

# $t\bar{t}+X$ hadroproduction at NLO+SMC

Zoltán Trócsányi



University of Debrecen  
and  
Institute of Nuclear Research



in collaboration with  
A. Kardos, M.V. Garzelli  
and  
HELAC group

based on arXiv:1101.2672, 1108.0387 and unpublished

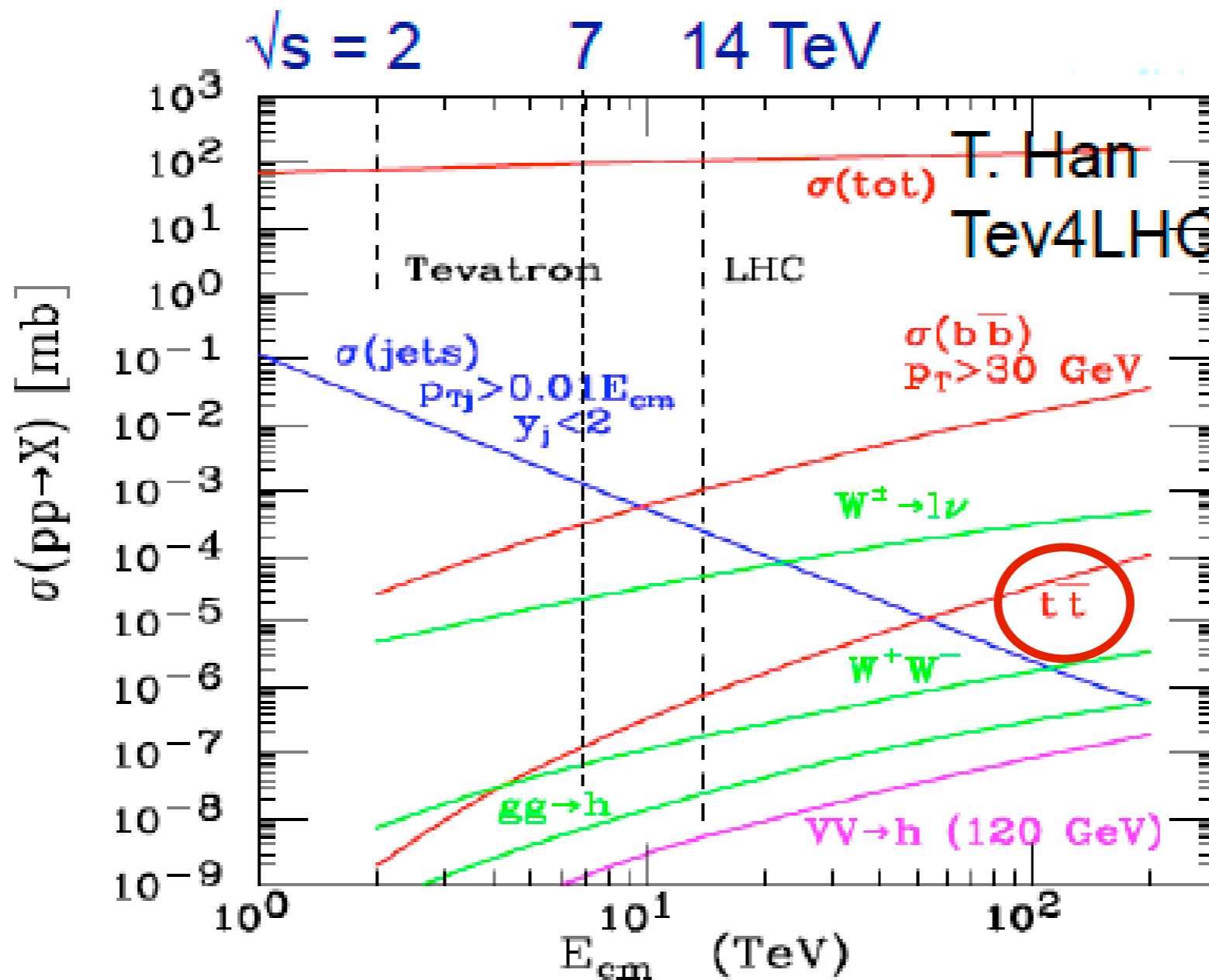
# Outline

- ▶ Motivation
- ▶ Method
- ▶ Predictions
- ▶ Conclusions and Plans

# Motivation

# The importance of being top

1. The higher collider energy, the larger weight in total cross section



# The importance of being top

1. The higher collider energy, the larger weight in total cross section

2. The t-quark is heavy, Yukawa coupling  $\sim 1$

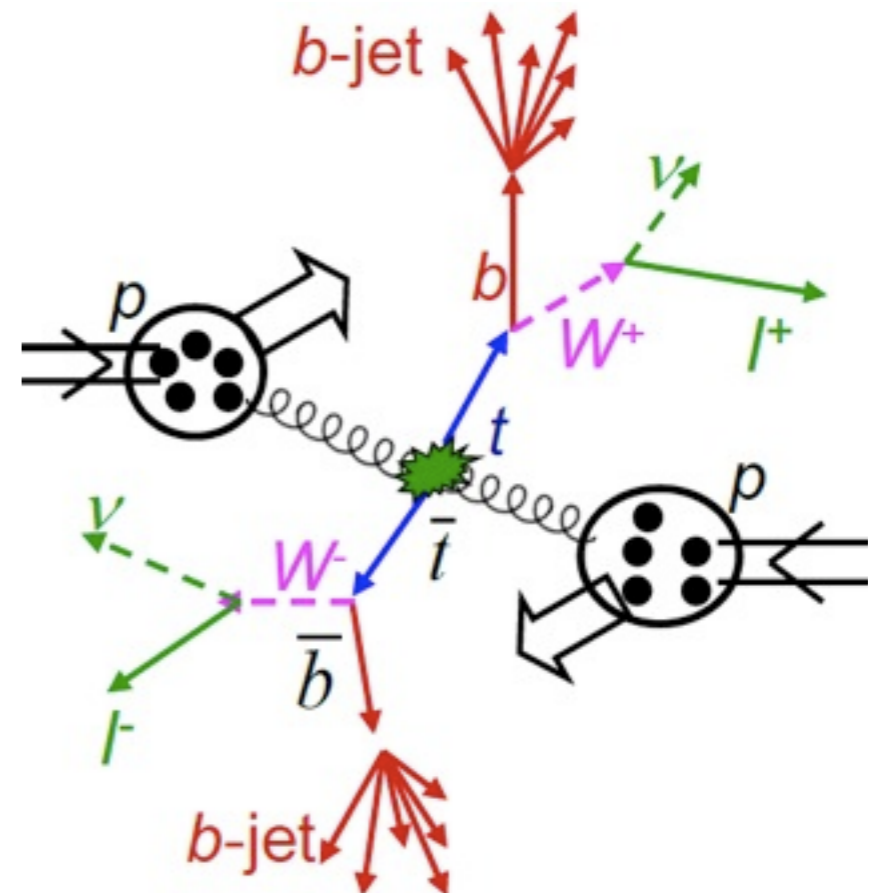
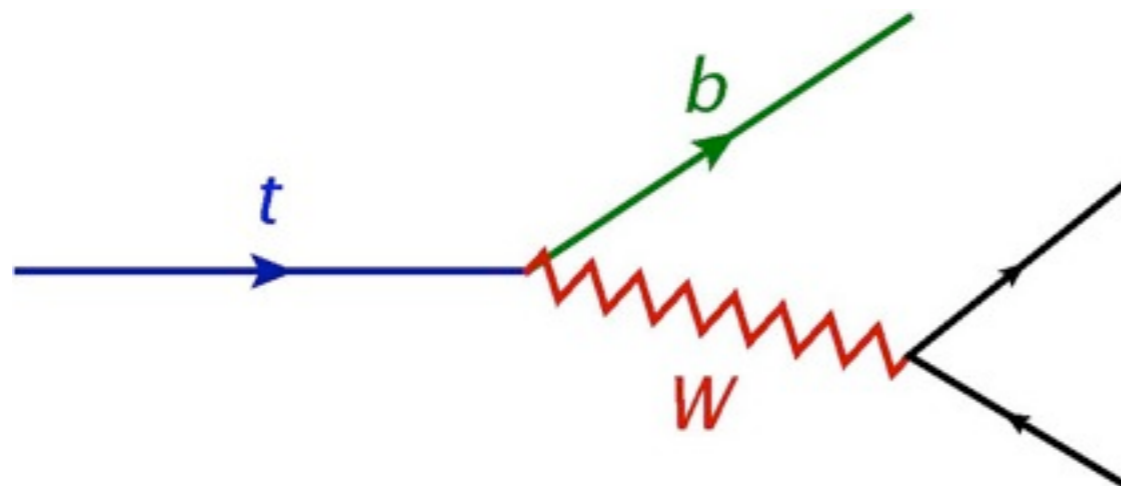
$$m_t = 172.0 \pm 0.9 \pm 1.3 \text{ (PDG)} \quad 173.3 \pm 1.1 \text{ (TeVatron)}$$

$\Rightarrow$  plays important role in Higgs physics

# The importance of being top

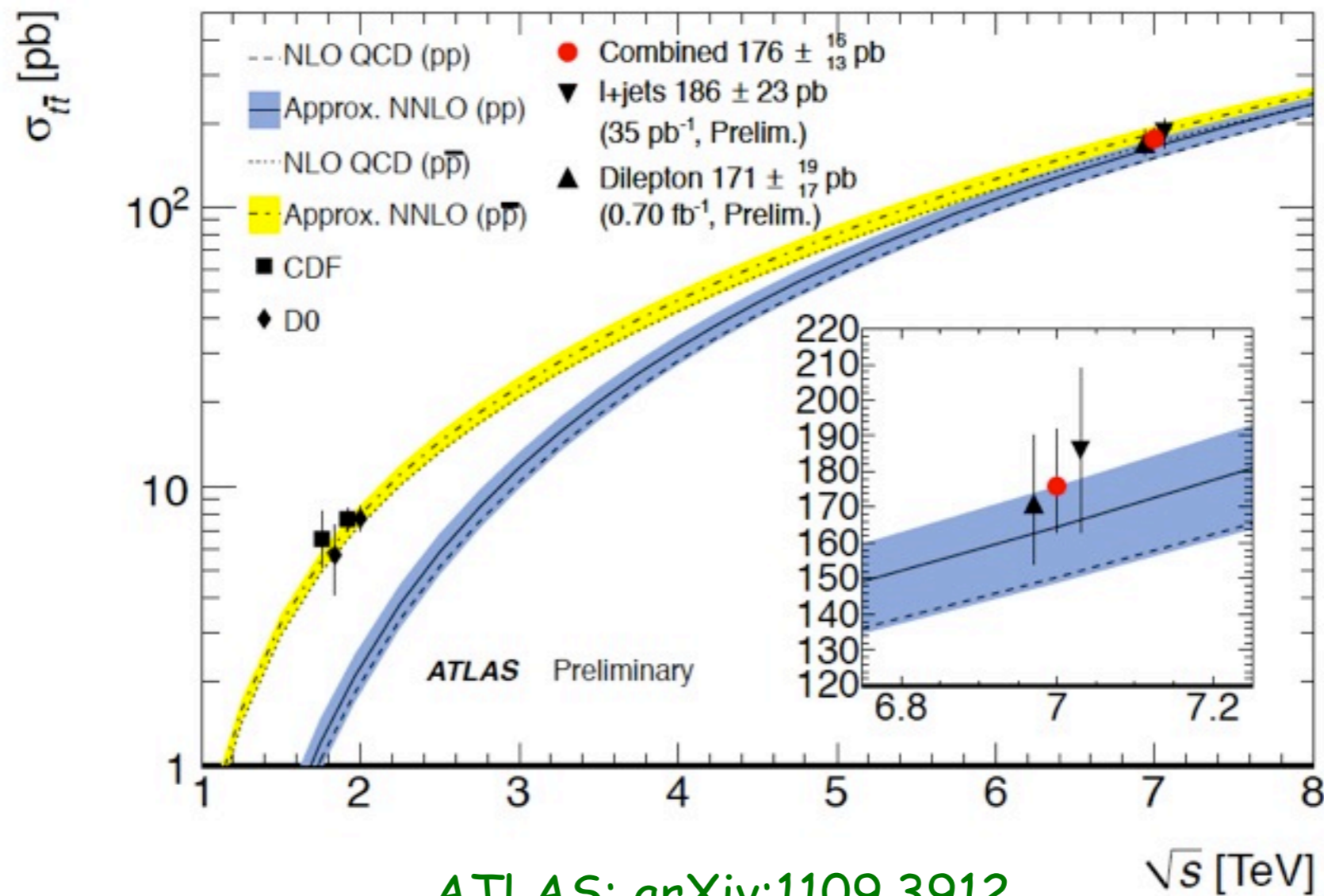
1. The higher collider energy, the larger weight in total cross section
2. The t-quark is heavy, Yukawa coupling  $\sim 1$
3. The t-quark decays before hadronization  
 $\Rightarrow$  quantum numbers more accessible than in case of other quarks

$$|V_{tb}|^2 \gg |V_{ts}|^2, |V_{td}|^2$$



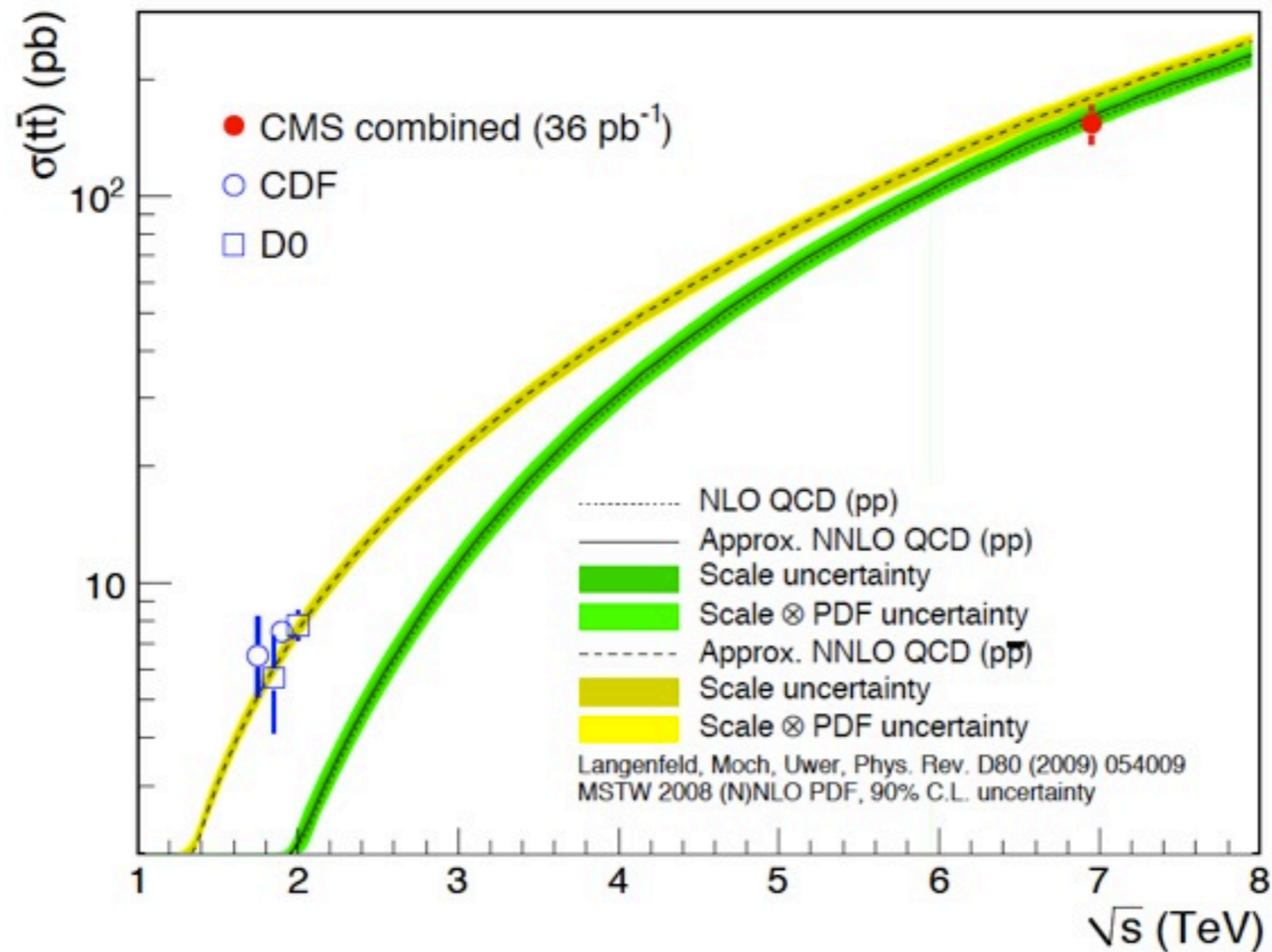
# Top at the LHC

## 1. Present: precision measurement of production cross section, mass



# Top at the LHC

## 1. Present: precision measurement of production cross section, mass

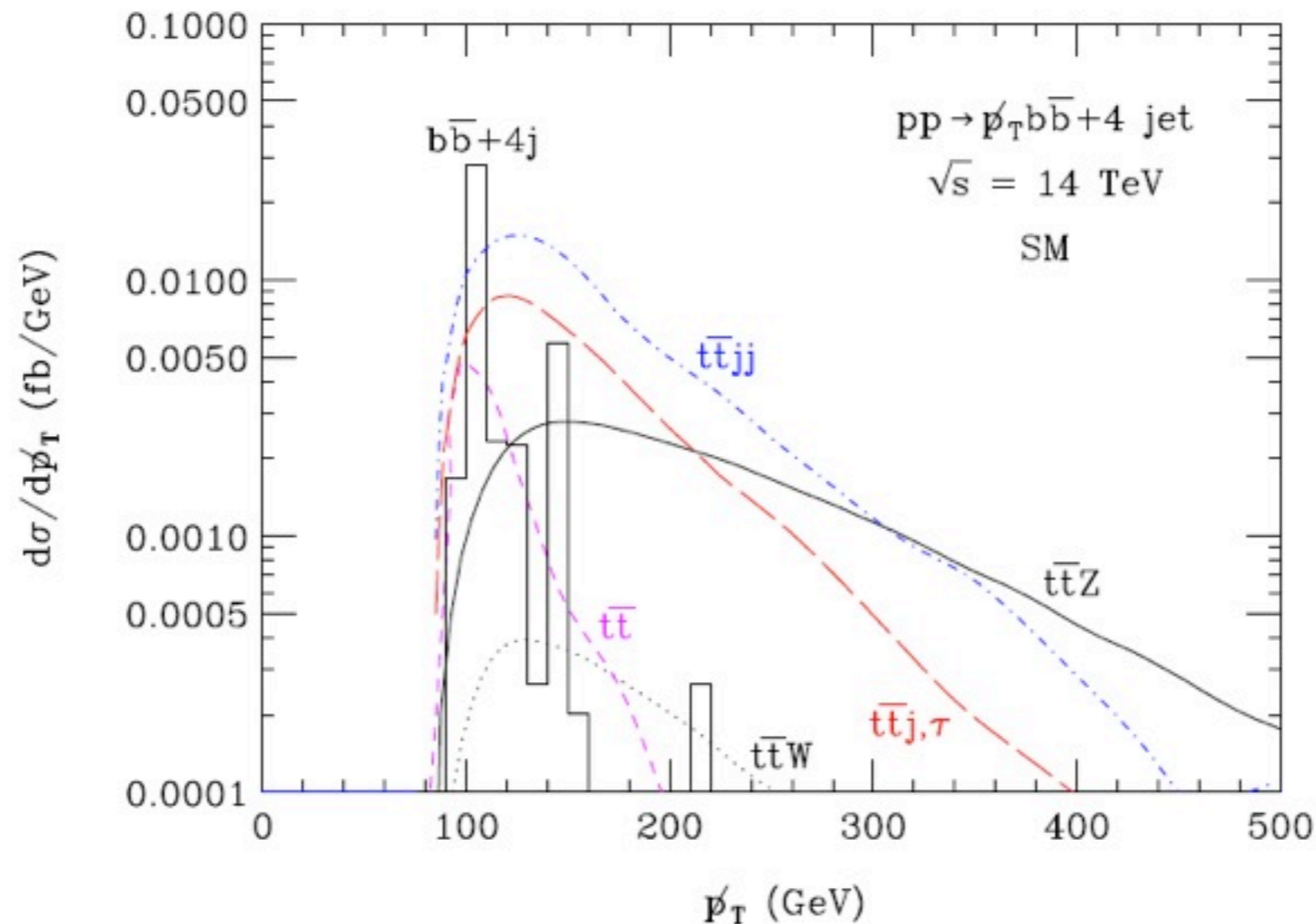


CMS: arXiv:1108.3773



# Top at the LHC

1. Present: precision measurement of  $\sigma_{\text{tot}}$ ,  $m_t$  quantum numbers, decay rates
2. Future: measurement of couplings



Baur et al, hep-ph/0412021, 0512262

# Top at the LHC

1. Present: precision measurement of  $\sigma_{\text{tot}}$ ,  $m_t$  quantum numbers, decay rates
2. Future: plenty of radiation in association with t-pair

$$\sigma_{\text{NLO}}(pp \rightarrow t \bar{t}) = 806 \text{ pb}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{NLO}}(pp \rightarrow t \bar{t} + \text{jet}; p_{\perp}^j > 50 \text{ GeV}) = 376 \text{ pb}$$

3. Important backgrounds to coupling measurements, Higgs searches:

$$pp \rightarrow t \bar{t} j, t \bar{t} b \bar{b}, t \bar{t} j j$$

These require precise predictions for distributions at hadron level  
(with decays, top is not detected)

# Method

# NLO subtractions

- ▶ Idea: exact calculation in the first two orders of pQCD
- ▶ Subtraction method (FKS in POWHEG-Box)

$$\begin{aligned}d\sigma_{\text{NLO}} &= [B(\Phi_n) + \mathcal{V}(\Phi_n) + R(\Phi_{n+1})d\Phi_{\text{rad}}] d\Phi_n \\ &= [B(\Phi_n) + V(\Phi_n) + (R(\Phi_{n+1}) - A(\Phi_{n+1})) d\Phi_{\text{rad}}] d\Phi_n\end{aligned}$$

$$B(\Phi_n) = \int d\sigma^{\text{LO}}, \quad V(\Phi_n) = \mathcal{V}(\Phi_n) + \int d\Phi_{\text{rad}} A(\Phi_{n+1})$$

$$d\Phi_{n+1} = d\Phi_n d\Phi_{\text{rad}}, \quad d\Phi_{\text{rad}} \propto dt dz \frac{d\phi}{2\pi}$$

# From NLO to NLO+PS

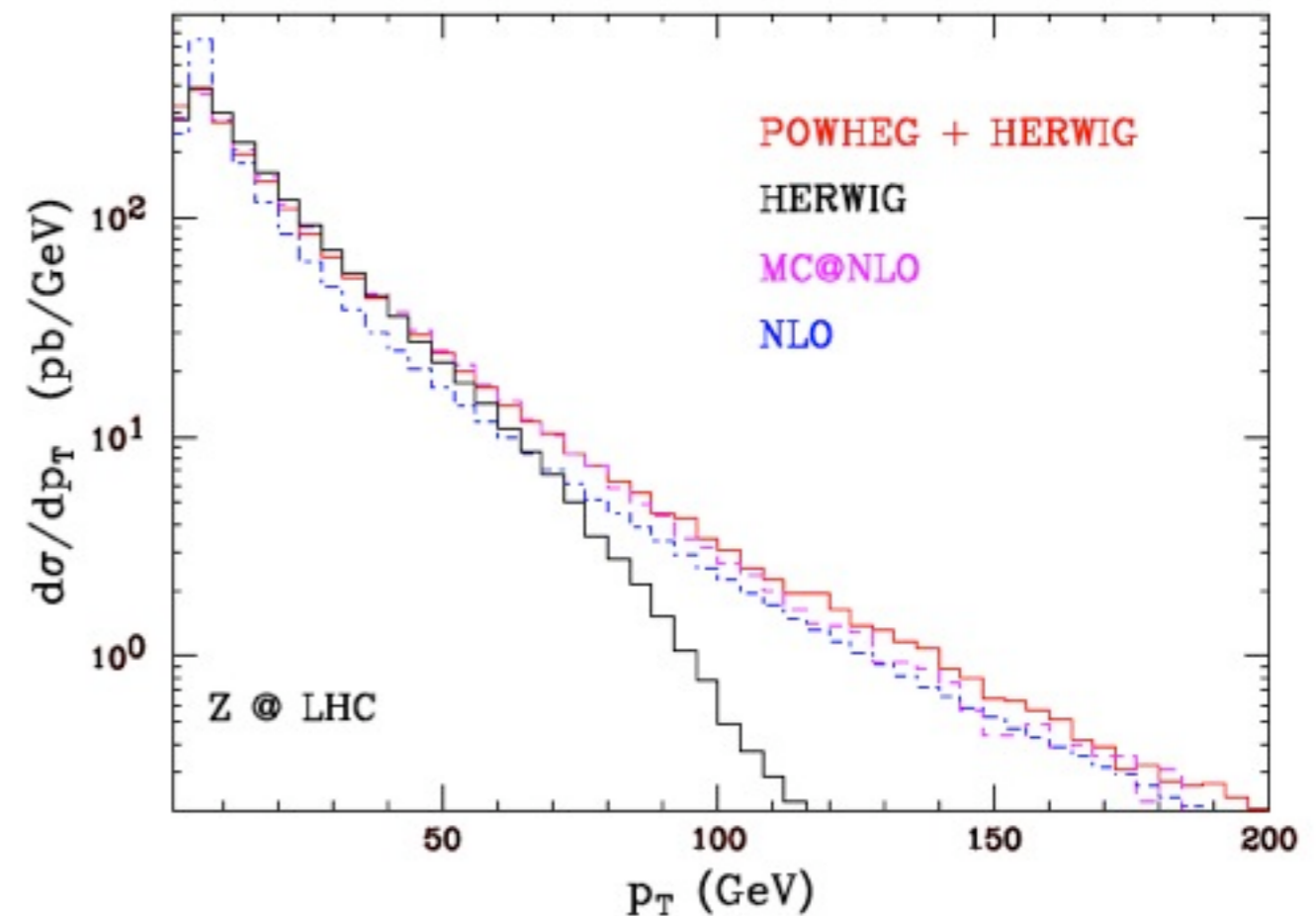
Idea: use NLO calculation as hard process as input for the SMC

Bottleneck: how to avoid double counting of first radiation w.r.to Born process (present both in R and in the PS)

Solutions:

- MCatNLO [Frixione, Webber hep-ph/0204244]
- POWHEG [Nason hep-ph/0409146, Frixione, Nason, Oleari arXiv:0709.2092]

Result: PS events giving distributions exact to NLO in pQCD



Nason, Ridolfi hep-ph/0606275

# From standard SMC to POWHEG MC

SMC idea: use probabilistic picture of parton splitting in the collinear approximation, iterate splitting to high orders

▶ Standard MC first emission:

$$d\sigma_{\text{SMC}} = B(\Phi_n) d\Phi_n \left[ \Delta_{\text{SMC}}(t_0) + \Delta_{\text{SMC}}(t) \underbrace{\frac{\alpha_s(t)}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t} P(z)} \Theta(t - t_0) d\Phi_{\text{rad}}^{\text{SMC}} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{k_{\perp} \rightarrow 0} R(\Phi_{n+1}) / B(\Phi_n)$$

▶ POWHEG MC first emission:

$$d\sigma = \bar{B}(\Phi_n) d\Phi_n \left[ \Delta(\Phi_n, p_{\perp}^{\min}) + \Delta(\Phi_n, k_{\perp}) \frac{R(\Phi_{n+1})}{B(\Phi_n)} \Theta(k_{\perp} - p_{\perp}^{\min}) d\Phi_{\text{rad}} \right]$$

$$\bar{B}(\Phi_n) = B(\Phi_n) + V(\Phi_n) + \int \left[ R(\Phi_{n+1}) - A(\Phi_{n+1}) \right] d\Phi_{\text{rad}}$$

# From standard SMC to POWHEG MC

- ▶ SMC Sudakov (probability of no emission with virtuality above  $t$ )

$$\Delta_{\text{SMC}}(t) = \exp \left[ - \int_t d\Phi'_{\text{rad}} \frac{\alpha_s(t')}{2\pi} \frac{1}{t'} P(z') \right]$$

- ▶ PMC Sudakov (probability of no emission with transverse momentum above  $p_{\perp}$ )

$$\Delta(\Phi_n, p_{\perp}) = \exp \left[ - \int d\Phi'_{\text{rad}} \frac{R(\Phi_n, \Phi'_{\text{rad}})}{B(\Phi_n)} \Theta(k_{\perp}(\Phi_n, \Phi'_{\text{rad}}) - p_{\perp}) \right]$$

# Accuracy of POWHEG MC

- ▶ The cross section is:

$$\int d\sigma = \int \bar{B} d\Phi_n \left[ \Delta(\Phi_n, p_{\perp}^{\min}) + \int d\Phi_{\text{rad}} \Delta(\Phi_n, k_{\perp}) \frac{R(\Phi_{n+1})}{B(\Phi_n)} \Theta(k_{\perp} - p_{\perp}^{\min}) \right]$$

- ▶ PMC Sudakov (probability of no emission with transverse momentum above  $p_{\perp}$ )

$$\Delta(\Phi_n, p_{\perp}) = \exp \left[ - \int d\Phi'_{\text{rad}} \frac{R(\Phi_n, \Phi'_{\text{rad}})}{B(\Phi_n)} \Theta(k_{\perp}(\Phi_n, \Phi'_{\text{rad}}) - p_{\perp}) \right]$$



# Accuracy of POWHEG MC

- ▶ The cross section is:

$$\int d\sigma = \int \bar{B} d\Phi_n [\Delta(\Phi_n, p_{\perp}^{\min})$$

$$+ \underbrace{\int d\Phi_{\text{rad}} \Delta(\Phi_n, k_{\perp}) \frac{R(\Phi_{n+1})}{B(\Phi_n)} \Theta(k_{\perp} - p_{\perp}^{\min})}_{1 - \Delta(\Phi_n, p_{\perp}^{\min})}]$$

$$\int d\sigma = \int d\Phi_n \bar{B} = \sigma_{\text{NLO}}$$

- ▶ We obtained the NLO cross section

This can be shown for observables as well, see  
[Frixione, Nason, Oleari arXiv:0709.2092](#)

## Three frameworks

- ▶ POWHEG-BOX [Alioli et al, 1002.2581] is used to perform the related calculations to generate equal weight events for further showering (black box)
- ▶ HELAC-NLO [Bevilacqua et al 1007.4918] codes are used to provide squared matrix elements
- ▶ Standard Shower Monte Carlo [Sjostrand et al, hep-ph/0603175, Corcella et al hep-ph/0210213] (SMC) is used to shower the events

RESULT of PowHel (=POWHEG-BOX+HELAC-NLO):

Les Houches file of Born and Born+1st radiation events (LHE) ready for processing with SMC followed by almost arbitrary experimental analysis

[http://grid.kfki.hu/twiki/bin/view/DbTheory/  
WebHome#Events\\_with\\_NLO\\_accuracy\\_for\\_par](http://grid.kfki.hu/twiki/bin/view/DbTheory/WebHome#Events_with_NLO_accuracy_for_par)

[TWiki](#) > [DbTheory Web](#) > [TtjProd](#) (2011-07-15, [AdamKardos](#))

## Top quark pair production in association with a jet

This page contains those event files which concern top quark pair production with a jet. The used code can be found here: [ttj.tgz](#).

### TeVatron @ 1.96 TeV

1.  $m_t = 172$  [GeV](#),  $\mu = \mu_R = \mu_F = m_t$ , [CTEQ6M](#) PDF, 2-loop running  $\alpha_s$ ,  $p_{\{\text{bot}, \text{min}\}} = 5$  [GeV](#). This set was taken for comparison with Melnikov and Schulze(arXiv:1004.3284). [ttj-tev-01.tgz](#) (315 Mb)
2.  $m_t = 174$  [GeV](#),  $\mu = \mu_R = \mu_F = m_t$ , [CTEQ6M](#) PDF, 2-loop running  $\alpha_s$ ,  $p_{\{\text{bot}, \text{min}\}} = 5$  [GeV](#). This set was taken for comparison with Dittmaier, Uwer and Weinzierl(arXiv:0810.0452). [ttj-tev-02.tgz](#) (152 Mb)

### LHC @ 7 TeV

1.  $m_t = 172$  [GeV](#),  $\mu = \mu_R = \mu_F = m_t$ , [CTEQ6M](#) PDF, 2-loop running  $\alpha_s$ ,  $p_{\{\text{bot}, \text{min}\}} = 5$  [GeV](#). To reproduce the predictions of arXiv:1101.2672. [ttj-lhc-01.tgz](#) (410 Mb)
2.  $m_t = 172$  [GeV](#),  $\mu = \mu_R = \mu_F = m_{\text{bot}}$  (for a precise definition please see arXiv:1101.2672), [CTEQ6M](#) PDF, 2-loop running  $\alpha_s$ ,  $p_{\{\text{bot}, \text{min}\}} = 5$  [GeV](#). To reproduce the predictions of arXiv:1101.2672. [ttj-lhc-02.tgz](#) (397 Mb)

# SMC's with veto

- ▶ In POWHEG-Box the first emission is the hardest one measured by transverse momentum
- ▶ If the ordering variable in the shower is different from the transverse momentum of the parton splitting, such as the angular ordering in HERWIG, then the hardest emission is not necessarily the first one
- ▶ In such cases the HERWIG discards shower evolutions (**vetoed shower**) with larger transverse momentum in all splittings occurring after the first emission
- ▶ In principle, a truncated shower simulating wide-angle soft emission before the first emission is also needed
- ▶ There is no implementation of truncated shower in HERWIG using external LHE event files, the effect of the truncated showers is absent from our predictions

# Input to POWHEG-BOX

- ▶ Flavour structures, Born phase space
- ▶ From Helac-OneLoop (in the process of automatization):
  - Tree-level helicity amplitudes for the Born and real radiation processes (crossed into physical channels from all incoming kinematics)
  - One-loop corrections to the helicity amplitudes of Born processes (unitarity based numerical evaluation of one-loop amplitudes)
  - Use polarization vectors to project tree-level helicity-correlated matrix elements to Lorentz basis to get the spin-correlated squared matrix elements
- ▶ From HELAC-Dipoles: two subroutines for colour-correlated squared matrix elements of the Born processes

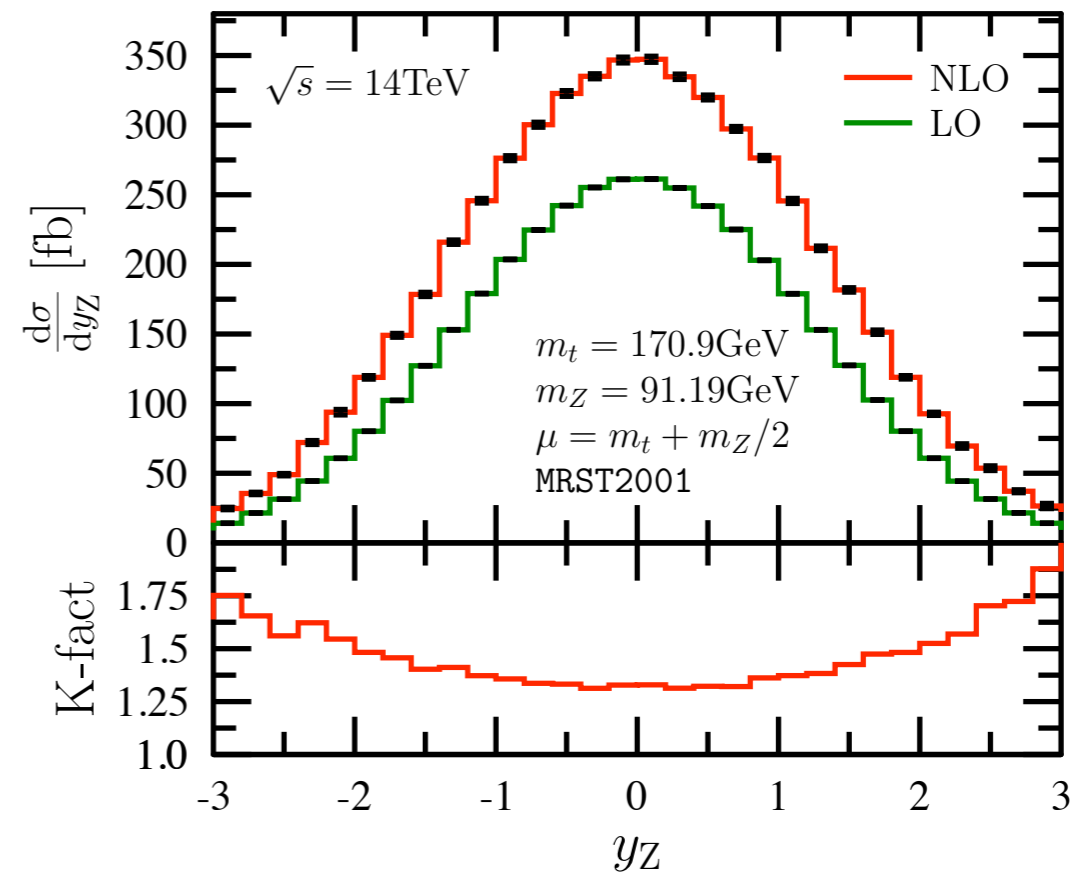
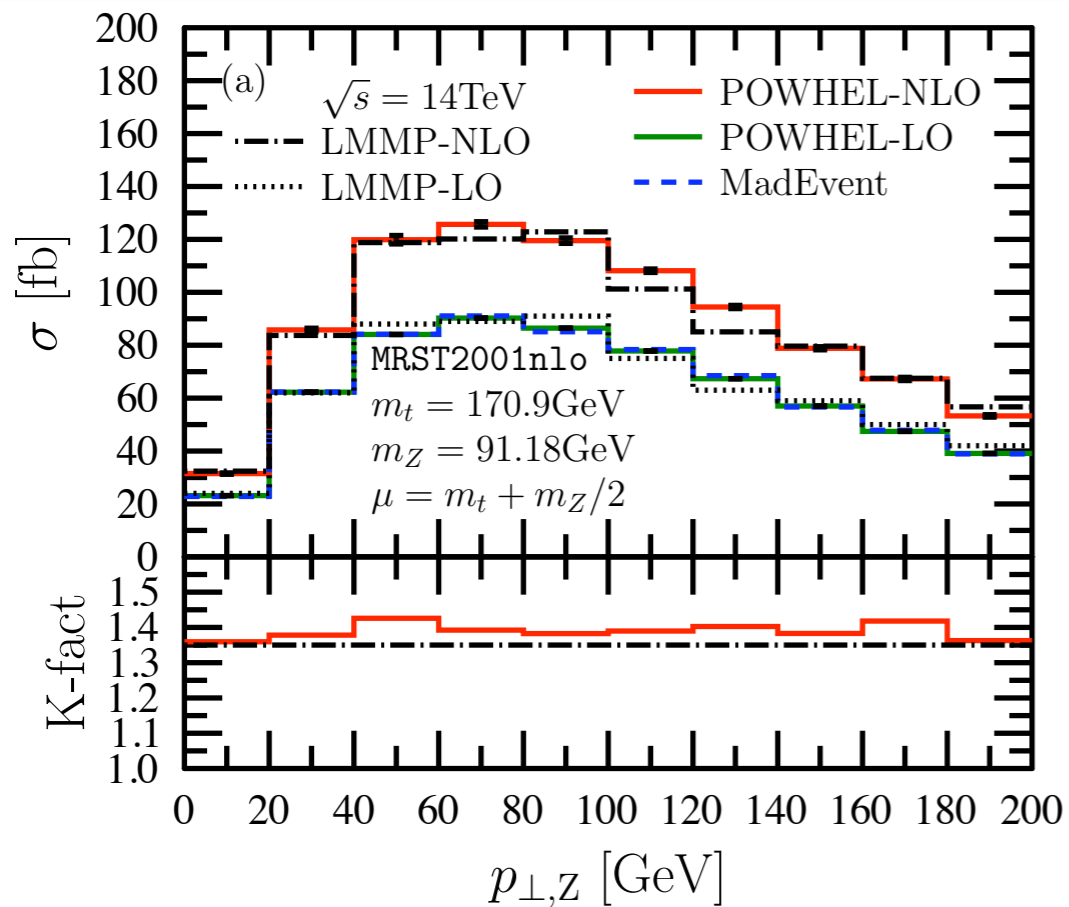
# Checks

- ✓ Check (implementation of) real emission squared matrix elements in POWHEG-BOX to those from HELAC-PHEGAS in randomly chosen phase space points
- ✓ Check (implementation of) virtual correction in POWHEG-BOX to those from HELAC-OneLoop in randomly chosen phase space points
- ✓ Check the ratio of soft and collinear limits to real emission matrix elements tends to 1 in randomly chosen kinematically degenerate phase space points

# Comparison to NLO

- ✓ Compare LO and NLO cross sections to published predictions
- ➔ ttZ: Lazopoulos et al, arXiv:0709.4044
- ➔ tty: Melnikov et al, arXiv:1102.1967
- ➔ ttH: Beenakker et al, hep-ph/0107081, 0211352  
Reina et al, hep-ph/0107101, 0109066, 0305087
- ➔ ttjet: Dittmaier et al, hep-ph/0703120, 0810.0452
- ➔ ttbb: Bredenstein et al, arXiv: 0905.0110, 1001.4006  
Bevilacqua et al, arXiv:0907.4723

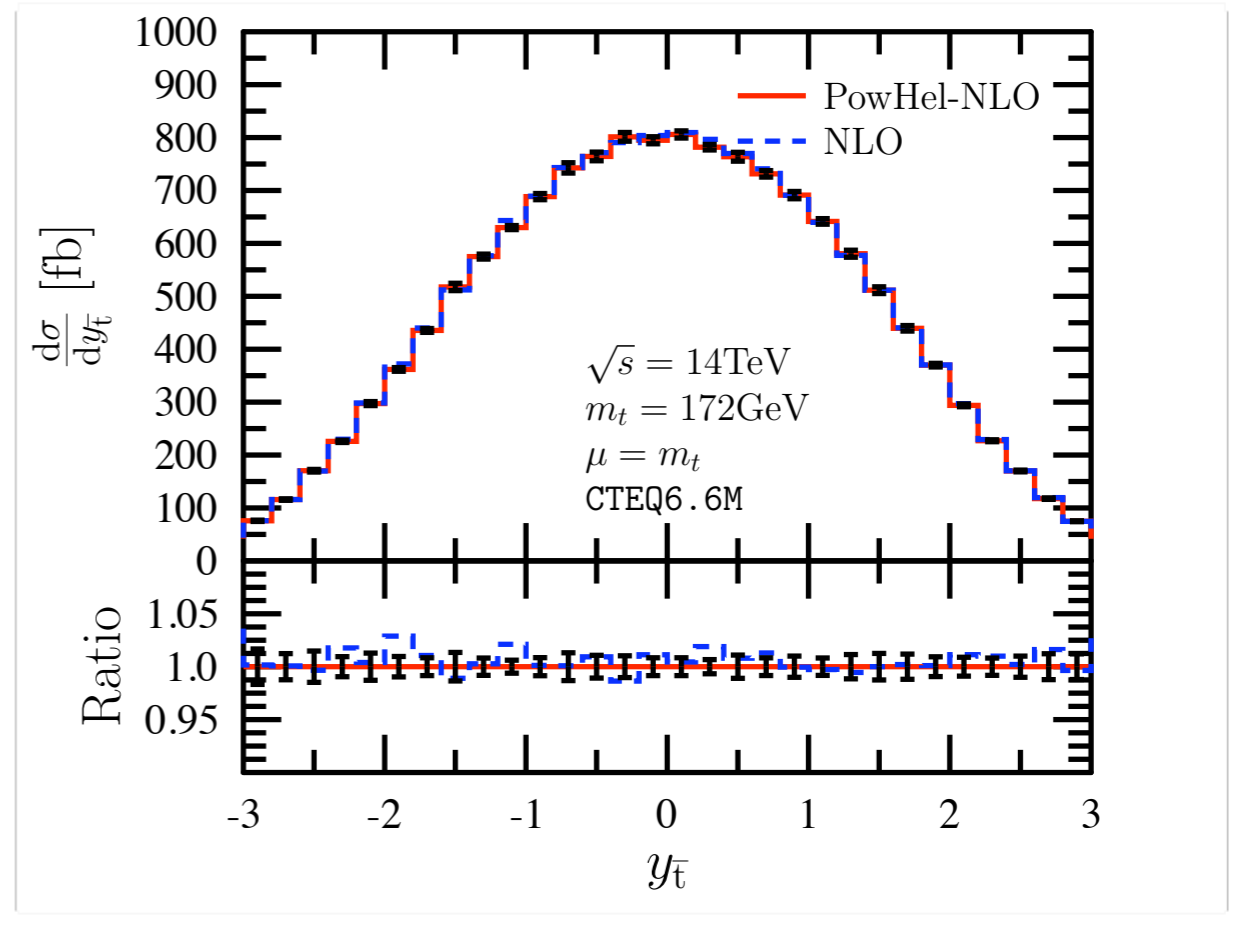
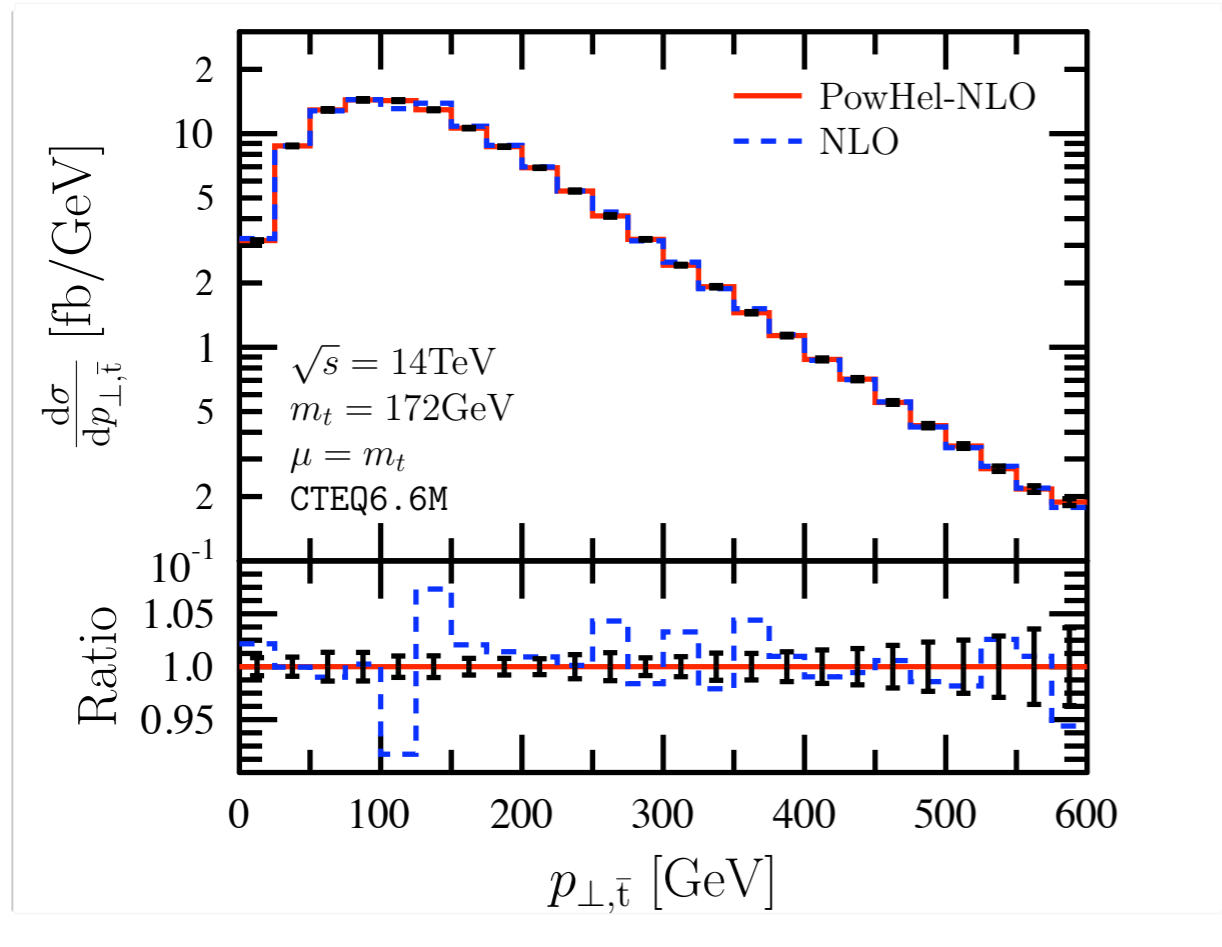
# PowHel-NLO vs. NLO



Transverse momentum & rapidity distributions of the  $Z^0$ -boson  
 in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} Z$  at the LHC

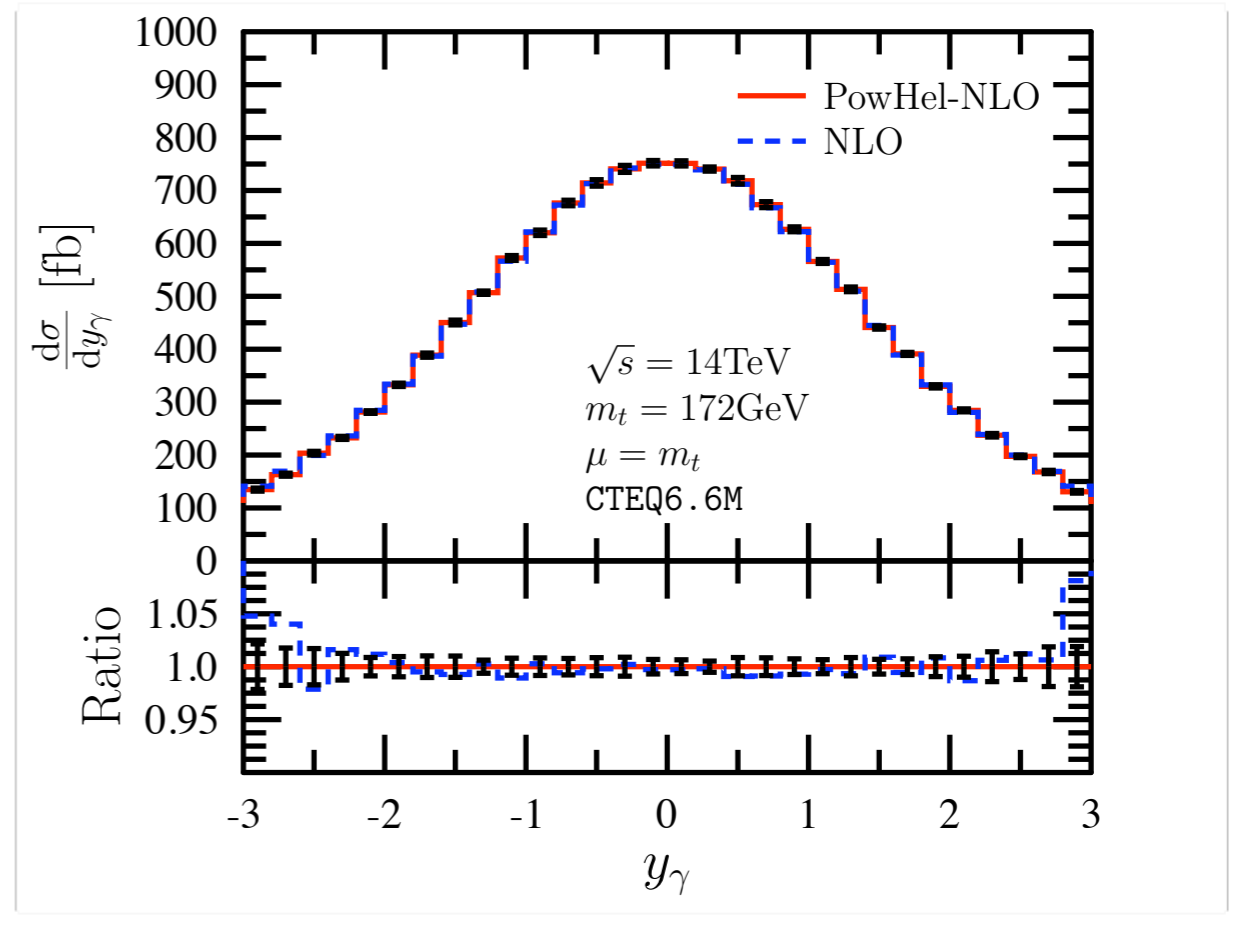
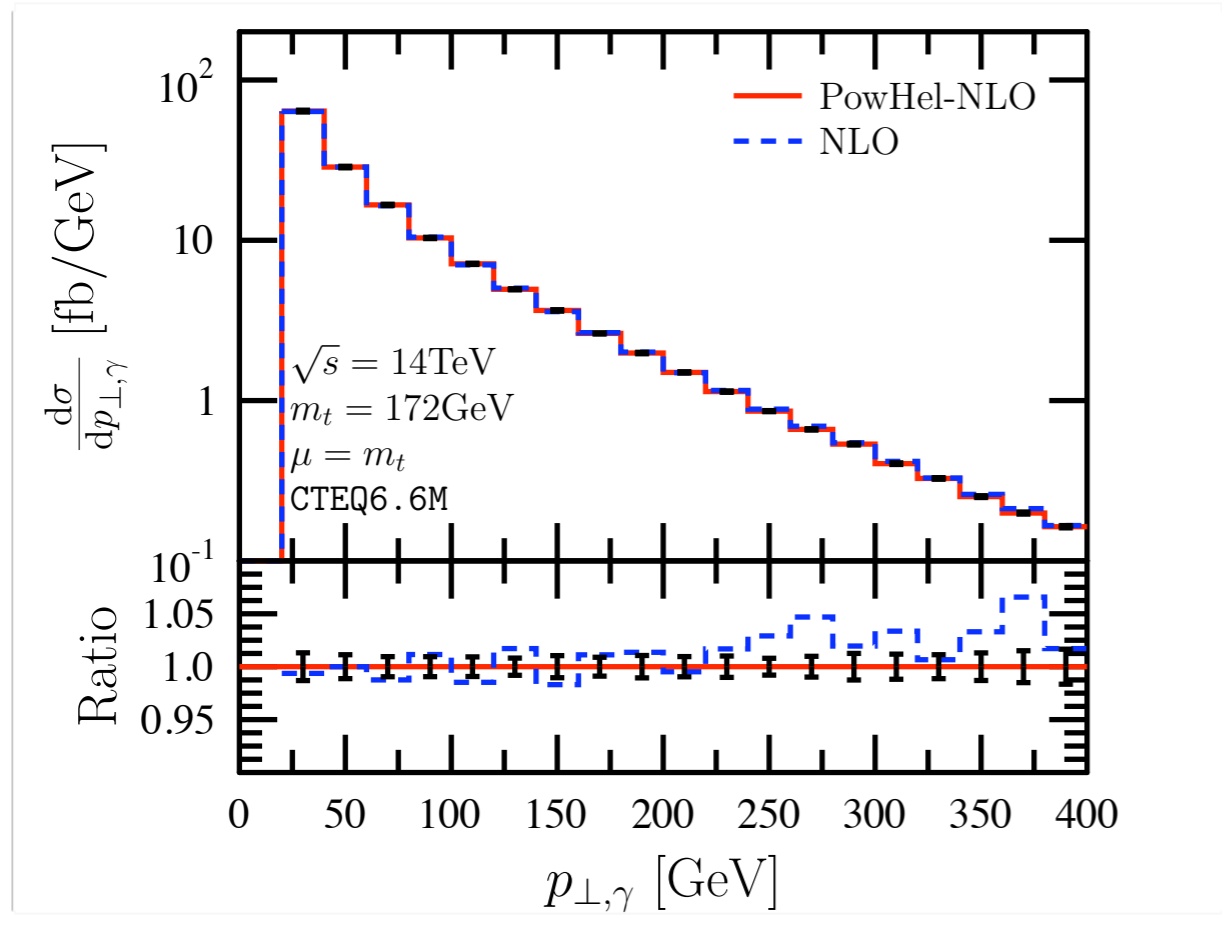


# PowHel-NLO vs. NLO



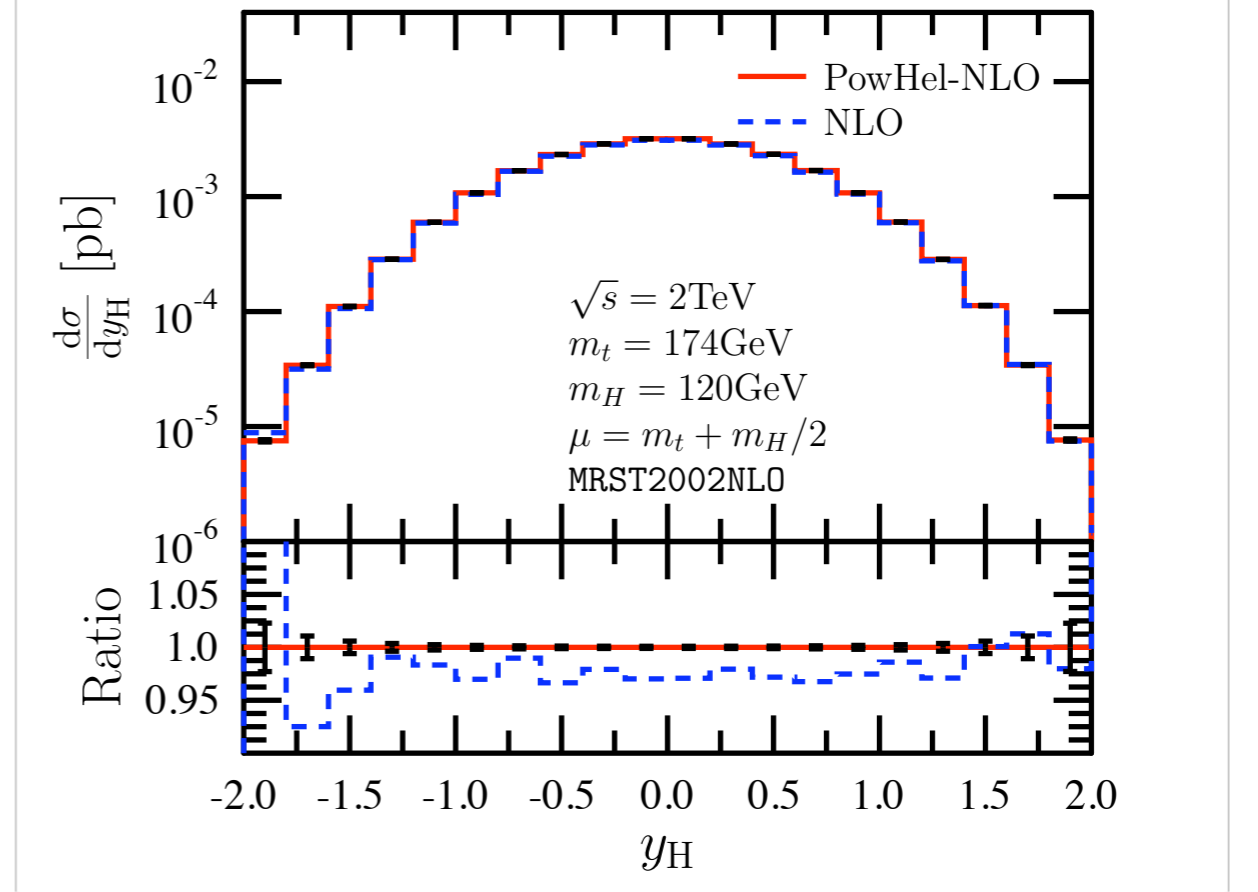
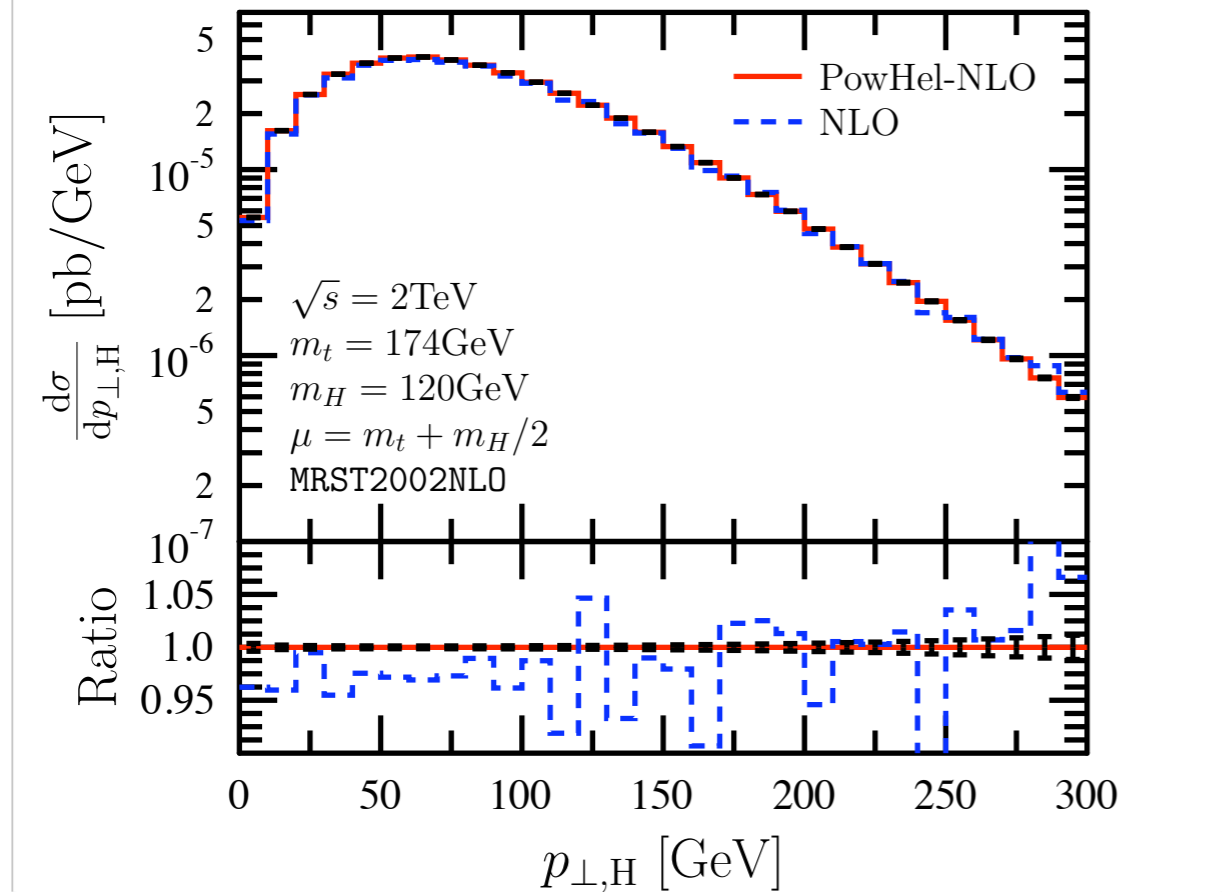
Transverse momentum and rapidity distributions of the t-quark in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}\gamma$  at the LHC (with Frixione-isolation)

# PowHel-NLO vs. NLO



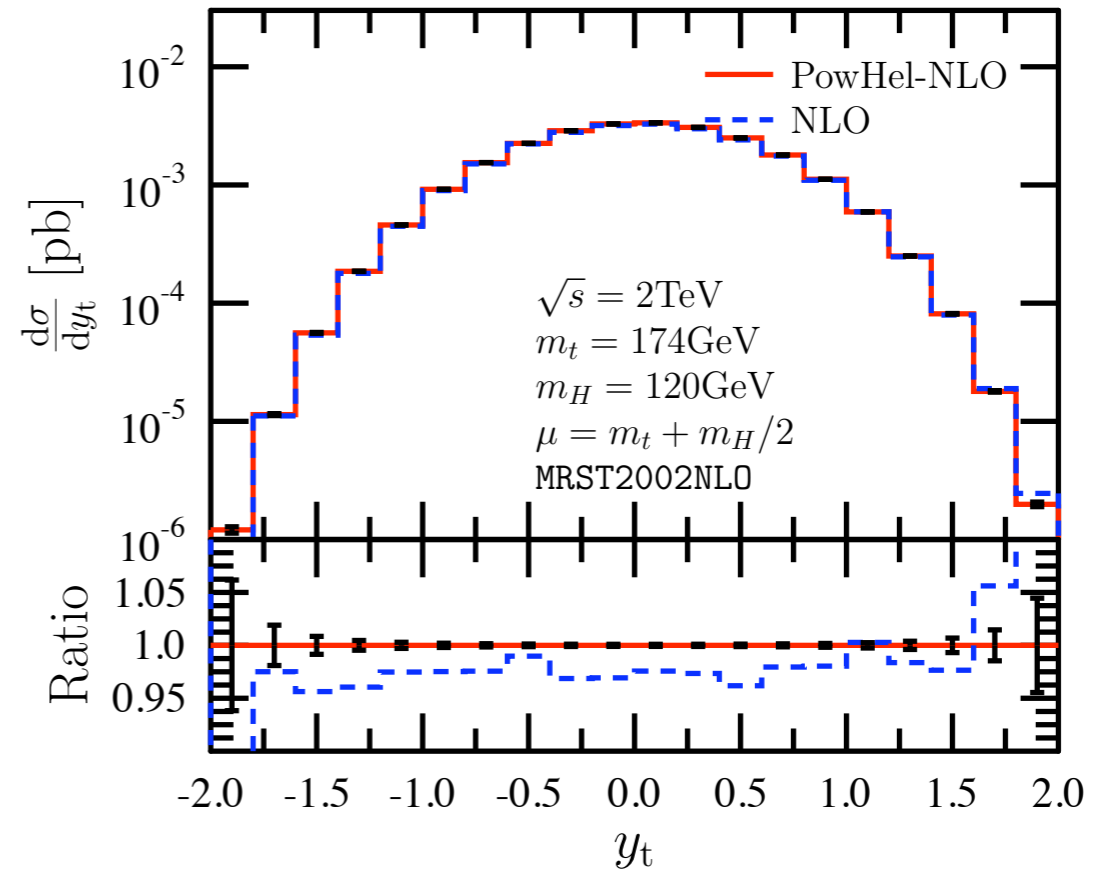
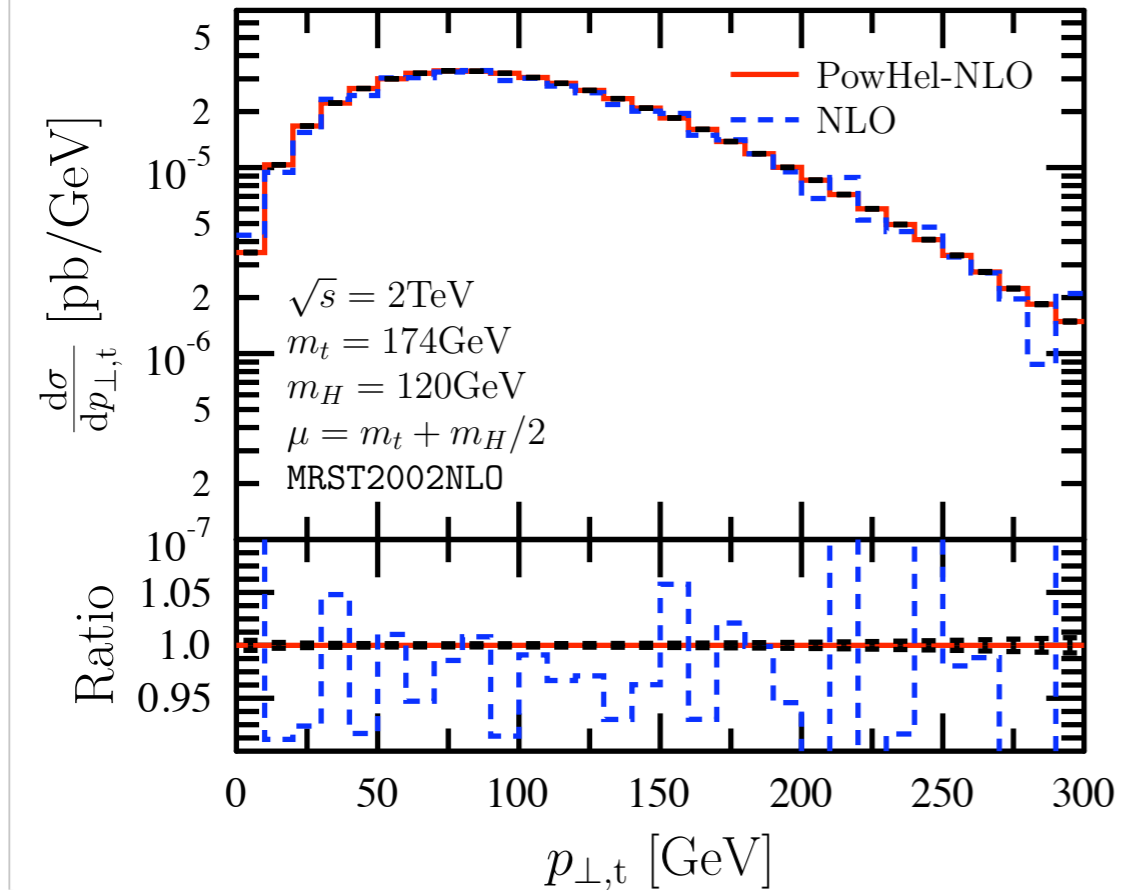
Transverse momentum & rapidity distributions of the photon  
in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}\gamma$  at the LHC (with Frixione-isolation)

# PowHel-NLO vs. NLO



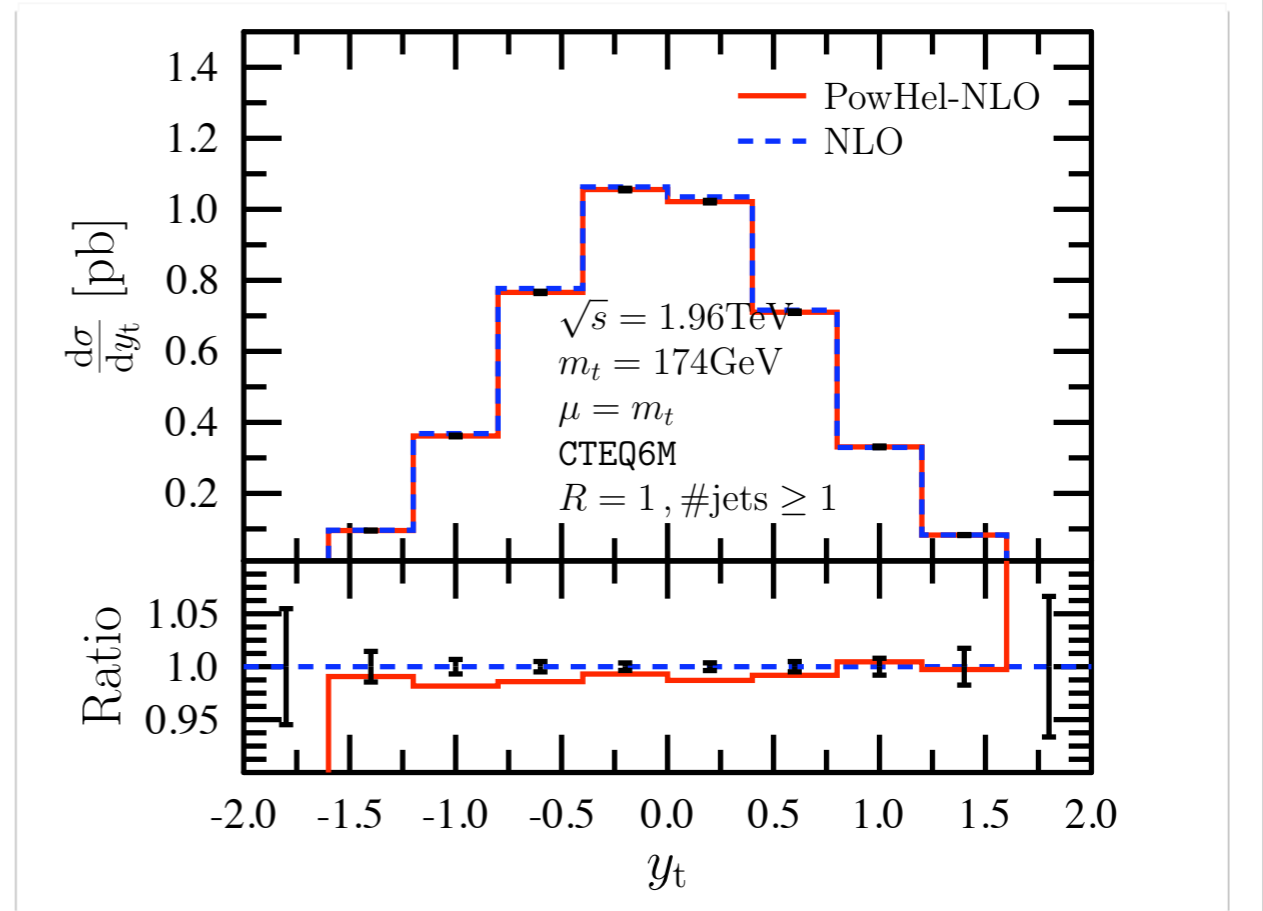
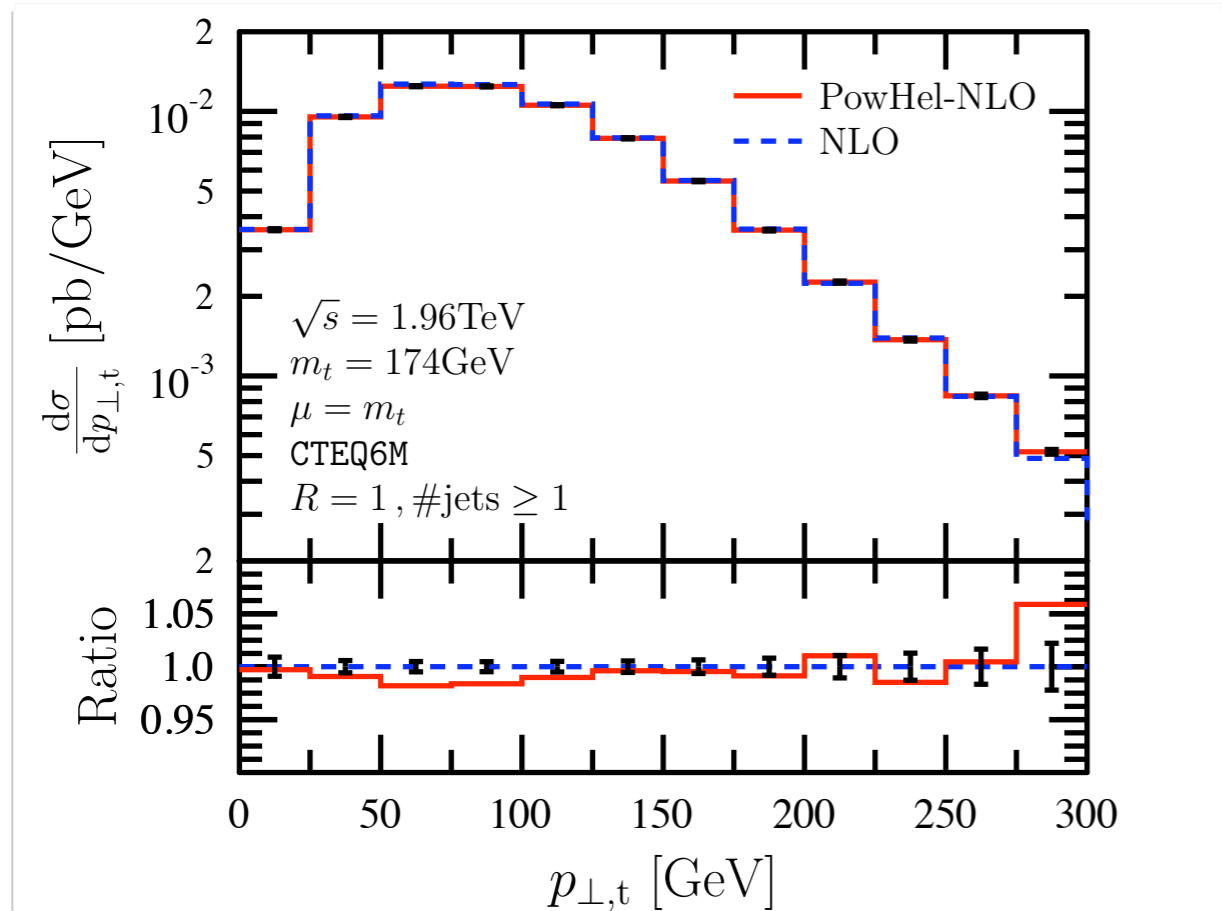
Transverse momentum and rapidity distributions of the Higgs boson in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t} H$  at the Tevatron

# PowHel-NLO vs. NLO



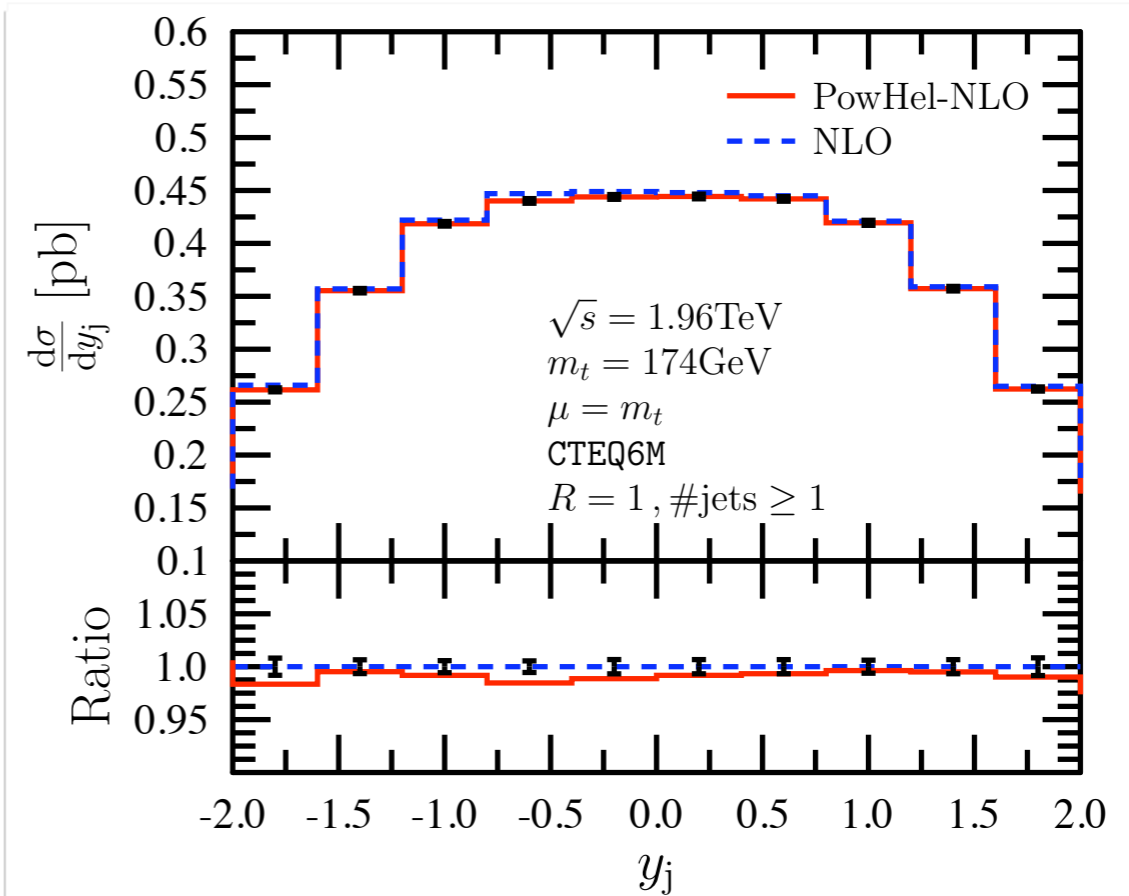
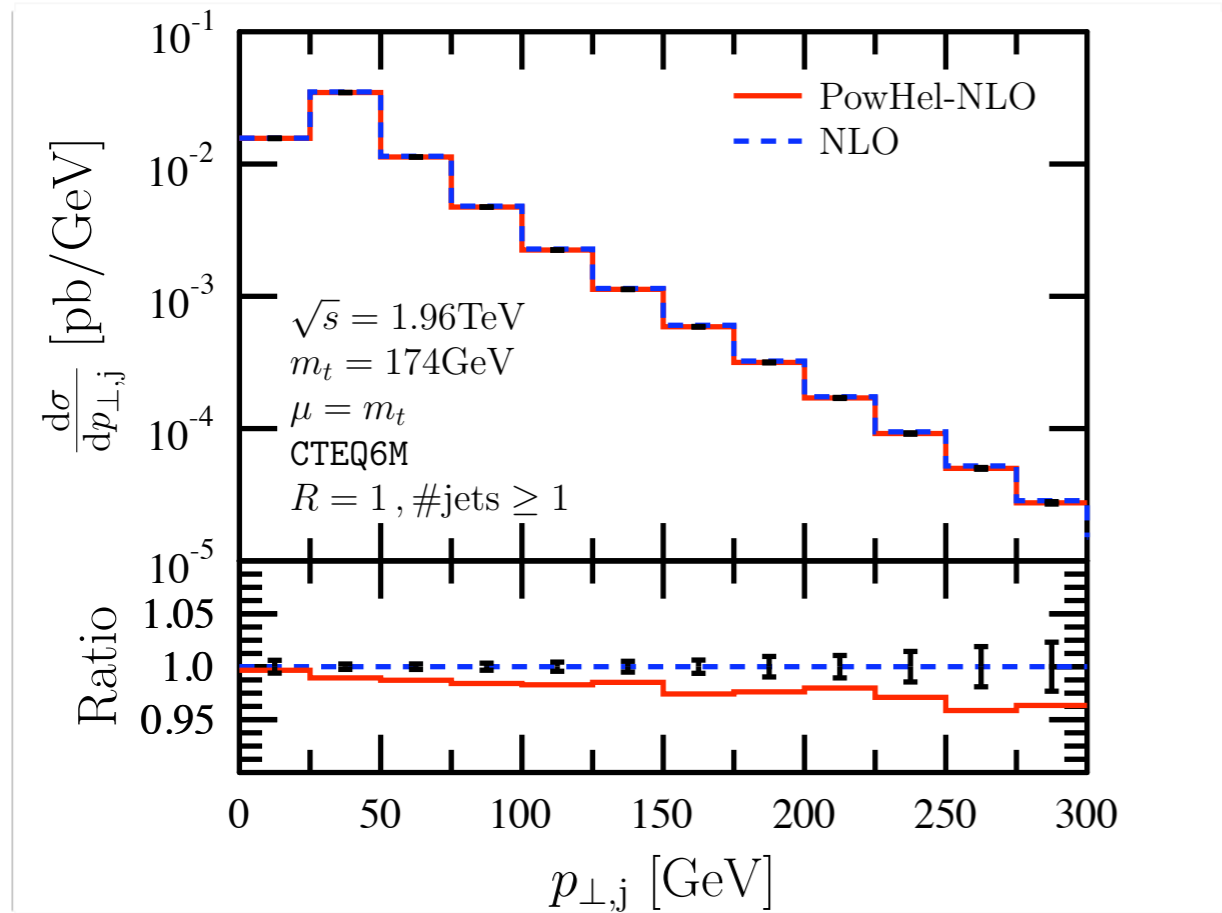
Transverse momentum and rapidity distributions of the t-quark  
in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$  at the TeVatron

# PowHel-NLO vs. NLO



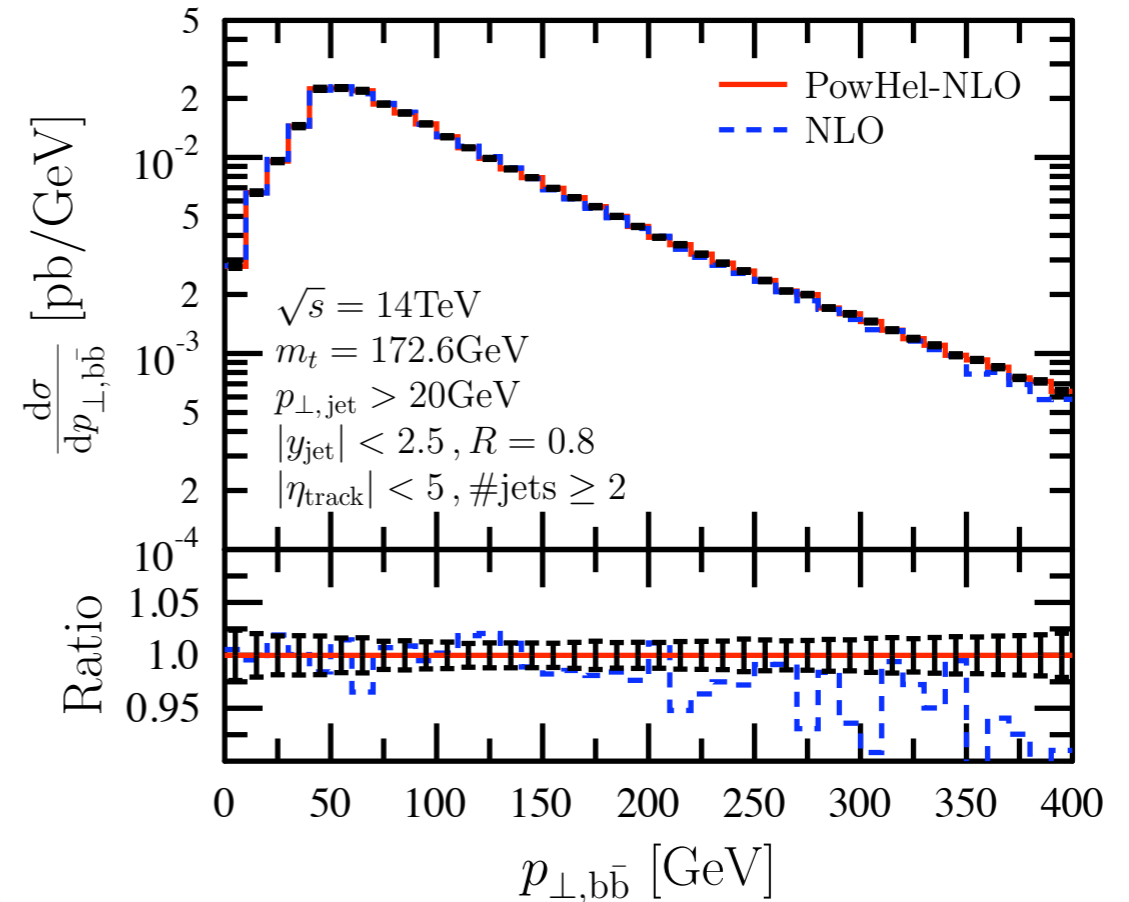
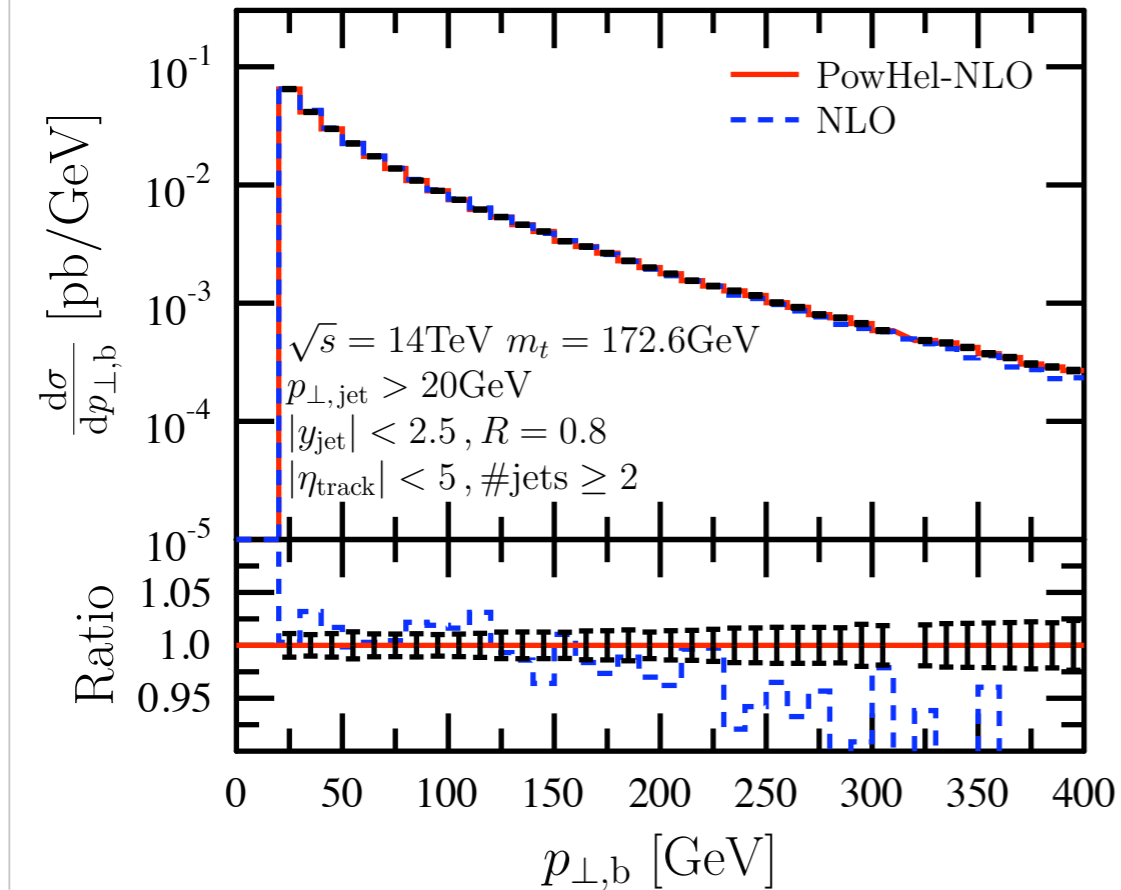
Transverse momentum and rapidity distributions of the t-quark  
in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  jet at the TeVatron

# PowHel-NLO vs. NLO



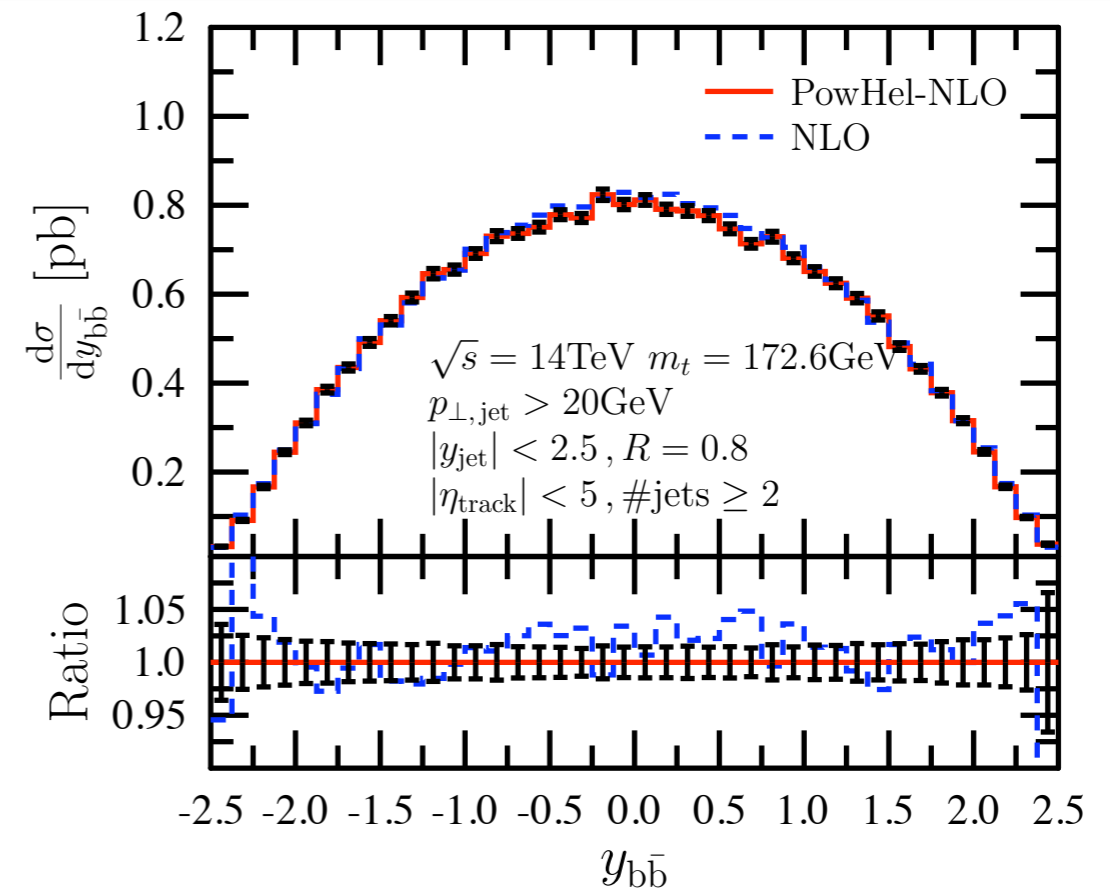
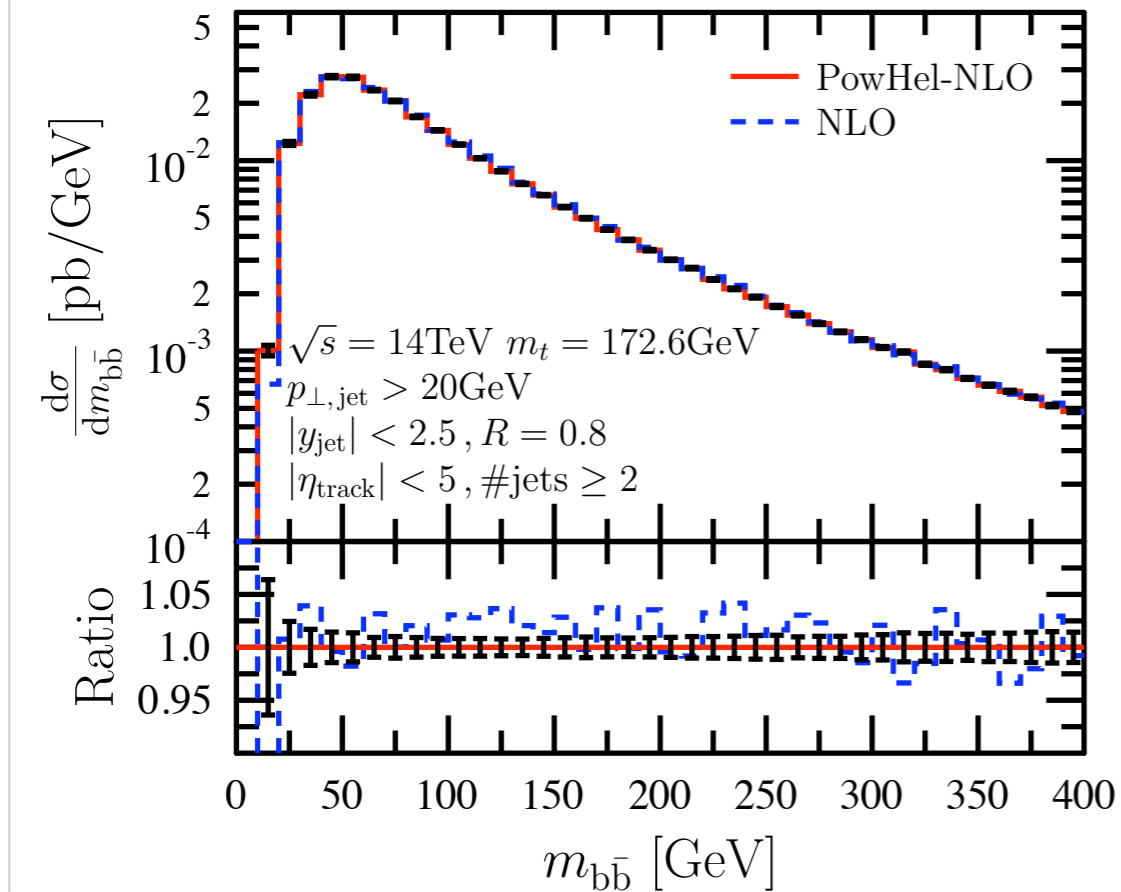
Transverse momentum & rapidity distributions of the hardest jet  
in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  jet at the TeVatron

# PowHel-NLO vs. NLO



Transverse momentum distributions of the b-quark and the  $b\bar{b}$ -pair  
in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} b\bar{b}$  at the LHC

# PowHel-NLO vs. NLO



Invariant-mass and rapidity distributions of the  $b\bar{b}$ -pair  
in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} b\bar{b}$  at the LHC



# PowHel-NLO vs. NLO

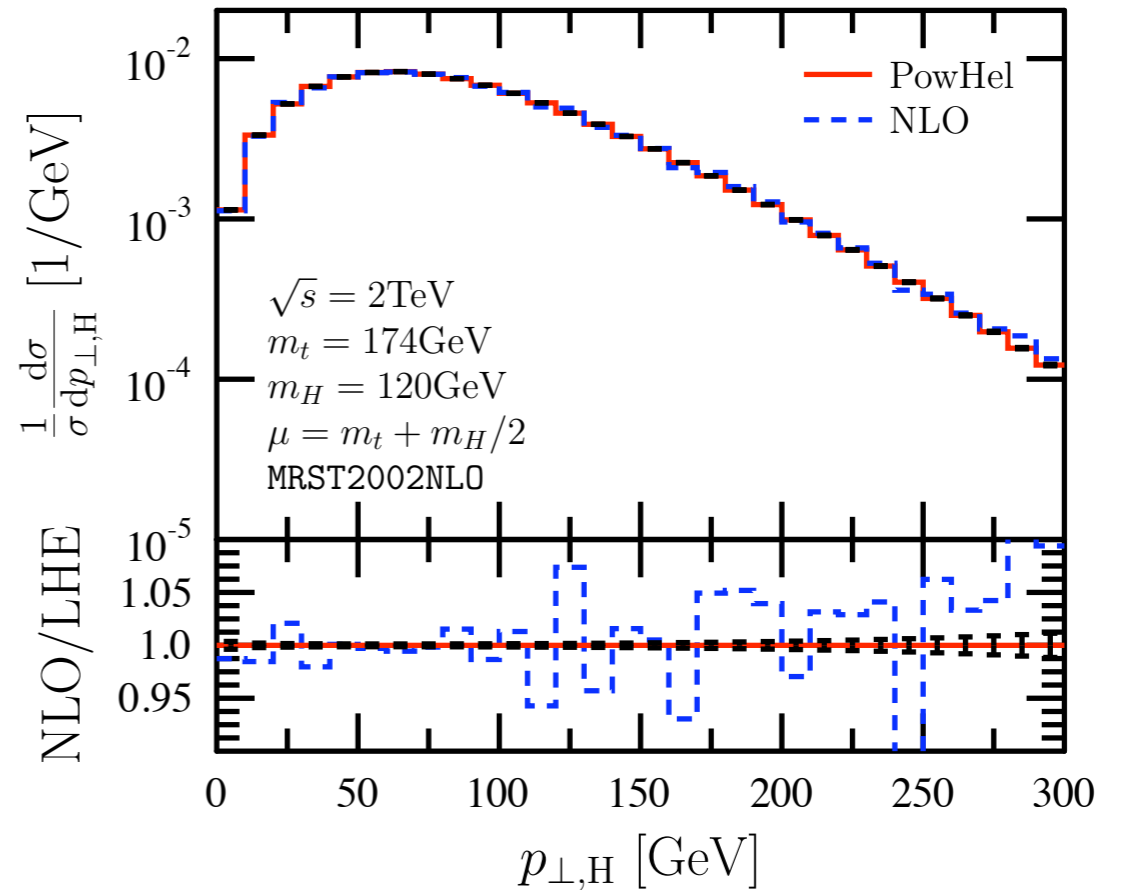
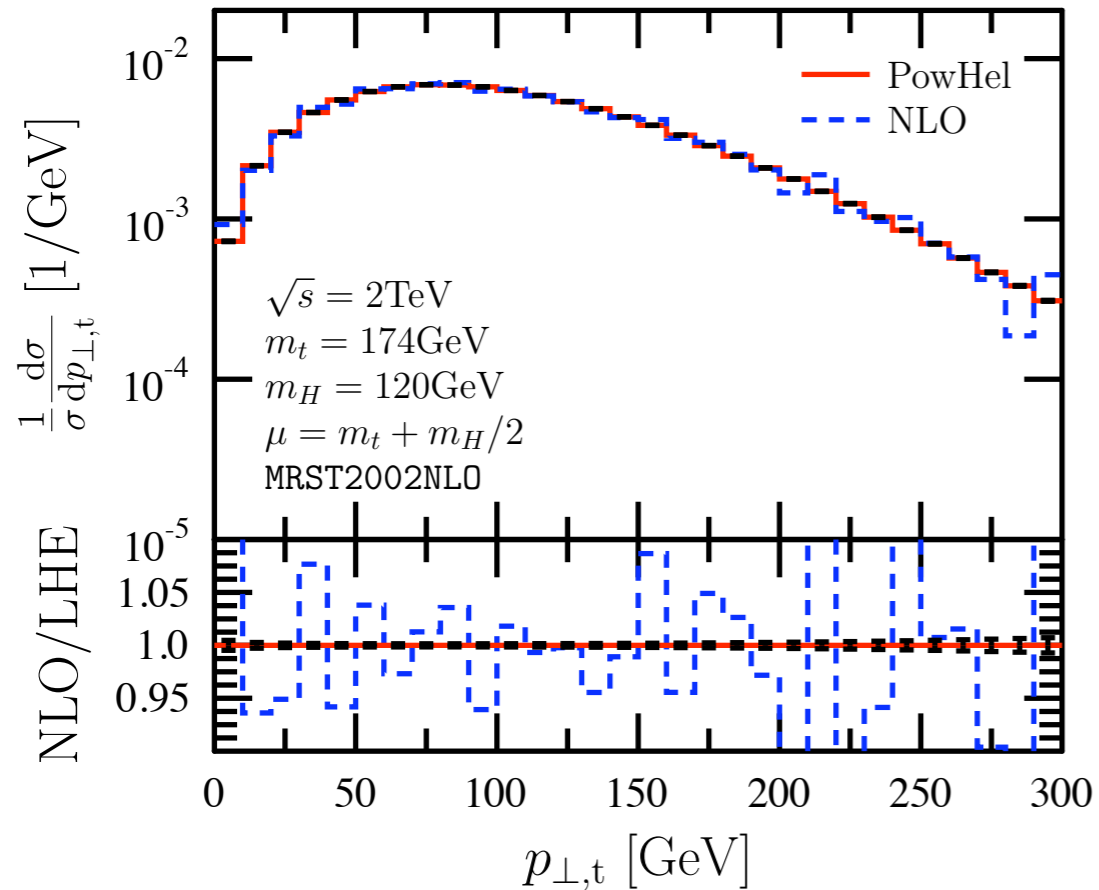
Message: PowHel-NLO is reliable

# Comparison to NLO

- ✓ Compare distributions based on events at Born+1st radiation level (LHE) to those at NLO accuracy

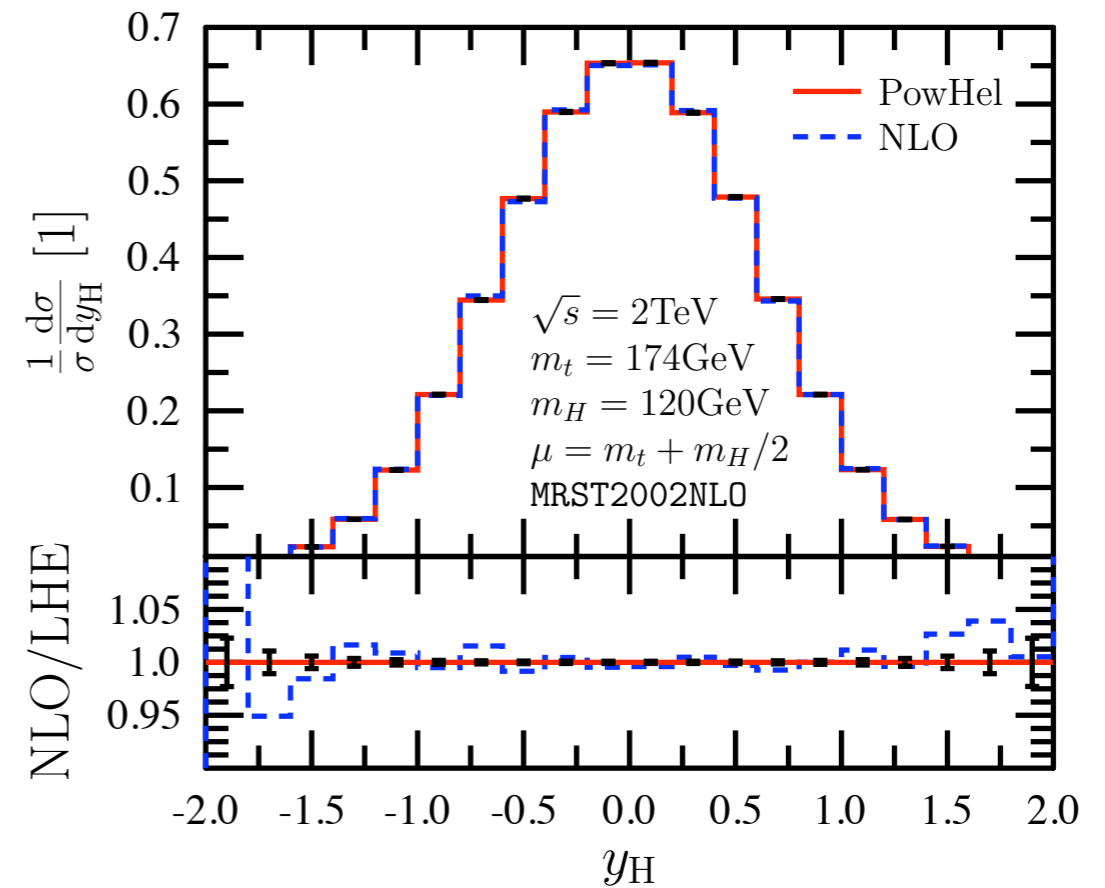
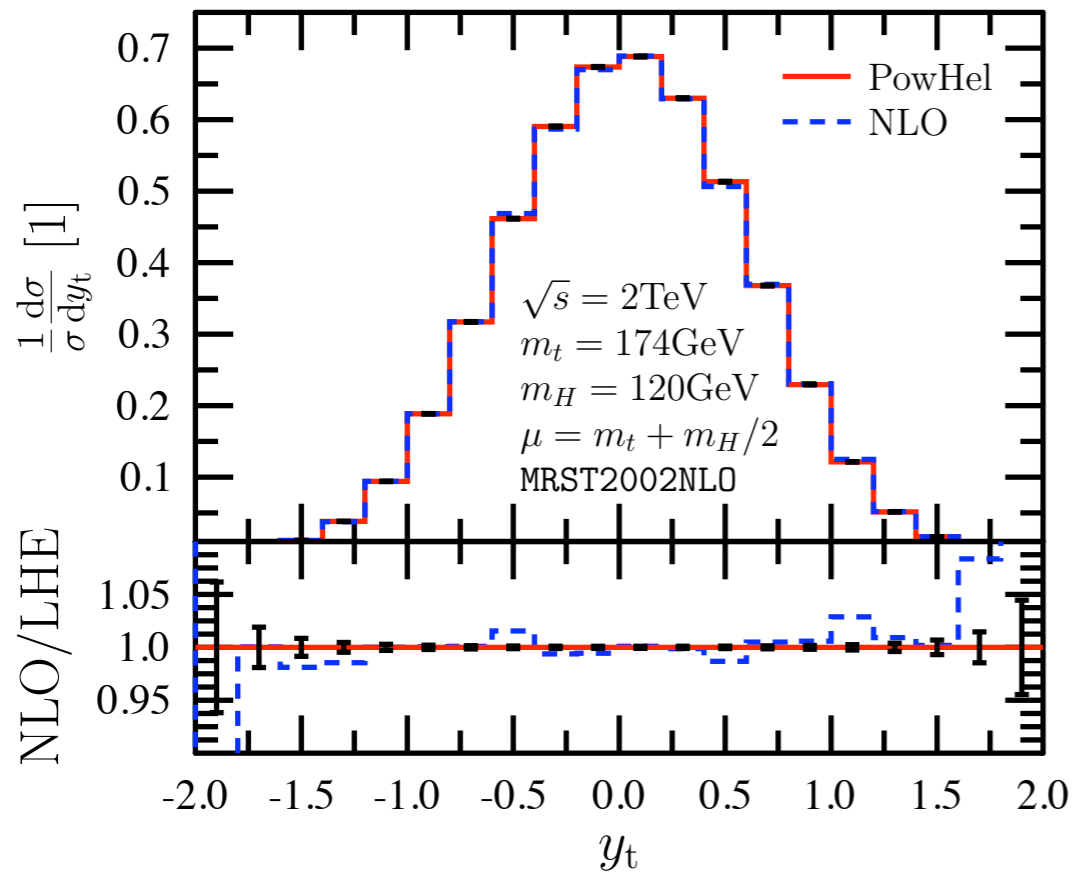
Remember:  $\sigma_{\text{LHE}} = \sigma_{\text{NLO}} (1 + O(\alpha_s))$

# LHE vs. NLO



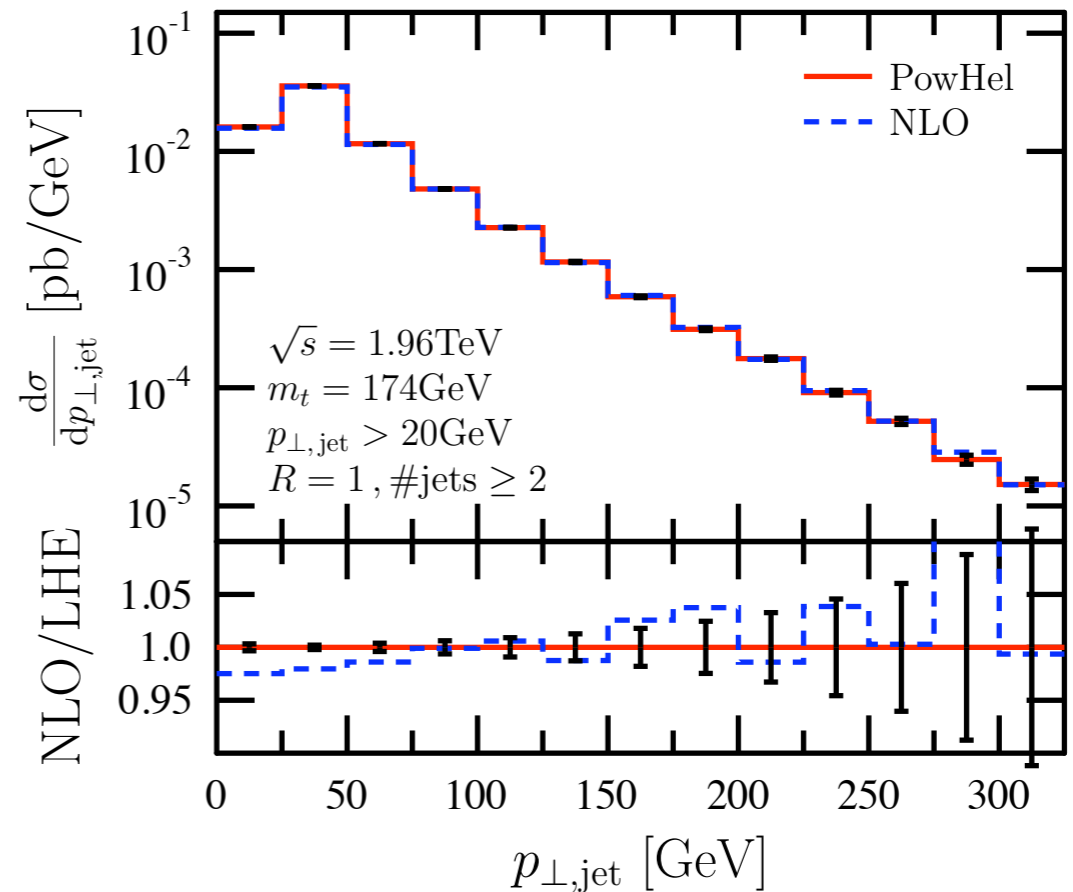
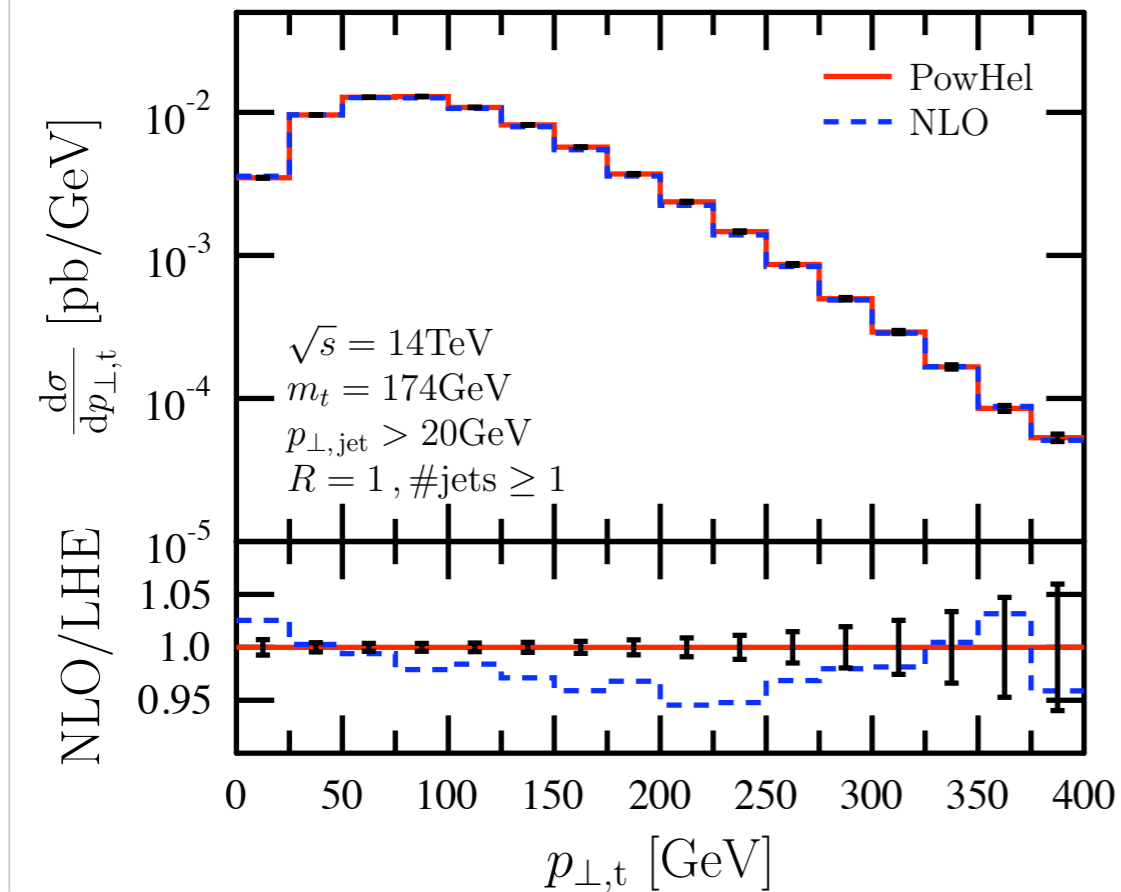
Transverse momentum distributions of the t-quark and the Higgs  
in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$  at the TeVatron

# LHE vs. NLO



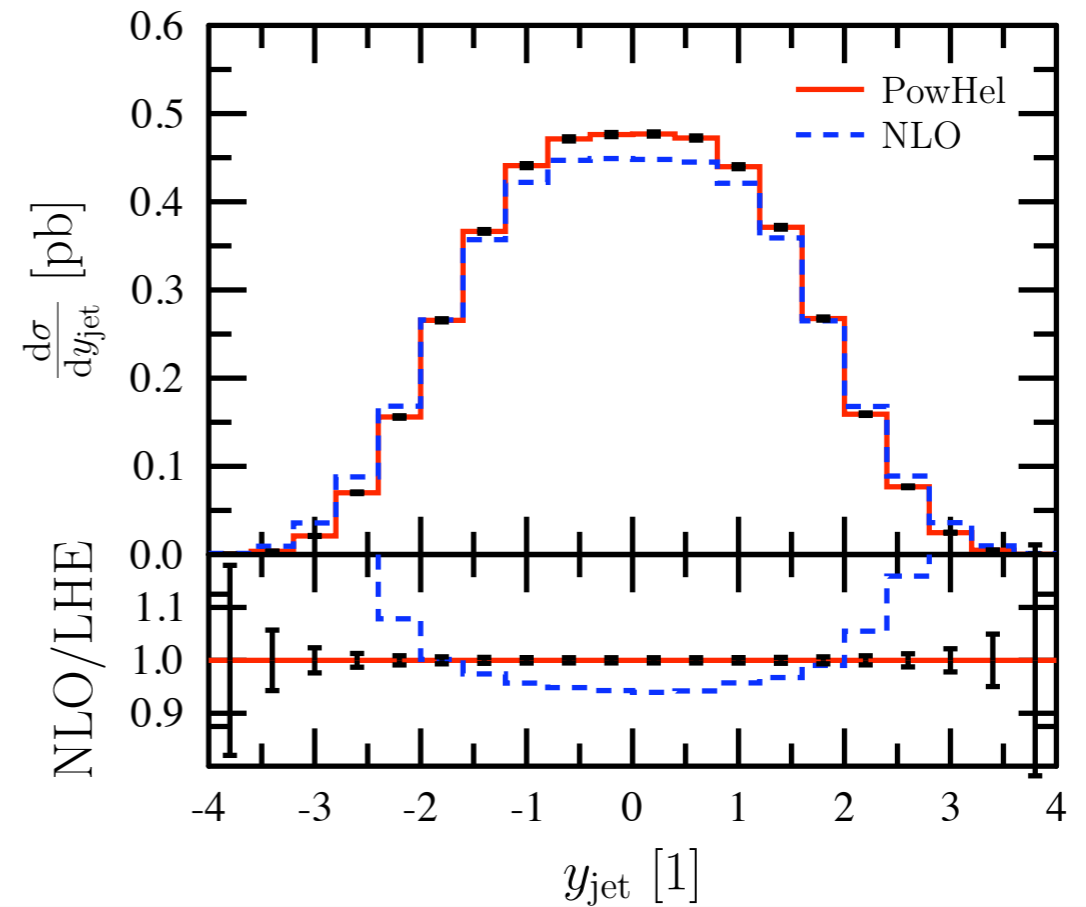
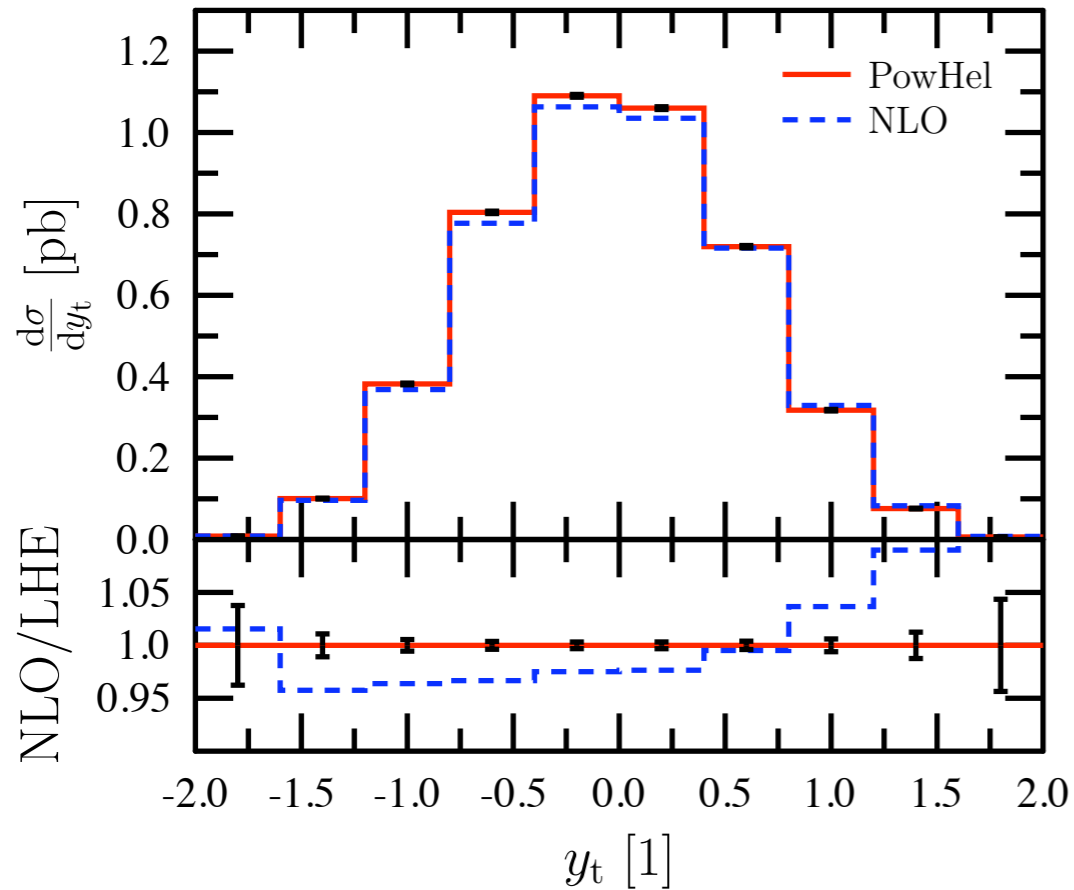
Rapidity distributions of the t-quark and the Higgs boson  
in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t} H$  at the TeVatron

# LHE vs. NLO



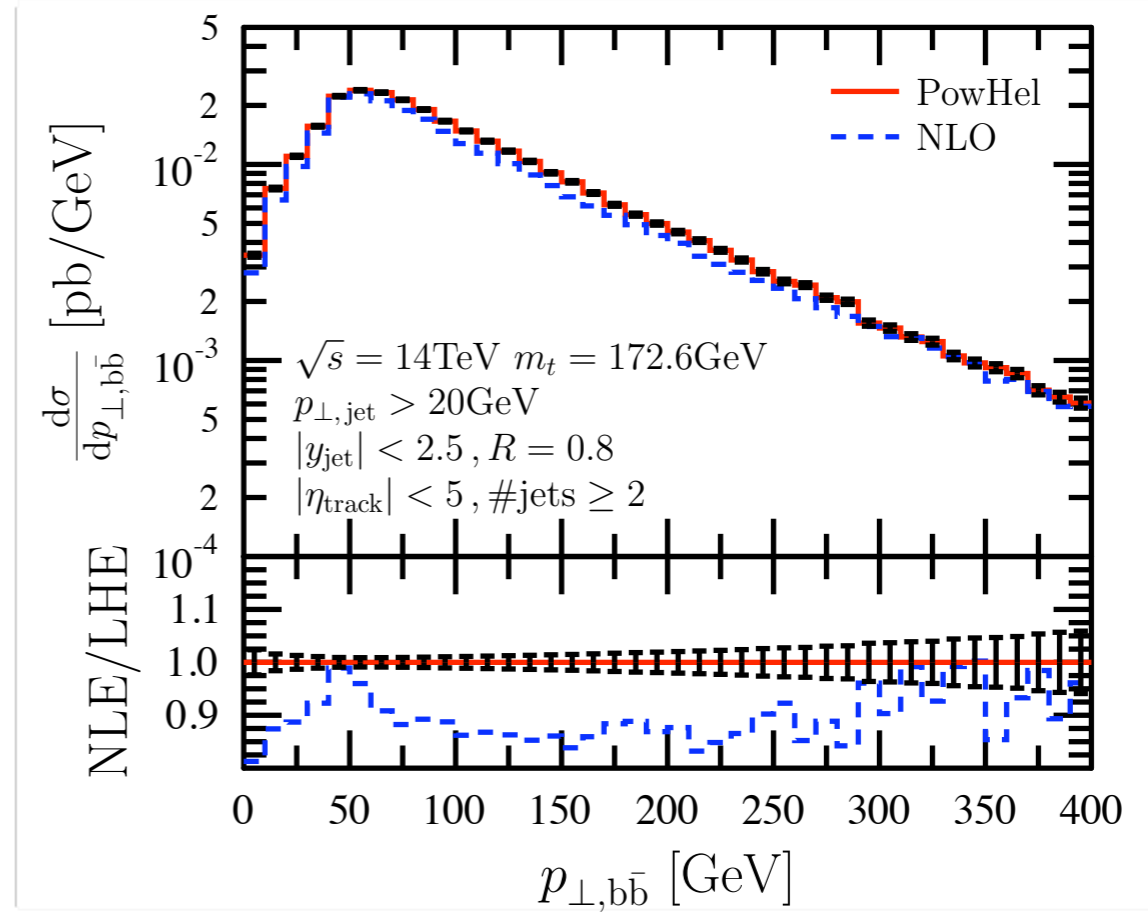
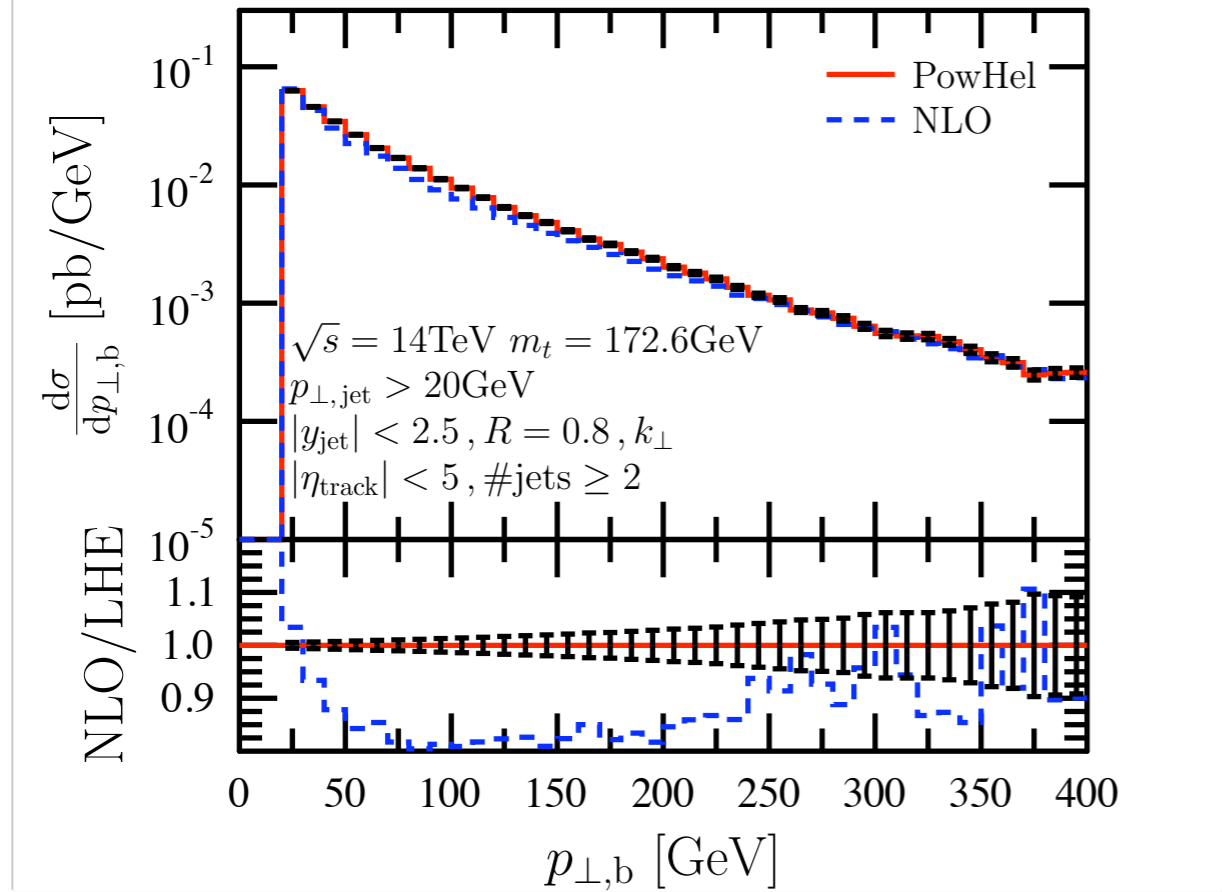
Transverse momentum distributions of the t-quark and the jet  
in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t} \text{ jet}$  at the TeVatron

# LHE vs. NLO



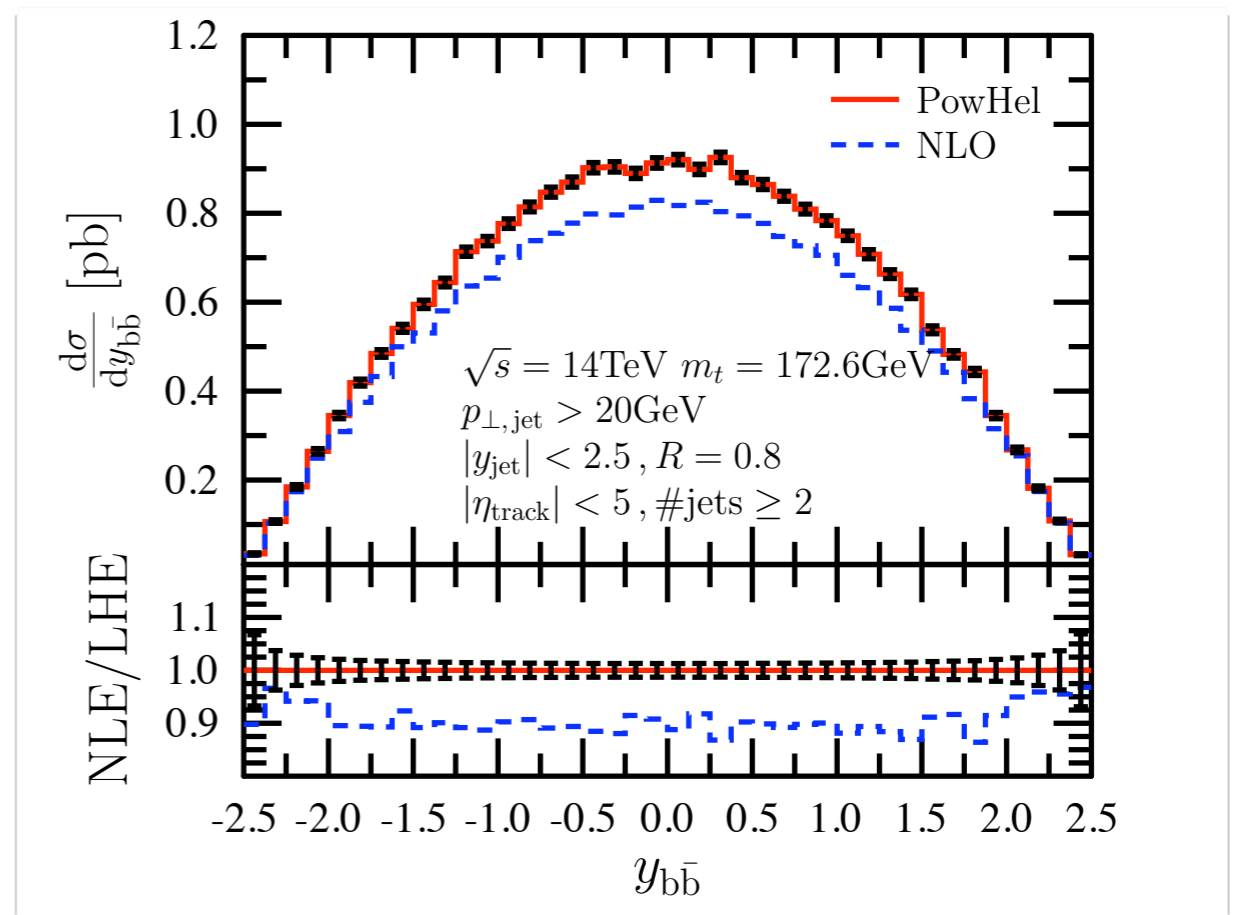
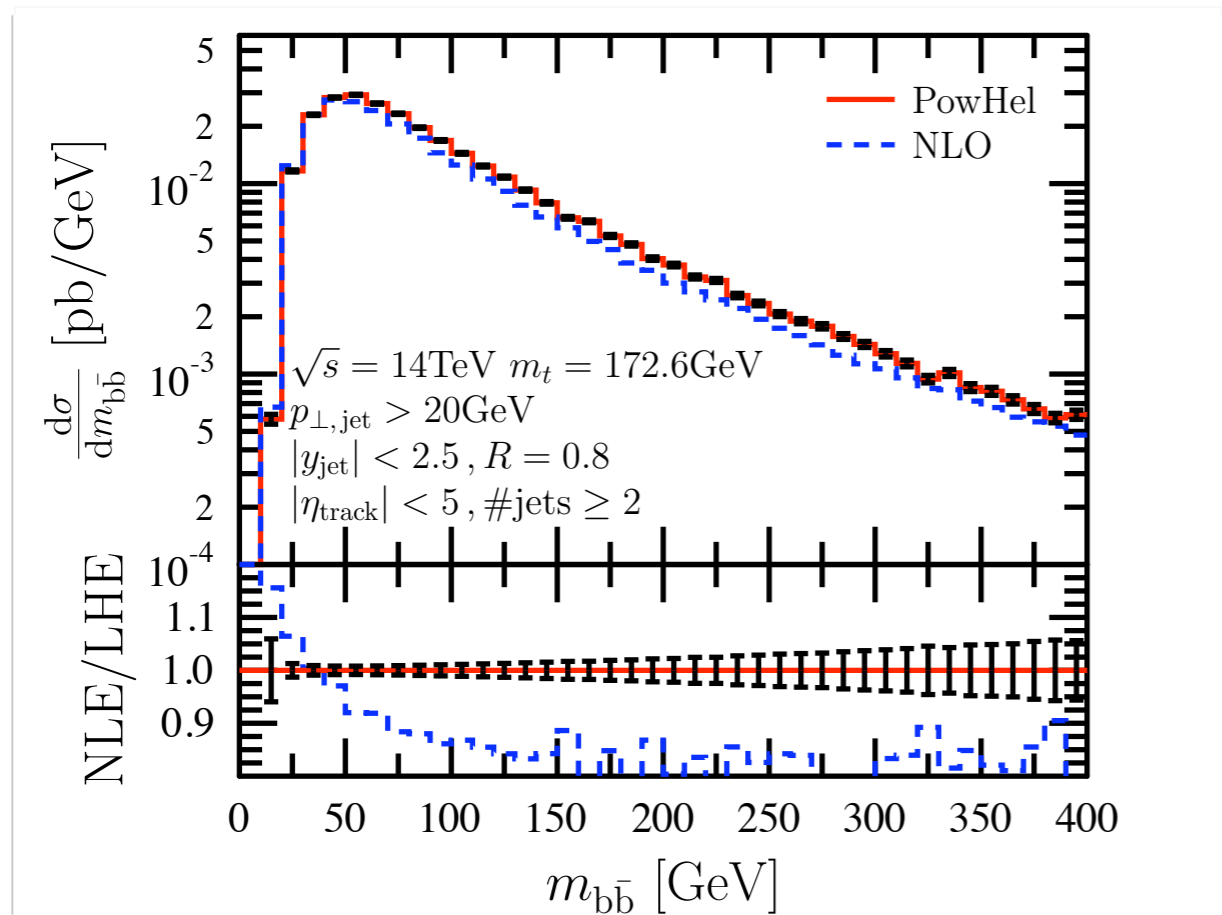
Rapidity distributions of the t-quark and the jet  
in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  jet at the TeVatron

# LHE vs. NLO



Transverse momentum distributions of the b-quark and  $b\bar{b}$ -pair  
in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t} b\bar{b}$  at the TeVatron

# LHE vs. NLO



Invariant-mass and rapidity distributions of the  $b\bar{b}$ -pair  
in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t} b\bar{b}$  at the TeVatron



# PowHel-LHE vs. NLO

Message: PowHel-LHE's are reliable  
(but tell me your doubts)

# Three levels of predictions

**PowHel:** we use the events at BORN+1st radiation

**PowHel+Decay:** we just include on-shell decays of t-quarks and the heavy bosons, decay of tau's emerging from heavy boson-decay as implemented in PYTHIA, turning off any shower and hadronization effects

**PowHel+SMC:** decays, showering and hadronization have been included, using both PYTHIA and HERWIG

Number and type of particles are very different =>  
the possible selection cuts are restricted in comparisons

# Three levels of cuts

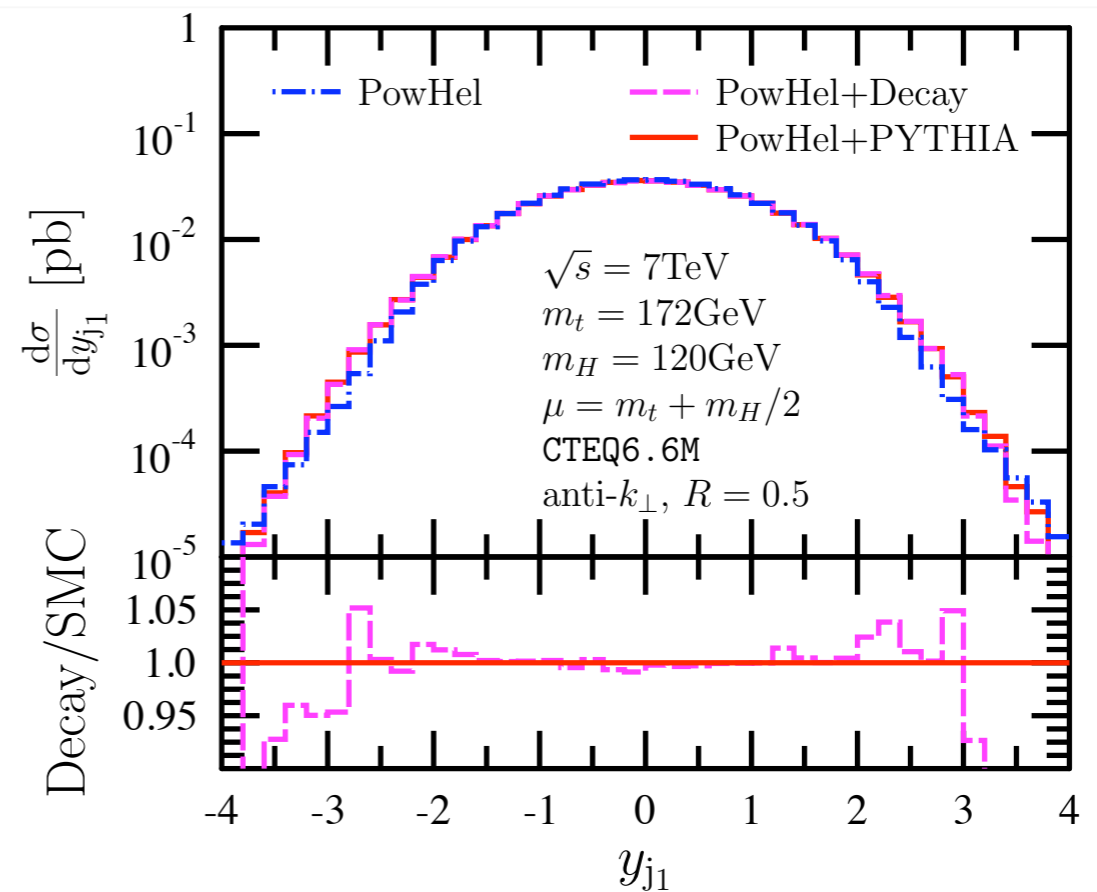
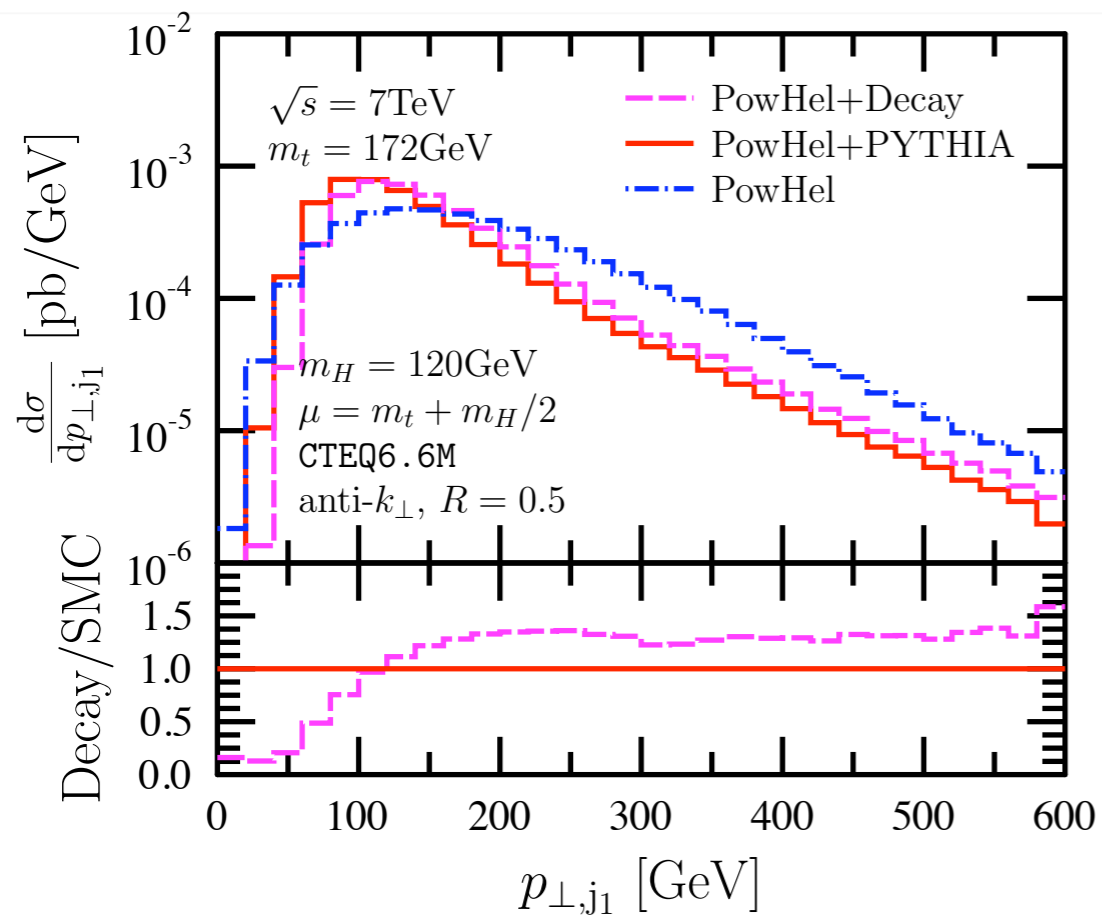
**No cuts:** to compare all three predictions (no leptons, and only one extra jet, beyond Born in POWHEG predictions)

**Jet cuts:** to compare decay and full SMC predictions with physical cuts to the extent it is meaningful (leptons are very different at the two levels)

**Physical cuts:** to compare physical predictions from PYTHIA and HERWIG

Cuts are shown in figures

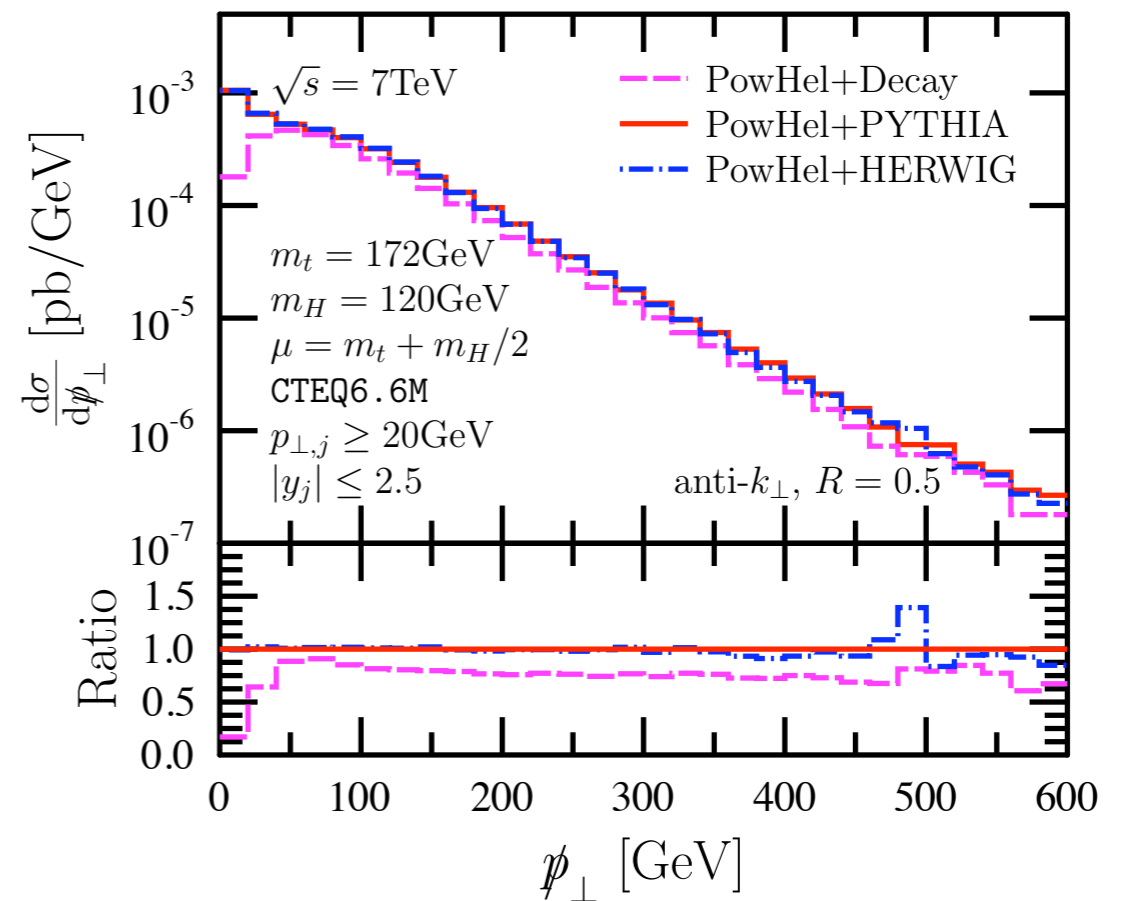
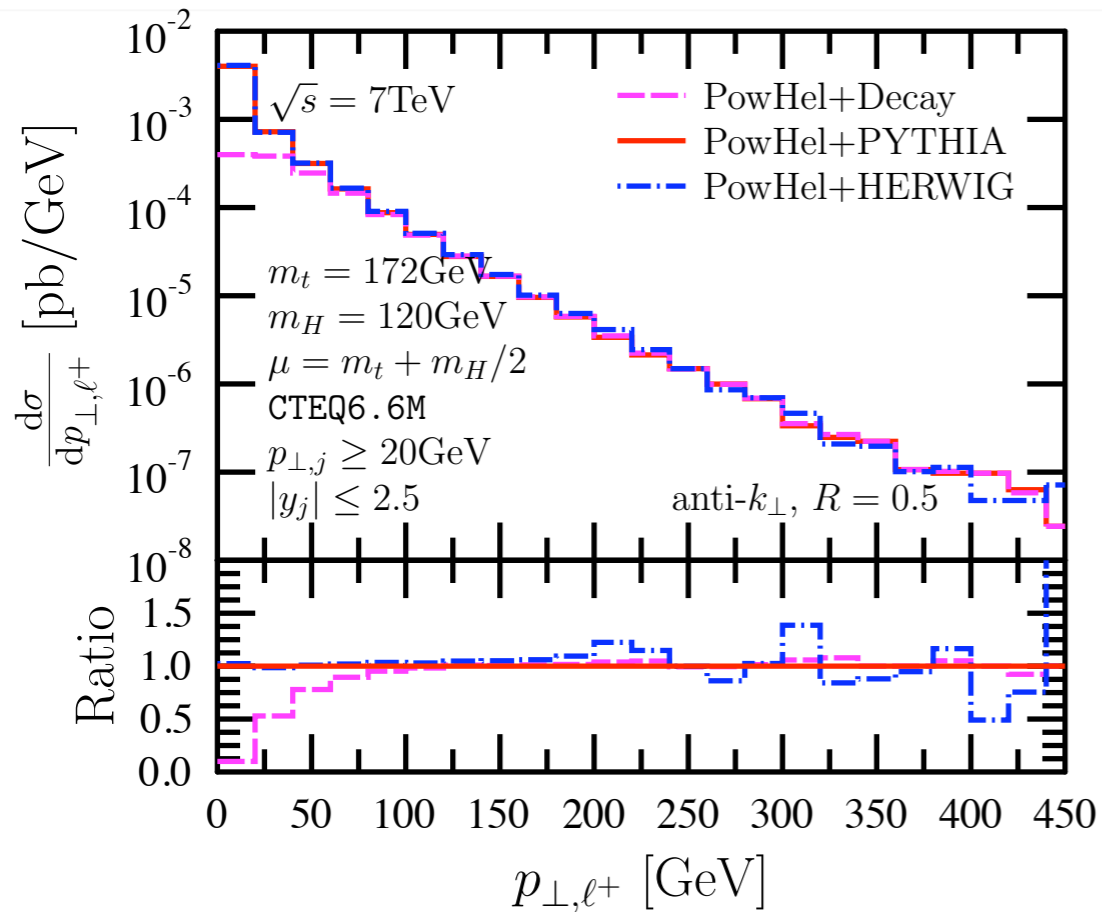
# LHE vs. decay vs. full SMC, no cuts



Transverse momentum and rapidity distributions of the hardest jet in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$  at the LHC

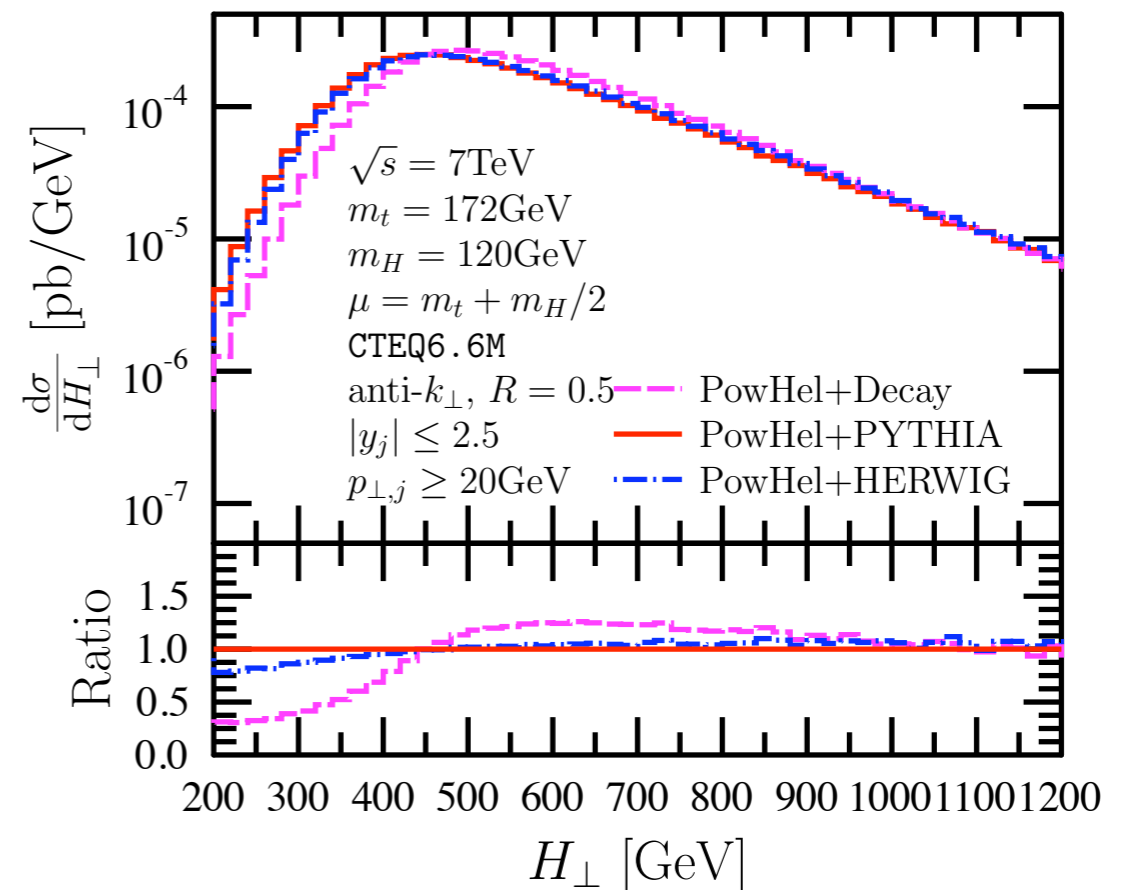
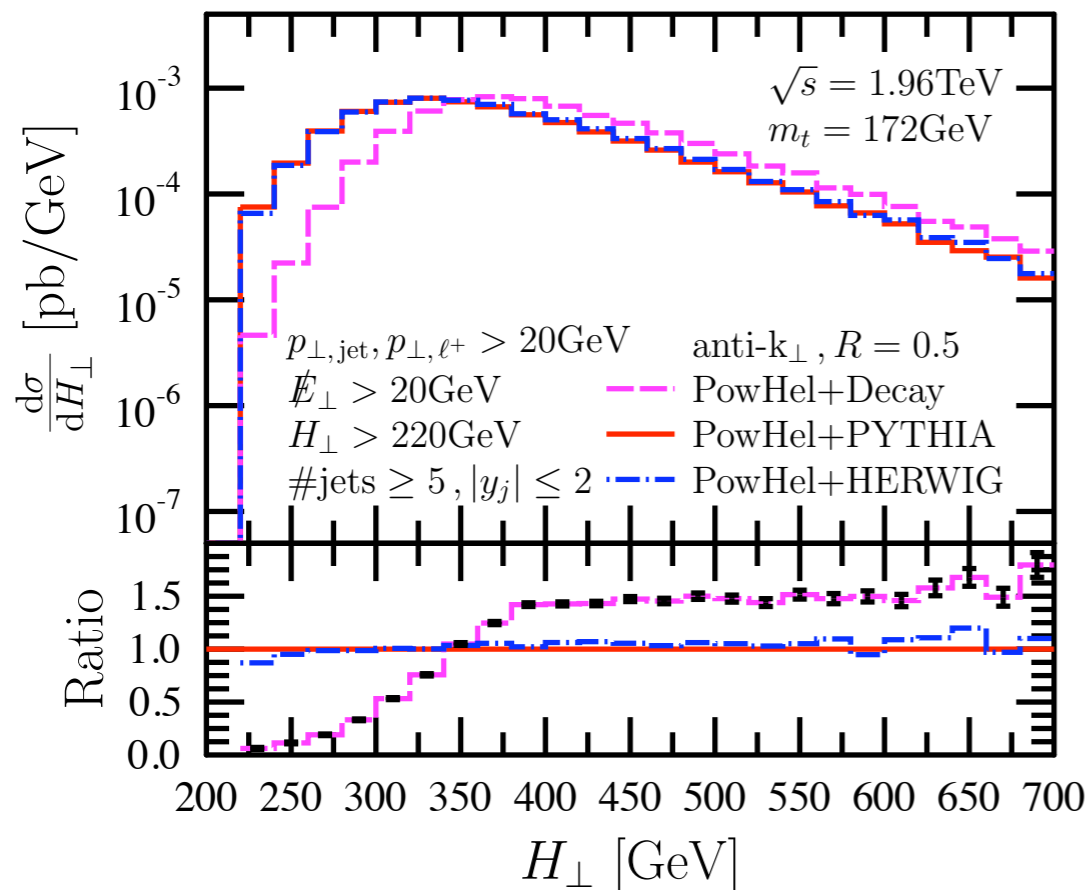
(n.b.: top-jet is included in LHE but not after decay)

# Decay vs. full SMC, jet cuts



Lepton and missing  $p_T$  distributions in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$  at the LHC

# Decay vs. full SMC, jet cuts



$H_T$  distributions in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t} \text{ jet}$  at the Tevatron and  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} H$  at the LHC (scalar sum of all transverse momenta)

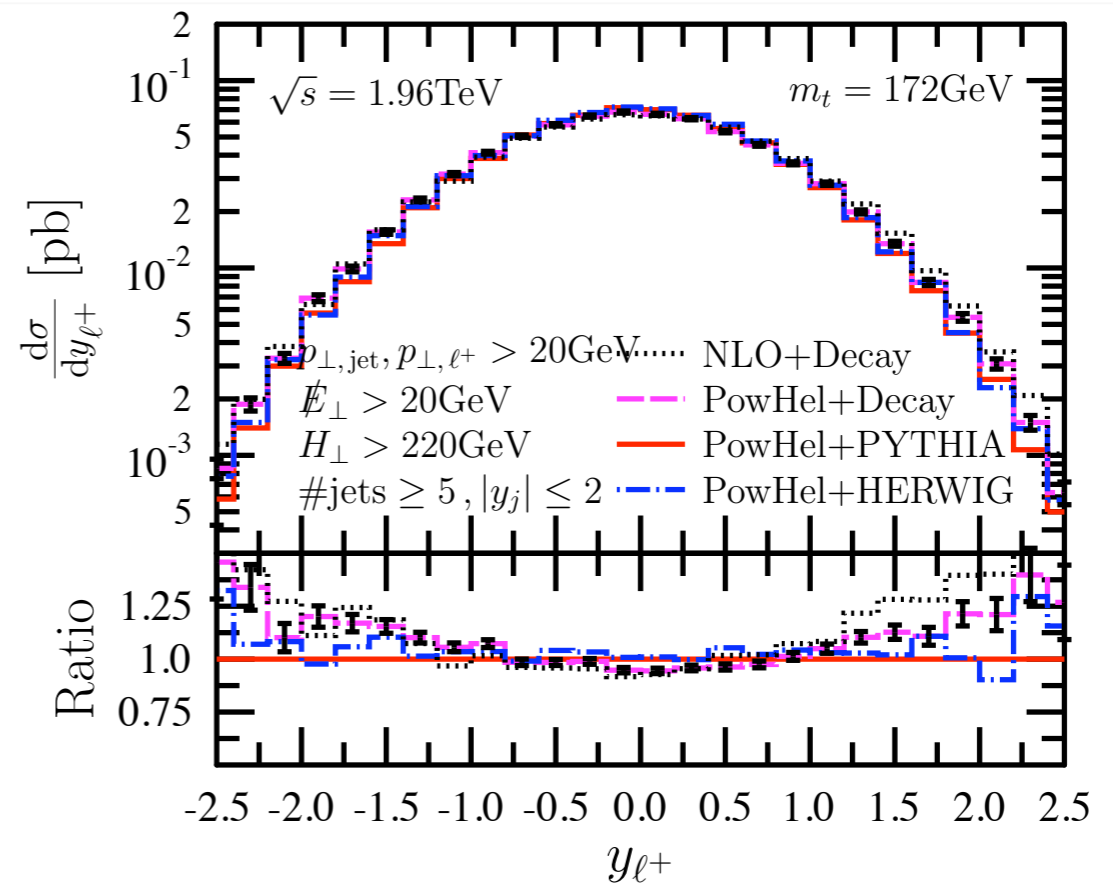
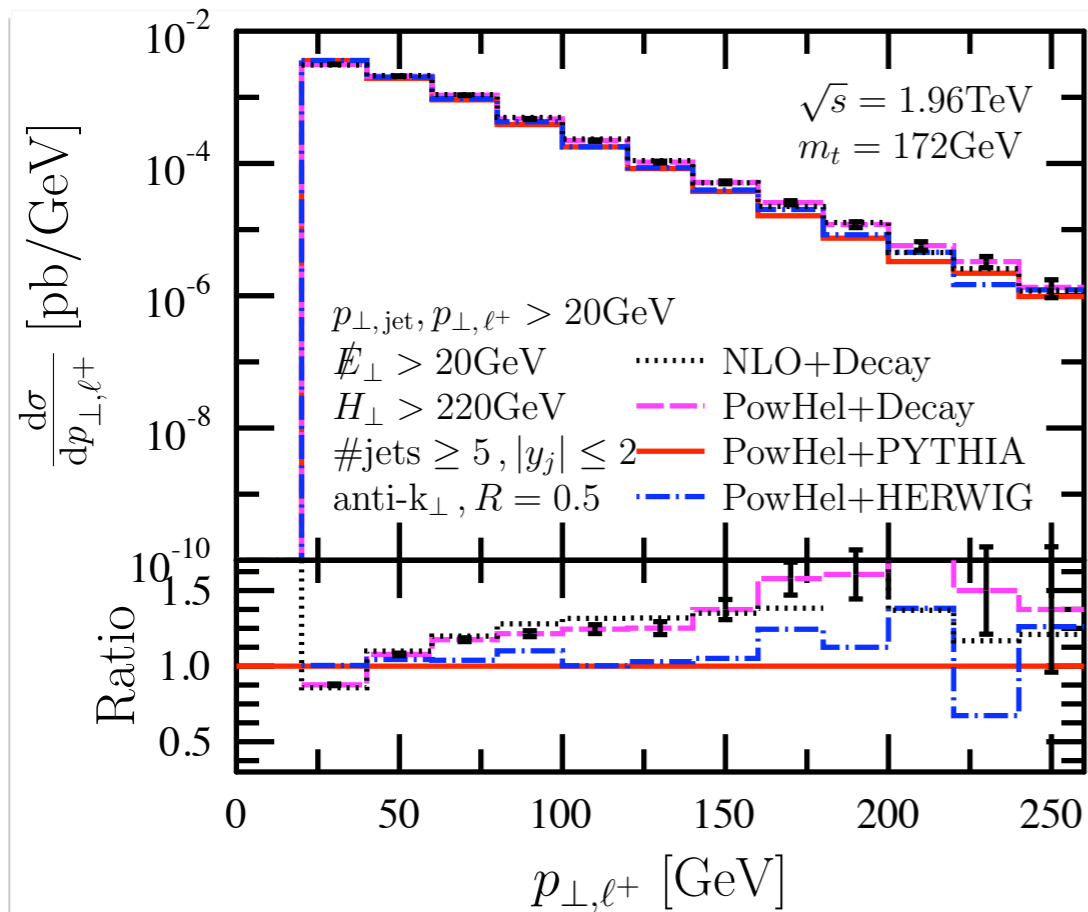
# LHE vs. decay vs. full SMC

**Message:** decay, shower and hadronization can have significant effect, depending strongly on the process, observable, shower setup and selection

# Predictions

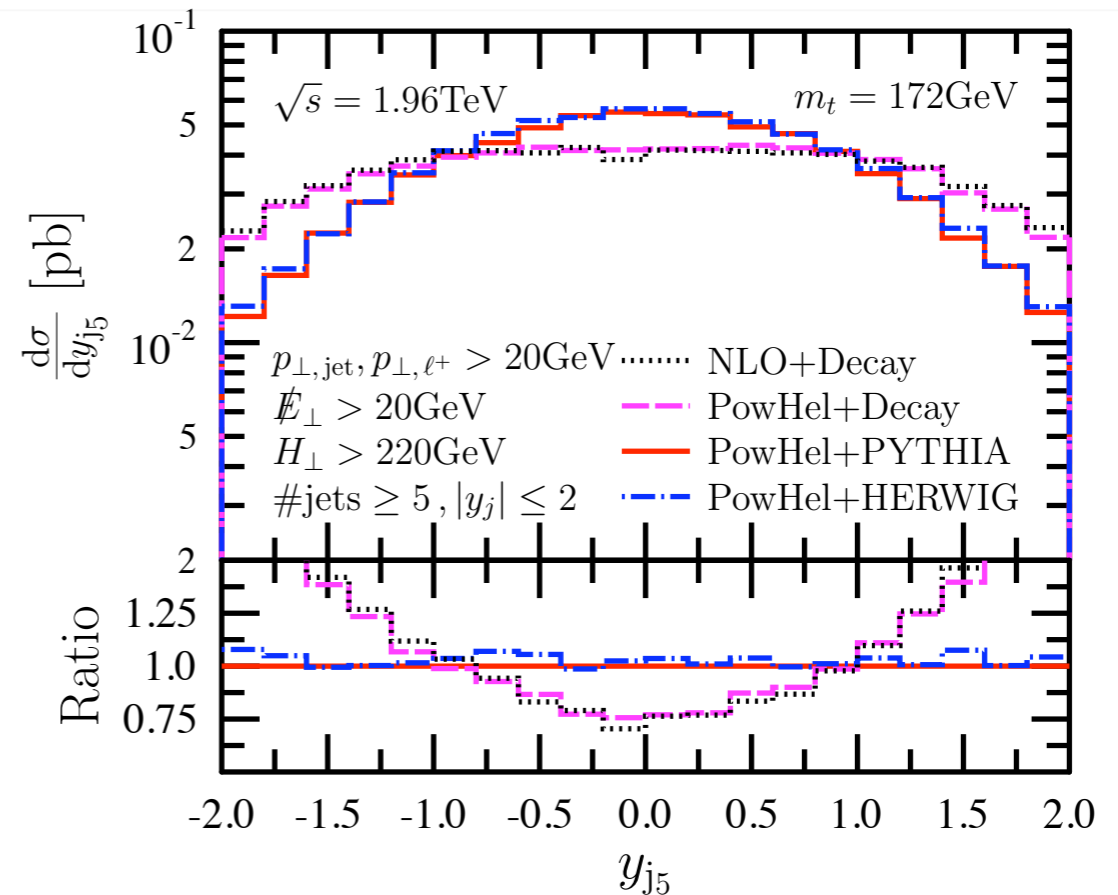
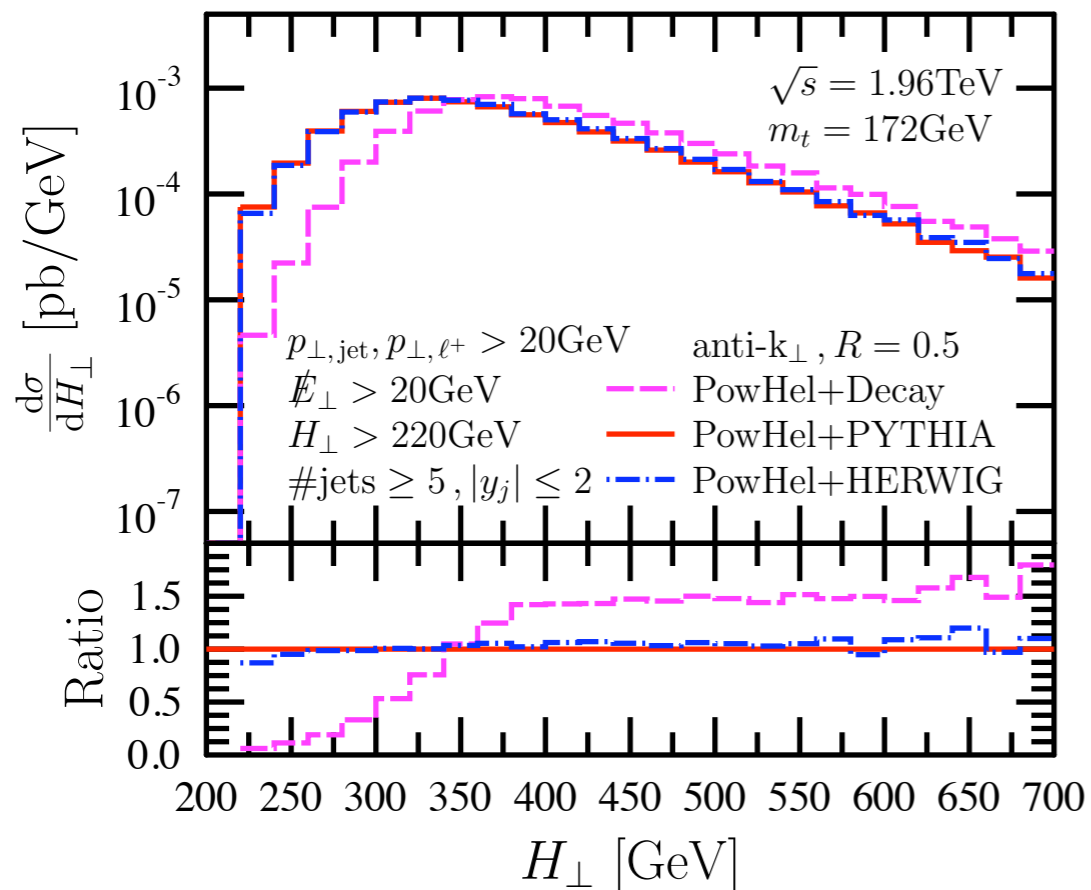


# Decay vs. full SMC, physical cuts



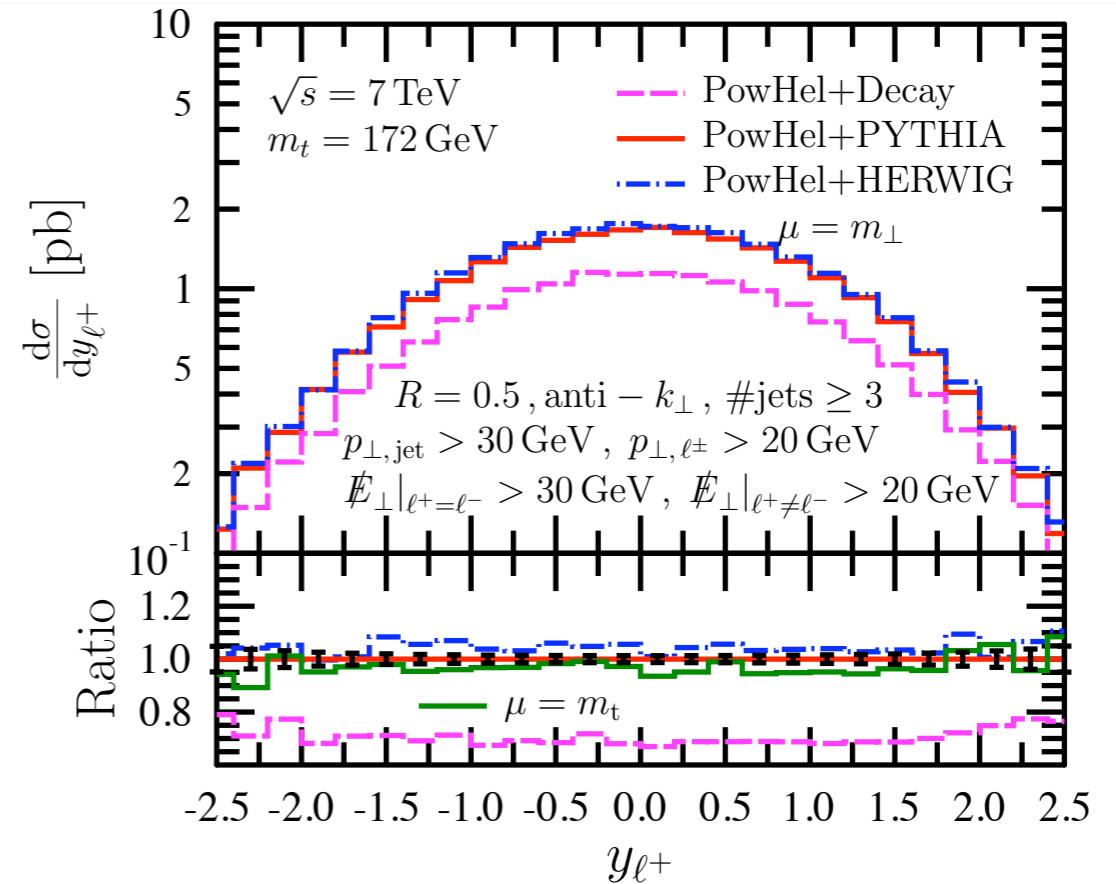
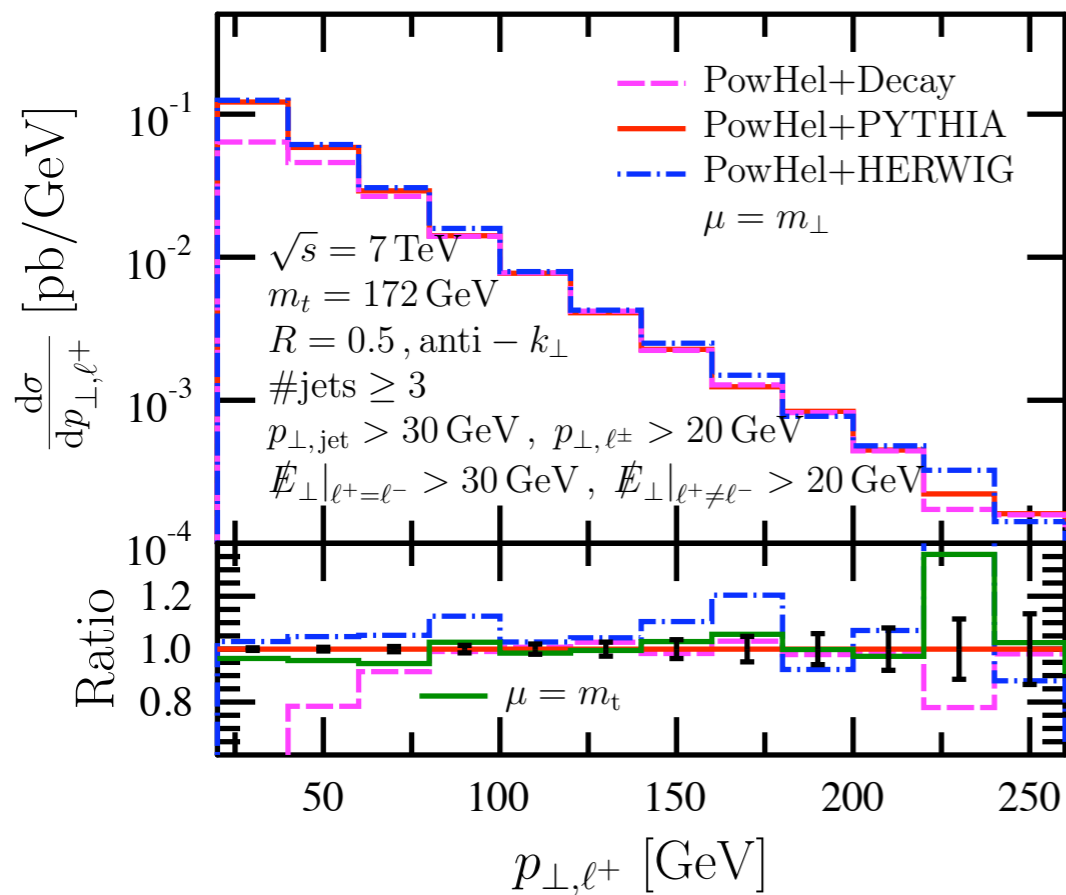
Lepton transverse momentum and rapidity distributions in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t} \text{ jet}$  at the TeVatron (NLO+Decay: Melnikov and Schulze, arXiv:1004.3284)

# Decay vs. full SMC, physical cuts



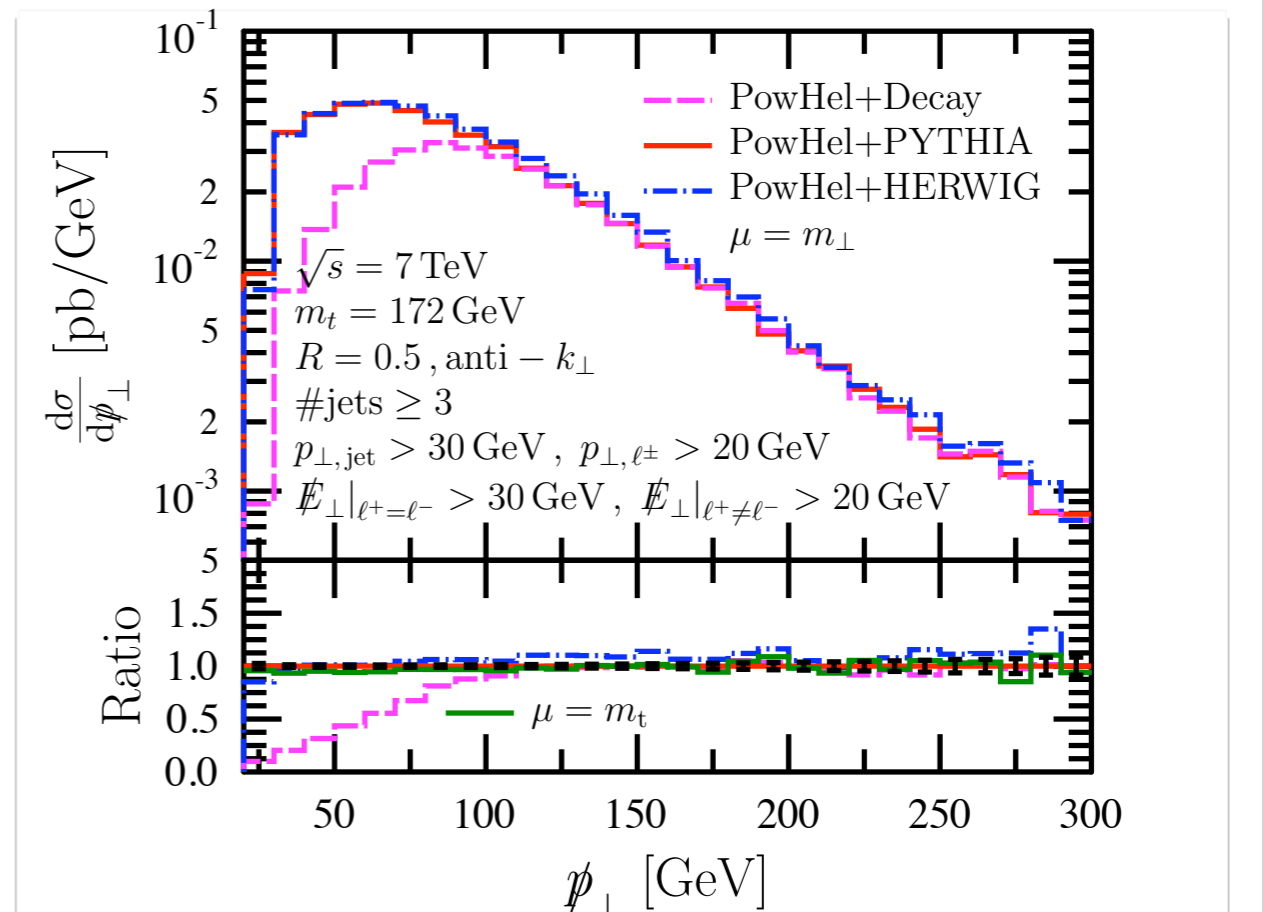
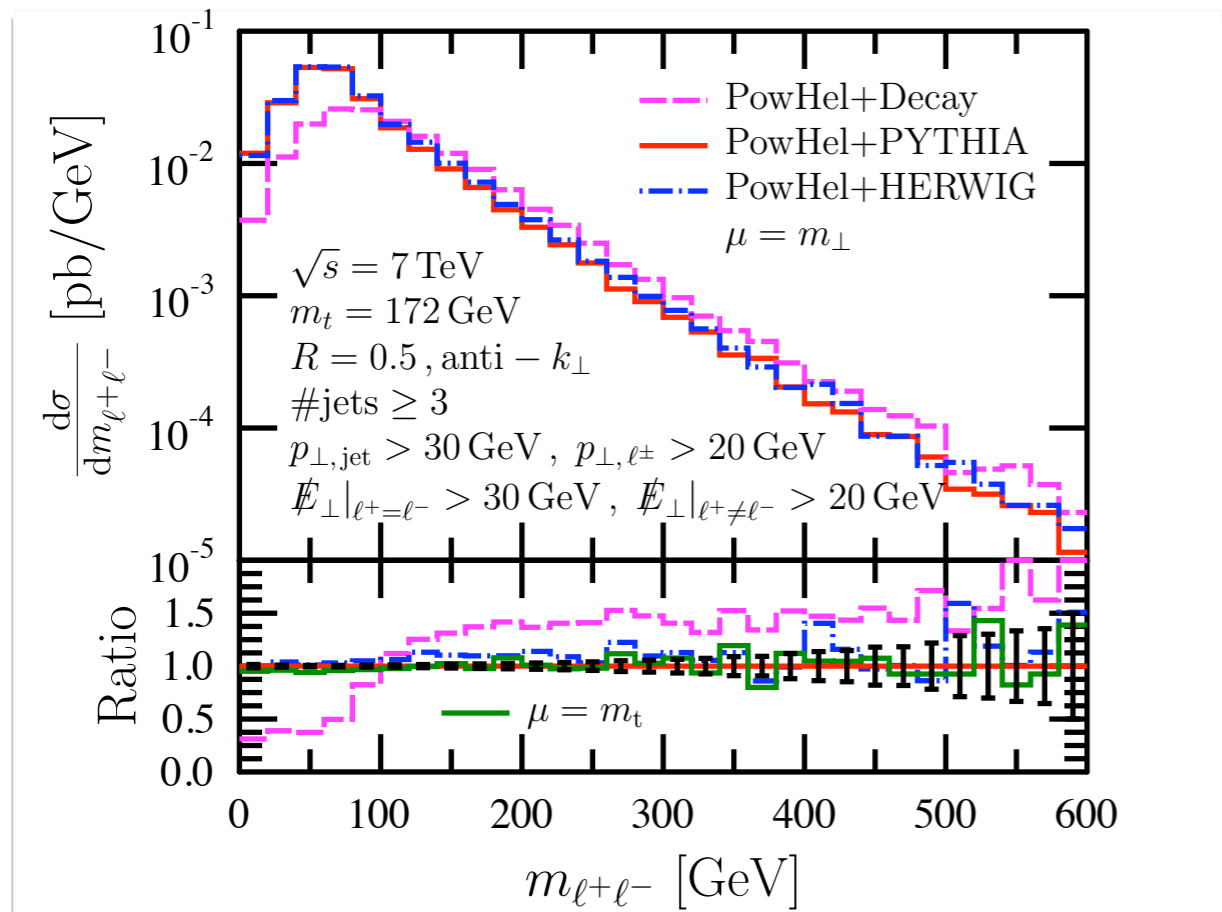
Distributions of  $H_{\perp}$  and rapidity of the fifth jet in  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  jet at the Tevatron (NLO+Decay: Melnikov and Schulze, arXiv:1004.3284)

# Full SMC, physical cuts



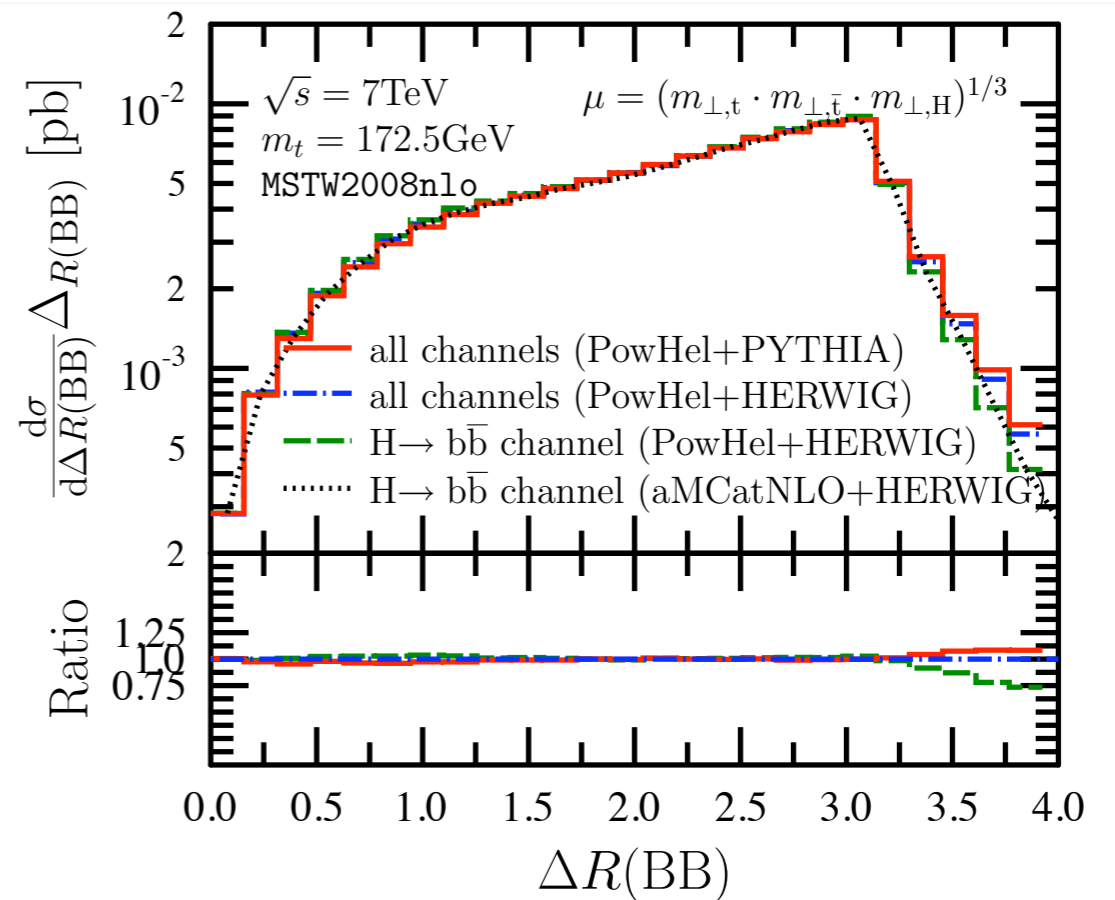
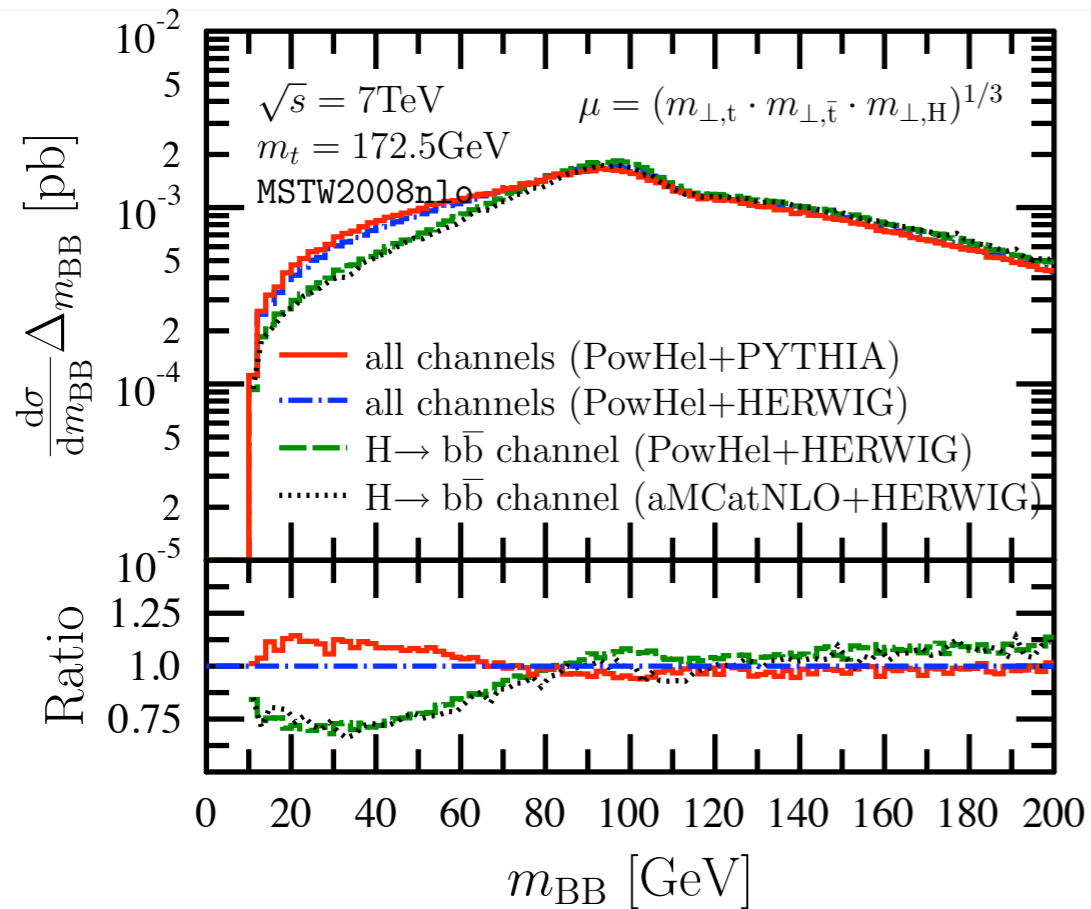
Distributions of lepton transverse momentum & rapidity in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} \text{ jet}$  at the LHC

# Full SMC, physical cuts



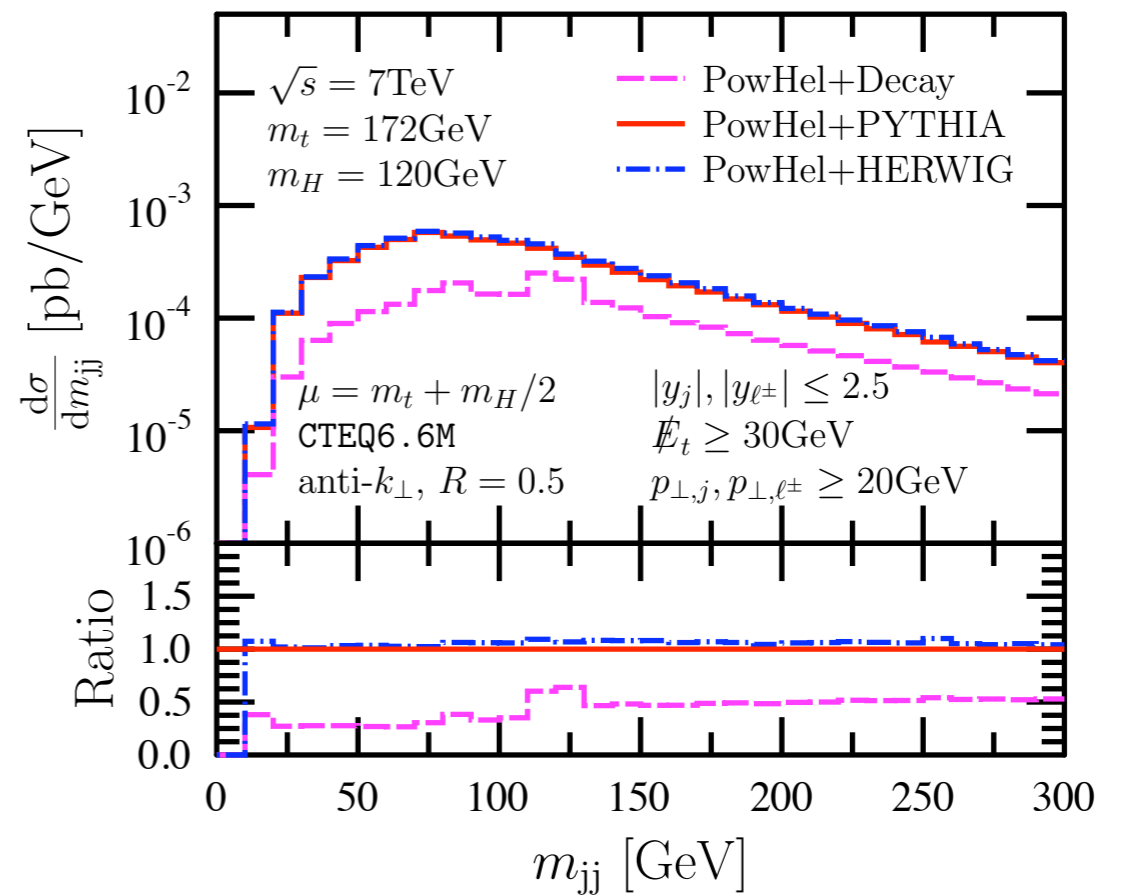
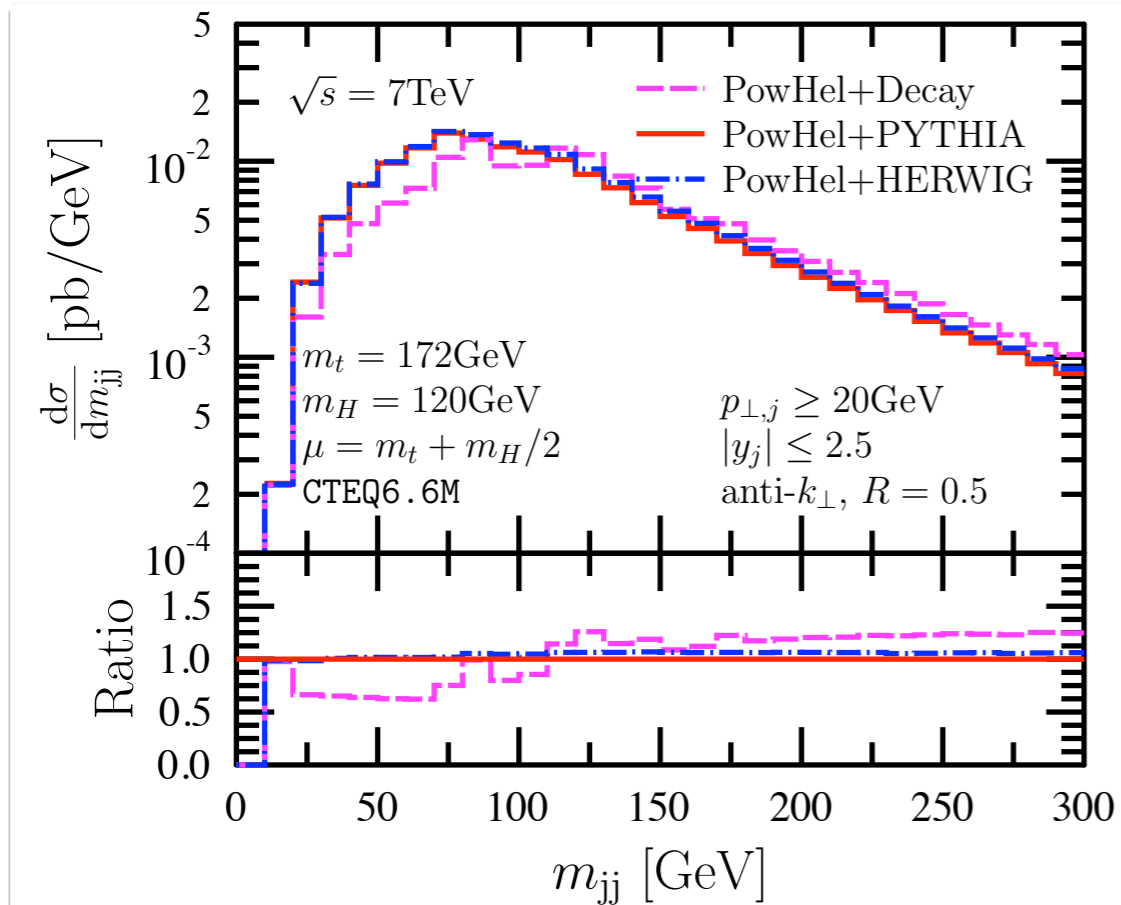
Distributions of  $l^+l^-$  invariant mass and missing transverse momentum in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} \text{ jet}$  at the LHC

# Decay vs. full SMC, physical cuts



B-meson pair invariant mass and  $\Delta R$  distributions in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$  at the LHC (aMCatNLO: Hirschi et al, arXiv: 1104.5613)

# Decay vs. full SMC, jet and physical cuts



jet-jet invariant mass distribution in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$  at the LHC

left: only jet cuts

right: physical cuts

# Conclusions and outlook

# Conclusions

- ✓ First applications of POWHEG-Box to  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}X$  processes
- ✓ SME's obtained easily from HELAC-NLO
- ✓ NLO cross sections are reliable
- ✓ PowHel LHE are reliable
- ➔ Effects of decays and showers are often important, depending on process, observable, shower setup and selection
- ✓ LHE event files for  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ ,  $t\bar{t}H$ ,  $t\bar{t}\text{jet}$  processes available
- ➔ Easy predictions for LHC with NLO+PS accuracy



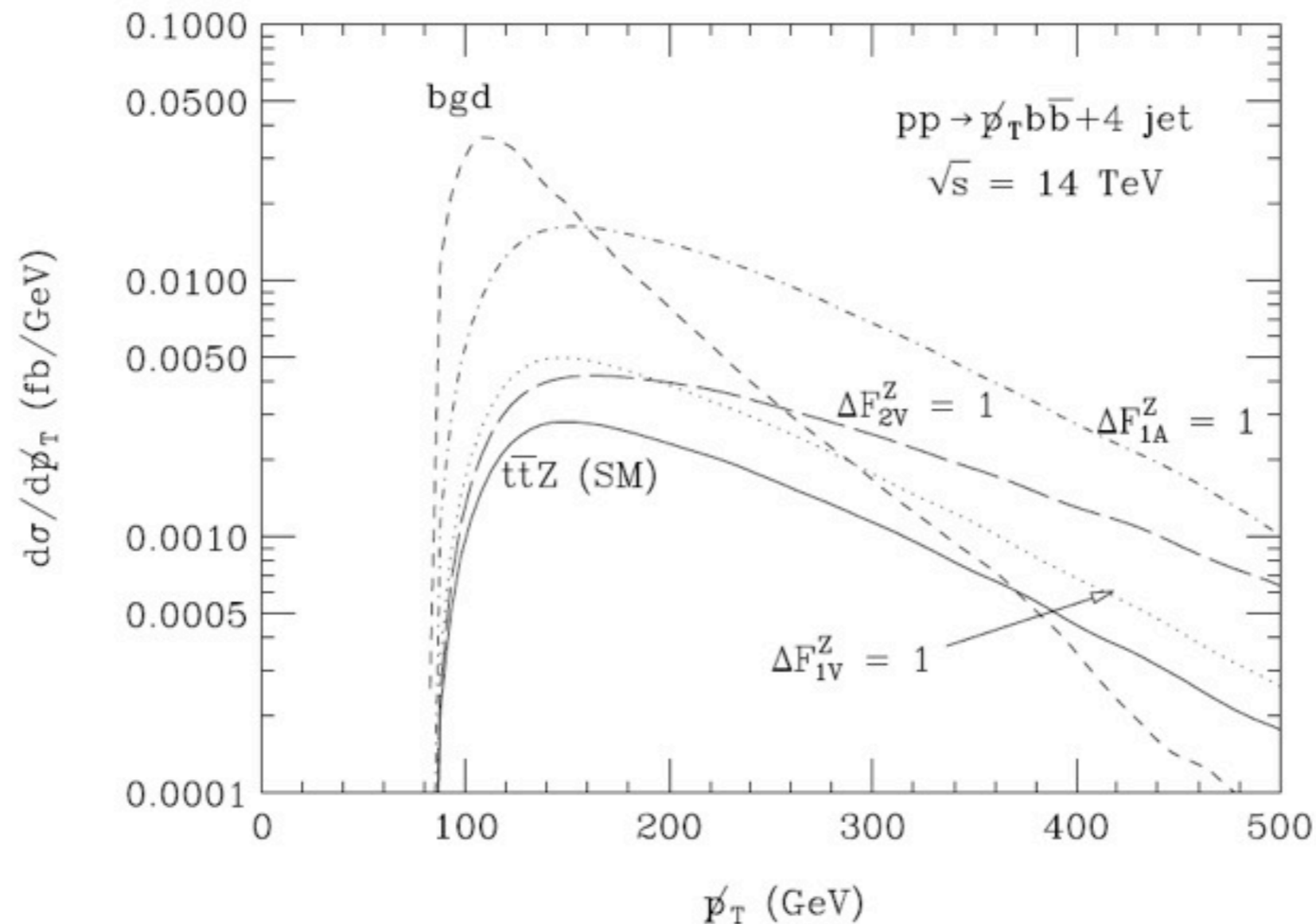
# Plans

- ➔ Study scale choices and dependences
- ➔ Generation of events on request
- ➔ Comparison to data (in progress)
- ➔ Make codes public
- ➔ Extension to further processes...

The end

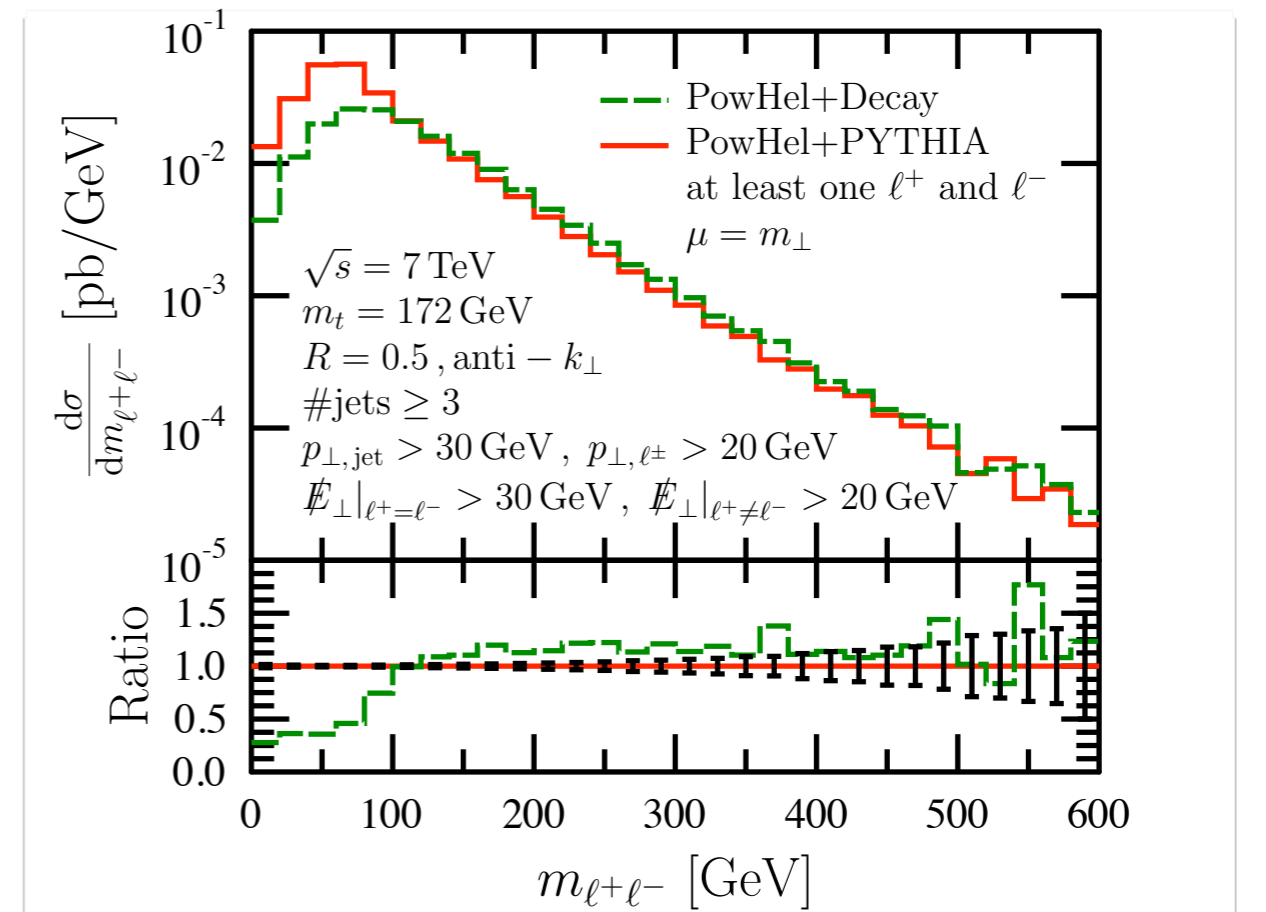
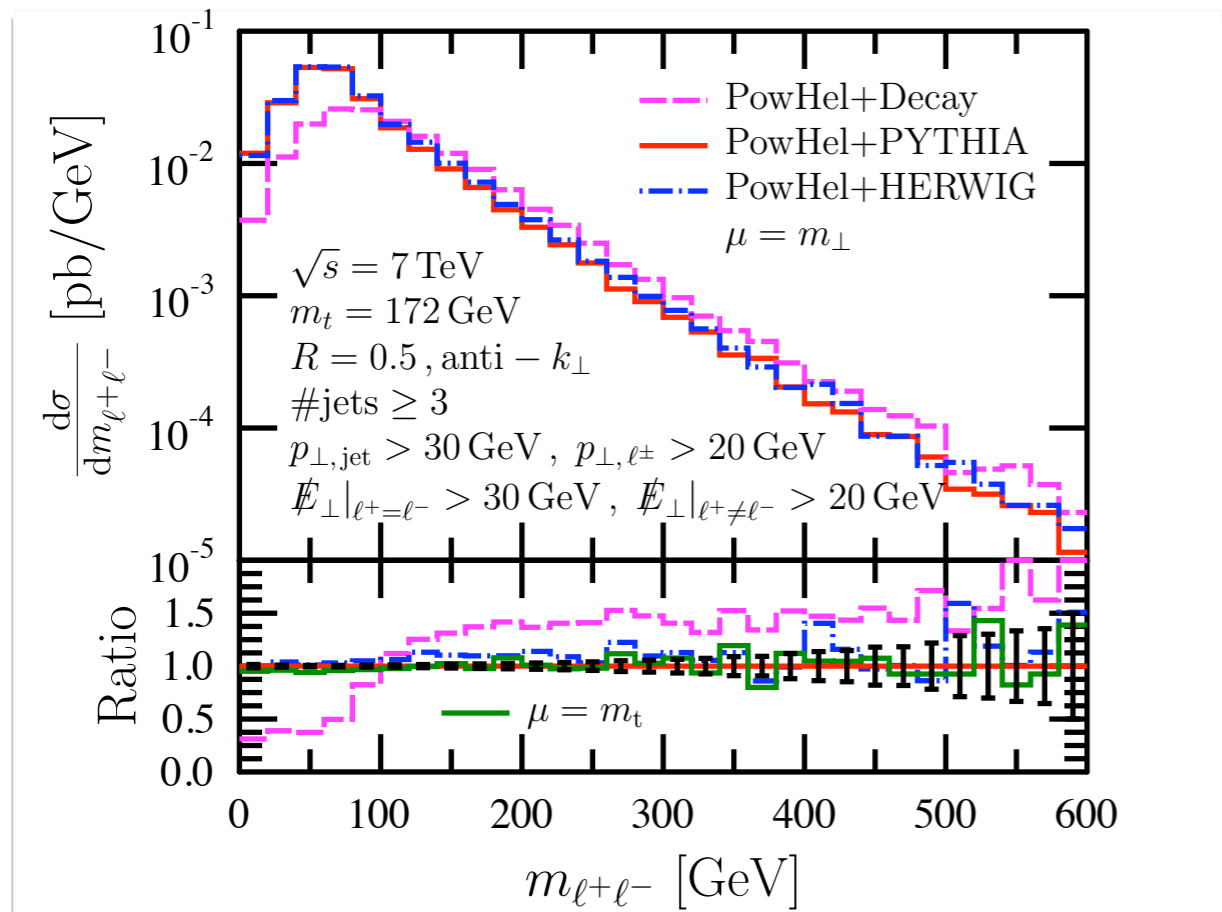
# Top at the LHC

1. Present: precision measurement of  $\sigma_{\text{tot}}$ ,  $m_t$  quantum numbers, decay rates
2. Future: measurement of couplings



Baur et al, hep-ph/0412021, 0512262

# Full SMC, physical cuts



Distributions of  $\ell^+\ell^-$  invariant mass in  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  jet at the LHC

left: exactly one

right: at least one

lepton and one antilepton