

# VBF Processes at the LHC with VBFNLO

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Mini-Workshop Massive Particle Production at the LHC

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# Outline of the Talk

- Introduction & Motivation
- VBF Processes at the LHC
- Methods for the calculations
- VBFNLO
- Results for  $qqH/qqW/qqZ$  and  $qqWW$
- Comparison
- Summary & Outlook

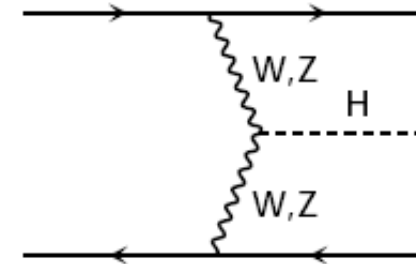
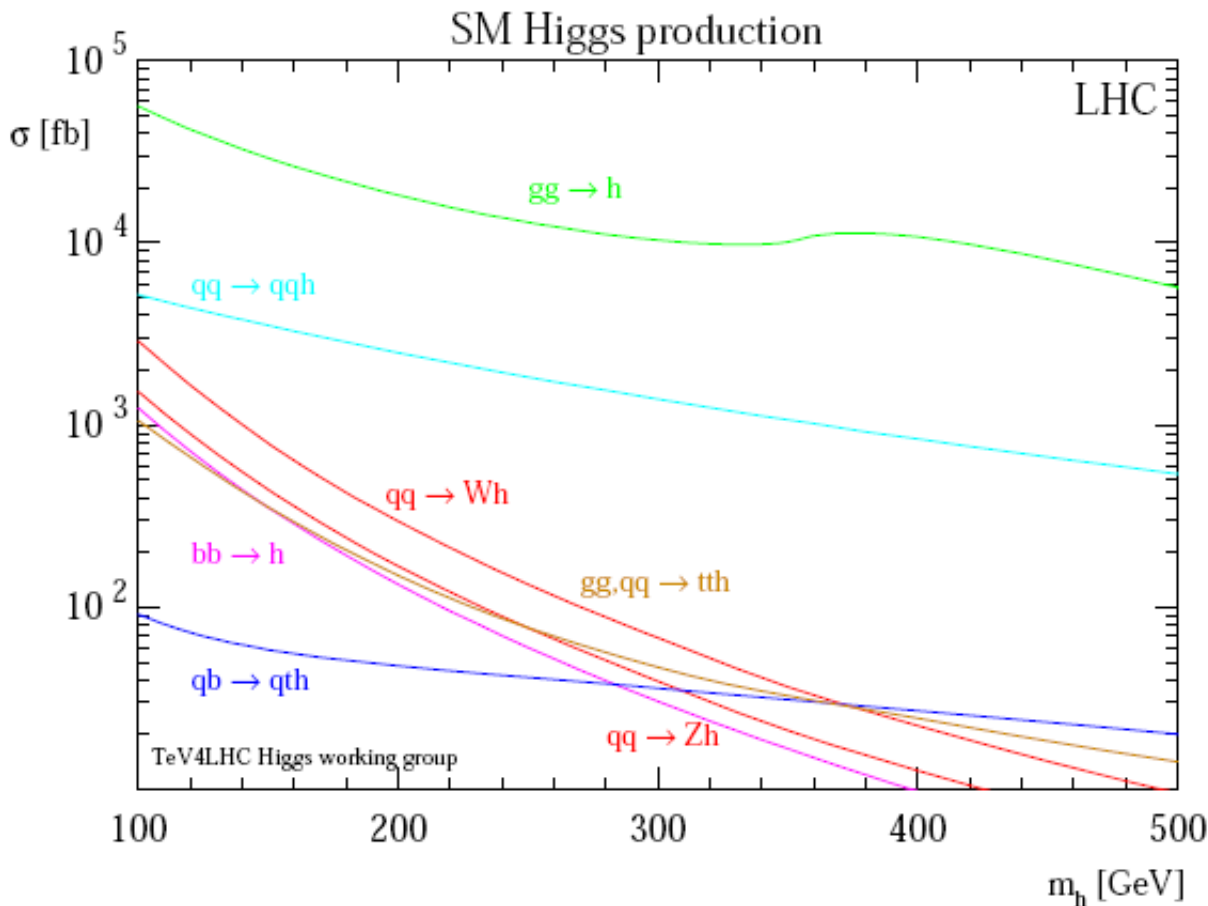
## VBFNLO Group:

D. Zeppenfeld et al. ITP Group of Karlsruhe University

T. Figy, B. Jäger, C. Oleari

# Higgs Production in VBF

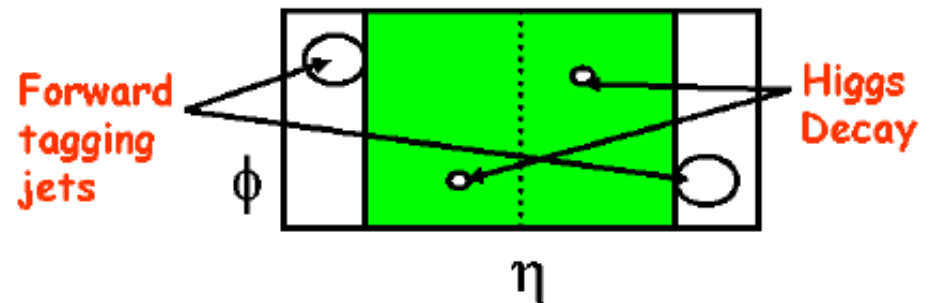
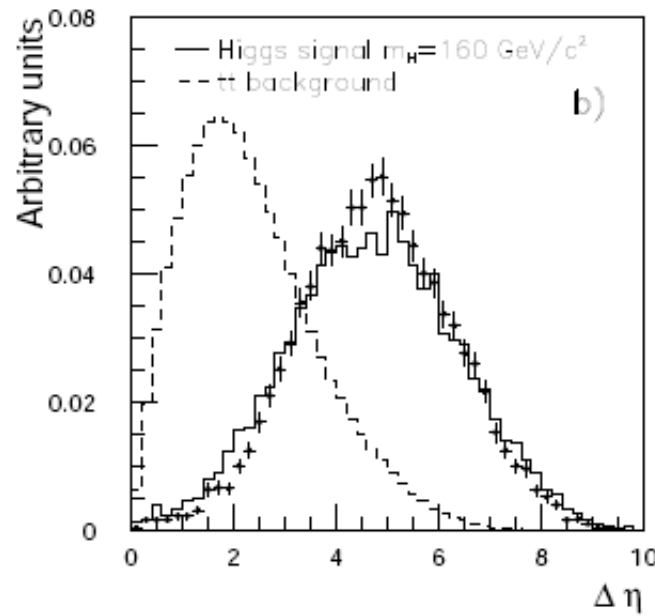
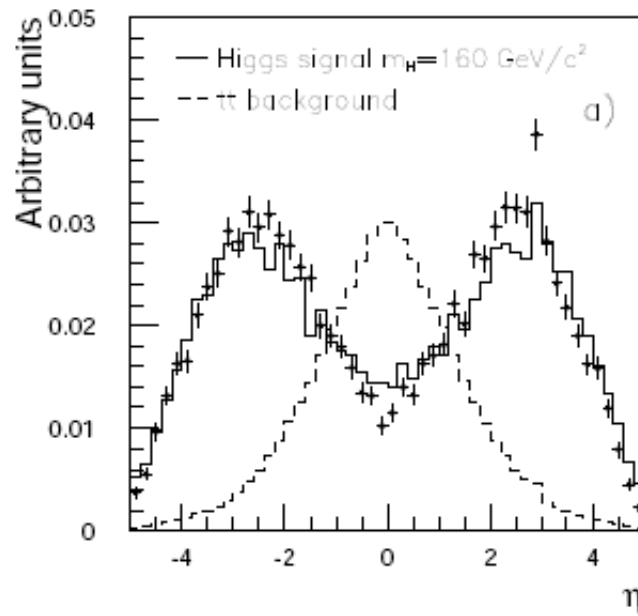
- Physics program of two main LHC experiments ATLAS and CMS aims at the discovery of the Higgs boson - the last missing particle predicted by SM
- Cross sections for Higgs boson production at the LHC
- VBF - quarks scattering via t-channel exchange of W,Z with H radiated off W,Z



- Rate an order of magnitude smaller than gluon fusion
- Distinctive kinematics and QCD properties - easy to suppress backgrounds for all Higgs boson channels

# Experimental Signature

- Energetic jets in forward and background direction  $p_T > 20 \text{ GeV}$
- Large rapidity separation and large invariant mass of 2 tagging jets
- Higgs decay products between tagging jets
- Little gluon radiation in central rapidity region due to colourless W/Z exchange



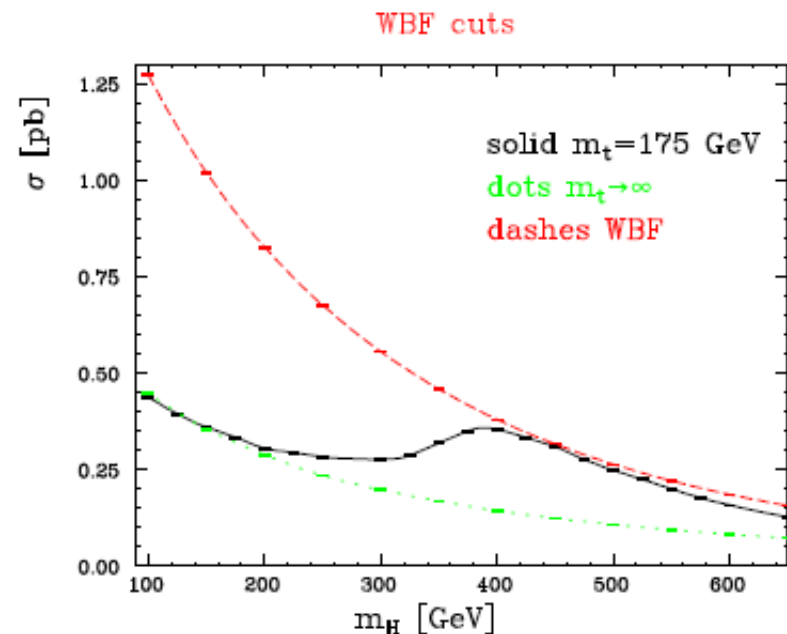
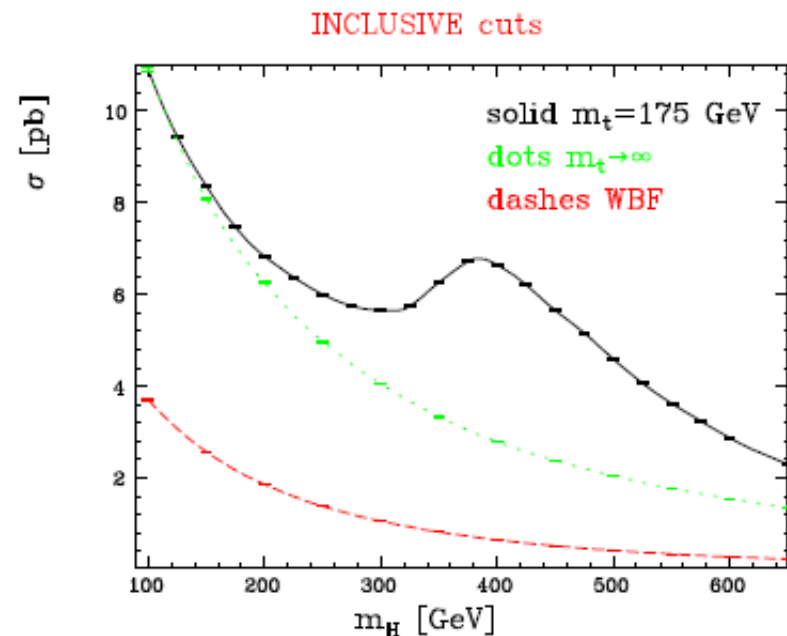
# Tagging Jets Selections for VBF

- Production of Higgs accompanied by 2 jets via gluon fusion
- H+2jets cross section at the LHC as a function of  $m_H$
- Inclusive cuts

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_{T_j} &> 20 \text{ GeV} \\
 |\eta_j| &< 5 \\
 \Delta R_{jj} &> 0.6
 \end{aligned}$$

- Typical tagging jet selections for VBF

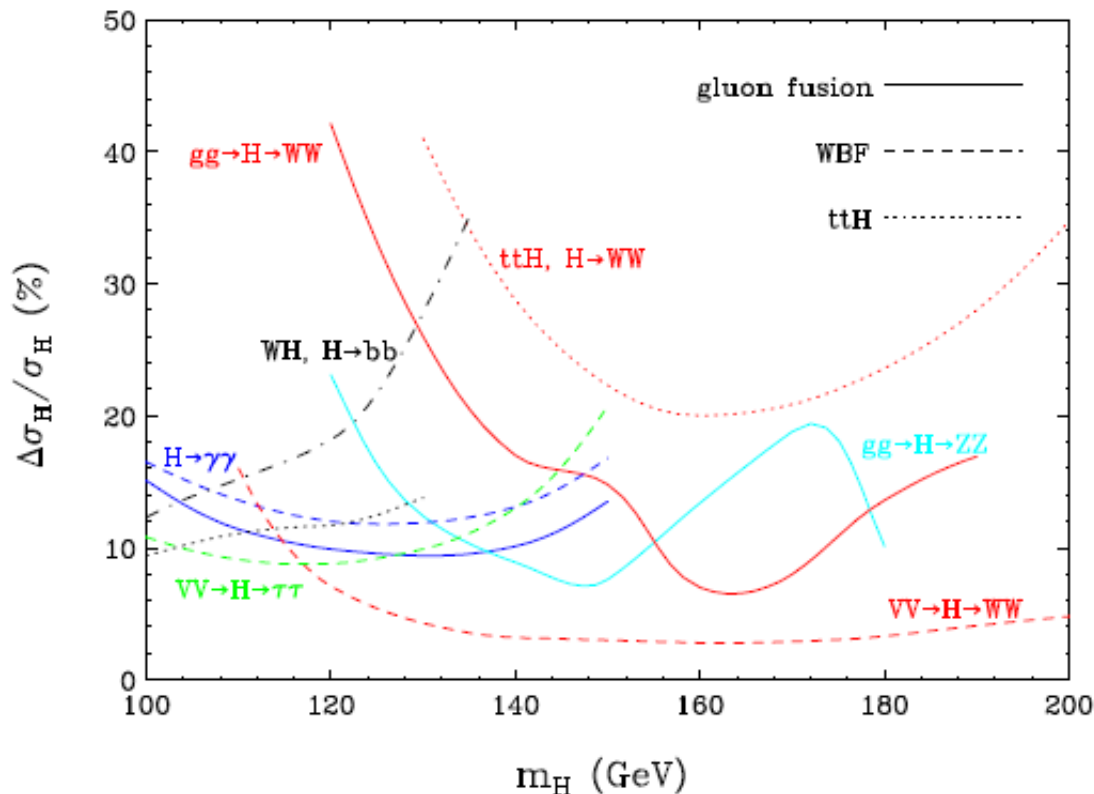
$$\begin{aligned}
 |\eta_{j_1} - \eta_{j_2}| &> 4.2 \\
 \eta_{j_1} \cdot \eta_{j_2} &< 0 \\
 m_{jj} &> 600 \text{ GeV}
 \end{aligned}$$



# Higgs Boson Couplings at the LHC

- Double jets tagging and central jet veto used to suppress QCD backgrounds
- Allows precise measurement of Higgs couplings - HWW, HZZ, Hff
- At the **LHC** with statistical accuracies on  $\sigma \cdot BR$  of order **10%** for VBF

D. Zeppenfeld, R. Kinnunen, A. Nikitenko, E. Richter-Was Phys. Rev. D62 (2000) 013009D. Zeppenfeld arXiv:hep-ph/0203123



Expected relative error on determination of  $\sigma \cdot BR$  for various Higgs boson search channels with  $200 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of data

Lowest errors are achievable in VBF production of Higgs

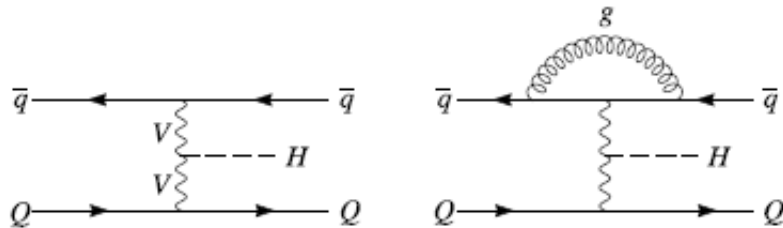
Precise prediction are required - NLO QCD corrections !!!

# VBF Processes at the LHC

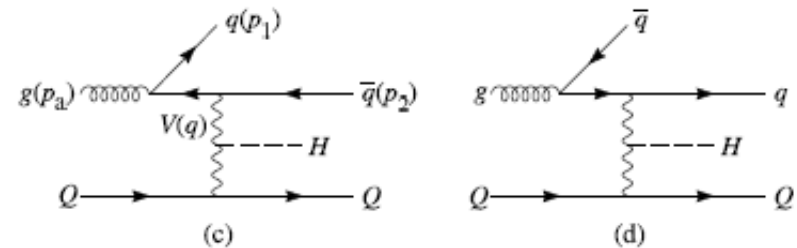
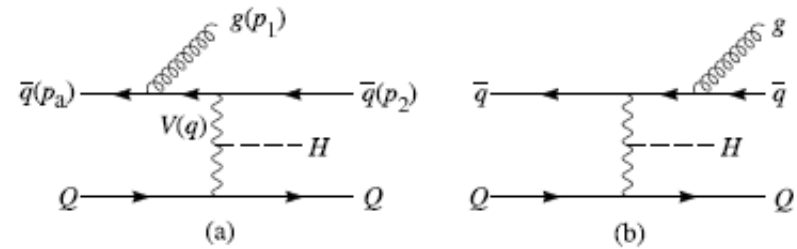
- $qq \rightarrow qqH$  T. Figy, C. Oleari, D. Zeppenfeld (2003)  
E. L. Berger, J. Campbell (2004)  
M. Ciccolini, A. Denner, S. Dittmaier (2007)
  - Higgs coupling measurements
- $qq \rightarrow qqZ, qq \rightarrow qqW$  C. Oleari, D. Zeppenfeld (2004)
  - Similar features as for Higgs production - Irreducible background
  - $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$  as background for  $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$
  - Measure central jet veto acceptance at the LHC
- $qq \rightarrow qqWW, qq \rightarrow qqZZ, qq \rightarrow qqWZ$  B. Jager, C. Oleari, D. Zeppenfeld (2006)  
G. Bozzi, B. Jager, C. Oleari, D. Zeppenfeld (2007)
  - Between 15% and 3.5% of the Higgs signal for  $115 \text{ GeV} < M_H < 160 \text{ GeV}$
  - $qqWW$  is a background to  $H \rightarrow WW$  in VBF
  - Underling process in weak boson scattering  $WW \rightarrow WW, WW \rightarrow ZZ, WZ \rightarrow WZ$

# Generic Features for VBF

No t-channel gluon exchange at NLO  
 QCD corrections to a single quark line !



Born and vertex corrections



Real emission contributions

- Any identical fermion effects systematically neglected - 0.3% at LO
- s-channel exchange  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow Z^* \rightarrow ZH; Z \rightarrow q\bar{q}$
- Interchange of identical quarks in the initial and final state  $qq \rightarrow qqH; \bar{q}\bar{q} \rightarrow \bar{q}\bar{q}H$
- Strongly suppressed by large momentum transfer in weak boson propagator in phase space regions where VBF can be observed experimentally
- Colour singlet structure of exchanged weak boson - no interference between gluons attached to both upper and lower lines
- QCD corrections to different quark lines are independent



# Calculations

- Amplitudes are calculated using helicity amplitudes

K. Hagiwara D. Zeppenfeld Nucl. Phys. B274 (1986) 1

K. Hagiwara, d. Zeppenfeld Nucl. Phys. B313 (1989) 560

- MC integration by modified version of VEGAS
- Optimised phase space for up to 7 particles in the final state
- Passarino-Veltman reduction of tensor integrals up to box-type virtual corrections

G. Passarino, M. J. Veltman Nucl. Phys. B160 (1979) 151

- Reduction scheme proposed by Denner and Dittmaier for pentagon-type  
for  $qq \rightarrow qqWW$ ,  $qq \rightarrow qqZZ$ ,  $qq \rightarrow qqWZ$

A. Denner, S. Dittmaier Nucl. Phys. B658 (2003) 175; Nucl. Phys. B734 (2006) 62

- Calculation for real emission is done by using dipole subtraction formalism in the version proposed by Catani and Seymour

S. Catani, M. H. Seymour Nucl. Phys. B485 (1997) 291

# VBFNLO

<http://www-itp.physik.uni-karlsruhe.de/~vbfnoweb/>

- Parton level MC for VBF processes at NLO QCD
- Arbitrary cuts and distributions can be implemented
- Various scale choices
- CTEQ6L1 and CTEQ6m PDF sets build-in
- LHAPDF
- Cross sections at LO and NLO QCD
- Differential distributions at LO and NLO
- Anomalous HVV couplings both in the production and decay of the Higgs boson
- Anomalous triple couplings in WWjj
- K-Factors and differential K-Factors
- Weighted/Unweighted events
- LHA event files
- Histograms: Root, Gnuplot, Paw, Topdrawer
- Fortran 77

$$pp \rightarrow Hjj$$

$$pp \rightarrow Hjj, \quad H \rightarrow \tau\tau$$

$$pp \rightarrow Hjj, \quad H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

$$pp \rightarrow Hjj, \quad H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$$

$$pp \rightarrow Hjj, \quad H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$$

$$pp \rightarrow Hjj, \quad H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l, 2l2\nu$$

$$pp \rightarrow WWjj \rightarrow l\nu l\nu jj$$

$$pp \rightarrow ZZjj \rightarrow 4l jj$$

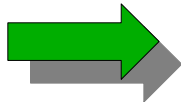
$$pp \rightarrow ZZjj \rightarrow 2l 2\nu jj$$

$$pp \rightarrow W^\pm jj \rightarrow l\nu jj$$

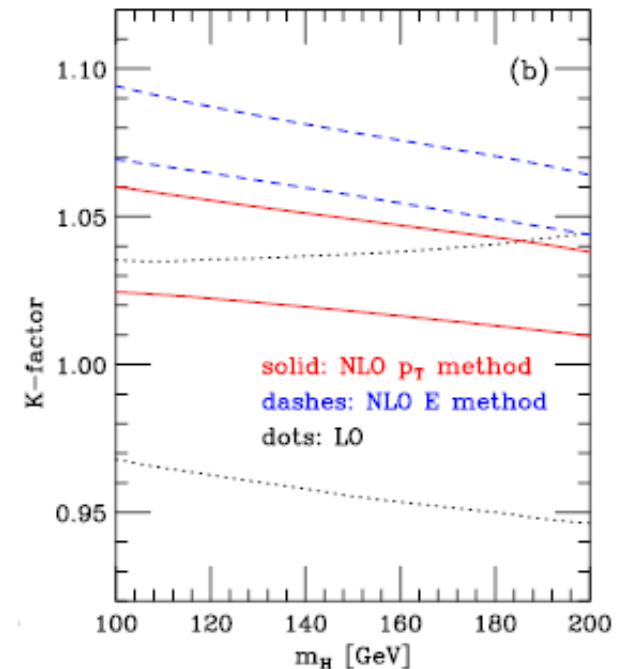
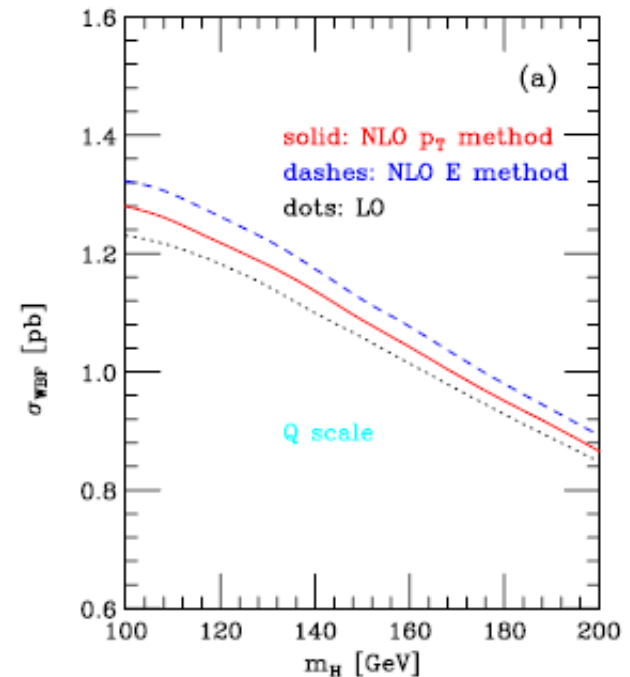
$$pp \rightarrow Zjj \rightarrow 2l jj$$

# Results for Higgs Production

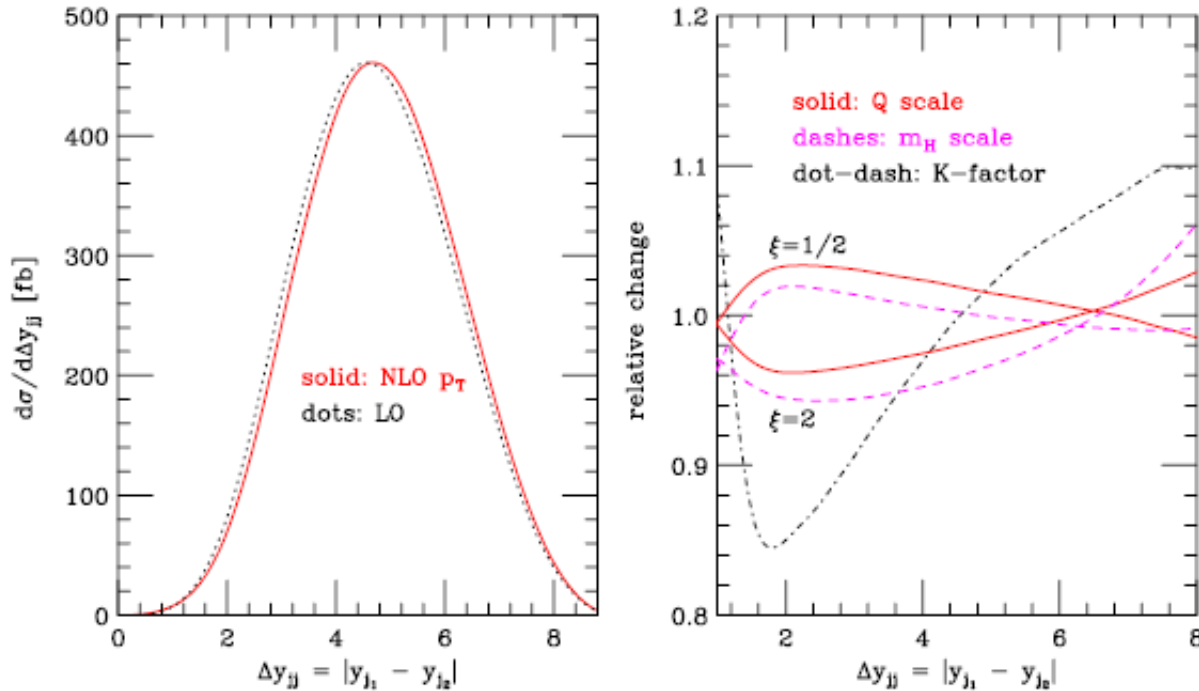
- $m_H = 120 \text{ GeV}$
- $p_T$  and  $E_T$  methods for tagging jets
- NLO effects modest
  - 3%-5% for  $p_T$  method
  - 6%-9% for  $E_T$  method
- Residual scale uncertainty
  - 5% at LO
  - 2% at NLO
- QCD corrections under excellent control
- Electroweak corrections are needed  
Solved now !



talk by A. Denner



# Results for Higgs Production



Wide separation of tagging jets important for rejection of QCD background survive at NLO

Dynamic K factor: 1.1 - 0.85

- Rapidity separation of two tagging jets
- Left hand panel  $d\sigma/d\Delta y_{jj}$  in fb
- Right hand panel:
  - K-factor
  - Scale variation of the NLO results

Scale dependence of NLO result  
5% for distribution

## Comparison between VBF QCD Calculations

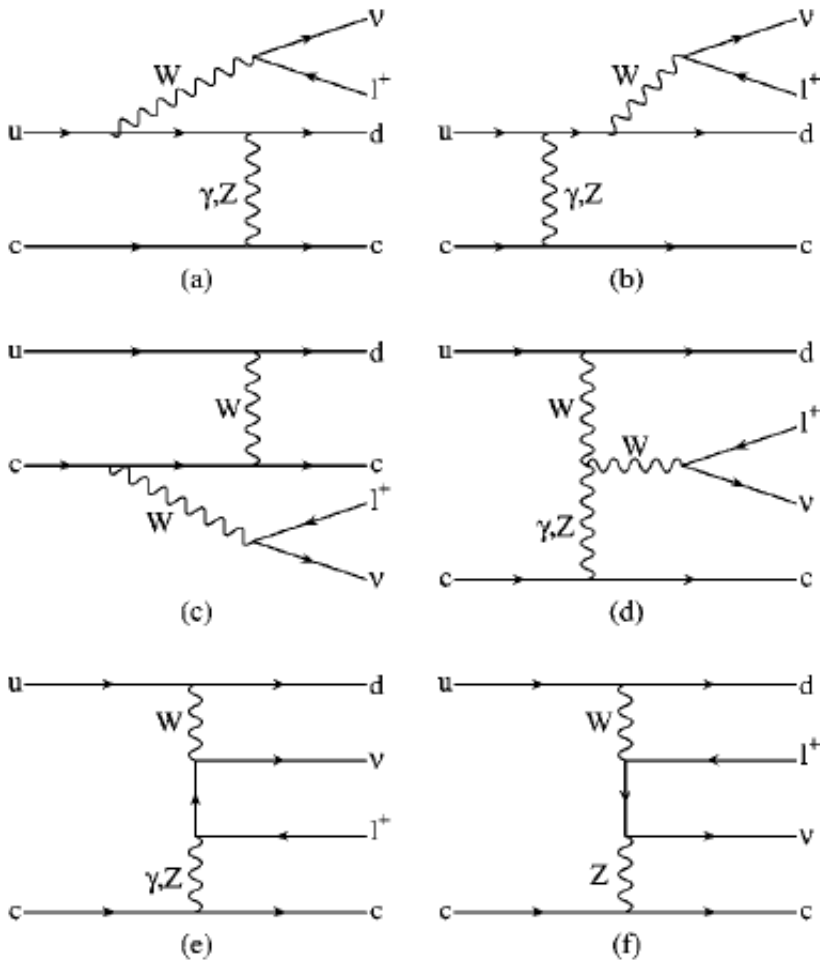
- Excellent agreement between QCD corrections from Denner (et al) and Zeppenfeld (et al) for  $pp \rightarrow hjj$  at LO and NLO QCD
- CTEQ6L1 PDFs for LO  $\sigma$ 's, CTEQ6M for NLO  $\sigma$ 's, VBF cuts

Cross Section for  $pp \rightarrow hjj$  in fb

| Process            | Denner et al | VBFNLO | Ratio-1            |
|--------------------|--------------|--------|--------------------|
| $M_h=120$ GeV, LO  | 1647         | 1650   | $-0.17 \pm 0.10\%$ |
| $M_h=120$ GeV, NLO | 1745         | 1740   | $0.27 \pm 0.13\%$  |
| $M_h=160$ GeV, LO  | 1299         | 1300   | $-0.14 \pm 0.07\%$ |
| $M_h=160$ GeV, NLO | 1398         | 1397   | $0.05 \pm 0.1\%$   |
| $M_h=200$ GeV, LO  | 1035         | 1035   | $0.04 \pm 0.06\%$  |
| $M_h=200$ GeV, NLO | 1131         | 1128   | $0.26 \pm 0.10\%$  |

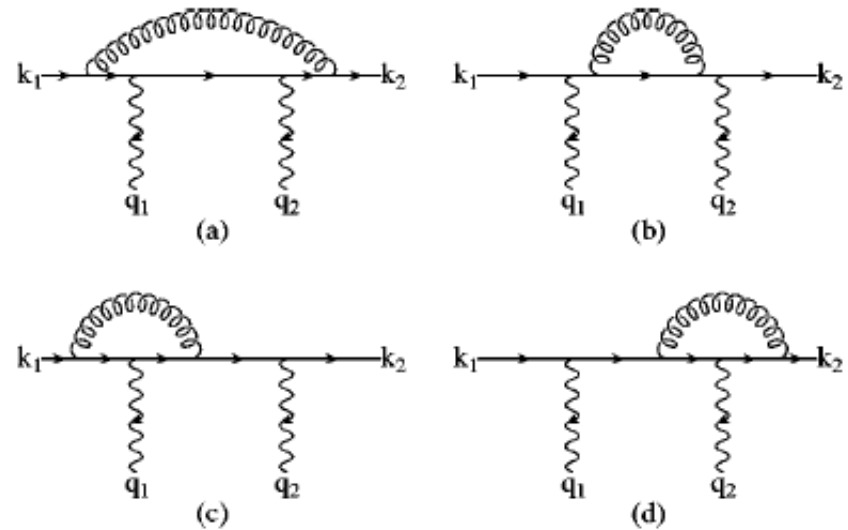
# Single W Production

- Seven Feynman graph topologies contribute at tree level



Additional bremsstrahlung graph with the vector boson emitted of the final state charm quark - mirror image of graph (b)

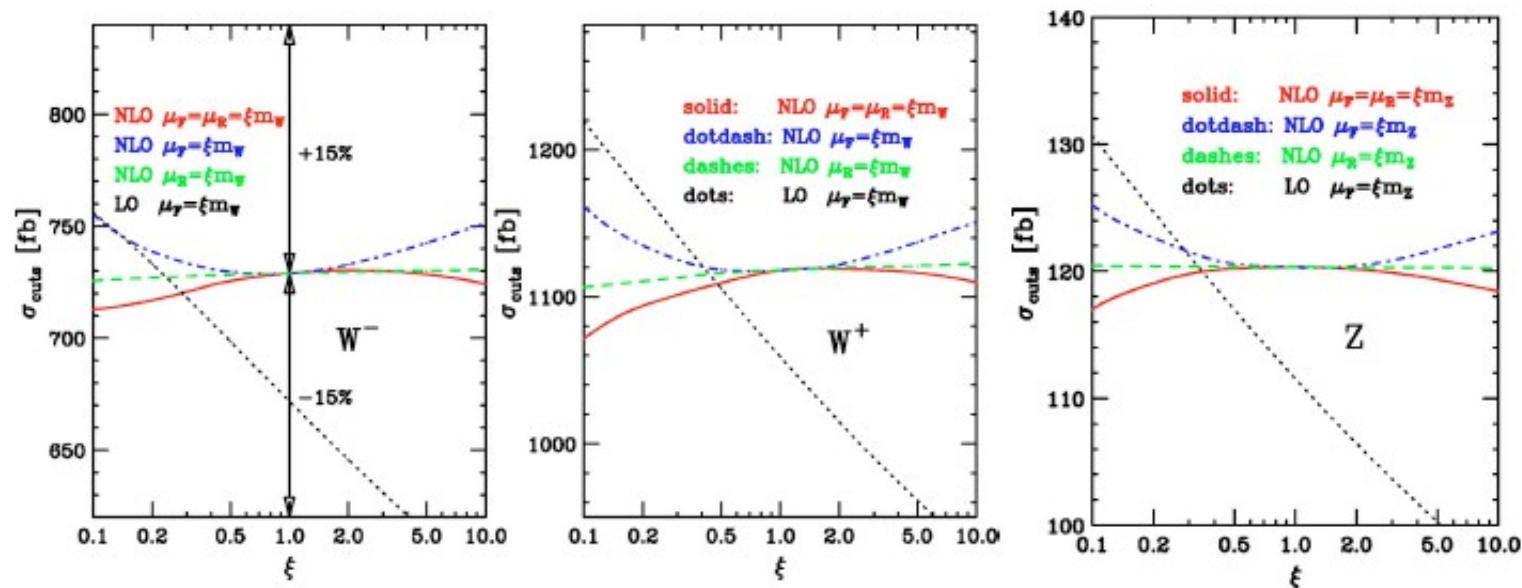
- 10 Feynman diagrams for W
- 24 Feynman diagrams for Z



Virtual corrections for a fermion line with two attached electroweak boson - boxline corrections

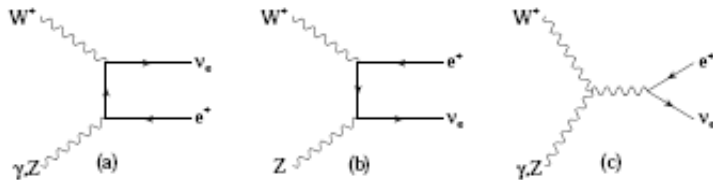
# Results for W and Z Production

- QCD corrections modest  $\sim 10\%$
- Scale dependence of the total cross section at LO and NLO
- Factorisation scale dependence of LO result is sizeable
- NLO cross sections are quite insensitive to scale variations
- For  $0.5 < \xi < 2$  NLO cross sections change by less than  $1\%$  in all cases
- Residual NLO scale dependence of about  $1\% - 2\%$  for distributions

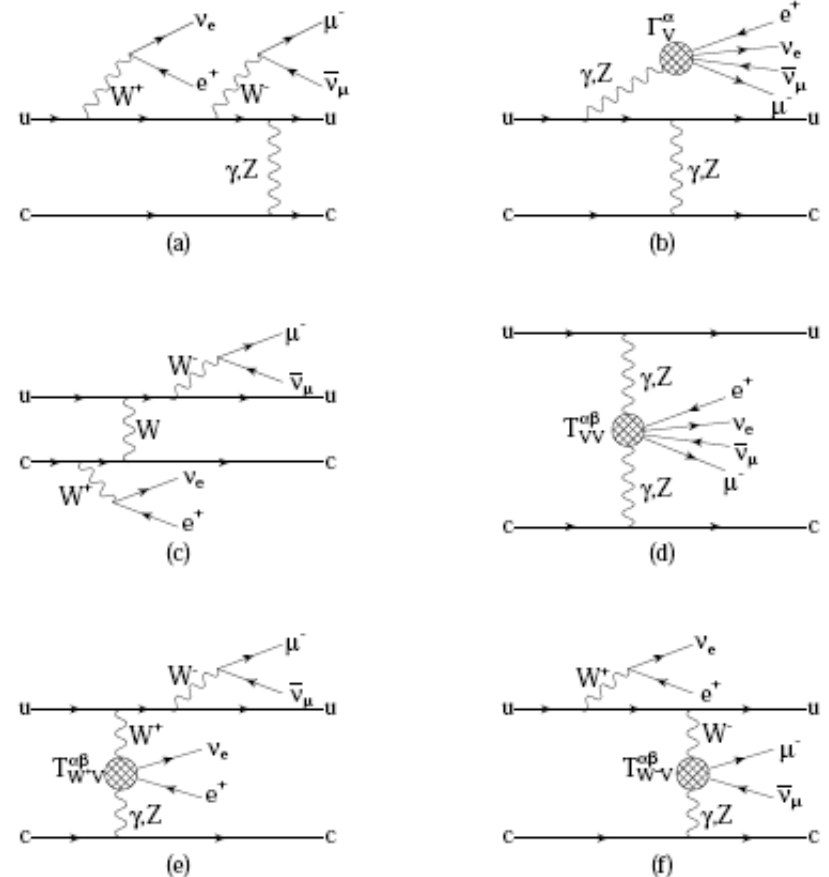


# WW Production

- WW production via VBF with leptonic decays
- Spin correlations of the final state leptons
- All resonant and non-resonant Feynman diagrams included
- NC  $\rightarrow$  181 Feynman diagrams at LO
- CC  $\rightarrow$  92 Feynman diagrams at LO
- Modular structure - grouping whole set of diagrams. Leptonic tensors do not depend on the quark flavour



- Calculated once reuse in different processes
- Speedup factor  $\sim 70$  compared to MadGraph for real emission corrections



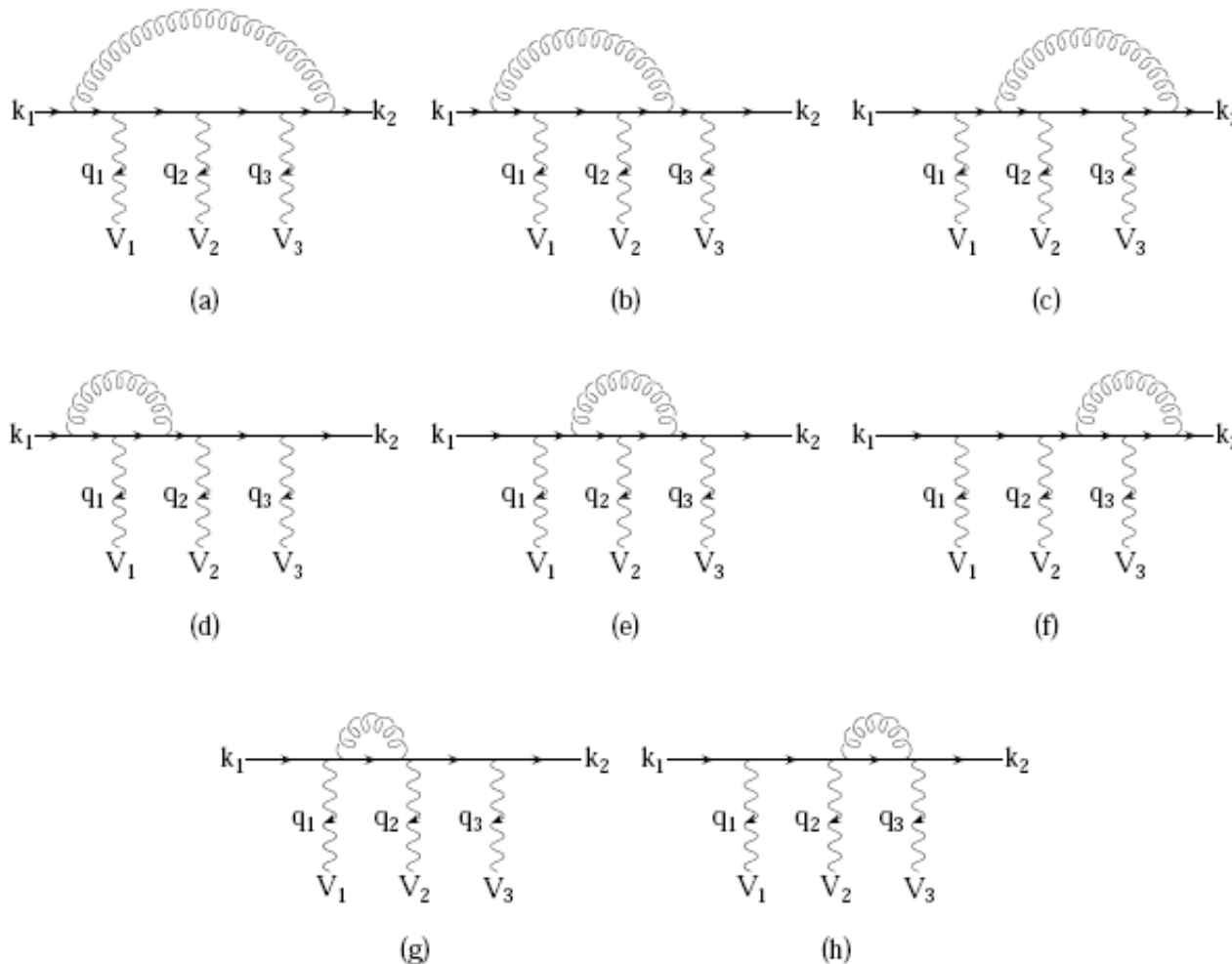
Straightforward inclusion of new physics effects in electroweak sector - only leptonic tensors have to be modified

- Anomalous gauge boson couplings
- Extra Vector Bosons




# WW Production

- Virtual corrections for a fermion line with three attached vector bosons
- Virtual corrections involve up to **pentagons**



In PV tensor reduction procedure Gram determinants appear in the denominators of PV coefficient functions

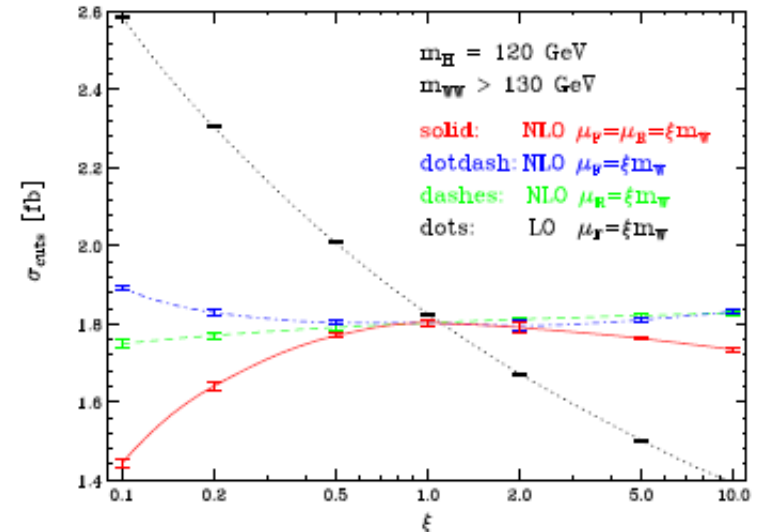
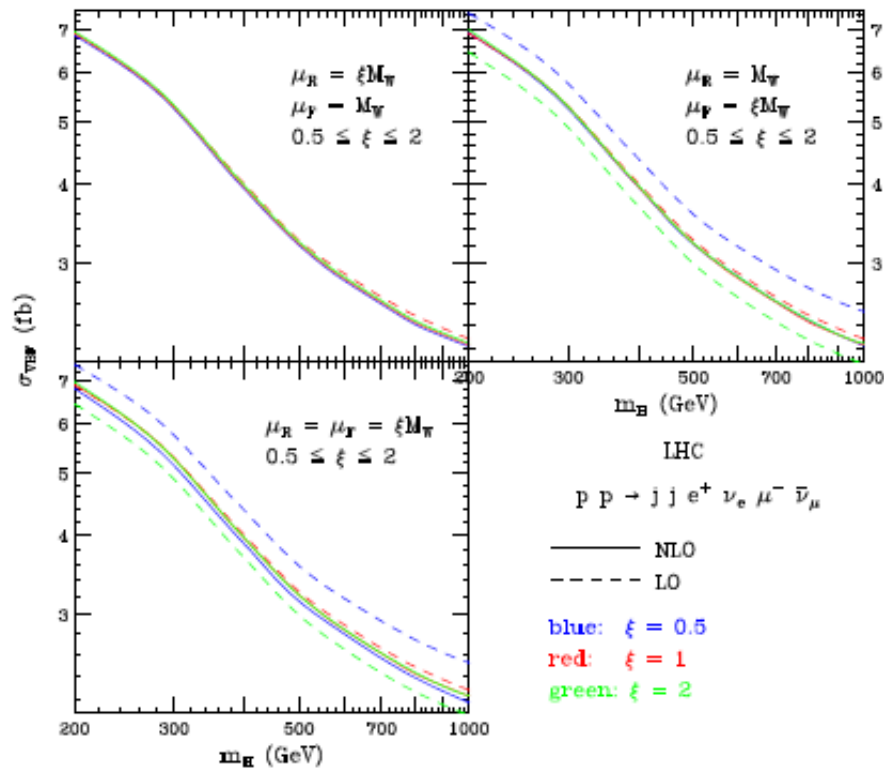
Pentagons: phase space points where these determinants small  
 numerical results become unstable

Fraction of events for which numerical instabilities lead to violations of Ward identities **10%**

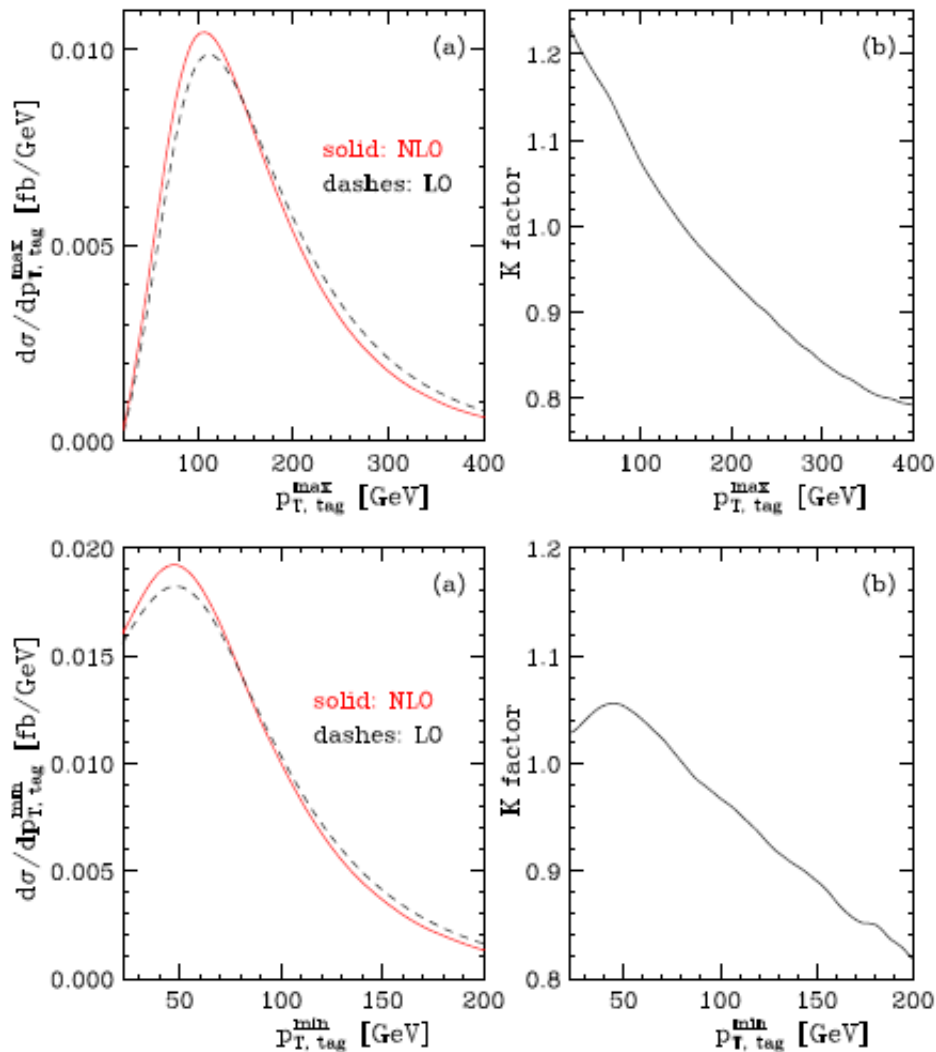
Brought down to **1%** level with Denner-Dittamier tensor reduction scheme

# Results for WW Production

- QCD corrections modest changing total cross section by less than 10%
- Scale dependence of the total cross section without Higgs contribution
- Higgs mass dependence of total cross section
- NLO cross section quite insensitive to scale variation - changes less than 2%



# Results for WW Production



- Transverse momentum distribution of highest and smallest  $p_T$  tagging jet

$$m_H = 120 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\mu_F = \mu_R = m_W$$

- Dynamic K-Factor varying between 1.2 - 0.8 as  $p_T^{\max}$  increases from 20 GeV to 400 GeV
- For  $p_T^{\min}$  - effect is slightly smaller

## Summary & Outlook

- VBF Processes important for the LHC - allow precise measurements of the HWW, HZZ, Hff couplings
- Experimental accuracy 5%-10%
- NLO QCD corrections moderate and under theoretical control
- VBNLO - NLO parton level MC for VBF and dominant backgrounds
- Includes Hjj, Zjj, Wjj, WWjj, ZZjj at NLO with decays
- Input: Arbitrary cuts, scale choices, PDF functions
- Output: arbitrary differential distributions
- Can include (resource for BSM group):
  - anomalous HVV couplings
  - anomalous WWW couplings