

## POWHEG & VBFNLO

# First steps towards an interface

Forschungsseminar

Franziska Schissler | January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012



# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 The POWHEG-Method
  - Shower algorithm
  - Subtraction formalism
  - POWHEG master formula
- 3 The POWHEG-BOX
  - Needed ingredients
- 4 Processes
  - $WW$  production
  - $Z$  production in vector boson fusion
- 5 Conclusion & Outlook

# Motivation

- Fixed order calculations  $\rightarrow$  predictions for inclusive quantities
- Shower Monte Carlo (SMC)  $\rightarrow$  exclusive quantities

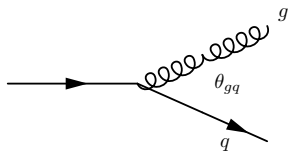
SMC (LO)	NLO
LO ( $\alpha_s^n$ ) accuracy	NLO ( $\alpha_s^{(n+1)}$ ) accuracy
Large dependence on $\mu_r/\mu_f$	reduced dependence
Sudakov suppression of soft/collinear emission	Wrong shapes in the Sudakov region

$\implies$  combine both approaches, try to merge benefits

2 matching prescriptions to avoid double counting of radiation:

- 1 MC@NLO
- 2 POWHEG (Positive Weight Hardest Emission Generator)

# Shower algorithm



$$\frac{1}{(q+g)^2 - m_q^2} = \frac{1}{2E_g E_q (1 - \beta_q \cos \theta_{gq})}$$

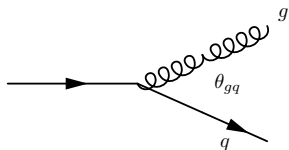
soft divergence:  $E_g \rightarrow 0$

collinear divergence:  $\theta_{gq} \rightarrow 0$  ( $m_q = 0$ )

⇒ initial or final state collinear & soft emission strongly enhanced

- cross section for extra emission factorizes in coll./soft limit  
→ Shower algorithm to evaluate enhanced contribution at all orders
- description valid from hard scale down to hadronization scale

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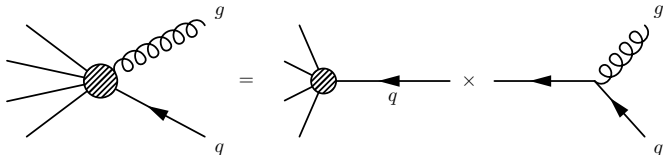
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# Factorization in the collinear limit



$$|\mathcal{M}_{n+1}|^2 d\Phi_{n+1} \rightarrow |\mathcal{M}_n|^2 d\Phi_n \times \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{dt}{t} P_{q,gg}(z) dz \frac{d\varphi}{2\pi}$$

$$d\Phi_{n+1} \rightarrow d\Phi_n \times d\Phi_r (\propto dt dz d\varphi)$$

$t$  : ordering variable:  $(q + g)^2, p_T^2, E^2 \theta^2$

$z$  : Energy fraction of quark  $\frac{q^0}{q^0 + g^0}$

$$P_{q,gg}(z) = C_F \frac{1+z^2}{1-z} \quad : \quad \text{Altarelli-Parisi splitting kernel}$$



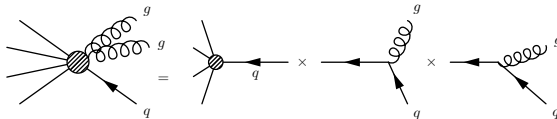
$$P_{g,gg}(z) = C_A \left( \frac{z}{1-z} + \frac{1-z}{z} + z(1-z) \right)$$



$$P_{g,qq}(z) = T_F \left( z^2 + (1-z)^2 \right)$$



# Multiple emissions



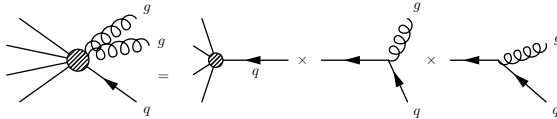
$$|\mathcal{M}_{n+2}|^2 d\Phi_{n+2} \rightarrow |\mathcal{M}_n|^2 d\Phi_n \times \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{dt'}{t'} P(z') dz' \frac{d\varphi'}{2\pi} \\ \times \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{dt}{t} P(z) dz \frac{d\varphi}{2\pi} \theta(t' - t)$$

- $\sigma_n$  for  $n$  collinear emissions contains factorized integral

$$\sigma_n \approx \sigma_0 \alpha_s^n \int_{t_0}^{Q^2} \frac{dt_n}{t_n} \frac{dt_{n-1}}{t_{n-1}} \dots \frac{dt_1}{t_1} \times \theta(Q^2 > t_n > t_{n-1} \dots > t_1 > t_0) \\ = \sigma_0 \frac{\alpha_s^n}{n!} \left[ \log\left(\frac{Q^2}{t_0}\right) \right]^n$$

- Leading Log approximation
- $Q^2$ : ordering variable upper cutoff, scale of hard subprocess
- $t_0 \approx \Lambda_{QCD}$ : infrared cutoff

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# Sudakov form factor

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Single emission probability: } & d\mathcal{P}_{1e}(t, t + dt) = \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} \frac{dt}{t} \int P_{i,jk}(z) dz \\ \text{probability of not emitting: } & d\mathcal{P}_{0e}(t, t + dt) = 1 - d\mathcal{P}_{1e}(t, t + dt) \end{aligned}$$

no-emission probability along line  $i$  from scale  $t_1$  to  $t_2$  by dividing into subintervals

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{0e}(t_1, t_2) &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{n=1}^N \left( 1 - \sum_{(jk)} \frac{\alpha_s(t_n)}{2\pi} \frac{dt_n}{t_n} \int P_{i,jk}(z) dz \right) \\ &= \exp \left( - \int_{t_2}^{t_1} \frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} \frac{dt}{t} \sum_{(jk)} \int P_{i,jk}(z) dz \right) \equiv \Delta_i(t_1, t_2) \end{aligned}$$

$\Delta_i(t_1, t_2)$ : Sudakov Form Factor

## Subtraction formalism

- NLO cross section for  $2 \rightarrow n$  process,

$$d\Phi_{n+1} = d\Phi_n d\Phi_{rad}, \quad d\Phi_{rad} \propto dt dz d\varphi$$

$$d\sigma_{NLO} = \left[ \mathcal{B}(\Phi_n) + \underbrace{\mathcal{V}_b(\Phi_n) + \mathcal{R}(\Phi_{n+1}) d\Phi_{rad}}_{\text{seperately IR divergent}} \right] d\Phi_n, \quad \mathcal{V}_b = 2\text{Re}(\mathcal{M}_B^* \mathcal{M}_V)$$

UV finite

- add local Counterterms to cancel IR divergencies (KLN theorem)

$$\mathcal{R}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) - \mathcal{C}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) \rightarrow \text{finite}$$

$$\mathcal{V}(\Phi_n) = \mathcal{V}_b(\Phi_n) + \int \mathcal{C}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) d\Phi_{rad} \rightarrow \text{finite}$$

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# Finite NLO cross section

$$d\sigma_{NLO} = \left[ \mathcal{B}(\Phi_n) + \mathcal{V}_b(\Phi_n) + \mathcal{C}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) d\Phi_{rad} + [\mathcal{R}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) - \mathcal{C}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad})] d\Phi_{rad} \right] d\Phi_n,$$

$$\mathcal{V}(\Phi_n) = \underbrace{\mathcal{V}_b(\Phi_n) + \int \overbrace{\mathcal{C}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) d\Phi_{rad}}^{\text{divergent}}}_{\text{finite}} \rightarrow \text{cancel divergencies analytically}$$

$$\mathcal{R}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) - \mathcal{C}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) \rightarrow \text{numerical cancelation}$$

## $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ -function

$$\bar{\mathcal{B}} = \int d\sigma_{NLO} d\Phi_{rad} = \left[ \mathcal{B}(\Phi_n) + \mathcal{V}(\Phi_n) + \int [\mathcal{R}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) - \mathcal{C}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad})] d\Phi_{rad} \right] d\Phi_n$$

Inclusive NLO cross section at fixed underlying Born kinematics



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Inclusive NLO cross section at fixed underlying Born kinematics

# POWHEG master formula

- first branching at scale  $t'$  starting from higher scale  $t$  is independent of subsequent ones:

$$d\mathcal{P}_{\text{first}} = \Delta_i(t, t') \frac{\alpha_s(t')}{2\pi} \frac{dt'}{t'} \sum_{(jk)} \int P_{i,jk}(z) dz \int \frac{d\varphi}{2\pi}$$

- Standard Shower MC's first emission

$$d\sigma_{SMC} = \underbrace{\mathcal{B}(\Phi_n)}_{\text{Born}} d\Phi_n \left[ \Delta_{SMC}(t_0) + \Delta_{SMC}(t) \underbrace{\frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t} P(z)}_{\lim_{k_T \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{R}(\Phi_{n+1})/B(\Phi_n)} d\Phi_{\text{rad}}^{SMC} \right]$$

- $\Delta_{SMC}(t) = \exp \left[ - \int d\Phi'_{\text{rad}} \frac{\alpha_s(t')}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t'} P(z') \theta(t' - t) \right]$

SMC Sudakov factor: Probability of not emitting a parton at scale greater than  $t$



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# POWHEG master formula

- POWHEG first emission

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- POWHEG Sudakov factor: Probability of not emitting with transverse momentum harder than  $p_T$

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- NLO cross section for inclusive quantities
- NLO accuracy preserved in the hard region,  $\Delta_{PWG}(\Phi_n, p_T) \approx 1$

$$d\sigma_{PWG} \approx \frac{\overline{\mathcal{B}}(\Phi_n)}{\mathcal{B}(\Phi_n)} \mathcal{R}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) d\Phi_n d\Phi_{rad} \approx \mathcal{R}(\Phi_n, \Phi_{rad}) (1 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)) d\Phi_n d\Phi_{rad}$$

- LL accuracy of a SMC in soft/collinear limit  $k_T \rightarrow 0$

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- FORTRAN code
- Projection of real cross section into singular regions
- Counter terms (soft/coll. approximation) & radiation phase space
- pdfs
- NLO differential cross section  $\rightarrow$  comparison to VBFNLO
- LesHouches event files (unweighted events)
  - Calculate upper bounds for efficient generation of Sudakov suppressed events
  - Hardest emission according to POWHEG Sudakov

# Needed ingredients

obtained from VBFNLO-subroutines, converted into POWHEG-BOX format

- 1 Flavour structures of Born & Real processes
- 2 Coupling constants
- 3 Born phase space
- 4 Born squared amplitudes  $\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}_{ij}, \mathcal{B}_{\mu\nu}$
- 5 Real matrix elements squared
- 6 Virtual finite part ( $2 \operatorname{Re} (B^* V_{fin})$ )
- 7 Born colour structures in  $N_c \rightarrow \infty$  limit

# Needed ingredients

## 1 Flavour structures of Born & Real processes

- find all subprocesses
- recycle old processes

## 2 Coupling constants (conversion to POWHEG-format): [Jäger, Zanderighi 2011]

## 3 Born phase space (PS)

- 'easy' PS: take VBFNLO one (Jacobian  $\neq 0$ , 1 to 1 correspondence)
- 'difficult' PS: produce 'unweighted' events (weight =  $\frac{\sigma_{tot}}{\mathcal{M}^2}$ )

## 4 Born squared amplitudes $\mathcal{B}$ , $\mathcal{B}_{ij}$ , $\mathcal{B}_{\mu\nu}$

- devide into different flavour structures (not calculated in 1 step)
- Flag `smartsig`

- $\sum$  helicity combinations ( $\mathcal{B} \neq 0$ )
- colour-correlated  $\mathcal{B}_{ij}$ :  $\sum_{i,i \neq j} \mathcal{B}_{ij} = c_f \mathcal{B}$
- spin-correlated  $\mathcal{B}_{\mu\nu}$ :  $\sum_{\mu,\nu} g_{\mu\nu} \mathcal{B}^{\mu\nu} = -\mathcal{B}$

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## 5 Real matrix elements squared $\mathcal{R}$

- Flavour structures, (anti-)particles
- soft approximation, parton  $k$  radiated

$$\mathcal{R} = 4\pi\alpha_s\mu_r^{2\epsilon} \left[ \sum_{i \neq j} \mathcal{B}_{ij} \frac{k_i \cdot k_j}{(k_i \cdot k)(k_j \cdot k)} - \mathcal{B} \sum_i \frac{k_i^2}{(k_i \cdot k)^2} C_i \right] + \mathcal{R}^f,$$

- collinear approximation, final state singularities:

$$\mathcal{R}^{gg} \propto \mathcal{B}_{\mu\nu}, P_{g,gg}$$

$$\mathcal{R}^{qg} \propto \mathcal{B}, P_{q,qg}$$

$$\mathcal{R}^{q\bar{q}} \propto \mathcal{B}_{\mu\nu}, P_{g,q\bar{q}}$$

6 Virtual finite part ( $2 \text{Re}(\mathcal{M}_{\text{Born}}^* \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{V}_{\text{fin}}})$ )

$$\mathcal{V}_b = \mathcal{N} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \left[ - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} C_{f_i} + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \gamma_{f_i} \right) \mathcal{B} + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \sum_{\substack{i, j \in \mathcal{I} \\ i \neq j}} \log \frac{2k_i \cdot k_j}{Q^2} \mathcal{B}_{ij} + \mathcal{V}_{\text{fin}} \right],$$

where

$$\mathcal{N} = \frac{(4\pi)^\epsilon}{\Gamma(1-\epsilon)} \left( \frac{\mu^2}{Q^2} \right)^\epsilon, \quad Q = \mu.$$

$$\mathcal{N}_{\text{VBFNLO}} = (4\pi)^\epsilon \Gamma(1+\epsilon) \left( \frac{\mu^2}{s} \right)^\epsilon.$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{N}_{\text{VBFNLO}}}{\mathcal{N}} = 1 + \epsilon \ln \left( \frac{\mu^2}{s} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^2 \ln^2 \left( \frac{\mu^2}{s} \right) + \frac{\pi^2}{6} \epsilon^2 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3)$$

need  $\epsilon$  poles of virtual part to match normalization constant.

$$\text{FKS-subtraction} \rightarrow \mathcal{V} = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \left( Q\mathcal{B} + \sum_{\substack{i, j \in \mathcal{I} \\ i \neq j}} \mathcal{I}_{ij} \mathcal{B}_{ij} + \mathcal{V}_{\text{fin}} \right)$$

# $WW$ production, $pp \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l^+ \nu l^- \bar{\nu}$

POWHEG:  $\sigma = (1.312246 \pm 0.001024)$  pb

[Melia, Nason, Röntsch, Zanderighi 2011]

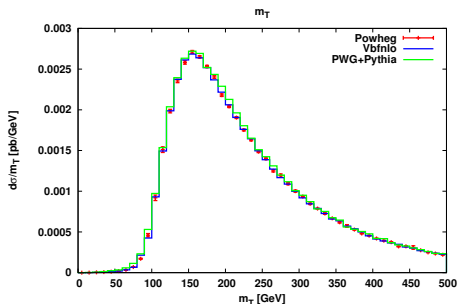
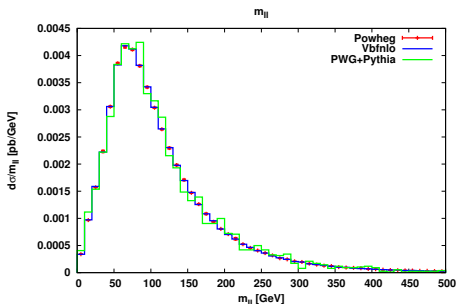
VBFNLO: PS+ME, ( $\sigma = 1.313733 \pm 0.000754$ ) pb

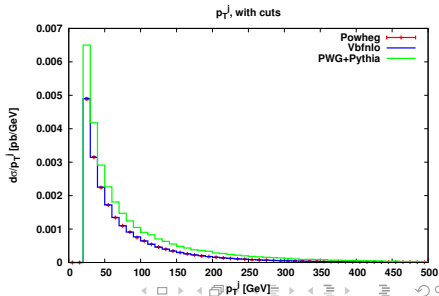
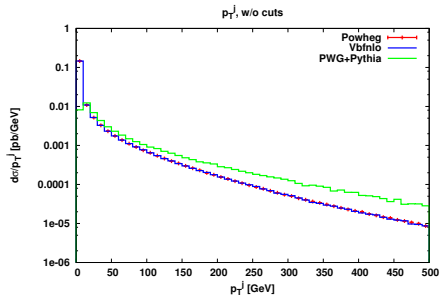
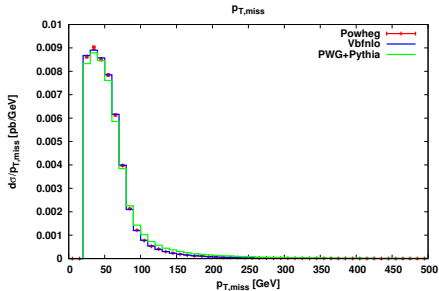
Cuts:

$p_{T,l} > 20$  GeV,  $|\eta_l| < 2.5$ ,  $p_{T,miss} > 20$  GeV,  $p_{T,j} > 20$  GeV,  $|\eta_j| < 3.5$

Shower: PYTHIA 6.421 + VBFNLO,

[Sjostrand, Mrenna, Skands 2006]



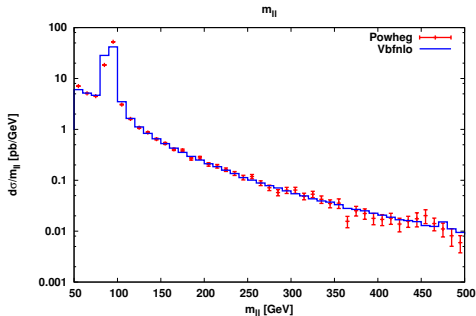


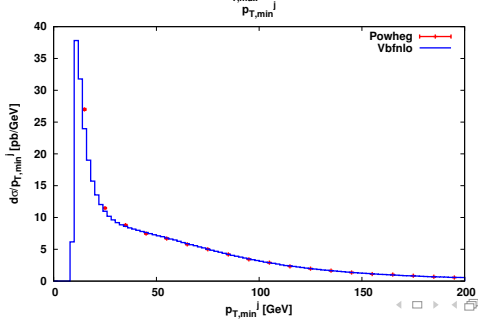
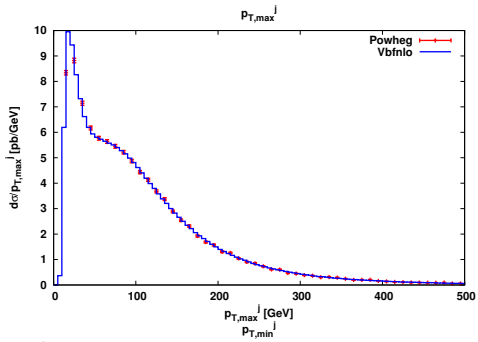
# Z in VBF, $pp \rightarrow Zjj \rightarrow l^+ l^- jj$

PS: unweighted events, ME: VBFNLO

LO VBFNLO:  $\sigma = (986.2 \pm 0.4) \text{ fb}$

LO POWHEG:  $\sigma = (986.8 \pm 0.5) \text{ fb}$





# Conclusion & Outlook

- $WW$  production works fine
  - anomalous couplings
  - $WZ$ ,  $W\gamma$
  - Triboson processes
- unweighted events as Phase space generator  $\checkmark$
- Vector boson fusion
  - $Zjj$ : LO  $\checkmark$ , NLO??
  - $Wjj$ : learn more about this
  - plenty of other VBF processes