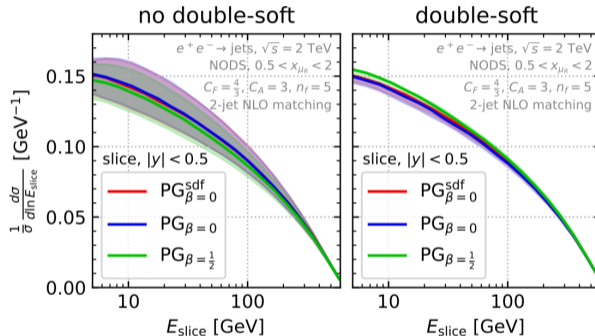


$$\lim_{\alpha_s \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Sigma^{(PS)} - \Sigma_{SL}}{\alpha_s} \Big|_{\text{fixed } \alpha_s L}$$

- Reference NSL ( $\alpha_s^n L^{n-1}$ ) from GnoLe Banfi, Dreyer, Monni [2111.02413] (see also Becher, Schalch, Xu [2307.02283]).
- We did this test **semi-blind**: only compared to GnoLe after we had agreement between the three PanGlobal variants.
- We have **NSL agreement with GnoLe** (using  $n_f^{real} = 0$ ) and agreement between all showers with full- $n_f$  dependence (first calculation of this kind as a by-product!)



# What about pheno?



- We studied energy flow between two hard (1 TeV) jets as a **preliminary** pheno case
- The three PanGlobal variants are remarkably close without double-soft corrections, but have **large uncertainties**
- With double-soft corrections we see a small shift in central values but a **significant reduction in uncertainties**.



# Compute triple-collinear ingredients

- Double-soft corrections are **not** by themselves enough to reach NNLL accuracy for event shapes. If our showers also had the correct triple-collinear structure (cf. Dasgupta, El-Menoufi [2109.07496], eid. + van Beekveld, Helliwell, Monni [2307.15734], eid. + AK [2402.05170] for work in this direction) we would get them right
- However, it turns out that with the inclusion of real double-soft emissions, only the **Sudakov form factor** needs to be modified to reach NNLL for event shapes
- Taking

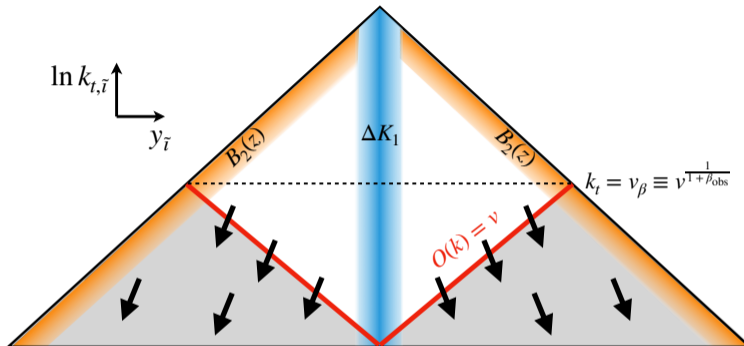
$$\alpha_{\text{eff}} = \alpha_s \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} (K_1 + \Delta K_1(y) + B_2(z)) + \frac{\alpha_s^2}{4\pi^2} K_2 \right]$$

there are two pieces missing -  $B_2$  which is of triple-collinear origin [2109.07496], [2307.15734] and  $K_2$  ( $A_3$ ) which is known Banfi, El-Menoufi, Monni [1807.11487], Catani, De Florian, Grazzini [1904.10365]

- However, as discussed above we also have to take into account that our NLL showers generate spurious terms  $\tilde{B}_2$  and  $\tilde{K}_2$  that effectively have to be **compensated**. This can be done numerically due to clear connection with shower kinematics



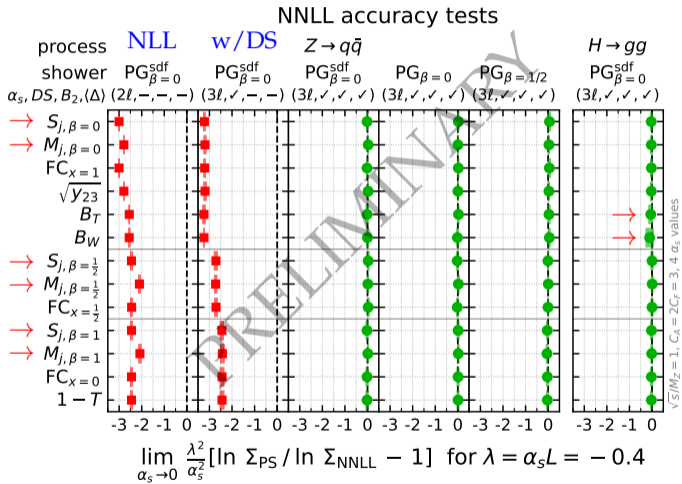
# An intuitive picture



Imagine an emission,  $\tilde{I}$ , sitting anywhere right at the observable boundary (red line). The key observation is that whenever the shower splits  $\tilde{I} \rightarrow 12$ , the kinematic variables  $(y_{12}, k_{t,12}, z_{12})$  of the resulting pair, do not agree with that of the parent  $(y_{\tilde{I}}, k_{t,\tilde{I}}, z_{\tilde{I}})$ . Since the **Sudakov** was computed assuming conserved kinematics of  $\tilde{I}$ , and the observable is computed with the actual kinematics of  $(12)$ , we have generated a **mismatch**. We correct for this by numerically evaluating the shifts.



# Are we there yet?



→ New analytic results - see Alba's talk

With no NNLL improvements, the coefficient of NNLL difference is significant,  $\mathcal{O}(2-3)$ , indicating importance of getting NNLL right

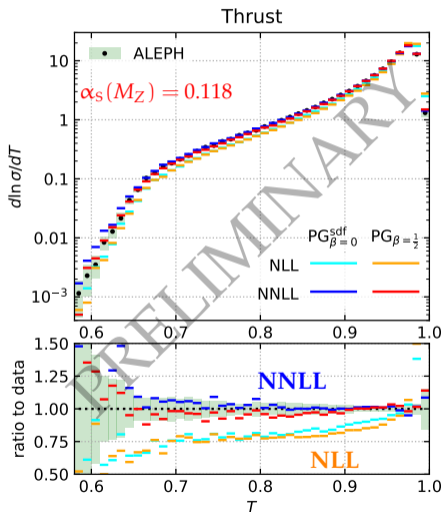
With the inclusion of double-soft, observables with the same  $\beta_{\text{obs}}$  align but do still not agree with the analytics

After inclusion of shifts and  $B_2$  and  $K_2$  we have perfect agreement





# Not far now...



Long-standing **tension** between LEP data and Pythia8 unless using an **anomalously** large value of  $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.137$  Skands, Carrazza, Rojo [1404.5630] (also present for PanScales showers)

Inclusion of NNLL brings **large** corrections with respect to NLL

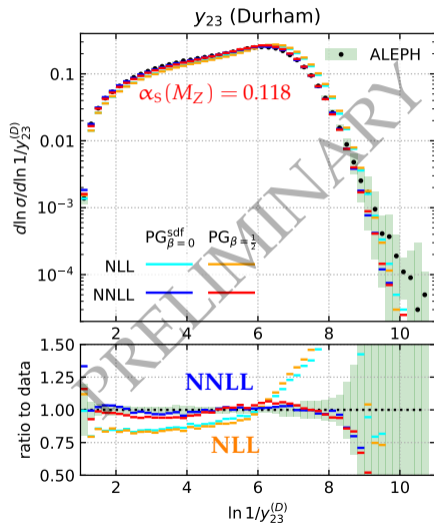
**Agreement** with data achieved **without** anomalously large value of  $\alpha_s$

**Beware:** no 3j@NLO which is known to be relevant in the hard regions

Residual uncertainties still need to be worked out



# Not far now...



Improved agreement with data across a large range of event shapes

Tuning here still rough

→ We start from the **Monash tune** (see ref. above) but fix  $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.118$

For our NLL showers this is the tune we use

For the NNLL showers we tune a number of parameters in the string model semi-automatically

Full tuning exercise **still to be done!**



# Conclusions and outlook

- As the experiments at the LHC record more and more data, it will become increasingly more important to **improve on the accuracy** of event generators
- NLL accurate showers have now been established by several groups
- First steps towards general NNLL accuracy was taken recently with the inclusion of double-soft corrections in the PanGlobal family of showers
- With these corrections we have reached **NNDL accuracy** for multiplicity and **NSL accuracy** for non-global observables
- The next natural step is to get **NNLL right for event shapes**
- This can be achieved using known ingredients from resummation together with an understanding of how the showers differ from analytic resummation through mainly recoil
- Although still preliminary, we think we have **achieved** this next step
- The associated NNLL code will be made public in a forthcoming 0.2 release of the **PanScales code**
- Naturally we now are thinking about how to bring these advances to hadron-collisions
- For full general NNLL the shower needs to also correctly reproduce triple-collinear kinematics (e.g. for fragmentation functions)
- Work in that direction is also ongoing

