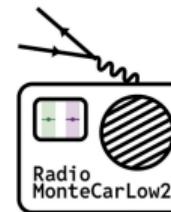

8th Plenary Workshop of the Muon $g - 2$ Theory Initiative

RadioMonteCarLow 2 :: An Overview

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ORSAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2025

WHO a **community effort** for existing **Monte Carlo** software to be

- ◊ kept **alive**
- ◊ made **accessible**
- ◊ further **improved**

WHAT theoretical description of $e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{stuff}$ at $\sqrt{s} \lesssim \text{few GeV}$

- ◊ **scan** and **radiative return** at e^+e^- colliders
- ◊ “**other**”: luminosity, normalisation, cross checks, ...

WHY (not only) because of e^+e^- experiments for $(g - 2)_\mu$:

- ◊ **improve** SM precision tests at **low energies**
- ◊ **implement** progress developed at **higher energies** for LHC

<https://radiomontecarlow2.gitlab.io/>

past, present, future :: 3 PHases

PH.0 inspired by  Radio MonteCarlo [↗](#) and its outcome: [0912.0749] [↗](#)

Quest for precision in hadronic cross section at low energy:
Monte Carlo tools vs. experimental data

PH.1 culminated in [2410.22882] [↗](#)

Radiative corrections and Monte Carlo tools
for low-energy hadronic cross sections in e^+e^- collisions

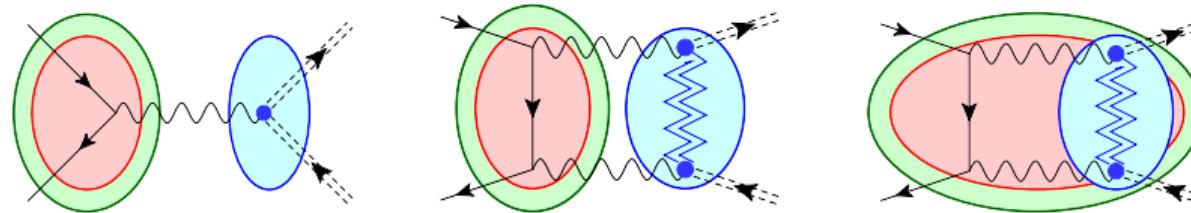
PH.2 ongoing as we speak!

→ new people for new ideas/approaches are welcome!

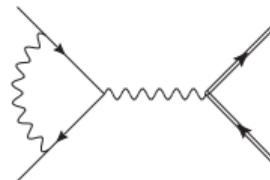
...

- organisation in Work Packages

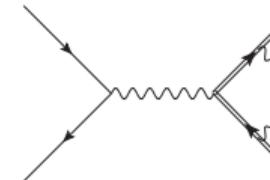
- WP1 & WP2: fixed-order QED
- WP3: beyond fixed-order, involving hadrons (read: pions)
- WP4: all-order QED (leading contributions from multiple emissions)
- WP5: experimental input



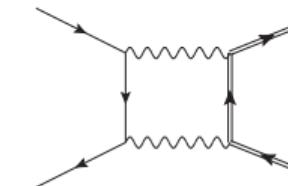
- organisation in Work Packages
 - ◊ WP1 & WP2: fixed-order QED
 - ◊ WP3: beyond fixed-order, involving hadrons (read: pions)
 - ◊ WP4: all-order QED (leading contributions from multiple emissions)
 - ◊ WP5: experimental input
- QED @ N^k LO means **every** diagram contributing at that order
- QED @ N^k LO for $2 \rightarrow 2 \supset$ QED @ N^{k-1} LO for $2 \rightarrow 3$
- analysis by gauge-invariant subsets:



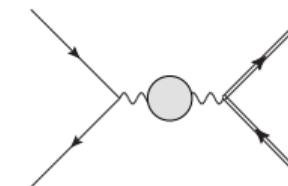
ISC



FSC



mixed



VPC

- organisation in Work Packages
 - ◊ WP1 & WP2: fixed-order QED
 - ◊ WP3: beyond fixed-order, involving hadrons (read: pions)
 - ◊ WP4: all-order QED (leading contributions from multiple emissions)
 - ◊ WP5: experimental input

- $\pi\pi\gamma^n$ treatment and terminology:

sQED scalar QED; no form factors

F x sQED [$n = 1$] sQED \times FFs; loop integrals not affected

FsQED [$n = 2$] pion-pole contribution to 2-virtual Compton tensor;
loop integrals dispersively

GVMD [$n = 2$] pion FF via Breit-Wigner propagators; loop integrals analytically

FULL [$n > 2$, beyond pion-pole] not yet available \Rightarrow PH.2

- organisation in Work Packages
 - ◊ WP1 & WP2: fixed-order QED
 - ◊ WP3: beyond fixed-order, involving hadrons (read: pions)
 - ◊ WP4: all-order QED (leading contributions from multiple emissions)
 - ◊ WP5: experimental input
- all-order terminology:

PS parton shower, resummation of $\log m_e$, in cases with angular effects

CS collinear structures, resummation of $\log m_e$

CEEX / YFS (coherent) Monte Carlo generation of soft photons

- 3 $e^+e^- \rightarrow X^+X^-$ channels
- 5 experimental scenarios
- 7 Monte Carlo codes

- 3 $e^+e^- \rightarrow X^+X^-$ channels, in both Scan and Radiative return mode:

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^- \quad e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^- \quad e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$$

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-\gamma \quad e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\gamma \quad e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\gamma$$

- 5 experimental scenarios
- 7 Monte Carlo codes

- 3 $e^+e^- \rightarrow X^+X^-$ channels, in both Scan and Radiative return mode
- 5 experimental scenarios, inspired by

CMD $e^+e^- \rightarrow X^+(p_+)X^-(p_-)$ @ $\sqrt{s} = 0.7$ GeV

cuts on p_{\pm} , $||\phi^+ - \phi^-| - \pi| < 0.15$ rad; $|\theta^+ + \theta^- - \pi| < 0.25$ rad

KLOE-SA (untagged) “small-angle” $e^+e^- \rightarrow X^+(p_+)X^-(p_-)\gamma$ @ $\sqrt{s} = 1.02$ GeV

cuts on p_{\pm} , θ_{\pm} , M_{XX} , if $\vec{p}_{\tilde{\gamma}} \equiv -(\vec{p}_+ + \vec{p}_-)$ then $\theta_{\tilde{\gamma}} \leq 15$ deg or $\theta_{\tilde{\gamma}} \geq 165$ deg

KLOE-LA (tagged) “large-angle” $e^+e^- \rightarrow X^+(p_+)X^-(p_-)\gamma$ @ $\sqrt{s} = 1.02$ GeV

BES III $e^+e^- \rightarrow X^+(p_+)X^-(p_-)\gamma$ @ $\sqrt{s} = 4$ GeV

B factory $e^+e^- \rightarrow X^+(p_+)X^-(p_-)\gamma$ @ $\sqrt{s} = 10$ GeV

cuts on p_{\pm} , θ_{\pm} , $M_{XX(\gamma)}$, and the photon, for the last three scenarios

- 7 Monte Carlo codes

- 3 $e^+e^- \rightarrow X^+X^-$ channels, in both Scan and Radiative return mode
- 5 experimental scenarios
- 7 Monte Carlo codes (@PH.1!)

AFKQED R: LO+ISC with CS, FSC with Photos, $X \in \{\mu, \pi\}$

BABAYAGA S: NLO+PS, R: LO + PS, F~~s~~QED for $X = \pi$ (FsQED/GVMD in PH.2)

KKMC S: CEEEX, R: CEEEX for $X = \mu$

MCGPJ S: NLO+CS, R: LO+CS for $X \in \{e, \mu\}$; GVMD for $X = \pi$

McMULE S: NNLO, R: NLO for $X \in \{e, \mu\}$; S: NLO/NNLO ISC, R: NLO ISC for $X = \pi$

PHOKHARA R: NLO for $X = \mu$, F~~s~~QED for $X = \pi$

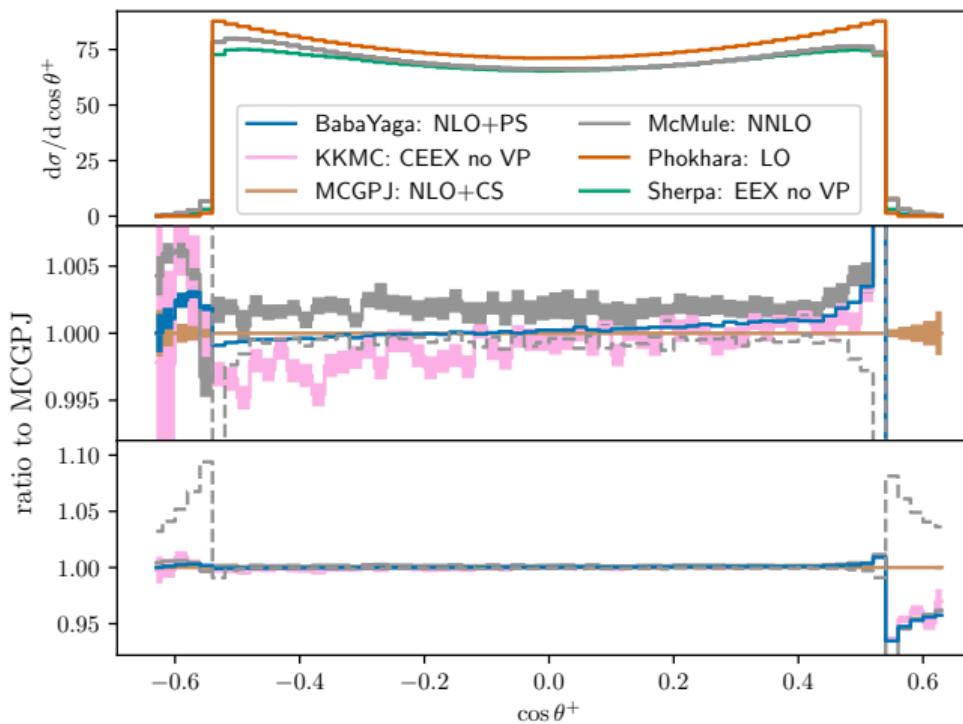
SHERPA S: NLO+YFS for $X \in \{e, \mu\}$, YFS sQED for $X = \pi$

- 3 $e^+e^- \rightarrow X^+X^-$ channels, in both Scan and Radiative return mode
 - 5 experimental scenarios
 - 7 Monte Carlo codes
 - 1 disclaimer!
 - this is a theoretical study on MC tools, relying on experimental expertise
 - we use acceptance cuts, no additional selection or detector effects
- ⇒ limited experimental conclusions can be drawn

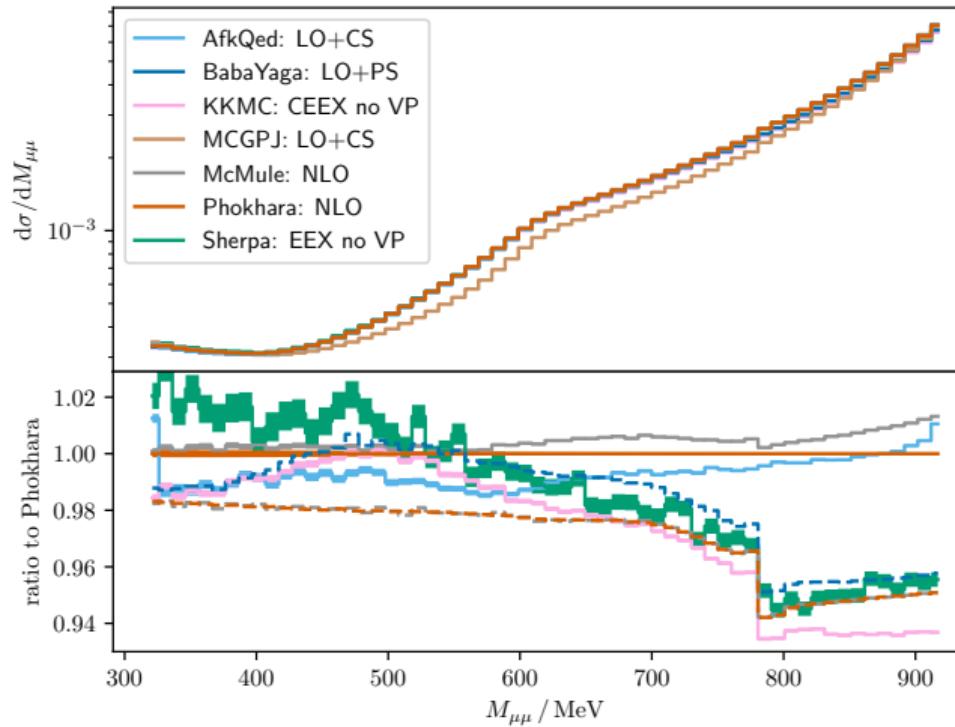
PH.1 :: An Anthology of Plots

<https://radiomontecarlow2.gitlab.io/plots/>

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.13928140>

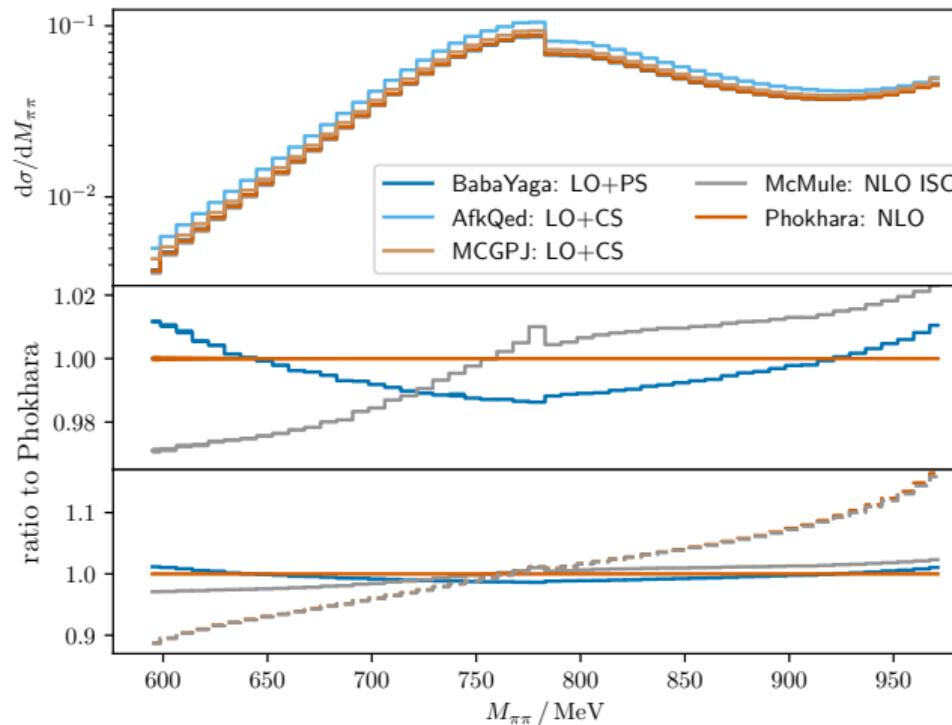


- ◊ PHOKHARA not designed for scan setup
- ◊ agreement within 0.2% in the bulk, larger deviations at the edges
- ◊ NLO VPC $\simeq 0$ at this \sqrt{s}
- ◊ NNLO \sim a few 0.1% in the bulk, more at edges
→ CS & PS dominated by one more emission



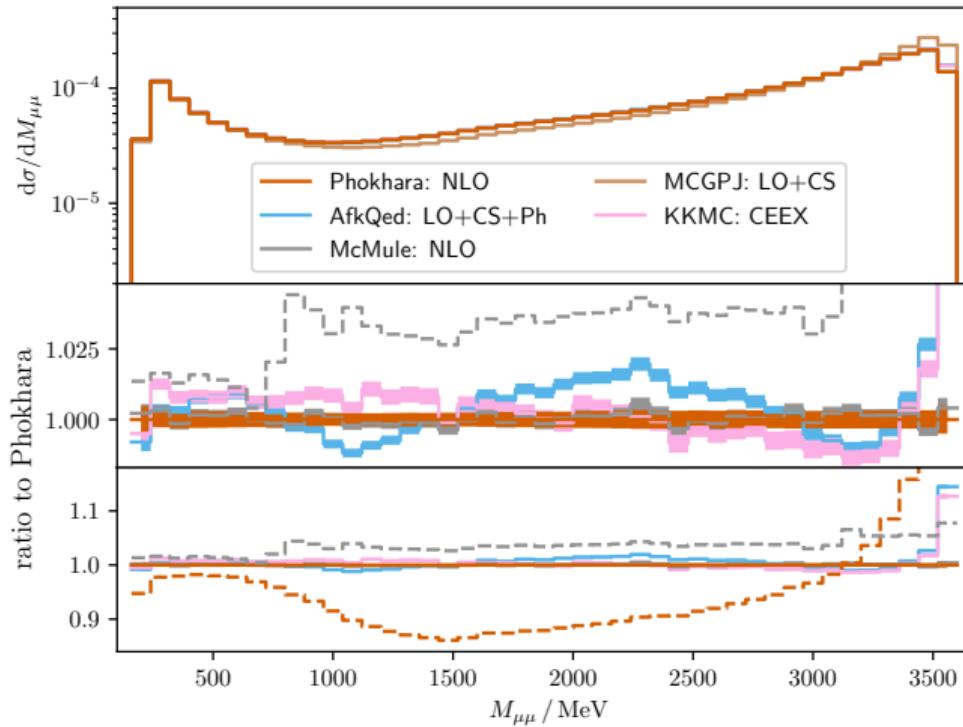
[dashed = NLO no VPC, BABAYAGA no HVPC]

- ◊ $50^\circ < \theta_\gamma < 130^\circ$
- ◊ PHOKHARA is reference
- ◊ MCGPJ not designed for radiative return
- ◊ VPC $\sim 1\%$ difference
- McMULE: single VP
- PHOKHARA: resummed
- ◊ (C)EEX within 2 – 3% of NLO no VPC



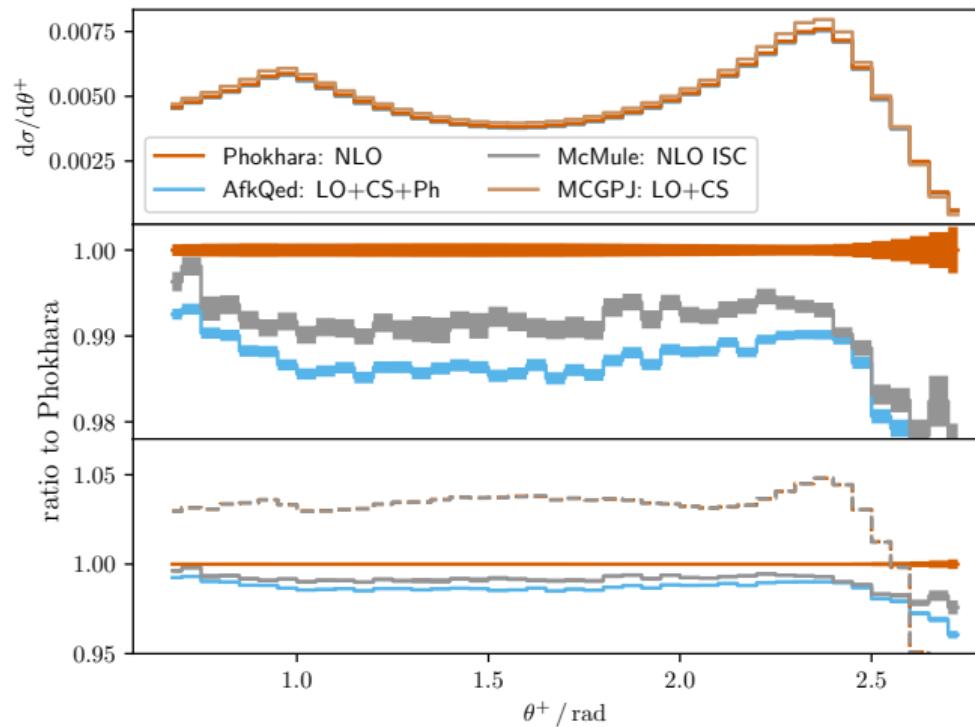
[dashed McMULE = LO ISC, dashed PHOKHARA LO full]

- ◊ PHOKHARA is reference
- ◊ AFKQED not designed for selection cuts
- ◊ LO ISC agrees very well with LO full
 → not at large angle
- ◊ NLO $\sim 10\%$!!
- ◊ 2% difference if no FSC @NLO



[dashed McMULE = NLO with VPC, dashed PHOKHARA LO]

- ◊ technical: no VPC
↪ VPC $\gtrsim 3\%$
- ◊ agreement within 2%
in the bulk, larger at edge
- ◊ large $\pm 10\%$ corrections
at NLO



- ◊ LO: FSC $\lesssim 0.01\%$
→ form-factor suppression
- ◊ NLO: FSC 1 – 2%
- ◊ 1%-level precision
is a long way ahead

remarks from PH.1

- o **fixed-order**: NNLO for $2 \rightarrow 2$, NLO for $2 \rightarrow 3$
VPC @ $\sim 1\%$ are to be considered carefully
- o **hadrons**: FsQED available in codes but not used here
FSC impact can deeply vary depending on scenario
- o **all-order**: effects seem dominated by one extra radiation

looking into PH.2

- o **fixed-order**: NNNLO for $2 \rightarrow 2$ (through $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*$ @ NNNLO)
NNLO for $2 \rightarrow 3$ (through $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*\gamma$ @ NNLO)
→ Sophie's and Pau's talks later today
- o **hadrons**: FsQED, GVMD used and compared in [2409.03469] ↗
→ Fulvio's talk later today
FSC for $2 \rightarrow 3$ needs improvement/better understanding
- o **all-order**: combine higher fixed orders with CS/PS/YFS

o **fixed-order**: NNNLO for $2 \rightarrow 2$ (through $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*$ @ NNNLO)

NNLO for $2 \rightarrow 3$ (through $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*\gamma$ @ NNLO)

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o **hadrons**: FsQED, GVMD used and compared in [2409.03469] ↗

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FSC for $2 \rightarrow 3$ needs improvement/better understanding



o Pisa consensus: ISC vs FSC pentagons

o beyond pion pole: S- ($\pi\pi$, $\pi\pi\gamma$) and P-wave ($\pi\pi\gamma$) rescattering

o **all-order**: combine higher fixed orders with CS/PS/YFS

- o **fixed-order**: NNNLO for $2 \rightarrow 2$ (through $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*$ @ NNNLO)
NNLO for $2 \rightarrow 3$ (through $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*\gamma$ @ NNLO)
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- o **hadrons**: FsQED, GVMD used and compared in [2409.03469] ↗
→ Fulvio's talk later today
FSC for $2 \rightarrow 3$ needs improvement/better understanding
- o **all-order**: combine higher fixed orders with CS/PS/YFS, e.g.
 - o NLOPS for $XX\gamma$ (BABA YAGA)
 - o EEX+NNLO (McMULE)
 - o improved CEEX+NNLO (PHOKHARA)
 - o NLO+YFS w/ improved VP (SHERPA)

looking into PH.2

- o **fixed-order**: NNNLO for $2 \rightarrow 2$ (through $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*$ @ NNNLO)
NNLO for $2 \rightarrow 3$ (through $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*\gamma$ @ NNLO)
→ Sophie's and Pau's talks later today
- o **hadrons**: FsQED, GVMD used and compared in [2409.03469] ↗
→ Fulvio's talk later today
FSC for $2 \rightarrow 3$ needs improvement/better understanding
- o **all-order**: combine higher fixed orders with CS/PS/YFS
- o **general**: widen set of processes under scrutiny: luminosity, $3\pi, \dots$
widen set of codes (some will not be updated)
investigate theory error estimate

Thank You!



<https://radiomontecarlow2.gitlab.io/>

[past meetings \(Liverpool 11.24, Pisa 05.25\)](#)

[future meetings \(Liverpool 11.25, Torino 06.26\)](#)

PH.1 members

Riccardo Aliberti, Paolo Beltrame, Ettore Budassi, Carlo M. Carloni Calame, Gilberto Colangelo, Lorenzo Cotrozzi, Achim Denig, Anna Dritti, Tim Engel, Lois Flower, Andrea Gurgone, Martin Hoferichter, Fedor Ignatov, Sophie Kollatzsch, Bastian Kubis, Andrzej Kupśc, Fabian Lange, Alberto Lusiani, Stefan E. Müller, Jérémie Paltrinieri, Pau Petit Rosàs, Fulvio Piccinini, Alan Price, Lorenzo Punzi, Marco Rocco, Olga Shekhovtsova, Andrzej Siódtek, Adrian Signer, Giovanni Stagnitto, Peter Stoffer, Thomas Teubner, William J. Torres Bobadilla, Francesco P. Ucci, Yannick Ulrich, Graziano Venanzoni

feedback & new collaborators are welcome!