

# $t(\bar{t})$ ... bound states & and contact interactions

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LHC**top**WG

Preprint 2410.05066

# Motivation: toponium (dedicate time tomorrow) & topball

Long standing prediction of  $t\bar{t}$   
states near threshold

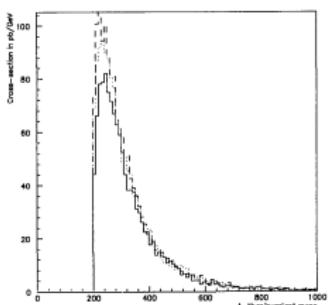
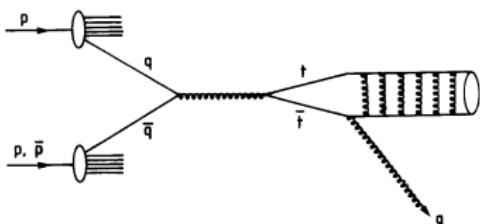


Figure 8: Invariant mass distribution of  $t\bar{t}$  pairs for the LHC collider at 15 TeV, with  $m_t = 100$  GeV. Notation as in Fig. 6.

# Motivation: toponium (dedicate time tomorrow) & topball

Very speculative:  $6t6\bar{t}$  Tball

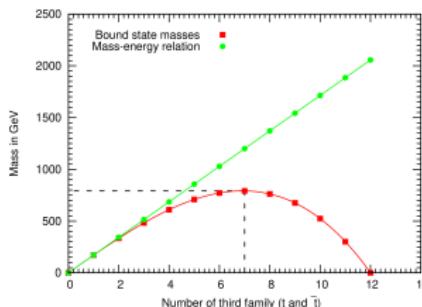


Fig. 4: The dependence of the T-ball's mass of the number  $N_{\text{const}}$  of the NBS constituents.

$\langle H \rangle$

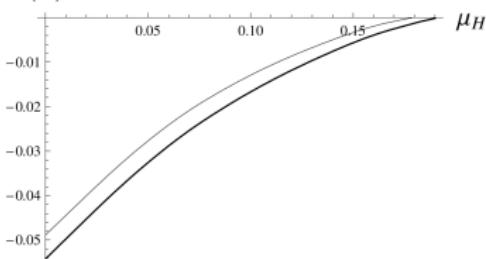


FIG. 2: The total energy  $\langle H \rangle$  of the multi-top versus the mass of the Higgs boson  $m_H$ , energy is measured in units of  $E_0 = N(N-1)^2 \alpha_H^2 m_t c^2$  (compare Eq.(5)), mass of the Higgs

Froggatt and Nielsen, Surveys HEP 18, 55-75  
(2003); Froggatt et al. (2008)  
Kuchiev, Flambaum and Shuryak, PRD 78, 077502  
(2008)

# Outline

1 Multi- $c$ ,  $b$  states

2 Multi  $t\bar{t}$  states

3 A closer look at toponium

## Toponium: Schrödinger equation

$$E\psi(r) = -\frac{1}{2(m_t/2)} \nabla^2 \psi(r) + V(r)\psi(r)$$

yields, at LO,

$$E = -\frac{4}{9}m_t\alpha_s^2 \quad \text{or} \quad M = 2m_t \left(1 - \frac{2}{9}\alpha_s^2\right)$$

For higher orders see M. Beneke et al. PRL 115 (2015) 19, 192001

## Many-body states: Hartree-Fock method

Combine Hartree-Fock equation:

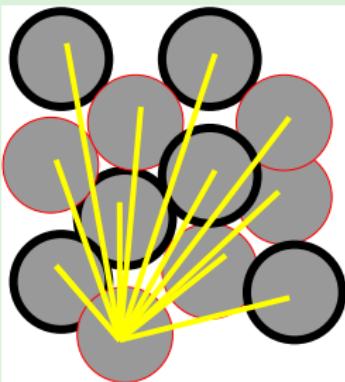
$$\varepsilon \phi_k(\mathbf{q}) = -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 \phi_k(\mathbf{q}) + \kappa_c \sum_{l=1}^N \int d\mathbf{q}' |\phi_l(\mathbf{q}')|^2 \frac{\alpha_s}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \phi_k(\mathbf{q}) -$$

$$-\kappa_c \sum_{l=1}^N \delta(\chi_l, \chi_k) \delta(\sigma_l, \sigma_k) \int d\mathbf{q}' \phi_l^*(\mathbf{q}') \frac{\alpha_s}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \phi_k(\mathbf{q}') \phi_l(\mathbf{q})$$

with Koopman's theorem:

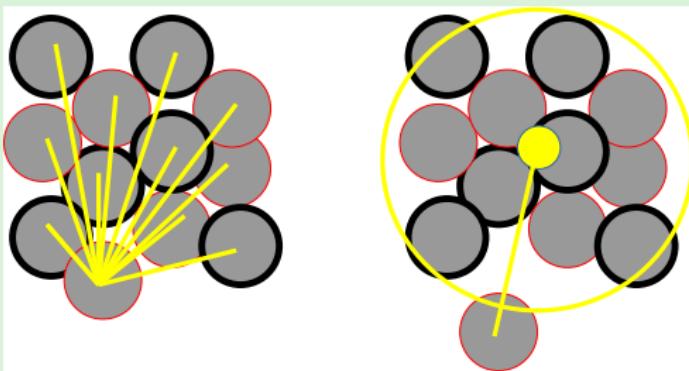
$$E = \sum_i \varepsilon_i - \alpha \sum_{i < j} \int \frac{|\phi_i(\mathbf{r}, \sigma)|^2 |\phi_j(\mathbf{r}', \sigma')|^2}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d^3\mathbf{r} d^3\mathbf{r}' + \alpha \sum_{i < j} \int \frac{\phi_i^*(\mathbf{r}, \sigma) \phi_j(\mathbf{r}, \sigma) \phi_j^*(\mathbf{r}', \sigma') \phi_i(\mathbf{r}', \sigma')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d^3\mathbf{r} d^3\mathbf{r}'$$

## Many-body states: Hartree-fock method



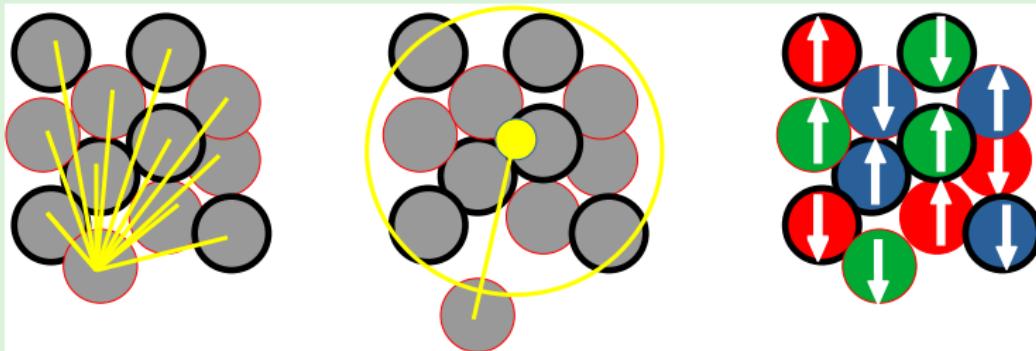
## All-to-all interactions

## Many-body states: Hartree-fock method



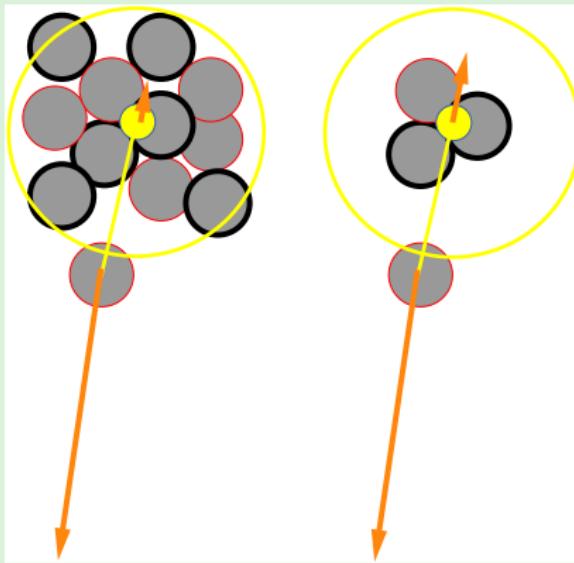
## Mean-field simplification

# Many-body states: Hartree-fock method



Fill the 1S orbital:  
 $12 = 2(\text{spin}) \times 3(\text{color}) \times 2(\text{particle/antiparticle})$

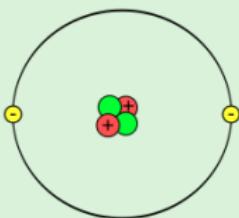
Need to subtract cm energy



Correct for recoil at the one-body level:

$$T_i = \frac{p_i^2}{2m_t} \rightarrow \frac{p_i^2}{2m_t} \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right) (\pm \text{ uncertainty } 50\% \text{ of correction})$$

# Validation: Helium and positronium



Ground state energy (total electron binding energy)  
of the neutral **Helium** atom, in eV.

This work, HF1	This work, HF2	Thijssen, HF	Experimental value
-77.9	-78.57	-77.69	-79.01

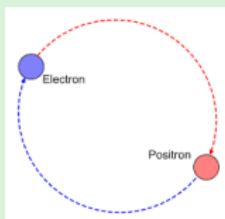
$$\text{Positronium } e^-e^+ : \text{BE} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{m_e}{2} a_s^2 \simeq -6.8 \text{ eV}$$

$$\text{HF: } -5.9 \pm 1.6 \text{ eV}$$

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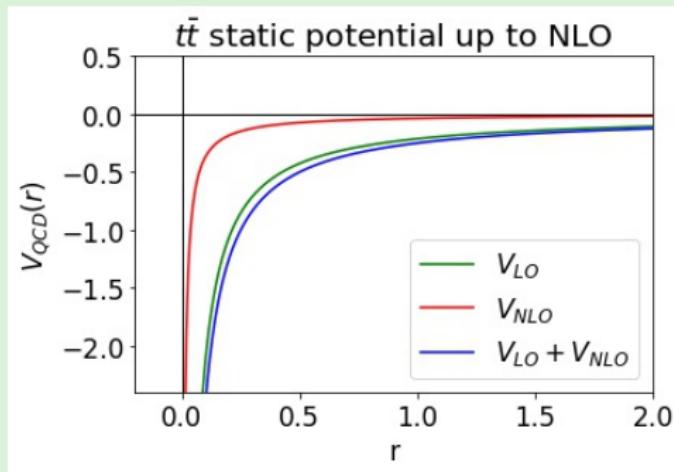


Positronium  $e^-e^+$ :  $BE = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{m_e}{2} \alpha_s^2 \simeq -6.8$  eV

HF:  $-5.9 \pm 1.6$  eV

# Validation: multi-*c* and -*b* systems

With  $V_{NLO}$  potential

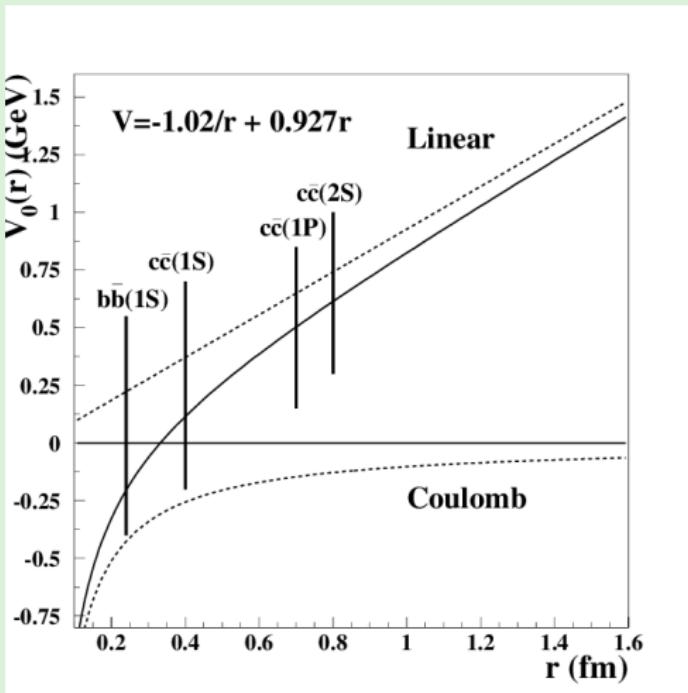


# All-heavy baryons: color part of nuclear physics

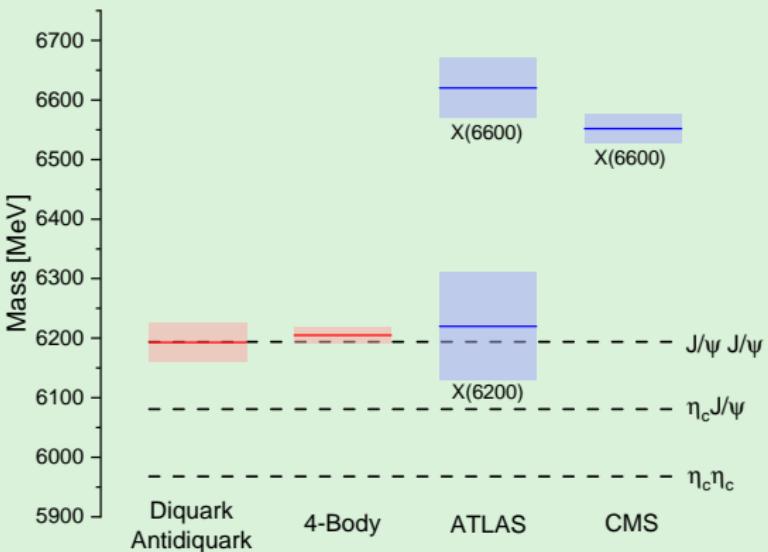
	LO	NLO	NLO+Spin
$\Omega_{ccc} \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^+$	4650(120)	4660(120)	4660(120)
$\Omega_{ccb} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^+$	7920(110)	7930(110)	7920(110)
$\Omega_{ccb} \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^+$	7920(110)	7920(110)	7920(110)
$\Omega_{bbc} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^+$	11100(100)	11080(100)	11100(100)
$\Omega_{bbc} \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^+$	11100(100)	11090(100)	11100(100)
$\Omega_{bbb} \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^+$	14280(90)	14270(90)	14280(90)

(Remember that LHCb has reported a doubly-heavy one)

# In the Cornell-potential



# Tetraquarks



# Pentaquarks

	LO	NLO	Spin
$(ccc)(c\bar{c})$	7860(200)	7850(200)	7860(200)
$(ccb)(c\bar{c})$	11040(190)	11020(190)	11040(190)
$(ccc)(c\bar{b})$	11060(190)	11050(190)	11060(190)
$(ccb)(b\bar{c})$	14240(180)	14210(180)	14240(180)
$(bbc)(c\bar{c})$	14240(180)	14240(180)	14250(180)
$(ccb)(b\bar{b})$	17440(170)	17430(170)	17440(170)
$(bbc)(c\bar{b})$	17450(170)	17450(170)	17450(170)
$(bbb)(c\bar{b})$	20650(160)	20640(160)	20640(160)
$(bbc)(b\bar{b})$	20650(160)	20660(160)	20650(160)
$(bbb)(b\bar{b})$	23830(150)	23830(150)	23830(150)

# Dibaryons

- $6 \times c$  and  $6 \times b$  just too heavy;
- But Deuteron-like  $ccb - bbc$ :  $M = 18860(50)$  MeV  
 $< M(\Omega_{bbb}) + M(\Omega_{ccc}) \simeq 18940(210)$  MeV

# Order of magnitude cross sections (in $\mu\text{barn}$ )

<i>c</i>	$\sim 10^2$
<i>cc</i>	$\sim 10^{-1}$
<i>ccc</i>	$\sim 10^{-4}$

<i>b</i>	$\sim 10^2$
<i>bb</i>	$\sim 5 \cdot 10^{-2}$
<i>bbb</i>	$\sim 10^{-5}$

Empirical rule: +*c*-quark  $\implies \sigma \rightarrow \sigma/10^3$ , (larger for the *b*).

Pentaquarks  $(ccc)(c\bar{c}) \rightarrow 0.1 \text{ fbarn}$  (HL-LHC?)

$(bbb)(b\bar{b}) \rightarrow 10^{-4} \text{ fb}$  (ooof)

# Outline

1 Multi- $c$ ,  $b$  states

2 Multi  $t\bar{t}$  states

3 A closer look at toponium

# The *t* sometimes forms bound states

- $2\pi a_0 \simeq 0.25$  fm for a Bohr orbit
- $N = 5 \times 10^{23} \text{ fm}^{-3}$  pairs survive a time  $\tau$
- CMS *t* $\bar{t}$  pair sample: 87k (e+jets) + 140k ( $\mu$ +jets) = 240k
- 360 pairs survive long enough to form a bound state

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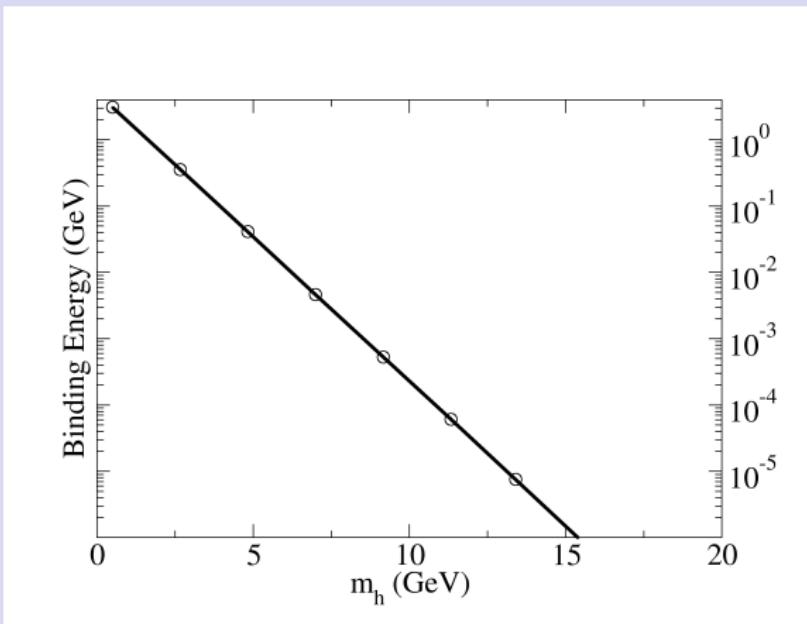
- $2\pi a_0 \simeq 0.25$  fm for a Bohr orbit
- $N = N_0 e^{-15t/\text{fm}}$  pairs survive a time  $t$
- CMS  $t\bar{t}$  pair sample: 87k (e+jets) + 140k ( $\mu$ +jets) = 240k
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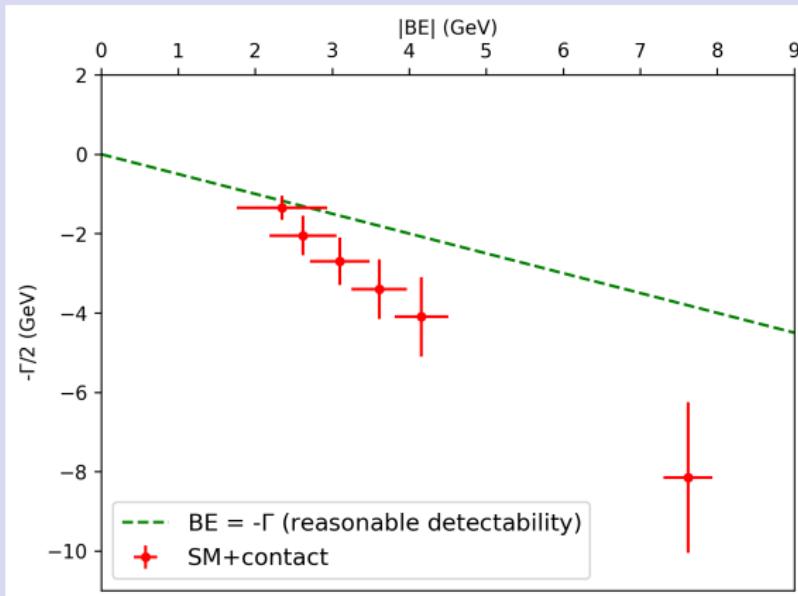
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- CMS  $t\bar{t}$  pair sample:  $87\text{k (e+jets)} + 140\text{k (\mu+jets)} = 240\text{k}$
- 360 pairs survive long enough to form a bound state

Confirm: NO T-ball ( $6t6\bar{t}$ ) from Higgs binding

Qualitative agreement with Kuchiev, Flambaum and Shuryak PRD 78 (2008) 077502

## Onto QCD

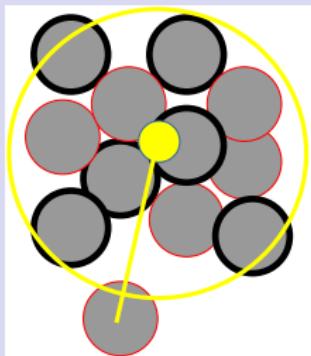
- Bound states of (multi)  $t\bar{t}$  are about QCD



$$N = 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12$$

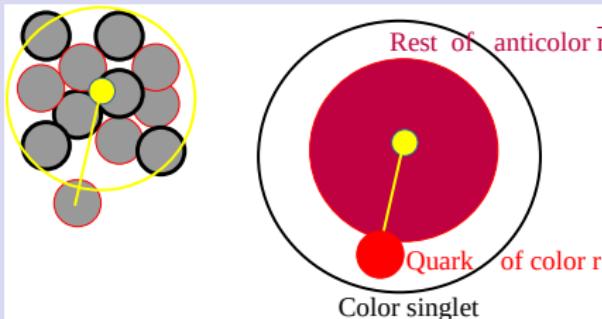
Soft scale  $\mu = m_t \alpha_s \implies \alpha_s = 0.16$

# Binding energy grows linearly with $N$



Remember the  
Hartree-Fock  
philosophy?

# Binding energy grows linearly with $N$



- Each quark as in a meson  
(from color point of view)
- $N$  bodies  $\implies N$  interactions

# Onto new physics

- Bound states of (multi)  $t\bar{t}$  are about QCD
- and perhaps new physics?

# Contact interactions in HEFT (SMEFT) Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{4t}^{\text{HEFT}} = \frac{16\pi^2}{\Lambda^2} \left[ (r_1 + r_3 + r_4) \bar{Q}_L Q_R \bar{Q}_L Q_R + (r_9 + r_{10} + r_{11}) \bar{Q}_L \gamma^\mu Q_L \bar{Q}_L \gamma_\mu Q_L + (r_{13} + r_{14} + r_{15}) \bar{Q}_R \gamma^\mu Q_R \bar{Q}_R \gamma_\mu Q_R + (r_{17} + r_{18} + r_{19} + r_{20}) \bar{Q}_L \gamma^\mu Q_L \bar{Q}_R \gamma_\mu Q_R + (r_5 + r_7 + r_8) \bar{Q}_L \vec{\lambda} Q_R \bar{Q}_L \vec{\lambda} Q_R + (r_{22} + r_{23} + r_{24} + r_{25}) \bar{Q}_L \gamma^\mu \vec{\lambda} Q_L \bar{Q}_R \gamma_\mu \vec{\lambda} Q_R + h.c. \right]$$

(For this work, group them and respect P, C)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{4t}^{\text{BSM}} = & K_1 (\bar{Q}Q)(\bar{Q}Q) + K_2 (\bar{Q}\gamma_\mu Q)(\bar{Q}\gamma^\mu Q) \\ & + K_5 (\bar{Q}\lambda^A Q)(\bar{Q}\lambda_A Q) + K_6 (\bar{Q}\gamma_\mu \lambda^A Q)(\bar{Q}\lambda_A \gamma^\mu Q) . \end{aligned}$$

L. Brivio et al. Eur. Phys. J. C 76, 416 (2016).

# Contact interactions in HEFT (SMEFT) Lagrangian

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# Contact interactions in HEFT (SMEFT) Lagrangian

95% constraints with scale  $\Lambda = 1$  TeV. from CMS data

Type	Operator	Composition	Coefficient	Allowed range (TeV <sup>-2</sup> )
Scalar	$\mathcal{O}_S$	$\bar{Q}QQ\bar{Q}Q$	$K_1, -K_4$	[-1.8, 1.9]
Vectorial	$\mathcal{O}_V$	$\bar{Q}\gamma^\mu Q\bar{Q}\gamma_\mu Q$	$K_2, K_3, K_4/4$	[-0.5, 0.4]
Color $\otimes$ scalar	$\mathcal{O}_{Sc}$	$\bar{Q}\lambda^A Q\bar{Q}\lambda_A Q$	$K_5$	[-6.8, 8.0]
Color $\otimes$ vector	$\mathcal{O}_{Vc}$	$(\bar{Q}\gamma^\mu \lambda^A Q)^2$	$K_5, -K_6$	[-6.8, 8.0]

Eventual bound-state constraints:  
could use  $N_{\text{constituents}}$  to disentangle

# Contact interactions for bound states

$$V(r) = \frac{g^2}{M^2} \delta^{(3)}(r) .$$

Wilson coefficients  $C_i \leftrightarrow g^2$  coupling  
EFT scale  $\Lambda \leftrightarrow M$  “BSM particle”

Regulated for numerical work:

$$V^{\text{BSM}} = \frac{\alpha_{\text{contact}}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} e^{-\Lambda |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}$$

# Contact interactions for bound states

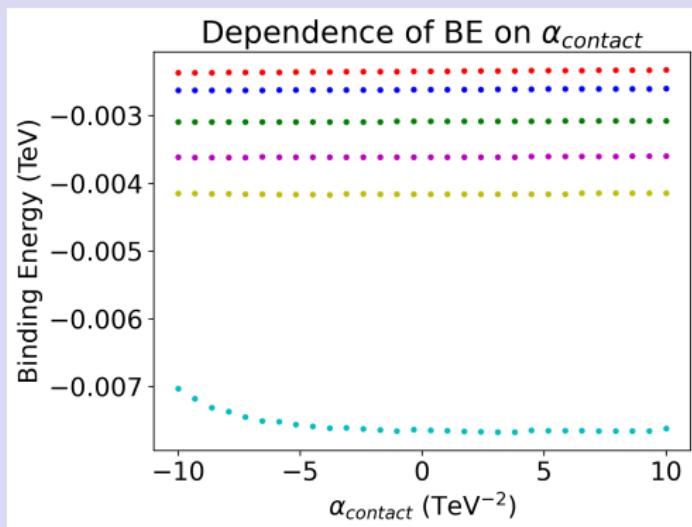
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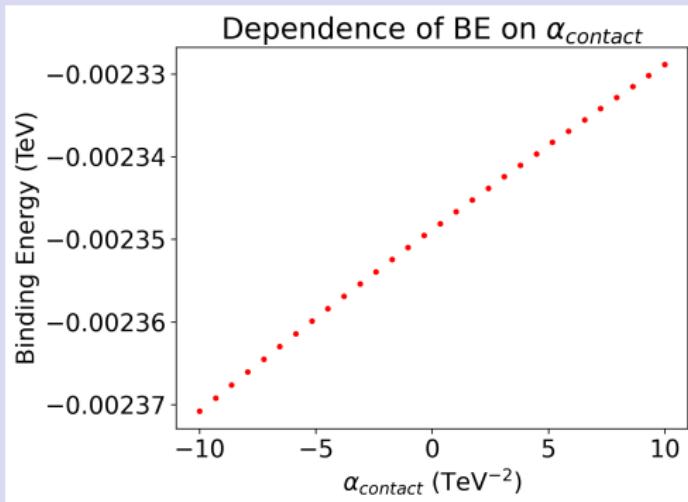
Regulated for numerical work:

$$V^{\text{BSM}} = \frac{\alpha_{\text{contact}}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} e^{-\Lambda |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}$$

# Variation with $\alpha_{\text{contact}}$



# Variation with $\alpha_{\text{contact}}$ (closer look at $N = 2$ )



- To have an  $O(1)$  effect on the binding energies,  
 $K_i \sim O(50 - 100)$
- (Remember other constraints are already  $O(1 - 10)$ )
- Need GeV-level expt. and theory precision to be helpful

# Outline

- 1 Multi- $c$ ,  $b$  states
- 2 Multi  $t\bar{t}$  states
- 3 A closer look at toponium

# Spanish saying: “Blanco y en botella”

If it is white and comes in a bottle,  
it must be milk



# Much simpler 2-body Coulombic system

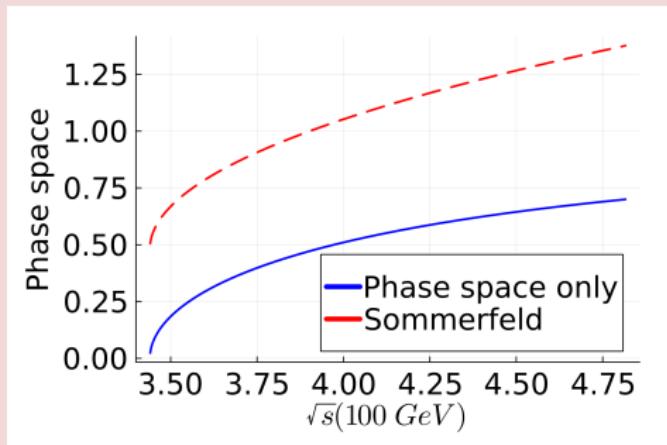
- Mass  $M = m_t(2 - \frac{4}{9}\alpha_s^2) \implies 4 \text{ GeV binding energy}$
- Width  $\Gamma = 2\Gamma_t \simeq 3 \text{ GeV}$
- $\sigma \sim 6 - 7 \text{ pbarn} \dots$  (will show next)

Then it must be the  $\eta_t$

Threshold  $t\bar{t}$  production: phase space factor

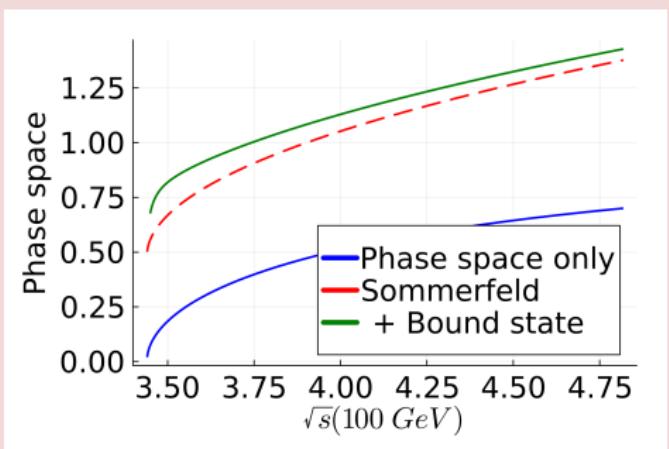
$$\beta_t = \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_t^2}{s_{t\bar{t}}}} \rightarrow$$

$$\frac{p_+}{m_t} + 2 \frac{p_0}{m_t} \text{atan} \frac{p_+}{p_-}$$

(definitions at the back: following Fadin, Khoze and Sjöstrand *op.cit.*)

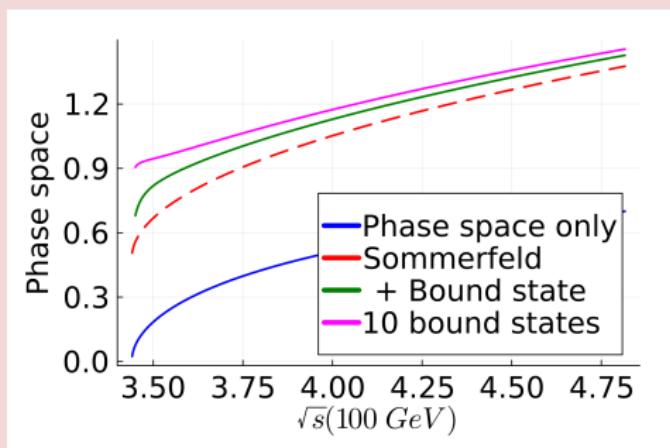
Above threshold effect of toponium ( $\Gamma_t = 0$ )

$$+ \frac{2p_0^2}{m_t^2} \frac{1}{n^4} \left. \frac{p_+(n^2 E + p_0^2/m_t)}{(E + p_0^2/(m_t n^2))^2} \right|_{n=1}$$



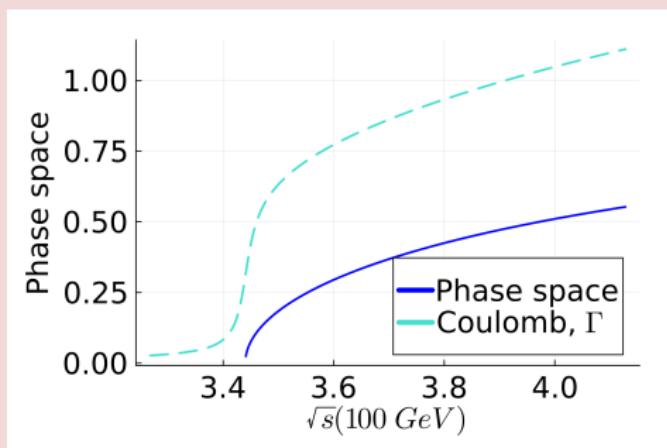
## Add nine more bound states of the series

$$+ \sum_n \frac{2p_0^2}{m_t^2} \frac{1}{n^4} \frac{p_+(n^2 E + p_0^2/m_t)}{(E + p_0^2/(m_t n^2))^2}$$

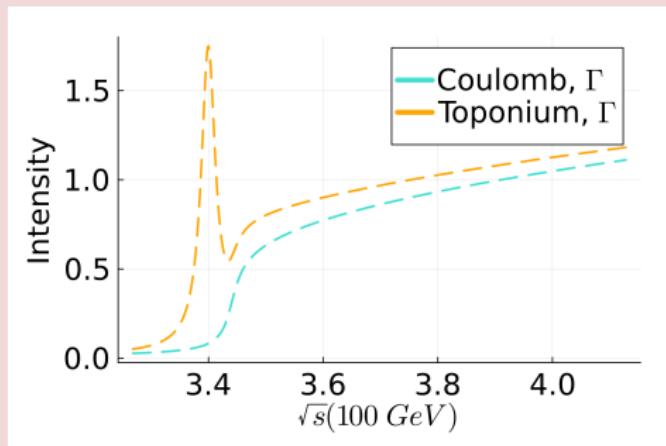


Start over, but now with the  $t$  width  $\Gamma_t$

Phase-space  $\times$  Coulomb  
factor  
now spread below threshold



# Bound state visible under threshold



Note: contact interactions can also produce **one** bound state

# $t\bar{t}$ bound by contact interaction instead

$$H = -\frac{1}{2m_t/2} \nabla^2 + v\delta^{(3)}(r)$$

Needs renormalization

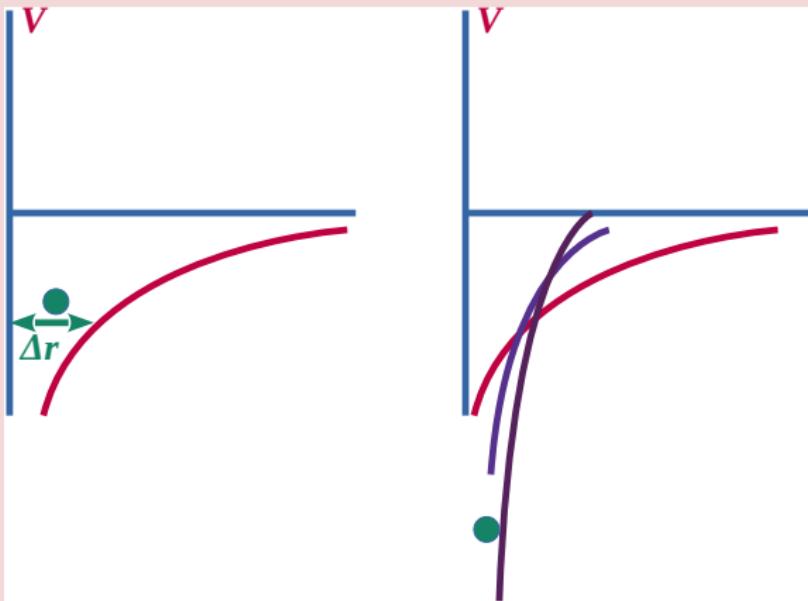
$$g = \frac{v}{1 + \frac{m_t \Lambda v}{\pi^2}}$$

Binding energy of the one bound state:

$$\text{BE} = \frac{1}{m_t^3} \frac{\pi^2}{2g^2}$$

R. Jackiw, entry 313843 in inspirehep.net

# Why renormalization?



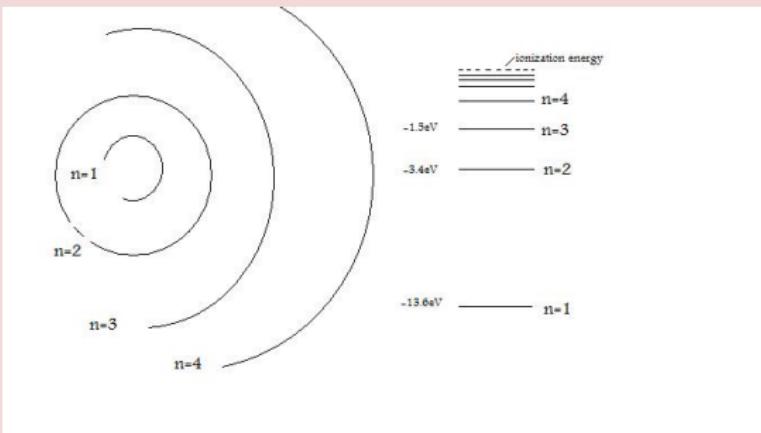
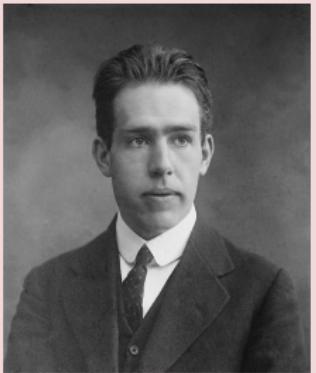
In three

dimensions:  $T \propto \frac{1}{(\Delta r)^2}$  (positive)

$V \propto -\frac{1}{r^\alpha}$  (negative, if  $\alpha > 2$ , dominant)

A. Galindo, P. Pascual, Quantum Mechanics, Springer Verlag (1990)

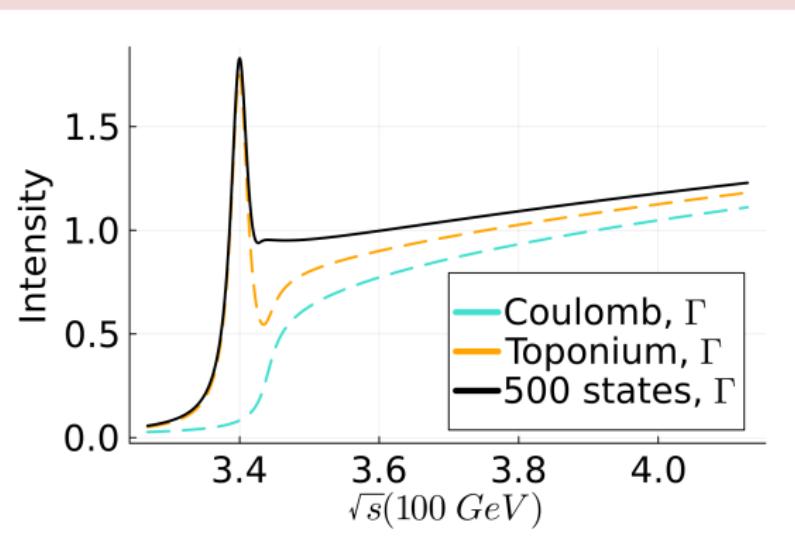
# How to distinguish them? Excited Bohr levels...



$$E_n = -\frac{E_{\text{Bohr}}}{n^2}$$

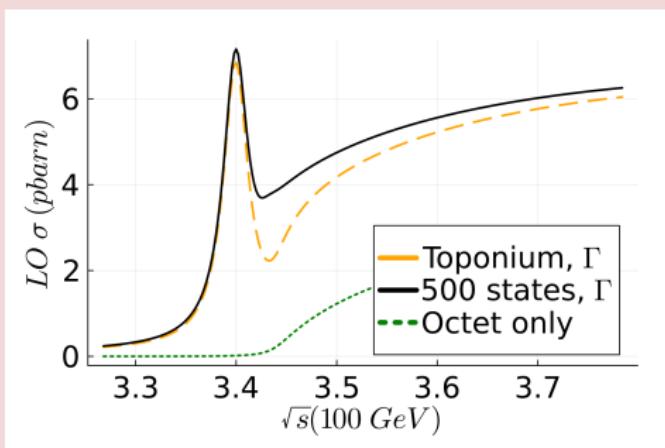
## Add those excited states

$$\frac{p_+}{m_t} + 2 \frac{p_0}{m_t} \text{atan} \frac{p_+}{p_-} + \sum_n \frac{2p_0^2}{m_t^2} \frac{1}{n^4} \frac{\Gamma_t p_0 n + p_+(n^2 \sqrt{E^2 + \Gamma_t^2} + p_0^2/m_t)}{(E + p_0^2/(m_t n^2))^2 + \Gamma_t^2}$$

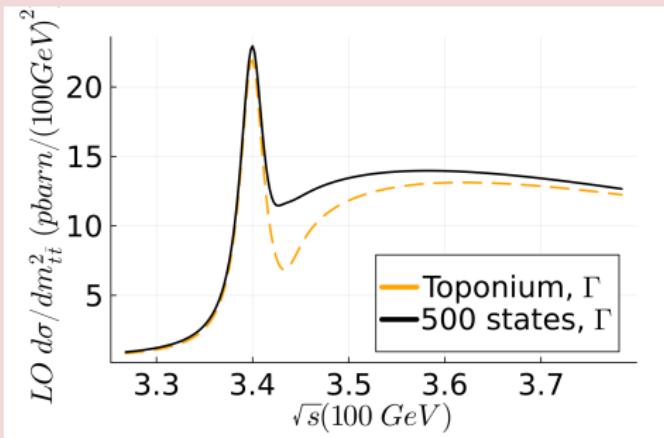


# Add the color-octet $t\bar{t}$ production

(No physical states there)



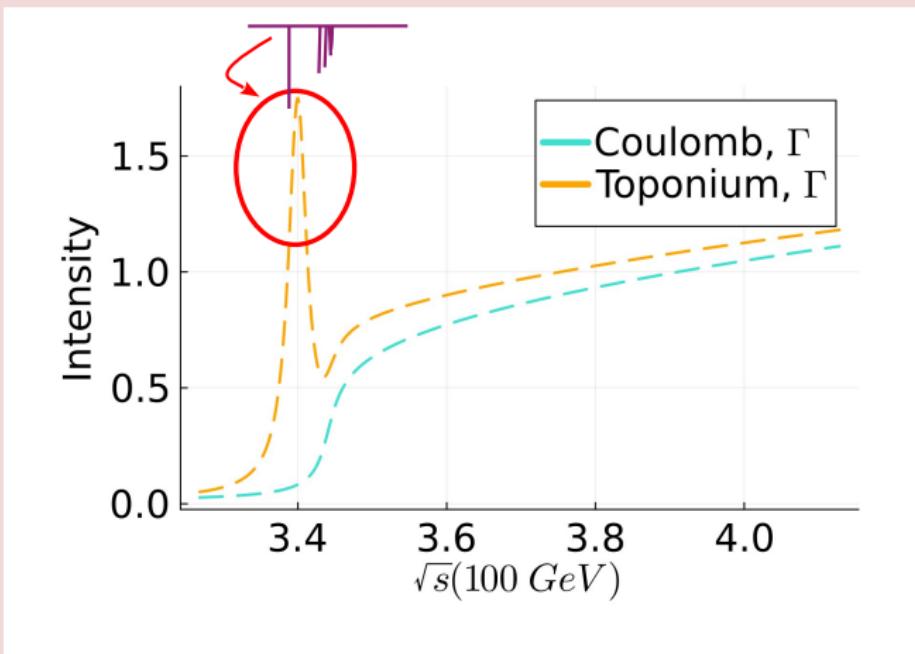
## Multiply by parton luminosity



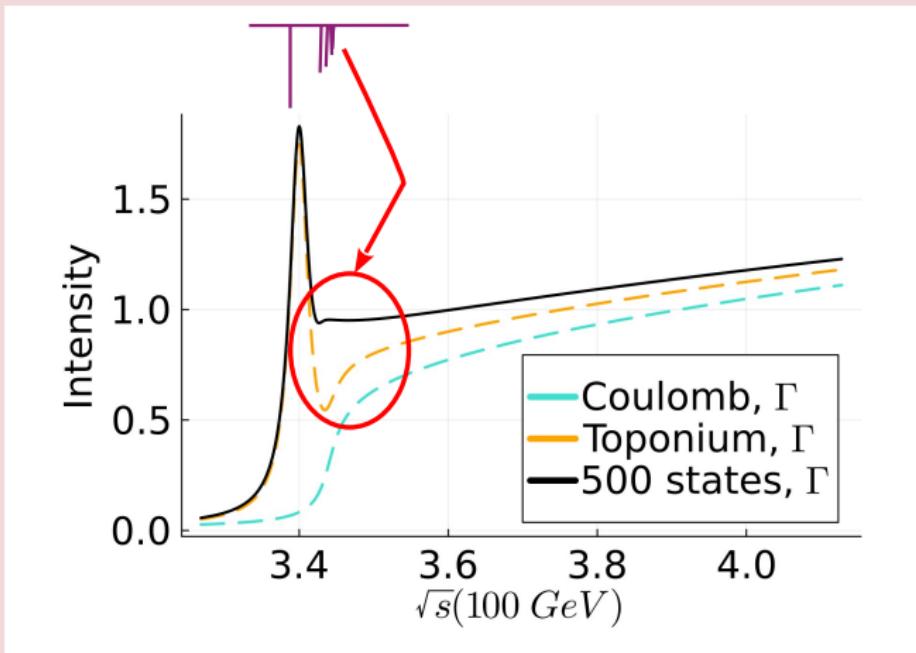
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dm_{t\bar{t}}^2} = \hat{\sigma}_{gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}} \frac{d\mathcal{L}}{dm_{t\bar{t}}^2}$$

$$\int_{m_{t\bar{t}}^2}^1 \frac{dx}{x s_{\text{LHC}}} f(x) f\left(\frac{m_{t\bar{t}}^2}{x s_{\text{LHC}}}\right)$$

The peak is close to the  $\eta_t$

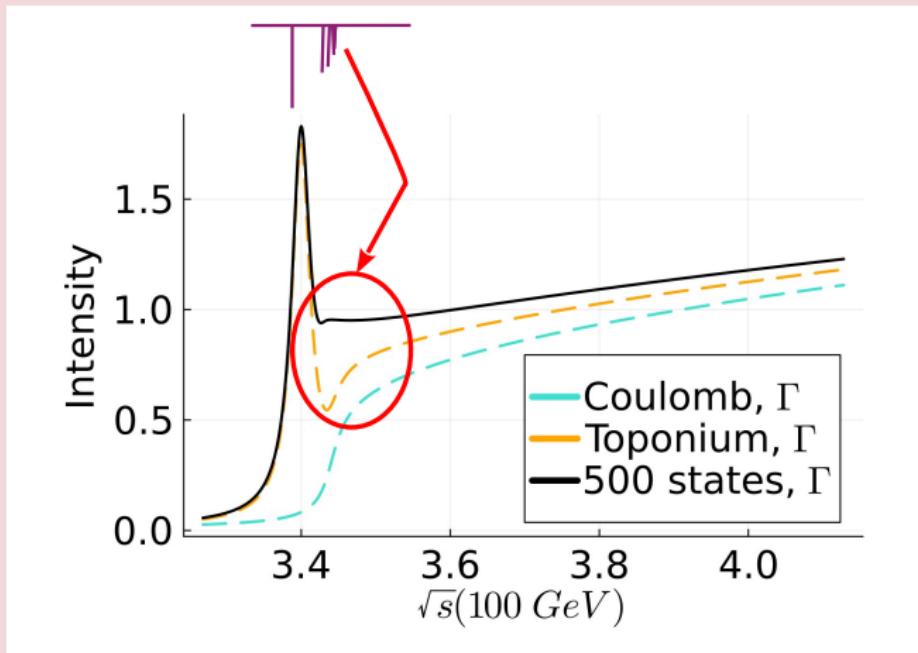


But excited toponia fill the dip:



This dip has a width  $O(5 - 10)$  GeV: need better experimental energy resolution

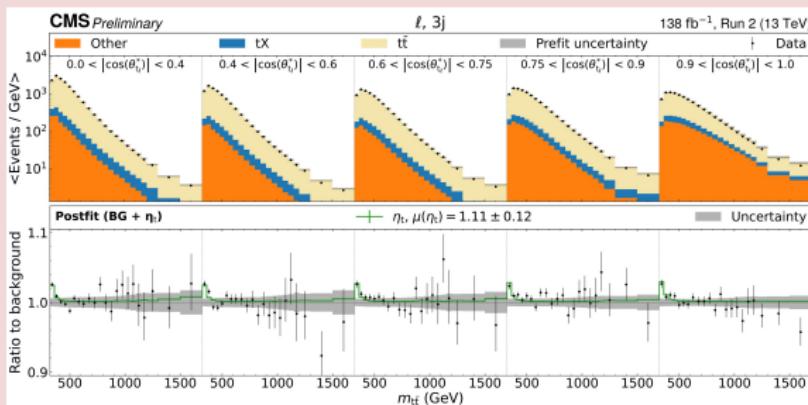
But excited toponia fill the dip:



This dip has a width  $O(5 - 10)$  GeV: need better experimental energy resolution

# Now current reality...

- CMS spectrum: large background
- Only after subtraction a threshold excess appears



- & 50 GeV energy bins vs. 2 GeV, better resolution needed

# Summary

- Hartree-Fock approximation to systems with several heavy quarks/antiquarks (*c,b*)
- Extended to several *t* $\bar{t} systems$
- Confirm that the 12-body *T*-ball is only lightly bound (by QCD gluons)
- BSM HEFT/SMEFT coefficients need to be quite large to shift binding energies with near/mid-term precisions
- Whether QCD toponium or new-physics: dip at threshold? (Bohr excitations)

# $t(\bar{t})$ ... bound states & and contact interactions

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Collaborators: Alejandro Alonso, Daniel Berzal, Mario Pardo and Clara Peset  
Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Dept. de Física Teórica and IPARCOS  
(on leave at CERN-TH)

November 12, 2024



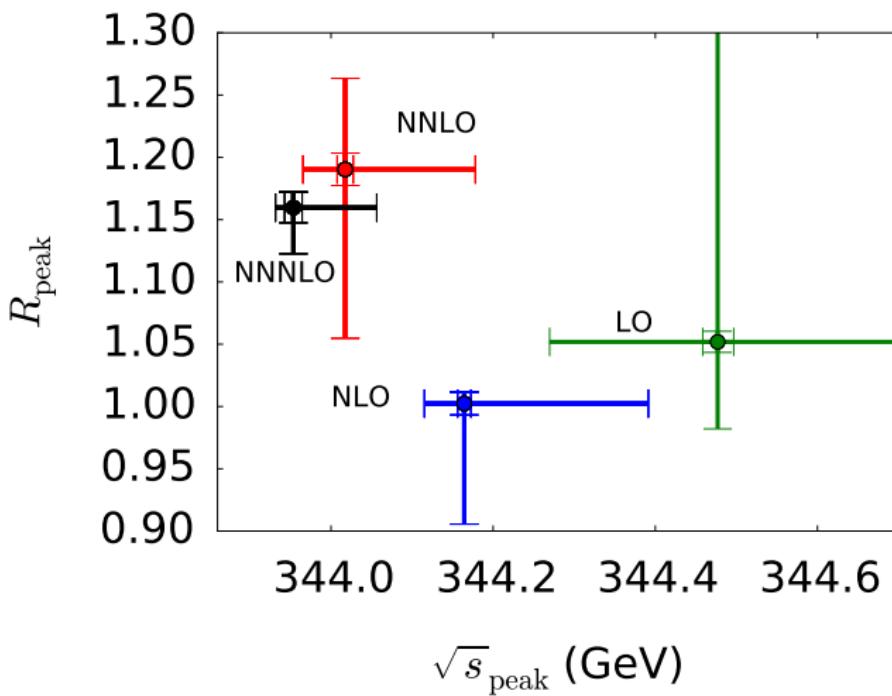
LHCtop WG

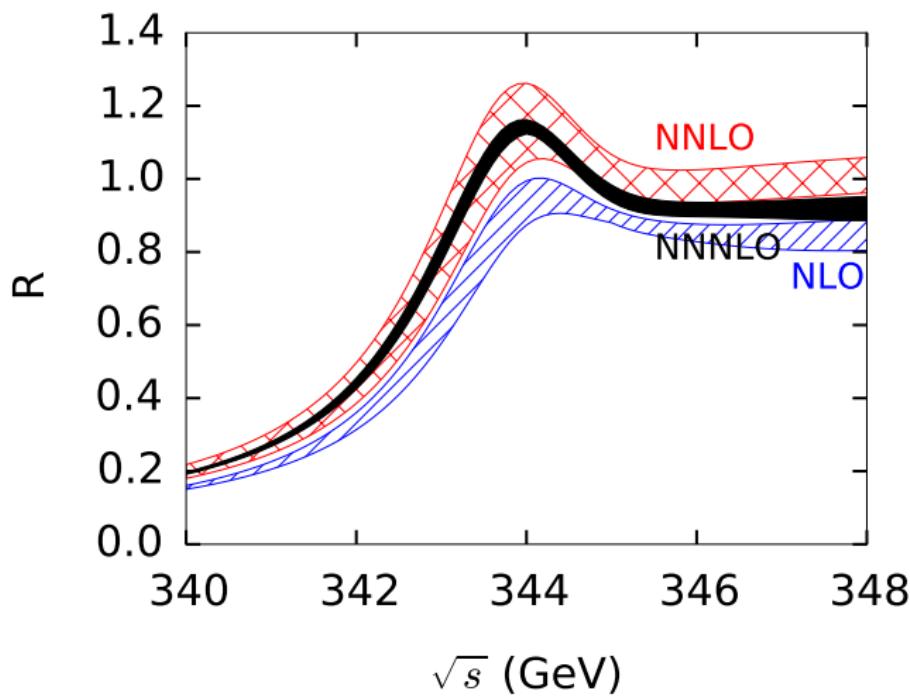
Preprint 2410.05066

# Acknowledgments

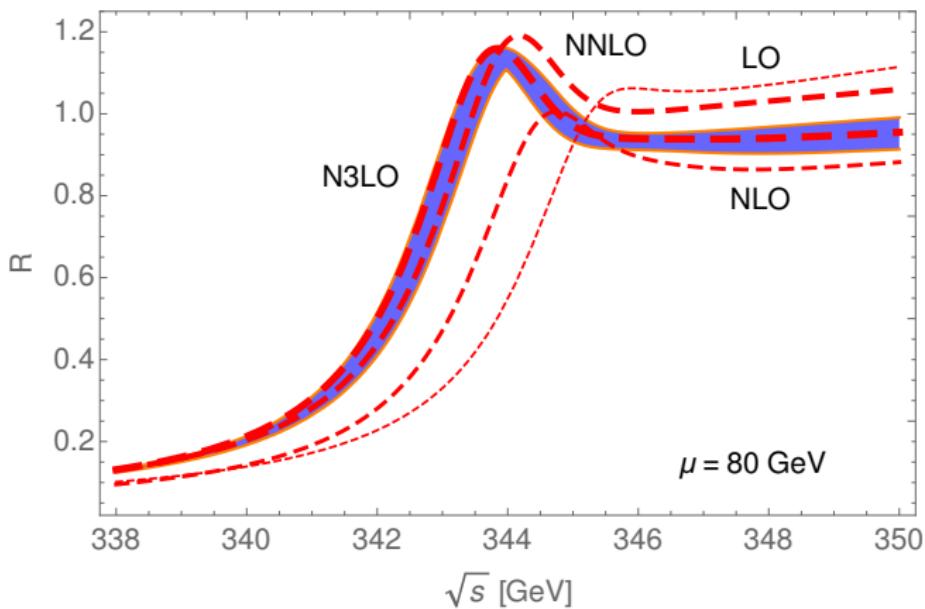
Funded by research grant PID2022-137003NB-I00 from spanish MCIN/AEI/10.13039/501100011033/ and EU FEDER as well as funding for visits abroad



Peak position (here in  $e^-e^+$ ) with QCD corrections

Cross section (here in  $e^-e^+$ ) with QCD corrections

# Higher order computations achieve scale independence



(Note: LO can capture line shape if assigning ultrasoft scale to binding energy but hard scale to production)

## Fix parameters: quarkonium spin averages

$c\bar{c}$ ,  $b\bar{b}$  and mixed-flavor  $B_c$  and experimental reference values.

	$c\bar{c}$ ( $\pm 80$ MeV)		$b\bar{b}$ ( $\pm 60$ MeV)		$B_c$ ( $\pm 70$ MeV)	
	S	P	S	P	S	P
LO	3100	3160	9470	9540	6310	6370
NLO	3030	3140	9410	9520	6270	6350
PDG spin average	3069	3526	9445	9889	6274	6714

Final parameter set for all-*c*, *b* multiquark hadrons.

$m_c$ (MeV)	$\alpha_s(m_c^2)$	$m_b$ (MeV)	$\alpha_s(m_b^2)$
1575	0.34	4768	0.21

## Fix parameters: quarkonium spin averages

Sizeable uncertainty sources to be propagated.

	Difference to employed average				CM recoil
	$p$ -wave	$s$ -wave	LO	NLO	
$m_c$ (MeV)	180	10	20	20	20
$\alpha_s(m_c^2)$	0.013	0.005	0.001	0.001	0.005
$m_b$ (MeV)	180	10	10	10	20
$\alpha_s(m_b^2)$	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.003
Uncertainty	40	0.006	30	0.004	

# Momenta from Fadin & Khoze

- $p_0 \equiv \frac{2}{3}m_t\alpha_s$  is Bohr's momentum
- $p_{\pm} = \sqrt{\frac{m_t}{2}} \left( \sqrt{E^2 + \Gamma_t^2} \pm E \right)$  are spread by  $t$ -width

## NLO spectrum with ultrasoft scale

