

Towards automating LIV/NC predictions: Helicity-polarized parton scattering in MadGraph5_aMC@NLO¹

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¹Based on work w/ Buarque Franzosi, Mattelaer, and Shil [[1912.01725](#)]; + work in progress

Thank you for the invitation! 😊

Outline

Something New: scattering with helicity-polarized partons has been implemented in the event generator MadGraph5_aMC@NLO

- Who? What? Why? How? When?

Something Cool: a few case studies

- (polarized) vector boson scattering at the LHC (TH perspective)
- (polarized) vector boson scattering at the LHC (EX perspective)
- (polarized) vector boson scattering at muon colliders

Something Disclaimer: lots of references here omitted for space :(

(please complain if reference is missing in the paper!)

MadGraph5_aMC@NLO (mg5amc) in a Nutshell

In a Nutshell

MG5aMC is the 5th (or 6th) iteration of the **Monte Carlo (MC) event generator** **MadisonGraph** (or **MadGraph**) by Stelzer and Long at Wisconsin

[[hep-ph/9401258](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/9401258)]

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Doing this efficiently and robustly is difficult but doable. Maltoni, Stelzer [[hep-ph/0208156](#)]
- **+ arbitrary color structures**, **+ spin correlated decays of resonances** (MadSpin), **+ amplitude support for arbitrary Feynman Rule** (ALOHA), **+ jet matching/merging**, **+ loop-induced processes** (MadLoop)

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- Merger with MC@NLO for **NLO in QCD** [[1405.0301](#)] and **NLO in EW** [[1804.10017](#)]

Then and Now (Publicity Plots)

(L) Early practioners of MadGraph

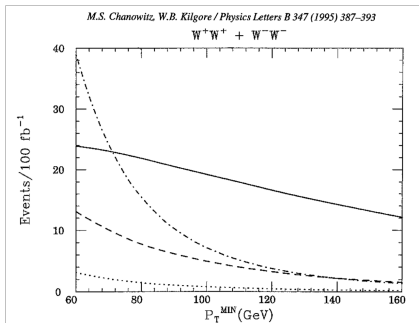
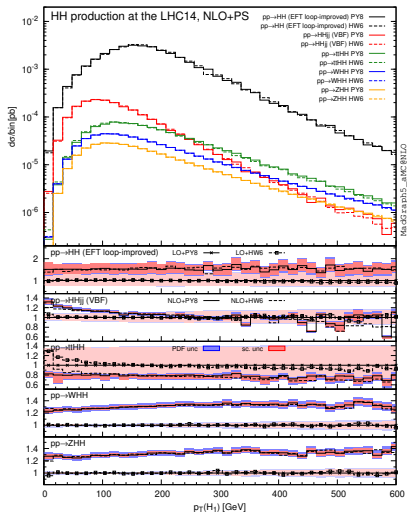


Fig. 2. The number of events per 100 fb⁻¹ for which both like-sign leptons have transverse momentum greater than p_T^{MIN} . The rapidity and azimuthal angle cuts on the like-sign leptons are at the optimum values specified in Table 1 for $m_\rho = 2.52$ TeV. All events with the third lepton inside its acceptance region are rejected. The solid, dashed, dot-dashed, and dotted lines are, respectively, the signal and the backgrounds from $\bar{q}q \rightarrow l^\pm \nu_l \bar{l}l$ and from $qq \rightarrow qqW^+W^+/W^-W^-$ in orders α_W^2 and $\alpha_W\alpha_S$.

(R) MadGraph5_aMC@NLO today



What is “new”?

²

w/ Buarque Franzosi, Mattelaer, and Shil [[1912.01725](#)]; + work in progress



What is “new”?

parton scattering with fixed external helicity polarizations²

²

w/ Buarque Franzosi, Mattelaer, and Shil [[1912.01725](#)]; + work in progress

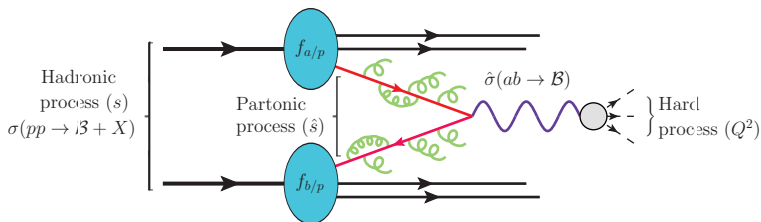


To get pp scattering rates, mg5amc uses the **Collinear Factorization Thm**

Collins, Soper, Sterman ('85,'88,'89); Collins, Foundations of pQCD (2011)

$$d\sigma(pp \rightarrow W\gamma + X) = \sum_{i,j} f_i \otimes f_j \otimes \Delta_{ij} \otimes d\hat{\sigma}(ij \rightarrow W\gamma) + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda_{\text{NP}}^p/Q^{p+2})$$

hadron-level scattering probabilities are the product (convolution) of parton-dist. (PDFs), -emission (Sudakov), and -scattering probs. ($|\mathcal{M}|^2$)

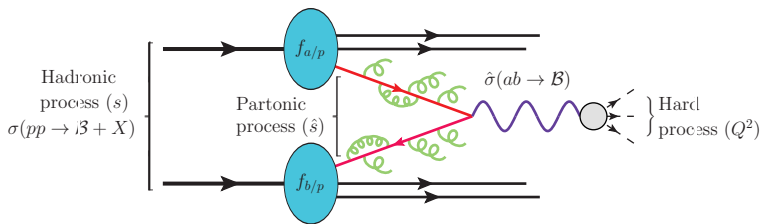


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The partonic scattering rate is given by the usual (textbook) expression:

$$d\hat{\sigma}(ij \rightarrow W\gamma) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2Q^2}}_{\text{hard scale}} \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}(ij \rightarrow W\gamma)|^2}_{\text{dof avg./summed.}}$$

Scattering rates for **unpolarized** external partons is given by the **dof-averaged**³ (initial states) and **dof-summed** (final state) ME:

$$|\overline{\mathcal{M}(ij \rightarrow W\gamma)}|^2 = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\mathcal{S}_i \mathcal{S}_j}}_{\text{spin dof}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{N_c^i N_c^j}}_{\text{color dof}} \sum_{\text{dof}, \{\lambda\}} \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}(i\lambda j\lambda' \rightarrow W_{\tilde{\lambda}} \gamma_{\tilde{\lambda}'})|^2}_{\text{ME in helicity basis}}$$

³ degrees of freedom = all discrete quantum numbers, e.g., color, spin, electric charge

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The two are related by reintroducing **spin averaging/summing**

$$\overline{|\mathcal{M}(ij \rightarrow W\gamma)|^2} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{S_i S_j}}_{\text{spin dof}} \sum_{\lambda, \lambda', \tilde{\lambda}, \tilde{\lambda}'} \overline{|\mathcal{M}(i\lambda j\lambda' \rightarrow W_{\tilde{\lambda}} \gamma_{\tilde{\lambda}'})|^2}$$

³ degrees of freedom = all discrete quantum numbers, e.g., color, spin, electric charge

Parton Scattering with Polarized External States (3/3)

Helicity-polarized parton scattering in LHC collisions is given by

$$d\sigma(pp \rightarrow W_{\tilde{\lambda}} \gamma_{\tilde{\lambda}'} + X)|_{i_{\lambda} j_{\lambda'}} = f_{i_{\lambda}} \otimes f_{i_{\lambda'}} \otimes \Delta_{i_{\lambda} j_{\lambda'}} \otimes d\hat{\sigma}(i_{\lambda} j_{\lambda'} \rightarrow W_{\lambda} \gamma_{\tilde{\lambda}'})$$

- $f_{i_{\lambda}}$ is the PDF for parton i with helicity λ in *unpolarized proton* p
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Again, *unpolarized scattering* is recovered by *spin averaging/summing*

$$d\sigma(pp \rightarrow W\gamma + X) = \underbrace{\sum_{i_{\lambda},j_{\lambda'}}}_{\text{partons}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{S_i S_j}}_{\text{spin dof}} \underbrace{\sum_{\lambda,\lambda',\tilde{\lambda},\tilde{\lambda}'}}_{\text{helicities}} d\sigma(pp \rightarrow W_{\tilde{\lambda}}\gamma_{\tilde{\lambda}'} + X)|_{i_{\lambda},j_{\lambda'}}$$

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Hence, for *unpolarized initial states* and *polarized final states*:

$$d\sigma(pp \rightarrow W_{\tilde{\lambda}}\gamma_{\tilde{\lambda}'} + X) = \sum_{i_{\lambda}j_{\lambda'}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{S_i S_j}}_{\text{spin dof}} \sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} d\sigma(pp \rightarrow W_{\tilde{\lambda}}\gamma_{\tilde{\lambda}'} + X)|_{i_{\lambda}j_{\lambda'}}$$

WHY?!?!?!?!?!?!?!!

Practical Considerations:

- Request by multiboson and VBF/VBS groups in ATLAS and CMS
- Polarization is excellent test of $V \pm A$ (chiral) structure in (B)SM
- Polarization is excellent test of gauge+unitarity structure in (B)SM
- Polarization is *not* a Lorentz-invariant quantity ☺

Future Proofing:

- W_0/Z_0 and W_T/Z_T PDFs (needed at $\sqrt{s} \gtrsim 50$ TeV) couple differently to bosons and massless fermions

Note that rationale studies for $\sqrt{s} = 27 - 100$ TeV are being done today!

- (N)NLO QCD + NLO EW PDFs will eventually be needed to match precision of (N)NLO QCD + NLO EW predictions

DGLAP evolution for LH/RH quarks is asymmetric \implies polarized PDFs

Important: While formally clear, technical implementation is *difficult* due to relaxing of Lorentz invariance / reference frame independence

Simulating helicity-polarized events at lowest order with mg5amc is as difficult as **unpolarized computations**, e.g., $q\bar{q}' \rightarrow W_0^\pm Z_T$

```
MG5_aMC>
MG5_aMC>define ww = w+ w-
Defined multiparticle ww = w+ w-
MG5_aMC>generate p p > ww{0} z{T}
INFO: Checking for minimal orders which gives processes.
INFO: Please specify coupling orders to bypass this step.
INFO: Trying coupling order WEIGHTED<=4: WEIGHTED IS 2*QED+QCD
INFO: Trying process: u d~ > w+ z WEIGHTED<=4 @1
INFO: Process has 3 diagrams
INFO: Trying process: u s~ > w+ z WEIGHTED<=4 @1
INFO: Trying process: c d~ > w+ z WEIGHTED<=4 @1
INFO: Trying process: c s~ > w+ z WEIGHTED<=4 @1
INFO: Process has 3 diagrams
INFO: Trying process: d u~ > w- z WEIGHTED<=4 @1
INFO: Process has 3 diagrams
INFO: Trying process: d c~ > w- z WEIGHTED<=4 @1
INFO: Trying process: s u~ > w- z WEIGHTED<=4 @1
INFO: Trying process: s c~ > w- z WEIGHTED<=4 @1
INFO: Process has 3 diagrams
INFO: Process u~ d > w- z added to mirror process d u~ > w- z
INFO: Process c~ s > w- z added to mirror process s c~ > w- z
INFO: Process d~ u > w+ z added to mirror process u d~ > w+ z
INFO: Process s~ c > w+ z added to mirror process c s~ > w+ z
4 processes with 12 diagrams generated in 0.070 s
Total: 4 processes with 12 diagrams
MG5_aMC>generate p p > ww{0} z{T} [QCD]
INFO: Generating FKS-subtracted matrix elements for born process: u d~ > w+ z [ all = QCD ] (1 / 8)
INFO: Generating FKS-subtracted matrix elements for born process: c s~ > w+ z [ all = QCD ] (2 / 8)
```

- $z\{T\}$ denotes LH and RH transverse Z bosons
- $ww\{0\}$ denotes longitudinal W^\pm bosons
- Just be careful to know in which frame the helicities are defined

Syntax	λ in HELAS Basis	Propagator	Syntax	λ in HELAS Basis	Propagator
	spin $\frac{1}{2}$			spin $\frac{1}{2}$	
(L) (-)	-1 (Left)	Yes (massive only)	(-1)	-1	No
(R) (+)	+1 (Right)	Yes (massive only)	(1)	1	No
			(3)	3	No
			(-3)	-3	No
	spin 1			spin 2	
(0)	0 (Longitudinal, massive only)	Yes (massive only)	(-2)	-2	No
(T)	1 and -1 (Transverse; coherent sum)	Yes (massive only)	(-1)	-1	No
(L) (-)	-1	No	(0)	0	No
(R) (+)	+1	No	(1)	1	No
(A)		Propagators only	(2)	2	No

Table 5. For a given particle spin, the allowed **mg5amc** polarization syntax, its helicity state in the HELAS basis, and whether the polarization is transmitted through propagators of massive particles.

At LO, the bracket polarization syntax can be used for any initial-state (IS) or final-state (FS) particle in any scattering process. Examples of such usage are:

```
generate p p > t t* (R)
generate e+(L) e- > w+(0) nu-(T)
generate z z(R) > w+ w-(0)
```

which respectively describe the Born-level processes:

$$q\bar{q}, gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}_R, \quad e_L^+ e^- \rightarrow W_\mu^+ W_\mu^-, \quad \text{and} \quad ZZ_R \rightarrow W^+ W_-^-. \quad (\text{A.1})$$

The helicity label 0 denotes a longitudinally polarized massive vector boson; L and R represent LH and RH helicity polarizations for spin 1/2 and 1 particles; and T models transverse polarizations of spin 1 particles as a coherent sum of L and R helicities. Throughout this following, omitting a helicity label expresses an unpolarized particle. The (X) polarization syntax can also be used with multi-particle definitions. For example: to model the diboson process $pp \rightarrow W_\mu^\pm Z$, the following commands are possible:

```
define vw = w+ v-
generate p p > vw(T) vw(0)
```

To avoid polarization definition conflicts, multi-particle definitions consisting of polarized states, e.g., `define vwX = w+(T) w-(0)`, is not allowed.

In standard computations using **mg5amc**, once a process has been defined, e.g., `generate p p > t t*`, the **MadGraph** sub-program [113, 124] will build all helicity amplitudes from **ALOHA** [70] and **HELAS** [68] routines, for all contributing sub-channels, e.g., $gg, q\bar{q} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$, and for all external helicity permutations, e.g., $t_L \bar{t}_L, t_L \bar{t}_R, t_R \bar{t}_L$, and $t_R \bar{t}_R$. Next, amplitudes are evaluated numerically, squared, and summed. For initial states and identical final states, dof, averaging and symmetry multiplicity factors are then incorporated. When using the polarization features on IS/FS particles, this procedure is changed in two ways:

syntax	cross (pb)	syntax	cross (pb)
$p p > Z Z, Z > e^+ e^-$	0.011	$p p > Z Z, Z > 1^+ 1^-$	0.042
$p p > Z(0) Z(0), Z > e^+ e^-$	6.4e-4	$p p > Z(0) Z(0), Z > 1^+ 1^-$	0.0036
$p p > Z(0) Z(T), Z > e^+ e^-$	0.0025	$p p > Z(T) Z(0), Z > 1^+ 1^-$	0.010
$p p > Z(T) Z(T), Z > e^+ e^-$	0.0075	$p p > Z(T) Z(T), Z > 1^+ 1^-$	0.030
sum	0.011	sum	0.042
$p p > Z Z, Z > e^+ e^-, Z > \mu\mu + \mu\mu$	0.021	$p p > Z Z, Z > 1^+ 1^-, Z > j j$	0.66
$p p > Z(0) Z(0), Z > e^+ e^-, Z > \mu\mu + \mu\mu$	0.0013	$p p > Z(0) Z(0), Z > 1^+ 1^-, Z > j j$	0.040
$p p > Z(0) Z(T), Z > e^+ e^-, Z > \mu\mu + \mu\mu$	0.0025	$p p > Z(0) Z(T), Z > 1^+ 1^-, Z > j j$	0.079
$p p > Z(T) Z(0), Z > e^+ e^-, Z > \mu\mu + \mu\mu$	0.0025	$p p > Z(T) Z(0), Z > 1^+ 1^-, Z > j j$	0.079
$p p > Z(T) Z(T), Z > e^+ e^-, Z > \mu\mu + \mu\mu$	0.015	$p p > Z(T) Z(T), Z > 1^+ 1^-, Z > j j$	0.47
sum	0.021	sum	0.67

Table 7. Decomposition of the un-polarized sample into a sum of polarized samples. Depending of the syntax used one needs to sum either three or four different configurations. The sample with the auxiliary/scalar component are here not included since they are negligible.

then **MadGraph** enters an *ordered mode* where the decays of $z(X)$ and $z(Y)$ are steered according to the order of the decay chains. In the first instance, $z(X)$ will be decayed to $e^+ e^-$ and $z(Y)$ to $\mu\mu + \mu\mu$; in the second instance, $z(X)$ will be decayed to $1^+ 1^-$ and $z(Y)$ to $j j$. This case is similar to the ordered syntax for initial state particles. (ii) If the number of polarized particles is different from the specified decays, like in the following:

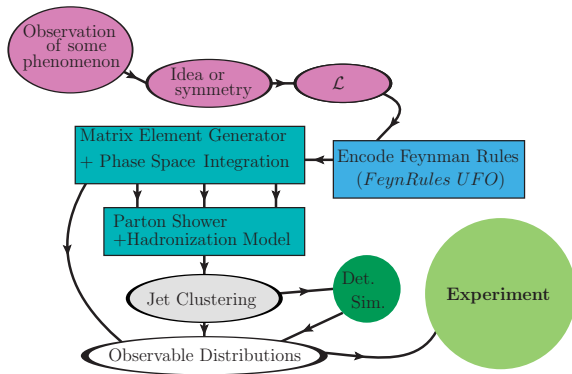
```
generate p p > z(X) z(Y), Z > 1^+ 1^-
generate p p > z(X) z(Y), Z > e^+ e^-, Z > \mu\mu \mu\mu, Z > t\bar{t} t\bar{t}
```

then **MadGraph** enters an *unordered mode* and all possible decay permutations are modeled.

In Table 7, we present the total cross section for the $pp \rightarrow ZZ$ process into different decay channels. We show the unpolarized cross section and the decomposition into different helicity configurations, together with their incoherent sum. The “correct” decomposition depends on the mode. In the *ordered mode* one needs to sum over all orders of helicity configurations. (In the example, this sums to four configurations since $Z_1 Z_0$ and $Z_0 Z_1$ are treated differently.) In the *unordered mode* permutations are equivalent and should not be double counted. (In the example, only three configurations sum to the unpolarized result.)

Aside from the LO **MadGraph5** syntax just described, it is also possible to decay unstable, polarized, spin 1/2 and 1 resonances using **MadSpin** [72]. When called, **MadSpin** automatically sets up the computation in the frame selected for event generation and employs the modified BW propagators described in section (3.2) and above for decaying polarized resonance, with the same support limitations listed in table (5). The syntax for **MadSpin** remains unchanged and ignores polarization information included in production-level Les Houches event files (LHEF). To clarify, **MadSpin** uses production-level information in the LHEF banner to modify unstable propagators accordingly. To model the decay of both a polarized or unpolarized W^+ boson, one simply uses:

The MC Analysis Chain for Collider Experiments



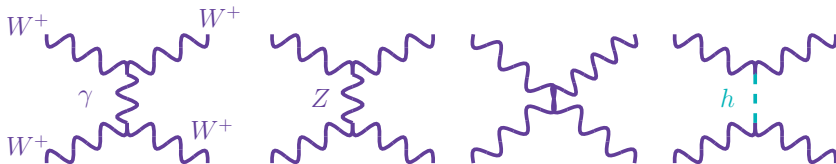
Major efforts to support **favorite phys. models** in your **favorite generator**

- **Universal FeynRules Object (UFO) libs.** encode Feynman rules (.py) that work with popular event generators, e.g., MG5, Whizard

Alloul, Christensen, Duhr, Degrande, and Fuchs feynrules.irmp.ucl.ac.be

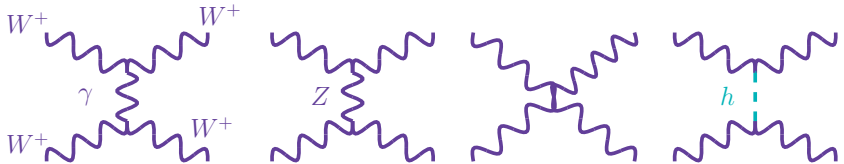
case study: polarization in vector boson scattering at the LHC
(theory perspective)

big idea: studying VBS = studying Higgs / EWSB sector



Cut, rotate, glue, etc. sub-graphs $\implies W^+ W^+ \rightarrow W^+ W^+$ scattering

(why make $W^+ W^-$ pairs when you can *scatter* them?)



Higgs  ('13)

$$-i\mathcal{M}(W^+ W^+ \rightarrow W^+ W^+) \sim \left(\frac{E}{M_W}\right)^4 \times \left(\frac{-M_W^2}{E^2}\right) \times g_W^2(s_\theta^2 + c_\theta^2) \sim \frac{-g_W^2 E^2}{M_W^2}$$

$$-i\mathcal{M}(W^+ W^+ \xrightarrow{h} W^+ W^+) \sim \left(\frac{E}{M_W}\right)^4 \times \left(\frac{1}{E^2}\right) \times (g_W M_W)^2 \sim \frac{+g_W^2 E^2}{M_W^2}$$

Delicate (structural) cancellations when all particles are included!

Lee, Quigg, and Thacker ('77x2); Chanowitz and Gaillard ('84,'85)

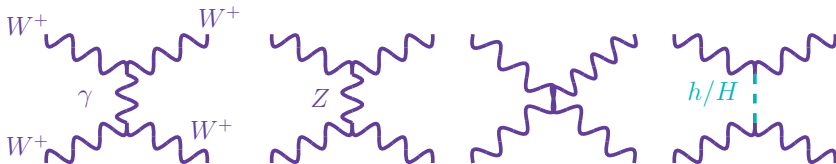
\implies **modified $h - V - V$ couplings can partially disrupt cancellations**

Too many contributions?

It is possible that Higgs with $m_h = 125$ GeV is one of several in nature

add'l scalars appears in Two Higgs Doublet Models, Supersymmetry, scalar-singlet dark matter, composite Higgs

$$\underbrace{|h_{\text{SM}}\rangle}_{\text{interaction eigenstate}} = \underbrace{\cos \psi |h_{125 \text{ GeV}}\rangle}_{\text{mass eigenstate}} + \underbrace{\sin \psi |H_{\text{several TeV}}\rangle}_{\text{mass eigenstate}}$$

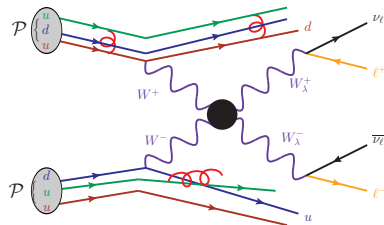


$$-i\mathcal{M}(W^+ W^+ \xrightarrow{h/H} W^+ W^+) \sim \frac{g_W^2 E^2}{M_W^2} \underbrace{\cos^2 \psi}_{\mathcal{O}(1)} + \frac{g_W^2 E^4}{M_W^2 m_H^2} \underbrace{\sin^2 \psi}_{\ll 1}$$

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ grows with scattering energy for $E_{(\sim 1 \text{ TeV})} \ll m_{H(\text{several TeV})}!$

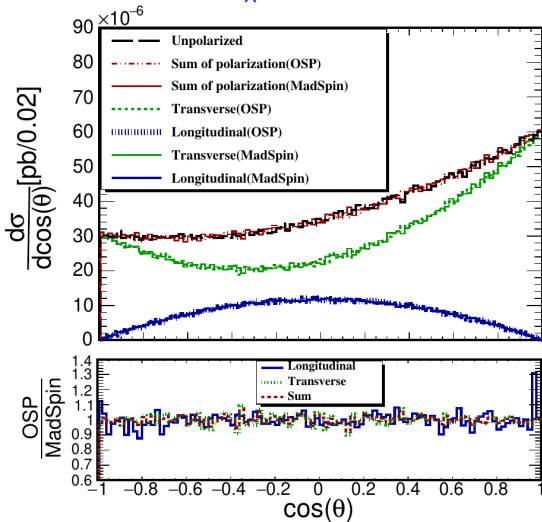
The W_λ^\pm, Z_λ bosons are massive, spin-1 objects

- 2 transverse polarizations (L,R)
- 1 longitudinal polarization (0)



polarizations also imprint on kinematics of decay products!

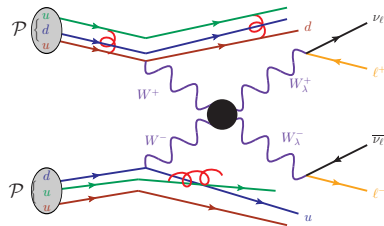
Plotted: angle of outgoing ℓ^- in $pp \rightarrow W^+ W_\lambda^- jj \rightarrow W^+ e^- \bar{\nu}_e jj$ via VBS



Buarque Franzosi, Mattelaer, RR, Shil [1912.01725]

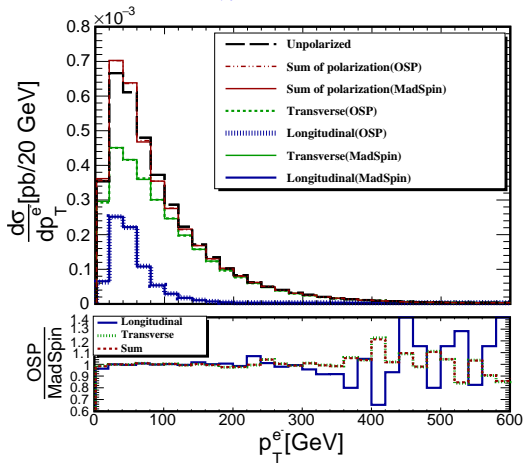
The W_λ^\pm, Z_λ bosons are massive, spin-1 objects

- 2 transverse polarizations (L,R)
- 1 longitudinal polarization (0)



polarizations also imprint on kinematics of decay products!

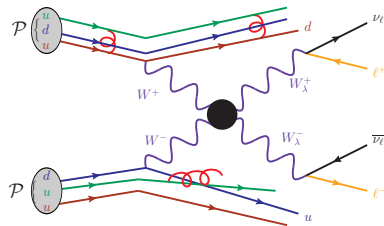
Plotted: p_T of outgoing ℓ^- in $pp \rightarrow W^+ W_\lambda^- jj \rightarrow W^+ e^- \bar{\nu}_e jj$ via VBS



Buarque Franzosi, Mattelaer, RR, Shil [[1912.01725](#)]

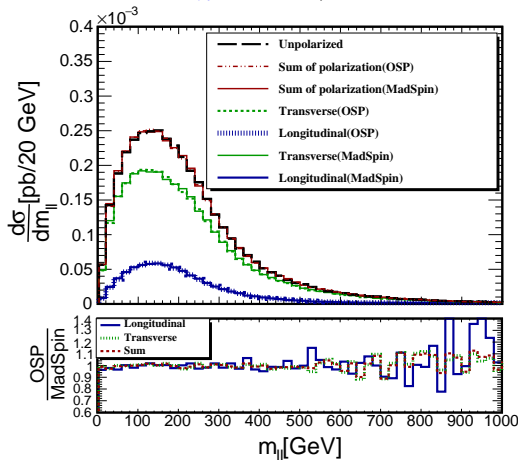
The W_λ^\pm, Z_λ bosons are massive, spin-1 objects

- 2 transverse polarizations (L,R)
- 1 longitudinal polarization (0)



polarizations also imprint on kinematics of decay products!

Plotted: $M_{\ell\ell}$ of outgoing $\ell^-\ell'^+$ in $pp \rightarrow W^+ W_\lambda^- jj \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu e^- \bar{\nu}_e jj$ via VBS

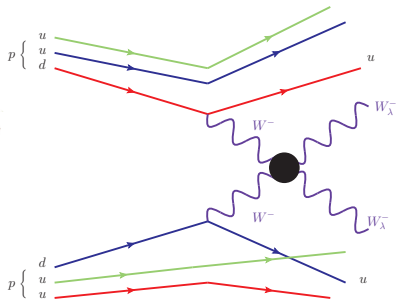
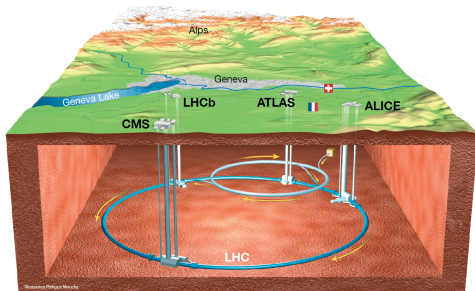


Buarque Franzosi, Mattelaer, RR, Shil [[1912.01725](#)]

case study: polarization in vector boson scattering at the LHC
(experimental perspective)

Motivation: measuring rare processes, **e.g., vector boson scattering (VBS)**, is part of the **Large Hadron Collider's** long-term program

See review by Buarque (ed.), Gallinaro (ed.), RR (ed.), et al, *Rev. Physics* ('22) [arXiv:2106.01393]



VBS probes spin & charge configurations inaccessible with **quarks/gluons**

⇒ **VBS is uniquely sensitive** to Standard Model and new physics!

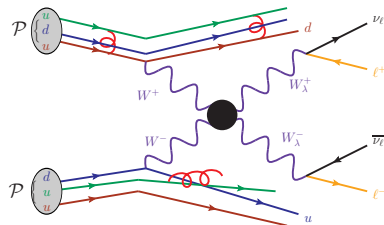
First measurement of polarization

in $W^\pm W^\pm$ scattering

CMS (PLB'20)

The W_λ^\pm, Z_λ bosons are massive, spin-1 objects

- 2 transverse polarizations (L,R)
- 1 longitudinal polarization (0)

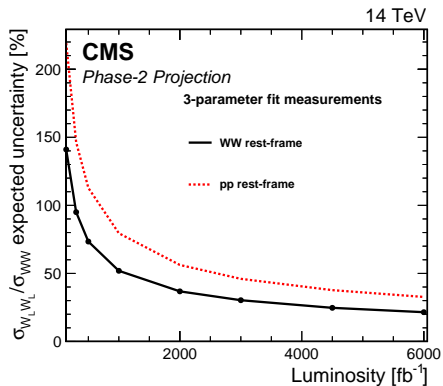


polarizations also imprint on kinematics of decay products!

CMS [CMS-PAS-FTR-21-001] →

Process	$\sigma \mathcal{B}$ (fb)	Theoretical prediction (fb)
$W_L^\pm W_L^\pm$	$0.32^{+0.42}_{-0.40}$	0.44 ± 0.05
$W_X^\pm W_T^\pm$	$3.06^{+0.51}_{-0.48}$	3.13 ± 0.35
$W_L^\pm W_X^\pm$	$1.20^{+0.56}_{-0.53}$	1.63 ± 0.18
$W_T^\pm W_T^\pm$	$2.11^{+0.49}_{-0.47}$	1.94 ± 0.21

uncertainties sizable but will improve with time

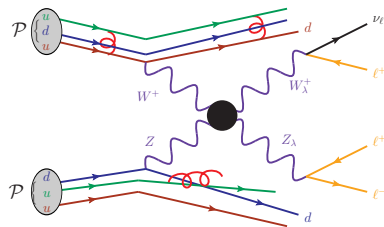


First measurement of polarization fractions (f_λ) in $W^\pm Z$ scattering

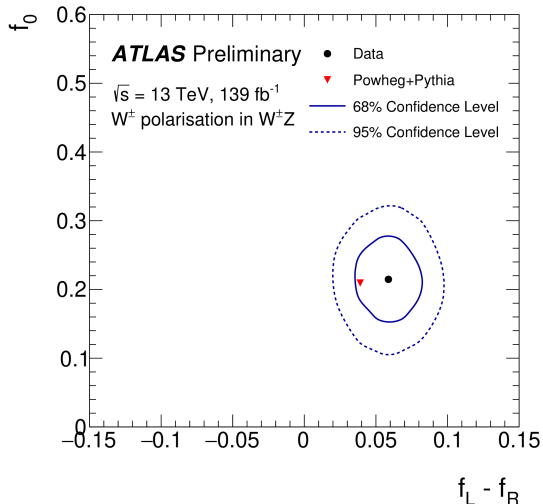
ATLAS ('22) [2211.09435]

The W_λ^\pm, Z_λ bosons are massive, spin-1 objects

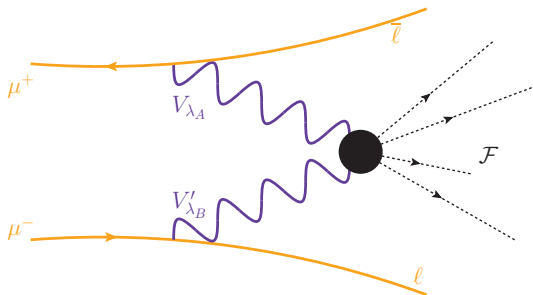
- 2 transverse polarizations (L,R)
- 1 longitudinal polarization (0)



polarizations also imprint on kinematics of decay products!



Case Study: helicity-polarized EW PDFs at muon colliders⁴

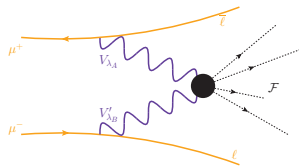


⁴ Surge of motivation/interest, e.g., Al Ali, et al. [2103.14043]; R&D progress as reported in the European Strategy Update (Delahaye, et al) [1901.06150], muoncollider.web.cern.ch; Snowmass + US activities

next several slides from work w/ Costantini, Maltoni, & Mattelaer [2111.02442]

Idea: one can write the following scattering formula⁵

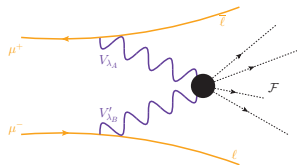
$$\sigma(\mu^+ \mu^- \rightarrow \mathcal{F} + \text{anything}) = f_{i/\mu^+} \otimes f_{j/\mu^-} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{ij} + \text{uncertainties}$$



⁵ Dawson('84); Kane, et al ('84); Kunszt and Soper ('88)

Idea: one can write the following scattering formula⁵

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma(\mu^+ \mu^- \rightarrow \mathcal{F} + \text{anything}) &= f_{i/\mu^+} \otimes f_{j/\mu^-} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{ij} + \text{uncertainties} \\
 &= \underbrace{\sum_{V_{\lambda_A}, V'_{\lambda_B}} \int_{\tau_0}^1 d\xi_1 \int_{\tau_0/\xi_1}^1 d\xi_2 \int dPS_{\mathcal{F}}}_{\text{sum over all configurations / phase space integral}} \\
 &\quad \times \underbrace{\left[f_{V_{\lambda_A}/\mu^+}(\xi_1, \mu_f) f_{V'_{\lambda_B}/\mu^-}(\xi_2, \mu_f) \right]}_{W_{\lambda}^+/W_{\lambda}^-/Z_{\lambda}/\gamma_{\lambda} \text{ PDFs}} \times \underbrace{\frac{d\hat{\sigma}(V_{\lambda_A} V'_{\lambda_B} \rightarrow \mathcal{F})}{dPS_n}}_{\text{"hard scattering" at LO}} \\
 &+ \underbrace{\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{M_{V_k}^2}{M_{V_{V'}}^2}\right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{p_{T,V_k}^2}{M_{V_{V'}}^2}\right)}_{\text{perturbative power-law corrections}} \leftarrow (\text{appear from expanding } \mu_{\lambda} \rightarrow V_{\lambda} \text{ matrix elements}) \\
 &\quad + \underbrace{\mathcal{O}\left(\log \frac{\mu_f^2}{M_V^2}\right)}_{\text{log corrections}} \leftarrow (\mu_f \text{ is only an UV regulator here at LO})
 \end{aligned}$$



We studied the **red** terms

w/ Costantini, Maltoni, Mattelaer [2111.02442]

⁵ Dawson('84); Kane, et al ('84); Kunszt and Soper ('88)

... what exactly did we do?

Implementing EW boson PDFs in MadGraph5

- **NEW: (Polarized) Effective Vector Boson Approx. (EVA)**
 - ▶ Bare (LO) PDFs for helicity-polarized $W_\lambda, Z_\lambda, \gamma_\lambda$ from ℓ_λ^\pm
 - ▶ Automatically support PDFs for unpolarized W/Z (**EWA**) from ℓ_λ^\pm
- **KEPT: Improved Weizsäcker-Williams approximation (iWWA)**
 - ▶ Unpolarized γ PDF + power corrections from ℓ^\pm (Frixione, et al [[hep-ph/9310350](#)])
- **Technicalities:**
 - ▶ M_W, M_Z always nonzero in PDFs and matrix elements!
 - ▶ static and dynamic μ_f
 - ▶ n -point μ_f variation
 - ▶ Choice of p_T and q as evolution variable (this gives extra $\log(1 - \xi)$ terms in PDFs!)
 - ▶ Also enabled **EVA+DIS** collider configuration
- **Technical appendix** rederiving W_λ, Z_λ PDFs to provide standard reference and mapping between different approaches in the literature
 - ▶ Released in v3.3.0 (Major milestone for lepton colliders; see Frixione, et al [[2108.10261](#)])

PDFs for $e^\pm, \mu^\pm \rightarrow W_\lambda/Z_\lambda/\gamma_\lambda + \ell$ depend on helicities (λ)

- Subtle but important differences if evolving by q^2 of V vs p_T^2 of ℓ

(easy to make changes!)

$$f_{V_+/f_L}(z, \mu_f^2) = \frac{g_V^2}{4\pi^2} \frac{g_L^2(1-z)^2}{2z} \log \left[\frac{\mu_f^2}{M_V^2} \right],$$

$$f_{V_-/f_L}(z, \mu_f^2) = \frac{g_V^2}{4\pi^2} \frac{g_L^2}{2z} \log \left[\frac{\mu_f^2}{M_V^2} \right],$$

$$f_{V_0/f_L}(z, \mu_f^2) = \frac{g_V^2}{4\pi^2} \frac{g_L^2(1-z)}{z},$$

$$f_{V_+/f_R}(z, \mu_f^2) = \left(\frac{g_R}{g_L} \right)^2 \times f_{V_-/f_L}(z, \mu_f^2)$$

$$f_{V_-/f_R}(z, \mu_f^2) = \left(\frac{g_R}{g_L} \right)^2 \times f_{V_+/f_L}(z, \mu_f^2)$$

$$f_{V_0/f_R}(z, \mu_f^2) = \left(\frac{g_R}{g_L} \right)^2 \times f_{V_0/f_L}(z, \mu_f^2)$$

```

59 c  /* *****
60 c  EVA (1/6) for f_L > v +
61 double precision function eva_fl_to_vp(gg2,gL2,mv2,x,mu2,ievo)
62 implicit none
63 integer ievo          ! evolution by q2 or pT2
64 double precision gg2,gL2,mv2,x,mu2
65 double precision coup2,split,xxlog,fourPi5q
66 data fourPi5q/39.47841760435743d0/ ! = 4pi**2
67
68 c  print*, 'gg2,gL2,mv2,x,mu2,ievo', gg2, !3,gL2,mv2,x,mu2,ievo
69 coup2 = gg2*gL2/fourPi5q
70 split = (1.d0-x)**2 / 2.d0 / x
71 if(ievo.eq.0) then
72   | xxlog = dlog(mu2/mv2)
73 else
74   | xxlog = dlog(mu2/mv2/(1.d0-x))
75 endif
76
77 eva_fl_to_vp = coup2*split*xxlog
78 return
79 end
80 c  /* *****
81 c  EVA (2/6) for f_L > v -
82 double precision function eva_fl_to_vm(gg2,gL2,mv2,x,mu2,ievo)
83 implicit none
84 integer ievo          ! evolution by q2 or pT2
85 double precision gg2,gL2,mv2,x,mu2
86 double precision coup2,split,xxlog,fourPi5q
87 data fourPi5q/39.47841760435743d0/ ! = 4pi**2
88
89 coup2 = gg2*gL2/fourPi5q
90 split = 1.d0 / 2.d0 / x
91 if(ievo.eq.0) then
92   | xxlog = dlog(mu2/mv2)
93 else
94   | xxlog = dlog(mu2/mv2/(1.d0-x))
95 endif
96
97 eva_fl_to_vm = coup2*split*xxlog
98 return
99 end

```

some results on $V_\lambda V'_{\lambda'} \rightarrow X$ in $\mu^+ \mu^-$ collisions⁶

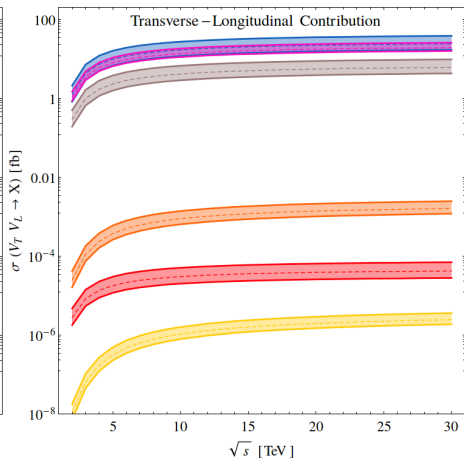
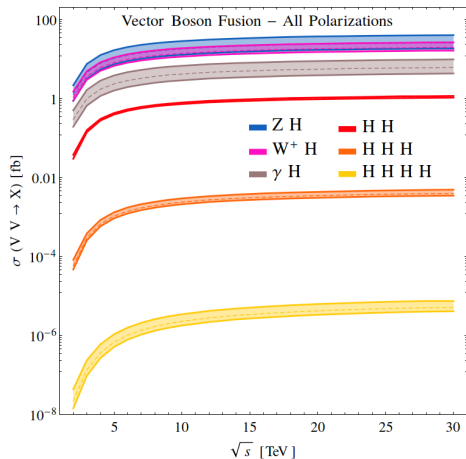
⁶ w/ A. Costantini, F. Maltoni, L. Mantani, O. Mattelaer [2111.02442]

Higgs production in EVA

We had fun looking into *many* processes

$$(L) \sum_{\lambda_A, \lambda_B} V_{\lambda_A} V_{\lambda_B} \rightarrow HX$$

$$(R) V_T V_0 \rightarrow HX$$

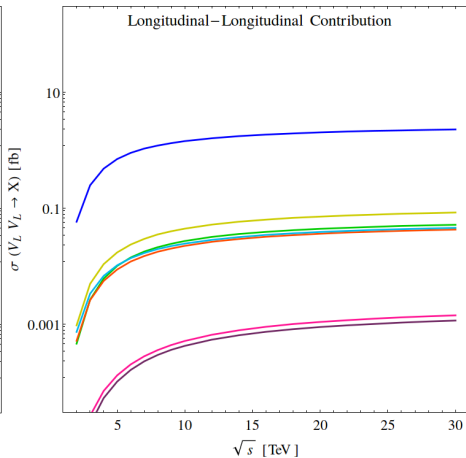
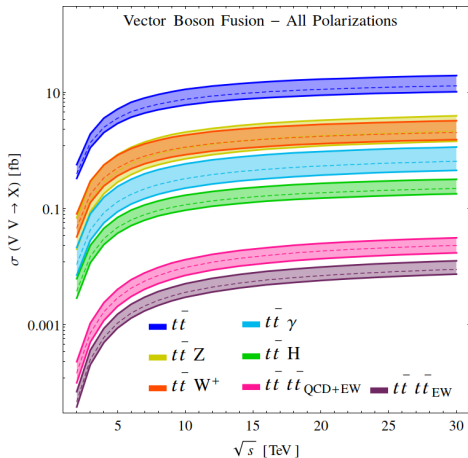


Top production in EVA

... ***many*** processes

$$(L) \sum_{\lambda_A, \lambda_B} V_{\lambda_A} V_{\lambda_B} \rightarrow t\bar{t}X$$

$$(R) V_0 V_0 \rightarrow t\bar{t}X$$



Diboson production in EVA

(4 polarization plots + 1 table) \times each class of processes

	mg5amc syntax	$\sqrt{s} = 3$ TeV	$\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV	$\sqrt{s} = 30$ TeV
$\sum V_{\lambda A} V'_{\lambda B} \rightarrow W^+ W^-$	vp vm > w+ w-	$2.2 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+98\%}_{-35\%}$	$7.0 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+91\%}_{-33\%}$	$8.6 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+88\%}_{-32\%}$
$V_T V'_T \rightarrow W^+ W^-$	vp{T} vm{T} > w+ w-	$2.0 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+99\%}_{-35\%}$	$6.6 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+93\%}_{-34\%}$	$8.0 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+92\%}_{-33\%}$
$V_0 V'_T \rightarrow W^+ W^-$	vp{0} vm{T} > w+ w-	$1.2 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+54\%}_{-27\%}$	$4.4 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+50\%}_{-25\%}$	$5.2 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+49\%}_{-24\%}$
$V_0 V'_0 \rightarrow W^+ W^-$	vp{0} vm{0} > w+ w-	$4.2 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^0$	$2.0 \cdot 10^0$
$\sum V_{\lambda A} V'_{\lambda B} \rightarrow W^+ Z$	vp vm > w+ z	$5.3 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+105\%}_{-40\%}$	$1.8 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+97\%}_{-37\%}$	$2.2 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+95\%}_{-37\%}$
$V_T V'_T \rightarrow W^+ Z$	vp{T} vm{T} > w+ z	$5.0 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+111\%}_{-42\%}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+103\%}_{-39\%}$	$2.0 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+100\%}_{-38\%}$
$V_0 V'_T \rightarrow W^+ Z$	vp{0} vm{T} > w+ z	$3.4 \cdot 10^0$ $^{+36\%}_{-18\%}$	$1.4 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+34\%}_{-17\%}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+34\%}_{-17\%}$
$V_0 V'_0 \rightarrow W^+ Z$	vp{0} vm{0} > w+ z	$3.9 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$2.1 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$2.6 \cdot 10^{-1}$
$\sum V_{\lambda A} V'_{\lambda B} \rightarrow ZZ$	vp vm > z z	$4.4 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+164\%}_{-52\%}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+144\%}_{-48\%}$	$1.9 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+143\%}_{-48\%}$
$V_T V'_T \rightarrow ZZ$	vp{T} vm{T} > z z	$4.0 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+171\%}_{-54\%}$	$1.4 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+153\%}_{-50\%}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^2$ $^{+150\%}_{-49\%}$
$V_0 V'_T \rightarrow ZZ$	vp{0} vm{T} > z z	$4.2 \cdot 10^0$ $^{+66\%}_{-33\%}$	$1.8 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+61\%}_{-30\%}$	$2.2 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+60\%}_{-30\%}$
$V_0 V'_0 \rightarrow ZZ$	vp{0} vm{0} > z z	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$6.0 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$7.2 \cdot 10^{-1}$
$\sum V_{\lambda A} V'_{\lambda B} \rightarrow \gamma Z$	vp vm > a z	$1.9 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+169\%}_{-53\%}$	$7.1 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+149\%}_{-49\%}$	$8.8 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+145\%}_{-48\%}$
$V_T V'_T \rightarrow \gamma Z$	vp{T} vm{T} > a z	$1.8 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+172\%}_{-54\%}$	$6.8 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+153\%}_{-50\%}$	$8.4 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+149\%}_{-49\%}$
$V_0 V'_T \rightarrow \gamma Z$	vp{0} vm{T} > a z	$9.5 \cdot 10^{-1}$ $^{+67\%}_{-33\%}$	$4.4 \cdot 10^0$ $^{+61\%}_{-30\%}$	$5.5 \cdot 10^0$ $^{+60\%}_{-30\%}$
$V_0 V'_0 \rightarrow \gamma Z$	vp{0} vm{0} > a z	$5.6 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$4.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$6.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$
$\sum V_{\lambda A} V'_{\lambda B} \rightarrow \gamma W^+$	vp vm > a w+	$1.1 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+111\%}_{-42\%}$	$4.0 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+101\%}_{-39\%}$	$4.9 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+99\%}_{-38\%}$
$V_T V'_T \rightarrow \gamma W^+$	vp{T} vm{T} > a w+	$1.1 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+111\%}_{-42\%}$	$3.9 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+102\%}_{-39\%}$	$4.8 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+100\%}_{-38\%}$
$V_0 V'_T \rightarrow \gamma W^+$	vp{0} vm{T} > a w+	$1.6 \cdot 10^{-2}$ $^{+62\%}_{-31\%}$	$7.3 \cdot 10^{-1}$ $^{+56\%}_{-28\%}$	$9.2 \cdot 10^{-1}$ $^{+54\%}_{-27\%}$
$V_0 V'_0 \rightarrow \gamma W^+$	vp{0} vm{0} > a w+	$1.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$
$\sum V_{\lambda A} V'_{\lambda B} \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$	vp vm > a a	$2.1 \cdot 10^0$ $^{+172\%}_{-54\%}$	$8.5 \cdot 10^0$ $^{+152\%}_{-50\%}$	$1.1 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+147\%}_{-48\%}$
$V_T V'_T \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$	vp{T} vm{T} > a a	$2.1 \cdot 10^0$ $^{+172\%}_{-54\%}$	$8.5 \cdot 10^0$ $^{+152\%}_{-50\%}$	$1.1 \cdot 10^1$ $^{+147\%}_{-48\%}$
$V_0 V'_T \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$	vp{0} vm{T} > a a	$7.8 \cdot 10^{-4}$ $^{+70\%}_{-35\%}$	$3.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$ $^{+67\%}_{-34\%}$	$4.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$ $^{+67\%}_{-33\%}$
$V_0 V'_0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$	vp{0} vm{0} > a a	$5.8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$4.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$6.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$

Summary and Conclusion

Exploring VBS/VBF is part of LHC's long-term program

See review by Buarque (ed.), Gallinaro (ed.), RR (ed.), et al, *Rev. Physics* ('22) [arXiv:2106.01393]

- **Helicity-polarized simulations available with MadGraph5aMC@NLO**

up to LO+LL(PS) [1912.01725]; NLO is under dev.; see also Poncelet, et al [2102.13583], + others

- **$W_\lambda/Z_\lambda/\gamma_\lambda$ PDFs in $\ell^+\ell^-$ collisions also available with MG5aMC@NLO**

EWA@LO [2111.02442] and plans underway to merge parallel Snowmass efforts



Thank you!