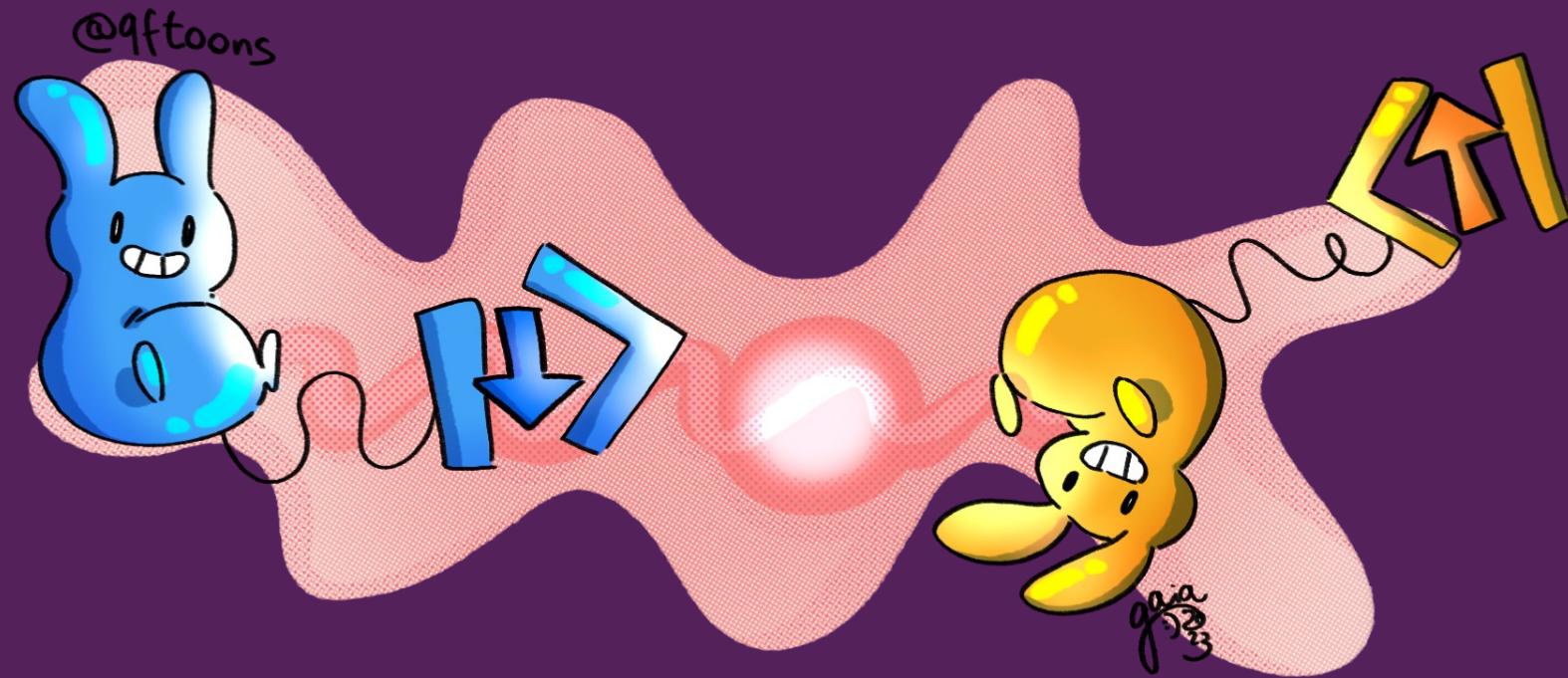


# Threshold and bound state effects in top pair production



Drawings by Gaia Fontana @QFToons

26/04/24

Claudio Severi - U. Manchester

# Threshold and bound state effects in top pair production

Y.Sumino et al, PRD47, 56 (1992)

K.Hagiwara et al, PLB 666 (2008)

Kiyo et al, EPJC 60 (2009)

F.Bach et al, JHEP 03 (2018) 184

Ju et al, Chin.Phys.C 44 (2020) 9

B. Fuks et al, Phys.Rev.D 104 (2021) 3

F.Maltoni et al, JHEP 03 (2024) 099 and 2404.08049

R.Aoude et al, *in preparation*



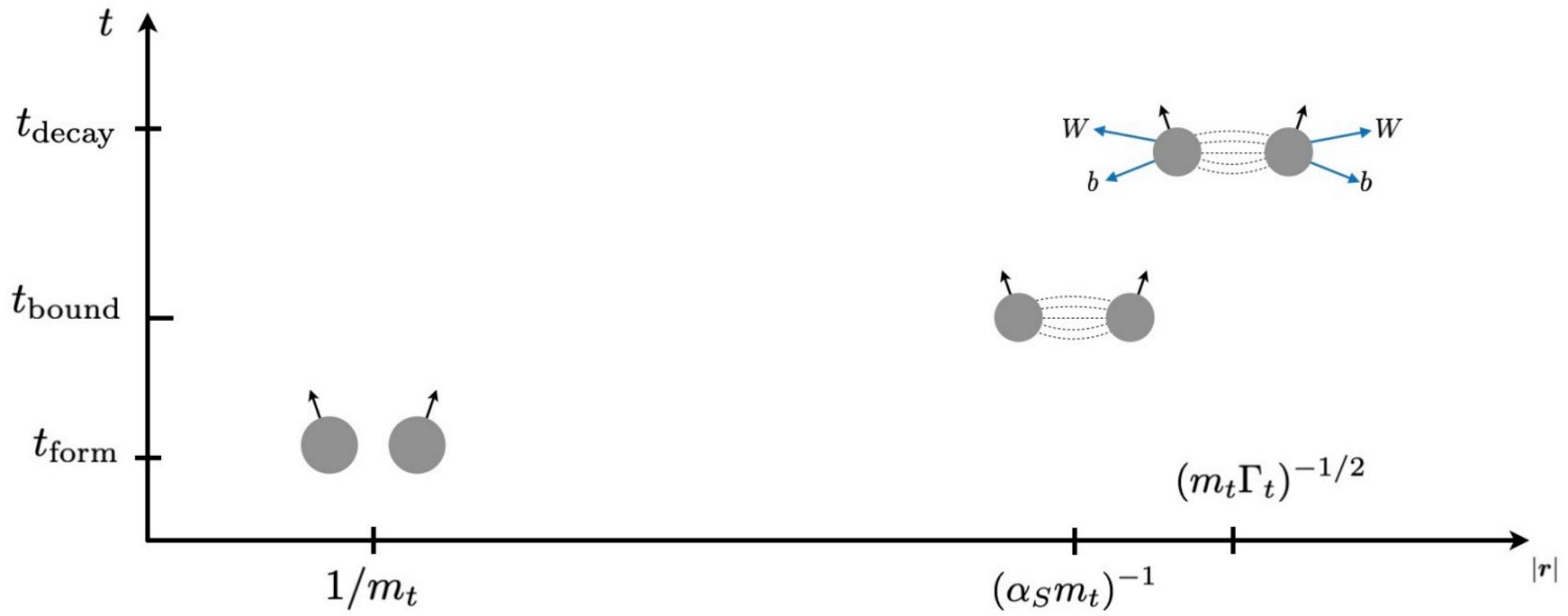
The University of Manchester



Funded by  
the European Union

# Toponium

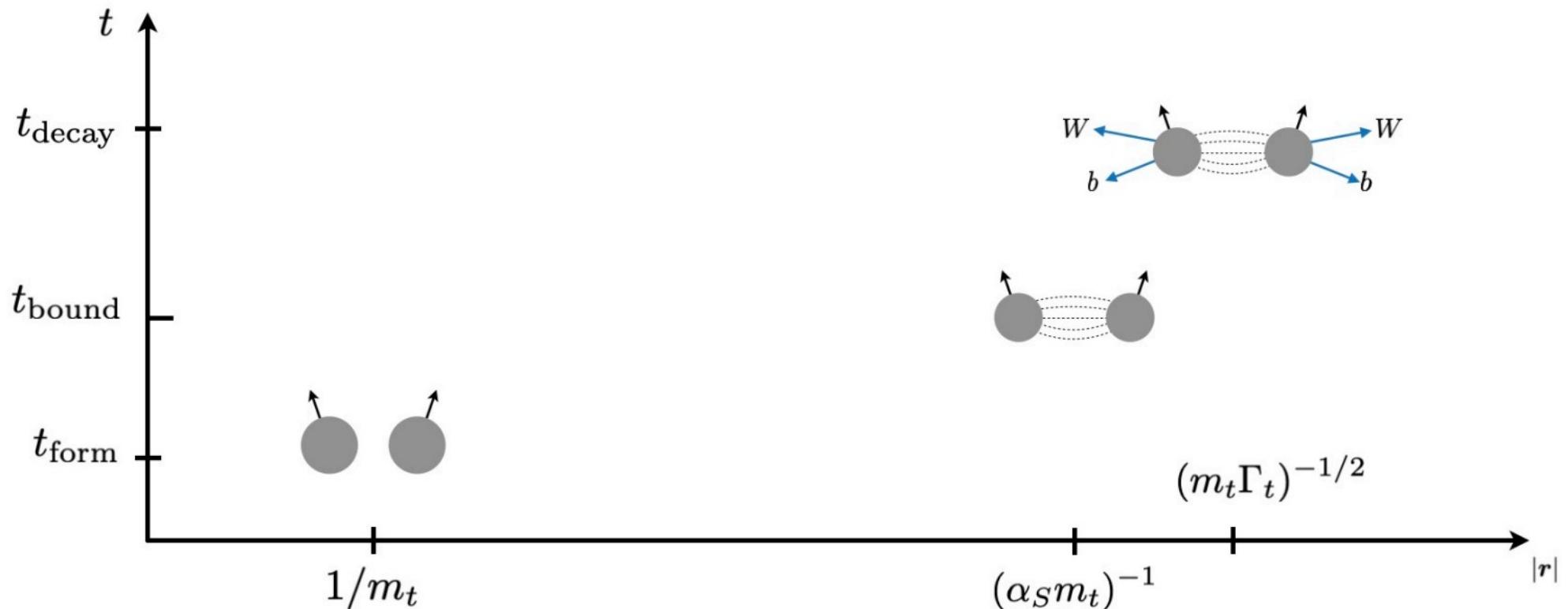
“bound” state of two top quarks



artwork by Rafael Aoude

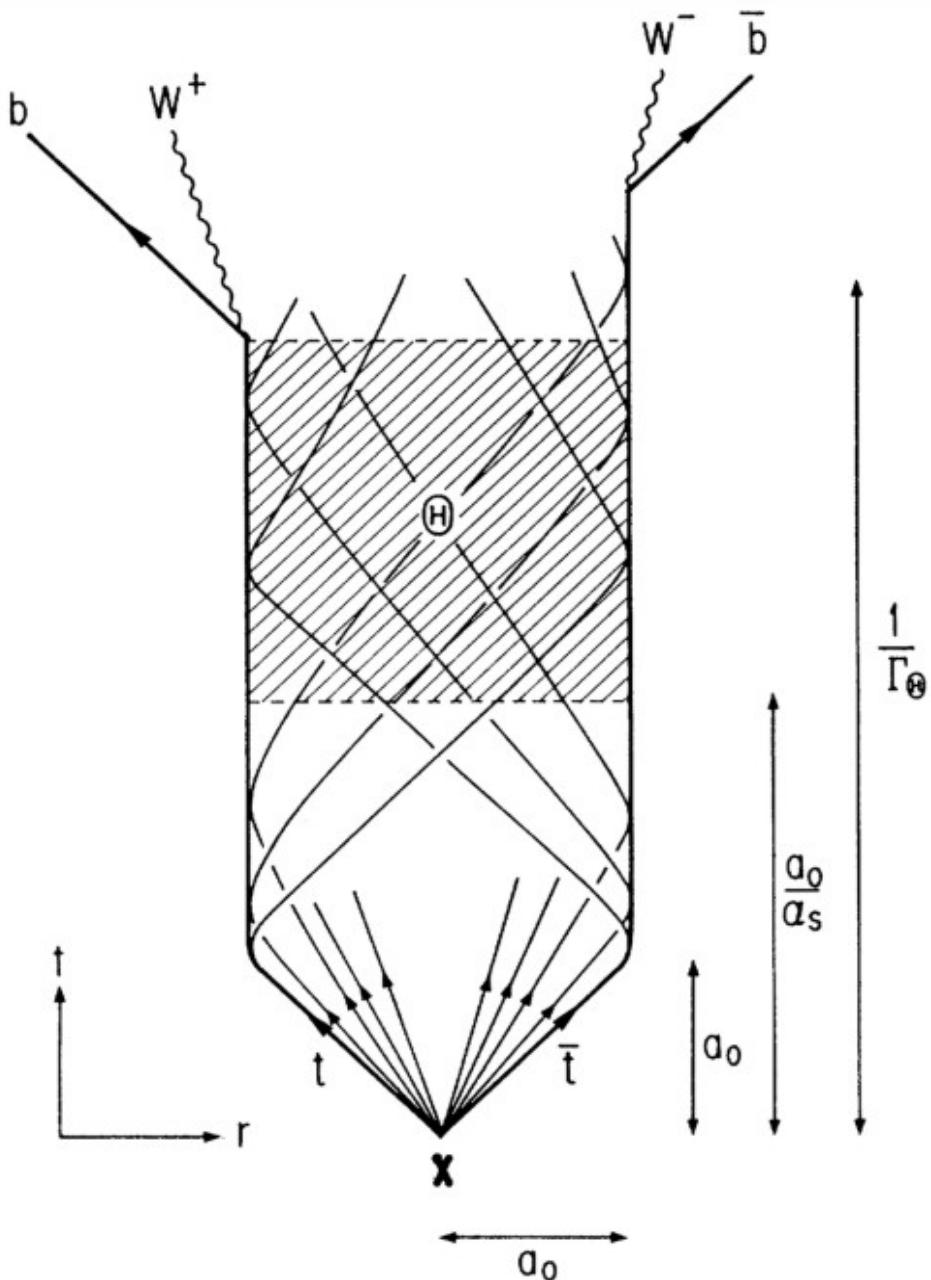
# Toponium

“bound” state of two top quarks



artwork by Rafael Aoude

Lifetime driven by top lifetime  $\rightarrow$  width  $2\Gamma_t$



Sumino et al, PhysRevD.47.56 1992

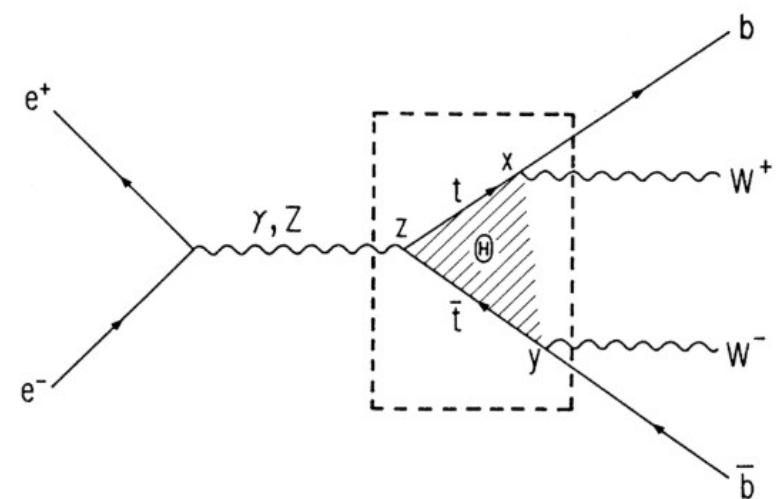


FIG. 1. The diagram for the  $t\bar{t}$  pair production process and their subsequent decays into  $bW$ 's. The box with the dashed line shows the three-point function  $K(x,y,z)$  that carries the information of the toponium resonance.

FIG. 2. A figure that shows the time evolution of the non-relativistic  $t\bar{t}$  system.

# Simple way to model: Schroedinger equation with potential

$$\left[ (E + i\Gamma_t) - \left( \frac{\nabla^2}{m_t} + V(\mathbf{r}) \right) \right] G(\mathbf{r}, E + i\Gamma_t) = \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{r})$$

- Non-relativistic  
fine at/near threshold  
needs to be matched into the continuum
- Takes into account top lifetime by replacing  $E \rightarrow E + i\Gamma$   
QCD potential:

$$V_{\text{QCD}}(r, \mu_B) = C^{[\text{col}]} \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_B)}{r} \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \left( 2\beta_0 \log(e^\gamma \mu_B r) + \frac{31}{9}C_A - \frac{10}{9}n_f \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2) \right],$$

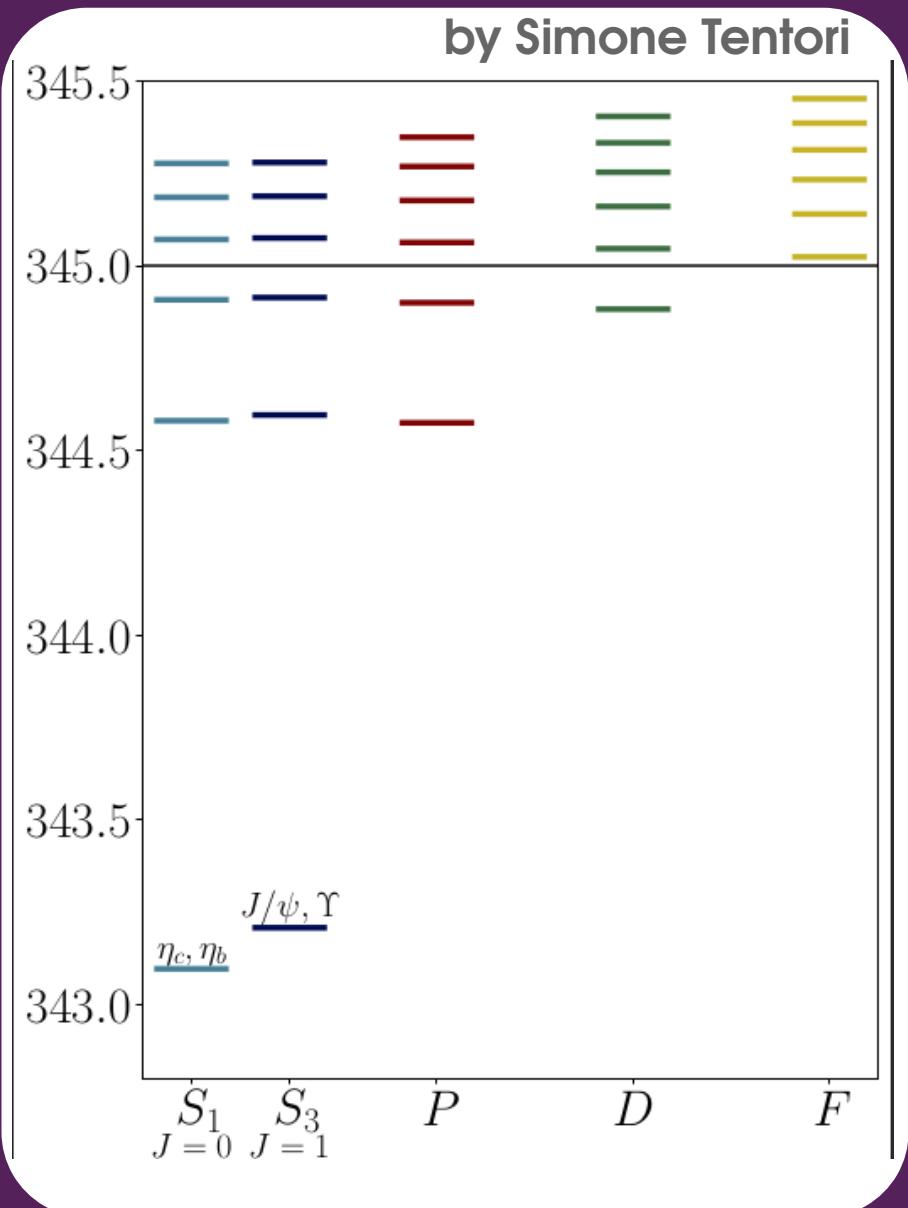
$$C^{[1]} = -C_F = -4/3 \quad C^{[8]} = C_A/2 - C_F = 1/6$$

Known much more  
accurately than this,  
Hoang Teubner  
Phys.Rev.D 60 (1999)

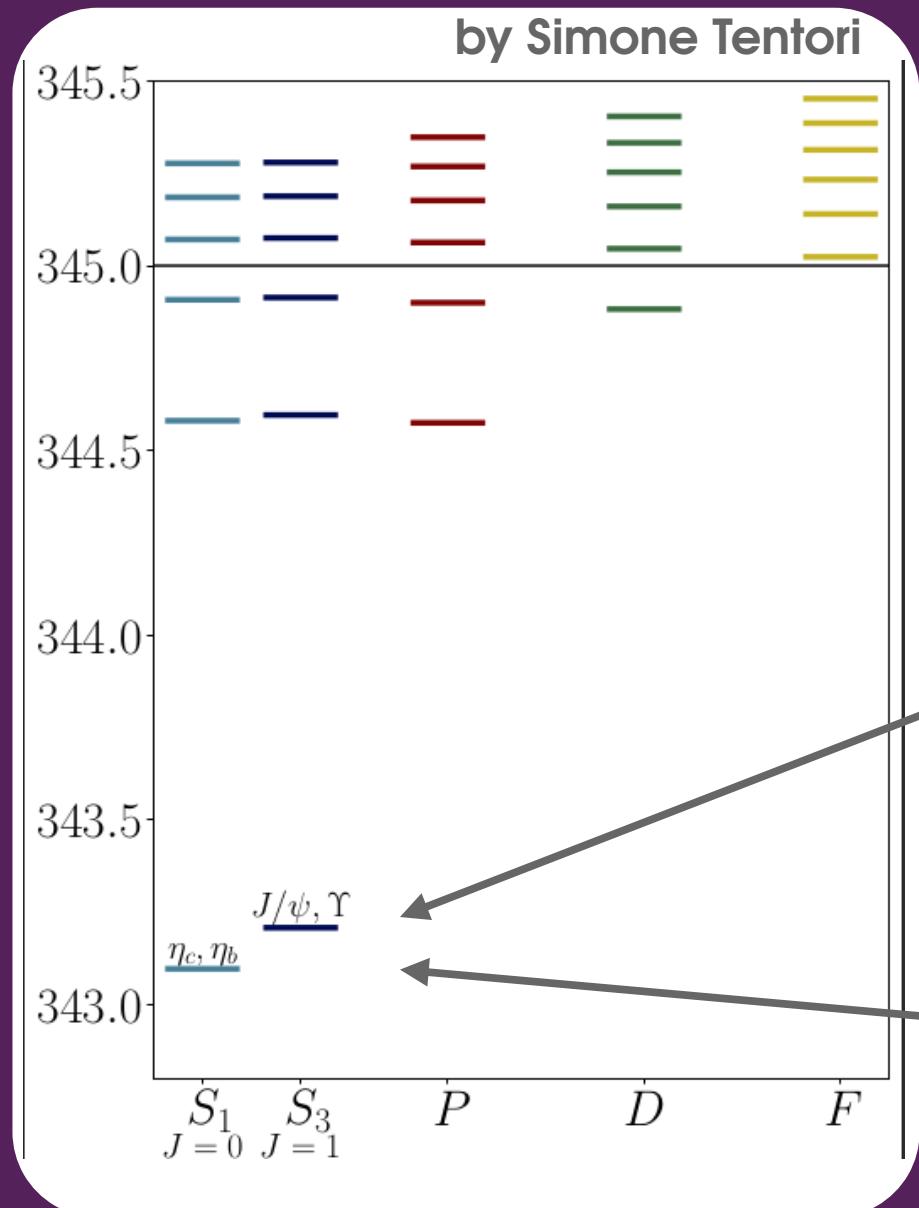
In practice the calculation is done using EFT  
methods in nrQCD....

I'm skipping details

# Energy levels predicted



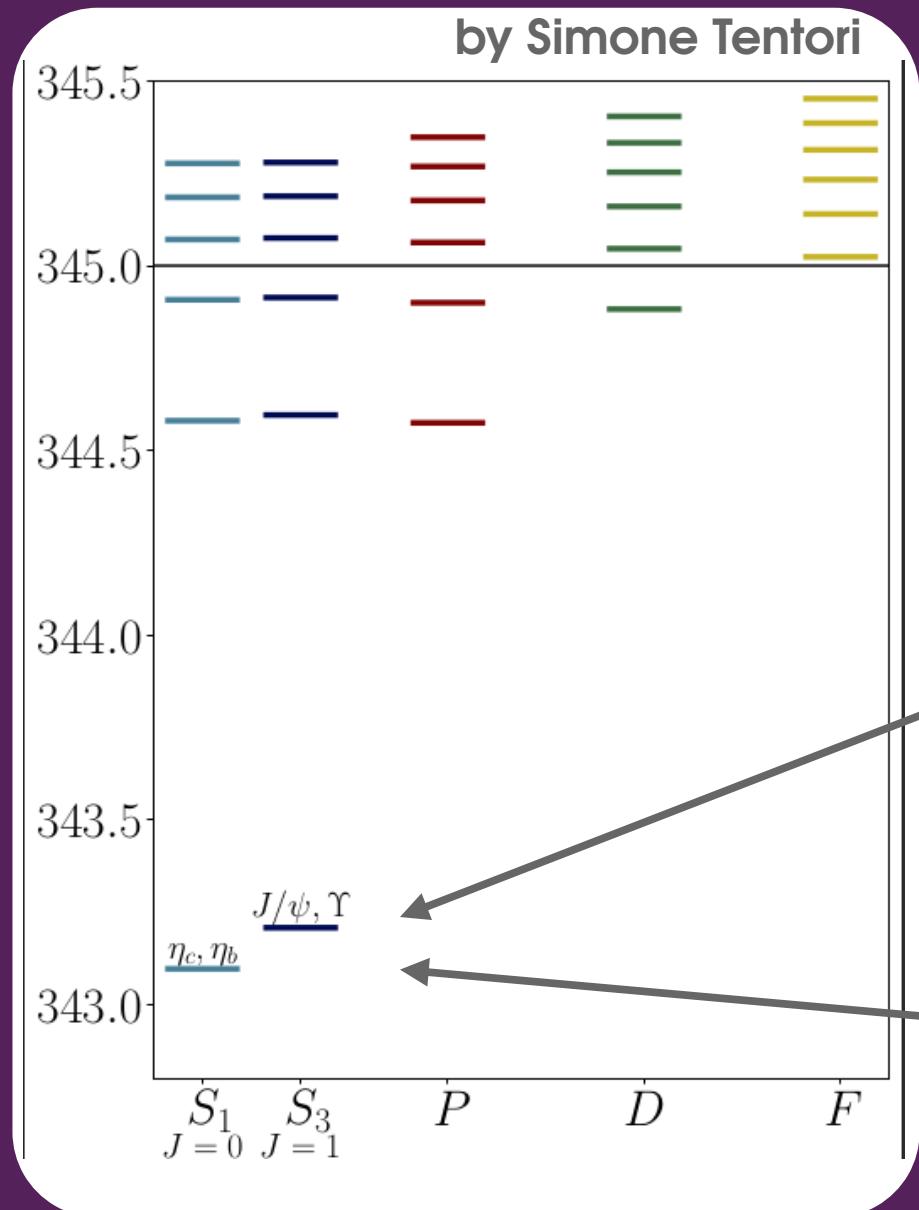
# Energy levels predicted



vector – like  $J/\Psi$   
 $D = +1/3$

pseudoscalar – like  $\eta$   
 $D = -1$

# Energy levels predicted

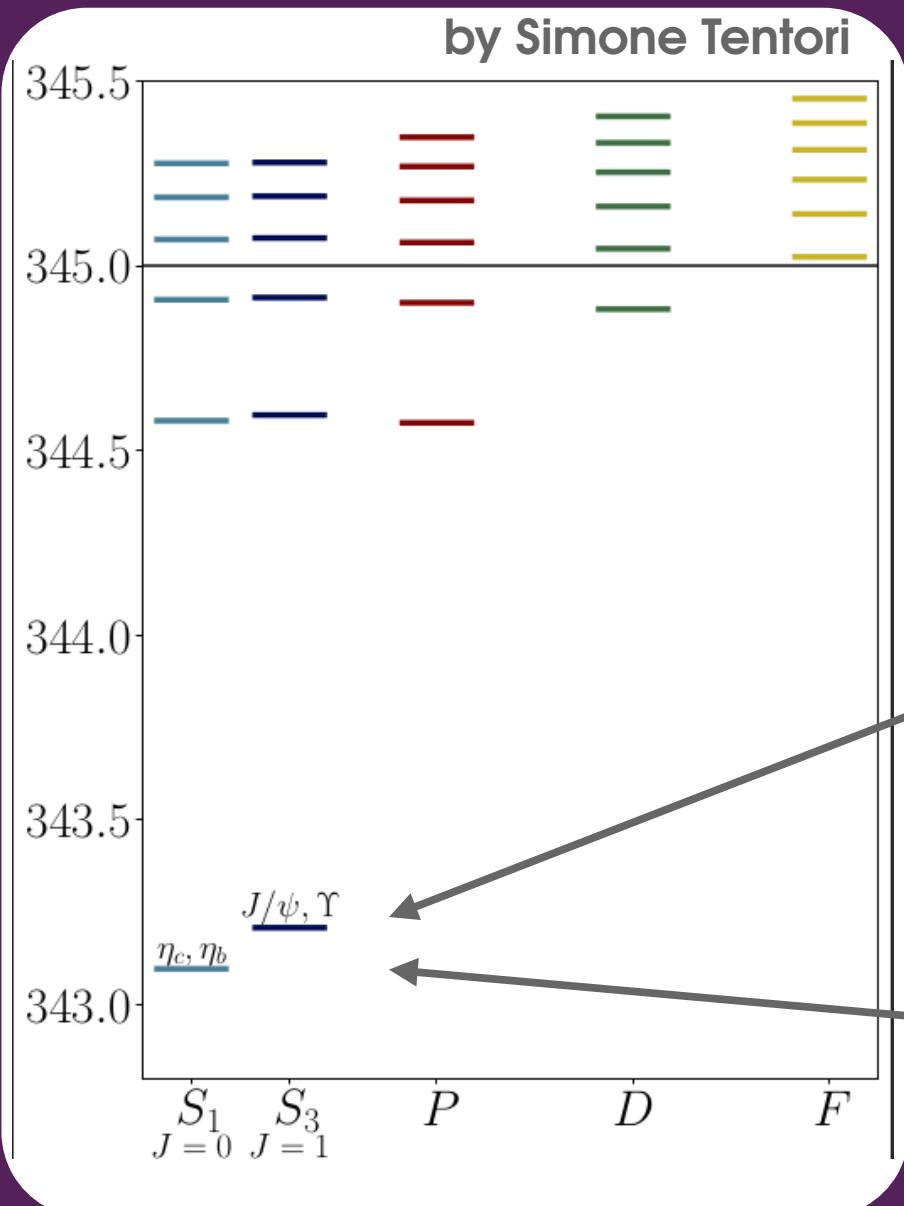


invisible

vector – like  $J/\psi$   
 $D = +1/3$

pseudoscalar – like  $\eta$   
 $D = -1$

# Energy levels predicted

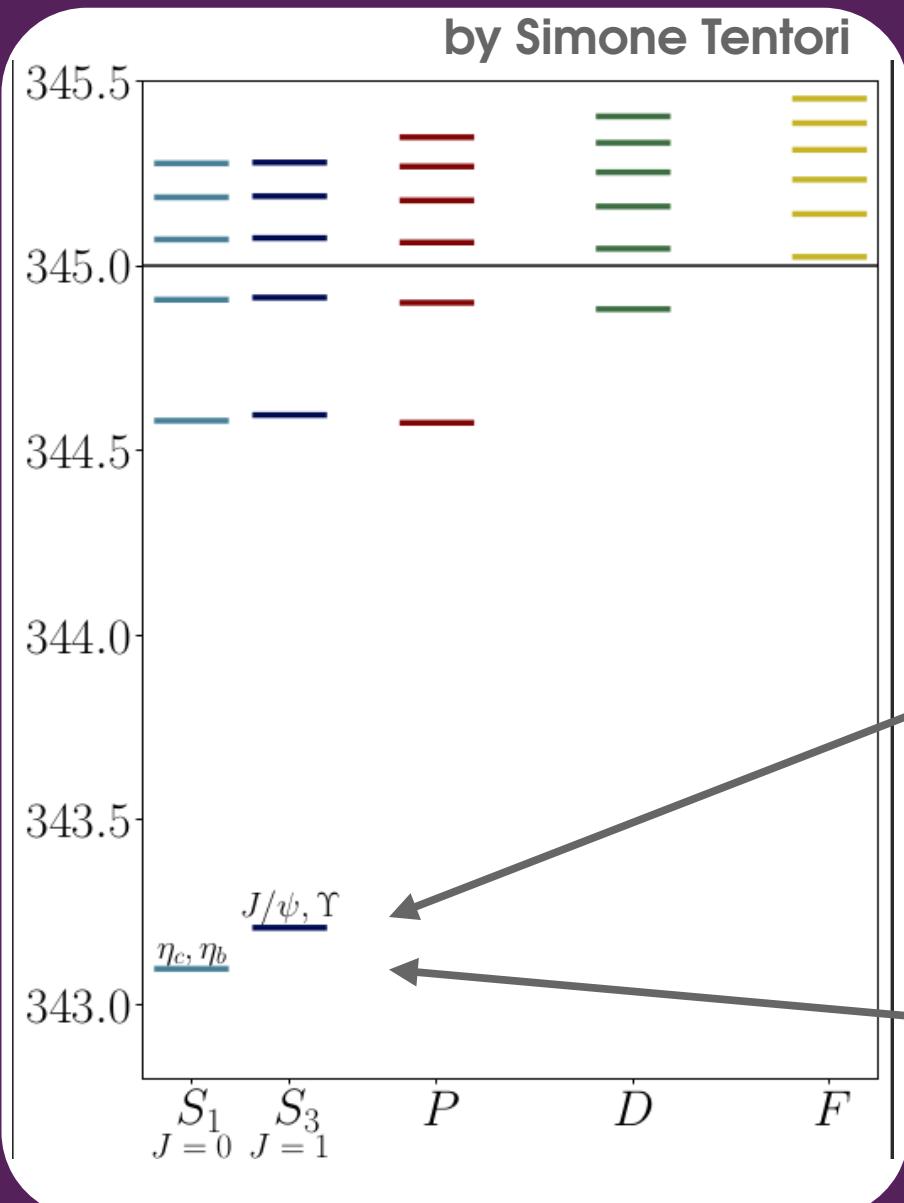


invisible

vector – like  $J/\Psi$   
 $D = +1/3$

pseudoscalar – like  $\eta$   
 $D = -1$   
( visible at the LHC )

# Energy levels predicted

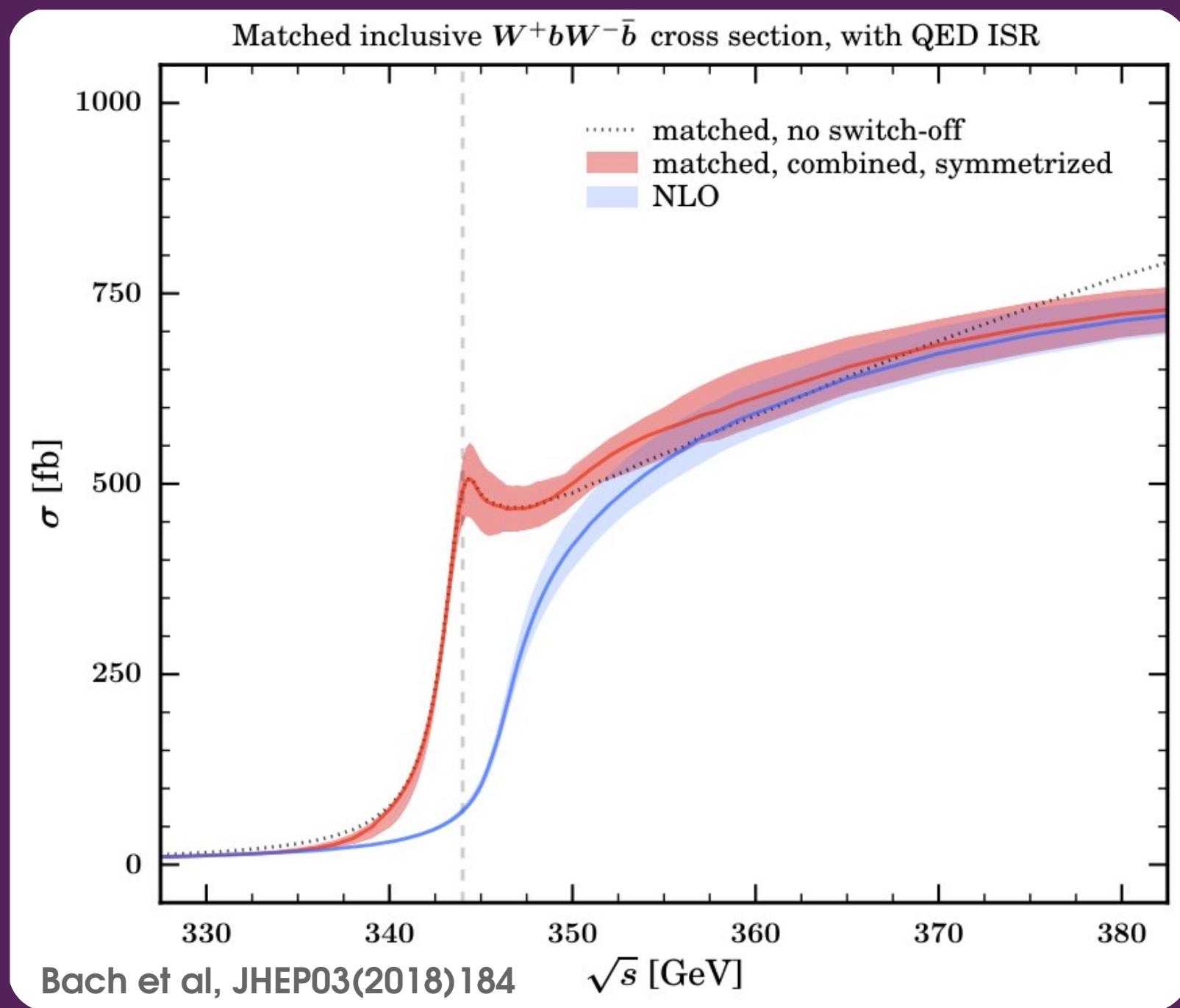


invisible

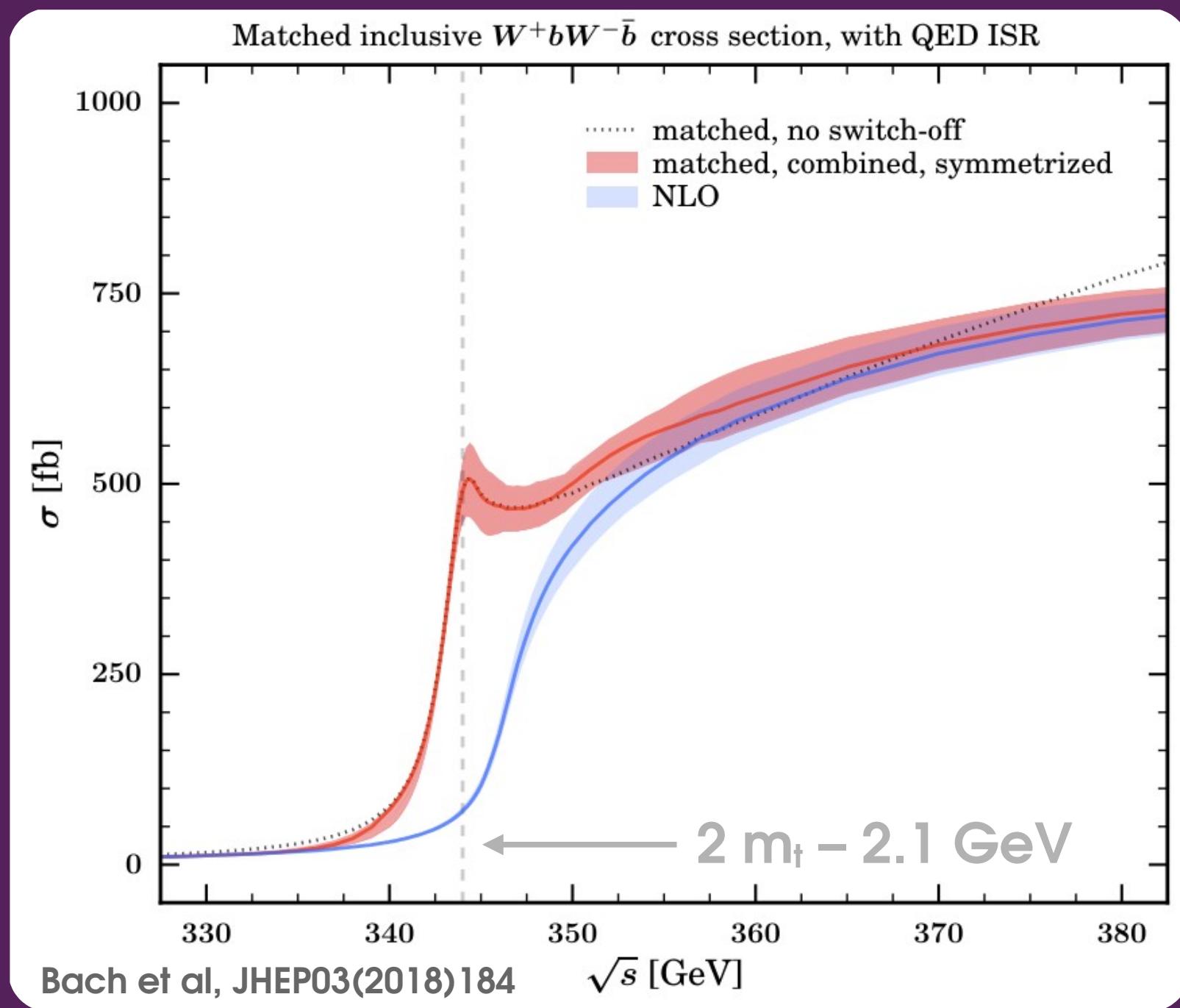
vector – like  $J/\Psi$   
 $D = +1/3$   
( needs an  $e^+e^-$  )

pseudoscalar – like  $\eta$   
 $D = -1$   
( visible at the LHC )

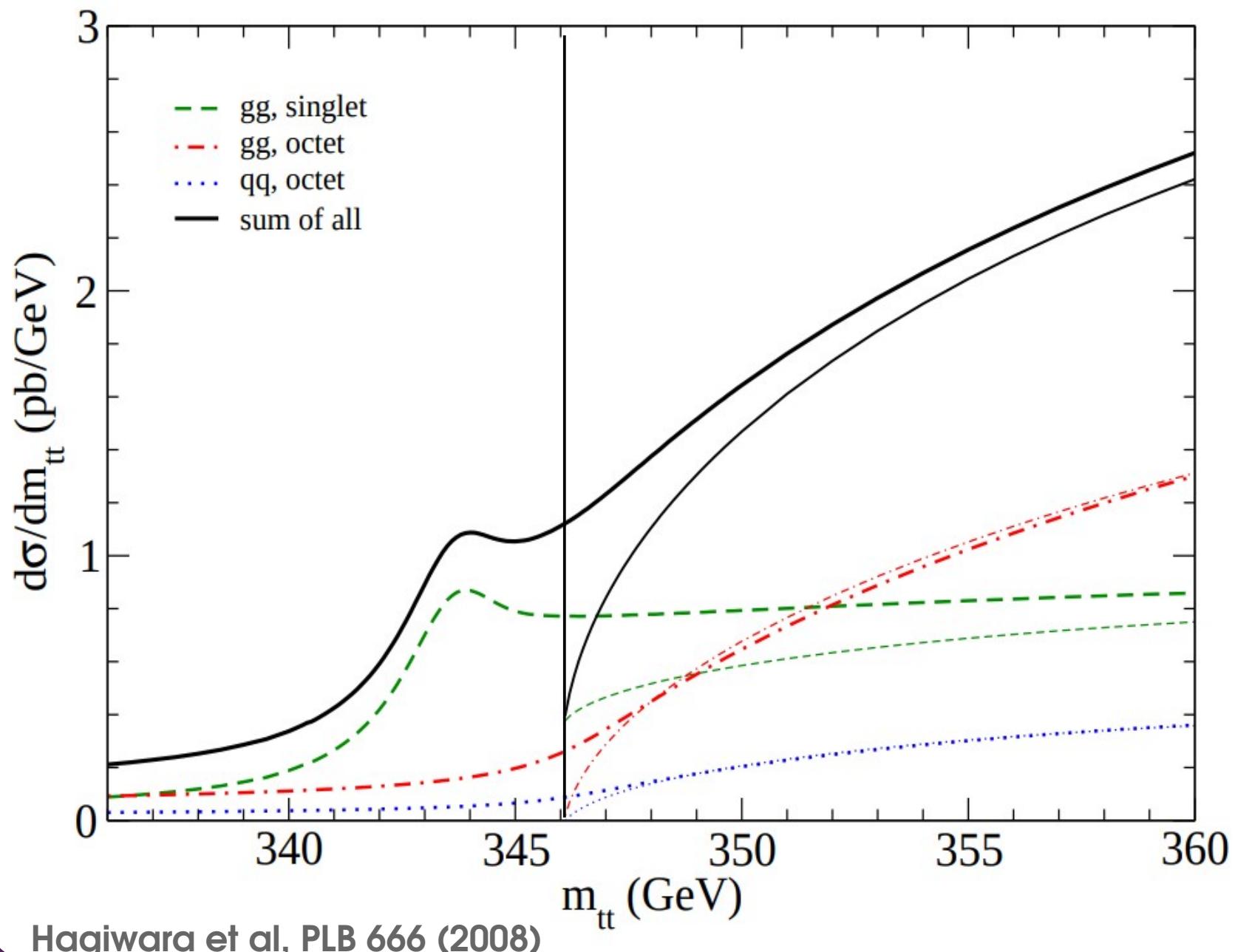
# Cross-section in a e+e- threshold scan



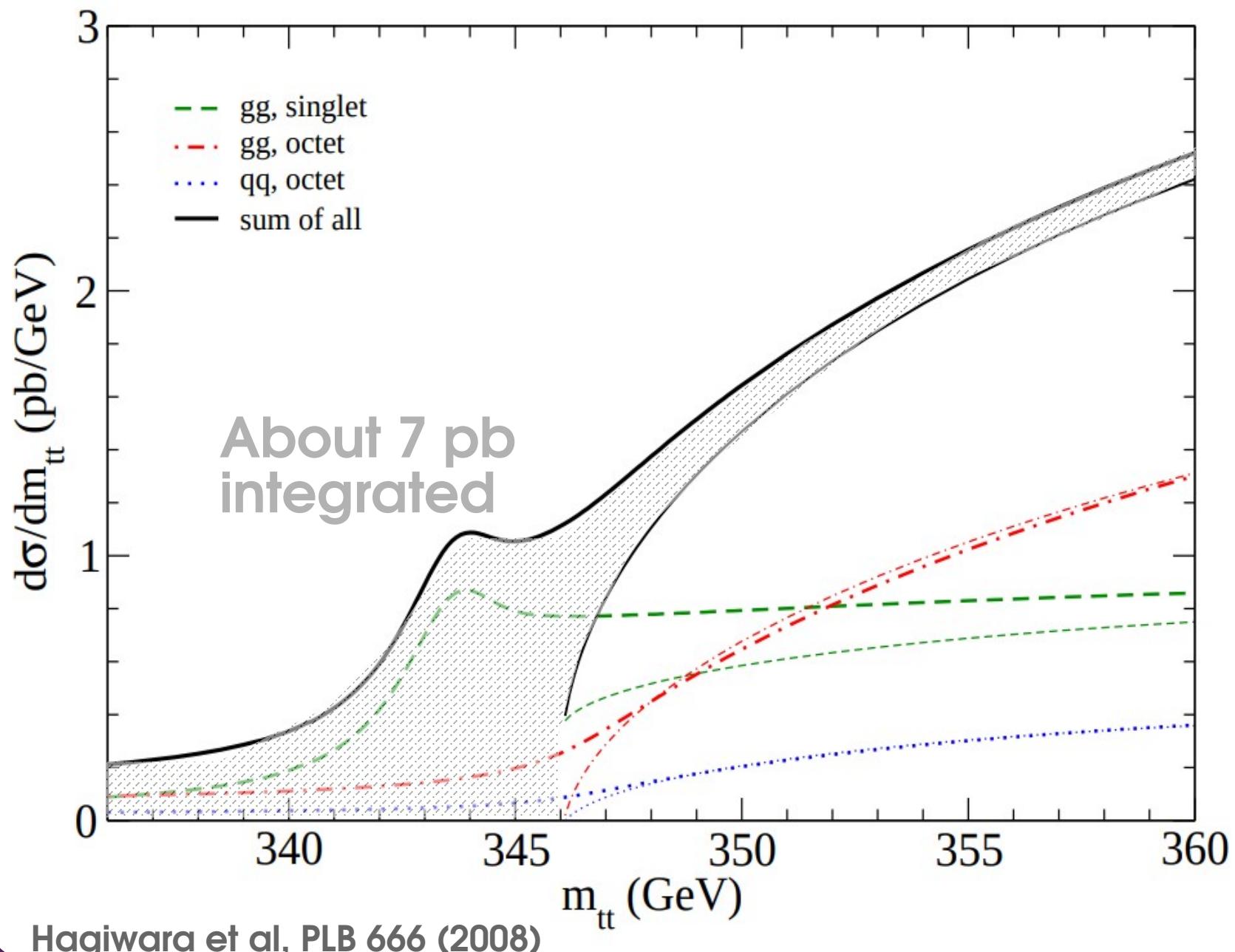
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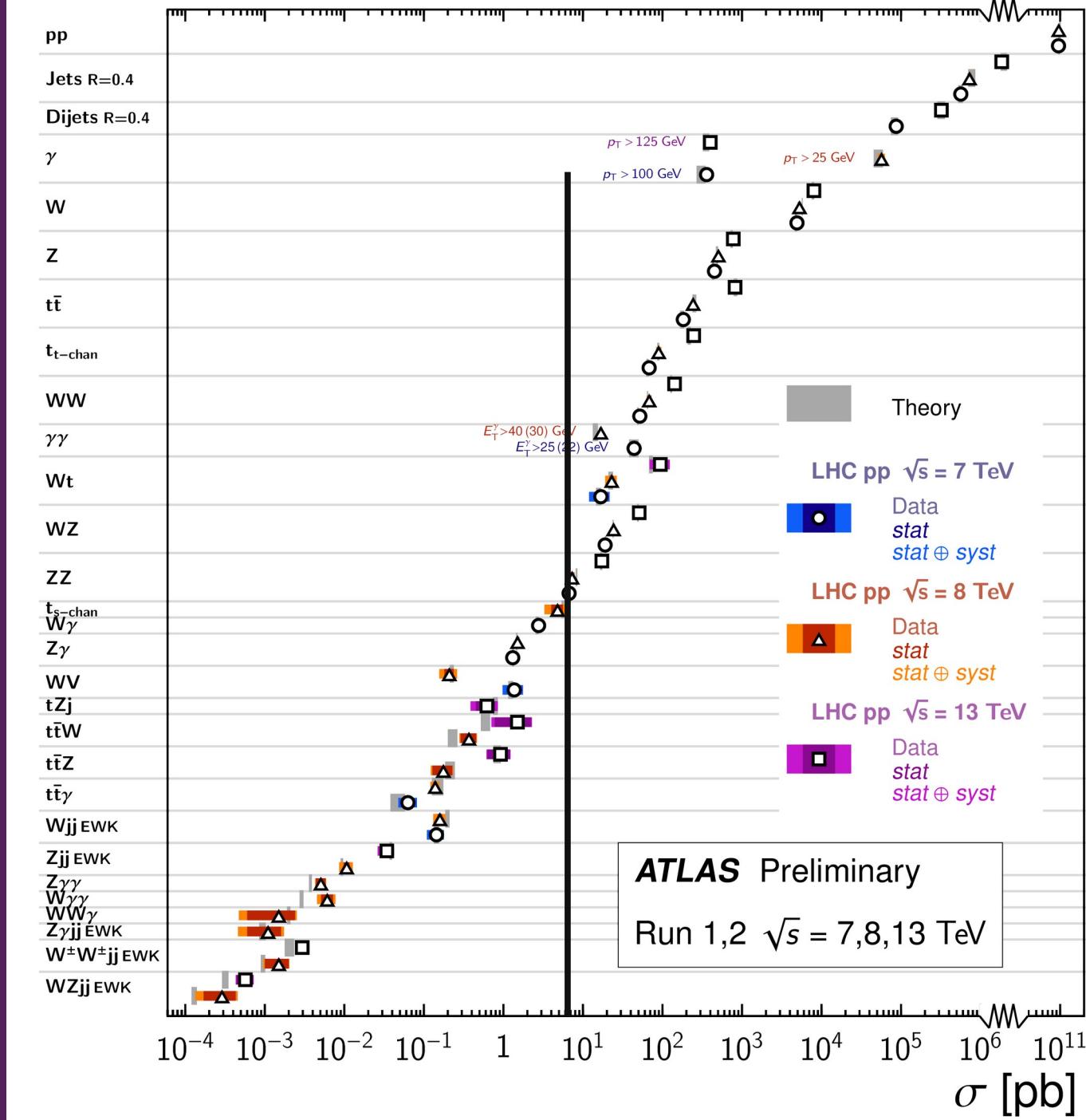
# Spectrum at the LHC



# Spectrum at the LHC

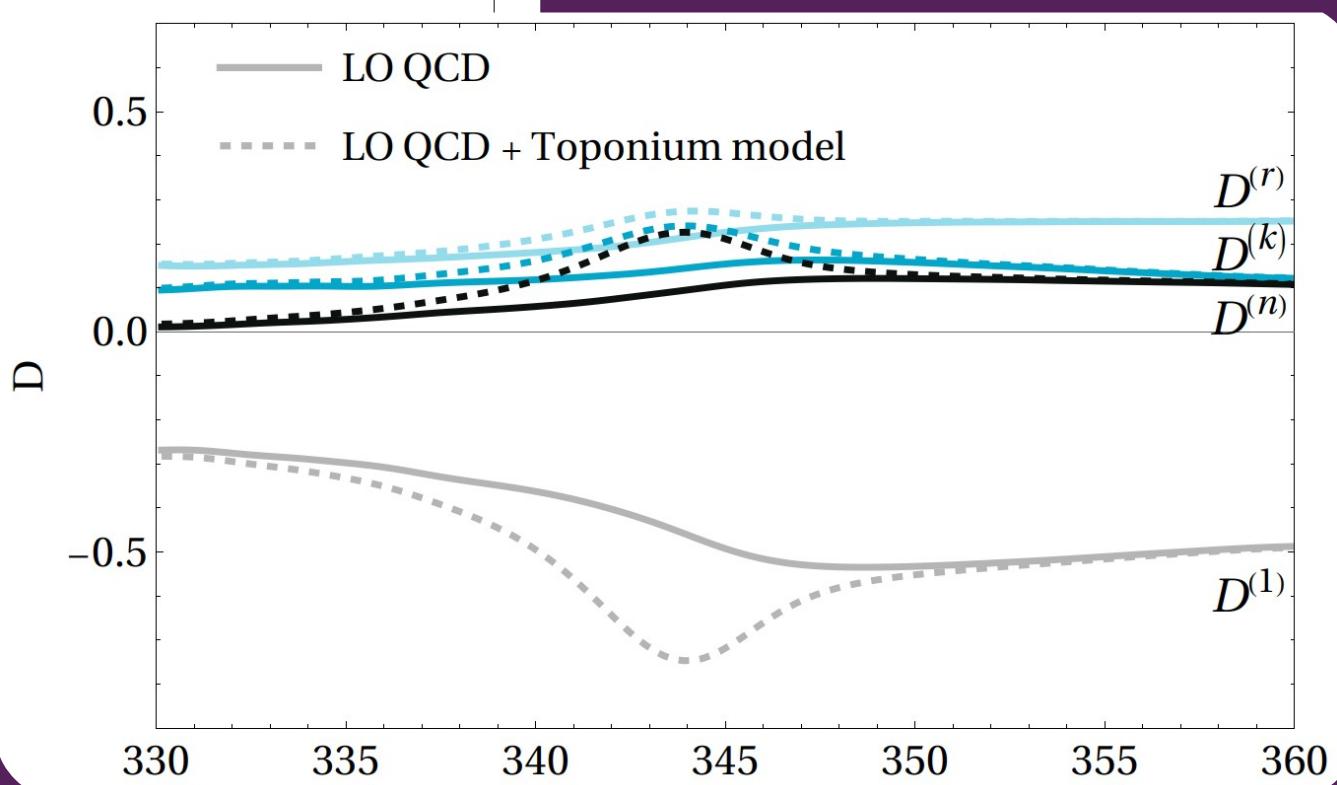
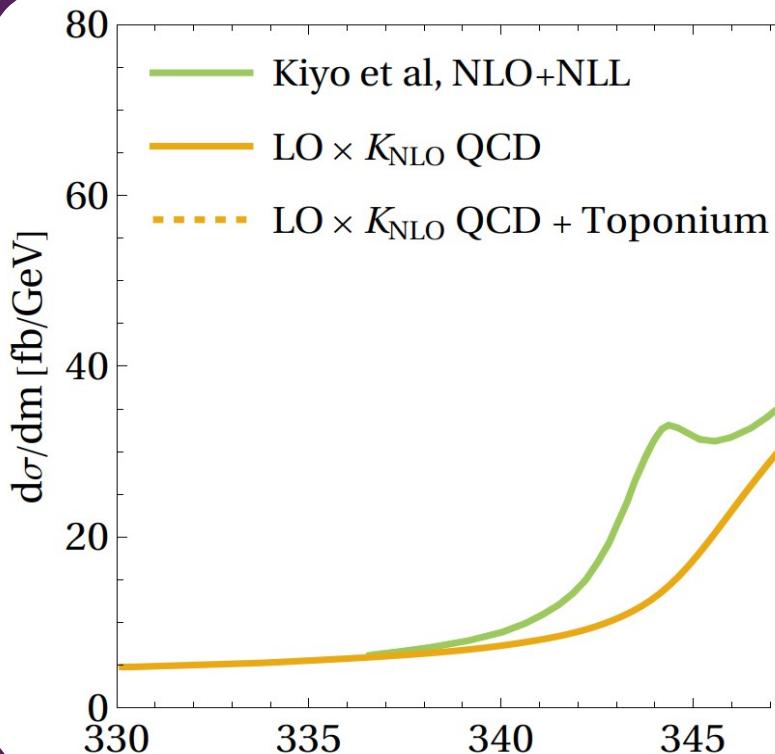


# Standard Model Production Cross Section Measurements



# Recap for the LHC:

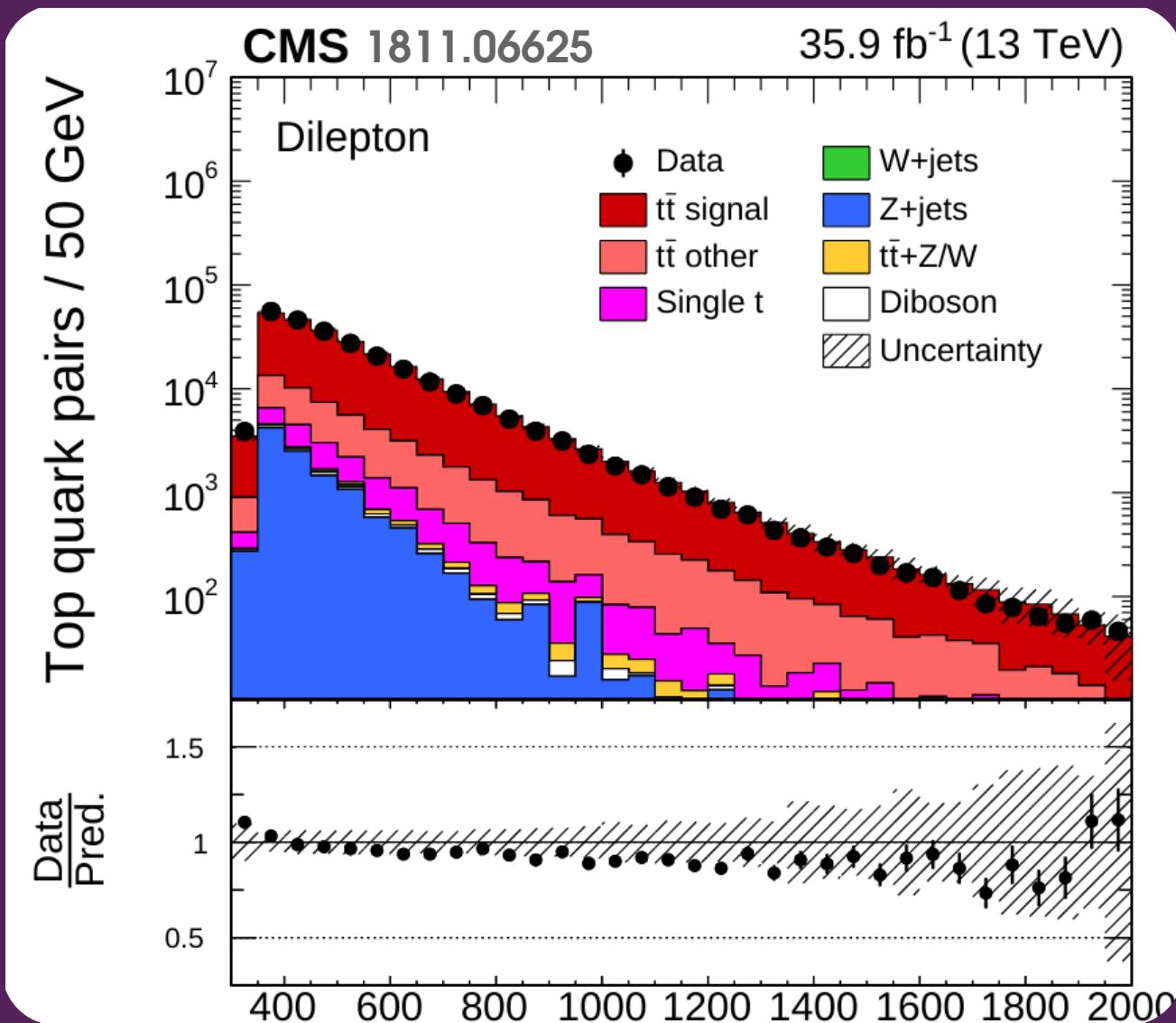
2404.08049



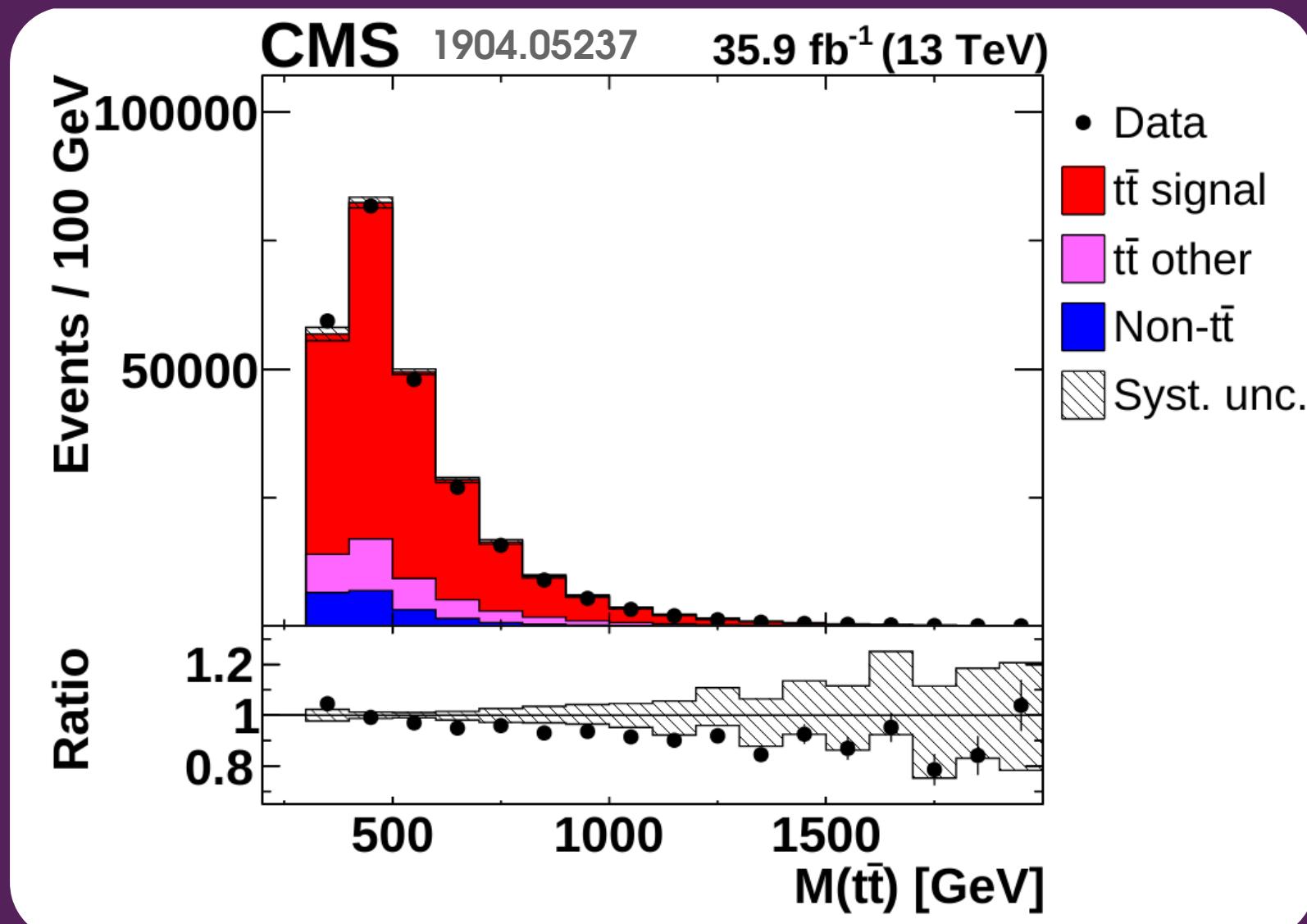
## **Signature for $\eta_t$ formation:**

- increase in total rate**
- increase in spin singlet (more negative D)**
- increase in color singlet**

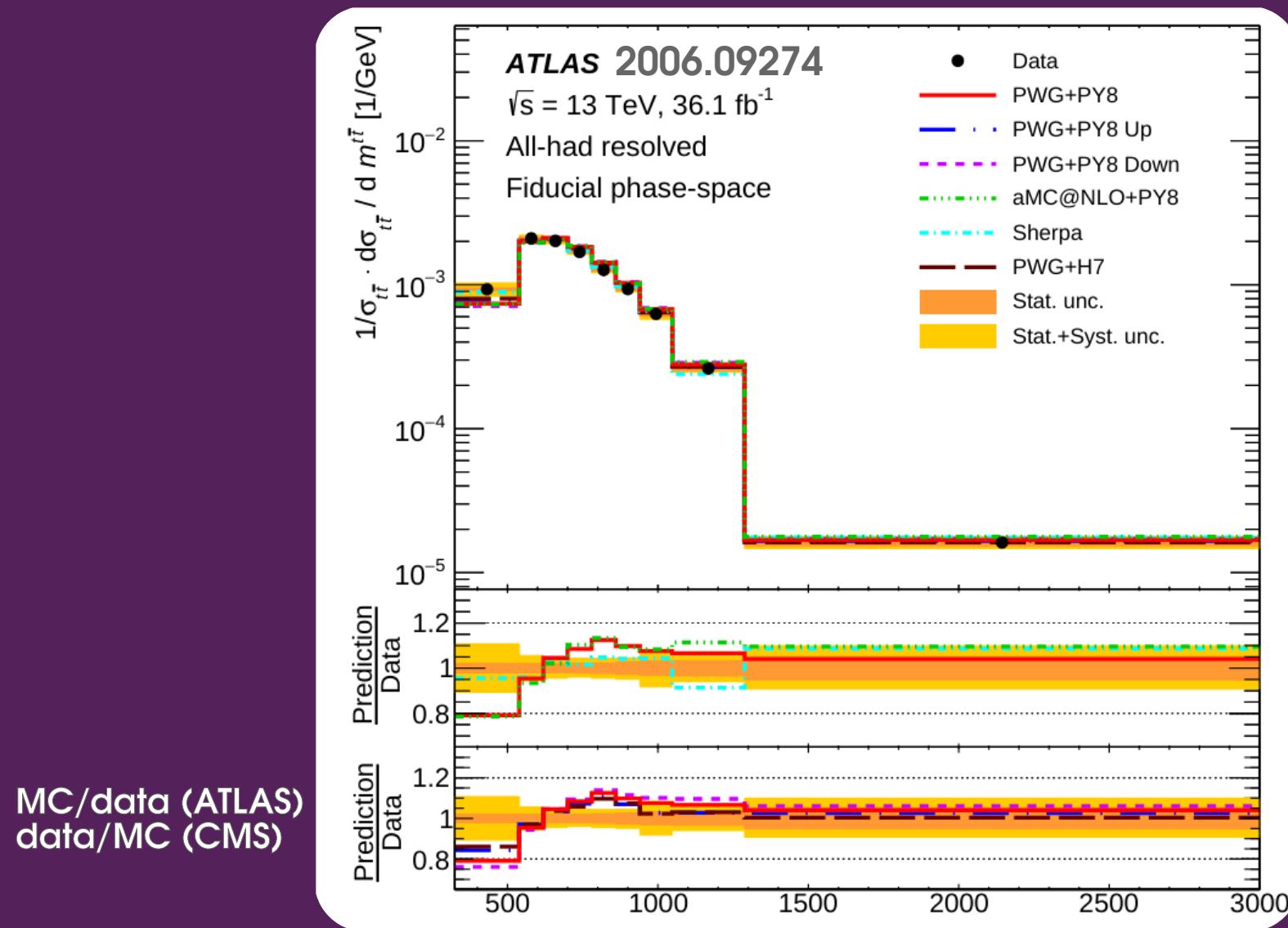
# Signature for $\eta_t$ formation: - increase in total rate



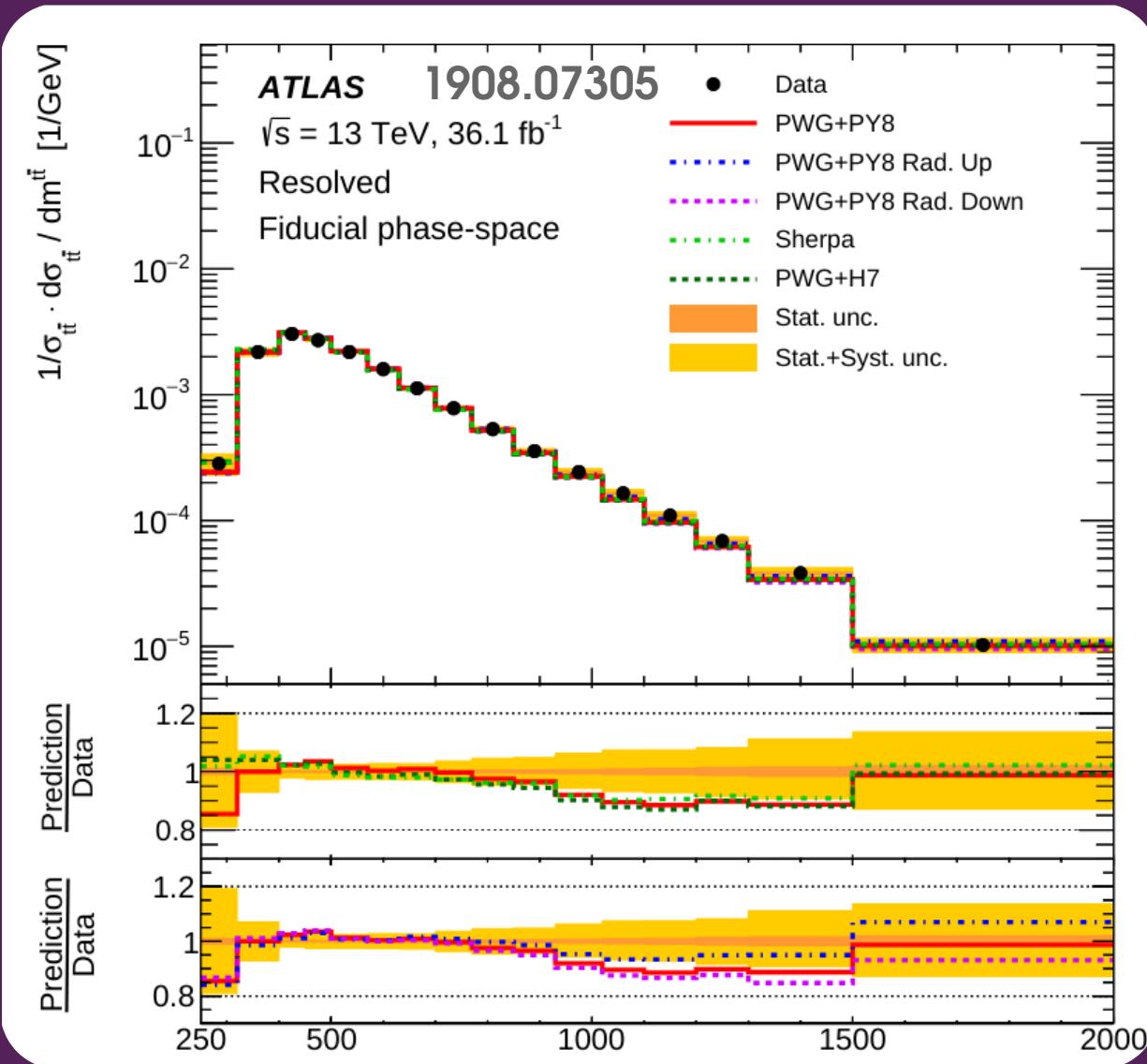
# Signature for $\eta_t$ formation: - increase in total rate



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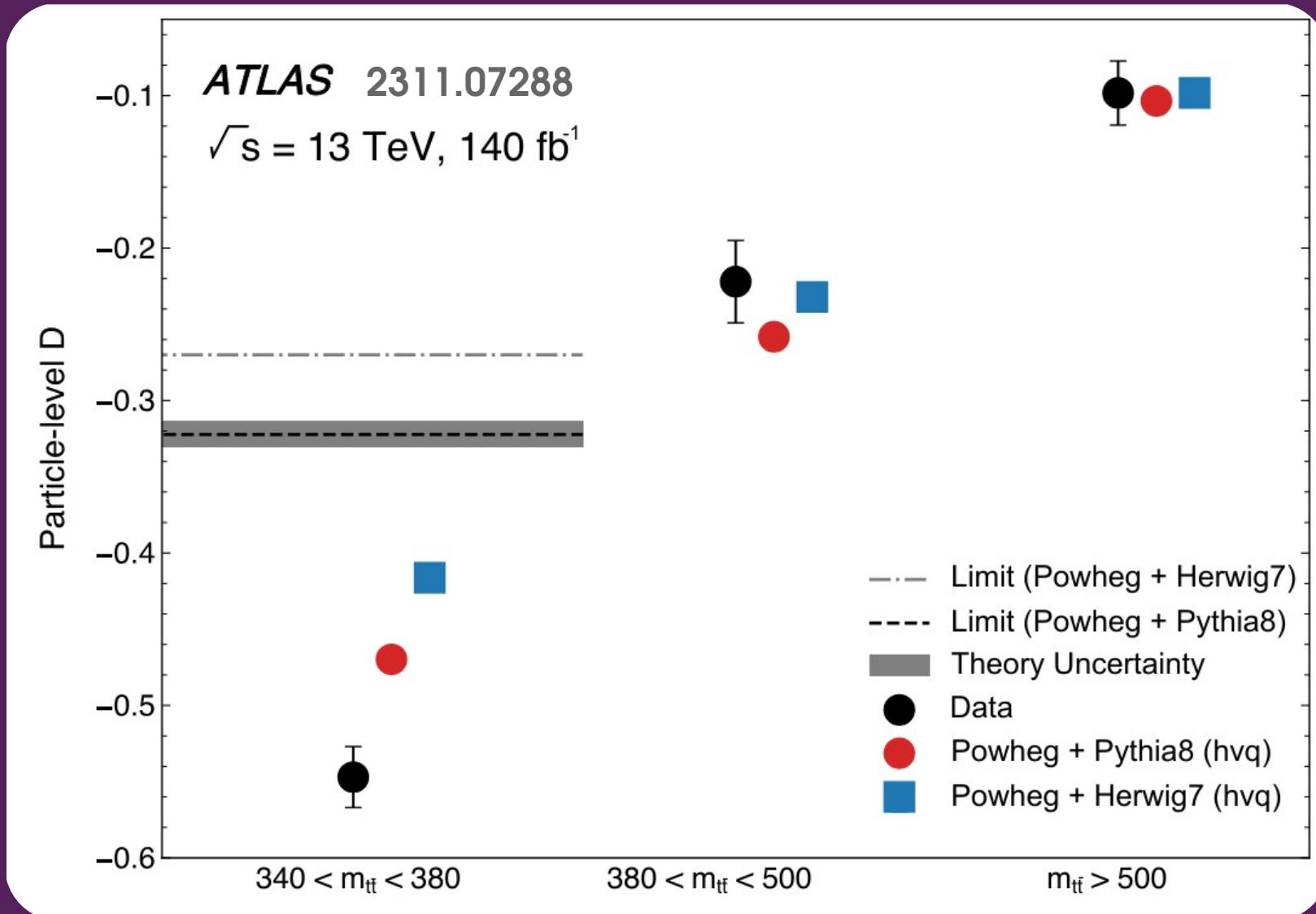


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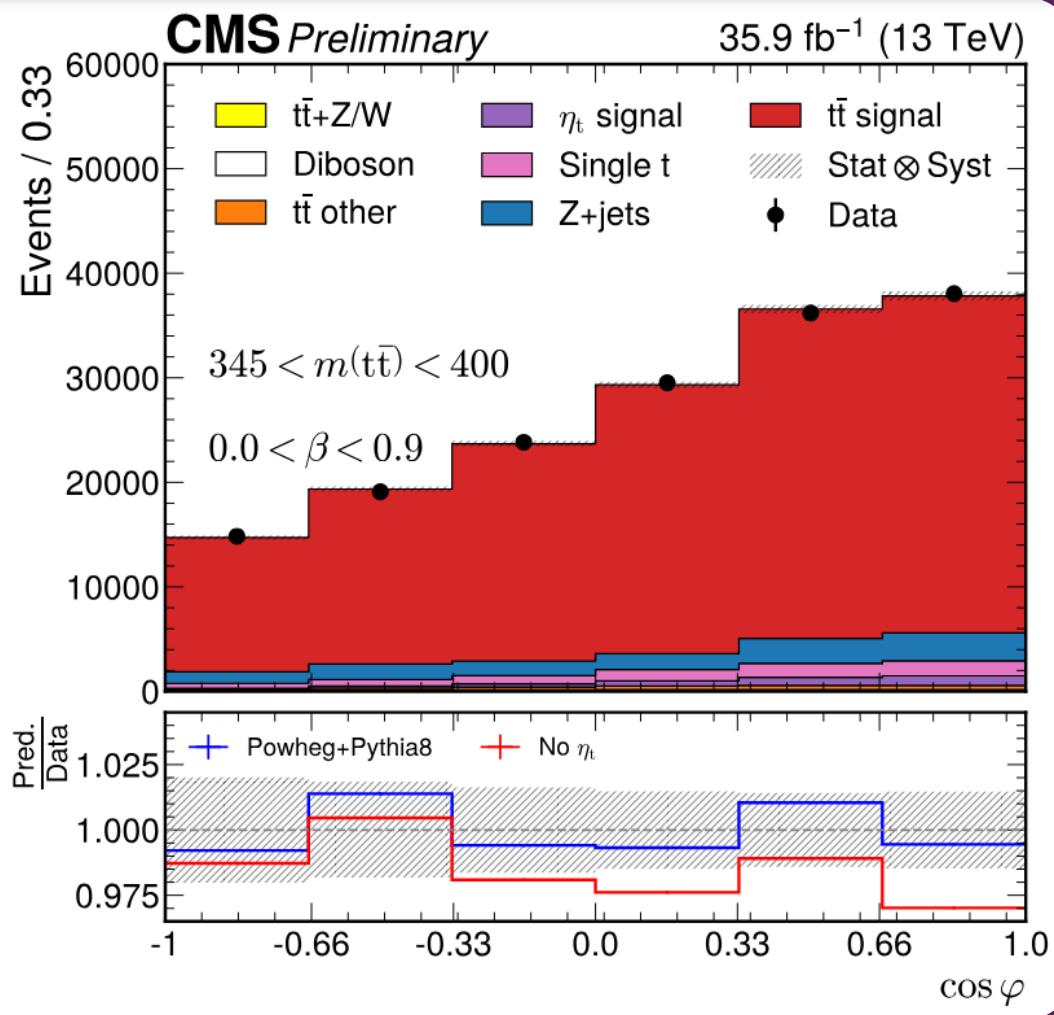
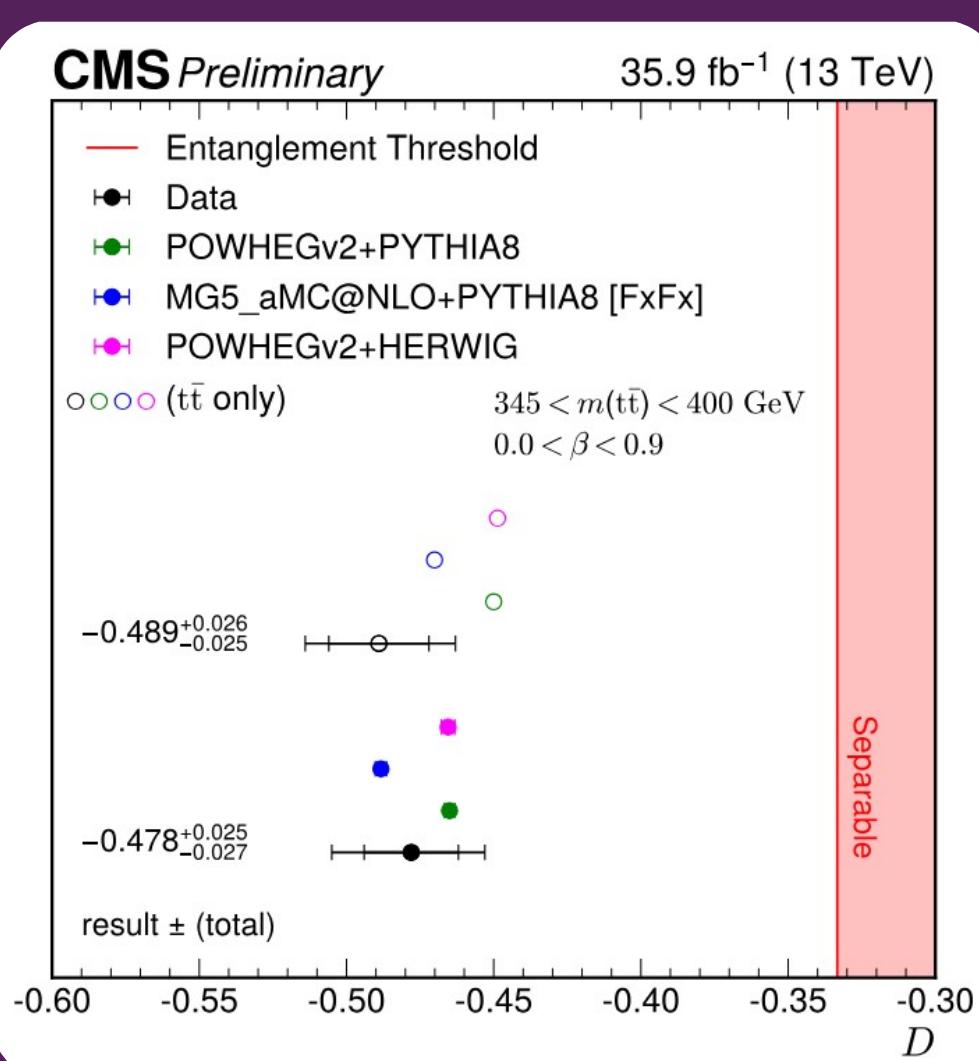
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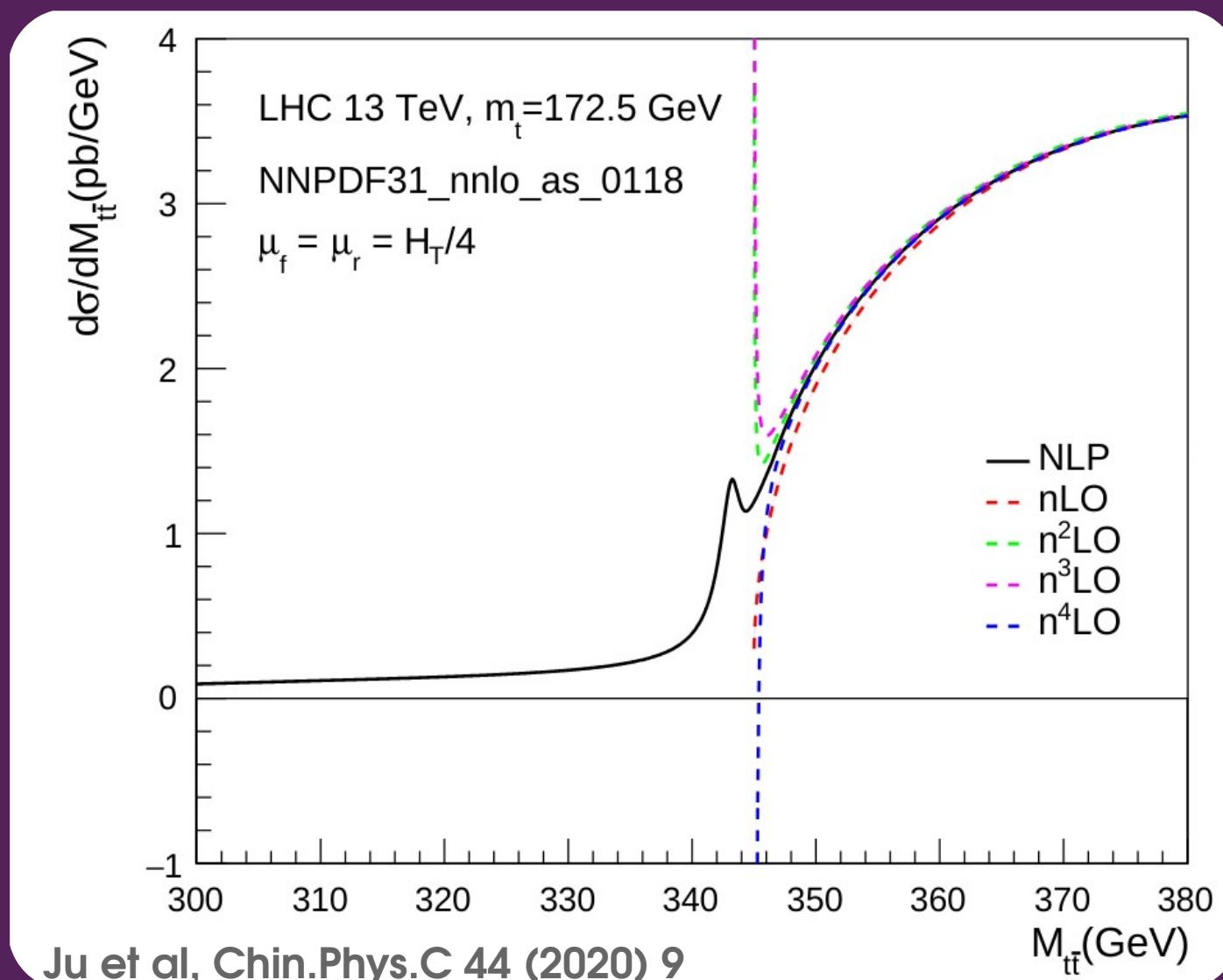
# Signature for $\eta_t$ formation:

- increase in spin singlet (more negative D)



# Challenges in modelling

- normal monte carlo tools do not include VQCD
- fixed-order calculations will never see the bound state:



Ju et al, Chin.Phys.C 44 (2020) 9

**Effective models are available in MadGraph,**

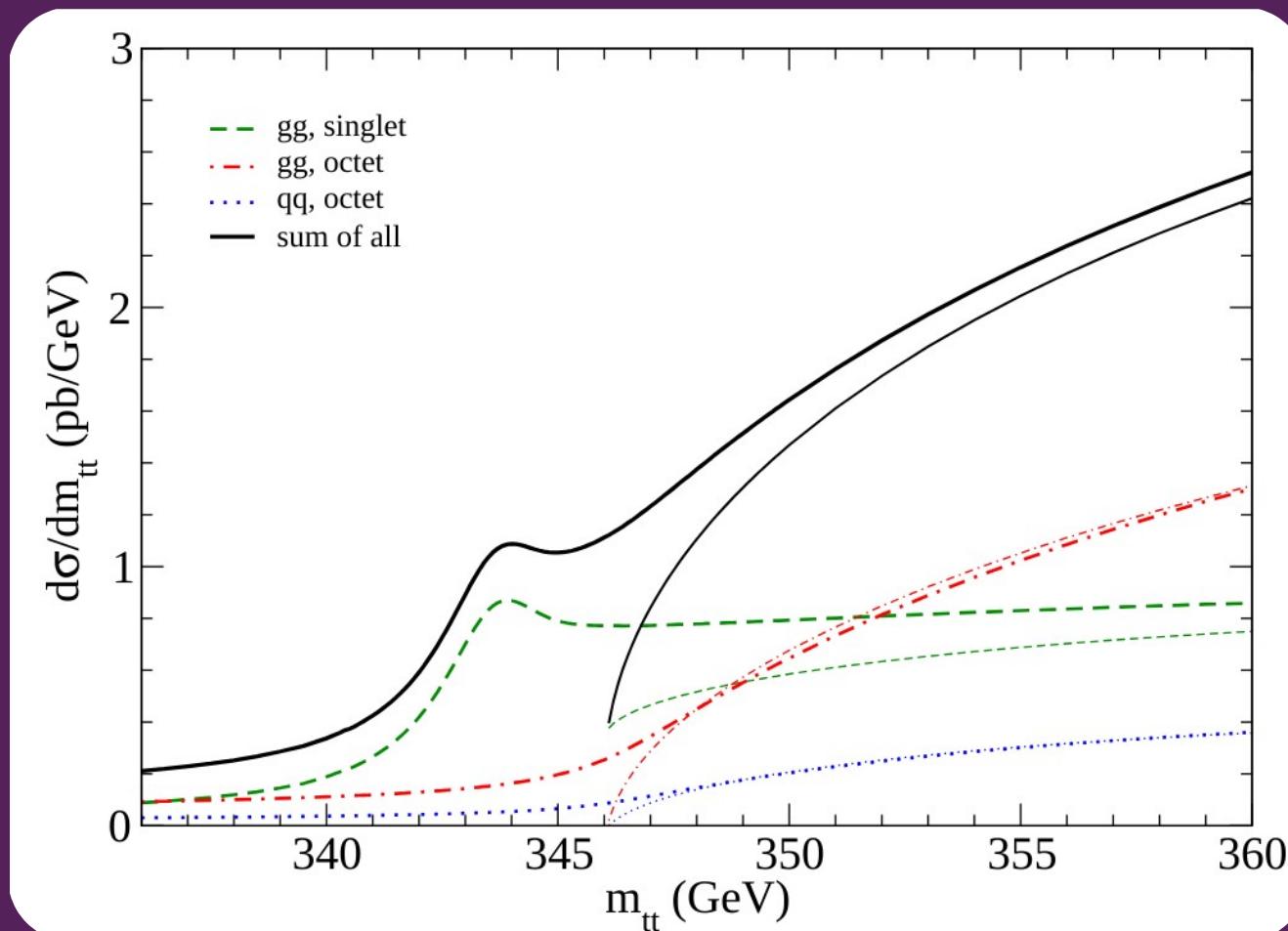
**Fuks et al, 2102.11281**

**Maltoni et al, 2401.08751 and 2404.08049**

**capture the color singlet + spin singlet  
component = bulk of bound state effects**

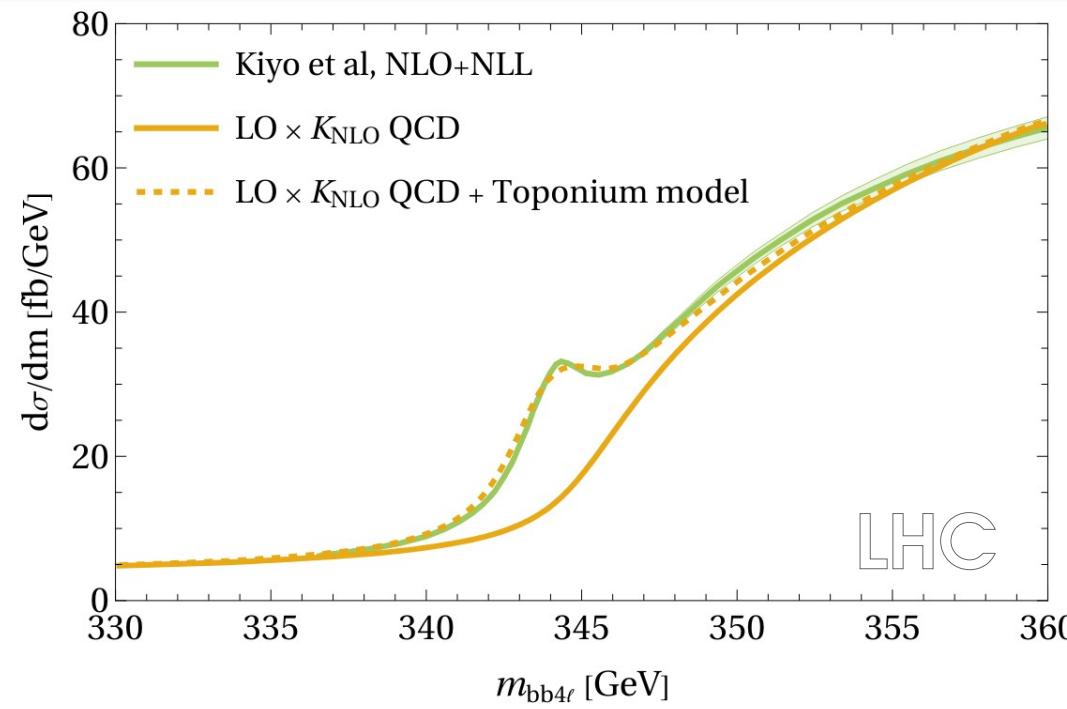
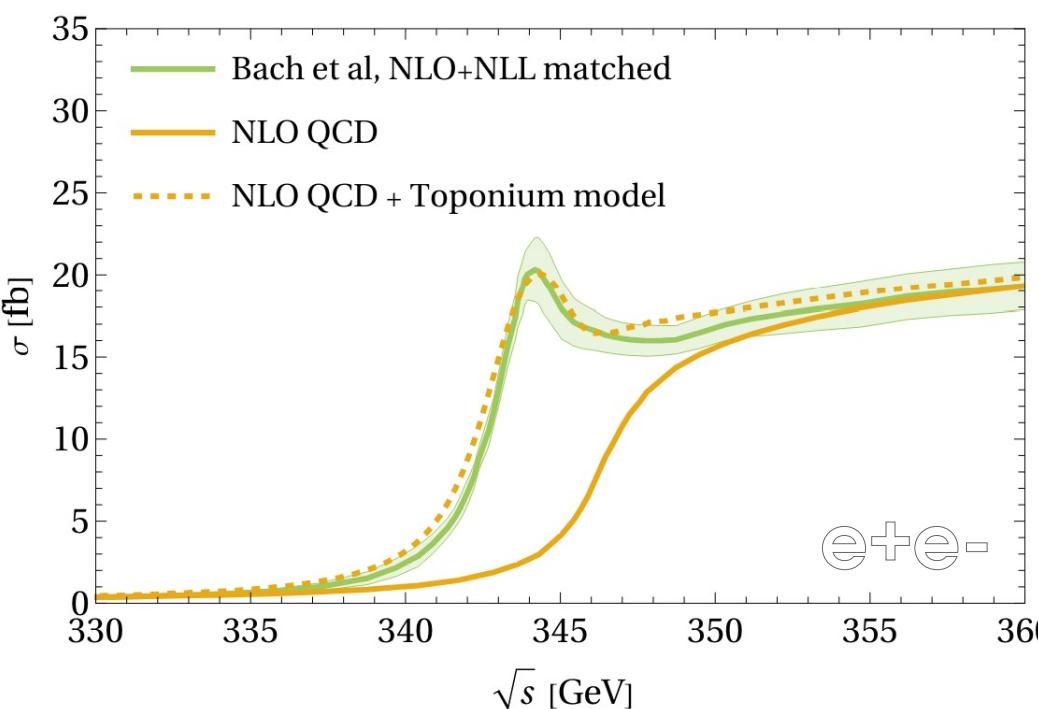
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Fuks et al, 2102.11281  
Maltoni et al, 2401.08751 and 2404.08049**

**capture the color singlet + spin singlet  
component = bulk of bound state effects**



**Effective models tuned to the QCD calculation  
reproduce the lineshape within theory uncertainty**

However

Binding energy  $\sim$  Lifetime  $\sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$

Steady state  $\mathcal{H}\psi = E\psi$  or dynamical description?

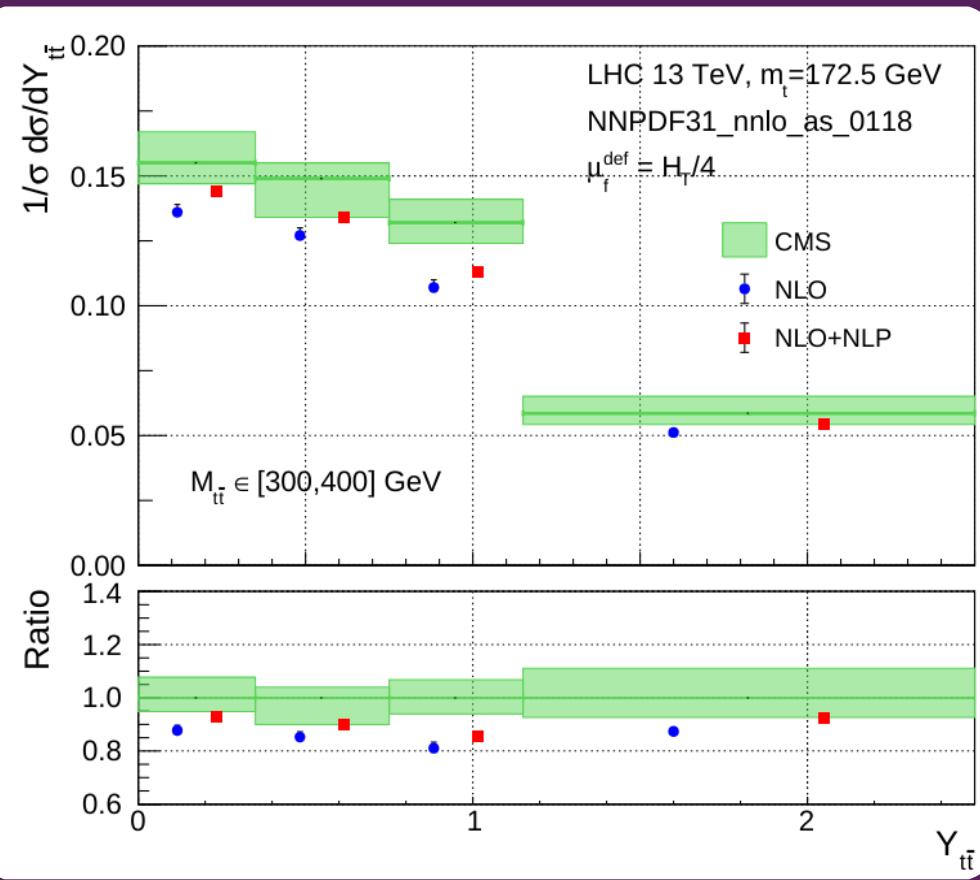
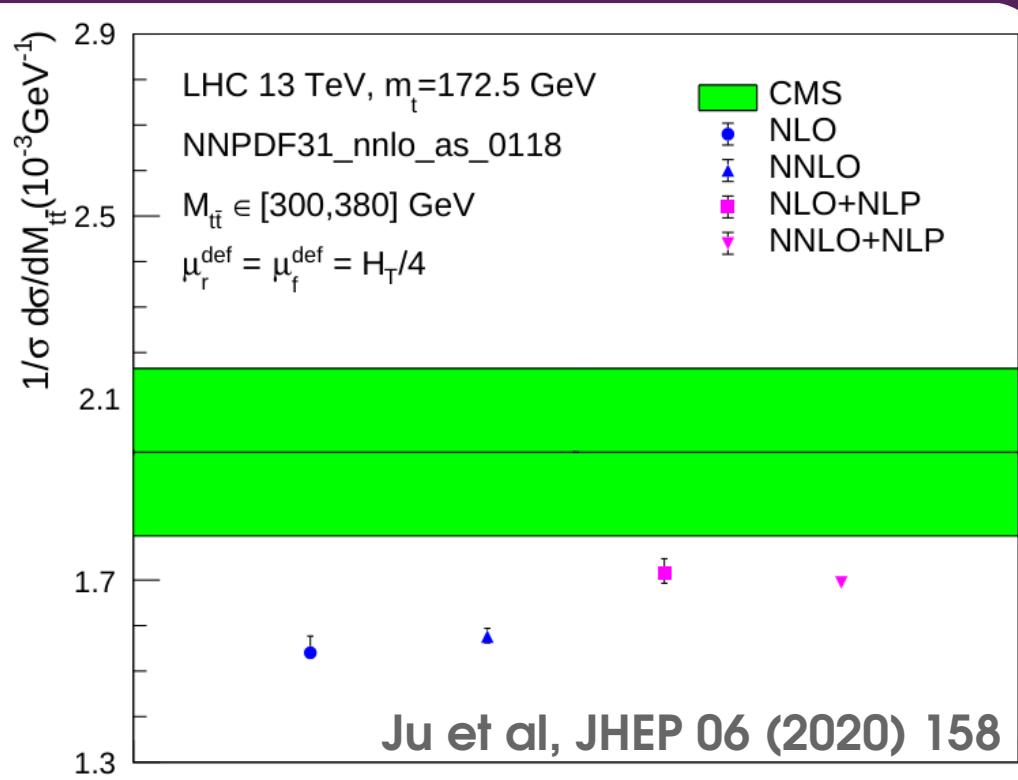
Probably better to use data to measure toponium properties, not vice versa.

However

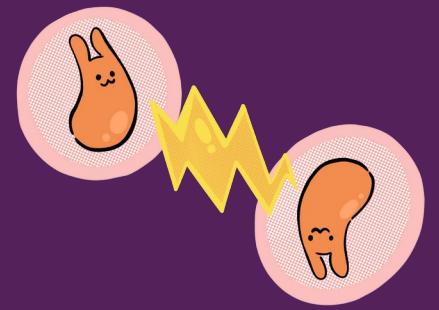
Binding energy  $\sim$  Lifetime  $\sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$

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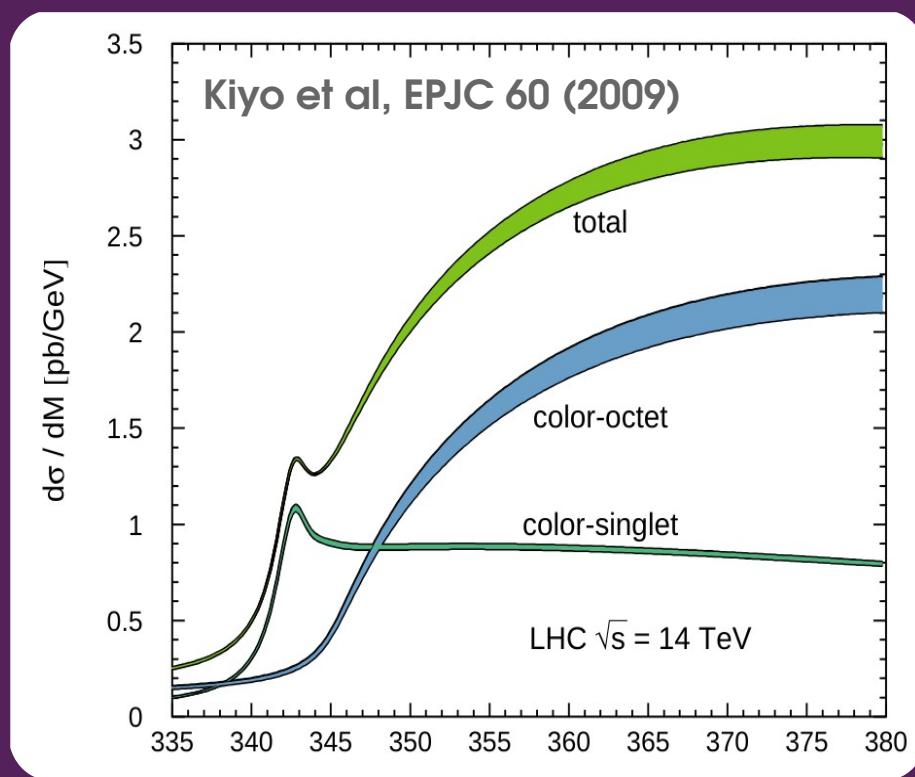


# A few final remarks



New interest in ttbar threshold region  
because of entanglement

-> exciting (unforeseen) opportunity to study QCD



Hints of bound state effects  
in Run 2 data:  $m_{\text{tt}}$ ,  $D$ ,  $\Delta\phi$ , ...

Modelling needs  
improvements

Is it possible to extract  
properties of the bound state  
from data?

Simultaneous measurement of  
 $D$  and  $\sigma_n$ ?