

# Precision on the top mass

Stefan Weinzierl

Universität Mainz

- I.: **Basic facts about the top quark**
- II.: **Basic facts about the mass in general**
- III.: **Implications on the precision for the top mass**

## Why do we care about precision on the top mass?

- Obviously, the value of the top mass affects the measured **top cross sections**.
- Affects **searches for new physics** with top background, BSM decays into tops, etc.
- Top mass **close to the electro-weak breaking scale**, impact on precision physics of the Higgs sector.  
If there is new physics associated with electro-weak symmetry breaking top physics is a place to look for.
- **Stability of the electro-weak vacuum** depends crucially on the precise numerical value of  $m_t$ .

## Basic facts about top

The essential numbers:

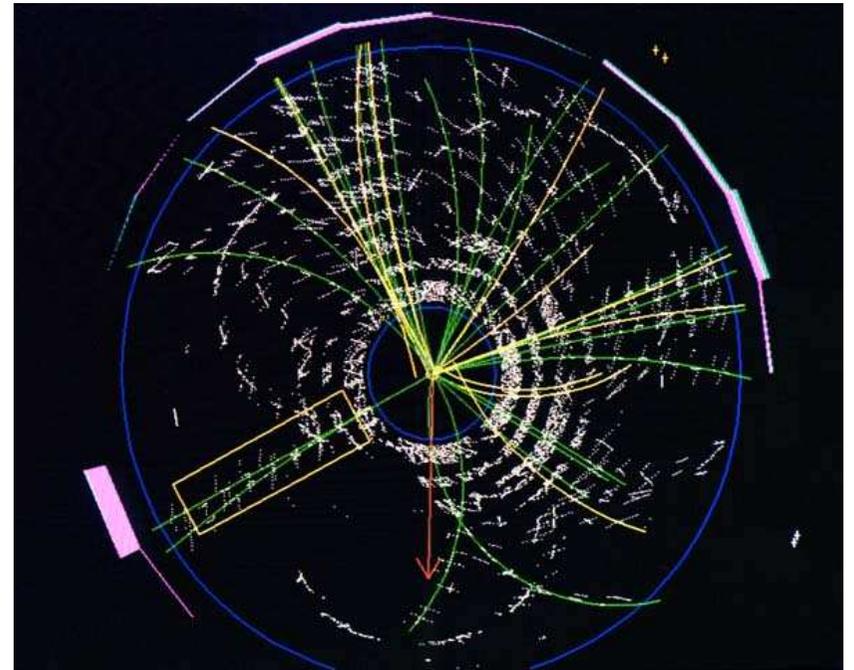
Mass:

$$m_t = 173.21 \pm 0.51 \pm 0.71 \text{ GeV}$$

Width:

$$\Gamma = 2.0 \pm 0.5 \text{ GeV}$$

Discovered at the Tevatron in 1995



A  $t\bar{t}$  event from CDF.

## Basic facts about top

The top quark is special:

- + The large top mass sets a hard scale.
- + Lifetime shorter than characteristic hadronization time scale.

⇒ Top physics is (mainly) described by perturbative QCD.

But, of course as any quark of the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> generation:

- The top quark is a colour-charged particle.
- The top quark is not a stable particle.

⇒ There is no asymptotic free top state,  
non-perturbative effects (might) enter here through the back door.

## Basic facts about a fermion mass

Theorists like **Lagrangians**:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermion}} = \bar{\Psi}_{\text{bare}} (i\not{D} - m_{\text{bare}}) \Psi_{\text{bare}}$$

Beyond leading-order in perturbation theory: The (one-loop) **self-energy**:

$$-i\Sigma = \begin{array}{c} \text{diagram: a fermion line with momentum } p \text{ and } k_1 \text{ and a gluon loop with momentum } k_0 \end{array} = \frac{g^2 C_F}{\mu^{D-4}} \int \frac{d^D k}{(2\pi)^D} i\gamma_\rho \frac{i}{\not{k}_1 - m_{\text{bare}}} i\gamma^\rho \frac{(-i)}{k_0^2} = -i(A\not{p} + Bm_{\text{bare}})$$

- In four space-time dimensions this **integral is divergent**.
- $D = 4 - 2\varepsilon$  is a **regulator**, divergences show up as **poles**  $1/\varepsilon$ .
- $A$  and  $B$  depend on  $p^2$ ,  $m_{\text{bare}}^2$  and  $\mu^2$ .

## Basic facts about a fermion mass

Resummed self-energy insertions:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{---} \leftarrow \text{---} + \text{---} \leftarrow \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \leftarrow \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} + \dots &= \frac{i}{\not{p} - m_{\text{bare}} - \Sigma} \\
 &= \frac{i(1+A)}{\not{p} - (1+A+B)m_{\text{bare}}} + O(\alpha_s^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

Renormalisation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Psi_{\text{bare}} &= \sqrt{Z_2} \Psi_{\text{renorm}} \\
 m_{\text{bare}} &= Z_m m_{\text{renorm}}
 \end{aligned}$$

All renormalisation schemes entail:

- **Wave function renormalisation:** Absorb UV-divergences of  $(1+A)$  in the numerator.
- **Mass renormalisation:** Absorb UV-divergences of  $(1+A+B)$ .

# The $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -scheme

Absorb **only the parts proportional to  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} - \gamma_E + \ln(4\pi)$**  and nothing else into  $Z_m$ :

$$Z_m = 1 - (A + B)_{\text{div}}$$

The propagator is then

$$\frac{i}{\not{p} - m_{\overline{\text{MS}}} - (A + B)_{\text{fin}} m_{\overline{\text{MS}}}}$$

- $m_{\overline{\text{MS}}}$  depends on the scale  $\mu$ : **Running mass.**
- Presence of  $(A + B)_{\text{fin}} m_{\overline{\text{MS}}}$ : The propagator **does not have a pole at  $m_{\overline{\text{MS}}}$** , matrix elements **do not factor** at  $p^2 = m_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^2$ .
- $(A + B)_{\text{fin}}$  depends on  $p^2$ : Propagator **does not yield Breit-Wigner shape.**

# The $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -scheme

$m_{\overline{\text{MS}}}$  is an example of a **short-distance mass**.

Can extract  $m_{\overline{\text{MS}}}$  from an infrared safe observable for a process like  $pp \rightarrow l\bar{\nu} j j b\bar{b}$  at high energies by comparing

$$\sigma_{\text{exp}} \quad \text{with} \quad \sigma_{\text{theo}}(m_{\overline{\text{MS}}})$$

Moch, Langenfeld, Uwer, '09;

Czakon, Fiedler, Mitov, '13;

Dowling, Moch, '13

# The on-shell-scheme

Define  $Z_m$  such that the propagator has a pole at  $m_{\text{pole}}$ .

The propagator is then by definition

$$\frac{i}{\not{p} - m_{\text{pole}}}$$

+  $m_{\text{pole}}$  is complex, includes the width.

+ Matrix elements factor at  $p^2 = m_{\text{pole}}^2$ .

+ Propagator corresponds to a Breit-Wigner shape.

- The pole mass is not a short distance mass.

# Non-perturbative sensitivity related to the pole mass

The pole mass is ambiguous by an amount  $O(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}})$ :

- In the on-shell scheme, the renormalisation constant  $Z_m$  contains contributions from all momentum scales, not just the ultraviolet region.
- In higher orders, subsets of diagrams are dominated by the IR-region.
- Therefore, the full perturbative series can only be summed up to an (infrared) renormalon ambiguity.
- The renormalon ambiguity is of  $O(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}})$ .

## Conversion between the pole mass and the $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -mass

In perturbation theory one has with  $\bar{m} = m_{\overline{\text{MS}}}(\mu = m_{\overline{\text{MS}}})$

$$m_{\text{pole}} = \bar{m} \times \left[ 1 + c_1 \frac{\alpha_s(\bar{m})}{\pi} + c_2 \left( \frac{\alpha_s(\bar{m})}{\pi} \right)^2 + c_3 \left( \frac{\alpha_s(\bar{m})}{\pi} \right)^3 + c_4 \left( \frac{\alpha_s(\bar{m})}{\pi} \right)^4 + \dots \right]$$

Melnikov, van Ritbergen, '99; Chetyrkin, Steinhauser, '99; Marquard, A. Smirnov, V. Smirnov, Steinhauser, '15

Numerically for the top quark:

$$m_{\text{pole}} = \bar{m} \times [1 + 0.046 + 0.010 + 0.003 + 0.001 + \dots]$$

The conversion formula is again only an **asymptotic series** and has an **renormalon ambiguity** as well.

## Crude estimates of the ambiguity

From the truncation of the conversion formula between  $m_{\text{pole}}$  and  $\bar{m}$ :

$$\delta m_{\text{pole}} \approx O(200 \text{ MeV})$$

From the estimate of the renormalon:

$$\delta m_{\text{pole}} \approx O(270 \text{ MeV})$$

What about determining the non-perturbative effects by comparing two different non-perturbative models?

Engineer A:  $13^2 = 172$  (sic)

Engineer B:  $13^2 = 174$  (sic)

**This does not imply**  $13^2 = 173 \pm 1$  (sic)

## Measuring the peak position

Can one translate a measurement of the peak position into a theoretical well defined short-distance top mass?

Remark: Experimentalists can measure many things to high precision (average number of pions in  $pp$  collisions, etc.), the question is if and how a quantity can be related to a quantity depending only on short-distance physics.

Let's split up this question:

- Which scales are involved?
- How to define a short-distance mass at a given scale?
- How to translate the measurement?

## The involved scales

In order to avoid large logarithms:

- Describe physics at a particular scale  $\mu$  by an appropriate effective theory.
- Evolution operators sum up large logarithms.

From a study of  $e^+e^- \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ :

Scale	Matrix elements	Effective theory	Affects	Remarks
$Q \dots m_t$	hard function	QCD	norm of the distribution	depends on $m_t$
$m_t \dots \Gamma_t$	jet function	SCET	shape and position	depends on $m_t$
$\Gamma_t \dots \Lambda_{QCD}$	soft function	top-HQET	shape and position	independent of $m_t$

$\Rightarrow$  Need a short-distance mass definition for scales down to  $\Gamma_t$ .

# The MSR mass

**Short-distance mass:** any mass definition not affected by a renormalon ambiguity.

Idea for construction: **Remove contributions giving rise to this ambiguity** (known from bottomium, potential subtracted mass).

This will involve apart from the UV-renormalisation scale  $\mu$  a **second scale  $R$** .

The  $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -mass is a short-distance mass, and  $R = \bar{m}$  in this case.

The **MSR-mass** (read:  $\bar{m}$  substituted by  $R$ ) is the **two-scale generalisation** with a UV-scale  $\mu$  and an IR-scale  $R$ , such that

$$m_{\text{MSR}}(R = 0) = m_{\text{pole}}, \quad m_{\text{MSR}}(R = \bar{m}) = \bar{m}.$$

# Translating the measurement

Theory sneaks in through template method / matrix element method.

Analogy of factorisation:

Effective theory: Hard function / **jet function** / soft function

Monte Carlo: Hard matrix element / **parton shower** / hadronisation

Parton shower has a lower cut-off.

⇒ **Monte Carlo mass is something like a short-distance mass.**

Translation for Pythia:

$$m_{\text{Pythia}} = m_{\text{MSR}}(R = 1 \dots 9 \text{ GeV})$$

This introduces an uncertainty of the order of 1 GeV on the translation from the Monte Carlo mass to a theoretically well defined short-distance mass.

## Work to do

- Work out in detail factorisation and short-distance mass in *pp*-collisions.
- Compare in detail MC mass with a well defined short-distance mass.
- Consider practical issues.

Active field:

Mainz Institute for Theoretical Physics (MITP) scientific program:  
*High precision fundamental constants at the TeV scale*, March 2014

TOPLHCWG Open Meeting, CERN, April 2014

TOP 2014 Workshop, Cannes, September 2014

# Summary

- The value of the **top mass** is **essential** for many precision measurements.
- Want to have a **well defined short-distance mass**.
  - At **high scales** the  $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -mass can be used.
  - The **pole mass is not a short-distance mass**.
  - The  $\overline{\text{MSR}}$ -mass can be used as a short-distance mass **at lower scales**.
- **State of the art**: Conceptionally understood,  
details have to be worked out.
- Outlook **below 100 MeV uncertainty**: Threshold scan at an  $e^+e^-$ -machine with a potential subtracted mass or 1S mass.