Top quark physics at hadron collider Theoretical aspects

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Preliminary remark:

This lecture is meant to be an introduction into top quark physics, it is not a complete survey of the field!



In particular, I will concentrate on the Standard Model



Outline:

Basic concepts

- The top quark and the SM
- The mass of a quark
- SM properties of the top quark
- Top production at hadron collider
 - leading-order part. cross sections
 - PDF's and hadron cross sections
 - Beyond LO
- Observables
 - The top spin and spin-correlations
 - W-Polarisation in top decays

The Standard Model

Building blocks:

Quarks:

$$\left(egin{array}{c} u_L, u_L, u_L \ d_L, d_L, d_L \end{array}
ight)$$

 $egin{aligned} u_R, u_R, u_R \ d_R, d_R, d_R, d_R \end{aligned}$

Leptons:

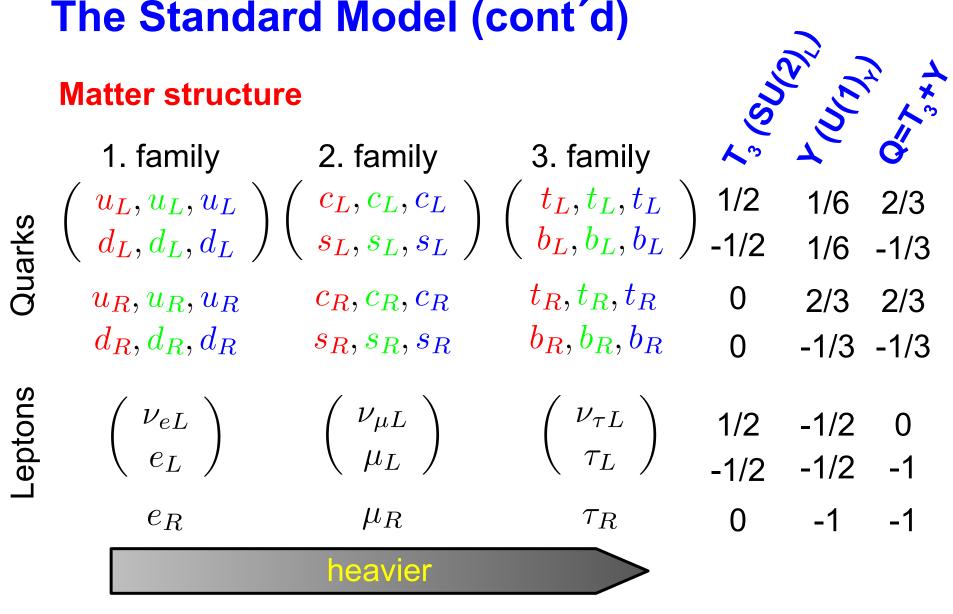
$$\left(\begin{array}{c}\nu_{eL}\\e_L\end{array}\right)$$

 e_R

Left-handed fermions, appear in "weak" isospindoublets à la Heisenberg (→ SU(2))

- Quarks exist in 3 colours
 (R,G,B) (→ SU(3))
- Particles carry hyper charge Y=Q-T₃ (→ U(1))

Symmetry group SU(3) x SU(2) x U(1)



Families exact copies with respect to the quantum numbers!

Why do we need the top quark?

Top quark is required to make the SM anomaly free

A current which is conserved at the classical Anomaly: level is no longer conserved when quantum corrections are taken into account

Famous example:

Adler-Bell-Jackiw anomaly of the axial vector current

$$\partial_{\mu}j^{5\mu} = \partial_{\mu}\bar{\Psi}\gamma^{5}\gamma^{\mu}\Psi =$$

At the classical level:

$$\partial_{\mu} j^{5\mu} = (\partial_{\mu} \bar{\Psi}) \gamma^{5} \gamma^{\mu} \Psi + \bar{\Psi} \gamma^{5} \gamma^{\mu} (\partial_{\mu} \Psi)$$

$$= -\bar{\Psi} \gamma^{5} \overleftarrow{\partial} \Psi - \bar{\Psi} \gamma^{5} \overrightarrow{\partial} \Psi$$

$$= -im \bar{\Psi} \Psi - im \bar{\Psi} \Psi$$

$$= -2im \bar{\Psi} \Psi$$

Dirac equation:

$$(i\gamma_{\mu}\partial^{\mu}-m)\Psi=0, \label{eq:phi} (-i\partial^{\mu}\bar{\Psi}\gamma_{\mu}-m\bar{\Psi})=0$$

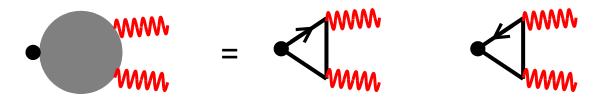
For vanishing masses, current conserved at the classical level

Including quantum corrections one finds:

[Adler, Bell, Jackiw]

 $\partial_{\mu} j^{5\mu} \sim \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta} F^{\mu\nu} \neq 0$ $\overset{\text{$\widehat{}}}{\qquad $\widehat{}} \text{ field strength tensor} \\ \partial_{\mu} A_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu} A_{\mu}$

→ Divergence of axial-vector current has nonzero matrix element of creating two "photons":



Serious problem in gauge theories where gauge fields are coupled to chiral currents \rightarrow violation of Ward identities

Note: ABJ anomaly is a fundamental property in QFT, no regular./renorm. scheme exists that conserves the vector and the axial vector current at the same time **Solution in the Standard Model:**

Arrange couplings of different fermions in such a way, that in the sum of all contr. anomaly cancels.

- \rightarrow family structure of the SM
- \rightarrow without the top quark, SM would be inconsistent
- \rightarrow be careful when studying 5 flavour QCD

Important consequences for the top quark

Gauge couplings of top quark are fixed by the structure of the Standard Model Į

What are the free parameters in the top sector?

- top quark mass or alternatively Yukawa coupling
- Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix elements

Top quark properties in the SM are functions of only two parameters:

mass and CKM matrix

→Top quark properties are testable predictions in the SM

Experimental Status:

Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) Matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} d'\\ s'\\ b' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub}\\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb}\\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d\\ s\\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

eigenstates of the interaction

mass eigenstates

Unitarity + assumption of only 3 families + Exp.: $|V_{td}| = 0.004 - 0.014, |V_{ts}| = 0.035 - 0.043,$ $|V_{tb}| = 0.9990 - 0.9993$ [PDG04]

Top mass:

 $m_t = (172.7 \pm 2.9) \; {
m GeV/c^2}$ [hep-ex/0507091]

Input precisely known, precise prediction of top quark properties in the SM possible

What do we mean by the mass of a quark?

Like α_s the quark mass is not an observable, the quark mass is a parameter defined in the context of a specific model!

Important consequence:

Numerical value depends on the prescription chosen to define/measure this parameter, in particular the renormalization conditions How do we measure the mass?

By comparing the theoretical prediction (in a specific scheme) for a measurable quantity with the experimentally measured value

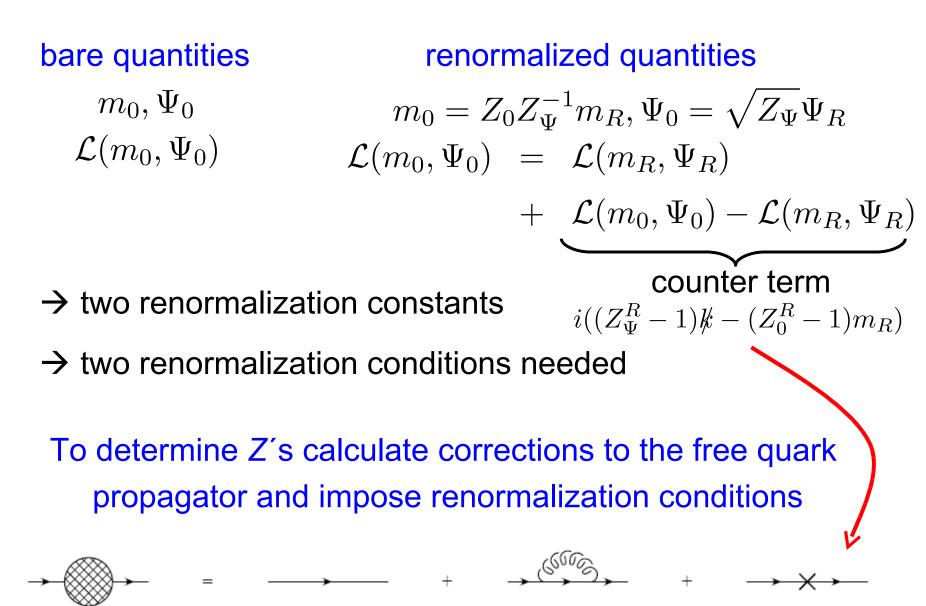
Examples: Measurement of the b-quark mass at LEP from 3-jet cross sections, determination of m, from electroweak fits.

Note:

In the context of perturbation theory we have to go to next-to-leading order to give a meaningful definition of the parameters, i.e. quark masses, couplings In LO the renormalization scheme is not determined!

(... this is what pure theory tells us...)

Renormalization of the quark field



Common renormalization schemes

1) Modified Minimal Subtraction (MS):

Chose Z's such that the poles together with – γ + ln(4 π) are cancelled

$$Z_{\Psi}^{\overline{\mathrm{MS}}} = 1 - \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} C_F \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln(4\pi)\right)$$
$$Z_0^{\overline{\mathrm{MS}}} = 1 - \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} C_F \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} - \gamma + \ln(4\pi)\right)$$

2.) On-Shell/Pole-Mass Scheme:

• The pole of the propagator is at $p = m_R$

The residue of the propagator is 1

$$Z_{\Psi}^{\text{on}} = 1 - \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} C_F \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} - \frac{2}{\epsilon_{ir}} - 3\gamma - 3\ln\left(\frac{m_{on}^2}{4\pi\mu^2}\right) + 4 \right)$$
$$Z_0^{\text{on}} = 1 - \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} C_F \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} - \frac{1}{2\epsilon_{ir}} - \frac{3}{2}\gamma + \frac{3}{2}\ln\left(\frac{m_{on}^2}{4\pi\mu^2}\right) + 2 \right)$$

MS mass depends on renormalization scale:

$$\mu \frac{d\overline{m}(\mu)}{d\mu} = -\overline{m}(\mu) \frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{2\pi} 3C_F \equiv -\overline{m}(\mu)\gamma_m$$

Conversion between MS and Pole-mass scheme

$$m_{\rm on} \frac{Z_0^{\rm on}}{Z_{\Psi}^{\rm on}} = m_0 = \overline{m}(\mu) \frac{Z_0^{\rm \overline{MS}}}{Z_{\Psi}^{\rm \overline{MS}}}$$
$$m_{\rm on} = \overline{m}(\mu) \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} C_F \left[1 - \frac{3}{4} \ln \left(\frac{m^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right] \right)$$
$$C_F = \frac{1}{2N} (N^2 - 1) \to \frac{4}{3}$$

Which renormalization scheme should we use

Pole mass versus MS mass:

$$\overline{m}(\mu = \overline{m}) = m_{\rm on} \left(1 - \frac{4\alpha_s(m)}{3\pi} \right)$$
4.2%

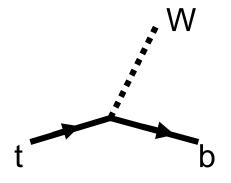
$$m_{\rm on} = 172.7 GeV \rightarrow \overline{m}(m) = 165.3 GeV$$

Including higher order corrections the difference is about 6%

Pole mass $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ MS mass differ by ~10 GeV

→In general NLO needed unless there is (very) good argument, why the corrections are small in a specific mass scheme. **Top quark properties:**

- Top quark is extremely heavy: $m_t \approx 36m_b$, $m_t \approx m_{Au}$
- Main decay in the SM:



Decay width calculable in the SM:

$$\Gamma_{t} = \frac{G_{F}m_{t}^{3}}{8\pi\sqrt{2}} \left(1 - \frac{m_{W}^{2}}{m_{t}^{2}}\right)^{2} \left(1 + \frac{2m_{W}^{2}}{m_{t}^{2}}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2\alpha_{s}}{3\pi} \left(\frac{2\pi^{2}}{3} - \frac{5}{2}\right)\right) \approx 1.48 \quad GeV$$

Theoretical accuracy including known corrections at the 1% level

Top quark extremely short lived:

$$\Gamma_t = 1.48 GeV \rightarrow \tau_t = 0.44 \times 10^{-24} s < \tau_{QCD} \approx 3 \times 10^{-24} s$$

Top decays before it can form bound states!

Top quark decays essentially as a quasi free quark [Bigi, Dokshitzer, Khoze, Kühn, Zerwas '86]

Top quark is the only quark with this property, all the lighter quarks hadronize before they decay

Unique possibility to study a quasi free quark

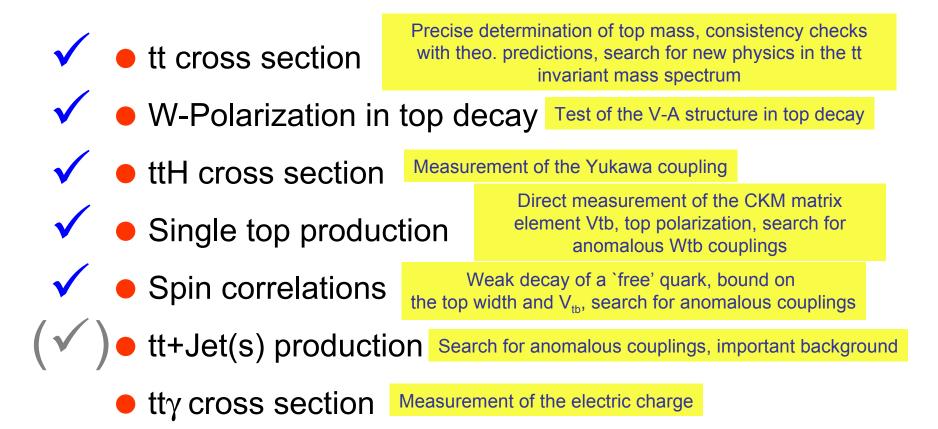
 \rightarrow Spin of the top quark is a good observable, can be studied due to the parity violating decay t \rightarrow Wb

Why is top quark physics interesting/important

<u>1.) Interesting in itself as signal process</u>

- Is the top quark just another quark, i.e. is the mass generated by the usual Higgs mechansim?
- not very well studied so far → confirm that top quark has indeed quantum numbers as predicted by SM
- top quark properties precisely calculable in the SM → any observed deviation is a signal for new physics
- in many extensions of SM, top quark plays special role
- Top quark may decay in new heavy particles
- unique possibility to study a quasi free quark

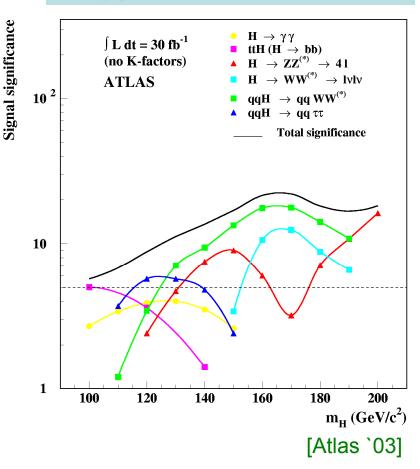
Important observables:



Why is top quark physics interesting/important (cont'd) '

2.) Top quark is important background for many processes

Higgs searches at LHC



The VBF process

is important over a wide Higgs mass range

 $qq \rightarrow WWqq \rightarrow qqH$

Important backgrounds:

channel	$e^{\pm}\mu^{\mp}$	$e^{\pm}\mu^{\mp}$ w/minijet veto	$e^{\pm}e^{\mp}$, $\mu^{\pm}\mu^{\mp}$	$e^\pm e^\mp,\mu^\pm\mu^\mp$ w/minijet veto
$70 < m_h < 300 { m GeV}$	1.90	1.69	1.56	1.39
SM, $m_h = 155 \text{ GeV}$	5.60	4.98	4.45	3.96
tī	0.086	0.025	0.086	0.025
tīj	7.59	2.20	6.45	1.87
tījj	0.83	0.24	0.72	0.21
single-top (tbj)	0.020	0.015	0.016	0.012
bībjj	0.010	0.003	0.003	0.001
QCD WW jj	0.448	0.130	0.390	0.113
EW WW j j	0.269	0.202	0.239	0.179
QCD ττ <i>jj</i>	0.128	0.037	0.114	0.033
Ε W ττ <i>j j</i>	0.017	0.013	0.016	0.012
QCD ll jj	-	-	0.114	0.033
E W lljj	-	-	0.011	0.008
total bkg	9.40	2.87	8.04	2.49
S/B	1/5.0	1/1.7	1/5.1	1/1.8
$\mathcal{L}_{5\sigma}^{obs}[\text{fb}^{-1}]$	65	25	82	32

[Alves, Eboli, Plehn, Rainwater '04]

WW

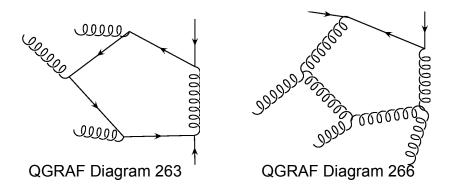
 \rightarrow Precise predictions for pp \rightarrow tt + jet are necessary

Why is top quark physics interesting/important (cont'd) 3.) Useful to test our theoretical and experimental tools Use p, cut to obtain tt samples (semileptonic channel): 600 **Reconstructed Top Mass** Top signal Background electron or muon 500 with $p\perp > 20$ GeV Atlas sim. 400 - Four jets with 300 p⊥ > 40 GeV 200 100 Alpgen [Gianotti, Mangano '05] 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 50 GeV

Events can be used to:

- measure the b-tagging efficiency
- determine the jet energy scale from
 - W→jj
 - top mass reconstruction

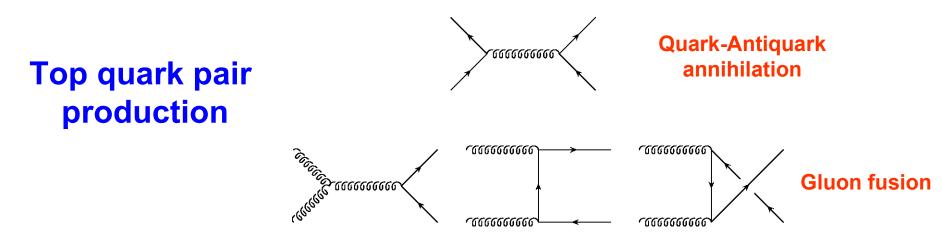




Diagrams encountered in $gg \rightarrow ttg$, sub-process required for pp \rightarrow tt + 1Jet

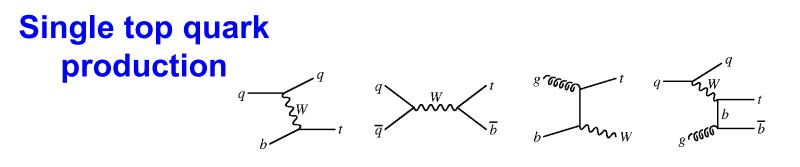
Apart from phenomenological significance, top quark physics interesting test case for NLO calculations due to rich structure of IR divergencies + additional scale

Top quark production at hadron collider



NLO corrections known!

[Dawson, Ellis, Nason '89, Beenakker et al '89,'91]



One-loop corrections also known! [Tait '00, Belayev 01, Harris '02, Cao et al 04, Campbell et al 04]

Top quark pair production in detail

Partonic cross sections

$$\hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}} = \frac{8\pi\alpha_s^2}{27\hat{s}}\beta(1+\frac{\rho}{2})$$
$$\hat{\sigma}_{g\bar{g}} = \frac{4\pi\alpha_s^2}{12\hat{s}} \left[\left(1+\rho+\frac{\rho^2}{16}\right) \ln\left(\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta}\right) - \beta\left(\frac{7}{4}+\frac{31}{16}\rho\right) \right]$$
$$\rho = 4m_t^2/\hat{s} \quad \beta = \sqrt{1-\rho}$$

Close to threshold:

$$\hat{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}} = \frac{4\pi\alpha_s^2}{9\hat{s}}\beta \qquad \hat{\sigma}_{g\bar{g}} = \frac{7\pi\alpha_s^2}{48\hat{s}}\beta$$

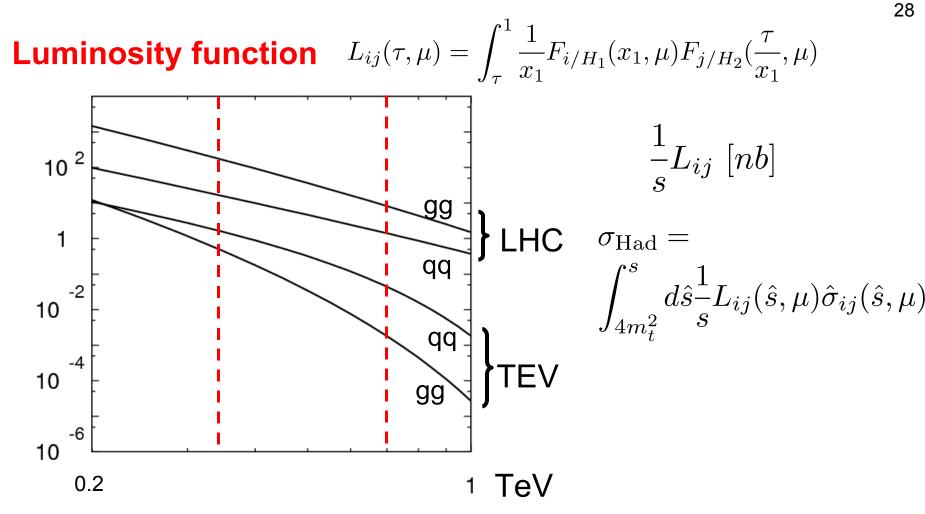
Hadronic cross section
Parton distribution functions (PDF's)

$$\sigma_{\text{Had}} = \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{1} F_{i/H_{1}}(x_{1}, \mu) F_{j/H_{2}}(x_{2}, \mu) \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(\hat{s} = x_{1}x_{2}s, \mu)$$

depends only on the product of x_1 and x_2 ,

 \rightarrow problem can be reduced to one-dimensional integration

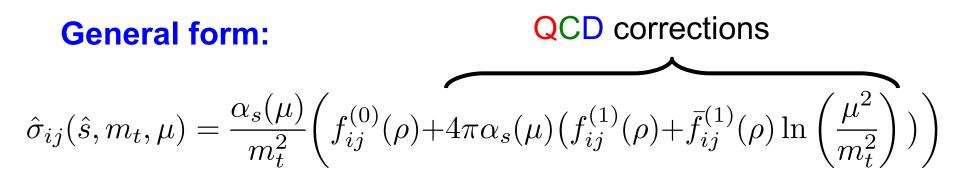
$$\sigma_{\text{Had}} = \int_{0}^{1} dx_{1} \int_{0}^{1} dx_{2} \int d\tau \delta(\tau - x_{1}x_{2}) \\ \times F_{i/H_{1}}(x_{1}, \mu) F_{j/H_{2}}(x_{2}, \mu) \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(x_{1}x_{2}s, \mu) \\ = \int d\tau L_{ij}(\tau, \mu) \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(\tau s, \mu) \\ L_{ij}(\tau, \mu) = \int_{\tau}^{1} \frac{1}{x_{1}} F_{i/H_{1}}(x_{1}, \mu) F_{j/H_{2}}(\frac{\tau}{x_{1}}, \mu)$$



 \rightarrow top quark pairs are produced "close" to threshold

→ at the Tevatron quark-antiquark annihilation dominates (~90%) at the LHC gluon fusion is the dominant channel (~90%)

Next-to-leading order corrections

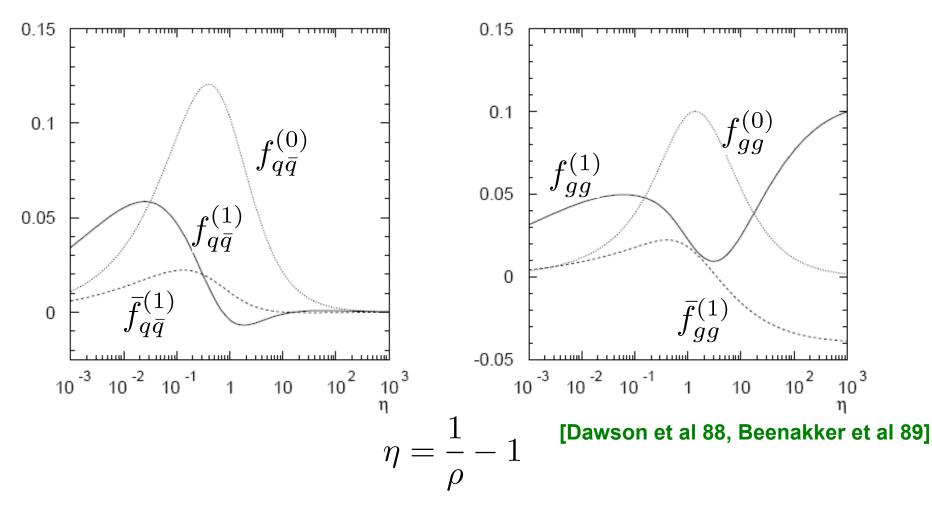


$\bar{f}_{ij}^{(1)}$ determined by the renormalization group:

$$0 = \frac{d}{d\mu} \int dx_1 dx_2 F_i(x_1, \mu) F_j(x_2, \mu) \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(\rho) = 4m_t / s / x_1 / x_2, \mu$$

$$\bar{f}_{ij}^{(1)}(\rho) = \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \bigg[\beta_0 f_{ij}^{(0)}(\rho) - \int_{\rho}^{1} dz P_{kj}(z) f_{ik}^{(1)}(\frac{\rho}{z}) - \int dz P_{ki}(z) f_{jk}^{(1)}(\frac{\rho}{z}) \\ \beta_0 = \frac{1}{3} (11N - 2n_f)$$

Functions $f_{ij}^{(1)}$ are obtained from complete NLO calculation



Functions are available as fits, for specific observables! Corrections are important!

Resummation

Close to threshold NLO corrections are given by:

large logarithmic corrections in threshold region:

$$f_{ij}^{(n)}(\rho;\mu^2/m^2) \sim f_{ij}^{(0)}(\rho) \ln^{2n} \beta^2$$

→sum large logarithmic corrections to improve perturbation theory

[Bonciani, Cacciari, Catani, Kidonakis, Laenen, Mangano, Moch, Nason, Ridolfi, Sterman...]

Resummation (cont'd)

	$p\bar{p}$ at $\sqrt{S} = 1.8 \text{ TeV}$		$p\bar{p}$ at $\sqrt{S} = 2$ TeV		pp at $\sqrt{S} = 14$ TeV	
$\mu_{\rm R} = \mu_{\rm F}$	NLO	NLO+NLL	NLO	NLO+NLL	NLO	NLO+NLL
$m_t/2$	5.17	5.19	7.10	7.12	893	885
m_t	4.87	5.06	6.70	6.97	803	833
$2m_t$	4.31	4.70	5.96	6.50	714	794

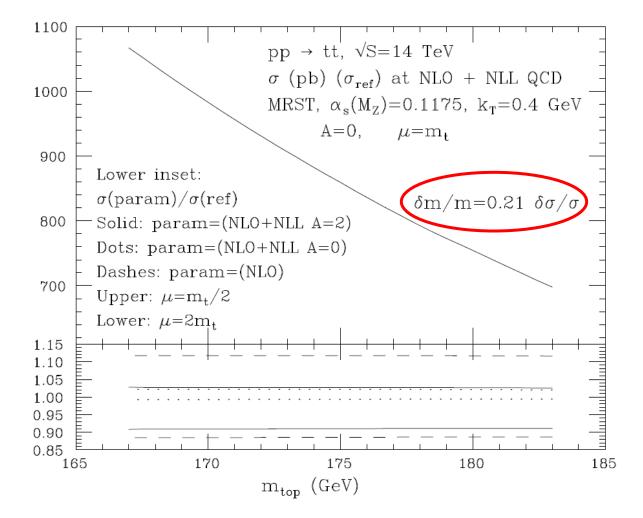
[Bonciani, Catani, Mangano, Nason 98]

→Resummation shifts slightly central value of NLO prediction

→ improves scale uncertainty

Including uncertainties from PDF's, cross section known to 10%

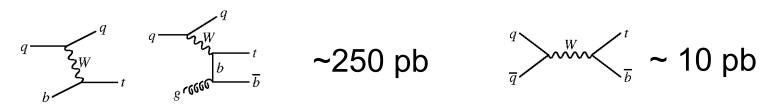
Mass determination from cross section measurement:

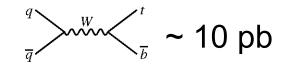


 $\delta m/m \approx 0.21 \delta \sigma \to \delta m/m \approx 0.21 * 10 \approx 2\%$

Single-top production

Most important production channel





Large cross section due to:

high energy behaviour

$$\sigma(ub \to dt) \to \frac{G_F^2 m_W^2}{2\pi}$$

sensitive to parton luminosity at lower τ

Experimentally challenging due to large backgrounds

LHC is a top factory:

	Tevatron Run I	Tevatron Run II	LHC
Туре	pp	pp	рр
Time	1992-1996	2001-2009	2007-?
\sqrt{s} (TeV)	1.80	1.96	14
$\int {\cal L} dt$ (fb $^{-1}$)	0.125	4 - 8	10/year, 100/year
$\sigma(t\bar{t}) (pb)$	~ 5	~ 7	~ 800
$\sigma(\text{single t}) \text{ (pb)}$	~ 1	~ 1.5	~ 300

LHC: ~8,000,000 tt pairs per year, ~1 pair / sec

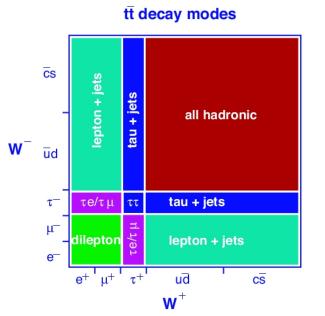
Current status Tevatron: 350/pb analysed, 1/fb on tape

Measurements will in general not be restricted by statistics! Top quark physics can be done "from the first day" on! Experimental signature von top quark pairs

dominant decay in the Standard Model t \rightarrow Wb

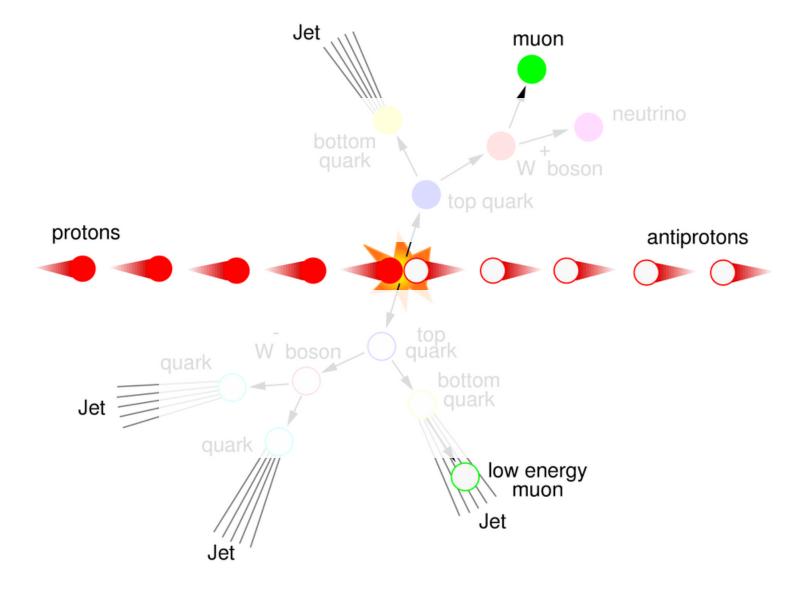
depending on the decay of the W's we call t-decay hadronic or leptonic

For tt have different possible combinations



Mes	timeor	tani oha	annels:	
•	$tt \rightarrow lvlvl$	ob Di-	lepton	5% e+μ
•	tt $ ightarrow$ lvqq	ibb Ler	otons+Jet	<mark>s</mark> 30% e+μ
•	tt $ ightarrow$ qqq	qbb ha	dronic	45%

Experimental signature von top quark pairs



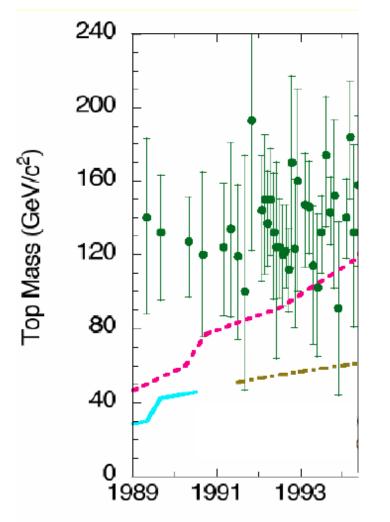
The top quark mass

For the details about the measurement see lecture by Sven Menke on Monday

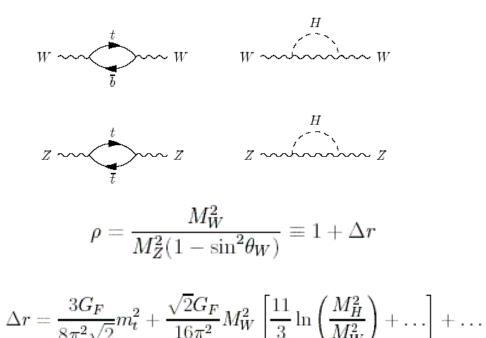
Why is the top quark mass important?

- 0.) Fundamental parameter of the Standard Model
- 1.) Helps to constrain the Higgs mass, consistency check of the Standard Model
- 2.) Important input in many extensions of the SM, where the top plays an important role

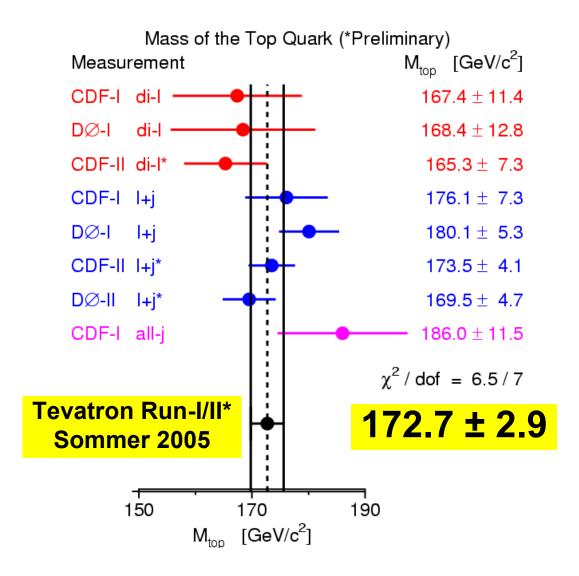
Indirect measurment of the top quark mass



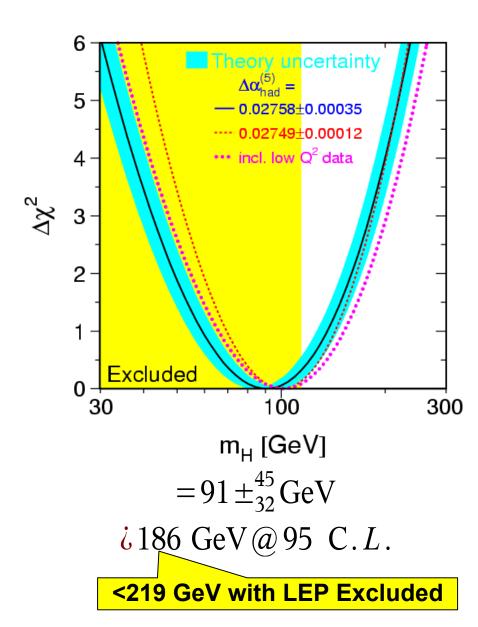
Sensitivity to top quark mass through virtual corrections:

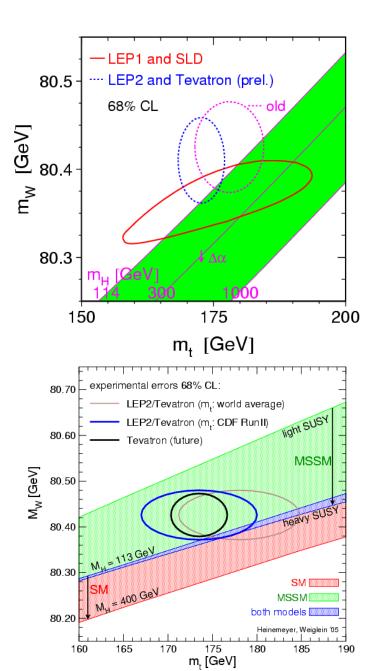


Direct measurement at Tevtron



Top quark mass...



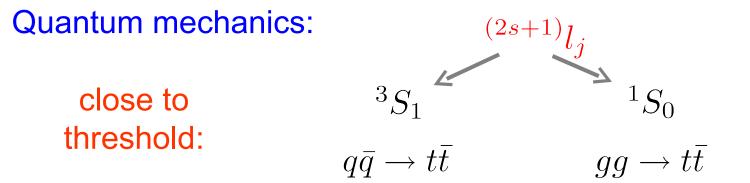


Spin correlations: Polarization versus correlations

Due to parity invariance of QCD, top's produced in $qq \rightarrow tt$ and gg \rightarrow tt are essentially unpolarized *)

But: Spins of top quark and antiquark are correlated

[Bernreuther,Brandenburg 93, Mahlon, Parke 96, Stelzer,Willenbrock 96, Bernreuther, Brandenburg, Si, P.U. 01-04]



→ Spins are parallel or anti-parallel close to threshold

*) absorptive parts at the one-loop level induce a small polarization (~1%) transverse to the scattering plane [Dharmaratna, Goldstein '96, Bernreuther, Brandenburg, P.U. ,96]

Why are spin correlations interesting?

- What is the spin of the top?
- Search for new physics
 - i.e. CP violating interactions, Higgs with undefined parity, properties of s-channel resonance
- Affect the angular distributions of the decay products
 - important for event selection
- Test of the idea that Top decays as a quasi free quark
 - precise test of the production and decay mechanism

Theoretical framework: Spin density matrix

Quantum mechanics: study spin density matrix

Single-top production:

$$R^t = A^t \, \mathbb{1} + B^t_i \, \sigma_i$$

Pair production:

$$R^{t\bar{t}} = A^{t\bar{t}} \, \mathbb{I} \otimes \mathbb{I} + B^{t\bar{t},+}_i \, \boldsymbol{\sigma_i} \otimes \mathbb{I} + \mathbb{I} \otimes \boldsymbol{\sigma_i} \, B^{t\bar{t},-}_i + C^{t\bar{t}}_{ij} \, \boldsymbol{\sigma_i} \otimes \boldsymbol{\sigma_j}$$

To evaluate *R*, consider:

$$|\mathcal{T}(X \to t(k_t, s_t)\bar{t}(k_{\bar{t}}, s_{\bar{t}}))|^2 = \hat{A} + \hat{B}^+_{\mu}s^{\mu}_t + \hat{B}^-_{\mu}s^{\mu}_{\bar{t}} + \hat{C}_{\mu\nu}s^{\mu}_t s^{\nu}_{\bar{t}}$$

Expectation values:

$$\langle O \rangle = \frac{\int Tr[R \cdot O]}{\int Tr[R]}$$

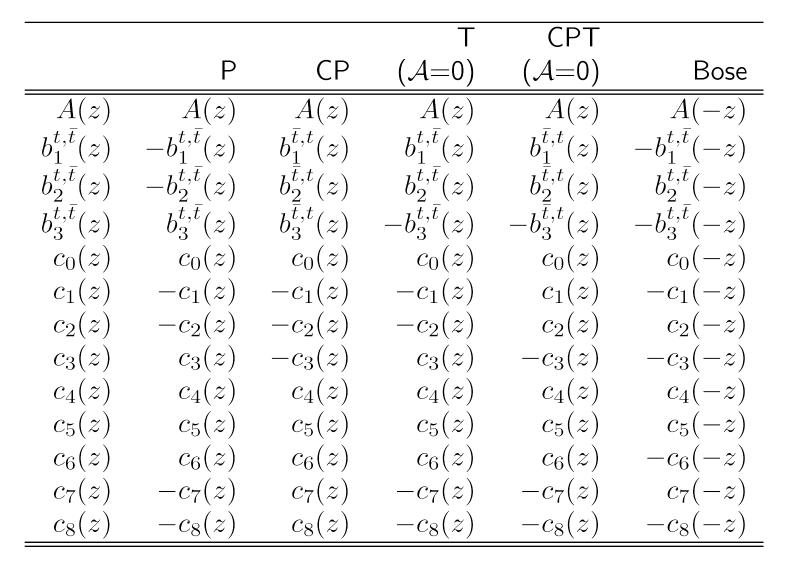
Symmetries

 $R = A \ \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} + B_i^t \sigma_i \otimes \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1} \otimes \sigma_i B_i^{\overline{t}} + C_{ij} \ \sigma_i \otimes \sigma_j$

$$\mathbf{B}^{t,\bar{t}} = b_1^{t,\bar{t}}\hat{\mathbf{p}} + b_2^{t,\bar{t}}\hat{\mathbf{k}} + b_3^{t,\bar{t}}\hat{\mathbf{n}},$$

$$C_{ij} = c_0 \delta_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ijk} (c_1 \hat{p}_k + c_2 \hat{k}_k + c_3 \hat{n}_k) + c_4 \hat{p}_i \hat{p}_j + c_5 \hat{k}_i \hat{k}_j + c_6 (\hat{p}_i \hat{k}_j + \hat{p}_j \hat{k}_i) c_7 (\hat{p}_i \hat{n}_j + \hat{p}_j \hat{n}_i) + c_8 (\hat{k}_i \hat{n}_j + \hat{k}_j \hat{n}_i),$$

Symmetries



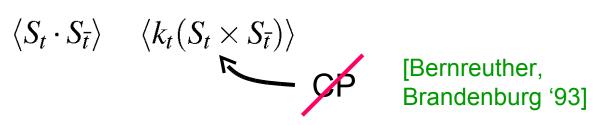
[Bernreuther, Brandenburg]

Spin correlations: The spin density matrix

$$\begin{split} C_{ij}^{gg} &= \delta_{ij}c_{g0} + \hat{\rho}_{i}\hat{\rho}_{j}c_{g4} + \hat{k}_{i}\hat{k}_{j}c_{g5} + (\hat{\rho}_{i}\hat{k}_{j} + \hat{\rho}_{j}\hat{k}_{i})c_{g6} \\ A_{g} &= 2f_{g}\left[1 + 2\beta^{2}(1 - z^{2})(1 - \beta^{2}) - \beta^{4}z^{4}\right], \\ c_{g0} &= -2f_{g}\left[(1 - \beta^{2})^{2} + \beta^{4}(1 - z^{2})^{2}\right], \\ c_{g4} &= 4f_{g}(1 - z^{2})\beta^{2}, \\ c_{g5} &= -4f_{g}\beta^{2}\left(1 - 2\beta^{2} + z^{2}\beta^{2} - \frac{z^{2}\beta^{4}(1 - z^{2})}{(1 + \sqrt{1 - \beta^{2}})^{2}}\right), \\ c_{g6} &= -4f_{g}z(1 - z^{2})\beta^{2}(1 - \sqrt{1 - \beta^{2}}), \\ f_{g} &= \frac{\pi^{2}\alpha_{s}^{2}}{(1 - z^{2}\beta^{2})^{2}} \frac{(N^{2} - 2 + N^{2}z^{2}\beta^{2})}{N(N^{2} - 1)} \qquad z = \cos(\vartheta) \\ \beta &= \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_{t}^{2}}{s}} \end{split}$$

Spin correlations: Observables...

Knowledge of R allows the calculation of arbitrary spin observables, i.e.:



Observables of the form $(a \cdot S_t)(b \cdot S_{\overline{t}})$ have simple interpretation:

$$C_{t\bar{t}} = 4\langle (a \cdot S_t)(b \cdot S_{\bar{t}}) \rangle = \frac{\int d\text{Lips } a_i C_{ij} b_j}{\int d\text{Lips } A}$$
$$= \frac{\sigma_{t\bar{t}}(\uparrow\uparrow) + \sigma_{t\bar{t}}(\downarrow\downarrow) - \sigma_{t\bar{t}}(\uparrow\downarrow) - \sigma_{t\bar{t}}(\downarrow\uparrow)}{\sigma_{t\bar{t}}(\uparrow\uparrow) + \sigma_{t\bar{t}}(\downarrow\downarrow) + \sigma_{t\bar{t}}(\uparrow\downarrow) + \sigma_{t\bar{t}}(\downarrow\uparrow)}$$

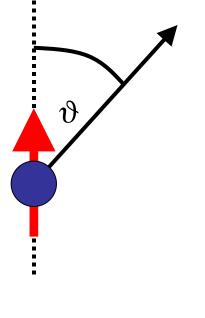
where \uparrow/\downarrow denote spin up/down with respect to *a*,*b* as quantization axis

To measure C study for example double differential distributions.

Measurement of the top quark polarization

How can we measure the "spin" of the top quark?

Basic ingredients: • Top quark decays before hadronization • Parity violating decay $t \rightarrow Wb$



The top quark polarization can be studied through the angular distribution of the decay products!

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\vartheta} = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{\kappa_f \cos\vartheta}{2} \right)$$

energetic least $\ell^+, \, \bar{d} \mid \mathbf{v}_\ell^+, \, u \mid b$ W^+ jet from $q\bar{q}'$ -0.41 -0.31 0.41 1 κ_f 0.51

QCD NLO corrections known! [Czarnecki, Jezabek, Kühn 91, Brandenburg, Si, P.U. '02]

Spin correlations: LO Standard Model predictions

Double differential distribution:

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d^2 \sigma}{d \cos \vartheta_{\ell} d \cos \vartheta_{\bar{\ell}}} = \frac{1}{4} (1 - \frac{C}{4} \cos \vartheta_{\ell} \cos \vartheta_{\bar{\ell}})$$

$$C = \kappa_{\ell} \kappa_{\bar{\ell}} C_{t\bar{t}}$$

Size of *C* depends on the "quantization axis":

		$\ell^+ + \ell^- + X$	$\ell + Jet + X$	Jet + Jet + X
Tevatron	Chel	-0.471	-0.240	-0.123
	C _{beam}	0.928	0.474	0.242
LHC	Chel	0.319	0.163	0.083

 $\mu_R = \mu_F = m_t = 175 \text{ GeV}, \text{CTEQ6L}$

Spin correlations can be very large!

Spin correlations: LO SM predictions (2)

Interesting features:

For the qq sub process an optimal quantization axis yielding 100% correlation exists:

$$d_{\rm off} = a = b = \frac{-\hat{p}_q + (1 - \gamma_t)(\hat{p}_q \cdot \hat{k}_t)\hat{k}_t}{\sqrt{1 - (\hat{p}_q \cdot \hat{k}_t)^2(1 - \gamma_t^2)}} \quad [{\rm Matrix}]$$

[Mahlon, Parke '97]

near threshold:

$$a = b \approx \hat{p}_q$$
 \blacktriangleright Beam axis choice at

Beam axis is a good choice at the Tevatron

For gg no axis exists for which the correlation is 100% Without cuts the maximal value for the correlation in gluon fusion is 48% [P.U. '04] For the qq sub-process we have in LO:

$$\langle S_t \cdot S_{\bar{t}} \rangle = \langle (d_{\text{off}} \cdot S_t) (d_{\text{off}} \cdot S_{\bar{t}}) \rangle$$

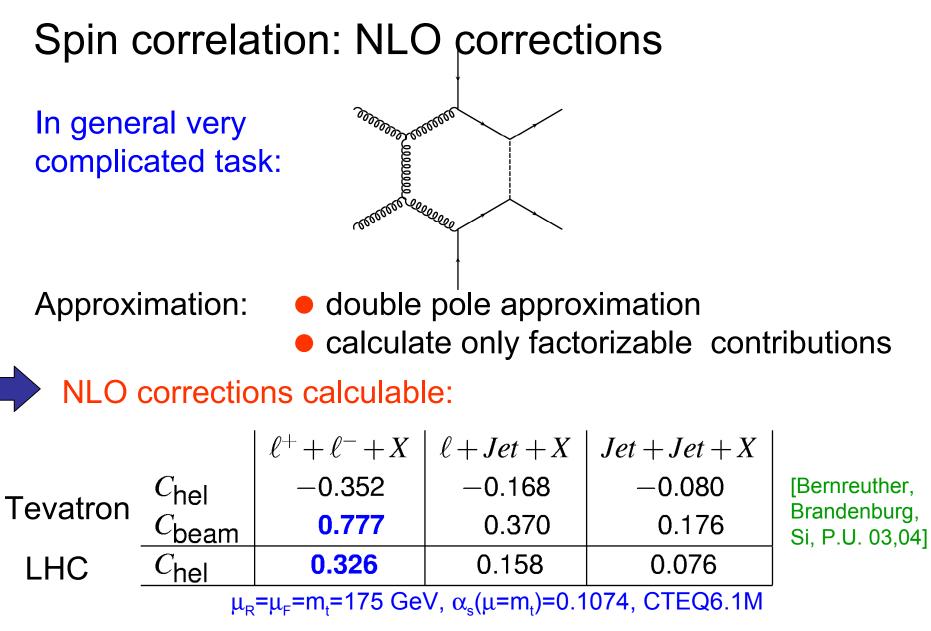
In NLO this relation still holds up to tiny corrections

The combination

$$\langle S_t \cdot S_{\overline{t}}
angle - \langle (d_{\mathsf{off}} \cdot S_t) (d_{\mathsf{off}} \cdot S_{\overline{t}})
angle$$

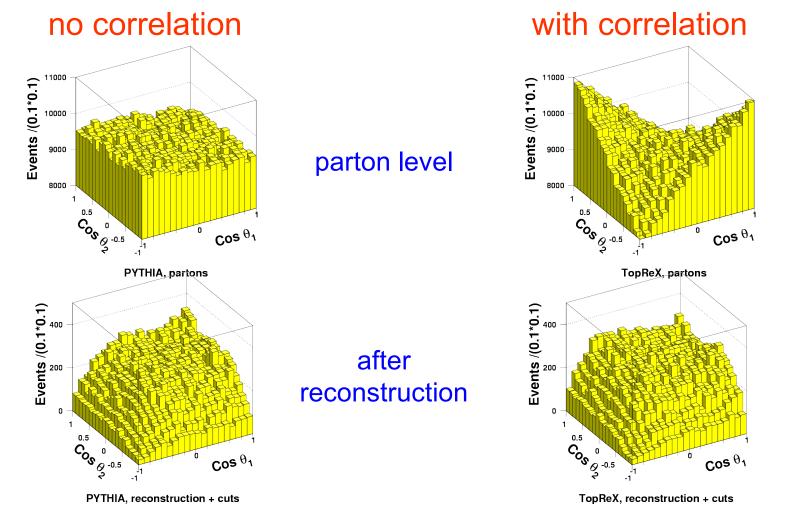
is thus only sensitive to the gluon PDF!

Can we use spin correlations to constrain the gluon PDF?



Scale dep.: Tevatron:
$$\Delta C_{\text{beam}} = 5\%$$
 LHC: $\Delta C_{\text{hel}} = 1\%$

A realistic analysis...



Very difficult analysis, dominated by systematic uncertainties

[ATLAS collaboration, P. Pralavorio, F.Hubaut, E.Monnier]

Atlas Simulation

[Hubaut, Monnier, Pralavorio, Smolek, Simak 05]

- $A \sim \langle (a \cdot S_t)(b \cdot S_{\overline{t}}) \rangle \quad \leftarrow \rightarrow \text{double differential distribution}$
- $A_D \sim \langle (S_t \cdot S_{\overline{t}}) \rangle \qquad \quad \leftarrow \rightarrow \text{ single differential distribution}$

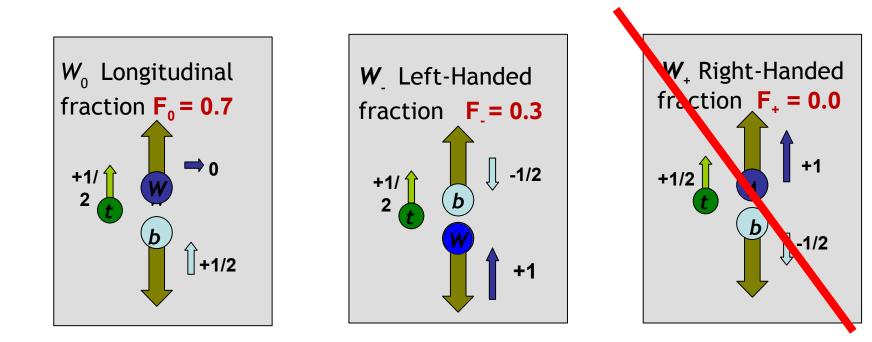
	Semileptonic (±stat±syst)	Dileptonic (±stat±syst)	Semilep+Dilep
A	$0.422 \pm 0.020 \pm 0.081$	$0.404 \pm 0.020 \pm 0.024$	$0.406 \pm 0.014 \pm 0.023$
A_D	$-0.288 \pm 0.012 \pm 0.036$	$\textbf{-}0.290 \pm 0.011 \pm 0.010$	$-0.290 \pm 0.008 \pm 0.010$

4-5 % accuracy

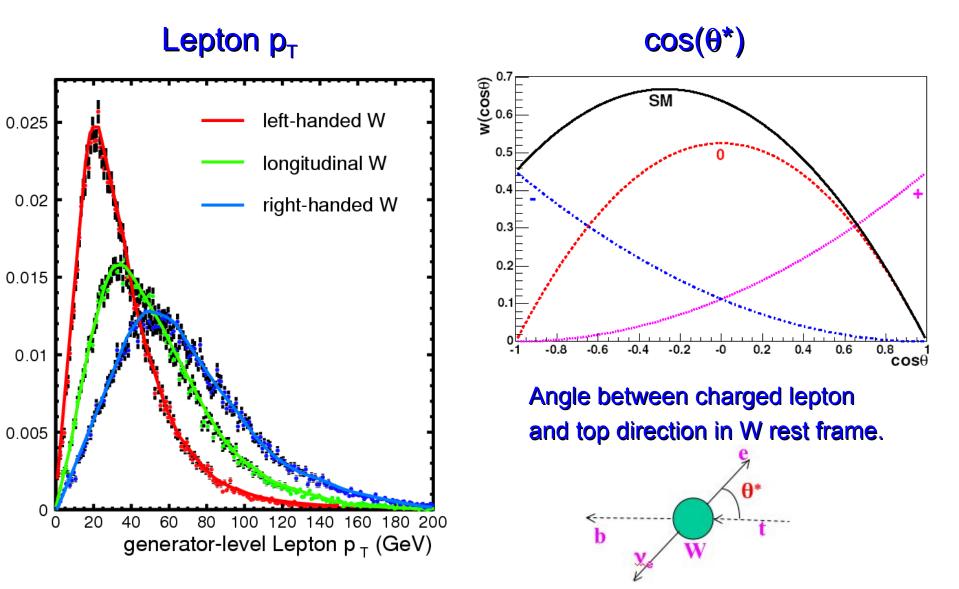
Current accuracy at the Tevatron: ~20%

W-Polarization in top quark decay

Test of the V-A structure of the Wtb vertex



Measurement of the W-Polarization



Nice side effect of the spin correlations studies:

Precise measurement of the W-polarization possible using tt events

[Pralavario, Hubaut, Monnier '05]

Using the same tt events as in the previous analysis:

$$\frac{\Gamma_0}{\Gamma} = 0.699 \pm 0.005 (\text{stat.}) \pm 0.023 (\text{sys.})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma_L}{\Gamma} = 0.299 \pm 0.003 (\text{stat.}) \pm 0.028 (\text{sys.})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma_R}{\Gamma} = 0.002 \pm 0.003 (\text{stat.}) \pm 0.013 (\text{sys.})$$

Simulated data sample corresponds to one year at low luminosity.

Tevatron: $\Gamma_R / \Gamma = 0.04 \pm 0.11 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.06 (\text{syst.})$



Top quark physics is an interesting and important subject

Many interesting measurements possible

