

# QCD Corrections to Vector Boson Fusion Higgs Production Channels

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
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  - The NLO Calculation
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- 3 Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO
  - The NLO Calculation
  - NLO Results
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# SM Higgs boson

$SU(2)_L$  doublet of scalar Higgs fields

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \Phi^+ \\ \Phi^0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y = 1$$

$$SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \rightarrow U(1)_{em}$$

# SM Higgs boson

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$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \Phi^+ \\ \Phi^0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y = 1$$

$$SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \rightarrow U(1)_{em}$$

Is the neutral scalar the SM Higgs?

- Mass determination
- CP quantum numbers
- Couplings to gauge bosons and fermions

# SM Higgs boson

## Higgs couplings to fermions

Fermion masses arise from Yukawa couplings via

$$\Phi^\dagger \rightarrow \left(0, \frac{v+H}{\sqrt{2}}\right).$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}} = - \sum_f m_f \bar{f} f \left(1 + \frac{H}{v}\right)$$

- Test SM prediction:  $\bar{f}fH$  Higgs coupling strength =  $m_f/v$
- Observation of  $Hf\bar{f}$  Yukawa coupling is no proof that a v.e.v exists (maybe a scalar singlet)

# SM Higgs boson

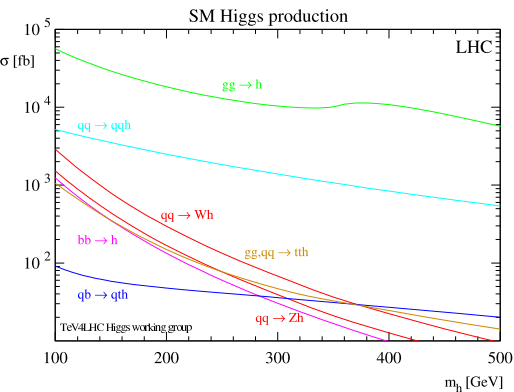
## Higgs couplings to gauge bosons

Kinetic energy term of the Higgs doublet field:

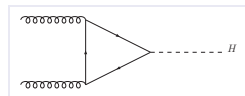
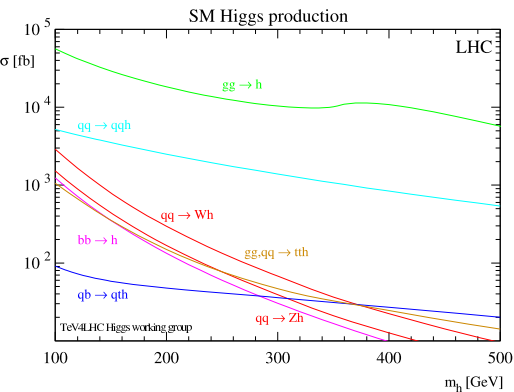
$$(D^\mu \Phi)^\dagger (D_\mu \Phi) = \frac{1}{2} \partial^\mu H \partial_\mu H + \left[ \left( \frac{g v}{2} \right)^2 W^{\mu+} W_\mu^- + \frac{1}{2} \frac{(g^2 + g'^2) v^2}{4} Z^\mu Z_\mu \right] \left( 1 + \frac{H}{v} \right)^2$$

- $W, Z$  mass generation:  $m_W^2 = \left( \frac{g v}{2} \right)^2$ ,  $m_Z^2 = \frac{(g^2 + g'^2) v^2}{4}$
- $WWH$  and  $ZZH$  couplings are generated: coupling strength =  $2m_W^2/v \approx g^2 v$  within SM

# Total SM Higgs cross sections at the LHC

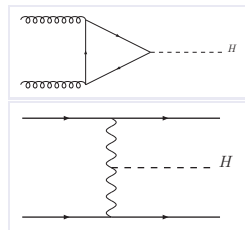
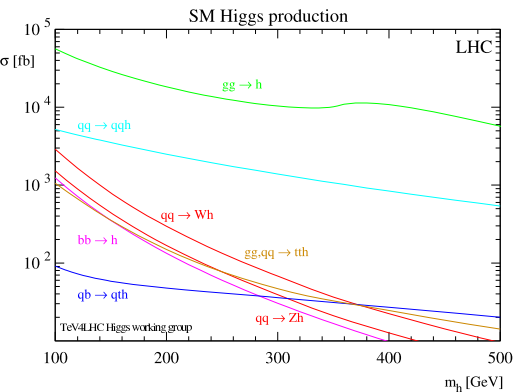


# Total SM Higgs cross sections at the LHC

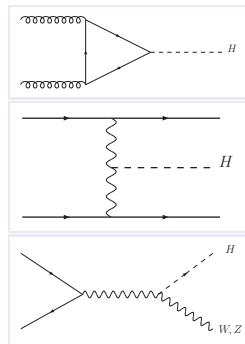
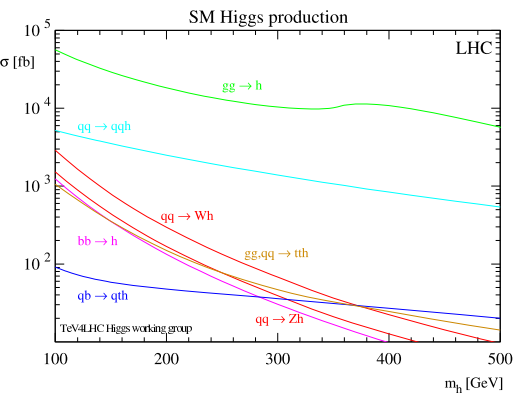




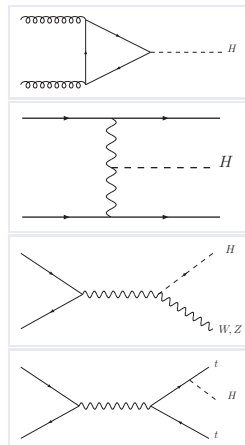
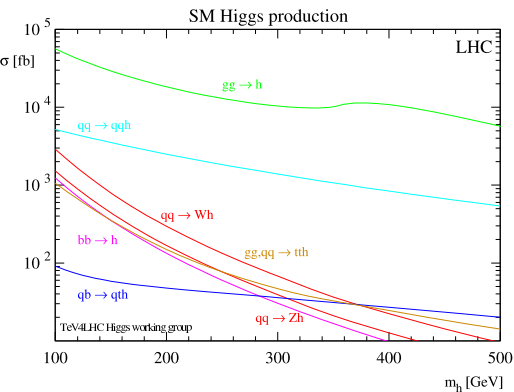
# Total SM Higgs cross sections at the LHC



# Total SM Higgs cross sections at the LHC

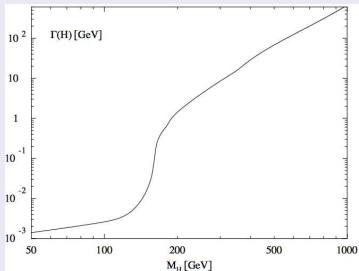


# Total SM Higgs cross sections at the LHC

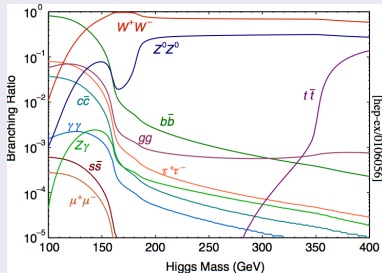


# Decay of the SM Higgs

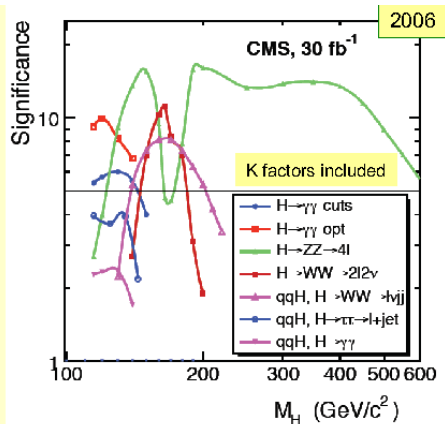
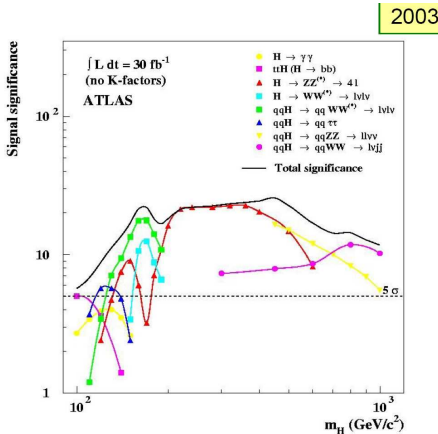
## Decay width



## Branching ratios

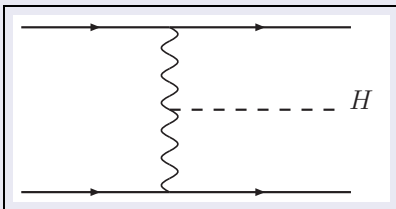


# Discovery potential



# Vector Boson Fusion

Leading Order:  $qQ \rightarrow HqQ$



Statistical accuracies at the LHC:  
 $\sigma \times \text{BR} \sim 10\%$

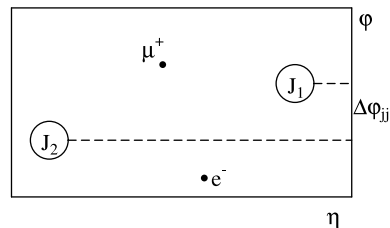
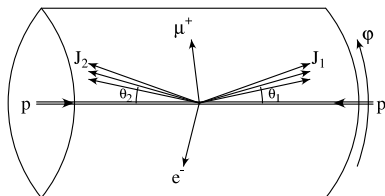
Higgs search  
 channels:

- $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$ ,  
 $m_H > 120 \text{ GeV}$
- $H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ ,  
 $m_H < 140 \text{ GeV}$
- $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ,  
 $m_H < 150 \text{ GeV}$

Eboli,Hagiwara,Kauer,Plehn,

Rainwater,Zeppenfeld,...

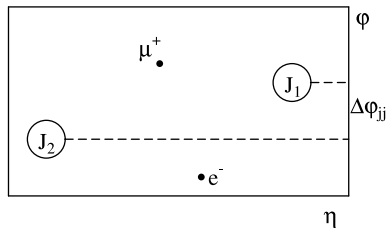
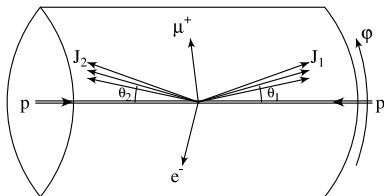
# Vector Boson Fusion



## Event Characteristics

- Energetic jets in the forward and backward directions ( $p_T > 20$  GeV)

# Vector Boson Fusion

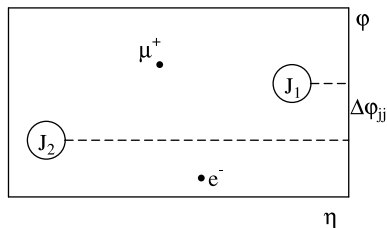
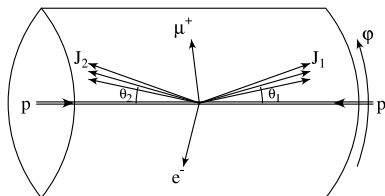


## Event Characteristics

- Energetic jets in the forward and backward directions ( $p_T > 20$  GeV)
- Higgs decay products between tagging jets



# Vector Boson Fusion



## Event Characteristics

- Energetic jets in the forward and backward directions ( $p_T > 20$  GeV)
- Higgs decay products between tagging jets
- Little gluon radiation in the central-rapidity region (colorless  $W/Z$  exchange)

# Vector Boson Fusion

## NLO Corrections

- Total cross section at NLO: Han, Willenbrock (1991)
- Distributions at NLO: T.F., Oleari, Zeppenfeld (2003); Campbell, Ellis, Berger (2004)
- 1-loop EW corrections: Ciccolini, Denner, Dittmaier (2007)
- approx. NLO QCD to  $Hjjj$ : T.F., Hankele, Zeppenfeld (2007)



# Higgs Production via Vector Boson Fusion at NLO

## The NLO Calculation

Catani and Seymour, hep-ph/9605323

### Dipole subtraction method

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{ab}^{NLO}(p, \bar{p}) &= \sigma_{ab}^{NLO\{4\}}(p, \bar{p}) + \sigma_{ab}^{NLO\{3\}}(p, \bar{p}) \\ &+ \int_0^1 dx [\hat{\sigma}_{ab}^{NLO\{3\}}(x, xp, \bar{p}) + \hat{\sigma}_{ab}^{NLO\{3\}}(x, p, x\bar{p})] \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma_{ab}^{NLO\{3\}}(p, \bar{p}) = \int_3 [d\sigma_{ab}^V(p, \bar{p}) + d\sigma_{ab}^B(p, \bar{p}) \otimes \mathbf{I}]_{\epsilon=0}$$











# NLO vs LO

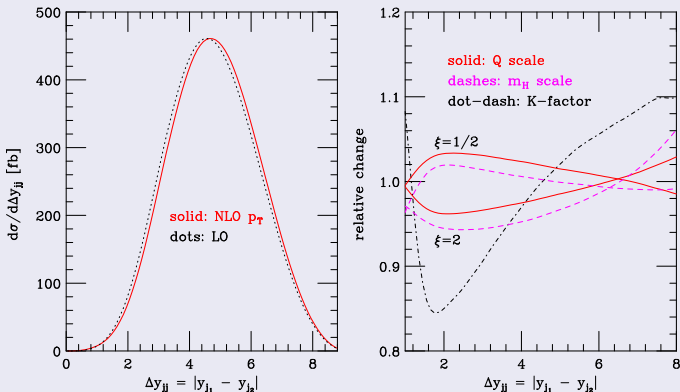
## Tagging Jet Selection

- $p_T$  -**method**: Define the tagging jets at the two highest  $p_T$  jets in the event.
- $E$  -**method**: Define the tagging jets as the two highest energy jets in the event.



# NLO vs LO

## Tagging jet rapidity separation

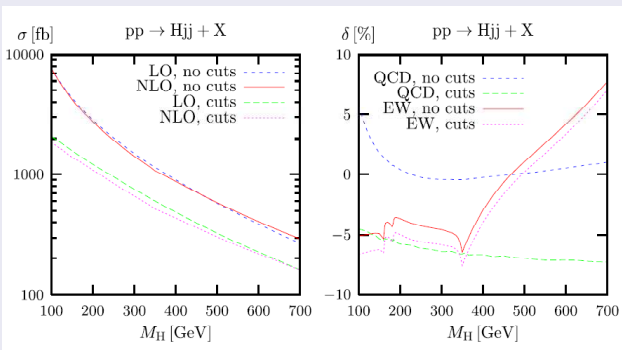


Tagging jets are slightly more forward at NLO than at LO



$\Delta y_{jj} > 4$  cut works well at NLO.

# QCD and Electroweak Corrections

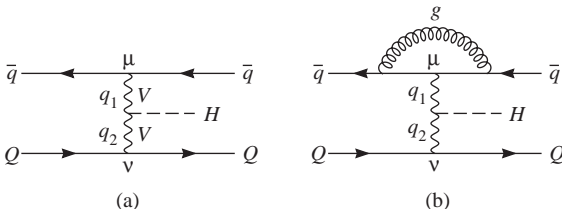


M. Ciccolini, A. Denner and S. Dittmaier, Phys. Rev. D **77** (2008) 013002 [arXiv:0710.4749 [hep-ph]].

# Anomalous Higgs Couplings

## General Tensor Structure for the $HVV$ vertex

$$\begin{aligned}
 T^{\mu\nu}(q_1, q_2) &= a_1(q_1, q_2) g^{\mu\nu} \\
 &+ a_2(q_1, q_2) [q_1 \cdot q_2 g^{\mu\nu} - q_2^\mu q_1^\nu] \\
 &+ a_3(q_1, q_2) \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} q_{1\rho} q_{2\sigma}
 \end{aligned}$$



# Anomalous Higgs Couplings

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 \end{aligned}$$

- 1 SM-like:  $a_1$
- 2 CP even:  $a_2$
- 3 CP odd:  $a_3$

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 \end{aligned}$$

The QCD corrections to Higgs production via VBF are computed in the presence of anomalous  $HVV$  couplings using VBFNLO. T. Figy and D. Zeppenfeld, Phys. Lett. B 591, 297 (2004)

# Anomalous Higgs Couplings

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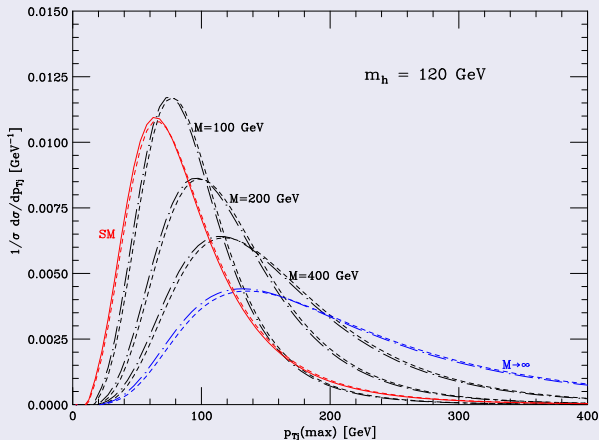
## Form factor dependence

$$a_i(q_1, q_2) = a_i(0, 0) \frac{M^2}{|q_1^2| + M^2} \frac{M^2}{|q_2^2| + M^2}$$



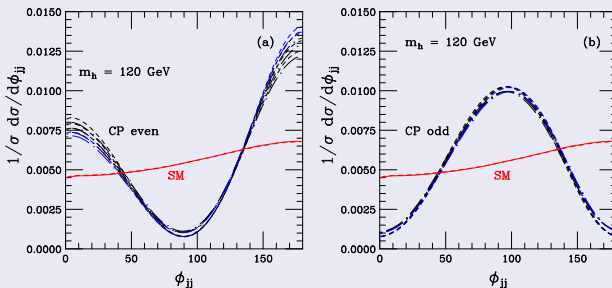
# Anomalous Higgs Couplings

## $p_{T_j}$ distributions



# Anomalous Higgs Couplings

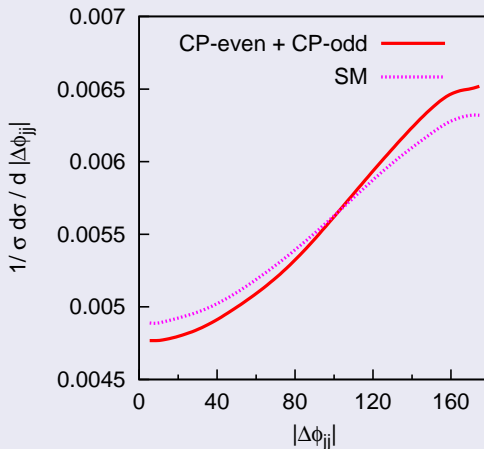
$\phi_{jj} = |\phi_{j_1} - \phi_{j_2}|$  distributions



Form factor dependence is small.

# Anomalous Higgs Couplings

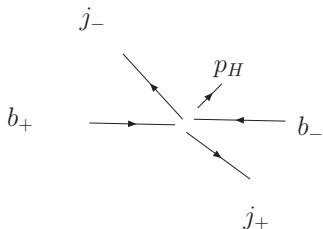
The case:  $a_2 = a_3$



But, it doesn't work!

# Anomalous Higgs Couplings

## Redefinition of $\phi_{jj}$



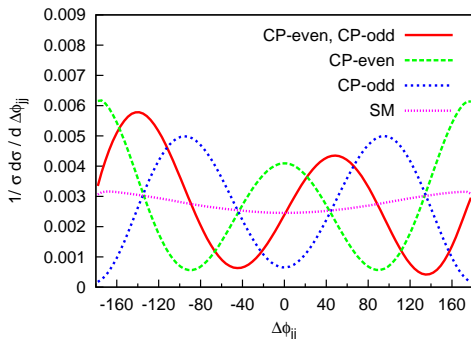
- Invariant under  $(b_+, p_+) \leftrightarrow (b_-, p_-)$
- Parity odd variable

V. Hankele, G. Klamke, D. Zeppenfeld and T. Figy, Phys. Rev D74 (2006) 095001 [hep-ph/0609075]

Define the azimuthal angle between  $j_+$  and  $j_-$  as:

$$\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} b_+^\mu p_+^\nu b_-^\rho p_-^\sigma = 2p_{T,1}p_{T,2} \sin(\phi_+ - \phi_-) = 2p_{T,1}p_{T,2} \sin \Delta\phi_{jj}$$

# Anomalous Higgs Couplings



- Mixed CP case:  $a_2 = a_3$ ,  $a_1 = 0$
- Pure CP-even case:  $a_2$  only
- Pure CP-odd case:  $a_3$  only

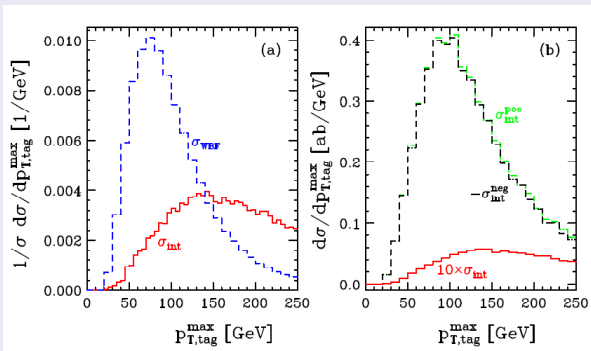
Position of minimum of the  $\Delta\phi_{jj}$  distribution measures the relative size of the CP-even and CP-odd couplings.

$$a_1 = 0, \quad a_2 = d \cos \alpha, \quad a_3 = d \sin \alpha$$

⇒ Maxima at  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha + \pi$

# Anomalous Higgs Couplings

Pollution from the SM ?



A. Bredenstein, K. Hagiwara and B. Jäger, Phys. Rev. D **77** (2008) 073004 [arXiv:0801.4231 [hep-ph]].

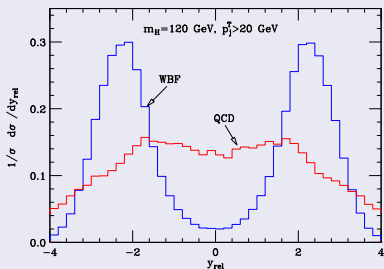
J. R. Andersen, T. Binoth, G. Heinrich and J. M. Smillie, JHEP **0802** (2008) 057 [arXiv:0709.3513 [hep-ph]]



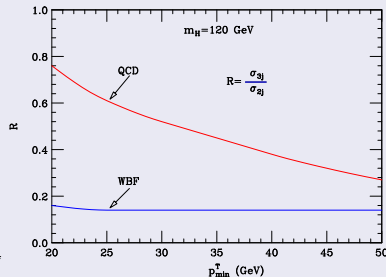


# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at LO

## Example: Gluon fusion vs vector boson fusion



JHEP 05 (2004) 064

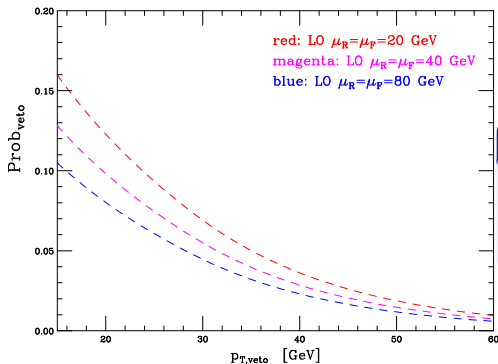


$$y_{\text{rel}} = y_j^{\text{veto}} - (y_j^{\text{tag } 1} + y_j^{\text{tag } 2})/2$$



# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at LO

## Central Jet Veto at LO



Veto Probability:

$$\text{Prob}_{\text{veto}} = \frac{1}{\sigma_2^{\text{NLO}}} \int_{p_{T,\text{veto}}}^{\infty} dp_{Tj}^{\text{veto}} \frac{d\sigma_3^{\text{LO}}}{dp_{Tj}^{\text{veto}}}$$



# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at LO

## Central Jet Veto at LO

- Scale variation at LO for  $\sigma_3$ : +33% to -17% for  $p_{T,veto} = 15$  GeV
- Theoretical uncertainty in  $\text{Prob}_{veto}$  feeds into the uncertainty in determining couplings.
- In order to constrain couplings more precisely, compute the **NLO QCD corrections to  $Hjjj$**

TF,V. Hankele and D. Zeppenfeld JHEP 0802 (2008) 076 [arXiv:0710.5621]

# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO

Born amplitude

## Color structure

$$\mathcal{M}_B = \delta_{i_2 i_b} t_{i_1 i_a}^{a_3} \left[ \mathcal{M}_{B,1a} : \begin{array}{c} \text{3} \\ \text{a} \text{---} \text{1} \\ \text{b} \text{---} \text{2} \\ \text{H} \end{array} \right] + \delta_{i_1 i_a} t_{i_2 i_b}^{a_3} \left[ \mathcal{M}_{B,2b} : \begin{array}{c} \text{a} \text{---} \text{1} \\ \text{b} \text{---} \text{2} \\ \text{3} \\ \text{H} \end{array} \right]$$

# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO

## Virtual and Real Corrections

- Virtual: Two gauge invariant subsets
  - Vertex + Propagator + Box
  - Pentagon + Hexagon
- Real: 4 final state partons + Higgs via VBF

T. M. Figy, Ph.D. Thesis, UMI-32-34582.

# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO

## Virtual and Real Corrections

### Box+Vertex+Propagator corrections

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{Box} &= \delta_{i_2 i_b} t_{i_1 i_a}^{a_3} \left[ \mathbf{Box(1a)} : \begin{array}{ccc} \text{Diagram 1} & \text{Diagram 2} & \text{Diagram 3} \end{array} \right] \\
 &+ \delta_{i_1 i_a} t_{i_2 i_b}^{a_3} \left[ \mathbf{Box(2b)} : \begin{array}{ccc} \text{Diagram 4} & \text{Diagram 5} & \text{Diagram 6} \end{array} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

The diagrams show various box, vertex, and propagator corrections for the VBF Higgs production process. Each diagram consists of two incoming quark lines (1 and 2) and two outgoing quark lines (1 and 2). A wavy line represents a Higgs boson. The diagrams are arranged in two rows: Box(1a) and Box(2b). Each row contains three diagrams. In the first row, the Higgs boson is attached to the top quark line. In the second row, the Higgs boson is attached to the bottom quark line. The diagrams show different ways the Higgs boson can interact with the quark lines, including box diagrams, vertex corrections, and propagator corrections.

# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO

## Virtual and Real Corrections

### Neglected hexagons and pentagons

These graphs contribute to the virtual corrections for  $qQ \rightarrow qQgH$  and are color suppressed ( $d_F = 3$ ,  $d_G = 8$ ).

$$\text{Hex}(1a) + \text{Pent}(1a) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1: } a \text{ and } b \text{ lines, red gluon loop, green gluon emission} \\ \text{Diagram 2: } a \text{ and } b \text{ lines, red gluon loop, green gluon emission} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 3: } a \text{ and } b \text{ lines, red gluon loop, green gluon emission} \\ \text{Diagram 4: } a \text{ and } b \text{ lines, red gluon loop, green gluon emission} \end{array} \end{array} \right.$$

# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO

## Virtual and Real Corrections

### Neglected hexagons and pentagons

$$\begin{aligned}
 2 \operatorname{Re} [\mathcal{M}_V \mathcal{M}_B^*] &= d_F^2 C_F^2 2 \operatorname{Re} [(\mathbf{Box}(1a)) \mathcal{M}_{B,1a}^*] \\
 &+ d_F^2 C_F^2 2 \operatorname{Re} [(\mathbf{Box}(2b)) \mathcal{M}_{B,2b}^*] \\
 &+ \frac{d_F^2 C_F^2}{d_G} 2 \operatorname{Re} [(\mathbf{Hex}(1a) + \mathbf{Pent}(1a)) \mathcal{M}_{B,2b}^*] \\
 &+ \frac{d_F^2 C_F^2}{d_G} 2 \operatorname{Re} [(\mathbf{Hex}(2b) + \mathbf{Pent}(2b)) \mathcal{M}_{B,1a}^*]
 \end{aligned}$$

# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO

## Virtual and Real Corrections

### Real Corrections

$$\mathcal{M}_4 = \left\{ \begin{array}{cccc} \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ b \end{array} \end{array} \right\}$$



# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO

## Virtual and Real Corrections

Treat Real Corrections Consistently!

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\mathcal{M}_4|^2 &= d_F^2 C_F^2 \left\{ \left| \text{Diagram 1} \right|^2 + \left| \text{Diagram 2} \right|^2 + \dots \right\} \\
 &+ \frac{d_F^2 C_F^2}{d_G} 2 \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \left( \text{Diagram 1} \right) \left( \text{Diagram 2} \right)^* + \dots \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

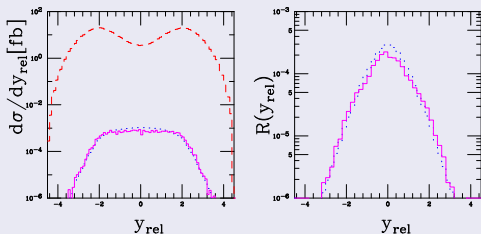
The term  $\propto 1/d_G$  when integrated over PS gives rise to a soft divergence. This soft divergence is cancelled against the soft divergence arising from the hexagons and pentagons. **For consistency, this term is also neglected.**

# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO

## Virtual and Real Corrections

### Error Estimate on the Approximation

$$\Delta\text{NLO} \propto 2 \operatorname{Re} [(\mathcal{M}_{B,1a})(\mathcal{M}_{B,2b})^*]$$



Left:  $\Delta\sigma_3^{NLO}$  (solid) and  $\sigma_3^{LO}$  (dashes).

Right:  $R(y_{\text{rel}}) = \Delta\text{NLO}/\text{LO}$

# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO

## Virtual and Real Corrections

### Other approximations

- $s$ -channel weak boson exchange ( $VHj \rightarrow Hjjj$ ) is explicitly excluded at NLO and LO.
  - The interference between VBF and Higgsstrahlung is very small in the VBF PS region. [C. Georg](#); [Smillie](#), [Anderson](#), [Binoth](#), [Heinrich](#); [Ciccolini](#), [Denner](#), [Dittmaier](#)
  - Hence, Higgsstrahlung is viewed as separate process.
- Gluon fusion contributions are viewed a separate process. The interference between GF and VBF is at the level  $10^{-3}$  fb.
- Pauli interference has been systematically neglected in the real corrections as it is negligible.

# Higgs plus three jets via VBF at NLO

## NLO parton level Monte Carlo Program

- The dipole subtraction method of Catani and Seymour  
[hep-ph/9605323](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/9605323)
- $\alpha$  cut on the PS of the dipoles [hep-ph/0307268](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0307268).
- Real amplitudes with MADGRAPH.
- $b$ -quarks for neutral current processes.
- The Monte Carlo integration –VEGAS.
- CTEQ6M PDFs at NLO with  $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.118$  and CTEQ6L1 PDFs at LO with  $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.130$ .
- SM parameters: LO electroweak relations with  $M_Z$ ,  $M_W$ , and  $G_F$  as inputs

# NLO vs LO

## VBF Selection Cuts

- $k_T$  algorithm: Require at least 3 hard jets with  $p_{Tj} \geq 20$  GeV and  $|y_j| \leq 4.5$ .
- Tagging jets: 2 jets of  $p_{Tj}^{\text{tag}} \geq 30$  GeV and  $|y_j^{\text{tag}}| \leq 4.5$ .
- Higgs decay products:

$$p_{T\ell} \geq 20 \text{ GeV}, \quad |\eta_\ell| \leq 2.5, \quad \Delta R_{j\ell} \geq 0.6$$

$$y_{j,\min}^{\text{tag}} + 0.6 < \eta_{\ell_{1,2}} < y_{j,\max}^{\text{tag}} - 0.6.$$

# NLO vs LO

## VBF Selection Cuts

- Rapidity gap and opposite detector hemispheres:

$$y_j^{\text{tag } 1} \cdot y_j^{\text{tag } 2} < 0$$

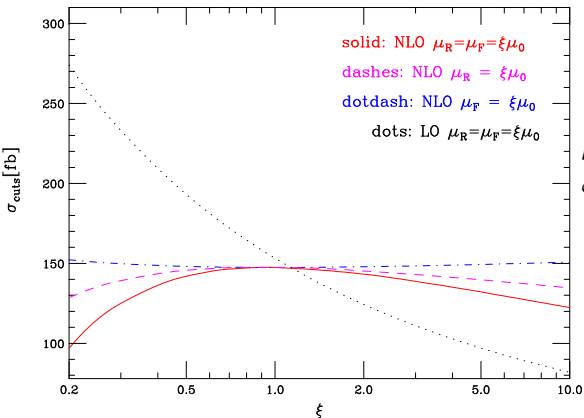
$$\Delta y_{jj} = |y_j^{\text{tag } 1} - y_j^{\text{tag } 2}| > 4$$

- Invariant mass of tagging jets:

$$m_{jj} = (p_j^{\text{tag } 1} + p_j^{\text{tag } 2})^2 > 600 \text{ GeV}$$

# NLO vs LO

## Total Cross section



$\mu_0 = 40 \text{ GeV}$

$\xi = 2^{\mp 1}$  scale variations:

- LO: +26% to -19%
- NLO: less than 5%

# NLO vs LO

## K-factor and relative change

$$K(x) = \frac{d\sigma_3^{NLO}(\mu_R = \mu_F = \xi\mu_0)/dx}{d\sigma_3^{LO}(\mu_R = \mu_F = \mu_0)/dx}$$

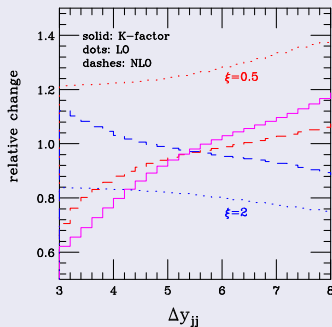
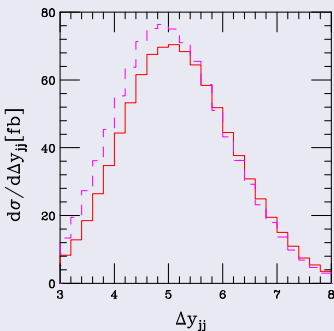
$$\text{relative change} = \frac{d\sigma_3(\mu_R = \mu_F = \xi\mu_0)/dx}{d\sigma_3(\mu_R = \mu_F = \mu_0)/dx}$$



# NLO vs LO

## Tagging Jet Distributions

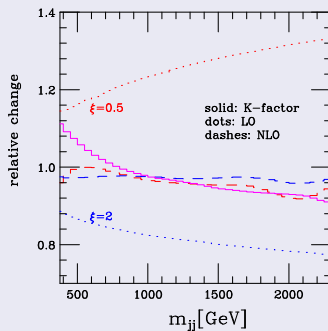
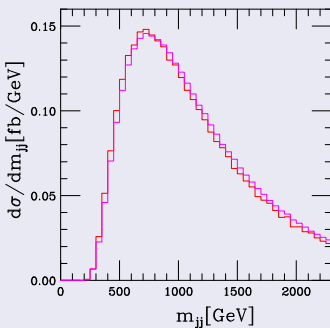
### Tagging Jet Rapidity Separation



# NLO vs LO

## Tagging Jet Distributions

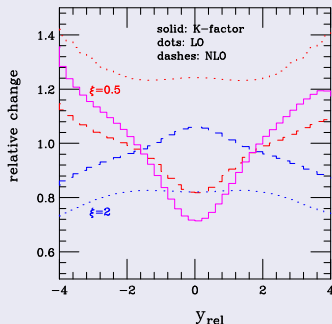
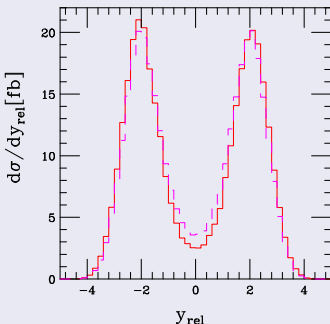
### Tagging Jet Invariant mass



# NLO vs LO

## Veto Jet Distributions

Veto Jet Rapidity:  $y_{\text{rel}} = y_j^{\text{veto}} - (y_j^{\text{tag } 1} + y_j^{\text{tag } 2})/2$

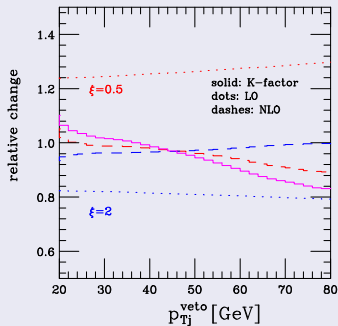
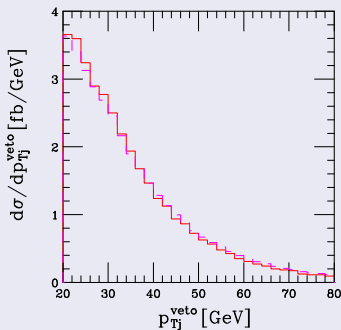


$$p_{Tj}^{\text{veto}} > 20 \text{ GeV}, \quad y_j^{\text{veto}} \in (y_j^{\text{tag } 1}, y_j^{\text{tag } 2})$$

# NLO vs LO

## Veto Jet Distributions

### Veto Jet $P_T$



$$p_{Tj}^{\text{veto}} > 20 \text{ GeV},$$

$$y_j^{\text{veto}} \in (y_j^{\text{tag } 1}, y_j^{\text{tag } 2})$$

# NLO vs LO

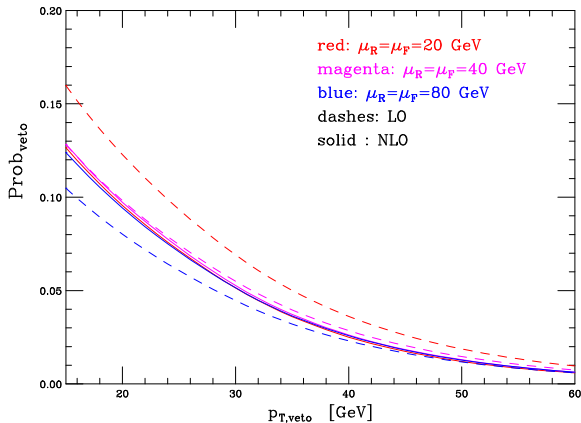
## Veto Jet Distributions

- Veto is slightly softer at NLO.
- $\xi = 2^{\mp 1}$  scale variations at  $y_{rel}=0$ :
  - LO:  $-27\%$  to  $+42\%$
  - NLO:  $-20\%$  to  $+7\%$
- Suppressed radiation in the vicinity of  $y_{rel} = 0$ .



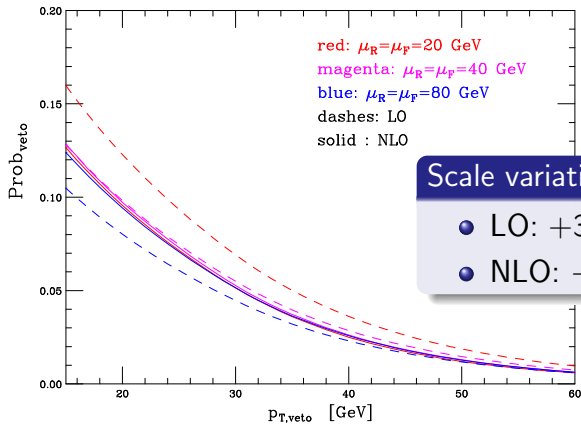
# NLO vs LO

## Veto Probability for the VBF Signal



# NLO vs LO

## Veto Probability for the VBF Signal



Scale variations,  $p_{T,veto} = 15$  GeV:

- LO: +33% to -17%
- NLO: -1.4% to -3.4%

# Conclusions

- QCD corrections for VBF  $H_{jj}$  (in VBFNLO) and the dominant QCD corrections for VBF  $H_{jjj}$  have been computed in the form of NLO parton-level Monte Carlos using the dipole subtraction method.
- Scale dependence is **reduced** for the total cross section and distributions at NLO.
- QCD corrections are small while  $K$  factors are **phase space dependent**.



# Conclusions

## VBFNLO

- VBFNLO is a parton level Monte Carlo program for Vector Boson Fusion processes.

- $Vjj$ ,  $V = Z, W^\pm$ : C. Oleari, D. Zeppenfeld. Phys. Rev. **D68** (2003) 073005
- $W^+W^-jj$ : B. Jäger, C. Oleari, D. Zeppenfeld. JHEP **0607** (2006) 015
- $ZZjj$ : B. Jäger, C. Oleari, D. Zeppenfeld. Phys. Rev. **D74** (2006) 1113006
- $Hjj$ : T. Figy, C. Oleari and D. Zeppenfeld, Phys. Rev. D **68**, 073005 (2003)  
T. Figy and D. Zeppenfeld, Phys. Lett. B **591**, 297 (2004)  
V. Hankele, G. Klamke, D. Zeppenfeld and T. Figy, Phys. Rev **D74** (2006) 095001

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K. Hackstein, V. Hankele, B. Jäger, G. Klämke, M. Kubocz,  
P. Konar, C. Oleari, M. Werner, M. Worek, D. Zeppenfeld

- The program can be downloaded from

<http://www-itp.physik.uni-karlsruhe.de/~vbfnlweb/VBFNLO>.

