

# Top quark mass effects in diphoton production at NNLO in QCD

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*Based on PLB 848 (2024) 138362 and arXiv:2308.11412*

*In collaboration with R. Bonciani, L. Cieri, F. Coro, F. Ripani*

# Outline

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***Introduction***



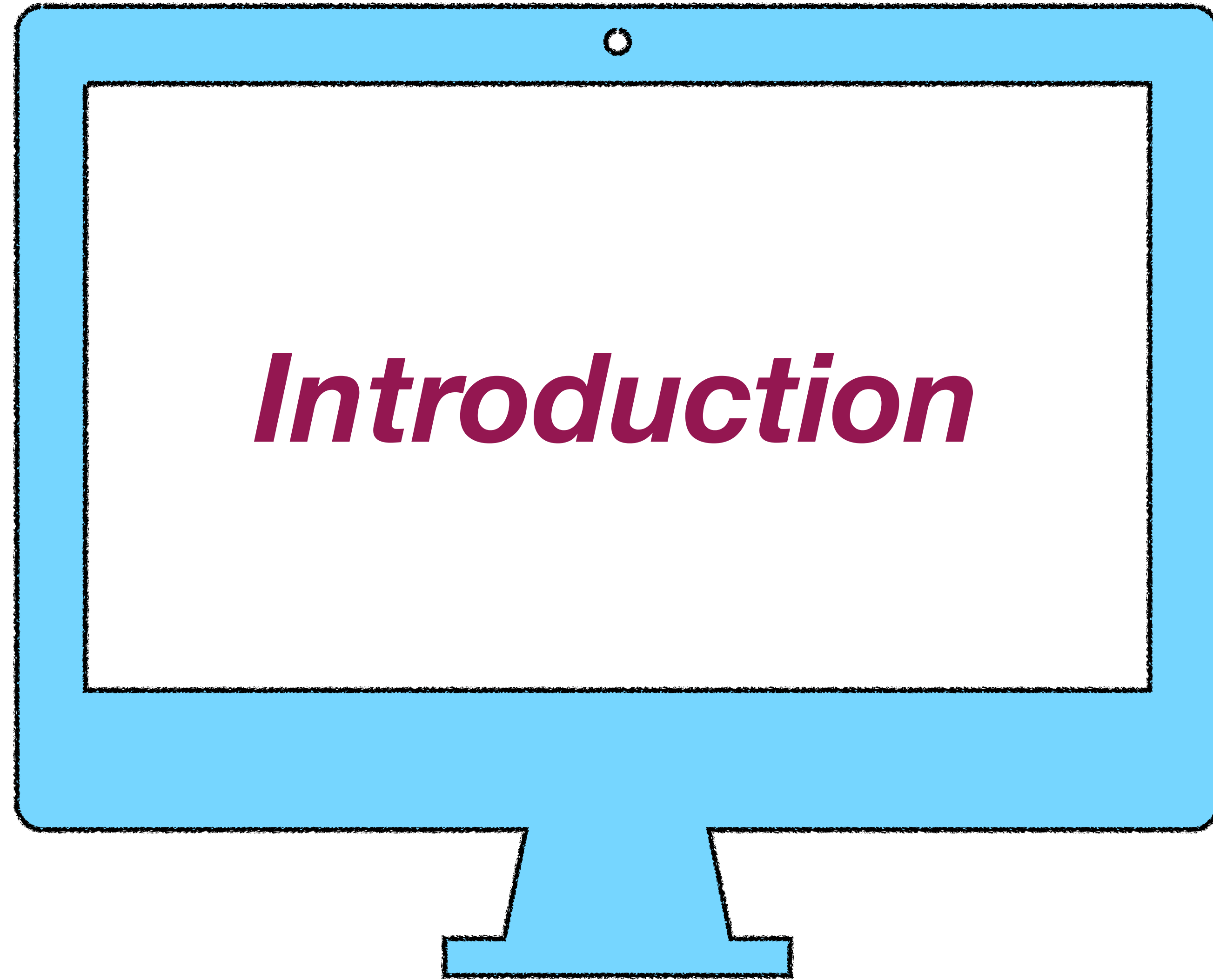
***Two-loop Amplitude for the quark annihilation channel***



***Phenomenology***



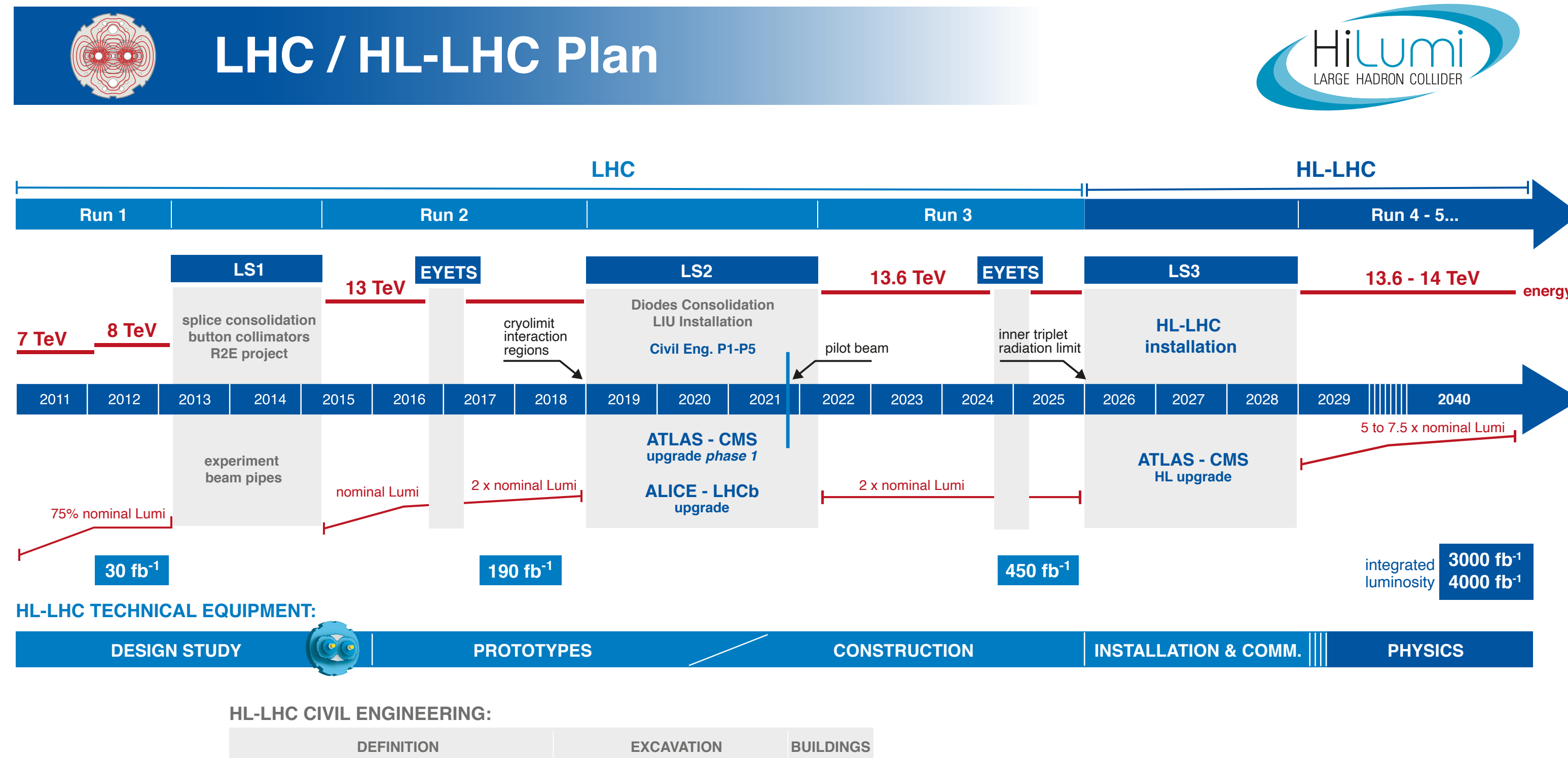
***Conclusion and Outlook***



# *Introduction*

# Motivation

## ★ High-Luminosity LHC Plan

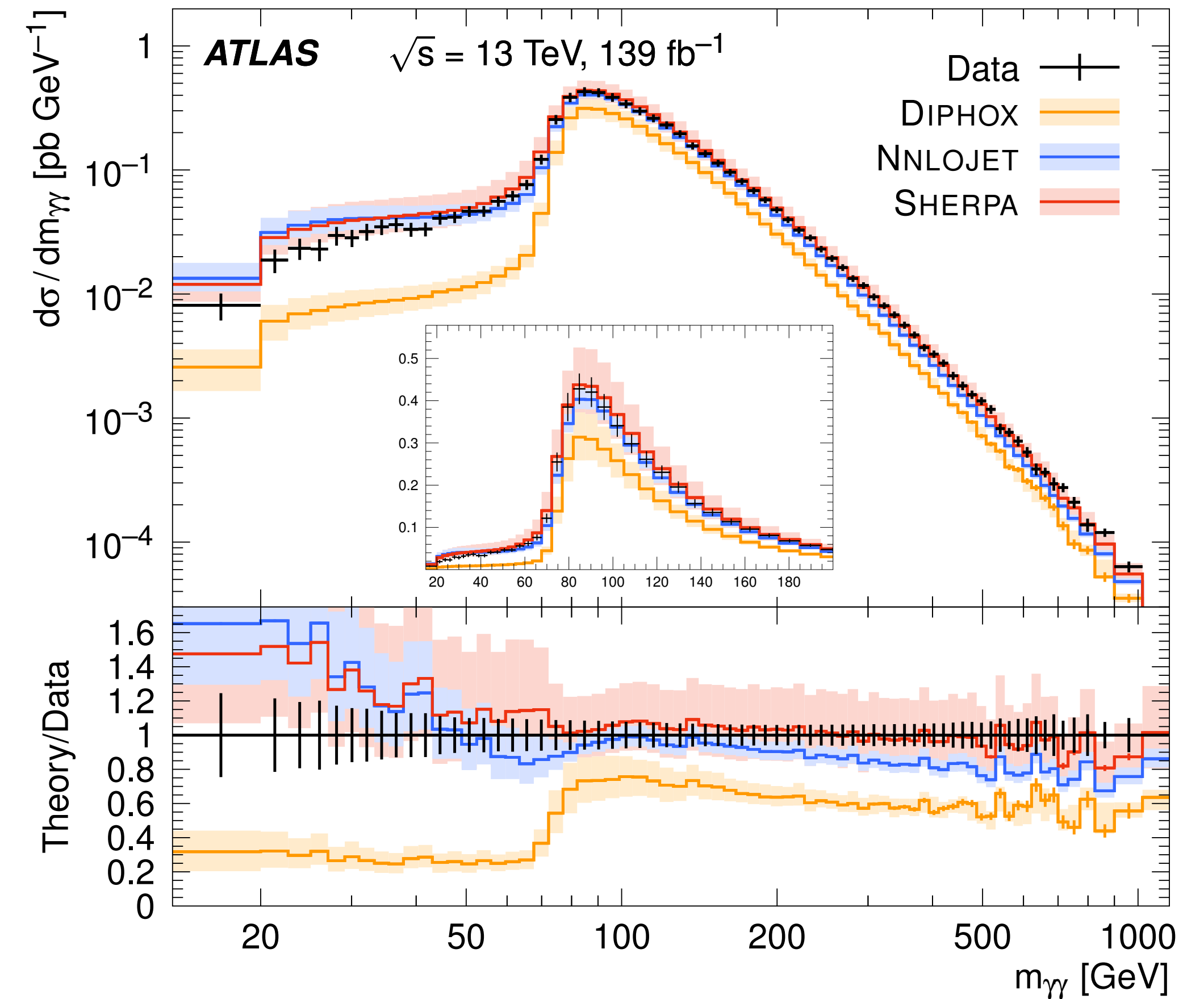


★ Experimental precision  $\sim \mathcal{O}(1\%)$  for many observables

★ NNLO QCD Corrections required to reduce theoretical uncertainty

# Diphoton Production

- ★ It is a probe for the SM, and check of the validity of pQCD
- ★ Important channel for Higgs studies
- ★ Irreducible background for NP searches
- ★ Possible alternative channel for measuring top quark mass  
[Kawabat, Yokoya '17; Dugad, Jain, Mitra, Sanyal, Verma '18]
- ★ Interesting framework to asses size of massive corrections at NNLO



[ATLAS (2017) arXiv:2107.09330]

# State of the Art

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- ★ NNLO QCD corrections with five light quarks flavours  
[Catani, Cieri, de Florian, Fererra, Grazzini '12 '18]  
[Campbell, Ellis, Li, Williams '16]  
[Schuermann, Chen, Gehrmann, Glover, Hofer, Huss '22]
- ★ Necessary scattering amplitude elements for N3LO analysis  
(massless case)  
[Bern, De Freitas, Dixon; Coal, Chakraborty, Gambuti, von Manteuffel, Tancredi; Chawdhry, Czakon, Mitov, Poncelet; Agarwal, Buccioni, von Manteuffel, Tancredi; Badger, Gehrmann, Marcoli, Moodie]
- ★ First-order Electroweak\QED corrections  
[Cieri, Sborlini '21; Binoth, Guillet, Pilon, Werlen '00; Chiesa, Greiner, Schoenherr, Tramontano '17]
- ★ NLO top quark mass effects in the gluon fusion channel  
[Maltoni, Mandal, Zhao '19; Chen, Heinrich, Jahn, Jones, Kerner, Schlenk, Yokoya '20]

# Massive Contributions at NNLO

Massive corrections  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$

Channels	$\gamma\gamma$	$\gamma\gamma j$	$\gamma\gamma jj$
$gg$			
$q\bar{q}$			
$qg$			

★ Double-Virtual Contribution

[MB, Bonciani, Cieri, Coro, Ripani '23]

★ One-loop box Contribution

[Campbell, Ellis, Li, Williams '16]

★ Real-Virtual Contribution

★ Double-Real Contribution

# *qT Subtraction Scheme*

- ★ For the production of a singlet-colour system F in hadron collision

$$d\sigma_{(N)NLO}^F |_{q_T \neq 0} = d\sigma_{(N)LO}^{F+jets}$$

- ★ Singular behaviour of the cross section for the system F+jets, at  $q_T=0$ , known

$$d\sigma^{CT} = d\sigma_{(LO)}^F \otimes \Sigma^F(q_T/Q)$$

$$\Sigma^F(q_T/Q) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\alpha_S}{\pi} \right)^n \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \Sigma^{F(n;k)} \frac{Q^2}{q_T^2} \log^{k-1} \frac{Q^2}{q_T^2}$$

- ★ Singular behaviour from resummation of logarithmic contributions at small transverse momentum

[Parisi, Petronzio '79; Collins, Soper, Sterman '85; Catani, de Florian, Grazzini '00]



# qT Subtraction Scheme

- ★ NNLO cross section in qT subtraction scheme [Catani, Grazzini '07]

$$d\sigma_{NNLO}^{\gamma\gamma} = \mathcal{H}_{NNLO}^{\gamma\gamma} \otimes d\sigma_{LO}^{\gamma\gamma} + \left[ d\sigma_{NLO}^{\gamma\gamma+jets} - d\sigma_{NLO}^{CT} \right]$$

Hard virtual function

NLO cross section for diphoton plus jet

Counterterm for small-qt singularities

- ✓ NLO (massless) cross section for diphoton plus jet known [Del Duca, Maltoni, Nagy, Trocsanyi '03]

- ✓ NLO (massless) counterterm known [Del Duca, Maltoni, Nagy, Trocsanyi '03]

- ✓ One-loop and two-loop (massless) Hard Function contributions known [Balazs, Berger, Mrenna, Yuan '98]  
[Anastasiou, Glover, Tejeda-Yeomans '02]  
[Catani, Cieri, de Florian, Ferrera, Grazzini '14]

- ✓ We include massive contribution to the cross section at NNLO

# Hard Function quark annihilation channel

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- ★ All-order relation

$$\mathcal{H}^{q\bar{q},\gamma\gamma} = \frac{|A_{q\bar{q},\gamma\gamma}^{(\text{fin})}|^2}{|A_{q\bar{q},\gamma\gamma}^{(0)}|^2}$$

Finite reminder

Born Amplitude

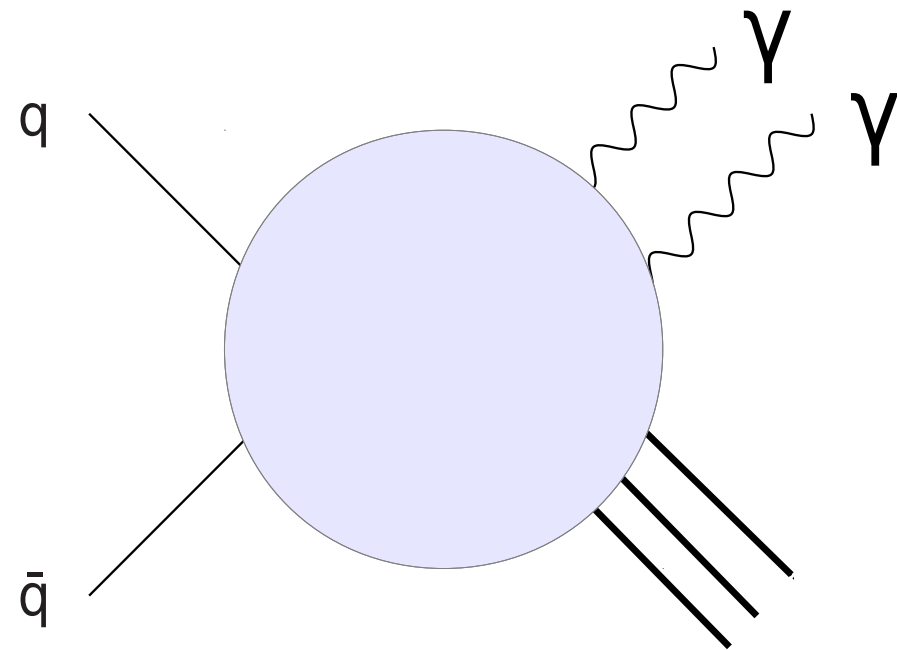
- ★ Perturbative expansion

$$\mathcal{H}^{q\bar{q},\gamma\gamma} = 1 + \frac{\alpha_S}{\pi} \mathcal{H}_{NLO}^{q\bar{q},\gamma\gamma} + \left(\frac{\alpha_S}{\pi}\right)^2 \mathcal{H}_{NNLO}^{q\bar{q},\gamma\gamma} + \dots$$

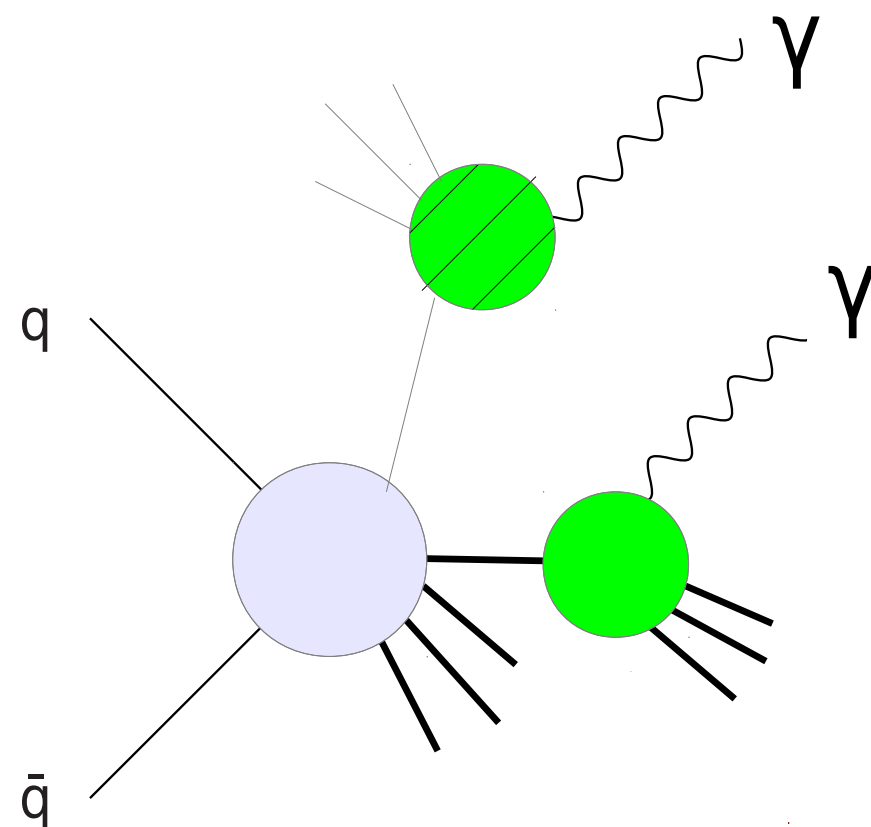
- ★ The two-loop massive amplitude in quark annihilation channel is **IR finite**, after UV regularisation
- ★ The two-loop massive corrections can be included by simple addition in the two-loop Hard Function

# Photon Isolation Criteria

**Direct Component:** photon production from hard interaction

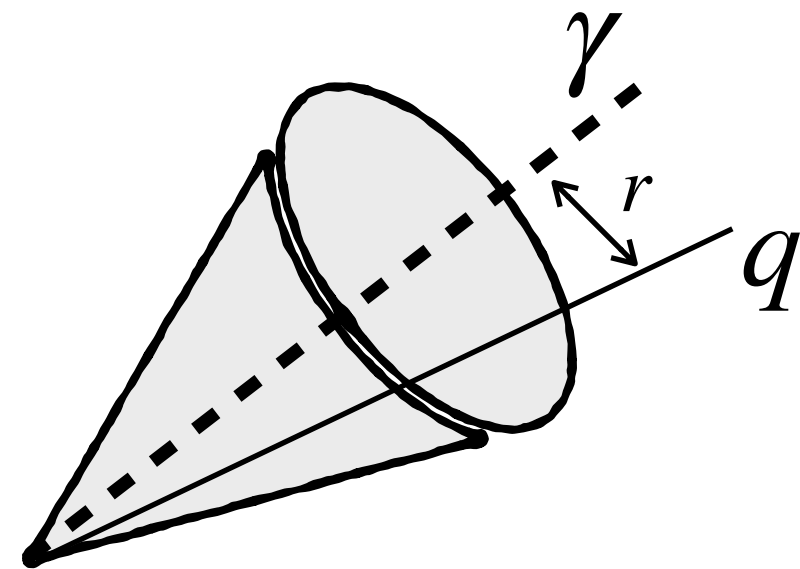


**Fragmentation Component:** photon production from non-perturbative fragmentation of hard Parton



- ★ Experimentally photons have to be isolated
- ★ Isolation reduces fragmentation component

We use **smooth cone isolation** [Frixione '98]



$$\sum_{r < R} E_T^{had} \leq \epsilon p_{T,\gamma} \chi(r; R)$$

$$\chi(r; R) = \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^{2n}$$

IR-Safe Cross Section

$r \rightarrow 0$ : No fragmentation Component

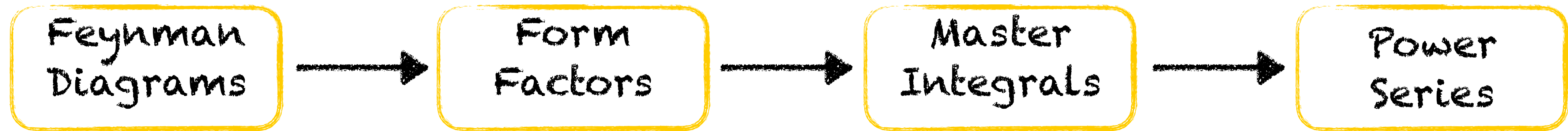


***Two-loop Amplitude  
for the quark  
annihilation channel***

# Strategy of the Computation

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- ★ Missing ingredient for a complete **NNLO** analysis of diphoton production with **top quark mass dependence**
- ★ Analytic structure of Feynman integrals involves **elliptic geometries**
- ★ We evaluate numerically the integrals using **power series expansion technique** [Moriello '18]



# Form Factors Decomposition

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- ★ We consider scattering amplitudes for diphoton production in **quark annihilation channel**

$$\mathcal{A}_{q\bar{q},\gamma\gamma}(s, t, m_t^2) = \sum_{i=1}^4 \mathcal{F}_i(s, t, m_t^2) \bar{v}(p_2) \Gamma_i^{\mu\nu} u(p_1) \epsilon_{3,\mu} \epsilon_{4,\nu}$$

- ★ The amplitude can be decomposed as sum of **four independent tensor structures**

$$\Gamma_1^{\mu\nu} = \gamma^\mu p_2^\nu, \quad \Gamma_2^{\mu\nu} = \gamma^\nu p_1^\mu, \quad \Gamma_3^{\mu\nu} = p_{3,\rho} \gamma^\rho p_1^\mu p_2^\nu, \quad \Gamma_4^{\mu\nu} = p_{3,\rho} \gamma^\rho g^{\mu\nu}$$

- ★ We compute the two-loop form factors contribution coming from diagrams with **heavy quark loops**

$$\mathcal{F}_i = \mathcal{F}_i^{(0)} + \left( \frac{\alpha_S^B}{\pi} \right) \mathcal{F}_i^{(1)} + \left( \frac{\alpha_S^B}{\pi} \right)^2 \mathcal{F}_i^{(2)} + \dots$$

# Massive Quark Contribution

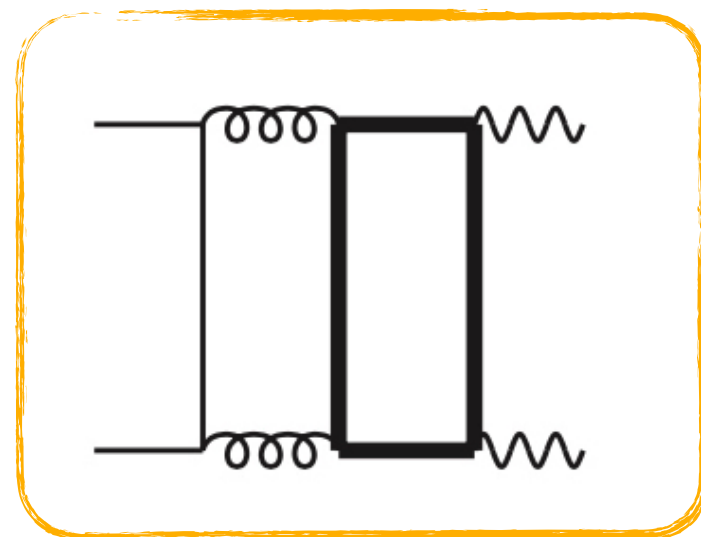
- ★ Contribution from heavy quark loops appear at order  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$

$$\mathcal{F}_{i,\text{top}}^{(2)} = 4\pi\alpha_{em}\delta_{kl}C_F \left[ Q_q^2 \mathcal{F}_{i,\text{top};0}^{(2)} + Q_t^2 \mathcal{F}_{i,\text{top};2}^{(2)} \right]$$

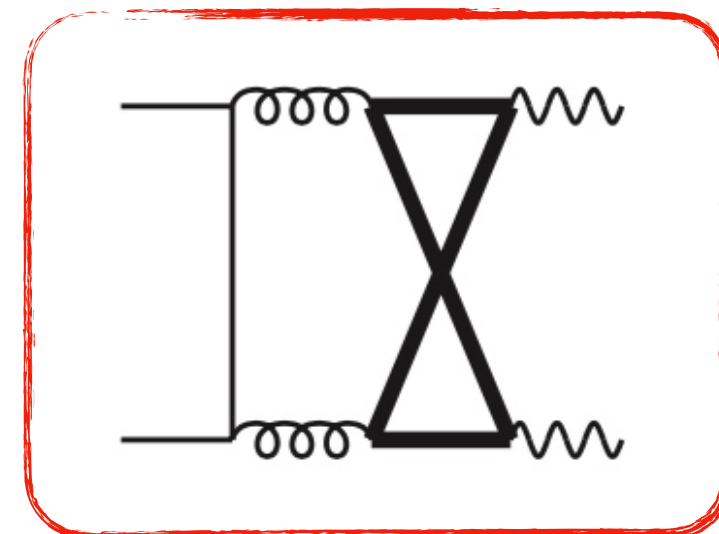
$$C_F = \frac{N_c^2 - 1}{2N_c}$$

$Q_q$  Light-quark electric charge  
 $Q_t$  Heavy-quark electric charge

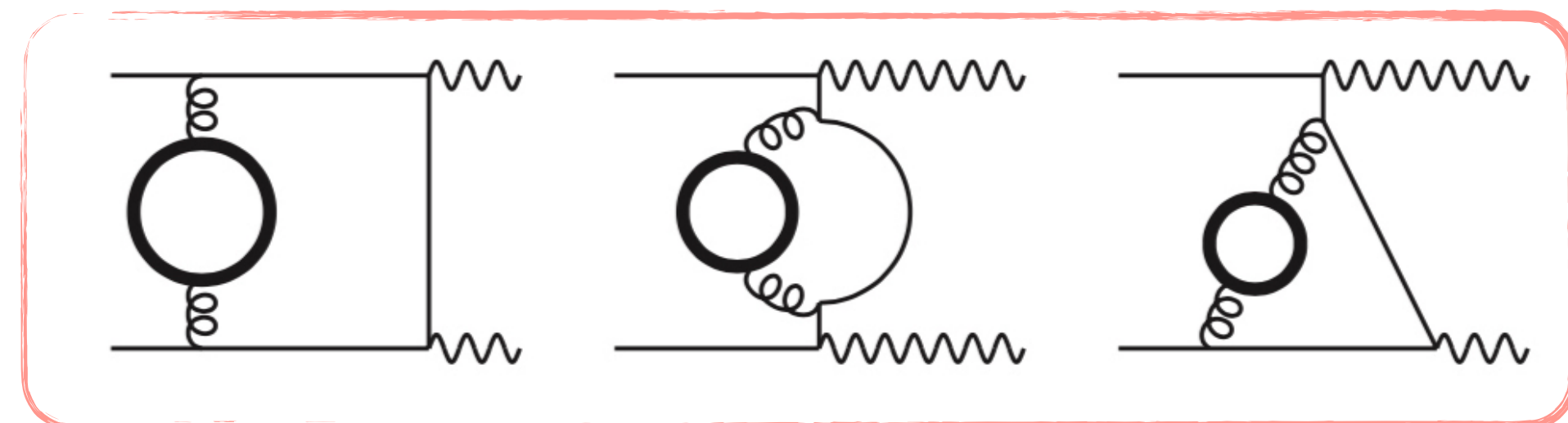
- ★ Three different kind of contributions



PLA



NPL



PLB

# UV and IR structure

- ★ Since diagrams with a heavy quark loop start contributing at two loop,  $\mathcal{F}_{i,\text{top}}^{(2)}$  **does not have IR singularities**
- ★ All the divergences are of **UV origin**
- ★ Renormalisation is performed in a **mixed scheme**

$$\mathcal{F}_i^R = Z_q \mathcal{F}_i \left( \alpha_S^B \rightarrow Z_{\alpha_S} \alpha_S \right)$$

On-shell Scheme

Light-quark  $\overline{\text{MS}}$   
Heavy-quark OS

$$\mathcal{F}_{i,\text{top}}^{(2)R} = \mathcal{F}_{i,\text{top}}^{(2)} + \delta Z_q^{(2)} \mathcal{F}_i^{(0)} + \delta Z_{\alpha, N_h, OS}^{(1)} \mathcal{F}_i^{(1)}$$

$$Z_q = 1 + \left( \frac{\alpha_S}{\pi} \right) \delta Z_q^{(1)} + \left( \frac{\alpha_S}{\pi} \right)^2 \delta Z_q^{(2)} + \dots$$

$$Z_{\alpha_S} = 1 + \left( \frac{\alpha_S}{\pi} \right) \left( \delta Z_{\alpha, N_l, \overline{\text{MS}}}^{(1)} + \delta Z_{\alpha, N_h, OS}^{(1)} \right) + \dots$$



# Scalar Integrals Topologies

★ Form factors written as linear combination of **72 Master integrals (MIs)**

★ MIs can be cast into **three** independent scalar integrals topologies

$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{topo}}(n_1, \dots, n_9) = \int \frac{\mathcal{D}k_1 \mathcal{D}k_2}{D_1^{n_1} D_2^{n_2} D_3^{n_3} D_4^{n_4} D_5^{n_5} D_6^{n_6} D_7^{n_7} D_8^{n_8} D_9^{n_9}}$$

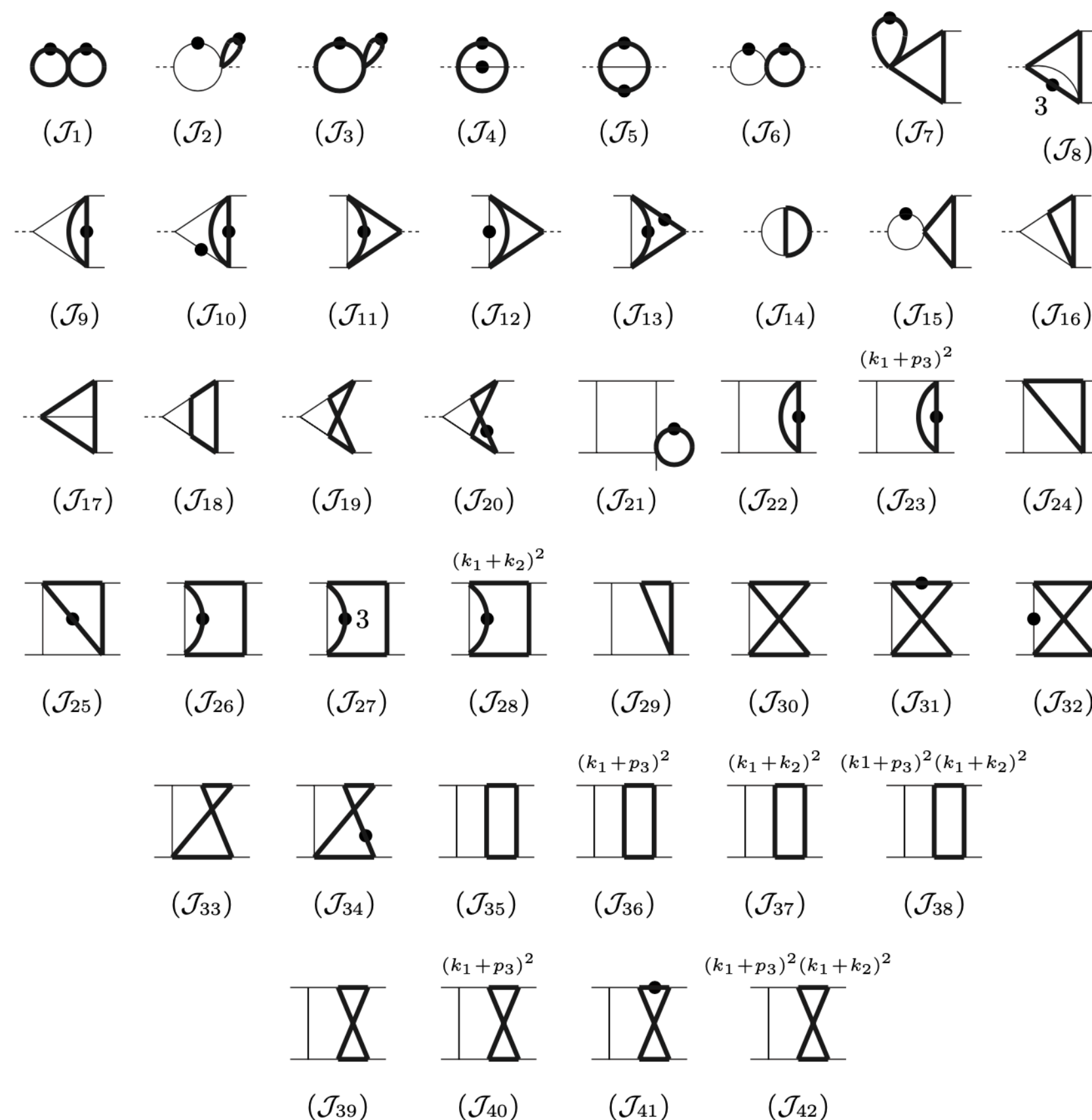
★ Two Planar Topologies, **PLA** and **PLB**, analytically computable in terms of **Multiple Polylogarithmic** functions

[Aglietti, MB, Bonciani, Caron-huot, Ferroglia, Henn, Mastrolia, Penin, Remiddi,... ]

★ Non Planar Topology, **NPL**, analytic structure described by **elliptic geometry**

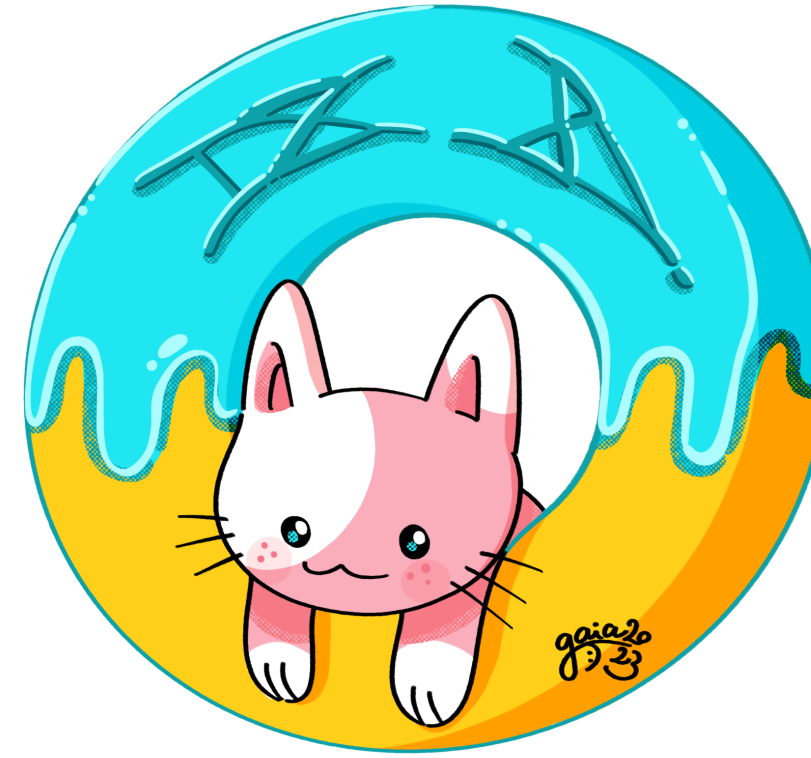
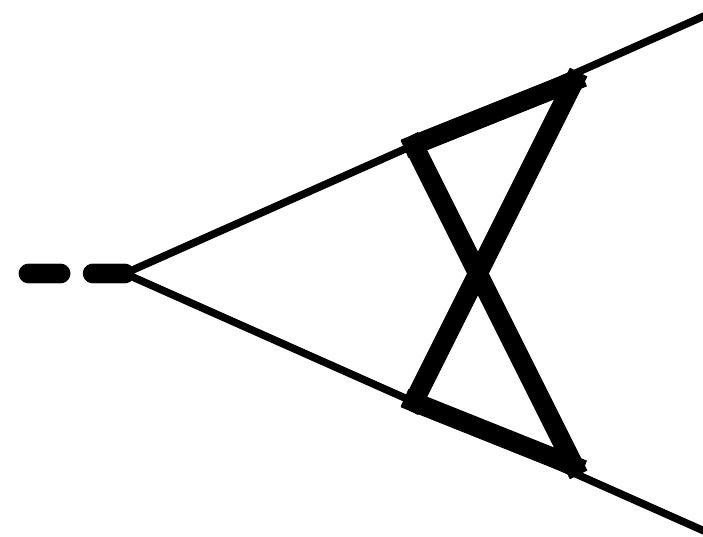
Only numerical evaluation

[Maltoni, Mandal, Zhao '18; Chen Heinrich, Jahn, Jones, Kerner, Schlenk et al. '20]



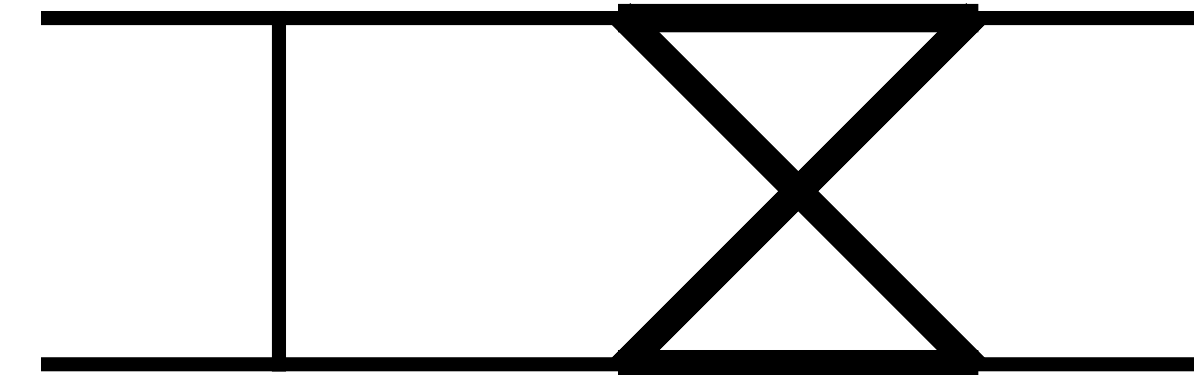
# Elliptic Sectors

Non-Planar Triangle



[G.Fontana]

Non-Planar Double-box



- ★ Analytic solution written in terms of elliptic generalisation of MPLs (eMPLs)

[von Manteuffel, Tancredi '17]

[Broedel, Duhr, Dulat, Penante, Tancredi '18]

- ★ Geometry of the analytic structure described by the elliptic curve

$$y_T^2 = z(z + s)(z - a_+)(z - a_-)$$

$$a_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \left( -s \pm \sqrt{s(s + 16m_t^2)} \right)$$

- ★ Analytic solution currently **unknown**

- ★ Geometry of the analytic structure described by the elliptic curve

$$y_{db}^2 = (z + t)(z + s + t)(z - b_+)(z - b_-)$$

$$b_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \left( -s - 2t \pm \sqrt{s(s + 16m_t^2)} \right)$$

# Differential Equations

- ★ We compute the MIs by means of differential equations method (DEQs)

$$d \vec{f}(\vec{x}, \epsilon) = d A(\vec{x}, \epsilon) \vec{f}(\vec{x}, \epsilon)$$

- ★ Vector of kinematics invariants

$$\vec{x} = \{y, z\}, \quad y = \frac{s}{m_t^2}, \quad z = \frac{t}{m_t^2}$$

- ★ Analytic Boundary conditions fixed at  $\vec{x}_0 = \{0,0\}$

- ★ Semi-Analytic solution obtained through generalised power series expansion

[Moriello '18]

- ★ DEQs for **planar topologies** in canonical form

$$d \vec{f}_P(\vec{x}, \epsilon) = \epsilon d A_P(\vec{x}) \vec{f}_P(\vec{x}, \epsilon)$$

- ★ DEQs for **nonplanar topologies** in split form

$$d \vec{f}_{NP}(\vec{x}, \epsilon) = \epsilon d A_{NP}(\vec{x}) \vec{f}_{NP}(\vec{x}, \epsilon) + d \tilde{A}_{NP}(\vec{x}, \epsilon) \vec{f}_{NP}(\vec{x}, \epsilon)$$

d-Logarithmic  
Contribution

Elliptic sectors  
Contribution

# Generalised Power Series Evaluation

- ★ We exploit the Generalised Power Series method as implemented in DiffExp [Hidding '20]

Series Solution around  
singular points of DEQs

$$\vec{f}(t, \epsilon) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \epsilon^k \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \rho_i(t) \vec{f}_i^{(k)}(t), \quad \rho(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & t \in [t_i - r_i, t_i + r_i) \\ 0, & t \notin [t_i - r_i, t_i + r_i) \end{cases}, \quad \vec{f}_i^{(k)}(t) = \sum_{l_1=0}^{\infty} \sum_{l_2=0}^{N_{i,k}} c_k^{(i,l_1,l_2)} (t - t_i)^{\frac{l_1}{2}} \log(t - t_i)^{l_2}$$

- ★ The method **does not depend** on the functional space of the solution
- ★ Numerical evaluation of MIs in **whole phase-space**
- ★ Suitable for **phenomenological applications**

# Numerical Evaluation

- ★ We evaluate the MIs directly in the **physical phase-space region**

$$s > 0, \quad t = -\frac{s}{2}(1 - \cos(\theta)), \quad -s < t < 0$$

- ★ We build a numerical grid for the Hard function

$$-0.99 < \cos \theta < 0.99, \quad 8 \text{ GeV} < \sqrt{s} < 2.2 \text{ TeV}$$

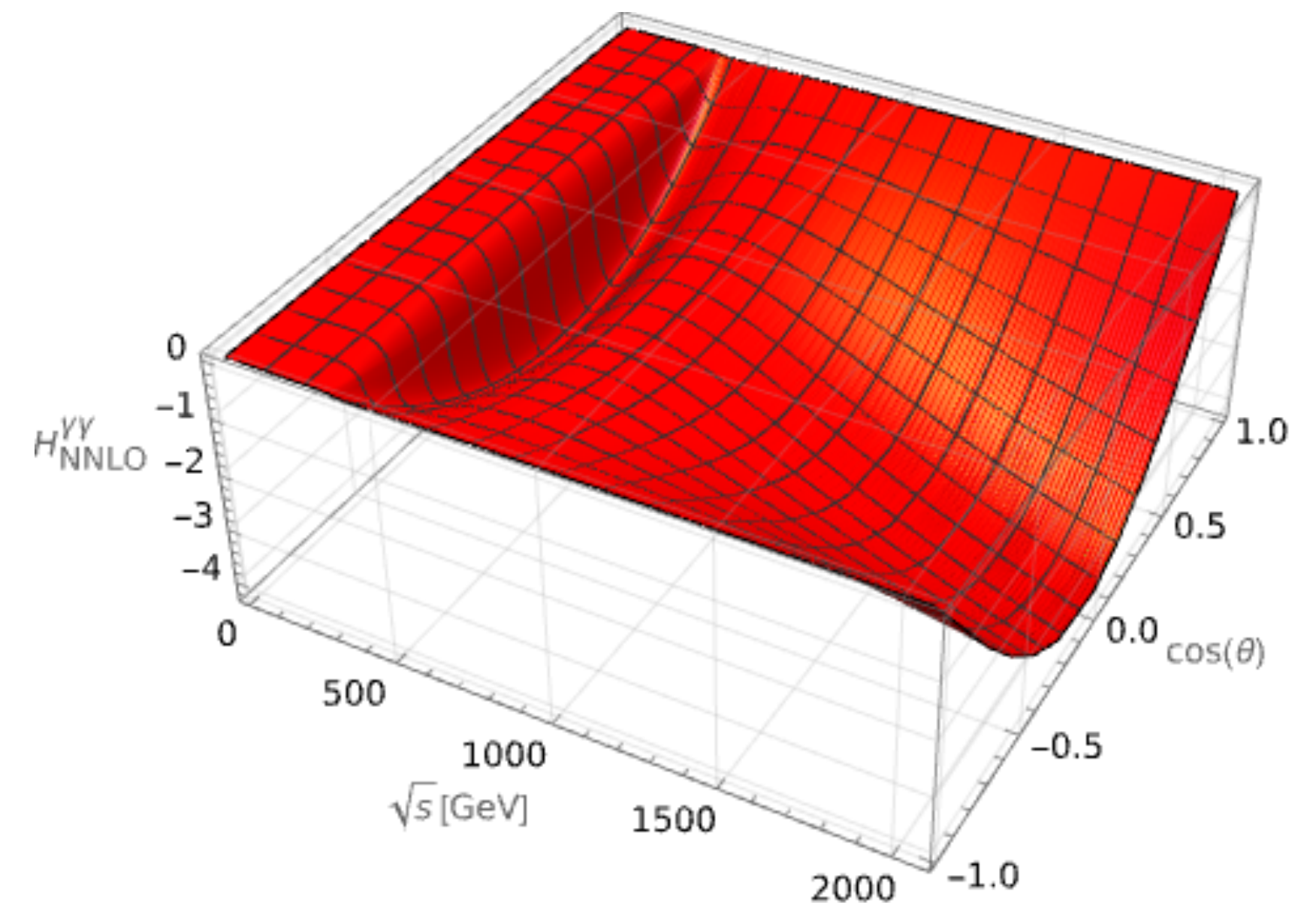
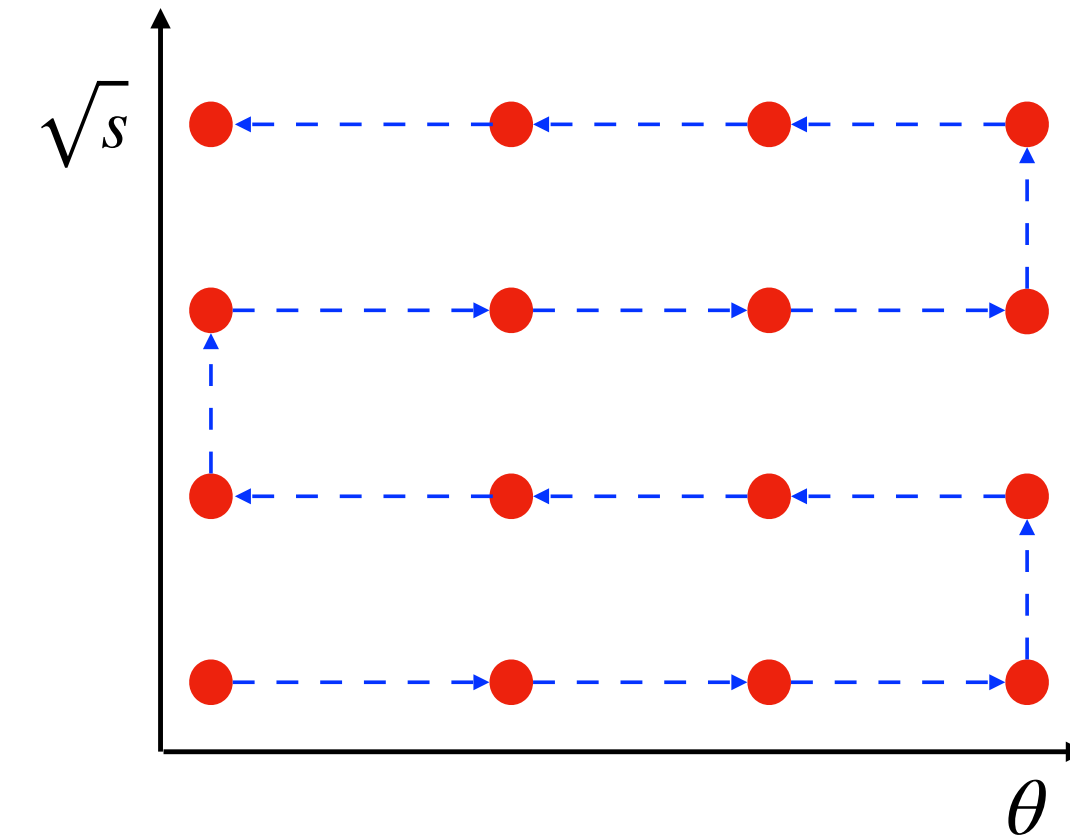
$$P_{i,j} := \begin{cases} s_i = s_0 + (s_f - s_0) \frac{i}{572} \\ t_j = -\frac{s_i}{2}(1 - \cos \theta_j), \quad \cos \theta_j = \cos \theta_0 + (\cos \theta_f - \cos \theta_0) \frac{j}{23} \end{cases}$$

Evaluation time 13752 points★

Planar  
Topology:  
 $\mathcal{O}(2.5h)$

Non-Planar  
Topology:  
 $\mathcal{O}(10.5h)$

★ Single core laptop



A green computer monitor with a white screen. The word "Phenomenology" is written in a purple, italicized font on the screen. The monitor has a small white dot on the top bezel and a green stand.

*Phenomenology*

# Framework

- ★ Massive corrections encoded in new version of  $2\gamma\text{NNLO}$   
[Catani, Cieri, de Florian, Ferrera, Grazzini '16]
- ★ We exploited fast integration routines of the  $\text{DYTurbo}$  framework  
[Camarda et al. '20]

Kinematical  
parameters

Isolation cone  
parameters

Scales choice

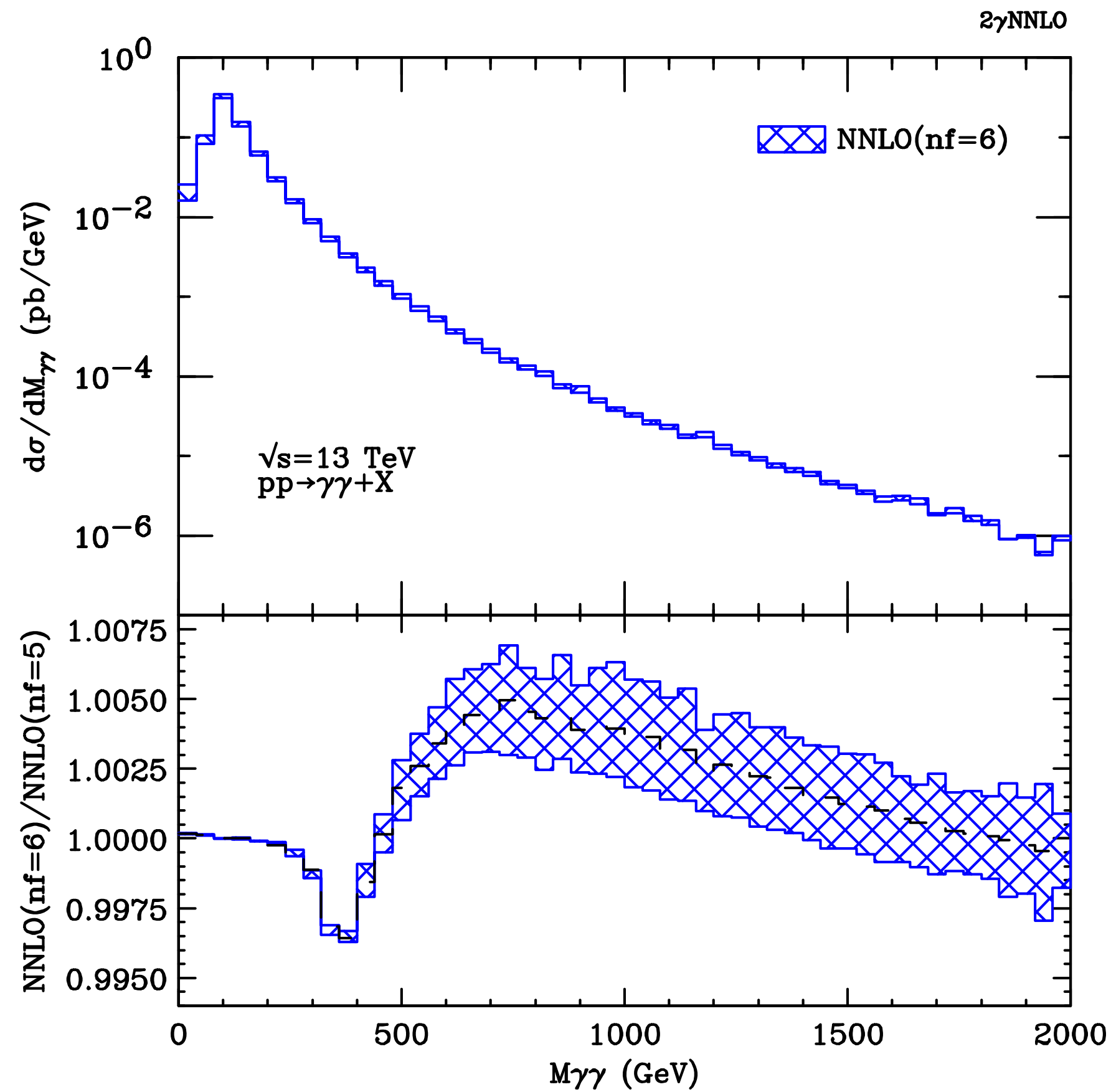
- ★  $\sqrt{s} = 13\text{TeV}$
- ★ Photon transverse momentum:  $p_{T_\gamma}^{\text{hard}} \geq 40\text{GeV}$ ,  $p_{T_\gamma}^{\text{soft}} \geq 30\text{GeV}$
- ★ Photon rapidity:  $|y_\gamma| < 2.37$  Excluding  $1.37 < |y_\gamma| < 1.52$

$$E_T^{\text{had}}(r) \leq \epsilon p_{T_\gamma} \chi(r; R)$$
$$\chi(r; R) = \left(\frac{r}{R}\right)^{2n}$$
$$R = 0.4$$
$$\epsilon = 0.09$$
$$n = 1$$

- ★  $\mu \equiv \mu_F = \mu_R = M_{\gamma\gamma}$
- ★ Theoretical uncertainty: seven-point variation scale by factors  $\{1/2, 2\}$

ATLAS  
Collaboration  
Parameters

# NNLO Invariant Mass Distribution



Lower Panel: ratio between **fully massive** and **massless** NNLO

$$M_{\gamma\gamma} \leq 2m_t$$

Massive corrections **smaller** than massless one. Peak at top-quark threshold

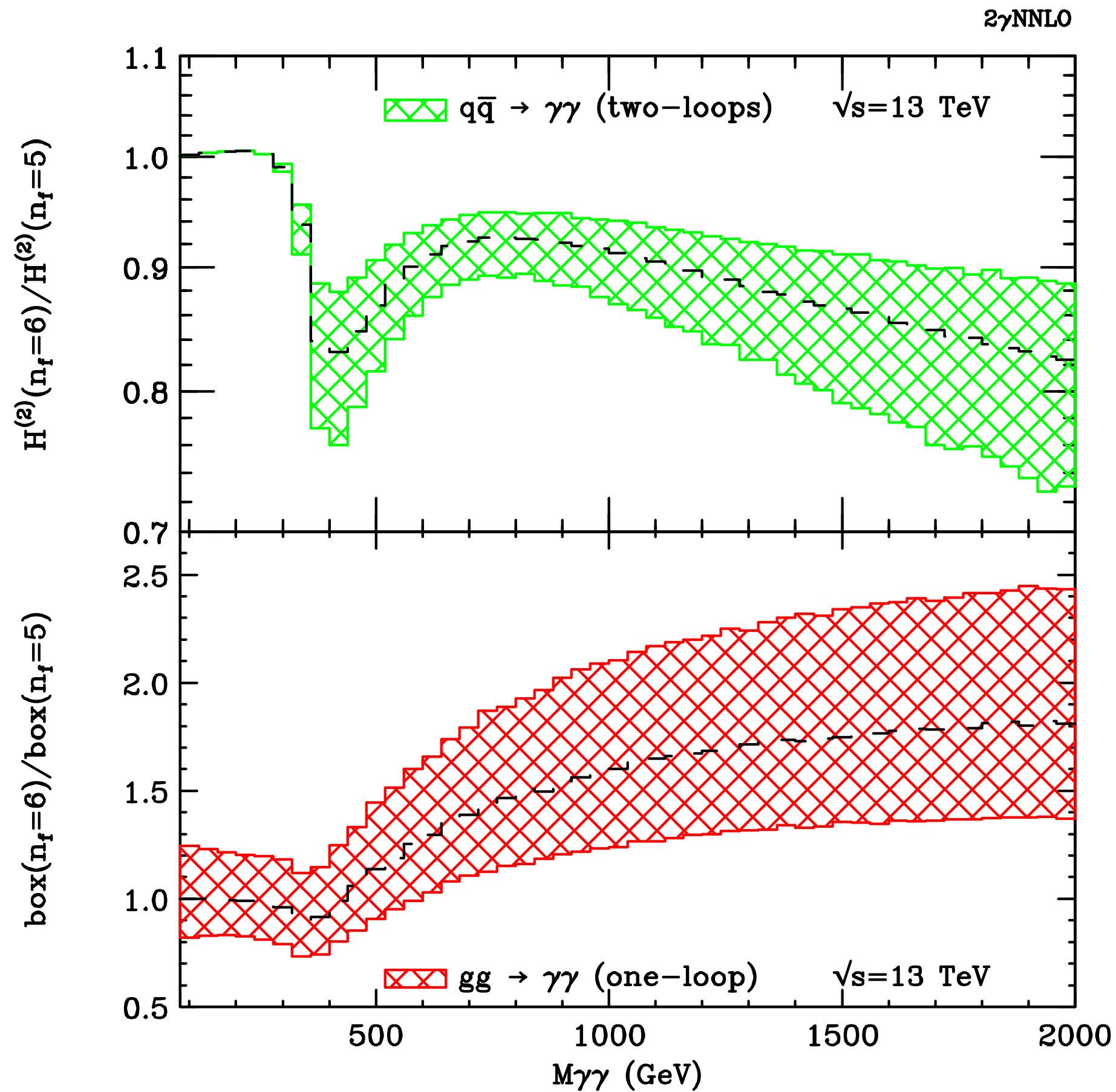
$$M_{\gamma\gamma} > 2m_t$$

Massive corrections **larger** than massless one. Maximum deviation at 2.3 times top-quark threshold

Effect of massive corrections:  
deviation from massless one in the  
range  **$[-0.4\%, 0.8\%]$**



# Hard Function



Upper Panel: ratio between **fully massive** and **massless NNLO**

Smaller, in whole invariant mass range, than the massless one

Lower Panel: ratio between **one-loop box** and **massless NNLO**

One-loop box asymptotically behaves as a **6 light quark contribution**

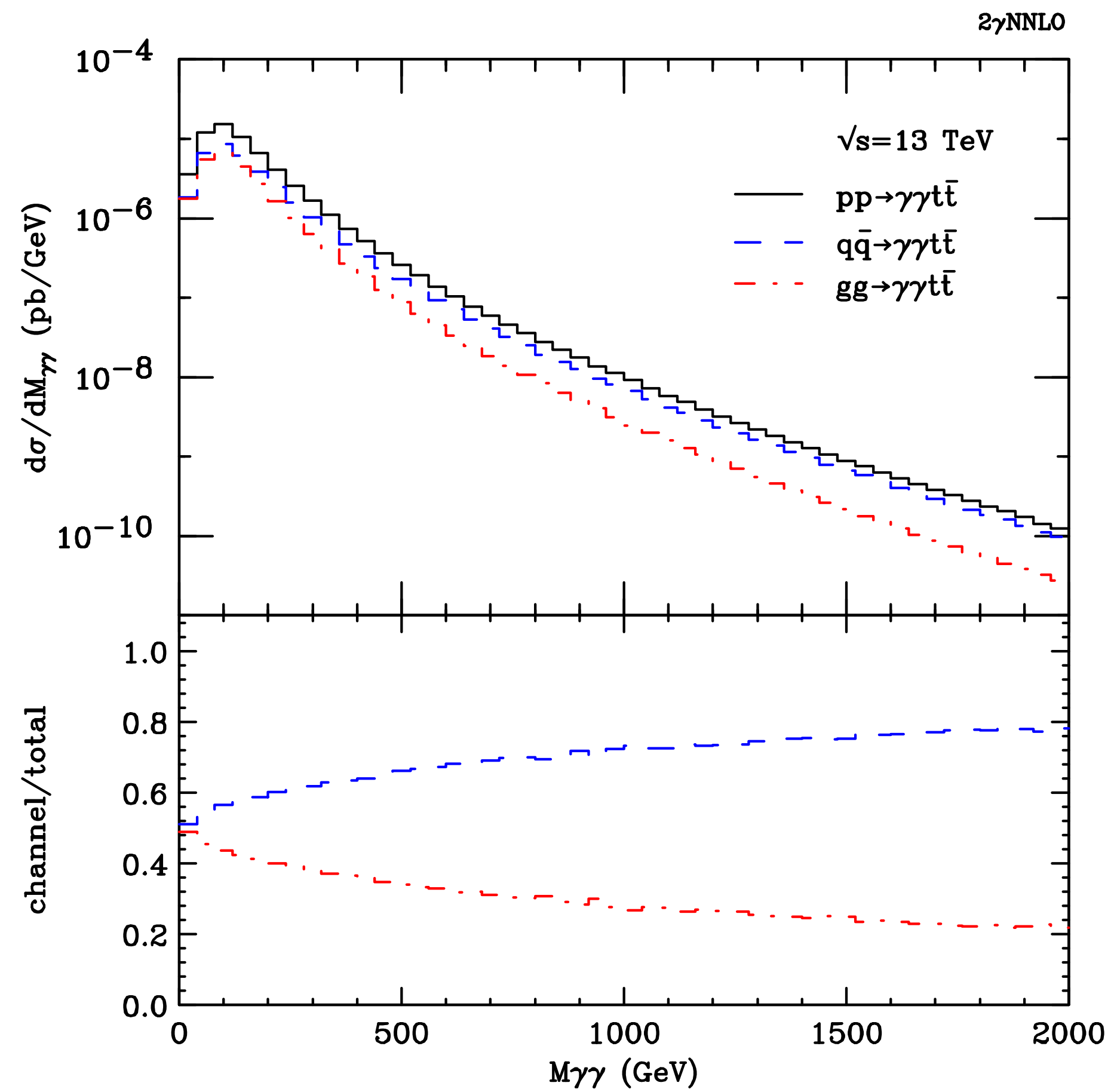
$$\left(\sum_{n_f=6} e_q^2\right)^2 / \left(\sum_{n_f=5} e_q^2\right)^2 = 225/121 = 1.8595\dots$$

Size of both ratios around negative peak: -15%

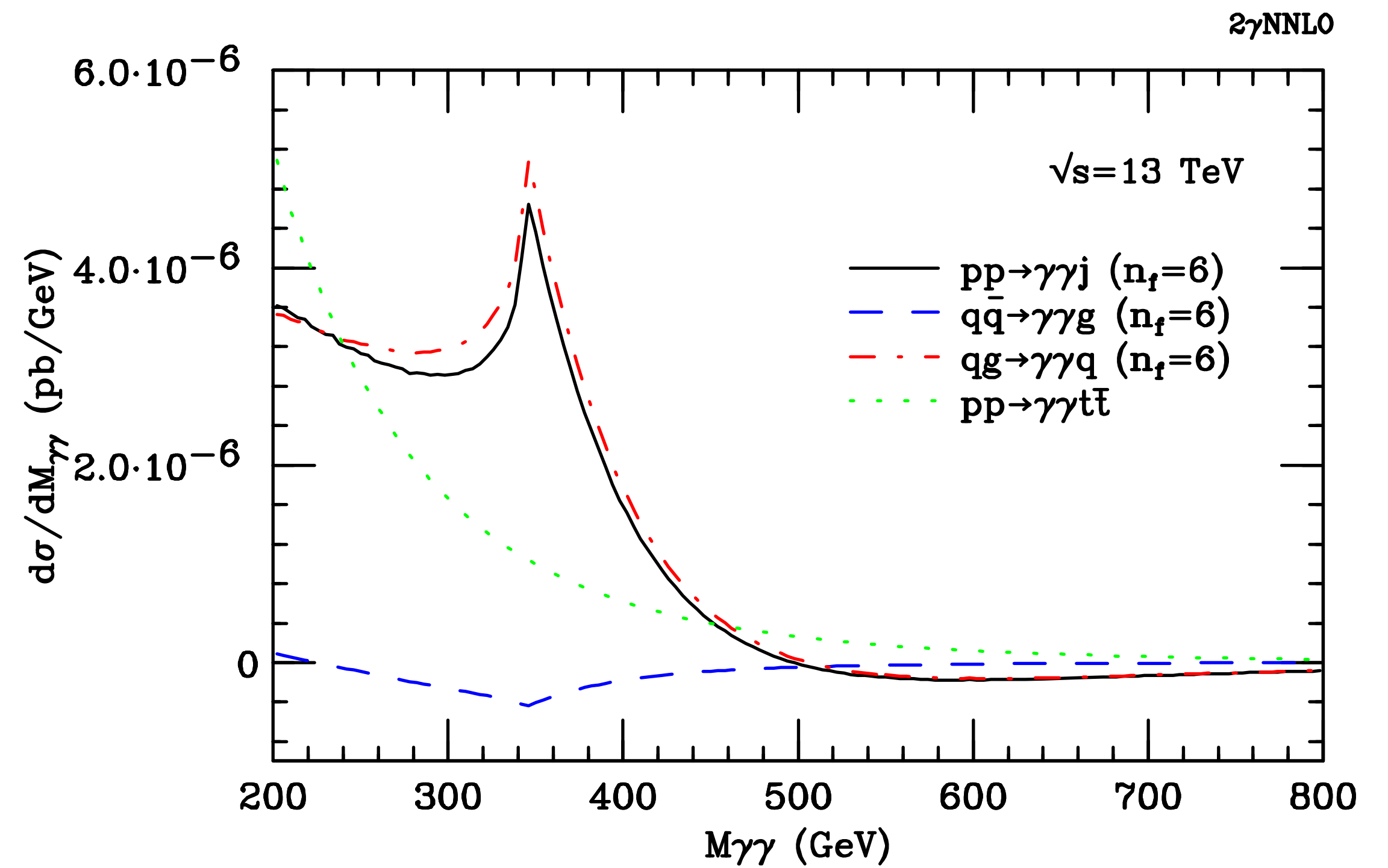
Most sizeable massive contributions at NNLO

# Double-Real and Real-Virtual Contributions

## Double-Real

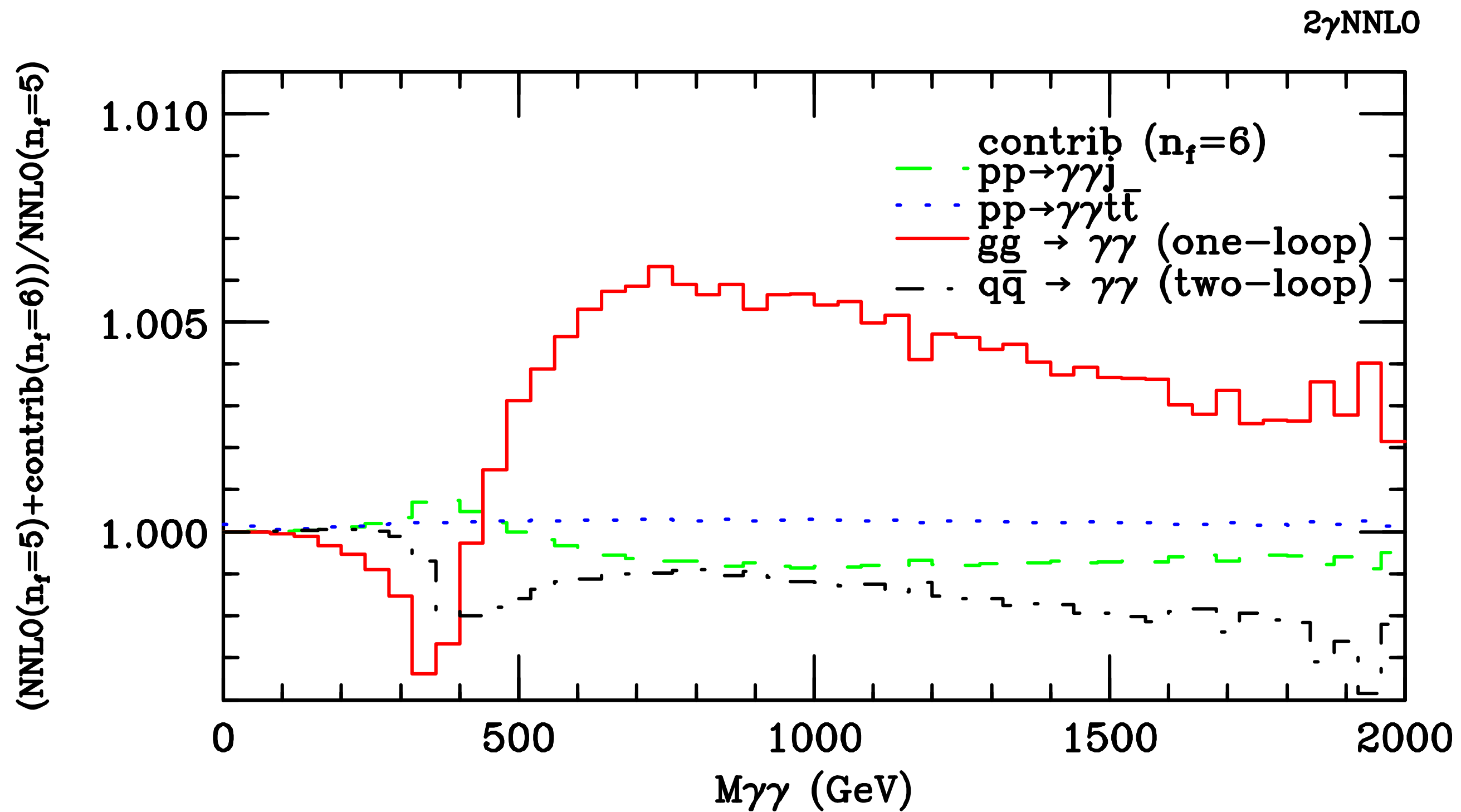


## Real-Virtual



# Summary of Massive Contributions

Ratios of each massive contributions with respect to massless NNLO



Two-loop quark annihilation and one-loop box dominant massive contributions

Real-Virtual Contribution subdominant. It reduces the size of the negative peak at the top threshold

Size of massive Double-Real Contribution tiny and not relevant for phenomenology



***Conclusion and  
Outlook***

# Conclusion and Outlook

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- ★ We computed the fully massive corrections to diphoton production at NNLO
- ★ The two most significant contributions are the one-loop box and the two loop qq channel
- ★ Massive corrections relevant at the top quark threshold but also for large values of the invariant mass

## Future Developments

- ★ Constraints on top quark mass
- ★ Inclusion of partial N3LO massive contributions
- ★ qT Resummation



Thank you for your  
attention!