## Theoretical predictions for top anti-top production at NLO

Malgorzata Worek Wuppertal Uni.

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## top anti-top at the LHC

- □ One of the first measurements carried out by LHC
- Produced predominantly through strong interactions
- □ Decays without forming hadrons via  $t \rightarrow W b$
- Distinguished by its large mass
- □ Is the top quark mass generated by the Higgs mechanism ?
- Does it play more fundamental role ?
- LHC tt factory! Large statistics 10<sup>7</sup> tt pairs per year
- Experimental uncertainty reached 6% (!) level
- □ Tests of QCD, intrinsic properties of top and its EW interactions
- □ Accurate determination of  $\sigma_{tt}$  provides indirect determination of  $m_t$
- □ Anomalies in the total rate would indicate non-QCD production channels
- □ Must be confirmed by precise studies of the top quark distributions
- Distributions would be distorted by the presence of anomalous couplings or s-channel resonances expected in several BSM scenarios

# Why LO is not enough ?

- Many partons in the final state, all off-shell effects, interferences, non-resonance contributions, full color information, spin correlations, etc.
- □ Standard Model and beyond tools

ALPGEN, COMPHEP, HELAC-PHEGAS, MADEVENT, SHERPA, WHIZARD, ...

Predictions can be matched with General purpose Monte Carlo programs (parton shower, hadronization, multiple interactions, hadrons decays, etc.)

HERWIG, HERWIG++, PYTHIA 6.4, PYTHIA 8.1, SHERPA, ...

- □ High sensitivity to unphysical input scales
- □ Huge theoretical errors related to the scale dependence
- □ Very crude description of differential distributions
- □ Very simplified description of jets: parton = jet





## At least NLO QCD

- □ Stabilizing the scale in the QCD input parameters:  $\alpha_s$  and PDFs
- More reliable theoretical error related to the scale dependence
- □ Normalization and shape of distributions first known at NLO
- □ 2  $\rightarrow$  4(5) processes are many scale processes:
  - ♦ Z + 3j, ttH → ttbb, ttbb, bbbb, 4j, W + 4j
  - better understanding of how to choose scale
  - dynamic variables that depend on the event structure
- □ Improved description of jets







Parton Shower

Hadron Level

The strongest argument in support of NLO calculations is their success in an accurate description of the LEP and TeVatron data !

### In this talk

- A good theoretical understanding of top pair production is crucial for many analyses at Tevatron and LHC
  - top a signal (precise measurement of top quark properties)
  - top a background in new physics searches (Higgs boson, BSM)
- □ Top pair phenomenology has been widely investigated since many years with impressive progress in several directions (NLO, NNLO, resummation...)
- In this talk: few (quite recent) selected topics which show current status of NLO predictions at the LHC and forward-backward asymmetry at the TeVatron for for processes:



# top anti-top @ NLO QCD

- □ Narrow-width approximation
- NLO corrections to both production and decay, neglecting non-factorizable corrections, including spin correlations at NLO
  - Double differential angular distributions to probe spin correlations of top

W. Bernreuther, A. Brandenburg, Z. G. Si and P. Uwer (2004)

- Flexible Monte Carlo implementation, fully differential level
- Spin correlations of top anti-top via decay products
- ♦  $pp \rightarrow tt + X \rightarrow WWbb + X \rightarrow lv lv bb + X (di-lepton)$
- ♦  $pp \rightarrow tt + X \rightarrow WWbb + X \rightarrow ud lv bb + X$  (lepton + jet)

K. Melnikov and M. Schulze (2009)

□ Results of NLO+PS matching available since quite some time

- MC@NLO
- POWHEG

S. Frixione, P. Nason, B. R. Webber (2003) S. Frixione, P. Nason, G. Ridolfi (2007)

### top anti-top @ NLO in NWA

□ Predictions at LO and NLO with and without corrections to the decay □  $pp \rightarrow tt + X \rightarrow WWbb + X \rightarrow lv lv bb + X$ 



#### Mixed QCD-EW Corrections

NLO order in the strong and weak gauge couplings (NLOW with NWA)
 The ratio of the distributions evaluated at NLOW and NLO: m<sub>tt</sub> and p<sub>T</sub>(t)
 pp → tt + X → WWbb + X → lv lv bb + X

W. Bernreuther, Z. G. Si (2010)



### Mixed QCD-EW Corrections

■ NLO order in the strong and weak gauge couplings (NLOW), with NWA ■  $pp \rightarrow tt + X \rightarrow WWbb + X \rightarrow lv \ lv \ bb + X$ 

W. Bernreuther, Z. G. Si (2010)



- Effect of top anti-top spin correlations
- Azimuthal angle distribution of two leptons
   With and without top anti-top spin correlations
   Solid line is LO
   Dashed line is NLOW

#### @ LHC 14 TeV

## Beyond NWA

- Complete NLO description of the production of top anti-top pairs including interferences, off-shell effects, and non-resonant backgrounds, spin correlations
- □ State of the art description of tt process
- □ Two independent calculations with per-mille agreement  $pp \rightarrow WWbb + X \rightarrow lv \ lv \ bb + X$

A. Denner, S. Dittmaier, S. Kallweit, S. Pozzorini (2011)

Finite-width effects on  $\sigma_{tt}$  small, around 1%, both at the Tevatron and the LHC

 $pp \rightarrow lv \ lv \ bb + X$ 

G. Bevilacqua, M. Czakon, A. van Hameren, C. G. Papadopoulos, M. Worek (2011)



## Beyond NWA



NLO QCD Corrections K = NLO/LO = **1.47** 

Scale dependence  $LO 37\% \rightarrow NLO 9\%$ 

#### @ LHC 7 TeV & 10 TeV

Algorithm	$\sigma_{\rm LO}$ [fb]	$\sigma_{\rm NLO}^{\alpha_{\rm max}=1}$ [fb]	$\sigma_{\rm NLO}^{\alpha_{\rm max}=0.01}$ [fb]
anti- $k_T$	$550.54\pm0.18$	$808.46\pm0.98$	$808.29 \pm 1.04$
$k_T$	$550.54\pm0.18$	$808.67\pm0.97$	$808.86 \pm 1.03$
C/A	$550.54\pm0.18$	$808.74\pm0.97$	$808.28\pm1.03$

Algorithm	$\sigma_{ m LO}~[{ m fb}]$	$\sigma_{\rm NLO}^{\alpha_{\rm max}=1}$ [fb]	$\sigma_{\rm NLO}^{\alpha_{\rm max}=0.01} \; [{\rm fb}]$	
anti- $k_T$	$1394.72 \pm 0.75$	$1993.3\pm2.5$	$1993.9\pm2.7$	
$k_T$	$1394.72 \pm 0.75$	$1995.2 \pm 2.5$	$1994.3\pm2.7$	
C/A	$1394.72 \pm 0.75$	$1995.0 \pm 2.5$	$1994.3\pm2.7$	

- Double-, single- and non-resonant top quark contributions
- □ Complex-mass scheme for unstable top
- W gauge bosons are treated off-shell

G. Bevilacqua, M. Czakon, A. van Hameren, C. G. Papadopoulos, M. Worek (2011) A. Denner, S. Dittmaier, S. Kallweit, S. Pozzorini (2011)



G. Bevilacqua, M. Czakon, A. van Hameren, C. G. Papadopoulos, M. Worek (2011)

#### Finite Width Corrections

@ TeVatron 1.96 TeV

- □ Invariant mass distribution  $m_{eb}$  at the Tevatron
- □ In NWA the LO has upper bound  $m_{eb}^2 \le m_t^2 m_W^2 \sim 150 \text{ GeV}$
- NLO prediction is barely consistent with the LO uncertainty band close to the kinematic bound



A. Denner, S. Dittmaier, S. Kallweit, S. Pozzorini (2011)



### A<sub>FB</sub> for top anti-top

Charge asymmetry and pair asymmetry of top quarks and leptonic charge asymmetry and lepton pair asymmetry for di-leptonic final state at the TeVatron with and without spin correlations

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{A}^t &= \mathcal{A}^t_{FB} = -\mathcal{A}^{ar{t}}_{FB} \ \mathcal{A}^{\ell^+} &= \mathcal{A}^{\ell^+}_{FB} = -\mathcal{A}^{\ell^-}_{FB} \end{aligned}$$

@ TeVatron 1.96 TeV

	Tevatron $((t\bar{t} \text{ correlated}))$			Tevatron $(t\bar{t} \text{ uncorrelated}))$		
$\mu$	$m_t/2$	$m_t$	$2m_t$	$m_t/2$	$m_t$	$2m_t$
A (NLO')	0.053	0.048	0.044	0.053	0.047	0.043
A (NLOW')	0.054	0.049	0.046	0.054	0.049	0.046
$A^{t\bar{t}}$ (NLO')	0.074	0.068	0.062	0.075	0.067	0.061
$A^{tt}$ (NLOW')	0.078	0.071	0.066	0.077	0.070	0.065
$A^{\ell}$ (NLO')	0.038	0.033	0.031	0.037	0.033	0.030
$A^{\ell}$ (NLOW')	0.039	0.034	0.032	0.038	0.035	0.032
$A^{\ell\ell}$ (NLO')	0.047	0.042	0.038	0.050	0.045	0.041
$A^{\ell\ell}$ (NLOW')	0.048	0.044	0.040	0.052	0.047	0.043



G. Bevilacqua, M. Czakon, A. van Hameren, C. G. Papadopoulos, M. Worek (2011)



# top anti-top + jet @ NLO

- Substantial number of events in the inclusive top-quark sample is accompanied by the additional jet
- **Top** quarks are produced with larger energies and  $p_T$  at the LHC
- □ Higher probability for top to radiate gluons
- **a** Ratio of  $\sigma_{tt+j} / \sigma_{tt}$  @ NLO
  - \* At the TeVatron: 30% and 11% for  $p_T$  cut of 20 GeV and 40 GeV
  - \* At the LHC: 47% and 22% for  $p_T$  cut of 50 GeV and 100 GeV
- Important background to various new physics searches
- Example: Higgs boson production via vector-boson fusion
- Need for precise theoretical predictions for this process



## top anti-top + jet @ NLO

Complete phenomenological studies at NLO QCD

On shell production

S. Dittmaier, P. Uwer, S. Weinzierl (2007) (2009)

\* NLO corrections to the production with LO decays in NWA

\* NLO corrections to the production and decays (with radiative one) in NWA

 $pp \rightarrow ttj + X \rightarrow WWbbj + X \rightarrow l\nu \ l\nu \ bbj + X$ 

 $pp \rightarrow ttj + X \rightarrow WWbbj + X \rightarrow lv jj bbj + X$ 

K. Melnikov, M. Schulze (2010) K. Melnikov, A. Scharf, M. Schulze (2012)

- □ First results of NLO+PS matching for top anti-top plus jet
  - leading soft and collinear logarithms are resumed
  - \* exclusive, hadron level events can be generated
- □ Two calculations based on the POWHEG BOX method

A. Kardos, C. G. Papadopoulos, Z. Trocsanyi (2011) S. Alioli, S. Moch, P. Uwer (2012)

## top quarks on-shell



Scale dependence of the LO and NLO cross sections at the LHC
 Integrated grass sections for different values of p (ist) sut

Integrated cross sections for different values of  $p_T$ (jet) cut

S. Dittmaier, P. Uwer, S. Weinzierl (2007)

# $A_{FB}$ for top anti-top plus jet

#### @ TeVatron 1.96 TeV

- Forward-backward charge asymmetry at the Tevatron for different values of p<sub>T</sub>(jet) cut
- Scale dependence of the LO and NLO forward-backward charge asymmetry of the top quark

$$\mathcal{A}_{\rm FB,LO}^{\rm t} = \frac{\sigma_{\rm LO}(y_t > 0) - \sigma_{\rm LO}(y_t < 0)}{\sigma_{\rm LO}(y_t > 0) + \sigma_{\rm LO}(y_t < 0)}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\rm FB,NLO}^{\rm t} = \frac{\sigma_{\rm LO}^- + \delta \sigma_{\rm NLO}^-}{\sigma_{\rm LO}^+ + \delta \sigma_{\rm NLO}^+}$$
$$\mathcal{A}_{\rm FB,NLO}^{\rm t} = \frac{\sigma_{\rm LO}^-}{\sigma_{\rm LO}^+} \left(1 + \frac{\delta \sigma_{\rm NLO}^-}{\sigma_{\rm LO}^-} - \frac{\delta \sigma_{\rm NLO}^+}{\sigma_{\rm LO}^+}\right)$$

-

 $A_{\text{FB}}^{\text{t}}[\%]$ p<sub>T,jet,cut</sub> [GeV] LO NLO  $-7.69(4)^{+0.10}_{-0.085}$ 20 -1.77(5) $-8.29(5)^{+0.12}_{-0.085}$ 30 -2.27(4) $-8.72(5)^{+0.13}_{-0.10}$ 40 -2.73(4) $-8.96(5)^{+0.14}_{-0.11}$  $-3.05(4)^{+0.49}$ 50



 $\square$  Asymmetry at NLO via a consistent expansion in  $\alpha_s$ 

S. Dittmaier, P. Uwer, S. Weinzierl (2007) (2008)

### ttj in NWA with LO decays

 $pp \rightarrow ttj + X \rightarrow WWbbj + X \rightarrow lv \ lv \ bbj + X$ 



Invariant mass of two leptonsTransverse momentum of lepton

NLO QCD Corrections K = NLO/LO = **1.12** 

Scale dependence LO 58%  $\rightarrow$  NLO 10%

@ LHC 7 TeV

 $\sigma_{\rm LO} = 229.9^{+133.7}_{-78.2} \,\text{fb}$  $\sigma_{\rm NLO} = 256.5^{-14.8}_{-25.6} \,\text{fb}$ 



- □ For µ = m<sub>t</sub>/2 negative distribution at high p<sub>T</sub> (l) > 400 GeV
   □ Kinematic dependent scale (?)
  - (.)

K. Melnikov, M. Schulze (2010)

### ttj @ NLO in NWA

- □ ttj → WWbbj in NWA with top decays, including radiative decay (t → Wbj) described consistently at NLO QCD with spin correlations
- State of the art description of ttj process
- **G** Radiation in the production dominates

@ LHC 7 TeV



 $\sigma_{\text{LO}} = 316.9 \,(\text{P}) + 33.4 \,(\text{D}) = 350.3 \,\text{fb}$  $\sigma_{\text{NLO}} = 323 \,(\text{P}) + 40.5 \,(\text{D}) - 75.5 \,(\text{Mix}) = 288 \,\text{fb}$ 

K. Melnikov, A. Scharf, M. Schulze (2012)

NLO QCD Corrections K = NLO/LO = 0.82 (-18%)

Scale dependence LO  $61\% \rightarrow \text{NLO } 16\%$ 

#### ttj @ NLO in NWA

@ LHC 7 TeV



K. Melnikov, A. Scharf, M. Schulze (2012)

# top anti-top + 2j @ NLO

Number of events in the inclusive tt sample accompanied by two additional jets
 Ratio of \$\sigma\_{tt+j}\$ /\$\sigma\_{tt}\$ @ NLO

✤ At the TeVatron: 4% and 1% for p<sub>T</sub> cut of 20 GeV and 40 GeV

• At the LHC: 6% and 1% for  $p_T$  cut of 50 GeV and 100 GeV

- □ Important background for Higgs boson searches: ttjj and ttbb
- □  $H \rightarrow WW^*$  produced via weak boson fusion (m<sub>H</sub> ~ 130 GeV)
  - Higgs boson mass peak cannot be directly reconstructed
- □ H → bb produced via associated production with a top anti-top ( $m_H < 140 \text{ GeV}$ )
  - ♦ Reconstruction of the  $H \rightarrow bb$  mass peak difficult
  - \* The bb pair can be chosen incorrectly
  - b-tagging efficiency, two b-jets can arise from mistagged light jets

Very precise knowledge of QCD backgrounds is necessary !

## top anti-top + 2j @ NLO

Complete phenomenological studies at NLO QCD with on shell top quarks
 ttbb at the LHC completed by two groups with per-mille agreement

A. Bredenstein, A. Denner, S. Dittmaier, S. Pozzorini (2008) (2009) (2010) G. Bevilacqua, M. Czakon, C. G. Papadopoulos, R. Pittau, M. Worek (2009)

ttbb also completed for the Tevatron

*M. Worek* (2012)

ttjj calculation both for the TeVatron and the LHC

G. Bevilacqua, M. Czakon, C. G. Papadopoulos, M. Worek (2010) (2011)



### ttbb @ NLO - top on shell

#### @ LHC 14 TeV



NLO QCD Corrections K = NLO/LO = **1.77** 

Scale dependence for fixed scale m<sub>t</sub> Invariant mass distribution of two b jets 10<sup>2</sup> 2.5 a) dø/dm<sub>bb</sub> [fb/GeV] 2.0 101 K factor 1.5 10<sup>0</sup> 1.0 0.5  $10^{-1}$ 300 100 200 400 0 100 200 300 400 0  $m_{bb}$  [GeV]  $m_{bb}$  [GeV]  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}b\bar{b}}^{\text{LO}} = 1489.2 \begin{array}{c} +1036.8 & (70\%) \\ - & 565.8 & (38\%) \end{array}$ fb  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}b\bar{b}}^{\text{NLO}} = 2636 \begin{array}{c} +862 & (33\%) \\ -703 & (27\%) \end{array}$ fb

Scale dependence LO 70%  $\rightarrow$  NLO 33%

A. Bredenstein, A. Denner, S. Dittmaier, S. Pozzorini (2009) G. Bevilacqua, M. Czakon, C. G. Papadopoulos, R. Pittau, M. Worek (2009)

# ttbb @ NLO - top on shell

#### @ LHC 14 TeV

Setup	$m_{ m bar{b},cut}$	$p_{\mathrm{T,b\bar{b},cut}}$	$p_{ m jet,veto}$	$p_{\mathrm{T,b,cut}}$	$y_{ m b,cut}$	$\sigma_{ m LO}$ [fb]	$\sigma_{\rm NLO}$ [fb]	K	
Ι	100	-	-	20	2.5	$786.3(2)^{+78\%}_{-41\%}$	$978(3)^{+13\%}_{-21\%}$	1.24	
II	-	200	-	20	2.5	$451.8(2)^{+79\%}_{-41\%}$	$592(4)^{+13\%}_{-22\%}$	1.31	
III	100	-	100	20	2.5	$786.1(6)_{-41\%}^{+78\%}$	$700(3)^{+0.4\%}_{-19\%}$	0.89	
IV	100	-	-	50	2.5	$419.4(1)_{-40\%}^{+77\%}$	$526(2)^{+13\%}_{-21\%}$	1.25	



A. Bredenstein, A. Denner, S. Dittmaier, S. Pozzorini (2010)

### A<sub>FB</sub> for ttbb

Rapidity distributions of the top and anti-top

□ Differential asymmetry  $A(y_t)$  as a function of top quark rapidity



#### @ TeVatron 1.96 TeV

 Integrated forward-backward asymmetry of the top quark at LO and NLO

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{FB},\mathbf{LO}}^{\mathbf{t}}=-0.088(2)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{FB},\mathbf{NLO}}^{\mathbf{t}}=-0.044(6)$$

For an unexpanded ratio of the NLO cross sections

 $\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{FB},\mathbf{NLO}}^{\mathbf{t}}=-0.061(14)$ 

## ttjj @ NLO - top on shell

#### @ LHC 14 TeV



Scale dependence of total cross section at LO and NLO as well as NLO with jet veto of 50 GeV

 $\sigma_{pp \to t\bar{t}jj+X}^{\text{NLO}} = (106.94 \pm 0.17) \text{ pb}$ 

 $\sigma_{pp \to t\bar{t}jj+X}^{\text{NLO}}(p_{T,X} < 50 \text{ GeV}) = (76.58 \pm 0.17) \text{ pb}$ 

NLO QCD Corrections K = NLO/LO = **0.89 (-11%)** 

Scale dependence  $LO 72\% \rightarrow NLO 13\%$ 

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### ttjj @ NLO - top on shell

#### @ LHC 7 TeV

CUTS	$\sigma_{\rm LO} \ [{\rm pb}]$	$\sigma_{\rm NLO}^{\rm anti-k_{\rm T}}$	[pb]	$\sigma_{ m NLO}^{ m k_T}$	[pb] $\sigma_{\rm NL}^{\rm C/}$	A [pb]
$p_{T_i} > 50 \text{ GeV}$						
$\Delta R_{jj} > 1.0$	11.561(4)	9.95(2	2)	10.06	(2) 10	0.04(2)
$ y_j  < 2.5$						
Cuts	$\sigma_{\rm LO}$ [pb]	$\sigma_{\rm NLO}^{\rm anti-k_{\rm T}}$	[pb]	$\sigma_{ m NLO}^{ m k_T}$	[pb] $\sigma_{\rm NI}^{\rm C/}$	A [pb]
$p_{T_{\rm c}} > 50 {\rm ~GeV}$						
$\Delta R_{\rm ex} > 0.5$	13 308(4)	0.820	2)	0.86	(2)	86(2)
$\Delta R_{jj} > 0.5$	10.000(4)	3.02(	2)	5.00	(2)	.00(2)
$ y_j  < 2.5$						
$p_{T_j}$ Cut	$\sigma_{ m LO}$ [	$[pb] \sigma$	anti-k NLO	<sup>т</sup> [pb]	$\mathcal{K}$	[%]
$p_{T_j} > 50 \text{ GeV}$	13.398	8(4)	9.82	2(2)	0.73	-27
$p_{T_j} > 75 \text{ GeV}$	5.944	(2)	4.11	5(8)	0.69	-31
$p_{T_i} > 100  {\rm GeV}$	/ 3.018	(1)	1.94	4(4)	0.64	-36
$p_{T_j} > 125 \text{ GeV}$	/ 1.665	(1)	0.99	3(2)	0.60	-40

 $\Delta R_{jj} > 1$ NLO QCD Corrections K = NLO/LO = **0.86 (-14%)** 

 $\Delta R_{jj} > 0.5$ NLO QCD Corrections K = NLO/LO = **0.73 (-27%)** 

- Within 50 -100 GeV range corrections are quite stable
- □ K-factor changed by 9%

G. Bevilacqua, M. Czakon, C. G. Papadopoulos, M. Worek (2011)

## ttjj @ NLO - top on shell



#### @ LHC 7 TeV

- NLO QCD corrections to the distributions are negative
- Analysis done for fixed scale
- If large distortions improvement can be achieved via dynamical scale
- Invariant dijet mass do not show major distortions

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A<sub>FB</sub> for ttjj

Rapidity distribution of top and anti-top at LO and NLO
 Differential charge asymmetry *A*(*y*<sub>*t*</sub>) as a function of top rapidity



G. Bevilacqua, M. Czakon, C. G. Papadopoulos, M. Worek (2011)

# Summary

NLO Status	On-shell	NWA	Full	Parton Shower
tt	YES	YES	YES	YES
ttj	YES	YES	NO	YES
ttjj	YES	NO	NO	NO
ttbb	YES	NO	NO	NO

# Summary & Outlook

- □ New problem at the LHC, multiparticle final states !
- □ Hard emission is less suppressed at LHC energies
- □ Remarkable development in NLO calculations driven by the LHC needs
- □  $2 \rightarrow 4$  processes currently scrutinized
- □  $2 \rightarrow 5$  and maybe  $2 \rightarrow 6$  processes doable with new methods
- □ Cannot do better than LO for  $2 \rightarrow 7(8)$  processes
- $\Box$  Better understanding of the scale choice that describes high  $p_T$  region correctly
- Dynamic scales that depend on the event structure
- **Goal:** Fully realistic final state such as WWbbX with X = j, jj, H, Z, A,  $\gamma$  for the LHC matched to parton shower with higher than LL accuracy
- □ Meanwhile huge progress in the resummation and NNLO calculations for top
- □ First NNLO calculation for  $2 \rightarrow 2$  process at hadron collider is now available !
- $\label{eq:qq} \Box \ \ q \bar{q} \to t \bar{t} + X \ \ @ \ \mbox{TeVatron calculated} \ !$

P. Bärnreuther, M. Czakon, A. Mitov Rencontres de Moriond QCD and High Energy Interactions (2012)