

Perturbative uncertainties for high-energy tails

Jonas M. Lindert



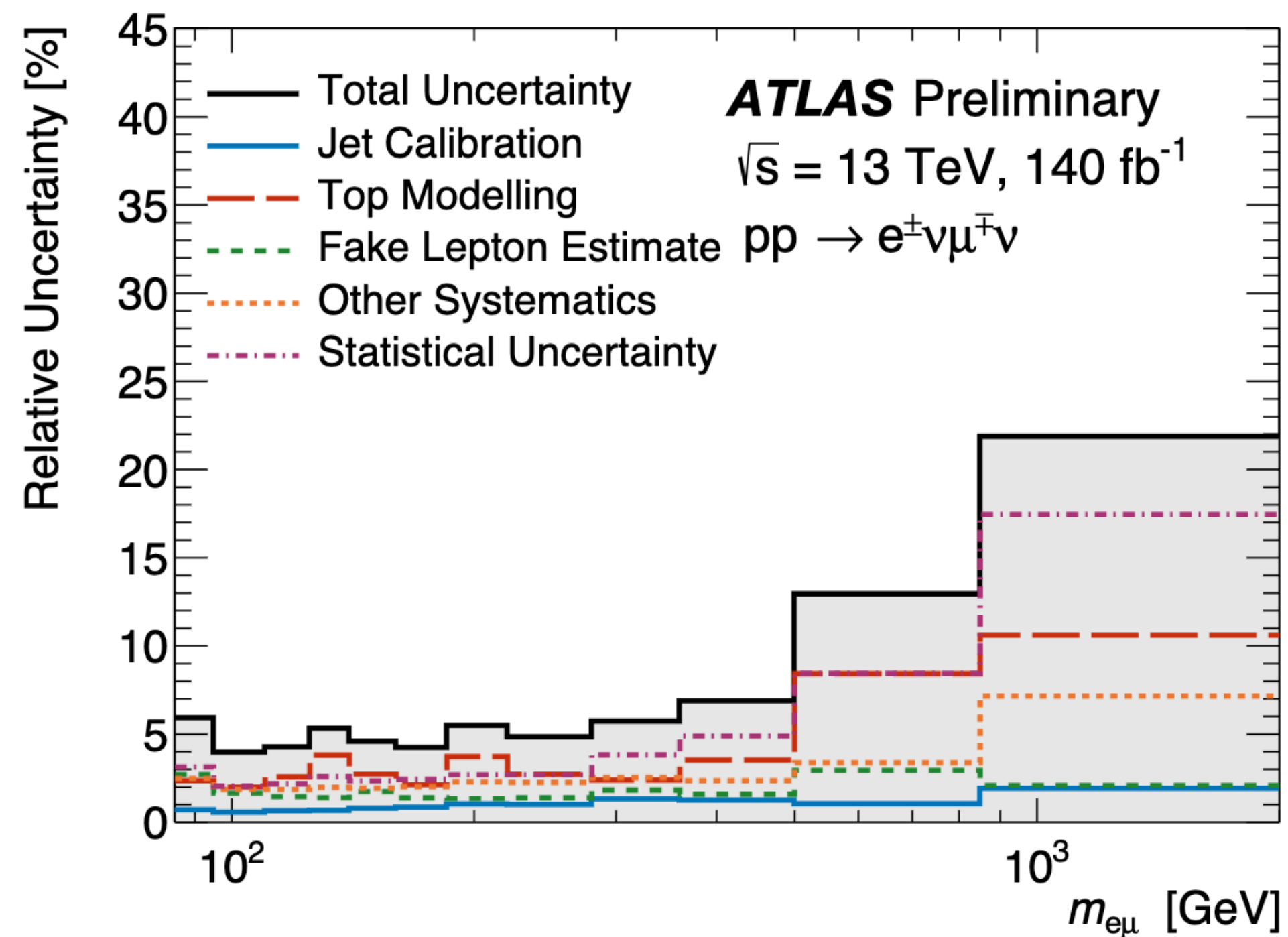
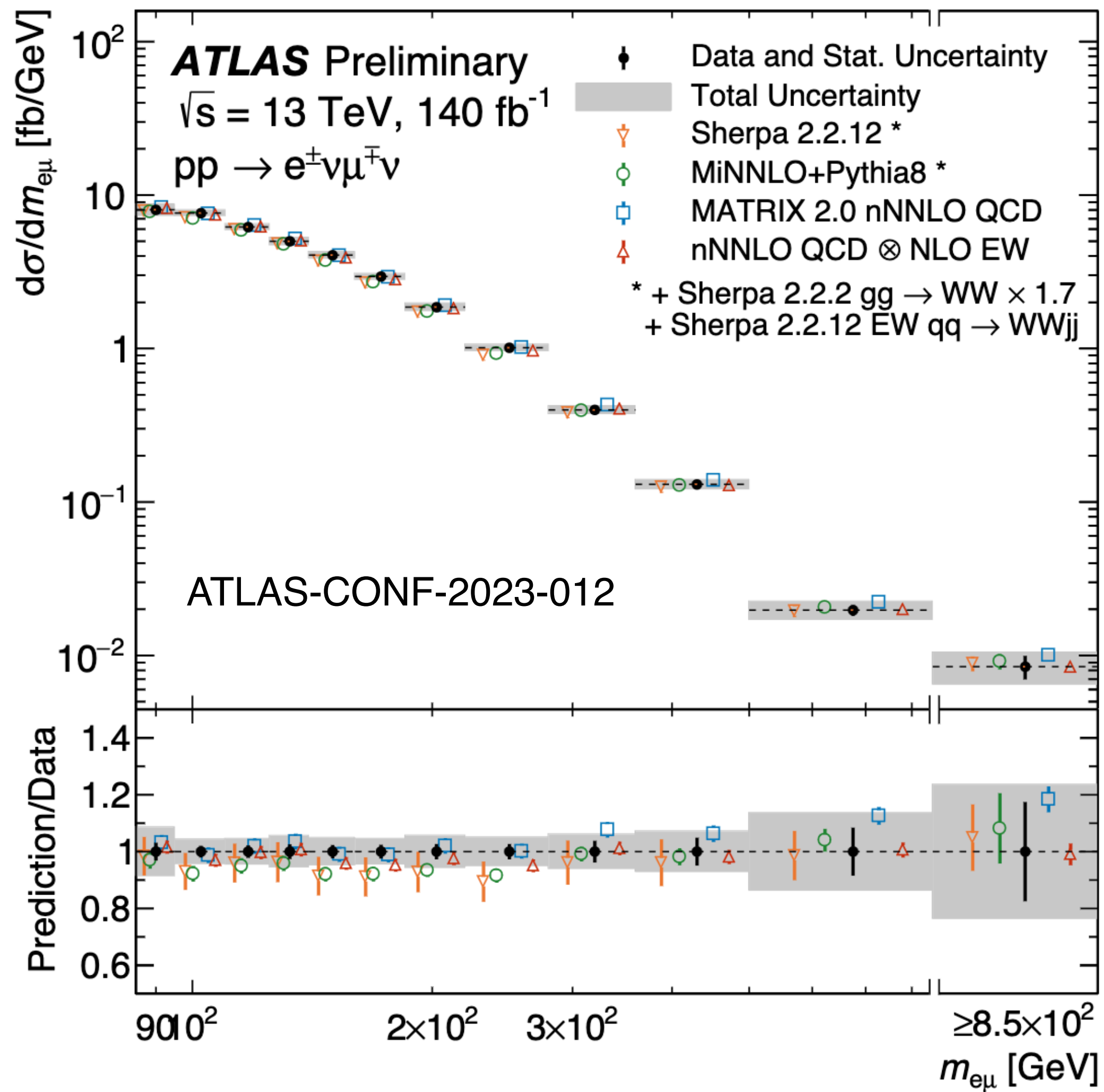
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LHC EW WG General Meeting
CERN
12th July 2024

Multiboson tails

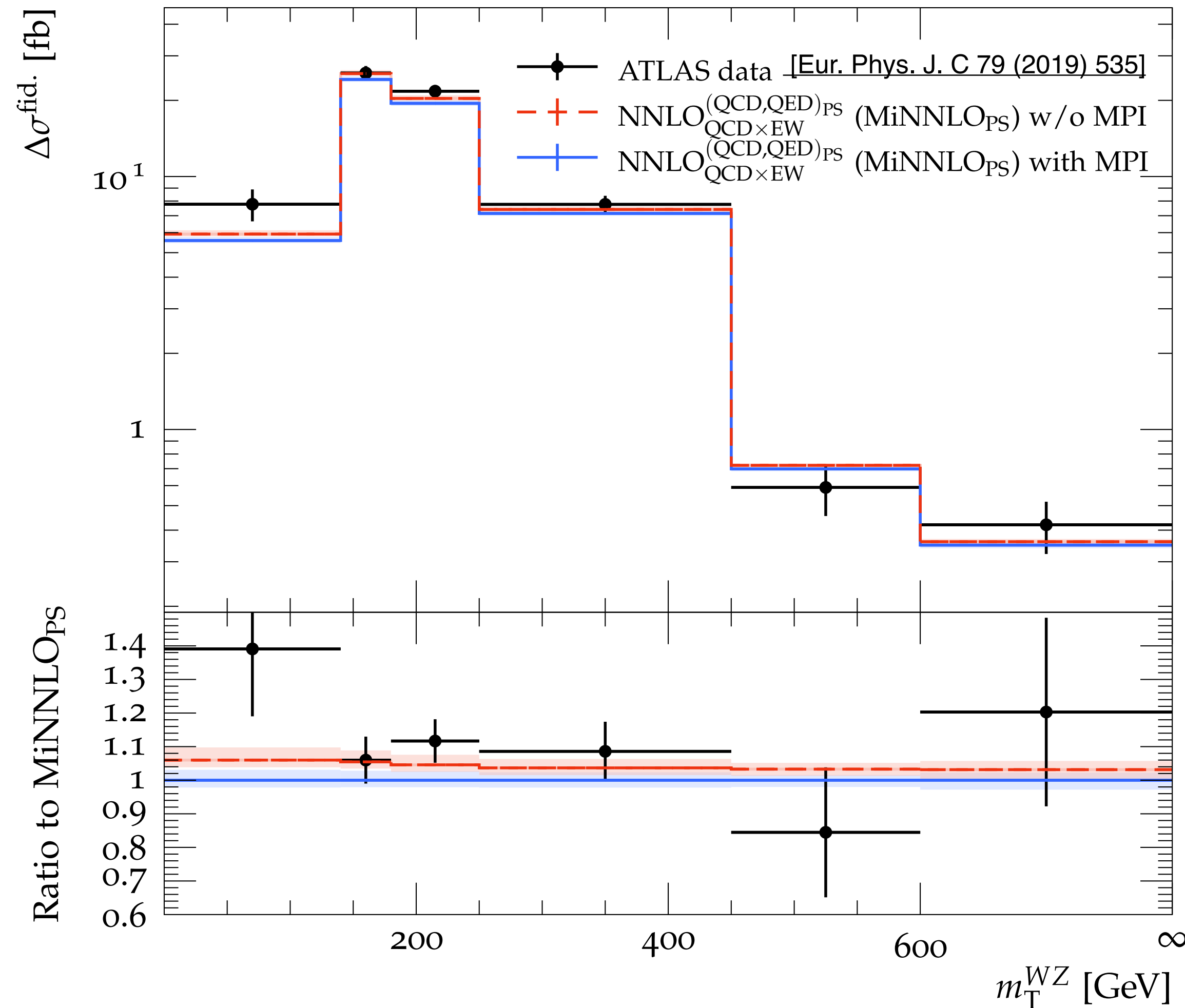
W^+W^-



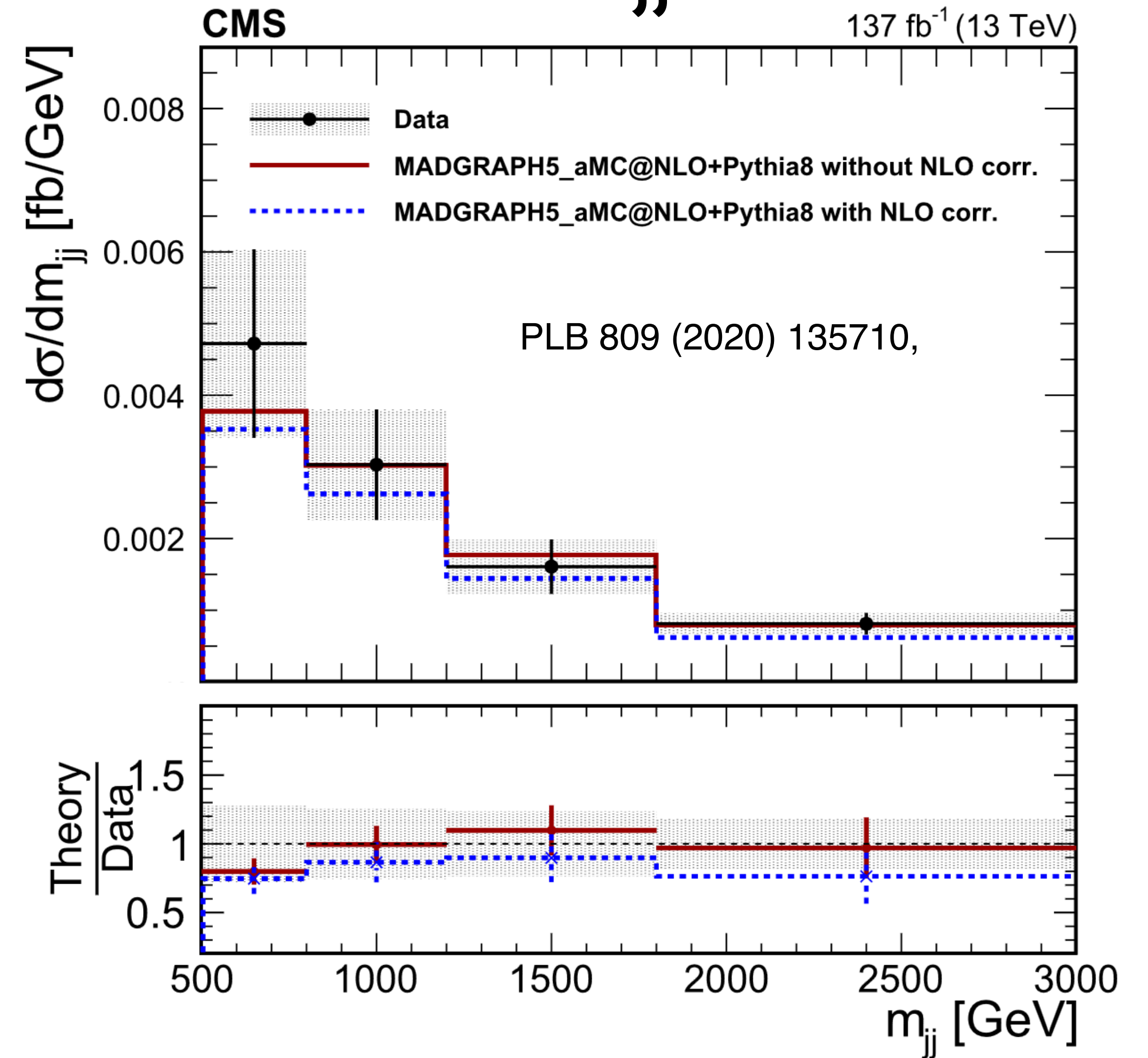
Multiboson tails

[JML, Lombardi, Wiesemann, Zanderighi, Zanolini, '22]

$pp \rightarrow ZW^\pm \rightarrow lll'\nu_{\ell'}$ @LHC 13 TeV



W^+W^+jj



Perturbative expansion

aMC@NLO, Sherpa, Herwig... & Recola, Madloop, Gosam, OpenLoops

$$d\sigma = d\sigma_{LO} + \alpha_S d\sigma_{NLO} + \alpha_{EW} d\sigma_{NLO\ EW}$$

NLO QCD NLO EW

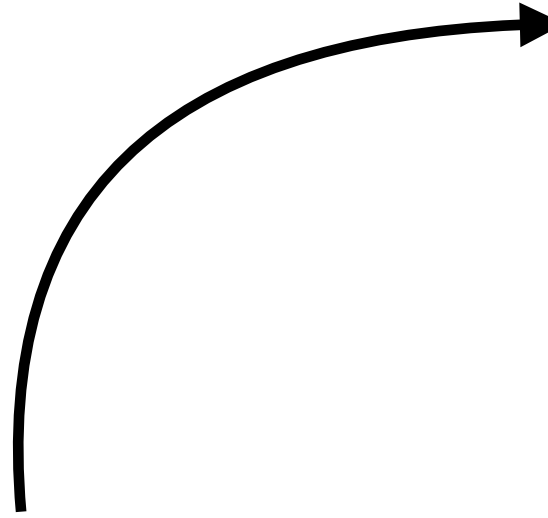
dedicated MC's: Matrix, MCFM, NNLOjet, ...

$$+ \alpha_S^2 d\sigma_{NNLO}$$

NNLO QCD

$$+ \alpha_S^3 d\sigma_{N3LO} + \dots$$

N3LO QCD



scale variation at NNLO

Perturbative expansion

aMC@NLO, Sherpa, Herwig... & Recola, Madloop, Gosam, OpenLoops

dedicated MC's: Matrix, MCFM, NNLOjet, ...

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

? ?

so far only known for DY

scale variation at NNLO

Perturbative expansion

aMC@NLO, Sherpa, Herwig... & Recola, Madloop, Gosam, OpenLoops

dedicated MC's: Matrix, MCFM, NNLOjet, ...

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

scale variation at NNLO

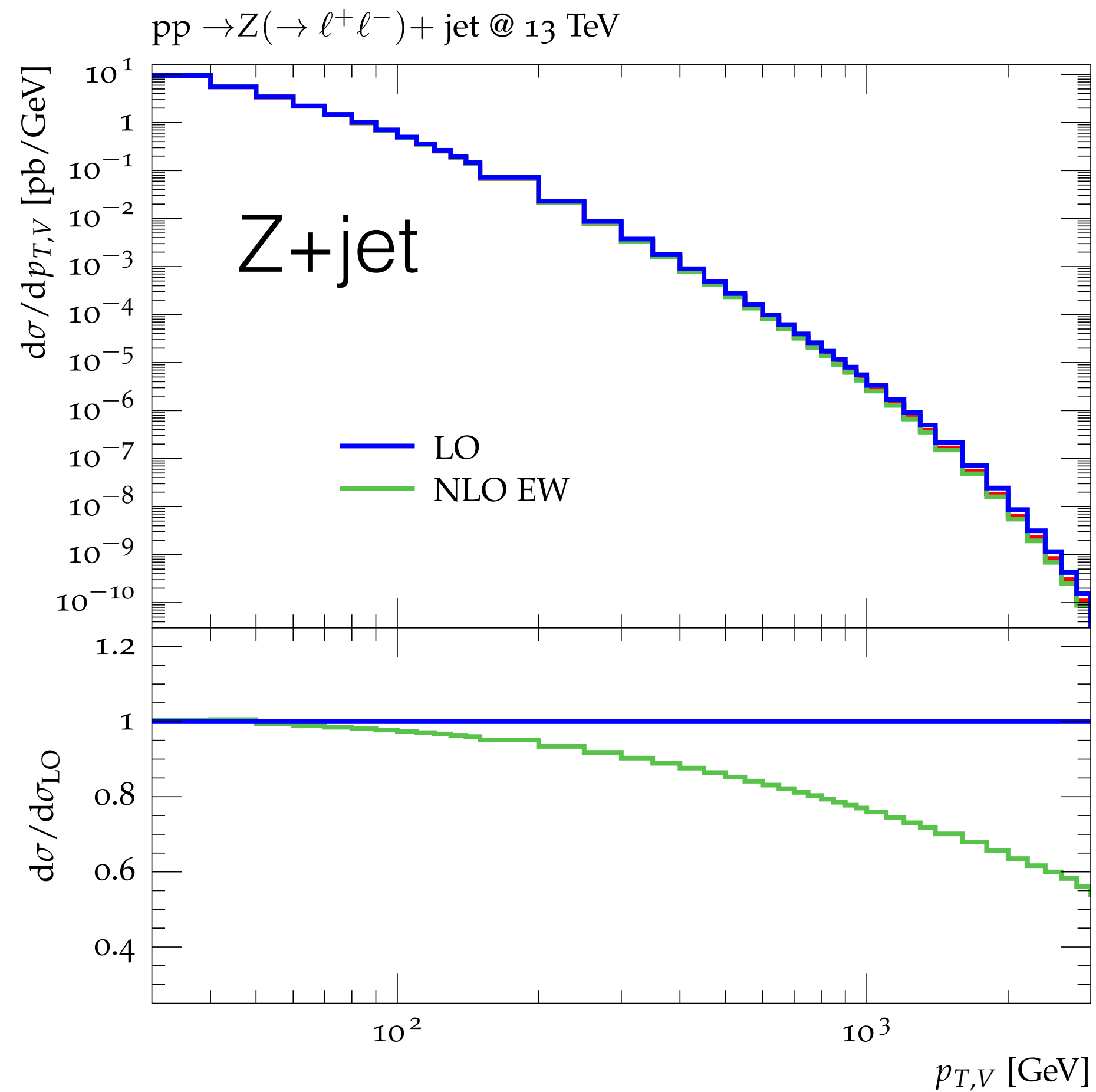
scheme variation, e.g. Gmu vs. a(mZ)

NLO QCD + EW
vs.
NLO QCD x EW

in case of EW Sudakov dominance: exponentiation

- sufficient?
- reliable?

EW uncertainties: Sudakov

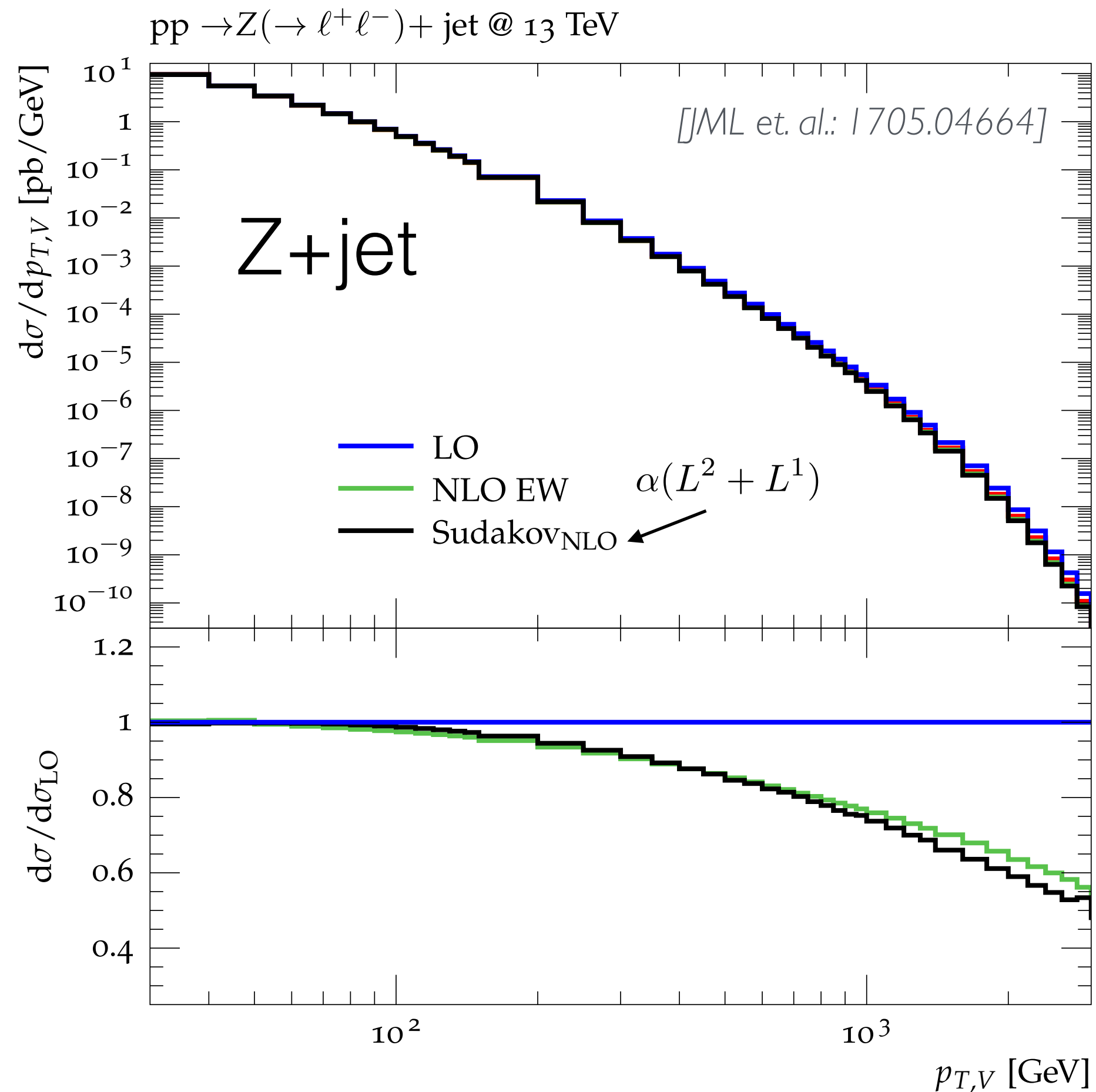


EW corrections become sizeable
at large $p_{T,V}$: -30% @ 1 TeV

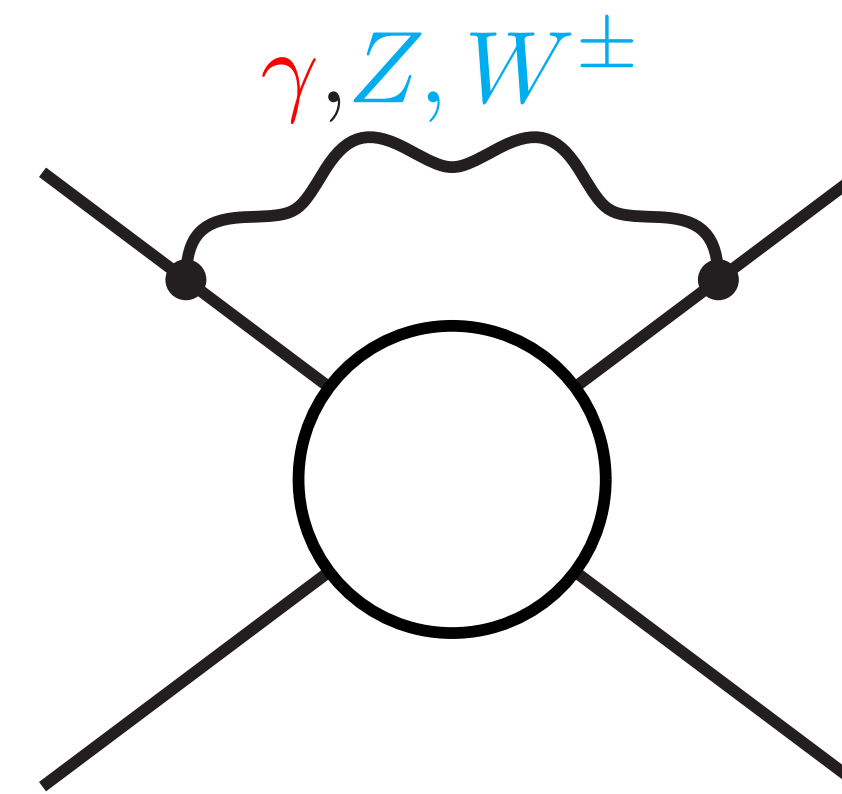
Origin: virtual EW Sudakov logarithms

How to estimate corresponding pure EW uncertainties
of relative $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$?

EW uncertainties: Sudakov



Large EW corrections dominated by Sudakov logs

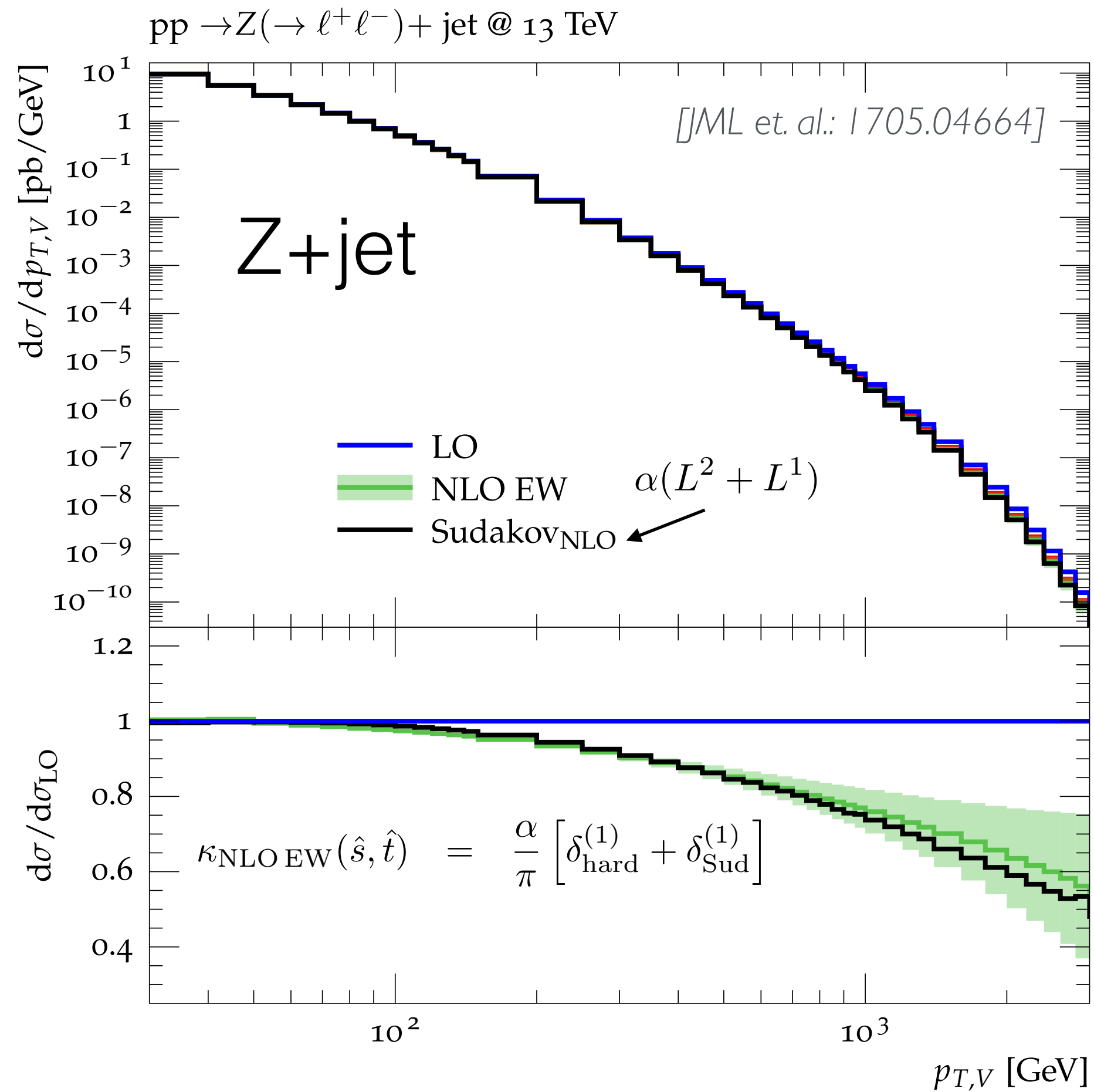


[Ciafaloni, Comelli, '98;
 Lipatov, Fadin, Martin, Melles, '99;
 Kuehen, Penin, Smirnov, '99;
 Denner, Pozzorini, '00]

Universality and factorisation: [Denner, Pozzorini; '01]

$$\delta\mathcal{M}_{\text{LL+NLL}}^{1\text{-loop}} = \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \sum_{k=1}^n \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l \neq k} \sum_{a=\gamma, Z, W^\pm} I^a(k) I^{\bar{a}}(l) \ln^2 \frac{\hat{s}_{kl}}{M^2} + \gamma^{\text{ew}}(k) \ln \frac{\hat{s}}{M^2} \right\} \mathcal{M}_0$$

EW uncertainties: Sudakov



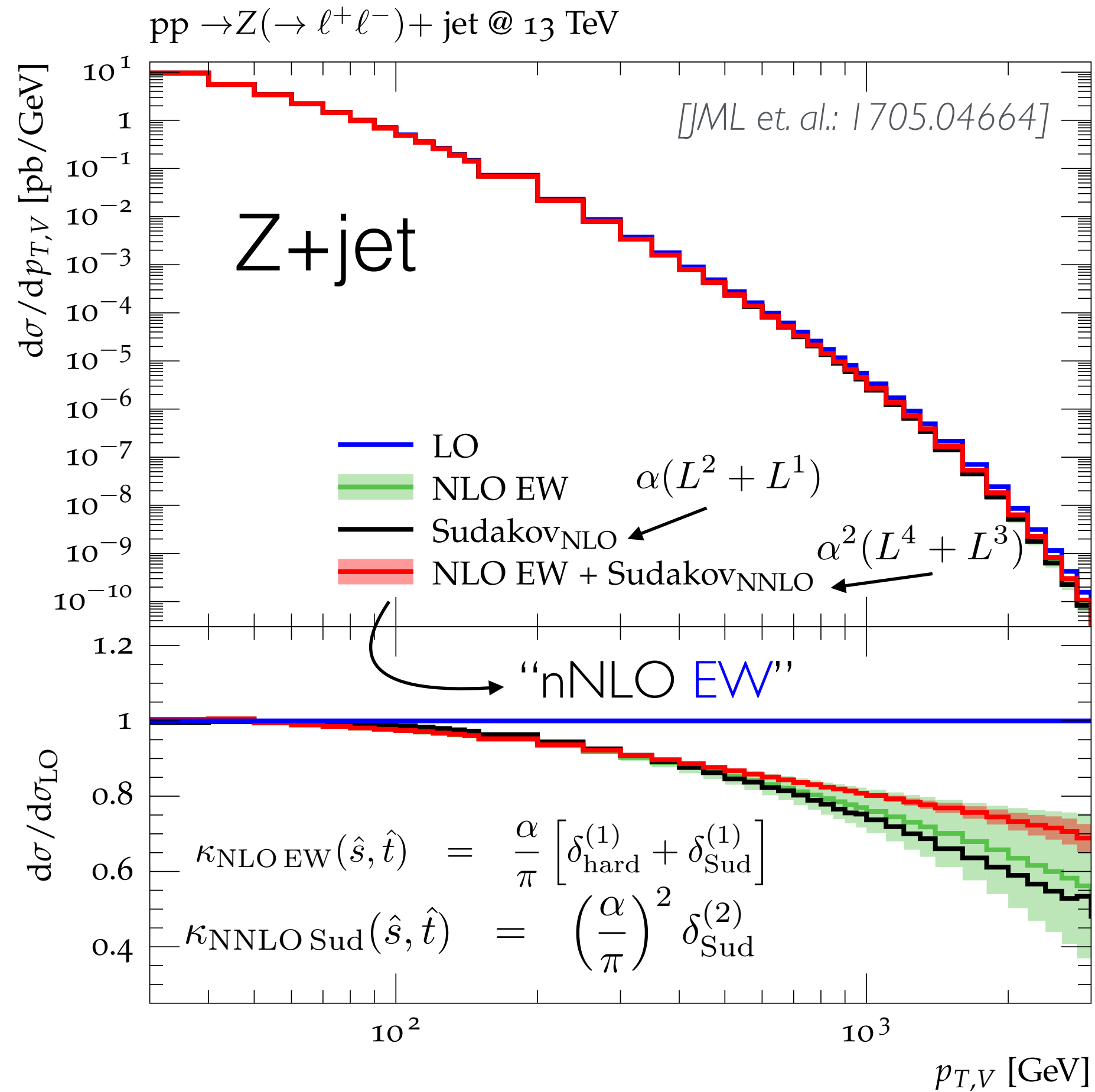
Large EW corrections dominated by Sudakov logs



Uncertainty estimate of (N)NLO EW from naive exponentiation $\times 2$:

$$\Delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{Sud}} \approx (k_{\text{NLOEW}})^2$$

EW uncertainties: Sudakov



Large EW corrections dominated by Sudakov logs

↓

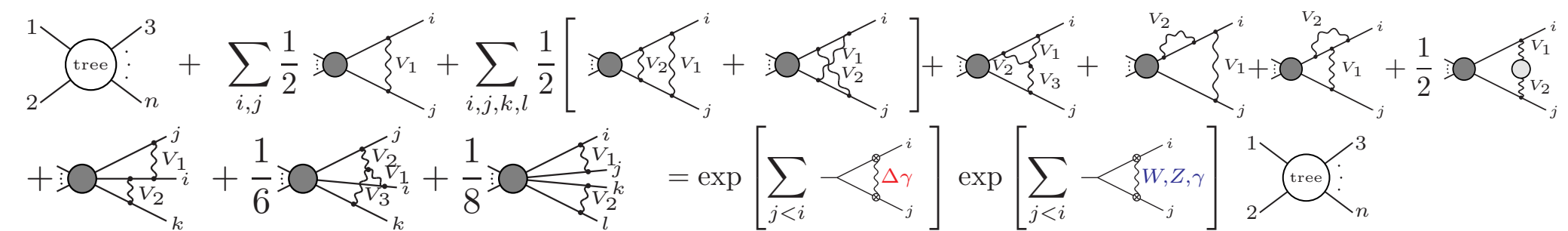
Uncertainty estimate of (N)NLO EW from naive exponentiation $\times 2$:

$$\Delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{Sud}} \approx (k_{\text{NLOEW}})^2$$

↓

check against two-loop Sudakov logs

[Kühn, Kulesza, Pozzorini, Schulze; 05-07]



$$\Delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{hard}} \approx O(1\%)$$

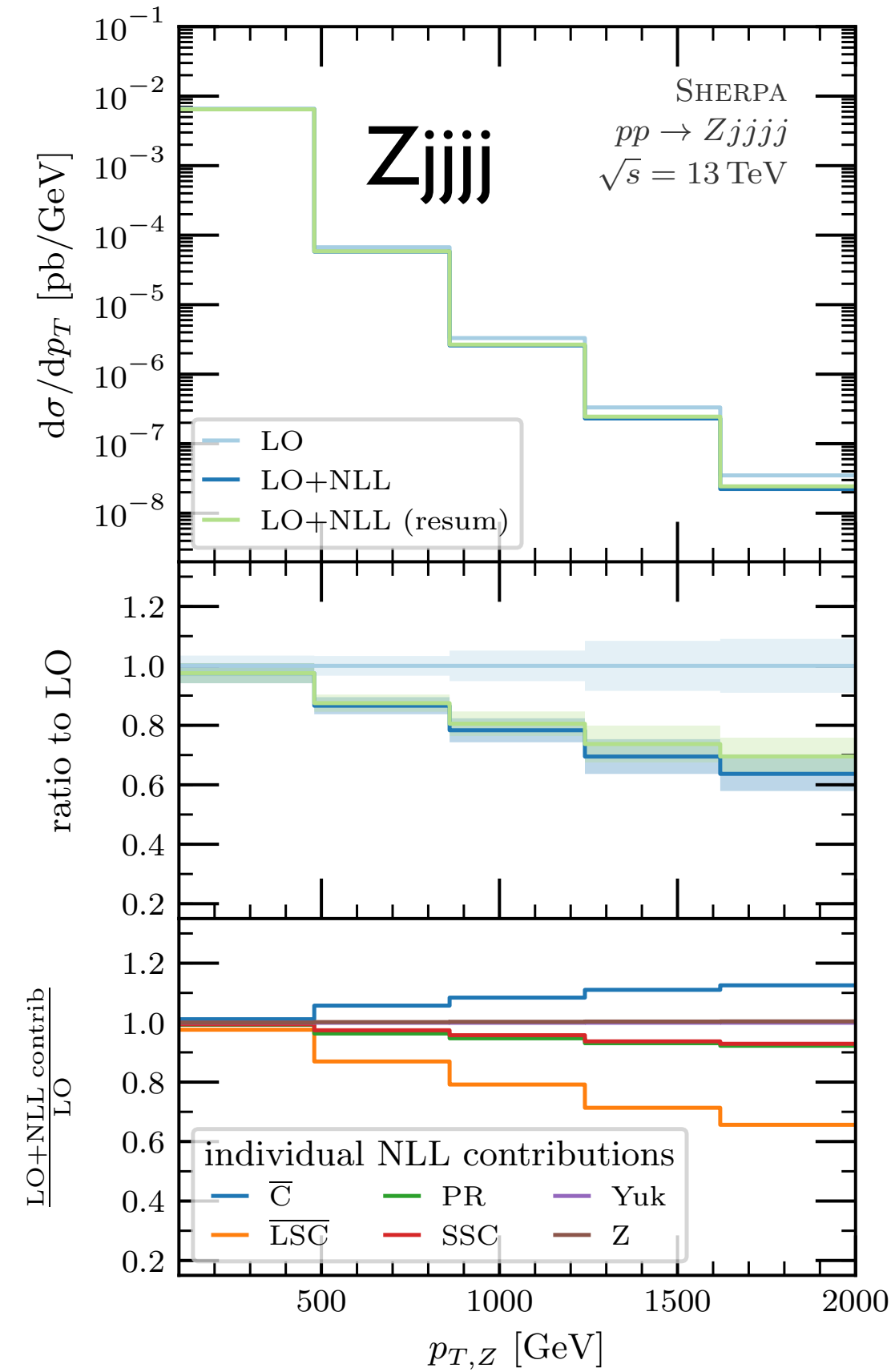
e.g. from scheme variation, e.g. Gmu vs. a(mZ)

Tools for EW Sudakov corrections

also: alpgen [Chiesa, et. al., '13]

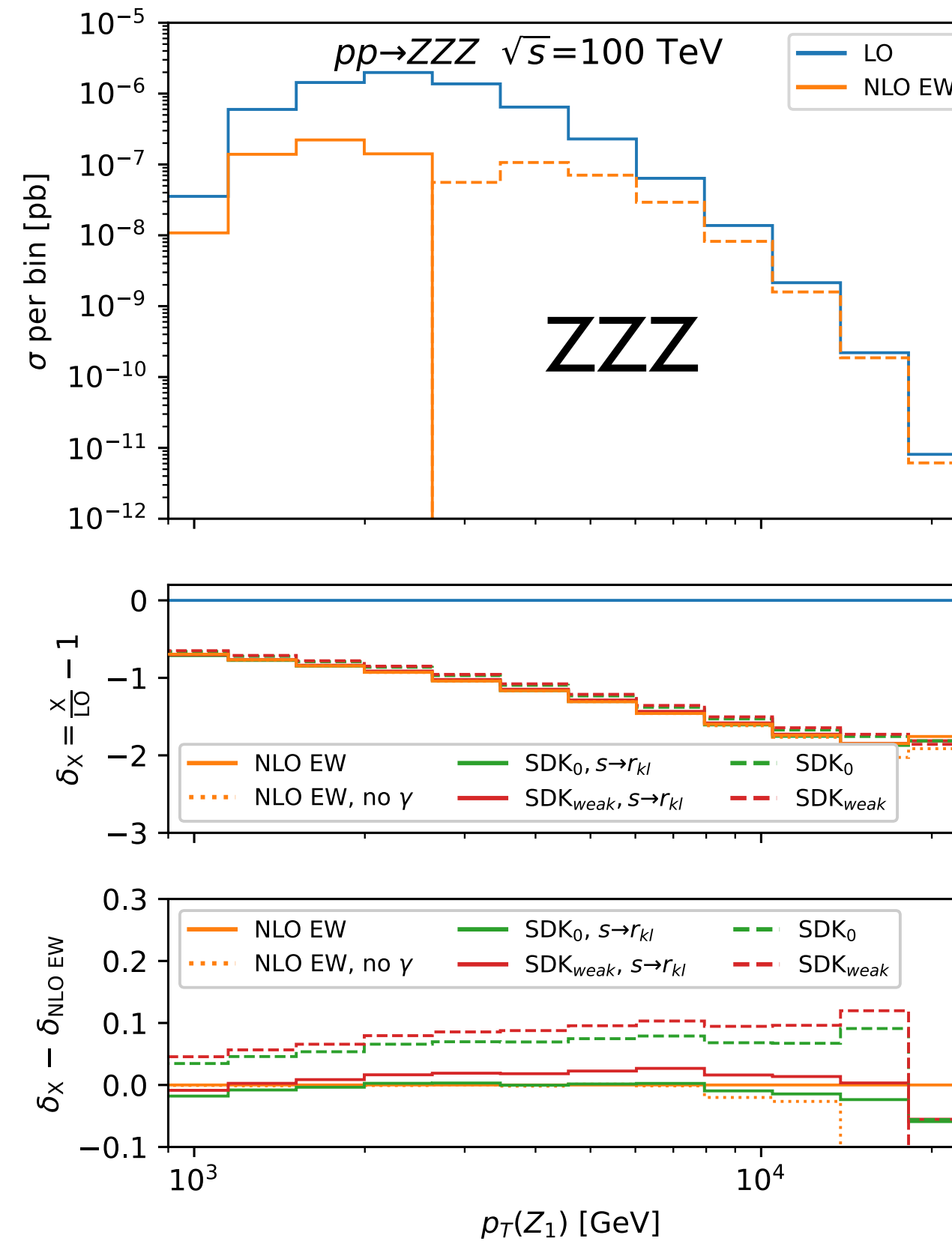
Sherpa

[Bothmann, Napoletano, '20]



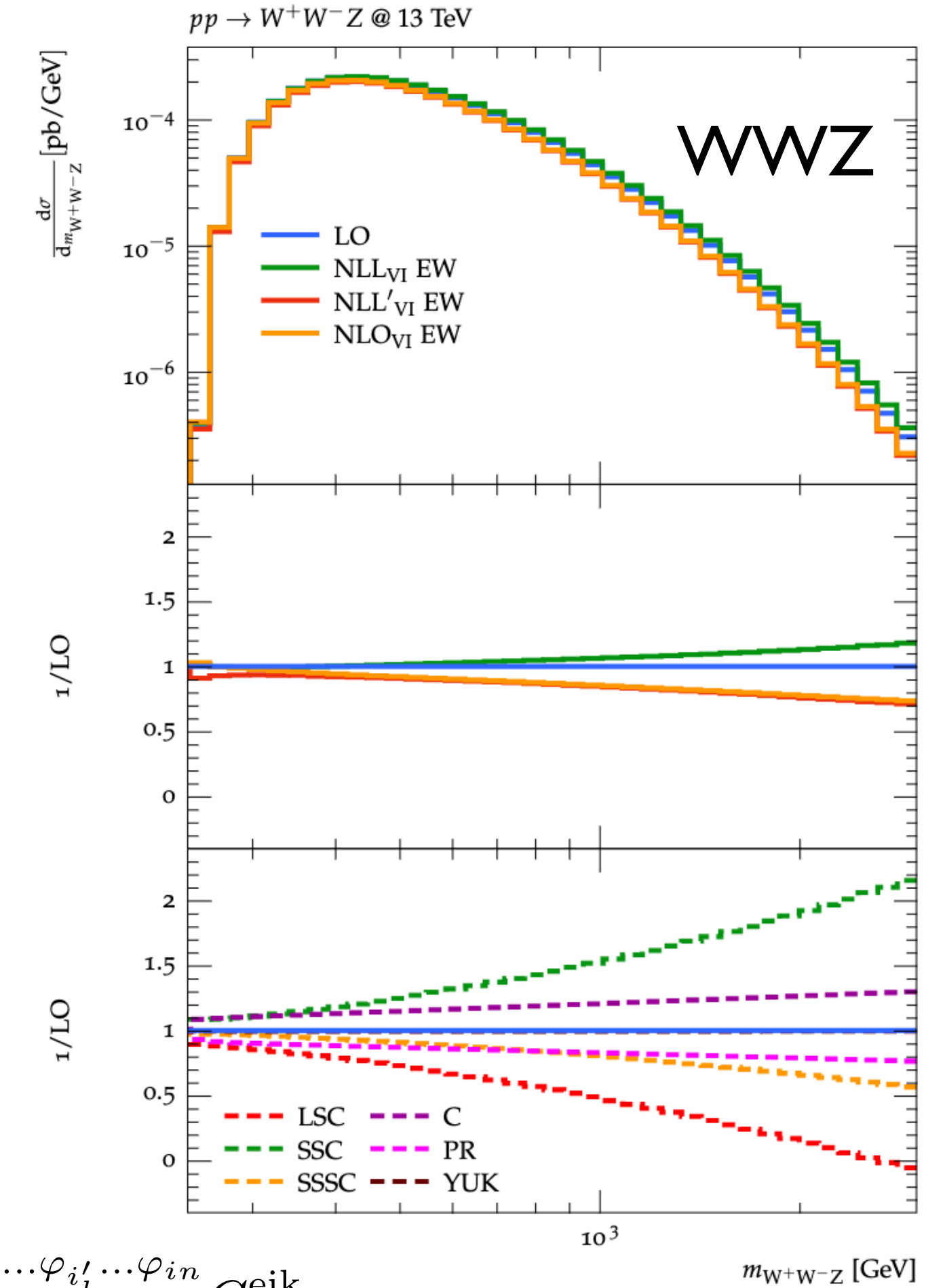
MadGraph5_aMC@NLO

[Pagani, Zaro, '21]

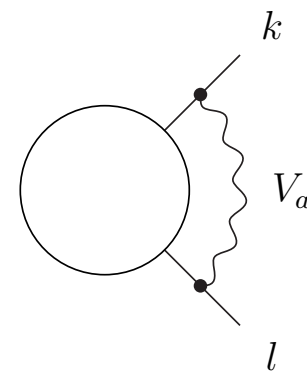


OpenLoops

[JML, Mai, '23]



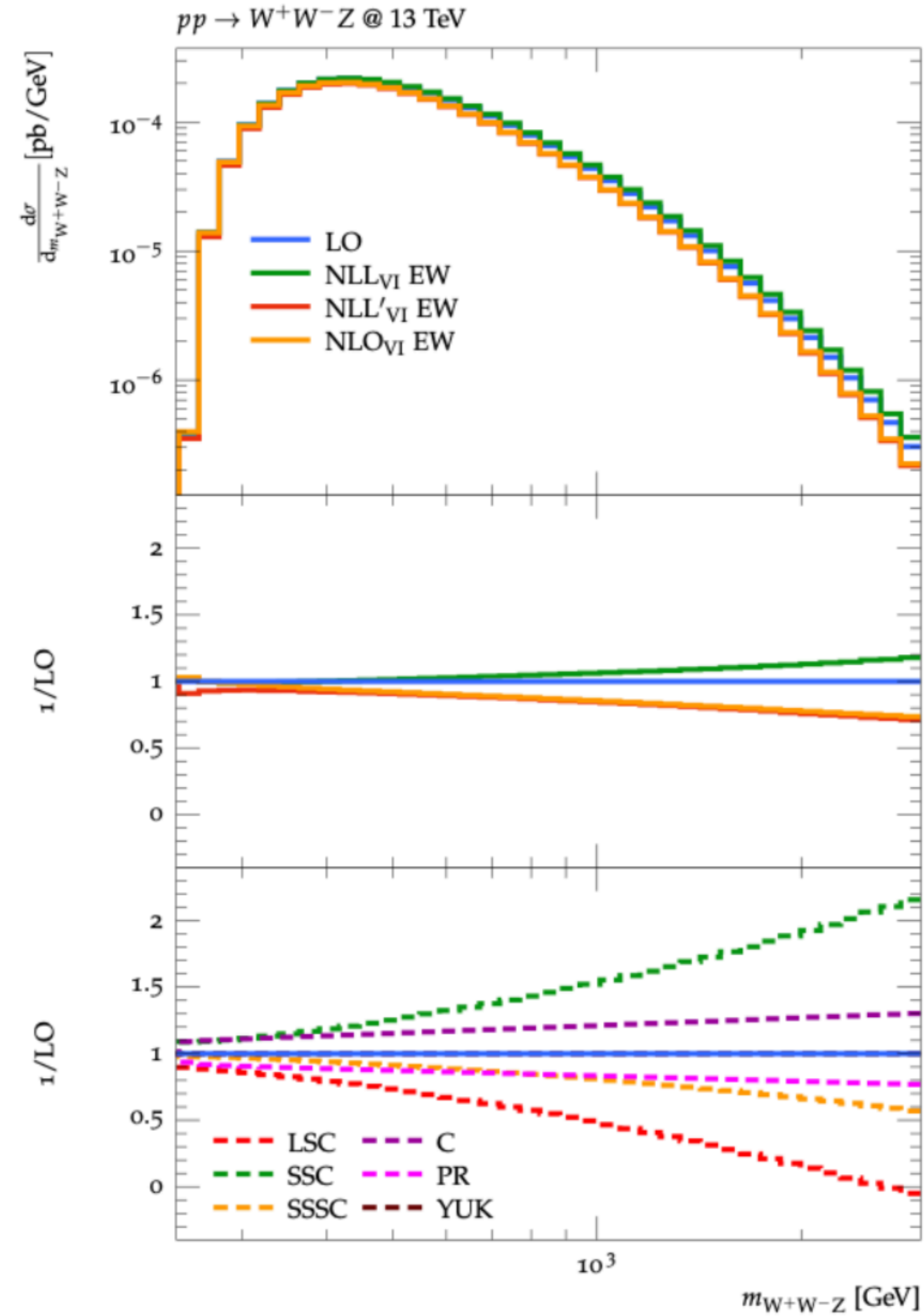
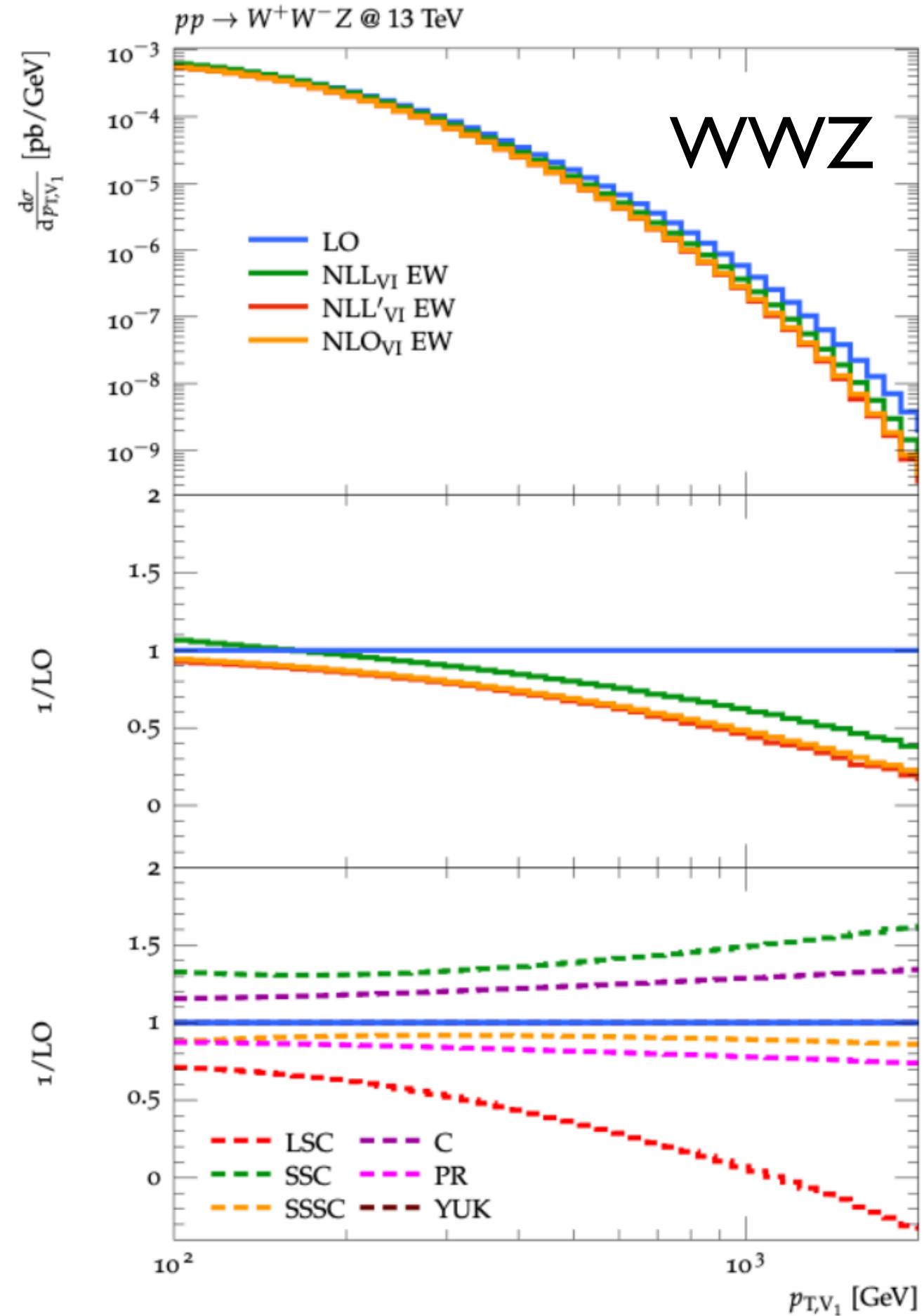
- all based on [Denner, Pozzorini, '00, '01]



$$\delta_{kl}^{DL} \mathcal{M}^{\varphi_{i_1} \dots \varphi_{i_n}} \stackrel{LA}{=} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \sum_{\varphi_{i'_k}, \varphi_{i'_l}} I_{\varphi_{i'_k} \varphi_{i_k}}^V I_{\varphi_{i'_l} \varphi_{i_l}}^{\bar{V}} \mathcal{M}_0^{\varphi_{i_1} \dots \varphi_{i'_k} \dots \varphi_{i'_l} \dots \varphi_{i_n}} C_0^{eik}$$

$$C_0^{eik} \equiv \frac{1}{(p_k + p_l)^2} \left[\log^2 \frac{|r_{kl}|}{M_V^2} - 2i\pi \Theta(r_{kl}) \log \frac{|r_{kl}|}{M_V^2} \right]$$

EW Sudakov corrections



$$1. \delta_{kl}^{\text{DL}} \mathcal{M}^{\varphi_{i_1} \dots \varphi_{i_n}} \stackrel{\text{LA}}{\equiv} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \sum_{\varphi_{i'_k}, \varphi_{i'_l}} I_{\varphi_{i'_k} \varphi_{i_k}}^V I_{\varphi_{i'_l} \varphi_{i_l}}^{\bar{V}} \mathcal{M}_0^{\varphi_{i_1} \dots \varphi_{i'_k} \dots \varphi_{i'_l} \dots \varphi_{i_n}} C_0^{\text{eik}}$$

$$C_0^{\text{eik}} \equiv \frac{1}{(p_k + p_l)^2} \left[\log^2 \frac{|r_{kl}|}{M_V^2} - 2i\pi \Theta(r_{kl}) \log \frac{|r_{kl}|}{M_V^2} \right]$$

$$\log^2 \left(\frac{|r_{jk}|}{m_V^2} \right) = \underbrace{\log^2 \left(\frac{s}{m_V^2} \right)}_{\propto l^{\text{LSC}, V}} + 2 \underbrace{\log \left(\frac{s}{m_V^2} \right)}_{\propto l^{\text{SL}, V}} \underbrace{\log \left(\frac{|r_{jk}|}{s} \right)}_{\propto l^{\text{SSC}}} + \underbrace{\log^2 \left(\frac{|r_{jk}|}{s} \right)}_{\propto l^{\text{S-SSC}}}$$

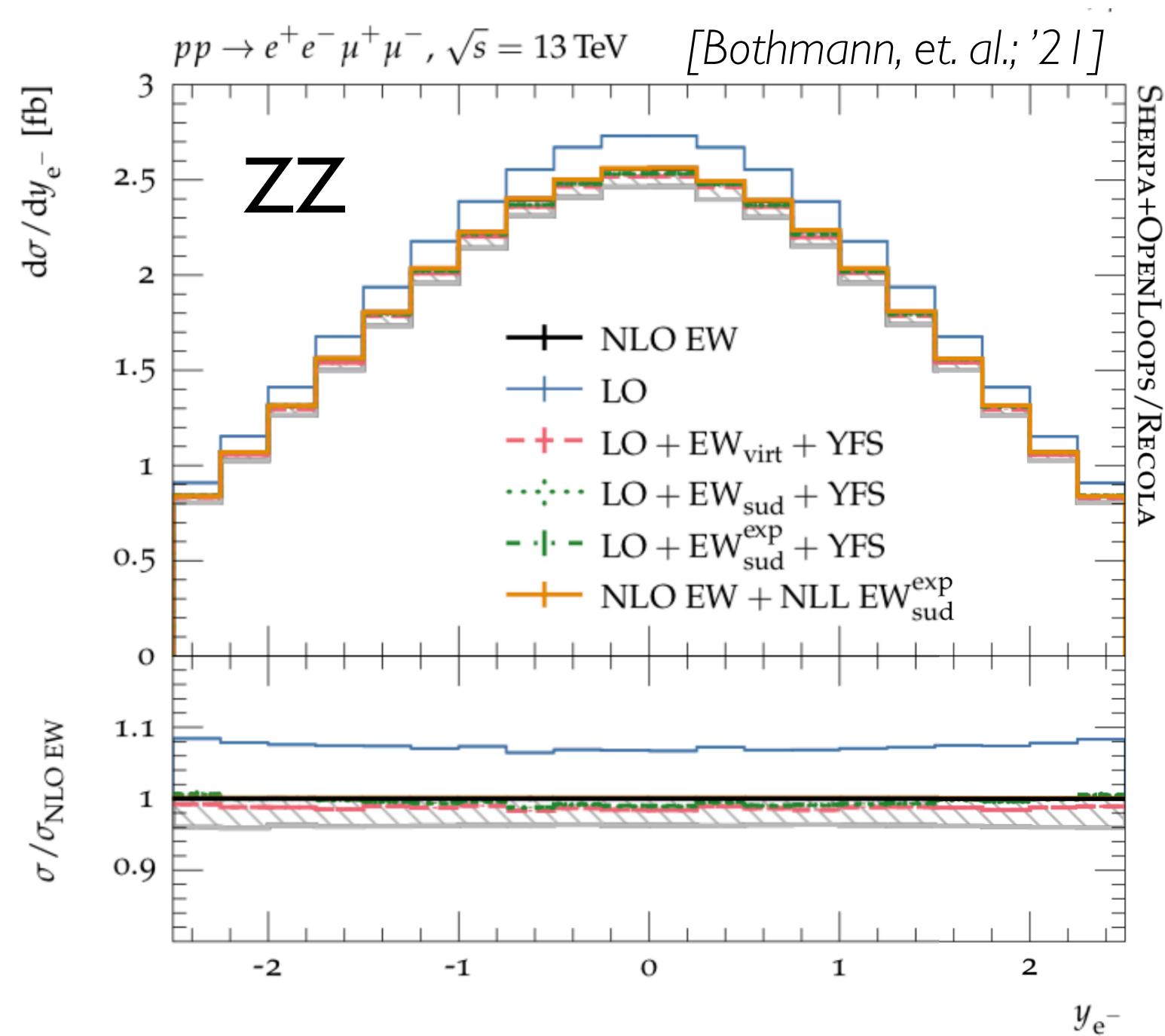
$$2. \hat{\delta}^{\text{SL}} = \hat{\delta}^{\text{PR}} + \hat{\delta}^{\text{COLL}} + \hat{\delta}^{\text{WFRC}}$$

- Sizeable cancellations between different logarithmic contributions.
- Only partial control of angular-dependent S-SSC contribution in Sudakov approximation

EW uncertainties: hard-coefficient

Scheme variations

e.g. $\{G_\mu, m_W, m_Z\}$ vs. $\{\alpha(m_Z), m_W, m_Z\}$



However: scheme variations mix perturbative and parametric uncertainties!

Estimate hard coefficient

Typical size of hard EW corrections: $\sim 2\%$

$$\left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right) \delta_{\text{hard}}^{(1)} = 2\% \leftrightarrow \delta_{\text{hard}}^{(1)} = 10$$

Require: $\delta_{\text{hard}}^{(2)} \leq 100 \delta_{\text{hard}}^{(1)}$

$$\Delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{hard}} = 1000 \times \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^2 = 0.6\%$$

EW uncertainties: QED radiation

NLOPS EW needs to be **resonance-aware**: [Jezo, Nason, '15]

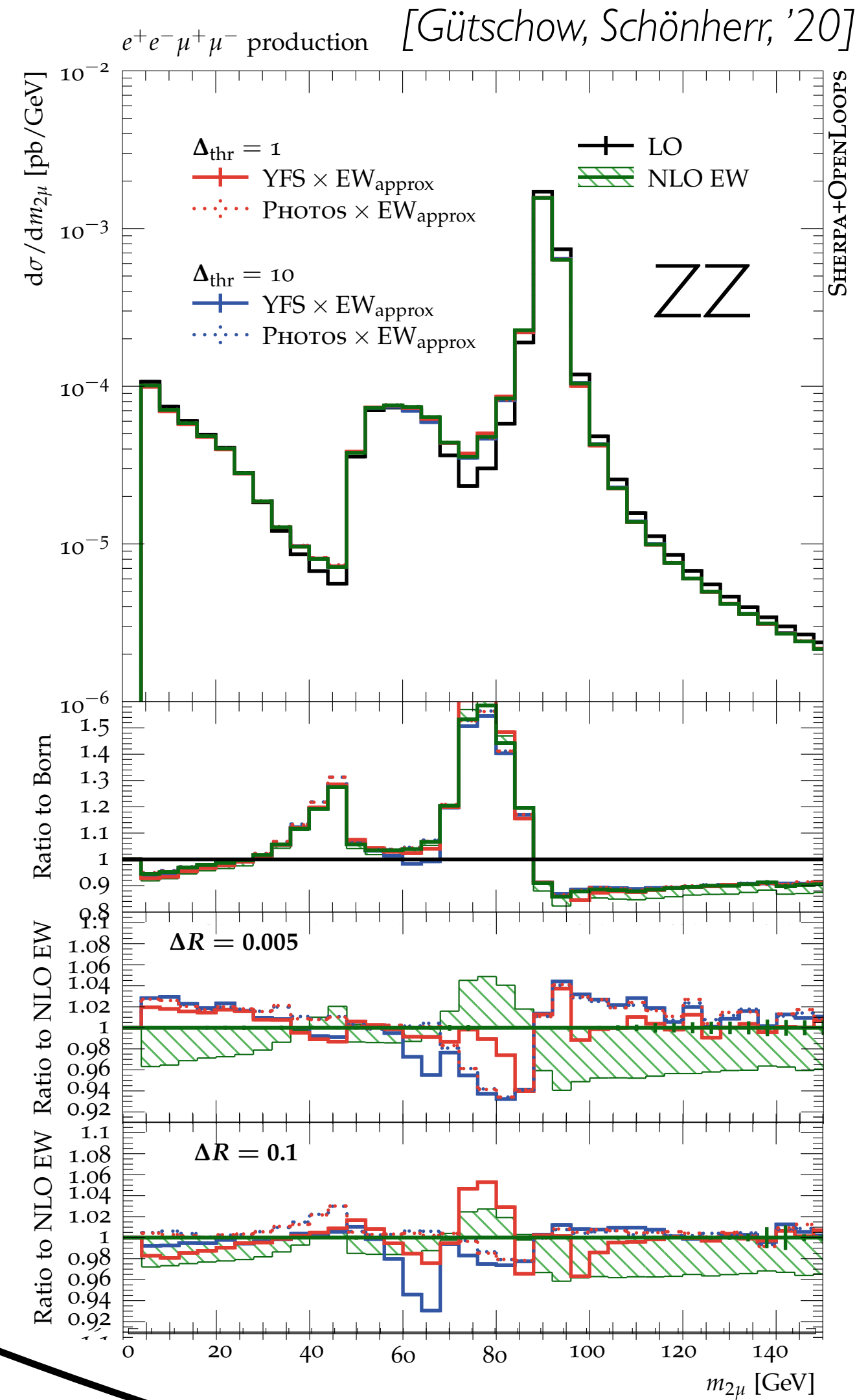
Conservative estimate of higher-order QED radiation:

NLO EW

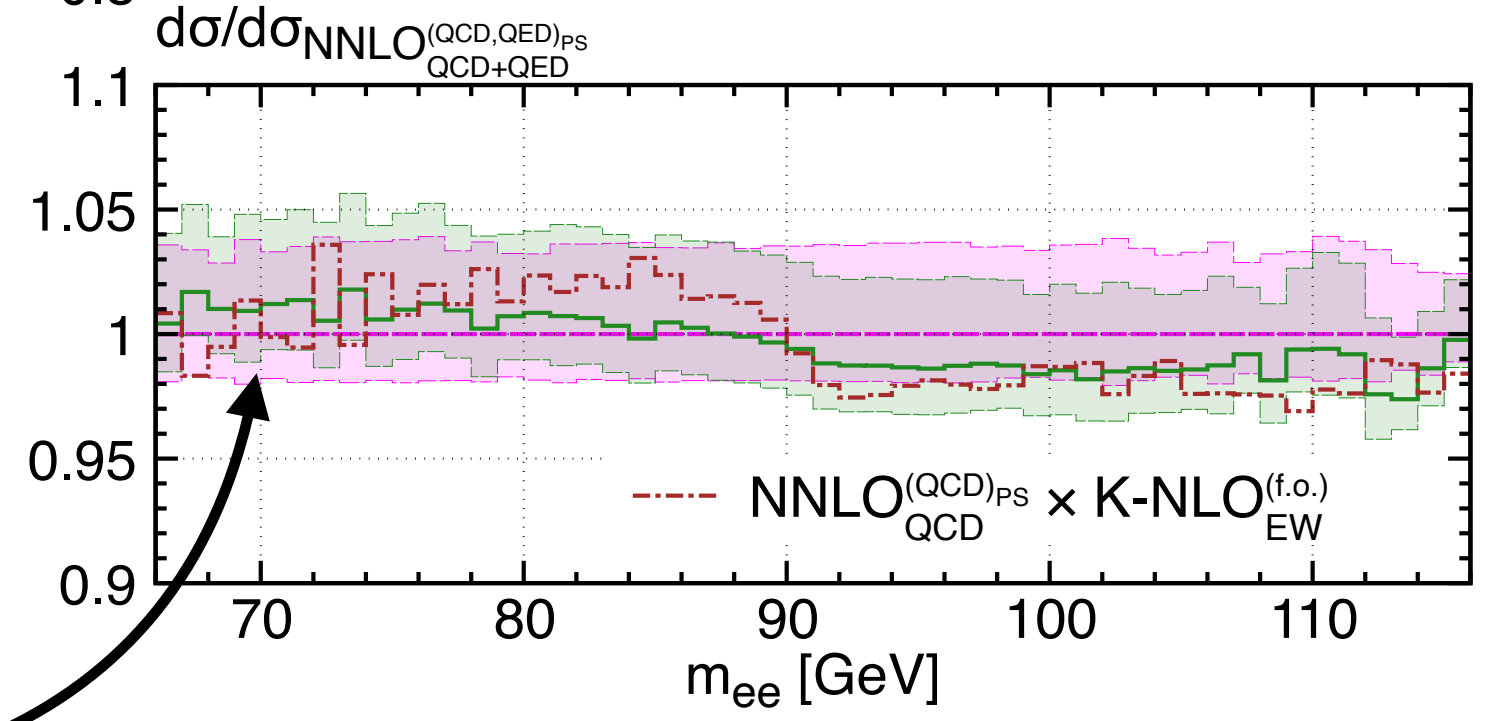
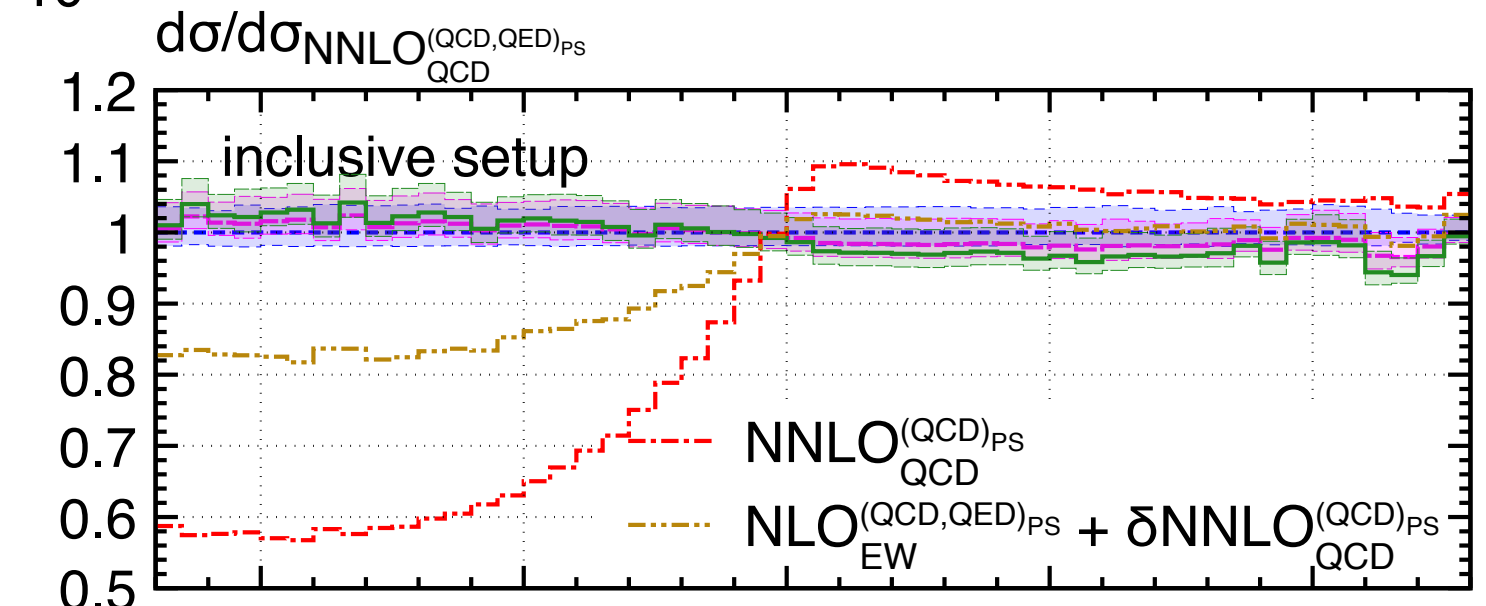
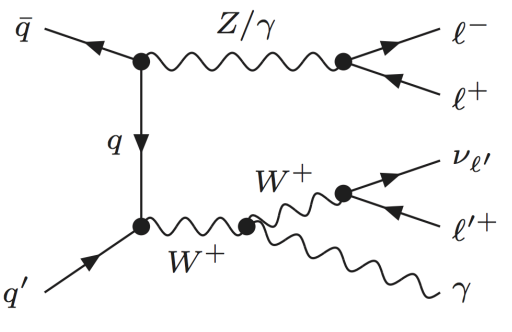
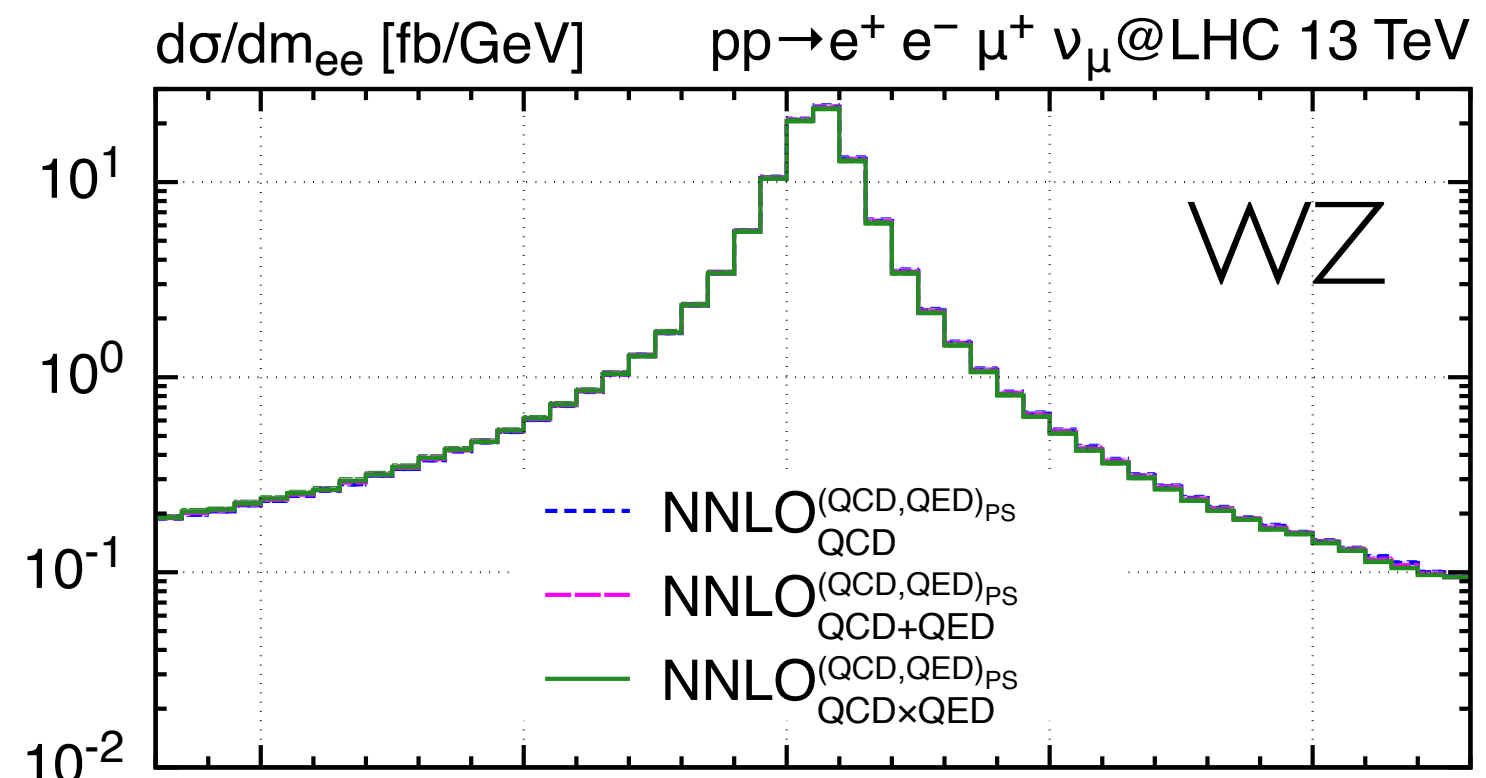
vs.

multi-photon radiation (YFS)
or QED-PS

$$\Delta_{EW}^{QED} = |\delta_{EW} - \delta_{EW+PS/YFS}|$$



[JML, Lombardi, Wiesemann, Zanderighi, Zanolini, '22]



Mixed QCD-EW uncertainties

Bold estimate:

Consider real $\mathcal{O}(\alpha\alpha_s)$ correction to X production \simeq NLO EW to $X+1$ jets

and we often observe

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma_{\text{NLO EW}}}{d\sigma_{\text{LO}}} \right|_{X+\text{jet}} - \left. \frac{d\sigma_{\text{NLO EW}}}{d\sigma_{\text{LO}}} \right|_X \simeq 1\%$$

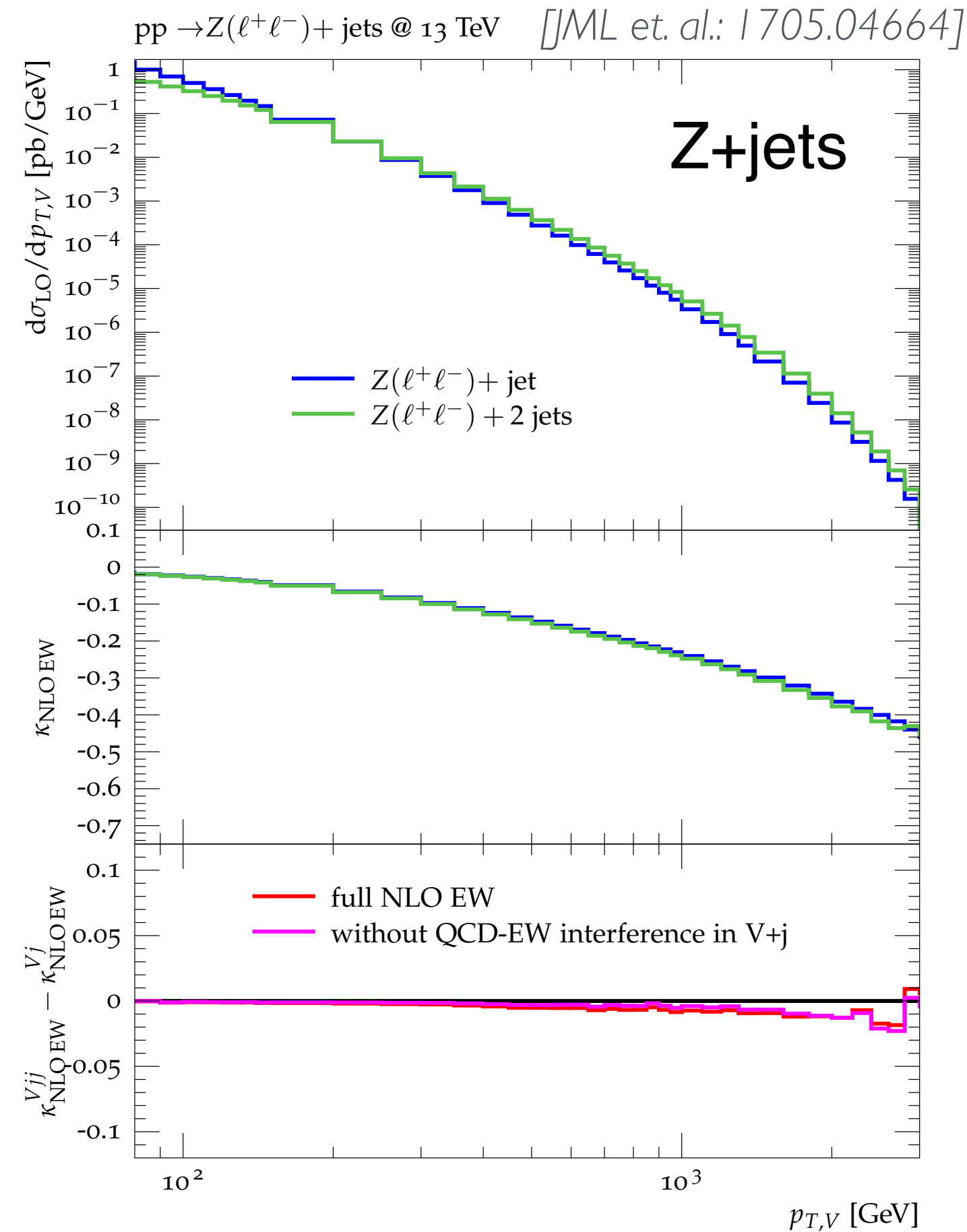
In these cases strong support for

- factorisation
- multiplicative QCD \times EW combination
- Consider only such non-factorising effects as uncertainty!?

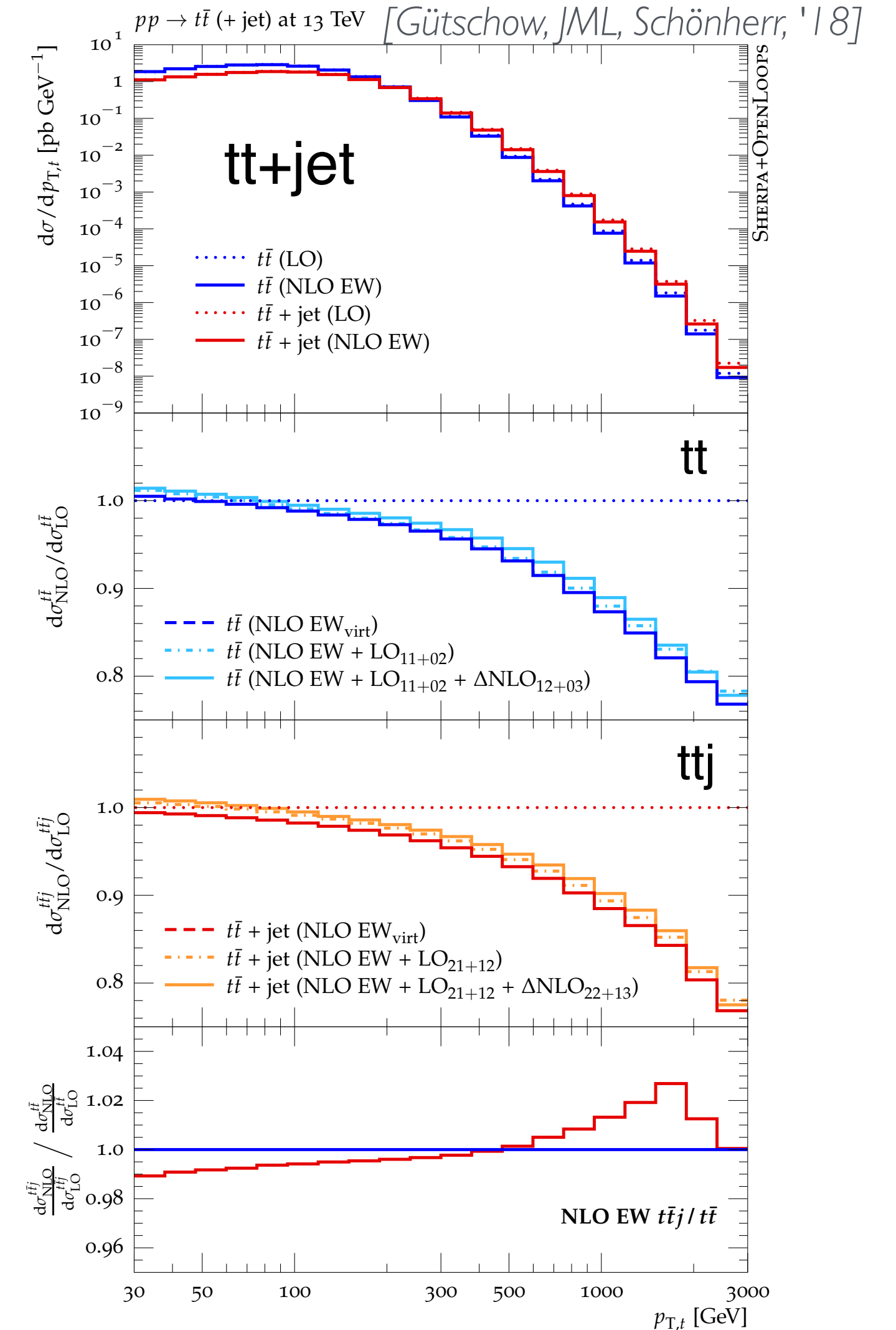
$$d\sigma_{\text{NNLO QCD} \times \text{EW}} = d\sigma_{\text{LO}} (1 + \delta_{\text{QCD}}) (1 + \delta_{\text{EW}})$$

$$\text{alternative: } \delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{NLL}} = \delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{DL}} + \delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{SL}} + \delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{non-log}}$$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\alpha_S \alpha) = d\sigma_{\text{LO}} \delta_{\text{QCD}} (\delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{SL}} + \delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{non-log}}) \rightarrow \Delta_{\text{QCD-EW}} = \delta_{\text{QCD}} (\delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{SL}} + \delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{hard}})$$



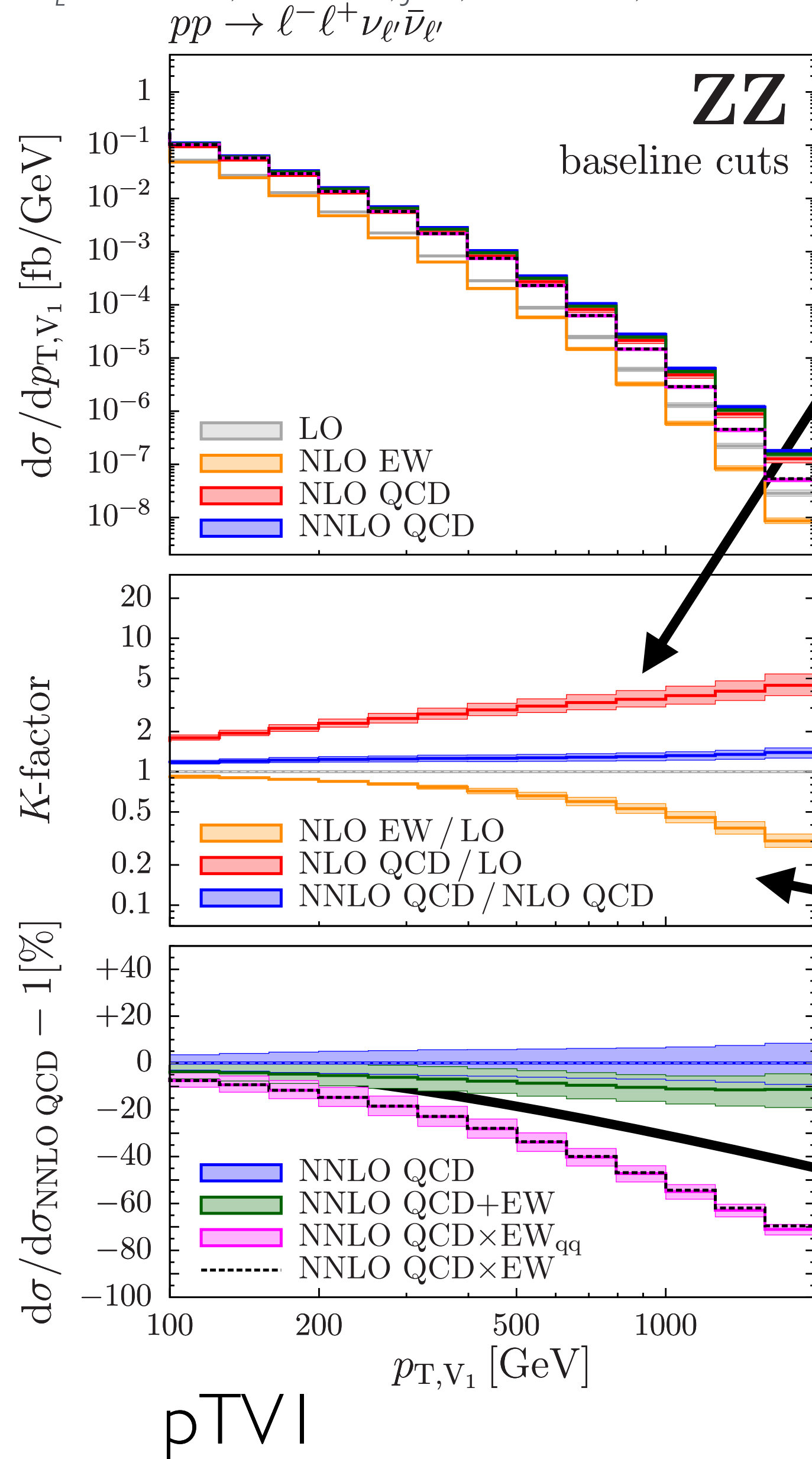
$p_{T,j,2} > 30$ GeV



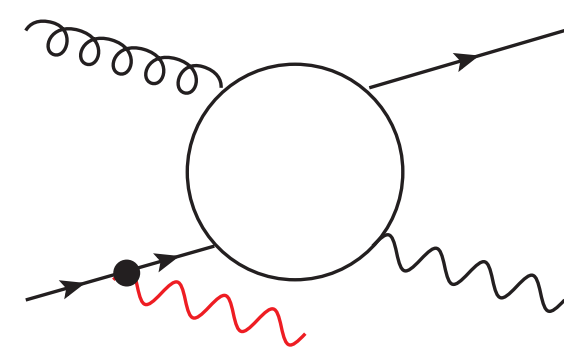
$p_{T,j} > 30$ GeV

Mixed QCD-EW uncertainties

[M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, JML, S. Pozzorini, M. Wiesemann; '19]



- NLO QCD/LO=2-5! (“giant K-factor”)
- at large p_{TVI} : 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

Used in many ATLAS modern multi-purpose samples:
V+jets, VV+jets, tt+jets

WW(+jet): [Bräuer, Denner, Pellen, Schönherr, Schumann; '20]

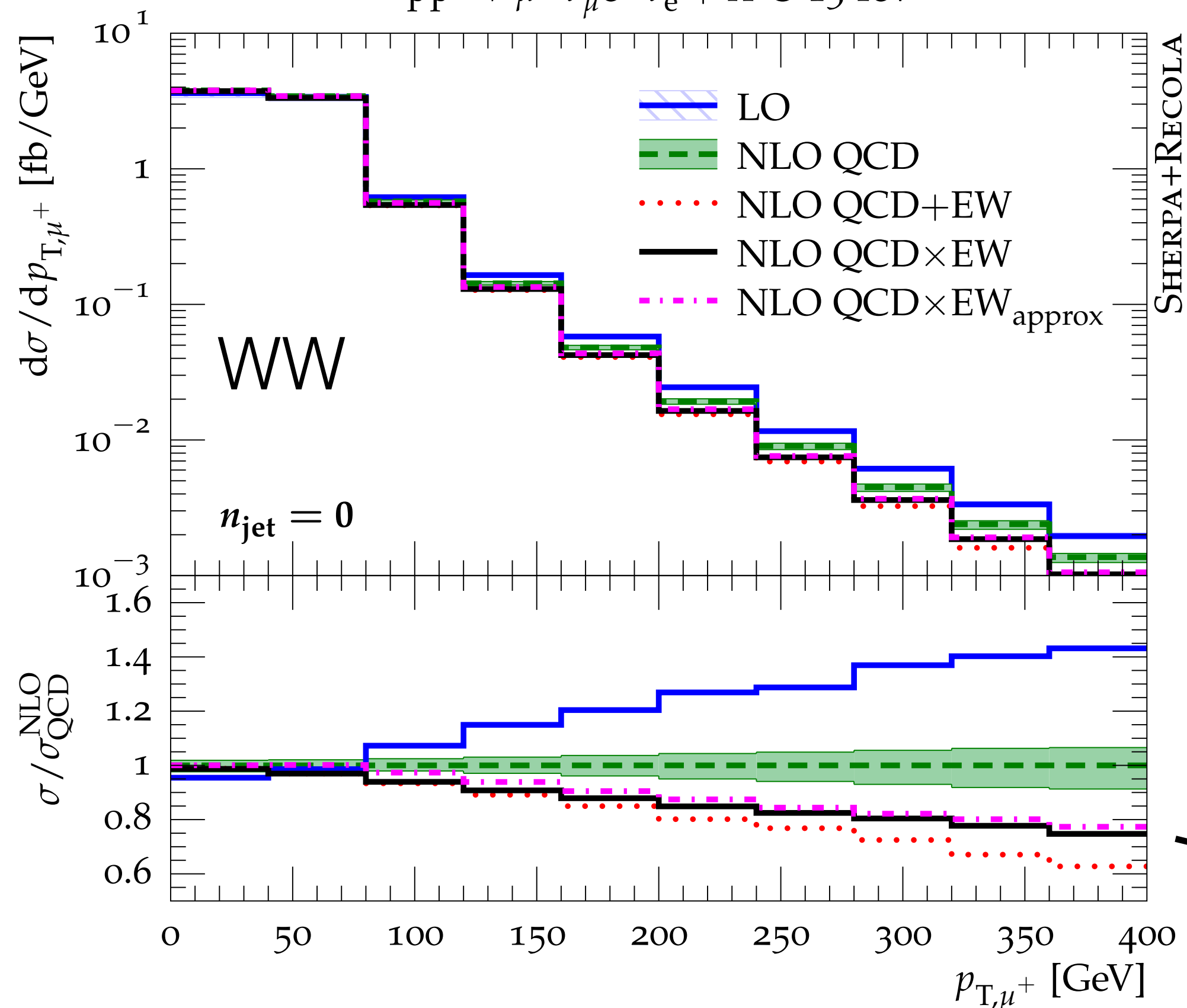
ZZ(+jet): [Bothmann, Napoletano, Schönherr, Schumann, Villani; '21]

[Kallweit, JML, et. al.; '15]

- More rigorous solution: merge VVj incl. approx. EW corrections with VV with Sherpa's MEPS@NLO QCD + EWvirt

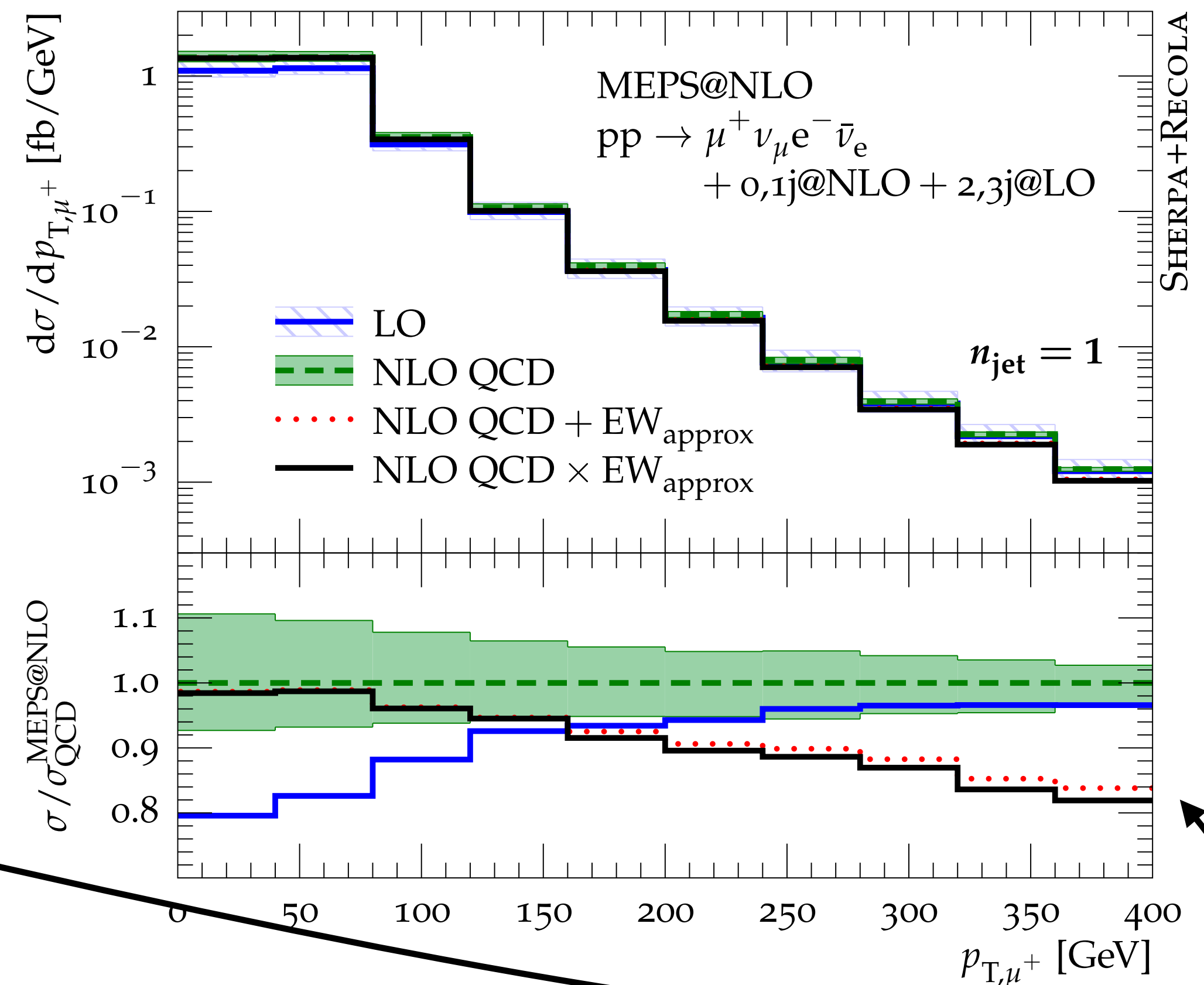
FO

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



MEPS@NLO QCD + EWvirt

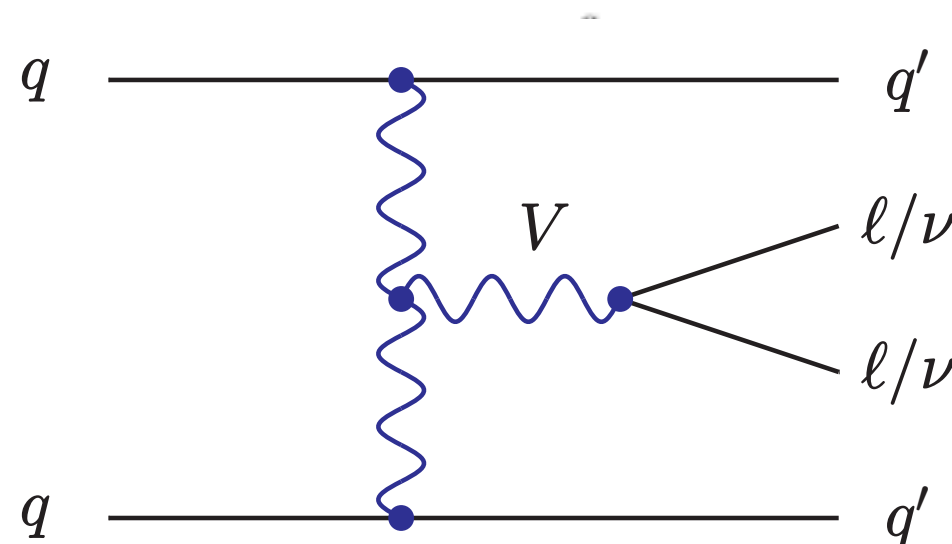
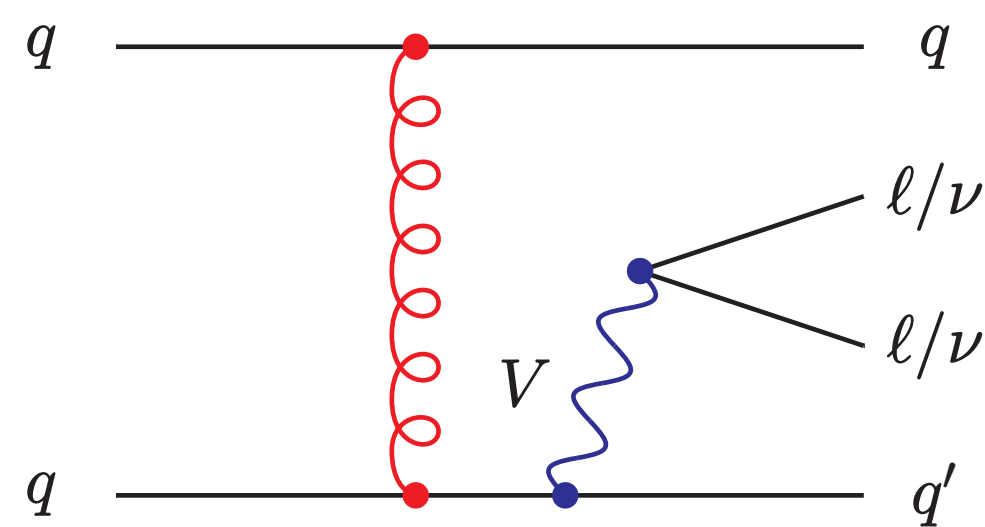
$pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu e^- \bar{\nu}_e + \text{jets} @ 13 \text{ TeV}$



Perturbative expansion: tower of contributions

- For processes with at least 4-quarks there is a tower of LO(NLO) contributions.
- E.g.: multijets, $t\bar{t} + X$, V +jets (VBF-V), VV +jets (VBS-VV),

V+2 jets:



$$d\sigma = d\sigma(\alpha_S^2 \alpha^2) + d\sigma(\alpha_S \alpha^3) + d\sigma(\alpha^4) + \dots$$

LO

QCD-mode $\xrightarrow{\mathcal{O}(\alpha_S)}$ interference $\xrightarrow{\mathcal{O}(\alpha)}$ VBF-mode

$$\dots + d\sigma(\alpha_S^3 \alpha^2) + d\sigma(\alpha_S^2 \alpha^3) + d\sigma(\alpha \alpha^4) + \sigma(\alpha^5)$$

NLO

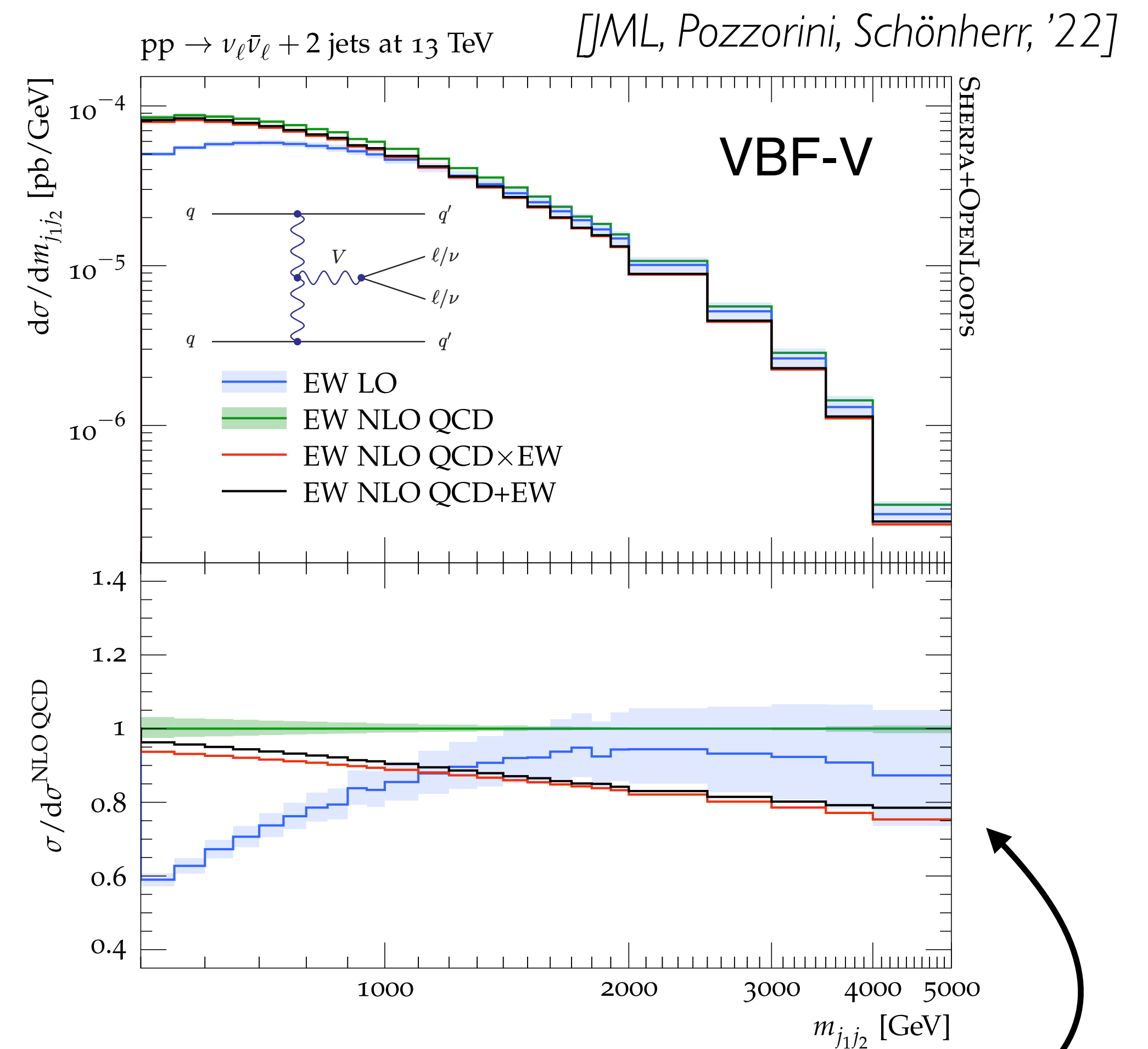
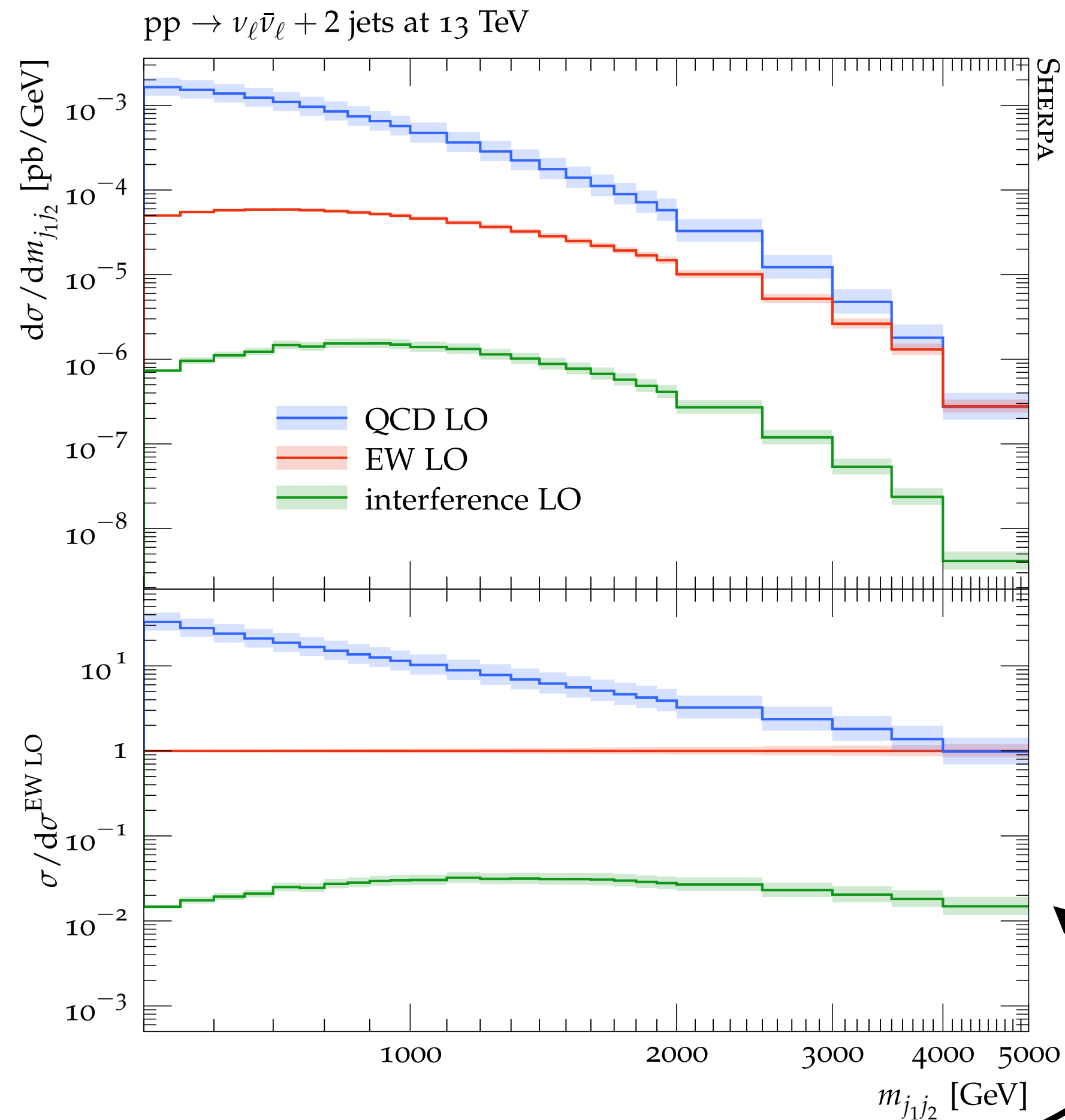
“NLO QCD”

“NLO EW”

“NLO QCD”

“NLO EW”

VBF-V @ NLO QCD + EW



- If LO interference is small: possible to consider QCD and EW production modes as independent and factorise QCD and EW corrections to the respective processes
- Otherwise, still factorise but consider QCD+EW combination as nominal (and QCD \times EW as uncertainty)

Conclusions

- ▶ Multiboson tails are becoming precision probes with often $< \sim 10\%$ uncertainties
- ▶ **EW** uncertainties:
 - Higher-order Sudakov corrections: $\Delta_{EW}^{Sud} = \left(\delta_{Sud}^{(1)}\right)^2$
 - Higher-order hard corrections: $\Delta_{EW}^{hard} \approx 1\%$
 - Higher-order QED radiation: $\Delta_{EW}^{QED} = |\delta_{EW} - \delta_{EW+PS/YFS}|$
- ▶ **QCD-EW** uncertainties:
 - Conservative: difference between add. and multipl. combination: $\Delta_{QCD-EW} = \delta_{QCD} \delta_{EW}$
 - More aggressive: $\Delta_{QCD-EW} = \delta_{QCD} (\delta_{EW}^{SL} + \delta_{EW}^{hard})$ (applicable when $\delta_{EW} \sim \delta_{EW}^{DL}$)
 - For processes subject to significant QCD radiation: $\Delta_{QCD-EW}^{multi-jet\ merged} = \delta_{QCD} \delta_{EW}$
 - X+j @ NLO **EW** proxy computations might allow for estimate of non-factorising effects
 - Factorisation feasible for processes with small interferences of tower of born orders
- ▶ Necessary tools are available:
 - NLO **EW** in MG5_aMC@NLO / Sherpa / POWHEG
 - NLL **EW** in Sherpa / MG5_aMC@NLO / OpenLoops
 - NLOPS **EW** in POWHEG / MEPS NLO **EW** + YFS in Sherpa

- ▶ Plan for recommendation document from WG3 agreed amongst different theorists
- ▶ See also:
 - *Electroweak Radiative Corrections for Collider Physics* (Denner & Dittmaier): [1912.06823](#)
 - [Les Houches 2023: 2406.00708](#)

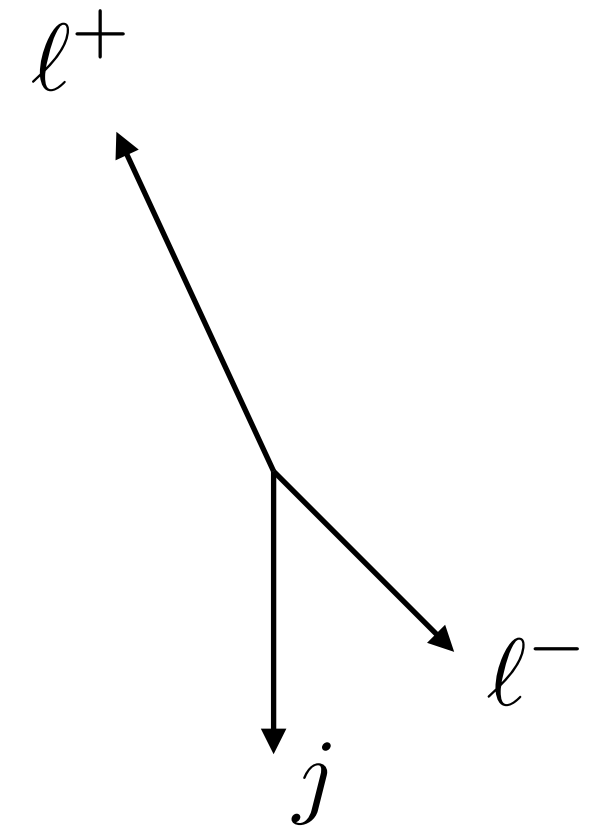
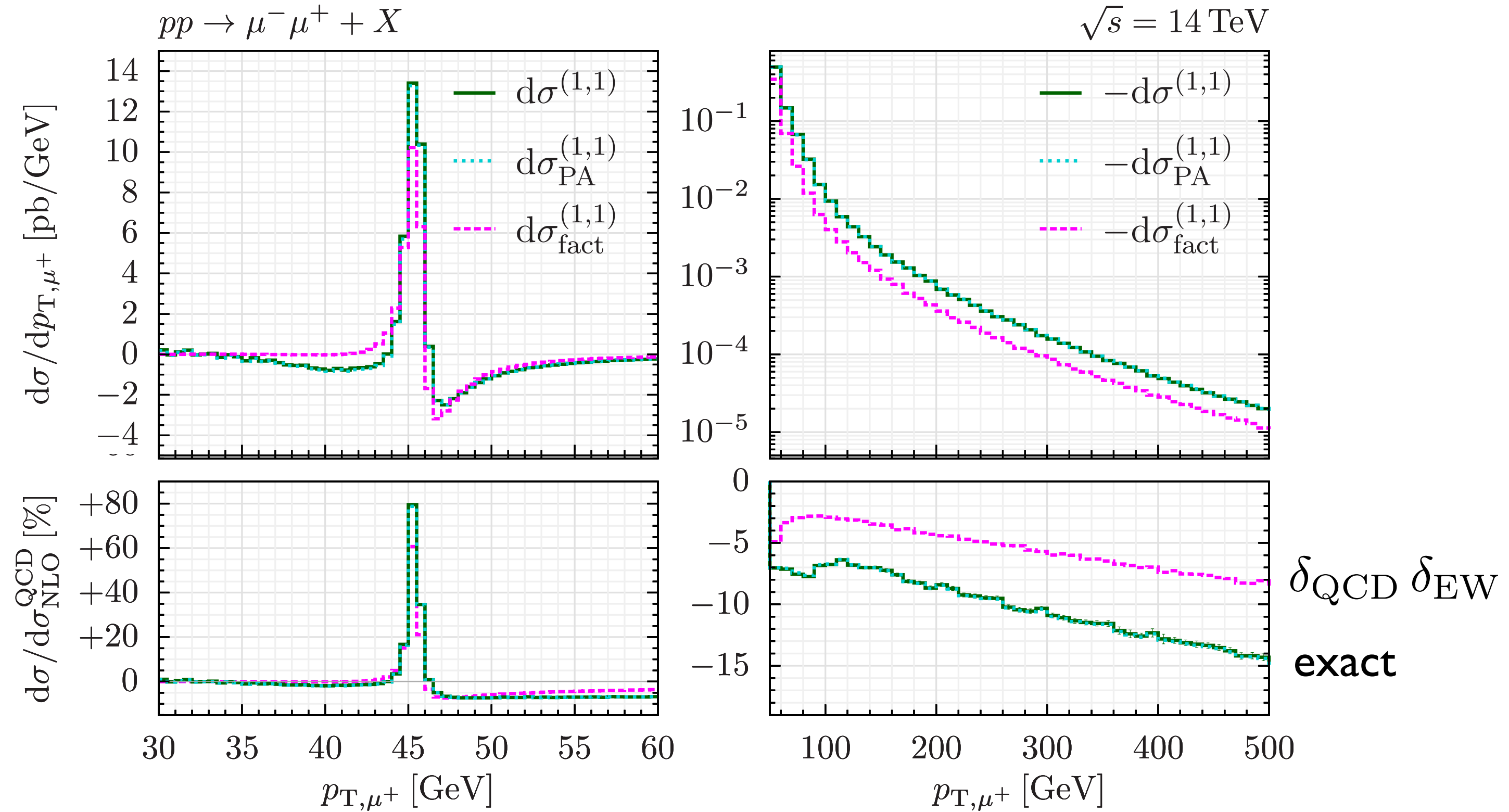
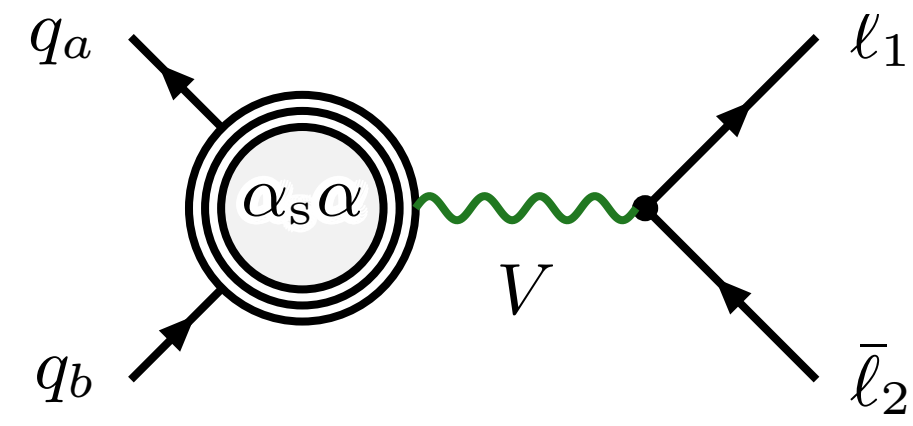
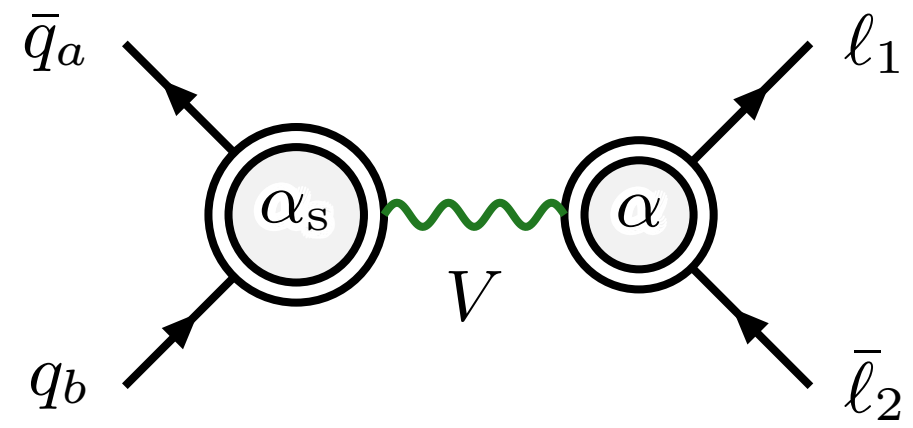
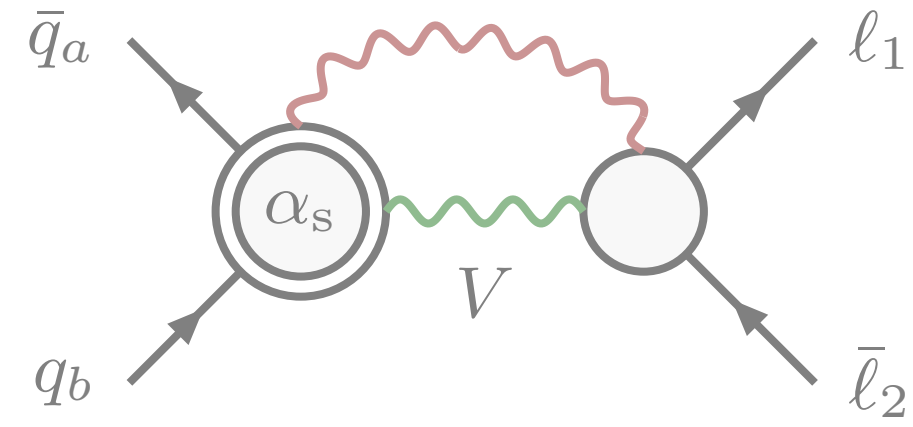
Backup

Exact mixed QCD-EW for DY

[Buccioni, Caola, Delto, Jaquier, Melnikov, Röntschi, '20]

[Behring, Buccioni, Caola, et. al. '20]

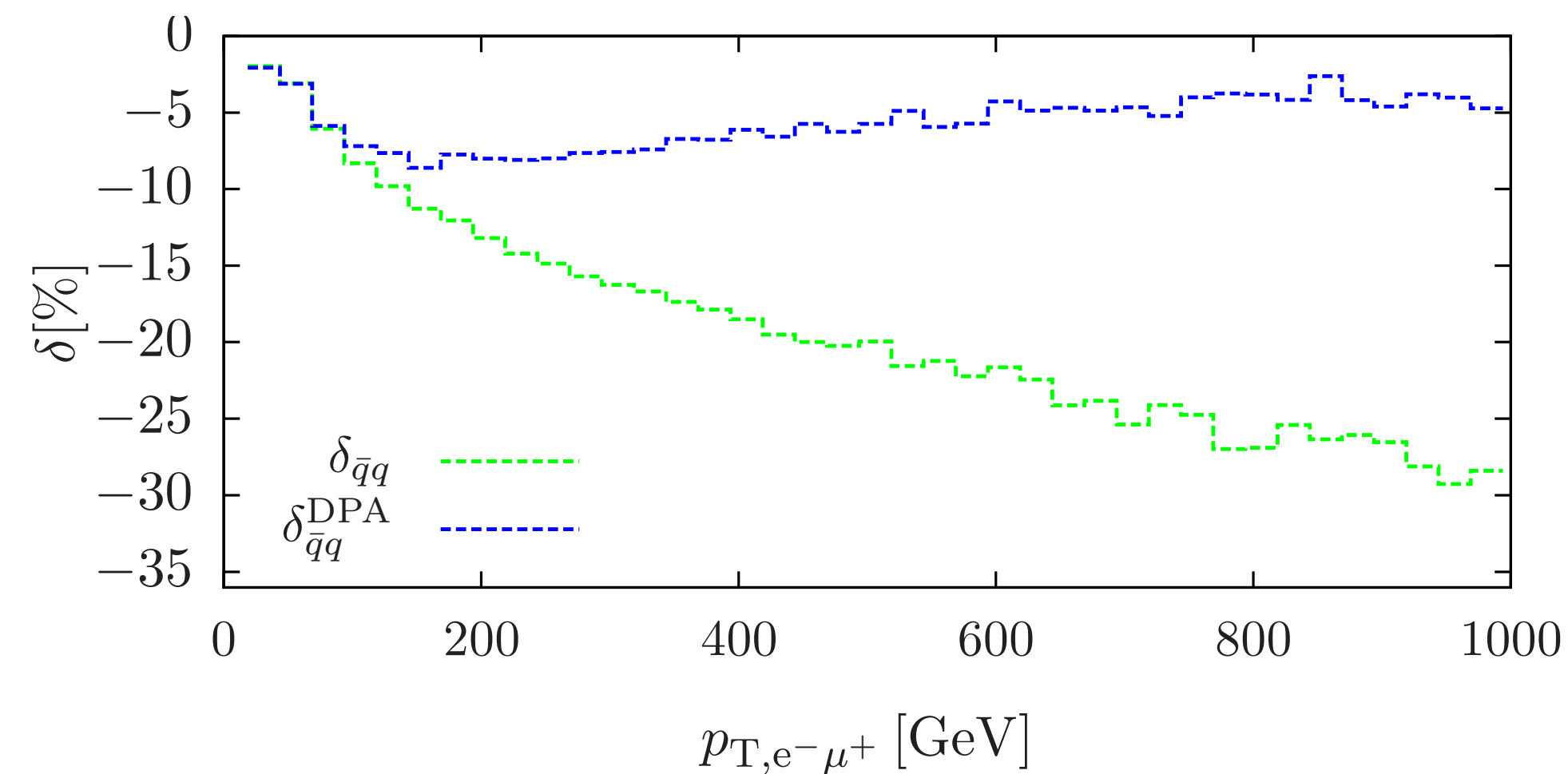
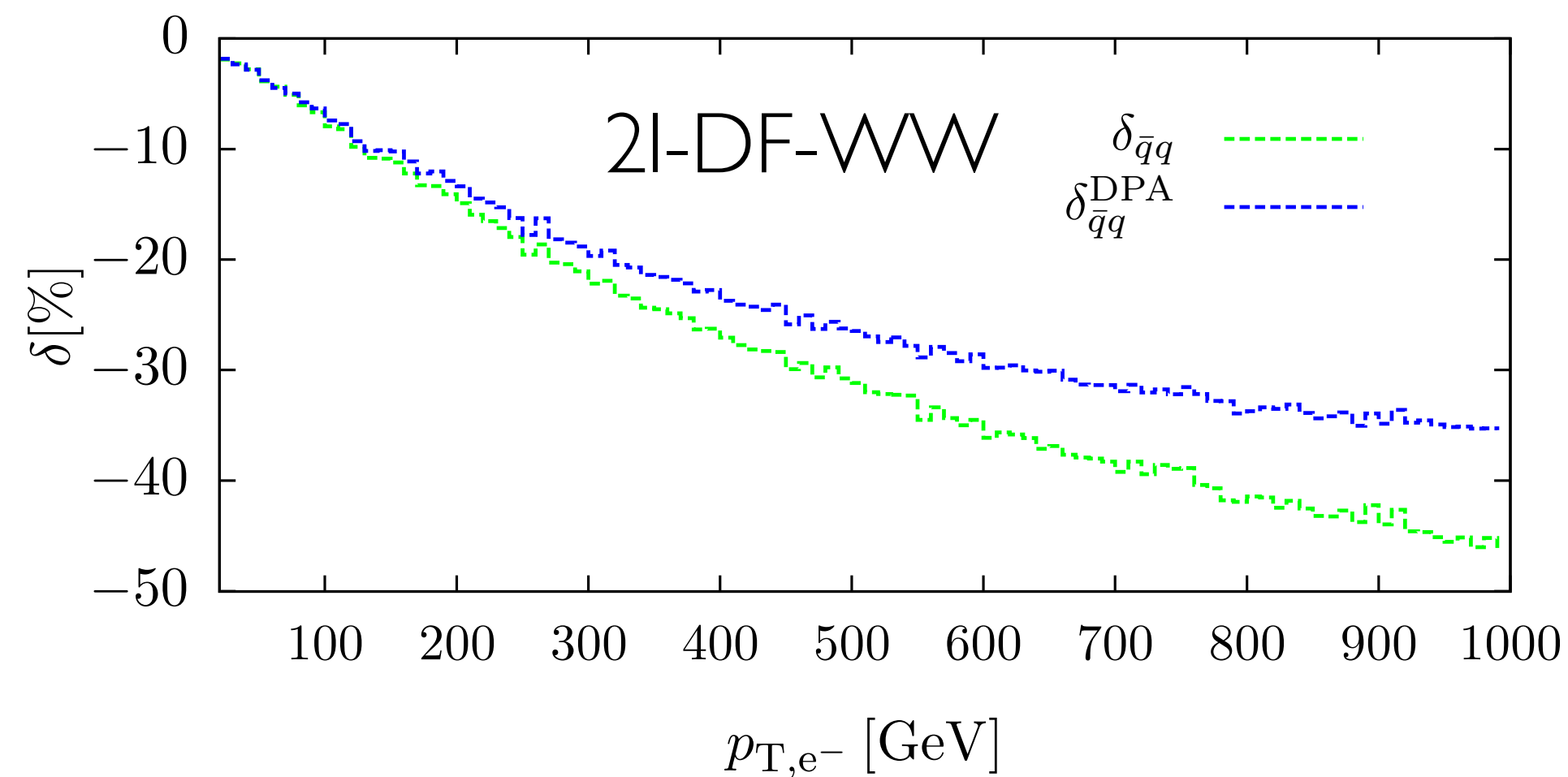
[Bonciani, Buonocore, Grazzini, Kallweit et. al. 2 x '21]



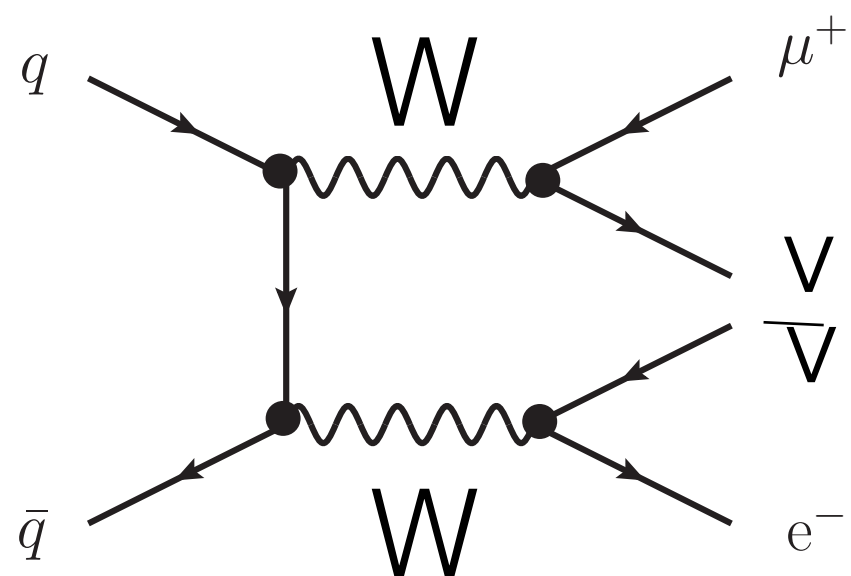
- ▶ pole approximation vs. full computation: agree below the percent level
- ▶ Comparison against naive factorised NLO QCD \times NLO EW ansatz: fail at the 5-10% level
- ▶ At large p_{T,μ^+} in DY: sizeable contributions from $pp \rightarrow Vj$ which receives larger EW corrections

The need for off-shell computations: VV

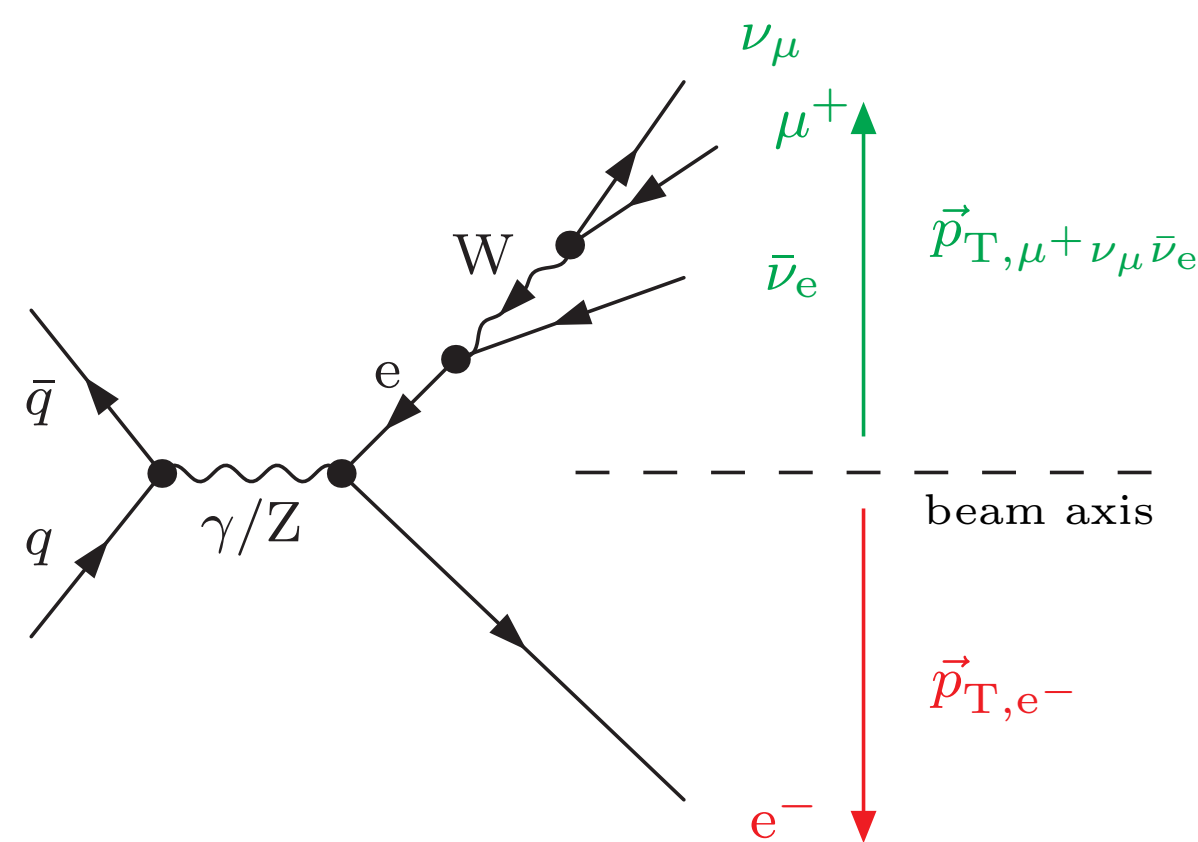
[Biedermann, M. Billoni, A. Denner, S. Dittmaier, L. Hofer, B. Jäger, L. Salfelder ;'16]



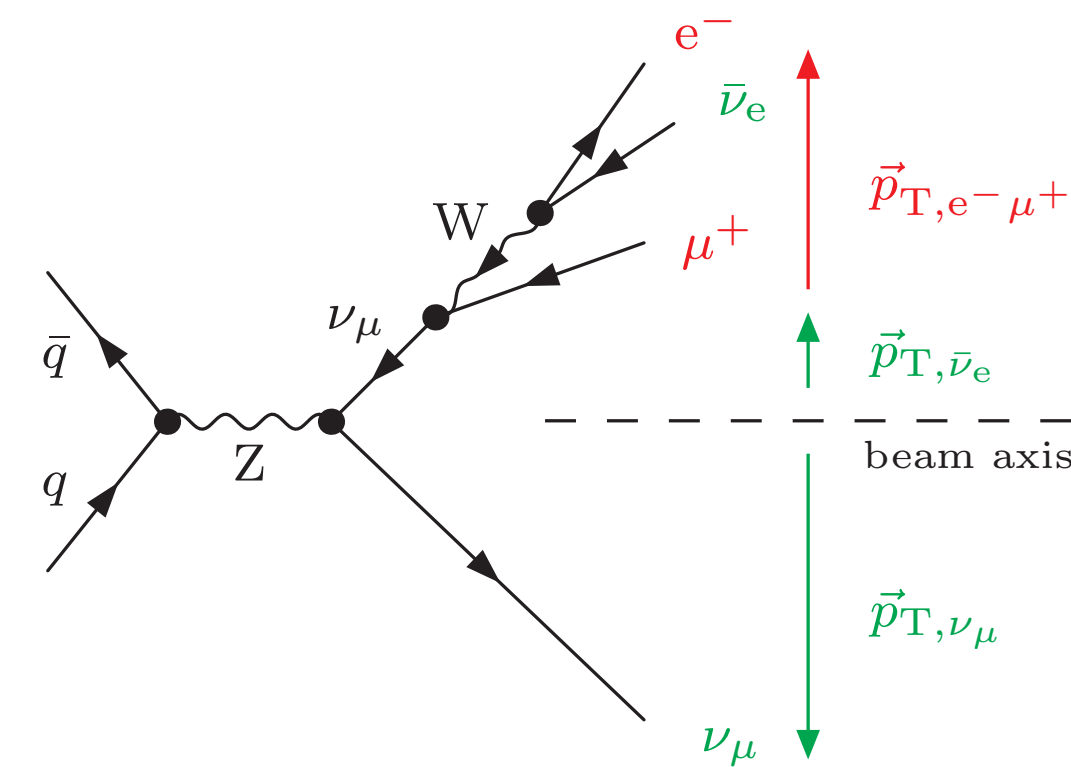
$$pp \rightarrow V(\rightarrow l\bar{l})V'(\rightarrow l'\bar{l}')$$



VS.



$$pp \rightarrow l\bar{l}l'\bar{l}'$$



➡ sizeable differences in fully off-shell vs. double-pole approximation in tails

Perturbative expansion

aMC@NLO, Sherpa, Herwig... & Recola, Madloop, Gosam, OpenLoops

dedicated MC's: Matrix, MCFM, NNLOjet, ...

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

scale variation at NNLO

scheme variation, e.g. Gmu vs. a(mZ)

NLO QCD + EW
vs.
NLO QCD x EW

in case of EW Sudakov dominance: exponentiation

Combination of QCD and EW corrections

- full calculations of $\mathcal{O}(\alpha\alpha_s)$ out of reach
- Approximate combination: MEPS@NLO including (approximate) EW corrections
- key: QCD radiation receives EW corrections!
- strategy: modify MC@NLO B-function to include NLO EW virtual corrections and integrated approx. real corrections = VI

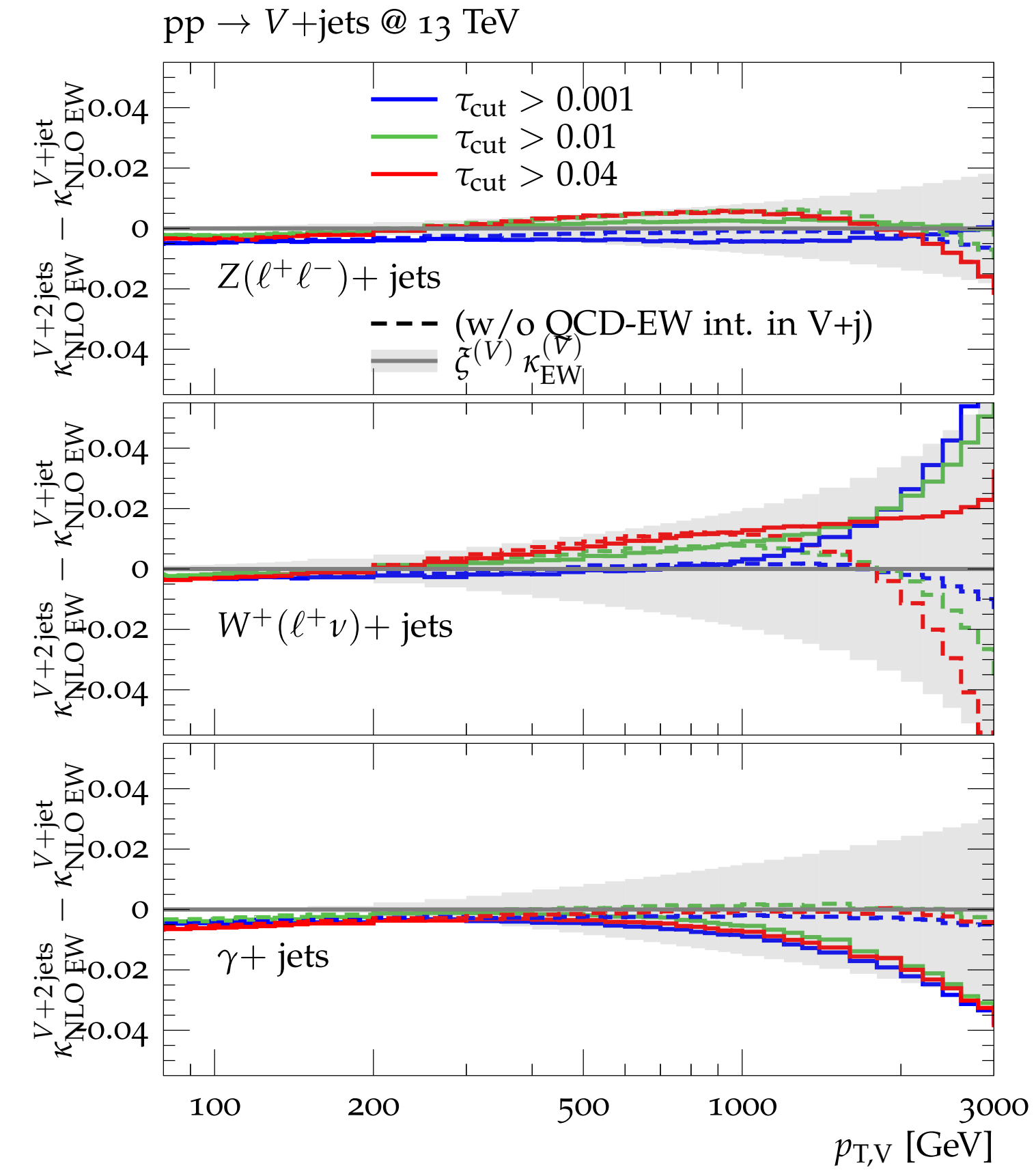
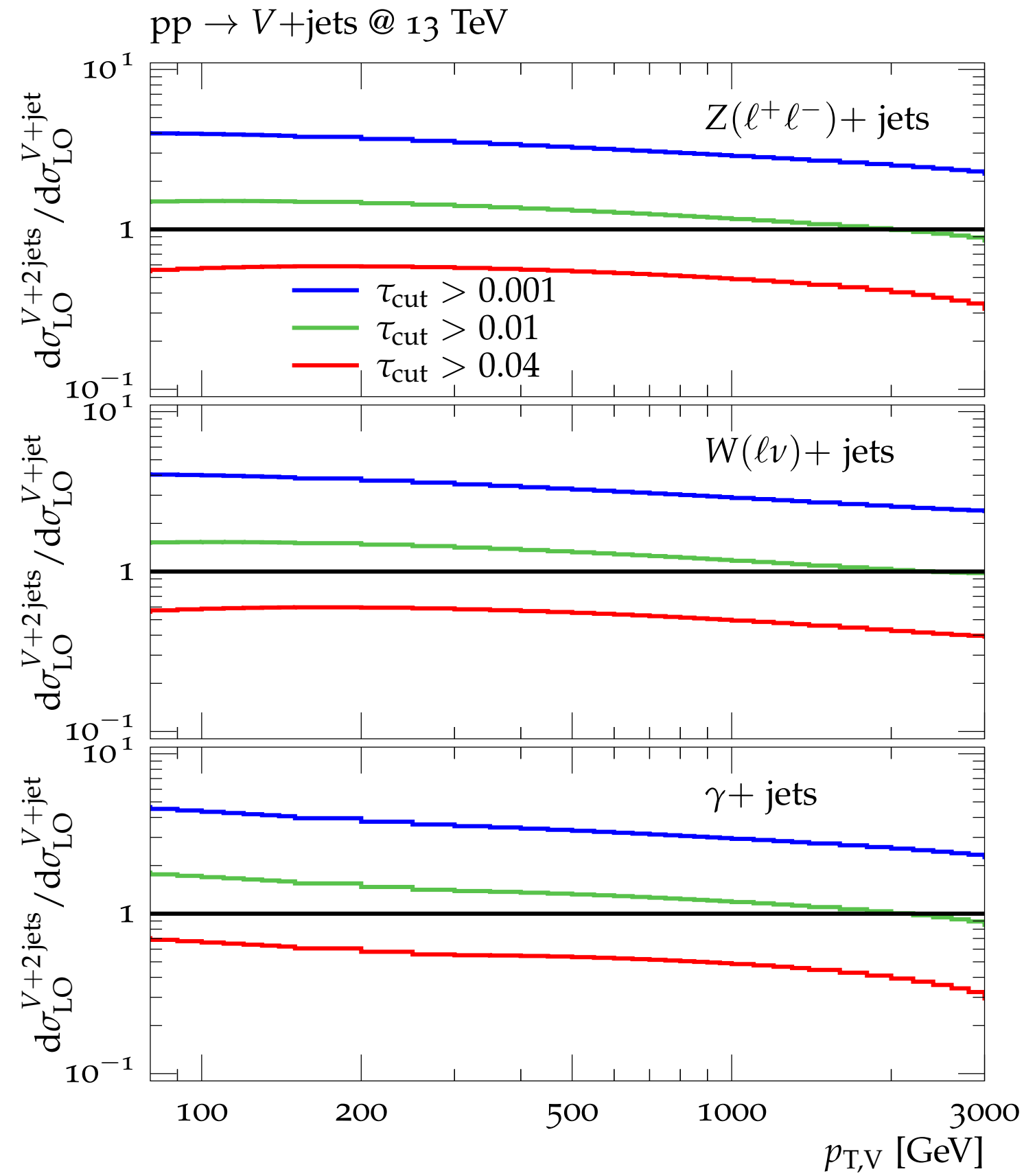
$$\bar{B}_{n,\text{QCD}+\text{EW}_{\text{virt}}}(\Phi_n) = \bar{B}_{n,\text{QCD}}(\Phi_n) + V_{n,\text{EW}}(\Phi_n) + I_{n,\text{EW}}(\Phi_n)$$

exact virtual contribution

approximate integrated real contribution

Mixed QCD-EW uncertainties

Estimate of non-factorising contributions



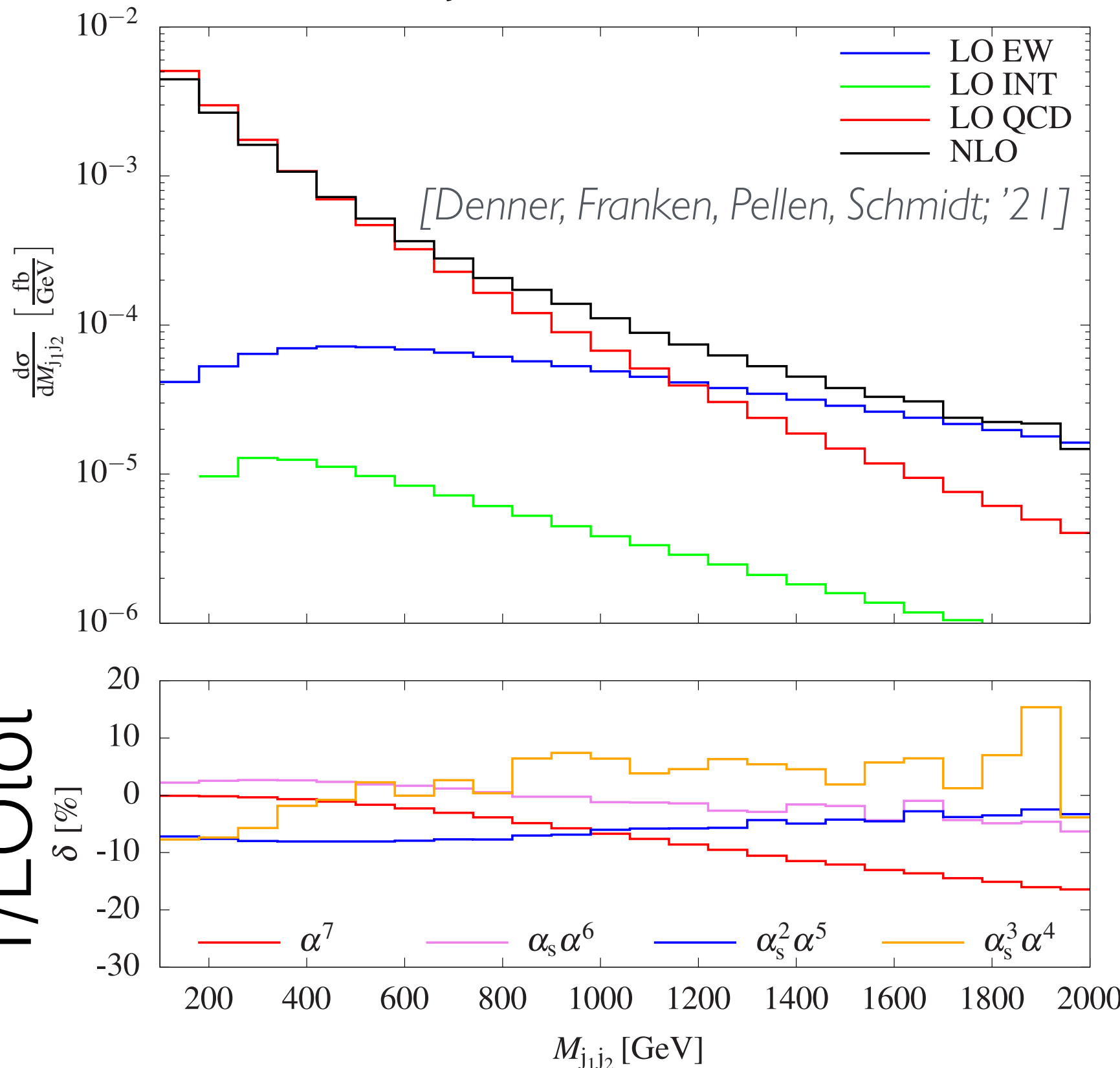
N-jettiness cut ensures approx. constant ratio
V+2jets/V+jet

$$\tau_1 = \sum_k \min_i \left\{ \frac{2p_i \cdot q_k}{Q_i \sqrt{\hat{s}}} \right\}$$

VBS @ NLO QCD + EW

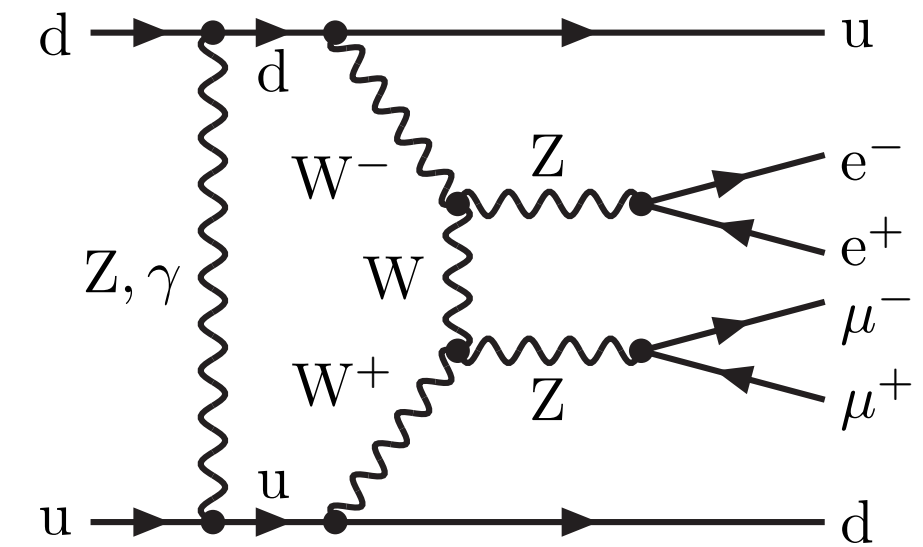
- QCD and EW **ss-WWjj** at NLO **QCD+EW**: [Biedermann, Denner, Pellen '16+'17]
- EW **WZjj** at NLO **QCD+EW**: [Denner, Dittmaier, Maierhöfer, Pellen, Schwan, '19]
- QCD and EW **ZZjj** at NLO **QCD+EW**: [Denner, Franken, Pellen, Schmidt, '20+'21]
- EW **WWjj** at NLO **QCD+EW**: [Denner, Franken, Schmidt, Schwan, '22]

EW ZZ+2jets @ NLO QCD + EW



- 2 → 6 particles at NLO EW !

Order	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^6) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^7)$	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^6) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^6)$	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^6) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^7) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^6)$
$M_{j_1j_2} > 500 \text{ GeV}$			
$\sigma_{\text{NLO}} [\text{fb}]$	0.06069(4)	0.07375(25)	0.06077(25)
$\delta [\%]$	-17.6	0.1	-17.5

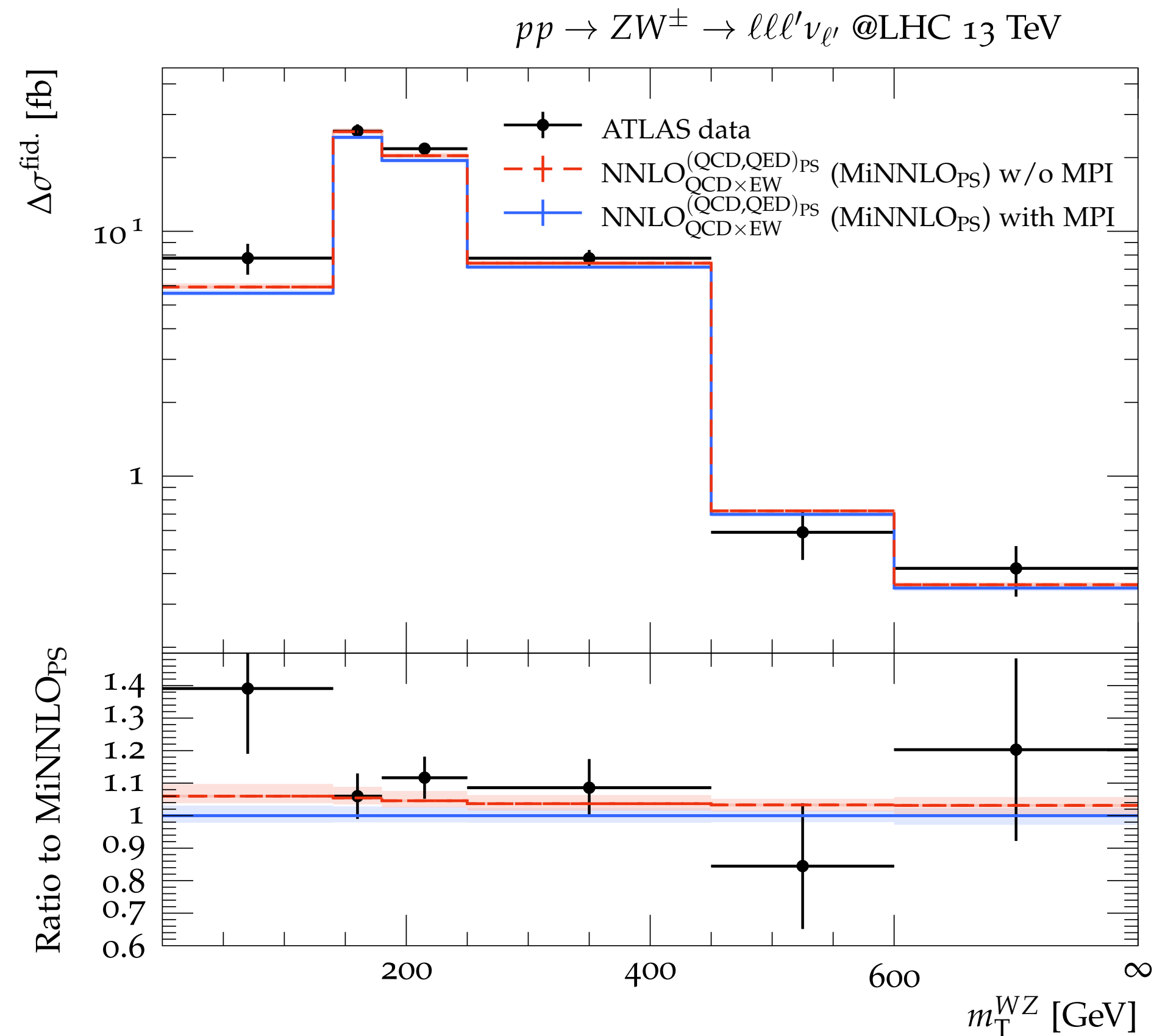
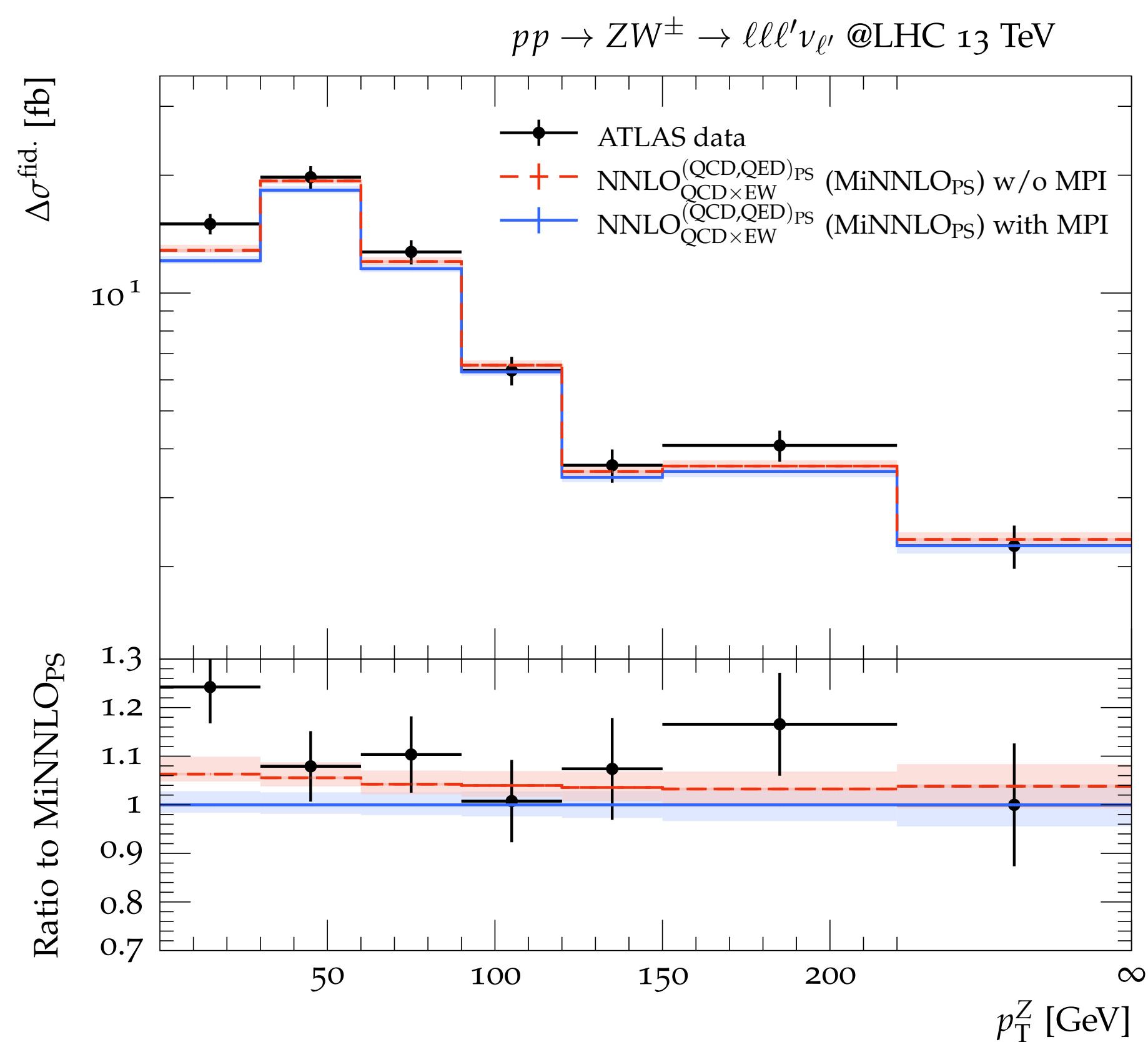


- In the VBS phase-space EW mode receives:
 - ▶ very small **QCD** corrections (percent level)
 - ▶ $\mathcal{O}(20\%)$ **EW** corrections
- Always measure also combined QCD-mode + EW-mode fiducial xsections!

MiNNLOPS QCD + NLOPS EW

[JML, Lombardi, Wiesemann, Zanderighi, Zanolini, '22]

for NLOPS QCD + EW also [Chiesa, Re, Oleari '20]



[JML, Lombardi, Wiesemann, Zanderighi, Zanolini, '22]

- Percent level precision in MiNNLOPS QCD + NLOPS EW predictions