

# Precise predictions for Higgs production in association with top quarks

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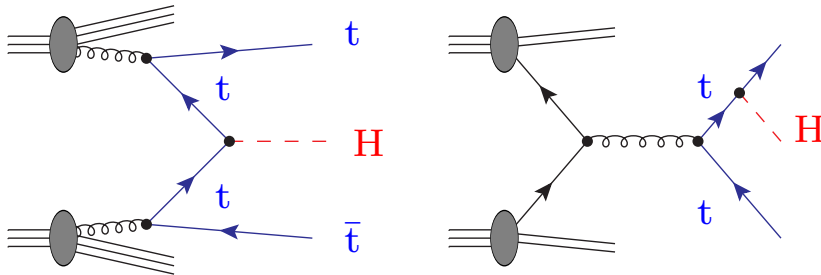
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*in collaboration with Robert Feger*

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- Introduction
- Irreducible background and interference effects
- NLO QCD corrections to  $pp \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}H$
- Conclusions

Higgs boson observed  $\Rightarrow$  investigate its properties  $\Rightarrow$  measure its couplings  
 important process: associated Higgs production with top-antitop quark pairs:



- allows direct measurement of top Yukawa coupling ( $Ht\bar{t}$  coupling)
- small cross section:  $\sigma \approx 500 \text{ fb}$  at 13 TeV
- large background from  $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ ,  $t\bar{t}jj$  renders analysis extremely difficult ( $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ )
- need improved experimental analyses (like highly boosted Higgs bosons) and precise theoretical predictions for signal and background
- results from LHC run I:

CMS '15:  $\mu = 1.2 + 1.6 - 1.5$  for  $\sigma(t\bar{t}H)$ ,  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

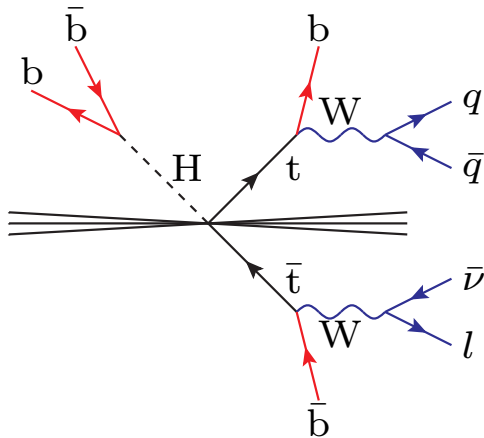
ATLAS '15:  $\mu = 1.5 \pm 1.1$  for  $\sigma(t\bar{t}H)$ ,  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

## Production processes

- $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}H \rightarrow l\nu_l j j b\bar{b}H$
- $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}H \rightarrow l\nu_l l' \nu_{l'} b\bar{b}H$

## decay processes

$$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}, \tau^+\tau^-, ZZ, WW$$



$$pp \rightarrow l\nu_l j j b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$$

- complicated final state
- experimentally and theoretically challenging

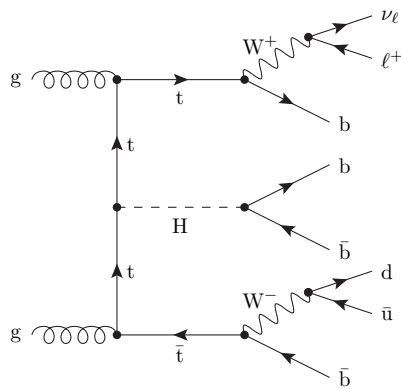
this talk:

- irreducible background and interference effects for  $pp \rightarrow l\nu_l j j b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$
- NLO QCD corrections for  $pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b\bar{b}H$

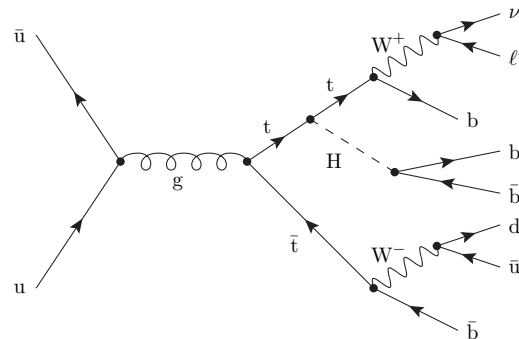
# Irreducible background and interference effects

## Three scenarios: scenario 1

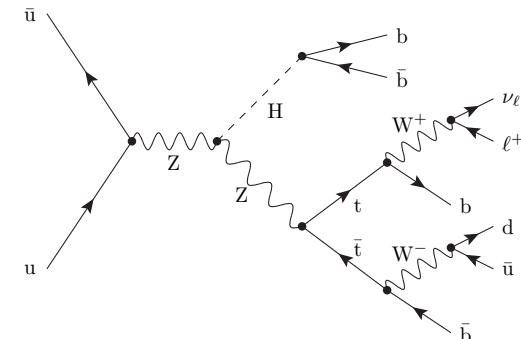
- **$t\bar{t}H$  production:**  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H \rightarrow l^+ \nu_l j j b \bar{b} b \bar{b}$ 
  - ▶ intermediate  $t, \bar{t}, H$  required  
treated in **pole approximation**
  - ▶ **gluon–gluon** partonic channels  $gg \rightarrow l^+ \nu_l q' \bar{q}'' b \bar{b} b \bar{b}$   
order of amplitude:  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^3)$
  - ▶ **quark–antiquark** partonic channels  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow l^+ \nu_l q' \bar{q}'' b \bar{b} b \bar{b}$   
order of amplitude:  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^3), \mathcal{O}(\alpha^4)$
  - ▶ sample diagrams



$$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^3)$$



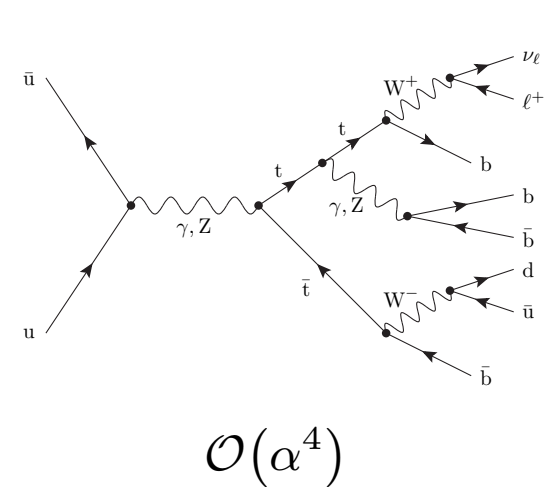
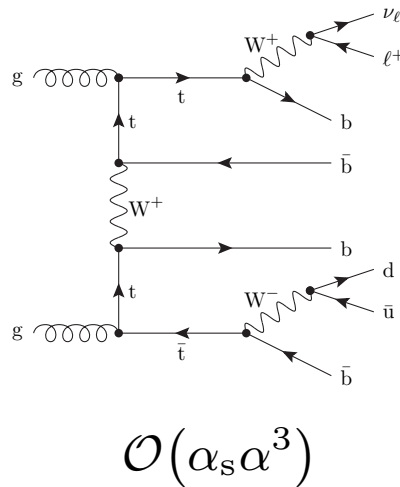
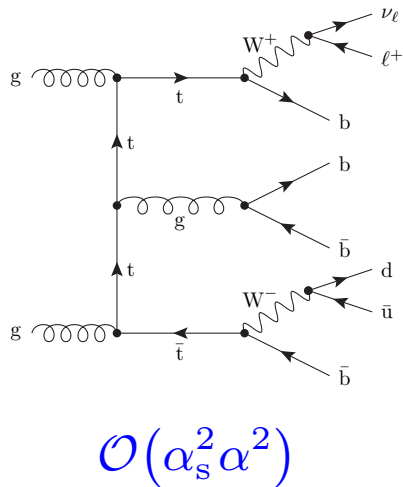
$$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^3)$$



$$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^4)$$

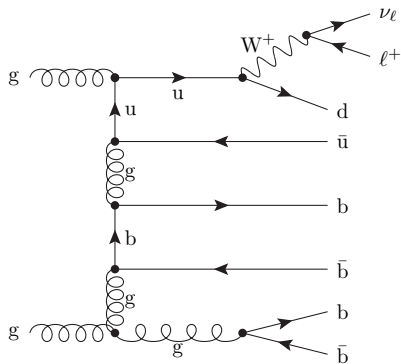
## Scenario 2

- $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$  production  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b} \rightarrow l^+\nu_l j j b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ 
  - ▶ intermediate  $t, \bar{t}$  required, treated in **pole approximation**  
no resonant Higgs required
  - ▶ same partonic channels as above  
additional  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2\alpha^2)$  contributions for  $gg$  and  $q\bar{q}$  channels ( $H \rightarrow g$ )  
(plus contributions with  $H \rightarrow Z, \gamma, W$ )
  - ▶ sample diagrams

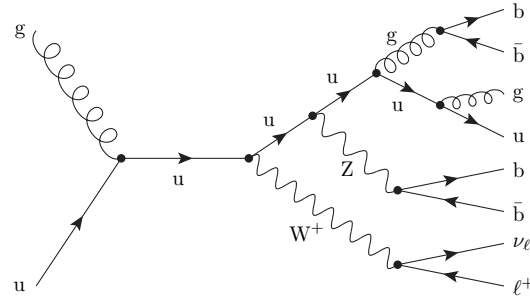


## Scenario 3

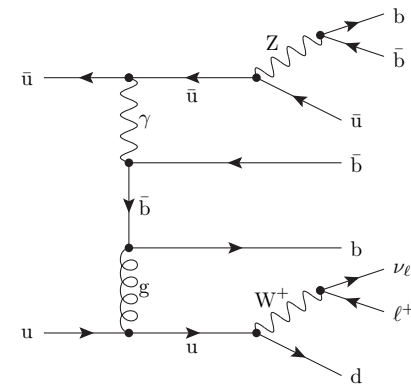
- full process  $pp \rightarrow l^+ \nu_{lj} b \bar{b} b \bar{b}$ 
  - ▶ complete set of diagrams: no resonances required
  - ▶ # of channels increases by more than factor 4 owing to crossing symmetric channels
  - ▶ amplitude receives contributions of  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^4)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^3)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2 \alpha^2)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3 \alpha)$  up to 78052 diagrams for individual channels! (unitary gauge)
  - ▶ sample diagrams



$$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3 \alpha)$$

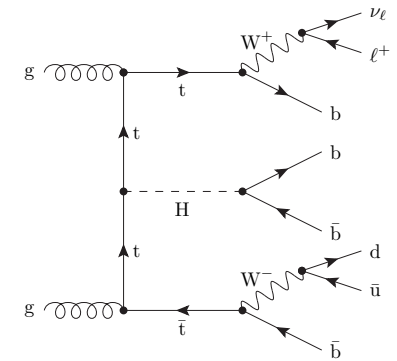


$$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2 \alpha^2)$$



$$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha^3)$$

- **complex-mass scheme** for unstable particles  
(not treated in pole approximation)  
Denner, Dittmaier, Roth, Wieders '99
- **on-shell projection** of momenta  
for resonances treated in **pole approximation**  
such that invariants of other resonances are not shifted!
- massless light quarks (u, d, c, s), **massive b quarks**
- only PDFs of light quarks included (u, d, c, s) besides gluons
- **all matrix elements calculated with RECOLA** (recursive algorithm)  
Actis et al.
- phase-space integration: **multi-channel Monte Carlo**  
⇒ number of diagrams matters





- collider energy: 13 TeV
- scale choice: Beenakker et al. '03  
 $\mu = \mu_R = \mu_F = \frac{1}{2} (2m_t + m_H) = 236 \text{ GeV}$
- PDFs: CT10    Lai et al. '10

- input parameters:

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_t &= 173 \text{ GeV}, & \Gamma_t &= 1.47 \text{ GeV}, & m_b &= 4.8 \text{ GeV} \\
 M_H &= 126 \text{ GeV}, & M_Z^{\text{OS}} &= 91.1876 \text{ GeV}, & M_W^{\text{OS}} &= 80.385 \text{ GeV} \\
 \Gamma_H &= 4.21 \times 10^{-3} \text{ GeV}, & \Gamma_Z^{\text{OS}} &= 2.4952 \text{ GeV}, & \Gamma_W^{\text{OS}} &= 2.0850 \text{ GeV}
 \end{aligned}$$

- cuts:
 
$$\begin{aligned}
 p_{T,j} &> 25 \text{ GeV}, & |y_j| &< 2.5, & \Delta R_{jj} &> 0.4 \\
 p_{T,b} &> 25 \text{ GeV}, & |y_b| &< 2.5, & \Delta R_{bb} &> 0.4 & \quad \Delta R_{jb} &> 0.4 \\
 p_{T,l^+} &> 20 \text{ GeV}, & |y_{l^+}| &< 2.5, & p_{T,\text{miss}} &> 20 \text{ GeV}
 \end{aligned}$$

- b quarks originating from t and  $\bar{t}$  quark are selected according to

$$\mathcal{L} \propto \frac{1}{(p_{l^+ \nu_l b_i}^2 - m_t^2)^2 + (m_t \Gamma_t)^2} \frac{1}{(p_{j_1 j_2 b_j}^2 - m_t^2)^2 + (m_t \Gamma_t)^2}$$

$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H \rightarrow l^+ \nu_l jj b\bar{b} b\bar{b}$  (at leading order)

	cross section [fb]			
	$\mathcal{O}((\alpha^4)^2)$	$\mathcal{O}((\alpha_s \alpha^3)^2)$	total	fraction [%]
$q\bar{q}$	0.014887(2)	2.1467(2)	2.1621(2)	29
$gg$	–	5.230(1)	5.2298(9)	71
$\Sigma$	0.014887(2)	7.377(1)	7.3920(9)	100

- 70% from  $gg$  processes
- $\mathcal{O}((\alpha_s \alpha^3)^2)$  dominates
- pure EW contribution  $\mathcal{O}((\alpha^4)^2)$  tiny (0.2%)
- no interferences between different orders  
owing to colour matrices

$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b} \rightarrow l^+ \nu_l j j b\bar{b} b\bar{b}$  (at leading order)

	cross section [fb]					
	$\mathcal{O}((\alpha^4)^2)$	$\mathcal{O}((\alpha_s \alpha^3)^2)$	$\mathcal{O}((\alpha_s^2 \alpha^2)^2)$	sum	total	fraction [%]
$q\bar{q}$	0.018134(6)	2.4932(9)	0.9199(2)	3.4312(9)	3.4366(6)	13
$gg$	–	7.818(4)	16.650(9)	24.47(1)	23.010(7)	87
$\Sigma$	0.018134(6)	10.311(4)	17.570(9)	27.90(1)	26.446(7)	100

- Irred. background from  $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ :  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}b\bar{b}}^{\text{Irred.}} = 19.06 \text{ fb} = (26.45 - 7.39) \text{ fb}$  (260%)

mainly from QCD production (Higgs replaced by gluon)

additional background from Z bosons ( $t\bar{t}Z$  : 1.01 fb), W bosons and photons

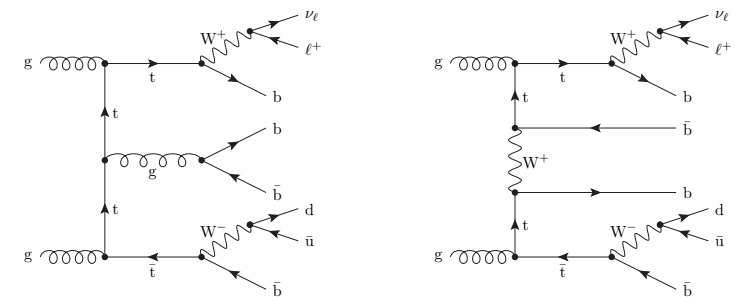
- Negative interferences between different orders:

$< 0.2\%$  in  $q\bar{q}$ , 6% in  $gg$ , 5% for  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}b\bar{b}}$

main source:

interferences of dominant QCD diagrams with  $t$ -channel W-exchange diagrams

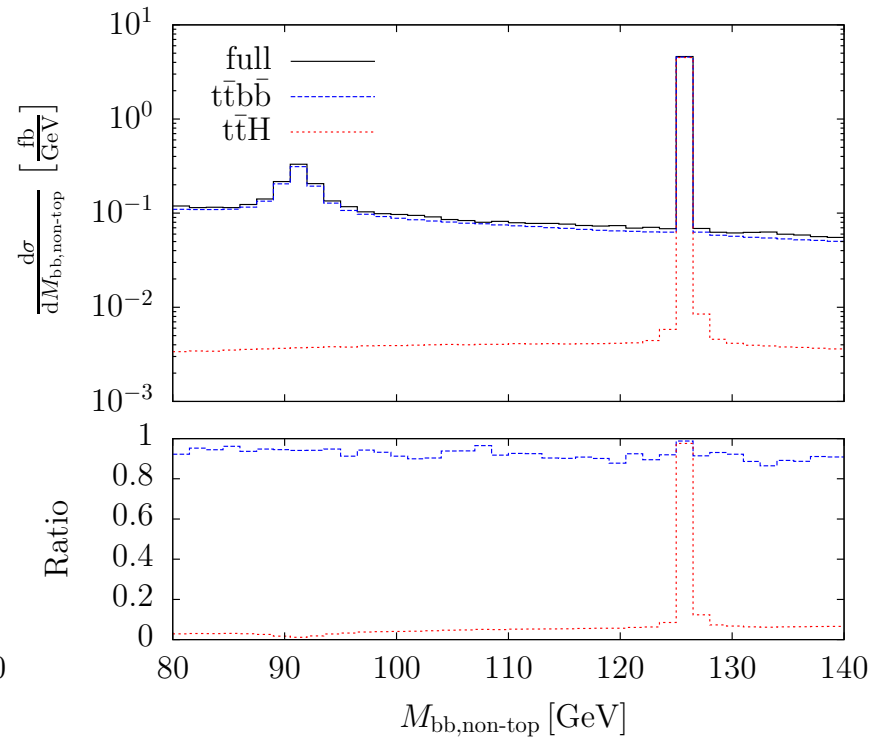
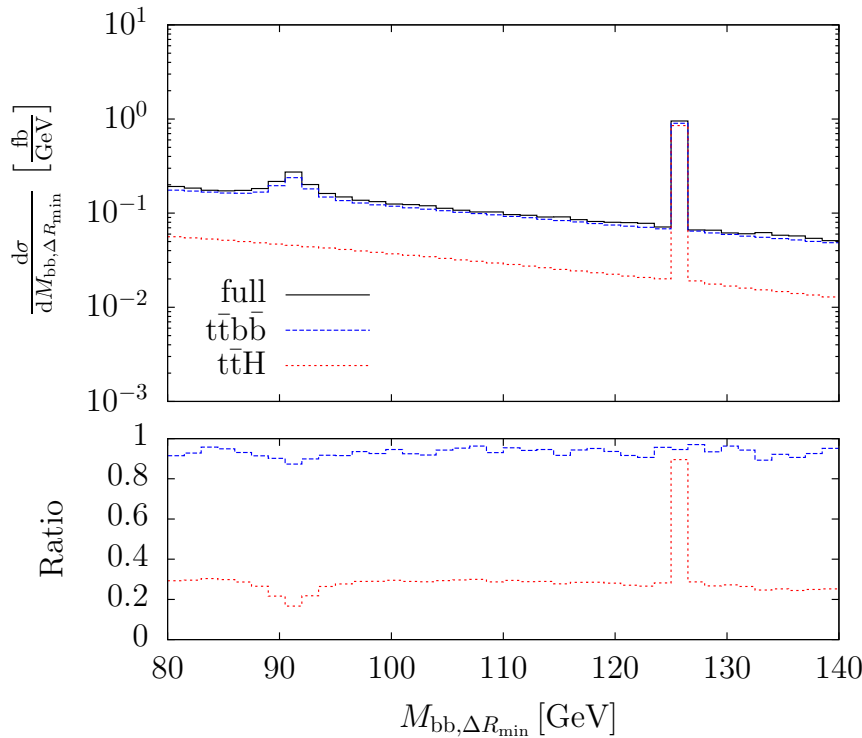
signal–background interference  $< 1\%$



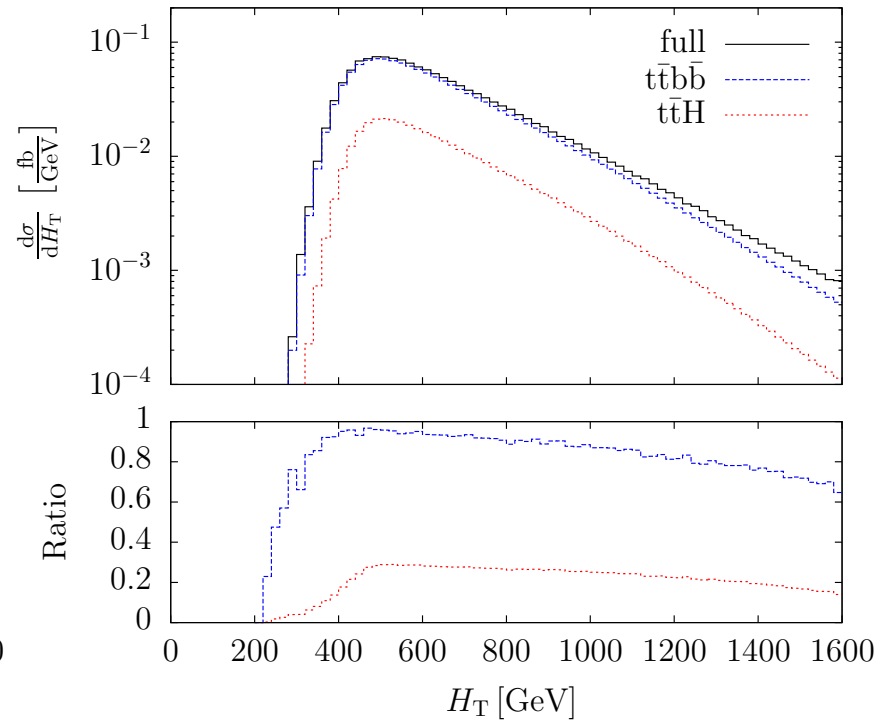
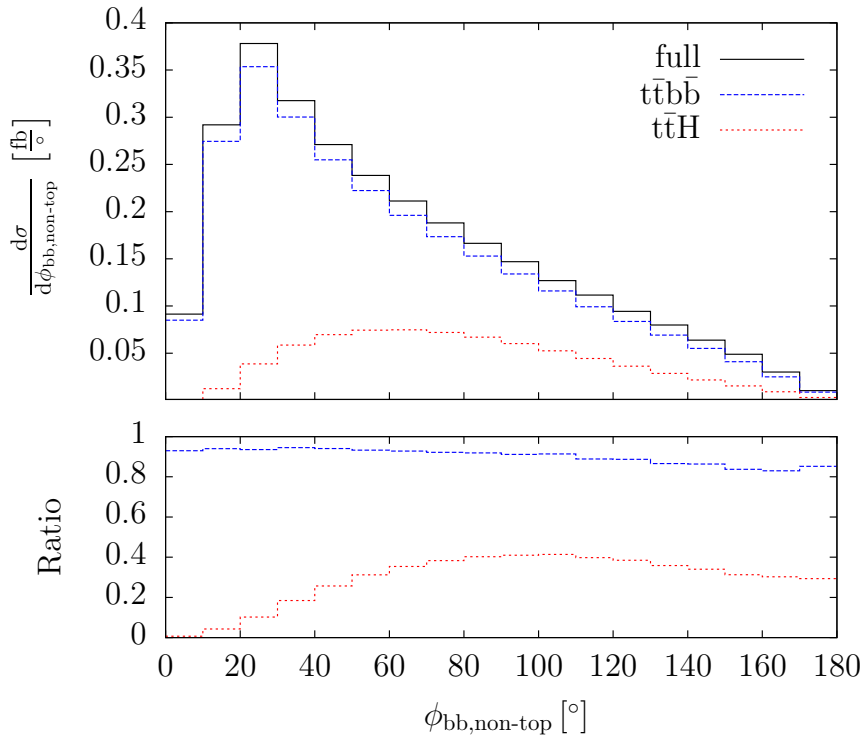
$pp \rightarrow l^+ \nu_{lj} b \bar{b} b \bar{b}$  (at leading order)

	cross section [fb]						
	$\mathcal{O}((\alpha^4)^2)$	$\mathcal{O}((\alpha_s \alpha^3)^2)$	$\mathcal{O}((\alpha_s^2 \alpha^2)^2)$	$\mathcal{O}((\alpha_s^3 \alpha)^2)$	sum	total	fraction [%]
$gq$	–	0.231(4)	0.370(2)	0.365(1)	0.966 (4)	0.944 (9)	3.3
$g\bar{q}$	–	0.0421(6)	0.0679(3)	0.0608(2)	0.1708(7)	0.167 (1)	0.6
$qq^{(\prime)}$	0.001471(2)	0.0575(5)	0.1106(2)	0.07871(9)	0.2483(6)	0.2478(8)	0.9
$q\bar{q}$	0.01973(3)	2.531(6)	0.957(1)	0.00333(1)	3.511 (6)	3.538 (4)	12.4
$gg$	–	8.01(2)	17.19(6)	0.00756(2)	25.21(6)	23.71(6)	82.9
$\Sigma$	0.02120(3)	10.87(2)	18.69(6)	0.516(2)	30.10 (6)	28.60 (6)	100

- 83% from  $gg$  processes
- additional partonic channels ( $gq, g\bar{q}, qq^{(\prime)}$ ) contribute 5%
- increase by only 8% relative to  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b} \rightarrow l^+ \nu_{lj} b \bar{b} b \bar{b}$  (26.45  $\rightarrow$  28.60 fb)  
but 30% increase relative to  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H \rightarrow l^+ \nu_{lj} b \bar{b} b \bar{b}$  (7.39 fb)
- $\mathcal{O}((\alpha_s^3 \alpha)^2) < 2\%$
- interference pattern as for  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b} \rightarrow l^+ \nu_{lj} b \bar{b} b \bar{b}$

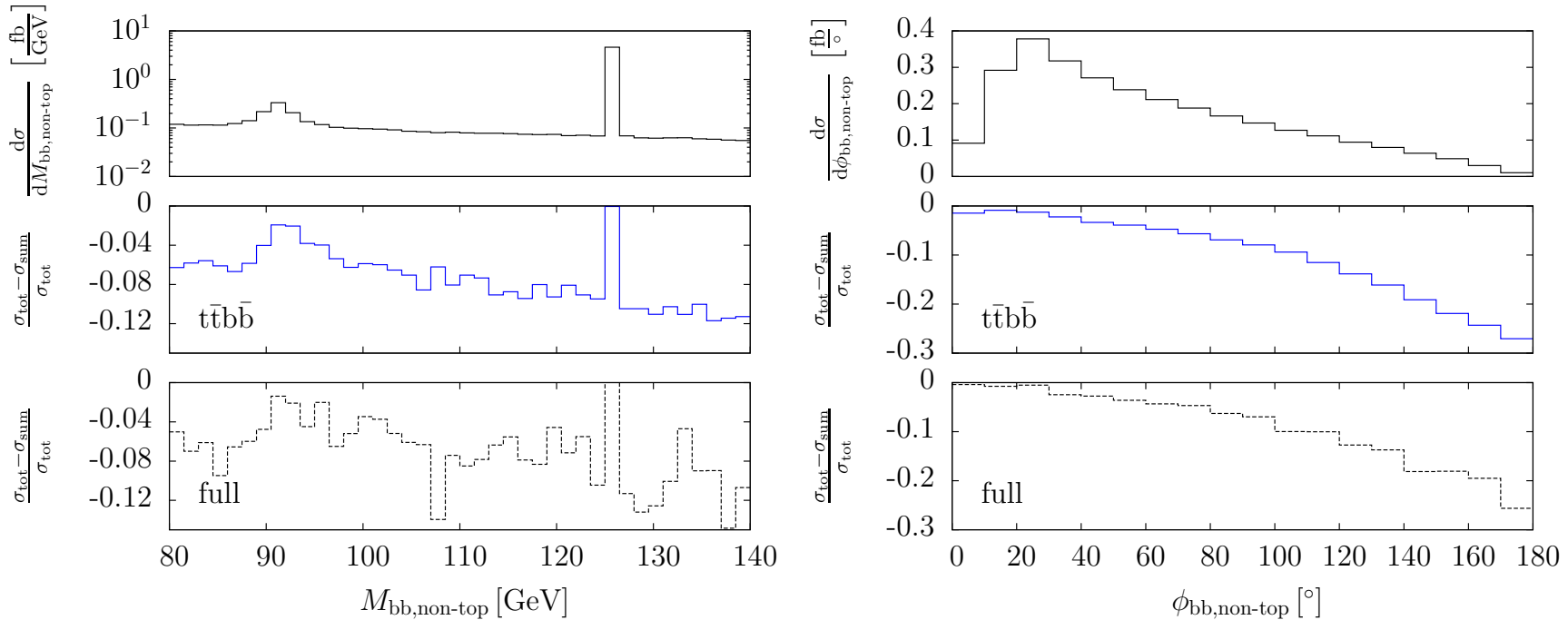


- **invariant mass of b-jet pair with smallest  $\Delta R$  distance:**  
Higgs peak only weakly enhanced over combinatorial effect  
 $t\bar{t}H/\text{full} \sim 0.26$  (as for integrated cross section) outside resonances
- **invariant mass of b-jet pair not resulting from top quarks:**  
 $t\bar{t}H/\text{full}$  suppressed outside Higgs resonance (few per cent)  
Higgs resonance and Z resonance well tagged



- azimuthal angle between b-jet pair not resulting from top quarks:  
background peaked at small angles ( $b\bar{b}$  pair dominantly from gluons)  
signal prefers larger angles (massive Higgs boson)
- sum of all transverse energies  $H_T$ :  
signal suppressed for small  $H_T$  ( $t\bar{t}H$  threshold)  
signal drops faster for large  $H_T$  (intermediate massive particles)  
behaviour typical for transverse-momentum distributions

Constant shift of  $-5\%$  for most contributions with some exceptions



- invariant mass of  $b\bar{b}$  pair not resulting from top quark: interference varies between 0% (on Higgs resonance) and  $-10\%$
- azimuthal angle between  $b\bar{b}$  pair not resulting from top quark: large interference for large angles

# NLO QCD corrections to

$$pp \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}H$$



Process: pp → e<sup>+</sup>ν<sub>e</sub>μ<sup>-</sup> $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ b $\bar{b}$ H

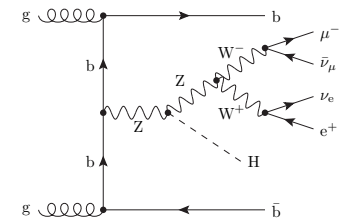
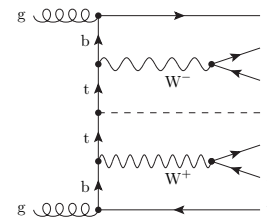
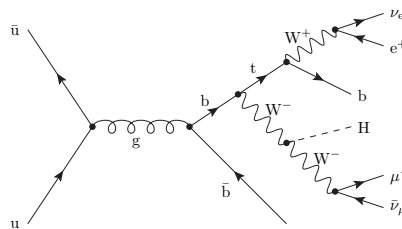
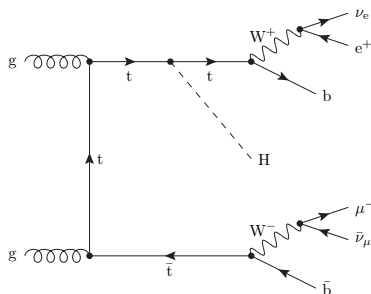
stable Higgs boson, but full top decays ⇒

- misses substantial part of irreducible background to t $\bar{t}$ H production
- includes all Higgs-production contributions  
also Higgs radiation from W/Z bosons (radiation from b quarks neglected)

partonic subprocesses

- gg → e<sup>+</sup>ν<sub>e</sub>μ<sup>-</sup> $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ b $\bar{b}$ H       $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s\alpha^{5/2})$
- q $\bar{q}$  → e<sup>+</sup>ν<sub>e</sub>μ<sup>-</sup> $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ b $\bar{b}$ H       $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s\alpha^{5/2})$   
[  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^{7/2}) \sim 0.2\%$  of  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s\alpha^{5/2})$  at LO ⇒ neglected ]

sample diagrams



## Results for signal process $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$ (on-shell final-state particles)

- NLO QCD corrections ( $\sim 20-30\%$ ) [Beenakker et al. '01, 02](#), [Dawson et al. '01-03](#)  
residual NLO scale uncertainty  $\sim 10\%$
- NLO parton-shower matching [Frederix et al. '11](#); [Garzelli et al. '11](#); [Hartanto et al. '15](#)
- NLO EW corrections [Frixione et al. '14, '15](#) (stable top/Higgs); [Zhang et al '14](#) (NWA)

## results for dominant background process $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$

- NLO QCD corrections [Bredenstein et al. '08-10](#); [Bevilacqua et al. '09](#)
- NLO parton-shower matching [Kardos, Trócsányi '13](#)
- NLO QCD corrections for massive bottom quarks and parton-shower matching [Cascioli et al. '13](#)

## results for reducible background $t\bar{t}jj$ (misidentified bottom quarks)

- NLO QCD corrections [Bevilacqua et al. '10](#)
- NLO parton-shower matching [Höche et al. '14](#)

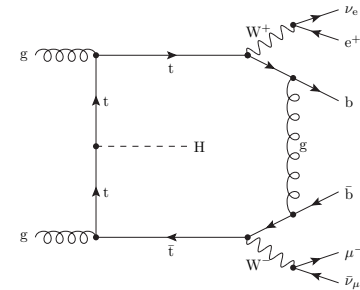
Calculation follows in many respects the one for pp → W<sup>+</sup>W<sup>-</sup>b $\bar{b}$

Denner, Dittmaier, Kallweit, Pozzorini '11, '12

- massless bottom quarks
- complex-mass scheme for t, Z, W Denner, Dittmaier, Roth, Wieders '99
- Catani–Seymour dipole subtraction for real corrections Catani, Seymour '97  
(same dipoles as for pp → W<sup>+</sup>W<sup>-</sup>b $\bar{b}$ ) Dittmaier '99; Phaf, Weinzierl 01; Catani et al. '02

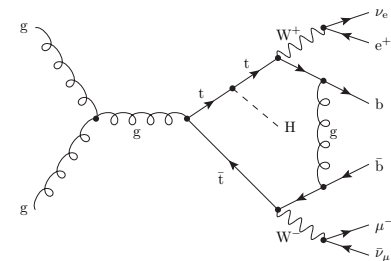
differences

- all matrix elements calculated with RECOLA
- appearance of heptagons (7-point functions)



partonic processes for real corrections

- $gg \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} H g$
- $q \bar{q} \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} H g$
- $g\{q/\bar{q}\} \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b \bar{b} H\{q/\bar{q}\}$



## Setup for calculation

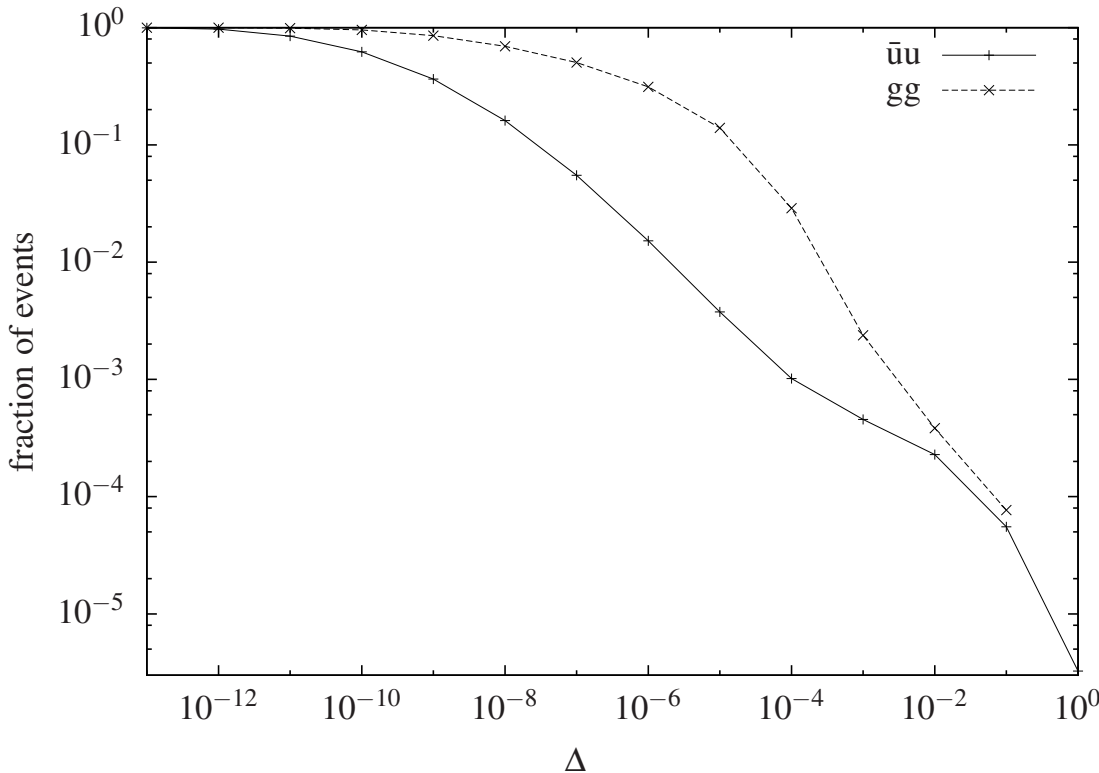
- (tree-level and one-loop) matrix elements with **RECOLA**  
(Recursive computation of one-loop amplitudes) Actis, Denner, Hofer, Scharf, Uccirati
- tensor integrals with **COLLIER**  
(Complex one-loop library in extended regularizations) Denner, Dittmaier, Hofer  
⇒ published: <https://collier.hepforge.org/> and arXiv:1604.06792
- phase-space integration with in-house **multi-channel Monte Carlo** Feger

## Checks

- LO and NLO matrix elements successfully compared with  
**MADGRAPH5\_AMC@NLO** Alwall et al. '14
- Ward identities checked for  $gg \rightarrow W^+ W^- b\bar{b}H$  at LO and NLO
- process without Higgs compared in detail against original calculation of  
 $pp \rightarrow W^+ W^- b\bar{b}$  Denner, Dittmaier, Kallweit, Pozzorini '11, '12  
equivalent structure of real corrections and subtraction terms

## Tuned comparison of virtual contributions between RECOLA and MADGRAPH5\_AMC@NLO

Alwall et al. '14



$$\Delta = \frac{(\text{Re } \mathcal{M}_0^* \mathcal{M}_1)_{\text{MG}}}{(\text{Re } \mathcal{M}_0^* \mathcal{M}_1)_{\text{Recola}}} - 1$$

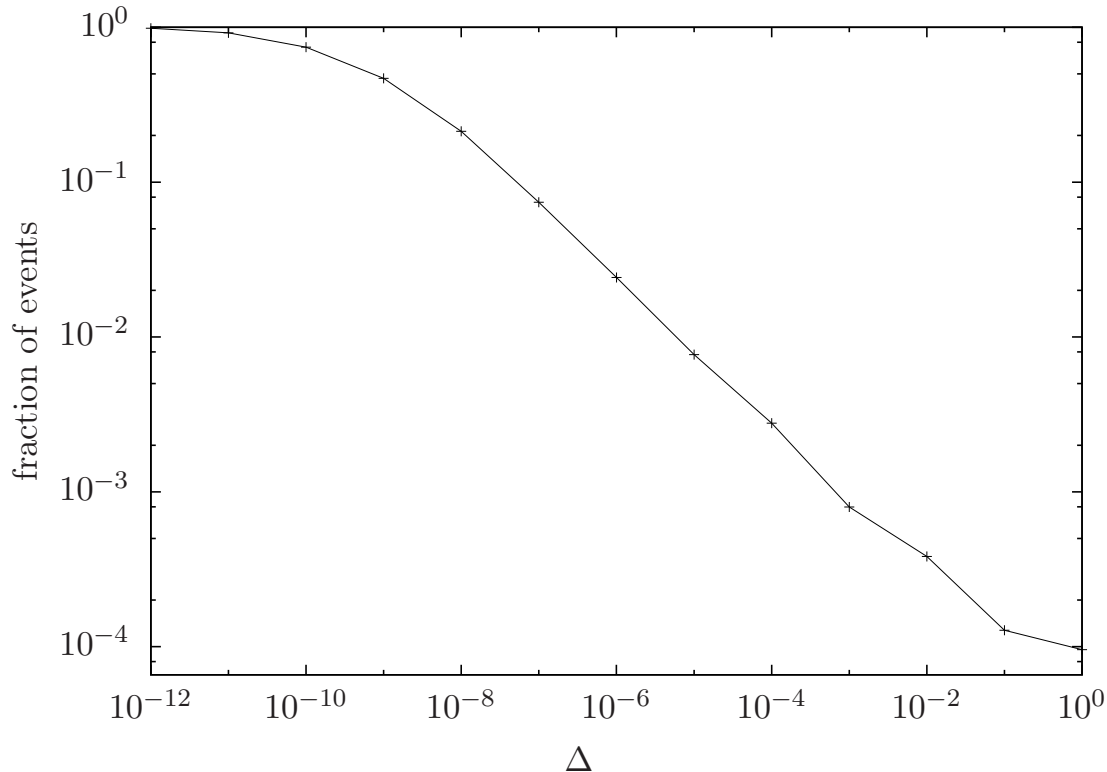
- typical agreement:  
 $10^{-5} - 10^{-10}$  for gg  
 $10^{-8} - 10^{-12}$  for  $\bar{u}u$
- agreement worse than  $10^{-3}$  for less than  
0.3% of points for gg  
0.04% of points for  $\bar{u}u$



- convincing consistency check of MADGRAPH5\_AMC@NLO and RECOLA
- successful check of 7-point functions in COLLIER  
yield substantial contribution to virtual corrections

## Numerical check of Ward identity for $gg \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu H$

(polarization vector of gluon replaced by normalized momentum  $p^\mu/p_0$ )



$$\Delta = \frac{\text{Re } \mathcal{M}_1(\epsilon \rightarrow p/p_0) \mathcal{M}_0^*}{\text{Re } \mathcal{M}_0^* \mathcal{M}_1}$$

- typical accuracy:  
 $10^{-8} - 10^{-10}$
- agreement worse than  
 $10^{-3}$  for less than  
0.04% of points

$\Rightarrow$

- WI check comparable or better than comparison with MADLOOP
- successful check of 7-point functions in COLLIER  
(yield substantial contribution to virtual corrections)

Total cross section for  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu H$  (without cuts)

Set-up:

- tuned parameters
- loose cuts:  $p_{T,b} > 2 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $\Delta R_{bb} > 0.01$   
(needed for IR safety of irreducible background:  $g \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  or  $b \parallel \text{beam}$ )
- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$  matching correction according to [Denner, Dittmaier, Kallweit, Pozzorini '12](#)  
(few per-cent effect)

agreement with literature at level of 1–2 per cent

- with [Beenakker et al. '02](#):
  - ▶ agreement at LO: within 1.6%
  - ▶ agreement at NLO: within 0.1%
- with [Frederix et al. '11](#):
  - ▶ agreement at LO: within 1.6%
  - ▶ agreement at NLO: within 0.6%

- pp collider energy: 13 TeV
- PDFs: **CT10 NLO** Lai et al. '10
- scales:
  - fixed scale:  $\mu_R = \mu_F = m_t + \frac{1}{2}M_H = 236 \text{ GeV}$  Beenakker et al. '03
  - dynamical scale:  $\mu_R = \mu_F = (m_{t,T}m_{\bar{t},T}m_{H,T})^{1/3}$  with  $m_T = \sqrt{m^2 + p_T^2}$  Frederix et al. '11
- LO/NLO top-quark width including off-shell W-boson effects ( $t \rightarrow bl^+\nu_l$ ) from Jezabek, Kühn '89
- jet clustering: **anti- $k_T$  algorithm** with  $\Delta R = 0.4$  Cacciari, Salam, Soyez '08
- **cuts**: require two bottom jets and two charged leptons with

$$p_{T,b} > 25 \text{ GeV}, \quad |\eta_b| < 2.5$$

$$p_{T,l} > 20 \text{ GeV}, \quad |\eta_l| < 2.5$$

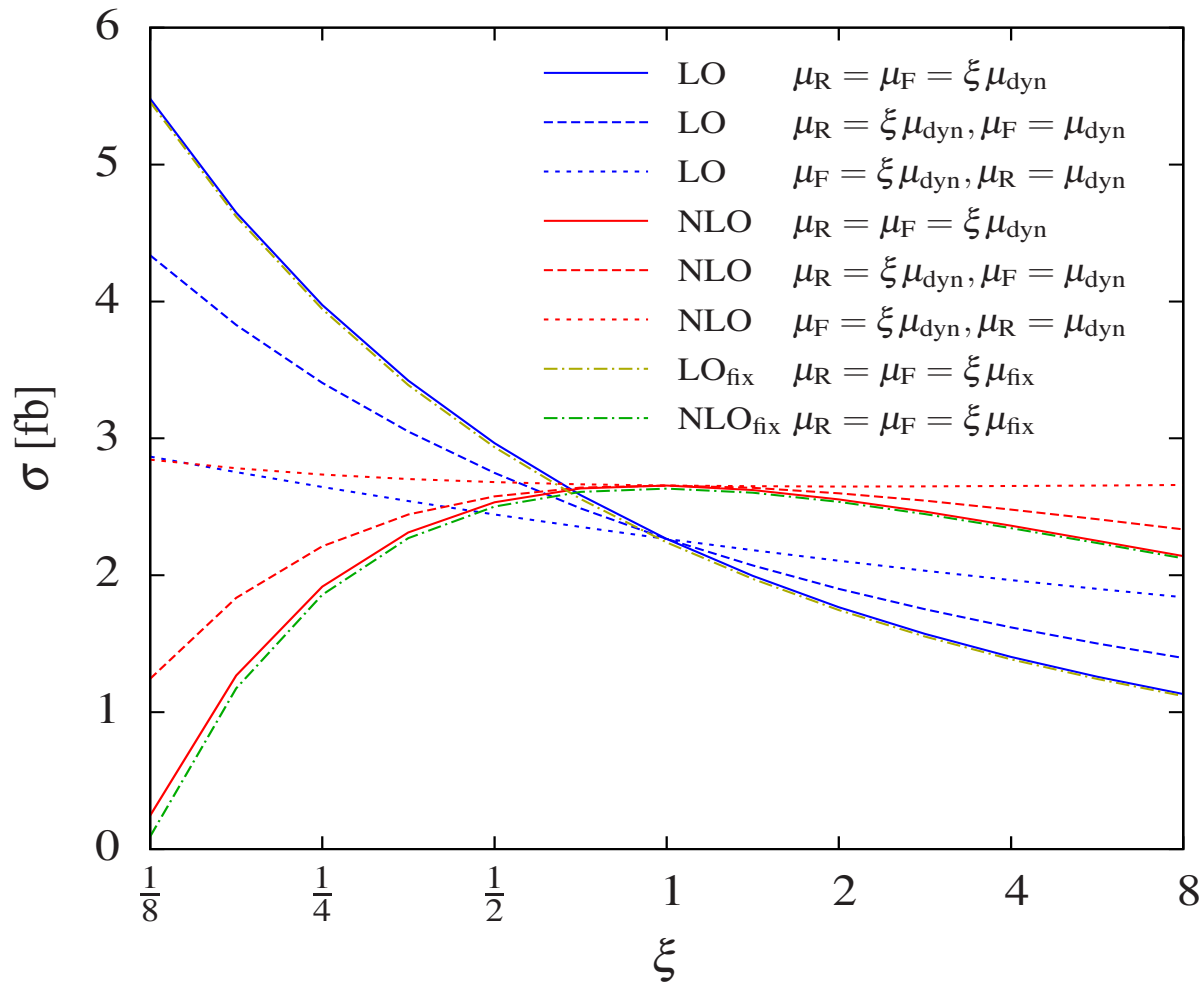
$$p_{T,\text{miss}} > 20 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\Delta R_{bb} > 0.4$$



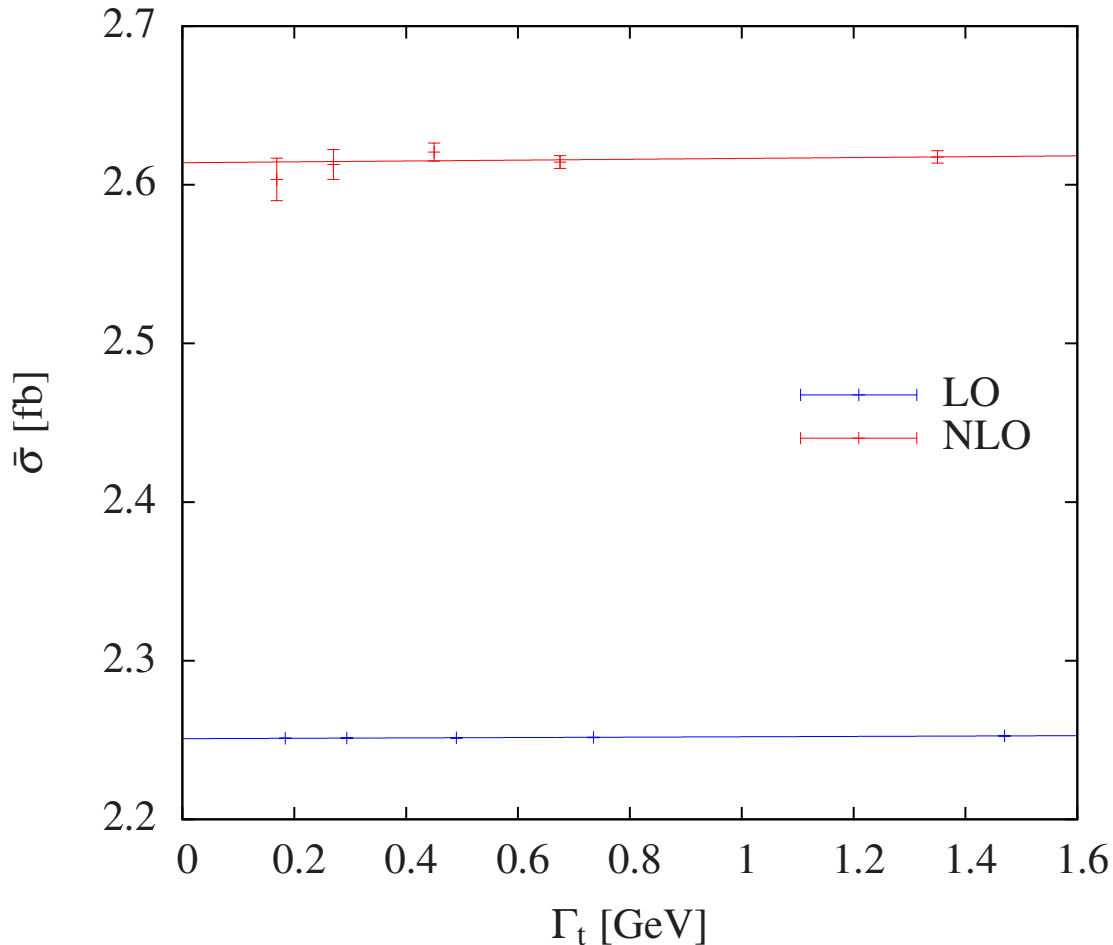
$\mu_0$	channel	$\sigma_{\text{LO}}$ [fb]	$\sigma_{\text{NLO}}$ [fb]	$K$
$\mu_{\text{dyn}}$	gg	$1.5906(1)^{+33.7\%}_{-23.6\%}$	$2.024(3)^{+8.4\%}_{-16.2\%}$	1.273(2)
	$q\bar{q}$	$0.67498(9)^{+24.1\%}_{-18.1\%}$	$0.495(1)^{+17.2\%}_{-39.5\%}$	0.733(2)
	$g\bar{q}$		$0.136(1)^{+295\%}_{-166\%}$	
	pp	$2.2656(1)^{+30.8\%}_{-22.0\%}$	$2.656(3)^{+0.9\%}_{-4.6\%}$	1.172(1)
$\mu_{\text{fix}}$	pp	$2.2401(1)^{+31.0\%}_{-22.0\%}$	$2.633(3)^{+0.6\%}_{-5.0\%}$	1.176(1)

- results for fixed and dynamical scale agree well  
logarithmic average:  $\bar{\mu}_{\text{dyn}} = 222.3 \text{ GeV} \approx 236 \text{ GeV} = \mu_{\text{fix}}$
- $K$  factor for  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$  recovered  
[Beenakker et al. '03:  $K \sim 1.2$ , Frixione et al. '11:  $K \sim 1.1$ ]
- reduction of scale dependence from 30% at LO to 5% at NLO
- LO contribution of partonic channels with incoming bottom quarks: 0.2%
- effect of finite bottom-quark mass on LO cross section: 0.03%



- difference between fixed and dynamical scale 1%
- largest effects for simultaneous variation of  $\mu_R$  and  $\mu_F$

## Limit of on-shell top quarks



Extrapolate linearly

$$\bar{\sigma}(\Gamma_t) = \sigma(\Gamma_t) \left( \frac{\Gamma_t}{\Gamma_t^{\text{phys}}} \right)^2$$

to  $\Gamma_t \rightarrow 0$

$\left( \frac{\Gamma_t}{\Gamma_t^{\text{phys}}} \right)^2$  corrects to  
physical branching ratios

$$\bar{\sigma}(\Gamma_t \rightarrow 0) / \sigma(\Gamma_t^{\text{phys}}) - 1$$

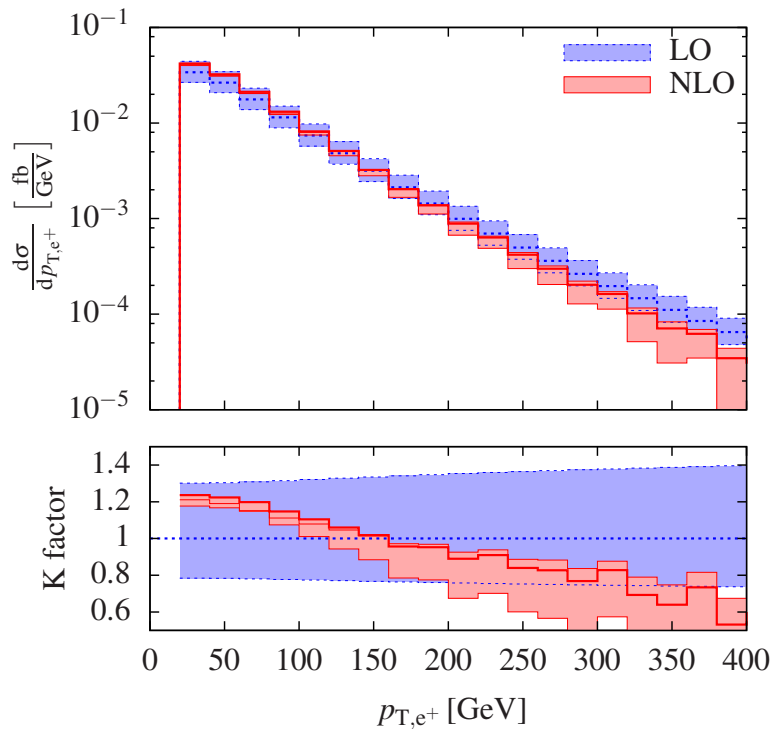
$$= -0.08\% \text{ at LO}$$

$$= -0.14\% \text{ at NLO}$$

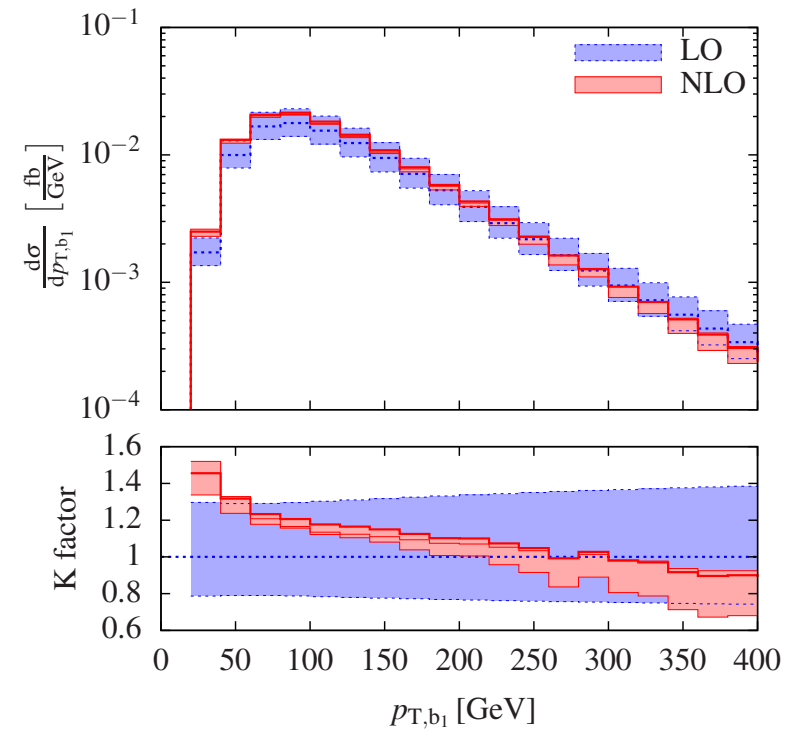
(of order  $\Gamma_t/m_t \sim 0.8\%$   
as expected)

fixed scale:

positron



hardest bottom quark



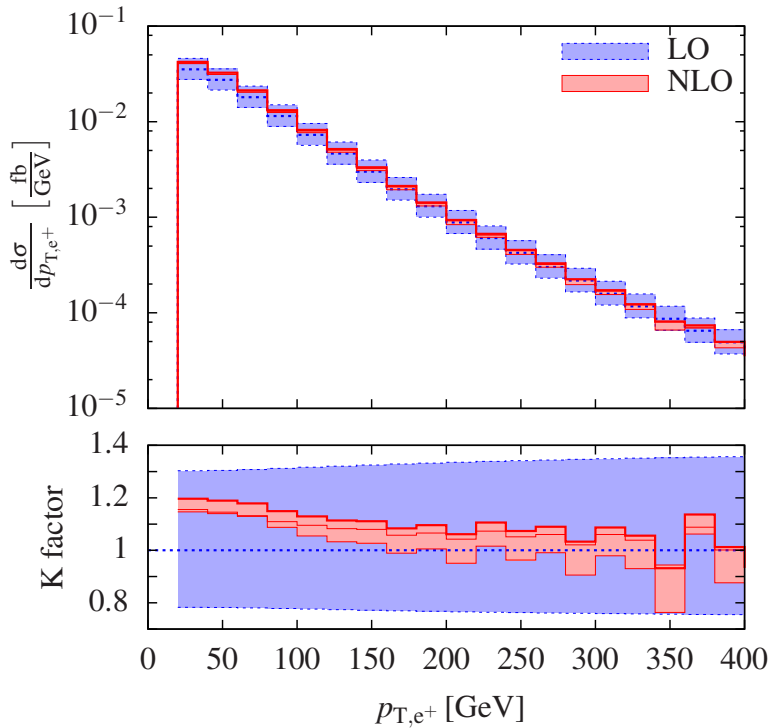
- steep drop of distributions
- $K$  factor decreases strongly with  $p_T$   
(almost factor 2 between 25 and 400 GeV)

$$K_{\text{LO}} = d\sigma_{\text{LO}}(\mu) / d\sigma_{\text{LO}}(\mu_0)$$

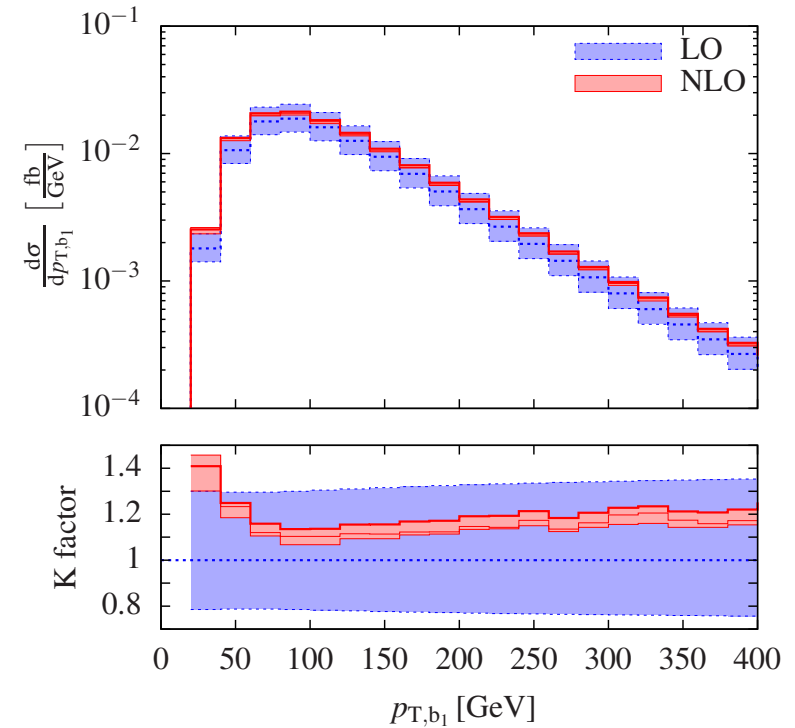
$$K_{\text{NLO}} = d\sigma_{\text{NLO}}(\mu) / d\sigma_{\text{LO}}(\mu_0)$$

dynamical scale:

positron



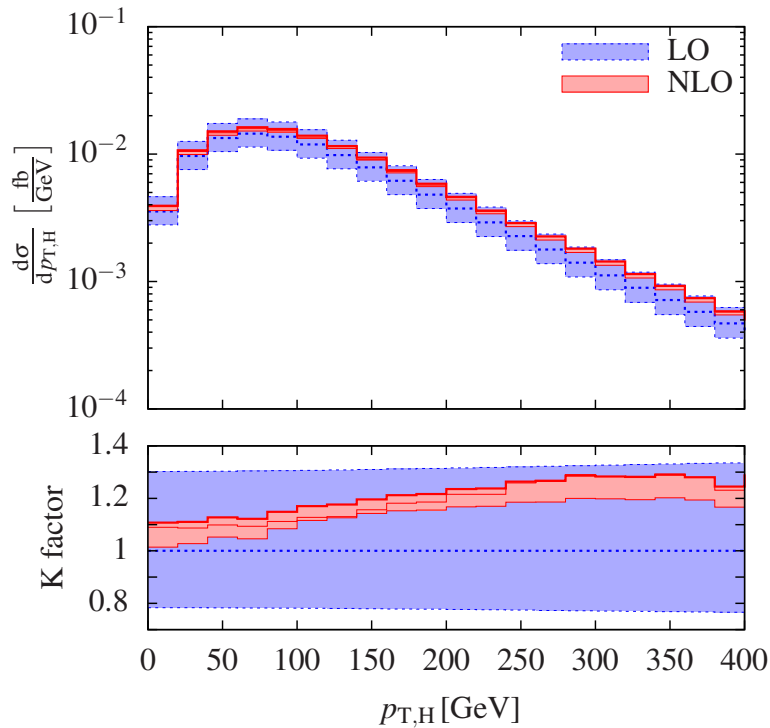
hardest bottom quark



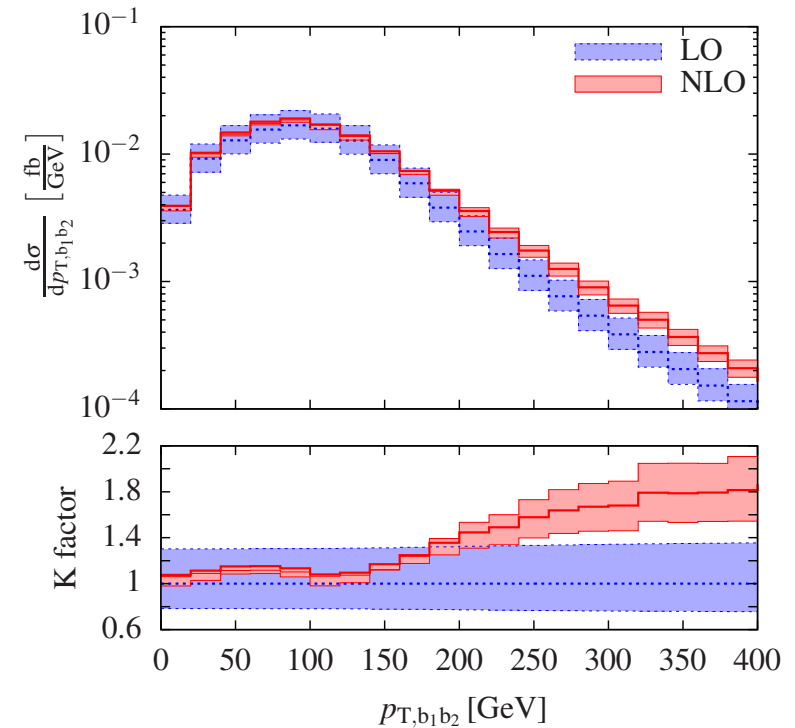
- $K$  factor much flatter as function of  $p_T$   
variation between 25 and 400 GeV within 20% and LO uncertainty band
- residual scale uncertainty  $\sim 10\%$

dynamical scale:

Higgs boson



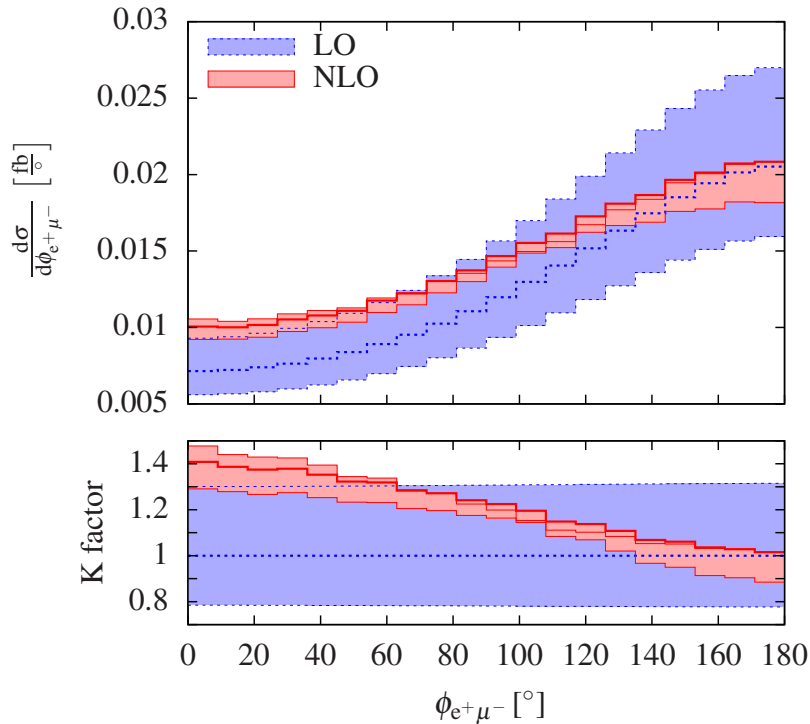
bottom quark pair



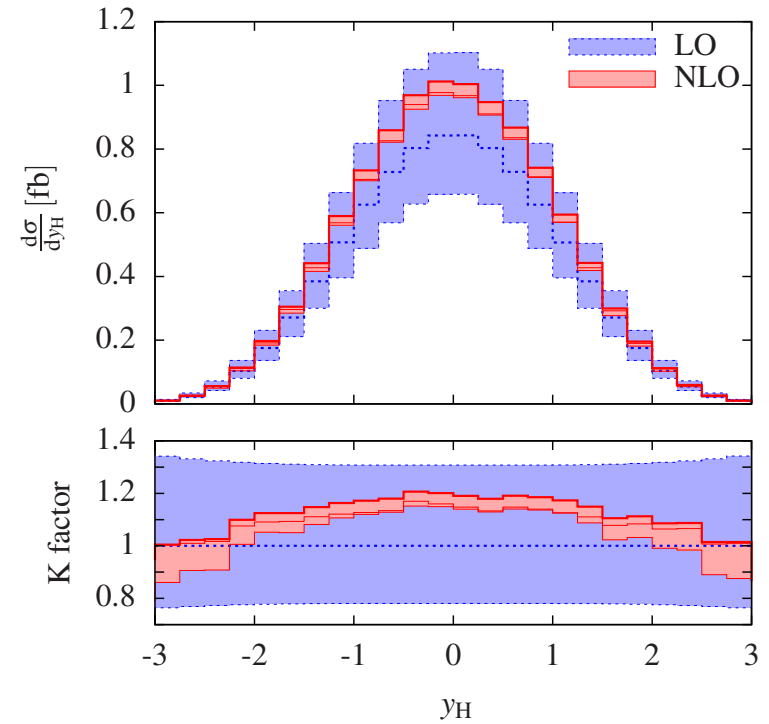
- $K$  factor for Higgs-boson  $p_T$  within LO uncertainty band
- $K$  factor for b-quark pair  $p_T$  increases for high transverse momentum (high  $p_{T,bb}$  region suppressed for on-shell top quarks, even larger effect for  $t\bar{t}$  production)

dynamical scale:

azimuth between leptons



rapidity of Higgs boson



- NLO corrections shift events to small  $\phi_{e+\mu-}$ , 40% effect from corrections to top decays (effect somewhat larger for fixed scale)
- NLO corrections shift events to small Higgs-boson rapidity, 20% effect

# Conclusions



Process  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$  including top and Higgs decays investigated

- Leading-order analysis of  $pp \rightarrow l^+ \nu_l jj b \bar{b} \bar{b}$ 
  - ▶ irreducible background  $\sim 2.6 \times$  signal at leading order
  - ▶  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b} \rightarrow l^+ \nu_l jj b \bar{b} \bar{b}$  describes full process within 10% (30% relative to  $t\bar{t}H$  signal)
  - ▶ sizeable interferences of  $-5\%$  between QCD and EW diagrams (20% relative to  $t\bar{t}H$  signal)  
flat for most but not all distributions
- NLO QCD corrections to  $pp \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}H$  ( $pp \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu b\bar{b}H$ )
  - ▶ including corrections in  $t\bar{t}H$  production and top decays
  - ▶ NLO corrections  $\sim 17\%$  (10–40% for distributions)
  - ▶ scale dependence reduced to 5–10%
  - ▶ dynamical scale improves perturbative stability for large  $p_T$
  - ▶ effects of top-quark decays on integrated cross section  $< 1\%$
  - ▶ first calculation of  $2 \rightarrow 5$  process with RECOLA and COLLIER