

Precision Monte Carlos for multi-boson processes

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UK Research
and Innovation

Workshop on.... measurements and reinterpretations...

at the LHC

U Sussex

15th June 2022

Multibosons

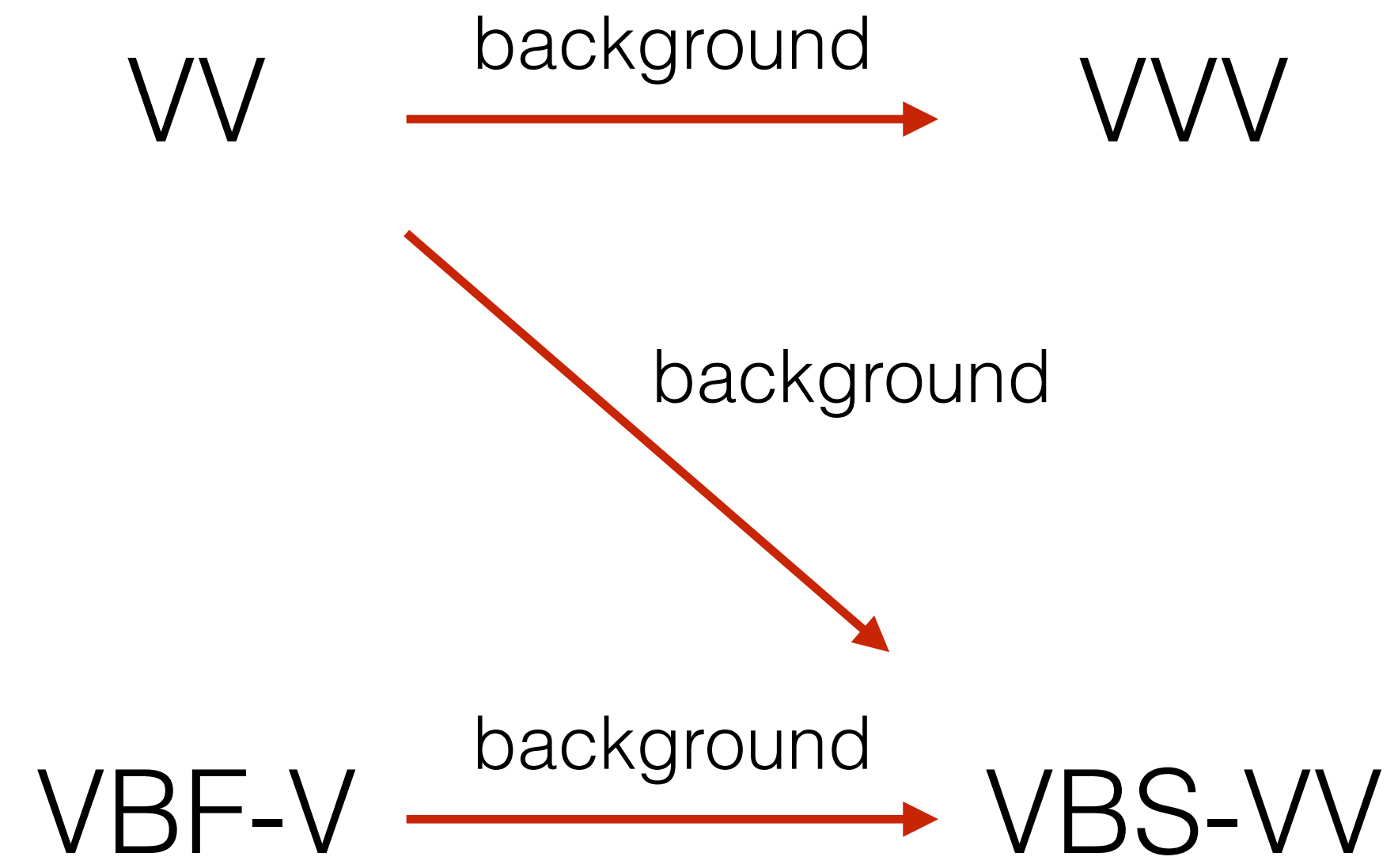
VV

VVV

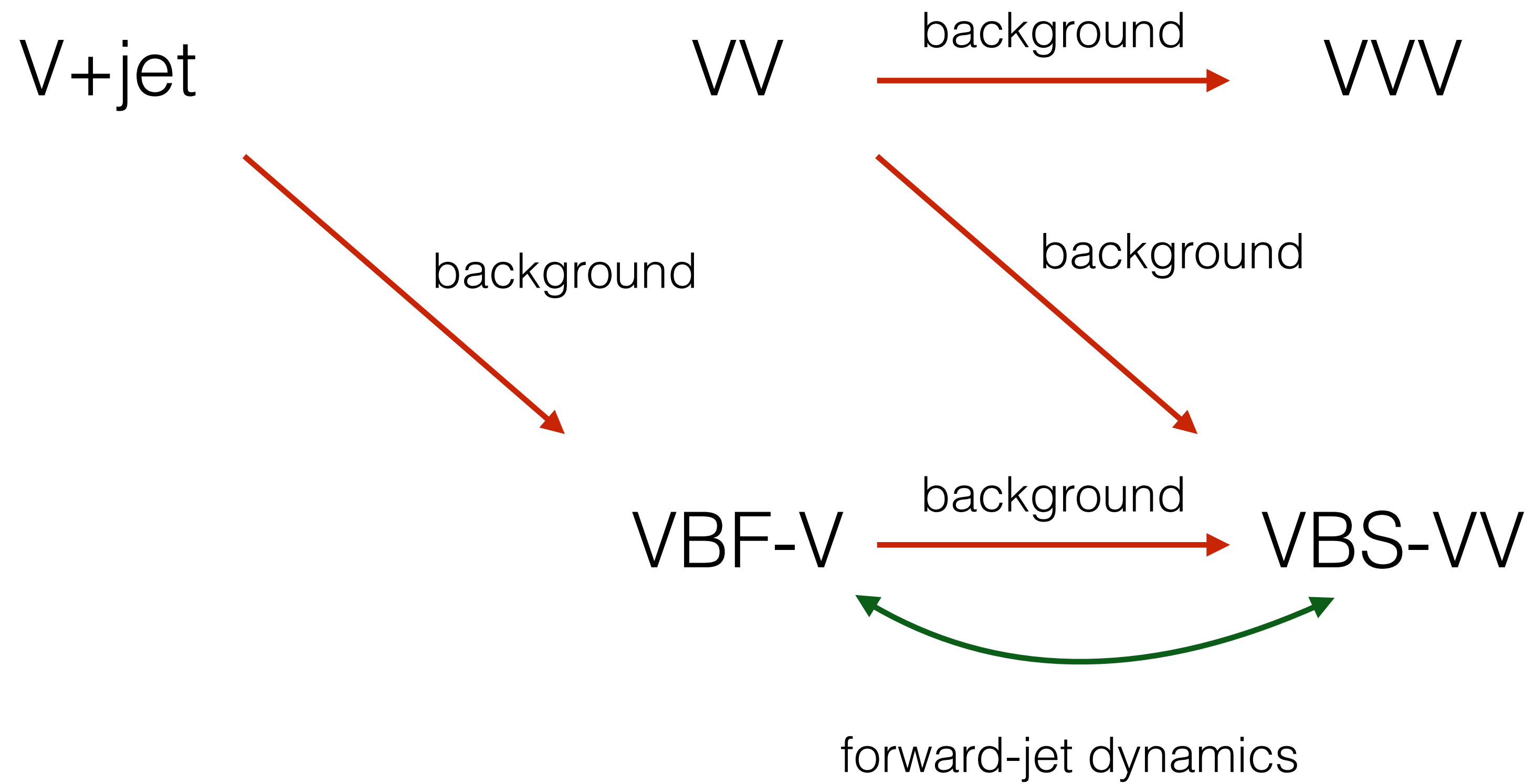
$VBF-V$

$VBS-VV$

Multibosons

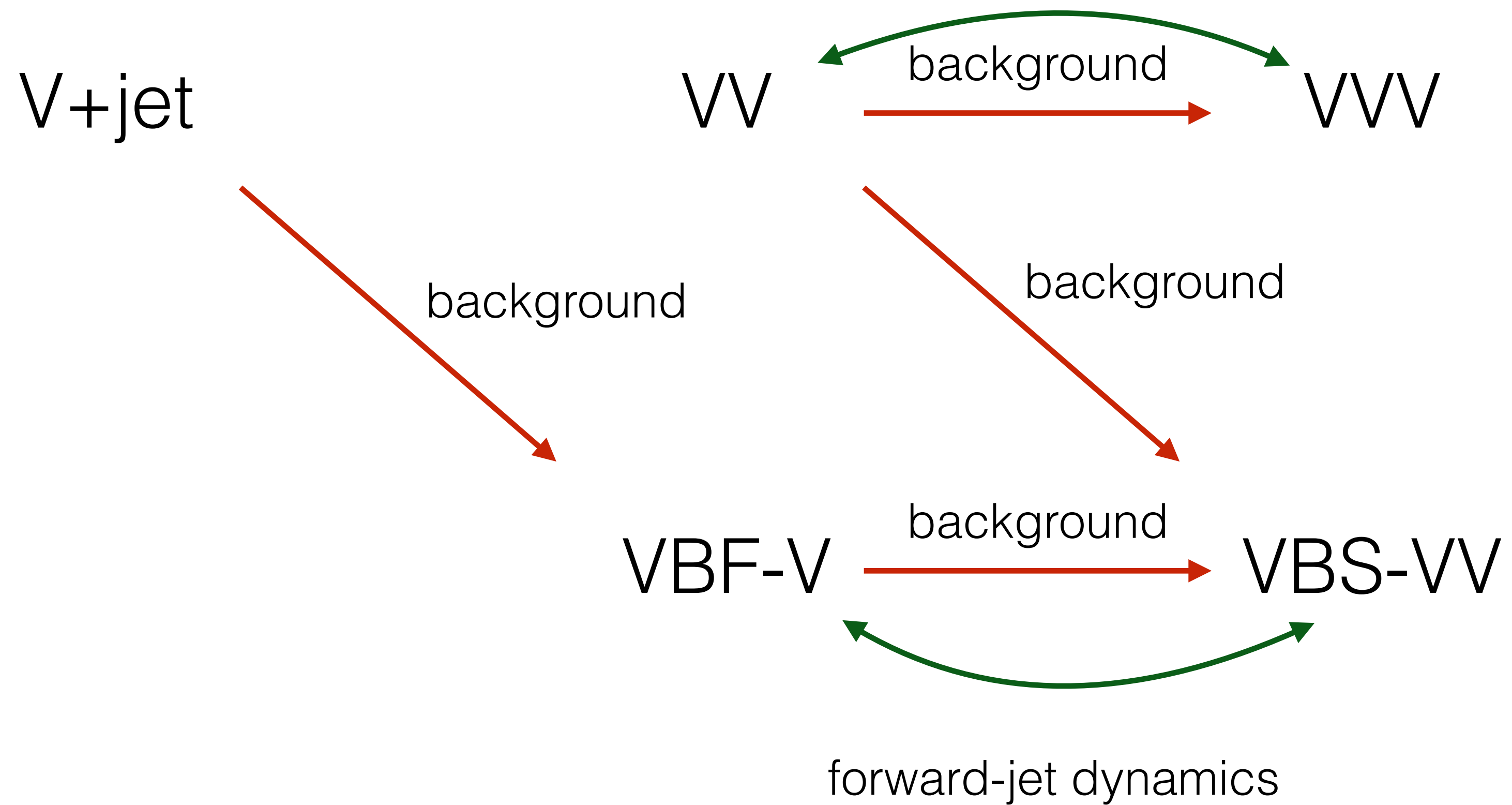


Multibosons



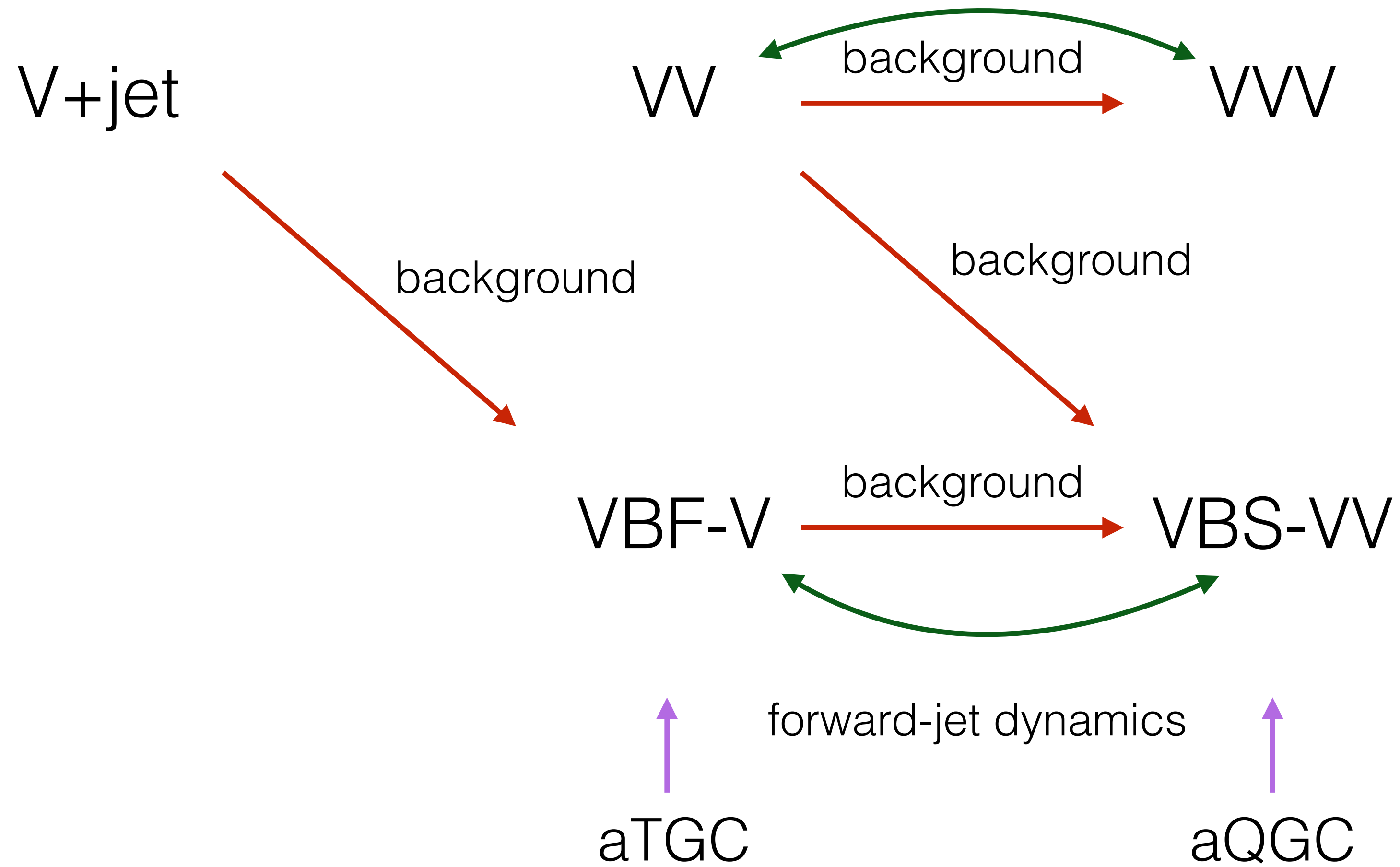
Multibosons

multi-lepton dynamics, giant QCD K-factors



Multibosons

multi-lepton dynamics, giant QCD K-factors



Multibosons: theory state-of-the art

fixed-order

V+jets

NLO QCD+NLO EW

VV

NNLO QCD+NLO EW

VVV

NLO QCD+NLO EW

VBF-V

NLO QCD*+LO EW

VBS-VV

NLO QCD+NLO EW / NLO QCD*+LO EW

*: VBF approximation

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NLO QCD+NLO EW

[JML, Pozzorini, Schönherr, [2204.07652](#)]

VBS-VV

NLO QCD+NLO EW / NLO QCD*+LO EW

*: VBF approximation

Multibosons: theory state-of-the art

Monte Carlo

V+jets

NLOPS QCD (0,1,2j) x
NLO EWvirt

VV

NLOPS QCD (0,1) x
NLO EWvirt

NNLOPS QCD

NLOPS EW

VVV

NLOPS QCD

VBF-V

NLOPS* QCD

VBS-VV

NLOPS* QCD

NLOPS EW

NLOPS QCD (nj) =

- FxFx in aMC@NLO
- MEPS@NLO in Sherpa

*: VBF approximation

Multibosons: theory state-of-the art

Monte Carlo

V+jets

NLOPS QCD (0,1,2j) x
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NLOPS* QCD

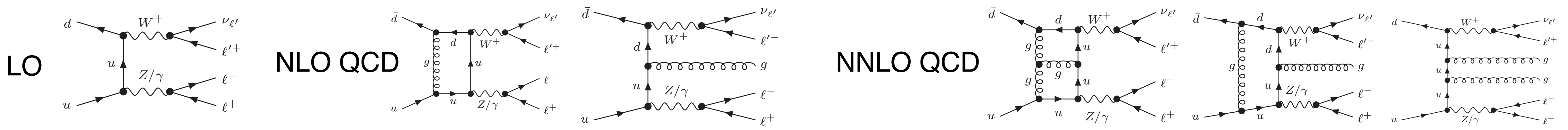
NLOPS EW

*: VBF approximation

Perturbative expansion: VV, VVV

(single perturbative order at LO)

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\sigma = & d\sigma_{\text{LO}} + \alpha_S d\sigma_{\text{NLO}} + \alpha_{\text{EW}} d\sigma_{\text{NLO EW}} \\
 & \text{NLO QCD} \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{NLO EW} \\
 & + \alpha_S^2 d\sigma_{\text{NNLO}} + \alpha_{\text{EW}}^2 d\sigma_{\text{NNLO EW}} + \alpha_S \alpha_{\text{EW}} d\sigma_{\text{NNLO QCD} \times \text{EW}} \\
 & \text{NNLO QCD} \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{NNLO EW} \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{NNLO QCD-EW} \\
 & + \alpha_S^3 d\sigma_{\text{NNLO}} + \dots \\
 & \text{N3LO QCD}
 \end{aligned}$$



Perturbative expansion: VV, VVW

(single perturbative order at LO)

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\sigma = & \underbrace{d\sigma_{\text{LO}}}_{\text{LO}} + \alpha_S \underbrace{d\sigma_{\text{NLO}}}_{\text{NLO QCD}} + \alpha_{\text{EW}} \underbrace{d\sigma_{\text{NLO EW}}}_{\text{NLO EW}} \\
 & + \alpha_S^2 \underbrace{d\sigma_{\text{NNLO}}}_{\text{NNLO QCD}} + \alpha_{\text{EW}}^2 \underbrace{d\sigma_{\text{NNLO EW}}}_{\text{NNLO EW}} + \alpha_S \alpha_{\text{EW}} \underbrace{d\sigma_{\text{NNLO QCD} \times \text{EW}}}_{\text{NNLO QCD-EW}} + \dots \\
 & + \alpha_S^3 \underbrace{d\sigma_{\text{NNLO}}}_{\text{N3LO QCD}} + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

scale variation at NNLO

scheme variation, e.g. G_{μ} vs. $a(m_Z)$

+

in case of EW Sudakov dominance: exponentiation

NLO QCD + EW

vs.

NLO QCD x EW

Perturbative expansion for VV

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\sigma = & \underbrace{d\sigma_{\text{LO}}}_{\text{LO}} + \underbrace{\alpha_S d\sigma_{\text{NLO}}}_{\text{NLO QCD}} + \underbrace{\alpha_{\text{EW}} d\sigma_{\text{NLO EW}}}_{\text{NLO EW}} \\
 & + \underbrace{\alpha_S^2 d\sigma_{\text{NNLO}}}_{\text{NNLO QCD}} + \underbrace{\alpha_{\text{EW}}^2 d\sigma_{\text{NNLO EW}}}_{\text{NNLO EW}} + \underbrace{\alpha_S \alpha_{\text{EW}} d\sigma_{\text{NNLO QCD} \times \text{EW}}}_{\text{NNLO QCD-EW}} \\
 & + \underbrace{\alpha_S^3 d\sigma_{\text{NNLO}}}_{\text{N3LO QCD}} + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

?
?
?

NNLO QCD + NLO EW

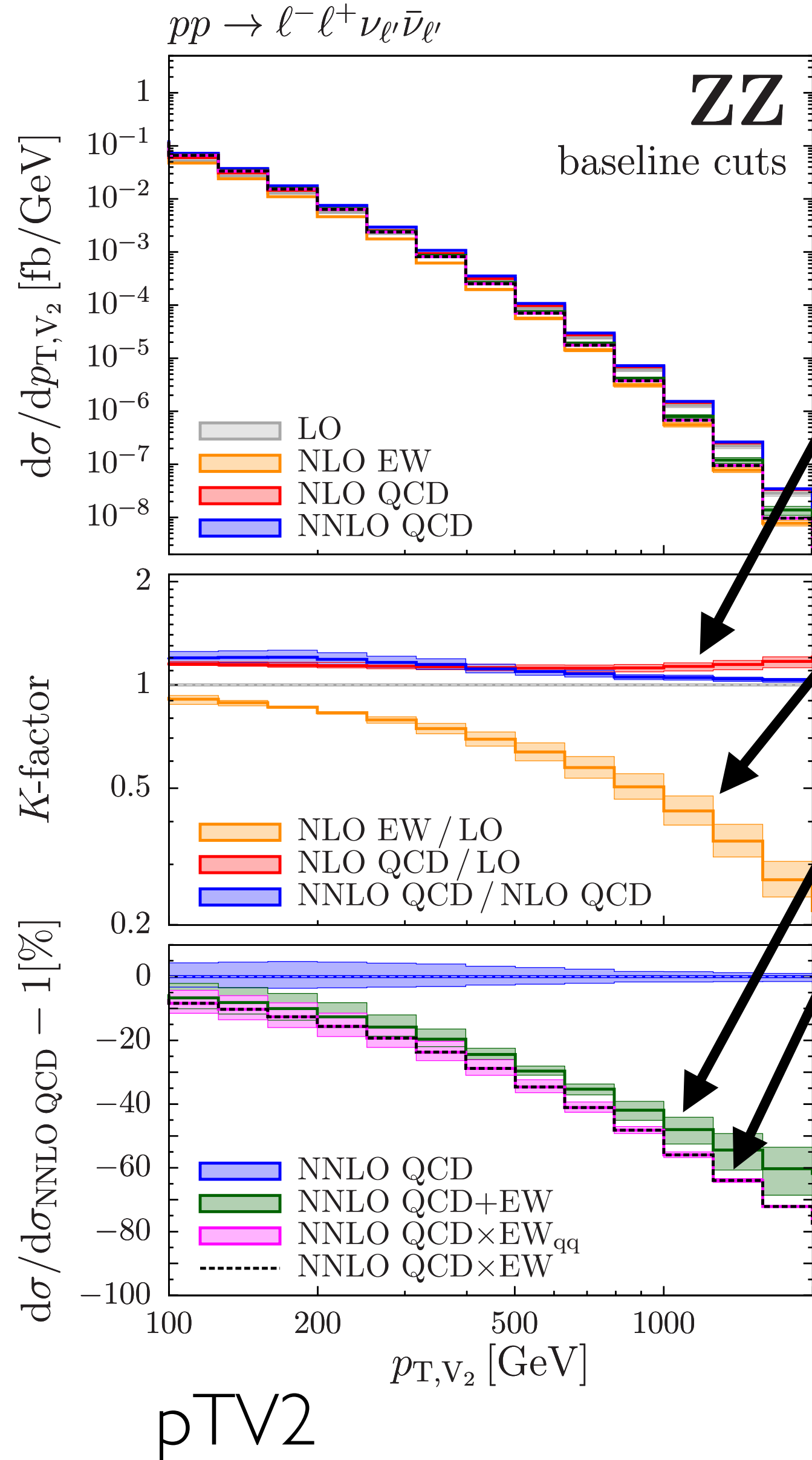
4l-SF-ZZ	$pp \rightarrow l^+ l^- l^+ l^-$	ZZ
4l-DF-ZZ	$pp \rightarrow l^+ l^- l'^+ l'^-$	ZZ
3l-SF-WZ	$pp \rightarrow l^+ l^- l \nu_\ell$	WZ
3l-DF-WZ	$pp \rightarrow l^+ l^- l' \nu_{\ell'}$	WZ
2l-SF-ZZ	$pp \rightarrow l^+ l^- \nu_\ell \bar{\nu}_{\ell'}$	ZZ
2l-SF-ZZWW	$pp \rightarrow l^+ l^- \nu_\ell \bar{\nu}_\ell$	ZZ, WW
2l-DF-WW	$pp \rightarrow l^+ l'^- \nu_\ell \bar{\nu}_{\ell'}$	WW

In Matrix+OpenLoops all (massive) diboson processes are now available at **NNLO QCD + NLO EW**

[M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, JML, S. Pozzorini, M. Wiesemann; 1912.00068]

NNLO QCD + NLO EW for dibosons: pTV2

[M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, JML, S. Pozzorini, M. Wiesemann; 1912.00068]



- moderate QCD corrections

- ▶ NNLO/NLO QCD very small at large pTV2

- ▶ NNLO QCD uncertainty: few percent

- NLO EW/LO = -(50-60)% @ 1 TeV

$$d\sigma_{\text{NNLO QCD+EW}} = d\sigma_{\text{LO}} (1 + \delta_{\text{QCD}} + \delta_{\text{EW}}) + d\sigma_{\text{LO}}^{gg}$$

$$\begin{aligned} d\sigma_{\text{NNLO QCD}\times\text{EW}} &= d\sigma_{\text{LO}} (1 + \delta_{\text{QCD}}) (1 + \delta_{\text{EW}}) + d\sigma_{\text{LO}}^{gg} \\ &= d\sigma_{\text{NNLO QCD+EW}} + d\sigma_{\text{LO}} \delta_{\text{QCD}} \delta_{\text{EW}} \end{aligned}$$

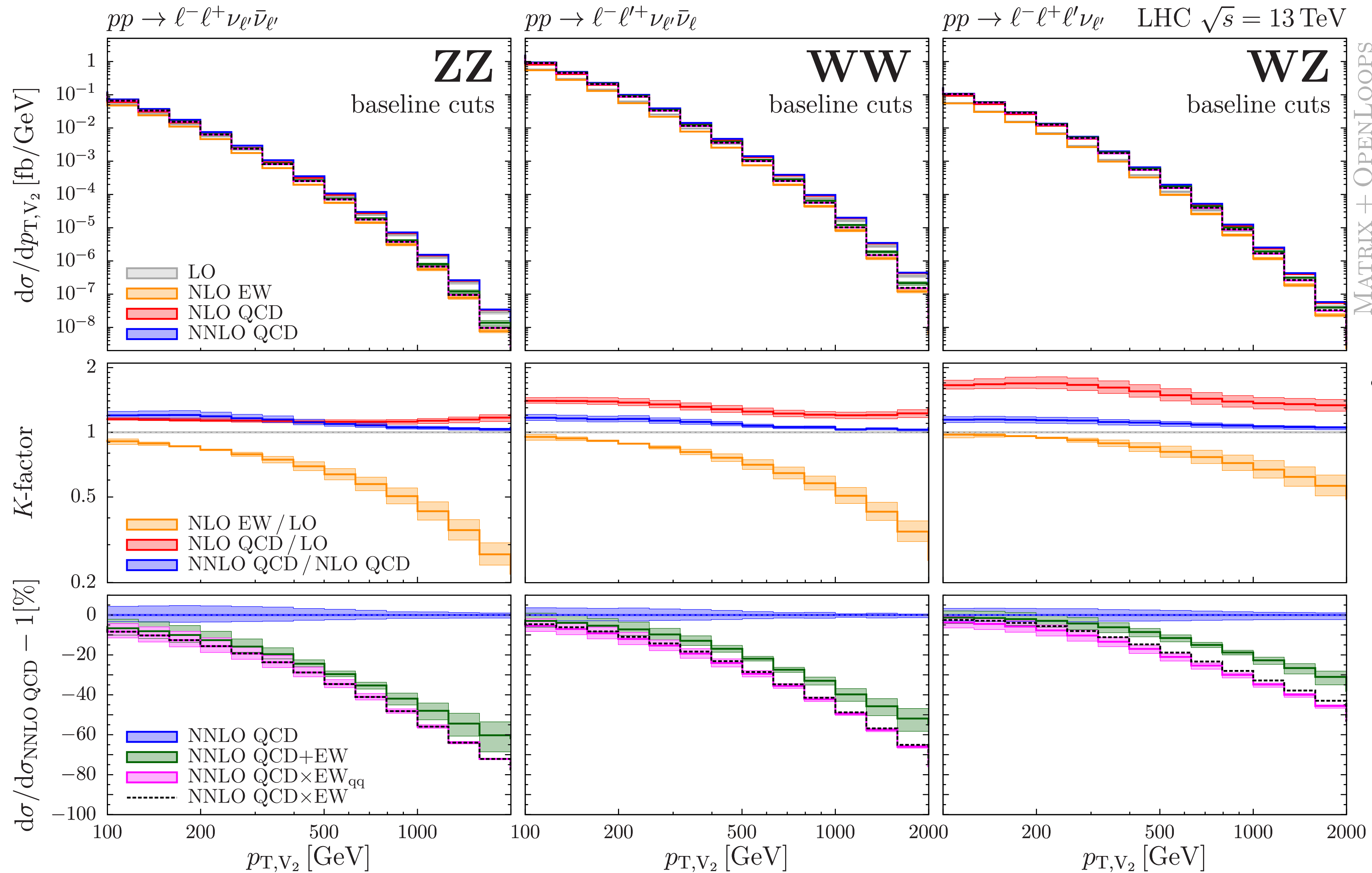
- difference very conservative upper bound on $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_S \alpha)$

- multiplicative/factorised combination clearly superior (EW Sudakov logs x soft QCD)

- dominant uncertainty at large pTV2: $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2) \sim \alpha_w^2 \log^4(Q^2/M_W^2)$

Estimate: $\frac{1}{2} \delta_{\text{EW}}^2$

NNLO QCD + NLO EW for dibosons: pTV2



- consistent picture amongst all processes

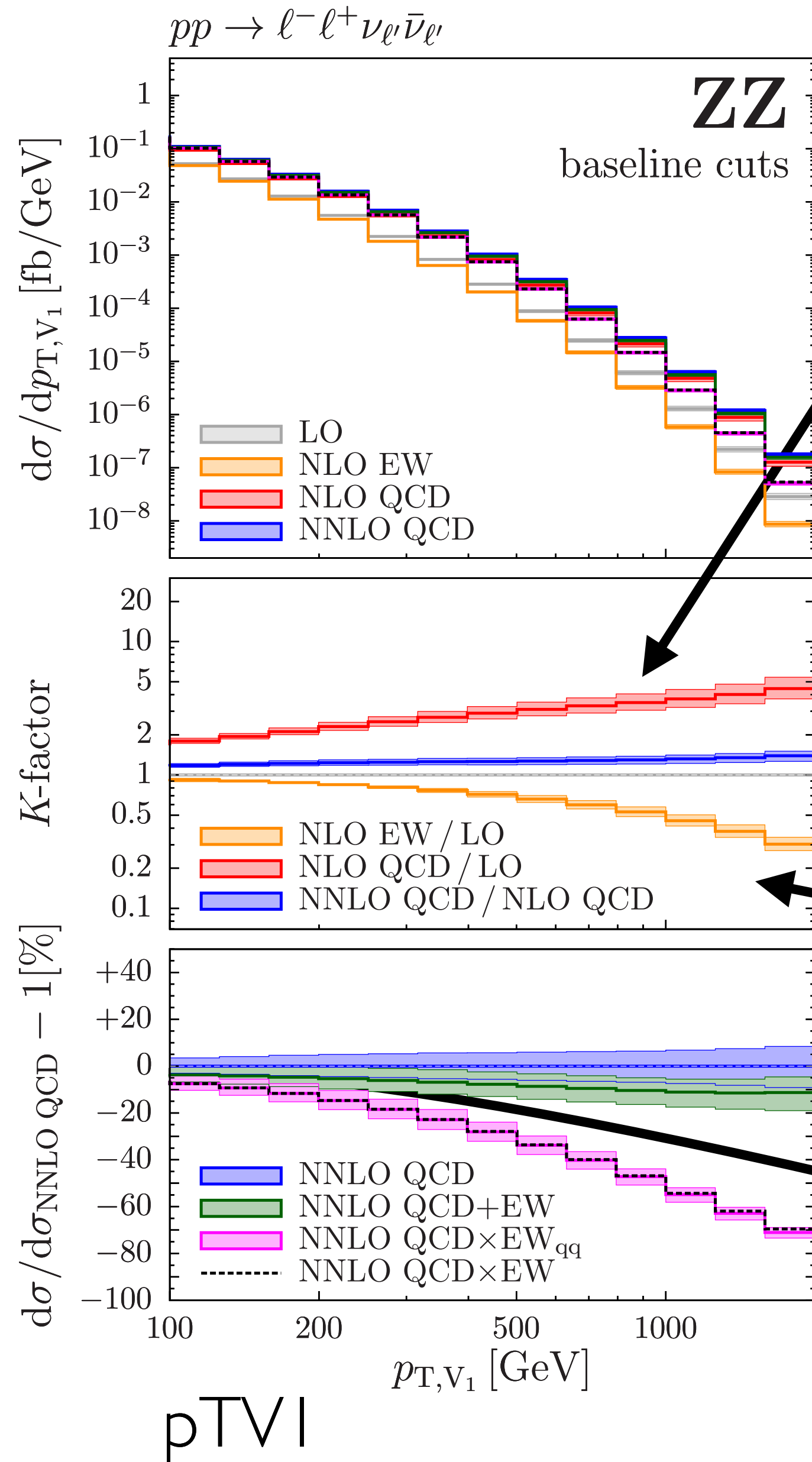
- Largest QCD corrections in WZ (radiation zero at LO)

- Largest EW corrections in ZZ

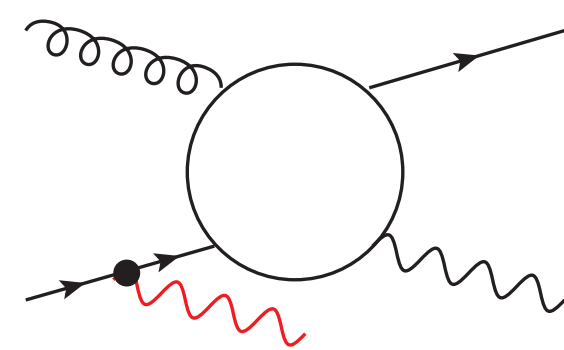
pTV2

Giant QCD K-factors and EW corrections: pTVI

[M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, JML, S. Pozzorini, M. Wiesemann; 1912.00068]



- NLO QCD/LO=2-5! (“giant K-factor”)
- at large pTVI: VV phase-space is dominated by V+jet (w/ soft V radiation)



$$\frac{d\sigma^{V(V)j}}{d\sigma_{VV}^{\text{LO}}} \propto \alpha_S \log^2 \left(\frac{Q^2}{M_W^2} \right) \simeq 3 \quad \text{at } Q = 1 \text{ TeV}$$

- NNLO / NLO QCD moderate and NNLO uncert. 5-10%
- NLO EW/LO=-(40-50)%

• Very large difference $d\sigma_{\text{NNLO QCD+EW}}$ vs. $d\sigma_{\text{NNLO QCD} \times \text{EW}}$

• Problems:

1. In additive combination dominant Vj topology does not receive any EW corrections
2. In multiplicative combination EW correction for VV is applied to Vj hard process

- **Pragmatic solution I: take average as nominal and spread as uncertainty**
- **Pragmatic solution II: apply jet veto to constrain Vj topologies**

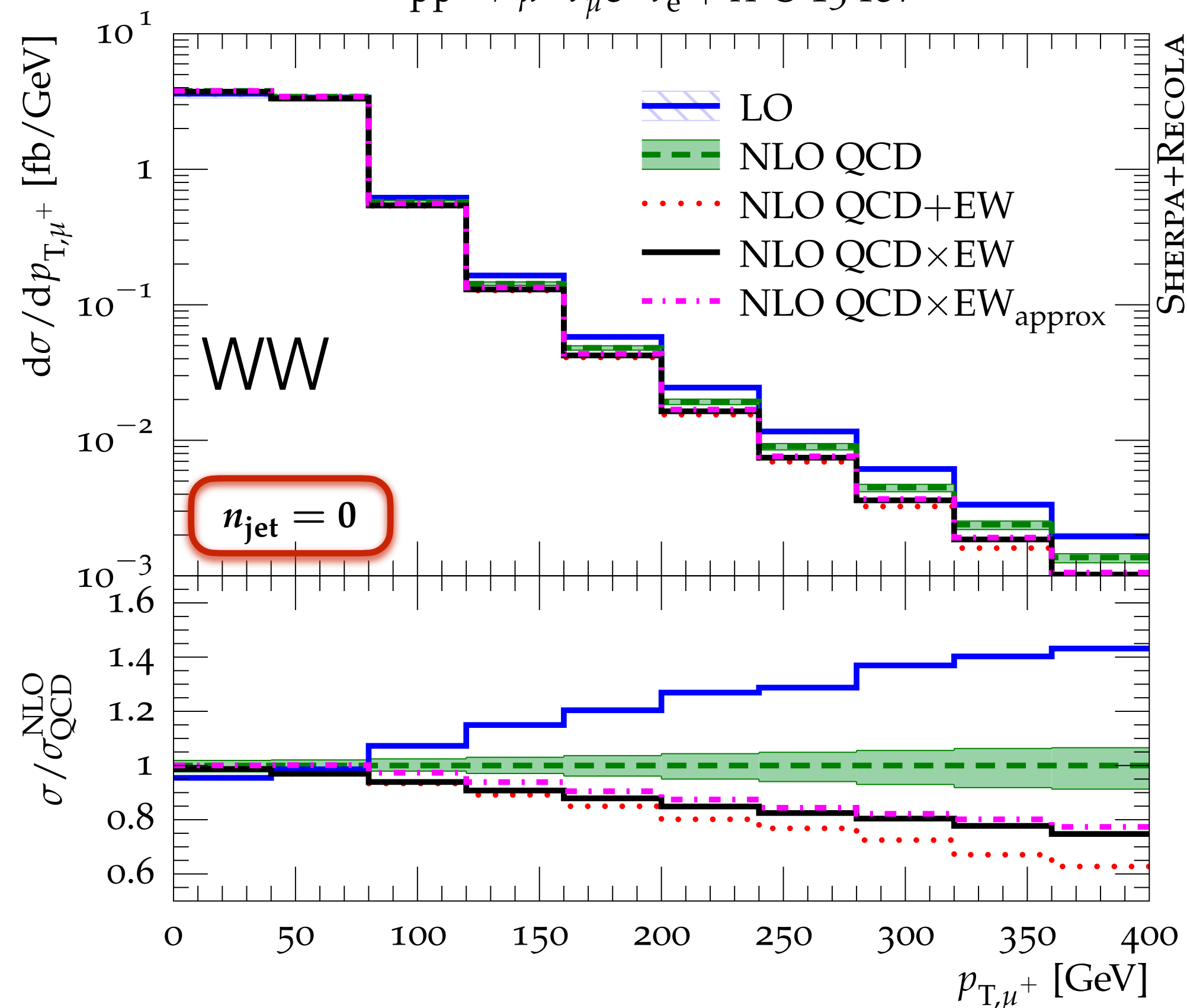
MEPS @ NLO QCD + EW: WW(+jet)

[Bräuer, Denner, Pellen, Schönherr, Schumann; '20]

- More rigorous solution: merge VVj incl. approx. EW corrections with VV with Sherpa's MEPS@NLO QCD + EWvirt
- However, not NNLO QCD accurate

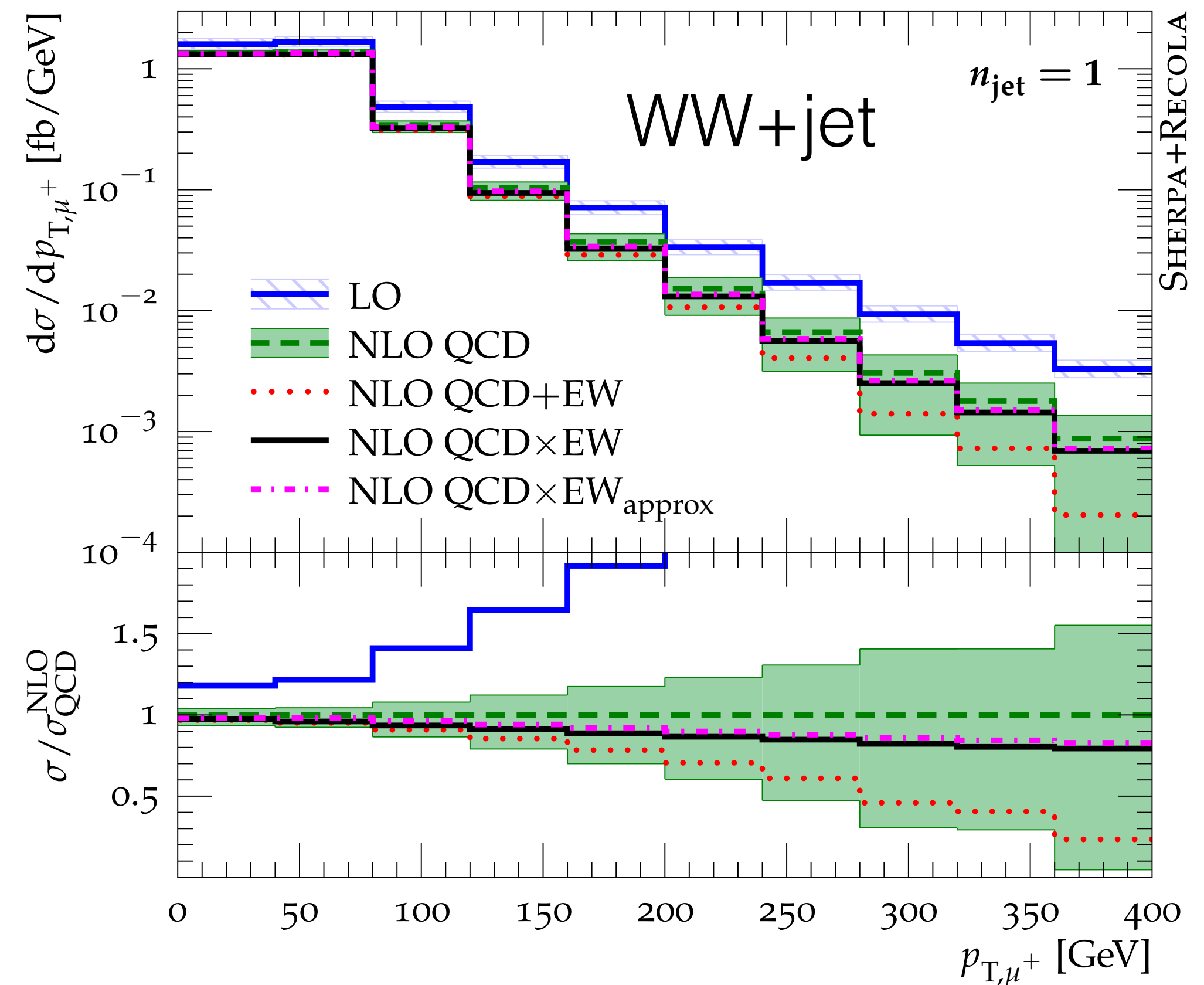
FO

$pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu e^- \bar{\nu}_e + X @ 13 \text{ TeV}$



FO

$pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu e^- \bar{\nu}_e + \text{jet} + X @ 13 \text{ TeV}$

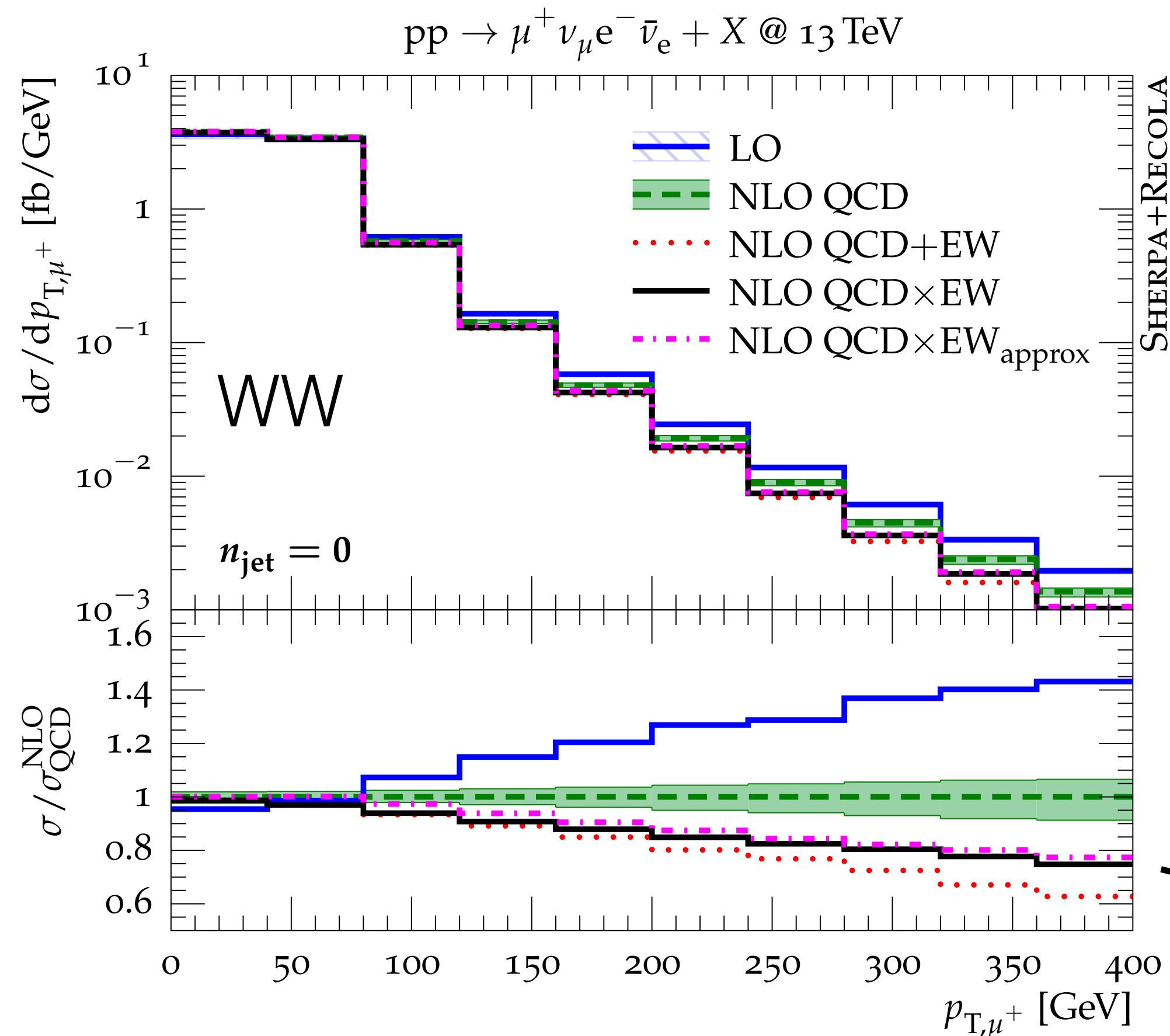


MEPS @ NLO QCD + EW:WW(+jet)

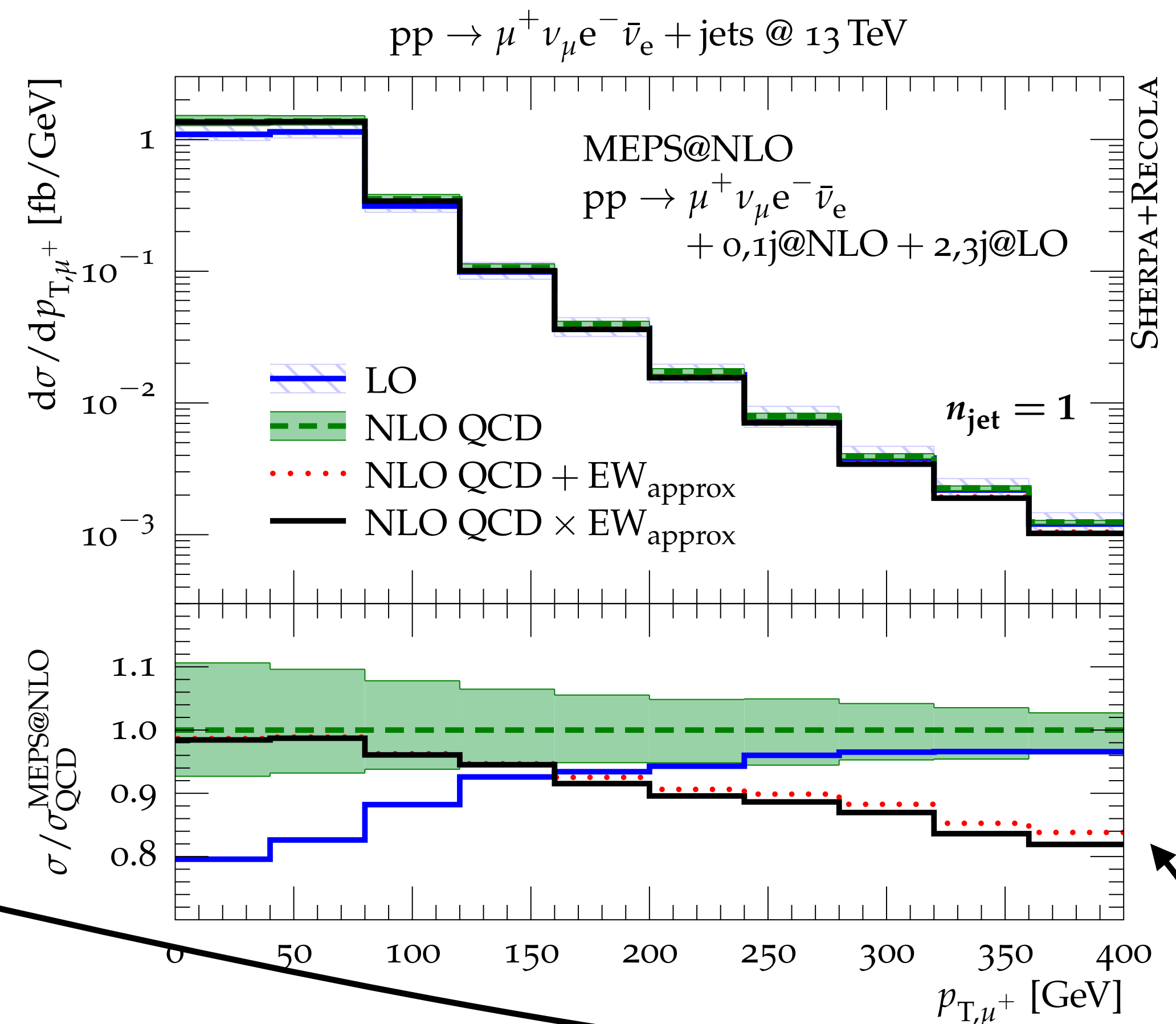
[Bräuer, Denner, Pellen, Schönherr, Schumann; '20]

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FO



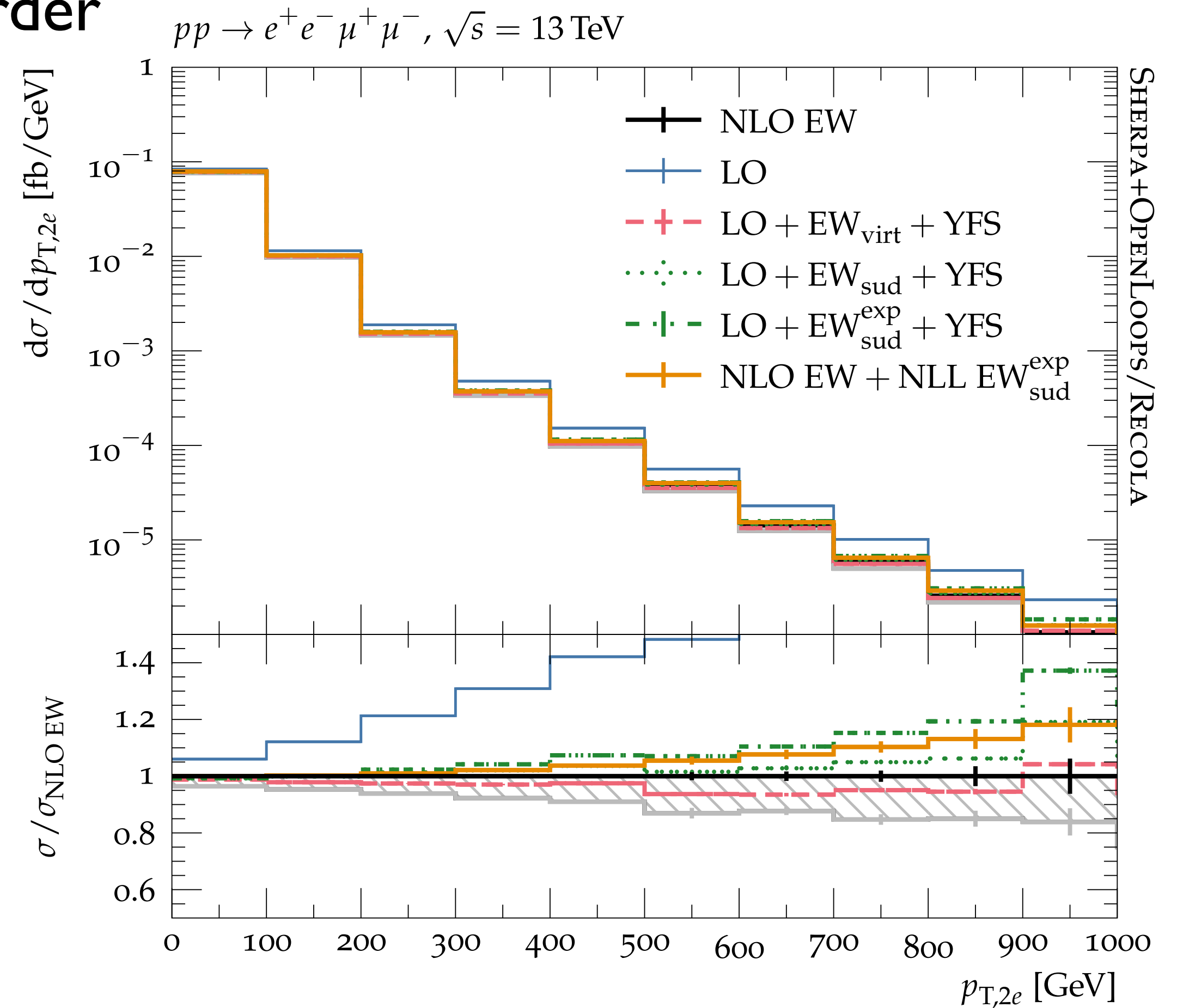
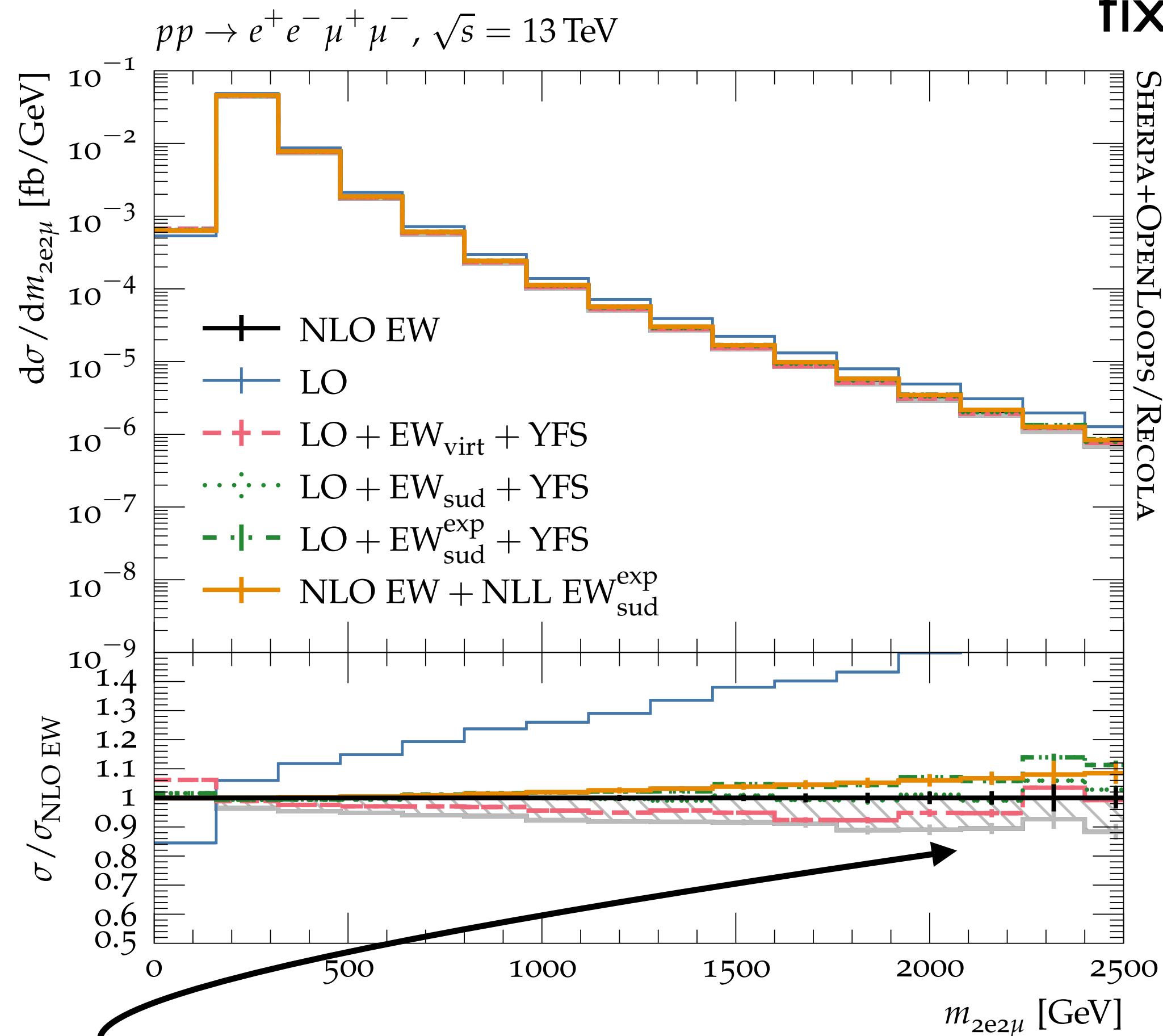
MEPS@NLO QCD + EWvirt



MEPS @ NLO QCD + EW: ZZ(+jet)

[Bothmann, Napoletano, Schönherr, Schumann, Villani; '21]

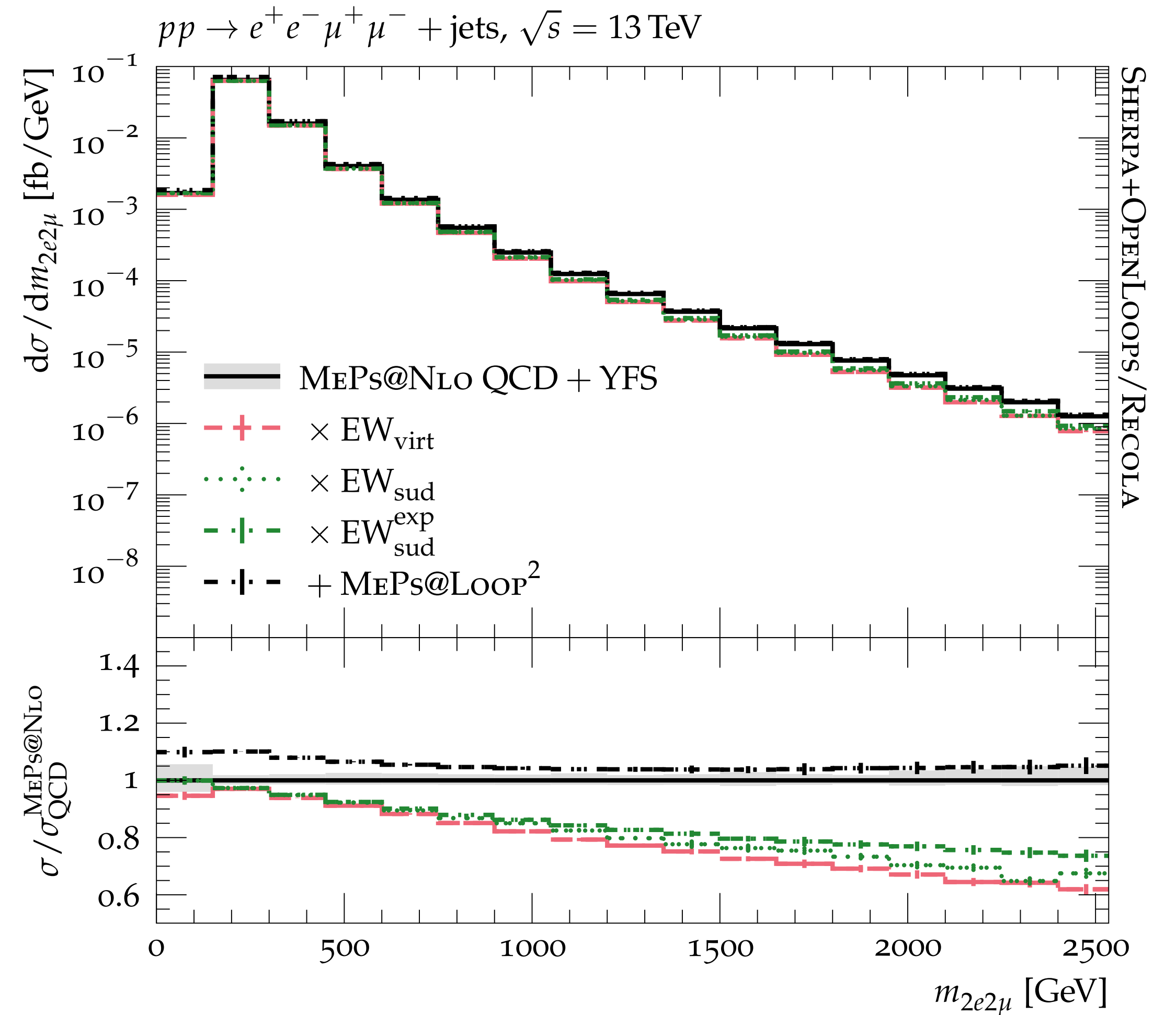
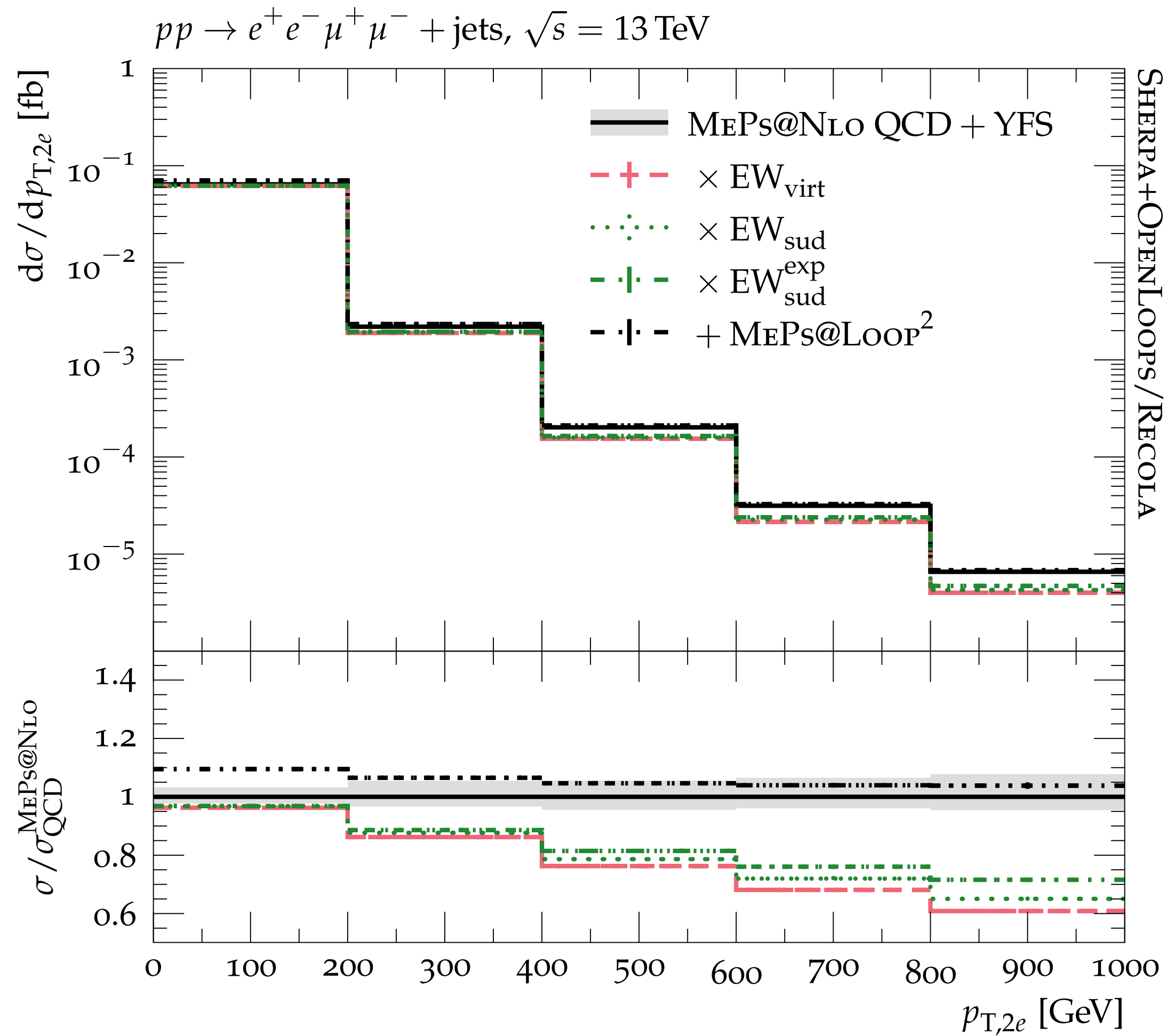
fixed-order



- scheme variation: G_{μ} vs. $\alpha(m_Z)$
- EWsud based on [Bothmann, Napoletano, '20]:
process-independent implementation of Sudakov logs, see also [Pagani, Zaro '21]

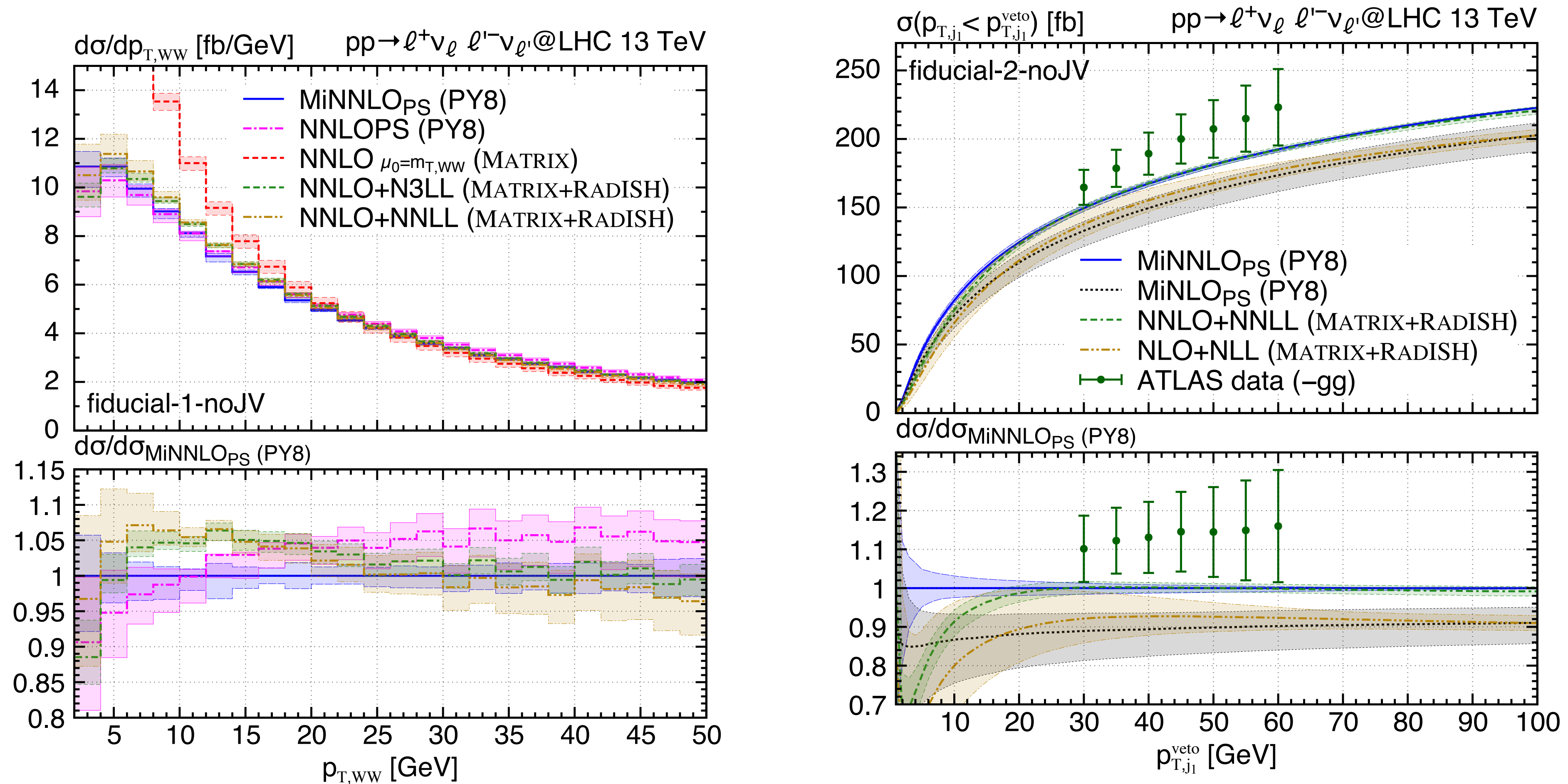
MEPS @ NLO QCD + EW: ZZ(+jet)

[Bothmann, Napoletano, Schönherr, Schumann, Villani; '21]



PS MC: NNLO QCD + PS for WW via MiNNLO_{PS}

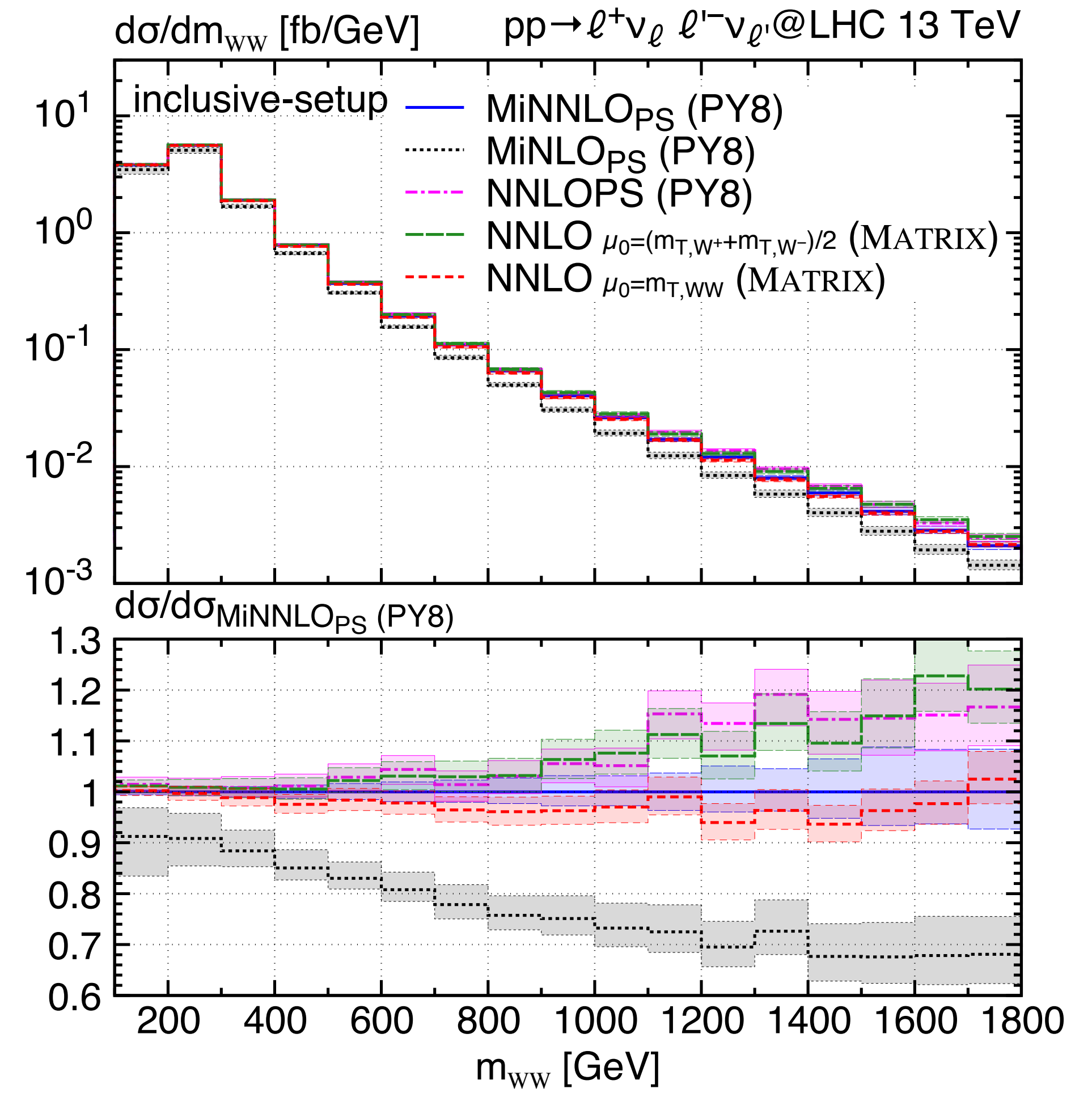
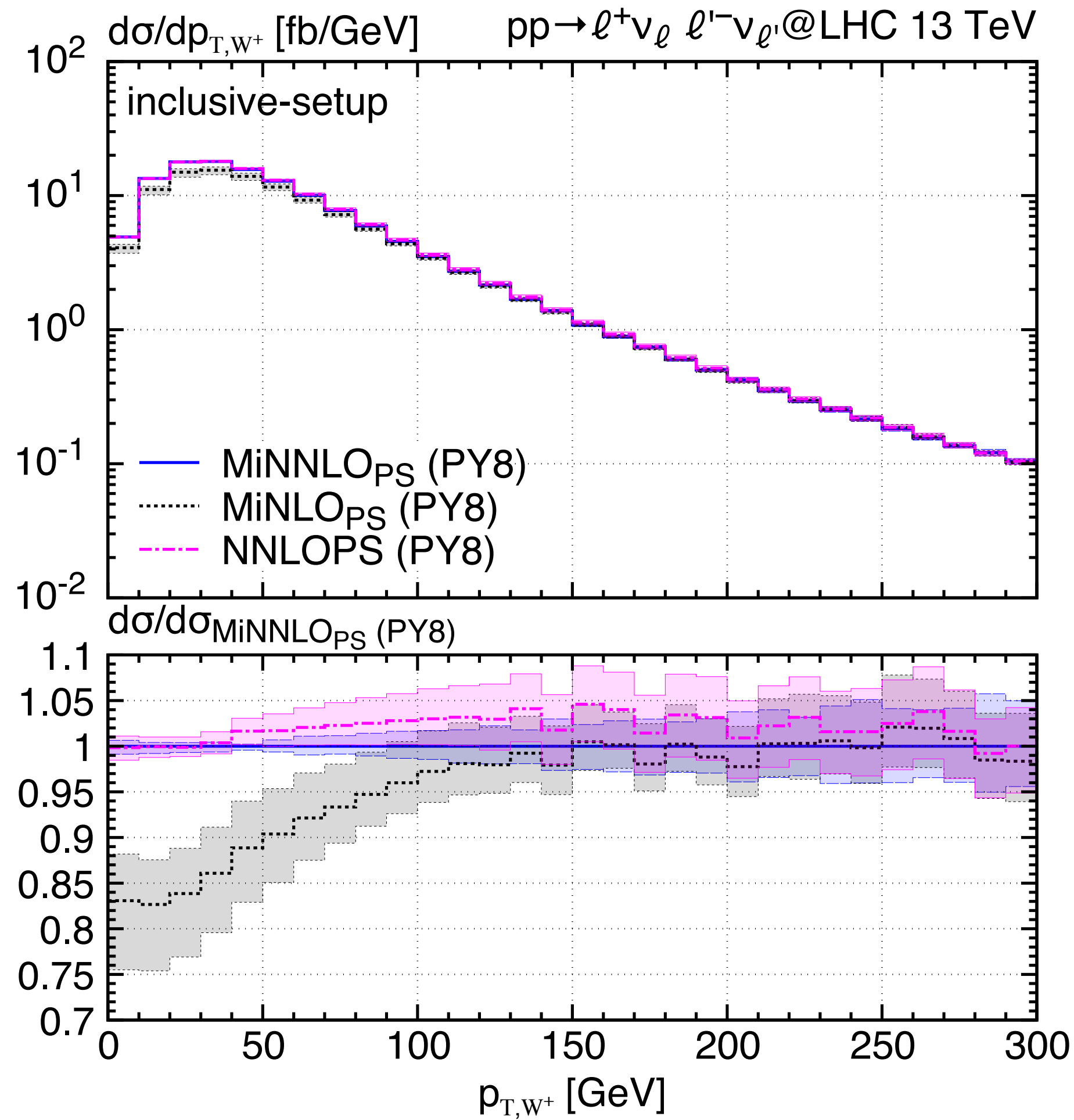
[Lombardi, Wiesemann; Zanderighi '21]



- MiNNLO_{PS} physical down to $p_{T,WW}=0$
- Latest implementation does not require computationally expensive reweighting required earlier

PS MC: NNLO QCD + PS for WW via MiNNLO_{PS}

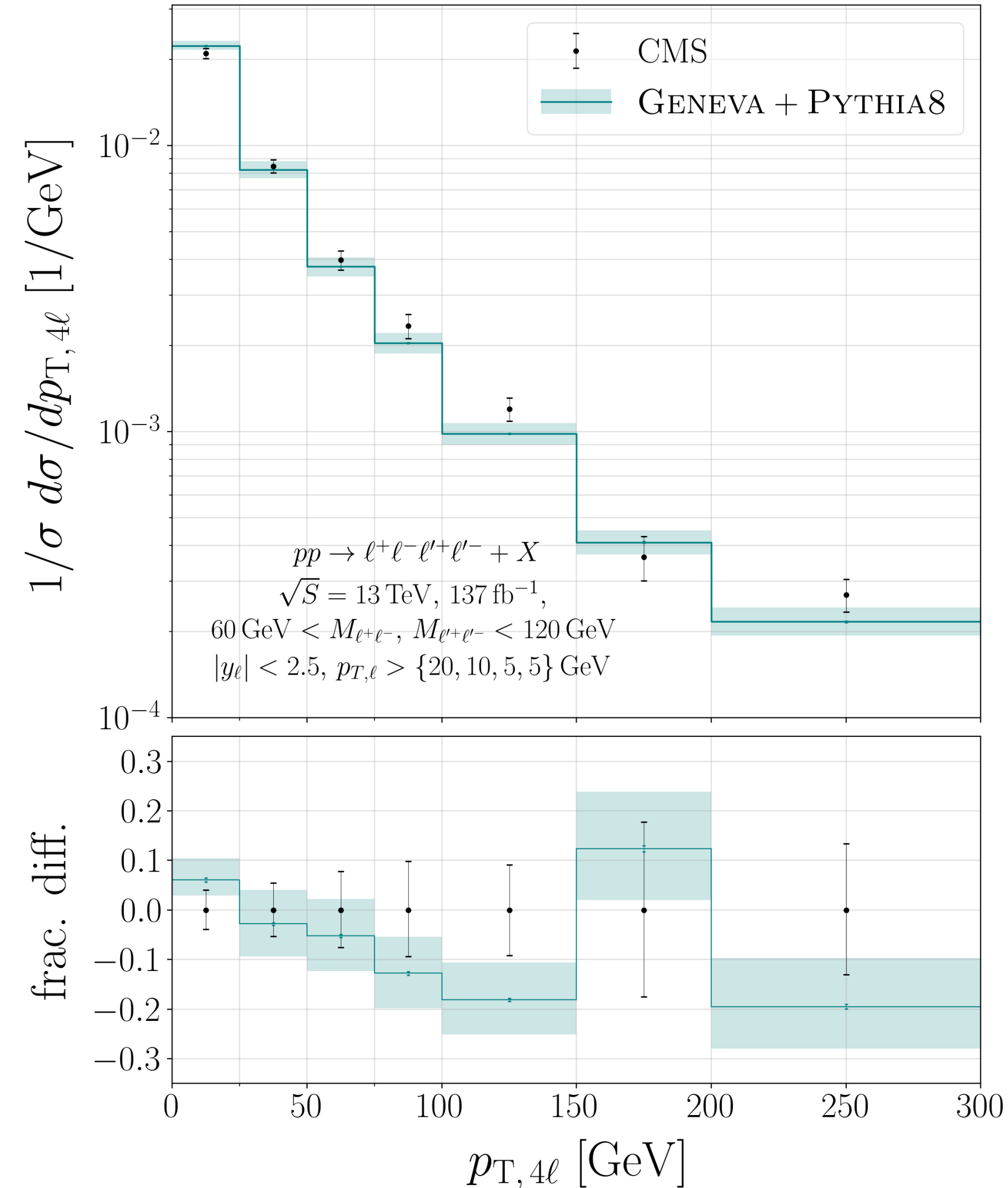
[Lombardi, Wiesemann; Zanderighi '21]



PS MC: NNLO QCD + PS for ZZ via MiNNLO_{PS}

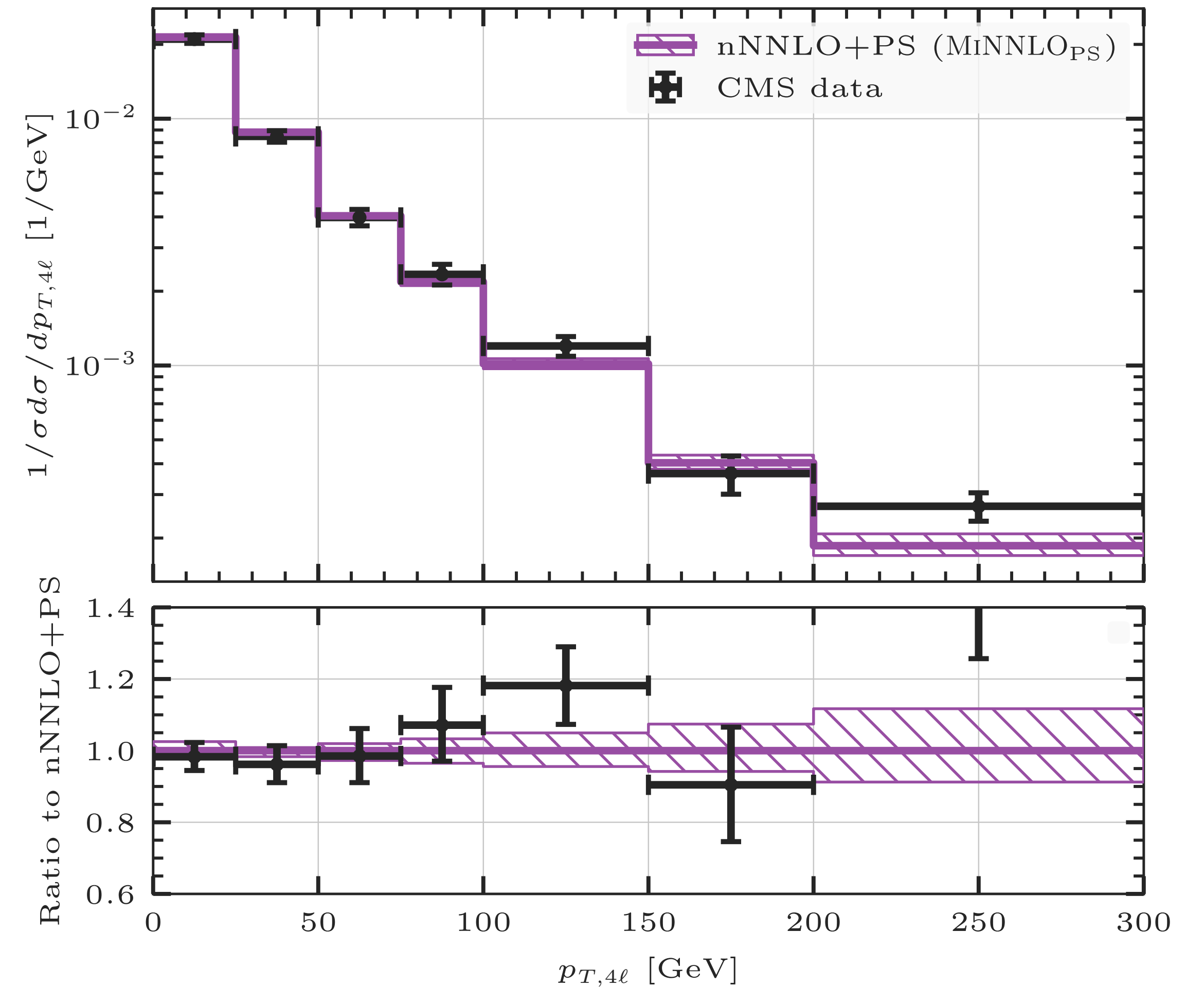
Geneva: NNLO+PS

[Alioli, Broggio, Gavardi, Kallweit, Lim, Nagar, Napoletano, '21]



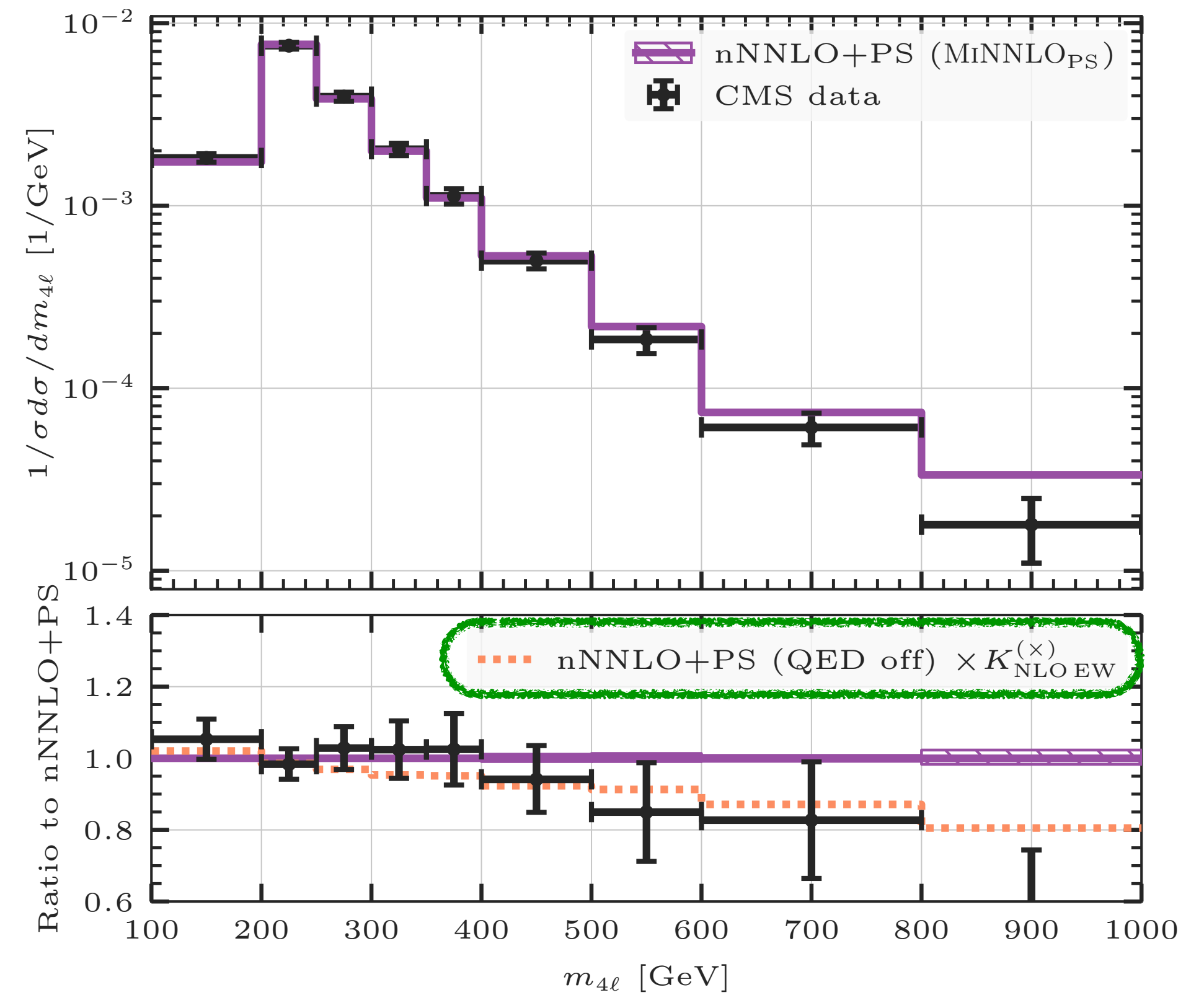
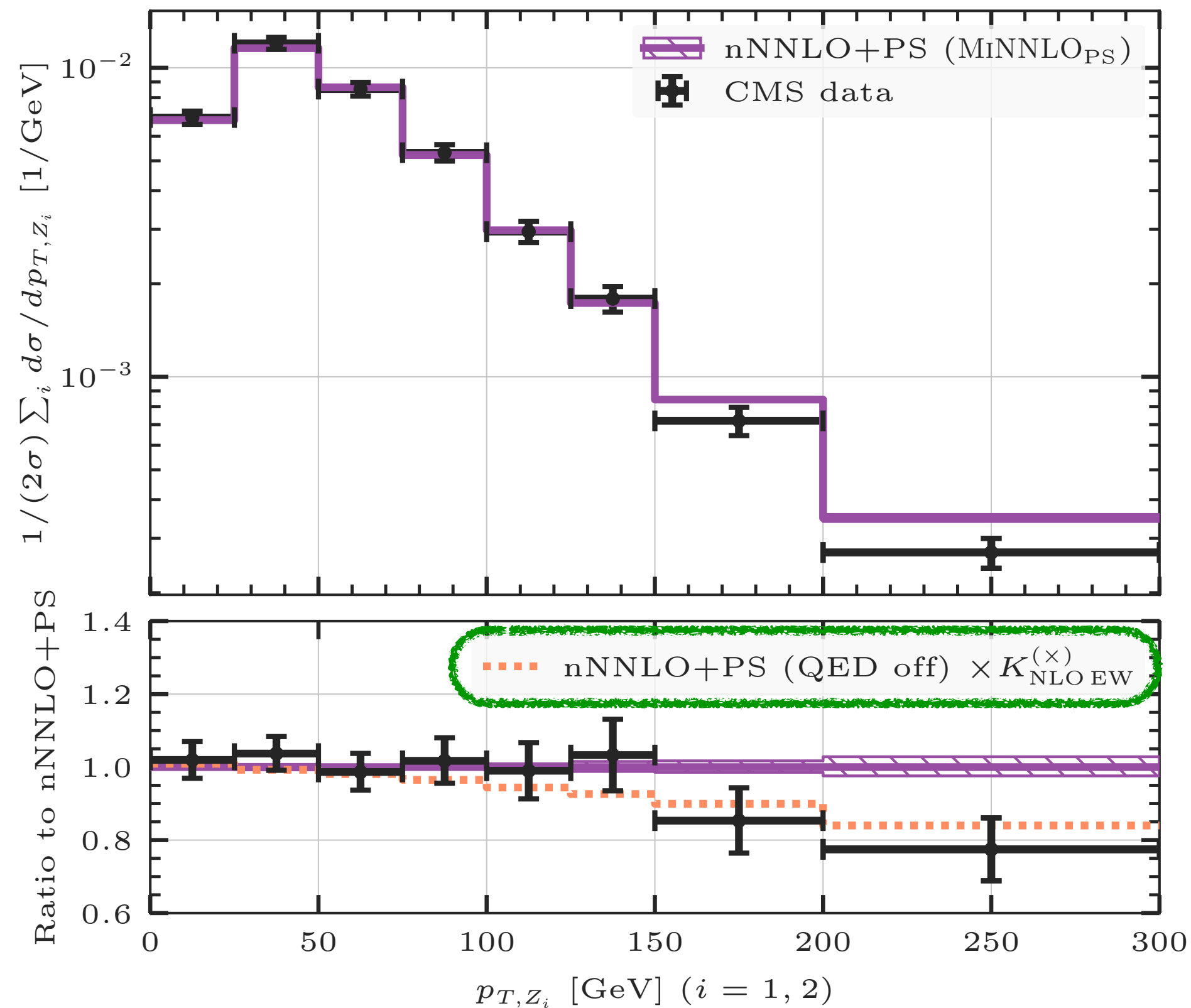
MiNNLO_{PS}: nNNLO+PS

[Buonocore, Koole, Lombardi, Rottoli, Wiesemann, Zanderighi, '21]



PS MC: NNLO QCD + PS for ZZ via MiNNLO_{PS}

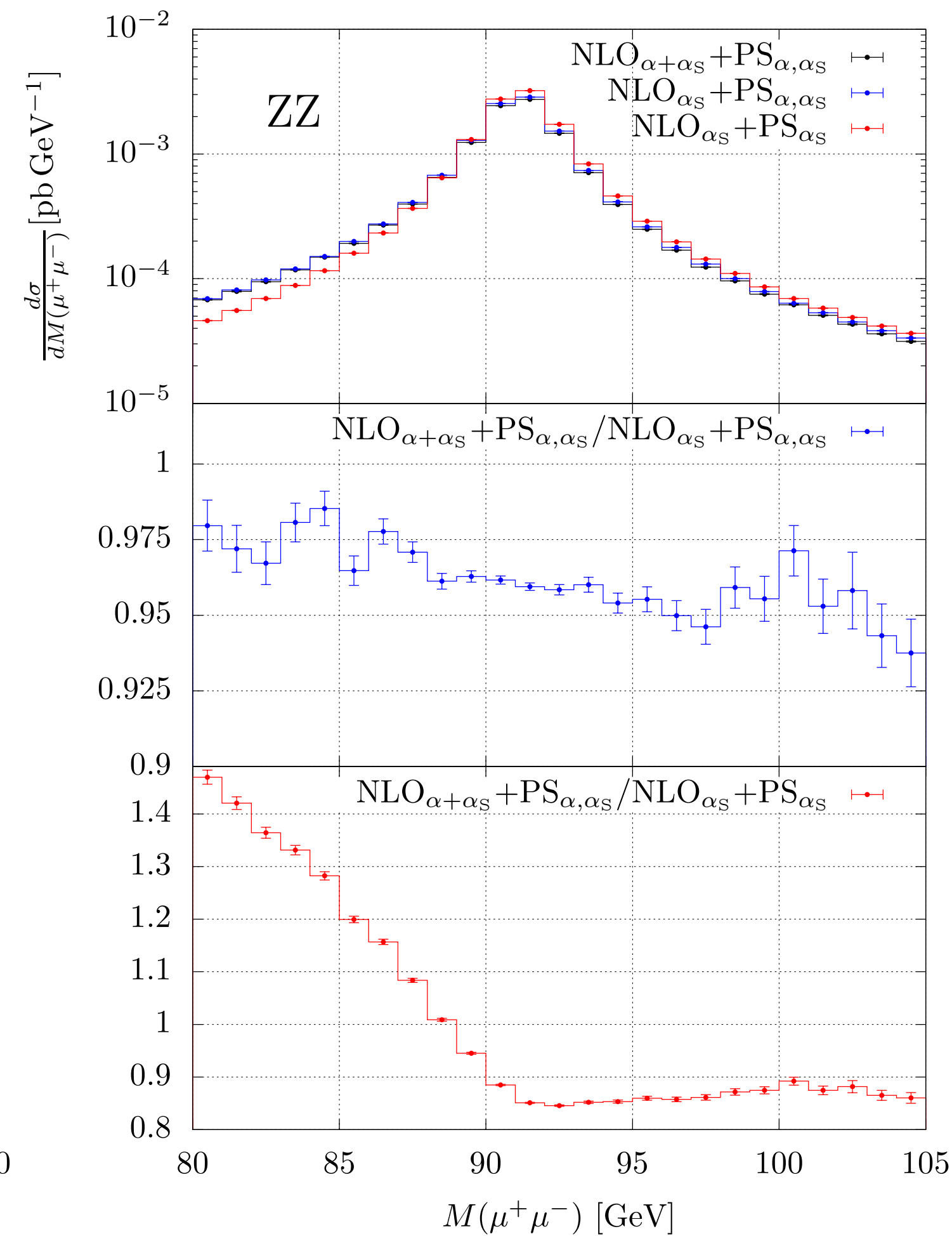
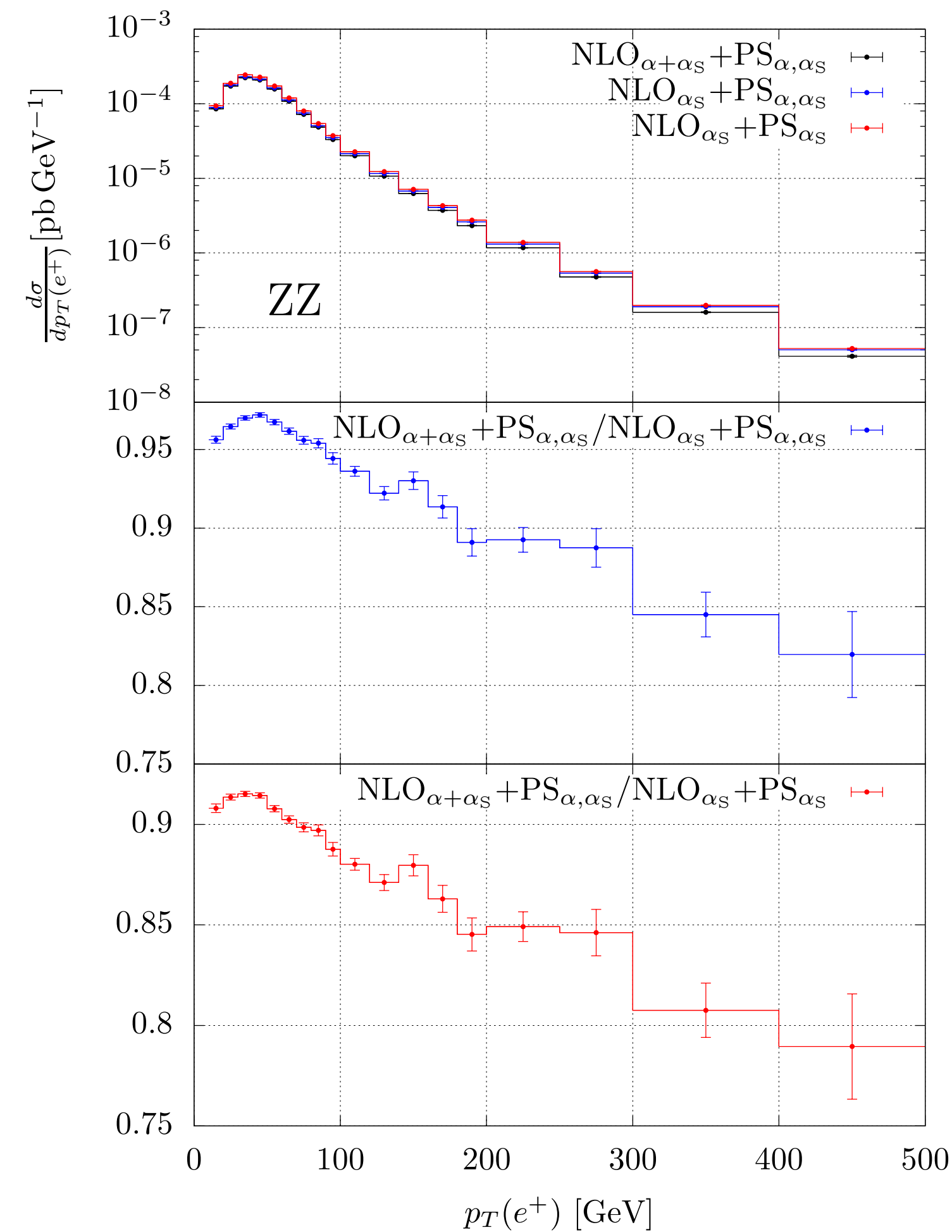
[Buonocore, Koole, Lombardi, Rottoli, Wiesemann, Zanderighi, '21]



- nNNLO+PS predictions in good agreement with CMS results [arXiv:2009.01186]
- inclusion of EW corrections (through fixed-order NLO K-factor) required to describe tails of distributions

PS MC: NLO QCD + NLO EW PS

[Chiesa, Re, Oleari '20]



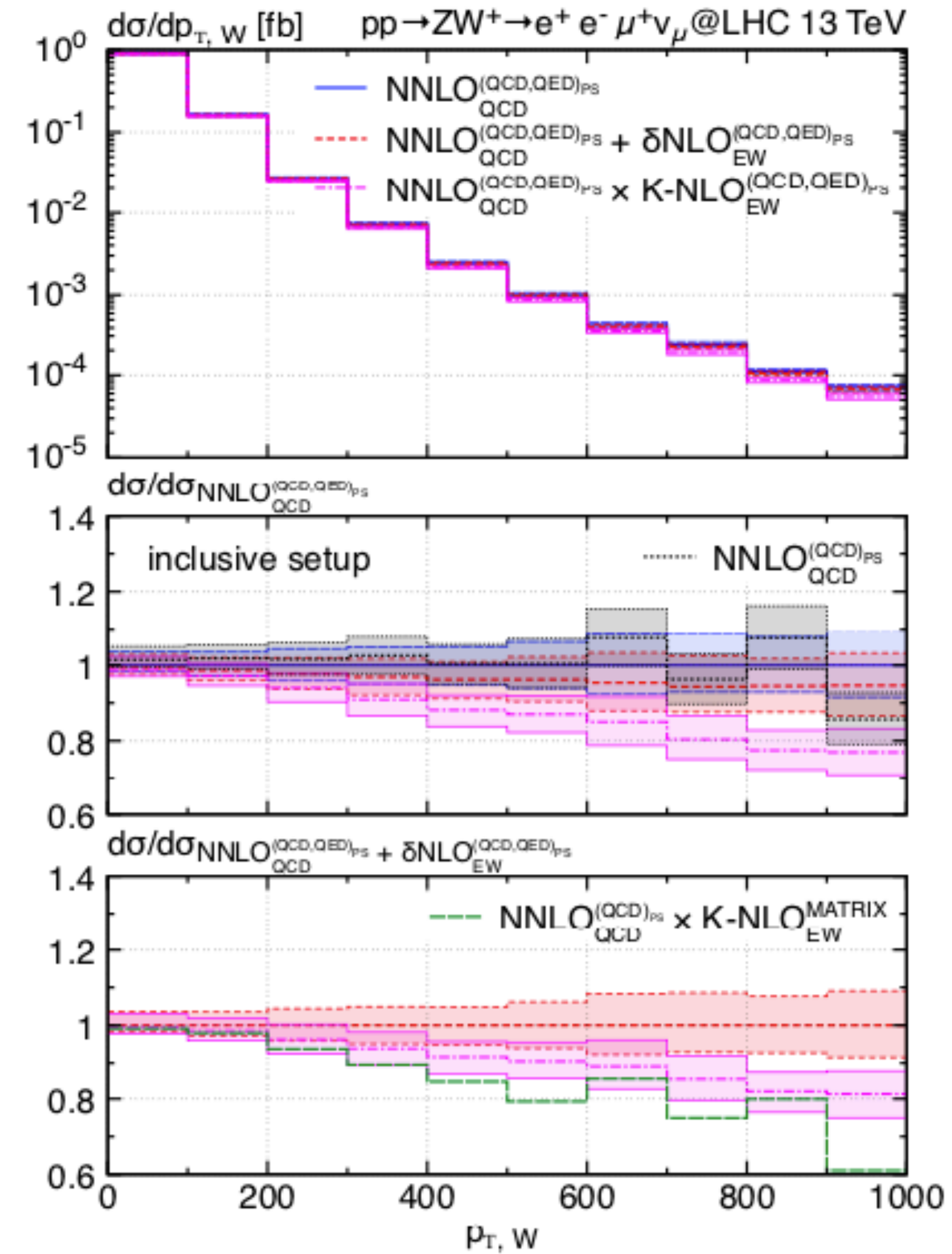
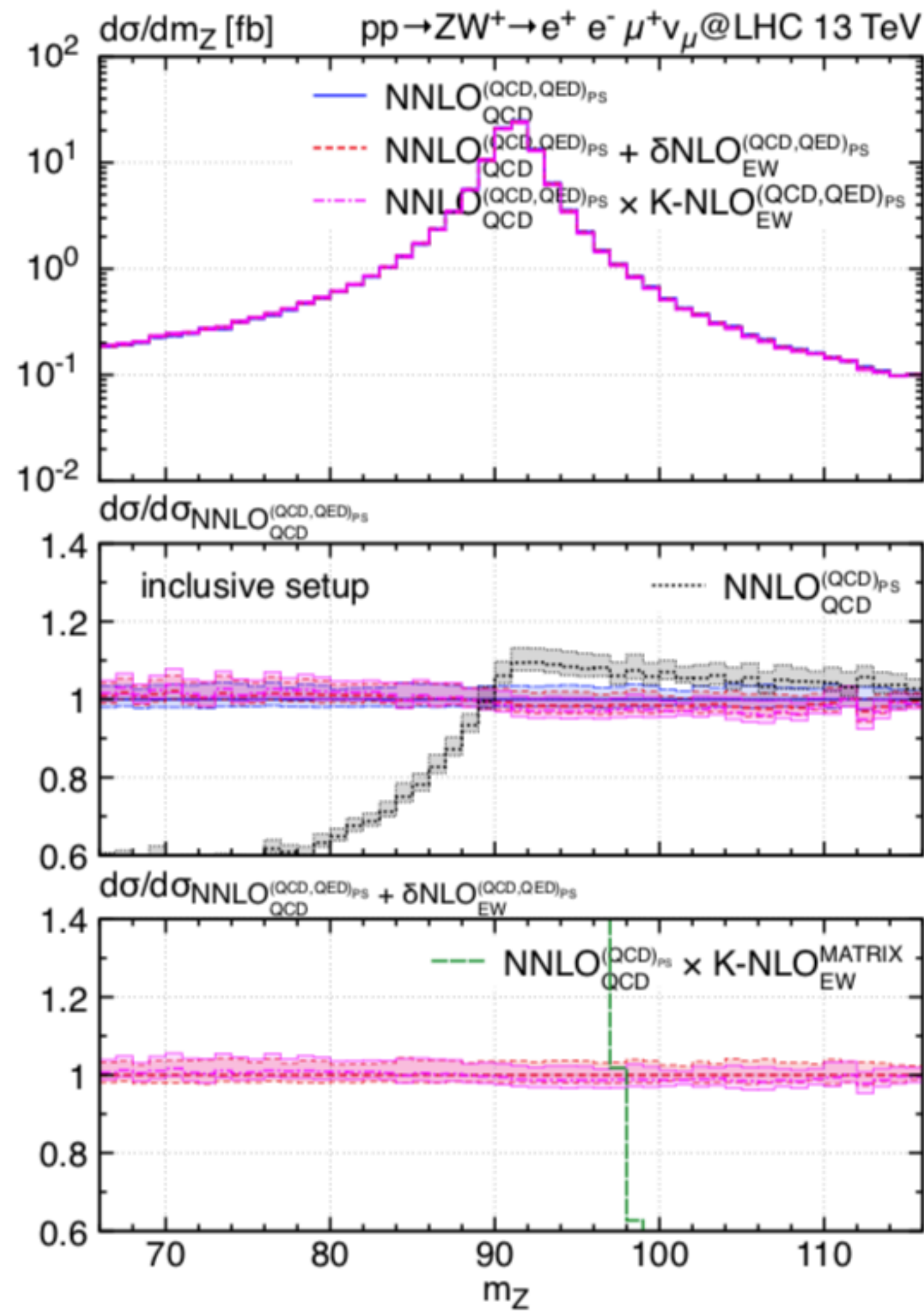
NLO (QCD + EW) PS (QCD + QED) /
NLO QCD PS (QCD + QED)

NLO (QCD + EW) PS (QCD + QED) /
NLO QCD PS QCD

- Note: resonance-aware NLO EW matching required (POWHEG-BOX-RES [Ježo, Nason, '15])
- Missing: photon-induced channels
- Question: NLO (QCD + EW) PS (QCD + QED) / (NLO QCD PS QCD) × NLO EW

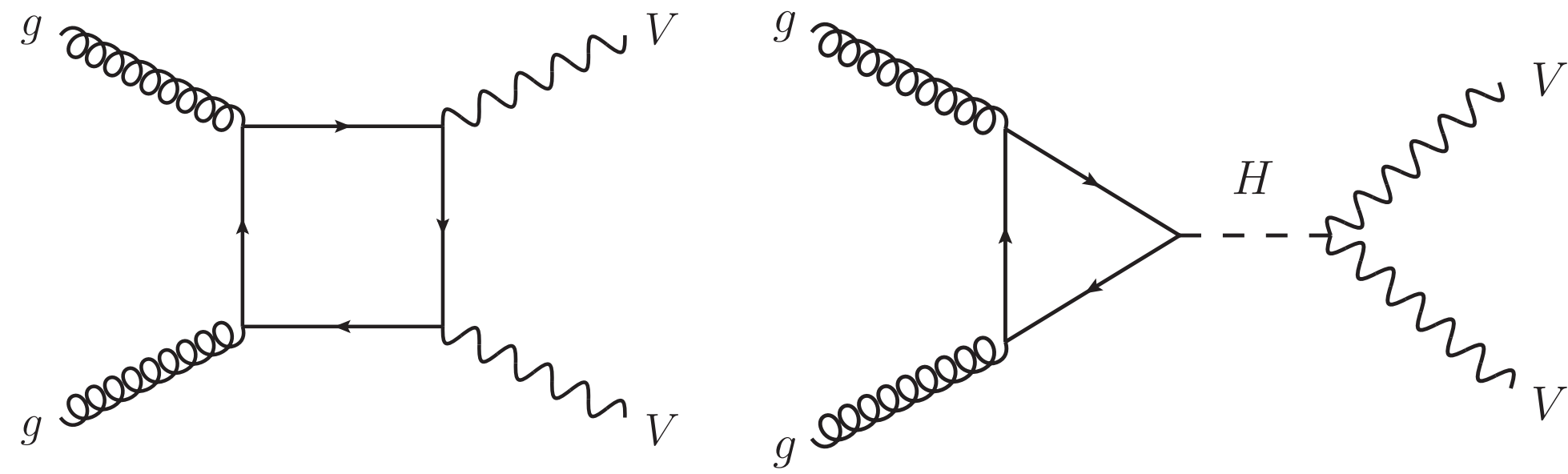
PS MC: NNLO QCD x NLO EW PS for WZ

[JML,^aLombardi, Wiesemann,^bZanderighi, Zanolini, to appear]



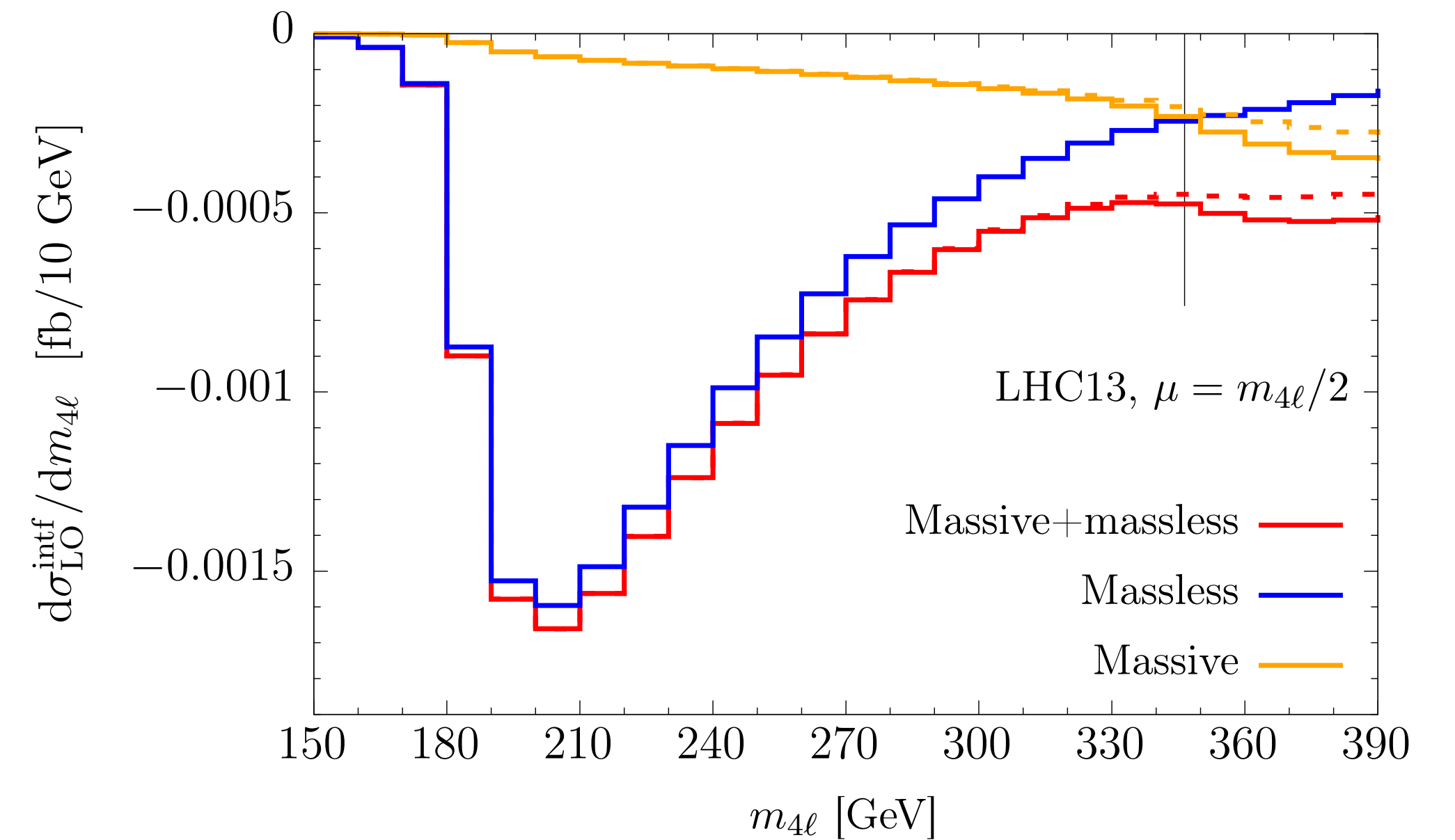
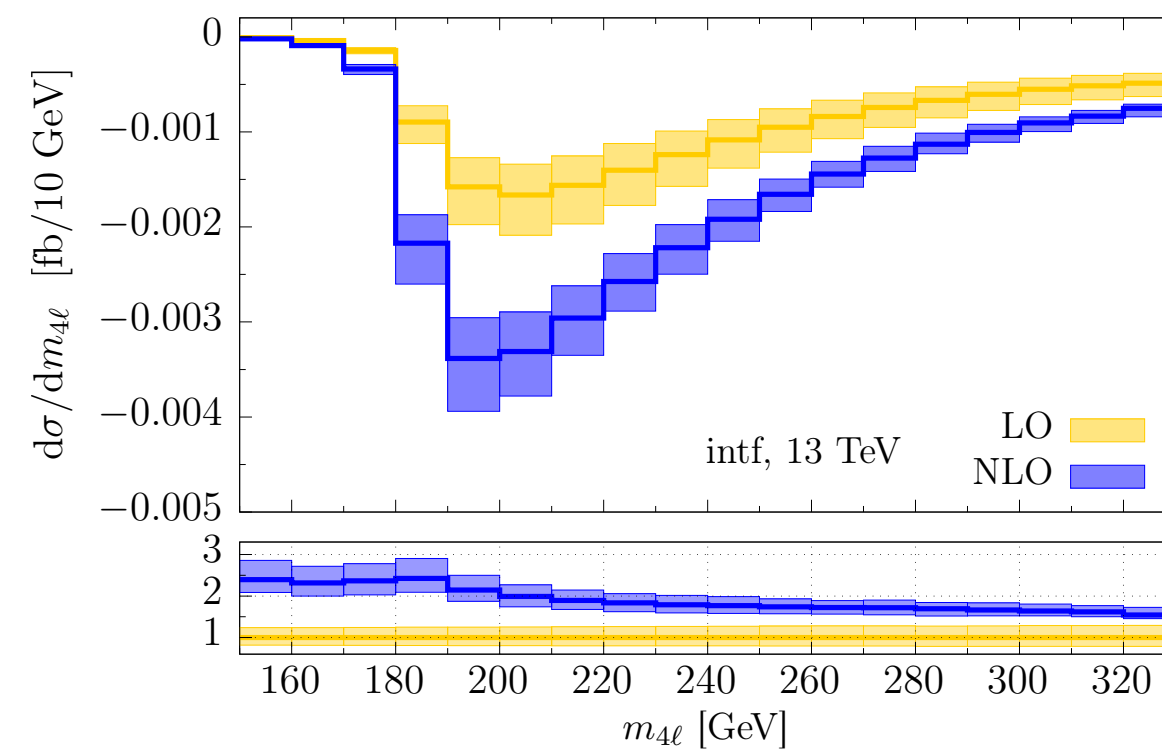
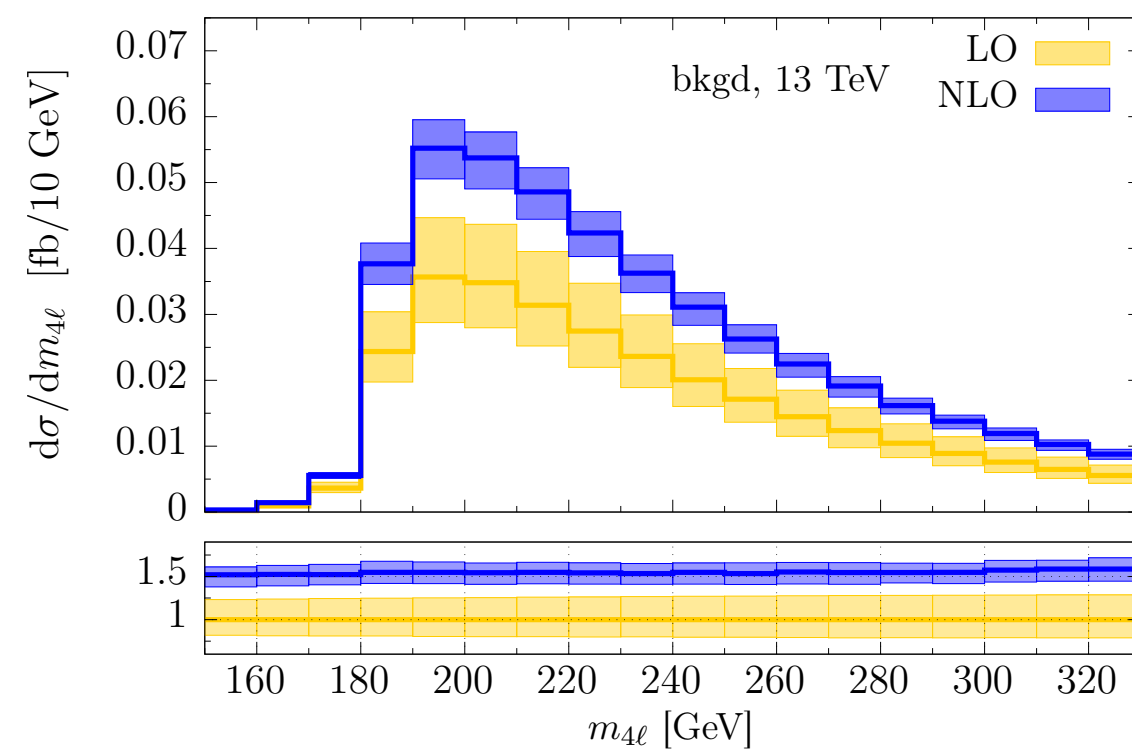
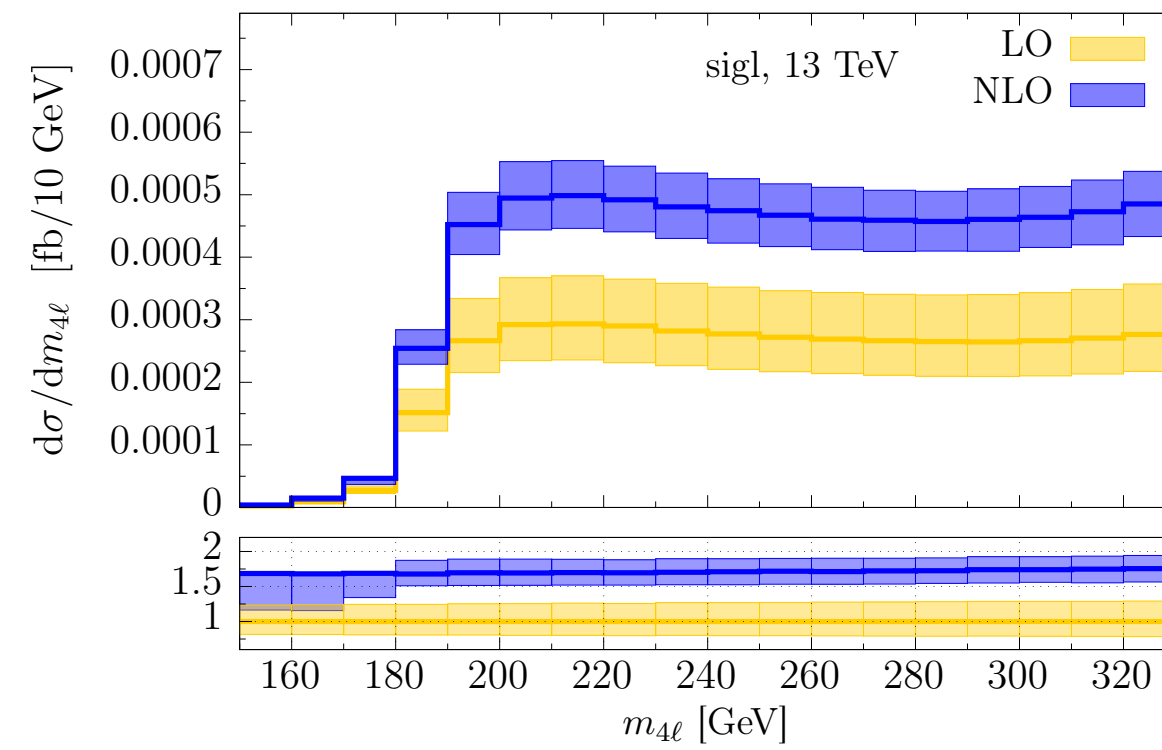
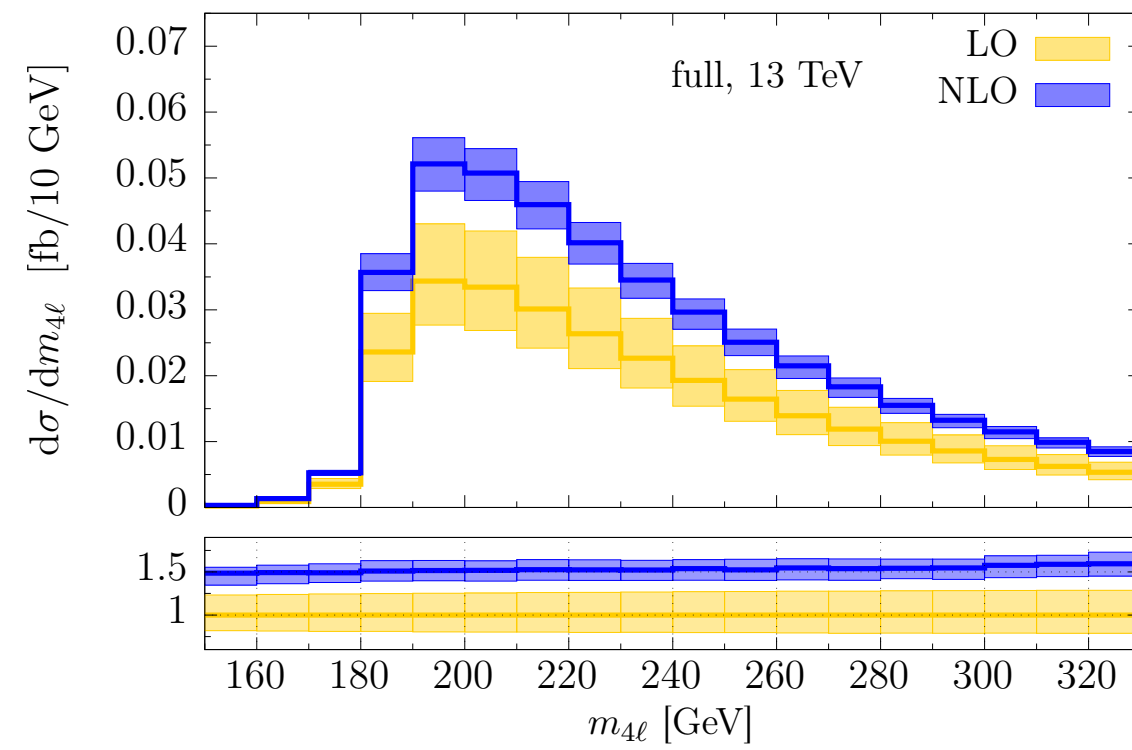
- NNLOPS QCD x NLOPS EW combination via reweighting (NLOPS EW resonance-aware)
- Next: combination at generator level

gg-induced WW and ZZ production



- Formally same order as NNLO QCD
- Enhanced due to gg flux
- Interference with H->VV

- Sizeable QCD corrections (formally N3LO QCD)
- For $m_{4\ell} < 340$ GeV 1/Mt expansion reliable

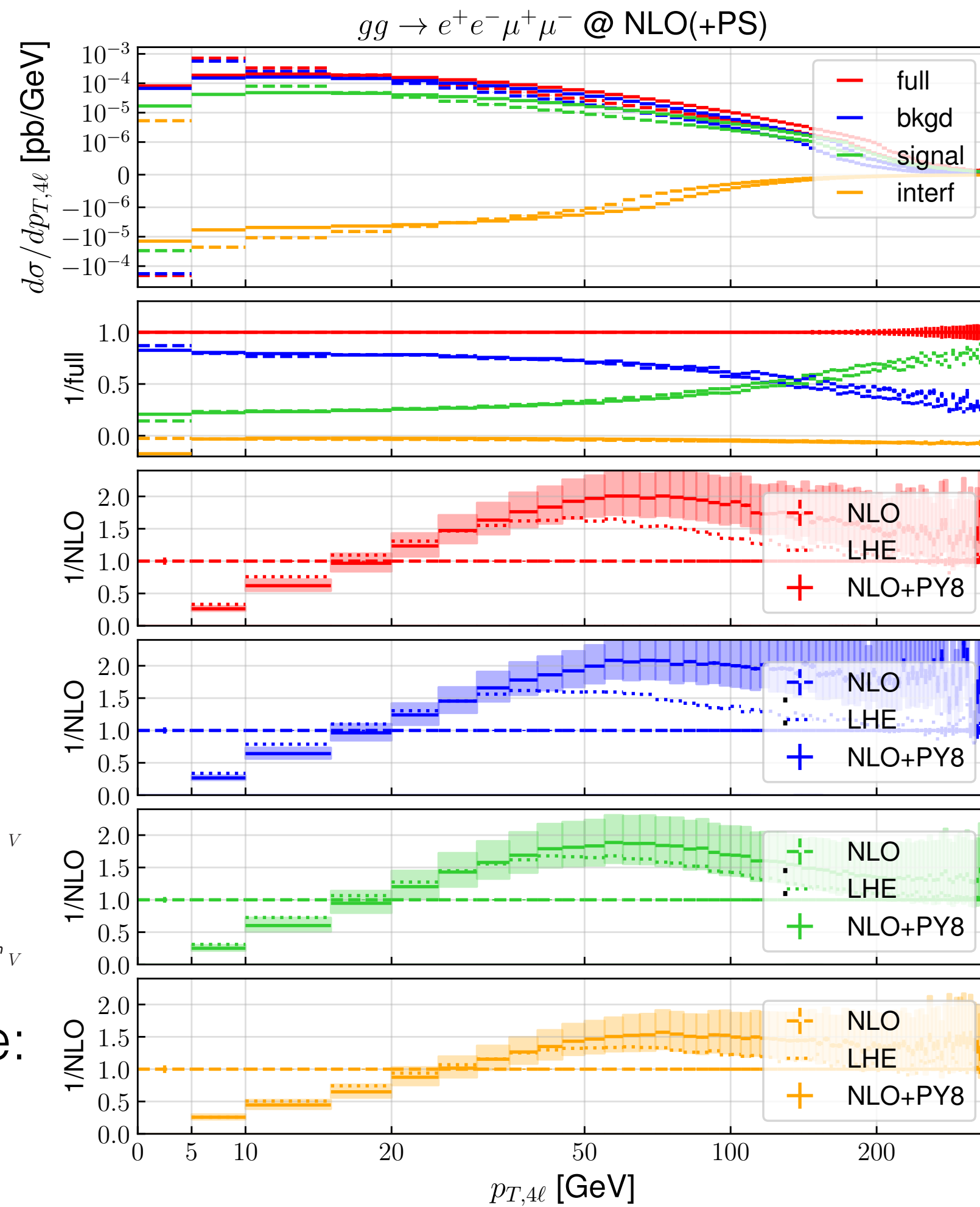
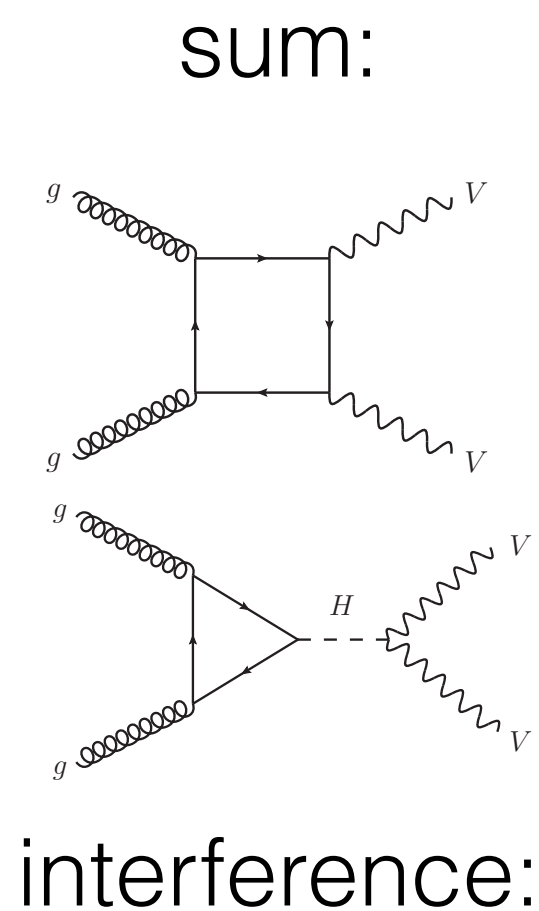


NLO+PS for $gg \rightarrow VV/H \rightarrow 4l$

[Alioli, Ferrario Ravasio, JML, Röntschi, '21]

$$gg \rightarrow VV \rightarrow 4l$$

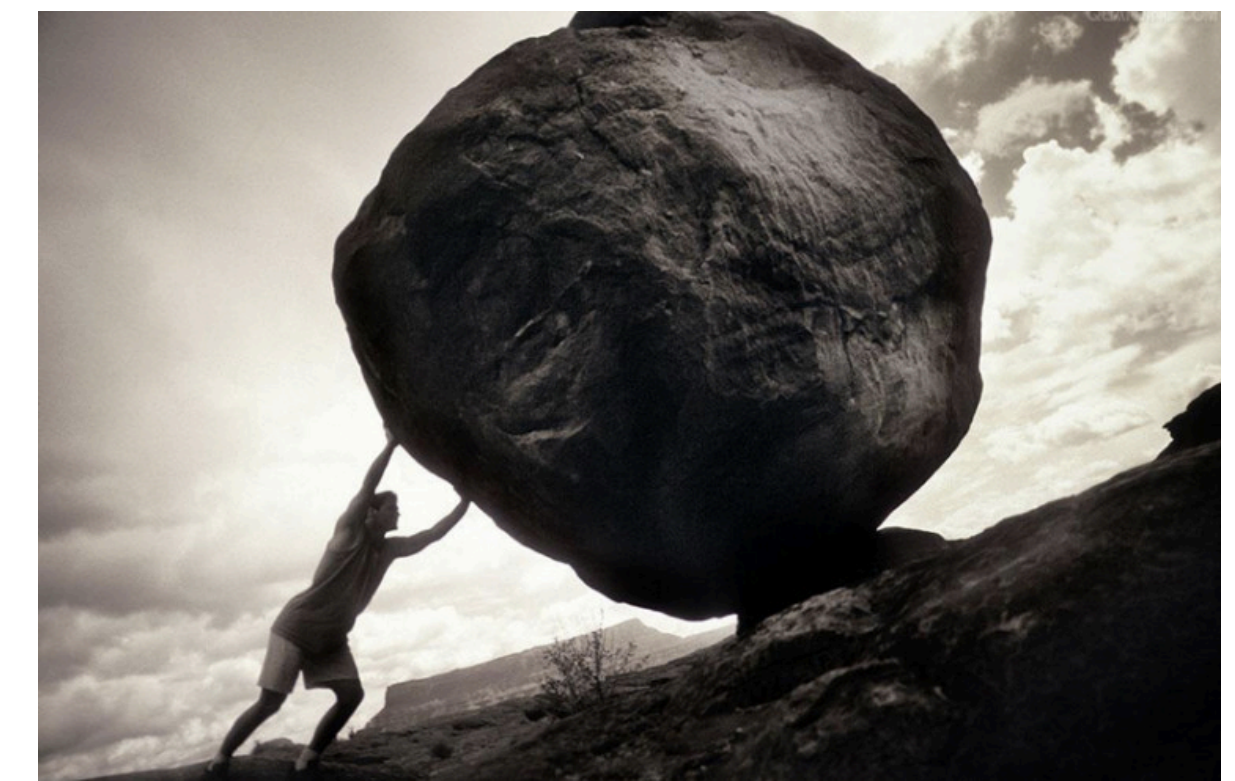
$$gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow 4l$$



- $ggVV/ggZZ @ \text{NLO QCD} + \text{PS}$ available!
- crucial for off-shell Higgs measurements

Conclusions

- ▶ There is no clear scale/signature for new physics effects:
Let's explore the unknown leaving no stone unturned!
- ▶ Precision is key for SM (QCD/EW/Higgs) measurements,
SM parameter determination, as well as for BSM searches.



Incredible progress in theory predictions for multibosons

VV:

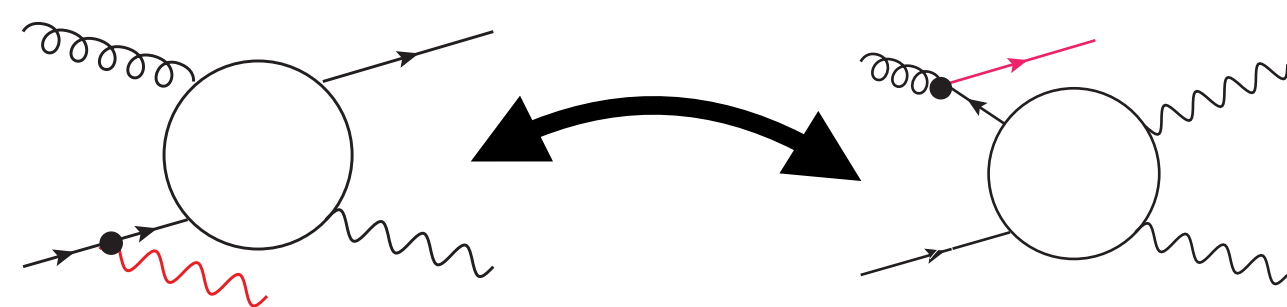
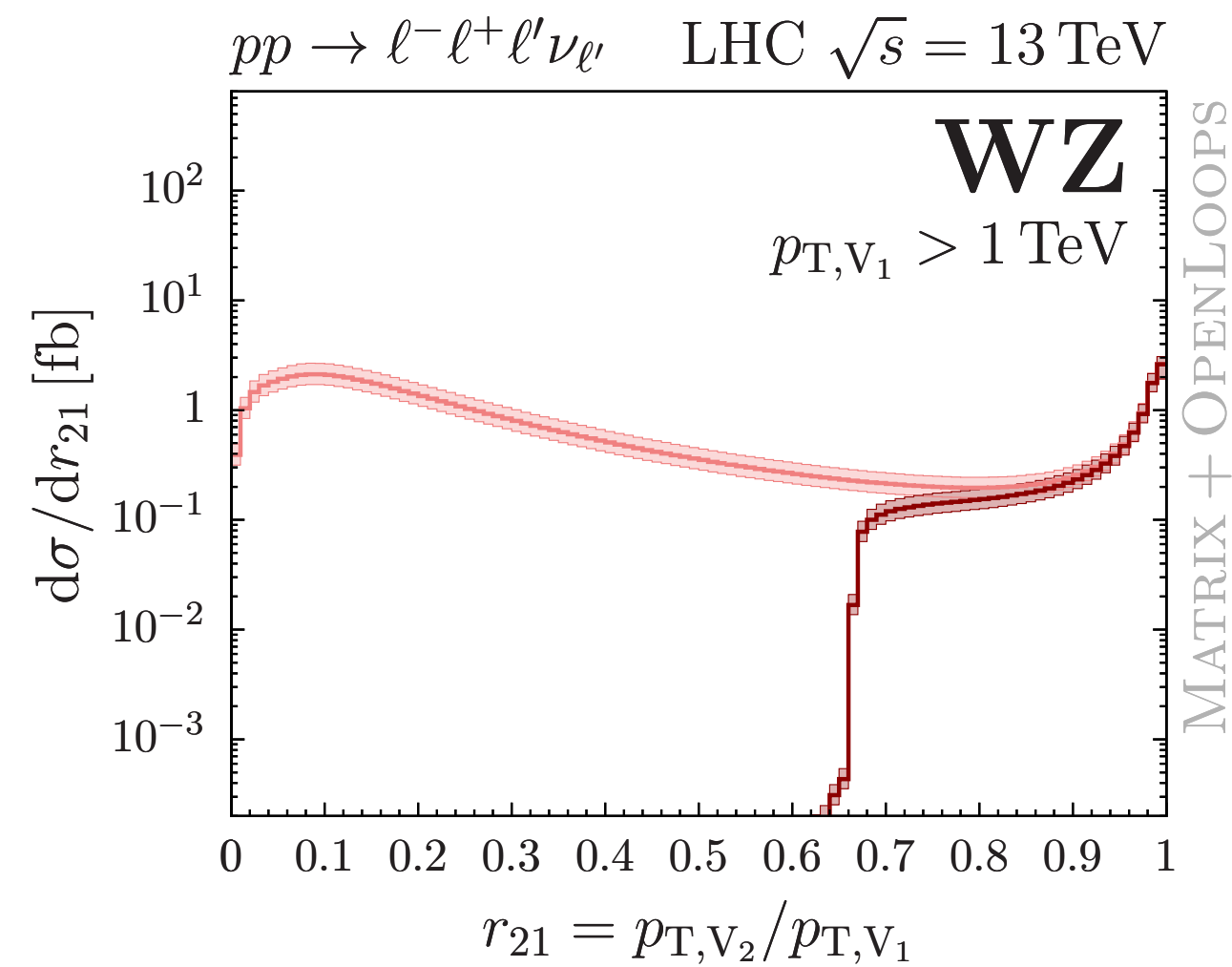
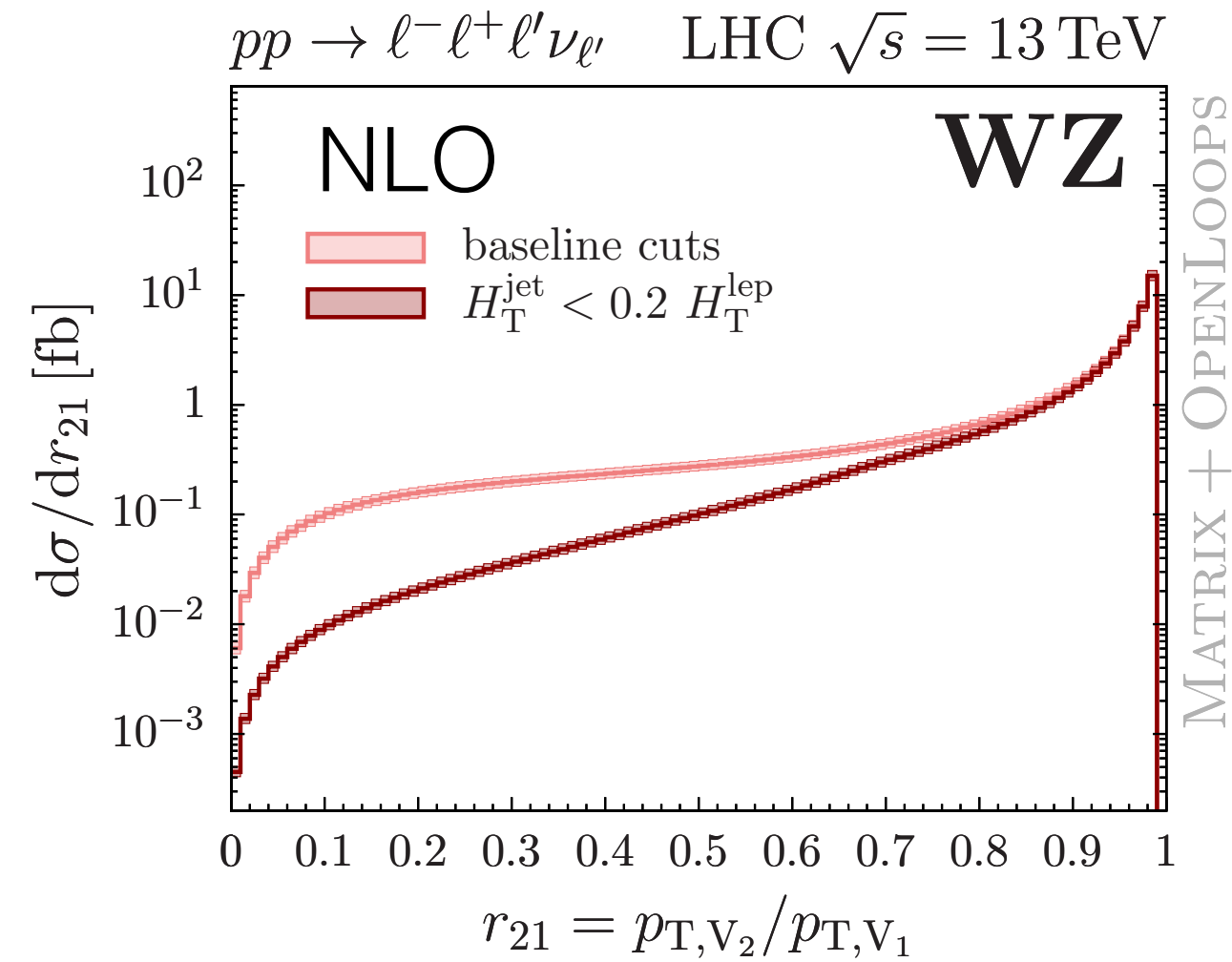
- NNLO QCD + NLO EW available in MATRIX+OpenLoops
- MEPS @ NLO (QCD + EWapprox) available in Sherpa
- NLO (QCD + EW) + PS (QCD + QED) available in POWHEG
- NLO QCD_{gg} PS available in POWHEG
- NNLO QCD PS via MiNNLO available (combined with NLOPS EW)

Remaining theory uncertainties: mixed QCD-EW, NNLO EW

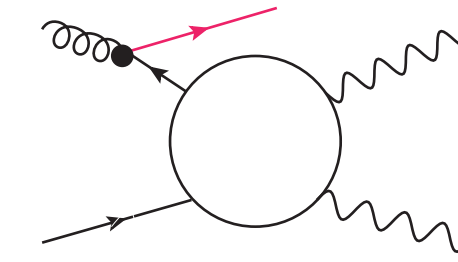


Backup

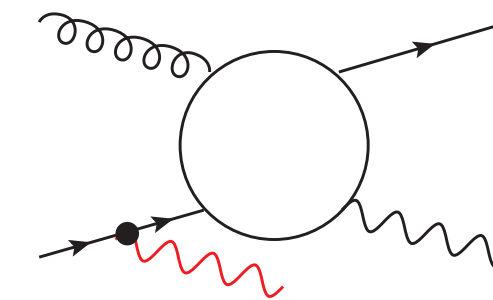
Giant K-factors and effect of jet veto



- at $r_{21} \rightarrow 1$: hard-VV topologies



- at $r_{21} \rightarrow 0$: hard-Vj topologies



- for $p_{T,V_1} > 1$ TeV: hard-Vj topologies dominate over hard-VV

- Jet veto $H_T^{\text{jet}} < \xi_{\text{veto}} H_T^{\text{lep}}$ corresponds to

$$p_{T,V_2} \geq \frac{1 - \xi_{\text{veto}}}{1 + \xi_{\text{veto}}} p_{T,V_1} = \frac{2}{3} p_{T,V_1} \quad \text{for } \xi_{\text{veto}} = 0.2$$

(violated by off-shell topologies)

- Jet veto results in phase-space dominated by hard-VV

Theory status for Tribosons

[Slide thanks to M. Schönherr]

NLO QCD corrections trivial, known for on-shell and off-shell processes.

NLO EW on-shell corrections calculated by [Hefei group '14-'17](#),
WWW also by [Dittmaier, Huss, Knippen '17](#).

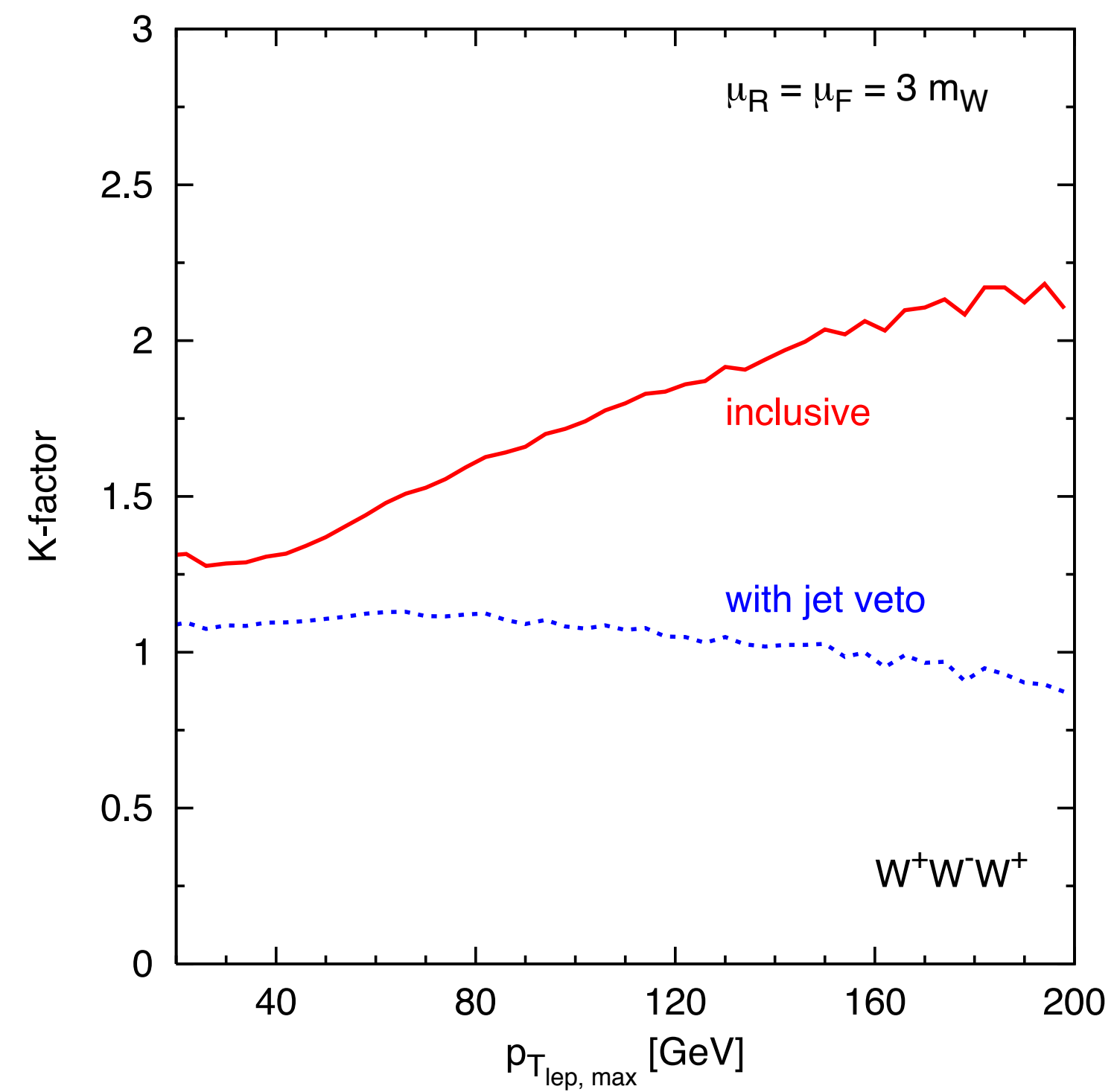
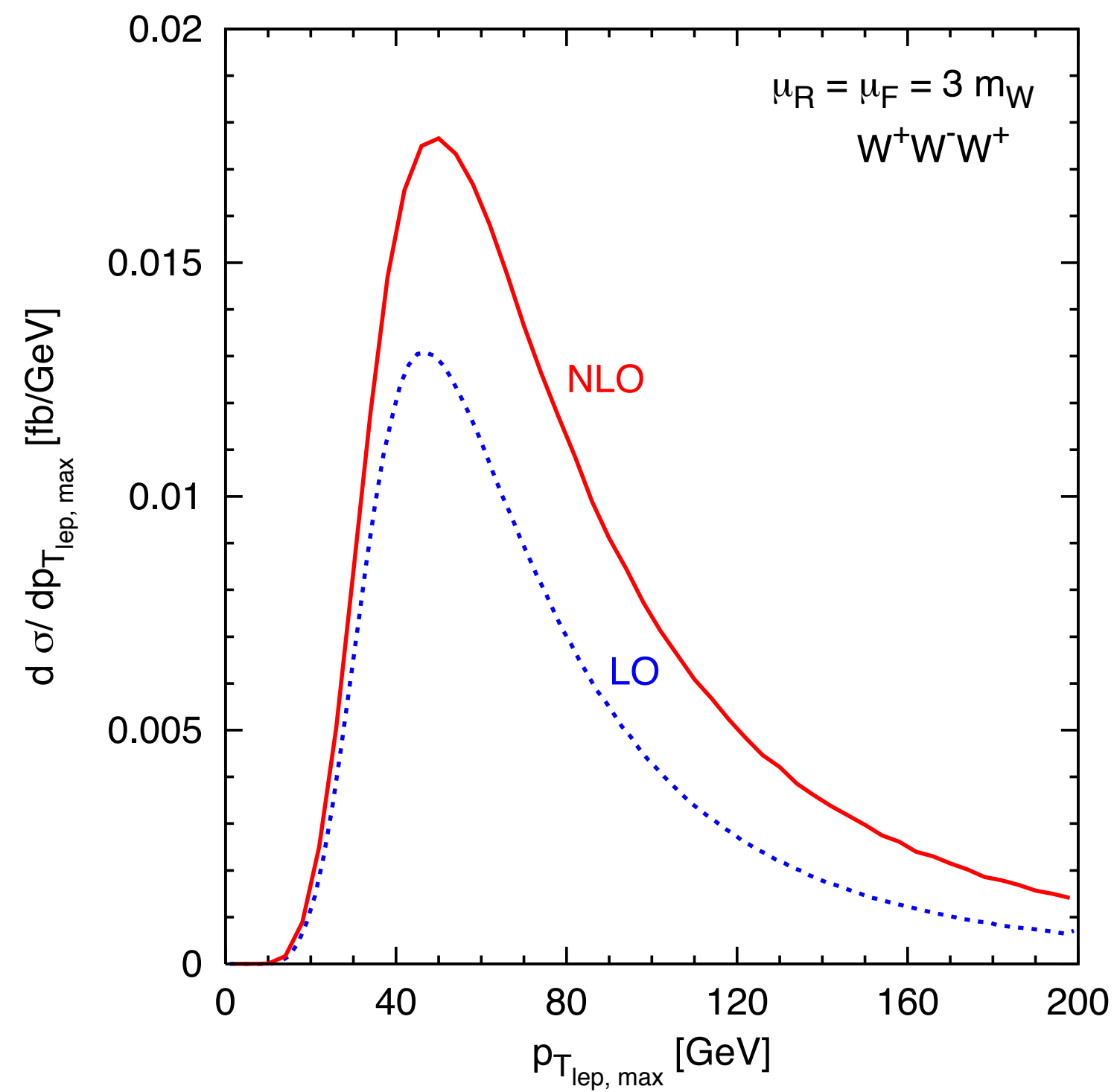
NLO EW off-shell corrections more involved, up to 2 → 6 complexity
(like VBS, just with more and competing resonances)

- $pp \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma / \gamma\gamma\ell\nu / \gamma\gamma\ell\ell$ [Greiner, Schönherr '17](#)
- $pp \rightarrow 3\ell 3\nu$ ($\ell = e^\pm, \mu^\pm$, 0/ 1/ 2 SFOS channels, [Schönherr '18](#)
incl. *WWW* and *WZZ* topologies)
- $pp \rightarrow e^\mp \nu_e \mu^\pm \nu_\mu \tau^\pm \nu_\tau$ (*WWW* only) [Dittmaier, Knippen, Schwan '19](#)
- $pp \rightarrow \gamma 2\ell 2\nu$ ($\ell = e^\pm, \mu^\pm$, 0,1 SFOS channels, [Ju, Lindert, Schönherr tbp](#)
incl. γWW and γZZ topologies)

Generically, large contribution from photon-induced processes.

Triboson production @ NLO QCD

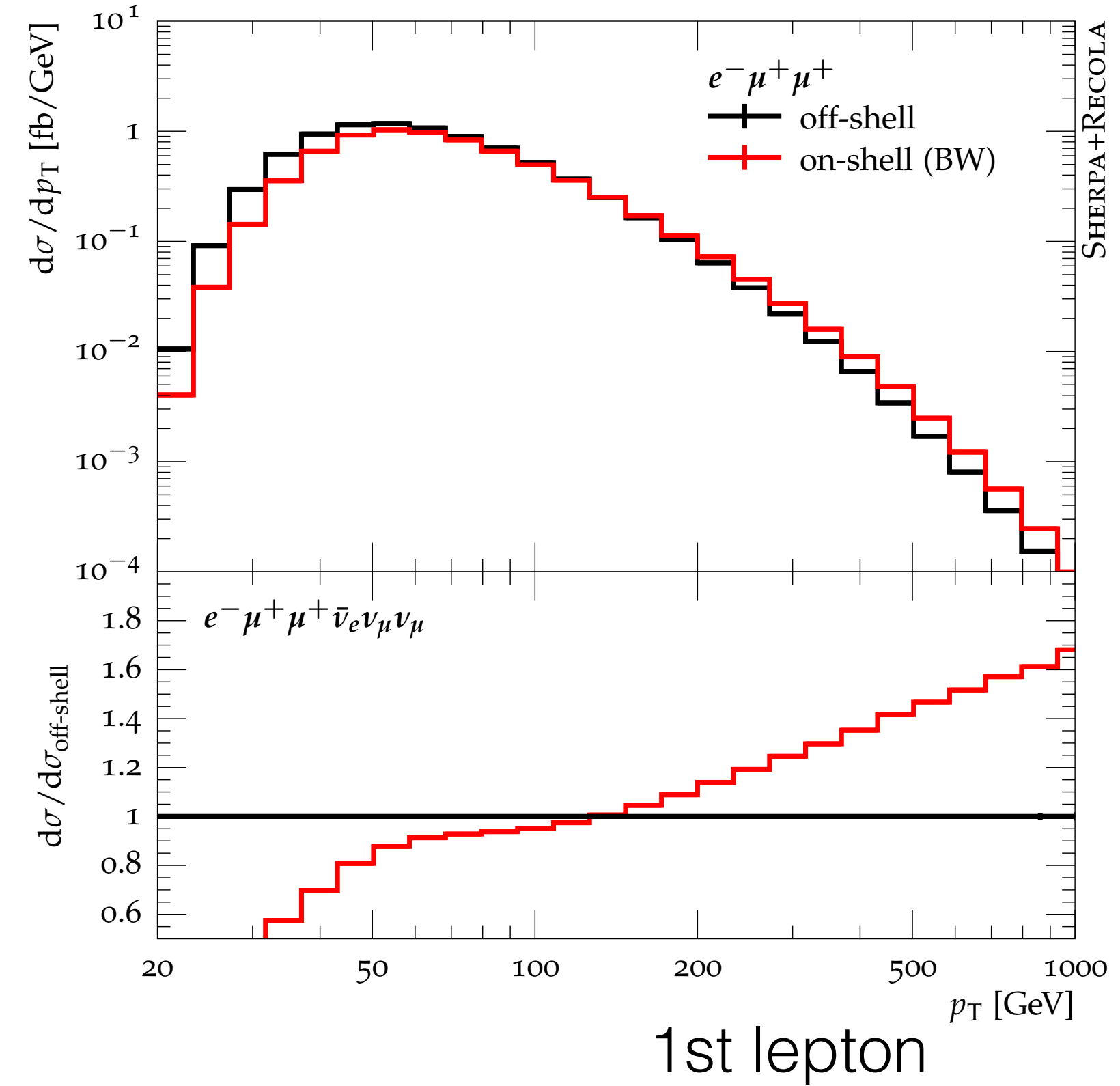
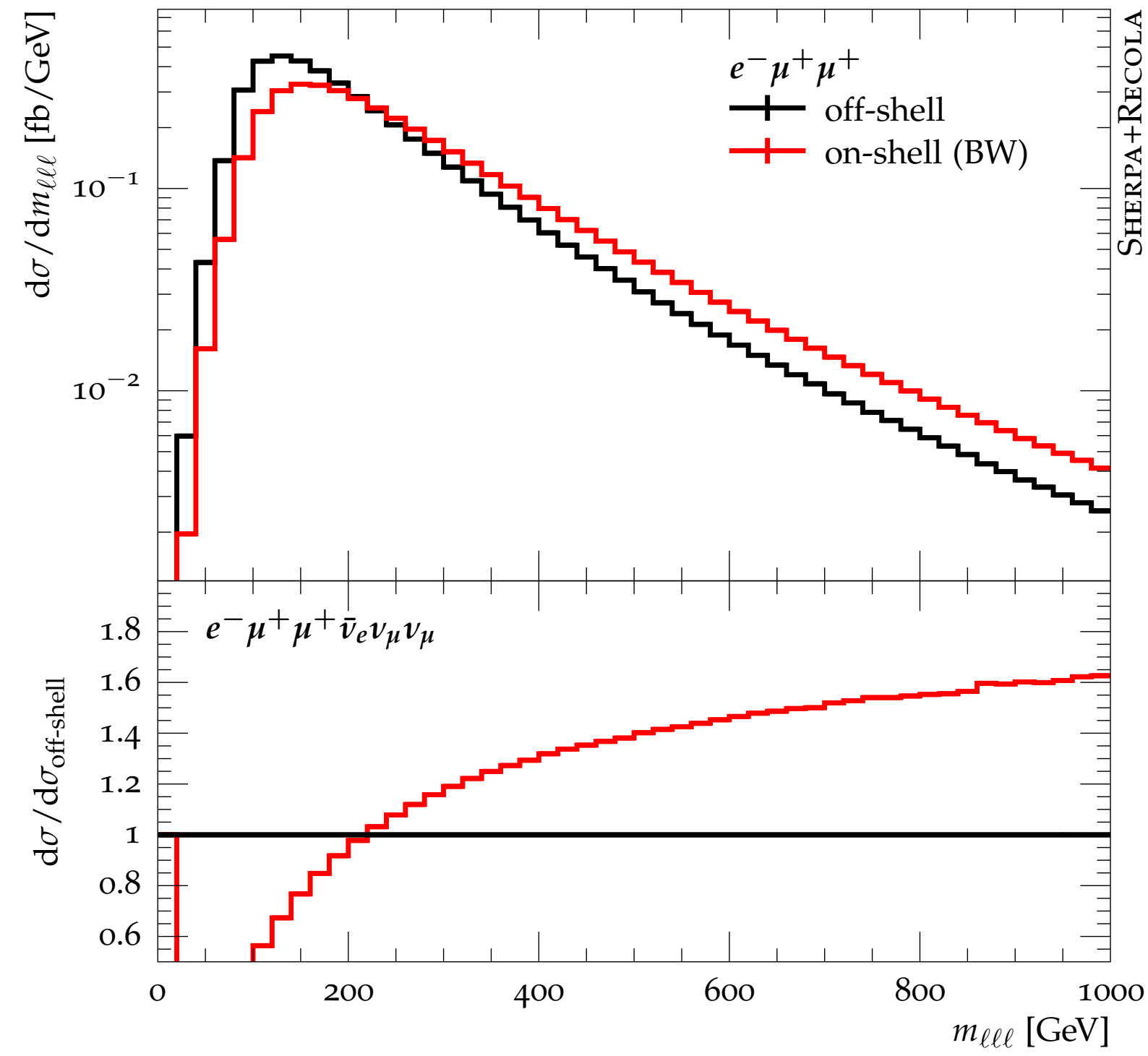
[Campanario et.al., '08]



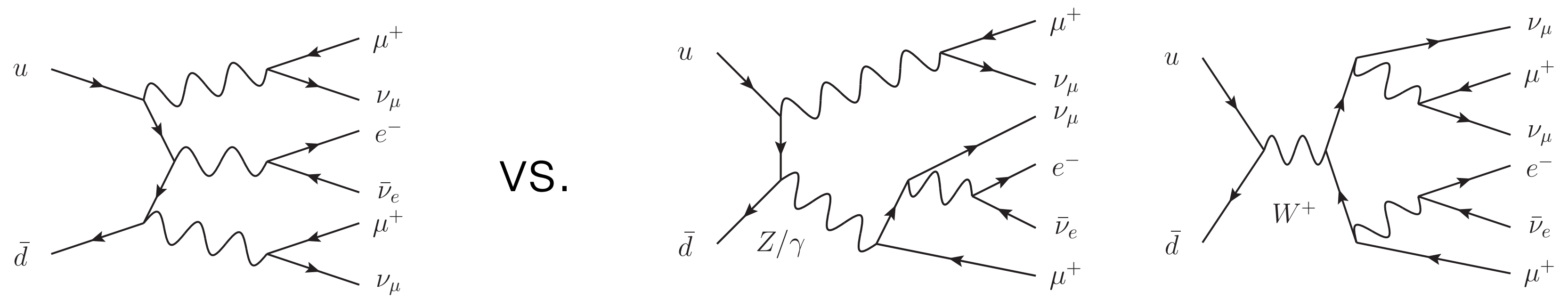
- QCD correction driven by additional jet activity: VV +jet topologies with soft V
 - 'giant K-factors'
 - strong observable dependence
 - NLO mandatory
- jet veto ($p_{T_{cut}} = 50$ GeV) reduces size and phase space dependence
 - better: multi-jet merging

Triboson production: on-shell vs. off-shell

[M. Schönherr, 1806.00307]

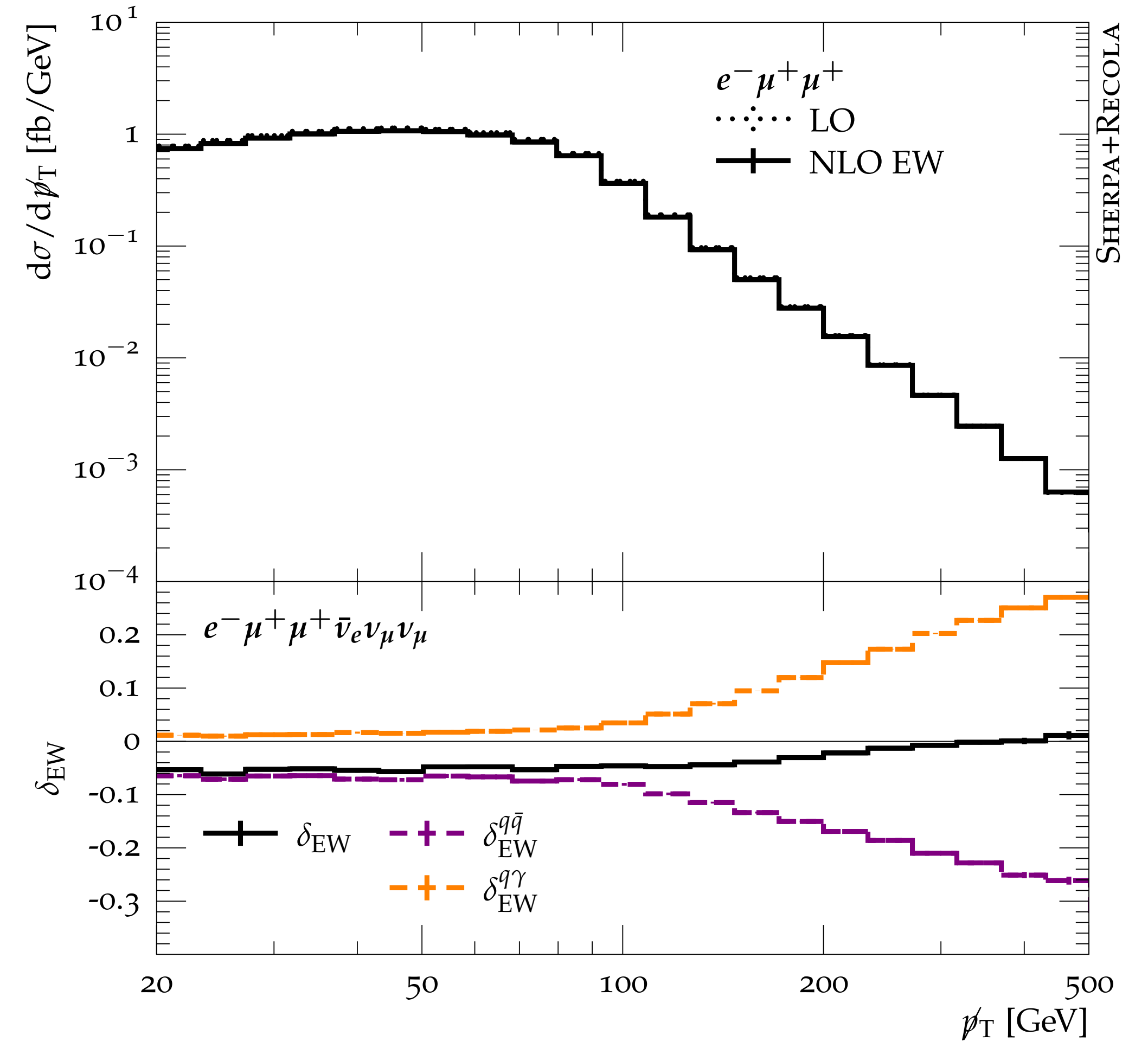
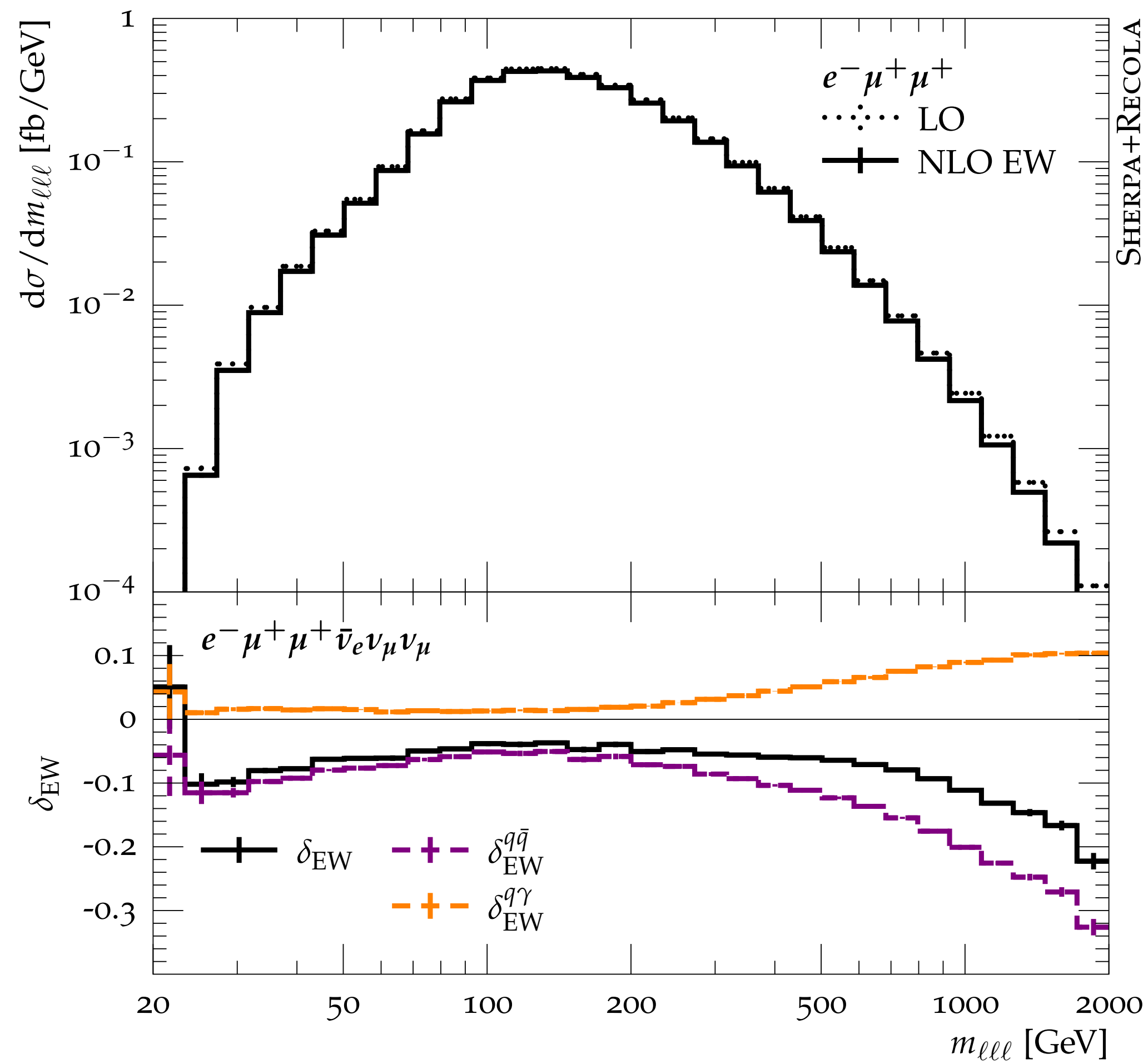


- at large $m_{\ell\ell}$ and $p_{T_{\ell\ell}}$ large interference with other resonance structures



Off-shell VV production @ NLO EW

[M. Schönherr, 1806.00307]

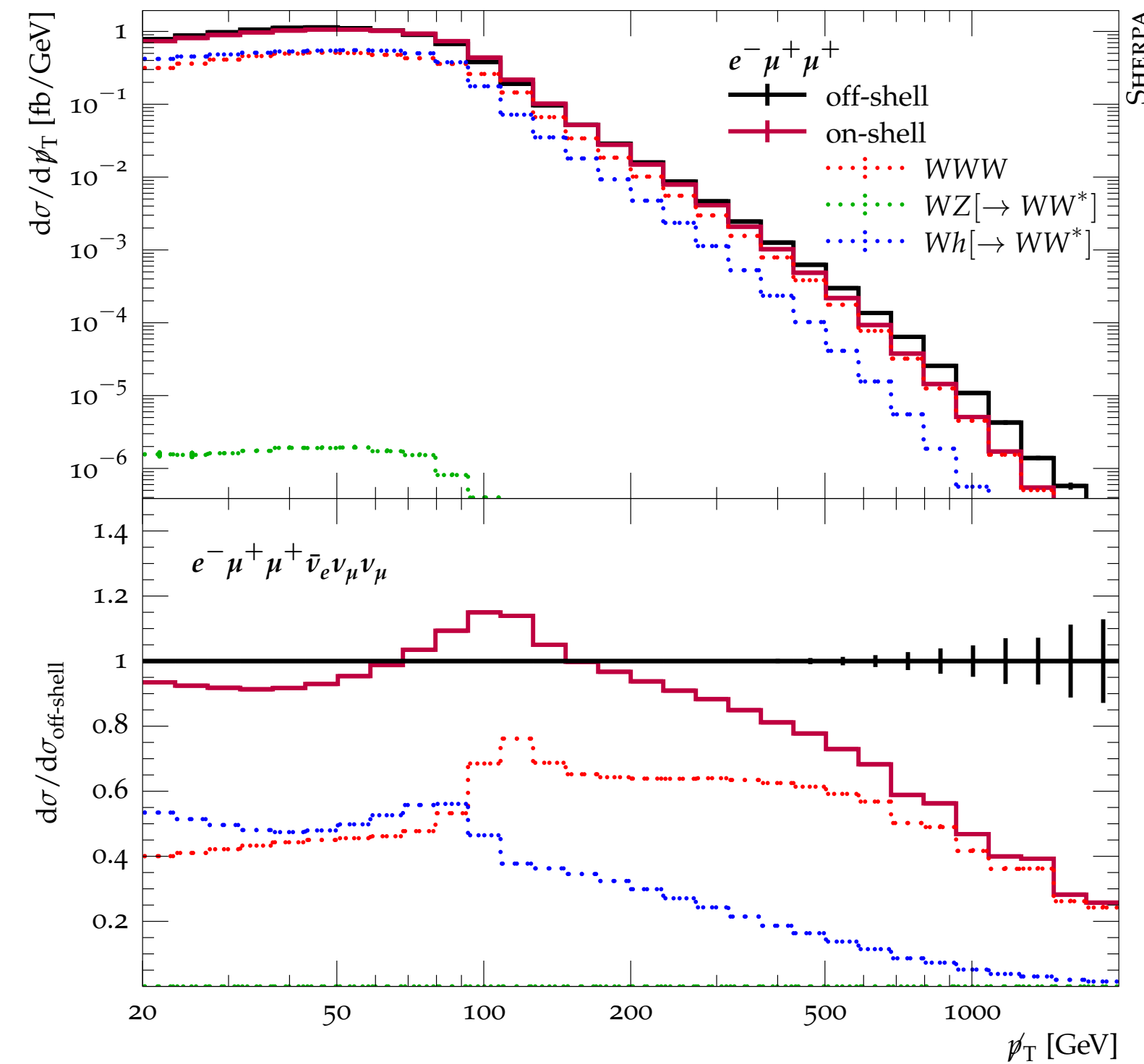


- Very large cancellations of EW corr. in $q\bar{q}$ and $q\gamma$ channels / highly observable dependent

Interplay of WWW and $Wh[\rightarrow WW^*]$

[Slide thanks to M. Schönherr]

- due to interference, Wh cannot be treated as independent background, but is part of the signal
- should not be subtracted

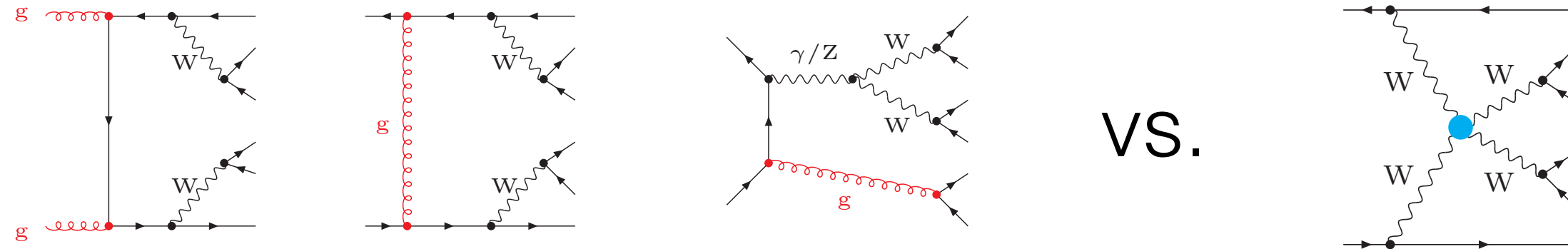


⇒ **measure signature (e.g. $3\ell + \text{MET}$) in fiducial volume**

→ for limits on, e.g., AGCs: define fiducial region that has large WWW component, still measure signature, interferences can be as important as sought-after signal

Perturbative expansion: VBF-V, VBS-VV

Example: WW+2jets



$$d\sigma = d\sigma(\alpha_S^2 \alpha^4) + d\sigma(\alpha_S \alpha^5) + d\sigma(\alpha^6) + \dots$$

LO

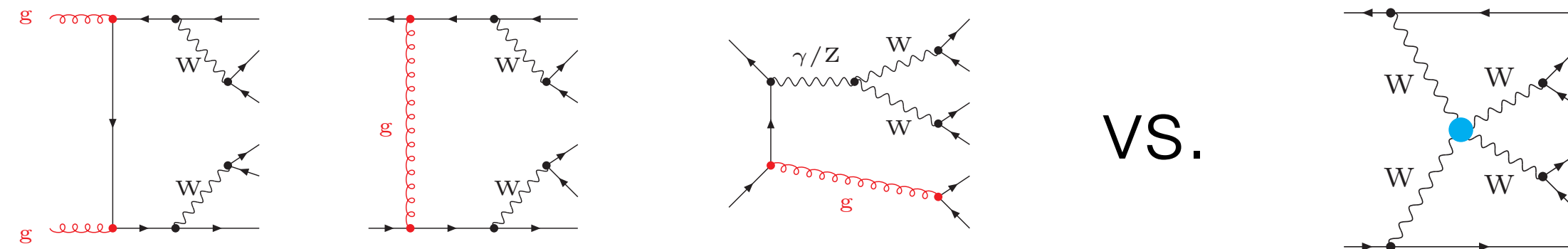
QCD-background

interference

VBS-signal

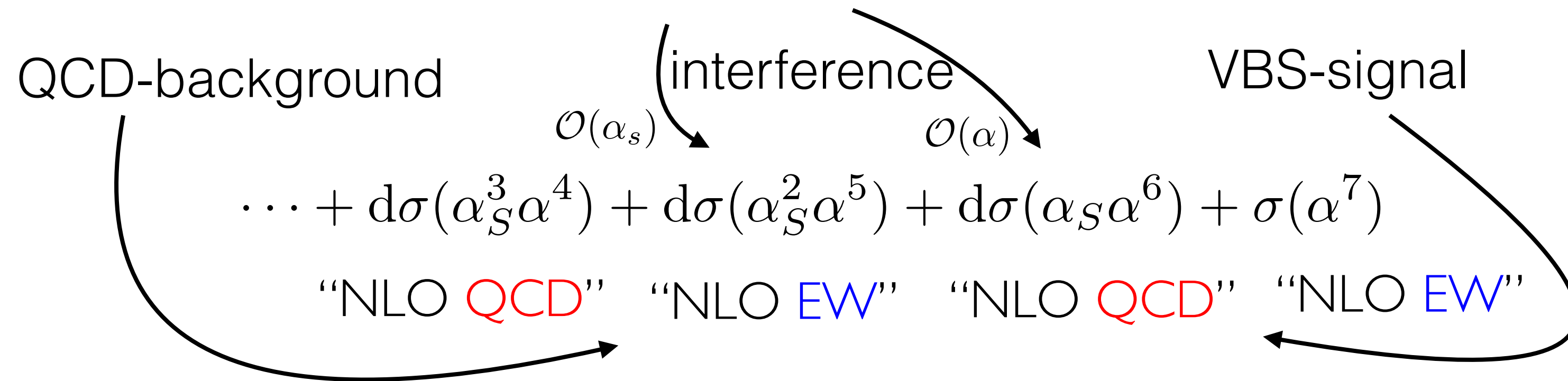
Perturbative expansion: VBF-V, VBS-VV

Example: WW+2jets



$$d\sigma = d\sigma(\alpha_S^2 \alpha^4) + d\sigma(\alpha_S \alpha^5) + d\sigma(\alpha^6) + \dots$$

LO



NLO

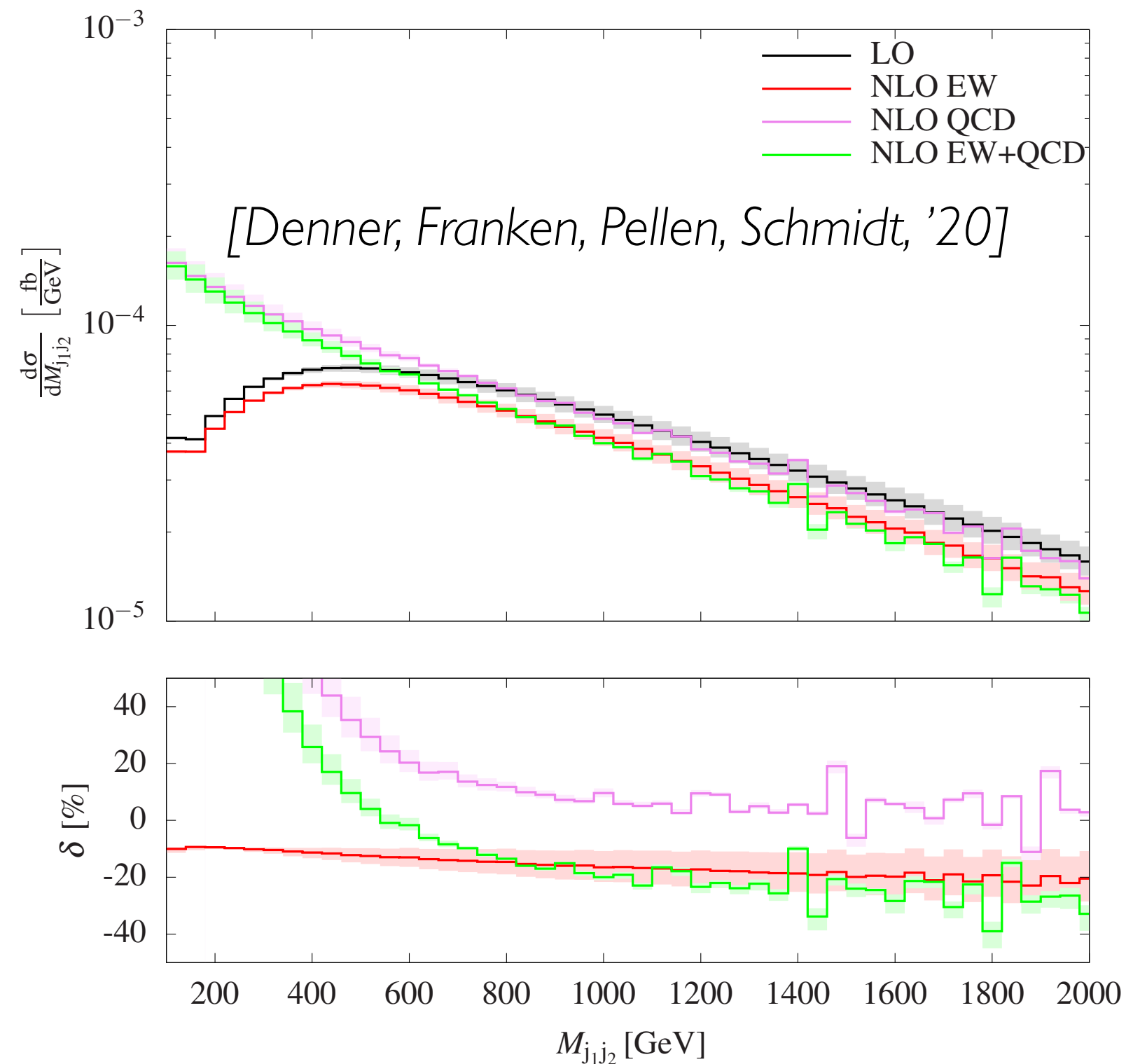
- ➔ separation formally meaningless at NLO
- ➔ strictly well defined measurements: fiducial cross sections

QCD & EW ZZ+2jets @ NLO QCD + EW

long-term program
for VBS@NLO

- QCD and EW ss -WWjj at NLO QCD+EW: [Biedermann, Denner, Pellen '16+'17]
- EW WZjj at NLO QCD+EW: [Denner, Dittmaier, Maierhöfer, Pellen, Schwan, '19]
- QCD and EW ZZjj at NLO QCD+EW: [Denner, Franken, Pellen, Schmidt, '20+'21]

EW ZZ+2jets @ NLO QCD + EW



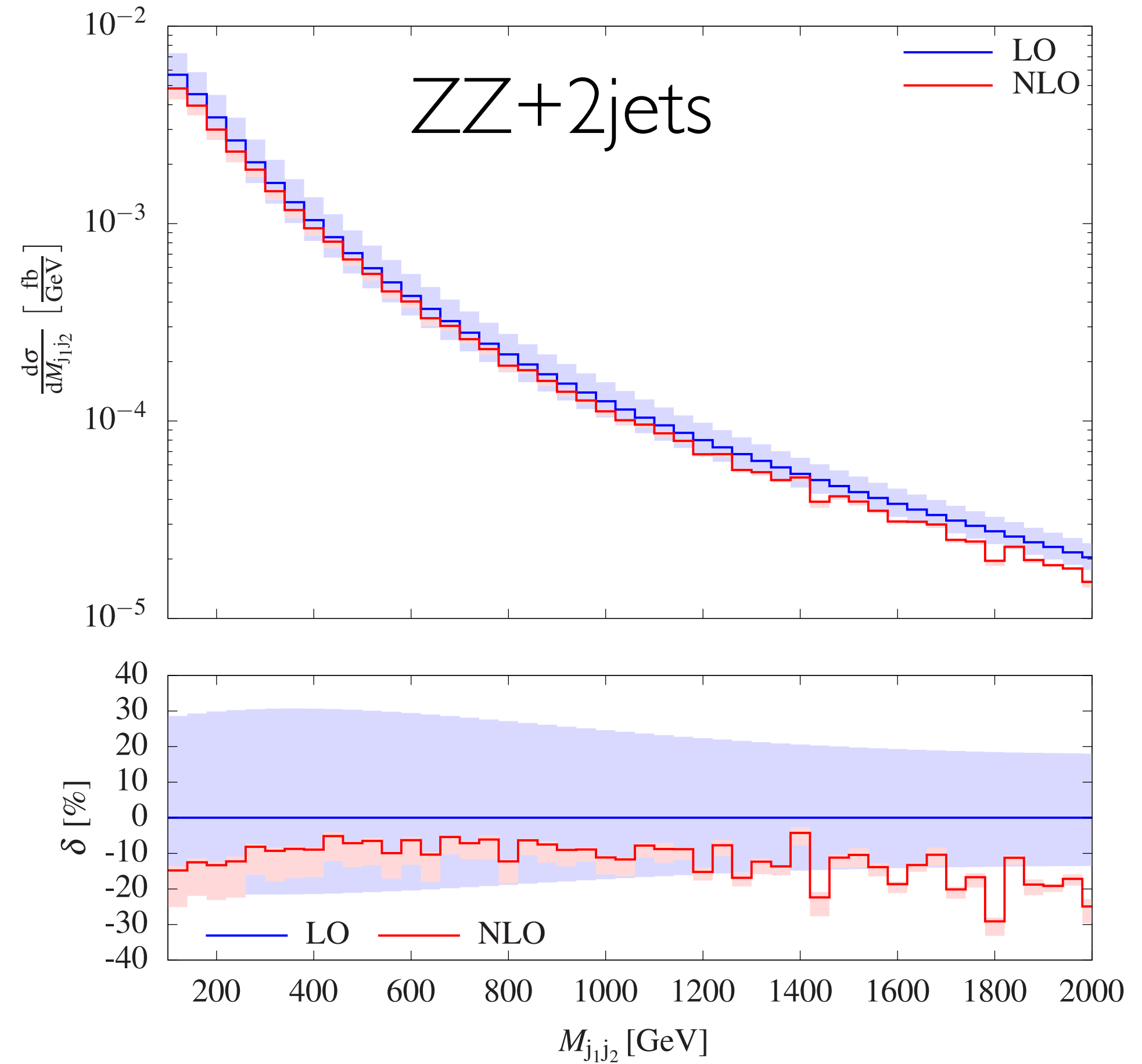
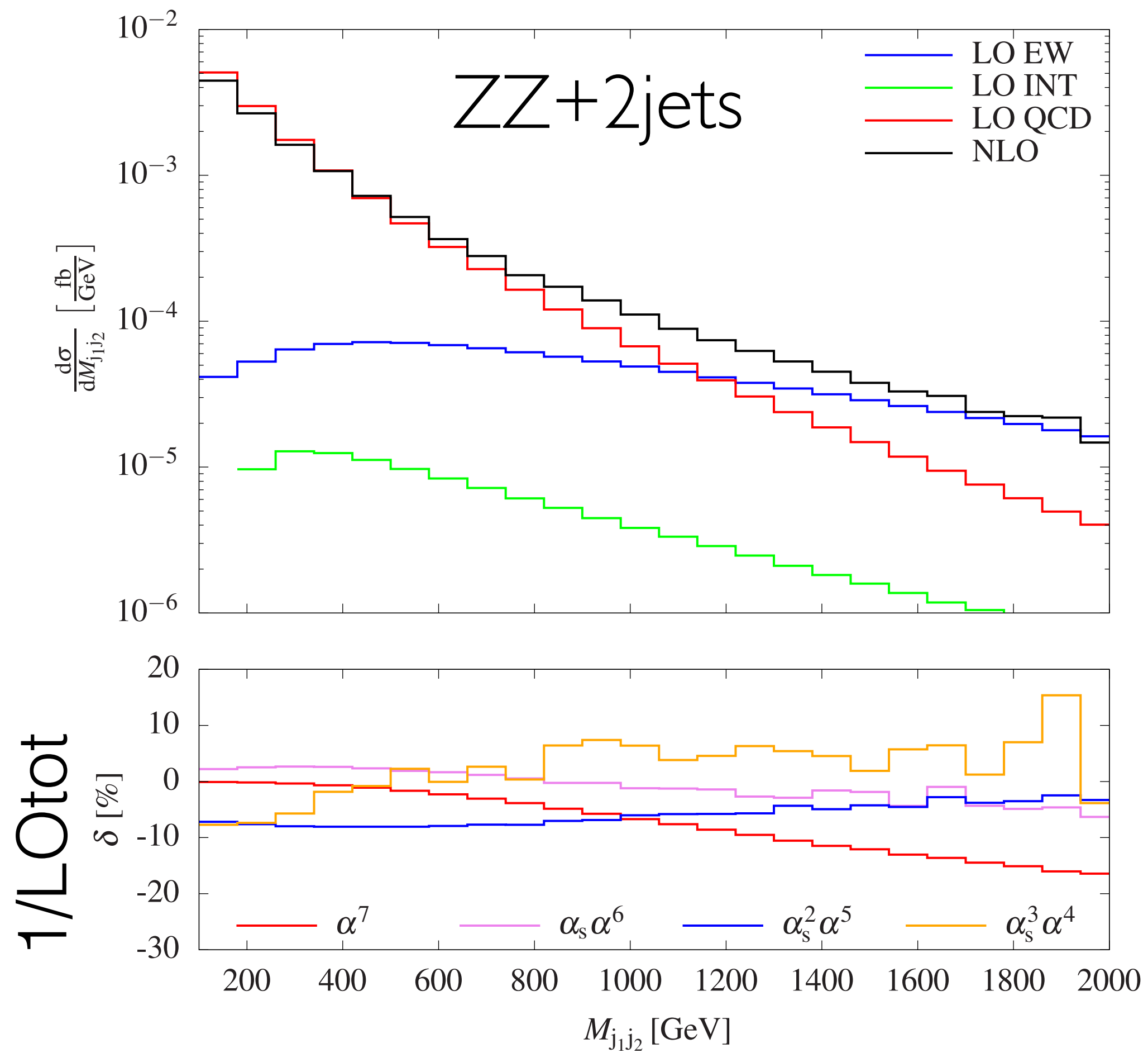
- 2 → 6 particles at NLO EW !

Order	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^6) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^7)$	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^6) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^6)$	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^6) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^7) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^6)$
$M_{j_1 j_2} > 100 \text{ GeV}$			
$\sigma_{\text{NLO}} [\text{fb}]$	0.08211(4)	0.12078(11)	0.10521(11)
$\delta [\%]$	-15.9	23.6	7.7
$M_{j_1 j_2} > 500 \text{ GeV}$			
$\sigma_{\text{NLO}} [\text{fb}]$	0.06069(4)	0.07375(25)	0.06077(25)
$\delta [\%]$	-17.6	0.1	-17.5

- In the VBS phase-space EW mode receives:
 - ▶ very small QCD corrections (percent level)
 - ▶ $\mathcal{O}(20\%)$ EW corrections

QCD & EW ZZ+2jets @ NLO QCD + EW

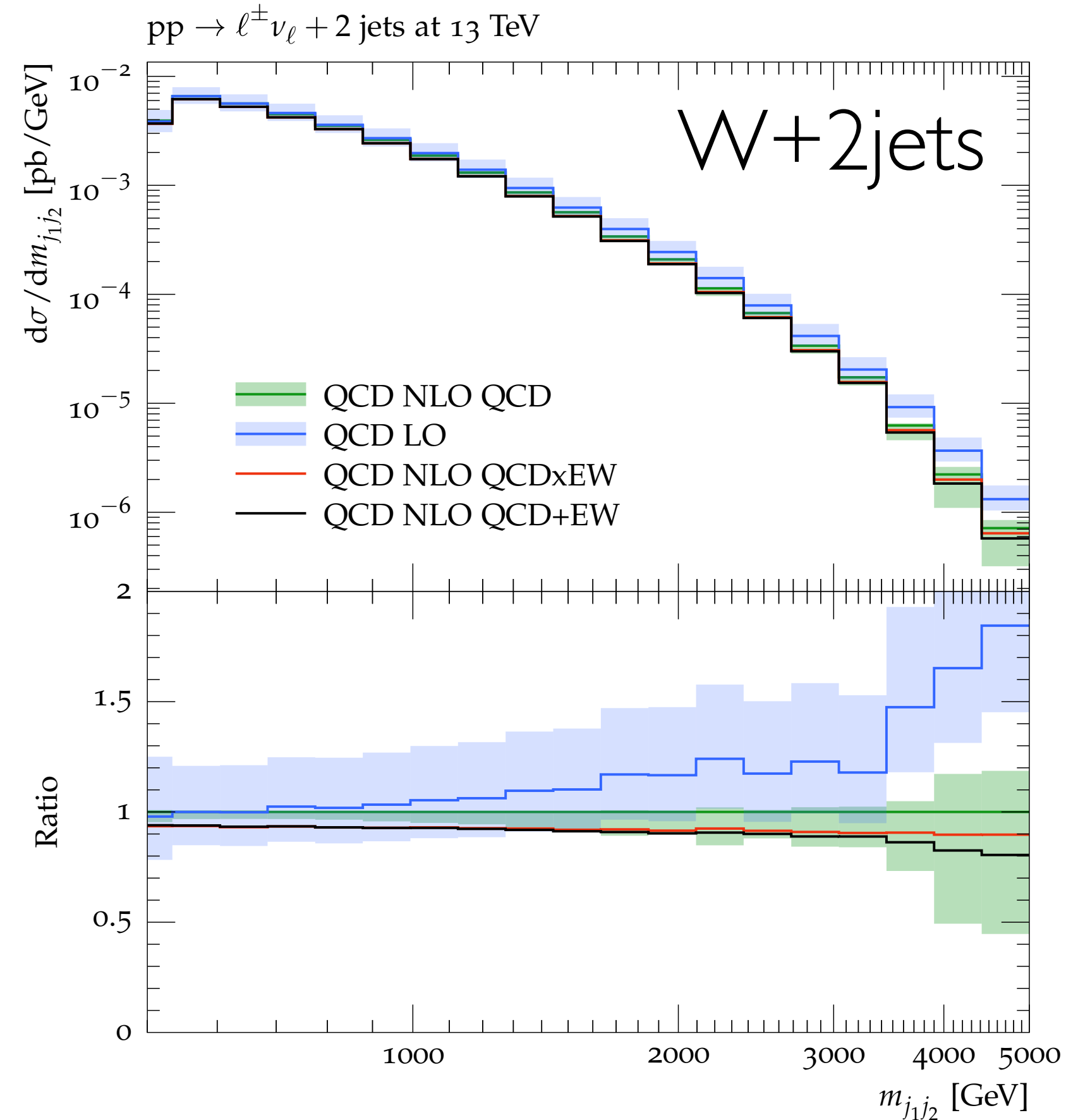
[Denner, Franken, Pellen, Schmidt; '21]



QCD and EW V+2jets @ NLO QCD + EW

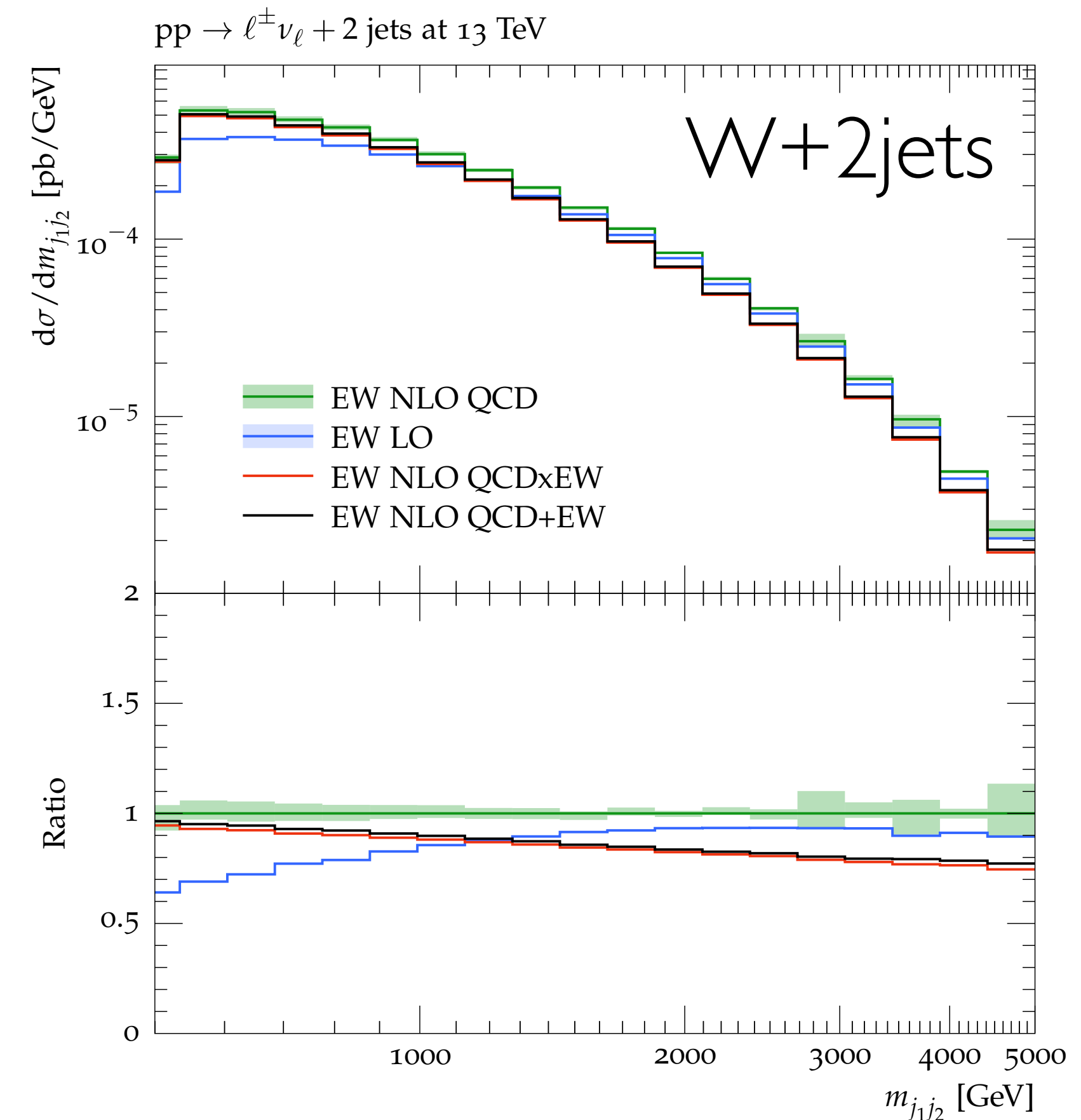
[JML, S. Pozzorini, M. Schönherr; to appear]

QCD-mode



- **QCD**: negative K-factor (increasing for large m_{jj}), uncertainty $\sim 20\text{-}25\%$
- **EW**: up to -10% in multi TeV

EW-mode



- **QCD**: very small K-factor at large m_{jj} , uncertainty $\sim 10\%$ (no VBF approximation)
- **EW**: up to -20% in multi TeV