

# MEASUREMENT OF QUANTUM INFORMATION INSPIRED OBSERVABLES AT COLLIDERS

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CMS

# QUANTUM INFORMATION PRINCIPLES IN HEP



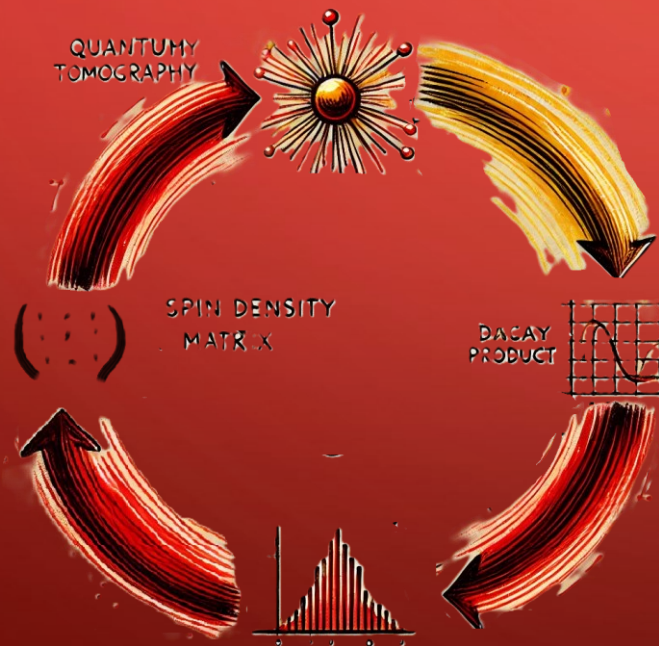
- Quantum field theory is the foundation of the SM
  - **But** till recently no dedicated observables to test the quantum behaviour of the particles measured at colliders
- Several quantities, defined in the context of quantum information, can be studied also at LHC
  - **entanglement**, Bell's inequality violation, steering, discord, magic
- We need to perform this study with respect to a quantum property of a particle:
  - **Spin** is the most common at ATLAS, CMS
  - Flavour is being investigate at Belle-II
- This field is currently growing very fast mixing together experimental particle physics, phenomenology and quantum information expert:
  - Which final state/process?
  - How to actually perform the measurement?
  - What is the correct interpretation?
  - Which variable to measure?
  - How to exploit this field to increase our knowledge in particle physics
  - How to exploit this field to increase our knowledge in quantum information



# HOW TO PERFORM THE MEASUREMENTS?

- Consider the spin of the particles as the representation of a qudit
- Unfortunately, we can not directly measure the spin of the particles produced in each collision at LHC
- What we do well is measure lepton and jet direction and energy/momentum

## QUANTUM TOMOGRAPHY!!



- Exploit the connection between parent particle spin and decay particle direction
  - Due to characteristic of weak interaction
- Measuring the decay product direction we can reconstruct the **spin density matrix**
  - Averaging on all events
- The directions are usually measured in the center of mass frame
- The relation between the parent spin and direction is proportional to the spin analysing power



# LIMITATIONS OF THESE MEASUREMENTS

## Experimental

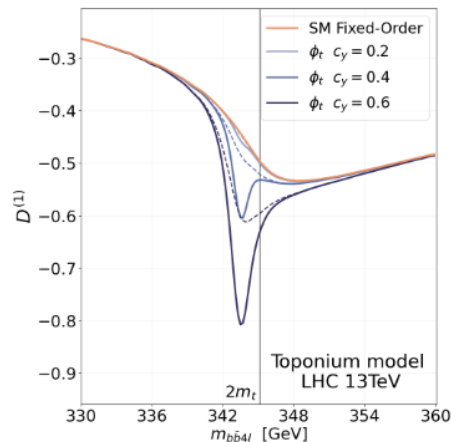
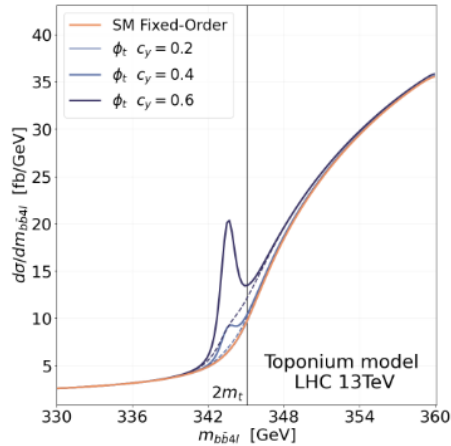
- The directions of the decay products needs to be measured in the parent particle rest frame
  - The whole final state needs to be reconstructed, highly challenging in presence of multiple neutrinos (not reconstructed by ATLAS/CMS)
  - All aspect of the detector and the showering and hadronization enter in the final observable
- Not all decay product have the same spin analysing power
  - Depend on the process and particle flavour
  - Difficult to assign the correct spin analysing power to the jets
- The **entanglement** can be in limited regions of the phase space
  - Even for processes with high cross section the statistic may be an issue

## Theoretical

- What is the impact of higher orders on the prediction of these kind of observables
- Understanding the limitation of tomography approach: the assumptions, the reference frame used



# RELEVANCE OF THESE MEASUREMENTS



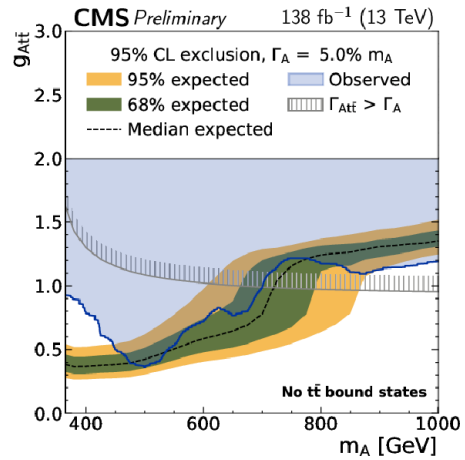
[JHEP09\(2024\)001](#)

- These measurements probe some aspect of the particle interaction still not tested
  - Spin correlations were measured before but the entanglement
- These are new observables sensitive to new physics effects
  - Direct searches
  - Indirect searches
- They also provide a new direction to test beyond quantum mechanics
  - There are few theories that goes beyond QM, not only beyond SM, and these observable may be a way to test them (at the highest possible energy)
- There is a strong interplay with QI and quantum computing: special framework to study
  - Decoherence
  - Impact of interaction and decay on quantum correlations

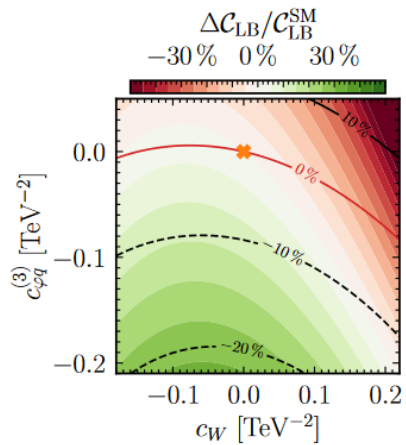
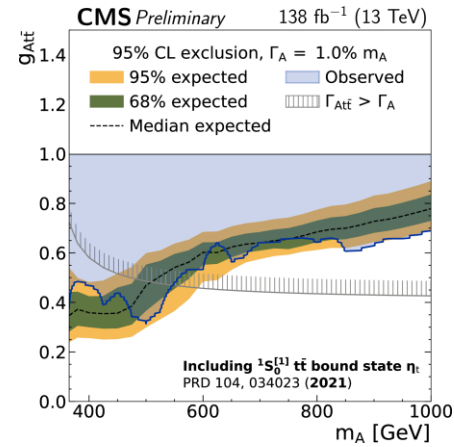


# INTERACTION WITH NEW PHYSICS

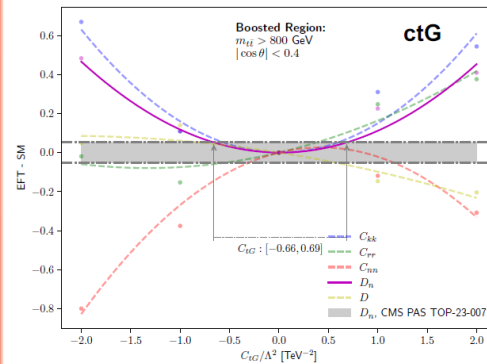
- A new particle or bound state changes the entanglement between particles
  - The entanglement provide a new direction to investigate
  - Combined with mass can provide very good sensitivity to processes otherwise impossible to observe
  - Very large hint of toponium presence
- For indirect searches can be used to put limits to the coefficients of the new operators
  - Can disentangle two operators that have very similar effects on cross section



HIG-22-013



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Belén D. González  
Erasmus internship



# ACTIVITIES IN BOLOGNA

## People

- ATLAS group: F. Fabbri, M. Sioli, M. Romano, N. Forti
- Pheno group: F. Maltoni, M. Sioli, O. Miniati, D. Pagani, P. Lamba, M. Del Gratta (student)

## Active grant:

- MSCA QUANTUMLHC “Exploring quantum observables at the LHC”
- Bando a cascata: “Exploring the foundations of quantum information in particle physics”
- Section of other grant to explore the connection with new physics searches

## Activities:

- Quantum correlation between the top-quarks in ATLAS
- Quantum correlations between bosons originated from Higgs decay at LHC
- Quantum correlation in diboson final states at LHC

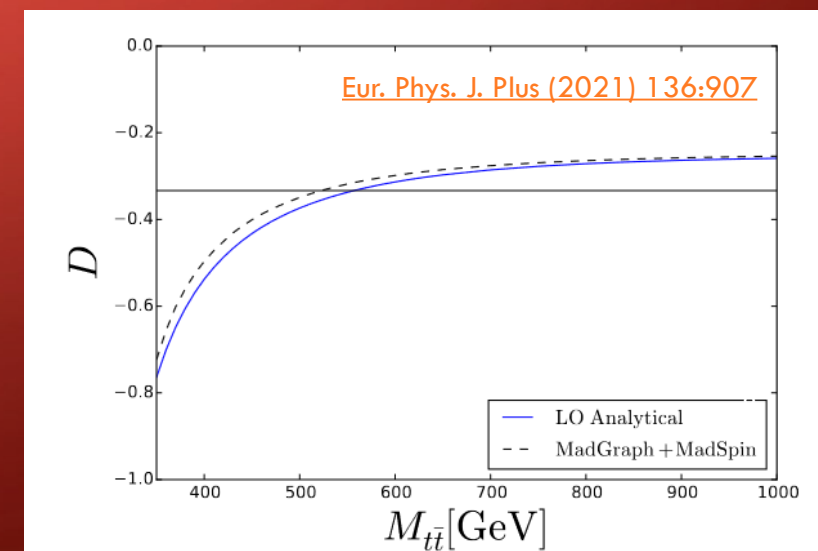
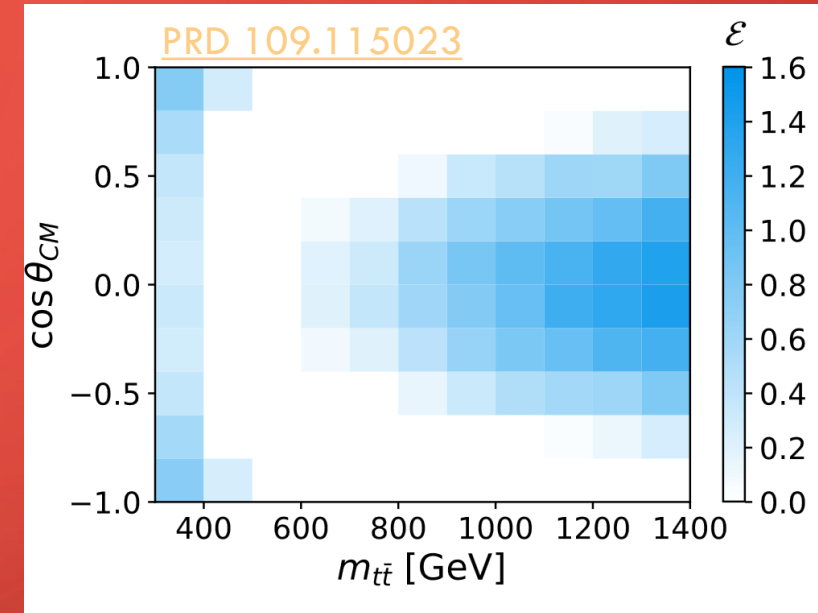


# ENTANGLEMENT IN TOP PAIR FINAL STATES

- The top-quarks are interpreted as qubit:

$$\rho = \frac{1}{4} [\mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1} + B_i \sigma_i \otimes \mathbf{1} + \bar{B}_i \mathbf{1} \otimes \sigma_i + C_{ij} \sigma_i \otimes \sigma_j]$$

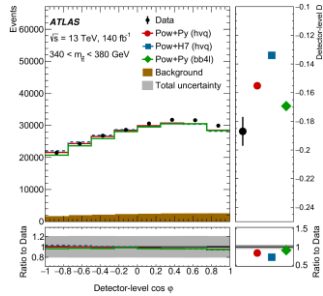
- The entanglement can be extracted measuring all the elements of the spin density matrix or from a single observable
  - $D = \frac{3\langle \cos(\varphi_{ab}) \rangle}{\alpha_a \alpha_b}$  where  $\varphi_{ab}$  are the angles between the decay products in the parent top rest frame
  - $\alpha_a \alpha_b$  is the spin analysing power and is 1/-1 for leptons or down type quarks
  - $D < -1/3$  at threshold corresponds to entanglement
- Quark tops are generally not entangled, only at threshold and in the boosted region



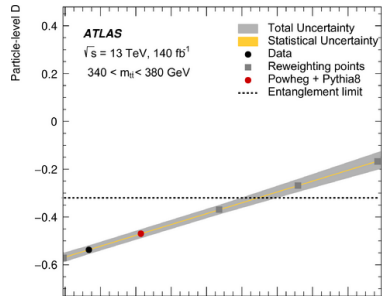




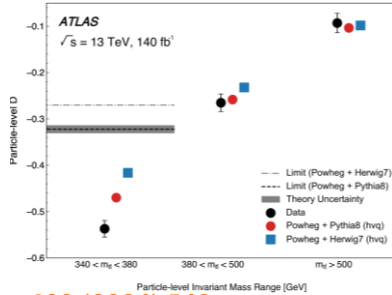
# OBSERVATION OF ENTANGLEMENT IN TOP PAIR FINAL STATES



Nature 633 (2024) 542

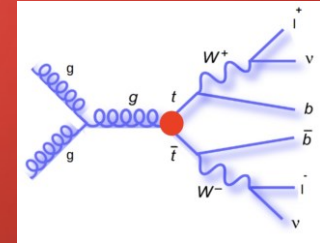


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- The dilepton final state has been used to observe the entanglement between top quarks at threshold

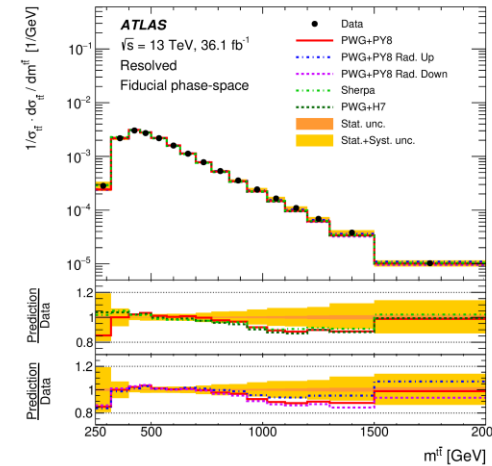


- First challenge: fully reconstruct the final state with 2 neutrinos
- Second challenge: perform the measurement in a very small region
- Strategy: measure  $\cos(\varphi_{ab})$  and remove the detector effects to find D
  - third challenge: very large modelling uncertainties had to be mitigated with the strategy
- Results:
  - Observed entangled between top quarks
  - Dominant uncertainty originates by top-quark pair modelling
  - Very large differences in how different generators simulate this observable at threshold
  - Tension between the SM and the observed D
    - Could be the new “particle” I mentioned earlier

# BELL INEQUALITY VIOLATION?

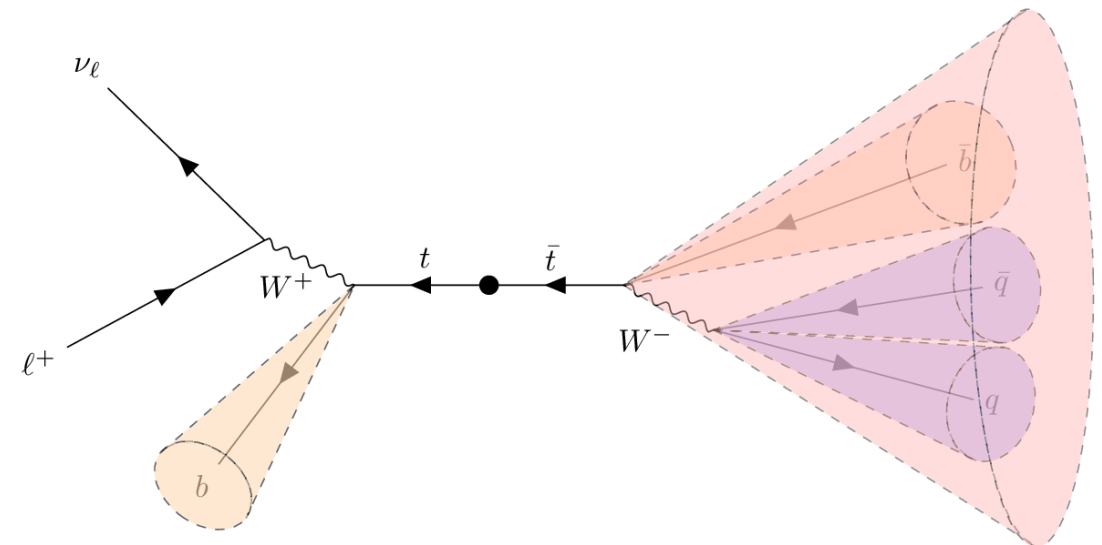
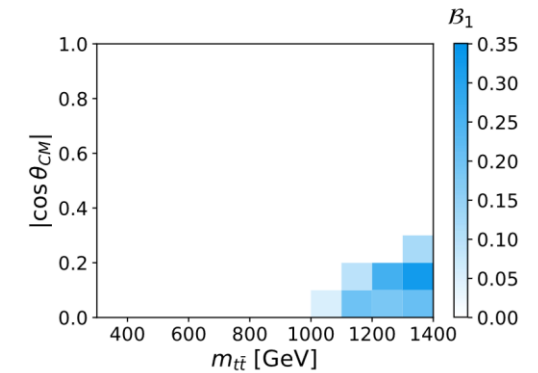
- The entanglement is a necessary but not sufficient condition for Bell inequality violation
- Bell's inequality violation only occur in the high mass region: region of maximal entanglement
  - Where the number of events significantly drops
  - the dilepton channel may not be the best one:  $\sim 80\%$  less events compared to the  $l+jets$  channel
- In the  $l+jets$  channel we need to find a way to identify the jet flavour on the hadronic side
  - Down type quarks have the maximum spin analysing power
    - We can exploit  $W \rightarrow cs$  channel and use the c-tagging to identify the down type quark
  - We can combine the jets coming from the  $W$  decay
    - Lower spin analysing power
- CMS already observed the entanglement in the  $\sim$ high mass region and the measurement is dominated by statistical uncertainty
  - Further improvements are needed to observe the bell inequality violation in this

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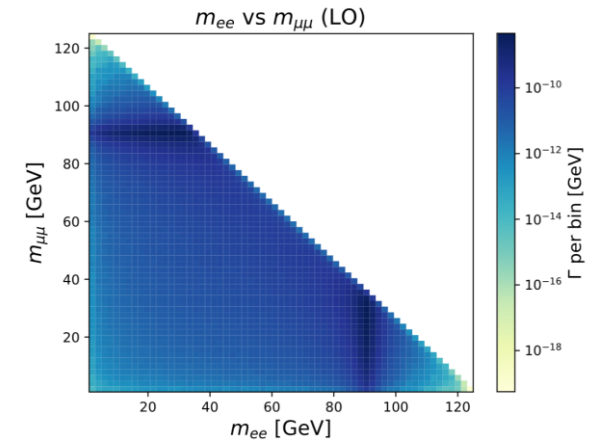
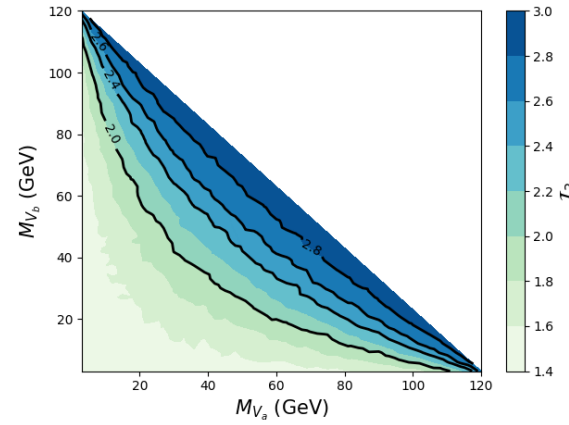
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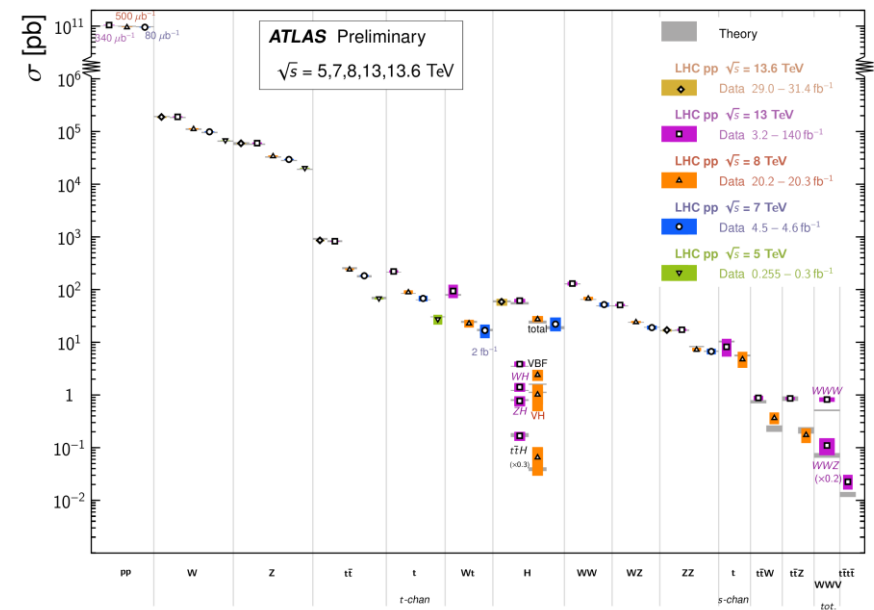
# ENTANGLEMENT IN HIGGS FINAL STATES

- The spin of the vector bosons originating from the Higgs decay can be interpreted as qutrit
  - This is possible even if one (or both) the two bosons are off-shell
- They originated from a scalar
  - The spin density matrix is much simpler compared to a generic pair of qutrit
  - They are entangled across almost the whole phase space
- Bell's inequality are also violated across the whole phase space
- The cross section for the production of this final state is very limited and there are large backgrounds
  - Orthogonal situation compared to top quark pairs



Standard Model Total Production Cross Section Measurements

Status: June 2024

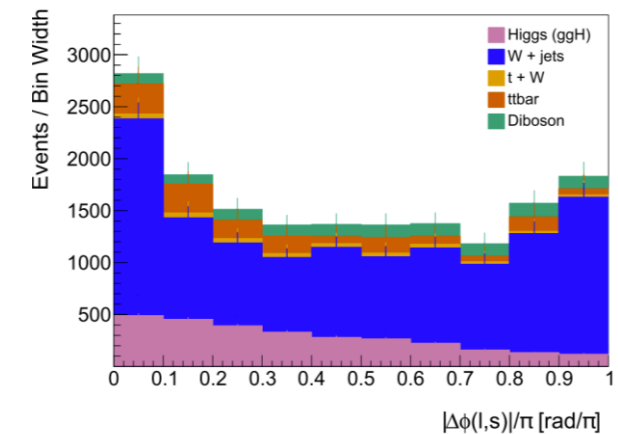
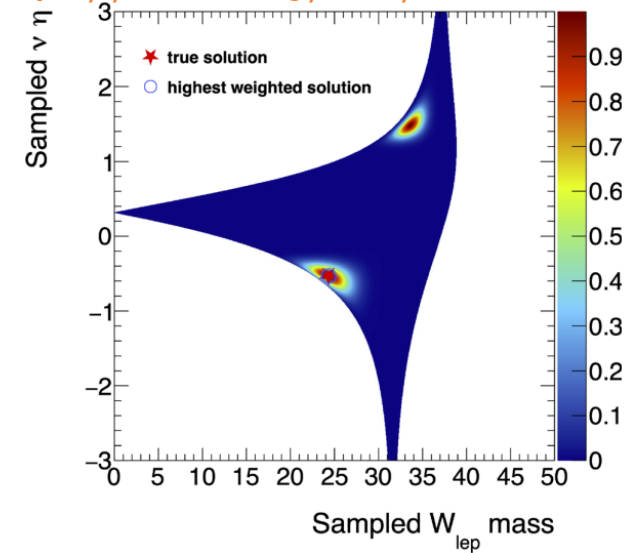




# ENTANGLEMENT IN $H \rightarrow WW^*$

- The final state with two W bosons has a larger branching ratio compared to the ZZ final state
- The fully leptonic final state has 2 neutrinos
  - Under-constrained system
- The other possibility is to exploit the semi-leptonic final state
  - One W decaying to two jets
  - Never observed at LHC due to the over-whelming W+jets background
- The channel  $H \rightarrow W^*W \rightarrow l\nu cs$  has a small BR but:
  - The charm jet can be used to reduce the background and reconstruct the spin on the hadronic side
  - The leptonically decaying off-shell W can be used trigger the event
  - Reconstruction technique applied to the full event can be used to reject background
  - Measure a weight that quantifies the reconstruction performance

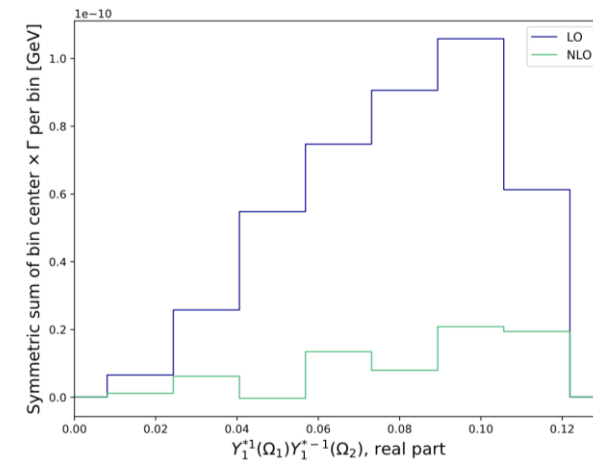
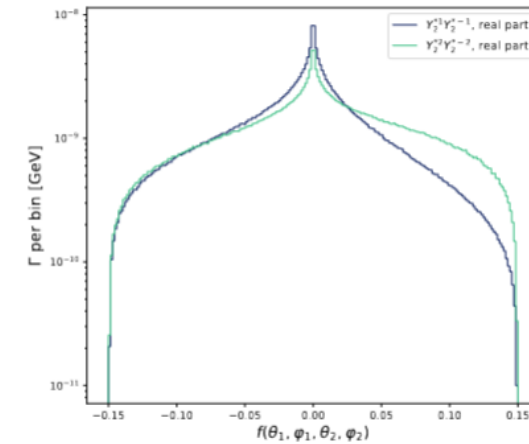
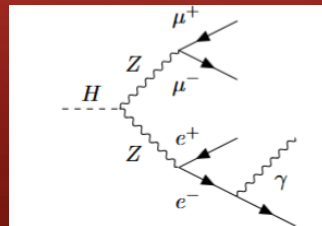
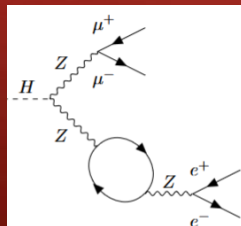
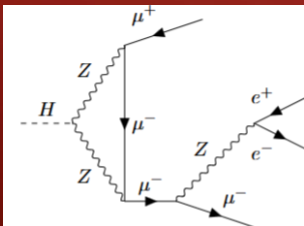
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.13783>





# ENTANGLEMENT IN $H \rightarrow ZZ^*$

- The  $H \rightarrow ZZ^*$  channel has a small BR but a very clean final state with no neutrinos
  - Could be the first channel attempted by ATLAS and CMS to measure entanglement
- The spin density matrix, and consequent entanglement and Bell inequality violation can be measured at LHC using a tomography approach
  - Measure angular quantities that are then proportional to the element of the spin density matrix
- At colliders we will actually measure  $H \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- \ell^+ \ell^-$ 
  - This is much more complicated than the simple  $H \rightarrow ZZ^*$  situation
- What is the impact on the observables
- We started looking to the effects on angular distributions
  - We observed a very large effect on some of the angular distributions
  - The impact on some regions can be very large, while limited in other regions





# ENTANGLEMENT IN WZ FINAL STATES

$$\rho = \frac{1}{9}I_9 + \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^8 a_i \lambda_i \otimes I_3 + \frac{1}{3} \sum_{j=1}^8 b_j I_3 \otimes \lambda_j + \sum_{i=1}^8 \sum_{j=1}^8 c_{ij} \lambda_i \otimes \lambda_j$$

↙

W boson

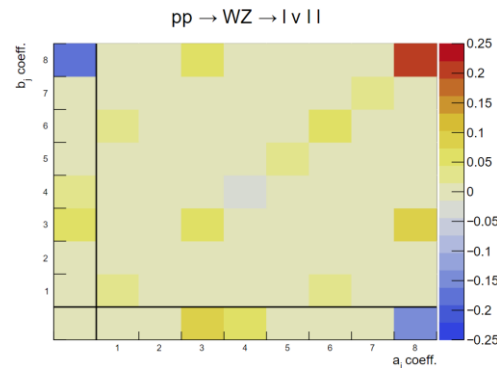
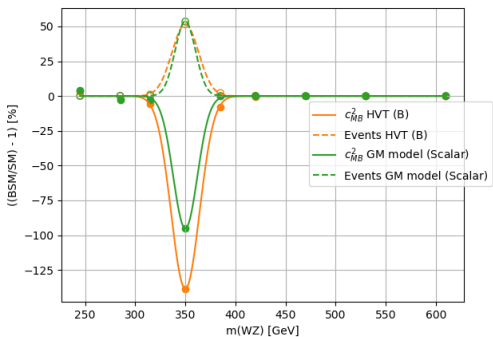
↓

Z boson

↘

Correlation

- Non resonant diboson final state can be used to study the entanglement
- More complicated than Higgs final state → no symmetries to simplify the spin density matrix
- Among the possibilities (WW,WZ,ZZ)
  - WZ has an intermediate cross-section but a single neutrino in the final state for the clean fully leptonically final state
  - It is the only one that is expected to be (inclusively) slightly entangled across the whole final state
  - It is highly sensitive to the triple gauge coupling
- The measurement of the entanglement requires the reconstruction of all 80 coefficients of the spin density matrix
  - And the correction of the detector effects on them, that can be highly significant
- Preliminary results suggest that:
  - The reconstruction of the neutrino is an essential aspect of the measurement
  - There are region of the phase space where it will be possible to observe the entanglement at HL-LHC
  - The spin density matrix coefficients are highly sensitive to new physics effects





# CONCLUSIONS

- The measurement of quantum information inspired observables at LHC is a very active area
  - New theoretical and experimental studies presented almost daily
  - Several activities presented in top-pair and diboson final states
- In Bologna there is a growing group of people working on this
  - INFN & UNIBO
  - Experimental and phenomenology
  - Several funding from Italy and Europe
- Organising a dedicated international workshop at GGI in Florence in April
  - **“Quantum Observables for Collider Physics 2025”**
  - Financed by INFN and MSCA
  - <https://www.ggi.infn.it/showevent.pl?id=525>

*“Beneath the Bell, entangled bright,  
Magic whispers in the night.  
Flavours shift—up, down, strange—  
Physics dances, warm yet strange.  
Collider dreams in snowy glow,  
Reveal the truths we long to know.  
Uncertainty gifts us wonder near,  
Merry qubits, a joyful sphere!”*

*@ChatGPT*

