

# Associated Production of a Top Pair and a Heavy Colorless Boson at the LHC

*Andrea Ferroglia*

*New York City College of Technology  
and  
The Graduate School and University Center  
CUNY*



Universita di Genova  
November 20, 2017



# Outline

- Top quarks and heavy colorless bosons at the LHC
- Factorization of the partonic cross section in the partonic threshold limit and resummation
- Results and plots for

$$p p \longrightarrow t \bar{t} W^{\pm}$$

$$p p \longrightarrow t \bar{t} H$$

$$p p \longrightarrow t \bar{t} Z$$

# In collaboration with...

- Work on associated production of top pair and Higgs boson:  
**A. Broggio, B.D. Pecjak, A. Signer, L.L. Yang**

JHEP 1603 (2016) 124 [arXiv:1510.01914]

JHEP 1702 (2017) 127 [arXiv:1611.00049]

- Work on associated production of a top pair and W or Z boson

**A. Broggio, B.D. Pecjak, G. Ossola, R.D. Sameshima**

JHEP 1609 (2016) 089 [arXiv:1607.05303]

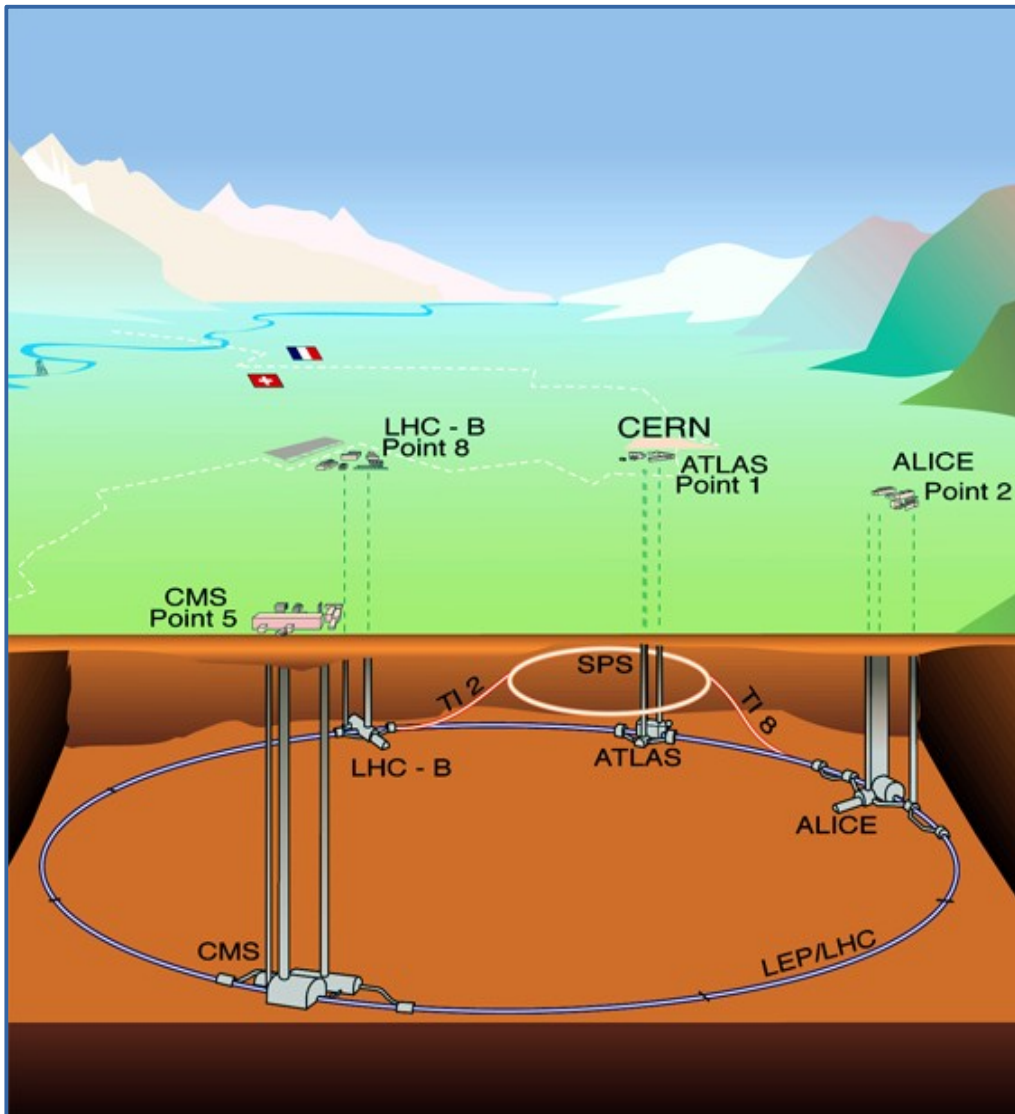
JHEP 1704 (2017) 105 [arXiv:1702.00800]

Introduction:

# Top quarks and Higgs (or Z, or W) bosons at the LHC



# The Large Hadron Collider



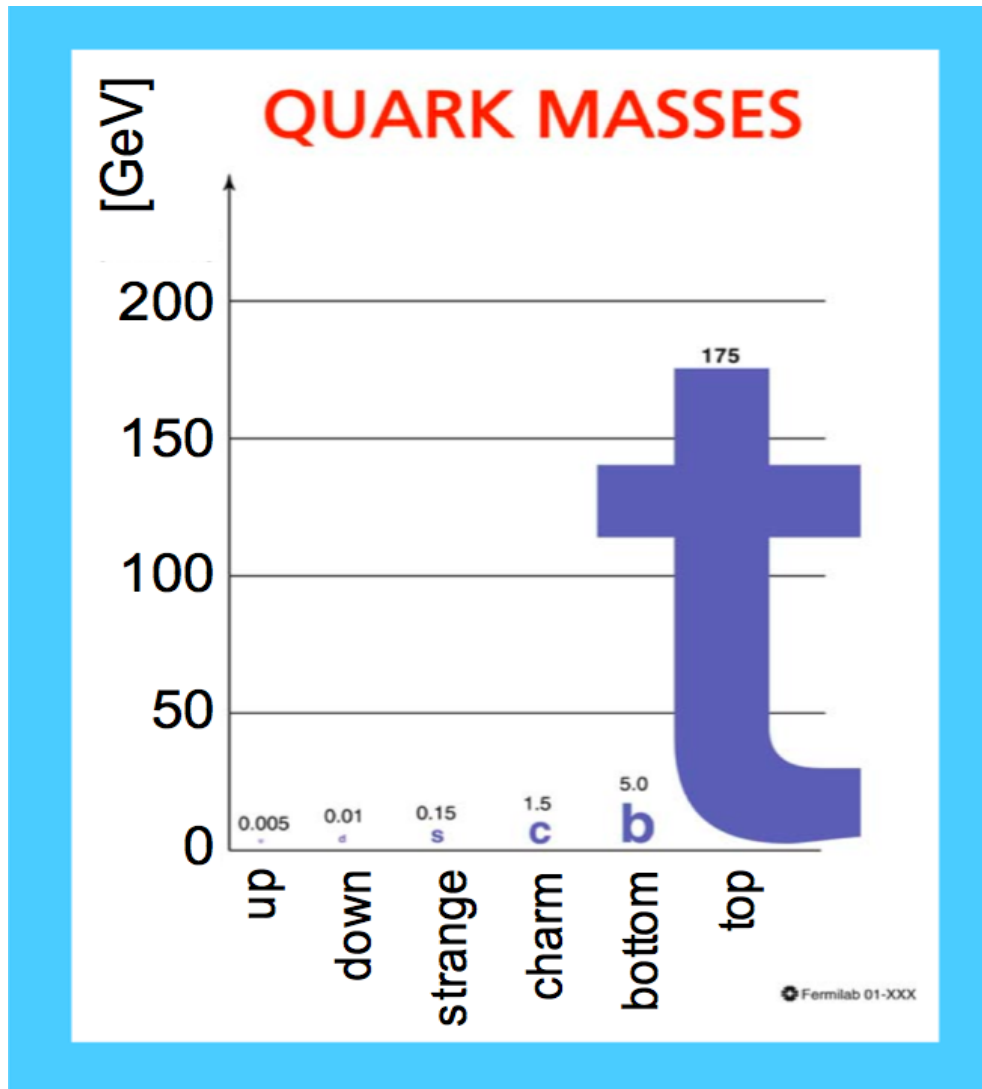
Proton-Proton collider @  
CERN

**Run I** 2010-2013  
c.o.m. energy 7-8 TeV

**2012 Higgs boson  
discovered**

**Run II** 2015 – present  
c.o.m. energy 13 TeV

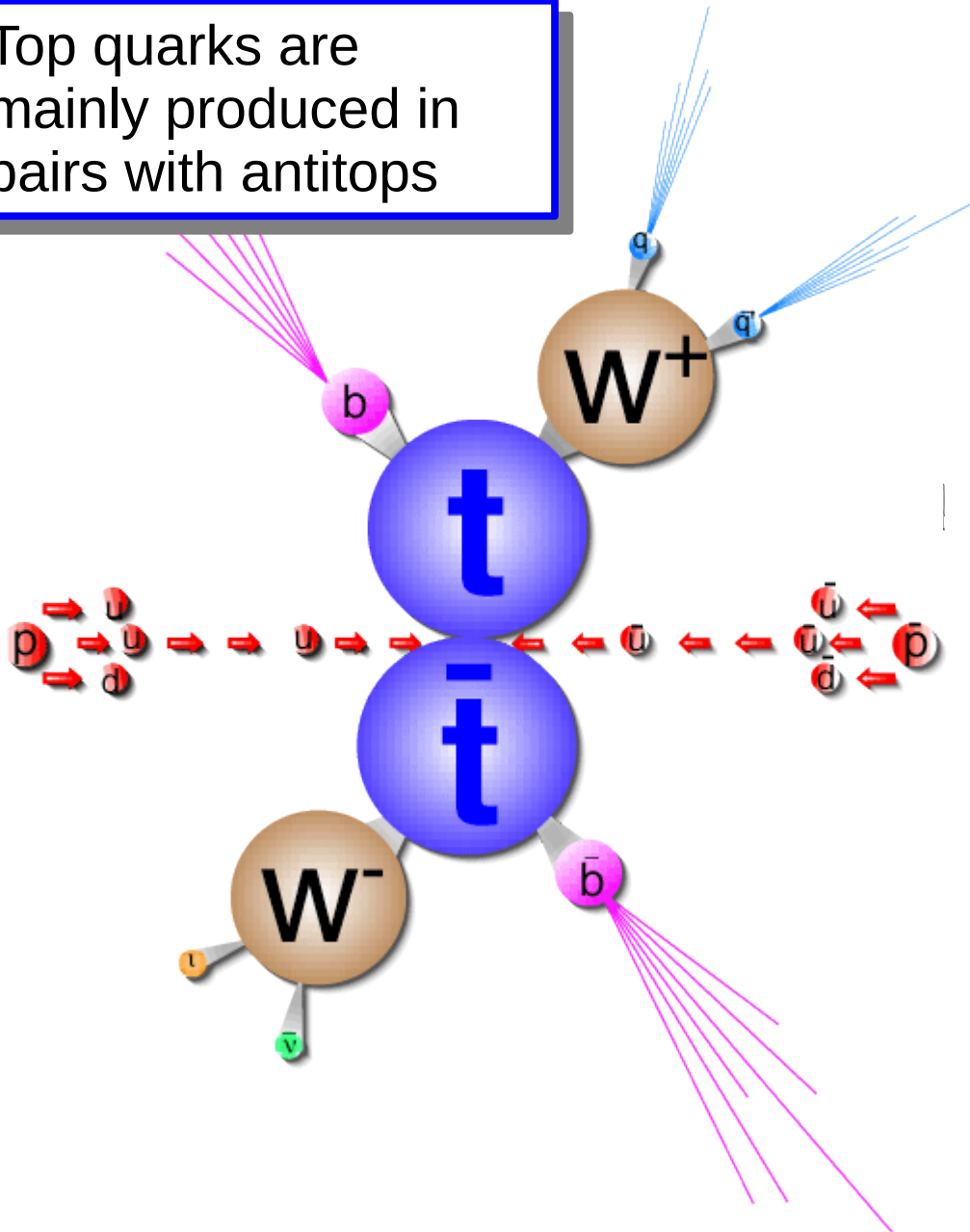
# The heaviest particle in the SM



- Discovered in 1995 at Tevatron (> 20 years!)
- At the Tevatron ~ 10000 top quarks observed
- Mass measured to < 1 % accuracy
- At the LHC 13 TeV, already  $33 \cdot 10^6$  top pair events produced ( $250 \cdot 10^6$  events expected at 300 1/fb of luminosity)
- According to the SM, the top quark is the elementary particle which couples most strongly to the Higgs boson

# Top pair production

Top quarks are mainly produced in pairs with antitops



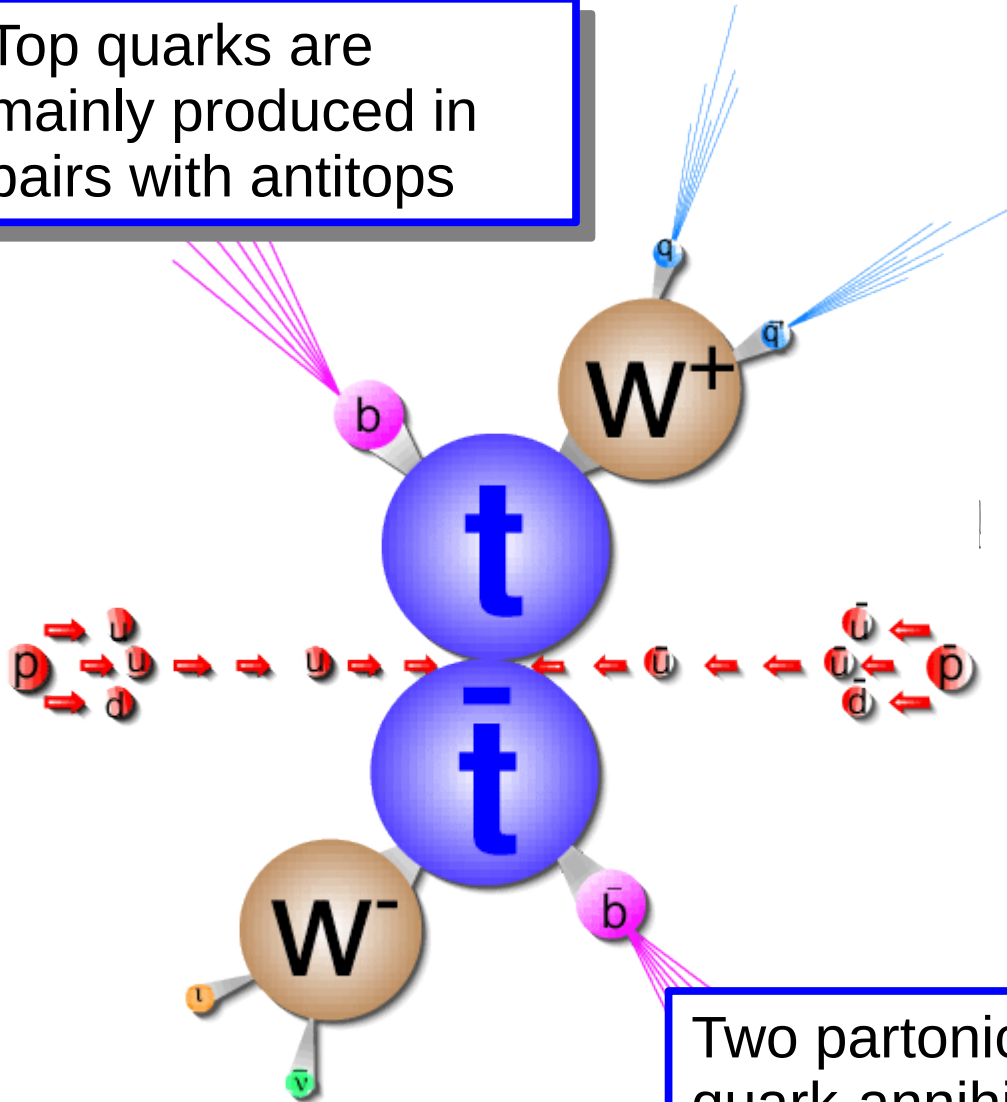
$$\sigma \sim 800 \text{ pb} \quad \text{at} \quad 13 \text{ TeV}$$

Complete NNLO calculation for on shell top quarks; total cross section and differential distributions

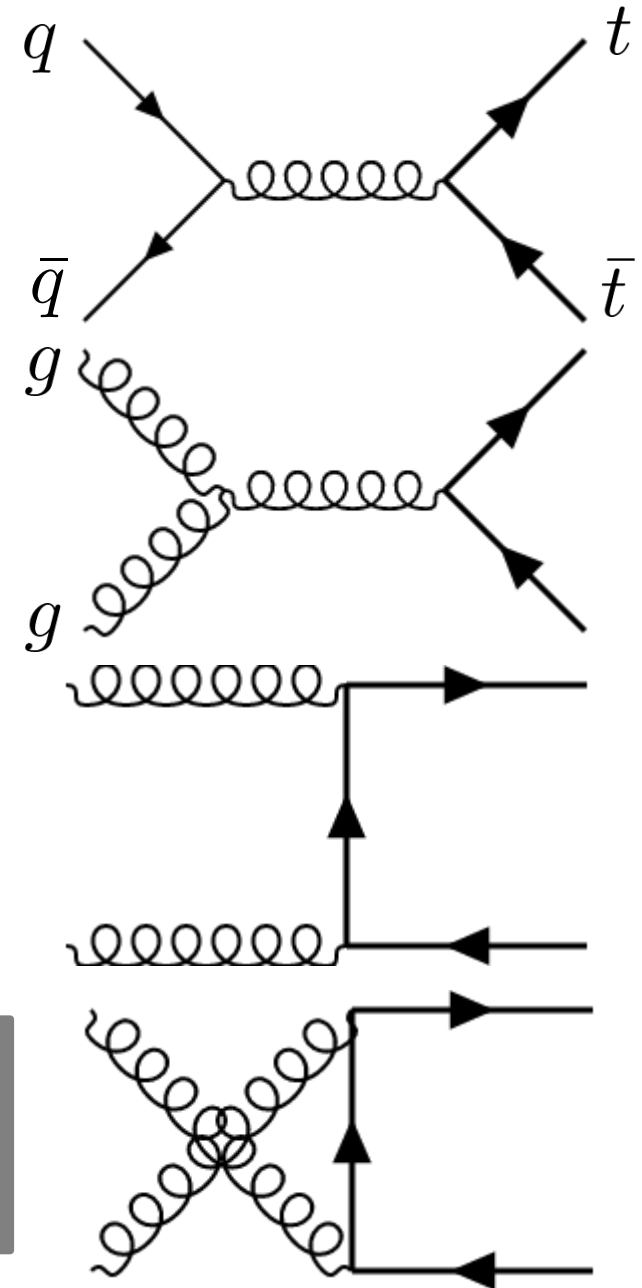
Czakon, Fiedler, Heimes,  
Mitov ('13-'17)

# Top pair production

Top quarks are mainly produced in pairs with antitops

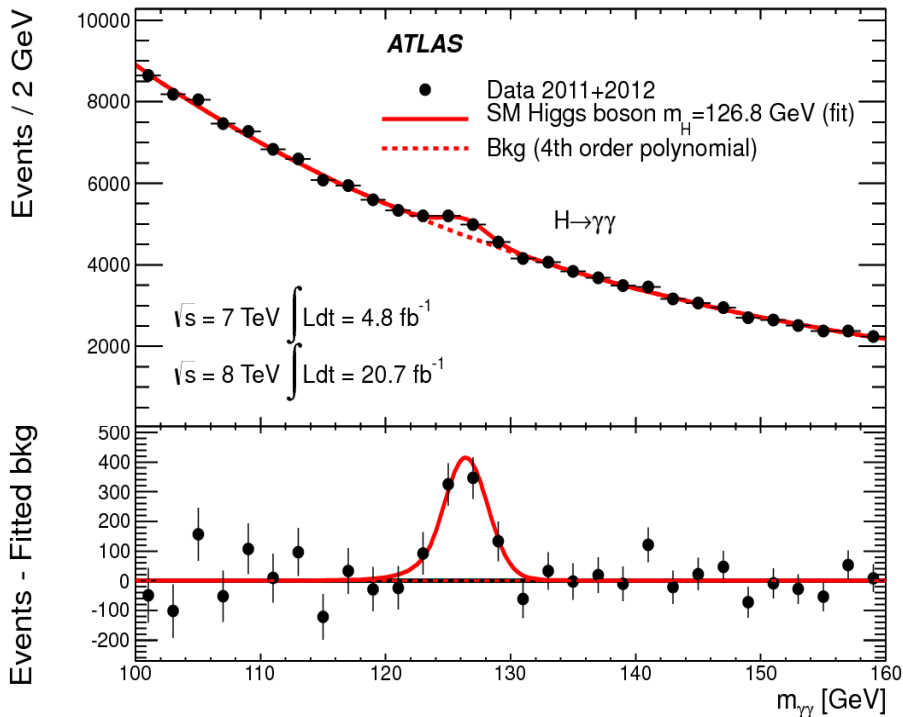
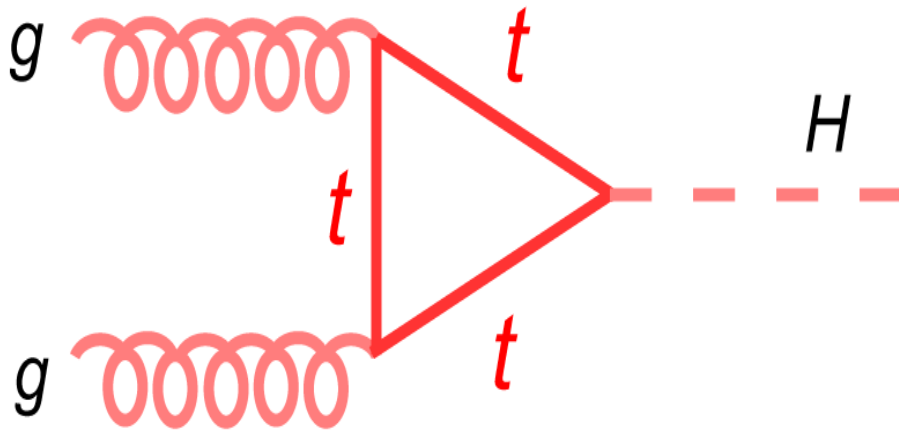


Two partonic channels:  
quark-annihilation and  
gluon fusion





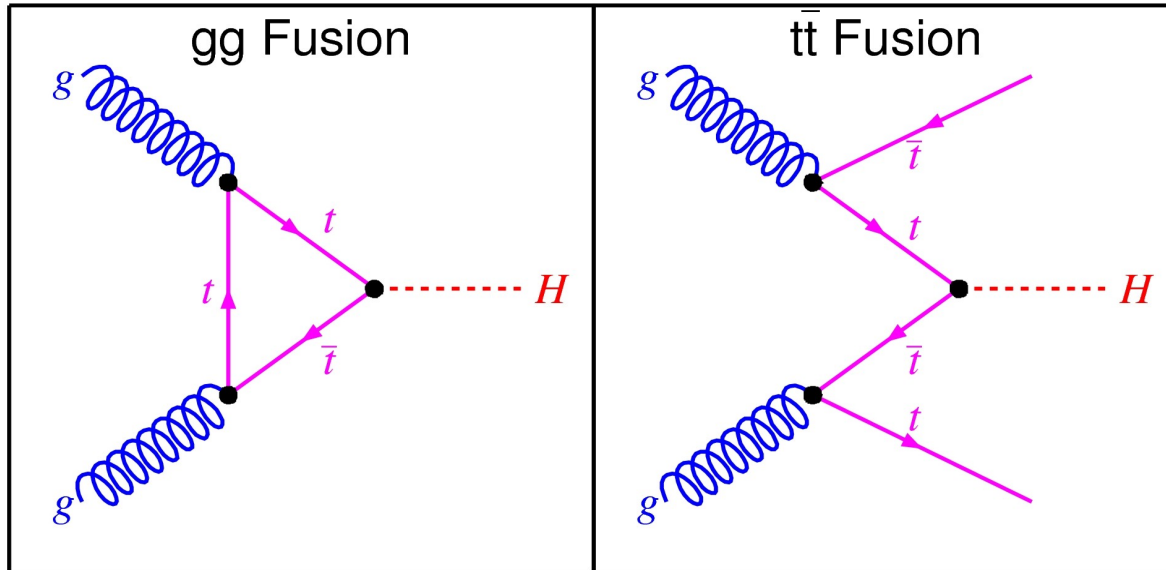
# Top quark and Higgs boson



- The discovery of the Higgs boson was the main achievement of the Run I at the LHC
- The study of the properties of the Higgs boson are in many ways related to the study of the top quark
- While the gluon fusion channel provides the largest production cross section for the Higgs boson at the LHC, another production channel allows one to access directly the top-quark Yukawa coupling

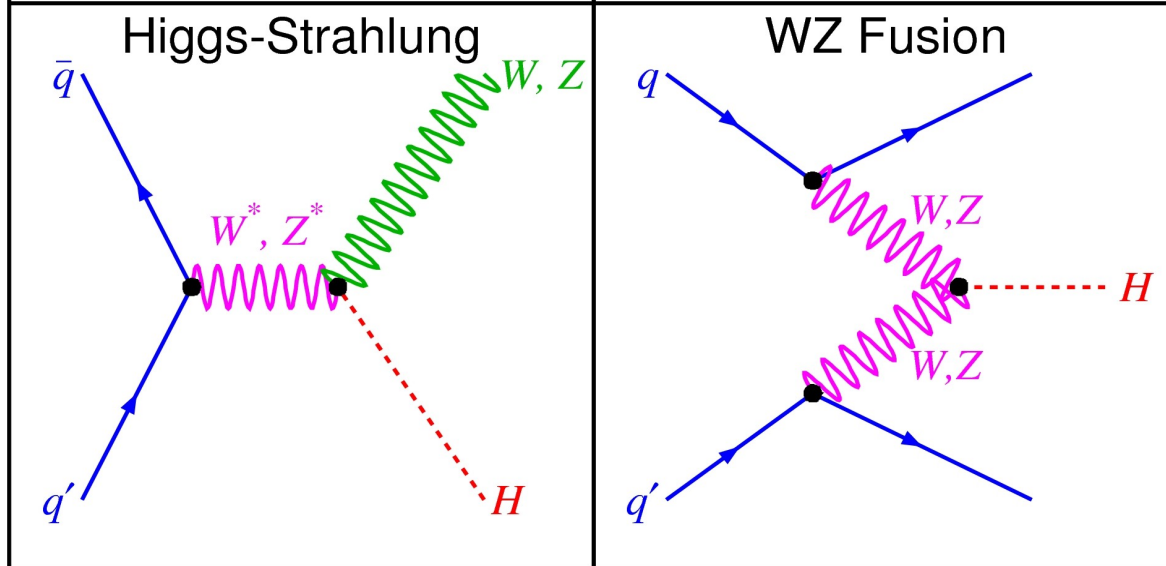
# Higgs boson production channels

$\sigma \sim 49 \text{ pb}$



$\sigma \sim 0.6 \text{ pb}$

$\sigma_W \sim 1.5 \text{ pb}$   
 $\sigma_Z \sim 0.97 \text{ pb}$

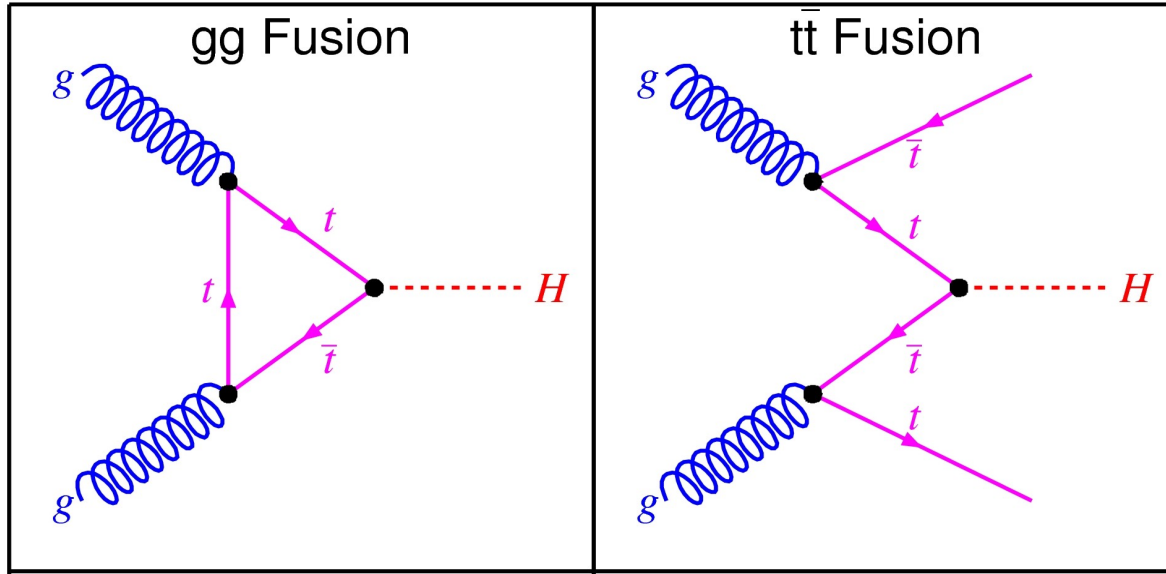


$\sigma \sim 4.2 \text{ pb}$

LHC @ 14 TeV

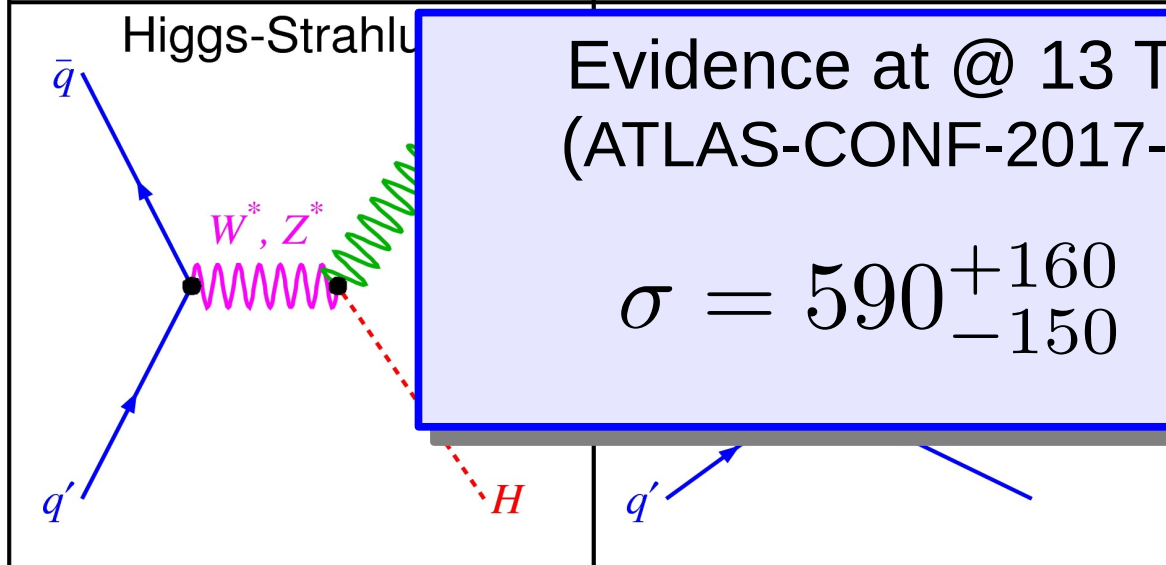
# Higgs boson production channels

$\sigma \sim 49 \text{ pb}$



$\sigma \sim 0.6 \text{ pb}$

$\sigma_W \sim 1.5 \text{ pb}$   
 $\sigma_Z \sim 0.97 \text{ pb}$



Evidence at @ 13 TeV!  
 (ATLAS-CONF-2017-077)

$\sigma = 590^{+160}_{-150} \text{ fb}$

2 pb

LHC @ 14 TeV

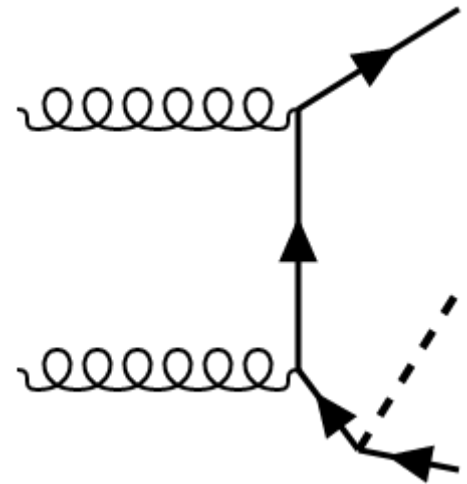
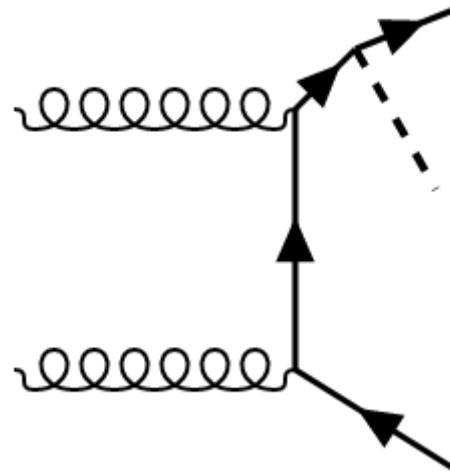
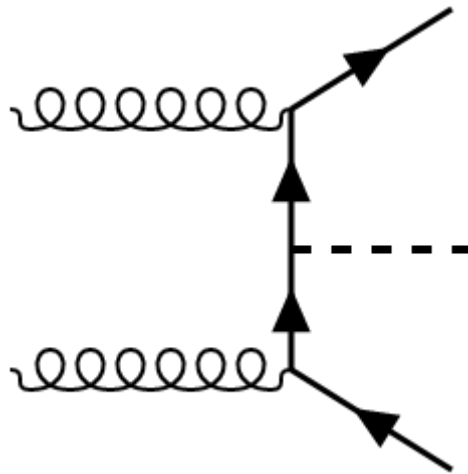
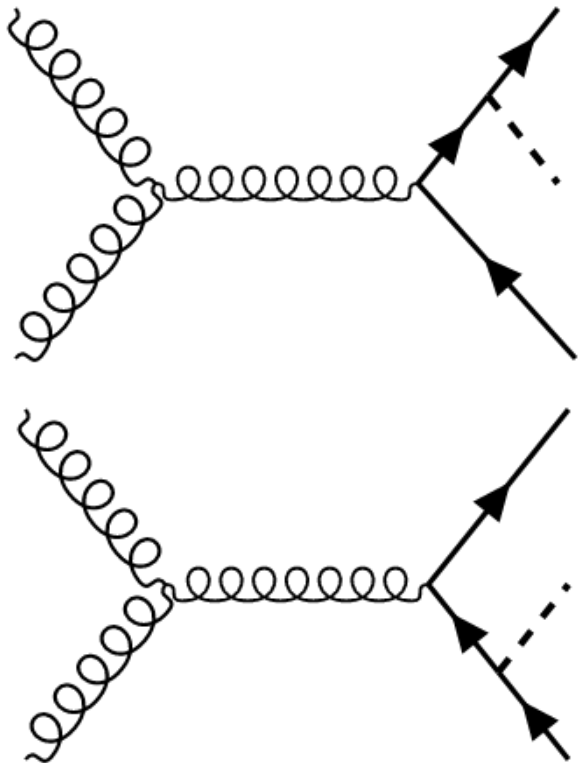
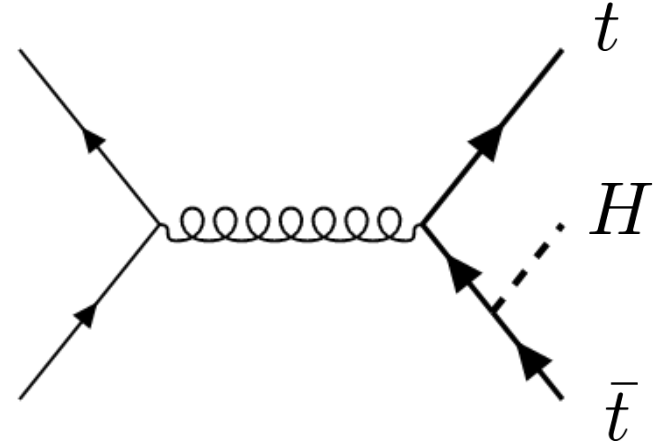
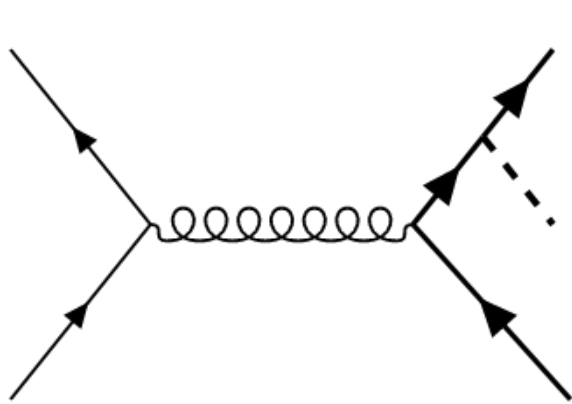
# A (incomplete) history of top pair + Higgs calculations

- Cross section and some distributions evaluated to NLO QCD
  - `Beenakker, Dittmaier, Kraemer, Pluember, Spira, Zerwas ('01-'02)`
  - `Dawson, Reina, Wackerroth, Orr, Jackson ('01, '03)`
- In  $2 \rightarrow 3$  processes (“multileg processes”), analytic NLO calculations become cumbersome: top pair + Higgs production was one of the first processes to be used to test automated tools
  - `Frixione et al ('11), Hirshi et al. ('11)`
  - `Garzelli et al. ('11), Bevilacqua et al. ('11)`
- EW corrections to the parton level cross section are known
  - `Frixione, Hirshi, Pagani, Shao, Zaro ('14)`
  - `Zhang, Ma, Chen, Guo ('14)`
  - `Frixione, Hirshi, Pagani, Shao, Zaro ('15)`
- NLO QCD corrections were interfaced with SHERPA and POWHEG BOX
  - `Gleisberg, Hoeche, Krauss, Schonherr, Schaumann ('09)`
  - `Hartanto, Jaeger, Reina, Wackerroth ('15)`

# A (incomplete) history of top pair + Higgs calculations

- Cross section and some distributions evaluated to NLO QCD  
    Beenakker, Dittmaier, Kraemer, Pluember, Spira, Zerwas ('01-'02)  
    Dawson, Reina, Wackerroth, Orr, Jackson ('01, '03)
- In  $2 \rightarrow 3$  processes (“multileg processes”), analytic NLO calculations become cumbersome: top pair + Higgs production was one of the first processes to be used to test automated tools  
    Frixione et al ('11), Hirshi et al. ('11)  
    Garzelli et al. ('11), Bevilacqua et al. ('11)
- EW  
    NLL resummation at production threshold for the total cross section      aro ('14)  
    NNLL resummation at partonic threshold for invariant mass      Guo ('14)  
    distribution      aro ('15)  
    Kulesza, Motyka, Stebel, Theeuwes ('15, '16, '17)
- NLO  
    POWHEG BOX  
    Gleisberg, Hoeche, Krauss, Schonherr, Schaumann ('09)  
    Hartanto, Jaeger, Reina, Wackerroth ('15)

# Top pair + H - tree level diagrams



# Top pair + W or Z boson

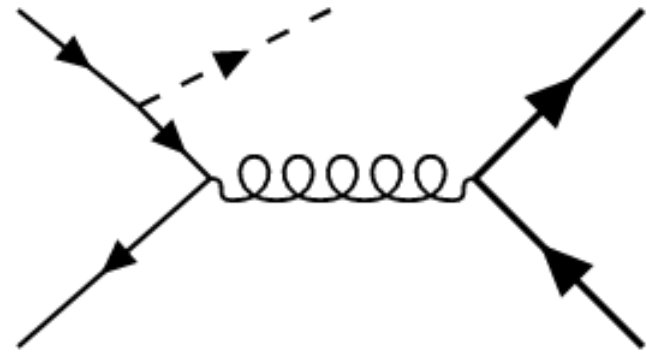
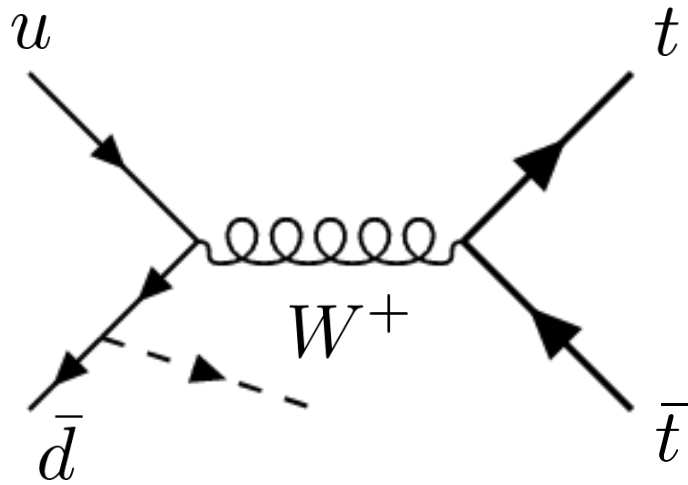
- $t\bar{t}W/t\bar{t}Z$  are the two heaviest set of particles observed at the LHC with c.o.m. energy of 7,8,13 TeV
- Important to detect anomalies in the top couplings of the Z boson
- Both processes would be altered by a variety of new physics models
- Can be considered background processes in new physics searches
- Both processes were calculated to NLO in QCD

Garzelli, Kardos, Papadopoulos, Trocsanyi ('12)

Campbell, Ellis ('12)

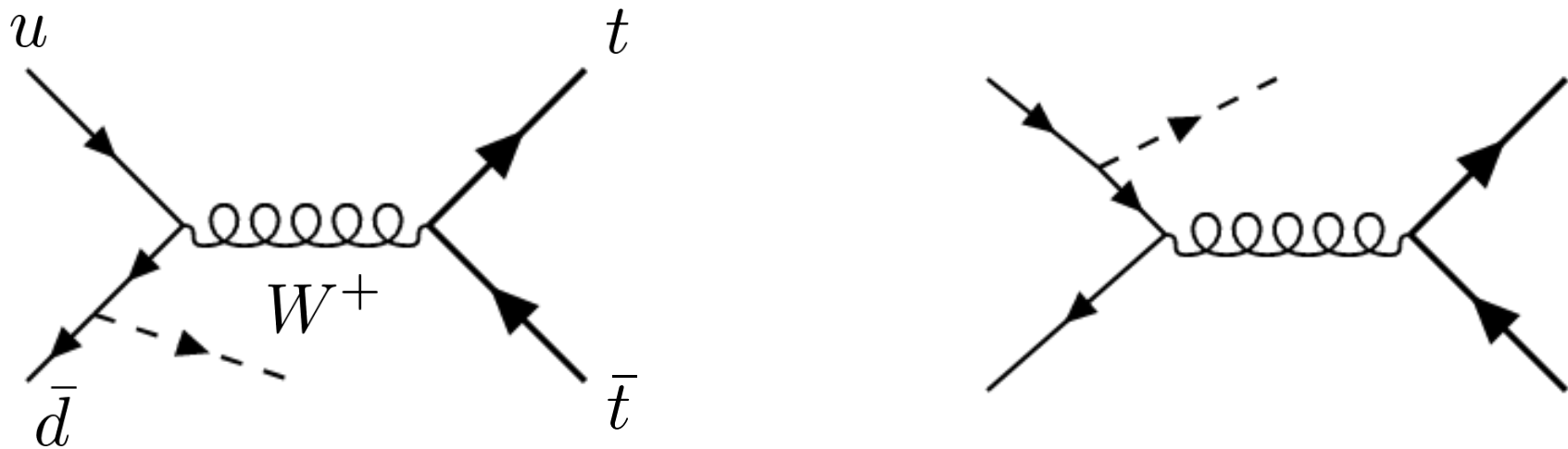
Maltoni, Mangano, Tsinikos, Zaro ('11)

# Top pair + W – tree level diagrams





# Top pair + W – tree level diagrams



**Top pair + Z** at the lowest order involves all of the diagrams of the type present in the top pair + Higgs case (the Z boson can be emitted from the top quark line) and two diagrams of the type shown above (the Z boson can be emitted from the light quark line as well)

# Top pair + W or Z boson

- Processes measured by CMS and ATLAS at 8 TeV

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W} = 382_{-102}^{+117} \text{ fb (CMS)}$$

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W} = 369_{-91}^{+100} \text{ fb (ATLAS)}$$

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}Z} = 242_{-55}^{+65} \text{ fb (CMS)}$$

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}Z} = 176_{-52}^{+58} \text{ fb (ATLAS)}$$

- W production measurements are in agreement with each other but about  $1.5 \sigma$  larger than the NLO prediction
- Processes measured by CMS and ATLAS at 13 TeV (numbers from top 2017)

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W} = 800_{-110-120}^{+120+130} \text{ fb (CMS)}$$

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W} = 1500_{-800}^{+800} \text{ fb (ATLAS)}$$

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}Z} = 1000_{-80-100}^{+90+120} \text{ fb (CMS)}$$

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}Z} = 900_{-300}^{+300} \text{ fb (ATLAS)}$$

# Large logarithmic corrections

- The partonic cross section for top pair (+Higgs,W or Z) production receives potentially large corrections from soft gluon emission diagrams
- Schematically, the partonic cross section depends on logarithms of the ratio of two different scales:

$$L \equiv \ln \left( \frac{\text{“hard” scale}}{\text{“soft” scale}} \right)$$

- It can be that  $\alpha_s L \sim 1$
- One needs to reorganize the perturbative series: **Resummation**
- The resummation of soft emission corrections can be carried out by means of effective field theory methods

# Large logarithmic corrections

- The partonic cross section for top pair (+Higgs) production receives potentially large corrections from soft gluon emission diagrams
- Renormalization group improved perturbation theory schematically:
  - Separation of scales  $\leftrightarrow$  factorization
  - Evaluate each (single-scale) factor in fixed order perturbation theory at a scale for which it is free of large logs
- It can be used to factorize the cross section
- One can use the Renormalization Group Equations to evolve the factors to a common scale
- The remaining large logs are resummed
- The remaining large logs are resummed out by means of effective field theory methods

# Goal

We want to analyze the factorization properties of

$$p + p \longrightarrow t + \bar{t} + H(\text{or } W, Z) + X$$

in the **soft emission limit** in order to

- i. Obtain NNLL resummation formulas for these processes
- ii. Evaluate the total cross section and differential distributions depending on the 4-momenta of the final state particles
- iii. Match NLO and NNLL calculations to obtain NLO+NNLL predictions

# Goal

We want to analyze the factorization properties of

$$p + p \longrightarrow t + \bar{t} + H(\text{or } W, Z) + X$$

in the **soft emission limit** in order to

Additional final  
state radiation

- i. Obtain NNLL resummation formulas for these processes
- ii. Evaluate the total cross section and differential distributions depending on the 4-momenta of the final state particles
- iii. Match NLO and NNLL calculations to obtain NLO+NNLL predictions

# **Soft limit & factorization**

(for top pair + H production)

# “Pair” Invariant Mass kinematics

- For top pair + Higgs production, we have two tree-level partonic processes

$$q(p_1) + \bar{q}(p_2) \rightarrow t(p_3) + \bar{t}(p_4) + H(p_5)$$

$$g(p_1) + g(p_2) \rightarrow t(p_3) + \bar{t}(p_4) + H(p_5)$$

- Define the invariants

$$\hat{s} = (p_1 + p_2)^2 \quad M^2 = (p_3 + p_4 + p_5)^2$$



# “Pair” Invariant Mass kinematics

- For top pair + Higgs production, we have two tree-level partonic processes

$$q(p_1) + \bar{q}(p_2) \rightarrow t(p_3) + \bar{t}(p_4) + H(p_5)$$

$$g(p_1) + g(p_2) \rightarrow t(p_3) + \bar{t}(p_4) + H(p_5)$$

- Define the invariants

$$\hat{s} = (p_1 + p_2)^2$$

Partonic center of mass energy (squared)

$$M^2 = (p_3 + p_4 + p_5)^2$$

Invariant mass of the heavy particles in the final state

# “Pair” Invariant Mass kinematics

- For top pair + Higgs production, we have two tree-level partonic processes

$$q(p_1) + \bar{q}(p_2) \rightarrow t(p_3) + \bar{t}(p_4) + H(p_5)$$

$$g(p_1) + g(p_2) \rightarrow t(p_3) + \bar{t}(p_4) + H(p_5)$$

- Define the invariants

$$\hat{s} = (p_1 + p_2)^2 \quad M^2 = (p_3 + p_4 + p_5)^2$$

If real radiation in the final state is present,  $\hat{s} \neq M^2$

$$z = \frac{M^2}{\hat{s}}$$

# “Pair” Invariant Mass kinematics

- For top pair + Higgs production, we have two tree-level partonic processes

$$q(p_1) + \bar{q}(p_2) \rightarrow t(p_3) + \bar{t}(p_4) + H(p_5)$$

$$g(p_1) + g(p_2) \rightarrow t(p_3) + \bar{t}(p_4) + H(p_5)$$

- Define the invariants

$$\hat{s} = (p_1 + p_2)^2 \quad M^2 = (p_3 + p_4 + p_5)^2$$

Partonic threshold limit

$$z \rightarrow 1$$

If real radiation in the final state is

$$z = \frac{M^2}{\hat{s}}$$

# Factorization in a nutshell

Differential cross section:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dM^2} = ff(z) \otimes C(z)$$

# Factorization in a nutshell

Differential cross section:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dM^2} = \mathcal{L}(z) \otimes C(z)$$

Partonic luminosity

$$\mathcal{L} = \int_y^1 \frac{dx}{x} f_{i/N_1}(x) f_{j/N_2}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

# Factorization in a nutshell

Differential cross section:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dM^2} = \underbrace{ff(z)}_{\text{Partonic luminosity}} \otimes \underbrace{C(z)}_{\text{Hard scattering kernel (partonic cross section)}}$$

Partonic luminosity

Hard scattering kernel  
(partonic cross section)

# Factorization in a nutshell

Differential cross section:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dM^2} = ff(z) \otimes C(z)$$

In the soft emission limit a clear scale hierarchy emerges:

$$\hat{s}, M^2, m_t^2 \gg \hat{s}(1-z)^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$$

# Factorization in a nutshell

Differential cross section:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dM^2} = ff(z) \otimes C(z)$$

In the soft emission limit a clear scale hierarchy emerges:

$$\hat{s}, M^2, m_t^2 \gg \hat{s}(1-z)^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$$

Hard scales

Soft scale



# Factorization in a nutshell

Differential cross section:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dM^2} = ff(z) \otimes C(z)$$

In the soft emission limit a clear scale hierarchy emerges:

$$\hat{s}, M^2, m_t^2 \gg \hat{s}(1-z)^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$$

In this limit, the partonic cross section factors into two parts:

$$C_{ij} = \text{Tr} \left[ \mathbf{H}_{ij} (M, \{p_i\}, \mu) \mathbf{S}_{ij} \left( \sqrt{\hat{s}}(1-z), \{p_i\}, \mu \right) \right]$$

Hard function  
(virtual corrections)

Soft function  
(real soft emission)

# Factorization in a nutshell

Differential cross section:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dM^2} = ff(z) \otimes C(z)$$

In the soft emission limit a clear scale hierarchy emerges:

$$\hat{s}, M^2, m_t^2 \gg \hat{s}(1-z)^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$$

In this limit, the partonic cross section factors into two parts:

$$C_{ij} = \text{Tr} \left[ \mathbf{H}_{ij} (M, \{p_i\}, \mu) \mathbf{S}_{ij} \left( \sqrt{\hat{s}}(1-z), \{p_i\}, \mu \right) \right]$$

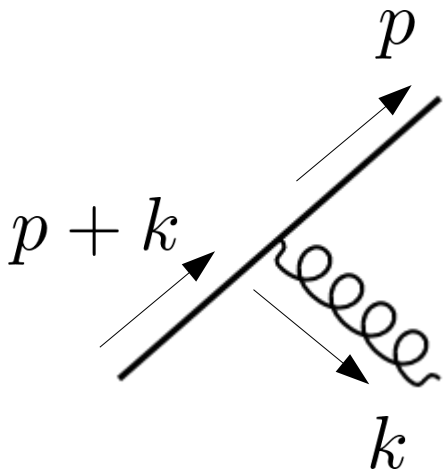
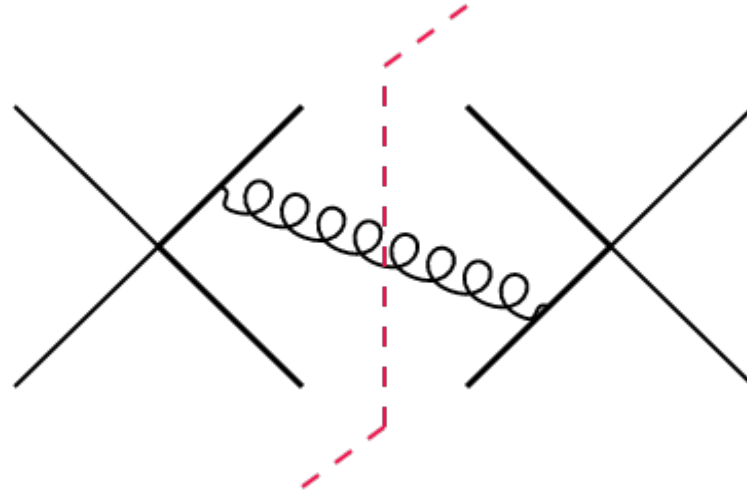
Hard function  
(virtual corrections)

both are matrices  
(in color space)

Soft function  
(real soft emission)

# Soft function at NLO

The soft function can be calculated by evaluating diagrams involving the emission of soft gluons from the external legs

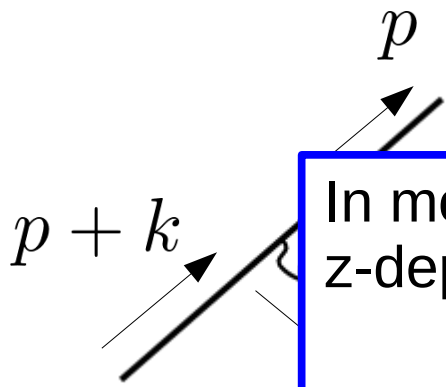
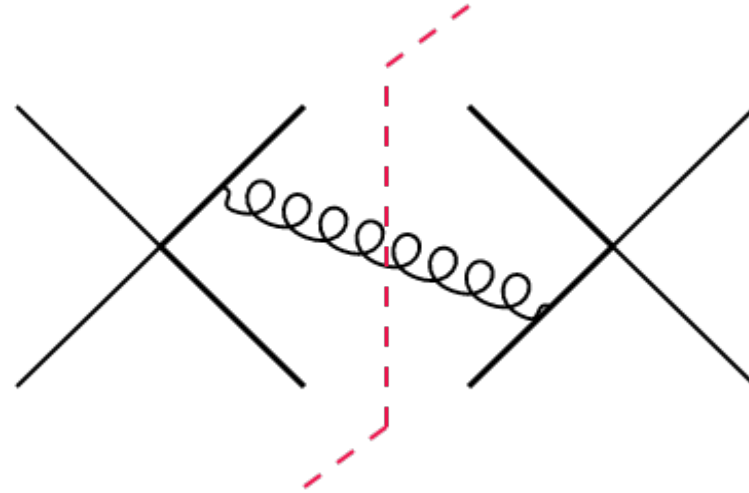


$$i \frac{\not{p} + \not{k} + m}{(p+k)^2 - m^2} \gamma^\mu \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow 0} i \frac{p^\mu}{p \cdot k}$$

Eikonal  
vertex

$$\mathcal{I}_{ij}(\epsilon, x_0, \mu) = -\frac{(4\pi\mu^2)^\epsilon}{\pi^{2-\epsilon}} v_i \cdot v_j \int d^d k \frac{e^{-ik^0 x_0}}{v_i \cdot k v_j \cdot k} (2\pi) \delta(k^2) \theta(k^0)$$

# Soft function at NLO



In momentum space the soft function depends on  $z$ -dependent plus distributions

$$P'_n(z) \equiv \left[ \frac{1}{1-z} \ln^n \left( \frac{M^2(1-z)^2}{\mu^2 z} \right) \right]_+$$

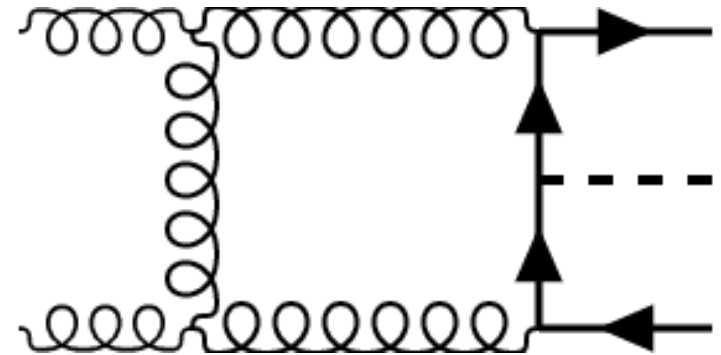
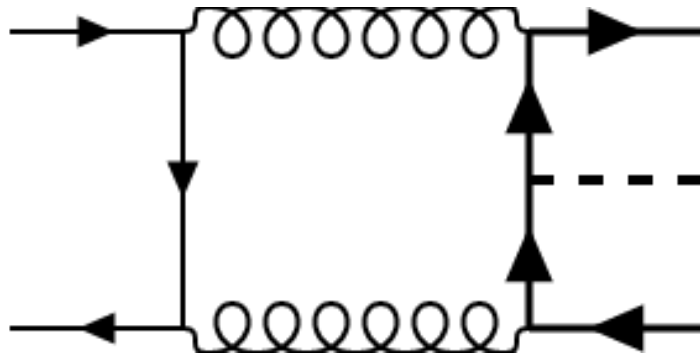
$\mathcal{I}_{ij}(\epsilon, x_0)$

konal  
vertex

$(k^0)^2 \theta(k^0)$

# Hard function at NLO

In order to evaluate the NLO hard function one needs to calculate one-loop QCD amplitudes. In doing this one need to separate the various components of the amplitude in color space. Some examples are:



For top-quark pair production, the NLO matrix elements can still be calculated analytically: Things are more complicated for top-pair+Higgs, which is a 2 to 3 process

# Top pair + Higgs: Hard function

- The calculation of the NLO hard function requires the evaluation of one loop amplitudes for a  $2 \rightarrow 3$  process (separating out the various color components)
- The evaluation of the NLO QCD corrections to  $t\bar{t}H$  corrections was carried out with “traditional” (Passarino-Veltman like) reduction methods  
    Beenakker, Dittmaier, et al. ('01-'02)  
    Dawson, Reina, et al. ('01, '03)
- In order to calculate the NLO hard function, it is convenient to take advantage of the automated tools available on the market. However, to date, none provides hard functions out of the box and all require some level of customization

Solution:

**Modified version of GoSam and Openloops (+ Collier)**

Cullen, Greiner, Heinrich, Luisoni, Mastrolia, Ossola, et al. ('12-'14)  
Cascioli, Maierhofer, Pozzorini ('12) Denner, Dittmaier, Hofer ('16)

# Renormalization group equations

- The hard and soft functions are free from large logarithms and can be evaluated in fixed order perturbation theory
- The hard and soft functions satisfy RGEs regulated by anomalous dimensions which can also be calculated up to a given order in the strong coupling constant  $\alpha_s$
- By solving the RGEs one can resum large corrections depending on the ratio of hard and soft scales

# Renormalization group equations

- The hard and soft functions are free from large logarithms and can be evaluated in fixed order perturbation theory
- The hard and soft functions satisfy RGEs regulated by anomalous dimensions which can also be calculated up to a given order in the strong coupling constant  $\alpha_s$
- By solving the RGEs one can resum large corrections depending on the ratio of hard and soft scales
- In practice, it is more convenient to solve the RGEs in Laplace or Mellin space, where convolutions become regular products

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dM^2} \propto \int_{\tau}^1 \frac{dz}{z} \tilde{f}\left(\frac{\tau}{z}\right) \text{Tr} [\mathbf{HS}(z)] \rightarrow \frac{d\tilde{\sigma}}{dM^2} \propto \tilde{f} \text{Tr} [\mathbf{H}\tilde{\mathbf{s}}]$$

$$[\tau = M^2/s, \quad s = (\text{collider energy})^2]$$



# Renormalization group equations

- The hard and soft functions are free from large logarithms and can be evaluated in fixed order perturbation theory
- The hard and soft functions satisfy RGEs regulated by anomalous dimensions which can also be calculated up to a given order in the strong coupling constant  $\alpha_s$
- By solving the RGEs one can resum large corrections depending on the ratio of hard and soft scales
- In practice, it is more convenient to solve the RGEs in Laplace of Mellin space, where convolutions become regular products

$$\frac{d}{d \ln \mu} \tilde{\mathbf{s}} = -\mathbf{\Gamma}_s \tilde{\mathbf{s}} - \tilde{\mathbf{s}} \mathbf{\Gamma}_s^\dagger$$

# Mellin space

- NNLL resummation in momentum space, (“SCET approach”), was already carried out by Li, Li, and Li (2014) for associated top pair + W production
- The resummation can also be carried out in Mellin space (by taking the Mellin transform of the factorized cross section), similar to “direct QCD” resummation

$$\tilde{c}(N, \mu) = \int_0^1 dz z^{N-1} \int d\text{PS}_{t\bar{t}H} \text{Tr} \left[ \mathbf{H}(\{p\}, \mu) \mathbf{S} \left( \sqrt{\hat{s}}(1-z), \{p\}, \mu \right) \right]$$

- The total cross section can be then recovered with an inverse Mellin transform

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{2s} \int_{\tau_{\min}}^1 \frac{d\tau}{\tau} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} dN \tau^{-N} \tilde{f}(N, \mu) \int d\text{PS}_{t\bar{t}H} \tilde{c}(N, \mu)$$

+ Minimal Prescription (Catani et al, ‘96) + Mellin space lum. (Bonvini and Marzani ‘12, ‘14)

# Mellin space

- Hard and soft scales are evaluated at values of the scale where large corrections are absent

$$\mu_h = M \quad \mu_s = M/\bar{N}$$

- RG evolution is used to obtain  $\tilde{c}$  at the scale  $\mu_f$

$$\tilde{c}(\mu_f) = \text{Tr} \left[ \tilde{\mathbf{U}}(\mu_f, \mu_h, \mu_s) \mathbf{H}(\mu_h) \tilde{\mathbf{U}}^\dagger(\mu_f, \mu_h, \mu_s) \tilde{\mathbf{s}}(\mu_s) \right]$$

- By rewriting  $\alpha_s(\mu_f)$  and  $\alpha_s(\mu_s)$  as a function of  $\alpha_s(\mu_h)$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{U}} = \exp \left\{ \frac{4\pi}{\alpha_s(\mu_h)} g_1(\lambda, \lambda_f) + g_2(\lambda, \lambda_f) + \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_h)}{4\pi} g_3(\lambda, \lambda_f) + \dots \right\}$$

$$\times \mathbf{u}(\{p\}, \mu_h, \mu_s)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_h)}{2\pi} \beta_0 \ln \frac{\mu_h}{\mu_s}, \quad \lambda_f = \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_h)}{2\pi} \beta_0 \ln \frac{\mu_h}{\mu_f}$$

# Dynamical threshold enhancement

- Soft limit = good approximation of the partonic cross section
- However, we are colliding protons: Does the soft limit provide reasonable results for hadronic observables? (ex. invariant mass distribution)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dM} \propto \int_{\tau}^1 \frac{dz}{z} \sum_{\text{channels}} \mathcal{F}\left(\frac{\tau}{z}, \mu\right) C(z, \dots, \mu)$$

Hard scattering kernel  
Partonic cross section



# Dynamical threshold enhancement

- Soft limit = good approximation of the partonic cross section
- However, we are colliding protons: Does the soft limit provide reasonable results for hadronic observables? (ex. invariant mass distribution)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dM} \propto \int_{\tau}^1 \frac{dz}{z} \sum_{\text{channels}} \mathcal{L}\left(\frac{\tau}{z}, \mu\right) C(z, \dots, \mu)$$

The soft limit ( $z \rightarrow 1$ ) after convolutions with the partonic luminosity provides a good approximation to the observable if:

- $\tau \sim 1$ , but this situation is not interesting phenomenologically
- $\mathcal{L} \rightarrow 0$   $z \rightarrow \tau$ : **Dynamical threshold enhancement**

# Dynamical threshold enhancement: tests

- Does dynamical threshold enhancement occur? We need to check if the approximate NLO predictions are reasonably close to the full NLO calculations
- In top pair production dynamical threshold enhancement does take place; we will see that the same is true for top pair + Higgs and top pair + W/Z
- Warning: approximate NLO formulas obtained from the soft limit ignore the contribution of the quark-gluon channel (which is formally subleading in the  $z \rightarrow 1$  limit)

# Complete NLO calculations

We **need** complete NLO results for the total cross section and the differential distributions we are interested in, both to validate the approximate formulas and to match results to the full NLO:

**MadGraph5\_aMC@NLO**

Precise theoretical predictions are obtained by combining NNLL resummation and NLO calculation. The matching procedure allows one to avoid the double counting of terms included in both approaches

$$d\sigma^{\text{NLO+NNLL}} = d\sigma^{\text{NNLL}} \Big|_{\mu_h, \mu_s, \mu_f} + \left( d\sigma^{\text{NLO}} - d\sigma^{\text{NNLL}} \Big|_{\mu_s = \mu_h = \mu_f} \right)$$

# Summary so far

- ✓ In the soft emission limit, the partonic cross section factors into a hard function and a soft function
- ✓ Hard functions and soft functions satisfy RGEs regulated by known anomalous dimensions
- ✓ If one is able to calculate the hard and soft functions at NLO and to solve the RGEs one can implement **NNLL resummation**
- ✓ Compare NLO and approx. NLO obtained by re-expanding the resummation formula. If the agreement is good (and it is) it makes sense to evaluate numerically the NNLL resummed cross section and match it to NLO calculations



Top pair + W:

# **Numerical evaluation of NNLL resummation formulas**

# Resummation: Top pair + W boson

- With respect to factorization in the soft limit, top pair + W behaves as top pair + Higgs
- At lowest order top pair + W receives contributions only from from the quark-annihilation channel, no contribution from the gluon-fusion channel (shorter running times for resummation)
- Among the various elements which contribute to the factorization formula up to NNLL, only the NLO hard function differs from the one needed for the production of top pair + Higgs and needs to be recalculated

# Resummation: Top pair + W boson

- With respect to factorization in the soft limit, top pair + W behaves as top pair + Higgs
- At lowest order, top pair + W production is an ideal process to develop and test an in-house program which can evaluate resummation formulas to NNLL
- Among the various elements which contribute to the factorization formula up to NNLL, only the NLO hard function differs from the one needed for the production of top pair + Higgs and needs to be recalculated

# Final state phase space

- The final state phase space is written as the convolution of two two-particle phase spaces:

$$\int d\Phi_{t\bar{t}H} = \int \frac{ds_{t\bar{t}}}{2\pi} \frac{1}{2M^2} \frac{d\Omega}{16\pi^2} K(M^2, s_{t\bar{t}}, m_H^2) \frac{1}{2s_{t\bar{t}}} \frac{d\Omega^*}{16\pi^2} K(s_{t\bar{t}}, m_t^2, m_t^2)$$

$$K(x, y, z) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

- Five integrations left in the final state phase space
- Three integrations for the initial state ( $\tau$ ,  $N$ , and the luminosity variable  $x$ )
- One needs to build a Monte Carlo integration over 8 variables
- The 8 integration variables determine the top, antitop, Higgs (or  $W/Z$ ) and incoming parton momenta: one can bin events and plot distributions

# Scale uncertainty

- In fixed order results, the scale uncertainty is evaluated by varying  $\mu_f \in [\mu_{f,0}/2, 2\mu_{f,0}]$  with  $\mu_{f,0} = M$
- For resummed results, we vary all scales (hard, soft and factorization) independently in the range  $\mu_i \in [\mu_{i,0}/2, 2\mu_{i,0}]$
- For an observable  $O$  (the total cross section, or the value of a differential cross section in a given bin) one evaluates (for  $i = s, f, h$  and  $\kappa_i = \mu_i/\mu_{i,0}$  )

$$\Delta O_i^+ = \max\{O(\kappa_i = 1/2), O(\kappa_i = 1), O(\kappa_i = 2)\} - O(\kappa_i = 1)$$

$$\Delta O_i^- = \min\{O(\kappa_i = 1/2), O(\kappa_i = 1), O(\kappa_i = 2)\} - O(\kappa_i = 1)$$

- The quantities  $\Delta O_i^+$  ( $\Delta O_i^-$ ) are then combined in quadrature in order to obtain the scale uncertainty above (below) the central value

# Total cross section @ 8 TeV

order	PDFs order	code	$\sigma$ [fb]
NLO	NLO	MG5_aMC	$121.6^{+15.2}_{-14.0}$
NLO no $qg$	NLO	MG5_aMC	$118.1^{+10.3}_{-11.3}$
app. NLO	NLO	MC	$116.0^{+10.3}_{-11.6}$

Good agreement NLO  
approx NLO

$W^+$  production

MMHT 2014 PDFs here and  
in the following

# Total cross section @ 8 TeV

order	PDFs order	code	$\sigma$ [fb]
LO	LO	MG5_aMC	$82.0^{+21.2}_{-15.7}$
NLO	NLO	MG5_aMC	$121.6^{+15.2}_{-14.0}$
NLO+NLL	NLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$124.8^{+13.1}_{-8.0}$
NLO+NNLL	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$128.7^{+5.5}_{-4.7}$

The NLO+NNLL cross section is slightly larger than the NLO cross section, the residual scale uncertainty is about 1/3 of the NLO one

$W^+$  production

MMHT 2014 PDFs here and in the following

# Total cross section @ 13 TeV

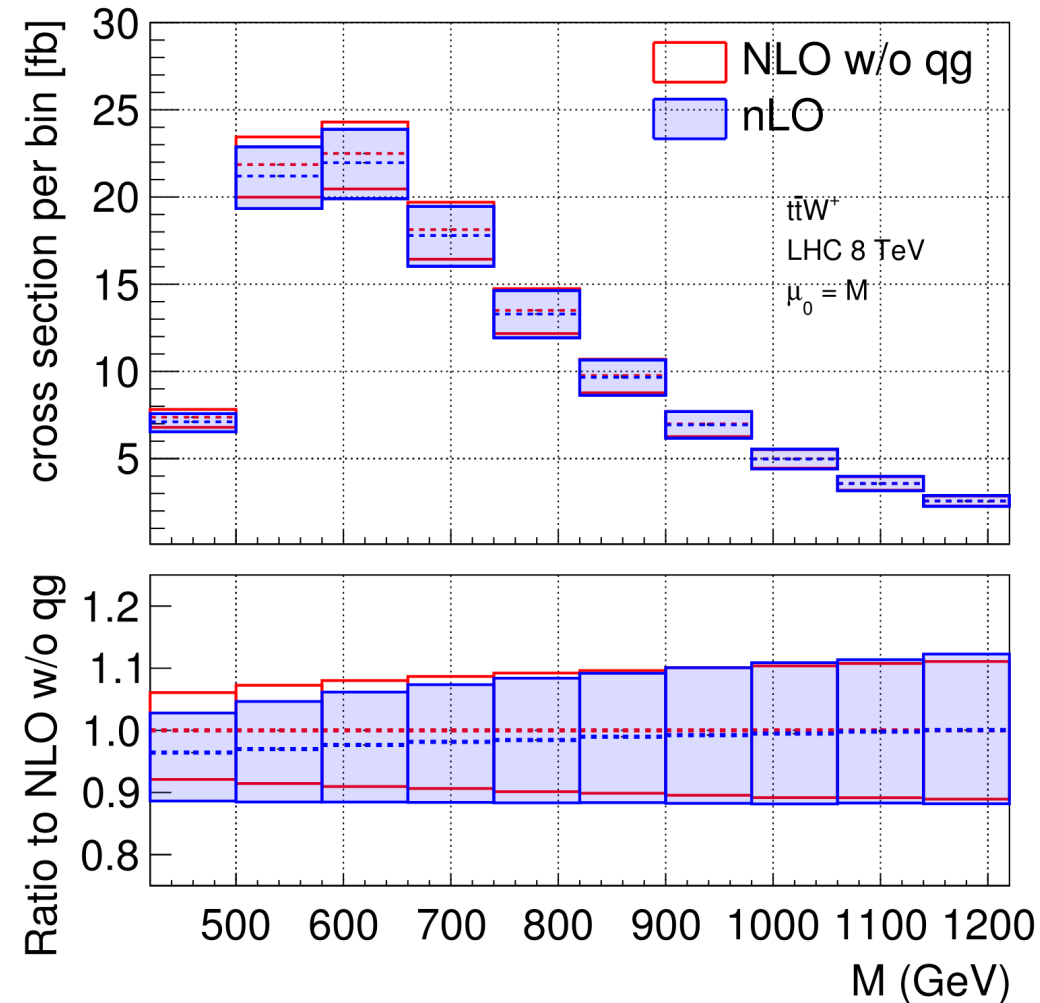
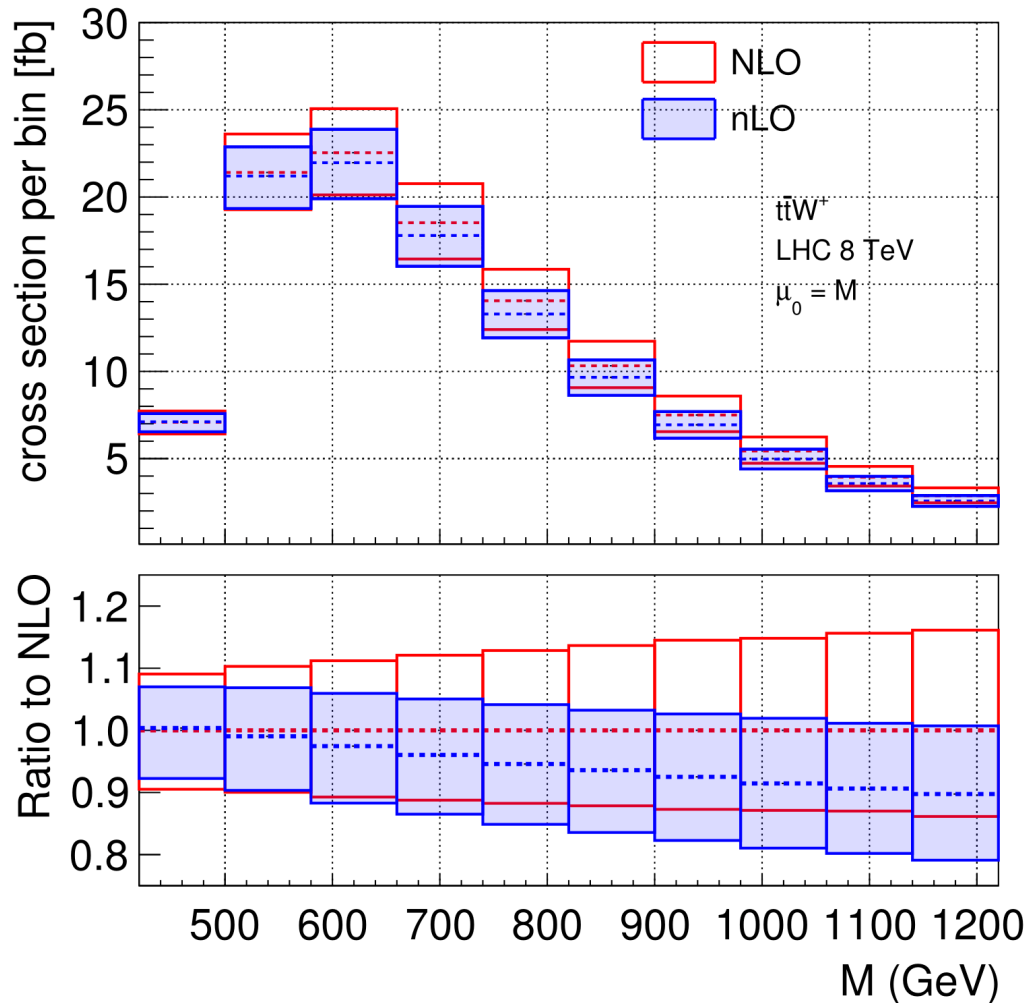
order	PDFs order	code	$\sigma$ [fb]
LO	LO	MG5_aMC	$202.1^{+45.5}_{-34.9}$
NLO	NLO	MG5_aMC	$316.9^{+39.3}_{-34.9}$
NLO no $qg$	NLO	MG5_aMC	$293.3^{+19.3}_{-22.7}$
app. NLO	NLO	MC	$288.1^{+21.4}_{-23.8}$
nNLO (Mellin)	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$330.5^{+26.2}_{-19.2}$
NLO+NNLL	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$333.0^{+14.9}_{-12.4}$

$W^+$  production

(Results for  $tW^-$  can be found in the paper)



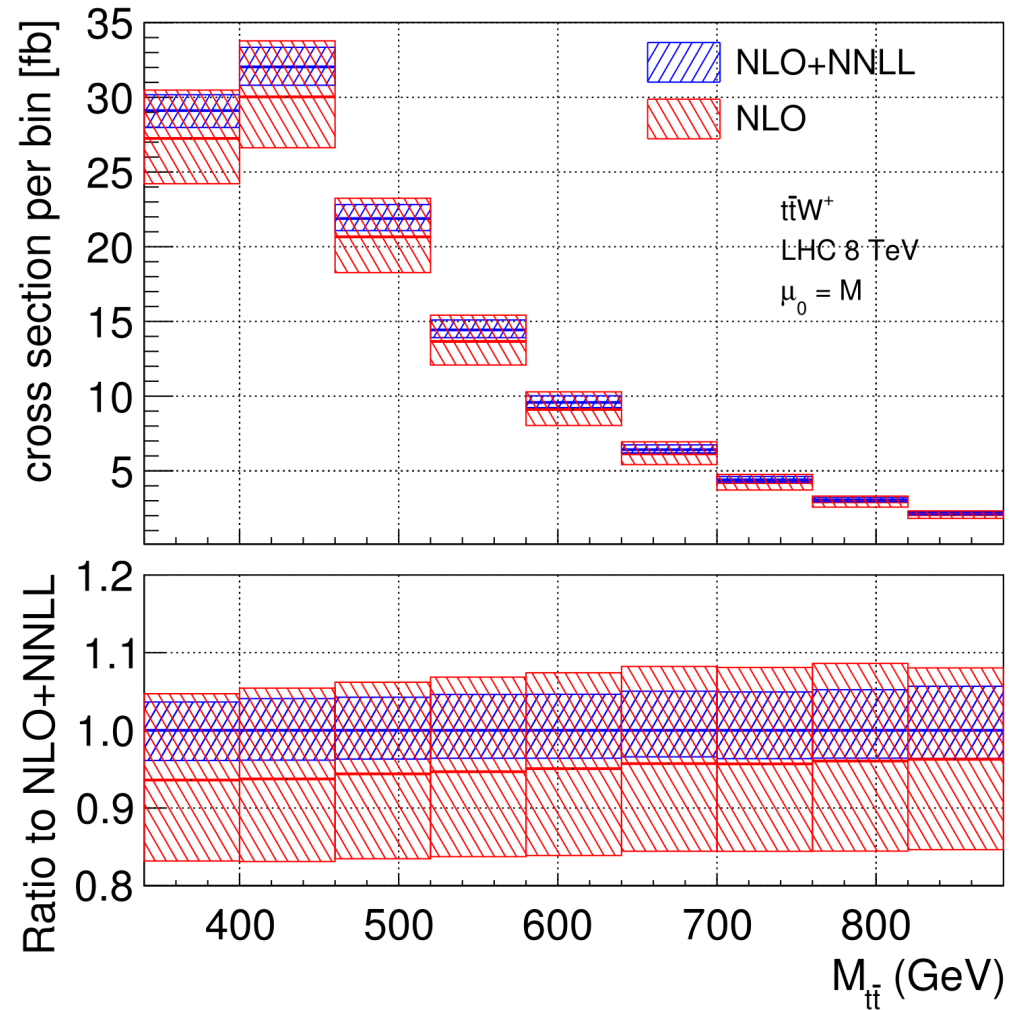
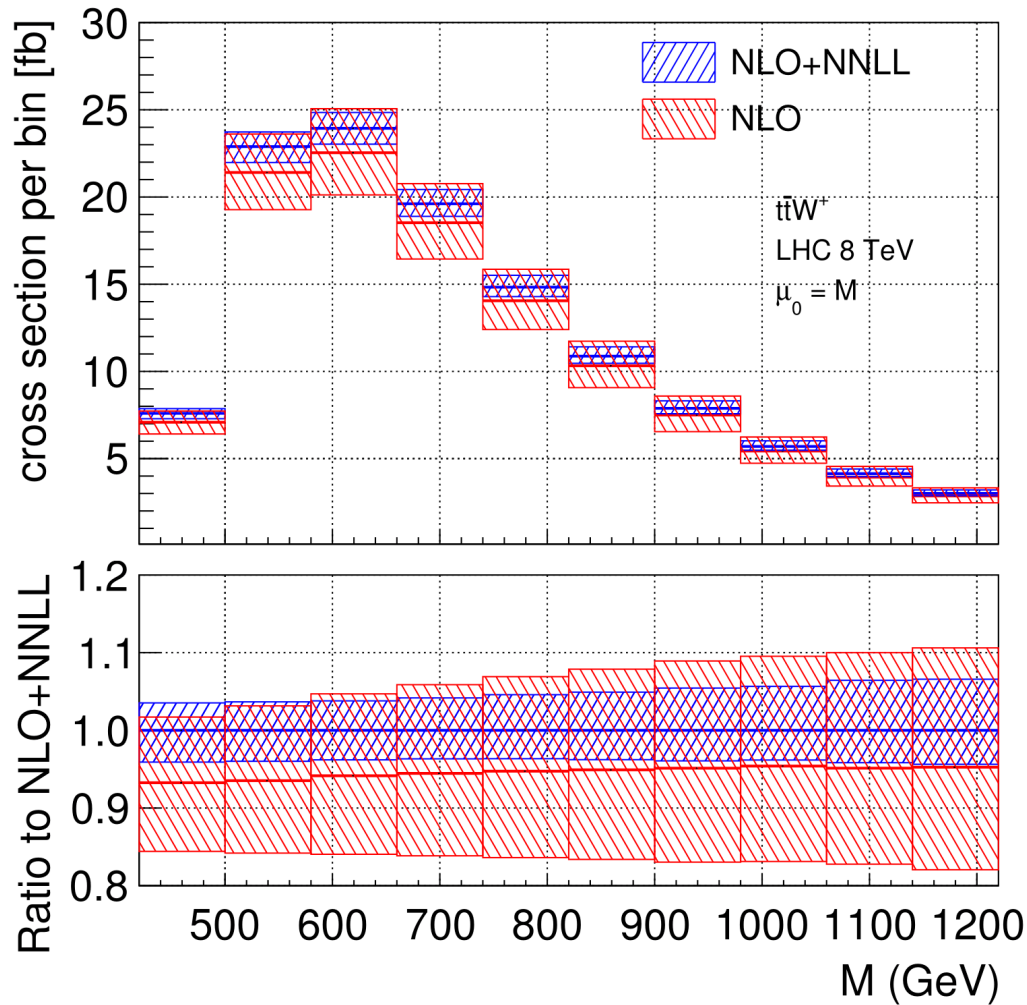
# tTW distributions dynamical threshold enhancement



Good agreement NLO vs approx. NLO.  
The shape of the distribution is slightly different

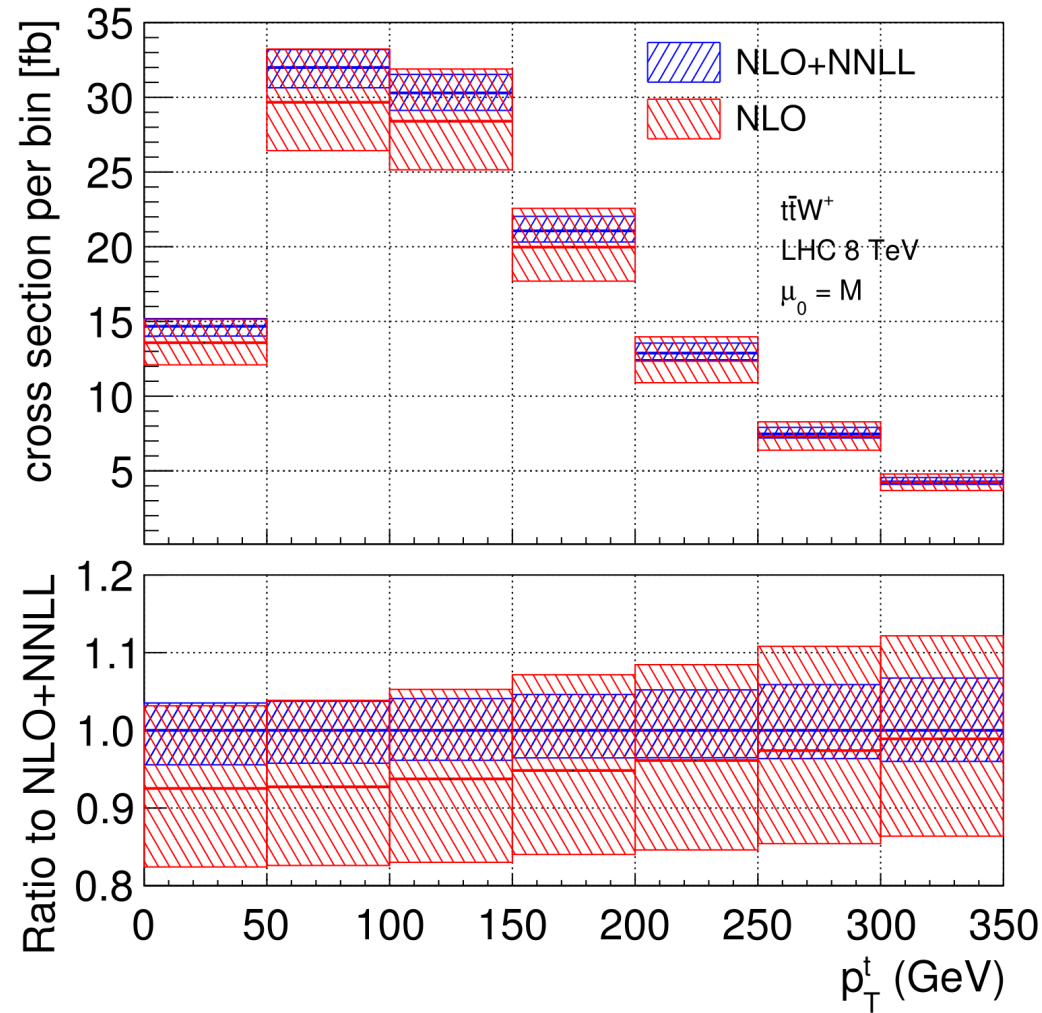
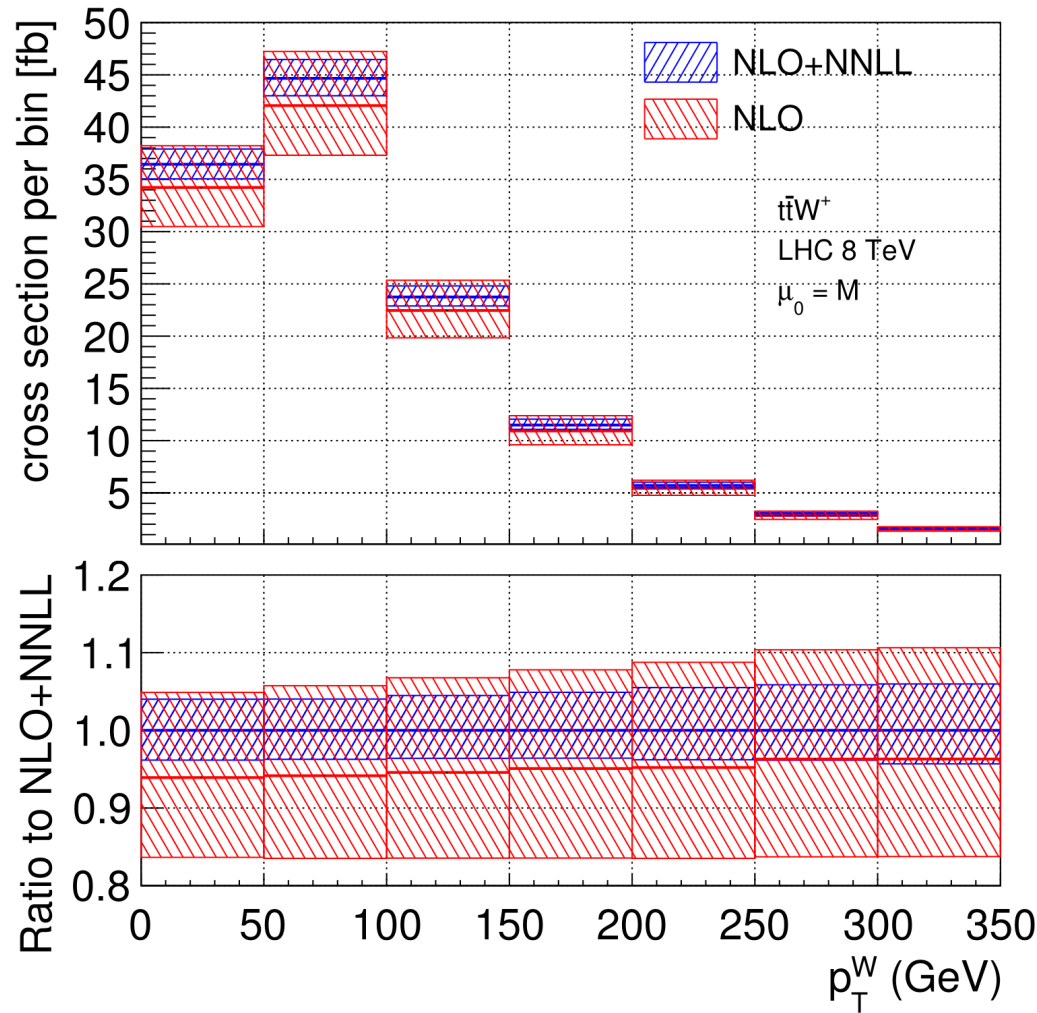
Approx NLO has the same shape as the NLO if one excludes the quark gluon channel contribution from the NLO

# tTW distributions at NLO+NNLL



NLO+NNLL distributions overlap with the upper part of the NLO bands.  
The NLO+NNLL bands are narrower than the NLO bands

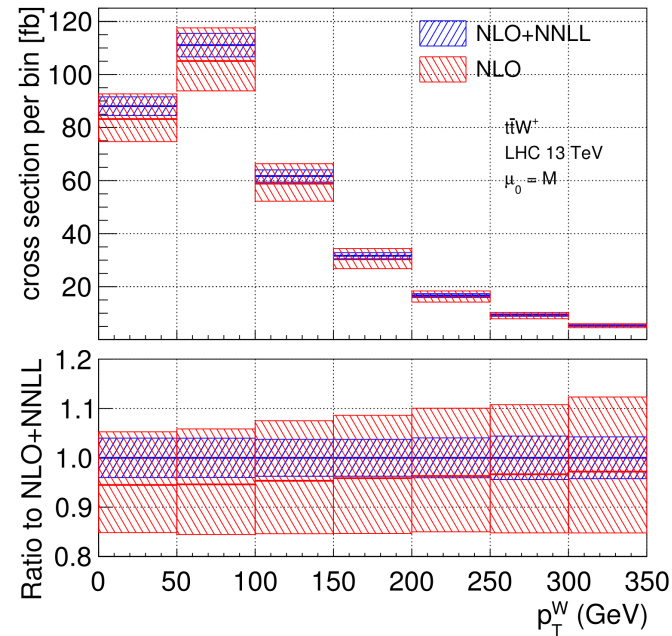
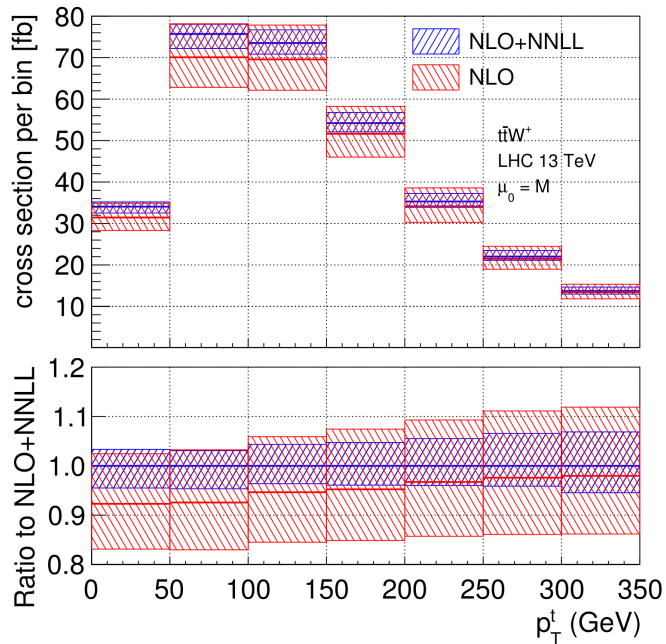
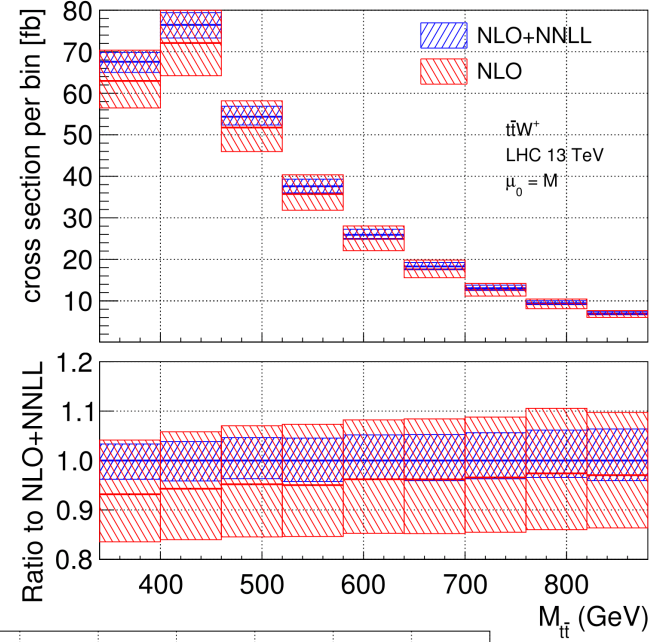
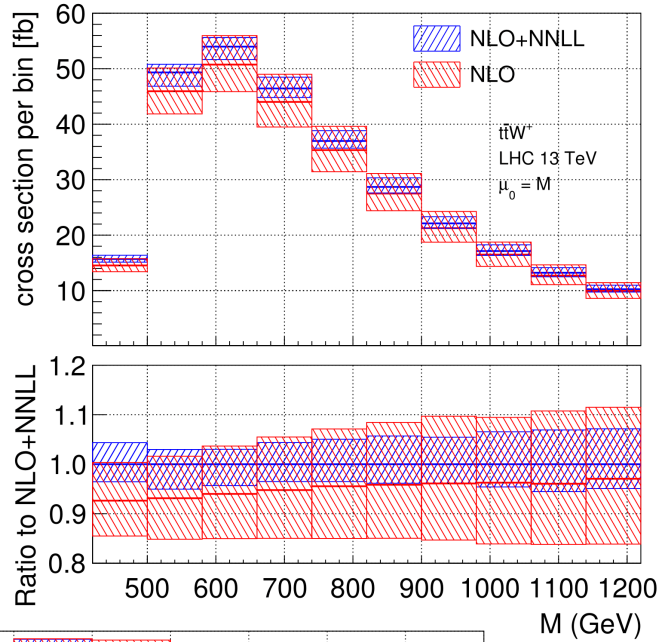
# tTW distributions at NLO+NNLL



NLO+NNLL distributions overlap with the upper part of the NLO bands.

The NLO+NNLL bands are narrower than the NLO bands

# $t\bar{t}W^+$ @ 13 TeV: NLO+NNLL

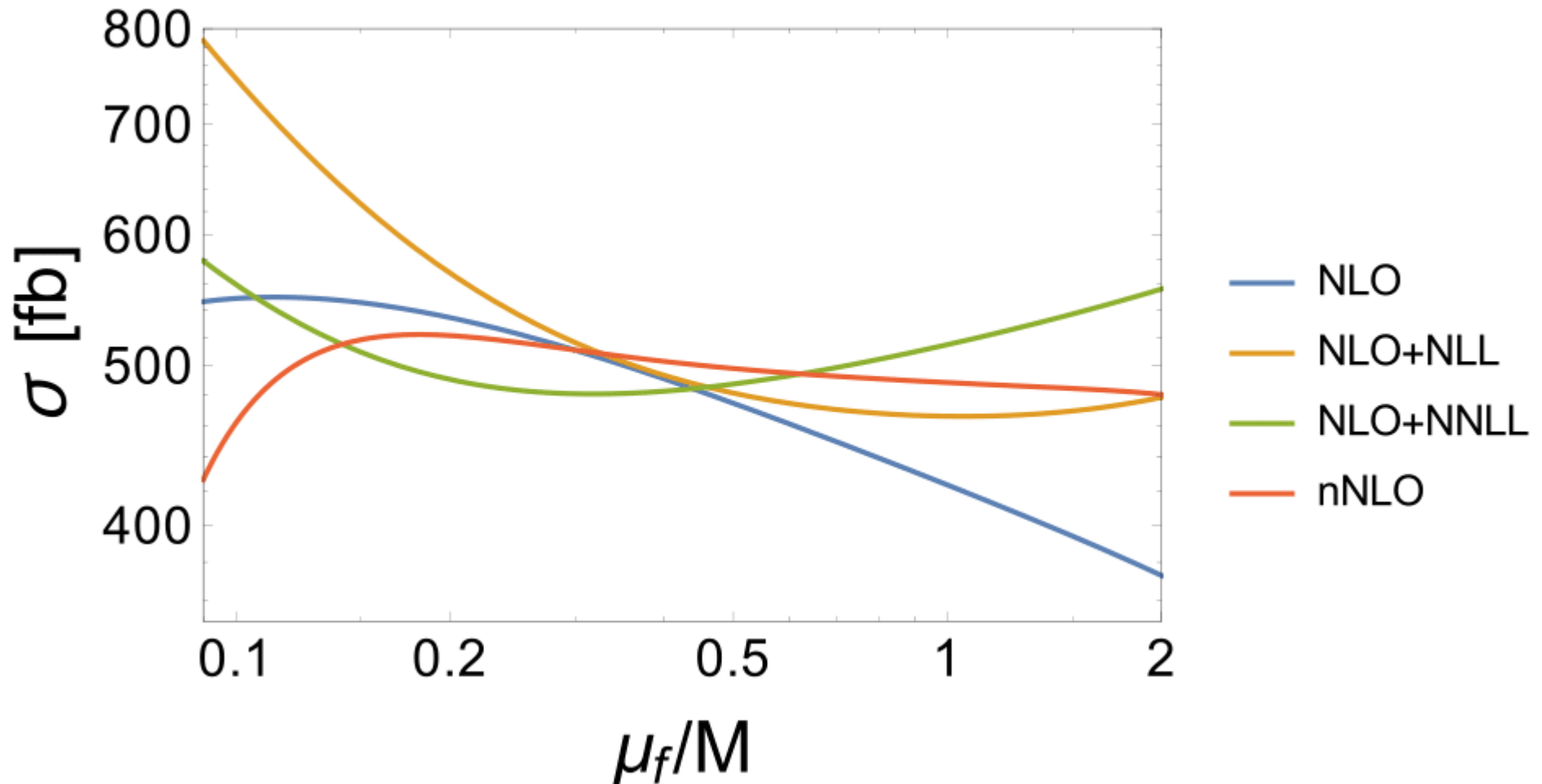


# **Top Pair + Higgs boson to NLO + NNLL accuracy**

(Two channels, longer running times)



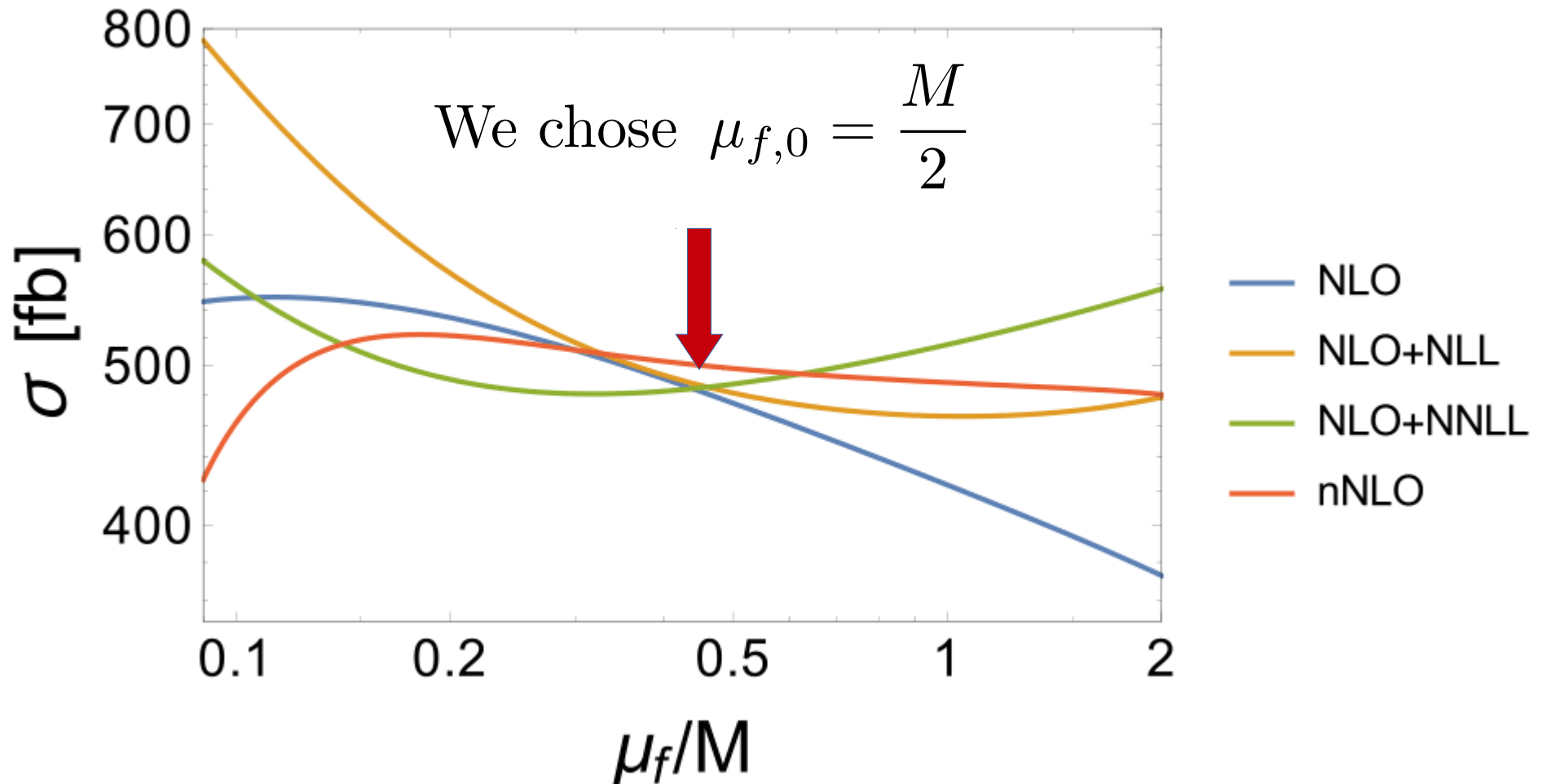
# tTH production scale dependence



The factorization scale should be chosen such in such a way that logarithms of the ratio  $\mu_f/M$  are not large. Since we are working in the partonic threshold limit it is natural to choose a dynamical value for the factorization scale which is correlated with  $M$



# tTH production scale dependence



The factorization scale should be chosen such in such a way that logarithms of the ratio  $\mu_f/M$  are not large. Since we are working in the partonic threshold limit it is natural to choose a dynamical value for the factorization scale which is correlated with  $M$

# Total cross section @ 13 TeV

order	PDF order	code	$\sigma$ [fb]
app. NLO	NLO	MC	$473.3^{+0.0}_{-28.6}$
NLO no $qg$	NLO	MG5_aMC	$482.1^{+10.9}_{-35.1}$
NLO	NLO	MG5_aMC	$474.8^{+47.2}_{-51.9}$

$t\bar{t}H$  boson production  $\mu_f = M/2$

MMHT 2014 PDFs

App. NLO results include only the leading-power contributions from the gluon fusion and quark-annihilation channels in the soft limit

App NLO vs NLO no  $qg$  gives a measure of the power corrections away from the soft limit

Large contribution of the  $qg$  channel to the scale uncertainty.



# Total cross section @ 13 TeV

order	PDF order	code	$\sigma$ [fb]
app. NLO	NLO	MC	$473.3^{+0.0}_{-28.6}$
NLO no $qg$	NLO	MG5_aMC	$482.1^{+10.9}_{-35.1}$
NLO	NLO	MG5_aMC	$474.8^{+47.2}_{-51.9}$

$t\bar{t}H$  boson production  $\mu_f = M/2$

MMHT 2014 PDFs

The fact that the leading terms in the soft limit make up the bulk of the NLO correction provides a strong motivation to resum these leading terms to all orders.

No information is lost by doing this, as both sources of power corrections are taken into account by matching with NLO as discussed above

# Total cross section @ 13 TeV

order	PDF order	code	$\sigma$ [fb]
LO	LO	MG5_aMC	$378.7^{+120.5}_{-85.2}$
NLO	NLO	MG5_aMC	$474.8^{+47.2}_{-51.9}$
NLO+NLL	NLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$480.1^{+57.7}_{-15.7}$
NLO+NNLL	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$486.4^{+29.9}_{-24.5}$

$t\bar{t}H$  boson production  $\mu_f = M/2$

The scale uncertainties get progressively smaller when moving from NLO to NLO+NLL to NLO+NNLL, and the higher-order results are roughly within the range predicted by the uncertainty bands of the lower-order ones.

# Total cross section @ 13 TeV

order	PDF order	code	$\sigma$ [fb]
LO	LO	MG5_aMC	$378.7^{+120.5}_{-85.2}$
NLO	NLO	MG5_aMC	$474.8^{+47.2}_{-51.9}$
NLO+NLL	NLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$480.1^{+57.7}_{-15.7}$
NLO+NNLL	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$486.4^{+29.9}_{-24.5}$

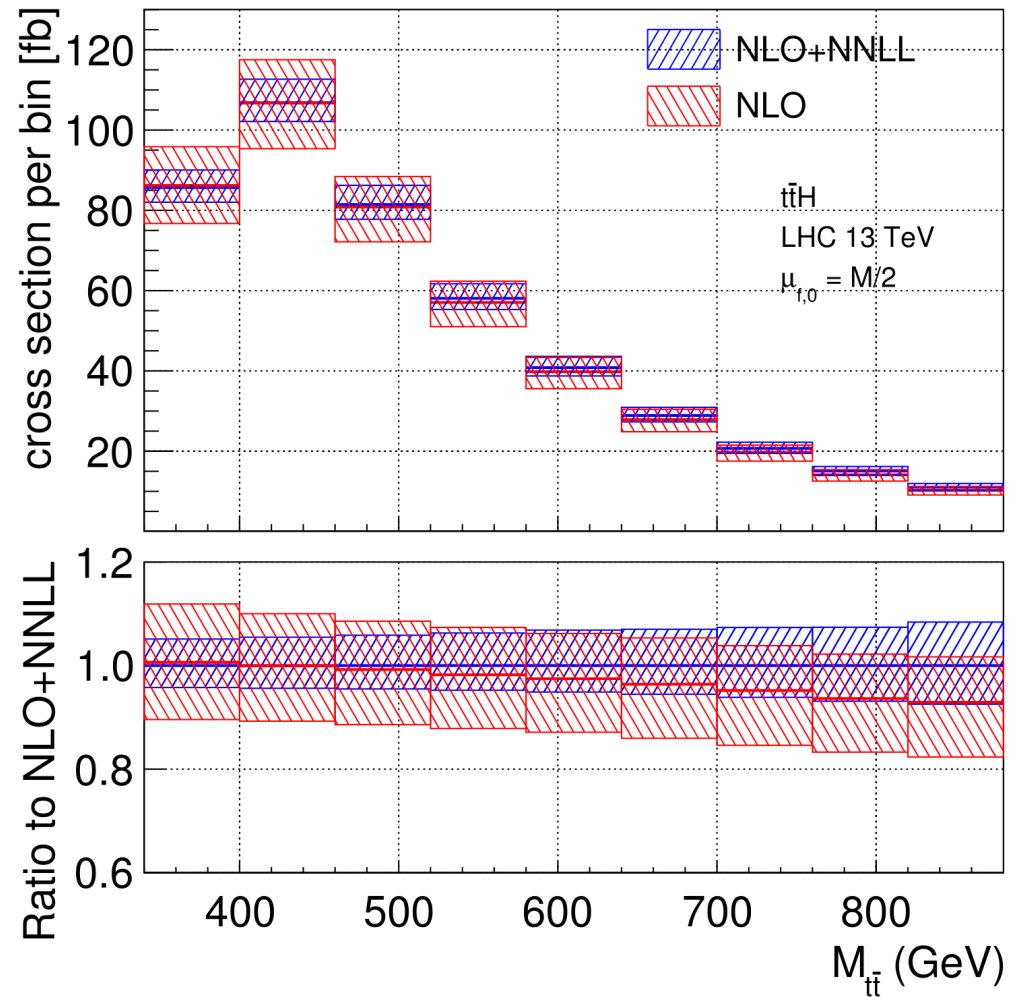
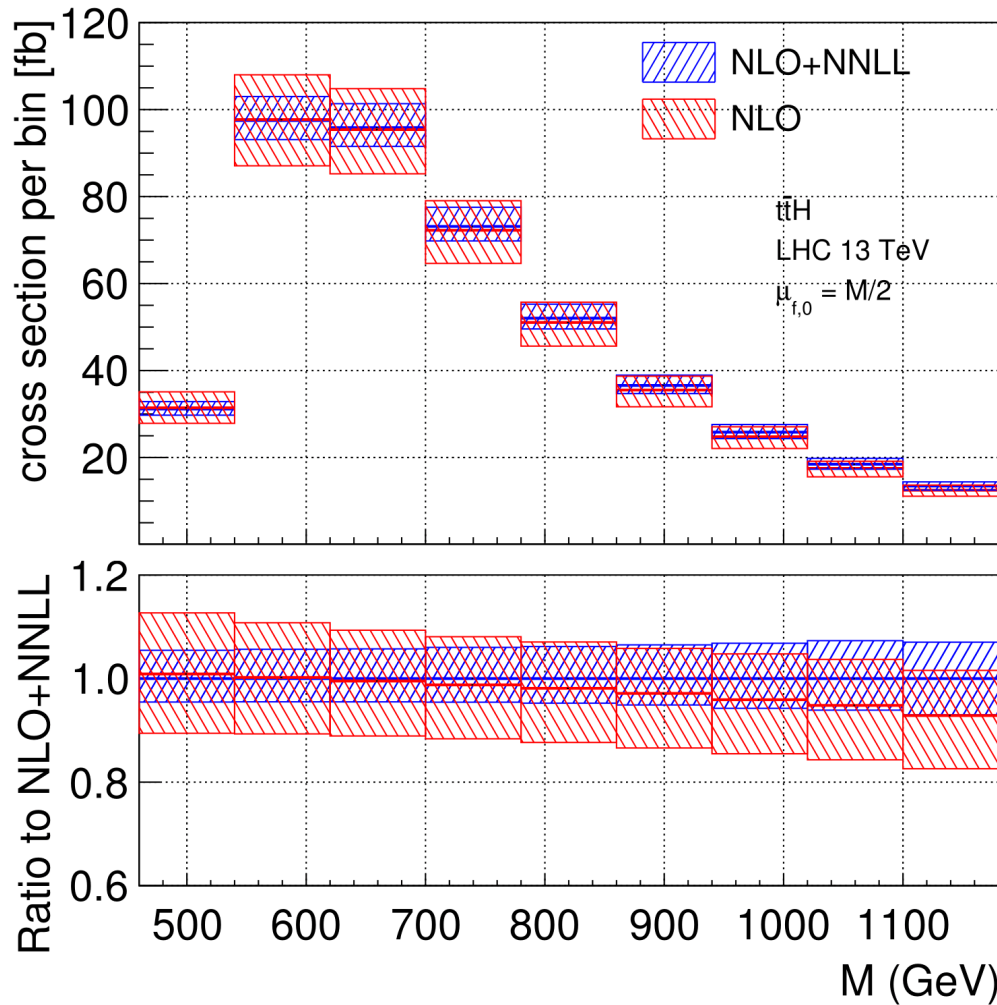
$t\bar{t}H$  boson production

ATLAS measured value

$$\sigma = 590^{+160}_{-150} \text{ fb}$$

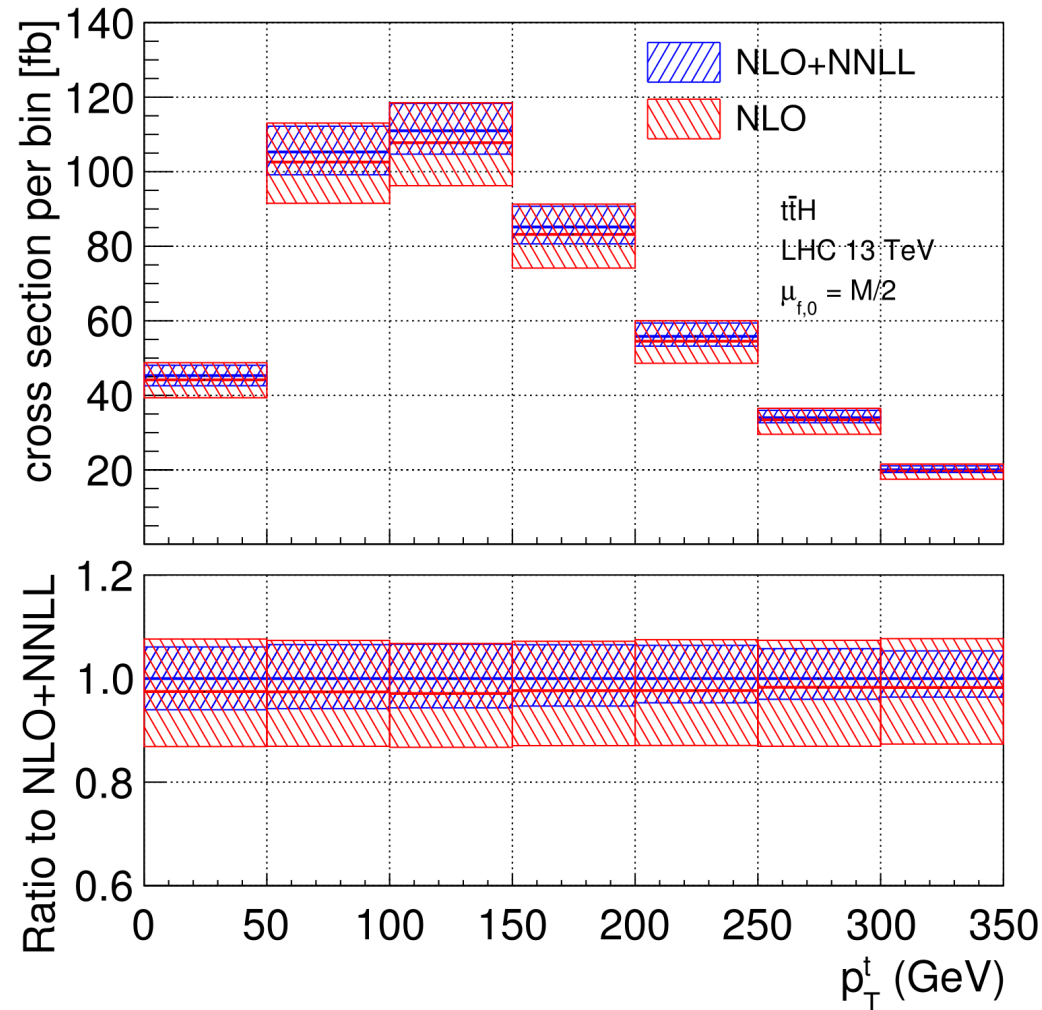
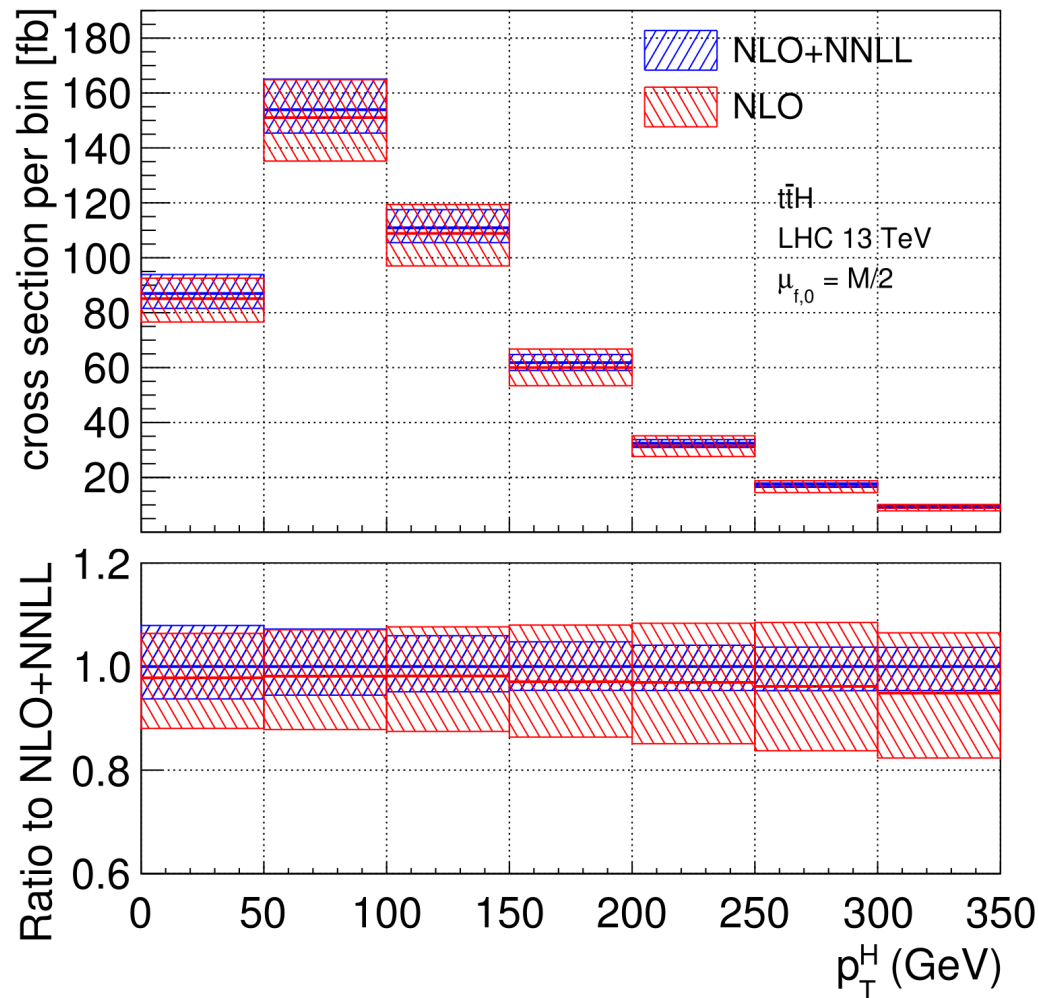
The scale uncertainties get smaller when moving from NLO to NNLO, and the higher-order results are roughly within the range predicted by the uncertainty bands of the lower-order ones.

# tTH distributions at NLO+NNLL



NLO+NNLL distributions overlap with the upper part of the NLO bands.  
The NLO+NNLL bands are narrower than the NLO bands

# tTH distributions at NLO+NNLL



NLO+NNLL distributions overlap with the upper part of the NLO bands.  
The NLO+NNLL bands are narrower than the NLO bands

**Top Pair + Z boson to  
NLO + NNLL accuracy**

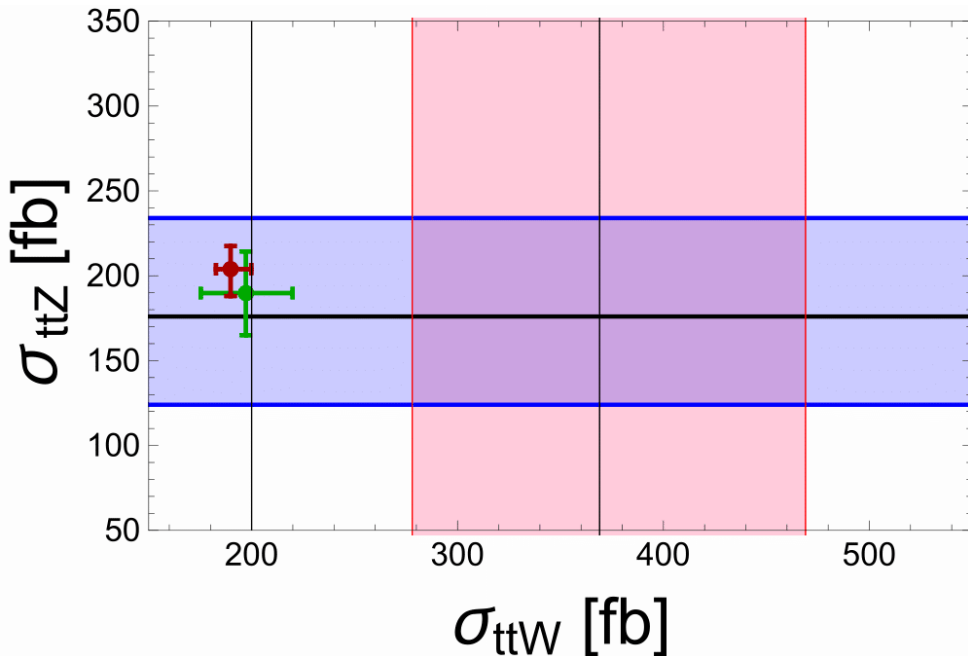
# Total cross section @ 13 TeV

order	PDF order	code	$\sigma$ [fb]
LO	LO	MG5_aMC	$521.4^{+165.4}_{-116.9}$
app. NLO	NLO	MC	$737.7^{+38.5}_{-64.5}$
NLO no $qg$	NLO	MG5_aMC	$730.5^{+41.2}_{-65.0}$
NLO	NLO	MG5_aMC	$728.3^{+93.8}_{-90.3}$
NLO+NLL	NLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$742.0^{+90.1}_{-30.3}$
NLO+NNLL	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$777.8^{+61.3}_{-65.2}$
nNLO (Mellin)	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$798.4^{+36.4}_{-23.3}$
$(\text{NLO}+\text{NNLL})_{\text{exp.}}$	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$766.2^{+17.2}_{-50.1}$

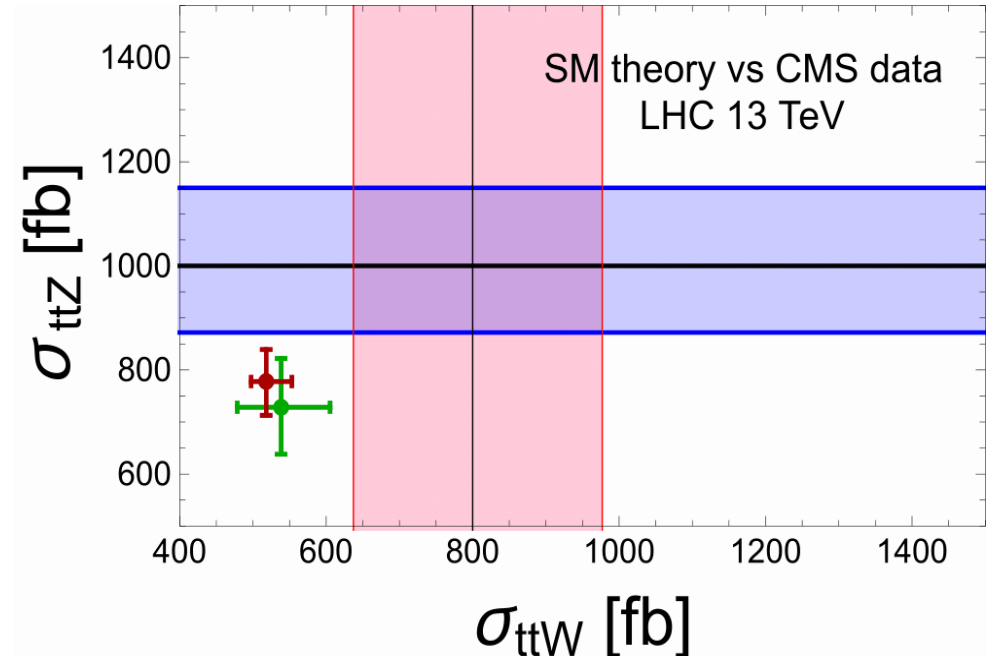
$t\bar{t}Z$  production  $\mu_f = M/2$

# tTZ/tTW cross section vs data

8 TeV - ATLAS data  
arXiv:1509.05276



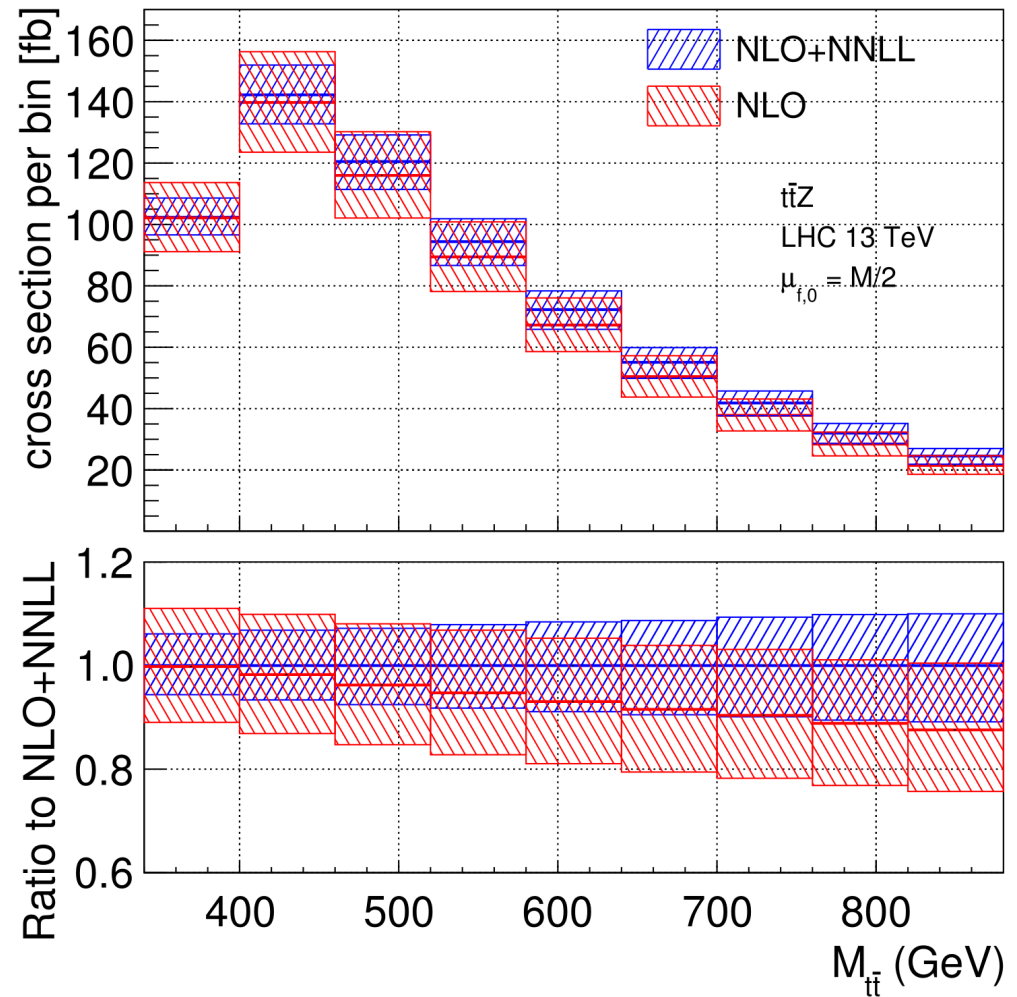
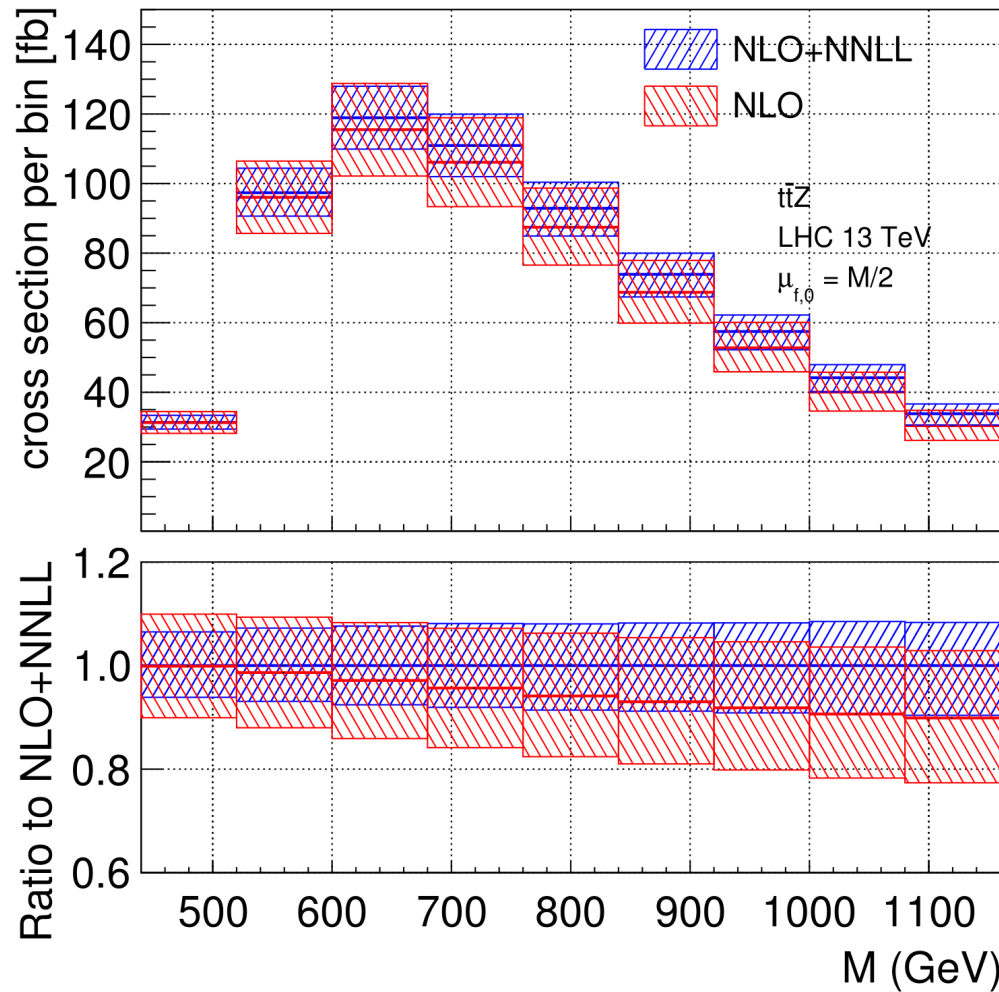
13 TeV - CMS data  
CMS PAS TOP 17 05



Total cross section at **NLO** (green cross) and **NLO+NNLL** (red cross) compared to the ATLAS measurement (8 TeV) and CMS measurement (13 TeV). The crosses reflect only the **scale uncertainty**, not the **PDF uncertainty**

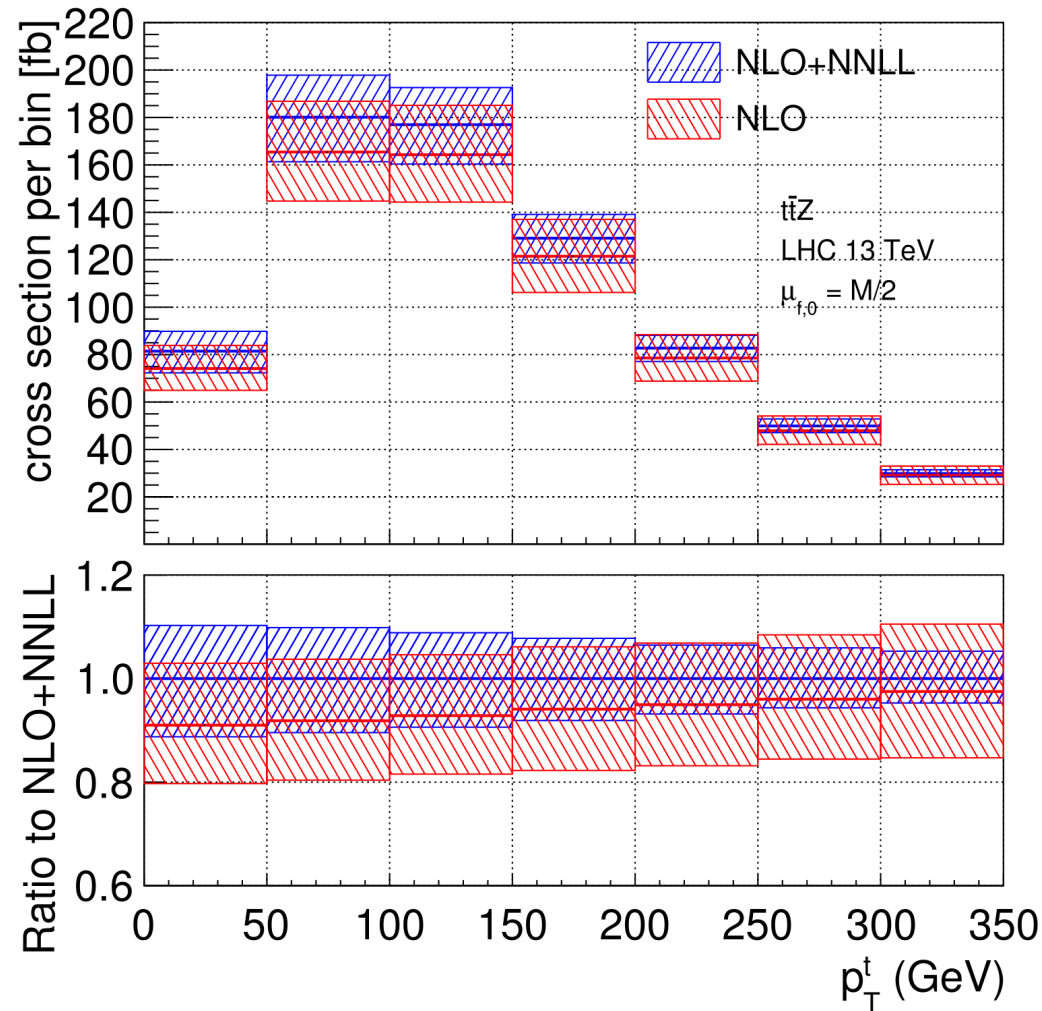
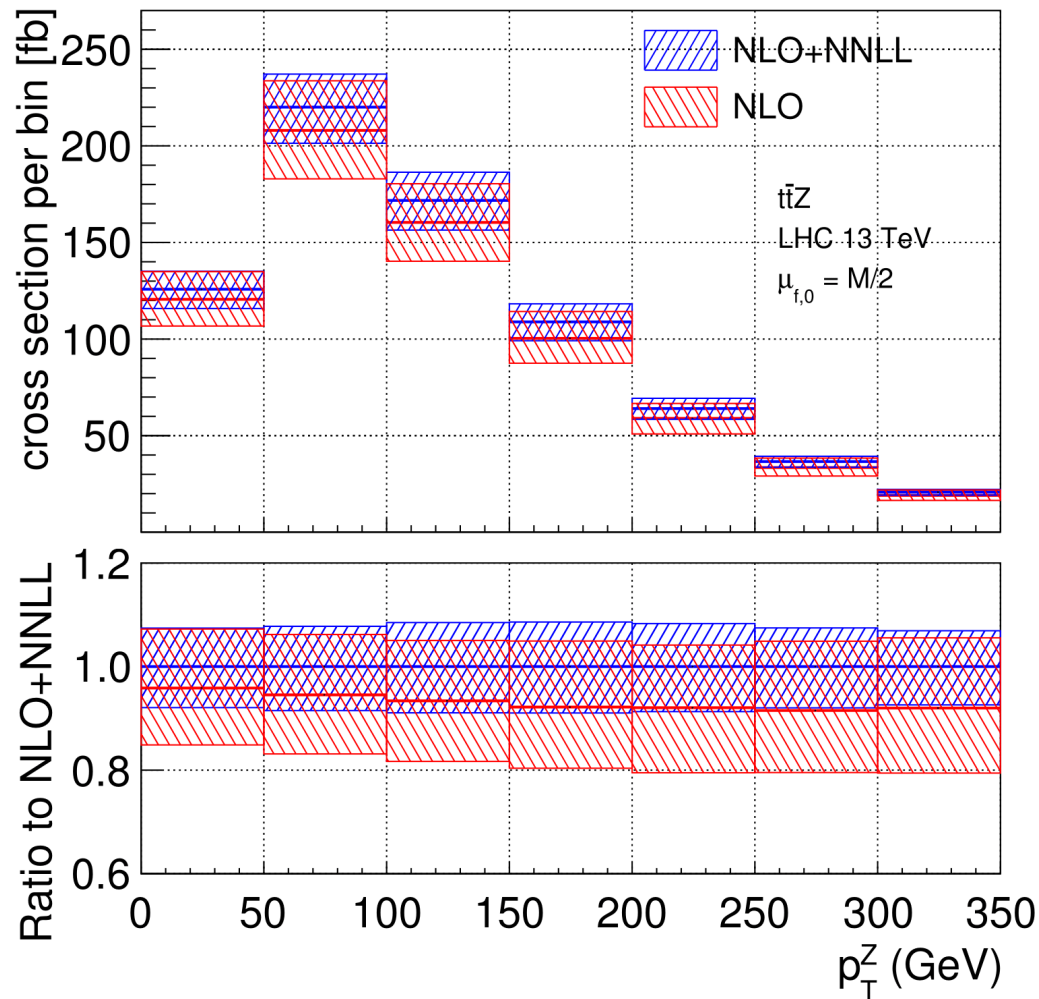


# tTZ distributions at NLO+NNLL



NLO+NNLL distributions overlap with the upper part of the NLO bands.  
The NLO+NNLL bands are narrower than the NLO bands

# tTZ distributions at NLO+NNLL



NLO+NNLL distributions overlap with the upper part of the NLO bands.

The NLO+NNLL bands are narrower than the NLO bands

# Conclusions and Outlook

- We implemented a method to study partonic threshold corrections to top pair + H/W/Z boson production
- **NLO+NNLL** results are available for **top pair + W** production (total cross section + diff. distributions)
- **NLO+NNLL** results are available for **top pair + H** production (total cross section + diff. Distributions)
- **NLO+NNLL** results are available for **top pair + Z** production (total cross section + diff. Distributions)
- We evaluated top pair + H to NLO+NLL allowing for a pseudoscalar ttH coupling (with A. Broggio, M. Fiolhais and A. Onofre)

# Conclusions and Outlook

- We implemented a method to study partonic threshold corrections to top pair + H/W/Z boson production
- **NLO+NNLL** results are available for **top pair + W** production (total cross section + diff. distributions)
- **NLO+NNLL** results are available for **top pair + H** production (total cross section + diff. Distributions)
- **NLO+NNLL** results are available for **top pair + Z** production (total cross section + diff. Distributions)
- We evaluate the impact of these corrections on the top quark mass determination for a pseudoscalar Higgs boson (in collaboration with Fiolhais, Frederix, Pagani, Tsinikos, Zaro, ...)

In the process of combining NLO+NNLL resummation with NLO electroweak corrections (in collaboration with R. Frederix, D. Pagani, I. Tsinikos, M. Zaro, ...)

**Back up material**

# Channels

$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}W^+ \rightarrow bW^+\bar{b}W^-W^+ \rightarrow l^+l^+ + \text{jets}$$

$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}W^+ \rightarrow bW^+\bar{b}W^-W^+ \rightarrow l^+l^+l^- + \text{jets}$$

$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}Z \rightarrow bW^+\bar{b}W^-Z \rightarrow l^\pm l^\pm l^\mp + \text{jets}$$

$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}Z \rightarrow bW^+\bar{b}W^-Z \rightarrow l^+l^+l^-l^- + \text{jets}$$

$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H \rightarrow 1 - 2l, H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$$

$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H \rightarrow 1 - 2l, H \rightarrow WW^*, \tau\tau, ZZ^*$$

$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H \rightarrow 0 - 2l, H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H \rightarrow 0 - 2l, H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4l$$

# Resummation

From a lecture by [E. Laenen](#)

(“Direct QCD” approach)

Resummation = (re-)arrangement of large logarithms in perturbative expansion

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{O} &= \underbrace{1 + \alpha_s(L^2 + L + 1)}_{\text{NLO}} + \underbrace{\alpha_s^2(L^4 + L^3 + L^2 + L + 1)}_{\text{NNLO}} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3) \\
 &= \exp\left(\underbrace{Lg_1(\alpha_s L)}_{\text{LL}} + g_2(\alpha_s L) + \alpha_s g_3(\alpha_s L) + \dots\right) \underbrace{C(\alpha_s)}_{\text{constants}} \\
 &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{NLL}}
 \end{aligned}$$

+ suppressed terms

$$Lg_1 \longrightarrow \alpha_s^n L^{n+1}, \quad g_2 \longrightarrow \alpha_s^n L^n, \quad \alpha_s g_3 \longrightarrow \alpha_s^{n+1} L^n$$

Resummation reduces the theoretical uncertainty on a given observable





# Snippets from the modified code

```
          GoSam
    An Automated One-Loop
  Matrix Element Generator
  Version 2.0.1 Rev: 735
```

(code modified with the help of N. Greiner and G. Ossola)

The IR poles of the HF can be subtracted by using the Becher-Neubert formula for the IR poles in QCD amplitudes

$$\mathbf{H}^{(1)} = \mathbf{H}^{(1)}\text{IR} - \left( \mathbf{Z}^{(1)}\mathbf{H}^{(0)} - \mathbf{H}^{(0)}\mathbf{Z}^{(1)\dagger} \right)$$

The calculation of the hard function was also implemented by modifying MadLoop. The GoSam and MadLoop implementations are in agreement.

GoSam takes about 100ms to calculate the HF in a phase space point

```
Print One Loop Hard Function:
( 1.47722546001149960E-018, 3.38813178901720136E-021) (-2.30893830985351466E-004, 1.47222854029592970E-004)
(-2.30893830985351466E-004, -1.47222854029592970E-004) (-2.48684513613481870E-004, 0.0000000000000000 )
```

# Total cross section @ 8 TeV

order	PDFs order	code	$\sigma$ [fb]
LO	LO	MG5_aMC	$82.0^{+21.2}_{-15.7}$
NLO	NLO	MG5_aMC	$121.6^{+15.2}_{-14.0}$
NLO no $qg$	NLO	MG5_aMC	$118.1^{+10.3}_{-11.3}$
app. NLO	NLO	MC	$116.0^{+10.3}_{-11.6}$
nNLO (momentum)	NNLO	MC + MG5_aMC	$127.7^{+9.2}_{-7.4}$
nNLO (Mellin)	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$127.6^{+9.2}_{-7.4}$
NLO+NLL	NLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$124.8^{+13.1}_{-8.0}$
$(\text{NLO}+\text{NNLL})_{\text{NNLO exp.}}$	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$126.7^{+5.0}_{-6.5}$
NLO+NNLL	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$128.7^{+5.5}_{-4.7}$

$W^+$  production

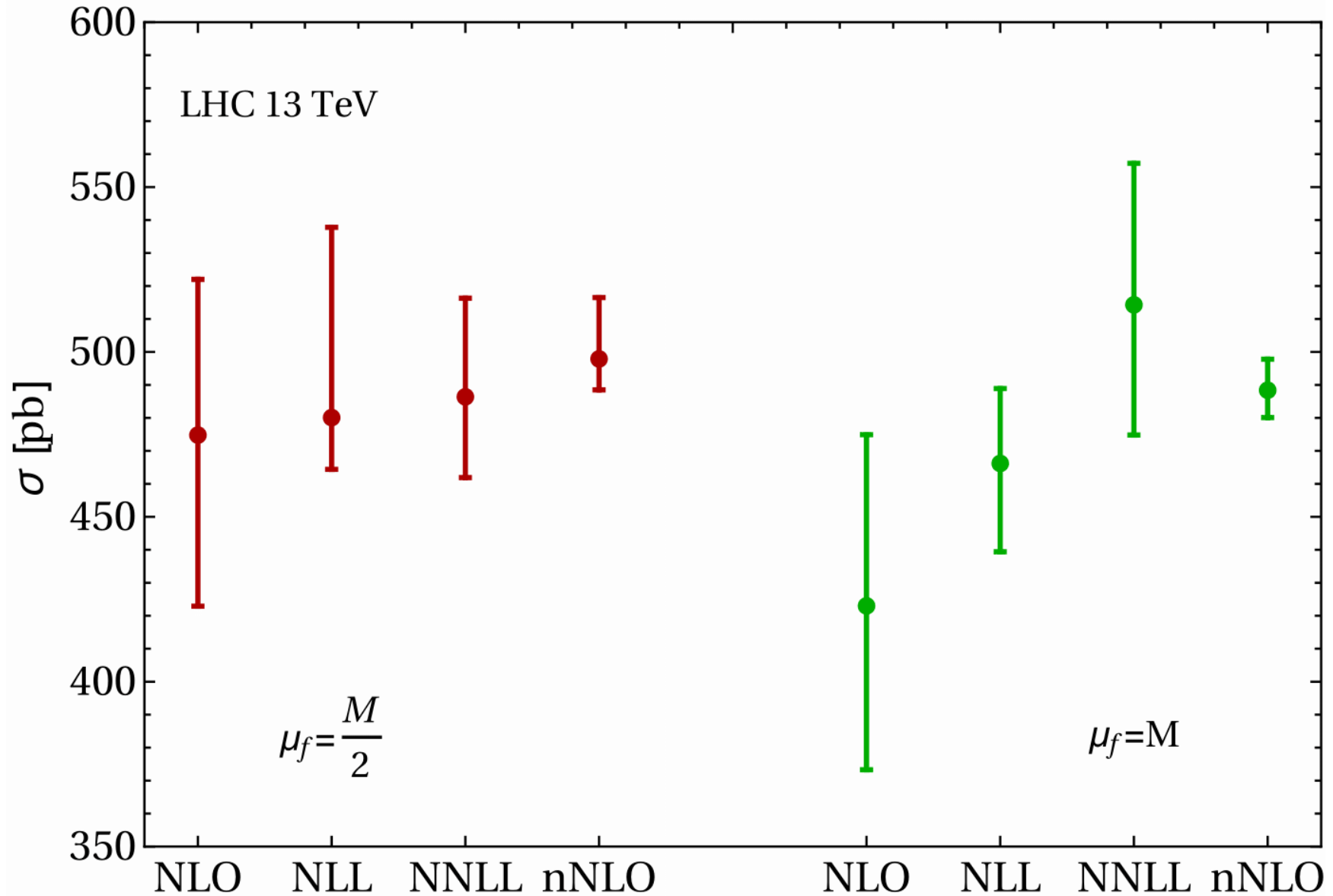
MMHT 2014 PDFs here and  
in the following

# Total cross section @ 13 TeV

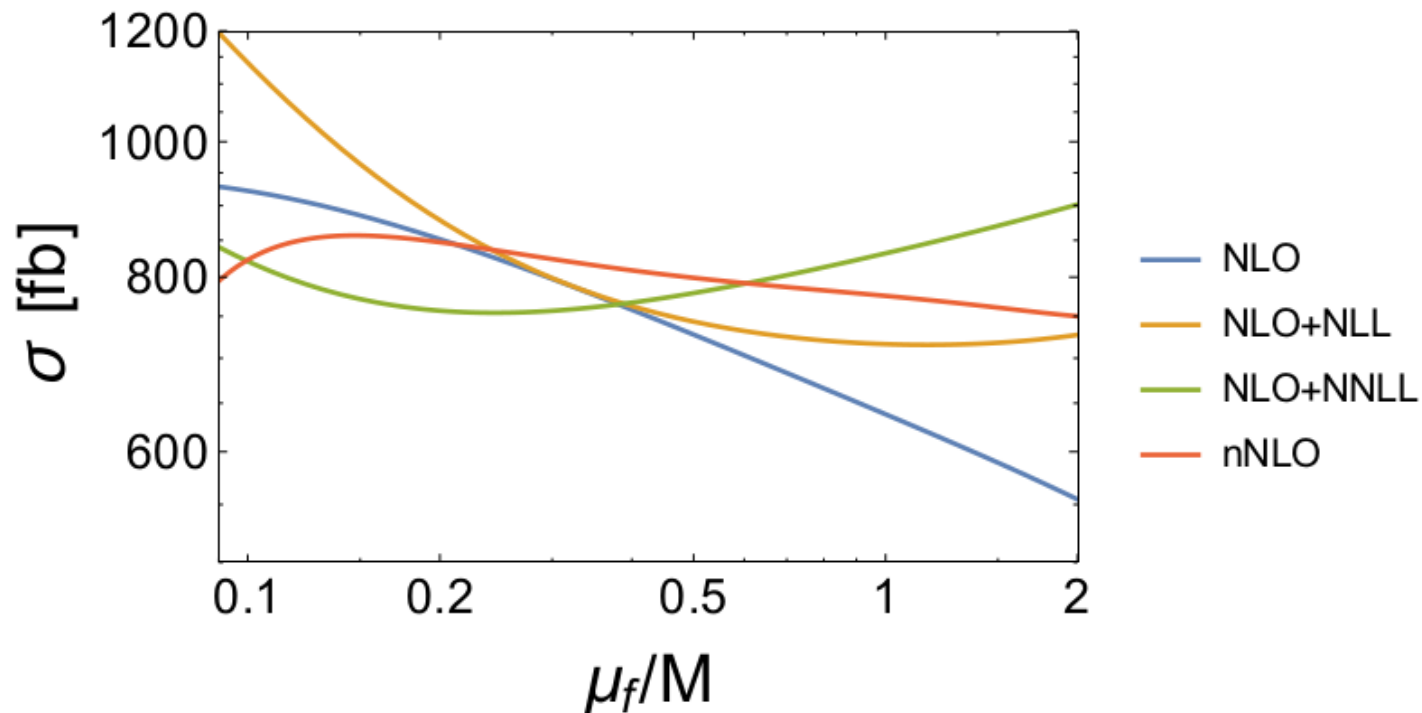
order	PDF order	code	$\sigma$ [fb]
LO	LO	MG5_aMC	$378.7^{+120.5}_{-85.2}$
app. NLO	NLO	MC	$473.3^{+0.0}_{-28.6}$
NLO no $qg$	NLO	MG5_aMC	$482.1^{+10.9}_{-35.1}$
NLO	NLO	MG5_aMC	$474.8^{+47.2}_{-51.9}$
NLO+NLL	NLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$480.1^{+57.7}_{-15.7}$
NLO+NNLL	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$486.4^{+29.9}_{-24.5}$
nNLO (Mellin)	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$497.9^{+18.5}_{-9.4}$
$(\text{NLO}+\text{NNLL})_{\text{exp.}}$	NNLO	MC +MG5_aMC	$482.7^{+10.7}_{-21.1}$

$t\bar{t}H$  boson production  $\mu_f = M/2$

# Comparison among predictions at different factorization scales

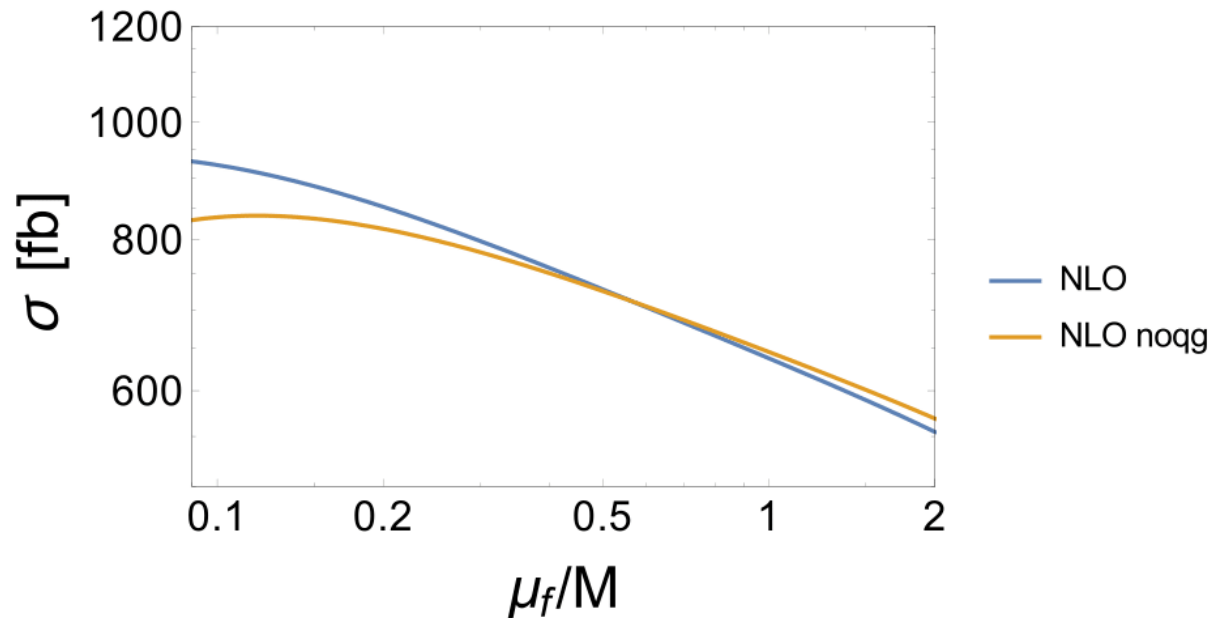


# Top pair + Z scale choice

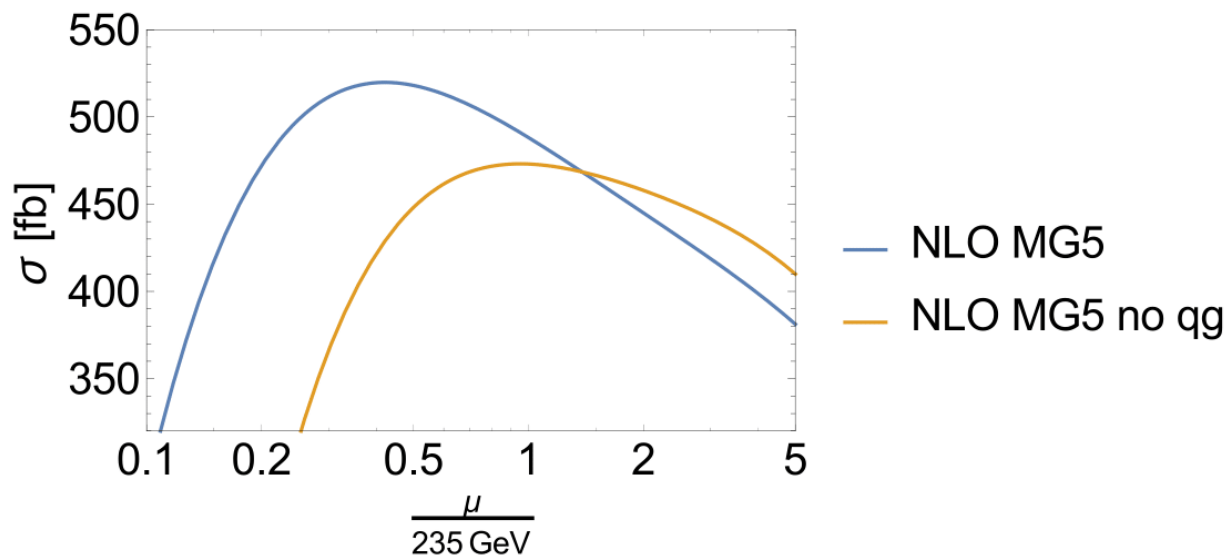


**Figure 1.** Factorization-scale dependence of the total  $t\bar{t}Z$  production cross section at the LHC with  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV. The NLO and NLO+NLL curves are obtained using MMHT 2014 NLO PDFs, while the NLO+NNLL and nNLO curves are obtained using MMHT 2014 NNLO PDFs.

# NLO vs NLO no qg



$ttZ$   
dynamic  
scale



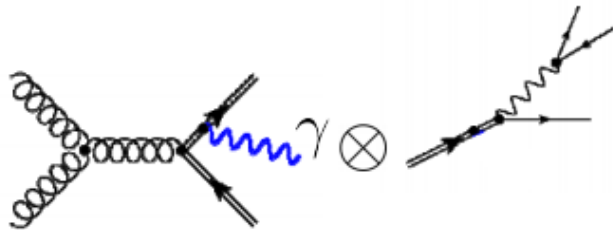
$ttH$   
fixed  
scale

# Top pair + photon

Associated production:  $t\bar{t} + \gamma$

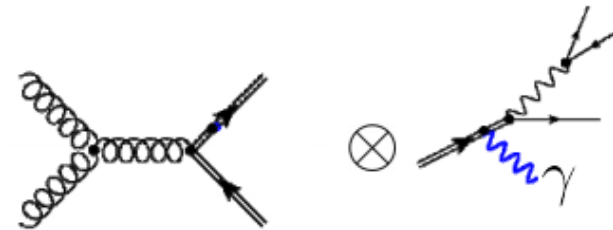
From M.Schulze  
slides, TOP 2017

- Feature:  $t\bar{t} + \gamma$  introduces additional *radiative decays*



A)  $\gamma$  emission *before* top goes on-shell

+



B)  $\gamma$  emission *after* top goes on-shell

- More than half of the total cross section from contribution B)

$$p_T^\gamma \geq 30 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{prod}}^{\text{NLO}} = 61 \text{ fb}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{decay}}^{\text{NLO}} = 77 \text{ fb}$$

---

$$\sigma_{\text{total}}^{\text{NLO}} = 138 \text{ fb}$$

# Minimal Prescription

## Minimal prescription

From M. Bonvini  
slides, 2009

Proposed by S. Catani, M. Mangano, P. Nason, L. Trentadue:

$$\sigma^{\text{MP}}(x, Q^2) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} dN x^{-N} \mathcal{L}(N, Q^2) \hat{\sigma}^{\text{res}}(N, \alpha_s(Q^2))$$

with  $c < N_L$ , as in the figure.

Good properties:

- well defined for all  $x$
- exact for invertible functions
- asymptotic to the original divergent series

But...

- a non-physical region of the parton cross-section contributes
- problems in numerical implementation

