

LHC HIGGS WORKING GROUP*

PUBLIC NOTE

Predictions for Production Cross Sections of the Higgs Boson at the LHC and HL-LHC

Instructions for authors:

- Add your name on the author list in the appropriate group. Anyone who was/is a convener since we started this work should be listed as such. External people should be listed in the “In collaboration with”. All groups should be alphabetical.
- Add your affiliation(s) and *update* the affiliation list appropriately.
- Please respect the formatting of tables etc by looking at previously committed material.
- Each chapter should serve as a review of the state-of-the-art theory. We should aim to be generous with references, and hence make sure to also cite work that is no longer state-of-the-art, but is now considered important work towards the state-of-the-art.

WG1 conveners: Hannah Arnold¹, Alessandro Calandri², Alexander Karlberg³, Bernhard Mistlberger⁴

ggF conveners: Alessandra Cappati⁵, Robin Hayes⁶, Alexander Huss³, Stephen Jones⁷

VBF conveners: Gaetano Barone⁸, Jiayi Chen⁹, Silvia Ferrario Ravasio³, Mathieu Pellen¹⁰

VH conveners: Suman Chatterjee¹¹, Valerio Dao³, Giancarlo Ferrera¹², Matthew Lim¹³

$t\bar{t}H/tH$ conveners: Josh McFayden¹³, Valeria Botta¹⁴, Malgorzata Worek¹⁴, Marco Zaro¹²

$b\bar{b}H/bH$ conveners:

In collaboration with:

¹Brookhaven National Laboratory, PO Box 5000, Upton, NY 11973, USA

²ETH Zurich—Institute for Particle Physics and Astrophysics (IPA), Zurich, Switzerland

³CERN, Theoretical Physics Department, CH-1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland

⁴SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94039, USA

⁵Laboratoire Leprince-Ringuet, CNRS/IN2P3, École Polytechnique, Institut Polytechnique de Paris, Av. Chasles, 91120 Palaiseau, France

* <https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/LHCPhysics/LHCHWG>

⁶*Nikhef, Science Park 105, 1098 XG Amsterdam, The Netherlands*

⁷*Institute for Particle Physics Phenomenology, Durham University, Durham DH1 3LE, UK*

⁸*Brown University, Providence, RI 02912, USA*

⁹*Department of Physics, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC V5H0G9, Canada*

¹⁰*Physikalisches Institut, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, D-79104 Freiburg, Germany*

¹¹*Institute of High Energy Physics (HEPHY), Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW), Nikolsdorfer Gasse 18, 1050 Vienna, Austria*

¹²*Università degli Studi di Milano & INFN, Sezione di Milano, Via Celoria 16, 20133 Milano, Italy*

¹³*Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Sussex, Sussex House, Brighton, BN1 9RH, UK*

¹⁴*Institute for Theoretical Particle Physics and Cosmology, RWTH Aachen University, D-52056 Aachen, Germany*

Abstract This note documents state-of-the-art predictions for the production cross sections of the Higgs Boson at the LHC. Specifically, Standard Model predictions for the LHC with centre-of-mass. energy of 7, 8, 13, 13.6 and 14 TeV are presented.

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Common setup	1
3	ggF	1
4	VBF	1
5	VH	2
6	$t\bar{t}H$ and tH	2
7	$b\bar{b}H$	2
8	Conclusions	2
A	Reference tables	3
A.1	ggF	3
A.2	VBF	3
A.3	VH	4
A.4	$t\bar{t}H$	4
A.5	$b\bar{b}H$	4

1 Introduction

Production cross sections for the Higgs boson based on the Standard Model of particle physics were collected in the CERN Yellow Report "Deciphering the Nature of the Higgs Sector" (YR4) (CERN-2017-002) [1]. Since this document became public many advancements in our abilities to predict production cross sections were achieved. Furthermore, the LHC performed measurements at a higher centre-of-mass energy of 13.6 TeV for which YR4 does not contain any predictions. Looking ahead to Run-3 and the High Luminosity phase of the LHC (HL-LHC) and the associated wealth of data that will be collected an update of the HWG recommendation of all production cross sections to reflect the current state of the art is called for. The aim of this note is to document recent advancements and review the ingredients for the prediction of Standard Model predictions for the production cross sections of the Higgs boson at the LHC (similar in spirit as in YR4). Updated numerical predictions for central values of the production cross sections and associated theoretical and parametric uncertainties are the main result of this article. This note supersedes the interpolation of Ref. [2].

For now, instructions and input parameters for the generation of numerical values can be found here: <https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/LHCPhysics/LHCHWG136TeVxsec>

2 Common setup

3 ggF

4 VBF

The results are combined according to

$$\sigma^{\text{VBF}} = \sigma_{\text{N}^3\text{LO}}^{\text{DIS}}(1 + \delta_{\text{EW}}) + \sigma_{\gamma} \quad (1)$$

and the theory uncertainties are computed as

$$\Delta_{\text{TU}} = \max \left\{ 0.5\%, \delta_{\text{EW}}^2 \right\} + \frac{|\sigma_{\text{nf}}| + |\sigma_{\text{s/t/u}}|}{\sigma^{\text{VBF}}} \% \quad (2)$$

for $\sqrt{s} = \{13, 13.6, 14\}$ TeV. For the legacy numbers corresponding to $\sqrt{s} = \{7, 8\}$ TeV the non-factorisable contribution, σ_{nf} , was not computed, and we instead set

$$\Delta_{\text{TU}} = \max \left[\max \left\{ 0.5\%, \delta_{\text{EW}}^2 \right\} + \frac{|\sigma_{\text{s/t/u}}|}{\sigma^{\text{VBF}}} \%, 1.0\% \right]. \quad (3)$$

In fact, in this case it always corresponds to 1%.

5 VH

6 $t\bar{t}H$ and tH

7 $b\bar{b}H$

8 Conclusions

Acknowledgments

This work was done on behalf of the LHCHWG.

A Reference tables

A.1 ggF

A.2 VBF

Table 1: Total VBF cross sections in the SM for a LHC CM energy of $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV, including QCD and EW corrections and their uncertainties for different Higgs-boson masses M_H . For more details see section 4.

$M_H[\text{GeV}]$	$\sigma^{\text{VBF}}[\text{fb}]$	$\Delta_{\text{scale}}[\%]$	$\Delta_{\text{PDF}/\alpha_s/\text{PDF}\oplus\alpha_s}[\%]$	$\Delta_{\text{TU}}[\%]$	$\sigma_{\text{N3LO}}^{\text{DIS}}[\text{fb}]$	$\delta_{\text{EW}}[\%]$	$\sigma_\gamma[\text{fb}]$	$\sigma_{\text{nf}}[\text{fb}]$	$\sigma_{\text{s/t/u}}[\text{fb}]$
120.00	1310	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1360	-4.4	9.7	—	-5.3
122.00	1285	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1333	-4.4	9.6	—	-5.0
124.00	1261	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1309	-4.4	9.5	—	-4.7
124.60	1254	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1301	-4.3	9.5	—	-4.6
124.80	1252	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1299	-4.3	9.4	—	-4.6
125.00	1249	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1296	-4.3	9.4	—	-4.5
125.09	1248	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1295	-4.3	9.4	—	-4.5
125.20	1247	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1294	-4.3	9.4	—	-4.5
125.30	1246	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1293	-4.3	9.4	—	-4.4
125.38	1245	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1292	-4.3	9.4	—	-4.4
125.60	1242	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1289	-4.3	9.4	—	-4.4
126.00	1238	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1284	-4.3	9.4	—	-4.4
128.00	1215	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1260	-4.3	9.2	—	-4.1
130.00	1192	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.4$	± 1.0	1237	-4.3	9.1	—	-3.8

Table 2: Total VBF cross sections in the SM for a LHC CM energy of $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV, including QCD and EW corrections and their uncertainties for different Higgs-boson masses M_H . For more details see section 4.

$M_H[\text{GeV}]$	$\sigma^{\text{VBF}}[\text{fb}]$	$\Delta_{\text{scale}}[\%]$	$\Delta_{\text{PDF}/\alpha_s/\text{PDF}\oplus\alpha_s}[\%]$	$\Delta_{\text{TU}}[\%]$	$\sigma_{\text{N3LO}}^{\text{DIS}}[\text{fb}]$	$\delta_{\text{EW}}[\%]$	$\sigma_\gamma[\text{fb}]$	$\sigma_{\text{nf}}[\text{fb}]$	$\sigma_{\text{s/t/u}}[\text{fb}]$
120.00	1687	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1754	-4.6	13.2	—	-6.2
122.00	1657	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1722	-4.6	13.0	—	-5.9
124.00	1627	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1691	-4.5	12.9	—	-5.5
124.60	1618	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1681	-4.5	12.8	—	-5.5
124.80	1615	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1678	-4.5	12.8	—	-5.5
125.00	1612	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1675	-4.5	12.8	—	-5.4
125.09	1611	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1674	-4.5	12.8	—	-5.4
125.20	1609	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1672	-4.5	12.8	—	-5.4
125.30	1608	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1671	-4.5	12.8	—	-5.4
125.38	1607	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1669	-4.5	12.8	—	-5.4
125.60	1604	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1666	-4.5	12.8	—	-5.3
126.00	1598	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1660	-4.5	12.7	—	-5.2
128.00	1569	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1630	-4.5	12.6	—	-4.9
130.00	1542	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.3/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.3$	± 1.0	1601	-4.5	12.4	—	-4.6

Table 3: Total VBF cross sections in the SM for a LHC CM energy of $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV, including QCD and EW corrections and their uncertainties for different Higgs-boson masses M_H . For more details see section 4.

$M_H[\text{GeV}]$	$\sigma^{\text{VBF}}[\text{fb}]$	$\Delta_{\text{scale}}[\%]$	$\Delta_{\text{PDF}/\alpha_s/\text{PDF}\oplus\alpha_s}[\%]$	$\Delta_{\text{TU}}[\%]$	$\sigma_{\text{N3LO}}^{\text{DIS}}[\text{fb}]$	$\delta_{\text{EW}}[\%]$	$\sigma_\gamma[\text{fb}]$	$\sigma_{\text{nf}}[\text{fb}]$	$\sigma_{\text{s/t/u}}[\text{fb}]$
120.00	3967	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4148	-5.2	36.1	-8.9	-11.5
122.00	3905	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4082	-5.2	35.8	-8.5	-10.6
124.00	3844	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4017	-5.2	35.4	-8.2	-10.2
124.60	3825	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	3998	-5.2	35.3	-8.1	-10.0
124.80	3819	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	3992	-5.2	35.3	-8.1	-10.0
125.00	3813	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	3985	-5.2	35.2	-8.0	-10.0
125.09	3811	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	3982	-5.2	35.2	-8.0	-10.0
125.20	3807	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	3979	-5.2	35.2	-8.0	-10.0
125.30	3804	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	3976	-5.2	35.2	-8.0	-9.9
125.38	3802	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	3973	-5.2	35.2	-8.0	-9.8
125.60	3795	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	3966	-5.2	35.1	-8.0	-9.7
126.00	3784	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	3954	-5.2	35.1	-7.9	-9.6
128.00	3725	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.2/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	3892	-5.2	34.7	-7.7	-9.2
130.00	3667	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.2/\pm 0.3/\pm 2.2$	± 0.9	3831	-5.2	34.3	-7.5	-8.6

Table 4: Total VBF cross sections in the SM for a LHC CM energy of $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$ TeV, including QCD and EW corrections and their uncertainties for different Higgs-boson masses M_H . For more details see section 4.

$M_H[\text{GeV}]$	$\sigma^{\text{VBF}}[\text{fb}]$	$\Delta_{\text{scale}}[\%]$	$\Delta_{\text{PDF}/\alpha_s/\text{PDF}\oplus\alpha_s}[\%]$	$\Delta_{\text{TU}}[\%]$	$\sigma_{\text{N3LO}}^{\text{DIS}}[\text{fb}]$	$\delta_{\text{EW}}[\%]$	$\sigma_\gamma[\text{fb}]$	$\sigma_{\text{nf}}[\text{fb}]$	$\sigma_{\text{s/t/u}}[\text{fb}]$
120.00	4276	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4473	-5.3	39.4	-9.2	-11.9
122.00	4210	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4403	-5.3	39.0	-8.8	-11.4
124.00	4144	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4334	-5.3	38.6	-8.5	-10.9
124.60	4125	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4313	-5.3	38.5	-8.4	-10.8
124.80	4118	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4307	-5.3	38.5	-8.4	-10.7
125.00	4112	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4300	-5.3	38.5	-8.3	-10.7
125.09	4109	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4297	-5.3	38.4	-8.3	-10.7
125.20	4106	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4293	-5.3	38.4	-8.3	-10.6
125.30	4102	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4290	-5.3	38.4	-8.3	-10.5
125.38	4100	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4287	-5.3	38.4	-8.3	-10.4
125.60	4093	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4280	-5.3	38.3	-8.3	-10.4
126.00	4080	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4266	-5.3	38.3	-8.2	-10.3
128.00	4018	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 0.9	4200	-5.2	37.9	-8.0	-9.8
130.00	3956	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 0.9	4135	-5.2	37.5	-7.8	-9.1

A.3 VH

A.4 ttH

A.5 bbH

References

- [1] LHC HIGGS CROSS SECTION WORKING GROUP collaboration, D. de Florian et al., *Handbook of LHC Higgs Cross Sections: 4. Deciphering the Nature of the Higgs Sector*, 1610.07922.
- [2] A. Karlberg et al., *Ad interim recommendations for the Higgs boson production cross sections at $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$ TeV*, 2402.09955.

Table 5: Total VBF cross sections in the SM for a LHC CM energy of $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV, including QCD and EW corrections and their uncertainties for different Higgs-boson masses M_H . For more details see section 4.

$M_H[\text{GeV}]$	$\sigma^{\text{VBF}}[\text{fb}]$	$\Delta_{\text{scale}}[\%]$	$\Delta_{\text{PDF}/\alpha_s/\text{PDF}\oplus\alpha_s}[\%]$	$\Delta_{\text{TU}}[\%]$	$\sigma_{\text{N}^3\text{LO}}^{\text{DIS}}[\text{fb}]$	$\delta_{\text{EW}}[\%]$	$\sigma_\gamma[\text{fb}]$	$\sigma_{\text{nf}}[\text{fb}]$	$\sigma_{\text{s/t/u}}[\text{fb}]$
120.00	4486	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4694	-5.3	41.7	-9.9	-12.4
122.00	4416	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4620	-5.3	41.3	-9.5	-11.9
124.00	4348	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4549	-5.3	40.8	-9.1	-11.2
124.60	4328	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4527	-5.3	40.7	-9.0	-11
124.80	4322	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4520	-5.3	40.7	-9.0	-11
125.00	4315	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4513	-5.3	40.7	-8.9	-10.9
125.09	4312	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4510	-5.3	40.6	-8.9	-10.9
125.20	4308	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4506	-5.3	40.6	-8.9	-10.9
125.30	4305	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4503	-5.3	40.6	-8.9	-10.8
125.38	4302	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4500	-5.3	40.6	-8.9	-10.8
125.60	4295	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4492	-5.3	40.5	-8.9	-10.6
126.00	4282	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4478	-5.3	40.5	-8.8	-10.5
128.00	4216	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4409	-5.3	40	-8.6	-10
130.00	4152	$^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$\pm 2.1/\pm 0.4/\pm 2.2$	± 1.0	4342	-5.3	39.7	-8.4	-9.5