

# Optimizing entanglement and Bell inequality violation in top pair events

Kun Cheng 程焜

2024/10/24 @ IHEP, 2024 International Workshop on the High Energy Circular Electron Positron Collider



University of  
**Pittsburgh.**

# Outline

Spin correlation

$$A = \frac{N_{\text{like}} - N_{\text{unlike}}}{N_{\text{like}} + N_{\text{unlike}}} = \frac{N(\uparrow\uparrow) + N(\downarrow\downarrow) - N(\uparrow\downarrow) - N(\downarrow\uparrow)}{N(\uparrow\uparrow) + N(\downarrow\downarrow) + N(\uparrow\downarrow) + N(\downarrow\uparrow)}$$

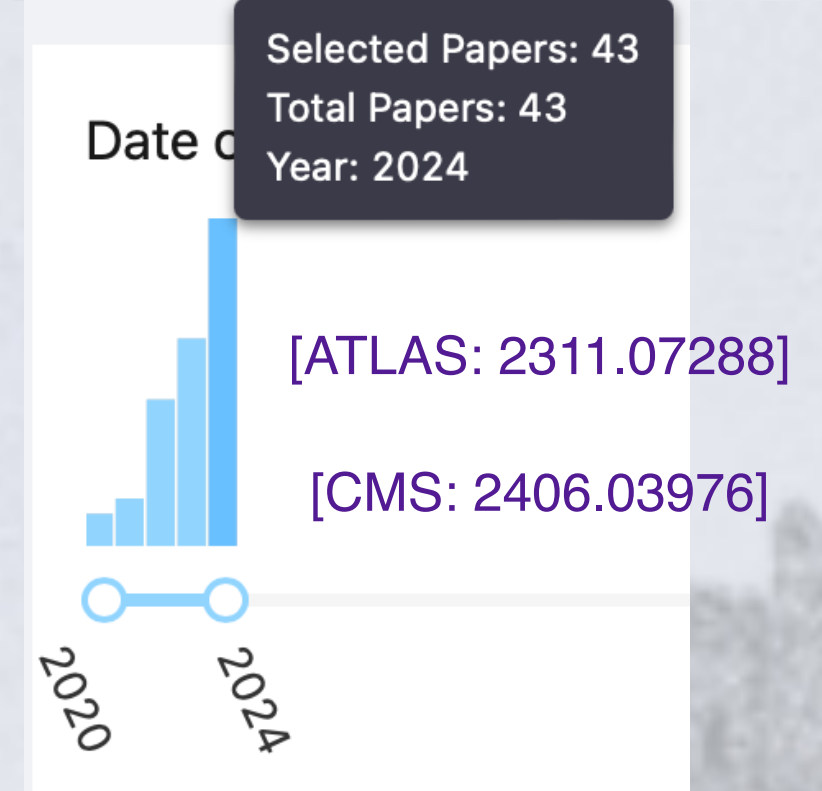
Quantum state  
Quantum information

Entanglement  
Bell inequality  
Discord  
...

Spin quantization axis

Fictitious state

**Basis dependence**



# Spin correlation of top pair

- $A = \frac{N_{\text{like}} - N_{\text{unlike}}}{N_{\text{like}} + N_{\text{unlike}}} = \frac{N(\uparrow\uparrow) + N(\downarrow\downarrow) - N(\uparrow\downarrow) - N(\downarrow\uparrow)}{N(\uparrow\uparrow) + N(\downarrow\downarrow) + N(\uparrow\downarrow) + N(\downarrow\uparrow)} = \langle \sigma_z^t \otimes \sigma_z^{\bar{t}} \rangle$ 
  - ▶ Need a spin quantization axis  $z$  to define  $|\uparrow\rangle$  and  $|\downarrow\rangle$
  - ▶ In practice: **statistically** measured from decay product distribution of top pairs.

- Measure spin correlation along different directions:

- ▶  $\langle \sigma_x^t \otimes \sigma_x^{\bar{t}} \rangle, \langle \sigma_y^t \otimes \sigma_y^{\bar{t}} \rangle, \langle \sigma_x^t \otimes \sigma_y^{\bar{t}} \rangle, \dots$

- ▶ reconstructs a “quantum state”  $\implies$  study quantum information

Quantum tomography at collider  
[Y. Afik and J. de Nova, 2203.05582]

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{I}_2 + B_i^+ \hat{\sigma}_i \otimes \hat{I}_2 + B_i^- \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{\sigma}_i + C_{ij} \hat{\sigma}_i \otimes \hat{\sigma}_j \right)$$

$C_{ij} = \langle \sigma_i^t \otimes \sigma_j^{\bar{t}} \rangle$ : spin correlation matrix

$B_i^\pm$ : net polarization of  $t$  and  $\bar{t}$

# Quantum Information: Bell (CHSH) inequality [J. Bell, 1964]

Bell inequality: constructed from four two-outcome measurements  $\hat{A}_{1,2}$  and  $\hat{B}_{1,2}$

$$\left| \langle \hat{A}_1 \hat{B}_1 \rangle + \langle \hat{A}_1 \hat{B}_2 \rangle + \langle \hat{A}_2 \hat{B}_1 \rangle - \langle \hat{A}_2 \hat{B}_2 \rangle \right| \leq 2 \quad \text{[Clauser et al, PRL 23, 880 (1969)]}$$



Depends on the choice of  $A_{1,2}$  and  $B_{1,2}$ . Example:

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= \sigma_x & \langle \sigma_x \otimes \sigma_z \rangle &= \text{tr}[(\sigma_x \otimes \sigma_z)\rho] \\ B_2 &= \sigma_z & &= C_{13} \end{aligned}$$

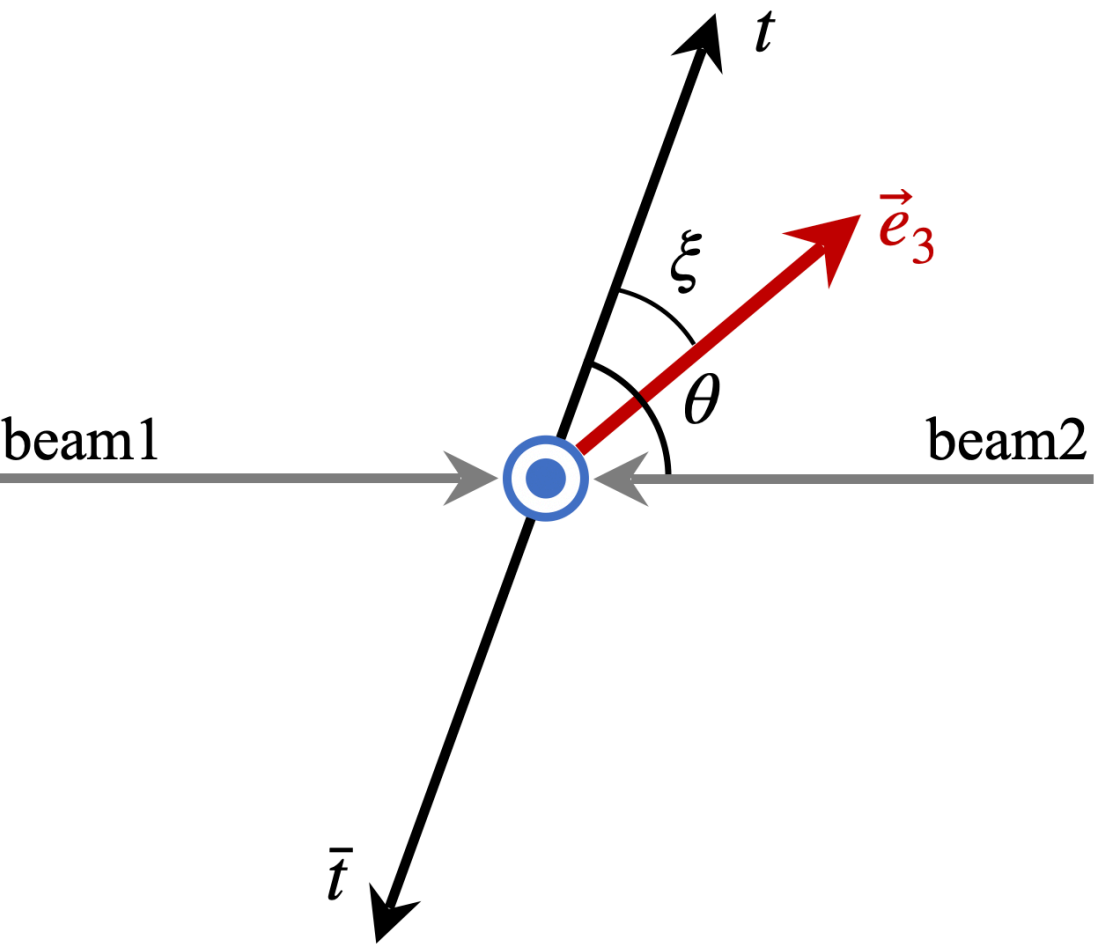
Bell inequality is violated iff we can find four directions  $\vec{a}_{1,2}, \vec{b}_{1,2}$  so that

$$\left| \vec{a}_1 \cdot C \cdot (\vec{b}_1 - \vec{b}_2) + \vec{a}_2 \cdot C \cdot (\vec{b}_1 + \vec{b}_2) \right| > 2 \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Scan } \vec{a}_i, \vec{b}_i} \quad \mathcal{B}(\rho) = 2\sqrt{\mu_1^2 + \mu_2^2} > 2$$

[Horodecki et al, PLA 200, 340 (1995)]  
 $\mu_1^2, \mu_2^2$  are the largest two eigenvalue of  $C^T C$ .

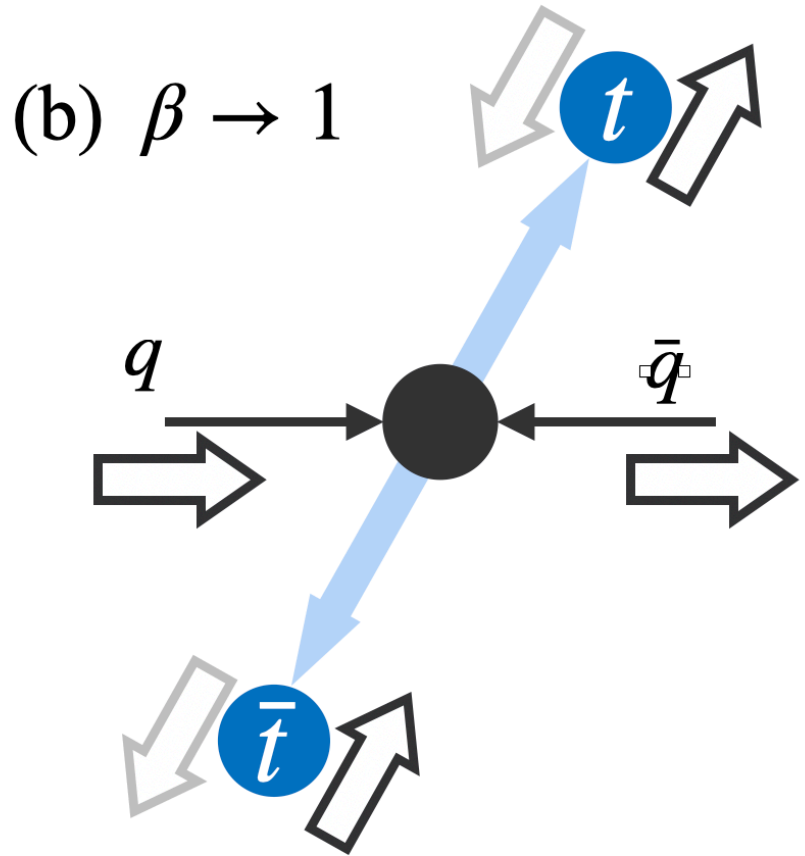
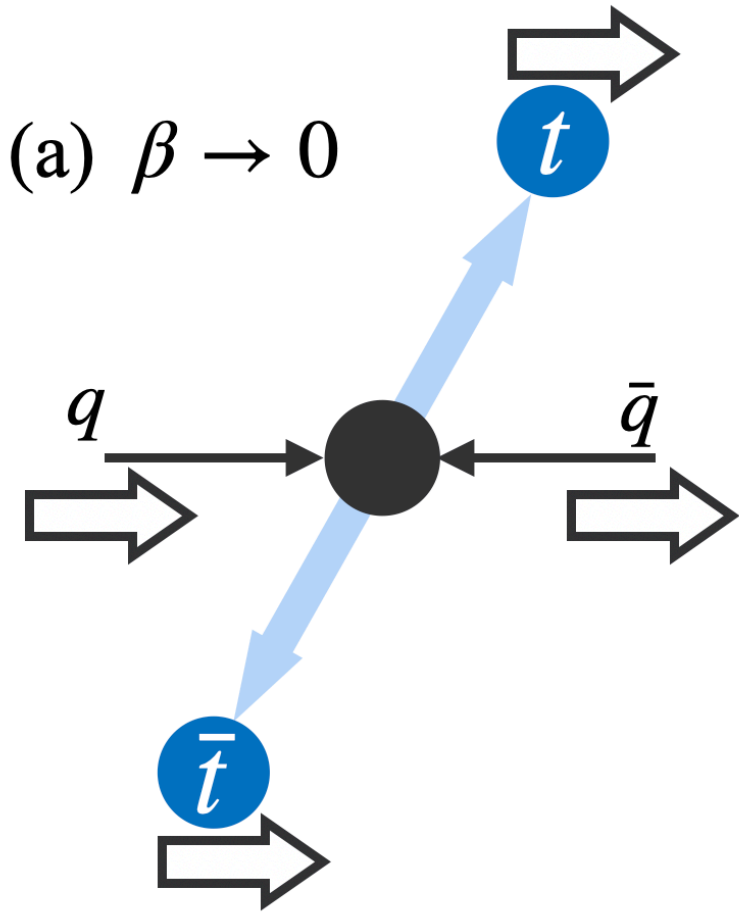
# Basis dependence of Spin correlation

- $A = \frac{N_{\text{like}} - N_{\text{unlike}}}{N_{\text{like}} + N_{\text{unlike}}} = \langle \sigma_z^t \otimes \sigma_z^{\bar{t}} \rangle$  clearly depends on the quantization axis
- E.g. 100% spin correlation in  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ , only like-spin states  $|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$  and  $|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$



$$\tan \xi = \frac{\tan \theta}{\gamma}$$

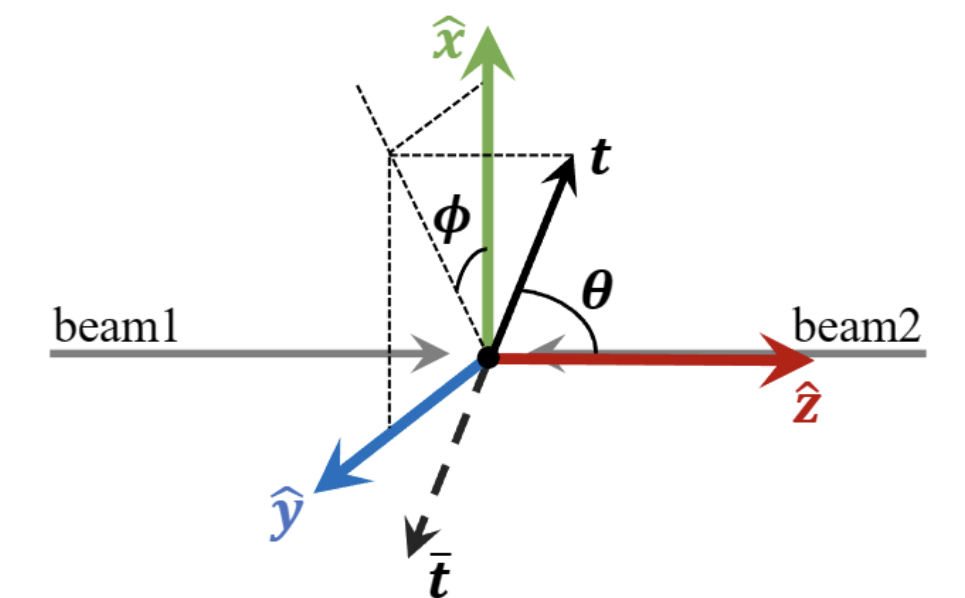
[Parke and Shadmi, *PLB* (1996)]  
 [Mahon and Parke, *PLB* (1997)]



# Basis dependence of Spin correlation

- Easier to understand from the complete spin correlation matrix

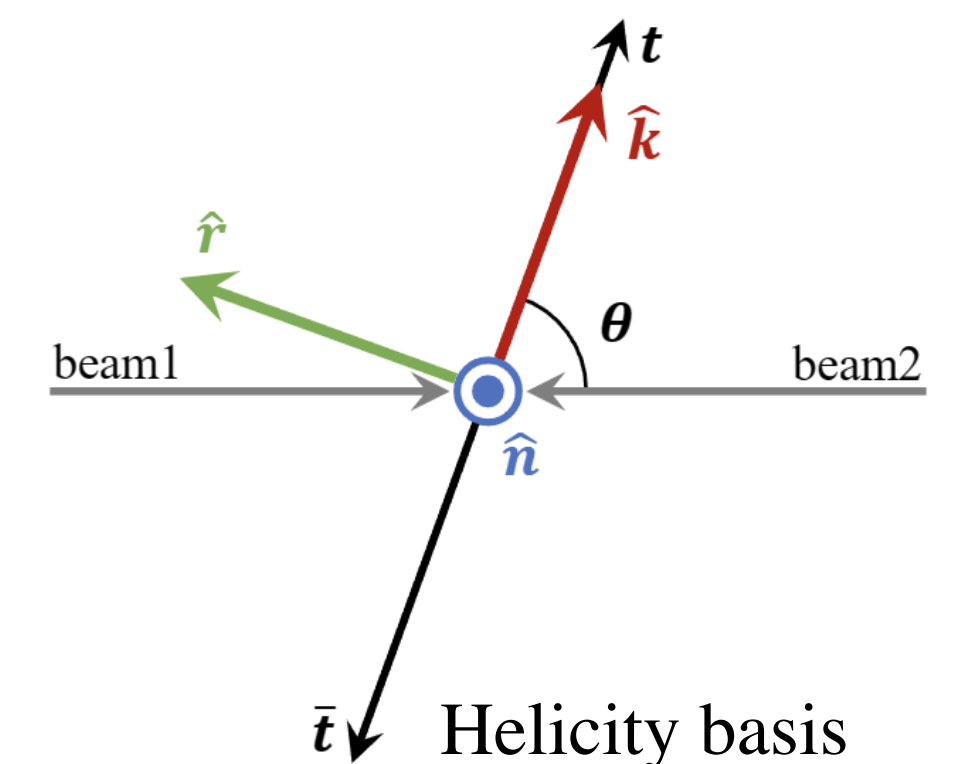
$$\begin{pmatrix} C_{rr} & C_{rn} & C_{rk} \\ C_{nr} & C_{nn} & C_{nk} \\ C_{kr} & C_{kn} & \boxed{C_{kk}} \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} C_{xx} & C_{xy} & C_{xz} \\ C_{yx} & C_{yy} & C_{yz} \\ C_{zx} & C_{zy} & \boxed{C_{zz}} \end{pmatrix}$$



Fixed beam basis

- Two example basis:

- ▶ **Fixed beam basis:** the spin basis  $|\uparrow\rangle$  and  $|\downarrow\rangle$  are defined as spin eigenstates along  $\hat{z}$ -direction
  - ▶ **Helicity basis:** the spin basis  $|\uparrow\rangle$  and  $|\downarrow\rangle$  are defined as spin eigenstates along the moving direction of top quark.



Helicity basis

$$C_{\text{hel}} = R^T C_{\text{beam}} R$$

# Quantum state: basis independent

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{I}_2 + B_i^+ \hat{\sigma}_i \otimes \hat{I}_2 + B_i^- \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{\sigma}_i + C_{ij} \hat{\sigma}_i \otimes \hat{\sigma}_j \right)$$

- Choose a different spin quantization basis:

$$\rho \rightarrow U^\dagger \rho U, \quad C_{ij} \rightarrow (R^T C R)_{ij}$$

- Intuitively, the properties (e.g. entangled or not) of a **quantum** state should not depend on the basis we used to measure it. **TRUE**

- Concurrence:**  $\mathcal{C}(\rho) = \max(0, \lambda_1 - \lambda_2 - \lambda_3 - \lambda_4)$ , ← Eigenvalues of  $M = \sqrt{\sqrt{\rho} \tilde{\rho} \sqrt{\rho}}$   
 $\mathcal{C} > 0$  is entanglement  
 $M \rightarrow U^\dagger M U$
  - Bell variable:**  $\mathcal{B}(\rho) = 2\sqrt{\mu_1^2 + \mu_2^2}$  ← Eigenvalues of  $C^T C$   
 $\mathcal{B} > 2$  is non-local

- $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  describe the same state if  $\rho_1 = U^\dagger \rho_2 U$

# Angular averaged state

- Phase space averaged observable  $\implies$  averaged state
- What would happen if the average is done in an event-dependent basis?
- Example: near threshold, the  $e_R^+ e_L^- \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  produces a pure state  $|\uparrow_z \uparrow_z\rangle$

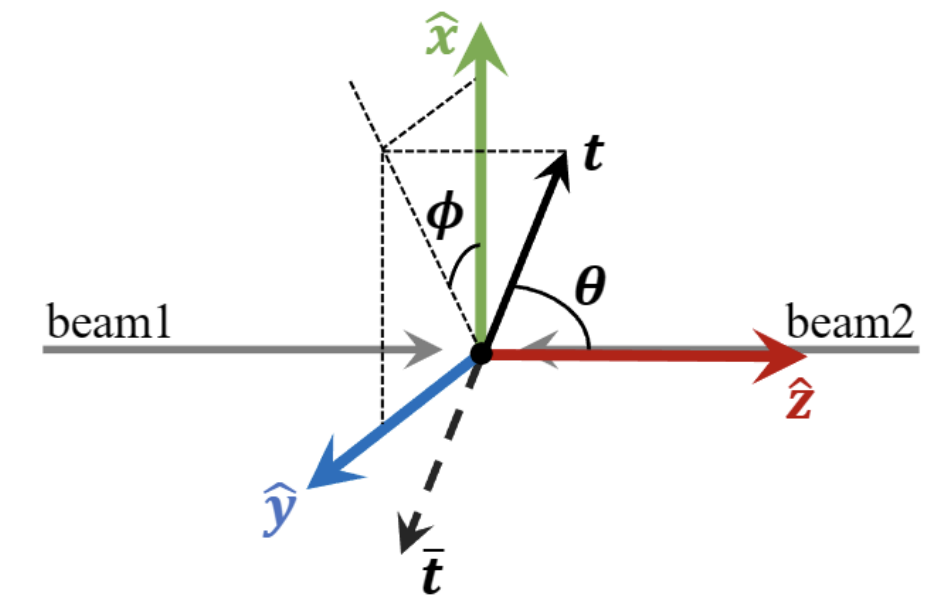
$$\bar{\rho}^{\text{fixed}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \bar{\rho}^{\text{helicity}} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{8}{3} & -\frac{\pi}{2} & -\frac{\pi}{2} & \frac{4}{3} \\ -\frac{\pi}{2} & \frac{4}{3} & \frac{4}{3} & -\frac{\pi}{2} \\ -\frac{\pi}{2} & \frac{4}{3} & \frac{4}{3} & -\frac{\pi}{2} \\ \frac{4}{3} & -\frac{\pi}{2} & -\frac{\pi}{2} & \frac{8}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Tr}[(\bar{\rho}^{\text{fixed}})^2] = 1 \quad \text{Tr}[(\bar{\rho}^{\text{helicity}})^2] \approx 0.7 < 1$$

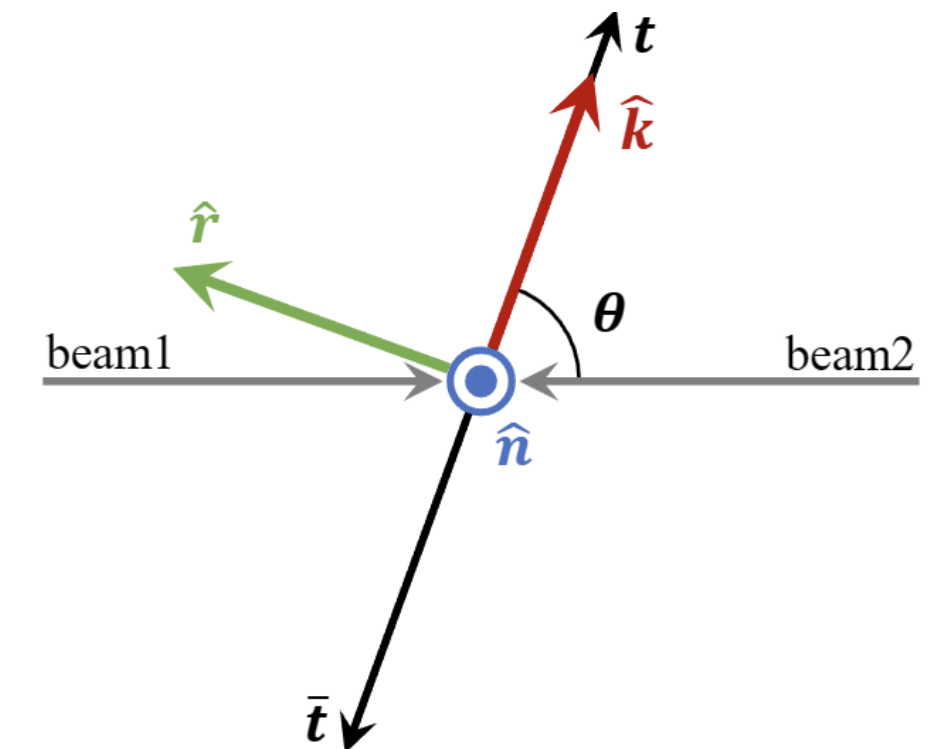
$$\rho^{\text{fixed}} \neq U^\dagger \rho^{\text{helicity}} U$$

*We are reconstructing fictitious states instead of physical quantum states.*

In the c.m. frame of  $t\bar{t}$   
 $\mathbf{k} = (\cos \phi \sin \theta, \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \theta)$



Beam basis: fixed for all  $t\bar{t}$  events



Helicity basis different for each  $t\bar{t}$  event



# Fictitious state: basis dependent

- What are fictitious states
  - ▶ State reconstructed from averaged quantities in event-by-event basis
  - ▶ Convex sum of quantum sub-state, but with an event-by-event rotation

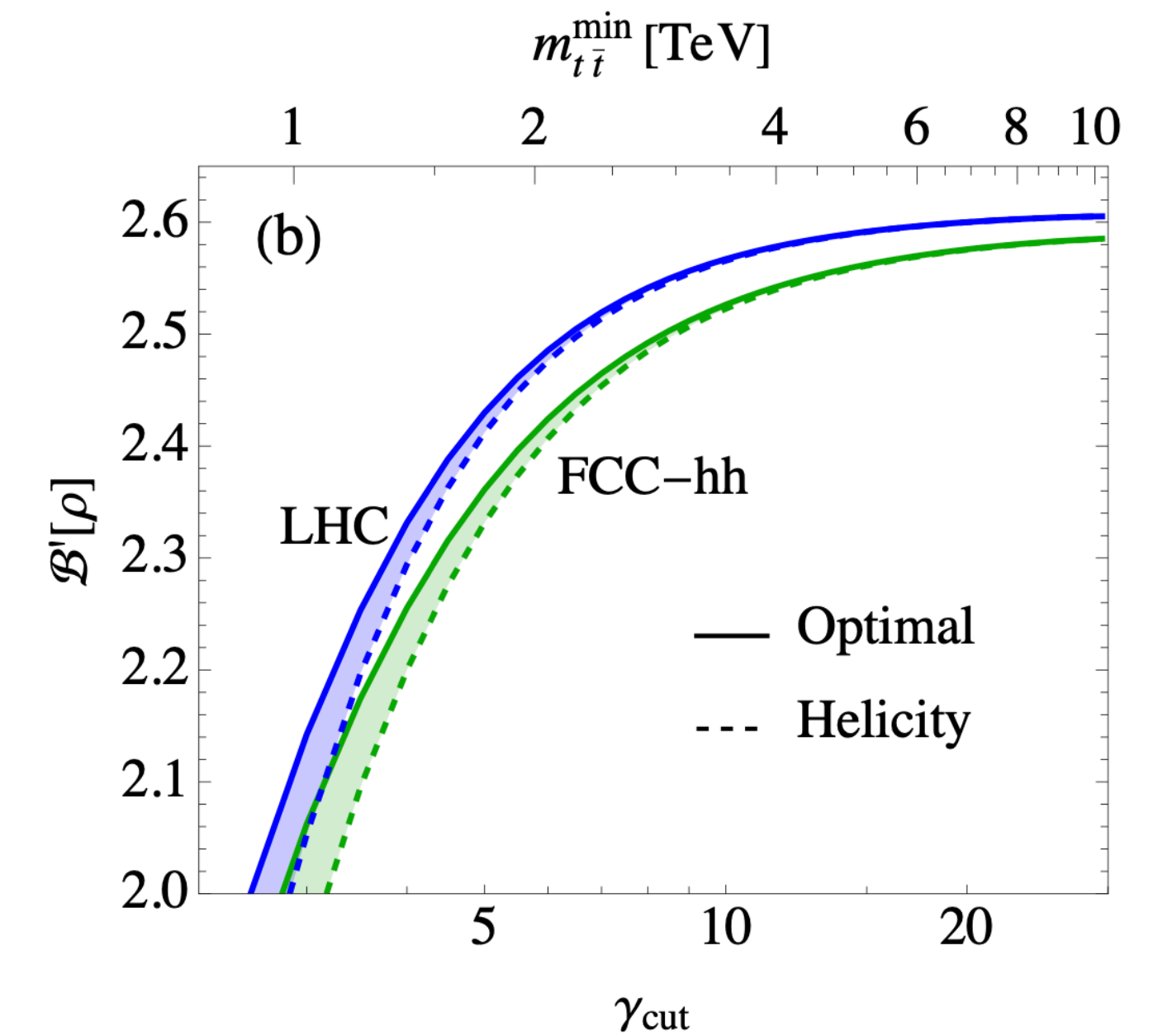
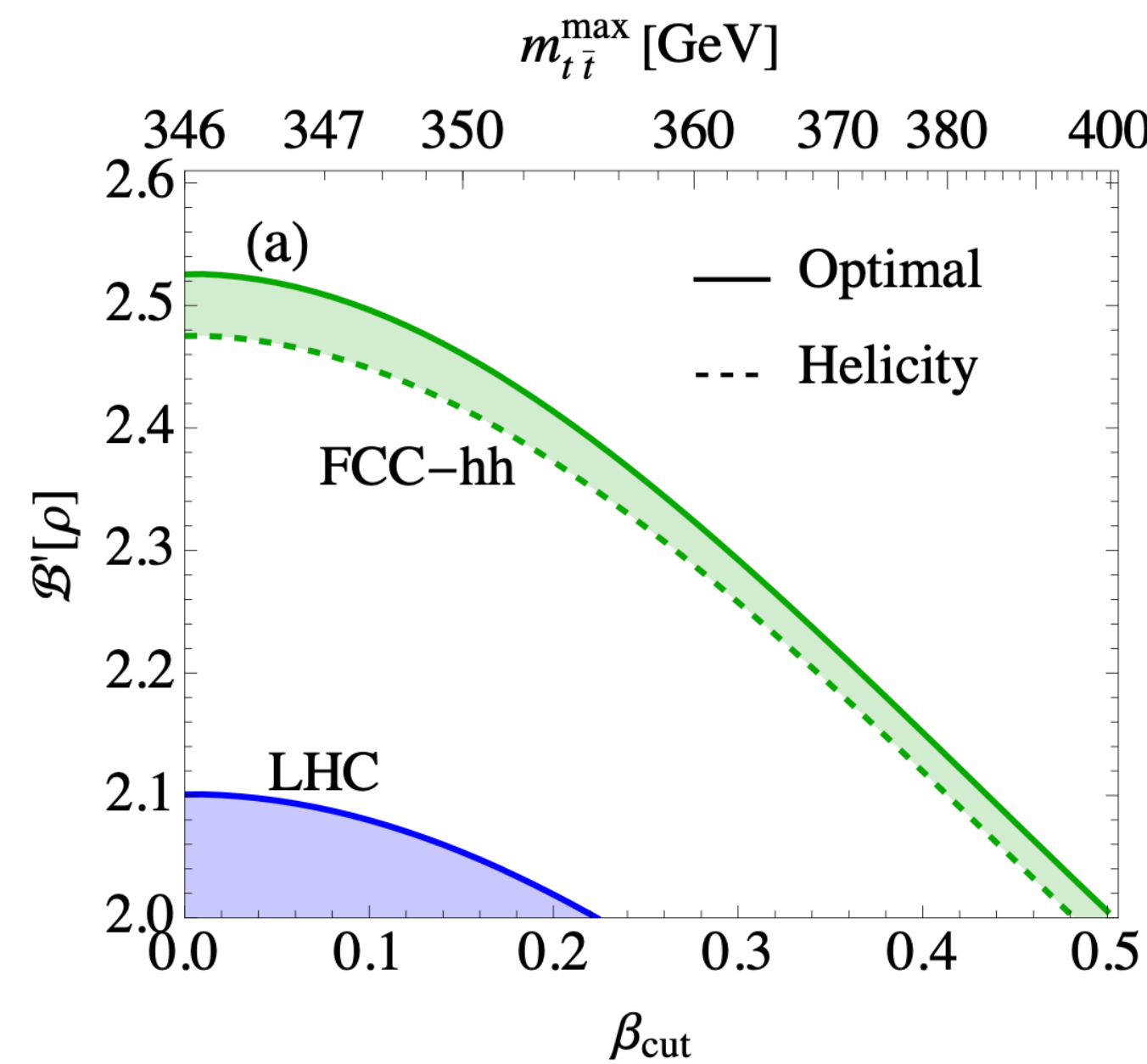
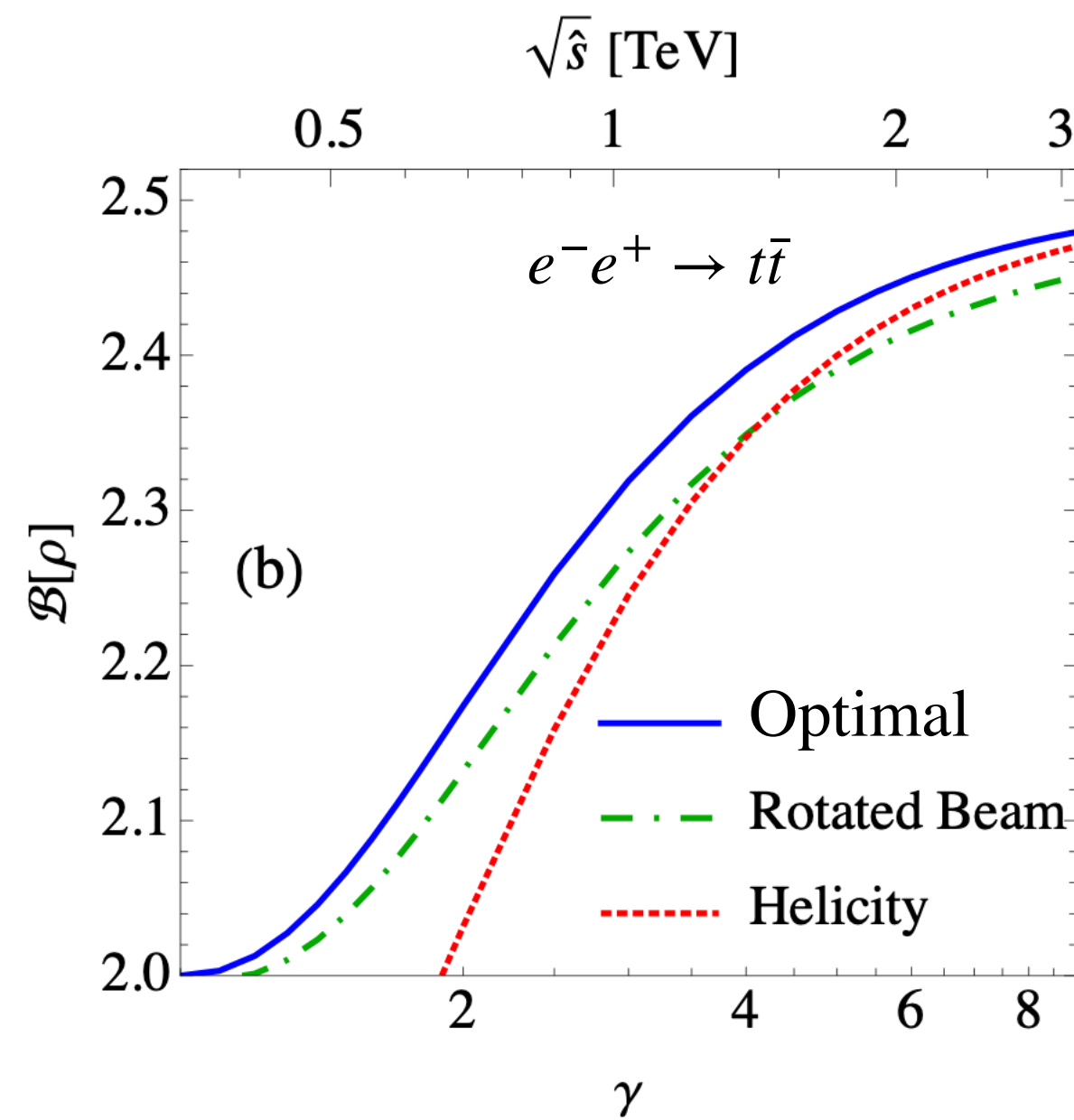
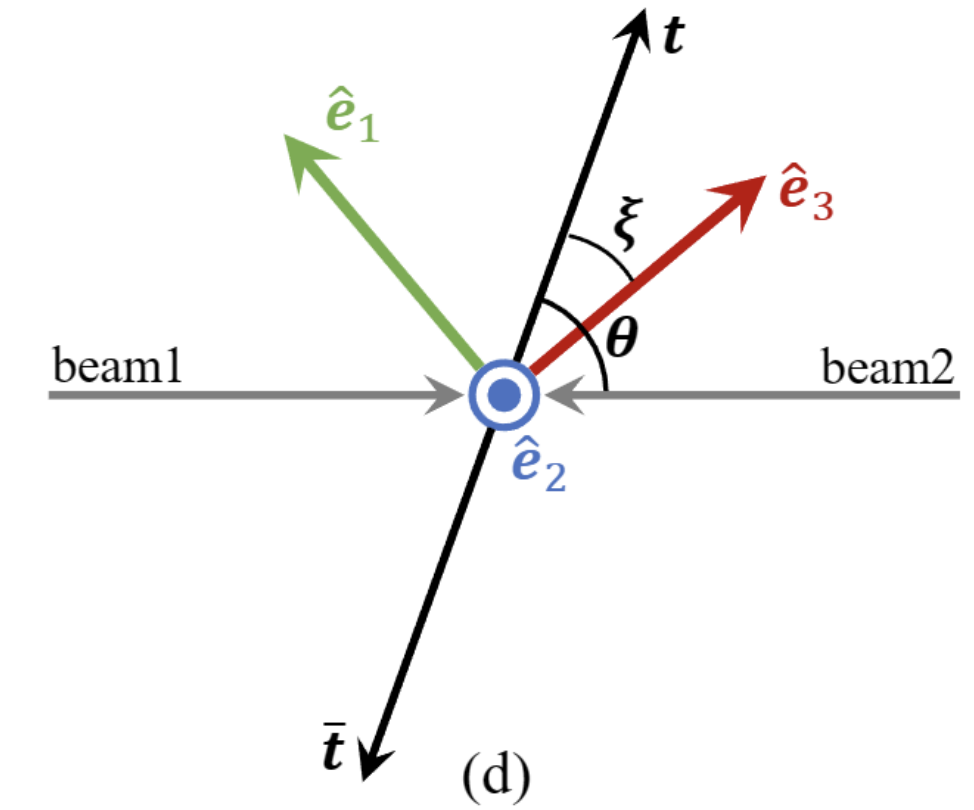
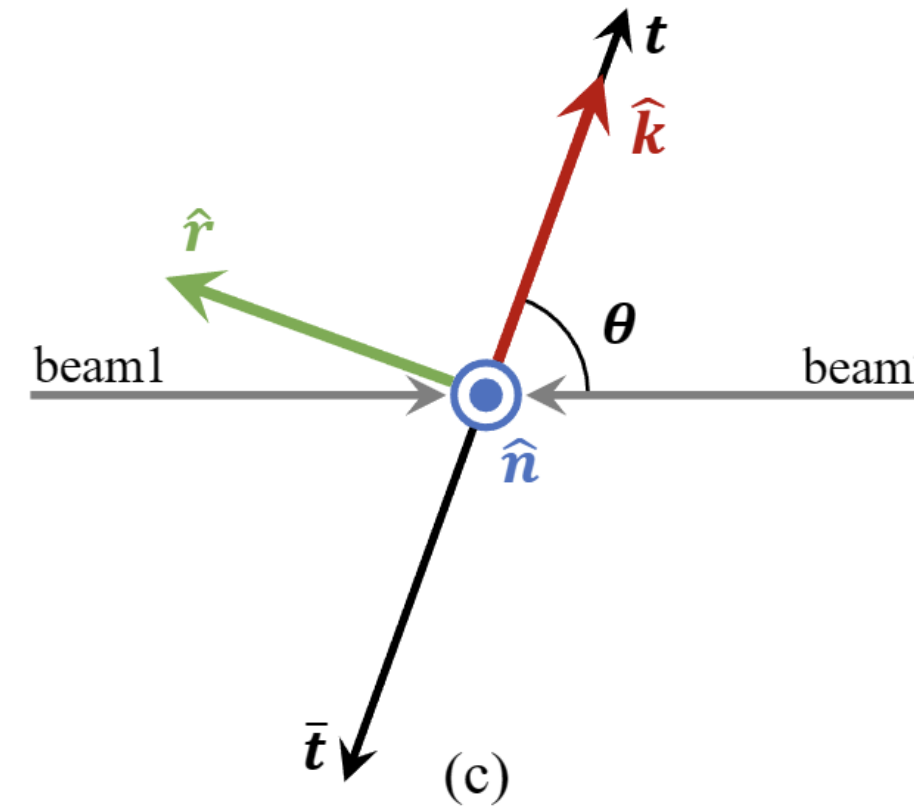
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Quantum state: } \rho_{\text{phy}} &= \sum_a \rho_a & C_{\text{phy}} &= \sum_a C_a \\ \text{Fictitious state: } \rho_{\text{fic}} &= \sum_a U_a^\dagger \rho_a U_a & C_{\text{fic}} &= \sum_a R_a^T C_a R_a \end{aligned}$$

- ▶  $\rho_{\text{fic}} \neq U^\dagger \rho_{\text{phy}} U$
  - ▶ Basis dependent:  $\rho_{\text{basis1}} \neq U^\dagger \rho_{\text{basis2}} U$
- Fictitious state still **preserves** some quantum properties

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}(\rho_{\text{fic}}) > 0 &\implies \mathcal{C}(\rho_a) > 0 \\ \mathcal{B}(\rho_{\text{fic}}) > 2 &\implies \mathcal{B}(\rho_a) > 2 \end{aligned}$$

# Optimal Basis Choice

- Event-by-event basis.  $\implies$  Why helicity basis? Why not others?
- Basis dependent  $\implies$  optimal basis exists



[KC, T. Han and M. Low, 2407.01672]

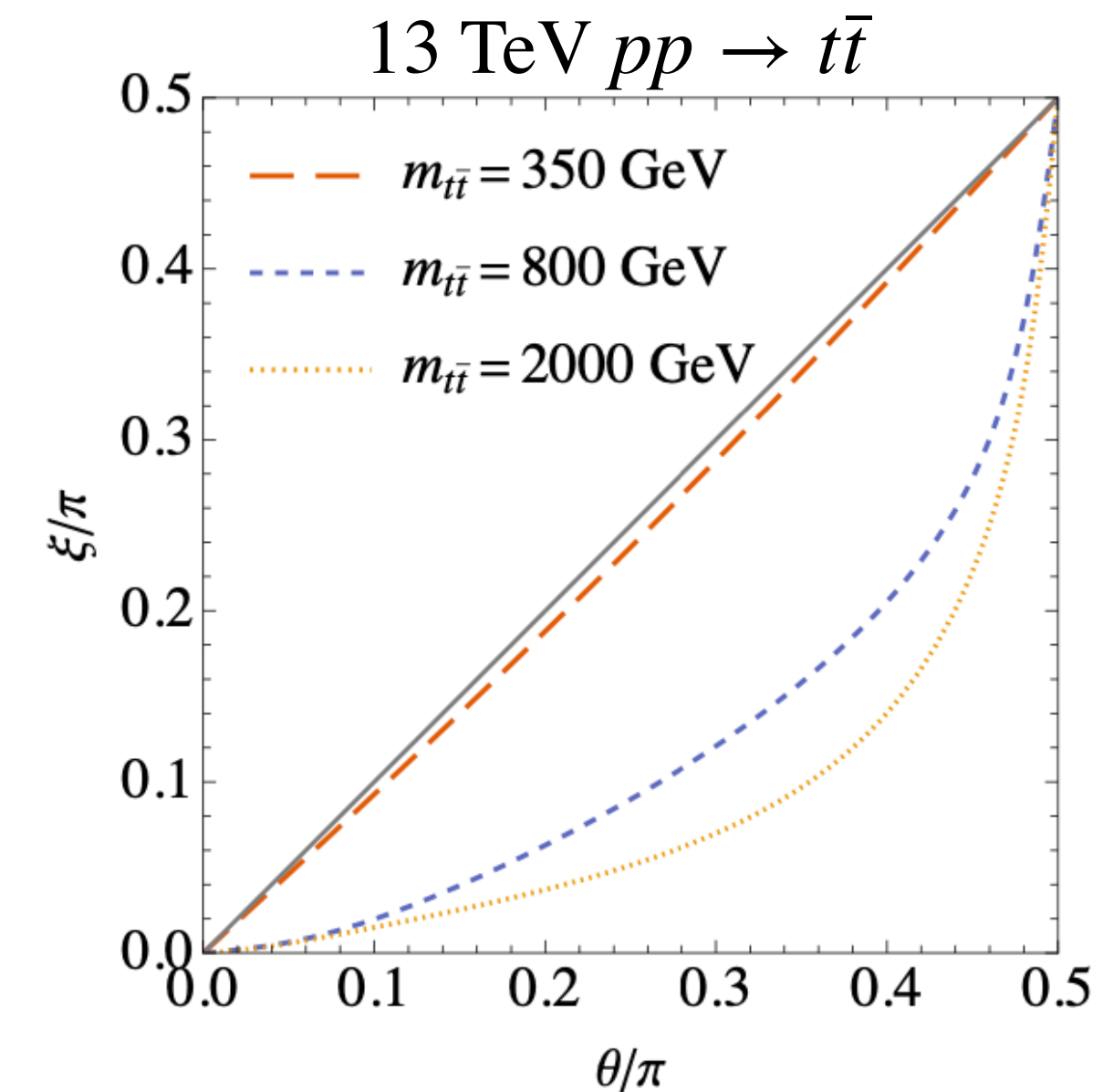
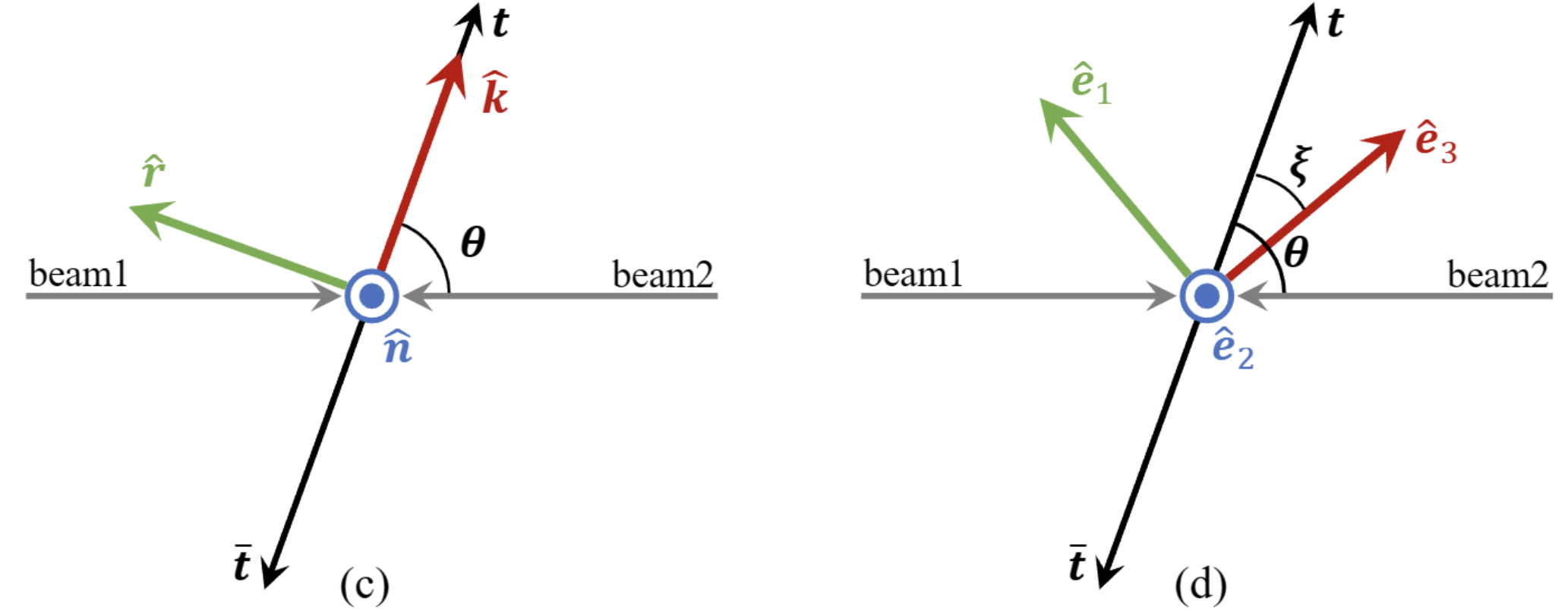
# Optimal Basis Choice

- The optimal basis is the one that diagonalized the correlation matrix [KC, T. Han and M. Low, 2311.07288]
- Avoid cancellation during the average

$$\bar{\rho} = \frac{1}{\sigma} \int d\Omega \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \rho(\Omega)$$

$$\bar{C} = \frac{1}{\sigma} \int d\Omega \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} C(\Omega)$$

- Same optimal basis for spin correlation, concurrence and Bell variable.



[KC, T. Han and M. Low, 2407.01672]

# Conclusion:

- The increasingly comprehensive measurement of top pair spin correlation allow us to reconstruct a state and study quantum information.
  - ▶ The basis choice in this reconstruction introduces arbitrariness.
- Event-by-event basis leads to fictitious state.
  - ▶ Fictitious states are basis dependent
  - ▶ Can leverage the basis-dependence to optimize the measurement of concurrence and Bell variable.



# Phenomenology: Decay Products as Spin Analyzer

[B. Tweedie, 1401.3021]

Top rest frame

- A spin-up top quark  $t_{\uparrow} \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu b$  :  $\frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{d \cos \theta_{\ell}} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos \theta_{\ell})$

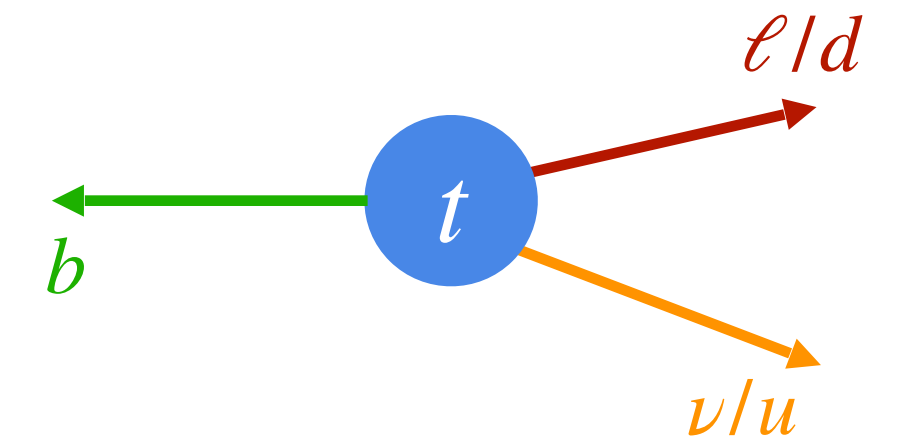
- Or generally,  $\rho^t = \frac{1}{2}(I_2 + B_i \sigma_i)$ ,  $\frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{d \cos \theta_a} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + B_z \kappa_a \cos \theta_a)$

$$B_i = 3 \langle \ell_i^+ \rangle$$

$\ell_i^+$ : cosine of the angle between  $\vec{\ell}^+$  and axis  $\hat{e}_i$

Spin Analyzer	Power
lepton/down-quark	1.00
neutrino/up-quark	-0.34
b-quark or W	$\mp 0.40$
soft-quark	0.50

$\kappa_a$ : spin analysing power of a



- For  $t\bar{t}$  system,

$$\rho_{t\bar{t}} = \frac{1}{4} \left( I_2 \otimes I_2 + B_i^+ \sigma_i \otimes I_2 + B_i^- I_2 \otimes \sigma_i + C_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j \right)$$

The density matrix constructed from  $t \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu b$ ,  $\bar{t} \rightarrow \ell^- \bar{\nu} \bar{b}$  decay channel is

$$B_i^+ = 3 \langle \ell_i^+ \rangle, \quad B_i^- = -3 \langle \ell_i^- \rangle, \quad C_{ij} = -9 \langle \ell_i^+ \ell_j^- \rangle$$

# Backup Top Pait at the LHC

$$\rho_{t\bar{t}} = \frac{1}{4} \left( I_2 \otimes I_2 + B_i^+ \sigma_i \otimes I_2 + B_i^- I_2 \otimes \sigma_i + C_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j \right)$$

$$\bar{\rho} = \frac{1}{\sigma} \int d\Omega \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \rho(\Omega)$$

$$\bar{C} = \frac{1}{\sigma} \int d\Omega \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} C(\Omega)$$

- We are studying phase-space-averaged states

- Example:  $D = \text{tr}(C)/3$

- $D = -0.547$ , with  $m_{t\bar{t}} < 380$  GeV [ATLAS: 2311.07288]

- $D = -0.480$ , with  $m_{t\bar{t}} < 400$  GeV [CMS: 2406.03976]

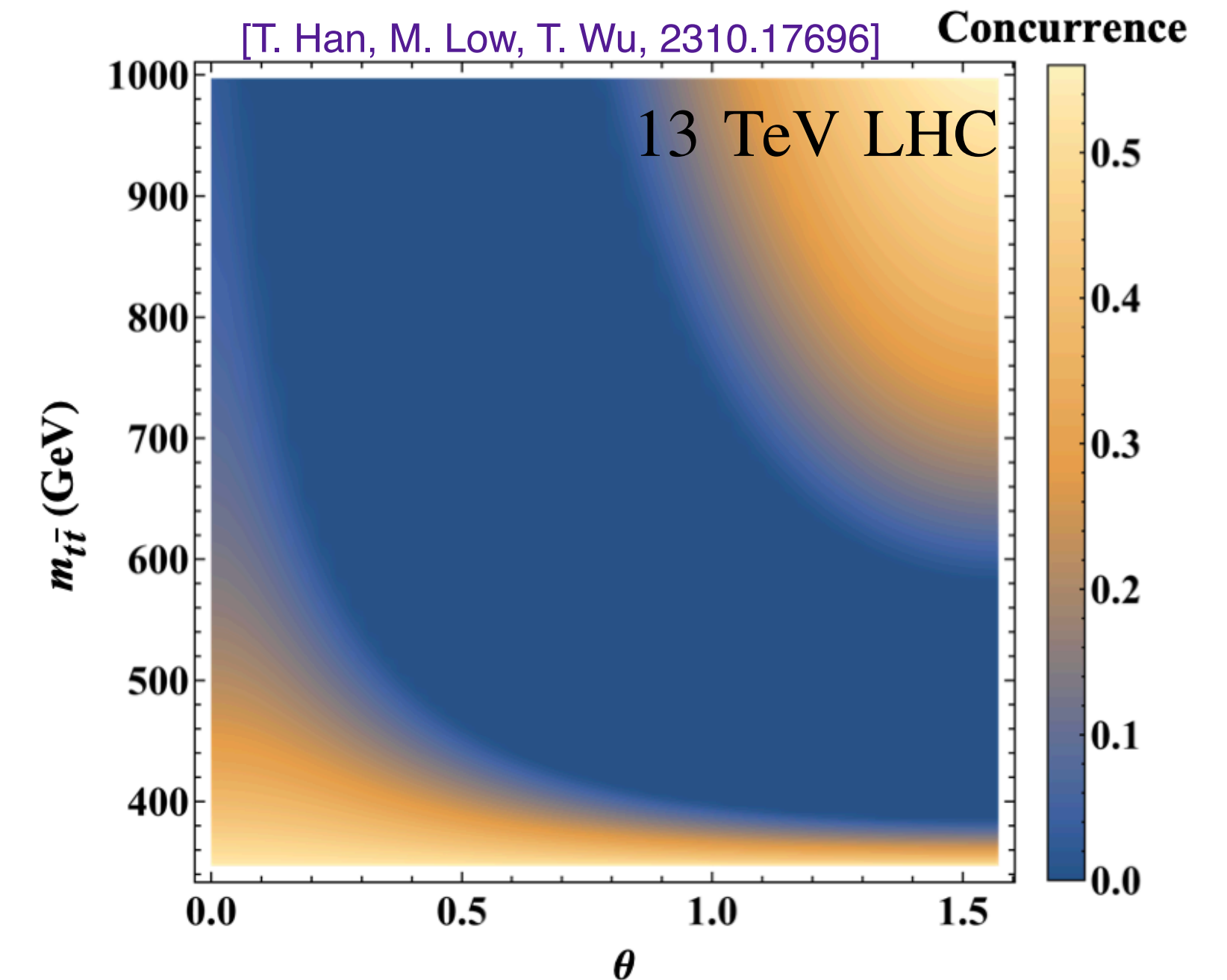
Article | [Open access](#) | Published: 18 September 2024

## Observation of quantum entanglement with top quarks at the ATLAS detector

[The ATLAS Collaboration](#)

[Nature](#) **633**, 542–547 (2024) | [Cite this article](#)

4414 Accesses | 378 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)



# Backup

- General density matrix (2x2) for 1 qubit, 3 parameters  $B_i$
- General density matrix (4x4) for 2 qubit, 15 parameters

$$\rho = \frac{I_2 + B_i \sigma_i}{2}, \quad \vec{B} = \text{tr}(\vec{\sigma} \rho), \quad |\vec{B}| \leq 1$$

$$\rho = \frac{1}{4} (\mathbf{I}_4 + \underline{B_i^+ \sigma_i} \otimes \mathbf{I}_2 + \underline{B_i^- \mathbf{I}_2} \otimes \sigma_i + \underline{C_{ij} \sigma_i} \otimes \sigma_j)$$

*e.g. Four Bell states:*

$$|\Psi_0\rangle = \frac{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$B_i^+$  Polarization vector of qubit A

$B_i^-$  Polarization vector of qubit B

$C_{ij}$  Spin correlation matrix

$$|\Psi_1\rangle = \frac{|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle - |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$|\Psi_2\rangle = i \frac{|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$|\Psi_3\rangle = -\frac{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

*e.g.  $t\bar{t}$  from QCD production,*

Unpolarized:  $B^\pm = 0$

Strongly correlated,  $C_{ij} \neq 0$