



# Precise predictions of top quark fully differential decay

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In collaboration with Chong Sheng Li and Hua Xing Zhu  
(PRL 110, 042001, 2013, arXiv:1210.2808, Hepforge:NNTopDec)

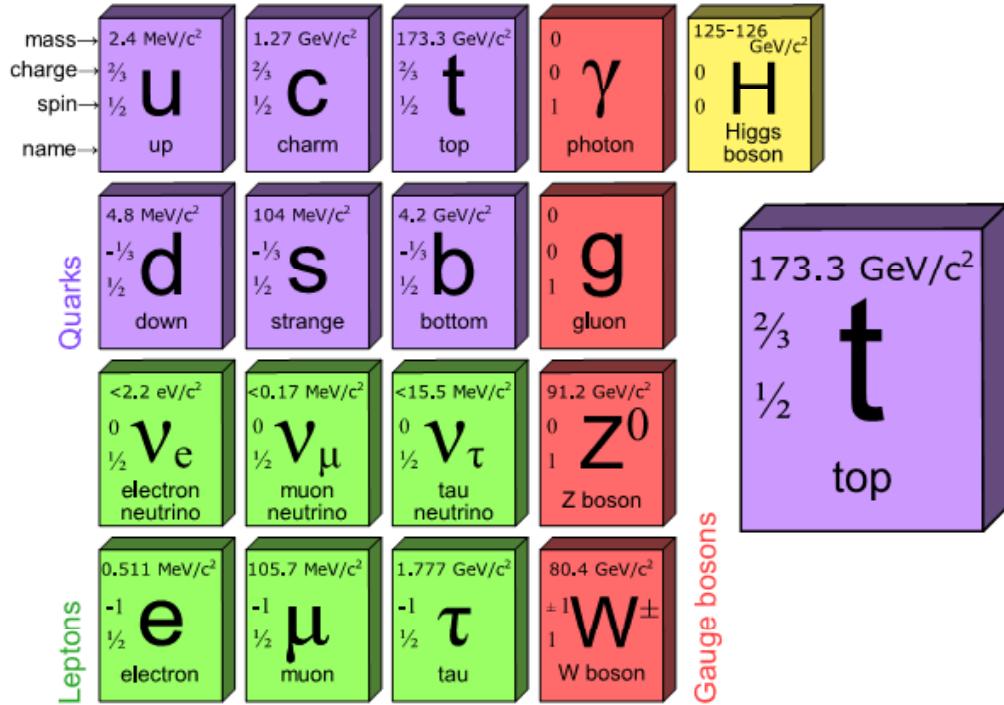
PHENO 2013, University of Pittsburgh, 2013/05/07

# Outline

- Why precise predictions for top quark decay are important?
- How to deal with the NNLO QCD corrections to fully-differential heavy-to-light quark decay?
- Application : the current most precise predictions for top quark fully-differential decay
- Conclusions and outlook



## • Top quark: unique probe at the LHC



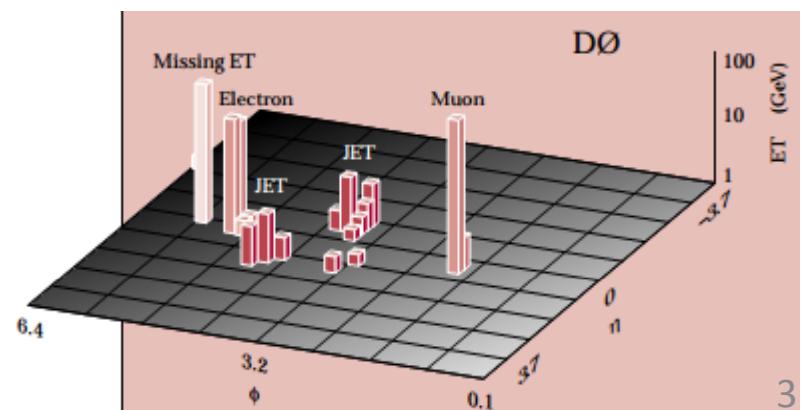
Tevatron 2012:  $173.2 \pm 0.6 \pm 0.8$  GeV

CMS 5.0 fb<sup>-1</sup>:  $173.4 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.9$  GeV

- Strongly interacted, high statistics  $\sim 950$  pb @14 TeV with characteristic signature

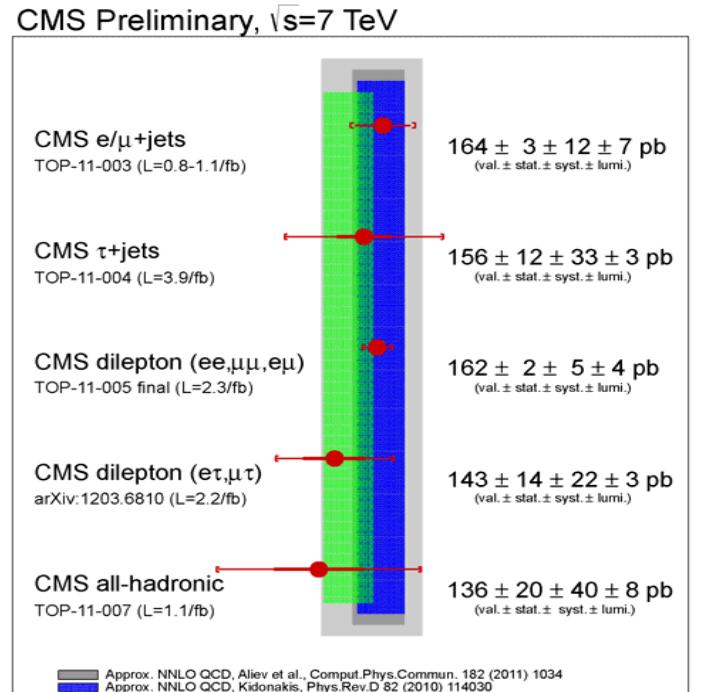
- Short lifetime  $5 \times 10^{-25}$  s, decay before hadronization and depolarization, study properties of a free quark, test of pQCD

- Closely related to EWSB, involved in various new physics search



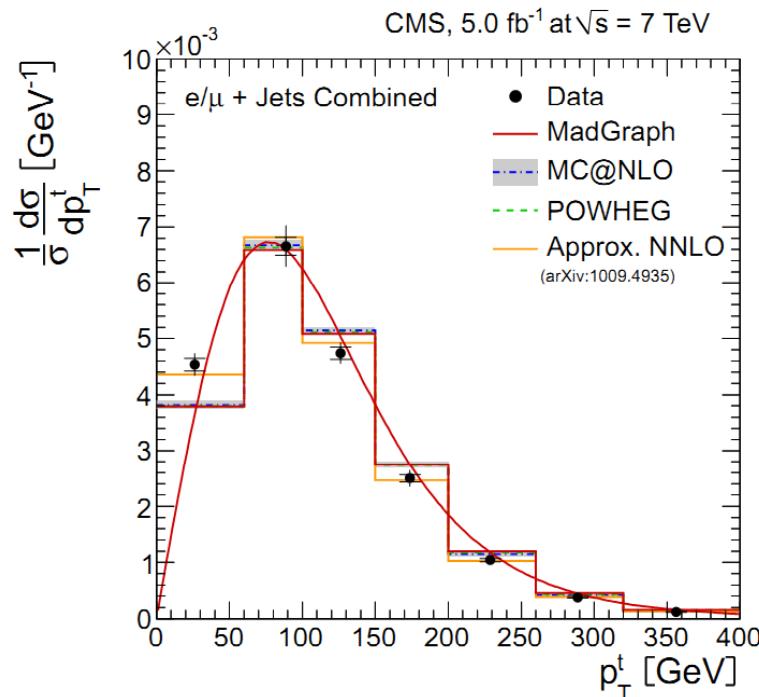


## • Top measurements at the LHC:



Collider	$\sigma_{\text{tot}}$ [pb]	scales [pb]	pdf [pb]
Tevatron	7.164	+0.110(1.5%) -0.200(2.8%)	+0.169(2.4%) -0.122(1.7%)
LHC 7 TeV	172.0	+4.4(2.6%) -5.8(3.4%)	+4.7(2.7%) -4.8(2.8%)
LHC 8 TeV	245.8	+6.2(2.5%) -8.4(3.4%)	+6.2(2.5%) -6.4(2.6%)
LHC 14 TeV	953.6	+22.7(2.4%) -33.9(3.6%)	+16.2(1.7%) -17.8(1.9%)

Very precise measurements could be expected for inclusive rate as well as kinematic distributions

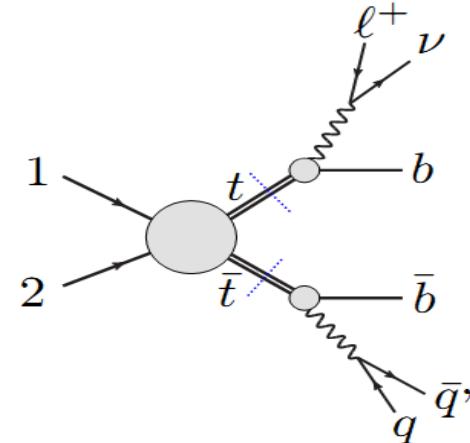
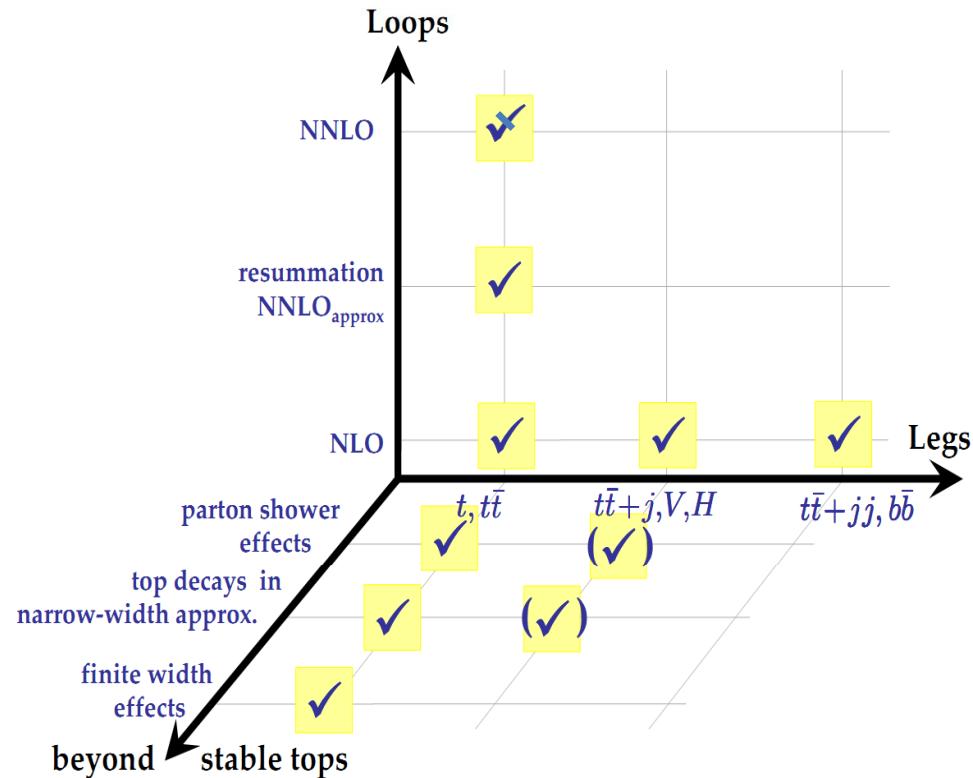


We need more and more precise theoretical predictions !!!



## • Precise predictions for top quark

Narrow-width approx.,  $\Gamma/M < 1\%$



Production with decay at NLO in QCD

Single top: Q. Cao, C.-P. Yuan, et.al., 2004,  
R. K. Ellis, et.al., 2004

Top pair: K. Menikov, et.al., 2009, Z. G. Si,  
et.al., 2010

Top pair + j, A: K. Menikov, et.al., 2011

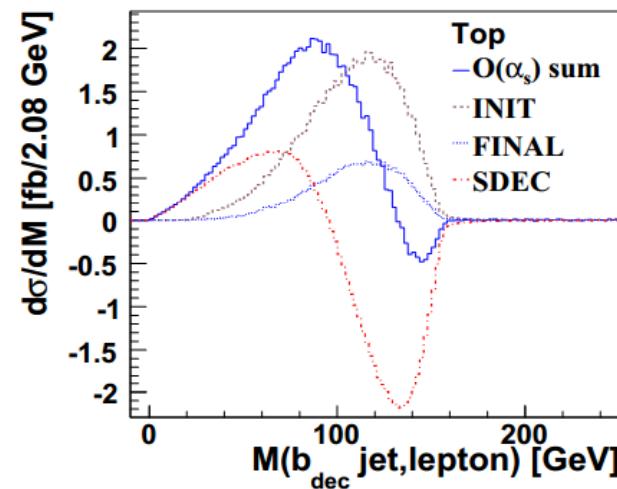
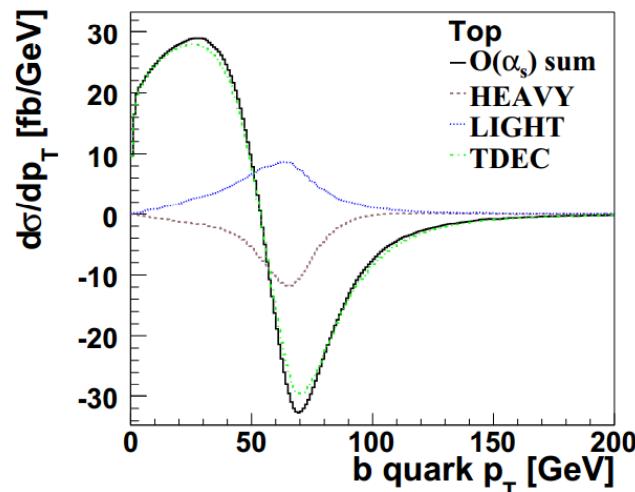
Beyond NW, NLO QCD corrections to

WWbb production: A. Denner, et.al.,  
2010, G. Bevilacqua et al., 2010

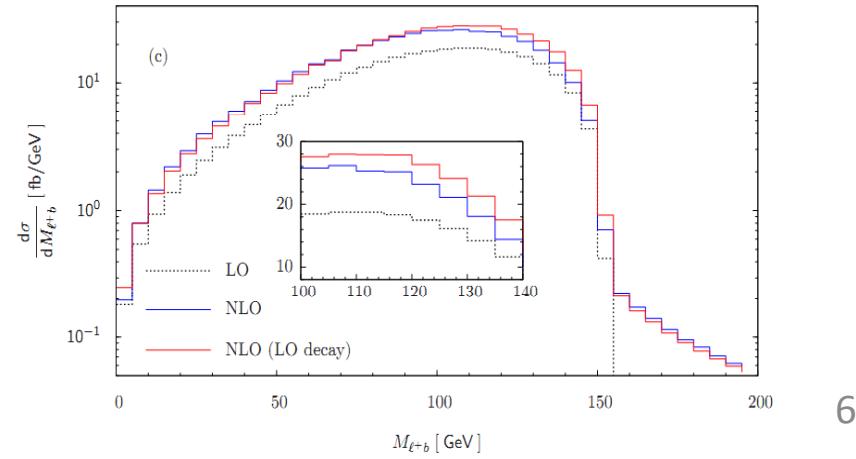
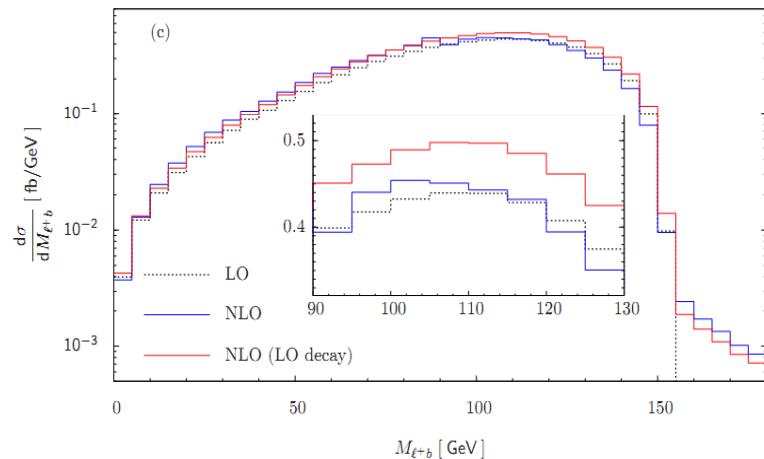


- **Examples showing effects of top quark decay**

In single top quark production at the LHC: R. Schwienhorst, S. Heim, C.-P. Yuan, C. Muller, Q. Cao, 2010



In top quark pair production at the Tevatron and LHC: K. Melnikov, M. Schulze, 2009





- **Fully differential decay of top quark at NNLO**

➤ NNLO QCD corrections based on top quark self-energy (3-loop)

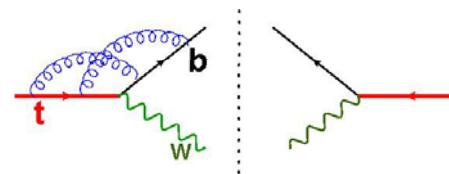
Inclusive width: [A. Czarnecki and K. Melnikov, 1999 \( \$M\_W \ll M\_T\$ \)](#); K. G. Chetyrkin, et. al., 1999, I. R. Blokland, et. al., 2004 (expansions on  $M_W/M_T$ );

Helicity fraction: [A. Czarnecki, et. al., 2010 \(expansions on  \$M\_W/M\_T\$ \)](#).

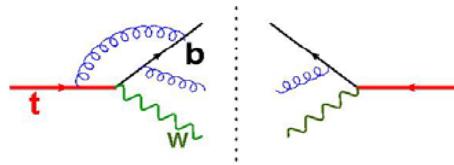
➤ First we work in the case of zero bottom quark mass and neglect the width of W boson. Both of these effects will be taken into account later through corrections to the LO results. W boson leptonic decay with full spin correlations are included.

➤ The contribution at NNLO can be divided into three classes:

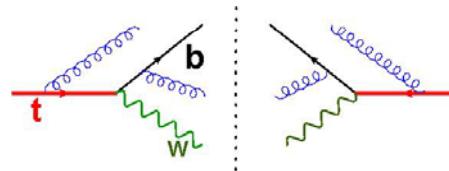
a)  $t \rightarrow bW$  at two-loop and one-loop square



b)  $t \rightarrow bWg$  at one loop



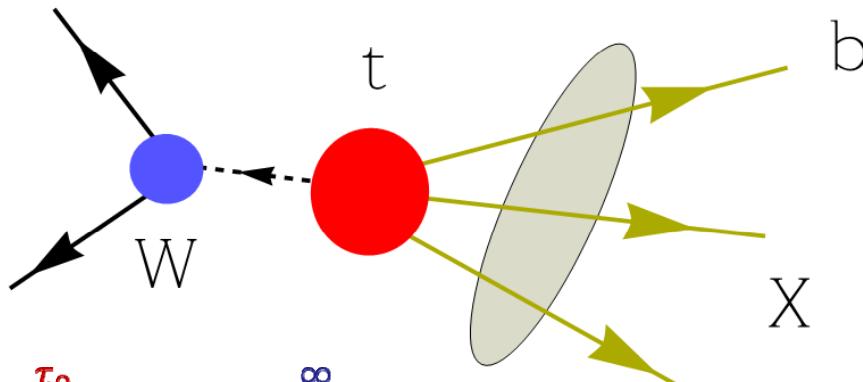
c)  $t \rightarrow bWq\bar{q}/bWgg$  at tree level





- Extract the double-unresolved singularities

$$\tau = (p_b + p_X)^2 / m_t^2$$



$$\Gamma_t^{NNLO} = \int_0^{\tau_0} d\tau \frac{d\Gamma_t}{d\tau} + \int_{\tau_0}^{\infty} d\tau \frac{d\Gamma_t}{d\tau} = \Gamma_A + \Gamma_B$$

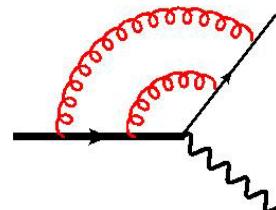
- Motivated by qT subtraction, we introduce a phase space slicing method used for heavy-to-light decay by setting a small cut-off in  $\tau$  ;
- Above the cut-off both the singly unresolved limit of b) and doubly unresolved limit of c) are absent, and the decay can be calculated using a NLO calculation of top decay with an additional jet;
- Below the cut-off, they are dominated by singular soft and/or collinear dynamics, the result can be predicted by QCD factorization.



- Threshold behaviors below the cut-off from SCET

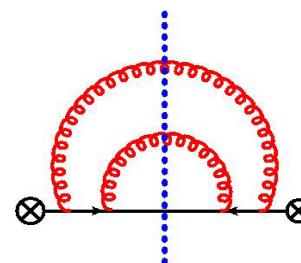
$$\frac{1}{\Gamma_t^{(0)}} \frac{d\Gamma_t}{d\tau} = \mathcal{H}\left(x \equiv \frac{m_W^2}{m_t^2}, \mu\right) \int dk dm^2 J(m^2, \mu) S(k, \mu) \delta\left(\tau - \frac{m^2 + 2E_J k}{m_t^2}\right) + \text{Non-singular terms}$$

$\mathcal{H}(x, \mu)$ : hard function.  
Integrating out hard modes  
of QCD in matching to SCET.



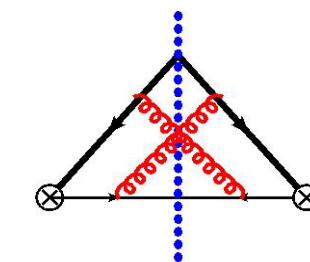
R. Bonciani et al , 2008; H. M. Asatrian et al., 2008; M. Beneke et al, 2009; G. Bell, 2009.

$J(m^2, \mu)$ : quark jet  
function. Probability of  
finding a jet with mass  
 $m$ , generated by  
collinear radiations.



T. Becher et al., 2006.

$S(k, \mu)$ : soft function. The  
probability of measuring  
the light-cone component  
of the soft radiation



T. Becher et al, 2006.

Expansion up to NNLO: free of divergences, with  $\delta(\tau)$  and plus  
distributions  $[\ln^n(\tau)/\tau]_+$  up to  $n=3$ .

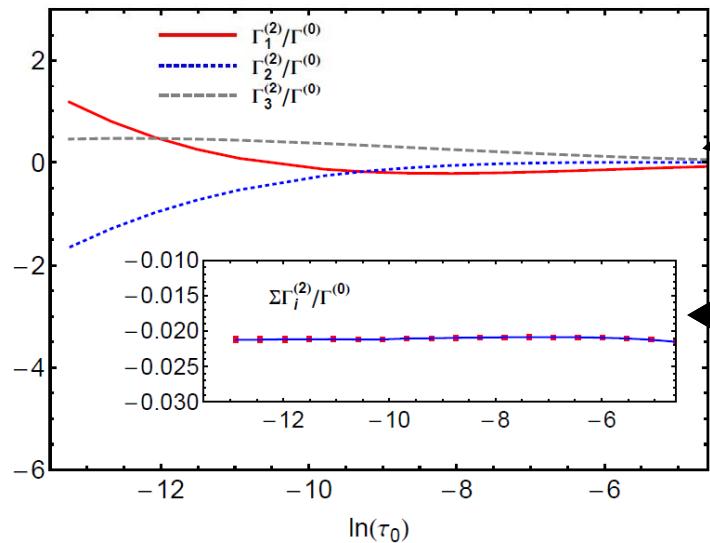


- Numerical results: total width

GeV	$m_t$	$\Gamma_t^{(0)}$	$\delta_f^b$	$\delta_f^W$	$\delta_{\text{EW}}$	$\delta_{\text{QCD}}^{(1)}$	$\delta_{\text{QCD}}^{(2)}$	In percentage
	172.5	1.4806	-0.26	-1.49	1.68	-8.58	-2.09	
	173.5	1.5109	-0.26	-1.49	1.69	-8.58	-2.09	
	174.5	1.5415	-0.25	-1.48	1.69	-8.58	-2.09	

Full agreement with previous studies (NPB314,1 M.Jezabek;PRD43,3759 C.S.Li et al; NPB358 46 A. Denner et al; G. Eilam et al PRL 66,3105; NPB544,520 A.Czarnecki et al; PRD60, 114015 K. Chetyrkin; I.R. Blokland PRL 93,062001 )

## Cutoff $\tau_0$ dependence



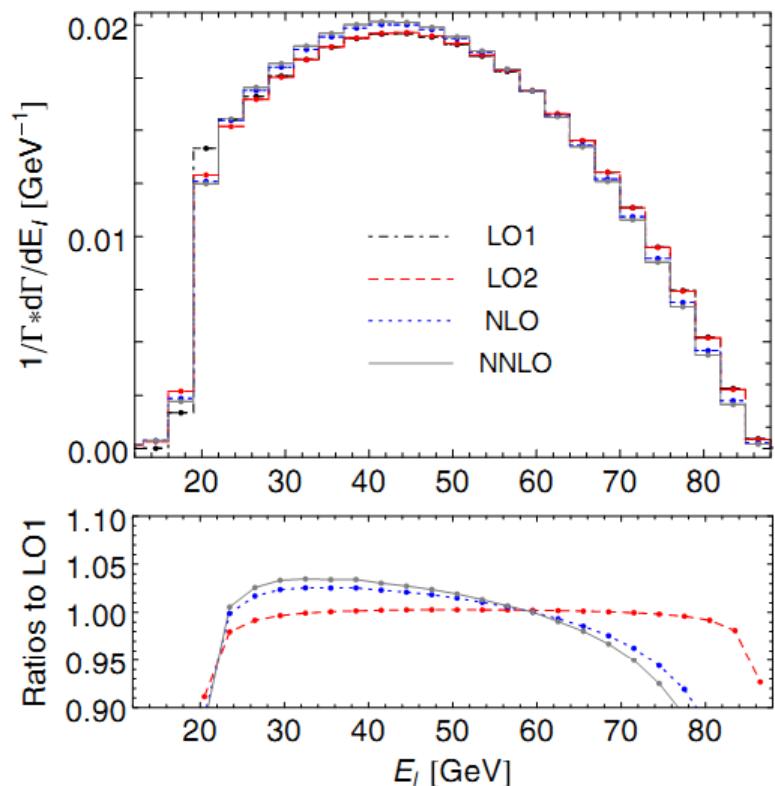
Each of the three contributions in the NNLO corrections depends strongly on the cut-off parameter

While their sum only shows very weak dependence



- **Numerical results: differential distributions**

Distributions of top quark semileptonic decay  $t \rightarrow W^+(l^+\nu) + b$  up to NNLO in QCD, also including other corrections as in the case of total width. All distributions are normalized to unit area for shape comparisons.

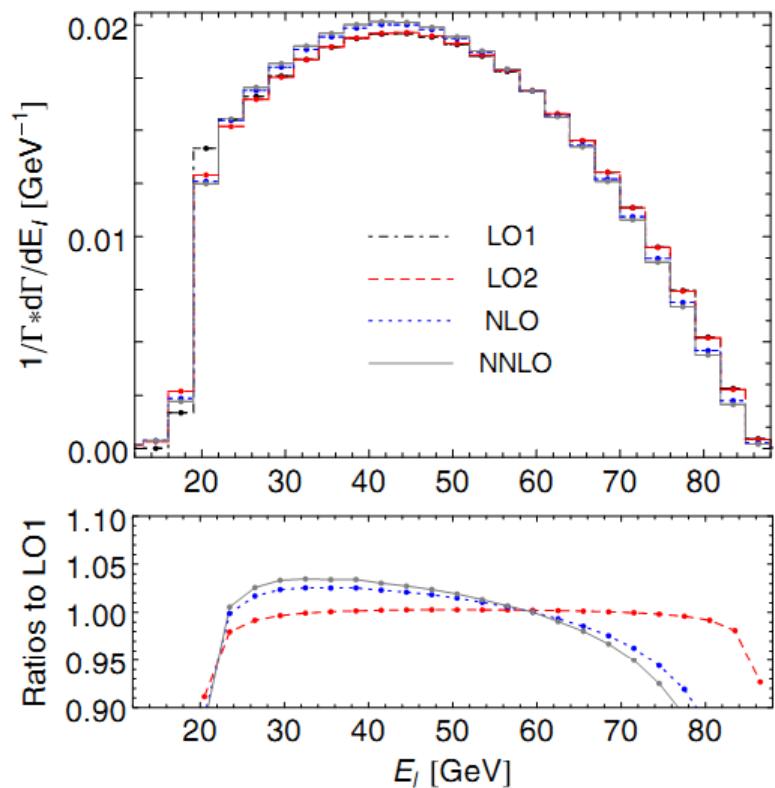


Normalized distribution of charged  
lepton energy in top quark rest frame

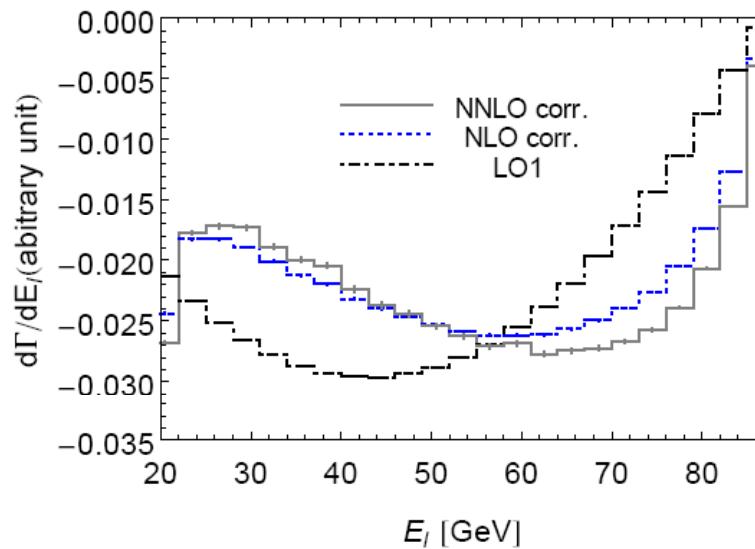


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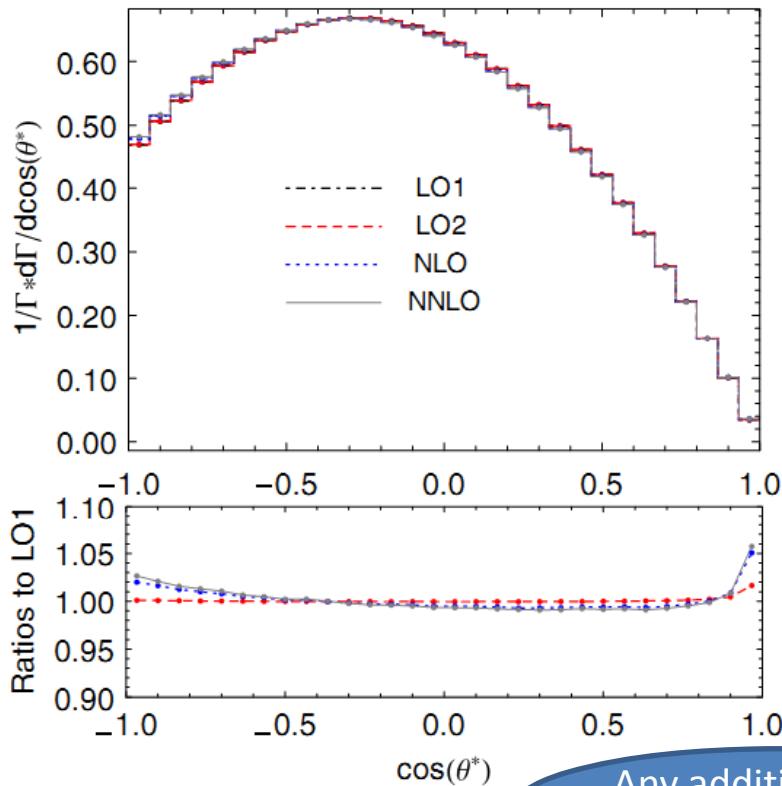
Shape of corrections at each order



## • Numerical results: differential distributions

Decay angle between charged lepton and the opposite of top quark momentum in W boson rest frame:

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d \cos \theta^*} = \frac{3}{4} (1 - \cos^2 \theta^*) F_0 + \frac{3}{8} (1 - \cos \theta^*)^2 F_L + \frac{3}{8} (1 + \cos \theta^*)^2 F_R$$



Any additional cuts  
can be applied

$F_0 = 0.67 \pm 0.03 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.06 \text{ (syst.)}$   
 $F_L = 0.32 \pm 0.02 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.03 \text{ (syst.)}$   
 $F_R = 0.01 \pm 0.01 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.04 \text{ (syst.)}$

ATLAS, 1.04fb<sup>-1</sup>, 1205.2484

W boson helicity fractions directly got from fit of our numerical curves:

- LO1: 0.6996(L), 0.3004(-), 0(+)
  - LO2: 0.6989(L), 0.3007(-), 0.0004(+)
  - NLO: 0.6914(L), 0.3072(-), 0.0014(+)
  - NNLO: 0.6889(L), 0.3094(-), 0.0017(+)

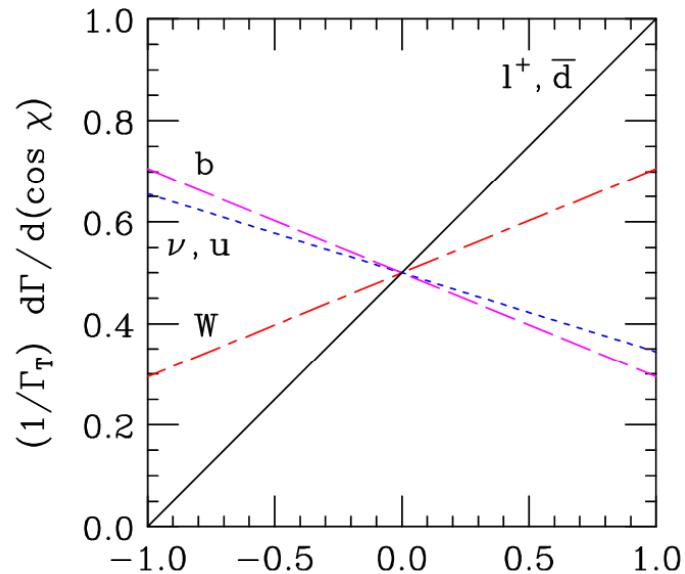
Agree with PRD81, 111503 A. Czarnecki et al.



## • Numerical results: polarized top quark decay

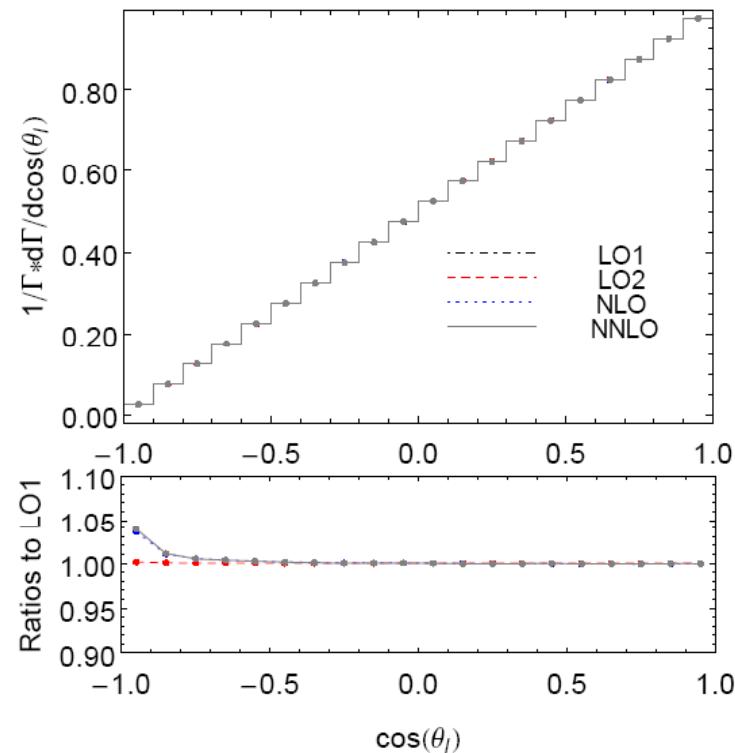
Decay angle with respect to the top quark spin direction in top rest frame:

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma_T} \frac{d\Gamma}{d(\cos \chi_i^t)} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \alpha_i \cos \chi_i^t \right)$$



The charged lepton direction is maximally correlated with the top quark spin,  $\alpha=1$  exactly at LO. (M. Jezabek , et. al., 1994)

Validation of top spin effects at NNLO



- LO1:  $\alpha=1$
- LO2:  $\alpha=1$
- NLO:  $\alpha=0.9982$
- NNLO:  $\alpha=0.9980$



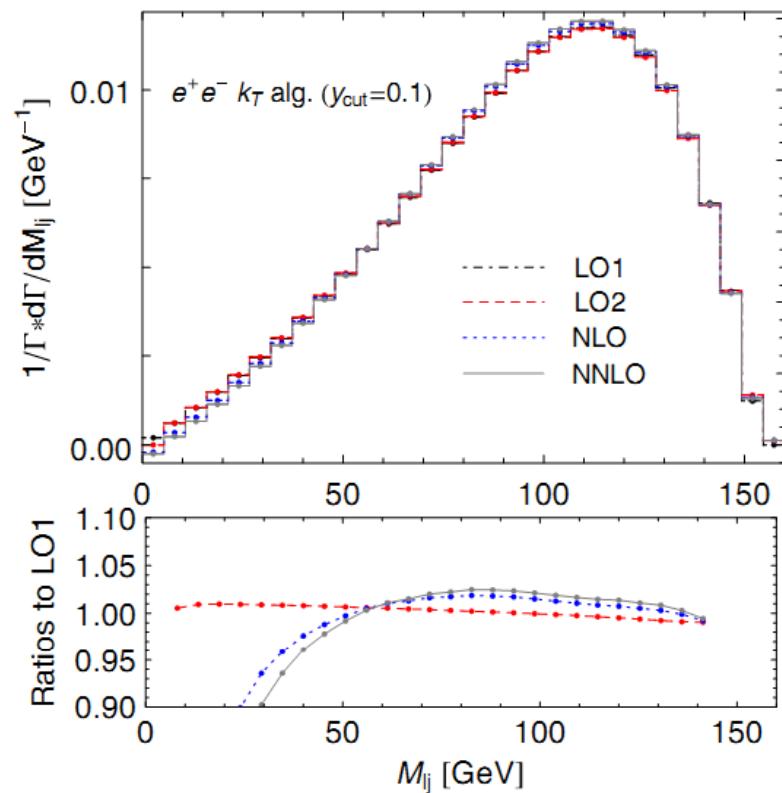
## • Conclusions and outlook

- We provide the current most precise fully-differential predictions for top quark semileptonic decay, including NNLO QCD effects as well as other important corrections, which are helpful for top quark mass measurement and the test of weak-charged current structure.
- Another direct application of the calculation is for NNLO corrections to b-quark semileptonic decay,  $b \rightarrow X_u l^- \nu$ .
- Our calculations (MC code is publically available at Hepforge) are complementary to the NNLO QCD predictions for top quark pair production and could be eventually used for combination of top quark production and decay at NNLO in QCD.

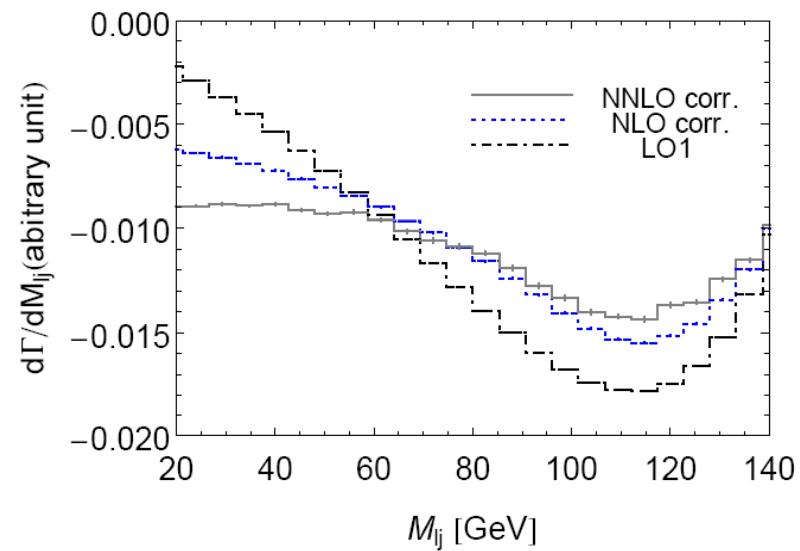
# Backups

- Numerical results: differential distributions**

Distributions of top quark semileptonic decay  $t \rightarrow W^+(l^+\nu) + b$  up to NNLO in QCD, also including other corrections as in the case of total width. All distributions are normalized to unit area for shape comparisons.



Normalized distribution of invariant mass  
of charged lepton and the hardest jet



Shape of corrections at each order