



Probing entanglement in top quark production with the CMS detector

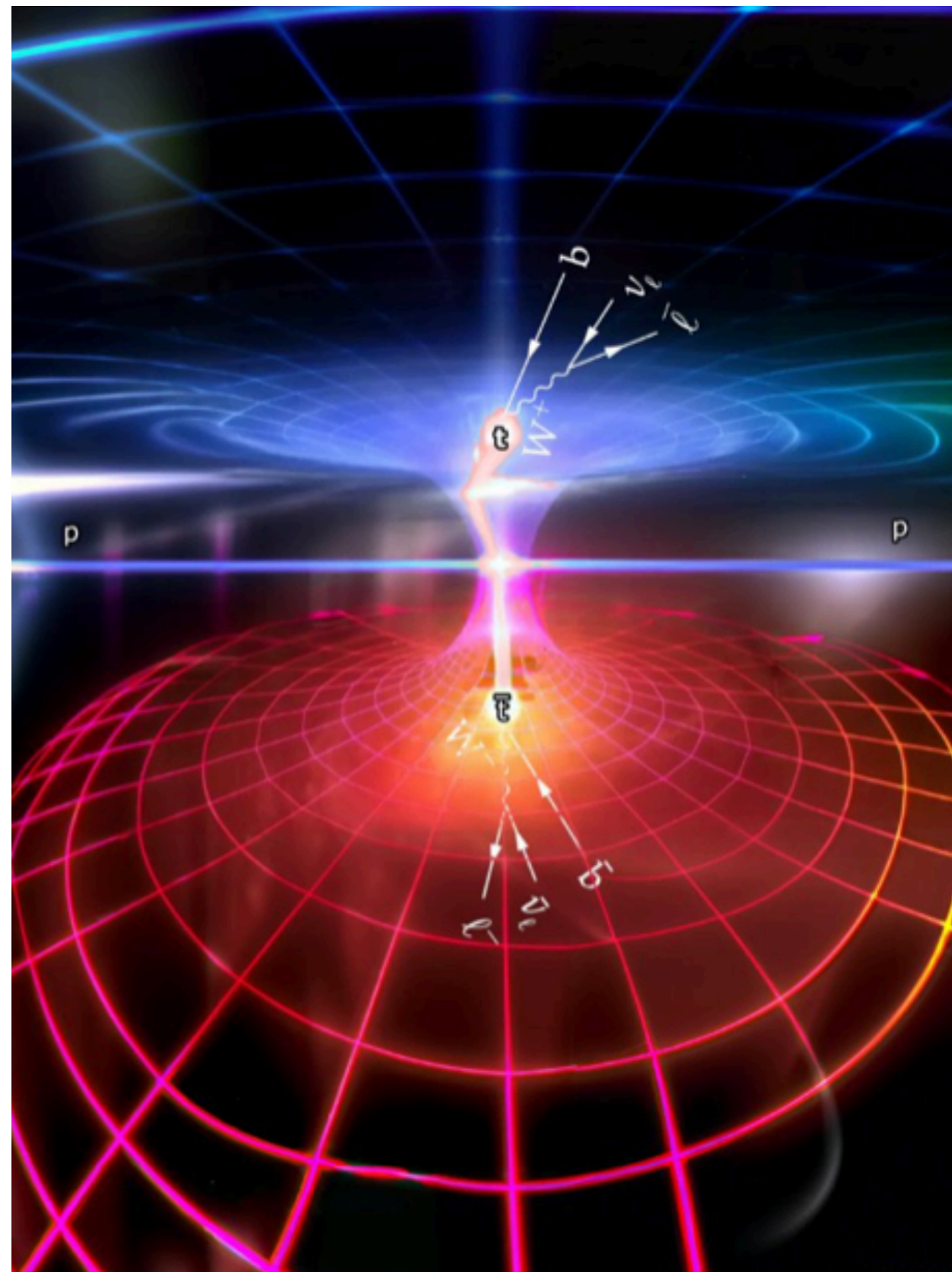
Giulia Negro

on behalf of the CMS Collaboration

**17th International Workshop on
Top Quark Physics (TOP2024)**

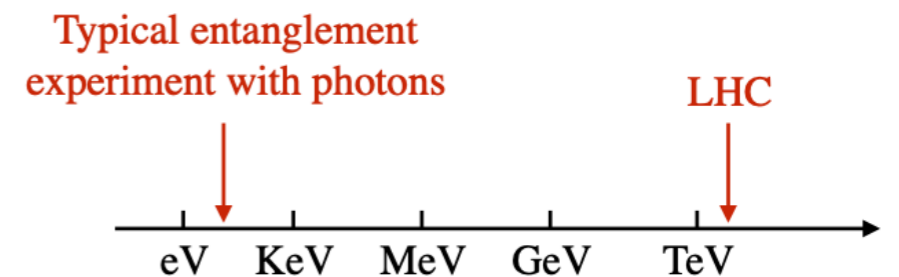
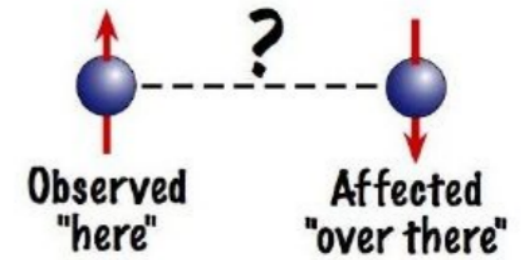
26 September 2024

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

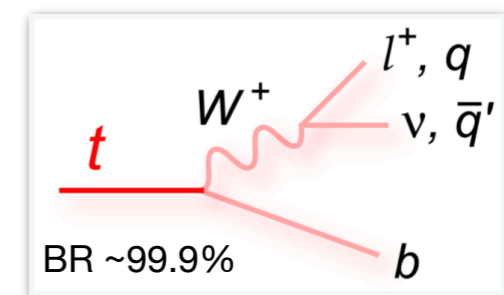


Entanglement at LHC

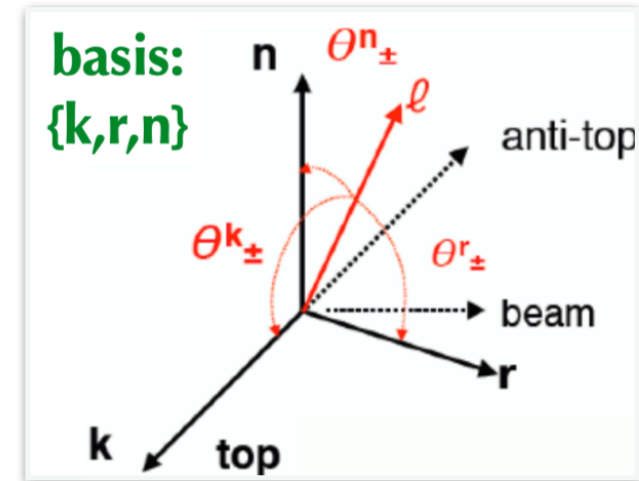
- **Qubit** (two-level quantum system $|0\rangle, |1\rangle$) = most simple quantum system
 → **two qubits** = most simple example of quantum correlations
- **Entanglement = non-separability of a quantum state**
- LHC can provide a unique environment to study entanglement
 - simplest qubits at LHC = $t\bar{t}$ pair
- Top quark = ideal candidate for spin measurements:
 - **extremely short lifetime** allows measuring polarization and spin correlation in $t\bar{t}$ production
 - **spin information preserved** in the angular distribution of its decay products
 - spin information $\sim 100\%$ transmitted to charged leptons and down type quarks



$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{m_t}}_{\text{production } 10^{-27} \text{ s}} < \underbrace{\frac{1}{\Gamma_t}}_{\text{lifetime } 10^{-25} \text{ s}} < \underbrace{\frac{1}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}}_{\text{hadronization } 10^{-24} \text{ s}} < \underbrace{\frac{m_t}{\Lambda^2}}_{\text{spin-flip } 10^{-21} \text{ s}}$$



Spin correlations



- Probed by angular distribution of decay products in helicity basis:

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_+ d\Omega_-} = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left(1 + \underbrace{\mathbf{B}^+ \cdot \hat{\ell}^+ + \mathbf{B}^- \cdot \hat{\ell}^-}_{\text{polarization}} - \underbrace{\hat{\ell}^+ \cdot \mathbb{C} \cdot \hat{\ell}^-}_{\text{spin correlations}} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{B}^{+/-} = \begin{pmatrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbb{C} = \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \end{pmatrix}$$

- Spin dependence of $t\bar{t}$ production **completely characterized by 15 coefficients**
 - can be probed individually by measuring 1D angular distributions

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} (1 + [\text{Coef.}] x) f(x)$$

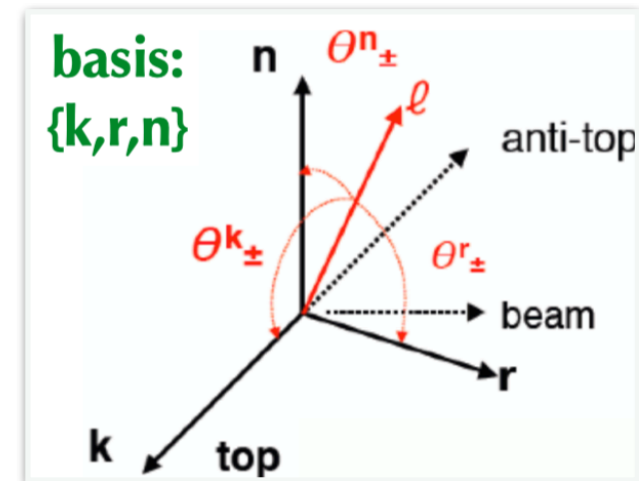
Observable	Coefficient	Coefficient function
$\cos \theta_1^k$	B_1^k	b_k^+
$\cos \theta_2^k$	B_2^k	b_k^-
$\cos \theta_1^r$	B_1^r	b_r^+
$\cos \theta_2^r$	B_2^r	b_r^-
$\cos \theta_1^n$	B_1^n	b_n^+
$\cos \theta_2^n$	B_2^n	b_n^-
$\cos \theta_1^k \cos \theta_2^k$	C_{kk}	c_{kk}
$\cos \theta_1^r \cos \theta_2^r$	C_{rr}	c_{rr}
$\cos \theta_1^n \cos \theta_2^n$	C_{nn}	c_{nn}
$\cos \theta_1^r \cos \theta_2^k + \cos \theta_1^k \cos \theta_2^r$	$C_{rk} + C_{kr}$	c_{rk}
$\cos \theta_1^r \cos \theta_2^k - \cos \theta_1^k \cos \theta_2^r$	$C_{rk} - C_{kr}$	c_n
$\cos \theta_1^n \cos \theta_2^r + \cos \theta_1^r \cos \theta_2^n$	$C_{nr} + C_{rn}$	c_{nr}
$\cos \theta_1^n \cos \theta_2^r - \cos \theta_1^r \cos \theta_2^n$	$C_{nr} - C_{rn}$	c_k
$\cos \theta_1^n \cos \theta_2^k + \cos \theta_1^k \cos \theta_2^n$	$C_{nk} + C_{kn}$	c_{kn}
$\cos \theta_1^n \cos \theta_2^k - \cos \theta_1^k \cos \theta_2^n$	$C_{nk} - C_{kn}$	$-c_r$
$\cos \varphi$	D	$-(c_{kk} + c_{rr} + c_{nn})/3$
$\cos \varphi_{\text{lab}}$	$A_{\cos \varphi}^{\text{lab}}$	—
$ \Delta \phi_{\ell\ell} $	$A_{ \Delta \phi_{\ell\ell} }$	—
$ \Delta \eta_{\ell\ell} $	$ \Delta \eta_{\ell\ell} $	—

Spin correlations

- Probed by angular distribution of decay products in helicity basis:

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_+ d\Omega_-} = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left(1 + \underbrace{\mathbf{B}^+ \cdot \hat{\ell}^+ + \mathbf{B}^- \cdot \hat{\ell}^-}_{\text{polarization}} - \underbrace{\hat{\ell}^+ \cdot \mathbf{C} \cdot \hat{\ell}^-}_{\text{spin correlations}} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{B}^{+/-} = \begin{pmatrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \end{pmatrix}$$

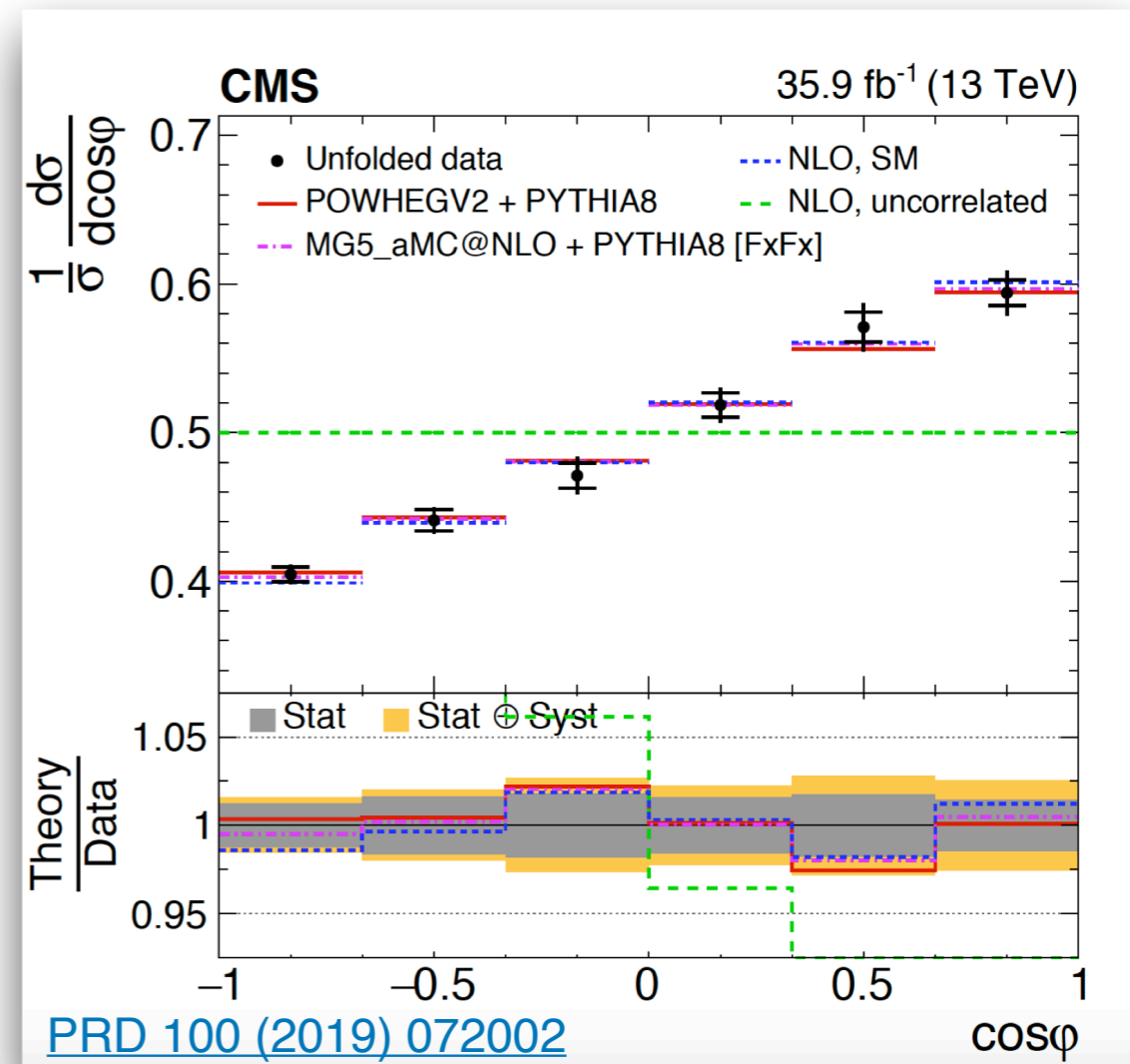


- In SM, $t\bar{t}$ production ~ unpolarized but rich structure of spin correlations

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\varphi} = \frac{1}{2} (1 - D \cos\varphi) \text{ for } D = -\frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{C}]}{3} = -\frac{C_{kk} + C_{rr} + C_{nn}}{3}$$

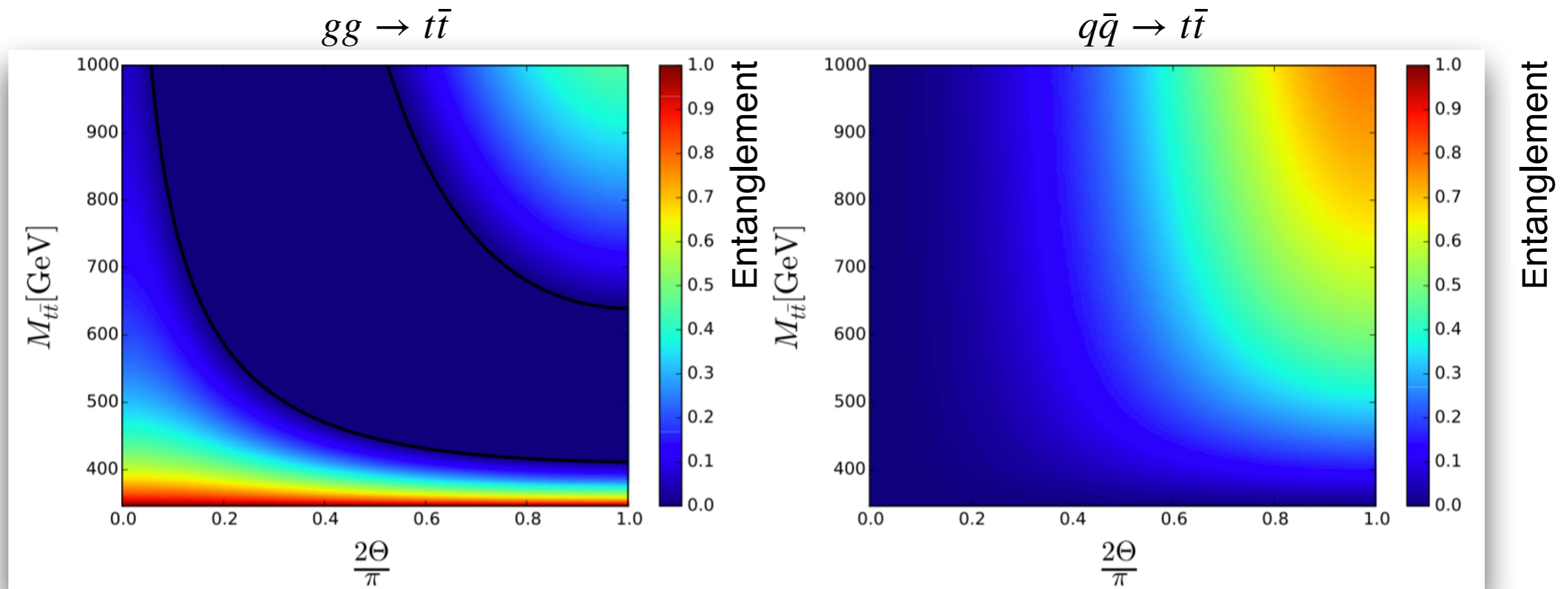
$$\cos\varphi = \hat{\ell}_1 \cdot \hat{\ell}_2$$

- most precise observable
- maximal sensitivity to degree of alignment of top quark spins
→ focus of entanglement measurement



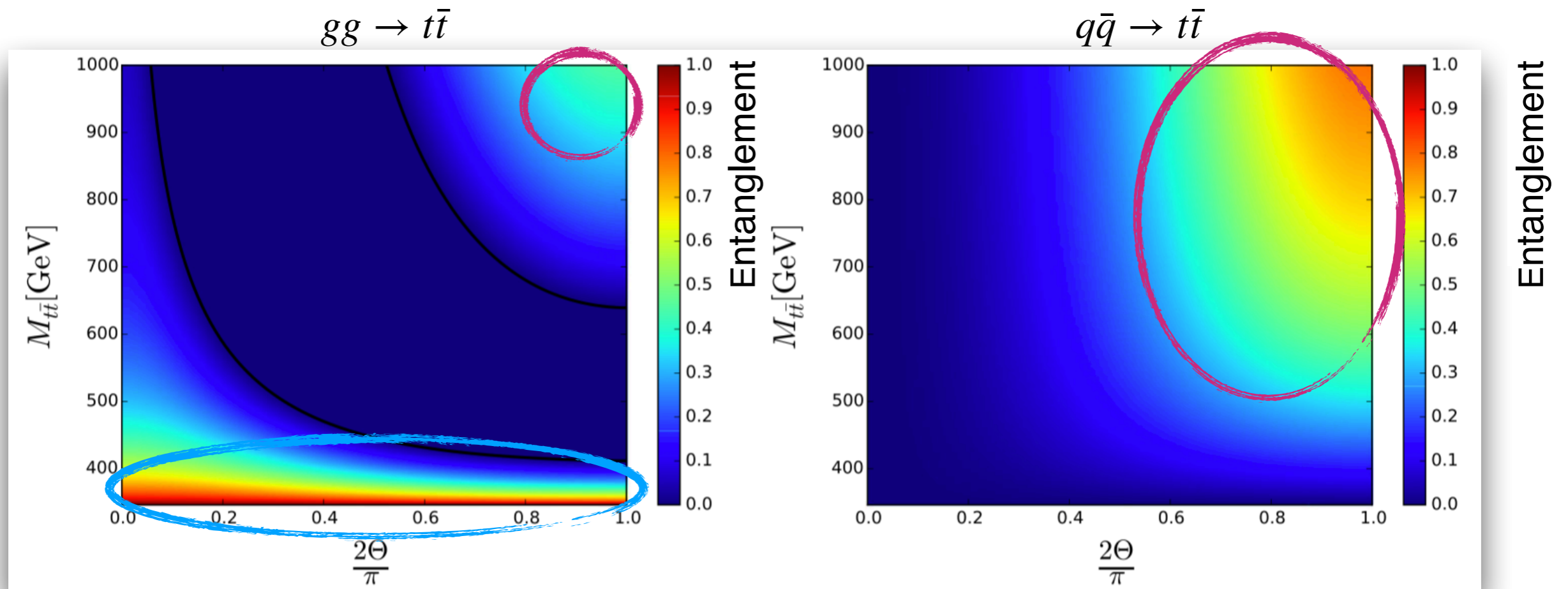
Entanglement of top quarks

- Can be measured using **spin correlations variables**
- Depends on production mode, $m_{t\bar{t}}$, scattering angle of the top quark (Θ)



Entanglement of top quarks

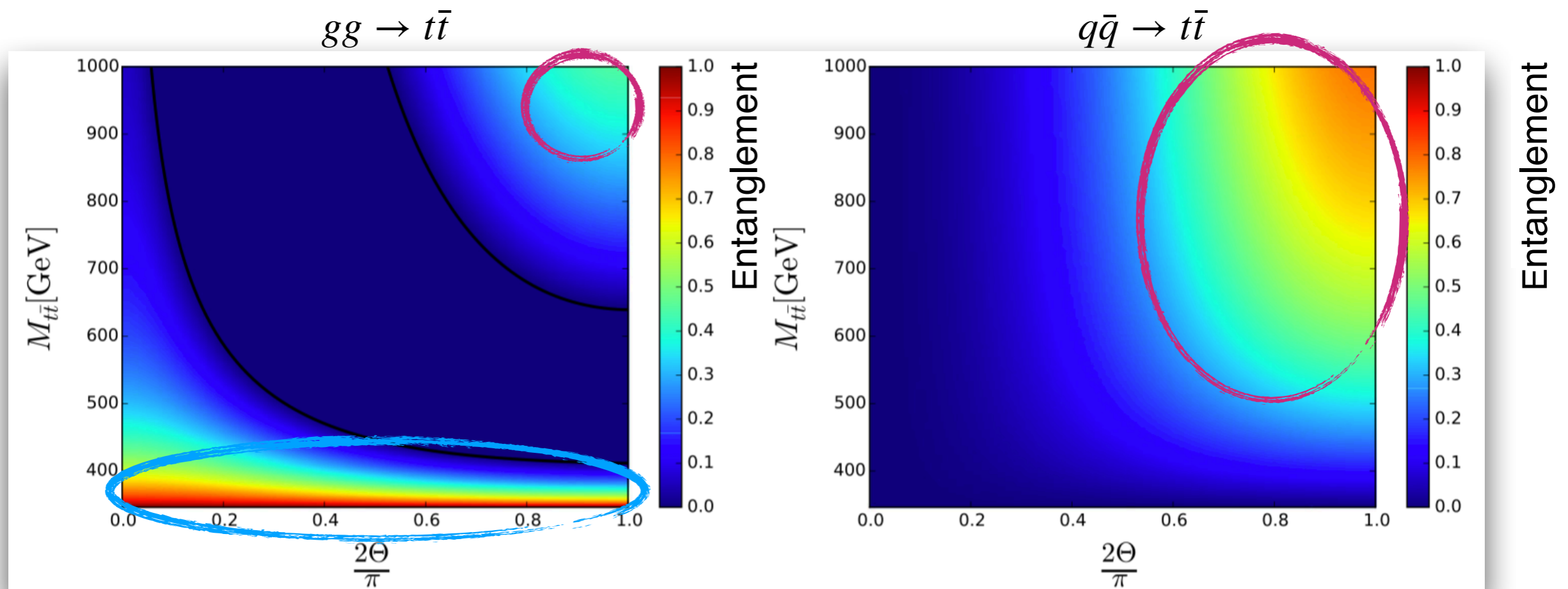
- Can be measured using **spin correlations variables**
- Depends on production mode, $m_{t\bar{t}}$, scattering angle of the top quark (Θ)
- SM predicts entangled states:
 - at the **production threshold region** in gg fusion production
 - at the **boosted region for central production** of the $t\bar{t}$ system



Entanglement of top quarks

- Can be measured using **spin correlations variables**
- Depends on production mode, $m_{t\bar{t}}$, scattering angle of the top quark (Θ)
- SM predicts entangled states:
 - at the **production threshold region** in gg fusion production
 - at the **boosted region for central production** of the $t\bar{t}$ system

high relative velocity
of top quarks
→ **space-like separated** events



low relative velocity of top quarks
→ **time-like separated** events

Afik, De Nova
[Eur. Phys. J. Plus **136**, 907](#)

How to probe entanglement

- At the LHC, top quarks are produced in a mixed state
→ can be represented as a density operator:

$$\rho = \frac{I_4 + \sum_i (B_i^+ \sigma^i \otimes I_2 + B_i^- I_2 \otimes \sigma^i) - \sum_{i,j} C_{ij} \sigma^i \otimes \sigma^j}{4}$$

$B^{+/-} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x \\ x \end{pmatrix}$
 $C = \begin{pmatrix} x & x & x \\ x & x & x \\ x & x & x \end{pmatrix}$

- Peres-Horodecki criterion:
if a system is separable,

$$\rho = \sum_i p_i \rho_A^i \otimes \rho_B^i$$

Peres, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 77, 1413](#)
Horodecki, [Phys. Lett. A 232, 5](#)

the transpose with respect to a subspace of ρ is a non-negative operator

$$\rho^{T2} = \sum_i p_i \rho_A^i \otimes (\rho_B^i)^T$$

→ system is entangled if at least 1 eigenvalue is negative

- For $t\bar{t}$ system, spin density matrix is separable if all eigenvalues are positive

→ top quarks are entangled in a certain phase space if at least one eigenvalue is < 0

How to probe entanglement

- **Peres-Horodecki criterion:**
using simpler observables, a **sufficient condition to observe entanglement in top quarks** is:

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + |C_{rr} + C_{kk}| > 1$$

Afik, De Nova
[Eur. Phys. J. Plus **136**, 907](#)

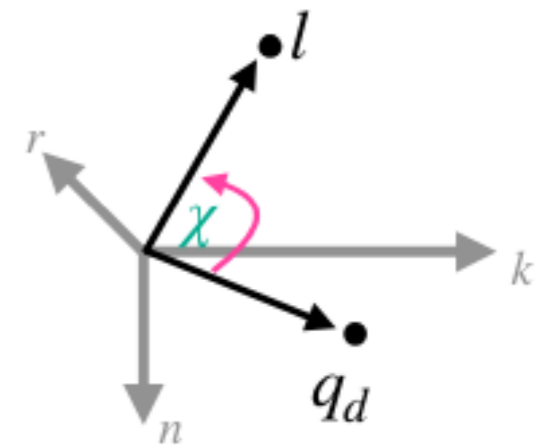
- **Two approaches:**
 - Use **full angular information of two decay products** to measure full matrix C and then construct Δ_E
 - Use **χ and $\tilde{\chi}$ distributions** to measure D and \tilde{D}
 - potentially improved sensitivity since we can use simpler 1D angular distributions

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\chi} = A(1 + D\cos\chi)$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\tilde{\chi}} = A(1 + \tilde{D}\cos\tilde{\chi})$$

χ = opening angle between
the 2 decay products

$\tilde{\chi} = \chi$ with inverted sign of n-component
in one of the decay products



How to probe entanglement

- **Peres-Horodecki criterion:**
using simpler observables, a **sufficient condition to observe entanglement in top quarks** is:

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + |C_{rr} + C_{kk}| > 1$$

Afik, De Nova
[Eur. Phys. J. Plus 136, 907](#)

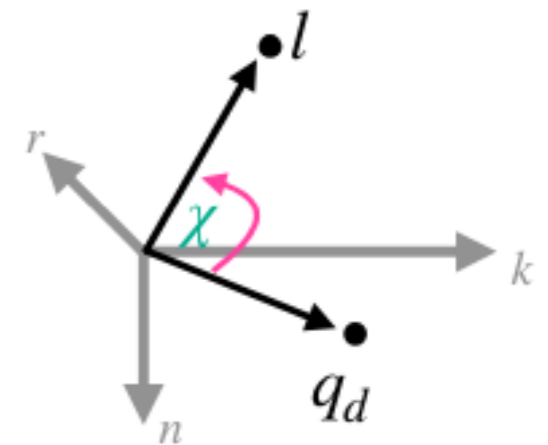
- **Two approaches:**
 - Use **full angular information of two decay products** to measure full matrix C and then construct Δ_E
 - Use **χ and $\tilde{\chi}$ distributions** to measure D and \tilde{D}
 - potentially improved sensitivity since we can use simpler 1D angular distributions

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\chi} = A(1 + D\cos\chi) \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\varphi} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - D\cos\varphi) \quad \text{in dilepton events}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\tilde{\chi}} = A(1 + \tilde{D}\cos\tilde{\chi})$$

χ = opening angle between
the 2 decay products

$\tilde{\chi}$ = χ with inverted sign of n-component
in one of the decay products

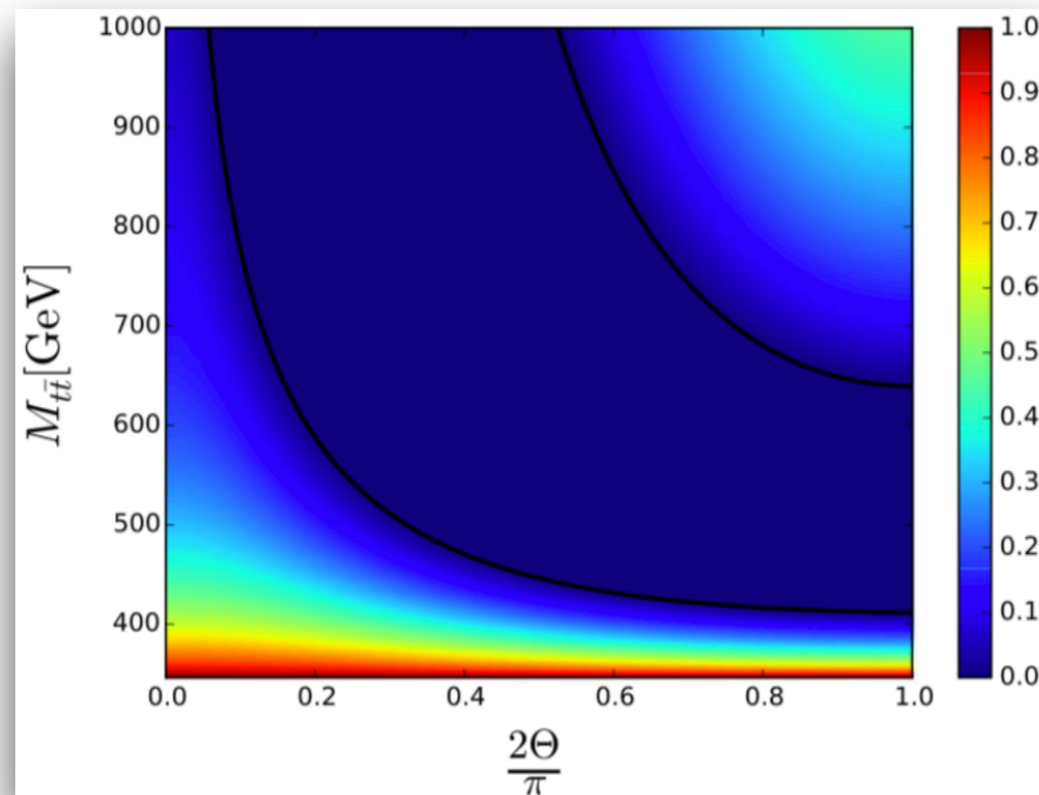


How to probe entanglement

- Four maximally entangled states:
 $|\Phi^\pm\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle \pm |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle)$
 $|\Psi^\pm\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \pm |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$

$$gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$$

Afik, De Nova
[Eur. Phys. J. Plus 136, 907](#)



$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + |C_{rr} + C_{kk}| > 1$$

Sufficient condition for entanglement

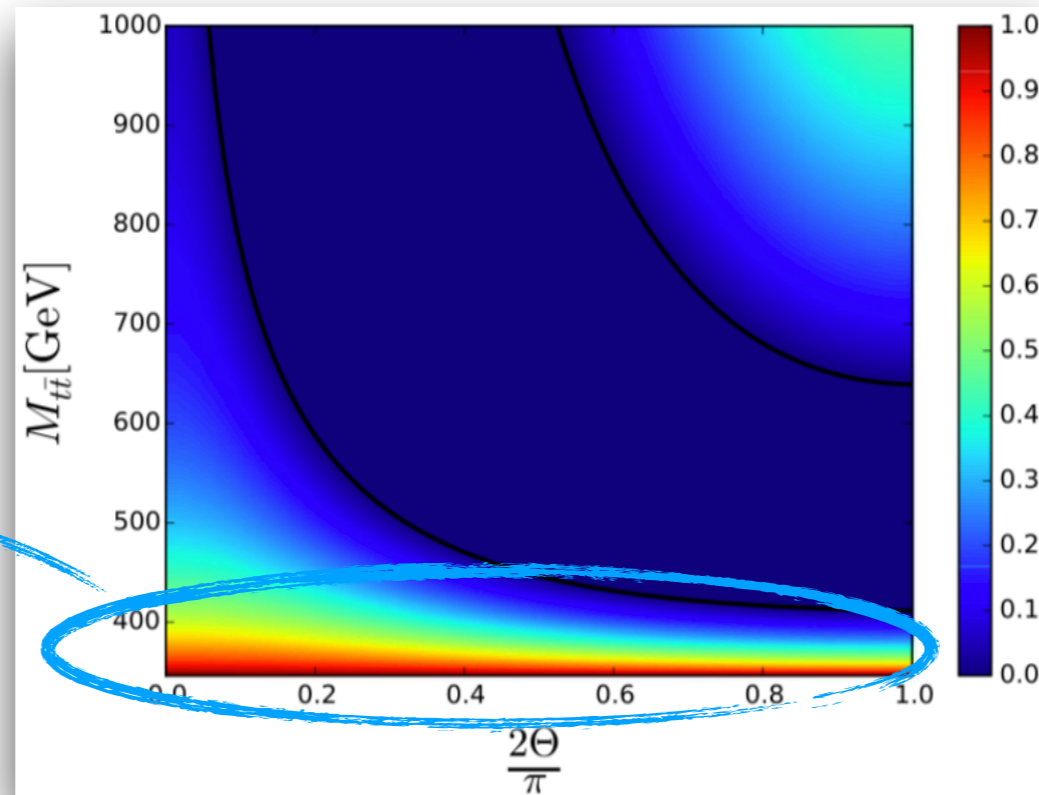
How to probe entanglement

- Four maximally entangled states: $|\Phi^\pm\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle \pm |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle)$

$$|\Psi^\pm\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \pm |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$

$$gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$$

Afik, De Nova
[Eur. Phys. J. Plus 136, 907](#)



- Spin-singlet pseudoscalar state Ψ^-

- At low $m_{t\bar{t}}$: $C_{rr} > 0$ and $C_{kk} > 0$

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + C_{rr} + C_{kk} = \text{Tr}[C] = -3D > 1$$

$$D = -\frac{\text{tr}[C]}{3} \rightarrow D < -1/3$$

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + |C_{rr} + C_{kk}| > 1$$

Sufficient condition for entanglement

How to probe entanglement

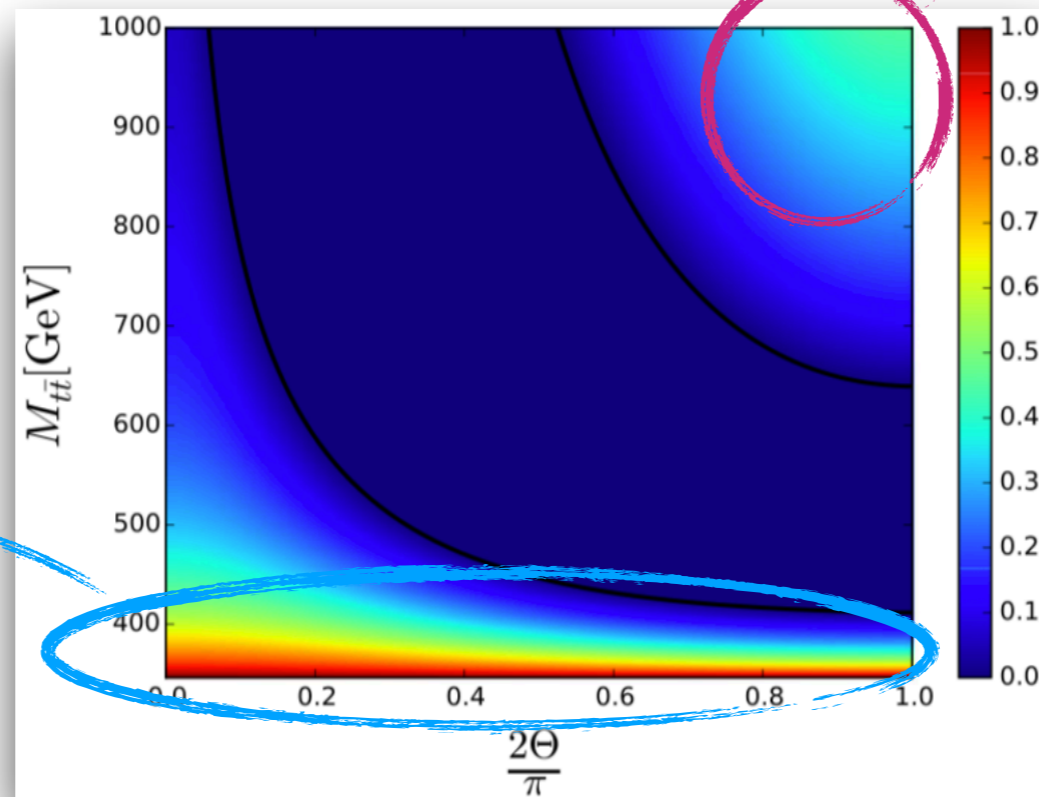
- Four maximally entangled states:

$$|\Phi^\pm\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle \pm |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

$$|\Psi^\pm\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \pm |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$

$gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$

Afik, De Nova
[Eur. Phys. J. Plus 136, 907](#)



- Spin-triplet vector state
 $(\Phi^+ - \Phi^-, \Psi^+, \Phi^+ + \Phi^-)$

- At high $m_{t\bar{t}}$ and low $|\cos \Theta|$:
 $C_{kk} < 0$ and $C_{rr} < 0$

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} - C_{rr} - C_{kk} = 3\tilde{D} > 1$$

$$\rightarrow \tilde{D} > 1/3$$

- Spin-singlet pseudoscalar state Ψ^-

- At low $m_{t\bar{t}}$: $C_{rr} > 0$ and $C_{kk} > 0$

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + C_{rr} + C_{kk} = \text{Tr}[C] = -3D > 1$$

$$D = -\frac{\text{tr}[C]}{3} \rightarrow D < -1/3$$

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + |C_{rr} + C_{kk}| > 1$$

Sufficient condition for entanglement

How to probe entanglement

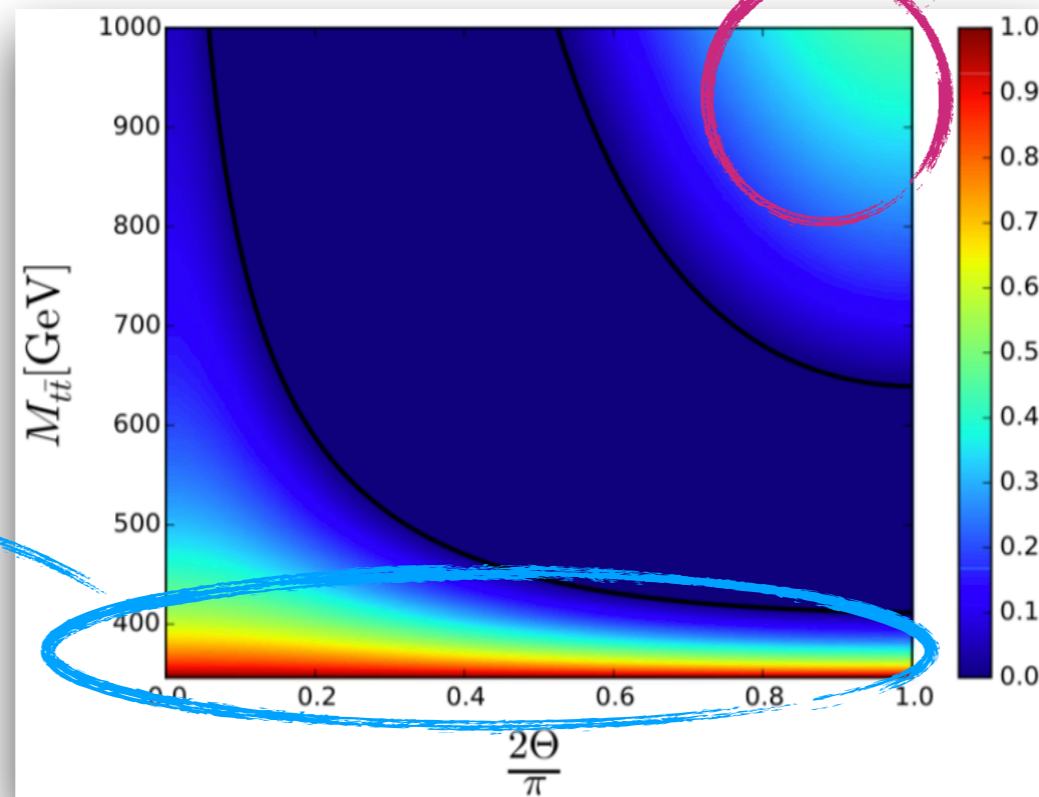
- Four maximally entangled states:

$$|\Phi^\pm\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle \pm |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

$$|\Psi^\pm\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle \pm |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$

$$gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$$

Afik, De Nova
[Eur. Phys. J. Plus 136, 907](#)



- Spin-triplet vector state
 $(\Phi^+ - \Phi^-, \Psi^+, \Phi^+ + \Phi^-)$
- At high $m_{t\bar{t}}$ and low $|\cos \Theta|$:
 $C_{kk} < 0$ and $C_{rr} < 0$

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} - C_{rr} - C_{kk} = 3\tilde{D} > 1$$

$$\rightarrow \tilde{D} > 1/3$$

- Spin-singlet pseudoscalar state Ψ^-

- At low $m_{t\bar{t}}$: $C_{rr} > 0$ and $C_{kk} > 0$

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + C_{rr} + C_{kk} = \text{Tr}[C] = -3D > 1$$

$$D = -\frac{\text{tr}[C]}{3} \rightarrow D < -1/3$$

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + |C_{rr} + C_{kk}| > 1$$

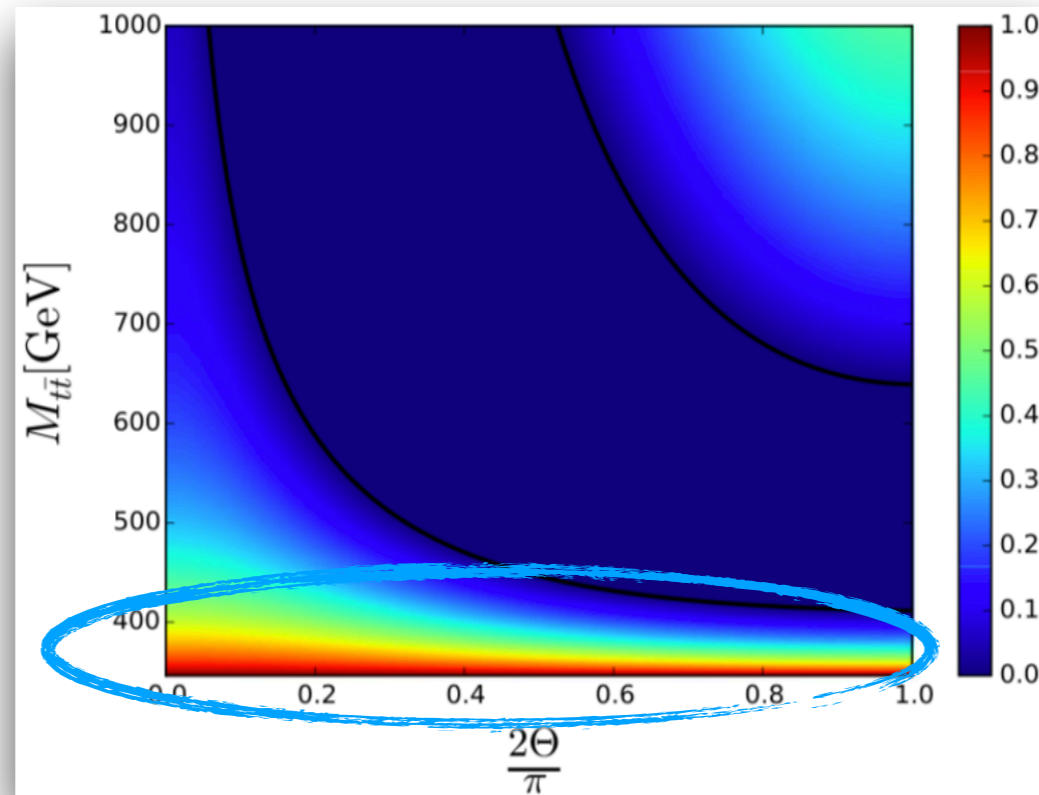
Sufficient condition for entanglement

→ measure D, \tilde{D} to access entanglement information in top quark events!

Dilepton analysis

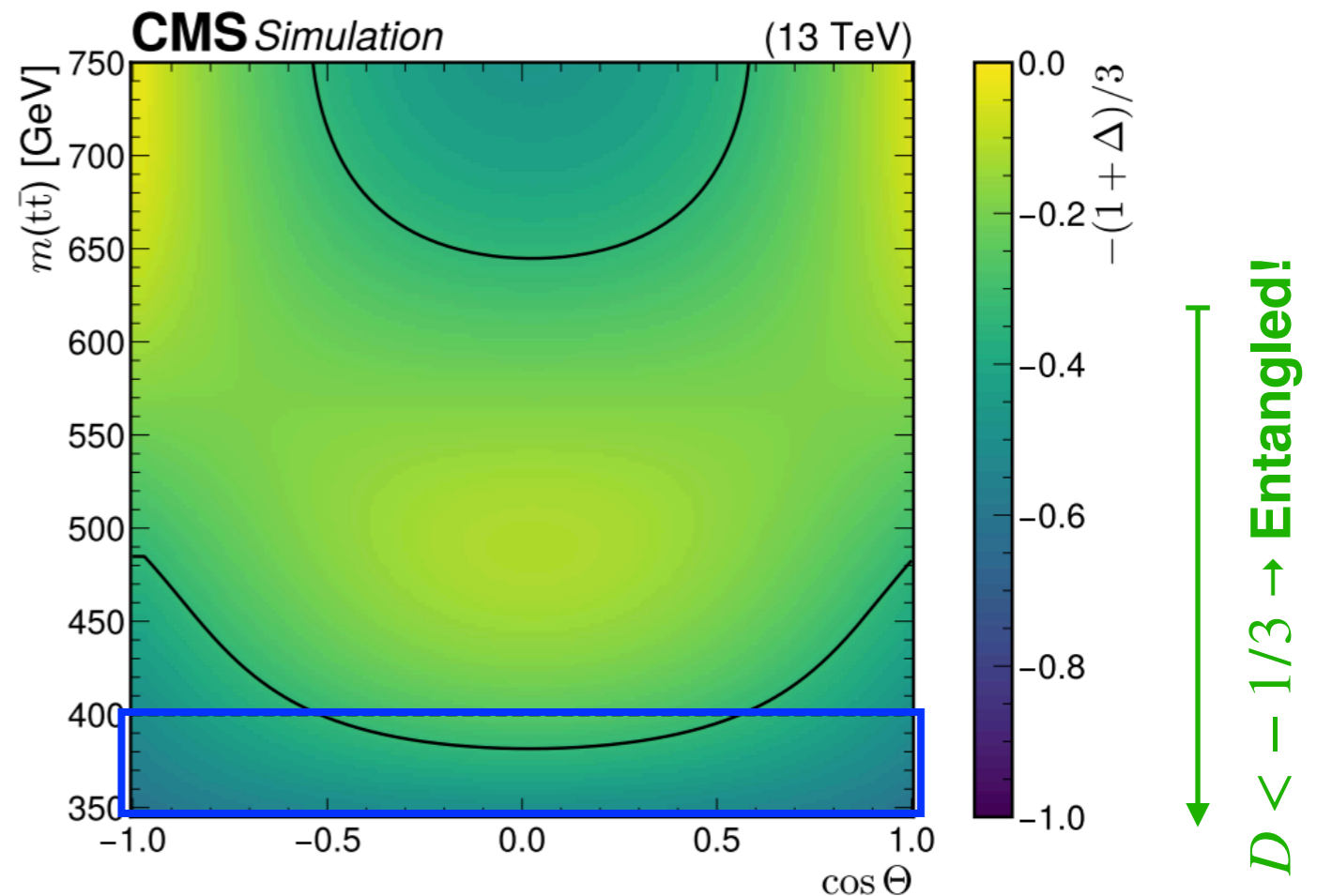
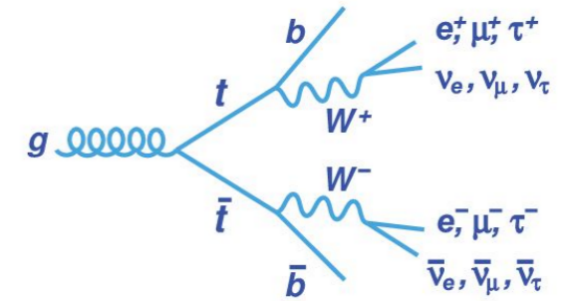
[arXiv:2406.03976](https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.03976)
accepted by ROPP

$$gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$$



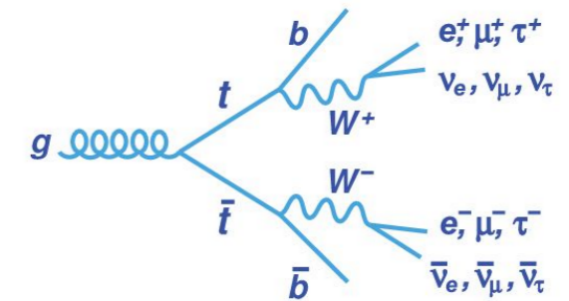
Dilepton analysis: strategy

- The degree of entanglement is highly phase space-dependent
 - scan of $\cos \Theta$ vs $m_{t\bar{t}}$ to determine most sensitive phase space while minimizing expected total uncertainties
- Focus on **low-mass region** ($345 < m_{t\bar{t}} < 400$ GeV) to increase entanglement



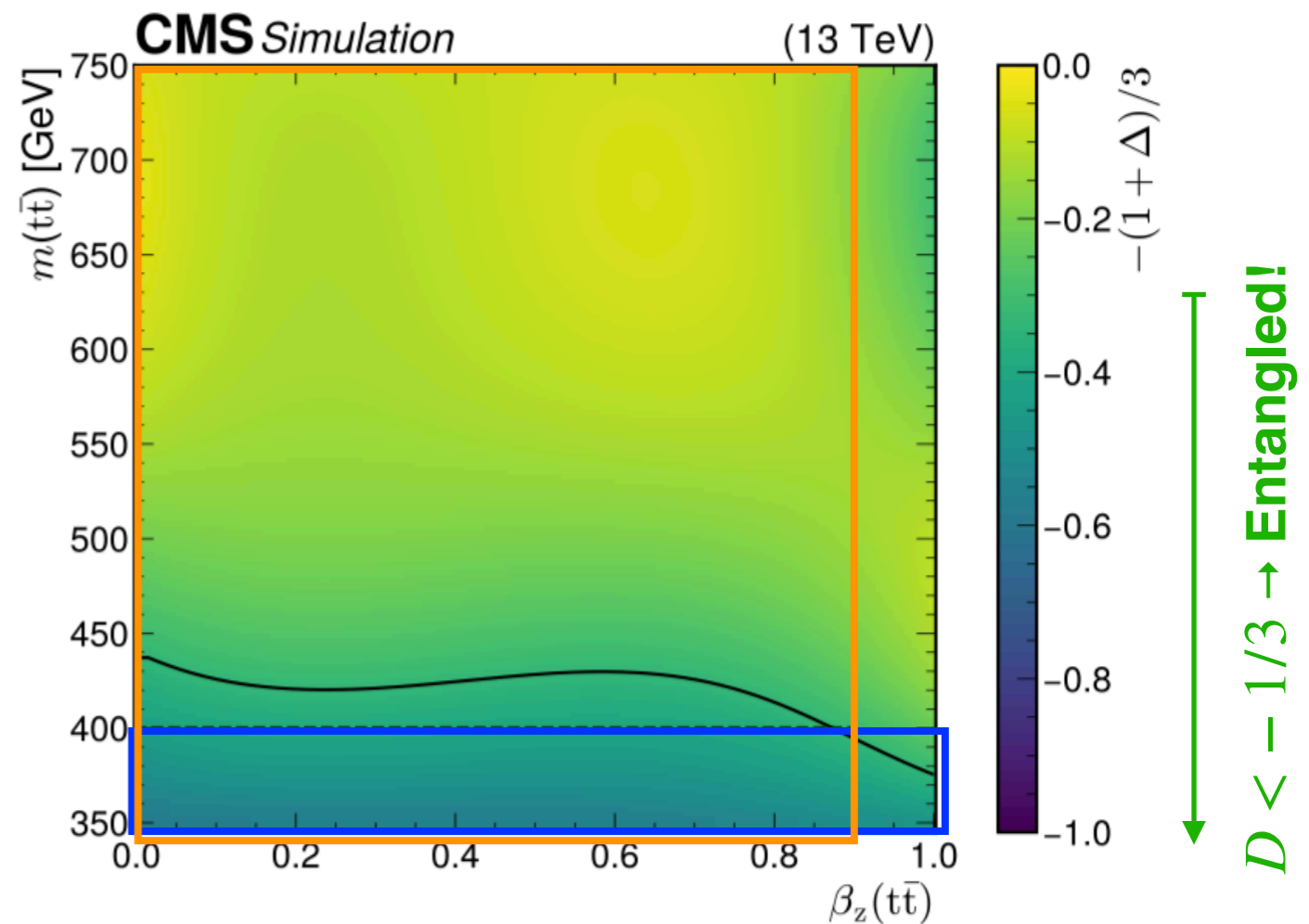
Dilepton analysis: strategy

- The degree of entanglement is highly phase space-dependent
 - scan of $\cos \Theta$ vs $m_{t\bar{t}}$ to determine most sensitive phase space while minimizing expected total uncertainties
- Focus on **low-mass region** ($345 < m_{t\bar{t}} < 400$ GeV) to increase entanglement
- Cut on velocity along the beam line of the $t\bar{t}$ system to increase $gg/q\bar{q}$ fraction:



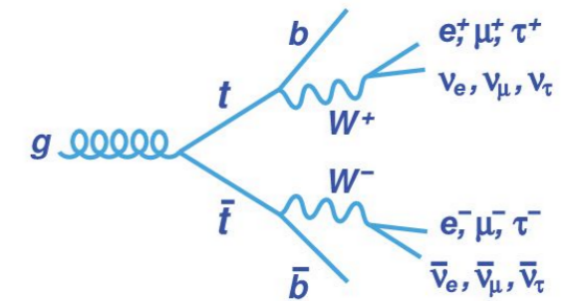
Aguilar-Saavedra,
Casas
[arXiv:2205.00542](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.00542)

$$\beta = \left| \frac{p_z^t + p_z^{\bar{t}}}{E^t + E^{\bar{t}}} \right| < 0.9$$



Dilepton analysis: strategy

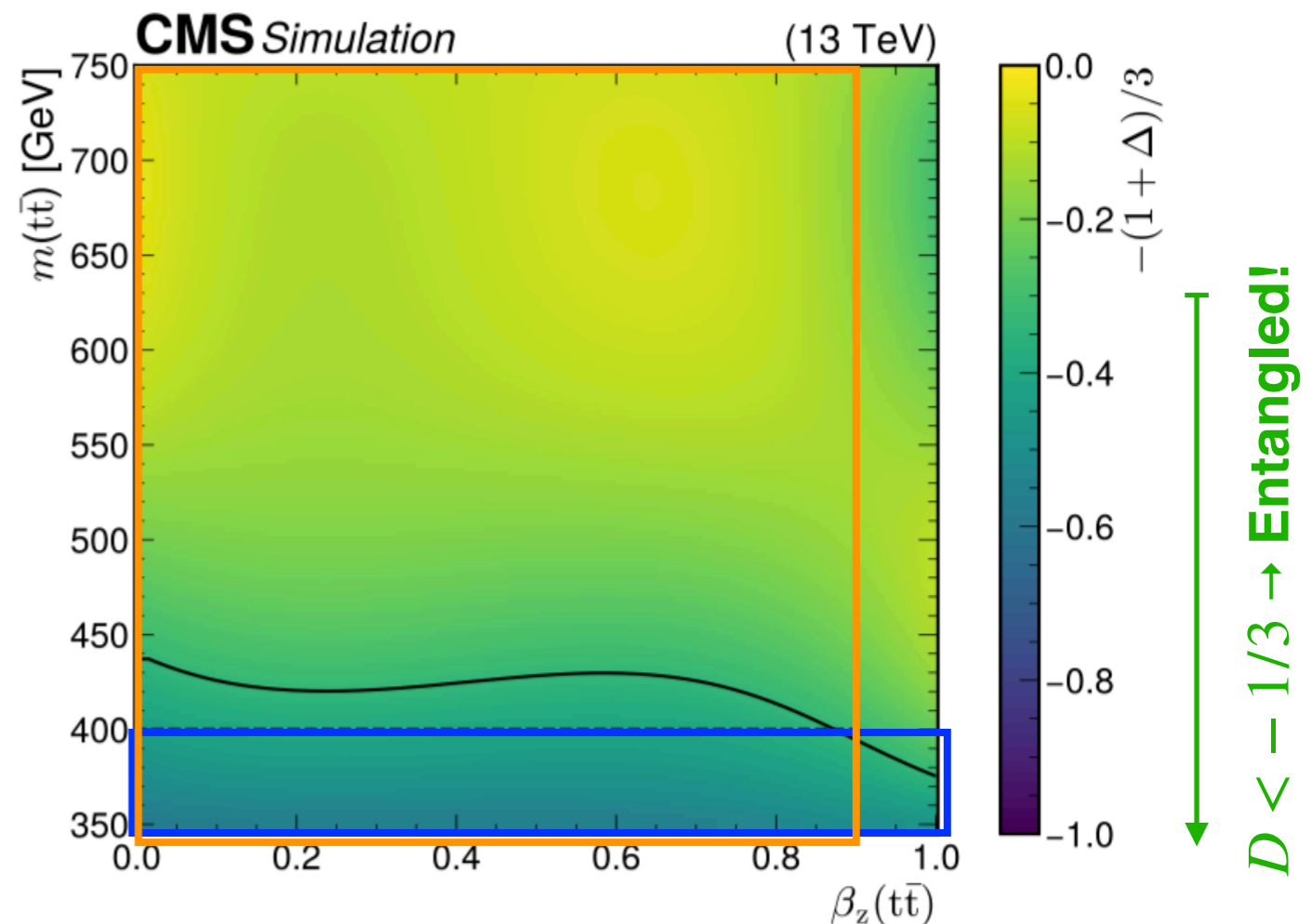
- The degree of entanglement is highly phase space-dependent
 - scan of $\cos \Theta$ vs $m_{t\bar{t}}$ to determine most sensitive phase space while minimizing expected total uncertainties
- Focus on **low-mass region** ($345 < m_{t\bar{t}} < 400$ GeV) to increase entanglement
- Cut on velocity along the beam line of the $t\bar{t}$ system to increase $gg/q\bar{q}$ fraction:



Aguilar-Saavedra,
Casas
[arXiv:2205.00542](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.00542)

$$\beta = \left| \frac{p_z^t + p_z^{\bar{t}}}{E^t + E^{\bar{t}}} \right| < 0.9$$

- Top quark reconstructions with m_{eb} **weighting method**
- Measure helicity angle $\cos \varphi = \hat{\ell}_1 \cdot \hat{\ell}_2$
 - fully encapsulates spin correlations information for gg
- Perform a **profile maximum likelihood fit of the $\cos \varphi$ distribution** in the $m_{t\bar{t}} - \beta$ signal region

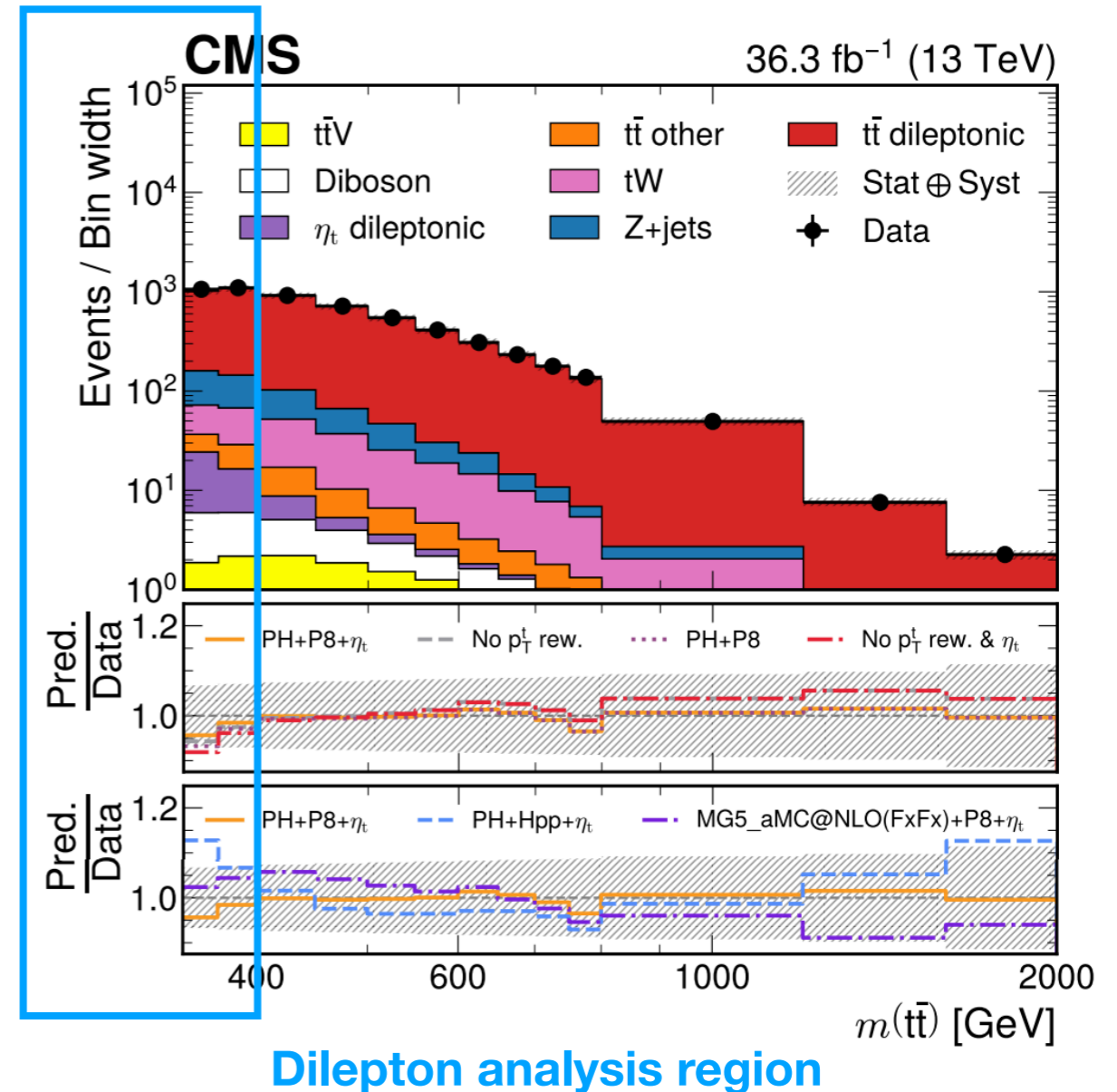


Signal model

Toponium: predicted top quark-antiquark quasi-bound state with a mass of 343 GeV and a width of 7 GeV

Combined signal model: $t\bar{t}$ + toponium (η_t)

- PowhegBox+Pythia8 (NLO) as **nominal $t\bar{t}$ sample**
 - inclusion of **EWK corrections at NLO** with HATHOR [Comput. Phys. Commun. 182 \(2011\) 10](#)
 - reweighting to NNLO QCD calculations [PRL 127 \(2021\) 062001](#)
- **toponium model** generated with MG5 aMC@NLO(LO)+Pythia8 [B. Fuks et al. Phys Rev D 104 034023](#)

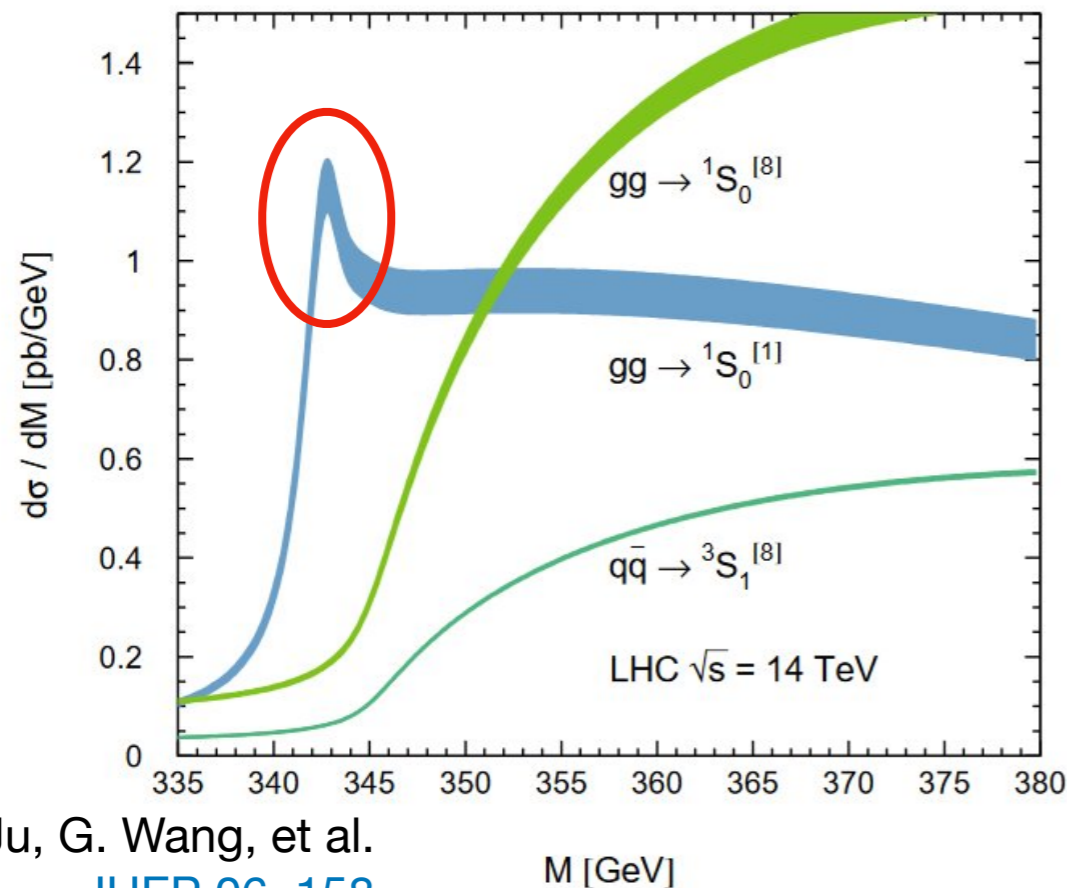


Signal model

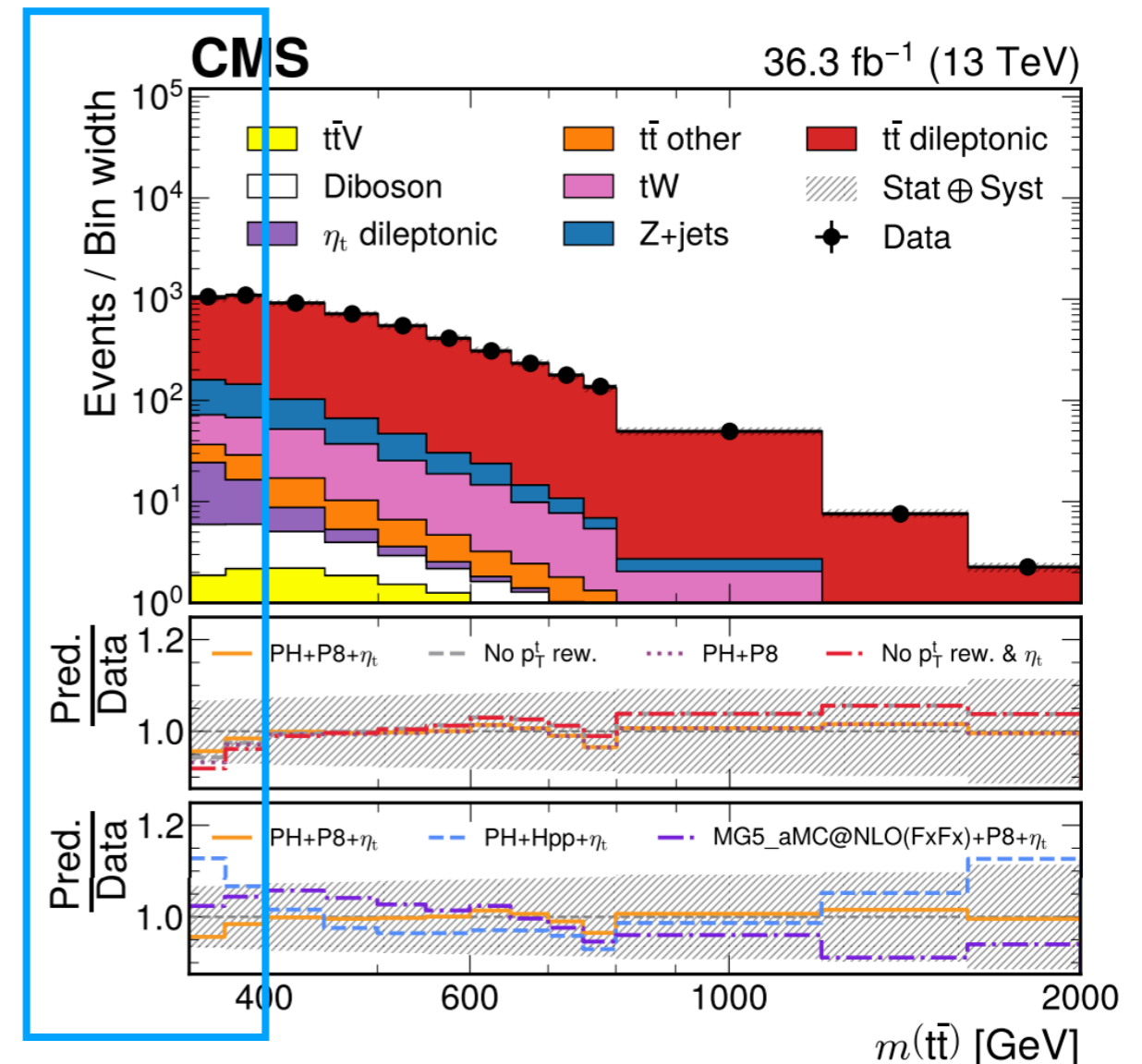
Toponium: predicted top quark-antiquark quasi-bound state with a mass of 343 GeV and a width of 7 GeV

Combined signal model: $t\bar{t}$ + toponium (η_t)

- PowhegBox+Pythia8 (NLO) as **nominal $t\bar{t}$ sample**
 - inclusion of **EWK corrections at NLO** with HATHOR [Comput. Phys. Commun. 182 \(2011\) 10](#)
 - reweighting to NNLO QCD calculations [PRL 127 \(2021\) 062001](#)
- **toponium model** generated with MG5 aMC@NLO(LO)+Pythia8 [B. Fuks et al. Phys Rev D 104 034023](#)
 - only pseudoscalar colour singlet and spin-0 η_t state accounted for
 - η_t improves data modeling in the threshold region



W. Ju, G. Wang, et al.
[JHEP 06, 158](#)



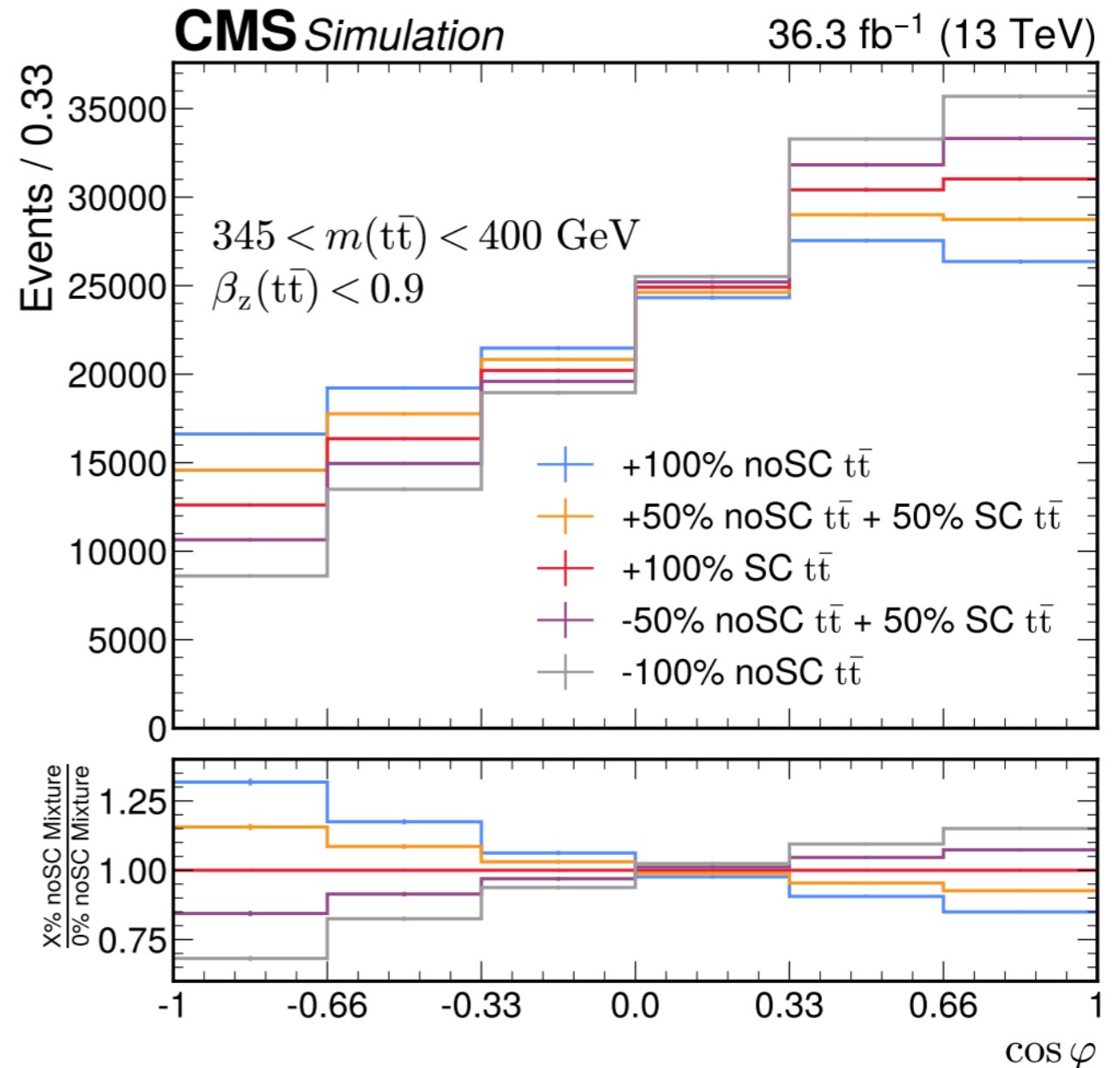
Dilepton analysis region

Extraction of entanglement proxy

- The entanglement proxy D is extracted with a template fit
 - all systematic effects included as nuisance parameters
- Variations of D outside of SM needed to model variation of entanglement
- Use mixtures of SC and noSC to change fraction of $t\bar{t}$ with aligned vs opposite spins
 - any value of D between -1 and +1 can be reached

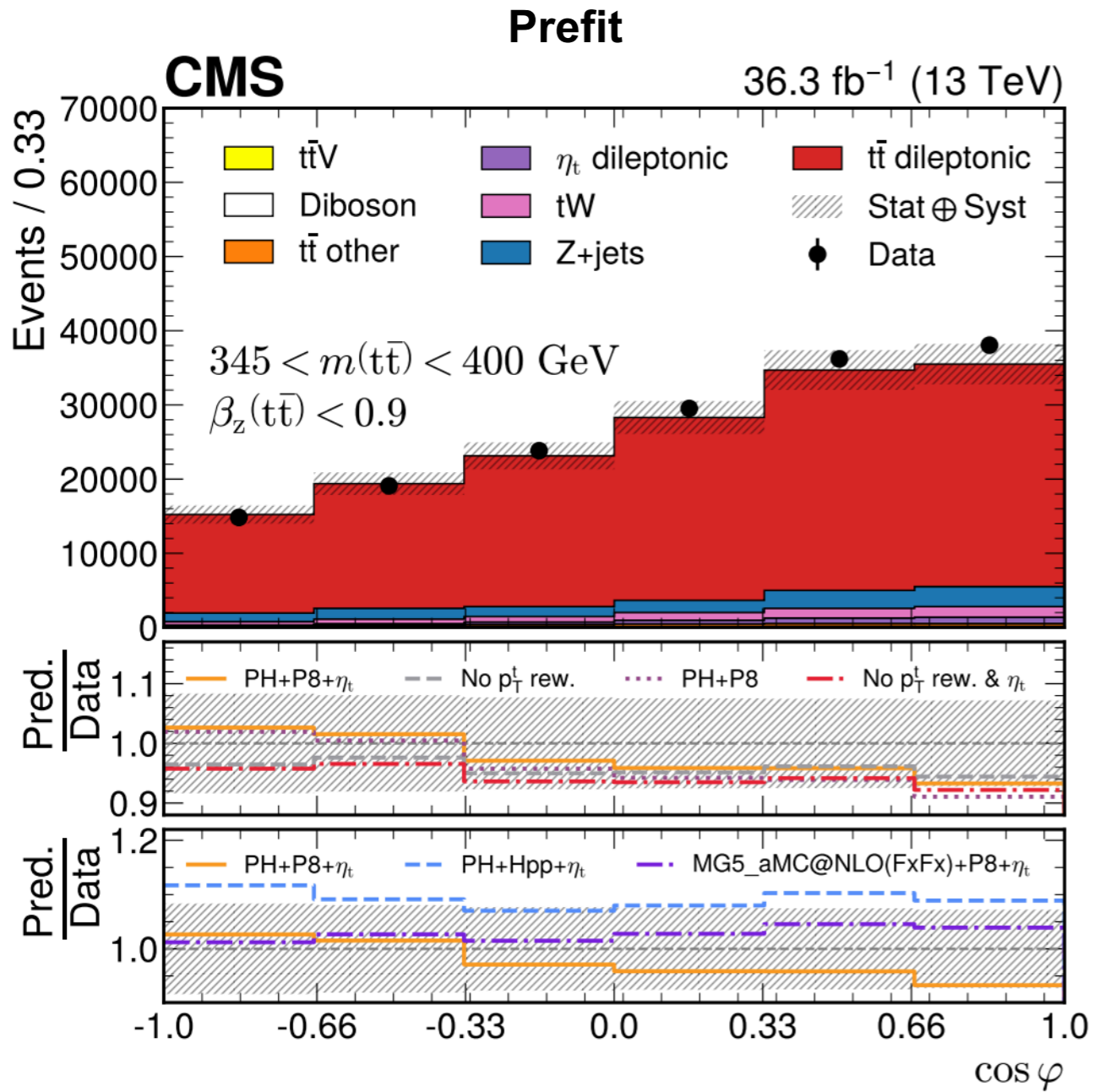
$$D \sim \frac{\sigma(\uparrow\uparrow) + \sigma(\downarrow\downarrow) - \sigma(\uparrow\downarrow) - \sigma(\downarrow\uparrow)}{\sigma(\uparrow\uparrow) + \sigma(\downarrow\downarrow) + \sigma(\uparrow\downarrow) + \sigma(\downarrow\uparrow)}$$

Mixed samples with (SC) and without (noSC) spin correlations

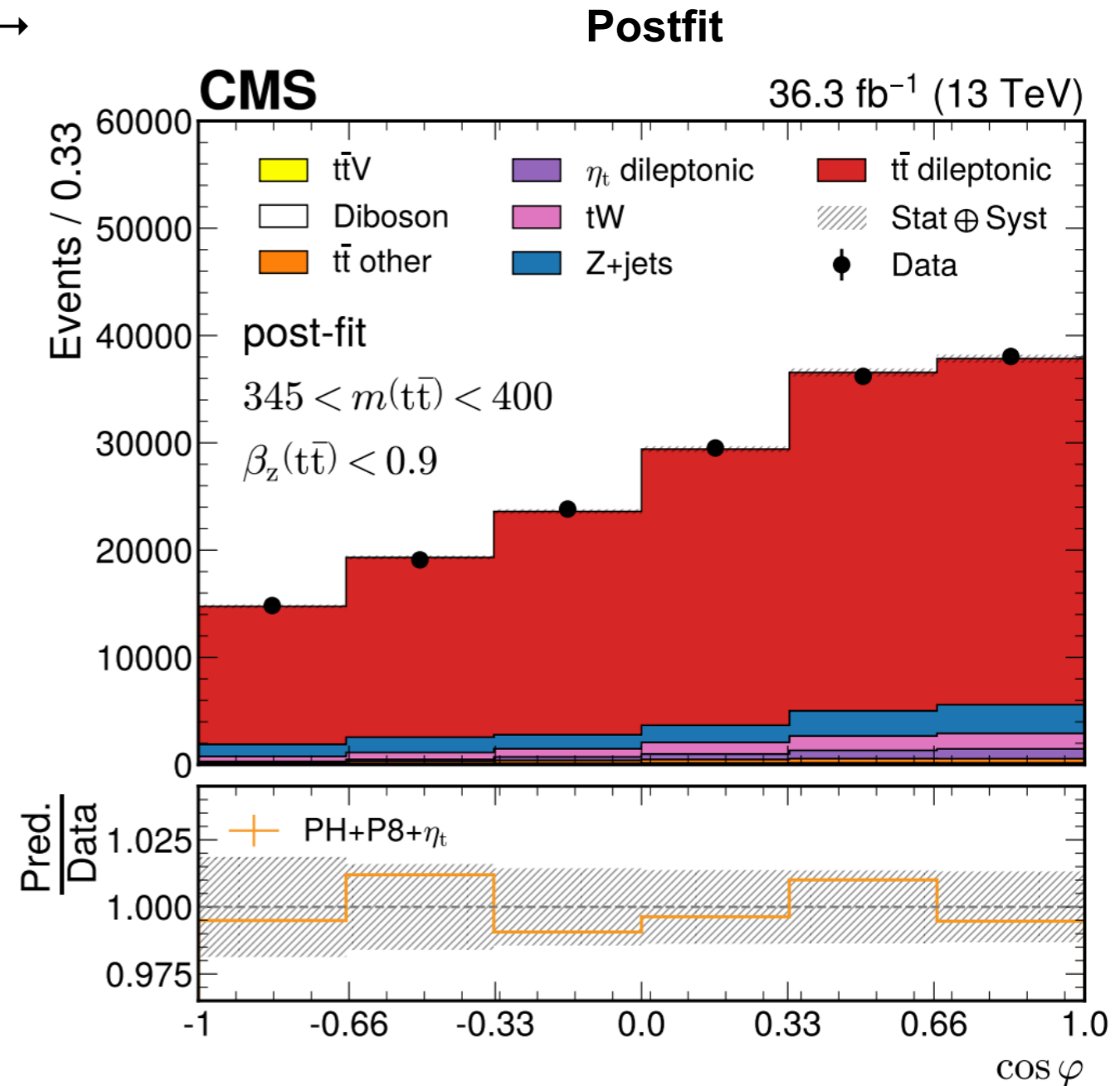


Dilepton results

- Result of the binned profile likelihood fit of the $\cos \varphi$ distribution
 - ~47500 signal candidates
- Good agreement with SM predictions



→



Dilepton results

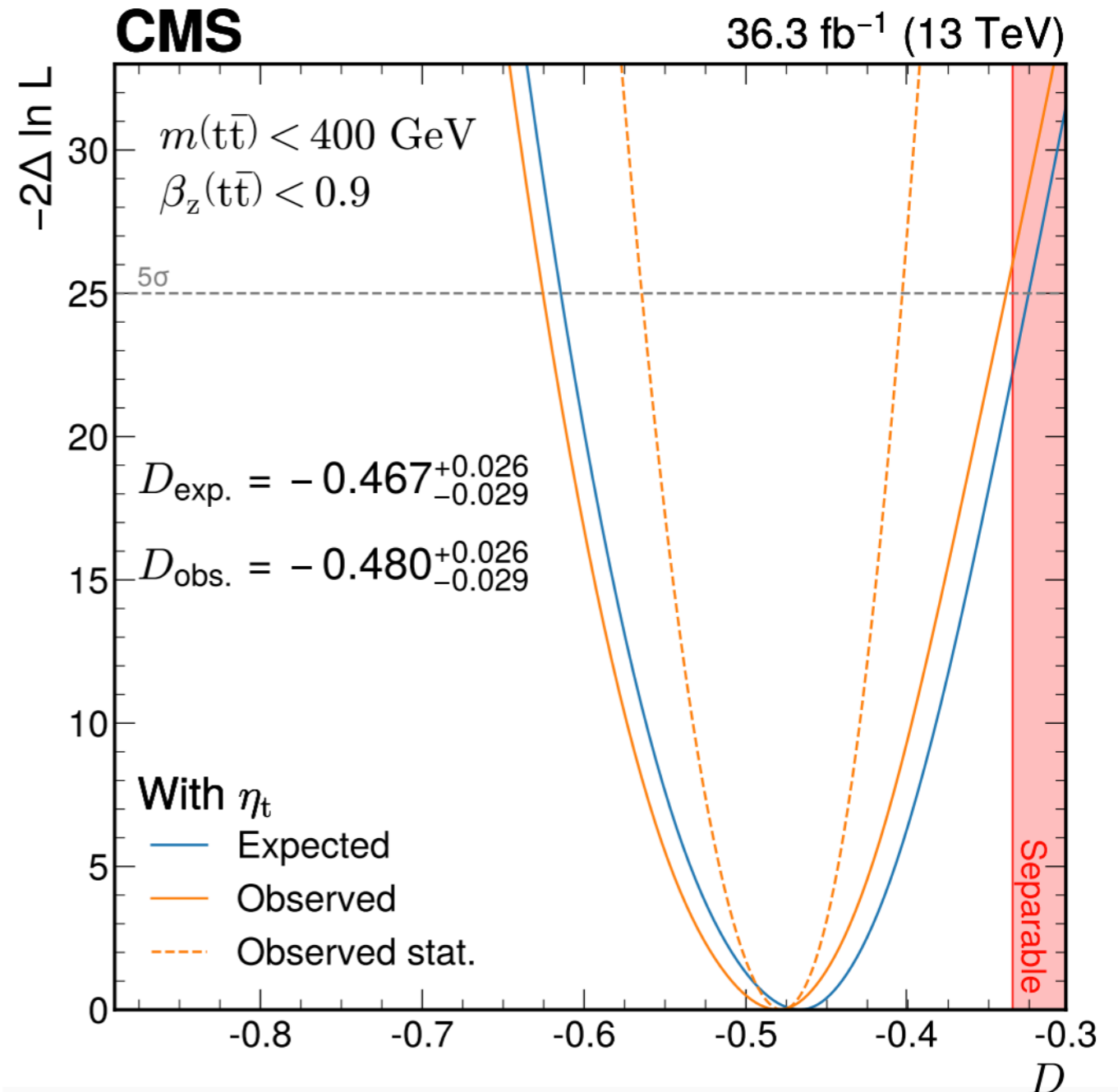
- Scan of the $-2\Delta\ln L$ distribution yields D at parton level, accounting for all detector effects

$$D_{obs} = -0.480^{+0.016}_{-0.017}(\text{stat})^{+0.020}_{-0.023}(\text{syst})$$

$$D_{exp} = -0.467^{+0.016}_{-0.017}(\text{stat})^{+0.021}_{-0.024}(\text{syst})$$

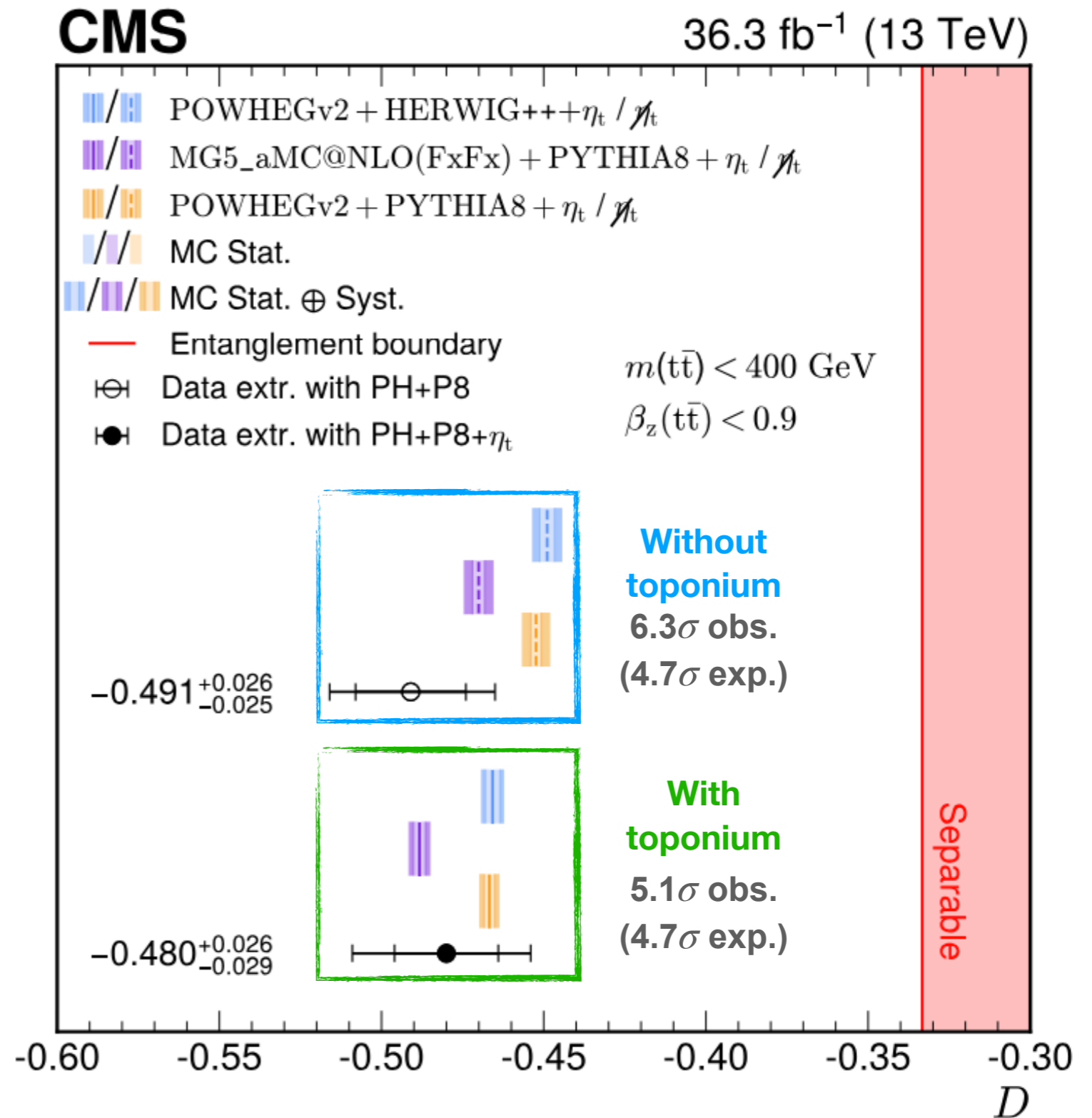
- Significance: 5.1σ obs (4.7σ exp.)

>5 standard deviations observation of top quarks being entangled at $t\bar{t}$ threshold !



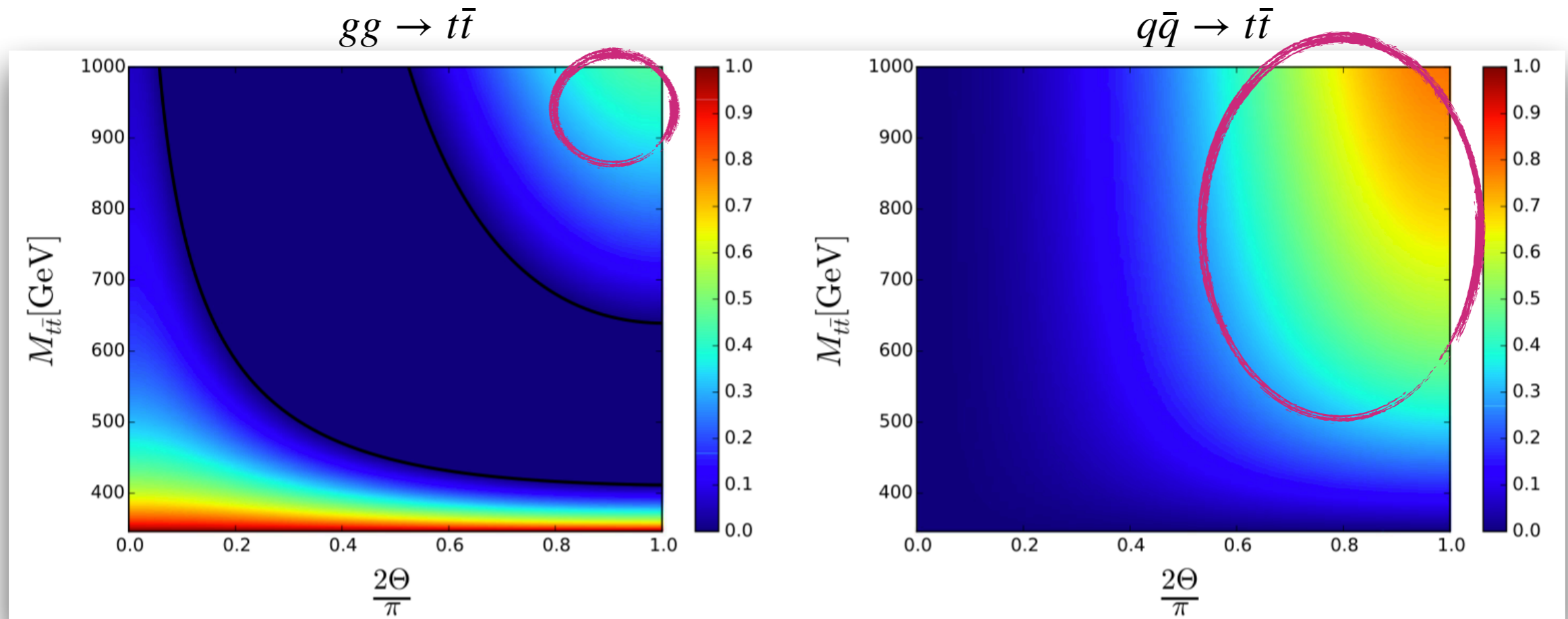
Dilepton results with/without η_t

- **Good agreement with SM predictions**
 - **significantly improved with η_t inclusion**
- $\sim 1.5\sigma$ tension with the expectation if toponium is not included



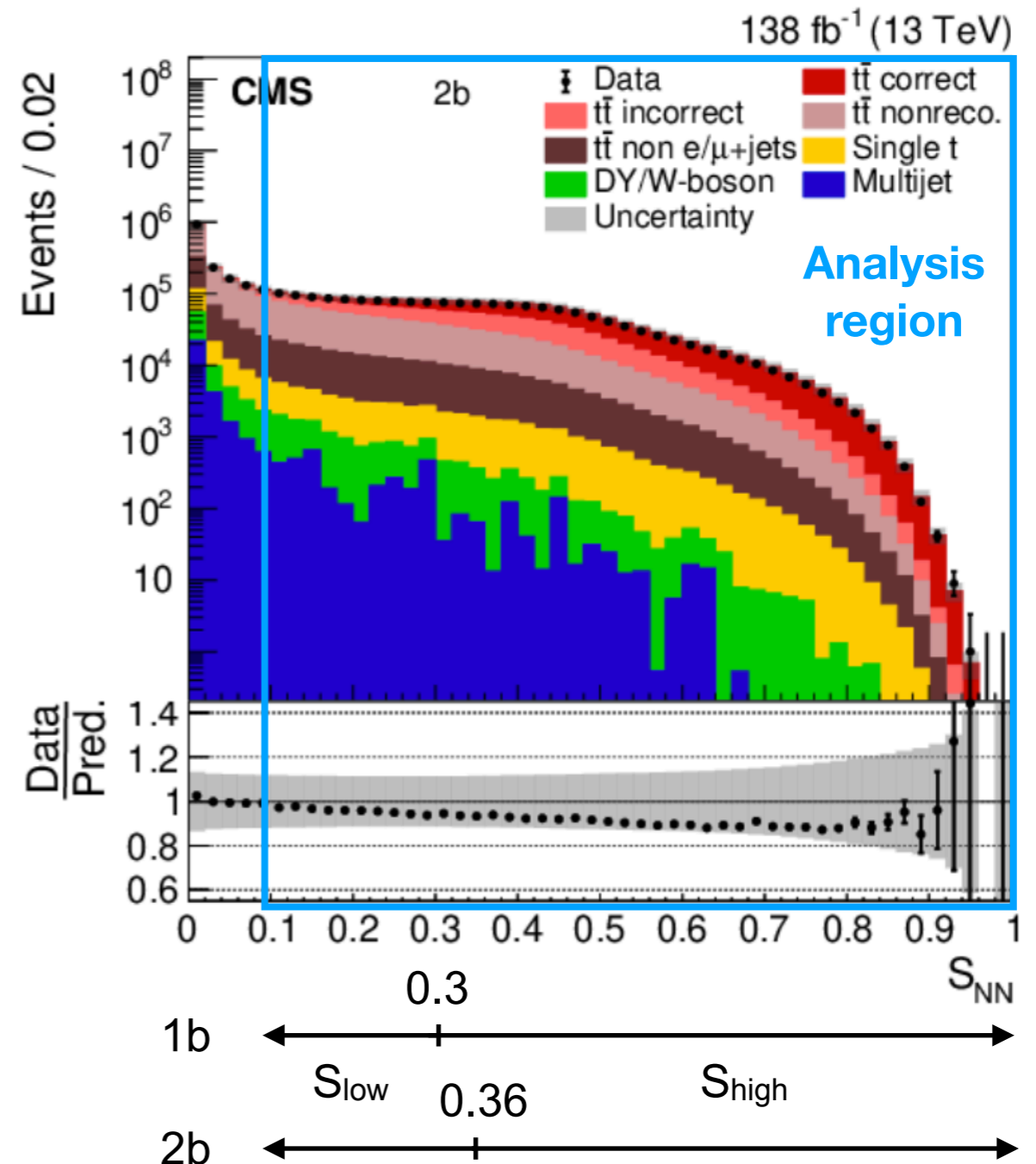
Lepton + jets analysis

[arXiv:2409.11067](https://arxiv.org/abs/2409.11067)
submitted to PRD



Lepton + jets: strategy

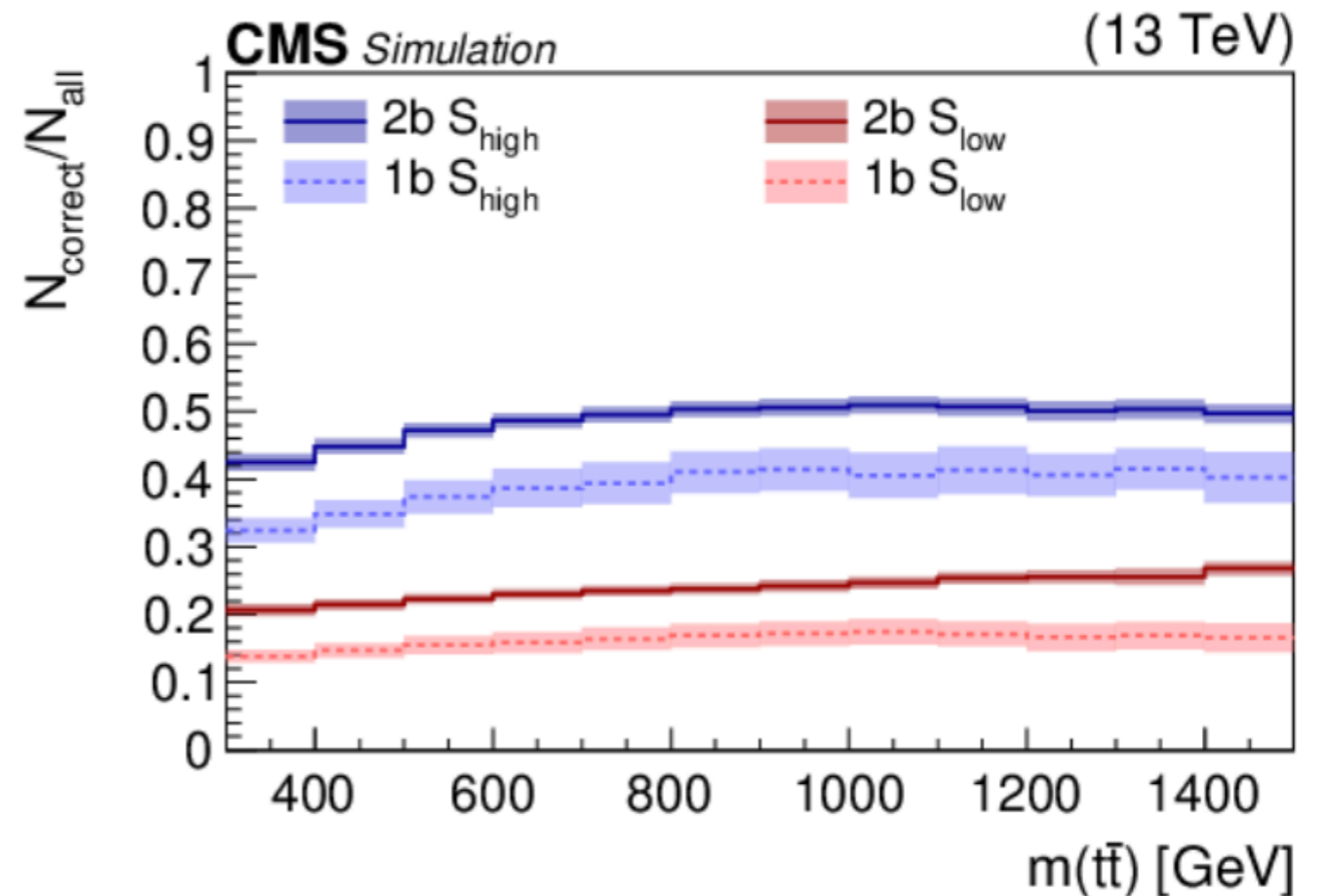
- **Artificial NN** used to reconstruct the $t\bar{t}$ system in each event
 - correctly identifying detector-level objects and up/down jet assignment
- **Remove events with NN score $S_{NN} < 0.1$**
 - due to the low fraction of correctly reconstructed events and the large contribution of background processes
- Events divided into categories based on lepton flavor, number of b-tags, and NN score



Lepton + jets: strategy

- **Artificial NN** used to reconstruct the $t\bar{t}$ system in each event
 - correctly identifying detector-level objects and up/down jet assignment
- **Remove events with NN score $S_{NN} < 0.1$**
 - due to the low fraction of correctly reconstructed events and the large contribution of background processes
- Events divided into **categories based on lepton flavor, number of b-tags, and NN score**
- **50% correct jet assignment** (including correct d-type quark) in **2b S_{high} region**
- All polarization and spin correlation coefficients extracted simultaneously by performing a binned **maximum likelihood fit** to the data

Fraction of events reconstructed with jets correctly assigned to partons including d-type quark



Lepton + jets: fit strategy

- The total cross section is a **linear combination of Σ_m templates** with P and C coefficients Q_m :

$$\Sigma_{tot} = \Sigma_0 + \sum_{m=1}^{15} Q_m \Sigma_m$$

$$\Sigma_m = \sigma_{norm} \{ \sin \theta_p \cos \phi_p, \sin \theta_p \sin \phi_p, \dots, \cos \theta_p \cos \theta_{\bar{p}} \}$$

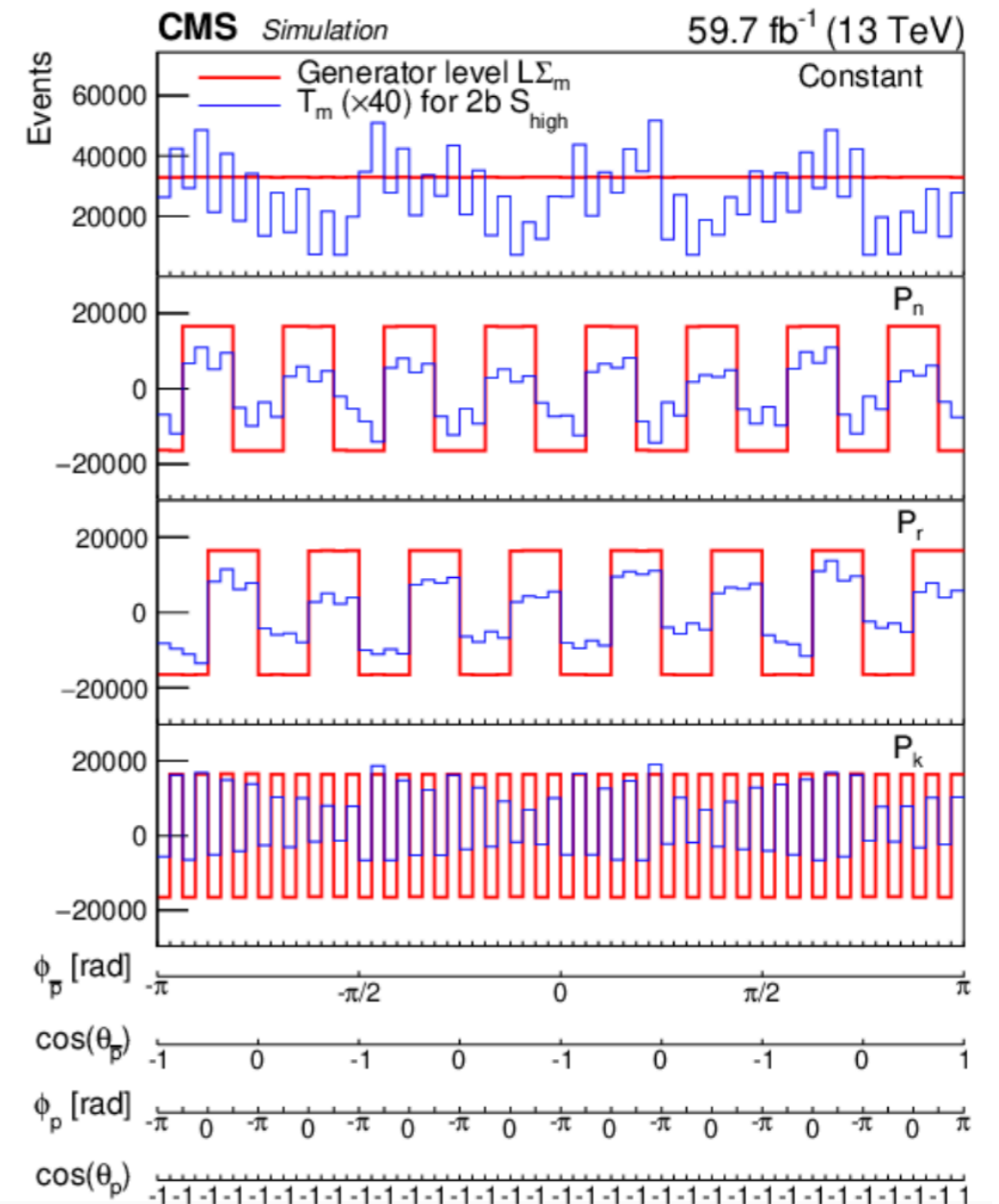
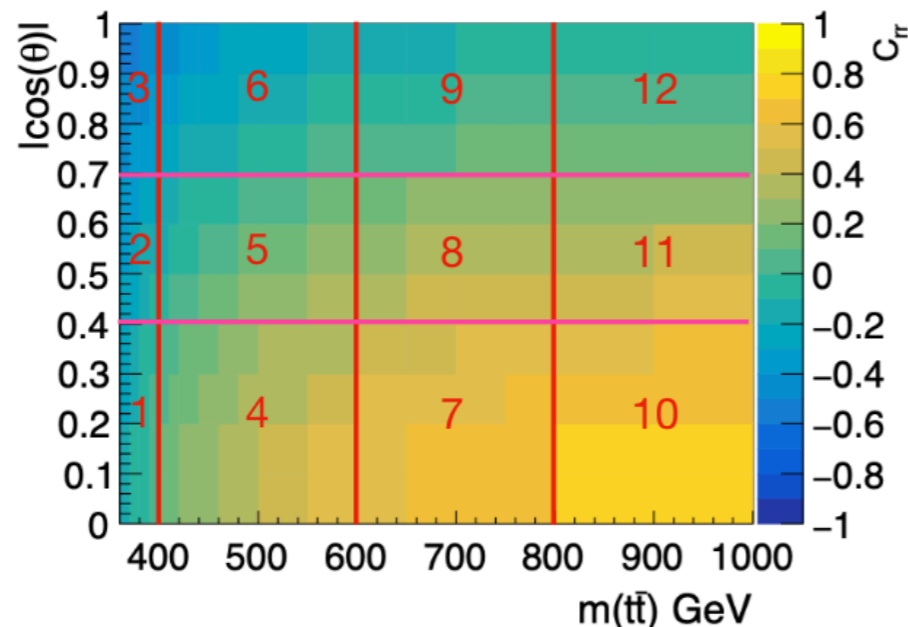
$L\Sigma_m$ = templates used at gen level
 T_m = templates defined at reco level

Q_m can be extracted by fitting Σ_{tot}

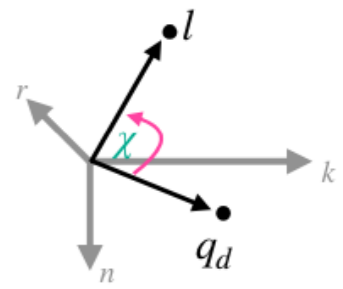
- Events are reweighted at the generator level**

$$W_m = \frac{\Sigma_m}{\Sigma_{tot}}$$

- To minimize bias due to variations of T_m within a bin, measurements are performed in **sufficiently small bins**

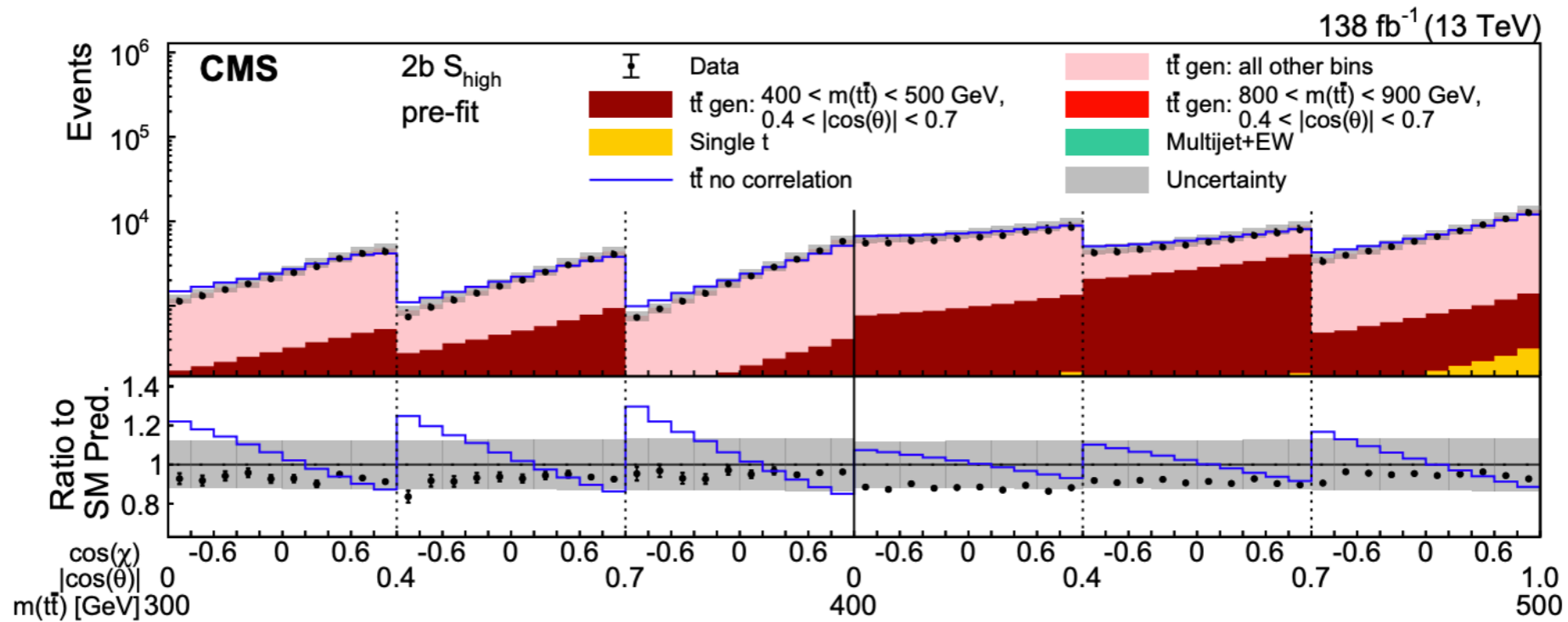


Lepton+jets: fit

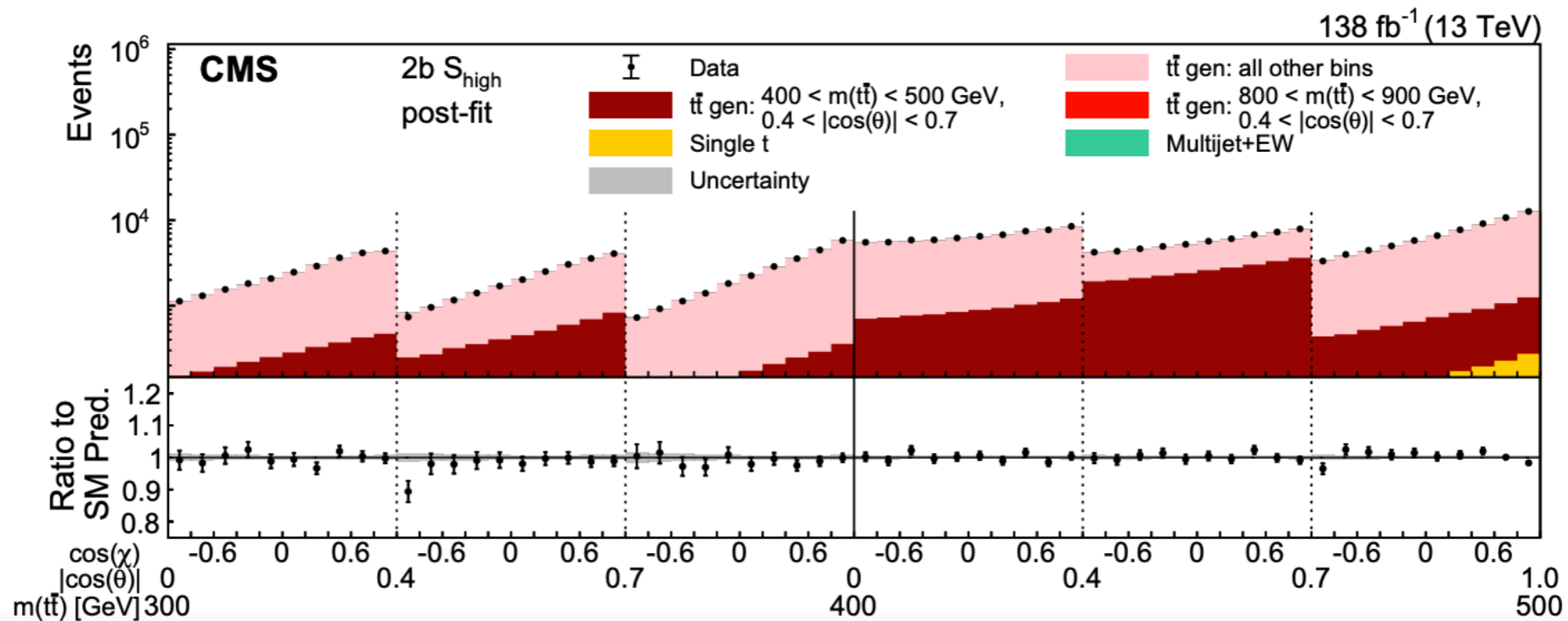


- Maximum likelihood fit combining information of the four categories: (2b, 1b) x (S_{high}, S_{low})
- $\cos \chi$ distribution is fit to the reconstruction-level templates in each $(m_{t\bar{t}}, |\cos \theta|)$ bin

Prefit



Postfit

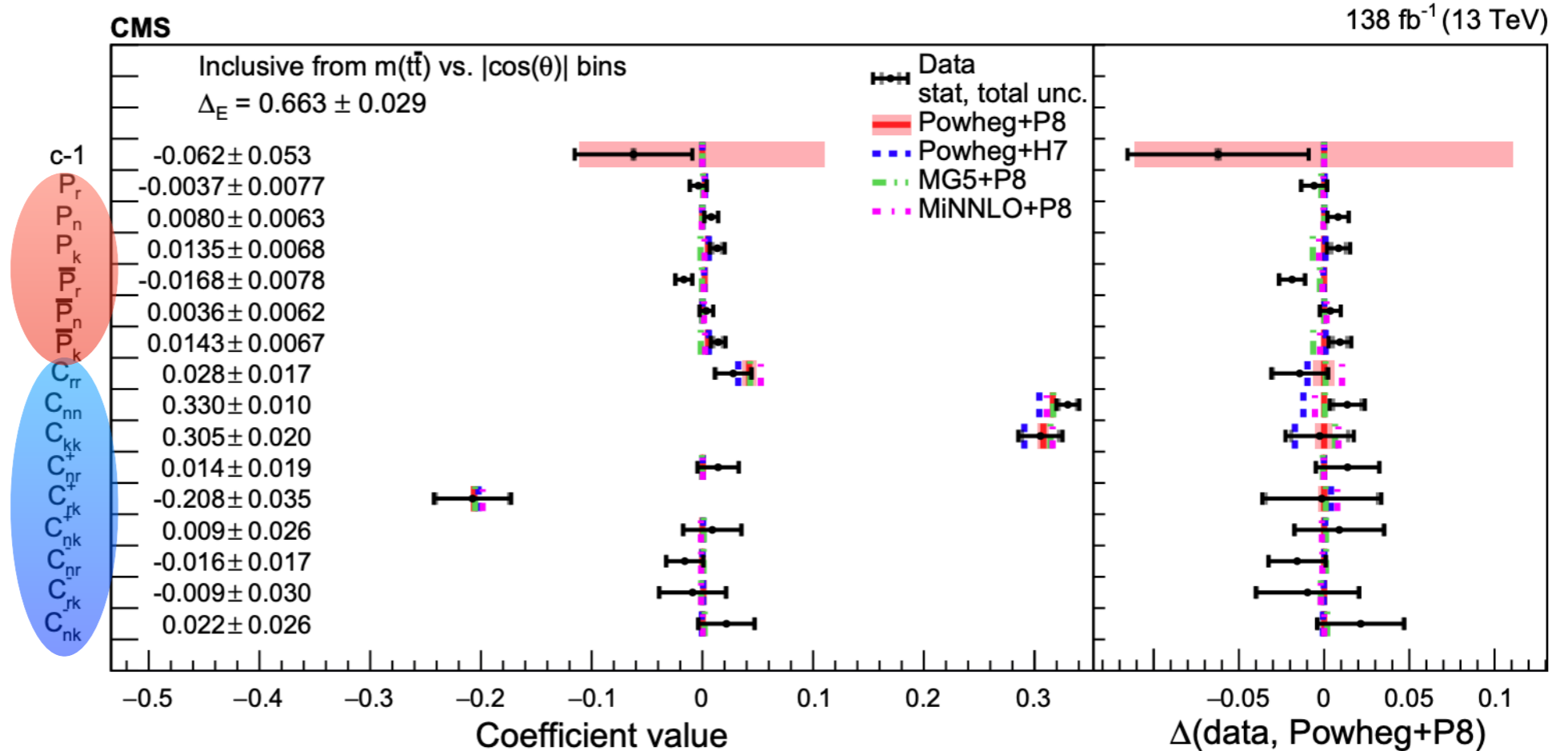


Lepton+jets results: full matrix

- Evaluation of **full correlation matrix C** and **polarization vectors P** + measurement of D, \tilde{D}
 - inclusive + differential measurements in bins of $m_{t\bar{t}}, |\cos\theta|, p_T(t)$
 - **first time at high $m_{t\bar{t}}$!**
- **Good agreement with SM prediction**

$$B^{+/-} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} x & x & x \\ x & x & x \\ x & x & x \end{pmatrix}$$



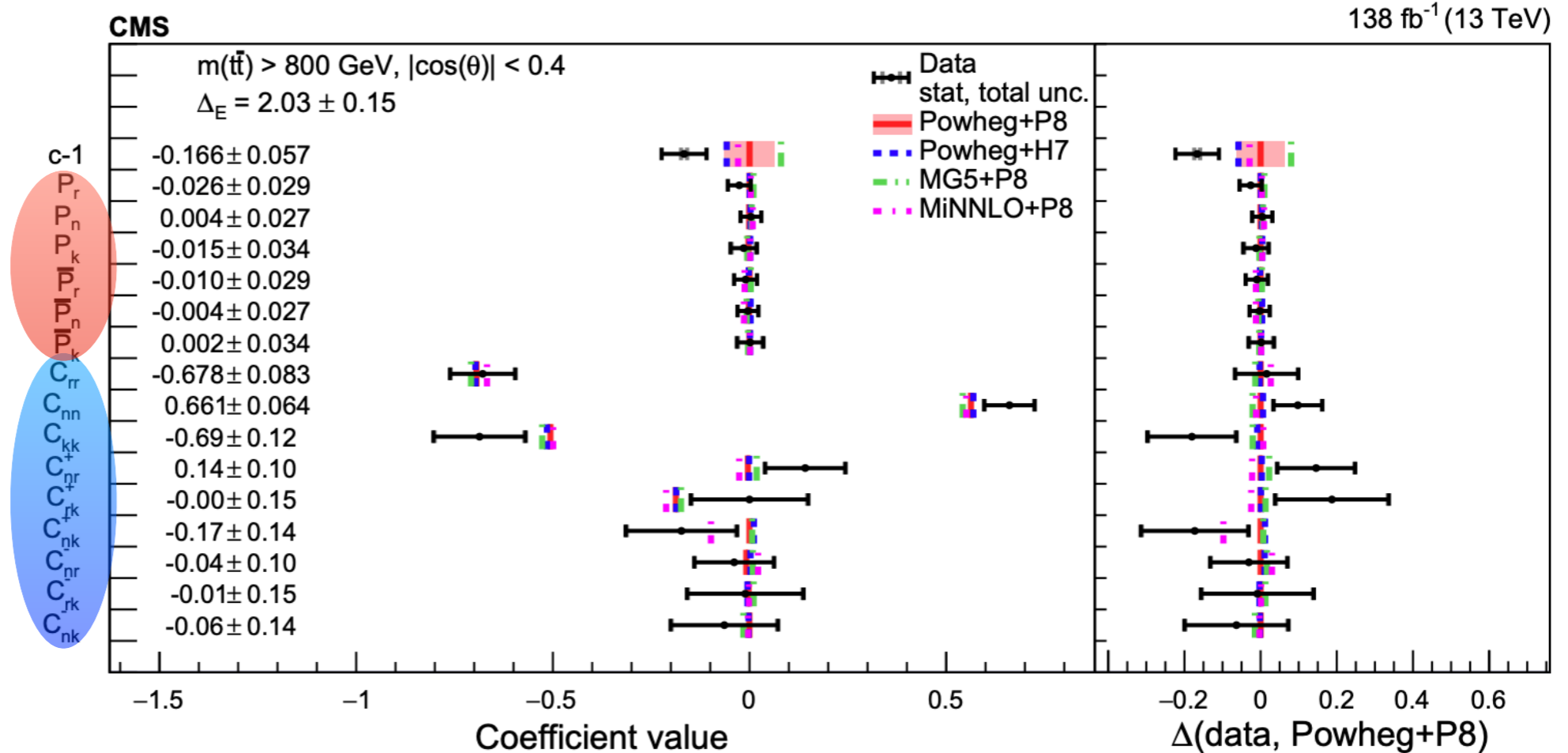
Inclusive from $m_{t\bar{t}}$ vs $|\cos\theta|$

Lepton+jets results: full matrix

- Evaluation of **full correlation matrix C** and **polarization vectors P** + measurement of D, \tilde{D}
 - inclusive + differential measurements in bins of $m_{t\bar{t}}, |\cos \theta|, p_T(t)$
 - **first time at high $m_{t\bar{t}}$!**
- **Good agreement with SM prediction**

$$B^{+/-} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} x & x & x \\ x & x & x \\ x & x & x \end{pmatrix}$$



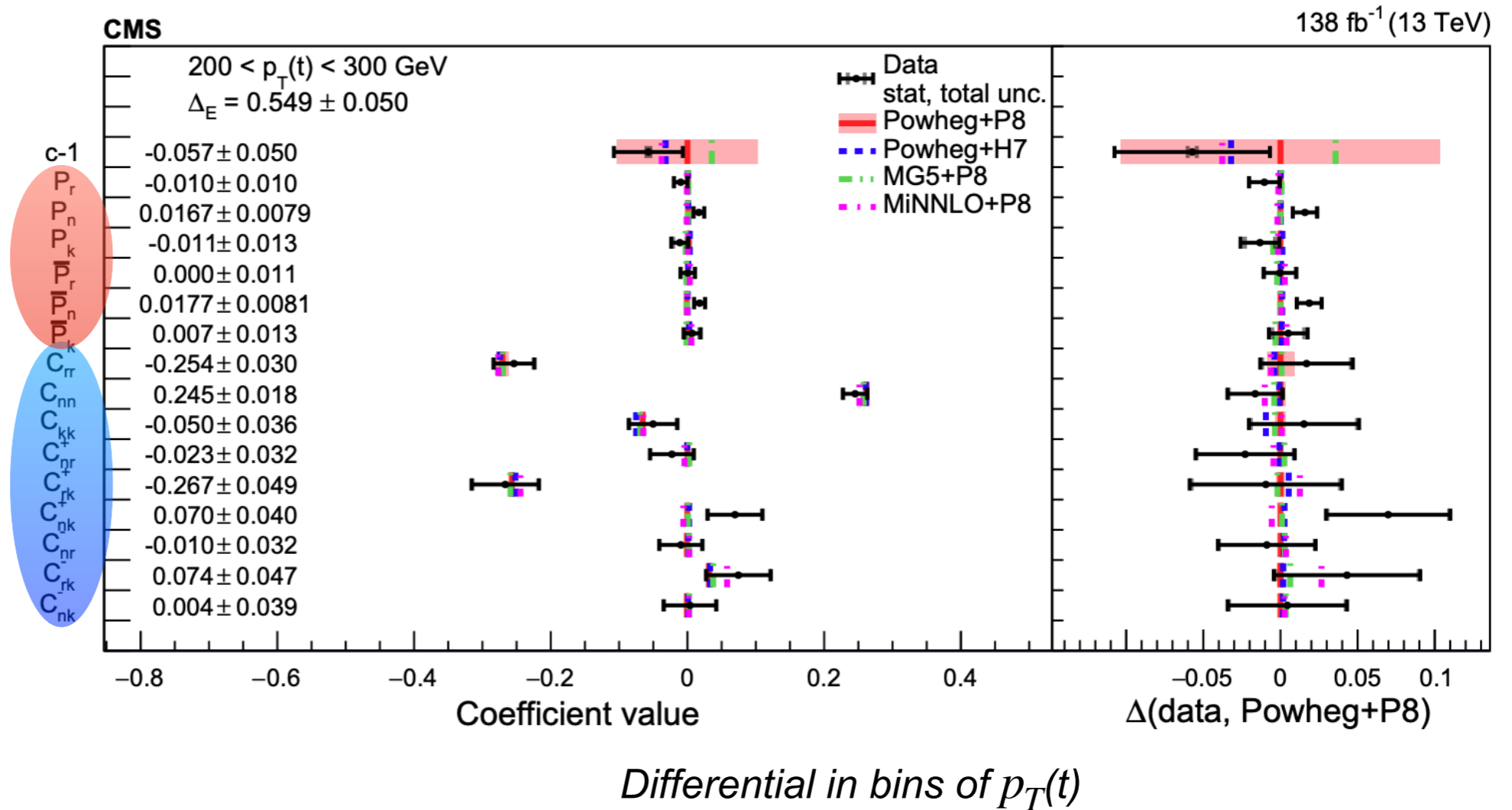
Differential in bins of $m_{t\bar{t}}$ and $|\cos \theta|$

Lepton+jets results: full matrix

- Evaluation of **full correlation matrix C** and **polarization vectors P** + measurement of D, \tilde{D}
 - inclusive + differential measurements in bins of $m_{t\bar{t}}, |\cos \theta|, p_T(t)$
 - **first time at high $m_{t\bar{t}}$!**
- **Good agreement with SM prediction**

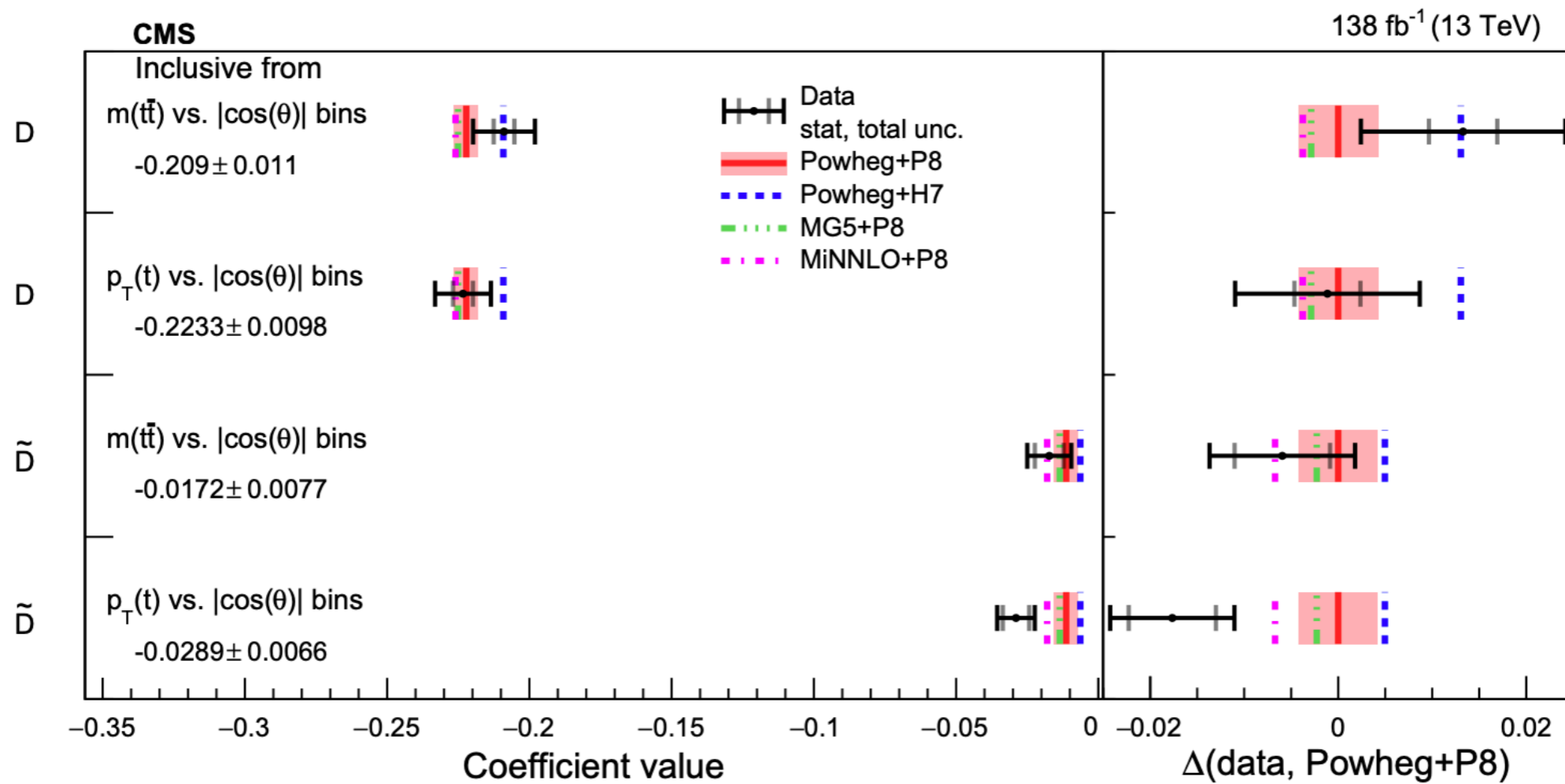
$$B^{+/-} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} x & x & x \\ x & x & x \\ x & x & x \end{pmatrix}$$



Lepton+jets results: D, \tilde{D}

- Evaluation of **full correlation matrix C** and **polarization vectors P** + measurement of D, \tilde{D}
 - inclusive + differential measurements in bins of $m_{t\bar{t}}, |\cos\theta|, p_T(t)$
 - **first time at high $m_{t\bar{t}}$!**
- **Good agreement with SM prediction**

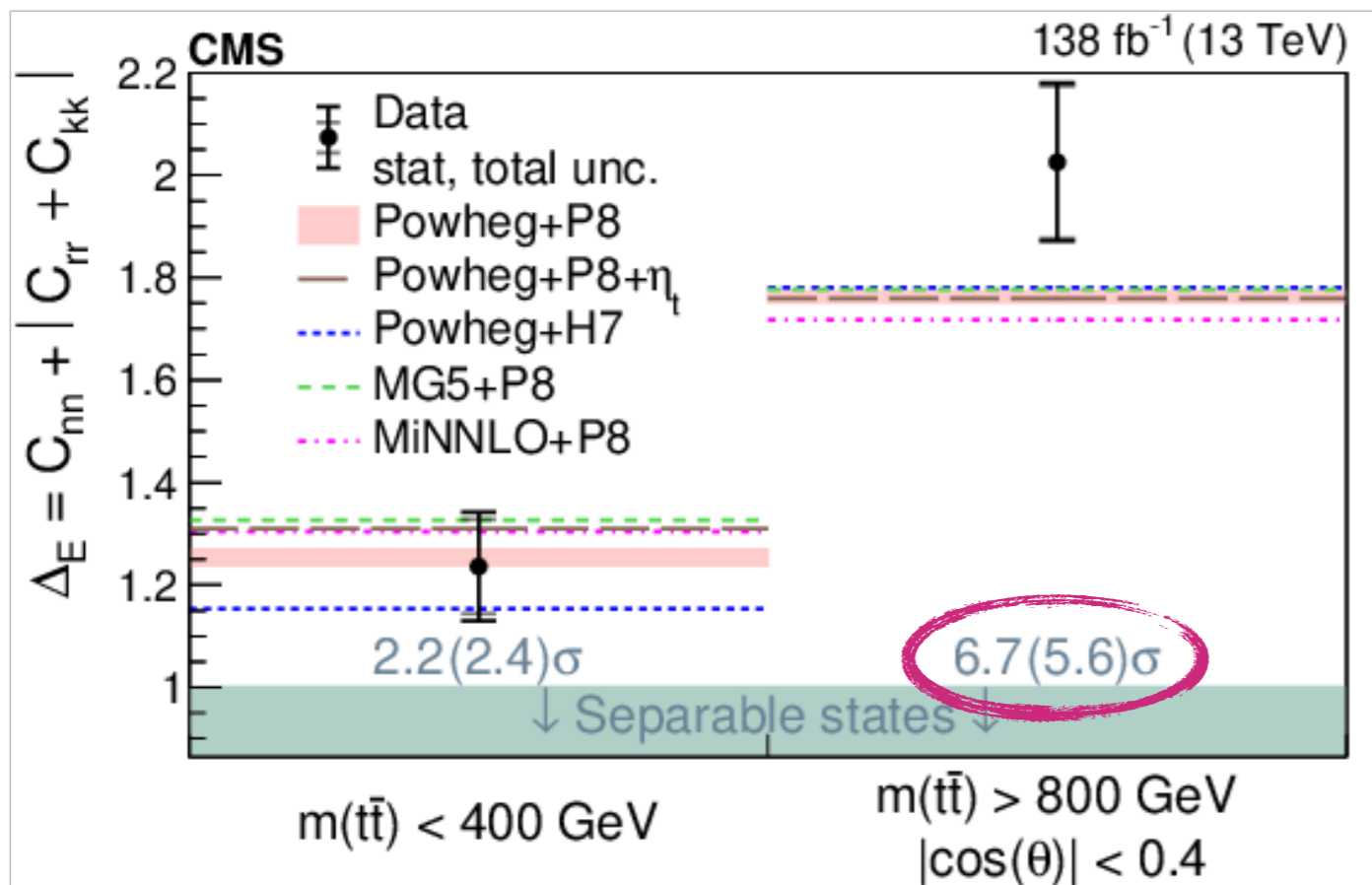


Lepton+jets: entanglement

- Entanglement observed for first time in boosted region !

Full matrix

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + |C_{rr} + C_{kk}| > 1$$



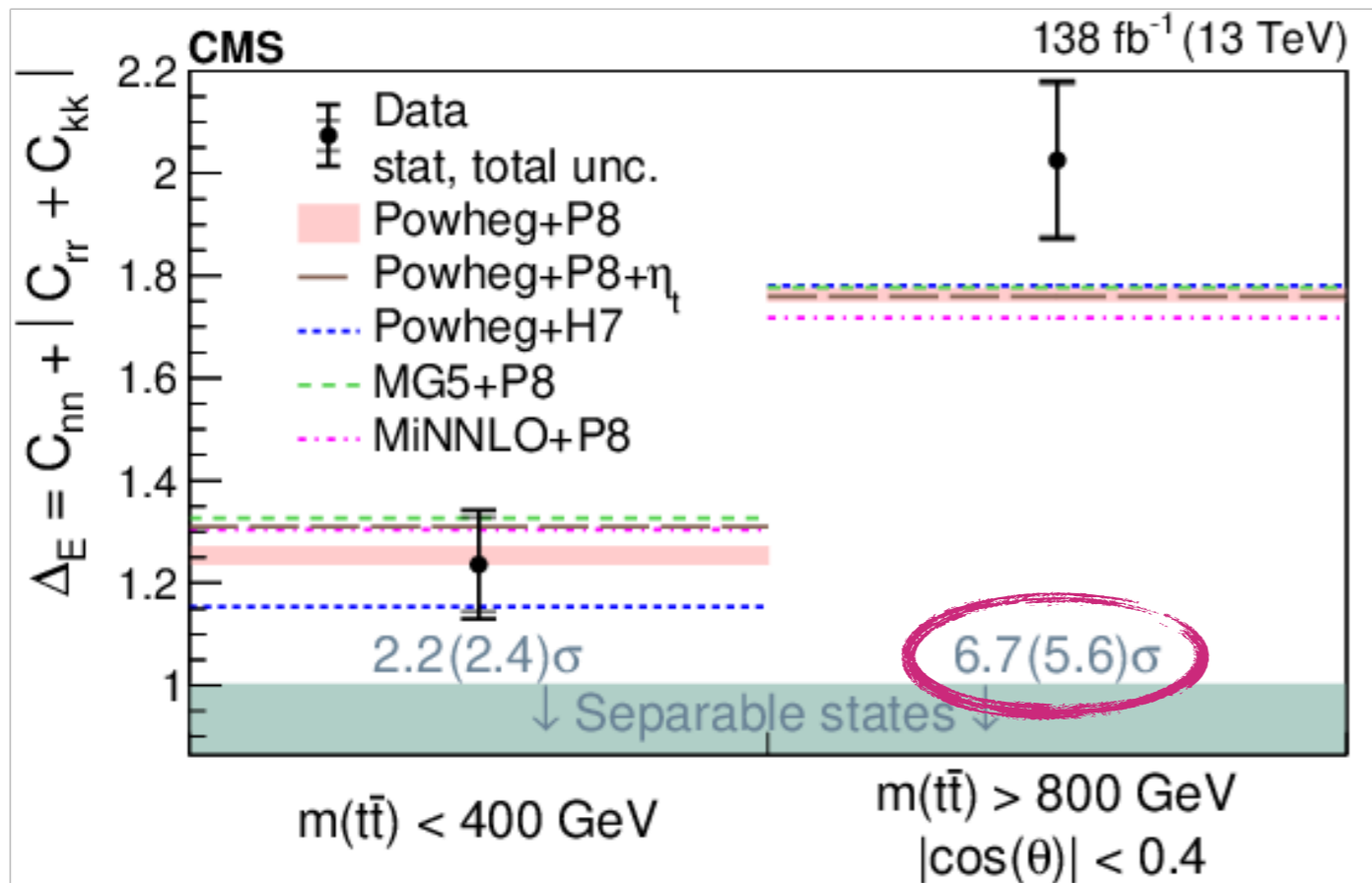
Lepton+jets: entanglement

- Entanglement observed for first time in boosted region !

- highest sensitivity in full matrix measurement

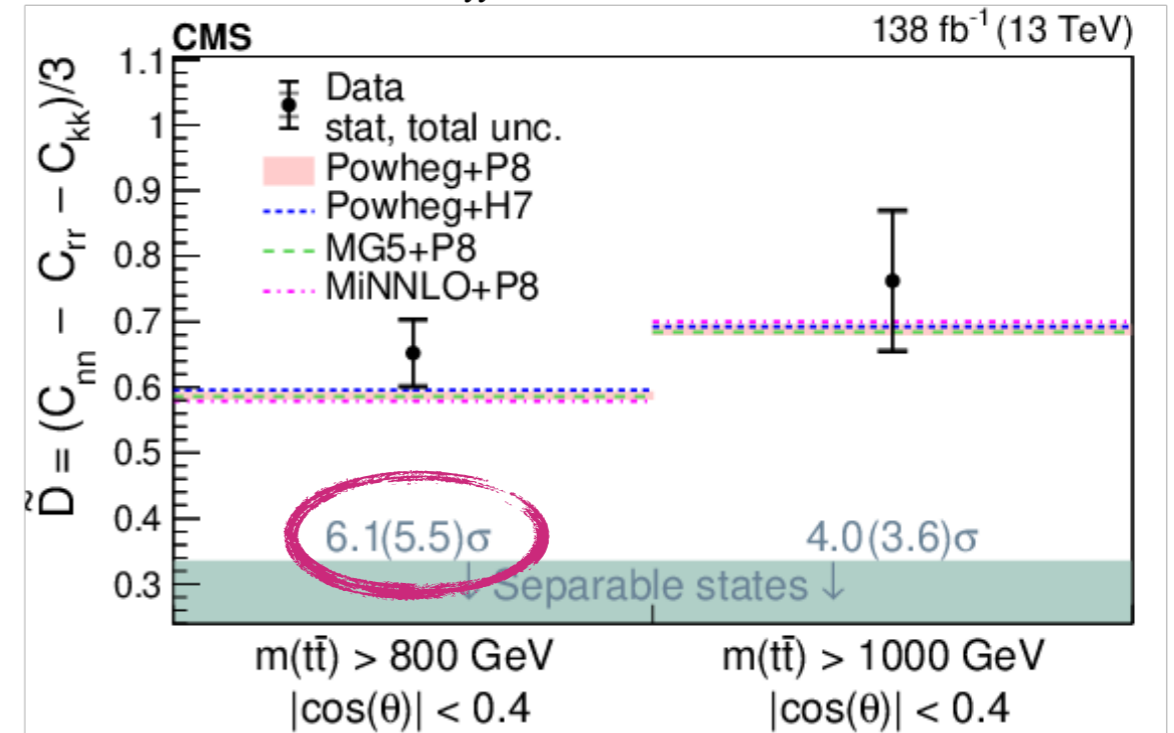
Full matrix

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + |C_{rr} + C_{kk}| > 1$$



High $m_{t\bar{t}}$

$\tilde{D} > 1/3$



Lepton+jets: entanglement

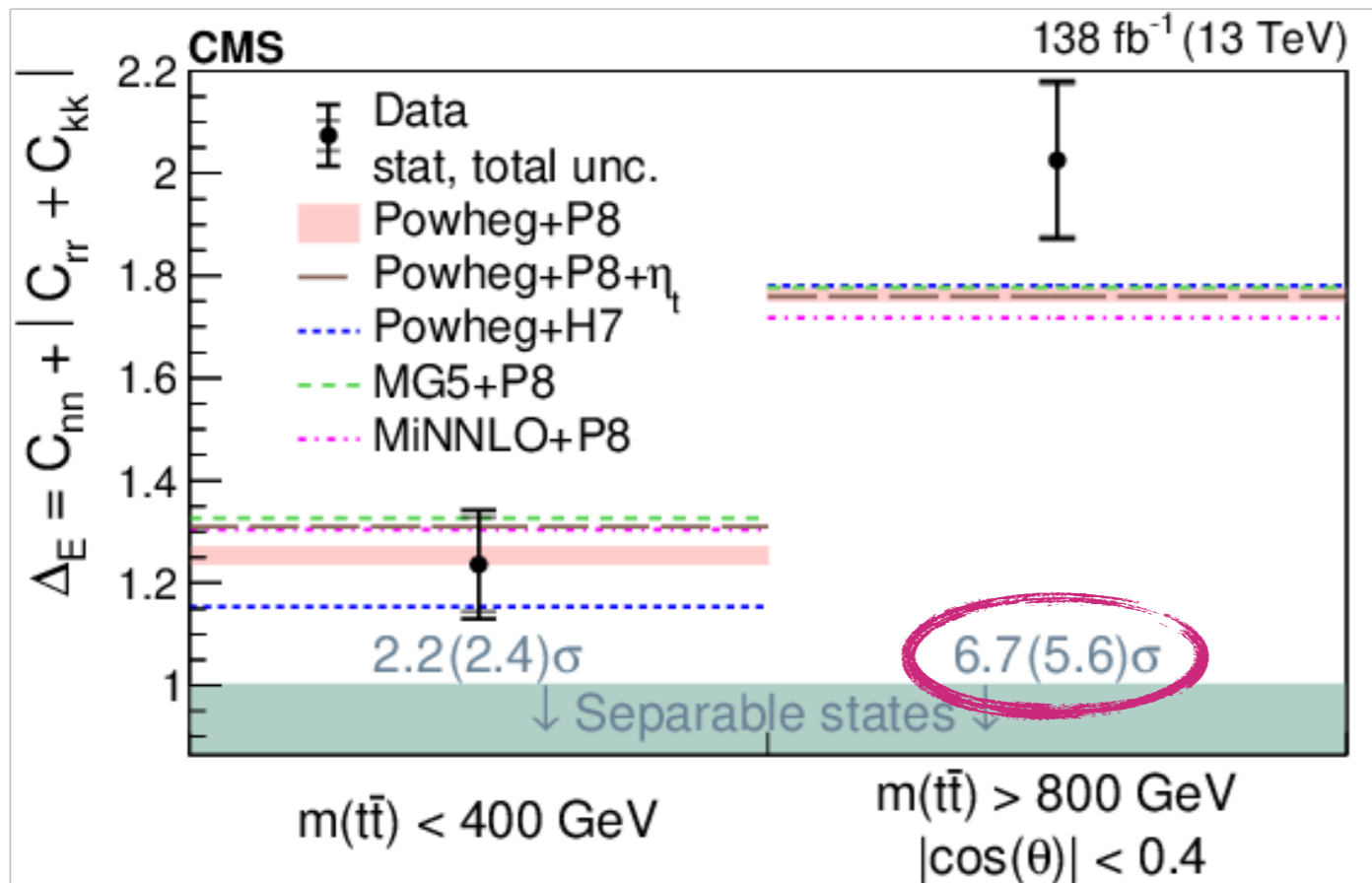
- Entanglement observed for first time in boosted region !

- highest sensitivity in full matrix measurement

- No sensitivity in low $m_{t\bar{t}}$ region

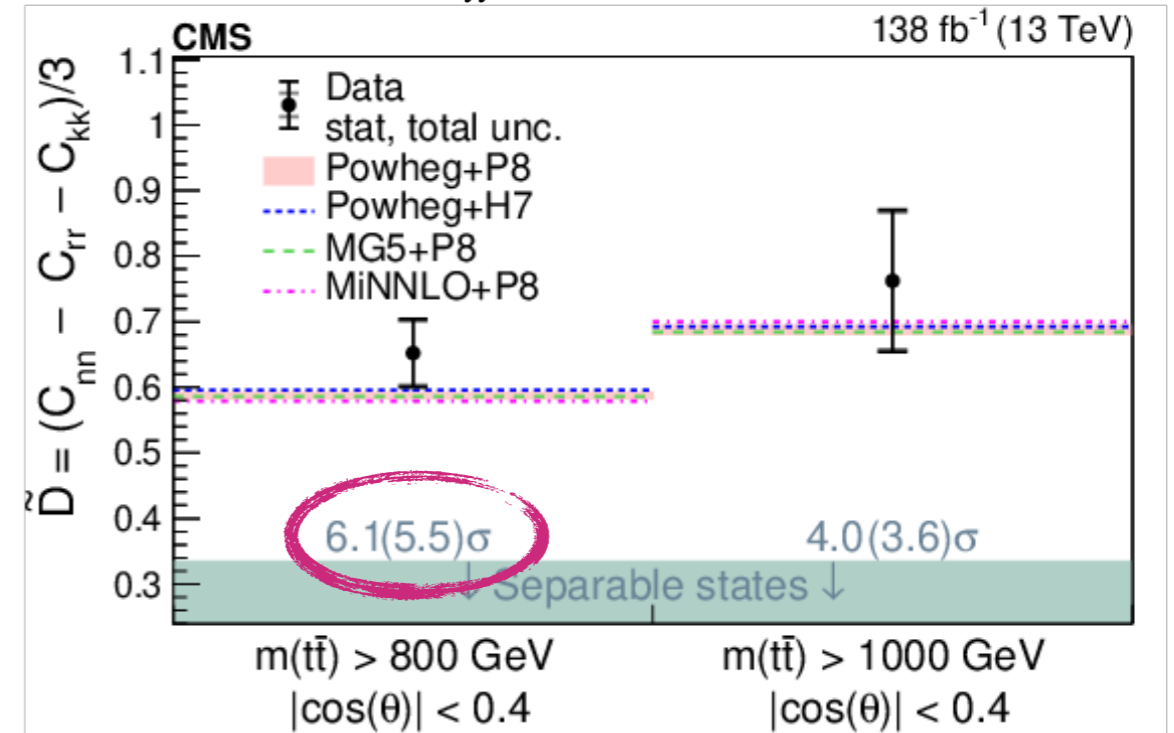
Full matrix

$$\Delta_E = C_{nn} + |C_{rr} + C_{kk}| > 1$$



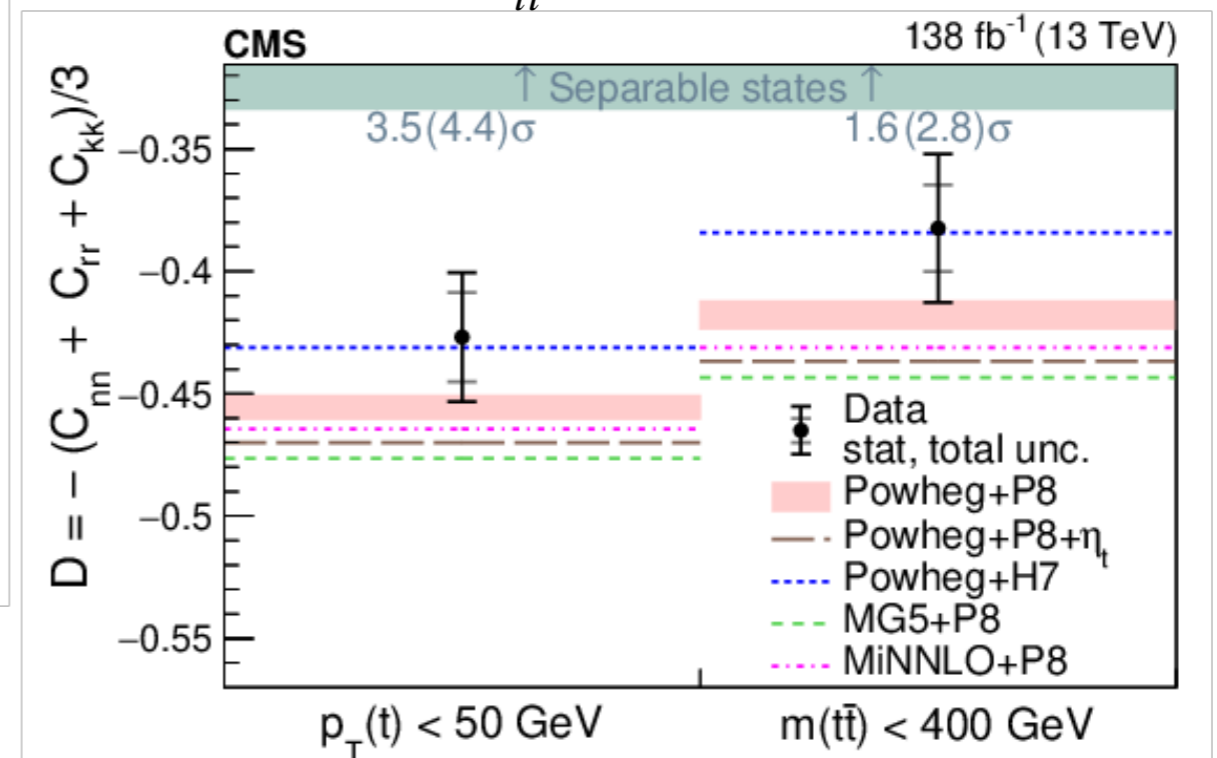
High $m_{t\bar{t}}$

$\tilde{D} > 1/3$



Low $m_{t\bar{t}}$

$D < -1/3$



Entanglement in space-like separated events

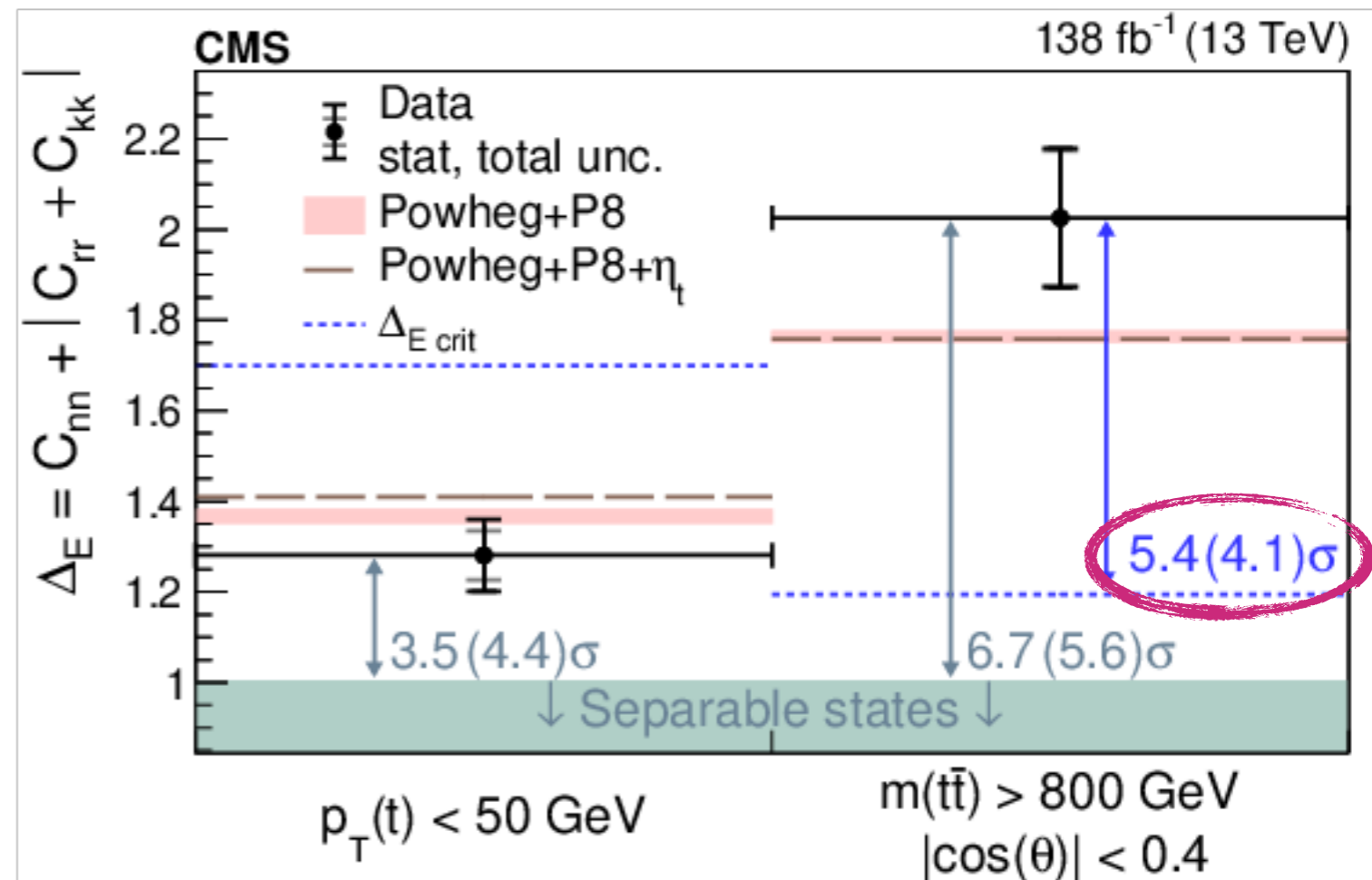
- Fraction of events with space-like separation increases with $m_{t\bar{t}}$
- In boosted region, 90% of top quark pairs are space-like separated when they decay → no interactions
 - space-like separated events: $\Delta E_{sep} = 1$
- Time-like separated events can interact resulting in entanglement
 - time-like separated events: $\Delta E_{max} = 3$
- The boundary of critical entanglement ($\Delta E_{critical}$) is defined for a given fraction f of space-like separated events as:

$$\Delta E_{crit} = f \Delta E_{sep} + (1 - f) \Delta E_{max}$$

$$\Delta E_{crit} = 0.9 \cdot 1 + 0.1 \cdot 3 = 1.2$$

Observed ΔE exceeds $\Delta E_{critical}$ by $>5 \sigma$

Observation of entanglement in phase space dominated by space-like separated events !



Entanglement in space-like separated events

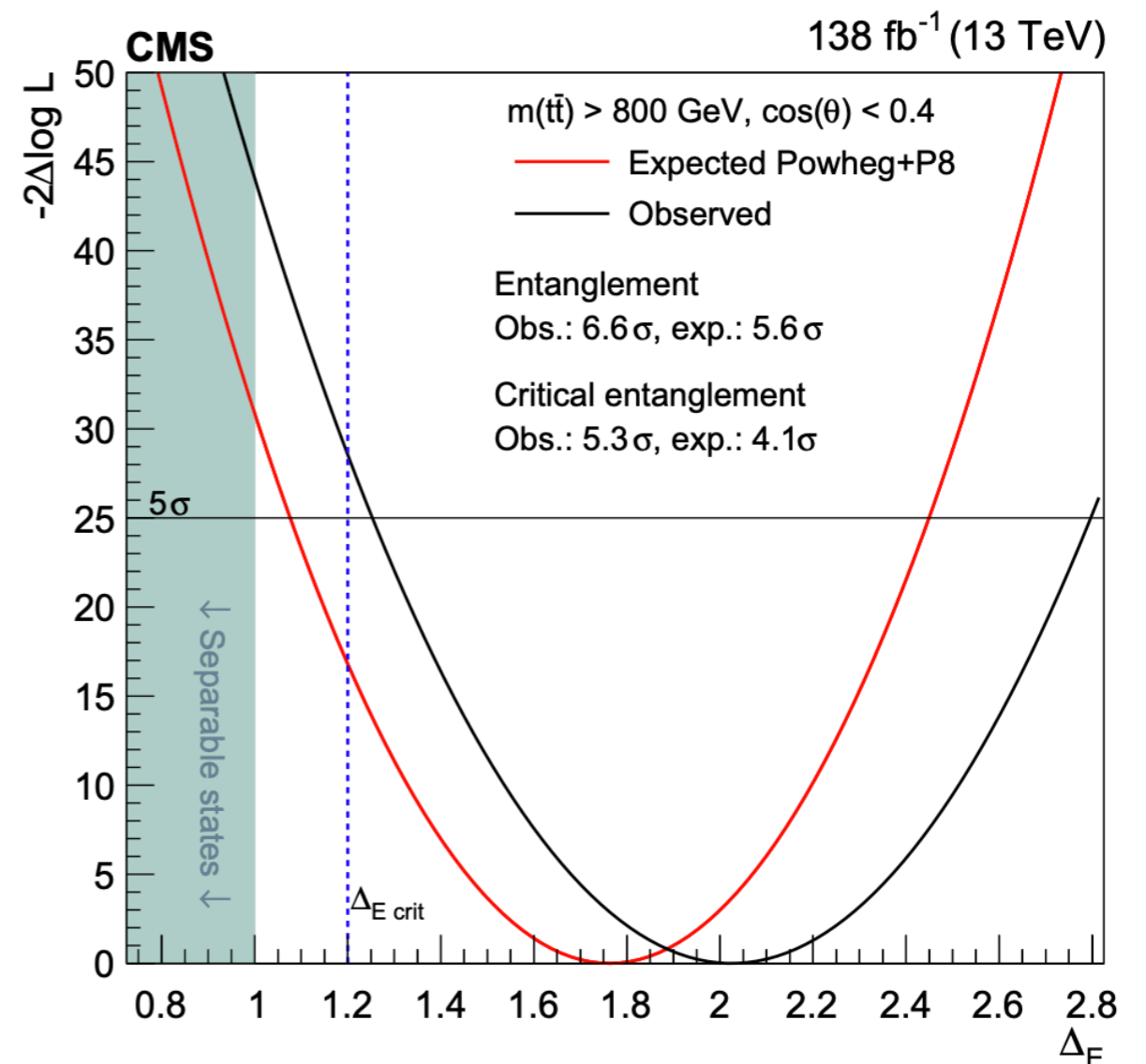
- Fraction of events with space-like separation increases with $m_{t\bar{t}}$
- In boosted region, 90% of top quark pairs are space-like separated when they decay → no interactions
 - space-like separated events: $\Delta E_{sep} = 1$
- Time-like separated events can interact resulting in entanglement
 - time-like separated events: $\Delta E_{max} = 3$
- The boundary of critical entanglement ($\Delta E_{critical}$) is defined for a given fraction f of space-like separated events as:

$$\Delta E_{crit} = f \Delta E_{sep} + (1 - f) \Delta E_{max}$$

$$\Delta E_{crit} = 0.9 \cdot 1 + 0.1 \cdot 3 = 1.2$$

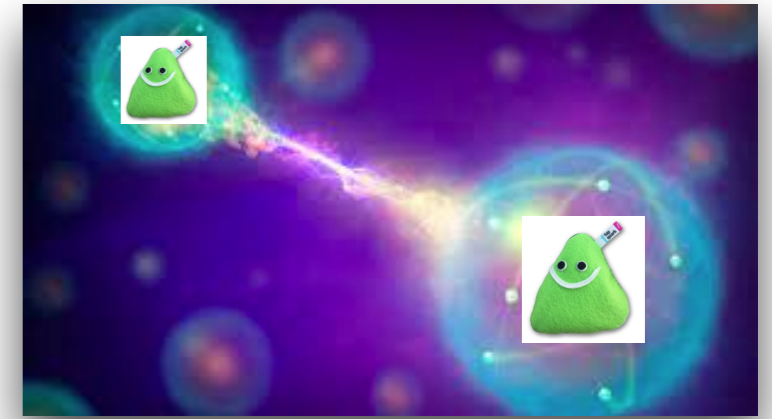
Observed ΔE exceeds
 $\Delta E_{critical}$ by $>5 \sigma$

Observation of entanglement in
phase space dominated by
space-like separated events !

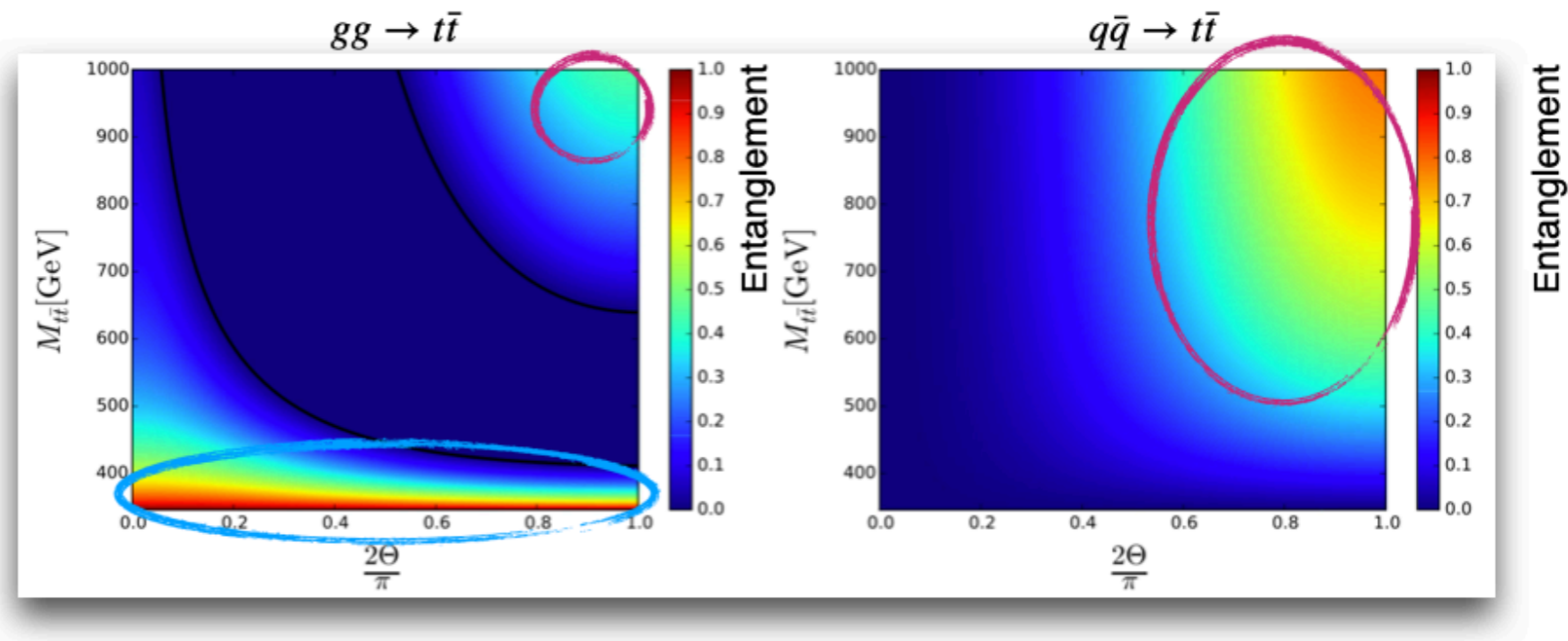


Conclusions

- **First observation of entanglement between top quarks with CMS data in dilepton analysis**
- Even in presence of a “toponium” bound state, we confirm the existence of entanglement in the $t\bar{t}$ system with $> 5 \sigma$
- A better modeling next to the production threshold is required
→ theory community is working on improving the prediction of mainstream generators for precision measurements
- **First observation of entanglement between casually separated top quarks in lepton+jets analysis**
 - full spin matrix measurement



- More exciting results to come!



BACKUP

Spin correlations: basis of spin quantization axes

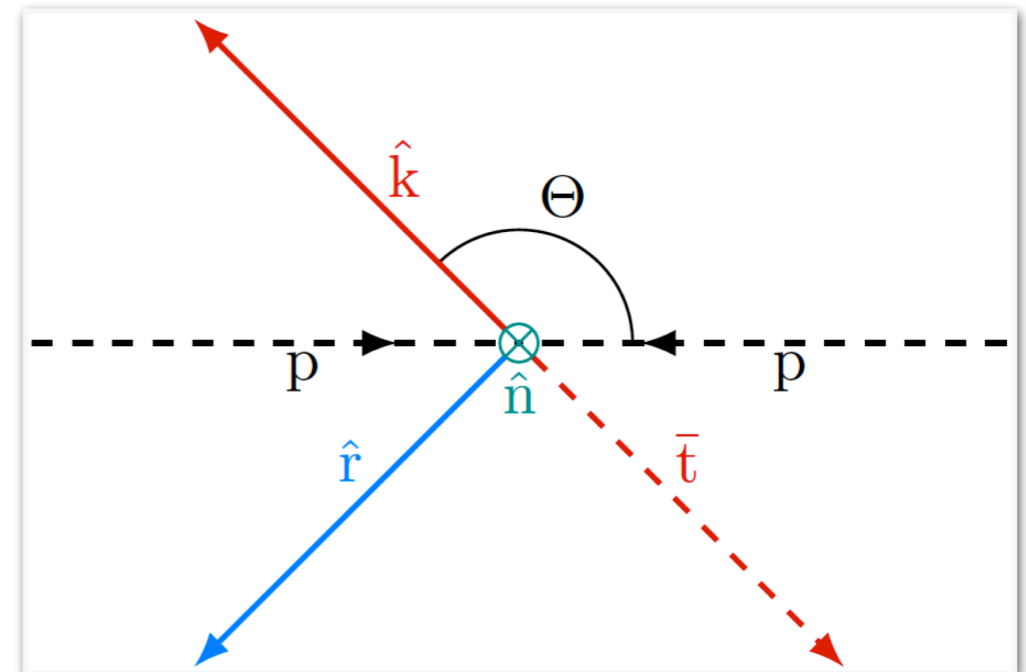
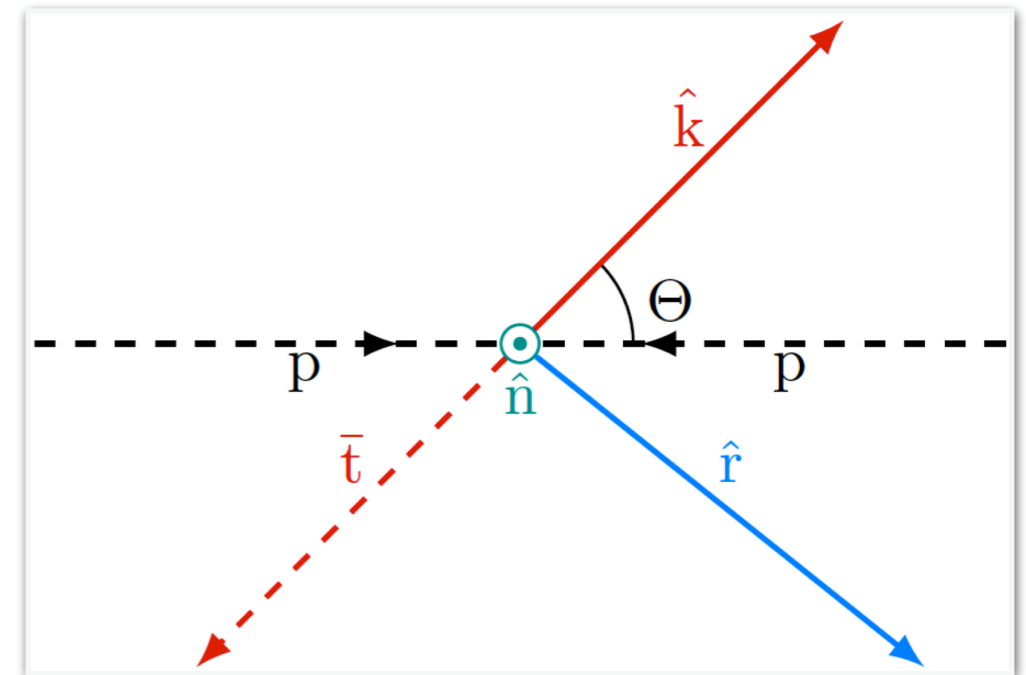
- B and C coefficients:
 - functions of \sqrt{s} and of the top quark scattering angle
 - written in terms of **orthonormal basis** $\{\hat{k}, \hat{r}, \hat{n}\}$:
 - **helicity** \hat{k} -axis: top quark direction in ttbar rest frame
 - **transverse** \hat{n} -axis: transverse to production (ttbar scattering) plane

$$\hat{n} = \frac{\text{sign}(\cos\Theta)}{\sin\Theta}(\hat{p} \times \hat{k})$$

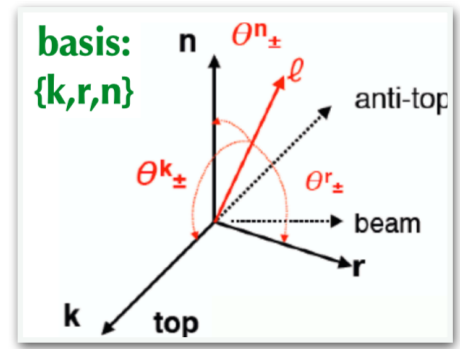
- \hat{r} -axis: orthogonal to the other 2 axes (normal to \hat{k} in ttbar scattering plane)

$$\hat{r} = \frac{\text{sign}(\cos\Theta)}{\sin\Theta}(\hat{p} - \hat{k}\cos\Theta)$$

- \hat{p} = direction of the incoming parton, i.e. direction of the proton beam (z-direction in the laboratory frame)
- Θ = top quark scattering angle in ttbar rest frame



Top spin measurements

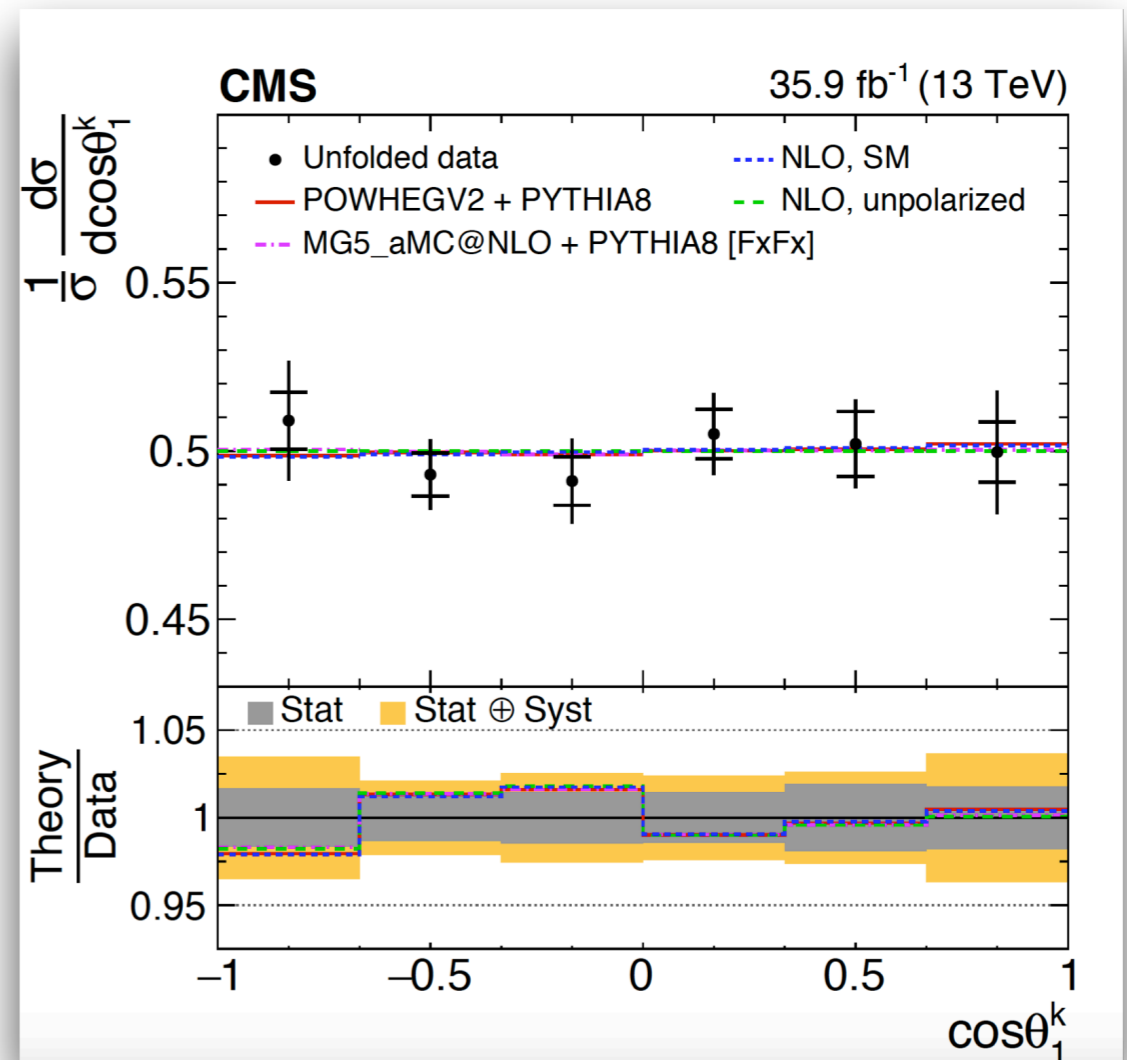
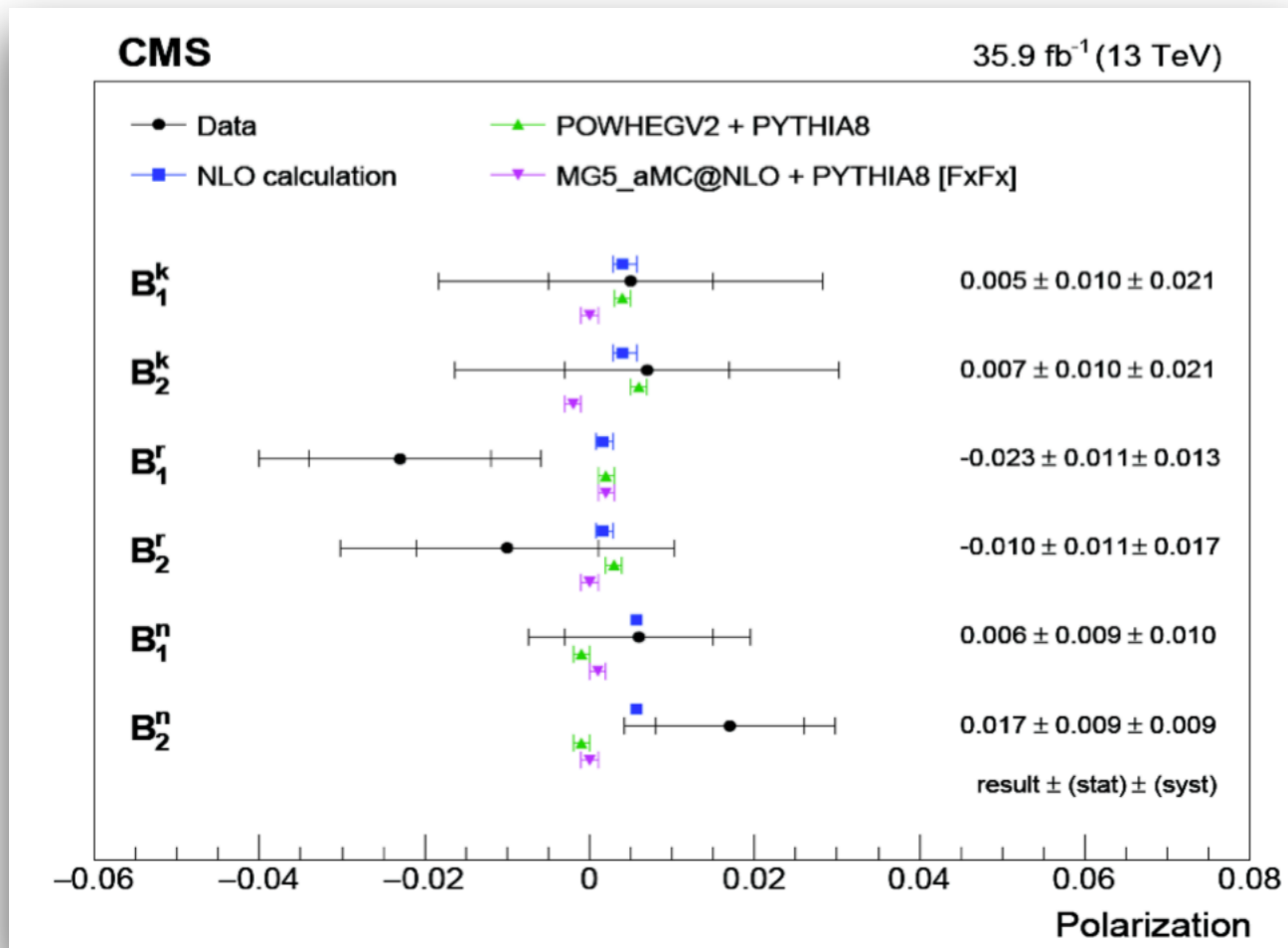


- In SM, $t\bar{t}$ production \sim unpolarized

- $$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\theta_{1/2}^i} = \frac{1}{2} (1 + B_{1/2}^i \cos\theta_{1/2}^i)$$

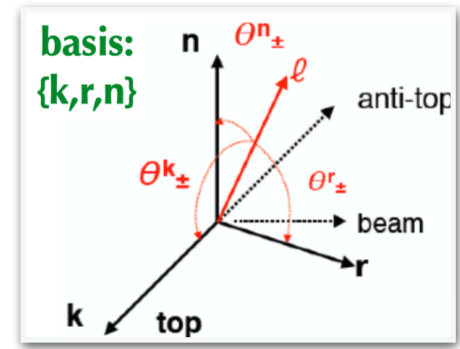
for polarization coefficients
 \rightarrow not sensitive to entanglement

$$B^{+/-} = \begin{pmatrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{pmatrix}$$



[PRD 100 \(2019\) 072002](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.07202)

Top spin measurements



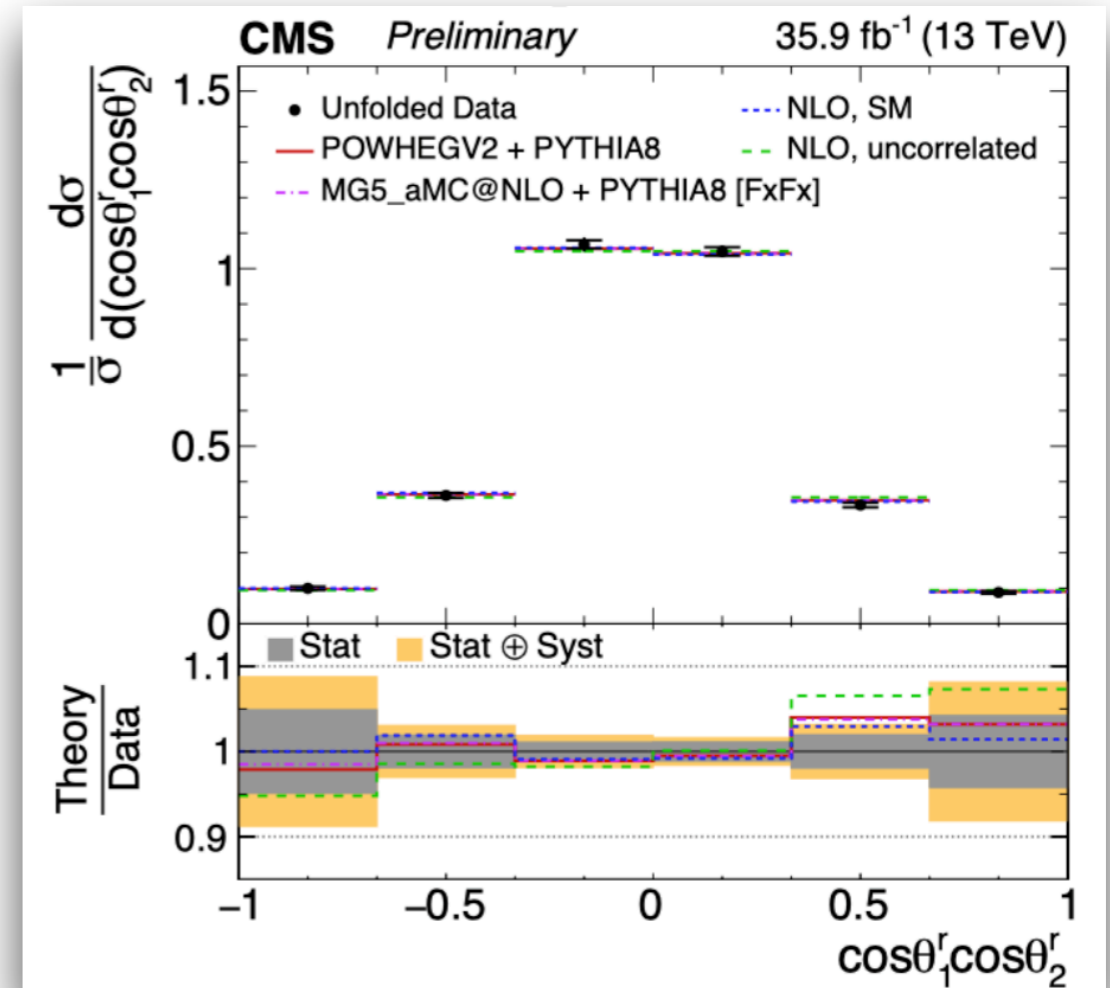
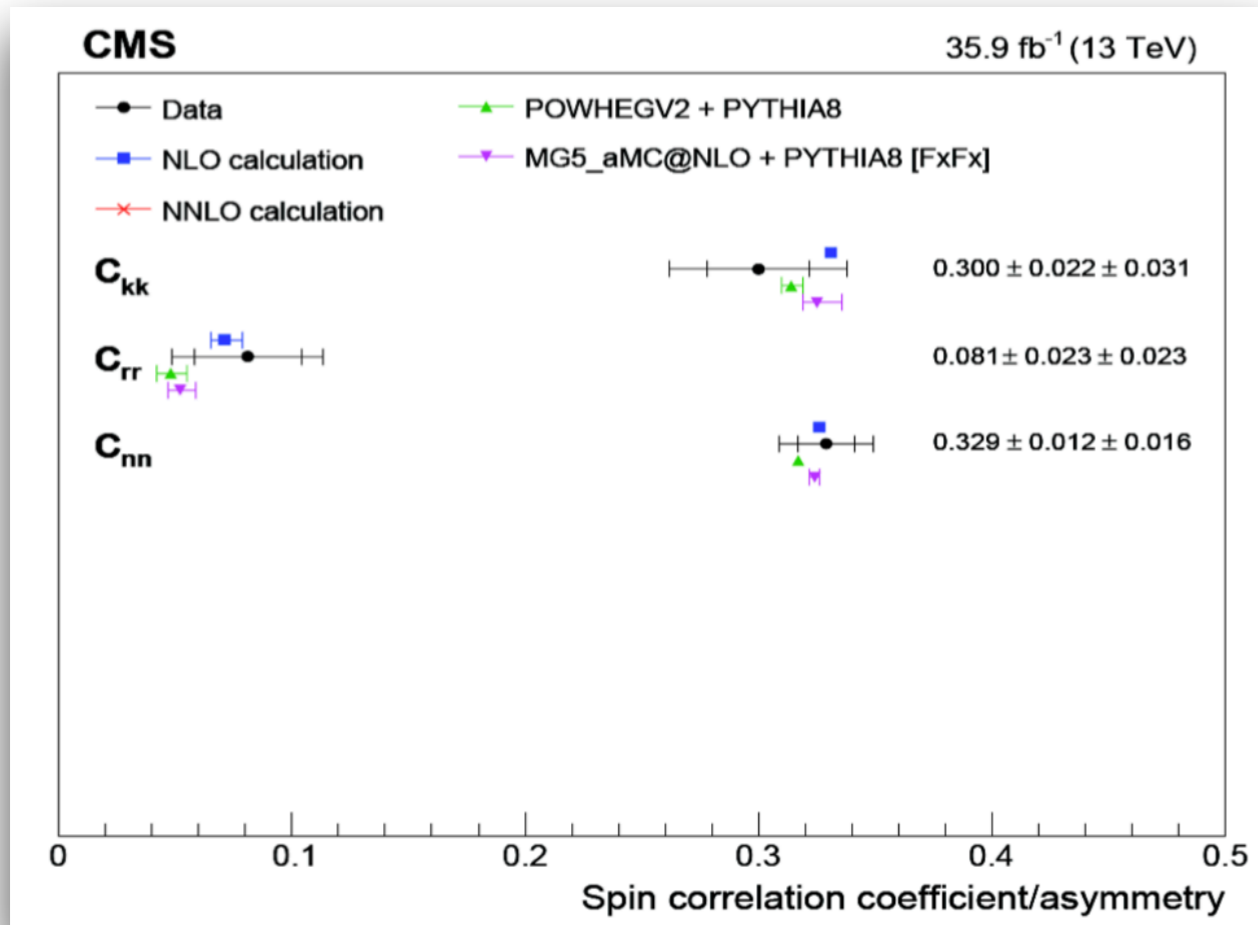
- In SM, $t\bar{t}$ production ~ unpolarized

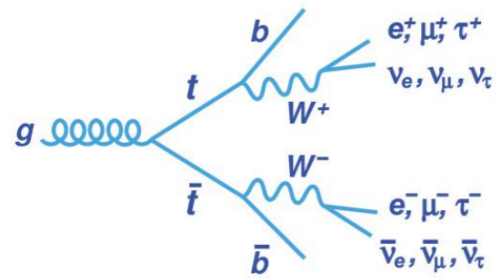
but top spins strongly correlated with antitop spins → rich structure of spin correlations

- $$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d(\cos\theta_1^i \cos\theta_2^i)} = \frac{1}{2} [1 - C_{ii}(\cos\theta_1^i \cos\theta_2^i)] \ln \frac{1}{|\cos\theta_1^i \cos\theta_2^i|}$$

for diagonal spin correlation coefficients

$C = \begin{pmatrix} \times & & \\ & \times & \\ & & \times \end{pmatrix}$





Dilepton vs lepton+jets

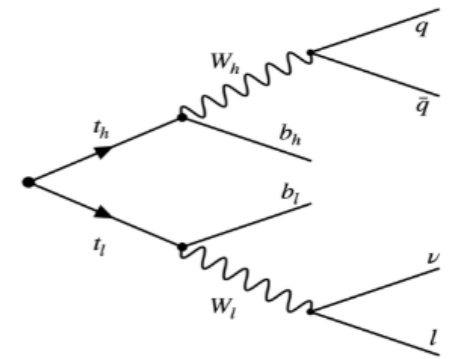
Dilepton

[arXiv:2406.03976](https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.03976)
accepted by ROPP

- **36.3 fb⁻¹ of 2016 data @13 TeV**
 - based on [PRD 100 \(2019\) 072002](https://arxiv.org/abs/1907.07200)
- Lower branching ratio
- top spin info 100 % transmitted to charged leptons → **easy to identify**
- Lower p_T cuts for leading/subleading lepton (25/20 GeV) → **higher efficiency** at the threshold
- Worse $m_{t\bar{t}}$ resolution → not ideal for differential measurement
- **Best for threshold region**
 - high entanglement
 - mostly **time-like separated events**

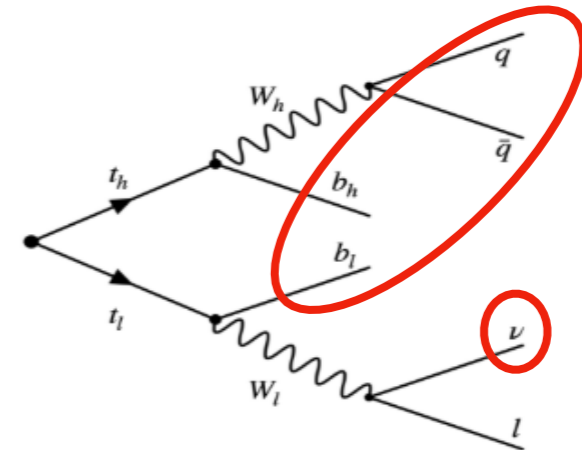
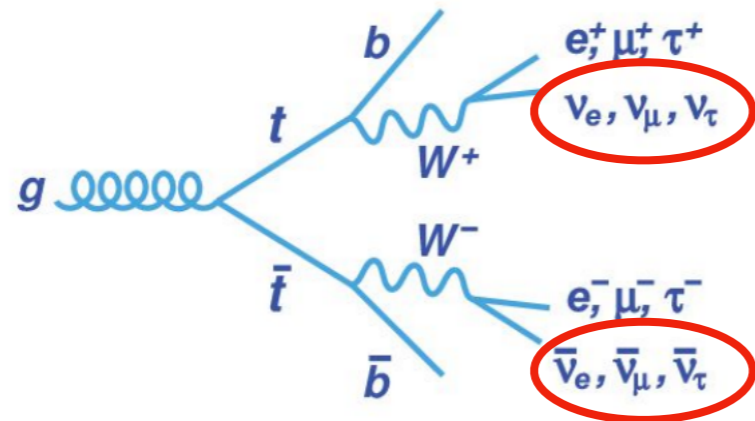
Lepton + jets

[arXiv:2409.11067](https://arxiv.org/abs/2409.11067)
submitted to PRD



- **138 fb⁻¹ of data @13 TeV** collected in full Run 2
- **Higher branching ratio**
- top spin info ~100 % transmitted to down-type quarks → hard to identify
- Higher p_T cut for single lepton (30 GeV) and for 4 jets (30 GeV) → lower efficiency at the threshold but OK for high $m_{t\bar{t}}$
- **Better $m_{t\bar{t}}$ resolution** → good for differential measurement
- **Advantage for high $m_{t\bar{t}}$**
 - high entanglement
 - mostly **space-like separated events**

Dilepton vs lepton+jets top quark reconstruction



- $m_{\ell b}$ weighting method

- use algebraic method to solve for neutrino 3-vectors
- pick solution with smallest $m_{t\bar{t}}$
- pair lepton and jet according to expected $m_{\ell b}$

- **Artificial NN**

- goal = correctly identify detector-level objects and up/down jet assignment
- NN trained on permutations
- For each event:
 - provide all possible permutations of objects as input to NN
 - use permutation resulting in the highest NN score
 - calculate neutrino momentum with W boson mass constraint

$$(p_\nu + p_l)^2 = m_W^2$$

Signal model

Combined signal model: $t\bar{t}$ + toponium (η_t)

- PowhegBox+Pythia8 (NLO) as **nominal $t\bar{t}$ sample**

[Comput. Phys. Commun. 182 \(2011\) 10](#)

- inclusion of **EWK corrections at NLO** with HATHOR

- reweighting to NNLO QCD calculations

[PRL 127 \(2021\) 062001](#)

- **dilepton**: p_T reweighting to match the top quark p_T spectrum from a fixed order ME calculation at NNLO
- **lepton+jets**: NN-based reweighting to NNLO distributions at reco level

- **toponium model** generated with

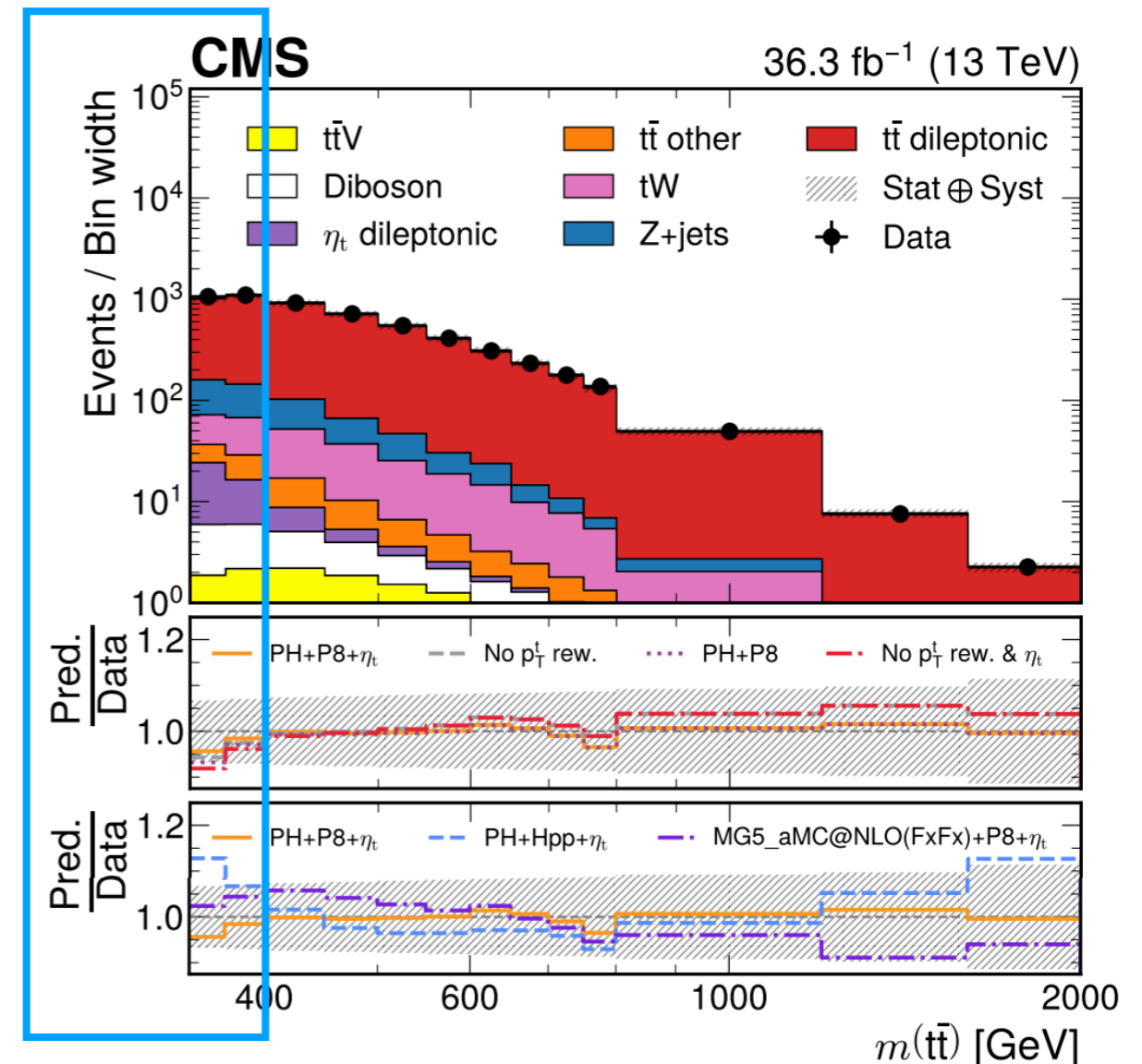
MG5 aMC@NLO(LO)+Pythia8

B. Fuks et al.

[Phys Rev D 104 034023](#)

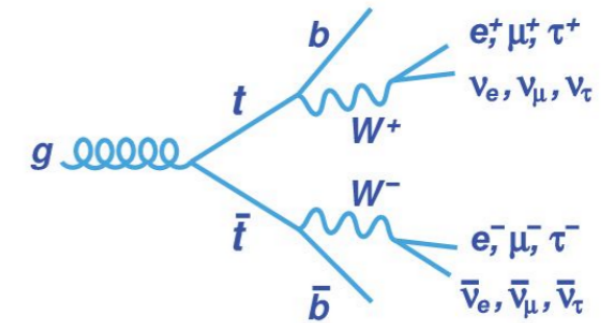
- only pseudoscalar colour singlet and spin-0 η_t state accounted for
- η_t improves data modeling in the threshold region

Dilepton analysis region

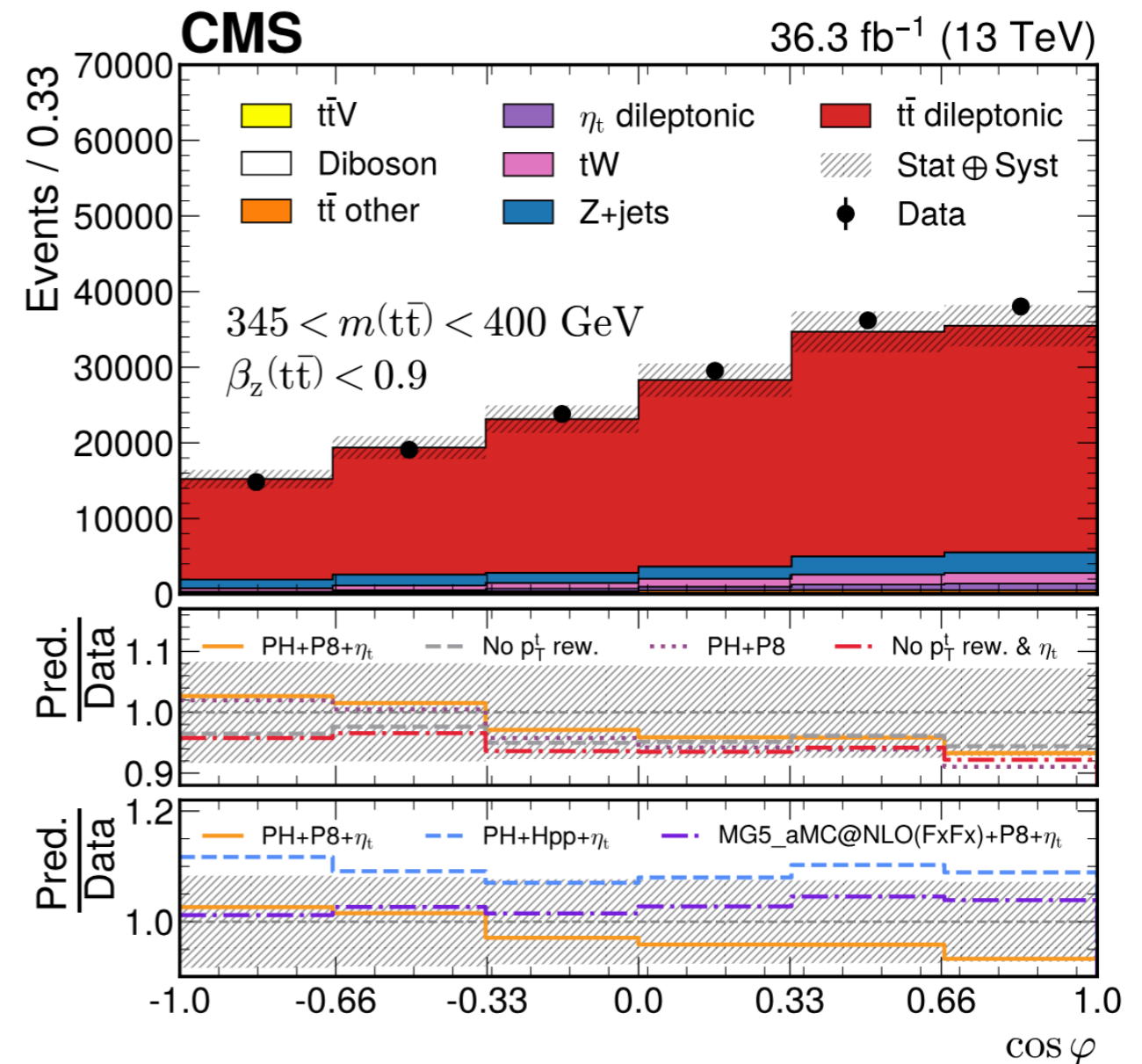


Dilepton: event selection

- = 2 oppositely charged isolated leptons (ee, eμ and μμ)
 - including also leptons from tau decays (different from 2016 analysis)
 - $p_T > 25(20)$ GeV, for leading(trailing) lepton and $|\eta| < 2.4$
 - reject events with $m_{\ell\bar{\ell}} < 20$ GeV
 - single lepton + dilepton triggers



- ≥ 2 jets (R=0.4), ≥ 1 b jet
 - $p_T > 30$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.4$
 - jet cleaning: $\Delta R(\ell, \text{jet}) > 0.4$
- ee, μμ channels:
 - $E_{\text{miss}}^T > 40$ GeV
 - Z veto: $|m_Z - m_{\ell\bar{\ell}}| > 15$ GeV
- Top quark reconstruction with $m_{\ell b}$ weighting method
 - take solution with smallest $m_{t\bar{t}}$



Dilepton: top quark reconstruction

- Use algebraic method to solve for neutrino 3-vectors
- Results in quartic equation for neutrino momenta
- Pick solution with lowest $m_{t\bar{t}}$
- Repeat process 100x for leptons and b jets smeared within resolution
- Weight solutions by the $m_{\ell b}$ distribution

$$0 = \sum_{i=0}^4 c_i(m_t, p_{\ell^+}, p_{\ell^-}, p_b, p_{\bar{b}}) p_x(\bar{\nu})^i$$

$$\begin{aligned} H_x &= p_{\nu_x} + p_{\bar{\nu}_x} \\ H_y &= p_{\nu_y} + p_{\bar{\nu}_y} \end{aligned}$$

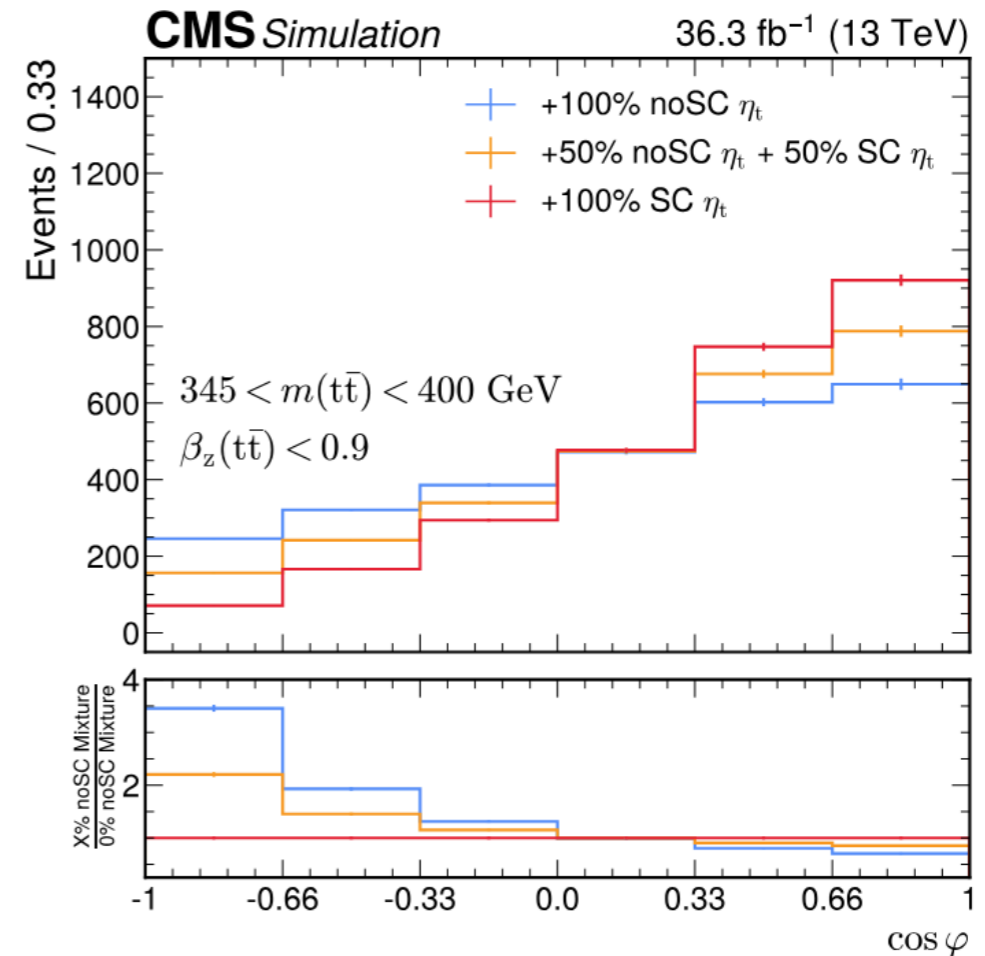
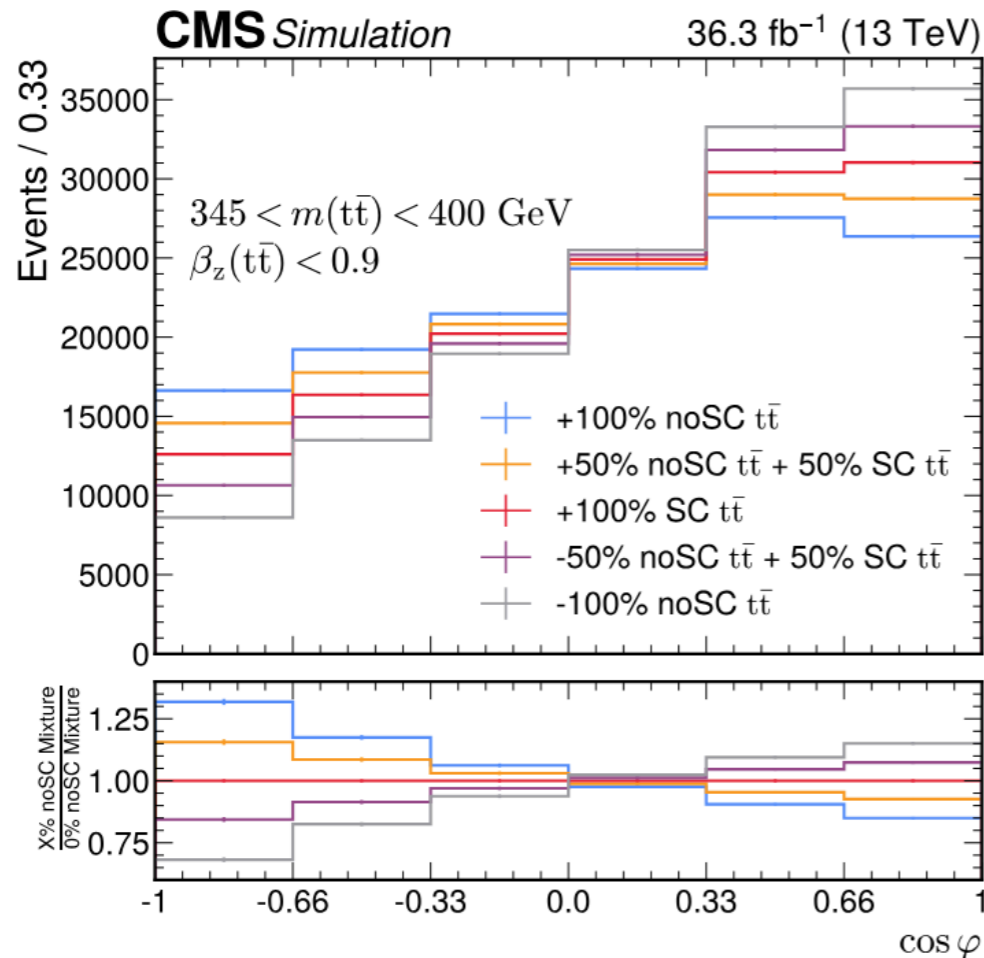
$$\begin{aligned} m_{W^+}^2 &= (E_{\ell^+} + E_{\nu})^2 - (p_{\ell_x^+} + p_{\nu_x})^2, \\ &\quad - (p_{\ell_y^+} + p_{\nu_y})^2 - (p_{\ell_z^+} + p_{\nu_z})^2, \\ m_{W^-}^2 &= (E_{\ell^-} + E_{\bar{\nu}})^2 - (p_{\ell_x^-} + p_{\bar{\nu}_x})^2, \\ &\quad - (p_{\ell_y^-} + p_{\bar{\nu}_y})^2 - (p_{\ell_z^-} + p_{\bar{\nu}_z})^2, \\ m_t^2 &= (E_b + E_{\ell^+} + E_{\nu})^2 - (p_{b_x} + p_{\ell_x^+} + p_{\nu_x})^2, \\ &\quad - (p_{b_y} + p_{\ell_y^+} + p_{\nu_y})^2 - (p_{b_z} + p_{\ell_z^+} + p_{\nu_z})^2, \\ m_{\bar{t}}^2 &= (E_{\bar{b}} + E_{\ell^-} + E_{\bar{\nu}})^2 - (p_{\bar{b}_x} + p_{\ell_x^-} + p_{\bar{\nu}_x})^2, \\ &\quad - (p_{\bar{b}_y} + p_{\ell_y^-} + p_{\bar{\nu}_y})^2 - (p_{\bar{b}_z} + p_{\ell_z^-} + p_{\bar{\nu}_z})^2. \end{aligned}$$

Mixtures of SC and noSC

- In order to have templates implementing an alternative value of the entanglement proxy D , we employ the noSC sample and “mix” it in steps ranging from -100% to 100% with the combined signal model SM template
- The negative mixtures are created mirroring the corresponding positive mixtures around the 0% noSC mixture, i.e., the nominal combined signal model
- Any particular mixture of combined SC and noSC signal corresponds to a certain value of D at the parton level by means of calculating a 2-bin asymmetry:

$$A_D = (N(\cos \varphi > 0) - N(\cos \varphi < 0)) / (N(\cos \varphi > 0) + N(\cos \varphi < 0))$$

yields D as $-2 \cdot A_D$, with N always being the sum of $t\bar{t}$ and η_t .



Dilepton results without η_t

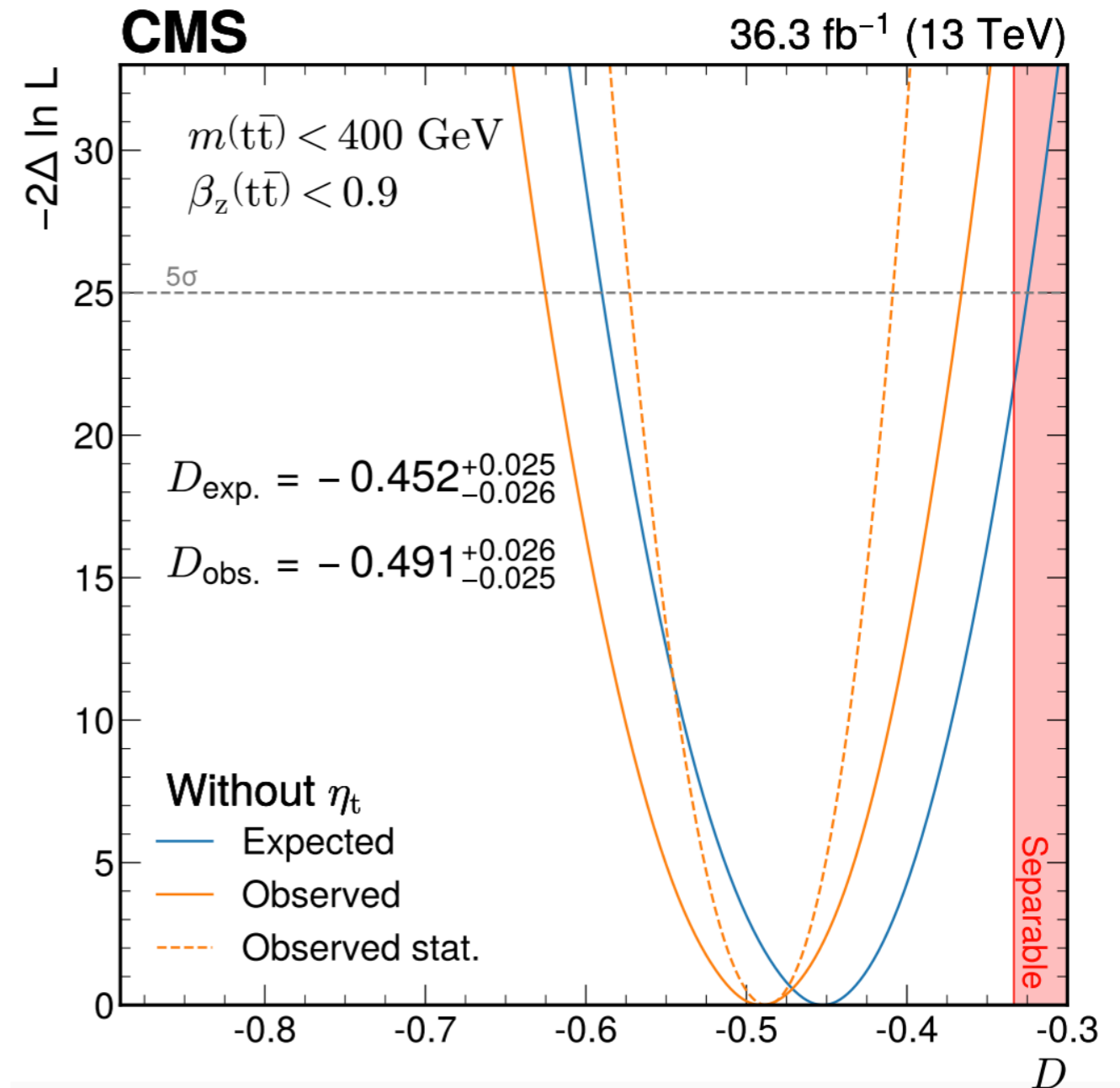
- Scan of the $-2\Delta\ln L$ distribution yields D at parton level, accounting for all detector effects

$$D_{obs} = -0.491^{+0.026}_{-0.025}(\text{tot})$$

$$D_{exp} = -0.452^{+0.025}_{-0.026}(\text{tot})$$

- Significance: 6.3σ obs. (4.7σ exp.)

>5 standard deviations observation
of top quarks being entangled at $t\bar{t}$ threshold !



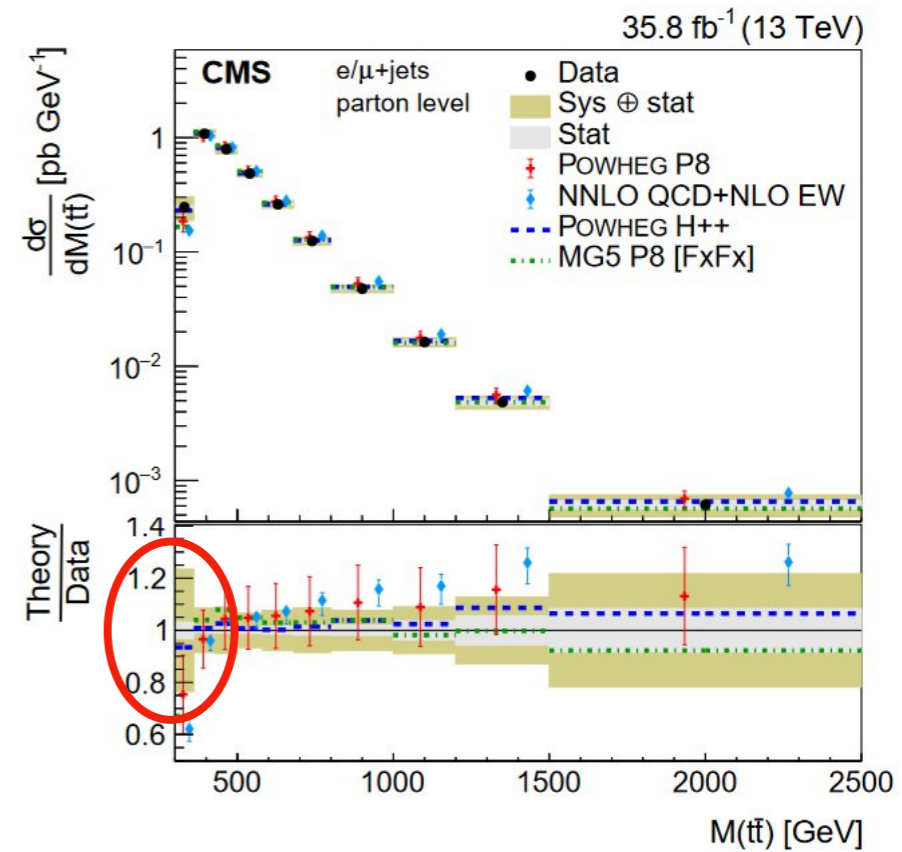
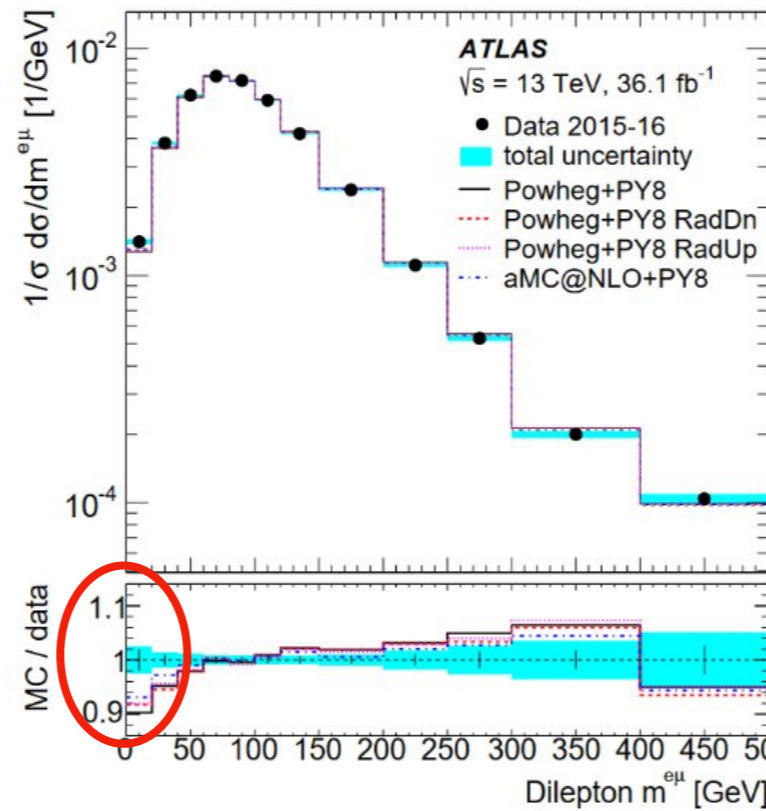
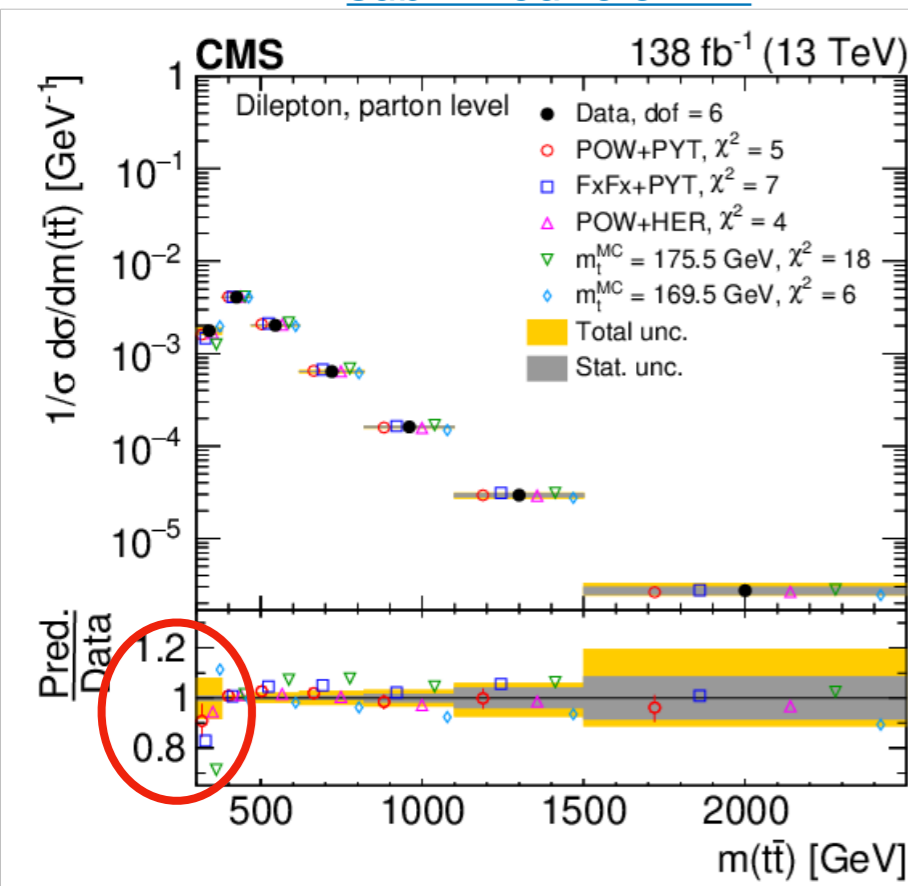
Threshold region

- Mis-modeling at a level of $\sim 10\%$ seen for $m_{t\bar{t}} \sim 345$ GeV ($m_{e\mu} < 50$ GeV)
- Consistent between dilepton and lepton+jets analyses in both CMS and ATLAS

[arXiv:2402.08486](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.08486),
submitted to JHEP

[EPJ C 80, 6](https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.07501)

[Phys. Rev. D 97, 112003](https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.07501)

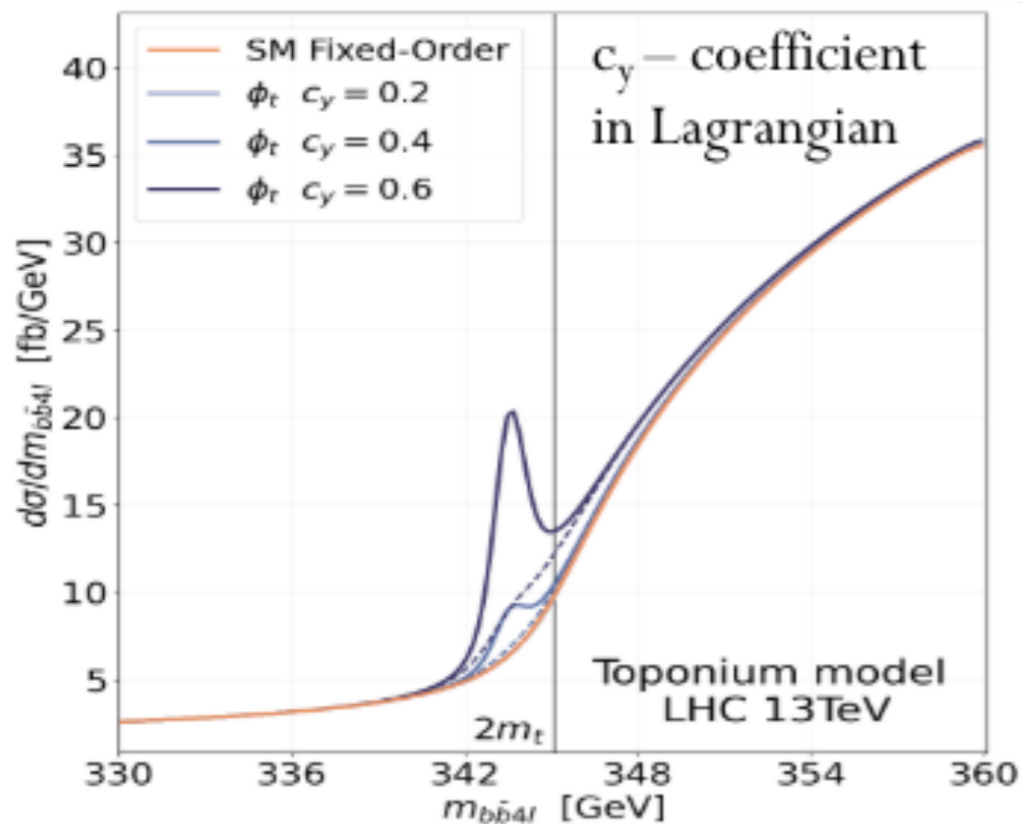
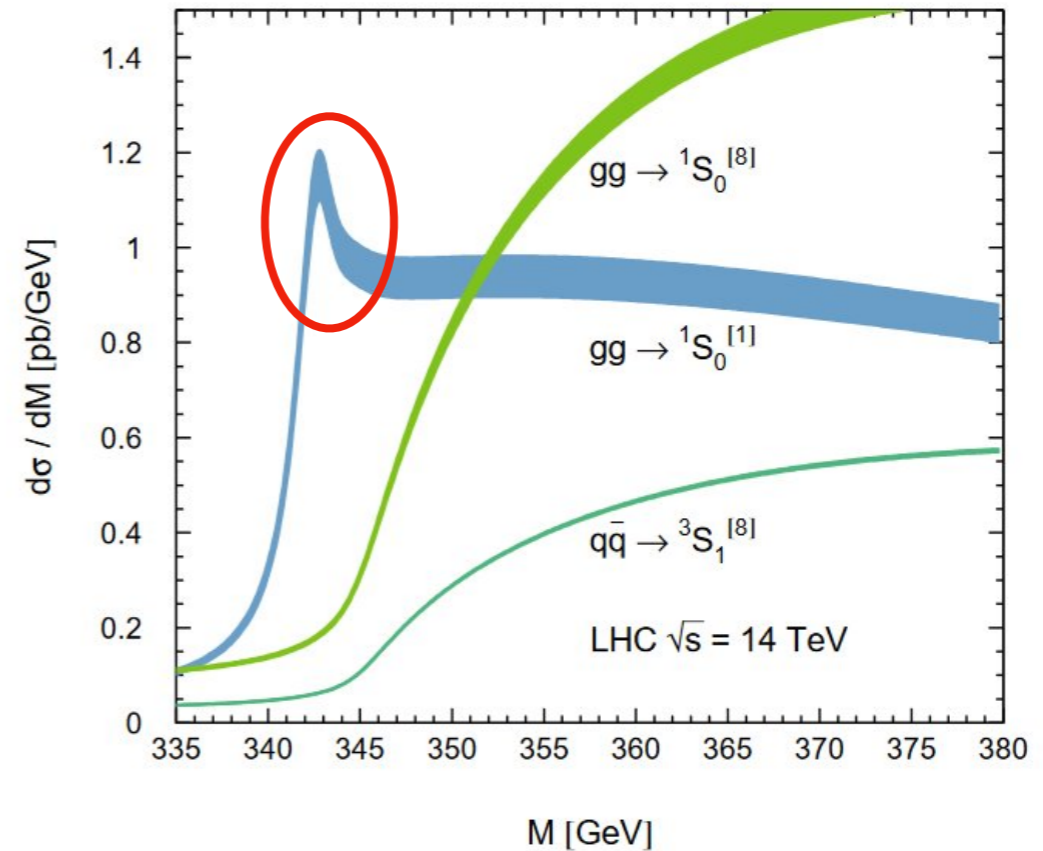


Threshold region

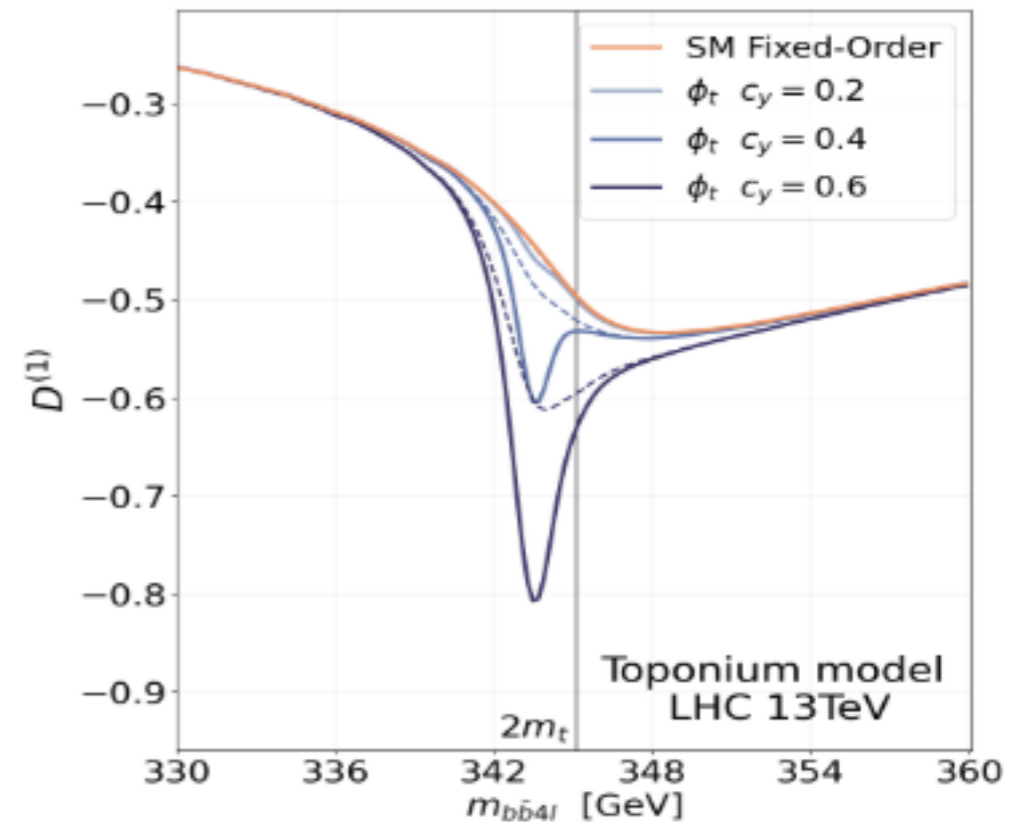
W. Ju, G. Wang, et al.
[JHEP 06, 158](#)

- NRQCD contributions close to threshold
 - **toponium**: predicted top quark-antiquark quasi-bound state with a mass of 343 GeV and a width of 7 GeV
- Excess seen could come from toponium ?
- It affects the invariant mass distribution and the spin correlations at threshold

→ inclusion of toponium (η_t) contributions in our signal model

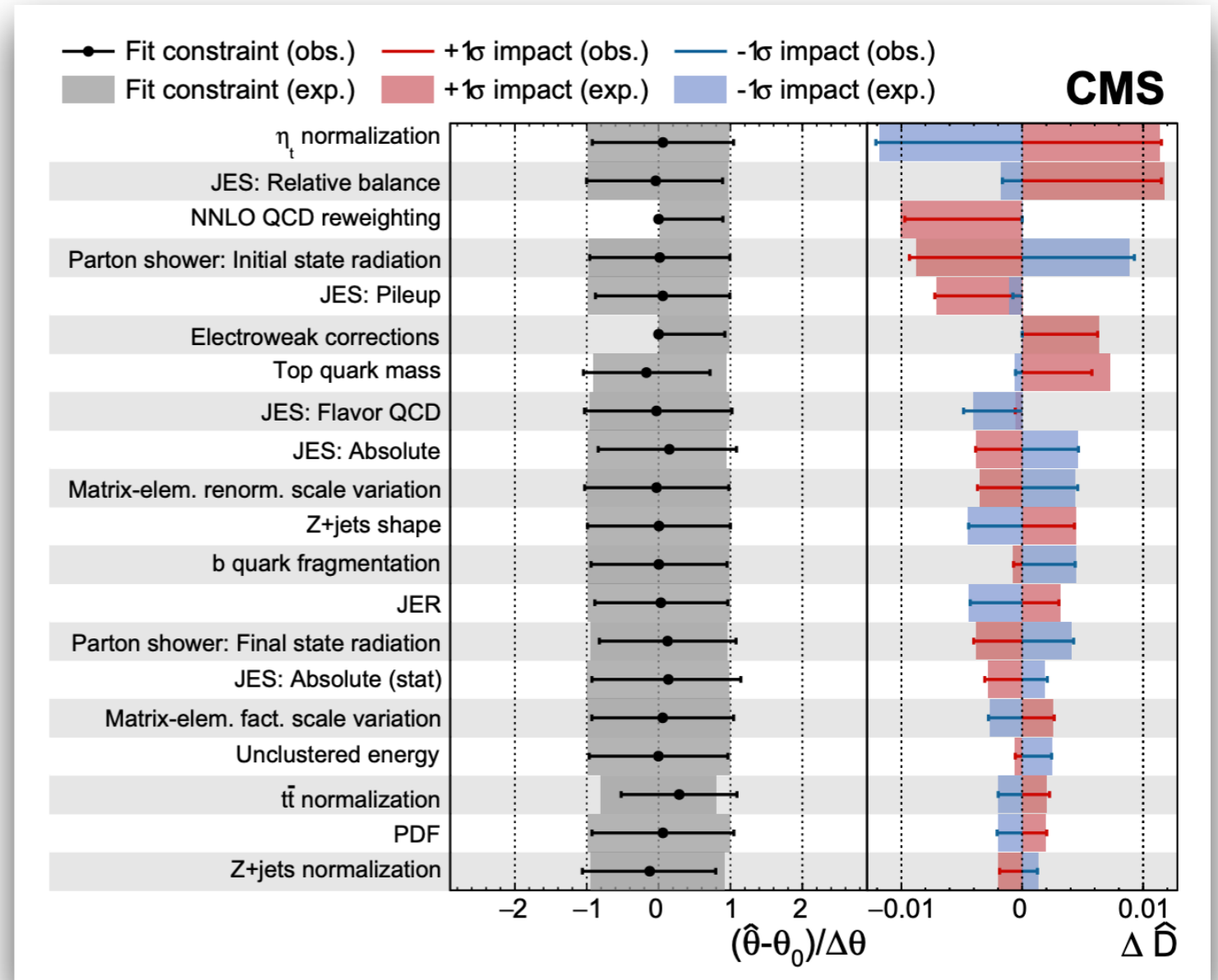


F. Maltoni et al.
[JHEP03\(2024\)099](#)



Dilepton: systematic uncertainties

- Same uncertainties considered in 2016 spin corr analysis + **additional ones for toponium**:
 - *toponium cross section varied by 50% due to missing octet contributions*
 - *binding energy uncertainty varied by ± 0.5 GeV*
- **Leading theory-based uncertainties:**
 - Toponium normalization
 - NNLO QCD reweighting
 - Parton Shower
- **Leading experimental uncertainties:**
 - Jet energy scale



Comparison with ATLAS

- **Entanglement in top quark observed by both ATLAS and CMS with >5 standard deviations!**
 - despite different analyses...

	ATLAS	CMS
Dataset	Full Run 2 (140 fb ⁻¹)	2016 (35.9 fb ⁻¹)
t \bar{t} decay	Dilepton: e μ	Dilepton: ee, e μ and $\mu\mu$
t \bar{t} reconstruction	Ellipse method	Weighting method
Main selections	340 < m(t \bar{t}) < 380 GeV	345 < m(t \bar{t}) < 400 GeV, beta < 0.9
Triggers	Single lepton	Single lepton + dilepton
Corrected to	Particle-level	Parton-level
Fit type	No fit, calibration curve	Profile likelihood template fit
Alternative hypothesis D	Reweighting	Mixing samples with/without spin corr
Threshold effects	Neglected	Considered (toponium contribution)
Nominal MC	PowhegBox+Pythia8	PowhegBox+Pythia8
Alternative MC	PowhegBox+Herwig7, bb4l	PowhegBox+Herwig++, MG5_AMC@NLO
Significance	>> 5 standard deviations	> 5 standard deviations

$$D_{obs} = -0.547 \pm 0.002(\text{stat}) \pm 0.021(\text{syst})$$

$$D_{exp} = -0.470 \pm 0.002(\text{stat}) \pm 0.018(\text{syst})$$

$$D_{obs} = -0.480^{+0.016}_{-0.017}(\text{stat})^{+0.020}_{-0.023}(\text{syst})$$

$$D_{exp} = -0.467^{+0.016}_{-0.017}(\text{stat})^{+0.021}_{-0.024}(\text{syst})$$

Comparison with ATLAS

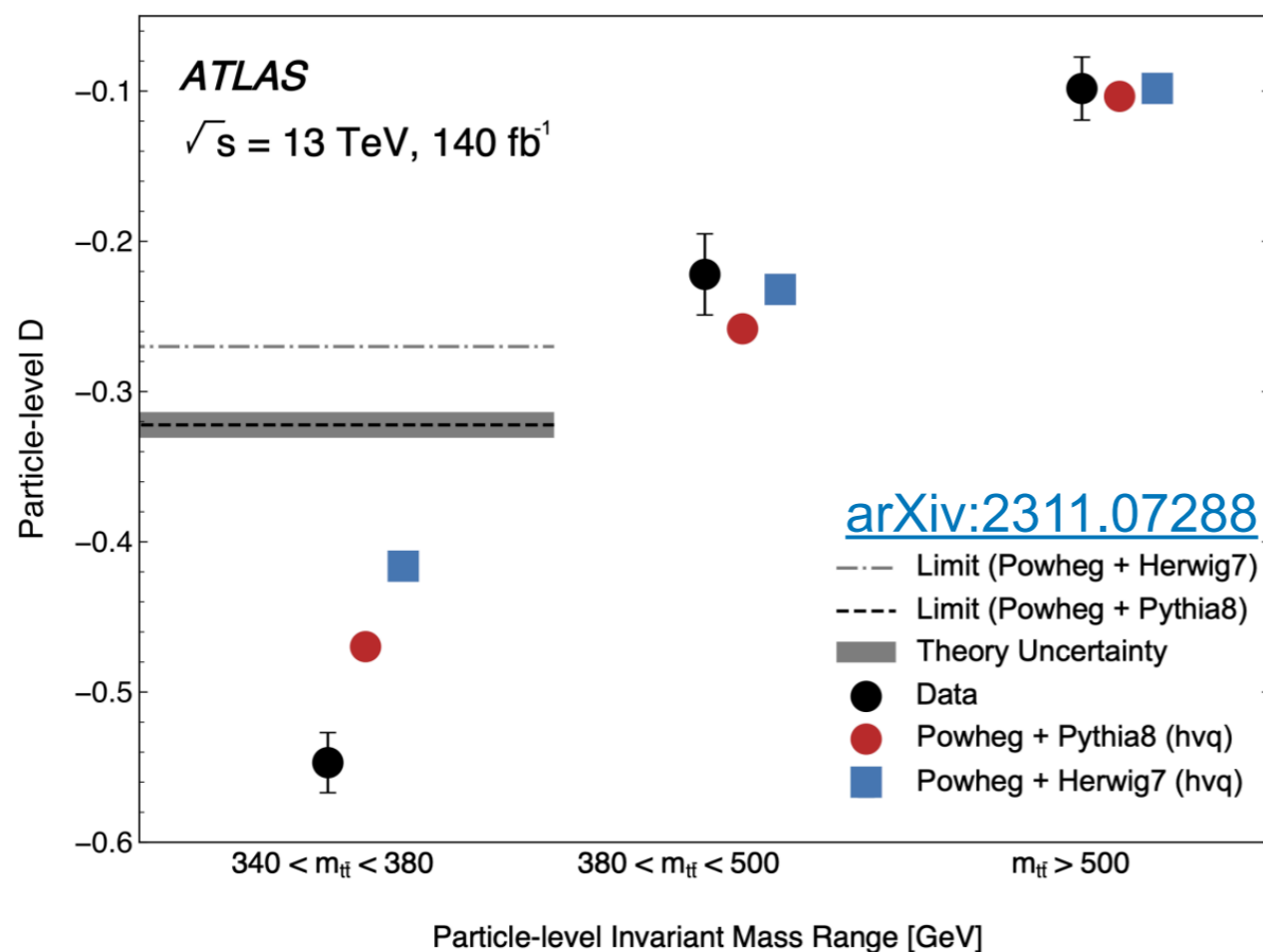
- No clear preference for a specific MC prediction
- Both analyses are dominated by systematic uncertainty
 - total (stat.) unc. is an order of magnitude larger in the CMS analysis
 - total (syst.) unc. is similar between ATLAS & CMS, but different systematics are considered

$$D_{obs} = -0.547 \pm 0.002(\text{stat}) \pm 0.021(\text{syst})$$

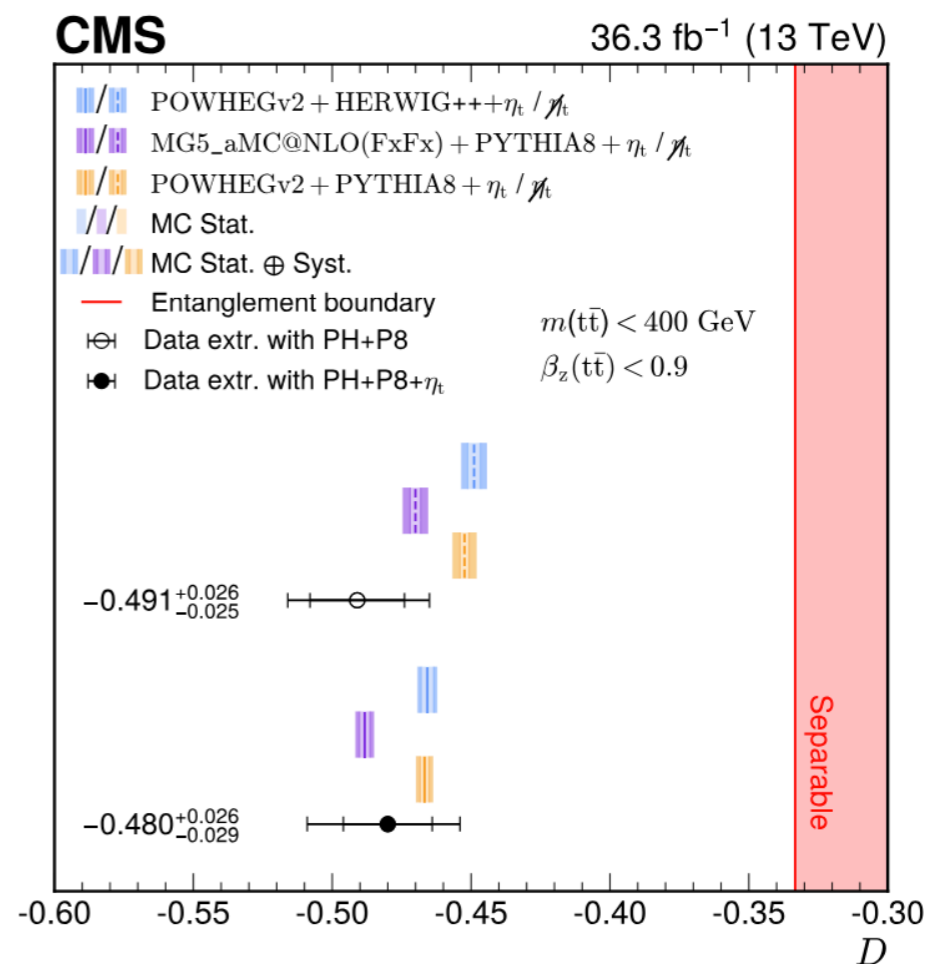
$$D_{exp} = -0.470 \pm 0.002(\text{stat}) \pm 0.018(\text{syst})$$

$$D_{obs} = -0.480^{+0.016}_{-0.017}(\text{stat})^{+0.020}_{-0.023}(\text{syst})$$

$$D_{exp} = -0.467^{+0.016}_{-0.017}(\text{stat})^{+0.021}_{-0.024}(\text{syst})$$



ATLAS: limit of $D = -1/3$ is folded from parton to **particle-level**



CMS: limit of $D = -1/3$ is shown at **parton-level**

Lepton + jets: event selection

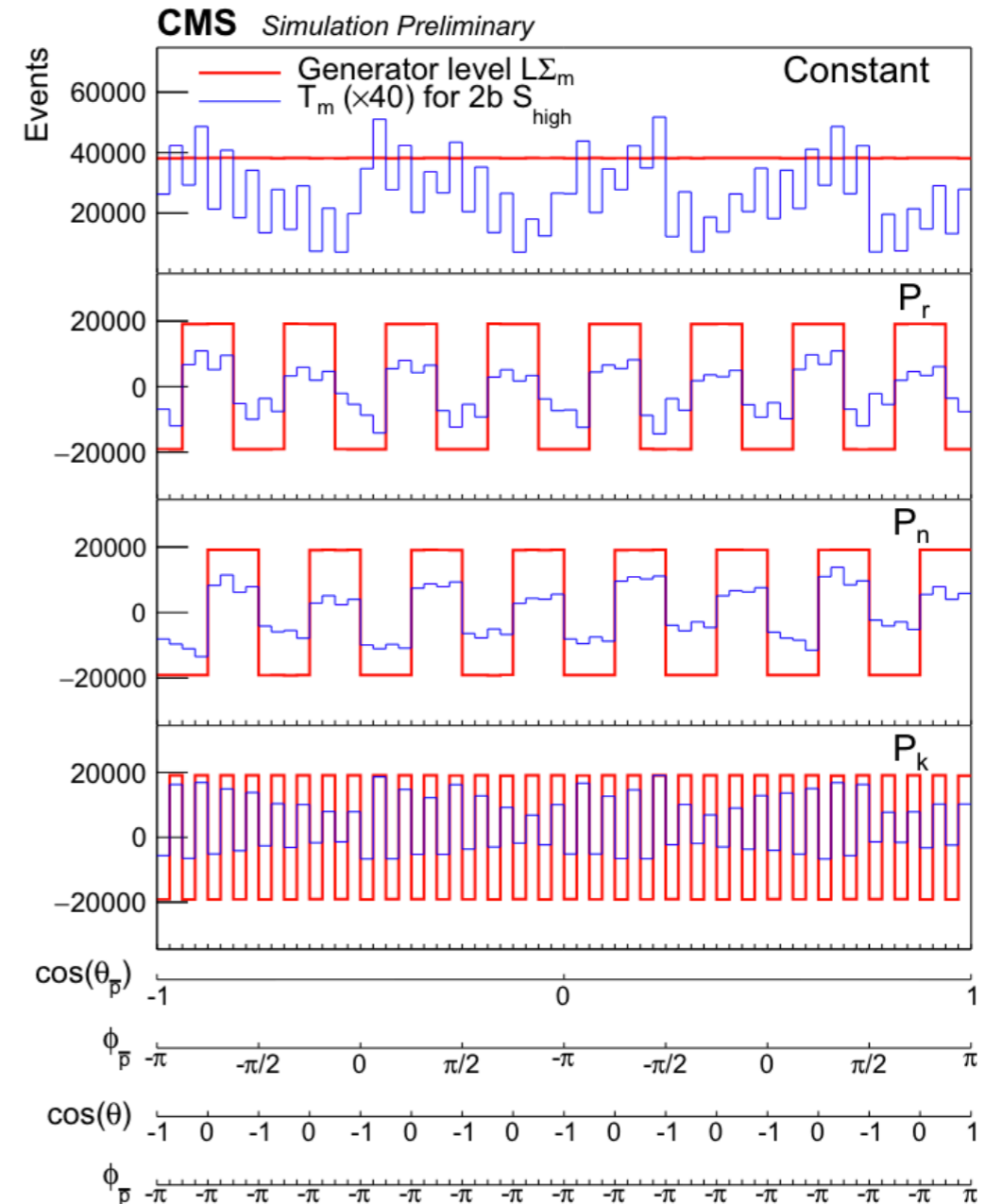
For muons: $p_T > 30$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.4$ (tracker coverage). Standard tight selection. Isolated if particle-flow (PF) isolation $I_{PF}/p_T(\mu) < 0.15$

For electrons: $p_T > 30$ GeV for 2016, 2017 ($p_T > 34$ GeV for 2018). $|\eta| < 2.4$. Tight selection.

- Exactly one electron or muon per event.
- Events with more than one isolated lepton satisfying $p_T > 15$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.4$ are discarded.
- At least 4 jets using the anti- k_T jet algorithm with a distance parameter of 0.4 (AK4s), with $p_T > 30$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.4$.
- DeepJet b-tagging algorithm is used for the identification of b jets. Information about the b-tagging WPs provided to the neural network.
 - Two categories defined by b-tagging criteria are used: two b-jet candidates passing the medium WP criterion (2b) and only one b-jet candidate passing the medium WP criteria (1b).
- To enhance fraction of correctly reconstructed events and reduce background contributions
 - $|m(t_l) - 172.5 \text{ GeV}| < 50 \text{ GeV}$
 - $|m(t_h) - 172.5 \text{ GeV}| < 50 \text{ GeV}$
 - $|m(W) - 80.4 \text{ GeV}| < 30 \text{ GeV}$

Lepton + jets: strategy

- At generator level, Σ_m never change because they do not depend on the kinematics of the top quarks
 - calculation of Σ_{tot} uses the average values of Q_m in each bin
- At detector level, T_m change as a function of top quark kinematics due to selection requirements and detector effects
 - if they vary significantly within a fitted bin, the measured Q_m could be biased
- To mitigate this effect, measurements are performed in sufficiently small bins such that either Q_m or T_m are approximately constant within each bin



$L\Sigma_m$ = templates used at gen level
 T_m = templates defined at reco level

Lepton+jets: syst. uncertainties

- Analysis is limited by statistical uncertainties
- Leading theoretical uncertainties:
 - top quark mass
 - renormalization/factorization scale
 - NNLO QCD reweighting
 - EW corrections
- NB: toponium effect is small for lepton+jets ($\sim 5E-04$)
- Leading experimental uncertainties:
 - Jet energy scale
 - b-tagging efficiency

Lepton+jets results: D and \tilde{D}

- Measurement of D, \tilde{D} performed inclusively and differentially in bins of $m_{t\bar{t}}$ vs $|\cos\theta|$ or $p_T(t)$ vs $|\cos\theta|$
- **Good agreement with SM prediction**

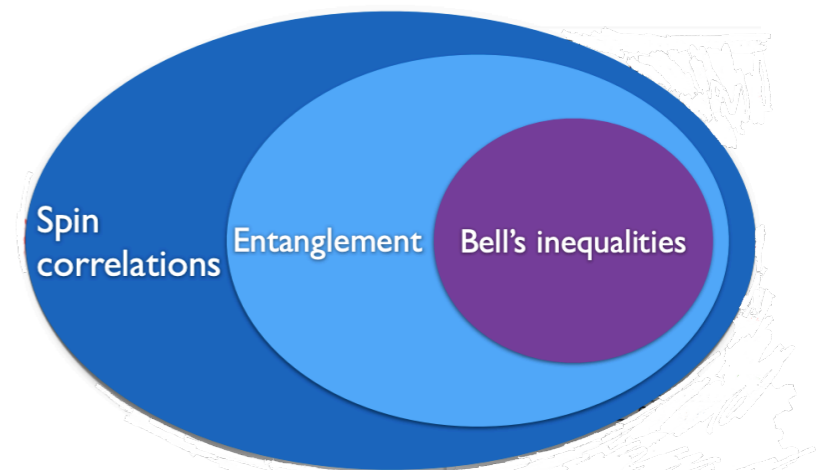
Inclusive D, \tilde{D} measurements

Coeff.	Data	POWHEG+P8	POWHEG+H7	MG5+P8	MI NNLO+P8
Inclusive from $m(t\bar{t})$ vs. $ \cos(\theta) $ binning					
c	0.905 ± 0.061	1	1	1	1
D	-0.209 ± 0.011	-0.2222	-0.2092	-0.2251	-0.226
Inclusive from $p_T(t)$ vs. $ \cos(\theta) $ binning					
c	0.973 ± 0.056	1	1.0002	0.999	1.0006
D	-0.2233 ± 0.0098	-0.2222	-0.2092	-0.2251	-0.226
Inclusive from $m(t\bar{t})$ vs. $ \cos(\theta) $ binning					
c	0.918 ± 0.062	1	1	1	1
\tilde{D}	-0.0172 ± 0.0077	-0.0113	-0.0063	-0.0136	-0.018
Inclusive from $p_T(t)$ vs. $ \cos(\theta) $ binning					
c	0.949 ± 0.055	1	1.0002	0.999	1.0006
\tilde{D}	-0.0289 ± 0.0066	-0.0113	-0.0063	-0.0136	-0.018

D measurements in $m_{t\bar{t}}$ bins

Coeff.	Data	POWHEG+P8	POWHEG+H7	MG5+P8	MI NNLO+P8
$300 < m(t\bar{t}) < 400$ GeV					
c	0.934 ± 0.067	1	1.0058	0.9318	1.0045
D	-0.382 ± 0.030	-0.4179	-0.3843	-0.4434	-0.4311
$400 < m(t\bar{t}) < 600$ GeV					
c	0.890 ± 0.060	1	0.9998	1.0045	0.9957
D	-0.191 ± 0.012	-0.2121	-0.2015	-0.2157	-0.2118
$600 < m(t\bar{t}) < 800$ GeV					
c	0.906 ± 0.064	1	0.9955	1.0427	1.0015
D	-0.102 ± 0.020	-0.0705	-0.0687	-0.0729	-0.0717
$m(t\bar{t}) > 800$ GeV					
c	0.930 ± 0.070	1	0.9926	1.0689	1.0186
D	-0.010 ± 0.036	0.0019	-0.0005	-0.0007	-0.0123

Outlook



- This is just the beginning...
- **Threshold region**
 - potential to probe toponium
- **High mass region**
 - potential for observation of Bell's Inequality violation
- BI expressed by **Clauser, Horne, Simony, Holt (CHSH) inequality** = measurements a, a' and b, b' on subsystems A and B must classically satisfy:

$$|\langle ab \rangle - \langle ab' \rangle + \langle a'b \rangle + \langle a'b' \rangle| \leq 2$$

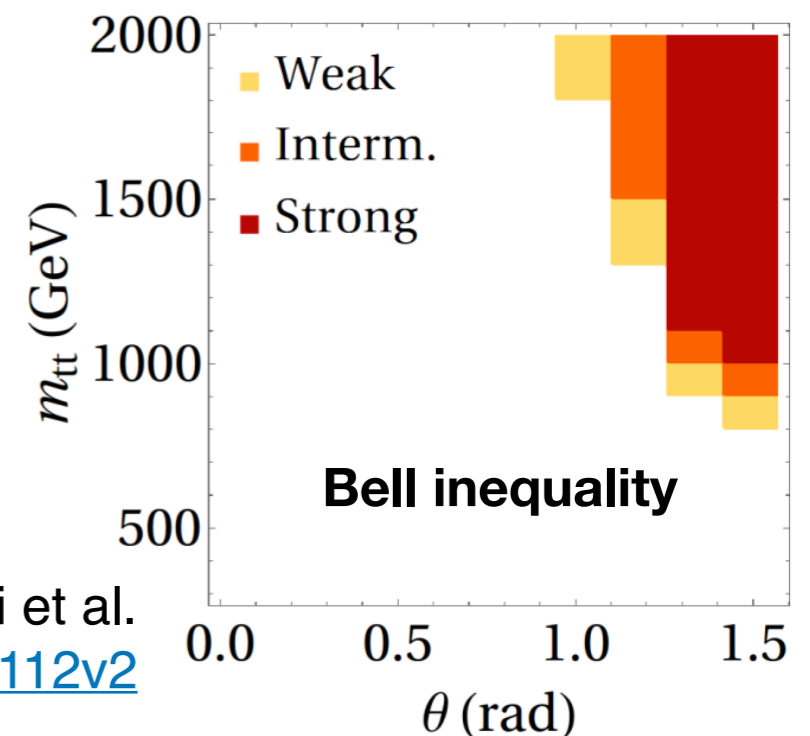
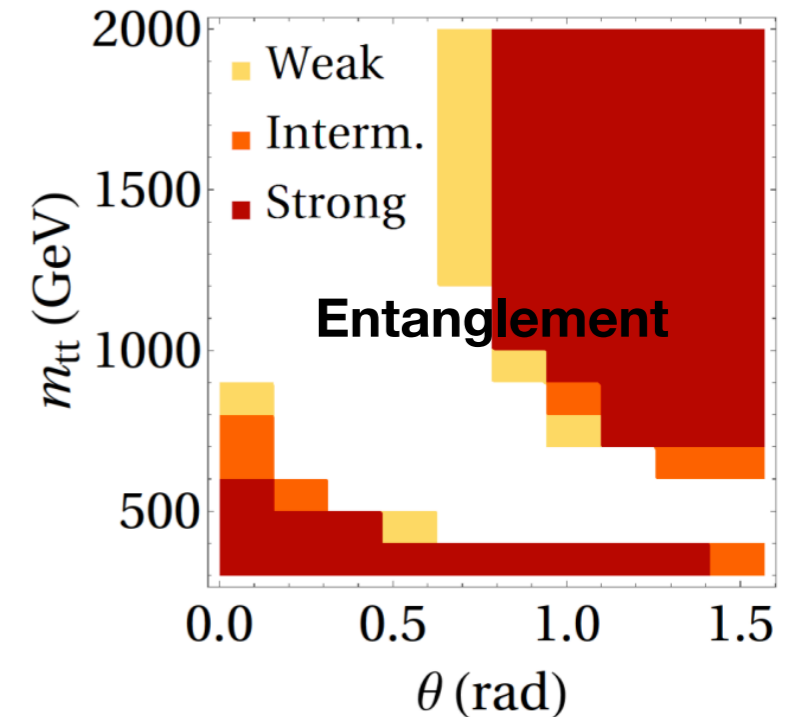
- For $t\bar{t}$ system it can be written in terms of C matrix as

$$|C(a_1, b_1) - C(a_1, b_2) + C(a_2, b_1) + C(a_2, b_2)| \leq 2$$

- or more simply as:

$$\sqrt{2} | -C_{rr} + C_{nn} | \leq 2$$

- **Expected to happen at even higher $m_{t\bar{t}}$**
 - more statistics is needed to measure it



C Severi et al.
[arXiv:2110.10112v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.10112v2)