Highlights of recent ATLAS results in the top-quark sector

Séminaire - Laboratoire de Physique de Clermont-Ferrand

Timothée Theveneaux-Pelzer

DESY - Zeuthen

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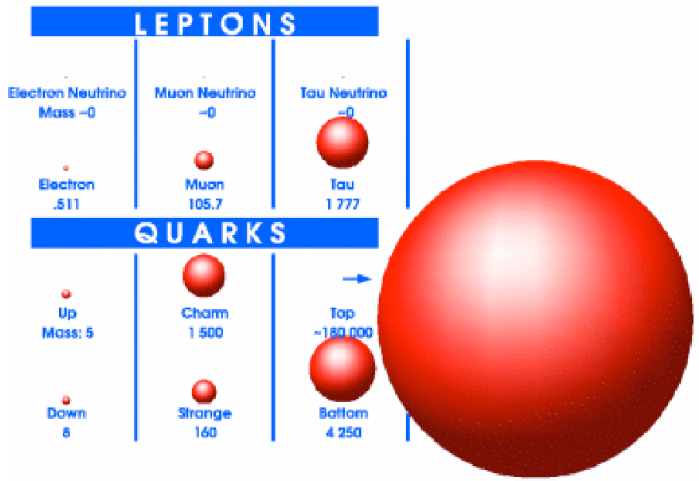
Introduction

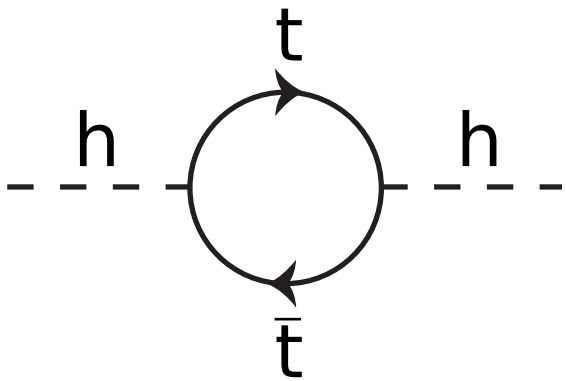
- The top quark is almost 23 years old
  - → discovered in 1995 at Tevatron
  - → since 2009, the LHC is improving our knowledge of it
- Top-quark sector is crucial in the search for new physics
  - → SM top processes are backgrounds for BSM searches
  - → limits on BSM scenarios can be set from precision measurements
- Very active area - 104 ATLAS papers !
- Presenting a personal selection of recent ATLAS results

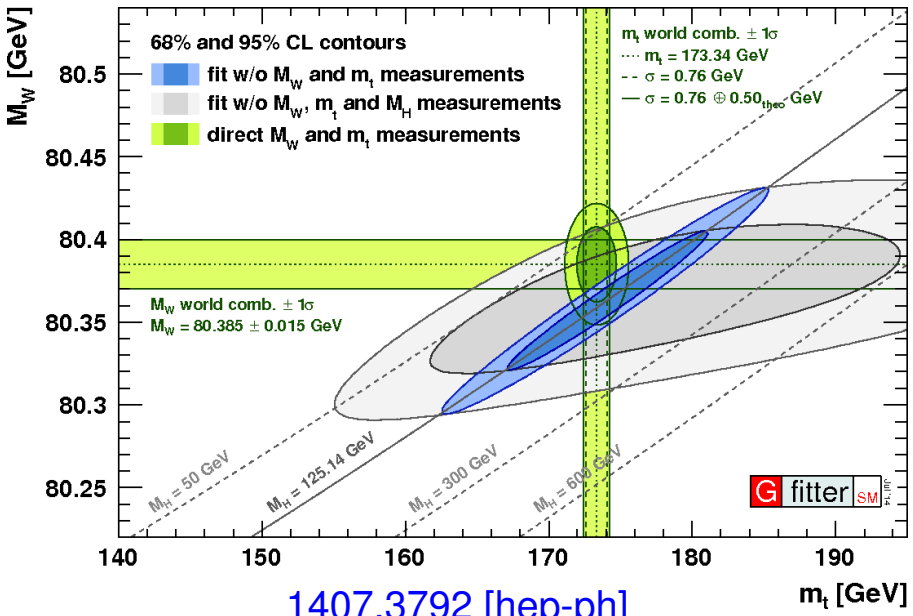
Overview

The top quark in the Standard Model

- Mass (PDG) :
  $m_t = 173.1 \pm 0.6$ GeV
  - → elementary particle with largest mass
  - → the only one heavier than the Higgs
  - → radiative corrections to Higgs mass
  - → Yukawa coupling $\lambda_t \simeq 1$
- Decay before hadronisation
  - → access to properties of the bare quark



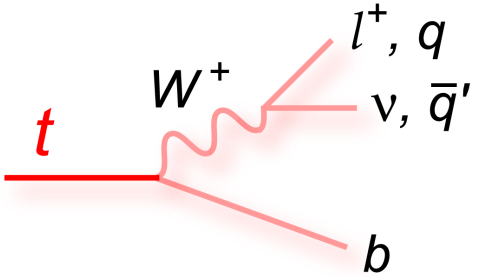




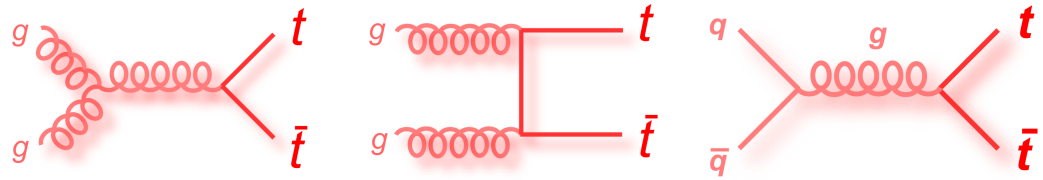
1407.3792 [hep-ph]

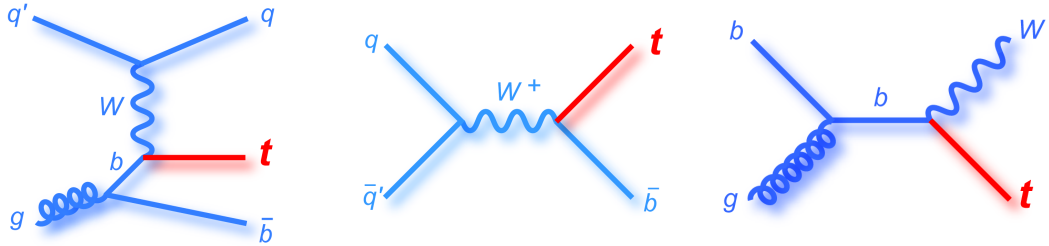
Top quark production and decay

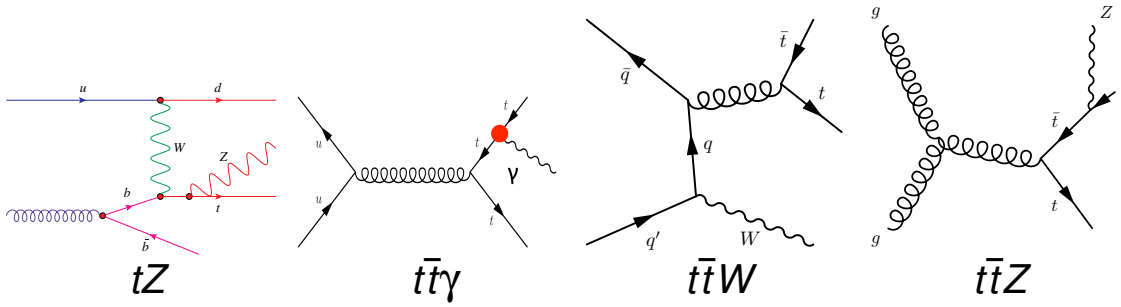
- Several production modes
  - → via QCD and/or EW interaction
  - → gg modes favored at higher energies
  - → $q\bar{q}$ modes disfavoured at LHC
- Largest : top-quark pair production
  - → gg dominates at LHC
- Single-top production
  - → t-channel, tW, s-channel, tZ
- $t\bar{t}+X$ production is accessible at LHC
  - → $X=\gamma, W, Z, H$
- Also probably accessible :
  - → tWZ, 4 tops

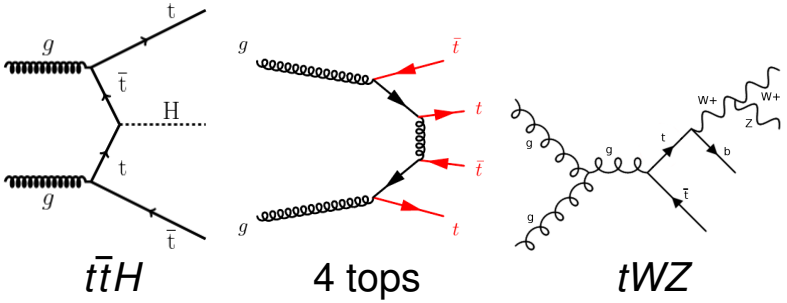


- Decay : $t \to bW$, $W \to \ell\nu/jj$
  - → 1 or 2 b-jets, 0 to 4 leptons, (+γ)
  - → fully hadronic final state : $t\bar{t}$
  - → ℓ+jets : $t\bar{t}$, t- and s-chan., $t\bar{t}+\gamma$
  - → OS dilepton : $t\bar{t}$, tW
  - → multilep., & SS dilep. : $t\bar{t}V$, tZ, $t\bar{t}H$

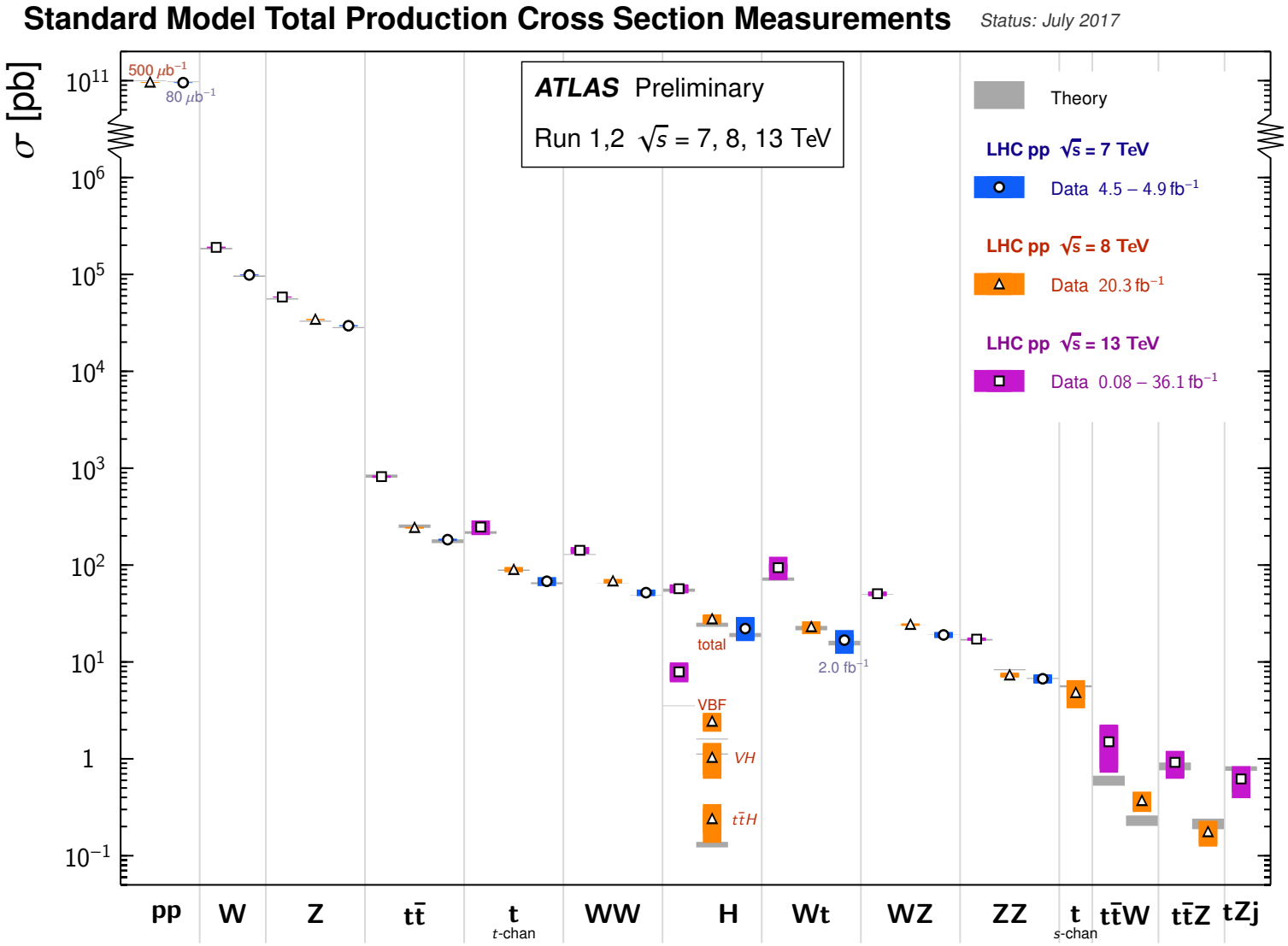






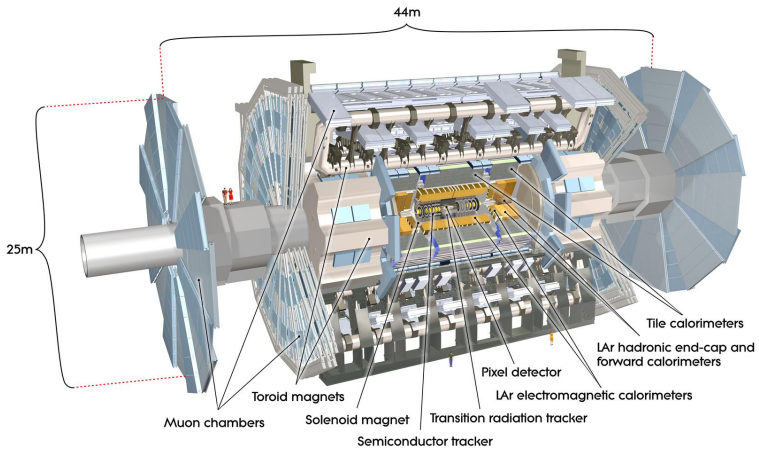


Overview of Standard Model cross-sections

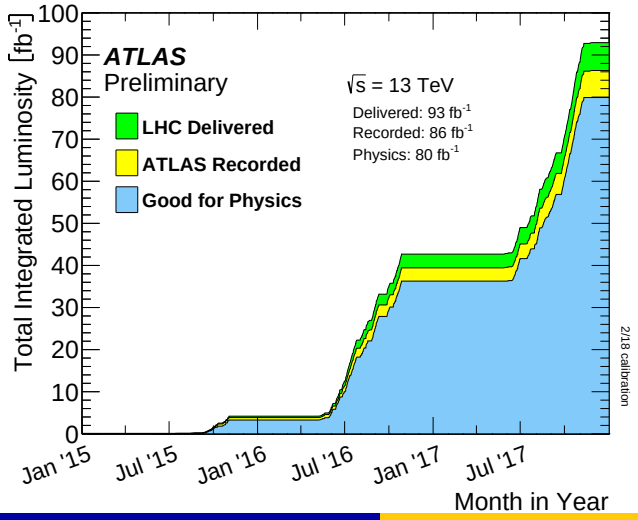


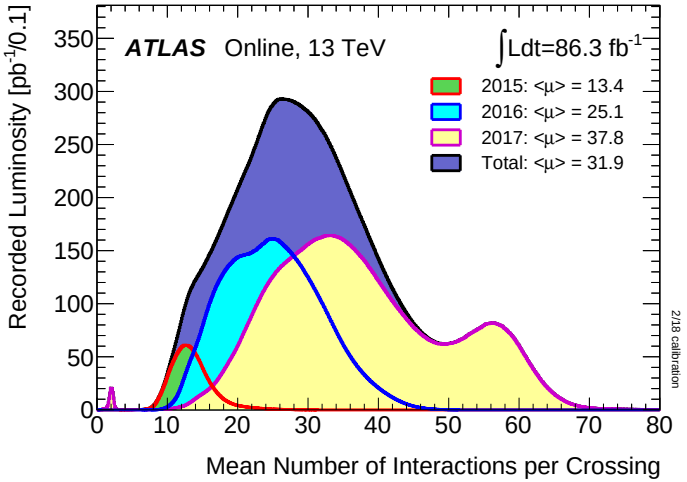
ATLAS and the LHC

- LHC and ATLAS operate since 2009
  - → run-I : 2009→2012
  - → run-II : 2015→2018
- More than $105\ \mathrm{fb}^{-1}$ accumulated for *pp* collisions
- In run-II : higher energy, higher luminosity
  - → ∼12 $t\bar{t}$ pairs per second for ATLAS !
  - → ∼ 380 billion top quarks produced at LHC
- Larger pile-up in run-II
  - → up to 70 collisions per bunch-crossing in 2017
- ATLAS has a new Pixel layer close to the beam
  - → better vertexing, better pile-up rejection
  - → improvement of b-tagging - good for top physics !



Year	$\sqrt{s}$ [TeV]	L [fb^{-1}]	$<\mu>$ (μ_{max})
2011	7	5.2	9.1(20)
2012	8	21.7	20.7(40)
2015	13	3.9	13.4(25)
2016	13	35.6	25.1(50)
2017	13	46.9	37.8(70)

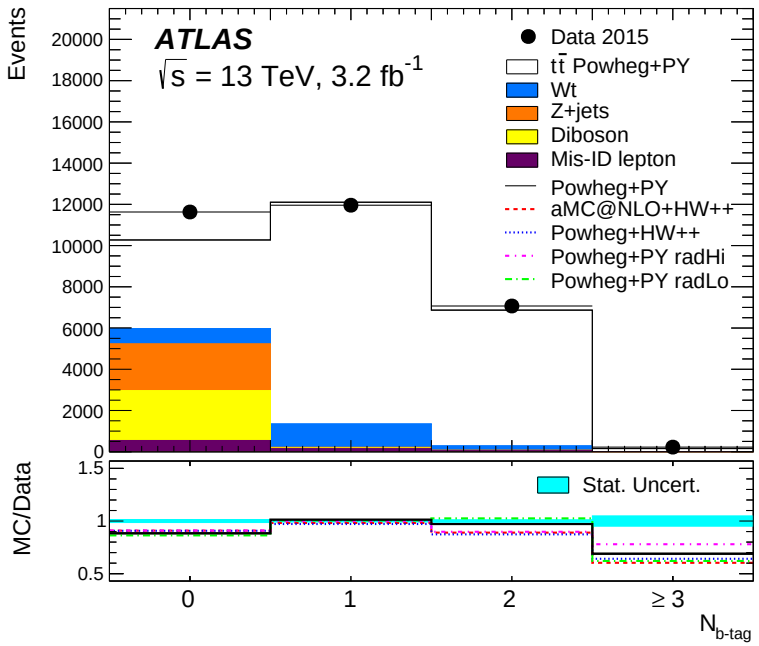


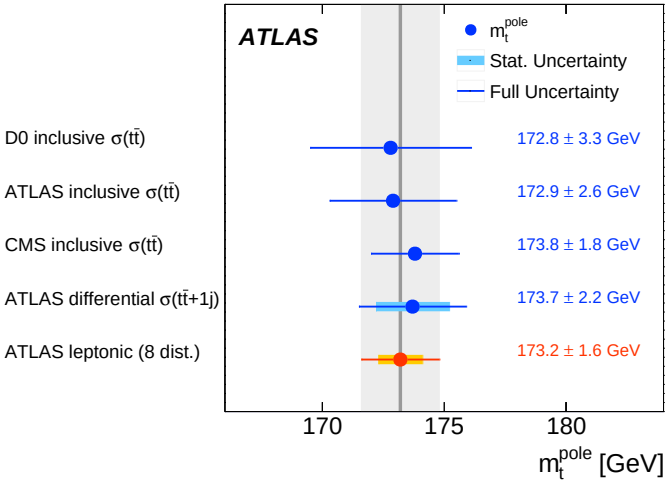


$t\bar{t}$ cross-section in the $e\mu$ channel

13 TeV, 3.2 fb^{-1} - Phys. Lett. B **761** (2016) 136 / 8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - Phys. Lett. B **761** (2016) 136

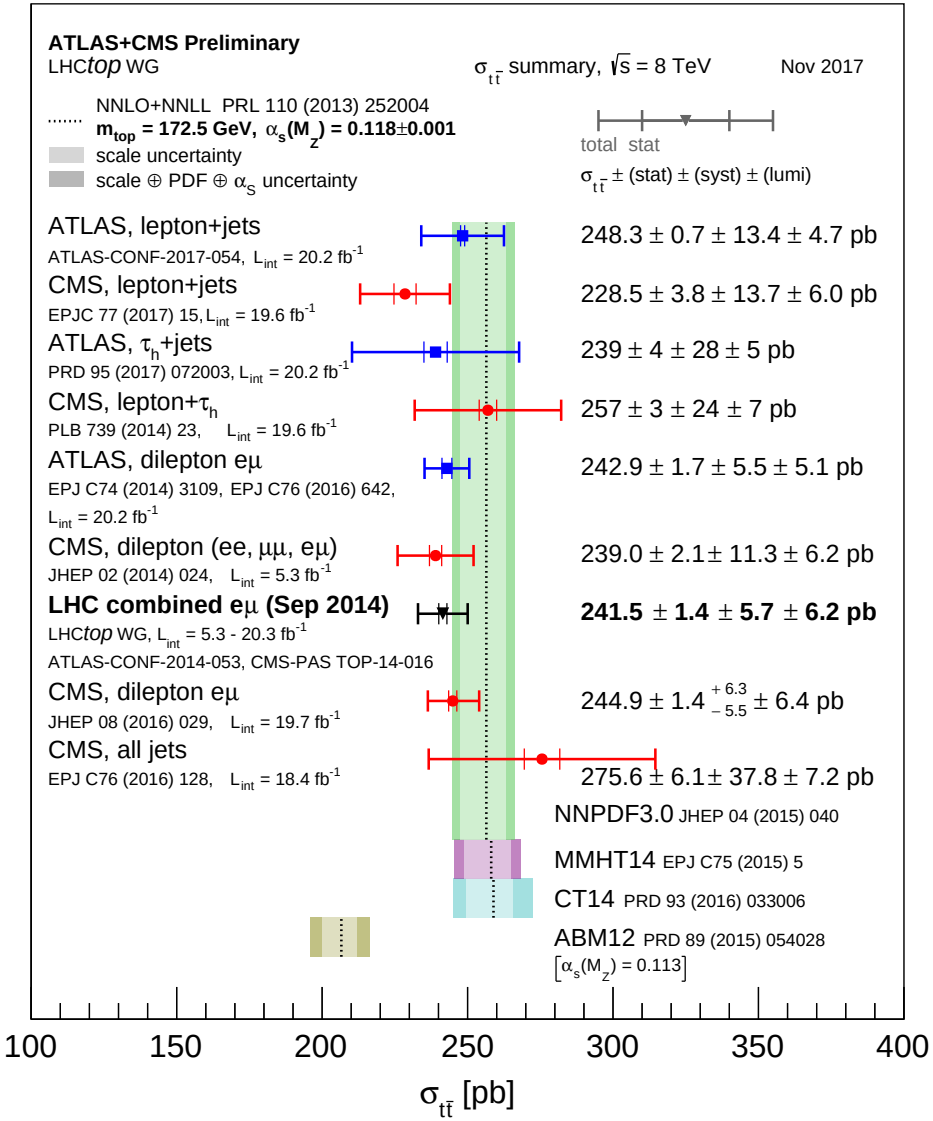
- Event selection : $1e^{\pm}$ and $1\mu^{\mp}$
  - → irreducible bckg. estimated with MC samples
  - → fake prompt leptons : data corrections (SS 2ℓ)
- $\sigma_{t\bar{t}}$ inferred from events with 1 and 2 b-tag jets
  - → 2 b-tag events very pure in $t\bar{t}$
  - → 1 b-tag events included to account for correlations
- $\sigma_{t\bar{t}} = 818 \pm 8(stat) \pm 27(syst) \pm 19(lumi)\ pb$
  - → total : 4.2% (was 3.2% at 8 TeV)
  - → best theo. pred. uncertainty : 5.5% (NNLO+NNLL)
  - → largests : $t\bar{t}$ hadronis. model (2.8%), lumi (2.3%)
- Differential cross-sections at 8 TeV
  - → leptonic variables : $m(e\mu)$, $p_T(e\mu)$, etc.
  - → higher sensitivity to top-quark pole mass

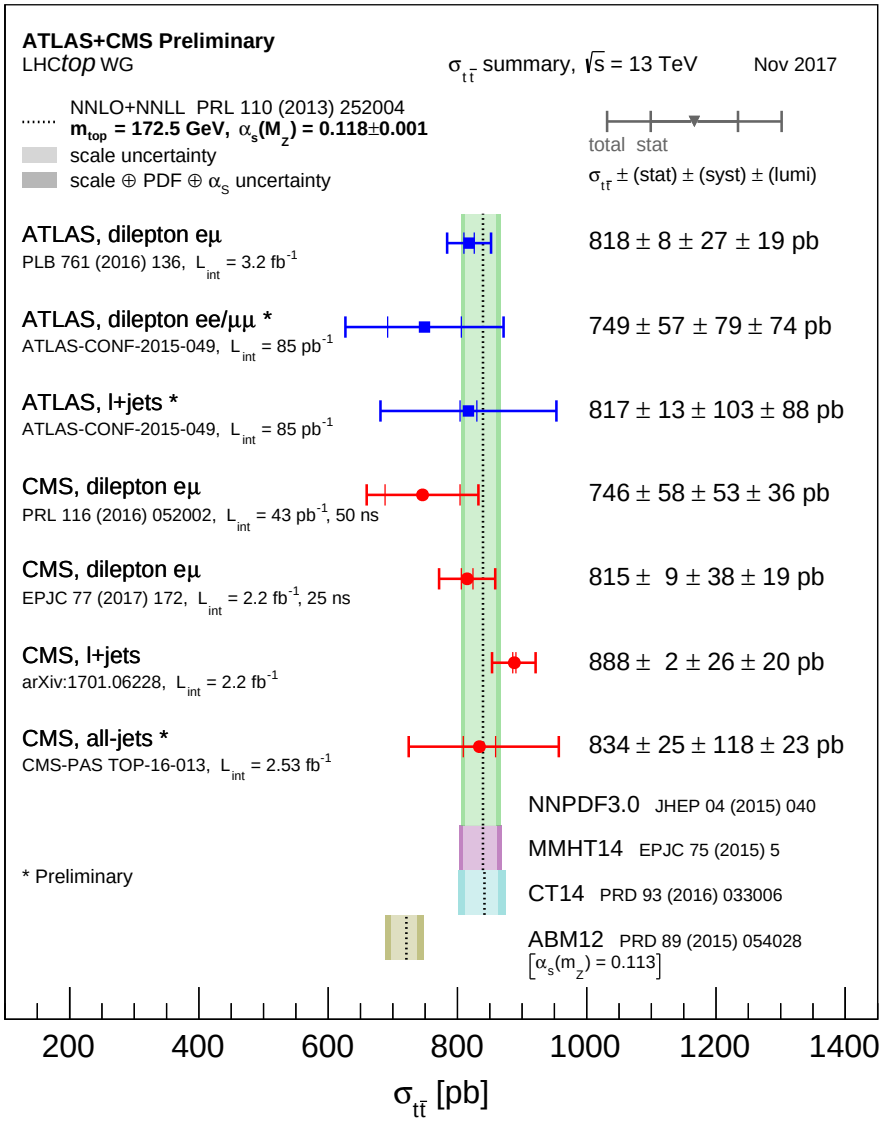




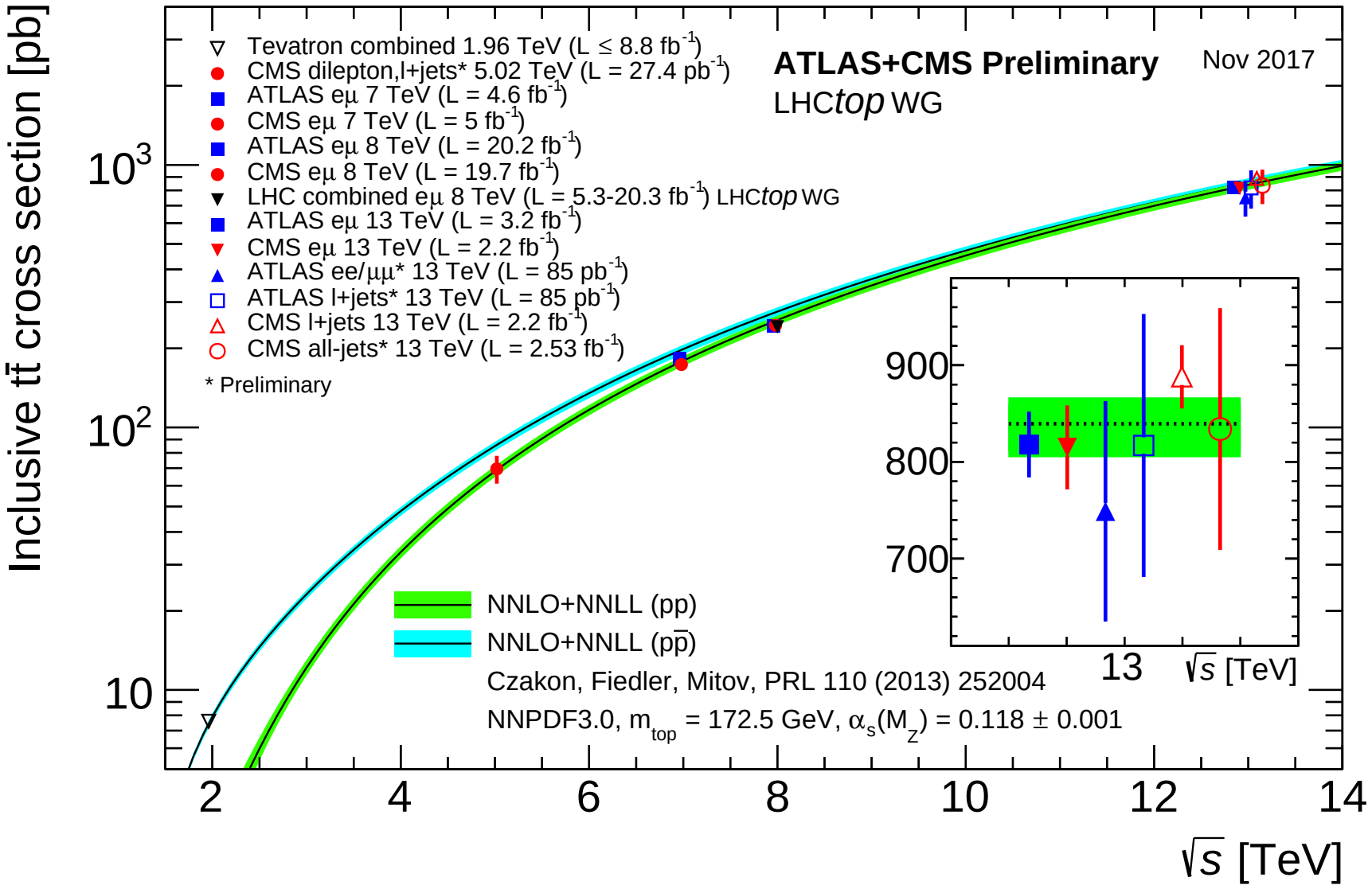
Event counts	N_1	N_2
Data	11958	7069
Single top	1140 ± 100	221 ± 68
Diboson	34 ± 11	1 ± 0
$Z(\to \tau\tau \to e\mu)$+jets	37 ± 18	2 ± 1
Misidentified leptons	164 ± 65	116 ± 55
Total background	1370 ± 120	340 ± 88

Summary of $t\bar{t}$ cross-section measurements (1/2)





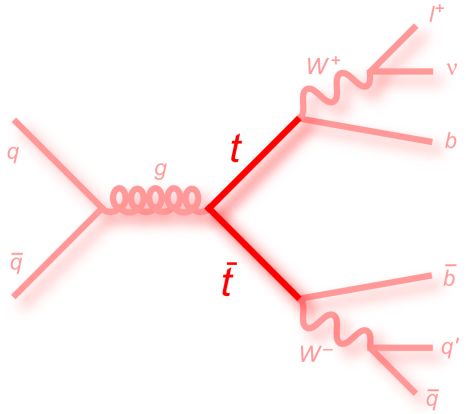
Summary of $t\bar{t}$ cross-section measurements (2/2)

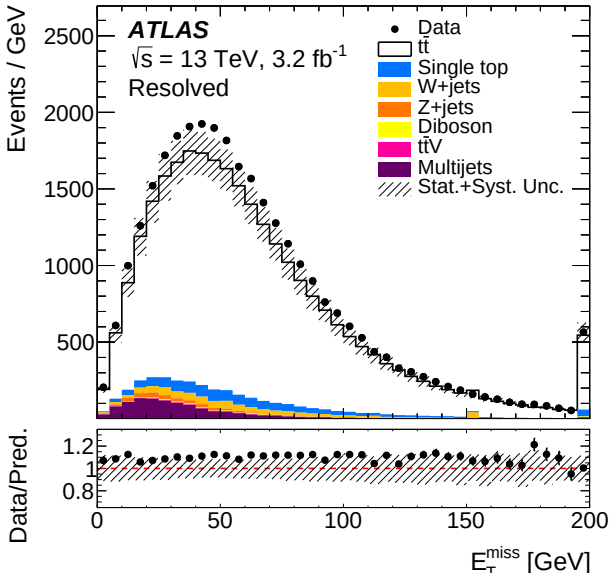


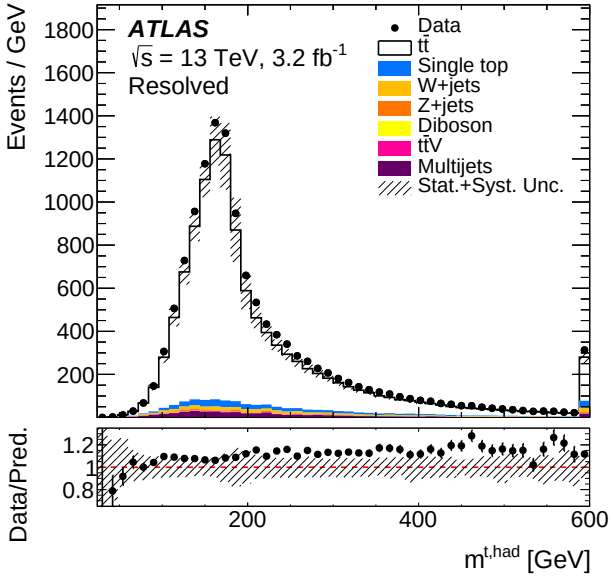
Differential $t\bar{t}$ cross-sections : ℓ+jets channel (1/3)

13 TeV, 3.2 fb^{-1} - JHEP **11** (2017) 191

- Differential cross-sections of crucial importance for ATLAS
  - → improve bkg. model for searches (BSM or SM rare processes)
- ℓ+jets channel : 1e or μ, $\geq$ 4 jets, $\geq$ 2 b-tagged jets
- Reconstruction of the top-quark topology : *pseudo-top* algorithm
  - → neutrino 4-momentum inferred from $E_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{miss}}$ + W-mass constraints
  - → two hardest b-tagged jets assigned, one for each top
  - → two hardest non-b-tagged jets assigned to hadronic top





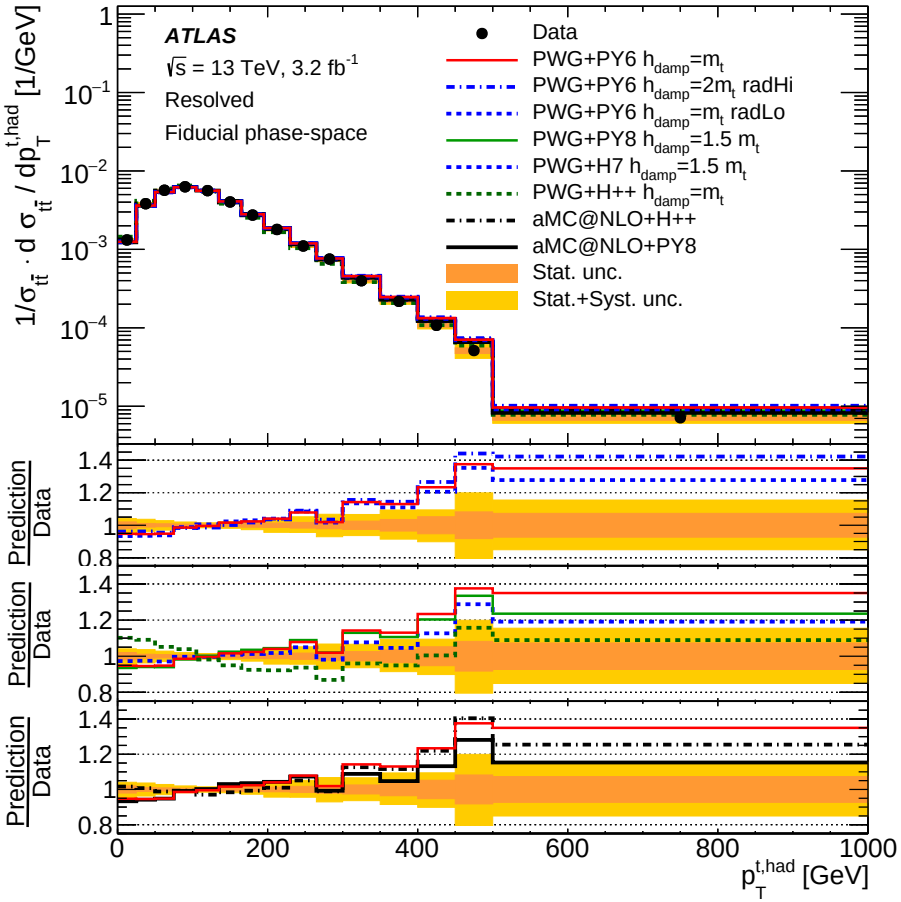


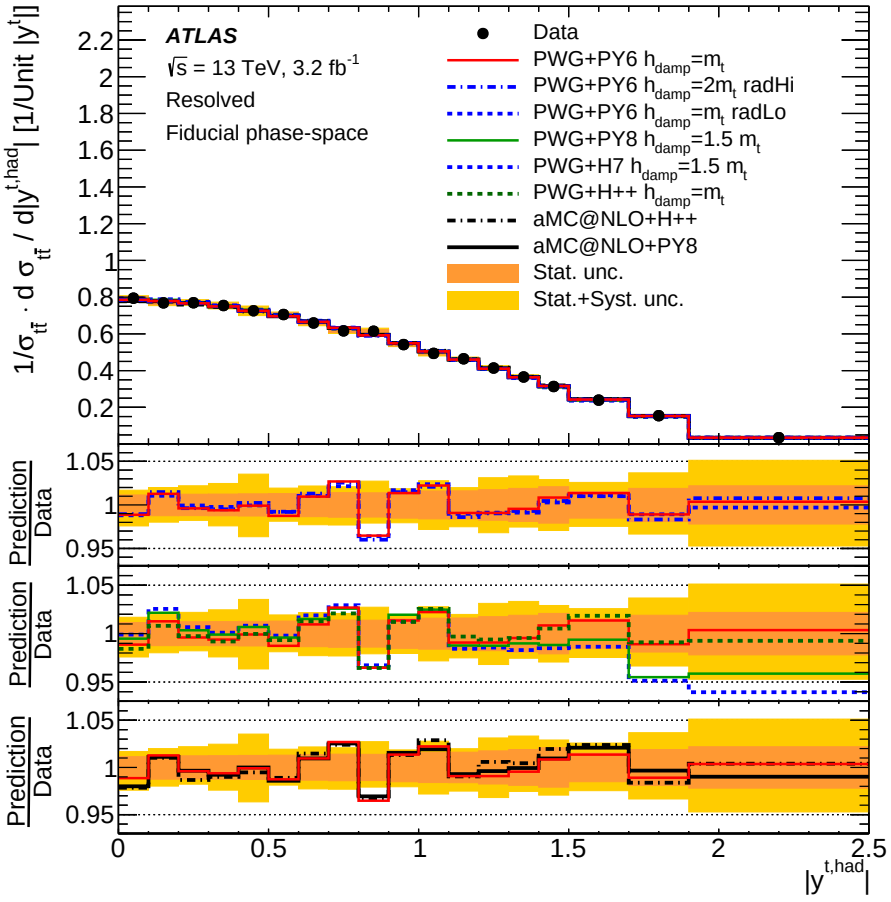
- Corrections applied to remove detector effects : unfolding
- Unfolding variables defined at particle level
  - → objects defined using stable particles only
  - → fiducial volume defined, close to detector-level selection
  - → pseudo-top at particle-level to define top-quark topology
- Backgrounds from MC, except fake prompt leptons (data-driven)
- Main systematics : $t\bar{t}$ MC model, jet energy scale

Differential $t\bar{t}$ cross-sections : ℓ+jets channel (2/3)

13 TeV, 3.2 fb^{-1} - JHEP **11** (2017) 191

- Comparisons to a large set of MC generator setups !
- Hadronic top y well-modelled
- Large discrepancies for hadronic top p_T
  - → data softer than setups using Pythia6 or Pythia8 - different trends when using Herwig++ or Herwig7
  - → not yet understood - EW or NNLO QCD corrections ? decay at NLO ?

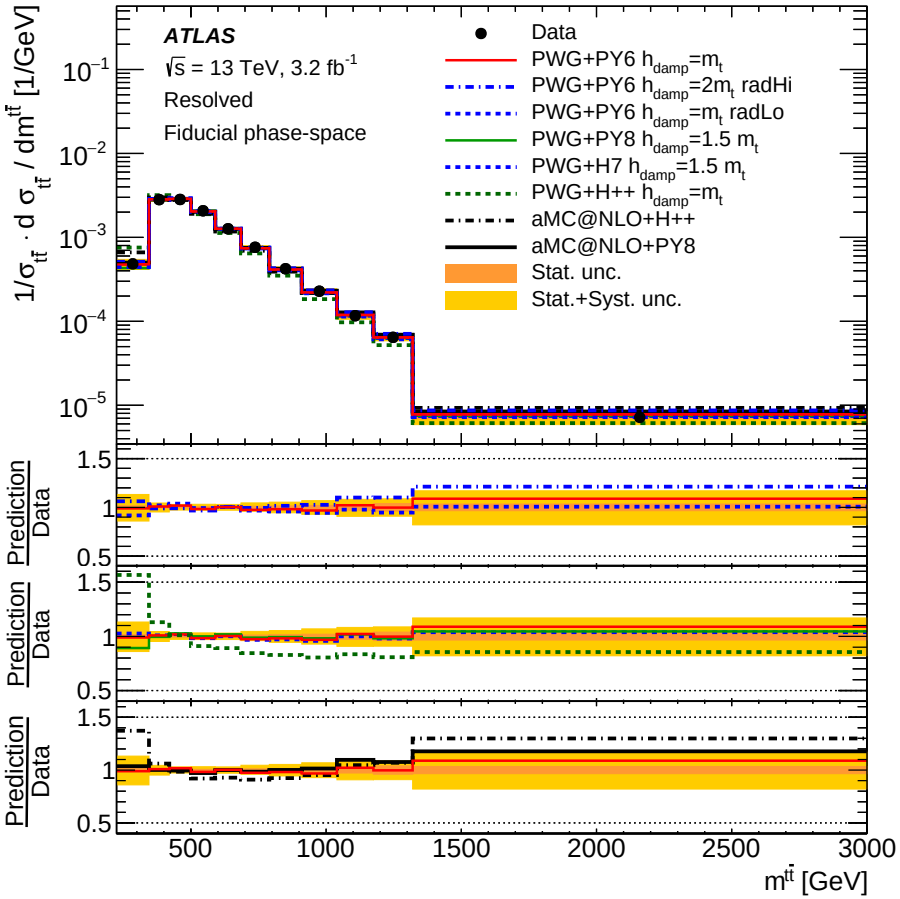


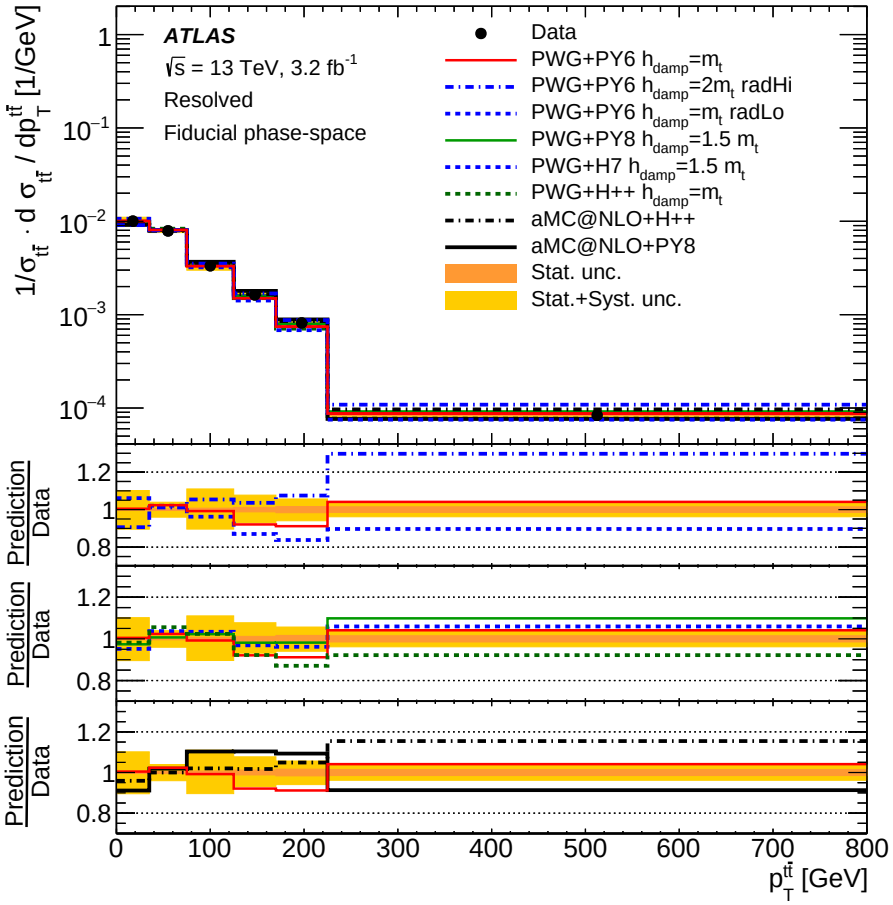


Differential $t\bar{t}$ cross-sections : ℓ+jets channel (3/3)

13 TeV, 3.2 fb^{-1} - JHEP **11** (2017) 191

- $t\bar{t}$ mass well-modelled, except for setups using Herwig++
- $t\bar{t}$ $\mathrm{p_T}$ relatively well-modelled, with some differences between the setups
- Distributions used to improve the $t\bar{t}$ MC generators
  - → better setups and reduced systematics
  - → standard Rivet format allows to re-interpret results with future setups

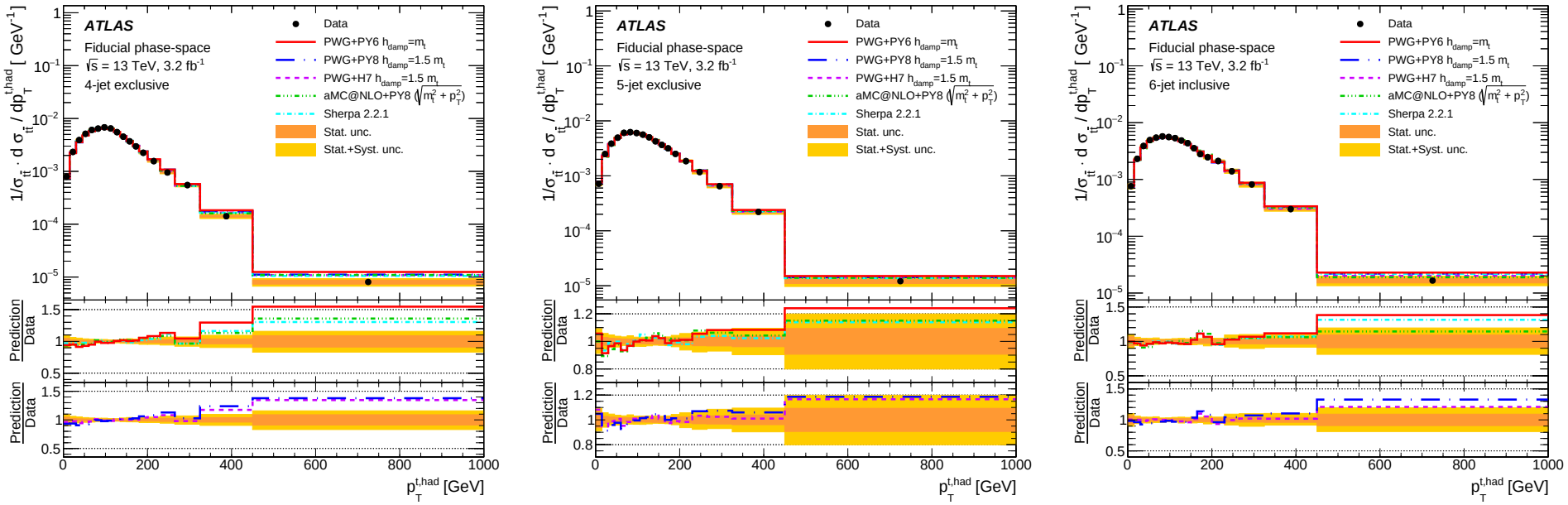




Differential $t\bar{t}$+ jets cross-sections : ℓ+jets channel (1/2)

13 TeV, 3.2 fb^{-1} - 1802.06572 (submitted to JHEP)

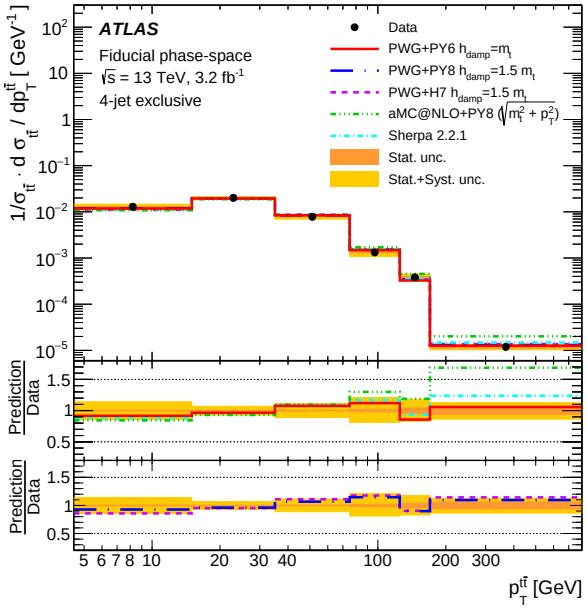
- We also measure these variables as a function of the number of jets !
- Several variables measured for 0,1, and $\geq$2 additional jets
- Provides additional information to understand the mis-modelling
  - $\rightarrow$ e.g. for hadronic top p_T...

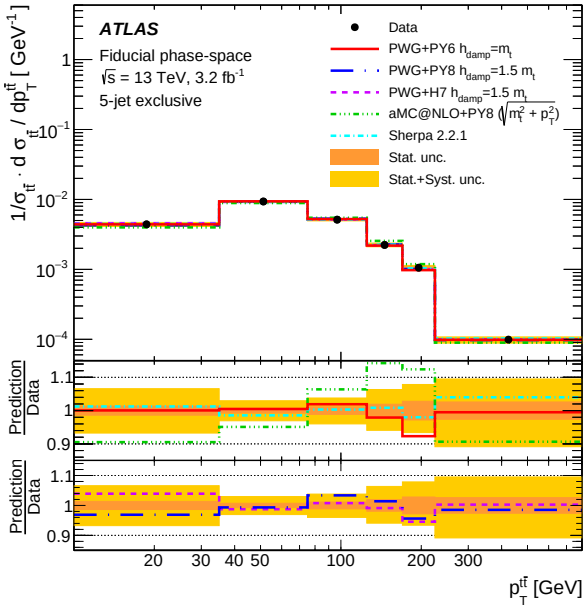


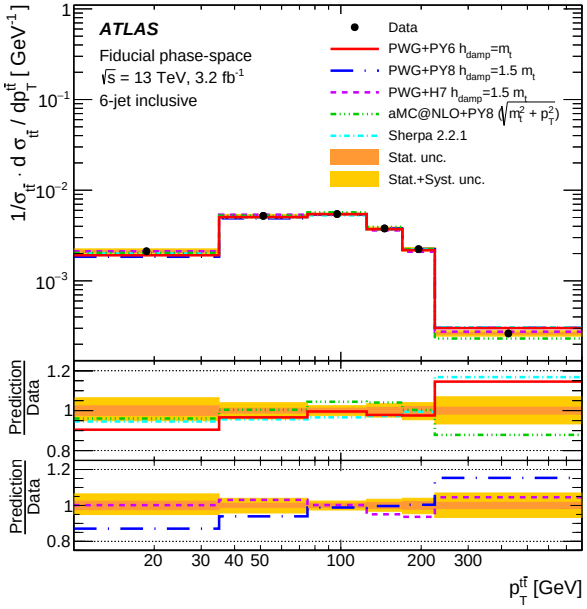
Differential $t\bar{t}$+ jets cross-sections : ℓ+jets channel (2/2)

13 TeV, 3.2 fb^{-1} - 1802.06572 (submitted to JHEP)

- ...as well as for $t\bar{t}$ $\mathrm{p_T}$
- Most generator setups used so far : $t\bar{t}$+ 0jets @NLO
  - → additional jets from the parton shower (Pythia or Herwig)
  - → ...except Sherpa (1jet @NLO, 2,3,4@LO)



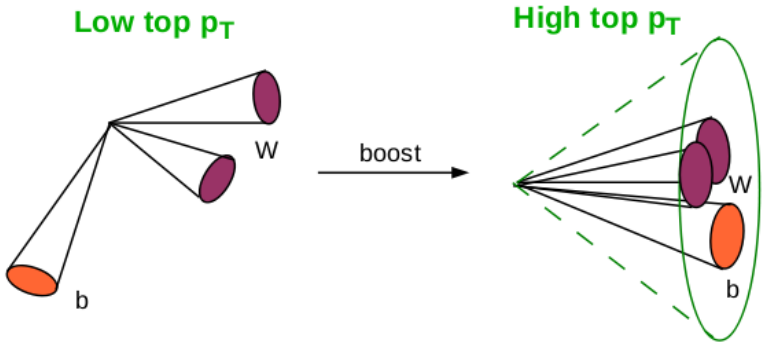


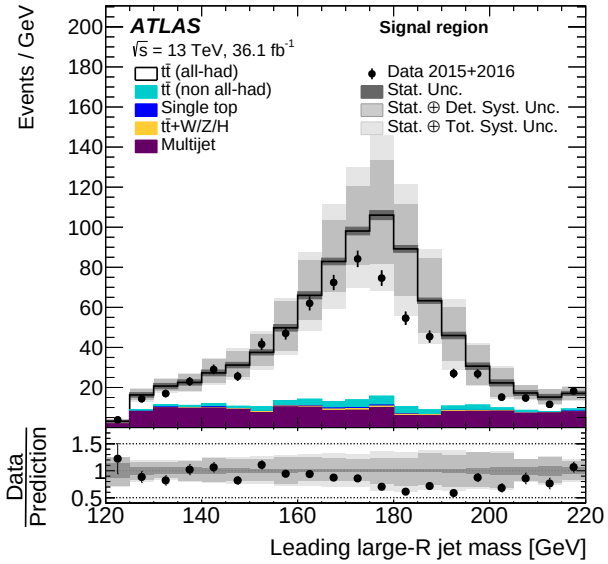


Differential $t\bar{t}$ cross-sections : fully-hadronic channel (1/3)

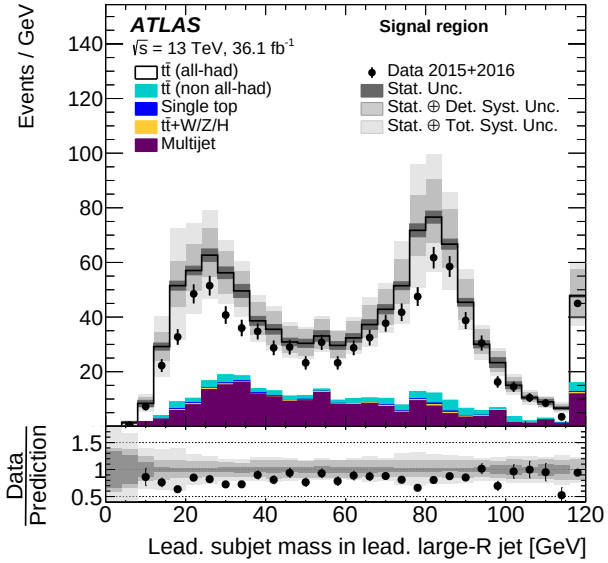
13 TeV, 36.1 fb^{-1} - 1801.02052 (submitted to PRD)

- Measurement performed in the fully-hadronic boosted topology
  - → at high $\mathrm{p_T}$, decay produced may be merge in a large-R jet
  - → this analysis gives additional information on the high-$\mathrm{p_T}$ regime





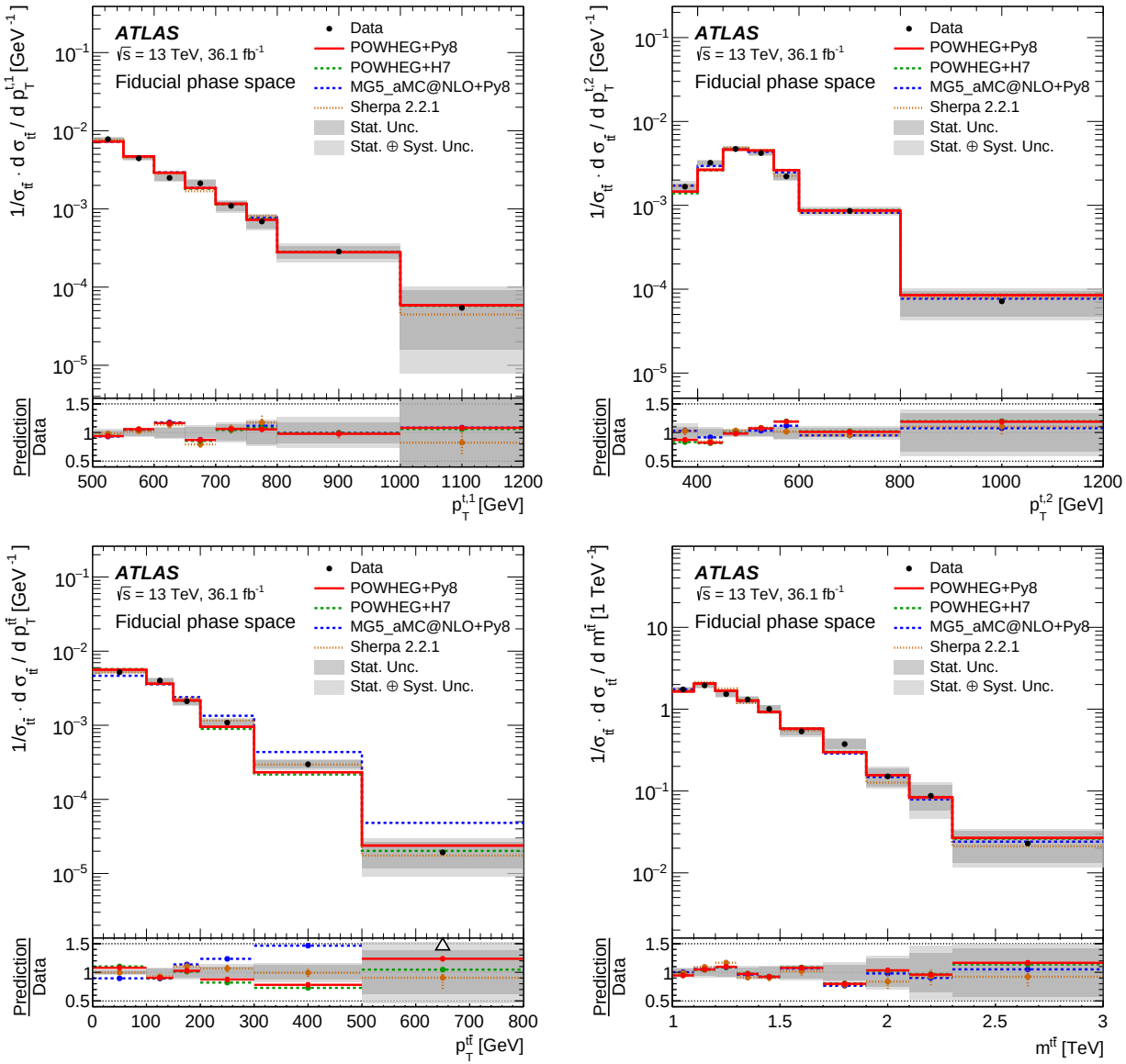
- Pre-selection : 2 large-R jets, *top-tagged*
  - → algorithms to identify the top-jets (substructure variables)
  - → in addition : each large-R jet matched to a b-tagged small-R jet
  - → various kinematic requirements
- Unfolding performed at particle-level
  - → two large-R jets at truth level
- Main background : multijets (data-driven estimate)
- Main systematics : large-R jet energy scale and top-tagging, b-tagging, signal MC model



Differential $t\bar{t}$ cross-sections : fully-hadronic channel (2/3)

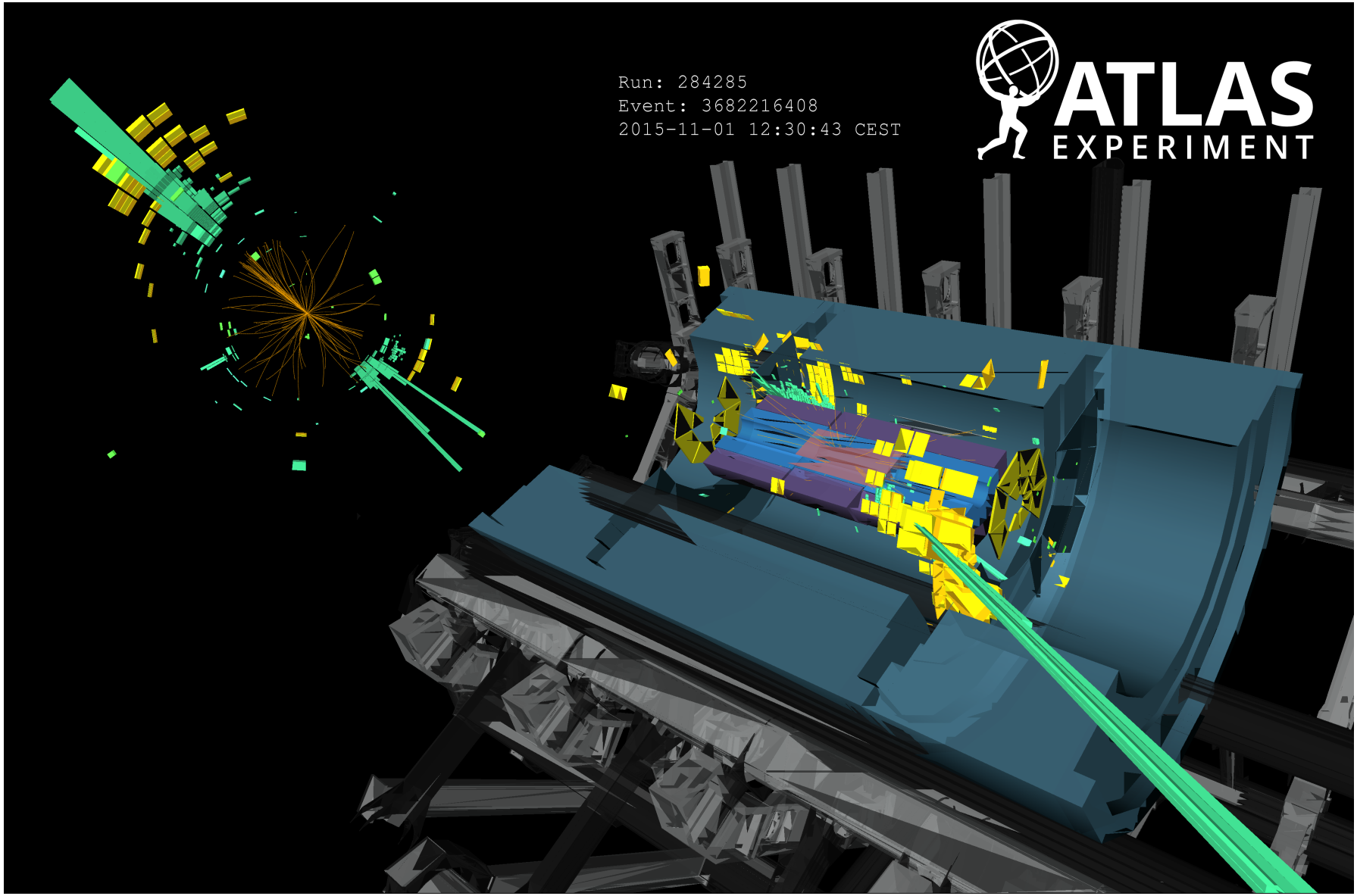
13 TeV, 36.1 fb^{-1} - 1801.02052 (submitted to PRD)

- Example of unfolded variables
  - → testing newer MC generators
- $\mathrm{p_T}$ of lead. and sub-lead. tops
  - → significant shape effects
  - → more info. on top $\mathrm{p_T}$ "issue"
- aMC@NLO+P8 mismodels $t\bar{t}$ $\mathrm{p_T}$
  - → ongoing improvements for aMC@NLO
- $t\bar{t}$ mass relatively well-modelled
- Many other variables unfolded



Differential $t\bar{t}$ cross-sections : fully-hadronic channel (3/3)

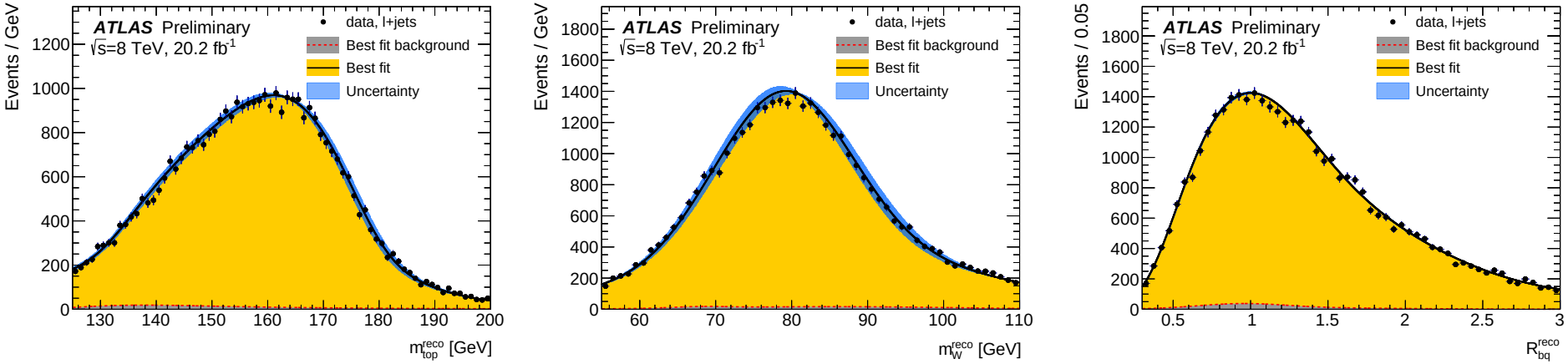
13 TeV, 36.1 fb^{-1} - 1801.02052 (submitted to PRD)



Top-quark mass in the ℓ+jets channel

8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - ATLAS-CONF-2017-071 (preliminary)

- Top-quark mass can be measured with all $t\bar{t}$ channels
- Latest ATLAS preliminary result in ℓ+jets channel (8 TeV)
  - $\rightarrow$ similar event selection as for differential cross-section measurements
- Full event kinematics reconstructed using a likelihood fit (KLFitter)
  - $\rightarrow$ likelihood : $t\bar{t}$ ℓ+jets topology at parton level $\otimes$ detector resolution effects
  - $\rightarrow$ fit to find the best objects-to-partons assignments event by event
  - $\rightarrow$ this allows to define variables sensitive to the top-quark mass
- Top-quark mass measured with a template fit - strategy to reduce systematics :
  - $\rightarrow$ 3D fit of $\mathrm{m_{top}}$, JSF, bJSF
  - $\rightarrow$ using 3 variables : $\mathrm{m_{top}^{reco}}$, $\mathrm{m_W^{reco}}$, $\mathrm{R_{bq}^{reco}} = \frac{\mathrm{p_T}(b_1)+\mathrm{p_T}(b_2)}{\mathrm{p_T}(j_W^1)+\mathrm{p_T}(j_W^2)}$
  - $\rightarrow$ in addition : BDT trained to reject events with bad jet-parton assignments

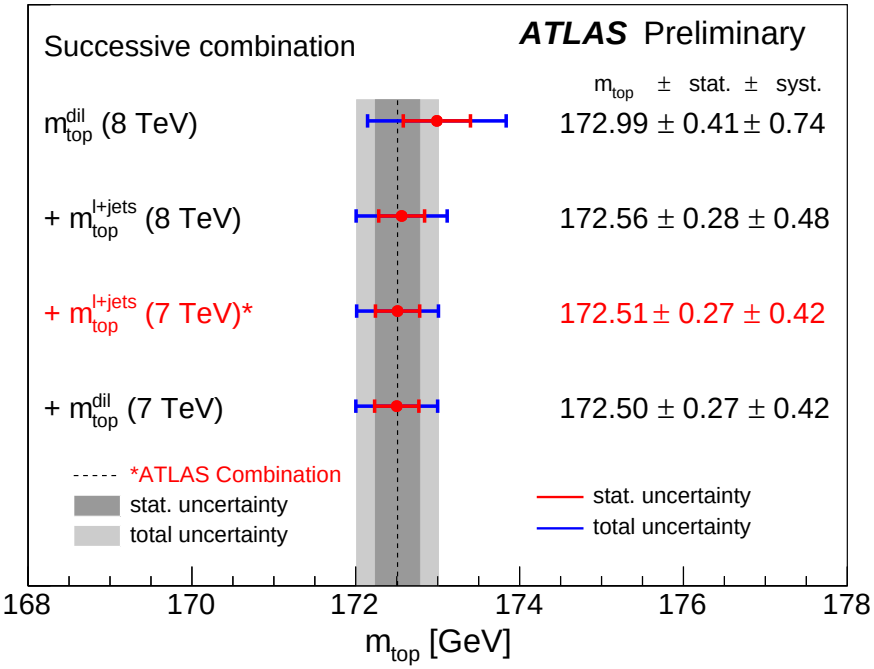


- Preliminary result : $\mathrm{m_{top}} = 172.08 \pm 0.39(\mathrm{stat}) \pm 0.82(\mathrm{syst})$ GeV
- Main systematics : jet energy scale, b-tagging, signal MC modelling

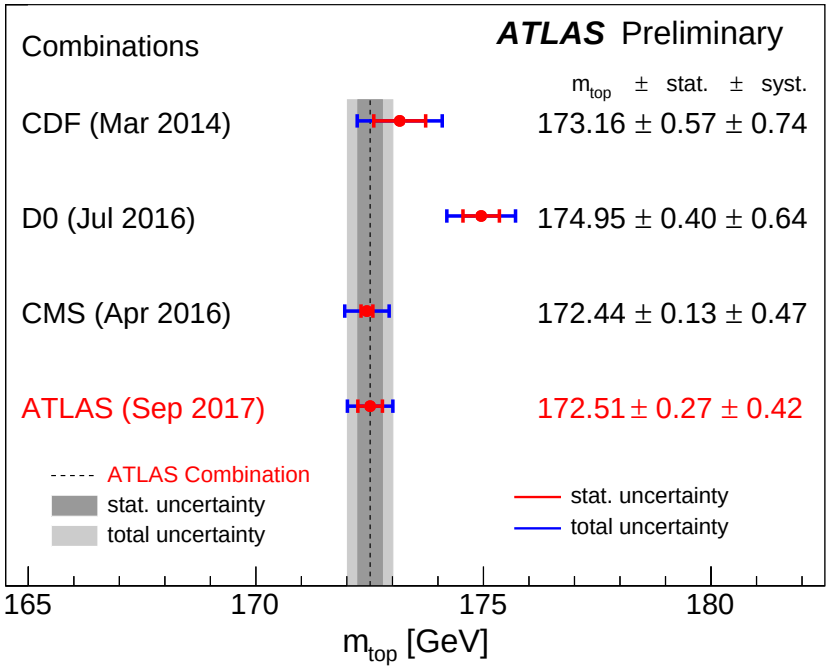
Top-quark mass : combination with other channels

8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - ATLAS-CONF-2017-071 (preliminary)

- This new preliminary result is combined with previous ATLAS measurements
  - → using ℓ+jets and dilepton channels, 7&8 TeV
  - → most important aspect : taking care of correlations between measurements
  - → the 7 TeV dilepton results doesn't change the result ⇒ not included in final value



ATLAS "successive" combinations



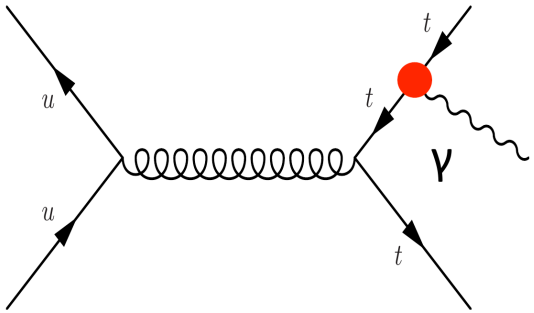
comparison with other experiments

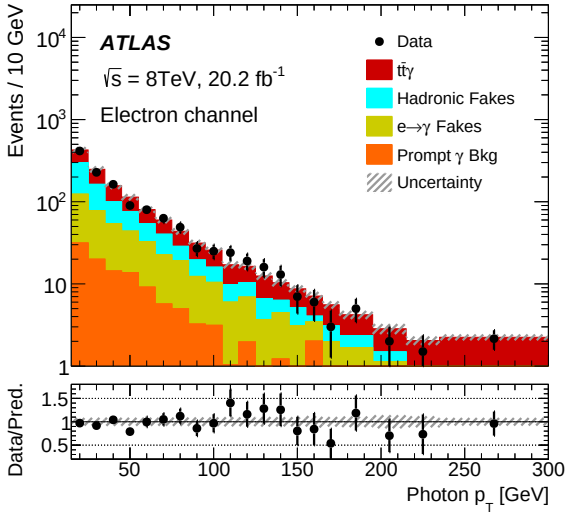
- Preliminary ATLAS combination : $m_{top} = 172.51 \pm 0.27\ (\text{stat}) \pm 0.42\ (\text{syst})\ \text{GeV}$
- Total uncertainty : $0.50\ \text{GeV}$ (0.29%)
- Main systematics : jet energy scale, b-tagging, signal MC modelling

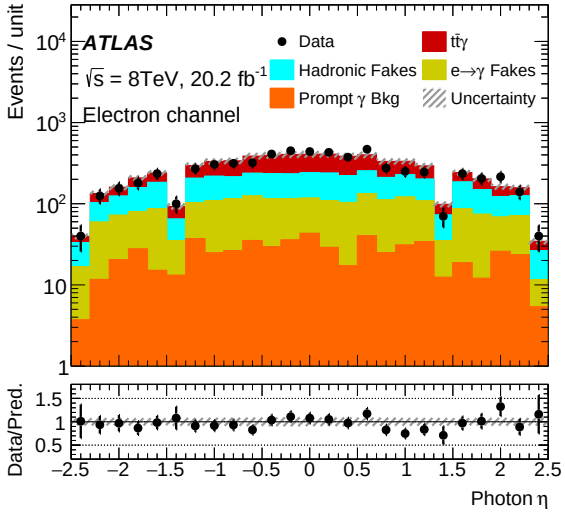
$t\bar{t}$ production in association with a photon

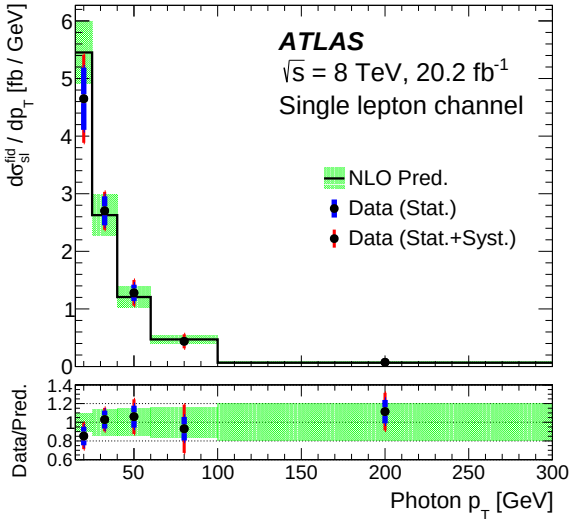
8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - JHEP **11** (2017) 086

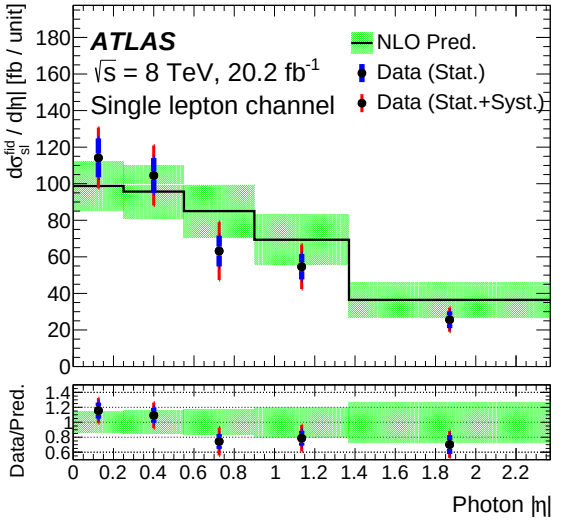
- $t\bar{t}+\gamma$ observed with 7 TeV data
- 8 TeV : differential cross-sections !
- ℓ+jets channel - selection :
  - → 1 e/μ, 1γ, $\geq$ 4 jets, $\geq$ 1 b-tag
- Main bkg. : misidentified photons
  - → from electrons or hadrons
  - → data-driven techniques
- Unfolding to particle-level
  - → p_T and η of the photon
  - → good agreement with NLO pred.









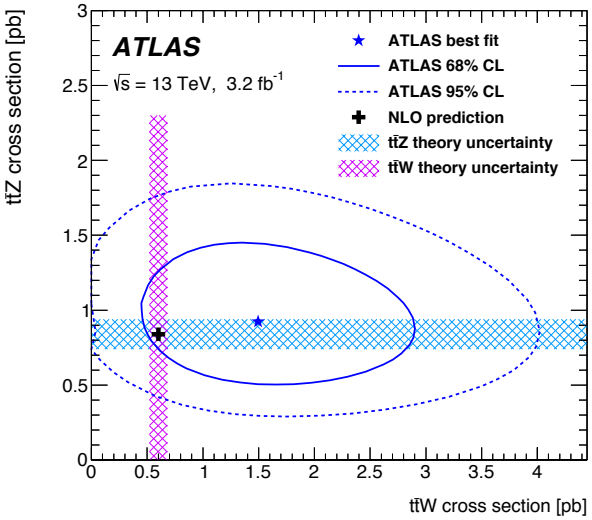


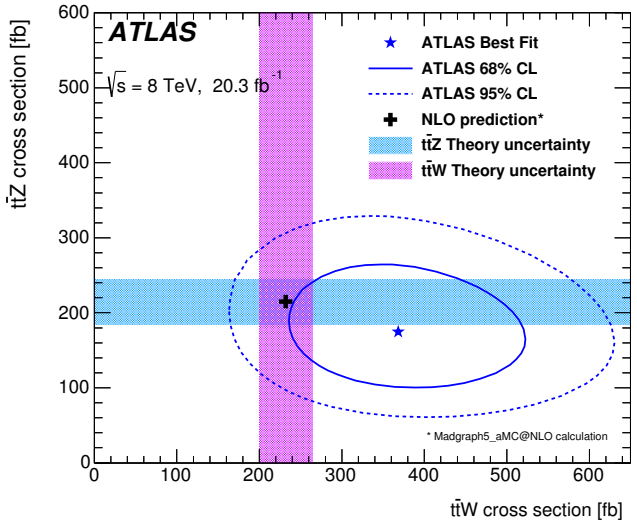
$t\bar{t}$ production in association with a heavy gauge boson

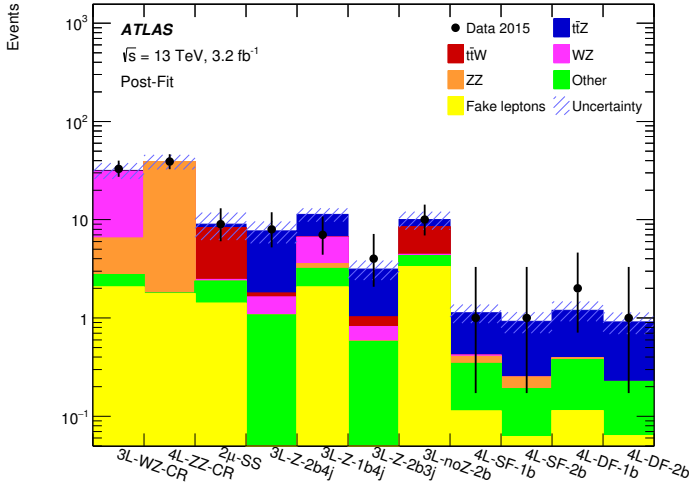
13 TeV, 3.2 fb^{-1} - Eur. Phys. J. C **77** (2017) 40

- $t\bar{t}+W$ and $t\bar{t}+Z$ observed in run-I (8 TeV)
  - → first 13 TeV ATLAS paper last winter
- SS di-muon, trilepton, tetralepton
  - → channels sub-divided in several regions
  - → main backgrounds : WZ, ZZ, fake prompt leptons
- Fit to extract $\sigma_{t\bar{t}+W}$, $\sigma_{t\bar{t}+Z}$ (and WZ, ZZ contributions)
- Results : $\sigma_{t\bar{t}+W} = 1.5 \pm 0.8$ pb, $\sigma_{t\bar{t}+Z} = 0.8 \pm 0.3$ pb
  - → compatible with SM predictions
  - → $t\bar{t}+W$ more challenging that in run-I ($q\bar{q}$-induced)

Process	$t\bar{t}$ decay	Boson decay	Channel
$t\bar{t}W^{\pm}$	$(\mu^{\pm}\nu b)(q\bar{q}b)$	$\mu^{\pm}\nu$	SS dimuon
	$(\ell^{\pm}\nu b)(\ell^{\mp}\nu b)$	$\ell^{\pm}\nu$	Trilepton
$t\bar{t}Z$	$(\ell^{\pm}\nu b)(q\bar{q}b)$	$\ell^{+}\ell^{-}$	Trilepton
	$(\ell^{\pm}\nu b)(\ell^{\mp}\nu b)$	$\ell^{+}\ell^{-}$	Tetralepton



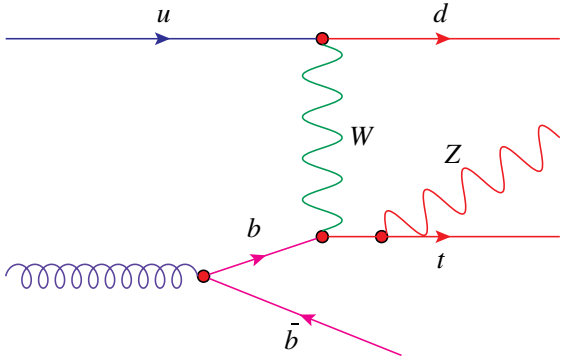


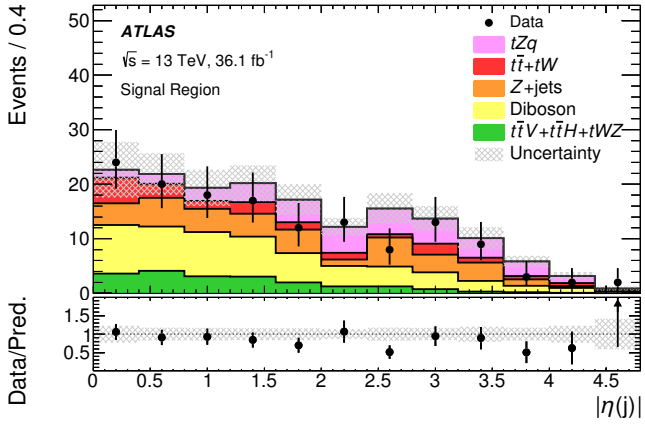


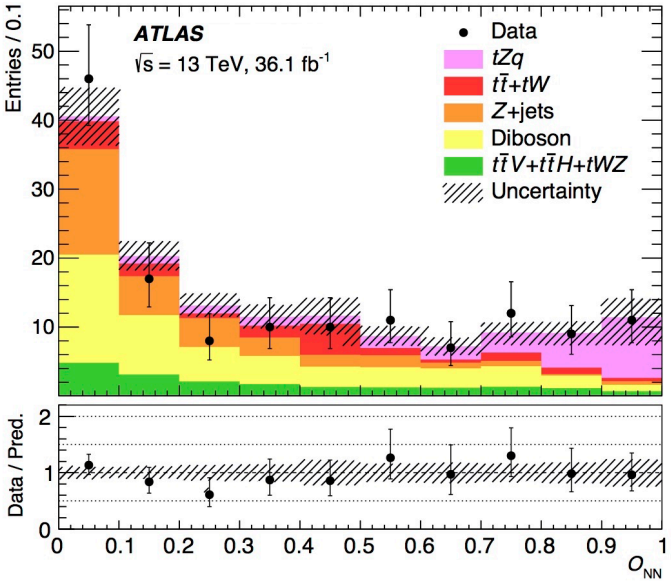
Search for *tZ* associated production

13 TeV, 36.1 fb^{-1} - 1710.03659 (submitted to PLB)

- New process accessible LHC - searched for in 3ℓ channel
- 3 e/μ with 1 OS $ee/\mu\mu$ in $\mathrm{m}_{\ell\ell}$ Z-window, 2j ($|\eta| < 4.5$), 1b
- Main backgrounds : diboson, $t\bar{t} + X$, Z+jets
  - → data-driven techniques for fake prompt leptons
  - → different control regions to validate the estimates
- NN combining 10 discriminant variables
  - → most important : $\eta(j)$, $\mathrm{p_T}(j)$, m_t
- Maximum likelihood fit to extract the signal strength
  - → strong evidence : 4.2σ (5.4σ) observed (expected)
  - → $\sigma_{tZ} = 600 \pm 170(stat) \pm 140(syst)$ *fb*
  - → compatible with NLO prediction 800^{+50}_{60} *fb*



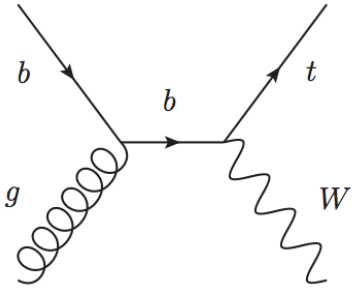


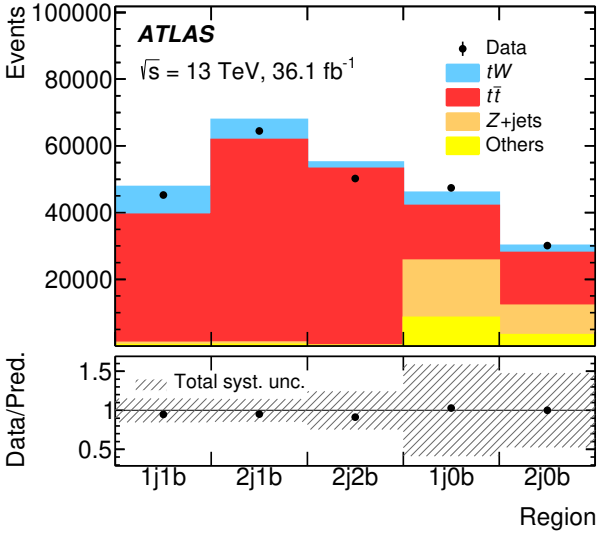


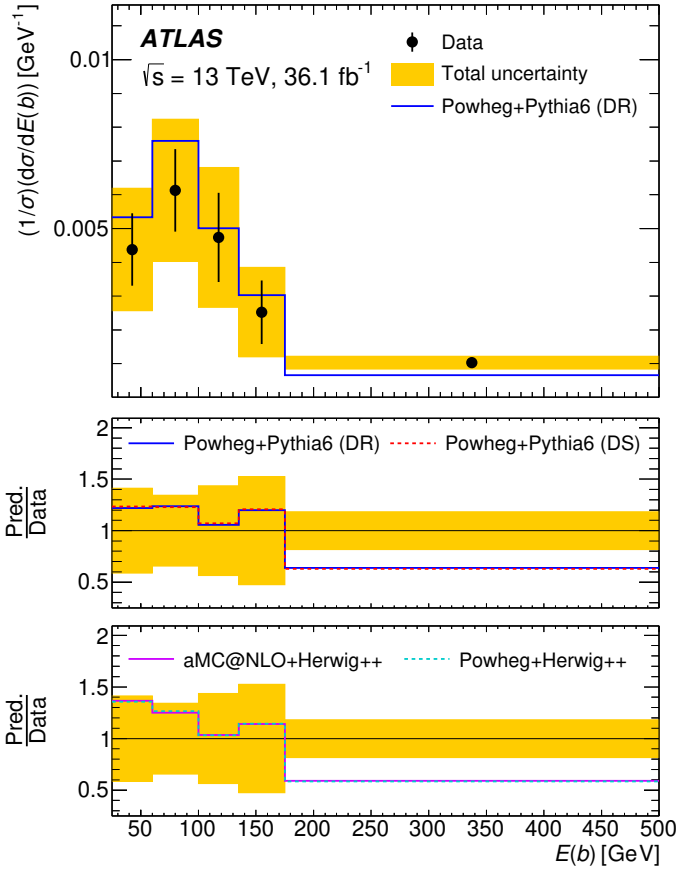
Differential *tW* cross-sections

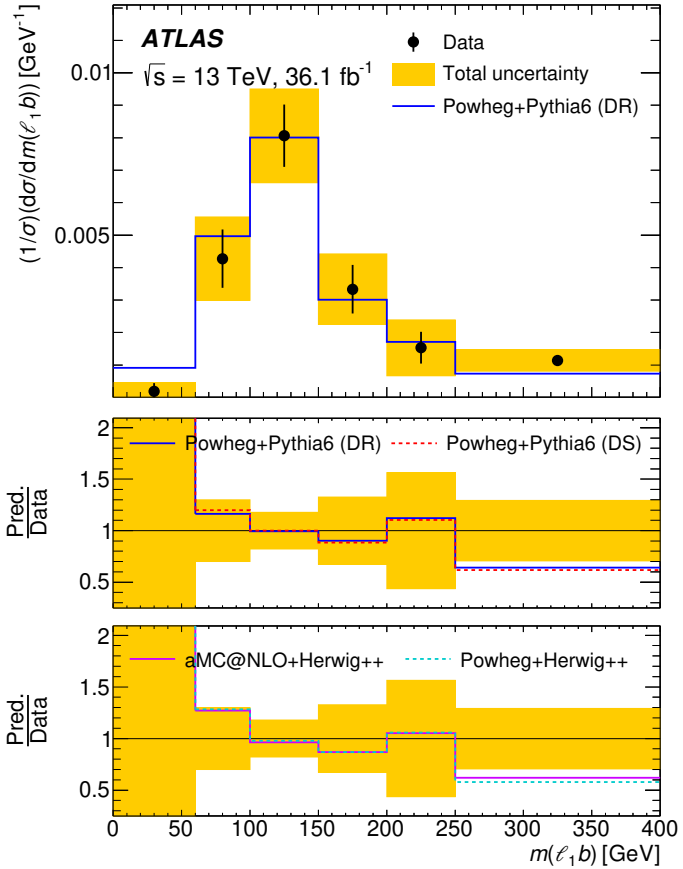
13 TeV, 36.1 fb^{-1} - 1712.01602 (submitted to EPJC)

- Process observed by CMS and ATLAS in run-I (8 TeVdata)
- First differential measurement for associated *tW* production - $e\mu$ channel
  - → selection : $1e^{\pm}$ and $1\mu^{\mp}$, 1 or 2 jets, 0 to 2 b-tagged - use of MVA to separate from $t\bar{t}$ background
  - → main background : $t\bar{t}$ - separated from signal using multivariate techniques
- Differential cross-sections at particle level, in a $e\mu$+1b-jets fiducial region





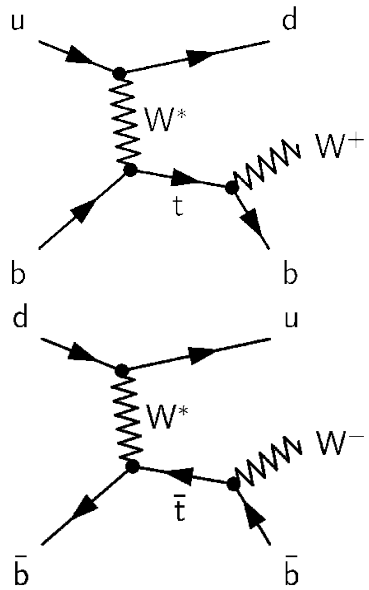


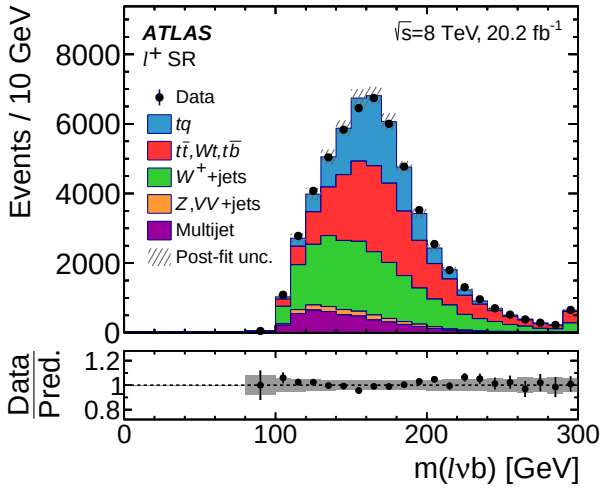


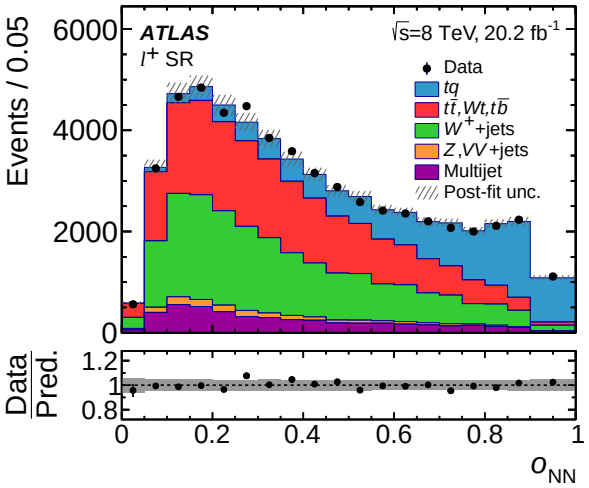
Inclusive and differential t-channel cross-sections (1/2)

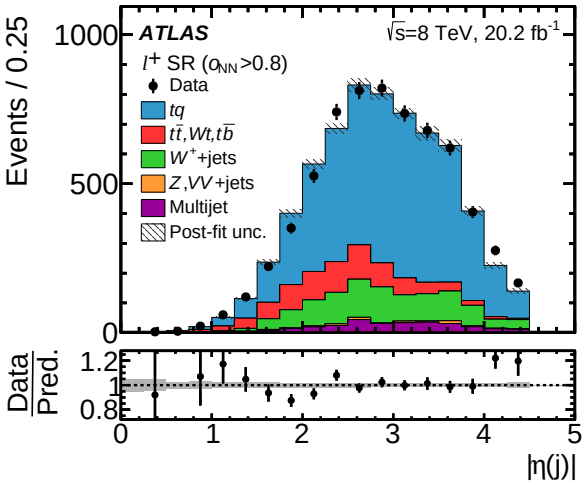
8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - Eur. Phys. J. C **77** (2017) 531

- t-channel single-top : second-largest top-quark production mode
  - → observed at Tevatron, then at LHC (7 TeV)
  - → electroweak production - cross-section propotional to $|V_{tb}|^2$
- Single-lepton channel : $1e/\mu$, 2 jets, 1 b-tagged
  - → feature of this process : one forward jet ($|\eta| < 4.5$ instead of 2.5)
- Backgrounds : $t\bar{t}$, W+jets, fake prompt leptons (multijets)
  - → NN combining 7 discriminant variables to separate the signal
- Inclusive cross-sections measured using a template fit of the NN output
  - → also : high-purity region for differential cross-sections





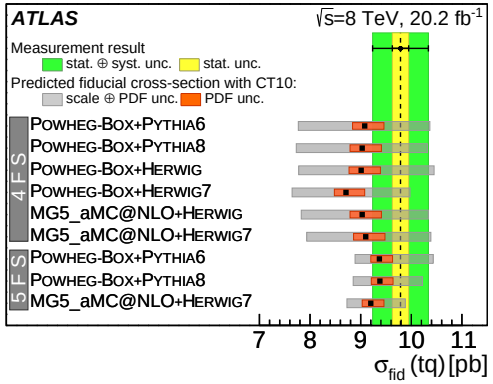


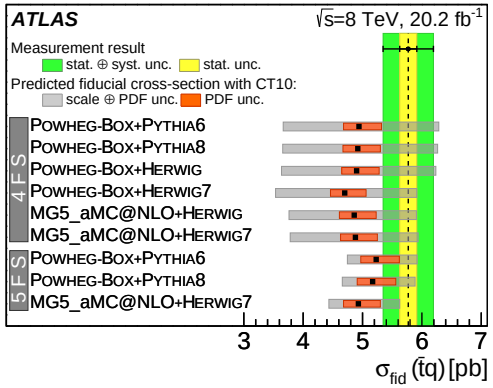


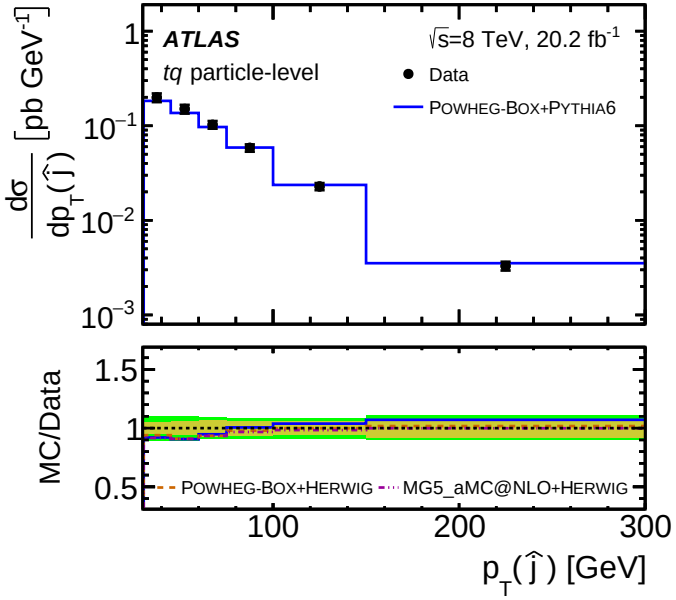
Inclusive and differential t-channel cross-sections (2/2)

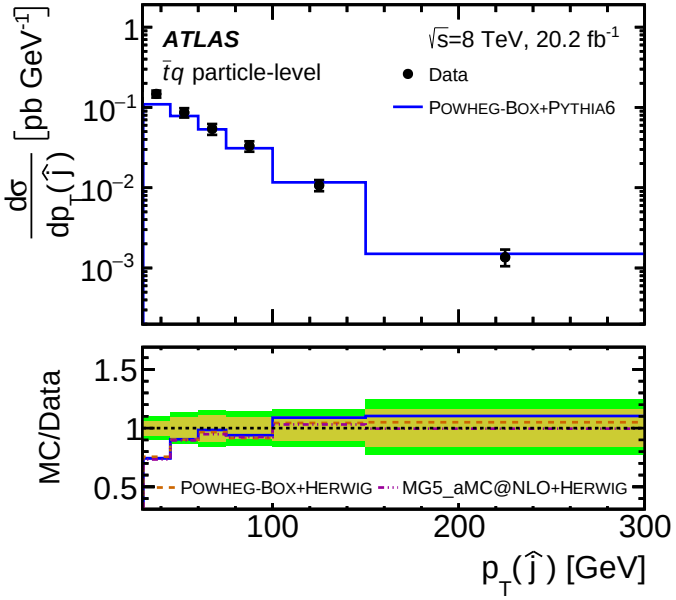
8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - Eur. Phys. J. C **77** (2017) 531

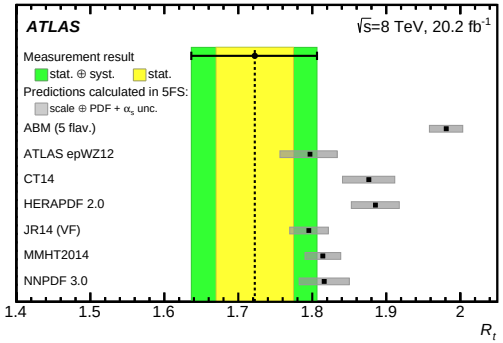
- Inclusive fiducial cross-sections - separately for t and $\bar{t}$
  - $\rightarrow$ comparison to different MC predictions
- Inclusive total cross-sections also measured
  - $\rightarrow$ $R_t = \sigma_t/\sigma_{\bar{t}}$ provides sensitivity to PDFs
- First differential cross-sections unfolded at particle level





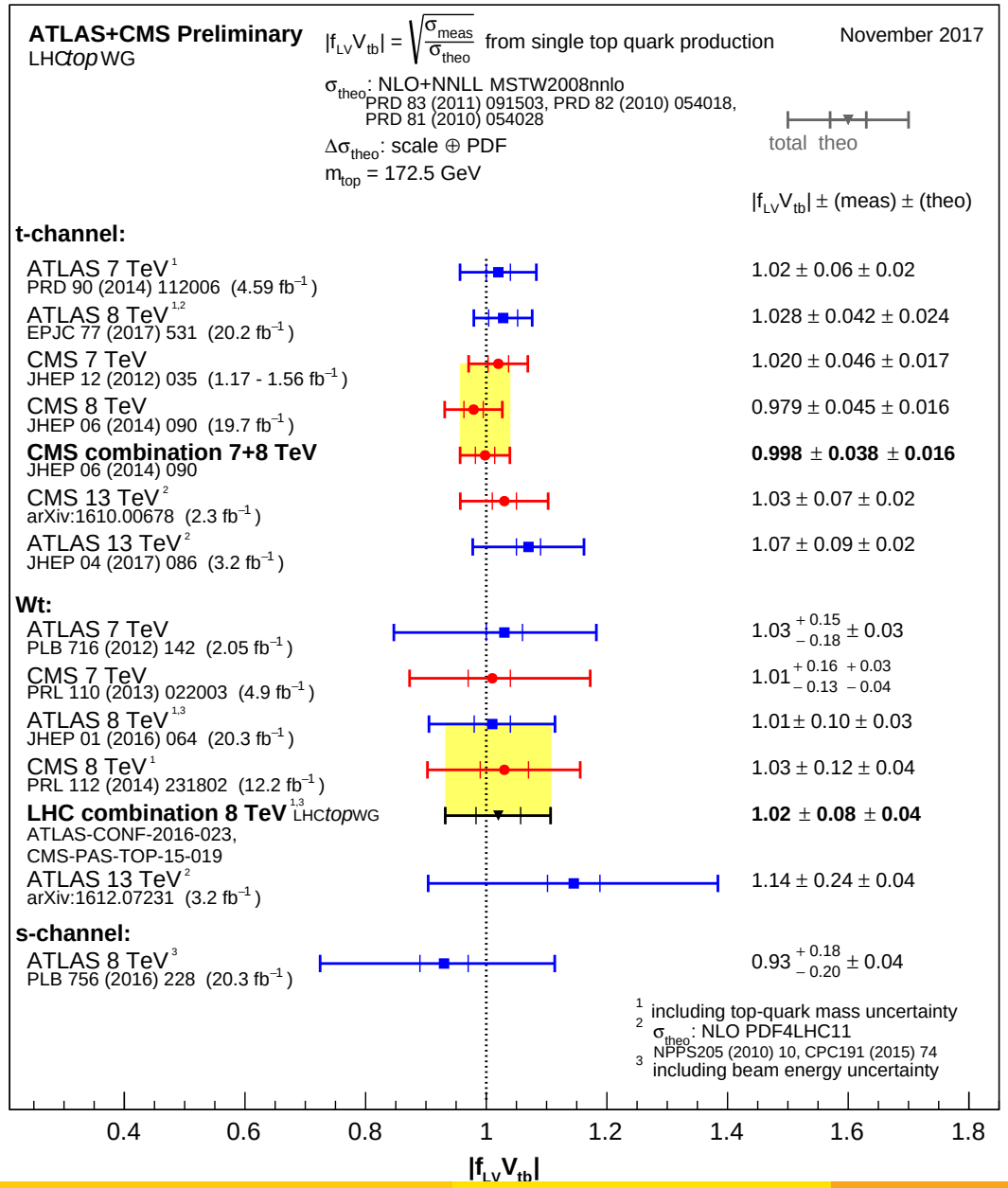






Inferring V_{tb}

- $\sigma_{sgtop} \propto |V_{tb}|^2$
  - → for all single-top production modes
- Comparing the $|V_{tb}|$ measurements
  - → t-channel by far the most sensitive



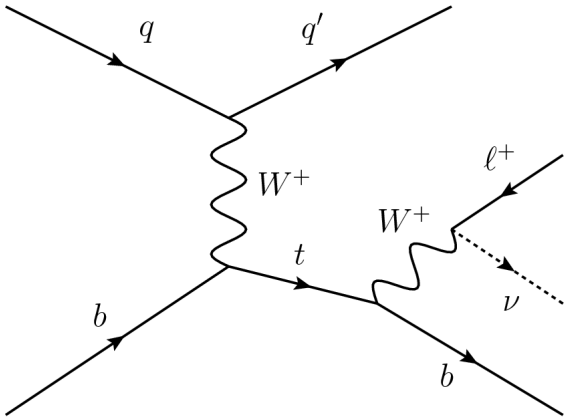
Angular analysis of the t-channel production (1/5)

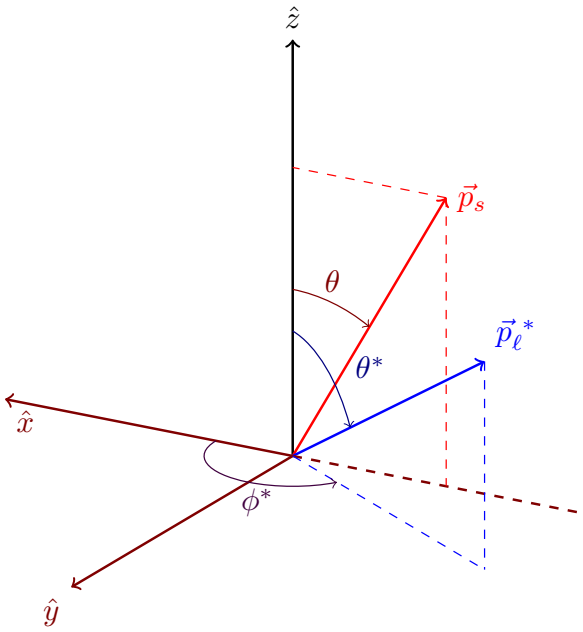
8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - JHEP **12** (2017) 017

- Beyond $|V_{tb}|$, probing the *Wtb* vertex structure - general Lagrangian for *Wtb* interaction :

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{eff}} = -\frac{g}{\sqrt{2}}\bar{b}\gamma^{\mu}\left(\mathrm{V_L P_L} + \mathrm{V_R P_R}\right) t W_{\mu}^{-} - \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}}\bar{b}\frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}q_{\nu}}{\mathrm{m}_W}\left(\mathrm{g_L P_L} + \mathrm{g_R P_R}\right) t W_{\mu}^{-} + \mathrm{h.c.}$$

- Analysis of top-quark decay in t-channel to extract information on anomalous couplings
  - → the decay can be caracterised by three angles :
    - ◇ θ : angle between W direction in top r.f. and spectator quark direction in top r.f.
    - ◇ θ^* : angle between W direction in top r.f. and ℓ direction in *W* r.f.
    - ◇ ϕ^* : angle of ℓ direction in *W* r.f. in plane orthogonal to W direction in top r.f.
  - → measurement of triple differential angular decay rate

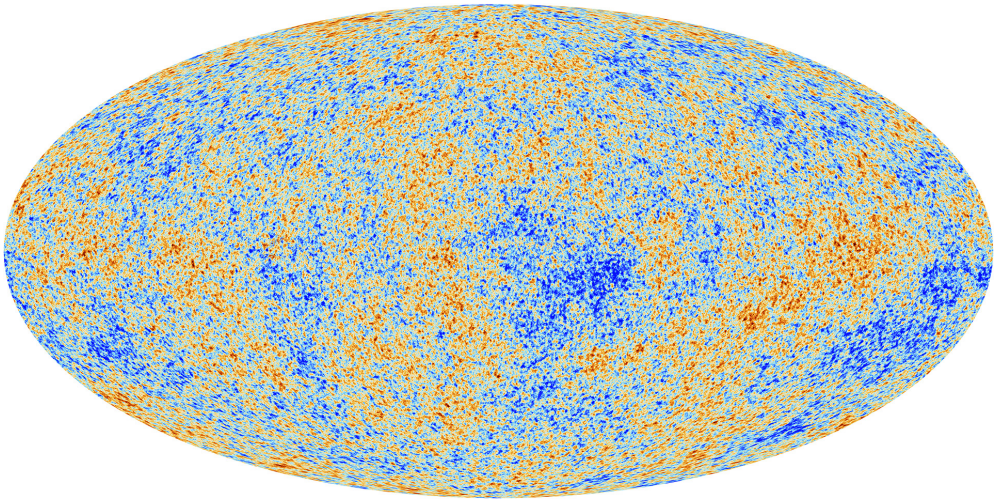




Angular analysis of the t-channel production (2/5)

8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - JHEP **12** (2017) 017

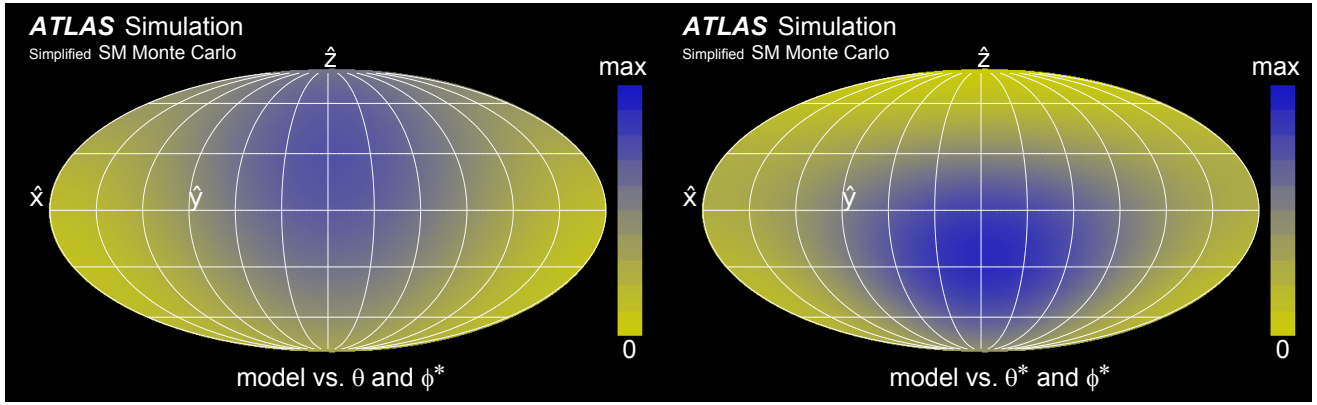
- Interlude : a well-known example of a distribution with 2-angles (1 polar and 1 azimuthal)
  - → projection of a sphere (3D) in a plane (2D) : Mollweide projection
  - → requires background subtraction, etc.
  - → then : “Fourier” analysis (spherical harmonics) to extract the physics



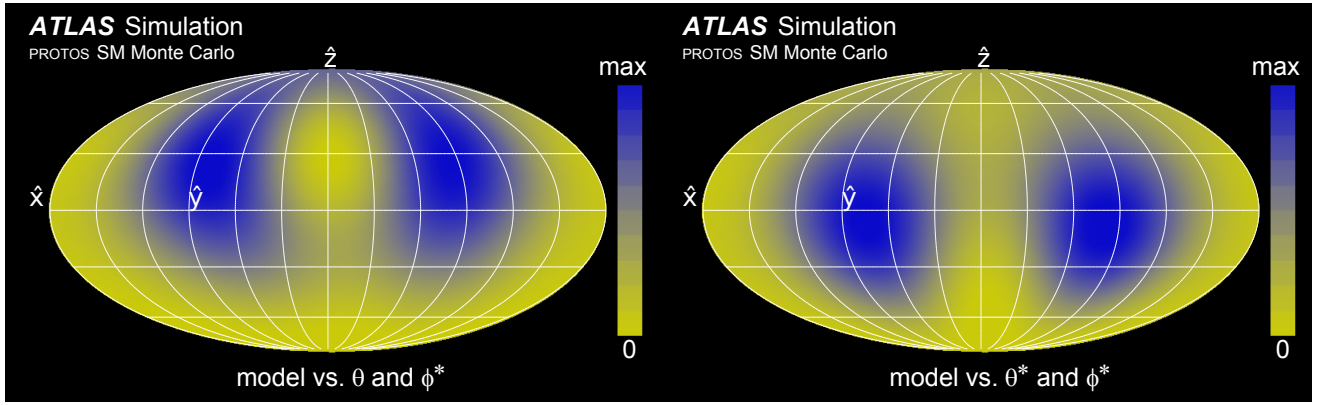
Angular analysis of the t-channel production (3/5)

8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - JHEP **12** (2017) 017

- How it looks in our case, with 3-angles (2 polar and 1 azimuthal)
  - → projection of a hypersphere (4D) in a plane (2D) : two 2D projections
  - → large detector effects on the signal !
  - → after background subtraction and unfolding : also a "Fourier" analysis
  - → using a 3-angle generalisation of spherical harmonics



2D-projections, "Simlified" Standard-Model MC, truth level

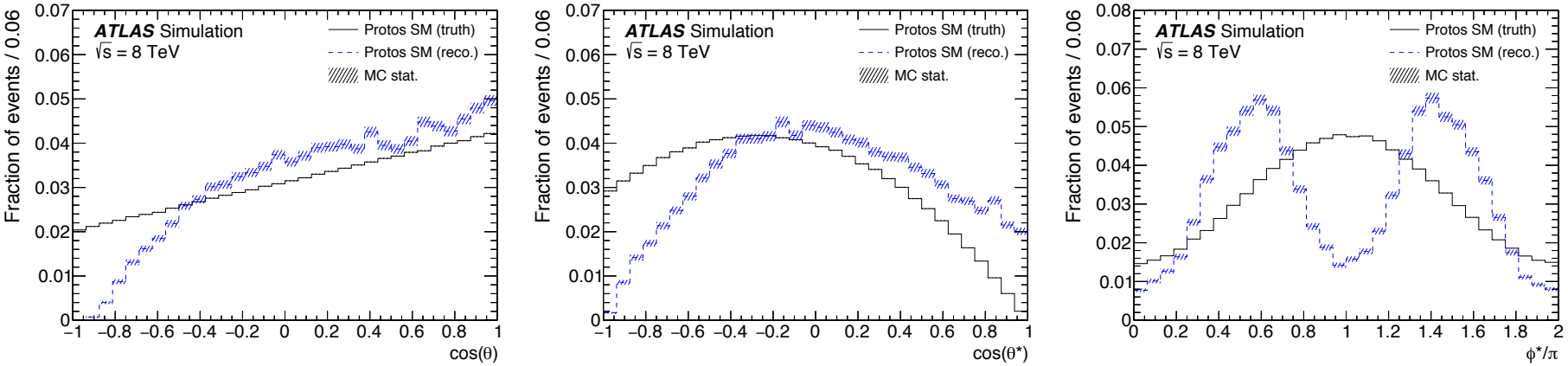


2D-projections, Protos, after simulation and reconstruction (e+jets)

Angular analysis of the t-channel production (4/5)

8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - JHEP **12** (2017) 017

- 1-D projections of the three angles
  - → detector effects are also visible
- 1-D angular analysis also available in the market, with different definitions for these angles
  - → that's the "traditional" way
  - → but the 3-D distributions contain more information
  - → triple-differential analysis performed in this paper

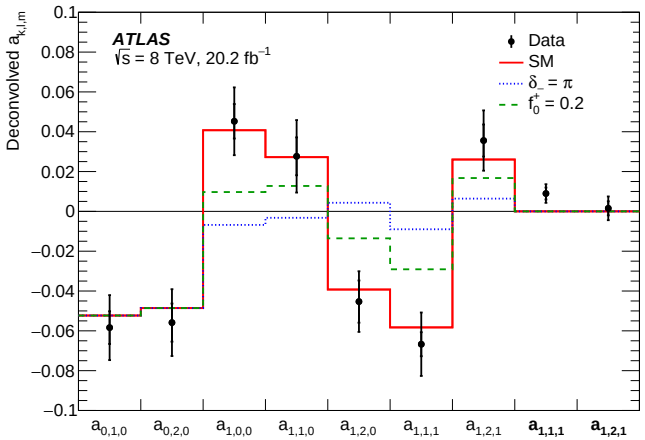


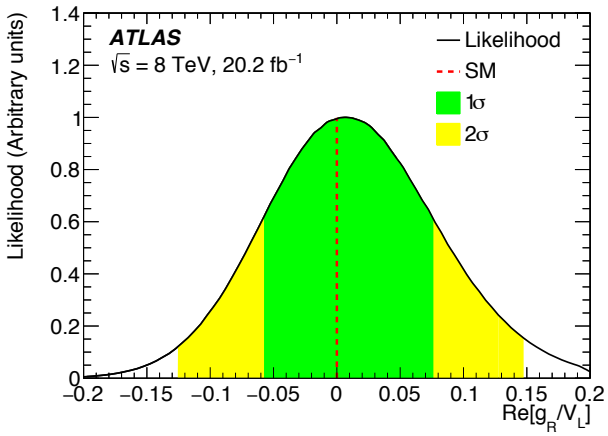
Protos, 1D distributions, before and after simulation and reconstruction (e/μ+jets)

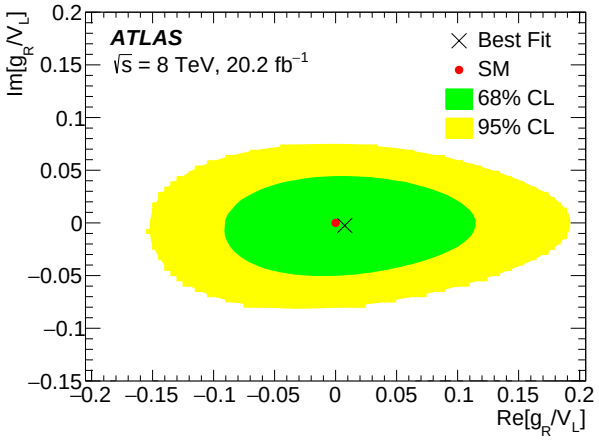
Angular analysis of the t-channel production (5/5)

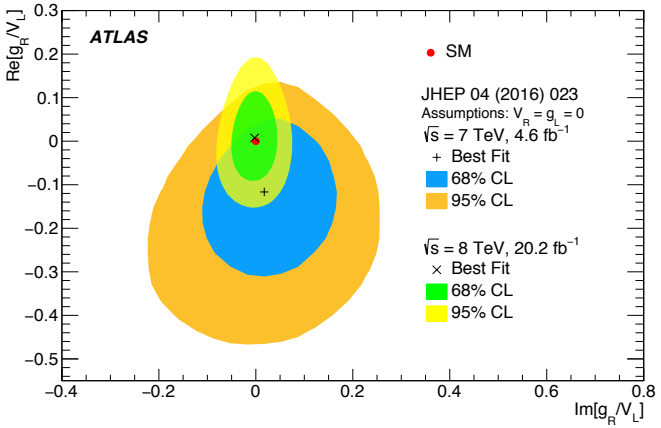
8 TeV, 20.2 fb^{-1} - JHEP **12** (2017) 017

- "Fourrier" coefficients can be measured, assuming the SM
- Also : multi-D likelihood distributions for ratios of couplings
  - → can set limits on each coupling, or one vs. the other
  - → for each contour : no asumption on the other couplings
- E.g. : $\mathrm{Im}[g_R/V_L]$ vs. $\mathrm{Re}[g_R/V_L]$
  - → improvement wrt. previous 2-angles analysis (7 TeV)





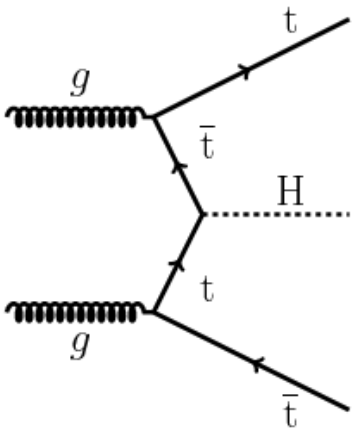


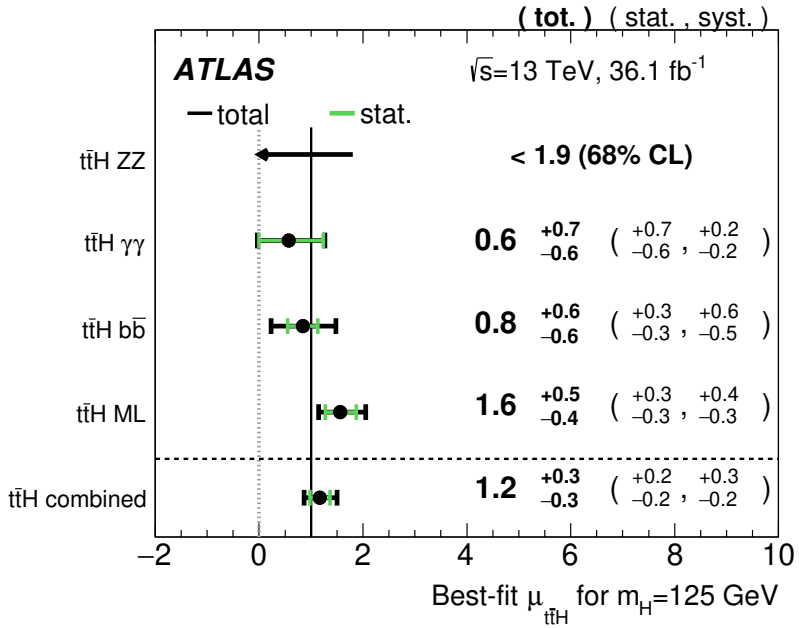


$t\bar{t}$ production in association with a Higgs boson

13 TeV, 36.1 fb^{-1} - 1712.08891, 1712.08895 (acc. by PRD), 1802.04146 (sub. to PRD), 1712.02304 (acc. by JHEP)

- Crucial analysis for ATLAS at the LHC in run-2
  - → direct estimate of top Yukawa coupling
  - → strong constraints on new physics
- Four analyses, targetting different H decays
  - → $t\bar{t}H(\mathrm{ML}) : H \to WW, \tau\tau$
  - → $t\bar{t}H(\to b\bar{b}) : H \to b\bar{b}$
  - → $t\bar{t}H(\to \gamma\gamma) : H \to \gamma\gamma$
  - → $t\bar{t}H(\to 4\ell) : H \to ZZ \to 4\ell$





Channel	Best-fit μ		Significance	
	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected
Multilepton	$1.6\ ^{+0.5}_{-0.4}$	$1.0\ ^{+0.4}_{-0.4}$	4.1σ	2.8σ
$H \to b\bar{b}$	$0.8\ ^{+0.6}_{-0.6}$	$1.0\ ^{+0.6}_{-0.6}$	1.4σ	1.6σ
$H \to \gamma\gamma$	$0.6\ ^{+0.7}_{-0.6}$	$1.0\ ^{+0.8}_{-0.6}$	0.9σ	1.7σ
$H \to 4\ell$	< 1.9	$1.0\ ^{+3.2}_{-1.0}$	—	0.6σ
Combined	$1.2\ ^{+0.3}_{-0.3}$	$1.0\ ^{+0.3}_{-0.3}$	4.2σ	3.8σ

- Evidence for $t\bar{t}H$ production : 4.2σ (3.8σ exp.)
  - → best sensitivity from multilepton channel
  - → stay tuned for full-run2 data analysis !

Conclusion

- Top-quark physics is a very diverse field - many different kind of analyses
- LHC run-II allows to go deeper in our understanding or this sector
  - $\rightarrow$ new production modes accessible
  - $\rightarrow$ more precise, more differential
- Rare processes are very usefull to look at for BSM searches
  - $\rightarrow$ possible re-interpretations (e.g. with effective field theories)
- Differential cross-sections crucial to improve modelling of top backgrounds for BSM searches
  - $\rightarrow$ important work on MC generators tuning not discussed in this talk
- Top Yukawa coupling measurement is one of the hottest topics
  - $\rightarrow$ only possible with $t\bar{t}H$ events
- Not shown here : many other analyses in TopPublicResults page
- And this is just the beginning of data-taking - our top-quark factory will keep running this year
  - $\rightarrow$ more results to come !