

# Precision simulations for Higgs physics in SHERPA

Frank Krauss

Institute for Particle Physics Phenomenology  
Durham University

Higgs (N)NLO MC and Tools Workshop for LHC RUN-2  
CERN, 17.12.2014



# The inner working of event generators ...

simulation: *divide et impera*

- **hard process:**  
fixed order perturbation theory

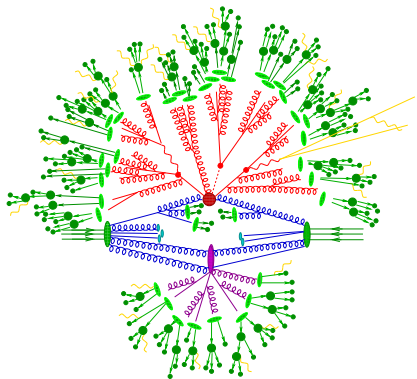
traditionally: Born-approximation

- **bremstrahlung:**  
resummed perturbation theory

- **hadronisation:**  
phenomenological models

- **hadron decays:**  
effective theories, data

- **"underlying event":**  
phenomenological models

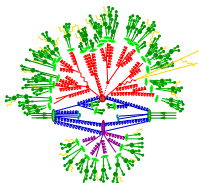


## ... and possible improvements

possible strategies:

- improving the phenomenological models:
  - “tuning” (fitting parameters to data)
  - replacing by better models, based on more physics

(my hot candidate: “minimum bias” and “underlying event” simulation)



- improving the perturbative description:
  - inclusion of higher order exact matrix elements and correct connection to resummation in the parton shower:

“NLO-Matching” & “Multijet-Merging”

- systematic improvement of the parton shower:
  - next-to leading (or higher) logs & colours

# QCD precision in Higgs physics

- after discovery: time for precision studies of the newly found boson  
is it the SM Higgs boson or something else?  
relevant: spin/parity, couplings to other particles
- Higgs signal suffers from different backgrounds, depending on production and decay channel considered in the analysis
- decomposing in bins of different jet multiplicities yields
  - different signal composition (e.g. WBF vs. ggF)
  - different backgrounds (most notably:  $t\bar{t}$  in  $WW$  final states)
- to this end: must understand jet production in big detail  
name of the game: uncertainties and their control

despite far-reaching claims: analytic resummation and fixed-order calculations will not be sufficient

## Reminder: Ingredients of simulations

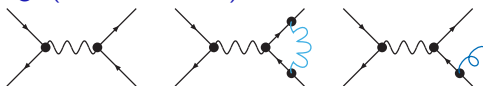
# Cross sections at the LHC: Born approximation

$$d\sigma_{ab \rightarrow N} = \int_0^1 dx_a dx_b f_a(x_a, \mu_F) f_b(x_b, \mu_F) \int_{\text{cuts}} d\Phi_N \frac{1}{2\hat{s}} |\mathcal{M}_{p_a p_b \rightarrow N}(\Phi_N; \mu_F, \mu_R)|^2$$

- parton densities  $f_a(x, \mu_F)$  (PDFs)
- phase space  $\Phi_N$  for  $N$ -particle final states
- incoming current  $1/(2\hat{s})$
- squared matrix element  $\mathcal{M}_{p_a p_b \rightarrow N}$   
(summed/averaged over polarisations)
- renormalisation and factorisation scales  $\mu_R$  and  $\mu_F$
- complexity demands numerical methods for large  $N$

## Higher orders: some general thoughts

- obtained from adding diagrams with additional:  
 loops (virtual corrections) or  
 legs (real corrections)



- effect: reducing the dependence on  $\mu_R$  &  $\mu_F$   
 NLO allows for meaningful estimate of uncertainties
  - additional difficulties when going NLO:  
 ultraviolet divergences in virtual correction  
 infrared divergences in real and virtual correction
- enforce

UV regularisation & renormalisation  
 IR regularisation & cancellation

(Kinoshita–Lee–Nauenberg–Theorem)

# Structure of an NLO calculation

- sketch of cross section calculation

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\sigma_N^{(\text{NLO})} &= \underbrace{d\Phi_N \mathcal{B}_N}_{\text{Born approximation}} + \underbrace{d\Phi_N \mathcal{V}_N}_{\text{renormalised virtual correction}} + \underbrace{d\Phi_{N+1} \mathcal{R}_{N+1}}_{\text{real correction}} \\
 &= d\Phi_N \left[ \mathcal{B}_N + \mathcal{V}_N + \mathcal{B}_N \otimes \mathcal{S} \right] + d\Phi_{N+1} \left[ \mathcal{R}_{N+1} - \mathcal{B}_N \otimes d\mathcal{S} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

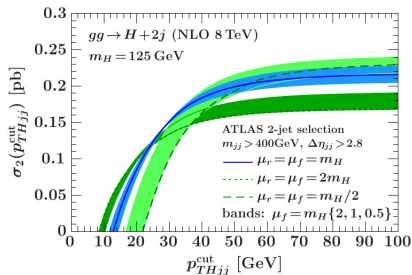
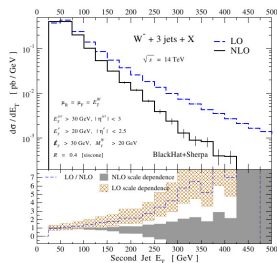
**IR-divergent**
**IR-divergent**

- subtraction terms  $\mathcal{S}$  (integrated) and  $d\mathcal{S}$ :  
exactly cancel IR divergence in  $\mathcal{R}$  – process-independent structures
- result: terms in both brackets **separately infrared finite**



## Aside: an interesting problem with scales

- common lore: NLO calculations reduce scale uncertainties
- this is, in general, true. however:  
unphysical scale choices will yield unphysical results



- so maybe we have to be a bit smarter than just running NLO code

# Probabilistic treatment of emissions

- Sudakov form factor

$$\Delta_{ij,k}(t, t_0) = \exp \left[ - \int_{t_0}^t d\Gamma_{ij,k}(t) \right]$$

yields probability for **no decay** between scales  $t_0$  and  $t$

- decay width for parton  $i(j) \rightarrow ik(j)$  (spectator  $j$ )

$$d\Gamma_{ij,k}(t) = \frac{dt}{t} \frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi} \int dz \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \underbrace{\mathcal{K}_{ij,k}(t, z, \phi)}_{\text{splitting kernel}}$$

- evolution parameter  $t$  defined by kinematics

generalised angle (HERWIG++) or transverse momentum (PYTHIA, SHERPA)

- scale choice for strong coupling:  $\alpha_S(k_{\perp}^2)$

resums classes of higher logarithms

- regularisation through cut-off  $t_0$

## Emissions off a Born matrix element

- “compound” splitting kernels  $\mathcal{K}_n$  and Sudakov form factors  $\Delta_n^{(\mathcal{K})}$  for emission off  $n$ -particle final state:

$$\mathcal{K}_n(\Phi_1) = \frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi} \sum_{\text{all } \{ij,k\}} \mathcal{K}_{ij,k}(\Phi_{ij,k}), \quad \Delta_n^{(\mathcal{K})}(t, t_0) = \exp \left[ - \int_{t_0}^t d\Phi_1 \mathcal{K}_n(\Phi_1) \right]$$

- consider first emission only off Born configuration

$$d\sigma_B = d\Phi_N \mathcal{B}_N(\Phi_N)$$

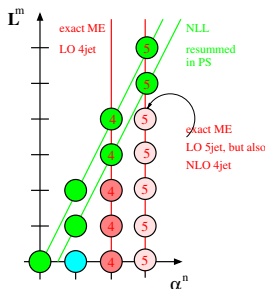
$$\cdot \left\{ \underbrace{\Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{\mu_N^2} d\Phi_1 \left[ \mathcal{K}_N(\Phi_1) \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, t(\Phi_1)) \right]}_{\text{integrates to unity} \rightarrow \text{“unitarity” of parton shower}} \right\}$$

- further emissions by recursion with  $\mu_N^2 \rightarrow t$  of previous emission

# NLO improvements: Matching

# NLO matching: Basic idea

- parton shower resums logarithms  
fair description of collinear/soft emissions  
jet evolution (where the logs are large)
- matrix elements exact at given order  
fair description of hard/large-angle emissions  
jet production (where the logs are small)
- adjust (“match”) terms:
  - cross section at NLO accuracy
  - correct hardest emission in PS to exactly reproduce ME at order  $\alpha_S$  ( $\mathcal{R}$ -part of the NLO calculation)



# Matching with MC@NLO

(S. Frixione & B. Webber, JHEP 0602 (2002) 029)

(S. Hoeche, F. Krauss, M. Schoenherr, & F. Siegert, JHEP 1209 (2012) 049)

- divide  $\mathcal{R}_N$  in soft (“S”) and hard (“H”) part:

$$\mathcal{R}_N = \mathcal{R}_N^{(S)} + \mathcal{R}_N^{(H)} = \mathcal{B}_N \otimes d\mathcal{S}_1 + \mathcal{H}_N$$

- identify subtraction terms and shower kernels  $d\mathcal{S}_1 \equiv \sum_{\{ij,k\}} \mathcal{K}_{ij,k}$

(modify  $\mathcal{K}$  in 1<sup>st</sup> emission to account for colour)

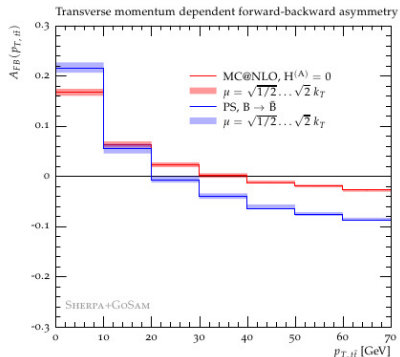
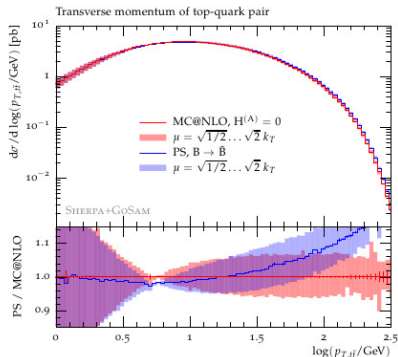
$$d\sigma_N = d\Phi_N \underbrace{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}_N(\Phi_N)}_{\mathcal{B}+\tilde{\mathcal{V}}} \left[ \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{\mu_N^2} d\Phi_1 \mathcal{K}_{ij,k}(\Phi_1) \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, k_\perp^2) \right] \\ + d\Phi_{N+1} \mathcal{H}_N$$

- effect: resummed parts modified with local  $K$ -factor

## Aside: impact of full colour

(S. Hoeche, J. Huang, G. Luisoni, M. Schoenherr, & J. Winter, arXiv:1306.2703 [hep-ph])

- evaluate effect of full colour treatment, MC@NLO without **H**-part vs. parton shower with  $B \rightarrow \tilde{B}$
- take  $t\bar{t}$  production (red = full colour, blue = “PS” colours)



# Multijet merging @ leading order

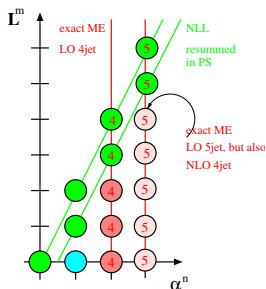


# Multijet merging: basic idea

(S. Catani, F. Krauss, R. Kuhn, B. Webber, JHEP 0111 (2001) 063,

L. Lonnblad, JHEP 0205 (2002) 046, & F. Krauss, JHEP 0208 (2002) 015)

- parton shower resums logarithms  
fair description of collinear/soft emissions  
jet evolution (where the logs are large)
- matrix elements exact at given order  
fair description of hard/large-angle emissions  
jet production (where the logs are small)
- combine (“merge”) both:  
result: “towers” of MEs with increasing number of jets evolved with PS
  - multijet cross sections at Born accuracy
  - maintain (N)LL accuracy of parton shower

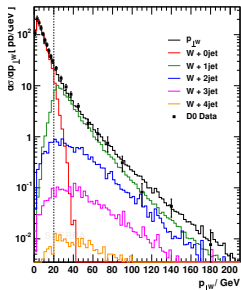


# Separating jet evolution and jet production

- separate regions of jet production and jet evolution with jet measure  $Q_J$

("truncated showering" if not identical with evolution parameter)

- matrix elements populate hard regime
- parton showers populate soft domain



# First emission(s), again

(S. Hoeche, F. Krauss, S. Schumann, F. Siegert, JHEP 0905 (2009) 053)

$$d\sigma = d\Phi_N \mathcal{B}_N \left[ \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{\mu_N^2} d\Phi_1 \mathcal{K}_N \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, t_{N+1}) \Theta(Q_J - Q_{N+1}) \right] \\ + d\Phi_{N+1} \mathcal{B}_{N+1} \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_{N+1}^2, t_{N+1}) \Theta(Q_{N+1} - Q_J)$$

- note:  $N + 1$ -contribution includes also  $N + 2$ ,  $N + 3$ , ...

(no Sudakov suppression below  $t_{n+1}$ , see further slides for iterated expression)

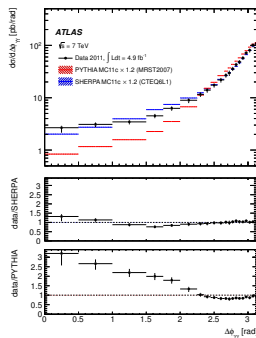
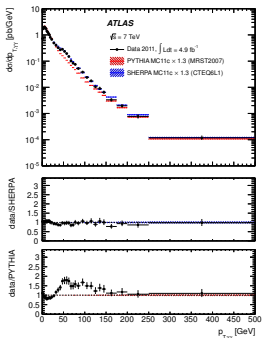
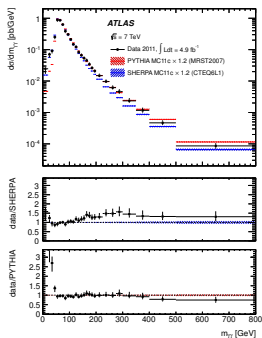
- potential occurrence of different shower start scales:  $\mu_{N,N+1,\dots}$
- “unitarity violation” in square bracket:  $\mathcal{B}_N \mathcal{K}_N \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}_{N+1}$

(cured with UMEPs formalism, L. Lonnblad & S. Prestel, JHEP 1302 (2013) 094 &

S. Platzer, arXiv:1211.5467 [hep-ph] & arXiv:1307.0774 [hep-ph]) – see next talks

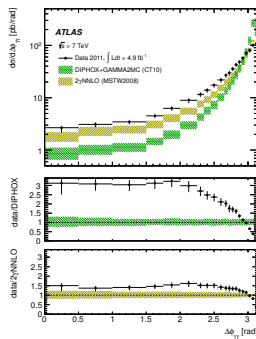
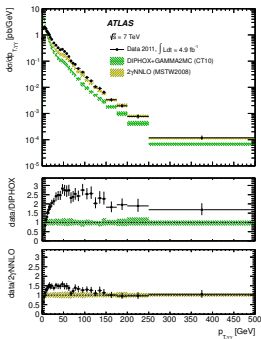
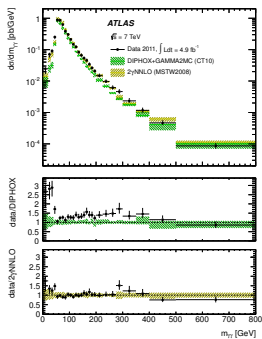
# Di-photons @ ATLAS: $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ , $p_{\perp,\gamma\gamma}$ , and $\Delta\phi_{\gamma\gamma}$ in showers

(arXiv:1211.1913 [hep-ex])



# Aside: Comparison with higher order calculations

(arXiv:1211.1913 [hep-ex])



# Multijet merging @ next-to leading order

# Multijet-merging at NLO: MEPs@NLO

(arXiv: 1207.5030, 1207.5031 [hep-ph])

- basic idea like at LO: towers of MEs with increasing jet multi (but this time at NLO)
- combine them into one sample, remove overlap/double-counting

**maintain NLO and LL accuracy of ME and PS**

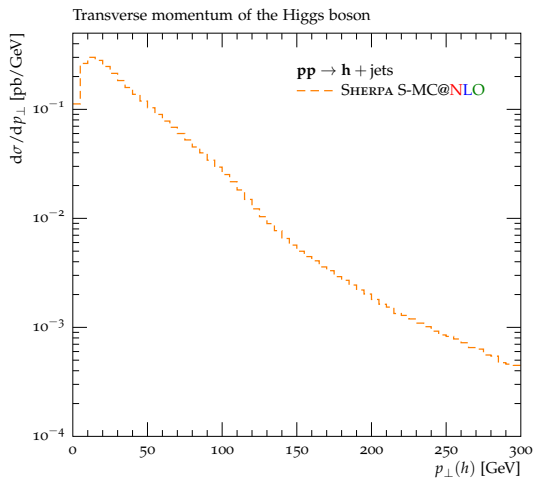
- this effectively translates into a merging of MC@NLO simulations and can be further supplemented with LO simulations for even higher final state multiplicities

## First emission(s), once more

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\sigma = & d\Phi_N \tilde{\mathcal{B}}_N \left[ \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{\mu_N^2} d\Phi_1 \mathcal{K}_N \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, t_{N+1}) \Theta(Q_J - Q_{N+1}) \right] \\
 & + d\Phi_{N+1} \mathcal{H}_N \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, t_{N+1}) \Theta(Q_J - Q_{N+1}) \\
 & + d\Phi_{N+1} \tilde{\mathcal{B}}_{N+1} \left( 1 + \frac{\mathcal{B}_{N+1}}{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}_{N+1}} \int_{t_{N+1}}^{\mu_N^2} d\Phi_1 \mathcal{K}_N \right) \Theta(Q_{N+1} - Q_J) \\
 & \quad \cdot \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, t_{N+1}) \cdot \left[ \Delta_{N+1}^{(\mathcal{K})}(t_{N+1}, t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{t_{N+1}} d\Phi_1 \mathcal{K}_{N+1} \Delta_{N+1}^{(\mathcal{K})}(t_{N+1}, t_{N+2}) \right] \\
 & + d\Phi_{N+2} \mathcal{H}_{N+1} \Delta_N^{(\mathcal{K})}(\mu_N^2, t_{N+1}) \Delta_{N+1}^{(\mathcal{K})}(t_{N+1}, t_{N+2}) \Theta(Q_{N+1} - Q_J) + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

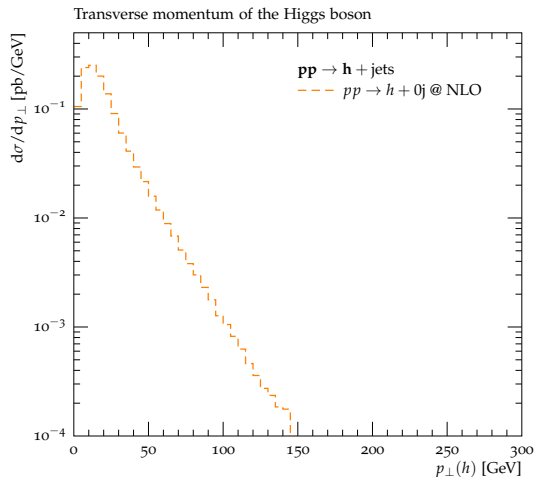


# MEPs@NLO



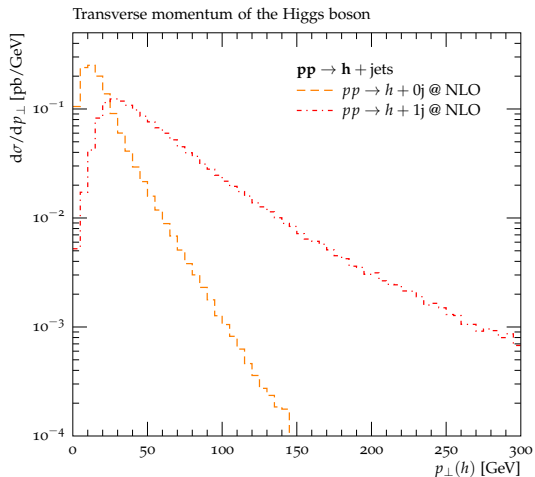
- first emission by MC@NLO

## MEPs@NLO



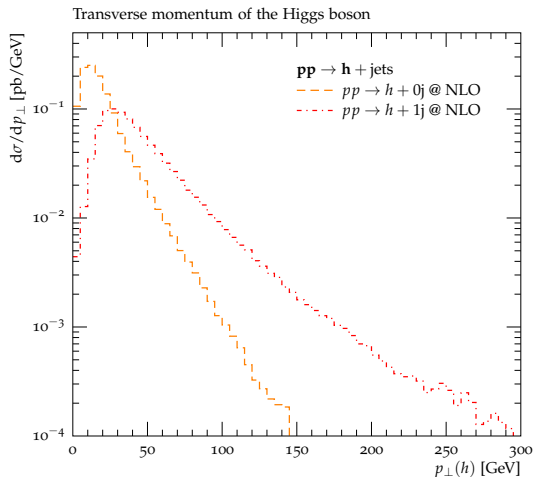
- first emission by MC@NLO, restrict to  $Q_{n+1} < Q_{\text{cut}}$

## MEPs@NLO



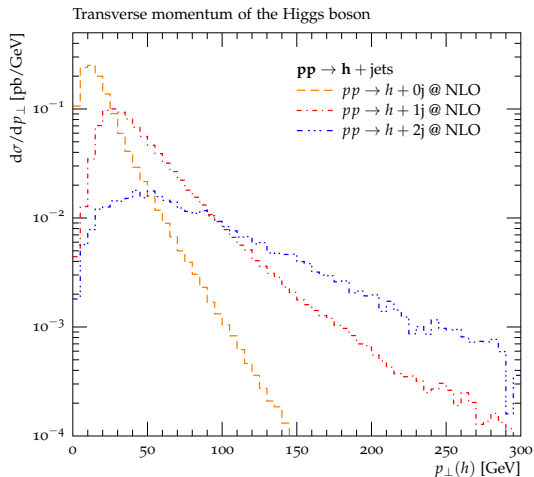
- first emission by MC@NLO, restrict to  $Q_{n+1} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  for  $Q_{n+1} > Q_{\text{cut}}$

## MEPs@NLO



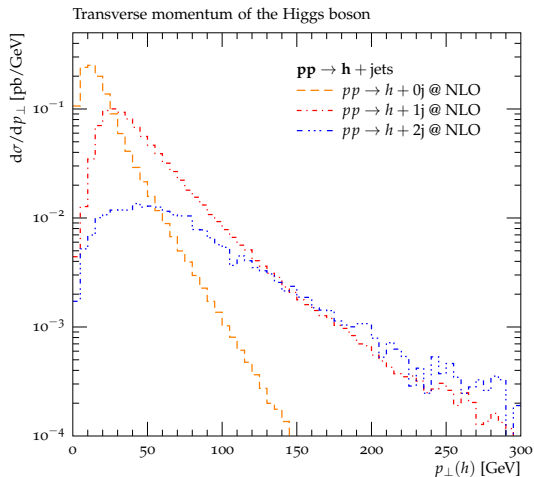
- first emission by MC@NLO, restrict to  $Q_{n+1} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  for  $Q_{n+1} > Q_{\text{cut}}$
- restrict emission off  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  to  $Q_{n+2} < Q_{\text{cut}}$

## MEPs@NLO



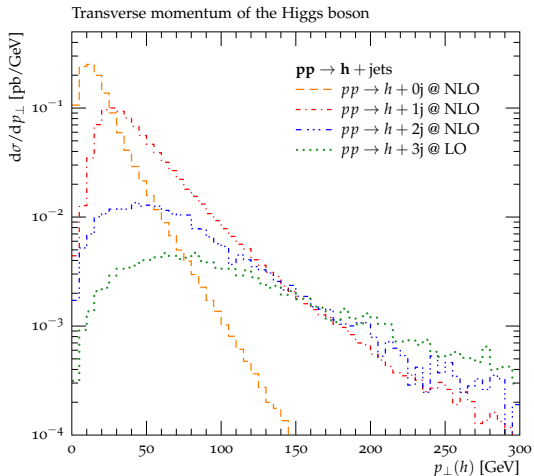
- first emission by MC@NLO, restrict to  $Q_{n+1} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  for  $Q_{n+1} > Q_{\text{cut}}$
- restrict emission off  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  to  $Q_{n+2} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + 2\text{jets}$  for  $Q_{n+2} > Q_{\text{cut}}$

## MEPs@NLO



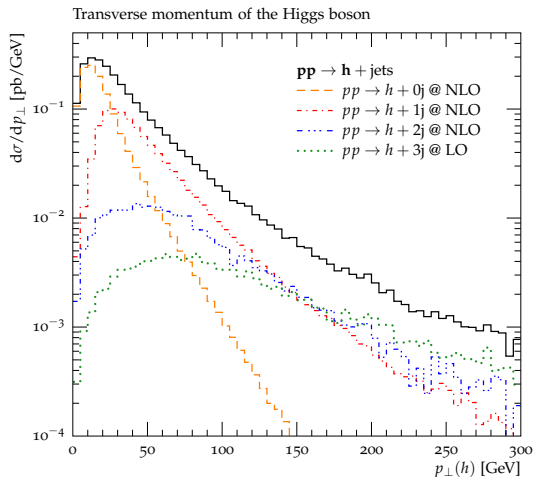
- first emission by MC@NLO, restrict to  $Q_{n+1} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  for  $Q_{n+1} > Q_{\text{cut}}$
- restrict emission off  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  to  $Q_{n+2} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + 2\text{jets}$  for  $Q_{n+2} > Q_{\text{cut}}$
- iterate

# MEPs@NLO



- first emission by MC@NLO, restrict to  $Q_{n+1} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  for  $Q_{n+1} > Q_{\text{cut}}$
- restrict emission off  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  to  $Q_{n+2} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + 2\text{jets}$  for  $Q_{n+2} > Q_{\text{cut}}$
- iterate

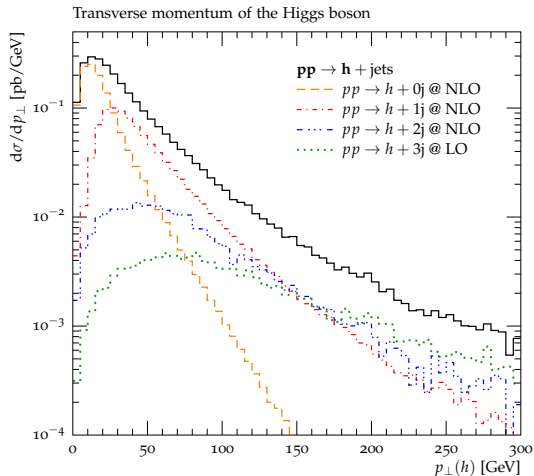
## MEPs@NLO



- first emission by MC@NLO, restrict to  $Q_{n+1} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  for  $Q_{n+1} > Q_{\text{cut}}$
- restrict emission off  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  to  $Q_{n+2} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + 2\text{jets}$  for  $Q_{n+2} > Q_{\text{cut}}$
- iterate
- sum all contributions



## MEPs@NLO



- first emission by MC@NLO, restrict to  $Q_{n+1} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  for  $Q_{n+1} > Q_{\text{cut}}$
- restrict emission off  $pp \rightarrow h + \text{jet}$  to  $Q_{n+2} < Q_{\text{cut}}$
- MC@NLO  $pp \rightarrow h + 2\text{jets}$  for  $Q_{n+2} > Q_{\text{cut}}$
- iterate
- sum all contributions
- eg.  $p_{\perp}(h) > 200$  GeV has contributions fr. multiple topologies

## Parameter / Scale choices – $\mu_{R/F}$ , $\mu_Q$

$$\alpha_s^{n+k}(\mu_R^2) = \alpha_s^k(\mu_{\text{core}}^2) \alpha_s(t_1) \cdots \alpha_s(t_n) \quad \mu_{F,a/b}^2 = t_{\text{ext},a/b} \quad \mu_Q^2 = \mu_{\text{core}}^2$$

### Free choices

- 1  $\mu_{\text{core}}$  – scale of core process identified through clustering with inverse parton shower

## Parameter / Scale choices – $\mu_{R/F}$ , $\mu_Q$

$$\alpha_s^{n+k}(\mu_R^2) = \alpha_s^k(\mu_{\text{core}}^2) \alpha_s(t_1) \cdots \alpha_s(t_n) \quad \mu_{F,a/b}^2 = t_{\text{ext},a/b} \quad \mu_Q^2 = \mu_{\text{core}}^2$$

Free choices

- 1  $\mu_{\text{core}}$  – scale of core process identified through clustering with inverse parton shower
- 2  $\mu_{R/F}$  beyond 1-loop running
  - calculate with chosen  $\mu_{R/F}$
  - include renormalisation and factorisation terms to shift the 1-loop running to above

$$B_n \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_R)}{\pi} \beta_0 \left( \log \frac{\mu_R}{\mu_{\text{CKKW}}} \right)^{2+n}$$

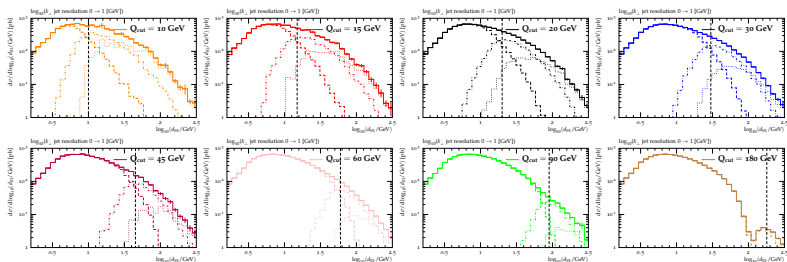
and

$$B_n \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \log \frac{\mu_F}{t_{\text{ext}}} \sum_{c=q,g} \int_{x_a}^1 \frac{dz}{z} P_{ac}(z) f_c(x_a/z, \mu_F^2)$$

→ same as in UNLOPS– see later

# Parameter / Scale choices – $Q_{\text{cut}}$

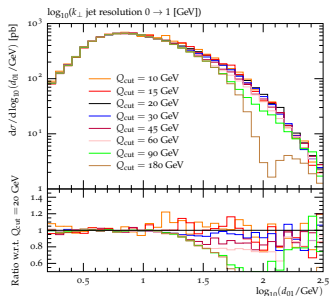
Merging cut  $Q_{\text{cut}}$  dependence ( $pp \rightarrow Z + \text{jets}$  MEPs@LO, up to 2 in ME):



- parton shower is trusted to correctly describe emissions  $\lesssim Q_{\text{cut}}$
- changes the region where higher accuracy is used for calculation  
→ part of the uncertainty is due to degraded accuracy for large  $Q_{\text{cut}}$
- all samples are identical for  $Q < Q_{\text{cut}}^{\text{smallest}}$  and  $Q > Q_{\text{cut}}^{\text{largest}}$  by construction
- for  $Q \geq 45$  GeV shower approximation breaks down (earlier in other obs.)

## Parameter / Scale choices – $Q_{\text{cut}}$

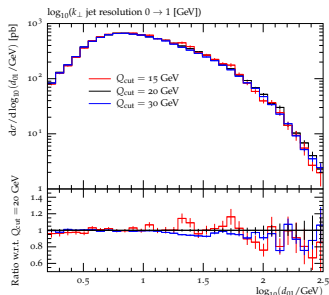
Merging cut  $Q_{\text{cut}}$  dependence ( $pp \rightarrow Z + \text{jets}$  MEPS@LO, up to 2 in ME):



- parton shower is trusted to correctly describe emissions  $\lesssim Q_{\text{cut}}$
- changes the region where higher accuracy is used for calculation  
→ part of the uncertainty is due to degraded accuracy for large  $Q_{\text{cut}}$
- all samples are identical for  $Q < Q_{\text{cut}}^{\text{smallest}}$  and  $Q > Q_{\text{cut}}^{\text{largest}}$  by construction
- for  $Q \geq 45$  GeV shower approximation breaks down (earlier in other obs.)

## Parameter / Scale choices – $Q_{\text{cut}}$

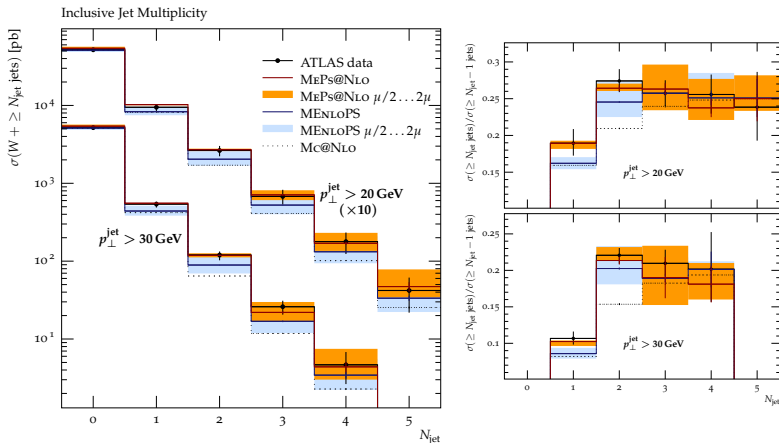
Merging cut  $Q_{\text{cut}}$  dependence ( $pp \rightarrow Z + \text{jets}$  MEPS@LO, up to 2 in ME):

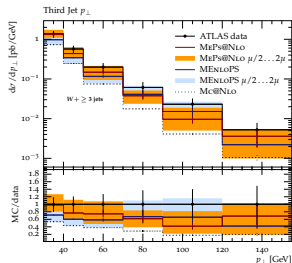
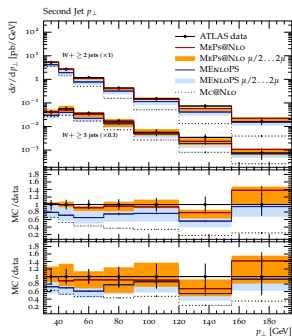
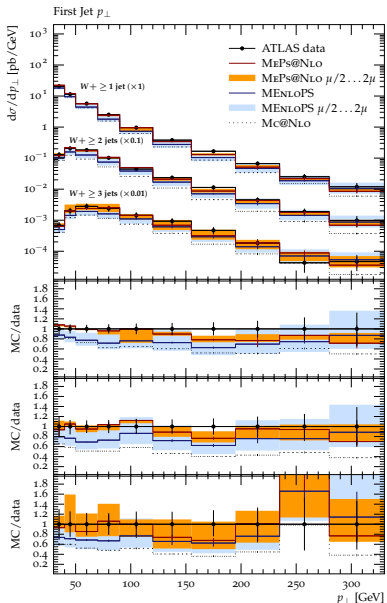


- parton shower is trusted to correctly describe emissions  $\lesssim Q_{\text{cut}}$
- changes the region where higher accuracy is used for calculation  
→ part of the uncertainty is due to degraded accuracy for large  $Q_{\text{cut}}$
- all samples are identical for  $Q < Q_{\text{cut}}^{\text{smallest}}$  and  $Q > Q_{\text{cut}}^{\text{largest}}$  by construction
- for  $Q \geq 45$  GeV shower approximation breaks down (earlier in other obs.)
- $Q_{\text{cut}}$  dependence usually small

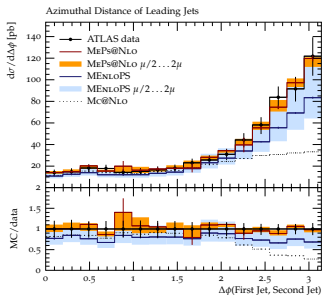
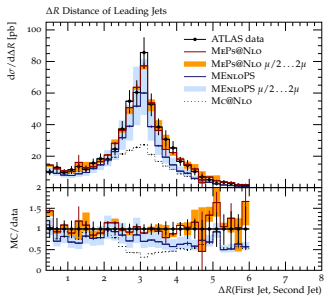
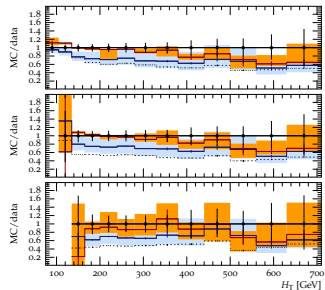
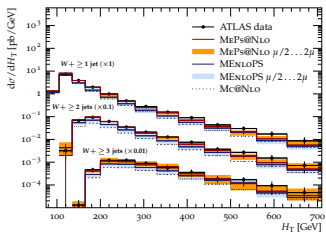
# MEPs@NLO: validation in $W$ +jets

(S. Hoeche, F. Krauss, M. Schoenherr & F. Siegert, JHEP 1304 (2013) 027)







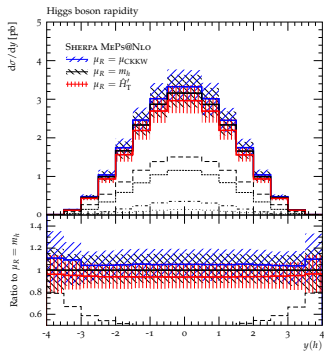
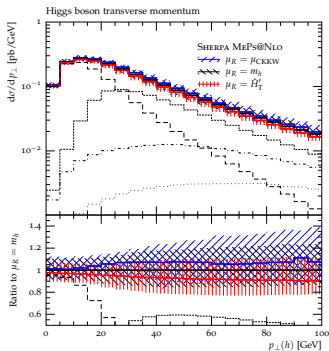


# Multijet merging @ next-to leading order: $gg \rightarrow H$

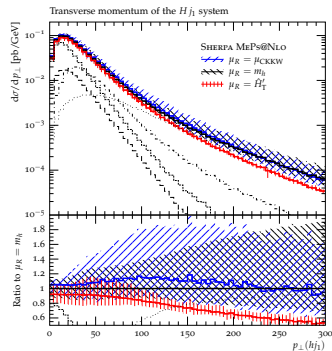
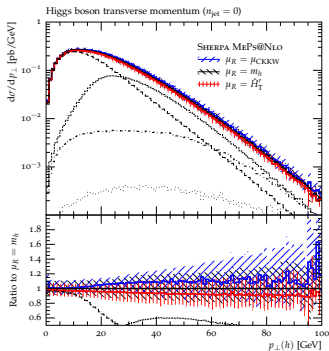
# Results for Higgs boson production through gluon fusion

- parton-shower level, Higgs boson does not decay
- setup & cuts:
  - jets: anti-kt,  $p_{\perp} \geq 20$  GeV,  $R = 0.4$ ,  $|\eta| \leq 4.5$
  - dijet cuts: at least 2 jets with  $p_{\perp} \geq 25$  GeV
  - WBF cuts:  $m_{jj} \geq 400$  GeV,  $\Delta y_{jj} \geq 2.8$
- jet multiplicity plots:
  - 0-jet excl.: no jet with  $p_{\perp} \geq \{20, 25, 30\}$  GeV
  - 2-jet incl.: at least two jets with  $p_{\perp} \geq \{20, 25, 30\}$  GeV
- SHERPA with  $H + \{0, 1, 2\}^{(NLO)} + \{3\}^{(LO)}$  jets,  $Q_{\text{cut}} = 20$  GeV

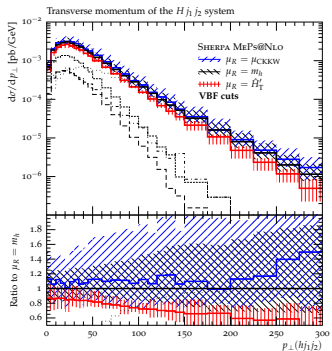
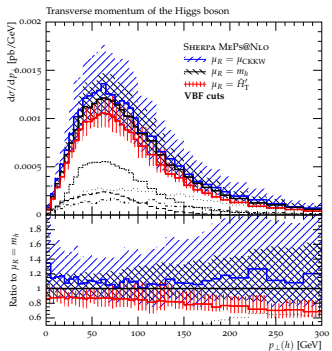
# Inclusive observables for $gg \rightarrow H$



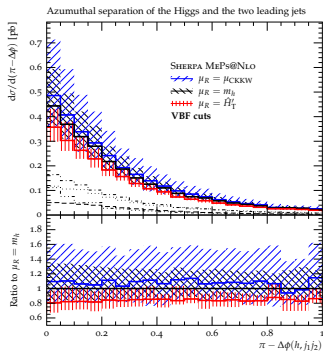
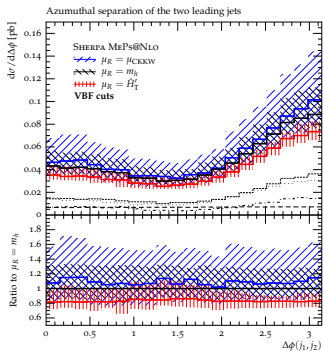
# Exclusive observables for $gg \rightarrow H$



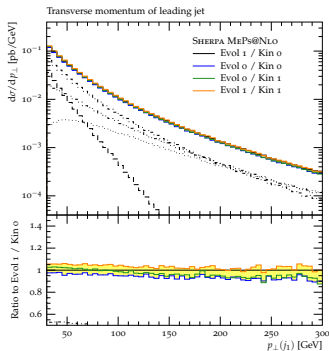
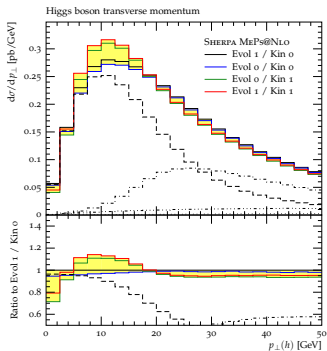
# $gg \rightarrow H$ after VBF cuts



# $gg \rightarrow H$ after WBF cuts



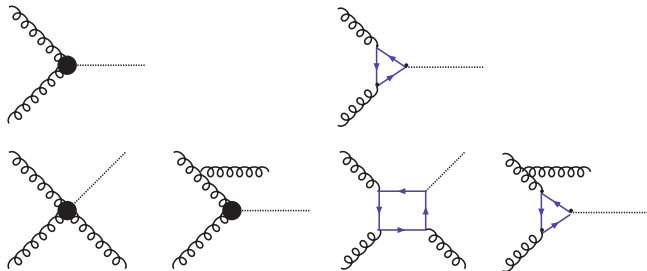
# Parton shower uncertainties





# Quark mass effects

- include effects of quark masses

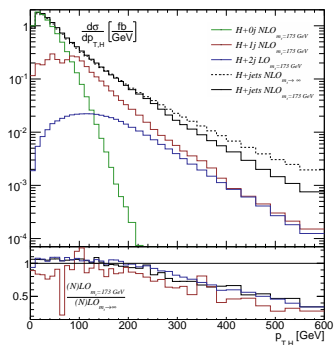


- reweight NLO HEFT with LO ratio:

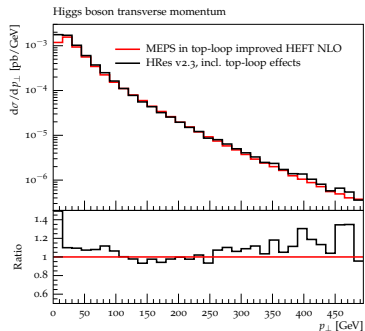
$$d\sigma_{\text{mass}}^{(\text{NLO})} \approx d\sigma_{\text{HEFT}}^{(\text{NLO})} \times \frac{d\sigma_{\text{mass}}^{(\text{LO})}}{d\sigma_{\text{HEFT}}^{(\text{LO})}}$$

# Quark mass effects – results

- top mass effect in MEPs@NLO  
(on Higgs- $p_{\perp}$ )



- comparison S-MC@NLO– HRES  
(top-loop only)

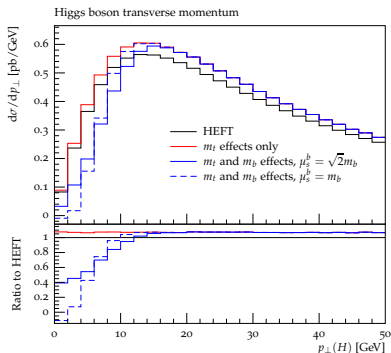


## $b$ -mass effects

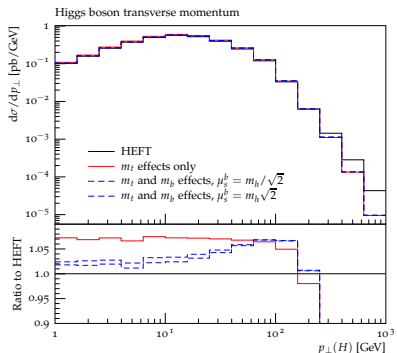
- $b$ -mass effects more tricky
- relevant only for (negative) interference of top- and bottom-loops  
(bottom<sup>2</sup> double Yukawa - suppressed)
- but: cannot start shower at  $m_H$   
radiation “sees” bottom at all scales above  $m_b$   
 $\implies$  must use full theory there
- $p_T$  spectrum naively “squeezed” – funny shapes
- LO multijet merging improves situation

# $b$ -mass effects: playtime

vary around  $\mu_Q = m_b$

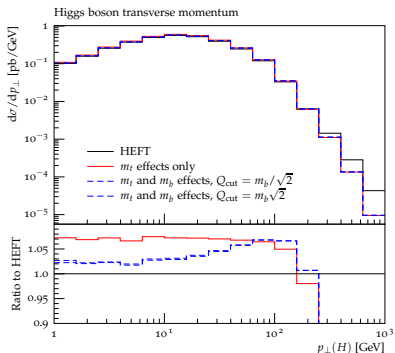


vary around  $\mu_Q = m_h$  with  $Q_{\text{cut}} = m_b$

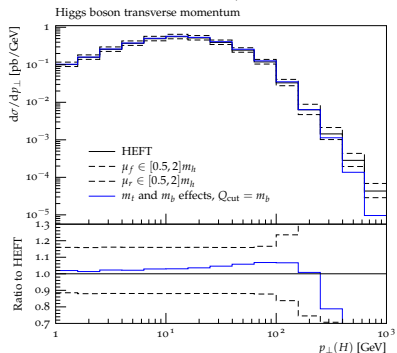


# $b$ -mass effects: playtime (cont'd)

vary around  $\mu_Q = m_h$  with  $Q_{\text{cut}} = m_b$

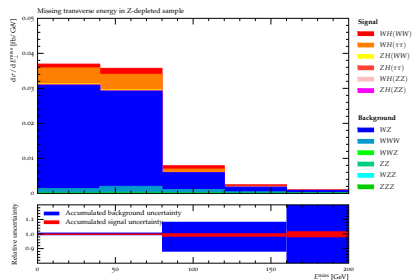
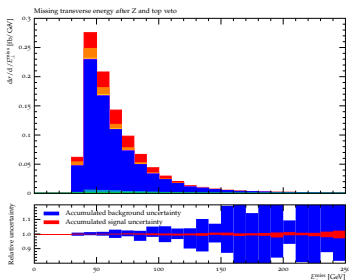


vary  $\mu_{F,R}$

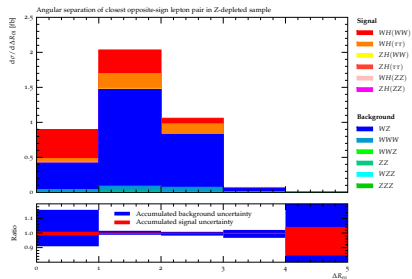
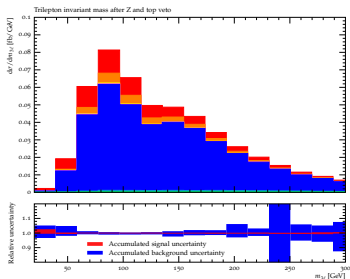


# Multijet merging @ next-to leading order: $VH \rightarrow 3\ell$

# Relevant observables for $VH \rightarrow 3\ell$ : $\cancel{E}_T$

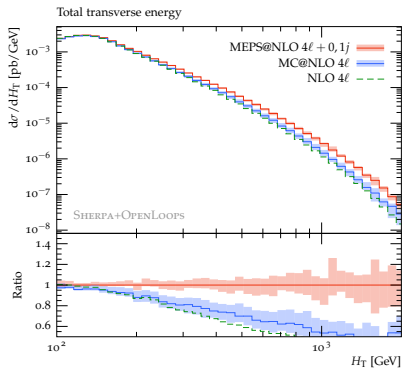
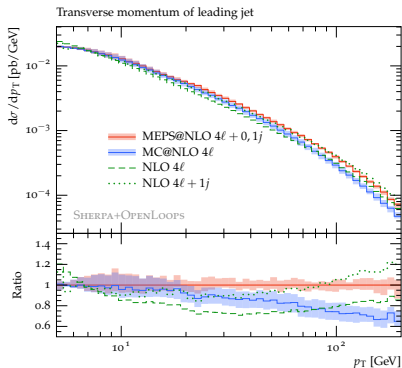


# Relevant observables for $VH \rightarrow 3\ell$ : $m_{123}$ & $\Delta R_{01}$

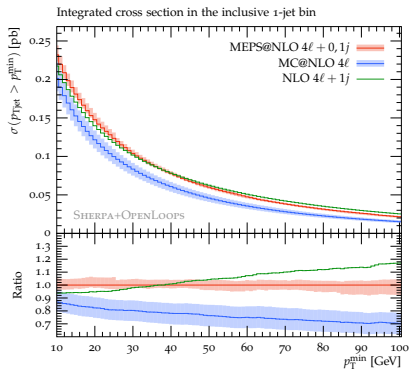
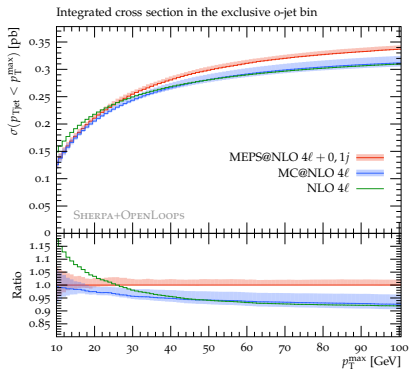




# Higgs backgrounds: inclusive observables in $W^+W^- + \text{jets}$

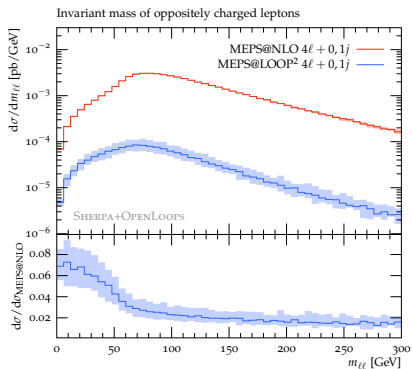
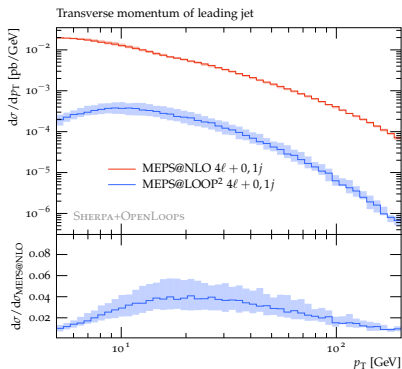


# Higgs backgrounds: jet vetoes in $W^+W^-+jets$

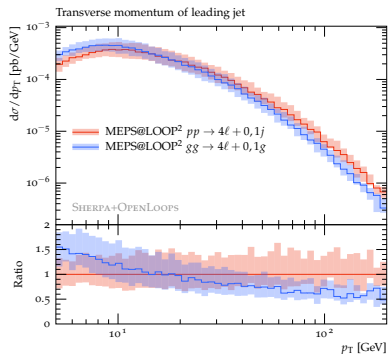
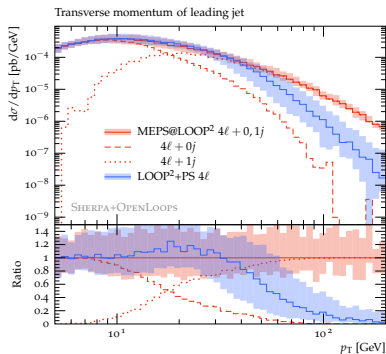


# Higgs backgrounds: gluon-induced processes $W^+ W^- + \text{jets}$

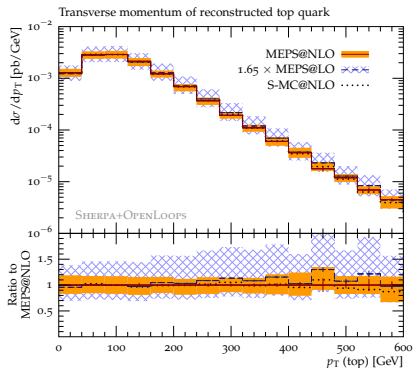
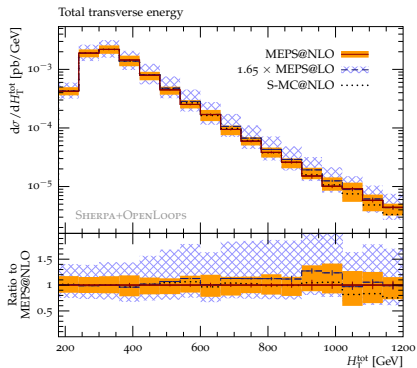
- include (LO-) merged loop<sup>2</sup> contributions of  $gg \rightarrow VV$  (+1 jet)



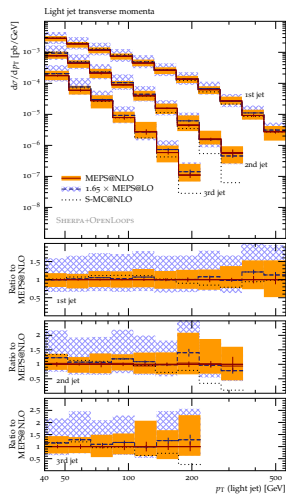
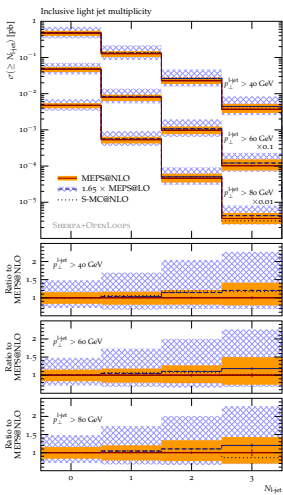
# Higgs backgrounds: jet vetoes in $W^+W^-+jets$



# Higgs backgrounds: $t\bar{t}$ + jets



# Higgs backgrounds: light jets in $t\bar{t} + \text{jets}$



# Summary

- Systematic improvement of event generators through higher orders ongoing:
  - multijet merging (“CKKW”, “MLM”)
  - NLO matching (“MC@NLO”, “POWHEG”)
  - MENLOPS NLO matching & merging
  - MEPs@NLO (“SHERPA”, “UNLOPS”, “MINLO”, “FxFx”)
  - NNLO+PS (two versions)

(first 3 methods are well understood and used in experiments)

(last two methods need validation etc.)



"So what's this? I asked for a hammer!  
A hammer! This is a crescent wrench! ...  
Well, maybe it's a hammer. ... Damn these stone  
tools."

- multijet merging an important tool for many relevant signals and backgrounds - pioneered by SHERPA at LO & NLO

(next step: parton shower uncertainties & improvements)

- complete automation of NLO calculations done  $\longrightarrow$  benefit from it!

(it's the precision and trustworthy & systematic uncertainty estimates!)

# Famous last screams

- in Run-II we'll be in for a ride:

more statistics  
more energy  
more channels  
more precision  
more fun

