
RESONANCE SUBTRACTION IN HIGH ENERGY PROCESSES

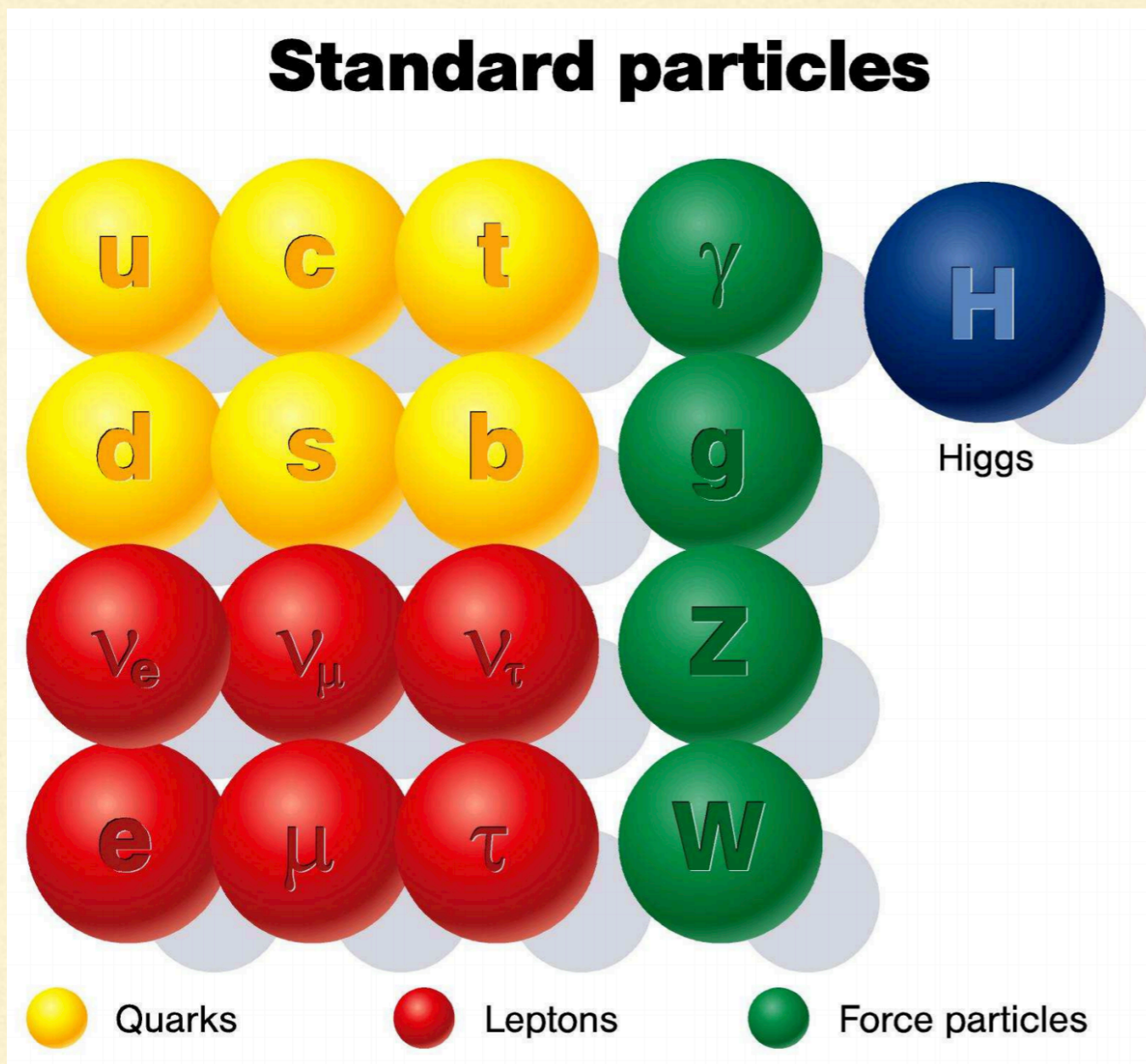
Jian Wang
Shandong University

Workshop on heavy flavor physics and QCD
2025.4.19 Nanjing

OUTLINE

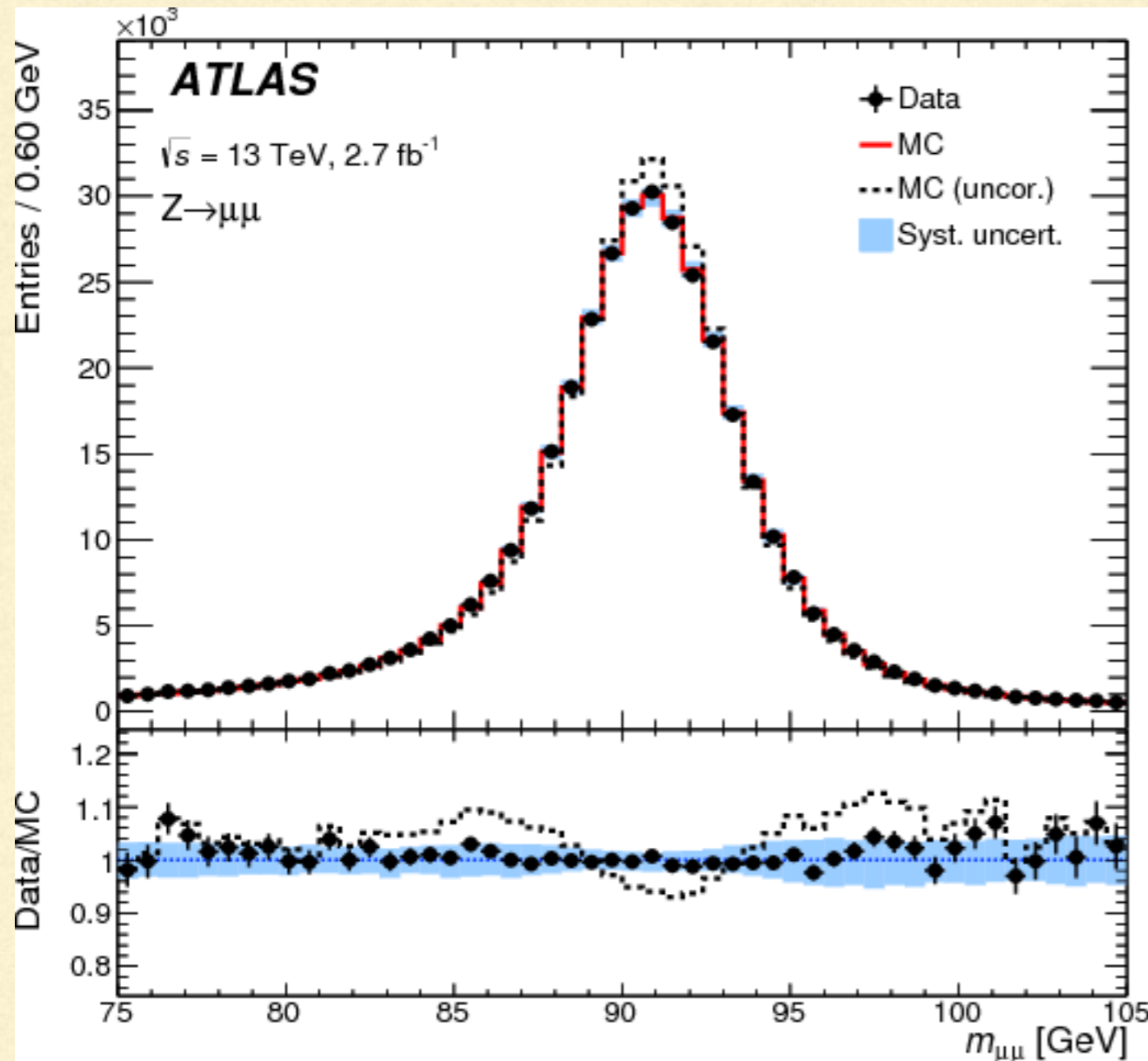
- Unstable particles
- Subtraction of $t\bar{t}$ resonant contributions in $tW^{-}\bar{b}$ production
- Summary

UNSTABLE PARTICLE



Most of the elementary particles are unstable!

DECAY OF UNSTABLE PARTICLE



Unstable particles appear as resonances, constructed from decay products.

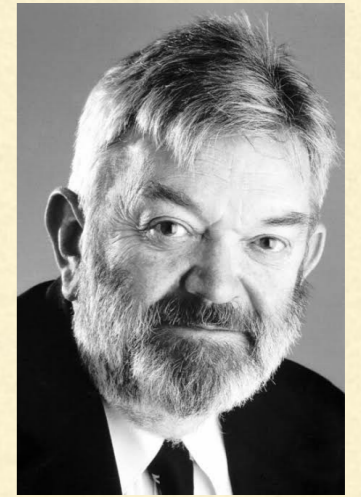
$$M_Z = 91.1880 \pm 0.0020 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\Gamma_Z = 2.4955 \pm 0.0023 \text{ GeV}$$



“Relativistic Field Theory of Unstable Particles”, Matthews and Salam, 1958

“Unitarity and causality in a renormalizable field theory with unstable particles”, 1963



M.J.G. Veltman

Abdus Salam

- In standard perturbation theory, the S-matrix element requires stable asymptotic states.
- One can put the resonance in the intermediate state with the propagator $\sim 1/(p^2 - M^2)$. However, near the resonance phase space, it leads to a singularity.
- Imaginary parts of the self-energy corrections have to be Dyson summed, $\sim \frac{1}{p^2 - M^2 + \Sigma(p^2)} \sim \frac{1}{p^2 - M^2 + iM\Gamma}$

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- The simplest way is to employ the narrow-width approximation. The resonance is taken as stable intermediate state.

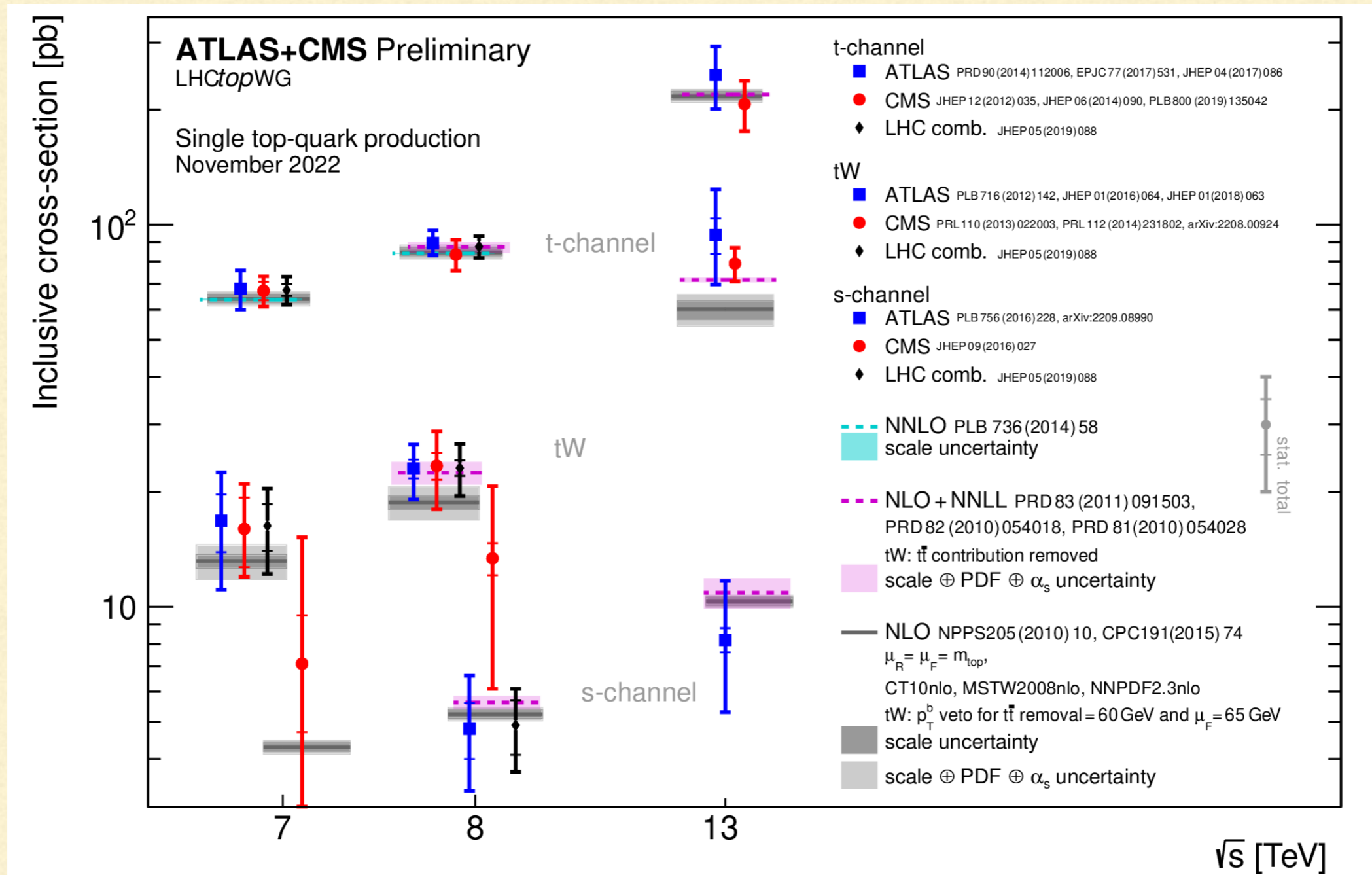
$$\frac{1}{|p^2 - M^2 + iM\Gamma|^2} \sim \frac{\pi}{M\Gamma} \delta(p^2 - M^2)$$

- NWA is useful to give an approximate calculation of radiative corrections, neglecting off-shell effects of $\mathcal{O}(\Gamma/M)$.

- Beyond LO, we need to consider mass renormalization.
- On-shell scheme: $M_{OS}^2 - M^2 + Re[\Sigma(M_{OS}^2)] = 0$
- Complex-mass scheme (gauge independent):
 $\mu^2 - M^2 + \Sigma(\mu^2) = 0, \mu^2 = M_{pole}^2 + iM_{pole}\Gamma_{pole}$
- Historically, the W and Z masses and widths were determined in the OS scheme. The conversion forms are

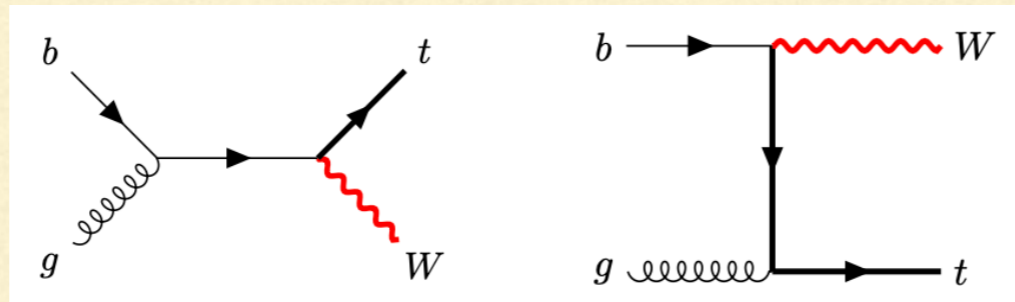
$$M_{pole}^2 = \frac{M_{OS}^2}{1+r}, \Gamma_{pole}^2 = \frac{\Gamma_{OS}^2}{1+r}, r = \Gamma_{OS}^2/M_{OS}^2$$
- $M_{W,pole} \approx M_{W,OS} - 27 \text{ MeV}, M_{Z,pole} \approx M_{Z,OS} - 34 \text{ MeV}$

tW PRODUCTION

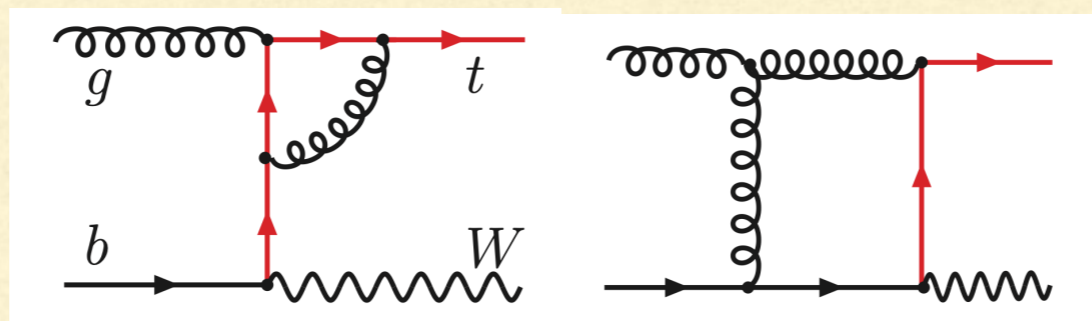


tW PRODUCTION

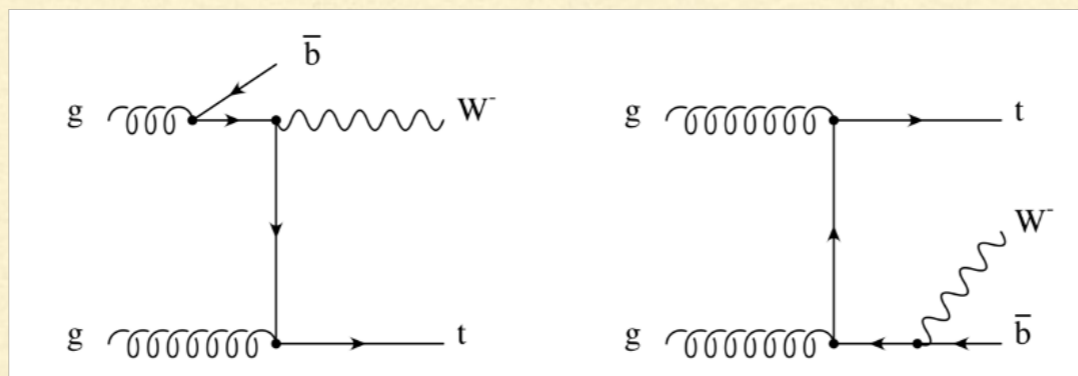
LO



NLO



Giele, arXiv:hep-ph/9511449
 Zhu, arXiv:hep-ph/0109269
 Campbell, Tramontano, hep-ph/0606289
 Cao, arXiv:0801.1539
 Kant et al arXiv:1406.4403

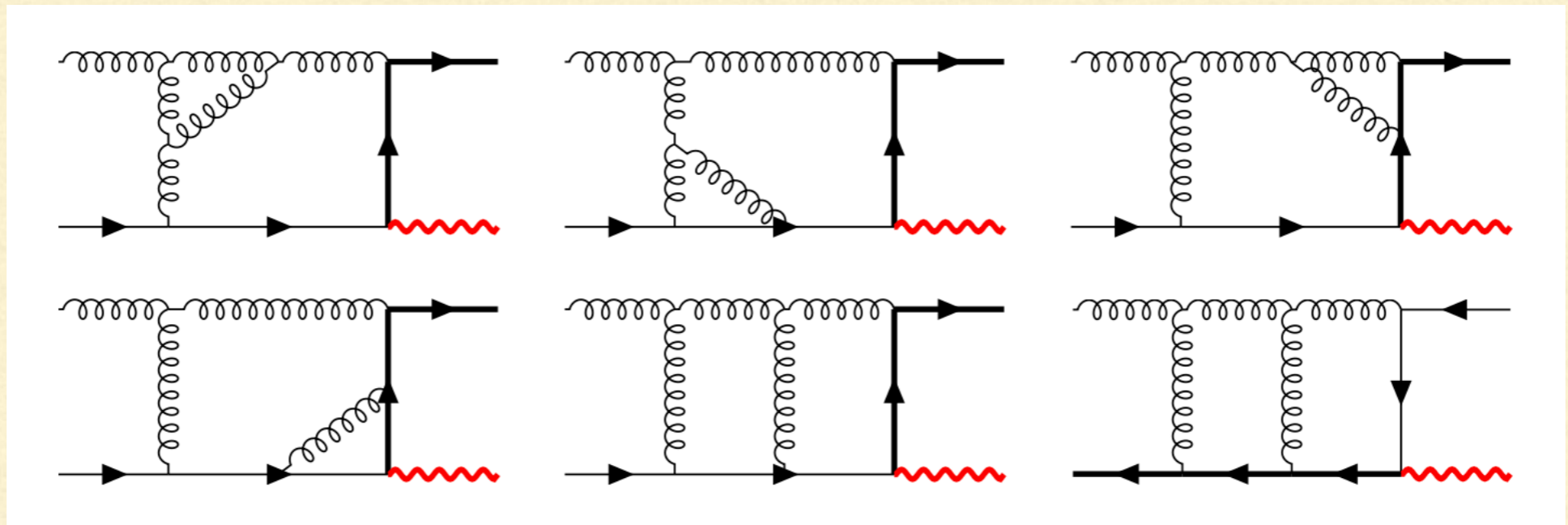


Frixione et al 2008
 Hollik et al 2012
 Campbell et al 2005

Top resonance appears!

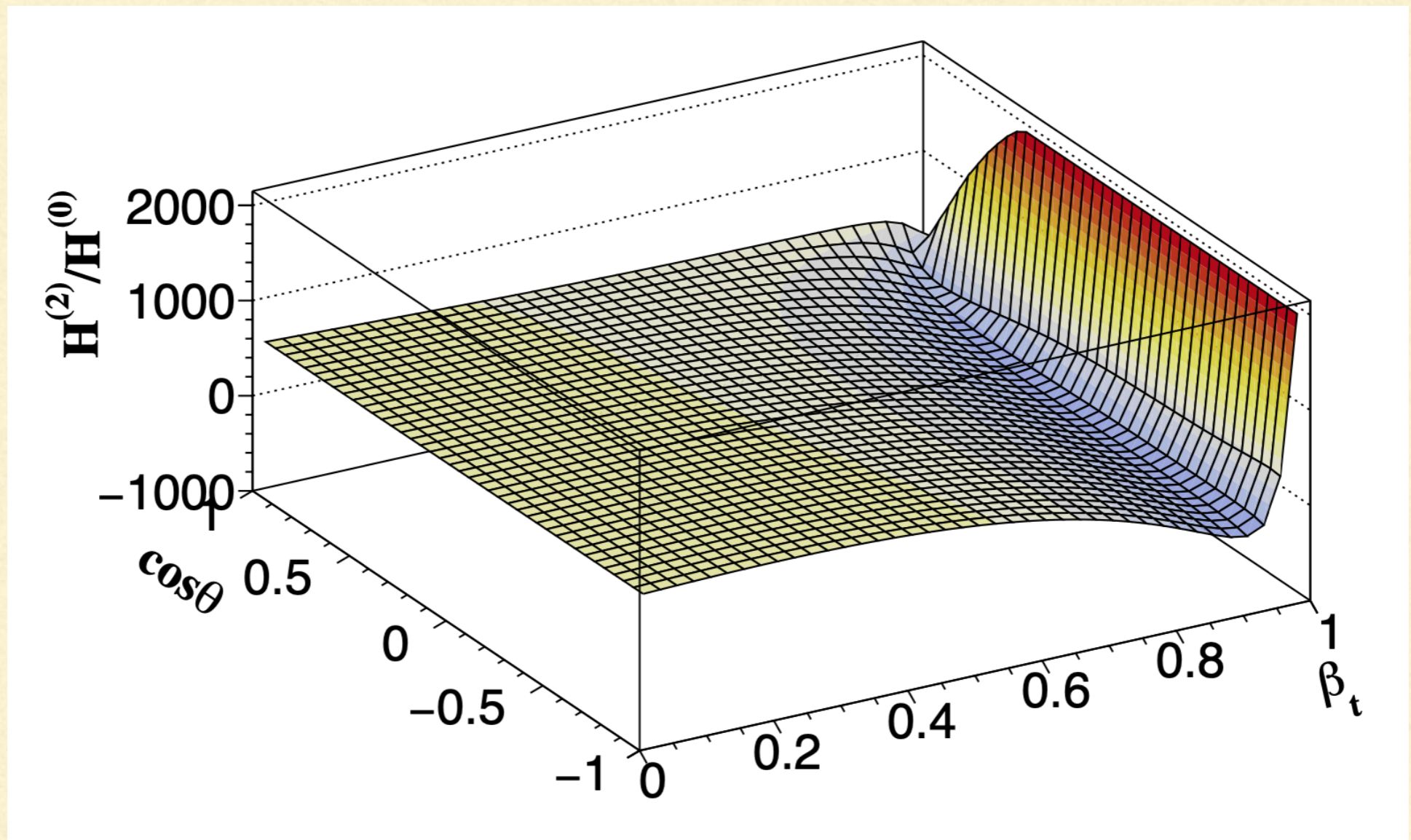
tW PRODUCTION

- Toward NNLO



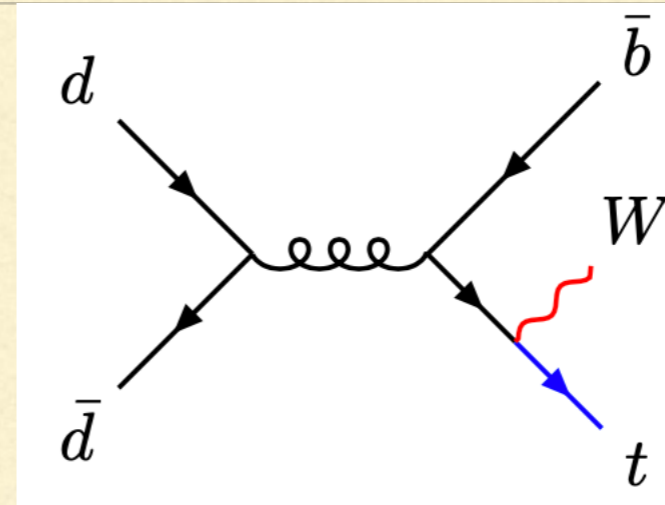
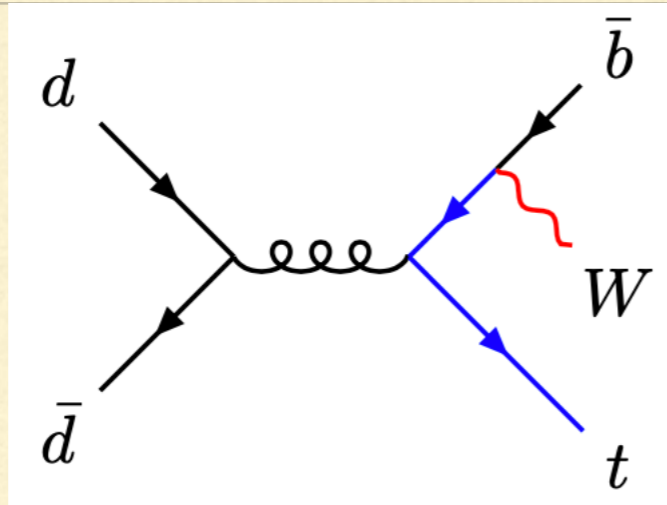
tW PRODUCTION

- Toward NNLO



Chen, Dong, Li, Li, JW, Wang, arXiv:2208.08786, 2212.07190

SUBTRACTION OF $t\bar{t}$



Double resonance

Single resonance

$$|\mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)}|^2 + 2 \mathbf{Re}[\mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)} \mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)*}] + |\mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)}|^2$$

DR1: $|\mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)}|^2 + 2 \mathbf{Re}[\mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)} \mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)*}] + |\mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)}|^2$

0805.3067

DR2: $|\mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)}|^2 + 2 \mathbf{Re}[\mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)} \mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)*}] + |\mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)}|^2$

1207.1071

SUBTRACTION OF $t\bar{t}$

$$\text{DS} \quad \left(|\mathcal{M}_{tW\bar{b}}|_{\text{LO}}^2 \right)_{\text{Sub}} = |\mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)} + \mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)}|^2 - \mathcal{R}_{\text{LO}}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{LO}} = S(\{p_i\}, \{\tilde{p}_i\}) \cdot R_{\text{LO}}(\{\tilde{p}_i\})$$

Supp. Factor Sub. Kernel

Reshuffled momenta to preserve gauge inv.

SUBTRACTION OF $t\bar{t}$

Diagram Subtraction (gauge invariant):

0805.3067

$$\begin{aligned} \left(|\mathcal{M}_{tW\bar{b}}|_{\text{LO}}^2 \right)_{\text{DS}} &= \left[|\mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)} + \mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)}|^2 - S_1 \cdot (R_{\text{LO}})_1 \right]_{\text{Reg}} \\ &= |\mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)} + \mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)}|_{\text{Reg}}^2 - \frac{(m_t \Gamma_t)^2}{\Delta^2 + (m_t \Gamma_t)^2} \cdot \frac{\tilde{N}}{\tilde{\Delta}^2 + (m_t \Gamma_t)^2} \\ &= |\mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)} + \mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)}|_{\text{Reg}}^2 - \frac{\tilde{N}}{\Delta^2 + (m_t \Gamma_t)^2}, \end{aligned}$$

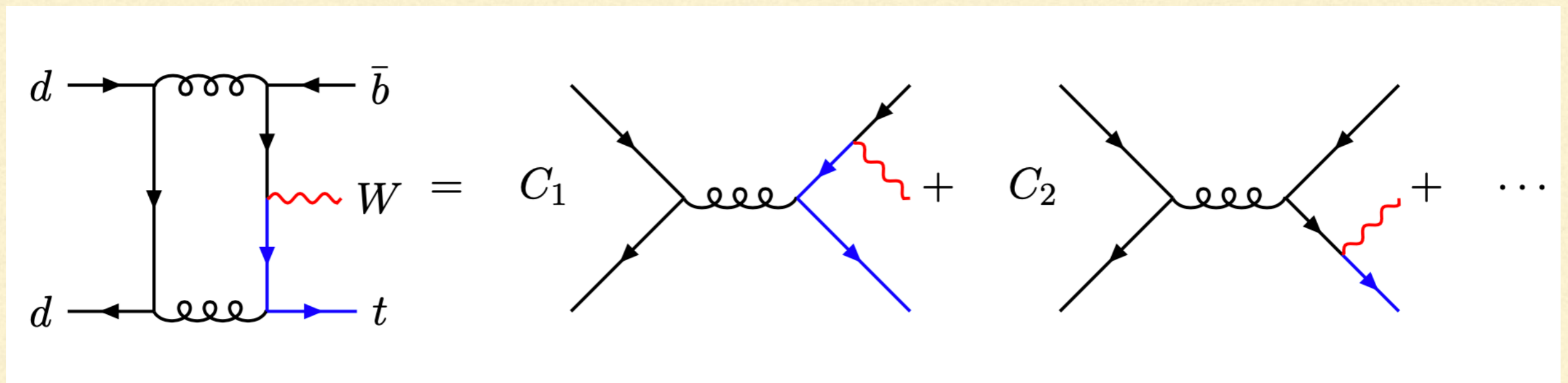
$$(R_{\text{LO}})_1 = \widetilde{|\mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)}|^2} \equiv |\mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)}|^2 \Big|_{\{p_i\} \rightarrow \{\tilde{p}_i\}}$$

$$\Delta \equiv s_{W\bar{b}} - m_t^2 \equiv (p_3 + p_4)^2 - m_t^2$$

Reg: regulation with a width

SUBTRACTION OF $t\bar{t}$

At one-loop level, it is not possible to distinguish the double and single resonant diagrams.



Dong, Li, Li, JW, JHEP 01(2015), 158

SUBTRACTION OF $t\bar{t}$

We propose a new subtraction scheme, Power Subtraction.

$$|\mathcal{M}_{tW\bar{b}}|_{\text{LO}}^2 = \frac{B^{(2)}}{\Delta^2} + \frac{B^{(1)}}{\Delta} + B^{(0)} + \dots$$

Subtraction kernel:

$$(R_{\text{LO}})_2 = \frac{B^{(2)}}{\widetilde{\Delta}^2}$$

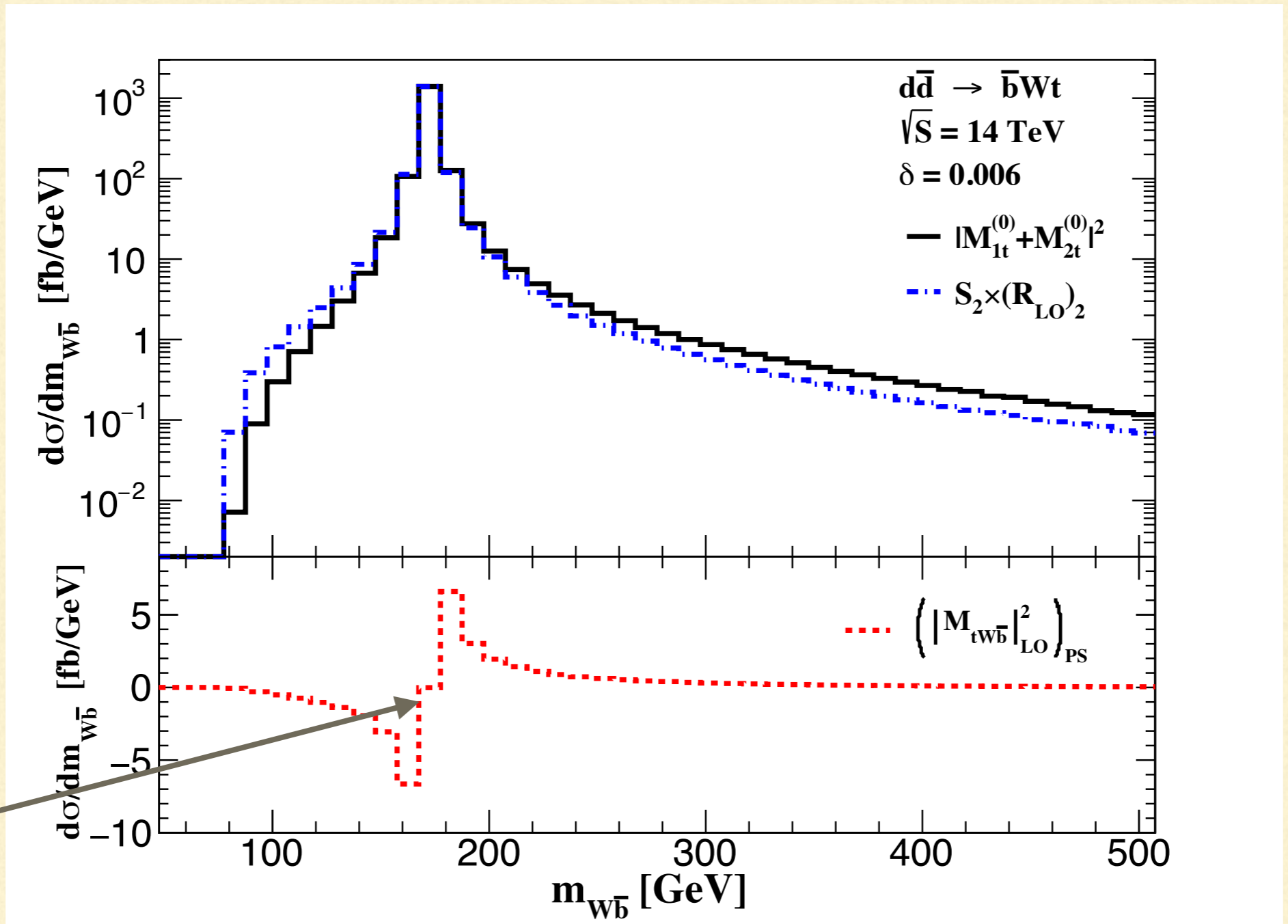
Suppression factor:

$$S_2 = \frac{\widetilde{\Delta}^2}{\Delta^2}$$

$$\left(|\mathcal{M}_{tW\bar{b}}|_{\text{LO}}^2 \right)_{\text{PS}} = \left| \mathcal{M}_{1t}^{(0)} + \mathcal{M}_{2t}^{(0)} \right|^2 - \frac{B^{(2)}}{\Delta^2}$$

To ensure num. stability: $|\sqrt{s_{W\bar{b}}} - m_t|/m_t > \delta$, $\delta = (10^{-2}, 10^{-6})$

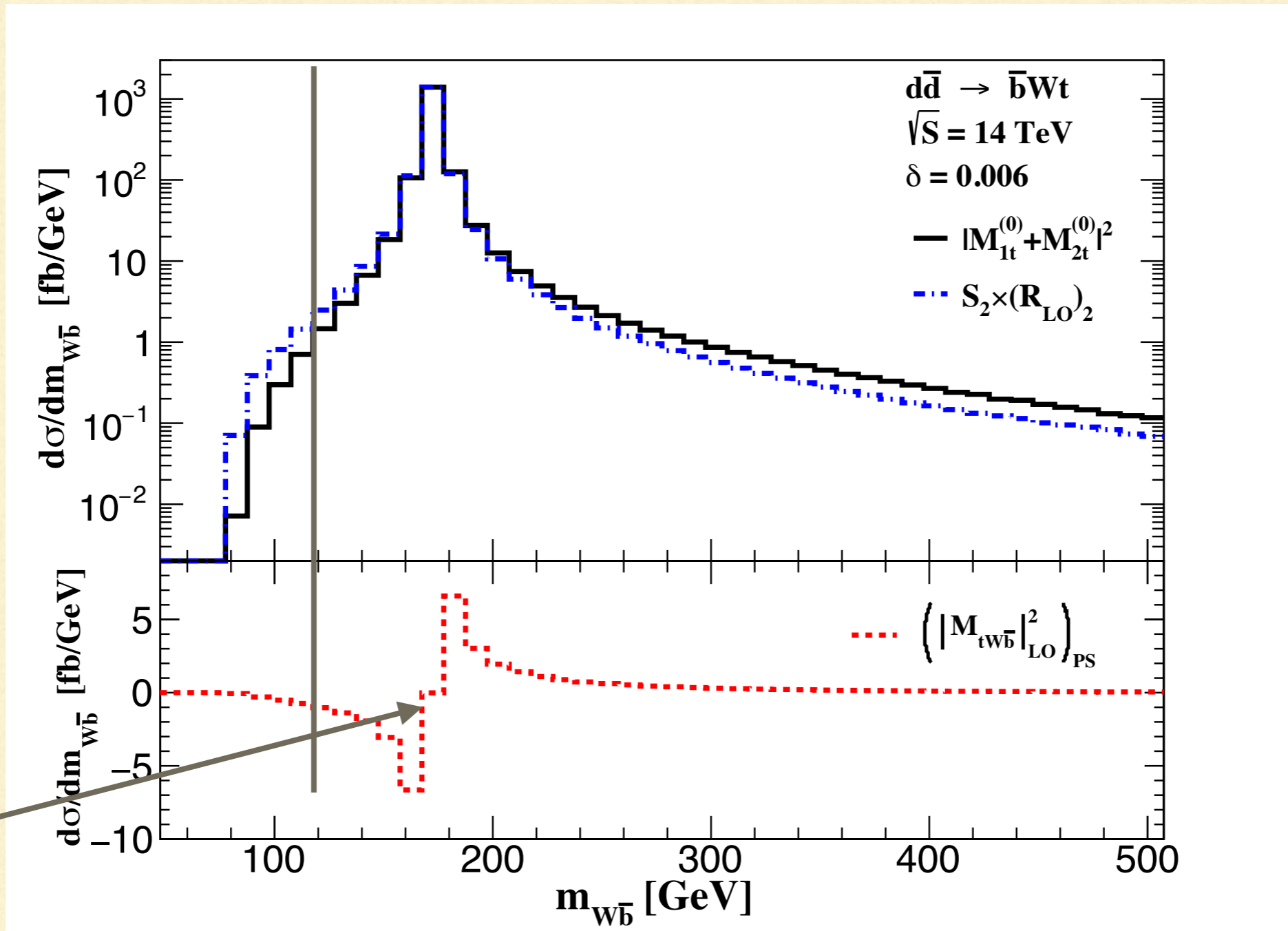
$\frac{1}{\Delta}$ stru.



Schemes	DR1	DR2	DS	PS
$\sigma_{LO}(\text{fb})$	63.56(1)	-45.03(1)	56.7(2)	56.1(1)

Dong, Li, Li, JW, JHEP 01(2015), 158

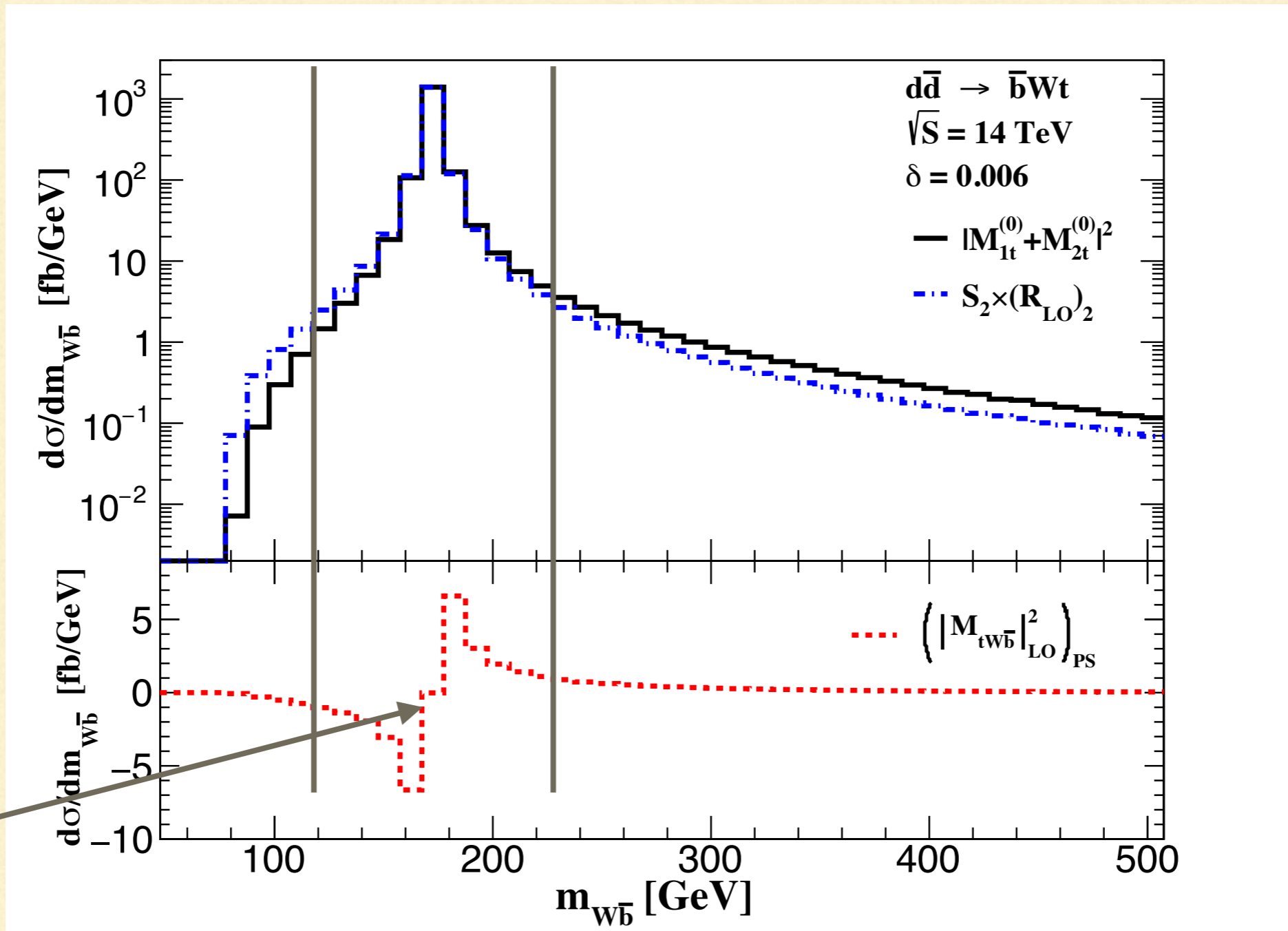
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Dong, Li, Li, JW, JHEP 01(2015), 158

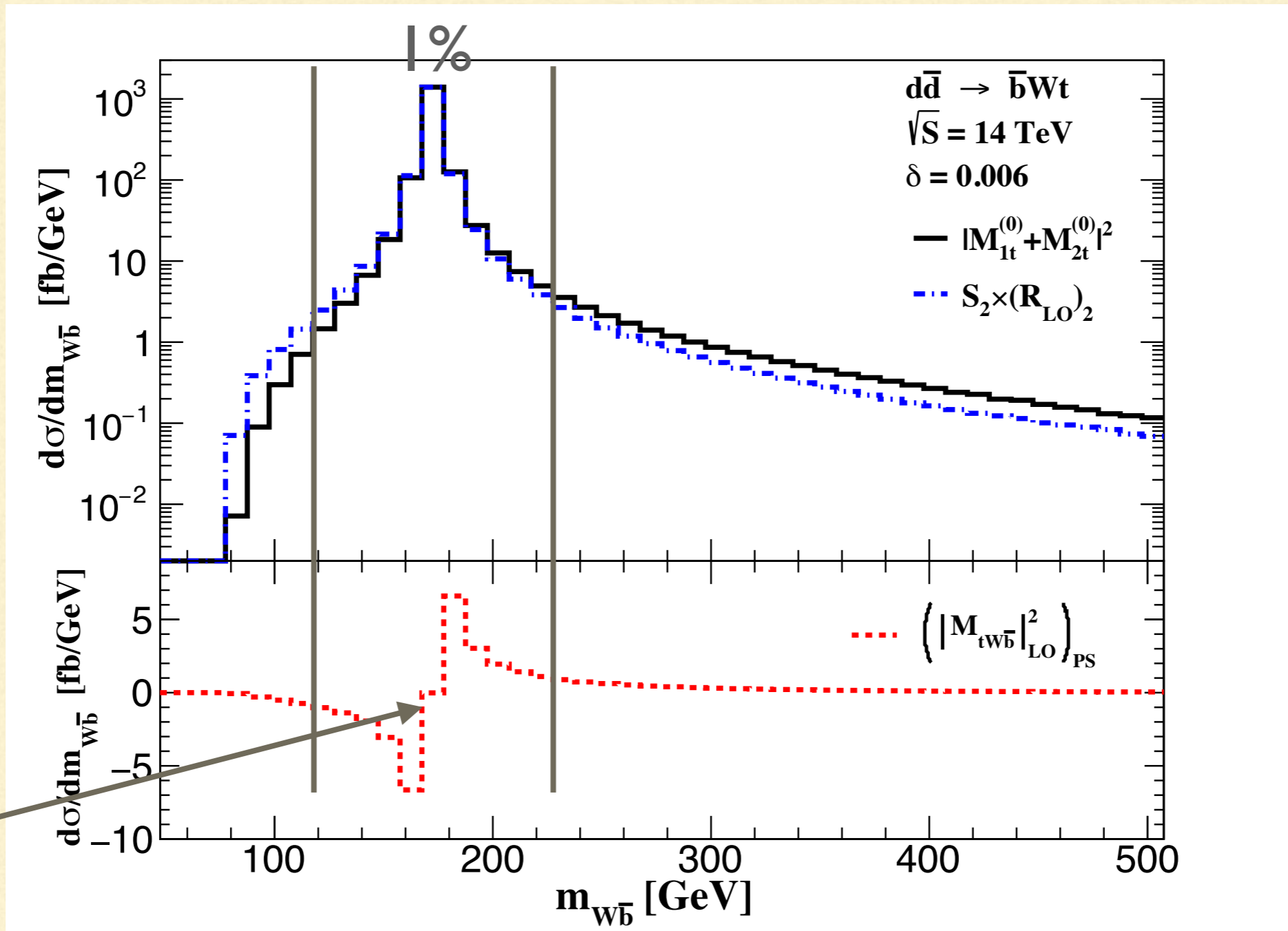
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Dong, Li, Li, JW, JHEP 01(2015), 158

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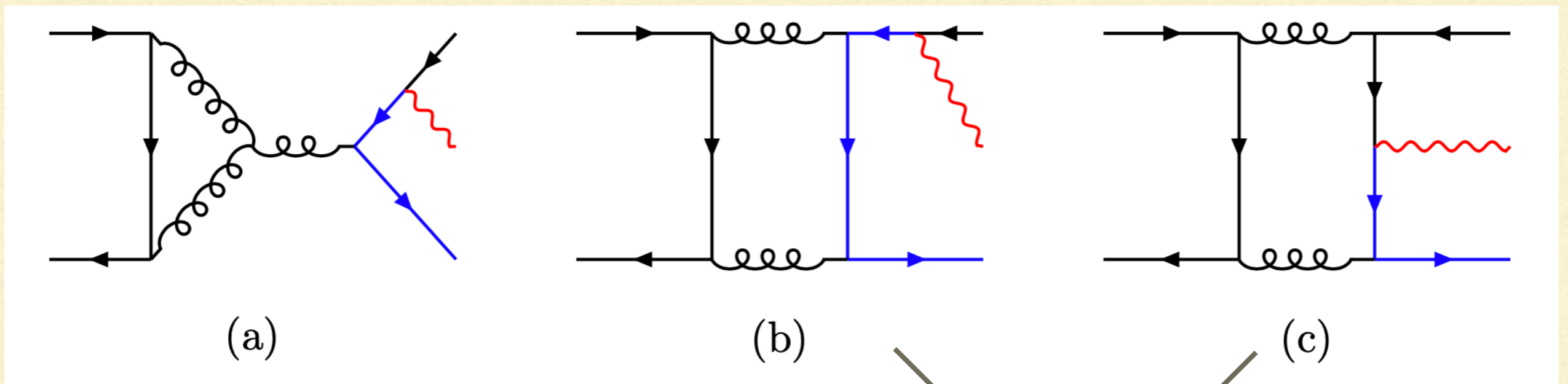
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Dong, Li, Li, JW, JHEP 01(2015), 158

SUBTRACTION AT LOOP LEVEL

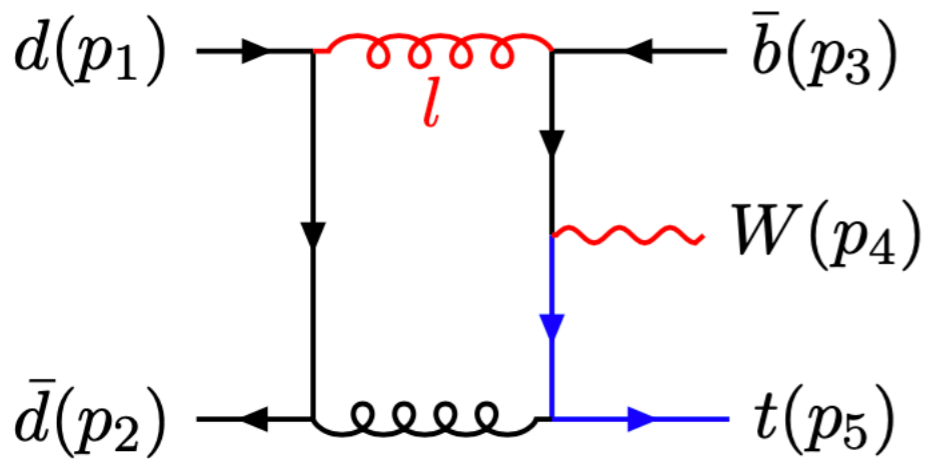
Expand the loop amplitudes:

$$V_{\text{Ren}} \equiv 2 \mathbf{Re}[\mathcal{M}^{(0)*} \mathcal{M}_{\text{Ren}}^{(1)}] = \frac{C^{(2)}}{\Delta^2} + \frac{C^{(1)}}{\Delta} + C^{(0)} + \dots$$



Taylor expansion

Contain $\log \Delta$



Expansion in Δ can be performed in the integrand using the EFT of unstable particles.

Beneke et al, hep-ph/0312331

Eikonal

Resonance prop.

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_s^{(a)} &= \frac{\mu^{4-D}}{i\pi^{D/2} r_\Gamma} \int d^D l \frac{1}{(l^2 + i0) (-2l \cdot p_3 + i0) [-2l \cdot p_{34} + \Delta + i0] (-2l \cdot p_1 + i0)} \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2(p_1 \cdot p_3)\Delta} \left(\frac{-\Delta - i0}{\mu m_t} \right)^{-2\epsilon} \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \log \left(\frac{m_t^2(p_1 \cdot p_3)}{2(p_1 \cdot p_{34})(p_3 \cdot p_{34})} \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} \log^2 \left(\frac{m_t^2(p_1 \cdot p_3)}{2(p_1 \cdot p_{34})(p_3 \cdot p_{34})} \right) + \text{Li}_2 \left(1 - \frac{m_t^2(p_1 \cdot p_3)}{2(p_1 \cdot p_{34})(p_3 \cdot p_{34})} \right) + \frac{\pi^2}{2} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Soft scale

Dong, Li, Li, JW, JHEP 01(2015), 158

No double $\log^2 \Delta$ because of color conservation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi\epsilon^2} \left(\frac{-\Delta - i0}{\mu m_t} \right)^{-2\epsilon} \left[2\mathbf{T}_1 \cdot \mathbf{T}_3 + 2\mathbf{T}_2 \cdot \mathbf{T}_3 + \mathbf{T}_3 \cdot \mathbf{T}_5 - \mathbf{T}_1 \cdot \mathbf{T}_{\bar{t},f} - \mathbf{T}_2 \cdot \mathbf{T}_{\bar{t},f} - \mathbf{T}_3 \cdot \mathbf{T}_{\bar{t},i} \right] \\ &= \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi\epsilon^2} \left(\frac{-\Delta - i0}{\mu m_t} \right)^{-2\epsilon} \left[\mathbf{T}_1 \cdot \mathbf{T}_3 + \mathbf{T}_2 \cdot \mathbf{T}_3 + \mathbf{T}_3 \cdot \mathbf{T}_5 + \mathbf{T}_3 \cdot \mathbf{T}_{\bar{t},f} \right] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

The divergence structure:

$$I_{d\bar{d} \rightarrow \bar{b}Wt}^{\text{div}} = \frac{d_2}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{d_1}{\epsilon} + \frac{d_s}{\epsilon} \left(\frac{-\Delta - i0}{\mu m_t} \right)^{-2\epsilon} = \frac{d_2}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{d_1 + d_s}{\epsilon} - 2d_s \log \left(\frac{-\Delta - i0}{\mu m_t} \right)$$

Taking the limit $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ before expansion in ϵ

$$I_{d\bar{d} \rightarrow \bar{t}(\rightarrow \bar{b}W)t}^{\text{div}} = \frac{d_2}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{d_1}{\epsilon}$$

Therefore, the $\log \Delta$ term is predictable and gauge invariant.

SUBTRACTION AT LOOP LEVEL

Infrared divergence needs to be subtracted too.

$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{NLO}} = \mathbf{I} \otimes |\mathcal{M}_{tW\bar{b}}|_{\text{LO}}^2$$

Power expansion:

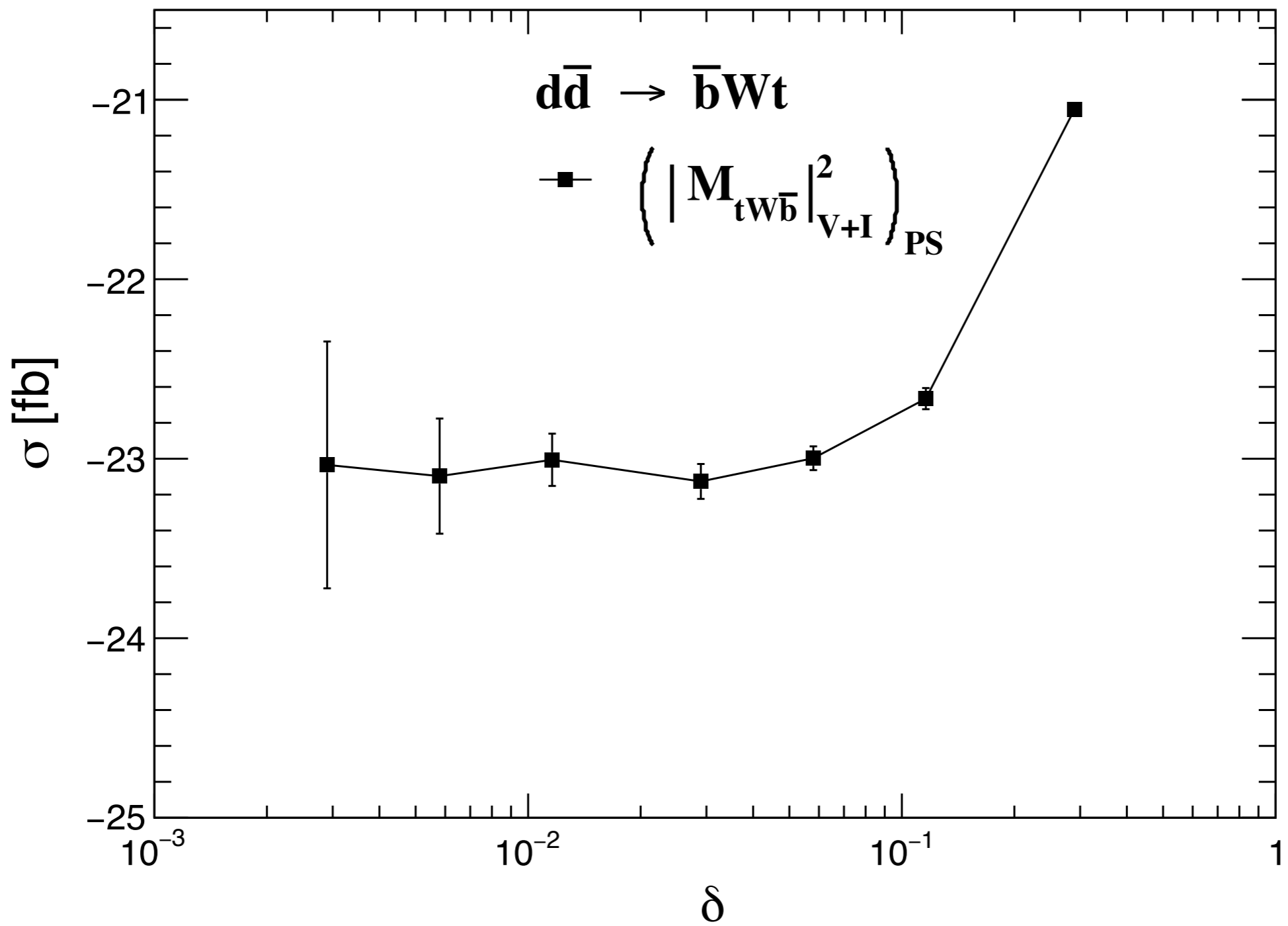
$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{NLO}} = \frac{I^{(2)}}{\Delta^2} + \frac{I^{(1)}}{\Delta} + I^{(0)} + \dots$$

Subtraction kernel:

$$(R_{V+1})_2 = \frac{\widetilde{C}^{(2)} + \widetilde{I}^{(2)}}{\widetilde{\Delta}^2}$$

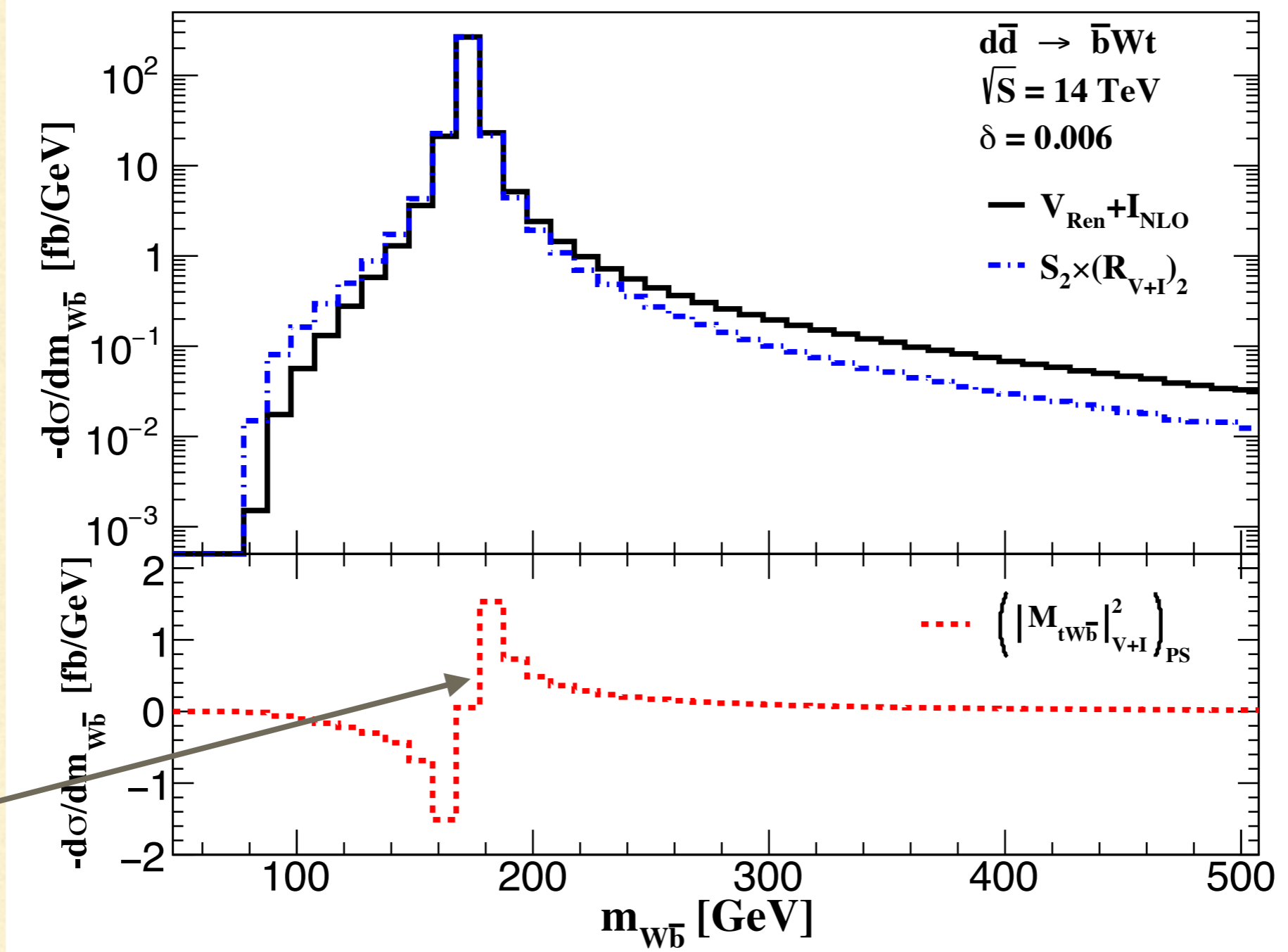
Power Subtraction:

$$\left(|\mathcal{M}_{tW\bar{b}}|_{V+1}^2 \right)_{\text{PS}} = V_{\text{Ren}} + \mathcal{I}_{\text{NLO}} - \frac{\widetilde{C}^{(2)} + \widetilde{I}^{(2)}}{\Delta^2}$$



Dong, Li, Li, JW, JHEP 01(2015), 158

$\frac{1}{\Delta}$ stru.



Scheme	$\sigma_{\text{LO}}(\text{fb})$	$\sigma_{V+I}(\text{fb})$	$\sigma_{V+I}/\sigma_{\text{LO}}$
PS	56.1(1)	-23.1(3)	-0.41

Dong, Li, Li, JW, JHEP 01(2015), 158

SUMMARY

- Resonances (unstable particles) can appear as not only signals, but also backgrounds.
- Subtraction of resonances needs to be implemented with caution.
- We propose the power subtraction at loop level, and apply it in $d\bar{d} \rightarrow tW\bar{b}$.
- This method may be applied in other high energy processes.

Thank you very much!