

BREAKDOWN OF THE NARROW WIDTH APPROXIMATION

David Rainwater
University of Rochester
(with D. Berdine and N. Kauer)



- The narrow width approximation
- Computational tools
- PDF effects
- Non-resonant contributions
- Resonant matrix element effects

UC – Davis
HEP seminar
Jan. 16, 2007

INTRODUCTION – THE NARROW WIDTH APPROXIMATION

Fundamental assumptions of the NWA:

Production and decay of a heavy unstable particle may be divided into on-shell production times BR to final state, or the next intermediate on-shell step in a cascade.

Fundamental assumptions of the NWA:

Production and decay of a heavy unstable particle may be divided into on-shell production times BR to final state, or the next intermediate on-shell step in a cascade.

Step 1: narrow width ($\Gamma \ll M$), away from threshold ($s \gg \Gamma/M$), massless decay products

Fundamental assumptions of the NWA:

Production and decay of a heavy unstable particle may be divided into on-shell production times BR to final state, or the next intermediate on-shell step in a cascade.

Step 1: narrow width ($\Gamma \ll M$), away from threshold ($s \gg \Gamma/M$), massless decay products

Step 2: phase space is separable (exact)

$$\begin{aligned} d\Phi^n &= (2\pi)^4 \delta^4 \left(k_1 + k_2 - \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \right) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{d^3 p_i}{(2\pi)^3 2E_i} \\ &= (2\pi)^4 \delta^4 \left(k_1 + k_2 - q - \sum_{i=3}^n p_i \right) \prod_{i=3}^n \frac{d^3 p_i}{(2\pi)^3 2E_i} \times \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3 2E_q^0} \\ &\quad \times \frac{dq^2}{2\pi} \times (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(q - p_1 - p_2) \frac{d^3 p_1}{(2\pi)^3 2E_1} \frac{d^3 p_2}{(2\pi)^3 2E_2} \end{aligned}$$

Fundamental assumptions of the NWA:

Production and decay of a heavy unstable particle may be divided into on-shell production times BR to final state, or the next intermediate on-shell step in a cascade.

Step 1: narrow width ($\Gamma \ll M$), away from threshold ($s \gg \Gamma/M$), massless decay products

Step 2: phase space is separable (exact)

$$\begin{aligned} d\Phi^n &= (2\pi)^4 \delta^4 \left(k_1 + k_2 - \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \right) \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{d^3 p_i}{(2\pi)^3 2E_i} \\ &= (2\pi)^4 \delta^4 \left(k_1 + k_2 - q - \sum_{i=3}^n p_i \right) \prod_{i=3}^n \frac{d^3 p_i}{(2\pi)^3 2E_i} \times \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3 2E_q^0} \\ &\quad \times \frac{dq^2}{2\pi} \times (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(q - p_1 - p_2) \frac{d^3 p_1}{(2\pi)^3 2E_1} \frac{d^3 p_2}{(2\pi)^3 2E_2} \end{aligned}$$

Step 3: assume the s -channel propagator is separable (iffy)

Step 3 in detail:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{q_{\min}^2}^{q_{\max}^2} dq^2 \left| \frac{1}{q^2 - m^2 + im\Gamma} \right|^2 &= \int_{q_{\min}^2}^{q_{\max}^2} dq^2 \frac{1}{(q^2 - m^2)^2 + (m\Gamma)^2} \\ \text{[change of variables]} &= \int_{q_{\min}^2 - m^2}^{q_{\max}^2 - m^2} dx \frac{1}{x^2 + (m\Gamma)^2} \\ \text{[} q_{\min}^2 = 0, q_{\max}^2 = s \text{]} &= \int_{-m^2}^{s-m^2} dx \frac{1}{x^2 + (m\Gamma)^2} \\ \text{[} s \rightarrow \infty, 0 \rightarrow -\infty \text{]} &\approx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \frac{1}{x^2 + (m\Gamma)^2} \\ \text{[known maths]} &= 2 \int_0^{\infty} dx \frac{1}{x^2 + (m\Gamma)^2} = 2 \cdot \frac{\pi}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{m\Gamma} = \boxed{\frac{\pi}{m\Gamma}} \end{aligned}$$

→ just a numerical factor

Conventional wisdom:

NWA is good to $\mathcal{O}(\Gamma/m)$; off-shell rarely needed ($e^+e^- \rightarrow W^+W^-$)
→ yet only empirical evidence the NWA works for SM

Conventional wisdom:

NWA is good to $O(\Gamma/m)$; off-shell rarely needed ($e^+e^- \rightarrow W^+W^-$)
→ yet only empirical evidence the NWA works for SM

Where might this break down?

1 PDF warping.

→ most relevant for broad resonances at high x

Conventional wisdom:

NWA is good to $O(\Gamma/m)$; off-shell rarely needed ($e^+e^- \rightarrow W^+W^-$)
→ yet only empirical evidence the NWA works for SM

Where might this break down?

1 PDF warping.

→ most relevant for broad resonances at high x

2 Interference with non-resonant diagrams.

→ most relevant for large phase space (not necc. broad Γ)

Conventional wisdom:

NWA is good to $O(\Gamma/m)$; off-shell rarely needed ($e^+e^- \rightarrow W^+W^-$)
→ yet only empirical evidence the NWA works for SM

Where might this break down?

1 PDF warping.

→ most relevant for broad resonances at high x

2 Interference with non-resonant diagrams.

→ most relevant for large phase space (not necc. broad Γ)

3 Decay matrix element: altered q dependence.

→ obviously depends on matrix element structure

Conventional wisdom:

NWA is good to $O(\Gamma/m)$; off-shell rarely needed ($e^+e^- \rightarrow W^+W^-$)
→ yet only empirical evidence the NWA works for SM

Where might this break down?

1 PDF warping.

→ most relevant for broad resonances at high x

2 Interference with non-resonant diagrams.

→ most relevant for large phase space (not necc. broad Γ)

3 Decay matrix element: altered q dependence.

→ obviously depends on matrix element structure

4 Kinematic cuts go into Breit-Wigner region.

→ generally not relevant for signals (except some cascades)

Conventional wisdom:

NWA is good to $O(\Gamma/m)$; off-shell rarely needed ($e^+e^- \rightarrow W^+W^-$)
→ yet only empirical evidence the NWA works for SM

Where might this break down?

1 PDF warping.

→ most relevant for broad resonances at high x

2 Interference with non-resonant diagrams.

→ most relevant for large phase space (not necc. broad Γ)

3 Decay matrix element: altered q dependence.

→ obviously depends on matrix element structure

4 Kinematic cuts go into Breit-Wigner region.

→ generally not relevant for signals (except some cascades)

► examine 1, 2 & 3 in this talk

New physics case study

To study, we need new physical states (we expect this anyway):

→ preferably heavy & colored (gives larger Γ , Γ/m)

We examine **supersymmetry** (SUSY):

- lots of new resonances
 - some are heavy ($O(1)$ TeV), some colored;
have large widths: $O(10 - 20\%)$ may easily happen
 - LSP (dark matter candidate) is stable, massive
→ end of decay chains not massless
 - well-motivated, well-studied SM extension – in the NWA limit!
- SUSY simulations always $2 \rightarrow 2$, even for multi-TeV fat sparticles
(some Breit-Wigner kludging in a few cases, but still NWA-like)

How we study off-shell effects in SUSY:

SUSY MADGRAPH

Package is standard MADGRAPH [Stelzer & Long, 1994] plus:

1. MSSM model input files (particles, interactions)
2. routine to read SUSY Les Houches Accord spectrum input
3. routine to calculate MSSM couplings

(R-parity-conserving MSSM, no additional CP violation)

Package is standard MADGRAPH [Stelzer & Long, 1994] plus:

1. MSSM model input files (particles, interactions)
2. routine to read SUSY Les Houches Accord spectrum input
3. routine to calculate MSSM couplings

(R-parity-conserving MSSM, no additional CP violation)

Improvements over previously available tools:

- full spin correlations to final state
- higher-order SUSY processes trivial
- consistent theoretical treatment of couplings

Package is standard MADGRAPH [Stelzer & Long, 1994] plus:

1. MSSM model input files (particles, interactions)
2. routine to read SUSY Les Houches Accord spectrum input
3. routine to calculate MSSM couplings

(R-parity-conserving MSSM, no additional CP violation)

Improvements over previously available tools:

- full spin correlations to final state
- higher-order SUSY processes trivial
- consistent theoretical treatment of couplings

Testing SUSY MADGRAPH:

- all e^+e^- , $pp \rightarrow$ SUSY pairs checked with literature
- all possible $VV, VH \rightarrow$ SUSY pairs checked for unitarity
- EM gauge invariance checked for EW & WBF processes
- 435 (2 → 2) processes compared with Whizard & Sherpa

(SHERPA or WHIZARD could equally well be used.)

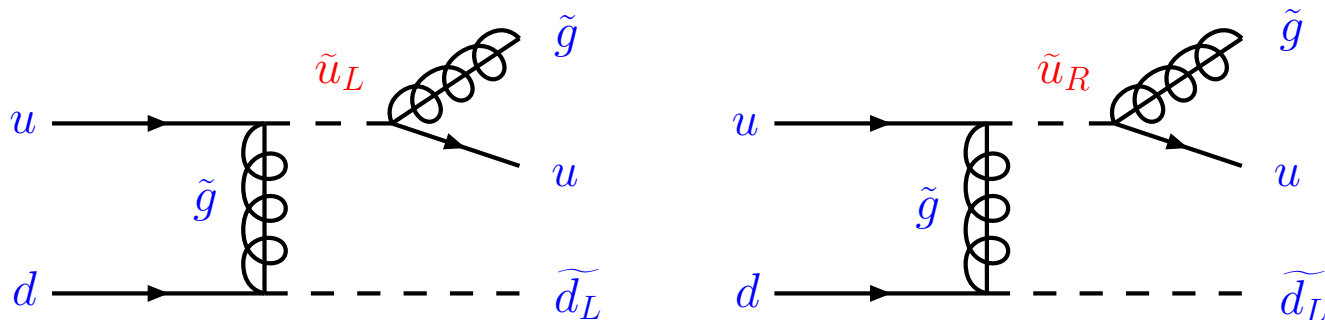
PDF EFFECTS

Logical steps:

- TeV squarks and gluinos can have multi-hundred GeV widths.
- PDFs in the TeV regime fall steeply.
- Thus, a broad Breit-Wigner may be distorted/suppressed.

E.g.: Focus Point scenario + variations using $ud \rightarrow \tilde{u}_L \rightarrow u\tilde{g}\tilde{d}_L$:

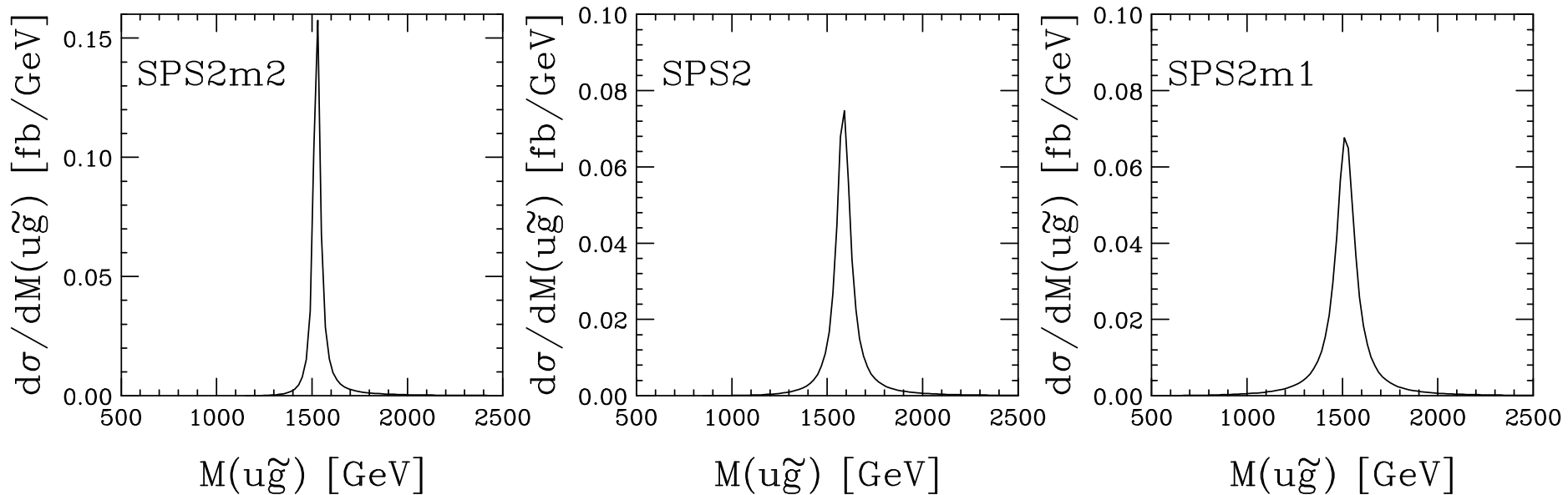
	SPS2m2		SPS2		SPS2m1	
	m [GeV]	Γ [GeV]	m [GeV]	Γ [GeV]	m [GeV]	Γ [GeV]
\tilde{u}_L	1525	43.9	1590	90.0	1525	127
\tilde{u}_R	1525	28.8	1580	73.7	1514	111
\tilde{d}_L	1527	44.0	1592	90.1	1526	127
\tilde{d}_R	1526	26.2	1580	70.9	1515	108
\tilde{g}	1125	0.118	803	3.84×10^{-3}	414	7.36×10^{-5}



PDF effects results for LHC ($\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV, CTEQ6L1, σ in [fb])

decays	SPS2m1		SPS2		SPS2m2	
	\tilde{u}_L only	\tilde{u}_L, \tilde{d}_L	\tilde{u}_L only	\tilde{u}_L, \tilde{d}_L	\tilde{u}_L only	\tilde{u}_L, \tilde{d}_L
ONS	3.11	1.28	4.83	1.88	5.85	1.67
OFS res	2.76	0.96	4.36	1.48	5.60	1.50
shift	-11%	-25%	-9.7%	-22%	-4.3%	-10%

► shifts can easily be larger than the NLO QCD uncertainties!



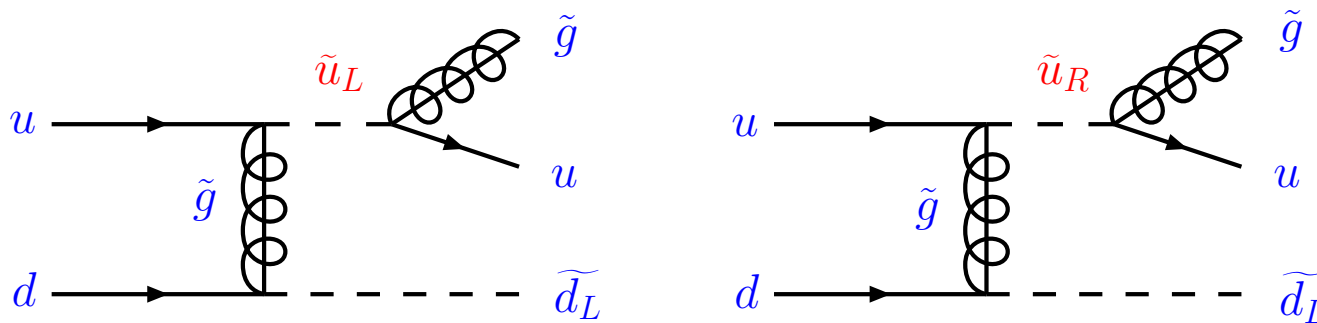
► **WARNING:** This is only to make a point about PDFs.
Integrating off-shell without proper interference can be dodgy.

NON-RESONANT INTERFERENCE

Example 1: heavy squarks, lighter gluino

- TeV squarks and gluinos can have multi-hundred GeV widths.
- plenty of phase space for QCD interference

Study same FP scenarios as for PDFs: $ud \rightarrow \tilde{u}_L \tilde{d}_L \rightarrow u \tilde{g} \tilde{d}_L$:

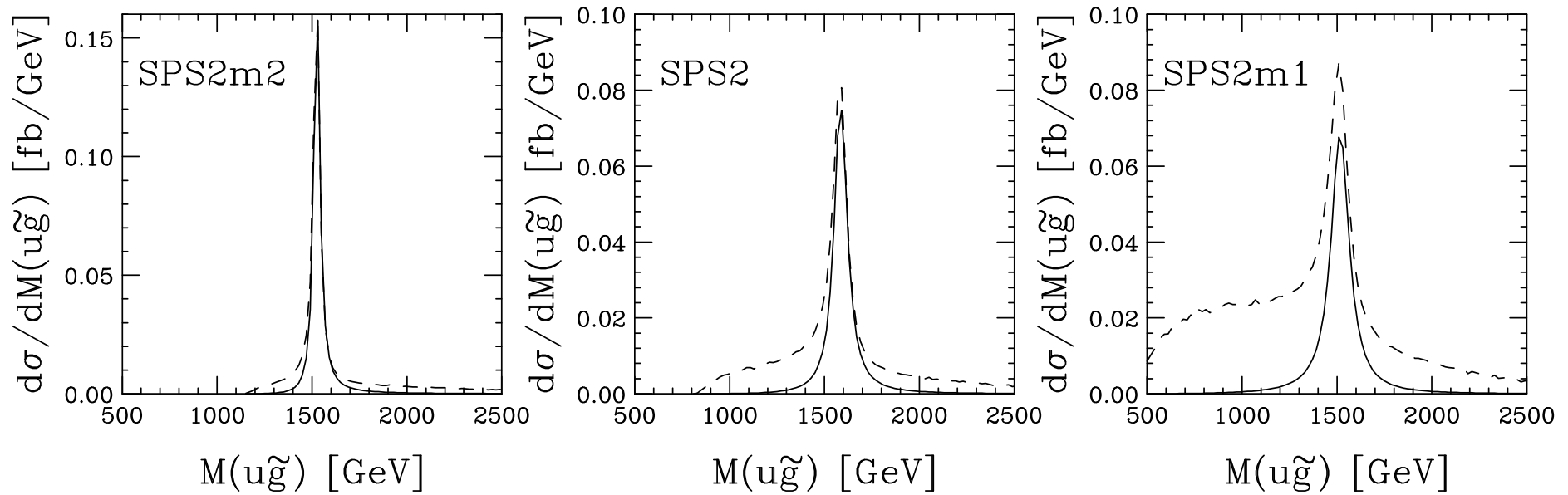


+ non-resonant $u \tilde{g} \tilde{d}_L$ production

	SPS2m2		SPS2		SPS2m1	
	m [GeV]	Γ [GeV]	m [GeV]	Γ [GeV]	m [GeV]	Γ [GeV]
\tilde{u}_L	1525	43.9	1590	90.0	1525	127
\tilde{u}_R	1525	28.8	1580	73.7	1514	111
\tilde{d}_L	1527	44.0	1592	90.1	1526	127
\tilde{d}_R	1526	26.2	1580	70.9	1515	108
\tilde{g}	1125	0.118	803	3.84×10^{-3}	414	7.36×10^{-5}

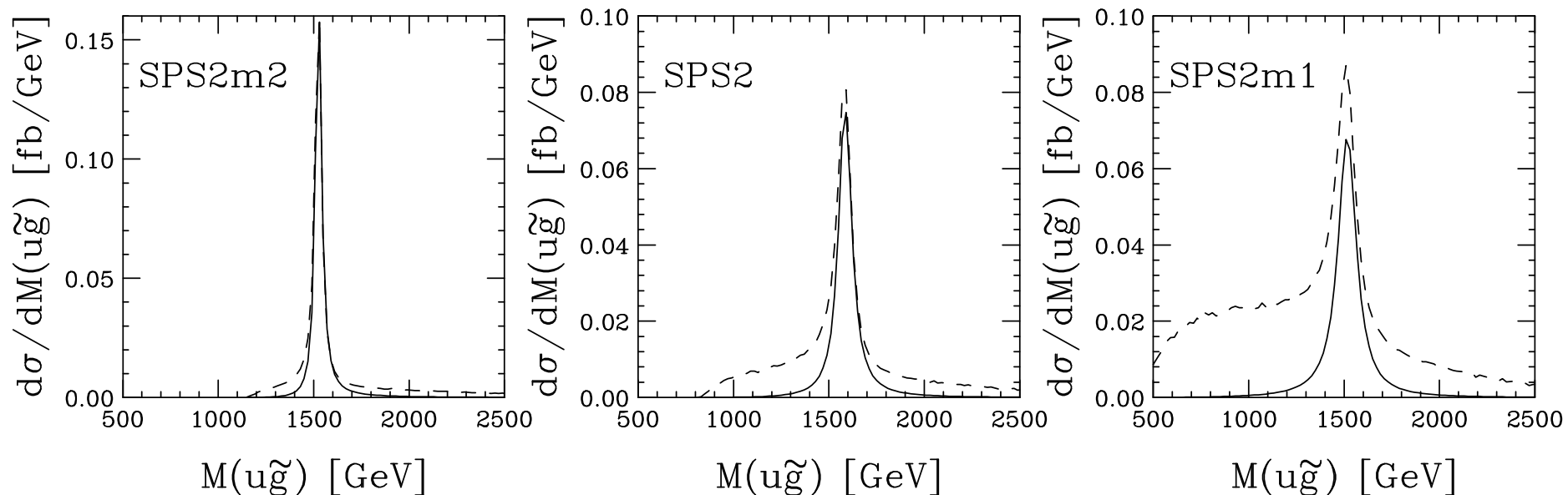
Single heavy squark decay $pp \rightarrow u\tilde{g}\tilde{d}_L$

(solid = resonant, dashed = all diagrams)



Single heavy squark decay $pp \rightarrow u\tilde{g}\tilde{d}_L$

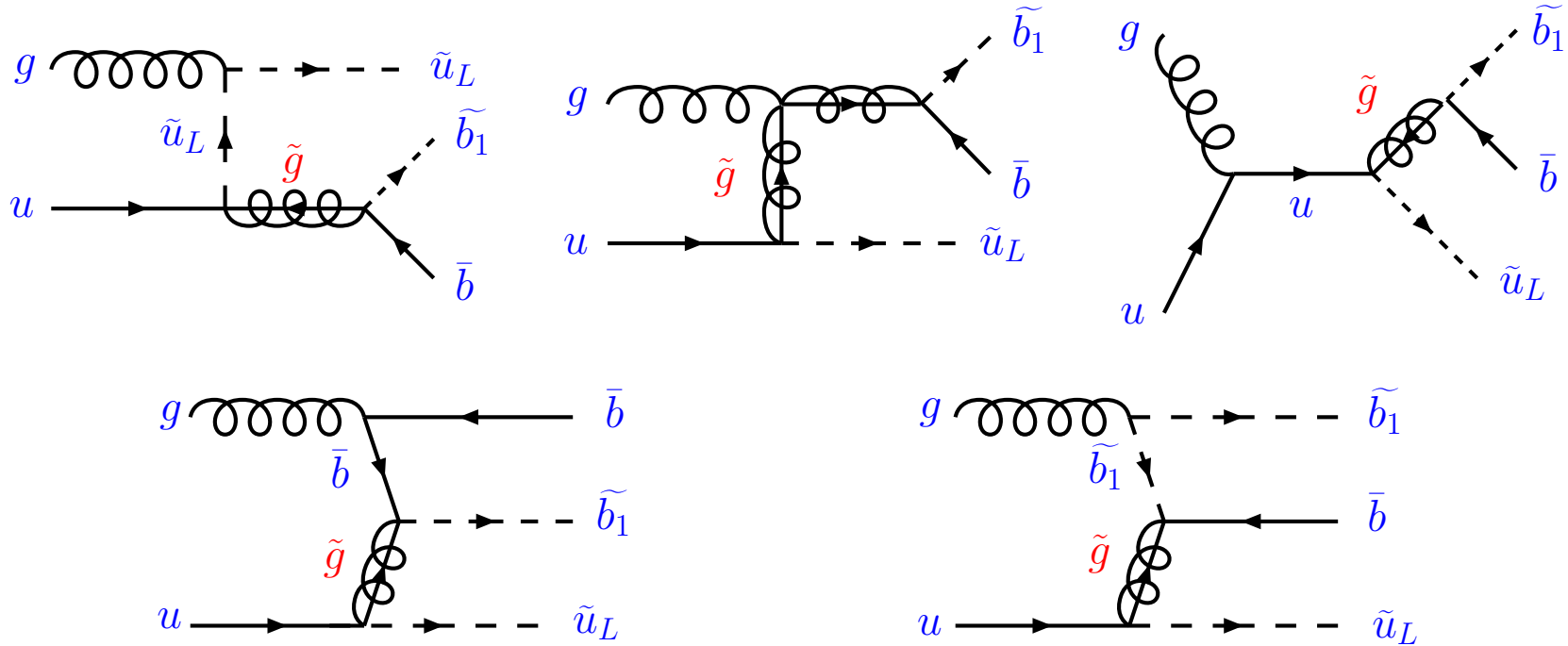
(solid = resonant, dashed = all diagrams)



all/res.	SPS2m2	SPS2	SPS2m1
total	+52%	+107%	+280%
2σ	+9.3%	+31%	+85%
1σ	+5.5%	+18%	+50%

- ▶ effects are many times Γ/m , even in 1σ region
- ▶ NWA rate wouldn't jive with mass & spin measurements

Example 2: $pp \rightarrow \tilde{u}_L \bar{b} \tilde{b}_1$ (squark-gluino pairs, \tilde{g} decay)



For SPS1a ($m_{\tilde{g}} = 607$ GeV, $\Gamma/m \sim 1\%$, $m_{\tilde{b}_1} = 517$ GeV)

$$\sigma_{\text{ONS}} = 663 \text{ fb}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{OFS}} = 633 \text{ fb}$$

$$R(\text{OFS}/\text{ONS}) = 1.05$$

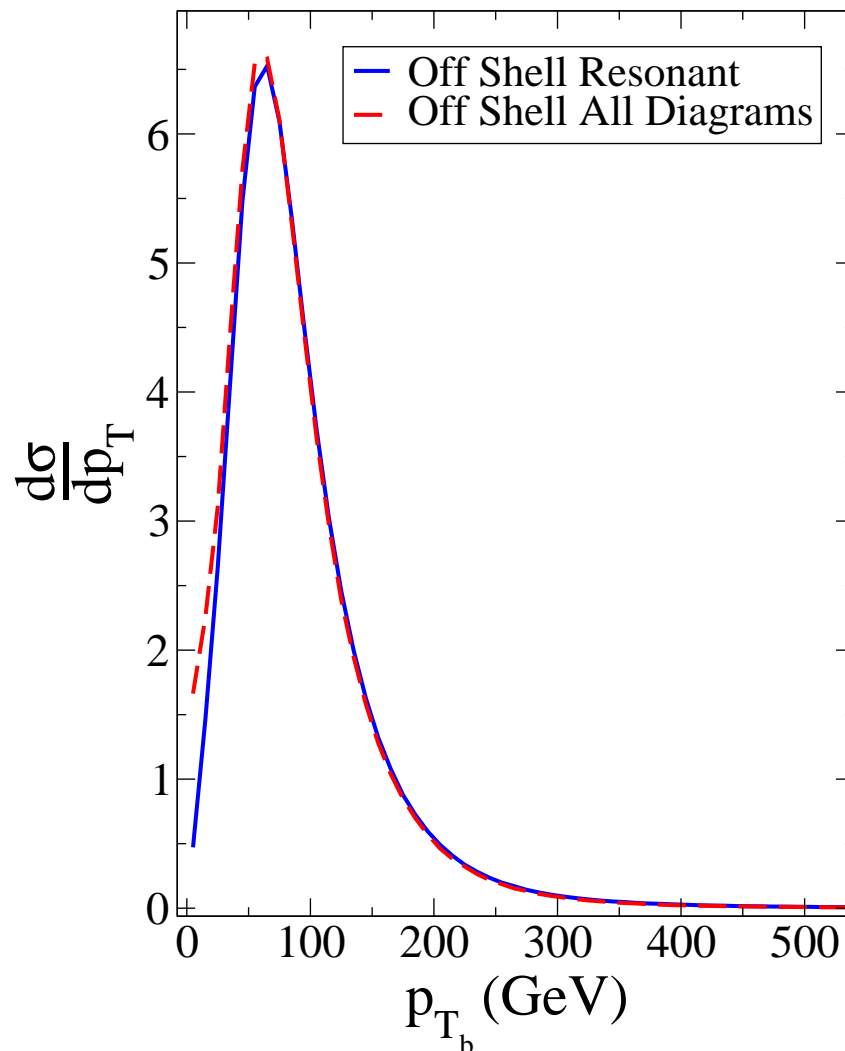
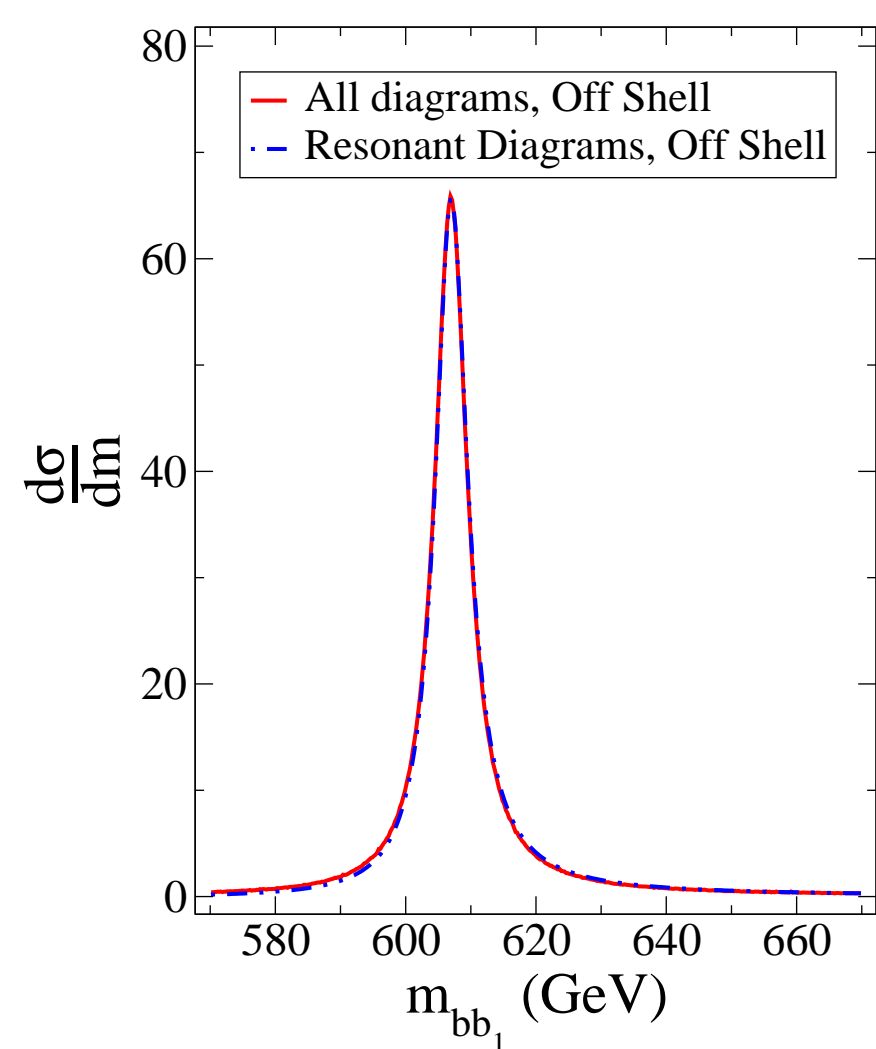
► marginal correction to total rate (for one decay only)

→ but does not change kinematics

Kinematics of $gu \rightarrow \tilde{u}_L \tilde{g} \rightarrow \tilde{u}_L \tilde{b} \tilde{b}_1$ off-shell

$$g u \rightarrow \tilde{b}_1 \bar{b} \tilde{u}_L^*$$

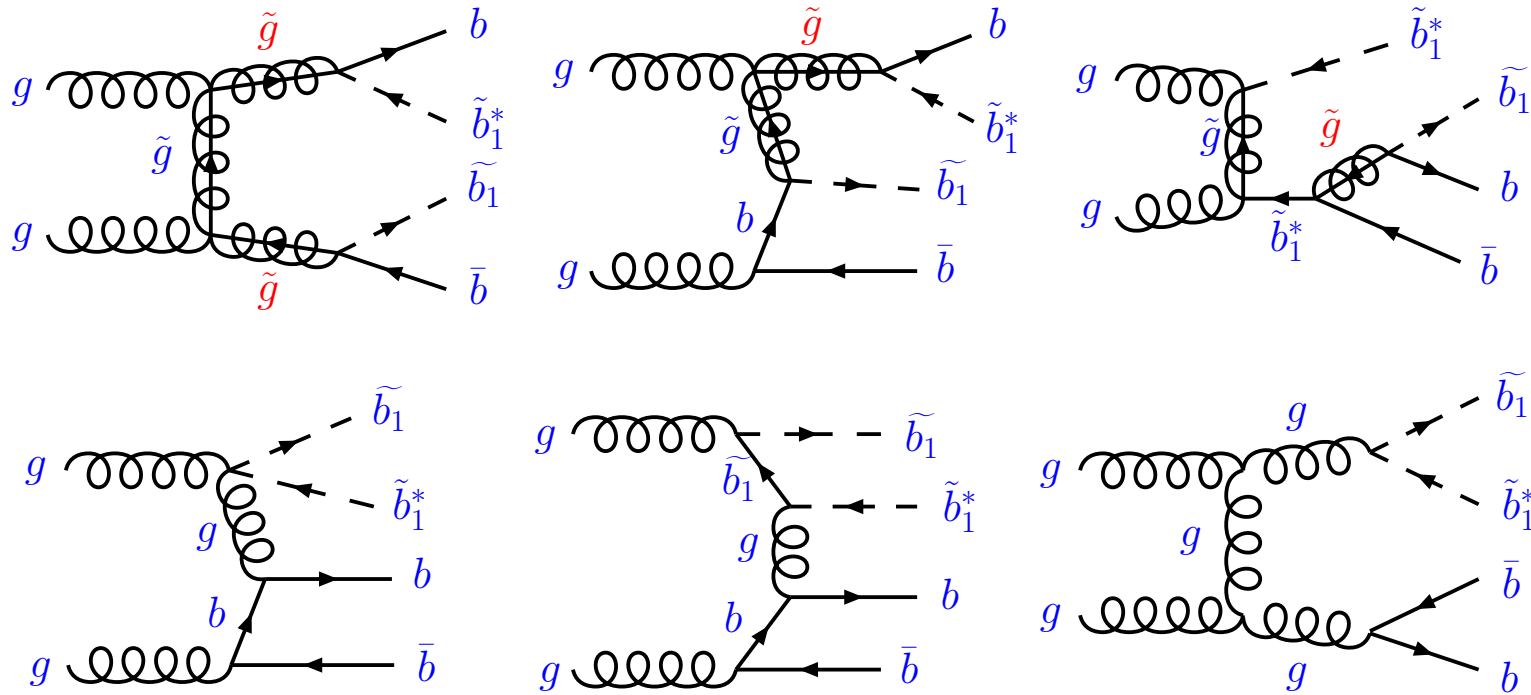
$$g u \rightarrow \tilde{b}_1 \bar{b} \tilde{u}_L$$



► little change, but beware of low- p_T enhancement from logs

Example 3: gluino pairs, $pp \rightarrow \tilde{g}\tilde{g} - \tilde{b}\tilde{b}_1 b\tilde{b}_1^*$

SPS1a: $m_{\tilde{g}} = 607 \text{ GeV}$, $\Gamma/m \sim 1\%$, $m_{\tilde{b}_1} = 517 \text{ GeV}$



$$\sigma_{\text{ONS}} = 106 \text{ fb}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{OFS}} = 125 \text{ fb}$$

$$R(\text{OFS}/\text{ONS}) = 1.18$$

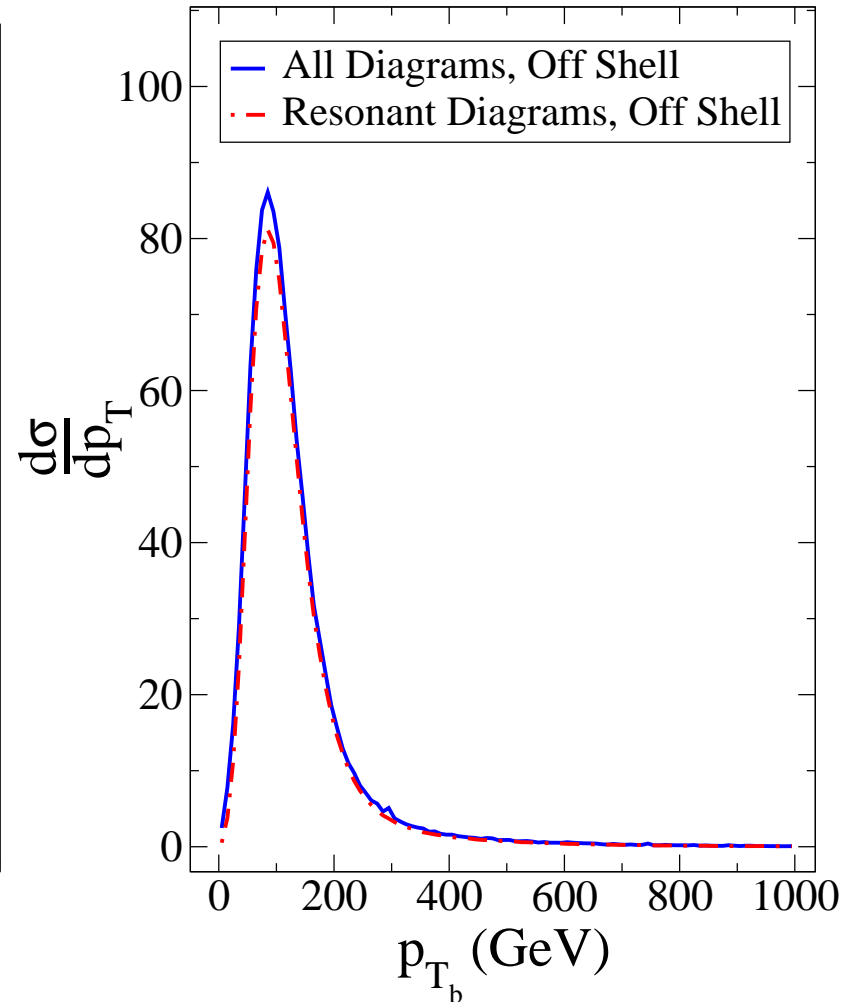
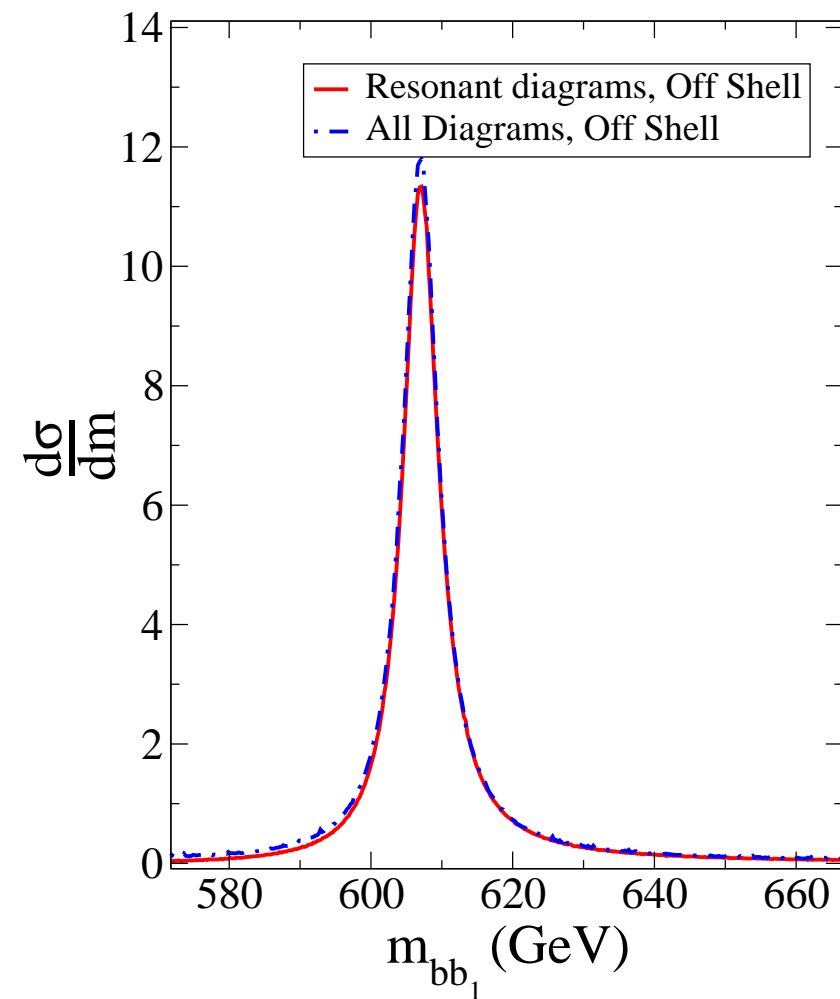
► large rate correction; NLO $\Delta\sigma \sim 18\%$

→ but does not change kinematics!

Kinematics of $pp \rightarrow \tilde{g}\tilde{g} \rightarrow \bar{b}\tilde{b}_1 b\tilde{b}_1^*$ off-shell

$$g g \rightarrow \tilde{b}_1^* b \tilde{b}_1 \bar{b}$$

$$g u \rightarrow \tilde{b}_1 \bar{b} \tilde{u}_L$$



► **no change!** reason: interference is all at \tilde{g} pole

→ expect larger effect for larger $m_{\tilde{g}}$ or smaller $m_{\tilde{b}_1}$ (wider res.)

Same-sign v. opposite-sign gluino pair decays

Opp.-sign: $\tilde{g}\tilde{g} \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tilde{b}_1\tilde{b}_1^*$

Same-sign: $\tilde{g}\tilde{g} \rightarrow b\tilde{b}_1^*\tilde{b}_1^*$

→ have different non-resonant structures

	OS [fb]	SS [fb]
ONS	106	106
OFS	125	117
shift	+18%	+10%

► OS correction is \sim twice that for SS

Same-sign v. opposite-sign gluino pair decays

Opp.-sign: $\tilde{g}\tilde{g} \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tilde{b}_1\tilde{b}_1^*$

Same-sign: $\tilde{g}\tilde{g} \rightarrow b\tilde{b}_1^*\tilde{b}_1^*$

→ have different non-resonant structures

	OS [fb]	SS [fb]
ONS	106	106
OFS	125	117
shift	+18%	+10%

► OS correction is \sim twice that for SS

We ask ourselves:

How would such an observation be interpreted without prior knowledge of off-shell effects?

Interference effects summary

We've seen cases where:

- there's no interference effect
- there's an $O(1)$ rate correction,
plus significant lineshape distortions
- a significant asymmetry is introduced

Interference effects summary

We've seen cases where:

- there's no interference effect
- there's an $O(1)$ rate correction,
plus significant lineshape distortions
- a significant asymmetry is introduced

The LHC is upon us.

Serious studies should use more advanced tools, perform full calculations. No more $2 \rightarrow 2$ with on-shell cascades.

Interference effects summary

We've seen cases where:

- there's no interference effect
- there's an $O(1)$ rate correction,
plus significant lineshape distortions
- a significant asymmetry is introduced

Be concerned about jet/lepton edge studies, reconstruction,
and data fed into FITTINO/SFITTER.

(Next step: reproduce all the SPS edge studies.)

MATRIX ELEMENT EFFECTS

(altered Breit-Wigner integration)

Let's categorize the decay matrix element types:

Possible renormalizable 3-point vertices for 2-body decays are:

FFS, FFV, VVV, VVS, VSS, SSS

(ignore 4-point vertices: 3-body decays heavily P.S.–suppressed)

FFV Only in MSSM weak sector: observable V:FF decays ruled out, but F:FV decays may occur, e.g. $\tilde{\chi}^{\pm} \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}^0 W^{\pm}$.

FFS Relevant for $\tilde{g} \rightarrow \tilde{q}\bar{q}$ (F:FS) and $\tilde{q} \rightarrow \tilde{g}q$ (S:FF).

VVV Nothing new in MSSM.

VVS MSSM Higgs sector only.

VSS S:SV relevant: $\tilde{t} \rightarrow \tilde{b}W$ or $\tilde{b} \rightarrow \tilde{t}W$

SSS Trivial structure – no *decay matrix element* effect.

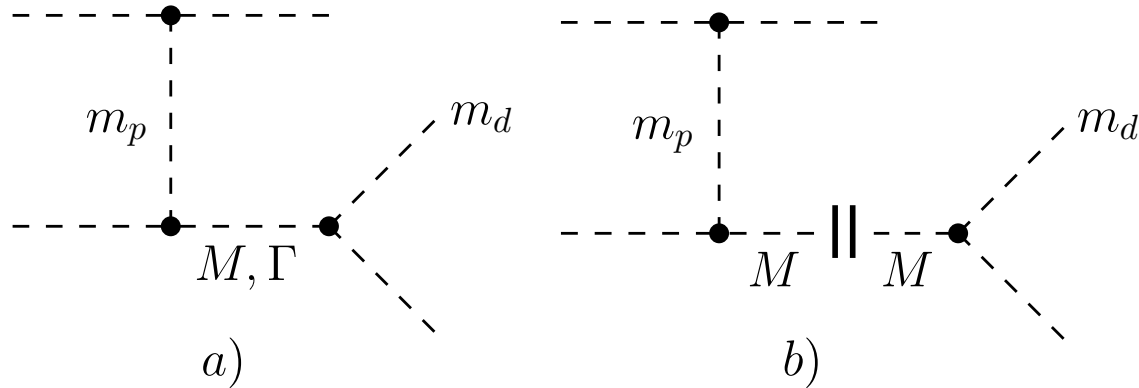
► we examine S:SS, F:FS, S:FF and S:SV

S:SS type decays

(simplest decay type to start with)

→ consider scalar theory process outside SUSY

(assign e.g. flavor to limit to this one diagram)



• first, study it analytically; massless scalars except as labeled

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \sim 1 + \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{M} \left(\frac{1}{\beta_d^2} - \frac{1}{\beta_M^2} \right) + \dots$$

where

$$\beta_d = \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_d^2}{M^2}} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_M = \sqrt{1 - \frac{M^2}{s}}$$

(actually a bigger mess, with $\log(s/m^2)$ terms, but reduces nicely)

S:SS all-scalar case

$$\sqrt{s} \gg M, m_d \rightarrow M$$

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \sim 1 + \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{M} \frac{1}{\beta_d^2}$$

$$m_d \rightarrow 0, \sqrt{s} \rightarrow M$$

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \sim 1 - \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{M} \frac{1}{\beta_M^2}$$

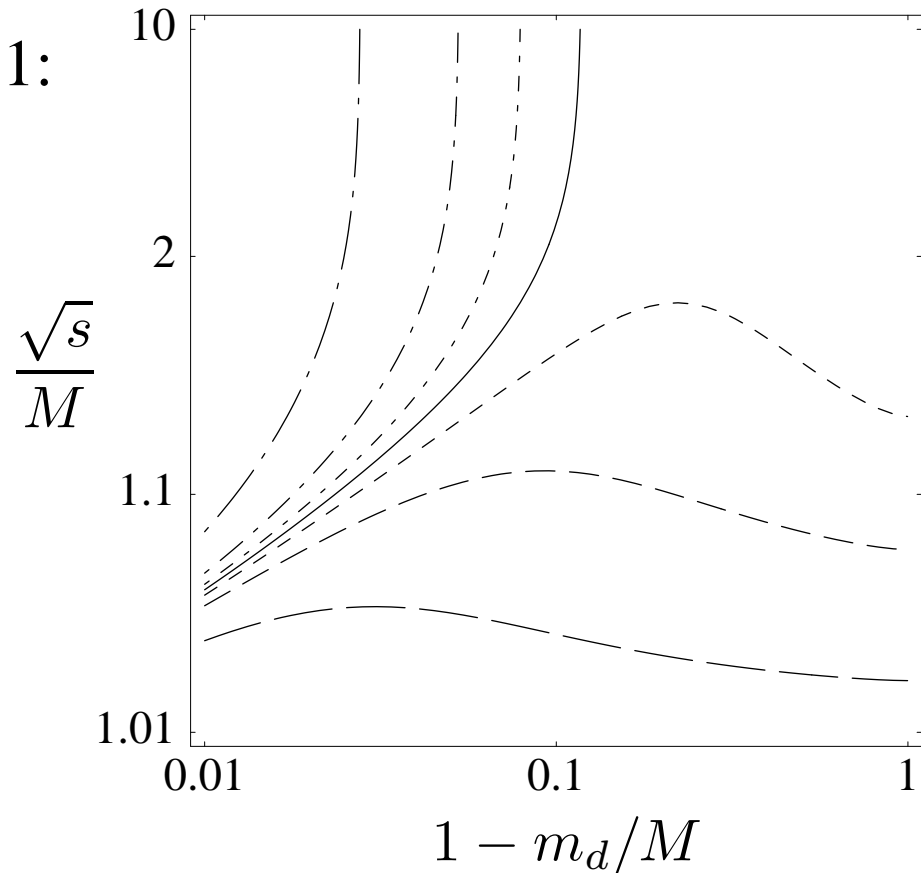
contour plot for $R \equiv \frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} - 1$:

solid is $R = 0$

others $R = \{1, 3, 10\}$

dot-dashed $R > 0$

dashed $R < 0$



Not a surprise: $\sigma_{NWA} \rightarrow 0$ at any threshold

► this is *partly* a phase space effect

Non-SSS Vertex modifications

SSS has no matrix element, but others do. For instance:

S:FF

Decay matrix element is separable:

$$\overline{\sum} |\mathcal{M}_d|^2 = 2 \left(q^2 - (m_1 + m_2)^2 \right)$$

(F:FS more complicated)

V:SS

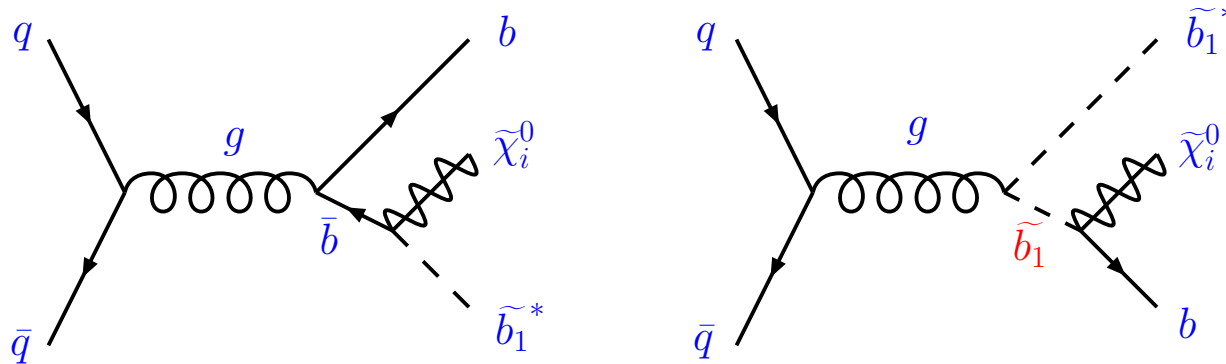
Decay matrix element is proportional to:

$$\mathcal{M}_d \propto (p_1^\mu - p_2^\mu) \sim q \text{ (magnitude)}$$

(S:SV more complicated)

S:FF type decays

- simplest realistic decay type in full model
- mostly relevant for squarks, for example:



- other diagrams exist, but may be removed by taking $m_{t-ch.} \rightarrow \infty$
- ▶ first study analytically, resonant diagram only, $m_b = m_{\tilde{b}_1^*} = 0$
(not correct, but good for limits and qualitative behavior)
- use $\tilde{q} \rightarrow \tilde{g}q$ as $\alpha_s \gg \alpha_w$ (partial width is larger)

S:FF

Full result is several pages of Mathematica output.

Leading $1/s$ terms (to match NWA $1/s$ behavior) are:

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \sim \frac{m_S \Gamma_S}{2\pi (m_S^2 - m_F^2)^2 (m_S^2 + \Gamma_S^2)} \times$$
$$\left(\frac{m_S}{\Gamma_S} \left((m_S^2 - m_F^2)^2 + (m_S^2 - 2m_F^2) \Gamma_S^2 \right) \left(\pi + 2 \cot^{-1} \left(\frac{m_S \Gamma_S}{m_S^2 - m_F^2} \right) \right) \right)$$
$$- \frac{11}{3} m_S^2 (m_S^2 + \Gamma_S^2) + m_S^2 (m_S^2 + \Gamma_S^2) \log \left(\frac{s^2}{(m_S^2 - m_F^2)^2 + m_S^2 \Gamma_S^2} \right)$$
$$+ m_F^4 \log \left(\frac{(m_S^2 - m_F^2)^2 + m_S^2 \Gamma_S^2}{m_F^4} \right) \Bigg)$$

ostensibly $O(\Gamma/m)$, but:

→ lots of m_F dependence

→ unexpected $\log(s)$ term

S:FF

Let's take the 2 SM limits:

① $m_F \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \xrightarrow{m_F \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\pi} \cot^{-1} \left(\frac{\Gamma_S}{m_S} \right) - \frac{11}{6\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{m} + \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{m} \log \left(\frac{s^2}{m_S^2 (m_S^2 + \Gamma_S^2)} \right)$$

\cot^{-1} term remains (is known to people)

S:FF

Let's take the 2 SM limits:

① $m_F \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \xrightarrow{m_F \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\pi} \cot^{-1} \left(\frac{\Gamma_S}{m_S} \right) - \frac{11}{6\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{m} + \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{m} \log \left(\frac{s^2}{m_S^2 (m_S^2 + \Gamma_S^2)} \right)$$

\cot^{-1} term remains (is known to people)

② $\Gamma \ll m$

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \xrightarrow{\Gamma_S \ll m_S} 1 - \frac{17}{6\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{m} + \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{m} \log \left(\frac{s}{m_S^2} \right)$$

Basically what we expect: $1 + O(\Gamma/m)$,

but still has $\log(s)$ dependence

S:FF

Let's rewrite the full result in a clearer form:

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \sim \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\frac{\beta_F^4 + \left(1 - 2\frac{m_F^2}{m_S^2}\right) \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2}}{\beta_F^4 \left(1 + \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2}\right)} \left(\pi + 2 \cot^{-1} \left(\beta_F^{-2} \frac{\Gamma_S}{m_S} \right) \right) \right. \\ \left. + \beta_F^{-4} \frac{\Gamma_S}{m_S} \left(-\frac{11}{3} + \log \left(\frac{s^2}{m_S^4 \left(\beta_F^4 + \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2} \right)} \right) + \frac{m_F^4}{m_S^4} \left(\frac{1}{1 + \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2}} \right) \log \left(\frac{m_S^4 \left(\beta_F^4 + \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2} \right)}{m_F^4} \right) \right) \right)$$

$$\text{where } \beta_F = \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_F^2}{m_S^2}}$$

S:FF

Let's rewrite the full result in a clearer form:

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \sim \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\frac{\beta_F^4 + \left(1 - 2\frac{m_F^2}{m_S^2}\right) \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2}}{\beta_F^4 \left(1 + \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2}\right)} \left(\pi + 2 \cot^{-1} \left(\beta_F^{-2} \frac{\Gamma_S}{m_S} \right) \right) \right. \\ \left. + \beta_F^{-4} \frac{\Gamma_S}{m_S} \left(-\frac{11}{3} + \log \left(\frac{s^2}{m_S^4 \left(\beta_F^4 + \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2} \right)} \right) + \frac{m_F^4}{m_S^4} \left(\frac{1}{1 + \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2}} \right) \log \left(\frac{m_S^4 \left(\beta_F^4 + \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2} \right)}{m_F^4} \right) \right) \right)$$

$$\text{where } \beta_F = \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_F^2}{m_S^2}}$$

Realize that β_F^{-x} blows up for $m_F \rightarrow m_S$ (easy in SUSY):

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \xrightarrow{m_F \rightarrow m_S} \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\left(1 - \left(1 + \beta_F^{-4} \right) \frac{\Gamma_S^2}{m_S^2} \right) \left(\pi + 2 \tan^{-1} \left(\beta_F^2 \frac{m_S}{\Gamma_S} \right) \right) \right. \\ \left. + \beta_F^{-4} \frac{\Gamma_S}{m_S} \left(-\frac{11}{3} + \log \left(\frac{s^2}{m_F^4} \right) \right) \right)$$

S:FF

But be careful! Partial widths scale as β_F^4 :

$$\Gamma_{S:FF} = \frac{g^2}{6\pi} m_S \left(1 - \frac{m_F^2}{m_S^2} \right)^2 = \frac{g^2}{6\pi} m_S \beta_F^4$$

→ can cancel out in xsec ratio, but not always...

S:FF

But be careful! Partial widths scale as β_F^4 :

$$\Gamma_{S:FF} = \frac{g^2}{6\pi} m_S \left(1 - \frac{m_F^2}{m_S^2} \right)^2 = \frac{g^2}{6\pi} m_S \beta_F^4$$

→ can cancel out in xsec ratio, but not always...

2 cases to examine: (use $m_{\tilde{g}} = 600$ GeV)

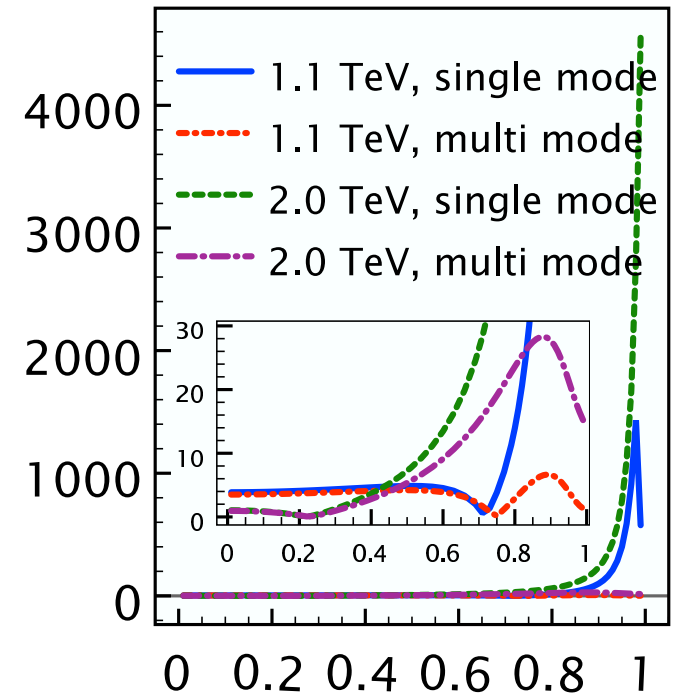
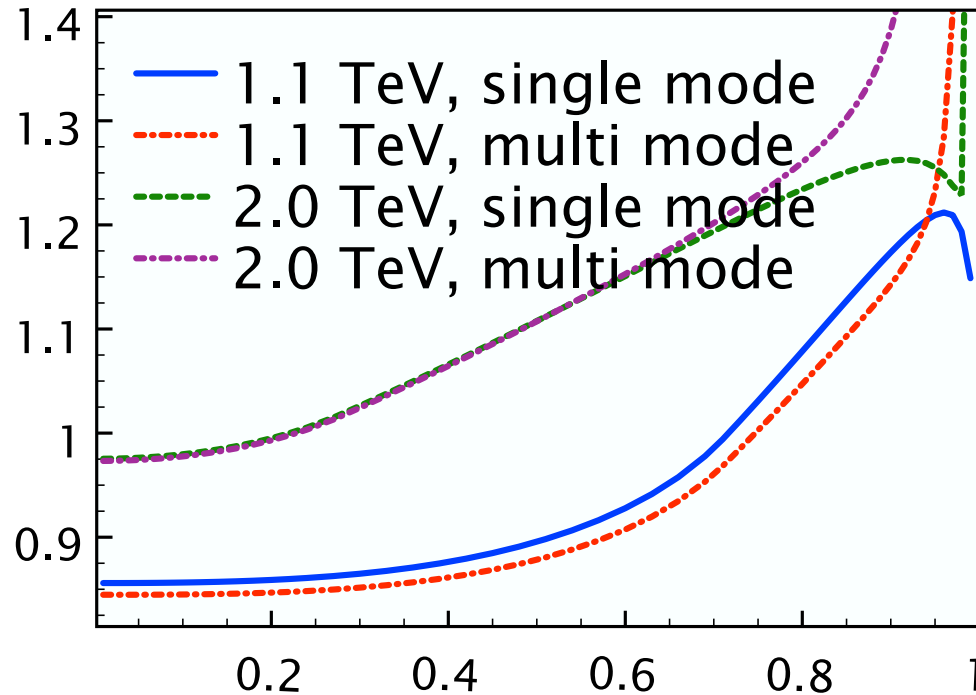
1. One decay mode open: $\Gamma_{\text{tot}} = \Gamma_{\tilde{g}q}$

→ expect only $O(\Gamma/m)$ effects (but that can be large)

2. Multi-mode decays: $\Gamma_{\text{tot}} \rightarrow \text{const. as } m_F \rightarrow m_S$

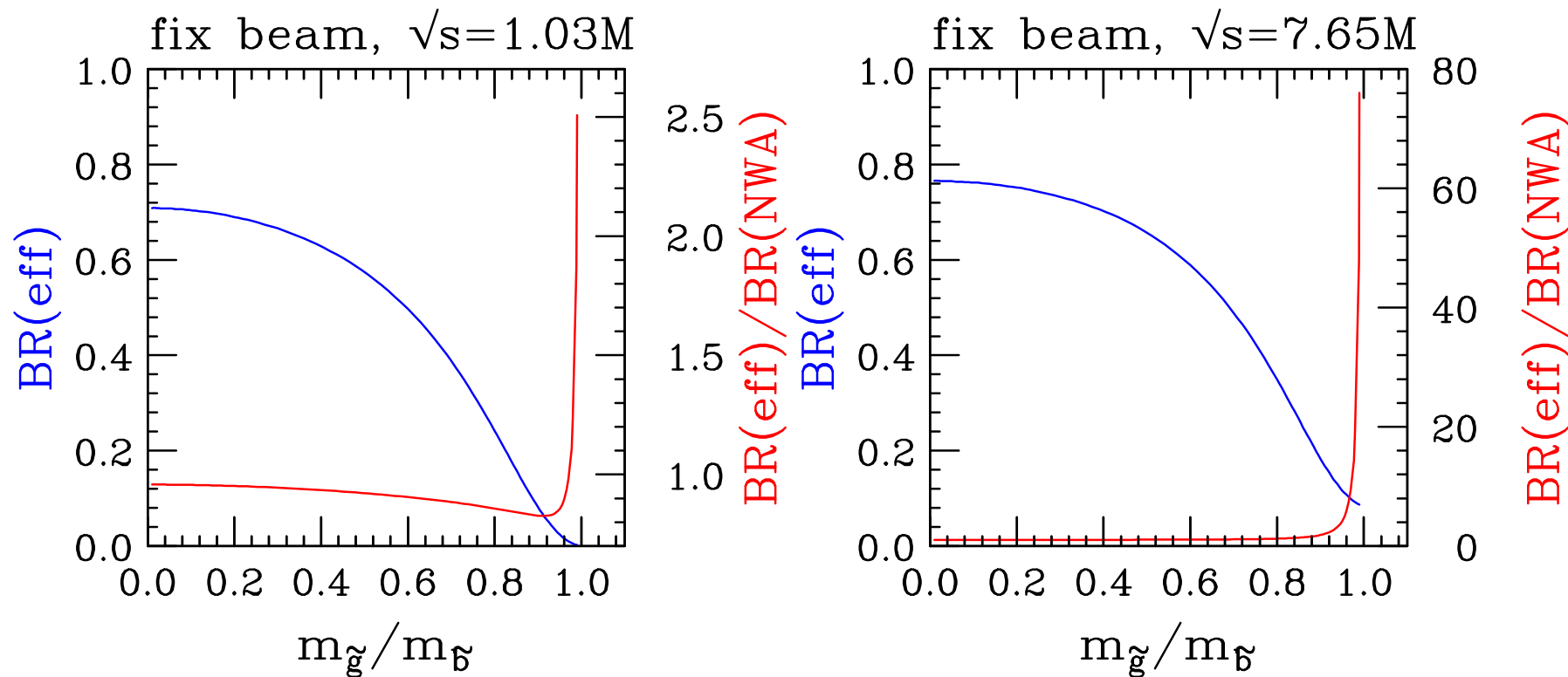
→ “rare” decay can receive *huge* (β_F^4) correction if $m_S - m_F$ small

- fake fixed quark beams just to study behavior



Corrections can be 10^x times Γ/m (x large), but a small value.

- What happens to the effective branching ratios?

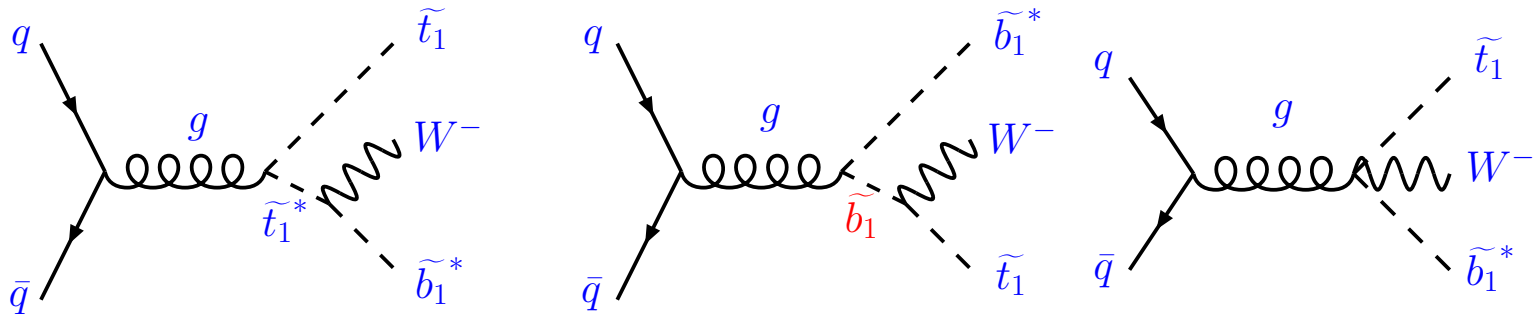


Near threshold, factors of a few for R close to 1.

Above threshold, factors of many to tens.

S:SV type decays

→ mostly relevant for stops & sbottoms, for example:

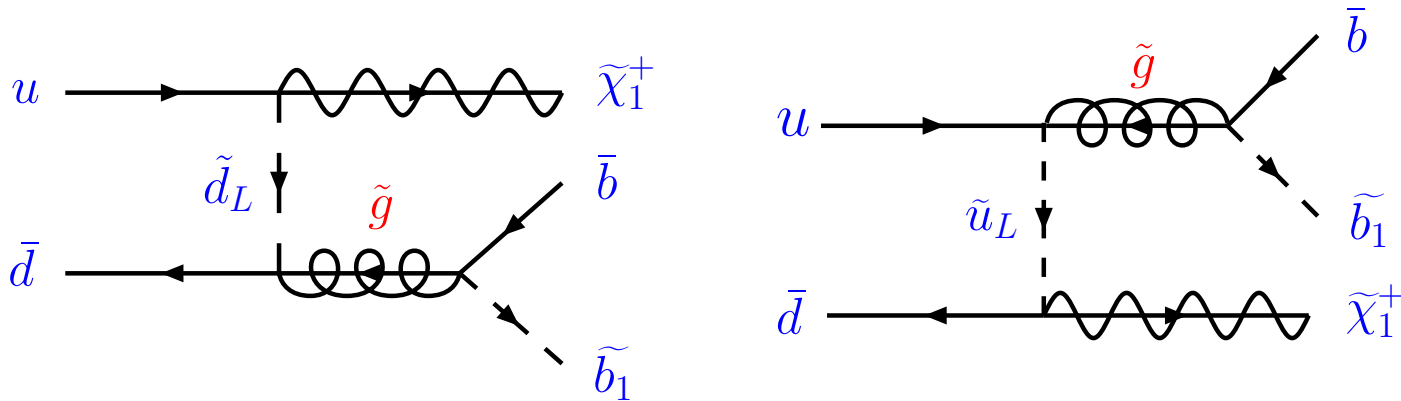


► gauge cancellations prevent any $m = 0$ limits, so more complicated
(no detailed results yet, sorry)

Note: W decay ONS v. OFS is no change.

F:FS type decays

→ relevant for gluino & weak inos:



[Note: no non-resonant diagrams possible!]

► t -channel \tilde{u}_L and \tilde{d}_L diagrams separable, consider \tilde{d}_L only

● approximations: $m_b = m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^+} = 0$

F:FS

Again, the full result is several pages of Mathematica output.
Leading $1/s$ terms (to match NWA $1/s$ behavior) are:

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \sim \frac{m_F}{2\pi (m_S^2 - m_F^2)^2 (m_F^2 + \Gamma_F^2)} \cdot \left(m_F (m_S^4 + (m_F^2 - 2m_S^2) (m_F^2 + \Gamma_F^2)) \left(\pi - 2 \cot^{-1} \left(\frac{m_F \Gamma_F}{m_S^2 - m_F^2} \right) \right) + m_F^2 \Gamma_F (m_F^2 + \Gamma_F^2) \left(-6 + \log \left(\frac{s^4}{m_T^4 \left((m_S^2 - m_F^2)^2 + m_F^2 \Gamma_F^2 \right)} \right) \right) + m_S^4 \Gamma_F \log \left(\frac{(m_S^2 - m_F^2)^2 + m_F^2 \Gamma_F^2}{m_S^4} \right) \right)$$

Note presence of t -channel sparticle mass in log!

► F:FS decay corrections depend on production mechanism

F:FS

SM limit in this case is again $O(\Gamma/m)$, but again with a $\log(s)$ term.

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \xrightarrow{m_S \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2\pi} \cdot \left(\pi + 2 \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{m_F}{\Gamma_F} \right) - 6 \frac{\Gamma_F}{m_F} + \frac{\Gamma_F}{m_F} \log \left(\frac{s^4}{m_T^4 m_F^2 (m_F^2 + \Gamma_F^2)} \right) \right)$$
$$\xrightarrow{\Gamma \ll m} 1 + \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{\Gamma_F}{m_F} \left(-2 + \log \left(\frac{s}{m_T m_F} \right) \right)$$

As before, let's rewrite the full result in a clearer form:

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \xrightarrow{m_S \rightarrow m_F} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left(\beta_S^2 \frac{m_F}{\Gamma_F} \right) + \frac{1}{\pi} \beta_S^{-4} \frac{\Gamma_F}{m_F} \left(-3 + 2 \log \left(\frac{s}{\beta_F m_T m_F} \right) + 2 \frac{m_S^4}{m_F^4} \log \left(\frac{\beta_F m_F}{m_S} \right) \right)$$

where $\beta_S = \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_S^2}{m_F^2}}$

As before, let's rewrite the full result in a clearer form:

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \xrightarrow{m_S \rightarrow m_F} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left(\beta_S^2 \frac{m_F}{\Gamma_F} \right) + \frac{1}{\pi} \beta_S^{-4} \frac{\Gamma_F}{m_F} \left(-3 + 2 \log \left(\frac{s}{\beta_F m_T m_F} \right) + 2 \frac{m_S^4}{m_F^4} \log \left(\frac{\beta_F m_F}{m_S} \right) \right)$$

where $\beta_S = \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_S^2}{m_F^2}}$

β_S^{-x} blows up for $m_S \rightarrow m_F$, same as S:FF case (easy in SUSY):

$$\frac{\sigma_{OFS}}{\sigma_{NWA}} \xrightarrow{m_S \rightarrow m_F} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left(\beta_S^2 \frac{m_F}{\Gamma_F} \right) + \frac{1}{\pi} \beta_S^{-4} \frac{\Gamma_F}{m_F} \left(-3 + 2 \log \left(\frac{s}{m_T m_F} \right) \right)$$

► don't expand \tan^{-1} yet!

Technical issue #1:

What about gauge invariance?

→ a finite width technically breaks it, since it mixes orders

Technical issue #1:

What about gauge invariance?

→ a finite width technically breaks it, since it mixes orders

We test this by setting $\Gamma = 0$ in the M.E. and multiply outside by:

$$\frac{(q^2 - m^2)^2}{(q^2 - m^2)^2 + (m\Gamma)^2}$$

► identical results – no issue with finite widths

Technical issue #2:

What about logarithmic α_s running?

→ or, does that compensate the $\log(s)$ M.E.-dependence?

Technical issue #2:

What about logarithmic α_s running?

→ or, does that compensate the $\log(s)$ M.E.-dependence?

We test this by calculating $\alpha_s(q^2)$ point-by-point.

The log coefficient is diminished slightly, but overall behavior $\sigma \propto \frac{\log(s)}{s}$ remains.

That is, B-W integration and α_s running are orthogonal.

→ but what happens at higher order is still an interesting question

Technical issue #3:

What about unitarity?

→ shouldn't $\sigma \propto \frac{1}{s}$?

Technical issue #3:

What about unitarity?

→ shouldn't $\sigma \propto \frac{1}{s}$?

Froissart bound is actually $4\pi \frac{\log^2(s)}{s}$:

logs come from summing over all partial waves

($1/s$ behavior applies only *individual* partial wave amps)

Our results are orders of magnitude away from this.

► no problem with unitarity

Two levels of decay

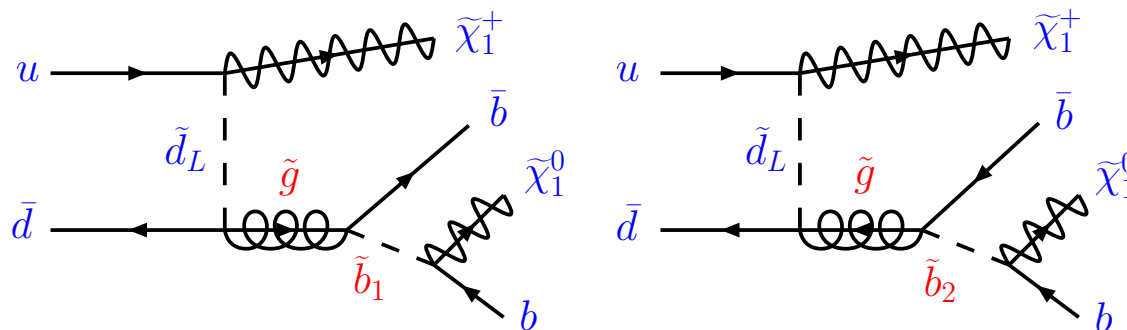
In SUSY and most BSM physics, new particles cascade to an LP.
(LSP in SUSY, LPOP in Little Higgs, LKP in extra-D models, etc.)

Three big questions we need to ask:

1. Does M.E. effect depend on intermediate resonance or final-state masses?
2. Does a daughter B-W introduce its own effect?
3. Do resonant and non-resonant diagrams interfere?

Two-level decays

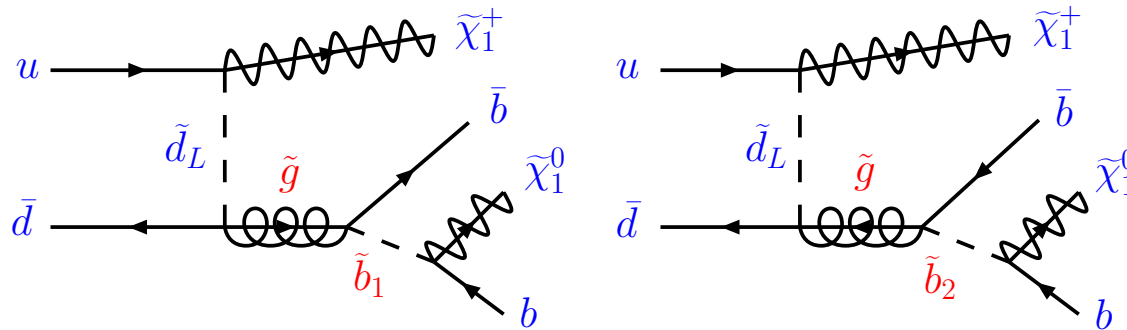
First examine $u\bar{d} \rightarrow \bar{b}b\tilde{\chi}_1^0\tilde{\chi}_1^+$ numerically (various MSSM points):
(analytical form not yet feasible)



(can decouple \tilde{b}_2 and make $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ essentially massless)

Two-level decays

First examine $u\bar{d} \rightarrow \bar{b}b\tilde{\chi}_1^0\tilde{\chi}_1^+$ numerically (various MSSM points):
(analytical form not yet feasible)



(can decouple \tilde{b}_2 and make $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ essentially massless)

Using fixed-energy beams we find:

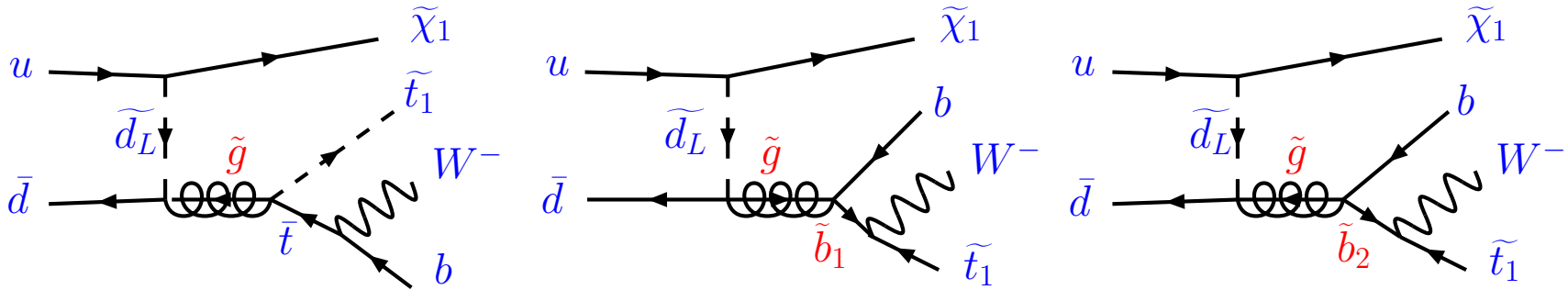
M.E. enhancement from first decay still present.

- ▶ M.E. effect depends on daughter pole, not final-state masses
- ▶ Note: can have “superenhancement” for daughter very near the parent – is due to daughter’s B-W

Two decay levels

Next examine $u\bar{d} \rightarrow \bar{b}W^- \tilde{t}_1 \tilde{\chi}_1^+$ numerically (at SPS1a only):

(analytical form not yet feasible)

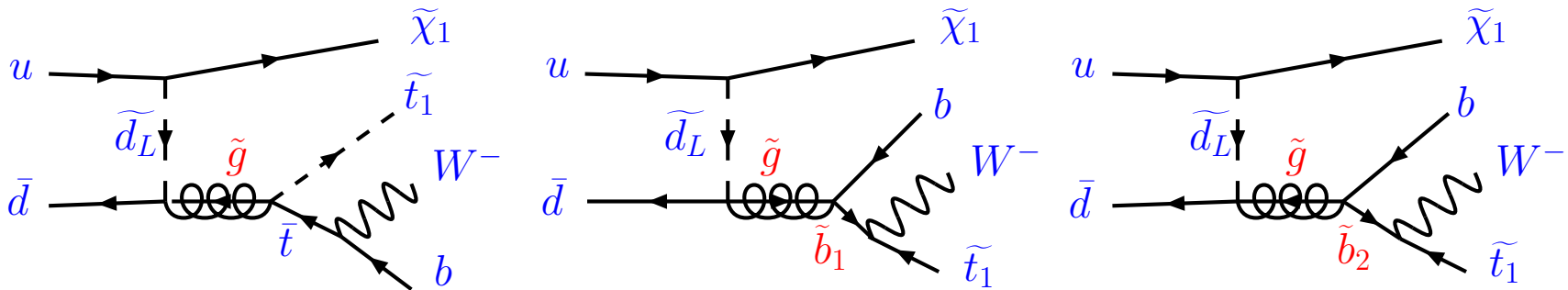


(can decouple \tilde{b}_2)

Two decay levels

Next examine $ud\bar{d} \rightarrow \bar{b}W^- \tilde{t}_1 \tilde{\chi}_1^+$ numerically (at SPS1a only):

(analytical form not yet feasible)



(can decouple \tilde{b}_2)

Two important observations:

- [1] Interference of 3 diagrams present at few-percent level.
- [2] Subsequent W decay gives identical results (no M.E. effect).

CONCLUSIONS

- Particle widths in many new physics scenarios are large, so even a naïve $O(\Gamma/m)$ correction is important.

CONCLUSIONS

- Particle widths in many new physics scenarios are large, so even a naïve $O(\Gamma/m)$ correction is important.
- Two major sources of off-shell corrections:
 - (1) non-resonant interference (QCD) (incl. PDFs)
 - (2) matrix elements and Breit-Wigner integration

CONCLUSIONS

- Particle widths in many new physics scenarios are large, so even a naïve $O(\Gamma/m)$ correction is important.
- Two major sources of off-shell corrections:
 - (1) non-resonant interference (QCD) (incl. PDFs)
 - (2) matrix elements and Breit-Wigner integration
- Matrix element effects can be orders of magnitude times Γ/m ; can dramatically enhance effective BRs.

CONCLUSIONS

- Particle widths in many new physics scenarios are large, so even a naïve $O(\Gamma/m)$ correction is important.
- Two major sources of off-shell corrections:
 - (1) non-resonant interference (QCD) (incl. PDFs)
 - (2) matrix elements and Breit-Wigner integration
- Matrix element effects can be orders of magnitude times Γ/m ; can dramatically enhance effective BRs.
- Non-resonant interference can be many times Γ/m (and not straightforwardly predictable).

CONCLUSIONS

- Particle widths in many new physics scenarios are large, so even a naïve $O(\Gamma/m)$ correction is important.
- Two major sources of off-shell corrections:
 - (1) non-resonant interference (QCD) (incl. PDFs)
 - (2) matrix elements and Breit-Wigner integration
- Matrix element effects can be orders of magnitude times Γ/m ; can dramatically enhance effective BRs.
- Non-resonant interference can be many times Γ/m (and not straightforwardly predictable).
- Reminder: off-shell effects are *not* specific to SUSY!

NEXT STEPS

- QCD interference for heavy gluino (v. squarks).
- SS v. OS asymmetry affecting bkg-subtracted discoveries.
- Practical LHC results for 3 vertex types and mass scan: changes in effective BRs.
- Attempt to find rule of thumb for successive decays (when they need to be done off-shell).
- Impact on jet/lepton edges at LHC.