

# Recent Progress in EW Calculations

*Ansgar Denner, Würzburg*

**2nd Workshop on Tools for High Precision LHC Simulations  
Ringberg, May 8-11, 2024**

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Automated tools for NLO EW corrections
- 3 Logarithmic approximation of EW corrections
- 4 Recent calculations for specific processes
- 5 Polarised vector bosons
- 6 Conclusion and outlook
- 7 Backup

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Automated tools for NLO EW corrections
- 3 Logarithmic approximation of EW corrections
- 4 Recent calculations for specific processes
- 5 Polarised vector bosons
- 6 Conclusion and outlook
- 7 Backup

Generic size  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha) \sim \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2) \Rightarrow$  NLO EW  $\sim$  NNLO QCD  
 typical: few per cent (for inclusive observables)

systematic enhancements

- by (soft and/or collinear) photon emission:  
 kinematic effects such as radiative tails  
 collinear logarithms  $\propto \alpha \ln(m_\mu/Q)$  for bare muons  
 $\Rightarrow$  huge effects ( $> 100\%$ ) possible (in radiative tails)
- at high energies:  
 EW Sudakov logarithms  $\propto (\alpha/s_w^2) \ln^2(M_W/Q)$  and subleading logs  
 $\Rightarrow$  EW corrections of several 10% in high-energy tails of distributions  
 or cross sections dominated by high scales

$\Rightarrow$  NLO EW corrections can be sizeable  
 $\Rightarrow$  must be included in theoretical predictions

automation of (fixed-order) NLO EW corrections basically done

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Automated tools for NLO EW corrections**
- 3 Logarithmic approximation of EW corrections
- 4 Recent calculations for specific processes
- 5 Polarised vector bosons
- 6 Conclusion and outlook
- 7 Backup

## NLO EW matrix element providers

tool	collaboration	
GOSAM	Chiesa et al.	1407.0823
MADGRAPH5_AMC@NLO	Frixione et al.	1804.10017
NLOX	Honeywell et al.	1812.11925, 2101.01305
OPENLOOPS	Pozzorini et al.	1907.13071
RECOLA	Actis et al.	1211.6316, 1605.01090

2  $\rightarrow$  6 and simpler processes routinely available.

## State-of-the-art applications:

- $2 \rightarrow 6$  processes

$$pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} \quad (t\bar{t})$$

$$pp \rightarrow 4\ell jj \quad (\text{VBS})$$

$$pp \rightarrow \ell_1^- \bar{\nu}_{\ell_1} \ell_2^+ \nu_{\ell_2} \ell_3^+ \nu_{\ell_3} \quad (\text{WWW})$$

$$pp \rightarrow e^+ e^- \mu^+ \nu_\mu jj b \quad (tZj)$$

Denner, Pellen 1607.05571

Denner et al. 1611.02951, 1708.00268,

1904.00882, 2009.00411, 2107.10688, 2202.10844

Dittmaier et al. 2308.16716

Schönherr 1806.00307, Dittmaier et al. 1912.04117

Denner, Pelliccioli, Schwan 2207.11264

- $2 \rightarrow 7$  processes

$$pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} H \quad (t\bar{t}H)$$

Denner, Lang, Pellen, Uccirati 1612.07138

- $2 \rightarrow 8$  processes

$$pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \tau^+ \nu_\tau \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} \quad (t\bar{t}W)$$

$$pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} \tau^+ \tau^- \quad (t\bar{t}Z)$$

$$pp \rightarrow W^+ W^- b \bar{b} \gamma \gamma \quad (t\bar{t} \gamma \gamma)$$

$$\rightarrow \ell^+ \nu_\ell \ell^- \bar{\nu}_\ell \gamma \gamma$$

Denner, Pelliccioli 2102.03246

Denner, Lombardi, Pelliccioli 2306.13535

(narrow-width approximation)

Stremmer, Worek 2403.03796

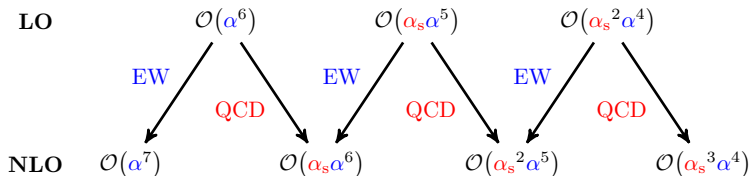
Full NLO corrections (all orders in  $\alpha_s^{n-m} \alpha^{m+1}$ ) exist for several processes.

Example:  $pp \rightarrow 4\ell jj$  (vector-boson scattering:  $pp \rightarrow VVjj$ )

LO: pure EW diagrams  $\mathcal{O}(e^6)$  and diagrams with gluons  $\mathcal{O}(e^4 g_s^2)$

NLO: EW and QCD corrections to both types of diagrams

at level of cross section:



full NLO corrections = all NLO orders

consequences:

- QCD and EW corrections cannot be separated in general
- QCD corrections to leading LO terms well defined
- consider well-defined orders  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^n \alpha^m)$
- automation must deal with expansion in different couplings



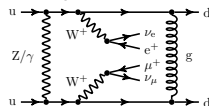
Virtual diagrams mix QCD and EW corrections:

- EW correction to LO QCD amplitude
- QCD correction to LO EW amplitude
- QED and QCD IR singularities

⇒ separation into QCD and EW is not well-defined at NLO

real subtraction terms with both gluons and photons needed

example from VBS



- 1 Introduction
- 2 Automated tools for NLO EW corrections
- 3 Logarithmic approximation of EW corrections**
- 4 Recent calculations for specific processes
- 5 Polarised vector bosons
- 6 Conclusion and outlook
- 7 Backup

For energies  $Q \lesssim 300$  GeV:

- corrections related to the running of the electromagnetic coupling  $\alpha(Q) \propto \alpha \log(m_f/Q)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  incorporated by suitable choice of renormalisation of  $\alpha$ 
  - $\alpha(0)$  for external isolated photons
  - $\alpha(M_Z)$  or  $\alpha_{G_\mu}$  otherwise

$$\alpha_{G_\mu} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} G_\mu M_W^2 \left( 1 - \frac{M_W^2}{M_Z^2} \right)$$

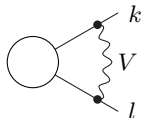
- corrections originating from soft photons or collinear massless fermion–antifermion or (anti)fermion–photon pairs  $\propto \alpha \log(m_f/Q)$ 
  - YFS resummation (Yennie–Frautschi–Suura)
  - electromagnetic parton showers
- top-mass corrections  $\propto \alpha m_t^2 / (M_W^2 s_w^2)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  (partially) incorporated by using  $\alpha_{G_\mu}$

For energies  $Q \gtrsim 300$  GeV in addition:

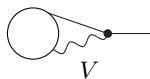
- logarithmic electroweak corrections involving  $\alpha \ln(Q/M_W)$  and  $\alpha \ln^2(Q/M_W)$

## Origin of leading-logarithmic virtual EW corrections

- double logarithms from soft-collinear singular diagrams:  $(\alpha/s_w^2) \ln^2(s_{kl}/M_W^2)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  angular-dependent logarithms of the form  
 $\ln \frac{s_{kl}}{s} \ln \frac{s}{M_W^2}, \ln \frac{t}{u} \ln \frac{s}{M_W^2}$



- single logarithms from collinear-singular diagrams and wave-function renormalisation (self-energies):  $(\alpha/s_w^2) \ln(Q/M_W)$



- single logarithms from coupling renormalisation at scale  $M_W \ll \sqrt{s}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  running of EW couplings ( $e, s_w, \lambda, g_{\text{Yukawa}}$ ) from  $M_W$  to  $\sqrt{s}$

Leading-logarithmic EW corrections depend only on gauge structure of model, external lines and their polarisations, (and on the running of the couplings).

$\Rightarrow$  Leading-logarithmic EW corrections are universal.

## Real emission of EW vector bosons

- separate IR-finite contribution, experimentally identifiable
- can be included as extra LO process if needed

General results for virtual EW logarithmic corrections to arbitrary non-mass suppressed processes in Sudakov limit,  $|s_{kl}| \gg M_W^2$ , exist

Denner, Pozzorini hep-ph/0010201

EW virtual corrections in logarithmic approximation implemented in

- ALPGEN (specific processes) Chiesa et al. 1305.6837
- MCFM (specific processes) Campbell et al. 1608.03356
- SHERPA (general processes) Bothmann, Napoletano 2006.14635
- MADGRAPH5\_AMC@NLO (general processes) Pagani, Zaro 2110.03714  
 Pagani, Vitos, Zaro 2309.00452
- OPENLOOPS (general processes) Lindert, Mai 2312.07927

optionally including some universal subsubleading non-mass-singular terms

Non-logarithmic terms can be consistently included via SCET<sub>EW</sub>

Chiu, Manohar et al. 1409.1918 and refs. therein.

**Non-logarithmic terms are process dependent!**

Recent implementation of SCET approach in Monte Carlo integrator based on RECOLA2 for di-boson production Denner, Rode 2402.10503

- Simple formulas, complexity of tree-level calculation
- non-logarithmic terms neglected  $\Rightarrow$  typical accuracy of few percent
- implementations in MADGRAPH5\_AMC@NLO and OPENLOOPS contain in addition to logarithms of Denner, Pozzorini '00
  - $i\pi$  terms resulting from  $\ln(-s_{kl}/M_W^2 - i\varepsilon) = \ln(|s_{kl}|/M_W^2) - \theta(s_{kl})i\pi$  in single-logarithmic (obvious) and non-logarithmic terms
  - $\ln^2 \frac{s_{kl}}{s}$  terms resulting from

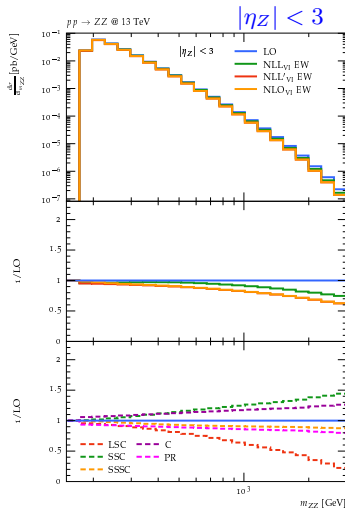
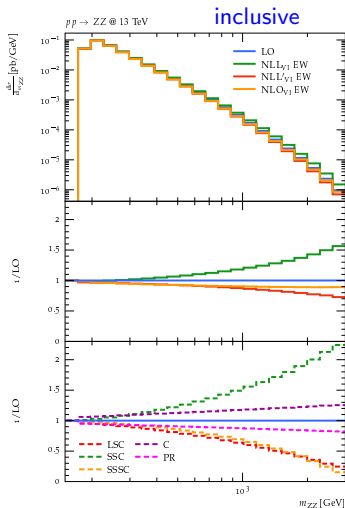
$$\ln^2 \frac{|s_{kl}|}{M^2} = \ln^2 \frac{s}{M^2} + 2 \ln \frac{s}{M^2} \ln \frac{|s_{kl}|}{s} + \ln^2 \frac{|s_{kl}|}{s}$$

These terms improve the approximation in many cases, but are not a result of a consistent expansion.

- logarithmic approximation often not useful for inclusive quantities [dominated by small scales, small EW corrections of  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha/(s_W^2\pi)) \sim 1\%$ ]
- quality needs to be checked case by case depends on distribution and phase-space region
- non-logarithmic terms may reach up to 10% (e.g. for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow W_L^+ W_L^-$  for  $\sqrt{s} = 3 \text{ TeV}$ )

Virtual corrections with IR poles subtracted via Catani–Seymour I operator  
 $NLL'_{V1}$  EW contains squared angular logarithms  $\ln^2(t/s)$ ,  $NLL_{V1}$  EW does not

Lindert, Mai 2312.07927



Lindert, Mai 2312.07927

## LA for processes with resonances

based on kinematic projectors to include logs for on-shell and off-shell process simultaneously

( $w = 10$  scaling factor,  $\mu^2 = M^2 - iM\Gamma$ )

$$P(k) = \left| \frac{\mu^2 - w^2 M^2 \Gamma^2}{(k^2 - M^2 + iwM\Gamma)^2 + \mu^2} \right| = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k^2 \rightarrow M^2 \\ 0 & \text{if } k^2 \rightarrow \infty \end{cases}$$

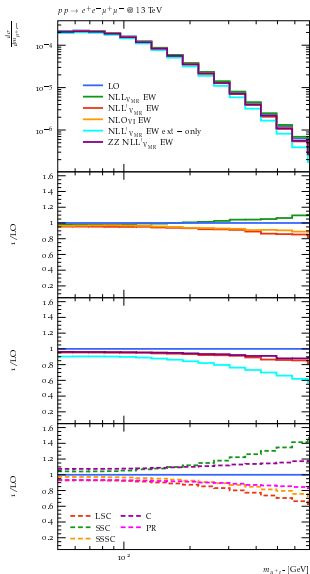
**NLL'  $V_{MR}$  EW** : logarithms from both full and on-shell process  
 $\Rightarrow$  describes full NLO EW and on-shell process well

**NLL'  $V_{MR}$  EW ext-only** : logarithms from external particles of full process  
 $\Rightarrow$  large deviation

**ZZ NLL'  $V_{MR}$**  : logarithms from on-shell process

Distribution in  $m_{\mu^+e^-}$  :

On-shell logarithms approximate well.





Lindert, Mai 2312.07927

## LA for processes with resonances

based on kinematic projectors to include logs for on-shell and off-shell process simultaneously

( $w = 10$  scaling factor,  $\mu^2 = M^2 - iM\Gamma$ )

$$P(k) = \left| \frac{\mu^2 - w^2 M^2 \Gamma^2}{(k^2 - M^2 + iwM\Gamma)^2 + \mu^2} \right| = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k^2 \rightarrow M^2 \\ 0 & \text{if } k^2 \rightarrow \infty \end{cases}$$

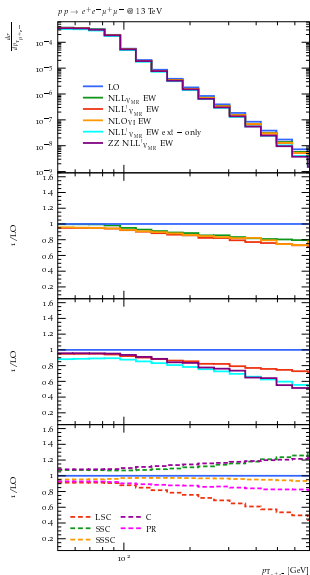
**NLL'  $V_{MR}$  EW** : logarithms from both full and on-shell process  
 $\Rightarrow$  describes full NLO EW and on-shell process well

**NLL'  $V_{MR}$  EW ext-only** : logarithms from external particles of full process  
 $\Rightarrow$  large deviation

**ZZ NLL'  $V_{MR}$**  : logarithms from on-shell process

Distribution in  $p_{T,\mu^+e^-}$ :

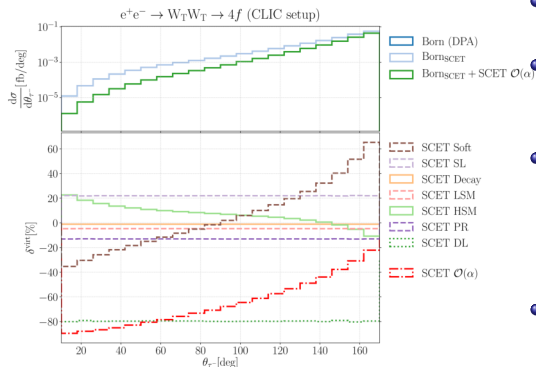
On-shell logarithms approximate poorly.



$$e^+e^- \rightarrow W_T^+ W_T^- \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \bar{\nu}_\tau \tau^+ \text{ for } \sqrt{s} = 3 \text{ TeV}$$

Denner, Rode 2402.10503

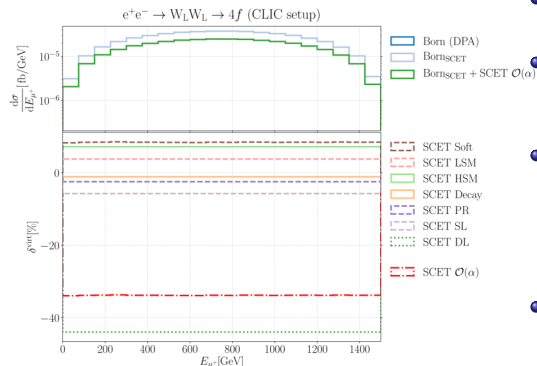
Distribution in  $\tau$  production angle for transverse W bosons



- SCET neglects all power-suppressed corrections  $\propto M_W^2/s$
- SCET  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$  reproduces full  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$  to better than 0.5%
- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$  corrections dominated by double logarithms (DL) and angular-dep. logarithms (Soft)
- Non-logarithmic corrections in high-scale matching (HSM), in low-scale matching (LSM), and in corrections to boson decay (Decay)
- 20% corrections in HSM [contains all(!)  $\ln^2(s/t)$  and  $\ln(s/t)$  terms]
- -4% corrections in LSM

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow W_L^+W_L^- \rightarrow \mu^+\nu_\mu\bar{\nu}_\tau\tau^+ \text{ for } \sqrt{s} = 3 \text{ TeV}$$

Distribution in  $\mu$  energy for longitudinal W bosons

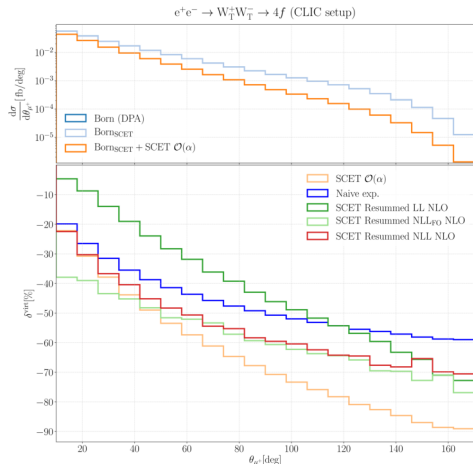


Denner, Rode 2402.10503

- SCET neglects all power-suppressed corrections  $\propto M_W^2/s$
- SCET  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$  reproduces full  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$  to better than 1%
- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$  corrections dominated by double logarithms (DL) and angular-dep. logarithms (Soft)
- Non-logarithmic corrections in high-scale matching (HSM), in low-scale matching (LSM), and in corrections to boson decay (Decay)
- 7% constant corrections in HSM [contains all(!)  $\ln^2(s/t)$  and  $\ln(s/t)$  terms]
- 4% constant corrections in LSM

$e^+e^- \rightarrow W_L^+ W_L^- \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \bar{\nu}_\tau \tau^+$  for  $\sqrt{s} = 3 \text{ TeV}$  Denner, Rode 2402.10503

Distribution in  $\mu$  production angle for  
transverse W bosons

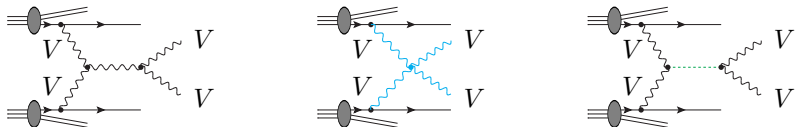


- Resummed LL NLO:  
 $\exp(\alpha L^2) + \alpha L + \alpha$
- Resummed NLL<sub>FO</sub> NLO:  
 $\exp(\alpha L^2)(1 + \alpha L) + \alpha$
- Resummed NLL NLO:  
 $\exp(\alpha L^2 + \alpha L) + \alpha$
- Naive exp.:  $\exp(\delta_{\text{FO}}^{\text{virt}})$
- complete NLL exponentiation  
important, effects of 20%
- Naive exponentiation  
deviates by 5–10%

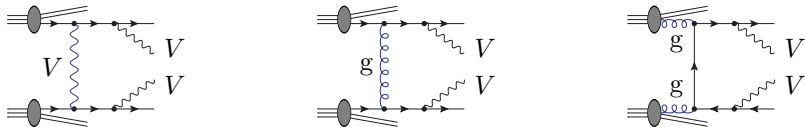
- 1 Introduction
- 2 Automated tools for NLO EW corrections
- 3 Logarithmic approximation of EW corrections
- 4 Recent calculations for specific processes**
- 5 Polarised vector bosons
- 6 Conclusion and outlook
- 7 Backup

Processes:  $pp \rightarrow VV + 2j \rightarrow 4\ell + 2j$

Vector-boson scattering (VBS) signal



Irreducible background to VBS



- **EW process:**  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^4)$  for stable  $V$ s,  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^6)$  with decays
- **QCD process**  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2\alpha^2)$  for stable  $V$ s,  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2\alpha^4)$  with decays
- non-vanishing **interferences** between EW and QCD contributions  
 $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s\alpha^3)$  for stable  $V$ s,  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s\alpha^5)$  with decays
- **gluonic channels** for neutral final states

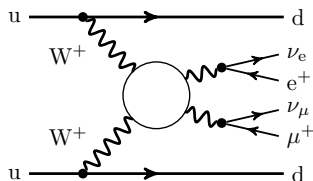
## Large NLO EW corrections to VBS processes

process	$\sigma_{\text{LO}}^{\mathcal{O}(\alpha^6)}$ [fb]	$\Delta\sigma_{\text{NLO,EW}}^{\mathcal{O}(\alpha^7)}$ [fb]	$\delta_{\text{EW}}$ [%]
Biedermann et al. 1708.00268 $pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu e^+ \nu_e jj$ ( $W^+ W^+$ )	(Dittmaier et al. 2308.16716) 1.4178(2)	-0.2169(3)	-15.3
Denner et al. 1904.0088 $pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- e^+ \nu_e jj$ ( $ZW^+$ )	0.25511(1)	-0.04091(2)	-16.0
Denner et al. 2009.00411 $pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- e^+ e^- jj$ ( $ZZ$ )	0.097681(2)	-0.015573(5)	-15.9
Denner et al. 2202.10844 $pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- e^+ e^- jj$ ( $W^+ W^-$ )	2.6988(3)	-0.307(1)	-11.4

- EW corrections similar for all processes and rather independent of cuts  
 ⇒ **intrinsic feature of VBS process**
- smaller corrections to  $W^+ W^-$  due to Higgs resonance in fiducial phase space  
 (Higgs contribution about 25%, corresponding EW corrections -6.5%)
- $\sigma^{\text{LO}}$  receives sizeable contributions involving large invariants  $s_{ij} \gg M_W$

Double-pole approximation (DPA) for outgoing W bosons  
 effective vector-boson approximation (EVBA) for incoming W bosons

- DPA and EVBA reduce discussion to  $V_1 V_2 \rightarrow V_3 V_4$
- DPA accurate for cross section within 1%
- EVBA crude approximation ( $\sim 50\%$ )  
 Kuss, Spiesberger '96, Dittmaier et al. '23  
 sufficient to understand dominant effects



high-energy, logarithmic approximation for  $V_1 V_2 \rightarrow V_3 V_4$  Denner, Pozzorini '00

$$d\sigma_{LL} = d\sigma_{LO} \left[ 1 - \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} 4C_W^{EW} \log^2 \left( \frac{Q^2}{M_W^2} \right) + \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} 2b_W^{EW} \log \left( \frac{Q^2}{M_W^2} \right) \right]$$

$$C_W^{EW} = \frac{2}{s_w^2}, \quad b_W^{EW} = \frac{19}{6s_w^2} \quad \text{for transverse W bosons,} \quad Q \rightarrow M_{4\ell}$$

(double EW logs, collinear single EW logs, and single logs from parameter renormalisation included) (angular-dependent logarithms omitted,  $\log \frac{t}{u} \log \frac{Q}{M_W}$ )

large NLO EW corrections intrinsic feature of VBS



Simple formula for total cross section

$$d\sigma_{LL} = d\sigma_{LO} \left[ 1 - \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} 4C_W^{EW} \log^2 \left( \frac{Q^2}{M_W^2} \right) + \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} 2b_W^{EW} \log \left( \frac{Q^2}{M_W^2} \right) \right]$$

process	$\delta_{EW}$ [%]	$\delta_{EW}^{\log, \text{int}}$ [%]	$\delta_{EW}^{\log, \text{diff}}$ [%]	$\langle M_{4\ell} \rangle$ [GeV]
$pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu e^+ \nu_e jj$	<b>-16.0</b>	-16.1	-15.0	<b>390</b>
$pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- e^+ \nu_e jj$	<b>-16.0</b>	-17.5	-16.4	<b>413</b>
$pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- e^+ e^- jj$	<b>-15.9</b>	-15.8	-14.8	<b>385</b>

- **surprisingly good agreement with complete calculation**
- large EW corrections are due to large gauge couplings of vector bosons ( $C^{EW}$ ) and large scale  $Q \sim \langle M_{4\ell} \rangle \sim 400$  GeV
- **angular-dependent logarithms** different for different processes  
 $\sim 1-2\%$  owing to cancellations

large NLO EW corrections intrinsic feature of VBS

Process:

$$pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} \tau^+ \tau^-$$

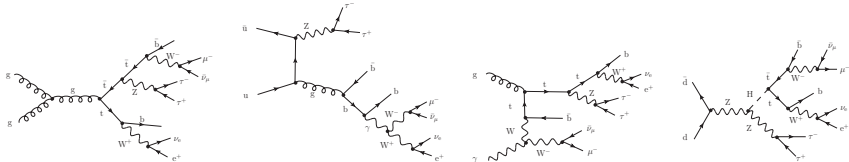
$$(pp \rightarrow t \bar{t} Z) (2 \rightarrow 8)$$

Denner, Lombardi, Pelliccioli  
2306.13535

LO:

- QCD and EW contributions
- interference of order  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^7)$  only receives contributions from photon- and bottom-induced channels

Sample diagrams for LO<sub>1</sub> (diags. 1, 2), LO<sub>2</sub> (diag. 3) and to LO<sub>3</sub> (diag. 4)



NLO<sub>1</sub>: QCD corrections to LO QCD

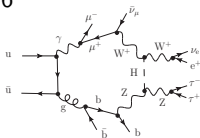
Bevilaqua et al. 2203.15688

## NLO<sub>2</sub>: EW corrections to LO<sub>1</sub> and QCD corrections to LO<sub>2</sub>

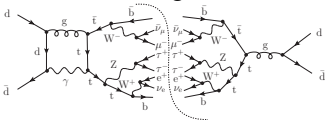
Denner, Lombardi, Pelliccioli 2306.13535

### Virtual corrections

- up 10-point functions with maximal rank 6

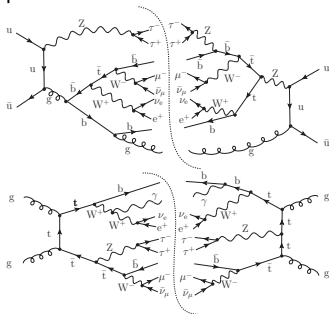


- Classification as QCD or EW corrections ambiguous



### Real corrections

- 2 → 9 process
- large number of IR-singular regions
- real QCD corrections from gluon and photon radiation



Virtual IR-singularities in  $\mathcal{O}(g_s^2 g^8) \times \mathcal{O}(g_s^2 g^6)$  cancelled by both classes of real corr.

NLO<sub>3</sub>: QCD corrections to LO<sub>3</sub> (dominant) and EW corrections to LO<sub>2</sub>

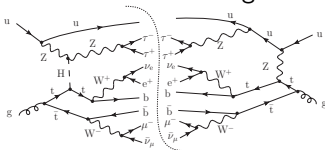
Denner, Lombardi, Pelliccioli 2306.13535

Naively expected to be subleading but comparable to LO<sub>3</sub> and NLO<sub>2</sub>

Frederix et al. 1804.10017

not as much enhanced as for  $t\bar{t}W$  production

Dominated by  $gq$  channel contribution involving  $tZ \rightarrow tZ$  scattering

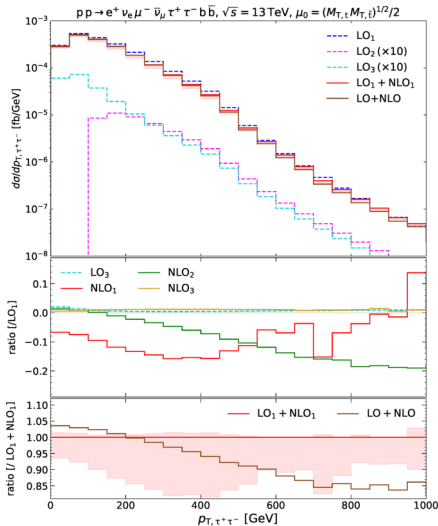


NLO<sub>4</sub>: EW corrections to LO<sub>3</sub>

Denner, Lombardi, Pelliccioli 2306.13535

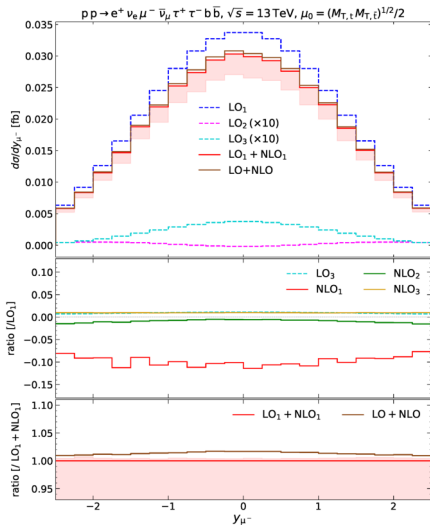
0.05% of LO<sub>1</sub>  $\Rightarrow$  negligible

Frederix et al. 1804.10017



Denner, Lombardi, Pelliccioli 2306.13535

- **NLO<sub>1</sub>** = NLO QCD corrections vary by 15%
- **NLO<sub>2</sub>** = “NLO EW corrections” vary between +2% and -20%
- **NLO<sub>3</sub>** =  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2/\alpha_s)$  corrections basically constant at 1%
- corrections beyond **NLO<sub>1</sub>**, dominated by EW corrections, strongly distort QCD prediction and exceed QCD scale uncertainty



Denner, Lombardi, Pelliccioli 2306.13535

- $y_{\mu^-}$  proxy for  $y_{\bar{t}}$
- **NLO<sub>1</sub>** = NLO QCD corrections vary by few % around  $-10\%$
- **NLO<sub>2</sub>** = “NLO EW corrections” are negative and below  $2\%$  owing to cancellations
- **NLO<sub>3</sub>** =  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2/\alpha_s)$  corrections basically constant at  $1\%$
- **corrections beyond NLO<sub>1</sub>**, including subleading LO contributions stay below  $2\%$

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Automated tools for NLO EW corrections
- 3 Logarithmic approximation of EW corrections
- 4 Recent calculations for specific processes
- 5 Polarised vector bosons**
- 6 Conclusion and outlook
- 7 Backup

## Observables with polarised massive vector bosons

- are important probes of Standard Model gauge and Higgs sectors,
- may provide discrimination power between SM and beyond-SM physics.

## Longitudinal polarisation mode of vector bosons is

- a consequence of the EW Symmetry Breaking
- very sensitive to deviations from SM:  
unitarity of cross sections with longitudinally polarised vector bosons realized in SM via cancellation of different contributions.

## Challenges and problems

- **Unstable massive vector bosons appear only as virtual particles**  $\Rightarrow$ 
  - no unique definition of vector-boson polarisations for off-shell bosons
  - diagrams without resonant vector bosons contribute to physical final state

$$\mathcal{M} = \text{[Diagram 1]} + \text{[Diagram 2]}$$

The equation shows two Feynman diagrams for a process  $\mathcal{M}$ . The first diagram shows two incoming fermion lines (solid lines with arrows) meeting at a vertex, connected by a wavy line representing a vector boson  $V$ , which then splits into two outgoing fermion lines. The second diagram shows a wavy line representing a vector boson  $V$  with two incoming fermion lines (solid lines with arrows) and two outgoing fermion lines (solid lines with arrows).

- **vector bosons are massive**  $\Rightarrow$   
definition of polarisation depends on reference frame

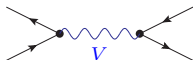


Idea: use pole expansion to extract resonant (vector-boson) contributions in gauge-invariant way Ballestrero, Maina, Pelliccioli '17, '19

formulation developed by Denner, Pelliccioli '20

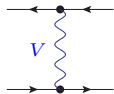
- not all diagrams involve required resonances

$$\frac{R(k^2)}{k^2 - M^2 + iM\Gamma} =$$



non-resonant diagrams

$$N(k^2) =$$



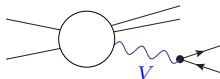
- split full matrix element into resonant part and non-resonant part using pole expansion (gauge-invariant)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A} &= \frac{R(k^2)}{k^2 - M^2 + iM\Gamma} + N(k^2) \\ &= \frac{R(M^2)}{k^2 - M^2 + iM\Gamma} + \frac{R(k^2) - R(M^2)}{k^2 - M^2} + N(k^2) = \mathcal{A}_{\text{res}} + \mathcal{A}_{\text{nonres}} \end{aligned}$$

- consider non-resonant part as irreducible background: no resonance
- define polarisation for on-shell residue  $R(M^2)$

## Separate polarisation modes of resonant amplitude

split propagator numerator of resonant particle



$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{A}_{\text{res}} &= \mathcal{P}_\mu \frac{-g^{\mu\nu}}{k^2 - M_W^2 + i\Gamma_W M_W} \mathcal{D}_\nu = \mathcal{P}_\mu \frac{\sum_\lambda \epsilon_\lambda^{\mu*}(k) \epsilon_\lambda^\nu(k)}{k^2 - M_W^2 + i\Gamma_W M_W} \mathcal{D}_\nu \\
 &= \sum_{\lambda=L,\pm} \frac{\mathcal{M}_\lambda^{\text{prod}} \mathcal{M}_\lambda^{\text{dec}}}{k^2 - M_W^2 + i\Gamma_W M_W} =: \sum_{\lambda=L,\pm} \mathcal{A}_\lambda,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\mathcal{A}_{\text{res}}|^2 = \sum_\lambda |\mathcal{A}_\lambda|^2 + \sum_{\lambda \neq \lambda'} \mathcal{A}_\lambda^* \mathcal{A}_{\lambda'}$$

- incoherent sum  $\sum_\lambda |\mathcal{A}_\lambda|^2$ :  $|\mathcal{A}_\lambda|^2 \propto$  “polarised cross sections”,  
 “polarisation fractions”:  $f_\lambda = \frac{|\mathcal{A}_\lambda|^2}{\sum_\lambda |\mathcal{A}_\lambda|^2}$
- interferences  $\sum_{\lambda \neq \lambda'} \mathcal{A}_\lambda^* \mathcal{A}_{\lambda'}$   
 vanish for quantities fully inclusive in decay products, but not in general

Method is universally applicable!

## Fixed-order results at (N)NLO

- results at LO for VBS for  $ss$ -WW, WZ, ZZ,  $os$ -WW  
Ballestrero, Maina, Pelliccioli '17, '19, '20 [PHANTOM]
- results at NLO QCD for
  - $pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu e^+ \nu_e (W^+ W^-)$  Denner, Pelliccioli 2006.14867
  - $pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- e^+ \nu_e (W^+ Z)$  Denner, Pelliccioli 2010.07149
  - $pp \rightarrow jj \ell^+ \ell^- (W^+ Z)$  Denner, Haitz, Pelliccioli '22
- results at NLO EW for (diboson production)
  - $pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- e^+ e^- (ZZ)$  Denner, Pelliccioli 2107.06579
  - $pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- e^+ \nu_e (W^+ Z)$  Baglio, Dao, Le 2203.01470, 2208.09232
  - $pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu (WW)$  Denner, Pelliccioli 2311.16031, Dao, Le 2311.17027
- results at NNLO QCD for
  - $pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu e^+ \nu_e (W^+ W^-)$  (DPA and NWA) Poncelet, Popescu 2102.13583
  - $pp \rightarrow \ell^\pm \nu_{\ell j} (Wj)$  (NWA) Pellen, Poncelet, Popescu 2109.14336

## Implementation in Monte Carlo generators

- MADGRAPH5\_AMC@NLO: spin-correlated narrow-width approximation (NWA), LO Franzosi, Mattelaer, Ruiz, Shil 1912.01725
- SHERPA: approximate NLO QCD (NWA) Hoppe, Schönherr, Siegert 2310.14803

$$pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu \text{ (WW):}$$

state	$\sigma_{\text{LO}}$ [fb]	$\sigma_{\text{NLO EW}}$ [fb]	$\delta_{\text{EW}}$ [%]	$f_{\text{NLO EW}}$ [%]
b $\bar{b}$ included, $\gamma b$ , $\gamma \bar{b}$ excluded				
full	259.02(2)	253.95(9)	-1.96	103.4
unp.	249.97(2)	245.49(2)	-1.79	100.0
LL	21.007(2)	20.663(2)	-1.64	8.4
LT	33.190(3)	33.115(3)	-0.23	13.5
TL	34.352(5)	34.230(5)	-0.35	13.9
TT	182.56(2)	178.21(3)	-2.38	72.6
int.	-21.14(5)	-20.6(2)	-2.45	-8.4

- irreducible background (3.4%) consistent with DPA accuracy
- sizeable interferences (-8.4%) from  $p_T$  cuts on charged leptons
- NLO EW corrections differ for various polarised and unpolarised cross sections

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Automated tools for NLO EW corrections
- 3 Logarithmic approximation of EW corrections
- 4 Recent calculations for specific processes
- 5 Polarised vector bosons
- 6 Conclusion and outlook**
- 7 Backup

## Status of fixed-order EW corrections

- EW corrections automated in several codes
  - EW corrections to  $2 \rightarrow 5(6)$  processes easily available
  - present frontier  $2 \rightarrow 7(8)$  processes
- EW corrections typically  $\lesssim 5\text{--}10\%$  for inclusive observables
- large EW corrections possible
  - in radiative tails ( $> 100\%$ )
  - in high-energy tails of distributions [ $\mathcal{O}(40\%)$ ]
  - in fiducial cross sections for specific processes [ $\mathcal{O}(20\%)$  for VBS]
- naively suppressed coupling orders may be important due to opening of new kinematic channels (e.g.  $tZ/W$  scattering in  $t\bar{t}Z/W$ )
- EW corrections in logarithmic approximation (plus improvements) implemented in automated tools
- methods for EW corrections to processes with polarised vector bosons exist
  - results for VV production available
  - results for VBS within reach

## Important topics not mentioned

- matching of EW corrections with parton showers
- PDFs and parton showers including EW effects

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Automated tools for NLO EW corrections
- 3 Logarithmic approximation of EW corrections
- 4 Recent calculations for specific processes
- 5 Polarised vector bosons
- 6 Conclusion and outlook
- 7 Backup

Stremmer, Worek 2403.03796

Full NLO corrections to

- $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}\gamma \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}\gamma \rightarrow \ell^+\nu_{\ell\ell}^-\bar{\nu}_{\ell}b\bar{b}\gamma + X$
- $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}\gamma\gamma \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \ell^+\nu_{\ell\ell}^-\bar{\nu}_{\ell}b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma + X$

in NWA for top quarks and W bosons at LHC

- full NLO corrections calculated
- Nagy–Soper Bevilacqua et al. 1305.5605 and Catani–Seymour Catani et al. hep-ph/9605323, hep-ph/0201036 subtraction schemes used (extended to QED within HELAC-DIPOLES Czakon et al. 0905.0883)
- LO and NLO matrix elements calculated with RECOLA Actis et al. 1605.0190
- bottom- and photon-induced processes included in all subleading contributions.



$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}\gamma\gamma \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \ell^+\nu_{\ell}\ell^-\bar{\nu}_{\ell}b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma + X$   
 in NWA for top quarks and W bosons at LHC

Stremmer, Worek 2403.03796

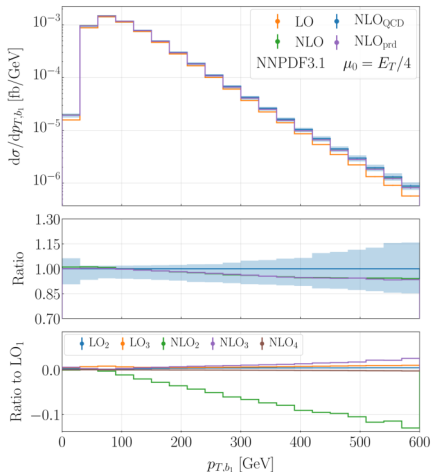
		$\sigma_i$ [fb]	Ratio to LO <sub>1</sub>
LO <sub>1</sub>	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2\alpha^6)$	0.15928(3) <sup>+31.3%</sup> <sub>-22.1%</sub>	1.00
LO <sub>2</sub>	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^1\alpha^7)$	0.0003798(2) <sup>+25.8%</sup> <sub>-19.2%</sub>	+0.24%
LO <sub>3</sub>	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^0\alpha^8)$	0.0010991(2) <sup>+10.6%</sup> <sub>-13.1%</sub>	+0.69%
NLO <sub>1</sub>	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3\alpha^6)$	+0.0110(2)	+6.89%
NLO <sub>2</sub>	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2\alpha^7)$	-0.00233(2)	-1.46%
NLO <sub>3</sub>	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^1\alpha^8)$	+0.000619(1)	+0.39%
NLO <sub>4</sub>	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^0\alpha^9)$	-0.0000166(2)	-0.01%
LO		0.16076(3) <sup>+30.9%</sup> <sub>-21.9%</sub>	1.0093
NLO <sub>QCD</sub>		0.1703(2) <sup>+1.9%</sup> <sub>-6.2%</sub>	1.0690
NLO <sub>prd</sub>		0.1694(2) <sup>+1.7%</sup> <sub>-5.9%</sub>	1.0637
NLO		0.1700(2) <sup>+1.8%</sup> <sub>-6.0%</sub>	1.0674

- All subleading LO contributions amount to less than 1%.
- NLO<sub>1</sub> corrections dominate, NLO<sub>2</sub> corrections amount to -1.5%.
- Subleading NLO corrections less suppressed than naively expected

$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}\gamma\gamma \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \ell^+\nu_\ell\ell^-\bar{\nu}_\ell b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma + X$$

in NWA for top quarks and W bosons at LHC

Stremmer, Worek 2403.03796



Distribution in transverse momentum of leading bottom quark

- Corrections beyond  $\text{NLO}_{\text{QCD}}$  amount to 6% in the tail.
- Approximation  $\text{NLO}_{\text{prd}}$  that includes the subleading corrections only for  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}\gamma\gamma$  reproduces NLO within 1%.
- All subleading LO contributions amount to less than about 1%.
- $\text{NLO}_2$  (EW) corrections reach  $-13\%$  for large  $p_{T,b_1}$ .
- $\text{NLO}_3$  corrections stay below 3%.
- Accidental cancellations between  $\text{NLO}_2$  and  $\text{NLO}_3$ .

$$pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} \tau^+ \tau^-$$

Denner, Lombardi, Pelliccioli 2306.13535

fiducial cross section (without bottom contributions)

perturbative order	$\sigma_{\text{nob}}$ [ab]	$\frac{\sigma_{\text{nob}}}{\sigma_{\text{nob, LO}_1}}$
LO <sub>1</sub>	107.246(5) <sup>+35.0%</sup> <sub>-24.0%</sub>	1.0000
LO <sub>2</sub>	0.7522(2) <sup>+11.1%</sup> <sub>-9.0%</sub>	+0.0070
LO <sub>3</sub>	0.2862(1) <sup>+3.4%</sup> <sub>-3.4%</sub>	+0.0027
NLO <sub>1</sub>	-11.4(1)	-0.1072
NLO <sub>2</sub>	-0.89(1)	-0.0083
NLO <sub>3</sub>	1.126(4)	+0.0105
NLO <sub>4</sub>	-0.0340(9)	-0.0003
LO <sub>1</sub> +NLO <sub>1</sub>	95.8(1) <sup>+0.4%</sup> <sub>-11.2%</sub>	+0.8933
LO	108.285(5) <sup>+34.7%</sup> <sub>-23.8%</sub>	+1.0097
LO+NLO	97.0(1) <sup>+0.5%</sup> <sub>-11.2%</sub>	+0.9052

- LO<sub>1</sub> dominates.
- LO<sub>2</sub> and LO<sub>3</sub> below 1%.
- **NLO<sub>1</sub>** = NLO QCD corr.: -11%
- **NLO<sub>2</sub>** = "NLO EW corr.": -0.9%
- **NLO<sub>3</sub>** =  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2/\alpha_s)$  corr. +1.1%.
- NLO<sub>4</sub> negligible.

$$pp \rightarrow e^+ e^- \mu^+ \mu^- (ZZ):$$

mode	$\sigma_{LO}$ [fb]	$\delta_{QCD}$	$\delta_{EW}$	$\delta_{gg}$	$\sigma_{NLO+}$ [fb]
full	11.1143(5) <sup>+5.6%</sup> <sub>-6.8%</sub>	+34.9%	-11.0%	+15.6%	15.505(6) <sup>+5.7%</sup> <sub>-4.4%</sub>
unpol.	11.0214(5) <sup>+5.6%</sup> <sub>-6.8%</sub>	+35.0%	-10.9%	+15.7%	15.416(5) <sup>+5.7%</sup> <sub>-4.4%</sub>
$Z_L Z_L$	0.64302(5) <sup>+6.8%</sup> <sub>-8.1%</sub>	<b>+35.7%</b>	-10.2%	<b>+14.5%</b>	0.9002(6) <sup>+5.5%</sup> <sub>-4.3%</sub>
$Z_L Z_T$	1.30468(9) <sup>+6.5%</sup> <sub>-7.7%</sub>	<b>+45.3%</b>	-9.9%	<b>+2.8%</b>	1.8016(9) <sup>+4.3%</sup> <sub>-3.5%</sub>
$Z_T Z_L$	1.30854(9) <sup>+6.5%</sup> <sub>-7.7%</sub>	<b>+44.3%</b>	-9.9%	<b>+2.8%</b>	1.7933(9) <sup>+4.3%</sup> <sub>-3.4%</sub>
$Z_T Z_T$	7.6425(3) <sup>+5.2%</sup> <sub>-6.4%</sub>	<b>+31.2%</b>	-11.2%	<b>+20.5%</b>	10.739(4) <sup>+6.2%</sup> <sub>-4.7%</sub>

- small irreducible background (0.5%) and interferences (1.2%)
- **sizeable QCD and EW corrections**
- **substantial contribution from loop-induced  $gg$  fusion for LL and TT**
- **polarisation fractions roughly conserved by NLO corrections** owing to cancellations

