

# ttbb predictions at NLO in QCD and b-jet modelling

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In collaboration with:

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Based on [JHEP 08 \(2021\) 008](#) and [arXiv:2202.11186](#)

ICHEP 2022

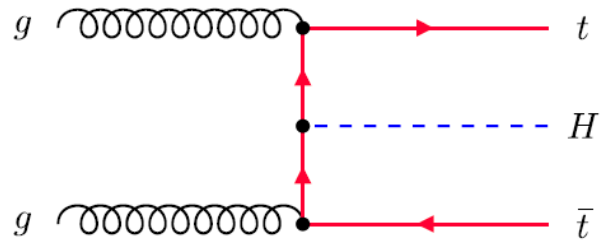
Bologna – 8 July 2022

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# ttH and ttbb

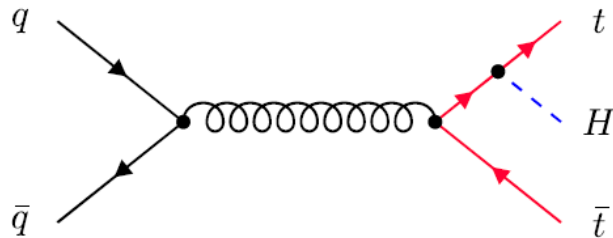


## PROS

Direct coupling top-Higgs  
already at tree level

## CONS

$$\frac{\sigma(pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H)}{\sigma(pp \rightarrow H)} \approx 1\%$$



## Discovery in 2018

ATLAS collaboration, *Phys. Lett. B* 784 (2018) 173  
CMS collaboration, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 120 (2018) 231801

Feynman diagrams generated with FeynGame  
[Harlander, Klein, Lipp, *Comput. Phys. Commun.*  
256 (2020) 107465]

# $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

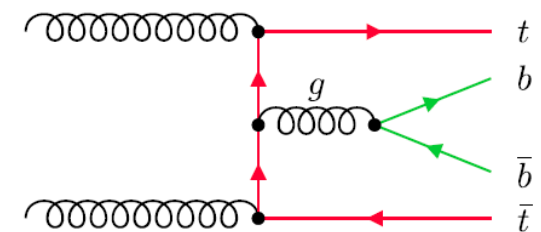
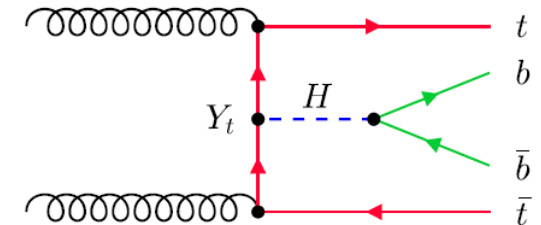
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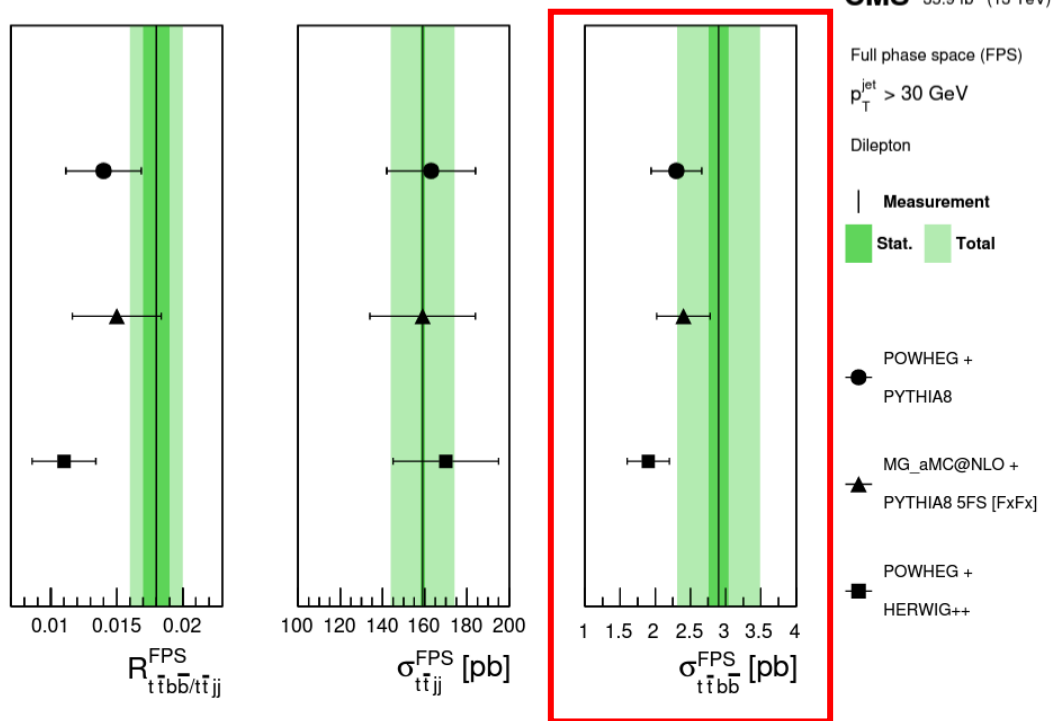
$$BR = 58\%$$

## CONS

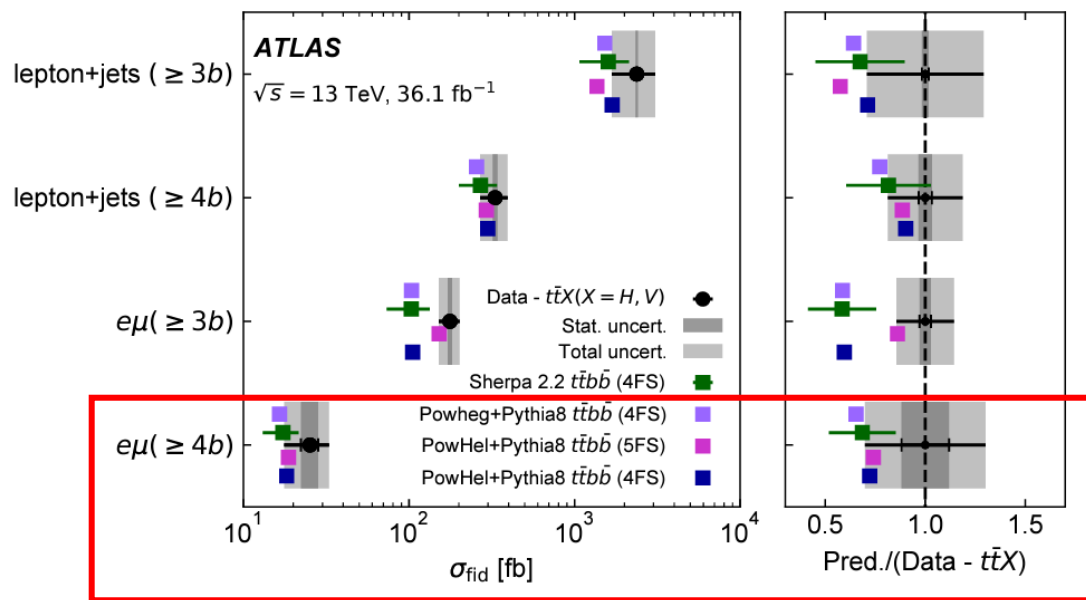
«Combinatorial  
Background»

ttbb is irreducible background





CMS Collaboration, JHEP 07 (2020) 125



ATLAS Collaboration, JHEP 04 (2019) 046

# Theoretical predictions for ttbb

- NLO QCD calculations with stable top quarks:

*(Bredenstein, Denner, Dittmaier, Pozzorini '08,'09,'10 | Bevilacqua, Czakon, Papadopoulos, Pittau, Worek '09 | Worek '12 | Bevilacqua, Worek '14 | Buccioni, Kallweit, Pozzorini, Zoller '19)*

- More realistic studies:

- NLO QCD matched to Parton Shower

*(Kardos, Trócsányi '14 | Cascioli, Maierhöfer, Moretti, Pozzorini, Siegert '14 | Garzelli, Kardos, Trócsányi '15 | Bevilacqua, Garzelli, Kardos '17)*

- NLO QCD in NWA

*(Bevilacqua, Bi, Hartanto, Kraus, Lupattelli, Worek '22)*

- NLO QCD with full off-shell effects

*(Denner, Lang, Pellen '20 | Bevilacqua, Bi, Hartanto, Kraus, Lupattelli, Worek '21)*

# Theoretical predictions for $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$

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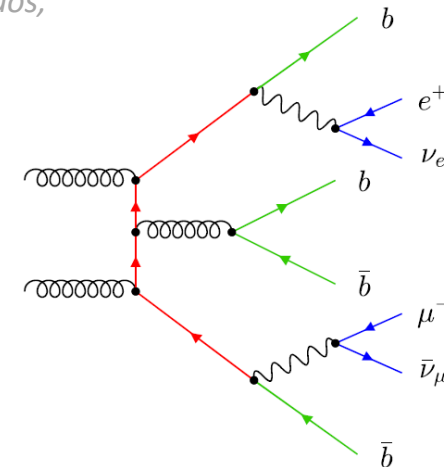
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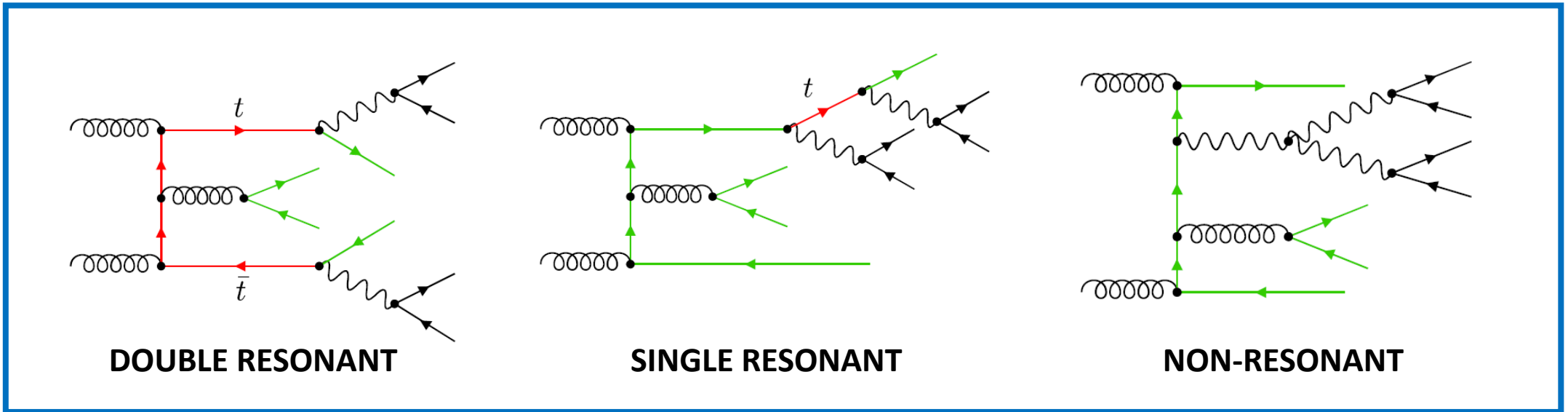
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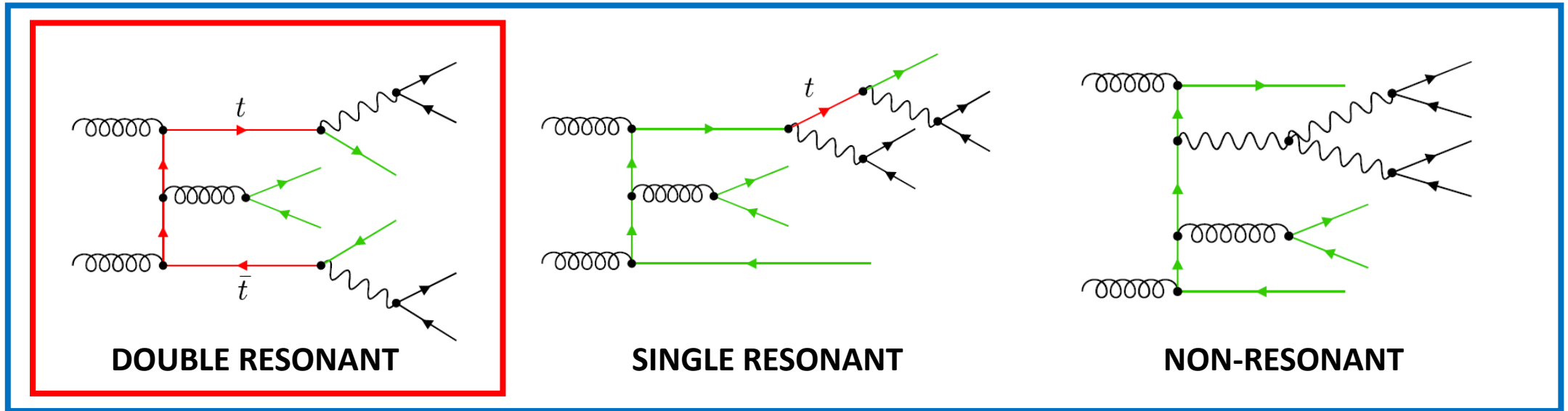
## SETUP:

- NLO QCD
- 5 flavour scheme
- LHC 13 TeV



### Full Off-Shell calculation:

- Off-shell  $t$  and  $W$  described by Breit-Wigner propagators
- Double-, single- and non-resonant top contributions included
- All interference effects consistently incorporated at the matrix element level



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### Narrow Width Approximation:

- $t$  and  $W$  produced on-shell
- Factorization of the cross-section in production  $\times$  decay
- NLO QCD corrections to both production and decay

$$\lim_{\Gamma/m \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{(p^2 - m^2)^2 + m^2 \Gamma^2} \sim \frac{\pi}{m \Gamma} \delta(p^2 - m^2)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma_t}{m_t} \approx 0.008 = 0.8\%$$

forces on-shell production

# Results – LO vs NLO

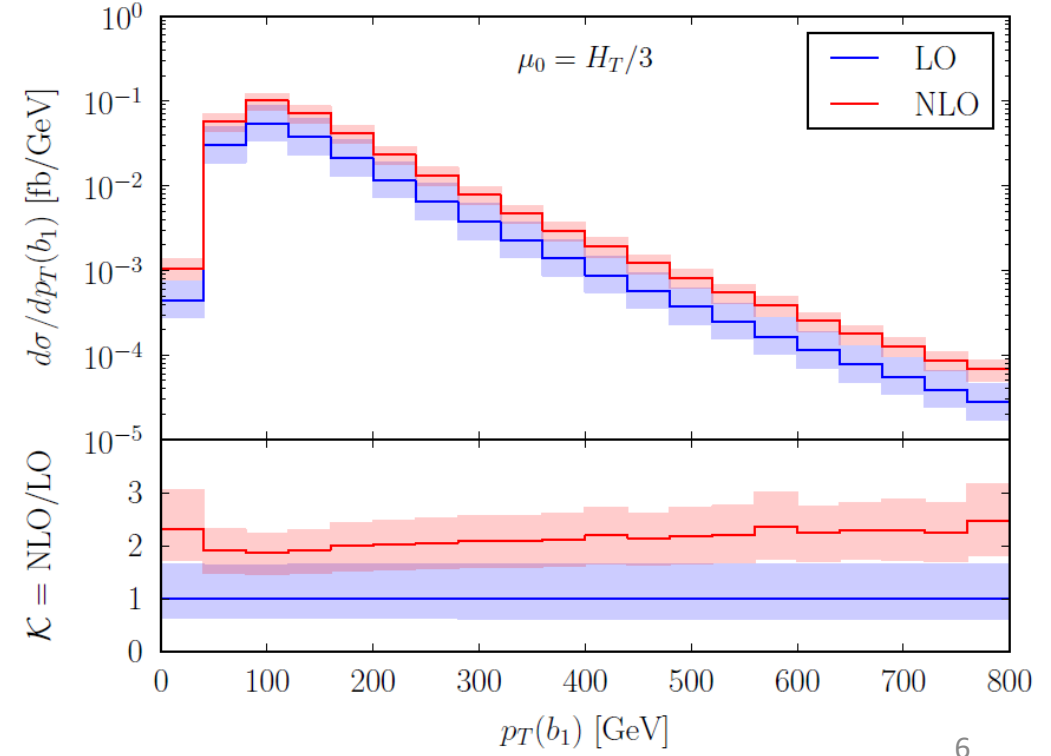
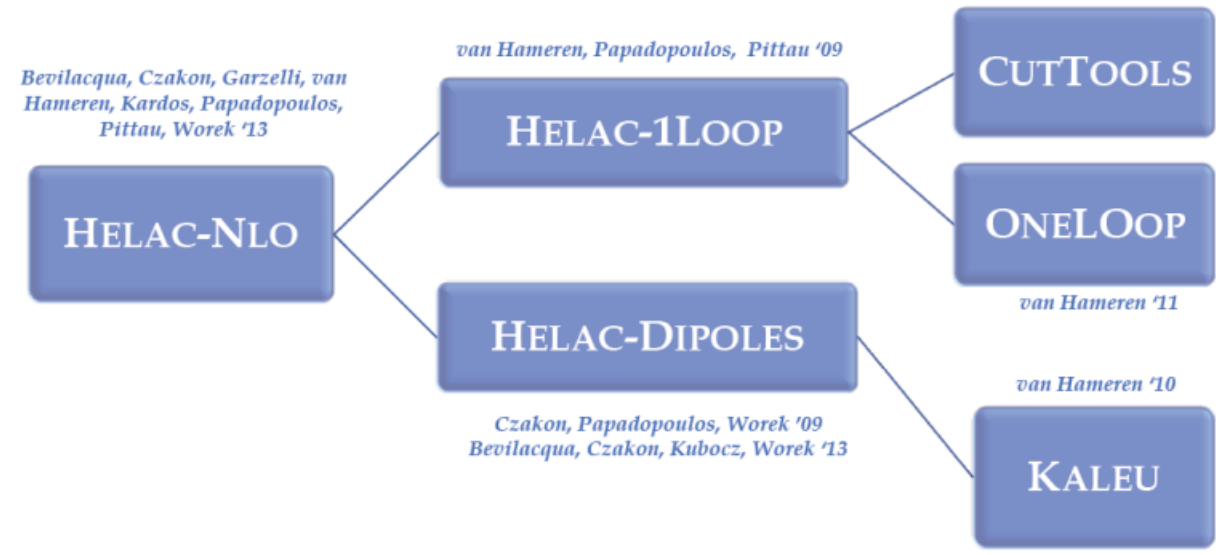
Bevilacqua, Bi, Hartanto, Kraus, Lupattelli, Worek, JHEP 08 (2021) 008

	$\sigma$ [fb]	$+\delta_{\text{scale}}$ [fb]	$-\delta_{\text{scale}}$ [fb]
LO	6.813	+4.338(64%)	-2.481(36%)
NLO	13.22	+2.65(20%)	-2.96(22%)

- Huge NLO QCD corrections ( $\sim 94\%$ )
- Reduction of theoretical uncertainty
- Scale dependence main source of theoretical uncertainty (PDF  $\sim 1\%$ )

$$\mu = H_T/3$$

$$H_T = p_T(b_1) + p_T(b_2) + p_T(b_3) + p_T(b_4) + p_T(e^+) + p_T(\mu^-) + p_T^{\text{miss}}$$





# Results – Off-shell effects

*Bevilacqua, Bi, Hartanto, Kraus, Lupattelli, Worek, arXiv:2202.11186*

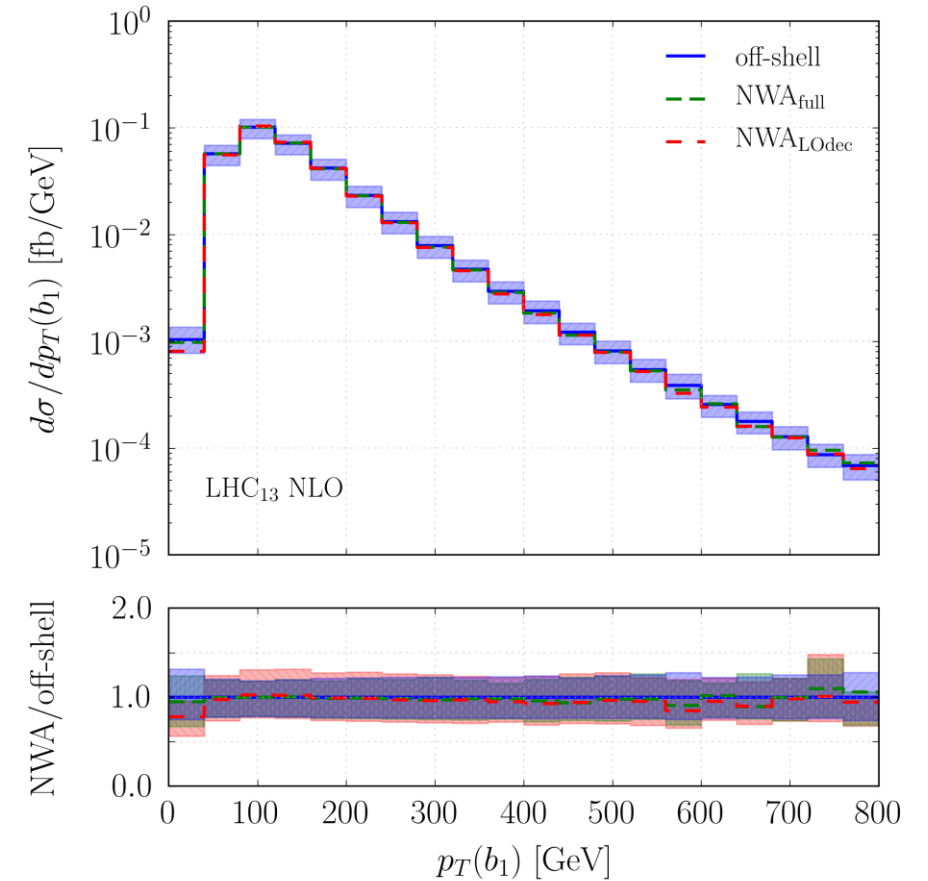
	$\sigma^{\text{NLO}}$ [fb]	$+\delta_{\text{scale}}$ [fb]	$-\delta_{\text{scale}}$ [fb]
Off-shell	13.22	+2.65(20%)	-2.96(22%)
NWA <sub>full</sub>	13.16	+2.61(20%)	-2.93(22%)

## Integrated level:

- Negligible off-shell effects ( $\sim 0.5\%$ )
- Same theoretical accuracy

## Differential level

- Negligible off-shell effects for standard observables



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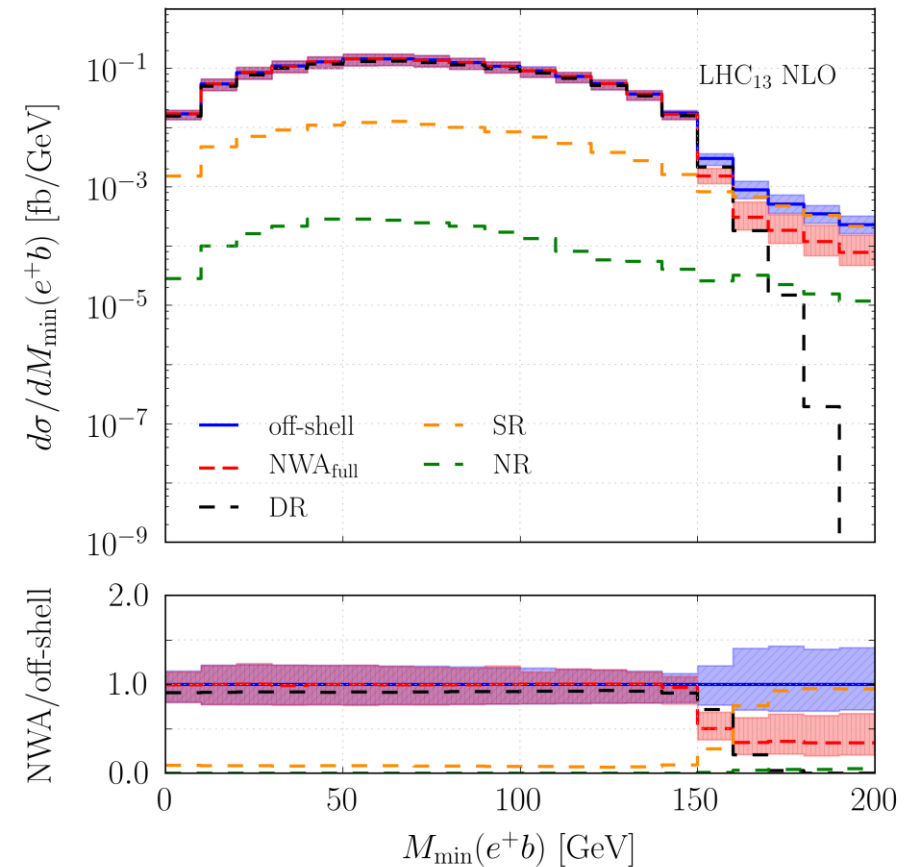
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- Negligible off-shell effects for standard observables
- Significant off-shell effects in observables with kinematic edges
- Large differences between full off-shell and NWA ( $\sim 66\%$ )
- **Single resonant** contribution dominant after kinematic edge



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Bevilacqua, Bi, Hartanto, Kraus, Lupattelli, Worek, arXiv:2202.11186

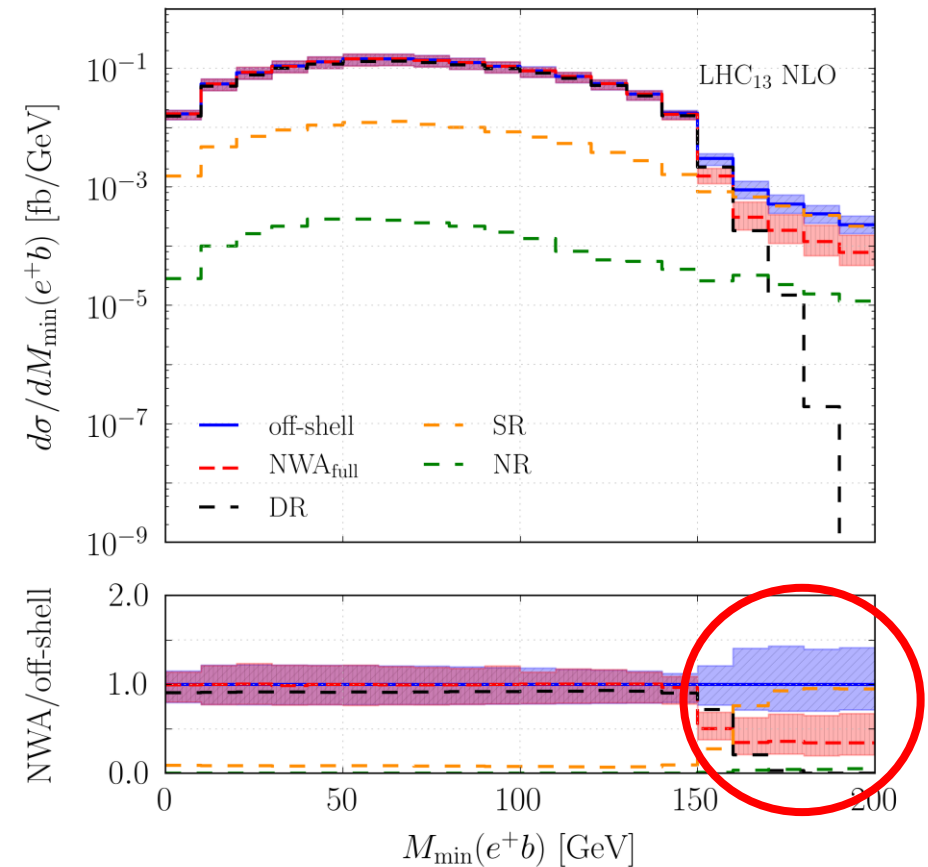
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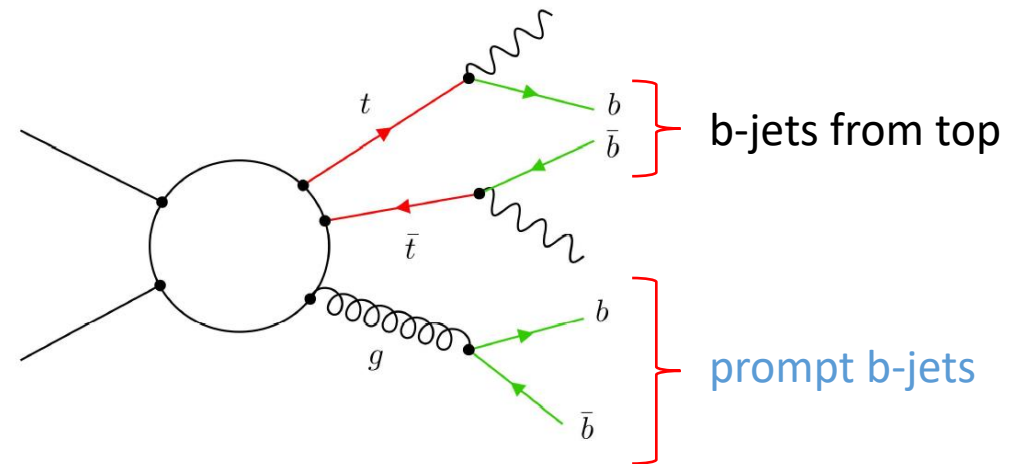
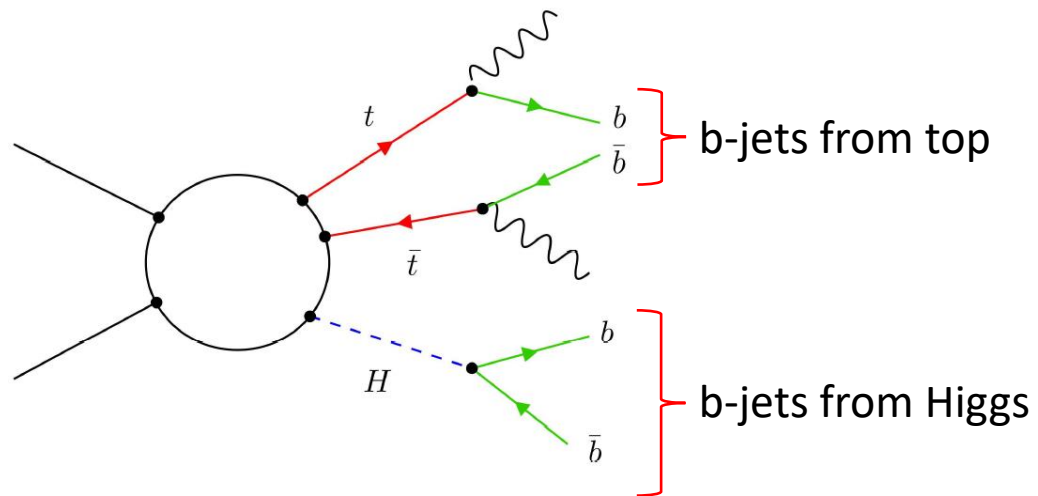
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# b-jet labelling

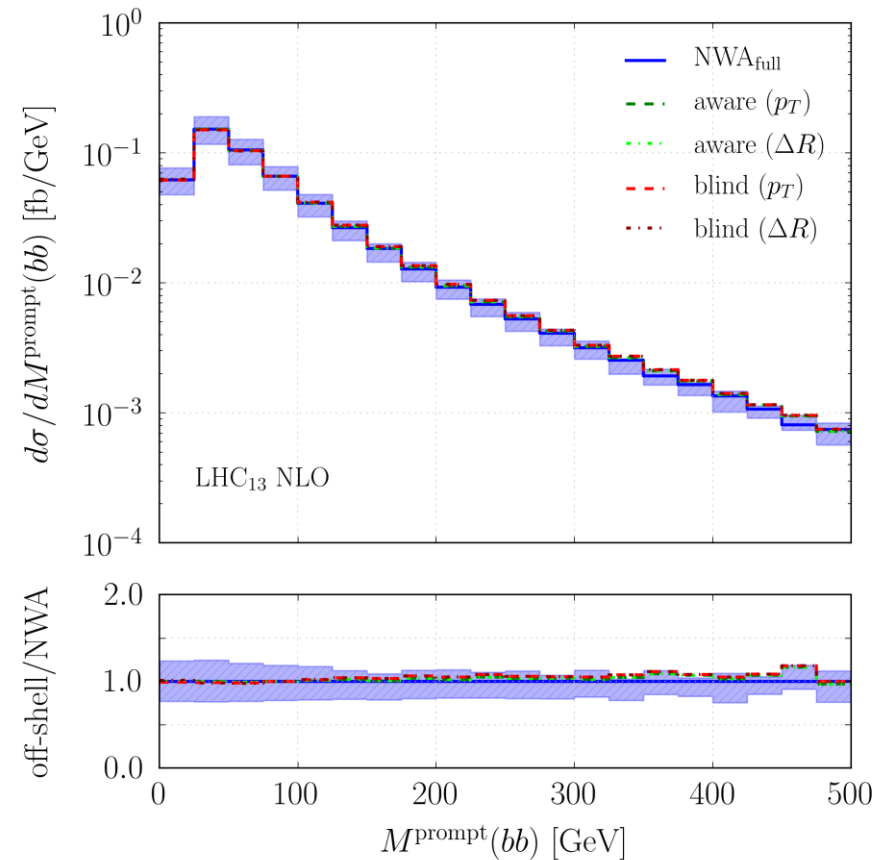
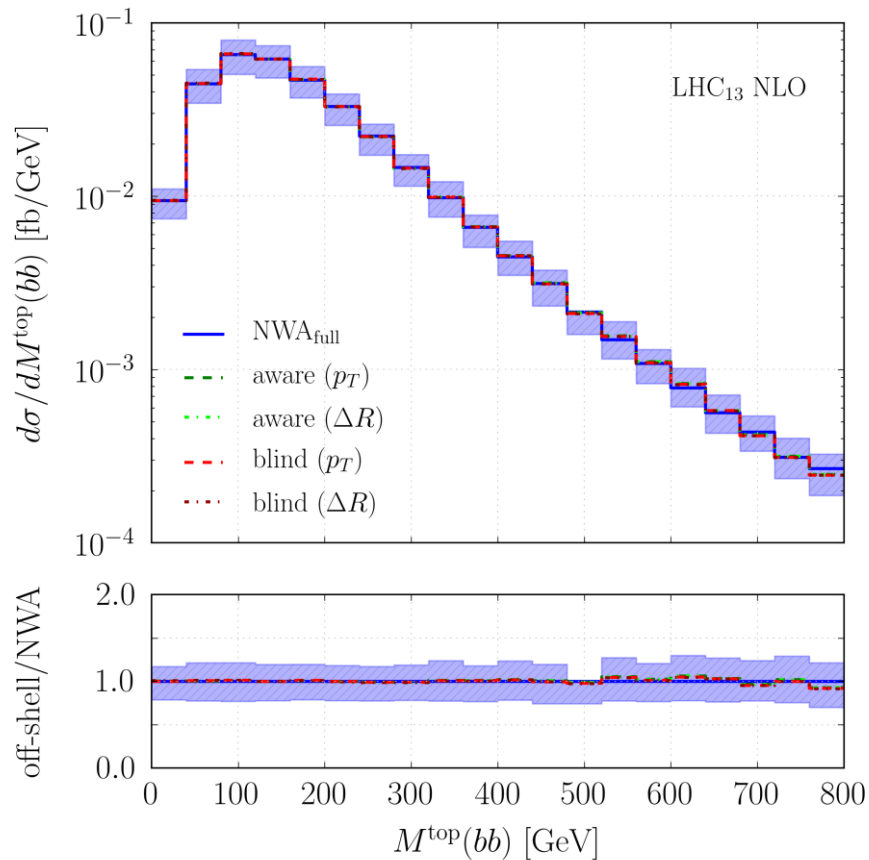


**Prompt b-jets** represent background to Higgs boson in  $ttH(bb)$  → Prescription to distinguish between b-jets from top and prompt b-jets needed

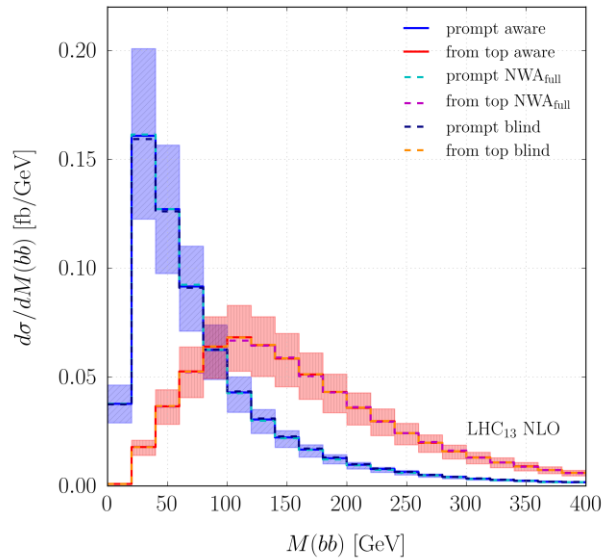
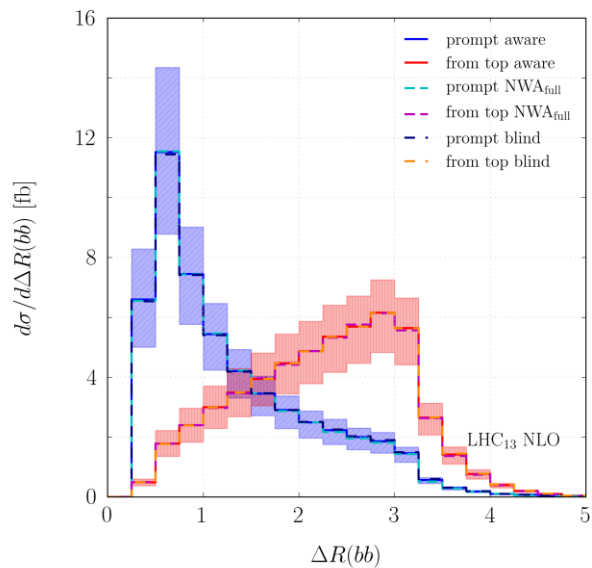
# b-jet labelling

$$Q = |M(t) - m_t| \times |M(\bar{t}) - m_t| \times M(bb)$$

**NWA** is **reference**: knowledge of the decay chain  $\rightarrow$  we can distinguish prompt b-jets and b-jets from top decays without any reconstruction.

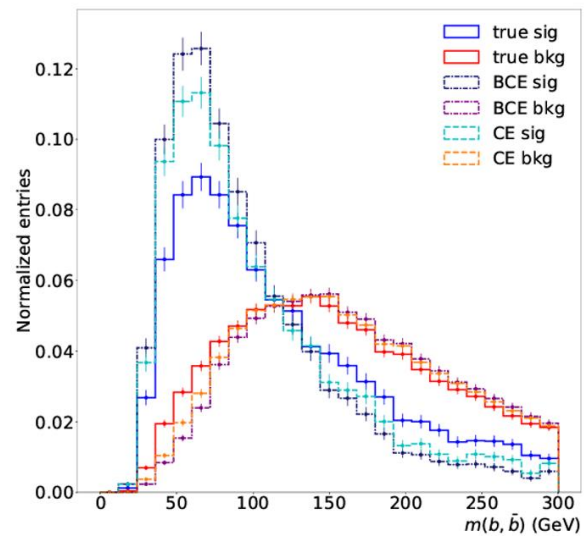
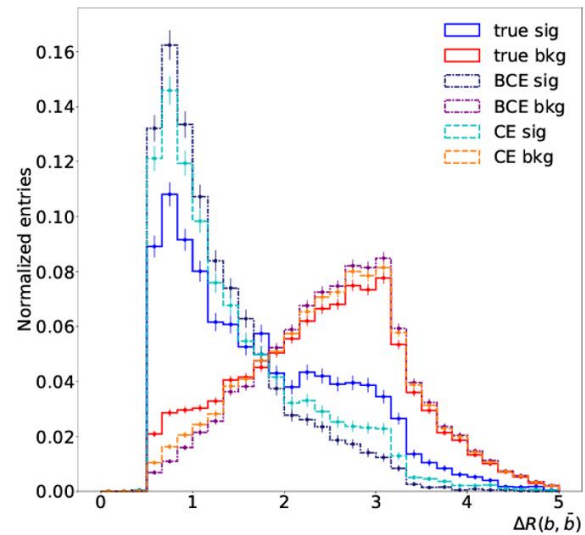


## Theoretical approach



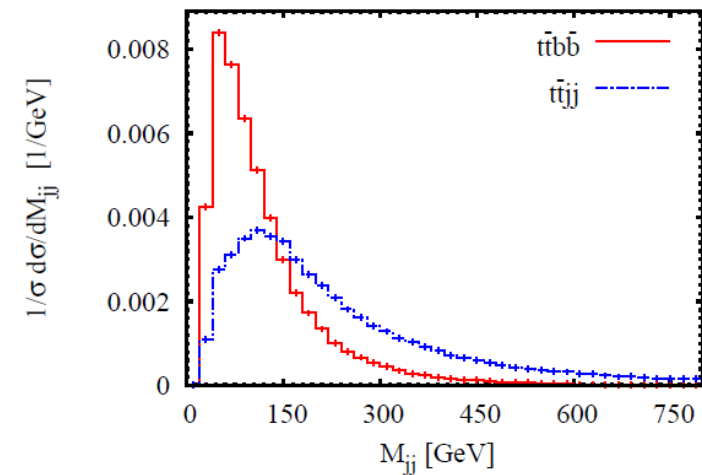
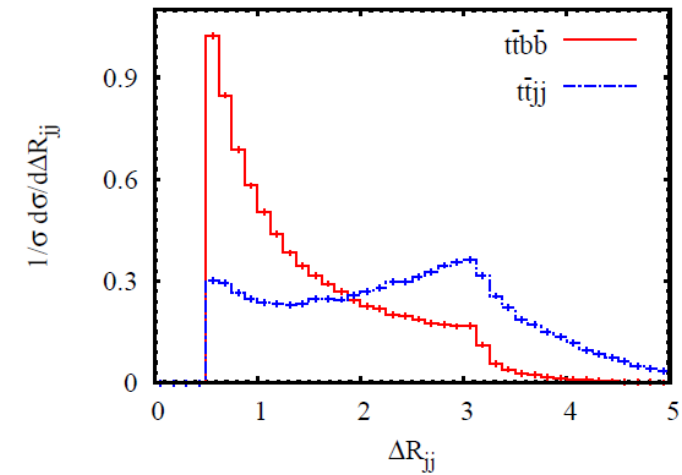
Bevilacqua, Bi, Hartanto, Kraus,  
Lupattelli, Worek, arXiv:2202.11186

## Machine learning



Jang, Ko, Noh, Choi, Lim, Kim, arXiv 2103.09129

## Stable tops



Bevilacqua, Worek, JHEP 07 (2014) 135

# Summary ttbb

- Huge NLO QCD corrections  $\approx 94\%$
- Theoretical Uncertainties  $\approx 20\%$
- Significant off-shell effects observed for observables with kinematic edges
- b-jet labelling
  - Prompt b-jets as a background to Higgs boson in ttH
  - Simple prescription to label b-jets as effective as machine learning techniques

*Thank you!*

Backup slides



# LHC Setup

## Input parameters

$$G_F = 1.16638 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-2},$$

$$m_t = 173 \text{ GeV},$$

$$m_W = 80.351972 \text{ GeV},$$

$$\Gamma_W^{\text{NLO}} = 2.0842989 \text{ GeV},$$

$$m_Z = 91.153481 \text{ GeV},$$

$$\Gamma_Z^{\text{NLO}} = 2.4942664 \text{ GeV}.$$

$$\Gamma_{t,\text{off-shell}}^{\text{LO}} = 1.443303 \text{ GeV},$$

$$\Gamma_{t,\text{off-shell}}^{\text{NLO}} = 1.3444367445 \text{ GeV}.$$

$$\Gamma_{t,\text{NWA}}^{\text{LO}} = 1.466332 \text{ GeV},$$

$$\Gamma_{t,\text{NWA}}^{\text{NLO}} = 1.365888 \text{ GeV}.$$

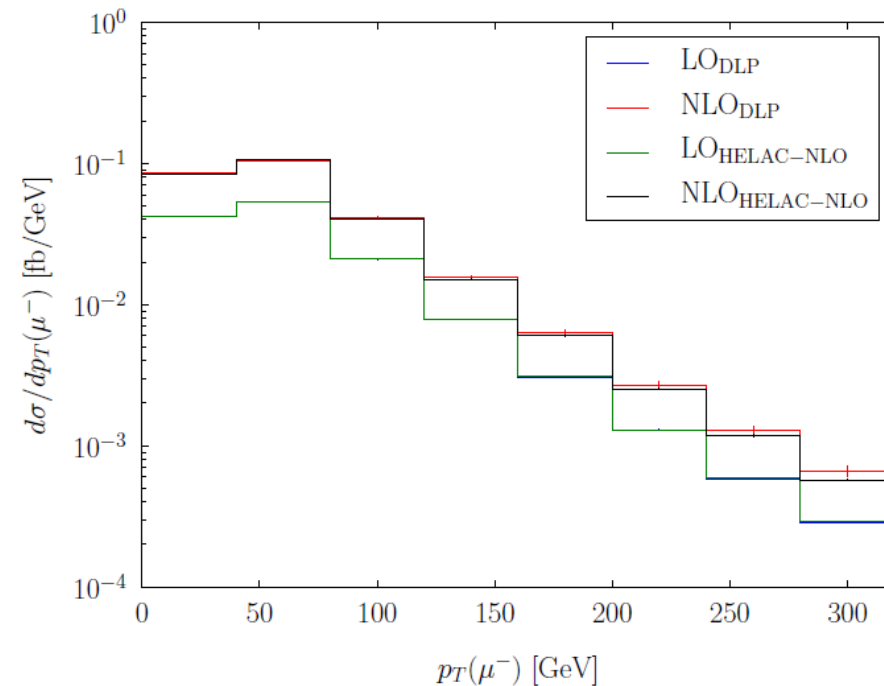
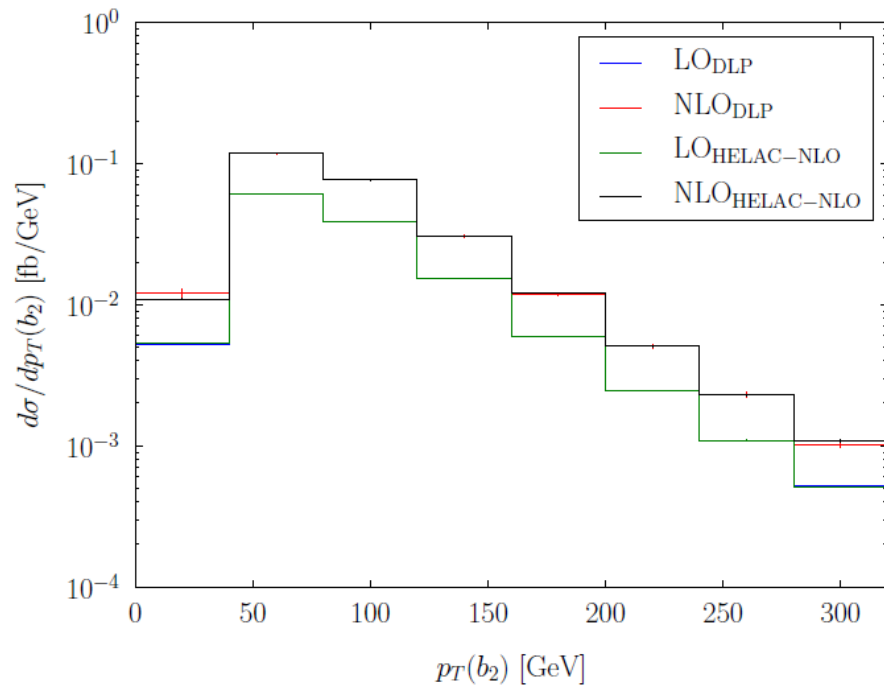
## Cuts

$$p_T(\ell) > 20 \text{ GeV}, \quad |y(\ell)| < 2.5, \quad p_T(b) > 25 \text{ GeV}, \quad |y(b)| < 2.5,$$

# Comparison theoretical predictions full off-shell ttbb

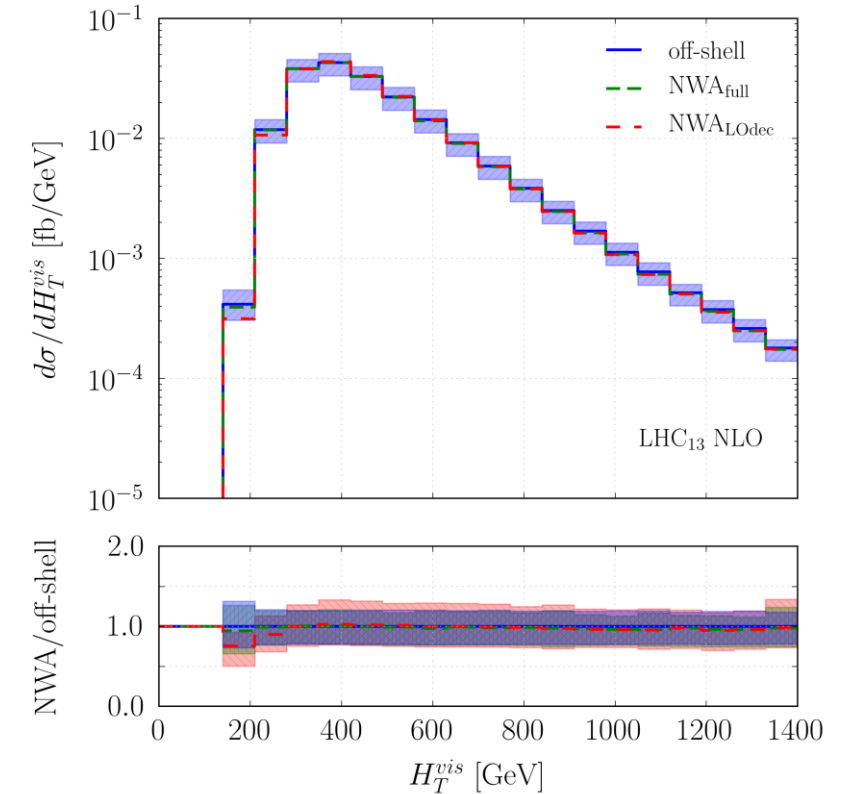
$$\sigma_{\text{HELAC-NLO}}^{\text{NLO}}(\text{NNPDF3.1}, \mu_0 = \mu_{\text{DLP}}) = 10.28(1)_{-21\%}^{+18\%} \text{ fb},$$

$$\sigma_{\text{DLP}}^{\text{NLO}}(\text{NNPDF3.1}, \mu_0 = \mu_{\text{DLP}}) = 10.28(8)_{-21\%}^{+18\%} \text{ fb}.$$



# Predictions for $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ at NLO

Modelling	$\sigma_i^{\text{NLO}}$ [fb]	$+\delta_{\text{scale}}$ [fb]	$-\delta_{\text{scale}}$ [fb]	$\sigma_i^{\text{NLO}}/\sigma_{\text{NWA}_{\text{full}}}^{\text{NLO}} - 1$
Off-shell	13.22 (2)	+2.65 (20%)	-2.96 (22%)	+0.5%
DR	12.08 (2)	—	—	—
SR	1.112 (5)	—	—	—
NR	0.0249 (4)	—	—	—
NWA <sub>full</sub>	13.16 (1)	+2.61 (20%)	-2.93 (22%)	—
NWA <sub>LOdec</sub>	13.22 (1)	+3.77 (29%)	-3.31 (25%)	+0.5%
NWA <sub>exp</sub>	12.38 (1)	+2.91 (24%)	-2.89 (23%)	-5.9%
NWA <sub>prod</sub>	13.01 (1)	+2.58 (20%)	-2.89 (22%)	-1.1%
NWA <sub>LOdec,prod</sub>	13.11 (1)	+3.74 (29%)	-3.28 (25%)	-0.4%

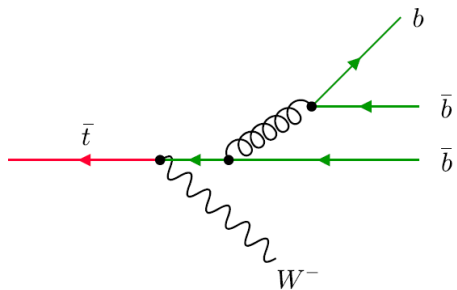


# b-jet labelling

## Theoretical approach

Selected history:  $t \rightarrow W^+ b_1, \bar{t} \rightarrow W^- b_2 \longrightarrow (bb)^{\text{top}} = b_1 b_2 \quad (bb)^{\text{prompt}} = b_3 b_4$

Selected history:  $t \rightarrow W^+ b_1, \bar{t} \rightarrow W^- b_2 b_3 b_4 \longrightarrow (bb)^{\text{top}} = b_1 b_? \quad (bb)^{\text{prompt}} = b_? b_?$



### DISCRIMINATORS

$$p_{T,\text{max}}(b_i)$$

Identifies the b from antitop

V

$$\Delta R_{\text{min}}(b_i b_j)$$

Identifies the prompt b-pair