

Heavy-flavour production at the LHC: challenges and opportunities

Laura Reina

Université Libre de Bruxelles, May 2014

- The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is testing new ground and will answer some of the fundamental open questions of Particle Physics:
 - Origin of Electroweak (EW) symmetry breaking?
 - New Physics (NP) in the TeV range?
- The incredible physics potential of the LHC relies on our ability of providing very accurate theoretical predictions:
 - Discovery: precise prediction of signals/backgrounds;
 - Identification: precise extraction of parameters (α_s , m_t , M_H , $y_{t,b}$, M_X , y_X , ...);
 - Precision: $\sigma_{W/Z}$ as parton luminosity monitors (PDF's), ...
- Heavy Quark production w/o associated particles crucial to control:
 - top/bottom-quark properties;
 - signatures involving hard (b)-jets, multi-leptons and missing E_T (background to new physics signatures).

Think of: $t\bar{t}$, $t\bar{t} + H$, $b\bar{b} + H$, $b\bar{b} + W/Z$, $t\bar{t} + W/Z$, $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$, $t\bar{t}WW/ZZ$, ...

Outline

- Theoretical predictions for the LHC:
 - key ingredients: higher orders, PDF, parton shower matching;
 - Higgs discovery: a proof of concept.
- Focusing on Heavy-Quark physics, in particular:
 - $t\bar{t}$ production;
 - heavy-quark production with Higgs bosons: $Ht\bar{t}$, ($H + b$ jets);
 - heavy-quark production with weak gauge bosons: $W/Z/\gamma + b$ jets,
 $(W/Z/\gamma + t\bar{t})$;
- Conclusions and outlook.

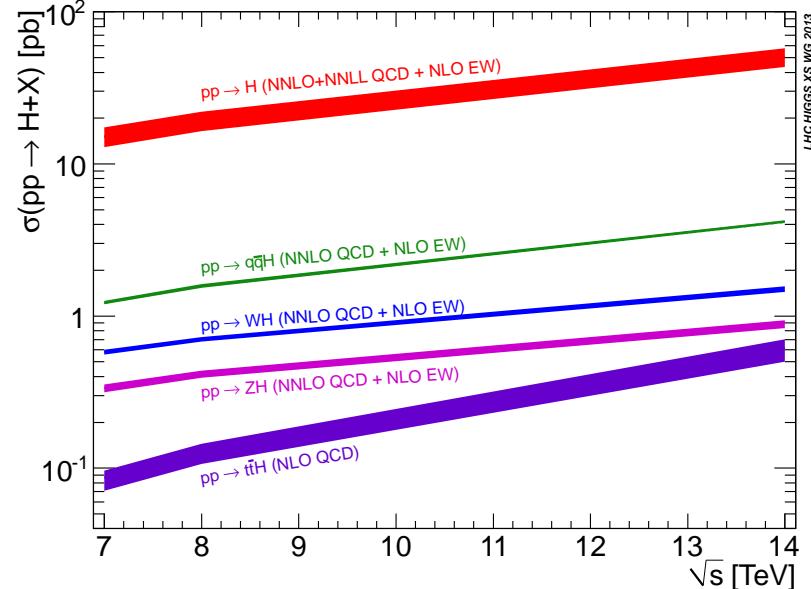
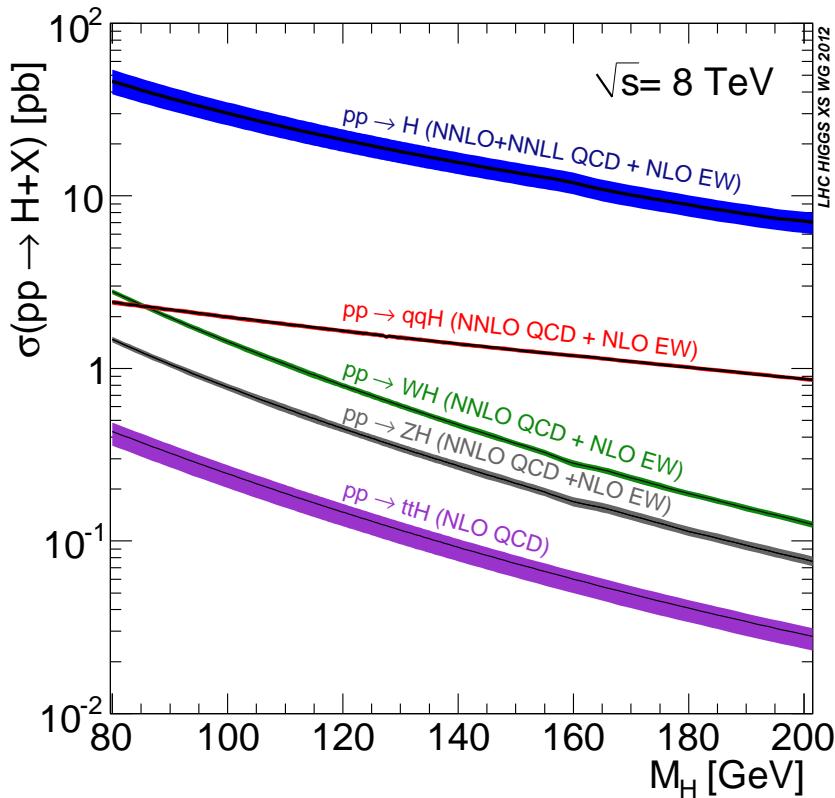
a natural ground to illustrate some of the key ingredients of theoretical predictions, with very strong physical motivations.

Theoretical predictions for the LHC

- Higher orders in QCD/EW essential to:
 - stability and predictivity of theoretical results, since less sensitivity to unphysical renormalization/factorization scales;
 - more realistic modelling of parton level since higher parton multiplicity (distributions, jets, ...);
 - first step towards matching with resummed calculations and parton shower Monte Carlo programs.
- NLO QCD, challenges have largely been met:
 - traditional approach (FD's) made more efficient to handle high multiplicity;
 - new techniques based on unitarity methods and recursion relations offers a powerful alternative, particularly suited for automation;
 - interface with parton shower MC well advanced (MC@NLO, POWHEG, Sherpa);
 - automation mostly achieved (aMC@NLO, BlackHat, GoSam, ...).

- NLO EW and EW+QCD: corrections known for most processes relevant for Run I of the LHC.
- NNLO QCD: conquered or under way for a variety of $2 \rightarrow 2$ processes (e.g. $pp \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$, and $pp \rightarrow H + j$). Essential when:
 - processes involve multiple scales, leading to large logarithms of the ratio(s) of scales;
 - new parton level subprocesses first appear at NLO;
 - new dynamics first appear at NLO.
- N^3LO results for $2 \rightarrow 1$ processes ($gg \rightarrow H$ in $m_t \rightarrow \infty$ limit)
- Developed systematic resummation techniques for multiscale processes to account for:
 - large corrections from dominant kinematic regions (soft/collinear);
 - large corrections induced by exclusive cuts/vetos.
- PDF: constant development, NNLO is now the state of the art.
Enormous effort to optimize PDF sets for LHC physics.

Proof of concept: Higgs discovery and beyond

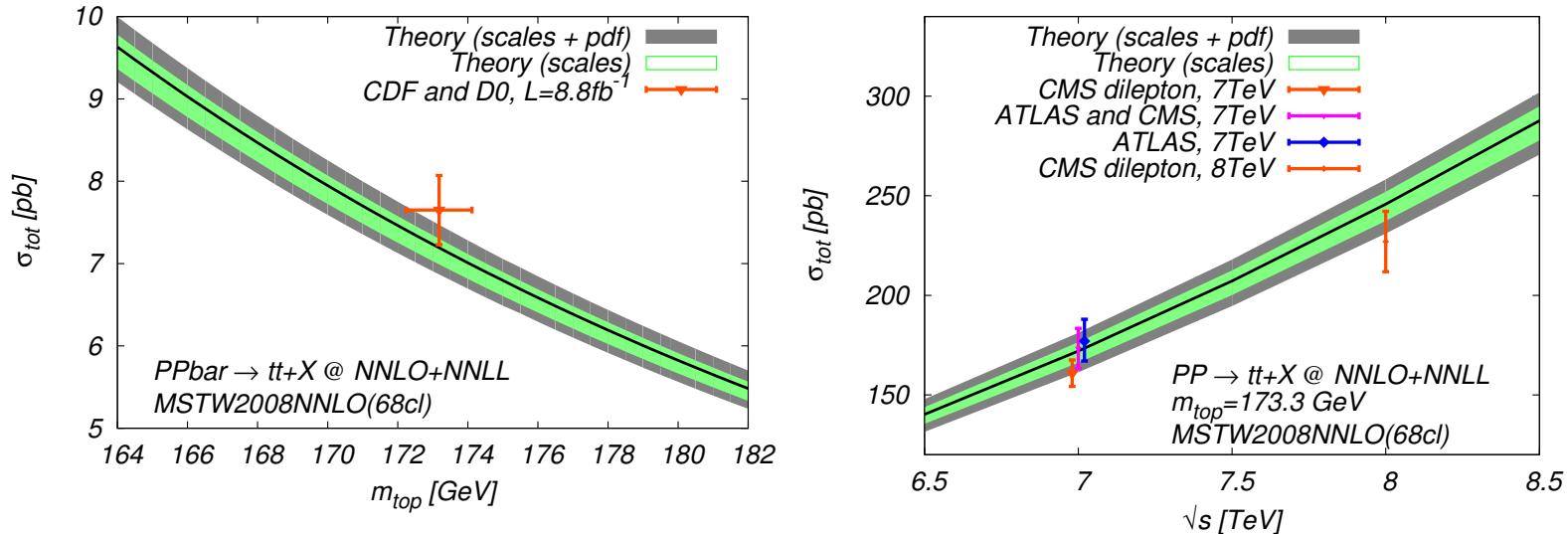


(LHC Higgs Cross Sections Working Group, arXiv:1101.0593, 1201.3084 and 1307.1347)

- all orders of calculated higher orders corrections included (tested with all existing calculations);
- theory errors (scales, PDF, α_s , ...) combined according to common recipe.

$t\bar{t}$ production at the Tevatron and LHC

physics need for high theoretical accuracy



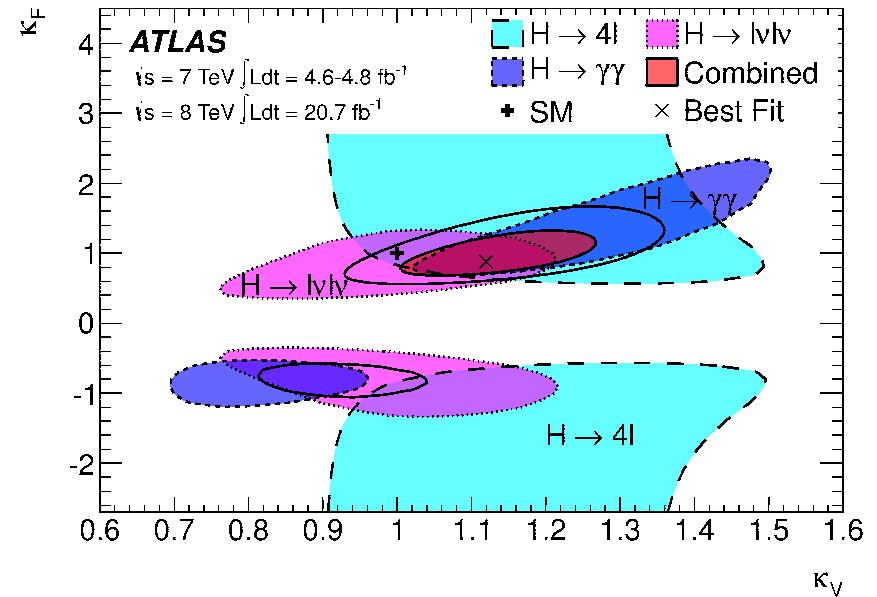
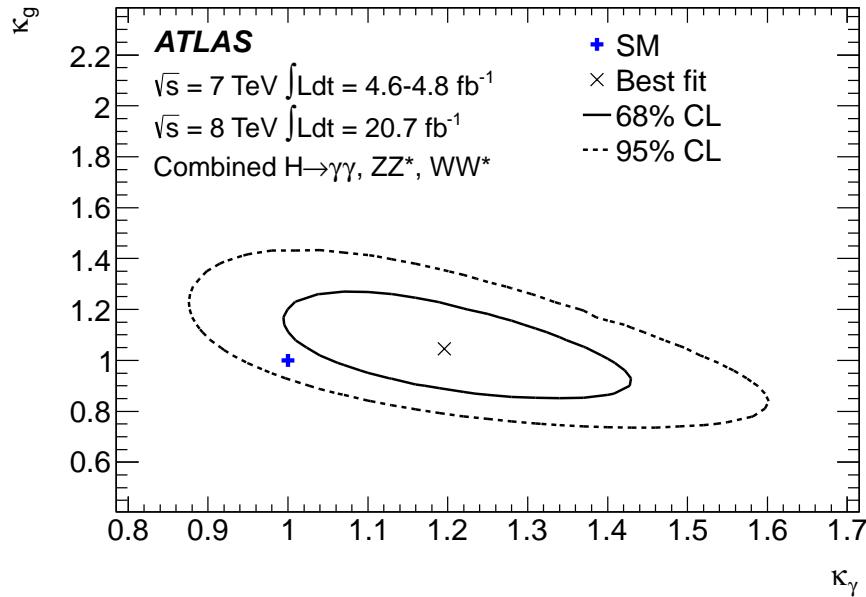
Czakon, Fiedler, Mitov (arXiv:1303.6254)

- ▷ full NNLO+NNLL now calculated;
- ▷ theoretical uncertainty reduced to $\simeq 4 - 5\%$ (scale) and $\simeq 3 - 4\%$ (PDF) at the LHC, even less at the Tevatron;
- ▷ comparable to current experimental uncertainty: precision requires NNLO;
- ▷ almost a precision measurement of parton densities.

$Q\bar{Q}$ associated production with a Higgs boson

- Motivations
 - ▷ $Ht\bar{t}$: instrumental to Higgs couplings determination;
 - ▷ $Hb\bar{b}$: direct evidence of new physics.
- Focus on $t\bar{t} + H$: Interesting aspects of the NLO calculation.
- Latest studies: interface with NLO Parton Shower MC and spin studies.

$t\bar{t}H$: motivation



See studies in:

ATLAS-CONF-2012-127, and arXiv:1307.1427

CMS-PAS-HIG-12-020

Notice:

- ▷ hard to constrain κ_t from $(\kappa_g, \kappa_\gamma)$ fit, direct κ_t measurement is crucial
- ▷ sign of κ_t cannot come from $t\bar{t}H \rightarrow H + t$ production
(see Biswah, Gabrielli, Mele, arXiv:1211.0499, $pp \rightarrow tq + H \rightarrow tq + \gamma\gamma$)

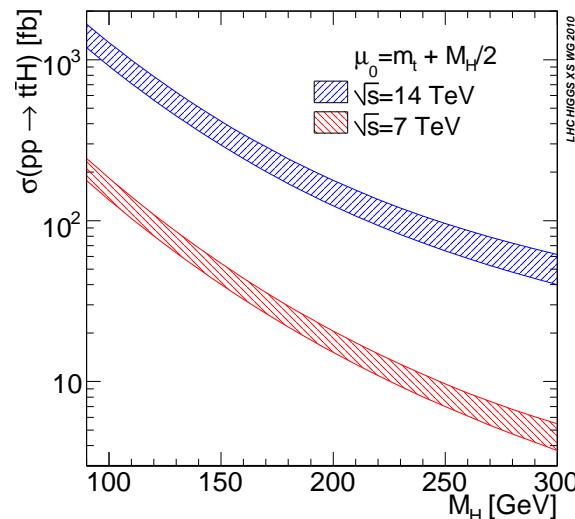
$t\bar{t}H$: towards more accurate theoretical predictions

NLO QCD corrections to $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$ from:

- Beenakker et al. (arXiv:hep-ph/0107081, arXiv:hep-ph/0211352)
- Dawson et al. (arXiv:hep-ph/0107101, arXiv:hep-ph/0211438)

used to estimate the theoretical uncertainties currently used in Higgs searches

- ↪ Higgs Cross Section Working Group (HXSWG- $t\bar{t}H$)
(First Yellow Report, arXiv:1101.059)



$m_H \simeq 125$ GeV, $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV

$$\delta\sigma^{NLO}|_{scale}(\%) \simeq [+5.9, -3.3]$$

$$\delta\sigma^{NLO}|_{PDF+\alpha_s} \simeq \pm 8.9$$

where

$$\text{scale: } \mu_0/2 < \mu < 2\mu_0$$

PDF:MSTW08, CTEQ6.6, NNPDF2.0

Matched at NLO to Parton Shower Monte Carlo generators

NLO calculation (by Dawson et al.) interfaced with Parton Shower Monte Carlo generators (PYTHIA/HERWIG) within

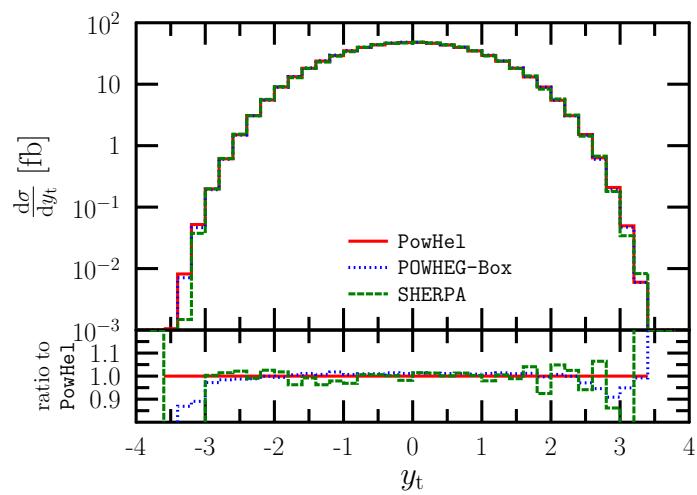
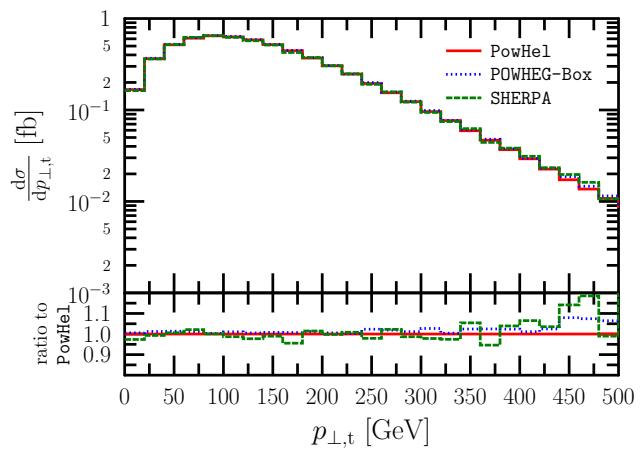
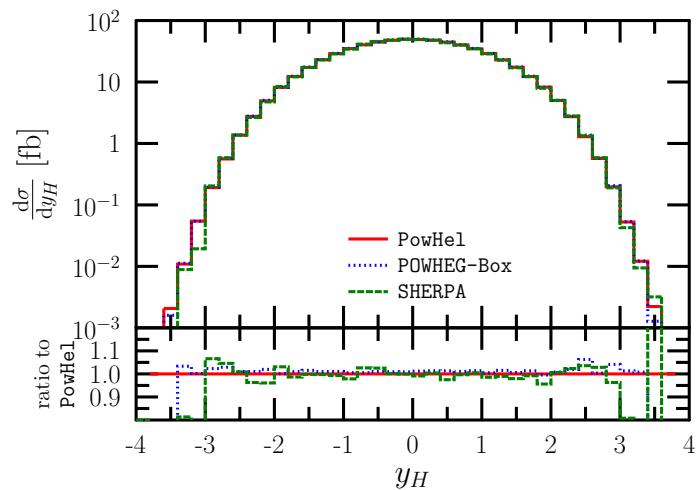
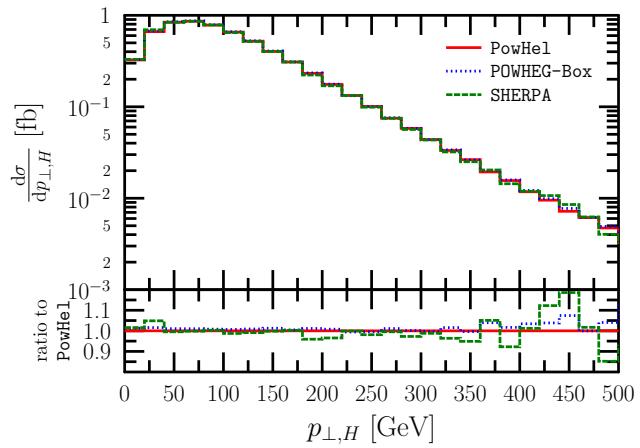
- ▷ POWHEG-BOX
- ▷ Sherpa

and successfully compared to PowHel (HELAC-NLO+POWHEG-BOX)

→ Garzelli, Kardos, Trócsányi ; Jäger, Hartanto, Reina, Wackerlo
Les Houches Higgs Working Group (2013)

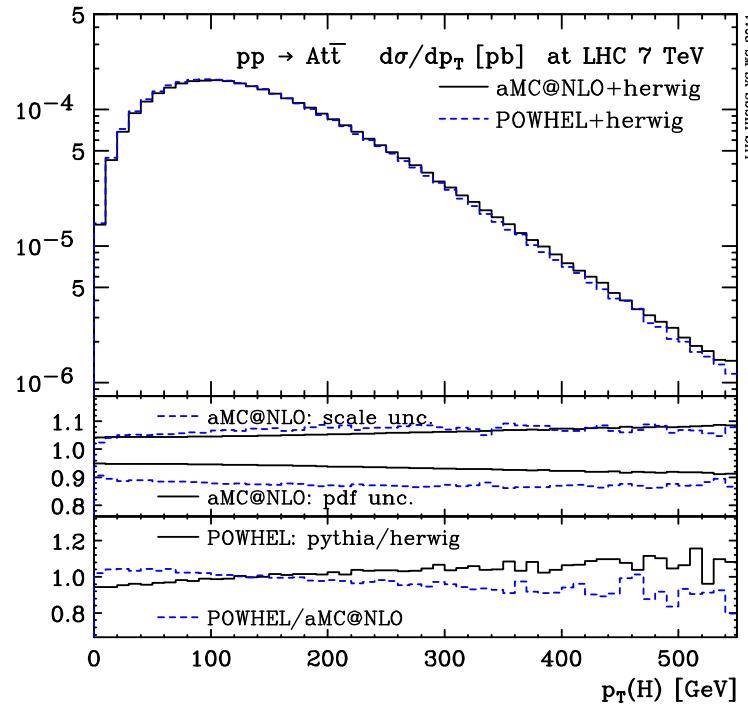
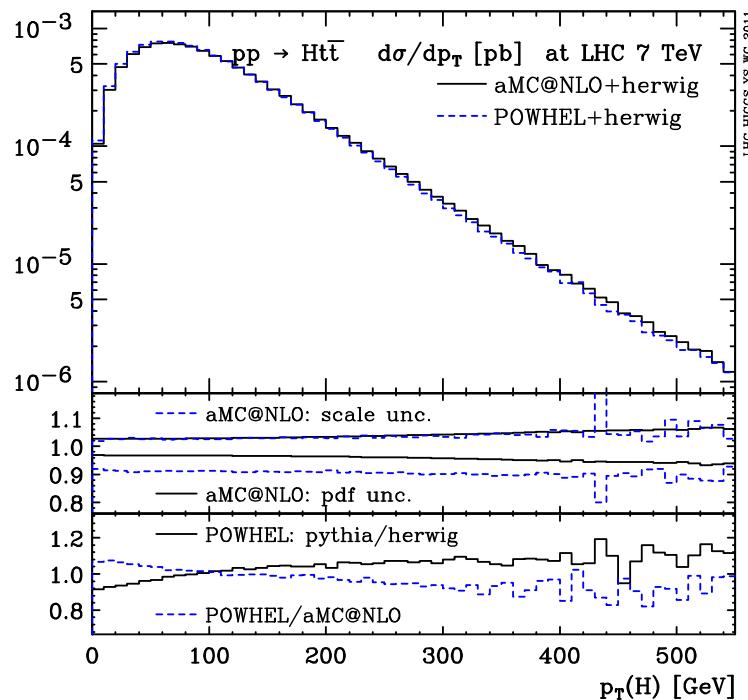
for a standard choice of selection cuts, and assuming $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ (all decays implemented through the PS MC),

- $p_T^{jet} > 20$ GeV, $|y^{jet}| < 4.5$
- $p_T^l > 20$ GeV, $|y^l| < 2.5$
- $\Delta R_{l,jet} > 0.4$



Independent calculation from aMC@NLO, also successfully compared with PowHel (both $t\bar{t}H$ and $t\bar{t}A$)

↪ Garzelli, Kardos, Trócsányi ; Frederix
 (HXSWG- $t\bar{t}H$, Yellow Report II, arXiv:1201.3084)



New: study of spin correlation in $t\bar{t}H$

Spin-correlation effects can be used to distinguish scalar vs pseudoscalar associated production, i.e. SM from non-SM effects

↪ Artoisenet, Frederix, Mattelaer, Rietkerk, arXiv:1212.3460

and can be very visible in decay product's kinematic distributions,

↪ Ellis, Hwang, Sakurai, Takeuchi, arXiv:1312.5736

and even more can be used to improve the separation of signal ($t\bar{t}H$) and some irreducible backgrounds (e.g. $t\bar{t}\gamma\gamma$)

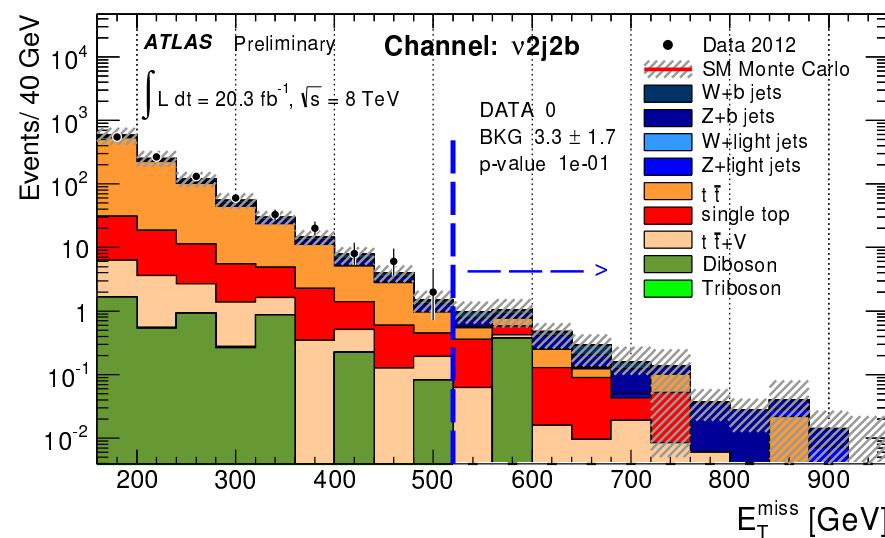
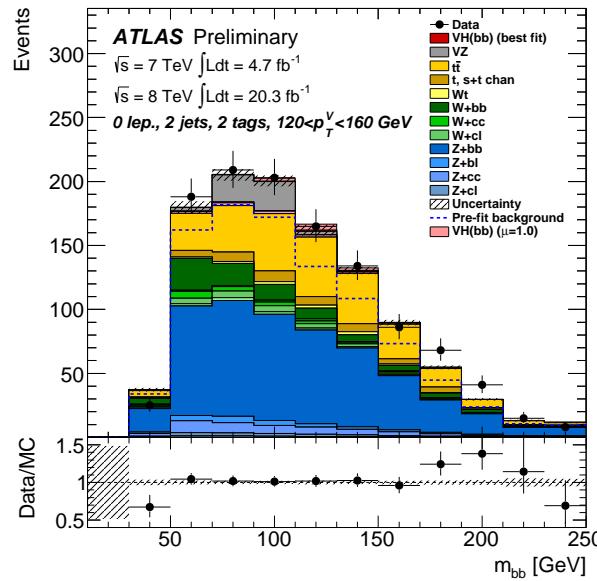
↪ (Biswah, Frederix, Gabrielli, Mele, arXiv:1403.1790)

$Q\bar{Q}$ associated production of with weak vector bosons

- $V + \text{HQ}$, Motivations:
 - ▷ important test of QCD;
 - ▷ testing ground of cutting edge techniques in perturbative QFT;
 - ▷ $Vt\bar{t}$ ($V = W/Z/\gamma$):
 - testing EW top-quark couplings;
 - ▷ $Vb\bar{b}$, Vb , and $Vc\bar{c}$, Vc ($V = W/Z/\gamma$):
 - direct access to b and c intrinsic densities in nucleons;
 - main background to several important SM and BSM signatures,
 - ▷ WH/ZH associated production, $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$;
 - ▷ single-top production;
 - ▷ several non-standard model signatures.
- Main focus: QCD studies for $V + b$ jets ($V = W/Z/\gamma$):
 - new study of $\gamma + b$ jets;
 - review and current developments in $W/Z + b$ jets.
- Comparison with Tevatron and LHC data

Motivations

Ex.: Higgs searches and New Physics searches



- Higgs searches: $W/Z + b\bar{b}$ largest irreducible background in $VH, H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ associated production (signal known very accurately).
- New physics searches: $W/Z + b$ jets important irreducible background were largest deviations are expected.

What makes $V + HQ$ special

- New mass scale (m_{HQ}) comes into play.
- b and c -quark production prone to large corrections induced by logarithmic dependence on large mass ratios (m_{HQ}/M_X).
- Theoretical predictions may require resummation of large logarithmic corrections.
- Behavior of perturbative expansion depends on number of HQ jets required in the final state.
- Behavior of perturbative expansion may change drastically depending on energy scale or kinematic regime.

Detailed discussion of $V + 2b$ and $V + 1b$ next

$V + 2b$ jets:

only via the tree-level processes

- $q\bar{q}' \rightarrow Wb\bar{b}$
- $q\bar{q}, gg \rightarrow Zb\bar{b}/\gamma b\bar{b}$

and corresponding higher-order corrections.

$V + 1b$ jet:

still via the tree-level processes ($n_{lf} = 4 \rightarrow 4\text{FNS}$, $m_b \neq 0$)

- $q\bar{q}' \rightarrow Wb\bar{b}$
- $q\bar{q}, gg \rightarrow Zb\bar{b}/\gamma b\bar{b}$

but also ($n_{lf} = 5 \rightarrow 5\text{FNS}$, $m_b = 0$),

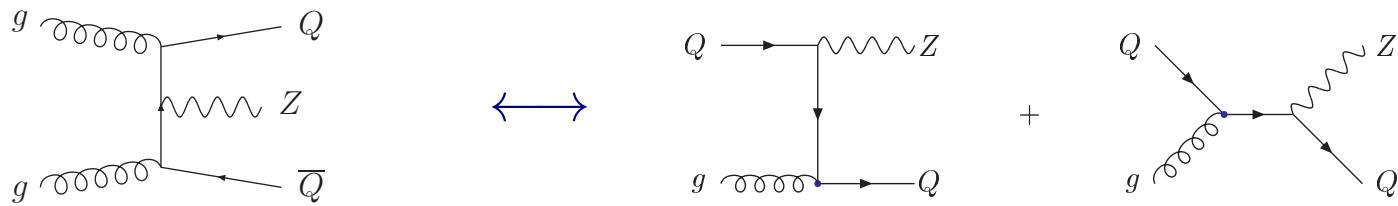
- $b\bar{q} \rightarrow Wb + q'$
- $bg \rightarrow Zb/\gamma b$

and corresponding higher-order corrections.

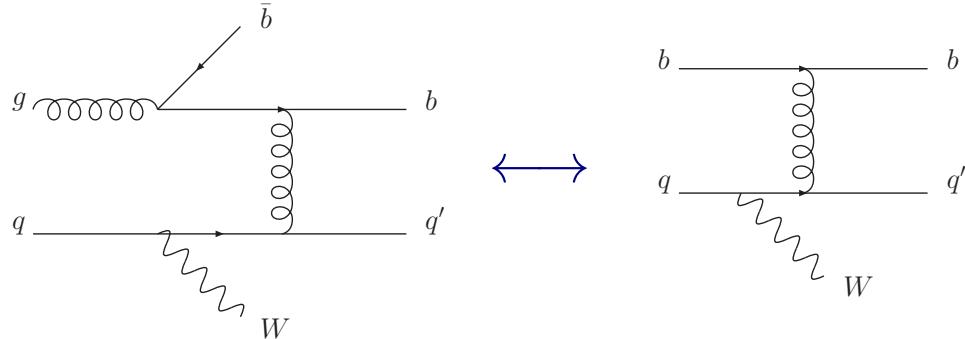
Different processes dominate in different kinematic regions and at different scales (relative to m_b). Why? → look at origin of b -initiated processes

Observe that: when HQ is not tagged ...

► $bg \rightarrow Zb/\gamma b$ is related to $gg \rightarrow Zb\bar{b}/\gamma b\bar{b}$,



► $bg \rightarrow Wb + q'$ is related to $qg \rightarrow Wb\bar{b} + q'$,



by defining a purely perturbative b -quark density (from $g \rightarrow b\bar{b}$), e.g.

$$b(x, \mu) = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \ln \frac{\mu^2}{m_b^2} \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} P_{qg}(z) g\left(\frac{x}{z}, \mu\right)$$

[expansion at first order of the RGE evolved $b(x, \mu)$]

Where:

- ▷ potentially large logarithmic corrections arise from phase-space integration of untagged b quark;
- ▷ they can be resummed using RG techniques into $b(x, \mu)$;
- ▷ combination of processes requires subtraction terms to avoid double-counting.

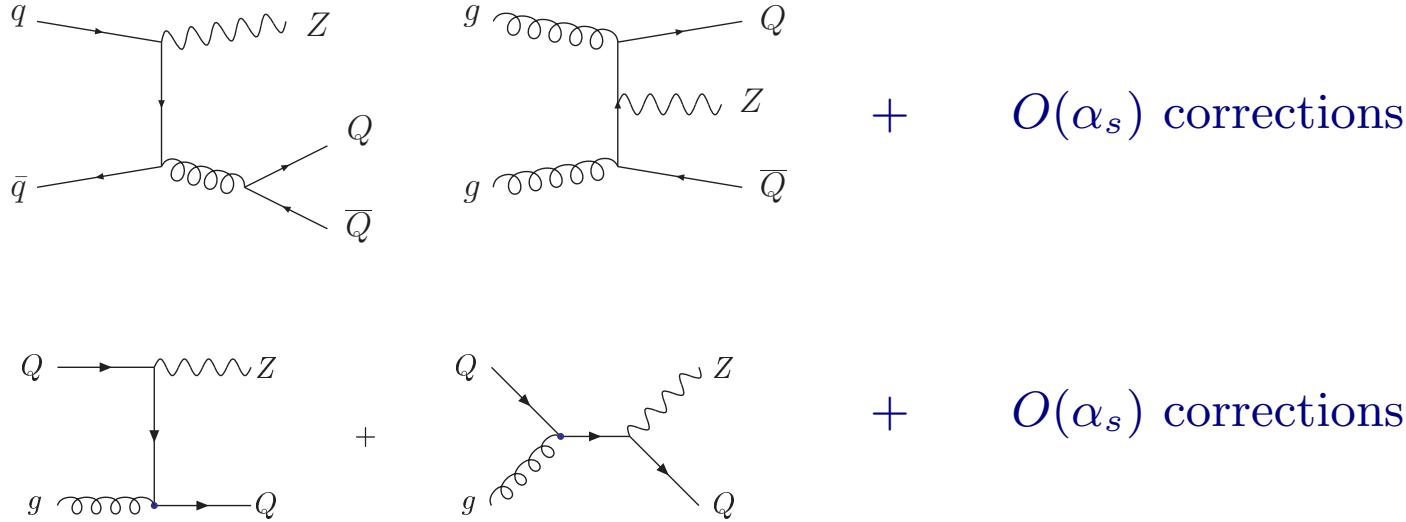
... and yet:

- ▷ fixed-order expansion of b -initiated processes does not match fixed-order calculation (missing non-log terms).
- ▷ when should we make the transition $n_{lf} = 4 \rightarrow n_{lf} = 5$?
- ▷ do we understand the interplay of $n_{lf} = 4$ and $n_{lf} = 5$ in different processes ($W + b$ jets vs $Z + b$ jets vs $\gamma + b$ jets)?
- ▷ do we understand the different energy regimes (Tevatron vs LHC)?
- ▷ is this picture correct? (intrinsic b ?)

Only a thorough comparison with data using the most accurate theoretical predictions will tell us → see results in this talk

$V + 2b$ jets and $V + 1b$ jet for $V = \gamma, Z$:

LO processes, depend on choice of 4FNS vs 5FNS:



Correspondently, at NLO:

1. $q\bar{q}, gg \rightarrow Vb\bar{b}$ at tree level and one loop (with $m_b \neq 0$);
2. $q\bar{q}, gg \rightarrow Vb\bar{b} + g$ and $gq(g\bar{q}) \rightarrow Vb\bar{b} + q(\bar{q})$ (with $m_b \neq 0$).
3. $bg \rightarrow Vb$ at tree level and one loop (with $m_b = 0$);
4. $bg \rightarrow Vb + g, bq \rightarrow Vb + q$ (with $m_b = 0$);

$V + 2b$ jets: processes 1 + 2

$V + 1b$ jet: processes 3 + 4 + $(1 + 2)_{LO}$ (5FNS) or $(1 + 2)_{NLO}$ (4FNS)

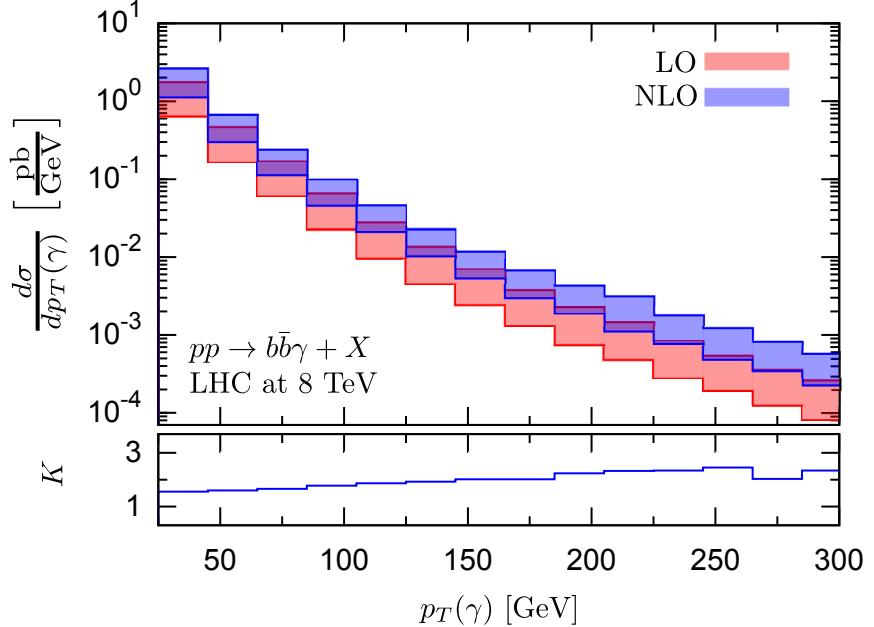
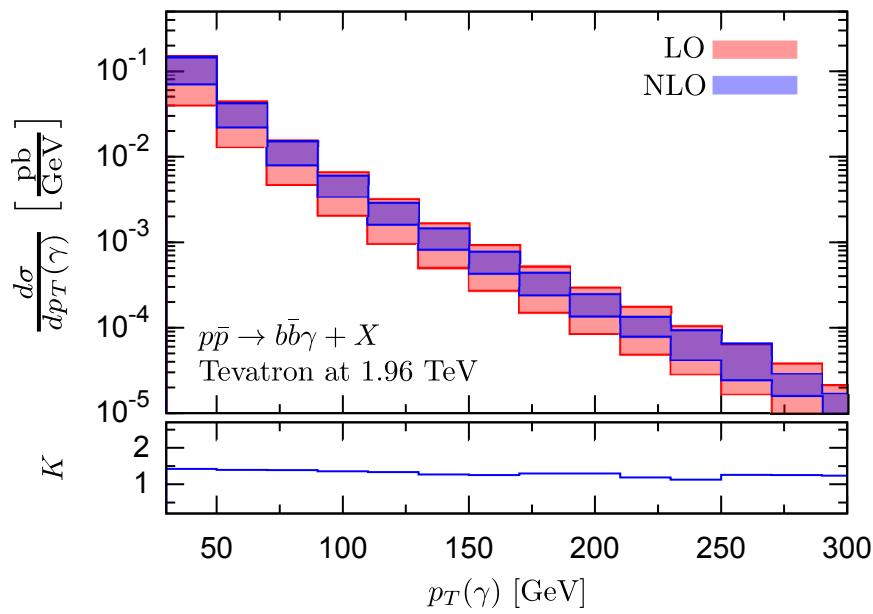
Direct photon + b jet study

H. Hartanto, L.R., arXiv:1312.2384

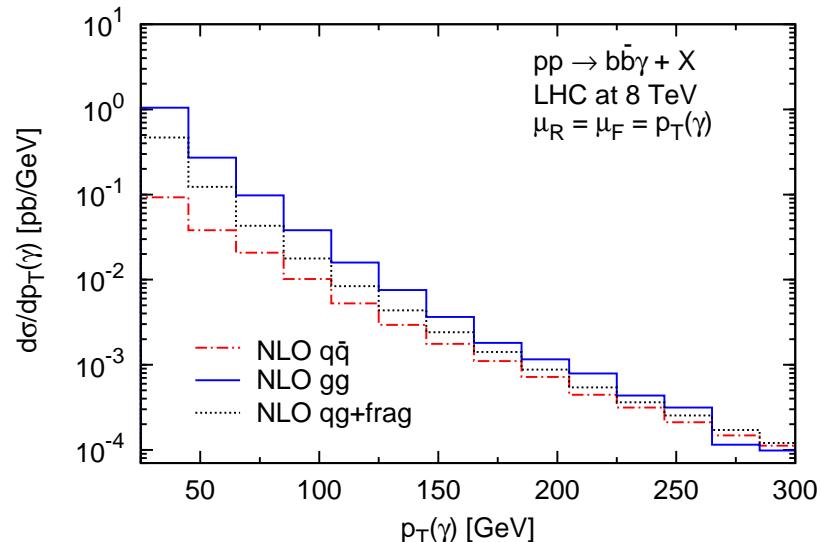
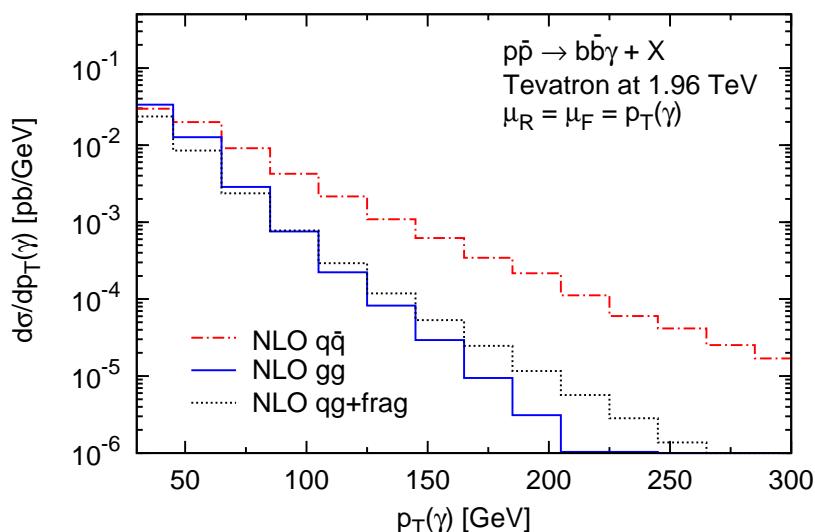
- NLO 4FNS and 5FNS calculation
- Studied dependence on
 - dynamical-scale choice ($p_T(\gamma)$, H_T , ...),
 - scale variation (μ_R and μ_F , $\mu_0/4 < \mu_{R,F} < 4\mu_0$),
 - photon isolation prescription: fixed- vs smooth-cone isolation:
 - Fixed-cone: $\sum_{\in R_0} E_T(\text{had}) < E_T^{\max} + \text{fragmt. functions}$
 - Smooth-cone: $\sum_{i, R \leq R_0} E_T^i \theta(R - R_{i,\gamma}) < \epsilon E_T^\gamma \left(\frac{1 - \cos R}{1 - \cos R_0} \right)$
- (for $R_0 = 0.4$, $\epsilon = 1$).
- PDF: CT10nlonf4 (4FNS), CT10nlo (5FNS).
- Photon selection cuts:
 - Tevatron: $p_T(\gamma) > 30$ GeV, $|\eta(\gamma)| < 1$
 - LHC: $p_T(\gamma) > 25$ GeV, $|\eta(\gamma)| < 1.37$
- Jet selection cuts (used anti- k_T with $R = 0.4$):
 - Tevatron: $p_T(b,j) > 20$ GeV, $|\eta(b,j)| < 1.5$
 - LHC: $p_T(b,j) > 25$ GeV, $|\eta(b,j)| < 2.1$

Ex.: $\gamma + 2b$

Perturbative theoretical accuracy (μ_R and μ_F dependence, $\mu_0 = p_T(\gamma)$)

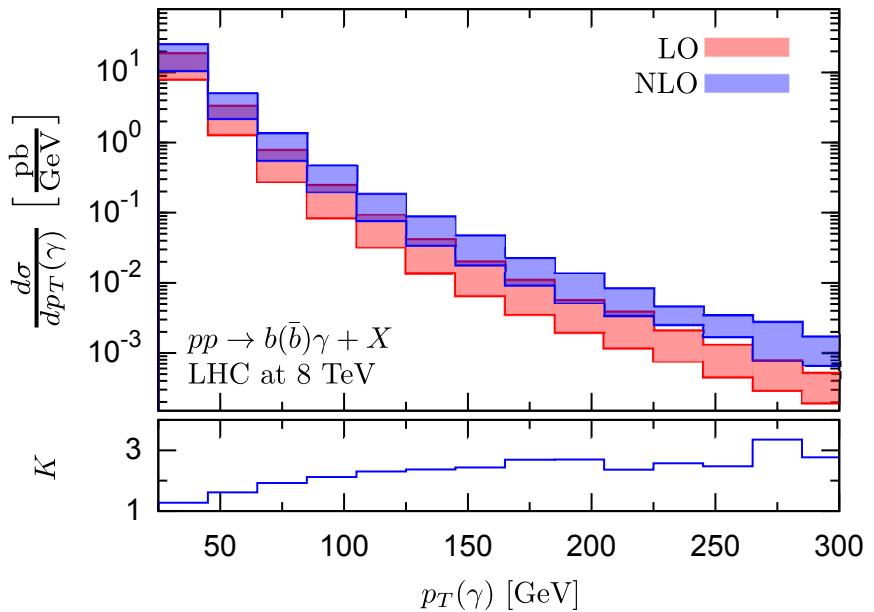
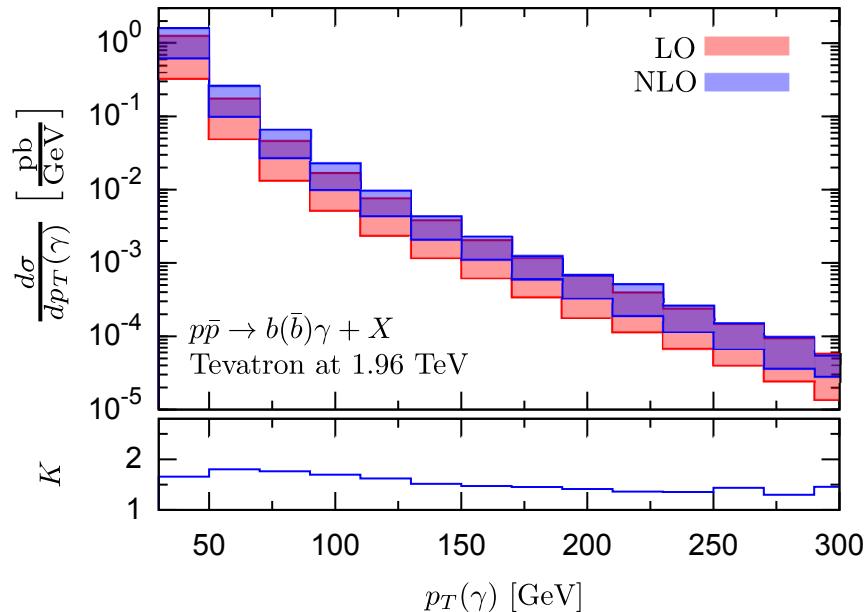


Understanding residual scale-dependence,

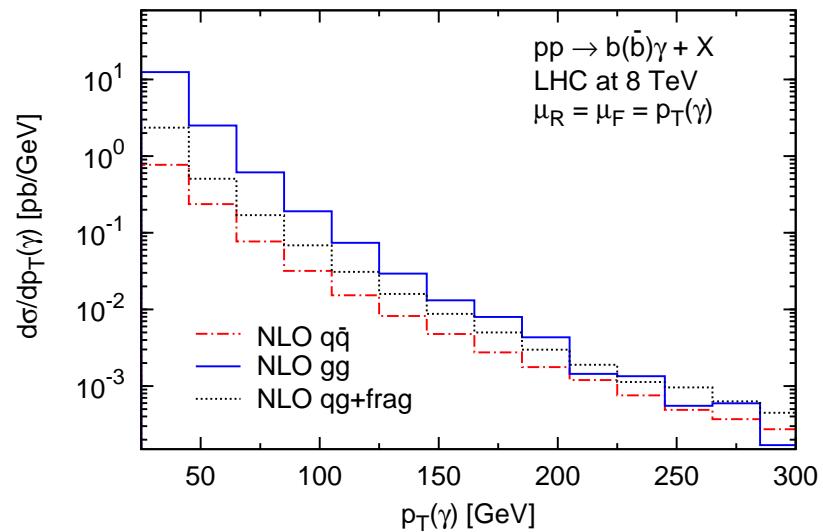
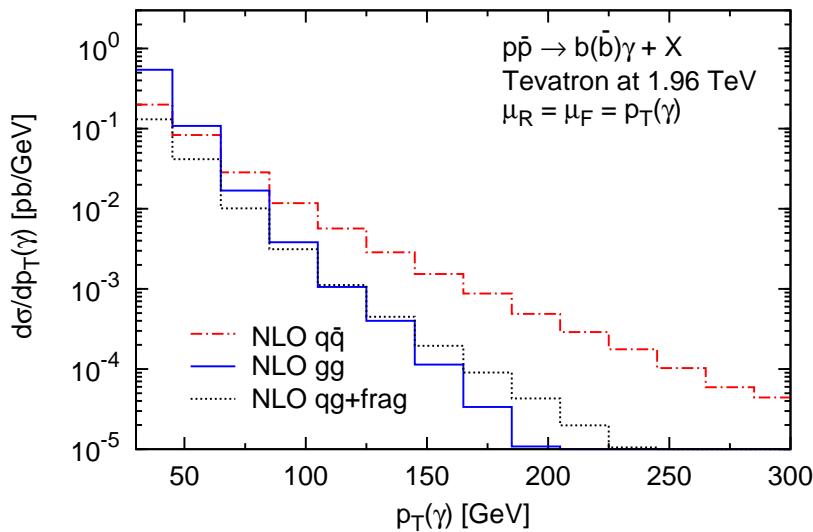


Ex.: $\gamma + 1b$, 4FNS

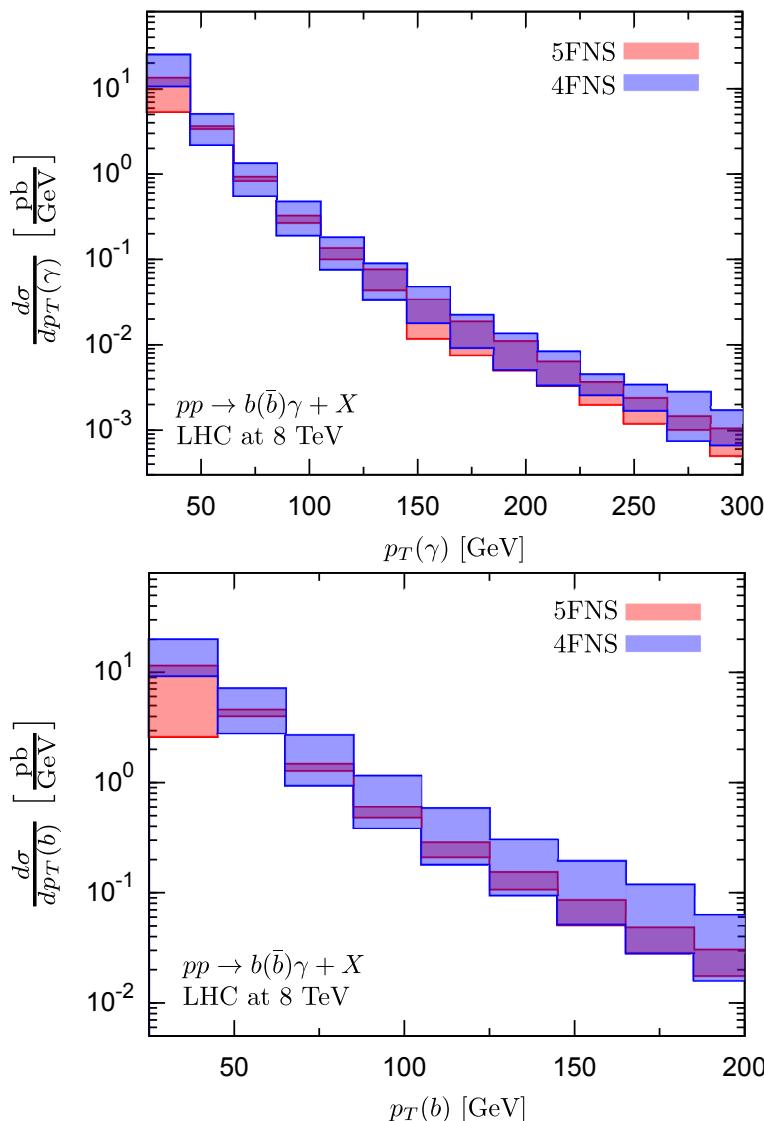
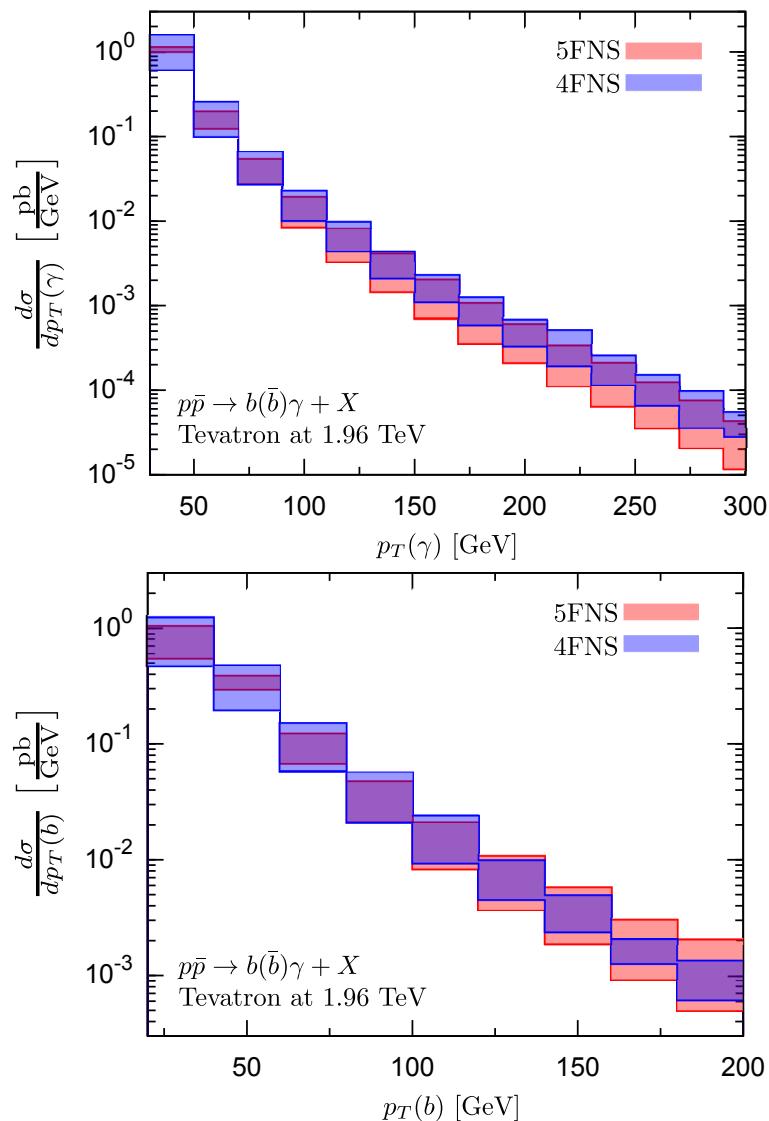
Perturbative theoretical accuracy (μ_R and μ_F dependence, $\mu_0 = p_T(\gamma)$)



Looking at individual contributions:



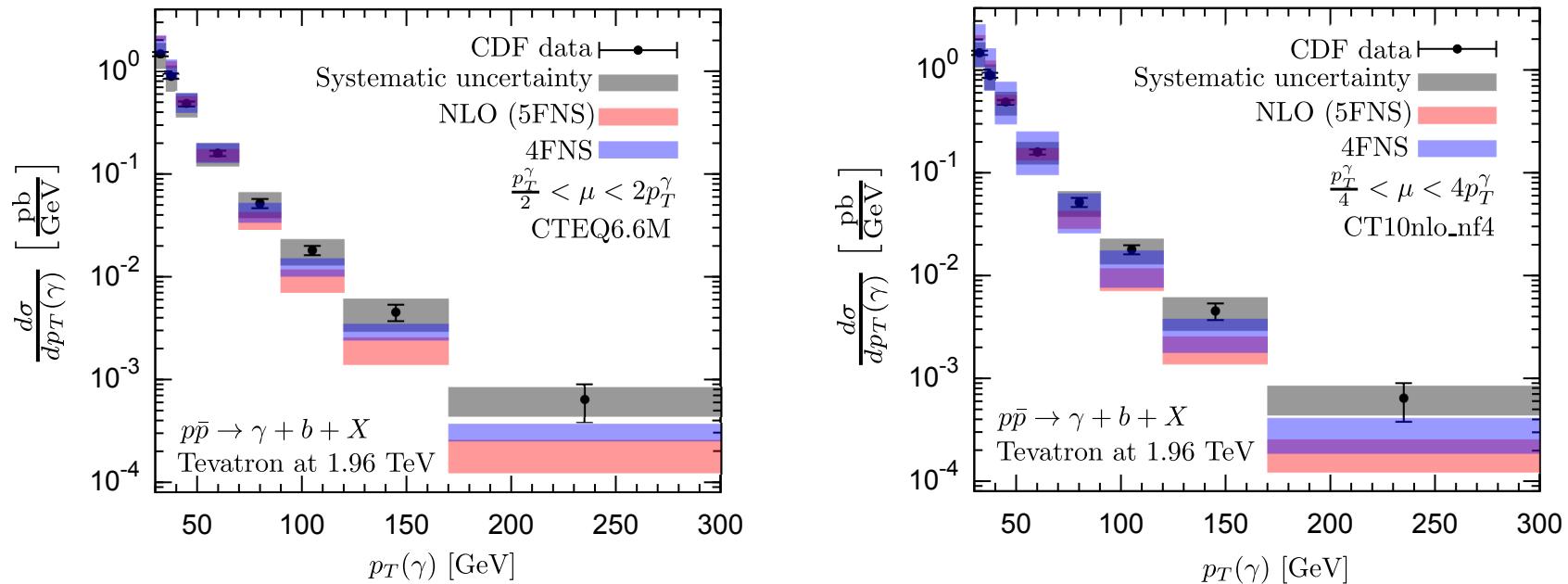
$\gamma + 1b$, 4FNS vs 5FNS



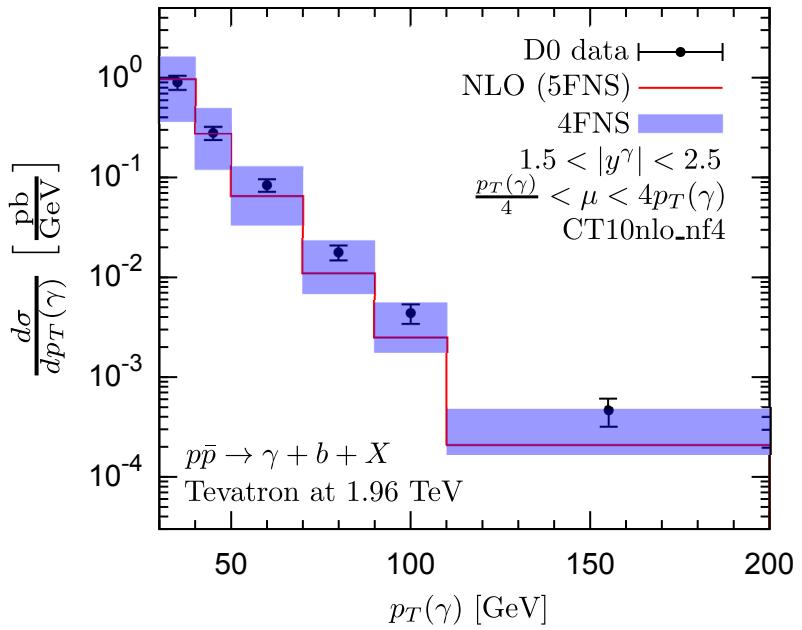
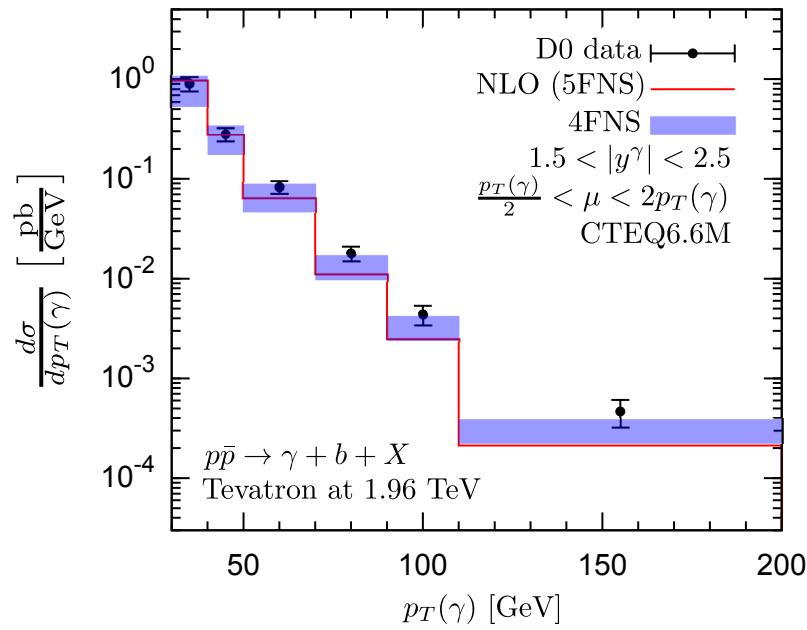
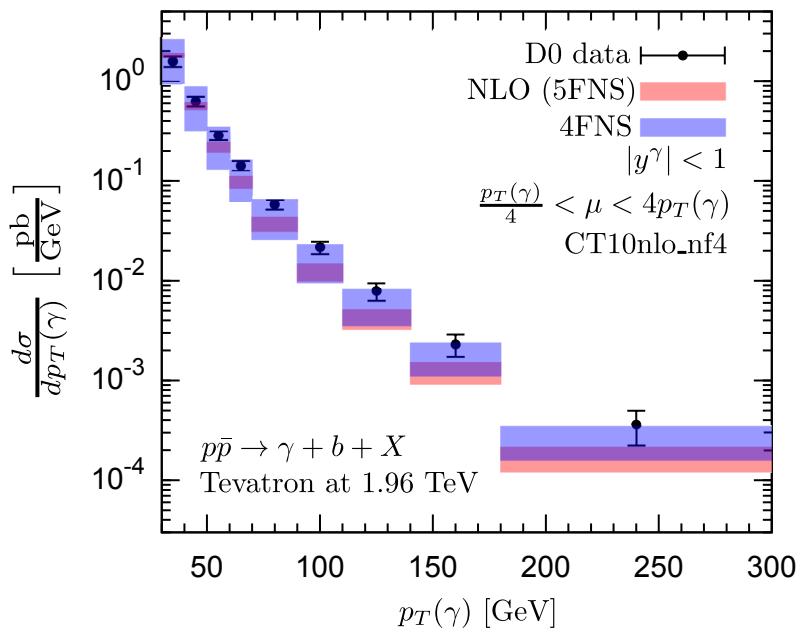
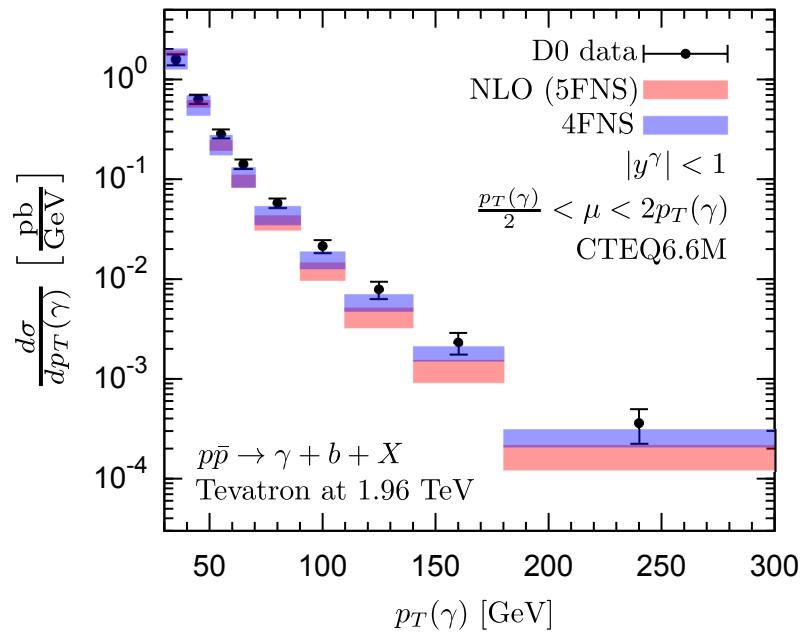
Notice:

- overall compatibility within accuracy;
- difference between high and low $p_T(\gamma)$;
- difference between Tevatron and LHC.

$\gamma + 1b$: Comparison with experimental results, CDF and D0

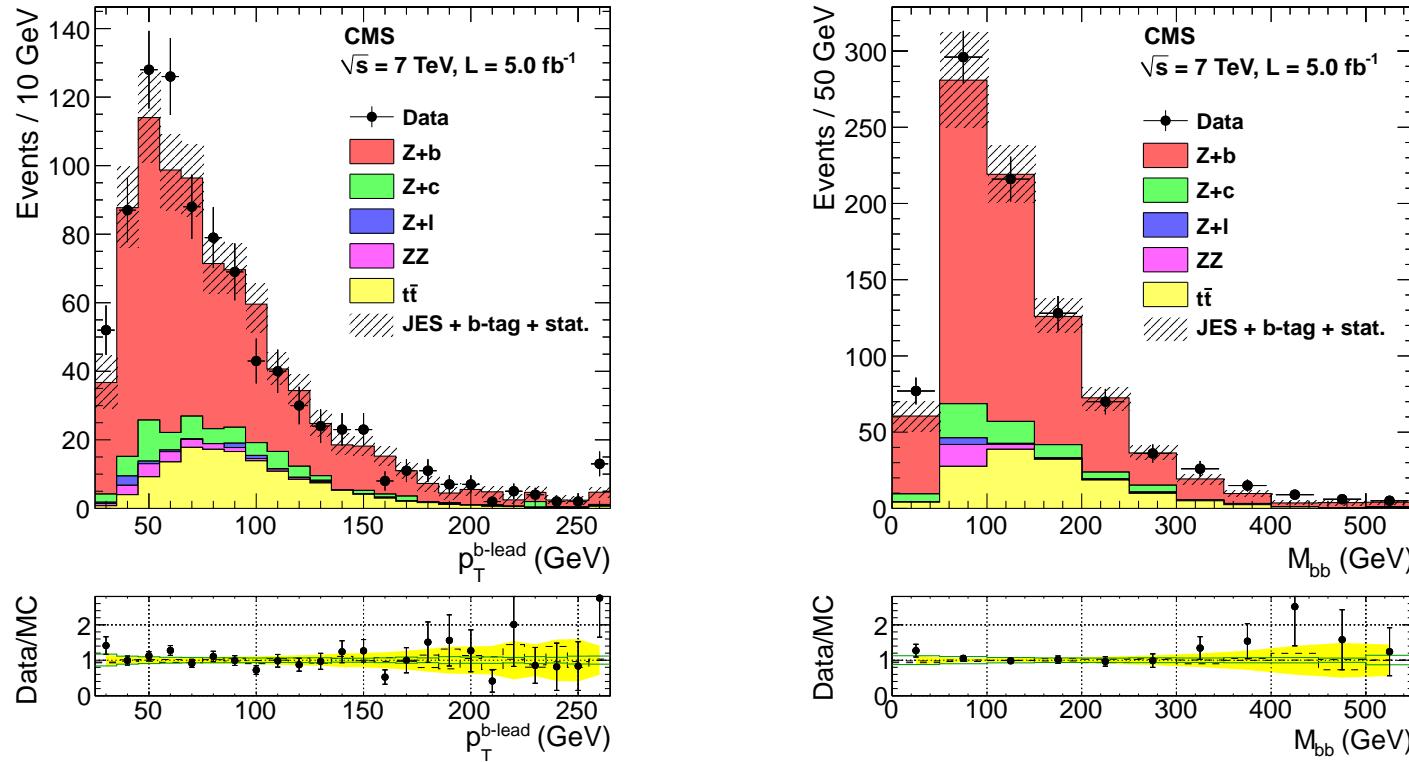


- signature: γ plus at least one b jet ($\gamma + b + X$)
- adopted full match with experimental selection cuts
- used anti- k_T jet algorithm ($R = 0.4$) and fixed-cone photon isolation
- 5FNS: from Stavreva and Owens (arXiv:0901.3791)
- 4FNS: from our study (arXiv:1312.2384)
- L.H.S.: S&O setup
- R.H.S.: our setup



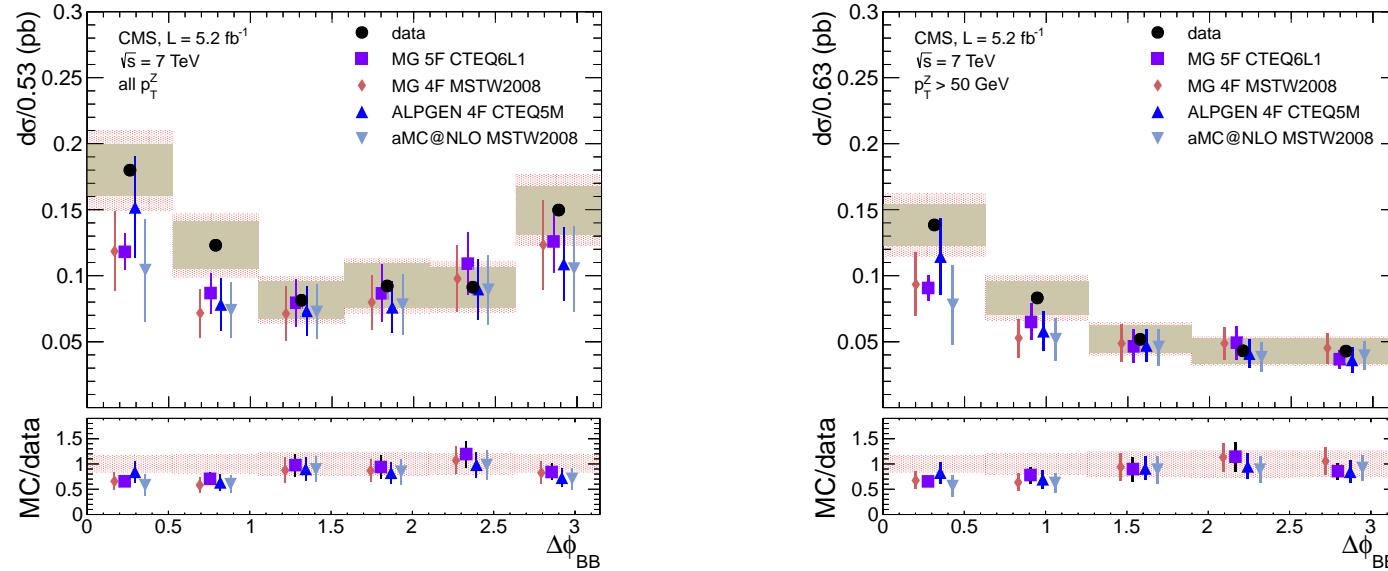
$Z + 1b$ jet vs $Z + 2b$ jets

New measurements from CMS (arXiv:1402.1521, arXiv:1310.1349)



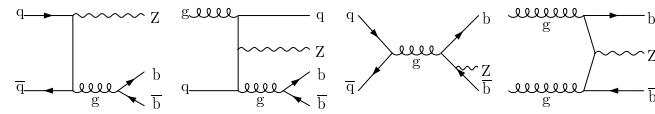
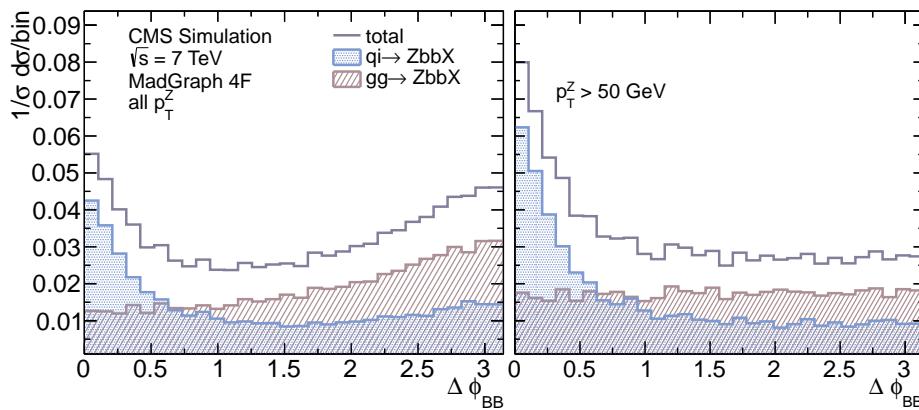
Cross section	Measured	MADGRAPH (5F)	aMCATNLO (5F)	MCFM (parton level)	MADGRAPH (4F)	aMCATNLO (4F)
σ_{Z+1b} (pb)	$3.52 \pm 0.02 \pm 0.20$	3.66 ± 0.22	$3.70^{+0.23}_{-0.26}$	$3.03^{+0.30}_{-0.36}$	$3.11^{+0.47}_{-0.81}$	$2.36^{+0.47}_{-0.37}$
σ_{Z+2b} (pb)	$0.36 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.07$	0.37 ± 0.07	$0.29^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	$0.29^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	$0.38^{+0.06}_{-0.10}$	$0.35^{+0.08}_{-0.06}$
σ_{Z+b} (pb)	$3.88 \pm 0.02 \pm 0.22$	4.03 ± 0.24	$3.99^{+0.25}_{-0.29}$	$3.23^{+0.34}_{-0.40}$	$3.49^{+0.52}_{-0.91}$	$2.71^{+0.52}_{-0.41}$
$\sigma_{Z+b}/\sigma_{Z+j}$ (%)	$5.15 \pm 0.03 \pm 0.25$	5.35 ± 0.11	$5.38^{+0.34}_{-0.39}$	$4.75^{+0.24}_{-0.27}$	$4.63^{+0.69}_{-1.21}$	$3.65^{+0.70}_{-0.55}$

Interesting measurement of b -hadron azimuthal correlation



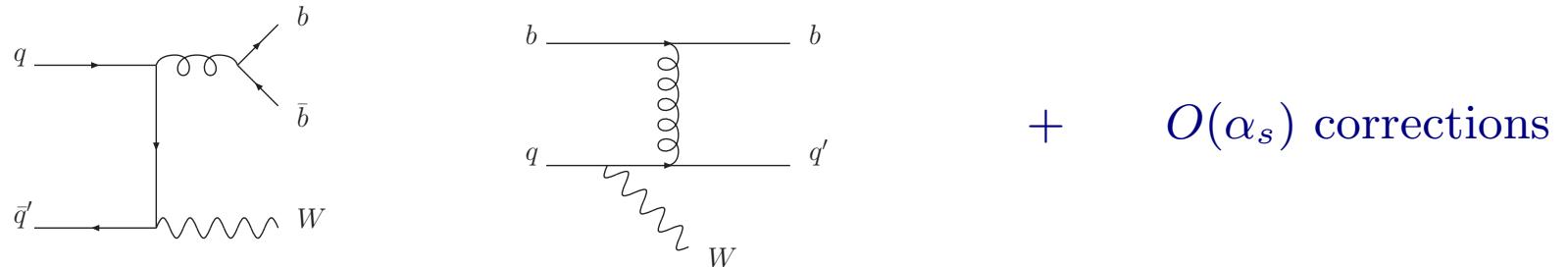
seems to point to resummation of large terms in $b\bar{b}$ collinear region

(\hookrightarrow Mangano and Nason, PLB 285 (1992) 160, HQ multiplicity in gluon jets)



$W + 1b$ jet vs $W + 2b$ jets

One or two LO processes, depending on choice of 4FNS vs 5FNS:



Correspondently, at NLO:

1. $q\bar{q}' \rightarrow W b\bar{b}$ at tree level and one loop ($m_b \neq 0$)
2. $q\bar{q}' \rightarrow W b\bar{b}g$ at tree level ($m_b \neq 0$)
3. $bq \rightarrow W bq'$ at tree level and one loop ($m_b = 0$)
4. $bq \rightarrow W bq'g$ and $bg \rightarrow W bq'\bar{q}$ at tree level ($m_b = 0$)
5. $gq \rightarrow W b\bar{b}q'$ at tree level ($m_b \neq 0$) \rightarrow avoiding double counting:

- ▷ $W + 2b$ jets: processes 1 + 2 + 5
- ▷ $W + 2$ jets with at least one b jet: processes 1 + \dots + 5.

- need to keep $m_b \neq 0$ for final state b quarks (one b quark has low p_T): first consistent NLO 5FNS calculation.
- four signatures studied: exclusive/inclusive, with single and double- b jets,
 - Wb exclusive: Wb only;
 - $W(b\bar{b})$ exclusive: $W(b\bar{b})$ only;
 - Wb inclusive: Wb , $Wb + j$, $Wb\bar{b}$;
 - $W(b\bar{b})$ inclusive: $W(b\bar{b})$ and $W(b\bar{b}) + j$.
- calculate σ_{event} and $\sigma_{b-\text{jet}}$ where

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{b-\text{jet}} &= \sigma_{\text{event}}(Wb \text{ incl.}) + \sigma_{\text{event}}(Wb\bar{b}) + \sigma_{\text{event}}(W(b\bar{b}) \text{ incl.}) \\ &= \sigma_{1j+2j} + \sigma_{\text{event}}(Wb\bar{b})\end{aligned}$$

- overall improved scale dependence: NLO corrections to $gq \rightarrow Wb\bar{b}q'$ partially included in 5FNS
- Compared to CDF and D0 measurements ($W + 1b$)
- Compared to ATLAS and CMS measurements ($W + 1b$ and $W + 2b$)

Comparison with Tevatron measurements

CDF (arXiv:0909.1505):

$$\sigma_{\text{b-jet}}(W + b \text{ jets}) \cdot Br(W \rightarrow l\nu) = 2.74 \pm 0.27(\text{stat}) \pm 0.42(\text{syst}) \text{ pb}$$

From our $W + 1b$ jet calculation (arXiv:1001.3362, arXiv:1001.2954):

$$\sigma_{\text{b-jet}}(W + b \text{ jets}) \cdot Br(W \rightarrow l\nu) = 1.22 \pm 0.14 \text{ pb}$$

For comparison:

Badger, Campbell, Ellis: $0.913 < \sigma_{\text{b-jet}} \cdot Br < 1.389 \text{ pb}$

ALPGEN prediction: 0.78 pb

PYTHIA prediction: 1.10 pb

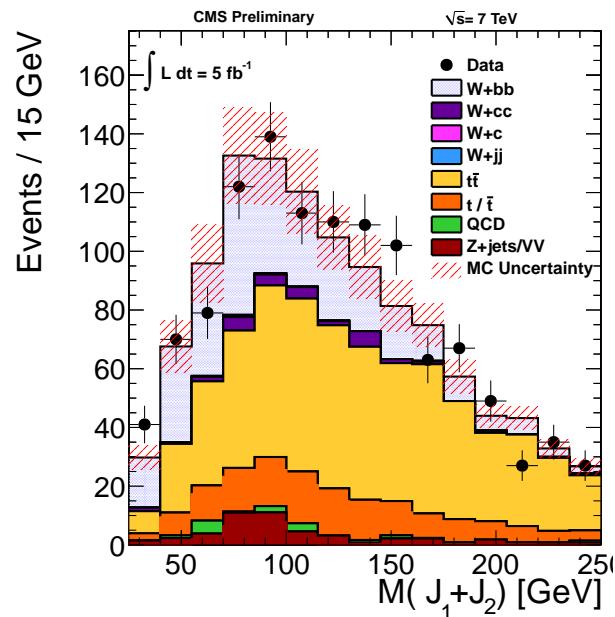
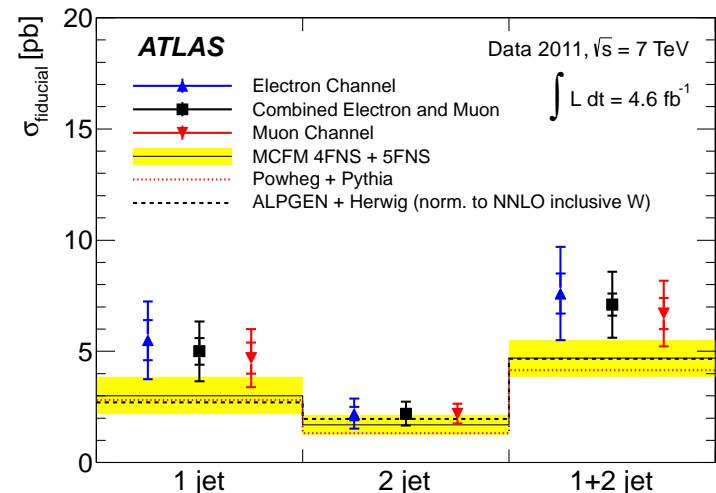
whereas:

D0 (arXiv:1210.0627):

$$\sigma(W(\rightarrow l\nu) + b + X) = 1.05 \pm 0.12(\text{stat + syst}) \text{ pb}$$

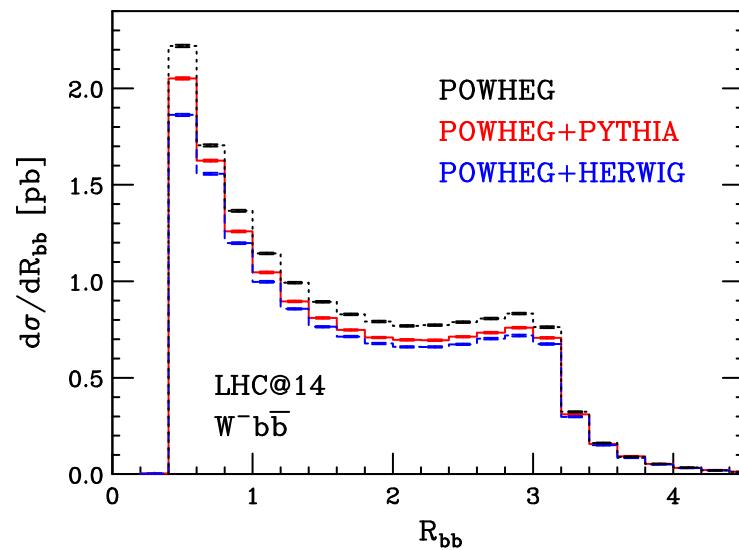
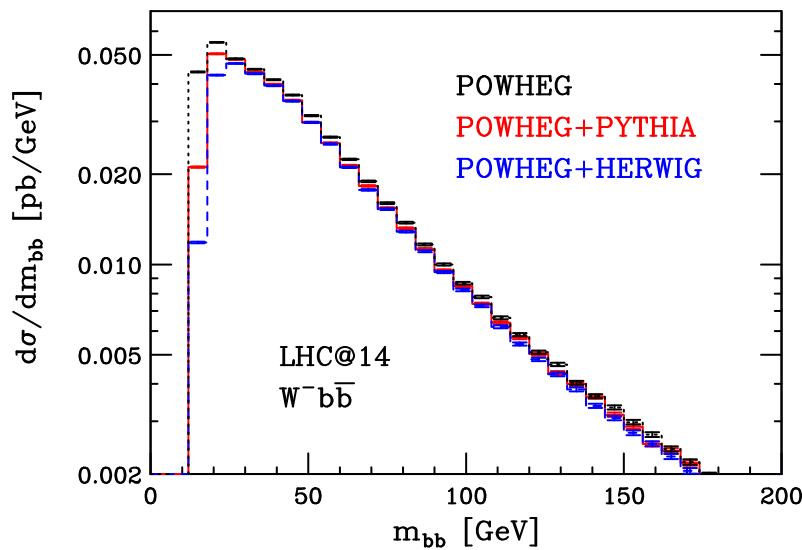
MCFM: $\sigma(W(\rightarrow l\nu) + b + X) = 1.34^{+0.41}_{-0.34}(\text{syst}) \text{ pb}$

Comparison with ATLAS and CMS



- ATLAS and CMS complementary measurements: $W + b + j$ vs $W + 2b$.
- ATLAS consistent with NLO QCD calculations within 1.5σ .
- CMS consistent with NLO QCD predictions:
 - CMS ($W + 2b$ jets): $0.53 \pm 0.05 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.09 \text{ (syst)} \pm 0.06 \text{ (theo)} \text{ pb}$
 - MCFM ($W + 2b$ jets): $0.52 \pm 0.03 \text{ pb}$
- Only partial use of NLO parton shower MC \rightarrow fully available for $W + 2b$ jets. Better tool for distributions.

$W\bar{b}\bar{b}$ implemented in POWHEG and aMC@NLO,
including $W \rightarrow l\nu_l$ decay.



- used in ATLAS analysis to estimate showering and hadronization uncertainties: $\leq 10 - 20\%$ (although $bq \rightarrow bq'W$ not yet implemented).
- Could be fully used in CMS analysis.

Conclusions and Outlook

- Heavy quark production ($Q\bar{Q}$) and associated heavy quark production ($Q\bar{Q} + H$, $Q\bar{Q} + W/Z$) play a fundamental role in the physics scenario of the LHC:
 - ▷ precision studies (m_t and parton luminosity from $Q\bar{Q}$);
 - ▷ signal of new physics: $t\bar{t}H$, $b\bar{b}H$;
 - ▷ background to new physics signals: $b\bar{b}W$, $b\bar{b}Z$.
 - ▷ test ground of QCD ($2 \rightarrow 2$ at NNLO, $2 \rightarrow 3$ at NLO).
- Prepare to use $t\bar{t}H$, $b\bar{b}H$ to test couplings of the 125 GeV resonance:
 - ▷ interface with parton shower MC available, for both signal and background;
 - ▷ refine $H + 1b$ calculation.
- Continue improving $W/Z/\gamma + b$ -jets comparison with data.