

Theoretical advances in EW/Higgs/Top physics at the LHC

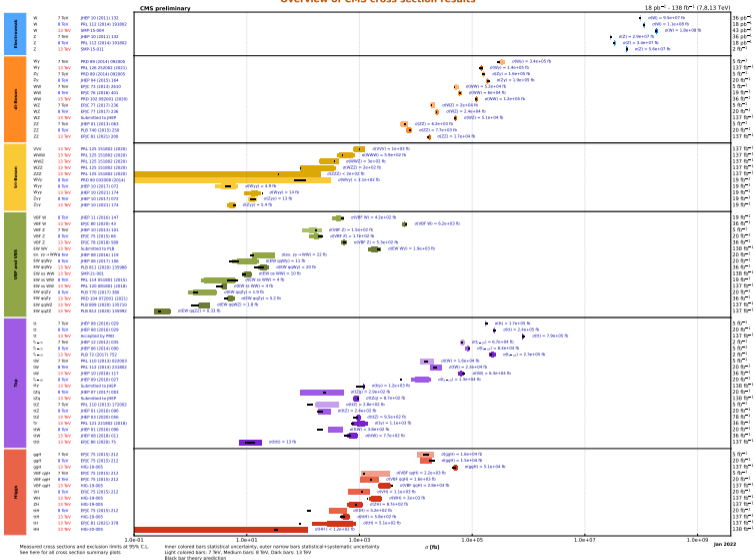
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8th of April 2024





• Triumph of the Standard Model ...

- Huge theoretical effort backing up this endeavour
 - impossible to cover all theory progress on EW, Higgs, and top physics!

Disclaimer

⚠ Only selected topics will be presented

→ illustration of current theoretical/phenomenological status

- To get an overview:
 - Les Houches wishlist [Huss, Huston, Jones, MP; 2207.02122]
 - State of the art on th. side at fixed order
 - 848 references
 - to be updated this year

process	known	desired
$pp \rightarrow V$	$N^3\text{LO}_{\text{QCD}}$ $N^{(1,1)}\text{LO}_{\text{QCD}\otimes\text{EW}}$ NLO_{EW}	$N^3\text{LO}_{\text{QCD}} + N^{(1,1)}\text{LO}_{\text{QCD}\otimes\text{EW}}$ $N^2\text{LO}_{\text{EW}}$
$pp \rightarrow VV'$	$\text{NNLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$ $+ \text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}}$ (<i>gg</i> channel)	NLO_{QCD} (<i>gg</i> channel, w/ massive loops) $N^{(1,1)}\text{LO}_{\text{QCD}\otimes\text{EW}}$
$pp \rightarrow V + j$	$\text{NNLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$	hadronic decays
$pp \rightarrow V + 2j$	$\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$ (QCD component)	NNLO_{QCD}
$pp \rightarrow V + 2j$	$\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$ (EW component)	
$pp \rightarrow V + \delta\delta$	NLO_{QCD}	$\text{NNLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$
$pp \rightarrow VV' + 1j$	$\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$	NNLO_{QCD}
$pp \rightarrow VV' + 2j$	NLO_{QCD} (QCD component)	Full $\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$
	$\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$ (EW component)	
$pp \rightarrow W^+W^+ + 2j$	Full $\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$	
$pp \rightarrow W^+W^- + 2j$	$\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$ (EW component)	
$pp \rightarrow W^+Z + 2j$	$\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$ (EW component)	
$pp \rightarrow ZZ + 2j$	Full $\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$	
$pp \rightarrow VV'V''$	NLO_{QCD} NLO_{EW} (w/o decays)	$\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$
$pp \rightarrow W^+W^+W^-$	$\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$	
$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	$\text{NNLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$	$N^3\text{LO}_{\text{QCD}}$
$pp \rightarrow \gamma + j$	$\text{NNLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$	$N^3\text{LO}_{\text{QCD}}$
$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + j$	$\text{NNLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$ $+ \text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}}$ (<i>gg</i> channel)	
$pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma$	NNLO_{QCD}	$\text{NNLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}$

- Triumph of the Standard Model ... which culminated with
Discovery of the Higgs boson



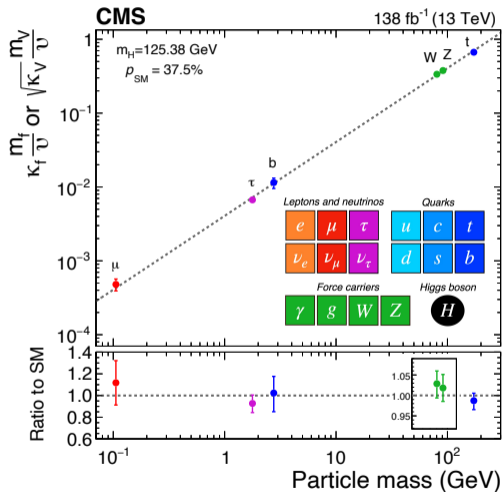
→ Great interest in measuring properties of the Higgs boson ...
(reflected in this presentation)

- Top physics

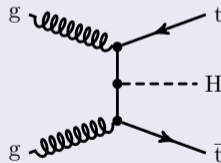
- $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$

- $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}W$

Higgs coupling



- Yukawa coupling proportional to mass
- Higgs-top, largest coupling
→ $t\bar{t}H$ most sensitive at the LHC



State of the art

- NLO QCD+EW with off-shell effects for top quarks [multileg computation ($2 \rightarrow 7$)]

[Denner, Feger; 1506.07448][Denner, Lang, MP, Uccirati; 1612.07138]

- Resummation [on-shell tops]

[Kulesza, Motyka, Stebel, Theeuwes; 1509.02780, 1704.03363], [Broggio, Ferroglia, Pecjak, Signer; 1510.01914], [Broggio, Ferroglia, Pecjak, Yang; 1611.00049]

- Matching with parton shower [on-shell tops]

[Garzelli, Kardos, Papadopoulos, Trocsanyi; 1108.0387], [Hartanto, Jager, Reina, Wackerroth; 1501.04498]

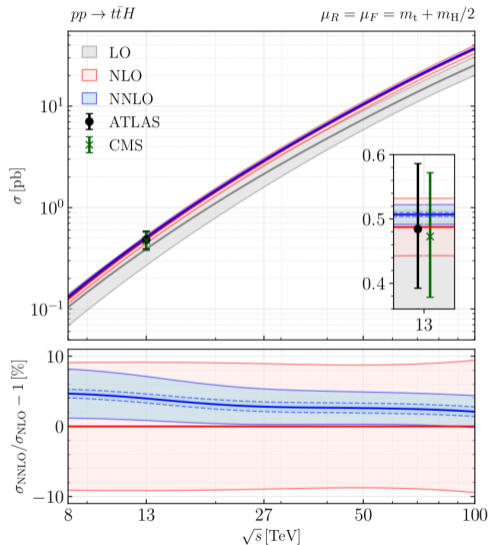
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Next frontier

- NNLO QCD for on-shell top
 - \rightarrow Cross-section calculation (approximate) [Catani et al.; 2210.07846]
 - \rightarrow Two-loop contribution [Agarwal et al.; 2402.03301], [Wang, Xia, Yang, Ye; 2402.00431],
[Buccioni, Kreer, Liu, Tancredi; 2312.10015], [Febres Cordero et al.; 2312.08131]

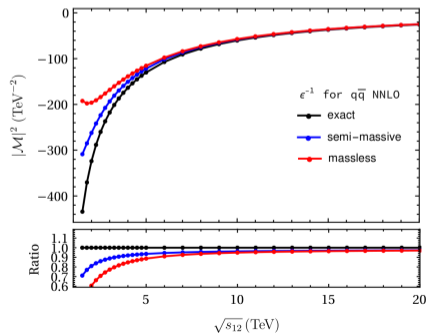
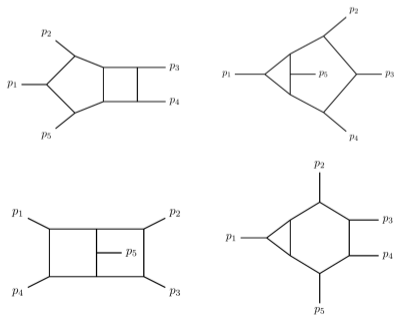
Cross-section at approximate NNLO QCD [Catani et al.; 2210.07846]



- Full computation apart from finite two-loop contribution
 - $\delta_{\text{NNLO}} = \delta_{\text{RR}} + \delta_{\text{RV}} + \tilde{\delta}_{\text{VV}}$
 - use of soft Higgs approximation (valid for $p_H \ll \text{scales}$)
 - good for inclusive numbers
 - approximation good below 1%
- Moderate corrections:
 - +4% at 13 TeV and +2% at 100 TeV

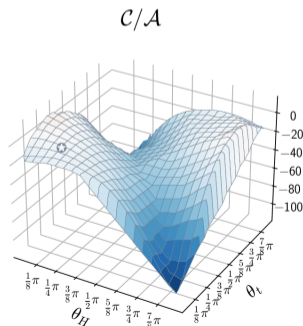
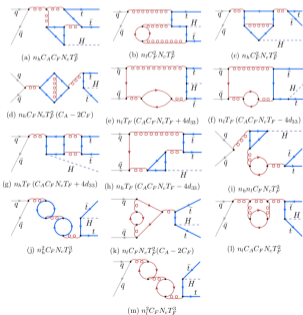
Two-loop contribution - [Wang, Xia, Yang, Ye; 2402.00431]

- Requires computation of 5-point two-loop amplitudes with 3 external masses and two different scales
 - most challenging to date
- Both $q\bar{q}$ and gg channels
 - revert to approximation valid for $s_{ij} \gg m_t^2$ i.e. in boosted topologies



Two-loop contribution - [Agarwal et al.; 2402.03301]

- N_f part (i.e. with closed fermion loops) of the qq channel
 - exact numerical result
 - proof of concept for full computation
- \sim minutes for a given phase-space point
 - interpolation grids needed to compute cross section



Motivation

- Background to $t\bar{t}H$
- Interesting in its own right / typical BSM signature
- Some tension with data
 - direct measurements [ATLAS; 1901.03584], [CMS; 1711.02547]
 - as $t\bar{t}H$ background [ATLAS; ATLAS-CONF-2019-045], [CMS; CMS-PAS-HIG-17-004]

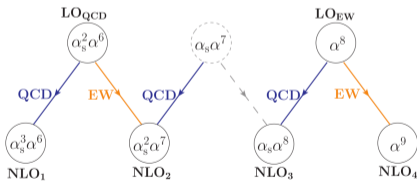
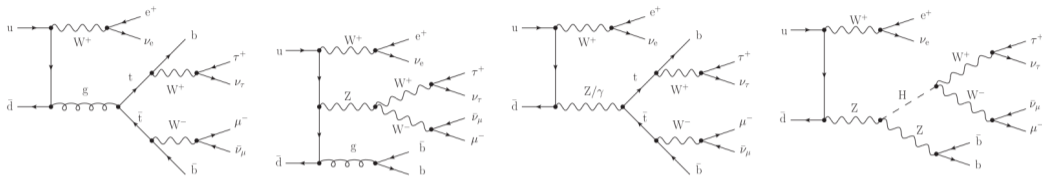
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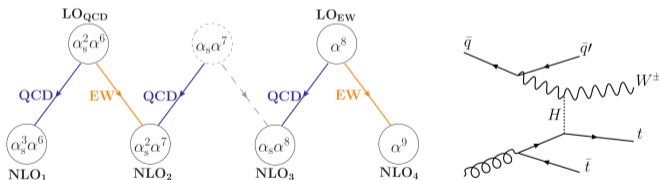
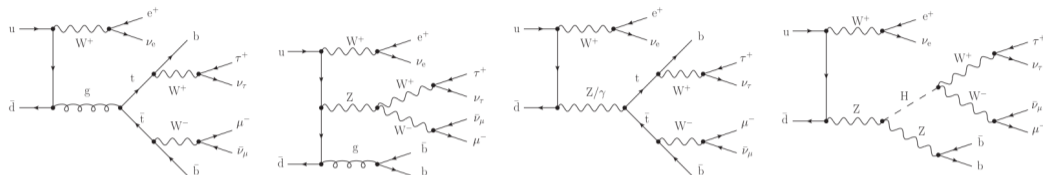
State of the art

- Approximate NNLO QCD for on-shell [Buonocore et al.; 2306.16311] (similar computation as before)
- Full NLO QCD + EW for on-shell [Frederix, Pagani, Zaro; 1711.02116]
- NLO QCD for off-shell [Bevilacqua et al.; 2012.01363, 2005. 09427], [Denner, Pelliccioli; 2007.12089]
- **Full NLO QCD + EW for off-shell** [Denner, Pelliccioli; 2102.03246]
- Approximate N3LO [on-shell]: [Kidonakis, Foster; 2312.00861]

\rightarrow Several amplitudes for one signature!

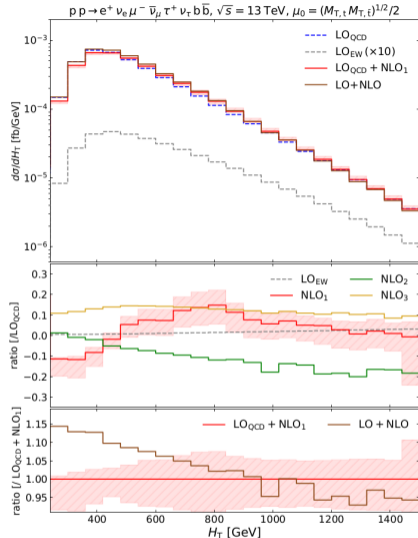
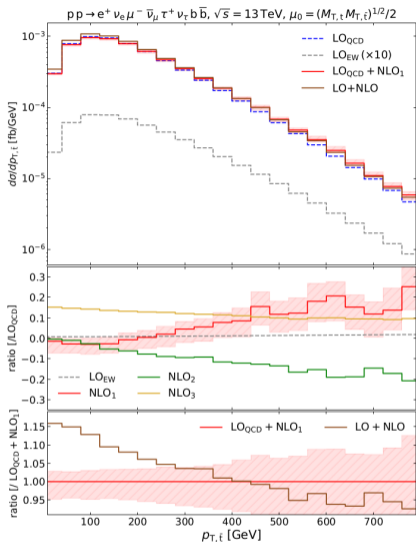


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- Subleading corrections (NLO₃) observed to be large for on-shell

[Frederix, Pagani, Zaro; 1711.02116], [Dror, Farina, Salvioni, Serra; 1511.03674]



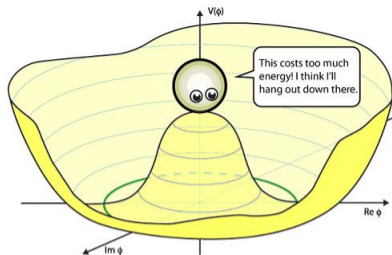
- Non-trivial interplay between various contributions

- Higgs physics

→ di-Higgs

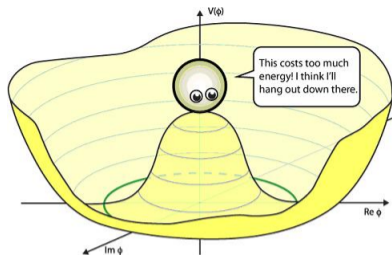
More readings on recent Higgs results/calculations:

- [Jakobs, Zanderighi; 2311.10346]
- [Jones; LHEP 2023 (2023) 442]



Motivations

- Higgs potential: $V(H) = \frac{1}{2}m_H^2 H^2 + \lambda v H^3 + \frac{\lambda}{4} H^4$ $[\lambda = m_H^2/(2v^2) \sim 0.13]$
 → test of the EWSB mechanism
- Di-Higgs production: direct probe of λ !
 → Next target for SM physics at High-Luminosity LHC!



Motivations

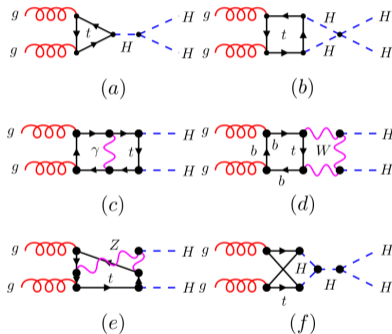
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State of the art

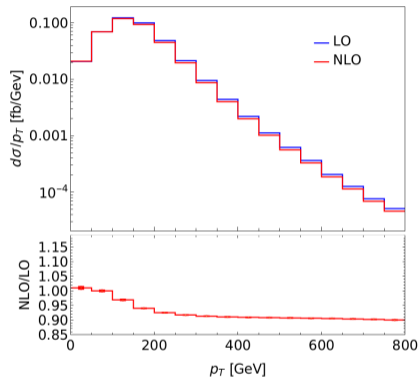
- N3LO QCD in some approximations
 → full references by Kay Schönwald @ last LHC Higgs WG meeting [\[clickable link\]](#)

NLO EW to $pp \rightarrow HH$

- Loop induced process
 - LO is one-loop
 - NLO is two-loop for the virtual part
- No real QED correction (Furry's theorem)
 - Weak radiation (W,Z) not needed for IR finiteness and rejected experimentally
- NLO EW is “only” the two-loop virtual contribution
- Exact calculation: [Bi et al.; 2311.16963]
Large m_t -limit: [Davies, Schönwald, Steinhauser, Zhang; 2308.01355]



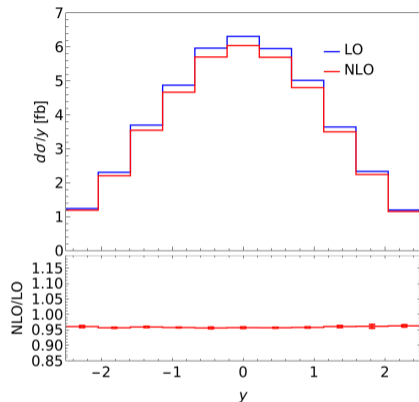
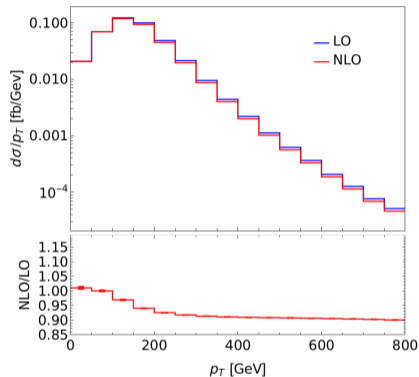
NLO EW to $pp \rightarrow HH$ [Bi et al.; 2311.16963]



Typical behaviour for EW corrections at the LHC

- EW corrections larger in high-energy limit (Sudakov logarithms)

NLO EW to $pp \rightarrow HH$ [Bi et al.; 2311.16963]



Typical behaviour for EW corrections at the LHC

- EW corrections larger in high-energy limit (Sudakov logarithms)
- Flat corrections for inclusive observables (\sim per cent)

- Electroweak physics


- Triboson

Motivation

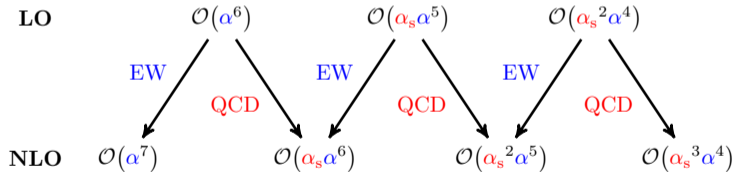
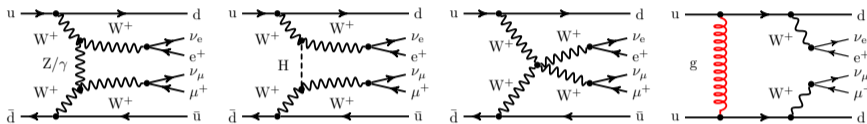
- Quartic gauge coupling (like in VBS)
→ Another test of the EWSB mechanism and SM

State of the art

- NLO QCD + NLO EW for **ON**-shell for all processes (see [Huss, Huston, Jones, MP; 2207.02122])
- NLO QCD + NLO EW for **OFF**-shell for WWW
[Schönherr; 1806.00307], [Dittmaier, Knippen, Schwan; 1912.04117]
- NLO QCD + NLO EW for **OFF**-shell for $V\gamma\gamma$ [Greiner, Schönherr; 1710.11514]
- NLO QCD + NLO EW for **OFF**-shell for $WZ\gamma$ [Cheng, Wackerroth; 2112.12052]

 only leptonic decays considered

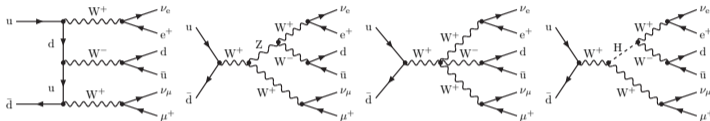
Signature: W^+W^+jj ... golden channel for vector-boson scattering



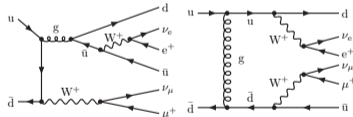
→ Full NLO EW+QCD [Biedermann, Denner, MP; 1708.00268]

Signature: W^+W^+jj ... golden channel for vector-boson scattering

• EW process



• QCD process



→ Measurement by ATLAS [ATLAS; 2201.13045]

→ Investigation of EW corrections [Biedermann, Denner, MP; 1611.02951]

→ Full NLO QCD+EW + PS corrections using SHERPA

→ Typical phase space (inspired by [ATLAS; 2201.13045]):

$$\begin{aligned} p_{T,\ell^+} > 20 \text{ GeV} & \quad \text{and} \quad |y_{\ell^+}| < 2.5 \\ p_{T,j} > 20 \text{ GeV} & \quad \text{and} \quad |y_j| < 4.5 \\ m_{jj} < 160 \text{ GeV} & \quad \text{and} \quad |\Delta y_{jj}| < 1.5 \end{aligned}$$

$$40 \text{ GeV} < m_{\ell^+\ell^+} < 400 \text{ GeV}$$

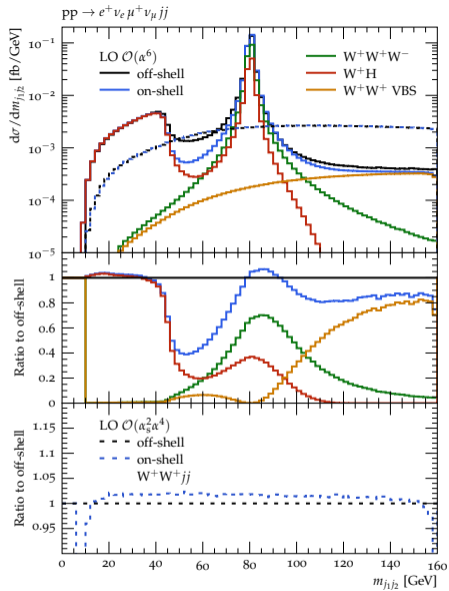
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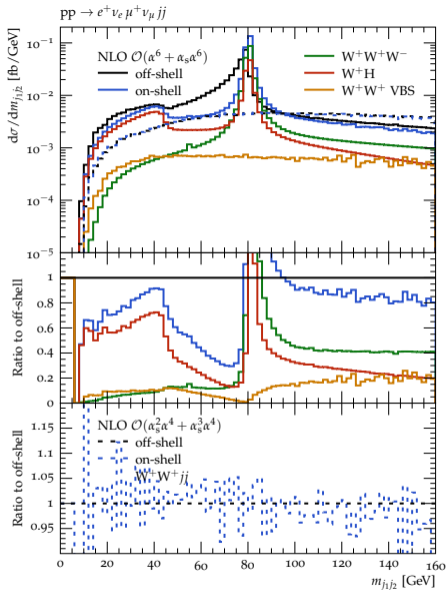
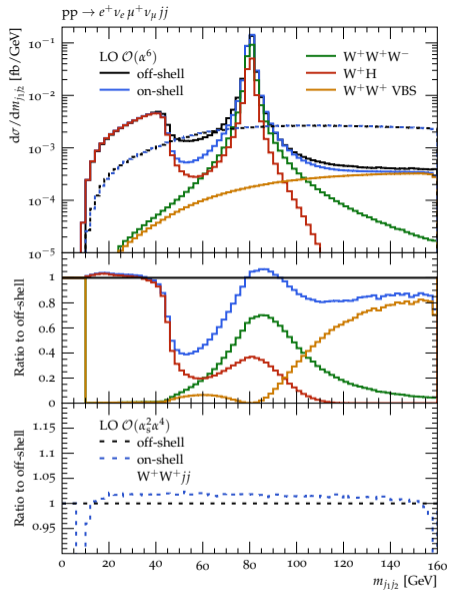
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$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^6)$	off-shell	on-shell	on-shell subprocess			
Process	$\mu^+\nu_\mu e^+\nu_e jj$	sum	$W^+W^+W^-$	W^+H	W^+Z	W^+W^+ VBS
$\sigma_{\text{LO}}[\text{fb}]$	0.7917	0.7738	0.4207	0.3265	$5 \cdot 10^{-7}$	0.0266
$\sigma/\sigma_{\text{LO}}^{\text{off-shell}}[\%]$	100	97.7	53.1	41.2	$7 \cdot 10^{-5}$	3.3

⚠ Large contribution from WH! ⚠ **preliminary**



[Denner, MP, Schönherr, Schumann]  **preliminary**



[Denner, MP, Schönherr, Schumann]  **preliminary** \rightarrow More complex picture with higher-orders

New computations and theory frontier:

- $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$ [approximate NNLO QCD/two-loop virtual for $2 \rightarrow 3$ with masses]
- $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}W$ [NLO QCD+EW for $2 \rightarrow 8$]
- $pp \rightarrow HH$ [two-loop EW]
- $pp \rightarrow WWW$ [NLO QCD+EW with PS for $2 \rightarrow 6$]

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- Decisive information for SM tests
 - Precision programme at the LHC
 - Crucial interplay between theory and experiment
 - Big impact on physics results

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Thank you