

# QUANTUM ENTANGLEMENT & BELL IN-EQUALITY VIOLATION IN $t\bar{t}$ EVENTS

Tao Han  
University of Pittsburgh

2024 Mitchell Conference

May 23, 2024





# Motivation

“If you think you understand quantum mechanics,  
you don't understand quantum mechanics.”

-- Richard P. Feynman



“... it is my task to convince you not to turn a way  
because you don't understand it. You see my  
physics students don't understand it. That's  
because I don't understand it. Nobody does.”

**Test QM in the HE relativistic regime!**



# Quantum State

For a state vector  $|\phi_i\rangle$

Density matrix

$$\rho = \sum_i n_i |\phi_i\rangle \langle \phi_i|$$

a state

an observable

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \text{Tr}(\mathcal{O}\rho)$$

For a pure state:  $n_i = 1$ ; for a mixed state:  $\sum_i n_i = 1$ .

For a single qubit (*i.e.*, a doublet of spin, iso-spin etc.):

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbb{I}_2 + \sum_i B_i \sigma_i \right)$$

For a bipartite system (*i.e.*,  $1/2 \otimes 1/2$ )

$$\rho = \frac{1}{4} \left( \mathbb{I}_4 + \sum_i (B_i^A (\sigma_i \otimes \mathbb{I}_2) + B_i^B (\mathbb{I}_2 \otimes \sigma_i)) + \sum_{i,j} C_{ij} (\sigma_i \otimes \sigma_j) \right)$$

$B_i^{A,B}$  the polarizations,  $C_{ij}$  the spin-correlation matrix

The 15 coefficients  $\rightarrow$  quantum tomography for the bipartite.



# Quantum Entanglement

For a bipartite system, *i.e.*,  $\frac{1}{2} \otimes \frac{1}{2} = 1 \oplus 0$  :

Singlet:

entangled  $\rightarrow$

$$|0, 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\uparrow\downarrow - \downarrow\uparrow)$$

Triplet:

$$|1, 1\rangle = \uparrow\uparrow$$

$$|1, 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\uparrow\downarrow + \downarrow\uparrow)$$

$\leftarrow$  entangled

$$|1, -1\rangle = \downarrow\downarrow$$

Quantum entanglement  
 $\rightarrow$  inseparable

$$\rho \neq \sum_{a=1}^N p_a \rho_a^A \otimes \rho_a^B$$

Peres-Horodecki criterion:

a necessary condition for entanglement

A state is entangled (inseparable) if a partial transpose

$$\rho^{T_2} = \sum_n p_n \rho_n^a \otimes (\rho_n^b)^T \text{ is not non-negative.}$$



# Quantum Entanglement

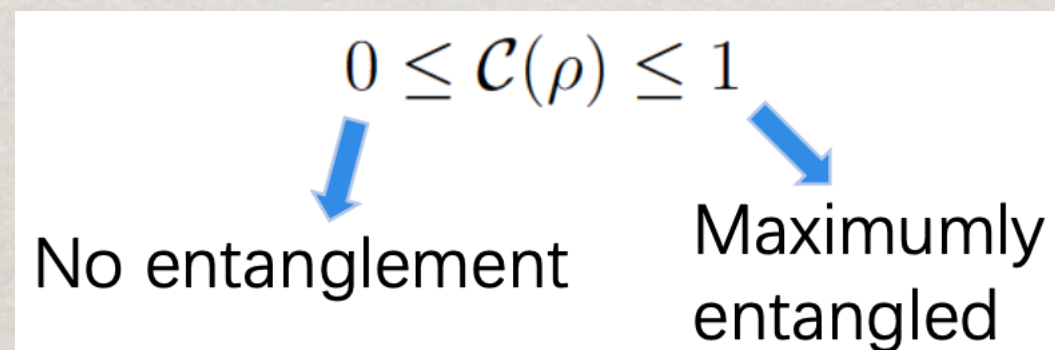
Peres-Horodecki criterion leads to several inequalities.

It has been a customary to introduce the **concurrence**, that can be written in  $C_i$ , the eigenvalues of  $C_{ij}$ :

Concurrence

$$C(\rho) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \max(|C_1 + C_2| - 1 - C_3, 0), & C_3 \leq 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} \max(|C_1 - C_2| - 1 + C_3, 0), & C_3 \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

It is shown that :



→ Quantum information even in space-like separation

Afik and Munoz de Nova, arXiv: 2003.02280

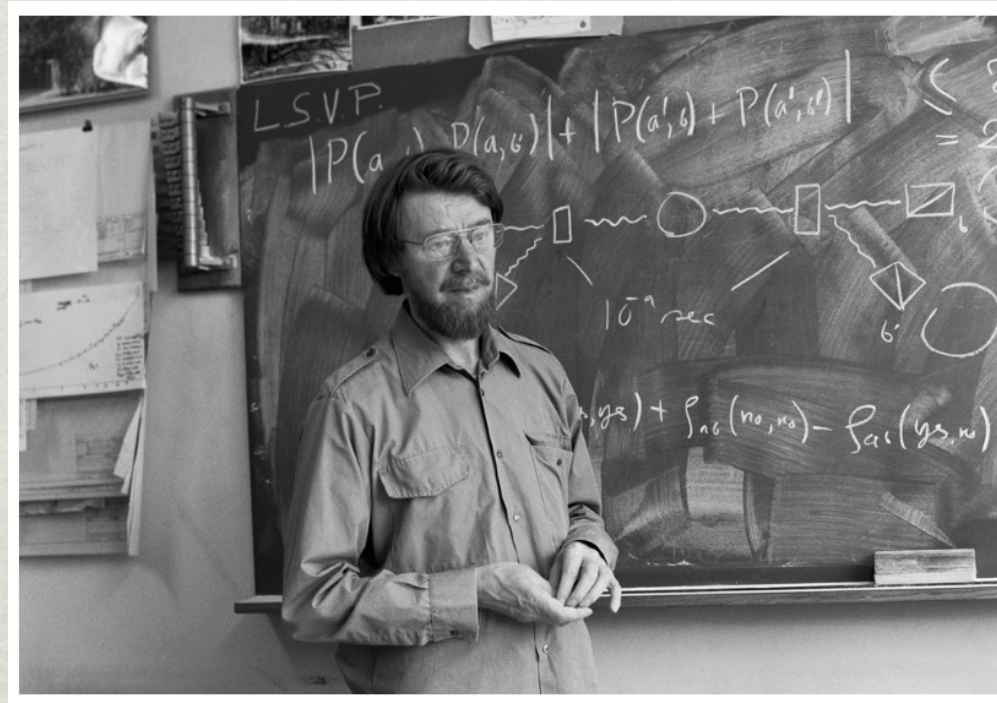


# John Bell's Inequality

Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen (Phys. Rev. 1935)

“Can quantum-mechanical description of physical reality be considered complete?”

“On the Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen paradox” 1964



Alice & Bob's individual measurements:

$$\langle A_1 B_1 \rangle - \langle A_1 B_2 \rangle + \langle A_2 B_1 \rangle + \langle A_2 B_2 \rangle \leq 2$$

E.g., choosing

$$A_1 = \sigma_1, \quad A_2 = \sigma_3, \quad B_1 = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\sigma_1 + \sigma_3), \quad B_2 = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(-\sigma_1 + \sigma_3)$$

$$\Rightarrow |C_{11} \pm C_{33}| \leq \sqrt{2}$$



# Top-pair & spin correlation

$\rho_{ab,\bar{a}\bar{b}}$  can be extracted from the angular distribution of decay product

$$\sigma(XY \rightarrow t\bar{t} \rightarrow (A_1A_2A_3)(B_1B_2B_3)) = \int d\Omega^A d\Omega^B \left( \frac{d\Gamma_{ab}}{d\Omega^A} \right) R_{ab,\bar{a}\bar{b}} \left( \frac{d\bar{\Gamma}_{\bar{a}\bar{b}}}{d\Omega^B} \right)$$

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{ab}}{d\Omega} \propto \delta_{ab} + \kappa \sigma_{ab}^i \Omega^i$$

Spin analyzing power

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega^A d\Omega^B} = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left( 1 + \kappa^A P_i^A \Omega_i^A + \kappa^B P_i^B \Omega_i^B + \kappa^A \kappa^B \Omega_i^A C_{ij} \Omega_j^B \right)$$

Direction of A, B

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d(\cos \theta_i^A \cos \theta_j^B)} = \frac{1 + \kappa^A \kappa^B C_{ij} \cos \theta_i^A \cos \theta_j^B}{2} \log \left| \cos \theta_i^A \cos \theta_j^B \right|$$

Polar angle of A with respect to the i-th axis

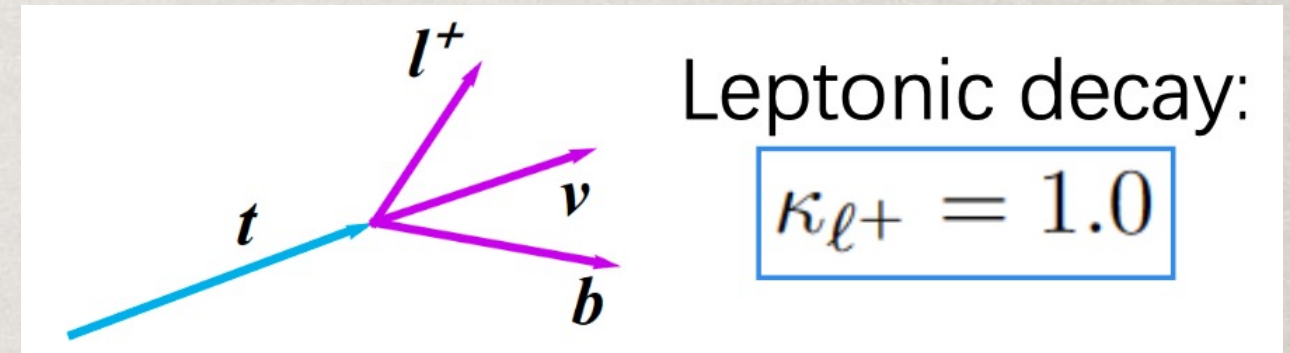
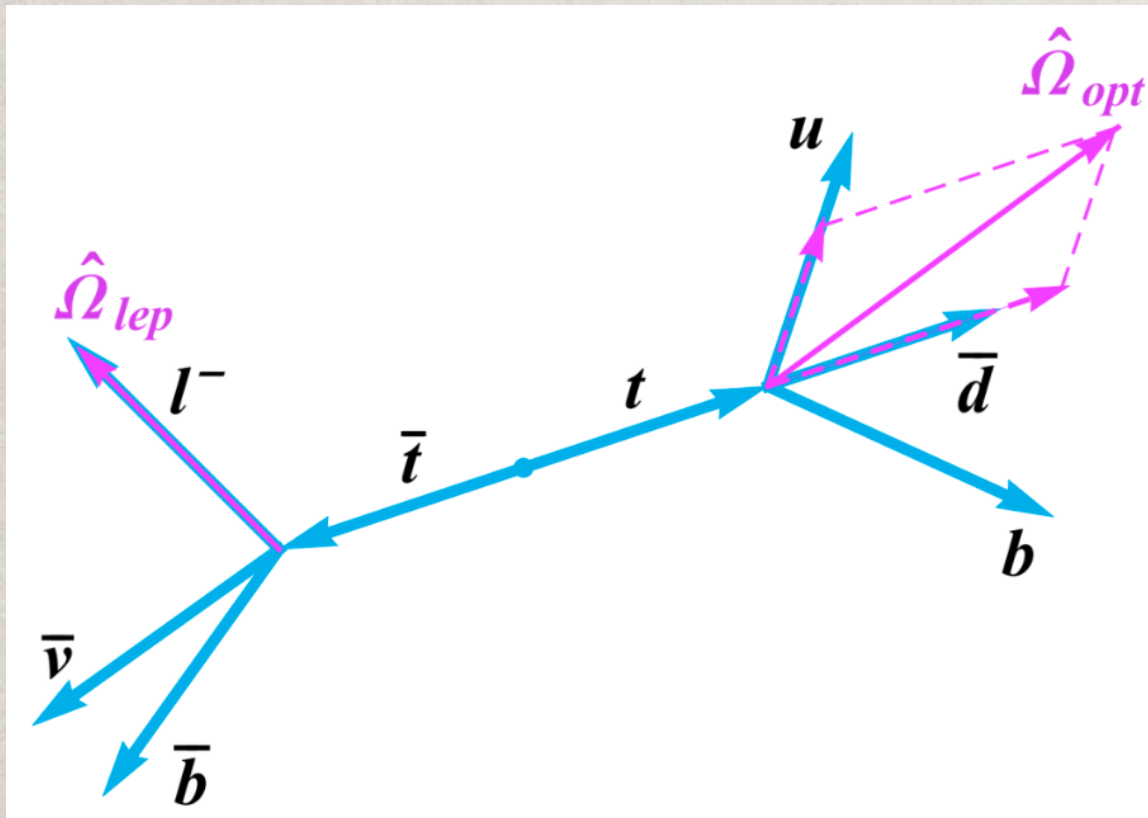
$$\Rightarrow C_{ij} = \frac{4}{\kappa^A \kappa^B} \frac{N(\cos \theta_i^A \cos \theta_j^B > 0) - N(\cos \theta_i^A \cos \theta_j^B < 0)}{N(\cos \theta_i^A \cos \theta_j^B > 0) + N(\cos \theta_i^A \cos \theta_j^B < 0)}$$



# Top-pair leptonic + hadronic decays

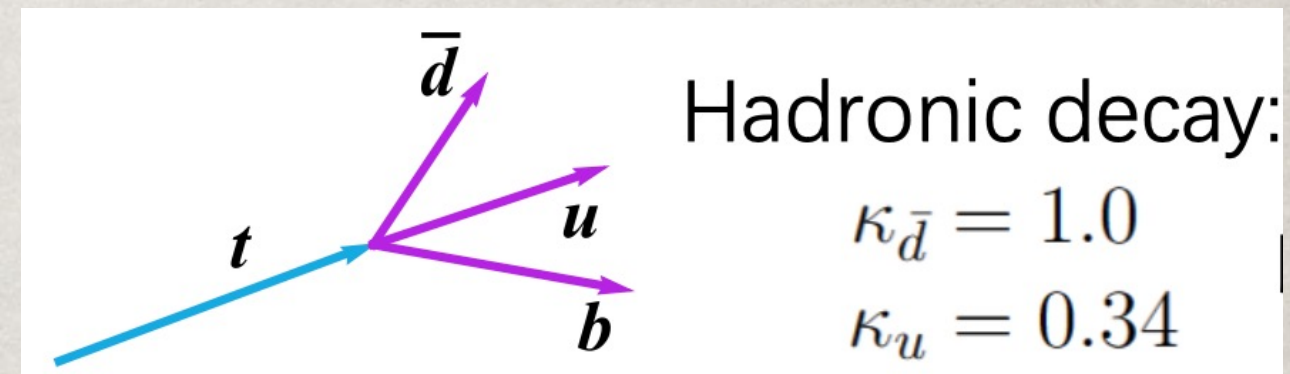
Z. Dong, Dorival Goncalves, et al., arXiv:2305.07075

TH, M. Low, A. Wu, arXiv:2310.17696



Leptonic decay:

$$\kappa_{l^+} = 1.0$$



Hadronic decay:

$$\kappa_{\bar{b}} = 1.0$$

$$\kappa_b = 0.34$$

optimized direction:

$$\vec{\Omega}_{opt}(\cos \theta_W) = P_{d \rightarrow p_{soft}}(\cos \theta_W) \hat{p}_{soft} + P_{d \rightarrow p_{hard}}(\cos \theta_W) \hat{p}_{hard}$$

$$\Rightarrow \kappa_{opt} = 0.64$$

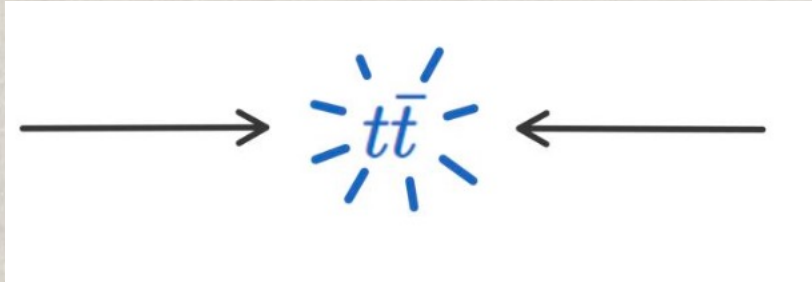
(arXiv:1401.3021)



# Quantum entanglement at high energies: Fictitious states

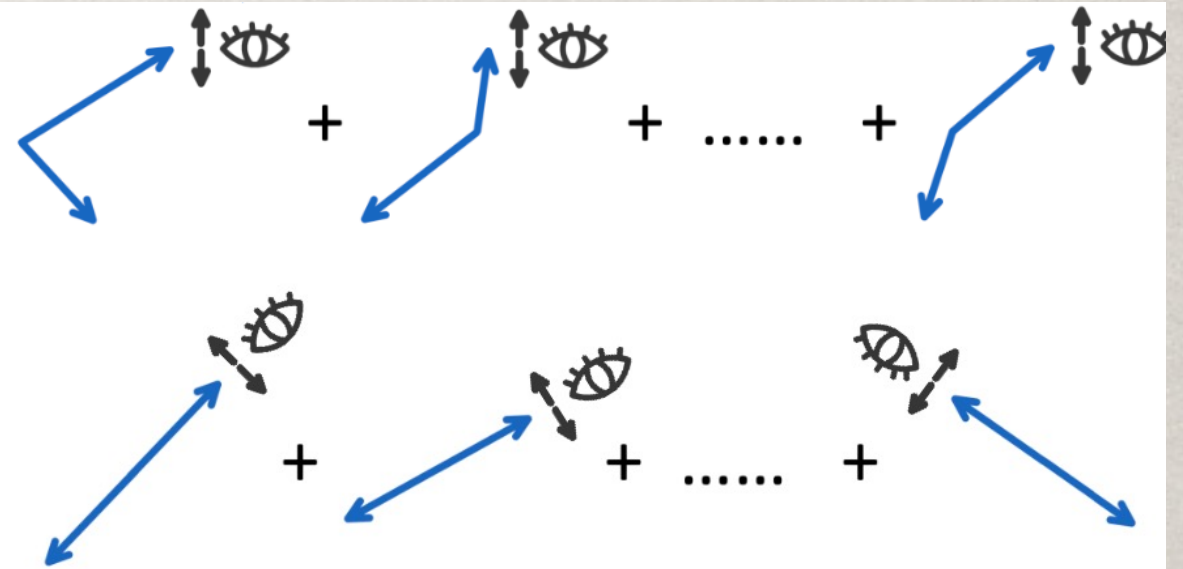
$$\rho = \dots + \sum_{i,j} C_{ij} (\sigma_i \otimes \sigma_j)$$

$C_{ij} = \langle S_i^t S_j^{\bar{t}} \rangle$



what we  
should do

what we  
are doing:



In different frame:

$$|t\rangle = |p_t\rangle \otimes |\phi\rangle = |p_t\rangle \otimes |\alpha\rangle \phi_\alpha,$$

$$|t\rangle = |p'_t\rangle \otimes |\phi'\rangle = |p'_t\rangle \otimes |\alpha\rangle \phi'_\alpha.$$

$$p_t'^{\mu} = \Lambda_{\nu}^{\mu} p_t^{\nu},$$

$$\phi'_{\alpha'} = U(\Lambda)_{\alpha'\alpha}^{\dagger} \phi_{\alpha}$$

“fictitious”

$$\bar{\rho} = \dots + \sum_{\bar{i}, \bar{j}} C_{\bar{i}\bar{j}} (\sigma_{\bar{i}} \otimes \sigma_{\bar{j}})$$

$$C_{\bar{i}\bar{j}} = \begin{pmatrix} \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \end{pmatrix}_{\hat{n}(p_1) \hat{r}(p_1) \hat{k}(p_1)} + \begin{pmatrix} \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \end{pmatrix}_{\hat{n}(p_2) \hat{r}(p_2) \hat{k}(p_2)} + \dots + \begin{pmatrix} \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \square \end{pmatrix}_{\hat{n}(p_N) \hat{r}(p_N) \hat{k}(p_N)}$$



# Quantum entanglement at high energies: Fictitious states

From a well-prepared quantum state to a fictitious state:

$$\bar{\rho} \rightarrow \sum_{a \in \text{events}} U_a^\dagger \rho_a U_a \neq U^\dagger \bar{\rho} U.$$

Thus, a measurement on a fictitious state depends on the frame/base choice of each measurement!

We showed: [TH, K. Cheng, M. Low, arXiv: 2311.09166](#)

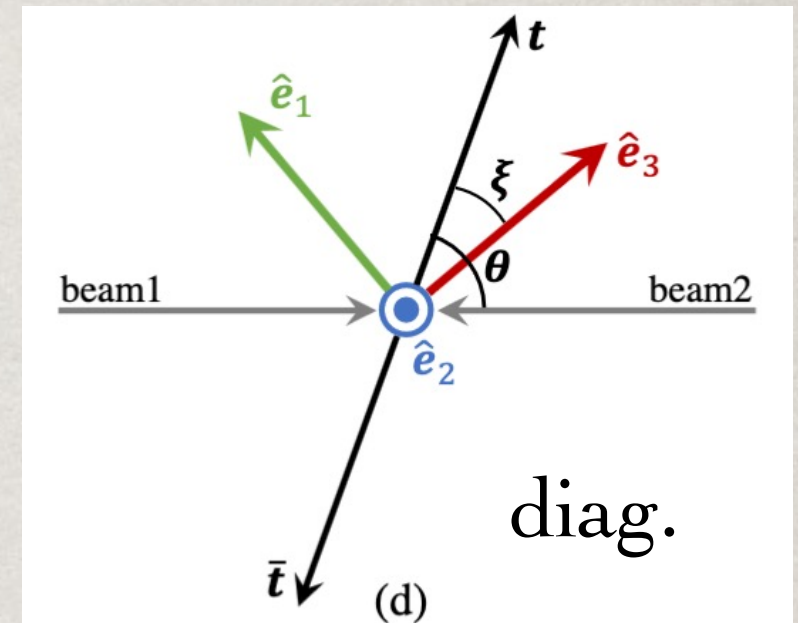
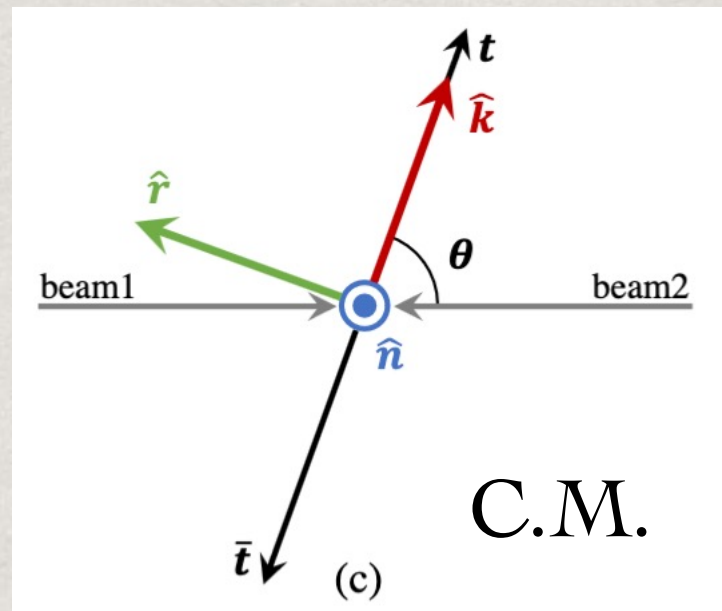
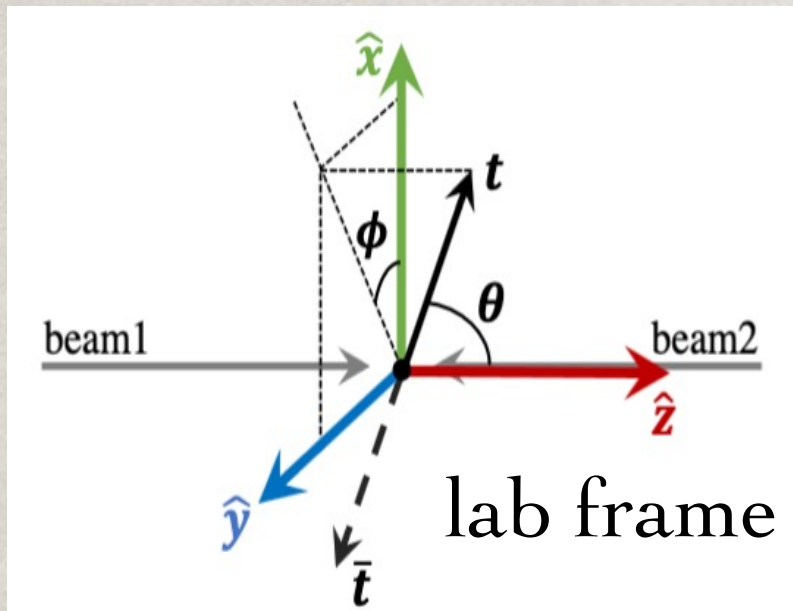
$$\mathcal{C}(\rho_{\text{fictitious}}) > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{C}(\rho_{\text{sub}} \in \rho) > 0$$

$$\text{Bell}(\rho_{\text{fictitious}}) > \sqrt{2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{Bell}(\rho_{\text{sub}} \in \rho) > \sqrt{2}$$

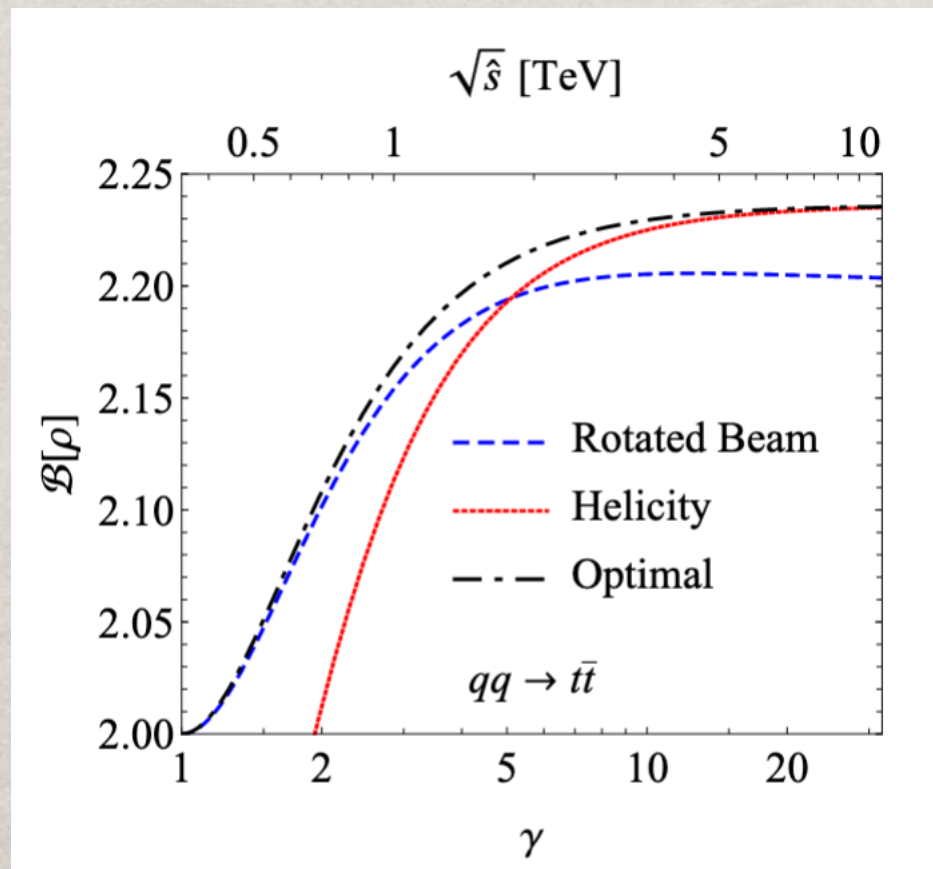
Fictitious states carry the system quantum information!



# Frame optimization



The frame that diagonalizes  $C_{ij}$  leads to the maximum sensitivity.

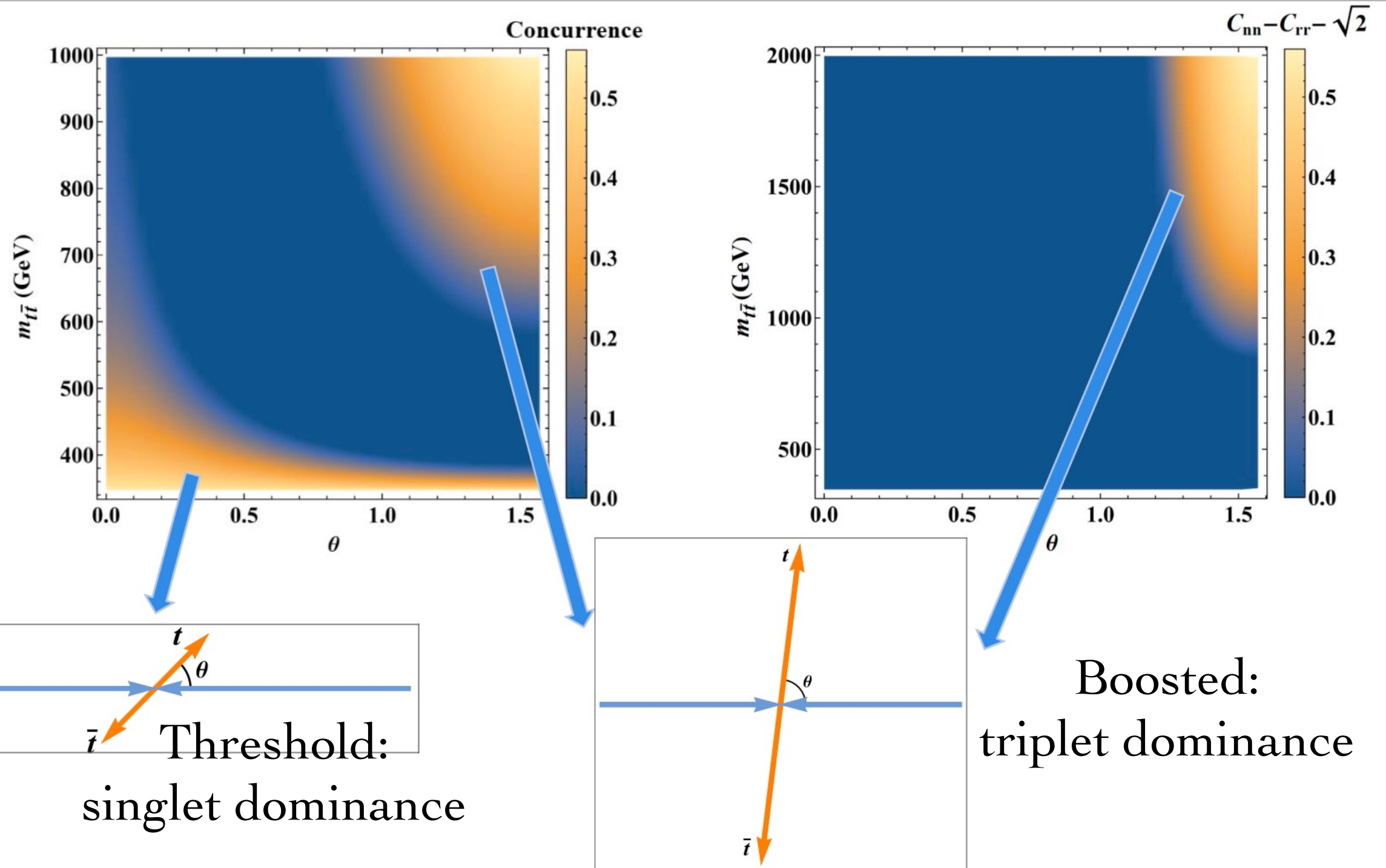


$$C_{\Omega}^{\text{diag}} = R_{\Omega} C_{\Omega} R_{\Omega}^T = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_{1,\Omega} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mu_{2,\Omega} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \mu_{3,\Omega} \end{pmatrix}$$

TH, M. Low, A. Wu, arXiv:2310.17696  
 TH, K. Cheng, M. Low, arXiv: 2311.09166;  
 arXiv:2406.xxxxx to appear.



# Partonic level results



Realistic simulations: MadGraph 5+Pythia 8+Delphes 3  
Detector effects by “parametric fit”



# Our results

## Entanglement

$$C > 0$$

	Result( $139\text{fb}^{-1}$ )	Precision
Boosted	$0.276 \pm 0.026$	9.5%
Threshold	$0.261 \pm 0.008$	3.0%

## Bell's inequality violation

$$|C_{11} \pm C_{33}| \leq \sqrt{2}$$

Result( $3\text{ab}^{-1}$ )	Significance
$0.23 \pm 0.06$	$4.1\sigma$

## Conclusions

We propose & calculate the test of QM in tt events @ LHC.  
We clarify the “fictitious states” and confirm the test method.  
We identify the optimal axis choice to enhance the sensitivity.  
→ encouraging results for entanglement & Bell ineq. tests.

Recent LHC studies for top leptonic decays:

ATLAS: arXiv:2311.07288; CMS: **CMS PAS TOP-23-001**







# The Spooky Action

May 4, 1935

## **EINSTEIN ATTACKS QUANTUM THEORY**

**Scientist and Two Colleagues  
Find It Is Not 'Complete'  
Even Though 'Correct.'**

**SEE FULLER ONE POSSIBLE**

**Believe a Whole Description of  
'the Physical Reality' Can Be  
Provided Eventually.**

**“Can quantum-mechanical description of physical reality be considered complete?” Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen, Phys. Rev. 1935**