

Higgs production through bottom annihilation in the 5FS with MiNNLO_{PS}

Aparna Sankar

In collaboration with

C. Biello, M. Wiesemann, G. Zanderighi

based on [EPJC 84, 479 (2024)]



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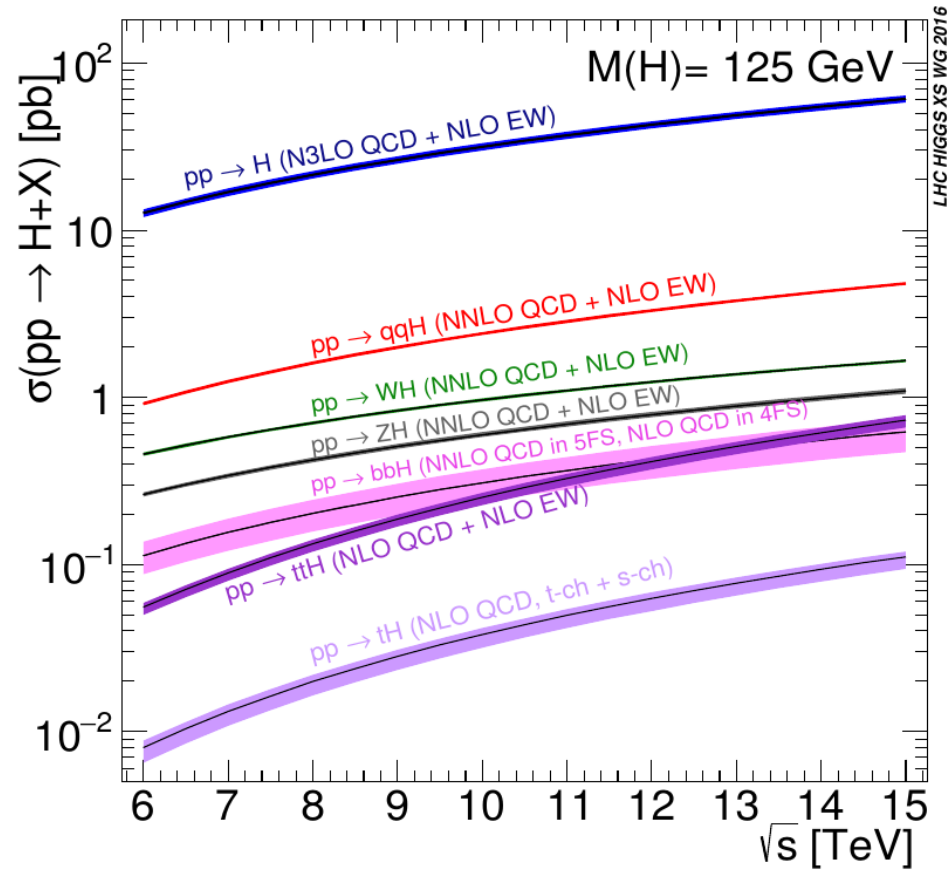
Technische Universität München

2nd Workshop on Tools for High Precision LHC Simulations

Castle Ringberg | May 9, 2024

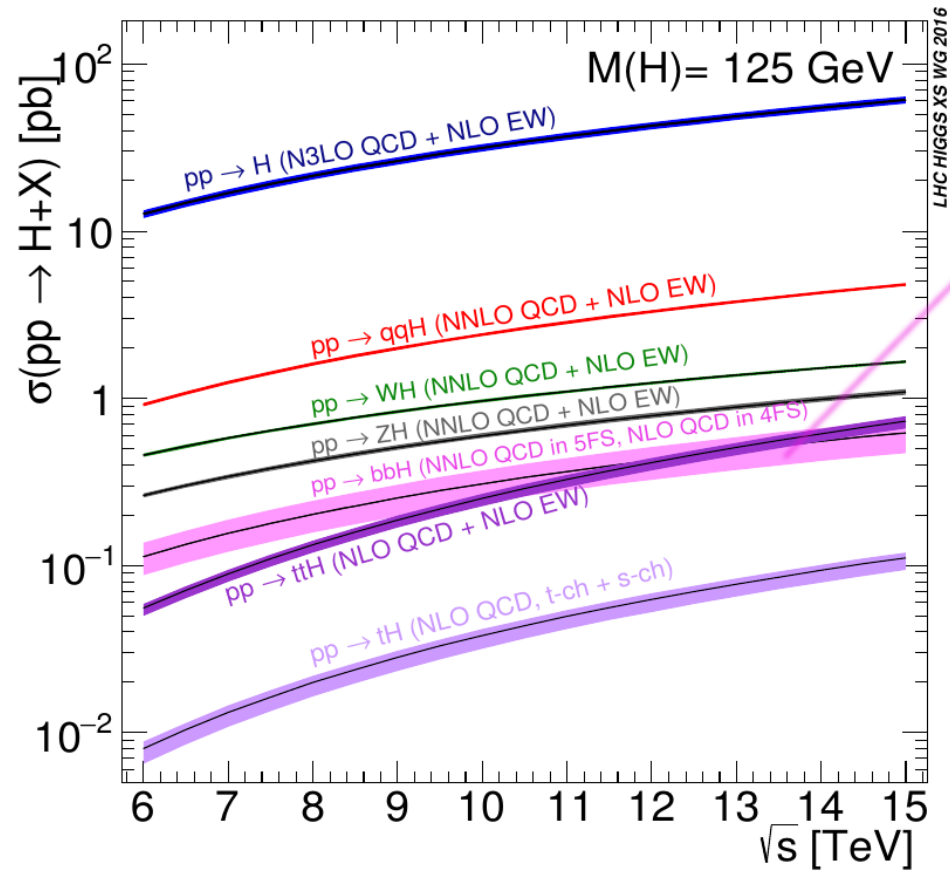
Higgs in bottom fusion ($b\bar{b}H$)

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[LHC HIGGS XS WG 2016]

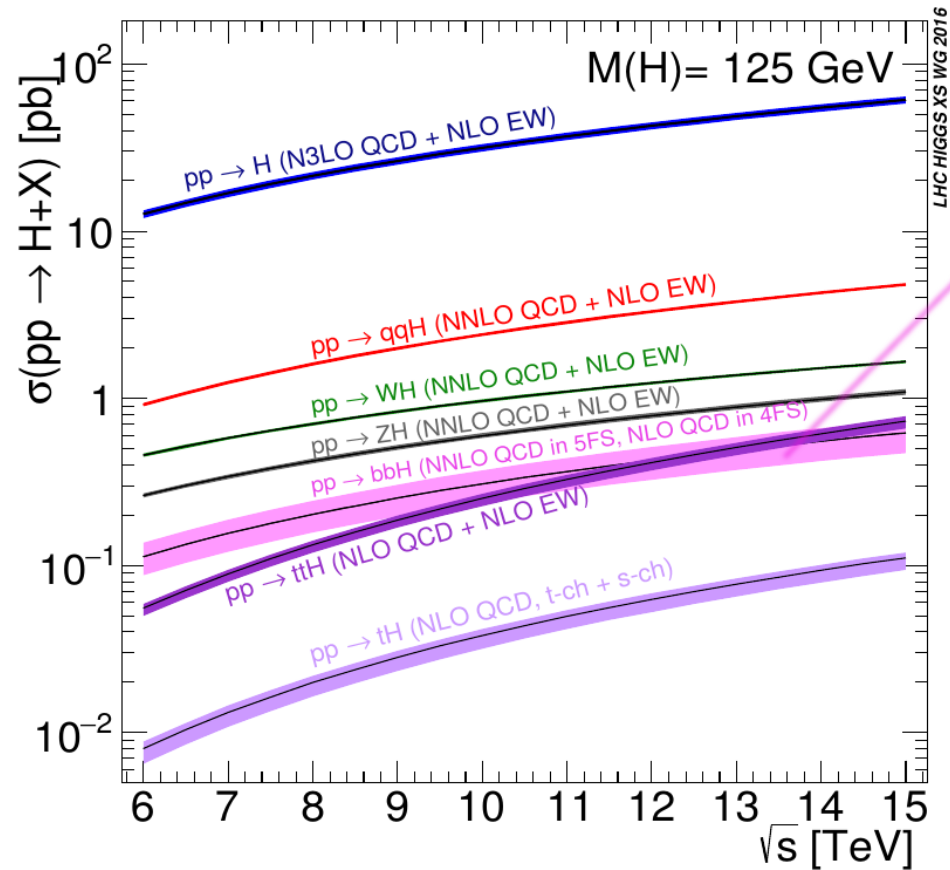
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➤ Although it is a **subdominant channel**, its cross section is **large enough**.

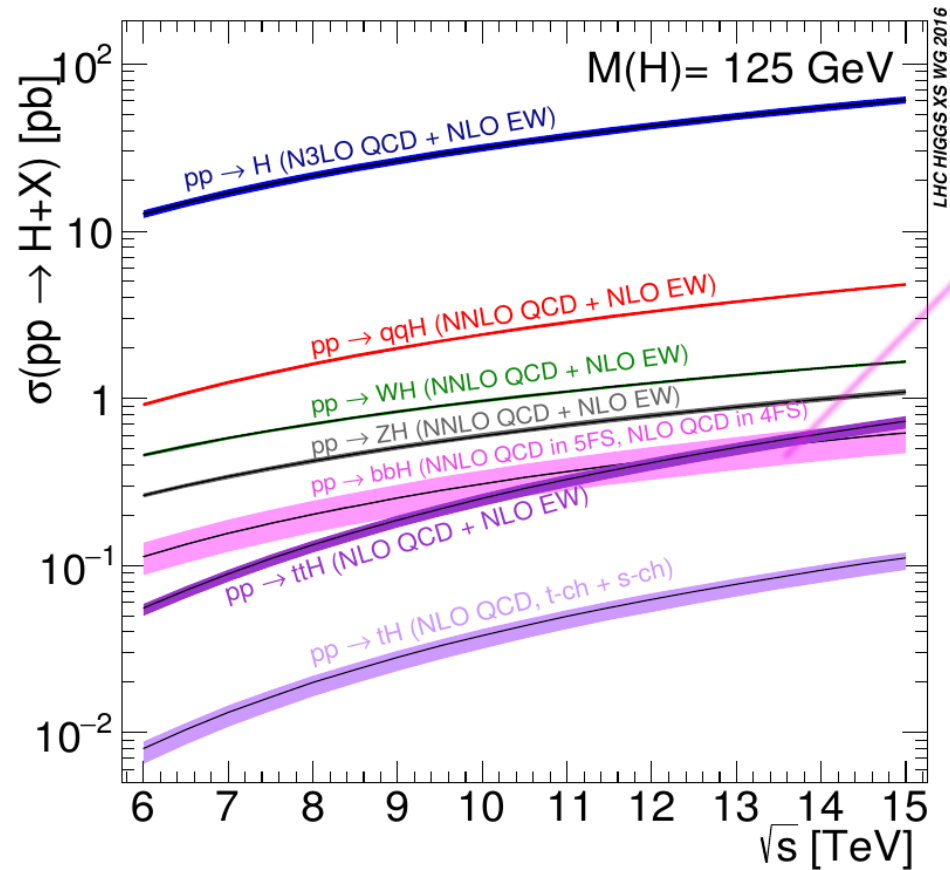
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- Direct probe of **Higgs couplings to the bottom quark** (y_b) in production
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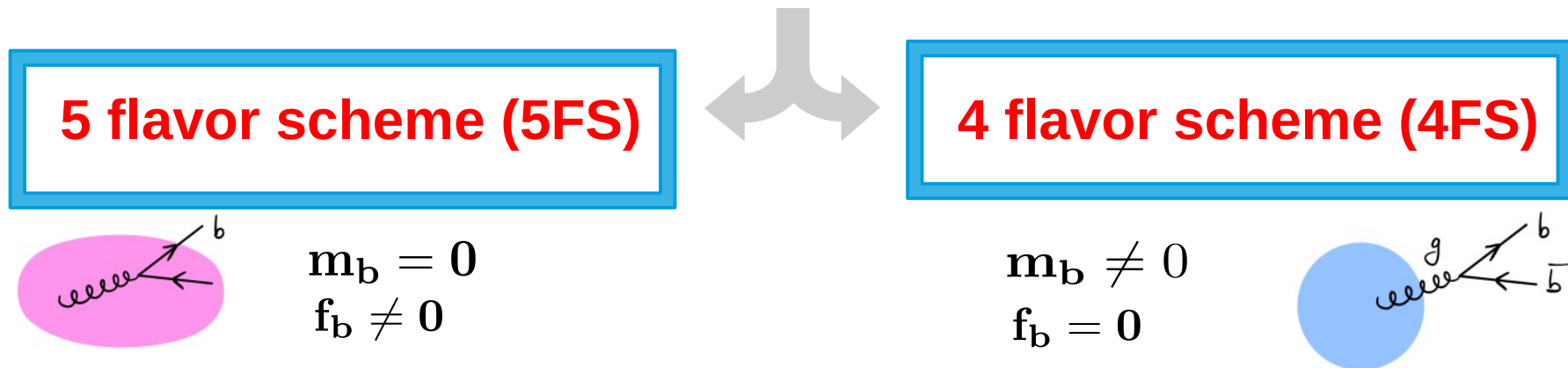
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- Direct probe of **Higgs couplings to the bottom quark** (y_b) in production
- **Bottom Yukawa coupling**: Important due to its **enhancement in New Physics models** like minimal supersymmetric extensions of the SM
- $b\bar{b}H$ enters as a **background** in other **Higgs searches** (notably HH)

Higgs in bottom fusion ($b\bar{b}H$)

$b\bar{b}H$ is also interesting on **how bottom quark is treated**

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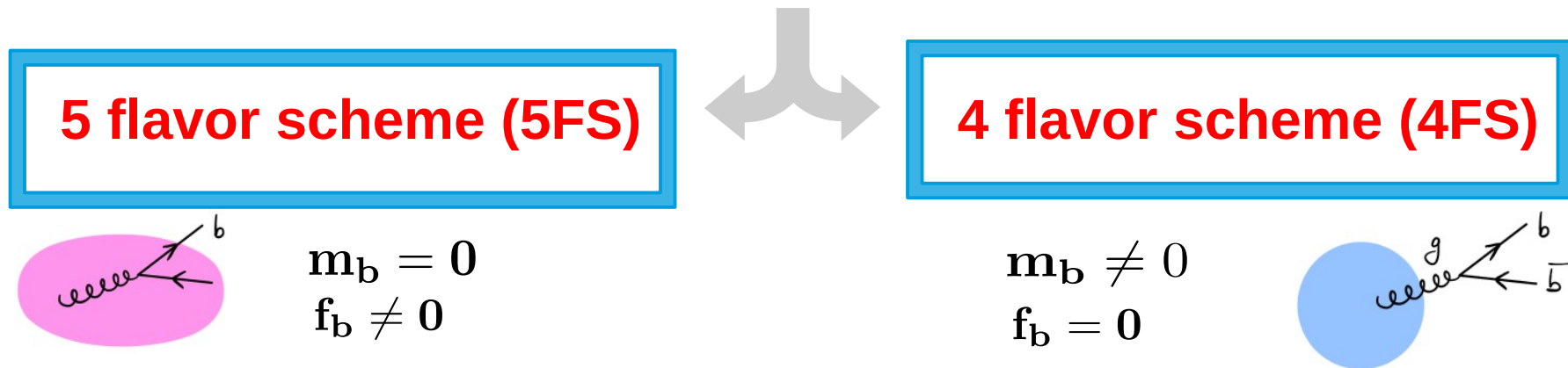
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[Image courtesy : C. Biello]

Higgs in bottom fusion ($b\bar{b}H$)

$b\bar{b}H$ is also interesting on how bottom quark is treated



- **Active parton** inside the proton.
- **Included** in the parton distribution functions (**PDFs**) of the proton.
- It is taken to be **massless except** in the **Yukawa coupling**

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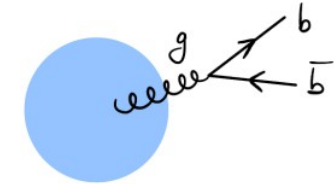
5 flavor scheme (5FS)



$$m_b = 0$$
$$f_b \neq 0$$

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4 flavor scheme (4FS)

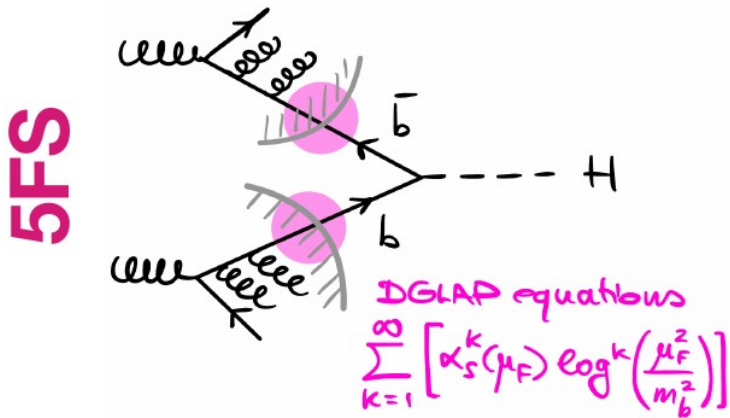


$$m_b \neq 0$$
$$f_b = 0$$

- Considered as a **heavy quark**
- The bottom quark's contribution is **neglected** in the **PDFs**.
- A **massive** bottom quark is produced from **gluon splitting**

[Image courtesy : C. Biello]

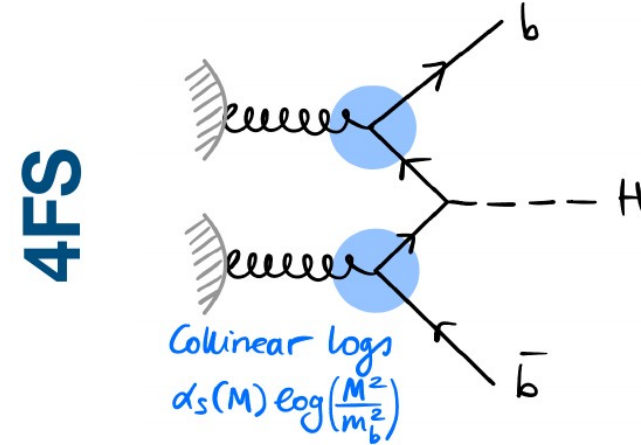
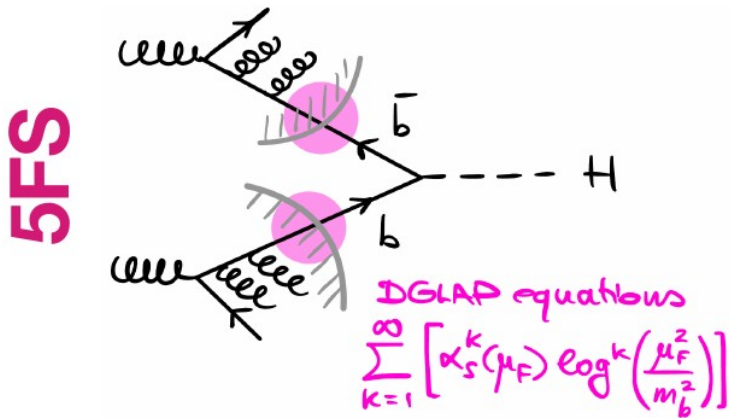
Higgs in bottom fusion ($b\bar{b}H$)



- ✓ Computing **higher orders** is **easier**
- ✓ The **DGLAP** evolution **resums** initial state collinear **logs** into the bottom PDFs
- Neglects power-suppressed terms of the $O(m_b/m_H)$

[Image courtesy : C. Biello]

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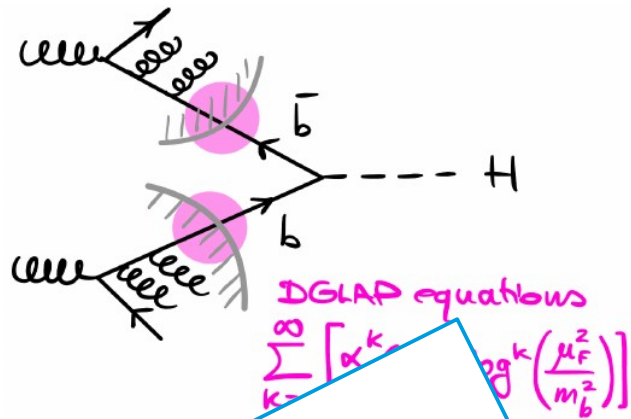
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- Computing **higher orders** is more **difficult** due to higher multiplicity & also due to the massive bottom
- It **does not resum** possibly large **collinear logs**
- ✓ **Full kinematics** of the **massive bottom** quark is taken into account

[Image courtesy : C. Biello]

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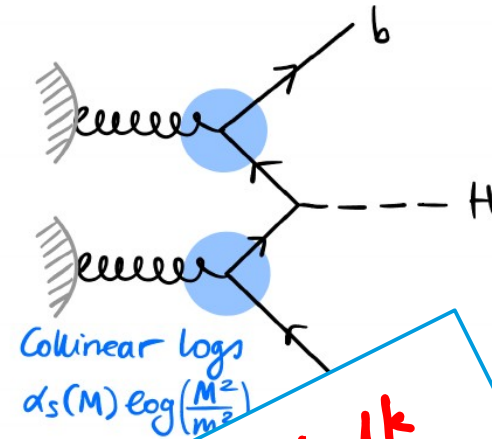
5FS



This talk

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4FS



Christian's talk

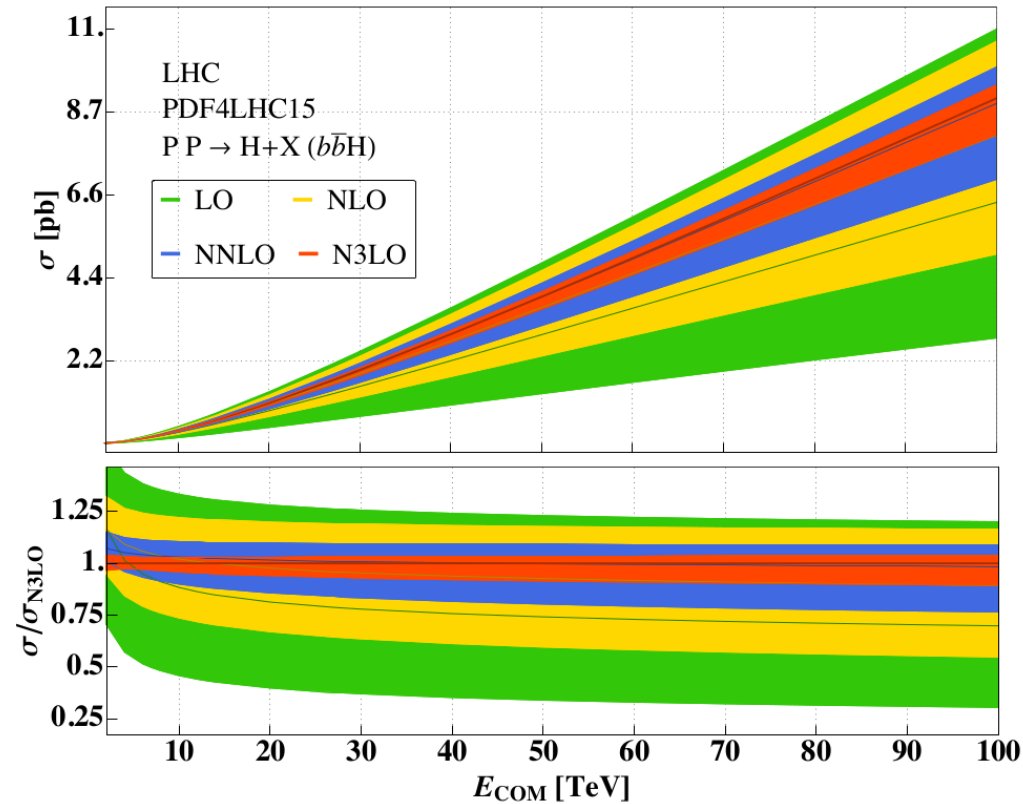
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[Image courtesy : C. Biello]

Higgs in bottom fusion ($b\bar{b}H$)

STATE OF THE ART N3LO QCD in 5FS

[Duhr, Dulat, Mistlberger (1904.09990)]



Substantial reduction of the residual scale uncertainty & good convergence of the perturbative

S [TeV]	σ_{bbH} [pb]	scale	PDF+ α_s	m_b	N ³ LO PDFs
13	0.542	+3.0% -4.8%	$\pm 8.5\%$	+2.3% -1.7%	$\pm 2.5\%$

$b\bar{b}H$ simulation

Precise and realistic LHC phenomenology requires full-fledged event simulations.

$b\bar{b}H$ simulation

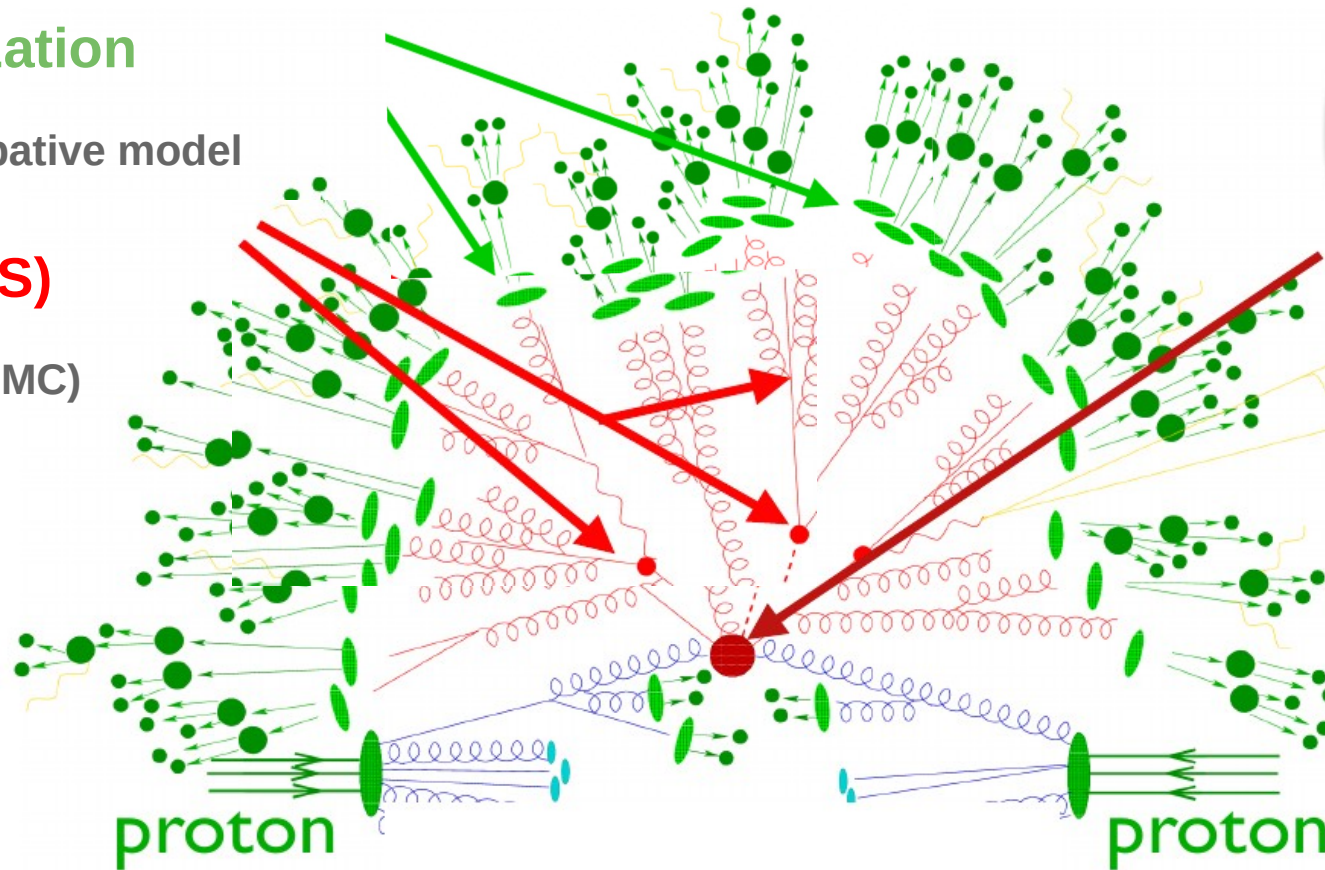
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Hadronization

$\mu \approx \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$
Non-perturbative model

Parton shower (PS)

$\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} < \mu < Q$
Shower Monte Carlo (SMC)
Resummation of
soft/collinear radiation
Less accurate



Hard scattering
($\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \ll \mu \approx Q$)
Perturbation theory
NNLO is the frontier!

[Sherpa's artistic view]

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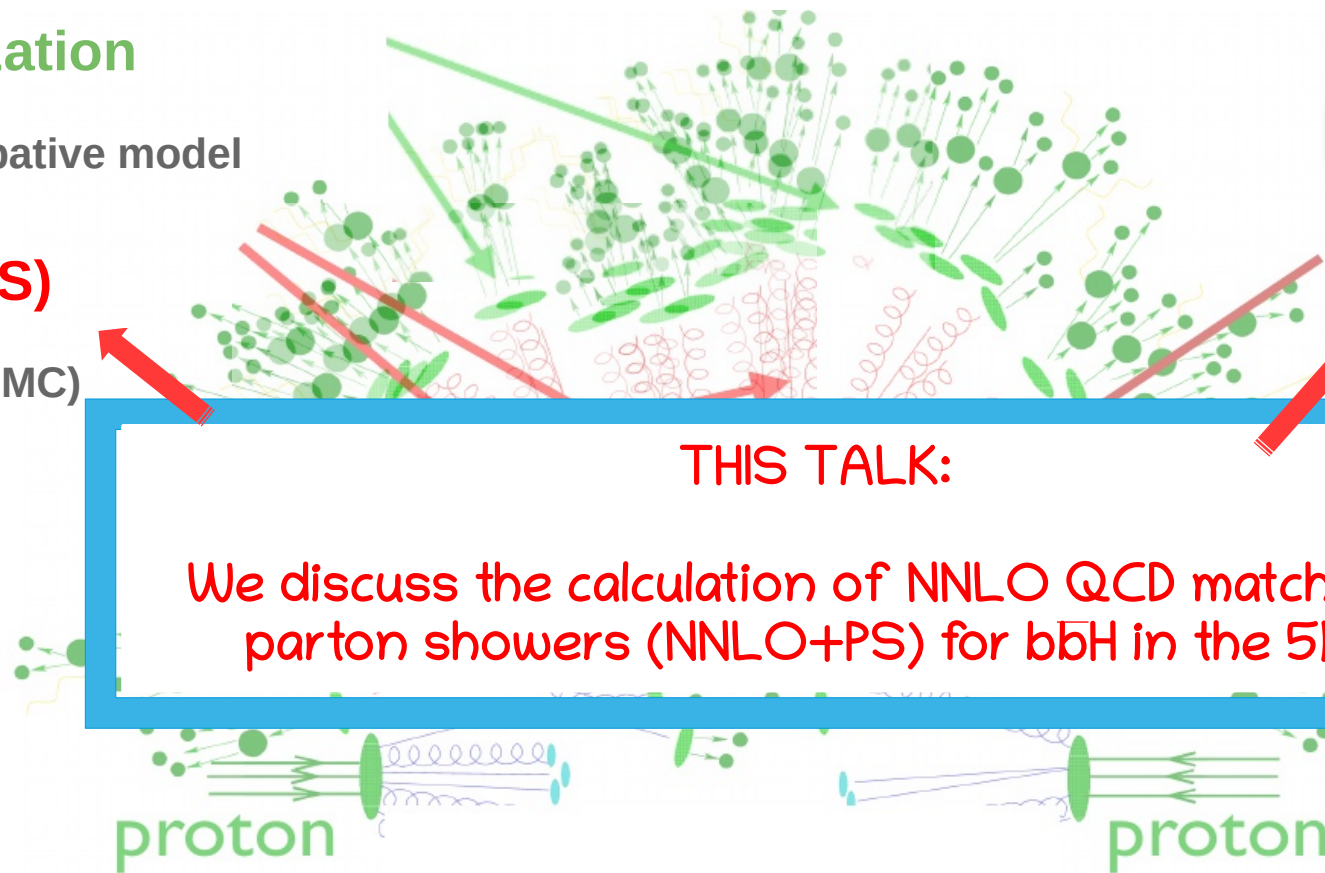
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THIS TALK:

We discuss the calculation of NNLO QCD matched to parton showers (NNLO+PS) for $b\bar{b}H$ in the 5FS.

[Sherpa's artistic view]

NNLO+PS accuracy

- **MiNLO'** + reweighting
[Hamilton, Nason, Zanderighi (1212.4504)]
- **Geneva** [Alioli, Bauer, Berggren,
Tackmann, Walsh, Zuberi (1211.7049)]
- **UNNLOPS** [Höche, Prestel (1507.05325)]

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MINNLO_{PS}

- 2→1** : [Monni, Nason, Re, Wisemann, Zanderighi (1908.06987)]
[Monni, Re, Wiesemann (2006.04133)]
- 2→2** : [Lombardi, Wiesemann, Zanderighi (2010.10478)]
- tt** : [Mazzitelli, Monni, Nason, Re, Wiesemann, Zanderighi
(2012.14267)]
- bbZ** : [Mazzitelli, Sotnikov, Wiesemann (2404.08598)]

Javier's talk

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Javier's talk

- ✓ No computationally intense reweighting
- ✓ No unphysical merging scale
- ✓ Leading-log (LL) accuracy of the shower preserved
- ✓ Numerically efficient

MiNNLO_{PS} in a Nutshell

- The matching to the parton shower is performed according to the **POWHEG** method [[P. Nason \(0409146\)](#)]
- The **POWHEG** approach: we generate the **hardest radiation first** with **NLO** accuracy, then attaching a **parton shower** with **softer** emissions.

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MiNNLO_{PS} in **POWHEG** framework: starts from a differential description of the production of the colour singlet and a jet (**pp** → **F + J**) with phase space **Φ_{FJ}**.

POWHEG Sudakov form factor

$$d\sigma_F^{\text{MiNNLO}_{\text{PS}}} = d\Phi_{\text{FJ}} \bar{B}^{\text{MiNNLO}_{\text{PS}}} \times \left\{ \Delta_{\text{pwg}}(\Lambda_{\text{pwg}}) + \int d\Phi_{\text{rad}} \Delta_{\text{pwg}}(p_{\text{T,rad}}) \frac{R_{\text{FJ}}}{B_{\text{FJ}}} \right\}$$

Describes the generation of the 1st radiation

Describes the generation of the 2nd radiation according to the **POWHEG** method above the infrared cutoff $\Lambda_{\text{pwg}} \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$

MiNNLO_{PS} in a Nutshell

Central ingredient of MiNNLO_{PS}

$$d\sigma = d\sigma^{sing} + d\sigma^{reg}$$

$$\bar{B}^{MiNNLO_{PS}} \sim e^{-\tilde{S}} \left\{ d\sigma_{FJ}^{(1)} (1 + \tilde{S}^{(1)}) + d\sigma_{FJ}^{(2)} + (D - D^{(1)} - D^{(2)}) \right\}$$

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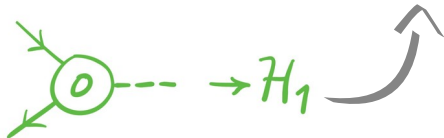
suppresses \bar{B} at low p_T

$$\int_{p_T^2}^{Q^2} \frac{dq^2}{q^2} \left[A(\alpha_s(q^2)) \log \frac{Q^2}{q^2} + \tilde{B}(\alpha_s(q^2)) \right]$$

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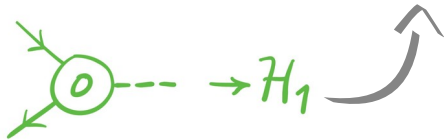
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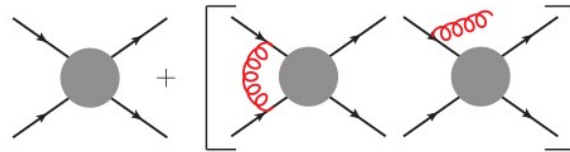
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FO differential cross sections



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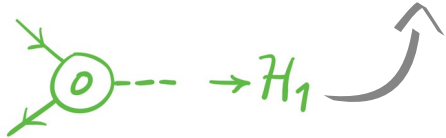
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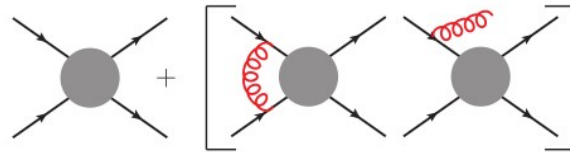
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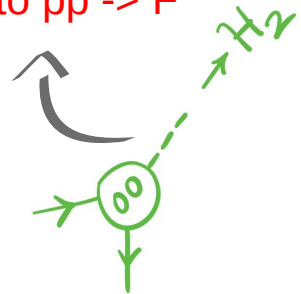
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Luminosity

Additional terms to reach NNLO accuracy contains double virtual correction to $pp \rightarrow F$



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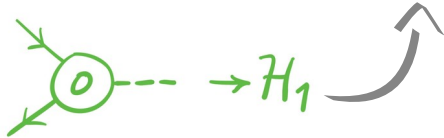
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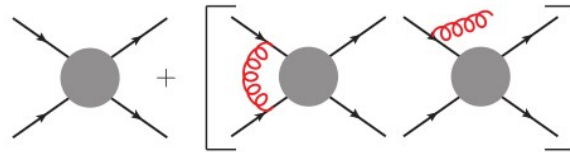
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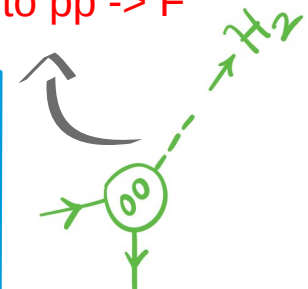


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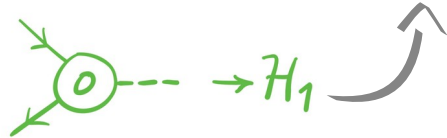
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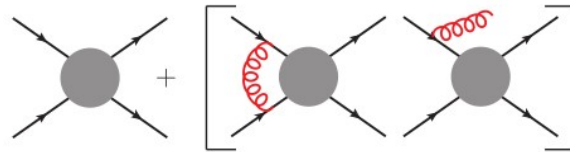
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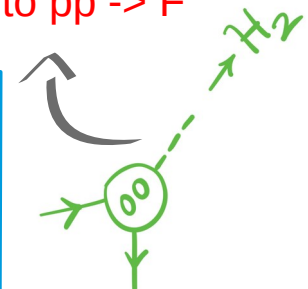


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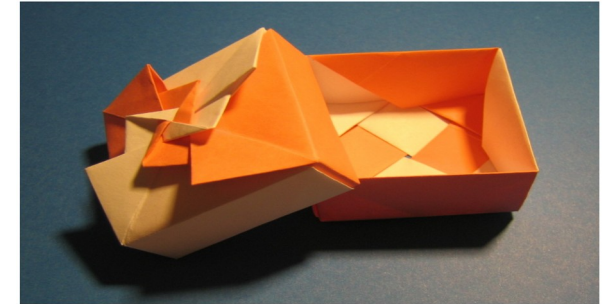


For $b\bar{b}H$: We revised the original MiNNLO_{PS} method to account for the Yukawa coupling in \overline{MS} scheme

Phenomenology of $b\bar{b}H$ - Setup

- **MINNLO_{PS} $b\bar{b}$ → H** generator implemented within the **Powheg-Box-Res** framework
- Tree-level amplitudes of the **HJ & HJJ** : **OpenLoops**
- **Virtual** correction : **analytic results**

The POWHEG BOX



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Inputs:

- Center-of-mass energy: **13 TeV** at LHC.
- Higgs boson mass (m_H): **125 GeV**, Γ_H (decay width): 0 GeV.
- Default PDF: **NNPDF40_nnlo_as_01180** with 5 active flavours.
- Central μ_R and μ_F scales set via **MinNLO_{PS}** method [$\mu_R \sim \mu_F \sim p_T$].
- **Yukawa coupling** renormalized in **\overline{MS} scheme** [$Y_b(m_b=4.18 \text{ GeV}) \rightarrow Y_b(m_H) = 2.79$].

Scale Settings and Uncertainties:

- Scale uncertainties assessed through customary **7-point μ_R and μ_F variation**.

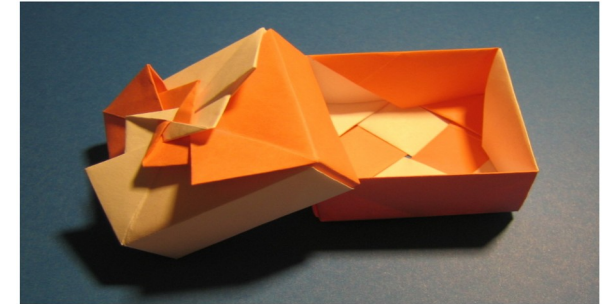
Matching to Parton Shower:

- Predictions matched to parton shower using **Pythia8** with **leading-log (LL)** accuracy.

Exclusion of Effects:

- **Hadronization**, multi-parton interactions (**MPI**), and **QED** radiation effects are **switched off**.

The POWHEG BOX



Comparison to fixed-order results

Total inclusive cross section from **MINLO'** & **MINNLO_{PS}** predictions checked against fixed-order results at NLO and NNLO obtained with the public code **SuSHi** [with μ_R and μ_F set to m_H]

[Harlander, Liebler, Mantler (1212.3249)]

Process	NLO (SuSHi)	NNLO (SuSHi)	MINLO'	MINNLO _{PS}	MINNLO _{PS} (F0atQ 1)
$b\bar{b} \rightarrow H$	$0.646(0)^{+10.4\%}_{-10.9\%}$ pb	$0.518(2)^{+7.2\%}_{-7.5\%}$ pb	$0.571(1)^{+17.4\%}_{-22.7\%}$ pb	$0.509(8)^{+2.9\%}_{-5.3\%}$ pb	$0.508(4)^{+3.6\%}_{-4.3\%}$ pb

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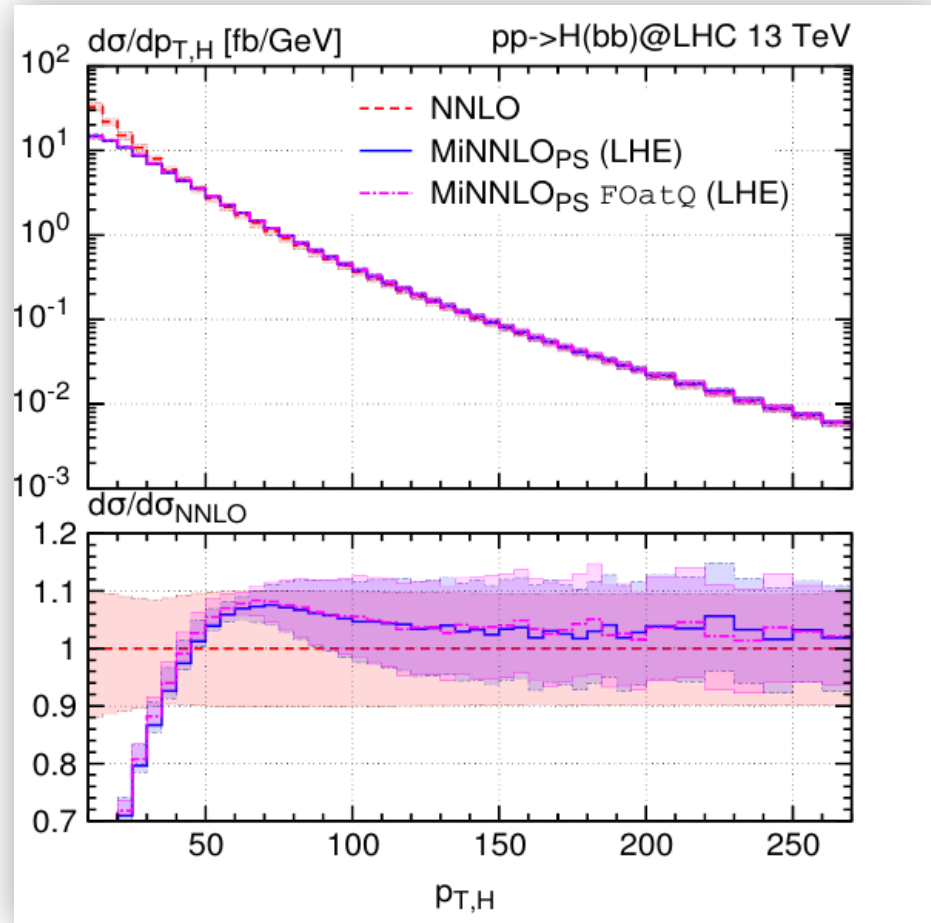
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- NNLO QCD corrections **reduce cross section** by > 10%
- Scale **uncertainties** significantly **reduced** with NNLO QCD corrections
- Our **MINNLO_{PS}** predictions are in **agreement with NNLO** QCD cross section within quoted uncertainties

Comparison to fixed-order results

Transverse-momentum spectrum of the Higgs boson ($p_{T,H}$)

Les Houches level (LHE)

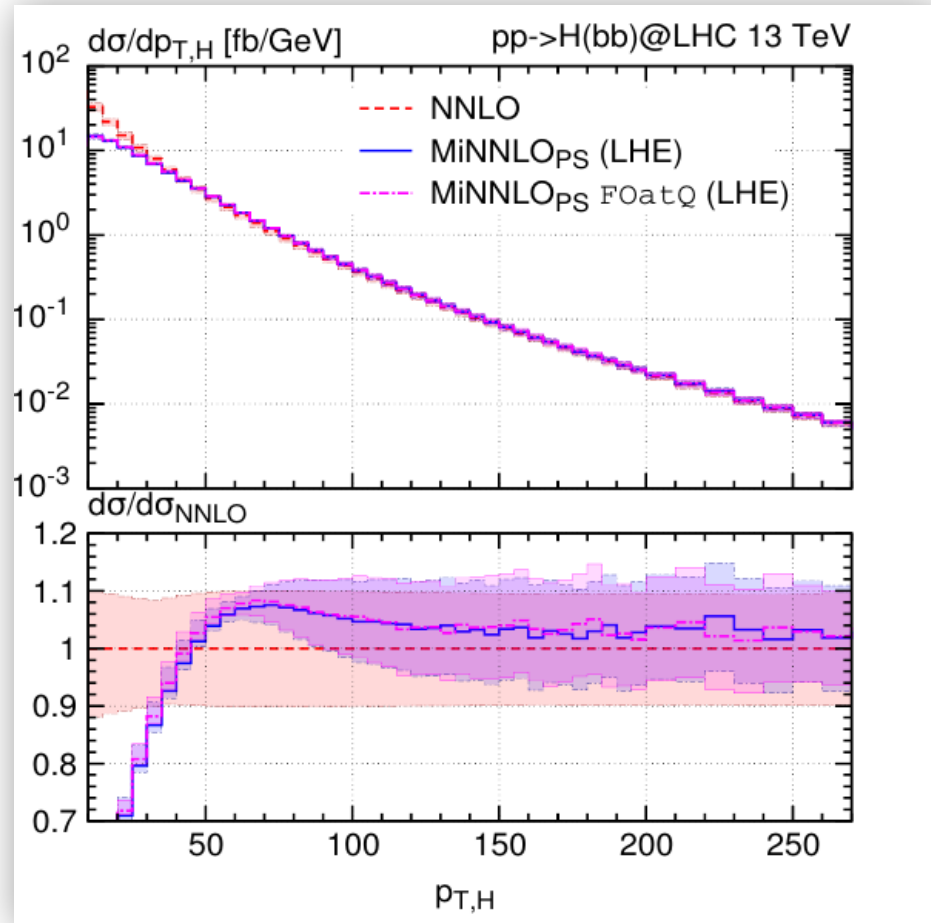


NNLO [Harlander, Tripathi, Wiesemann (1403.7196)]

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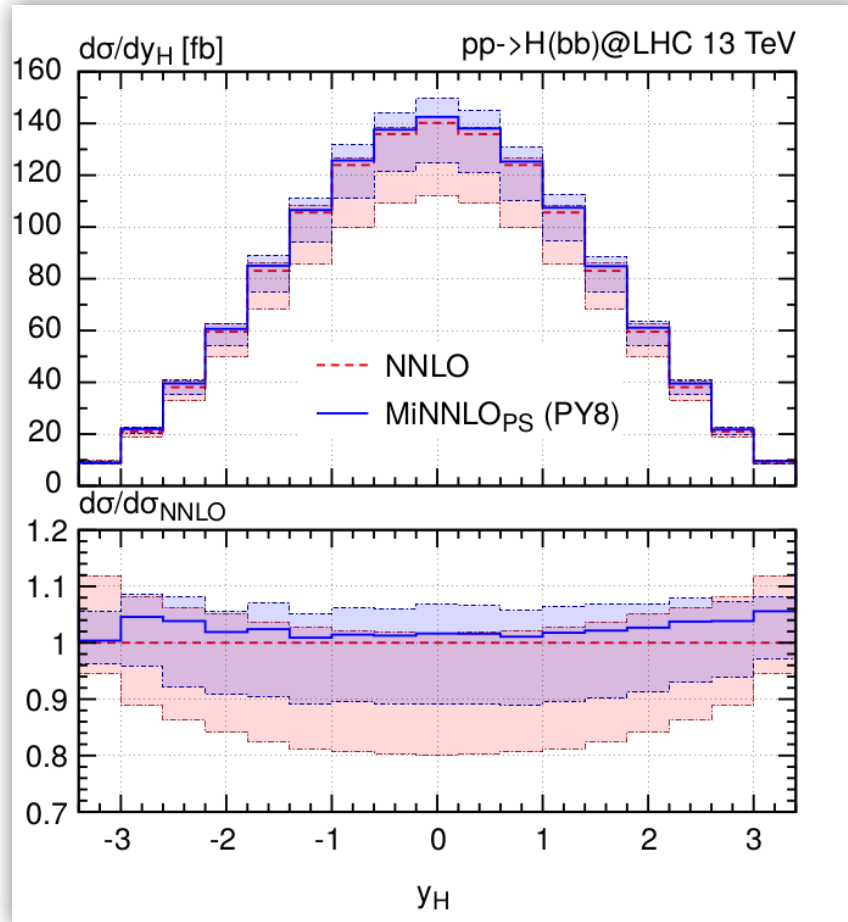
- **Full agreement in large $p_{T,H}$ regime** with fixed-order predictions within quoted uncertainties
- ✓ **MiNNLO_{PS}** results with and without the **F_{OatQ}** setting are very close
- Fixed-order calculations diverge for $p_{T,H} \rightarrow 0$ **MiNNLO_{PS}** prediction remains **finite**

NNLO [Harlander, Tripathi, Wiesemann (1403.7196)]

Comparison to fixed-order results

Rapidity distribution of the Higgs boson (y_H)

PY8 level



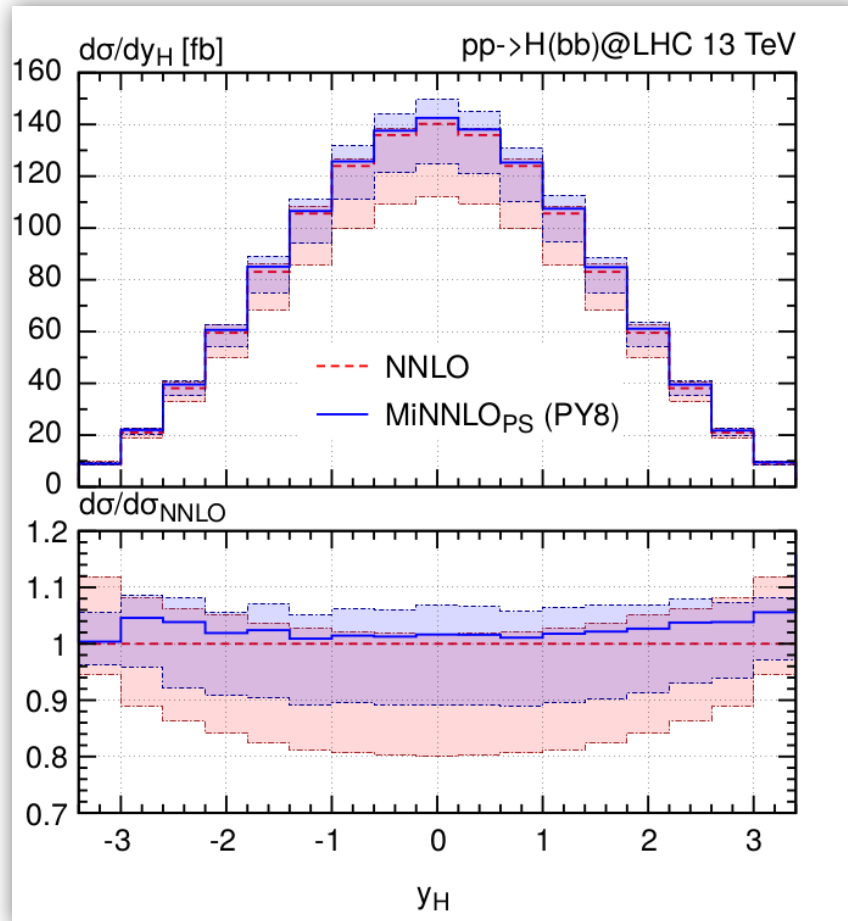
CT14nnlo_as_0118

NNLO [Mondini, Williams (2102.05487)]

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CT14nnlo_as_0118

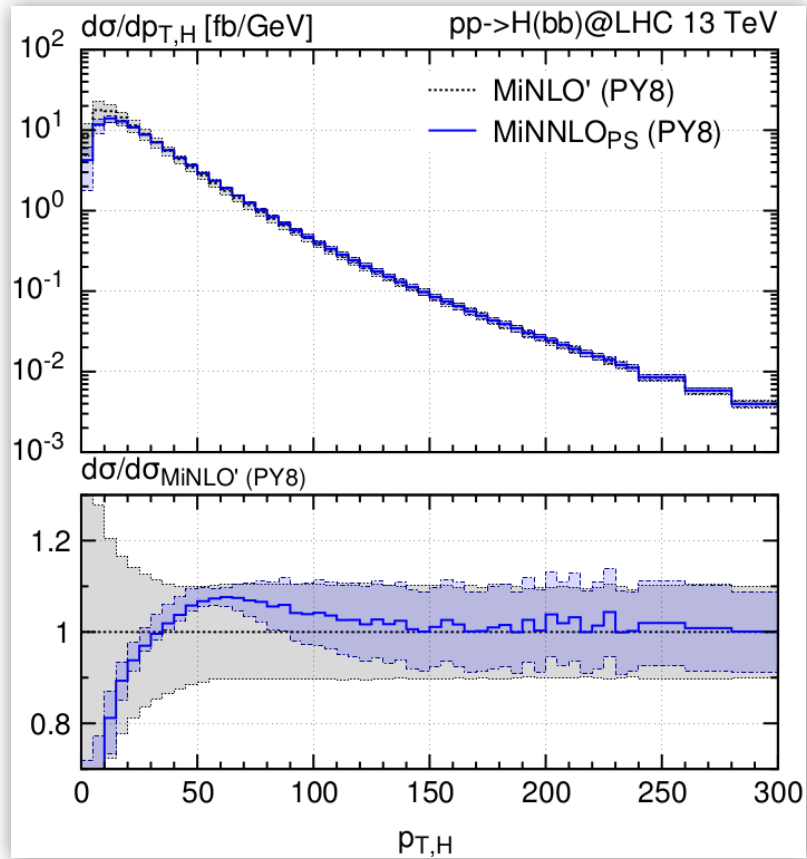
- A **good agreement**, both in terms of normalization and in terms of shape, between the two central predictions.
- The **bands** of **MiNNLO_{PS}** result are **more symmetric** & slightly **smaller** than the **NNLO** ones.

NNLO [Mondini, Williams (2102.05487)]

Comparison of MiNLO' & MiNNLO_{PS}

Transverse-momentum spectrum of the Higgs boson ($p_{T,H}$)

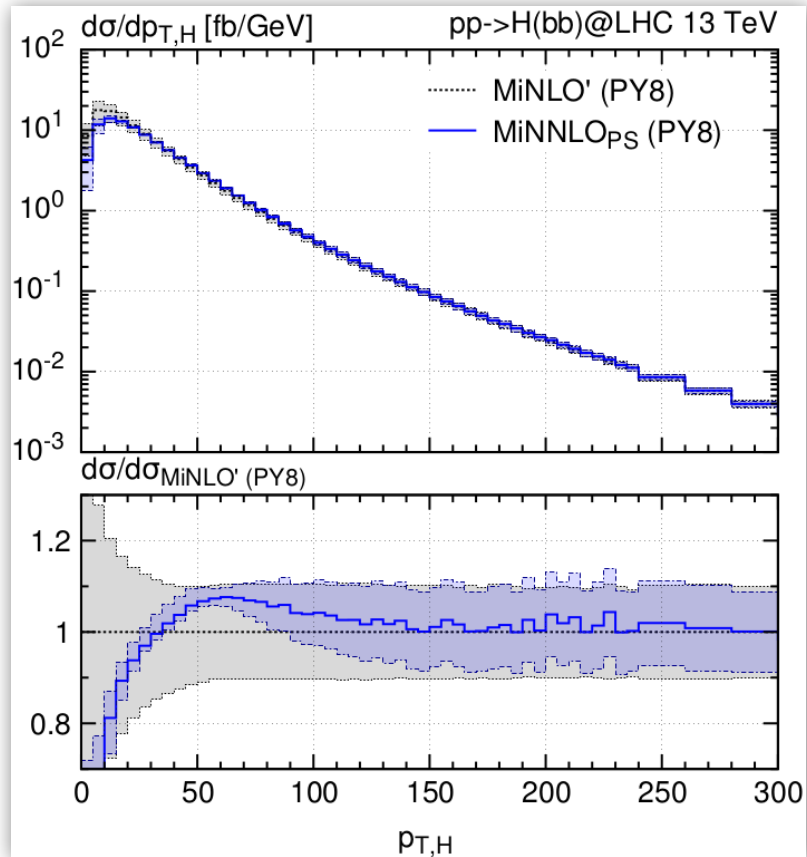
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Comparison of MiNLO' & $\text{MiNNLO}_{\text{PS}}$

Transverse-momentum spectrum of the Higgs boson ($p_{\text{T,H}}$)

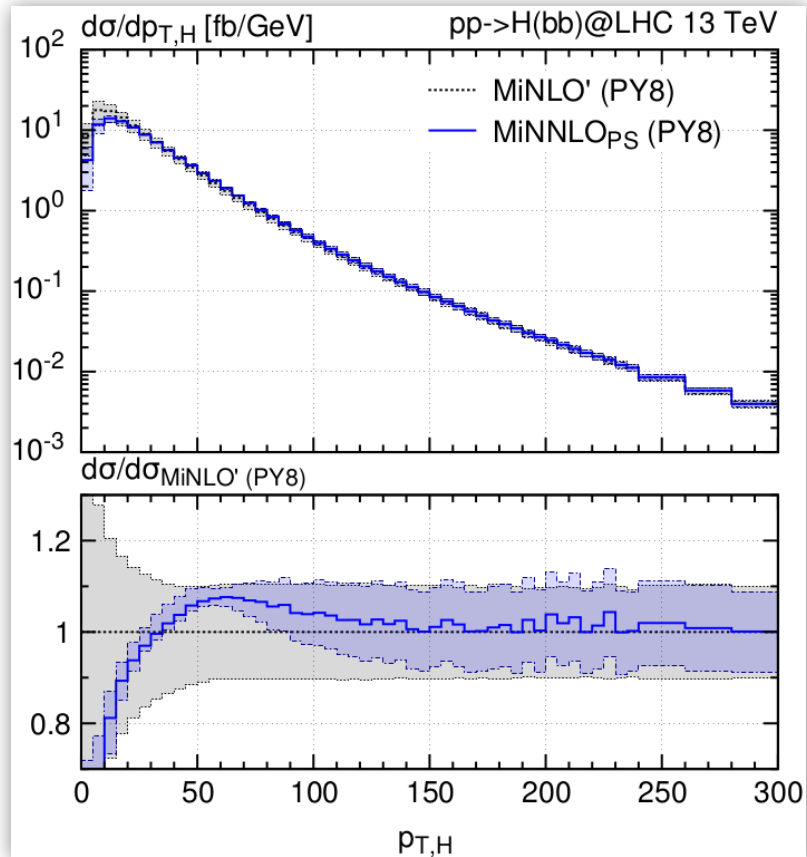
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- ✓ At small p_{T} , $\text{MiNNLO}_{\text{PS}}$ significantly dampens distributions, reduces scale uncertainties.
- ✓ At large p_{T} , MiNLO' & $\text{MiNNLO}_{\text{PS}}$ predictions coincide, both NLO accurate.

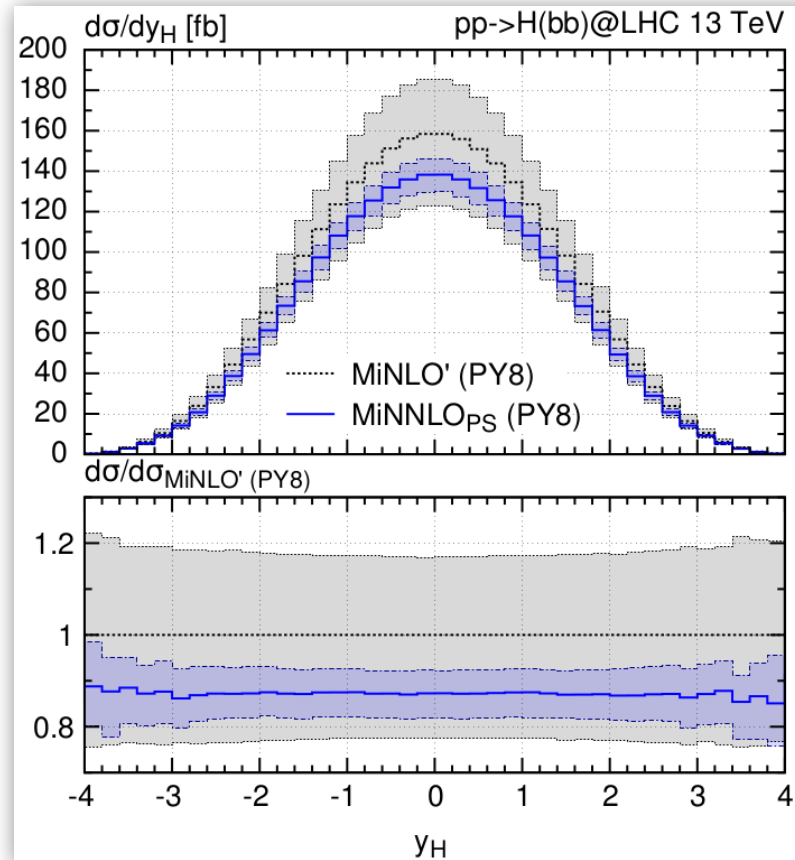
Comparison of MiNLO' & MiNNLO_{PS}

Transverse-momentum spectrum of the Higgs boson ($p_{T,H}$)



Rapidity distribution of the Higgs (y_H)

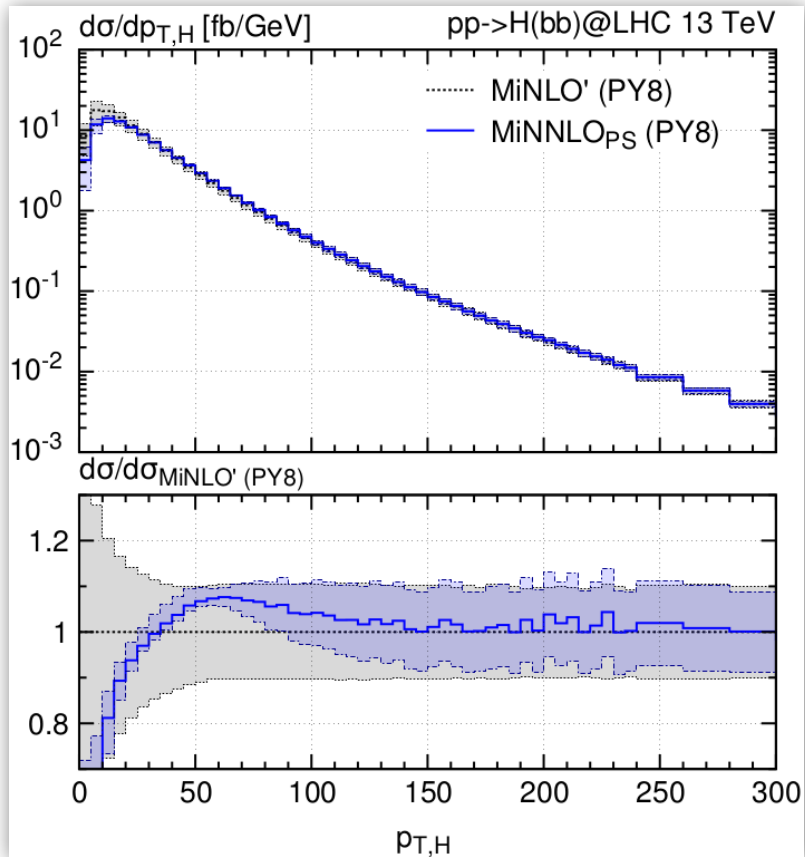
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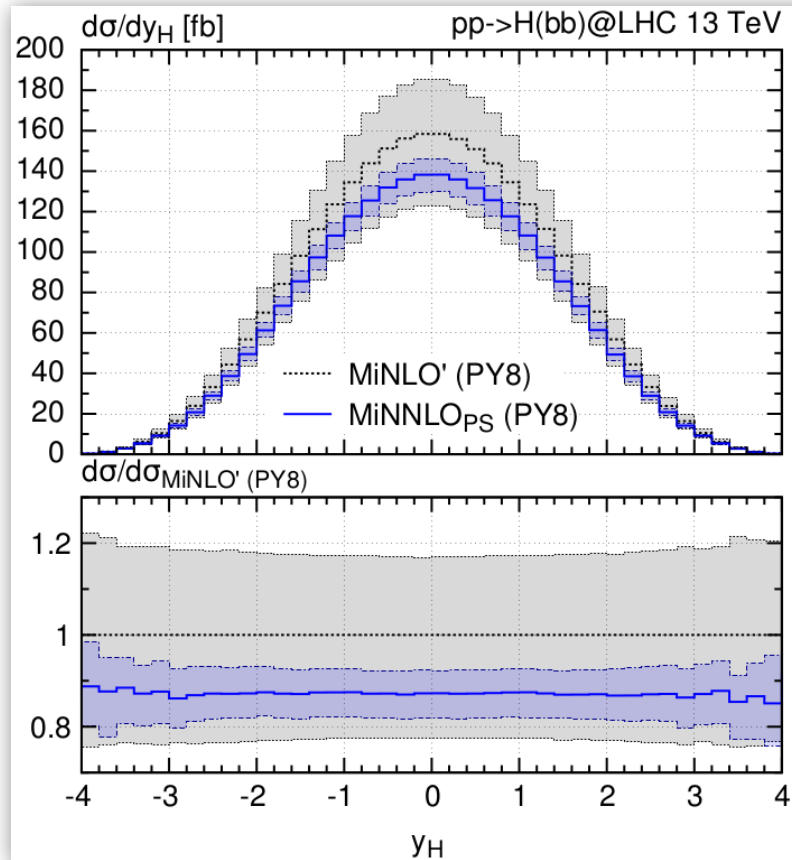
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Comparison of MiNLO' & MiNNLO_{PS}

Transverse-momentum spectrum of the Higgs boson ($p_{T,H}$)



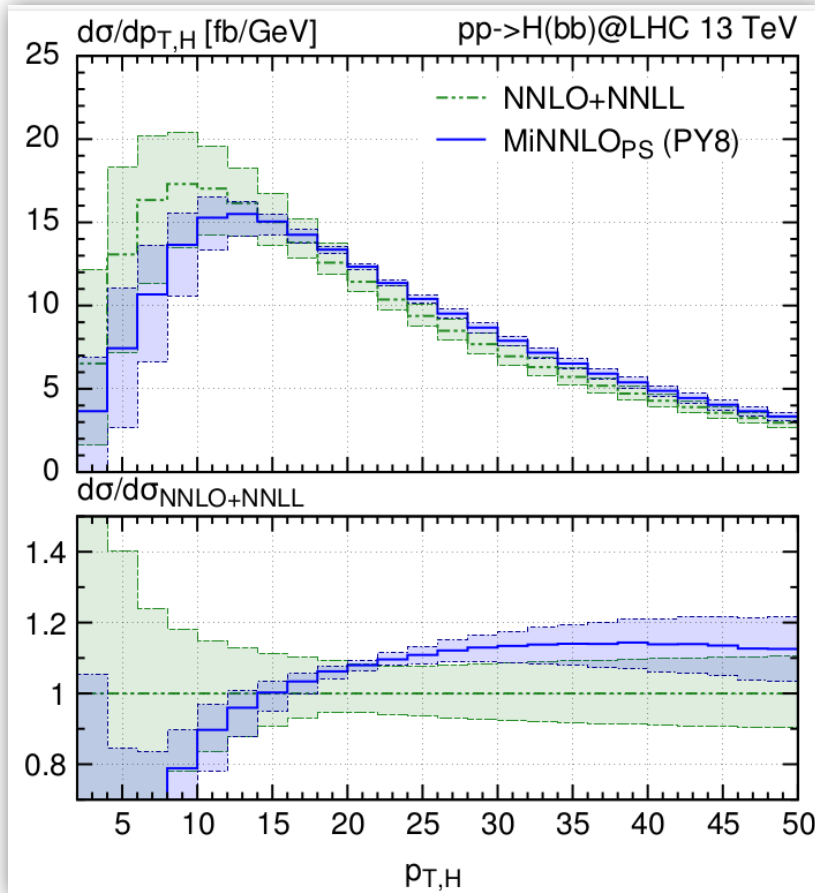
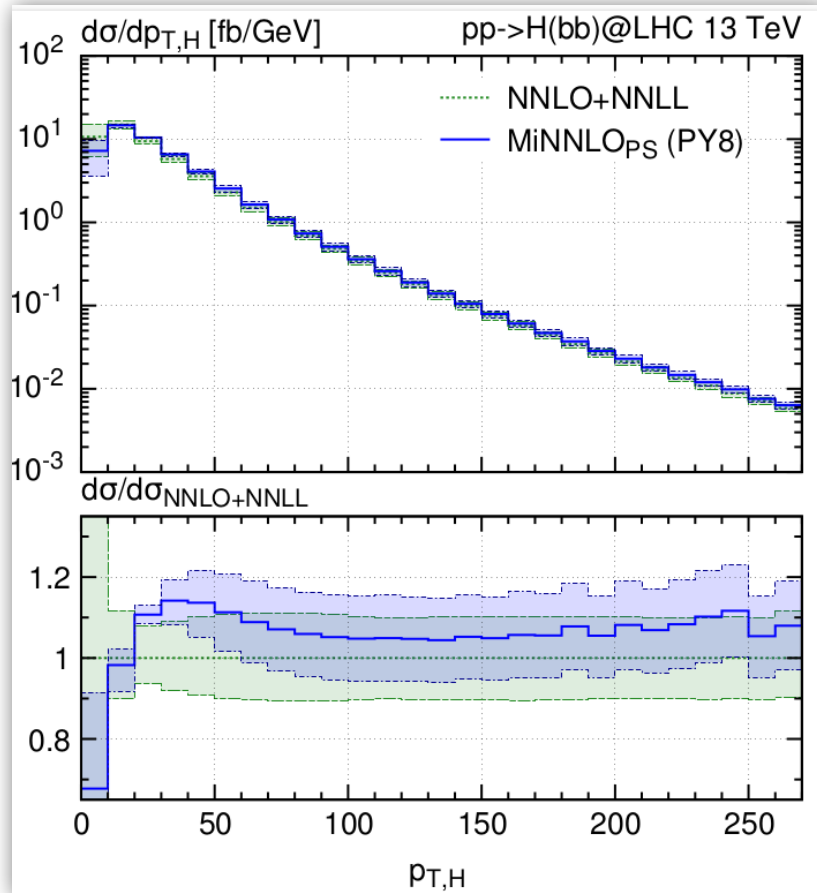
Rapidity distribution of the Higgs (y_H)



PY8 level

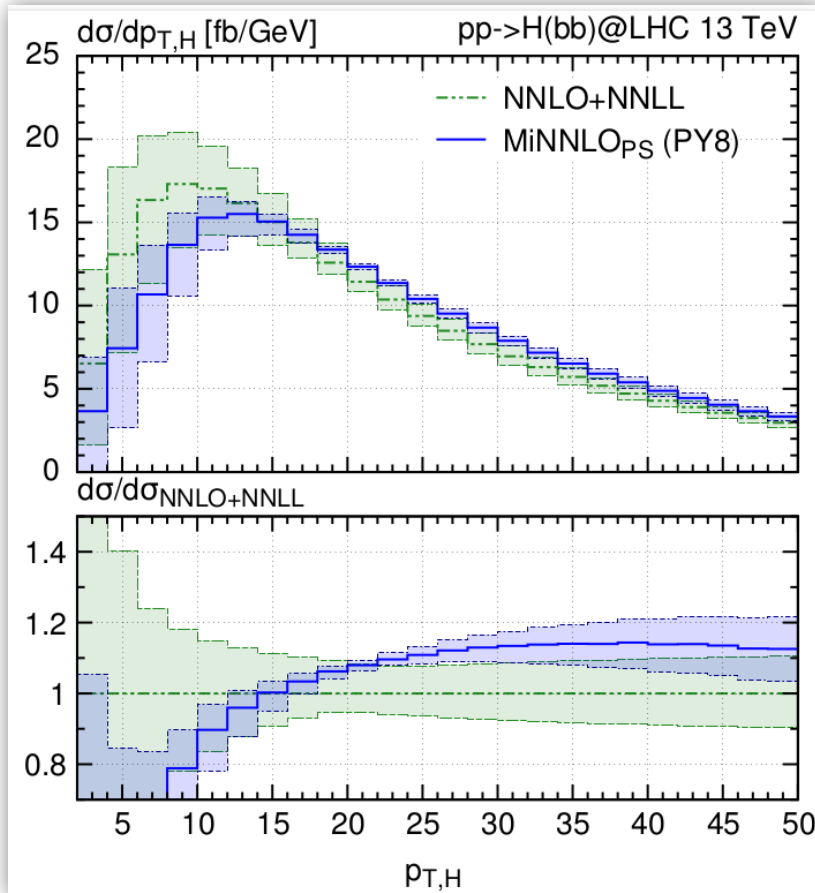
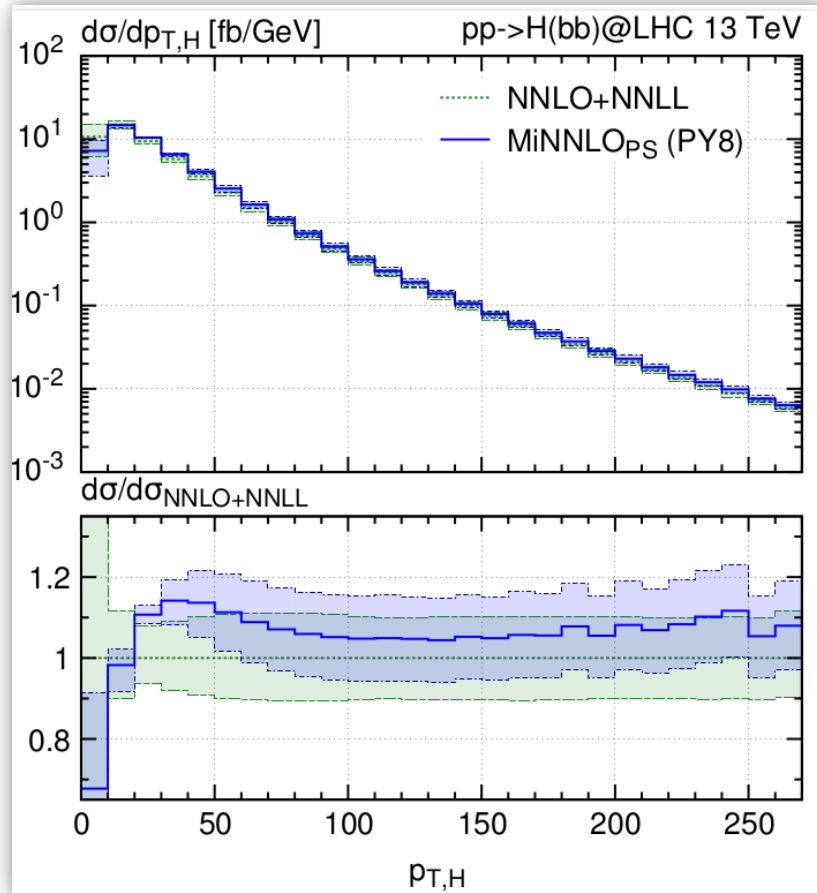
- ✓ At small p_T , **MiNNLO_{PS}** significantly dampens distributions, reduces scale uncertainties.
- ✓ At large p_T , **MiNLO'** & **MiNNLO_{PS}** predictions coincide, both **NLO** accurate.
- ✓ **y_H distribution:** **MiNNLO_{PS}** introduces a flat 12% negative correction, reduces scale uncertainties.

Comparison to NNLO+NNLL



NNLO+NNLL [Harlander, Tripathi, Wiesemann (1403.7196)]

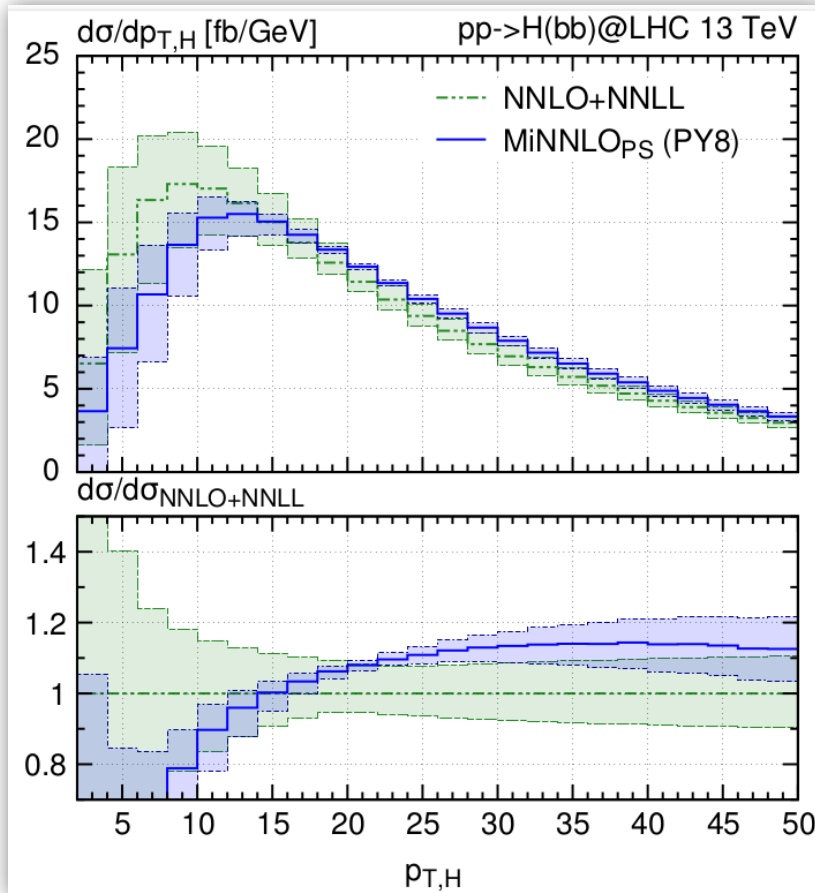
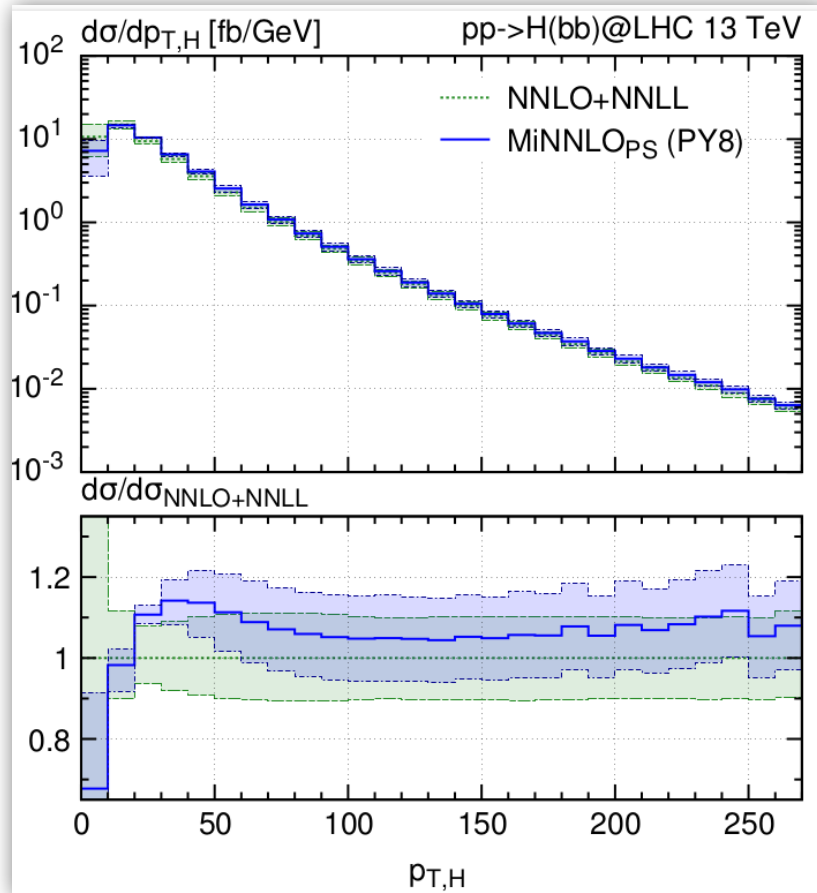
Comparison to NNLO+NNLL



- **At large $p_{T,H}$:**
MiNNLO_{PS} shifted 10% up, well within the given scale-uncertainty bands.
- **At small $p_{T,H}$:**
slightly worsen the agreement.
MiNNLO_{PS} uncertainties are **underestimated**.

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Comparison to NNLO+NNLL



- **At large $p_{T,H}$:**
MiNNLO_{PS} shifted 10% up, well within the given scale-uncertainty bands.
- **At small $p_{T,H}$:**
 slightly worsen the agreement. **MiNNLO_{PS}** uncertainties are **underestimated**.
- **Massless approximation misses potentially relevant mass effects at small p_T , need to combine with massive 4FS calculation.**

NNLO+NNLL [Harlander, Tripathi, Wiesemann (1403.7196)]

Summary & Outlook

- **First presentation** of **NNLO+PS** computation for **$b\bar{b} \rightarrow H$ (5FS)** production at the LHC by using **MINNLO_{PS}** method.
- **Extensive validation** against fixed-order results from literature, showcasing consistency in relevant kinematical regions.
- **Initial step** towards a complete NNLO+PS description of $b\bar{b}H$ production.
- **Future directions** include the completion of **4FS $b\bar{b}H$** with massive bottom quarks and the combination of full **4FS–5FS at NNLO+PS** accuracy.



Summary & Outlook

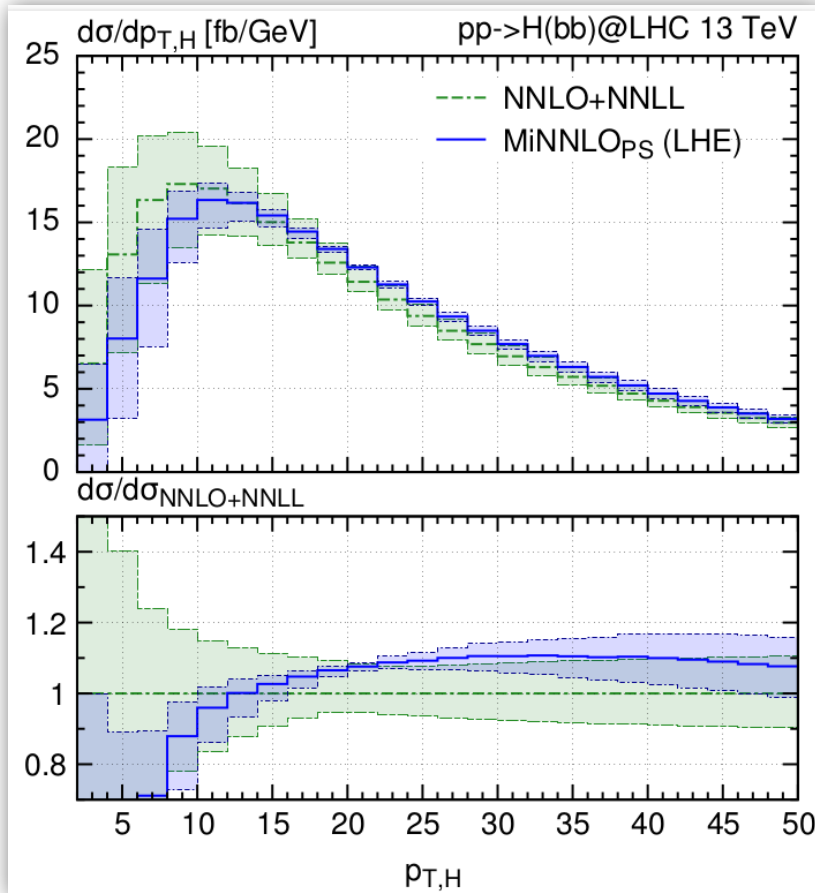
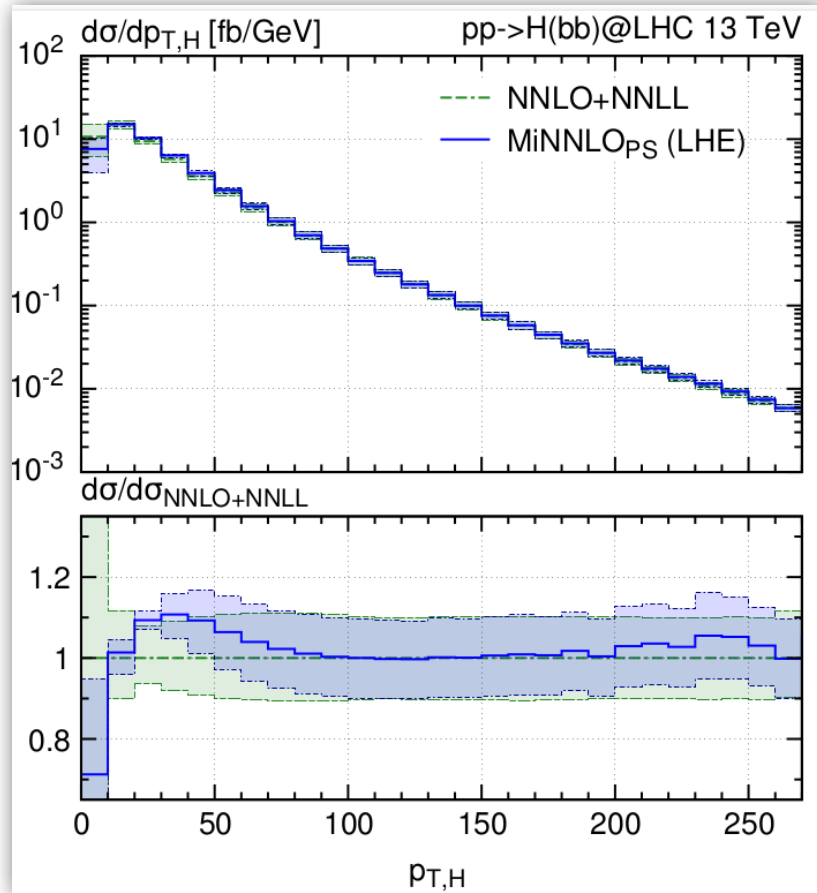
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THANK YOU !

Backup slides

Comparison to NNLO+NNLL



Les Houches level (LHE)

At high $p_{T,H}$:
they coincide again

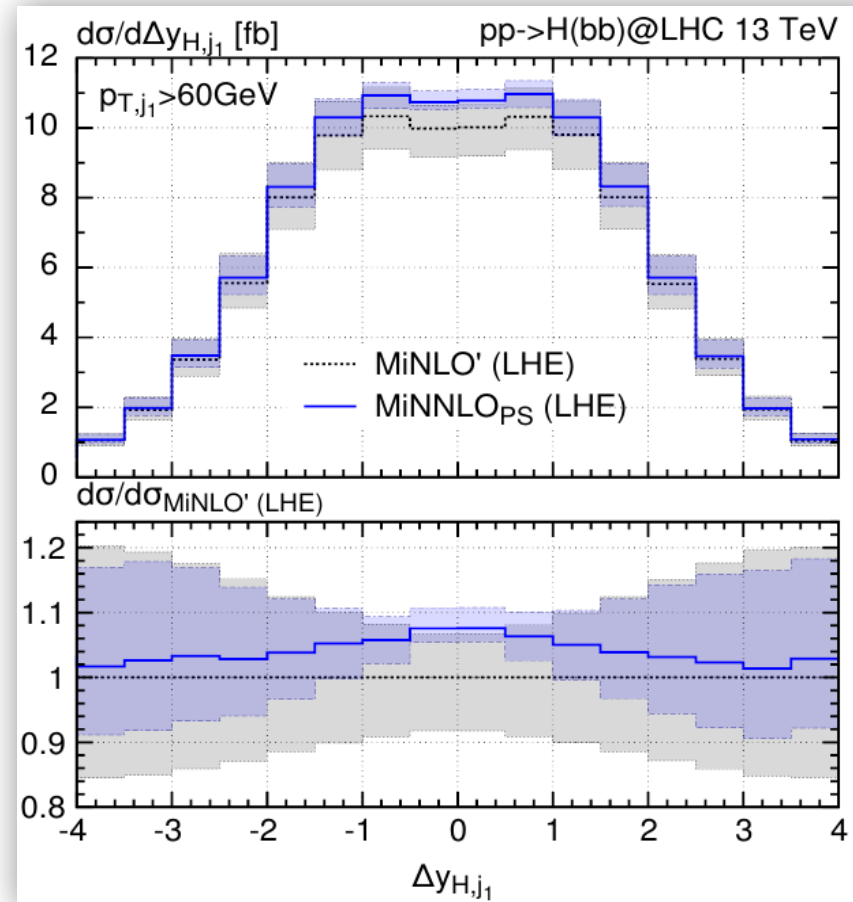
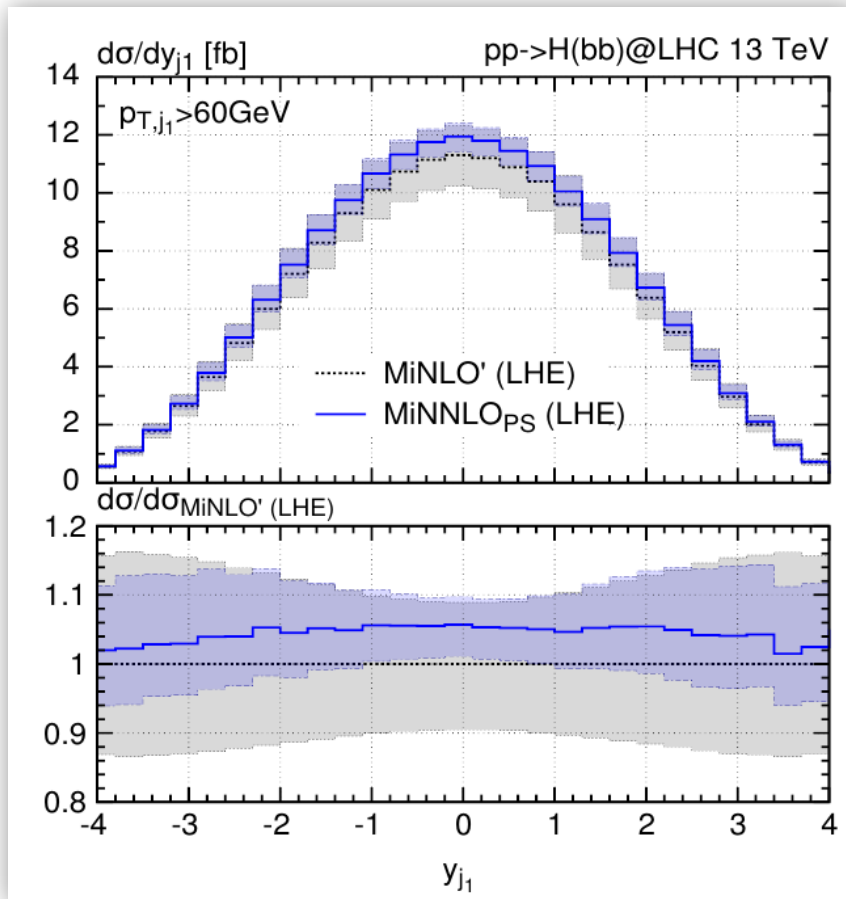
At small $p_{T,H}$:
Acceptable agreement

NNLO+NNLL [Harlander, Tripathi, Wieseemann (1403.7196)]

Comparison of MiNLO' & MiNNLO_{PS}

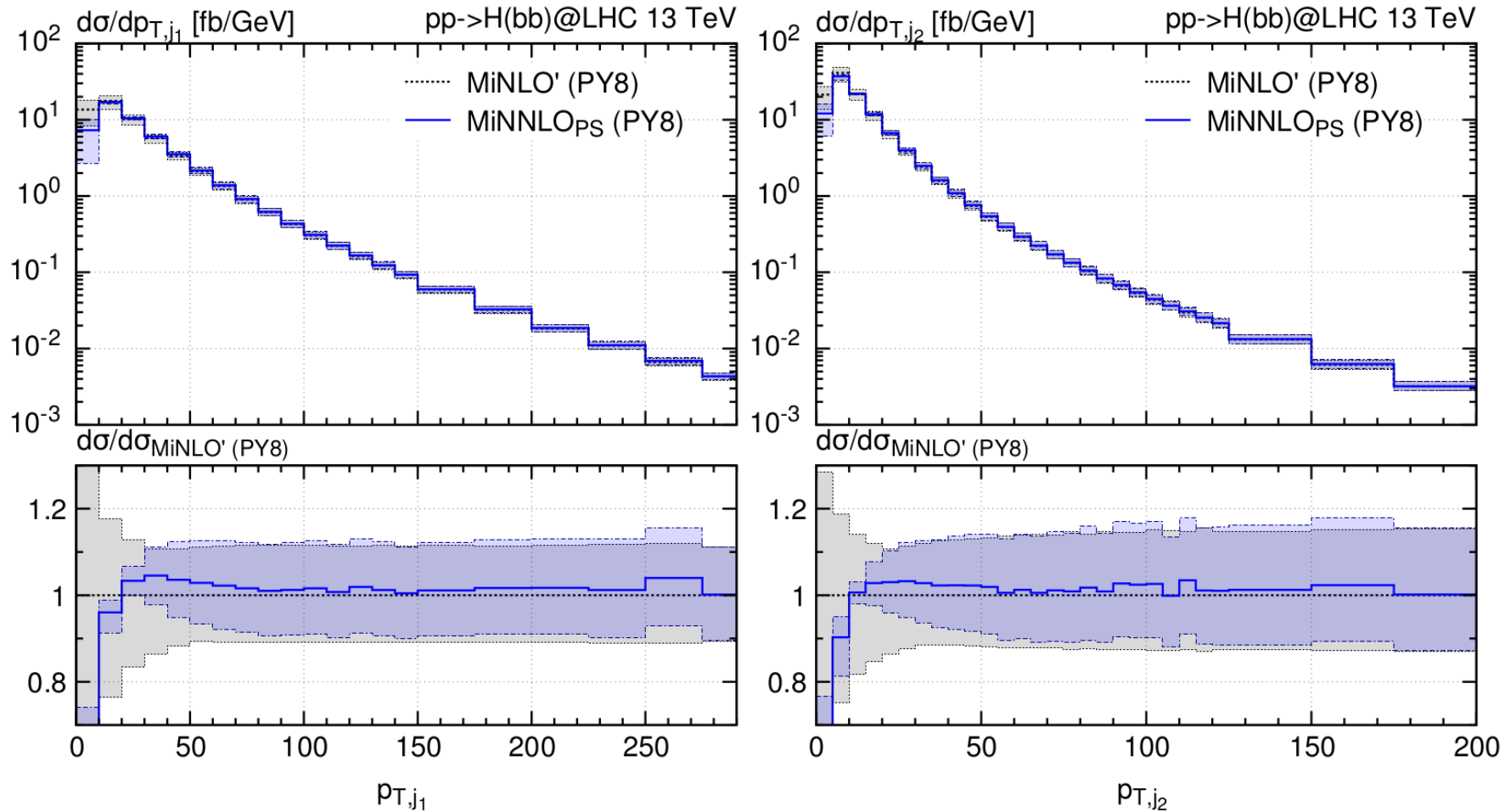
Rapidity distribution of the leading jet (y_{j1})

Rapidity difference between the Higgs boson & the leading jet ($\Delta y_{H,j1}$)



- ✓ Very similar shapes for MiNLO' & MiNNLO_{PS} results
- ✓ MiNLO' & MiNNLO_{PS}: fully consistent within the quoted scale uncertainties

Comparison of MiNLO' & MiNNLO_{PS}



FONLL

- FONLL matches the flavour schemes

$$\sigma^{FONNL} = \sigma^{4FS} + \sigma^{5FS} - \text{double counting.}$$

For a consistent subtraction, we have to express the two cross-sections in terms of the same α_s and PDFs.

- Currently, the flavour matching for bbH is performed at

$$\text{FONNL}_C := \text{N}^3\text{LO}_{5FS} \oplus \text{NLO}_{4FS}.$$