





# Outlook to the ATLAS top physics programme in Run 3 and beyond

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## ATLAS in Run 3

2022

2021

- **Data-taking is on-going!** will resume in 2 weeks
  - for the first time at  $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$  TeV  $\bigcirc$
  - More than 10 fb<sup>-1</sup> recorded by ATLAS so far 0
- Important updates to the detector (e.g. Muon New Small Wheel) and to software (online trigger, object reconstruction, GEANT4 simulation, etc.)

#### What can we do with the early Run 3 data? What do we hope to achieve long-term?

Run 3

2024

2025

2023

Issue with cooling tower at LHC P4, RF modules need to be warmed up, cleaned, cooled down again and re-conditioned... ~4 weeks delay



Long Shutdown 3 (LS3)

#### Luminosity is a limiting factor (for now)

- Precise estimation of luminosity is a crucial component of cross section measurements
- ATLAS relies on multiple sub/detectors: LUCID, calorimeters, forward detectors, MBTS, etc.
- van de Meer scans originally planned for late October / November (+delay!)
  - until then, early measurements will suffer from large luminosity uncertainties
  - $\circ$  expecting ~30 fb<sup>-1</sup> of data by the end of the year
- Early ttbar measurements are important!
  - well-known process (standard candle), depends on all sub-detectors
  - validate object reconstruction and software, catch any potential issues early
  - large cross section = small statistical uncertainty
  - o dilepton selection offers high purity
  - but how to deal with large luminosity uncertainty?

<u>JHEP 02 (2017) 117</u>

#### Analysis strategy

- **Dilepton eµ channel:** small background, no need for data-driven fake estimation
- Use the well-established "b-tag counting" method
  - low dependence on jet systematics
  - provides in-situ b-tagging efficiency calibration
  - now in profile likelihood formalism
- Luminosity uncertainty expected to be large (up to ~10%)
  - solution: measure the ratio of ttbar to Z+jets production!
  - luminosity uncertainty cancels out
  - also becomes a probe of the gluon-to-quark ratio in the PDF



#### Analysis selection & b-tagging performance

- Exactly one electron and one muon with  $p_{T}$ >26 GeV
- Inclusive in anti- $k_{+}$  R=0.4 jets with  $p_{+}$ >25 GeV
- Jets b-tagged with the new DL1d algorithm at 77% efficiency





#### First data/MC plots – lepton kinematics



Run: 428580 Event: 612079972 ATLAS 2022-07-18 05:46:19 CEST

#### The picture so far...

- **Run 1** started with the rediscovery of the top quark, followed by the first observations of spin correlations in tops and associated production (tty).
- **Run 2** gave us access to many more properties of the top quark and rare production processes:
  - single-top polarisation [TOPO-2018-10]
  - energy asymmetry [Eur. Phys. J. C 82 (2022) 374]
  - o boosted differential ttbar [JHEP 06 (2022) 063 ] [TOPO-2018-11]
  - comprehensive FCNC programme [TOPO-2019-17] [TOPO-2019-19] [*Eur. Phys. J. C 82 (2022) 334*]
  - observation of tqy [ATLAS-CONF-2022-013]
  - evidence for s-channel single-top production (3.3σ)
    [ATLAS-CONF-2022-030]
  - strong evidence for 4tops (4.7σ) [JHEP 11 (2021) 118]
  - more and more precise measurements of ttbar+W/Z/H
    [*Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 737*] [*JHEP 09 (2020) 049*] [HIGG-2020-16]



#### The picture so far...

- At the end of Run 2, we have a **detailed understanding** of our detector: signal and background modelling uncertainties often become limiting factors.
  - this will take some time to replicate in Run 3
  - in the top+X sector, it is particularly difficult to isolate the signal from other top+X backgrounds
- The most precise results are obtained through combinations or through secondary (in-situ) measurements:
  - Run 1 legacy ATLAS+CMS ttbar cross section ~2.5% [TOPO-2018-39]
  - Run 1 template top mass measurement relies on JSF and b-JSF to reduce the impact of jet energy scale uncertainties [Eur. Phys. J. C 79 (2019) 290]
  - Run 2 boosted l+jets ttbar differential cross section uses a similar technique [JHEP 06 (2022) 063]

**Run 3** should be an opportunity for complex measurements aiming at a **more global picture of the top sector**.





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#### Improvements in Monte Carlo

- First consistent treatment of single- and double-resonant WbWb production: "bb4l"
  - clear differences with previous diagram removal (DR) and subtraction (DS) schemes [ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-042]
  - ATLAS measurement of tty+tWy [JHEP 09 (2020) 049]
  - o search for tWZ is statistically dominated, but differential ttZ is in some places limited by tWZ modelling
- MINNLO<sub>PS</sub> interfaces NNLO matrix elements to the parton shower [JHEP 04 (2022) 079]
- Moving PS uncertainties from 2-point comparisons to more comprehensive internal variations
   ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-042
   ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-042





#### More subtle properties measurements

- Many approaches to measuring the **top mass**: how to connect them to theory?
  - new phenomenological approaches, e.g. MSR/pole mass from boosted tops [ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-034]
  - but also new ML-based reconstruction tools: impact of the all-hadronic channel? [*Phys.Rev.D* 105 (2022) 112008]
- Angular measurements are powerful probes of new physics
  - W helicity, top polarisation [TOPO-2018-10], ttbar spin correlations [*Eur. Phys. J. C 80 (2020) 754*]: legacy Run 2 measurements and previous ATLAS+CMS combinations [*JHEP 08 (2020) 51*]
  - SMEFT interpretation of the Wtb vertex & connection to B-physics
  - Open the door to fundamental tests of quantum mechanics: quantum entanglement [*Eur. Phys. J. Plus (2021)* <u>136:907</u>], Bell's inequalities [*Phys.Rev.Lett. 127 (2021) 16, 161801*]...



#### **Top+X: searches & combinations**

- Increase in √s can greatly benefit some BSM searches, but for top+X processes the gain is small (<15%)</li>
  - however additional ~300 fb<sup>-1</sup> of data very welcome for searches (e.g. FCNC, tWZ, 4tops) and expansion of the precision programme (e.g. charge asymmetries, polarisations, spin correlations) [ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-004]
  - o foray beyond NWA into off-shell regime: ttbar+ll (ttZ), tc+ll (tZq), tb+vl (tW) → connections to 4-fermion EFTs, leptoquark models and B-anomalies [<u>D. Marzocca</u>] [JHEP 08 (2022) 60]
- Long-standing discrepancy in multi-lepton + b-jets final state (ttW/ttH/4tops)
  - joint top+X measurements: relax assumptions on the backgrounds, extract more information differentially, provide the full EFT picture
  - also valuable inputs to global SMEFT fits
  - $\circ$  build analysis strategies with combinations in mind



## Summary & conclusions



- First measurement of  $\sigma(tt)/\sigma(Z)$ at  $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$  TeV is in progress
- Run 2 results have expanded our experimental toolkit
  - more production processes are accessible
  - refined angular measurements
  - complex measurements in difficult phase-spaces
- Run 3 analyses will leverage this expertise
  - joint measurements, global EFT fits, off-shell topologies, quantum information, top mass, etc.



### The "b-tag counting" method



- **Requires only 2 bins** to measure the 2 POIs: the cross section and the b-tagging efficiency
  - however also need events with 0 b-tags to measure the b-tagging correlation factor
- This approach can be rewritten as a **profile likelihood: allows combination** with the l+jets channel and the Z+jets measurement (same-flavour dilepton)