Triple-gauge couplings in LHC diboson production: a SMEFT view from every angle

In collaboration with Giovanni Pelliccioli and Eleni Vryonidou, JHEP08(2024)087

[2405.19083]

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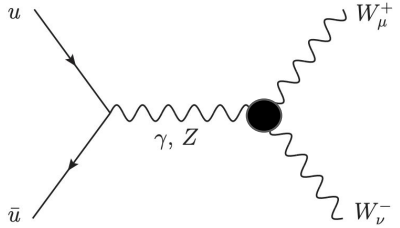
Motivation for diboson at the LHC

- Important probe for EWSB
- Fully leptonic diboson production → **relatively clean signature at the LHC**
- With Run 3 and HL-LHC → **promising for precision and differential measurements**
- Irreducible background for Higgs analyses

At LO, production is dominated by quark-initial states and gluon-initiated ones are loop-induced

→ at **NLO in QCD, mixed channel opens up with enhancement from gluon luminosity**

On diboson in the SMEFT



- Dominating quark-initiated channel is sensitive to dim-6 TGC
- At NLO QCD, **sensitivity to TGC is non-trivial and depends on phase-space setups**
- Dim-6 TGCs **non-trivially correlate with Vqq-induced ones** Grojean et al. [1810.05149]
- Linear **suppression is expected for 2 → 2** due to **helicity selection rules** Azatov et al. [1607.05236]
- A priori, one can not neglect dim-8 SMEFT insertions e.g. Degrande et al. [2303.10493]

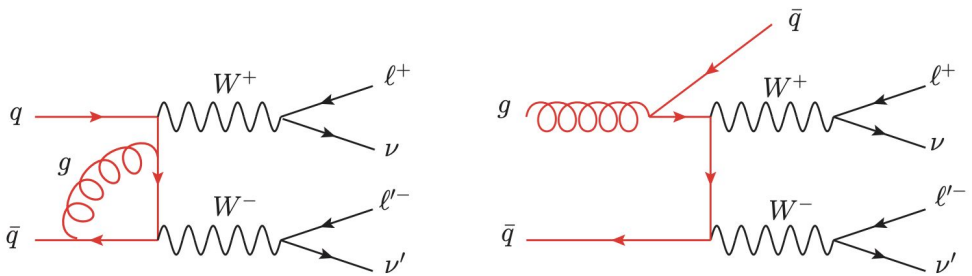
  → dim-8 effects are not expected to alter the power induced by *purely* dim-6 TGC quadratic contributions Corbett et al. [2304.03305]

Goal

- Purely CP-even and CP-odd SMEFT coefficients in the Warsaw basis Grzadkowski et al. [1008.4884]

$$\epsilon_{ijk} W^{i}_{\mu\nu} W^{j,\nu\rho} W^{k,\mu}_{\rho}, \qquad \epsilon_{ijk} \tilde{W}^{i}_{\mu\nu} W^{j,\nu\rho} W^{k,\mu}_{\rho} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \lambda_z = -c_W \frac{v}{\Lambda^2} \frac{3}{2} g, \qquad \tilde{\lambda}_z = -c_{\tilde{W}} \frac{v}{\Lambda^2} \frac{3}{2} g$$

- Full NLO in QCD, including the complete off-shell effects and spin correlations



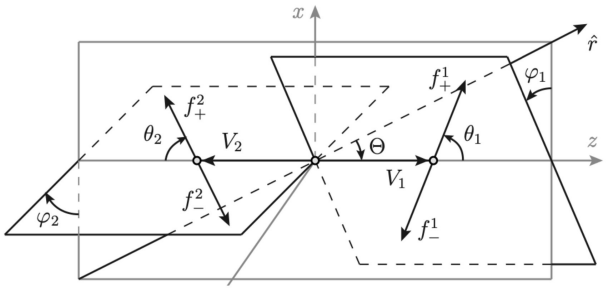
with `SMEFTatNLO` Degrande et al.[2008.11743] via `MG5` Alwall et al. [1405.0301]

Diboson analysis features

- Z couples ~ equally to left and right-hand charged leptons → **can not identify helicities**
- W couples to left-hand fermions → **but neutrino reconstruction is problematic**

Interference suppression at $2 \to 2$ is lifted at $2 \to 3$ or $2 \to 4$

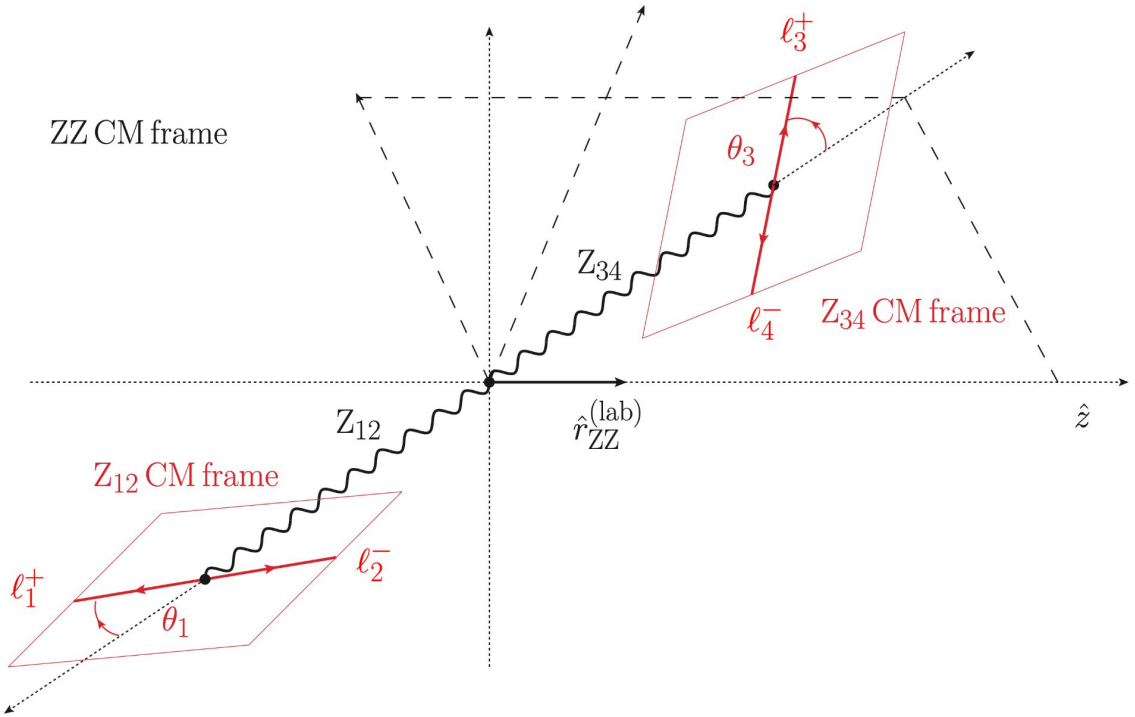
→ **the angle spanned by the decay products and/or real radiation 'restores' the interference**



$$\frac{d\sigma_{\text{int}}(q\bar{q} \to WZ \to 4\psi)}{d\phi_Z \, d\phi_W} \propto \cos(2\phi_Z) + \cos(2\phi_W)$$

Azatov et al. [1707.08060]; Panico et al. [1708.07823]

Helicity coordinate system



Questions to answer

→ Impact of different phase-space setups?

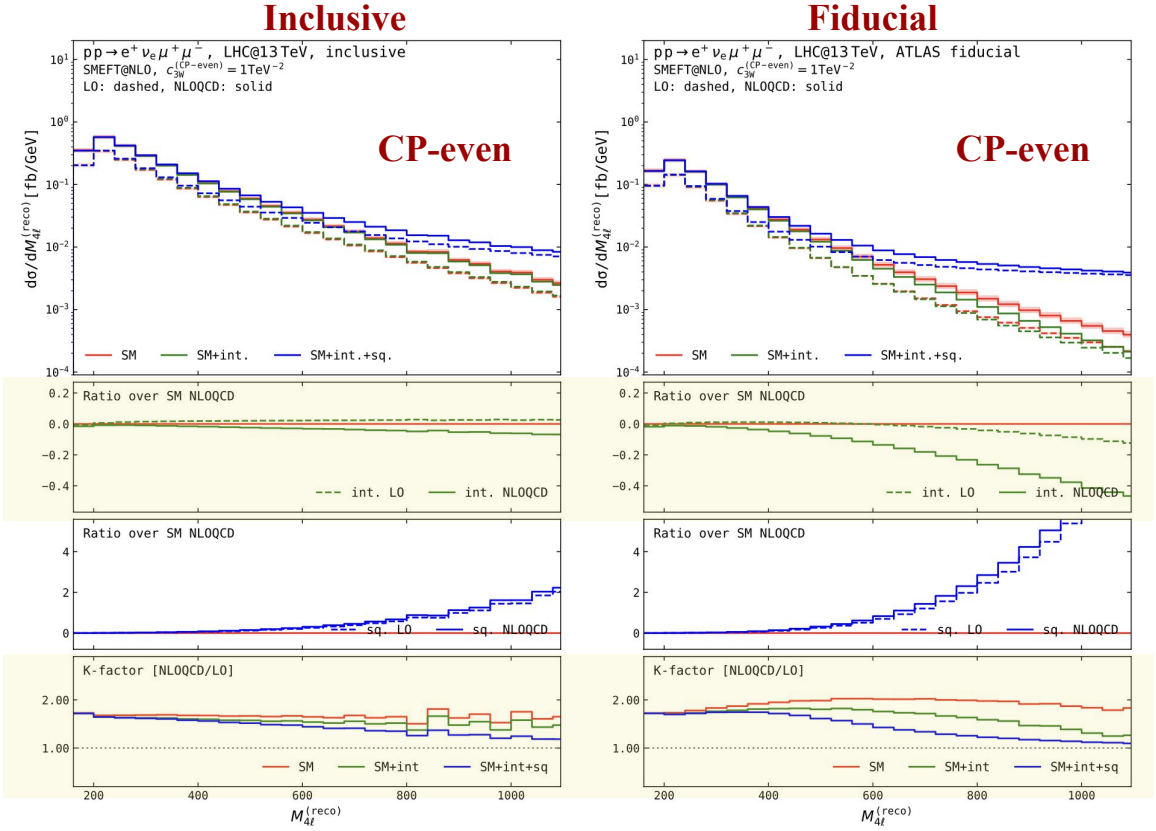
→ EFT effects on angular coefficients and observables?

→ Impact of NLO QCD?

→ In this talk, we focus on WZ production

Impact of NLO QCD and selection cuts

Interference 'restored' through selection cuts



Inclusive

→ Real NLO radiation restores the suppressed LO SMEFT interference

Fiducial

→ The interference restoration is already manifest at LO due to the modulation from the cuts

→ **Non-trivial K-factors**

ATLAS fiducial setups [1902.05759, 2211.09435, 1905.04242]

On polarisation fractions and angular terms

2-body decay rate of V boson + projections on spherical harmonics

→ inclusive angular coefficients and polarisation fractions

$$\frac{1}{\sigma}\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}\cos\theta^*\,\mathrm{d}\phi^*} = \frac{3}{16\pi}\Big[1+\cos^2\theta^* + A_0\frac{1-3\cos^2\theta^*}{2} + A_1\sin 2\theta^*\cos\phi^* + \frac{1}{2}A_2\sin^2\theta^*\cos 2\phi^* + A_3\sin\theta^*\cos\phi^* + A_4\cos\theta^* + A_5\sin\theta^*\sin\phi^* + A_6\sin 2\theta^*\sin\phi + A_7\sin^2\theta^*\sin 2\phi^*\Big]$$

azimuthal integral

$$\frac{1}{\sigma}\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}\cos\theta^*} = \frac{3}{8}\Big[2f_0\sin^2\theta^* + f_\mathrm{L}\left(1+\cos^2\theta^* - 2c_\mathrm{LR}\cos\theta^*\right) + f_\mathrm{R}\left(1+\cos^2\theta^* + 2c_\mathrm{LR}\cos\theta^*\right)\Big]$$

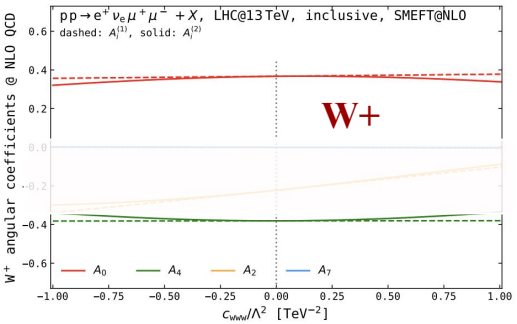
A_i coefficients modulate an angular term

→ underly the **dynamics of the production and decay** process, the **polarisation states** of the particles, and **possible interference effects**

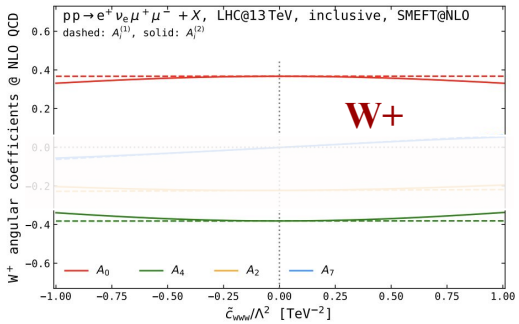
Inclusive angular coefficients

Inclusive setup

CP-even



CP-odd

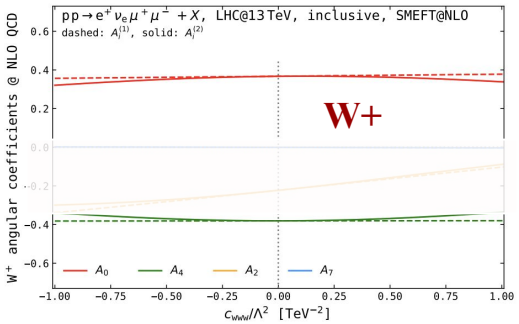


→ **A0** and **A4** **barely distorted by EFT** at linear-level; slight effect from quadratics

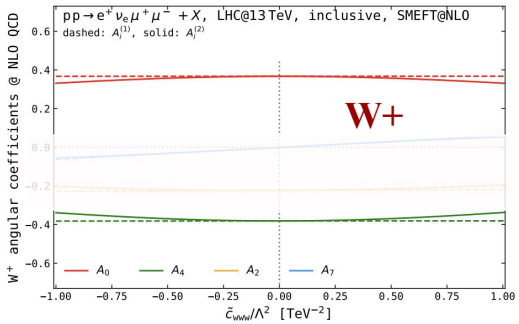
Inclusive angular coefficients

Inclusive setup

CP-even



CP-odd



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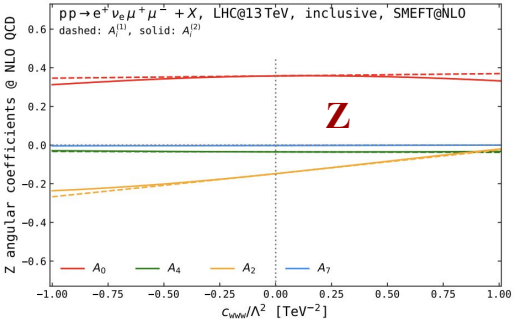
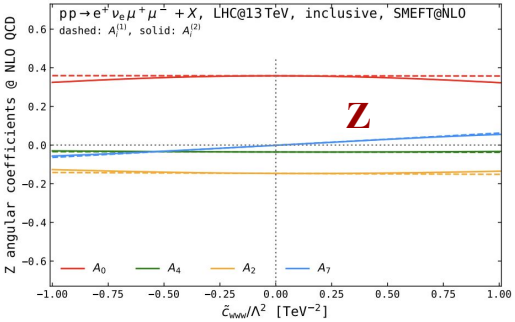
CP-even



CP-odd

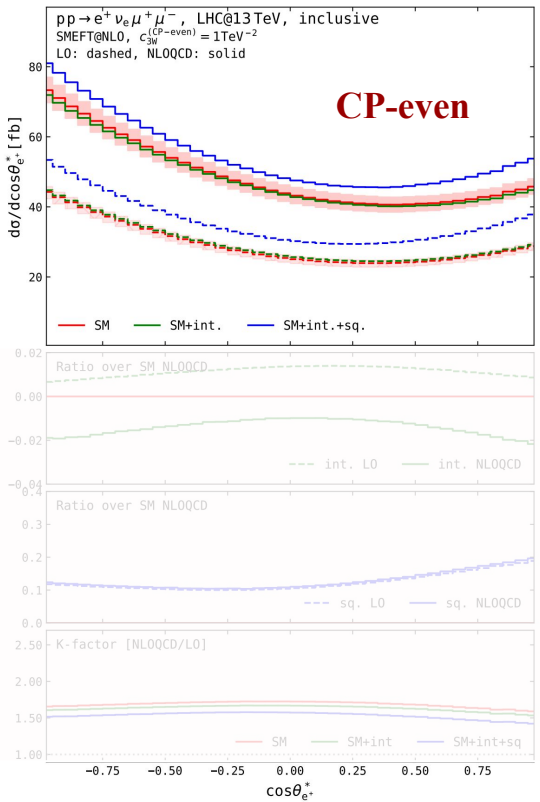


→ Small value of **A4** manifests the **left-right balance** and not altered by EFT

→ **A7** is **parity-odd** sensitive

Polarisation sensitivity

Inclusive



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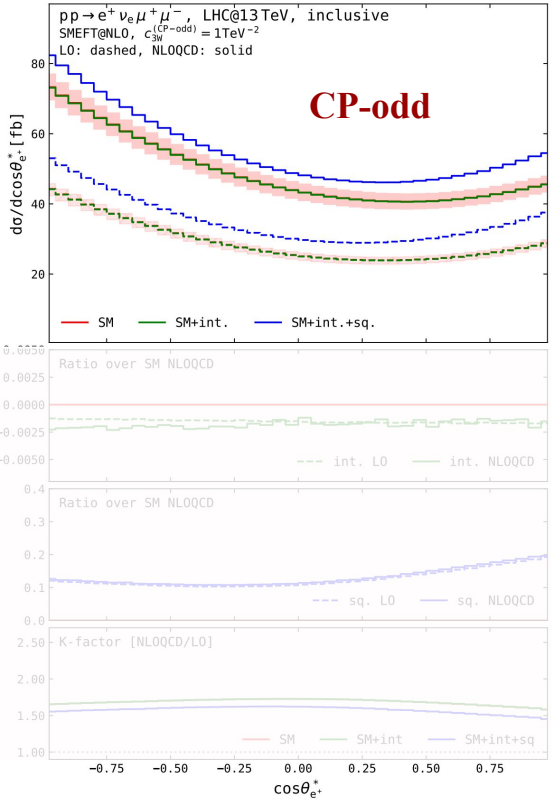
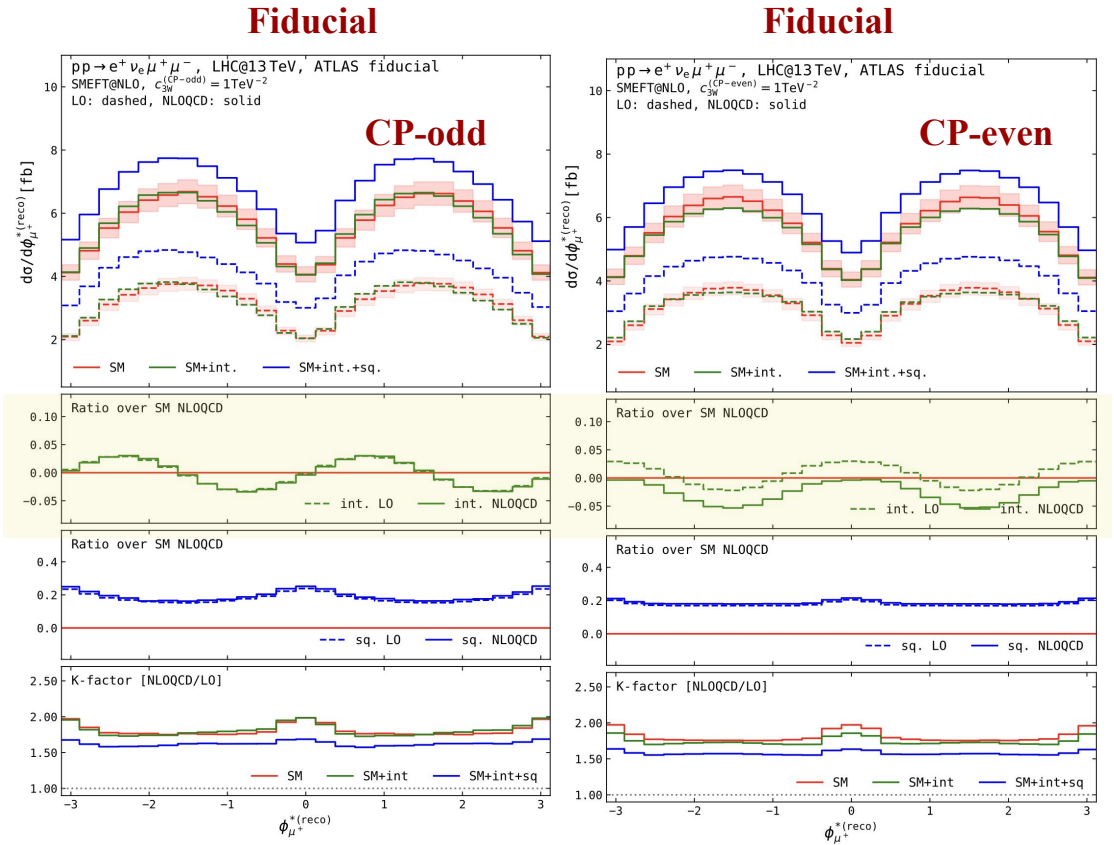


Polarisation angles as a probe to fractions

→ Similar EFT shapes as in the SM

→ Mild effects on fractions

Differential angular observables



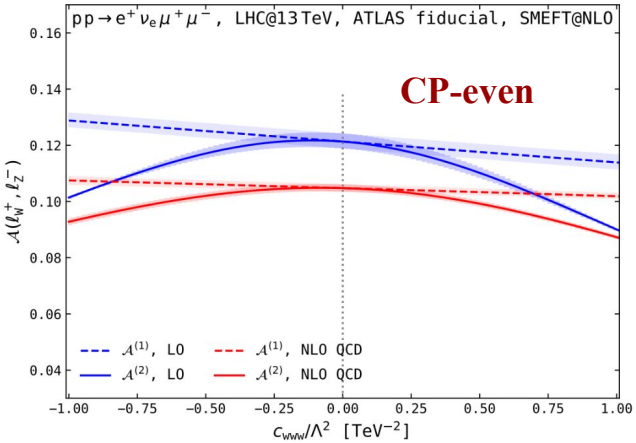
Azimuthal variables are good probes for CP-properties

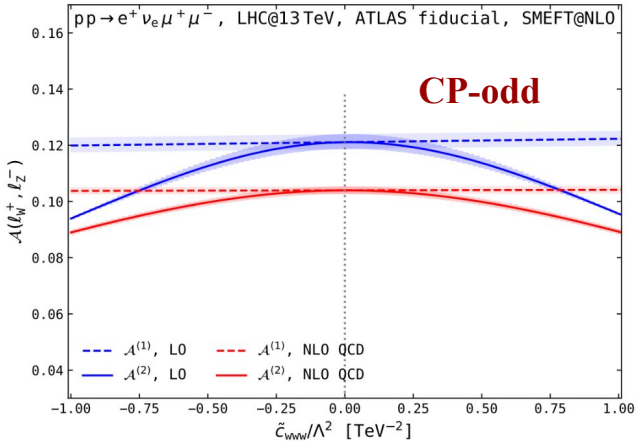
→ Interference modulation maps the CP-property of TGC

→ Distortion due to selection cuts and neutrino reconstruction relative to SM is mild (inclusive setup not shown here)

Boost asymmetries

$$\mathcal{A}(i,j) = \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma(|y_i| > |y_j|) - \mathrm{d}\sigma(|y_i| < |y_j|)}{\mathrm{d}\sigma(|y_i| > |y_j|) + \mathrm{d}\sigma(|y_i| < |y_j|)}$$





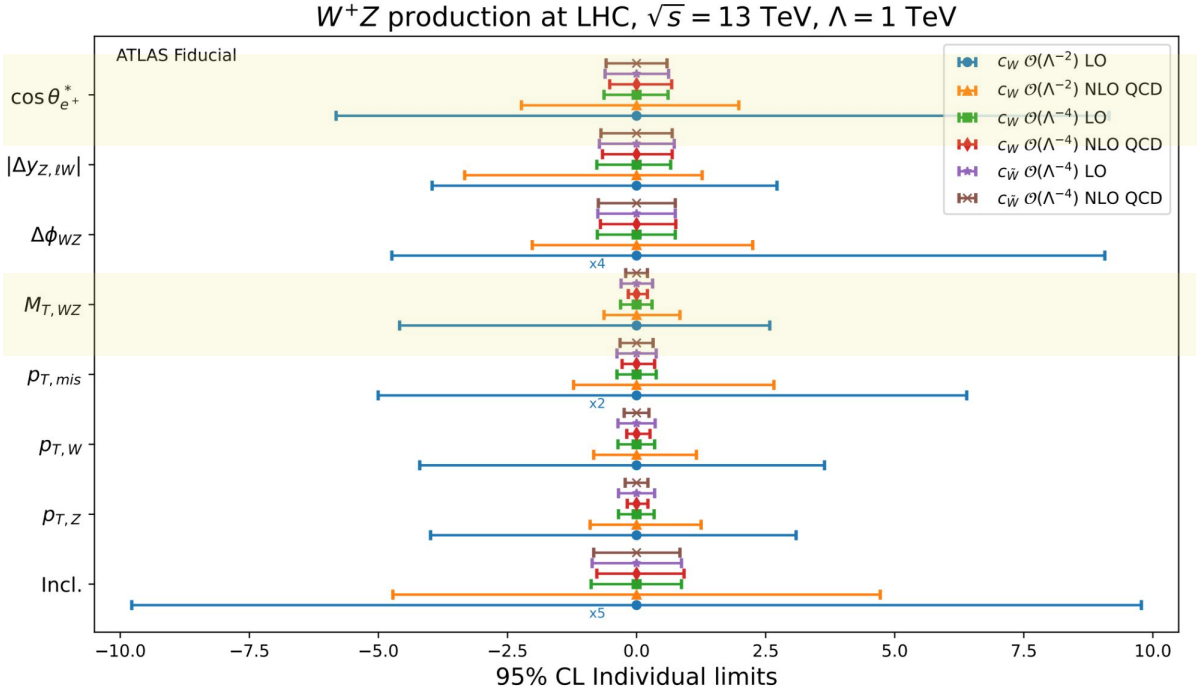
→ **CP-even** modifies the right-handed fraction at linear and quadratic-levels

→ **CP-odd** linear effects are negligible

Differential measurements of boost asymmetries can be promising

ATLAS fiducial setups [1902.05759, 2211.09435, 1905.04242]

Impact of NLO QCD on SMEFT



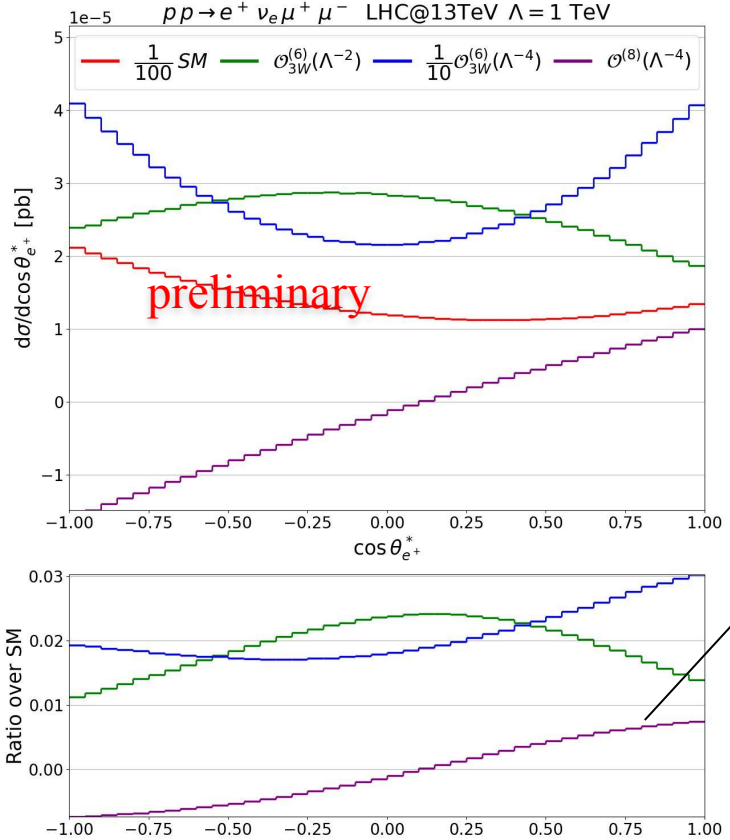
→ dimensionful observables are the most stringent

→ polar decay angle is competitive in the dimensionless class

→ **NLO QCD** is key in constraining SMEFT

ATLAS fiducial setups [1902.05759, 2211.09435, 1905.04242]

A glimpse at dimension-8 SMEFT in WZ [preliminary]



Dimension-8 effects on polarisation angles look interesting?

HF, Ventura, Vryonidou [WIP]

Summary

→ Impact of different phase-space setups?

→ EFT effects on angular coefficients and observables?

→ Impact of NLO QCD?

→ Analysis is sensitive to fiducial setup and interference suppression is lifted by cuts

→ Mild effects on angular coefficients; azimuthal-observables are interesting

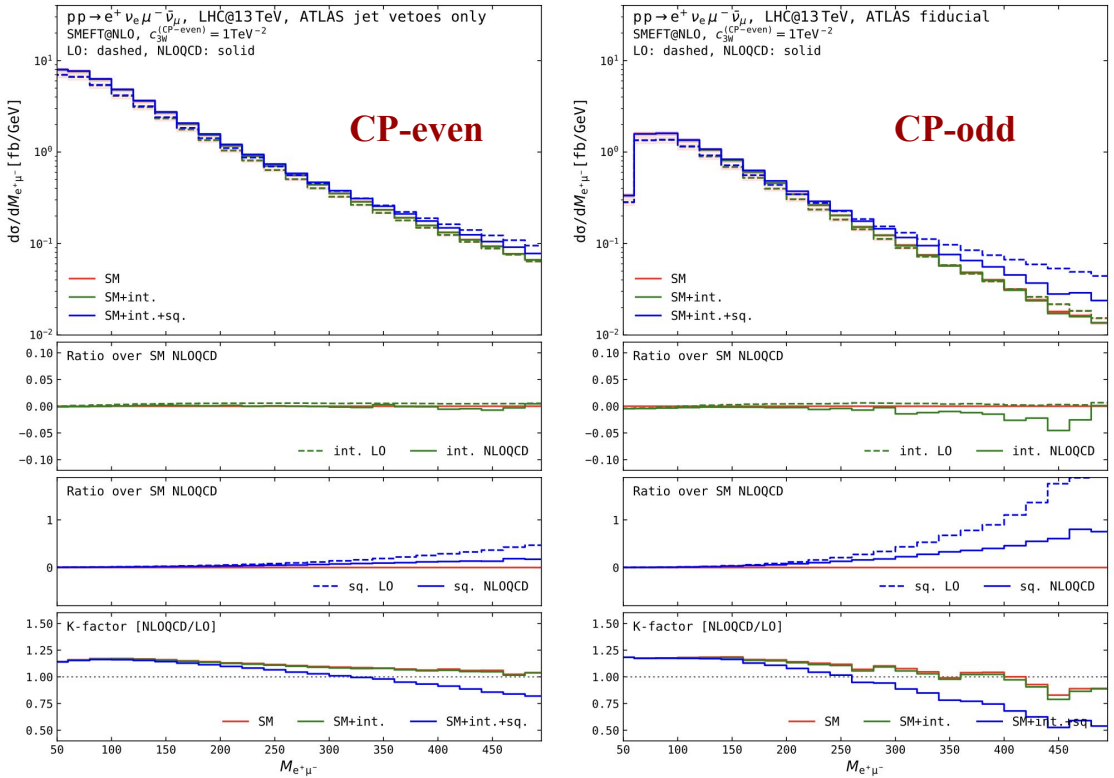
→ NLO effects lift the interference suppression and are key in constraining SMEFT

Conclusions

- NLO QCD is key in diboson production; constraining SMEFT, resurrecting 2→2 suppressed interference, non trivial k-factors
- The angle spanned by decay products as well as selection cuts have significant impact on the interference behavior
- Angular observables are good probes for TGC CP-properties
- Differential leptonic boost asymmetries might be promising in constraining SMEFT

Backup

Impact of NLO QCD and selection cuts WW



→ Selection cuts still enhances the interferences

→ WW is less-sensitive to TGC than WZ

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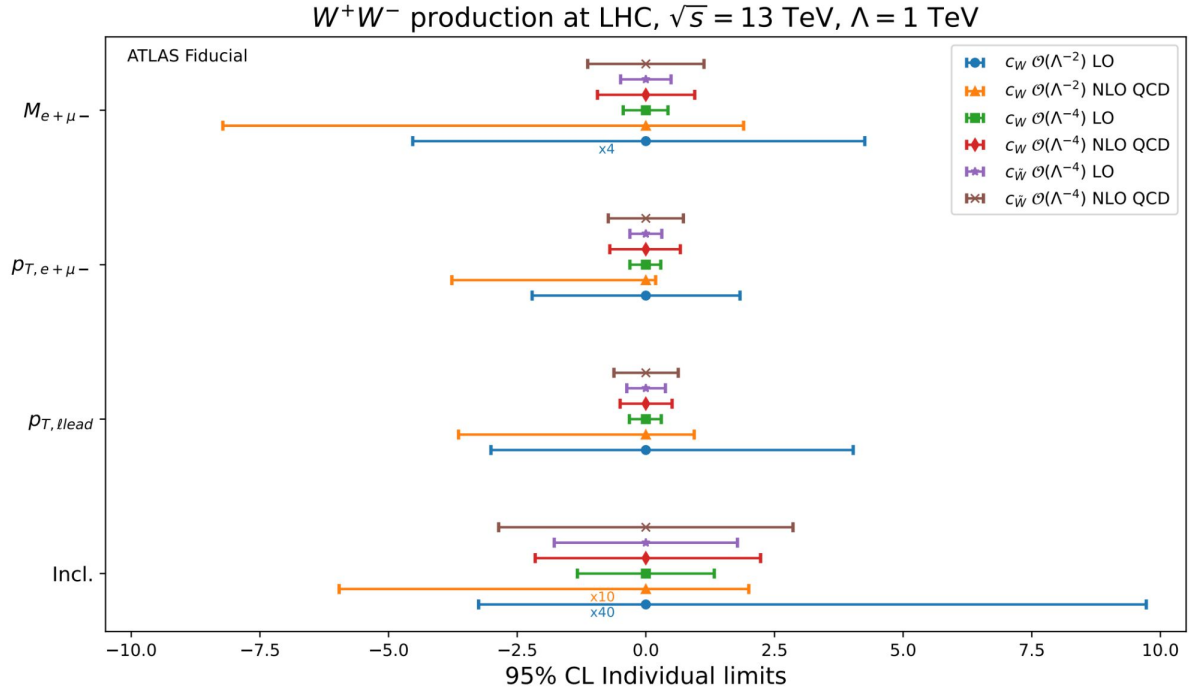
Impact of NLO QCD on SMEFT WW



→ similar conclusions to the WZ case

→ the different NLO QCD behaviour is manifest

ATLAS fiducial setups [1902.05759, 2211.09435, 1905.04242]