

ZH Production in Gluon Fusion @ 2-loops

Stephen Jones

IPPP, Durham / Royal Society URF

In collaboration with:

Chen, Davies, Heinrich, Kerner, Klappert,
Mishima, Schlenk, Steinhauser

[2204.05225 + 2011.12325]

The logo of The Royal Society, consisting of a solid red square with the text "THE ROYAL SOCIETY" in white, all-caps, serif font.

Outline

Motivation & Background

Setup of Calculation

Tensor decomposition/ diagram generation/ γ_5 / Reduction

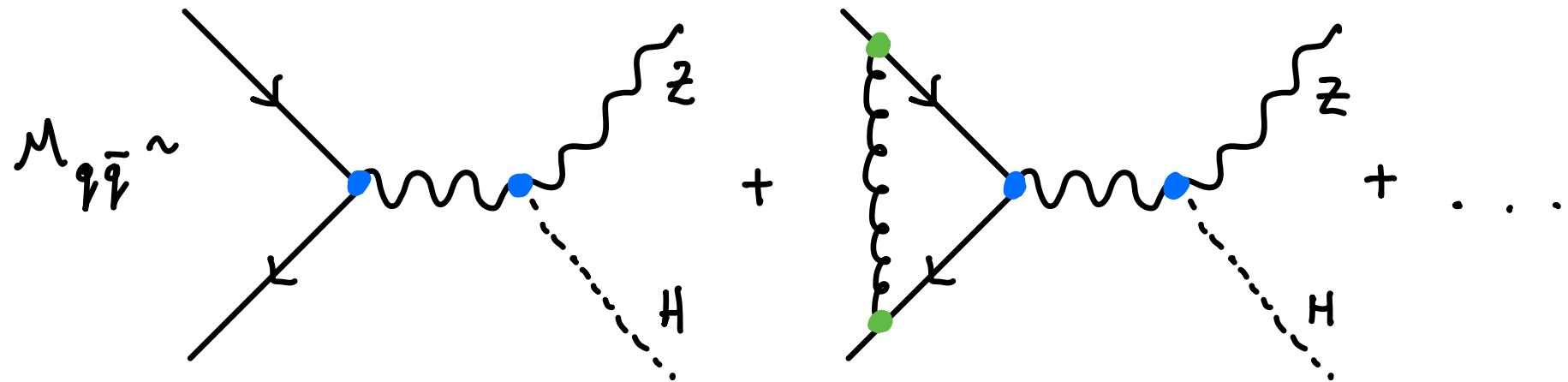
Numerically evaluating amplitudes with pySecDec

Results, Comparisons and Open Issues

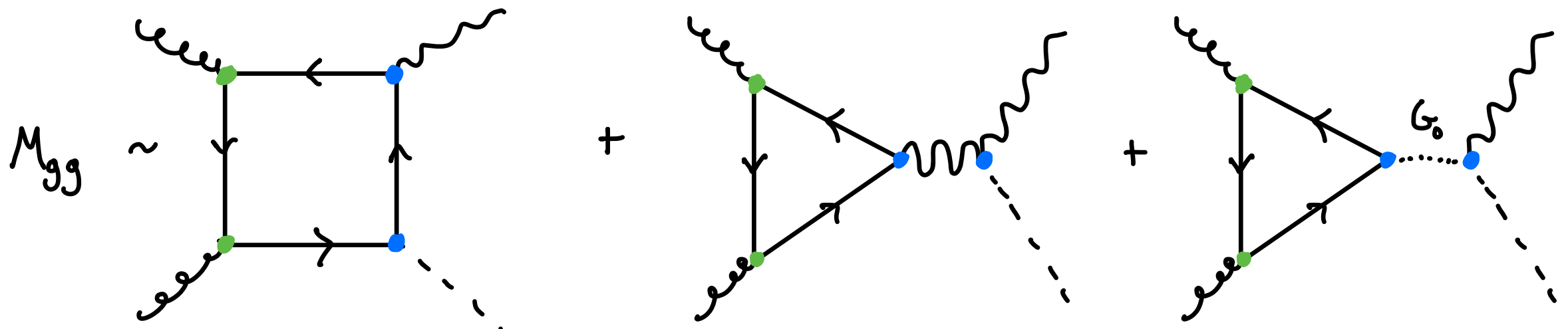
Overview of $pp \rightarrow ZH$ (I)

Consider the matrix element for $pp \rightarrow ZH$ with QCD corrections

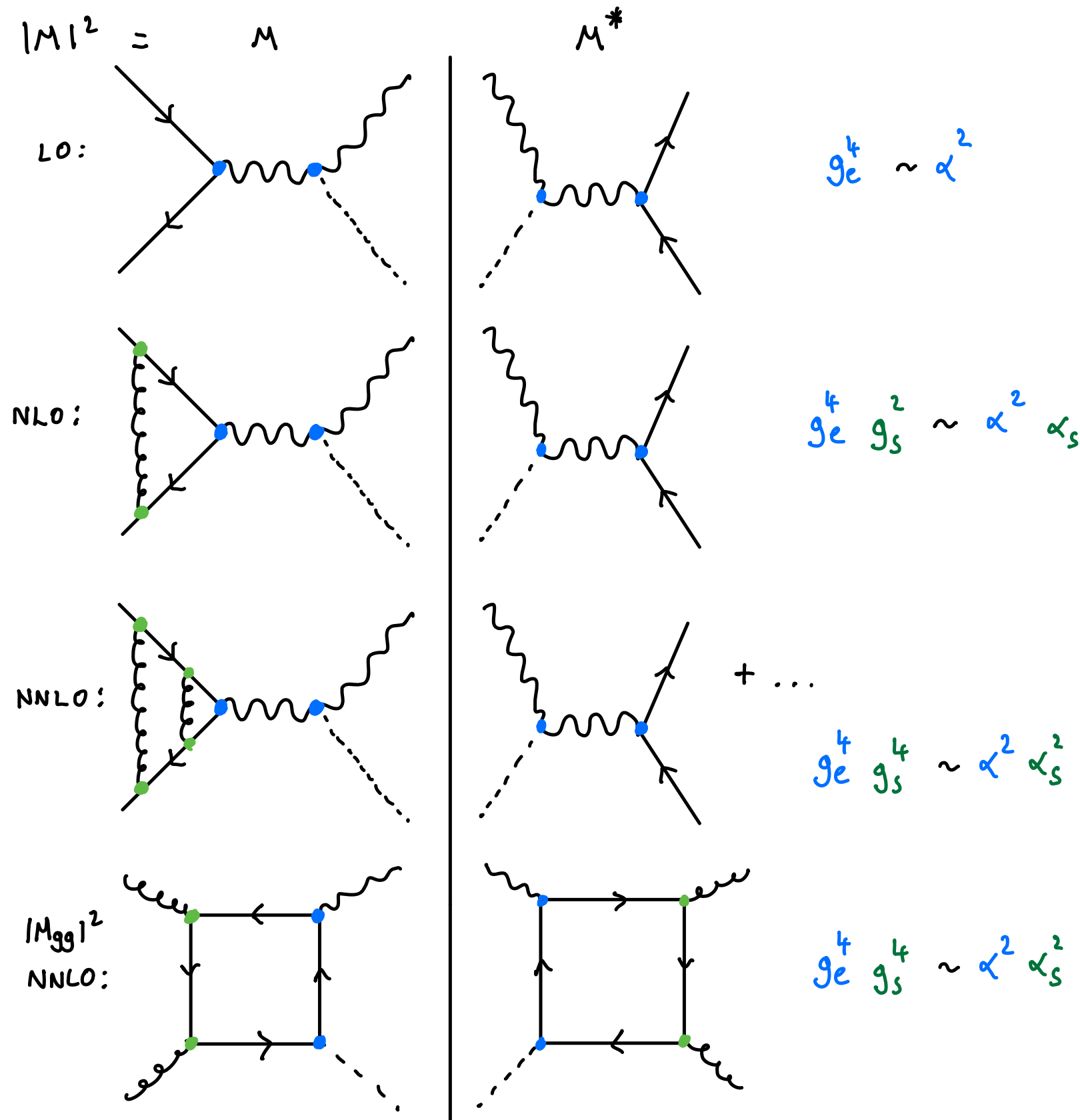
Various channels contribute: $q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZH$ and $gg \rightarrow ZH$



The $gg \rightarrow ZH$ channel is **loop-induced** (i.e. LO in this channel is 1-loop)



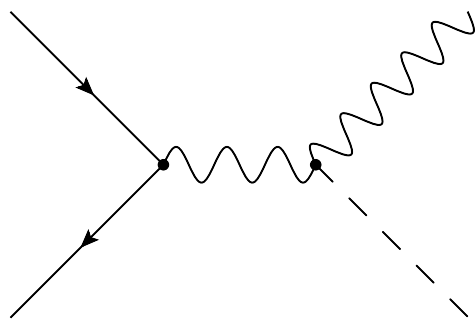
Overview of $pp \rightarrow ZH$ (II)



The $gg \rightarrow ZH$ channel contributes to $pp \rightarrow ZH$ starting at NNLO in QCD

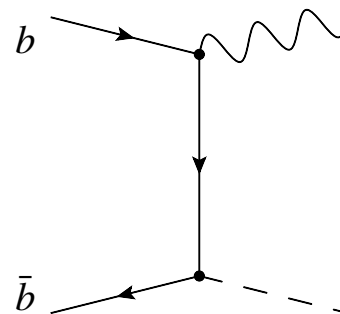
However due the large gluon-gluon luminosity at the LHC it contributes significantly ($\sim 10\%$) to the total cross section

Overview of $pp \rightarrow ZH$ (III)



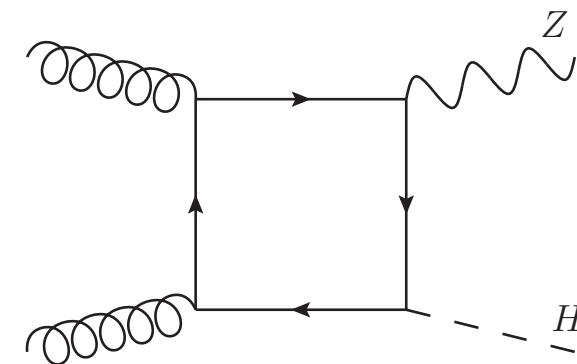
Drell-Yan piece (NNLO known)

Brein, Djouadi, Harlander 03;
Ferrera, Grazzini, Tramontano 14;
See also: Kumara, Mandal, Ravindran 14



$b\bar{b}$ piece (NNLO known)

Ahmed, Ajjath, Chen, Dhani,
Mukherjee, Ravindran 19



Gluon-fusion piece
~10% of total xs.
~100% scale unc.

+ $q\bar{q}$ piece with closed top loops (1-3%)

Available in various codes:

HAWK (NLO QCD + NLO EW)

Denner, Dittmaier, Kallweit, Mück 14

vh@nnlo (NNLO QCD + NLO EW)

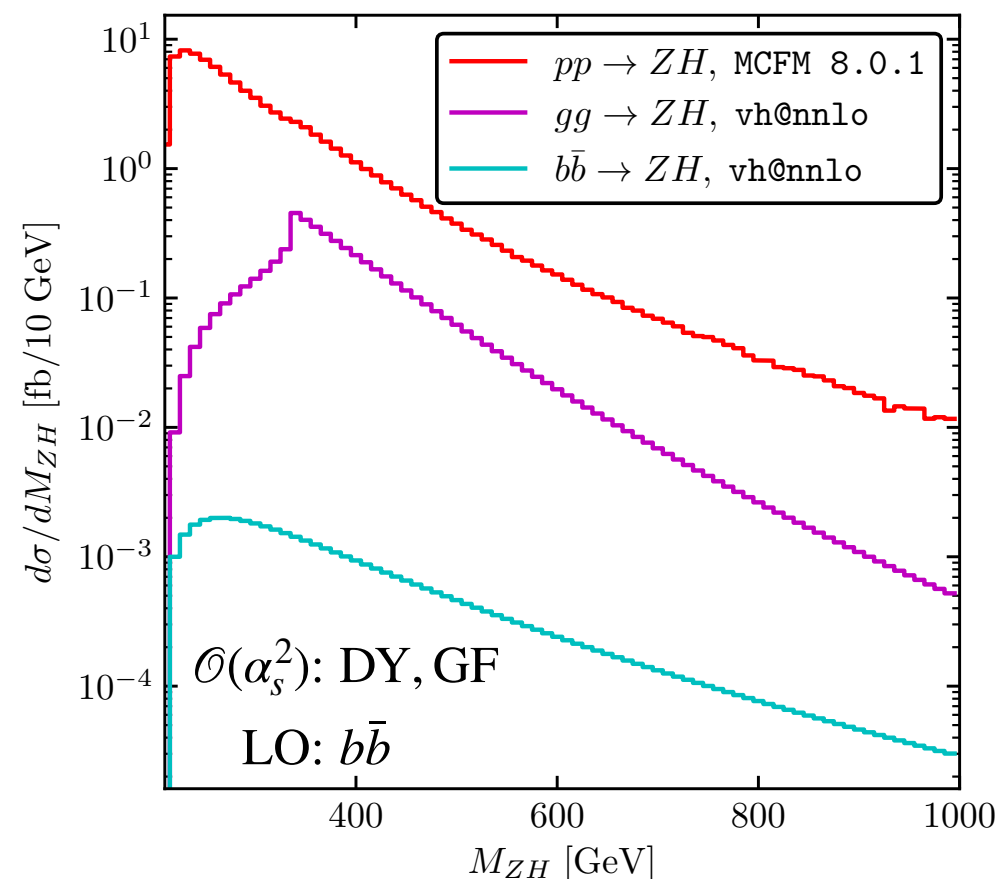
Harlander, Klappert, Liebler, Simon 18;
Brein, Harlander, Zirke 12

MCFM (NNLO QCD)

Campbell, Ellis, Williams 16

GENEVA (NNLL'+NNLO with PS)

Alioli, Broggio, Kallweit, Lim, Rottoli 19



Harlander,
Klappert,
Liebler, Simon
18

ZH in Gluon Fusion

Full leading order (loop induced)

Dicus, Kao 88; Kniehl 90

NLO in the limit of $m_t \rightarrow \infty$ ($K \approx 2$)

Altenkamp, Dittmaier, Harlander, H. Rzehak, Zirke 12

Virtual Corrections:

$1/m_t^8$ Expansion + Padé approx

Hasselhuhn, Luthe, Steinhauser 17

$1/m_t^{10}$ & m_t^{32} Expansion + Padé approx

Davies, Mishima, Steinhauser 20

Full numerical result

Chen, Heinrich, SPJ, Kerner, Klappert, Schlenk 20

p_T^4 Expansion

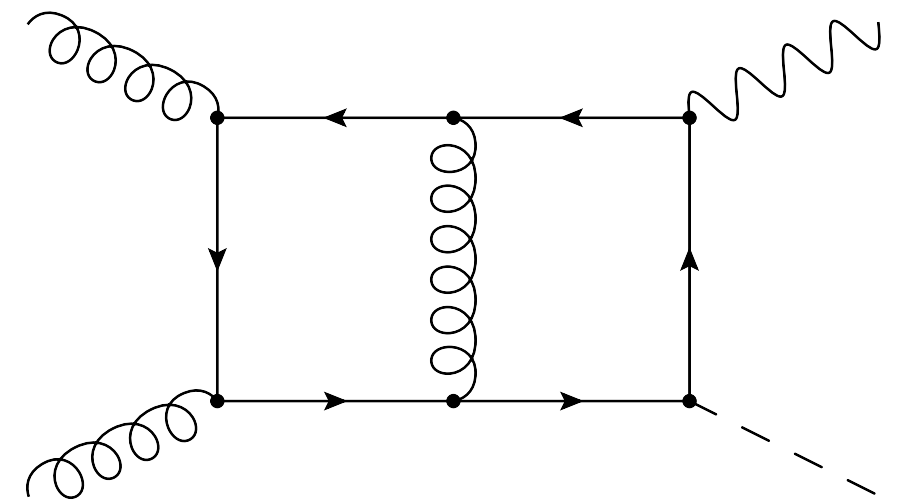
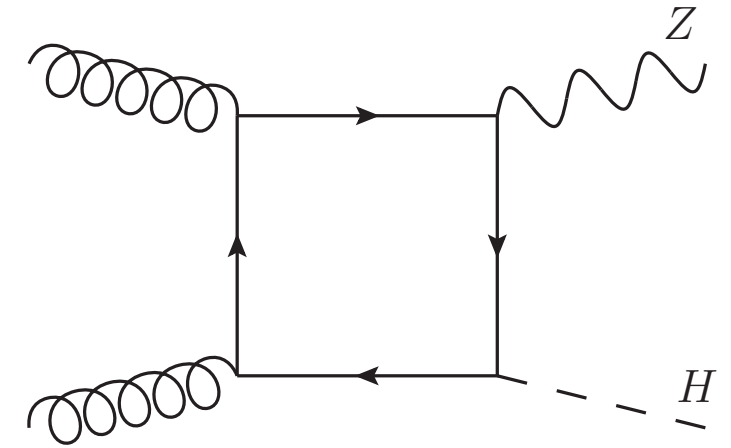
Alasfar, Degrandi, Giardino, Gröber, Vitti 21

$p_T^4 + m_t^{12}$ Expansion + Padé approx

Bellafronte, Degrandi, Giardino, Gröber, Vitti 22

NLO result: small m_z, m_h Expansion

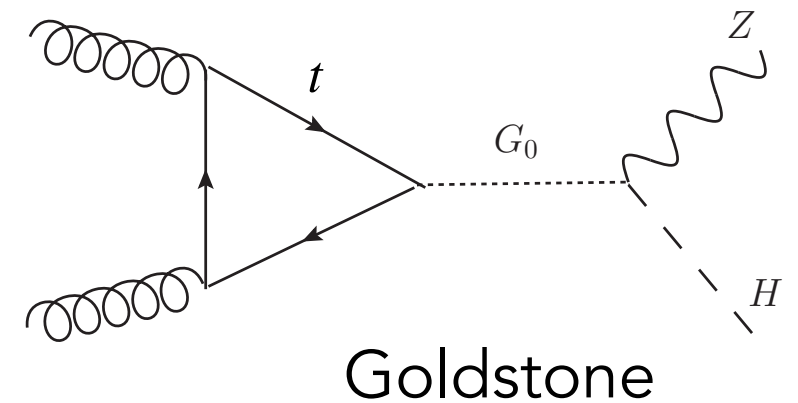
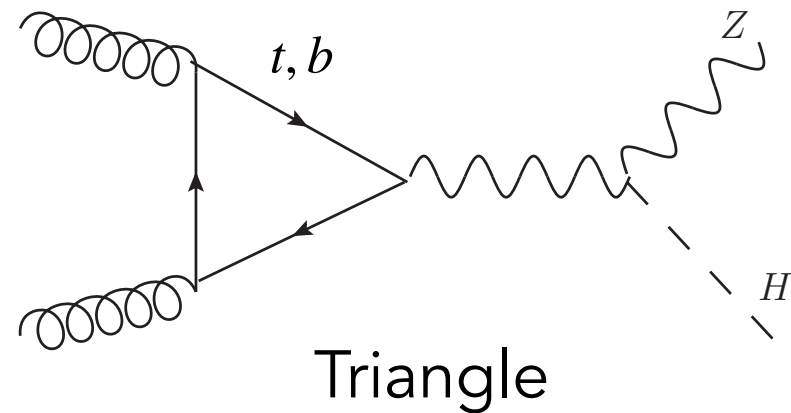
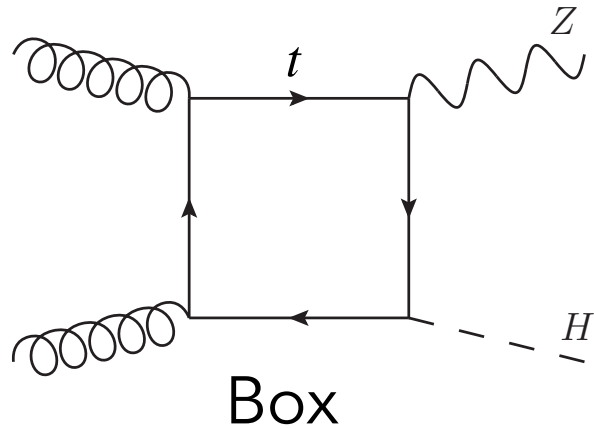
Wang, Xu, Xu, Yang 21



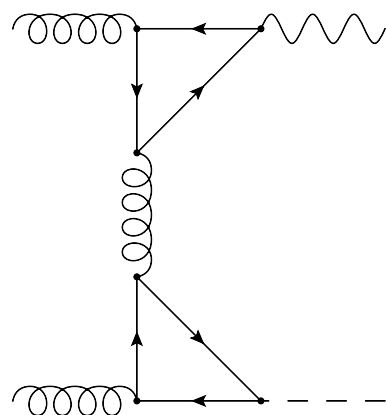
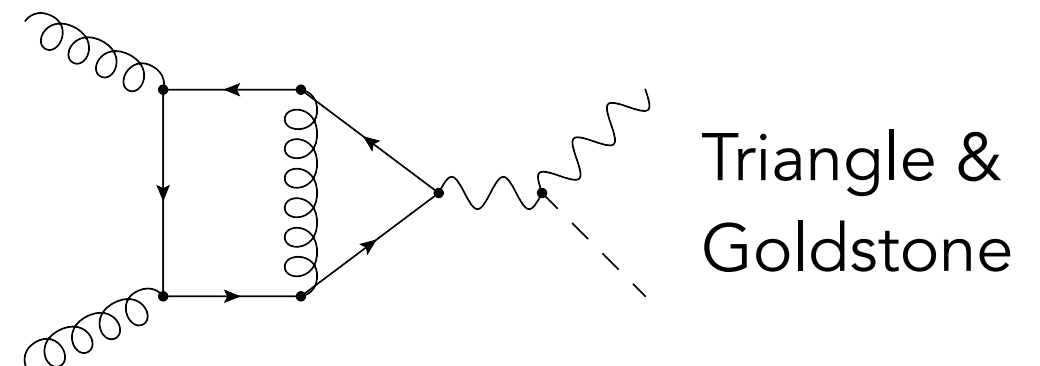
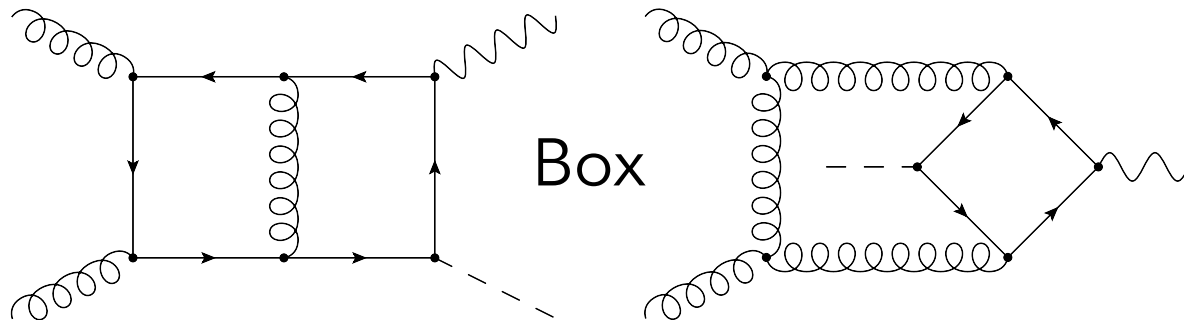
Setup & Amplitudes

Diagrams: $gg \rightarrow ZH$

Leading Order (1-loop) Diagrams



NLO (2-loop) Virtual Diagrams



We compute in Feynman Gauge
Keep the dependence on all EW
couplings symbolic (can be varied)

Set $m_b = 0$

Decomposition: $gg \rightarrow ZH$

Idea: construct projectors for linearly polarised amplitudes in c.o.m frame, directly compute polarised amplitudes [Chen 19](#); See also [Peraro, Tancredi 19, 20](#);

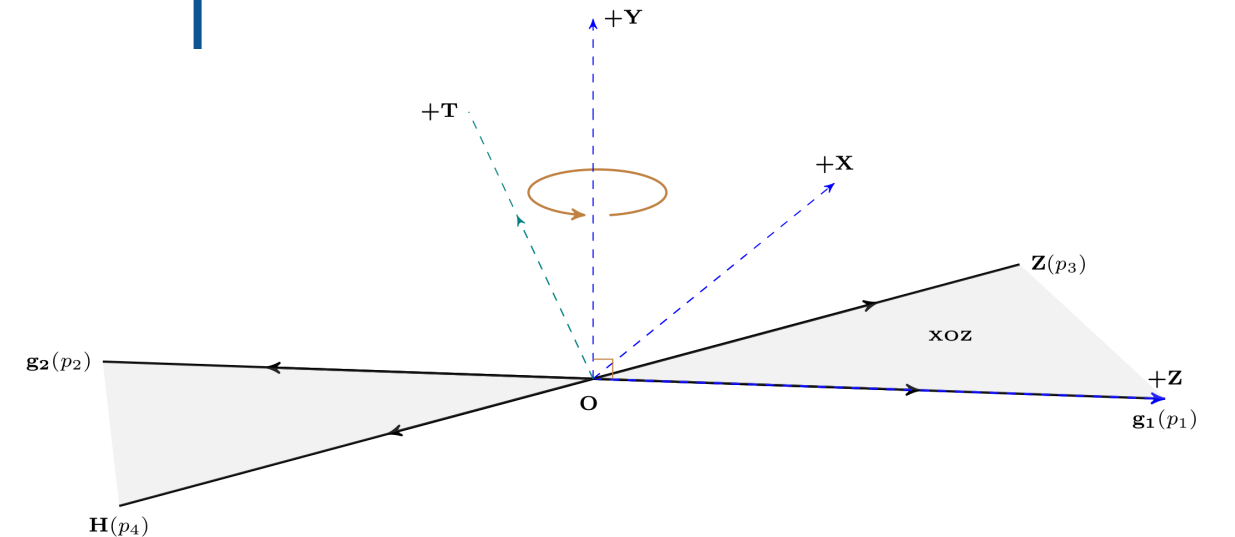
Polarisation vectors can be expressed (up to normalisation factors \mathcal{N}_i) in terms of external momenta:

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon_x^\mu &= \mathcal{N}_x (-s_{23}p_1^\mu - s_{13}p_2^\mu + s_{12}p_3^\mu) \\ \varepsilon_y^\mu &= \mathcal{N}_y (\epsilon_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3}^\mu p_1^{\mu_1} p_2^{\mu_2} p_3^{\mu_3}) \\ \varepsilon_T^\mu &= \mathcal{N}_T \left((-s_{23}(s_{13} + s_{23}) + 2m_z^2 s_{12}) p_1^\mu + \right. \\ &\quad \left. (s_{13}(s_{13} + s_{23}) - 2m_z^2 s_{12}) p_2^\mu + s_{12}(-s_{13} + s_{23}) p_3^\mu \right) \\ \varepsilon_l^\mu &= \mathcal{N}_l (-2m_z^2 (p_1^\mu + p_2^\mu) + (s_{13} + s_{23}) p_3^\mu)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon_x \cdot \{p_1, p_2\} &= 0 \\ \varepsilon_y \cdot \{p_1, p_2\} &= 0 \\ \{\varepsilon_y, \varepsilon_T, \varepsilon_l\} \cdot p_3 &= 0 \\ \varepsilon_i^2 &= -1\end{aligned}$$

Projectors are just products of pol. vecs.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}_1^{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3} &= \varepsilon_x^{\mu_1} \varepsilon_x^{\mu_2} \varepsilon_y^{\mu_3} & \mathcal{P}_2^{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3} &= \varepsilon_x^{\mu_1} \varepsilon_y^{\mu_2} \varepsilon_T^{\mu_3}, \\ \mathcal{P}_3^{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3} &= \varepsilon_x^{\mu_1} \varepsilon_y^{\mu_2} \varepsilon_l^{\mu_3} & \mathcal{P}_4^{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3} &= \varepsilon_y^{\mu_1} \varepsilon_x^{\mu_2} \varepsilon_T^{\mu_3}, \\ \mathcal{P}_5^{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3} &= \varepsilon_y^{\mu_1} \varepsilon_x^{\mu_2} \varepsilon_l^{\mu_3} & \mathcal{P}_6^{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3} &= \varepsilon_y^{\mu_1} \varepsilon_y^{\mu_2} \varepsilon_y^{\mu_3}.\end{aligned}$$



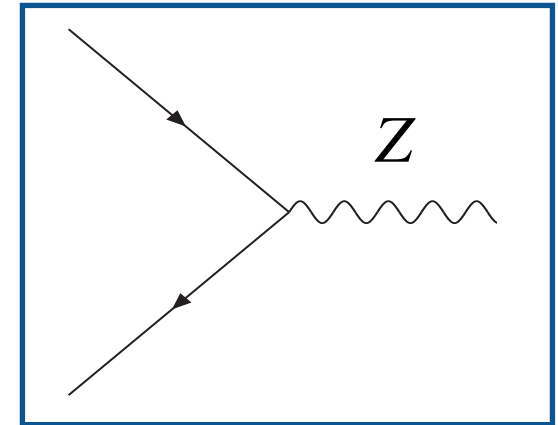
Cross checked with conventional form factor decomposition at LO and at NLO with expansions [Davies, Mishima, Steinhauser 20](#)

Dimensional Regularisation & γ_5

Z-Fermion Vertex

Contains vector $\sim v_t \gamma_\mu$ and axial-vector $\sim a_t \gamma_\mu \gamma_5$:

$$\mathcal{V}_\mu^{Vff} = i \frac{e}{2 \sin \theta_W \cos \theta_W} \gamma_\mu (v_t + a_t \gamma_5)$$



We use dimensional regularisation ($d = 4 - 2\epsilon$) to regulate divergences appearing in loop integrals, however, one can't retain all properties of γ_5 in $d \neq 4$ dimensions

Larin Scheme (Used here)

Sacrifice anti-commuting property of γ_5

$$J_\mu^5 = Z_{5,ns} \quad J_{\mu,B}^5 = Z_{5,ns} \left[\frac{i}{3!} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\nu \gamma^\rho \gamma^\sigma \bar{\psi} \right]$$

$$P^5 = Z_{5,p} \quad P_B^5 = Z_{5,p} \left[\frac{i}{4!} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\rho \gamma^\sigma \bar{\psi} \right]$$

Fix Ward identities/ABJ anomaly:

$$Z_{5,ns} = 1 + \alpha_s(-4C_F) + \dots$$

$$Z_{5,p} = 1 + \alpha_s(-8C_F) + \dots$$

Larin, Vermaseren 91; Larin 93

Alternative schemes exist e.g:

Kreimer Scheme

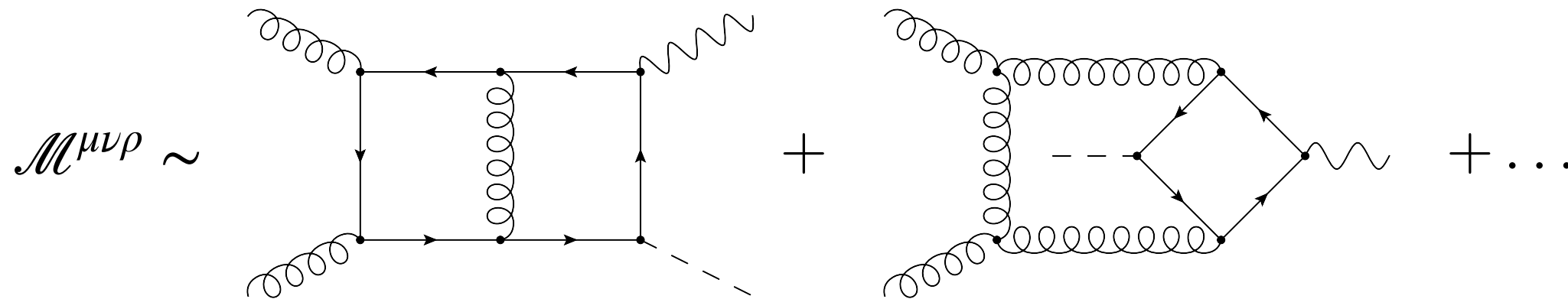
Retain $\{\gamma_5, \gamma^\mu\} = 0$, but, sacrifice cyclicity of traces involving γ_5

Define 'reading point' and carefully manipulate all traces

Kreimer 90; Korner, Kreimer, Schilcher 92

Amplitudes

Schematically:



$$\mathcal{M}^{\mu\nu\rho} = \sum_i A_i T_i^{\mu\nu\rho}, \quad A_i = \sum_k C_{i,k} I_k$$

Rational functions

Large num. terms/ high degree
Handled with FORM & FireFly

Vermaseren 00; Kuipers, Ueda, Vermaseren 13; Ruijl, Ueda, Vermaseren 17; Klappert, Lange 19; Klappert, Klein, Lange 20

Feynman integrals

Analytically: Involved special functions
(Polylogs, Elliptic...)

In our work, we will compute them numerically or in a small- m_t expansion

Dealing with the Integrals

Integral Reduction

Reduce to master integrals using Kira 2 + FireFly

Mass ratios fixed $\frac{m_z^2}{m_t^2} = \frac{23}{83}, \frac{m_H^2}{m_t^2} = \frac{12}{23}$

Maierhöfer, Usovitsch, Uwer 18;
Klappert, Lange, P. Maierhöfer, Usovitsch 20;
Klappert, Lange 20; Klappert, Klein, Lange 20

Obtain 452 master integrals

Basis:

- 1) Select quasi-finite integrals
- 2) Require d - and kinematic dependence of denominators factorises
(achieved by brute force neglecting sub-sectors, public tools are available)

$$\frac{N(s, t, d)}{D(s, t, d)} I + \dots \rightarrow \frac{N'(s, t, d)}{D'_1(d) D'_2(s, t)} I' + \dots$$

Smirnov, Smirnov 20; Usovitsch 20

- 3) Prefer simple denominator factors
- 4) Prefer fewer orders in epsilon for each master (found a basis in which all 7-propagator integrals start contributing only at ϵ^{-1})
- 5) Prefer simpler numerators (check number of terms/file size)

See: Matthias Kerner, Loops and Legs Proceedings 2018

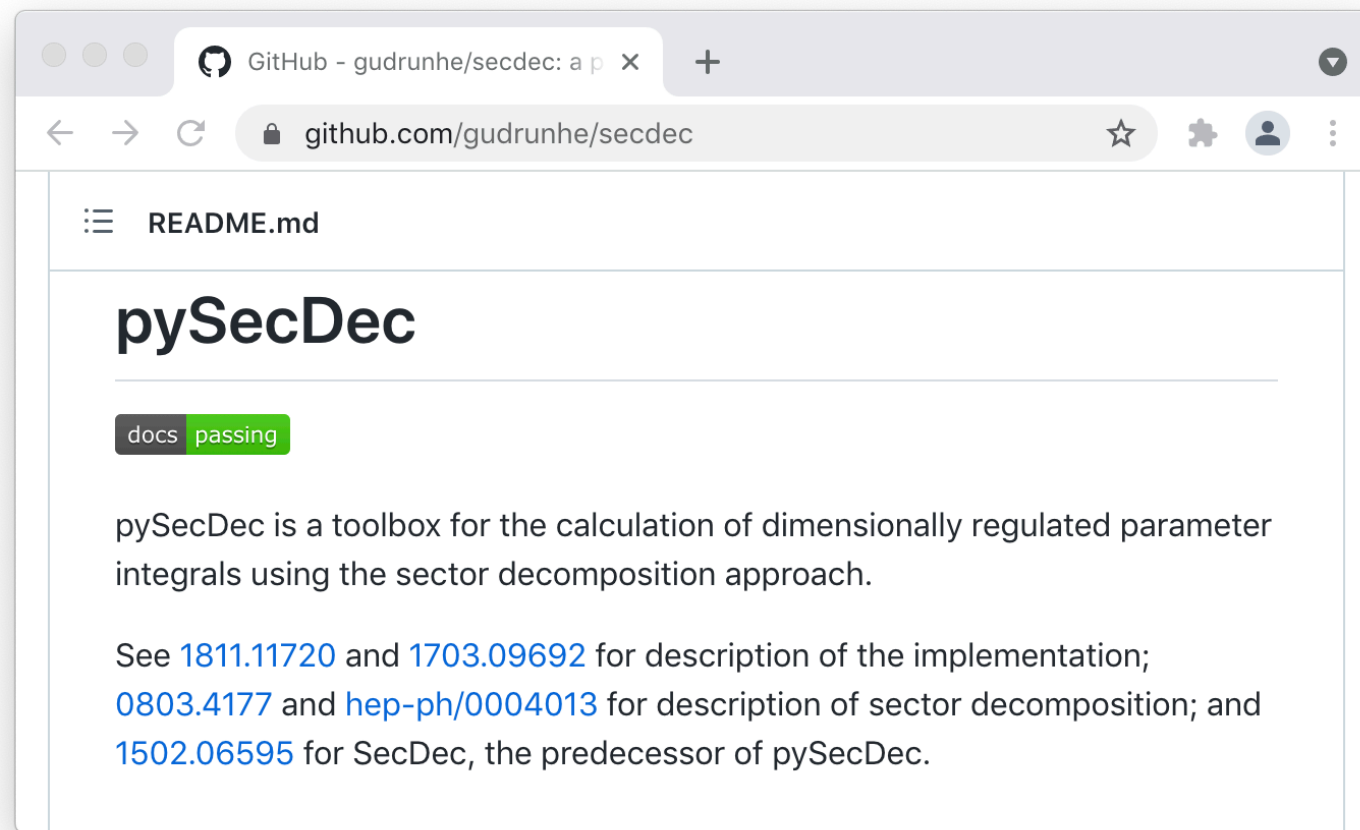
Steps 2-5 reduced the size of amplitude by factor of 5

Largest coefficient (double-tadpole) 150 MB \rightarrow 5 MB

Evaluation of the Integrals

Integrals evaluated numerically on GPUs using sector decomposition (**pySecDec**)
(written in python, FORM, c++, CUDA)

Vermaseren 00; Kuipers, Ueda, Vermaseren 13; Ruijl, Ueda, Vermaseren 17



Publicly available (Github)

Extensive tests (CI) and
documentation

Install with:

```
python3 -m pip install --user --upgrade pySecDec
```

Latest update: Expansion by Regions & Amplitude Evaluation

Heinrich, Jahn, SPJ, Kerner, Langer, Magerya, Pöldaru, Schlenk, Villa 21

→ **See talk of Vitaly**

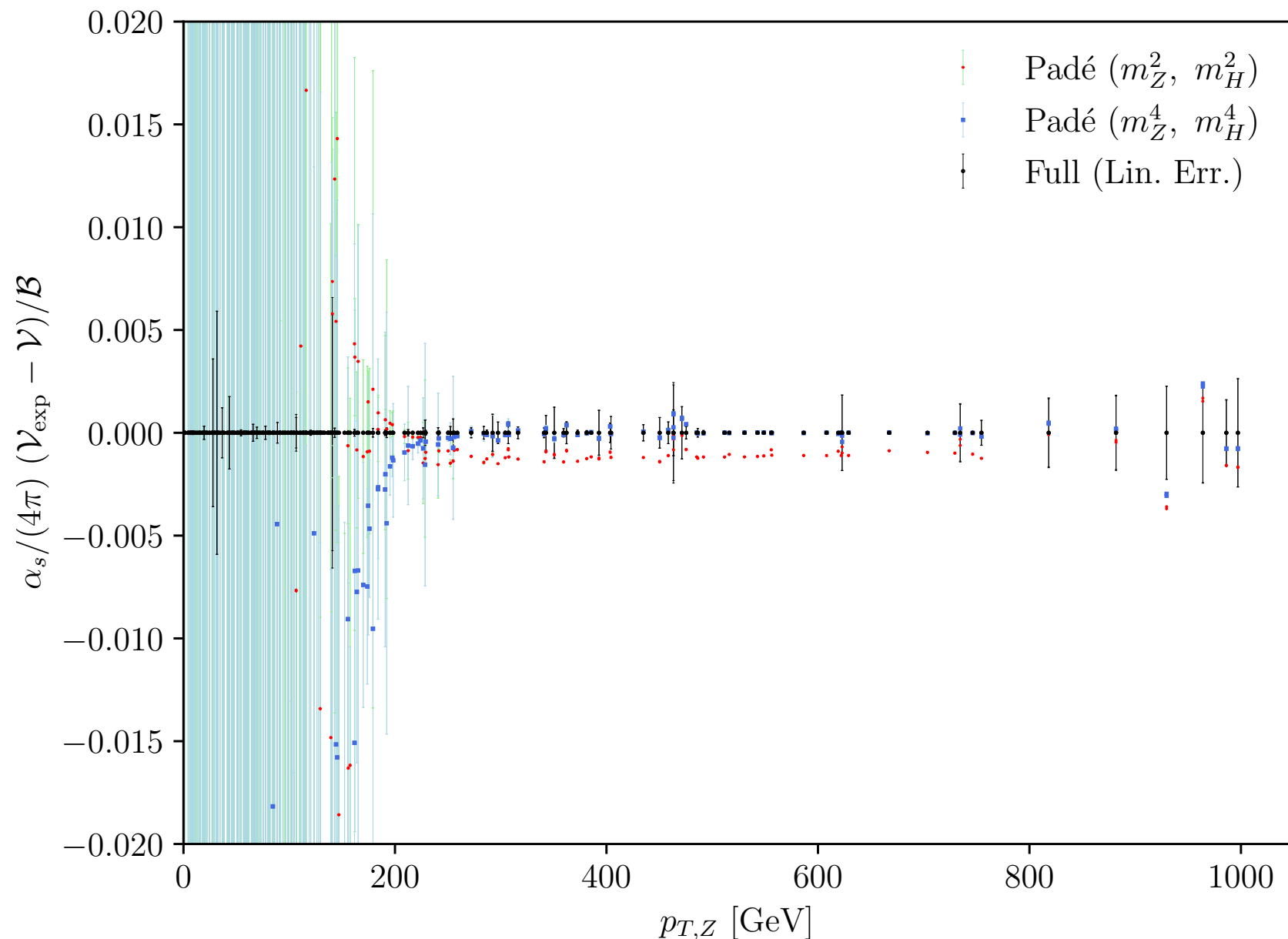
Combining with expanded results

Comparison to Small m_t Expansion

The amplitude can be expanded around small m_t, m_h, m_z

Davies, Mishima, Steinhauser 20;
Mishima 18

Previously known to (m_z^2, m_h^2, m_t^{32}) , extended for this work to (m_z^4, m_h^4, m_t^{32})



Find **acceptable** agreement for $p_{T,Z} \geq 150$ GeV (<2.8% difference)

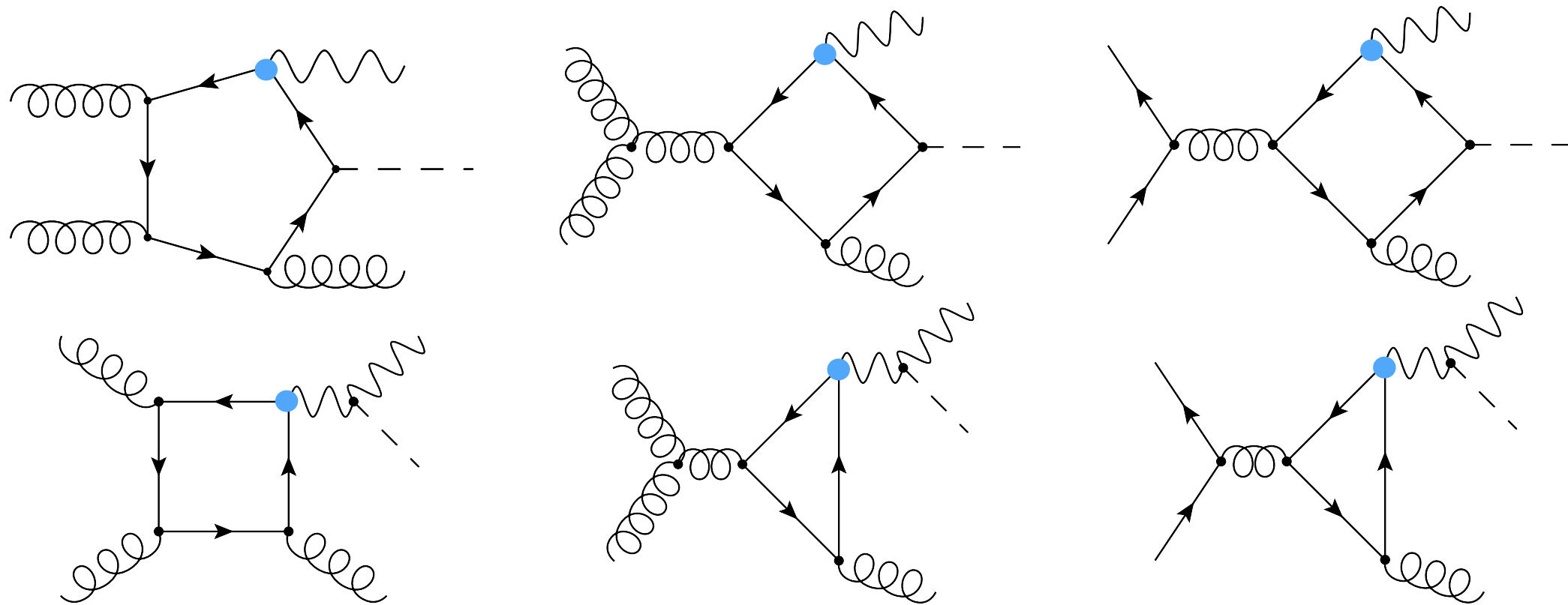
Switch from the full numerical result to Padé result at this point

Results $gg \rightarrow ZH$

Real Emission Diagrams

There is some **freedom** regarding which real diagrams we include in gg vs $q\bar{q}$
Must be careful not to double count when combining all channels for $pp \rightarrow ZH$
Our reals are evaluated using **GoSam** [Cullen et al. 11,14](#)

Diagrams included in our work ($n_f = 5$ + massive top in loop) + crossings



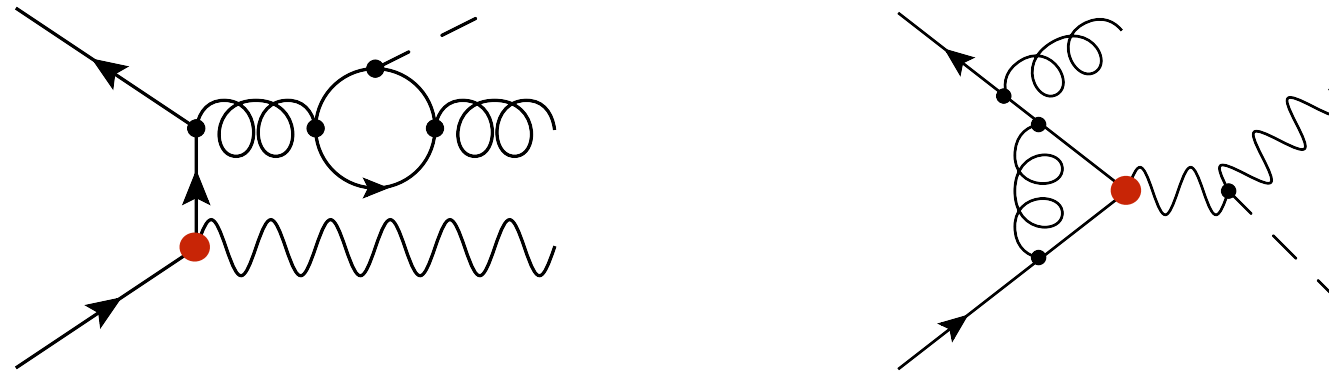
We require:

- 1) A closed fermion loop
- 2) A Z-boson or Goldstone boson coupled to that loop

Real Emission Diagrams (II)

There is some **freedom** regarding which real diagrams we include in gg vs $q\bar{q}$
Must be careful not to double count when combining all channels for $pp \rightarrow ZH$
Our reals are evaluated using **GoSam** [Cullen et al. 11,14](#)

Diagrams excluded in our work



Left class of diagrams: separately UV/IR finite & gauge invariant
Previously studied in detail [See e.g. Brein, Harlander, Wieseemann, Zirke 12](#)

Right class of diagrams: belongs to real corrections to Drell-Yan (i.e. $q\bar{q}$)
Included in DY calculations

[Brein, Djouadi, Harlander 03;](#)
[Ferrera, Grazzini, Tramontano 14;](#)
[See also: Kumara, Mandal, Ravindran 14](#)

Total Cross Section & Invariant Mass

Total Cross Section

\sqrt{s}	LO [fb]	NLO [fb]
13 TeV	$52.42^{+25.5\%}_{-19.3\%}$	$103.8(3)^{+16.4\%}_{-13.9\%}$
13.6 TeV	$58.06^{+25.1\%}_{-19.0\%}$	$114.7(3)^{+16.2\%}_{-13.7\%}$
14 TeV	$61.96^{+24.9\%}_{-18.9\%}$	$122.2(3)^{+16.1\%}_{-13.6\%}$

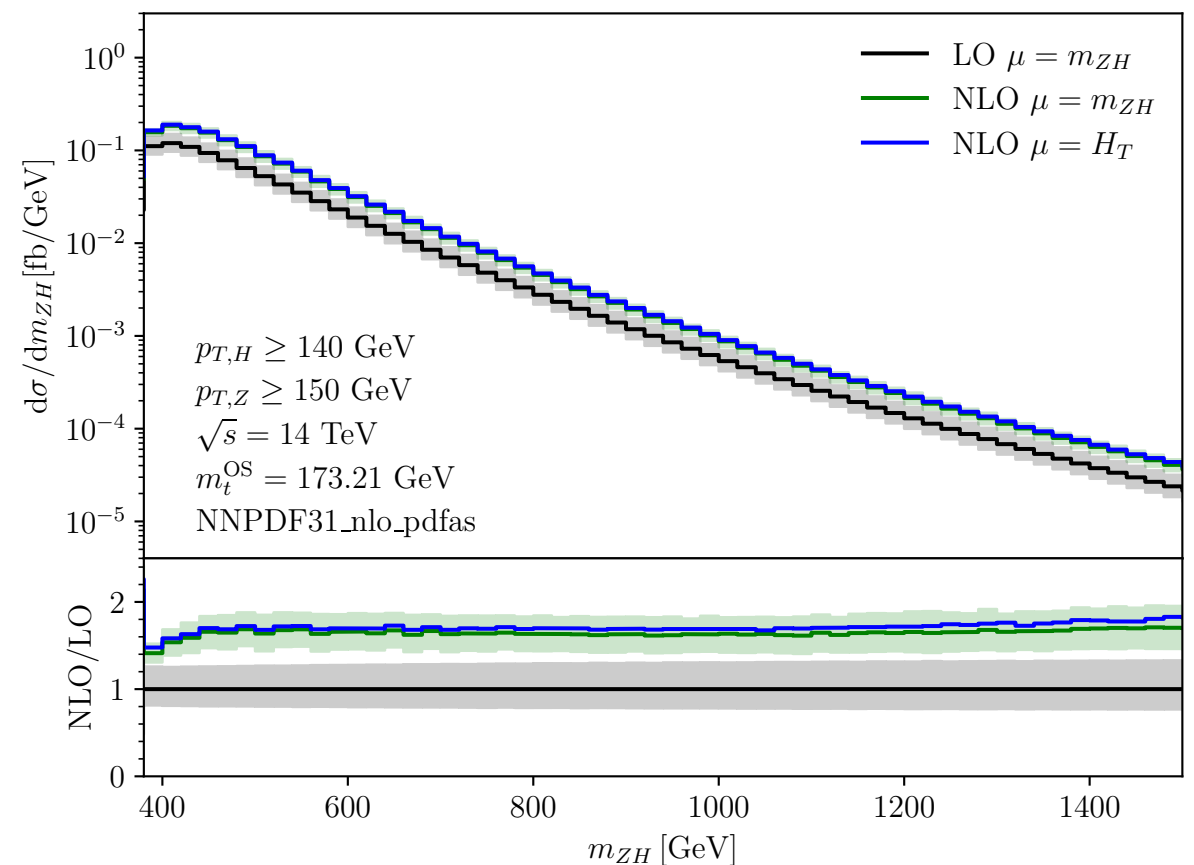
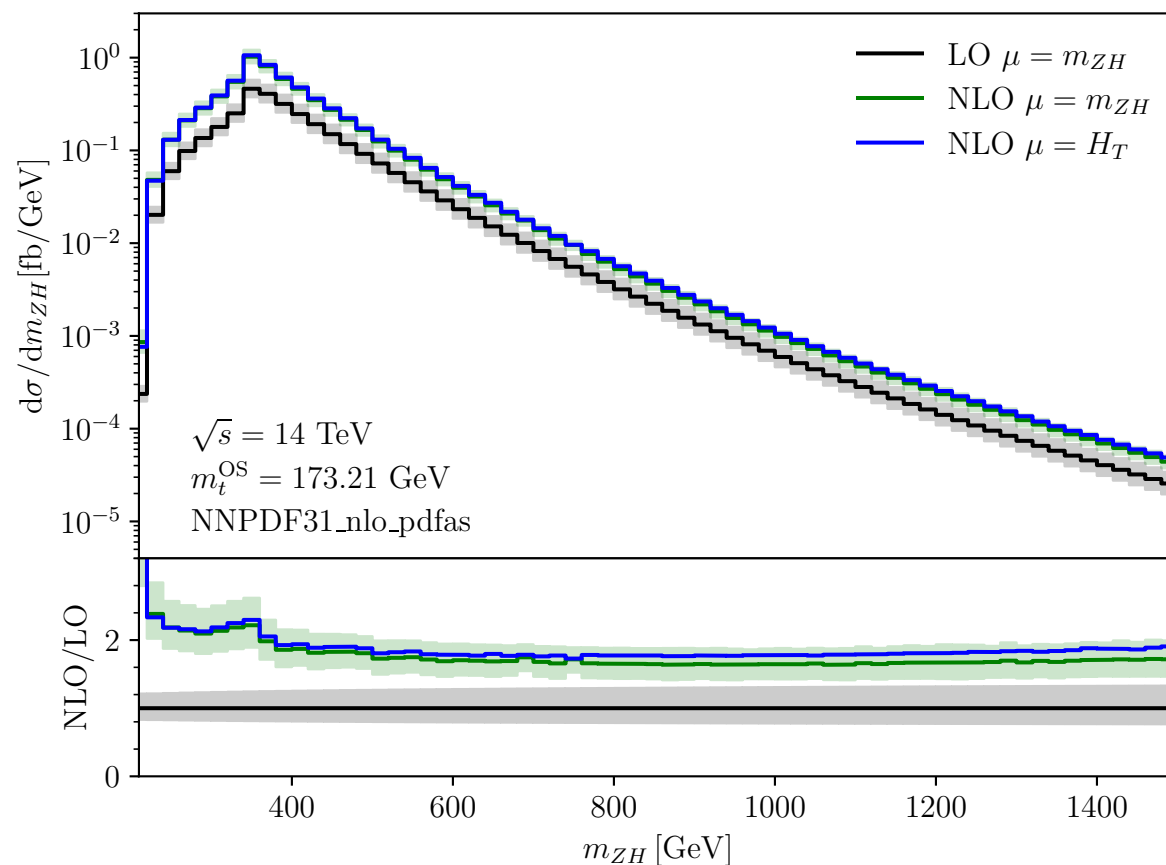
NNPDF31_nlo_pdfas

$$m_t^{\text{OS}} = 173.21 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\mu = m_{ZH}$$

$$\mu_{R,F} \in \left[\frac{\mu}{2}, 2\mu \right] \quad (7 - \text{point})$$

Invariant Mass



NLO/LO somewhat flat except at production & top pair production thresholds

Comparison to Expansion (Small m_h, m_z)

Can expand in only m_h, m_z and retain full m_t dependence Wang, Xu, Xu, Yang 21

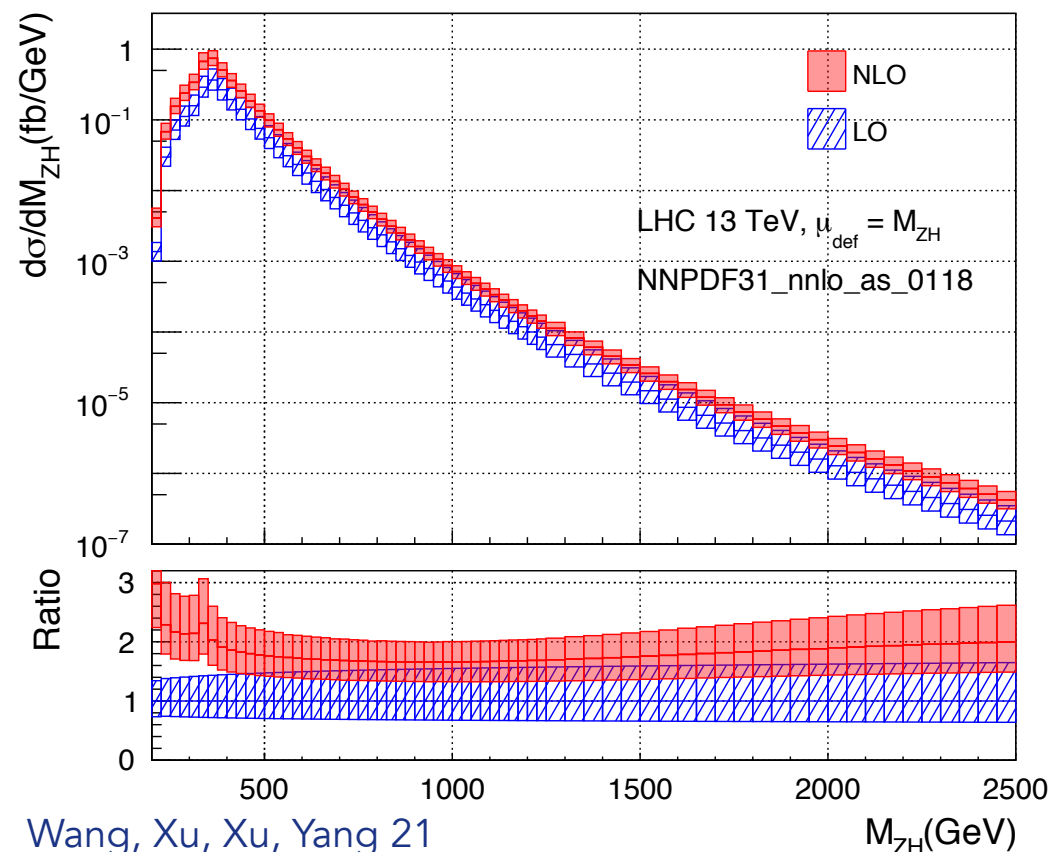
Integrals appearing in the expansion (scales s, t, m_t^2) are known

Caron-Huot, Henn 14; Becchetti, Bonciani 18; Xu, Yang 18; Wang, Wang, Xu, Xu, Yang 20;

Expansion shows good agreement
with numerical result

No breakdown near top threshold

\hat{s}/m_t^2	\hat{u}/m_t^2	$\mathcal{V}'_{\text{fin}}$			
		pySecDec	$\mathcal{O}(m^0)$	$\mathcal{O}(m^2)$	$\mathcal{O}(m^4)$
1.707133657190554	-0.441203767016323	35.429092(6)	35.9823	35.5530	35.4478
3.876056604162662	-1.616287256345735	4339.045(1)	4319.37	4336.63	4338.73
4.130574250302561	-1.750372271104745	6912.361(3)	6870.47	6906.92	6911.64
4.130574250302561	-2.595461551488002	6981.09(2)	6979.28	6980.14	6980.85
134.5142052093564	-70.34125943305149	-153.9(4)	-154.543	-154.458	-154.460
134.5142052093564	-105.1770655376327	527(4)	524.585	525.958	525.965



Authors obtained NLO results for $gg \rightarrow ZH$

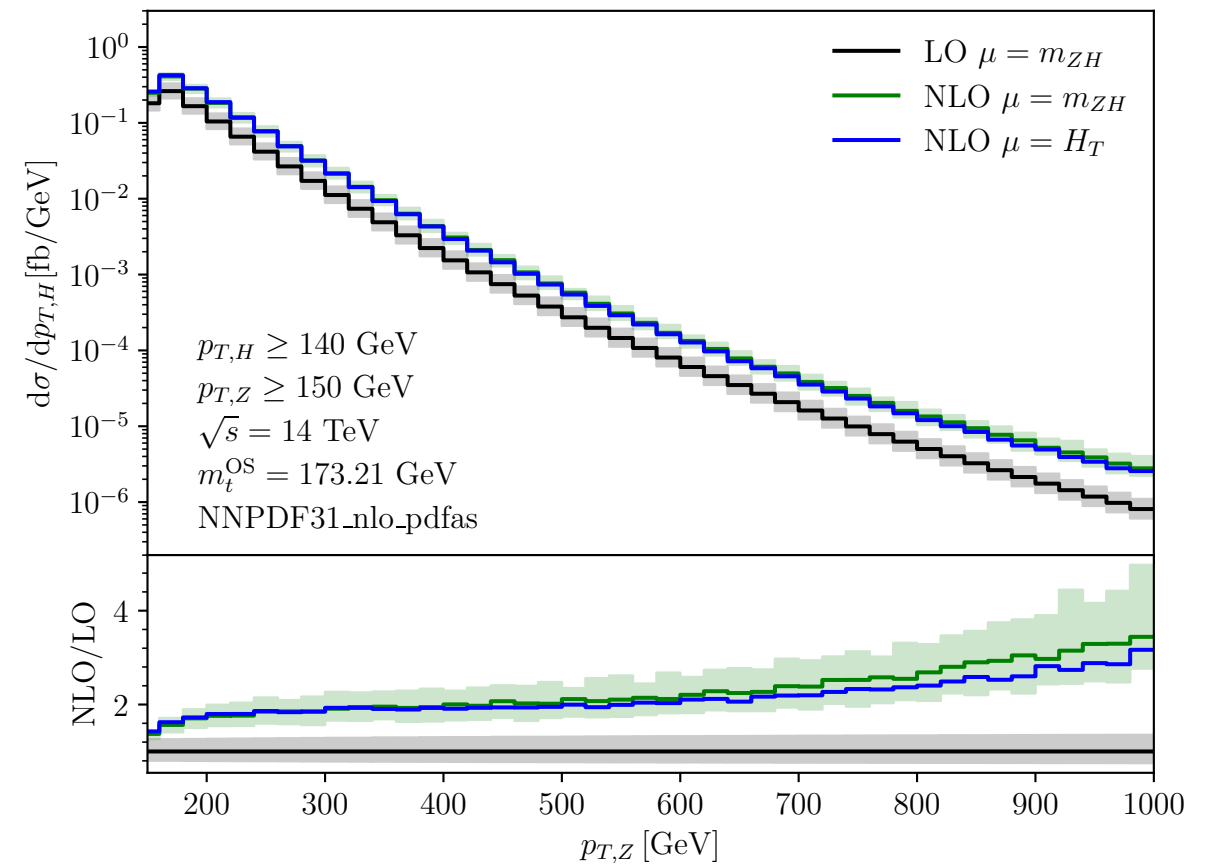
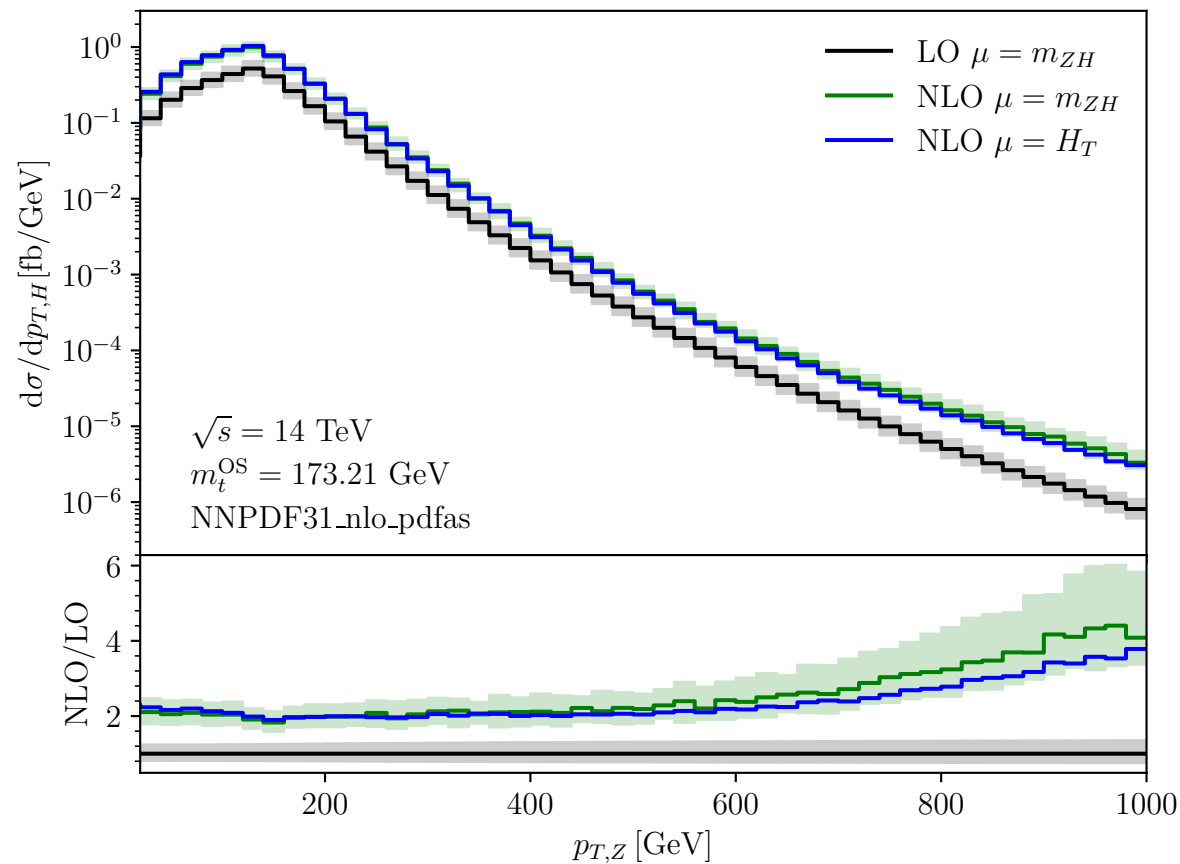
Virtuals: small m_h, m_z expansion

Reals: GoSam Cullen et al. 11, 14

We find agreement with their total cross section result and uncertainty

(2% difference ascribed to different choice of PDFs and masses)

Z Transverse Momentum

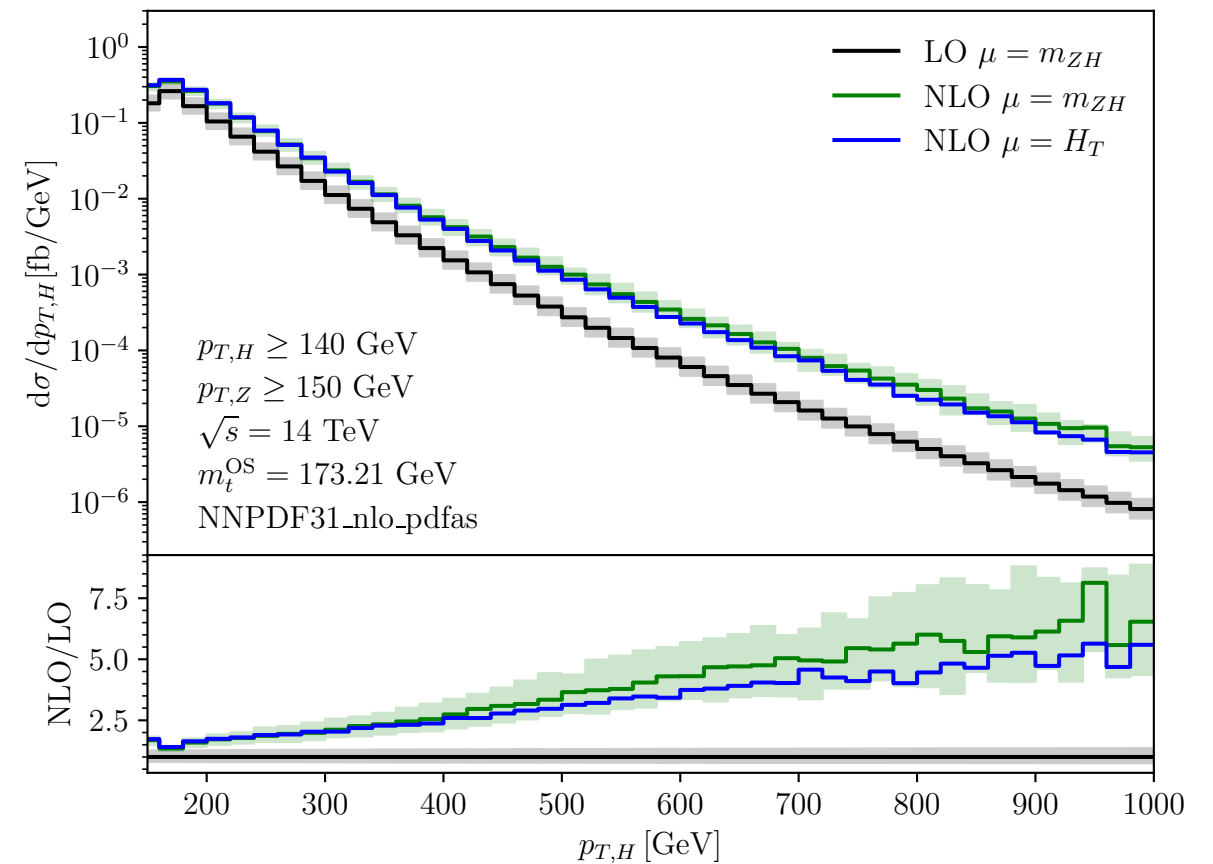
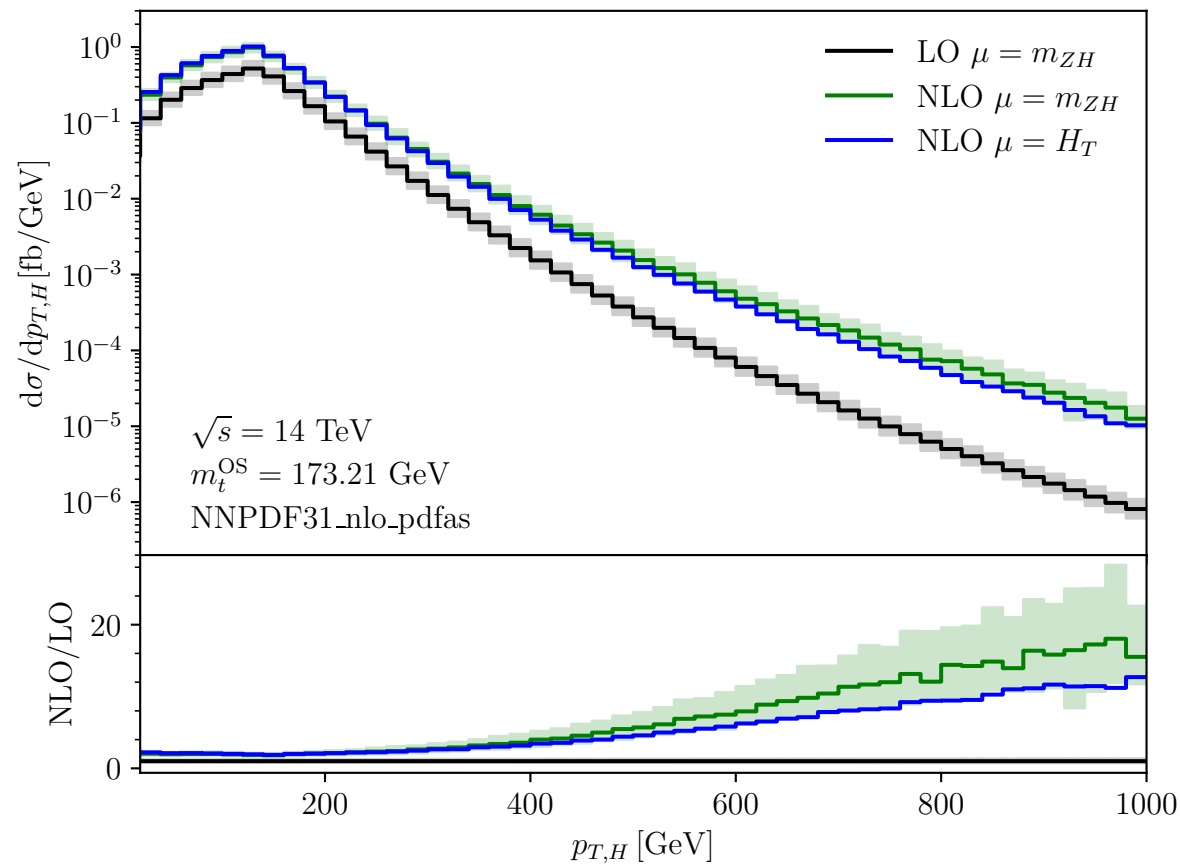


Large NLO corrections, rising sharply at large $p_{T,Z}$

Placing cuts on soft H emission only slightly tames growth

Very important to include higher order corrections in this region

H Transverse Momentum



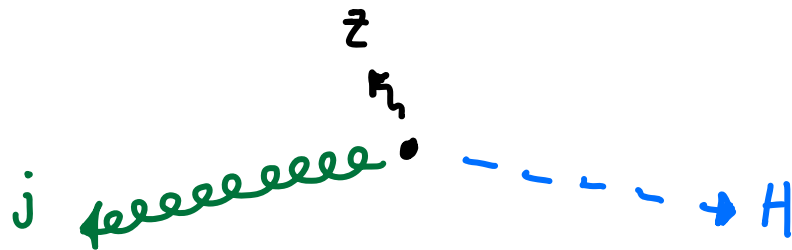
Extremely large pathological NLO corrections, rising very sharply at large $p_{T,H}$
 Placing cuts on soft Z emission tames growth somewhat

Let's try to understand what is leading to this different behaviour for $p_{T,Z}$ vs $p_{T,H}$

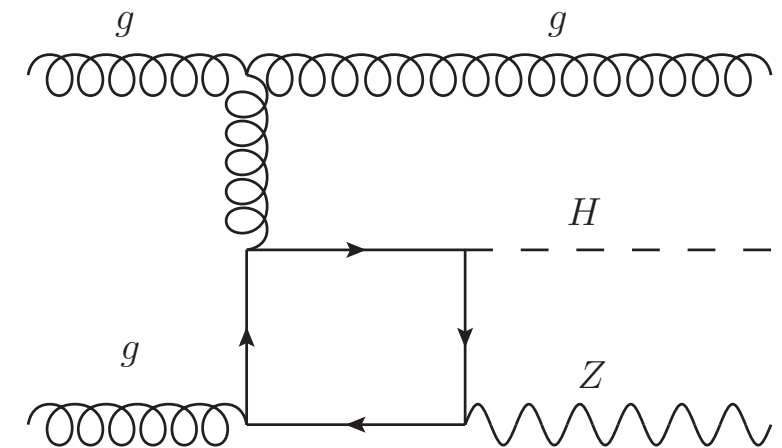
Discussion: Z vs H

The different behaviour of $p_{T,Z}$ and $p_{T,H}$ was observed previously in $gg \rightarrow ZH + j$

Hespel, Maltoni, Vryonidou 15; Les Houches 19



Traced to configurations where Higgs recoils against a hard jet, with a soft Z



Maltoni et al. attributed this t -channel gluon exchange

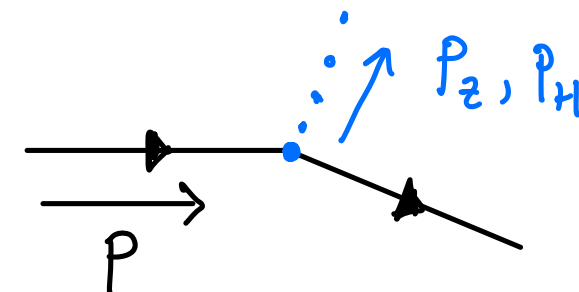
One observation

If we apply an eikonal approximation to such diagrams, the enhancement of soft Z bosons can be understood

$$(\text{Soft } Z \text{ emission}) : \frac{p^\mu}{p \cdot p_Z}$$

$$(\text{Soft } H \text{ emission}) : \frac{m_t}{p \cdot p_H}$$

Ratio for large radiator (transverse) momentum $\sim p_T/m_t \gg 1$



Mass Scheme Uncertainty

Can assess impact of changing top quark mass renormalisation scheme for $p_{T,H} \geq 140 \text{ GeV}$ & $p_{T,Z} \geq 150 \text{ GeV}$ using full B + full R + expanded virtuals

HH : Baglio, Campanario, Glaus, Mühlleitner, Spira, Streicher 18 + Ronca 20, 21;

$t\bar{t}$: Catani, Devoto, Grazzini, Kallweit, Mazzitelli 20; $t\bar{t}H$: Martin, Moch, Saibel 21

$t\bar{t}j$: Alioli, Fuster, Garzelli, Gavardi, Irlles, Melini, Moch, Uwer, Voß 22; Various: Les Houches 19

Convert $m_t \rightarrow \bar{m}_t(\bar{m}_t)$ using 4-loops, then use RGE at 5-loops with $n_f = 6$

Gives $m_t = 173.21 \text{ GeV} \rightarrow \bar{m}_t(\bar{m}_t) = 163.39 \text{ GeV}$

Chetyrkin, Kuhn, Steinhauser 00; Herren, Steinhauser 18

Go from OS to $\overline{\text{MS}}$ mass counter term using:

$$m_t \rightarrow \bar{m}_t(\mu_t) \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_R)}{4\pi} C_F \left\{ 4 + 3 \log \left[\frac{\mu_t^2}{\bar{m}_t(\mu_t)^2} \right] \right\} \right)$$

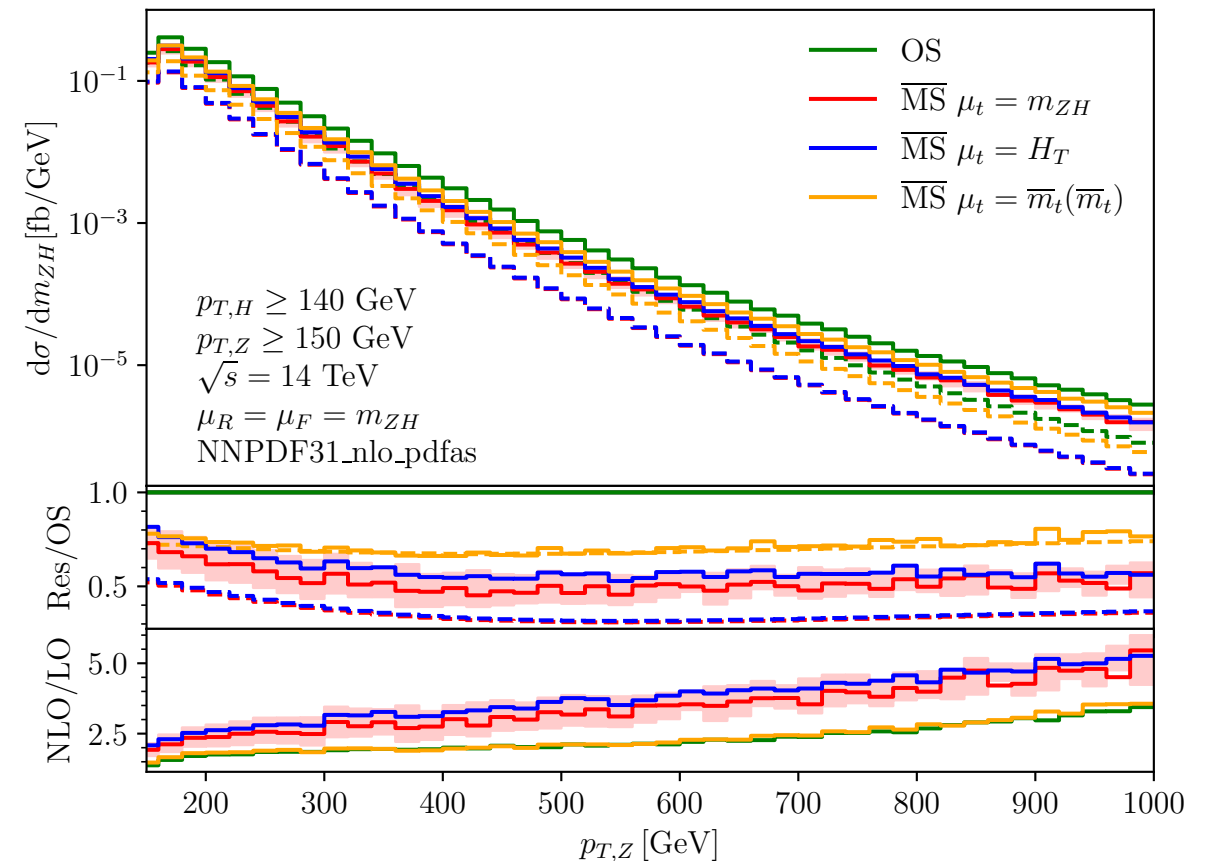
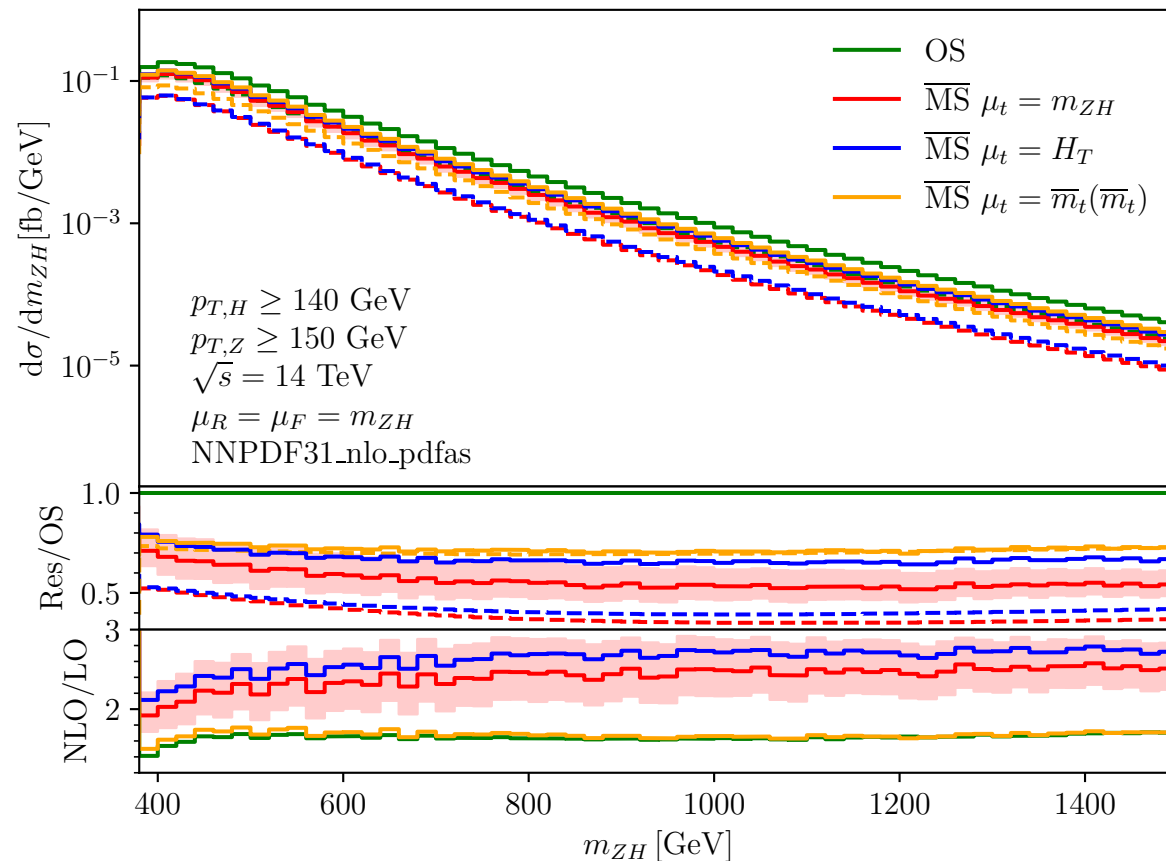
Study 3 different renormalisation scales:

$$\mu_t = m_{ZH},$$

$$\mu_t = H_T = \sum_{i=H,Z} \sqrt{m_i^2 + p_{T,i}^2} + \sum_k |p_{T,k}|$$

$$\mu_t = \bar{m}_t(\bar{m}_t)$$

Mass Scheme Uncertainty



Observations @ $m_{ZH} = 1 \text{ TeV}$

Large difference between different schemes

LO: OS result $\sim 2.9\times$ $\overline{\text{MS}}$ result

NLO: Difference reduced $\sim 1.9\times$

Scale $\mu_t = \overline{m}_t(\overline{m}_t)$ most similar to OS (OS is $1.4\times$)

Scale $\mu_t = m_{ZH}$ differs most from OS (OS is $1.9\times$)

If taken as a theoretical uncertainty, is much larger than scale uncertainty

Mass Scheme Uncertainty

Comparing to $gg \rightarrow HH$, we see a different high-energy behaviour

$$A_i^{\text{fin}} = a_s A_i^{(0),\text{fin}} + a_s^2 A_i^{(1),\text{fin}} + \mathcal{O}(a_s^3) \quad \text{with } a_s = \alpha_s/4\pi$$

HH

Davies, Mishima, Steinhauser, Wellmann 18;
Baglio, Campanario, Glaus, Mühlleitner, Ronca, Spira,
Streicher 20

$$A_i^{(0)} \sim m_t^2 f_i(s, t)$$

$$A_i^{(1)} \sim 6C_F A_i^{(0)} \log \left[\frac{m_t^2}{s} \right]$$

LO: m_t^2 from y_t^2

NLO: leading $\log(m_t^2)$ from mass c.t.

converting to $\overline{\text{MS}}$ gives $\log [\mu_t^2/s]$

motivating scale choice of $\mu_t^2 \sim s$

ZH

Davies, Mishima, Steinhauser 20

$$A_i^{(0)} \sim m_t^2 f_i(s, t) \log^2 \left[\frac{m_t^2}{s} \right]$$

$$A_i^{(1)} \sim \frac{(C_A - C_F)}{6} A_i^{(0)} \log^2 \left[\frac{m_t^2}{s} \right]$$

LO: one m_t from y_t

NLO: leading $\log(m_t^2)$ not
coming from mass c.t. (C_A)

Would be interesting to further understand these structures, similar power-suppressed mass logarithms were studied in single H [Liu, Modi, Penin 22](#)

Conclusion

I have presented a calculation which underscores the usefulness of

- Numerical methods for solving Feynman integrals
- Using expansions, where valid, to supplement numerical results and explore the analytic structure

Next steps...

- Incorporate into public tools for $pp \rightarrow ZH$ (?)

Thank you for listening!

Backup

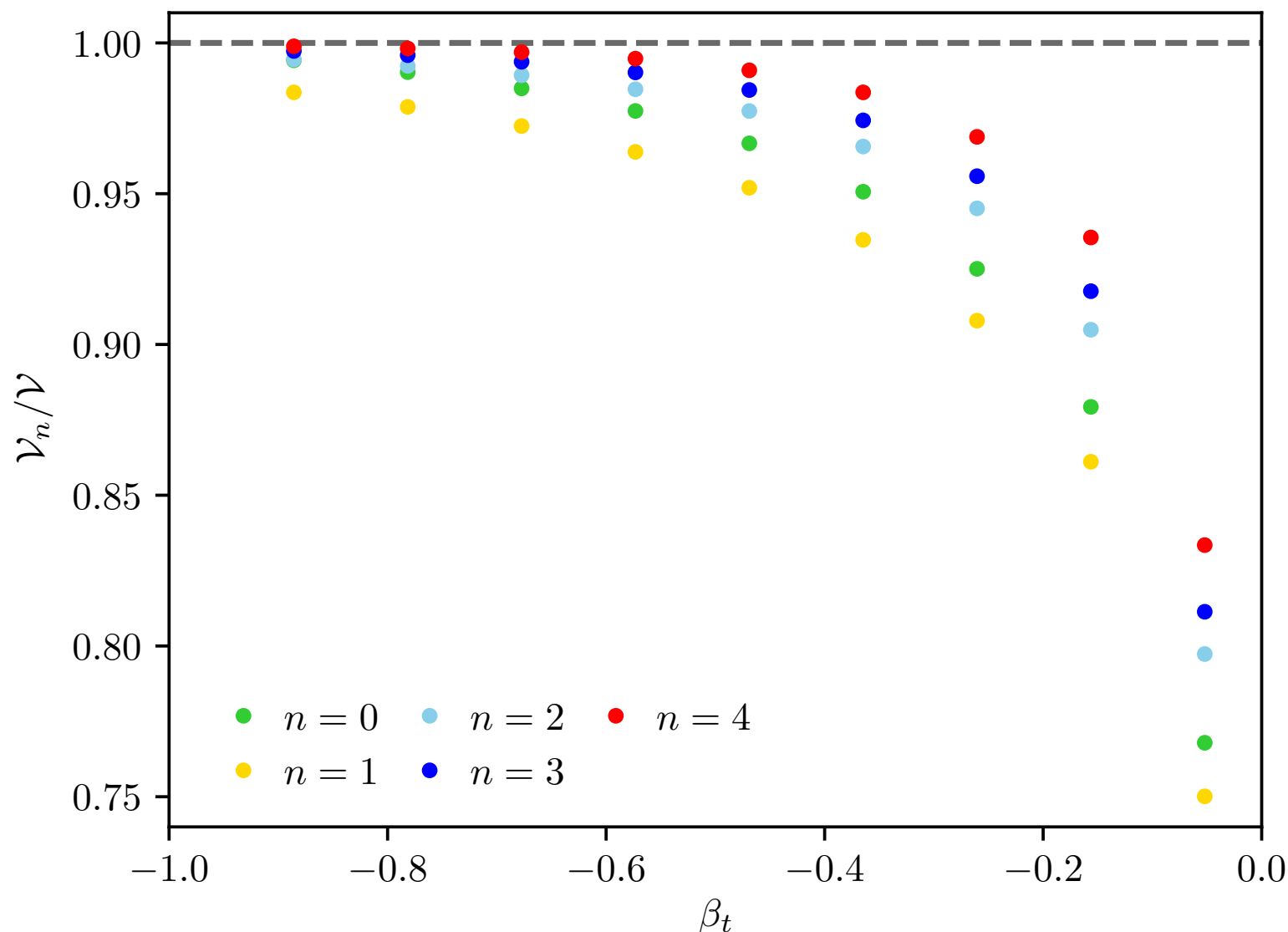
Comparison to Large m_t Expansion

The amplitude has been expanded around large- m_t and computed analytically

Hasselhuhn, Luthe, Steinhauser 17; Davies, Mishima, Steinhauser 20

Let us compare our result to the Born reweighted $1/m_t^{2n}$ expansion:

$$\mathcal{V}_n = \frac{\mathcal{B}}{\mathcal{B}_n} \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_n + \mathcal{V}^{\text{1PR}}$$



Per mille level agreement far below top quark threshold:

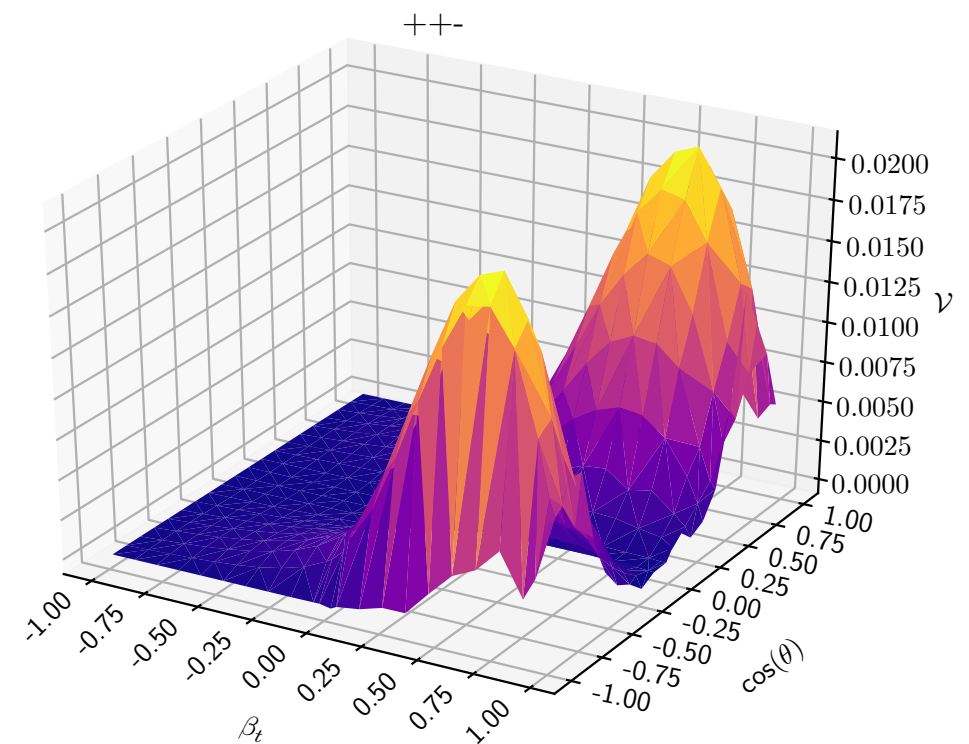
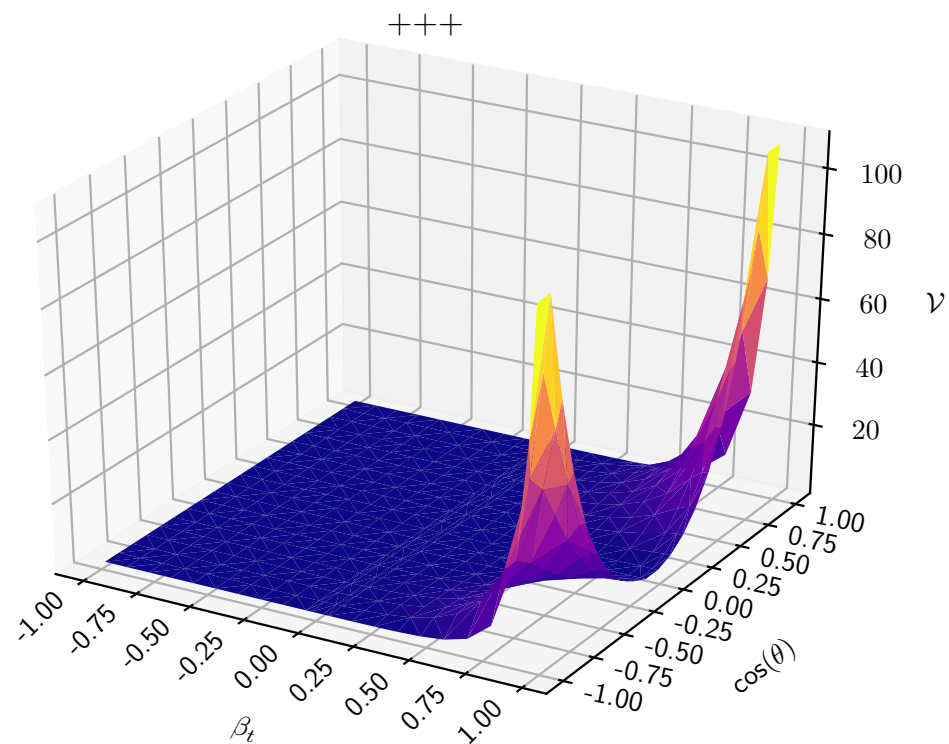
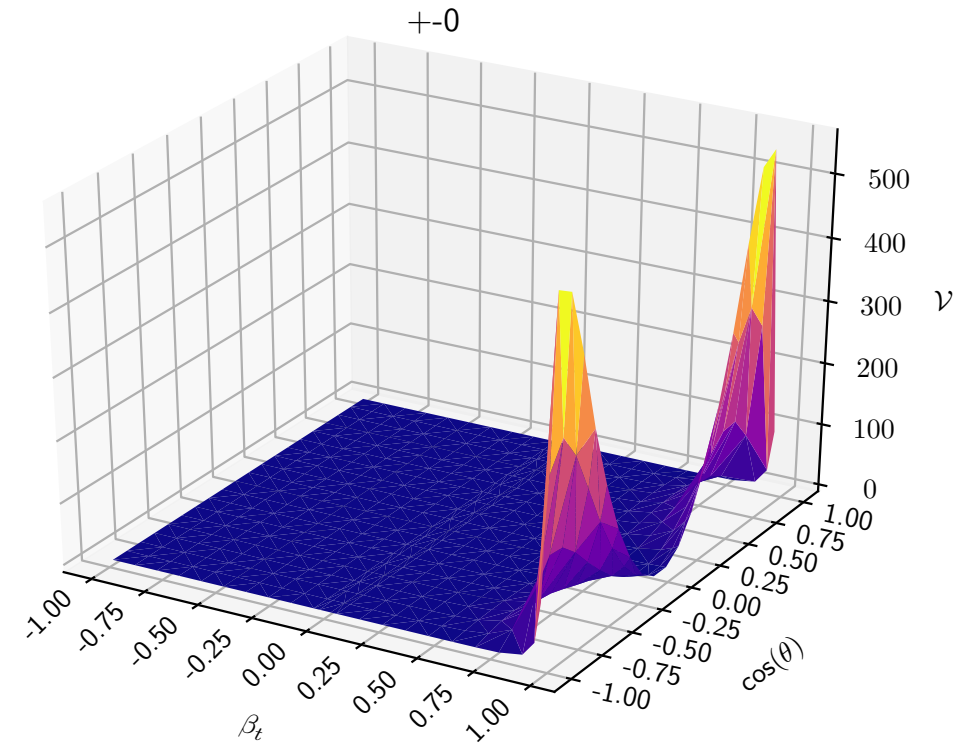
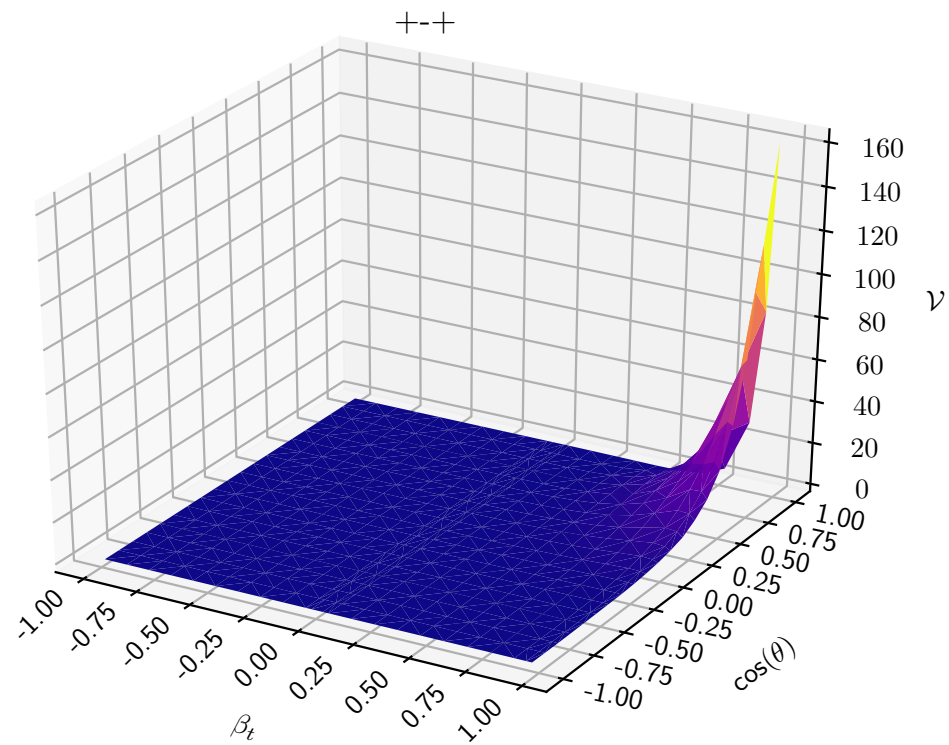
$$\mathcal{V}_4/\mathcal{V} = 0.9989$$

Expansion breaks down at threshold, observe that it differs from our result

Observation: $n = 1$ apparently worse than $n = 0$

Helicity Amplitudes

We can produce precise results for all helicity amplitudes also in kinematic limits!

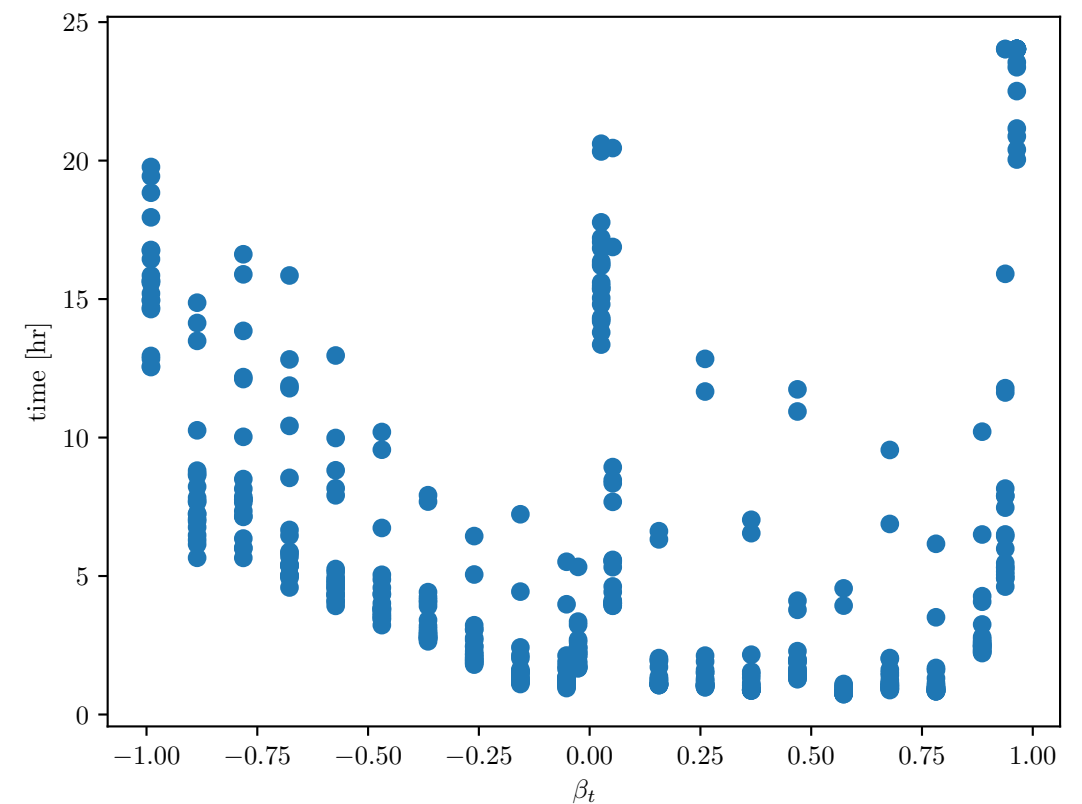
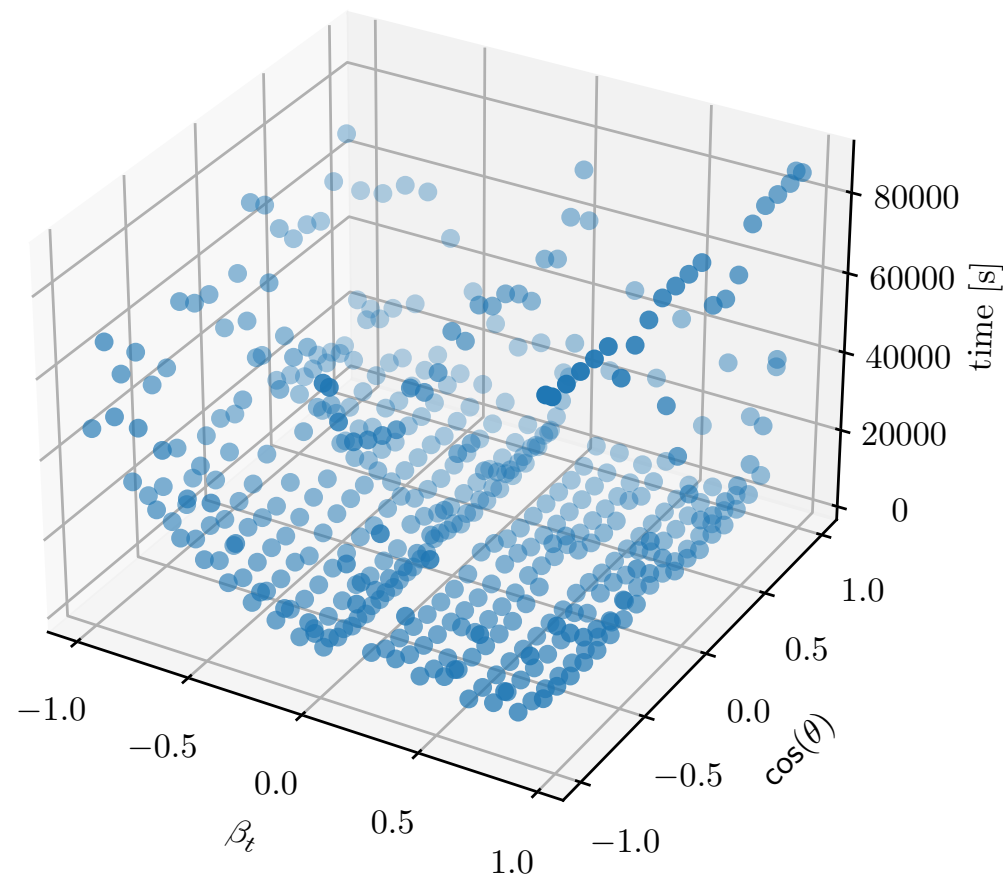


Evaluation of the Amplitude (Timing)

Each phase-space point evaluated with 2 x Nvidia Tesla V100 GPUs
Precision goal set to 0.3% for each (linearly polarised) amplitude

Timing/ point:

Min: 45 mins, **Max:** 24 hr (wall-clock), ~65 hr (high-energy), **Median:** 3.5 hr



Worst performance near to ZH , $t\bar{t}$ thresholds, high-energy and forward scattering