

# NNLO Higgs plus Vector boson production at the LHC

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# **NNLO Higgs plus Vector boson production at the LHC**

## Outline

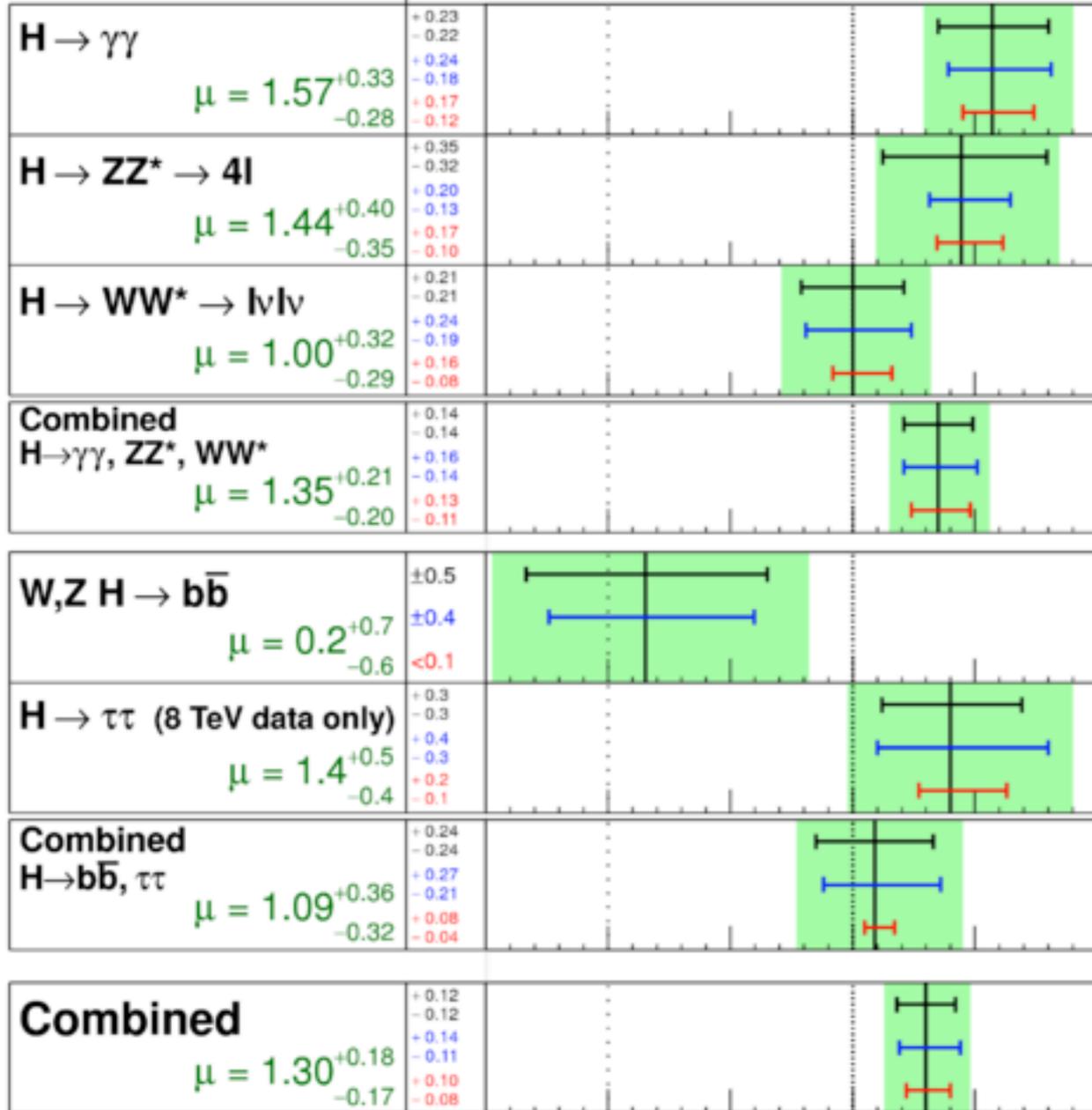
- \* Motivation
- \* Higher Order corrections
- \* Results
- \* Conclusion/Outlook

# Motivation

# Higgs particle @ ATLAS and CMS

**ATLAS Prelim.**  
 $m_H = 125.5 \text{ GeV}$

—  $\sigma(\text{stat.})$   
 —  $\sigma(\text{theory})$   
 —  $\sigma(\text{sys inc.})$   
 Total uncertainty  
 $\pm 1\sigma$  on  $\mu$



$\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV} \int L dt = 4.6\text{-}4.8 \text{ fb}^{-1}$   
 $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV} \int L dt = 20.3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$   
 Signal strength ( $\mu$ )

CMS Preliminary  
 Individual Results

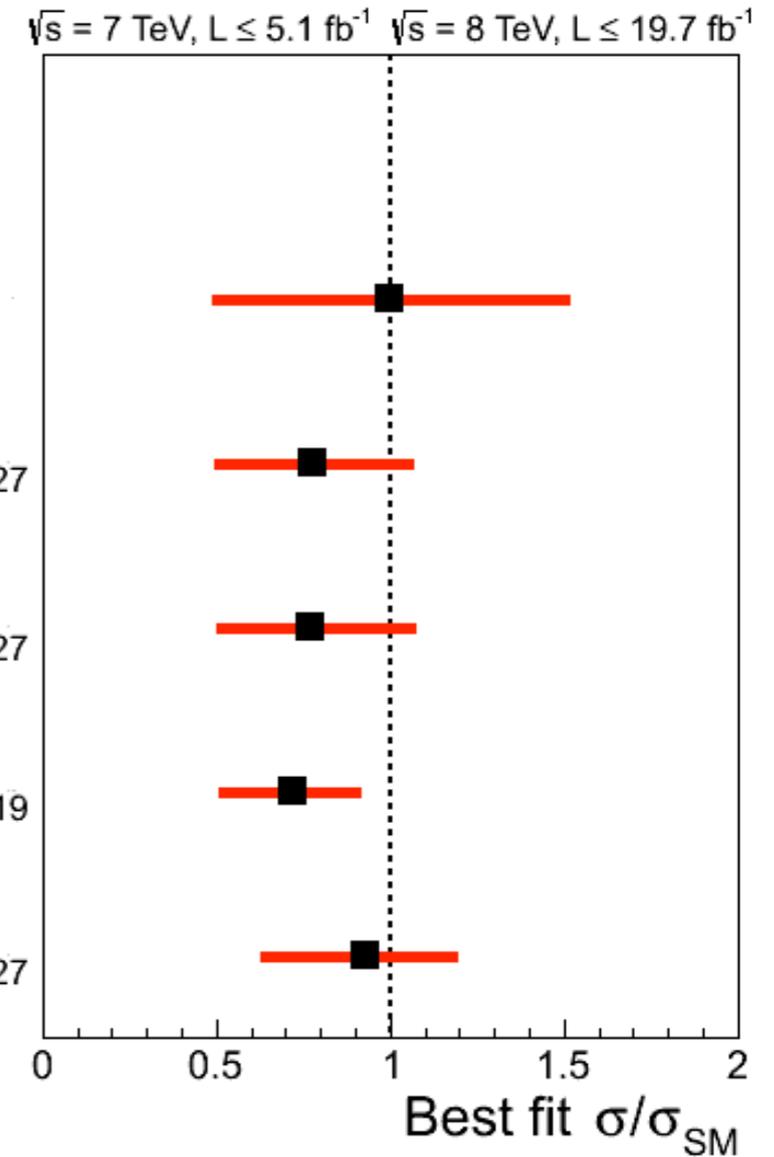
$V H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  arXiv:1310.3687  
 $\mu(m_H = 125.0 \text{ GeV}) = 1.0 \pm 0.5$

$H \rightarrow \tau\tau$  arXiv:1401.5041  
 $\mu(m_H = 125.0 \text{ GeV}) = 0.78 \pm 0.27$

$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  HIG-13-001  
 $\mu(m_H = 125.0 \text{ GeV}) = 0.78 \pm 0.27$

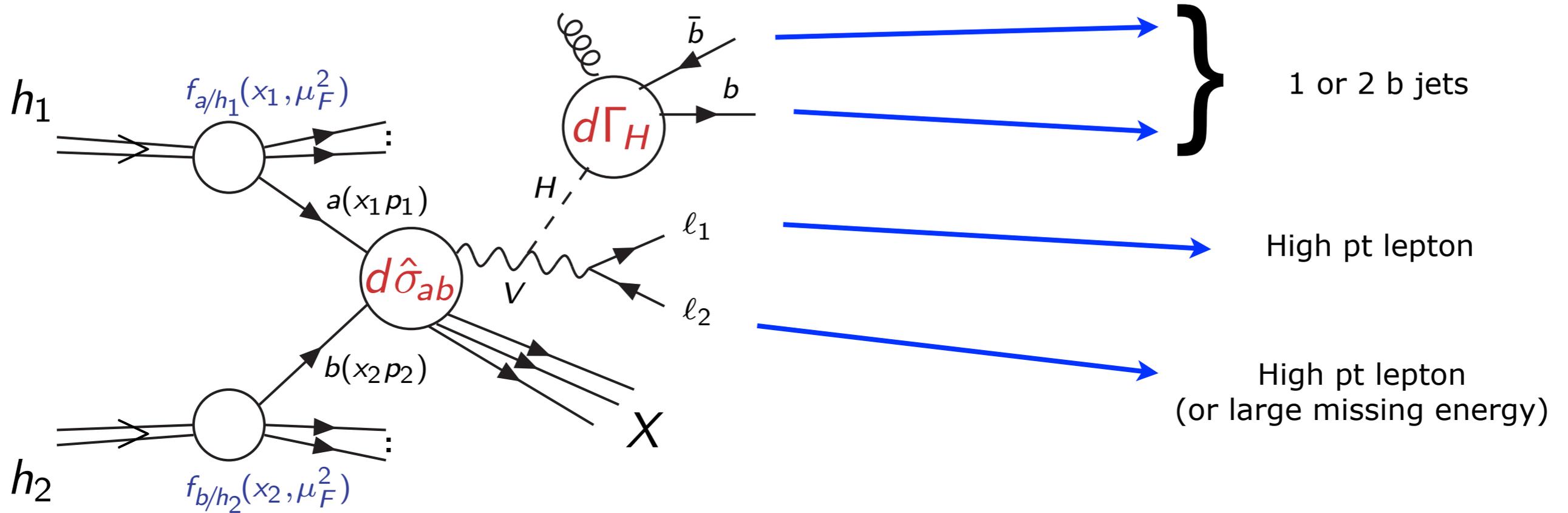
$H \rightarrow WW$  arXiv:1312.1129  
 $\mu(m_H = 125.6 \text{ GeV}) = 0.72 \pm 0.19$

$H \rightarrow ZZ$  arXiv:1312.5353  
 $\mu(m_H = 125.6 \text{ GeV}) = 0.93 \pm 0.27$



- Direct coupling to fermions possible observing Higgs decay in tau and bottom pairs
- Deviation from the SM are still possible
- $VH$  allows to measure Higgs coupling to bottom
- Need of precise fully differential predictions

# VH signal phenomenology



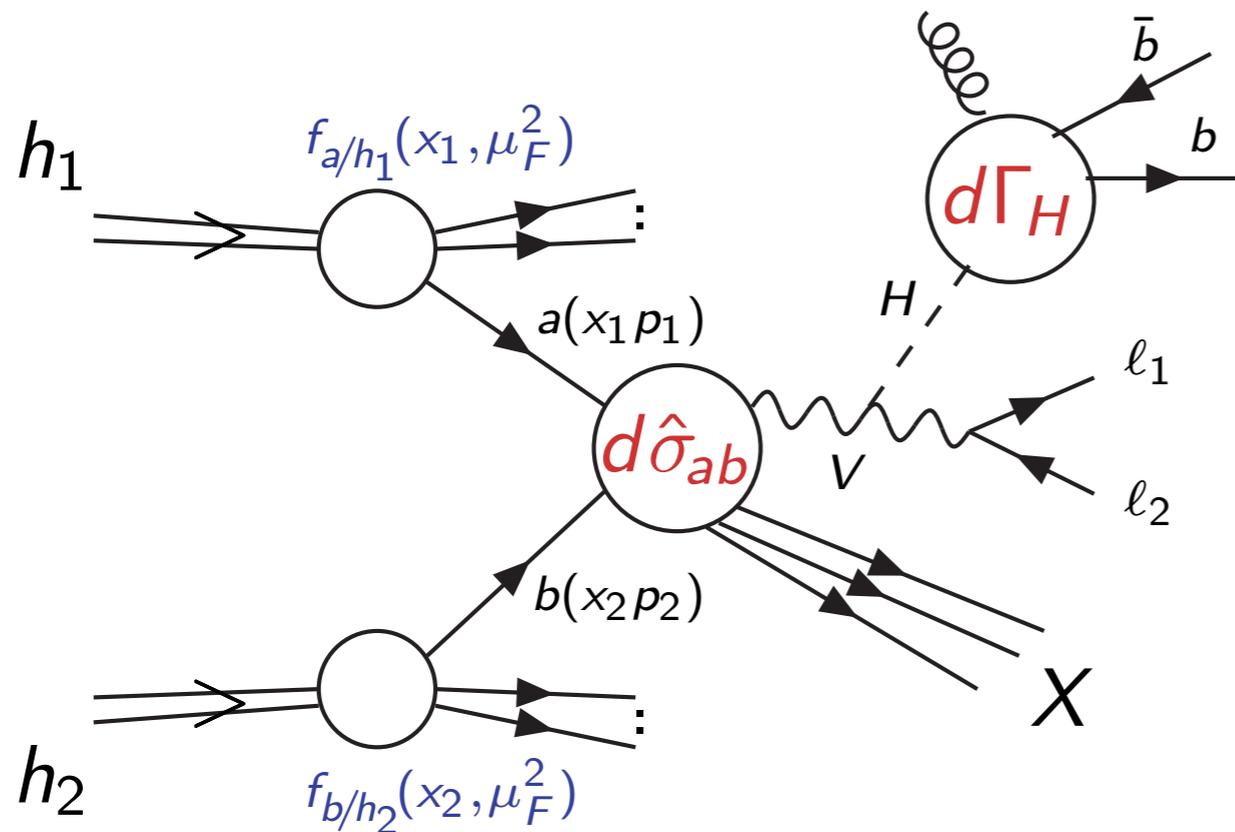
- Large sources of backgrounds from  $VV$ ,  $t\bar{t}$ ,  $V$ +jets,  $V$ + $b$ ,  $V$ + $b\bar{b}$
- For boosted boson events S/B improve considerably and allows detection at the LHC  
[Butterworth, Davison, Rubin, Salam 2008]

VH search strategy important to assess the relevance of the corrections to the decay process

$$R_{bb} \gtrsim 2 \frac{m_H}{p_T} \quad (p_T \gg m_H)$$

# Higher Order corrections

# VH signal computation (QCD)



## QCD corrections (inclusive)

- NNLO QCD corrections for VH are basically the same of DY [Van Neerven et al 1991, Brein, Harlander, Djouadi 2000]
- For ZH there is also  $gg \rightarrow ZH$  top-loop [Kniehl 1990]
- NNLO top-mediated contribution [Brei, Halander, Wiesemann, Zirke 2011]
- The inclusive  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  decay rate is known up to fourth order in QCD [Baikov,Chetyrkin,Kuhn('05)] (and up to NLO [Dabelstein, Hollik; Kniehl ('92)])

## QCD corrections (differential)

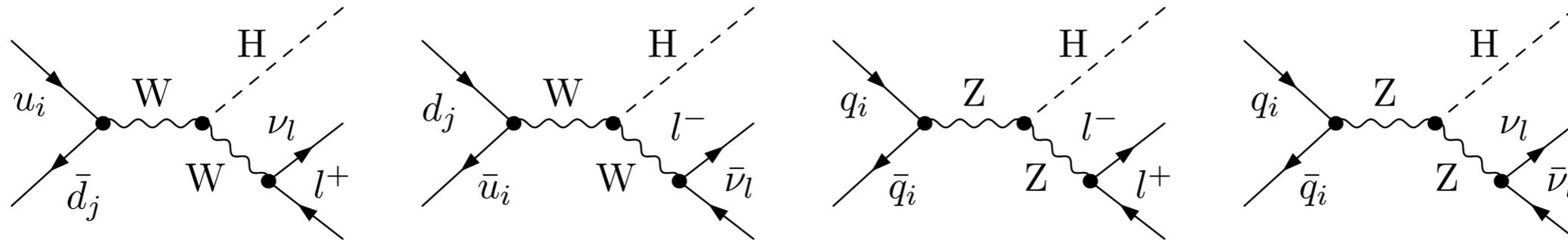
- Fully differential NNLO QCD corrections for VH, including tree-level H and V decays with spin correlations (HVNNLO) [Ferrera, Grazzini, FT (2011, 2014)]
- NLO fully-differential QCD corrections for WH prod. including  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  NLO decay [Banfi,Cancino('12)]
- NNLO fully-differential decay rate  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  computed through new non-linear mapping method: [Anastasiou,Herzog,Lazopoulos ('12)] and through Colorful NNLO method see Zoltan's talk [and references therein]
- Resummation of jet-veto and transverse-momentum logarithms performed [Y.Li,Liu('14)][Shao,C.S.Li,H.T.Li('13)], [Dawson,Han,Lai,Leibovich,Lewis('12)]

# VH signal computation (EW)

\* EW corrections:

NLO EW known differentially, which should be sufficient

→ HAWK [Denner, Dittmaier, Kallweit, Mück]



Fully differential 2→3 NLO EW computation

Implemented through the Complex Mass Scheme@NLO [Denner, Dittmaier]

\* Combination of QCD and EW corrections:  
as done in YR2 should be ok

$$\sigma = \sigma^{\text{QCD}} \times (1 + \delta_{\text{EW}}^{\text{rec}}) + \sigma_{\gamma}$$

More can only be achieved by some NNLO QCD-EW calculation

→ currently out of reach

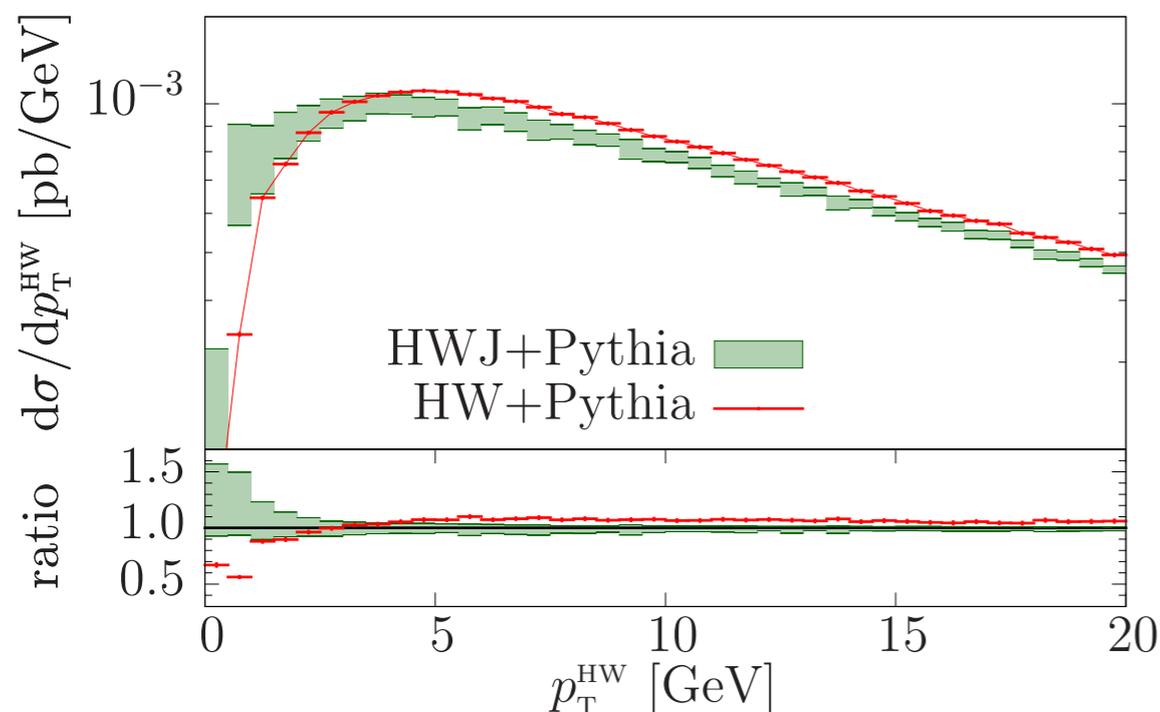
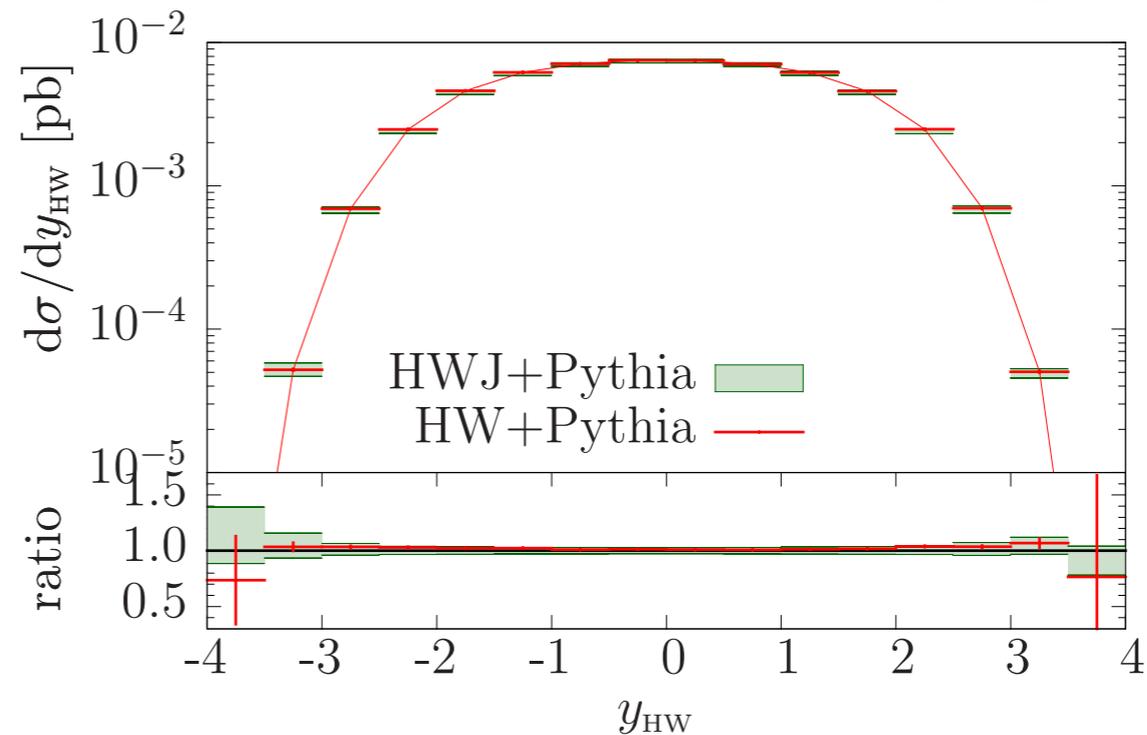
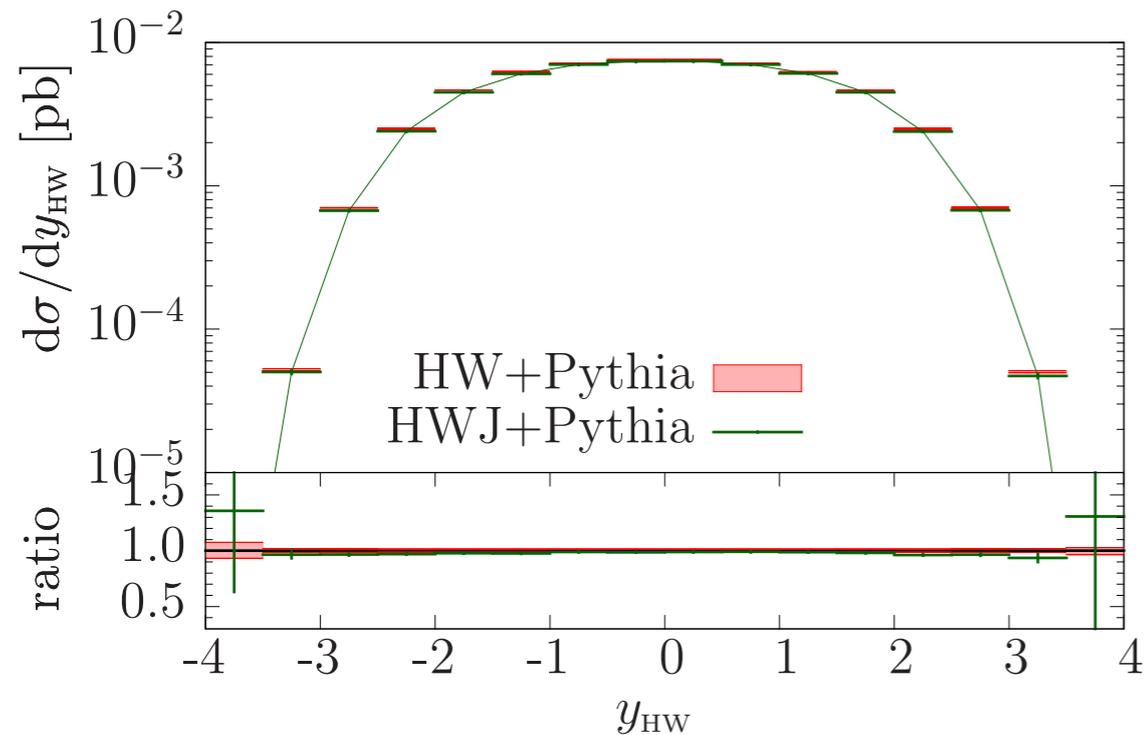
# Merging and Matching

\* NLO QCD & parton shower:

merging and matching for  $pp \rightarrow VH(j)$

- available in the POWHEG-BOX framework [Luisoni, Nason, Oleari, FT] and in MG5\_aMC (FxFx) and Sherpa (MEPS@NLO)

MINLO [Hamilton, Nason, Zanderighi] → No error related to the merging scale

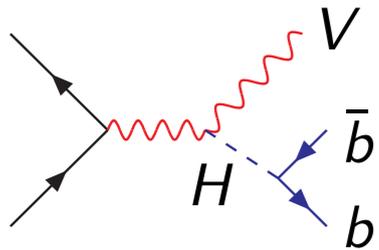


\* NNLO matching with PS possible through reweighting of HVj-MINLO with HVNNLO, already worked out for:

- H production [Hamilton, Nason, Re, Zanderighi] reweighting with HNNLO [Grazzini]
- DY production [Karlberg, Re, Zanderighi] reweighting DYNNLO [Catani, Cieri, Ferrera, de Florian, Grazzini]

# QCD corrections in the Narrow Width Approximation

$$d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow VH+X \rightarrow Vb\bar{b}+X} = \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow VH+X}^{(k)} \right] \times \left[ \frac{\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} d\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(k)}}{\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(k)}} \right] \times Br(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$$



Including up to NLO corrections

$$d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow VH+X \rightarrow Vb\bar{b}+X}^{\text{NLO(prod)+NLO(dec)}} = \left[ d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow VH}^{(0)} \times \frac{d\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(0)} + d\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(1)}}{\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(0)} + \Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(1)}} + d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow VH+X}^{(1)} \times \frac{d\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(0)}}{\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(0)}} \right] \times Br(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$$

Precise knowledge from YR1

Including up to NNLO corrections for the production and up to NLO for the decay

$$d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow VH+X \rightarrow l\nu b\bar{b}+X}^{\text{NNLO(prod)+NLO(dec)}} = \left[ d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow VH}^{(0)} \times \frac{d\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(0)} + d\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(1)}}{\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(0)} + \Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(1)}} + \left( d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow VH+X}^{(1)} + d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow VH+X}^{(2)} \right) \times \frac{d\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(0)}}{\Gamma_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}}^{(0)}} \right] \times Br(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$$

# qT subtraction method [\[Catani, Grazzini 2007\]](#)

$$h_1 h_2 \rightarrow F \quad \text{a colorless system}$$

- qT is the transverse momentum of the colorless system (F), it is exactly zero at the leading order
- for  $q_T \neq 0$  there can be only divergences from single unresolved parton configurations
  - ✓ can be treated with NLO subtraction methods like CS dipoles
- double unres. singularities are **all** associated with  $q_T = 0$  configurations
  - ✓ can be treated by an additional subtraction defined exploiting the knowledge of the logarithmically enhanced contributions from the qT resummation formalism [\[Catani, De Florian, Grazzini 2000\]](#)

$$d\sigma_{N^n LO}^F \xrightarrow{q_T \rightarrow 0} d\sigma_{LO}^F \otimes \Sigma(q_T/M) dq_T^2 = d\sigma_{LO}^F \otimes \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{2n} \left(\frac{\alpha_S}{\pi}\right)^n \Sigma^{(n,k)} \frac{M^2}{q_T^2} \ln^{k-1} \frac{M^2}{q_T^2} dq_T^2$$

$$d\sigma^{CT} \xrightarrow{q_T \rightarrow 0} d\sigma_{LO}^F \otimes \Sigma(q_T/M) dq_T^2$$

# qT subtraction method [Catani, Grazzini 2007]

Fully differential cross section:  $d\sigma_{(N)NLO}^F = \mathcal{H}_{(N)NLO}^F \otimes d\sigma_{LO}^F + \left[ d\sigma_{(N)LO}^{F+jets} - d\sigma_{(N)LO}^{CT} \right]$

$$\text{where } \mathcal{H}_{NNLO}^F = \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha_S}{\pi} \mathcal{H}^{F(1)} + \left( \frac{\alpha_S}{\pi} \right)^2 \mathcal{H}^{F(2)} \right]$$

- the choice of the counter term (CT) has arbitrariness but the  $q_T \rightarrow 0$  limit behavior is universal
- CT regularize simultaneously the real-virtual and the double real integration that have to be run together
- the Hard function H contain both the double virtual amplitude and the integral of the CT
  - ✓ it's process dependent part can be obtained by the virtual amplitude via a universal process independent factorization formula  
[Catani, Cieri, De Florian, Ferrera, Grazzini 2009]
- the method has been used for:
  - ggF** Higgs production [Catani, Grazzini 2007],
  - DY** and **Diphoton** [Catani, Cieri, De Florian, Ferrera, Grazzini 2009],
  - VV'** production [Grazzini, Kallweit, Rathlev, Torre 2013] and  
[Gehrmann, Grazzini, Kallweit, Maierhöfer, von Manteuffel, Pozzorini, Rathlev, Tancredi 2014]

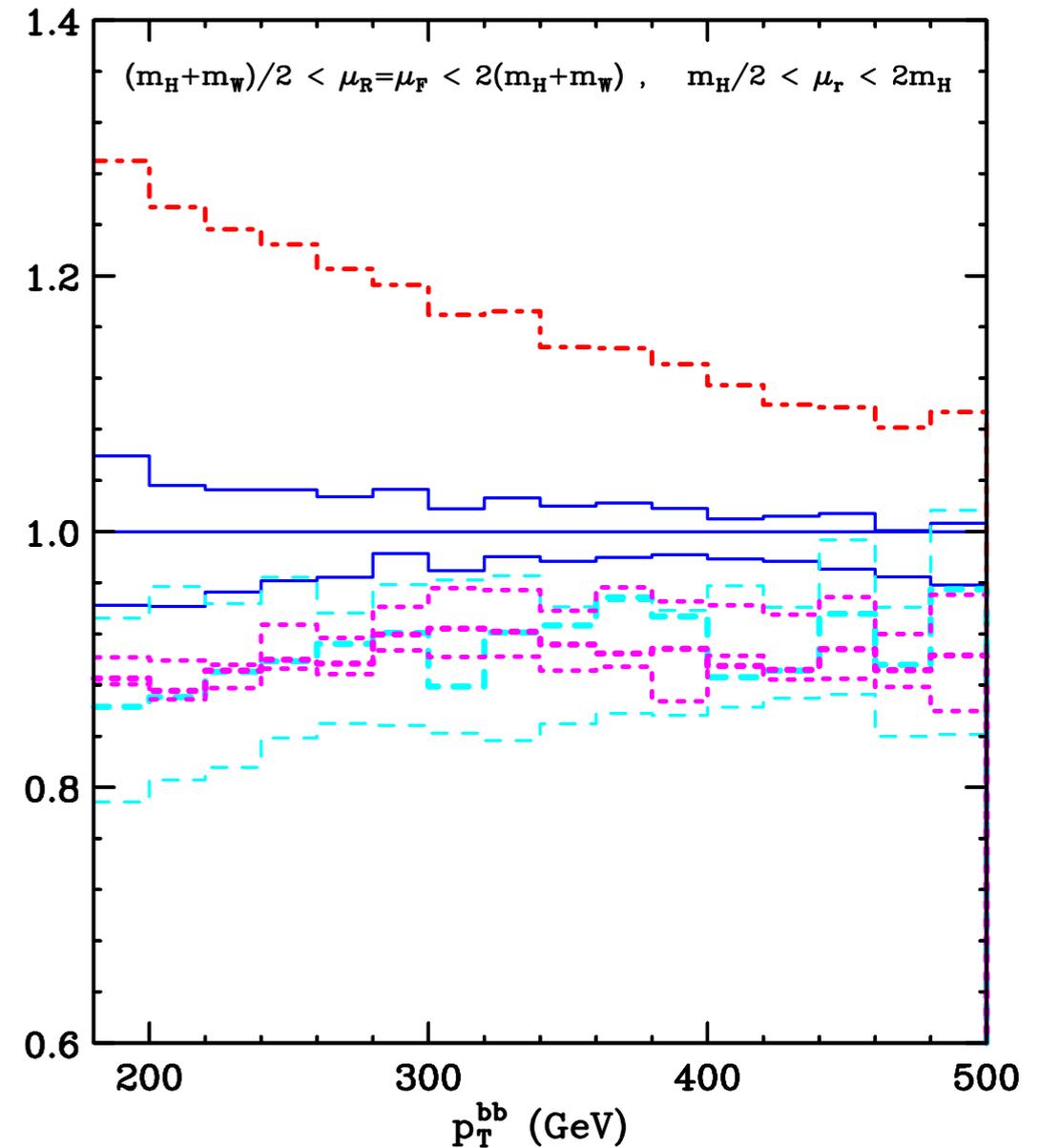
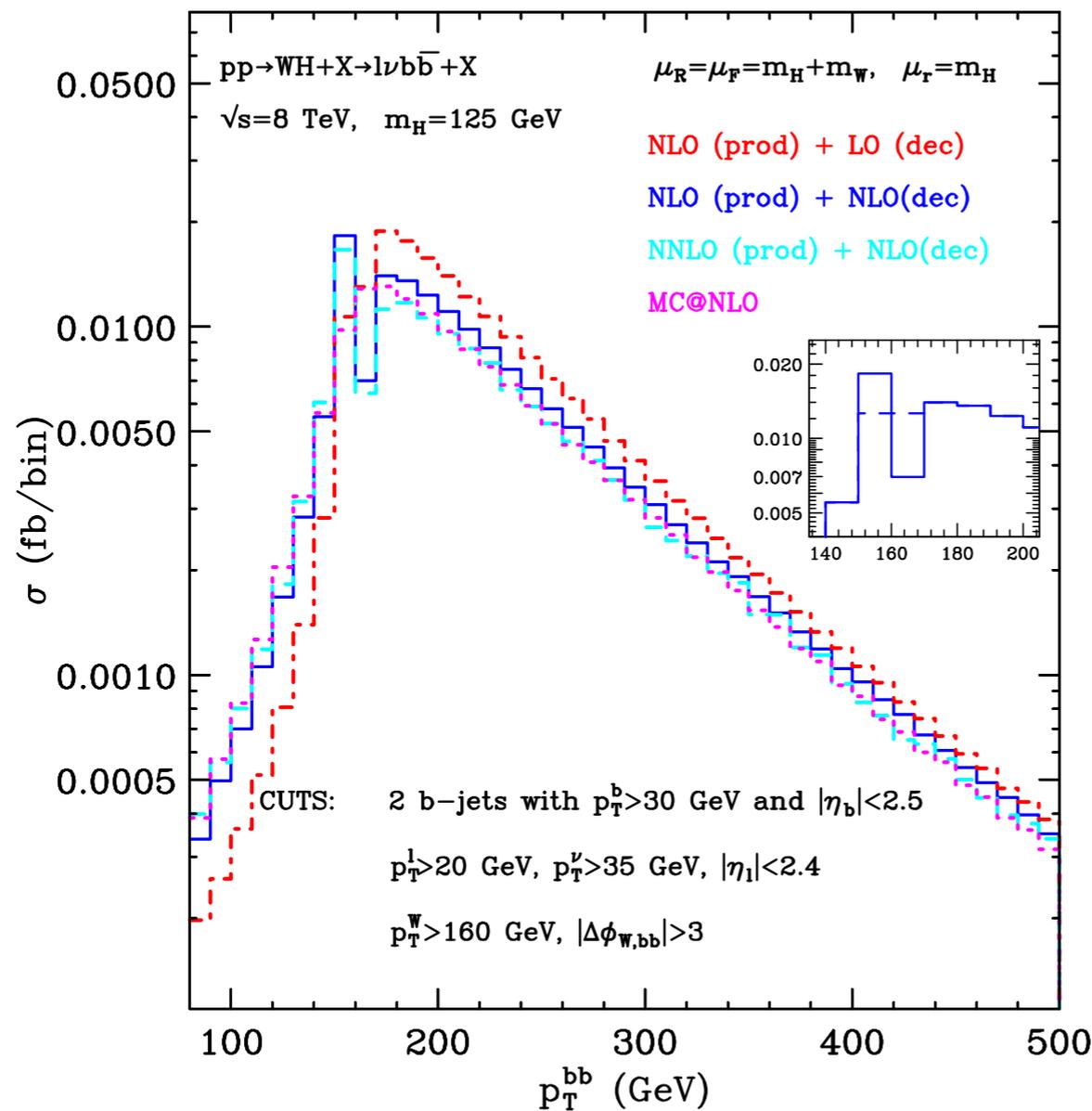
# Results

# Associated WH production

LHC8 with cuts

Left panel:  $p_T$  spectrum of the  $b$ -jets pair.

Right panel: Spectra normalized to the full NLO results (perturbative scale -  $\mu_R, \mu_F, \mu_{Rdec}$  uncertainty bands are shown).

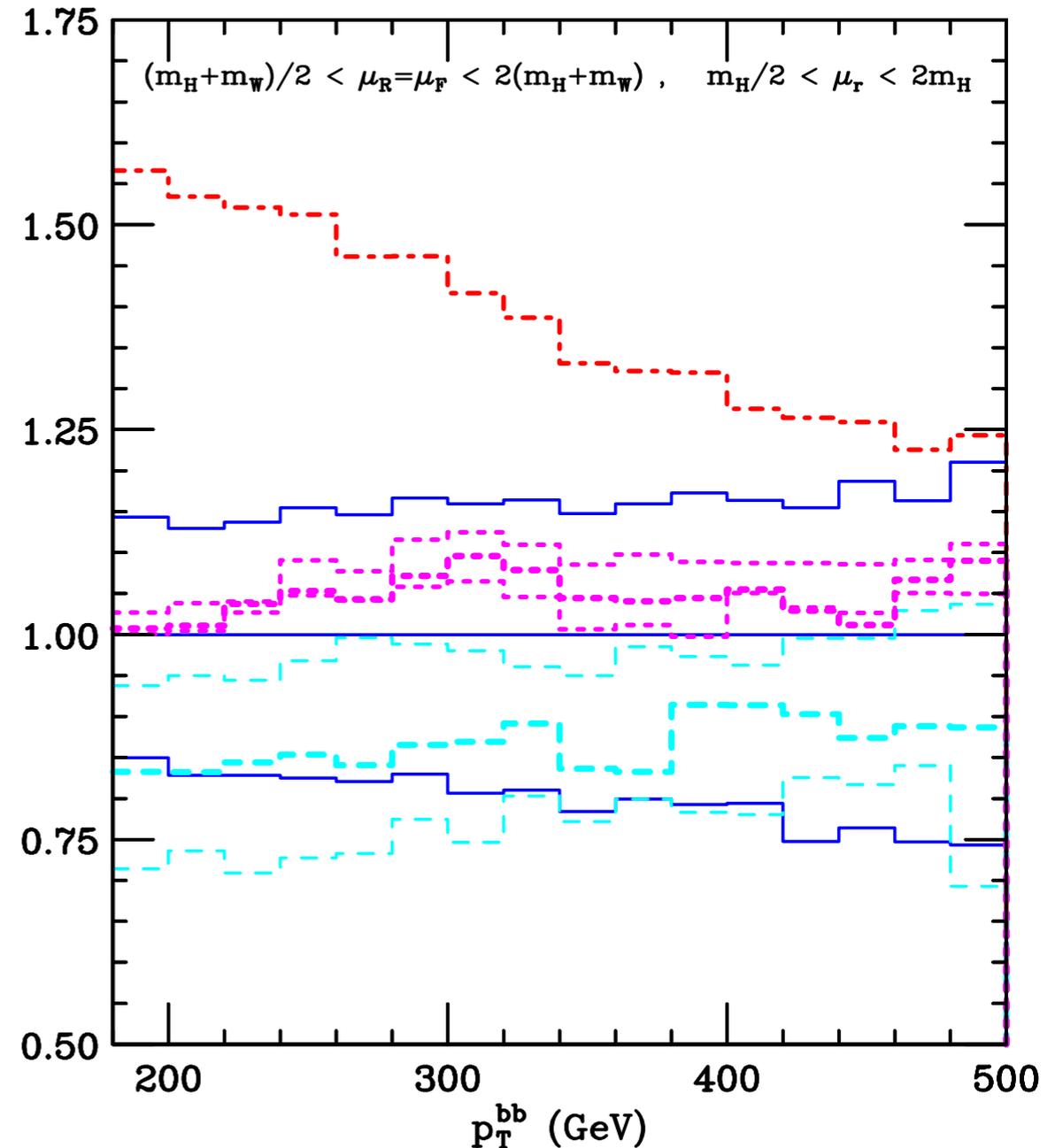
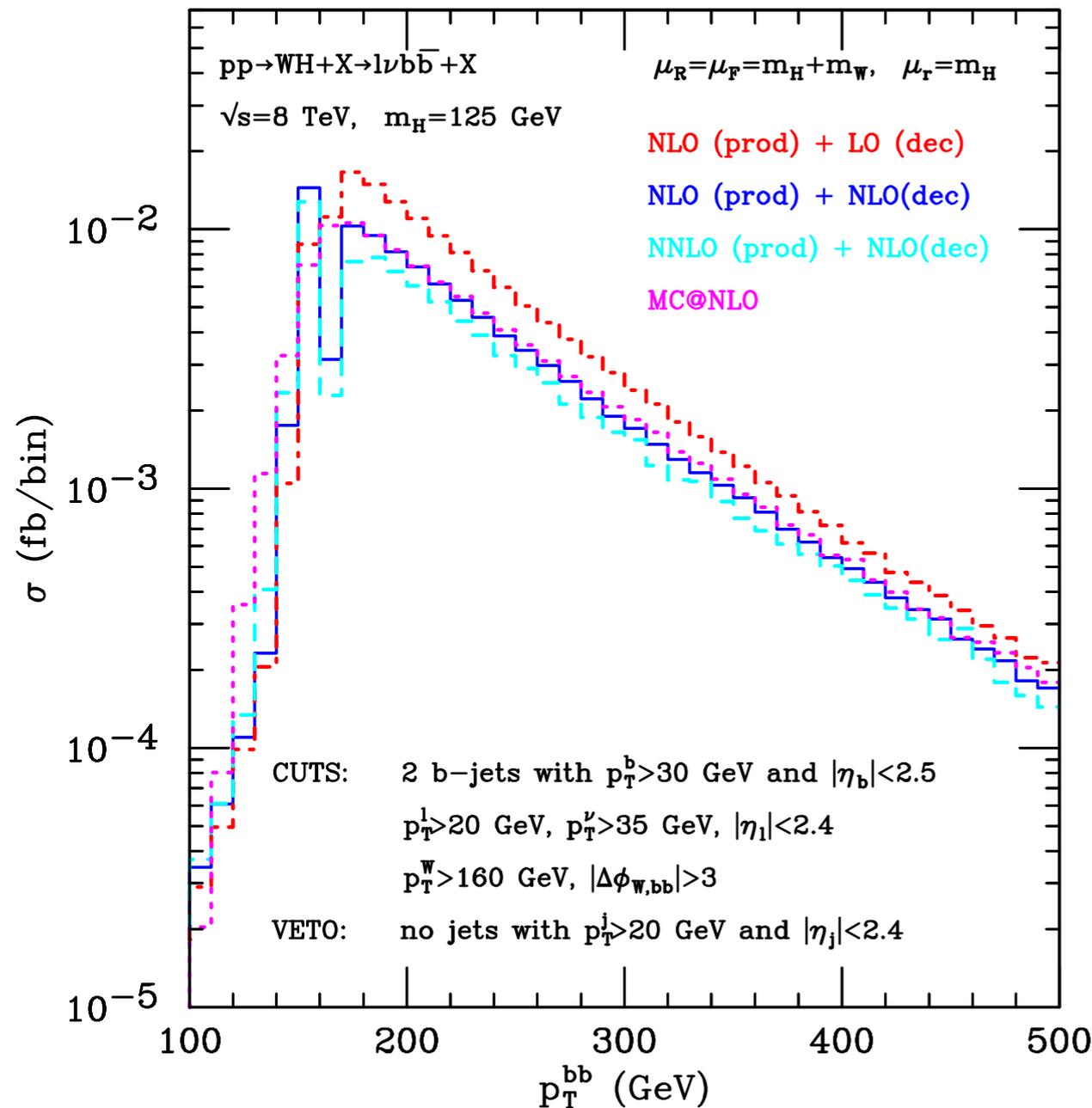


- Acceptance is 4% including NLO in production and is further reduced by 12% including NLO in the decay
- Instability due to the cut on the W transverse momentum (not present for shower MC)
- Large correction below  $p_T$  160 GeV due to the correction to the decay that are a leading order term
- Effect of the shower similar to NNLO(prod) + NLO(dec)
- Agreement among NNLO(prod) + NLO(dec) and MC@NLO
- NLO scale uncertainty not reliable
- NNLOp+NLOd scale uncertainty larger the NLO one

# Associated WH production

LHC8 with cuts

Including a light jet veto

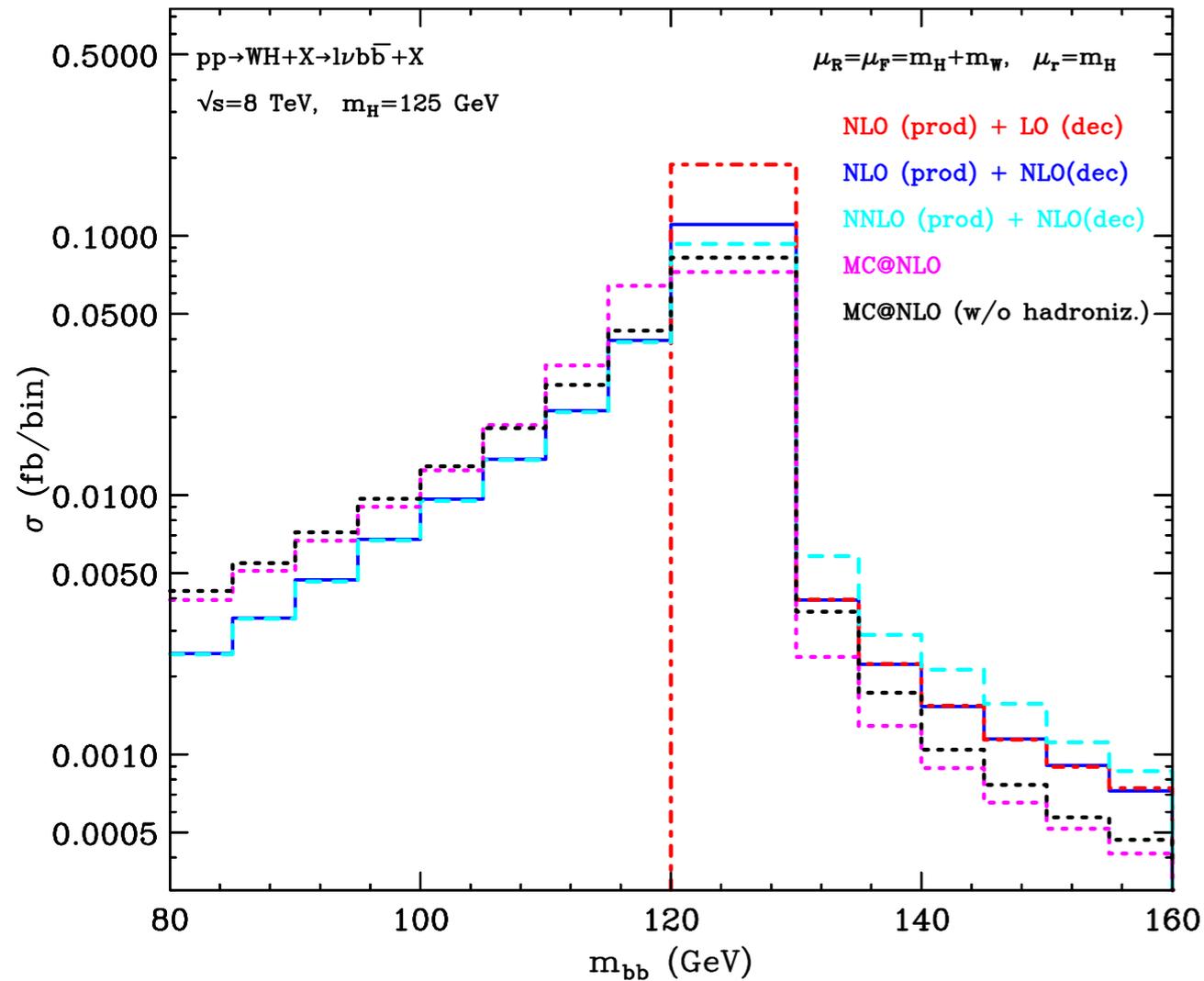


- NNLO having up to two hard radiations is more sensitive to the jet veto
- Acceptance is reduced by 33% for MC@NLO, 41% for NLO and 44% for NNLOp+NLOd

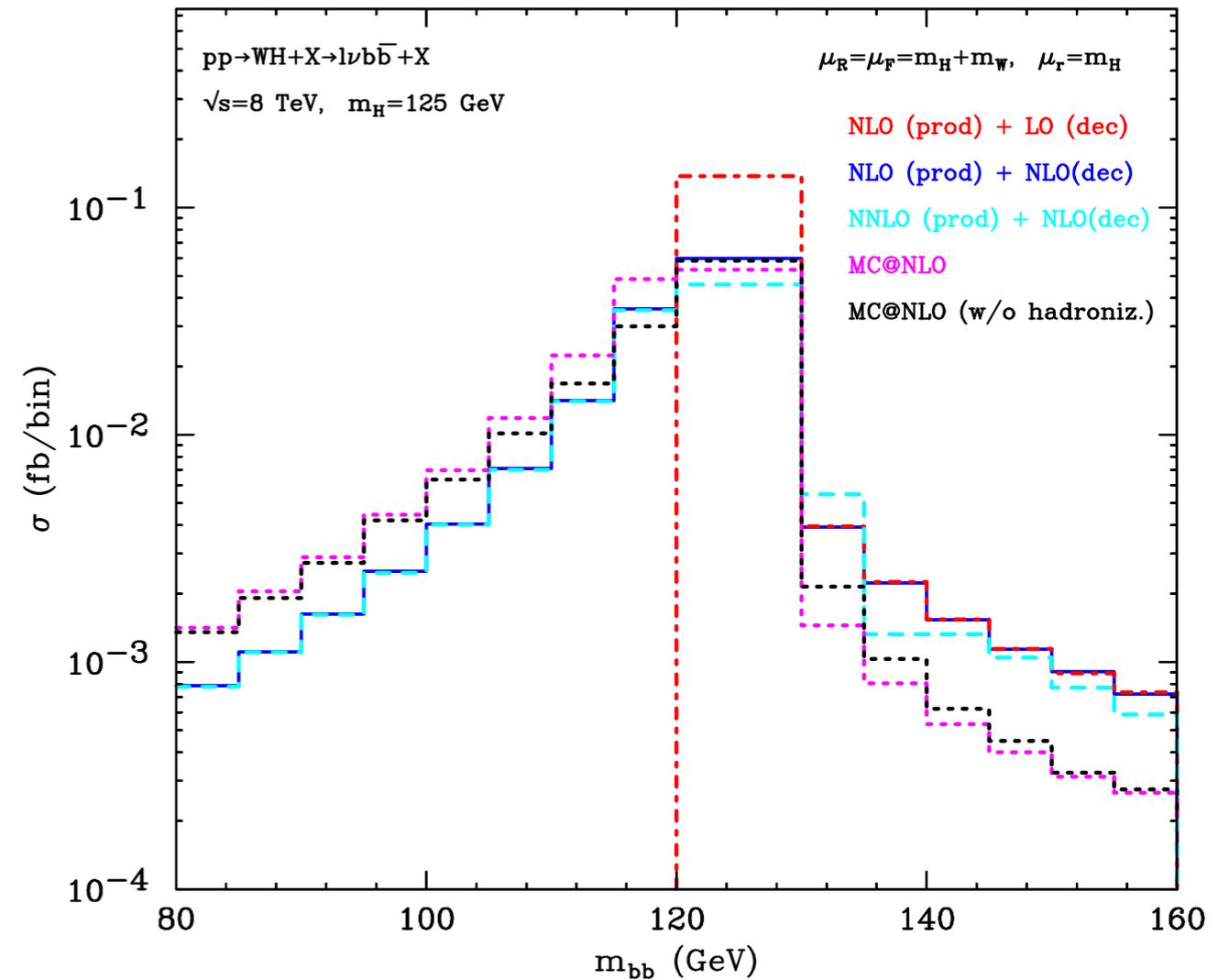
# Associated WH production

LHC8 with cuts

Invariant mass distribution



Without a jet veto



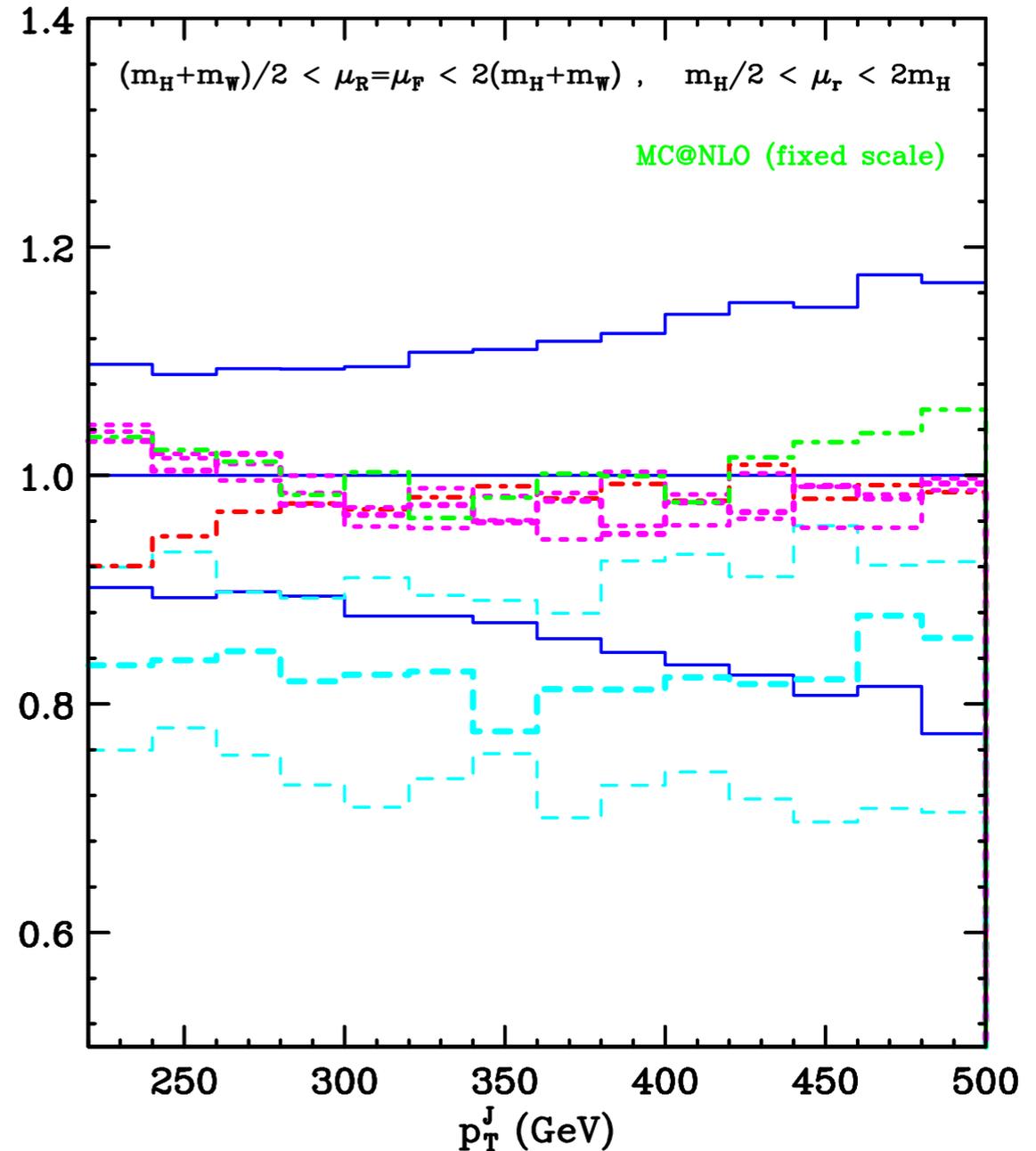
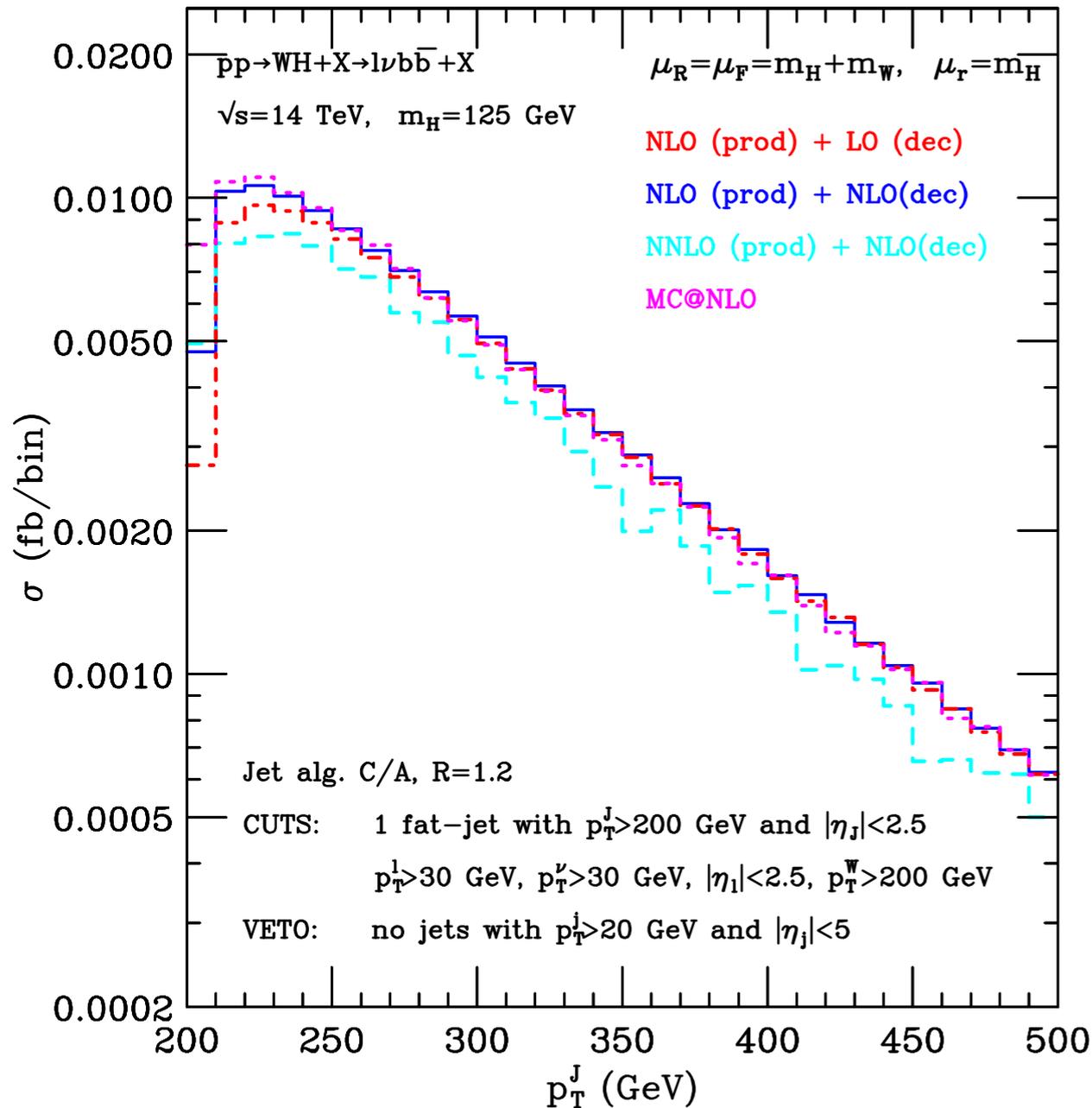
With a jet veto

- Correction to production and decay in different regions: high mass and low mass respectively
- High mass region: MC@NLO underestimate the cross section, the NNLO effect is large and positive and partially washed out when the jet veto is applied
- Low mass: MC@NLO more effective in reducing the invariant mass
- Higher order corrections make the invariant mass harder with respect to MC@NLO

# Associated WH production

## Fat jet

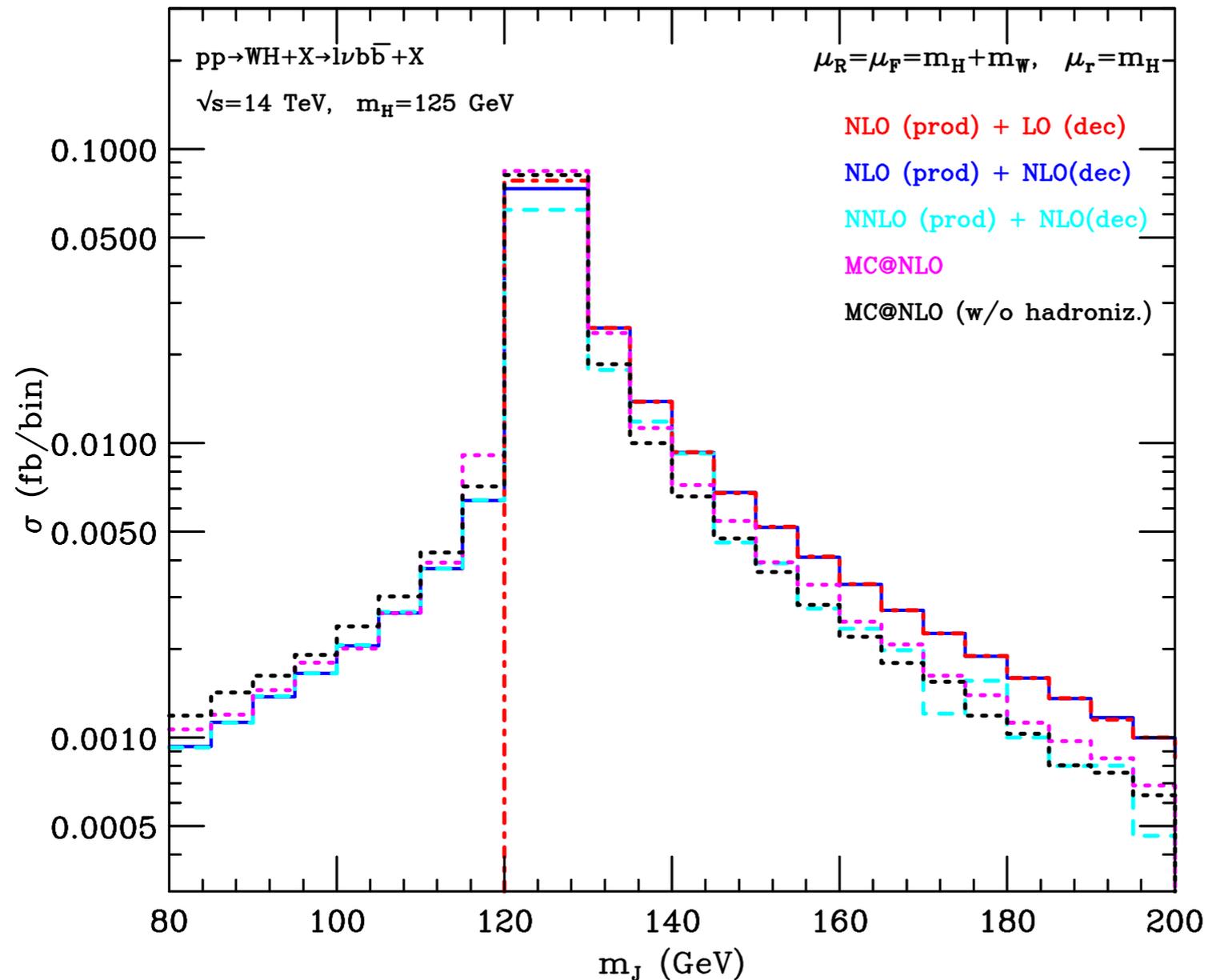
LHC14 with cuts and veto



$\sigma$ (fb)	NLO (with LO dec.)	NLO (full)	NNLO (with NLO dec.)	MC@NLO
w/o jet veto	$2.54^{+1\%}_{-1\%}$	$2.63^{+1\%}_{-1\%}$	$2.52^{+2\%}_{-2\%}$	$2.82^{+1\%}_{-1\%}$
w jet veto	$1.22^{+11\%}_{-14\%}$	$1.29^{+12\%}_{-13\%}$	$1.07^{+8\%}_{-6\%}$	$1.33^{+1\%}_{-1\%}$

# Associated WH production

## Fat jet LHC14 with cuts

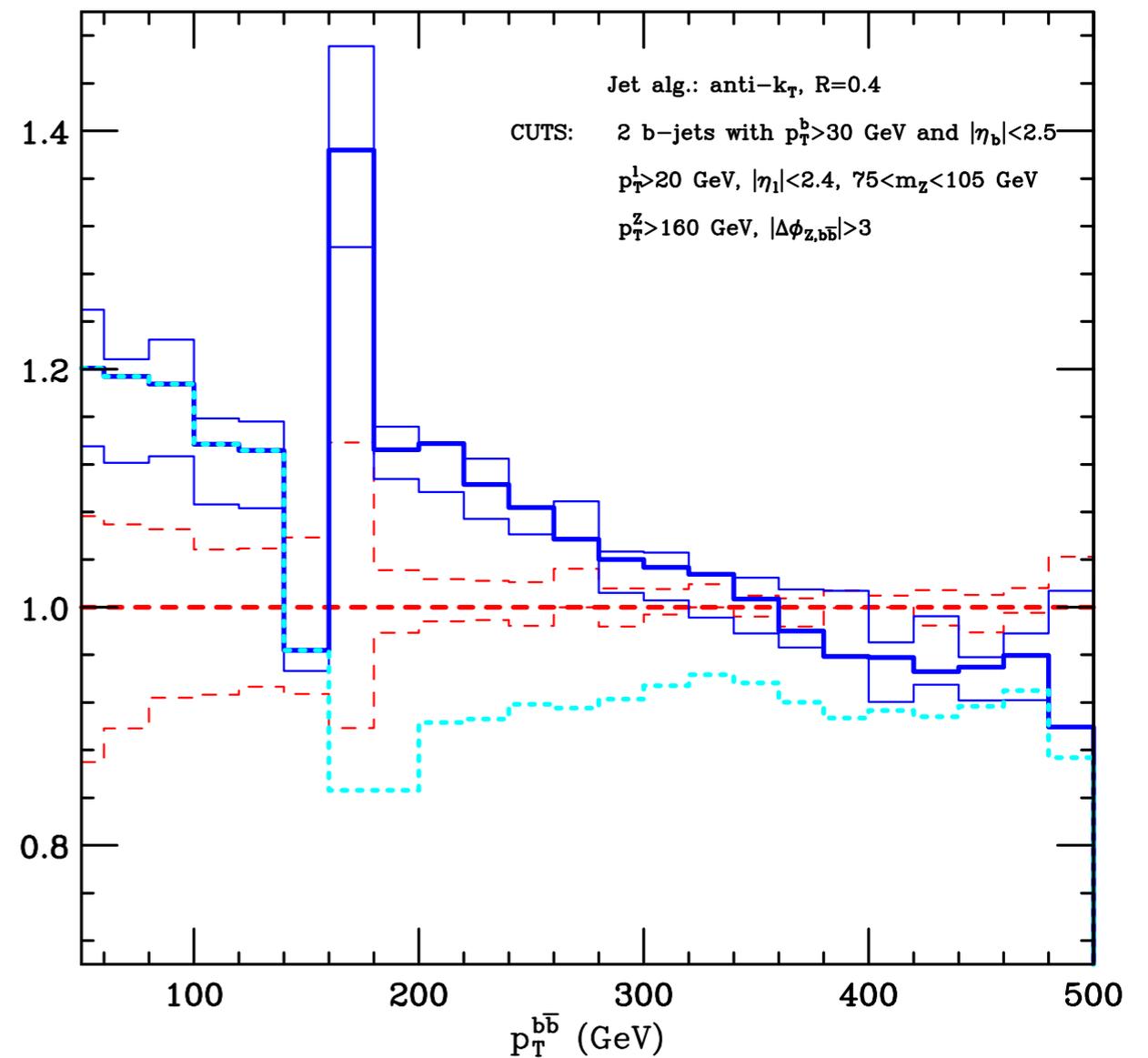
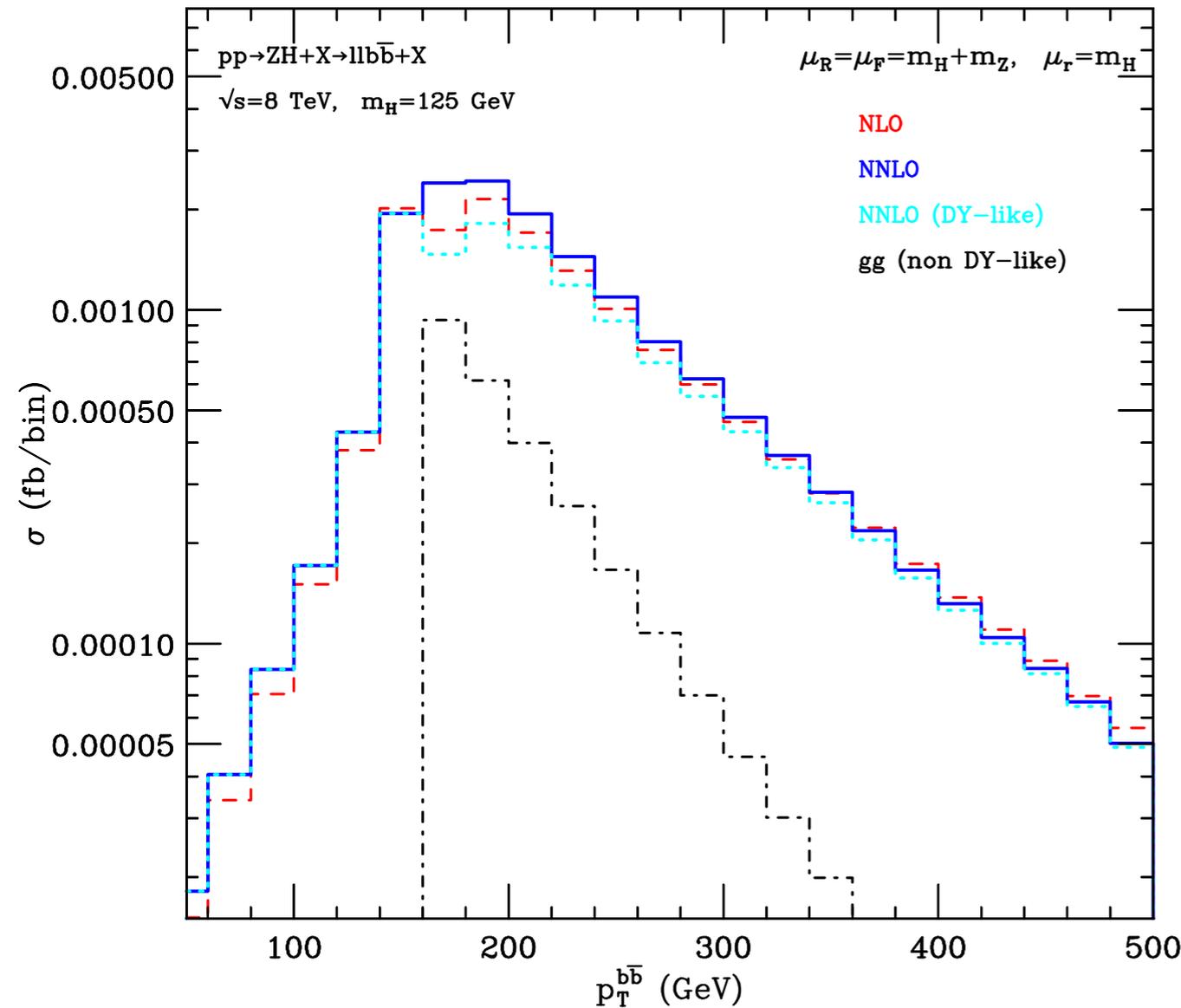


- Radiative corrections to the production are those that are more relevant
- High mass region: reduction due to parton shower similar to the NNLO effect
- Low mass: MC@NLO and fixed order essentially identical
- stable with respect radiative corrections

# Associated ZH production

LHC8 with cuts

$\sigma$ (fb)	NLO	NNLO (DY-like)	NNLO
LHC8	$0.2820^{+2\%}_{-2\%}$	$0.2574^{+3\%}_{-4\%}$	$0.3112^{+3\%}_{-2\%}$



- DY-like contribution not negligible (acceptance reduced by 10%) & Kfactor almost flat at high pt
- Loop induced is positive (+20%) & with a pt dependent Kfactor
- Overall effect is positive
- It is crucial in the experimental analysis to take in proper account the Loop induced  $gs^4$  term

# Associated ZH production

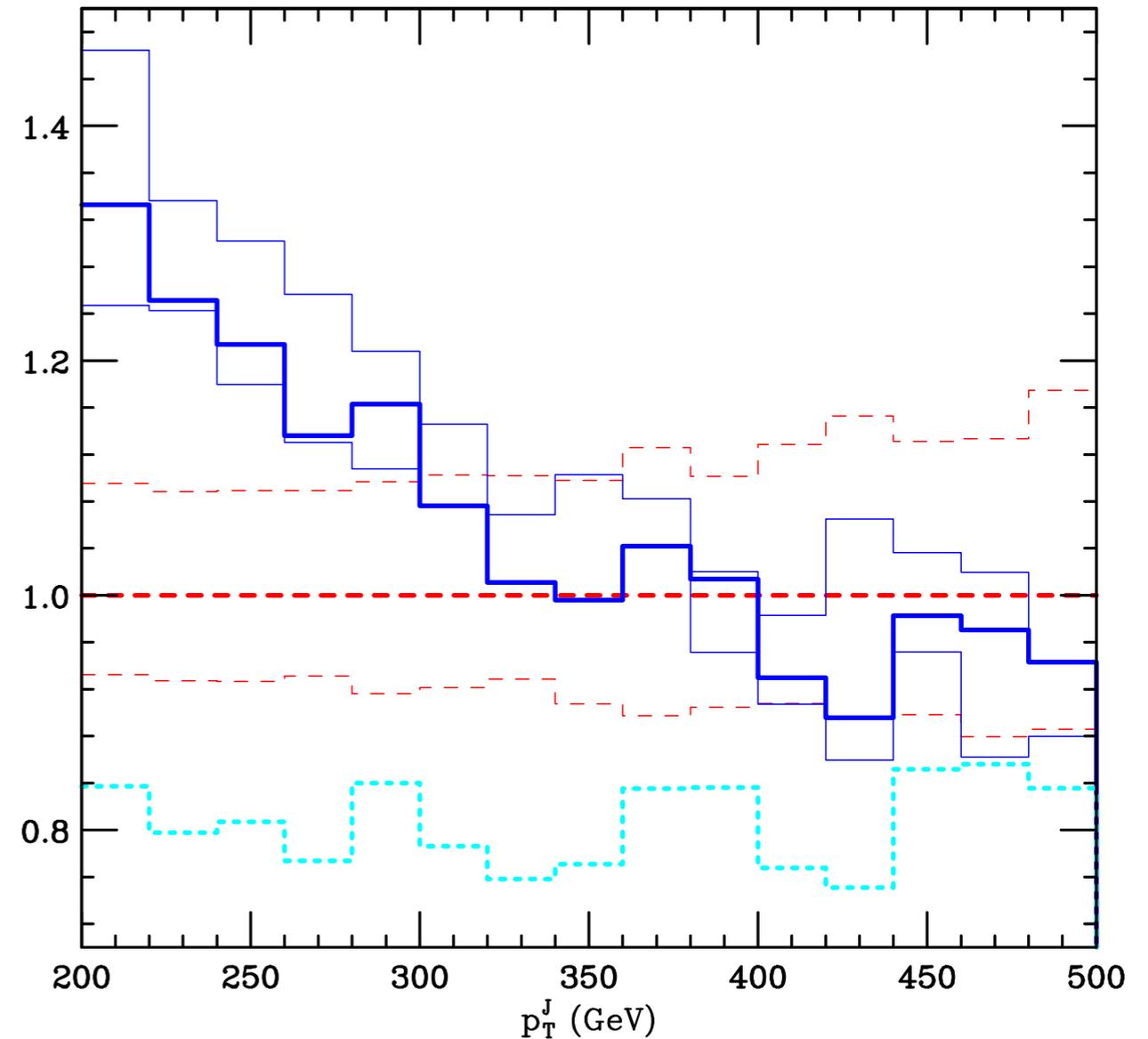
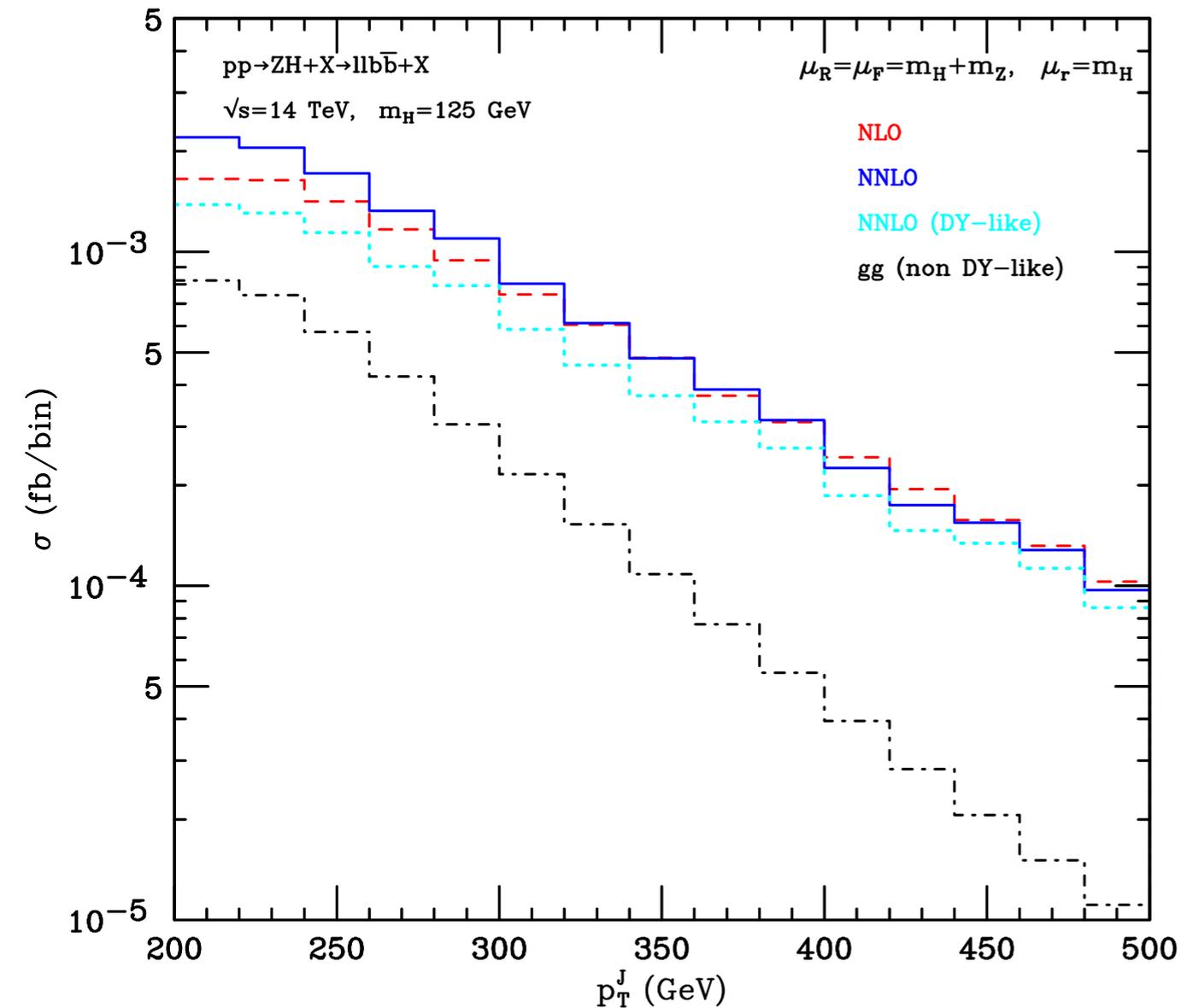
## Fat jet LHC14 with cuts and veto

Jet alg. C/A, R=1.2

CUTS: 1 fat-jet with  $p_T^J > 200$  GeV and  $|\eta_J| < 2.5$

$p_T^1 > 30$  GeV,  $|\eta_1| < 2.5$ ,  $p_T^Z > 160$  GeV

VETO: no jets with  $p_T^j > 20$  GeV and  $|\eta_j| < 5$



- DY-like contribution not negligible (acceptance reduced by 20%) & Kfactor almost flat at high pt
- Loop induced is positive (+25%) & with a pt dependent Kfactor
- It is crucial in the experimental analysis to take in proper account the loop induced  $g_s^4$  term

# Conclusion

- \* Calculation of **NNLO QCD** corrections to **VH production** with **NLO QCD  $H \rightarrow bb$**  decay in hadron collision using the  **$q_T$ -subtraction** formalism, included in a **fully-exclusive** parton level Monte Carlo code: **VHNNLO**
- \* Compared perturbative results with NLO parton-shower Monte Carlo predictions. Studied the NNLO(+nlo) uncertainty band: **first reliable estimate** of perturbative uncertainty
- \* Perturbative corrections are important:
  - LHC8 analysis:** NLO corr. to decay important but well accounted by MC parton shower. Good stability of higher-order corrections for production also with a light-jet veto.
  - LHC14 analysis:** NLO corr. to decay small. NNLO corrections **large and negative:  $\sim -20\%$**  when a light-jet veto is applied
- \* For ZH the loop induced contribution
  - ✓ consistently included together with the other gg initiated subprocesses at the same order
  - ✓ it is crucial that such contribution is properly accounted for in the experimental analyses

# Outlook/Work in progress

- \* Public release of the parton-level numerical code
- \* Extension to the full NNLO corrections for both production and decay
- \* Inclusion of  $H \rightarrow WW/ZZ \rightarrow 2l2\nu/4l$  decay
- \* NNLOPS doable in principle