# Top-quark loops for precision Higgs physics







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# 1.Precision Higgs Physics at the LHC 2.Example: $gg \rightarrow XY$ @ NLO QCD 3.pT expansion

### Work in collaboration with L. Alasfar, L. Bellafronte, G. Degrassi, P.P. Giardino, R. Gröber, X. Zhao

### Higgs Physics at the LHC

Does the discovered Higgs boson behave as the SM predicts?

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What we know after Run2 (139 \, \text{fb}^{-1})
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- CP-even scalar
- Mass measured with permille precision
- Production and decay channels all compatible with SM predictions
- Experimental uncertainties in the 10-20% range

[ATLAS-2207.00092]



## What next? Projections for High-Luminsoity LHC

• Systematic uncertainties will play important role



[Cepeda et al. - 1902.00134]

• Theory uncertainties need to be reduced  $\Rightarrow$  Improve accuracy of SM predictions

GOAL : percent precision

### **Theory uncertainties**

- Parametric uncertainties
- PDF determination
- Matching with parton showers
- Missing higher orders (MHO) in perturbative calculations [THIS TALK] Conventionally estimated by varying renormalization and factorization scales

Compute (multi-)loop Feynman diagrams  $\Rightarrow$  Reduce MHO uncertainties

$$\sigma = \sum_{ij} \int dx_1 dx_2 \ f_i(x_1, \mu_F) f_j(x_2, \mu_F) \ \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(x_1, x_2, Q, \mu_F, \mu_R) + \mathcal{O}\left(\Lambda_{QCD}/Q\right)$$
$$\hat{\sigma}_{ij}(\mu_F, \mu_R) = \alpha_S^k(\mu_R) \sum_{m=0}^n \hat{\sigma}_{ij}^{(m)}(\mu_F, \mu_R) \alpha_S^m(\mu_R)$$

### Where to look for improvements?

#### • Les Houches precision wishlist [Huss et al. - 2207.02122]

**Table 1.** Precision wish list: Higgs boson final states.  $N^{x}LO_{QCD}^{(VBF*)}$  means a calculation using the structure function approximation. V = W, Z.

Process	Known	Desired
pp  ightarrow H	$\begin{array}{l} N^{3}LO_{HTL} \\ NNLO \ _{QCD}^{(\prime)} \\ N^{(1,1)}LO^{(HTL)}_{QCD\otimes EW} \\ NLO_{QCD} \end{array}$	$N^{4}LO_{HTL}$ (incl.) NNLO $_{QCD}^{(b,c)}$
$pp \rightarrow H + j$	$\begin{array}{l} NNLO_{HTL} \\ NLO_{QCD} \\ N^{(1,1)}LO_{QCD\otimes EW} \end{array}$	$NNLO_{HTL} \otimes NLO_{QCD} + NLO_{EW}$
$pp \rightarrow H + 2j$	$\begin{array}{c} NLO_{HTL} \otimes LO_{QCD} \\ N^{3}LO \begin{array}{c} {}^{(VBF^{*})}_{QCD} \ (incl.) \\ NNLO \begin{array}{c} {}^{(VBF^{*})}_{QCI} \\ O(D) \\ NLO \begin{array}{c} {}^{(VBF)}_{EW} \end{array} \end{array}$	$\frac{\text{NNLO}_{\text{HTL}}}{\text{N}^{3}\text{LO}} \frac{(\text{VBF}^{*})}{(\text{CD})} + \frac{(\text{VBF}^{*})}{(\text{CD})}$ $\frac{(\text{VBF}^{*})}{(\text{NNLO}} \frac{(\text{VBF}^{*})}{(\text{CD})}$
$pp \rightarrow H + 3j$	NLO <sub>HTL</sub> NLO <sup>(VBF)</sup> <sub>QCD</sub>	$\rm NLO_{QCD} + \rm NLO_{EW}$
$pp \rightarrow VH$	$\frac{\text{NNLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}}{\text{NLO}_{gg \rightarrow HZ}^{(l,b)}}$	
$pp \rightarrow VH + j$	NNLO <sub>QCD</sub> NLO <sub>QCD</sub> + NLO <sub>EW</sub>	$NNLO_{QCD} + NLO_{EW}$
$pp \rightarrow HH$	N <sup>3</sup> LO <sub>HTL</sub> ⊗ NLO <sub>QCD</sub>	NLO <sub>EW</sub>
****	VRF*) / IS	

**Table 3.** Precision wish list: vector boson final states. V = W, Z and V', V'' = W, Z,  $\gamma$ . Full leptonic decays are understood if not stated otherwise.

Process	Known	Desired	
$pp \rightarrow V$	N <sup>3</sup> LO <sub>QCD</sub> N <sup>(1,1)</sup> LO <sub>QCD⊗EW</sub> NLO <sub>EW</sub>	$\begin{array}{l} N^{3}LO_{QCD}+N^{(1,1)}LO_{QCD\otimes EW}\\ N^{2}LO_{EW} \end{array}$	
pp  ightarrow VV'	$NNLO_{QCD} + NLO_{EW}$ + $NLO_{QCD}$ (gg channel)	$NLO_{QCD}$ (gg channel, w/ massive loops) $N^{(1,1)}LO_{QCD\otimes EW}$	
$pp \rightarrow V + j$	$NNLO_{QCD} + NLO_{EW}$	hadronic decays	
$pp \rightarrow V + 2j$	$\label{eq:loss} \begin{array}{l} NLO_{QCD} + NLO_{EW} \left(QCD \right. \\ component \right) \\ NLO_{QCD} + NLO_{EW} \left(EW \right. \\ component \right) \end{array}$	NNLO <sub>QCD</sub>	

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Process	Known	Desired
pp  ightarrow H	$\begin{array}{l} N^{3}LO_{HTL} \\ NNLO \ _{QCD}^{(\prime)} \\ N^{(1,1)}LO^{(HTL)}_{QCD\otimes EW} \\ NLO_{QCD} \end{array}$	N <sup>4</sup> LO <sub>HTL</sub> (incl.) NNLO <sup>(b,c)</sup> <sub>QCD</sub>
$pp \rightarrow H + j$	$\begin{array}{l} NNLO_{HTL} \\ NLO_{QCD} \\ N^{(1,1)}LO_{QCD\otimes EW} \end{array}$	$NNLO_{HTL} \otimes NLO_{QCD} + NLO_{EW}$
$pp \rightarrow H + 2j$	$\begin{array}{l} \text{NLO}_{\text{HTL}} \otimes \text{LO}_{\text{QCD}} \\ \text{N}^3 \text{LO} \stackrel{(\text{VBF*})}{Q^{\text{CD}}} (\text{incl.}) \\ \text{NNLO} \stackrel{(\text{VBF*})}{Q^{\text{CD}}} \\ \text{NLO} \stackrel{(\text{VBF})}{W^{\text{BF}}} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{l} \text{NNLO}_{\text{HTL}} \otimes \text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}} \\ \text{N}^3 \text{LO} \begin{array}{c} {}^{(\text{VBF}^{ss})}_{\text{QCD}} \\ \text{NNLO} \begin{array}{c} {}^{(\text{VBF})}_{\text{QCD}} \end{array} \end{array}$
$pp \rightarrow H + 3j$	NLO <sub>HTL</sub> NLO <sup>(VBF)</sup> OCD	$\mathrm{NLO}_{\mathrm{QCD}} + \mathrm{NLO}_{\mathrm{EW}}$
$pp \rightarrow VH$	$\frac{\text{NNLO}_{\text{QCD}} + \text{NLO}_{\text{EW}}}{\text{NLO}_{gg \rightarrow HZ}^{(l,b)}}$	
$pp \rightarrow VH + j$	NNLOgen NLOgen + NLOgy	NNLO <sub>QUE</sub> + NLO <sub>LW</sub>
$pp \rightarrow HH$	N <sup>3</sup> LO <sub>HTL</sub> NLO <sub>QCD</sub>	NLO <sub>EW</sub>

**Table 3.** Precision wish list: vector boson final states. V = W, Z and V', V'' = W, Z,  $\gamma$ . Full leptonic decays are understood if not stated otherwise.

Process	Known	Desired
$pp \rightarrow V$	N <sup>3</sup> LO <sub>QCD</sub> N <sup>(1,1)</sup> LO <sub>QCD⊗EW</sub> NLO <sub>EW</sub>	$\begin{array}{l} N^{3}LO_{QCD}+N^{(1,1)}LO_{QCD\otimes EW}\\ N^{2}LO_{EW} \end{array}$
$pp \rightarrow VV'$	$NNLO_{QCD} + NLO_{FW}$ + $NLO_{QCD}$ (gg channel)	$NLO_{QCD}$ (gg channel, w/ massive loops) $N^{(1,D)}LO_{QCD\otimes EW}$
pp /Vij	NILC <sub>QCD</sub>   NLO <sub>EW</sub>	hadronic decays
$pp \rightarrow V + 2j$	$\label{eq:states} \begin{array}{l} NLO_{QCD} + NLO_{EW} \left(QCD \right. \\ component \right) \\ NLO_{QCD} + NLO_{EW} \left(EW \right. \\ component \right) \end{array}$	NNLO <sub>QCD</sub>

### Where to look for improvements?



Gluon-initiated 2 → 2 processes Two-loop diagrams with massive internal lines  $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Main problem in the NLO calculation} \\ \mbox{Multi-scale } (m_{_Z}, m_{_H}, m_{_t}, s, t) \mbox{ two-loop integrals} \\ \mbox{ No full analytic results} \end{array}$ 



### Solutions

Numerical Evaluation [Chen, Heinrich, Jones, Kerner, Klappert, Schlenk - 2011.12325]

- Exact results
- Demanding in terms of computing resources and time
- Issues with flexibility

#### **Analytic Approximations**

- Reduce the number of scales in the integrals by exploiting hierarchies of masses/kinematic • Restricted to specific phase space regions invariants
  - Proliferation of integrals

- Limit  $m_t \rightarrow \infty$ [Altenkamp, Dittmaier, Harlander, Rzehak, Zirke - 1211.50]
- Large mass expansion: add finite top-mass effects [Hasselhuhn, Luthe, Steinhauser - 1611.05881]
- High-energy expansion:  $m_Z^2, m_H^2 \ll m_t^2 \ll \hat{s}, \hat{t}$ • [Davies, Mishima, Steinhauser - 2011.12314]
- Small-mass expansion:  $m_Z, m_H \rightarrow 0$ [Wang, Xu, Xu, Yang - 2107.08206]
- pT expansion:  $m_Z^2, m_H^2, p_T^2 \ll m_t^2, \hat{s}$ [Alasfar, Degrassi, Giardino Groeber, MV – 2103.06225] [Bonciani, Degrassi, Giardino, Groeber - 1806.11564]

### pT Expansion: calculation overview

#### Steps implemented in Mathematica code on a desktop machine

(1) Generation of Feynman diagrams contributing to the amplitude O(100 diags) (FeynArts [Hahn - 0012260])

(2) Lorentz decomposition of the amplitude: **projectors** and **scalar form factors** (FeynCalc [Mertig et al. ('91); Shtabovenko et al. - 1601.01167] ): contractions, Dirac traces...

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu\rho} = \sum_{i=1}^{6} \mathcal{P}^{(i)}_{\mu\nu\rho} F^{(i)} \qquad \qquad F^{(i)} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} C^{(i)} I^{(i)}(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, m_Z^2, m_H^2, m_t^2)$$

(3) Expansion of the form factors in the limit of small pT

- (4) Decomposition of scalar integrals using integration-by-parts (IBP) identities ( LiteRed [Lee - 1310.1145] )
- (5) Evaluation of master integrals [see talks by Henrik, Manoj, Giulio, Giacomo...]

### pT Expansion

• We assume the limit of a forward kinematics

$$(p_1 + p_3)^2 \to 0 \Leftrightarrow \hat{t} \to 0 \Rightarrow p_T \to 0$$

• Then Taylor-expand the form factors in the ratios

$$\frac{n_H^2}{\hat{s}}, \frac{m_Z^2}{\hat{s}}, \frac{p_T^2}{\hat{s}} \ll 1$$
  $\frac{p_T^2}{4m_t^2} \ll 1$ 

• After the expansion, scalar loop integrals depend on fewer scales

$$I(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, m_Z^2, m_H^2, m_t^2) \to I'(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, m_t^2)$$

- The new scalar integrals are decomposed in MIs using IBP relations
- The MIs depend on the ratio  $\hat{s}/m_t^2 \Rightarrow$  only one scale

$$I(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, m_Z^2, m_H^2, m_t^2) \to I'(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, m_t^2) \to MI(\hat{s}/m_t^2)$$



### pT Expansion

• We assume the limit of a forward kinematics

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### pT Expansion

• We assume the limit of a forward kinematics

$$(p_1 + p_3)^2 \to 0 \Leftrightarrow \hat{t} \to 0 \Rightarrow p_T \to 0$$

• Then Taylor-expand the form factors in the ratios

$$\frac{m_H^2}{\hat{s}}, \frac{m_Z^2}{\hat{s}}, \frac{p_T^2}{\hat{s}} \ll 1$$

$$g(p_1)$$
 000000000  
 $g(p_2)$  000000000  
 $H(p_4)$ 

$$\frac{p_T^2}{4m_t^2} \ll 1$$

• After the expansion, scalar loop integrals depend on fewer scales

$$I(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, m_Z^2, m_H^2, m_t^2) \to I'(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, m_t^2)$$

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$$I(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, m_Z^2, m_H^2, m_t^2) \to I'(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, m_t^2) \to \mathrm{MI}(\hat{s}/m_t^2)$$

### **IBP Reduction**

Major bottleneck in the computation

For first **three orders** in pT expansion (good for % accuracy)

- Search for the IBP reduction rules  $\rightarrow$  O(week)
- Very large intermediate expressions  $\rightarrow$  O(10 GB)
- Few MIs but huge coefficients  $\rightarrow$  O(GB)
- Massaging and series expanding in  $\epsilon$  O(week) (D= 4-2 $\epsilon$ )

#### **Still,** size of the final results $\rightarrow$ O(100 kB)

### Master Integrals

52 MIs already known in the literature SAME MIs FOR  $gg \,{\to}\, HH$  ,  $gg \,{\to}\, ZH\,,\, gg \,{\to}\, ZZ$ 

• 50 MIs expressed in terms of Generalized Polylogarithms (GPLs)

[Bonciani, Mastrolia, Remiddi ('03) - Aglietti et al. ('06) - Anastasiou et al. ('06) - Caron-Huot, Henn ('14) - Becchetti, Bonciani ('17) - Bonciani, Degrassi, Vicini ('10)]

• Two elliptic integrals [von Manteuffel, Tancredi ('17)]

Semi-analytical evaluation implemented in FORTRAN routine

[Bonciani, Degrassi, Giardino, Gröber ('18)]



### **Comparing Validity Ranges**



### **Comparing Validity Ranges**



### **Comparing Validity Ranges**



The two expansions can be combined!!

Evaluation time for a phase-space point below 0.1 s  $\Rightarrow$  suitable for Monte Carlo

### $gg \rightarrow ZH$ @NLO QCD - Top mass schemes

- Take deviations of MS scheme wrt OS result as top • mass scheme uncertainty
- Analytic results  $\rightarrow$  change of top mass scheme is straightforward

$$F_i^{NLO,\overline{\rm MS}} = F_i^{NLO,\rm OS} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial F_i^{LO}}{\partial m_t^2} \Delta_{m_t^2} \qquad \Delta_{m_t^2} = 2m_t^2 C_F \left[ -4 + 3\log\left(\frac{m_t^2}{\mu^2}\right) \right]$$

Same method already used for HH production [Baglio et al. - 1811.05692, 2003.03227]

	Bin Width [GeV]	LO	NLO
	1	$64.01^{+15.6\%}_{-35.9\%}$	$118.6^{+17.2\%}_{-27.0\%}$
Avoid overestimate of	5	$64.01^{+15.3\%}_{-35.6\%}$	$118.6^{+14.7\%}_{-24.9\%}$
mt uncertainty	25	$64.01^{+14.0\%}_{-33.1\%}$	$118.6^{+10.9\%}_{-20.8\%}$
	100	$64.01^{+2.0\%}_{-25.3\%}$	$118.6^{+0.6\%}_{-13.7\%}$
		$64.01^{+0\%}_{-23.1\%}$	$118.6^{+0\%}_{-12.9\%}$



[Degrassi, Gröber, MV, Zhao - 2205.02769]



# $p_T$ expansion for $gg \rightarrow ZZ$

- More involved Lorentz structure  $\rightarrow$  16 form factors
- More involved intermediate expressions
- ~ 750.000 scalar integrals per form factor
- IBP leads to same 52 MIs as HH and ZH
- Permille accuracy at LO with three orders



Helicity amplitudes at NLO



### **Conclusions & outlook**

- Higgs precision measurements call for improved theoretical predictions
- $2 \rightarrow 2$  processes with **massive** loops are hard
- Analytic approximations are useful for flexibility and efficiency
- Found a way to combine pT and high-energy expansions see also [Davies, Mishima, Schönwald, Steinhauser 2302.01356]

- Is NLO QCD sufficient for  $gg \rightarrow ZH$ ? (is **3-loop** feasible?)
- $gg \rightarrow WW$ ? How to deal with both heavy and light quarks running in the loops
- EW corrections to  $2 \rightarrow 2$  processes? Possibly different master integrals

### We're gonna need New Ideas and Lots of RAM

### Backup

## What next? Projections for High-Luminsoity LHC

• Systematic uncertainties will begin to dominate



- Scenario 1: systematics as in Run2 (conservative)
- Scenario 2: exp sys corrected; theo sys halved

# **VH** Production

#### $pp \rightarrow VH$ is the most sensitive process to $H \rightarrow b\overline{b}$ [ATLAS-2007.02873, CMS-1808.08242]

- Two partonic channels in *pp->ZH*:  $q\overline{q} \rightarrow ZH$  - dominant contribution
- $gg \rightarrow ZH$  about 6% of  $\sigma(pp \rightarrow ZH)$



 $gg \rightarrow ZH$ : LO accuracy  $\rightarrow$  Large scale uncertainties



Production mode	$\Delta_y^{\langle VH \rangle}$	
WH	±0.7%	(No gg-channel for WF
$q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZH$	±0.6%	
$gg \rightarrow ZH$	±25%	

[CERN Yellow Report 4]

If we really want to improve the theory prediction we need to go beyond LO in  $gg \rightarrow ZH$ 

### ZZ Production

- $pp \rightarrow ZZ$  provides access to **single-Higgs** production via gluon fusion •
- $q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZZ$  gives dominant contribution to hadronic cross section •
- $qq \rightarrow ZZ$  is about 10% of  $\sigma(pp \rightarrow ZZ)$ dơ/dm<sub>41</sub> [fb/GeV ATLAS Simulation  $a\bar{a} \rightarrow 4l$ √s=13 TeV qq→ 4l (inclusive)  $aa \rightarrow H \rightarrow 4l$  $g_{\text{ULL}}$ g Jeee 10-1  $VH/t\bar{t}H/VBF H \rightarrow 4$ H $10^{-2}$ g  $\overline{}$   $\overline{}$  \overline{}  $\overline{}$  \overline{} \overline{} \overline{}  $\overline{}$   $\overline{}$   $\overline{}$   $\overline{}$  \overline{} \overline  $g \longrightarrow 0$  $10^{-3}$ (Higgs-mediated) (continuum) Irreducible background 200 300 400 80 100 1000 m₄ [GeV]
- Knowledge of the background is important for **Higgs width** determination . via off-shell measurements

[ATLAS - 1902.05892]

### $gg \to ZH$

# Why $gg \rightarrow ZH$ ? VH Production at the LHC

 $pp \rightarrow VH$  is the most sensitive process to  $H \rightarrow b\overline{b}$  [ATLAS-2007.02873, CMS-1808.08242] (work in progress on  $H \rightarrow c\overline{c}$  [ATLAS-2201.11428, CMS-2205.05550])

- O(pb) cross sections
- $W \rightarrow \ell \nu$  $Z \rightarrow \ell \ell$  and  $Z \rightarrow \nu \nu$
- VH theory uncertainties [Cepeda et al. 1902.00134]

	$\sqrt{s}$ [TeV ]	$\sigma_{\rm NNLO \; QCD\otimes NLO \; EW} \; [pb]$	$\Delta_{\rm scale}$ [%]	$\Delta_{\mathrm{PDF}\ominuslpha_{\mathrm{s}}}$ [%]
$m \rightarrow W^+ H$	13	0.831	$+0.74 \\ -0.73 \\ +0.64$	1.79
$pp \rightarrow W + \Pi$	$\frac{14}{27}$	$0.913 \\ 1.995$	$^{+0.04}_{-0.76}$ $^{+0.43}_{-1.04}$	$\begin{array}{c} 1.78 \\ 1.84 \end{array}$
-		<b>5 1 1</b>		A [07]
-	$\sqrt{s}$ [lev]	$\sigma_{\rm NNLO~QCD\otimes NLO~EW}$ [pb]	$\Delta_{\text{scale}}$ [%]	$\Delta_{\text{PDF}\oplus\alpha_s}$ [%]
. 77.17	13	0.880	$^{+3.50}_{-2.68}$	1.65
$nn \rightarrow Z H$			+3.61	1.00
$pp$ / $Z_{11}$	14	0.981	-2.94	1.90



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- O(pb) cross sections
- $W \rightarrow \ell \nu$  $Z \rightarrow \ell \ell$  and  $Z \rightarrow \nu \nu$
- VH theory uncertainties [Cepeda et al. 1902.00134]

 $pp \to W^+ H$ 

 $pp \to ZH$ 



# Why $gg \rightarrow ZH$ ? VH Production at the LHC

 $pp \rightarrow VH$  is the most sensitive process to  $H \rightarrow b\overline{b}$  [ATLAS-2007.02873, CMS-1808.08242] (work in progress on  $H \rightarrow c\overline{c}$  [ATLAS-2201.11428, CMS-2205.05550])

- O(pb) cross sections
- $W \rightarrow \ell \nu$  $Z \rightarrow \ell \ell$  and  $Z \rightarrow \nu \nu$
- VH theory uncertainties [Cepeda et al. 1902.00134]

 $pp \to W^+ H$ 

 $pp \to ZH$ 





### Theoretical predictions for $pp \rightarrow ZH$

LO: quark-initiated tree-level contribution

**QCD Effects:** mainly due to Drell-Yan (DY) production followed by  $Z^* \rightarrow ZH$  decay

• Drell-Yan:



Known through NNLO (O(  $\alpha_s^2$  ))

(+30% wrt LO) [Han, Willenbrock ('91) ; Hamberg, van Neerven, Matsuura ('92) ; Brein, Djouadi, Harlander -0307206] • Non Drell-Yan:

**Quark-initiated** O(1%) wrt LO [Brein, Harlander, Wiesemann, Zirke - 1111.0761]



**Gluon-initiated** 



• EW corrections: known through NLO (-(5-10%) wrt LO) [Dittmaier et al. - 1211.5015]

### Lorentz Structure and Projectors

• General expression for the  $gg \rightarrow ZH$  amplitude

$$\mathcal{M} = i\sqrt{2}m_Z G_F \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_R)}{\pi} \delta^{ab} \mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu\rho}(p_1, p_2, p_3) \epsilon^{\mu}(p_1) \epsilon^{\nu}(p_2) \epsilon^{*\rho}(p_3)$$

• Lorentz tensor  $A_{\mu\nu\rho}$  decomposed using six projector multiplying scalar form factors

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu\rho} = \sum_{i=1}^{6} \mathcal{P}_{\mu\nu\rho}^{(i)} F^{(i)}$$

Form factors are linear combinations of scalar loop integrals

$$F^{(i)} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} C^{(i)} I^{(i)}(\hat{s}, \hat{t}, m_Z^2, m_H^2, m_t^2)$$

### $gg \rightarrow ZH @ LO$



- Third generation gives dominant contribution [Kniehl ('90) Dicus, Kao ('88)]
- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$  correction to  $pp \rightarrow ZH$  cross section
- NNLO suppression wrt to  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZH$  but gluon luminosity higher at LHC
- Contributes to about 6% of  $\sigma(pp \rightarrow ZH)$  for  $\sqrt{s} = 14$  TeV
- Only LO included in MC  $\rightarrow$  scale variation leads to **25%** relative uncertainties
- NLO corrections expected to be large in *gg* processes (e.g. *H*, *HH*)

[Cepeda et al. - 1902.00134]

 $\Delta_{\text{PDF}\oplus\alpha_{n}}$  [%]

4.37

7.47

5.85

 $\Delta_{\text{scale}}$  [%]

-18.8+24.3

-19.6 + 25.3

-18.5

 $\sqrt{s}$  [TeV]

13

14

27

 $\sigma_{\rm NNLO \ QCD\otimes NLO \ EW}$  [pb]

0.123

0.145

0.526

### $gg \rightarrow ZH @$ NLO QCD: Virtual Corrections

• Double-triangle  $\rightarrow$  standard Passarino-Veltman technique

• 1PI triangle  $\rightarrow$  known [Spira et al. - 9504378 ; Aglietti et al. - 0611266 ; Altenkamp et al. - 1211.5015]

• Two-loop boxes  $\rightarrow$  very hard

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Main problem in the NLO calculation} \\ \mbox{Multi-scale } (m_{\rm Z}, m_{\rm H}, m_{\rm t}, s, t) \mbox{ two-loop integrals} \\ \mbox{ No full analytic results} \end{array}$ 



### **LO Validation**

- Three orders sufficient for very good accuracy
- Reliable results for  $M_{ZH} \lesssim 700 \text{ GeV}$
- For  $M_{ZH} \gtrsim 700 \text{ GeV}$  the assumption

$$p_T^2 \ll 4m_t^2$$

can be violated  $\Rightarrow$  the  $p_T$  expansion **diverges** (but wait a few slides...)



### $gg \rightarrow ZH$ @ NLO in QCD: all ingredients

### Virtual corrections ( $2 \rightarrow 2$ , two loops): merging pt+HE expansions



**Real emission** ( $2 \rightarrow 3$ , one loop): automated evaluation (RECOLA2, MadGraph5)

We included all diagrams that:

• give  $O(\alpha_s^3)$  contribution to the cross section *pp->ZH* 

[Alwall et al. - 1405.0301]

[Denner, Lang, Uccirati - 1711.07388]

feature a closed fermion loop



 $gg \rightarrow ZHg$ 

qg → ZHq

## Full NLO QCD Results

### **Inclusive cross section**

Top-mass scheme	LO [fb]	$\sigma_{LO}/\sigma_{LO}^{OS}$	NLO [fb]	$\sigma_{NLO}/\sigma_{NLO}^{OS}$	$K\!=\!\sigma_{NLO}/\sigma_{LO}$
On-Shell	$64.01^{+27.2\%}_{-20.3\%}$	_	$118.6^{+16.7\%}_{-14.1\%}$		1.85
$\overline{\mathrm{MS}}, \mu_t = M_{ZH}/4$	$59.40^{+27.1\%}_{-20.2\%}$	0.928	$113.3^{+17.4\%}_{-14.5\%}$	0.955	1.91
$\overline{\mathrm{MS}}, \mu_t = m_t^{\overline{\mathrm{MS}}}(m_t^{\overline{\mathrm{MS}}})$	$57.95^{+26.9\%}_{-20.1\%}$	0.905	$111.7^{+17.7\%}_{-14.6\%}$	0.942	1.93
$\overline{\mathrm{MS}}, \mu_t = M_{ZH}/2$	$54.22^{+26.8\%}_{-20.0\%}$	0.847	$107.9^{+18.4\%}_{-15.0\%}$	0.910	1.99
$\overline{\mathrm{MS}}, \mu_t = M_{ZH}$	$49.23^{+26.6\%}_{-19.9\%}$	0.769	$103.3^{+19.6\%}_{-15.6\%}$	0.871	2.10

- Top mass renormalized both in OS and MS scheme
- NLO corrections are the same size as LO (K~2)
- Scale uncertainties reduced by 2/3 wrt LO
- Agreement with independent calculations [Wang et al. - 2107.08206] [Chen et al. - 2204.05225]

### $M_{ZH}$ distribution

- K-factor is not flat over  $M_{ZH}$  range
- Large NLO enhancement in the high-energy tail (  $M_{ZH}$  >1 TeV)



[Degrassi, Gröber, MV, Zhao - 2205.02769]

## Full NLO QCD Results

### **Inclusive cross section**

Top-mass scheme	LO [fb]	$\sigma_{LO}/\sigma_{LO}^{OS}$	NLO [fb]	$\sigma_{NLO}/\sigma_{NLO}^{OS}$	$K\!=\!\sigma_{NLO}/\sigma_{LO}$
On-Shell	$64.01^{+27.2\%}_{-20.3\%}$	_	$118.6^{+16.7\%}_{-14.1\%}$	_	1.85
$\overline{\mathrm{MS}}, \mu_t = M_{ZH}/4$	$59.40^{+27.1\%}_{-20.2\%}$	0.928	$113.3^{+17.4\%}_{-14.5\%}$	0.955	1.91
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- Top mass renormalized both in OS and MS scheme
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- Scale uncertainties reduced by 2/3 wrt LO
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### **Z-radiated diagrams**





[Degrassi, Gröber, MV, Zhao - 2205.02769]

### $gg \rightarrow ZH$ @ NLO: comparing with Drell-Yan contribution

- $gg \rightarrow ZH$  is almost 50% of DY near  $M_{ZH} \sim 2 m_t$
- Because of Z -radiated diagrams the gg contribution falls off as rapidly as the DY one (ratio constant at ~ 2%)
- DY obtained using vh@nnlo [Harlander et al - 1802.04817]



[Degrassi, Gröber, MV, Zhao - 2205.02769]

### The impact of $gg \rightarrow ZH$

Table 10: Cross-section for the process  $pp \rightarrow ZH$ . The predictions for the  $gg \rightarrow ZH$  channel are computed at LO, rescaled by the NLO K-factor in the  $m_t \rightarrow \infty$  limit, and supplemented by the NLL<sub>soft</sub> resummation. The photon contribution is omitted. Results are given for a Higgs boson mass  $m_H = 125.09$  GeV.

$\sqrt{s}$ [TeV ]	$\sigma_{\rm NNLO~QCD\otimes NLO~EW}~[\rm pb]$	$\Delta_{\rm scale}$ [%]	$\Delta_{\mathrm{PDF}\oplus\alpha_{\mathrm{s}}}$ [%]
13	0.880	$^{+3.50}_{-2.68}$	1.65
14	0.981	$^{+3.61}_{-2.94}$	1.90
27	2.463	$^{+5.42}_{-4.00}$	2.24

Table 11: Cross-section for the process  $pp \to ZH$ . The photon and  $gg \to ZH$  contributions are omitted. Results are given for a Higgs boson mass  $m_H = 125.09$  GeV.

$\sqrt{s}$ [TeV ]	$\sigma_{ m NNLO~QCD\otimes NLO~EW}$ [pb]	$\Delta_{\rm scale}$ [%]	$\Delta_{\mathrm{PDF}\opluslpha_{\mathrm{s}}}$ [%]
13 14	0.758 0.836	$^{+0.49}_{-0.61}$ $^{+0.51}_{-0.62}$ $^{+0.56}_{+0.56}$	1.78 1.82
27	1.937	-0.74	2.37

Table 12: Cross-section for the process  $gg \to ZH$ . Predictions are computed at LO, rescaled by the NLO K-factor in the  $m_t \to \infty$  limit, and supplemented by the NLL<sub>soft</sub> resummation. Results are given for a Higgs boson mass  $m_H = 125.09$  GeV.

$\sqrt{s}$ [TeV ]	$\sigma_{ m NNLO~QCD\otimes NLO~EW}$ [pb]	$\Delta_{\rm scale}$ [%]	$\Delta_{\mathrm{PDF}\oplus \alpha_{\mathrm{s}}}$ [%]
13	0.123	$^{+24.9}_{-18.8}$	4.37
14	0.145	$^{+24.3}_{-19.6}$	7.47
27	0.526	$^{+25.3}_{-18.5}$	5.85

### $\gamma^{\scriptscriptstyle 5}$ in Dimensional Regularization

• When  $D \neq 4$  cannot have both  $\{\gamma^{\mu}, \gamma^{5}\} = 0$  and cyclicity of Dirac trace

#### Larin scheme

- $\gamma^5$  always on the right inside traces
- Substitute  $\gamma^{\mu}\gamma^{5} \rightarrow -i/6 \varepsilon^{\mu\alpha\beta\rho}\gamma^{\alpha}\gamma^{\beta}\gamma^{\rho}$
- Contractions of  $\varepsilon^{\mu\alpha\beta\rho}$  are taken in *D* dimensions
- Finite renormalization needed to restore Ward Identities for axial-vector current

For  $gg \rightarrow ZH$ 

$$\mathcal{A}_i^{\mathrm{NLO}} = \mathcal{A}_i^{\mathrm{NLO, ndr}} - \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} C_F \mathcal{A}_i^{\mathrm{LO}}$$

Consistency check by comparing the LME results in **DimReg** and **Pauli-Villars** 

### The effect of Z-radiated diagrams



In the high-energy tail ( $M_{ZH}$  > 1 TeV)

- $qg \rightarrow ZHq$  channel
  - Z-radiated diagrams dominate
  - Non-negligible contribution (up to 2% wrt DY)
- $q\overline{q} \rightarrow ZHg$  channel
  - Z-radiated diagrams dominate
  - Negligible (PDF suppression)



[Degrassi, Gröber, MV, Zhao - 2205.02769]

### **Comparing validity ranges**



### Merging pT and HE expansions at NLO

Improve the convergence of a series expansion by matching the coefficients of the **Pade approximant** [m/n] [e.g. Fleisher, Tarasov ('94)]

$$f(x) \stackrel{x \to 0}{\simeq} c_0 + c_1 x + \dots + c_q x^q \qquad f(x) \simeq [m/n](x) = \frac{a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_m x^m}{1 + b_1 x + \dots + b_n x^n} \quad (q = m + n)$$

[Bellafronte, Degrassi, Giardino, Gröber, MV -2103.06225]

- For each FF we merged the following results
  - pT exp improved by [1/1] Padé
  - HE exp improved by [6/6] Padé
- Padé results are stable and comparable in the region  $|\hat{t}| \sim 4 m_t^2 \rightarrow \text{can switch without loss of}$  accuracy (% level or below)
- Evaluation time for a phase-space point below 0.1 s  $\Rightarrow$  suitable for Monte Carlo



### Integration-by-Parts Reduction

Express a scalar integral as a function of denominator exponents

$$I(n_1,\ldots,n_N) = \int d^D k_1 \cdots d^D k_L \frac{1}{D_1^{n_1} \cdots D_N^{n_N}} \qquad (n_i \in \mathbb{Z})$$

**Recurrence relations** connecting scalar integrals with different  $n_i$  from differentiation

$$\int d^D k_1 \cdots d^D k_L \frac{\partial}{\partial k_i^{\mu}} \frac{q_j^{\mu}}{D_1^{n_1} \cdots D_N^{n_N}} = 0$$

The process can be **iterated**  $\Rightarrow$  each scalar integral in the amplitude can be decomposed along a basis of master integrals

$$I(n_1, \dots, n_N) = \sum_j C^{(j)} M I^{(j)}(\mathbf{z_1}, \dots, \mathbf{z_N}) \qquad z_i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$$

- For  $gg \rightarrow ZH$  @ NLO: from ~200.000 scalar integrals to 52 MIs
- First simplification with pT expansion  $\Rightarrow$  simpler IBP  $\Rightarrow$  simpler MIs

### pT expansion: example

1) Consider a **one-loop** box integral

$$\int d^D q \ \frac{(q^2)^{n_1} (q \cdot p_1)^{n_2} (q \cdot p_2)^{n_3} (q \cdot p_3)^{n_4}}{(q^2 - m_t^2)[(q + p_2)^2 - m_t^2][(q - p_1 - p_3)^2 - m_t^2][(q - p_1)^2 - m_t^2]}$$

2) Focus on the p3-dependent part; explicit the transverse component wrt beam axis

$$\frac{(q \cdot p_3)^{n_4}}{[(q - p_1 - p_3)^2 - m_t^2]} \qquad p_3^{\mu} = \frac{u'}{s'} p_1^{\mu} + \frac{t'}{s'} p_2^{\mu} + r_{\perp}^{\mu} \\ = -p_1^{\mu} - \frac{t'}{s'} (p_1 - p_2)^{\mu} + \frac{\Delta_m}{s'} p_1^{\mu} + r_{\perp}^{\mu}$$
forward limit  $p_1^{\mu} \sim p_1^{\mu} \sim p_1^{\mu}$ 

3) In the forward limit  $p_3^\mu \simeq -p_1^\mu$ 

$$\int d^D q \ \frac{(q^2)^{n_1} (q \cdot p_1)^{n'_2} (q \cdot p_2)^{n'_3} (q \cdot r_\perp)^{n'_4}}{(q^2 - m_t^2)^{l_1} [(q + p_2)^2 - m_t^2] [(q - p_1)^2 - m_t^2]}$$

4) LiteRed searches for MIs with  $n'_4 = 0 \rightarrow$  the MIs do not depend on  $r_{\perp}$ 











Top-quark loops for precision Higgs physics





### Interference @ NLO: massless vs massive

Two-loop boxes are a problem (again)

- Light-quark (~massless) known fully analytically [Caola et al. - 1509.06734]
- Heavy quarks
- ➤ Exact numerical results available [Agarwal, Jones, von Manteuffel - 2011.15113; Brønnum-Hansen, Wang - 2101.12095]
- Analytic approximations:

-LME [Melnikov, Dowling - 1503.01274 ; Gröber, Maier, Rauh - 1605.04610]

-High-energy exp [Davies et al. - 2002.05558]

$$m_Z^2 \ll m_t^2 \ll \hat{s}, \hat{t}$$

$$2\,Re\left( {}^{*}_{g} = {}^{*}_{g} * {}^{*}_{g} * {}^{*}_{g} = {}^{*}_{g} = {}^{*}_{g} * {}^{*}_{g} = {}^{*}_{g$$



[Campbell et al. - 1605.01380]

Helicity amplitudes at NLO

