

Theory predictions for top-pair production at collider experiments

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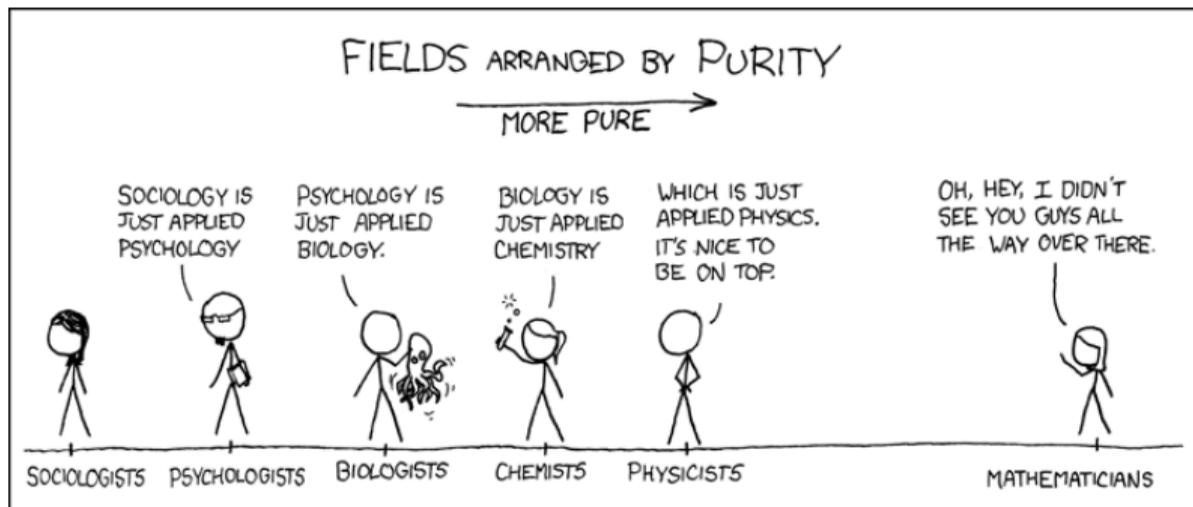


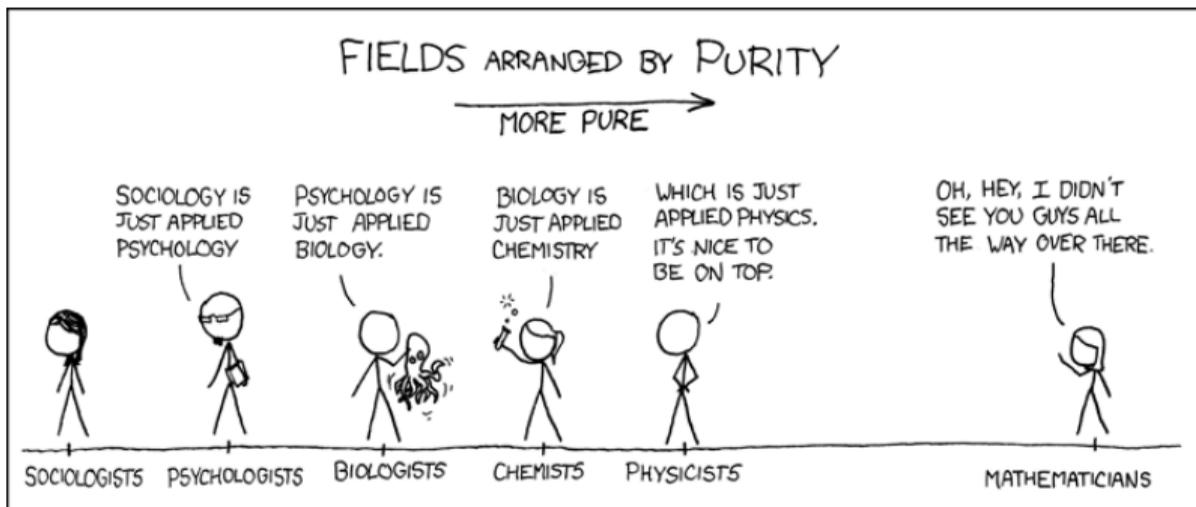
Outline:

→ Predictions for top-pair production! ...

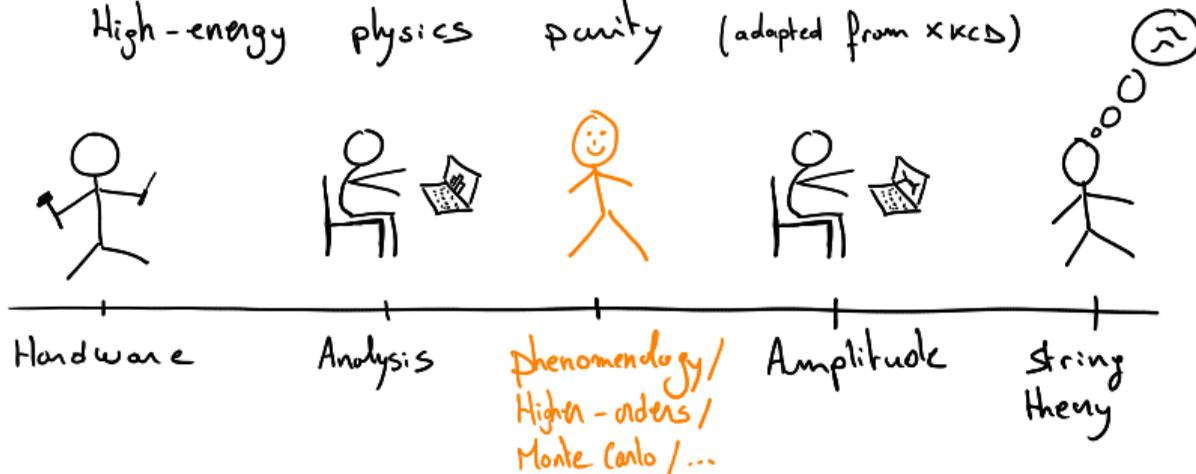
→ ... and why you want to compute them

- *lepton+jets channel (e^+e^- and LHC)*
- *Recent results on top associated production*





High-energy physics purity (adapted from XKCD)

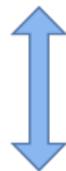
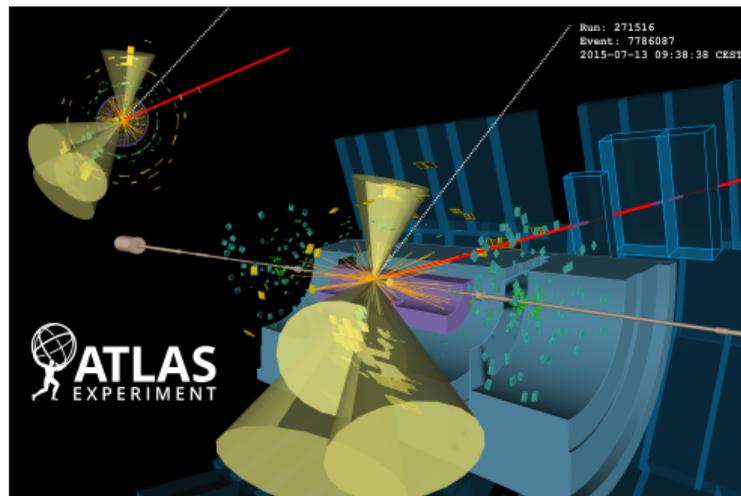




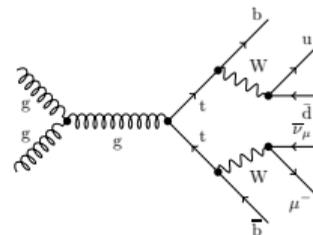
→ Illustration of Giordano Bruno's philosophical ideas (XVIth century)

LHC: Great tool to probe fundamental interactions at high energies

→ Cross talk between **experiment** and **theory**



$$pp \rightarrow t^* \bar{t}^* \rightarrow (W^* \rightarrow \nu_\mu \mu^-) (W^* \rightarrow jj) b \bar{b}$$



- Greatest achievement of the LHC so far:

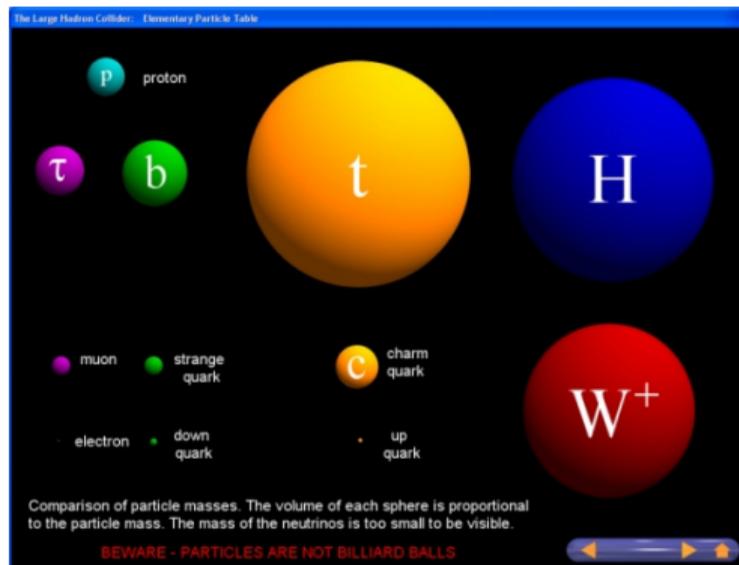
Discovery of the Higgs boson



→ Great interest in measuring properties of the Higgs boson ...
... but there are also other interesting things

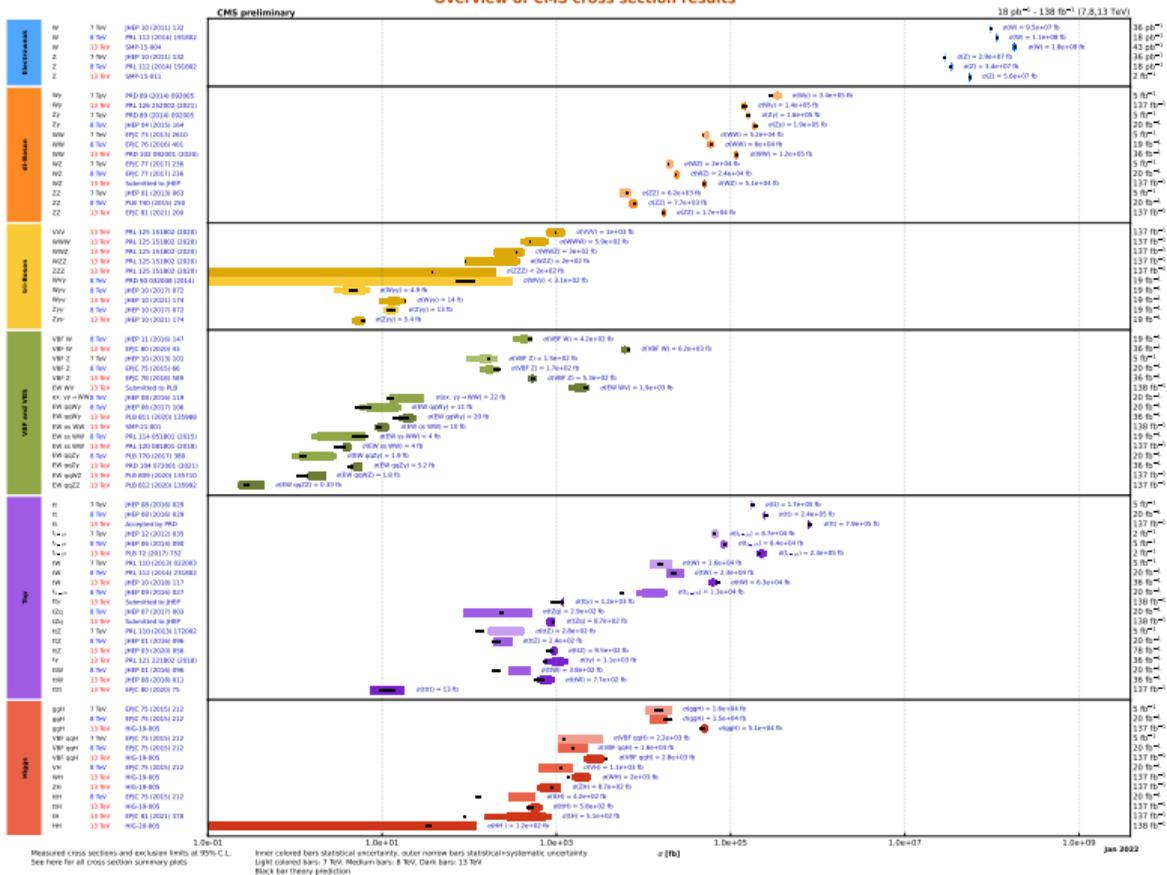
Why is the top quark interesting?

- It is the heaviest particles of the Standard Model!



- Decay before hadronisation
- Possible window to new physics
- ...

Overview of CMS cross section results



→ **Cross-sections measurements machine!**

More loops ...

→ higher-order corrections in α_s and α

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... and more legs!

→ Why do you want to do a high-multiplicity computation?

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→ Why do you want to do a high-multiplicity computation?

- because I can
- because I have nothing else to do
- because nobody did it before
- because it is relevant

More loops ...

→ higher-order corrections in α_s and α

... and more legs!

→ Why do you want to do a high-multiplicity computation?

- because I can
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- because it is relevant

→ inclusion of **off-shell effects**

State of the art top-antitop production (@ lepton colliders)

- NLO QCD [Guo, Ma, Zhang, Wang; 0802.4124], [Liebler, Moortgat-Pick, Papanastasiou; 1511.02350]
→ With **off-shell effects** [Chokouf  Nejad et al.; 1609.03390]
- NLO EW [Fujimoto, Shimizu; Mod. Phys. Lett. A 3 (1988) 581], [Beenakker, van der Marck, Hollik; Nucl. Phys. B 365 (1991) 24–78], [Fleischer, Leike, Riemann, Werthenbach; hep-ph/0302259]
→ With **ISR resummation** [Quach, Kurihara; 1706.07042], [Bertone, et al.; 2207.03265]
- NNLO QCD [Gao, Zhu; 1408.5150,1410.3165], [Chen, Dekkers, Heisler, Bernreuther, Si; 1610.07897], [Bernreuther, Chen, Lu, Si; 2301.12632] (differential)
- N3LO QCD [Hoang, Mateu, Zebarjad; 0807.4173], [Kiyoy, Maier, Maierh ofer, Marquard, 0907.2120] (inclusive)
- non-relativistic QCD and resummation [Hoang, Reisser, Ruiz-Femenia; 1002.3223], [Hoang, Stahlhofen; 1309.6323], [Beneke, et al.; 1506.06864], [Beneke, Maier, Rauh, Ruiz-Femenia; 1711.10429], [Bach, et al.; 1712.02220]

State of the art top-antitop production (@ LHC)

- NLO QCD [Frixione et al.; hep-ph/9503213], [Bernreuther et al.; hep-ph/0403035], [Melnikov, Schulze; 0907.3090], [Campbell et al.; 1204.1513, 1608.03356], ...
 - With off-shell effects [Denner et al.; 1012.3975, 1207.5018], [Bevilacqua et al.; 1012.4230], [Frederix; 1311.4893], [Cascioli et al.; 1312.0546]
 - With off-shell effects for leptons+jets [Denner, MP; 1711.10359]
- NLO EW [Bernreuther et al.; hep-ph/0610335, 0804.1237, 0808.1142], [Kühn et al.; hep-ph/0508092, hep-ph/0610335], [Hollik, Kollar; 0708.1697], [Pagani et al.; 1606.01915]
 - With off-shell effects [Denner, MP; 1607.05571]
- NNLO QCD [Czakon et al.; 1303.6254, 1601.05375, 1606.03350],[Abelof et al.; 1506.04037]
 - Combined with NLO EW [Czakon et al.; 1705.04105]
 - With decays [Gao, Papanastasiou; 1705.08903], [Behring et al.; 1901.05407]
- NLO QCD matched to PS [Frixione et al.; hep-ph/0305252, 0707.3088], [Höche et al.;1402.6293], [Garzelli et al.; 1405.5859], [Campbell et al.; 1412.1828]
 - With off-shell effects [Ježo et al.; 1607.04538]

- Invariants off their mass shells
→ e.g. $M_{\ell\nu b} \neq m_{\text{top}}$

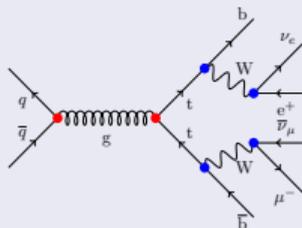
off-shell effects

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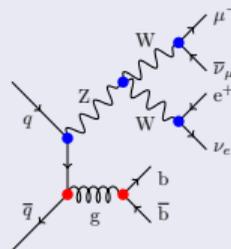
→ e.g. $M_{\ell\nu b} \neq m_{\text{top}}$

- Non-resonant contributions

→ e.g.



VS.



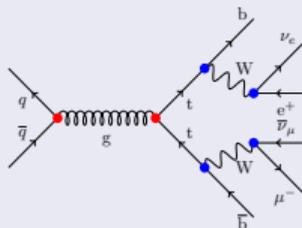
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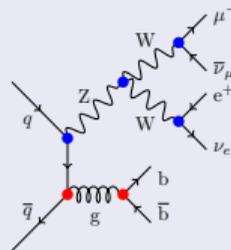
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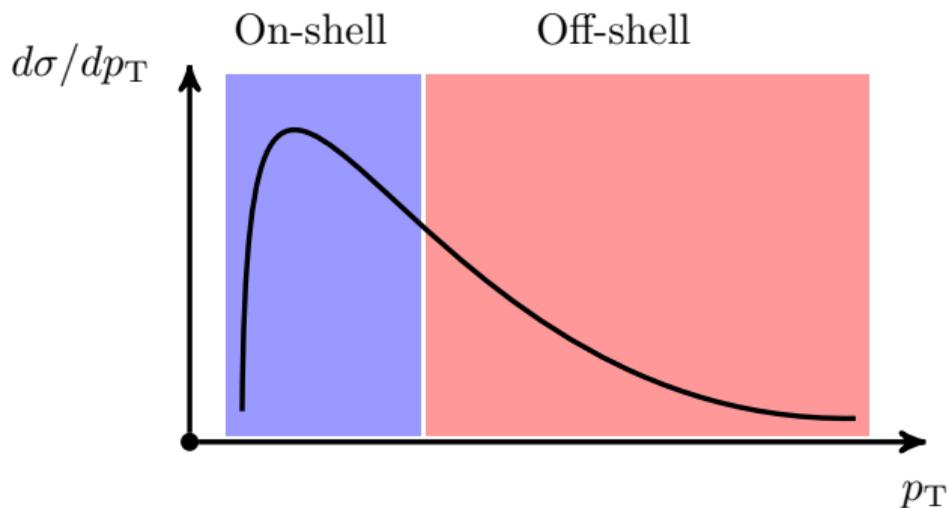
- Description of the final state

→ e.g. $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ vs. $pp \rightarrow \nu_\mu \mu^- \bar{\nu}_e e^+ b\bar{b}$

→ All these effects are very much connected

off-shell effects

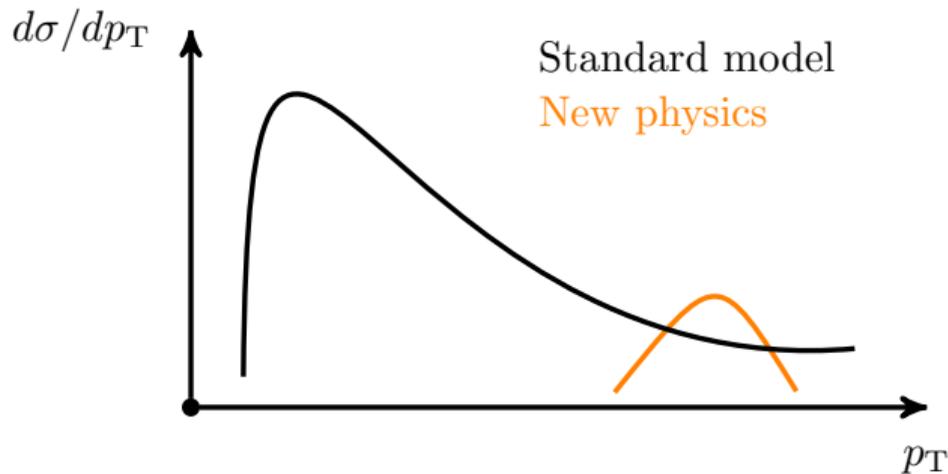
- Final states dominated by a production process
- Example: measured final state $e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b}$ dominated by $pp \rightarrow t^* \bar{t}^* \rightarrow (W^* \rightarrow \nu_\mu \mu^-) (W^* \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e) b \bar{b}$



On-shell region dominated by resonant production

Off-shell region receives large non-resonant contributions

Tail of distributions



- During run II/III, the tail of the distributions will be probed
- New physics contributions?

State of the art: high-multiplicity processes

- 2 → 6 processes

off-shell top quarks, tri-boson, vector-boson scattering ...

.. but only few publicly available with non-trivial resonance structure:

→ NLO QCD to off-shell $t\bar{t}$ [Ježo et al.; 1607.04538] (LHC) with POWHEG ...

...and [Chokoufè Nejad et al.; 1609.03390] (e^+e^-) with WHIZARD

→ QCD QCD to off-shell $t\bar{t}$ [Frederix; 1311.4893] with MADGRAPH5_AMC@NLO

→ NLO EW to VBS same-sign W [Chiesa, Denner, Lang, MP; 1906.01863] with POWHEG

→ NLO EW to WWW [Schönherr; 1806.00307] with SHERPA

State of the art: high-multiplicity processes

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- 2 \rightarrow 7 processes

→ NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}H$ [Denner, Feger; 1506.07448]

→ NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}j$ [Bevilacqua et al.; 1509.09242, 1609.01659]

→ NLO EW to $t\bar{t}H$ [Denner, Lang, MP, Uccirati; 1612.07138]

→ NLO QCD to $Wb\bar{b}jjj$ [Anger et al.; 1712.05721]

→ NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}\gamma$ [Bevilacqua et al.; 1803.09916]

- 2 → 8 processes

- NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}(Z \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu})$ [Bevilacqua et al.; 1907.09359]

- NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}W$ [Bevilacqua et al.; 2005.09427], [Denner; Pelliccioli; 2007.12089]

- NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ [Denner, Lang, MP; 2008.00918], [Bevilacqua et al.; 2105.08404, 2202.11186] ★

- NLO EW to $t\bar{t}W$ [Denner, Pelliccioli; 2102.03246] ★

- NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}(Z \rightarrow l^+l^-)$ [Bevilacqua et al.; 2203.15688]

- NLO EW to $t\bar{t}Z$ [Denner, Lombardi, Pelliccioli; 2306.13535]

- 2 → 8 processes

- NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}(Z \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu})$ [Bevilacqua et al.; 1907.09359]

- NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}W$ [Bevilacqua et al.; 2005.09427], [Denner; Pelliccioli; 2007.12089]

- NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ [Denner, Lang, MP; 2008.00918], [Bevilacqua et al.; 2105.08404, 2202.11186] ★

- NLO EW to $t\bar{t}W$ [Denner, Pelliccioli; 2102.03246] ★

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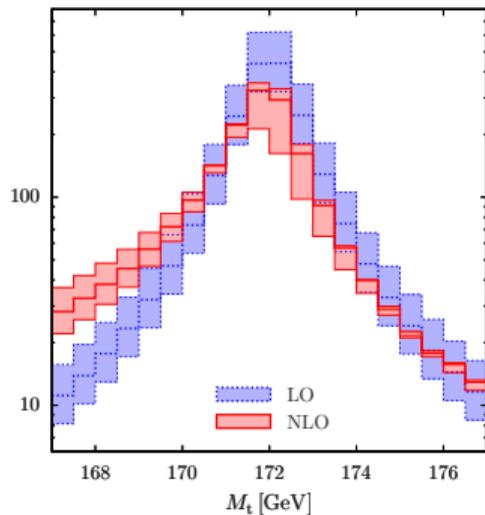
- 2 → 9 processes

- NLO QCD to $t\bar{t}Wj$ [Bi, Kraus, Reinartz, Worek; 2305.03802] ★

a) NLO QCD/EW to $pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b\bar{b}$

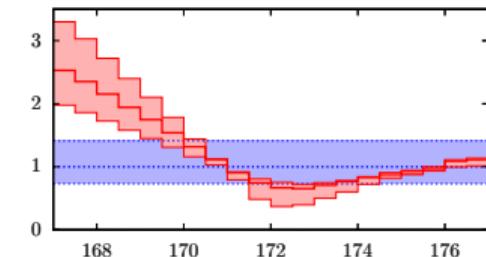
NLO QCD

$d\sigma/dM_t$ [fb/GeV]

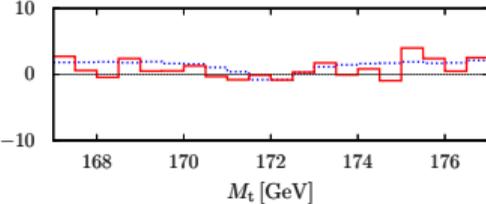


[Denner et al.; 1207.5018]

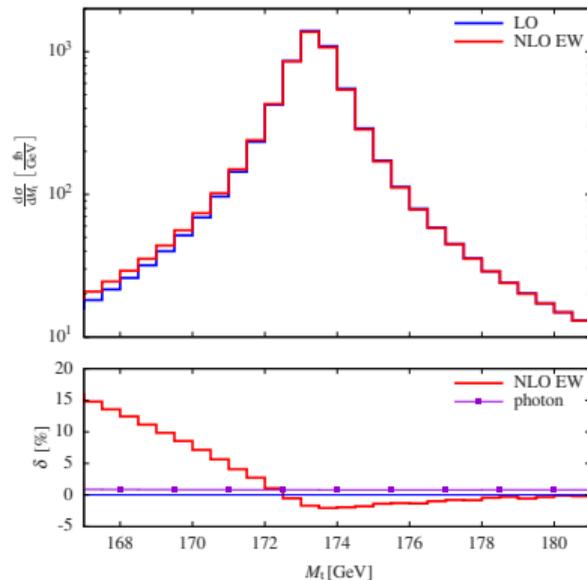
K $pp \rightarrow \nu_e e^+ \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b\bar{b} + X$ @ $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV



Δ_{FWW} [%]



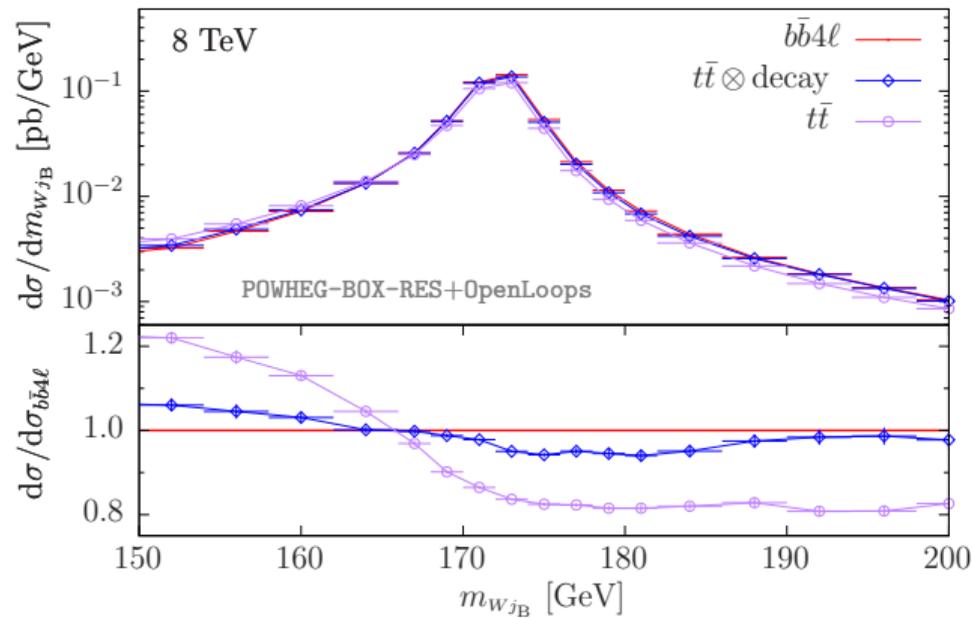
NLO EW



[Denner, MP; 1607.05571]

→ Radiative tail due to non-reconstructed jets/photons

b) NLO QCD to $pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b\bar{b}$



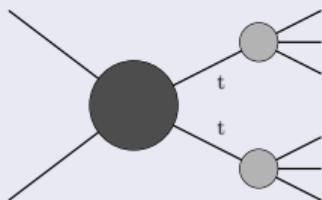
[Ježo et al.; 1607.04538]

- Different treatments of resonances
- Inclusion of non-resonant contributions and all NLO corrections

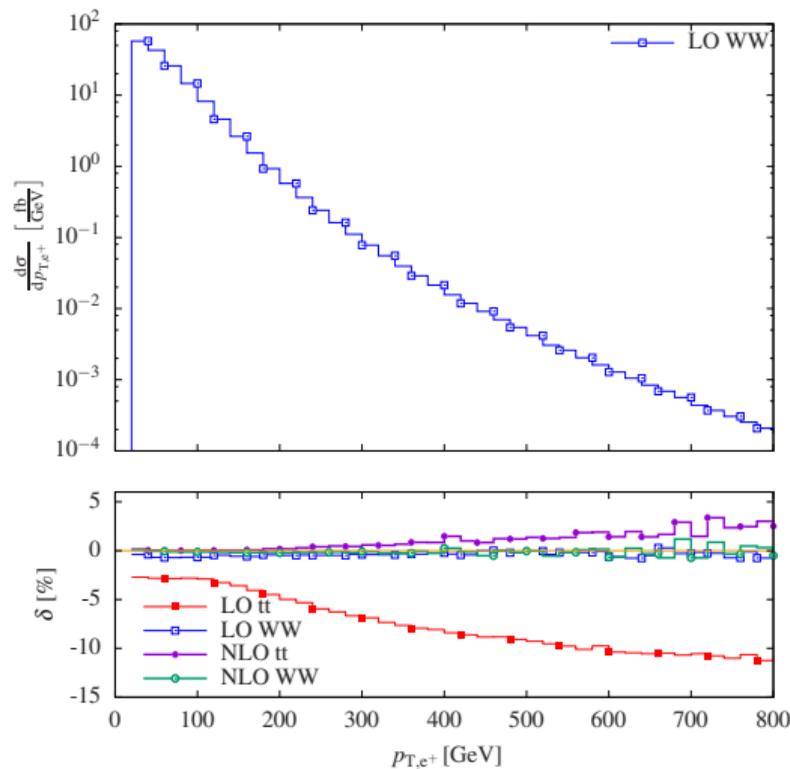
c) LO: $pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b}$

Retain resonant contributions

→ tt

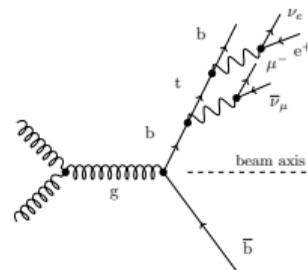
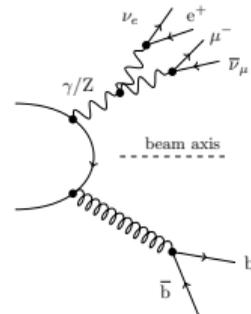
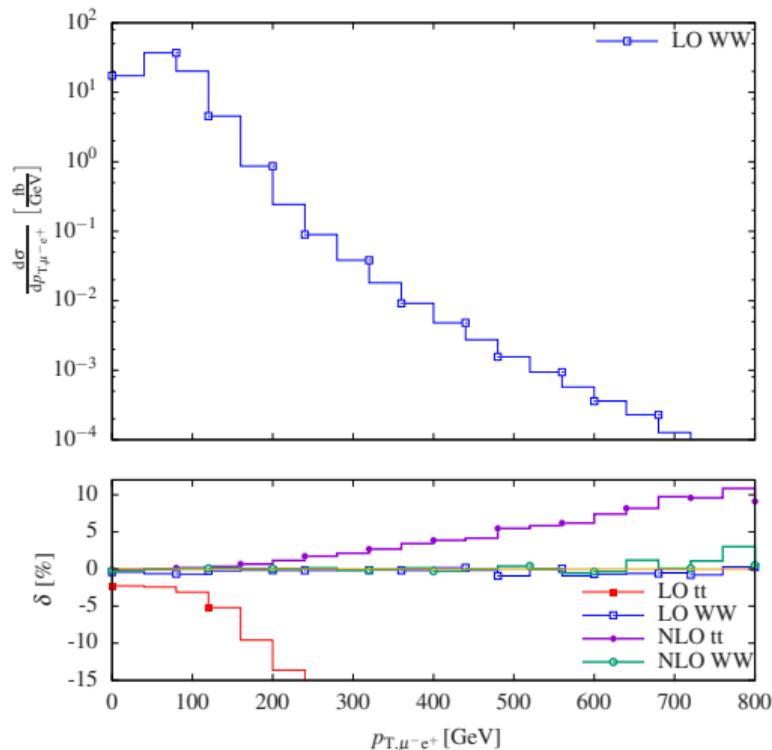
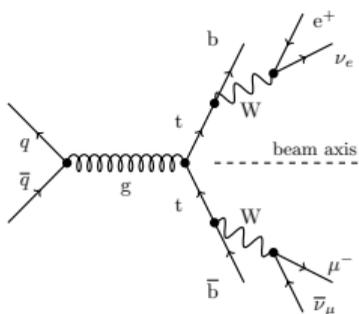


(off-shell propagators and full phase space included)



[Denner, MP; 1607.05571]

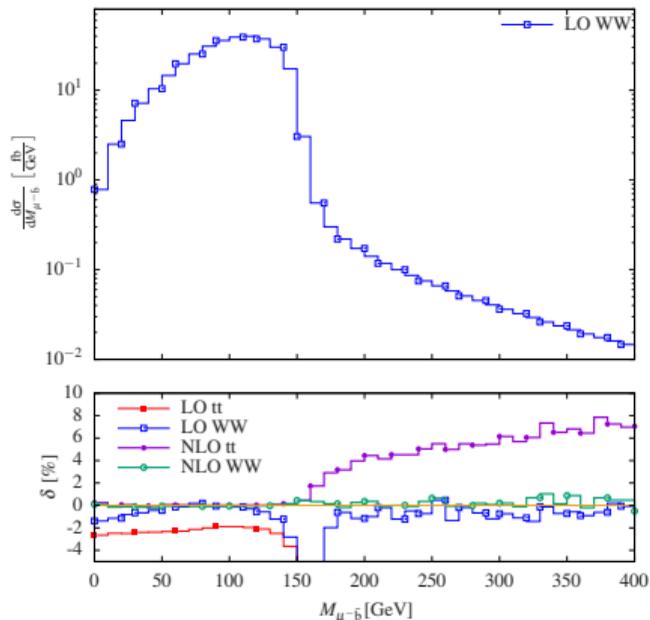
d) LO: $pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b}$



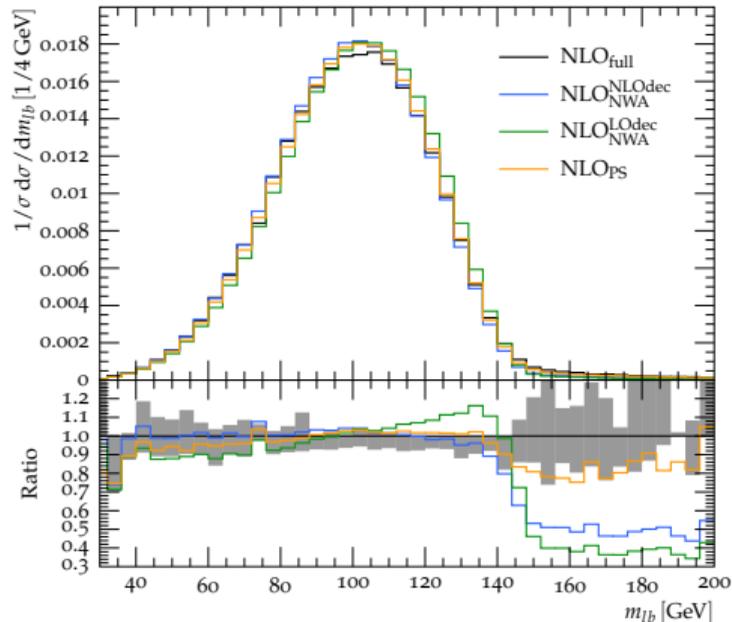
[Denner, MP; 1607.05571]

→ Even more stringent effect for exclusive observables

e) (N)LO QCD to $pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b}$



[Denner, MP; 1607.05571]



[Heinrich et al.; 1709.08615]

→ Kinematic edge: $M_{\mu^- \bar{b}}^2 < M_t^2 - M_W^2 \simeq (154 \text{ GeV})^2$ [Denner et al.; 1207.5018]

→ Large effects above threshold

→ Similar study for $t\bar{t} + j$ [Bevilacqua et al.; 1710.07515]

Tools for own calculations presented here



- Private Monte Carlo MoCANLO @ NLO QCD + EW

[Denner, Feger, Lombardi, MP, Pelliccioli, Schmidt, Schwan]

- Tree-level and one-loop: RECOLA [Actis et al.; 1211.6316, 1605.01090]

- Complex-mass scheme [Denner et al.; hep-ph/9904472, hep-ph/0505042, hep-ph/0605312]

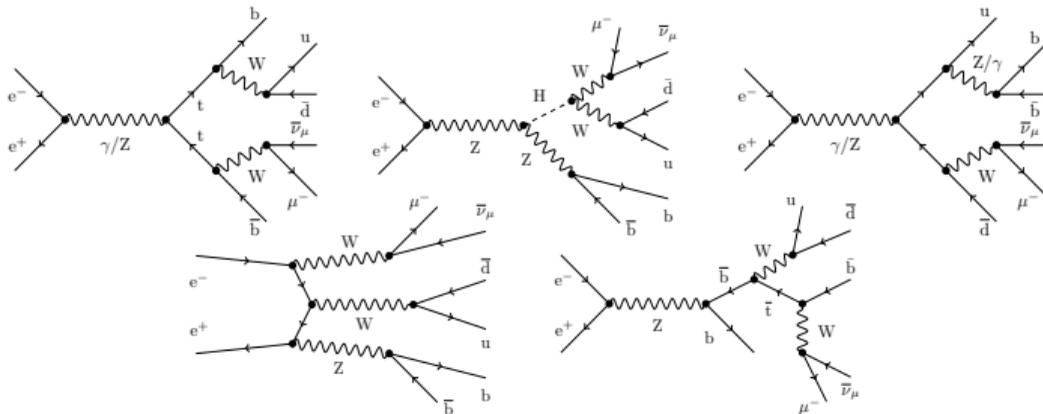
- PDF: LHAPDF [Buckley et al.; 1412.7420]

PART I

- *lepton+jets channel (e^+e^- and LHC)*

Motivations

- NLO QCD to off-shell $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} j j$
- Allows precise determination of top-quark mass [Seidel, Simon, Tesar, Poss;1303.3758]
- Larger cross section due to W boson branching ratio
- Better reconstruction of top quarks (only one neutrino)
- Unexplored final state for tt production (on the theoretical side beyond LO)
→ [Amjad, et al.; 1307.8102.], [Fuster, et al.; 1411.2355], [Amjad, et al., 1505.06020], [Bernreuther, et al., 1710.06737]



Predictions for $\sqrt{s} = 365 \text{ GeV}$ and $\sqrt{s} = 1.5 \text{ TeV}$ for e^+e^- collision

→ Event selection for *resolved topology* [ATLAS; 1708.00727], [CMS; 1610.04191]:

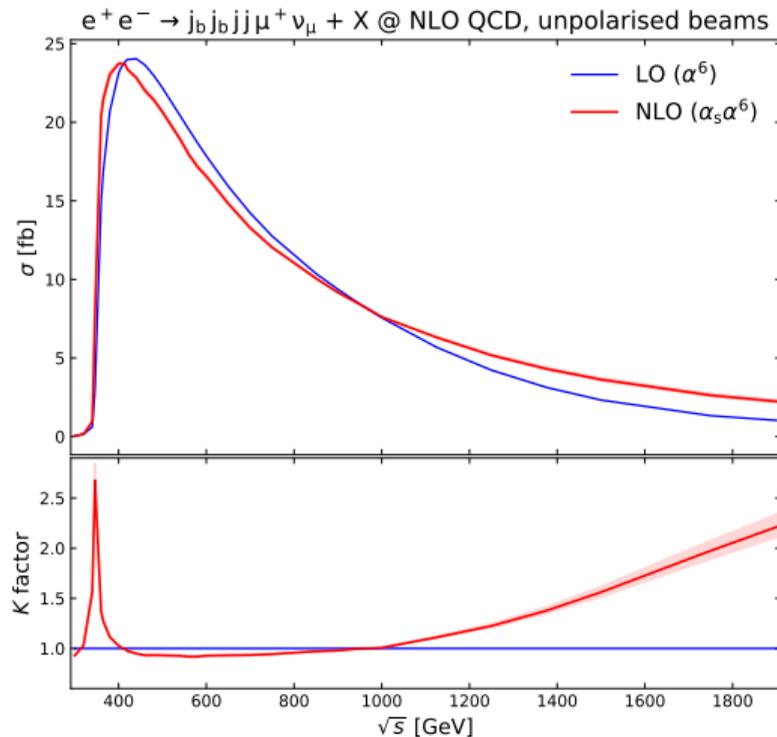
$$\begin{aligned} \text{light/b jets:} & \quad p_{T,j/b} > 20 \text{ GeV} \\ \text{missing energy:} & \quad p_{T,\text{miss}} > 20 \text{ GeV} \\ \text{angular acceptance:} & \quad 10^\circ < \theta < 170^\circ \\ \text{distance:} & \quad \Delta R_{\ell j}, \Delta R_{\ell j_b} > 0.4 \end{aligned}$$

→ k_T jet algorithm with $R = 0.4$

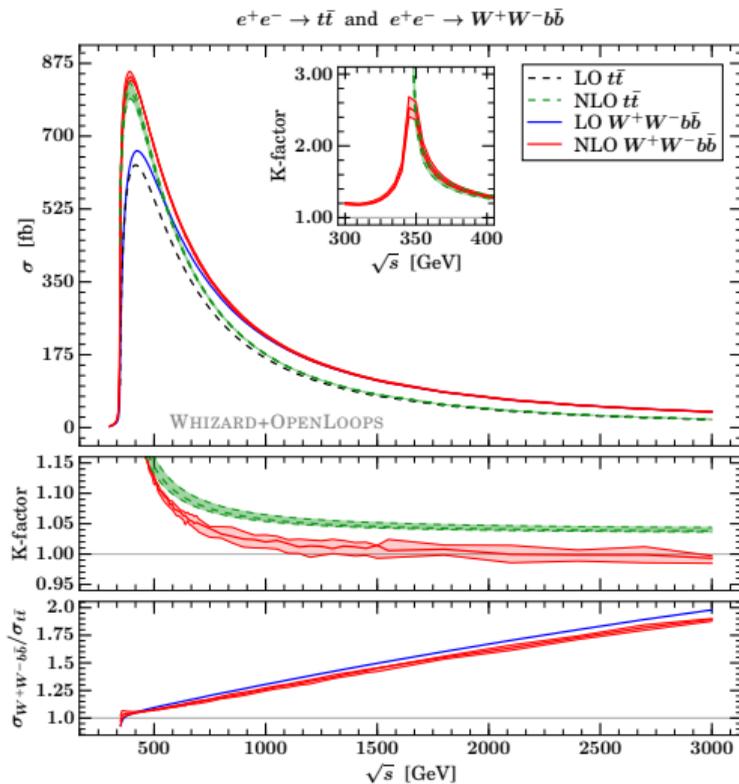
→ Additional cut to avoid Higgs resonance

$$m_{jj\mu^+\nu_\mu} > 130 \text{ GeV}$$

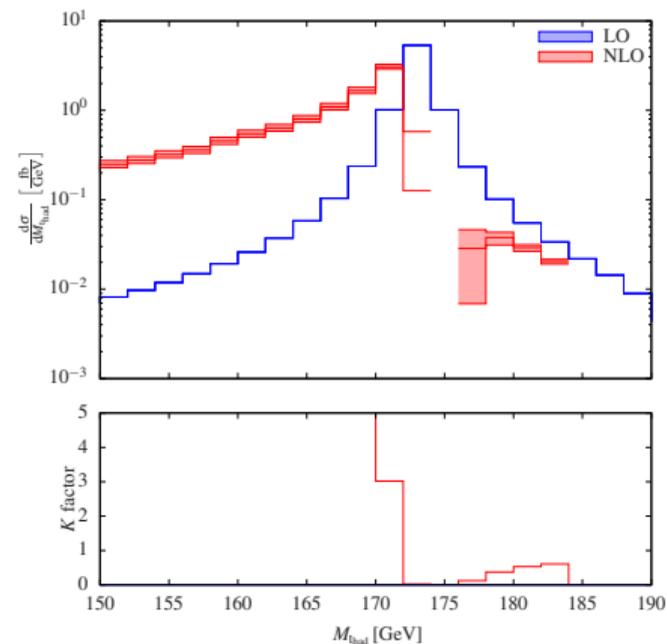
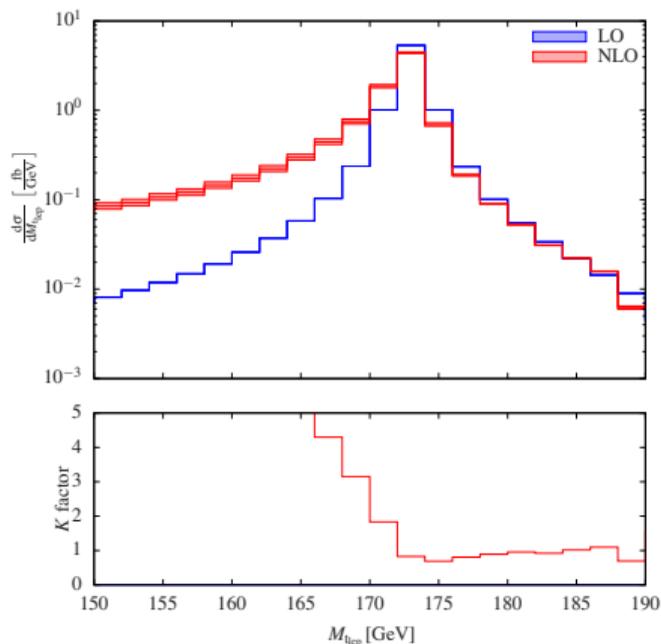
letpon+jets vs. fully leptonic



[Denner, Pelliccioli, MP; 2302.04188]

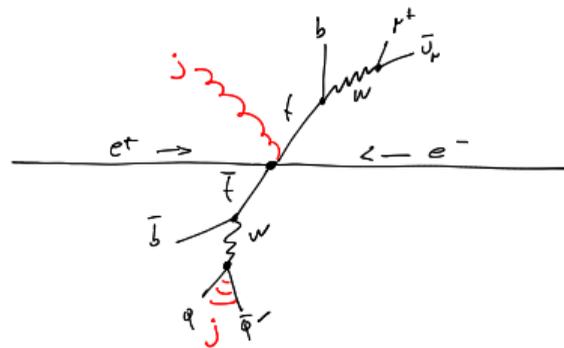
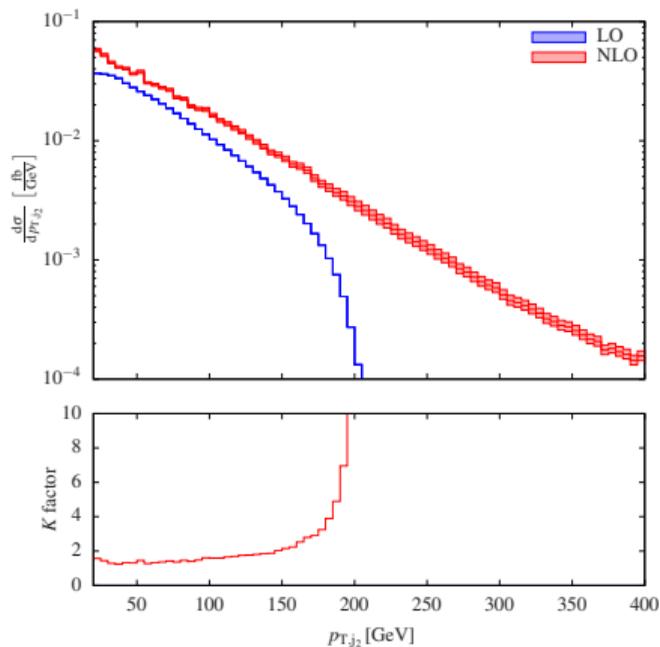


[Chokouf  Nejad et al.; 1609.03390]



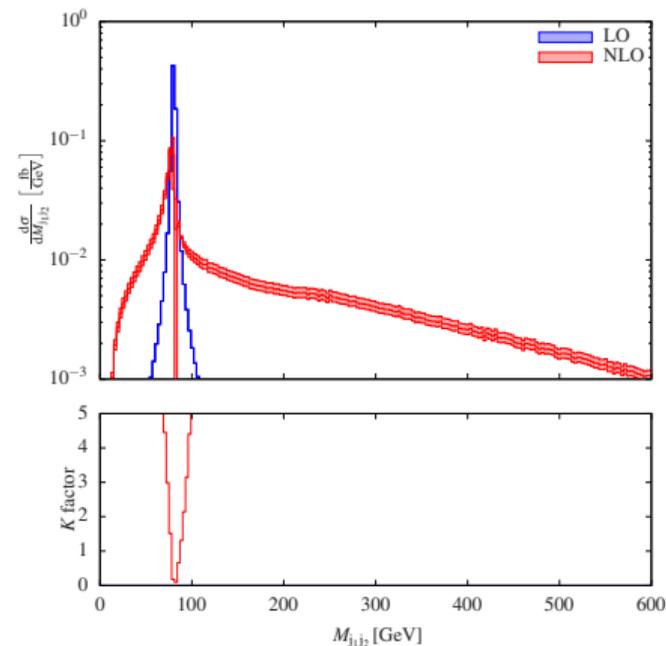
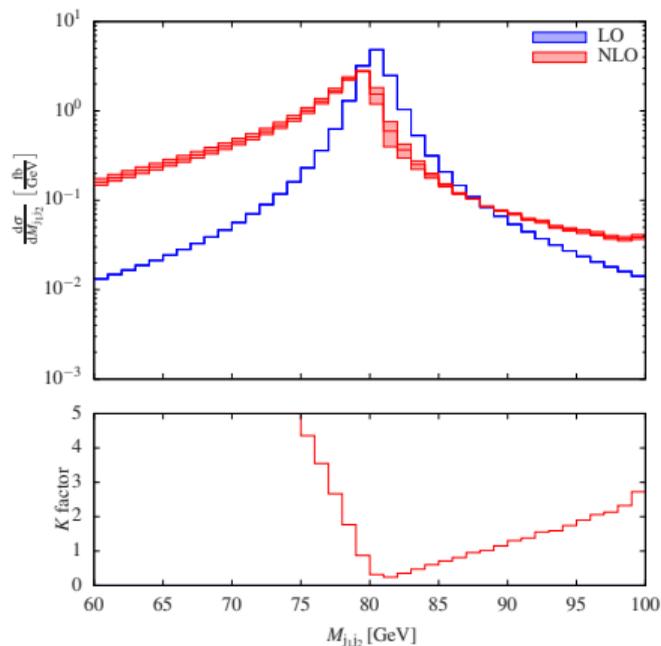
[Denner, Pelliccioli, MP; 2302.04188]

→ Extreme radiative tail



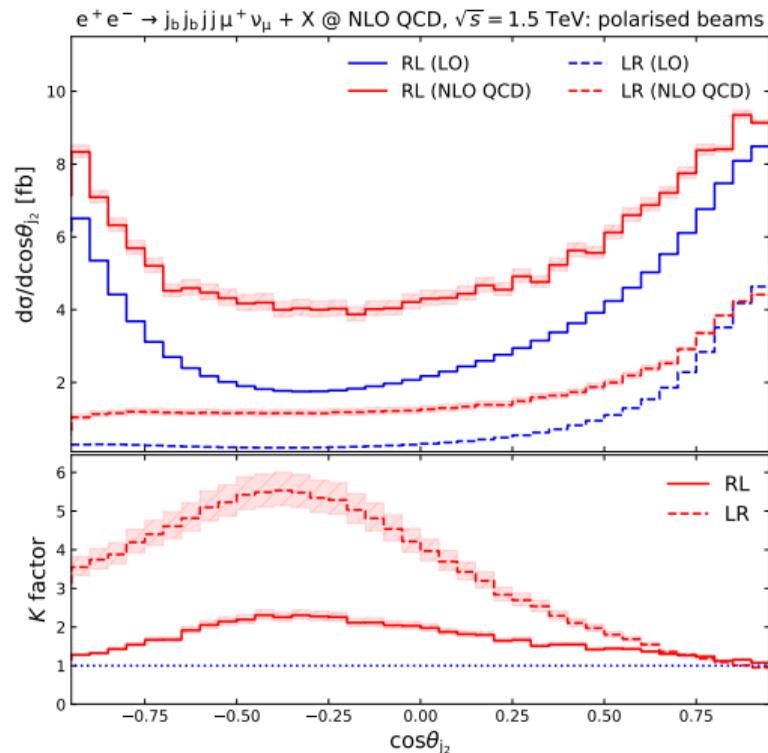
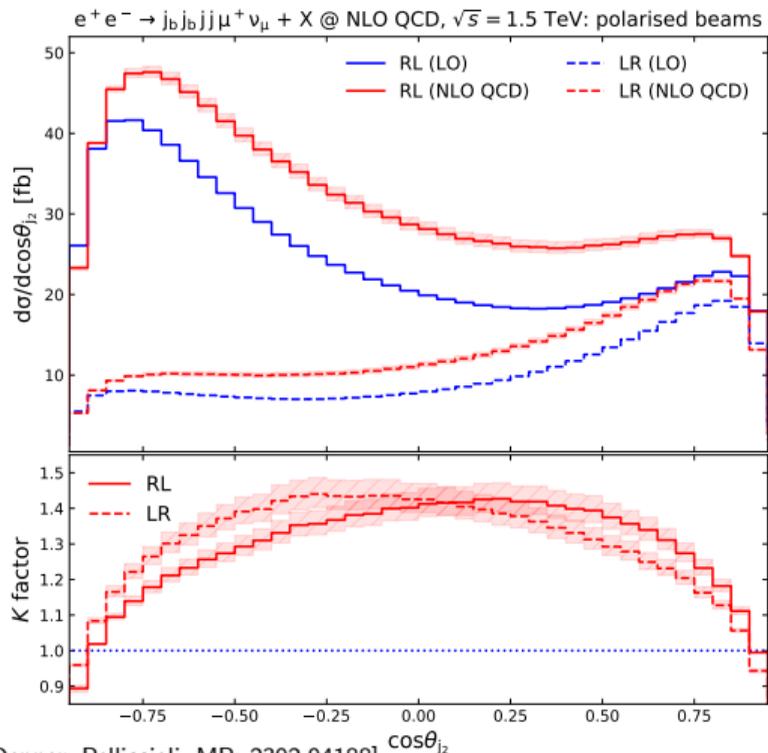
[Denner, Pelliccioli, MP; 2302.04188]

→ Large corrections due to opening phase space



[Denner, Pelliccioli, MP; 2302.04188]

→ Stark contrast between both centre-of-mass energy

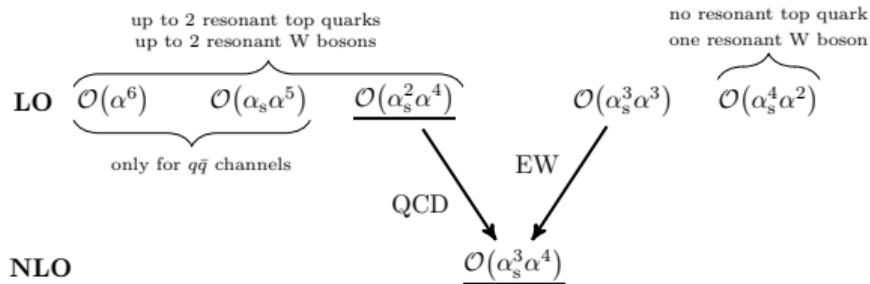


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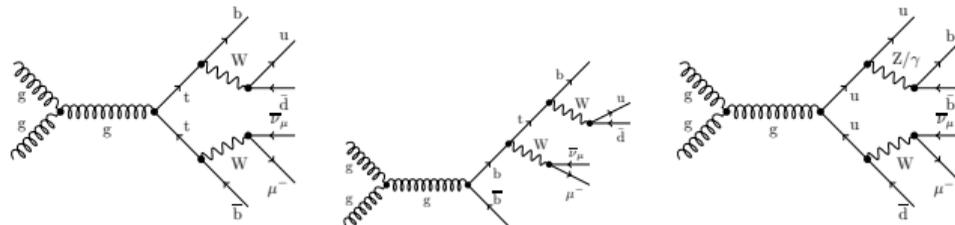
→ With polarised beams

- NLO QCD to off-shell $pp \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} j j$

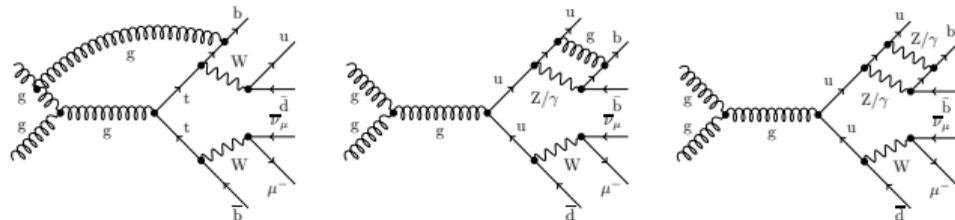
- **Measured experimentally** [ATLAS; 1708.00727], [CMS; 1610.04191]
- Larger cross section due to W boson branching ratio
- Better reconstruction of top quarks (only one neutrino)
- Unexplored final state for tt production (on the theoretical side)
[Anger, Febres Cordero, Ita, Sotnikov; 1712.05721]: $Wbb + 2j$
but different orders: $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4 \alpha^2)$ vs. $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4 \alpha^4)$



- The LO is defined at order $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2 \alpha^2)$



- NLO QCD is defined at order $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3 \alpha^2)$



Predictions for $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV at the LHC

→ Event selection for *resolved topology* [ATLAS; 1708.00727], [CMS; 1610.04191]]:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{light/b jets:} & p_{T,j/b} > 25 \text{ GeV}, & |y_{j/b}| < 2.5, \\ \text{charged lepton:} & p_{T,\ell} > 25 \text{ GeV}, & |y_\ell| < 2.5, \\ \text{distance:} & \Delta R_{jj}, \Delta R_{jb}, \Delta R_{bb} & > 0.4 \end{array}$$

→ anti- k_T jet algorithm [Cacciari, Salam, Soyez; 0802.1189] with $R = 0.4$

→ Additional cut to ensure stable definition of fiducial volume at both LO/NLO

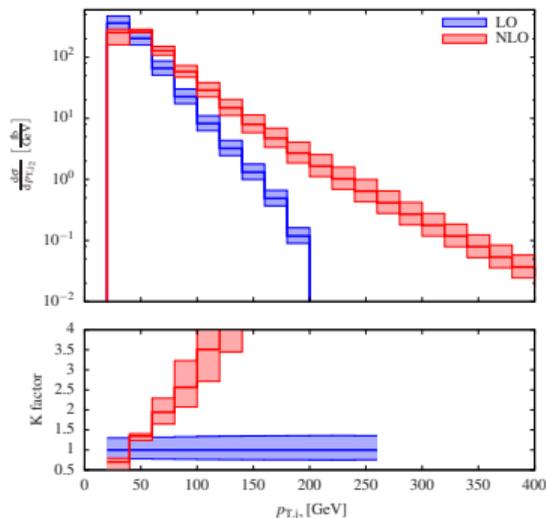
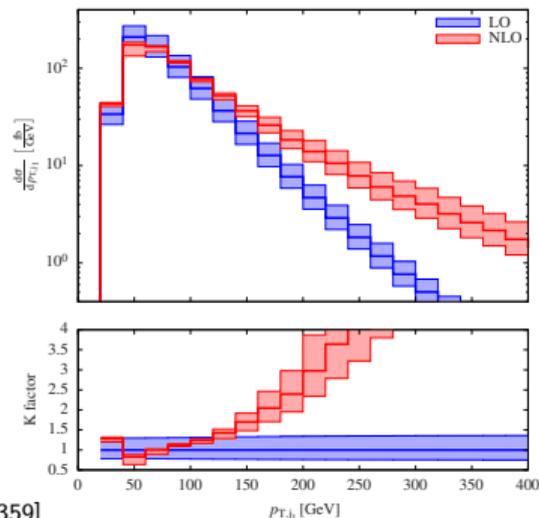
$$60 \text{ GeV} < m_{jj} < 100 \text{ GeV}$$

- Full computation for $pp \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} j j$:
 → 32 partonic channels
- 6 partonic channels with two resonant top quarks

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 gg \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} q_i \bar{q}_j, & q_i q_j \in \{ud, cs\}, \\
 q_i \bar{q}_i / \bar{q}_i q_i \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} q_i \bar{q}_j, & q_i q_j \in \{ud, cs\}, \\
 q_i \bar{q}_i / \bar{q}_i q_i \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} q_j \bar{q}_k, & q_i q_j q_k \in \{ucs, cud\}, \\
 q_i \bar{q}_i / \bar{q}_i q_i \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} q_j \bar{q}_i, & q_i q_j \in \{du, sc\}, \\
 q_i \bar{q}_i / \bar{q}_i q_i \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} q_j \bar{q}_k, & q_i q_j q_k \in \{dcs, sud\}, \\
 b \bar{b} / \bar{b} b \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} q_i \bar{q}_j, & q_i q_j \in \{ud, cs\}
 \end{array}$$

- 98% without m_{jj} cut
- 99.72% without m_{jj} cut

Computation done on partonic channels with resonant top quarks

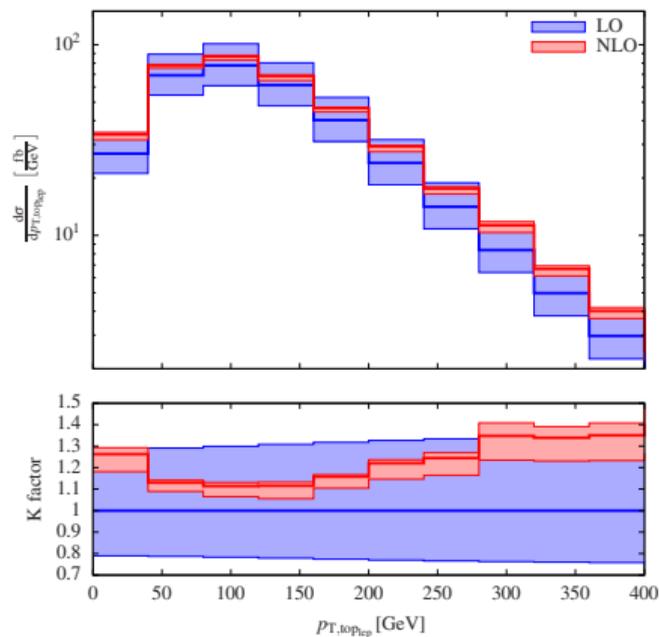
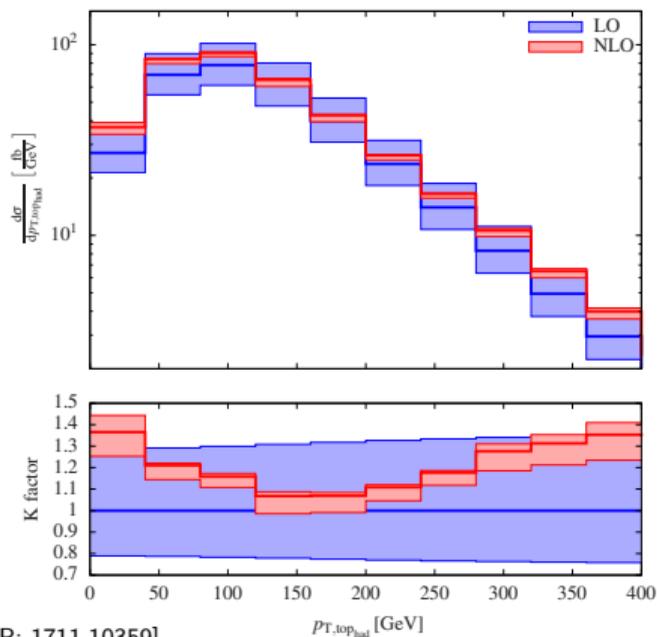


[Denner, MP; 1711.10359]

- Large corrections toward high transverse momenta (due to real corrections)
- Clear effect of the cuts:

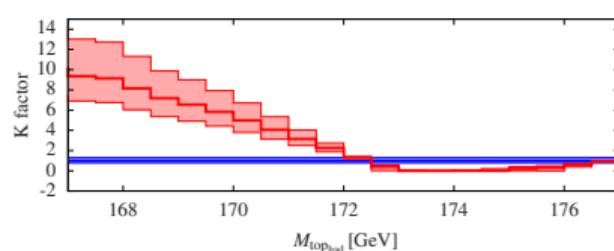
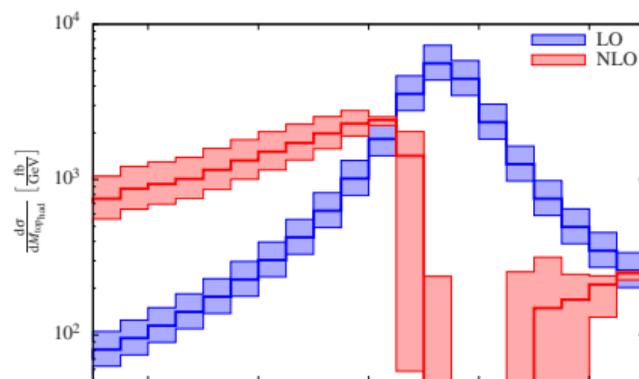
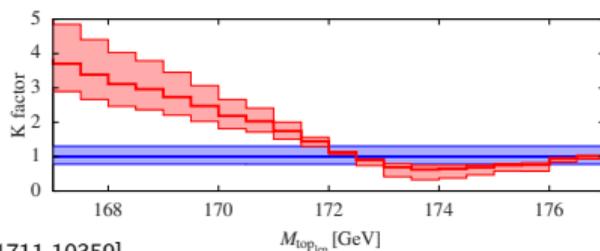
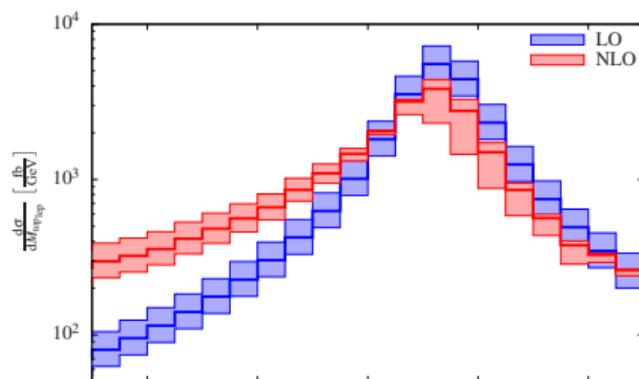
$$p_{T,j2,\max}^2 \sim m_{jj,\max} / \Delta R_{jj,\min}^2 = (100)^2 / (0.4)^2 = (250 \text{ GeV})^2$$

- Scale variation band increase for high transverse momenta (the NLO predictions become LO accurate)



[Denner, MP; 1711.10359]

→ Different behaviour hadronic vs. leptonic top quark



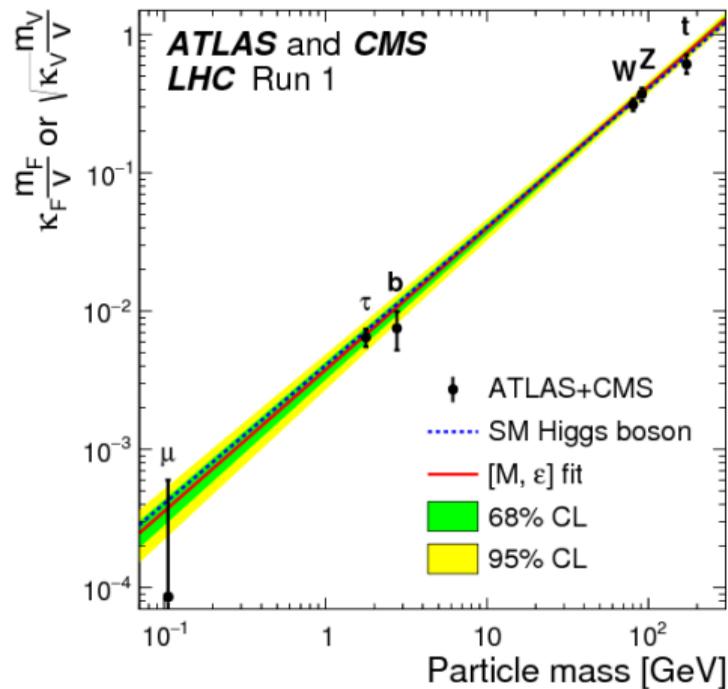
[Denner, MP; 1711.10359]

- Different NLO behaviour between the hadronic and leptonic top quark
- Extreme NLO effect: inclusion of higher-order effects needed

PART II

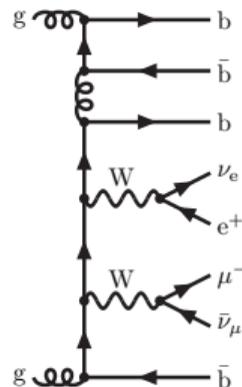
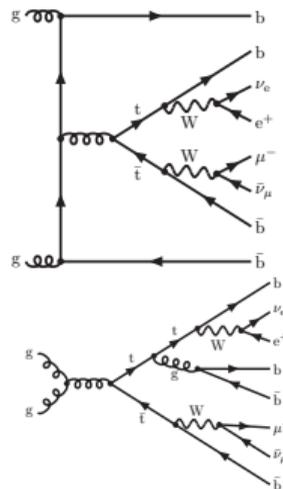
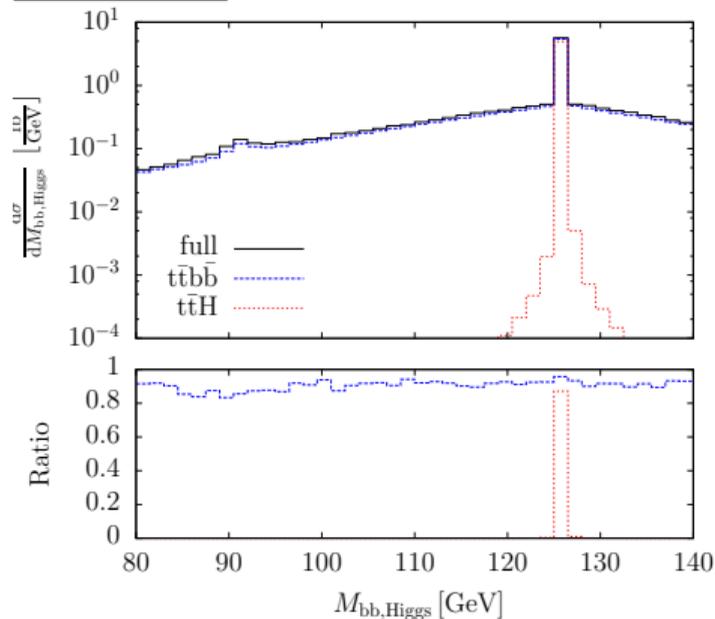
- *Recent results on top associated production*

Yukawa coupling

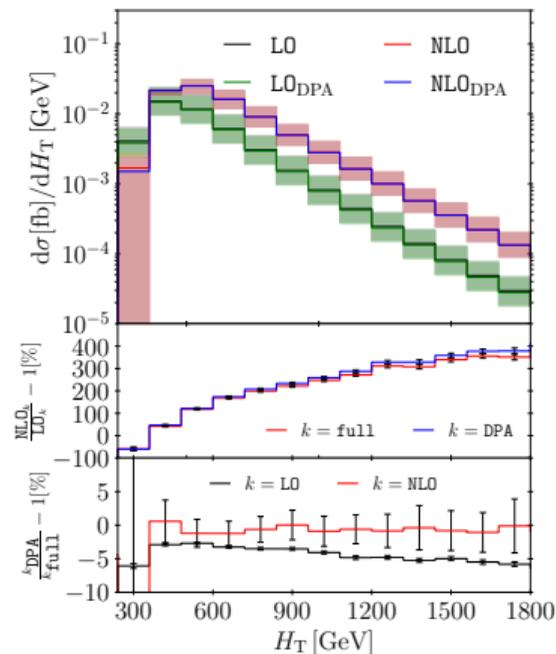
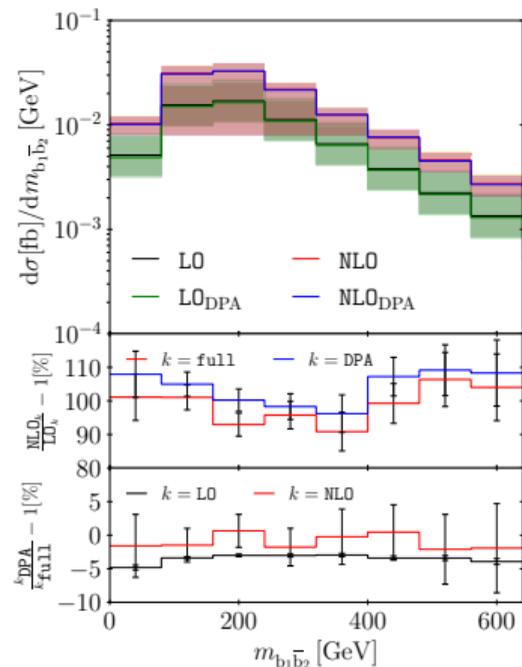


→ Couplings to Higgs and masses are proportional

Full process: $pp \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu_{\ell} j j b \bar{b} b \bar{b}$, background to $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})!$

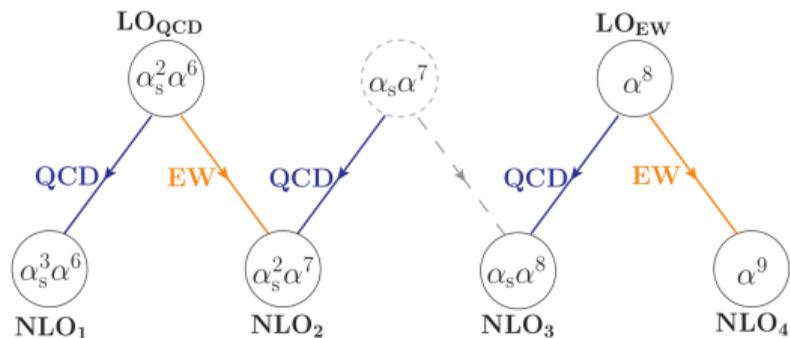
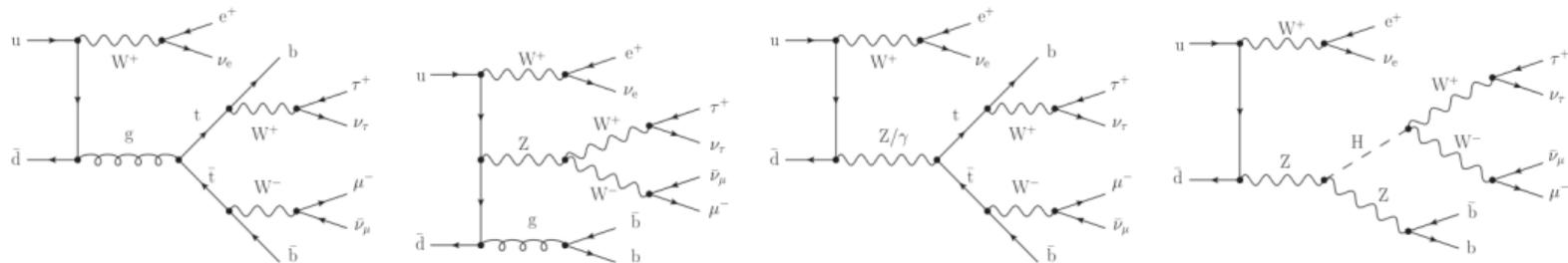


[Denner, Feger, Scharf; 1412.5290]



- 100% corrections
- Moderate off-shell effects

NLO QCD + EW to $t\bar{t}W$ [Denner; Pelliccioli; 2102.03246]



→ on-shell vs. off-shell

| $\delta[\%]$ | $\mu = H_T/4$ | $\mu = H_T/2$ | $\mu = H_T$ |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| LO ₂ | - | - | - |
| LO ₃ | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.1 |
| NLO ₁ | 34.8 (7.0) | 50.0 (25.7) | 63.4 (42.0) |
| NLO ₂ | -4.4 (-4.8) | -4.2 (-4.6) | -4.0 (-4.4) |
| NLO ₃ | 11.9 (8.9) | 12.2 (9.1) | 12.5 (9.3) |
| NLO ₄ | 0.02 (-0.02) | 0.04 (-0.02) | 0.05 (-0.01) |

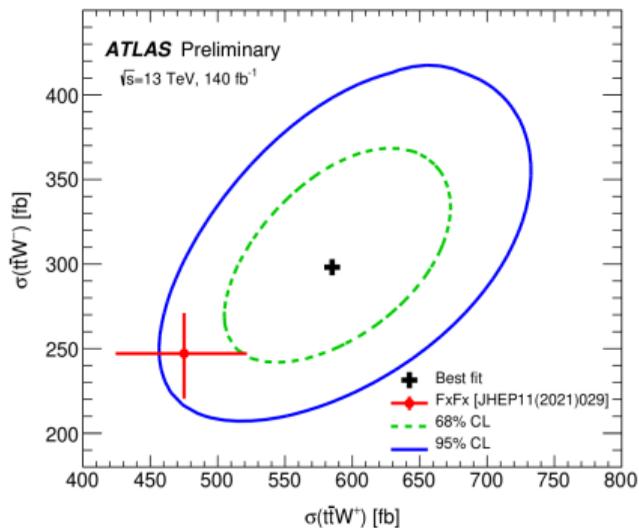
| perturbative order | $\mu_0^{(c)}$ | | $\mu_0^{(d)}$ | | $\mu_0^{(e)}$ | |
|--|--|--------|--|--------|--|--------|
| | σ (fb) | ratio | σ (fb) | ratio | σ (fb) | ratio |
| LO _{QCD} ($\alpha_s^2\alpha^6$) | 0.2218(1) ^{+25.3%} _{-18.8%} | 1 | 0.1948(1) ^{+23.9%} _{-18.1%} | 1 | 0.2414(1) ^{+26.2%} _{-19.3%} | 1 |
| LO _{EW} (α^8) | 0.002164(1) ^{+3.7%} _{-3.6%} | 0.010 | 0.002122(1) ^{+3.7%} _{-3.6%} | 0.011 | 0.002201(1) ^{+3.7%} _{-3.6%} | 0.009 |
| NLO ₁ ($\alpha_s^3\alpha^6$) | 0.0147(6) | 0.066 | 0.0349(6) | 0.179 | 0.0009(7) | 0.004 |
| NLO ₂ ($\alpha_s^2\alpha^7$) | -0.0122(3) | -0.055 | -0.0106(3) | -0.054 | -0.0134(4) | -0.056 |
| NLO ₃ ($\alpha_s\alpha^8$) | 0.0293(1) | 0.131 | 0.0263(1) | 0.135 | 0.0320(1) | 0.133 |
| LO _{QCD} +NLO ₁ | 0.2365(6) ^{+2.9%} _{-6.0%} | 1.066 | 0.2297(6) ^{+5.5%} _{-7.3%} | 1.179 | 0.2423(7) ^{+3.5%} _{-5.2%} | 1.004 |
| LO _{QCD} +NLO ₂ | 0.2094(3) ^{+25.0%} _{-18.7%} | 0.945 | 0.1840(3) ^{+23.8%} _{-17.9%} | 0.946 | 0.2277(4) ^{+25.9%} _{-19.2%} | 0.944 |
| LO _{EW} +NLO ₃ | 0.03142(4) ^{+22.2%} _{-16.8%} | 0.141 | 0.02843(6) ^{+20.5%} _{-15.6%} | 0.146 | 0.03425(7) ^{+22.8%} _{-17.0%} | 0.142 |
| LO+NLO | 0.2554(7) ^{+4.0%} _{-6.5%} | 1.151 | 0.2473(7) ^{+6.3%} _{-7.6%} | 1.270 | 0.2628(9) ^{+4.3%} _{-5.9%} | 1.089 |

[Frederix, Pagani, Zaro; 1711.02116]

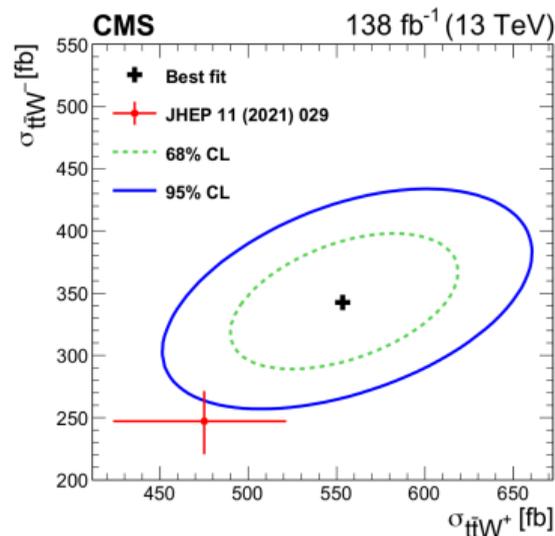
[Denner; Pelliccioli; 2102.03246]

- Large cancellations between various orders
- Similar picture for on-shell and off-shell computation

Persistent tension in $t\bar{t}W$ data

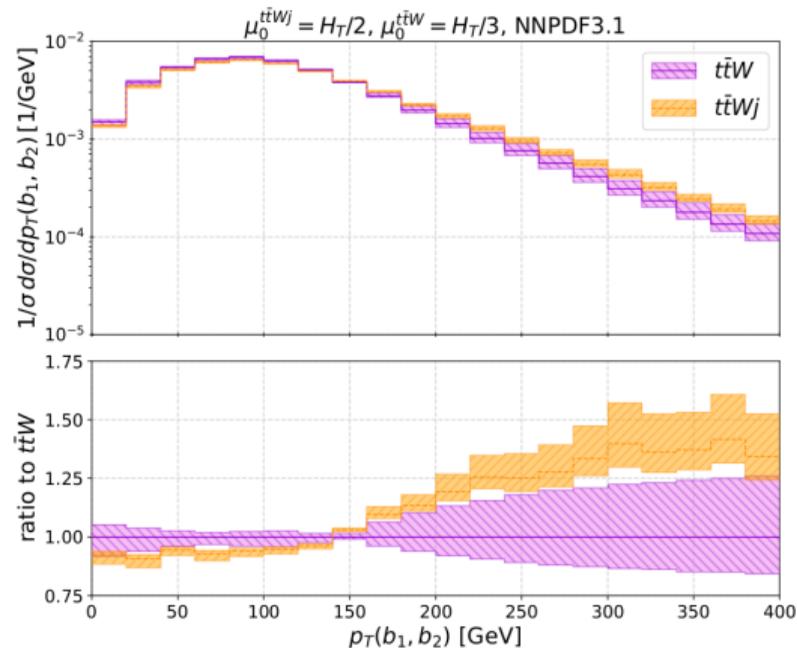
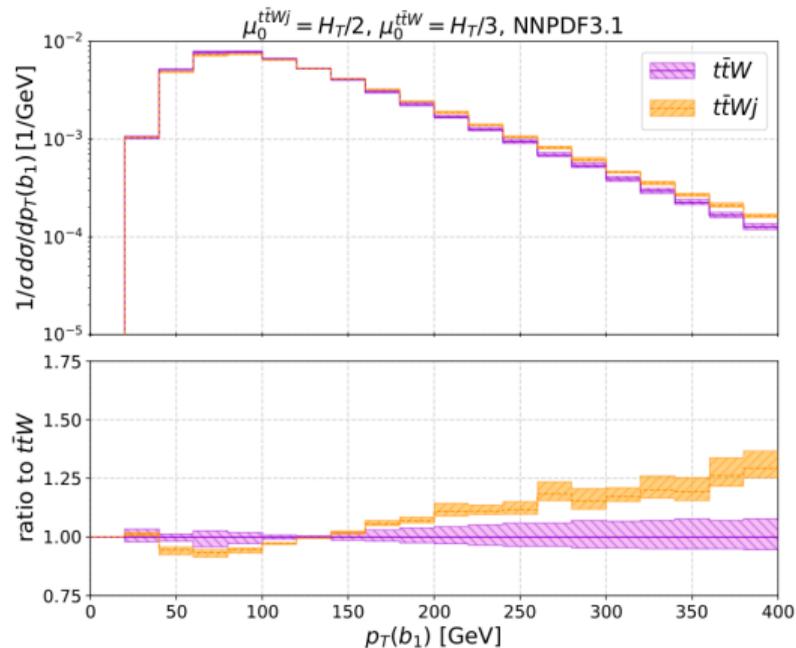


ATLAS-CONF-2023-019



[CMS; 2208.06485]

- Theory prediction: [Frederix, Tsinikos; 2108.07826]
 - merged prediction with EW corrections
 - more events than expected



- Non-negligible contributions in certain phase space
-  Not a merged prediction (selection on extra jet for $t\bar{t}Wj$)

Summary - off-shell production of top quarks

- Wealth of multi-legs computations
- Wealth of physics effects
- Outlook: make these computations available to th. and exp. communities

Summary - off-shell production of top quarks

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- Decisive information for SM measurements
 - Precision programme at the LHC (and future colliders)
- Crucial interplay between theory and experiment
 - Big impact on physics results

BACK-UP