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# Top Physics: What has the LHC done for us?

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European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

# Top Physics: What have hadron colliders done for us?

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# What have they ever given us in return?



- Introduction
- Production
- Properties
- Future
- Summary

# Introduction

# The Top Quark

- Heaviest known elementary particle:

$$m_t = \sim 173 \text{ GeV}$$

- Standard Model:

- Single or pair production
- Electric charge  $+2/3 e$
- Short lifetime  $0.5 \times 10^{-24} \text{ s}$ 
  - **Bare quark** - no hadronization
- $\sim 100\%$  decay into  $Wb$
- **Large coupling to SM Higgs boson**  
 $\rightarrow \sim 1$

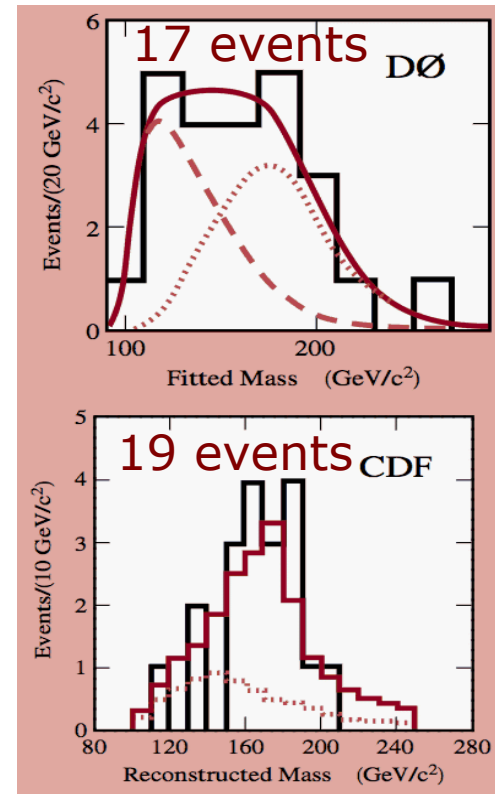


# Brief History of the Top Quark

- 1976: Discovery of Upsilon at Fermilab → b-quark
  - Structure of quark families suggested existence of a 6<sup>th</sup> quark: the top
- From here on the race to find the top began
  - Lower limits by Petra (1984), Tristan (late 80s), UA1(1988), LEP(1990), UA2

# Brief History of the Top Quark

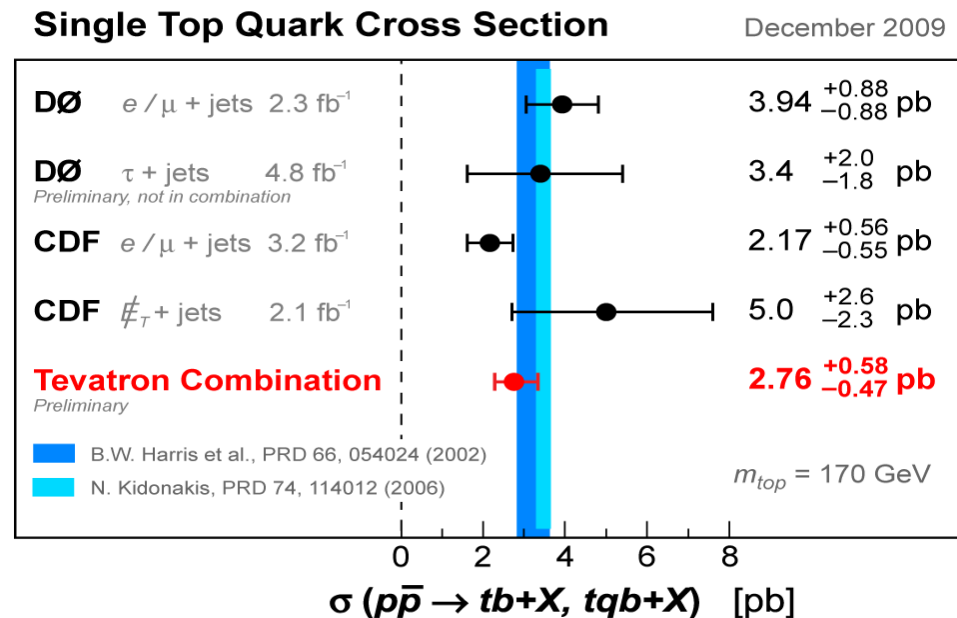
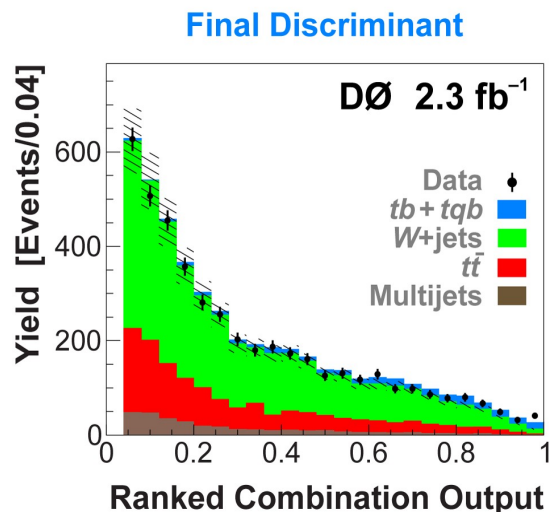
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  - Structure of quark families suggested existence of a 6<sup>th</sup> quark: **the top**
- From here on the race to find the top began
  - Lower limits by Petra (1984), Tristan (late 80s), UA1(1988), LEP(1990), UA2
- **1992: First lower limits** on top from **CDF** ( $m_t > 91\text{GeV}$ )
- **1994: First lower limits** on top from **DØ** ( $m_t > 131\text{GeV}$ )
- Early **1994: "Evidence"** for top **at CDF**
- **February 24<sup>th</sup> 1995:** Simultaneous submission of **Top Discovery papers** to PRL, by CDF and DØ
  - $50\text{pb}^{-1}$  at DØ,  $67\text{pb}^{-1}$  at CDF





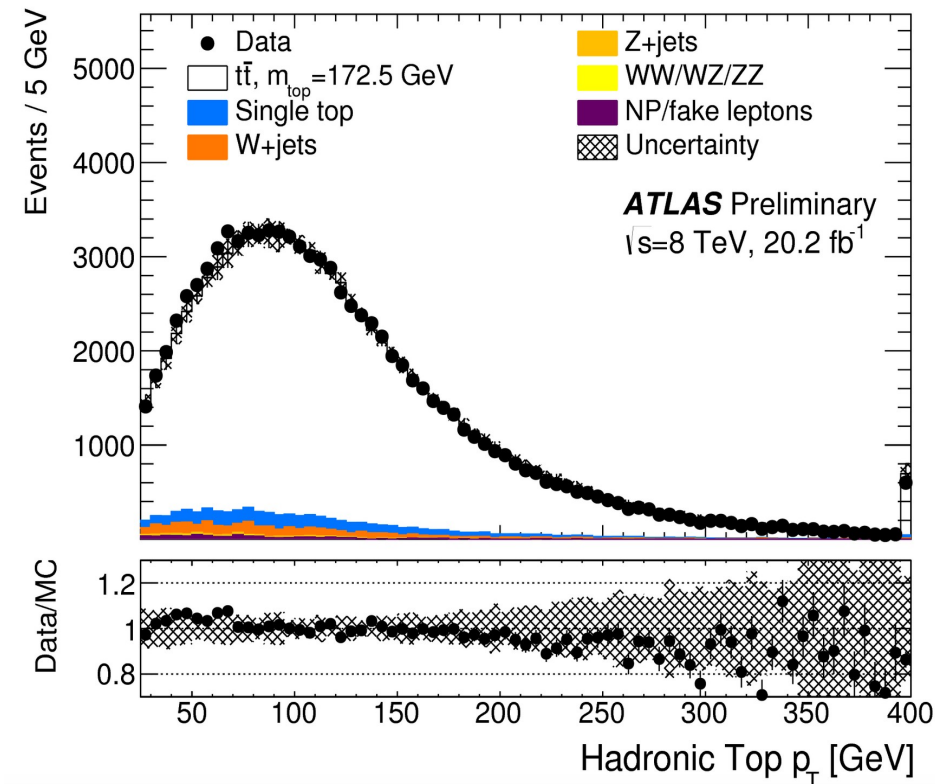
# Discovery of lonely Tops

- 2009: Observation of top quarks in single top production
  - 5 by CDF & DØ!
- Single top: very challenging channel
  - Low signal: similar signature like W+jets!
  - Counting only: Uncertainty on background larger than expected signal  
→ use of multivariate techniques



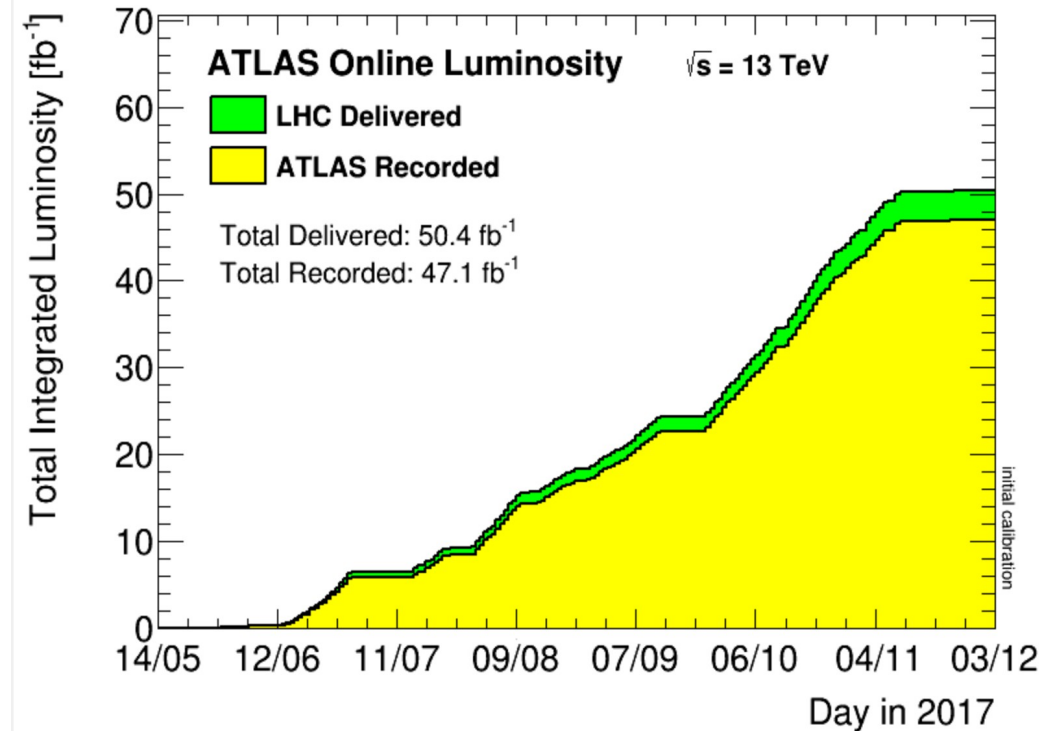
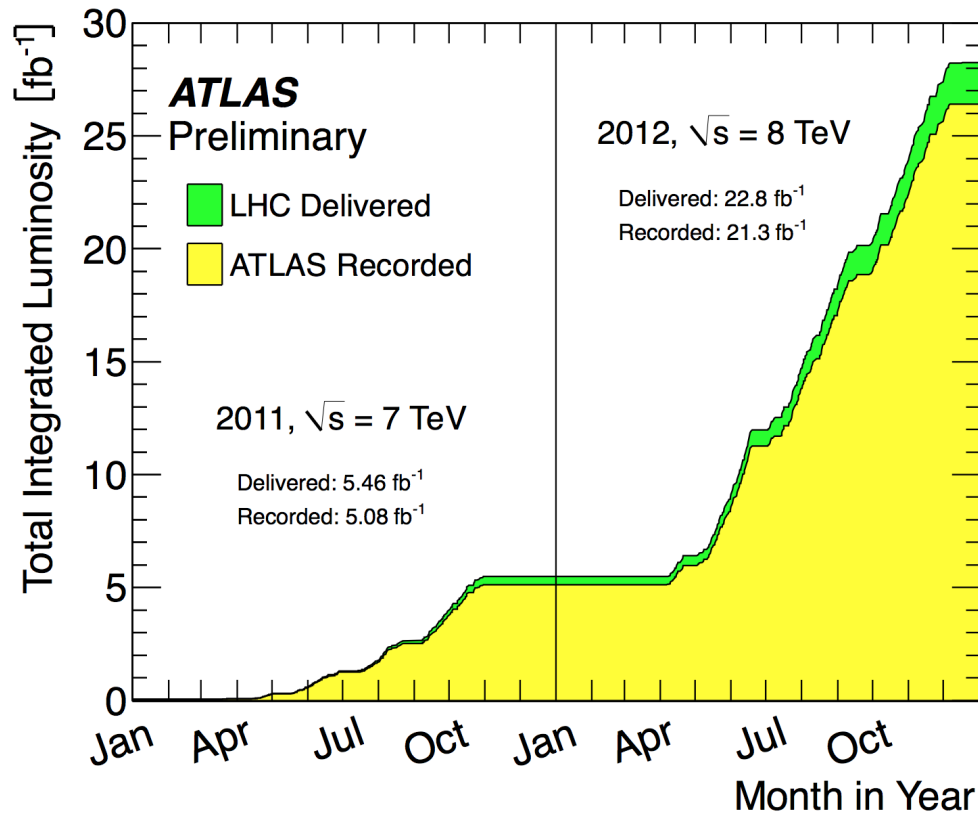
# Where are we today?

- Top Discovery with 17 (DØ) and 19 (CDF) events
- Today: LHC: top factory! Millions of events
  - Precision measurements of production cross section
  - Observation in single top in 2009
  - Precise study of top properties
  - Searches for new physics using top quarks
- From discovery to precision physics!
  - many results from Tevatron
  - many new tools
  - unprecedented possibilities at LHC!



# Data Samples

- LHC performed well



$\sim 5 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of 7 TeV &  $\sim 20 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of 8 TeV on disk per experiment

2017:  $\sim 50 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of 13 TeV data

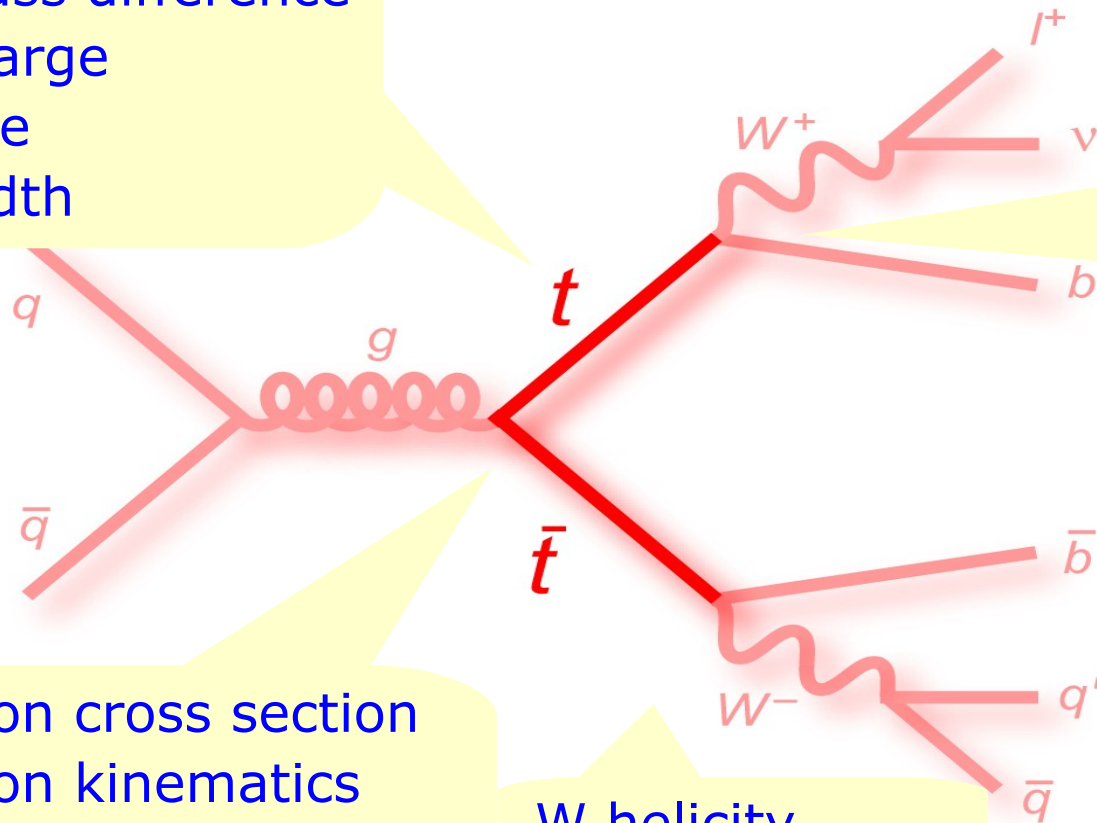
# Why Top still interesting?

- With final Tevatron data set and the ever growing LHC data sample: top quark studies very interesting until today!
- What can we learn?
  - Is the top really the “SM top”, or something else?
    - need to measure its production cross section and properties and compare with SM calculations
  - Top quark: only quark decaying before it hadronises
    - can study a bare quark
    - For example can study spin of a quark directly (as it transfers it to the decay products before it could hadronise); or study a quark's charge
  - Top production and decay: via strong and electroweak forces
    - we can learn more about these forces
    - For example: W helicity in top decays
  - Top as window to new physics (since it is the heaviest known particle)
    - searches for many new physics models in the top sector
  - Large top samples at LHC: use top events to develop new tools
    - for example tools to access the colour flow between jet pairs

# Top Studies: Overview

Top mass  
Top mass difference  
Top charge  
Lifetime  
Top width

Branching ratios  
 $|V_{tb}|$   
Anomalous coupling  
New/Rare decays



Production cross section  
Production kinematics  
Production via resonance  
New particles

W helicity

Spin correlation  
Charge asymmetry  
Color Flow

s-, t- and Wt-channel  
production, properties and  
searches in single top  
events

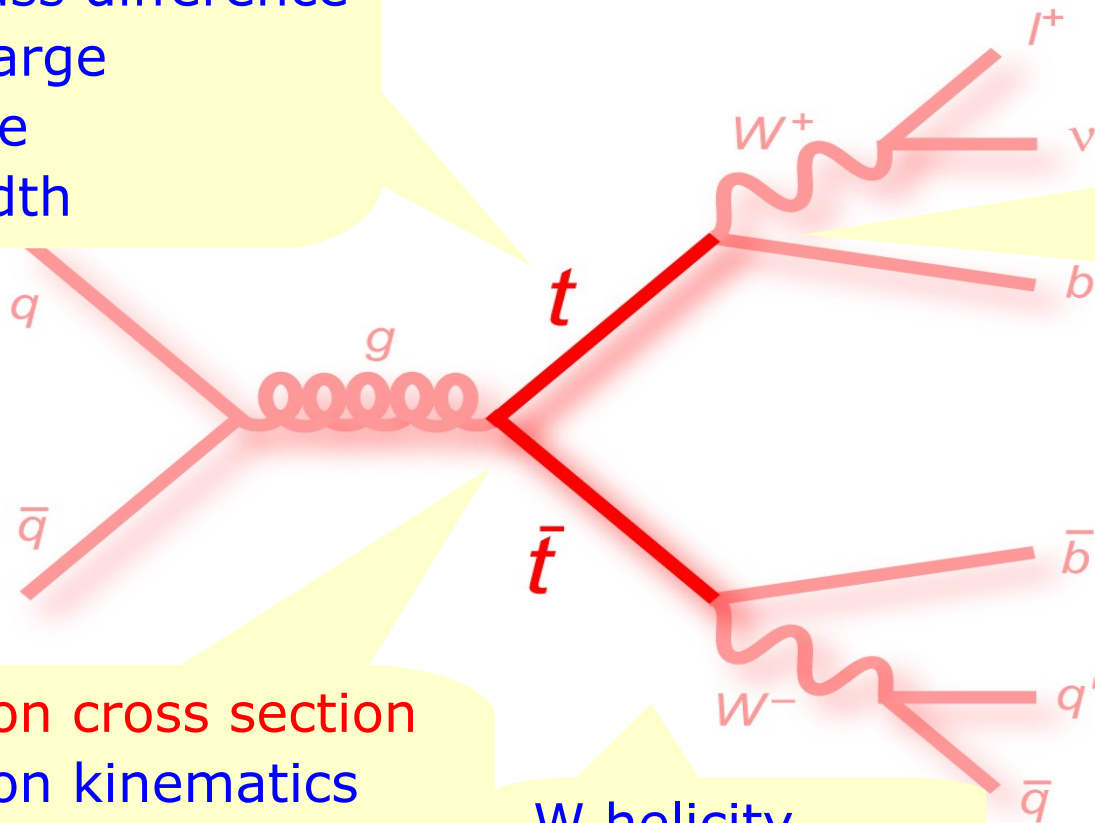
# Top Studies: Overview

**Top mass**

- Top mass difference
- Top charge
- Lifetime
- Top width

**Branching ratios**

- $|V_{tb}|$
- Anomalous coupling
- New/Rare decays



**Production cross section**

- Production kinematics
- Production via resonance
- New particles

**Spin correlation**

- Charge asymmetry
- Color Flow

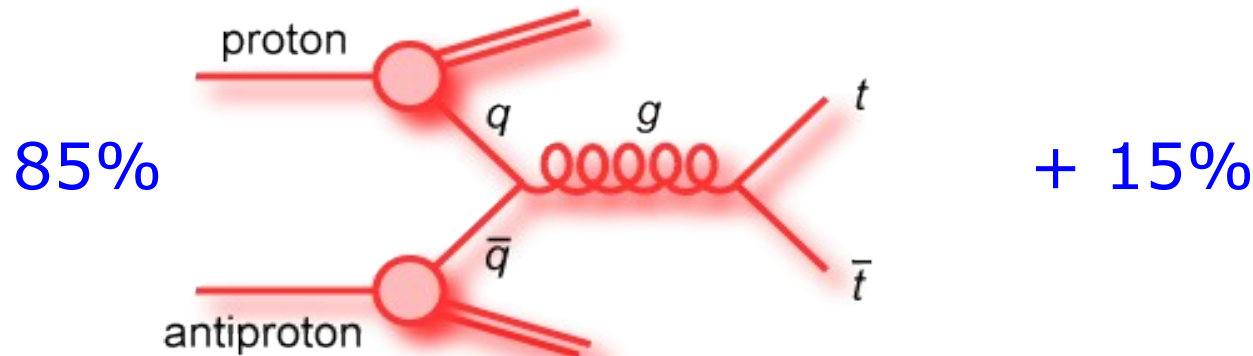
W helicity

s-, t- and Wt-channel production, properties and searches in single top events

# Production

# Top Quark Pair Production

At the Tevatron:

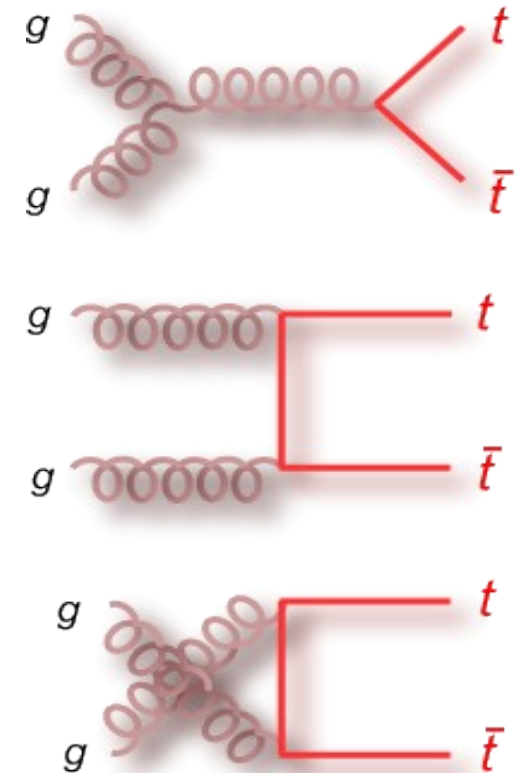


At LHC:

14 TeV: 10% + 90%  
7 TeV: 30% + 70%

Cross Sections:

Collider	Cross section [pb]
Tevatron (1.96 TeV)	$7.35^{+0.23}_{-0.27}$
LHC (7 TeV)	$177.3^{+10.1}_{-10.8}$
LHC (8 TeV)	$252.9^{+13.3}_{-14.5}$
LHC (13 TeV)	$831.8^{+40.3}_{-45.6}$



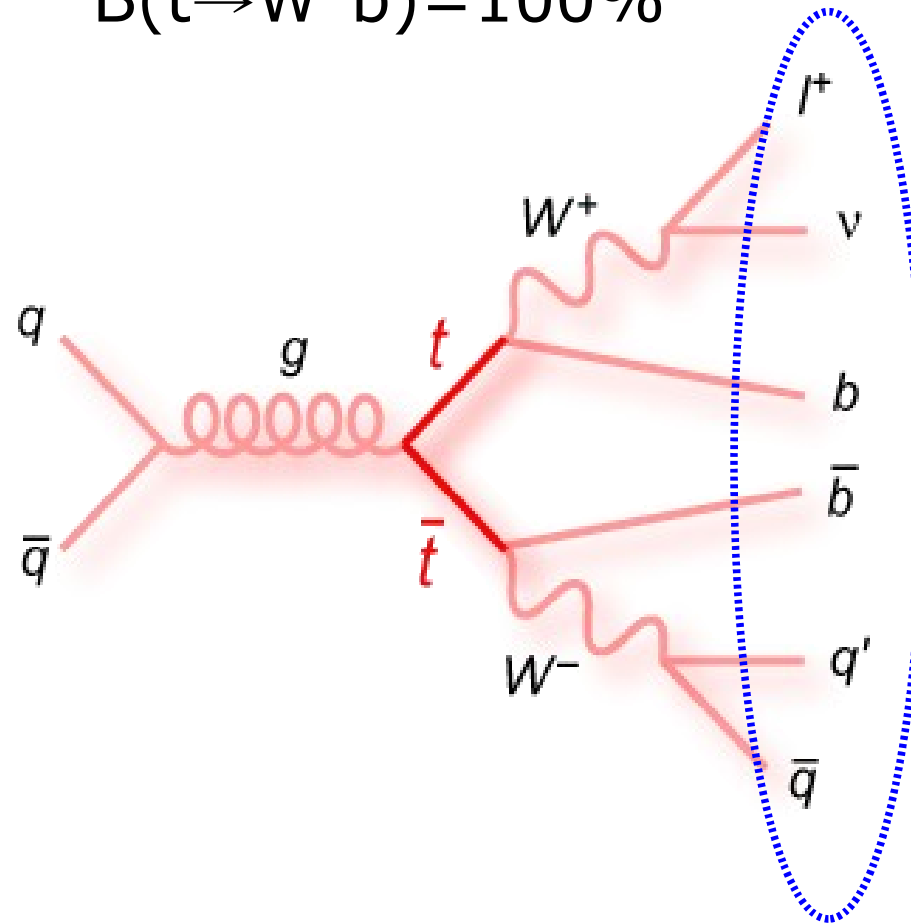
M. Czakon et al. arXiv:1112.5675



# Final States in $t\bar{t}$

$t\bar{t} \rightarrow W^+bW^-\bar{b}$  : Final states are classified according to W decay

$$B(t \rightarrow W^+b) = 100\%$$



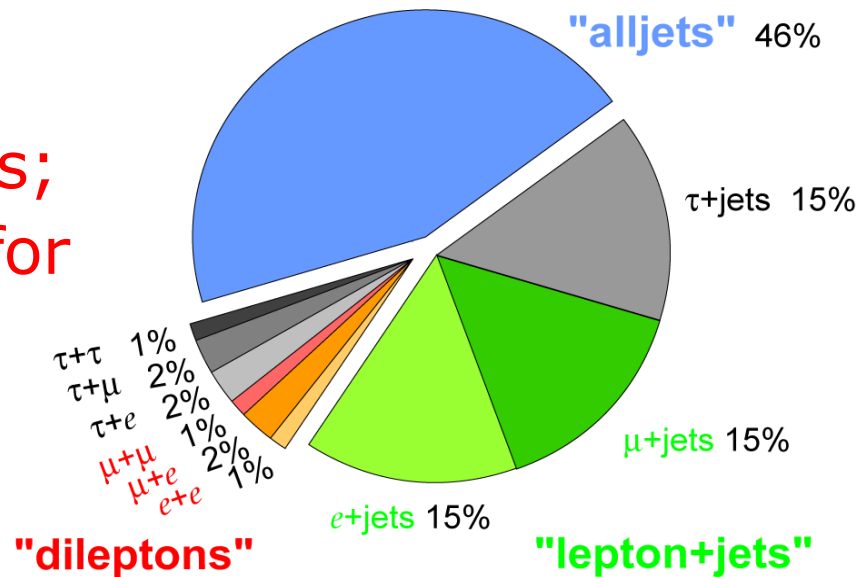
# Final States in $t\bar{t}$

$t\bar{t} \rightarrow W^+bW^-\bar{b}$  : Final states are classified according to W decay

$$B(t \rightarrow W^+b) = 100\%$$

pure hadronic:  
 $\geq 6$  jets (2 b-jets)

Top Pair Branching Fractions



**dilepton:**

2 isolated leptons;  
High missing  $E_T$  for

neutrinos;

2 b-jets

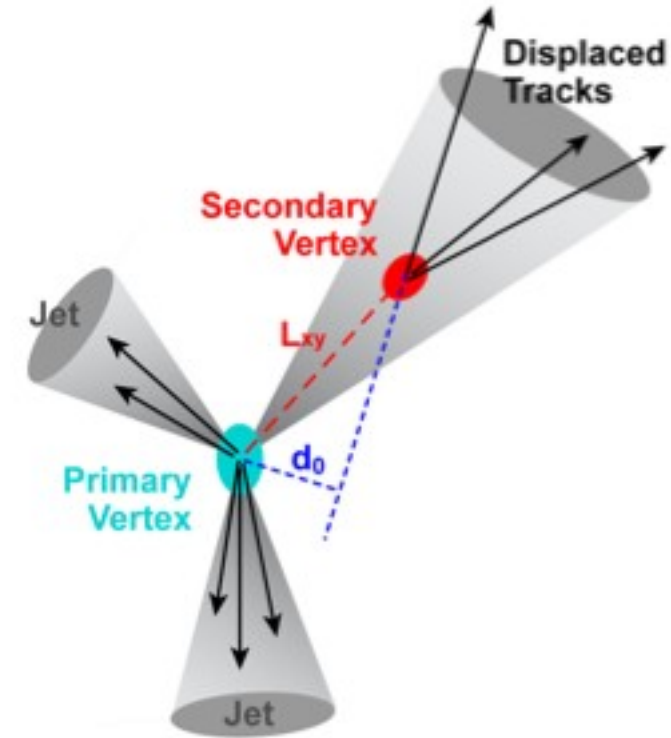
**lepton+jets:**

1 isolated lepton;  
Missing  $E_T$  for neutrino;

$\geq 4$  jets (2 b-jets)

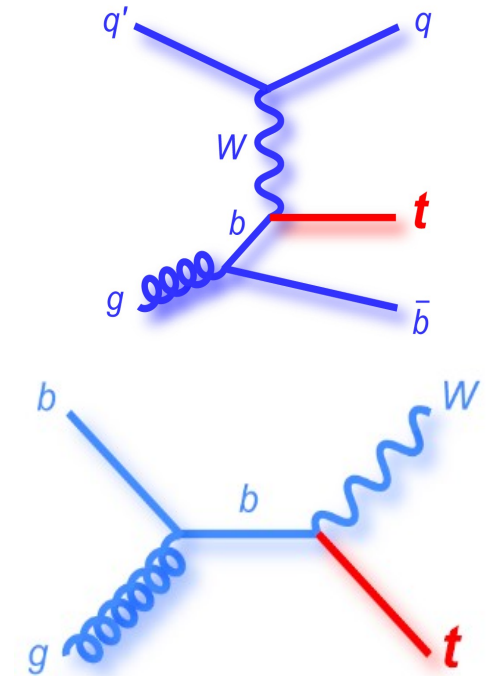
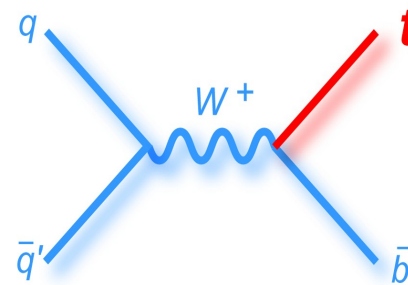
# Features of Top Events

- To measure top events: enrich data sample with signal events
  - Separation from background and estimation of the background
- Features in  $t\bar{t}$  events helping to select them:
  - Presence of 2 b-jets! Usage of **b-tagging**
    - B-hadrons have lifetime of about 1.5ps  
→ travel (on average) few mm before decay
      - Secondary vertex and displaced tracks can be used to identify B-hadrons in a jet  
→ “b-tagging”
  - Tops are quite heavy: many **topological variables** can be used to distinguish top from background
    - For example: reconstruct top mass from combinations of jets



# Single top Production

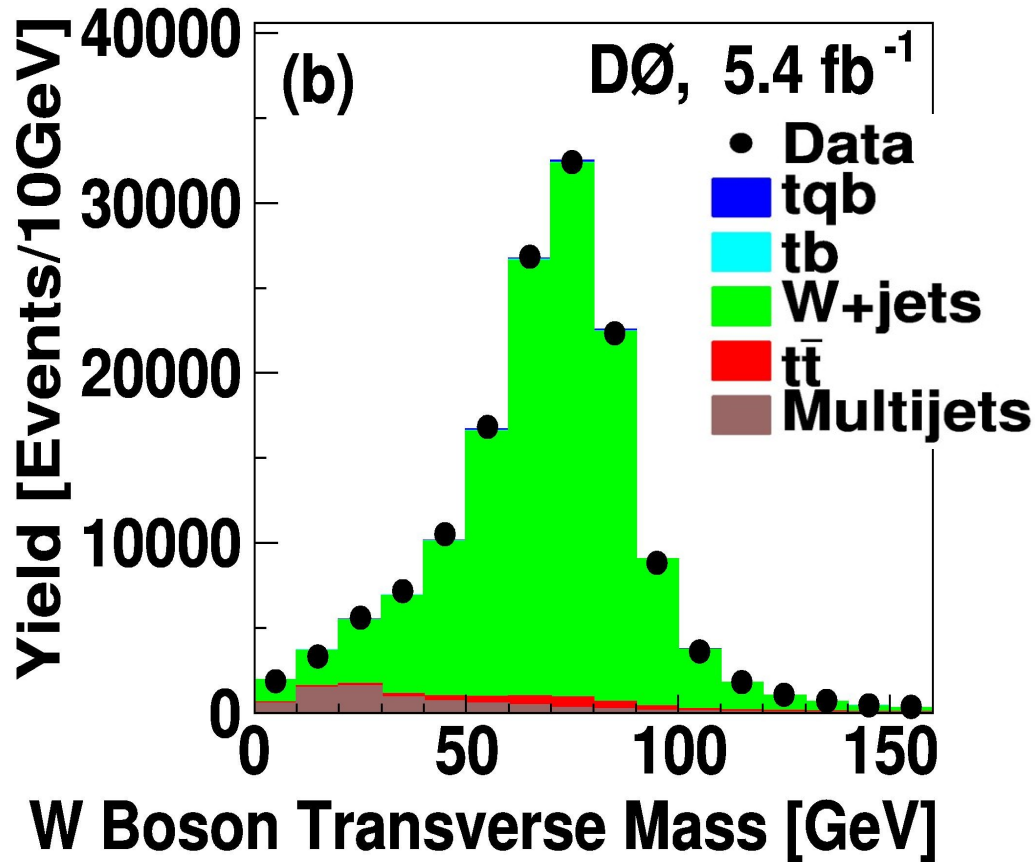
- Via electroweak interaction
  - Test of EW couplings
  - Probe for **new physics**
- Direct **probe of Wtb** interaction
- **Direct measurement** of CKM matrix element  $|V_{tb}|$
- Challenging: background looks similar to signal



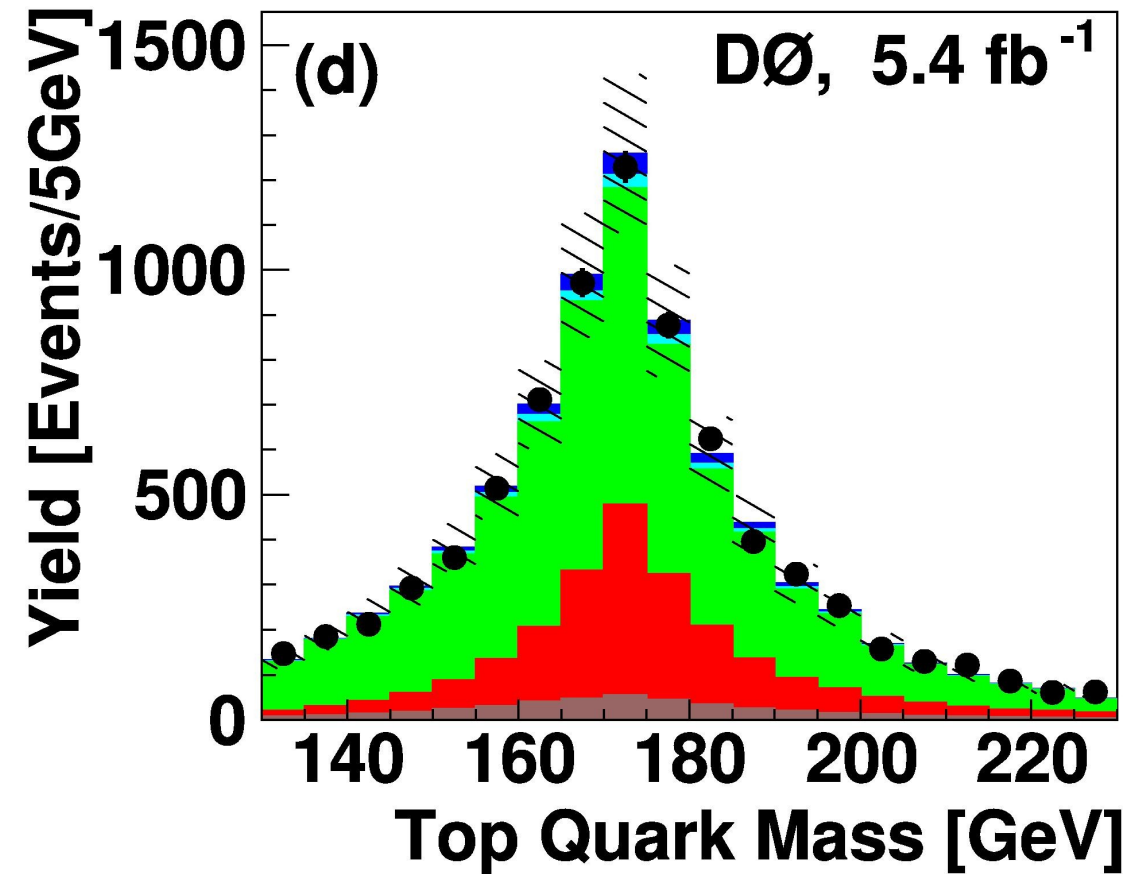
Collider	s-channel: $\sigma_{tb}$	t-channel: $\sigma_{tbq}$	Wt-channel: $\sigma_{tW}$
Tevatron: $p\bar{p}$ (1.96TeV)	1.04 pb	2.26 pb	0.28 pb
LHC: $pp$ (7TeV)	4.3 pb	63.9 pb	15.7 pb
LHC: $pp$ (8TeV)	5.2 pb	84.7 pb	22.4 pb
LHC: $pp$ (13TeV)	10.3 pb	<b>216.99 pb</b>	71.7 pb

# Single Top

- Example observable:  
before b-tagging



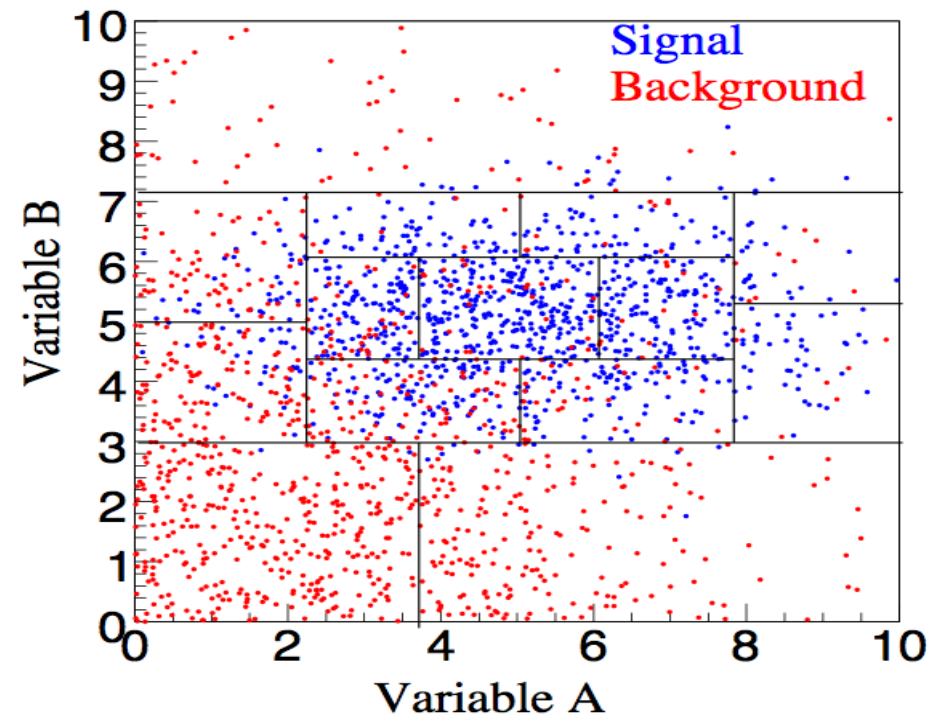
- after b-tagging



- Background dominates; uncertainties larger than signal!

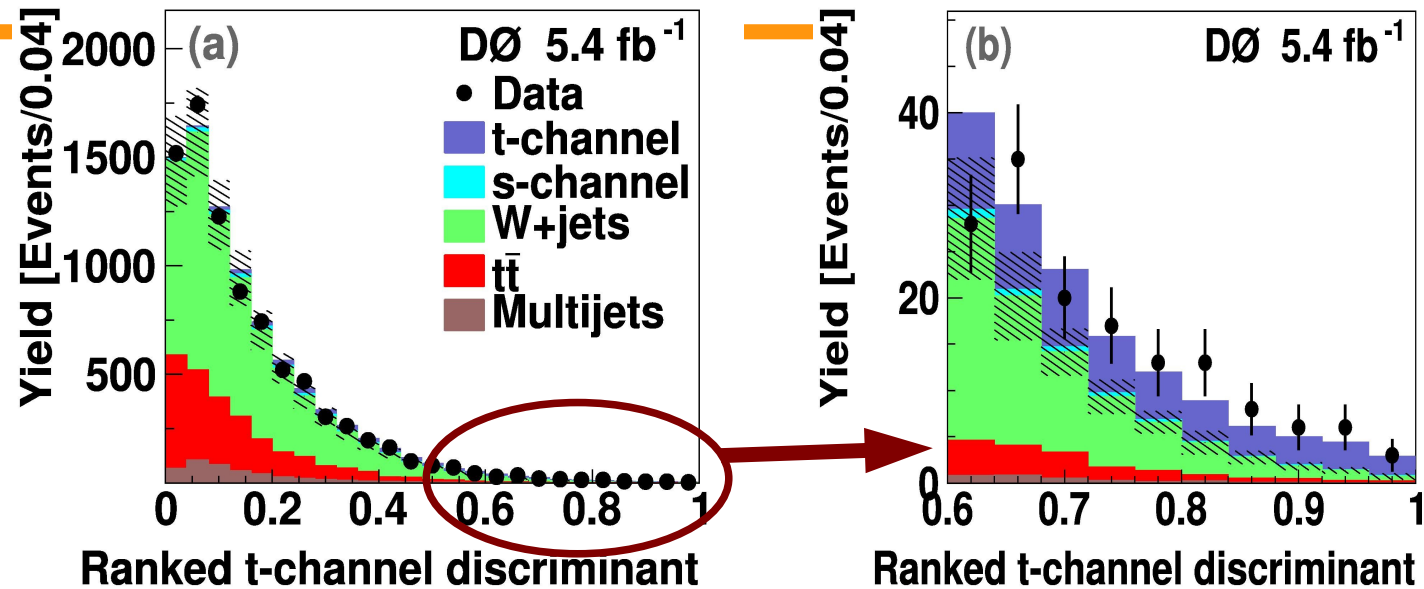
# Multivariate Analysis Techniques

- Observation of single top required the usage of multivariate analyses techniques
  - Single top the first observation where these were used extensively, and thus established in particle physics
- Idea: combine many different variables, with small discrimination power, into one powerful discriminant
  - Various techniques exist, for example neural networks, boosted decision trees, random forests..
- Example: decision tree
  - Idea: **divide** multi-dimensional event-space **into cells**
  - For each cell, estimate the **purity**
  - Chose cuts to separate high and low purity regions



# Single Top

Example: t-channel trained discriminant



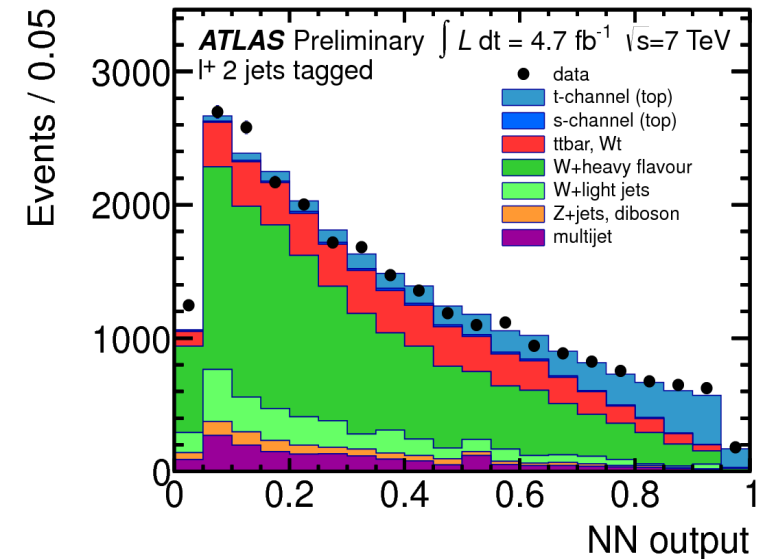
Signal can be clearly seen!

At LHC: t-channel much easier

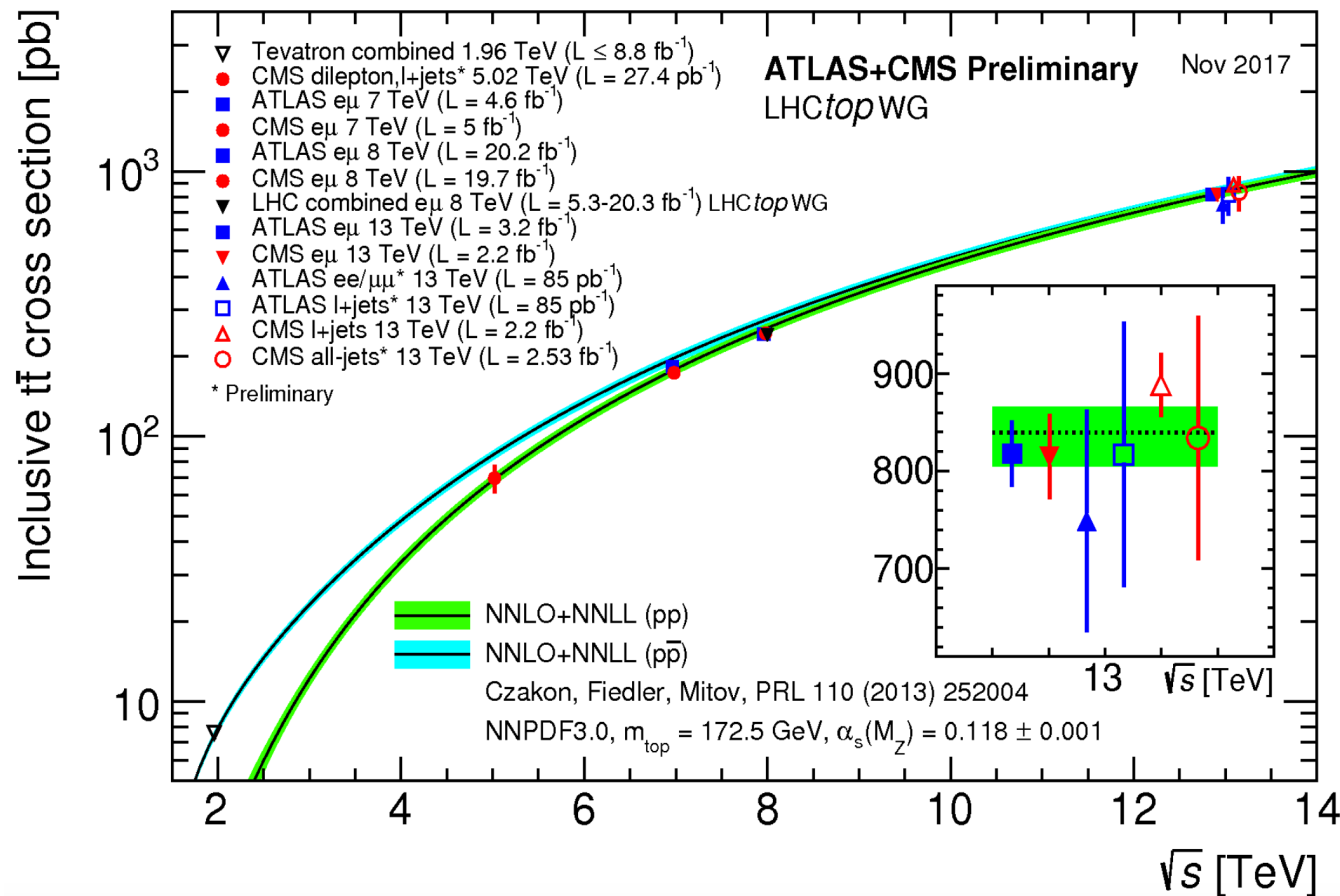
Large cross section

s-channel challenging

→ so far only observed at Tevatron



- Precision measurement of production cross section
  - At Tevatron and LHC
  - In single top and  $t\bar{t}$  production



Experimental precision close to theory uncertainty!



- Precision measurement of production
  - At Tevatron and LHC
  - In **single top** and  $t\bar{t}$  production

s-channel single top quark, Tevatron Run II,  $L_{\text{int}} \leq 9.7 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

Measurement

CDF  $l$ +jets

CDF  $\cancel{E}_T$ +jets

CDF combined

D0  $l$ +jets

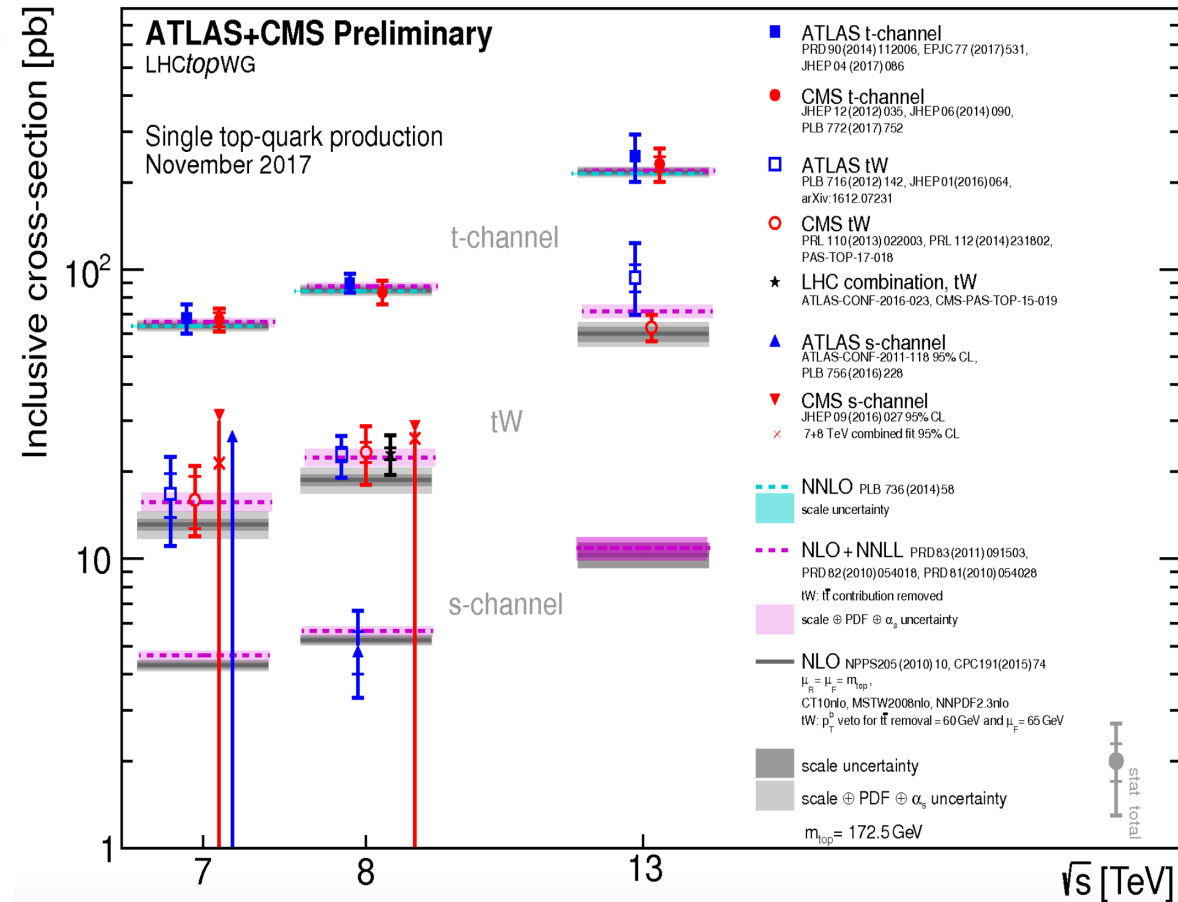
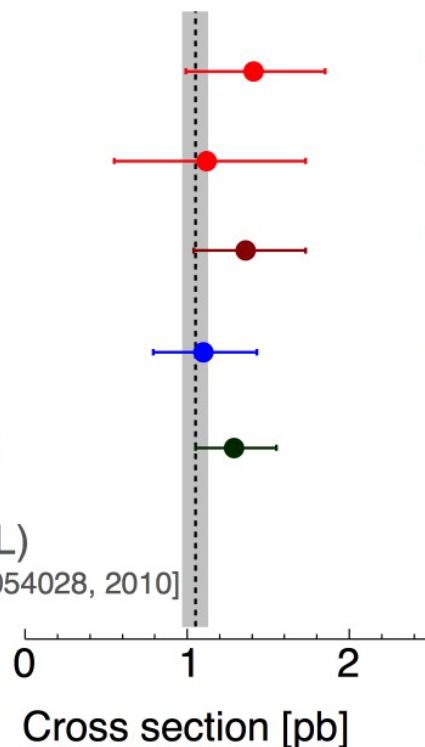
Tevatron combined

Theory (NLO+NNLL)

$1.05 \pm 0.06 \text{ pb}$  [PRD 81, 054028, 2010]

$m_{\text{top}} = 172.5 \text{ GeV}$

Cross section [pb]

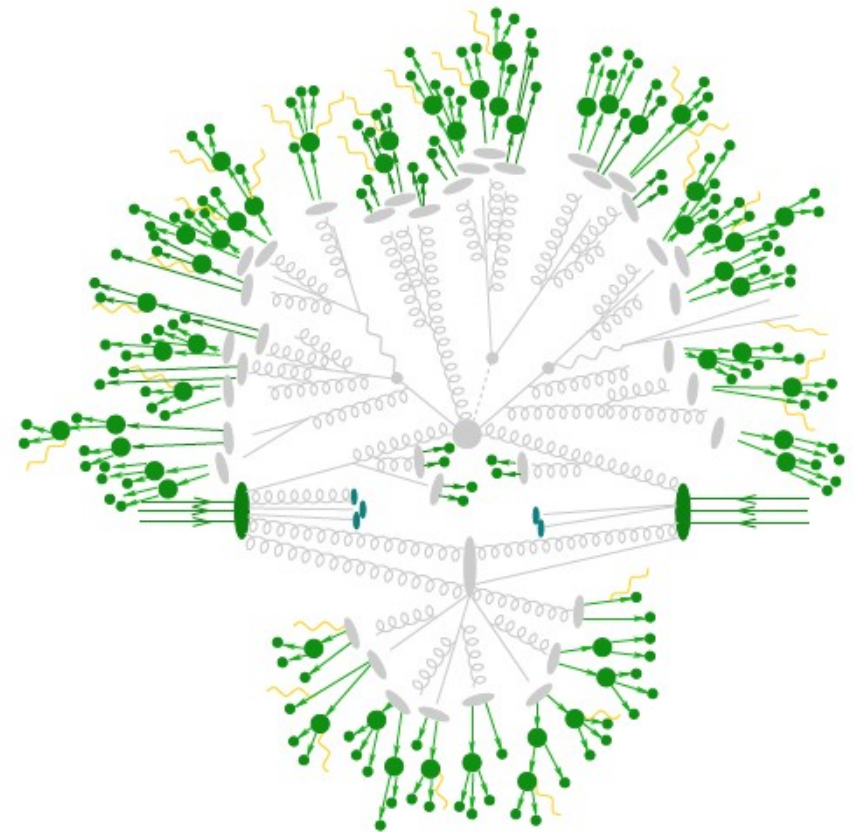
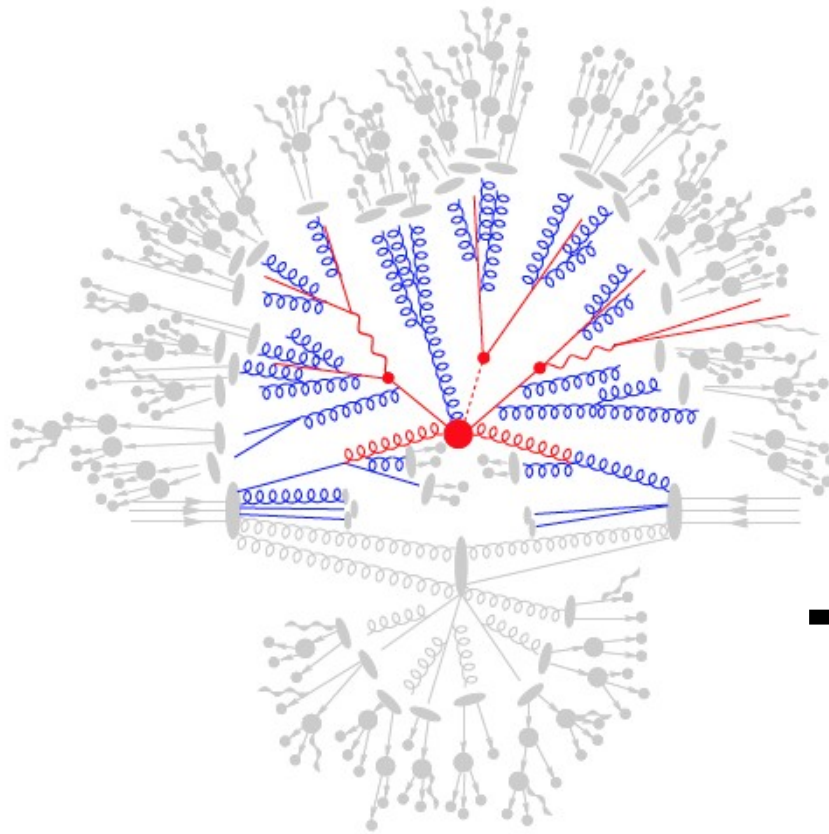


# From Inclusive to Differential Cross Sections

- Differential distributions:
  - Test of higher-order QCD calculations
  - Generic test of SM → test for new physics
- Also important to tune MC
  - Reduction of systematic uncertainties for many analyses
    - Due to large amount of data: many analyses are limited by systematic uncertainties!
- Main challenge:
  - Make distributions comparable to theory: correct detector effects
  - Distributions defined with “true” particles

# Differential

- Also various differential and **fiducial** measurements now possible!
- General issue: parton versus particle level?

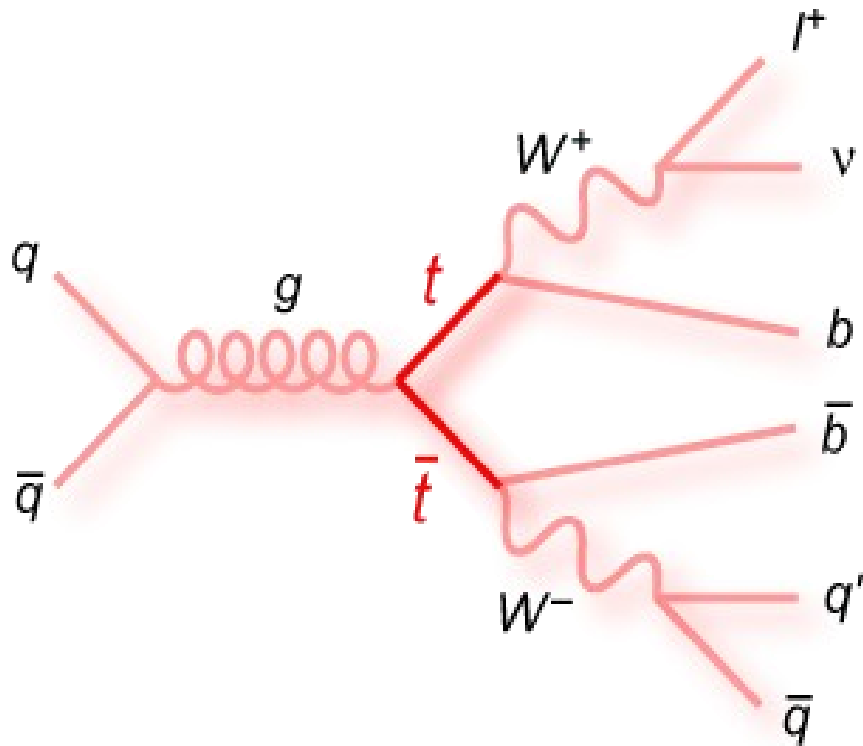


MC generator dependencies

Stable particles

# Differential

- l+jets channel: selection



Exactly 1 lepton (e or  $\mu$ )

e:  $p_T > 25\text{GeV}$ ,  $|\eta| < 2.47$  &  $\!(1.37 < |\eta| < 1.52)$

$\mu$ :  $p_T > 25\text{GeV}$ ,  $|\eta| < 2.5$

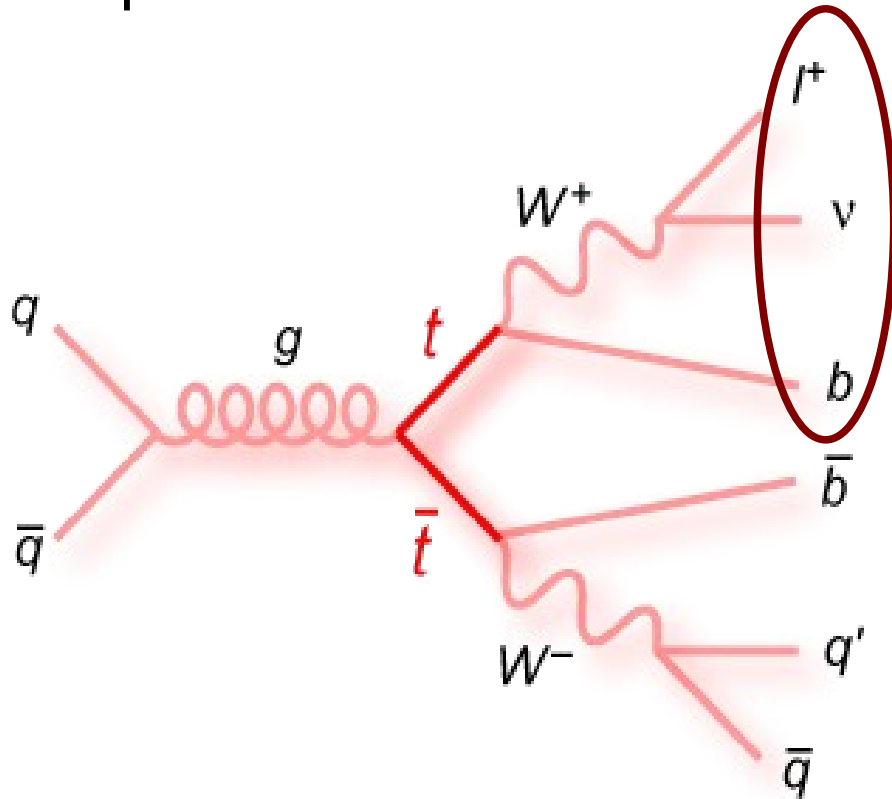
Missing  $p_T$  for neutrino ( $\cancel{E}_T$ ):  $> 30\text{GeV}$

$\geq 4$  jets with  $p_T > 25\text{GeV}$ ;  $|\eta| < 2.5$

$\geq 2$  jets b-tagged

# Differential

## ■ Top reconstruction

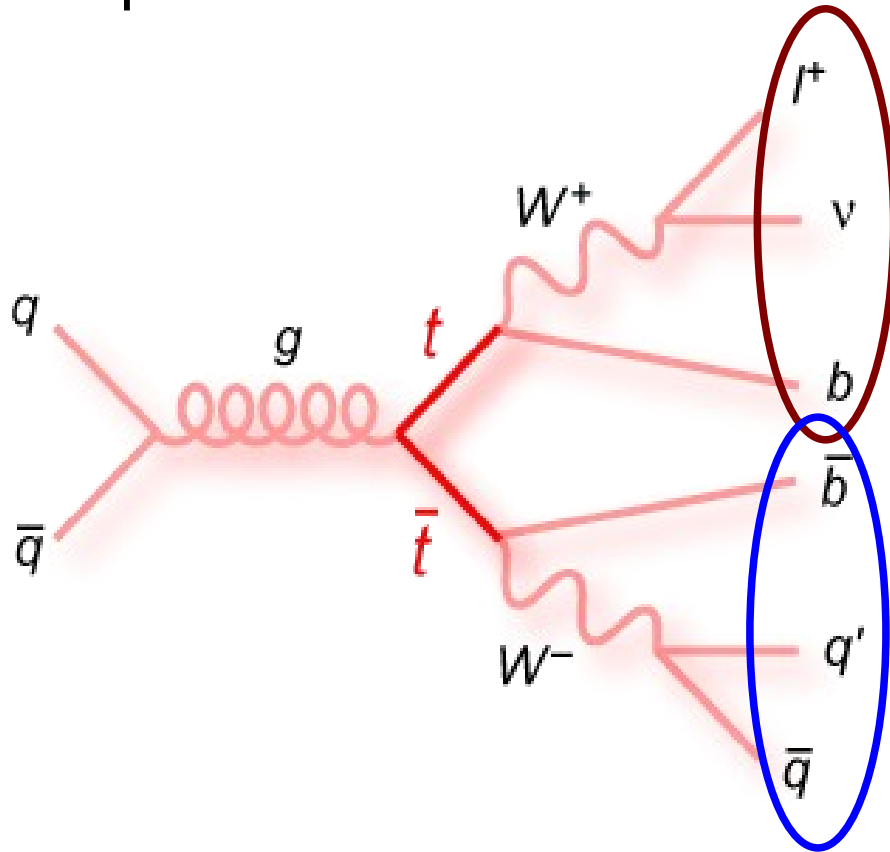


### Leptonic pseudo-top:

- construct leptonically decaying  $W$  from lepton and  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$
- b-jet with smallest  $\Delta R$  to lepton

# Differential

## ■ Top reconstruction



### Leptonic pseudo-top:

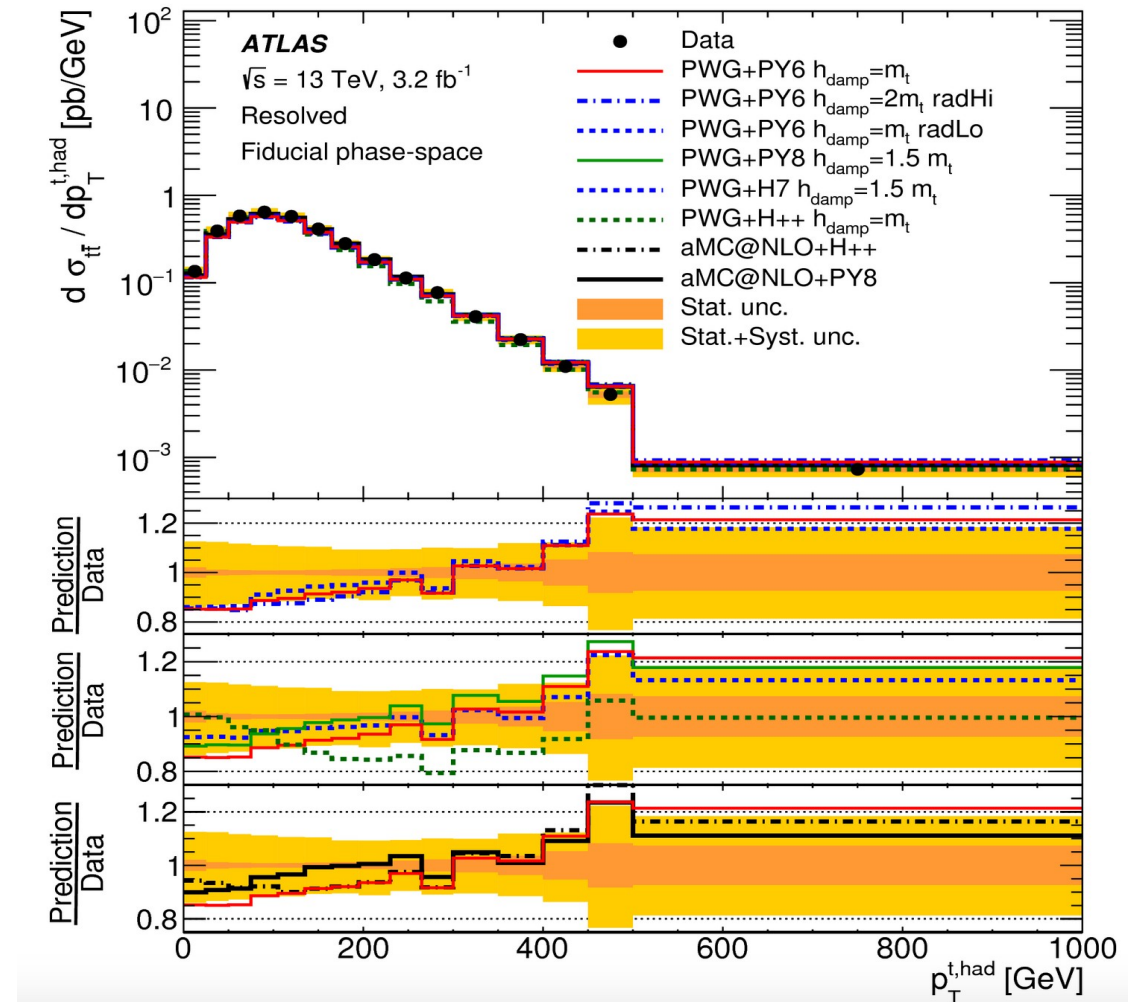
- construct leptonically decaying W from lepton and  $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$
- b-jet with smallest  $\Delta R$  to lepton

### Hadronic pseudo-top:

- construct W from remaining two highest- $p_{\text{T}}$  jets
- use remaining b-jet

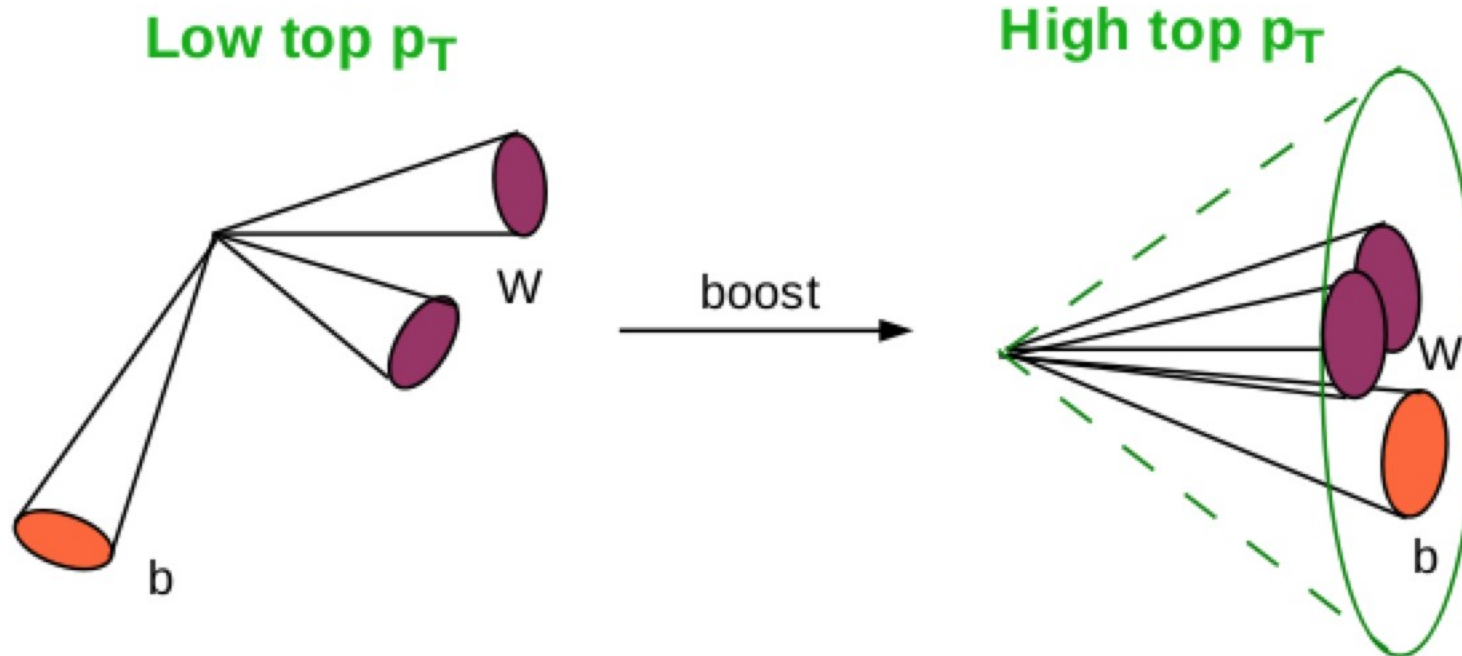
# Differential

- Different distributions: show sensitivity to PDF, parton shower, etc.
  - Can be used for MC tuning and comparison to pQCD



# Boosting algorithms

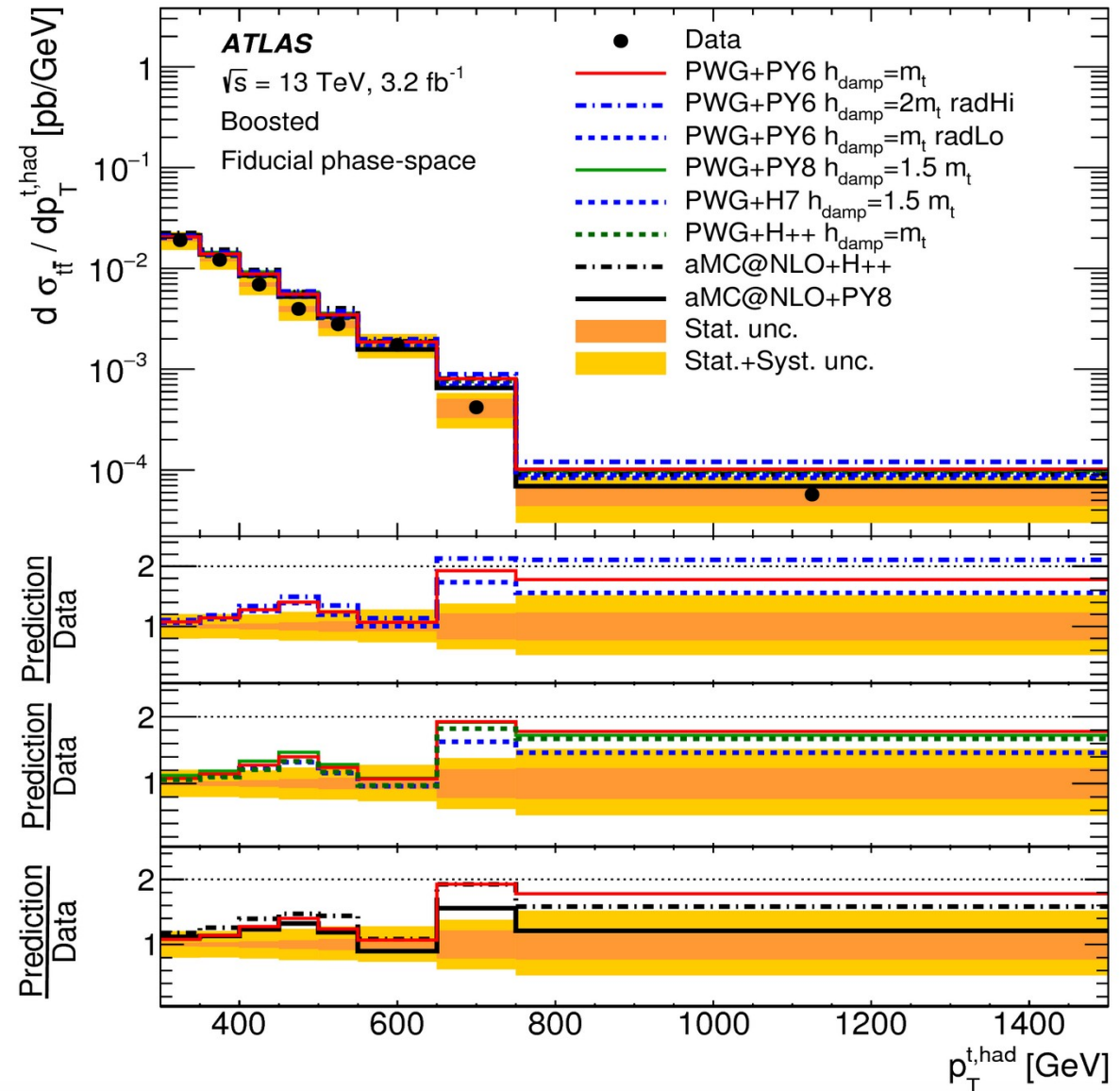
- Boosting algorithms important
  - Higher collision energy  $\rightarrow$  more events can be boosted
  - Production of heavy particles  $\rightarrow$  decay products can be boosted  $\rightarrow$  results in boosted regimes





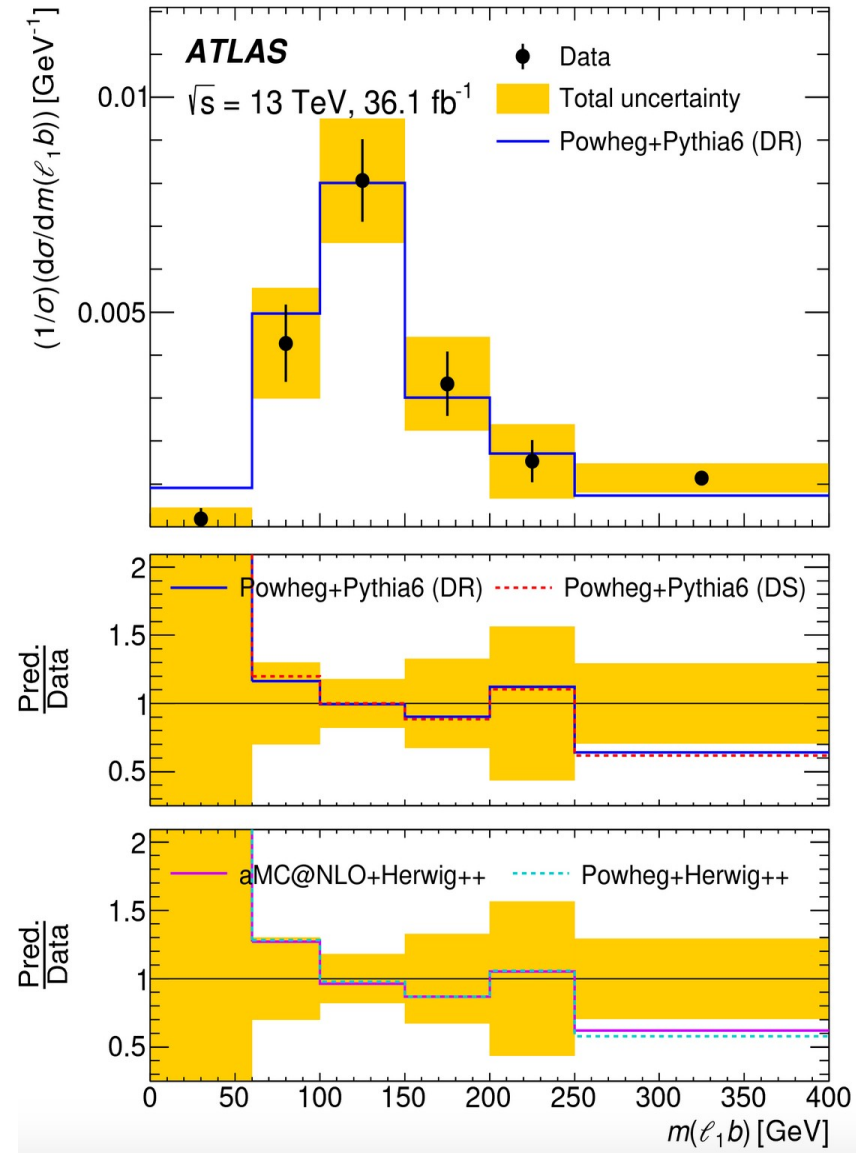
# Boosting

- Still large uncertainties  
→ need to reduce  
e. g. energy scale  
uncertainty for large R jets



# Differential Distributions in single top

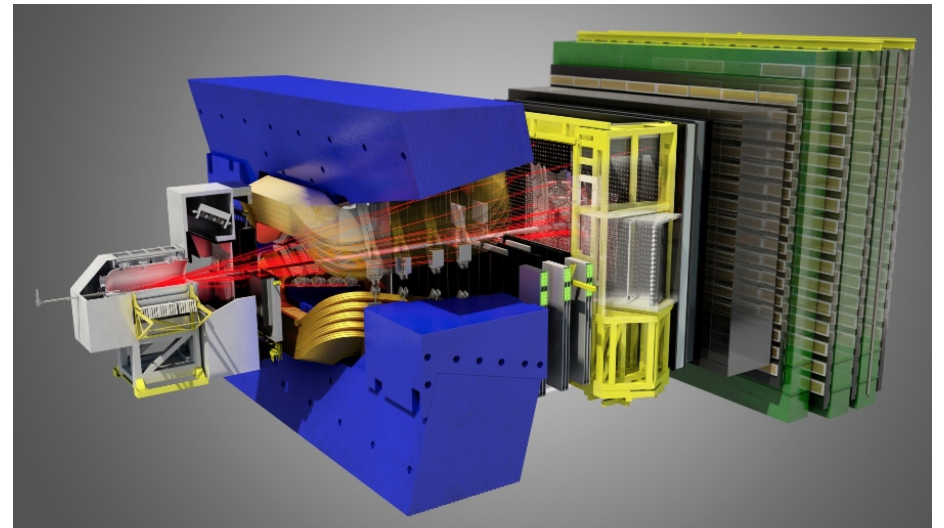
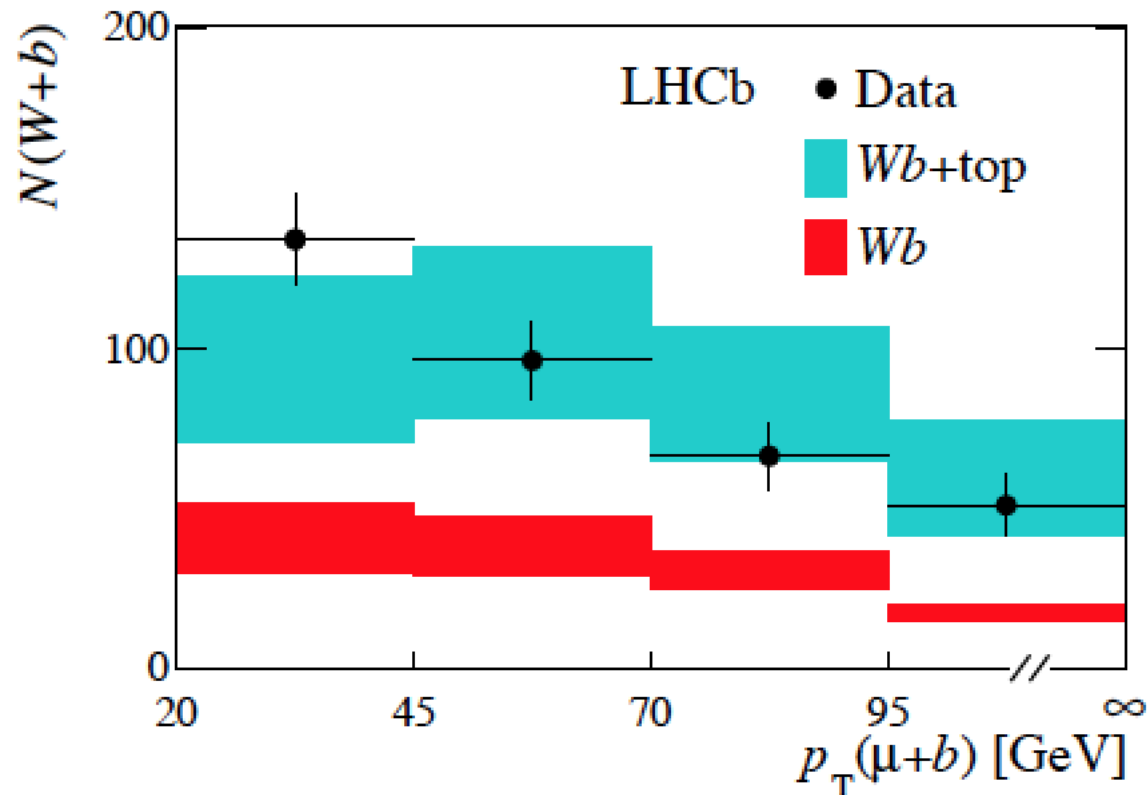
- Now also possible to perform differential measurements in single top!



arXiv:1712.01602

# Another Run I Top result!

- Top observation at LHCb!  
→ Run II: statistics!

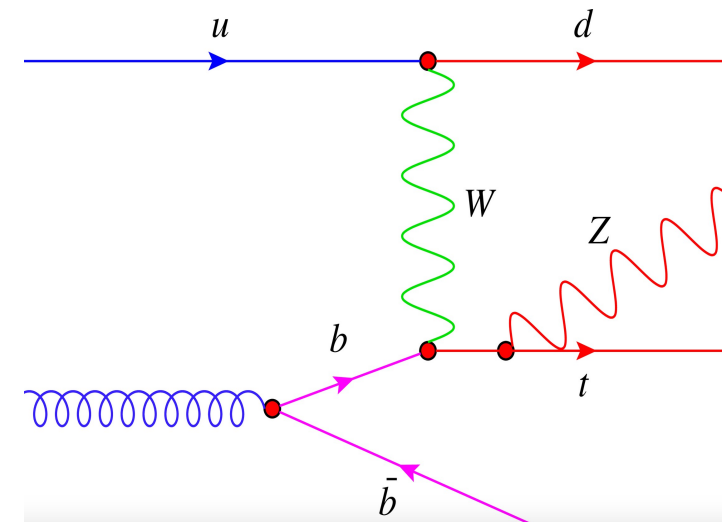


arXiv:1506.00903

# Properties

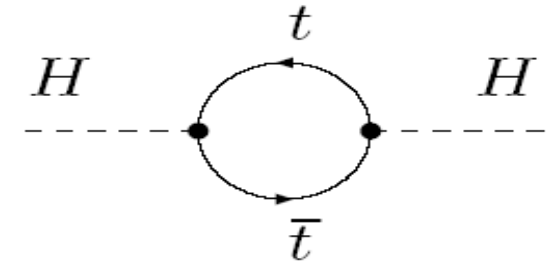
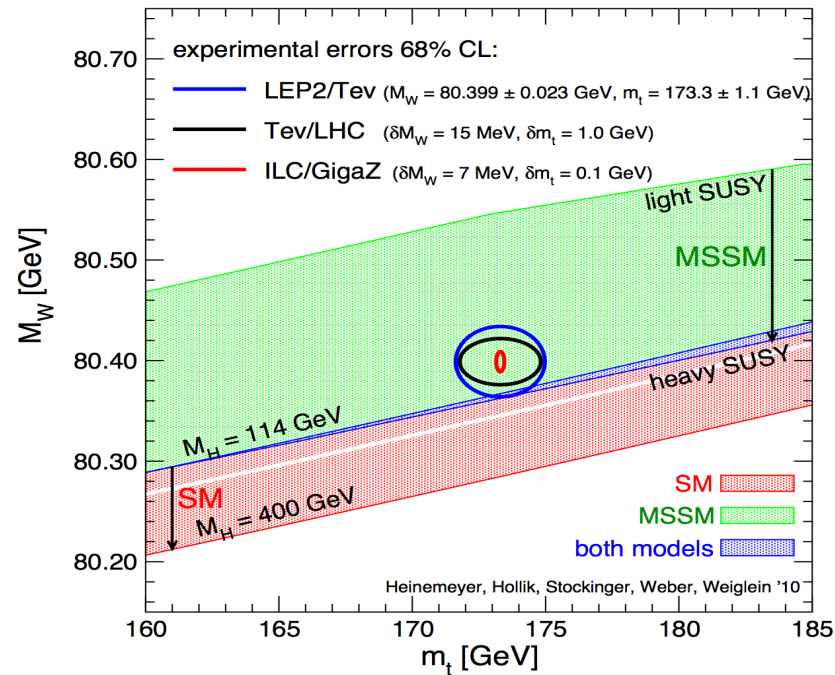
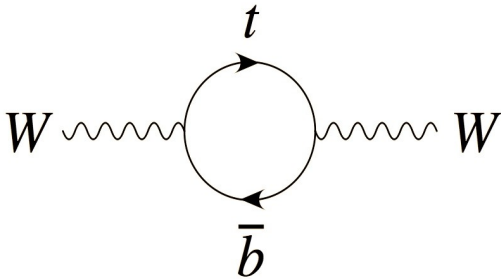
# Overview

- Many important properties measured
  - comparison to calculation: **test for BSM!**
  
- From top mass to  $W$  helicity, spin correlations, charge, couplings...
  - the top has been tested extensively
  - nonetheless: still room to test more!
    - More precision
    - More properties
    - More “resolution”
    - New processes becoming measurable
      - e.g.  $tZ$



# Top Quark Mass

- Free parameter of the SM
- Together with W mass: puts **constraint on Higgs mass** → self-consistency check



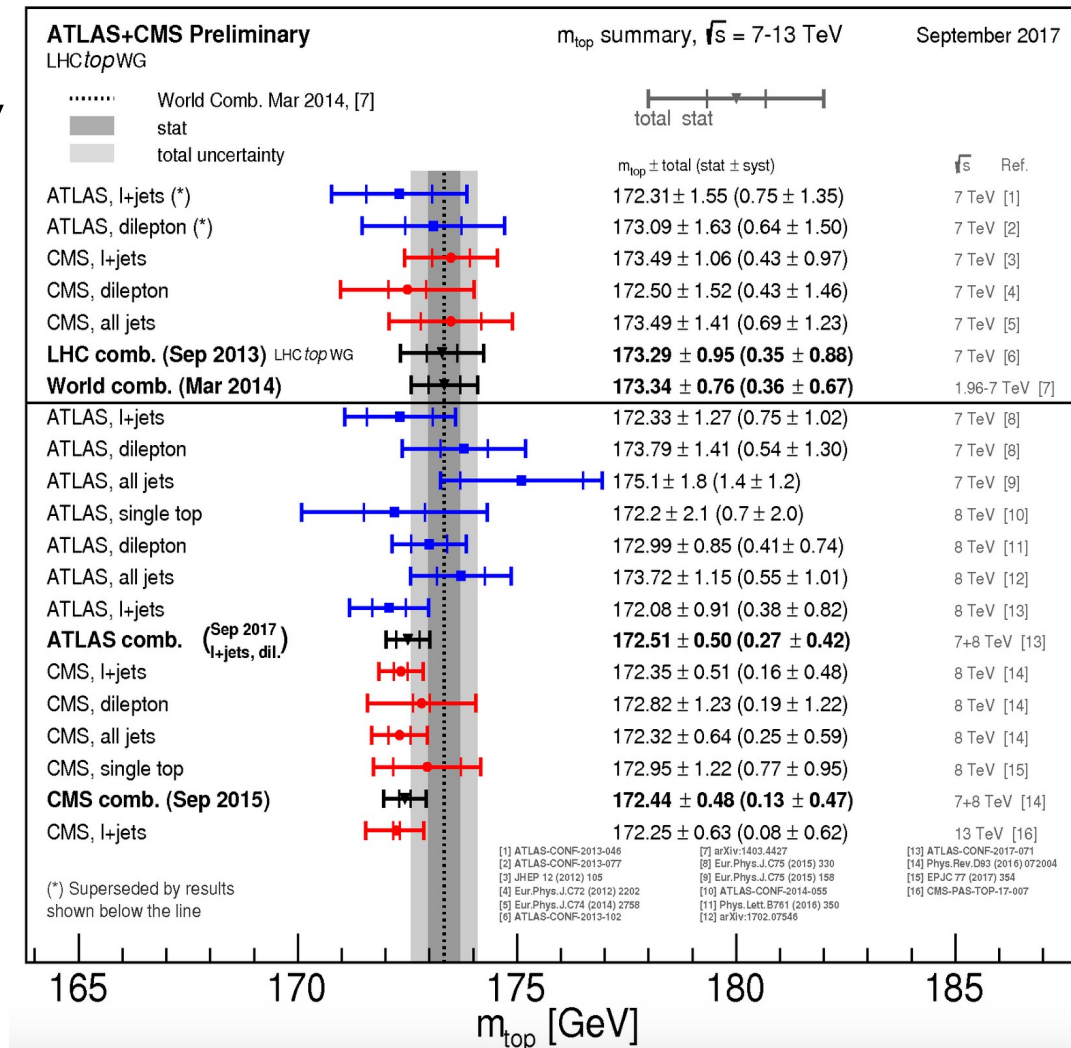
- Measurement done with several methods:  
Template method, ideogram, matrix element, etc.
  - Methods also used for other analyses, e. g. W helicity & spin correlations

# Top Mass

- Precision results of top quark mass

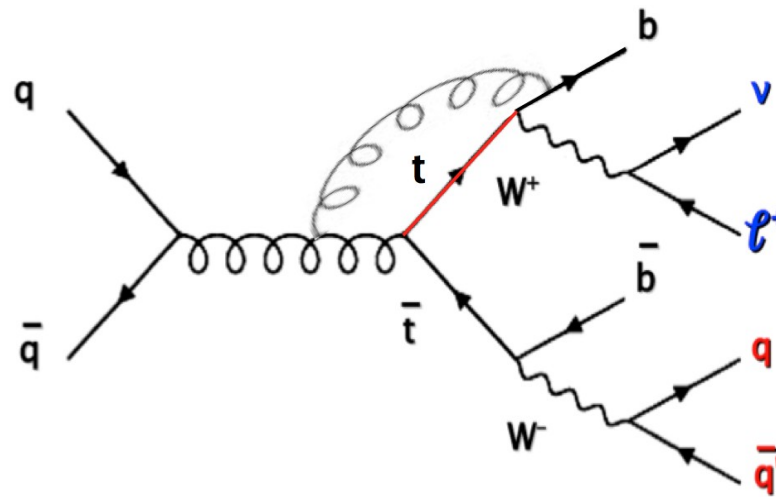
- With many different methods  
→ developed since top discovery

- Results: limited by systematic uncertainties!



# Top Quark Mass and Issues

- Constantly discussed: what is it that we measure?
  - All direct mass measurements rely on MC for calibration
  - No clean definition of the top mass
    - e. g. contributions like this missing:

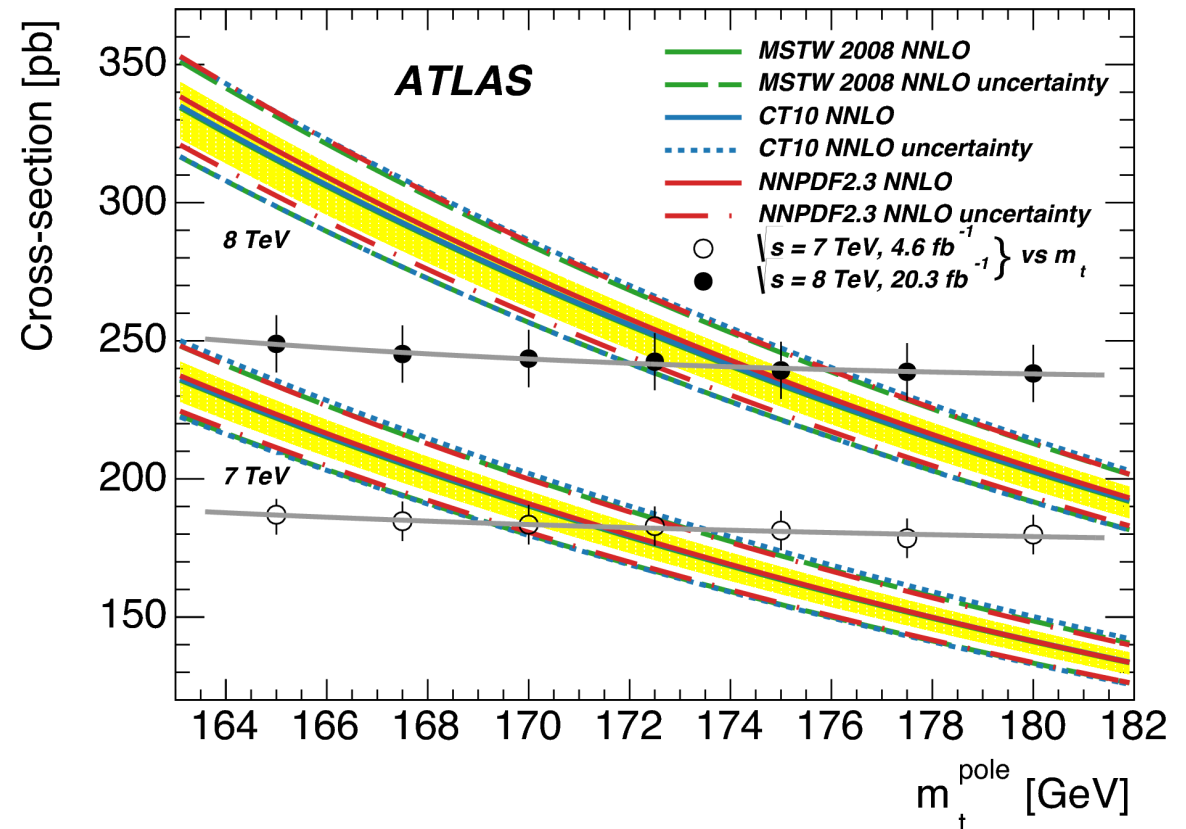


- Task mainly for theorists
- Experimentally: explore alternative methods



# Top Quark Mass: Be aware

- Alternative method: Extract  $m_t$  from cross section measurement
  - Assuming pole or  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  mass
  
- Unambiguous extraction of top quark mass!
  - Contra: uncertainty quite large compared to direct methods



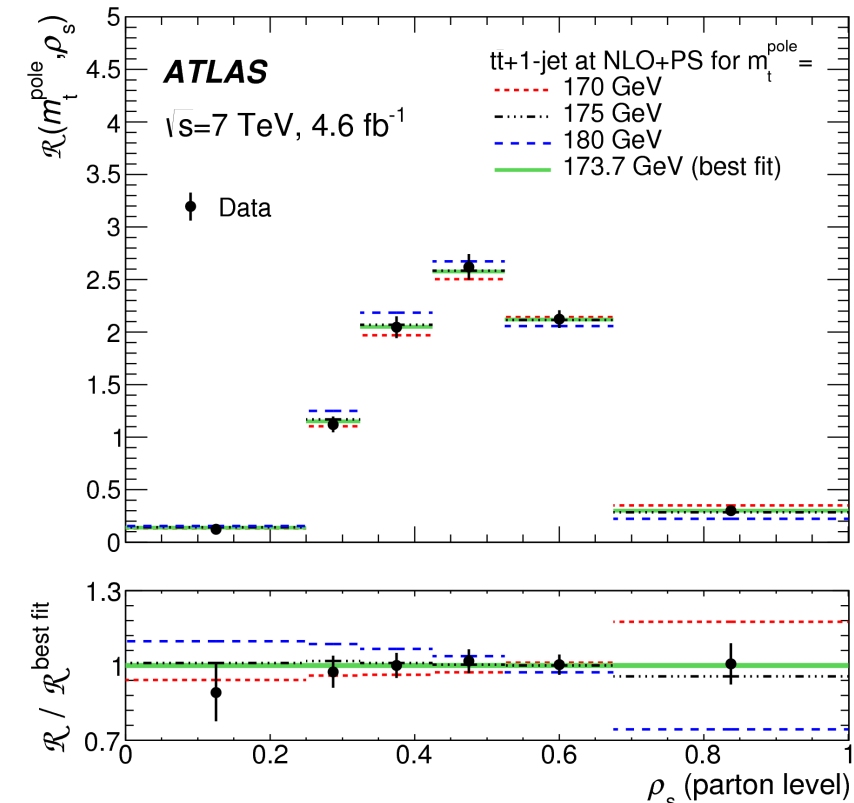
Eur.Phys.J. C74 (2014) 3109

# Mass from $t\bar{t}$ +jets

- Extract mass from distribution in  $t\bar{t}$ +jets events
  - Gluon radiation depends on mass of quark
  - Compare unfolded distribution to calculation  $\rightarrow$  allows to **uniquely define mass scheme**

$$\mathcal{R}(m_t^{\text{pole}}, \rho_s) = \frac{1}{\sigma_{t\bar{t}+1\text{-jet}}} \frac{d\sigma_{t\bar{t}+1\text{-jet}}}{d\rho_s}(m_t^{\text{pole}}, \rho_s),$$

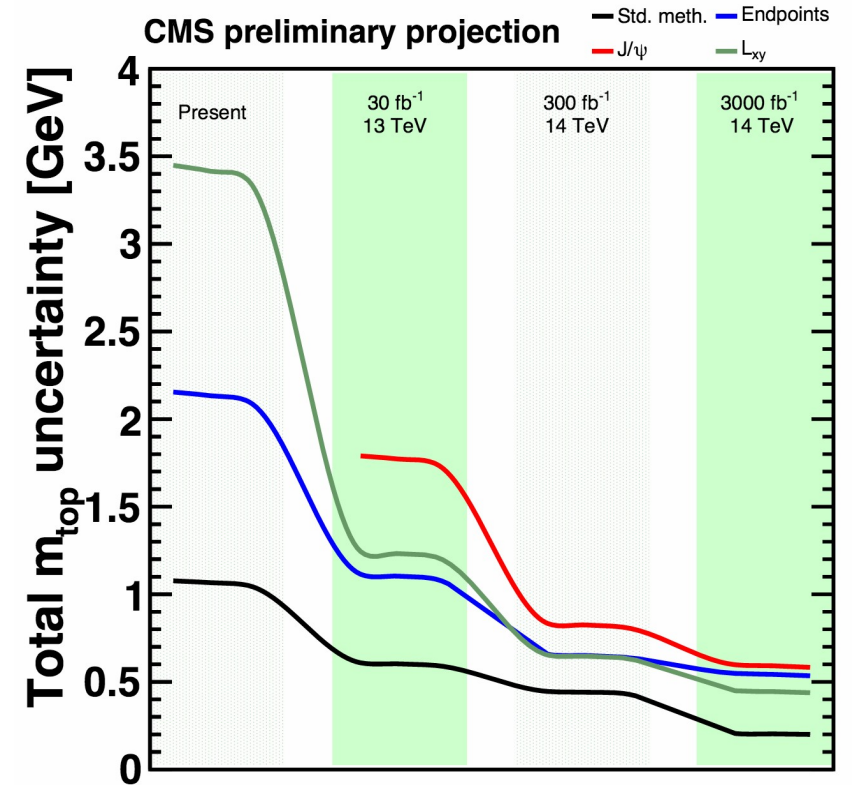
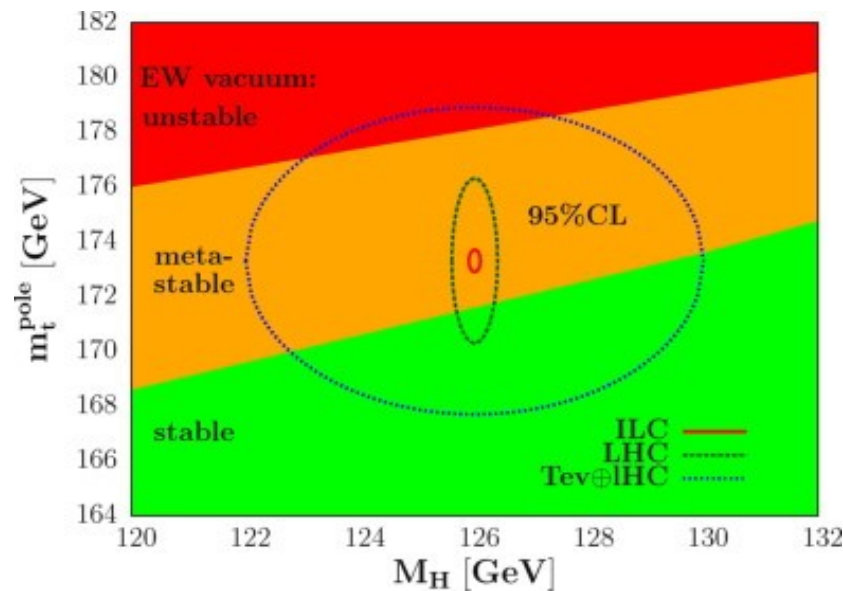
$$\rho_s = \frac{2m_0}{\sqrt{s_{t\bar{t}j}}}$$



$$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 173.7 \pm 1.5 (\text{stat}) \pm 1.4 (\text{syst})_{-0.5}^{+1.0} (\text{theo}) \text{ GeV}$$

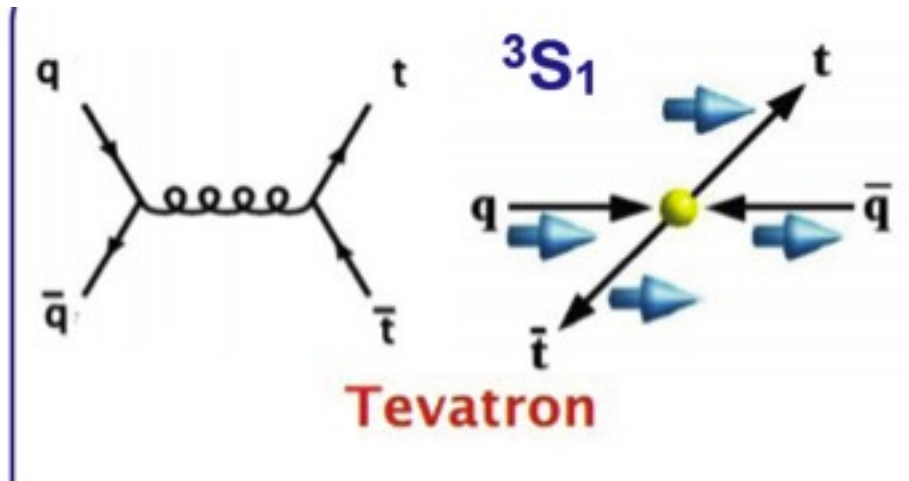
JHEP 10 (2015) 121

- Aim at improved precision!
  - Fate of the universe!
    - top-Higgs coupling important
    - $t\bar{t}H$ !

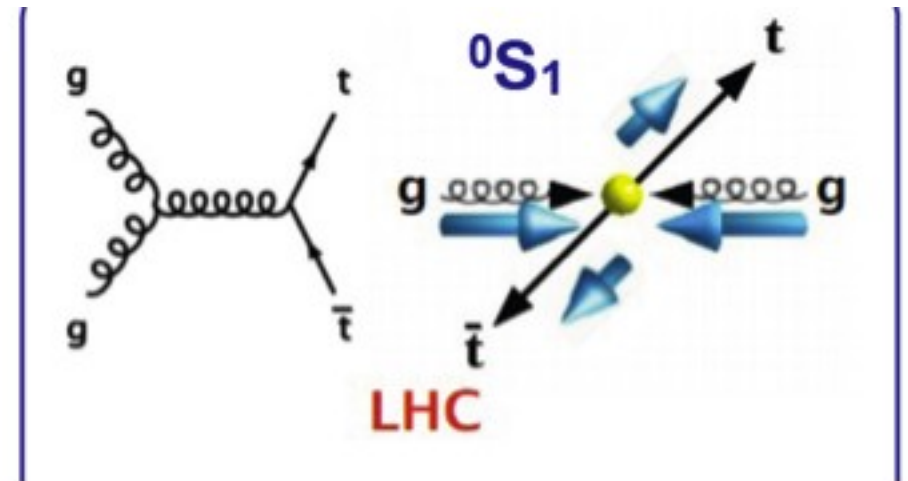


# Spin Structure

- Top decays before hadronisation  
→ allows spin structure of a quark to be measured directly
- Problem: production of  $t\bar{t}$  at hadron colliders is unpolarised  
→ all spin states randomly possible
- Feature that allows nonetheless to access spin information: spin between top and antitop are correlated!
- Dominant at Tevatron:



Dominant at LHC:

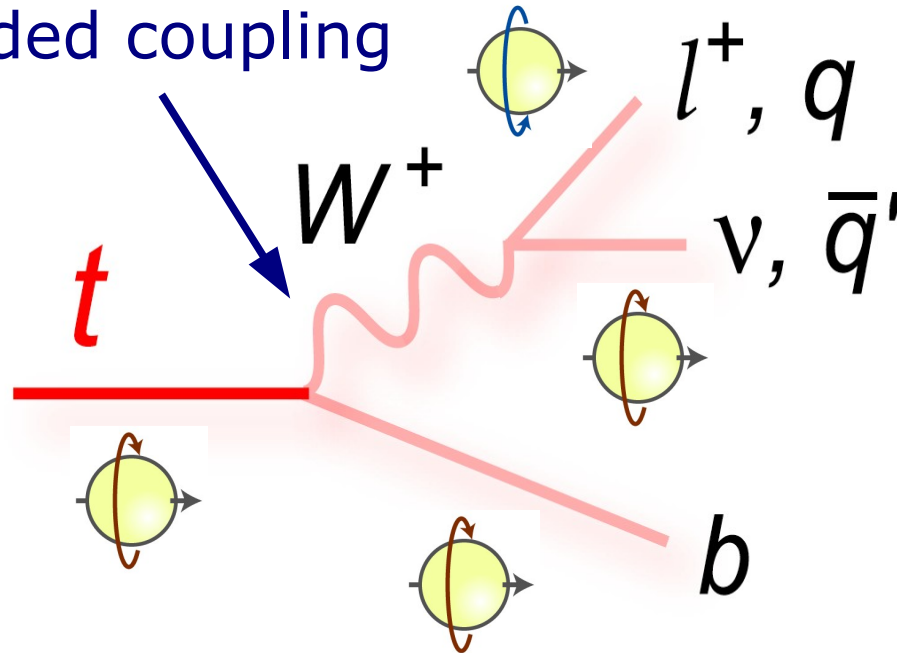


Notation:  $^{2s+1}L_J$ ; s: spin; J total angular momentum; L: orbital angular momentum (S for  $l=0$ )

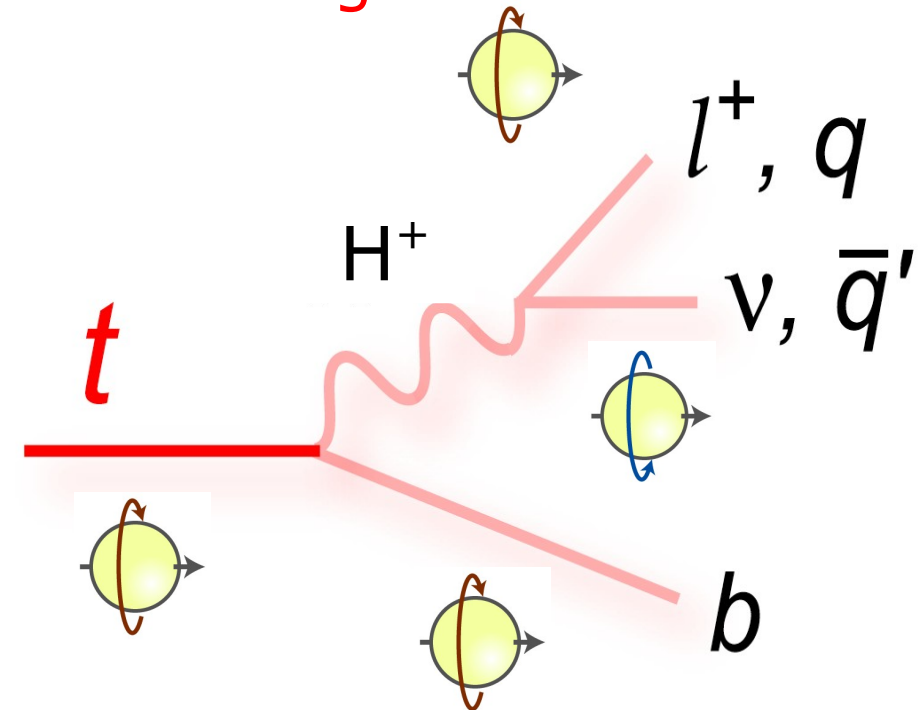
# Measurement of Spin Correlations

- Spin correlations allows not only to access if there is new physics in production, but also decay!
- Short lifetime of top quarks ( $\sim 0.5 \cdot 10^{-25} \text{s}$ )  
 → Top quarks decay before fragmentation
  - Spin information of top is preserved

Left-handed coupling



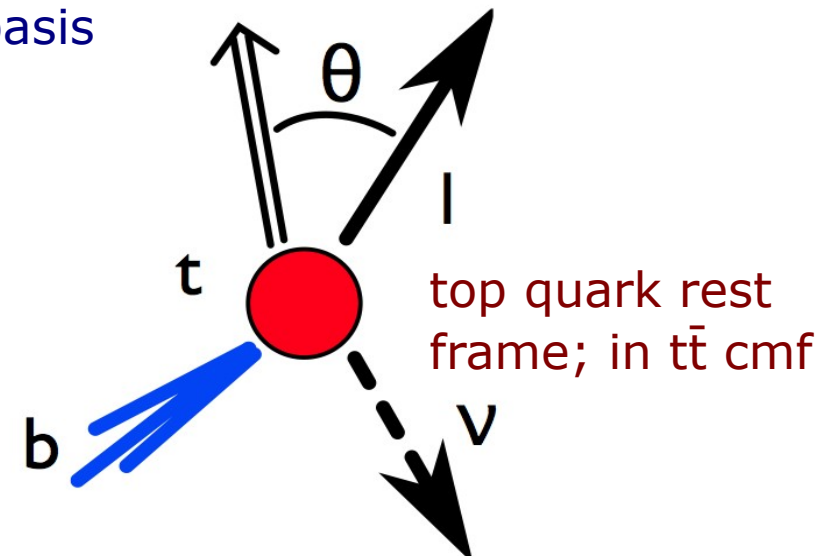
New Physics in decay could change configuration



# Measurement of Spin Correlations

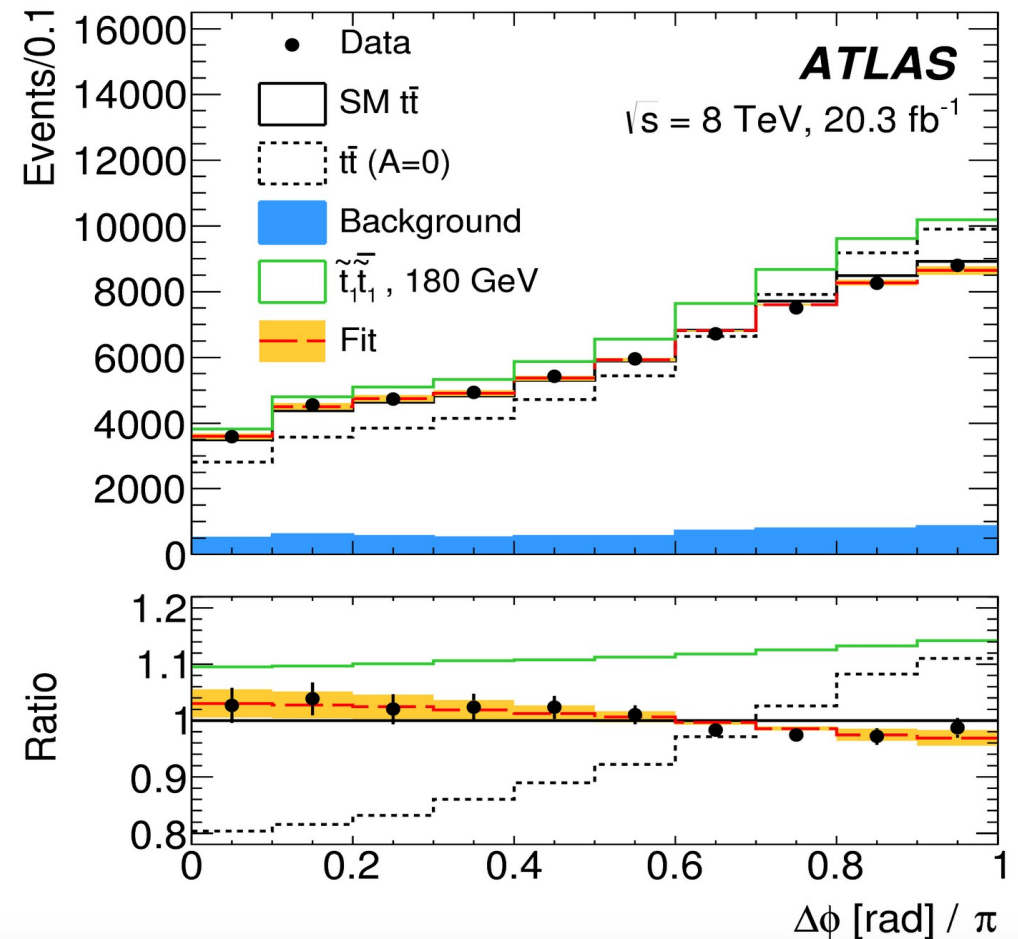
- Measurement by looking at angular distributions between the down-type fermions from the  $W^+$  and  $W^-$  decays from  $t\bar{t}$  decays
  - Any deviation from SM expectation would hint at new physics in production or decay!
- Different sensitive variables at Tevatron and LHC

Spin analysing  
basis



# Spin Correlations

- All measurements in good agreement with SM
- But need more data to become more sensitive
  - Can be used for new physics searches: for example stop



Future



# The Top Future

- Despite the large progress: much to do  
→ many BSM models: **top plays a special role**
- Production: precision differential distributions allow precision tests of QCD/EW interaction
- Properties:
  - test of BSM admixtures/influence
  - Top mass: free parameter → influence o many BSM predictions
- Direct searches: many BSM models to look for in the top sector
  - Example:  $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$  getting interesting → test for extended Higgs sectors

# Summary

- What have hadron colliders done for us?
  - they brought us
    - Top discovery
    - Precise understanding of the top quarks
    - A window to new physics
- Even 20 years after its discovery: tops are cool hot topic!



**Backup**

# Differential

- Define “pseudo-tops” on particle level
  - In fiducial region
  - Easy to reproduce for theorists!
- Pseudo-top:
  - Use particles with mean lifetime  $> 3 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{s}$
  - Leptons: use “dressed lepton”:  
leptons are used together with photons in their vicinity
  - Jets: anti-kT with  $R=0.4$  applied on stable particles (not leptons or neutrinos)
    - Presence of b-hadron with  $p_T > 5 \text{GeV}$ : jet is taken as a b-jet

