

Theoretical results for top-pair and top+W production

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- Higher-order soft-gluon corrections
- $t\bar{t}$ production
- tW production
- $t\bar{t}W$ production



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Soft-gluon corrections

They are important for top-quark processes and they approximate known exact results at NLO and NNLO very well

partonic processes $a(p_a) + b(p_b) \rightarrow t(p_t) + X$

define $s = (p_a + p_b)^2$, $t = (p_a - p_t)^2$, $u = (p_b - p_t)^2$

For a $2 \rightarrow n$ process with $p_a + p_b \rightarrow p_t + p_2 + \dots + p_n$
we define the threshold variable $s_4 = s + t + u - m_t^2 - (p_2 + \dots + p_n)^2$

Also $s_4 = (p_2 + \dots + p_n + p_g)^2 - (p_2 + \dots + p_n)^2$ where extra gluon with p_g emitted

At partonic threshold $p_g \rightarrow 0$ and thus $s_4 \rightarrow 0$

Soft corrections $\left[\frac{\ln^k(s_4/m_t^2)}{s_4} \right]_+$ with $k \leq 2n - 1$ for the order α_s^n corrections

Resum these soft corrections for the double-differential cross section

Finite-order expansions \rightarrow no prescription needed or used
(this avoids underestimating the size of the corrections)

Approximate NNLO (aNNLO) and/or approximate N³LO (aN³LO) predictions
for cross sections and differential distributions

Soft-gluon Resummation

$$d\sigma_{pp \rightarrow tX} = \sum_{a,b} \int dx_a dx_b \phi_{a/p}(x_a, \mu_F) \phi_{b/p}(x_b, \mu_F) d\hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow tX}(s_4, \mu_F)$$

take Laplace transforms $d\hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow tX}(N) = \int (ds_4/s) e^{-Ns_4/s} d\hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow tX}(s_4)$

and $\tilde{\phi}(N) = \int_0^1 e^{-N(1-x)} \phi(x) dx$ with transform variable N

Then

$$d\tilde{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow tX}(N) = \tilde{\phi}_{a/a}(N_a, \mu_F) \tilde{\phi}_{b/b}(N_b, \mu_F) d\tilde{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow tX}(N, \mu_F)$$

Refactorization for the cross section

$$d\sigma_{ab \rightarrow tX}(N) = \tilde{\psi}_a(N_a, \mu_F) \tilde{\psi}_b(N_b, \mu_F) \tilde{J}(N, \mu_F) \text{tr} \left\{ H_{ab \rightarrow tX}(\alpha_s(\mu_R)) \tilde{S}_{ab \rightarrow tX} \left(\frac{\sqrt{s}}{N\mu_F} \right) \right\}$$

$\psi_a, \psi_b \rightarrow$ collinear emission from incoming partons

$J \rightarrow$ collinear emission from final-state gluons or massless quarks (if any)

$H_{ab \rightarrow tX}$ is hard function \rightarrow short distance

$S_{ab \rightarrow tX}$ is soft function \rightarrow noncollinear soft gluons

Thus

$$d\tilde{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow tX}(N) = \frac{\tilde{\psi}_{a/a}(N_a, \mu_F) \tilde{\psi}_{b/b}(N_b, \mu_F)}{\tilde{\phi}_{a/a}(N_a, \mu_F) \tilde{\phi}_{b/b}(N_b, \mu_F)} \tilde{J}(N, \mu_F) \text{tr} \left\{ H_{ab \rightarrow tX}(\alpha_s(\mu_R)) \tilde{S}_{ab \rightarrow tX} \left(\frac{\sqrt{s}}{N\mu_F} \right) \right\}$$

$S_{ab \rightarrow tX}$ satisfies the renormalization group equation

$$\left(\mu_R \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu_R} + \beta(g_s) \frac{\partial}{\partial g_s} \right) S_{ab \rightarrow tX} = -\Gamma_{S_{ab \rightarrow tX}}^\dagger S_{ab \rightarrow tX} - S_{ab \rightarrow tX} \Gamma_{S_{ab \rightarrow tX}}$$

Soft anomalous dimension $\Gamma_{S_{ab \rightarrow tX}}$ controls the evolution of the soft function which gives the exponentiation of logarithms of N

Renormalization group evolution \rightarrow resummation

$$d\tilde{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow tX}^{\text{resum}}(N) = \exp \left[\sum_{i=a,b} E_i(N_i) \right] \exp \left[\sum_{i=a,b} 2 \int_{\mu_F}^{\sqrt{s}} \frac{d\mu}{\mu} \gamma_{i/i}(N_i) \right] \exp \left[E'(N) \right]$$

$$\times \text{tr} \left\{ H_{ab \rightarrow tX}(\alpha_s(\sqrt{s})) \bar{P} \exp \left[\int_{\sqrt{s}}^{\sqrt{s}/N} \frac{d\mu}{\mu} \Gamma_{S_{ab \rightarrow tX}}^\dagger(\alpha_s(\mu)) \right] \tilde{S}_{ab \rightarrow tX} \left(\alpha_s \left(\frac{\sqrt{s}}{N} \right) \right) P \exp \left[\int_{\sqrt{s}}^{\sqrt{s}/N} \frac{d\mu}{\mu} \Gamma_{S_{ab \rightarrow tX}}(\alpha_s(\mu)) \right] \right\}$$

The soft anomalous dimensions Γ_S and the hard and soft functions are in general matrices in the space of color exchanges in the hard scattering

Top processes studied - total and differential cross sections

Top pair

$t\bar{t}$ aN³LO (total; top p_T , y , and double-differential; also A_{FB})

$t\bar{t}$ aN³LO + EW (total; top p_T , y)

$t\bar{t}$ SMEFT aNNLO (total; top p_T)

Top-pair+ X

$t\bar{t}\gamma$ aNNLO + EW (total; top p_T , y)

$t\bar{t}W$ aN³LO + EW (total; top p_T , y)

Single top

t - and s -channel aNNLO (total; top p_T) and aN³LO (total)

tW aN³LO (total; p_T , y for top and W)

Single-top+ X

tqH aNNLO (total; top p_T , y)

$tq\gamma$ aNNLO (total; top p_T , y)

tqZ aNNLO (total; top y)

Single-top BSM

$t\gamma$, tZ , tZ' aNNLO (total; top p_T , y)

tg aNNLO (total)

tH^- aNNLO (total; top p_T , y) and aN³LO (total)

$t\bar{t}$ production

Soft anomalous dimension matrix is 2×2 for $q\bar{q} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ channel
and 3×3 for $gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ channel

I calculated them at one loop in the mid-90's and
at two loops fifteen years ago

more recent partial results at three loops

Four-loop massive cusp anomalous dimension from asymptotics
[NK, PRD 107, 054006 (2023)] contributes to 4-loop result

NLO expansions agree with exact NLO results very well

NNLO expansions (aNNLO) predicted the exact NNLO results
to high accuracy (percent or per mille)
for total cross sections and top-quark p_T and rapidity distributions

aN³LO is the state of the art

electroweak corrections also included

$t\bar{t}$ production at aN³LO QCD + NLO EW at LHC energies

(in collaboration with Marco Guzzi and Alberto Tonerio)

$t\bar{t}$ total cross sections at LHC energies with MSHT20 aN ³ LO pdf						
σ in pb	5.02 TeV	7 TeV	8 TeV	13 TeV	13.6 TeV	14 TeV
LO QCD	40.0 ^{+14.9+1.1} _{-10.1-1.2}	103 ⁺³⁵⁺³ ₋₂₄₋₃	146 ⁺⁴⁸⁺³ ₋₃₄₋₄	469 ⁺¹³³⁺⁹ ₋₉₇₋₁₀	518 ⁺¹⁴⁵⁺¹⁰ ₋₁₀₆₋₁₁	553 ⁺¹⁵³⁺¹¹ ₋₁₁₃₋₁₁
NLO QCD	58.1 ^{+6.8+1.8} _{-7.8-2.0}	151 ⁺¹⁷⁺⁴ ₋₂₀₋₅	215 ⁺²⁵⁺⁵ ₋₂₇₋₆	700 ⁺⁸⁰⁺¹⁵ ₋₈₀₋₁₅	775 ⁺⁸⁹⁺¹⁶ ₋₈₈₋₁₆	828 ⁺⁹⁴⁺¹⁶ ₋₉₄₋₁₈
NLO QCD+EW	58.1 ^{+6.6+1.8} _{-7.8-2.0}	150 ⁺¹⁷⁺⁴ ₋₁₉₋₄	214 ⁺²⁵⁺⁶ ₋₂₆₋₆	698 ⁺⁷⁸⁺¹⁴ ₋₈₀₋₁₆	772 ⁺⁸⁸⁺¹⁶ ₋₈₇₋₁₆	825 ⁺⁹²⁺¹⁶ ₋₉₃₋₁₈
NNLO QCD	65.3 ^{+2.8+2.0} _{-4.4-2.2}	169 ⁺⁷⁺⁵ ₋₁₁₋₅	240 ⁺⁹⁺⁶ ₋₁₅₋₇	781 ⁺²⁷⁺¹⁶ ₋₄₃₋₁₇	864 ⁺³⁰⁺¹⁸ ₋₄₇₋₁₉	922 ⁺³²⁺¹⁸ ₋₄₉₋₂₀
NNLO QCD+EW	65.3 ^{+2.8+2.0} _{-4.4-2.2}	168 ⁺⁷⁺⁵ ₋₁₁₋₅	239 ⁺⁹⁺⁶ ₋₁₅₋₇	779 ⁺²⁷⁺¹⁶ ₋₄₃₋₁₇	861 ⁺³⁰⁺¹⁸ ₋₄₇₋₁₉	919 ⁺³²⁺¹⁸ ₋₄₉₋₂₀
aN ³ LO QCD	68.2 ^{+2.1+2.1} _{-3.2-2.3}	175 ⁺⁵⁺⁵ ₋₇₋₅	249 ⁺⁷⁺⁶ ₋₉₋₇	804 ⁺²²⁺¹⁶ ₋₁₇₋₁₇	889 ⁺²⁴⁺¹⁸ ₋₁₉₋₂₀	948 ⁺²⁶⁺¹⁹ ₋₂₁₋₂₁
aN ³ LO QCD+EW	68.2 ^{+2.1+2.1} _{-3.2-2.3}	174 ⁺⁵⁺⁵ ₋₇₋₅	248 ⁺⁷⁺⁶ ₋₉₋₇	802 ⁺²²⁺¹⁶ ₋₁₇₋₁₇	886 ⁺²⁴⁺¹⁸ ₋₁₉₋₂₀	945 ⁺²⁶⁺¹⁹ ₋₂₁₋₂₁

aN³LO QCD + NLO EW cross section with scale and pdf uncertainties is

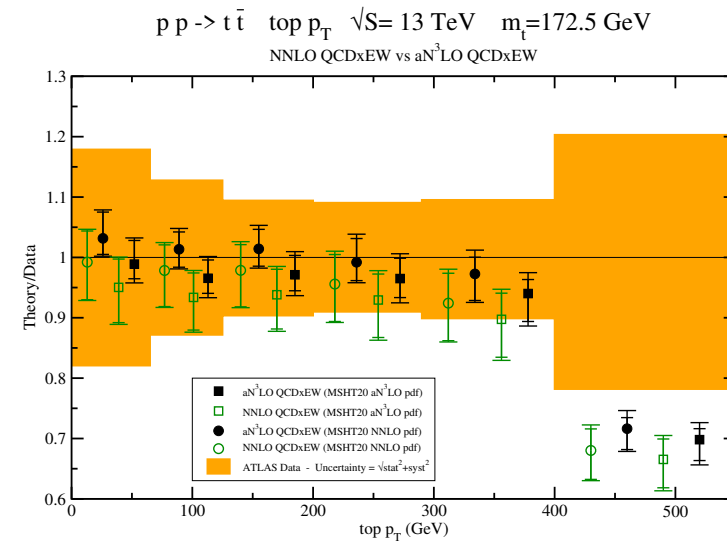
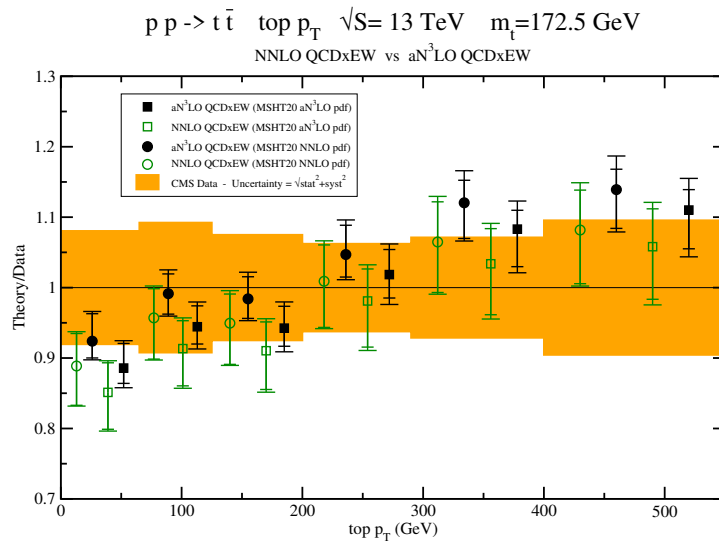
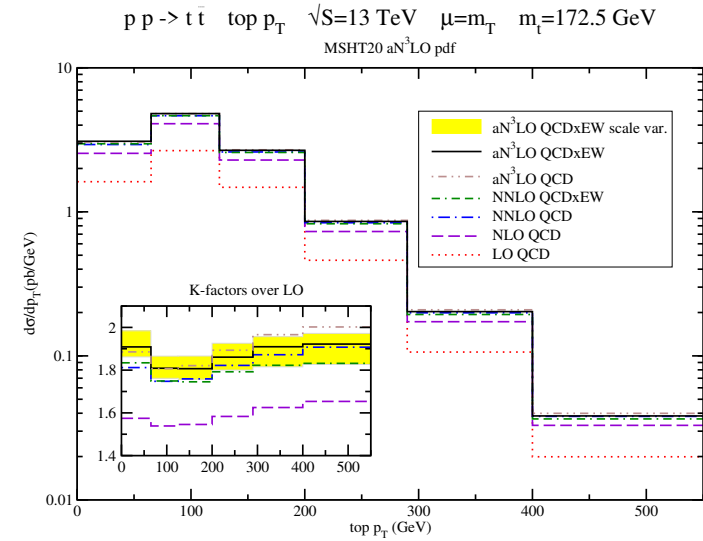
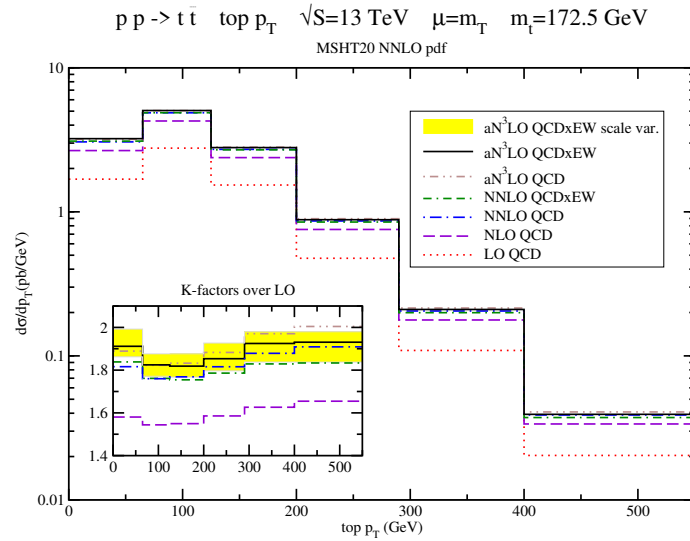
with MSHT20 NNLO pdf at 13 TeV: 836_{-18-11}^{+23+17} pb ; at 13.6 TeV: 925_{-20-12}^{+25+18} pb

with CT18 NNLO pdf at 13 TeV: 842_{-18-16}^{+23+18} pb ; at 13.6 TeV: 932_{-20-18}^{+25+20} pb

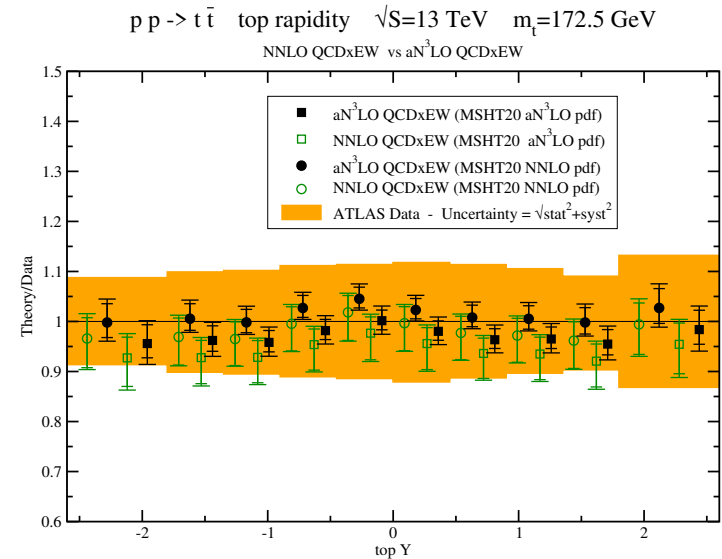
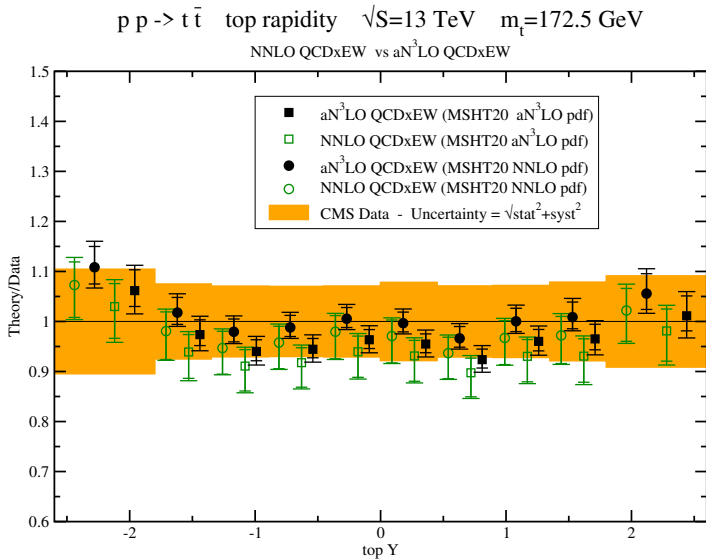
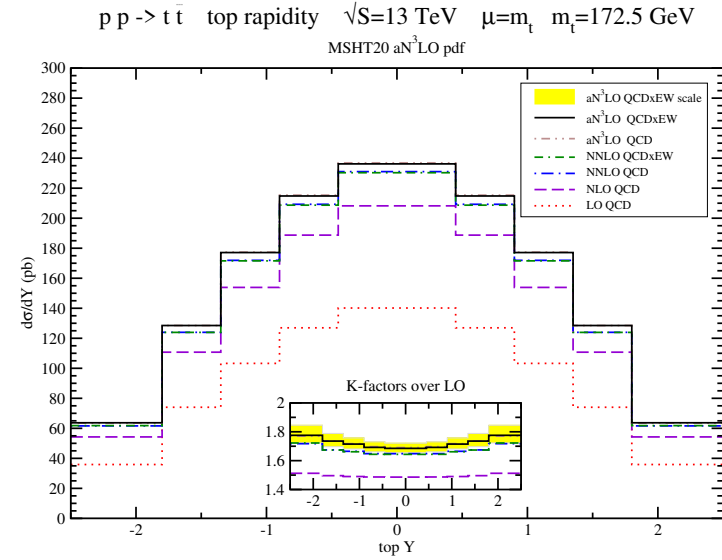
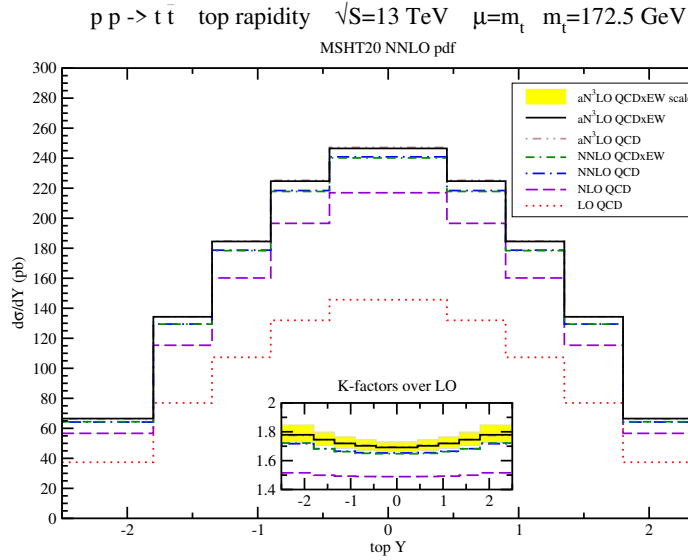
with NNPDF4.0 NNLO pdf at 13 TeV: 816_{-18-4}^{+23+5} pb ; at 13.6 TeV: 904_{-20-5}^{+25+5} pb

with PDF4LHC21 NNLO pdf at 13 TeV: 837_{-18-16}^{+23+20} pb ; at 13.6 TeV: 926_{-20-17}^{+25+22} pb

Top p_T distributions in $t\bar{t}$ production at 13 TeV

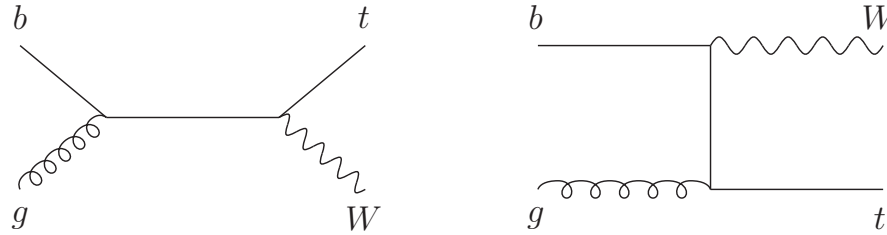


Top rapidity distributions in $t\bar{t}$ production at 13 TeV



tW production

leading-order diagrams



At one loop $\Gamma_S^{(1) bg \rightarrow tW} = C_F \left[\ln \left(\frac{m_t^2 - t}{m_t \sqrt{s}} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \right] + \frac{C_A}{2} \ln \left(\frac{u - m_t^2}{t - m_t^2} \right)$

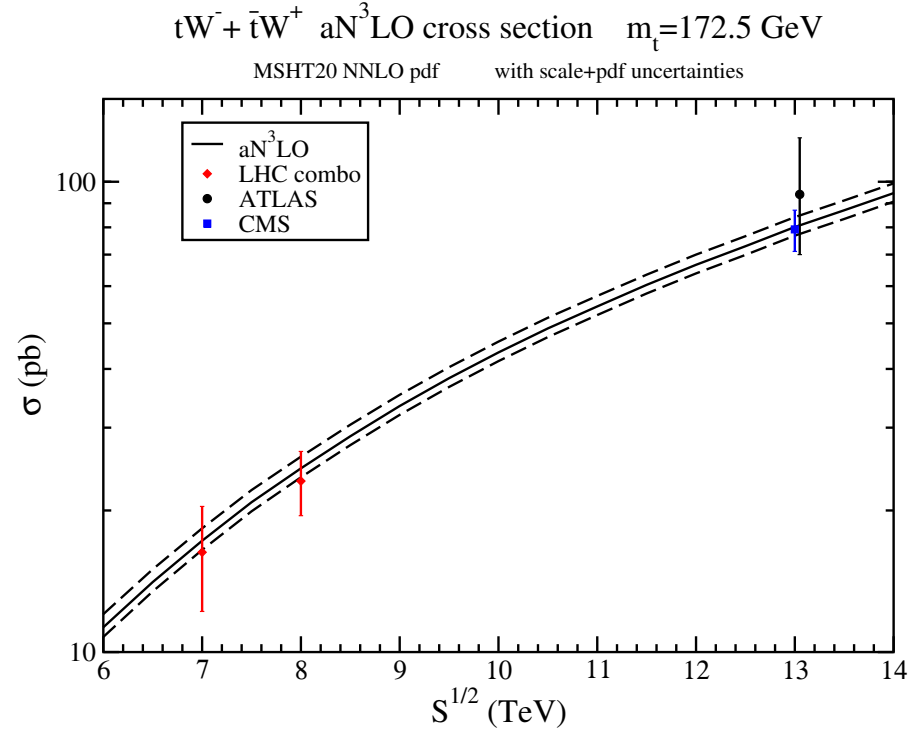
At two loops $\Gamma_S^{(2) bg \rightarrow tW} = K_2 \Gamma_S^{(1) bg \rightarrow tW} + \frac{1}{4} C_F C_A (1 - \zeta_3)$

At three loops

$$\Gamma_S^{(3) bg \rightarrow tW} = K_3 \Gamma_S^{(1) bg \rightarrow tW} + \frac{1}{2} K_2 C_F C_A (1 - \zeta_3) + C_F C_A^2 \left[-\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{8} \zeta_2 - \frac{\zeta_3}{8} - \frac{3}{8} \zeta_2 \zeta_3 + \frac{9}{16} \zeta_5 \right]$$

tW production at LHC energies

(in collaboration with Nodoka Yamanaka)



The aN³LO cross section for $tW^- + \bar{t}W^+$ with scale and pdf uncertainties is

with MSHT20 NNLO pdf at 13 TeV: $79.5^{+1.9+2.0}_{-1.8-1.4}$ pb ; at 13.6 TeV: $87.6^{+2.0+2.1}_{-1.9-1.5}$ pb

with MSHT20 aN³LO pdf at 13 TeV: $77.3^{+1.9+2.0}_{-1.8-2.1}$ pb ; at 13.6 TeV: $85.6^{+2.0+2.2}_{-1.9-2.3}$ pb

with PDF4LHC21 pdf at 13 TeV: $79.3^{+1.9+2.2}_{-1.8-2.2}$ pb ; at 13.6 TeV: $87.9^{+2.0+2.4}_{-1.9-2.4}$ pb

$t\bar{t}W$ production

(in collaboration with Chris Foster)

observation of $t\bar{t}W$ events at 7, 8, 13 TeV collisions at the LHC

measurements are significantly higher than theoretical predictions

QCD corrections at NLO are large, $\sim 47\%$ at 13.6 TeV

electroweak corrections are smaller but significant

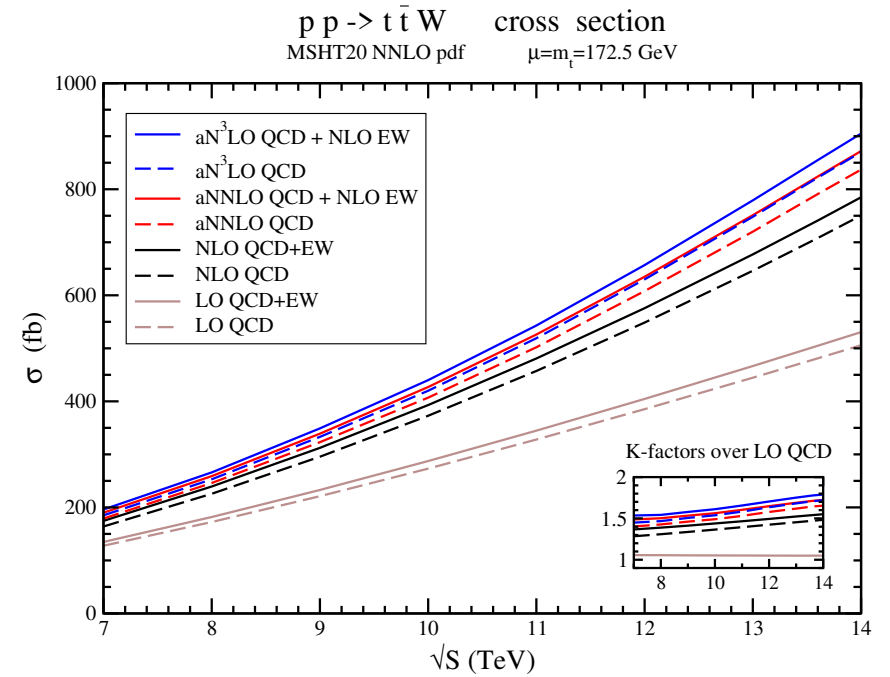
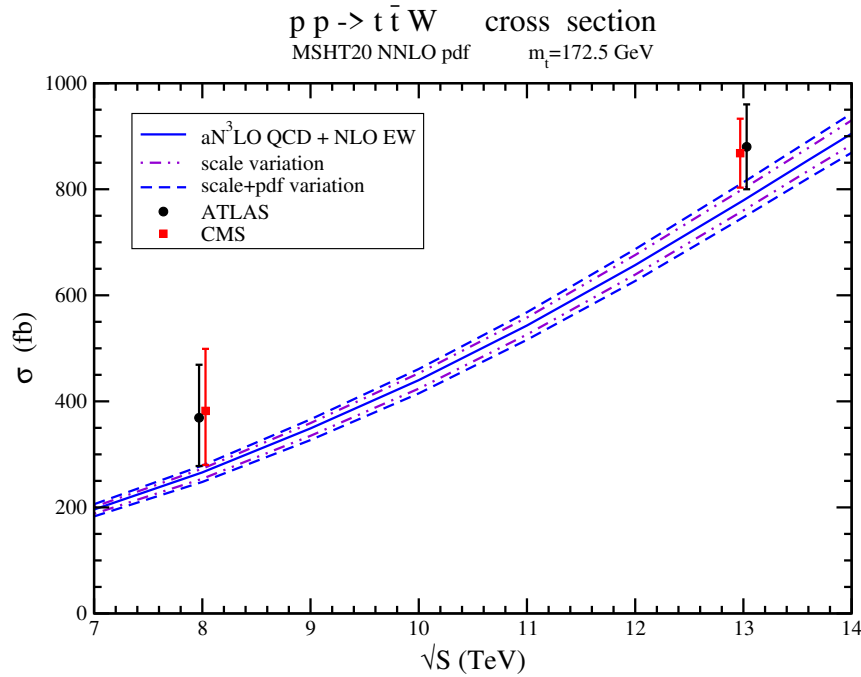
further improvement in theoretical accuracy by the inclusion of higher-order soft-gluon corrections

NLO expansions closely approximate exact NLO results for total cross sections and top-quark p_T and rapidity distributions

NNLO expansions (aNNLO) are consistent with (almost exact) NNLO results for total cross sections

approximate N³LO (aN³LO) QCD + NLO electroweak is state of the art

Cross sections for $t\bar{t}W$ production



large K -factors

improved agreement with data at aN^3LO

$t\bar{t}W$ cross sections

$t\bar{t}W$ cross sections (fb) in pp collisions at the LHC					
σ in fb	7 TeV	8 TeV	13 TeV	13.6 TeV	14 TeV
LO QCD	128 ⁺³⁹ ₋₂₈	172 ⁺⁵¹ ₋₃₆	445 ⁺¹¹⁴ ₋₈₄	481 ⁺¹²¹ ₋₉₀	506 ⁺¹²⁶ ₋₉₄
LO QCD+EW	135 ⁺⁴¹ ₋₂₉	182 ⁺⁵³ ₋₃₈	467 ⁺¹¹⁹ ₋₈₈	505 ⁺¹²⁷ ₋₉₄	531 ⁺¹³² ₋₉₈
NLO QCD	164 ⁺¹³ ₋₁₇	226 ⁺²⁰ ₋₂₃	646 ⁺⁸³ ₋₇₄	708 ⁺⁹⁴ ₋₈₂	750 ⁺¹⁰¹ ₋₈₈
NLO QCD+EW	175 ⁺¹² ₋₁₇	239 ⁺¹⁹ ₋₂₃	677 ⁺⁸⁰ ₋₇₄	741 ⁺⁹⁰ ₋₈₂	785 ⁺⁹⁷ ₋₈₈
aNNLO QCD	179 ⁺⁶ ₋₁₀	246 ⁺⁹ ₋₁₅	720 ⁺²⁹ ₋₄₃	791 ⁺³² ₋₄₇	837 ⁺³⁴ ₋₅₀
aNNLO QCD + NLO EW	190 ⁺⁶ ₋₁₀	259 ⁺⁹ ₋₁₅	751 ⁺²⁷ ₋₄₃	824 ⁺²⁹ ₋₄₇	872 ⁺³¹ ₋₅₀
aN ³ LO QCD	185 ⁺⁵ ₋₈	253 ⁺⁷ ₋₁₂	748 ⁺²⁴ ₋₁₉	822 ⁺²⁶ ₋₂₀	870 ⁺²⁸ ₋₂₁
aN ³ LO QCD + NLO EW	196 ⁺⁵ ₋₈	266 ⁺⁷ ₋₁₂	779 ⁺²² ₋₁₉	855 ⁺²³ ₋₂₀	905 ⁺²⁵ ₋₂₁

At 13.6 TeV

NLO QCD corrections \rightarrow 47%

aNNLO QCD corrections \rightarrow 17%

aN³LO QCD corrections \rightarrow 6%

electroweak NLO corrections \rightarrow 7%

Total aN³LO QCD+NLO EW cross section is 78% bigger than LO QCD

Comparison with 8 and 13 TeV CMS and ATLAS data

NLO and even aNNLO results are not sufficient
we need aN³LO corrections to describe the data

At 8 TeV, measurements from

CMS: 382_{-102}^{+117} fb

and from

ATLAS: 369_{-91}^{+100} fb

Theoretical prediction is

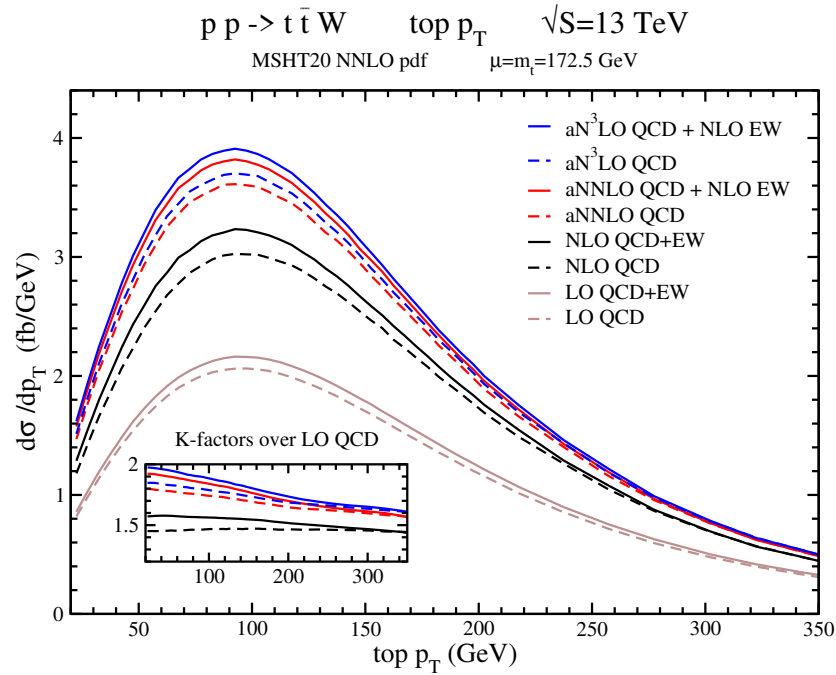
aN³LO QCD + NLO EW: 266_{-12-6}^{+7+6} fb

At 13 TeV, CMS finds 868 ± 65 fb with $t\bar{t}W^+$ 553 ± 42 fb and $t\bar{t}W^-$ 343 ± 36 fb
while ATLAS finds 880 ± 80 fb with $t\bar{t}W^+$ 583 ± 58 fb and $t\bar{t}W^-$ 296 ± 40 fb

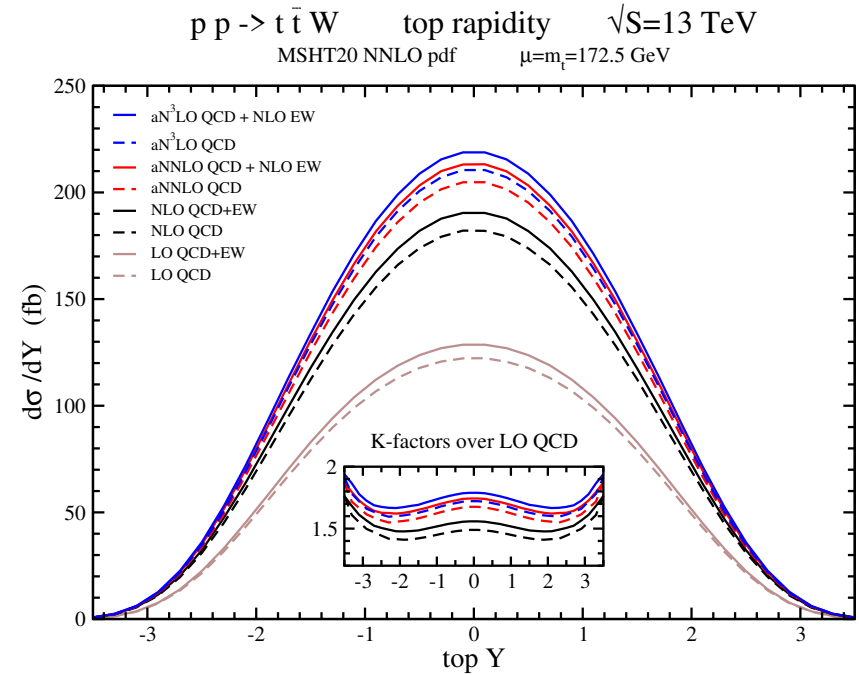
Theoretical prediction is

aN³LO QCD + NLO EW: 779_{-19-13}^{+22+12} fb with $t\bar{t}W^+$ 517_{-12-9}^{+14+8} fb and $t\bar{t}W^-$ 262_{-7-4}^{+8+4} fb

Top-quark p_T and rapidity distributions in $t\bar{t}W$ production at 13 TeV

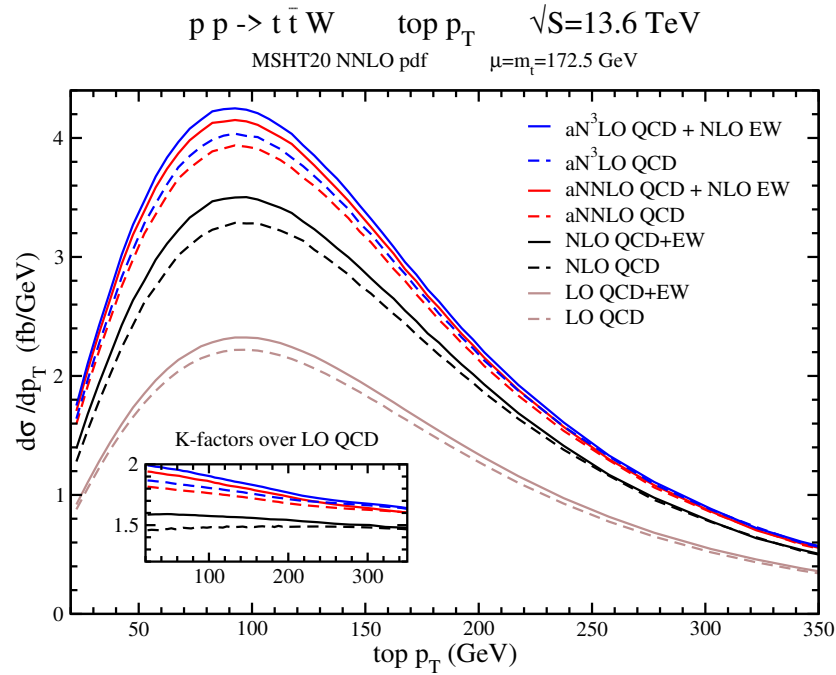


K -factors decrease at larger top p_T

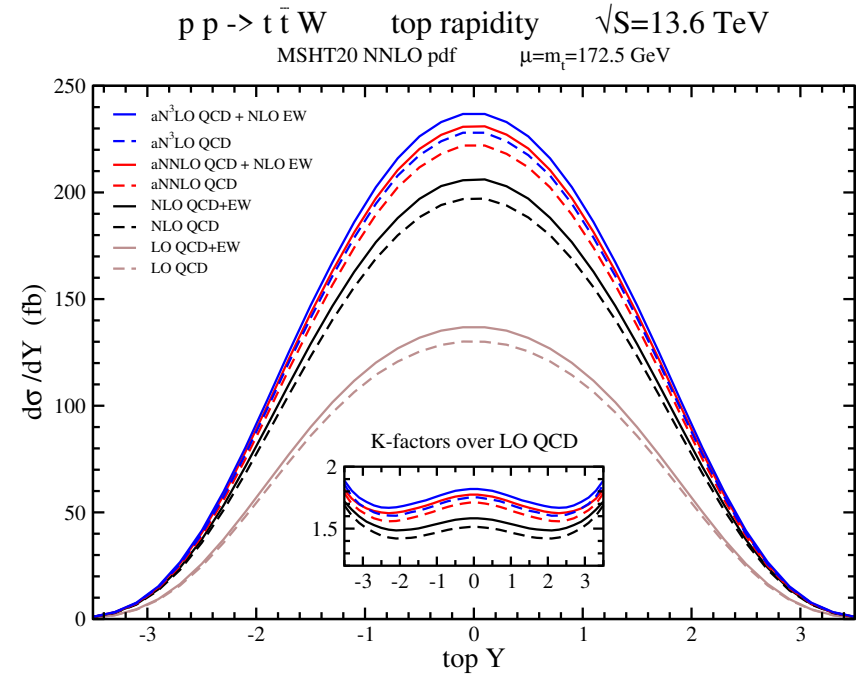


K -factors increase at larger rapidities

Top-quark p_T and rapidity distributions in $t\bar{t}W$ at 13.6 TeV



K -factors decrease at larger top p_T



K -factors increase at larger rapidities

Summary

- higher-order corrections for top-quark production processes
- $t\bar{t}$ production
- tW production
- $t\bar{t}W$ production
- soft-gluon resummation and aNNLO, aN³LO expansions
- results for total cross sections and differential distributions
- higher-order corrections further enhance and improve the theoretical predictions
- good agreement with LHC data