

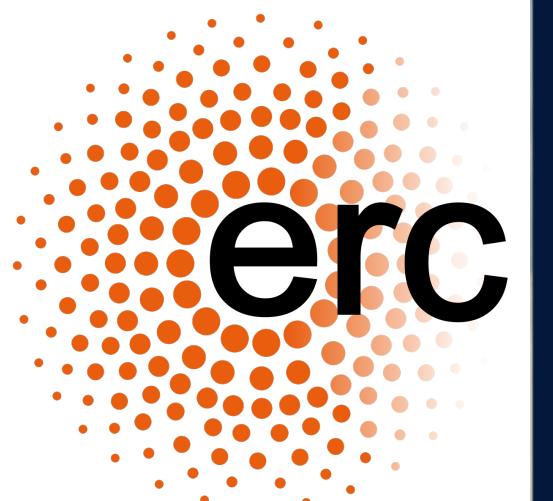
Signal-background interference effects for Higgs-mediated diphoton production beyond NLO

In collaboration with: P.Bargiela, F.Buccioni, F.Caola, A.von Manteuffel, L.Tancredi

Federica Devoto

HP2 2022, 21/09/2022

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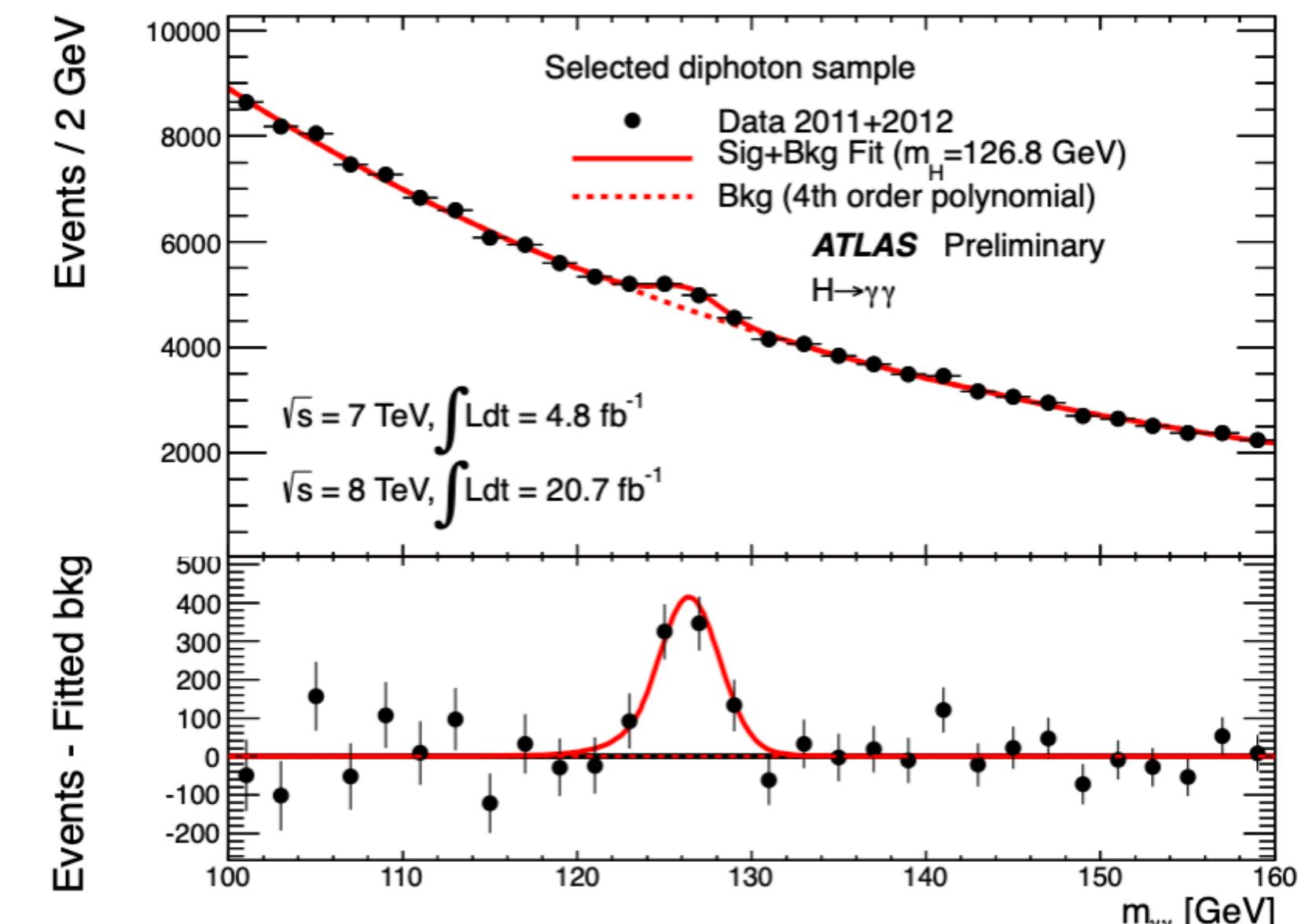
Introduction

- Higgs boson discovered at the LHC a decade ago, still ongoing remarkable theoretical and experimental efforts to determine its parameters
- Higgs width Γ_H : predicted by the Standard Model to be $\sim 4 \text{ MeV}$

↓
Direct sensitivity at the LHC is

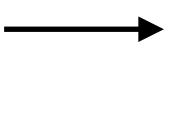
$\mathcal{O}(\text{GeV})$

Impossible to measure directly
Need indirect measurements/bounds



Constraints on Γ_H

$$\sigma_{i \rightarrow H \rightarrow f} \sim \sigma_{i \rightarrow H} BR(H \rightarrow f) \sim \frac{g_i^2 g_f^2}{\Gamma_H}$$



Cross sections are sensitive to **ratios** of
couplings to width
Degeneracy in parameter space

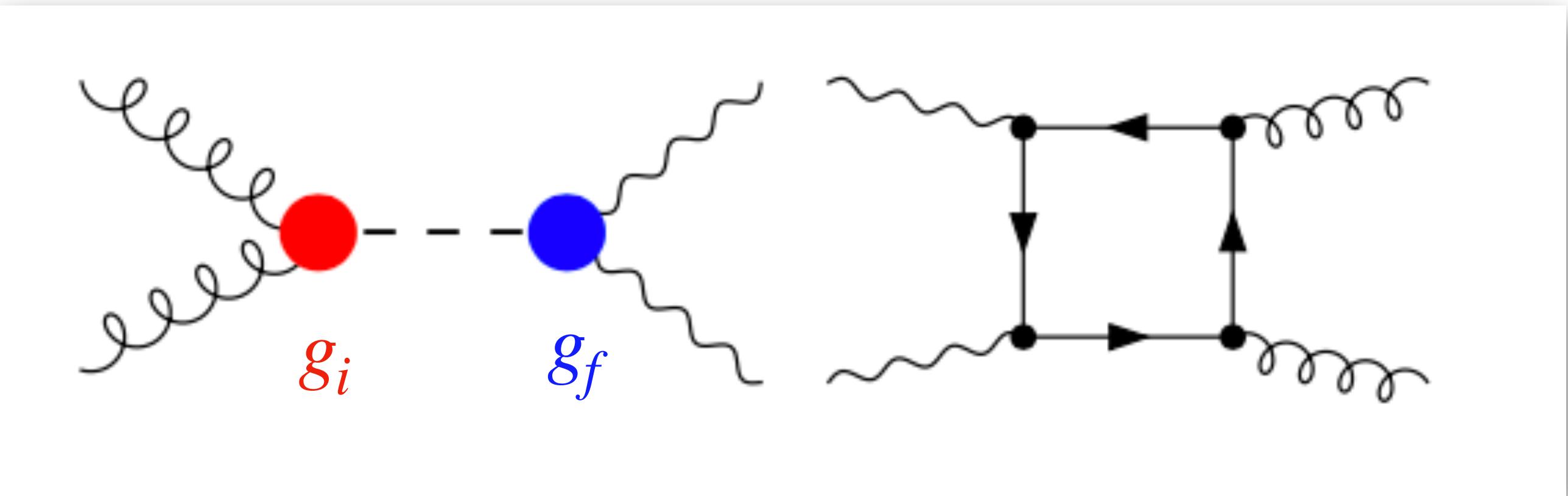
- To put indirect **constraints** one needs an observable with different dependence on couplings and width
- (Some) existing ideas:
 - Γ_H from **off-shell cross-sections** (Kauer, Passarino '13, Caola, Melnikov '13, Campbell et al '13)
 - **Higgs interferometry** (Martin '12; Dixon,Li '13; De Florian et al '13)

Focus of the talk



Signal-background interference in $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

$$\sim \frac{g_i^2 g_f^2}{\Gamma_H}$$



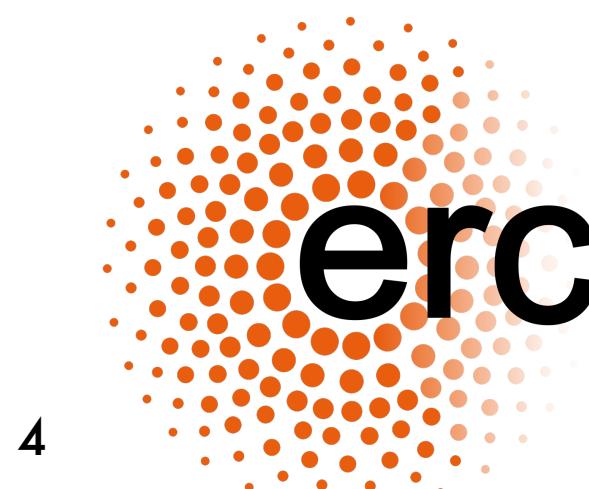
$$|M_{gg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma}|^2 = |S|^2 + |B|^2 + \frac{2s}{(s - m_H^2)^2 + \Gamma_H^2 m_H^2} [(s - m_H^2) \operatorname{Re} I + \Gamma_H m_H \operatorname{Im} I]$$

Any effect due to interference can be used to constrain Γ_H independently of couplings!

$$\operatorname{Re} I = \operatorname{Re} M_{bkg} \operatorname{Re} M_{sig} + \operatorname{Im} M_{bkg} \operatorname{Im} M_{sig}$$

$$\operatorname{Im} I = \operatorname{Re} M_{bkg} \operatorname{Im} M_{sig} - \operatorname{Im} M_{bkg} \operatorname{Re} M_{sig}$$

$$\sim g_i g_f$$



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Signal-background interference: why $\gamma\gamma$?

$$|M_{gg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma}|^2 \simeq |S|^2 \left[1 + \frac{2s}{(s - m_H^2)^2 + \Gamma_H^2 m_H^2} \left((s - m_H^2) \operatorname{Re} \frac{B^*}{S} + \Gamma_H m_H \operatorname{Im} \frac{B^*}{S} \right) \right] + |B|^2$$



$$S_{\gamma\gamma} \sim \frac{g_s^2 e^2}{(4\pi)^4}$$

$$B_{\gamma\gamma} \sim \frac{g_s^2 e^2}{(4\pi)^2}$$

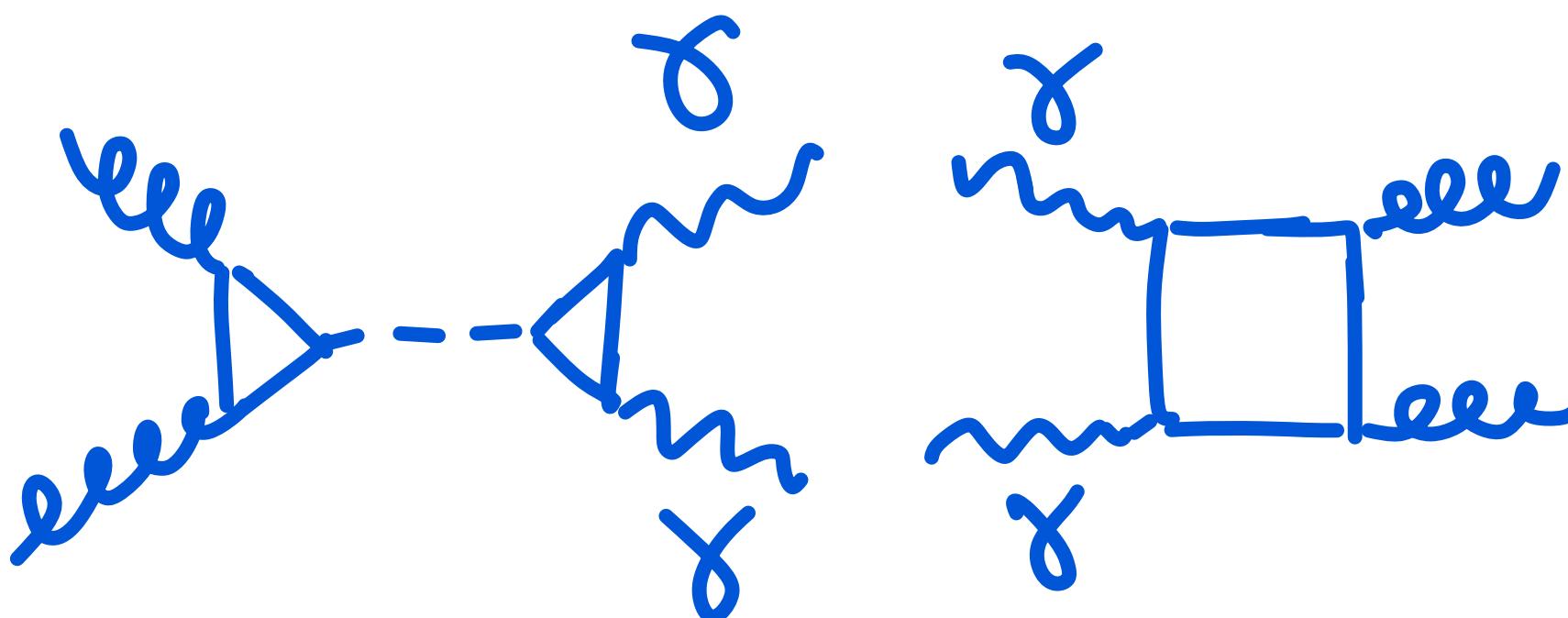
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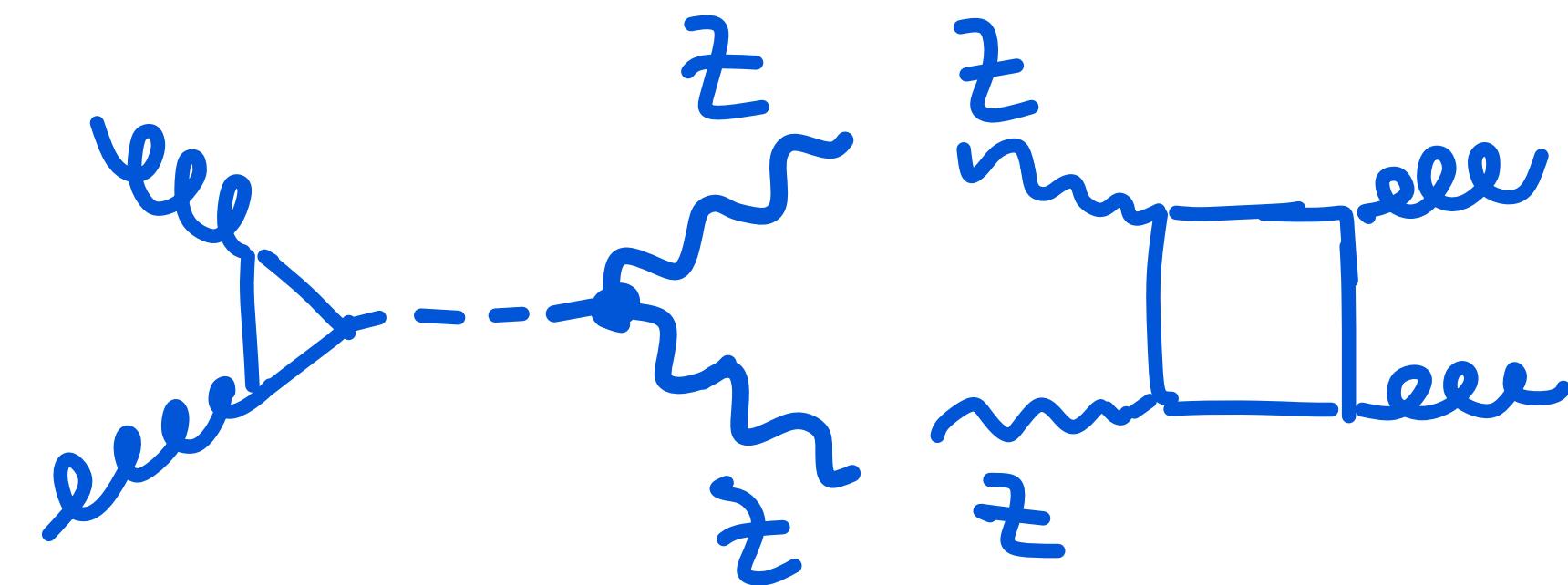


$$S_{\gamma\gamma} \sim \frac{g_s^2 e^2}{(4\pi)^4}$$

$$B_{\gamma\gamma} \sim \frac{g_s^2 e^2}{(4\pi)^2}$$

$$\frac{S_{\gamma\gamma}}{S_{ZZ}} \sim \frac{e}{(4\pi)^2}$$

“Loop enhancement”



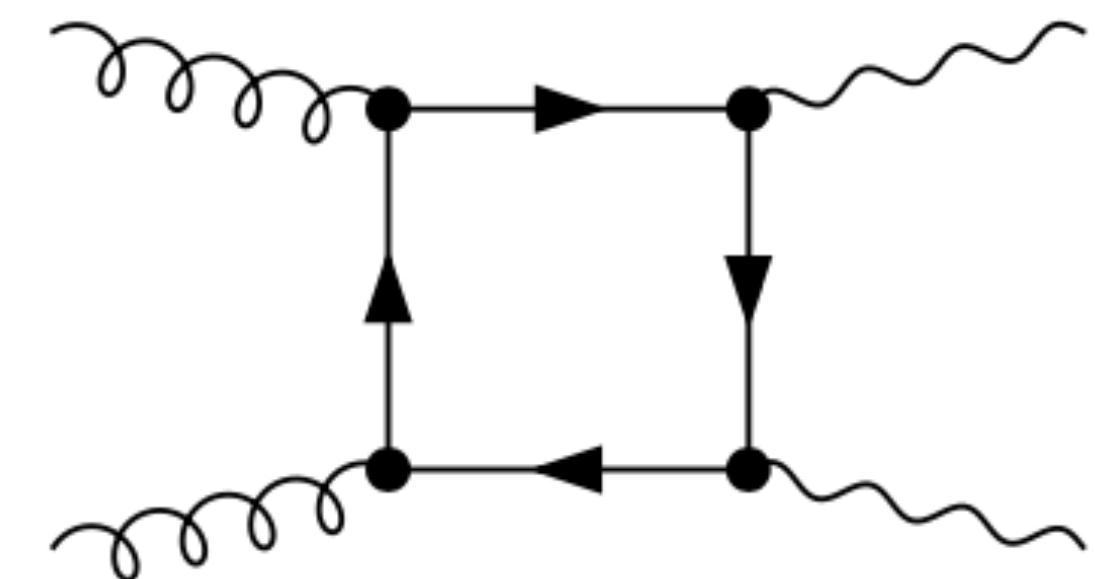
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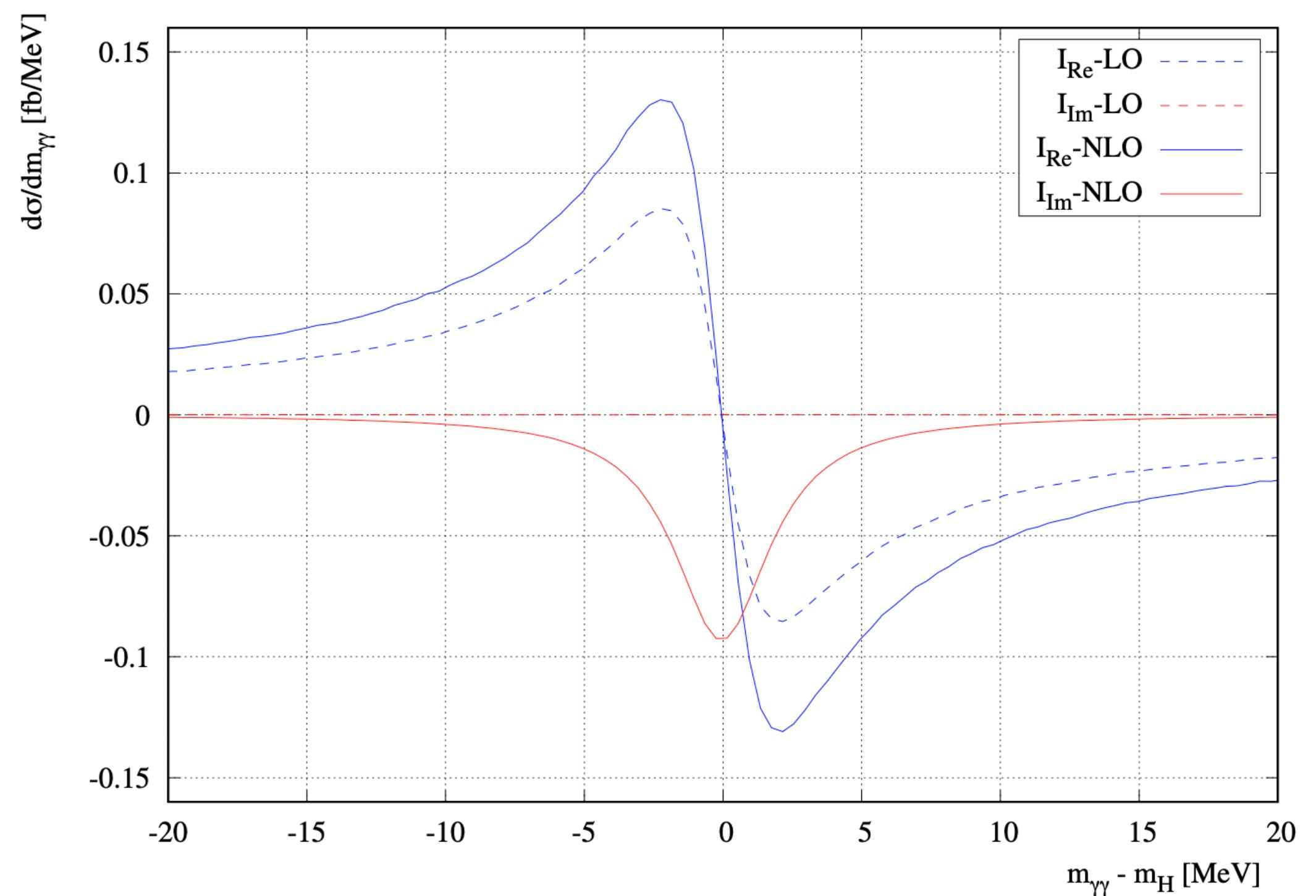
Imaginary part: a closer look

- Symmetric around the peak, contributes to cross section
- Starts contributing at NLO, background helicity amplitudes contributing to interference at LO are real

Caveat: bottom quark mass would give an imaginary part
Small effect



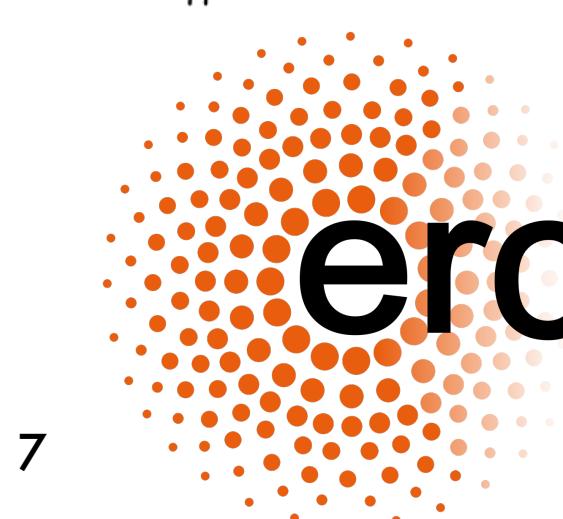
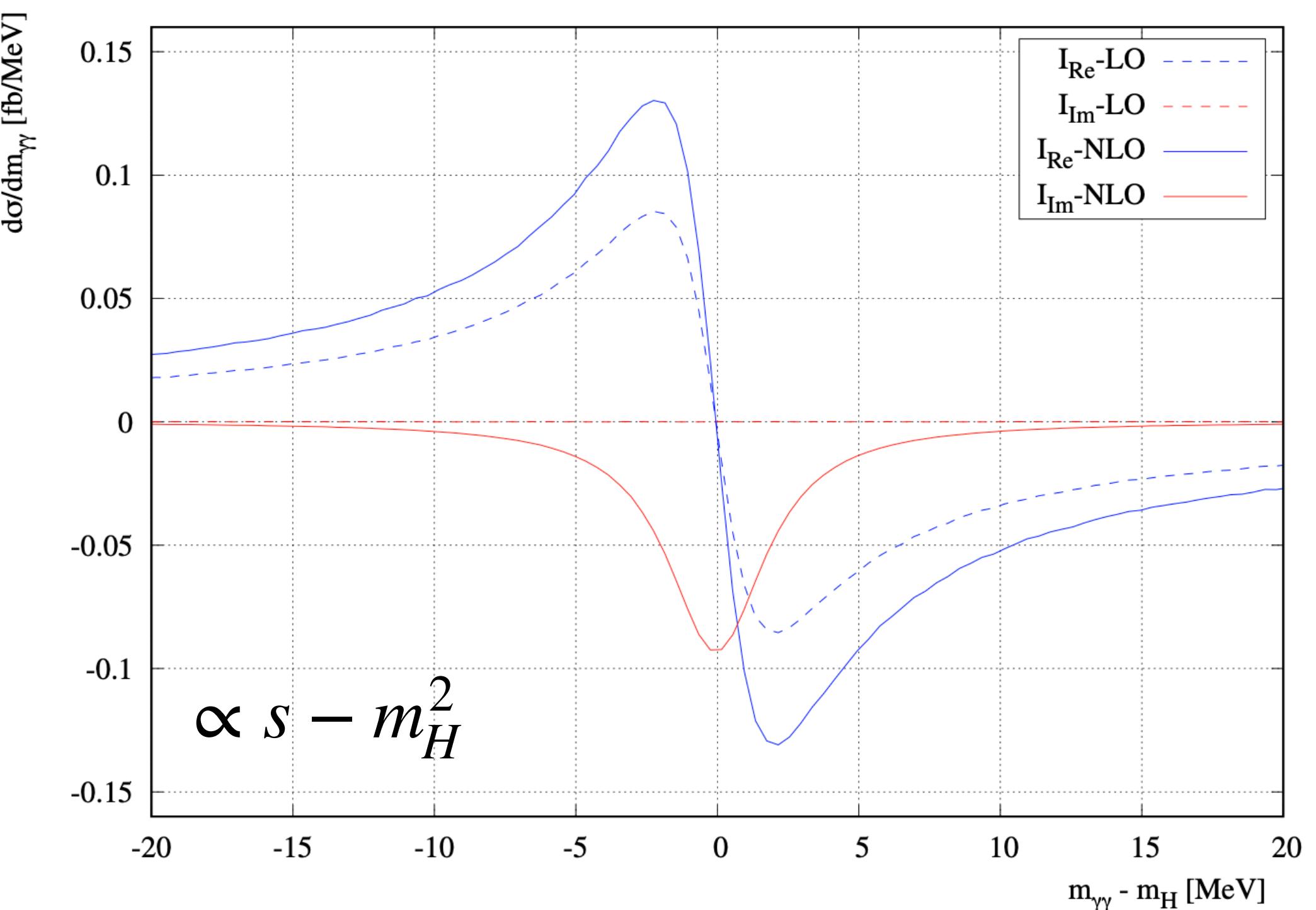
$$\text{Im } I = \text{Re}M_{bkg}\text{Im}M_{sig} - \text{Im}M_{bkg}\text{Re}M_{sig}$$



Real part: a closer look

- Antisymmetric around the peak, does not contribute to cross section
- Interesting physical effects, e.g. apparent mass shift [Martin '12]
- excess of events below $m_{\gamma\gamma} = 125 \text{ GeV}$ rather than above

$$\text{Re } I = \text{Re}M_{bkg}\text{Re}M_{sig} + \text{Im}M_{bkg}\text{Im}M_{sig}$$



Mass-shift estimate: theory

- How can we estimate it from a theory side?

First moment method

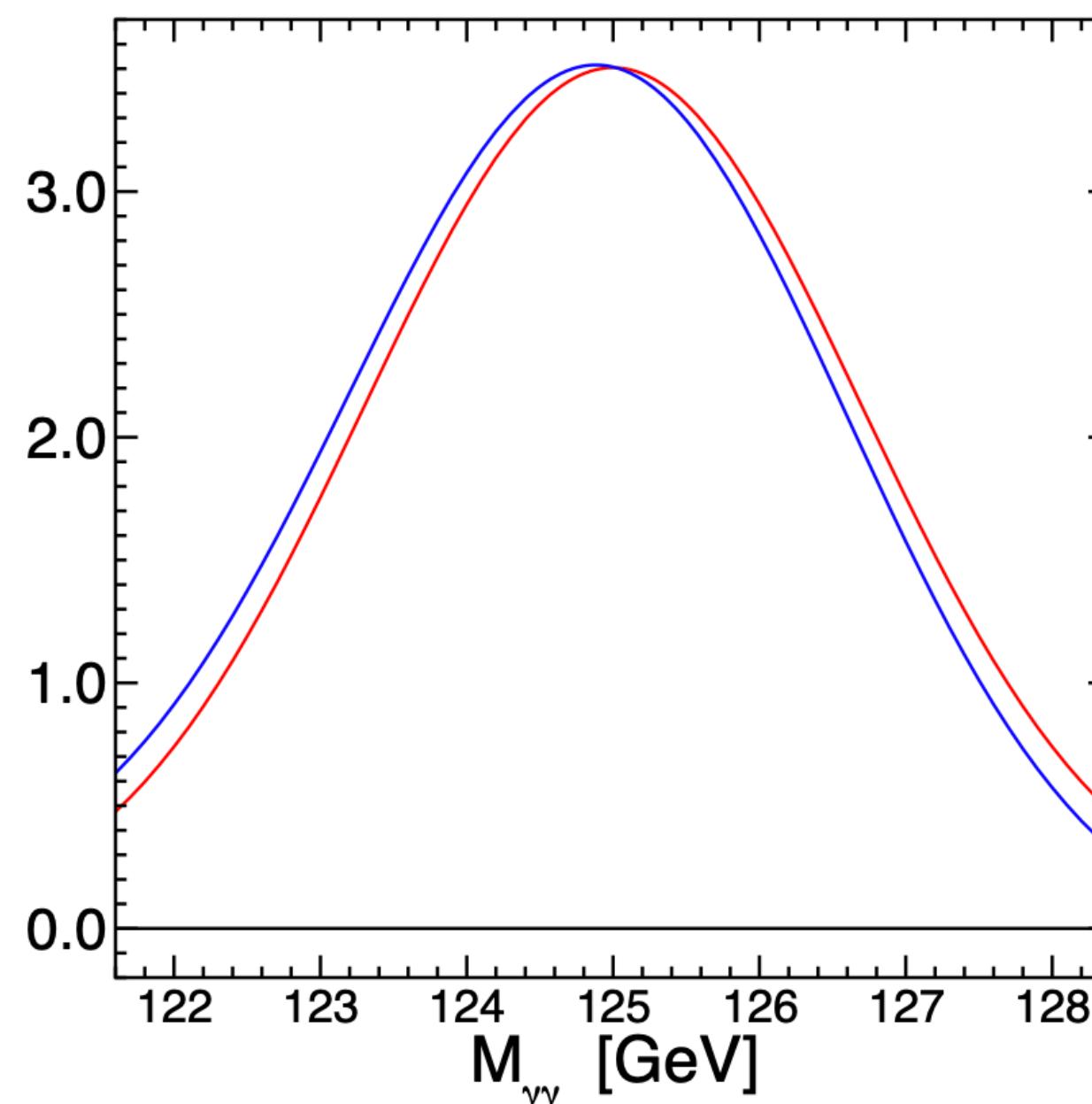
$$\langle M_{\gamma\gamma} \rangle_\delta = \frac{1}{\sigma_0} \int_{M_{\gamma\gamma}-\delta}^{M_{\gamma\gamma}+\delta} dM_{\gamma\gamma} \frac{d\sigma}{dM_{\gamma\gamma}} M_{\gamma\gamma}$$

$$\sigma_0 = \int_{M_{\gamma\gamma}-\delta}^{M_{\gamma\gamma}+\delta} dM_{\gamma\gamma} \frac{d\sigma}{dM_{\gamma\gamma}}$$

$$\Delta M_{\gamma\gamma} = \langle M_{\gamma\gamma} \rangle_{sig+int} - \langle M_{\gamma\gamma} \rangle_{sig}$$

Likelihood analysis,
e.g. gaussian fit

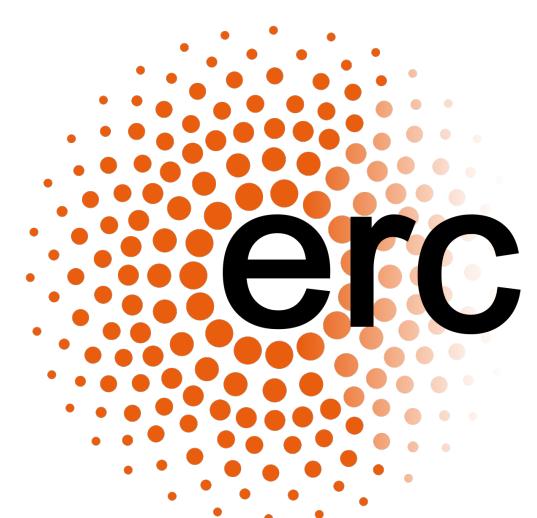
[Dixon, Li '13]



[Martin '12]

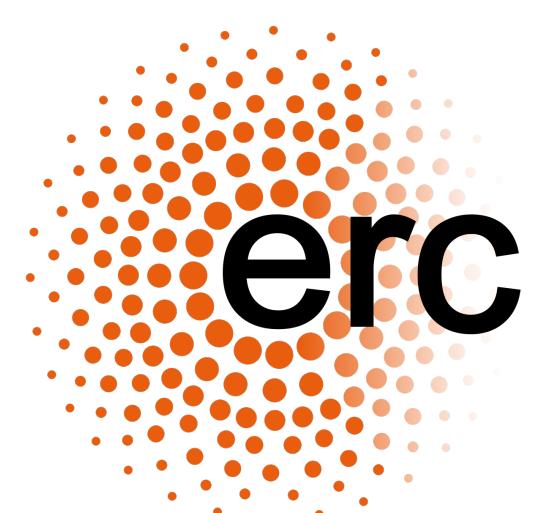
Expected
shift @LO
 $\mathcal{O}(100)$ MeV

Mass-shift estimate: experiments



Mass-shift estimate: experiments

More realistic ways to measure
it in **experiments?**

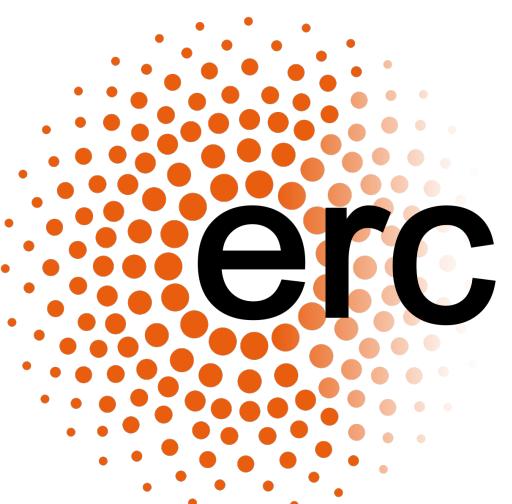


Mass-shift estimate: experiments

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Compare
measures in
 $\gamma\gamma$ vs ZZ
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Mass-shift estimate: experiments

$p_{T,H}$
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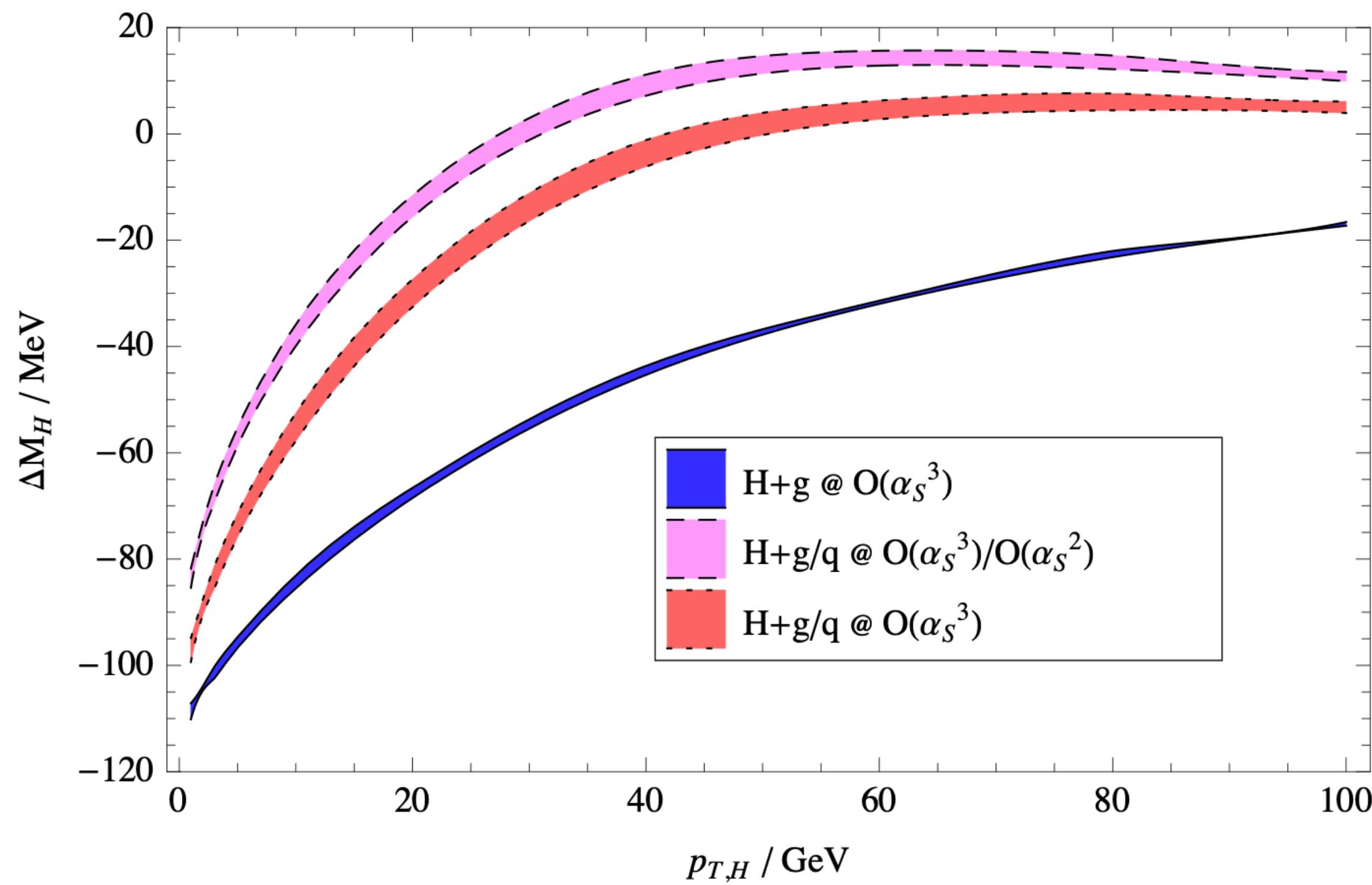
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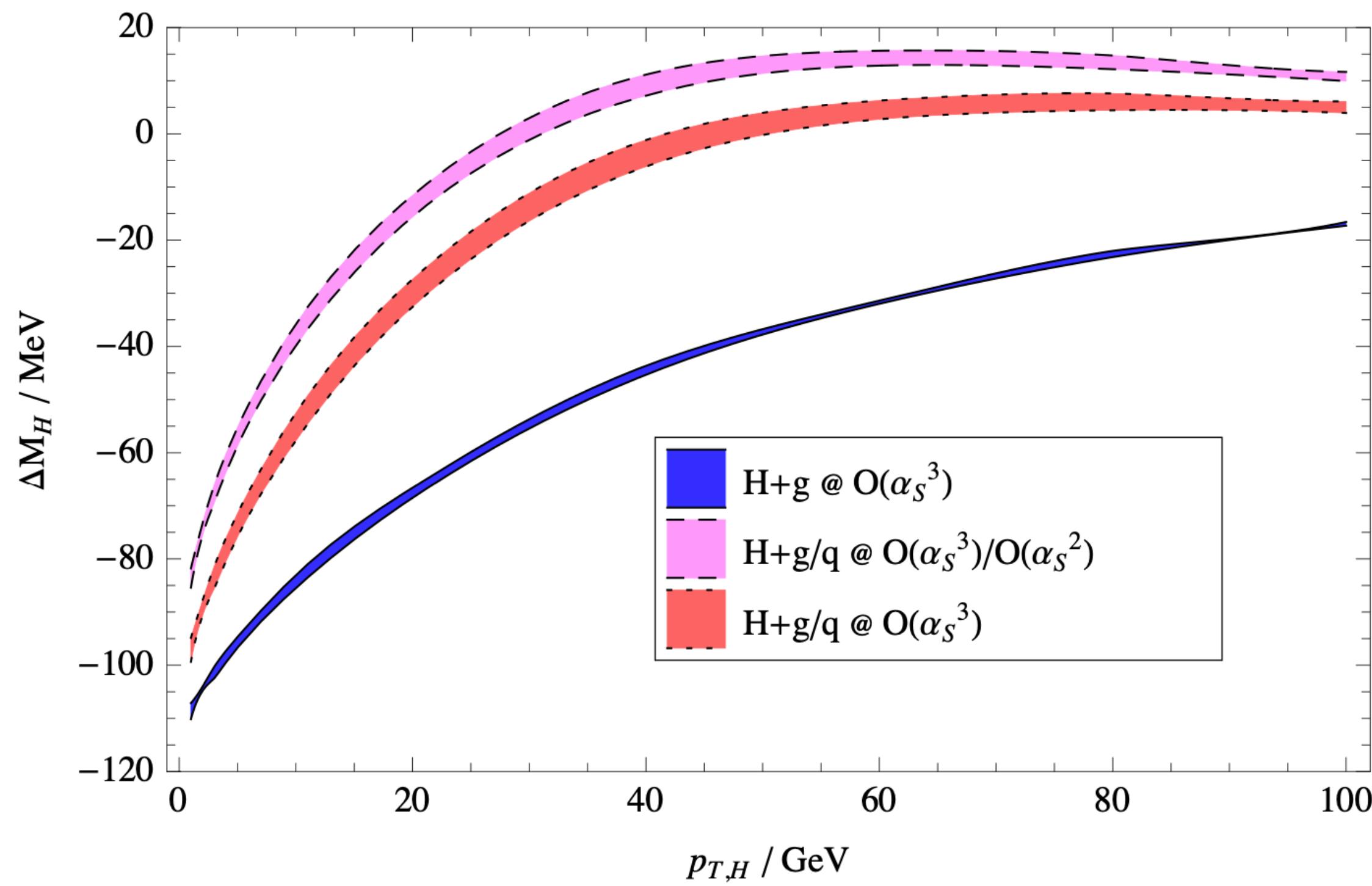


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[Dixon, Li '13]

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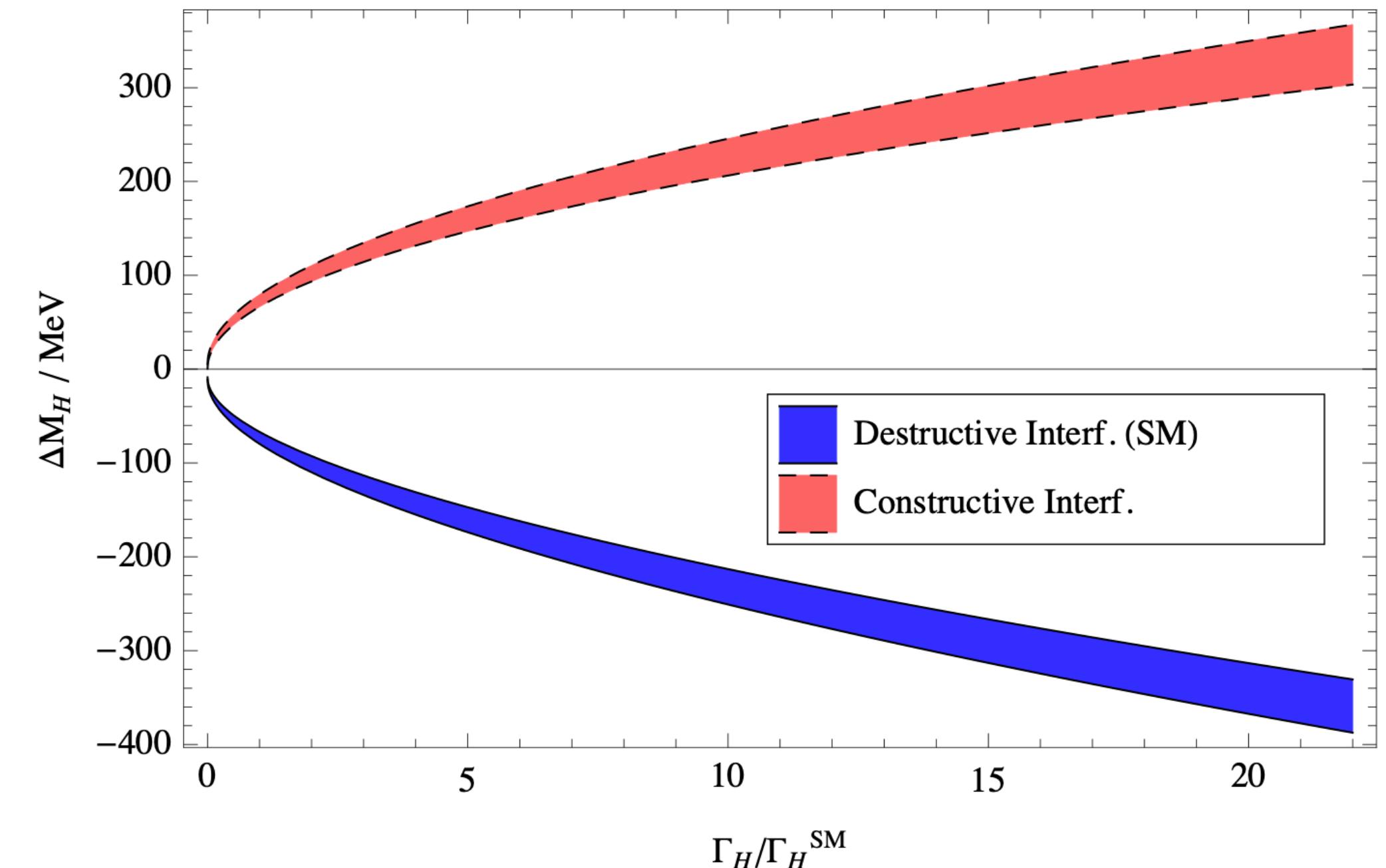
Mass shift and Higgs width

- Allow Higgs width to differ from SM prediction
- Higgs couplings need to change accordingly to maintain roughly SM yield (LHC measurements)

$$g_i \rightarrow \lambda_i g_i$$

$$g_f \rightarrow \lambda_f g_f$$

$$\frac{(\lambda_i \lambda_f)^2 S}{m_H \Gamma_H} + \lambda_i \lambda_f I \sim \frac{S}{m_H \Gamma_{H,SM}} + I$$



[Dixon, Li '13]

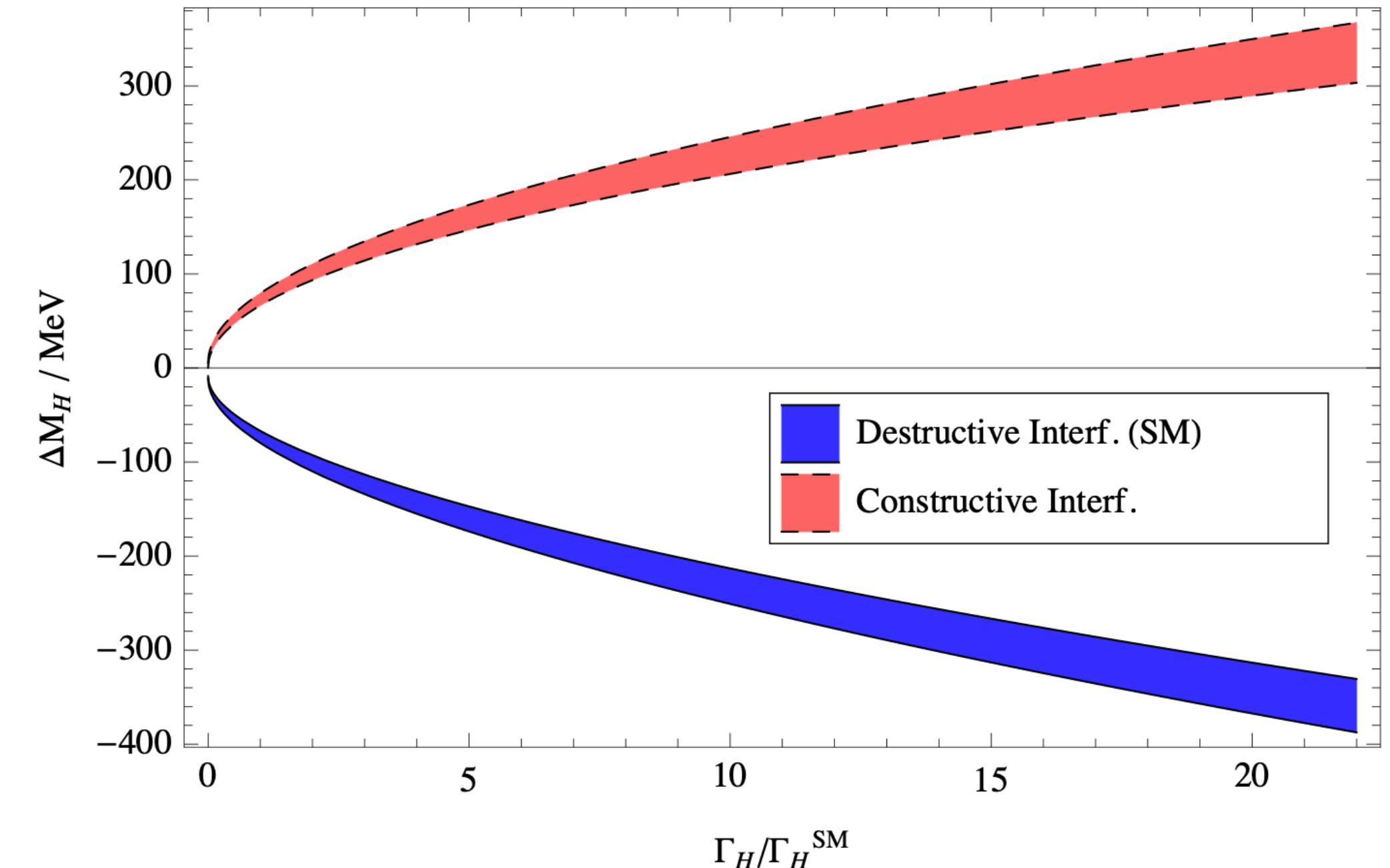
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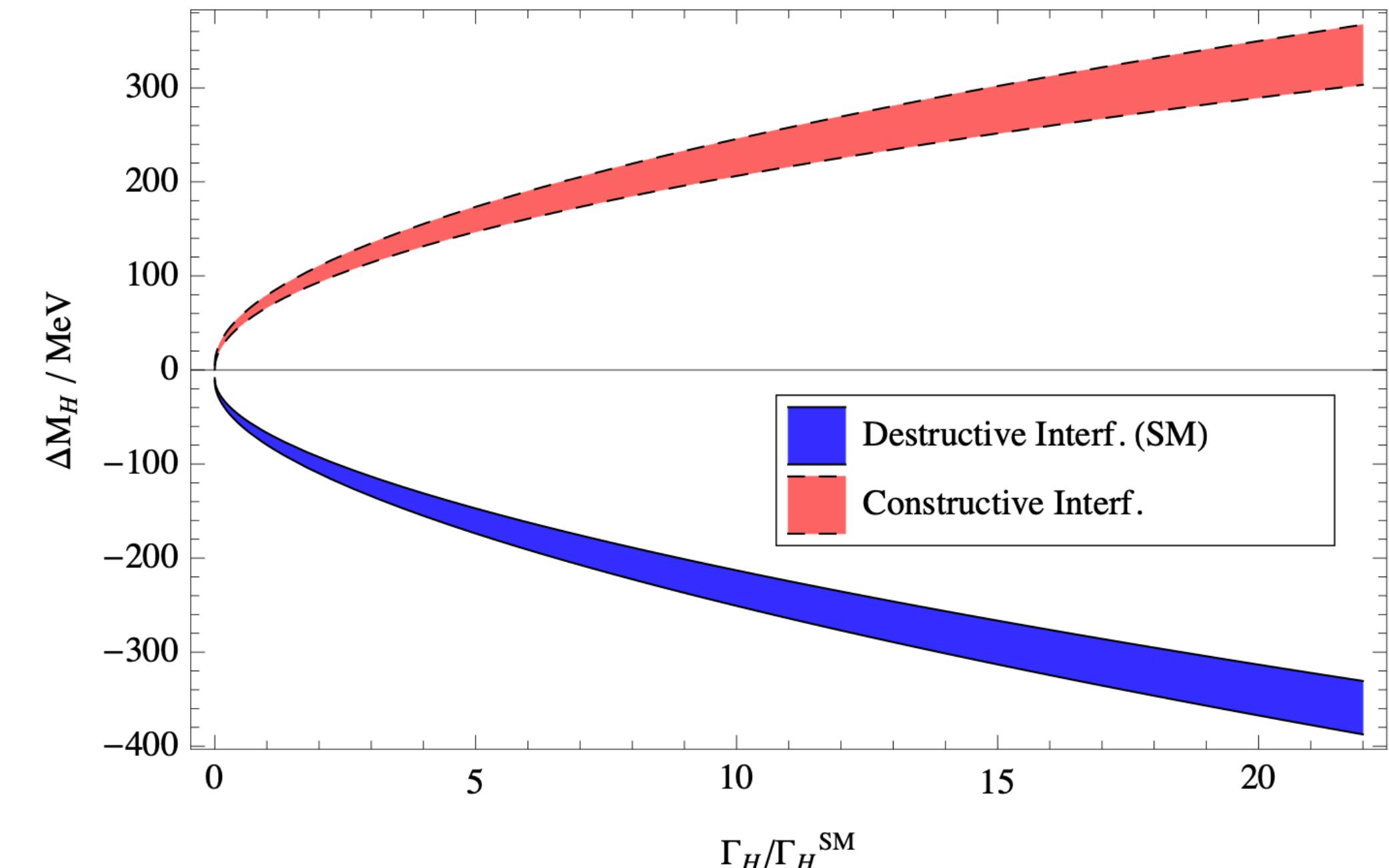
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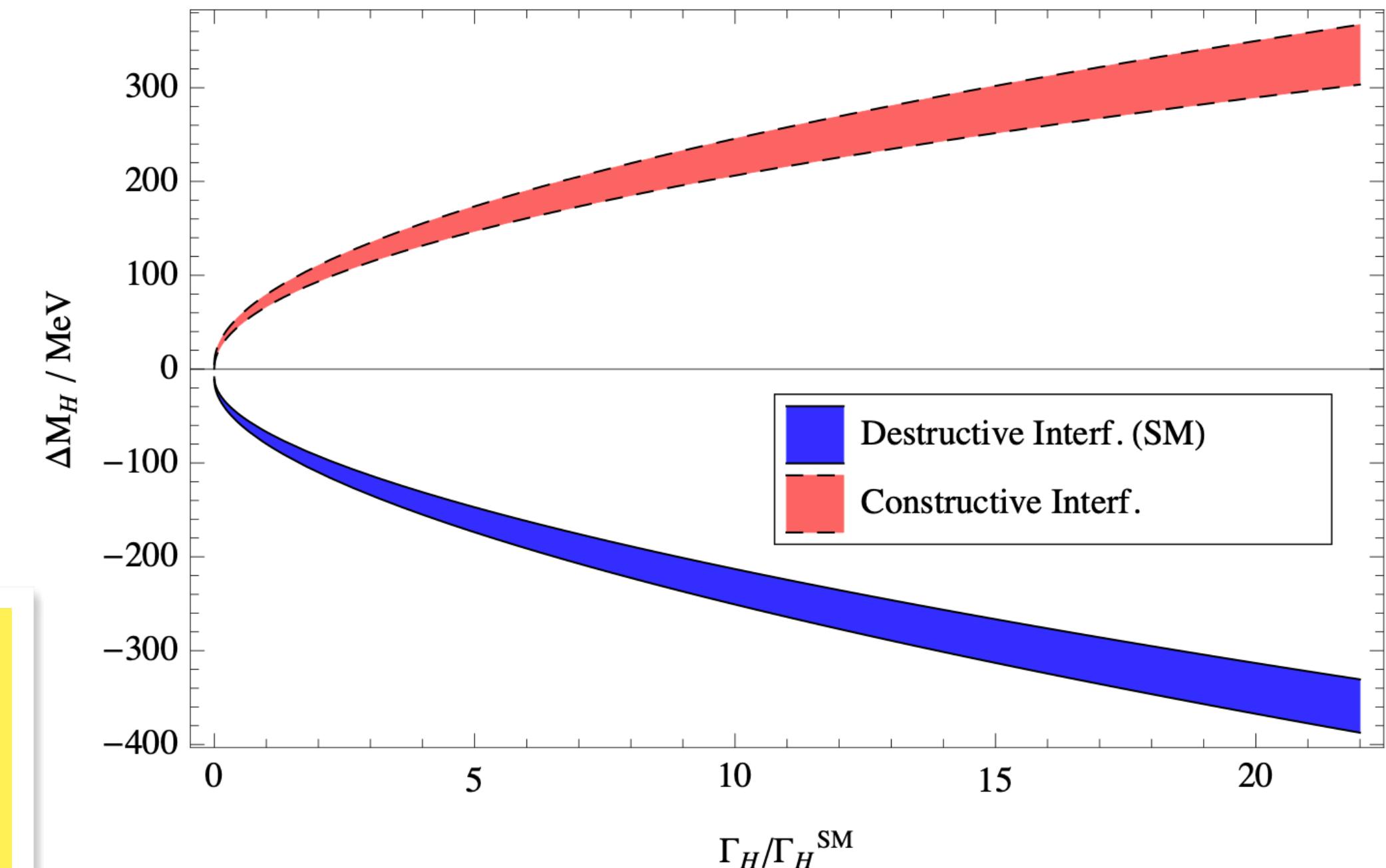
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Interference effect
on cross section is
small w.r.t
integrated signal:
 $I \sim 1\% \text{ of } S$



Mass shift and Higgs width

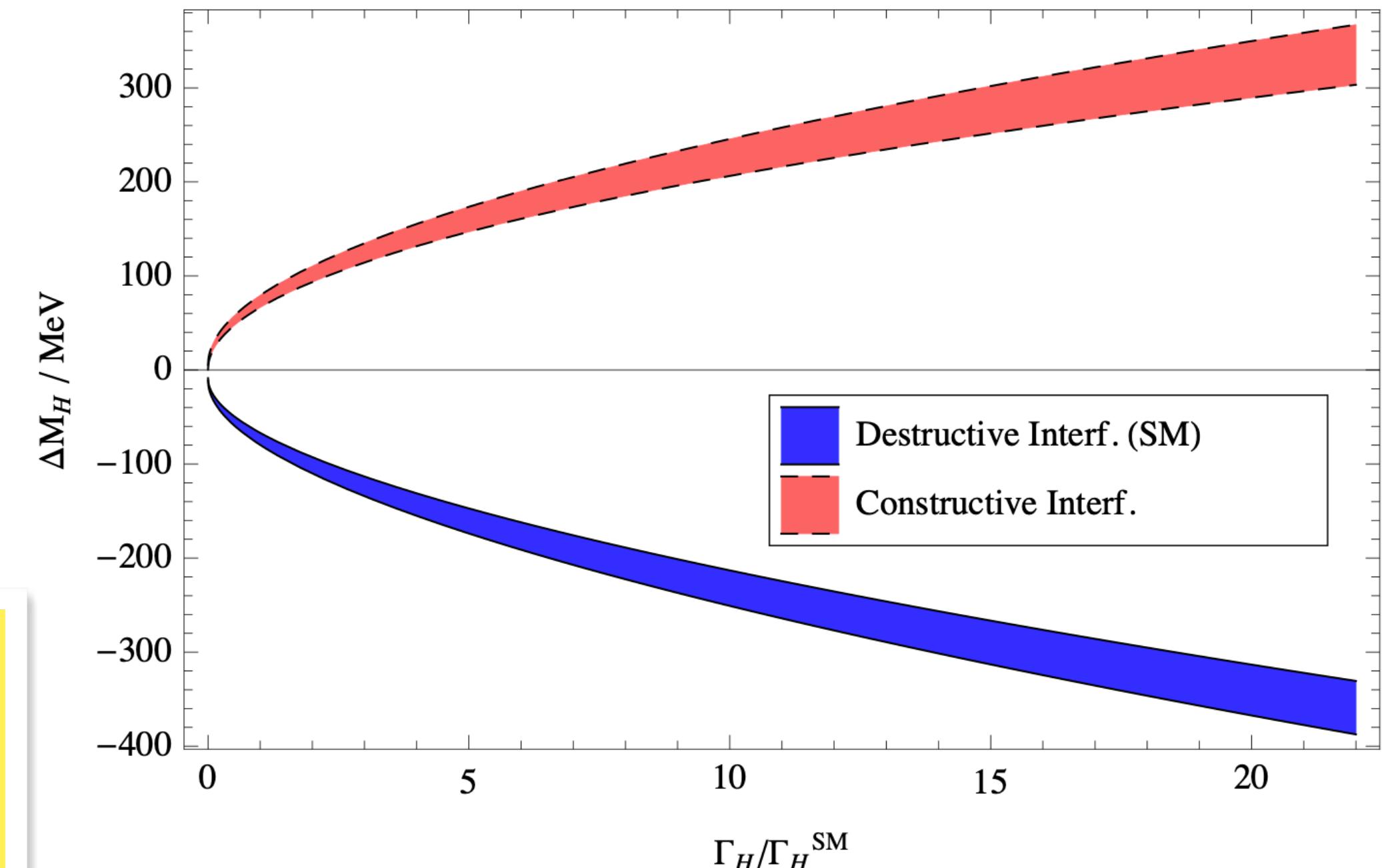
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[Dixon, Li '13]

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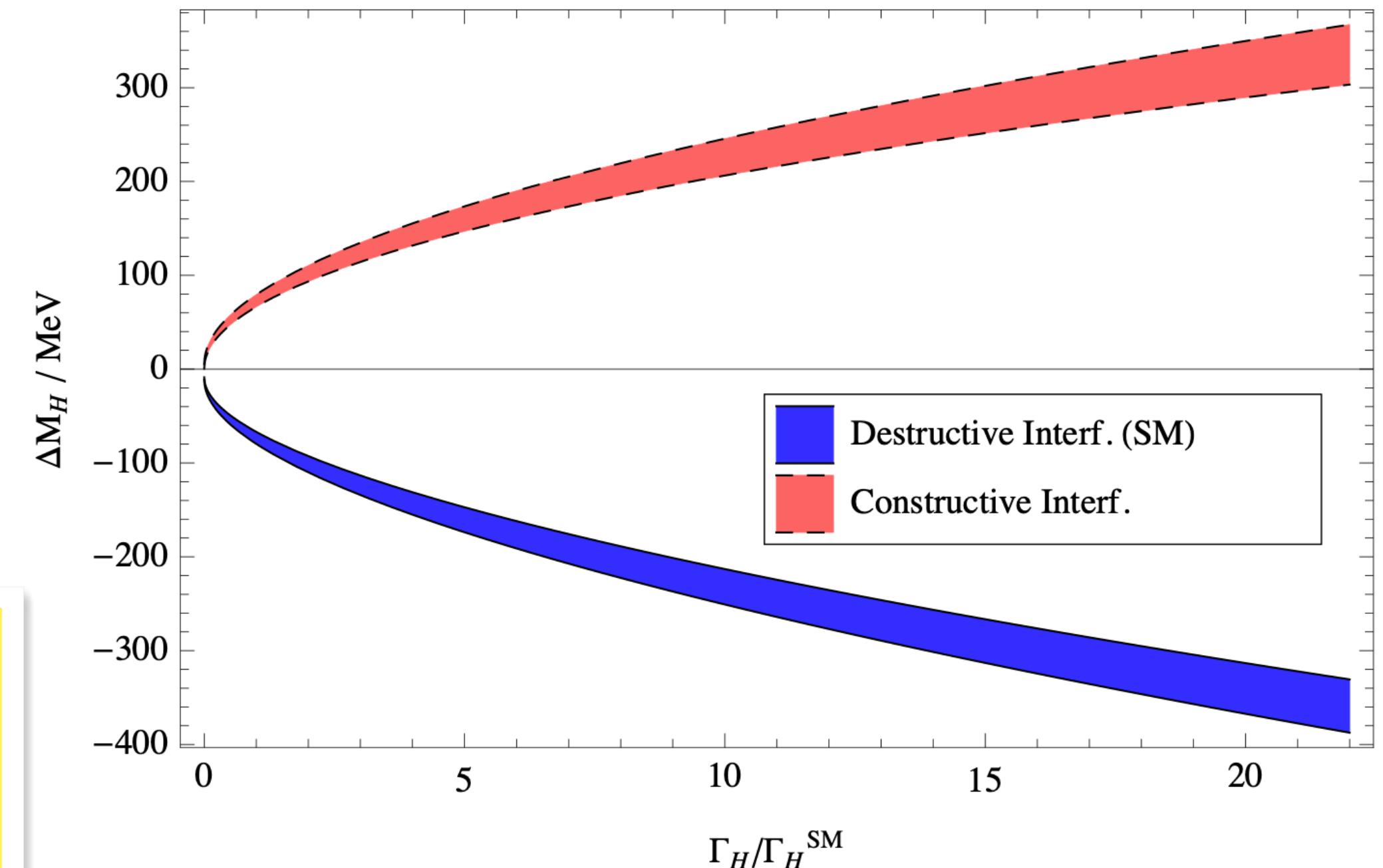
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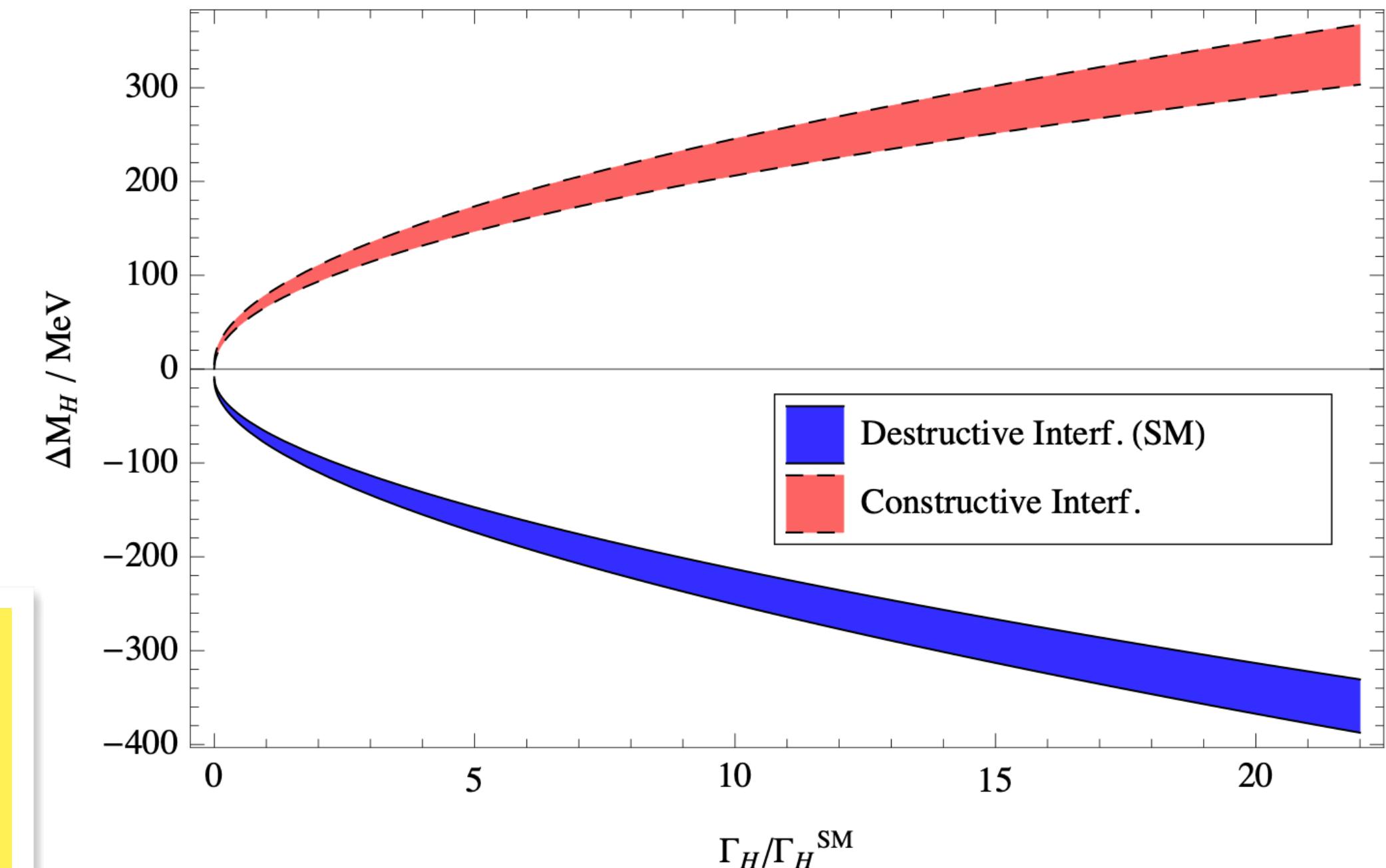
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Also negligible for reasonable values of Higgs width

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[Dixon, Li '13]

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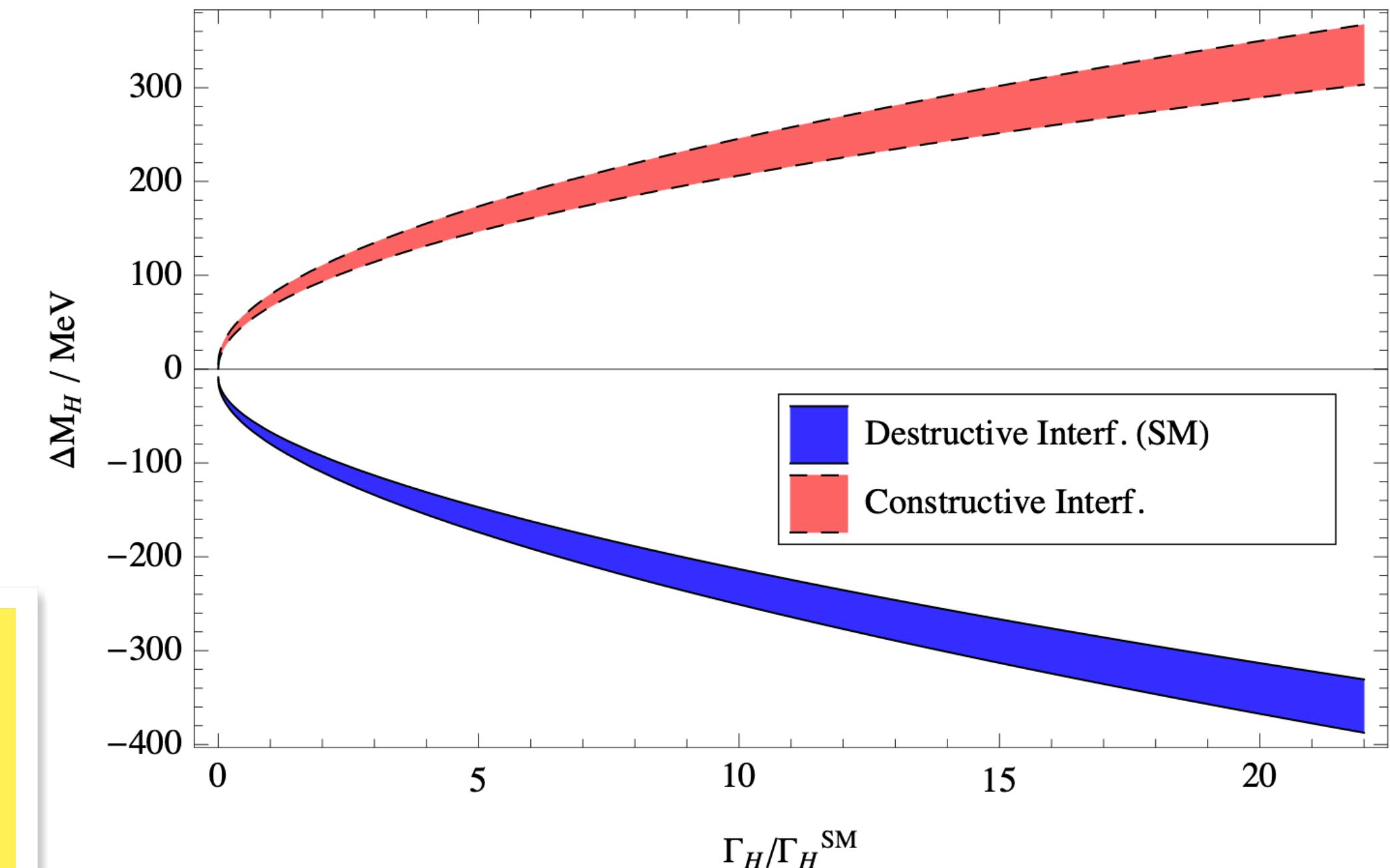
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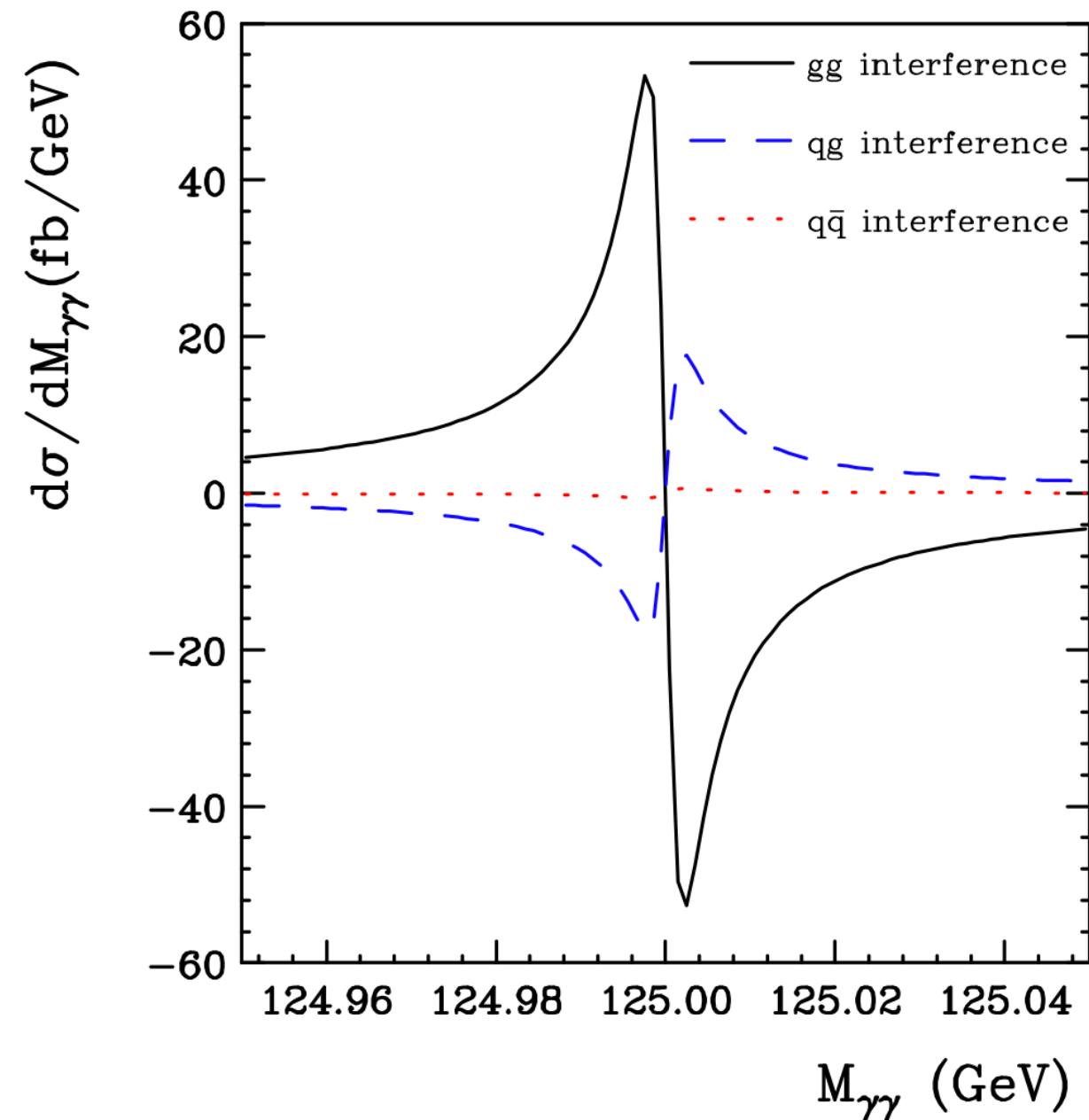


[Dixon, Li '13]

$$\lambda_i \lambda_f \propto \Delta M_{\gamma\gamma} \propto \sqrt{\Gamma_H}$$

Interference effects: state of the art

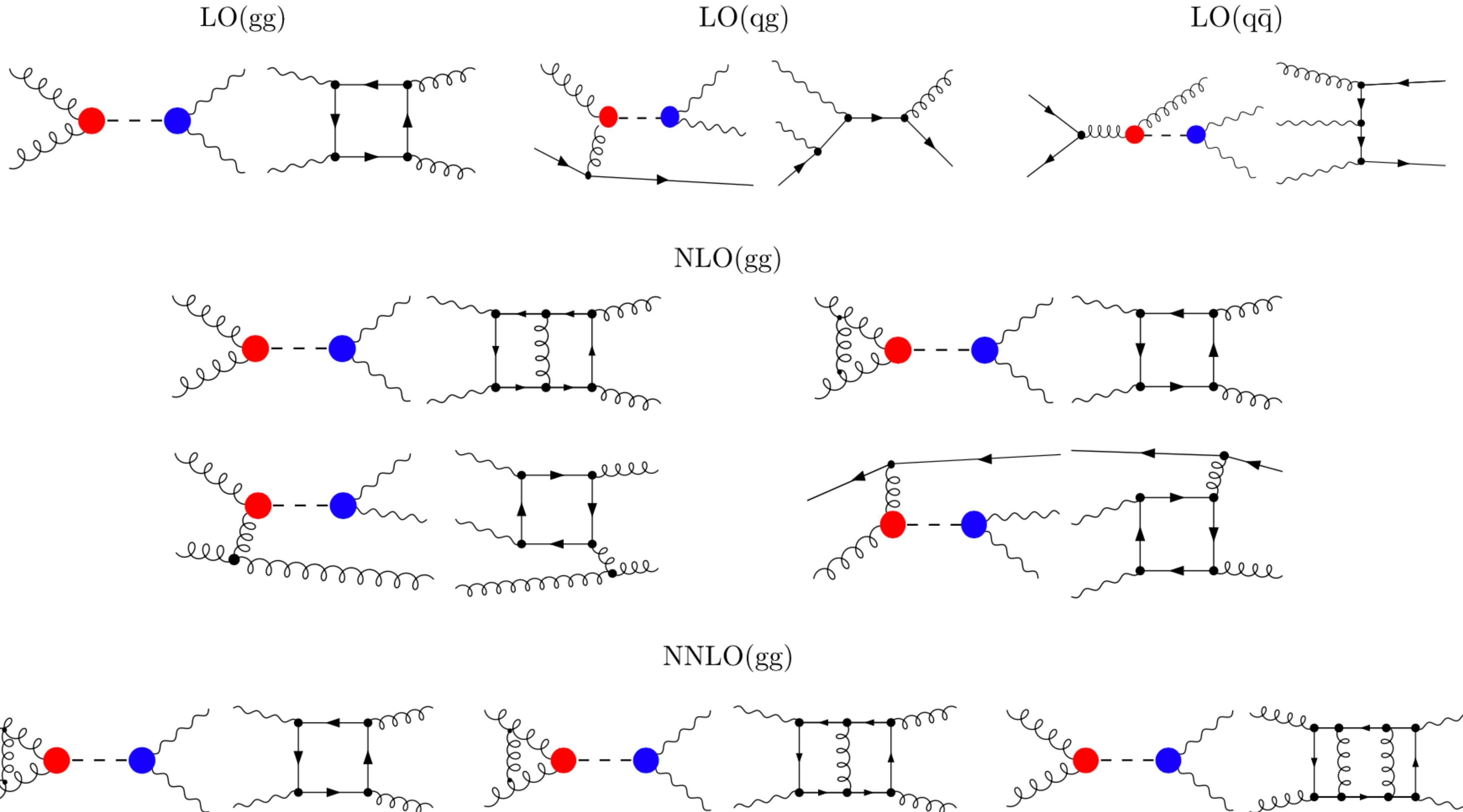
- Interference effects analysis in $\gamma\gamma$ channel performed **up to next-to-leading order** [Dixon,Li '13]
- Other channels also included: i.e. $qg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma q$ (about three times smaller than gg but opposite sign), $q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma g$ (same sign as qg, negligible contribution)



- NLO analysis decreases mass shift to ~ 70 MeV
- Calls for a higher order analysis!

[De Florian et al, '12]



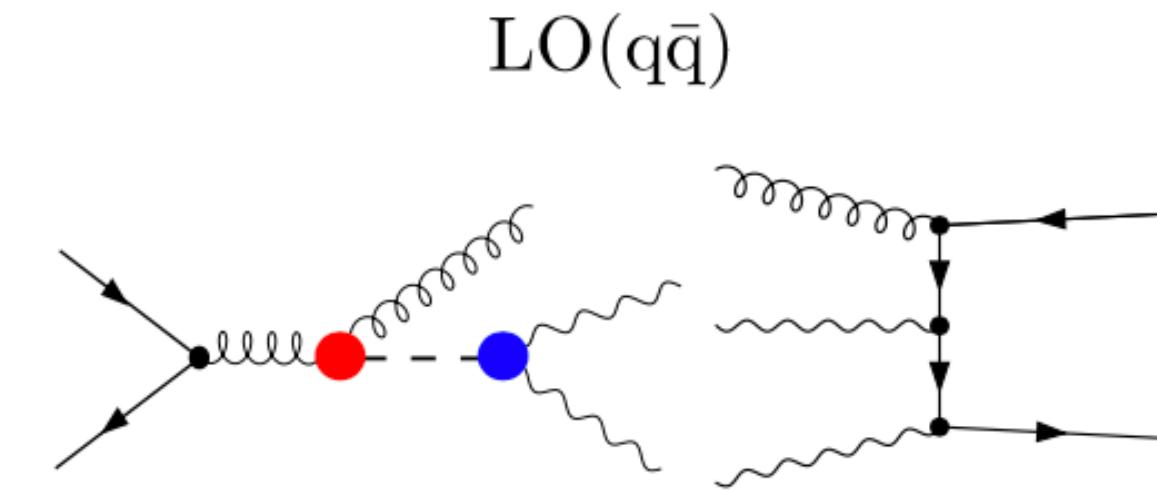
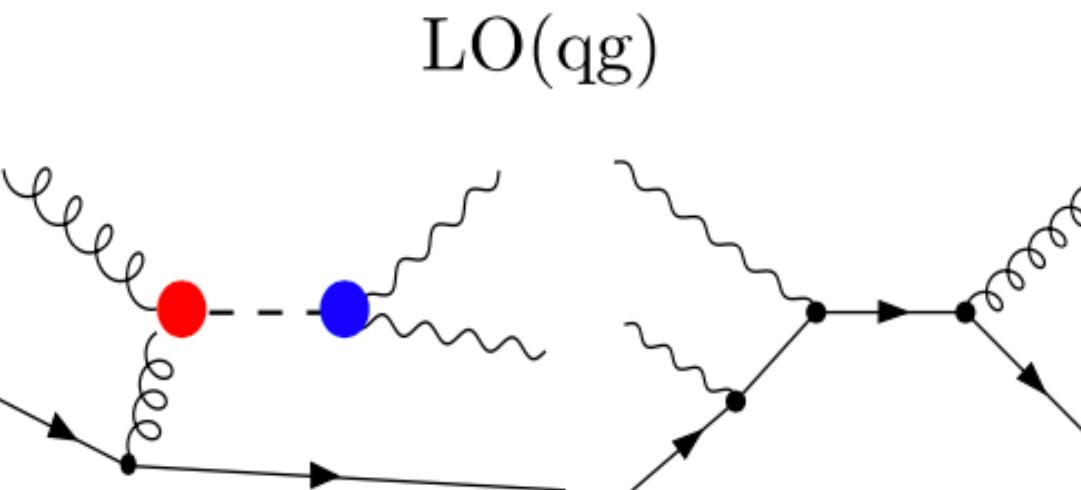
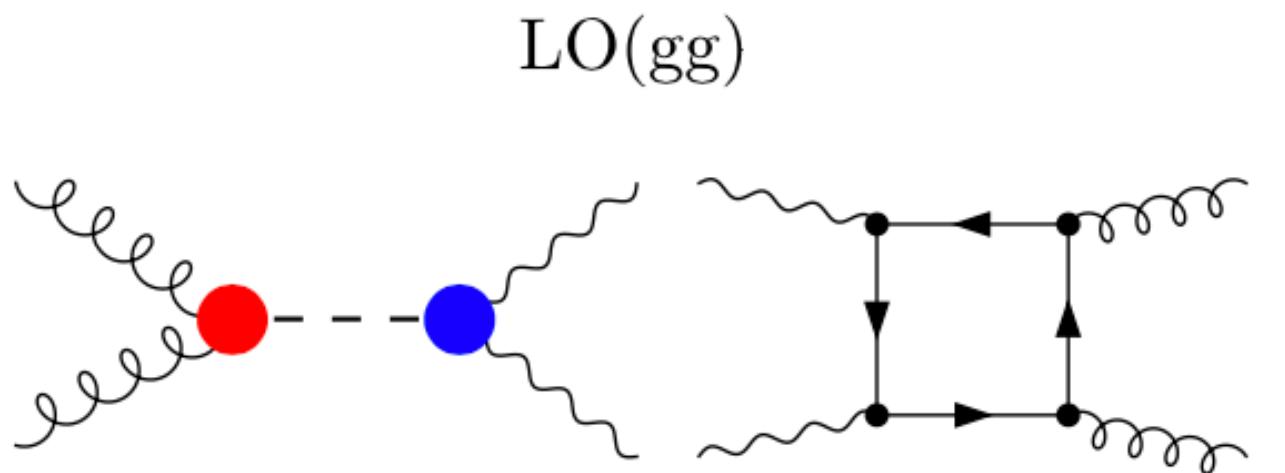
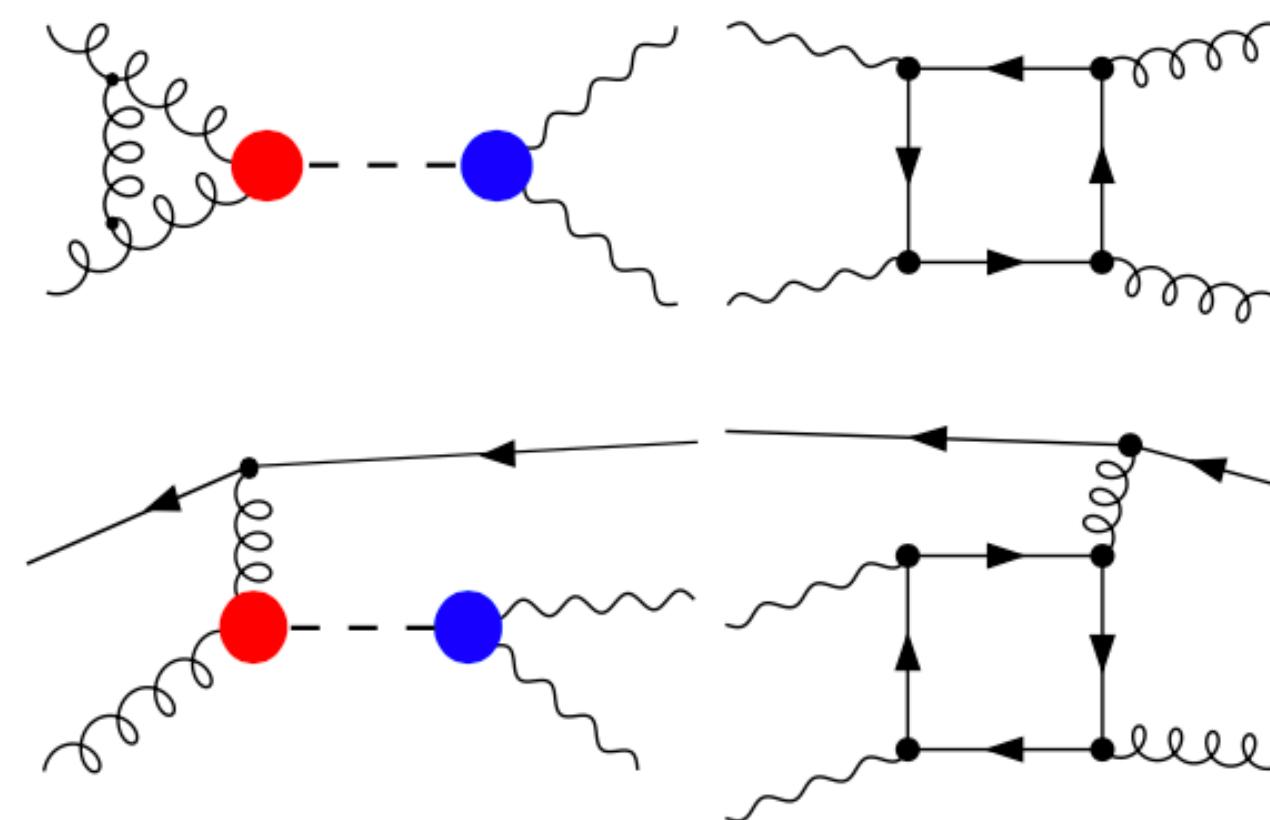
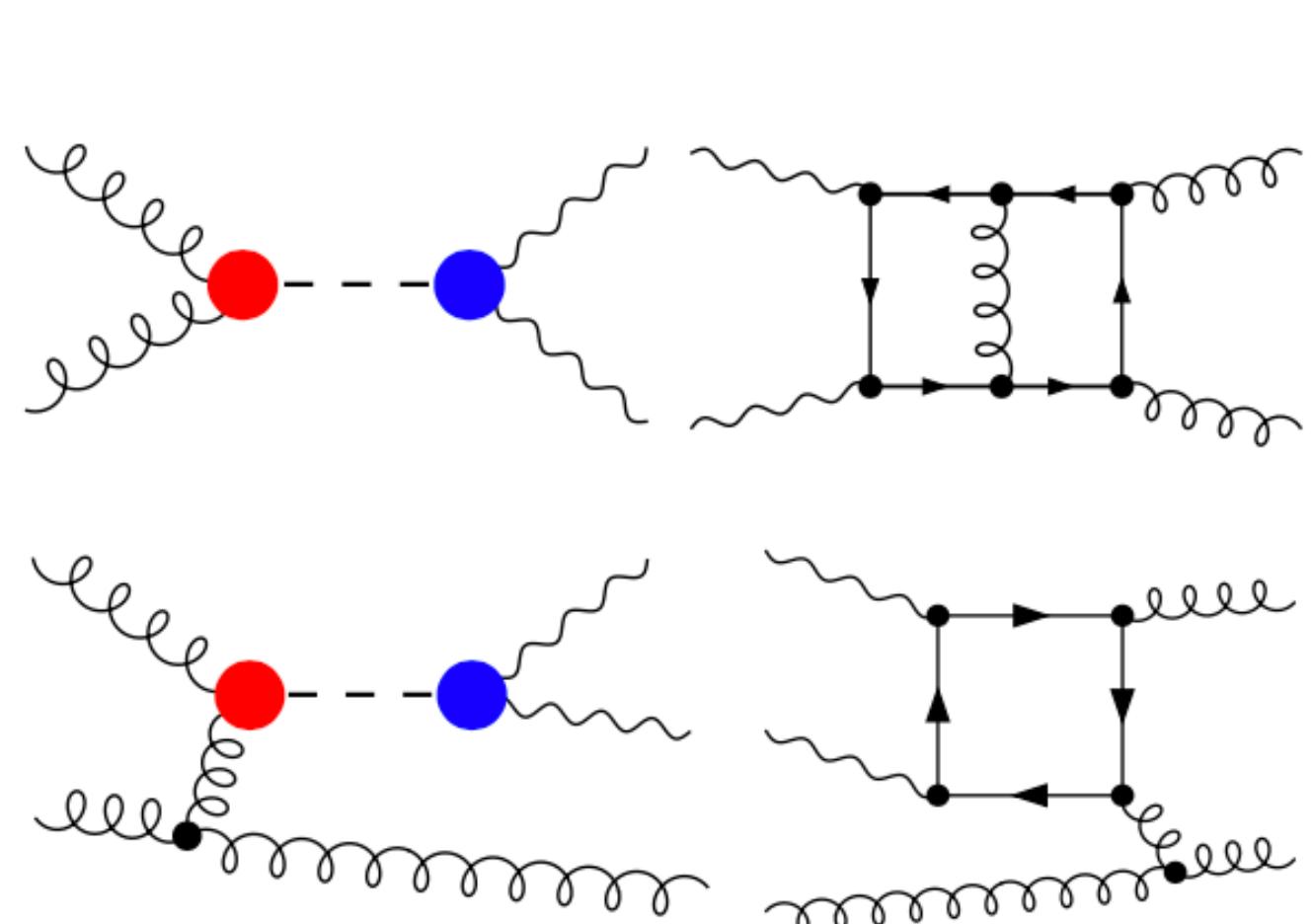
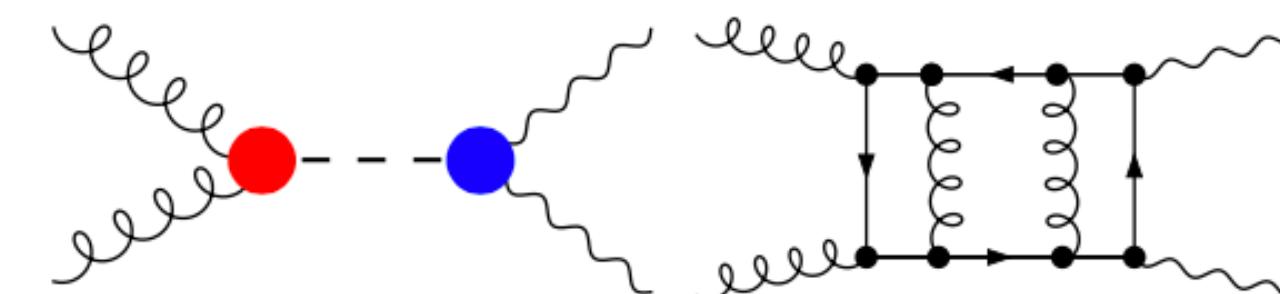
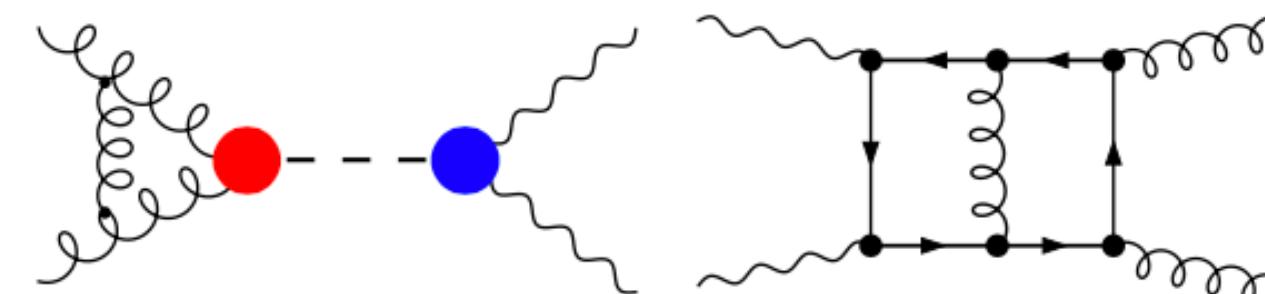
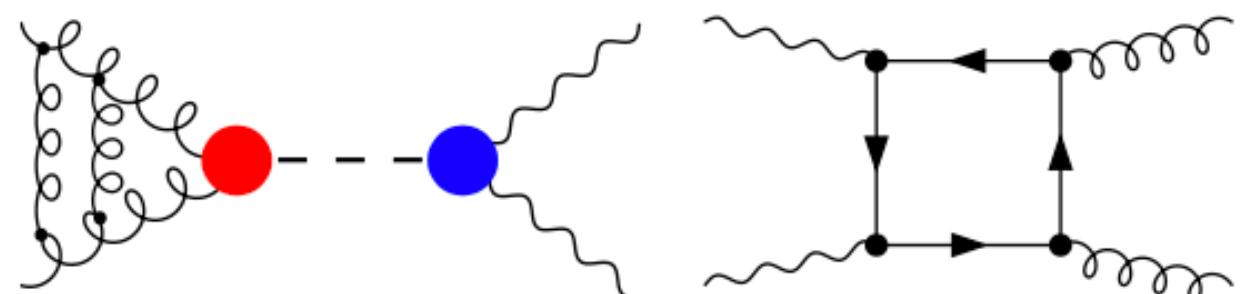


$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$

$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$

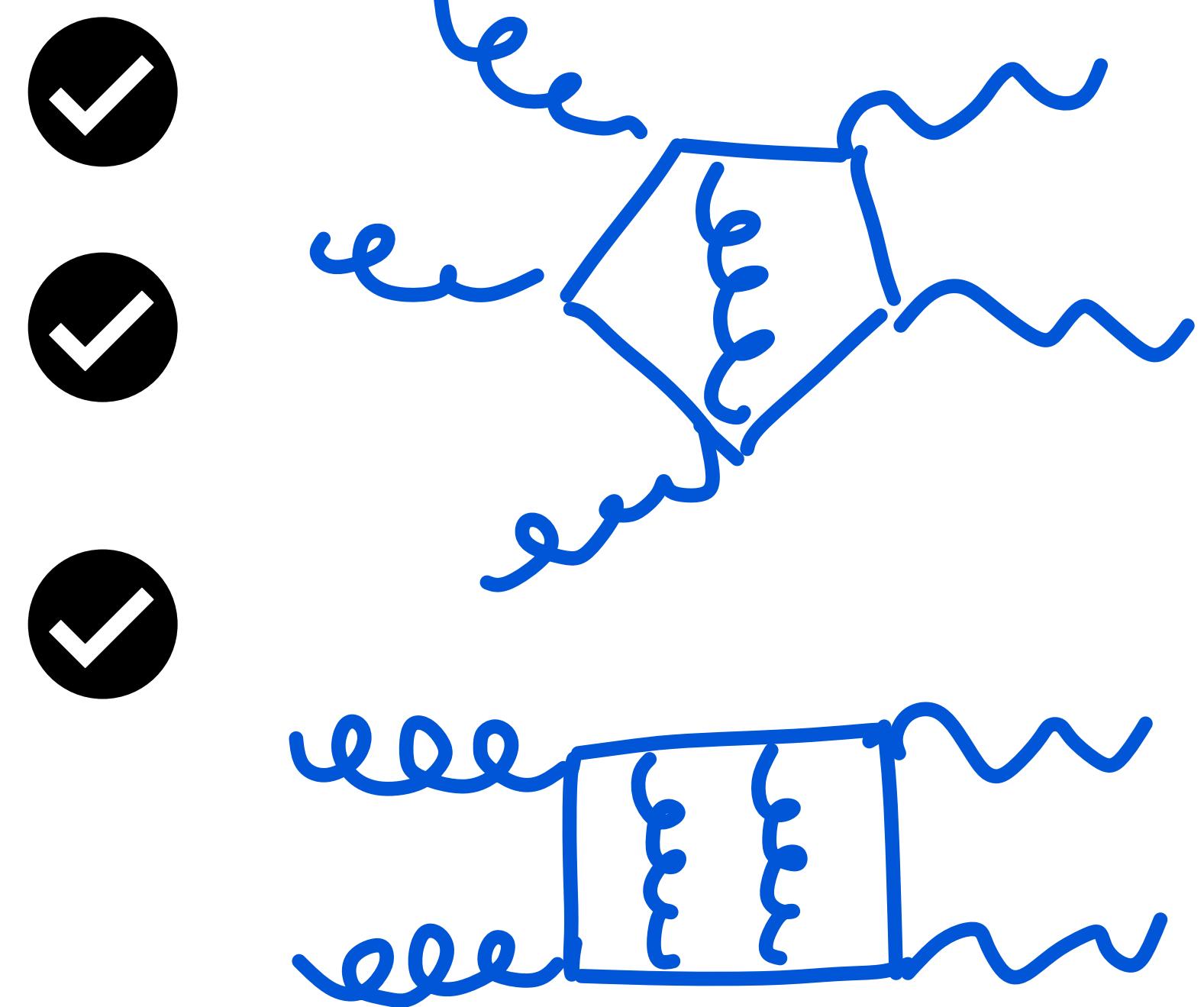
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Interference beyond NLO: ingredients

- Subtraction @ NNLO for color singlet production
- 5-points two loop amplitudes for background process [Badger et al, '21] [Agarwal et al, '21]
- Three-loop amplitudes for background process
[Bargiela,Caola,von Manteuffel,Tancredi, '22]

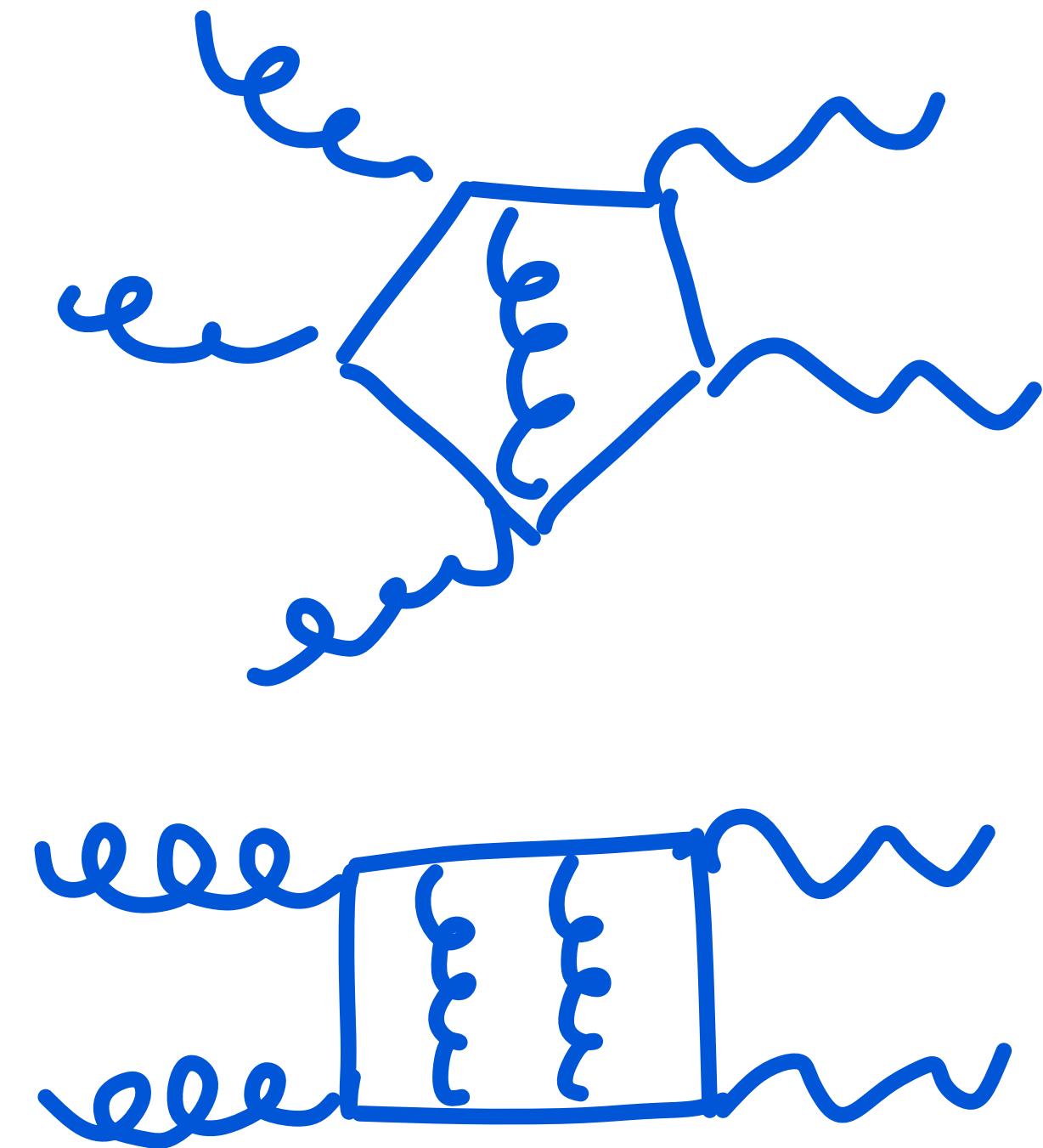


In principle: everything is there... in practice: potential technical difficulties
(e.g. evaluation of complicated amplitudes in extreme kinematic configurations, involved subtraction structure etc.)

Interference is enhanced at low $p_{T,H}$,
bulk of the contribution coming from the virtuals

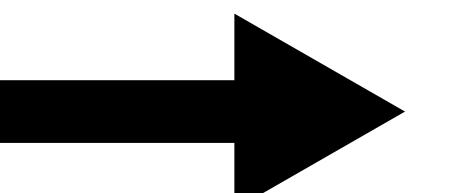
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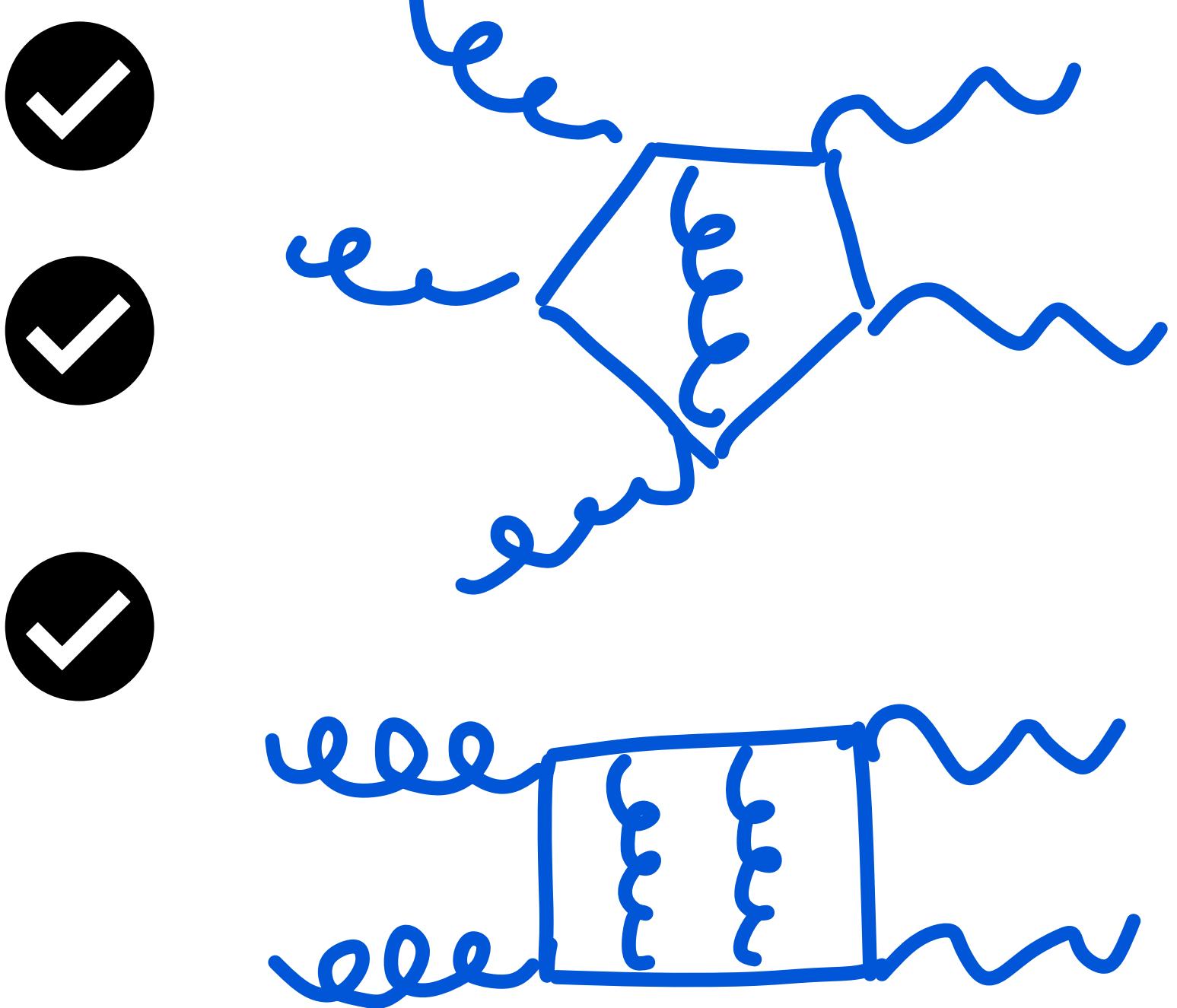
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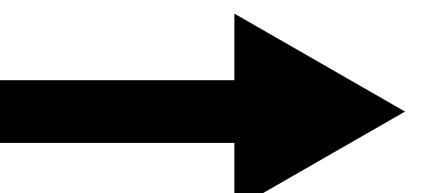
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Soft-virtual approximation



Soft-virtual approximation in a nutshell

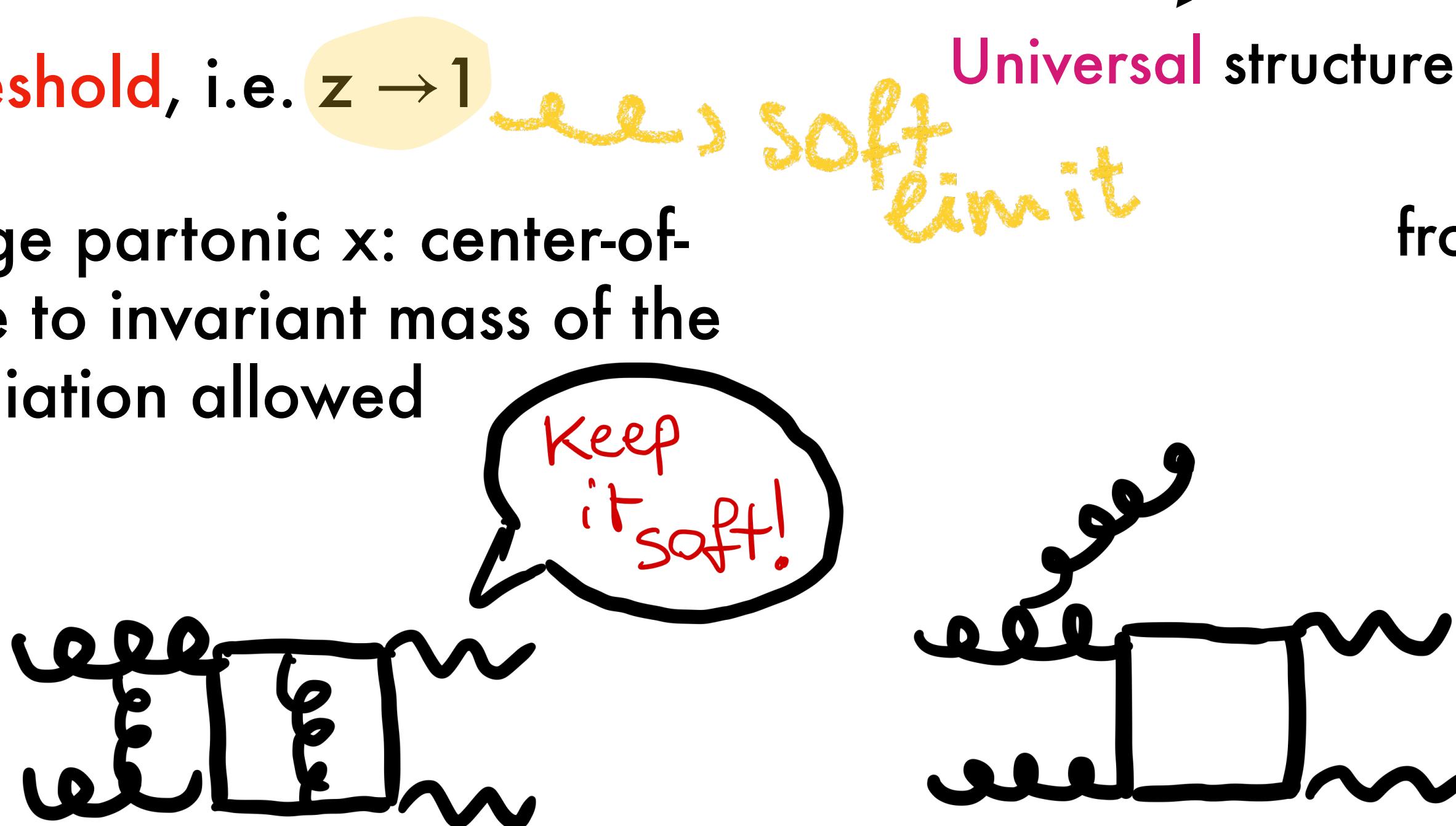
$$Q^2 \frac{d\sigma}{dQ^2}(s_H, Q^2) = \sum_{a,b} \int_0^1 dx_1 dx_2 f_{a/h_1}(x_1, \mu_F^2) f_{b/h_2}(x_2, \mu_F^2) \int_0^1 dz \delta\left(z - \frac{\tau}{x_1 x_2}\right) \times \hat{\sigma}_0 z G_{ab}(z; \alpha_S(\mu_R^2), Q^2/\mu_R^2; Q^2/\mu_F^2),$$

- Evaluation of **soft** contributions only, **neglect hard** emissions

$$\tau = \frac{Q^2}{s_H}$$

$$\mathcal{D}_n(z) = \left[\frac{\ln^n(1-z)}{1-z} \right]_+$$

- Works best **near partonic threshold**, i.e. $z \rightarrow 1$
- Gluon PDFs fall off fast at large partonic x : center-of-mass energy tends to be close to invariant mass of the system → only **soft** extra radiation allowed

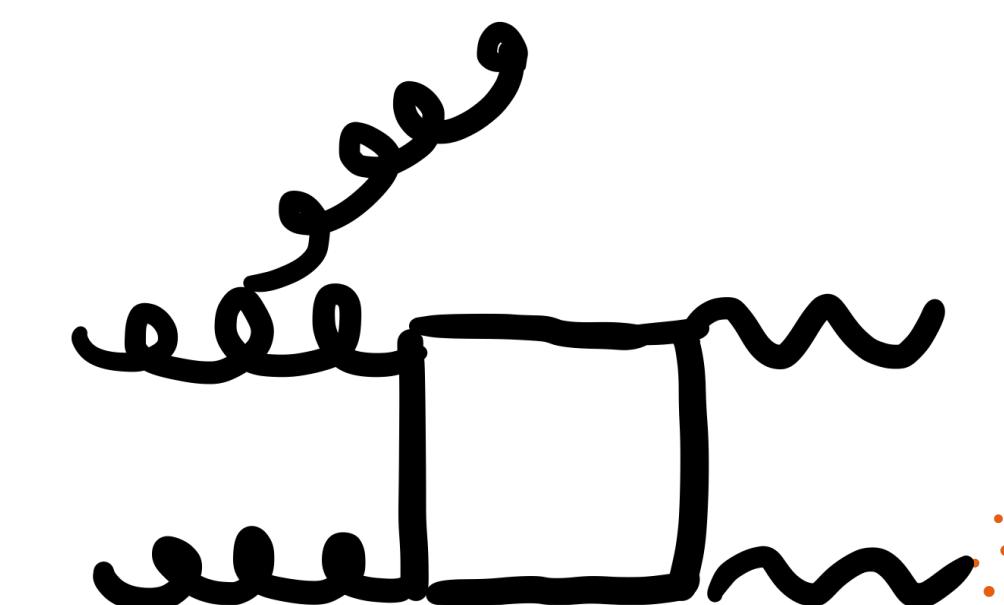


$$G(z, \alpha_s) = \delta(1-z)$$

$$+ \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \left[8C_A \mathcal{D}_1(z) + \left(\frac{2\pi^2}{3} C_A + c_1 \right) \delta(1-z) \right]$$

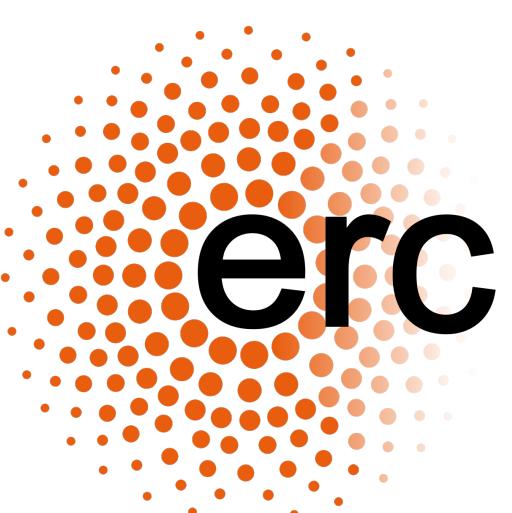
Universal structure

Process-dependent,
from virtual contributions



Setup

- $\sqrt{s} = 13.6 \text{ TeV}$
- PDF set: `NNPDF31_nnlo_as_0118`
- Dynamic scale: $\mu_F = \mu_R \equiv \mu = \frac{m_{\gamma\gamma}}{2}$
- Fiducial cuts:
 - $p_T \gamma_{1,2} > 20 \text{ GeV}$
 - $|\eta_\gamma| < 2.5$
 - $p_T \gamma_1 p_T \gamma_2 > (35 \text{ GeV})^2$
 - $\Delta R_{\gamma_{1,2}} > 0.4$ [Salam, Slade '21]



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 - $p_T \gamma_1 p_T \gamma_2 > (35 \text{ GeV})^2$
 - $\Delta R_{\gamma_{1,2}} > 0.4$ [Salam, Slade '21]

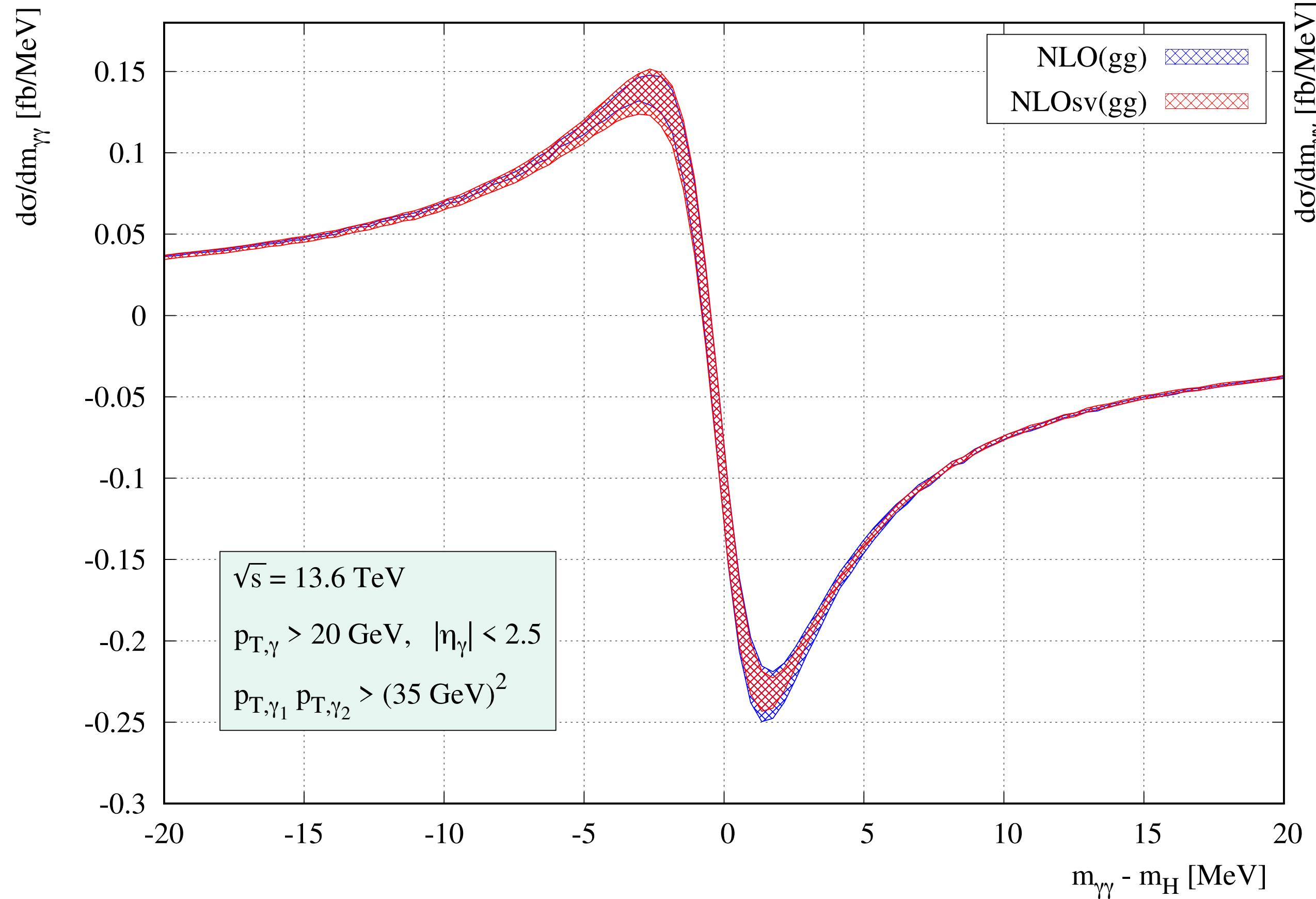
Setup

- $\sqrt{s} = 13.6 \text{ TeV}$
- PDF set: `NNPDF31_nnlo_as_0118`
- Dynamic scale: $\mu_F = \mu_R \equiv \mu = \frac{m_{\gamma\gamma}}{2}$
- Fiducial cuts:
 - $p_T \gamma_{1,2} > 20 \text{ GeV}$
 - $|\eta_\gamma| < 2.5$
 - $p_T \gamma_1 p_T \gamma_2 > (35 \text{ GeV})^2$
 - $\Delta R_{\gamma_{1,2}} > 0.4$

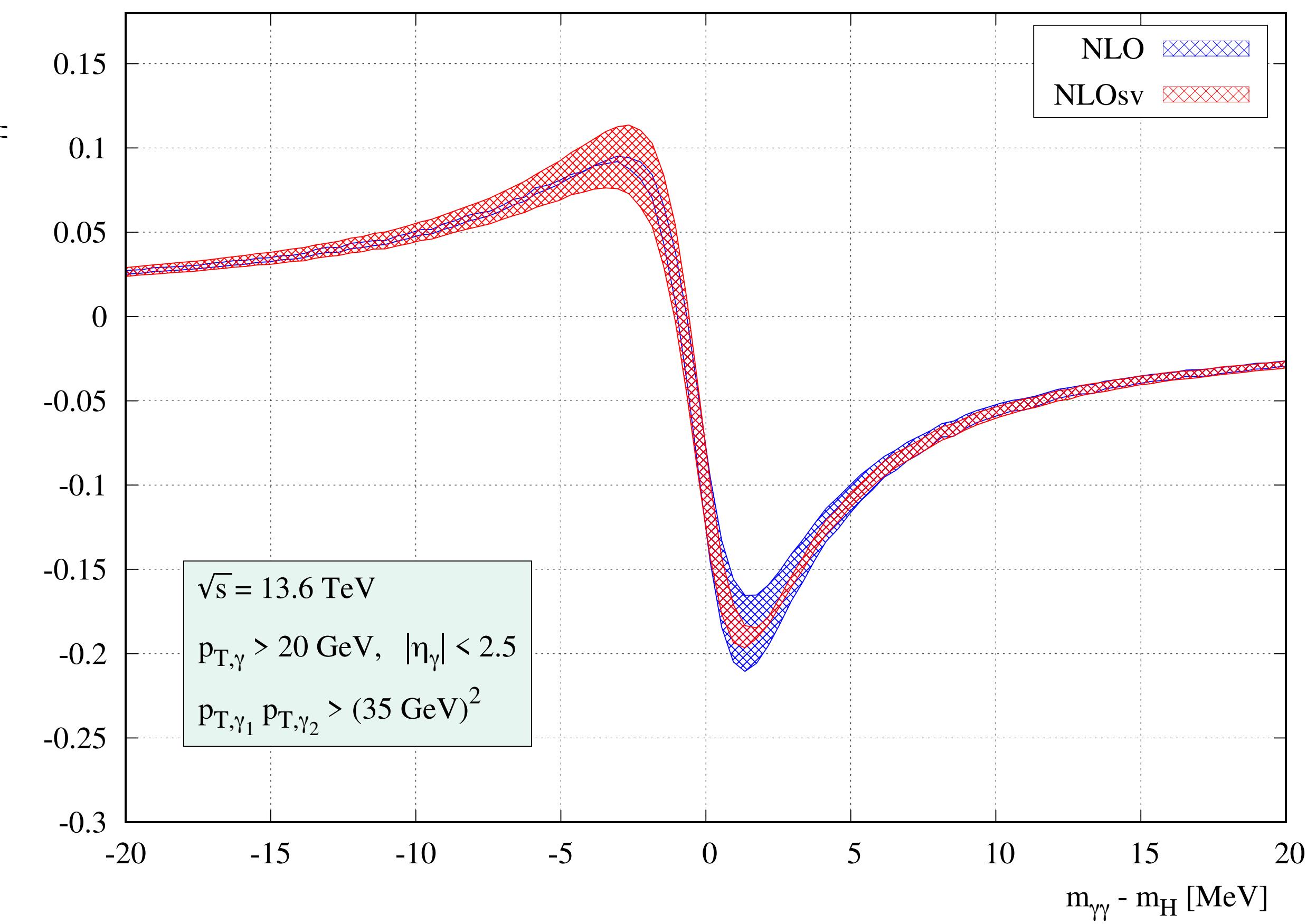
Signal-background interference receives
large corrections
“Usual” cuts plagued by unphysical
sensitivity to IR physics

[Salam, Slade '21]

Validation of SV: interference

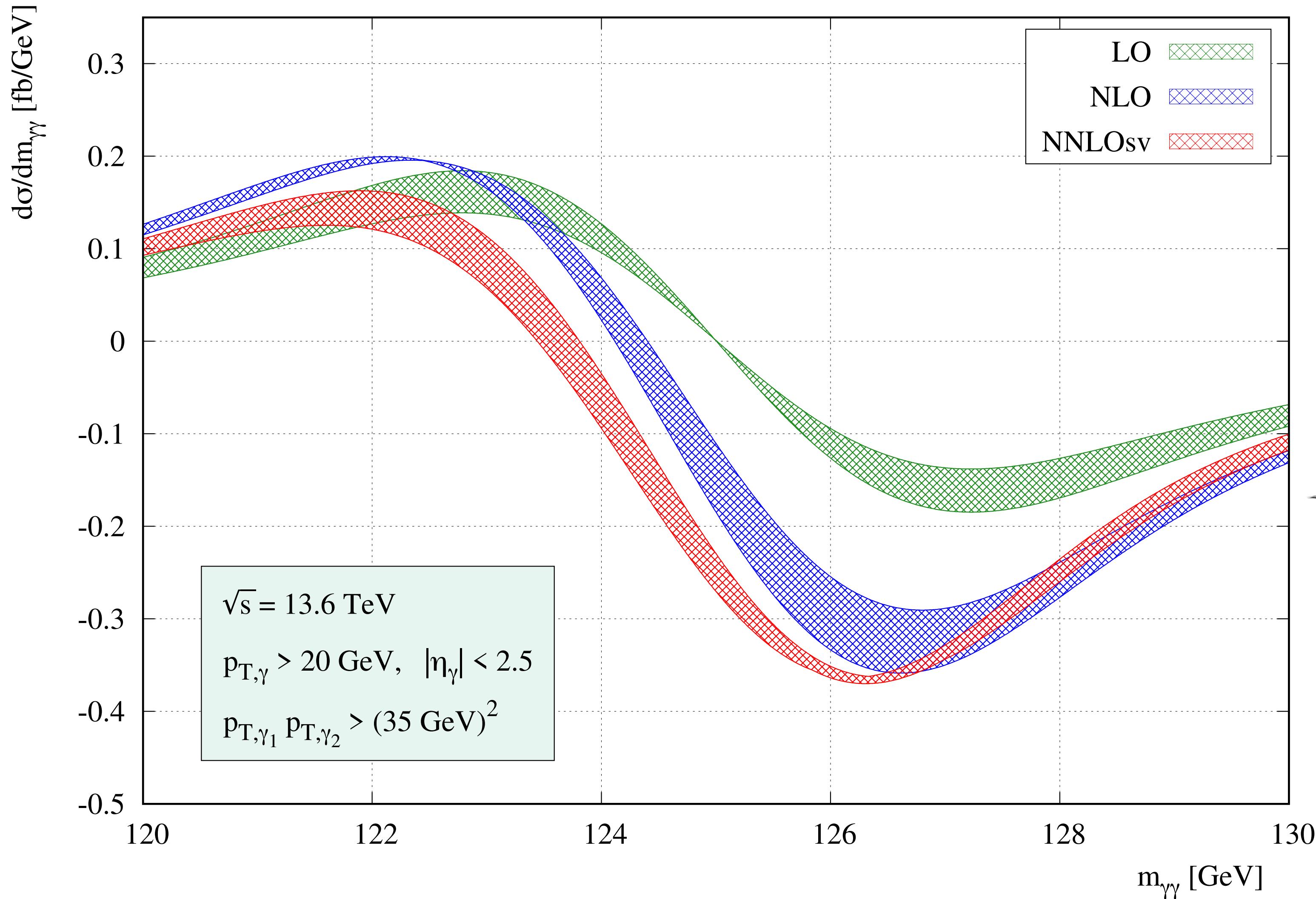


gg only



all channels

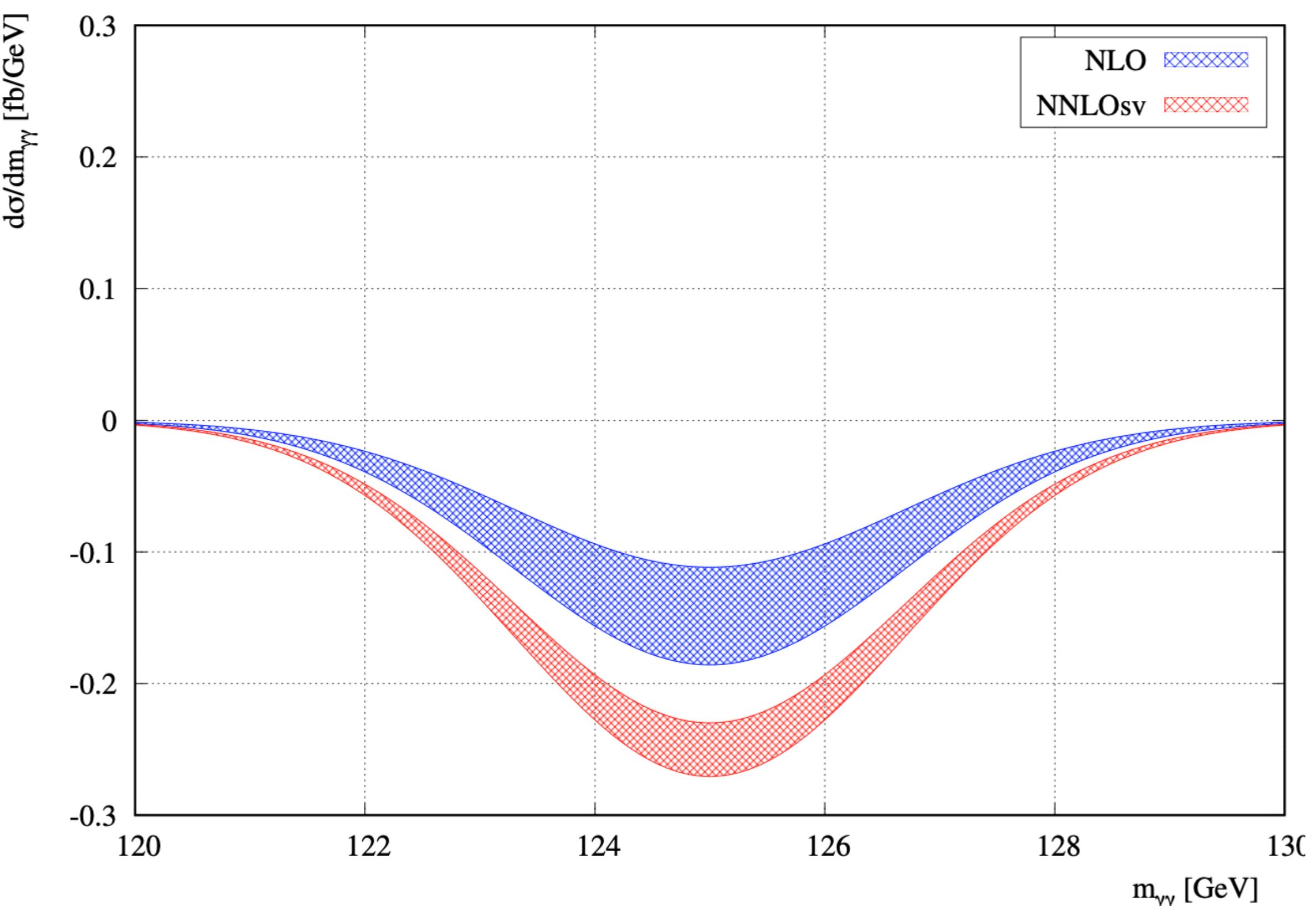
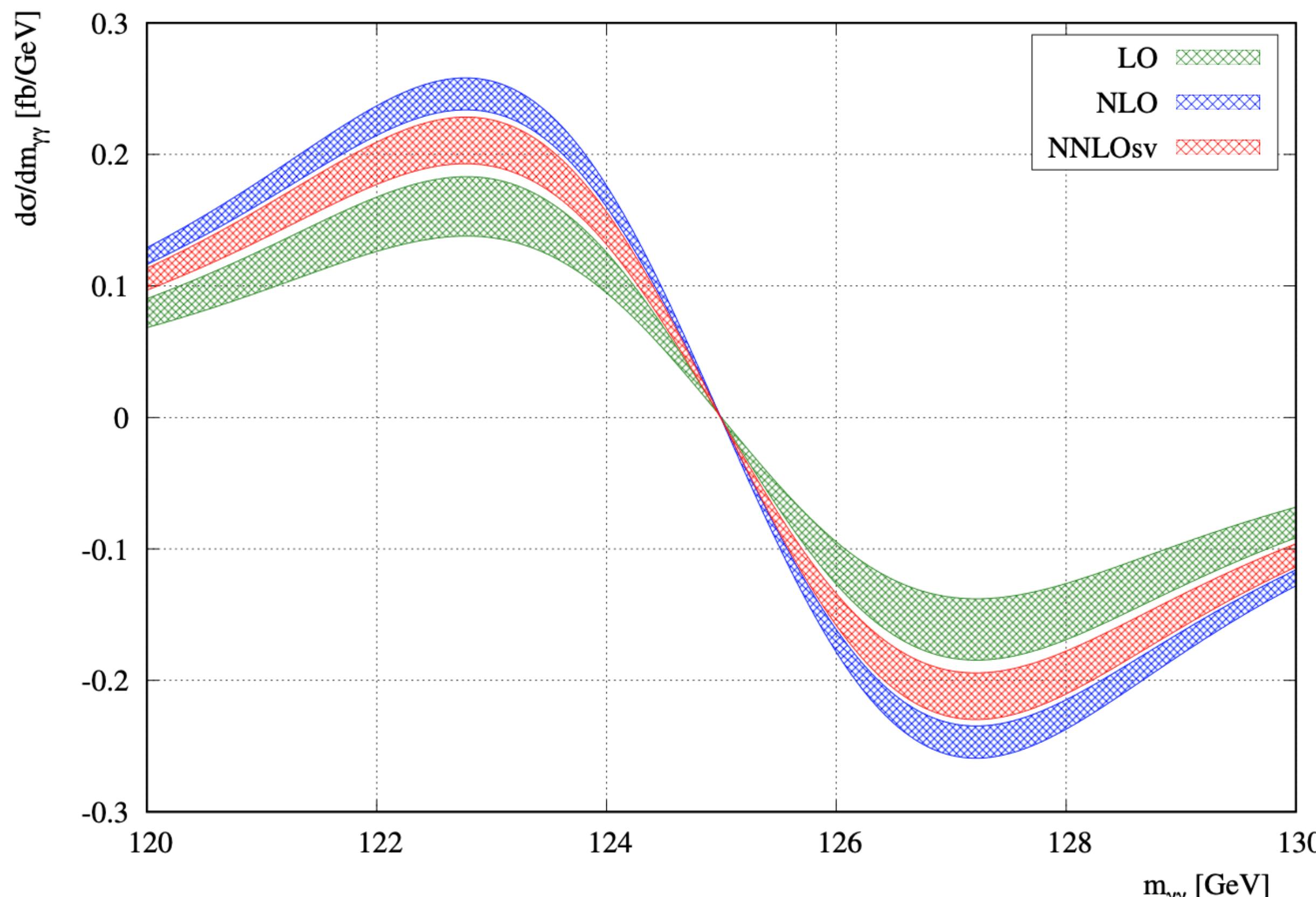
Results: Interference @NNLOsv



- **imaginary parts** of two and three loop amplitudes shift distribution to the left
- NNLO corrections not captured by the NLO uncertainty bands

Gaussian smearing with standard deviation $\sigma = 1.7 \text{ GeV}$ to simulate detector resolution

Real part of interference



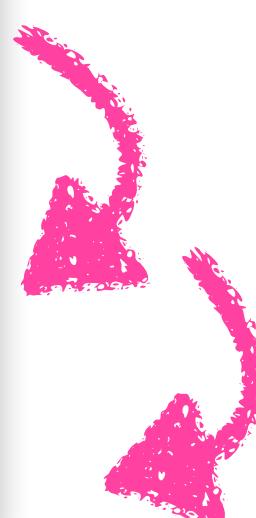
Imaginary part of interference

Destructive interference @ NNLOsv $\sim -1.5 \%$

Results: Mass shift @NNLO soft-virtual

ΔM [MeV]	7 TeV	8 TeV	13.6 TeV
LO	$-111.0^{+0.7\%}_{-0.9\%}$	$-114.1^{+0.5\%}_{-0.7\%}$	$-123.2^{+0.1\%}_{-0.2\%}$
NLO	$-82.0^{+13\%}_{-15\%}$	$-82.3^{+12\%}_{-14\%}$	$-81.5^{+12\%}_{-12\%}$
NNLOsv	$-67.7^{+22\%}_{-26\%}$	$-68.2^{+20\%}_{-24\%}$	$-67.9^{+17\%}_{-20\%}$

First moment method

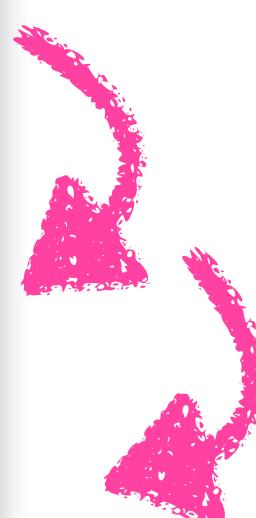


$$\Delta M_{(N)NLO} = \Delta M_{\text{LO}} K_{(N)NLO}$$



Results: Mass shift @NNLO soft-virtual

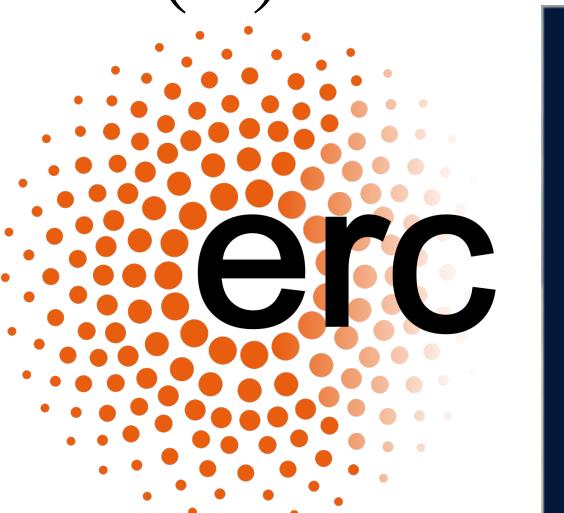
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First moment method

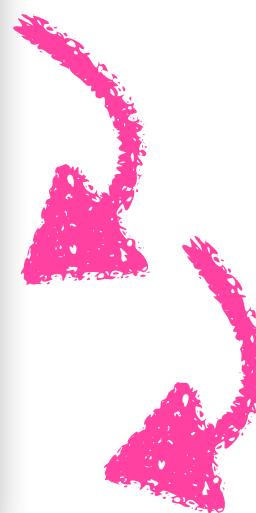
ΔM [MeV]	7 TeV	8 TeV	13.6 TeV
LO	$-75.6^{+0.7\%}_{-0.9\%}$	$-77.7^{+0.5\%}_{-0.7\%}$	$-83.8_{-0.2\%}$
NLO	$-55.8^{+13\%}_{-15\%}$	$-56.0^{+13\%}_{-14\%}$	$-55.4^{+12\%}_{-12\%}$
NNLOsv	$-46.1^{+22\%}_{-26\%}$	$-46.4^{+20\%}_{-24\%}$	$-46.2^{+17\%}_{-20\%}$

$$\Delta M_{(N)NLO} = \Delta M_{\text{LO}} K_{(N)NLO}$$



Results: Mass shift @NNLO soft-virtual

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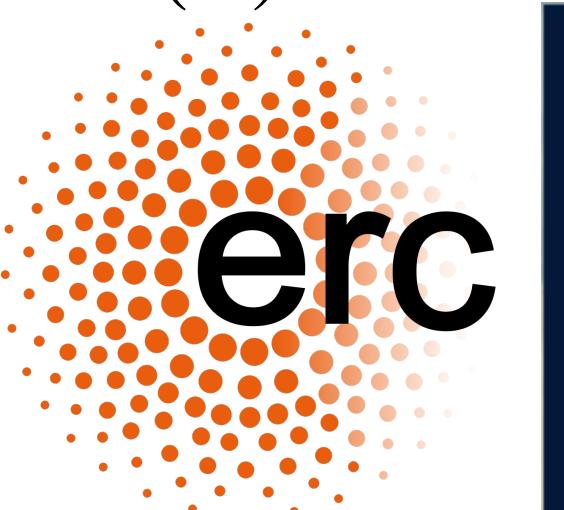


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Gaussian fit method

$$\Delta M_{(N)NLO} = \Delta M_{\text{LO}} K_{(N)NLO}$$



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$\sim 34\%$

First moment method

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Results: Mass shift @NNLO soft-virtual

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 $\sim 17\%$

First moment method

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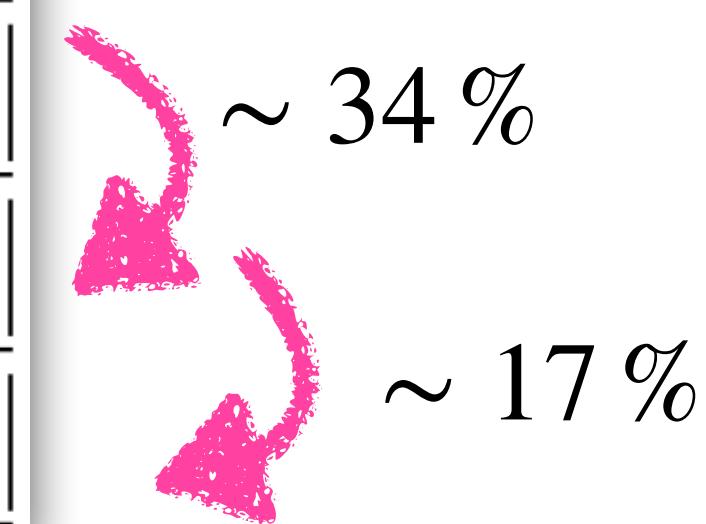
Gaussian fit method

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Results: Mass shift @NNLO soft-virtual

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First moment method



$\sim 34\%$
 $\sim 17\%$

Starting to converge..

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Gaussian fit method

$$\Delta M_{(N)NLO} = \Delta M_{\text{LO}} K_{(N)NLO}$$



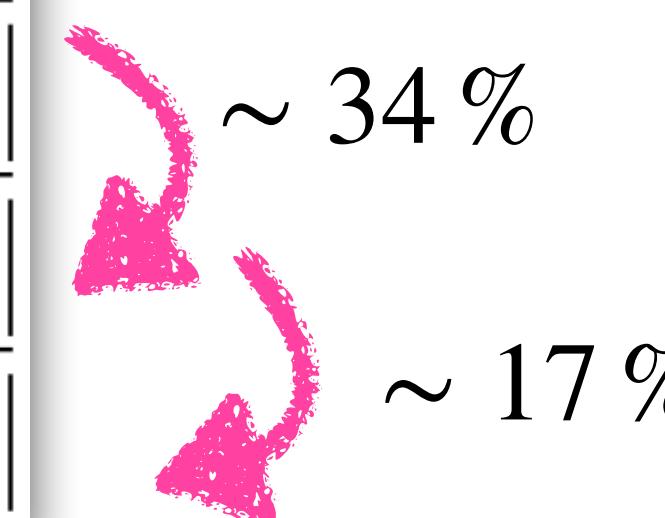
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Gaussian fit method



Starting to converge..

ΔM [MeV]	First moment	Gaussian Fit
K_{NLO}	0.662	0.662
K_{NNLOsv}	0.551	0.552

$$\Delta M_{(N)NLO} = \Delta M_{\text{LO}} K_{(N)NLO}$$

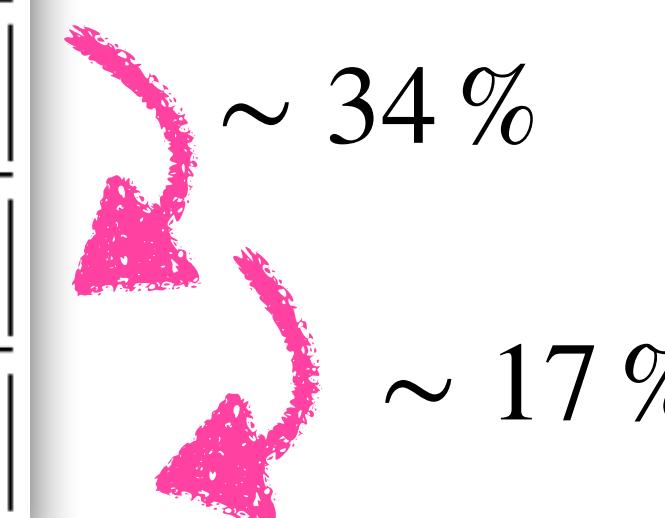
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Gaussian fit method



$\sim 34\%$

$\sim 17\%$

Starting to converge..

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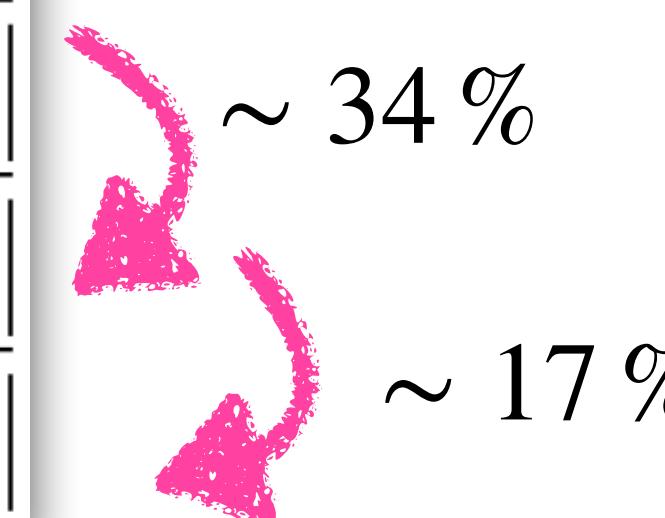
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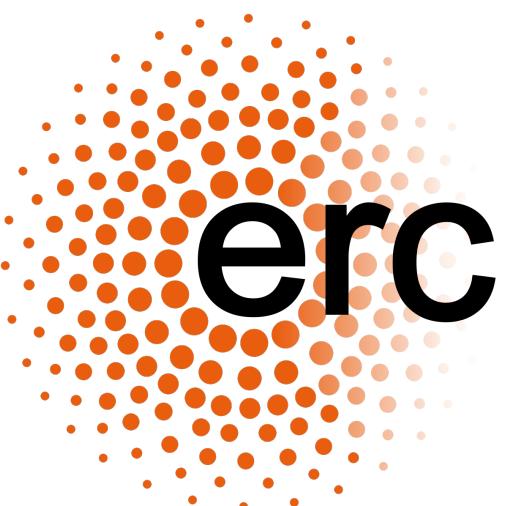
$$\Delta M_{(N)NLO} = \Delta M_{\text{LO}} K_{(N)NLO}$$

Conclusions and outlooks

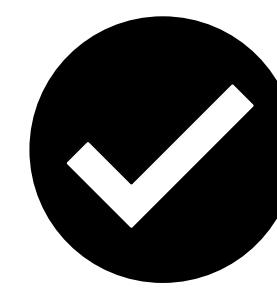
- Mass-shift can be used to put bounds on the Higgs width
- We extended the existing analysis **beyond NLO** and included NNLO corrections in the soft-virtual approximation
- The NLO mass-shift is enhanced at low values of Higgs p_T , we expect the bulk of contribution coming from this region -> **SV good approximation**
- $K_{NNLOsv} = 0.55$
- Study of Higgs p_T distribution beyond LO in $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma j$ would enable p_T dependent mass shift extraction (future work!)
- Ultimate goal is the **exact calculation**: would enable to perform a full analysis of interference effects

Thank you for your attention!

Back up slides



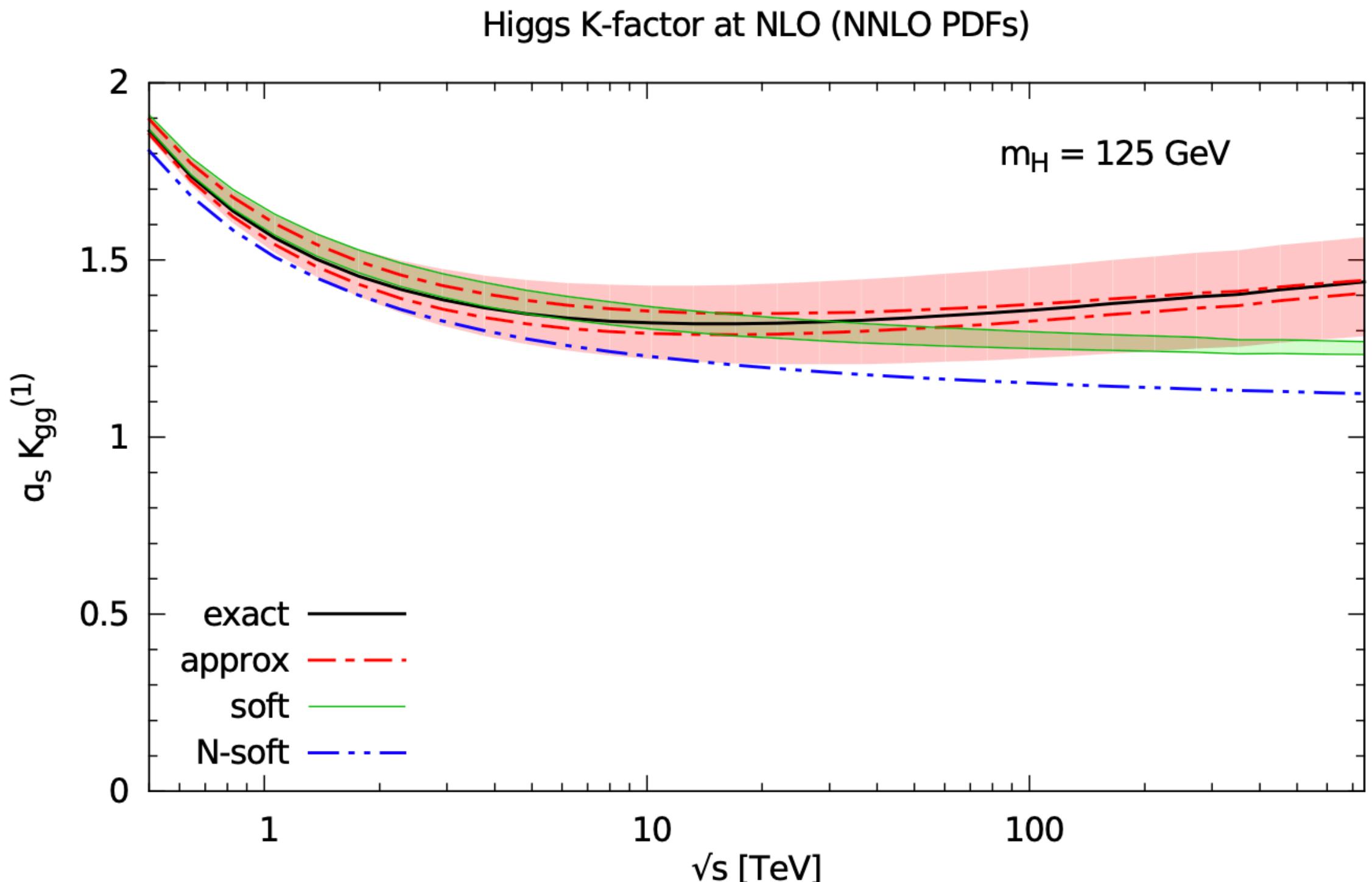
Validation of SV: signal



- Exact calculation available up to N3LO both inclusive [Anastasiou et al '15] and differential [Chen et al '21]
- Soft-virtual (SV) approximation studied extensively in the Higgs sector
- Known how to “tweak” it, i.e. retain subleading terms (which would naively vanish at threshold $z \rightarrow 1$)

We will use a “soft-collinear” approximation for the signal:

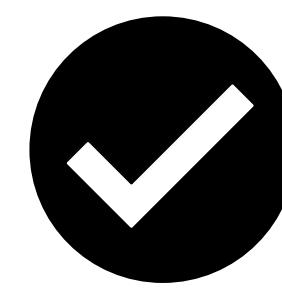
$$\mathcal{D}_i(z) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_i(z) + \delta\mathcal{D}_i(z)$$
$$\delta\mathcal{D}_i(z) = (2 - 3z + 2z^2) \frac{\log^i((1-z)/\sqrt{z})}{1-z} - \frac{\log^i(1-z)}{1-z}$$



[Ball,Bonvini,Forte,Marzani,Ridolfi '14]

“NNLO_{SV}”

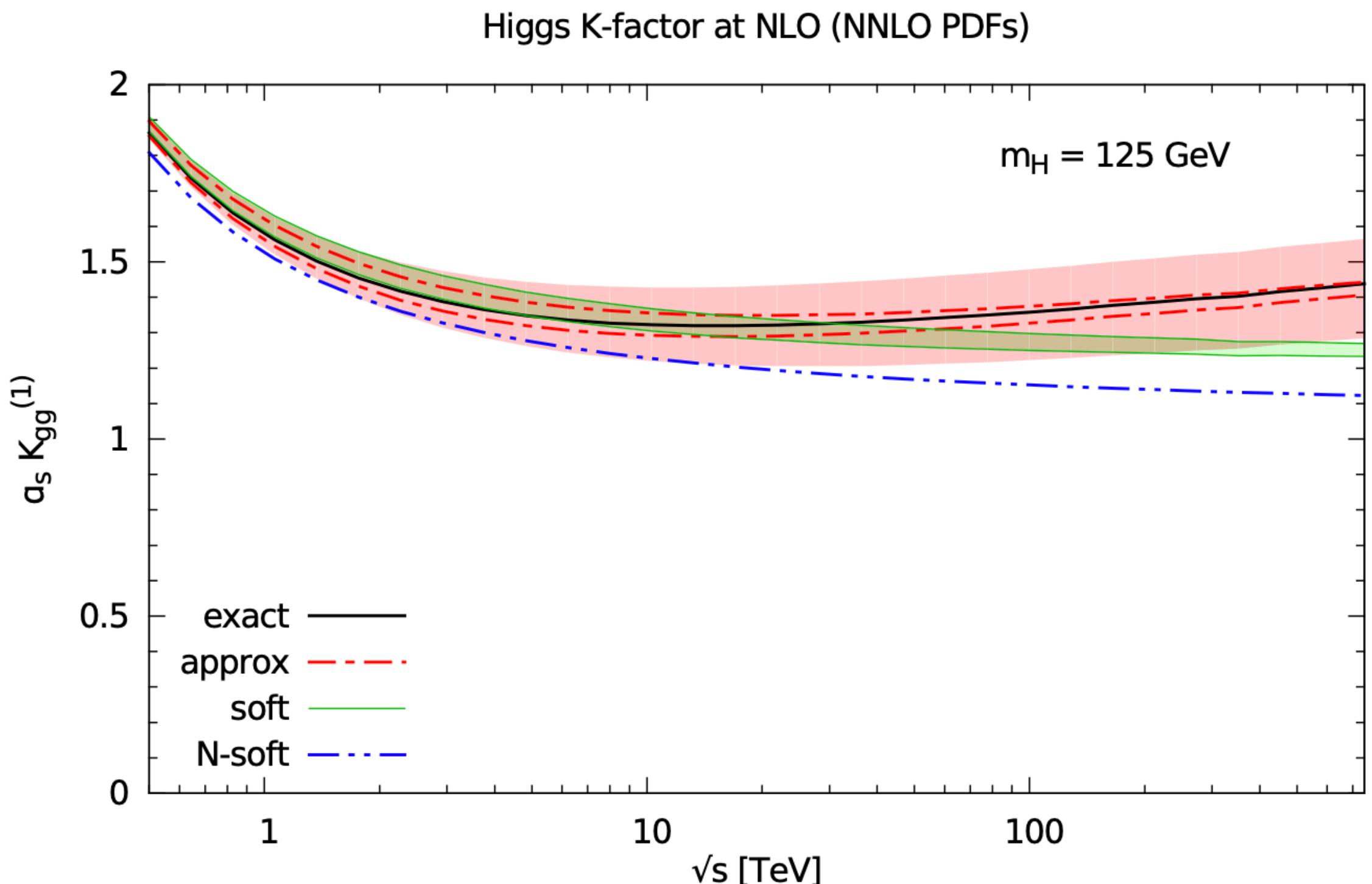
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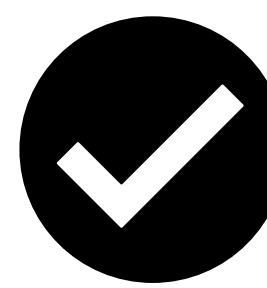
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[Ball,Bonvini,Forte,Marzani,Ridolfi '14]

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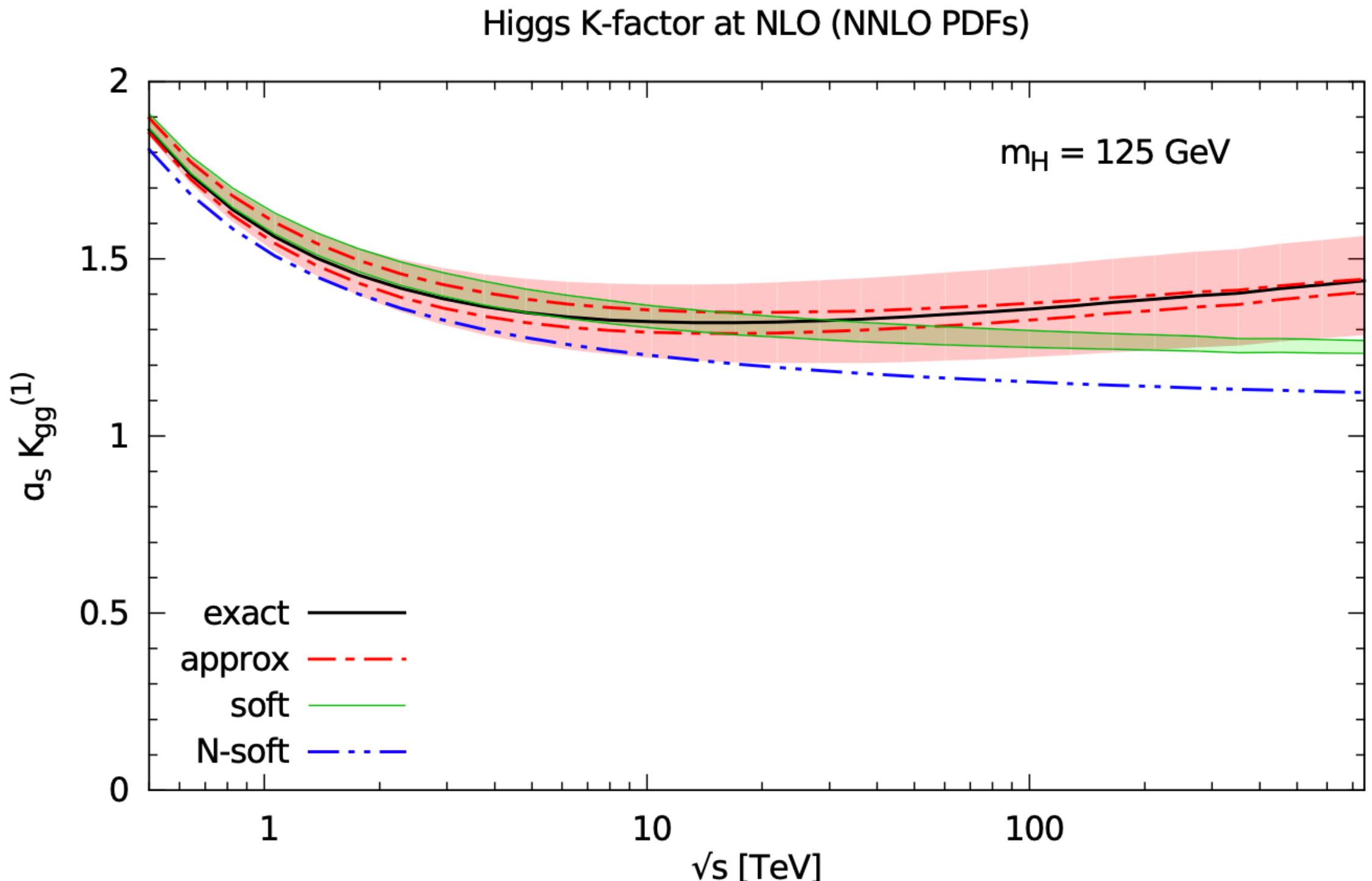
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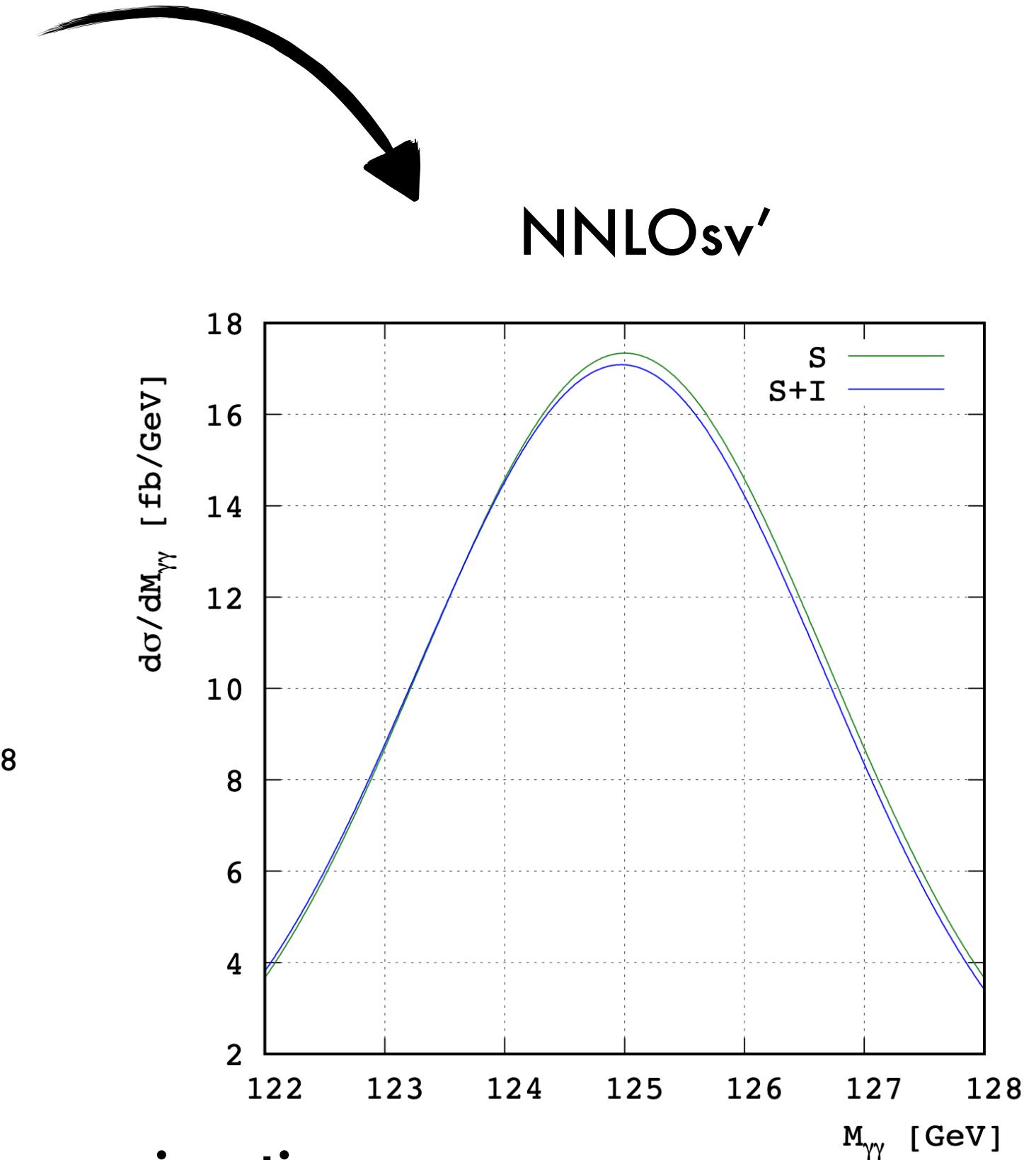
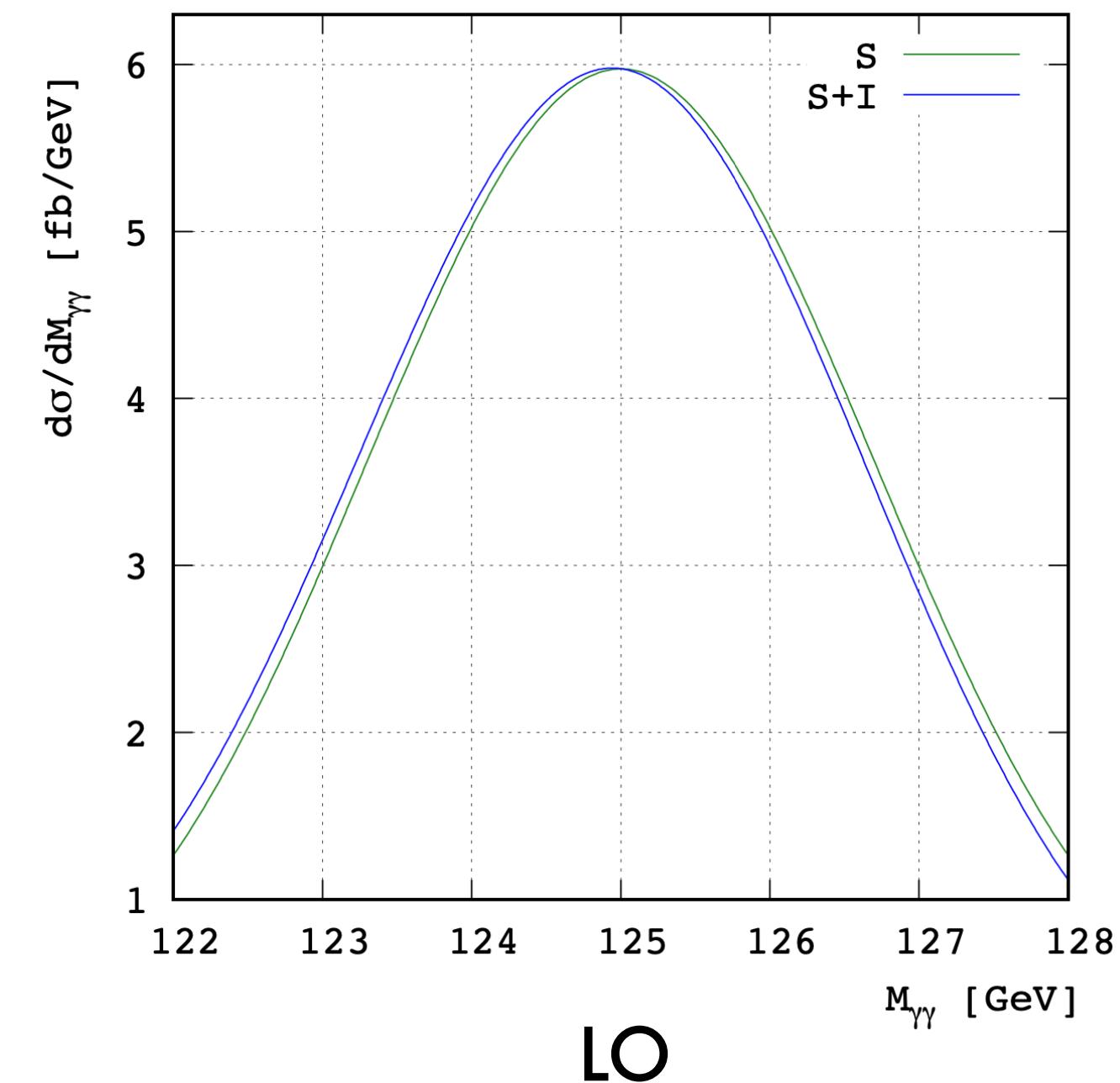
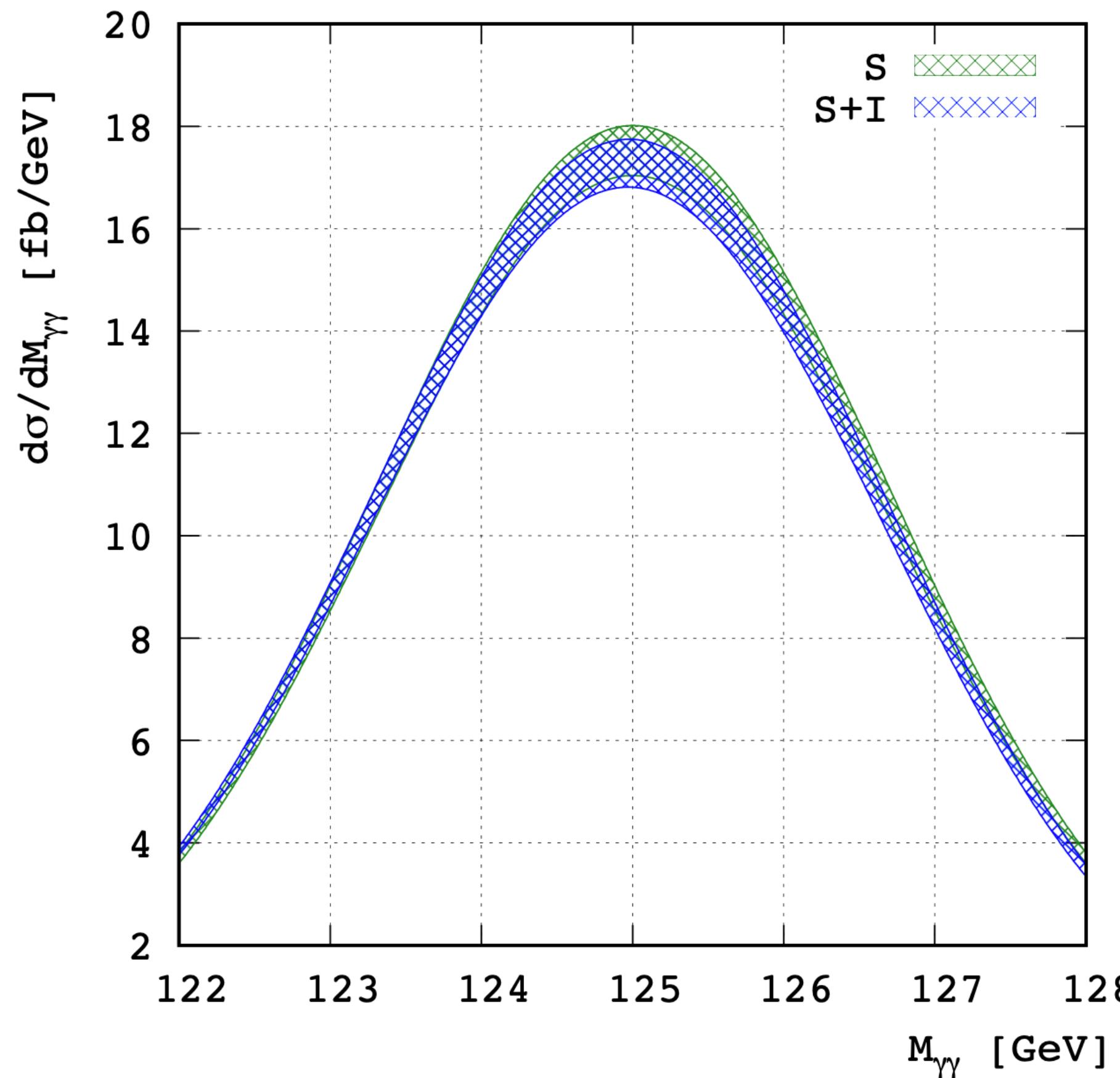


[Ball,Bonvini,Forte,Marzani,Ridolfi '14]

“NNLO_{SV}”



Results: Mass shift @NNLO soft-virtual



NNLOsv': - interference in SV approximation
- signal in SV "improved" approximation

ΔM [MeV]	7 TeV	8 TeV	13.6 TeV
LO	$-75.6^{+0.7\%}_{-0.9\%}$	$-77.7^{+0.5\%}_{-0.7\%}$	$-83.8_{-0.2\%}$
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First moment method

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Gaussian fit method

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First moment method