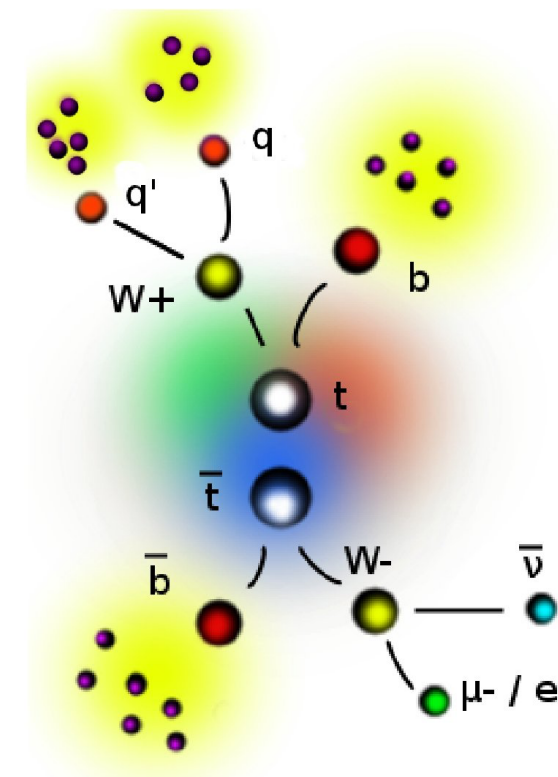
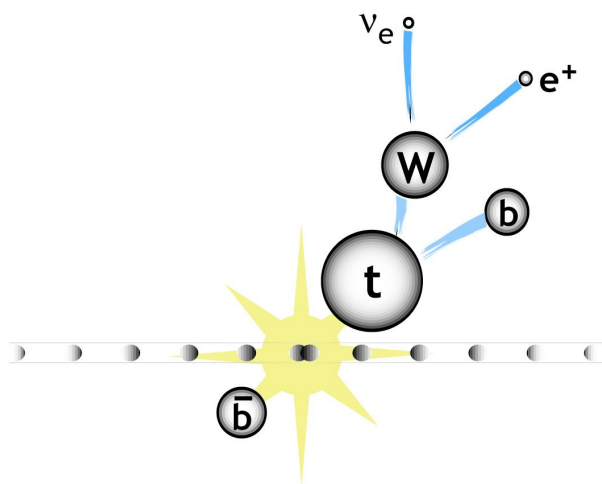


Recent highlights on top-quark physics with the ATLAS detector

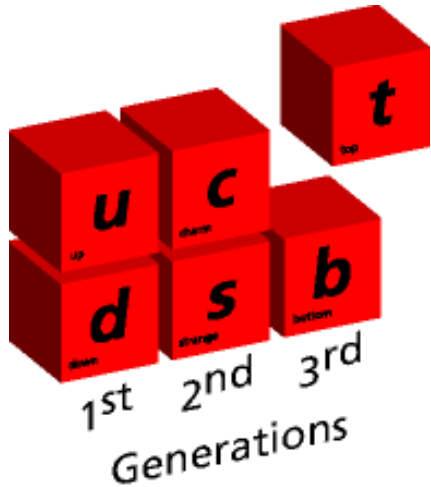
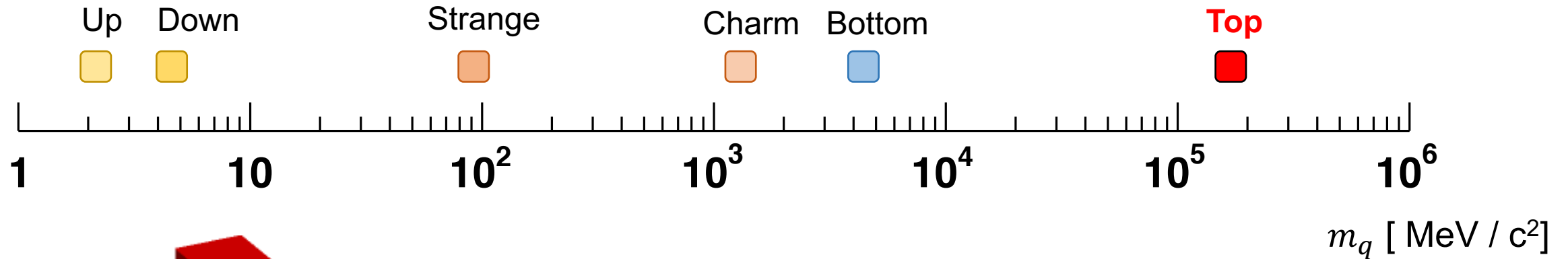
Wolfgang Wagner

Bergische Universität Wuppertal

HEP Seminar Michigan State University,
December 8, 2020



The top quark



- Weak-isospin partner of the b -quark.
- Charge: $+2/3 e$
- Spin: $1/2$
- By far the heaviest elementary particle: $m_t = 172.7 \pm 0.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
0,3% precision!

→ large loop corrections

- Coupling to the Higgs boson: $y_t \approx 1$

- No bound states: $\tau_{\text{top}} \propto \left(\frac{M_W}{M_{\text{top}}}\right)^3$
 $\tau_{\text{top}} \approx 4.7 \cdot 10^{-25} \text{ s}$

⇒ Top quark decays as a quasi free particle

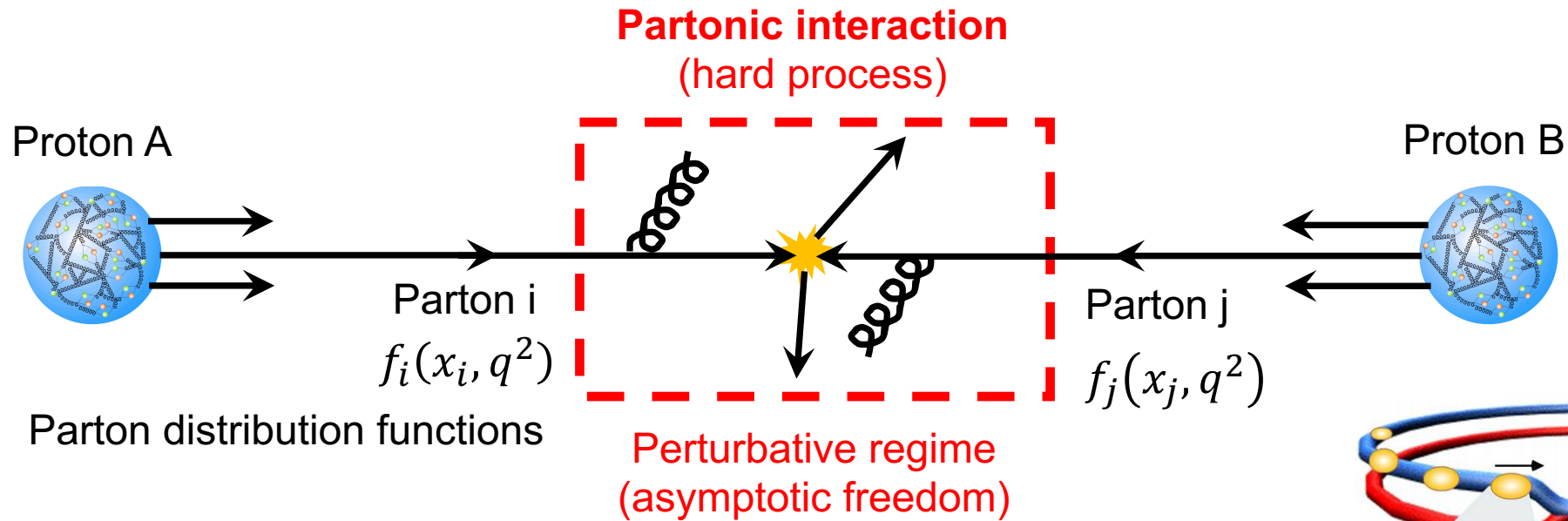
⇒ Spin information and polarisation are accessible

(Spin decorrelation time: 10^{-21} s for hadrons)

High- p_T interactions in proton-proton collisions ...



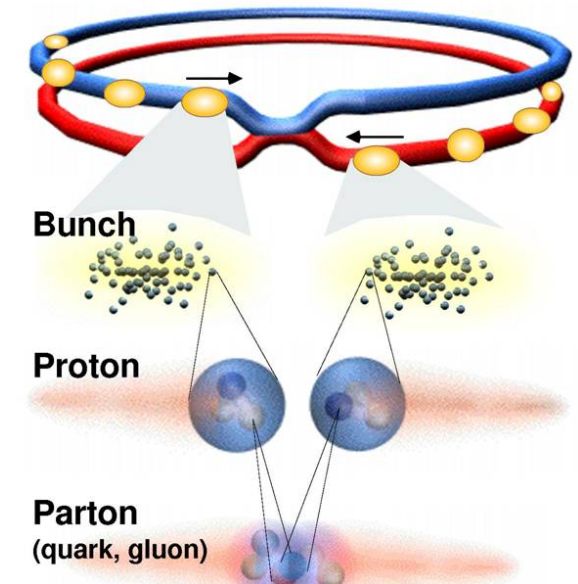
... described in the parton model



Factorisation theorem

$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow XY) = \sum_{i,j} \int d\hat{s} \mathcal{L}_{ij}(\hat{s}; s, \mu_f) \cdot \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(ij \rightarrow XY; \hat{s}; \mu_f)$$

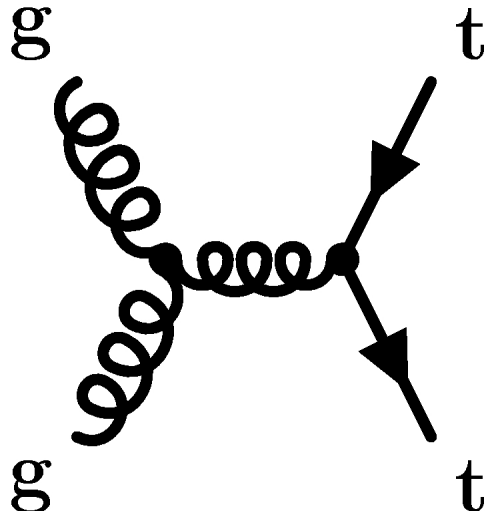
With $\mathcal{L}_{ij}(\hat{s}; s, \mu_f) = \frac{1}{s} \int_{\hat{s}}^s f_{i/A}\left(\frac{\tilde{s}}{s}\right) f_{j/B}\left(\frac{\hat{s}}{\tilde{s}}\right) \frac{1}{\tilde{s}} d\tilde{s}$ Parton luminosity



Top-quark-antiquark pair production

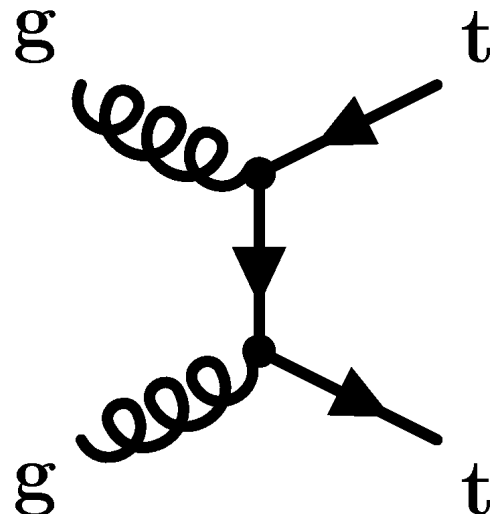


Gluon-gluon fusion



~90%

Quark-antiquark annihilation



~10%

At the LHC at
 $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$

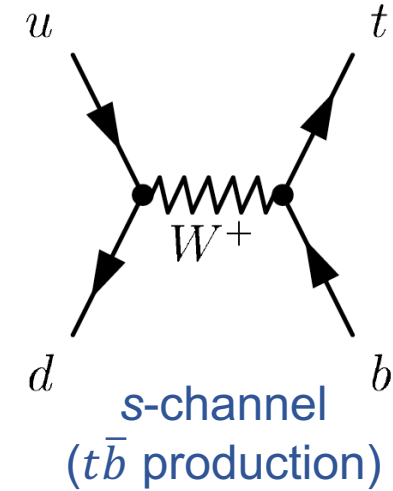
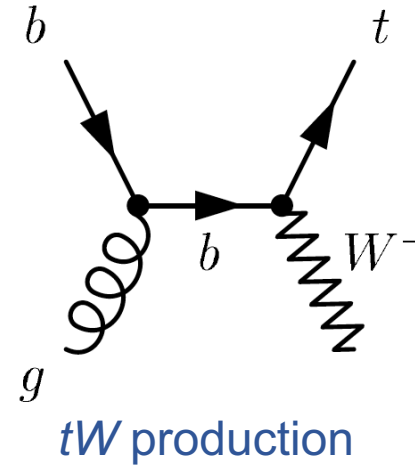
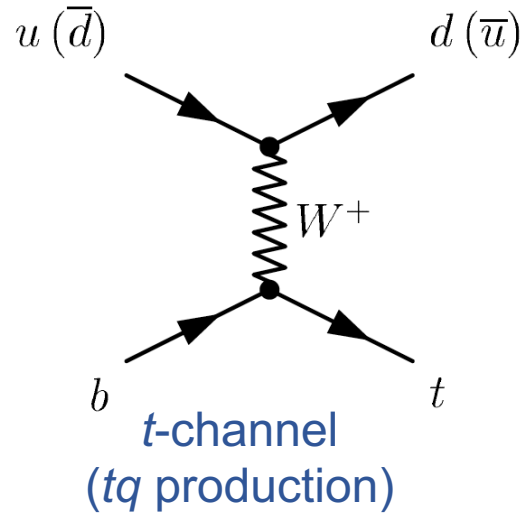
Predicted total cross-section: $\sigma = 832^{+20}_{-30} \text{ (scale)} \pm 35 \text{ (PDF and } \alpha_s) \text{ pb}$

Relative uncertainty = 5.5%

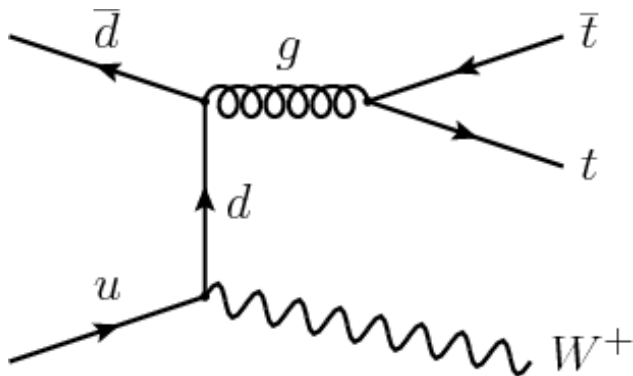
... and more partonic top-quark processes



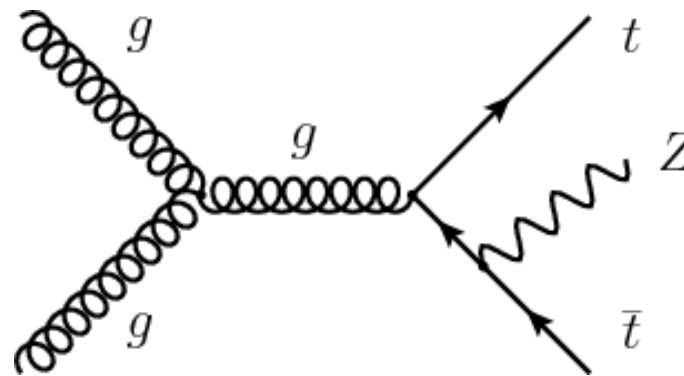
Single top-quark
production



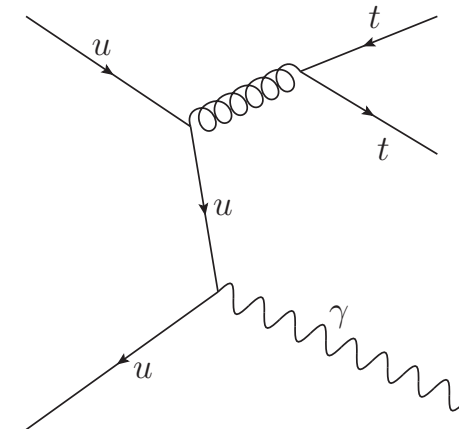
$t\bar{t} + W$ production



$t\bar{t} + Z$ production



$t\bar{t} + \gamma$ production



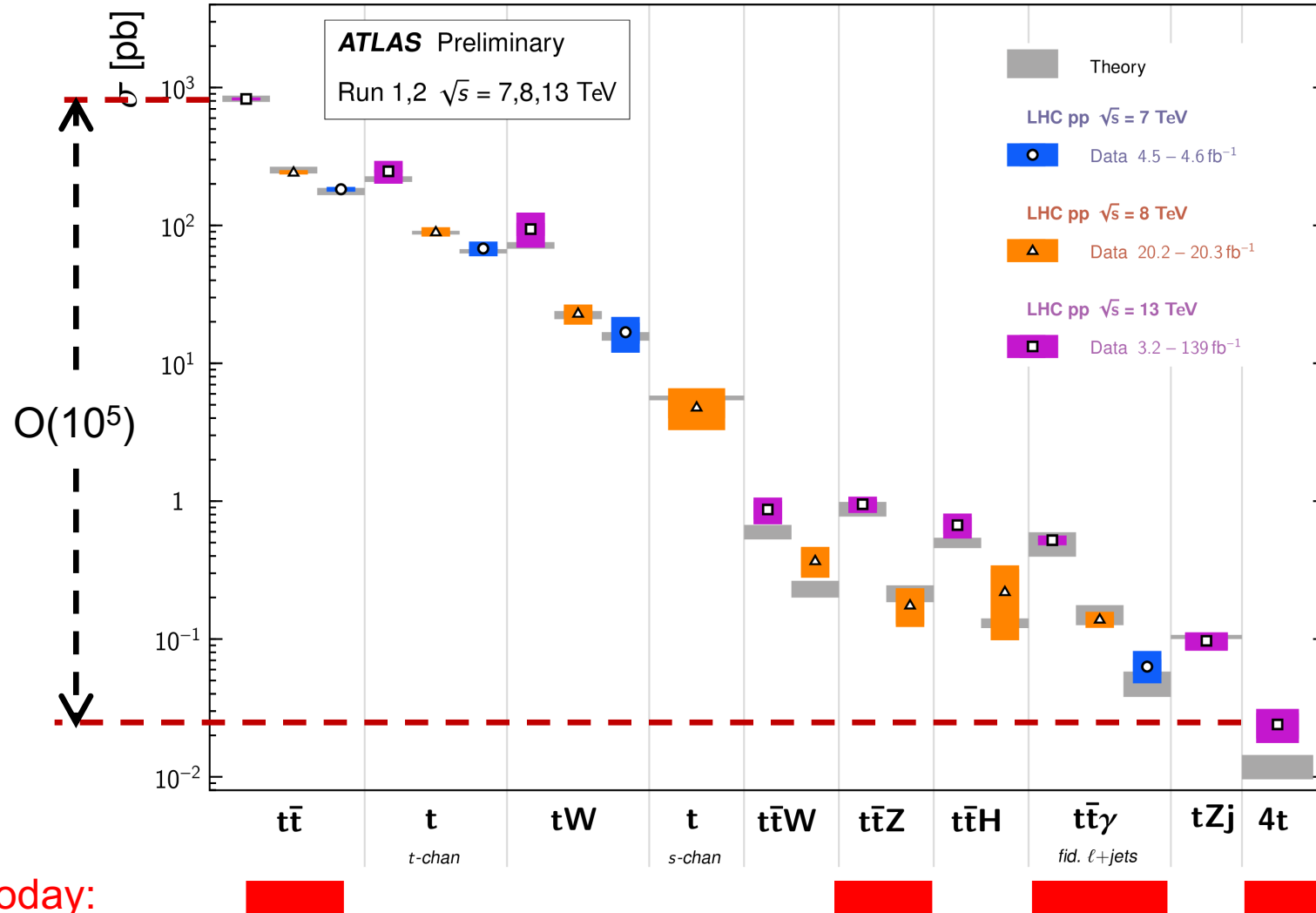
The top-quark realm



- Cross-sections of top-quark processes span 5 orders of magnitude!
- In 139 fb⁻¹ (Run 2 data set):
 - O(100M) $t\bar{t}$ events
 - O(1k) $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$ events produced

Top Quark Production Cross Section Measurements

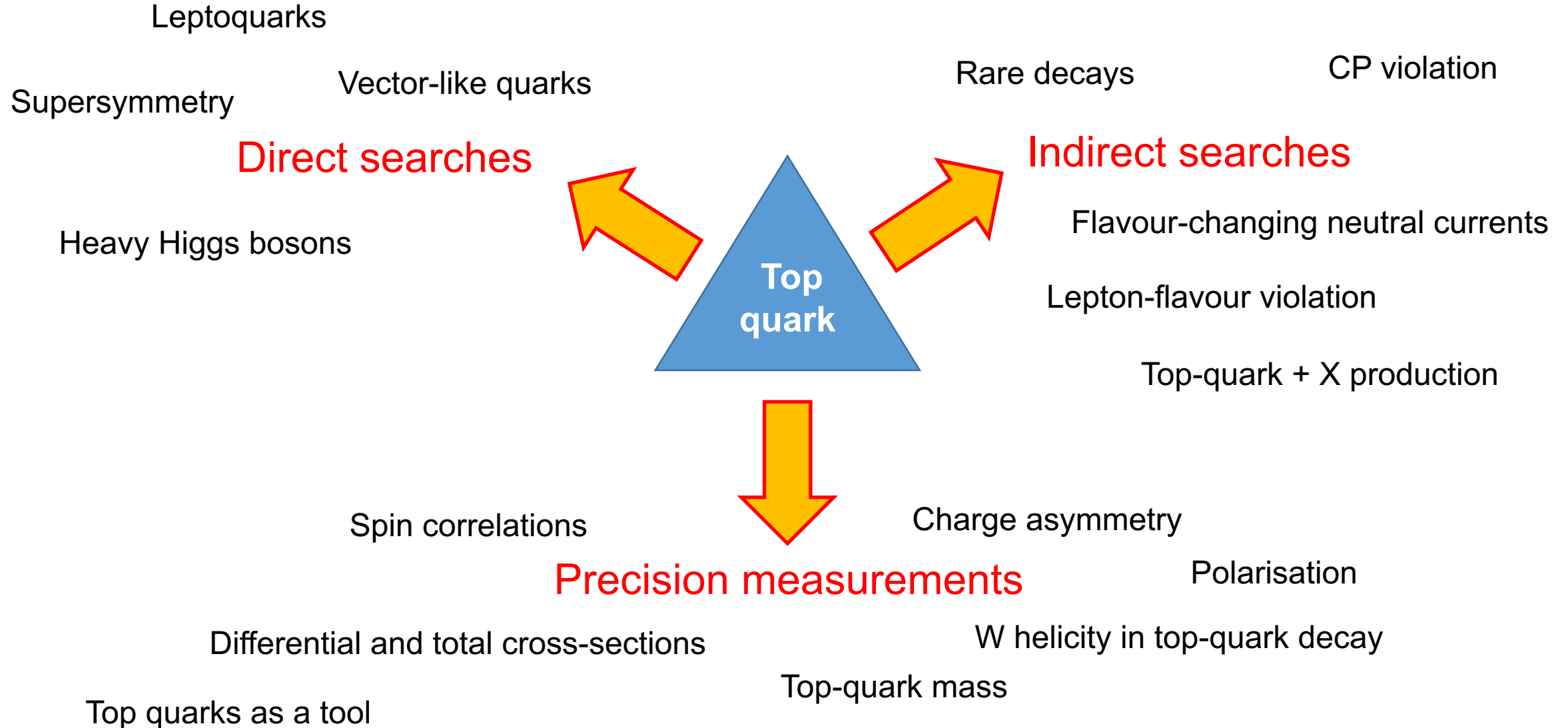
Status: May 2020



Challenging the Standard Model with top quarks

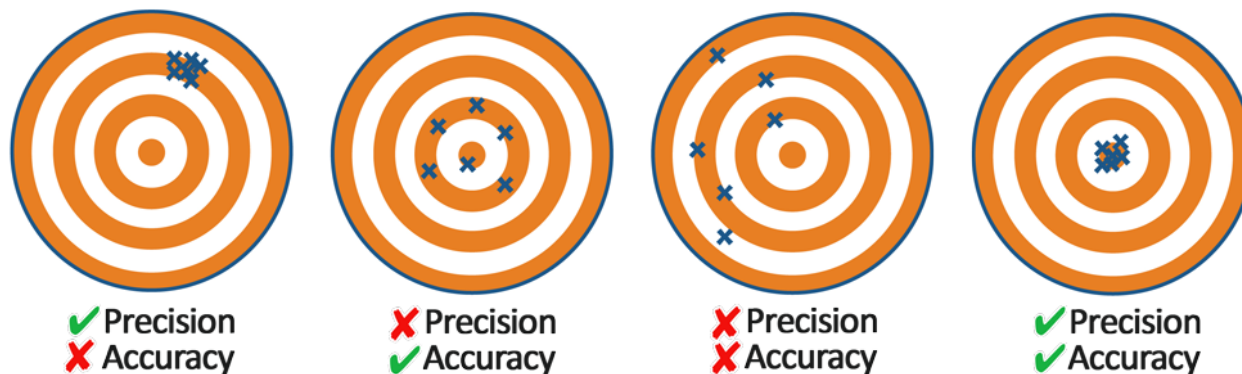


Physics of the top quark and with top quarks.



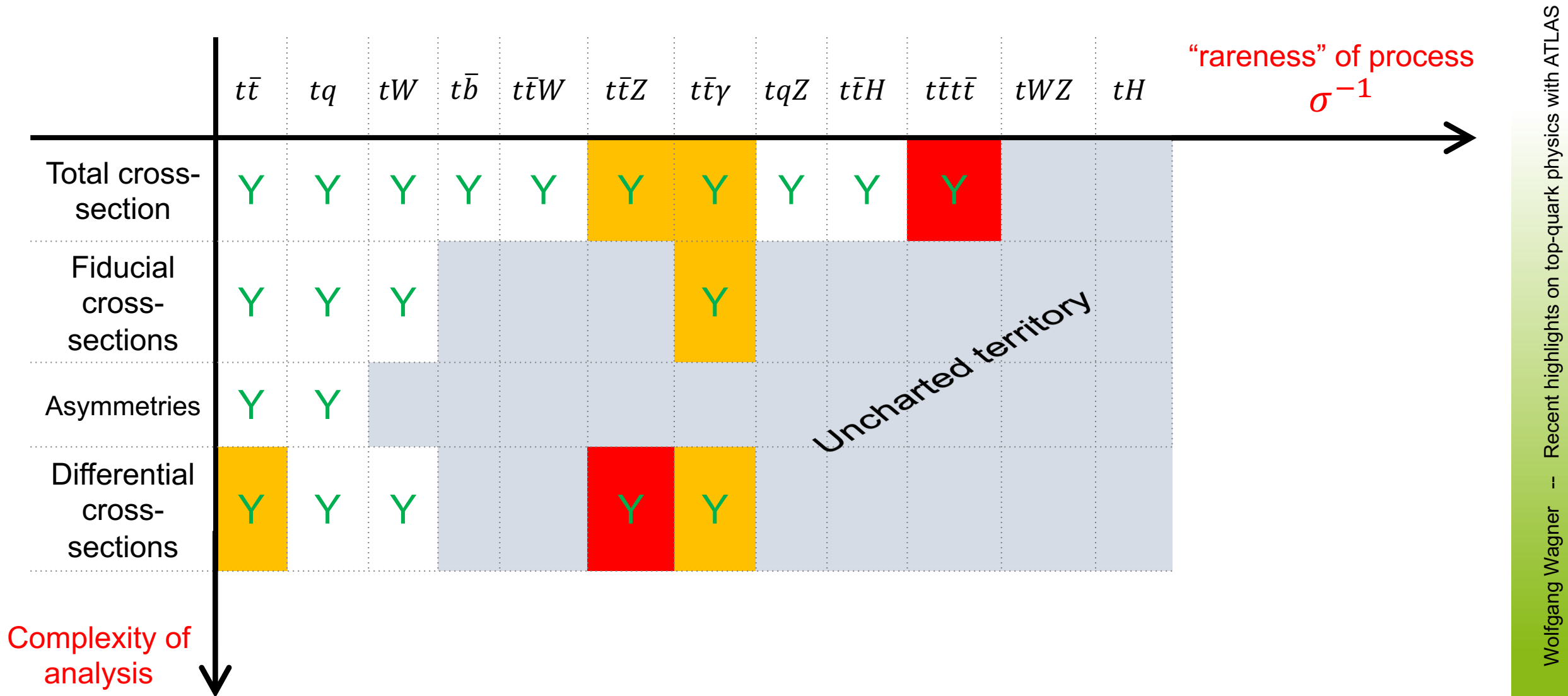
Precision measurements of top-quark properties

PRECISION VS ACCURACY



Reduce statistical and systematic uncertainties!

Pushing the frontiers of complexity

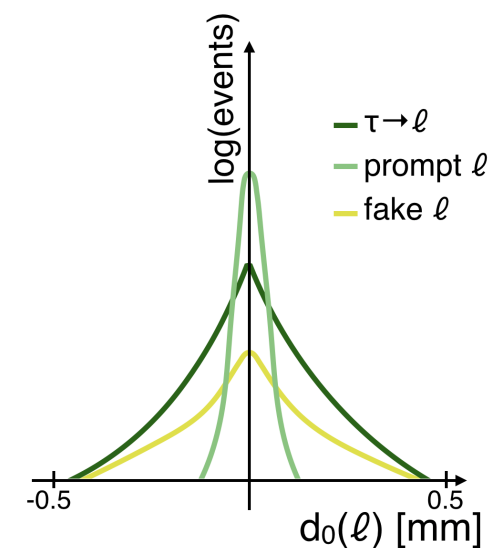
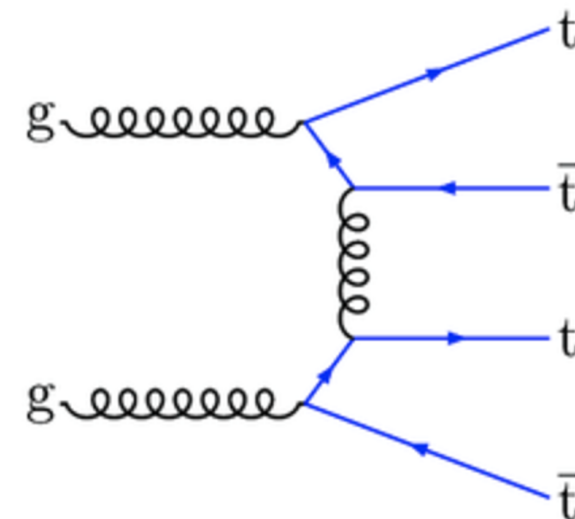


Part 1

Evidence for four-top-quark production

and

Test of the universality of τ and μ lepton couplings in W -boson decays



Four top-quarks production

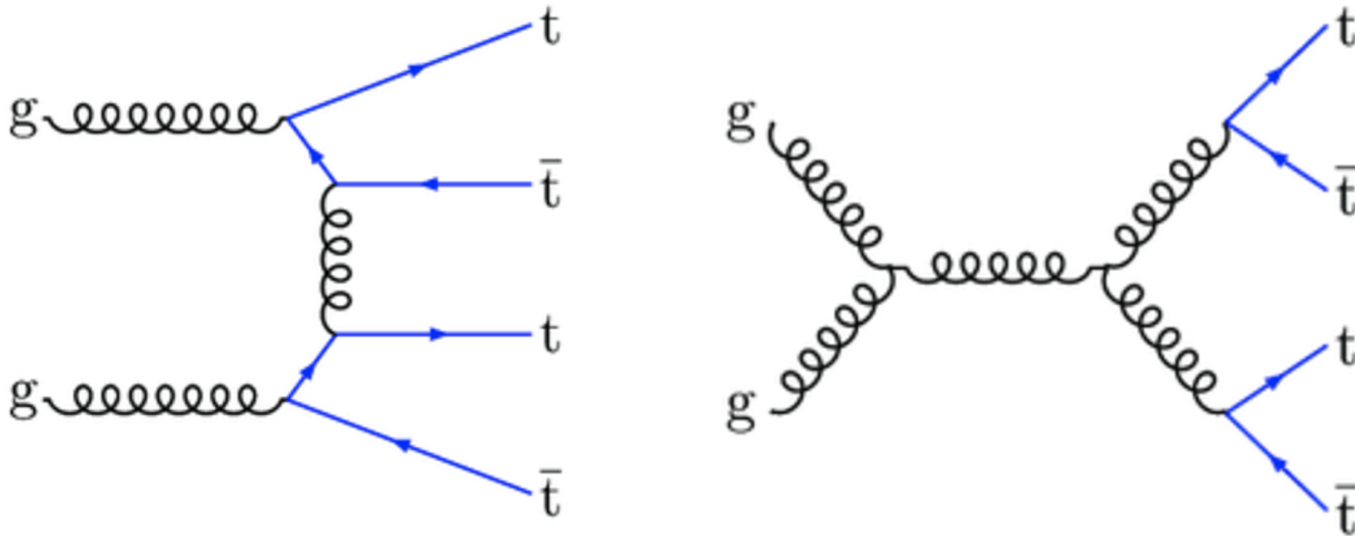


Very rare high- p_T scattering process:

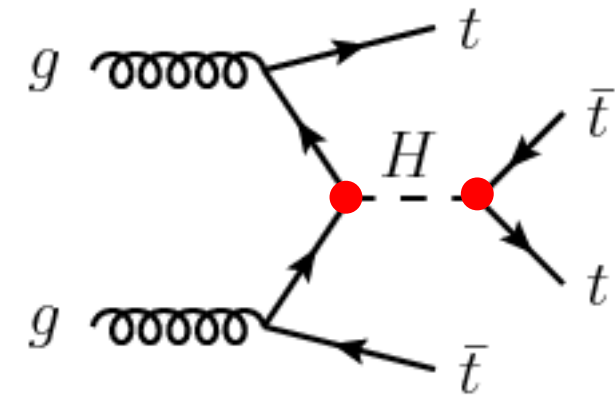
In the SM at NLO (QCD and EWK corr.): $\sigma(t\bar{t}t\bar{t}) = 12.0 \pm 2.4$ (scale) fb

[JHEP 02 \(2018\) 031](#)

Leading SM Feynman diagrams



Higgs boson contribution



Sensitive to the top
Yukawa coupling!

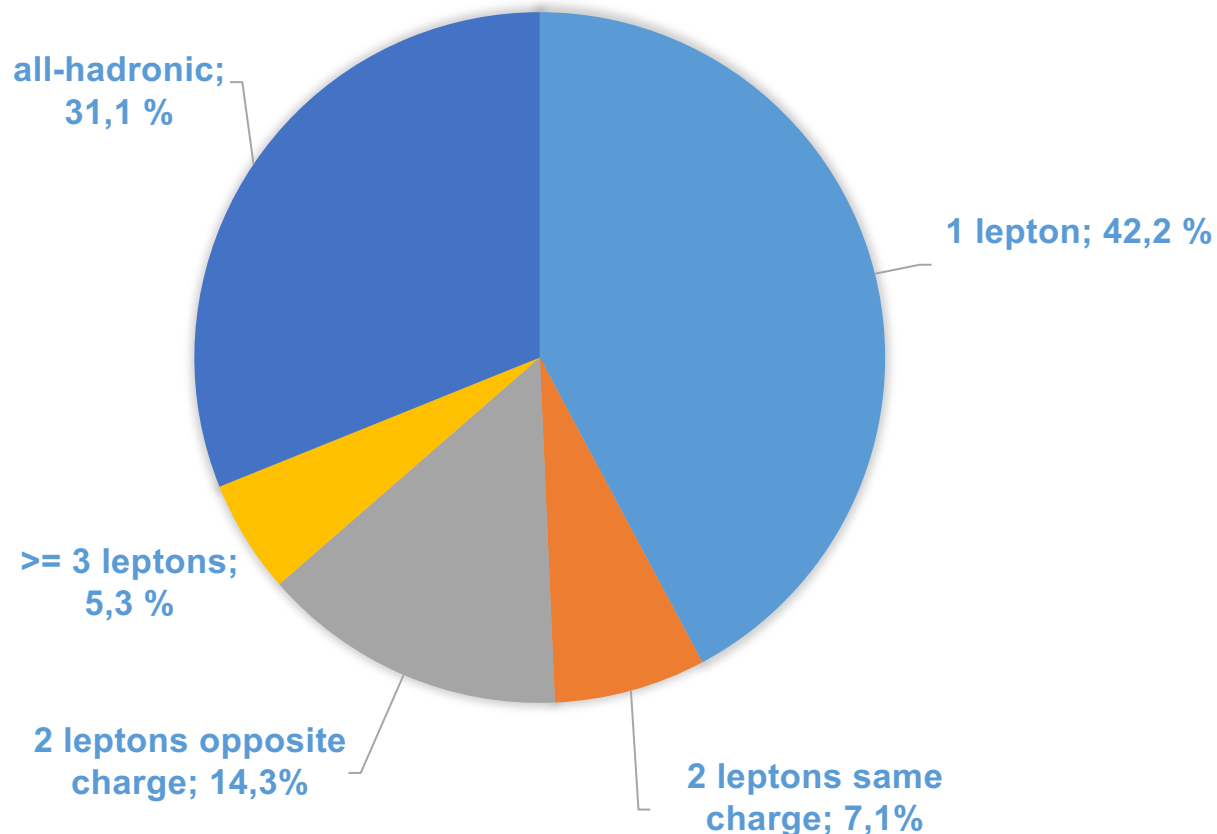
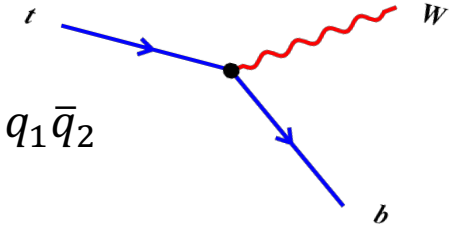
[Phys. Rev. D 95 \(2017\) 053004](#)

- SM process not yet observed!
- Sensitive to BSM physics, for example gluino pair production, two-Higgs-doublet models, contact interactions

Signatures and analysis channels



- 4-top-quarks final state contains 4 W -bosons: $W^+W^-W^+W^-$
- Categorize analysis channels according to W -boson decay modes: $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$ or $W \rightarrow q_1\bar{q}_2$



- Channels with best signal-to-background ratio:
 - 2 leptons with same-charge
 - ≥ 3 leptons
- Other channels suffer from large $t\bar{t}$ + jets ($b\bar{b}$ and $c\bar{c}$) background

Background processes

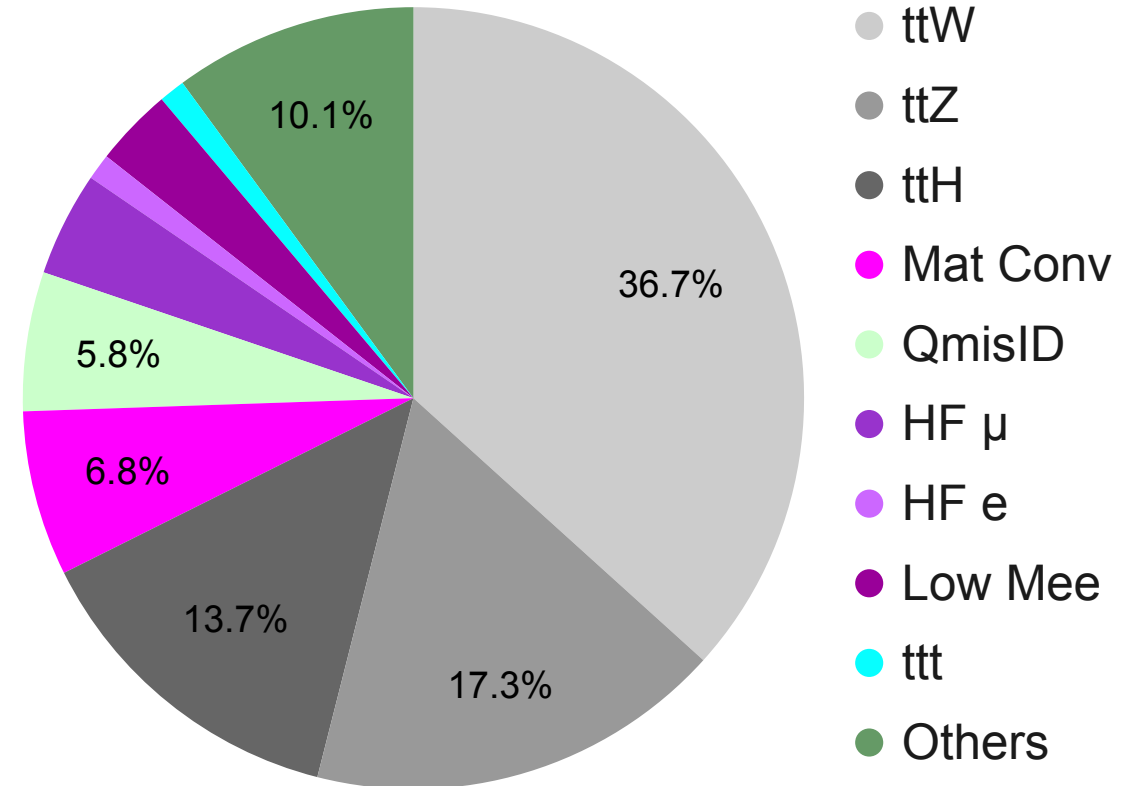
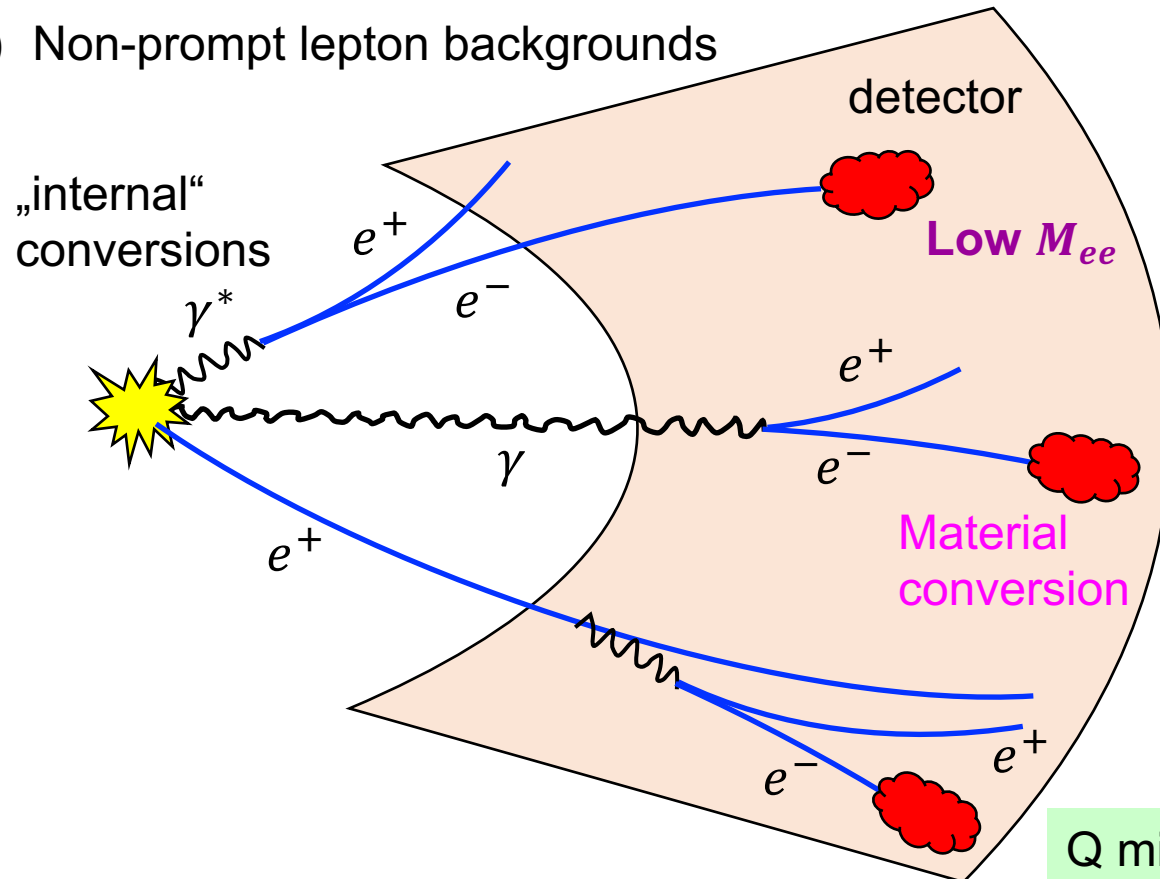


1) Hard-scattering processes with high- p_T prompt isolated (same-charge) leptons:

Major: $t\bar{t}W$ +jets, $t\bar{t}Z$ +jets, $t\bar{t}H$ +jets, $t\bar{t}t$

Minor: $t\bar{t}WW$, tWZ , tZq („Others“)

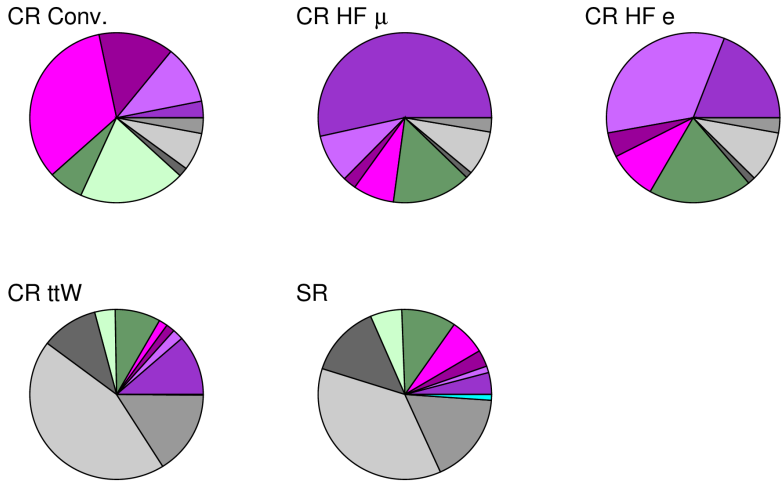
2) Non-prompt lepton backgrounds



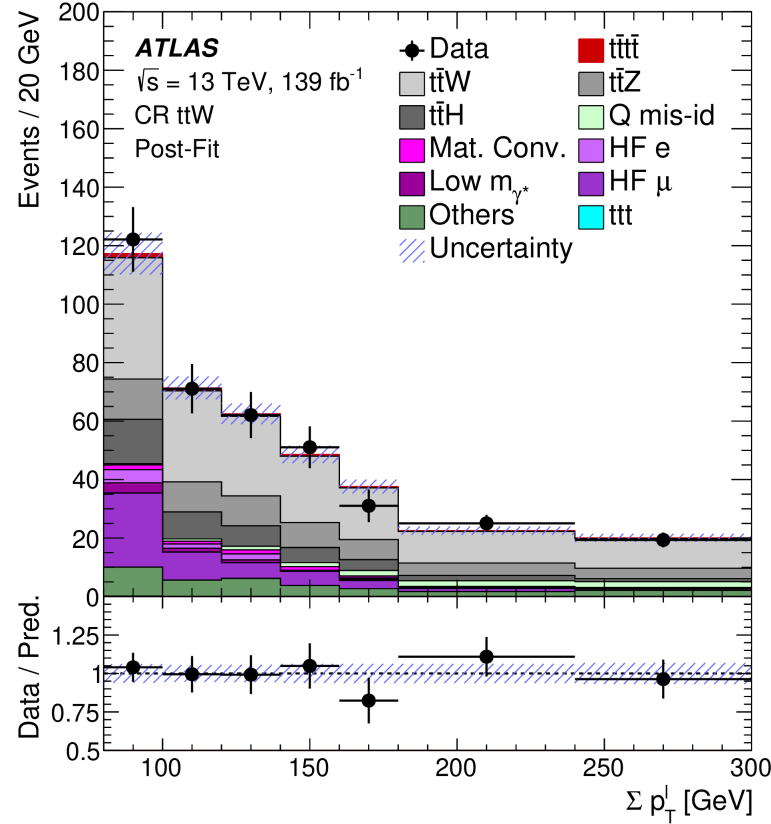
Background control regions



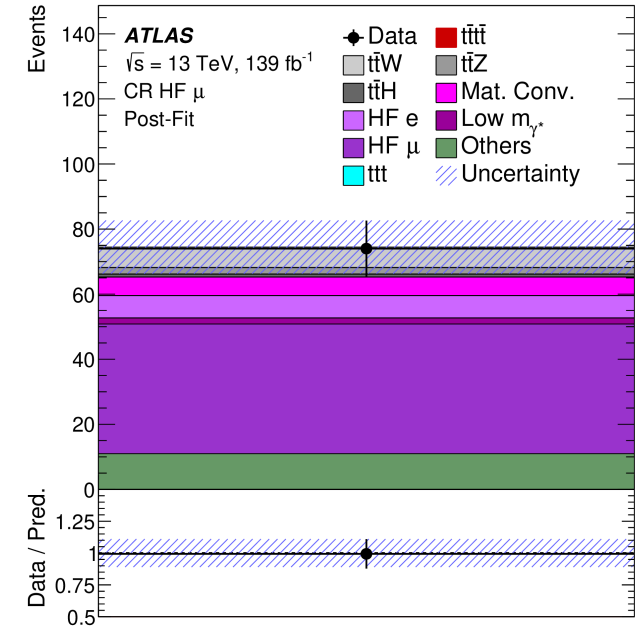
ATLAS
 $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV



Control region for $t\bar{t}W$ events



Control region for muons from heavy-flavour decays (single bin)



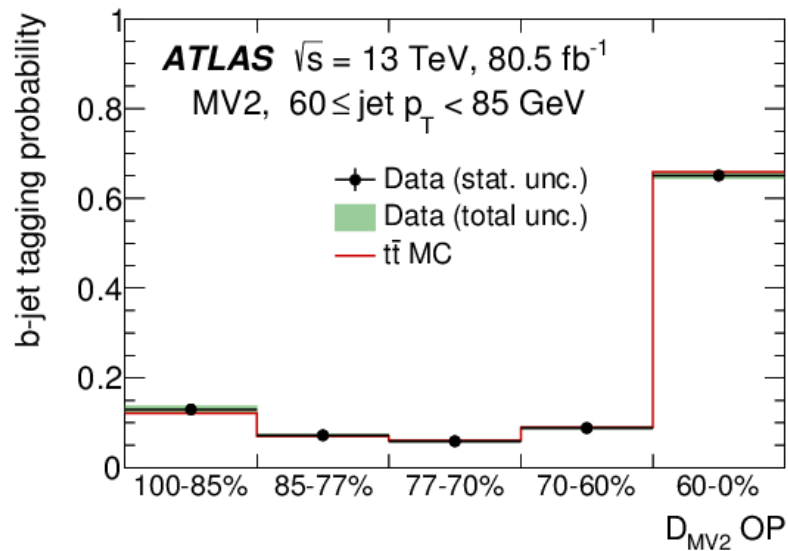
- Control regions are included in the final profile-likelihood fit
- Five backgrounds are free floating
→ normalisation factors are fitted

Parameter	$NF_{t\bar{t}W}$	$NF_{\text{Mat. Conv.}}$	$NF_{\text{Low } m_{\gamma^*}}$	$NF_{\text{HF } e}$	$NF_{\text{HF } \mu}$
Value	1.6 ± 0.3	1.6 ± 0.5	0.9 ± 0.4	0.8 ± 0.4	1.0 ± 0.4

Optimised signal-background separation



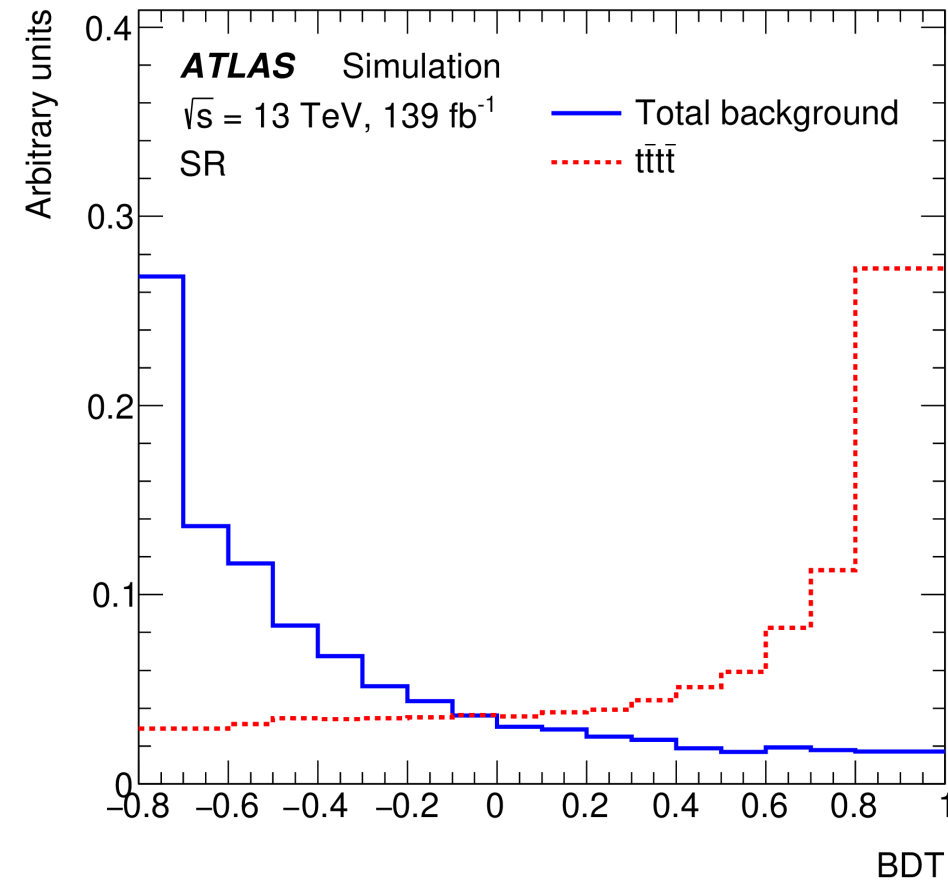
- Use Boosted Decision Tree (BDT) to separate signal from background events in the signal region (SR).
- Most important input variable:
Sum of **pseudo-continuous *b*-tagging score** for all jets.



[Eur. Phys. J C 79 \(2019\) 970](#)

- Essentially counting *b*-jets in a clever way (signal has 4 *b*-jets).

Shapes of the BDT discriminant in the SR (**signal** versus **background**)



Evidence for four-top-quarks production



- Measured signal strength:

$$\mu(t\bar{t}t\bar{t}) = \frac{\sigma_{\text{meas}}}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} = 2.0^{+0.9}_{-0.6}$$

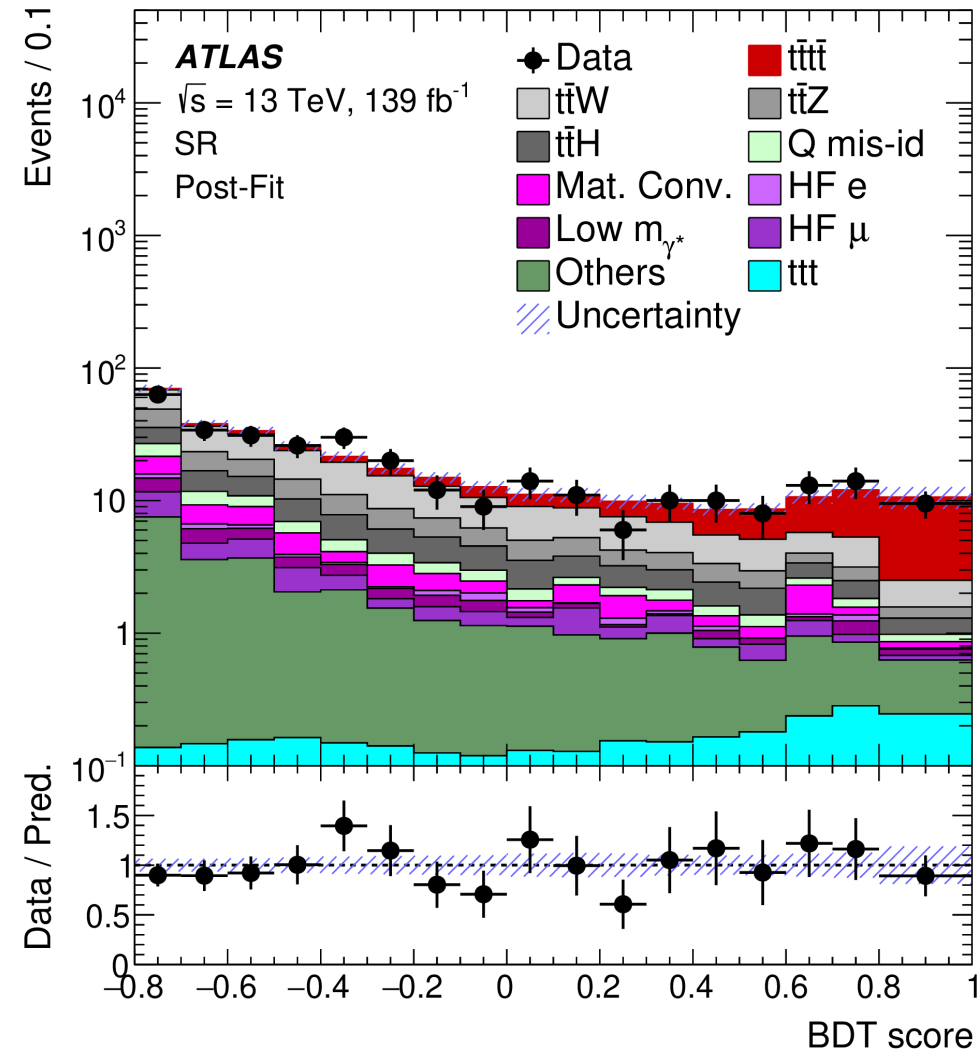
- Measured cross-section:

$$\sigma(t\bar{t}t\bar{t}) = 24 \pm 5 \text{ (stat)} \text{ }^{+5}_{-4} \text{ (syst)} \text{ fb}$$

$$\text{predicted: } \sigma(t\bar{t}t\bar{t}) = 12.0 \pm 2.4 \text{ fb}$$

- Strong evidence of 4.3 s.d. (2.4 s.d. expected) for this very rare process!

Consistent to 1.7 s.d. with the SM prediction.

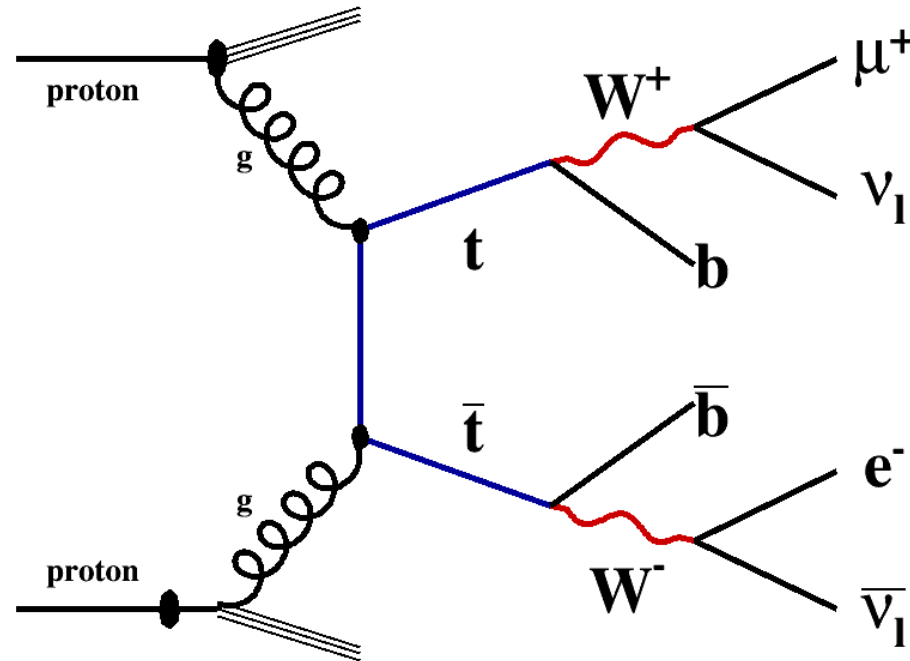


Top-quarks as a tool: a prime example



„Do research with top quarks, not on top quarks.“

Production of $t\bar{t}$ pairs is a copious source of **on-shell W -boson pairs**.



Note:

$$\frac{\sigma(t\bar{t})}{\sigma(WW)} \approx 10$$

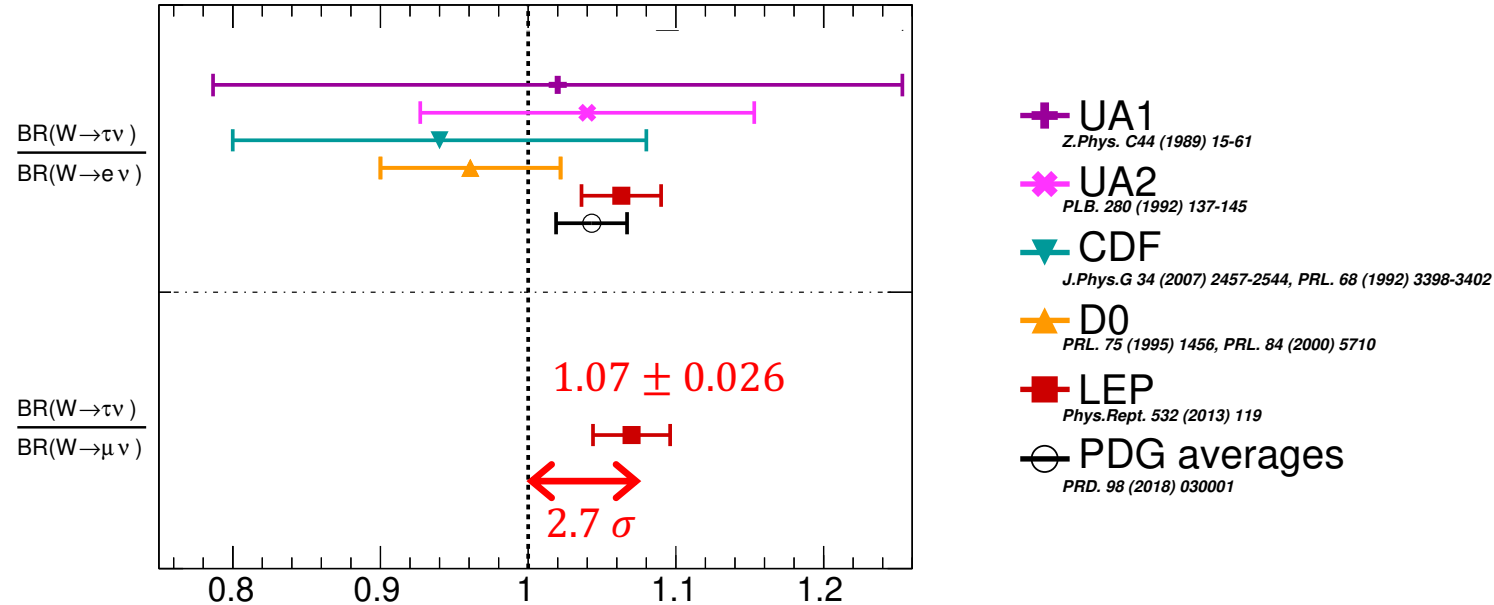
Check universality of the weak coupling at W decay vertex by measuring:

$$R(\tau/\mu) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(W \rightarrow \tau\nu)}{\mathcal{B}(W \rightarrow \mu\nu)}$$

A long standing open issue



$R(\tau/\mu)$ measured at LEP II with W^+W^- pairs: **discrepancy of 2.7 s.d.** from 1 observed



Note:

Measurements of τ lifetime and branching ratios provide a very precise test of lepton-flavour universality at low energy:

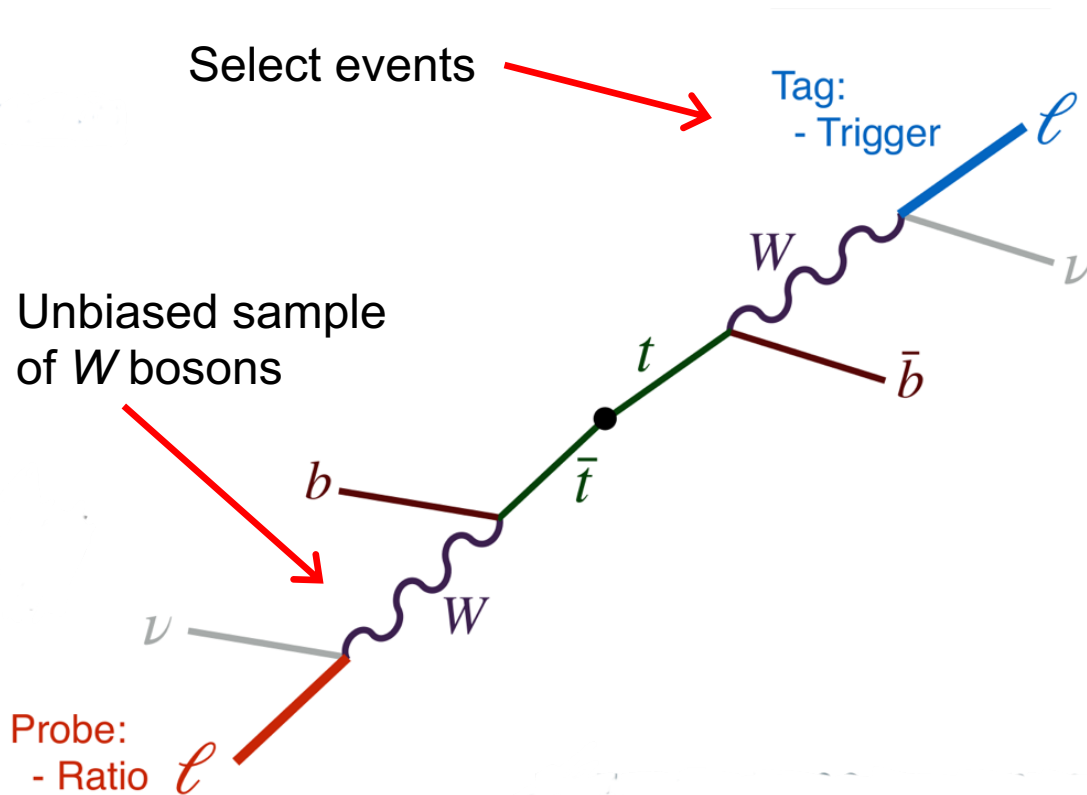
$$\frac{g_\tau}{g_\mu} = 0.9999 \pm 0.0014$$

2nd, more recent motivation:

B factories and LHCb find 3.1 s.d. discrepancy in

$$R(D^{(*)}) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \tau \nu)}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \mu \nu)}$$

Tag-and-probe technique

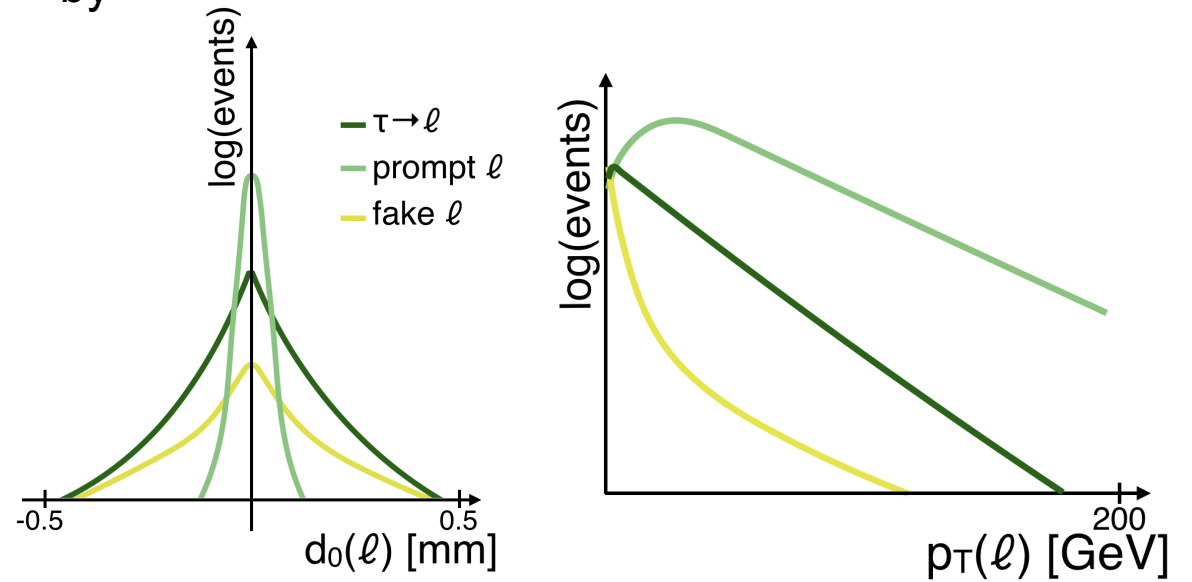


Measure τ leptons in their muon decay channel: $\tau \rightarrow \mu + \nu_\mu + \nu_\tau$

- Uncertainties in muon reconstruction efficiencies largely cancel

Separate

- prompt muons directly from W decay
 - muons from the $W \rightarrow \tau \nu_\tau \rightarrow \mu \nu_\mu \nu_\tau \nu_\tau$ decay chain
 - non-prompt muons
- by



Transverse impact parameter $d_0(\mu)$

and

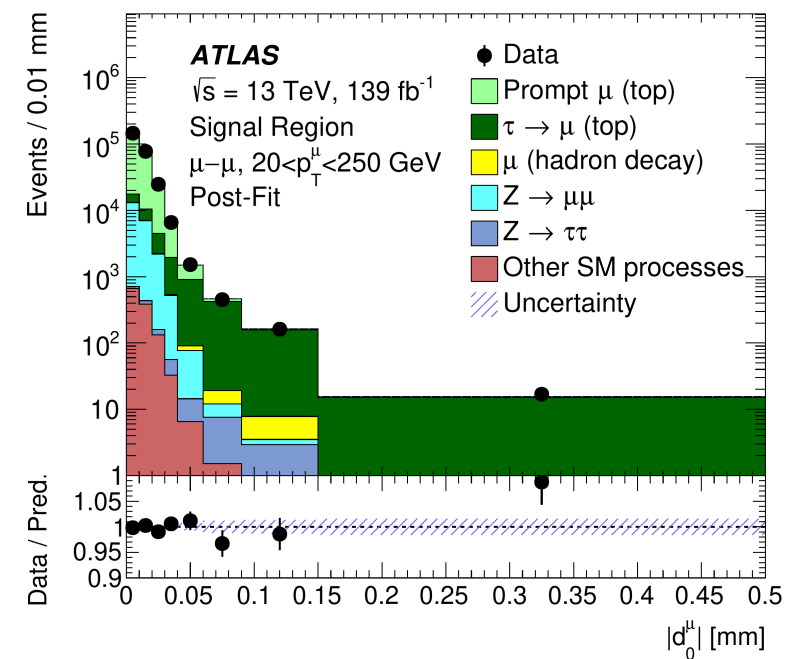
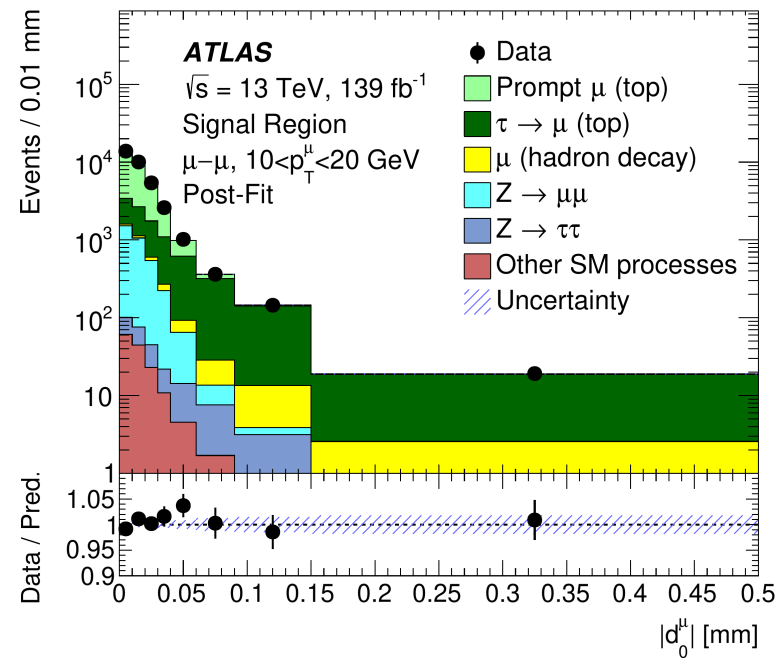
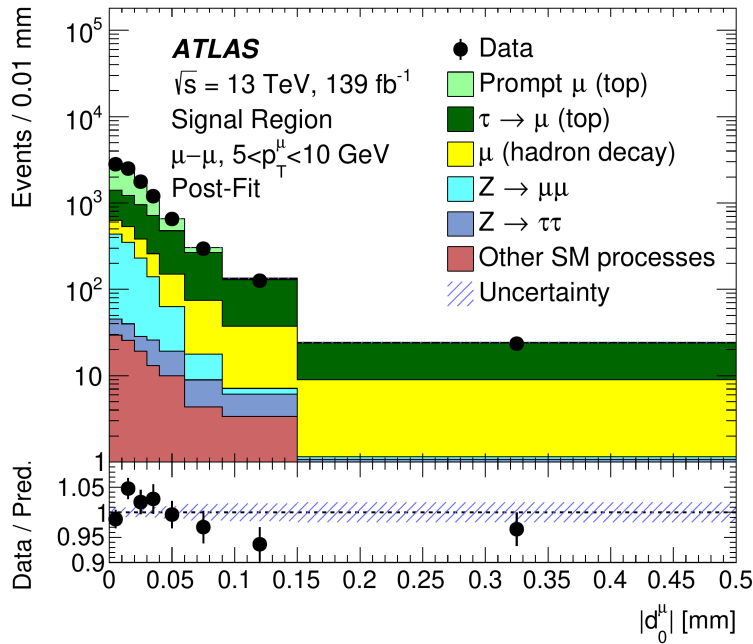
transverse momentum $p_T(\mu)$

Maximum-likelihood fit ...



... to 2D distribution in $|d_0(\mu)|$ and $p_T(\mu)$ with 8 bins and 3 bins, respectively.

- Treat electron-tagged and muon-tagged events separately.



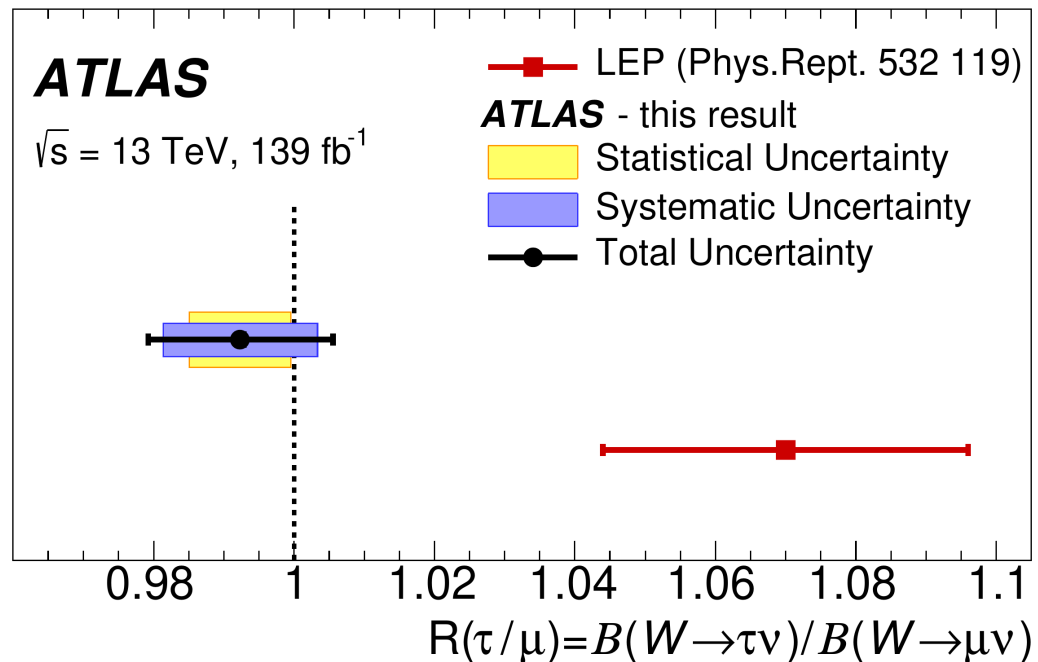
- The normalisation of the two main backgrounds, non-prompt muons from hadron decays and $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ are determined in control regions.

Result on $R(\tau/\mu)$



- Measured value:

$$R(\tau/\mu) = 0.992 \pm 0.013 \quad [\pm 0.07 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.011 \text{ (syst)}]$$



- In excellent agreement with the SM prediction.
- Most precise measurement of $R(\tau/\mu)$ to date. 🙌
- Almost twice the precision of the LEP II measurement.

Another example for the LHC
as a precision experiment!

[arXiv: 2007.14040](https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.14040)

Accepted by Nature Physics.

Breakdown of uncertainties



Source	Impact on $R(\tau/\mu)$
Prompt d_0^μ templates	0.0038 ●
$\mu_{(prompt)}$ and $\mu_{(\tau \rightarrow \mu)}$ parton shower variations	0.0036 ●
Muon isolation efficiency	0.0033 ●
Muon identification and reconstruction	0.0030 ●
$\mu_{(had.)}$ normalisation	0.0028 ●
$t\bar{t}$ scale and matching variations	0.0027 ●
Top p_T spectrum variation	0.0026 ●
$\mu_{(had.)}$ parton shower variations	0.0021 ●
Monte Carlo statistics	0.0018
Pile-up	0.0017
$\mu_{(\tau \rightarrow \mu)}$ and $\mu_{(had.)}$ d_0^μ shape	0.0017 ●
Other detector systematic uncertainties	0.0016
Z+jet normalisation	0.0009
Other sources	0.0004
$B(\tau \rightarrow \mu\nu_\tau\nu_\mu)$	0.0023
Total systematic uncertainty	0.0109
Data statistics	0.0072 ●
Total	0.013

- Important uncertainties are of **experimental** nature (marked with ●).
- improvements are possible with more data
- Improvements in **modelling** are less obvious and most likely longer term (marked with ●).



Part 2

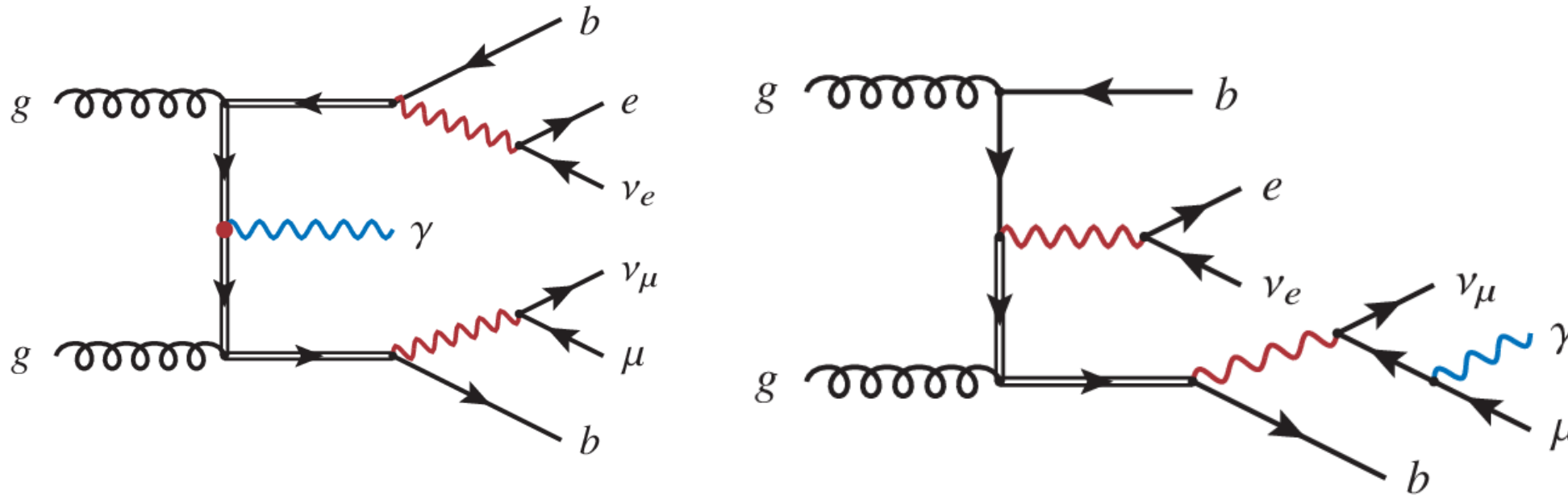
Measurements of $t\bar{t} + X$ production
with $X = \gamma$ and $X = Z$

Measuring $t\bar{t} + \gamma$ and $tW + \gamma$ production



Main aim: comparison of differential distributions to a **dedicated NLO computation**: [JHEP 10 \(2018\) 158](#)

- Full computation of the $pp \rightarrow be^- \bar{\nu}_e \bar{b} \mu^+ \nu_\mu$ final state
- Includes $t\bar{t} + \gamma$ and $tW + \gamma$ interference and off-shell effects of W bosons and top quarks



- Partonic phase space has large acceptance for photons from final-state radiation.
- Analysis is **not optimised** for sensing the $t\gamma$ electroweak coupling

Inclusive cross-section measurement



- Main selection requirements:
 - 1 electron and 1 muon with $p_T > 25$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.5$
 - 1 isolated photon with $E_T > 20$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.37$
 - ≥ 2 jets with $p_T > 25$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.5$, at least one of them b -tagged

- Profile maximum-likelihood fit to

$$S_T = \sum_{\text{jets}} p_T + p_T(e) + p_T(\mu) + E_T^{\text{miss}}$$

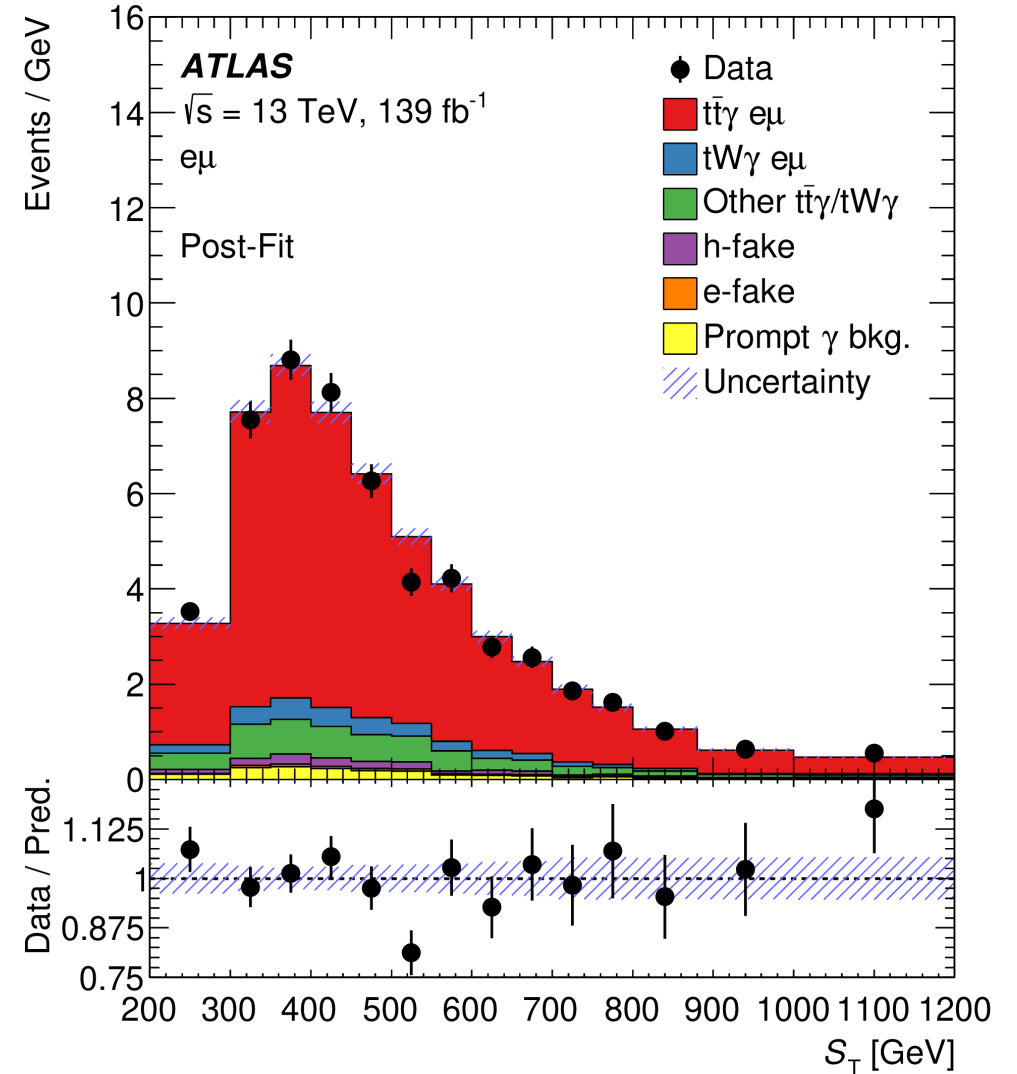
- Result: fiducial cross-section

$$\sigma_{\text{fid}}(t\bar{t} + \gamma) = 39.6 \pm 0.8 \text{ (stat)} \pm {}^{+2.6}_{-2.2} \text{ (syst) fb}^*$$

$$\sigma_{\text{NLO}}(t\bar{t} + \gamma) = 38.5 \pm {}^{+0.56}_{-2.18} \text{ (scale)} \pm {}^{+1.04}_{-1.18} \text{ (PDF) fb}$$

Excellent agreement!

* Relative uncertainty: 6.3%



Differential cross-sections: Unfolding



$$\frac{d\sigma}{dX_k} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_{int} \Delta X_k \epsilon_k} \sum_j M_{jk}^{-1} (N_j^{obs} - N_j^b) f_{e\mu,j} (1 - f_{out,j})$$

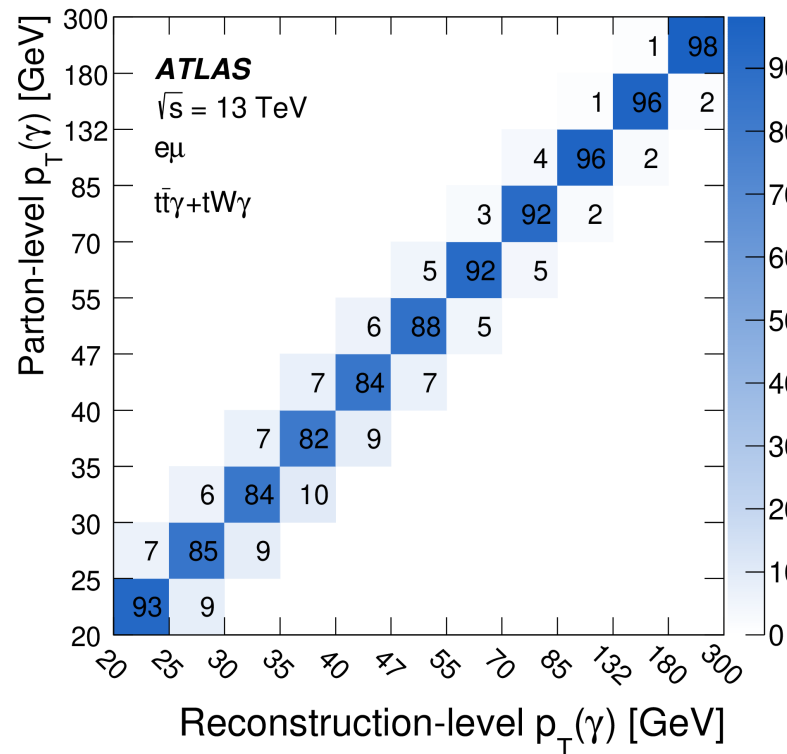
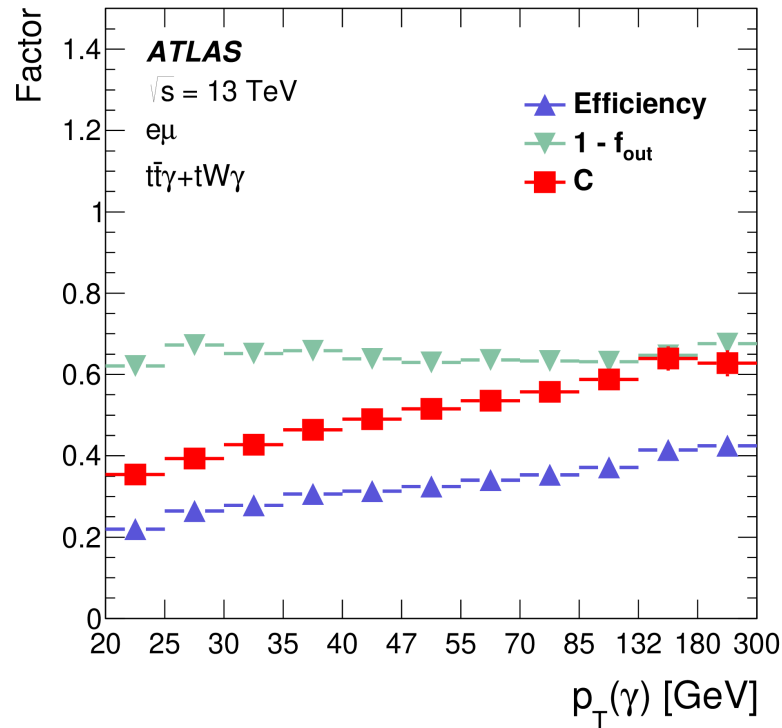
Bin at parton level \rightarrow $\frac{d\sigma}{dX_k}$

Selection efficiency of fiducial events \rightarrow ϵ_k

Bin at reconstruction level \rightarrow j

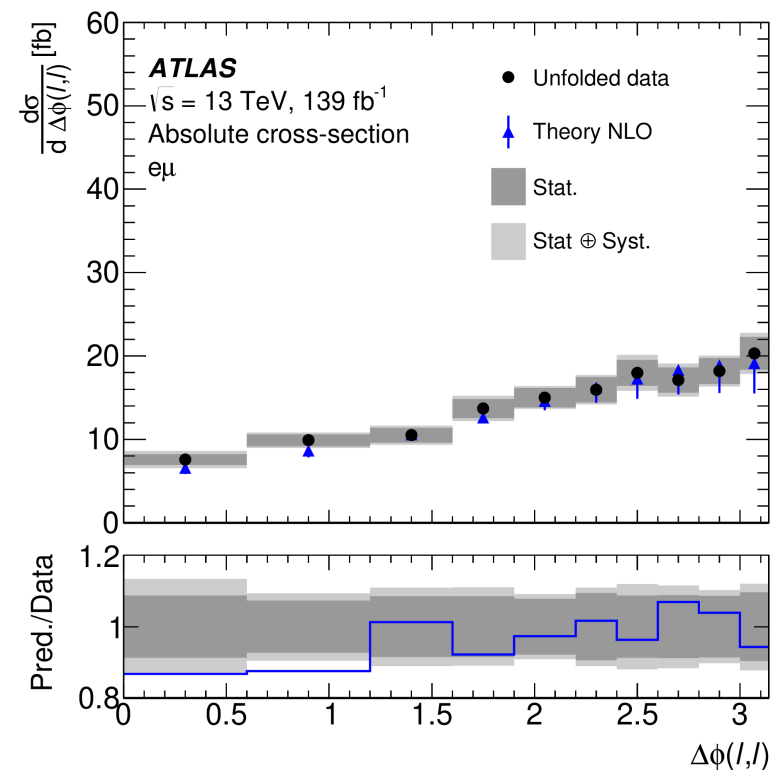
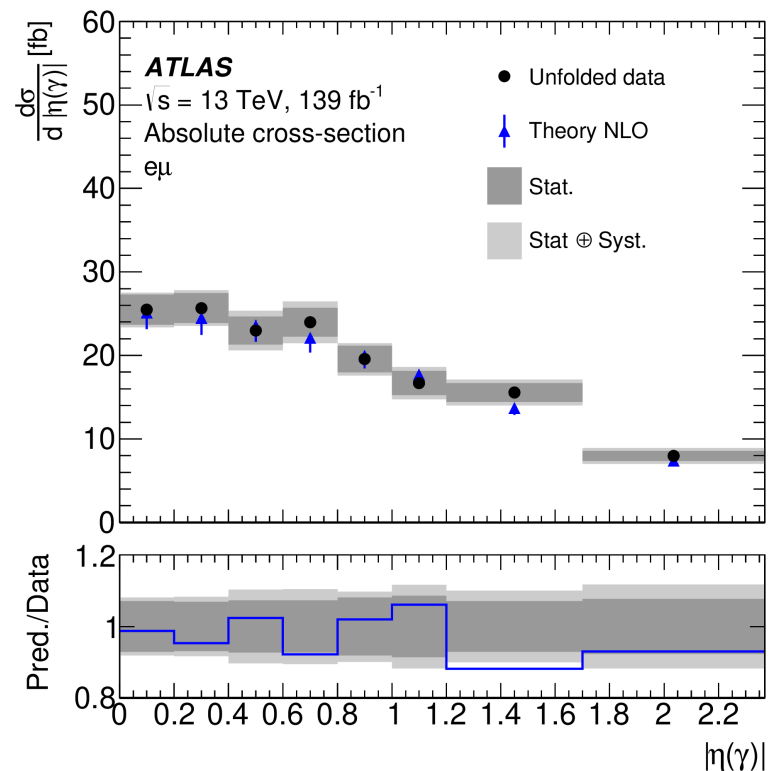
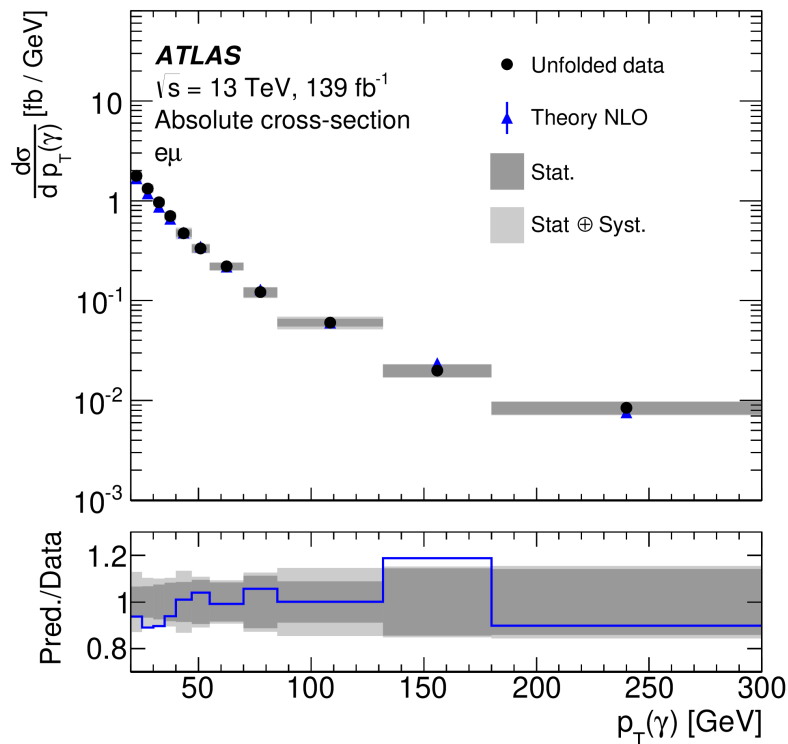
Migration matrix \rightarrow M_{jk}^{-1}

Fraction of events outside of the fiducial region, but selected at reconstruction level \rightarrow $(1 - f_{out,j})$



Absolute differential cross-sections

- Measured distributions: $p_T(\gamma)$, $|\eta(\gamma)|$, $\Delta R(\gamma, \ell)_{\min}$, $\Delta\phi(e, \mu)$, $|\Delta\eta(e, \mu)|$
- Uncertainties at the 10% level.
- Good agreement with NLO prediction!

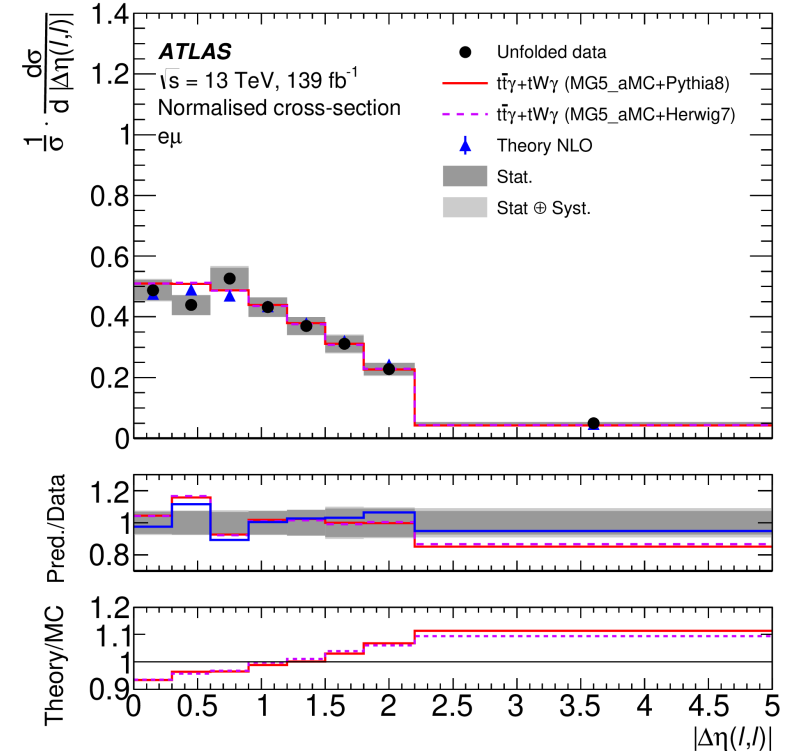
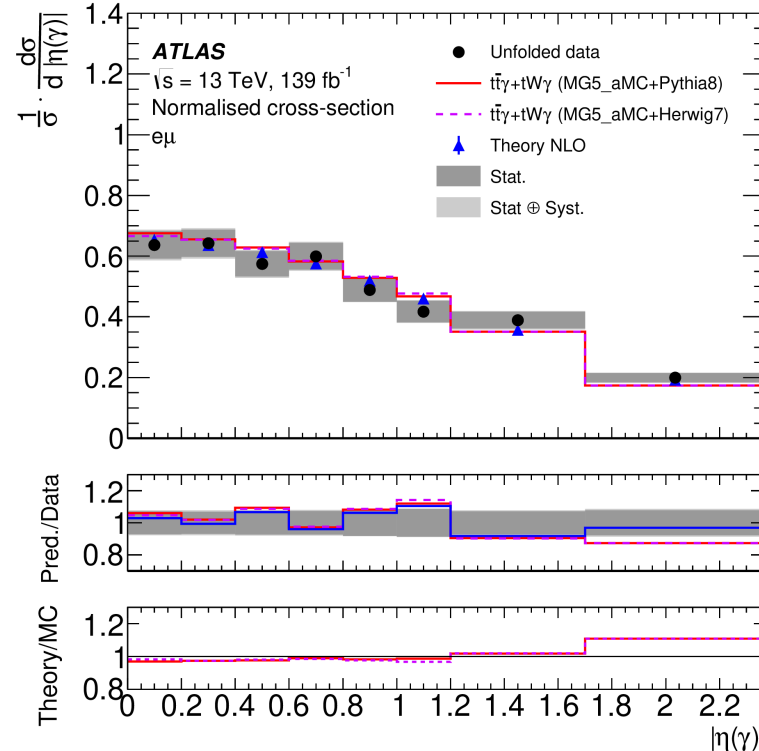
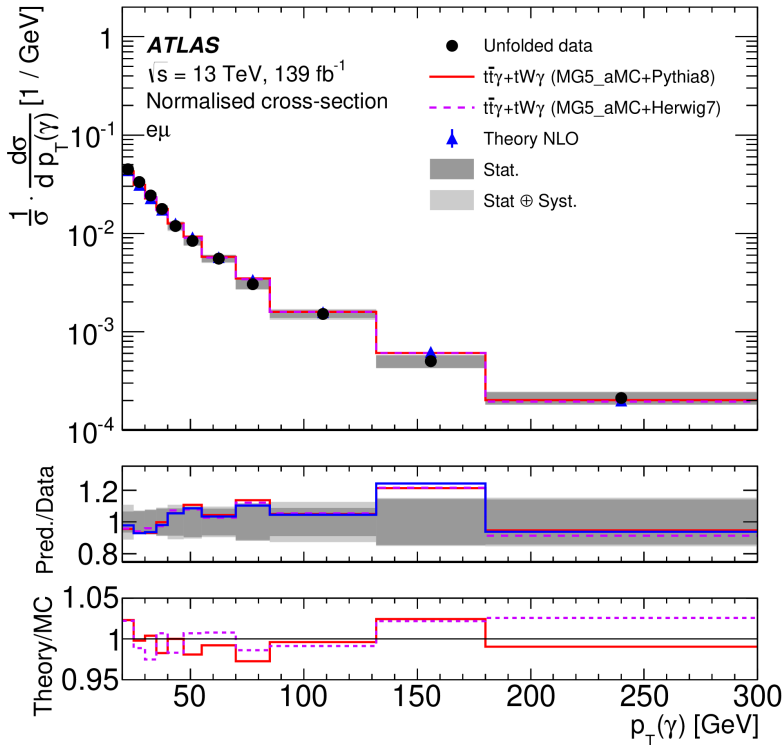


Predictions	$p_T(\gamma)$		$ \eta(\gamma) $		$\Delta R(\gamma, \ell)_{\min}$		$\Delta\phi(\ell, \ell)$		$ \Delta\eta(\ell, \ell) $	
	χ^2/ndf	$p\text{-value}$	χ^2/ndf	$p\text{-value}$	χ^2/ndf	$p\text{-value}$	χ^2/ndf	$p\text{-value}$	χ^2/ndf	$p\text{-value}$
Theory NLO	6.1/11	0.87	4.5/8	0.81	11.7/10	0.31	5.8/10	0.83	6.2/8	0.62

Normalised differential cross-sections



- Uncertainties slightly below 10%.
- Distributions of $p_T(\gamma)$, $|\eta(\gamma)|$, $|\Delta\eta(e, \mu)|$ are well modelled by the fixed-order prediction and MG5_aMC@NLO.

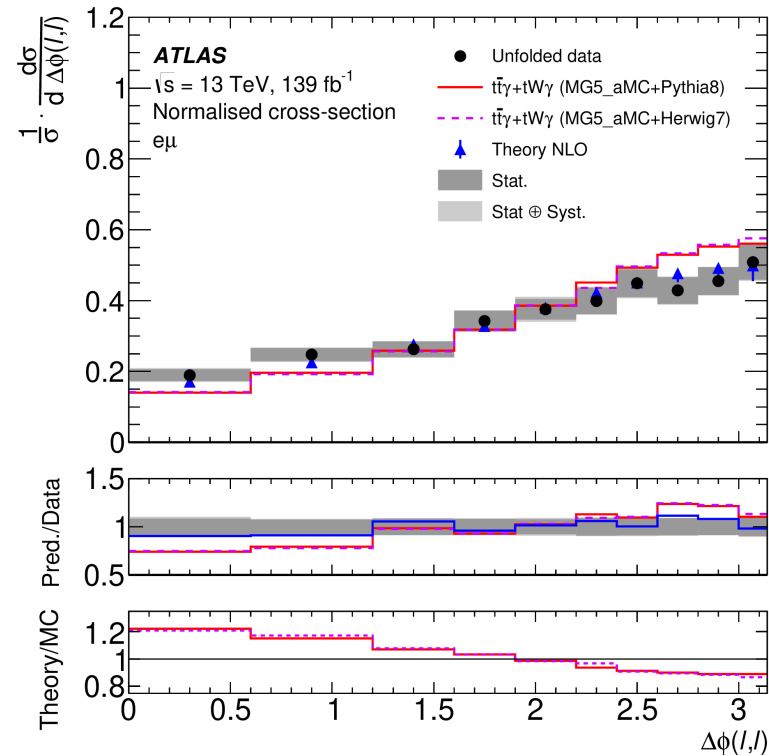
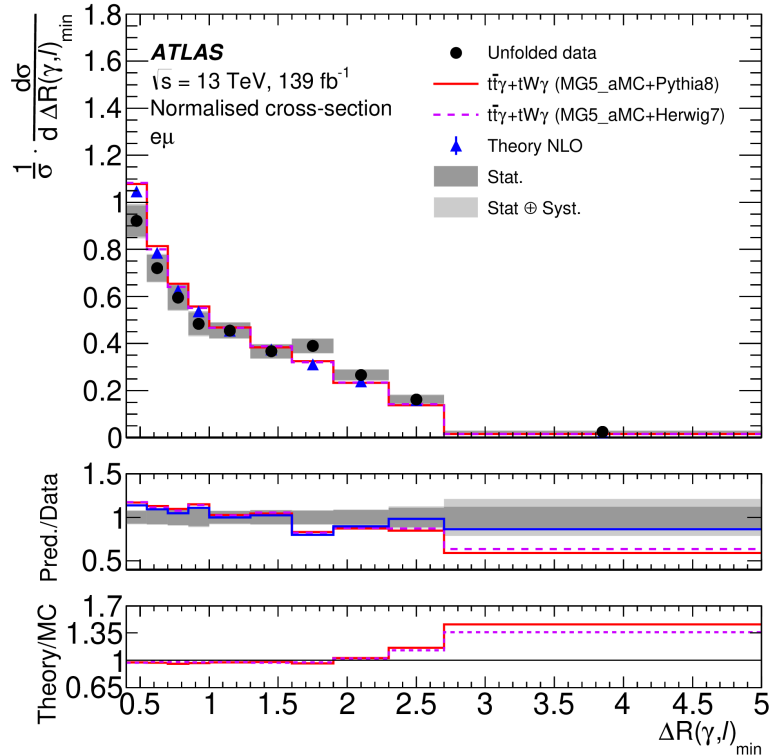


Predictions	$p_T(\gamma)$		$ \eta(\gamma) $		$\Delta R(\gamma, \ell)_{\min}$		$\Delta\phi(\ell, \ell)$		$ \Delta\eta(\ell, \ell) $	
	χ^2/ndf	p -value	χ^2/ndf	p -value	χ^2/ndf	p -value	χ^2/ndf	p -value	χ^2/ndf	p -value
$t\bar{t}\gamma + tW\gamma$ (MG5_aMC+PYTHIA8)	6.3/10	0.79	7.3/7	0.40	20.1/9	0.02	30.8/9	<0.01	6.5/7	0.48
$t\bar{t}\gamma + tW\gamma$ (MG5_aMC+HERWIG7)	5.3/10	0.87	7.7/7	0.36	18.9/9	0.03	31.6/9	<0.01	6.8/7	0.45
Theory NLO	6.0/10	0.82	4.5/7	0.72	13.5/9	0.14	5.8/9	0.76	5.6/7	0.59

Normalised differential cross-sections



- Distributions of $\Delta R(\gamma, \ell)_{\min}$ and $\Delta\phi(e, \mu)$ not well modelled by MG5_aMC@NLO but well described by fixed-order calculation.



- $\Delta\phi(e, \mu)$ is sensitive to $t\bar{t}$ spin correlations.
- In $t\bar{t}$ production $\Delta\phi$ is neither well described by NNLO fixed-order calculations nor by MC generators.

Predictions	$p_T(\gamma)$		$ \eta(\gamma) $		$\Delta R(\gamma, \ell)_{\min}$		$\Delta\phi(\ell, \ell)$		$ \Delta\eta(\ell, \ell) $	
	χ^2/ndf	p-value	χ^2/ndf	p-value	χ^2/ndf	p-value	χ^2/ndf	p-value	χ^2/ndf	p-value
$t\bar{t}\gamma + tW\gamma$ (MG5_aMC+PYTHIA8)	6.3/10	0.79	7.3/7	0.40	20.1/9	0.02	30.8/9	<0.01	6.5/7	0.48
$t\bar{t}\gamma + tW\gamma$ (MG5_aMC+HERWIG7)	5.3/10	0.87	7.7/7	0.36	18.9/9	0.03	31.6/9	<0.01	6.8/7	0.45
Theory NLO	6.0/10	0.82	4.5/7	0.72	13.5/9	0.14	5.8/9	0.76	5.6/7	0.59

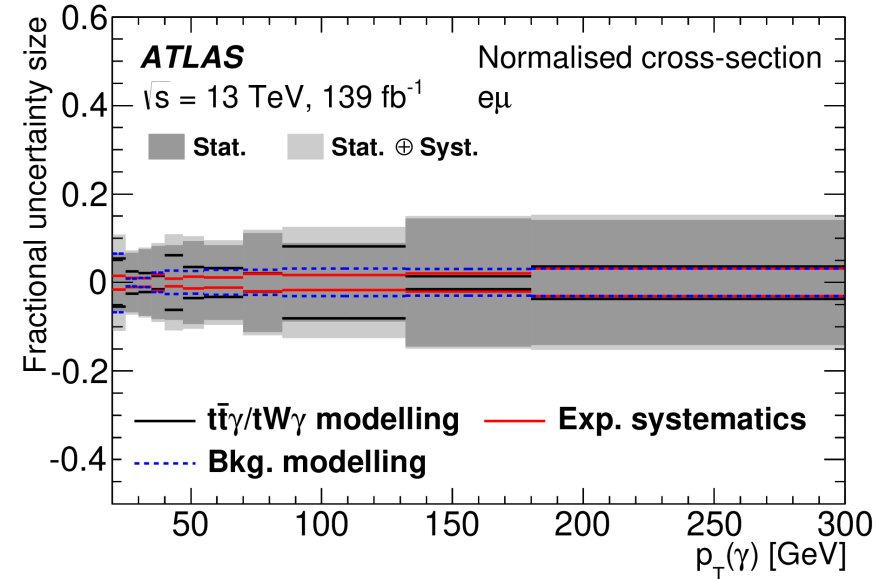
A word on the uncertainty breakdown



Inclusive cross-section

Category	Uncertainty
$t\bar{t}\gamma/tW\gamma$ modelling	3.8%
Background modelling	2.1%
Photons	1.9%
Luminosity	1.8%
Jets	1.6%
Pile-up	1.3%
Leptons	1.1%
Flavour-tagging	1.1%
MC statistics	0.4%
Soft term E_T^{miss}	0.2%
$tW\gamma$ parton definition	2.8%
Total syst.	6.3%

Differential cross-sections

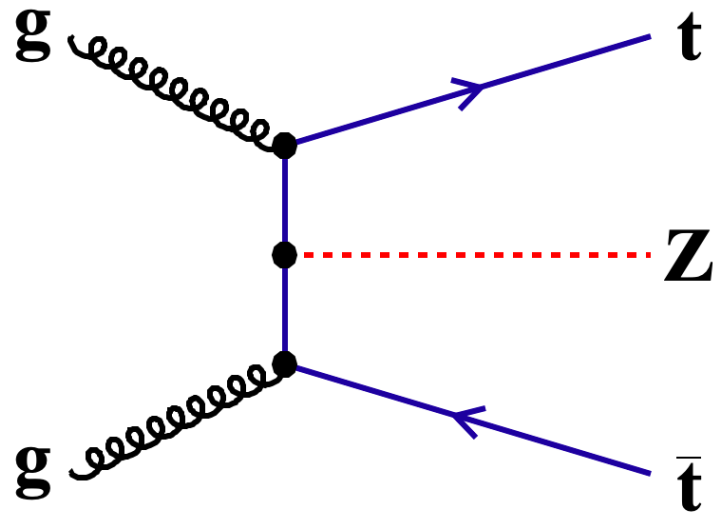


- Statistical uncertainties are still sizeable
- More data will help (see projections for HL-LHC: [ATL-PHYS-PUB-2018-049](https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.02017))
- Other systematics: experimental, signal and background modelling are at a similar level

Total and differential cross-sections of $t\bar{t} + Z$ production



- Probe the tZ coupling at high scales (LEP I probed top-quarks in loops)
- Sensitive to modifications in electroweak symmetry breaking mechanism

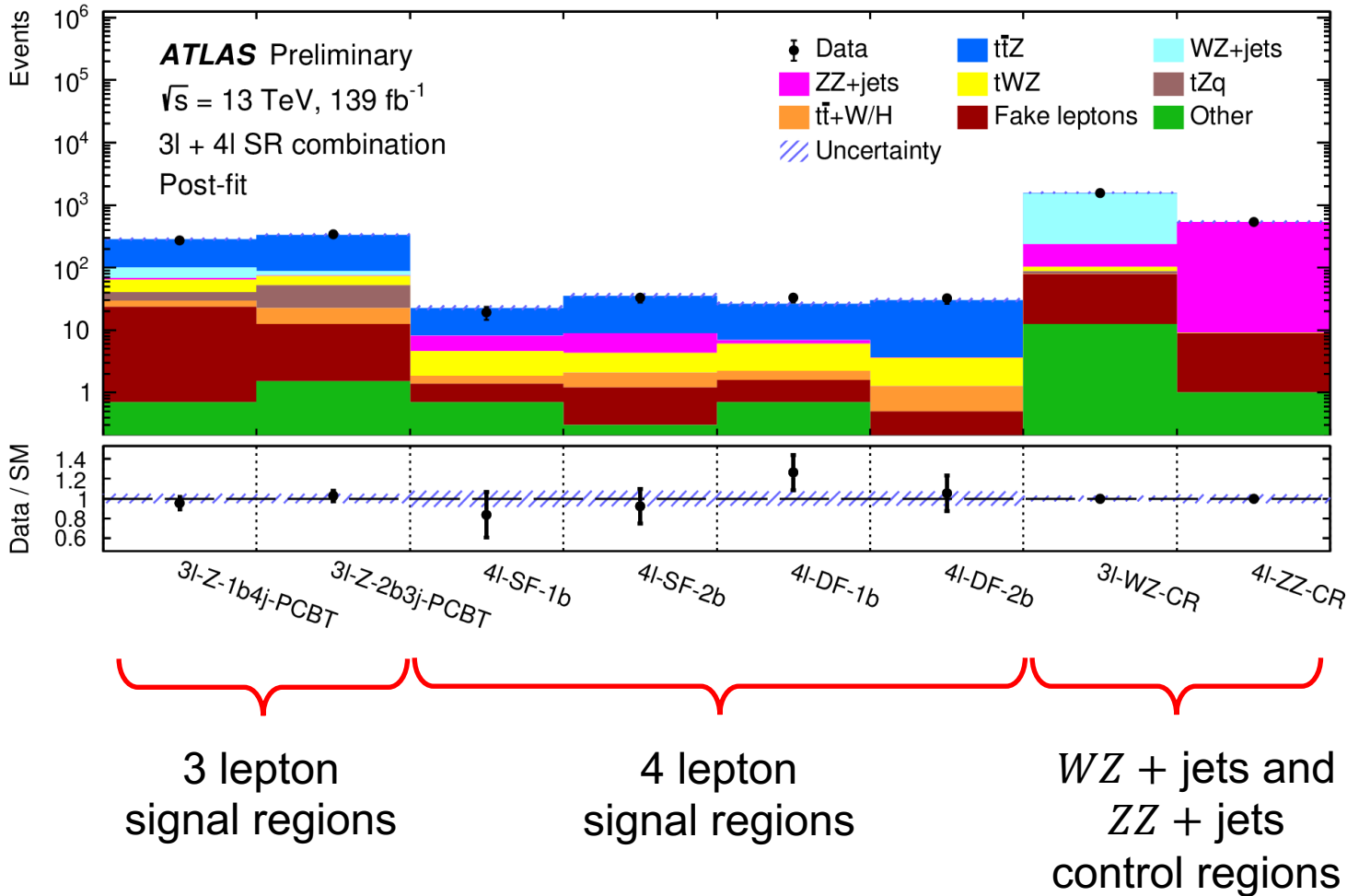


- Selection targets $Z \rightarrow e^+e^- / \mu^+\mu^-$ and $t\bar{t} \rightarrow b\bar{b}\ell^+\nu\ell^-\bar{\nu} / b\bar{b}\ell^\pm\nu jj$ decay channels
- Define 3-lepton and 4-lepton signal regions with p_T thresholds:
3-lepton: $p_T(\ell) > 27, 20, 20$ GeV
4-lepton: $p_T(\ell) > 27, 20, 10, 7$ GeV
- Low p_T thresholds correspond to large acceptance!
Still room for improvement in the 3-lepton channel.
- Z-mass window requirement: $|m(\ell^+\ell^-) - m_Z| < 10$ GeV
- Requirements on N_{jets} and $N_{\text{b-jets}}$

Total cross-section measurement



- Profile maximum-likelihood fit to event yields in 6 signal regions and 2 control regions



- Fitted signal strength $\mu(t\bar{t}Z) = \frac{\sigma_{\text{meas}}}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}}$

Fit configuration	$\mu_{t\bar{t}Z}$
Trilepton	1.17 ± 0.07 (stat.) $^{+0.12}_{-0.11}$ (syst.)
Tetralepton	1.21 ± 0.15 (stat.) $^{+0.11}_{-0.10}$ (syst.)
Combined	1.19 ± 0.06 (stat.) ± 0.10 (syst.)

- Measured cross-section:

$$\sigma(t\bar{t}Z) = 1.05 \pm 0.05 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.09 \text{ pb}$$

[ATLAS-CONF-2020-028](#)

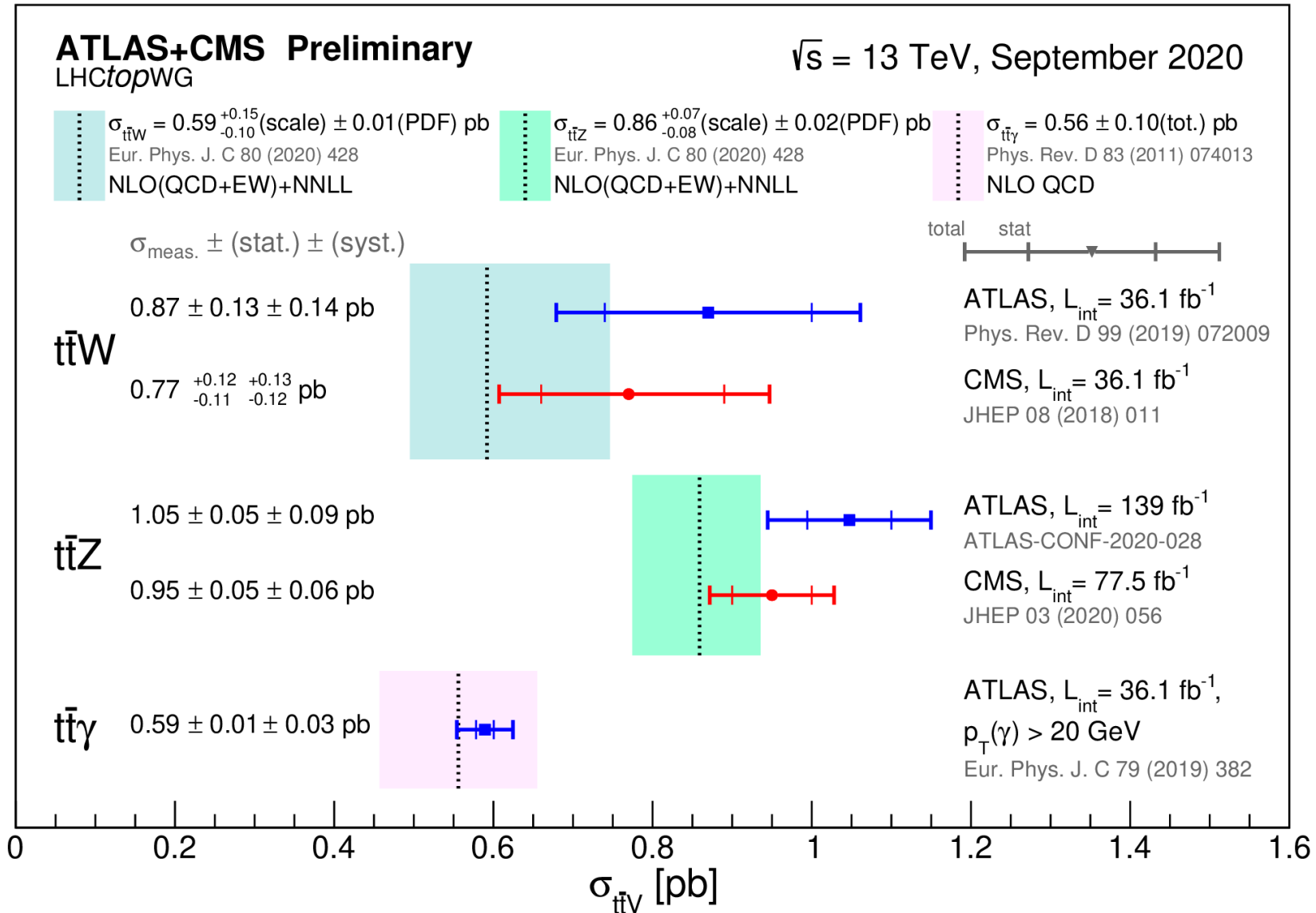
Breakdown of uncertainties



Uncertainty	$\Delta\sigma_{t\bar{t}Z}/\sigma_{t\bar{t}Z}$ [%]
$t\bar{t}Z$ parton shower	3.1
tWZ modelling	2.9
b -tagging	2.9
WZ/ZZ + jets modelling	2.8
tZq modelling	2.6
Lepton	2.3
Luminosity	2.2
Jets + E_T^{miss}	2.1
Non-prompt/fake leptons	2.1
$t\bar{t}Z$ A14 tune	1.6
$t\bar{t}Z$ μ_f, μ_r scales	0.9
Other backgrounds	0.7
Pile-up	0.7
$t\bar{t}Z$ PDF	0.2
Total systematics	8.4
Data statistics	5.2
Total	9.9

- Systematic uncertainties dominate, but there is still some room to bring down the statistical uncertainty.
- Modelling uncertainties are important, in total 6.0%.

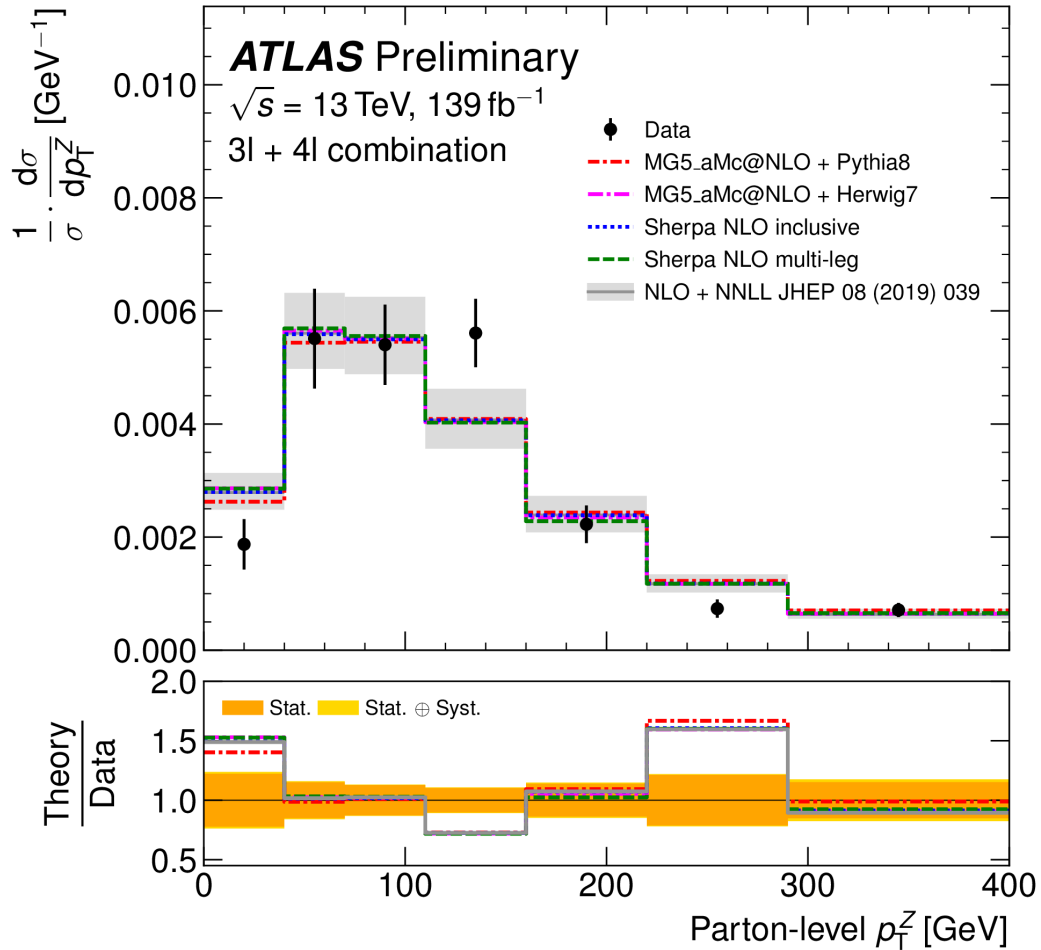
LHC $t\bar{t} + X$ Summary plot



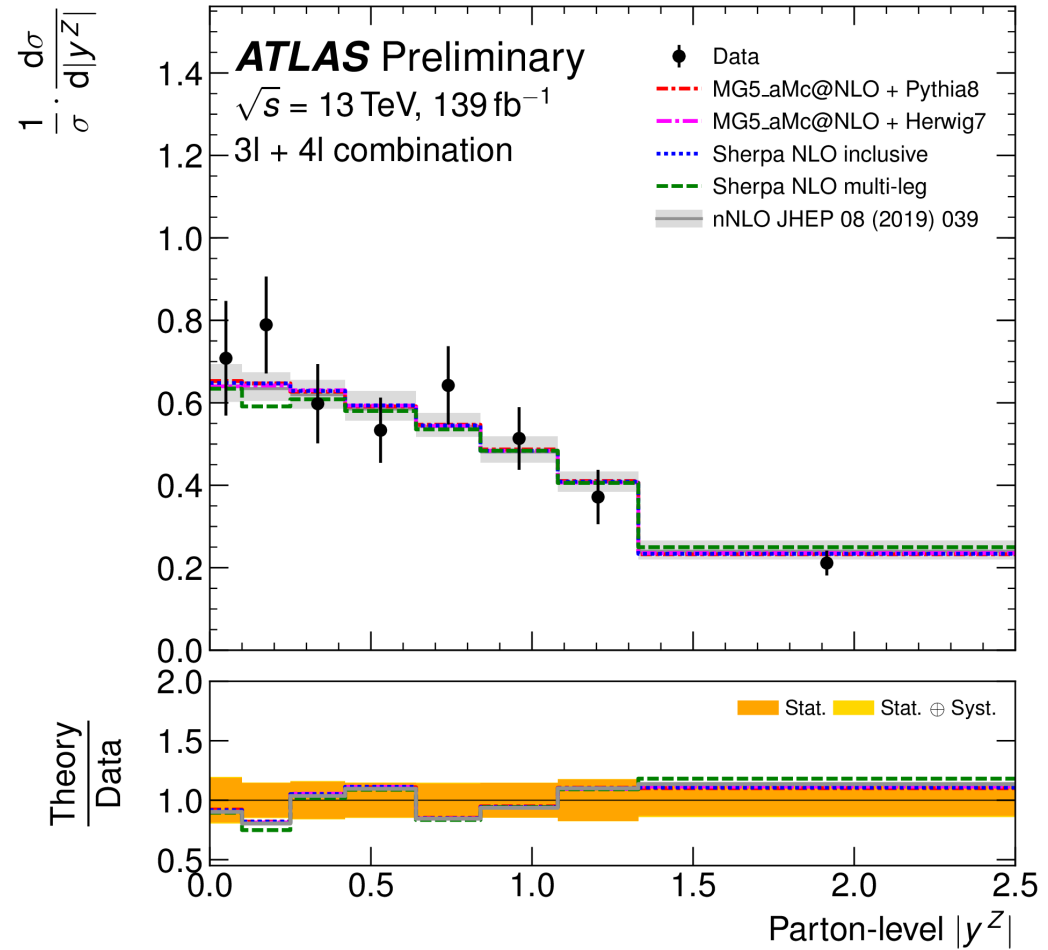
- Unfolding to parton level and particle level (stable particles in Monte Carlo event generators).
- Absolute and normalised cross-sections.
- Considered variables:

	Variable	Definition
$3\ell + 4\ell$	p_{T}^Z	Transverse momentum of the Z boson
	$ y^Z $	Absolute value of the rapidity of the Z boson
3ℓ	N_{jets}	Number of selected jets with $p_{\text{T}} > 25 \text{ GeV}$ and $ \eta < 2.5$
	$p_{\text{T}}^{\ell, \text{non-Z}}$	Transverse momentum of the lepton which is not associated with the Z boson
	$ \Delta\phi(Z, t_{\text{lep}}) $	Azimuthal separation between the Z boson and the top quark (antiquark) featuring the $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$ decay
	$ \Delta y(Z, t_{\text{lep}}) $	Absolute rapidity difference between the Z boson and the top quark (antiquark) featuring the $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$ decay
4ℓ	N_{jets}	Number of selected jets with $p_{\text{T}} > 25 \text{ GeV}$ and $ \eta < 2.5$
	$ \Delta\phi(\ell_t^+, \ell_{\bar{t}}^-) $	Azimuthal separation between the two leptons from the $t\bar{t}$ system
	$ \Delta\phi(t\bar{t}, Z) $	Azimuthal separation between the Z boson and the $t\bar{t}$ system
	$p_{\text{T}}^{t\bar{t}}$	Transverse momentum of the $t\bar{t}$ system

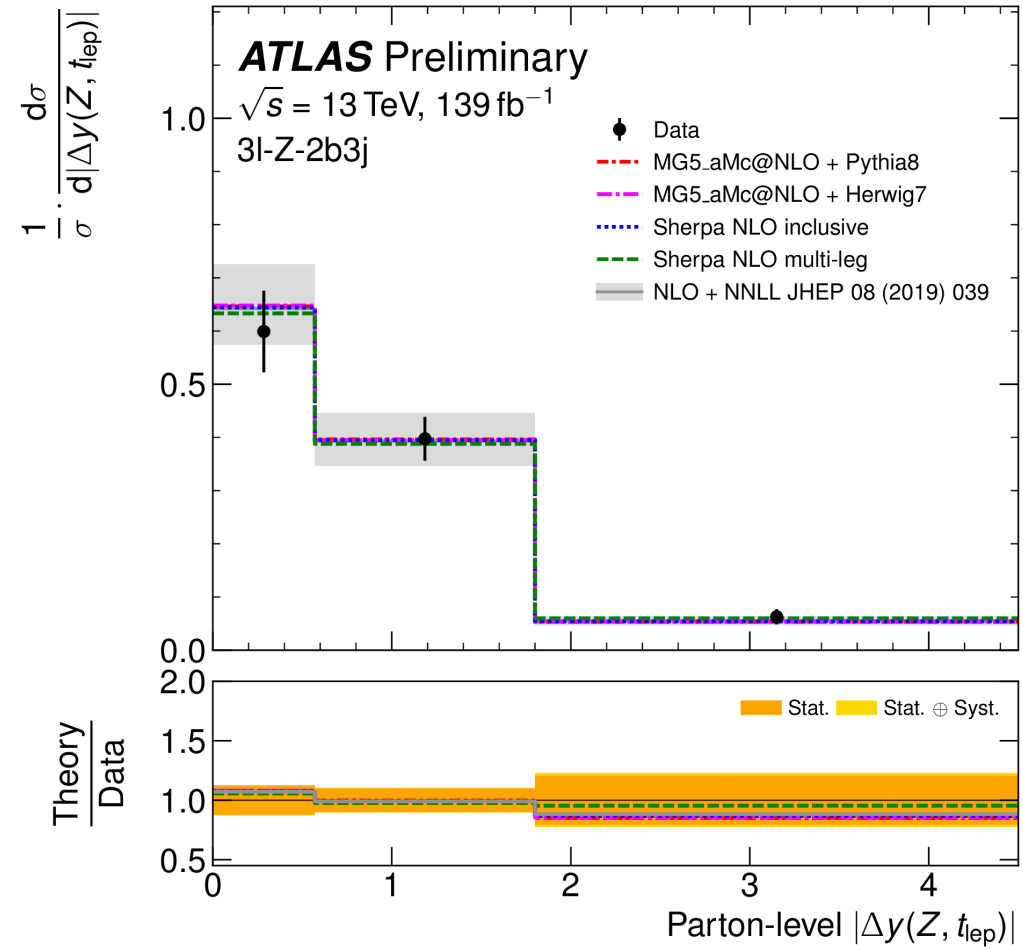
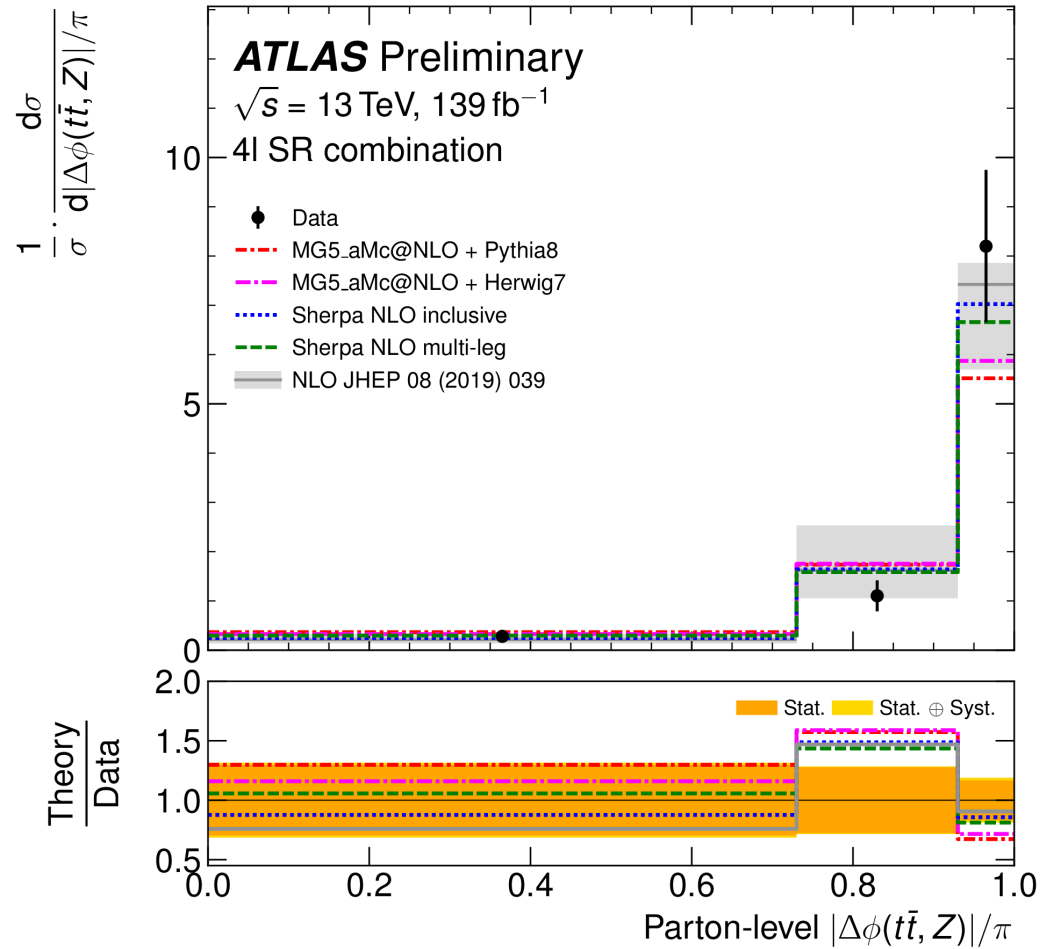
$p_T(Z)$ and $|y(Z)|$

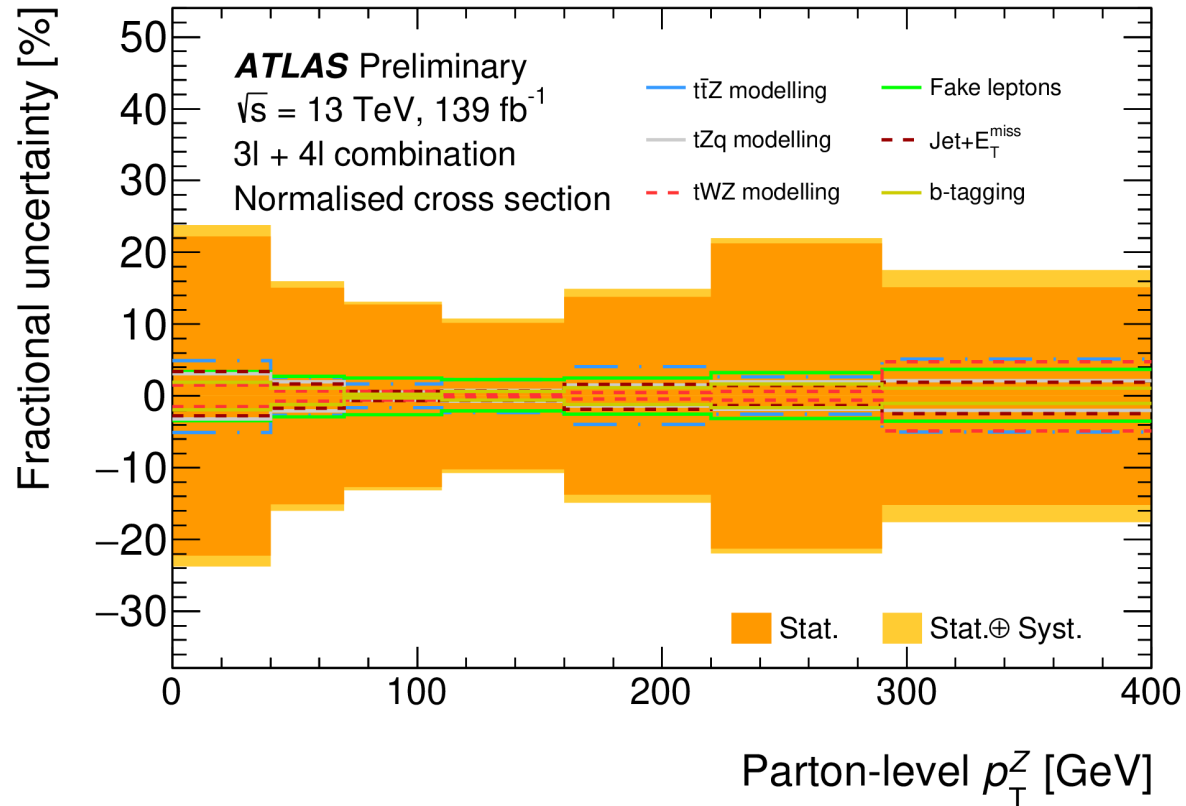


Shows relative large deviations in 3 bins, but no trend.



$|\Delta\phi(Z, t_{lep})|$ and $|\Delta y(Z, t_{lep})|$

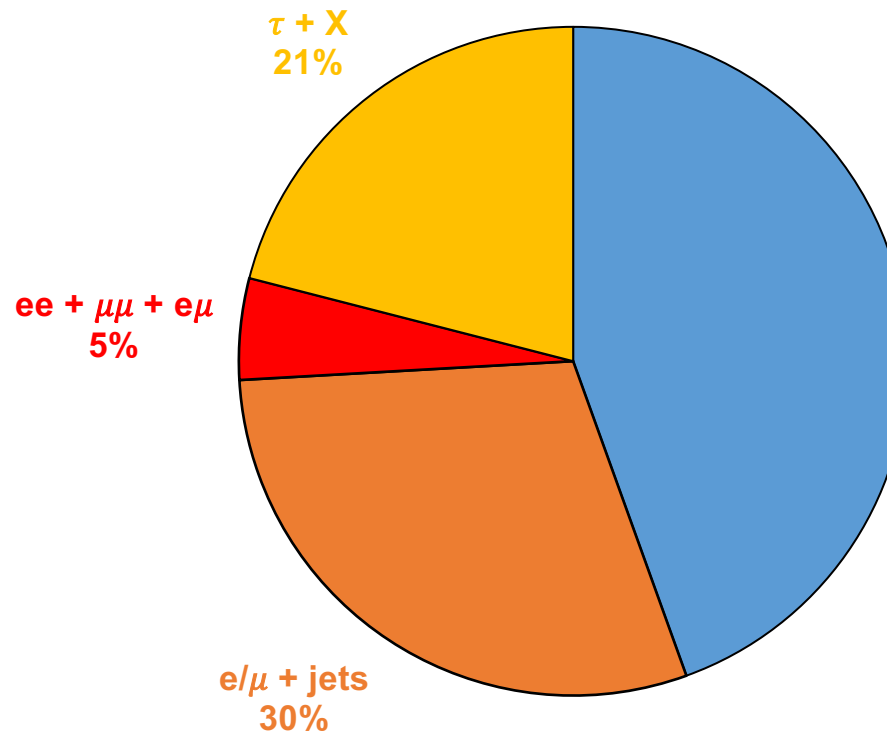
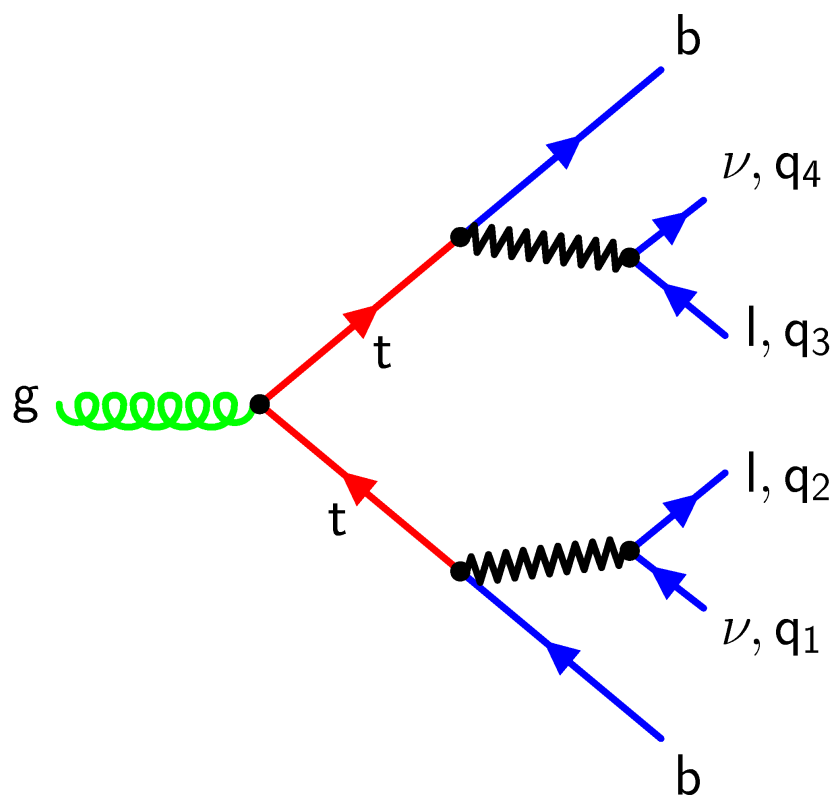




- Uncertainties are at the level of 10 to 20%.
- Statistical uncertainties clearly dominate.
- Next iteration of the analysis is in preparation:
 - Will focus on an interpretation in Effective Field Theory (EFT)
 - Implement improvements in lepton identification and lower p_T thresholds for leptons.

Part 3

Differential cross-sections of $t\bar{t}$ production



Categorize $t\bar{t}$ final states according to the decay modes of the 2 W bosons

Three analyses covering three main channels



Channel	$e\mu$	$e/\mu + \text{jets}$	all hadronic
Publication	Eur. Phys. J. C 80 (2020) 528	Eur. Phys. J. C 79 (2019) 1028	arXiv: 2006.09274
HEPData	ins1759875	Record: 95748	Not available
Background level	9%	11%	30%
Main backgrounds	tW production	tW , W + jets and multijet production	Multijet production
Topology	leptonic variables only	Resolved and boosted $t\bar{t}$ system reconstructed	Resolved only $t\bar{t}$ system reconstructed
Unfolding method	Bin-by-bin	Iterative Bayesian	Iterative Bayesian

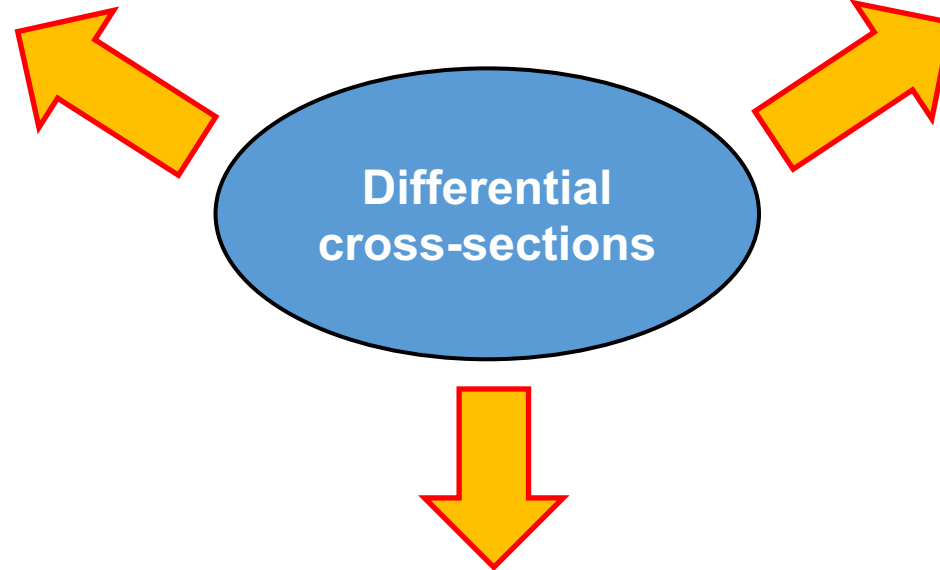
- All analysis use an integrated luminosity of 36 fb^{-1} recorded in 2015 and 2016.
- Analyses are complementary in various ways: background composition, background level, topology, access to the $t\bar{t}$ system and resolution.

Disclaimer: Today: Will not discuss the experimental details, but compare main results.

Excess the matrix element (ME) of the hard scattering process:

- Sensitivity to physics beyond the standard model
- Study modelling with NLO ME generators
- Variables:

$p_T(t)$, $|y(t)|$, $|y(t\bar{t})|$, $m(t\bar{t})$



Study the modelling of extra radiation by parton-shower generators and the matching between NLO ME generators and parton-shower programs:

- Variable: $p_T(t\bar{t})$ and N_{jets}

Parameter extraction

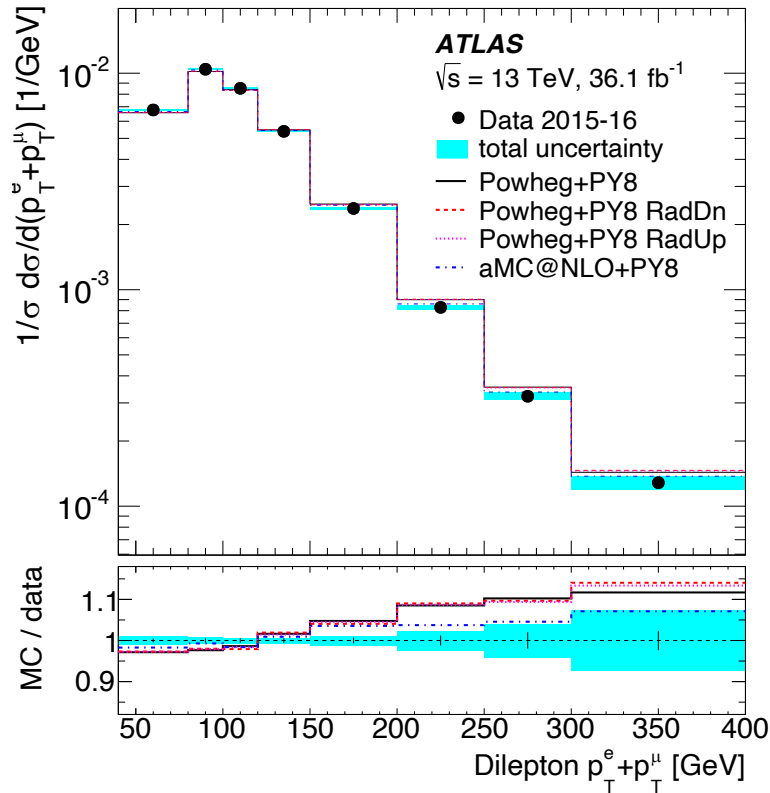
- 1) Top-quark mass: Use $p_T(t)$ and $m(t\bar{t})$
- 2) Parton distribution functions (PDFs): Use $|y(t)|$, $|y(t\bar{t})|$, $m(t\bar{t})$

- Generator setups: Use NLO matrix-element (ME) generator matched to a parton-shower generator
- Nominal setup: Powheg-Box ver. 2 (PWG) + Pythia 8.210 (PY8)
 - Scales: $\mu_R = \mu_F = \sqrt{m_t^2 + p_T(t)^2} =: \mu_{\text{nominal}}$
 - PDF set: NNPDF3.0NLO for the ME calculation, NNPDF2.3LO for the parton shower
 - Matching scale: $h_{\text{damp}} = 1.5 m_t$
 - Variant „Radiation up“ with settings: $\mu_R = \mu_F = 0.5 \mu_{\text{nominal}}$, $h_{\text{damp}} = 1.5 m_t$, Var3c=Up of the A14 tune
 - Variant “Radiation down” with settings: $\mu_R = \mu_F = 2.0 \mu_{\text{nominal}}$, Var3c=Down of the A14 tune
- PWG+Herwig 7
- MadGraph5_aMC@NLO (ver. 2.3.3.p1) + PY8
- Sherpa 2.2.1, 1st emission at NLO, up to 4 additional parton emissions at LO
- Fixed-order calculations at NNLO by M. Czakon and A. Mitov et al.
- **Caveat:** Quantitative comparisons with the predictions ($\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}$ and p-values) **do not include** uncertainties in the **predictions**.

Top quark $p_T(t)$

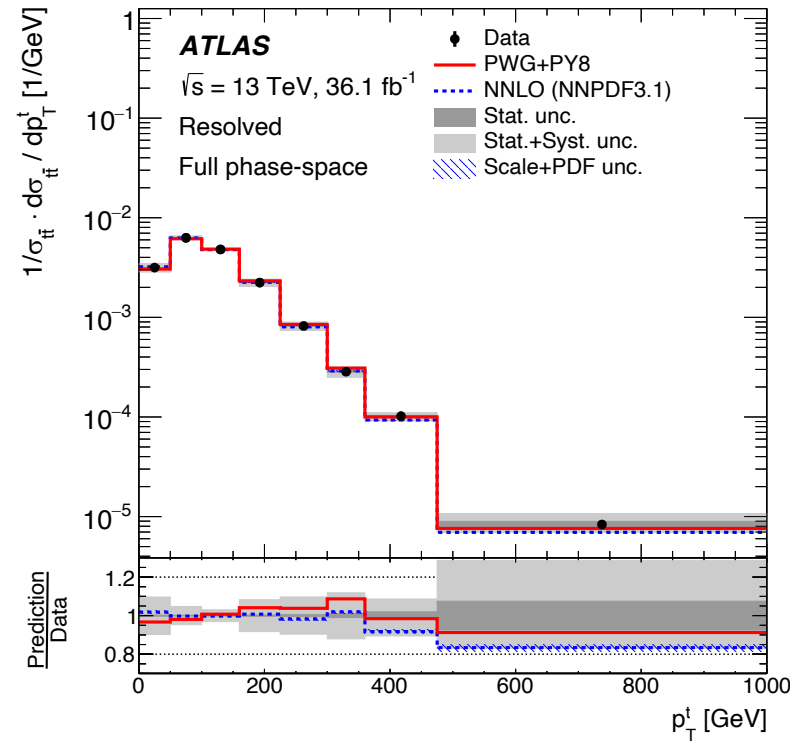


$e\mu$ channel



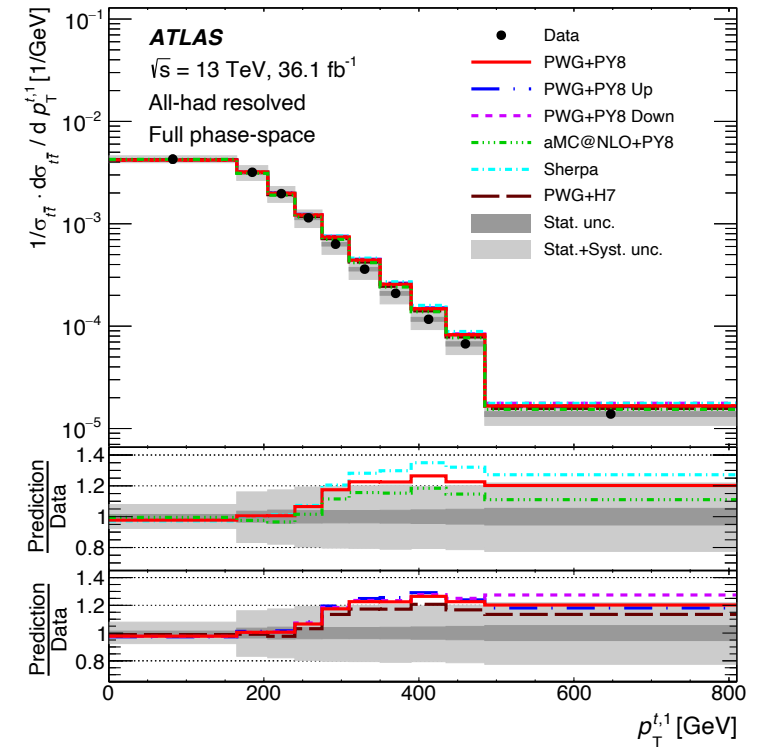
- $p_T(\ell)$ related to $p_T(t)$
- None of the generators describes the data well, but **MG5aMC** does better than PWG

$e/\mu + \text{jets}$ channel



- Both PWG+PY8 and the NNLO FO calculation model $p_T(t)$ well.

All-hadronic channel

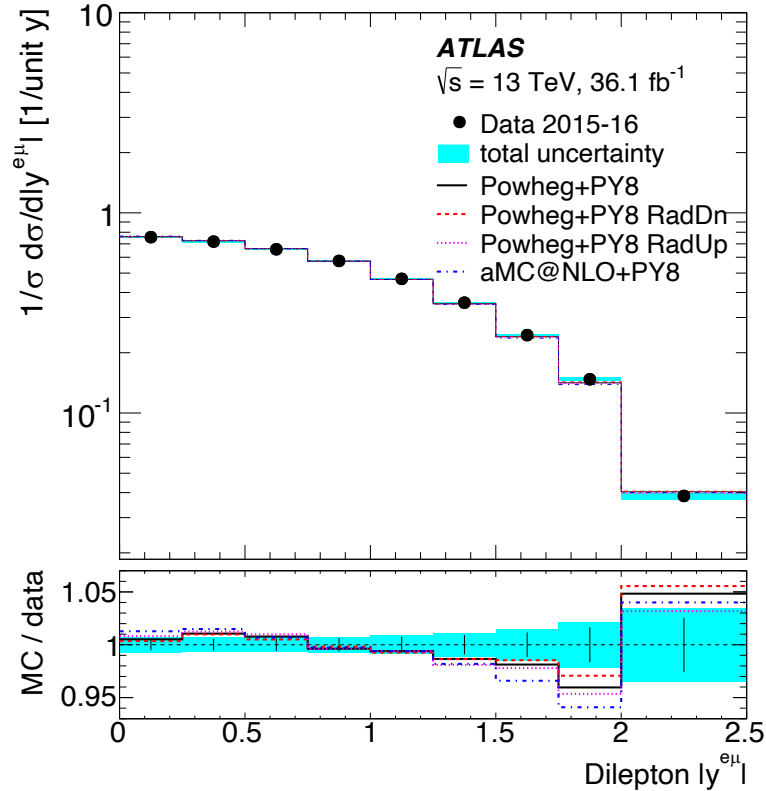


- All generators show the same trend of underestimating the cross-section at high $p_T(t)$.
- MG5aMC and PWG+H7 do better than the nominal PWG+PY8 and Sherpa.

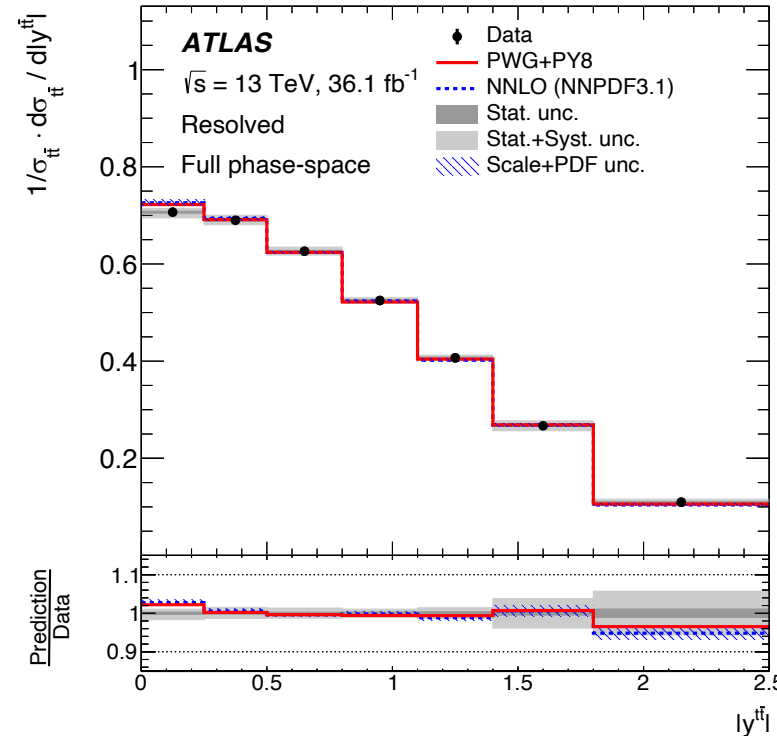
Rapidity of the $t\bar{t}$ system: $|y(t\bar{t})|$



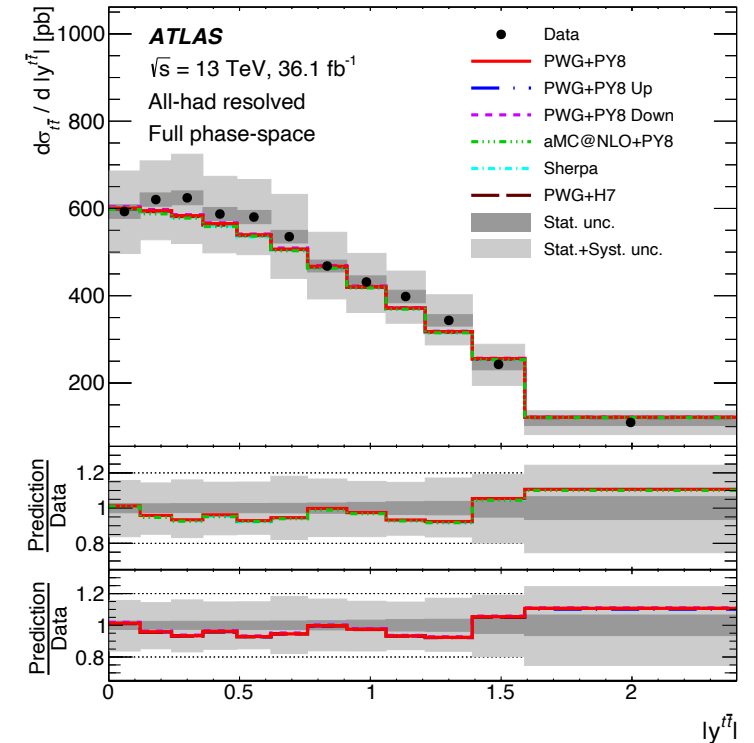
$e\mu$ channel



e/μ + jets channel



All-hadronic channel

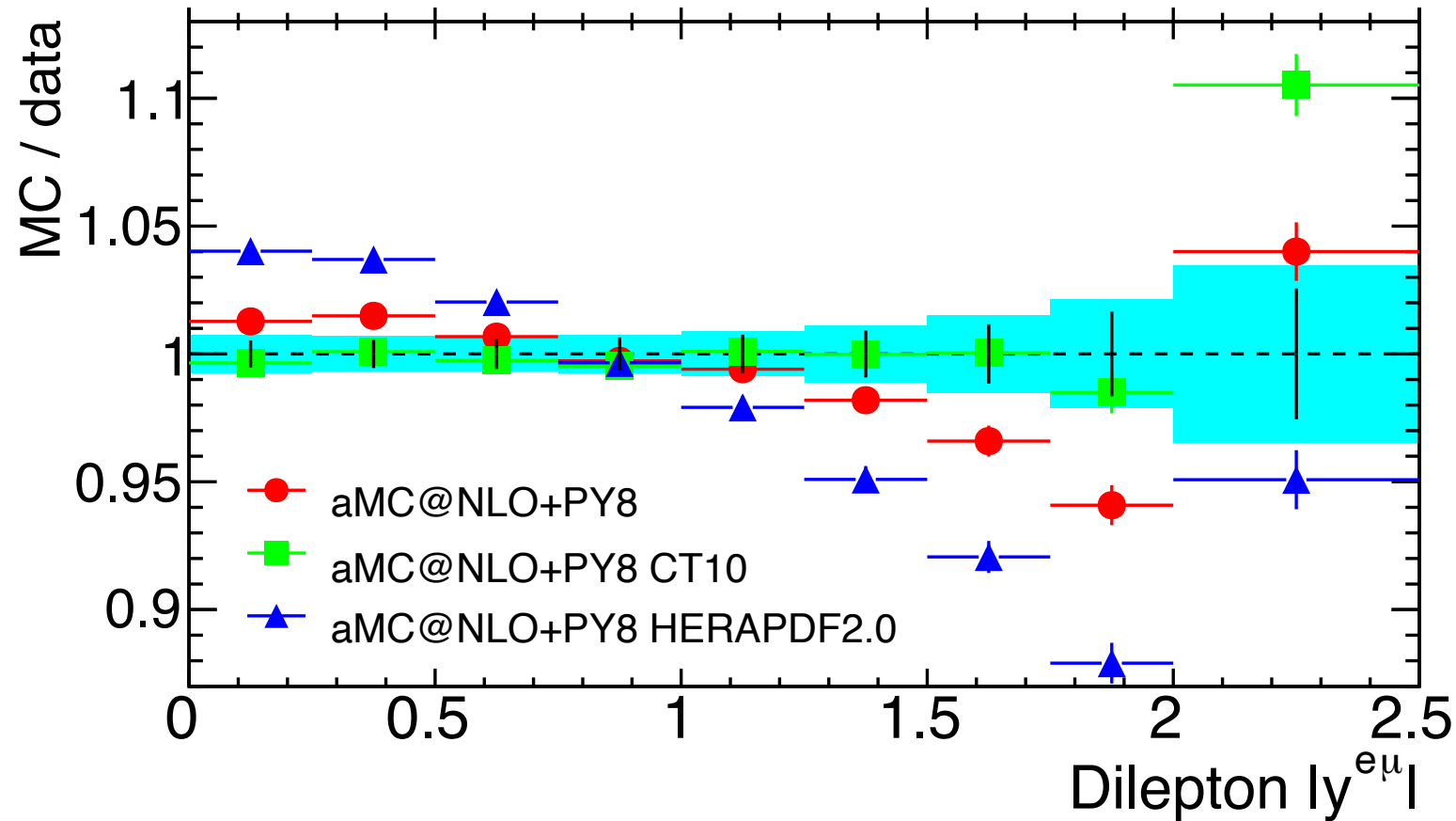


- All generator setups show a trend to lower cross-sections at high $|y(t\bar{t})|$.
 \Rightarrow parton shower and ME generator may be not the driving issue

- No trend visible.

- Uncertainties are too large to draw conclusions

$|y(e\mu)|$ for different PDFs

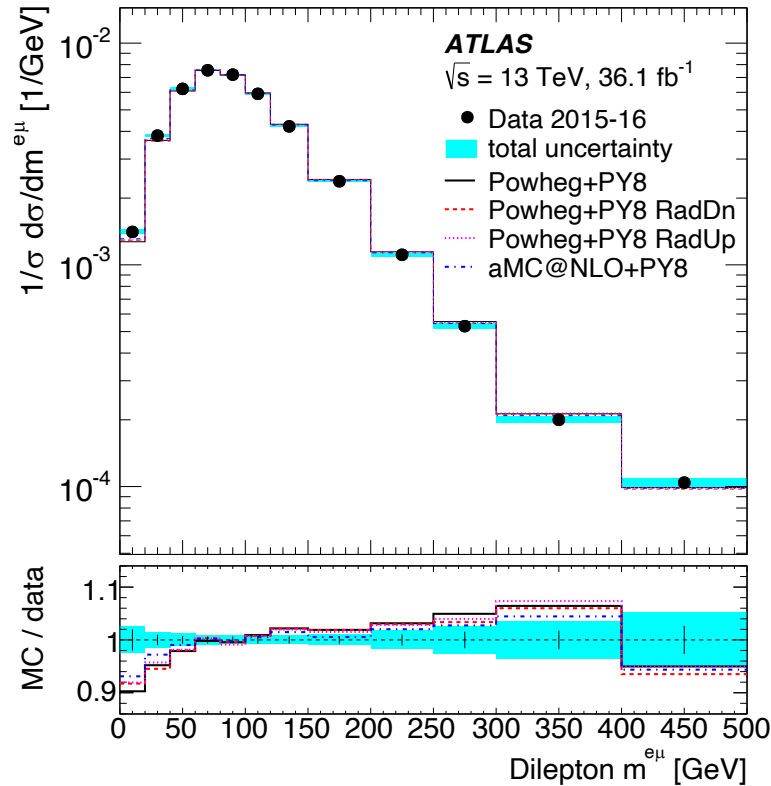


With MG5aMC the CT10 PDF set gives a better description of the data than the default NNPDF3.0NLO and HERAPDF2.0.

Mass of the $t\bar{t}$ system: $m(t\bar{t})$

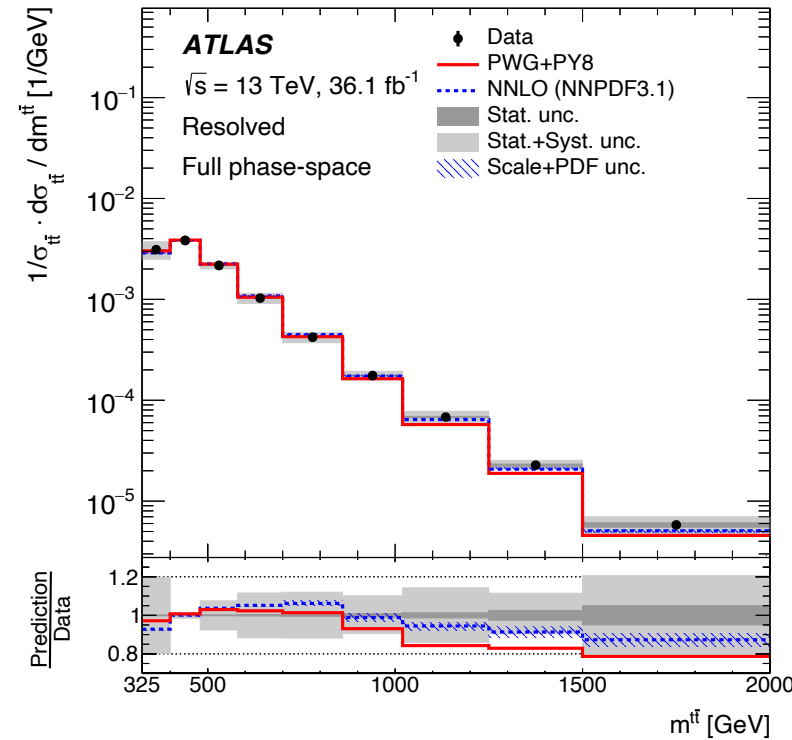


$e\mu$ channel



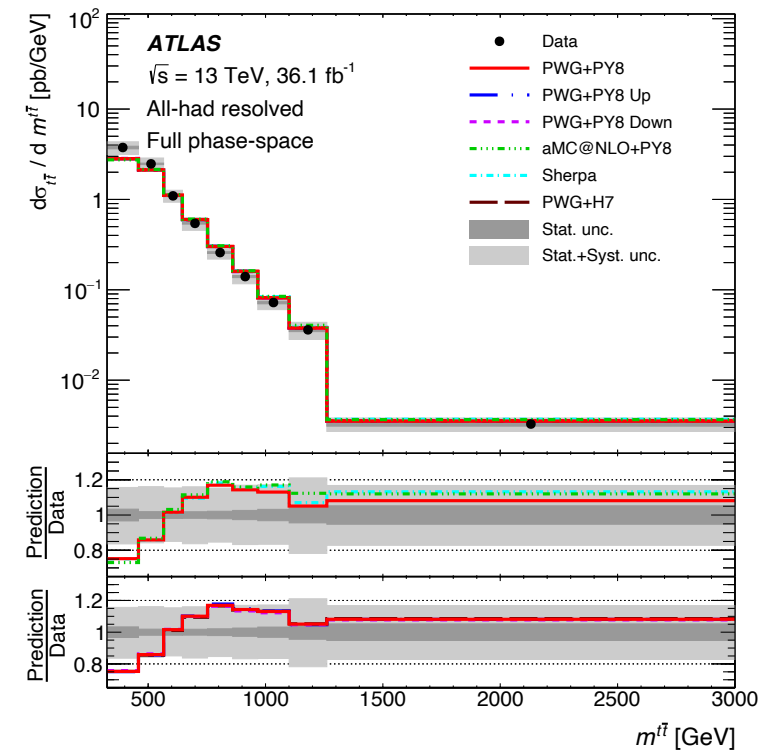
- Distribution is badly described by PWG+PY8 (p-value = 6×10^{-6})
- MG5aMC+PY8 does better (p-value = 0.049)

e/μ + jets channel



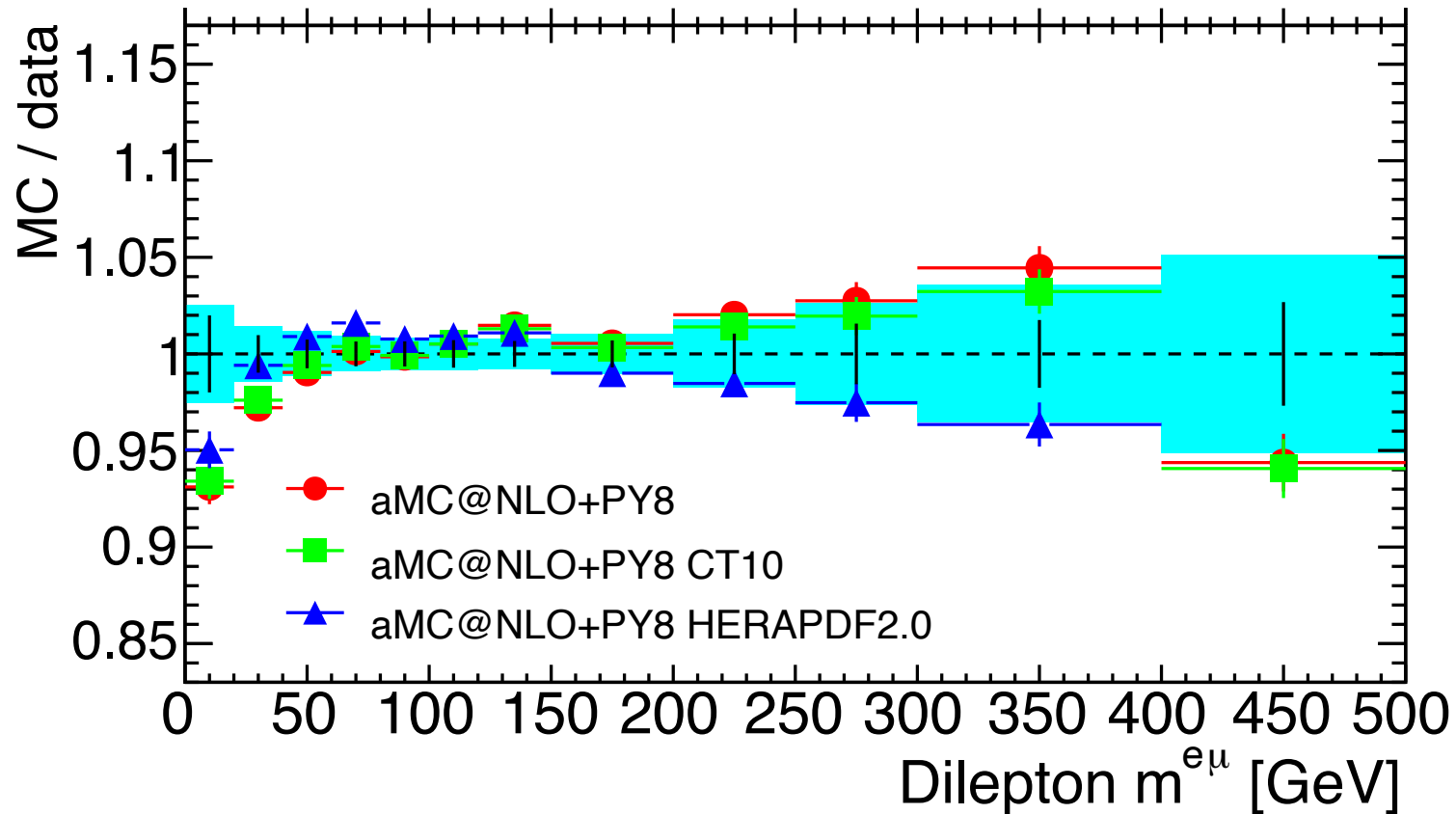
- Distribution is badly described by PWG+PY8 and all other MC setups (not shown)
- $\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.} = 32.1/8$
- P-value < 0.01

All-hadronic channel



- Within the large uncertainties the modelling is acceptable.

$m(t\bar{t})$ for different PDFs



- With MG5aMC the CT10 PDF set gives a slightly better description (p-value = 0.11) of the data than the default NNPDF3.0NLO (p-value = 0.049) and HERAPDF2.0 (p-value = 6×10^{-3}).
- This study demonstrates sensitivity of the measurements to the PDFs.
- Good motivation to be included in PDF fits.

- ATLAS is exploiting the full statistical power of the Run 2 data set.
- Recent highlights in the top-quark sector:
 - Evidence for 4-top-quarks production
 - Test universality of $W\tau$ and $W\mu$ weak couplings
 - Differential cross-section measurements of $t\bar{t} + \gamma$ and $t\bar{t} + Z$ production
 - Comprehensive measurements of differential cross-sections of $t\bar{t}$ production

