

# Forward Higgs production in the infinite-top-mass limit

Alessandro Papa

Università della Calabria & INFN - Cosenza

based on M. Fucilla, M.A. Nefedov, A. Papa, JHEP 04 (2024) 078

Diffraction and gluon saturation at the LHC and the EIC

ECT\*, June 10-14, 2024



UNIVERSITÀ DELLA CALABRIA  
DIPARTIMENTO DI  
FISICA



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare  
GRUPPO COLLEGATO DI COSENZA

- 1 Introduction and Motivation
- 2 Theoretical background / BFKL approach
  - Exclusive processes and total cross sections
  - Inclusive processes
- 3 The Higgs impact factor
  - Leading-order case
  - NLO real corrections
  - NLO virtual corrections
- 4 Conclusions and outlook

# Introduction and Motivation

- The importance of exploring the **Higgs sector** of the Standard Model can hardly be overestimated; opening new channels of theoretical investigation or improving the reliability of known ones can only be beneficial.
- An interesting new option in this respect is the inclusive production at the LHC (and future colliders) of a **forward Higgs**, possibly in association with a **backward jet or hadron**.

- It belongs to the class of **semihard processes**, where the **scale hierarchy**

$$s \gg Q^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2, \quad Q \text{ a hard scale } (Q = m_{H\perp} \text{ in the Higgs case}),$$

holds, making fixed-order perturbative calculations insufficient, due to  $\alpha_s(Q) \log s \sim 1$ , and calling for an **all-order resummation of energy logarithms**.

- The **Balitsky-Fadin-Kuraev-Lipatov (BFKL)** approach provides a general framework for the **large- $s$  / high-energy resummation**: I will briefly review the BFKL approach and present its (challenging) application to the forward Higgs production case.

- 1 Introduction and Motivation
- 2 **Theoretical background / BFKL approach**
  - Exclusive processes and total cross sections
  - Inclusive processes
- 3 The Higgs impact factor
  - Leading-order case
  - NLO real corrections
  - NLO virtual corrections
- 4 Conclusions and outlook

# BFKL factorization

Scattering  $A + B \rightarrow A' + B'$  in the **Regge kinematical region**  $s \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $t$  fixed

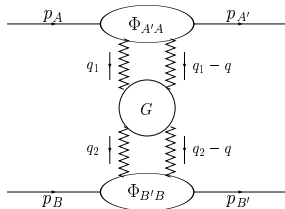
$\Rightarrow$  BFKL factorization for  $\text{Im}_s \mathcal{A}$ :

convolution of a **Green's function** with the **impact factors** of the colliding particles.

Valid both in

**LLA** (resummation of all terms  $(\alpha_s \ln s)^n$ )

**NLA** (resummation of all terms  $\alpha_s(\alpha_s \ln s)^n$ ).



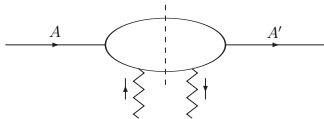
$$\text{Im}_s \mathcal{A} = \frac{s}{(2\pi)^{D-2}} \int \frac{d^{D-2} \vec{q}_1}{\vec{q}_1^2} \Phi_{AA'}(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}; s_0) \int \frac{d^{D-2} \vec{q}_2}{\vec{q}_2^2} \Phi_{BB'}(-\vec{q}_2, -\vec{q}; s_0) \\ \times \int_{\delta-i\infty}^{\delta+i\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi i} \left( \frac{s}{s_0} \right)^\omega G_\omega(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2)$$

The **Green's function** is **process-independent** and is determined through the **BFKL equation**.

[Ya.Ya. Balitsky, V.S. Fadin, E.A. Kuraev, L.N. Lipatov (1975)]

$$\omega G_\omega(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2) = \delta^{D-2}(\vec{q}_1 - \vec{q}_2) + \int d^{D-2} \vec{q} K(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}) G_\omega(\vec{q}, \vec{q}_1)$$

Impact factors are process-dependent;  
only very few of them known in the NLA ...



- $A = A' = \text{quark}$ ,  $A = A' = \text{gluon}$  [V.S. Fadin, R. Fiore, M.I. Kotsky, A.P. (2000)]  
[M. Ciafaloni and G. Rodrigo (2000)]
- $A = \gamma^*$ ,  $A' = V$ , with  $V = \rho^0, \omega, \phi$  (forward)  
twist-2 (long. polarization) [D.Yu. Ivanov, M.I. Kotsky, A.P. (2004)]  
twist-3 (transv. polarization) [I.V. Anikin et al. (2009)]
- $A = A' = \gamma^*$  (forward) [J. Bartels, S. Gieseke, C.F. Qiao (2001)]  
[J. Bartels, S. Gieseke, A. Kyrrieleis (2002)]  
[J. Bartels, D. Colferai, S. Gieseke, A. Kyrrieleis (2002)]  
[V.S. Fadin, D.Yu. Ivanov, M.I. Kotsky (2003)]  
[J. Bartels, A. Kyrrieleis (2004)]  
[I. Balitsky, G.A. Chirilli (2013)] [G.A. Chirilli, Yu.V. Kovchegov (2014)]

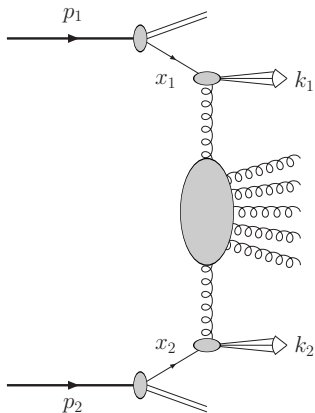
... so that only a very limited number of predictions can be built for **exclusive** processes or **total cross sections** (among them the 'gold plated'  $\gamma^* \gamma^* \rightarrow \text{all}$ ), even hardly testable in present colliders.

- 1 Introduction and Motivation
- 2 Theoretical background / BFKL approach
  - Exclusive processes and total cross sections
  - **Inclusive processes**
- 3 The Higgs impact factor
  - Leading-order case
  - NLO real corrections
  - NLO virtual corrections
- 4 Conclusions and outlook

# Inclusive processes

A lot more possibilities open for **inclusive** processes, with jets or identified particles in the final state, produced in the **fragmentation** regions...

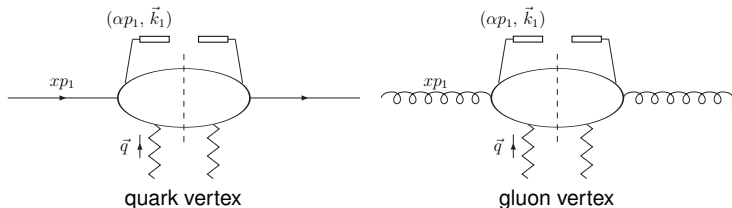
... and if the fragmentation subprocess is **hybridized** with collinear factorization.



Identified 'object' (jet, hadron) with momentum  $k_1$  ( $k_2$ ) in the forward (backward) region;  
all the rest undetected.



Straightforward adaptation of the BFKL factorization: just restrict the summation over final states entering the definition of **impact factors**.



- “open” one of the integrations over the phase space of the intermediate state to allow one (or more) parton(s) to generate a jet or a Higgs or one parton to fragment into a given hadron
- use QCD collinear factorization

$$\sum_{a=q,\bar{q}} f_a \otimes (\text{quark vertex}) \otimes (D_a^h / S_a^j / H) \quad + \quad f_g \otimes (\text{gluon vertex}) \otimes (D_g^h / S_g^j / H)$$

$f_{a,g}$ : unpolarized collinear PDFs,

$D_{a,g}^h$ : unpolarized collinear FFs,

$S_{a,g}^j$ : jet selection functions,

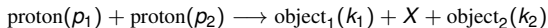
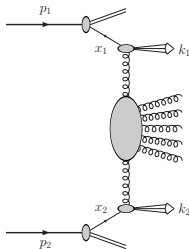
$H$ : Higgs vertex

A few more impact factors became available in the **hybrid collinear/high-energy factorization** in the NLA ...

- jet vertex [J. Bartels, D. Colferai, G.P. Vacca (2003)]  
[F. Caporale, D.Yu. Ivanov, B. Murdaca, A.P., A. Perri (2011)]  
[D.Yu. Ivanov, A.P. (2012)] (small-cone approximation)  
[D. Colferai, A. Niccoli (2015)]
- hadron vertex [D.Yu. Ivanov, A.P. (2012)]
- Higgs vertex [M.A. Nefedov (2019)] [M. Hentschinski, K. Kutak, A. van Hameren (2020)]  
[F.G. Celiberto, M. Fucilla, D.Yu. Ivanov, M.M.A. Mohammed, A.P. (2022)]

... to be added to several LA ones:

- $J/\psi$  vertex [R. Boussarie, B. Ducloué, L. Szymanowski, S. Wallon (2018)]
- Drell-Yan pair vertex [K. Golec-Biernat, L. Motyka, T. Stebel (2018)]
- heavy-quark production vertex [A.D. Bolognino, F.G. Celiberto, M. Fucilla, D.Yu. Ivanov, A.P. (2019)]



Taking also into account the large variety of available FFs, a plethora of predictions were recently produced for the inclusive production at the LHC of a forward and a backward identified 'objects'.

### Full-NLA analyses (for LHC and possibly FCC):

- jet + jet (Mueller-Navelet) [D. Colferai, F. Schwennsen, L. Szymanowski, S. Wallon (2010)]  
[B. Ducloué, L. Szymanowski, S. Wallon (2013,2014)]  
[F. Caporale, D.Yu. Ivanov, B. Murdaca, A.P. (2014)]  
[F.G. Celiberto, D.Yu. Ivanov, B. Murdaca, A.P. (2015,2016)] [F.G. Celiberto, A.P. (2022)]
- light hadron + light hadron [F.G. Celiberto, D.Yu. Ivanov, B. Murdaca, A.P. (2016,2017)]
- light hadron + jet [A.D. Bolognino, F.G. Celiberto, D.Yu. Ivanov, M.M.A. Mohammed, A.P. (2018)]
- $\Lambda + \Lambda$ ,  $\Lambda + \text{jet}$  [F.G. Celiberto, D.Yu. Ivanov, A.P. (2020)]
- $\Lambda_c + \Lambda_c$ ,  $\Lambda_c + \text{jet}$  [F.G. Celiberto, M. Fucilla, D.Yu. Ivanov, A.P. (2020)]
- $b$ -hadron +  $b$ -hadron,  $b$ -hadron + jet [F.G. Celiberto, M. Fucilla, M.M.A. Mohammed, A.P. (2022)]
- $B_c(B_c^*) + b$ -hadron,  $B_c(B_c^*) + \text{jet}$  [F.G. Celiberto (2022)]
- $J/\psi$  or  $\Upsilon + \text{jet}$  [F.G. Celiberto, M. Fucilla (2022)]
- heavy-light tetraquark +  $b$ ,  $c$ -hadron or jet [F.G. Celiberto, A. Papa (2023)]

## Partial-NLA analyses:

- $J/\Psi$  + jet [R. Boussarie, B. Ducloué, L. Szymanowski, S. Wallon (2018)]
- Drell-Yan pair + jet [K. Golec-Biernat, L. Motyka, T. Stebel (2018)]
- Higgs + jet [F.G. Celiberto, D.Yu. Ivanov, M.M.A. Mohammed, A.P. (2021)]
- light jet + heavy jet [A.D. Bolognino, F.G. Celiberto, M. Fucilla, D.Yu. Ivanov, A.P. (2021)]
- Higgs + c-hadron [F.G. Celiberto, M. Fucilla, M.M.A. Mohammed, A.P. (2022)]

## Observables

BFKL-factorized form, with “differential” impact factors:

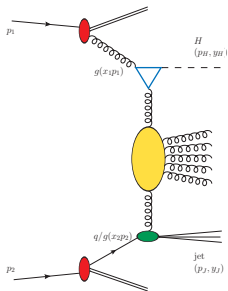
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy_1 dy_2 d|\vec{k}_1| d|\vec{k}_2| d\phi_1 d\phi_2} = \frac{d\Phi_1}{dy_1 d|\vec{k}_1| d\phi_1} \otimes G \otimes \frac{d\Phi_2}{dy_2 d|\vec{k}_2| d\phi_2}$$
$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \left[ C_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2 \cos(n\phi) C_n \right], \quad \phi = \phi_1 - \phi_2 - \pi$$

- azimuthal correlations,  $\langle \cos(n\phi) \rangle = C_n/C_0$ , and ratios between them [A. Sabio Vera, F. Schwennsen (2007)]
- cross sections differential in  $Y \equiv y_1 - y_2$
- ...

# Higgs plus jet as a paradigm

Inclusive **Higgs plus jet** production in p-p collisions [V. Del Duca, C.R. Schmidt (1994)]  
 (+ Sudakov logs) [B. Xiao, F. Yuan (2018)]

- Full NLA Green function + partially NLO impact factor (full  $m_t$ -dependence)  
 [F.G. Celiberto, D. Yu. Ivanov, M.M.A. Mohammed, A. Papa (2021)]
- Same process in HEJ framework (full  $m_t, m_b$ -dep.) [J. Andersen *et al.* (2022)]



$$\frac{d\sigma_{pp}}{dy_H dy_J d|\vec{p}_H| d|\vec{p}_J| d\phi_1 d\phi_2} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2}$$

$$\times \int \frac{d^2 \vec{q}_1}{\vec{q}_1^2} \left( \mathcal{V}_H^{(g)}(\vec{q}_1, s_0, x_1, \vec{p}_H) \otimes f_g(x_1) \right)$$

$$\times \int_{\delta-i\infty}^{\delta+i\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi i} \left( \frac{x_H x_J s}{s_0} \right)^\omega G_\omega(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2)$$

$$\times \int \frac{d^2 \vec{q}_2}{\vec{q}_2^2} \left( \sum_p \mathcal{V}_J^{(p)}(\vec{q}_2, s_0, x_2, \vec{p}_J) \otimes f_p(x_2) \right)$$

Hadronic cross section expanded in **azimuthal coefficients**

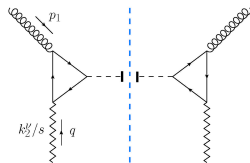
$$\frac{d\sigma_{pp}}{dy_H dy_J d|\vec{p}_H| d|\vec{p}_J| d\phi_1 d\phi_2} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \left[ C_0 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos(n\phi) C_n \right] \quad \phi = \phi_1 - \phi_2 - \pi$$

- 1 Introduction and Motivation
- 2 Theoretical background / BFKL approach
  - Exclusive processes and total cross sections
  - Inclusive processes
- 3 The Higgs impact factor
  - **Leading-order case**
  - NLO real corrections
  - NLO virtual corrections
- 4 Conclusions and outlook

# LO Higgs impact factor

Gluon-Reggeon  $\rightarrow$  Higgs  
(through the top quark loop)

Off-shell  $t$ -channel gluon with effective  
polarization  $\frac{k_2^\nu}{s}$



- **LO impact factor**

[V. Del Duca, C.R. Schmidt (1994)]

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Phi_{PP}^{\{H\}^{(0)}}}{dx_H d^2\vec{p}_H} &= \frac{\alpha_s^2}{v^2} \frac{\vec{q}^2 |\mathcal{F}(m_t, m_H, \vec{q}^2)|^2}{128\pi^2 \sqrt{N^2 - 1}} f_g(x_H) \delta^{(2)}(\vec{p}_H - \vec{q}) \\ &\xrightarrow{m_t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha_s^2}{v^2} \frac{\vec{q}^2}{72\pi^2 \sqrt{N^2 - 1}} f_g(x_H) \delta^{(2)}(\vec{p}_H - \vec{q}) \end{aligned}$$

- **NLO impact factor:** for  $m_t \rightarrow \infty$ , effective Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{ggH} = -\frac{1}{4} g_H F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{\mu\nu, a} H, \quad g_H = \frac{\alpha_s}{3\pi v} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$$

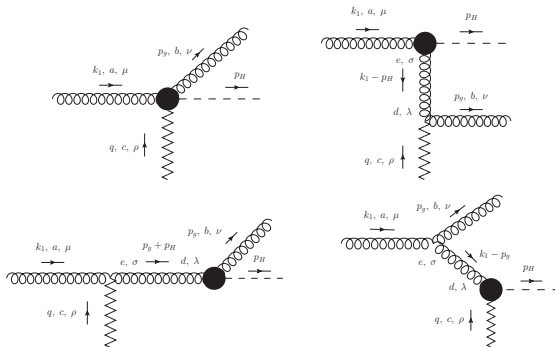
[M. Nefedov (2019)] [M. Hentschinski, K. Kutak, A. van Hameren (2020)]  
[F.G. Celiberto, M. Fucilla, D.Yu. Ivanov, M.M.A. Mohammed, A.P. (2022)]

- 1 Introduction and Motivation
- 2 Theoretical background / BFKL approach
  - Exclusive processes and total cross sections
  - Inclusive processes
- 3 The Higgs impact factor
  - Leading-order case
  - **NLO real corrections**
  - NLO virtual corrections
- 4 Conclusions and outlook

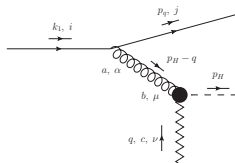


# NLO Higgs impact factor: Real corrections

- Gluon-initiated subprocess



- Quark-initiated subprocess



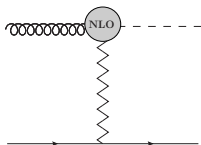
- 1 Introduction and Motivation
- 2 Theoretical background / BFKL approach
  - Exclusive processes and total cross sections
  - Inclusive processes
- 3 The Higgs impact factor
  - Leading-order case
  - NLO real corrections
  - **NLO virtual corrections**
- 4 Conclusions and outlook

# NLO Higgs impact factor: Virtual corrections

Target: 1-loop ggH effective vertex

$$\Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(1)}(q) = \underbrace{\Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)}(q)}_{\frac{g_H \delta^{ac}(\epsilon_{\perp} \cdot q_{\perp})}{2}} [1 + \delta_{\text{NLO}}]$$

(reference process:  $g+q \rightarrow H + q$ )



Strategy: compare a suitable high-energy amplitude with the Regge form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{gq \rightarrow Hq}^{(8,-)} &= \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac} \frac{s}{t} \left[ \left( \frac{s}{-t} \right)^{\omega(t)} + \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right)^{\omega(t)} \right] \Gamma_{qq}^c \approx \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{qq}^{c(0)} \\ &+ \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{s}{t} \omega^{(1)}(t) \left[ \ln \left( \frac{s}{-t} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right) \right] \Gamma_{qq}^{c(0)} + \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{qq}^{c(1)} + \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(1)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{qq}^{c(0)} \end{aligned}$$

Virtual corrections to the impact factor:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Phi_{gg}^{\{H\}(1)}}{dz_H d^2\vec{p}_H} &= \frac{d\Phi_{gg}^{\{H\}(0)}}{dz_H d^2\vec{p}_H} \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{2\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left[ -\frac{C_A}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{11C_A - 2n_f}{6\epsilon} \right. \\ &\left. - \frac{C_A}{\epsilon} \ln \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{s_0} \right) - \frac{5n_f}{9} + C_A \left( 2 \Re \left( \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 + \frac{m_H^2}{\vec{q}^2} \right) \right) + \frac{\pi^2}{3} + \frac{67}{18} \right) + 11 \right] \end{aligned}$$

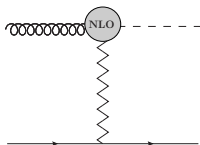
Agreement with [M. Nefedov (2019)] (tool: Lipatov high-energy effective theory)

# NLO Higgs impact factor: Virtual corrections

Target: 1-loop ggH effective vertex

$$\Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(1)}(q) = \underbrace{\Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)}(q)}_{\frac{g_H \delta^{ac}(\epsilon_{\perp} \cdot q_{\perp})}{2}} [1 + \delta_{\text{NLO}}]$$

(reference process:  $g+q \rightarrow H + q$ )



Strategy: compare a suitable high-energy amplitude with the Regge form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{gq \rightarrow Hq}^{(8,-)} &= \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac} \frac{s}{t} \left[ \left( \frac{s}{-t} \right)^{\omega(t)} + \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right)^{\omega(t)} \right] \Gamma_{qq}^c \approx \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{qq}^{c(0)} \\ &+ \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{s}{t} \omega^{(1)}(t) \left[ \ln \left( \frac{s}{-t} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right) \right] \Gamma_{qq}^{c(0)} + \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{qq}^{c(1)} + \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(1)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{qq}^{c(0)} \end{aligned}$$

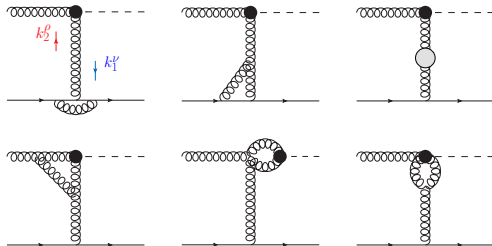
Virtual corrections to the impact factor:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Phi_{gg}^{\{H\}(1)}}{dz_H d^2\vec{p}_H} &= \frac{d\Phi_{gg}^{\{H\}(0)}}{dz_H d^2\vec{p}_H} \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{2\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left[ -\frac{C_A}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{11C_A - 2n_f}{6\epsilon} \right. \\ &\left. - \frac{C_A}{\epsilon} \ln \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{s_0} \right) - \frac{5n_f}{9} + C_A \left( 2 \Re \left( \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 + \frac{m_H^2}{\vec{q}^2} \right) \right) + \frac{\pi^2}{3} + \frac{67}{18} \right) + 11 \right] \end{aligned}$$

Agreement with [M. Nefedov (2019)] (tool: Lipatov high-energy effective theory)

# Anatomy of the calculation: “non-Gribov” terms

- Single-gluon in the  $t$ -channel



Gribov's prescription (eikonal approximation):  $g^{\rho\nu} = g_{\perp\perp}^{\rho\nu} + 2 \frac{k_1^\rho k_2^\nu + k_1^\nu k_2^\rho}{s} \rightarrow 2s \frac{k_1^\nu}{s} \frac{k_2^\rho}{s}$

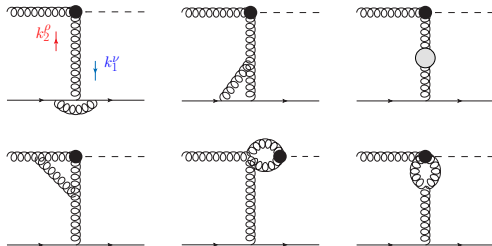
- Two gluons in the  $t$ -channel

Dimension-5 operator in  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{QCD} + \mathcal{L}_{ggH} \rightarrow$  Gribov's trick modification

$$g^{\rho\nu} = g_{\perp\perp}^{\rho\nu} + 2 \frac{k_1^\rho k_2^\nu + k_1^\nu k_2^\rho}{s} \rightarrow 2s \frac{k_1^\nu}{s} \frac{k_2^\rho}{s} + g_{\perp\perp}^{\rho\nu}$$

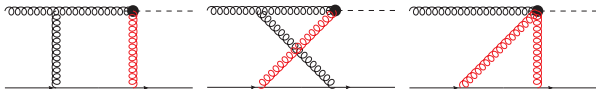
# Anatomy of the calculation: “non-Gribov” terms

- Single-gluon in the  $t$ -channel



Gribov's prescription (eikonal approximation):  $g^{\rho\nu} = g_{\perp\perp}^{\rho\nu} + 2 \frac{k_1^\rho k_2^\nu + k_1^\nu k_2^\rho}{s} \rightarrow 2s \frac{k_1^\nu}{s} \frac{k_2^\rho}{s}$

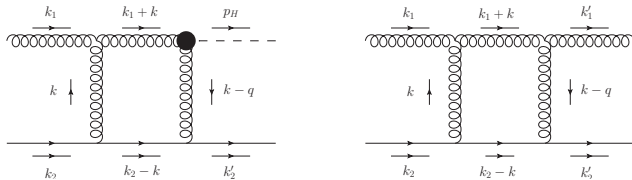
- Two gluons in the  $t$ -channel



Dimension-5 operator in  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{QCD} + \mathcal{L}_{ggH} \rightarrow$  **Gribov's trick modification**

$$g^{\rho\nu} = g_{\perp\perp}^{\rho\nu} + 2 \frac{k_1^\rho k_2^\nu + k_1^\nu k_2^\rho}{s} \rightarrow 2s \frac{k_1^\nu}{s} \frac{k_2^\rho}{s} + g_{\perp\perp}^{\rho\nu}$$

# Non-Gribov terms: comparison with pure QCD



- Non-Gribov term in  $\mathcal{A}_{gq \rightarrow Hq}$

$$-s \bar{u}(k_2') \gamma_{\perp, \sigma} u(k_2) \varepsilon_{\perp}^{\nu}(k_1) H_{\nu}^{\sigma}(-k_1 - k, k - q)$$

$$H^{\nu\sigma}(p_1, p_2) = g^{\nu\sigma}(p_1 \cdot p_2) - p_1^{\nu} p_2^{\sigma}$$

→ order  $s$  after integration over loop momentum  $k$

- Non-Gribov term in  $\mathcal{A}_{gq \rightarrow gq}$

$$-s \bar{u}(k_2') \gamma_{\perp, \sigma} u(k_2) \varepsilon_{\perp}^{\nu}(k_1) \left( \varepsilon_{\perp, \beta}^*(k_1') - \frac{\varepsilon_{\perp}^*(k_1') \cdot k_{1', \perp}'}{k_{1'} \cdot k_2} k_{2, \beta} \right) A_{\nu}^{\sigma\beta}(k - q, k_1 + k)$$

$$A^{\nu\sigma\beta}(k - q, -k_1 - k) = g^{\sigma\beta}(q - k_1 - 2k)^{\nu} + g^{\nu\sigma}(k - 2q - k_1)^{\beta} + g^{\nu\beta}(2k_1 + k + q)$$

→ order  $s^0$  after integration over loop momentum  $k$

# Non-Gribov terms: impact on Regge form of amplitude

- Born helicity structure:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{H}_{\text{Born}} &\equiv (\varepsilon_{\perp}(k_1) \cdot q_{\perp}) \bar{u}(k_2 - q) \frac{\hat{k}_1}{s} u(k_2) \\ &= (\varepsilon_{\perp}(k_1) \cdot q_{\perp}) \bar{u}(k_2 - q) \frac{\hat{q}_{\perp}}{|q_{\perp}|^2} u(k_2) \quad \text{by Sudakov decomposition of } q\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Basis } n_q^{\mu} = \frac{q_{\perp}^{\mu}}{|q_{\perp}|}, \quad n_q^{\nu} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu+-} \frac{q_{\perp}^{\nu}}{|q_{\perp}|}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{Born}} = (\varepsilon_{\perp}(k_1) \cdot n_q) \bar{u}(k_2 - q) \hat{n}_q u(k_2)$$

- Helicity structure of a non-Gribov term

$$\bar{u}(k_2 - q) \hat{\varepsilon}_{\perp}(k_1) u(k_2) = -\bar{u}(k_2 - q) \gamma_{\mu} u(k_2) \left( n_q^{\mu} n_q^{\nu} + n_q^{\mu} n_q^{\nu} \right) \varepsilon_{\perp, \nu} = -\mathcal{H}_{\text{Born}} - \mathcal{H}_{\text{anomalous}}$$

Interference between  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{Born}}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{anomalous}}$  + spin sum gives **zero**

The anomalous helicity structure **vanishes** at amplitude level

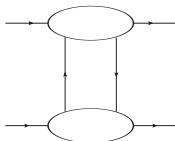
- Nonetheless, **non-Gribov terms give a total contribution**

$$\delta_{gq \rightarrow Hq}^{\text{n.G.}} = g^2 (-2C_A) B_0(q^2) = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left[ -\frac{2C_A}{\epsilon} - 4C_A \right]$$



# Gribov part: strategy of rapidity regions, QCD case

Strategy for the calculation of two-gluon  $t$ -channel diagrams  
[V.S. Fadin, A.D. Martin (1999)] [V.S. Fadin, R. Fiore (2001)]



- Feynman gauge and Gribov's trick

$$g^{\mu\nu} = g_{\perp\perp}^{\mu\nu} + 2 \frac{k_2^\mu k_1^\nu + k_2^\nu k_1^\mu}{s} \longrightarrow \frac{2k_2^\mu k_1^\nu}{s}$$

- Loop momentum  $k$  decomposed à la Sudakov:  $k = \beta k_1 + \alpha k_2 + k_\perp$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{Central region} & |\alpha| \lesssim \alpha_0, |\beta| \lesssim \beta_0, \\ \text{Region A} & |\alpha| \lesssim \alpha_0, |\beta| > \beta_0, \\ \text{Region B} & |\alpha| > \alpha_0, |\beta| \lesssim \beta_0, \\ \text{Region C} & |\alpha| > \alpha_0, |\beta| > \beta_0, \end{array} \right.$$

$$\alpha_0 \ll 1, \quad \beta_0 \ll 1, \quad s\alpha_0\beta_0 \gg |t|$$

- Factorization of vertices:

in the region  $|\alpha| \ll 1 \longrightarrow \Gamma_{B'B}^{(0)}$

in the region  $|\beta| \ll 1 \longrightarrow \Gamma_{A'A}^{(0)}$

# Gribov part: strategy of rapidity regions, QCD case

- **Region C** is suppressed by a factor  $|t|/\alpha_0\beta_0 s \ll 1$
- **Central region**: box + crossed diagram

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{Central}}^{(8,-)} = \Gamma_{A'A}^{(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{B'B}^{(0)} \omega^{(1)}(t) \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{-s}{t} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right) + \phi(\alpha_0) + \phi(\beta_0) \right]$$

$$\phi(z) = \ln z + \frac{1}{2} \left( -\frac{1}{\epsilon} - \psi(1) + \psi(1 + \epsilon) - 2\psi(1 - \epsilon) + 2\psi(1 - 2\epsilon) \right)$$

Correction to the upper and lower effective vertex from the central region

$$\Gamma_{A'A}^{(\text{Central})} = \Gamma_{A'A}^{(0)} \omega^{(1)}(t) \phi(\beta_0) \qquad \Gamma_{B'B}^{(\text{Central})} = \Gamma_{B'B}^{(0)} \omega^{(1)}(t) \phi(\alpha_0)$$

- **Region A**

$$\Gamma_{A'A}^{(A)} = \Gamma_{A'A}^{(0)} \delta_{\text{NLO}}^{(A)} = \Gamma_{A'A}^{(0)} \left[ -\omega(t) \ln \beta_0 + \tilde{\delta}_{\text{NLO}}^{(A)} \right]$$

- **Region B**

$$\Gamma_{B'B}^{(B)} = \Gamma_{B'B}^{(0)} \delta_{\text{NLO}}^{(B)} = \Gamma_{B'B}^{(0)} \left[ -\omega(t) \ln \alpha_0 + \tilde{\delta}_{\text{NLO}}^{(B)} \right]$$

# Gribov part: strategy of rapidity regions, with Higgs

Reference amplitude: gluon + quark  $\rightarrow$  Higgs + quark

- **Region C** is suppressed by a factor  $|t|/\alpha_0\beta_0 s \ll 1$
- **Central region**

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{Box,Central}} = \Gamma_{q'q}^{c(0)} \left( \frac{2s}{t} \right) g_H \epsilon_\mu(k_1) \delta^{ac} \left( -\frac{g^2 C_{Ast}}{2} \right) \frac{s}{2} \int_{-\alpha_0}^{\alpha_0} d\alpha \int_{-\beta_0}^{\beta_0} d\beta$$
$$\times \int \frac{d^{D-2} k_\perp}{(2\pi)^{D-2}} \frac{q_\perp^\mu - k_\perp^\mu}{(\alpha\beta s + k_\perp^2 + i0)(\alpha\beta s + (q - k)_\perp^2 + i0)(-\beta s + i0)(\alpha s + i0)}$$

Apparently, no factorization of the  $\Gamma_{gH}^{ac(0)}$  vertex.

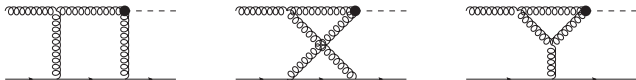
But, the change of variables  $k_\perp \rightarrow q_\perp - k_\perp$  implies  $q_\perp \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} q_\perp$  in the numerator. Then

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{Central}}^{(8,-)} = \Gamma_{gH}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{q'q}^{c(0)} \omega^{(1)}(t) \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{-s}{t} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right) + \phi(\alpha_0) + \phi(\beta_0) \right]$$

Correct factorization!

# Gribov part: strategy of rapidity regions, with Higgs

- Region A + triangular diagram



Proper factorization of the upper and lower vertex and

$$\delta_{\text{NLO}}^{(\text{Tri}+\text{A})} = -\omega^{(1)}(t) \ln \beta_0 + \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \\ \times \left\{ \frac{7}{3} \frac{C_A}{\epsilon} + \frac{85}{18} C_A + \frac{1}{6} C_A \ln \left( -\frac{m_H^2}{\vec{q}^2} \right) + 2C_A \left( \frac{\pi^2}{6} + \text{Li}_2 \left( 1 + \frac{m_H^2}{\vec{q}^2} \right) \right) \right\} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$

# Gribov part: strategy of rapidity regions, with Higgs

- Region B

Expectation: factorization of the upper and lower vertices and extraction of the NLO correction to the lower (quark) one.

Instead,

$$\mathcal{A}_B = \Gamma_{qq'}^{c(0)} \left( \frac{2s}{t} \right) \frac{\epsilon_\mu(k_1) \delta^{ac} g_H}{2} g^2 C_A t \int_{\alpha_0}^1 \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha} (1-\alpha)^2 \int \frac{d^{D-2}k}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{(q-k)_\perp^\mu}{k_\perp^2 (k_\perp - (1-\alpha)q_\perp)^2}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{A}_B}{\Gamma_{gH}^{ac(0)} \left( \frac{2s}{t} \right) \Gamma_{qq'}^{c(0)}} = \frac{g^2 C_A t}{2} \int_{\alpha_0}^1 \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha} (1-\alpha)^2 (1+\alpha) \int \frac{d^{D-2}k_\perp}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{1}{k_\perp^2 (k_\perp - (1-\alpha)q_\perp)^2}$$

The “**anomalous**” term can only be assigned to the Higgs vertex:

$$\delta_{\text{NLO}}^{(B)} = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left[ \frac{2C_A}{\epsilon} + 4C_A \right]$$

Compare with non-Gribov contribution ...

$$\delta_{gq \rightarrow Hq}^{\text{n.G.}} = g^2 (-2C_A) B_0(q^2) = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left[ -\frac{2C_A}{\epsilon} - 4C_A \right]$$

# Gribov part: strategy of rapidity regions, with Higgs

## ● Region B

Expectation: factorization of the upper and lower vertices and extraction of the NLO correction to the lower (quark) one.

Instead,

$$\mathcal{A}_B = \Gamma_{qq'}^{c(0)} \left( \frac{2s}{t} \right) \frac{\epsilon_\mu(k_1) \delta^{ac} g_H}{2} g^2 C_A t \int_{\alpha_0}^1 \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha} (1-\alpha)^2 \int \frac{d^{D-2}k}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{(q-k)_\perp^\mu}{k_\perp^2 (k_\perp - (1-\alpha)q_\perp)^2}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{A}_B}{\Gamma_{gH}^{ac(0)} \left( \frac{2s}{t} \right) \Gamma_{qq'}^{c(0)}} = \frac{g^2 C_A t}{2} \int_{\alpha_0}^1 \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha} (1-\alpha)^2 (1+\alpha) \int \frac{d^{D-2}k_\perp}{(2\pi)^{D-1}} \frac{1}{k_\perp^2 (k_\perp - (1-\alpha)q_\perp)^2}$$

The “**anomalous**” term can only be assigned to the Higgs vertex:

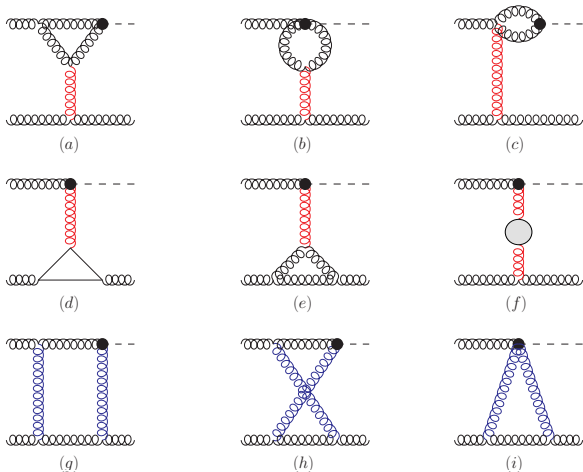
$$\delta_{\text{NLO}}^{(B)} = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left[ \frac{2C_A}{\epsilon} + 4C_A \right]$$

Compare with **non-Gribov contribution** ...

$$\delta_{gq \rightarrow Hq}^{\text{n.G.}} = g^2 (-2C_A) B_0(q^2) = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left[ -\frac{2C_A}{\epsilon} - 4C_A \right]$$

# Gribov vs non-Gribov: $\mathcal{A}_{gg \rightarrow Hg}$ amplitude

Diffusion of a gluon off a gluon to produce a Higgs plus a gluon



# Gribov vs non-Gribov: $\mathcal{A}_{gg \rightarrow Hg}$ amplitude

- Compare with the Regge form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{gg \rightarrow Hg}^{(8,-)} &= \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac} \frac{s}{t} \left[ \left( \frac{s}{-t} \right)^{\omega(t)} + \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right)^{\omega(t)} \right] \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} \approx \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} \\ &+ \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{s}{t} \omega^{(1)}(t) \left[ \ln \left( \frac{s}{-t} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right) \right] \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} + \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(1)} + \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(1)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} \end{aligned}$$

- Extracted effective vertex same as from  $\mathcal{A}_{gq \rightarrow Hq}$

$$\delta_{\text{NLO}} \simeq \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left\{ -\frac{C_A}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{11C_A - 2n_f}{6\epsilon} - \frac{5n_f}{9} + C_A \left( 2\text{Li}_2 \left( 1 + \frac{m_H^2}{\vec{q}^2} \right) + \frac{\pi^2}{3} + \frac{67}{18} \right) \right\}$$

- Non-Gribov contributions ...

$$\delta_{gg \rightarrow Hg}^{\text{n.G.}} = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \frac{C_A}{4} \left[ \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} - \frac{5}{\epsilon} - 9 - \zeta(2) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$

... exactly compensate the “anomalous” term from the region B

$$\delta_{\text{NLO}}^{(B)} = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \frac{C_A}{4} \left[ -\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{5}{\epsilon} + 9 + \zeta(2) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$



# Gribov vs non-Gribov: $\mathcal{A}_{gg \rightarrow Hg}$ amplitude

- Compare with the Regge form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{gg \rightarrow Hg}^{(8,-)} &= \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac} \frac{s}{t} \left[ \left( \frac{s}{-t} \right)^{\omega(t)} + \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right)^{\omega(t)} \right] \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} \approx \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} \\ &+ \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{s}{t} \omega^{(1)}(t) \left[ \ln \left( \frac{s}{-t} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right) \right] \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} + \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(1)} + \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(1)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} \end{aligned}$$

- Extracted effective vertex same as from  $\mathcal{A}_{gq \rightarrow Hq}$

$$\delta_{\text{NLO}} \simeq \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left\{ -\frac{C_A}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{11C_A - 2n_f}{6\epsilon} - \frac{5n_f}{9} + C_A \left( 2\text{Li}_2 \left( 1 + \frac{m_H^2}{\vec{q}^2} \right) + \frac{\pi^2}{3} + \frac{67}{18} \right) \right\}$$

- Non-Gribov contributions ...

$$\delta_{gg \rightarrow Hg}^{\text{n.G.}} = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \frac{C_A}{4} \left[ \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} - \frac{5}{\epsilon} - 9 - \zeta(2) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$

... exactly compensate the “anomalous” term from the region B

$$\delta_{\text{NLO}}^{(B)} = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \frac{C_A}{4} \left[ -\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{5}{\epsilon} + 9 + \zeta(2) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$

# Gribov vs non-Gribov: $\mathcal{A}_{gg \rightarrow Hg}$ amplitude

- Compare with the Regge form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{gg \rightarrow Hg}^{(8,-)} &= \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac} \frac{s}{t} \left[ \left( \frac{s}{-t} \right)^{\omega(t)} + \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right)^{\omega(t)} \right] \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} \approx \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} \\ &+ \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{s}{t} \omega^{(1)}(t) \left[ \ln \left( \frac{s}{-t} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{-s}{-t} \right) \right] \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} + \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(0)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(1)} + \Gamma_{\{H\}g}^{ac(1)} \frac{2s}{t} \Gamma_{gg}^{bcd(0)} \end{aligned}$$

- Extracted effective vertex same as from  $\mathcal{A}_{gq \rightarrow Hq}$

$$\delta_{\text{NLO}} \simeq \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \left\{ -\frac{C_A}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{11C_A - 2n_f}{6\epsilon} - \frac{5n_f}{9} + C_A \left( 2\text{Li}_2 \left( 1 + \frac{m_H^2}{\vec{q}^2} \right) + \frac{\pi^2}{3} + \frac{67}{18} \right) \right\}$$

- Non-Gribov contributions ...

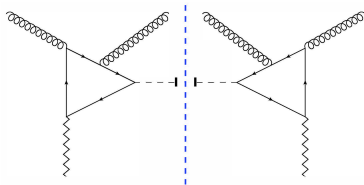
$$\delta_{gg \rightarrow Hg}^{\text{n.G.}} = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \frac{C_A}{4} \left[ \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} - \frac{5}{\epsilon} - 9 - \zeta(2) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$

... exactly compensate the “anomalous” term from the region B

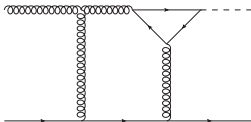
$$\delta_{\text{NLO}}^{(B)} = \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{-\epsilon} \frac{C_A}{4} \left[ -\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{5}{\epsilon} + 9 + \zeta(2) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$$

# Next step: restoring physical top-mass dependence

- Real corrections with full top-mass dependence  
[F.G. Celiberto, L. Delle Rose, M. Fucilla, G. Gatto, A. Papa (in preparation)]



- Limit  $m_t \rightarrow \infty$  checked
- Virtual corrections involve two-loop amplitudes with several scales



# Conclusions and outlook

- The calculation of the **impact factor for forward Higgs production** in the infinite-top-mass limit turned out to be very challenging, due to the presence of a dimension-5 **non-renormalizable** effective interaction
- Unexpected terms **beyond eikonal approximation** (“non-Gribov” terms) appear, potentially jeopardizing the Regge form of one-loop amplitudes

In fact, terms not in accordance with the Regge form in different diagrams finally cancel out

**Reggeization** outweighs **renormalizability**?

- Unexpected terms arise also **within eikonal approximation** (“Gribov” part), in rapidity regions where all next-to-leading order corrections would naively be attributed to the impact factor of the **backward produced particle**
- Relieving **cancellation** among the two unexpected effects.
- Prospects:
  - restore physical top mass
  - applications to phenomenology

**Sept 8-14, 2024**  
**Hotel Tonnara Trabia (Italy)**



**Diffraction**  
and **LOW-X**

**Low  $x$ , PDFs, and saturation**  
**Diffraction in pp and AA**  
**Ultraperipheral collisions and gamma-gamma physics**  
**Spin physics**  
**Results on QCD and Hadronic Final States**  
**Diffraction in ep and eA**



UNIVERSITÀ  
DELLA CALABRIA

KU  
THE UNIVERSITY OF  
KANSAS

INFN  
Italian National Institute of Nuclear Physics

EMMI

Center for Frontiers  
in Nuclear Science



<https://indico.cern.ch/e/diffflowx2024>