



QCD Physics

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European Strategy Discussion 20/01/2025



OPEN QUESTIONS/PUZZLES IN THE SM

- What is the origin of Dark Matter which constitutes approximately 27% of the universe's mass-energy content?
- ► Why is there more matter than anti-matter in the Universe?
- ► Why are there exactly three families of quarks and leptons?
- ► Why do particle masses in the SM span such an enormous range?
- Are elementary particles really elementary particles?
- ➤ Where does the form of the Higgs potential V(H)=-µ²|H|²+λ|H|⁴ come from? Does the Higgs boson experience self-coupling?
- The answers to some of these puzzles and open questions can arise in the form on new particles or forces beyond the Standard Model at high energies above the LHC range
- ➤ The curiosity in finding out more about how the Universe works requires a new particle collider after the LHC to test our understanding of the SM at ever higher energies with increasing precision → Integrated FCC program@CERN

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► What is the origin of Dark Matter which constitutes approximately 27% of the universe's mass-energy content?

- The successful interpretation of physics analyses at future colliders will necessitate a thorough understanding of QCD
- In particular QCD effects that are negligible in LEP/LHC physics analyses may become significant at the FCC

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- ► Expect $5 \cdot 10^{12}$ hadronic Z-decays → precision physics with Z/γ*→ jets
- No parton distributions functions, hadron remnant, underlying event
- Provides clean environment to study QCD dynamics
- FCCee luminosity will enable precision analyses of multi-jet final states



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Integrated jet rates compared to ALEPH data

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- Several examples of excesses reported in 4jet event topologies at LEP
- Precision analyses at FCC require improvement for QCD calculations of at least one order of perturbative precision
- ► 3jets@N3LO and 4&5jets@NNLO in QCD
- Aim for an extraction of the strong coupling a_s(m_Z) with per-mil level accuracy

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e ⁺	Z	Z	
3 years	10 ⁶	e⁺e⁻ →	ZH

ch.	Br(%)
H→bb	57.7
H→cc	2.9
H→gg	8.6

Higgs hadronic decays

- ► Easy and clean way to select $H \rightarrow 2jet$ final state
- ➤ Possible to have access to so-far unobserved subleading hadronic decay channels H→cc, H→gg
- Difficulty to separate the hadronic final states
- Opportunity to study 3 and 4 jet Higgs event shapes in perturbative QCD to discriminate fermionic and gluonic decay channels
- Aim for a percent level determination in *Hcc* and *Hgg* couplings

Inclusive production rate for central jets (|η|<2.5) as a function of the collider center of mass energy and projected statistical uncertainties at FCChh</p>

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- ► With 30 ab⁻¹ allows jet p_T values in the range of 25-30 TeV to be reached
- Uncertainties smaller than 10% up to $p_T \approx 22$ TeV

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- Projected gluon distribution obtained from an FCCeh run
- ➤ Relevant for future precision studies of the Higgs boson couplings in gluon fusion processes, i.e., gg→H and gg→HH

- Looking for New Physics effects in QCD observables
- SM background prediction fixed by gauge symmetries and particle content of the Standard Model

► Example: probe the running of the strong coupling in the TeV range

► With dijet cross sections at the FCC asymptotic freedom can be tested up to 50 TeV

HIGGS COUPLINGS AT THE FCC_HH

Complementary between FCC-ee and FCC-hh will allow us to pin down the Higgs couplings to the SM particles at the percent and sub-percent level

Collider	HL-LHC	$FCC-ee_{240\rightarrow 365}$	FCC-INT	
Lumi (ab^{-1})	3	5 + 0.2 + 1.5	30	1
Years	10	3 + 1 + 4	25	
$g_{\rm HZZ}$ (%)	1.5	0.18 / 0.17	0.17/0.16	
$g_{\rm HWW}$ (%)	1.7	0.44 / 0.41	0.20/0.19*	
$g_{\rm Hbb}$ (%)	5.1	0.69 / 0.64	0.48/0.48	l 🗸 ee
$g_{\rm Hcc}$ (%)	SM	1.3 / 1.3	0.96/0.96	
g_{Hgg} (%)	2.5	1.0 / 0.89	0.52/0.5	
$g_{\mathrm{H}\tau\tau}$ (%)	1.9	0.74 / 0.66	0.49/0.46	
$g_{{ m H}\mu\mu}$ (%)	4.4	8.9 / 3.9	0.43/0.43	
$g_{\rm H\gamma\gamma}$ (%)	1.8	3.9 / 1.2	0.32/0.32	
$g_{\mathrm{HZ}\gamma}$ (%)	11.	- / 10.	0.71/0.7	
$g_{\rm Htt}$ (%)	3.4	10. / 3.1	1.0/0.95	
a (%)	50.	44./33.	3	
9HHH (70)		27./24.		
$\Gamma_{\rm H}$ (%)	SM	1.1	0.91	ee
BR_{inv} (%)	1.9	0.19	0.024	pp
BR_{EXO} (%)	SM (0.0)	1.1	1	ee
		* g _{HWW} includ	les also ep	

[arXiv:1905.03764]

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- ► *ttH* becomes the third largest Higgs production mechanism at the FCC-hh
- ► Also significant enhancement of the *HH* cross section
- Precision in the couplings measurement enables the possible detection of subtle deviations from Standard Model predictions, potentially signalling the presence of new physics phenomena such as extended Higgs sectors or interactions with undiscovered particles

HIGGS COUPLINGS AT THE FCC_HH

- Percent level precision on g_{Htt} and g_{HHH} requires continued effort on improving the accuracy of the SM calculations
- ➤ For *ttH* NNLO in QCD is required also *HH* with full top mass dependence (loop-induced → 4 point three-loop corrections with internal masses)
- In-house Monte Carlo NNLOJET in development at the LIP-pheno group for fully differential cross section studies of *ttH* production

CONCLUSIONS

- FCC integrated program offers unparalleled opportunities with unprecedented precision to address fundamental open questions in particle physics
- ► QCD studies are essential to the search for new physics at the FCC, as they provide the theoretical framework necessary for interpreting high-precision data
- Refining our understanding of the strong interaction will enable more accurate predictions of Standard Model (SM) processes, which form the foundation for identifying deviations that could signal new physics
- ➤ At the FCC, where energy and luminosity levels will far exceed current limits, the complexity of QCD phenomena increases, presenting a unique opportunity for the further development of precise theoretical calculations, which will be indispensable to the success of the FCC physics program
- The national level strategy covers a line of research in QCD phenomenology to address these challenges