

# Top-quark physics in ATLAS and CMS

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on behalf of the ATLAS and CMS collaborations

Workshop on the Standard Model and Beyond  
Corfu, August 27 – September 7, 2023



# Plan

## Overview of **most recent** top-quark results by ATLAS and CMS

### Since Corfu 2022

- 12 new results by CMS (6 papers submitted, 6 preliminary results) [[Link](#)]
- 20 new results by ATLAS (13 papers submitted, 7 preliminary results) [[Link](#)]
- cannot cover them all in 25 minutes

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## Focus on

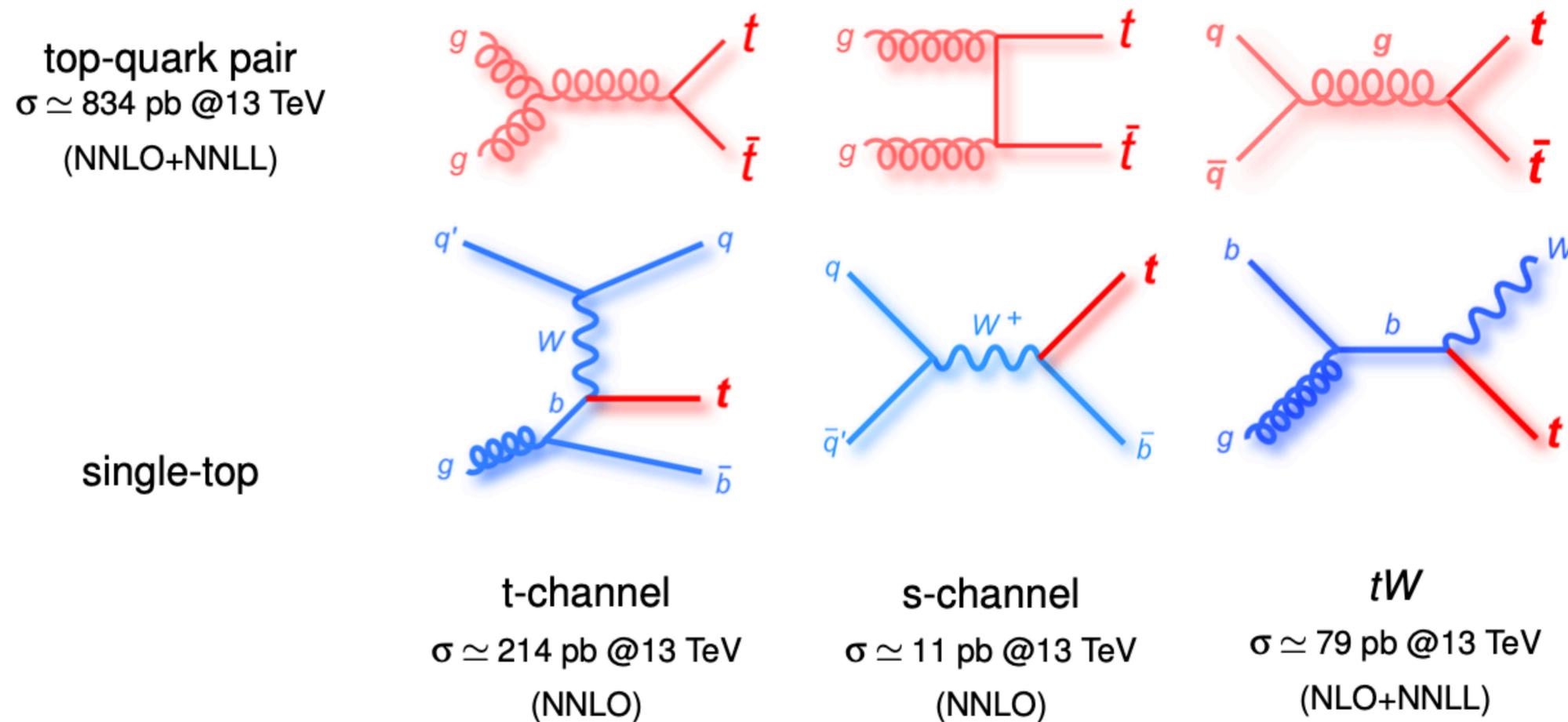
- papers submitted in the last 6 months
- preliminary results in the last 4 months

Covers many different aspects of the top programme at the LHC

# Top-quark production

The top quark: the heaviest known fundamental particle,  $m_t \sim 172.5$  GeV

Produced in pairs, singly, and with additional particles; sensitive to NP

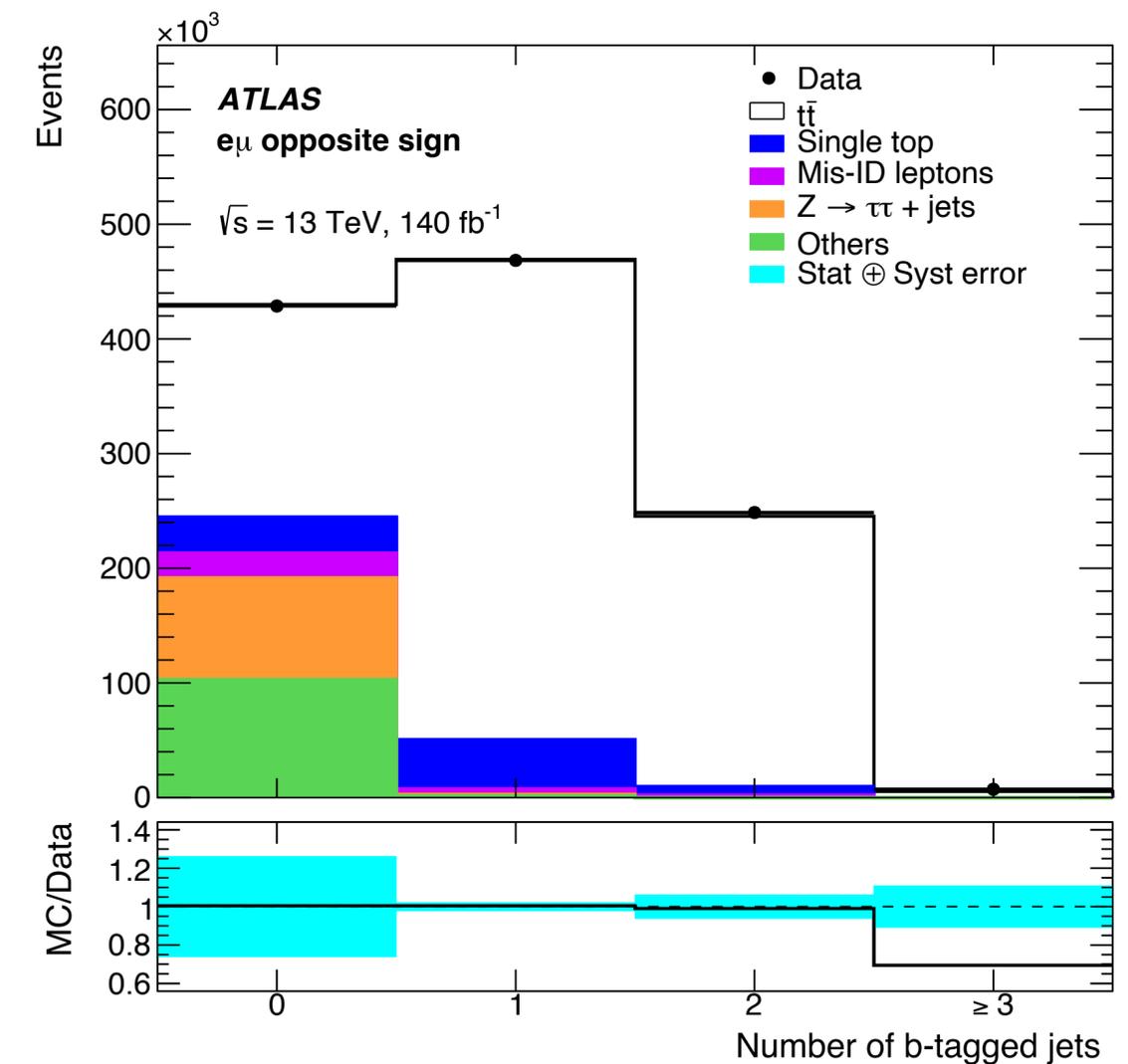


LHC as top factory:  $\sim 120$ M pairs in Run-2 ( $140$  fb $^{-1}$ ) in each experiment

# $t\bar{t}$ cross section in $e\mu$ channel

## Analysis at 13 TeV collision energy

- inclusive and (double-)differential lepton distributions
- fiducial region and full phase space
- profits from latest luminosity measurement
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## Inclusive result

- $\sigma_{t\bar{t}} = 829 \pm 1_{(\text{stat.})} \pm 13_{(\text{syst.})} \pm 8_{(\text{lumi.})} \pm 2_{(\text{beam})} \text{ pb}$
- world-record 1.8%  $t\bar{t}$  cross section uncertainty
- agrees with NNLO prediction

Source of uncertainty	$\Delta\sigma_{t\bar{t}}^{\text{fid}}/\sigma_{t\bar{t}}^{\text{fid}}$ [%]	$\Delta\sigma_{t\bar{t}}/\sigma_{t\bar{t}}$ [%]
Data statistics	0.15	0.15
MC statistics	0.04	0.04
Matrix element	0.12	0.16
$h_{\text{damp}}$ variation	0.01	0.01
Parton shower	0.08	0.22
$t\bar{t}$ + heavy flavour	0.34	0.34
Top $p_T$ reweighting	0.19	0.58
Parton distribution functions	0.04	0.43
Initial-state radiation	0.11	0.37
Final-state radiation	0.29	0.35
Electron energy scale	0.10	0.10
Electron efficiency	0.37	0.37
Electron isolation (in situ)	0.51	0.51
Muon momentum scale	0.13	0.13
Muon reconstruction efficiency	0.35	0.35
Muon isolation (in situ)	0.33	0.33
Lepton trigger efficiency	0.05	0.05
Vertex association efficiency	0.03	0.03
Jet energy scale & resolution	0.10	0.10
$b$ -tagging efficiency	0.07	0.07
$t\bar{t}/Wt$ interference	0.37	0.37
$Wt$ cross-section	0.52	0.52
Diboson background	0.34	0.34
$t\bar{t}V$ and $t\bar{t}H$	0.03	0.03
$Z$ + jets background	0.05	0.05
Misidentified leptons	0.32	0.32
Beam energy	0.23	0.23
Luminosity	0.93	0.93
Total uncertainty	1.6	1.8

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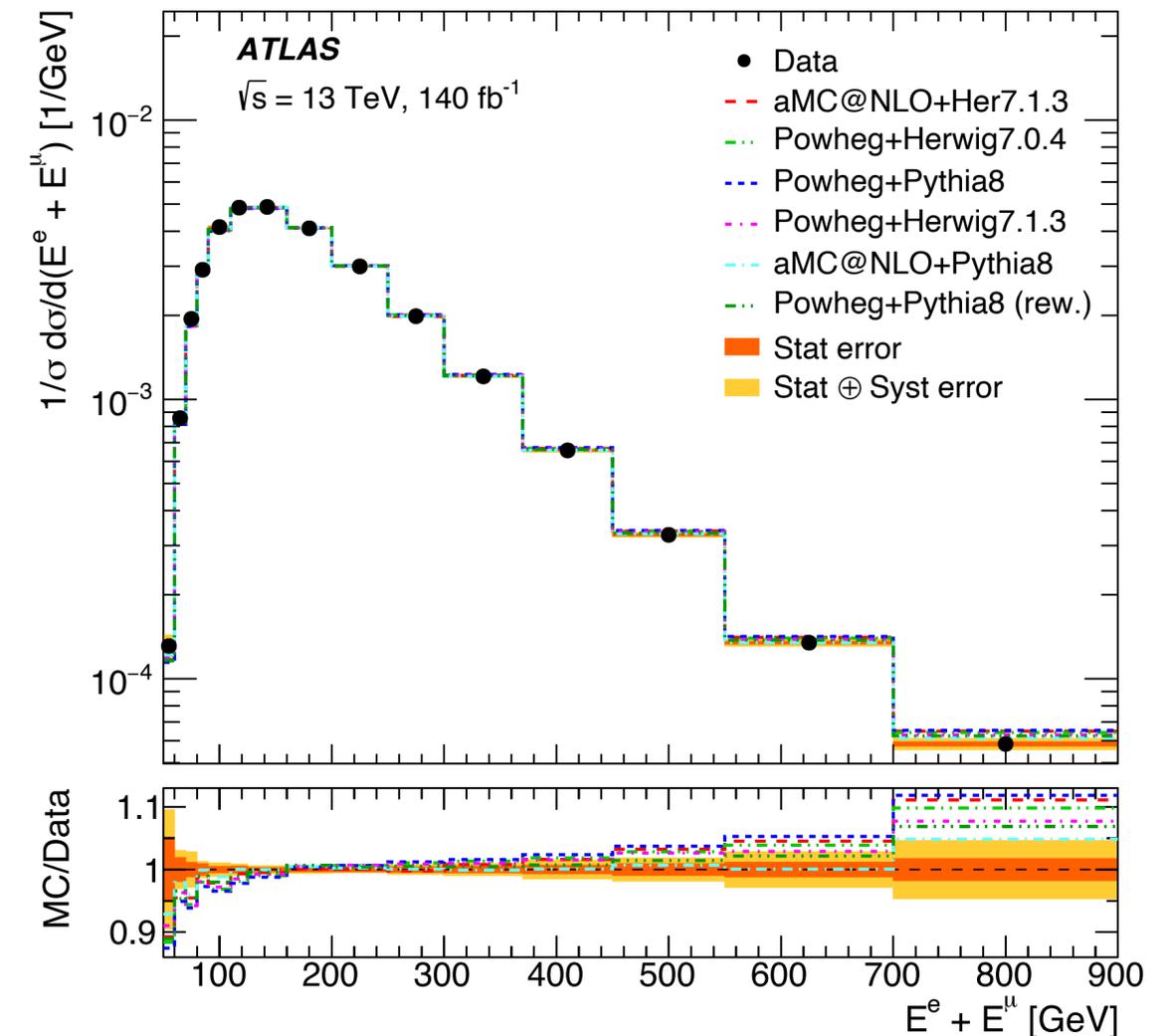
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## Differential results

- somewhat in tension with state-of-the-art simulation



## Top-quark jet substructure

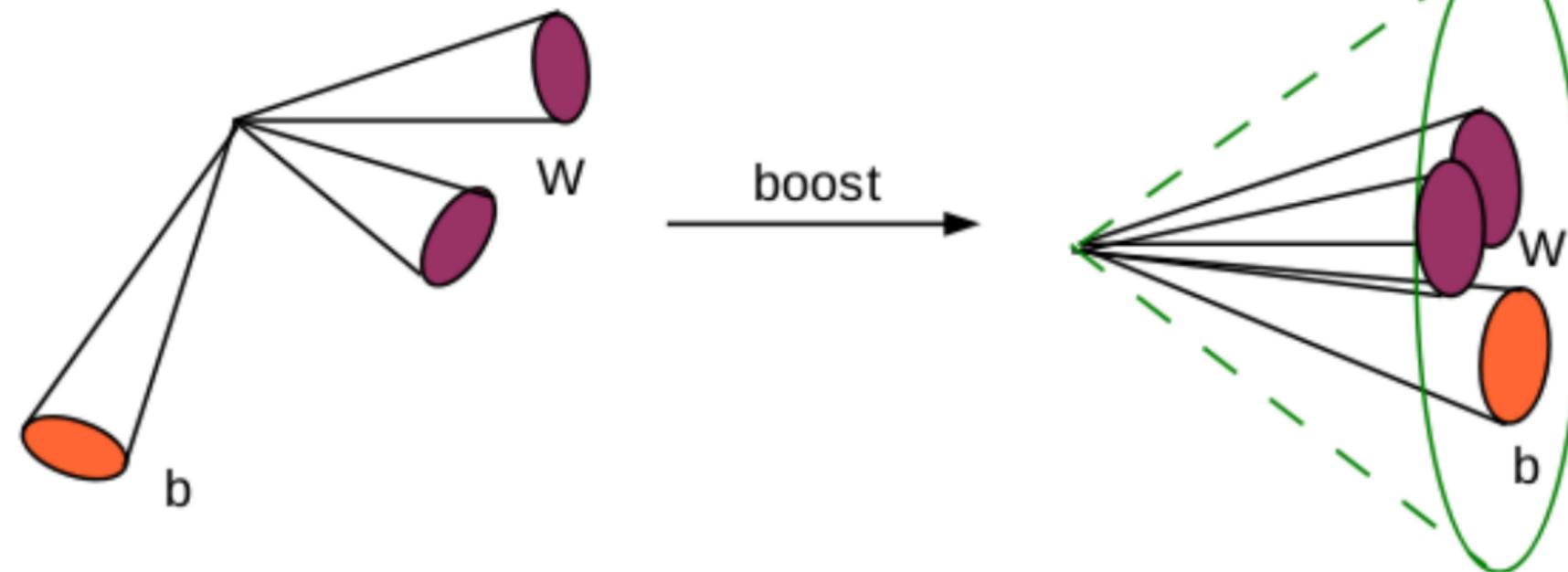
- anti- $k_t$   $R=1.0$  jets in single lepton chan. and **fully hadronic**  $t\bar{t}$  events
- $p_T$  (top-jet)  $\in (350, 600)$  GeV

## Differential cross section

- unfolded at particle level (IBU)
- using charged components of jet  $\rightarrow$  50% better resolution

## Eight variables, 1D & 2D

- N-subjettiness  $\tau_3, \tau_{32}, \tau_{21}$ ;
- norm. energy correlation f. ECF2,  $D_2, C_3$ ;
- angularities LHA,  $p_T^{d,*}$
- predicted substructure is more 3-body-like



# Jet substructure in boosted $t\bar{t}$ events

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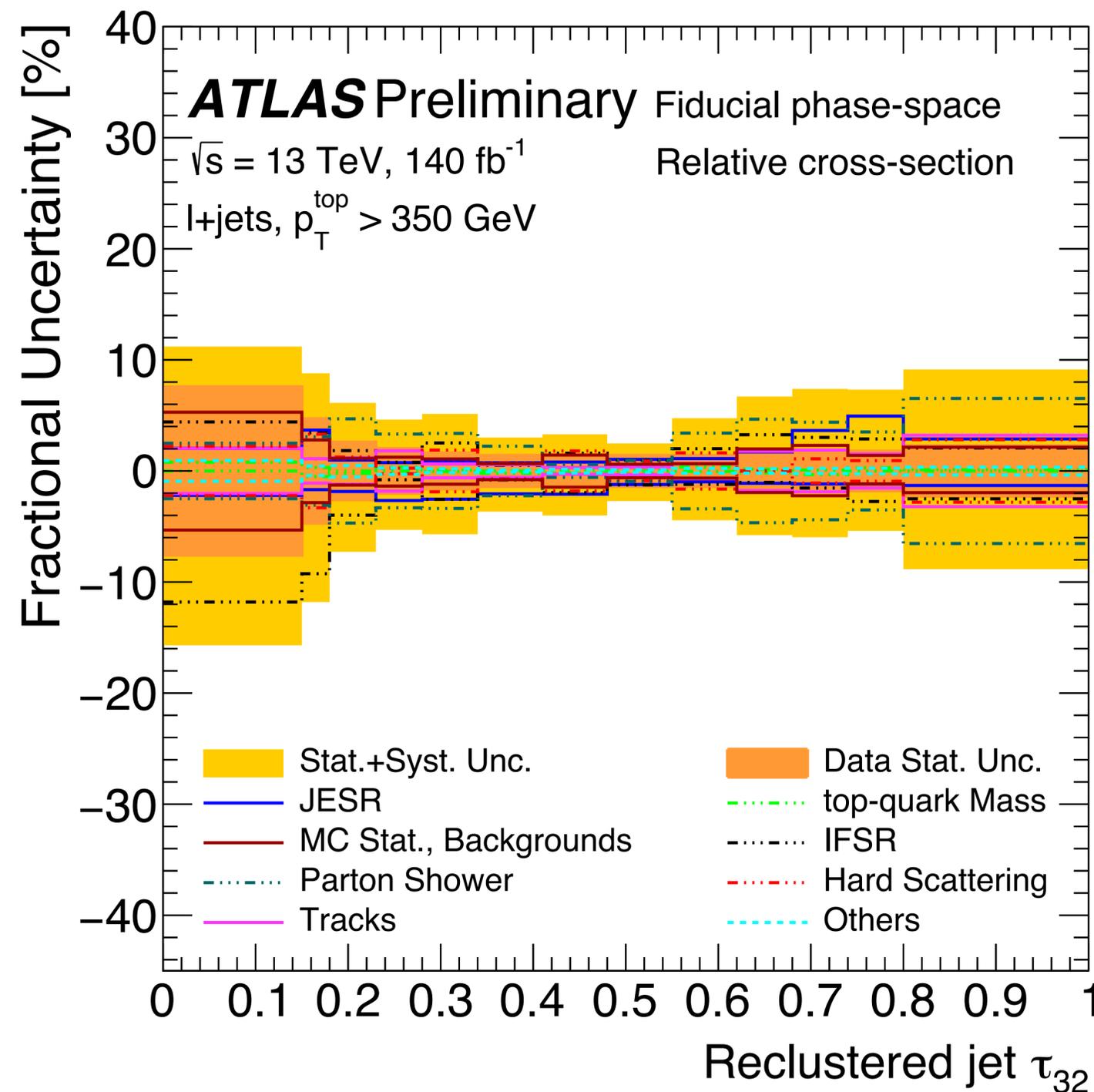
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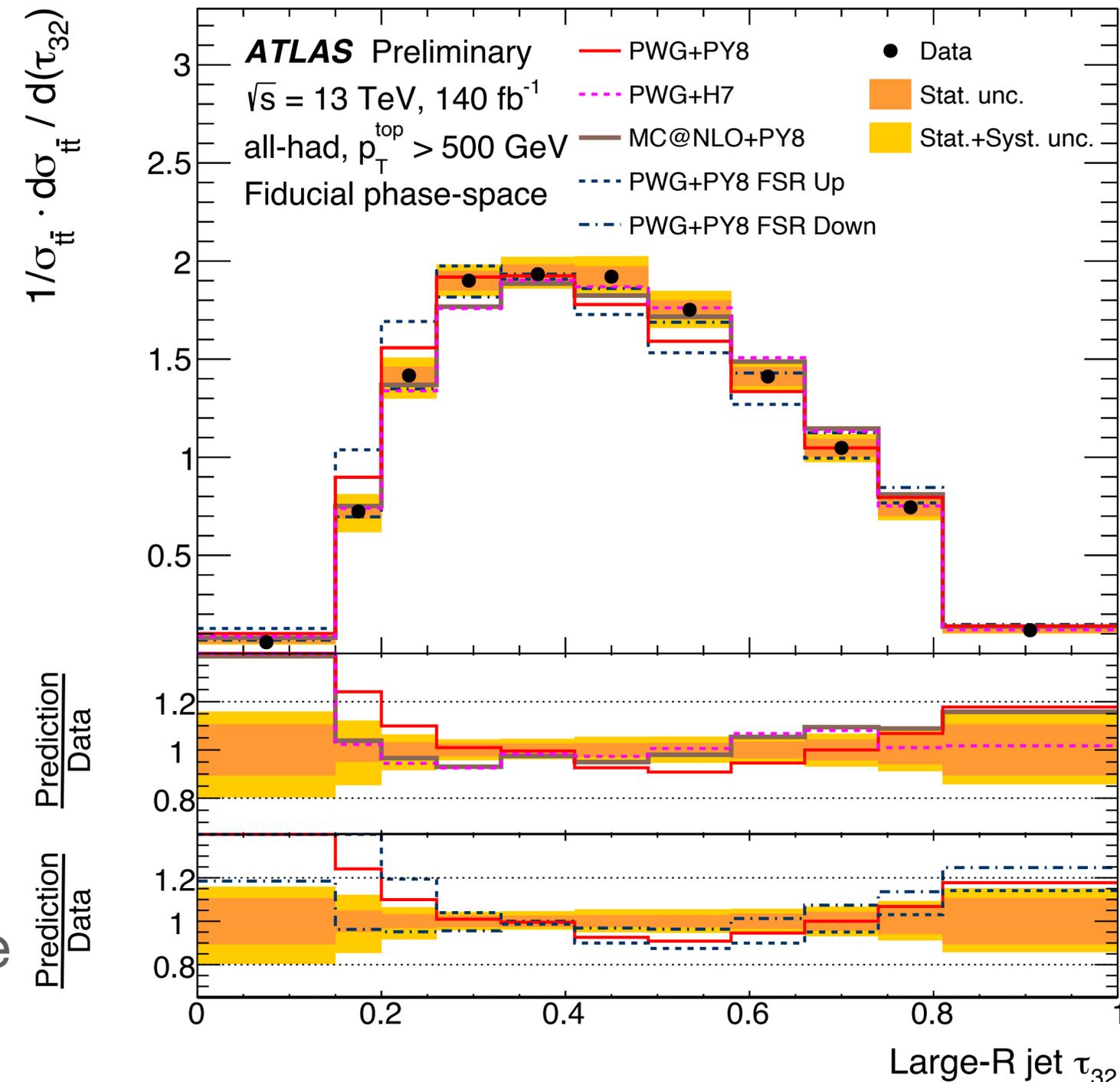
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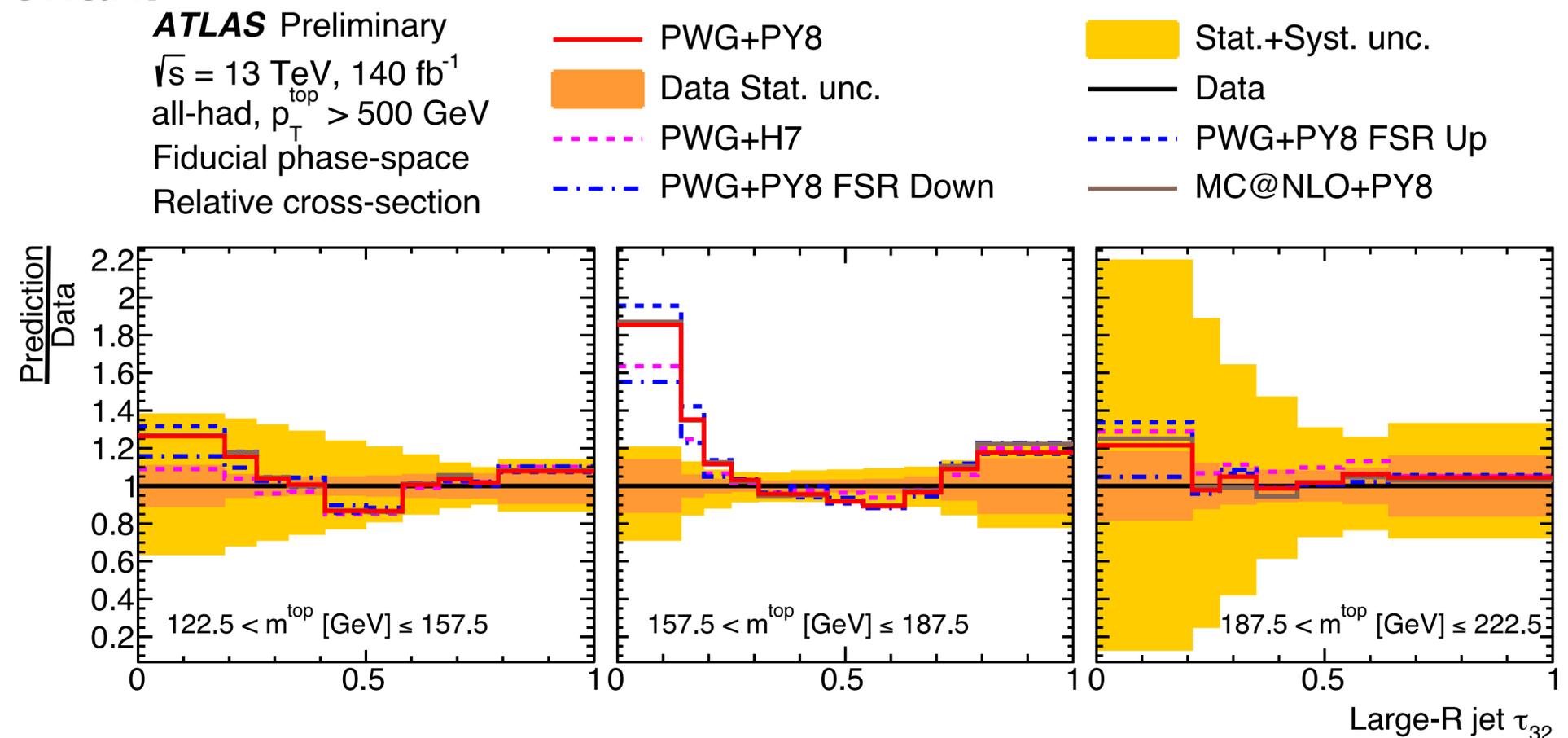
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# $t\bar{t}$ production at 13.6 TeV

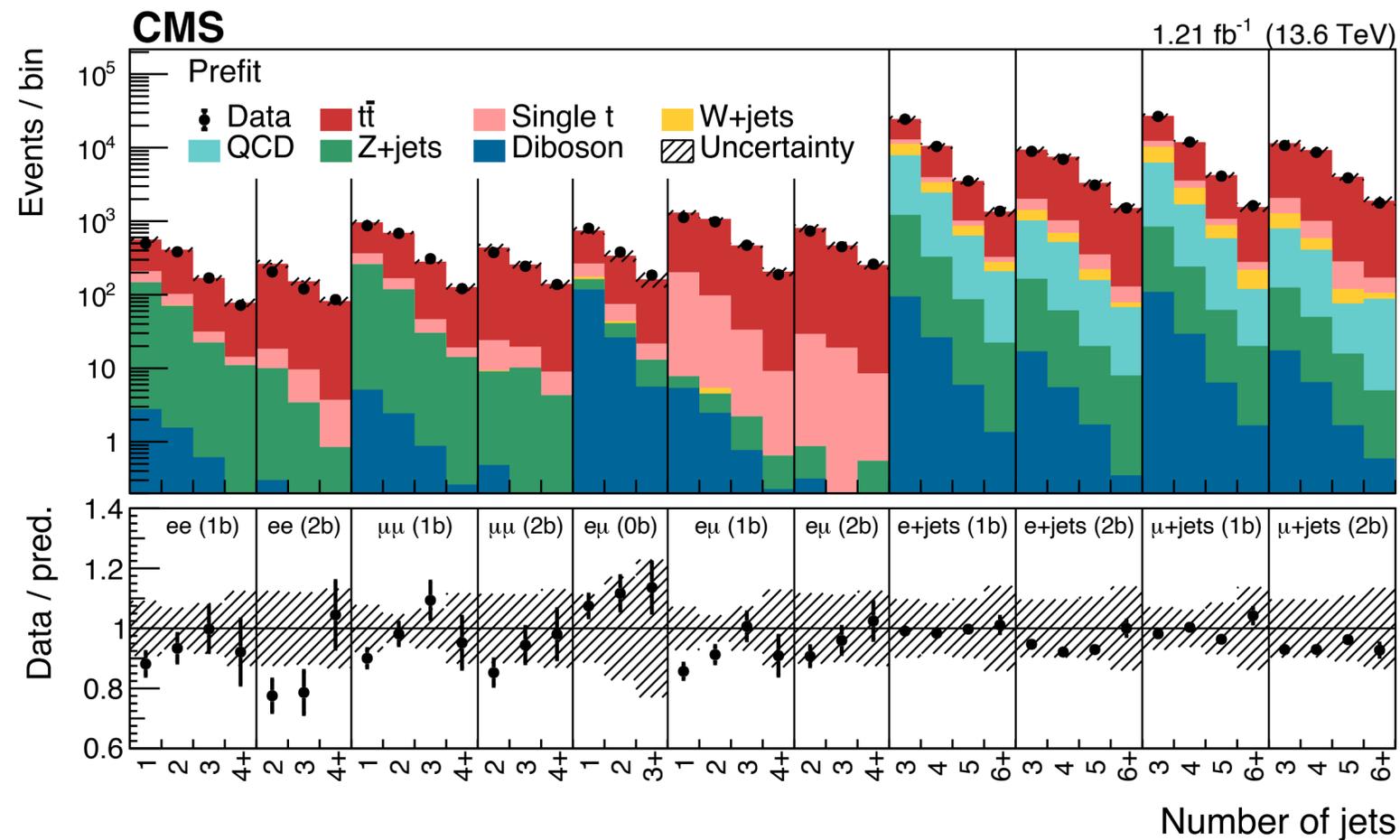
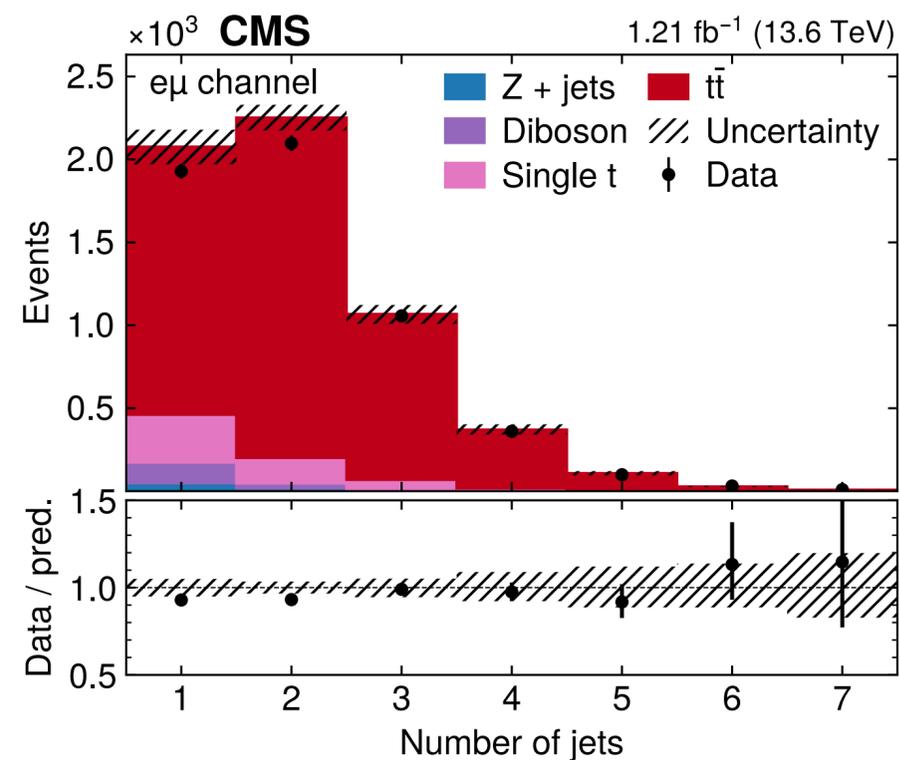


$t\bar{t}$

[arXiv:2303.10680](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.10680)

## First $t\bar{t}$ measurement in Run-3 at new energy, 1.21 fb<sup>-1</sup>

- single and dilepton channels
- $p_T(\ell) > 35$  GeV; new jet calibration; data driven Z+jets & QCD multijet
- ML fit with cut&count cross-check in  $e\mu$  channel



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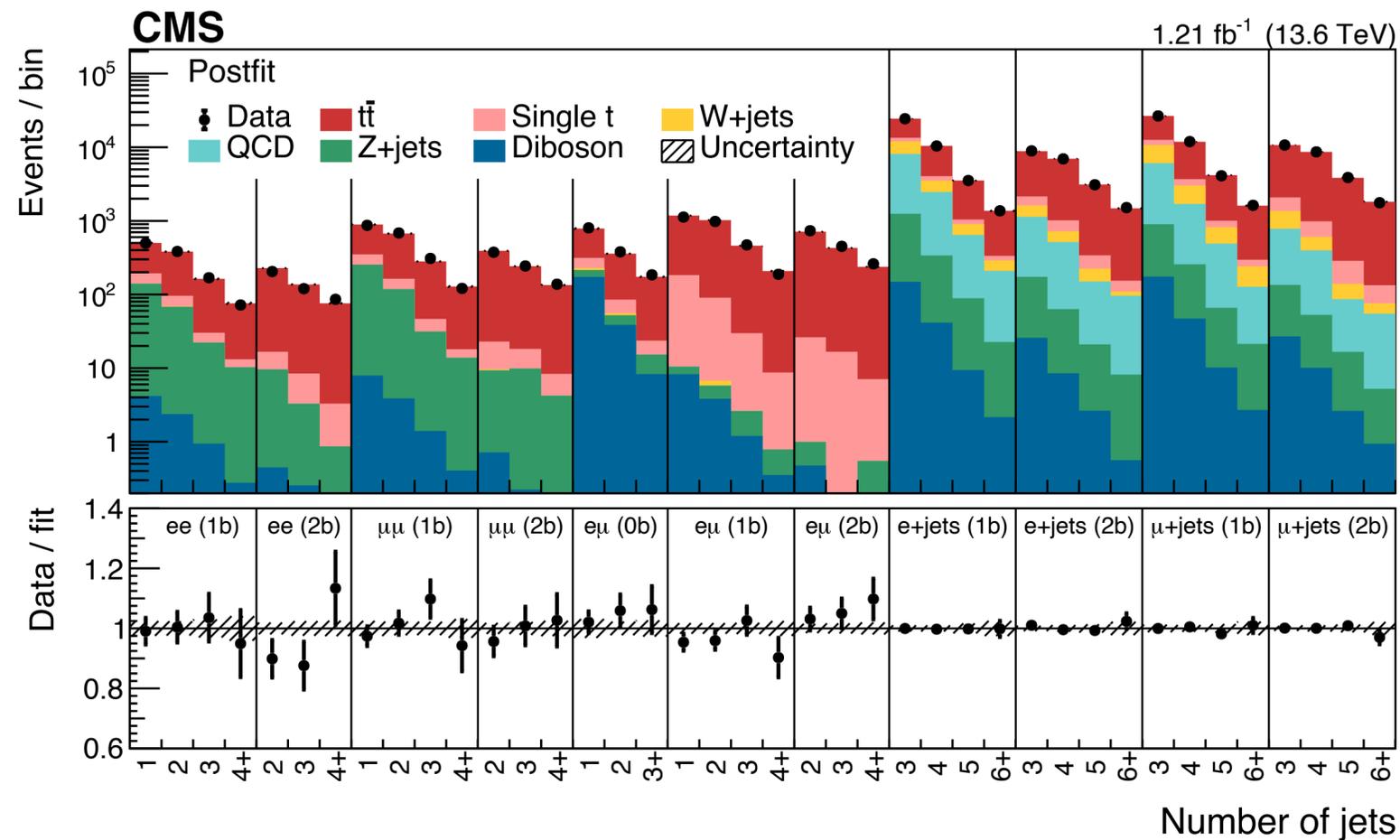
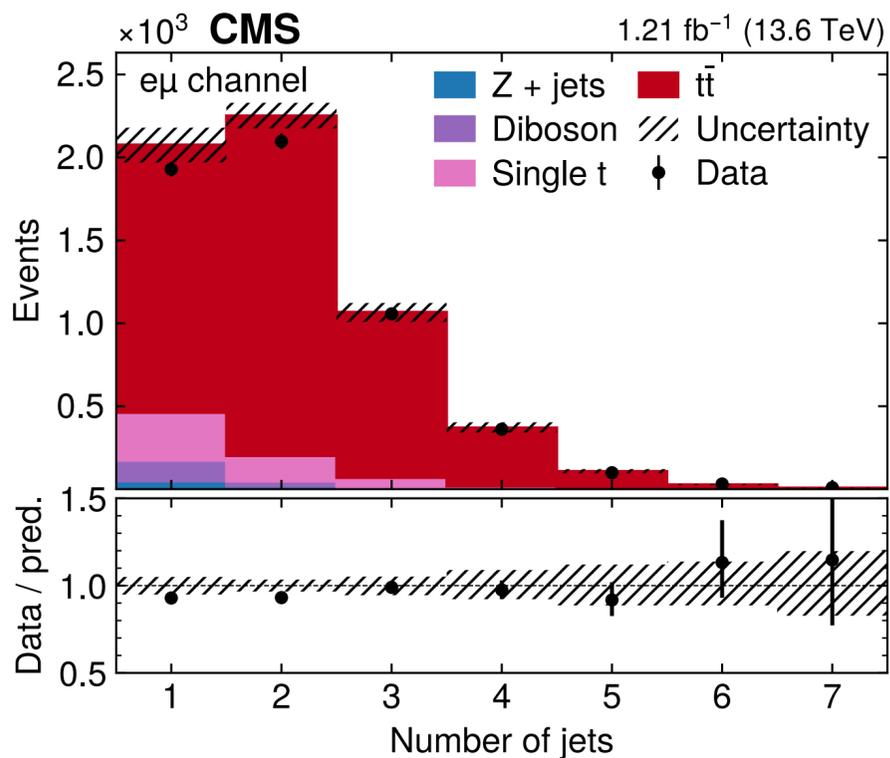


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Source	Uncertainty (%)
Lepton ID efficiencies	1.6
Trigger efficiency	0.3
JES	0.7
b tagging efficiency	1.1
Pileup reweighting	0.5
ME scale, $t\bar{t}$	0.6
ME scale, backgrounds	0.1
ME/PS matching	0.1
PS scales	0.3
PDF and $\alpha_S$	0.3
Single t background	1.0
Z+jets background	0.3
W+jets background	0.0
Diboson background	0.5
QCD multijet background	0.3
Statistical uncertainty	0.5
Combined uncertainty	2.6
Integrated luminosity	2.3

- $\sigma_{t\bar{t}} = 882 \pm 23 \text{ (stat. + syst.)} \pm 20 \text{ (lumi.) pb} \quad (921_{-37}^{+29} \text{ pb expected})$

# $t\bar{t}$ production at 13.6 TeV



[arXiv:2308.09529](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.09529)

Measure  $t\bar{t}$  and  $Z$  cross-section simultaneously,  $29 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

- $e\mu$  channel for  $t\bar{t}$
- $ee$  and  $\mu\mu$  for  $Z$  cross-section
- ratio cancels lumi dependence

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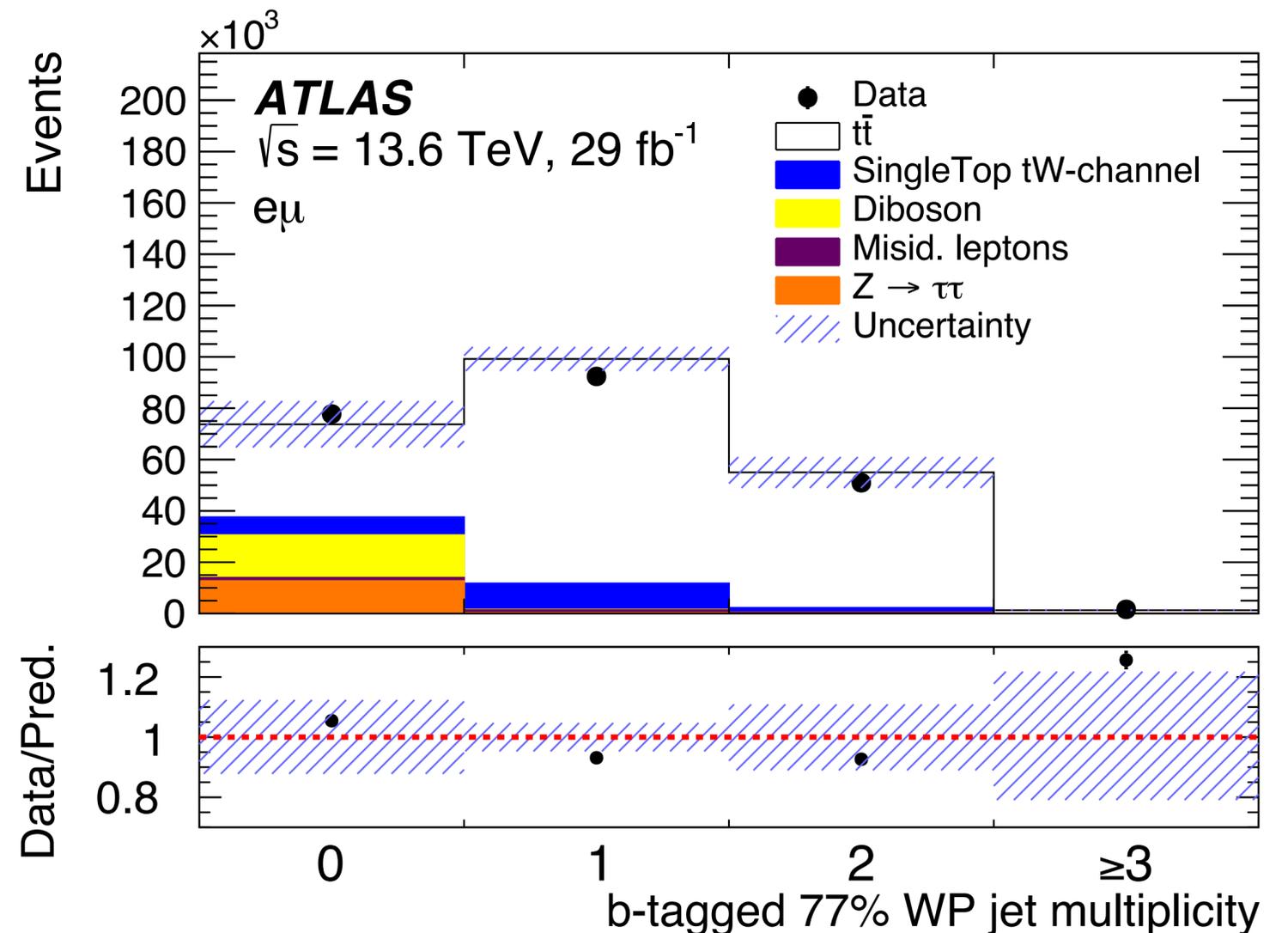
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## Strategy

- count b-tag multiplicity
- also extract b-tag efficiency

$$N_1 = L\sigma_{t\bar{t}}\epsilon_{e\mu}2\epsilon_b(1 - C_b\epsilon_b) + N_1^{\text{bkg}},$$

$$N_2 = L\sigma_{t\bar{t}}\epsilon_{e\mu}C_b\epsilon_b^2 + N_2^{\text{bkg}},$$



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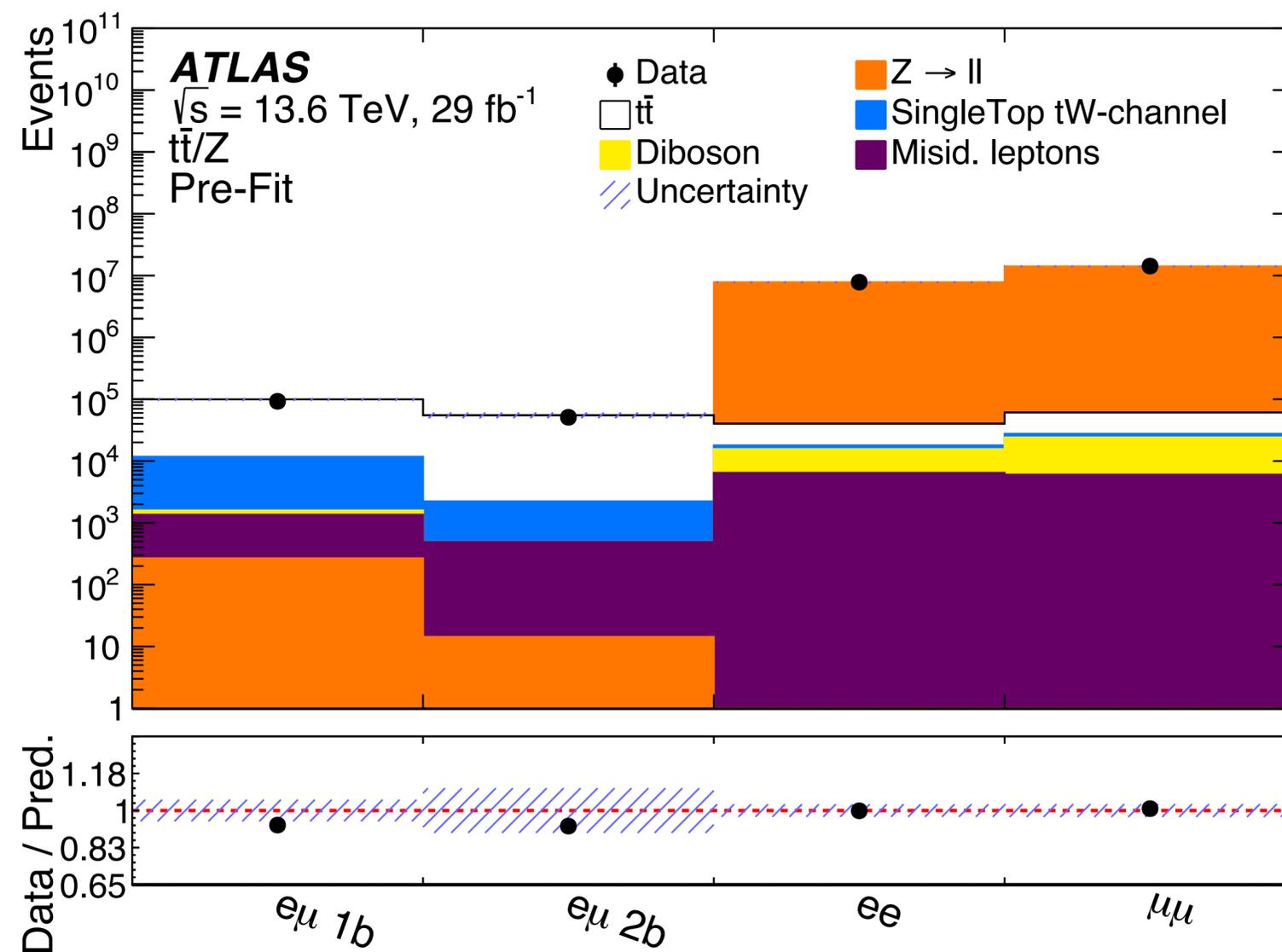
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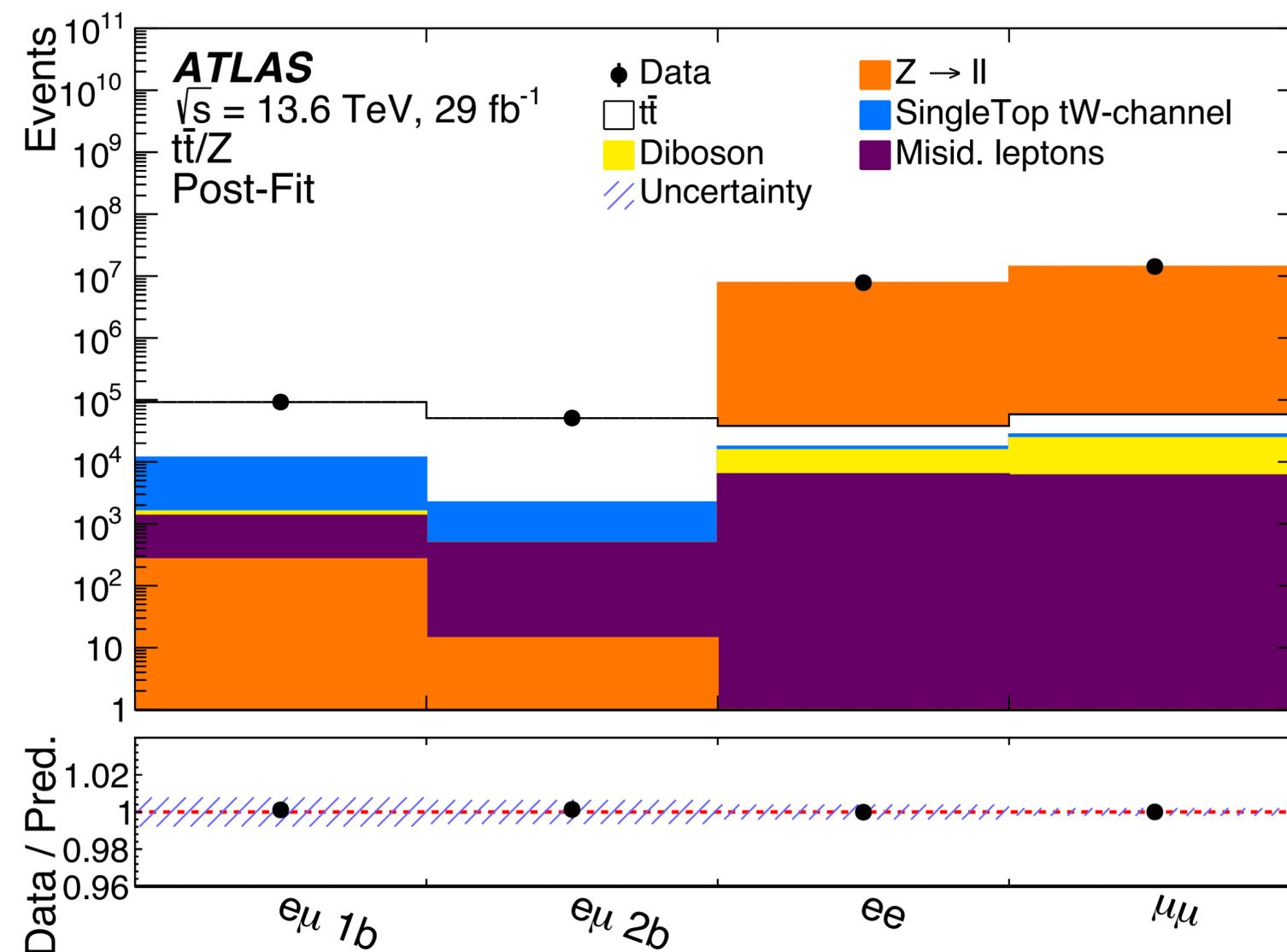
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Category		Uncertainty [%]		
		$\sigma_{t\bar{t}}$	$\sigma_{Z\rightarrow\ell\ell}^{\text{fid.}}$	$R_{t\bar{t}/Z}$
$t\bar{t}$	$t\bar{t}$ parton shower/hadronisation	0.9	< 0.2	0.9
	$t\bar{t}$ scale variations	0.4	< 0.2	0.4
	$t\bar{t}$ normalisation	-	< 0.2	-
	Top quark $p_T$ reweighting	0.6	< 0.2	0.6
Z	Z scale variations	< 0.2	0.4	0.3
Bkg.	Single top modelling	0.6	< 0.2	0.6
	Diboson modelling	< 0.2	< 0.2	0.2
	$t\bar{t}V$ modelling	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2
	Fake and non-prompt leptons	0.6	< 0.2	0.6
Lept.	Electron reconstruction	1.2	1.0	0.4
	Muon reconstruction	1.4	1.4	0.3
	Lepton trigger	0.4	0.4	0.4
	Jets/tagging	0.4	-	0.4
Jets/tagging	Jet reconstruction	0.4	-	0.4
	Flavour tagging	0.4	-	0.3
	PDFs	0.5	< 0.2	0.5
	Pileup	0.7	0.8	< 0.2
	Luminosity	2.3	2.2	0.3
	Systematic uncertainty	3.2	2.8	1.8
	Statistical uncertainty	0.3	0.02	0.3
	Total uncertainty	3.2	2.8	1.9

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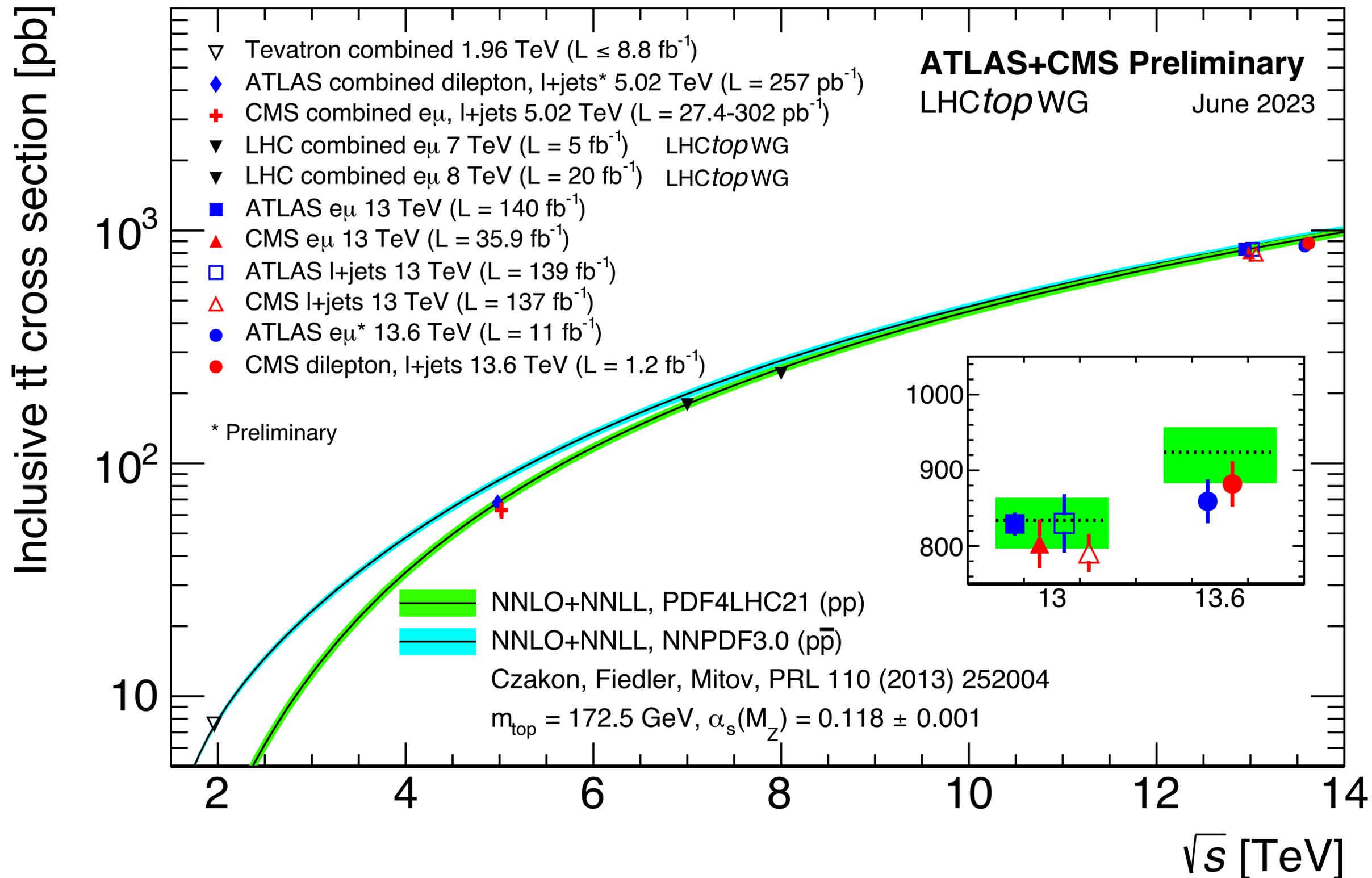
$$N_2 = L\sigma_{t\bar{t}}\epsilon_{e\mu}C_b\epsilon_b^2 + N_2^{\text{bkg}},$$

## Results

- $\sigma_{t\bar{t}} = 850 \pm 3$  (stat.)  $\pm 18$  (syst.)  $\pm 20$  (lumi.) pb
- $R_{t\bar{t}/Z} = 1.145 \pm 0.003$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.021$  (syst.)  $\pm 0.002$  (lumi.)

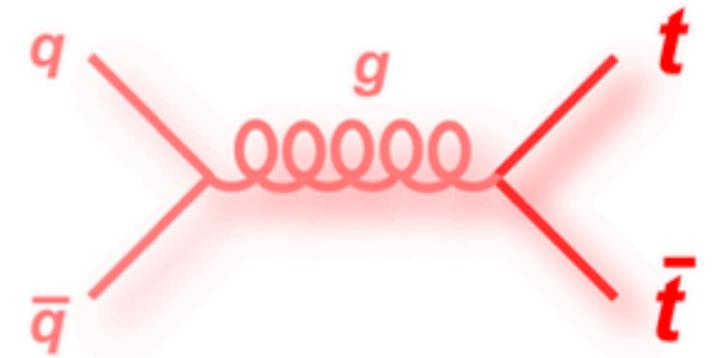
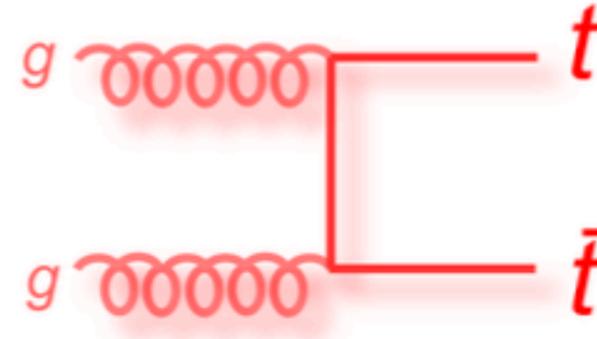
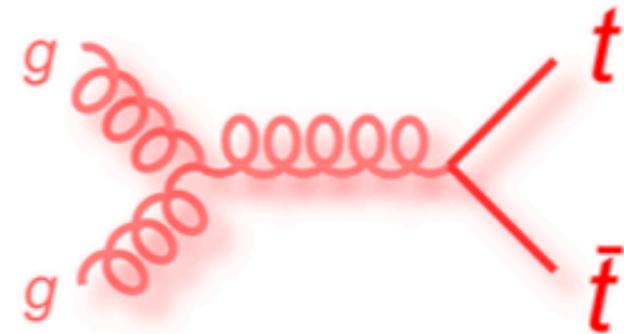
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# $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ cross-section summary

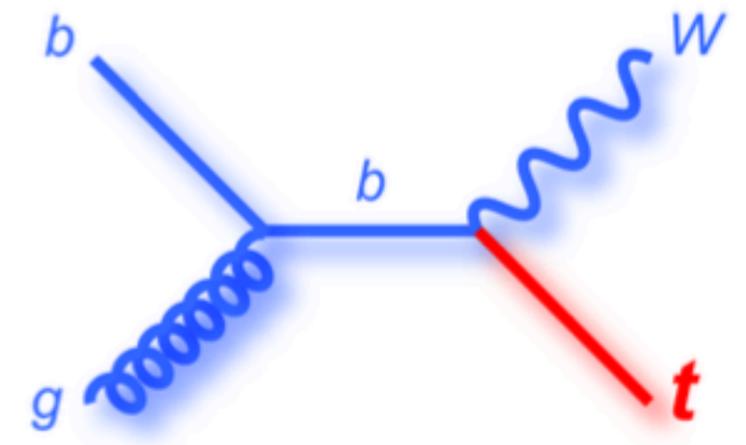
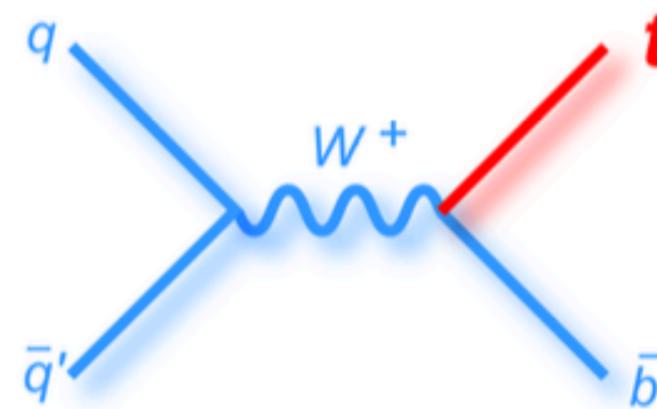
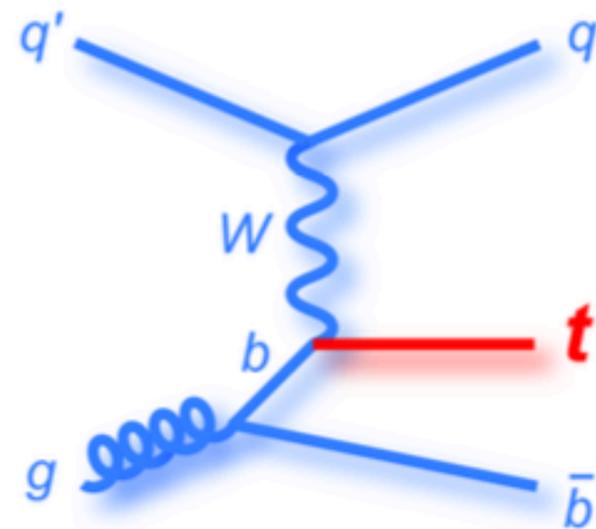


# Single top production

top-quark pair  
 $\sigma \simeq 834 \text{ pb @13 TeV}$   
(NNLO+NNLL)



single-top



t-channel

$\sigma \simeq 214 \text{ pb @13 TeV}$   
(NNLO)

s-channel

$\sigma \simeq 11 \text{ pb @13 TeV}$   
(NNLO)

tW

$\sigma \simeq 79 \text{ pb @13 TeV}$   
(NLO+NNLL)

# t-channel 13 TeV cross section



single top

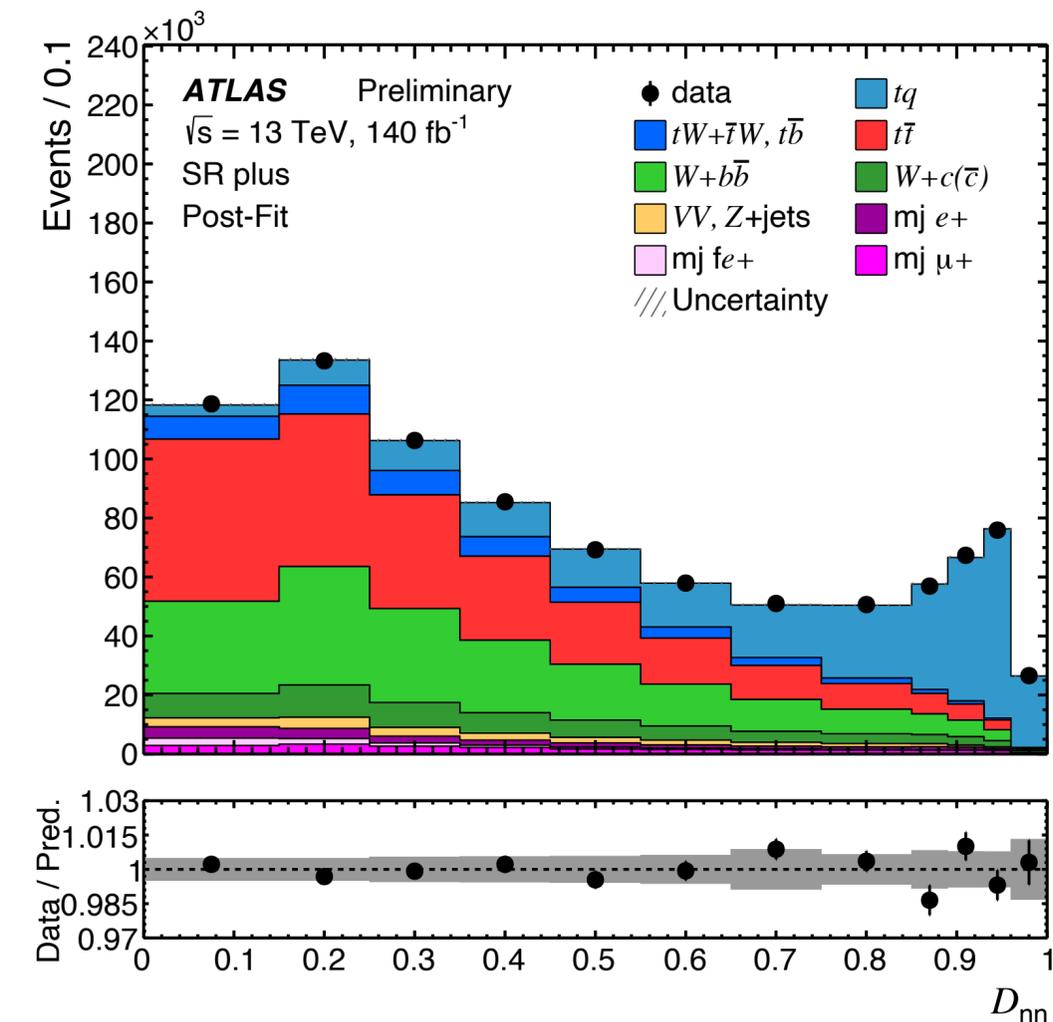
[ATLAS-CONF-2023-026](#)

# t-channel 13 TeV cross section

Typical signal region: 1 e/ $\mu$ , 1 b-jet, 1 forward jet

[ATLAS-CONF-2023-026](#)

- NN to separate signal from background



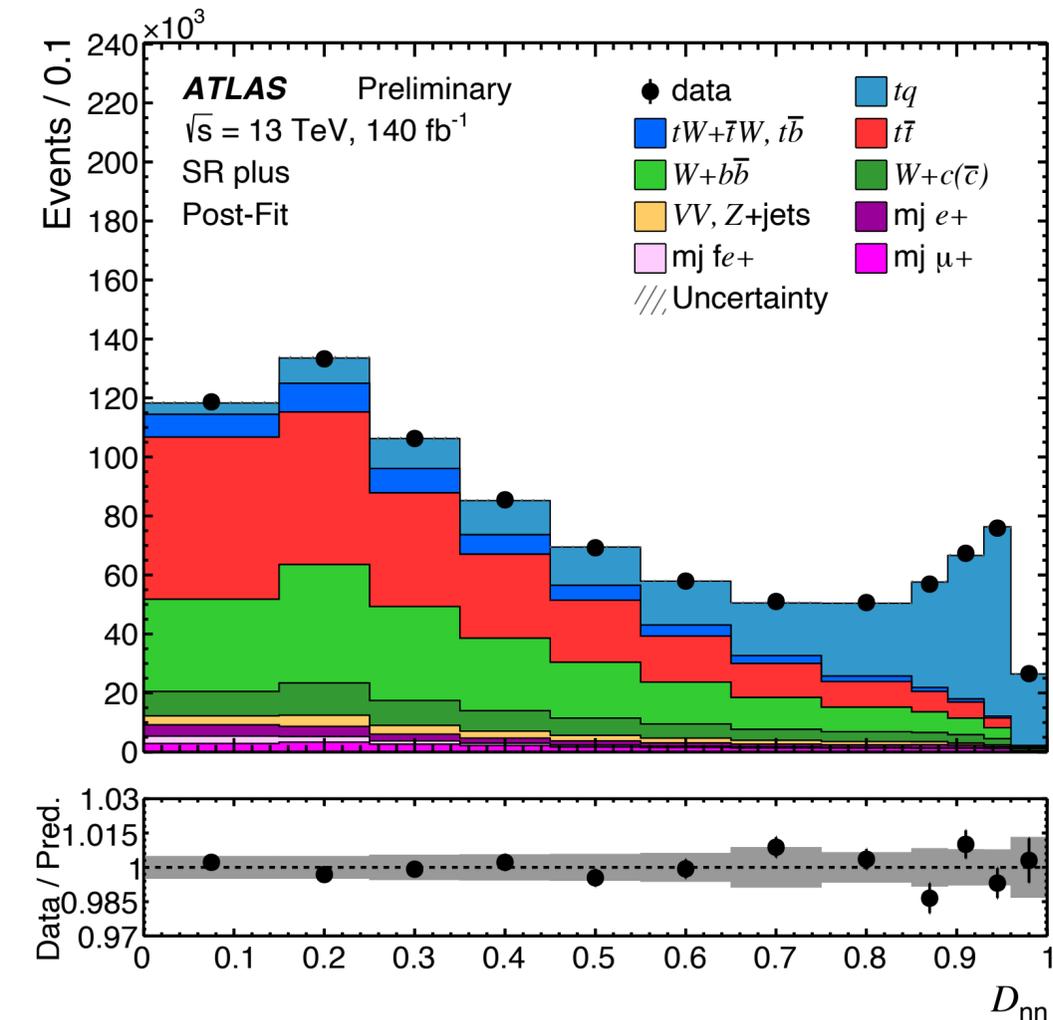
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Preliminary result, full Run-2 dataset

- $\sigma_t = 137 \pm 8$  pb,  $\sigma_{\bar{t}} = 84_{-5}^{+6}$  pb,
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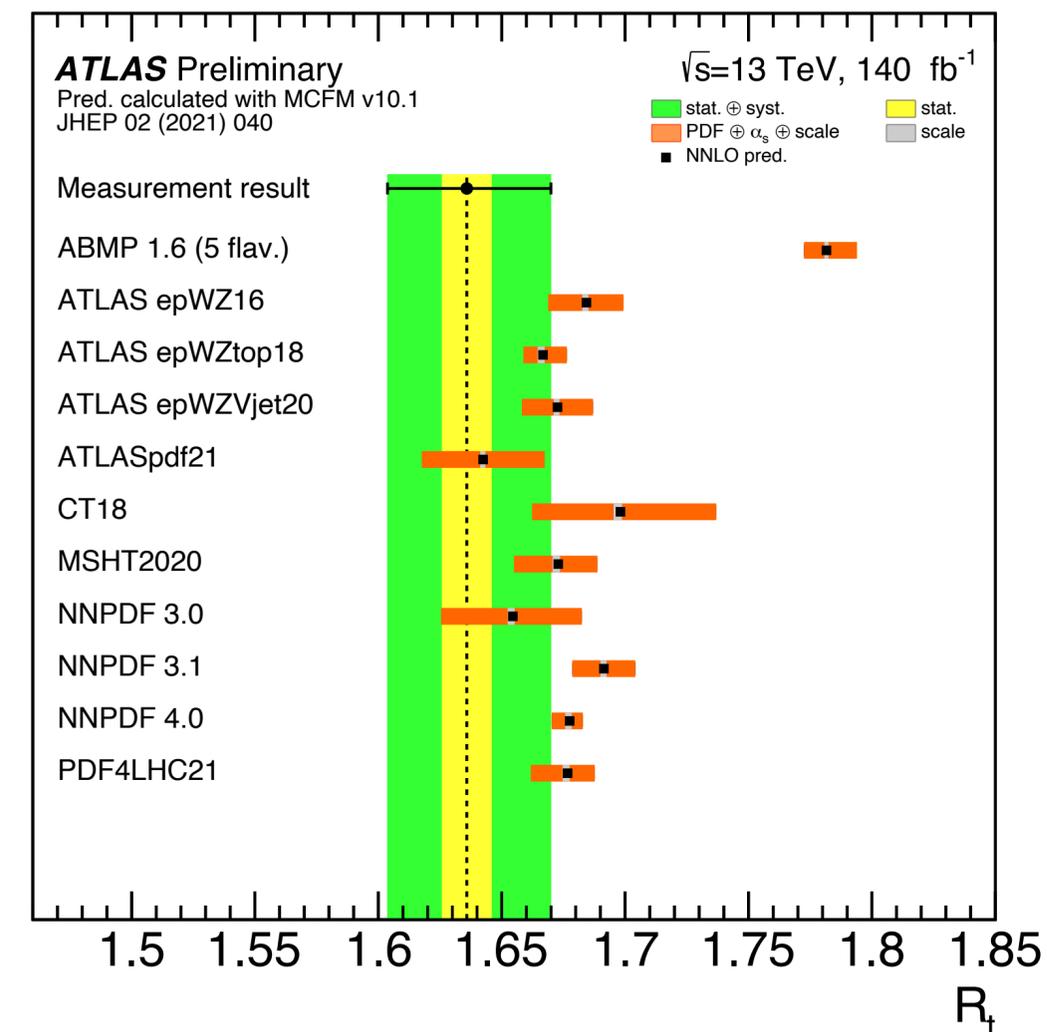
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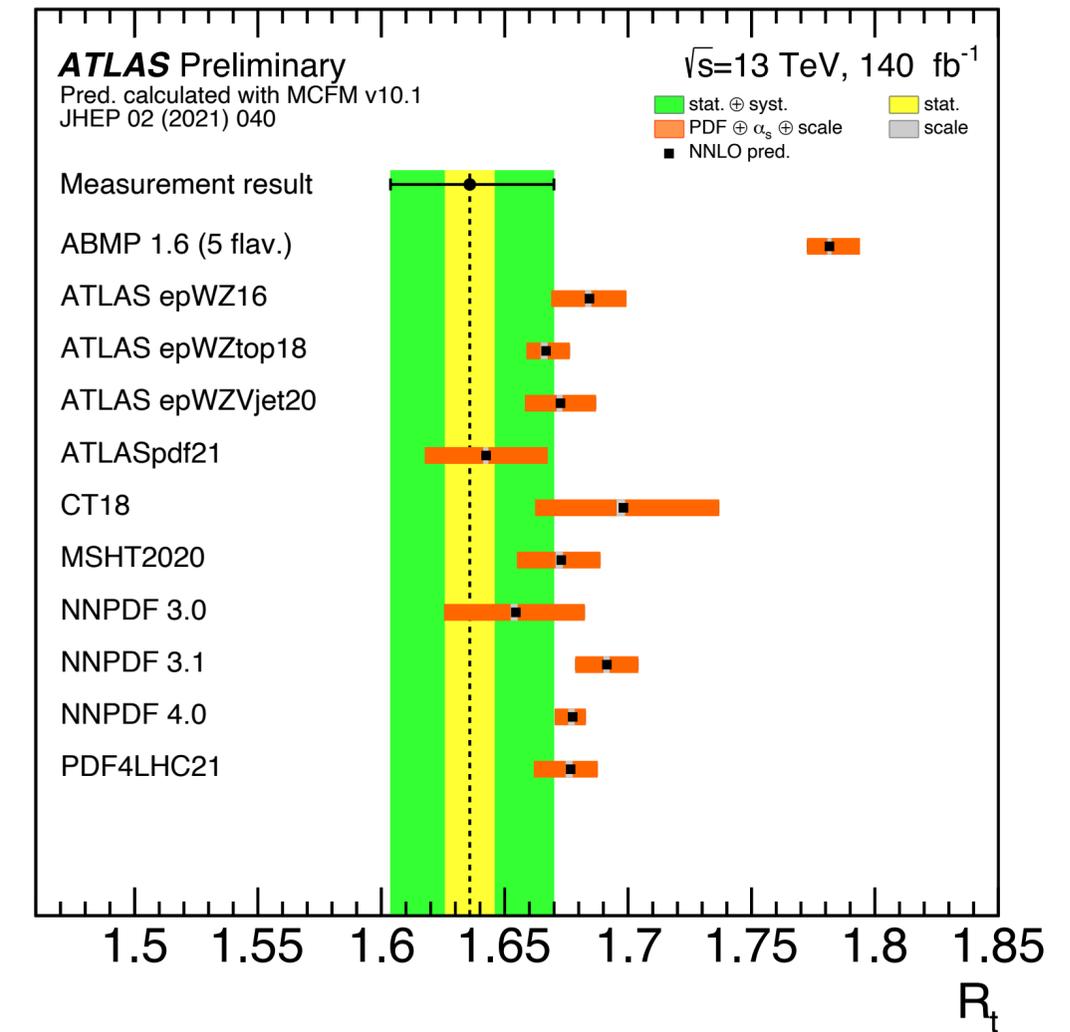
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Wtq vertex in production and decay

→  $\sigma$  and  $\Gamma$  sensitive to  $|V_{tq}|$

- assuming  $|V_{tb}| \gg |V_{td(s)}| \rightarrow f_{LV} \cdot |V_{tb}| = 1.016 \pm 0.031$
- additionally  $|V_{tb}| \in [0,1] \rightarrow |V_{tb}| > 0.95$  at 95% C.L.



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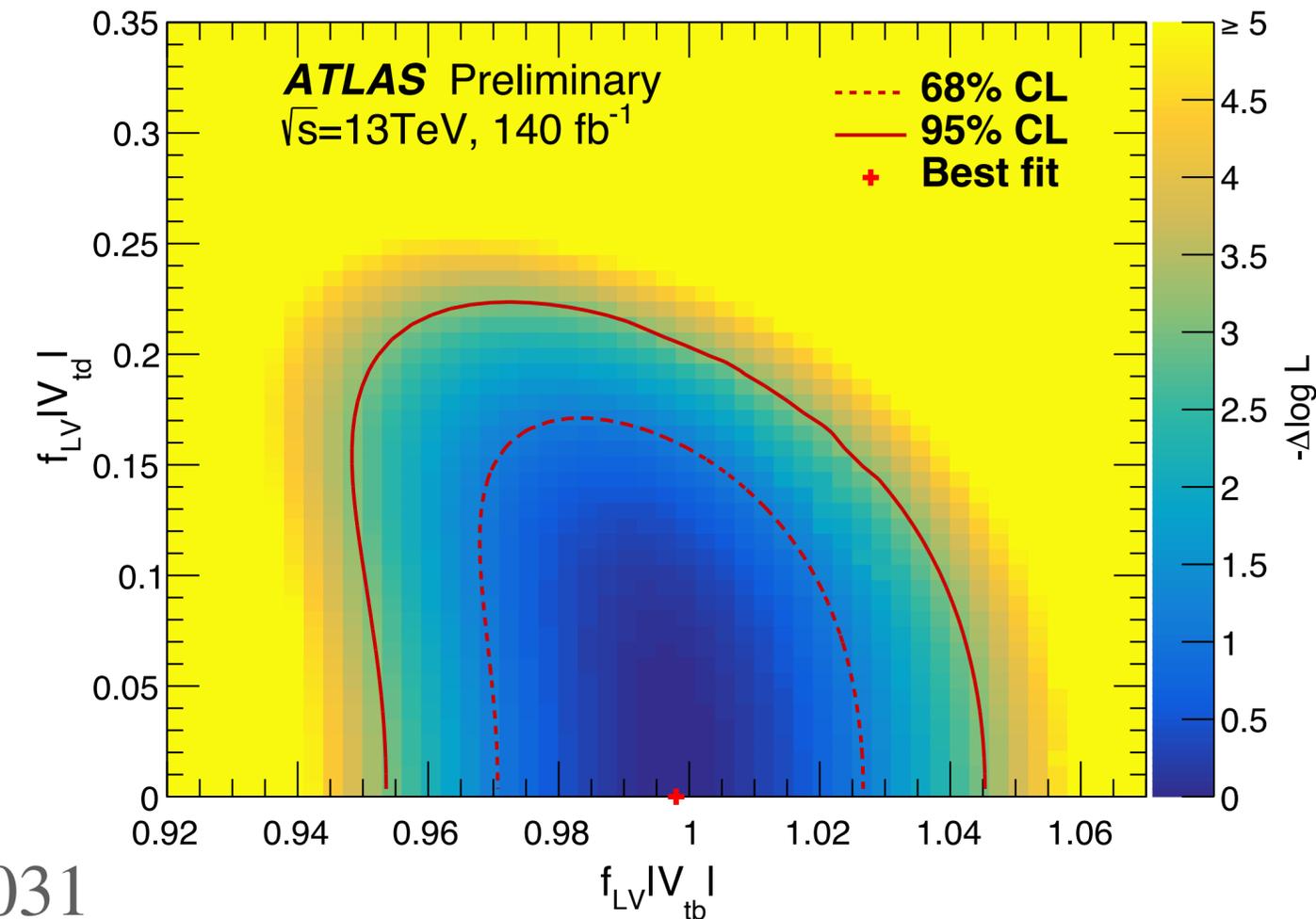
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- 2D contours, relaxing constraints, three scenarios



$|V_{ts}| = 0$

Typical signal region: 1 e/μ, 1 b-jet, 1 forward jet

- NN to separate signal from background

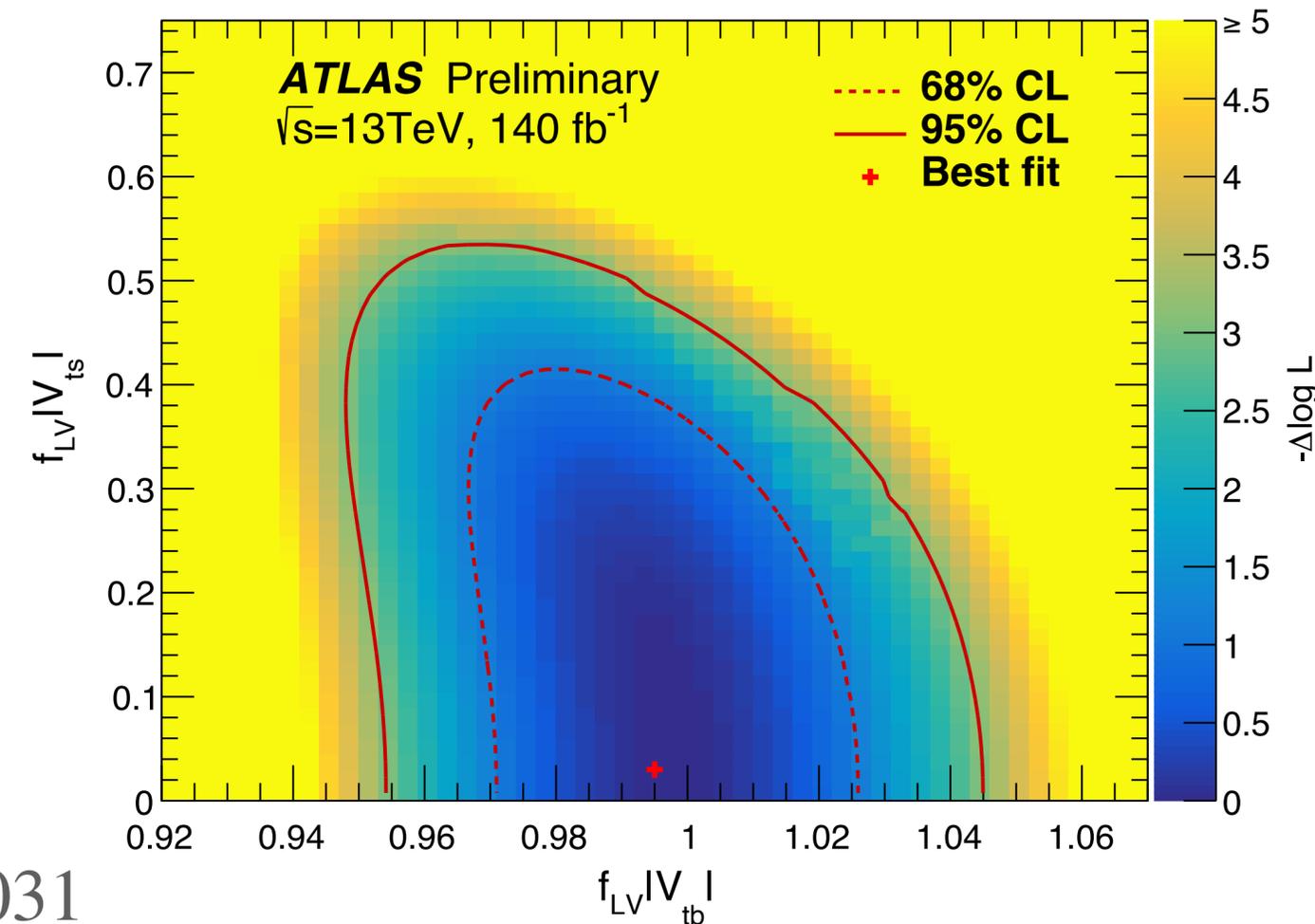
Preliminary result, full Run-2 dataset

- $\sigma_t = 137 \pm 8$  pb,  $\sigma_{\bar{t}} = 84_{-5}^{+6}$  pb,
- $\sigma_{t+\bar{t}} = 221 \pm 13$  pb,  $R_t = \sigma_t/\sigma_{\bar{t}} = 1.636_{-0.034}^{+0.036}$
- cancellation of systematics
- sensitive to PDFs

Wtq vertex in production and decay

→  $\sigma$  and  $\Gamma$  sensitive to  $|V_{tq}|$

- assuming  $|V_{tb}| \gg |V_{td(s)}| \rightarrow f_{LV} \cdot |V_{tb}| = 1.016 \pm 0.031$
- additionally  $|V_{tb}| \in [0,1] \rightarrow |V_{tb}| > 0.95$  at 95% C.L.
- 2D contours, relaxing constraints, three scenarios



$|V_{td}| = 0$

Typical signal region: 1e/μ, 1 b-jet, 1 forward jet

- NN to separate signal from background

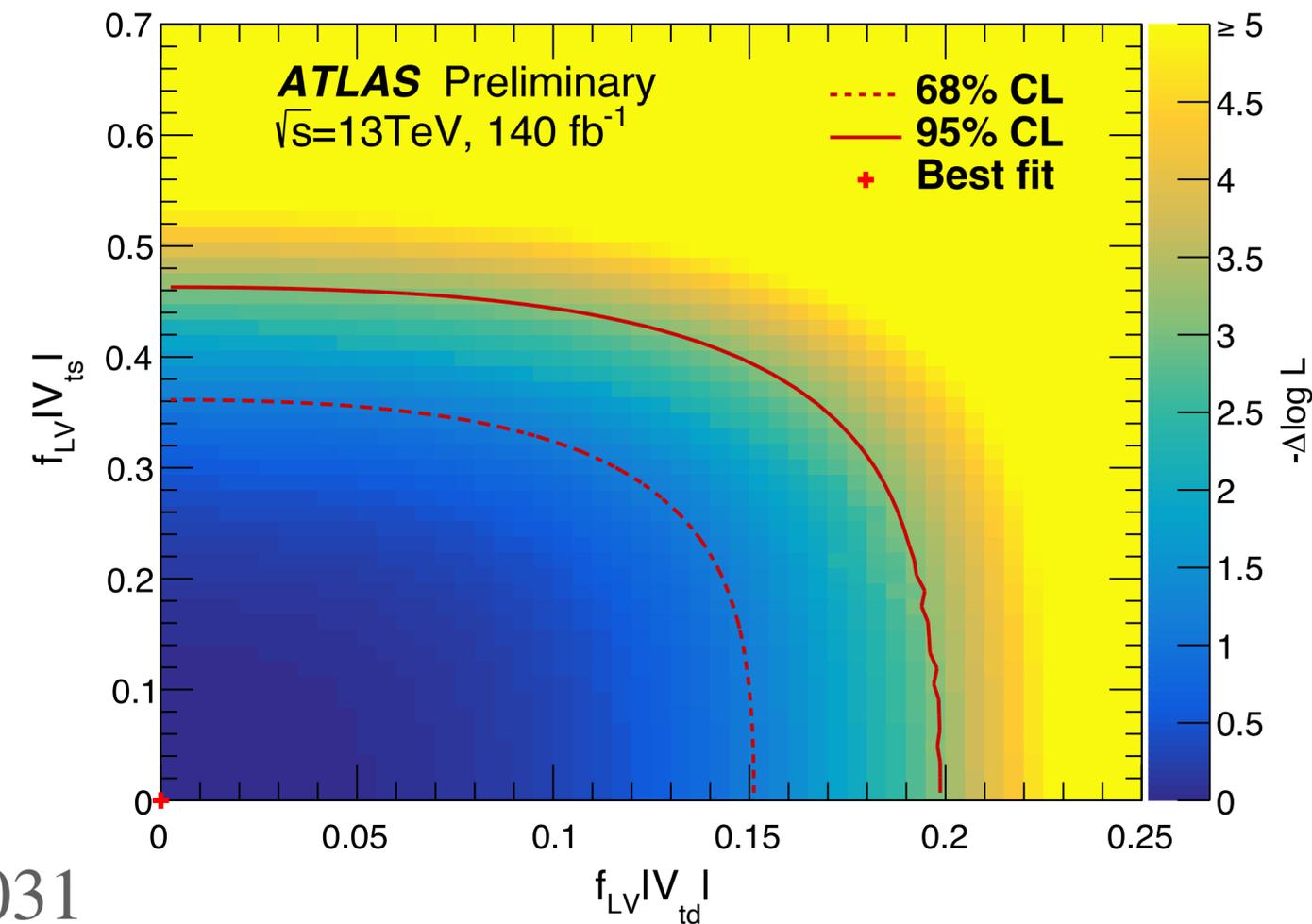
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- 2D contours, relaxing constraints, three scenarios



$|V_{tb}| = 1$

# t-channel 5 TeV cross section

Preliminary result, 5 TeV pp collisions 257 pb<sup>-1</sup>

- similar analysis strategy as for 13 TeV collisions
- significance: 6.1σ (6.4σ expected)

Measurements compatible with SM predictions

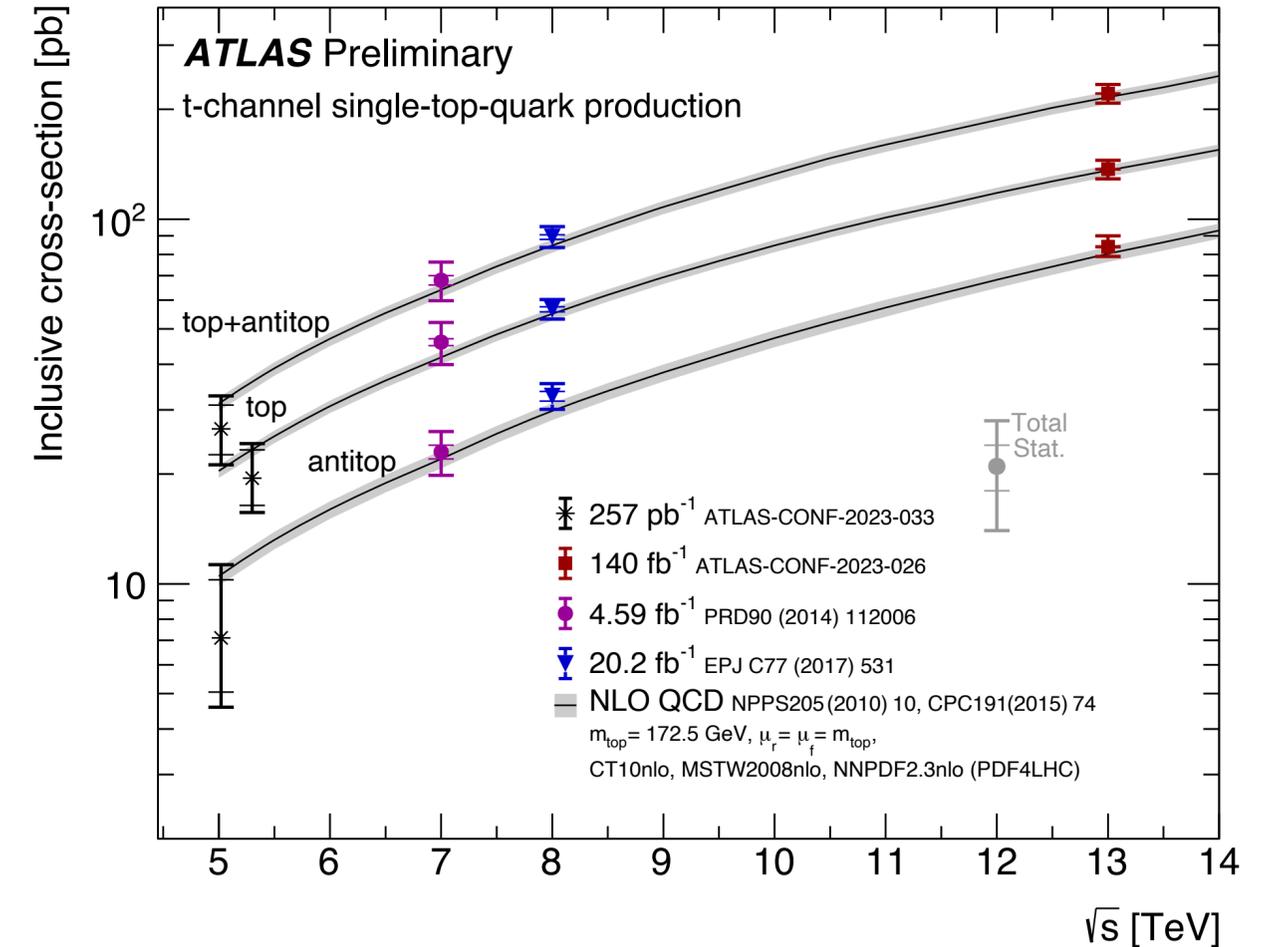
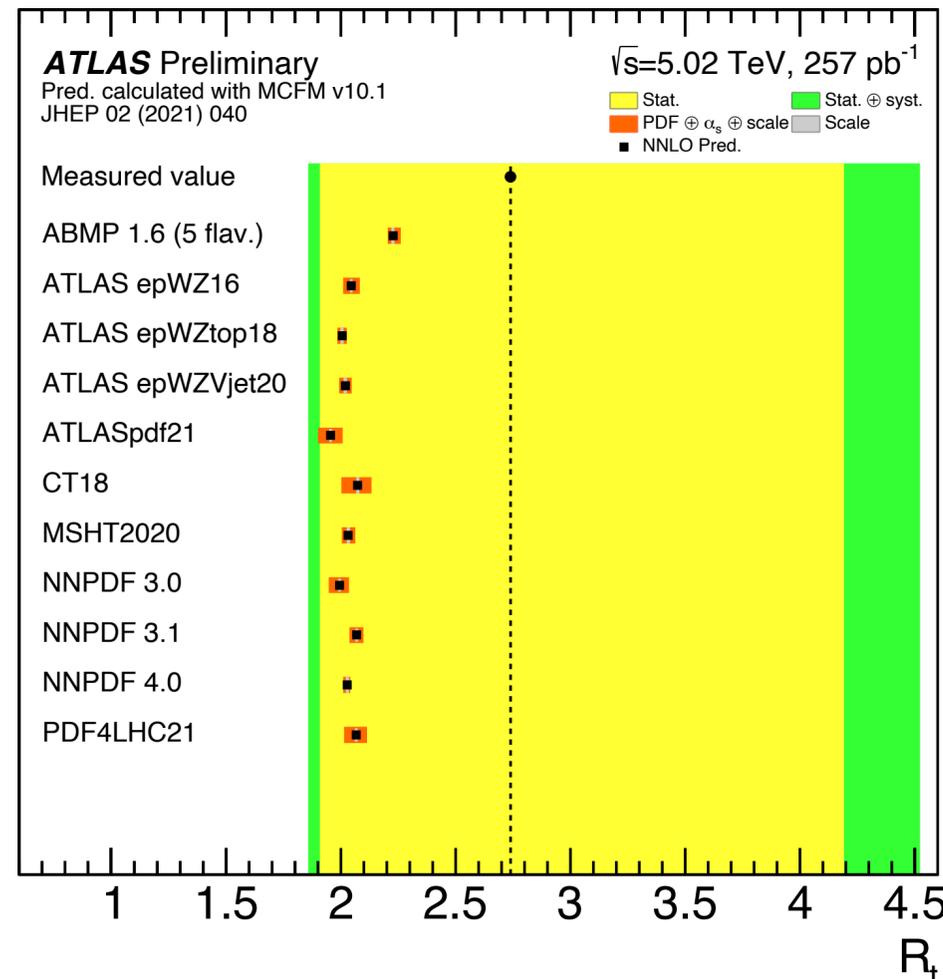
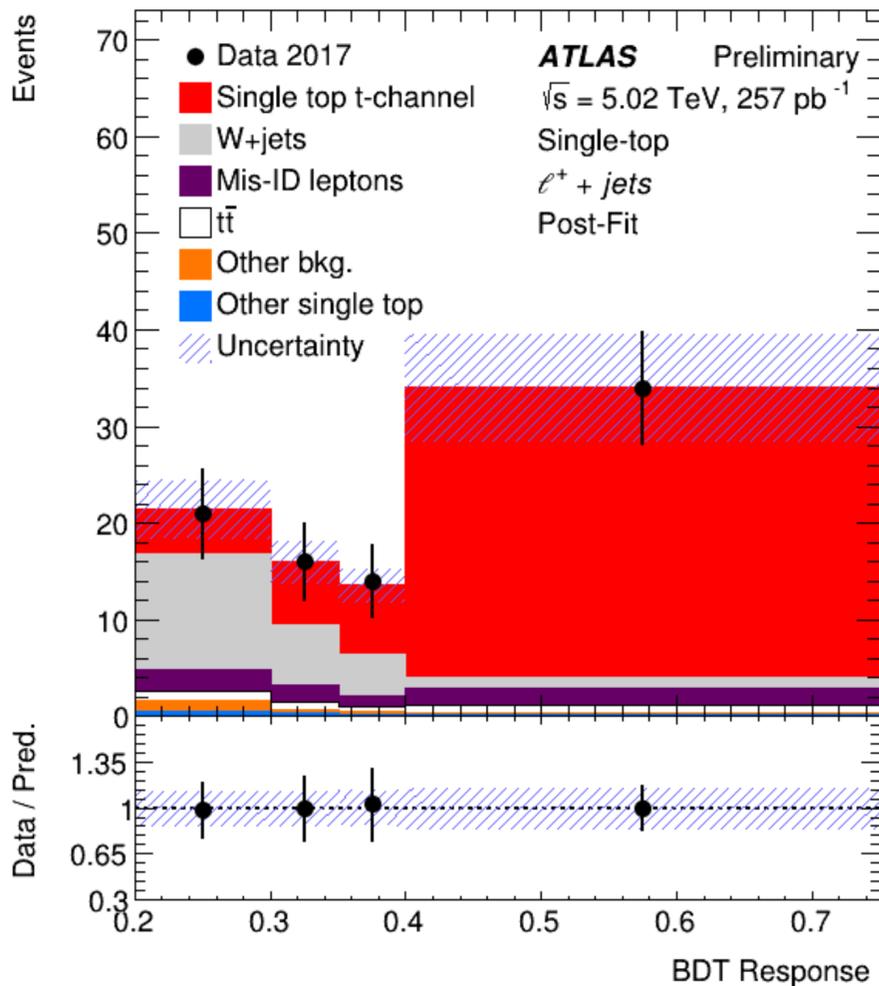
Additional probe for PDFs, at lower energies

$$\sigma_t = 19.5^{+3.8}_{-3.1}(\text{stat.})^{+2.9}_{-2.2}(\text{syst.}) \text{ pb}$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{t}} = 7.1^{+3.2}_{-2.1}(\text{stat.})^{+2.8}_{-1.5}(\text{syst.}) \text{ pb}$$

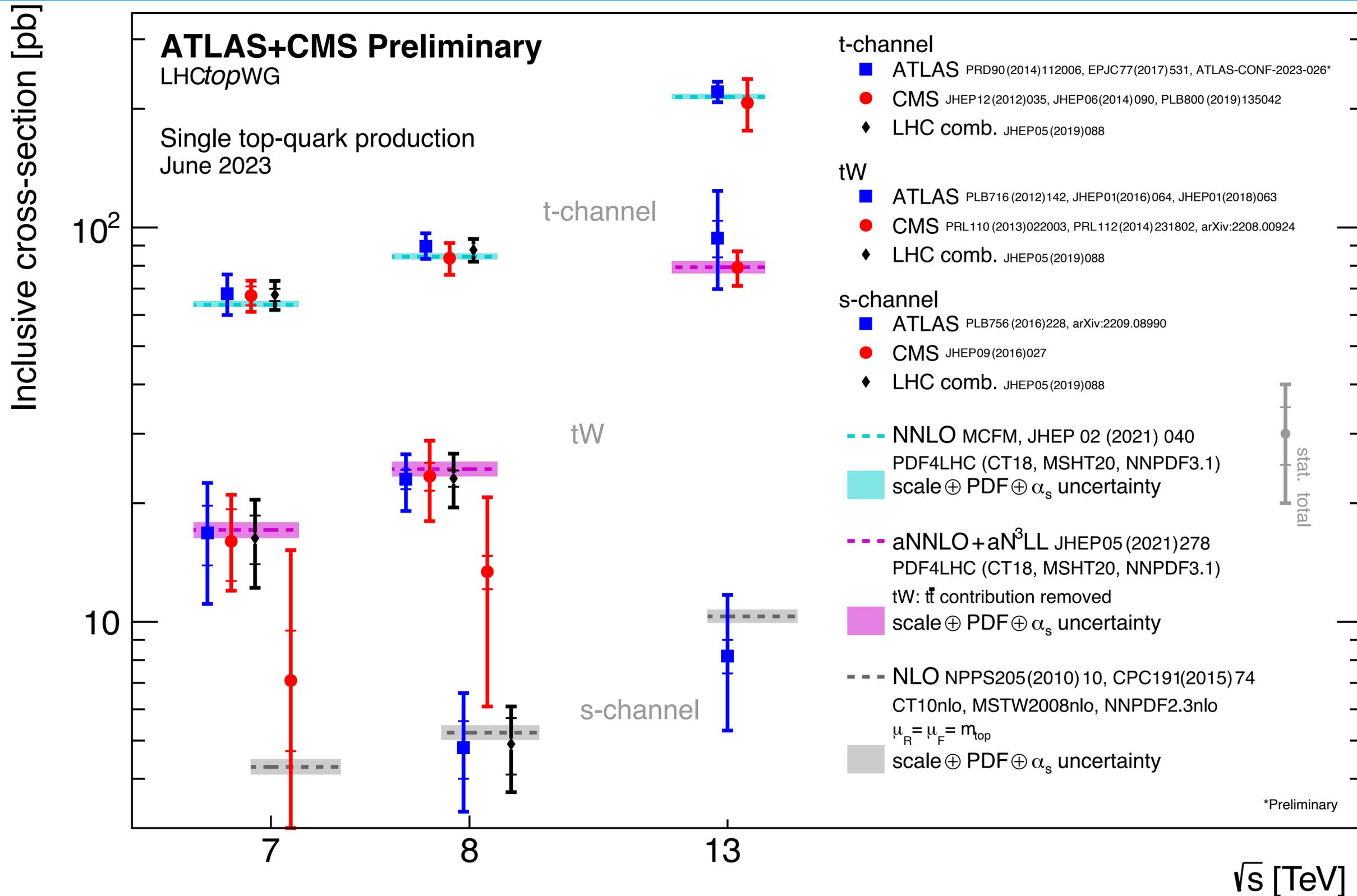
$$\sigma_{t+\bar{t}} = 26.6^{+4.3}_{-4.0}(\text{stat.})^{+4.4}_{-3.6}(\text{syst.}) \text{ pb}$$

$$R_t = 2.74^{+1.44}_{-0.83}(\text{stat.})^{+1.04}_{-0.29}(\text{syst.})$$

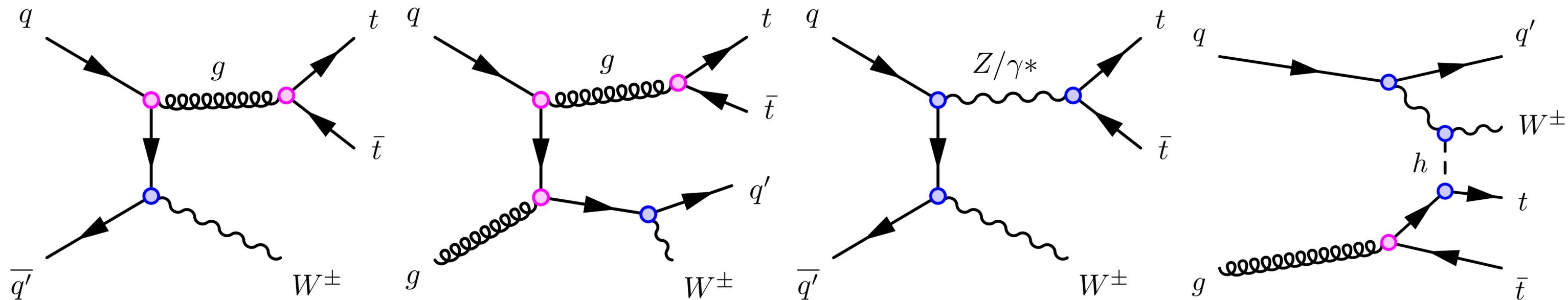


# Single top pp cross-sections summary

single top



## Rare process & important background for $4t$ , $t\bar{t}H$



## Analysis strategy

- $2\ell SS$  and  $3\ell$  regions, jets and b-tags
- $t\bar{t}Z$  and  $WZ$  from control regions
- misidentified leptons from sidebands

# $t\bar{t}W$ inclusive and differential

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W} = 890 \pm 80 \text{ fb}$$

- agrees with ref. prediction

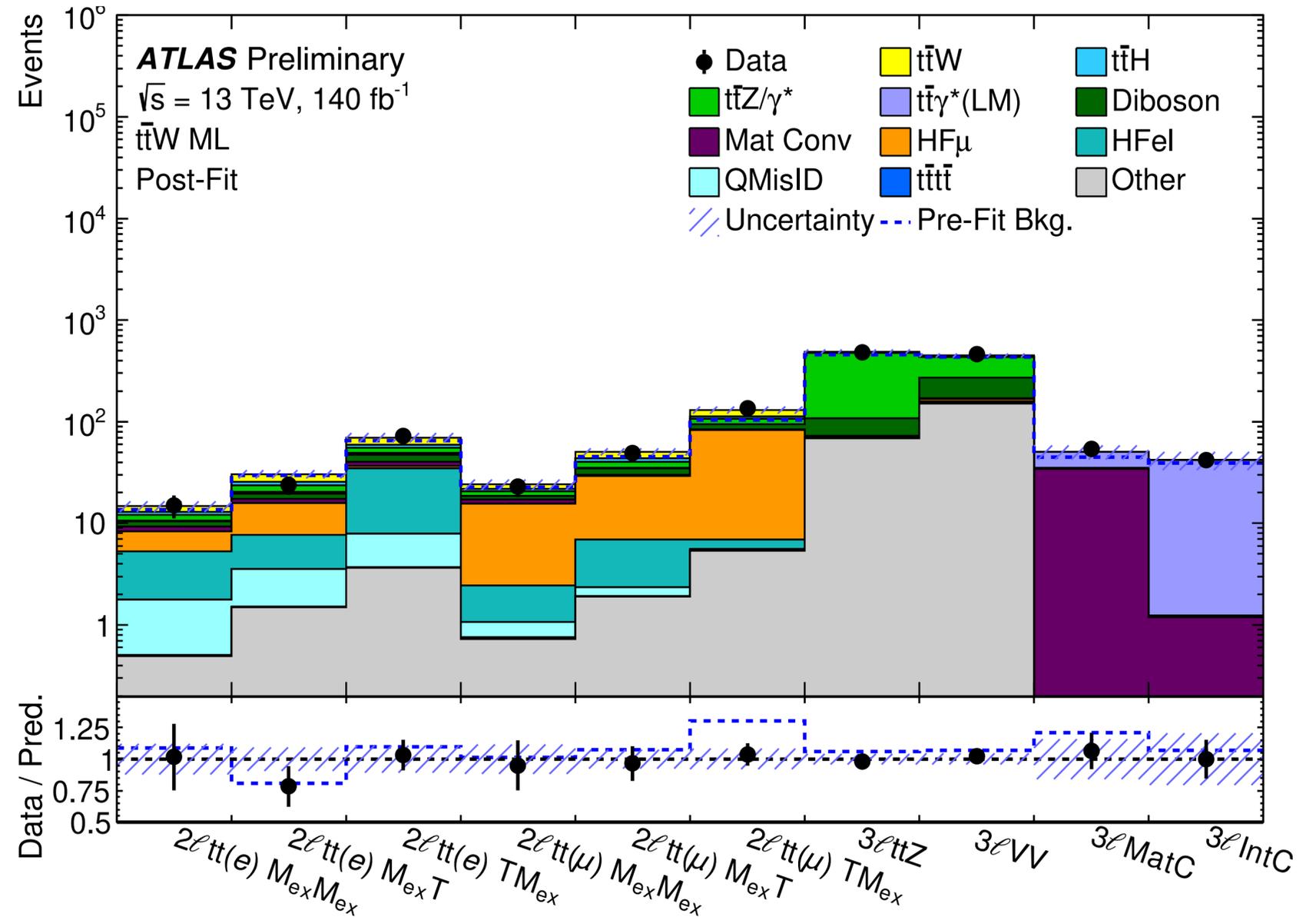
$$722_{-78}^{+70} \text{ (scale)} \pm 7 \text{ (PDF) fb}$$

(JHEP 11 (2021) 029)

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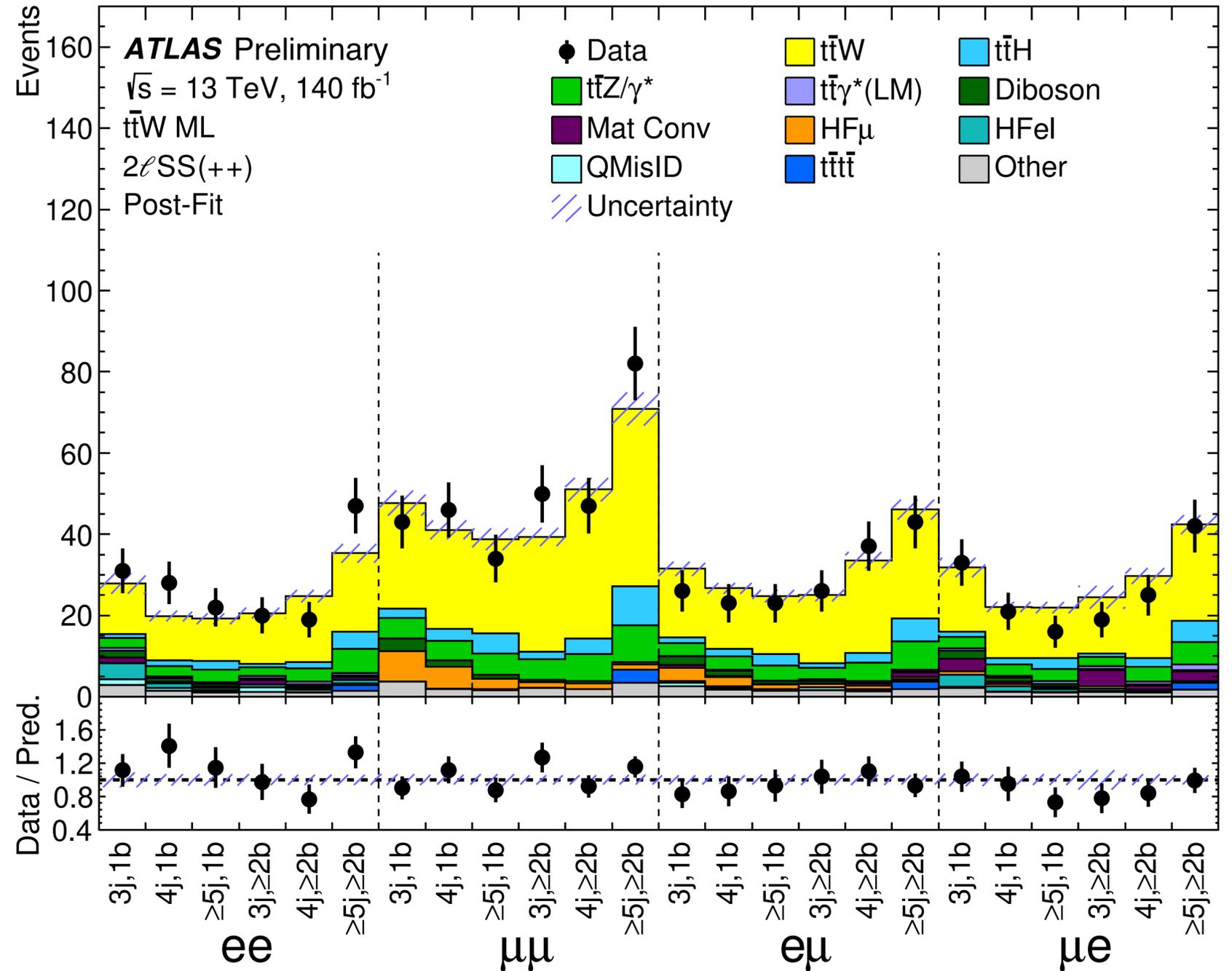
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 (JHEP 11 (2021) 029)



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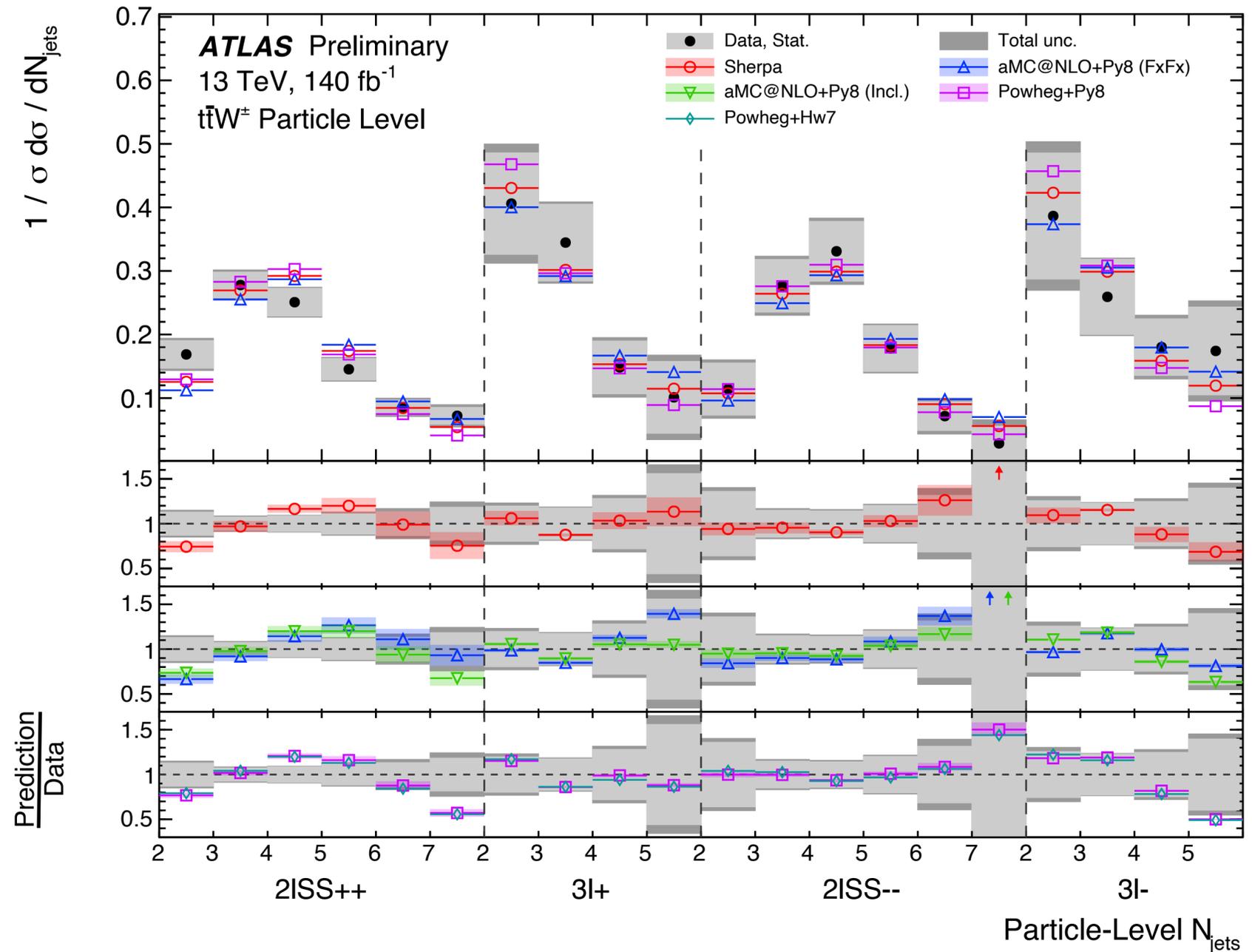
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(JHEP 11 (2021) 029)

Unfolded to particle-level vs  $N_{\text{jet}}$

Variable
$N_{\text{jets}}$
$H_{T,\text{jets}}$
$H_{T,\text{lep}}$
$\Delta R_{lb, \text{lead}}$
$ \Delta\phi_{ll, \text{SS}} $
$ \Delta\eta_{ll, \text{SS}} $
$M_{jj, \text{lead}}$

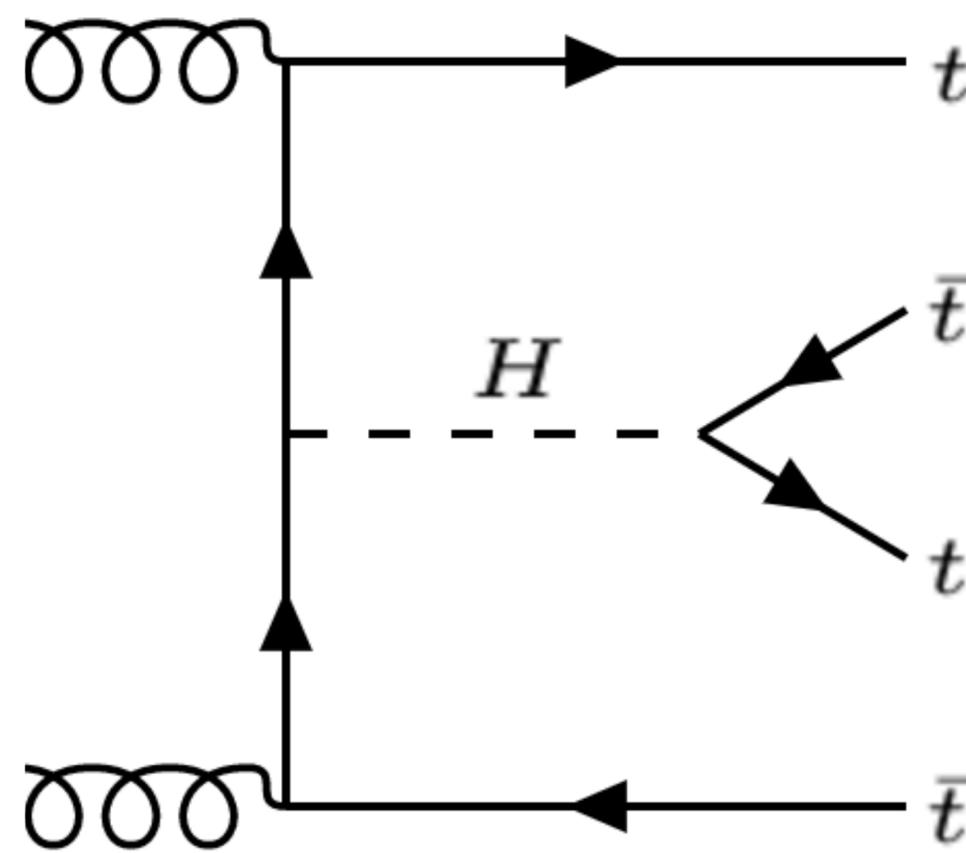
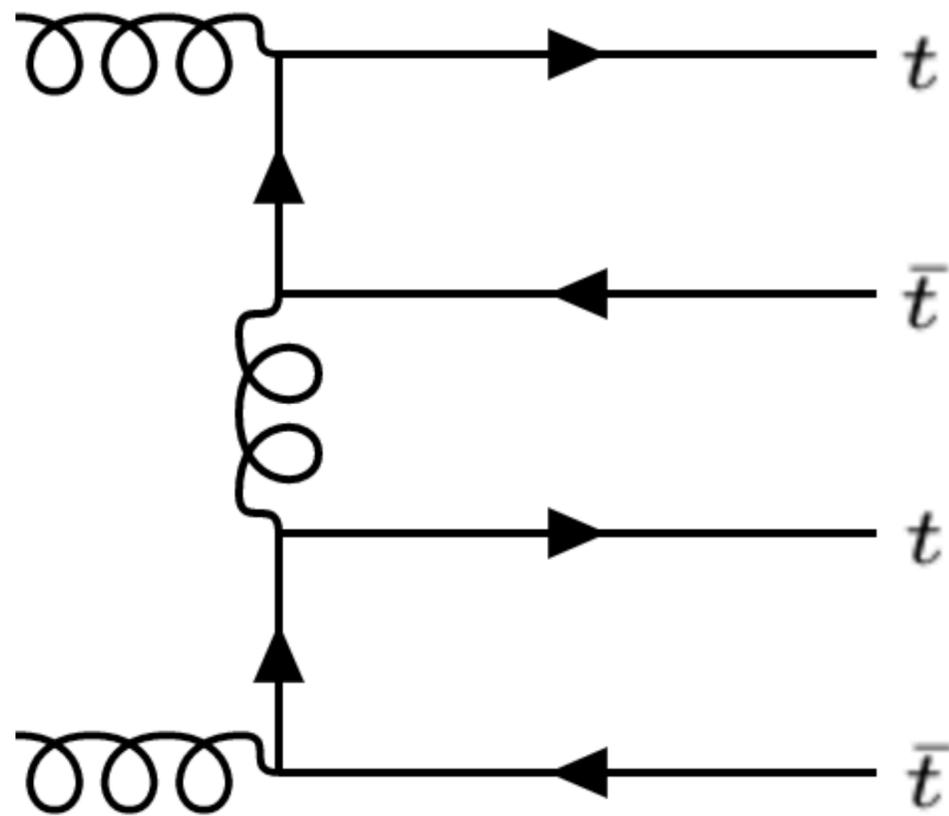
- agrees with simulations



# Four top-quark production

Very rare process sensitive to Higgs boson properties and BSM

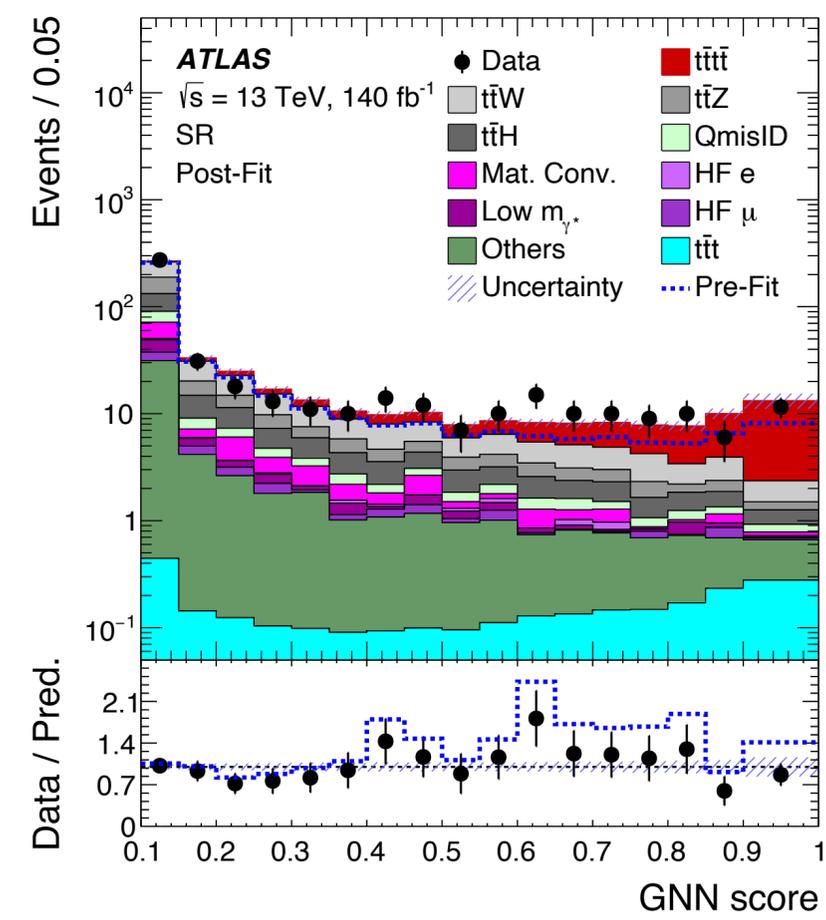
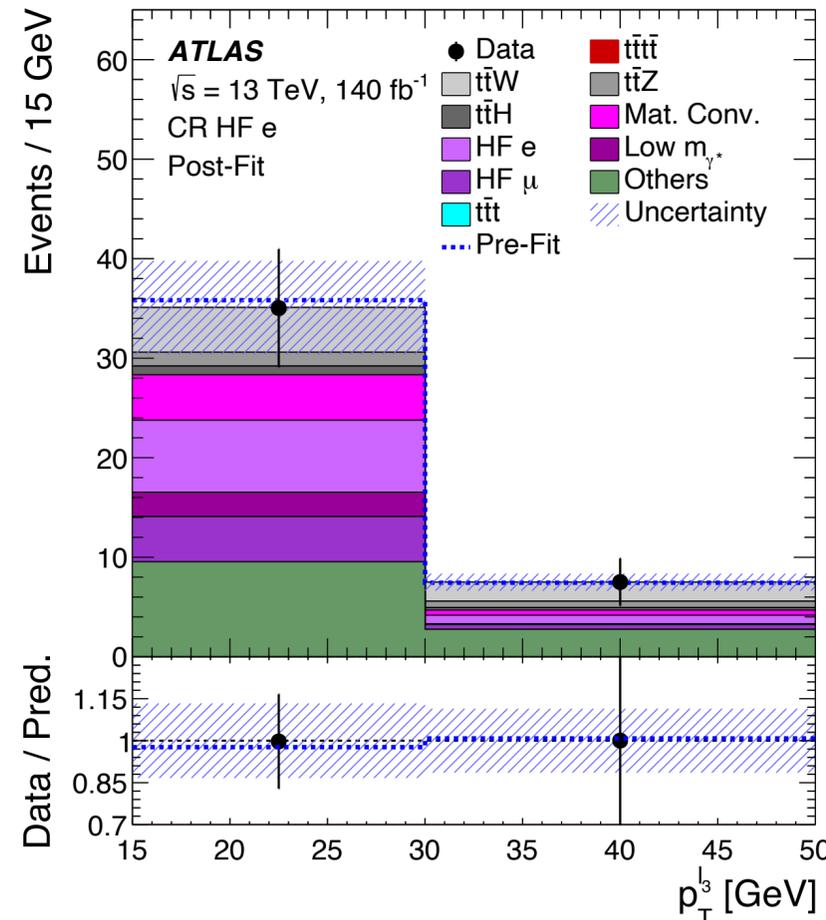
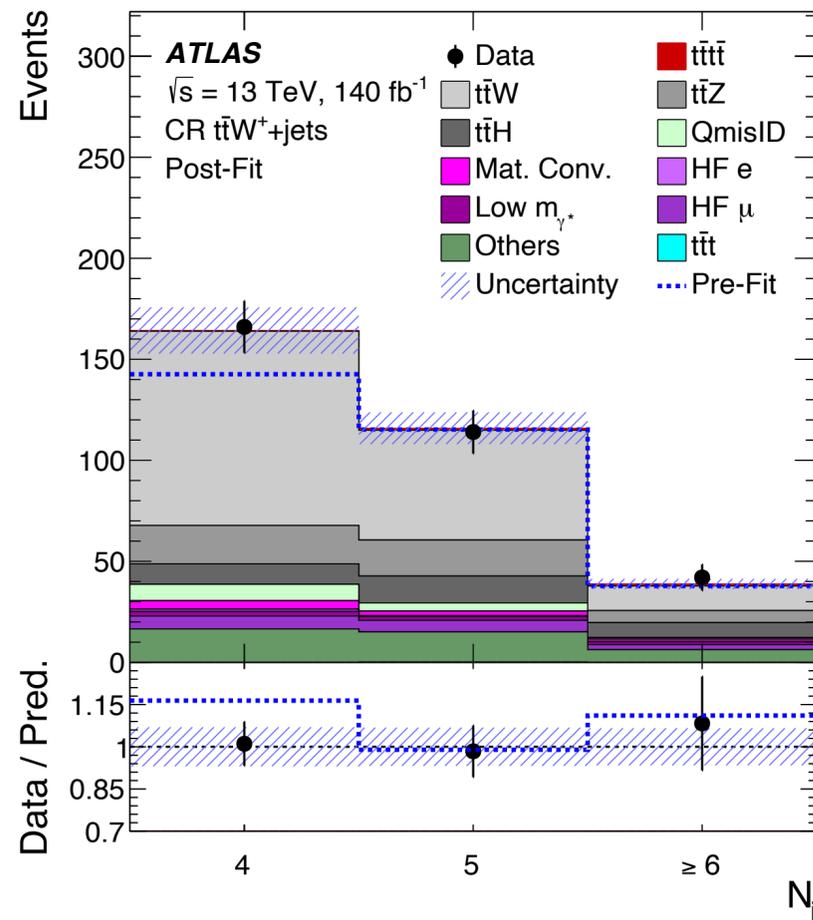
- enhanced in BSM scenarios: gluino pairs, heavy bosons in 2HDM, 4-fermion interactions
- sensitive to top Yukawa coupling strengths, charge and CP properties



# Four top-quark production

## Observation combining several channels

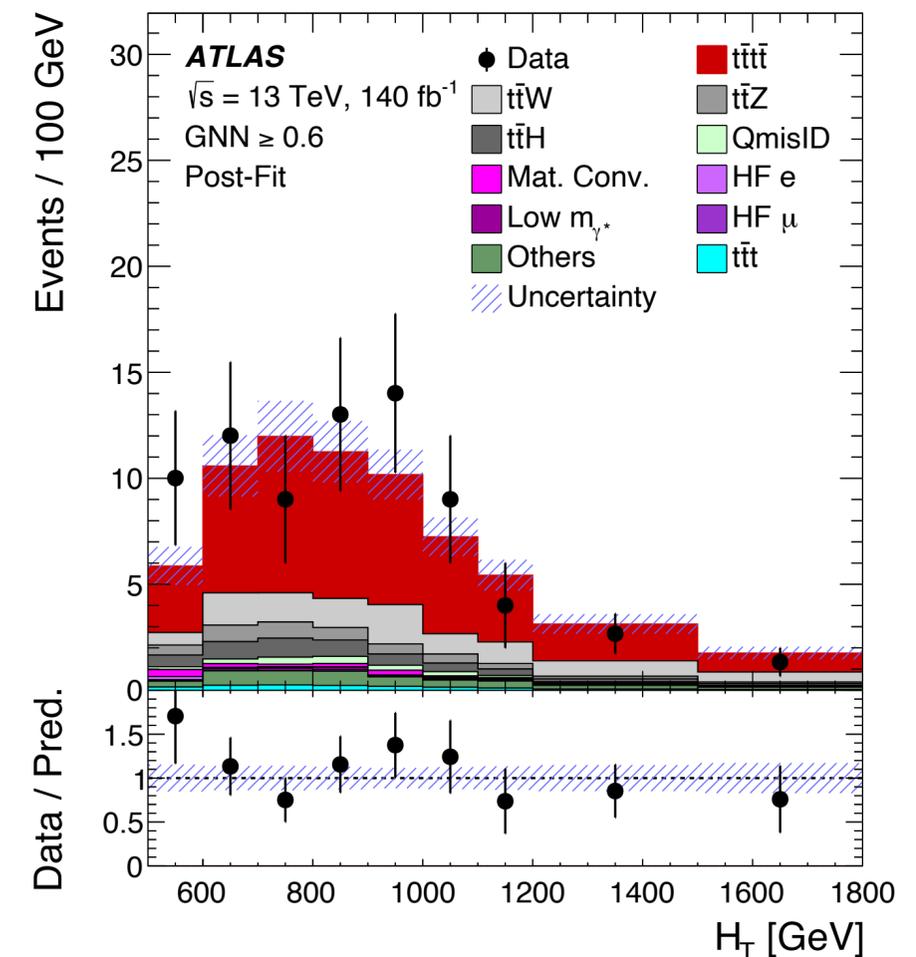
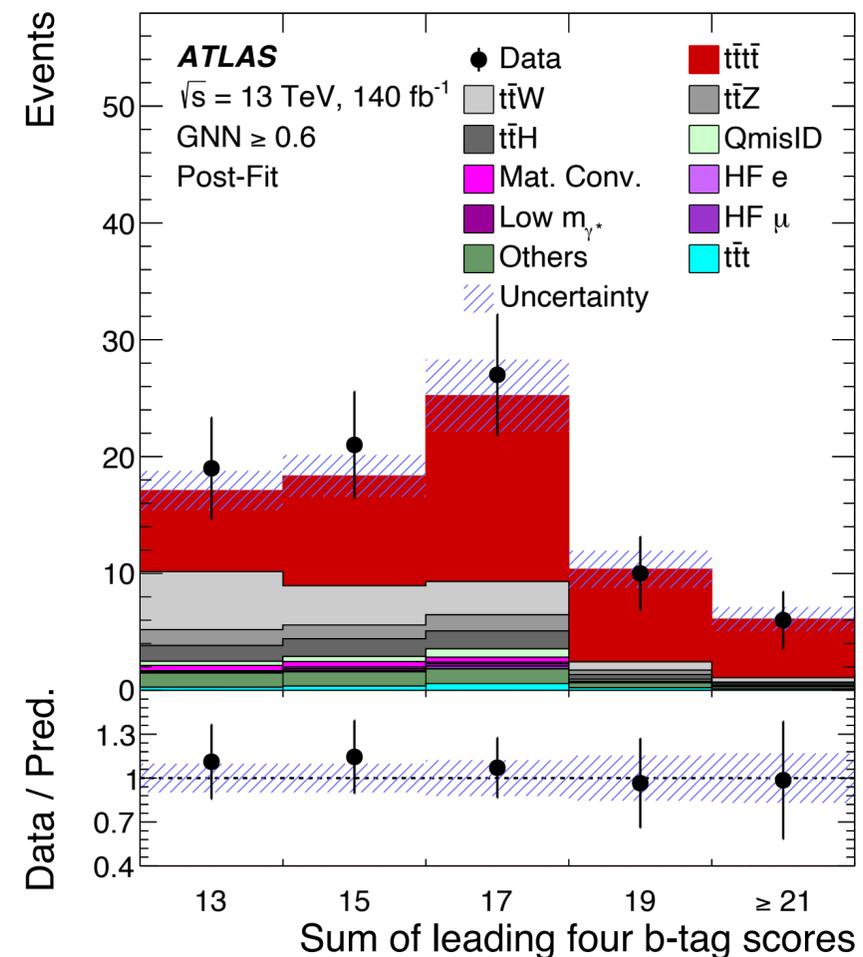
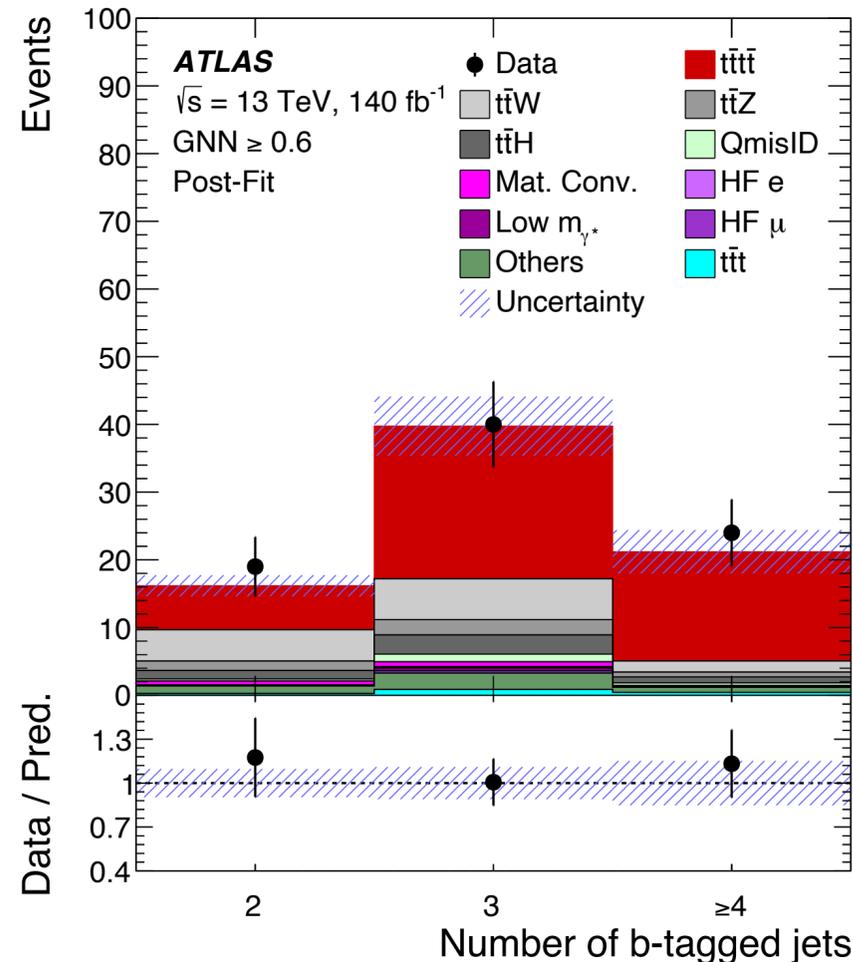
- $2\ell$ SS and  $3\ell$  channels
- 8 control regions –  $t\bar{t}W^+$  and  $t\bar{t}W^-$  are determined independently
- non-prompt leptons determined from  $p_T$  (3<sup>rd</sup> lepton)
- employ Graph Neural Network, check distributions for GNN score  $> 0.6$
- measure:  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}t\bar{t}} = 22.5^{+6.6}_{-5.5}$  pb,  $6.1\sigma$  significance



# Four top-quark production

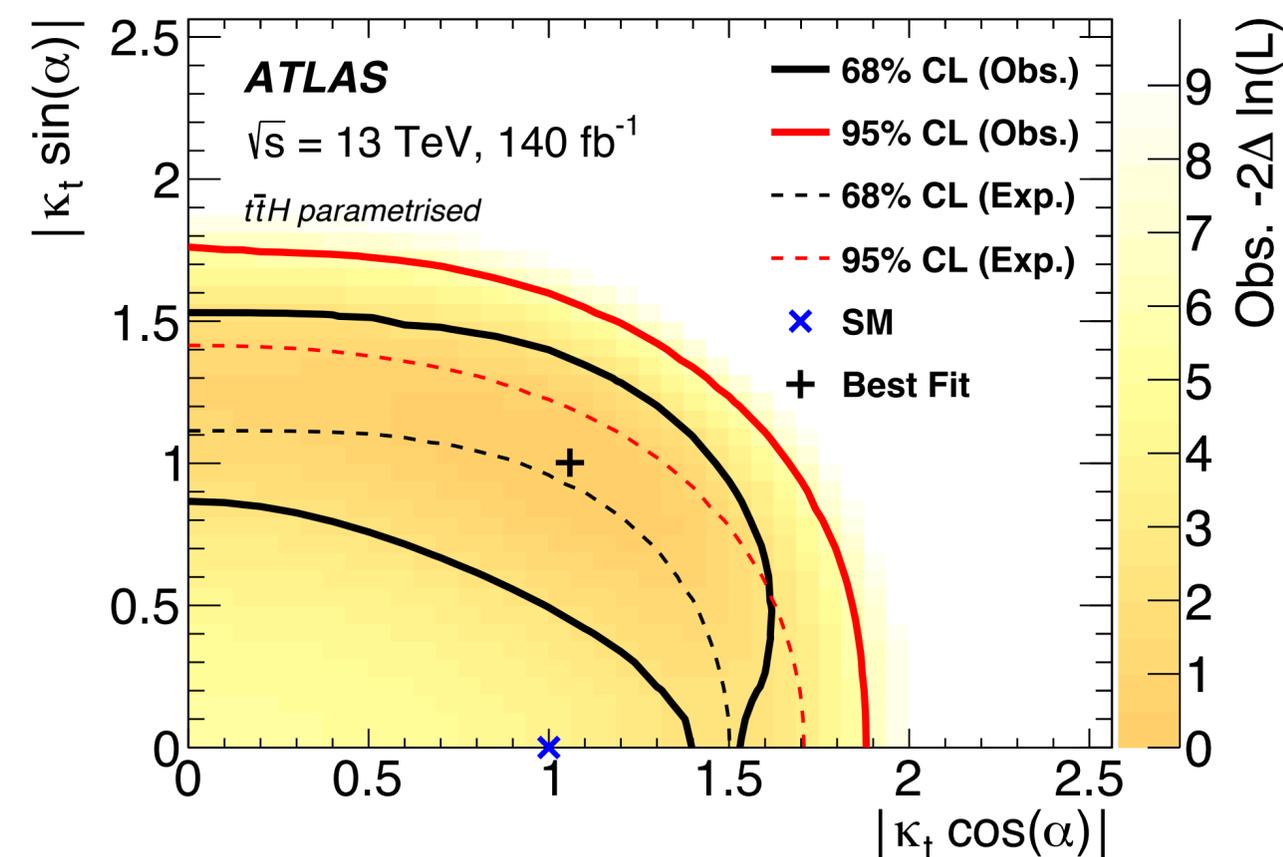
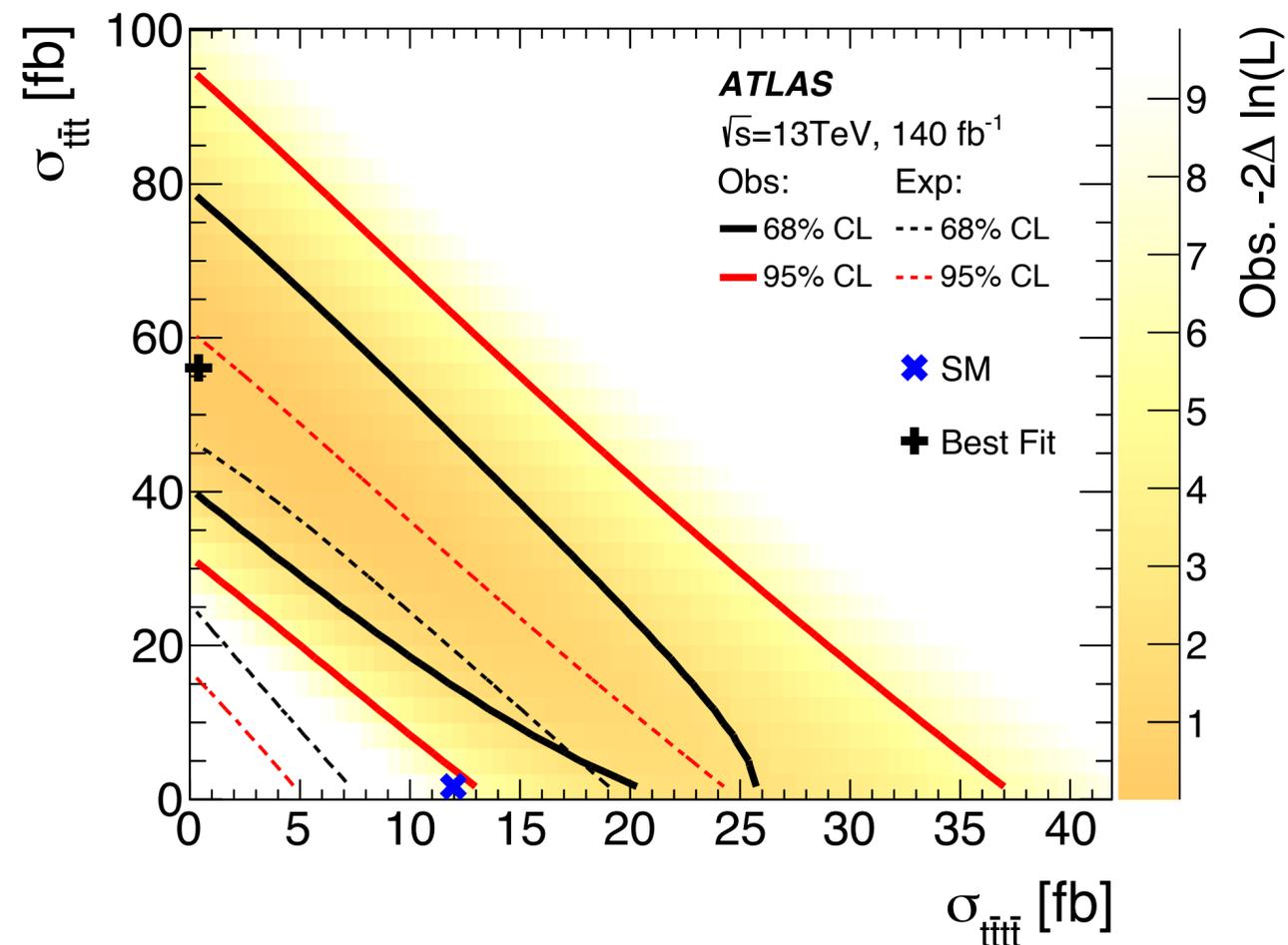
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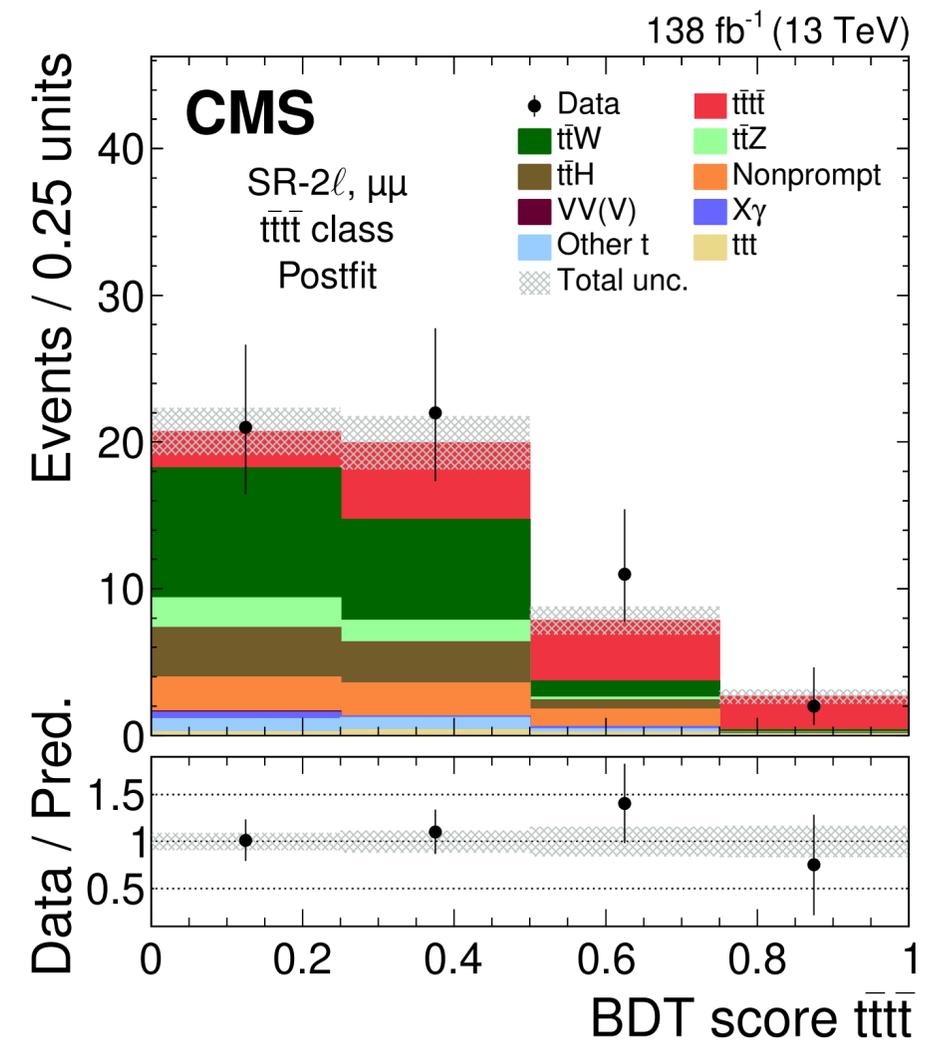
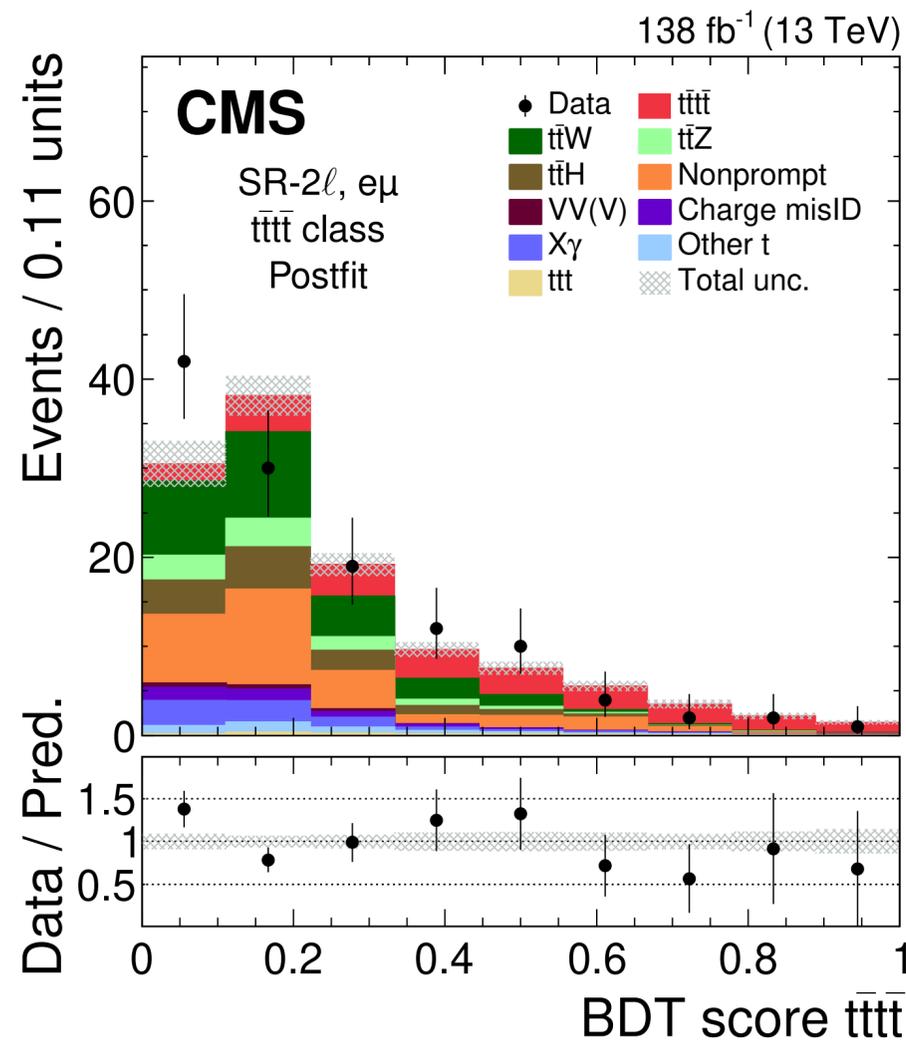
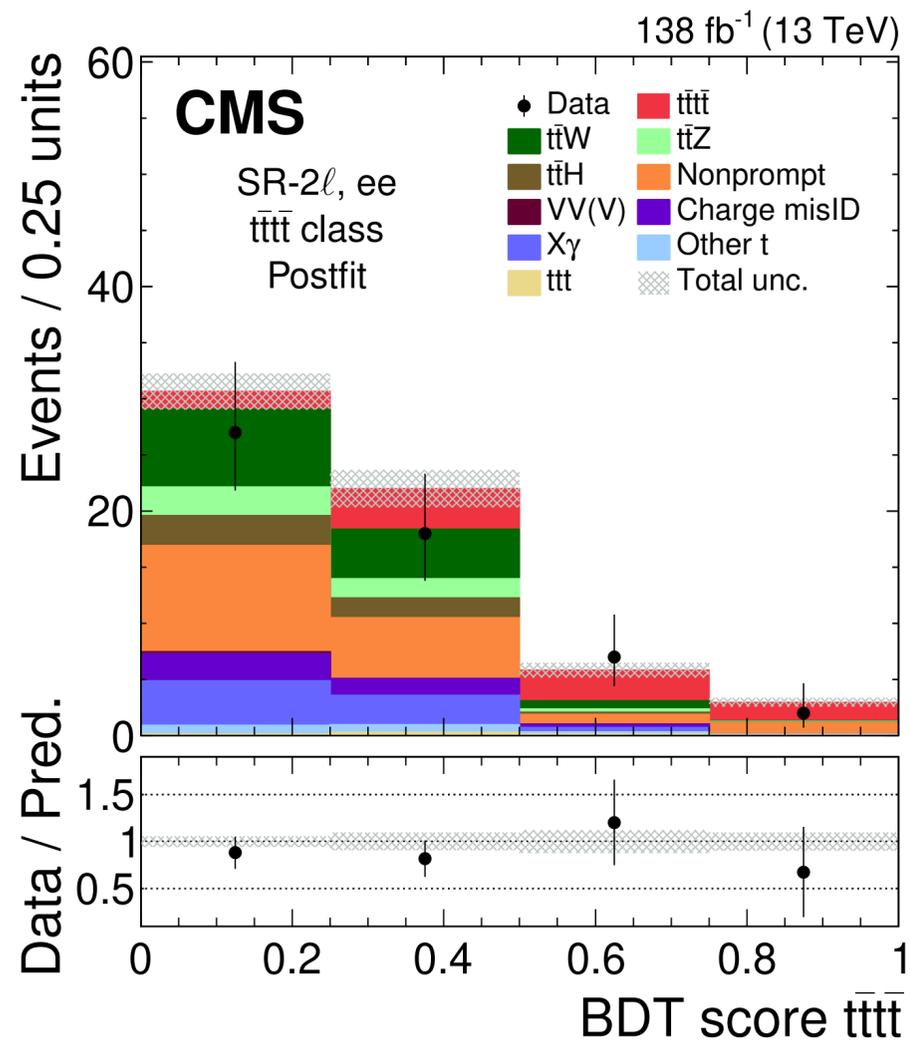
- $2\ell SS$ ,  $3\ell$  and  $4\ell$  channels
- improvements in lepton id, b-tagging, MVA analysis: 2 BDTs with 34 variables
- expected significance  $4.9\sigma$  (ATLAS  $4.3\sigma$ )
- measure:  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}t\bar{t}} = 17.7^{+4.4}_{-4.0}$  pb,  $5.6\sigma$  significance

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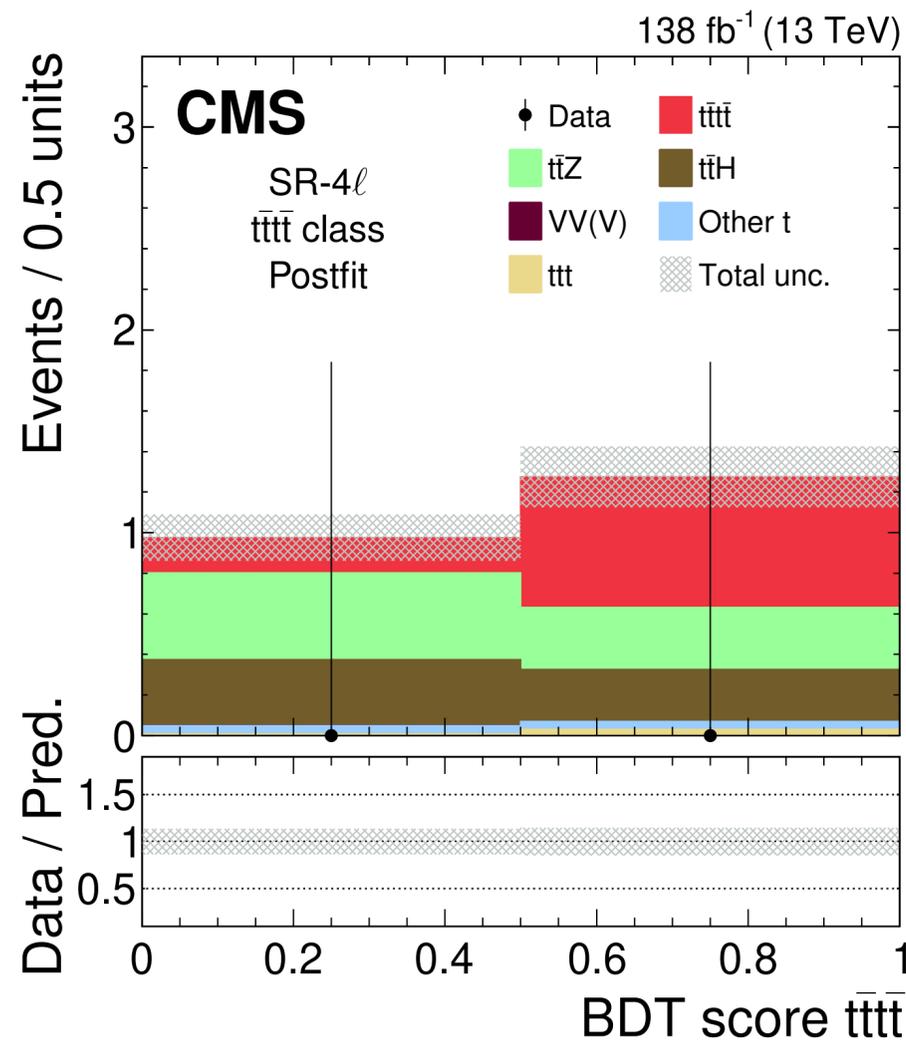
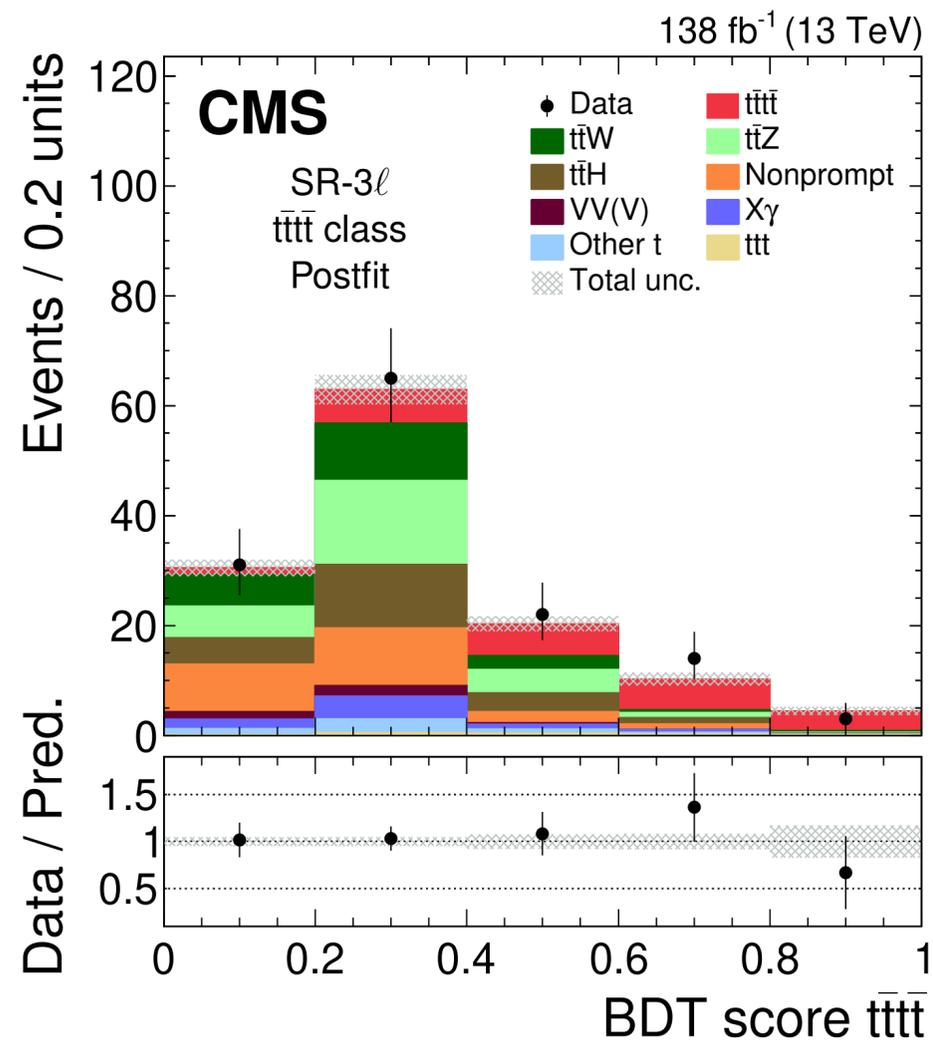


# Four top-quark production



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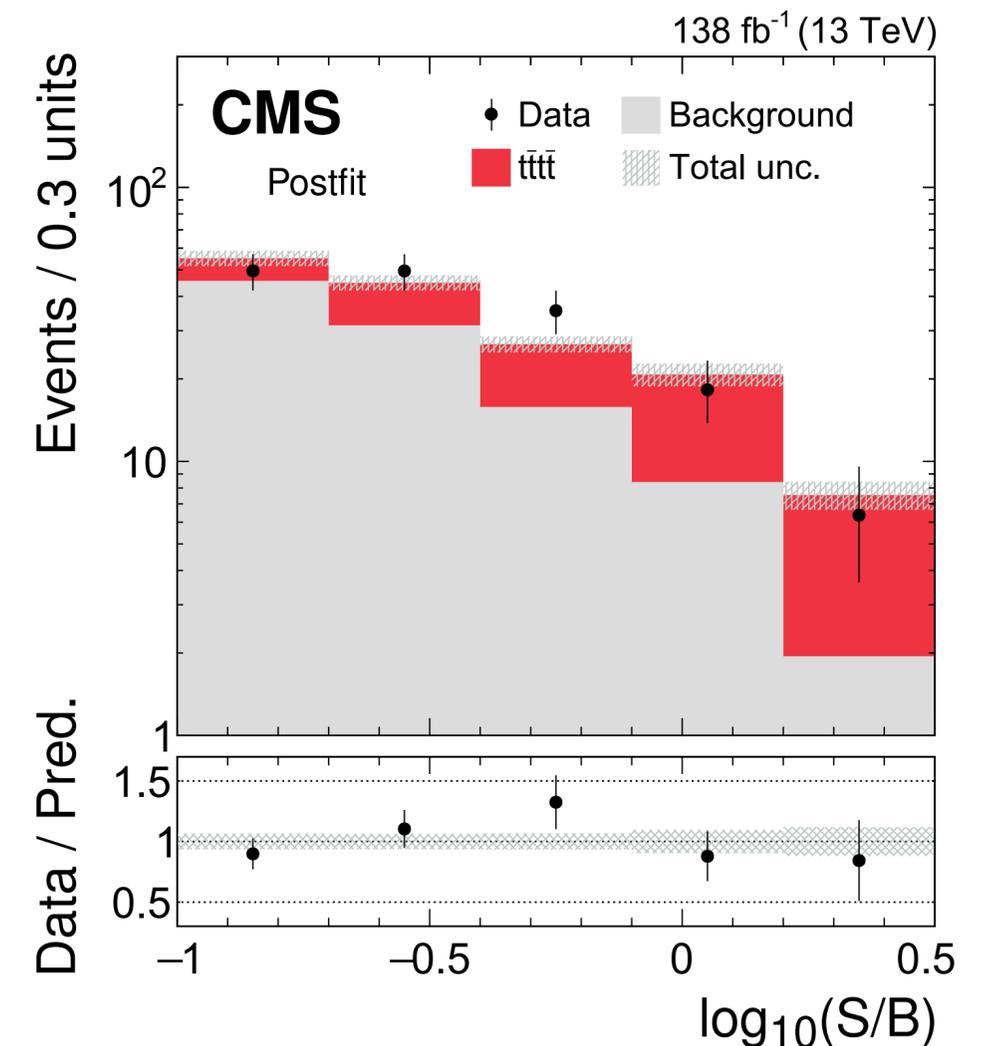
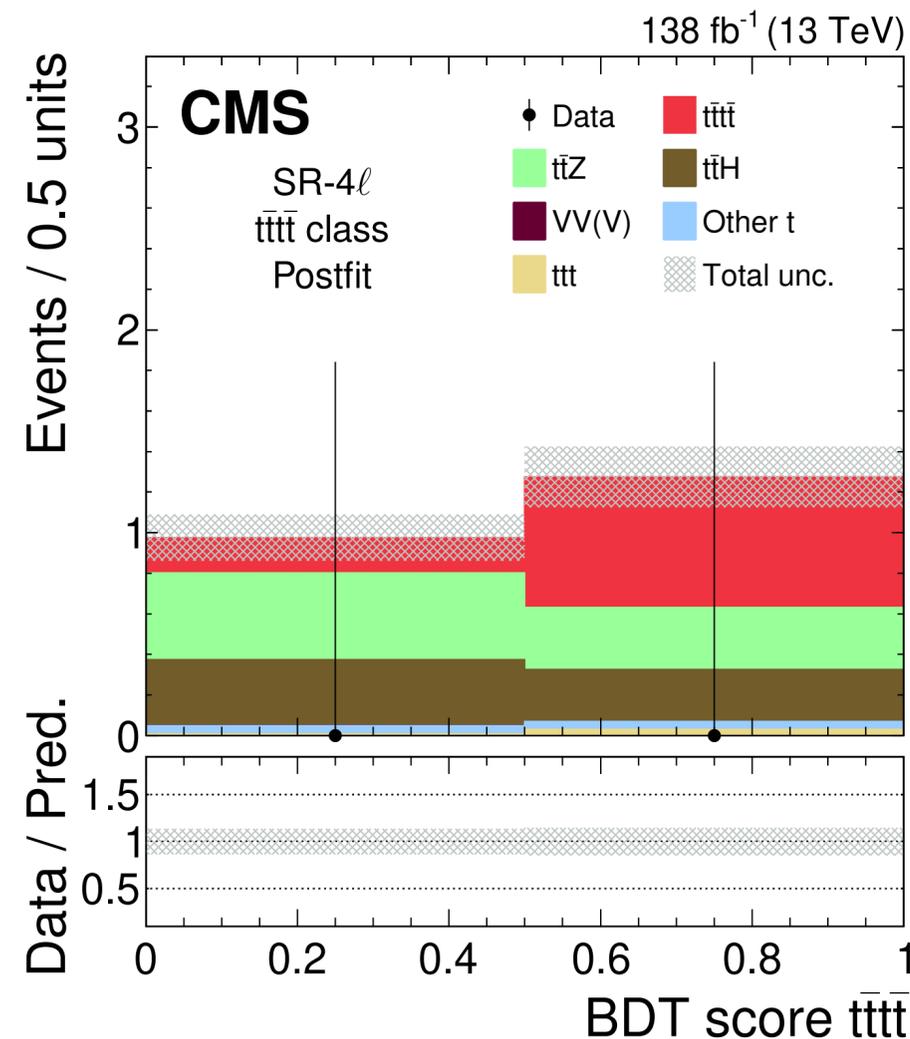
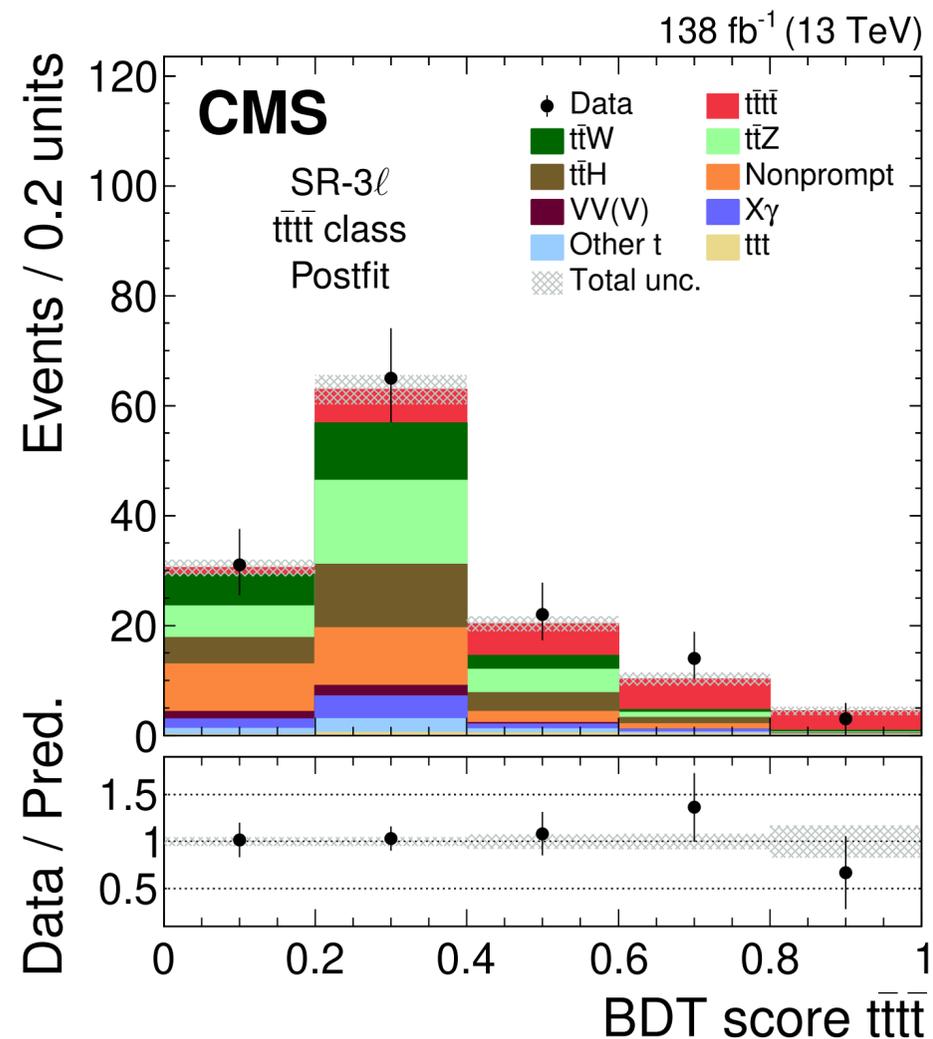


top+X

[arXiv:2305.13439](https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.13439)

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Rare process → test of SM

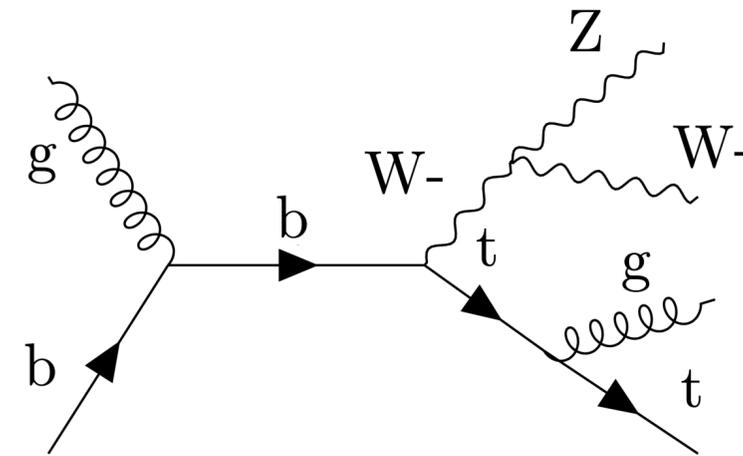
- multilepton channel

Analysis performed in 2 regions with different jet requirements

- top quark almost at rest
- top quark with large  $p_T$

$t\bar{t}Z$  background

- large and interfering at NLO
- main systematics
- diagram removal vs. subtraction



# tWZ production



Rare process → test of SM

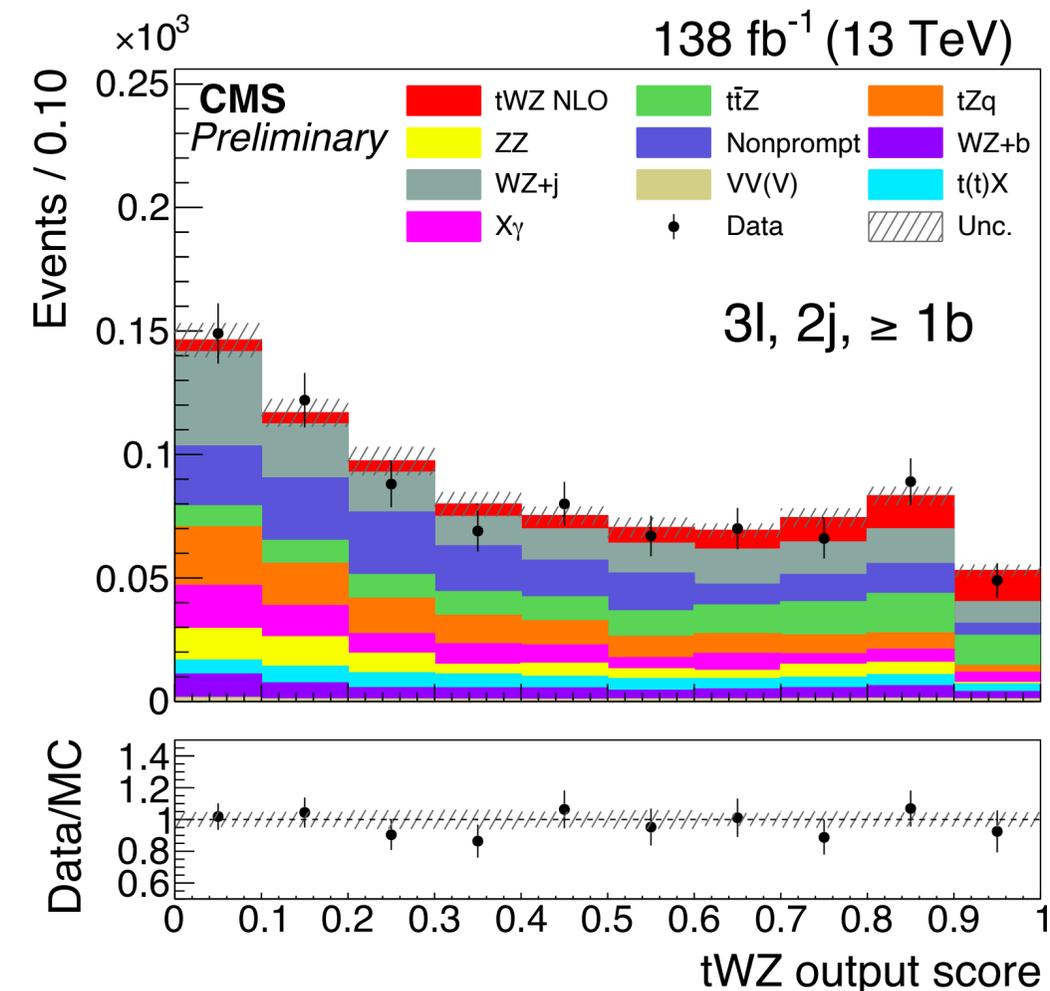
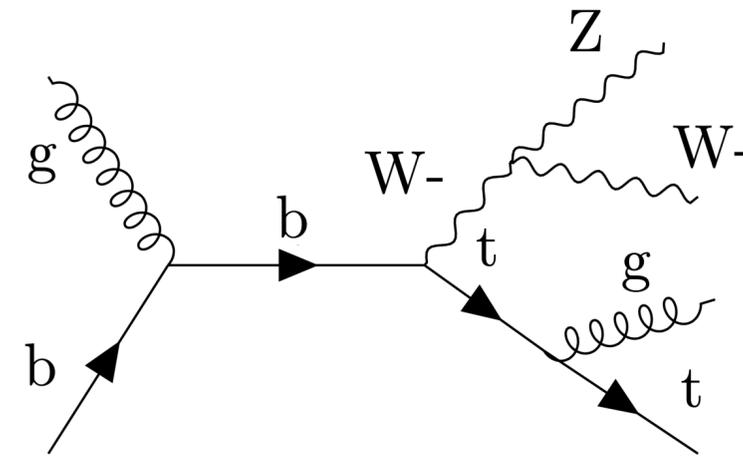
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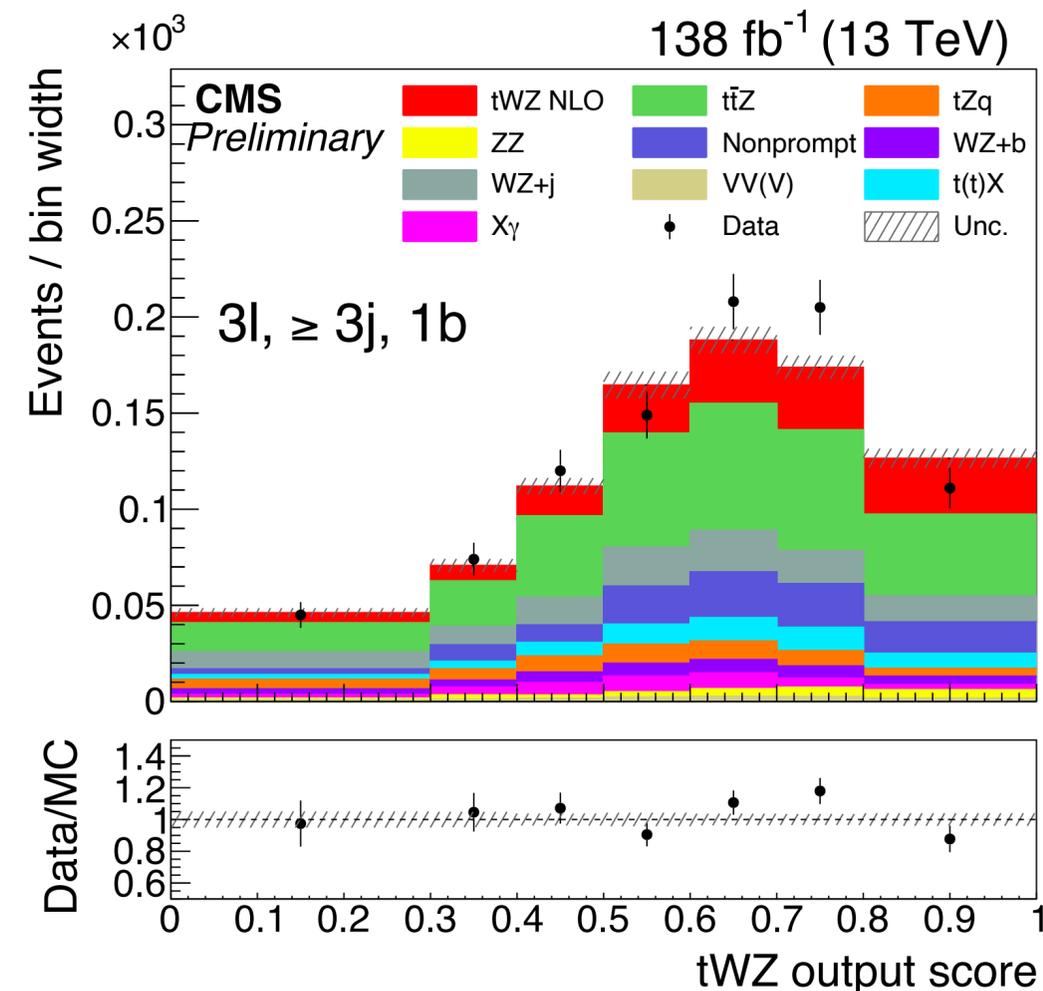
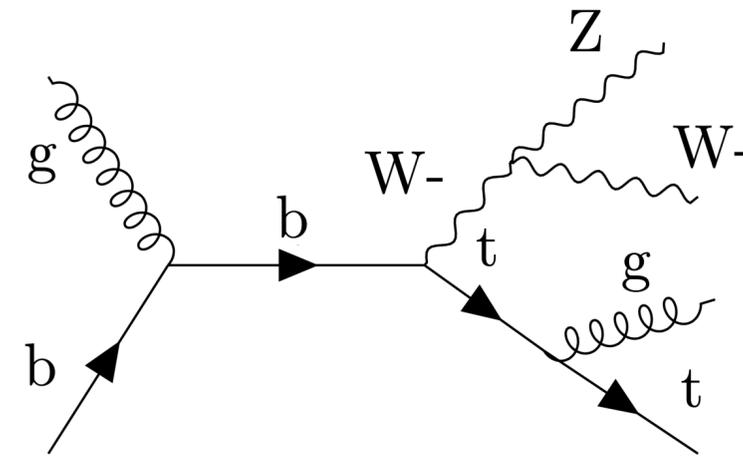
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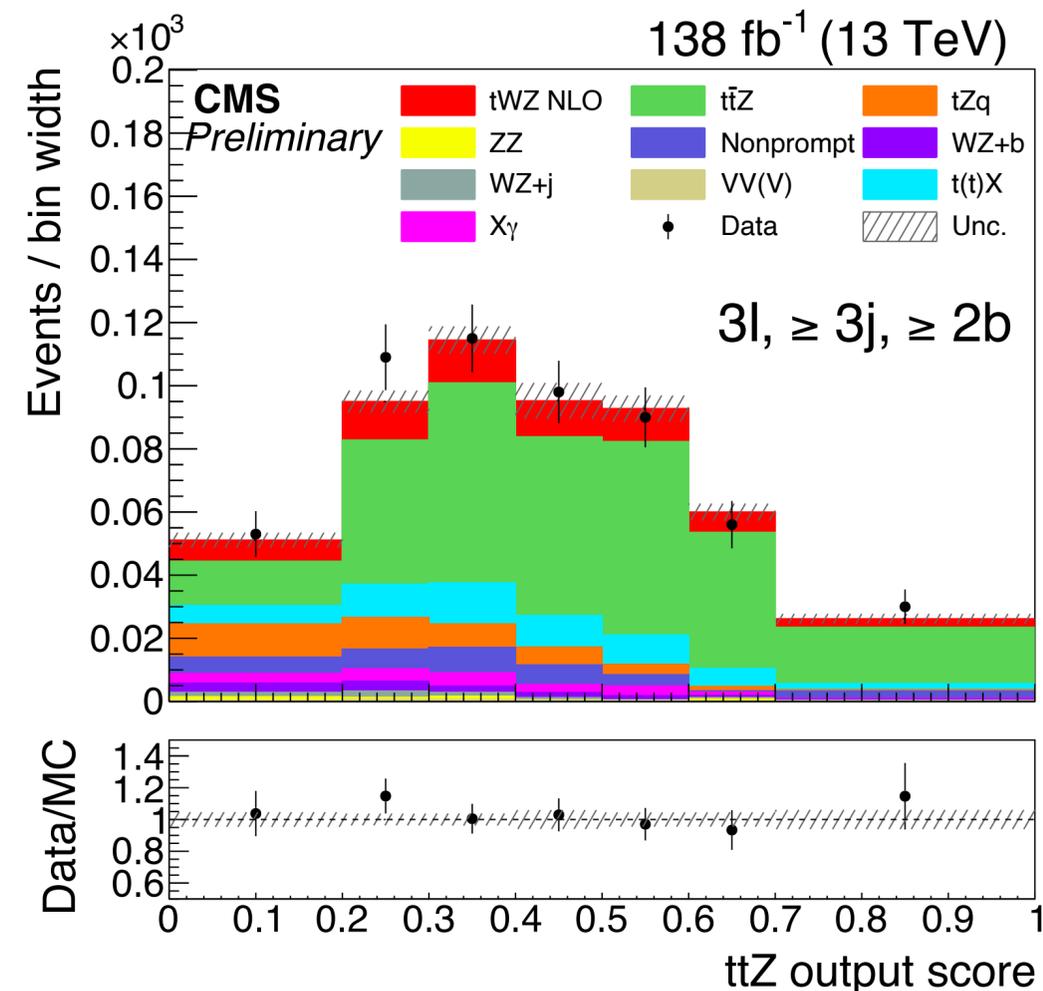
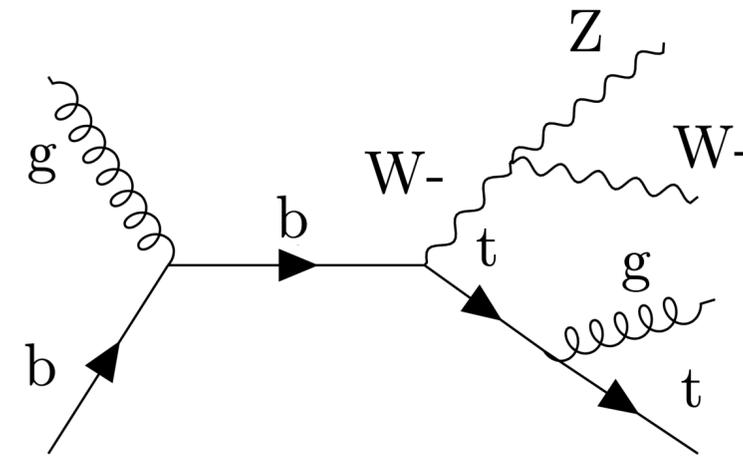
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## Rare process → test of SM

- multilepton channel

## Analysis performed in 2 regions with different jet requirements

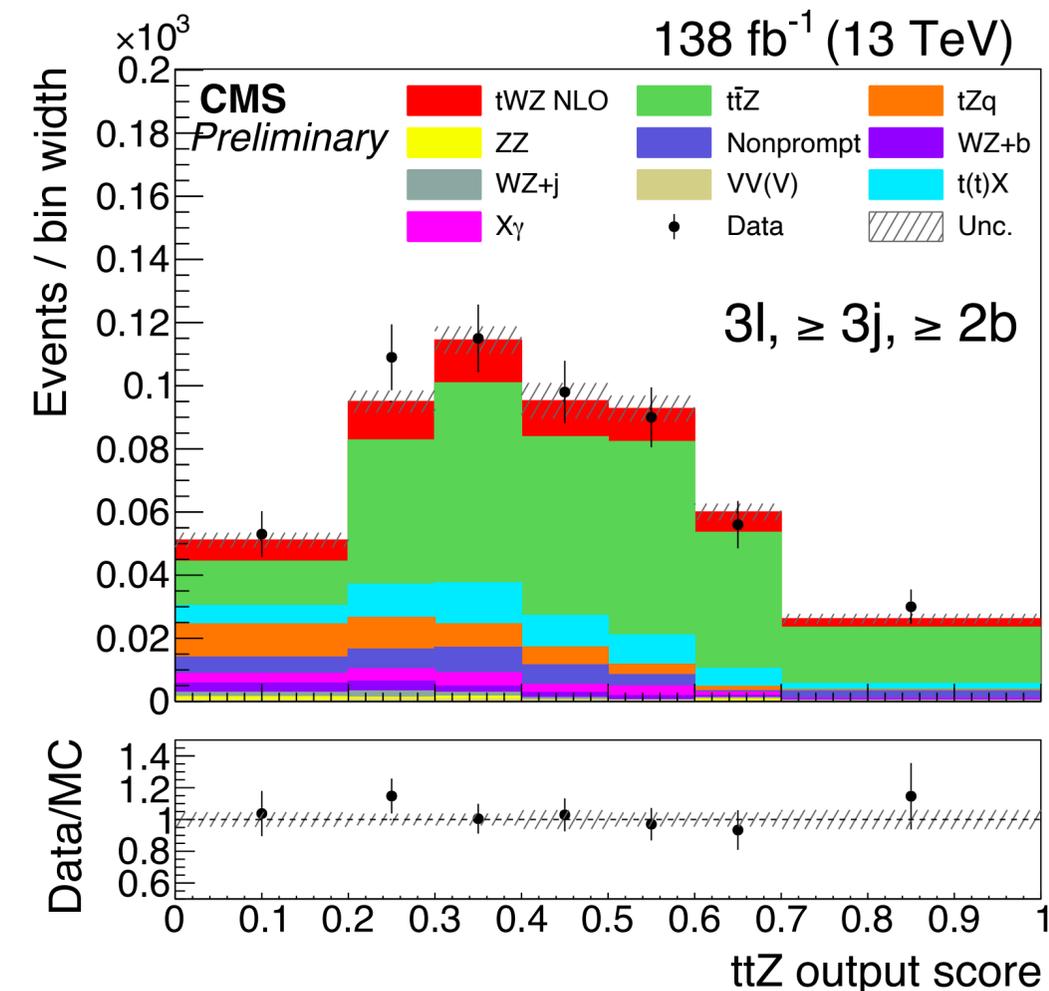
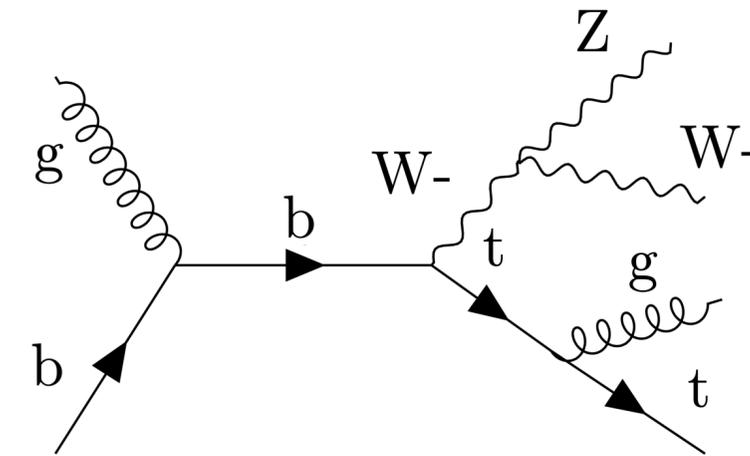
- top quark almost at rest
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## $t\bar{t}Z$ background

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- main systematics
- diagram removal vs. subtraction

## Evidence for tWZ production

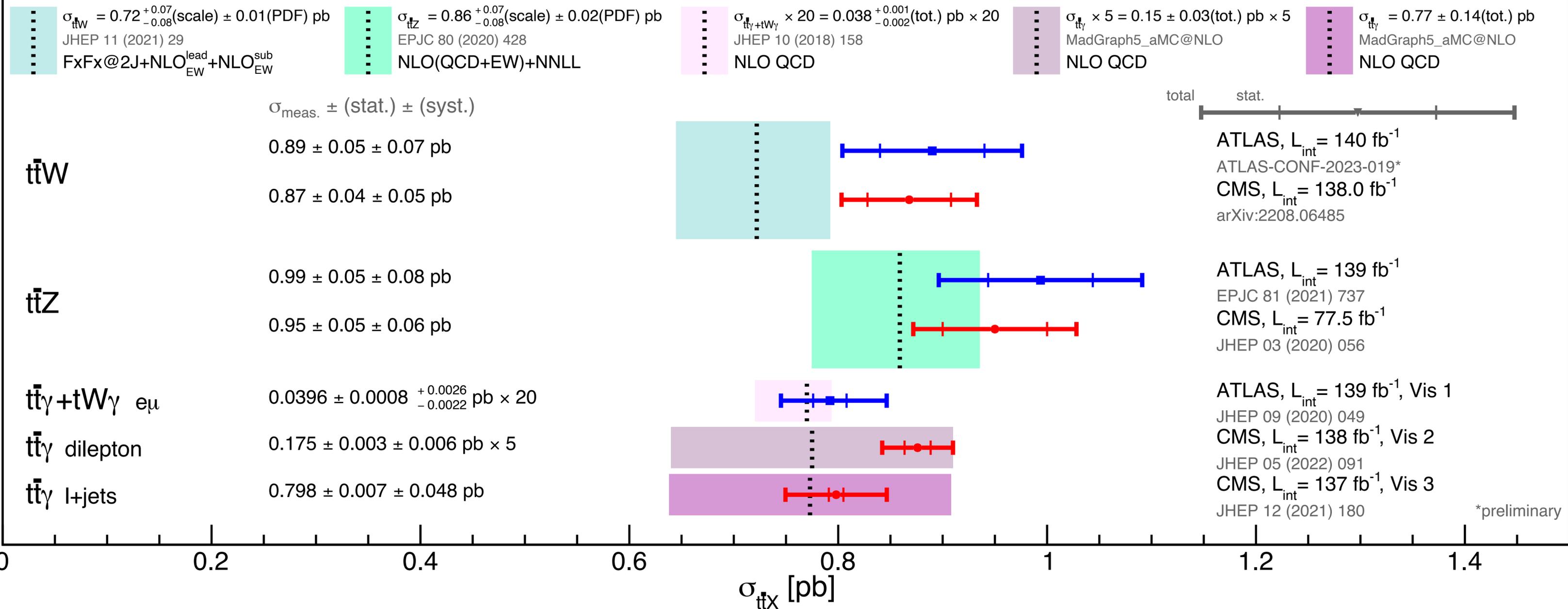
- $3.5\sigma$  measured ( $1.4\sigma$  expected),
- $\sigma_{tWZ} = 0.37 \pm 0.05$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.10$  (syst.) pb  
 $\mu = 2.7 \pm 0.8$



# Top+X summary: $t\bar{t}+X$

**ATLAS+CMS Preliminary**  
LHCtopWG

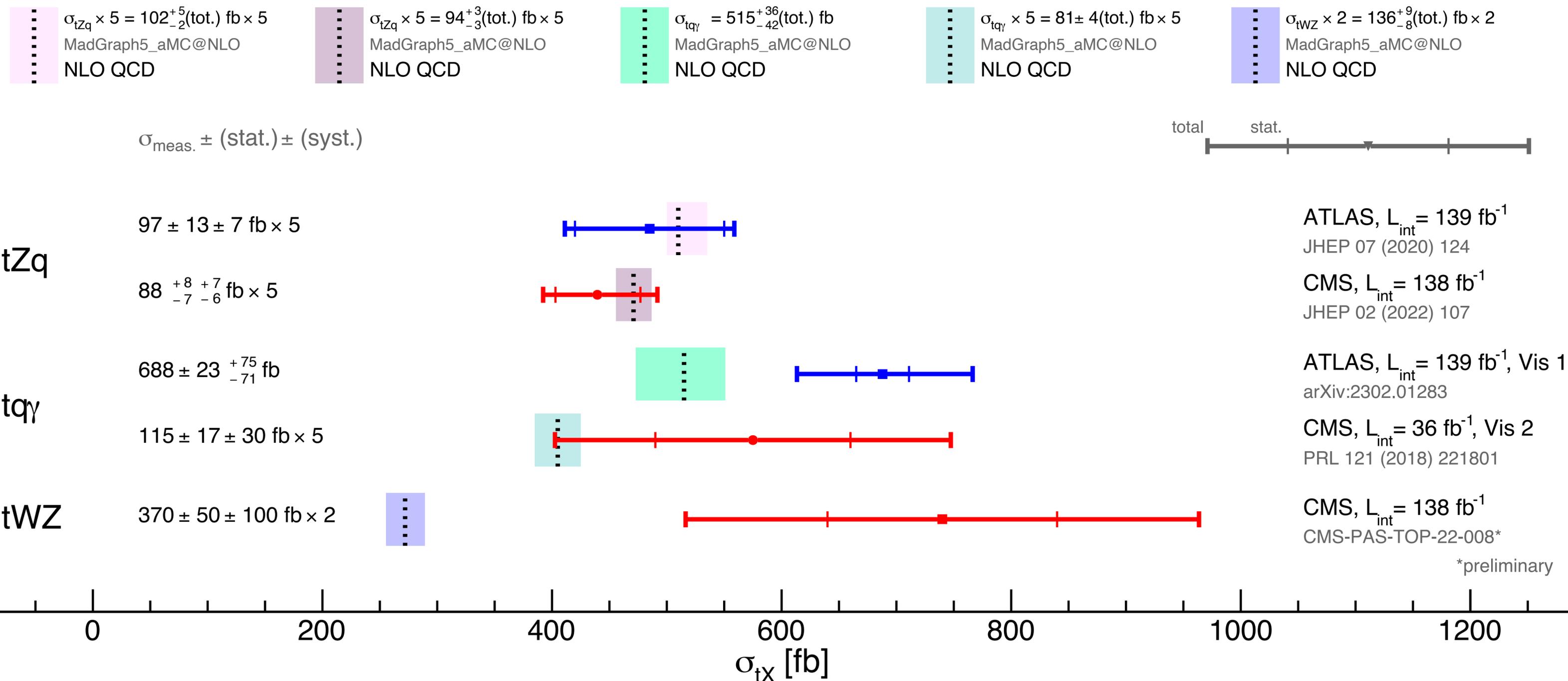
$\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV, June 2023



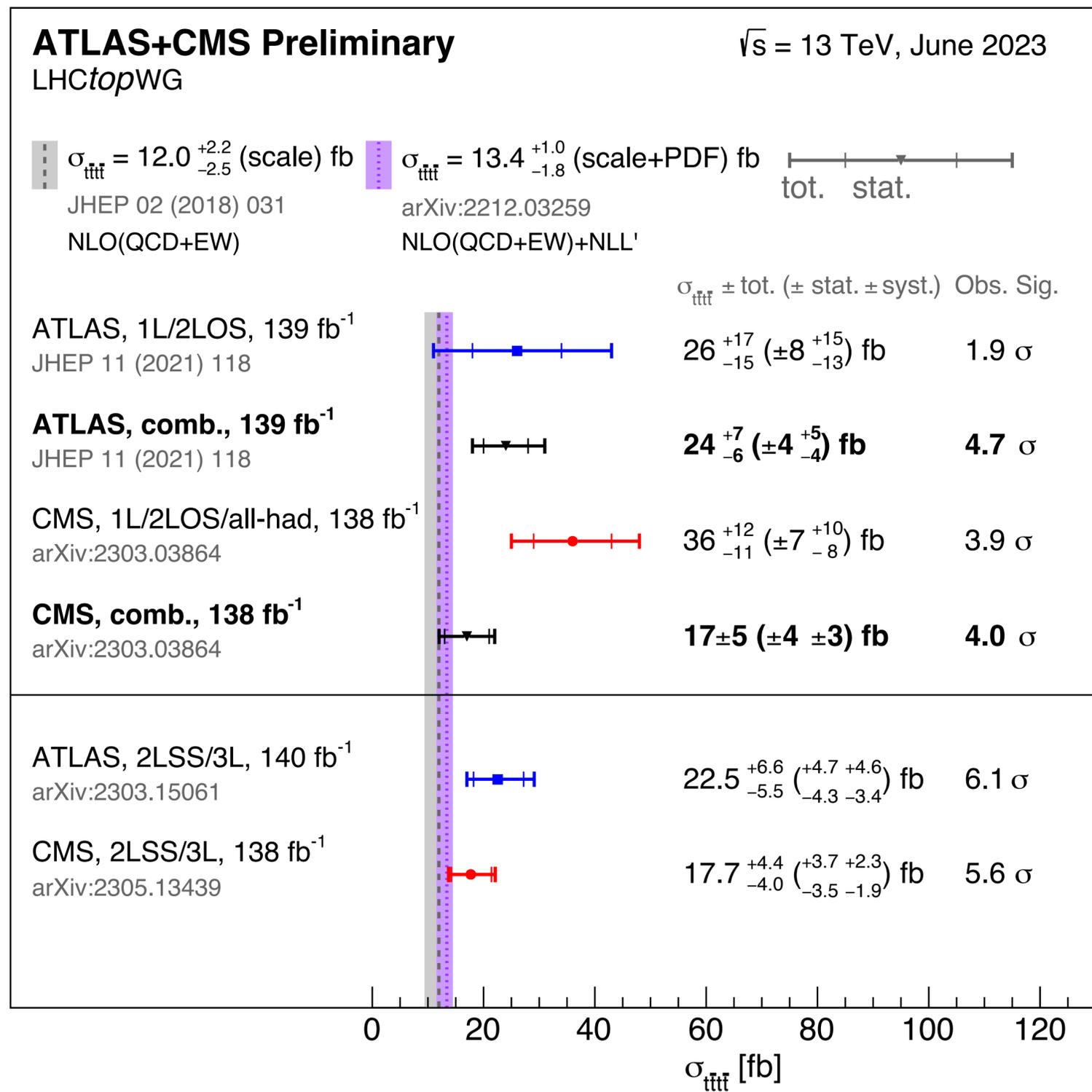
# Top+X summary: t+X

**ATLAS+CMS Preliminary**  
LHCtopWG

$\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV, June 2023



# Top+X summary: 4 top-quark observation



# $t\bar{t}$ +leptons EFT interpretation



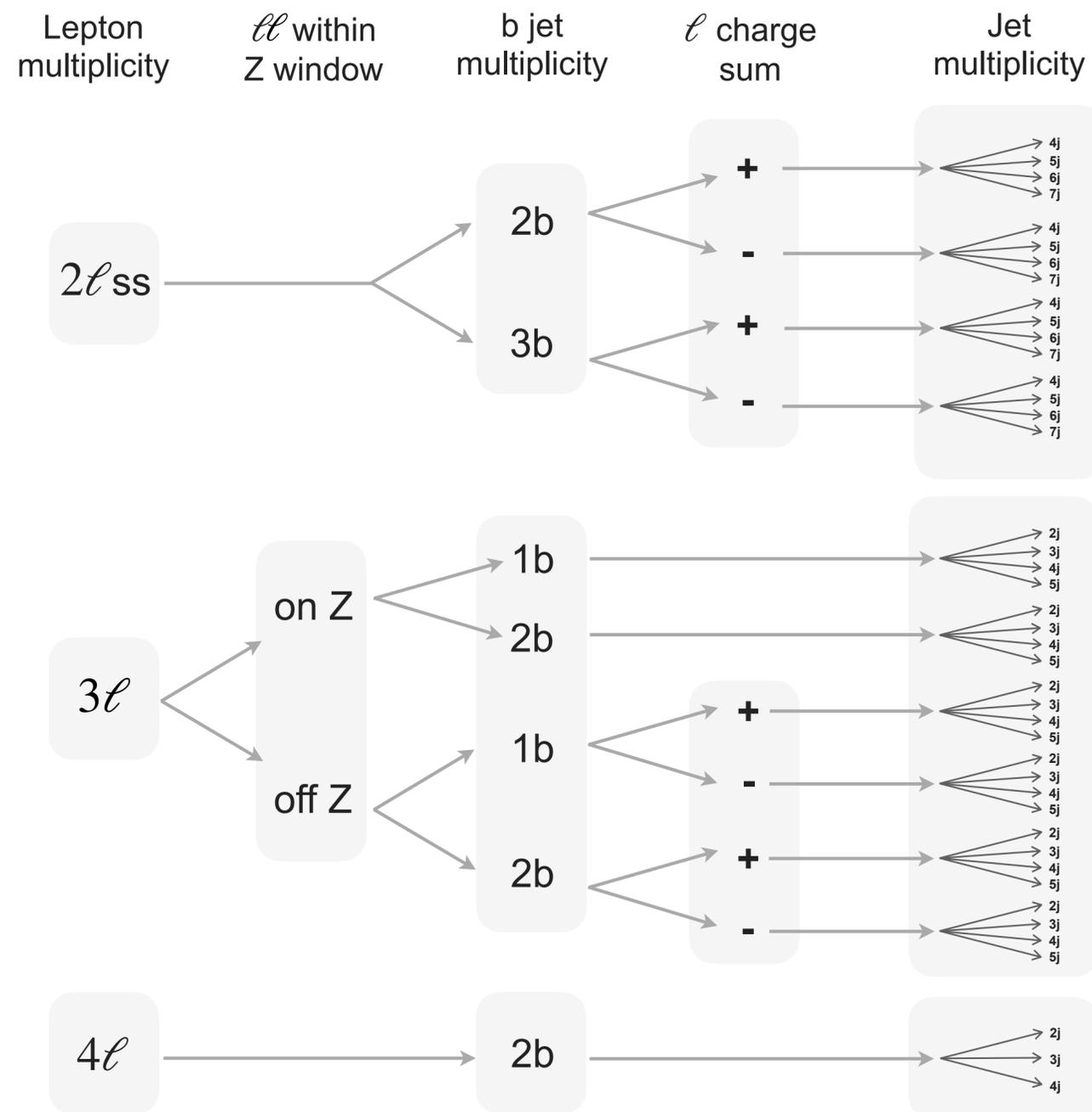
[arXiv:2307.15761](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.15761)

## Associated production of top quarks and leptons

- Event categories according to leptons and b-tags

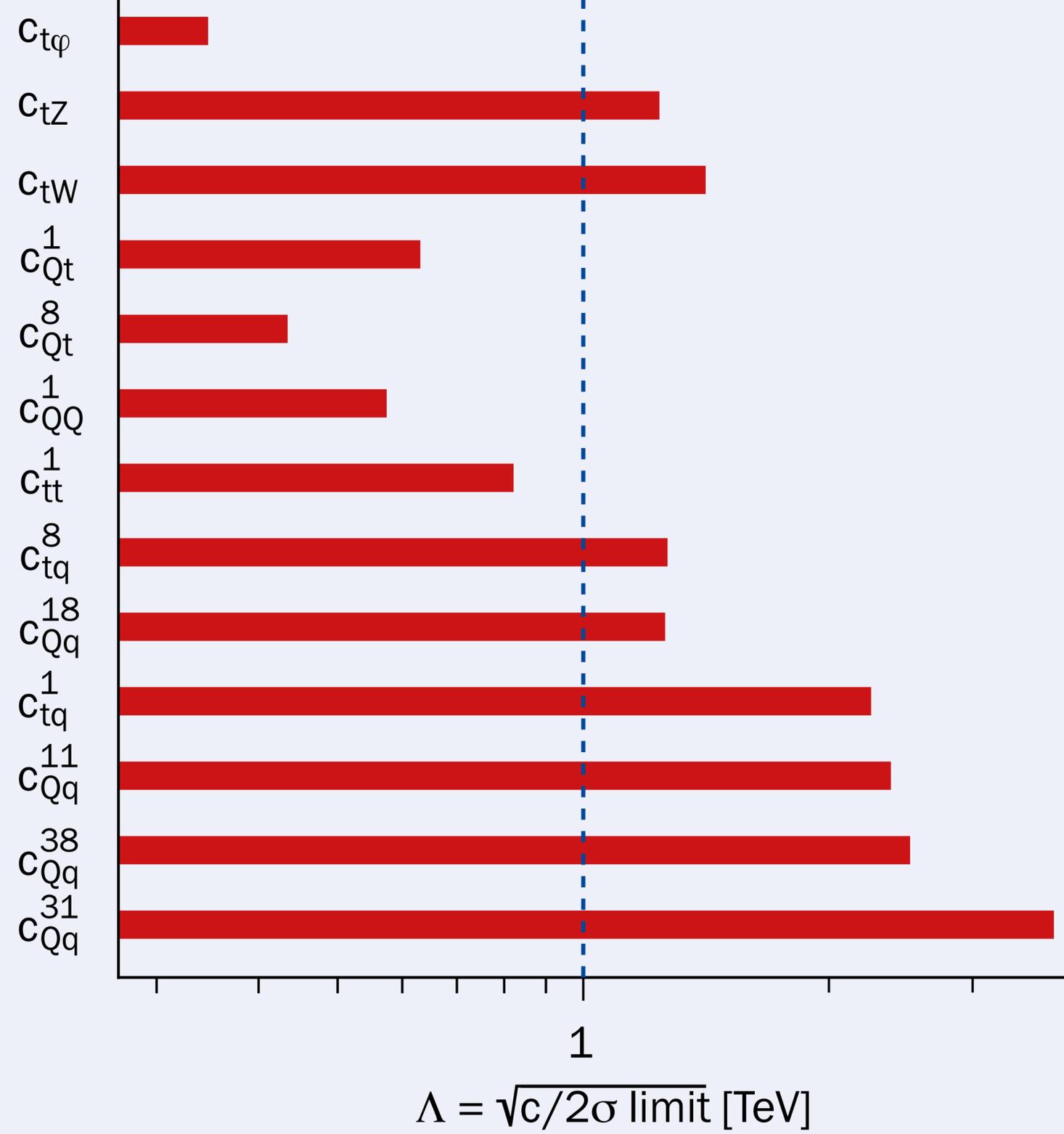
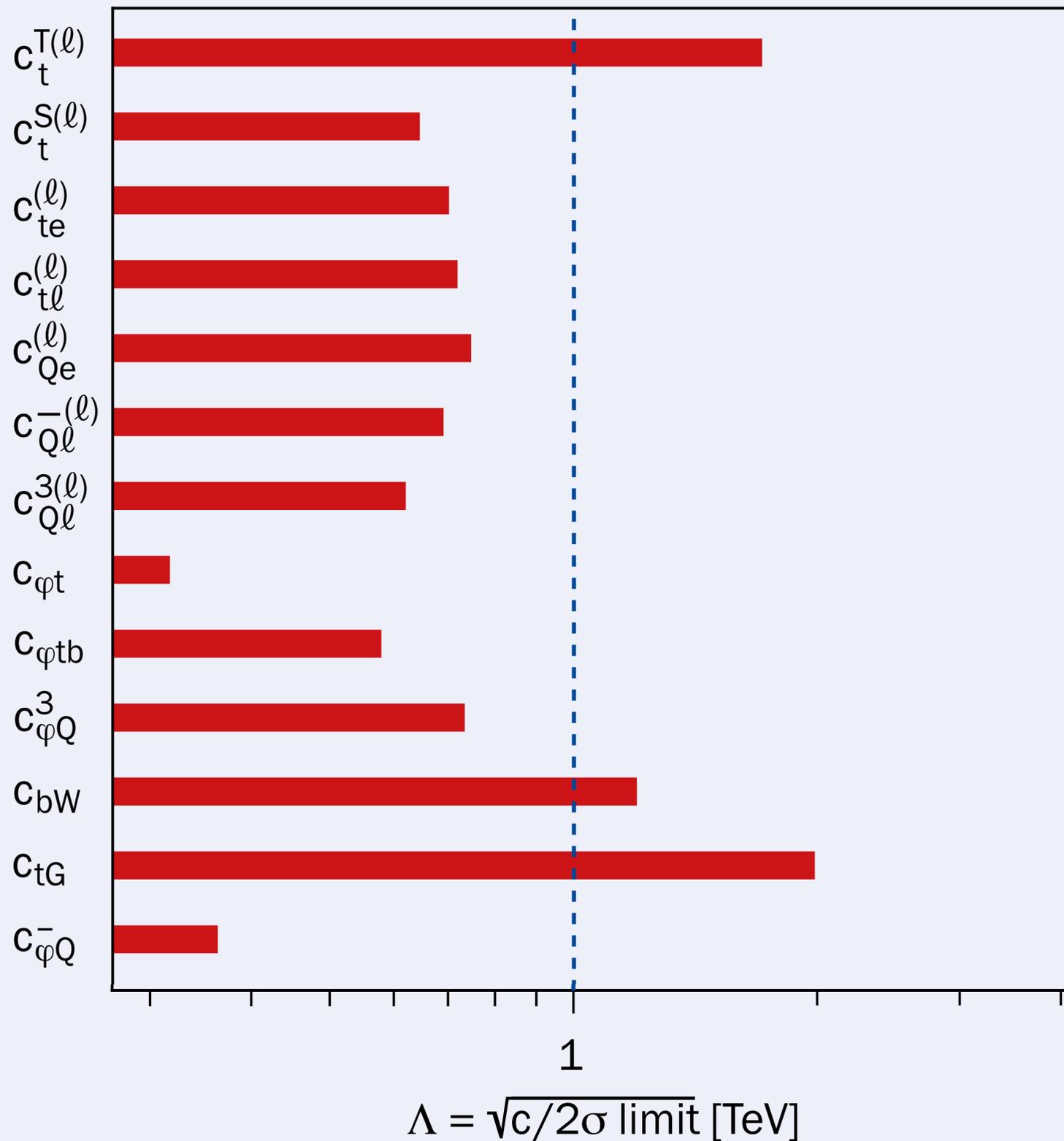
## EFT framework to search for new physics

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_{d,i} \frac{c_i^d}{\Lambda^{d-4}} \mathcal{O}_i^d$$





# $t\bar{t}$ +leptons EFT interpretation



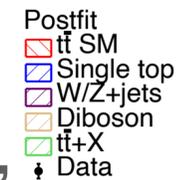
# Lorentz invariance in $t\bar{t}$ $e\mu$ events



CMS-PAS-TOP-22-007

## CMS preliminary result, 2016+2017 data

- differential  $t\bar{t}$  cross section vs. sidereal time
- probing of Lorentz invariance in  $t\bar{t}$  production, given LHC rotation in time



## Using $e\mu$ channel – estimating $t\bar{t}$ yield vs. sidereal time

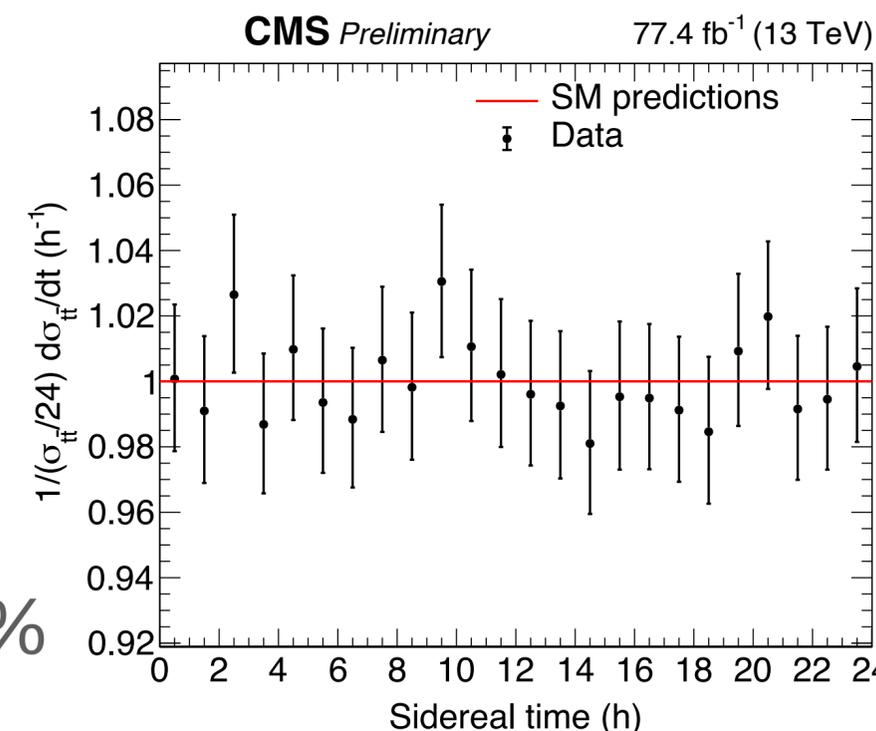
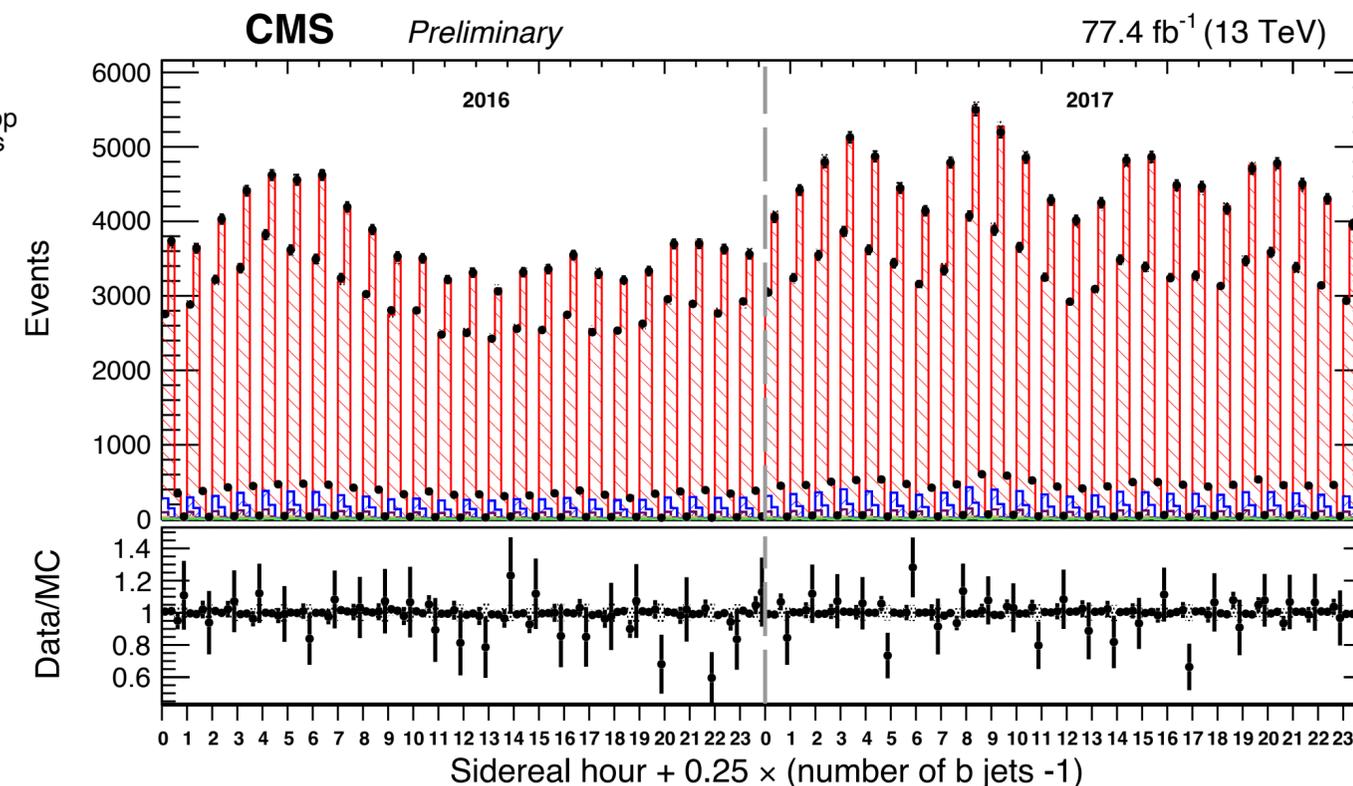
- expected variations due to changes in LHC conditions vs. time
- profile likelihood fit – no unfolding needed

## No clear deviation of measurement wrt. SM

- limits set on Wilson coefficients which parametrise Lorentz-variant terms in SME Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SME}} = \frac{1}{2} i\bar{\psi}(\gamma^\nu + c^{\mu\nu}\gamma_\mu + d^{\mu\nu}\gamma_5\gamma_\mu)\overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\nu\psi - m_t\bar{\psi}\psi$$

- compatible with Lorentz invariance with a precision of 0.1–0.8%



# Summary

Rich top-physics programme pursued at LHC

## $t\bar{t}$ cross section

- uncertainty reduced to 1.8%; several energies; first Run-3 measurements
- detailed differential studies

## Single top production

- extract  $V_{tb}$ ; now also at 5 TeV

## Top+X processes

- $t\bar{t}\bar{t}$  observed by ATLAS and CMS
- $t\bar{t}W$ ;  $tWZ$

## Searches with top quarks

- Lorentz invariance violation
- EFT interpretation