

PRECISION QCD FOR ASSOCIATED TOP PRODUCTION

Genova, 03/04/2024

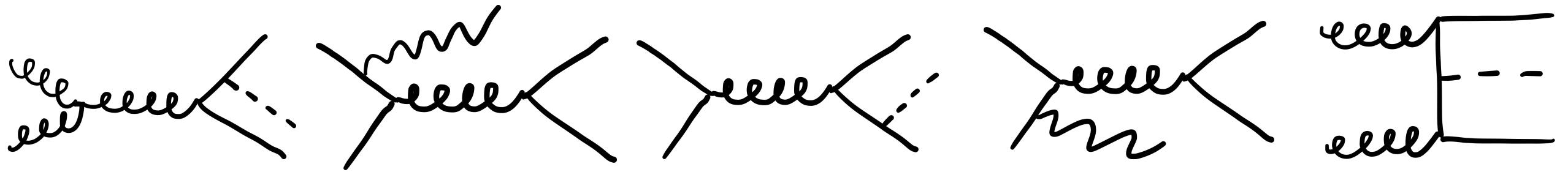
Simone Devoto



European Research Council
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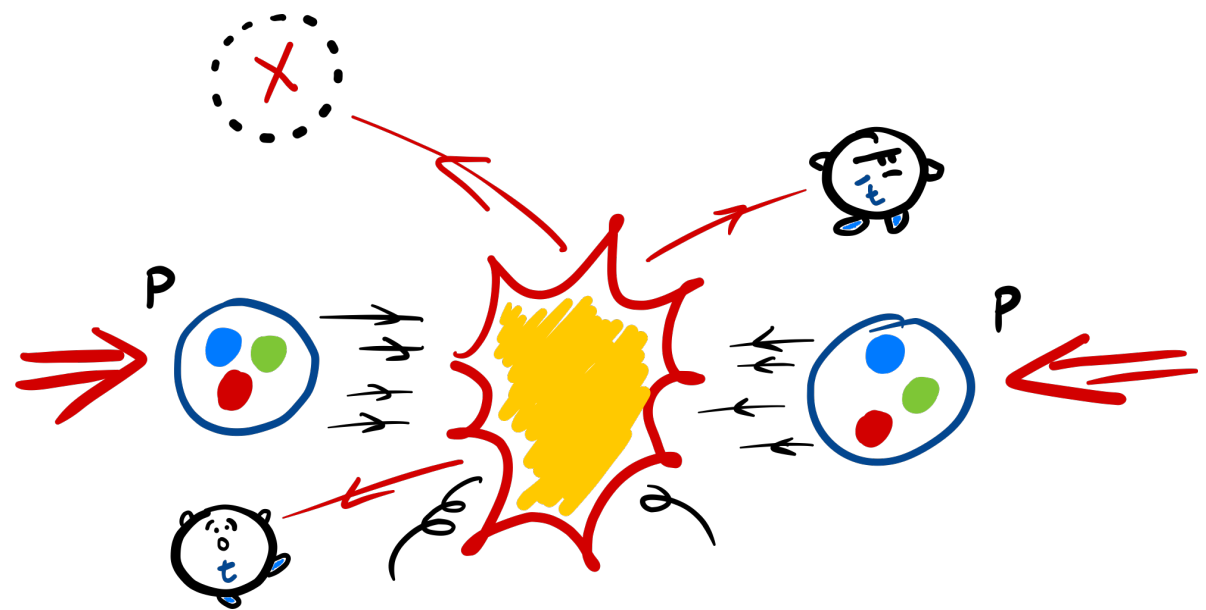
In collaboration with:

*L. Buonocore, S. Catani, M. Grazzini,
S. Kallweit, J. Mazzitelli, L. Rottoli, C. Savoini*



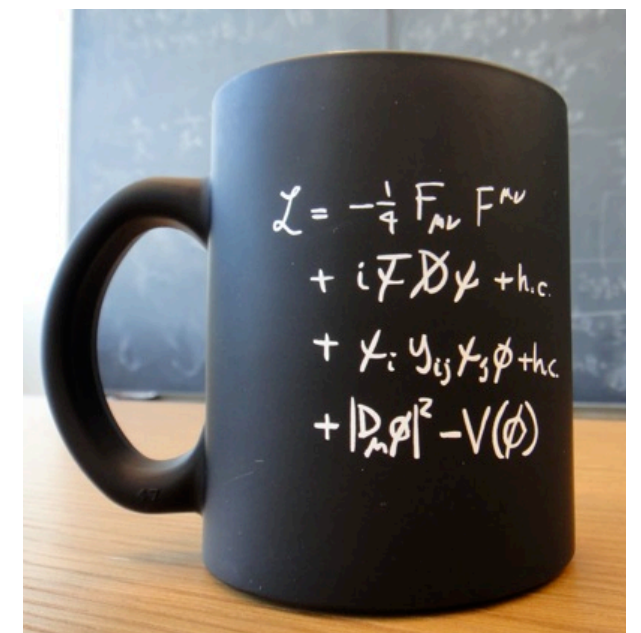
CONTENTS

- **Motivations;**
- Theory bottlenecks:
 - subtraction;
 - two-loop amplitudes;
- $t\bar{t}H$ @ NNLO;
- $t\bar{t}W$ @ NNLO;
- **Conclusions.**



THE STANDARD MODEL

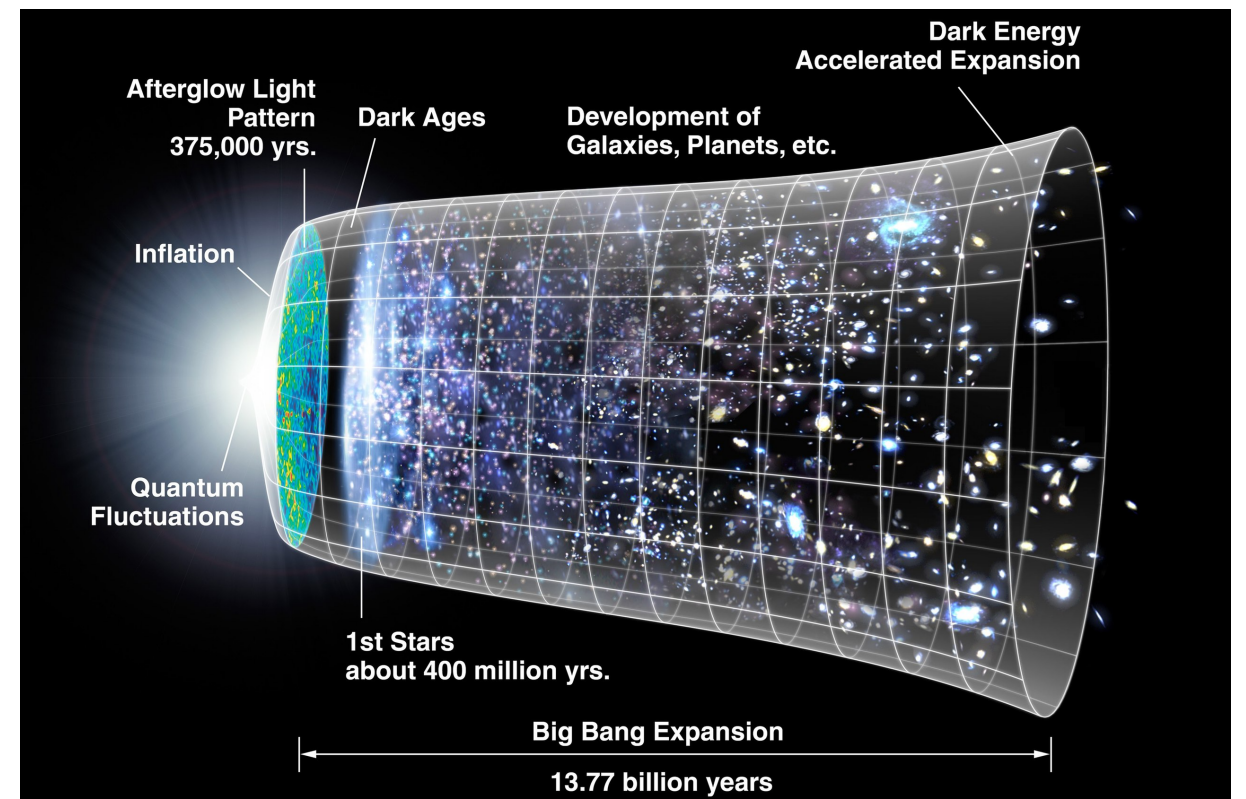
QUARKS	mass → $\approx 2.3 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge → $2/3$ spin → $1/2$  up	mass → $\approx 1.275 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge → $2/3$ spin → $1/2$  charm	mass → $\approx 173.07 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge → $2/3$ spin → $1/2$  top	mass → 0 charge → 0 spin → 1  gluon	mass → $\approx 126 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge → 0 spin → 0  Higgs boson
	mass → $\approx 4.8 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge → $-1/3$ spin → $1/2$  down	mass → $\approx 95 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge → $-1/3$ spin → $1/2$  strange	mass → $\approx 4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge → $-1/3$ spin → $1/2$  bottom	mass → 0 charge → 0 spin → 1  photon	
	mass → $0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge → -1 spin → $1/2$  electron	mass → $105.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge → -1 spin → $1/2$  muon	mass → $1.777 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge → -1 spin → $1/2$  tau	mass → $91.2 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge → 0 spin → 1  Z boson	GAUGE BOSONS
	mass → $< 2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$ charge → 0 spin → $1/2$  electron neutrino	mass → $< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge → 0 spin → $1/2$  muon neutrino	mass → $< 15.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge → 0 spin → $1/2$  tau neutrino	mass → $80.4 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge → ± 1 spin → 1  W boson	



OPEN QUESTIONS

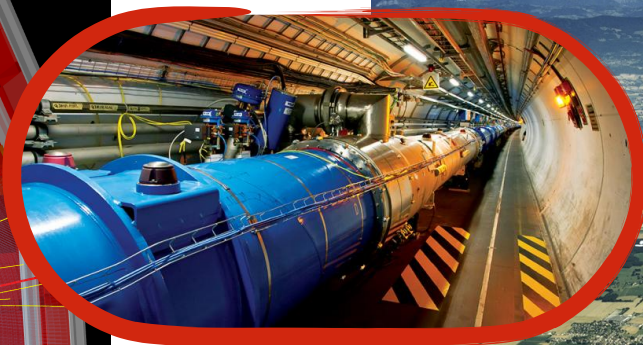
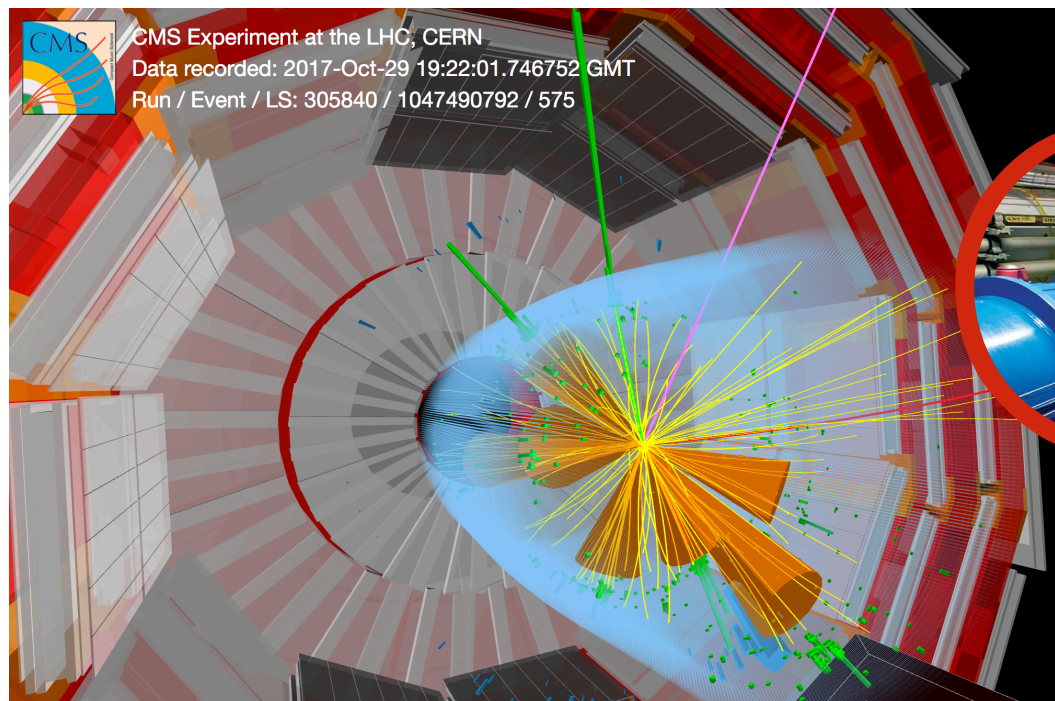
The Standard Model has still **open questions**:

- How can we accommodate **Gravity**?
- How can we accomodate **Neutrinos masses**?
- What is the **Dark Matter**?
- What is the **Dark Energy**?
- Where is all the **antimatter** (origin of the matter-antimatter asymmetry)?
- ...

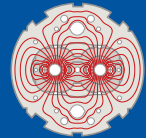


THE STANDARD MODEL AT LHC

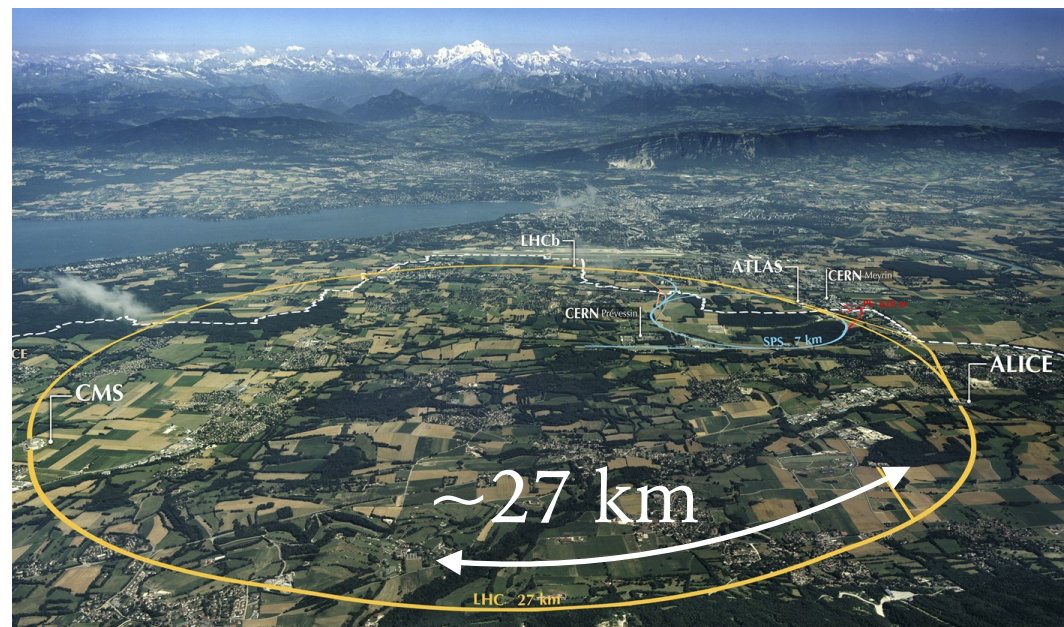
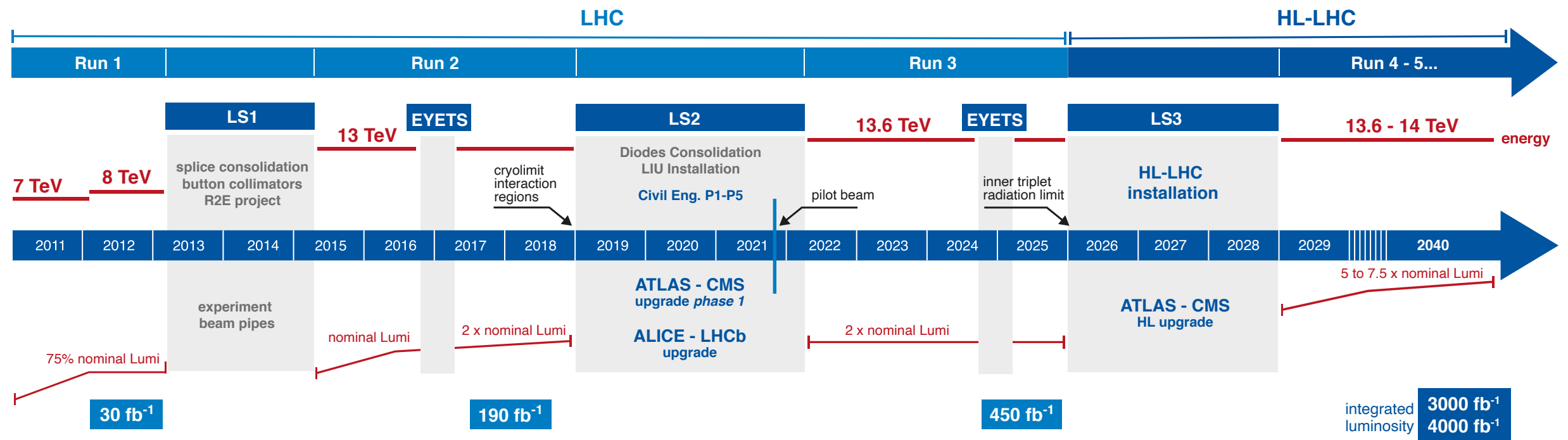
LHC: the biggest particle accelerator in the world!



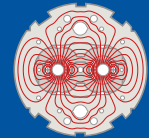
FUTURE OF LHC



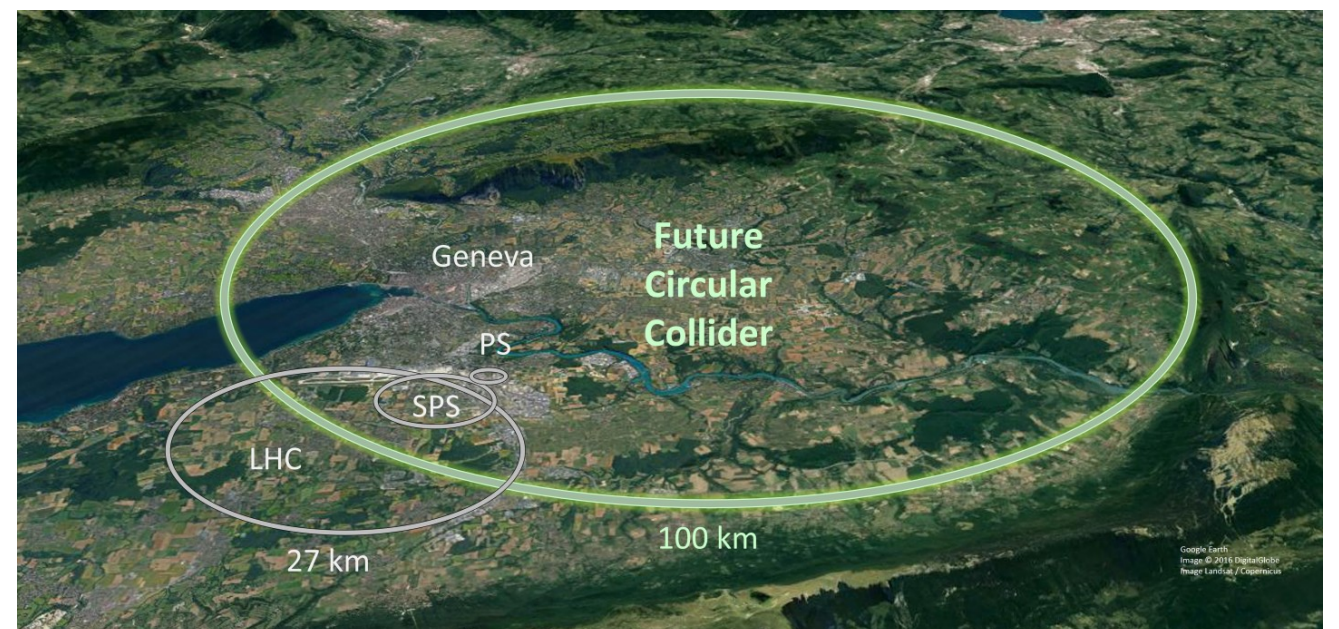
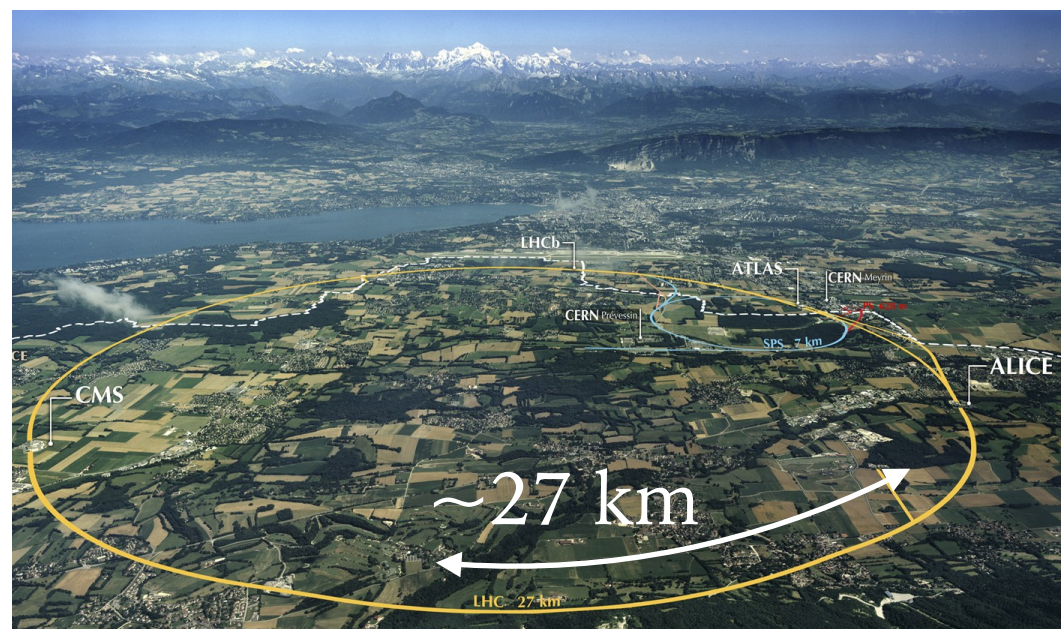
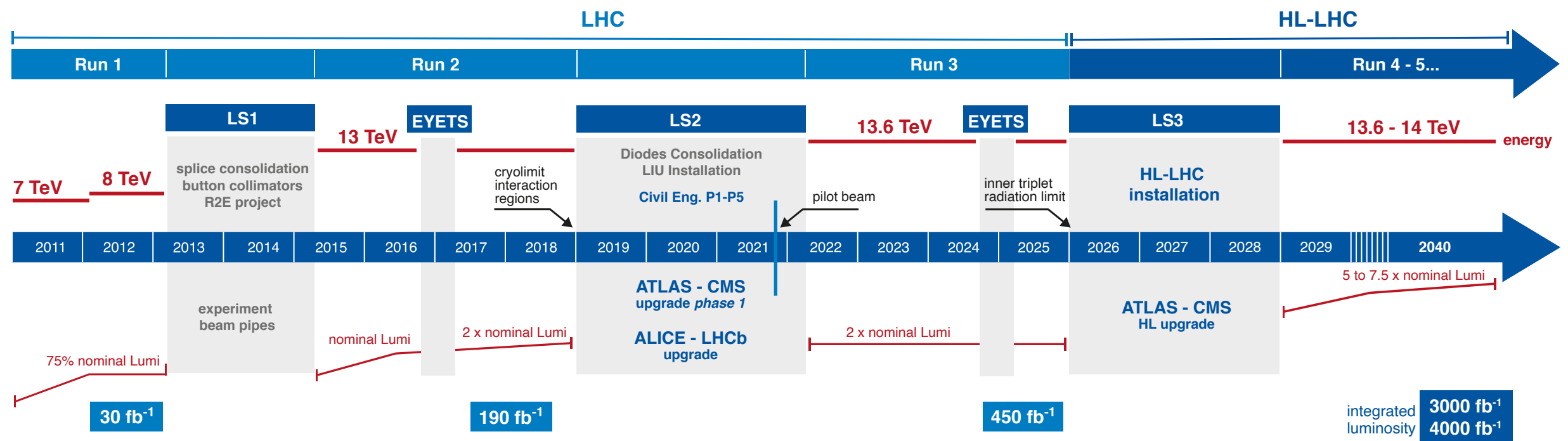
LHC / HL-LHC Plan



FUTURE OF LHC



LHC / HL-LHC Plan

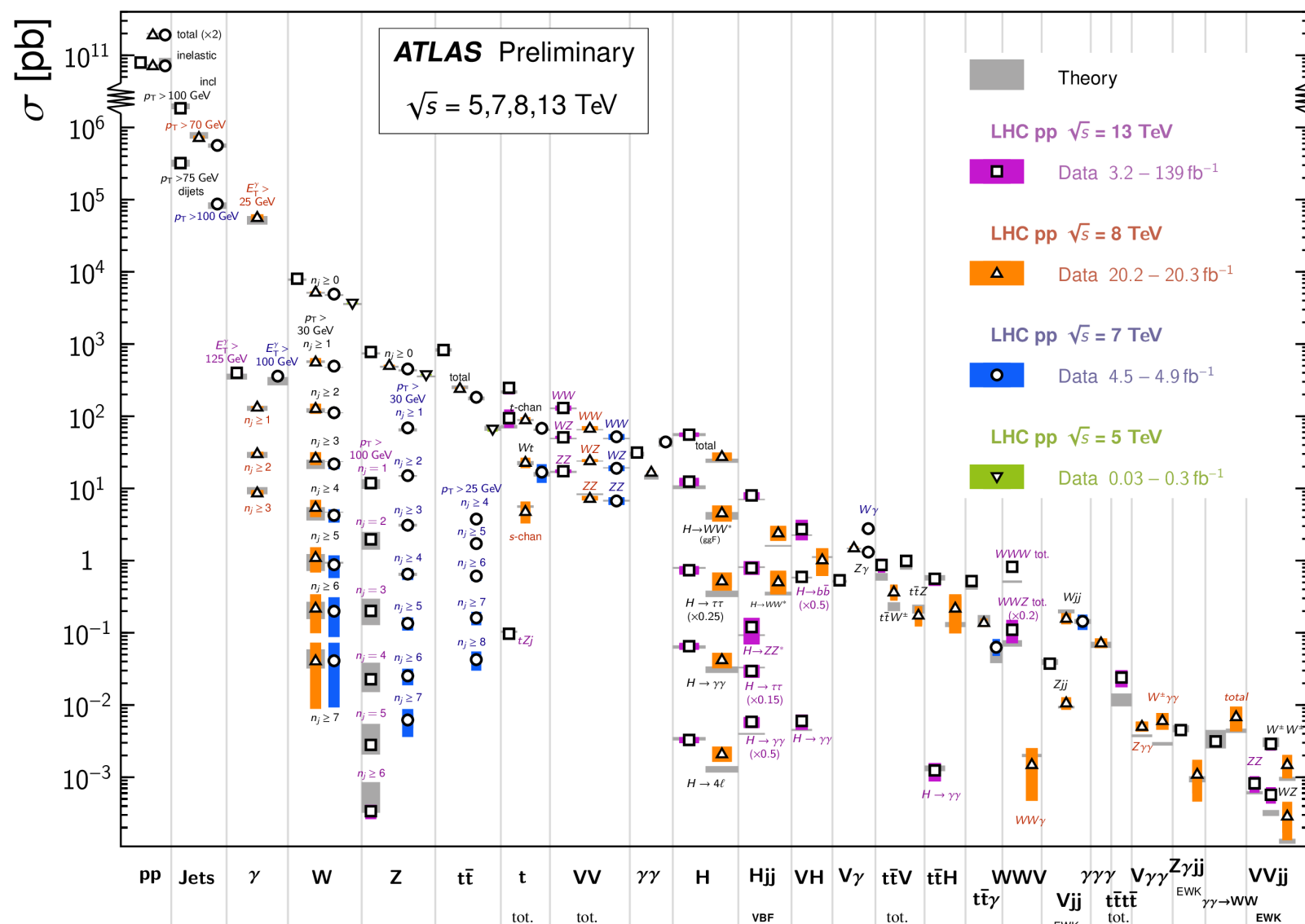


WHAT ARE WE LEARNING FROM LHC?

- LHC has proven itself to be:
 - A **discovery machine**: Higgs boson discovery;
 - A **precision machine**: precise measurement of SM parameters.

Standard Model Production Cross Section Measurements

Status: February 2022



Model Building (BSM)

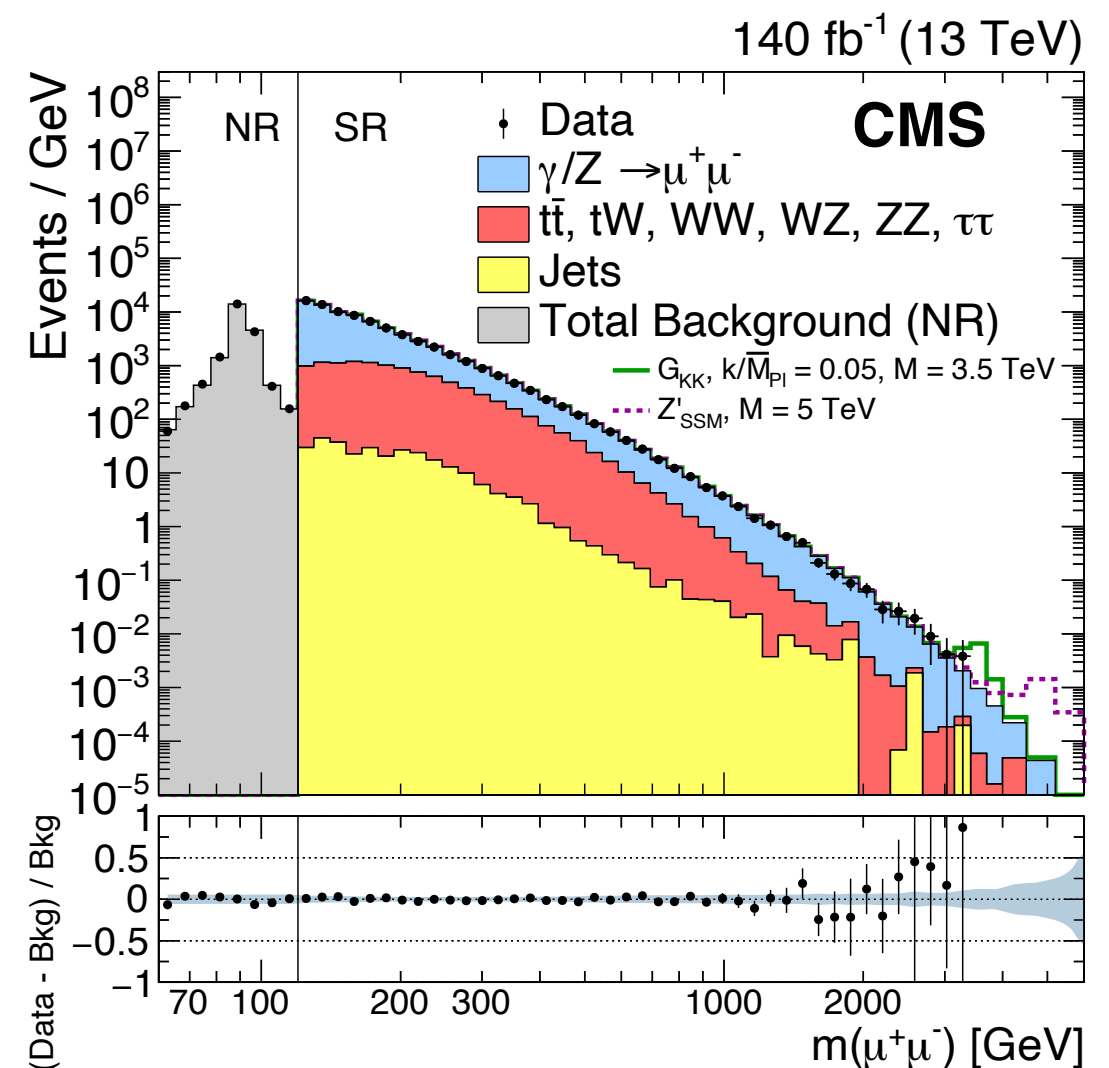
Create new models that go Beyond the Standard Model (BSM) trying to explain the open questions.

Precision Studies

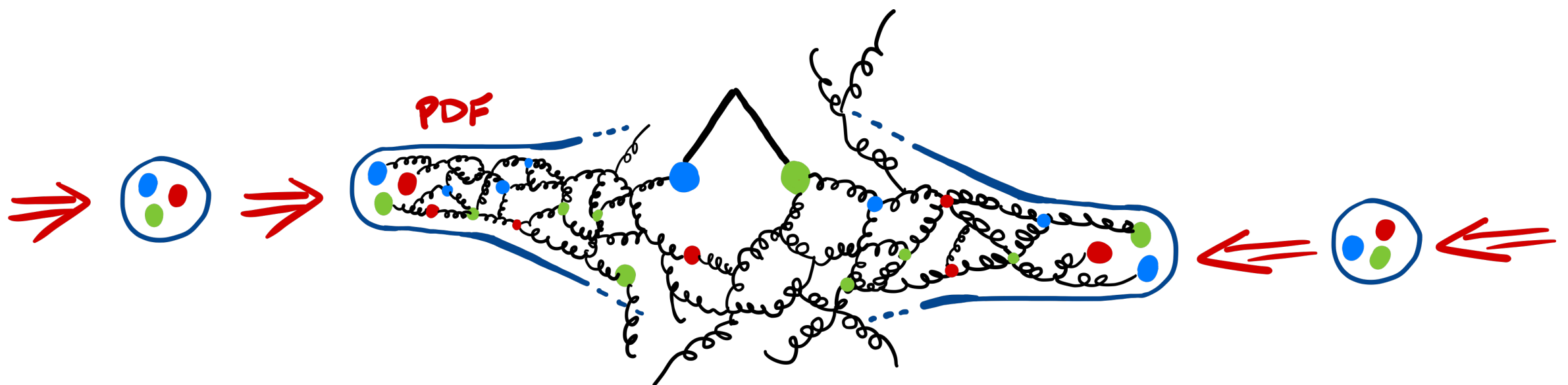
Search for small deviations from the predictions of the Standard Model by systematically comparing the best theoretical predictions with data.

WHY PRECISION?

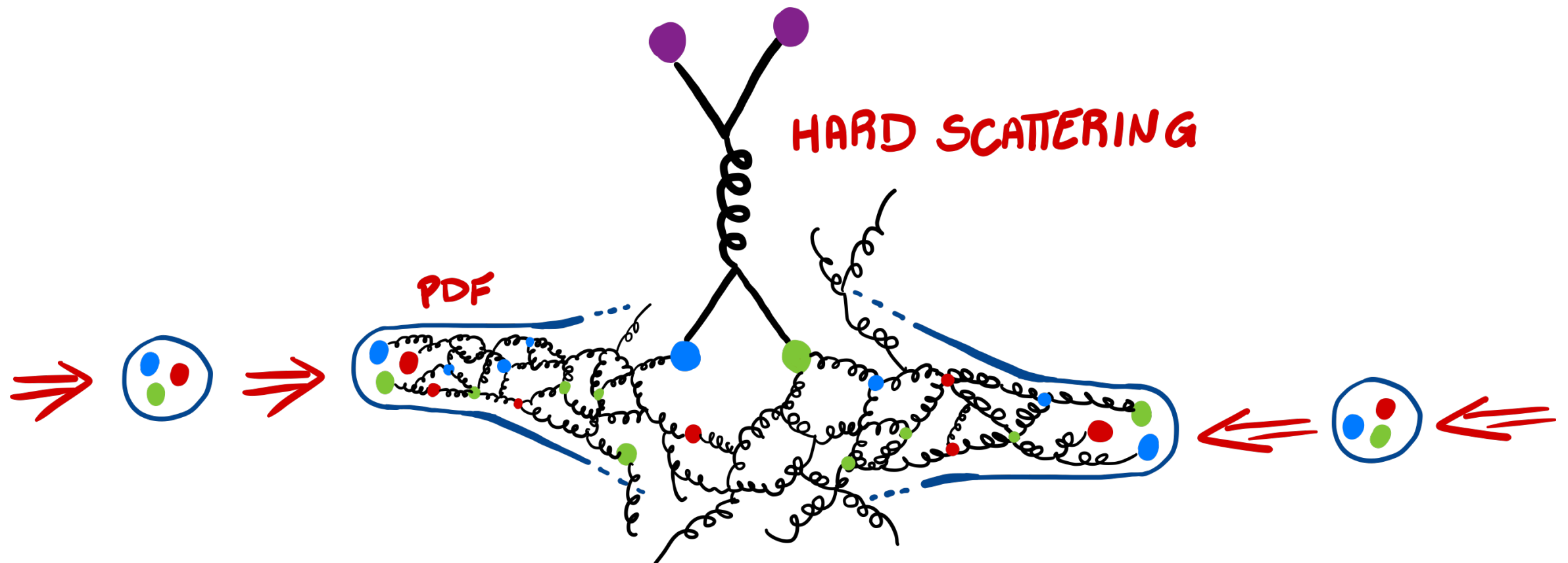
- **Run3** at LHC: factor of **2** increase of the data set;
- High Luminosity program (**HL-LHC**): factor of **10** increase of the data set;
- Dramatic **improvement in the experimental precision**, with an expected goal of **1% accuracy or better** in a key set of observables (**1‰ at FCC!**)
- **Theoretical predictions need to match experimental accuracy.**
- Need for the computation of **N3LO QCD**, **NNLO EW** and mixed **NNLO QCDxEW** correction.



THEORETICAL INGREDIENTS

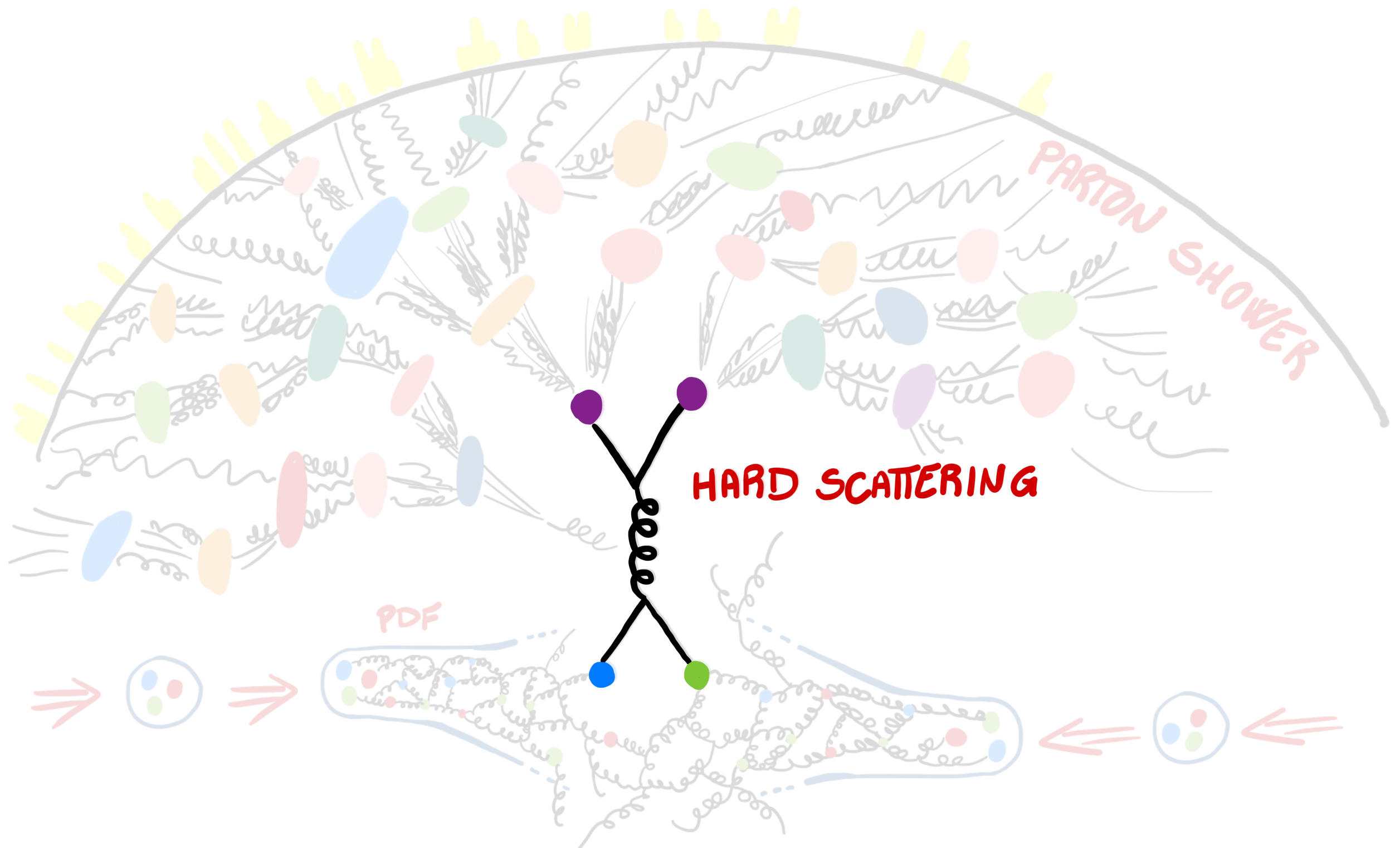


THEORETICAL INGREDIENTS





THEORETICAL INGREDIENTS



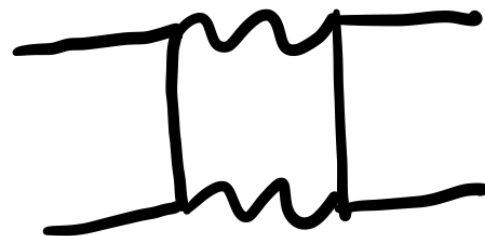
PRECISION TESTS OF THE STANDARD MODEL

- High precision in the theoretical prediction requires the computation of **higher order corrections**.

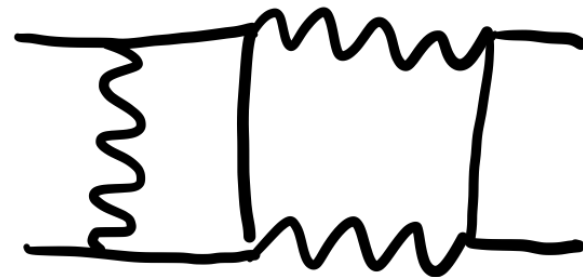
LEADING
ORDER (LO)



NEXT-TO
LEADING
ORDER (NLO)



NEXT-TO-
NEXT-TO-
LEADING
ORDER (NNLO)



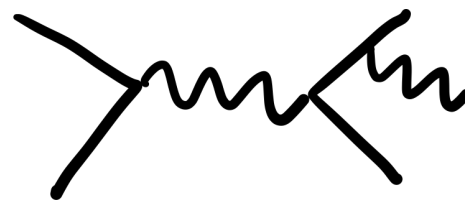
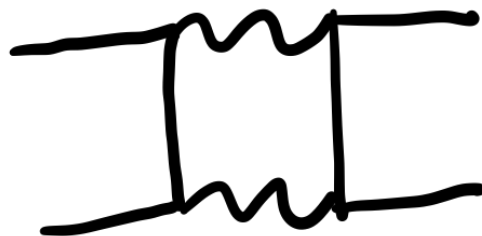
PRECISION TESTS OF THE STANDARD MODEL

- High precision in the theoretical prediction requires the computation of **higher order corrections**.

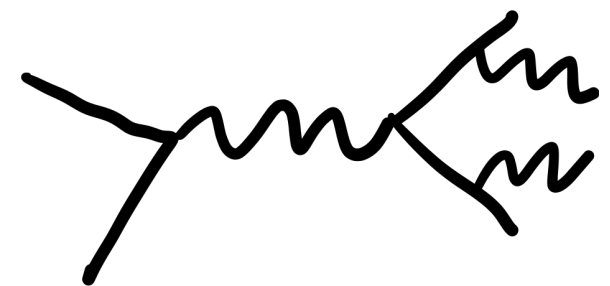
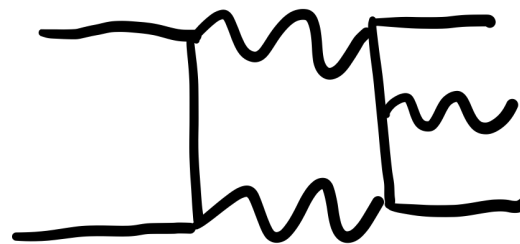
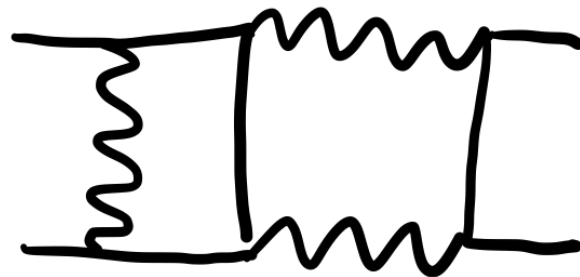
LEADING
ORDER (LO)



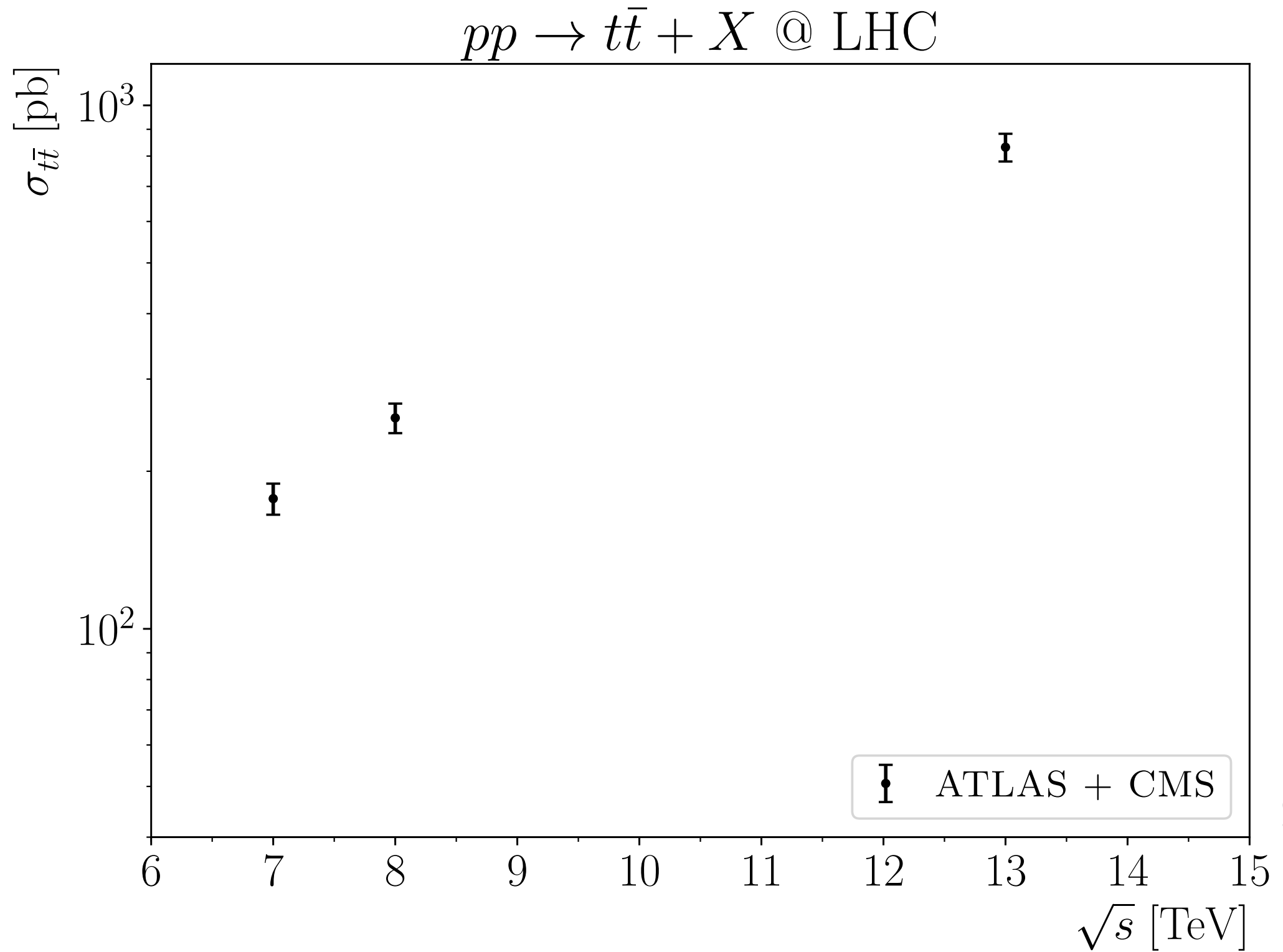
NEXT-TO
LEADING
ORDER (NLO)



NEXT-TO-
NEXT-TO-
LEADING
ORDER (NNLO)

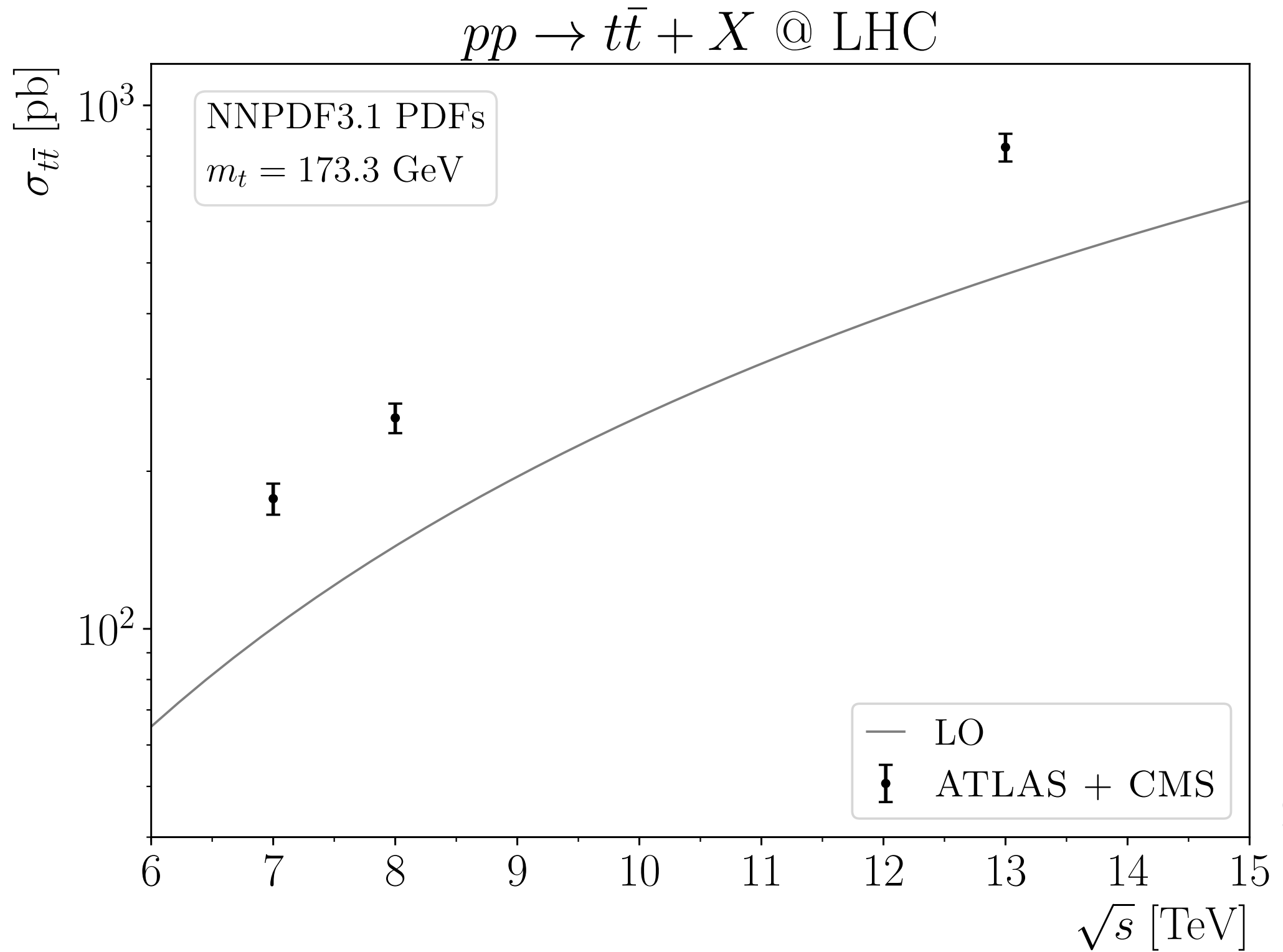


THE IMPORTANCE OF PRECISION



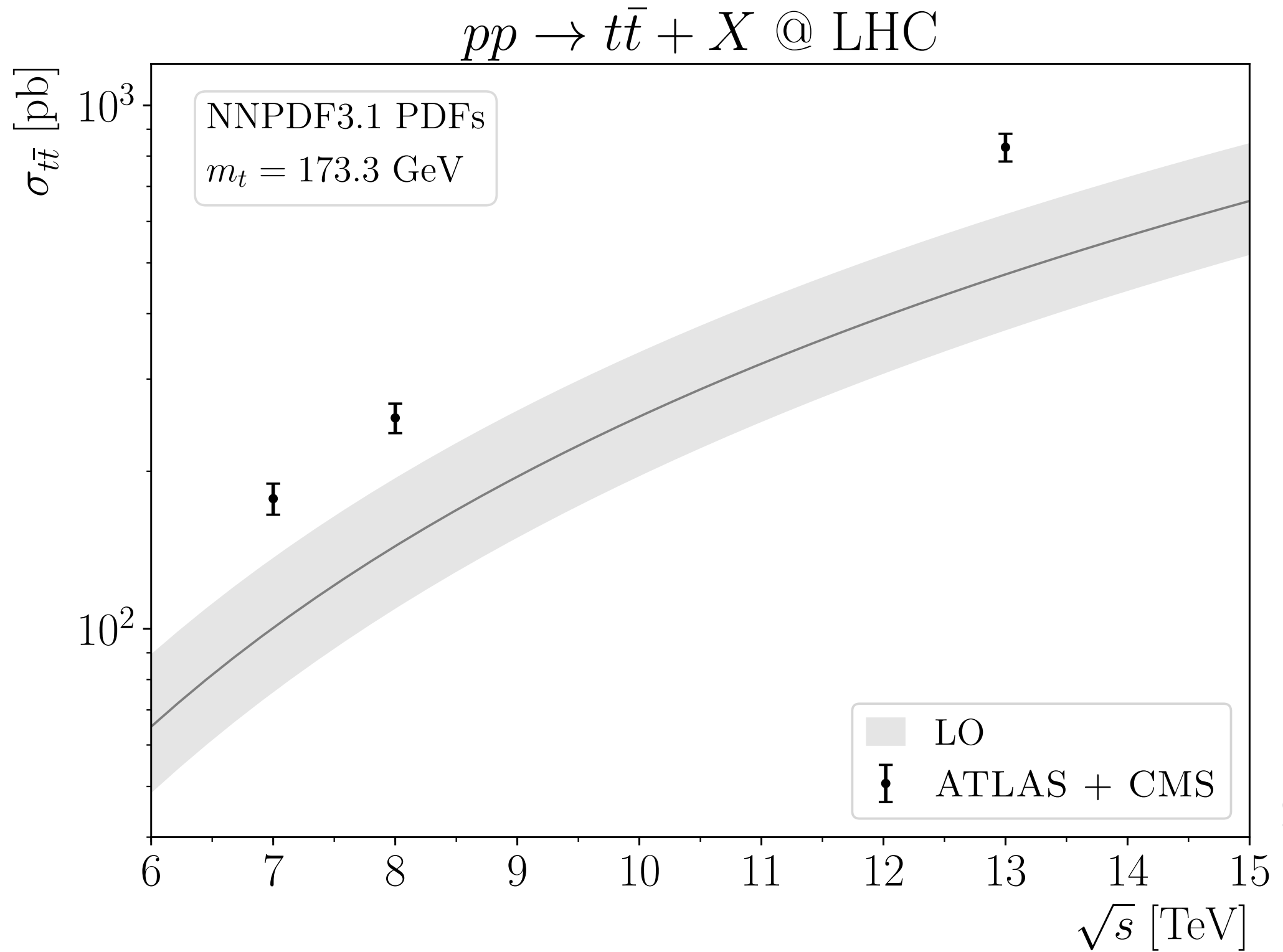
[S. Catani, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, J. Mazzitelli, H. Sargsyan: 2019]

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRECISION



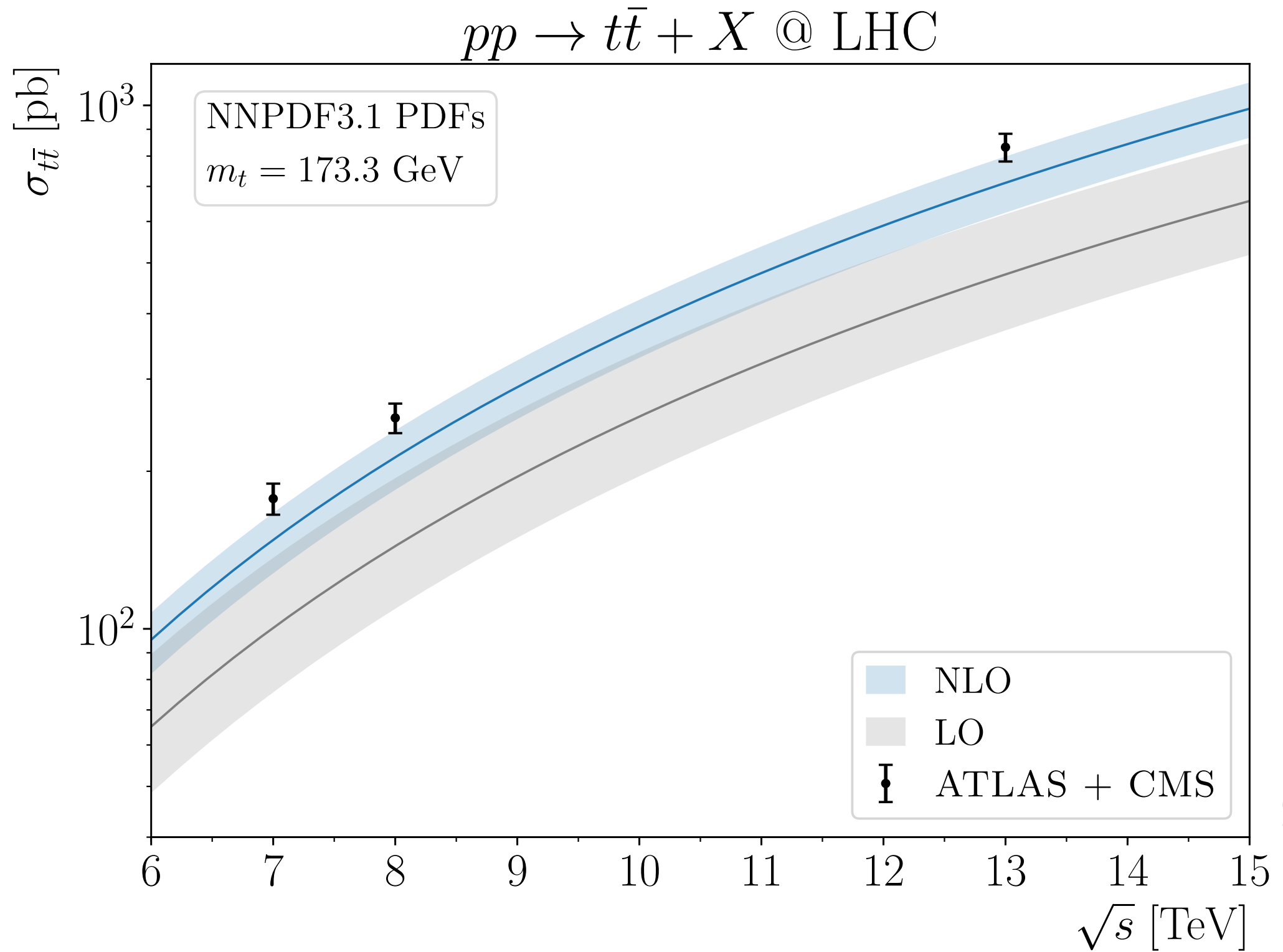
[S. Catani, S.D., M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, J. Mazzitelli, H. Sargsyan: 2019]

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRECISION



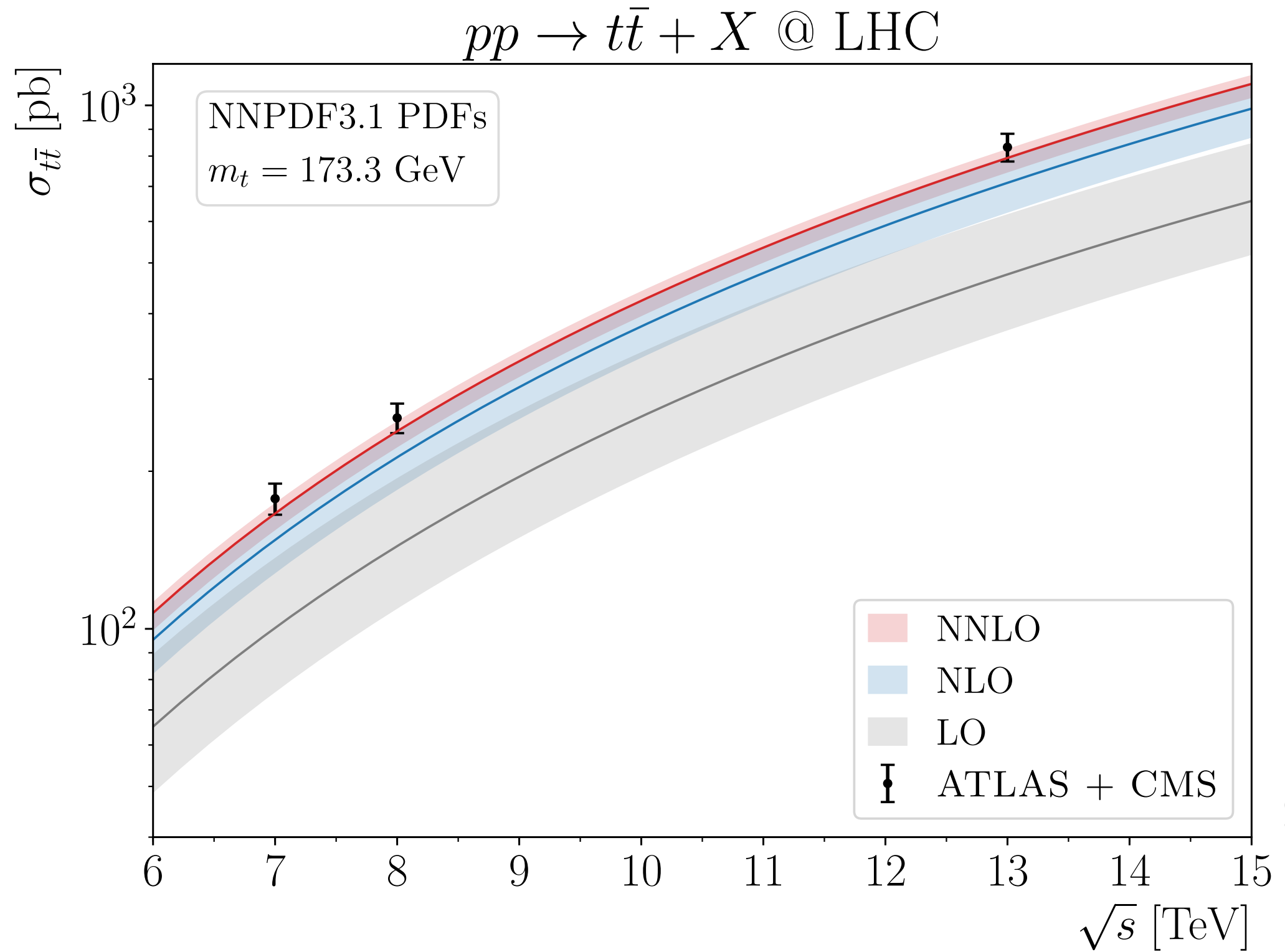
[S. Catani, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, J. Mazzitelli, H. Sargsyan: 2019]

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRECISION



[S. Catani, S.D., M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, J. Mazzitelli, H. Sargsyan: 2019]

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRECISION

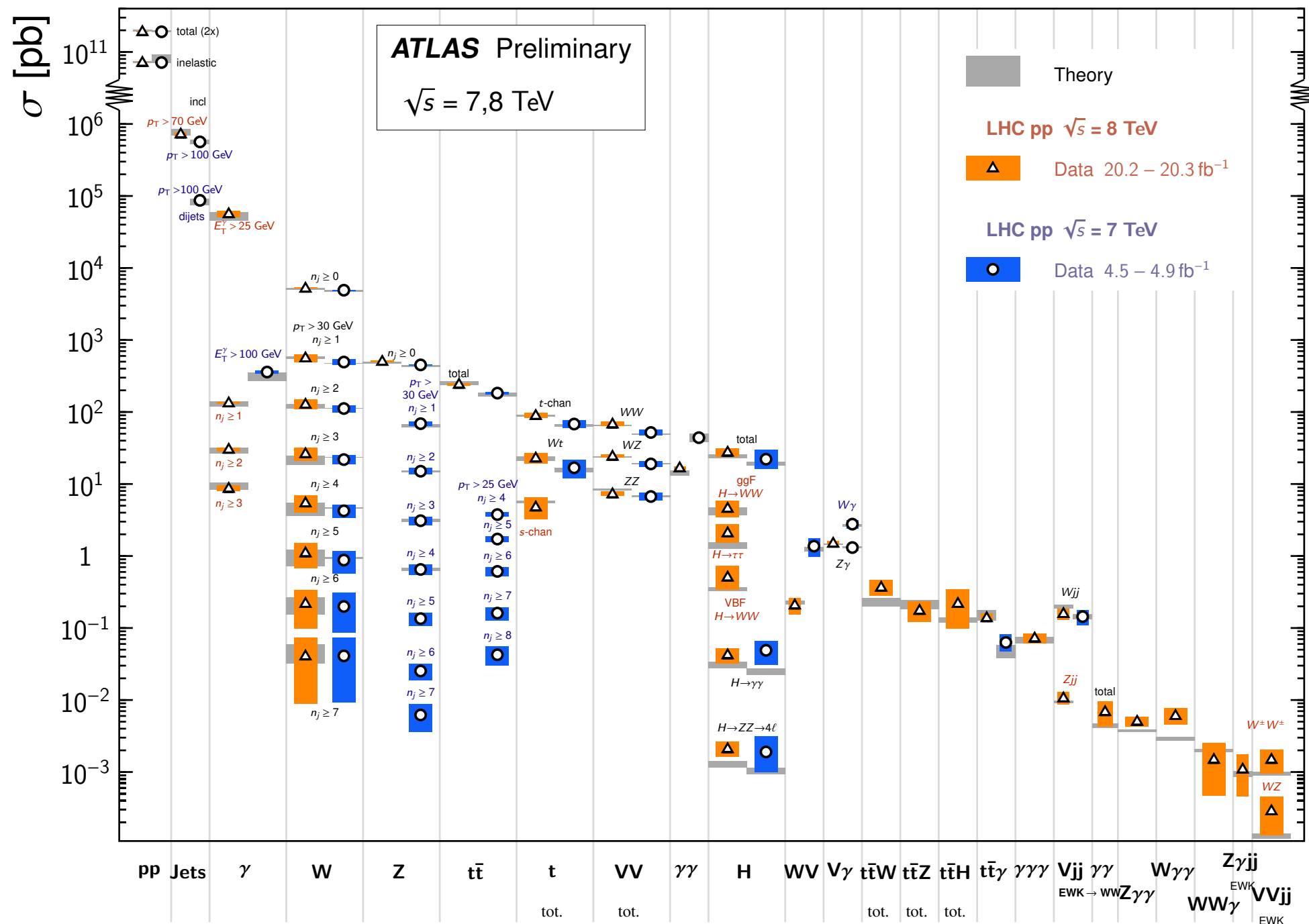


[S. Catani, S.D., M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, J. Mazzitelli, H. Sargsyan: 2019]

INTRODUCTION

Standard Model Production Cross Section Measurements

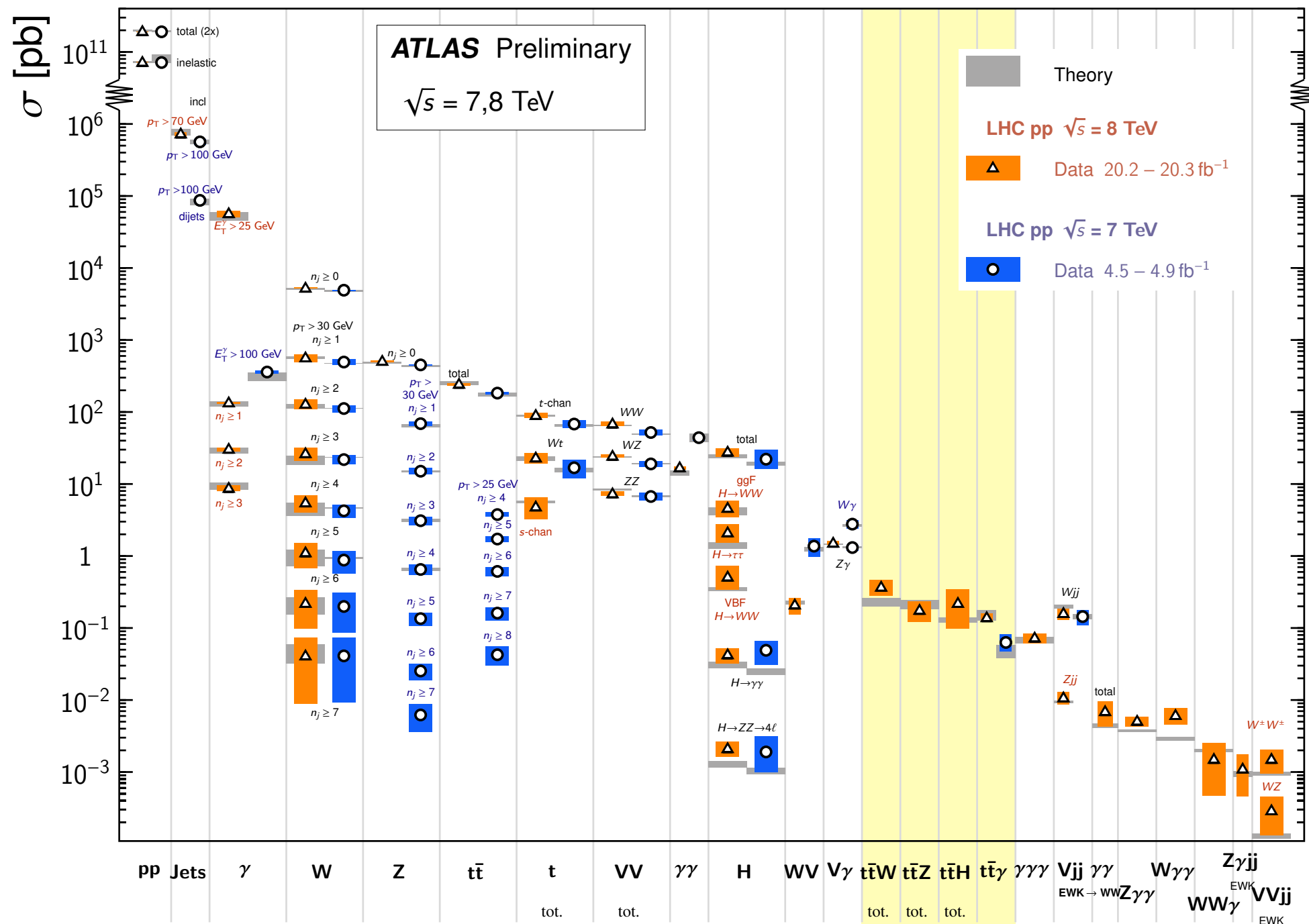
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INTRODUCTION

Standard Model Production Cross Section Measurements

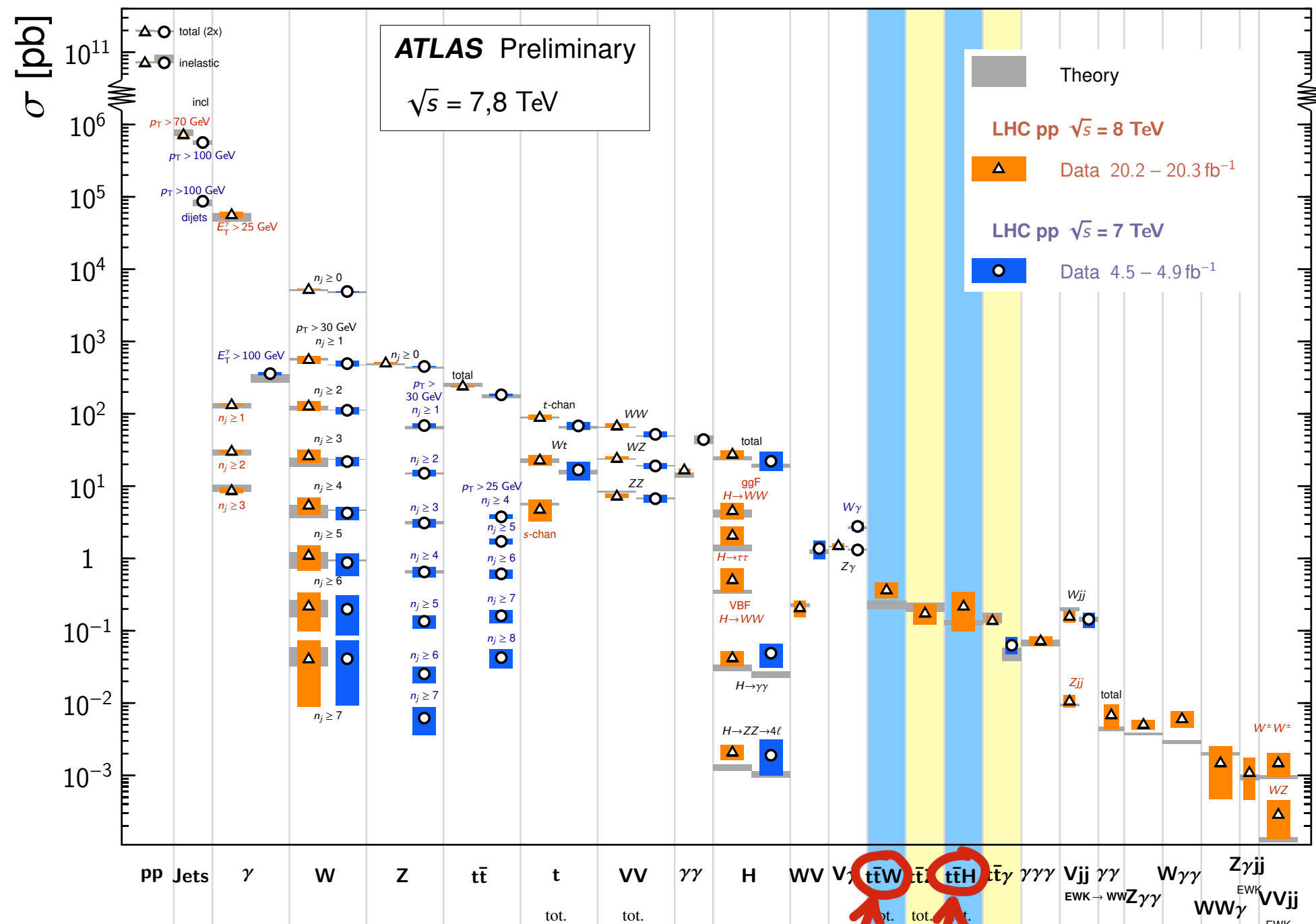
Status: February 2022



INTRODUCTION

Standard Model Production Cross Section Measurements

Status: February 2022



This talk!

THE TOP QUARK

The **top quark** is the **heaviest** particle in the Standard Model: $m_t \simeq 173 \text{ GeV}$.

1	2															17	18
1 H Hydrogen 1.008																2 He Helium 4.003	
3 Li Lithium 6.941	4 Be Beryllium 9.012															9 F Fluorine 18.998	10 Ne Neon 20.180
11 Na Sodium 22.990	12 Mg Magnesium 24.305															17 Cl Chlorine 35.453	18 Ar Argon 39.948
19 K Potassium 39.098	20 Ca Calcium 40.078	21 Sc Scandium 44.956	22 Ti Titanium 47.867	23 V Vanadium 50.942	24 Cr Chromium 51.996	25 Mn Manganese 54.938	26 Fe Iron 55.845	27 Co Cobalt 58.933	28 Ni Nickel 58.693	29 Cu Copper 63.546	30 Zn Zinc 65.38	31 Ga Gallium 69.723	32 Ge Germanium 72.631	33 As Arsenic 74.922	34 Se Selenium 78.971	35 Br Bromine 79.904	36 Kr Krypton 83.798
37 Rb Rubidium 85.468	38 Sr Strontium 87.62	39 Y Yttrium 88.906	40 Zr Zirconium 91.224	41 Nb Niobium 92.906	42 Mo Molybdenum 95.95	43 Tc Technetium 98.907	44 Ru Ruthenium 101.07	45 Rh Rhodium 102.906	46 Pd Palladium 106.42	47 Ag Silver 107.868	48 Cd Cadmium 112.414	49 In Indium 114.818	50 Sn Tin 118.711	51 Sb Antimony 121.760	52 Te Tellurium 127.6	53 I Iodine 126.904	54 Xe Xenon 131.293
55 Cs Cesium 132.905	56 Ba Barium 137.328	57-71 Lanthanoids	72 Hf Hafnium 178.49	73 Ta Tantalum 180.948	74 W Tungsten 183.84	75 Re Rhenium 186.207	76 Os Osmium 190.23	77 Ir Iridium 192.217	78 Pt Platinum 195.085	79 Au Gold 196.967	80 Hg Mercury 200.592	81 Tl Thallium 204.383	82 Pb Lead 207.2	83 Bi Bismuth 208.980	84 Po Polonium [208.982]	85 At Astatine 209.987	86 Rn Radon 222.018
87 Fr Francium 223.020	88 Ra Radium 226.025	89-103 Actinoids	104 Rf Rutherfordium [261]	105 Db Dubnium [262]	106 Sg Seaborgium [266]	107 Bh Bohrium [264]	108 Hs Hassium [269]	109 Mt Meitnerium [278]	110 Ds Darmstadtium [281]	111 Rg Roentgenium [280]	112 Cn Copernicium [285]	113 Nh Nihonium [286]	114 Fl Flerovium [289]	115 Mc Moscovium [289]	116 Lv Livermorium [293]	117 Ts Tennessine [294]	118 Og Oganesson [294]

Number

Symbol

Name

Atomic Mass

57 La Lanthanum 138.905	58 Ce Cerium 140.116	59 Pr Praseodymium 140.908	60 Nd Neodymium 144.243	61 Pm Promethium 144.913	62 Sm Samarium 150.36	63 Eu Europium 151.964	64 Gd Gadolinium 157.25	65 Tb Terbium 158.925	66 Dy Dysprosium 162.500	67 Ho Holmium 164.930	68 Er Erbium 167.259	69 Tm Thulium 168.934	70 Yb Ytterbium 173.055	71 Lu Lutetium 174.967
89 Ac Actinium 227.028	90 Th Thorium 232.038	91 Pa Protactinium 231.036	92 U Uranium 238.029	93 Np Neptunium 237.048	94 Pu Plutonium 244.064	95 Am Americium 243.061	96 Cm Curium 247.070	97 Bk Berkelium 247.070	98 Cf Californium 251.080	99 Es Einsteinium [254]	100 Fm Fermium 257.095	101 Md Mendelevium 258.1	102 No Nobelium 259.101	103 Lr Lawrencium [262]

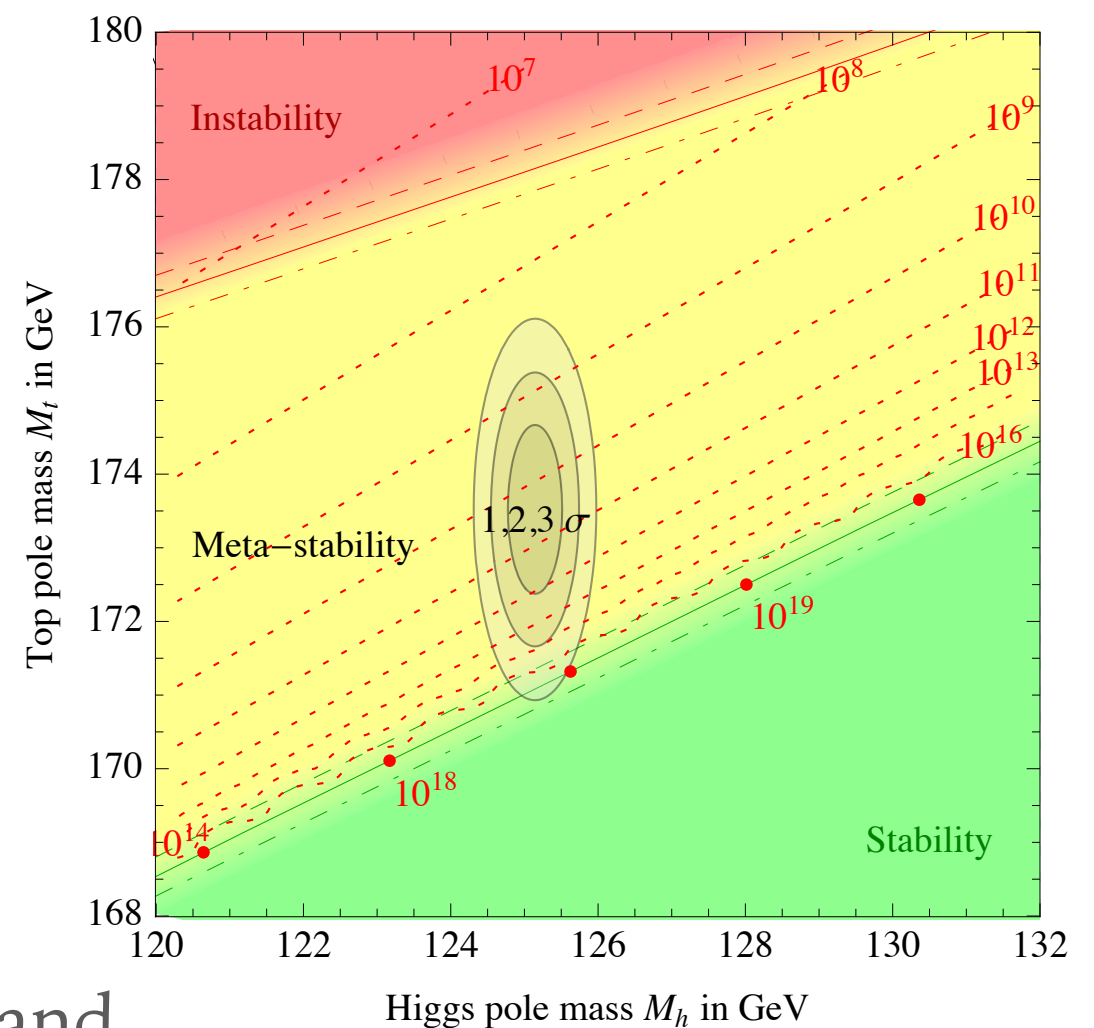
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THE TOP QUARK

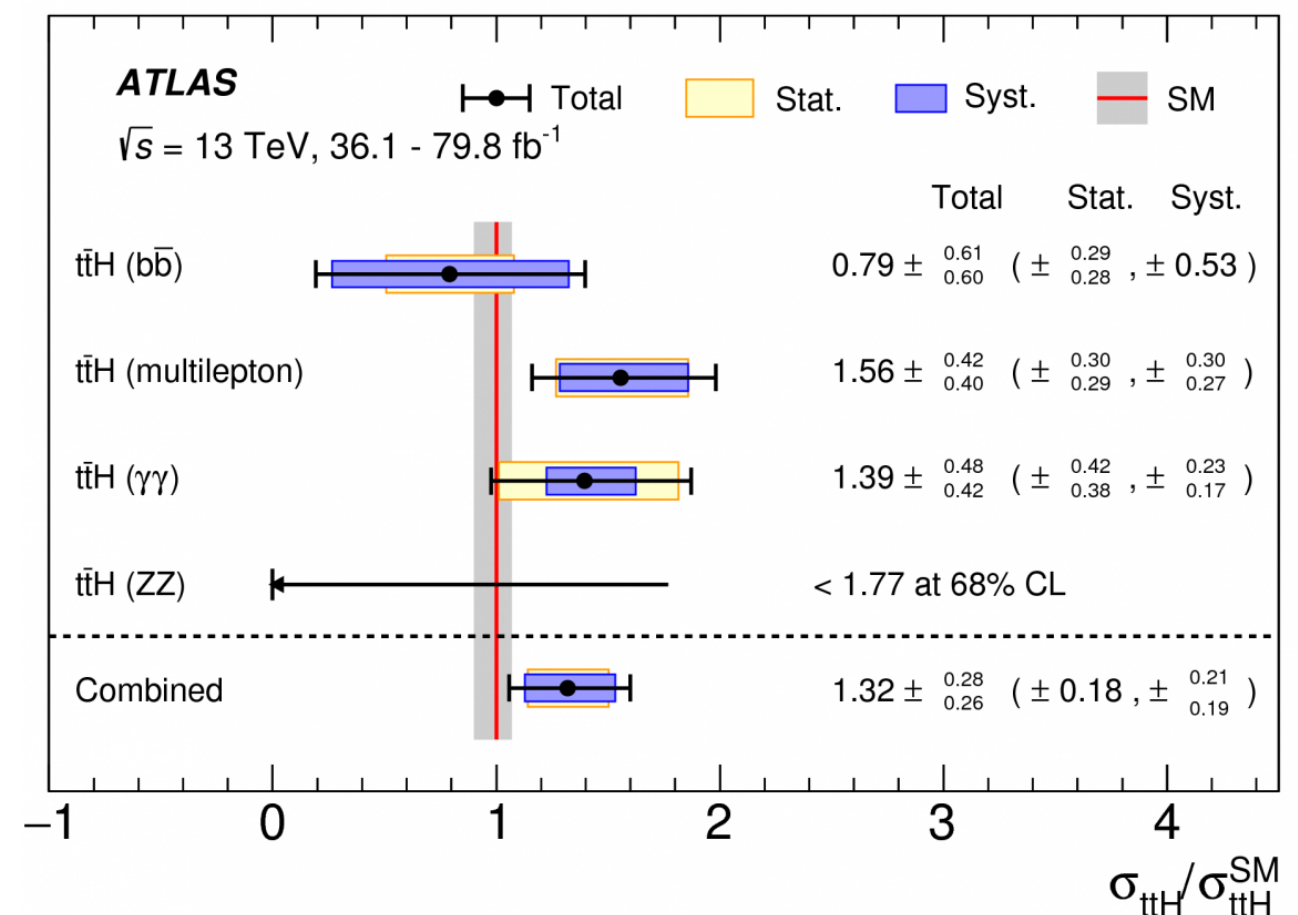
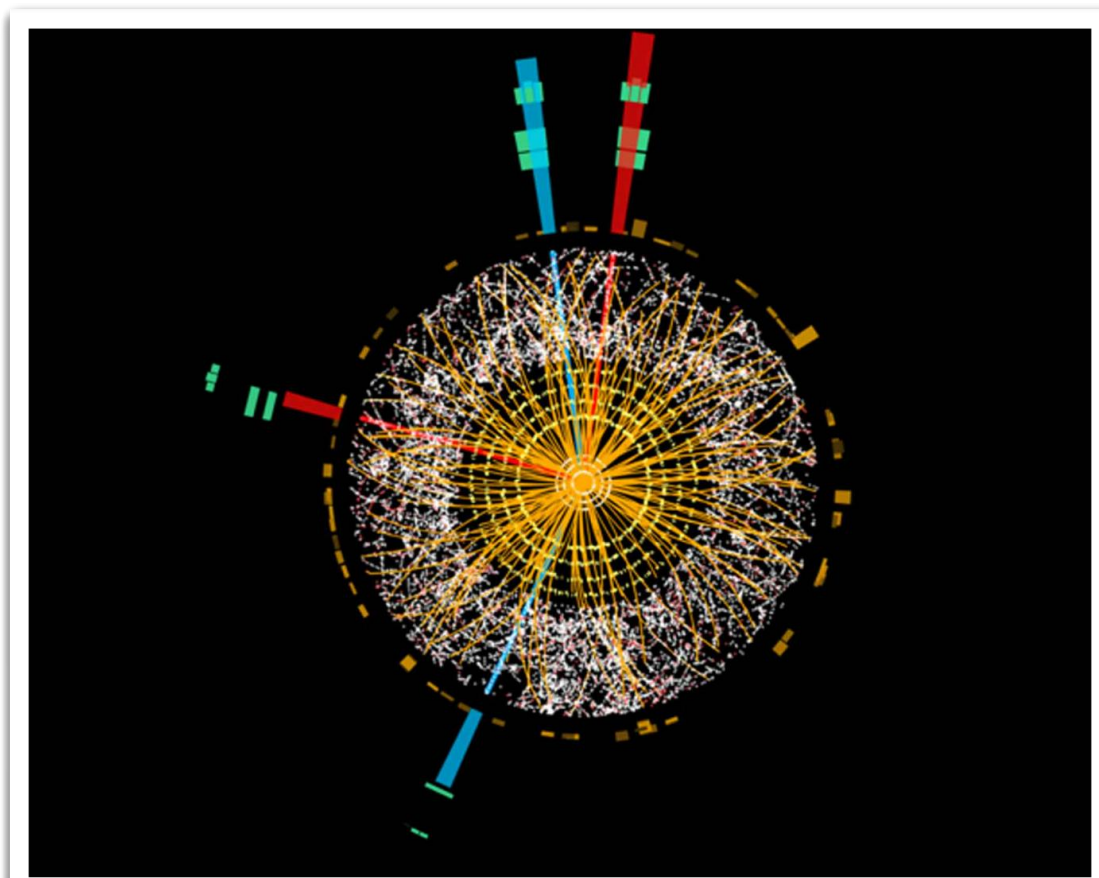
The Top Quark plays a major role both in Standard Model studies and Beyond the Standards Model searches!

- Has a strong coupling with the **Higgs boson**;
- The top mass is a **fundamental parameter** of the Standard Model;
- The value of the top mass plays a key role in **vacuum stability**;
- The top mass is a **standard candle** at LHC;
- possible window on **New Physics**;
- **Important background** both for SM and BSM studies.



INTRODUCTION ($t\bar{t}H$)

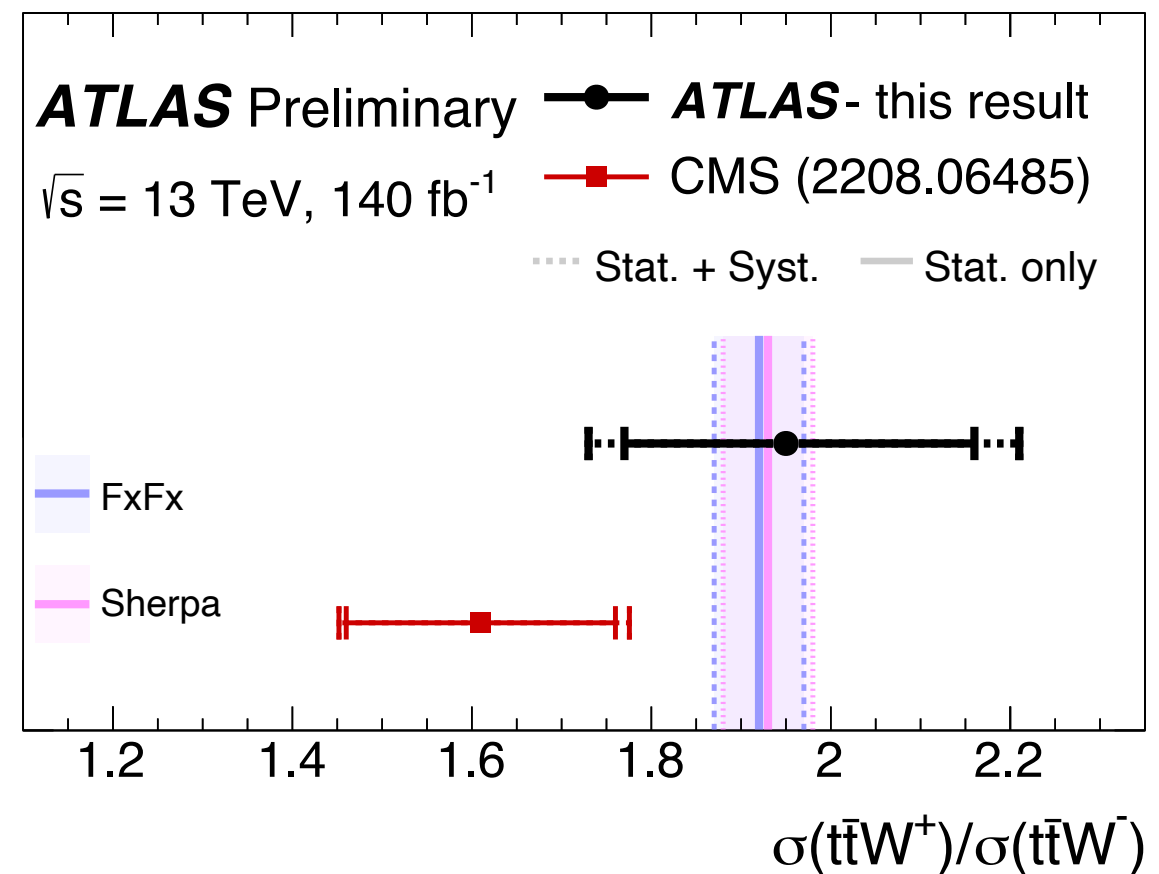
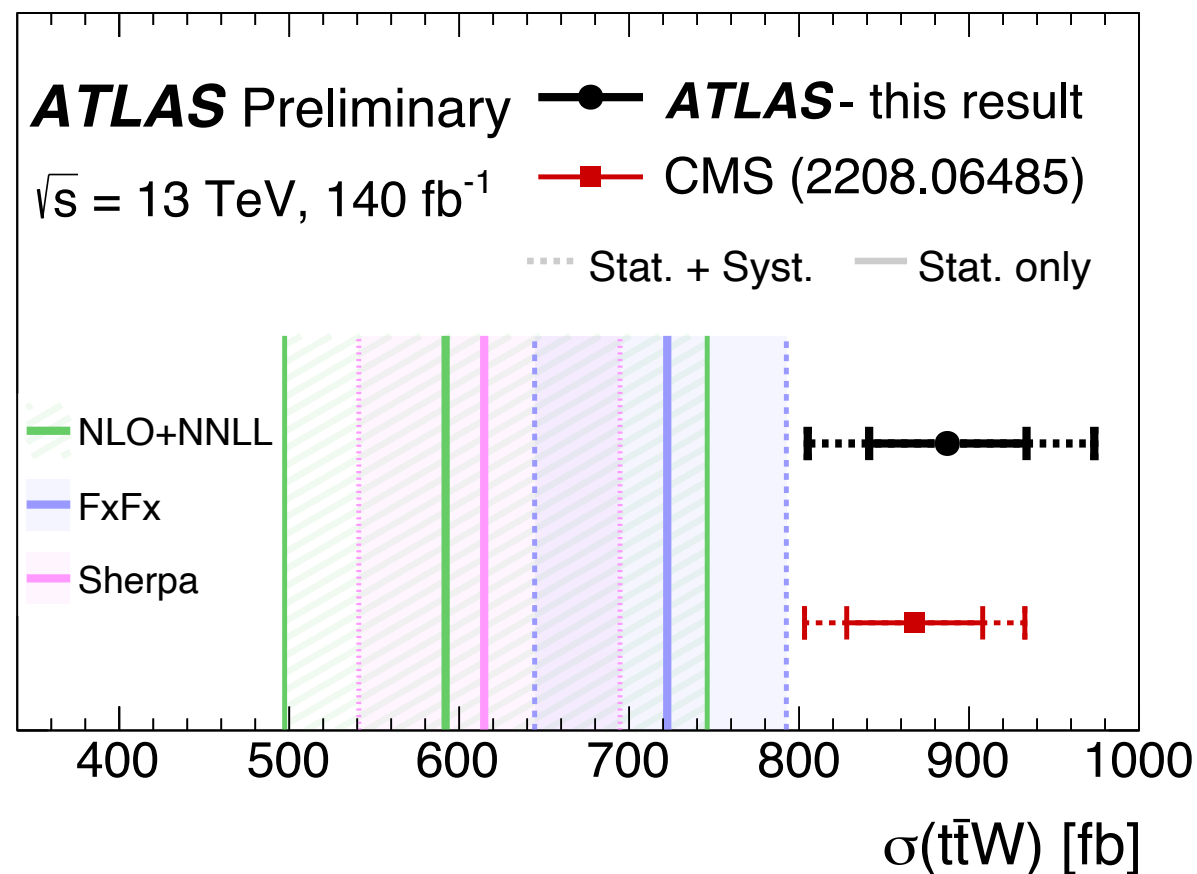
- The **discovery of the Higgs boson** in 2012 confirmed one of the most glaring predictions of the Standard Model.
- The **study of the Higgs boson** properties is one of the priorities of LHC.
- Special role played by the **top quark**: strong coupling because of the top mass!
- $t\bar{t}H$ production allows direct measurement of the **top-quark Yukawa coupling**! (possible window on new physics scenarios...)



[M.Cepeda et al.: arXiv 1902.00134]

INTRODUCTION ($t\bar{t}W$)

- Together with $t\bar{t}H$ production, one of the **most massive** Standard Model (SM) signatures accessible at the LHC;
- Relevant as a $t\bar{t}H$ **background**;
- Measurements carried out by the ATLAS and CMS collaborations lead to rates consistently **higher than the SM predictions**;
- Most recent measurements confirm excess at the **2σ level**.



[ATLAS-CONF-2023-019]

STATUS OVERVIEW ($t\bar{t}H$)

THEORY

► NLO QCD:

[W. Beenakker, S. Dittmaier, M. Krämer, B. Plumper, M. Spira, and P. Zerwas; 0107081, 0211352], [L. Reina and S. Dawson; 0107101], [L. Reina, S. Dawson, and D. Wackeroth; 0109066], [S. Dawson, L. Orr, L. Reina, and D. Wackeroth; 0211438], [S. Dawson, C. Jackson, L. Orr, L. Reina, and D. Wackeroth; 0305087], [A. Denner and R. Feger, 1506.07448];

► NLO EW:

[S. Frixione, V. Hirschi, D. Pagani, H. Shao, and M. Zaro; 1407.0823, 1504.03446], [Y. Zhang, W.-G. Ma, R.-Y. Zhang, C. Chen, and L. Guo; 1407.1110];

► NLO QCD + EW:

[A. Denner, JN. Lang, M. Pellen, and S. Uccirati; 1612.07138];

► Resummation of soft gluons:

[A. Kulesza, L. Motyka, T. Stebel, and V. Theeuwes; 1509.02780, 1704.03363], [A. Broggio, A. Ferroglia, B. D. Pecjak, A. Signer, and L. L. Yang; 1510.01914], [A. Broggio, A. Ferroglia, B. D. Pecjak, and L. L. Yang; 1611.00049], [A. Broggio, A. Ferroglia, R. Frederix, D. Pagani, B. D. Pecjak, and I. Tsinikos; 1907.04343], [W.-L. Ju and L. L. Yang; 1904.08744], [A. Kulesza, L. Motyka, D. Schwartzländer, T. Stebel, and V. Theeuwes; 2001.03031]

► First steps to NNLO: off-diagonal channels [S. Catani, I. Fabre, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit; 2102.03256]

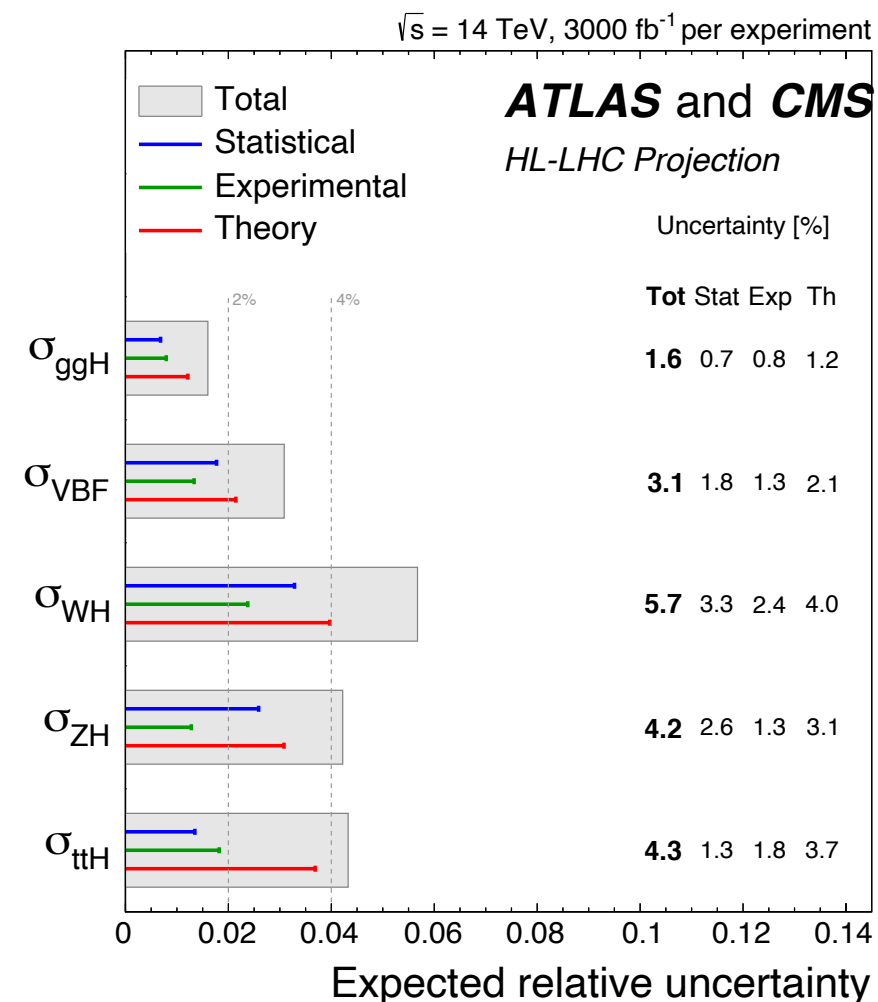
Current theoretical uncertainties $\mathcal{O}(10\%)$

EXPERIMENTS



► ATLAS collaboration: [1806.00425];

► CMS collaboration: [1804.02610].



Current experimental uncertainties $\mathcal{O}(20\%)$
Expected at the end of HL-LHC $\mathcal{O}(2\%)$

STATUS OVERVIEW ($t\bar{t}W$)

THEORY

► NLO QCD:

[S. Badger, J. M. Campbell, R. K. Ellis, 1011.6647], [J. M. Campbell, R. K. Ellis, 1204.5678], [A. Denner, G. Pelliccioli, 2102.03264];

► NLO QCD with light jet:

[G. Bevilacqua, H. Y. Bi, F. Febres Cordero, H. B. Hartanto, M. Kraus, J. Nasufi, L. Reina, and M. Worek, 2109.1581, 2305.03802]

► NLO QCD + EW:

[S. Frixione, V. Hirschi, D. Pagani, H. S. Shao, M. Zaro, 1504.03446], [R. Frederix, D. Pagani, M. Zaro, 1711.02116], [Denner, Pelliccioli, 2020]

► Resummation of soft gluons:

[H. T. Li, C. S. Li, S. A. Li, 1409.1460] [A. Broggio, G. Ferroglia, G. Ossola, B. D. Pecjak, 1607.05303], [A. Kulesza, L. Motyka, D. Schwartzlaender, T. Stebel, V. Theeuwes, 1812.08662]

► NLO QCD + EW (on-shell) predictions supplemented with multi-jet merging as la FxFx: [R. Frederix, S. Frixione, 1209.6215] [R. Frederix, I. Tsinikos, 2108.07862]

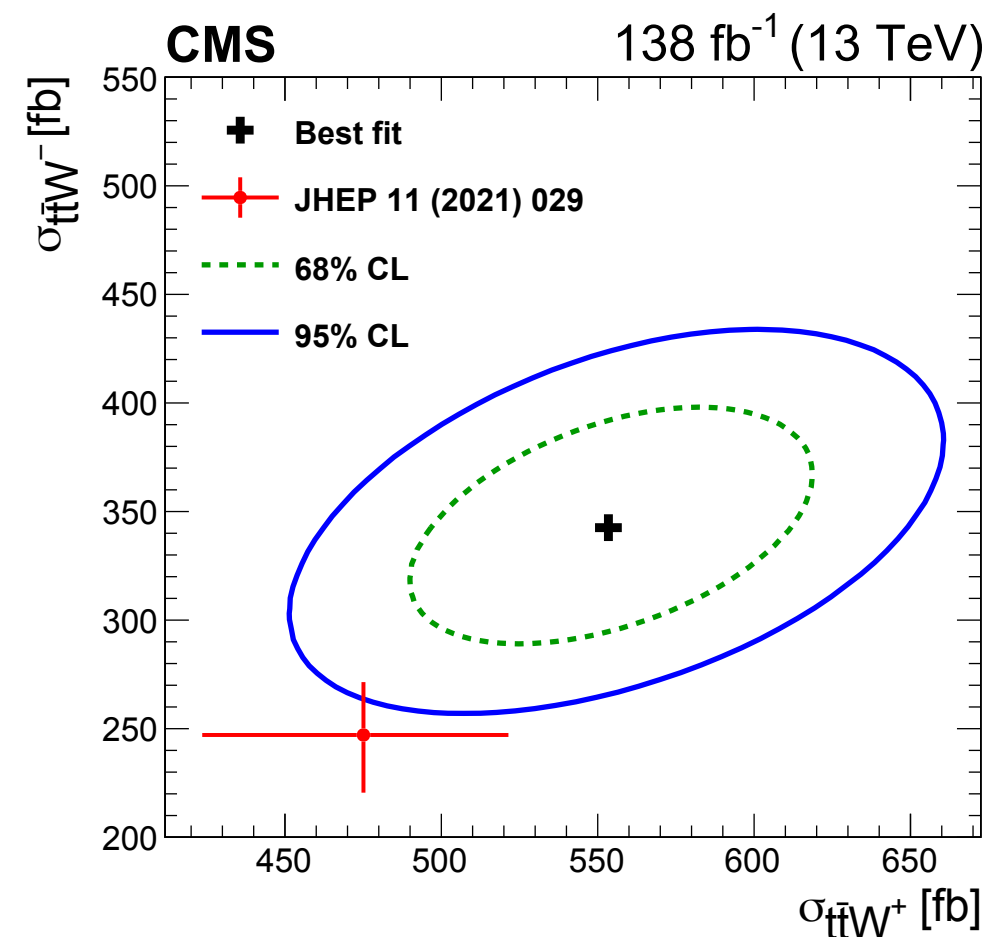
Current theoretical uncertainties $\mathcal{O}(10\%)$

EXPERIMENTS

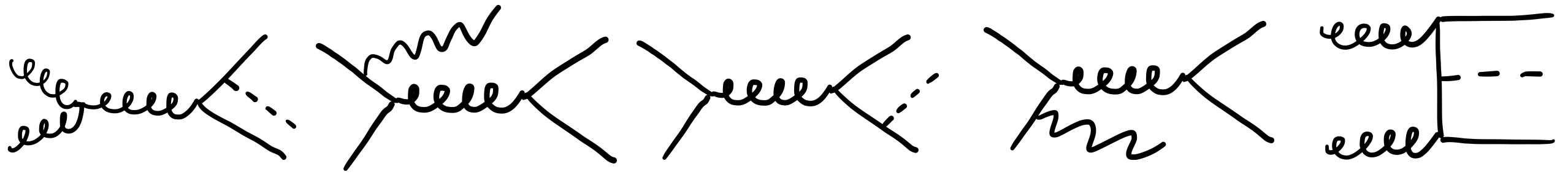


► ATLAS collaboration: [ATLAS-CONF-2023-019];

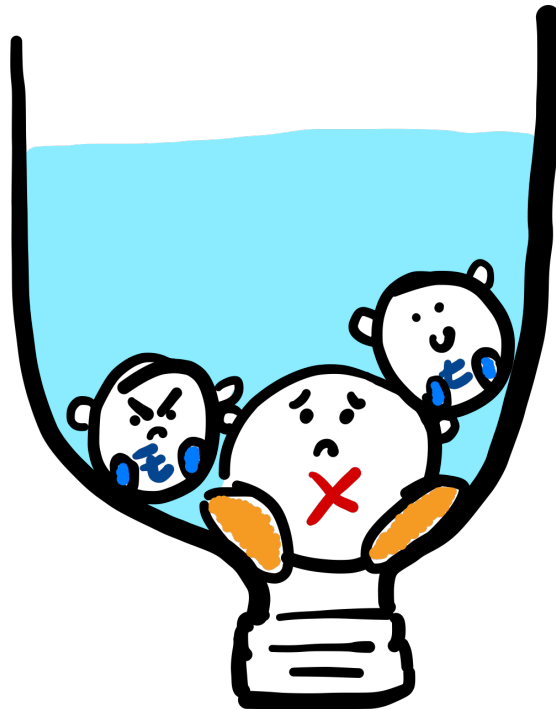
► CMS collaboration: [2208.06485].



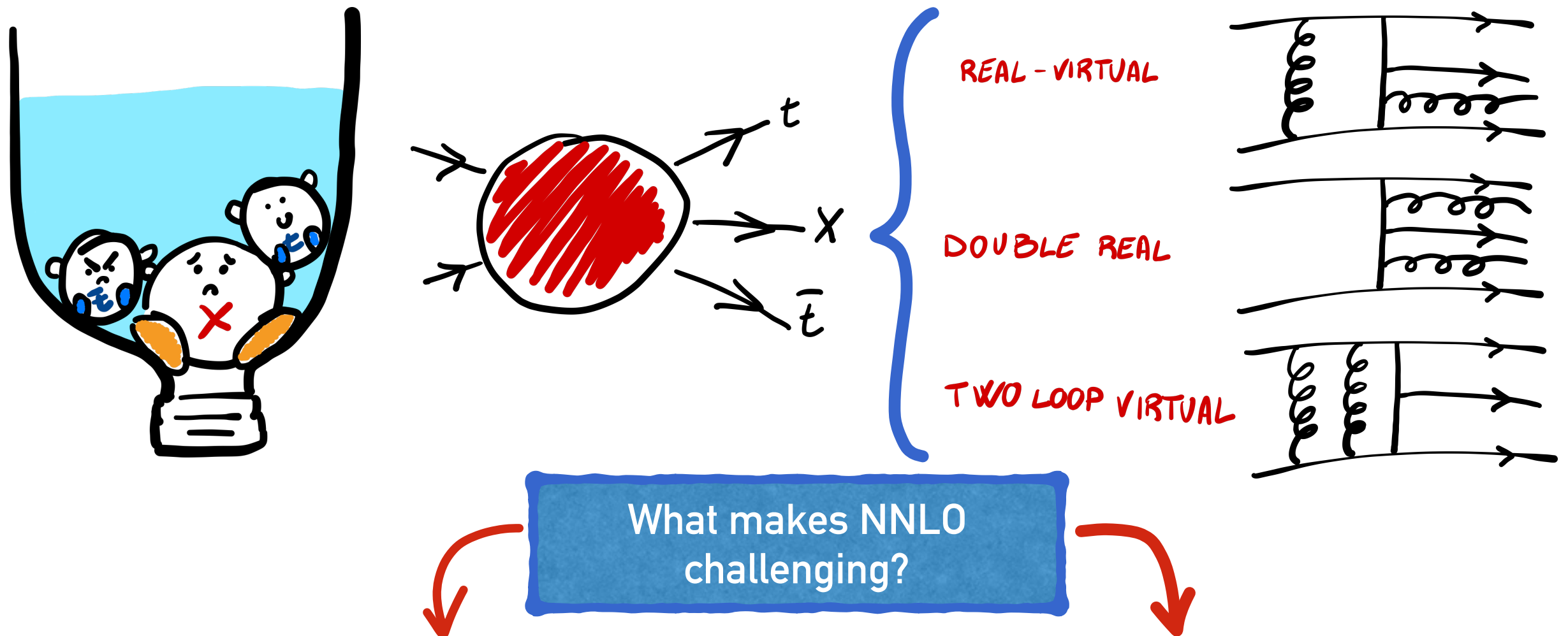
Theory-experiment tension at 2σ level;
Explained by higher order corrections?



THEORETICAL CHALLENGES



THEORY BOTTLENECKS



Subtraction procedure

- We use **q_T -subtraction**;
- We **generalised** the method to this class of processes.

Two loop amplitudes

- Not known: current frontier!
[F. Febres Cordero, G. Figueiredo, M. Kraus, B. Page, L. Reina, 2312.08131], [B. Agarwal, G. Heinrich, S. P. Jones, M. Kerner, S. Y. Klein, J. Lang, V. Magerya, A. Olsson, 2402.03301]
- We developed **approximations**.

q_T SUBTRACTION FORMALISM

[S. Catani, M. Grazzini Phys.Rev.Lett. 98 (2007)]

$$d\sigma_{NNLO}^F = d\sigma_{NNLO}^F \Big|_{q_T=0} + d\sigma_{NNLO}^F \Big|_{q_T \neq 0}$$

$$d\sigma_{NLO}^{F+jets}$$

$$d\sigma_{NNLO}^F = \mathcal{H}_{NNLO}^F \otimes d\sigma_{LO}^F + \left[d\sigma_{NLO}^{F+jets} - d\sigma_{NLO}^{CT} \right]$$

HARD COLLINEAR COEFFICIENT

Contains information on virtual corrections to the process.

$$\mathcal{H}_{NNLO}^F = H^{(2)} \delta(1 - z_1) \delta(1 - z_2) + \delta \mathcal{H}^{(2)}$$

Contains the genuine **2-loop contribution**:

$$H^{(2)} = \frac{2 \operatorname{Re}(\mathcal{M}^{(2)}(\mu_{IR}, \mu_R) \mathcal{M}^{(0)})}{|\mathcal{M}^{(0)}|^2}$$

- APPROXIMATED -

Includes:

- one-loop squared contribution;
- **soft parton contribution.**

- EXACT -

SOFT PARTON CONTRIBUTION

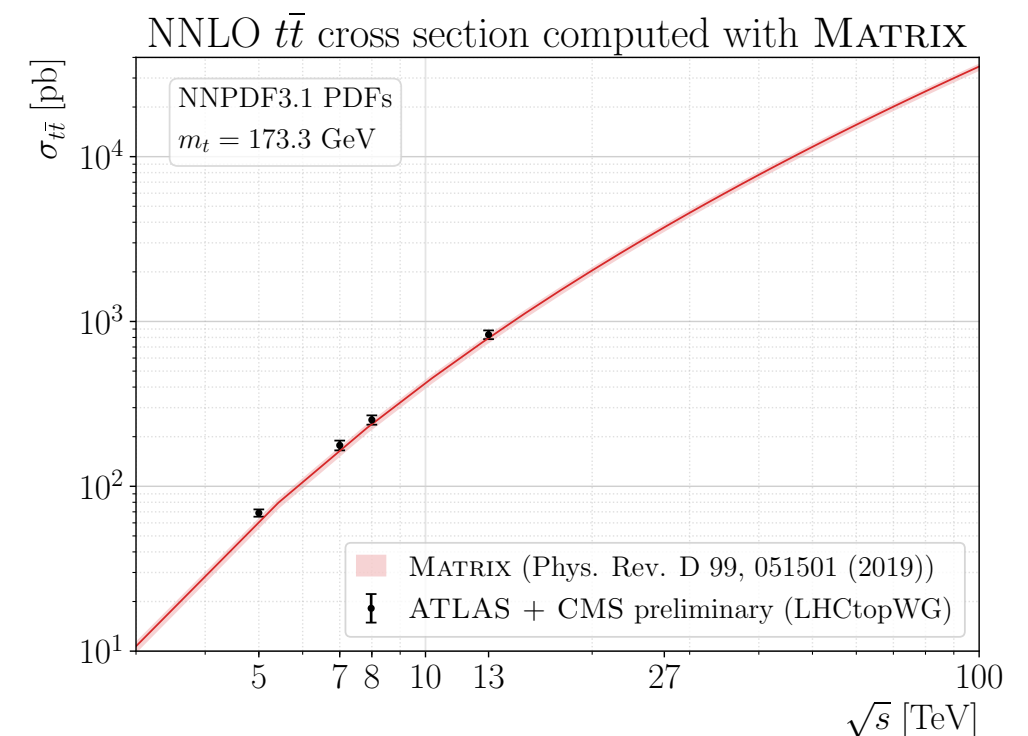
[S. Catani, SD, M. Grazzini, J. Mazzitelli: [2301.11786](#)
SD, J. Mazzitelli, In preparation]

The soft contribution from a massive final state was a key ingredient to extend q_T subtraction to a massive coloured final state.

Soft contributions to heavy-quark (Q) production

[S. Catani, SD, M. Grazzini, J. Mazzitelli: [2301.11786](#)]

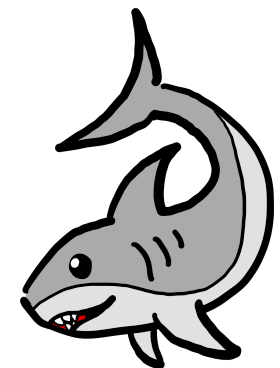
- Applied to top pair and bottom pair production: [S. Catani, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, J. Mazzitelli, H. Sargsyan: 2019, 2020];
- Mostly **analytic** expressions;
- Assumption of $Q\bar{Q}$ **back-to-back** at LO.



NEW: generalisation to $Q\bar{Q}F$ kinematics

[SD, J. Mazzitelli, IN PREPARATION]

- removed the back-to-back assumption;
- Extra contribution computed **numerically**;
- On-the-fly numerical integration implemented in a **library**: **SHARK**
Soft function for Heavy quark production in **AR**bitrary **K**inematics



2-LOOP CONTRIBUTION

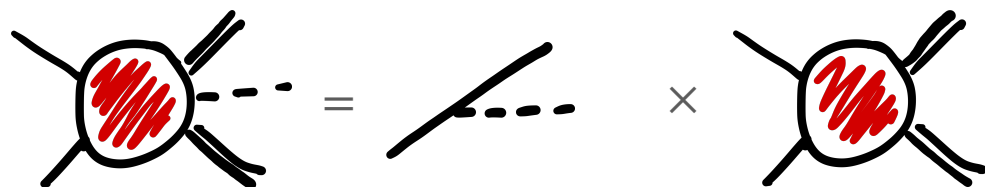
$$H_{t\bar{t}X}^{(2)} = \frac{2 \operatorname{Re} \left(\mathcal{M}_{t\bar{t}X}^{(2)}(\mu_{IR}, \mu_R) \mathcal{M}_{t\bar{t}X}^{(0)} \right)_{appr.}}{\left| \mathcal{M}_{t\bar{t}X}^{(0)} \right|_{appr.}^2}$$

subtraction scale μ_{IR}
(we use $\mu_{IR} = Q_{t\bar{t}H}$)

- We need to find an approximation of the virtual amplitude;
- We apply the approximation both on the numerator and denominator of $H_{t\bar{t}X}^{(2)}$: effectively a **reweighting**.

Two independent approximations

Soft approximation



- Captures the leading behaviour when the energy and **mass of the associated boson** are smaller than the other relevant scales

Massification procedure



- Captures the leading behaviour when the **mass of the top pair** are smaller than the other relevant scales

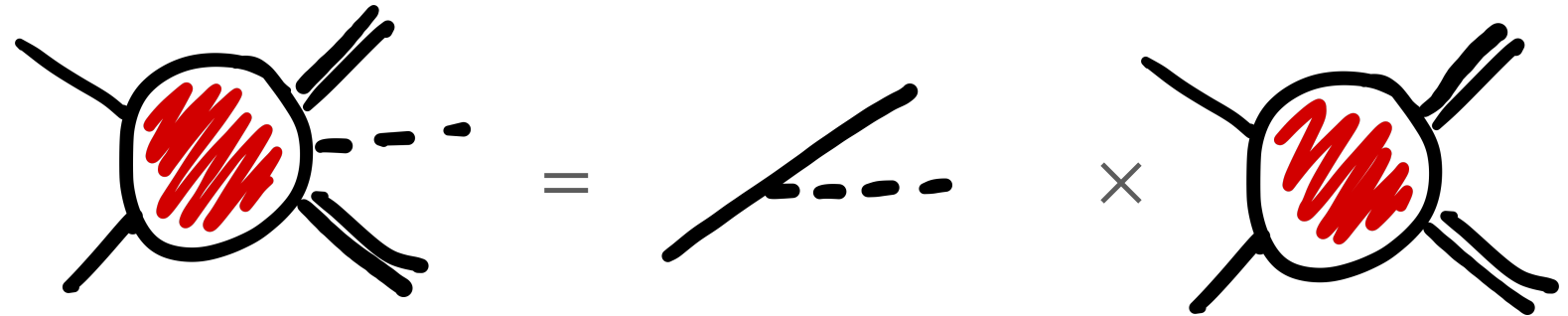
SOFT APPROXIMATION

[S. Catani, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, C. Savoini: 2210.07846]

Process: $c(p_1) + \bar{c}(p_2) \rightarrow t(p_3) + \bar{t}(p_4) + X(k)$

Soft approximation:

$$k \rightarrow 0, \quad m_X \ll m_t$$



$$\mathcal{M}_{q\bar{q}' \rightarrow t\bar{t}H}(\{p_i\}, k) \simeq F(\alpha_S(\mu_R); m_t/\mu_R) \frac{m_t}{v} \sum_{i=3,4} \frac{m_t}{p_i \cdot k} \mathcal{M}_{q\bar{q}' \rightarrow t\bar{t}}(\{p_i\})$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{q\bar{q}' \rightarrow t\bar{t}W}(\{p_i\}, k) \simeq \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{p_2 \cdot \varepsilon^*(k)}{p_2 \cdot k} - \frac{p_1 \cdot \varepsilon^*(k)}{p_1 \cdot k} \right) \mathcal{M}_{q_L\bar{q}_R' \rightarrow t\bar{t}}(\{p_i\})$$

- The formula captures the leading behaviour in the **soft limit** $k \rightarrow 0$: the emission from highly **off-shell top propagators** is **not captured**.
- The formula can be obtained both from the **eikonal approximation** and the **low energy theorems**;
- To use the approximation, we need a **recoil prescription** to map the $t\bar{t}X$ kinematics into a $t\bar{t}$ kinematics ($Q_{t\bar{t}X} \rightarrow Q_{t\bar{t}}$);

MASSIFICATION PROCEDURE

[A. A. Penin: 0508127]

[A. Mitov, S. Moch: 0612149]

[T. Becher and K. Melnikov: 0704:3582]

Process: $c(p_1) + \bar{c}(p_2) \rightarrow t(p_3) + \bar{t}(p_4) + X(k)$

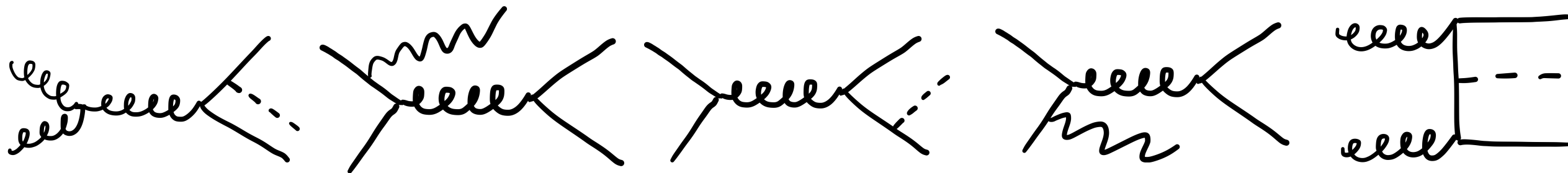
Massification procedure:

$$m_t \ll Q$$



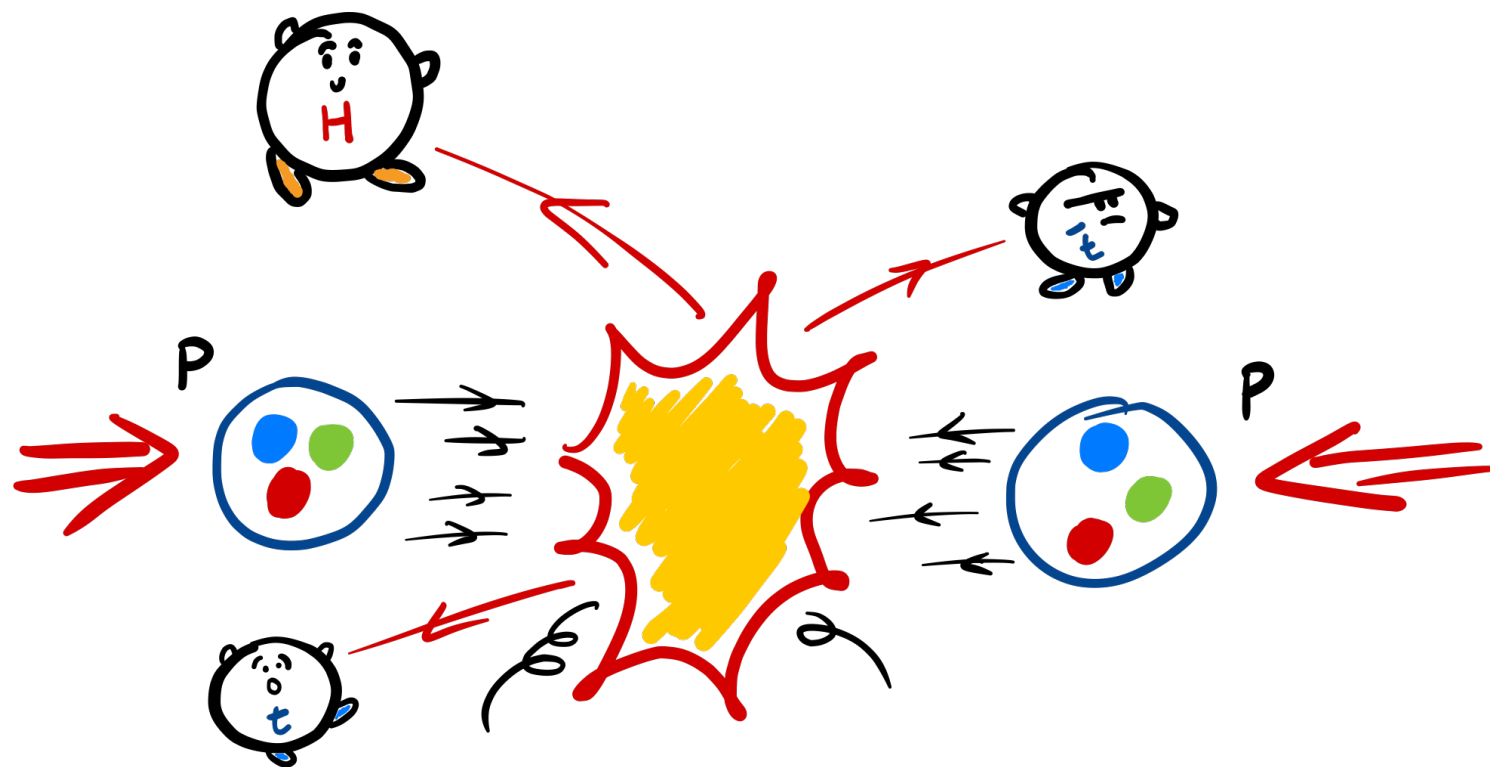
$$\mathcal{M}(\{p_i\}, k; \mu_R, \epsilon) \sim Z_{[q]}^{(m_t|0)} \left(\alpha_S(\mu_R), \frac{m_t}{\mu_R}, \epsilon \right) \mathcal{M}^{m_t=0}(\{p_i\}, k; \mu_R, \epsilon)$$

- The perturbative factor $Z_{[q]}^{(m_t|0)}$ was computed in [A. Mitov, S. Moch: 0612149];
- The procedure retrieves the correct **mass logarithms**;
- The contribution from **massive top loops** is **not captured**;
- Successfully employed to derive and cross check results for $q\bar{q} \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$ and $gg \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$ amplitudes [M. Czakon, A. Mitov, S. Moch: 0705.1975];
- Successfully applied to $b\bar{b}W$ production [L. Buonocore, SD, S. Kallweit, J. Mazzitelli, L. Rottoli, C. Savoini: 2212.04954].



$t\bar{t}H$ PRODUCTION

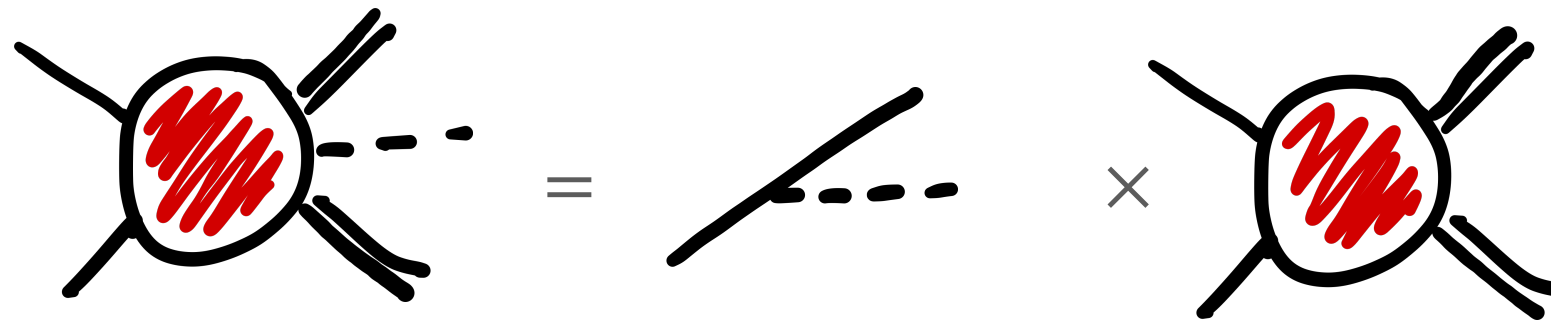
[[ArXiv:2210.07846](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.07846)]



CHOICE OF THE APPROXIMATION

[S. Catani, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, C. Savoini: 2210.07846]

- Amplitudes for the process $c\bar{c} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ available [Czakon (2008); Barnreuther et al. (2013)]: **we can use the soft approximation.**



$$\mathcal{M}_{q\bar{q}' \rightarrow t\bar{t}H}(\{p_i\}, k) \simeq F(\alpha_S(\mu_R); m_t/\mu_R) \frac{m_t}{v} \sum_{i=3,4} \frac{m_t}{p_i \cdot k} \mathcal{M}_{q\bar{q}' \rightarrow t\bar{t}}(\{p_i\})$$

- The perturbative function $F(\alpha_S(\mu_R); m_t/\mu_R)$ is an **effective coupling** which also takes into account the **renormalisation** of the mass and of the wave function;
- To map the $t\bar{t}H$ kinematics into a $t\bar{t}$ kinematics ($Q_{t\bar{t}H} \rightarrow Q_{t\bar{t}}$), we use the **q_T recoil prescription**:
- We reabsorb the Higgs momentum equally in the initial-state parton momenta;
 - We leave unchanged the top and anti-top momenta.

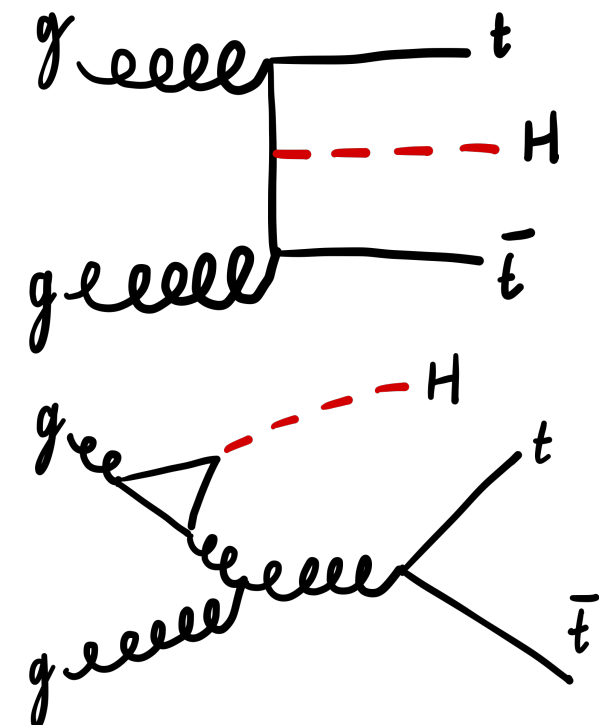
TESTING THE APPROXIMATION

[S. Catani, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, C. Savoini: [2210.07846](#)]

To **validate** our procedure: test the approximation at NLO!

$\Delta\sigma_{\text{NLO,H}}[\text{fb}]$	13 TeV		100 TeV	
	gg	$q\bar{q}$	gg	$q\bar{q}$
Exact	88.62	7.826	8205	217.0
Soft Approximation	61.92	7.413	5612	206.0
Difference	30.1%	5.27%	31.6%	5.06 %

- Deviation w.r.t. exact computation is about **30%** for the **gg channel** and **5%** for the **$q\bar{q}$ channel**;
- Deviation **independent** of kinematic variables;
- **Better agreement** for $q\bar{q}$ channel can be explained by the presence, both at LO and NLO, of diagrams where a **Higgs boson is radiated from a virtual top** only present in the gg channel.



UNCERTAINTIES ESTIMATION

[S. Catani, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, C. Savoini: 2210.07846]

How to estimate the NNLO uncertainties?

- We use the **deviation from the exact results at NLO** as a **lower bound** on the NNLO uncertainty;
- We multiply by a **tolerance factor** of **3**;
- We combined **linearly** the uncertainty for the gg and $q\bar{q}$ channel;

How to test the NNLO uncertainties?

- Check the effect of using **different recoil prescription**;
- Check the effect of using a **different subtraction scales** $\mu_{IR} \rightarrow 2\mu_{IR}$,
 $\mu_{IR} \rightarrow 1/2\mu_{IR}$.

Final uncertainty:

• $\pm 15\%$ on $\Delta\sigma_{\text{NNLO}}$

• $\pm 0.6\%$ on σ_{NNLO}

Effect on the total cross section modulated by the (small) contribution of the hard factor: about **1%** of the LO cross section in the gg and **2-3%** in the $q\bar{q}$ channel.

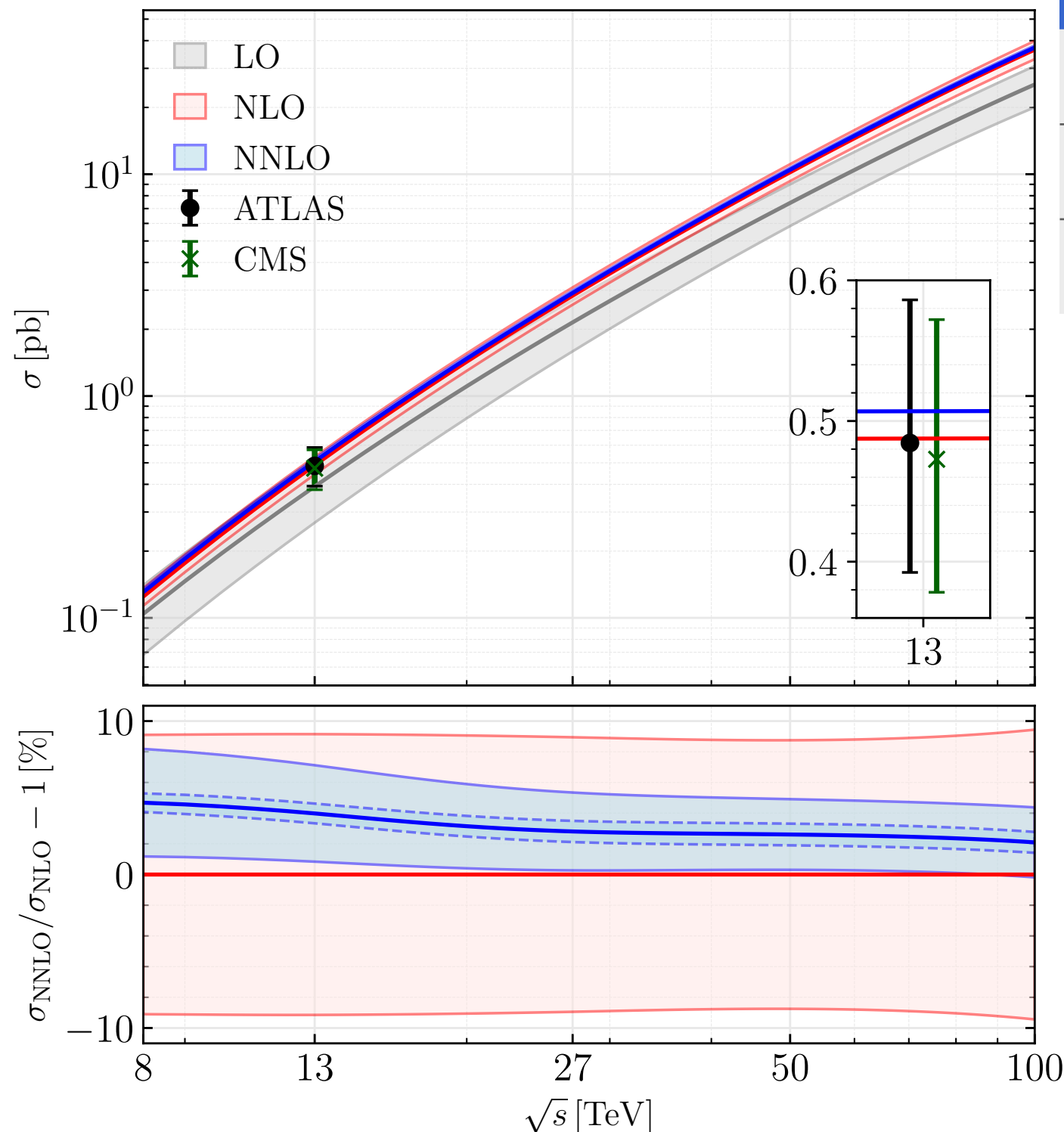
RESULTS

[S. Catani, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, C. Savoini: [2210.07846](#)]

PDF set: NNLO NNPDF31 $m_H=125$ GeV, $m_t=173.3$ GeV

$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$

$\mu_R = \mu_F = m_t + m_H/2$

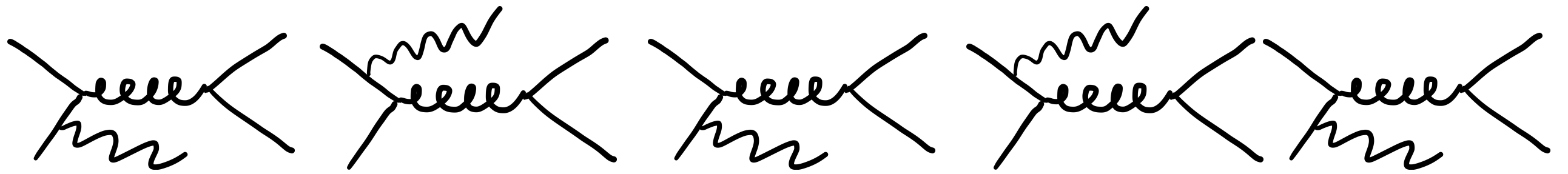


σ [pb]	13 TeV	100 TeV
σ_{LO}	$0.3910^{+31.3\%}_{-22.2\%}$	$25.38^{+21.1\%}_{-16.0\%}$
σ_{NLO}	$0.4875^{+5.6\%}_{-9.1\%}$	$36.43^{+9.4\%}_{-8.7\%}$
σ_{NNLO}	$0.5070(31)^{+0.9\%}_{-3.0\%}$	$37.20(25)^{+0.1\%}_{-2.2\%}$

Numerical + soft Higgs
uncertainties

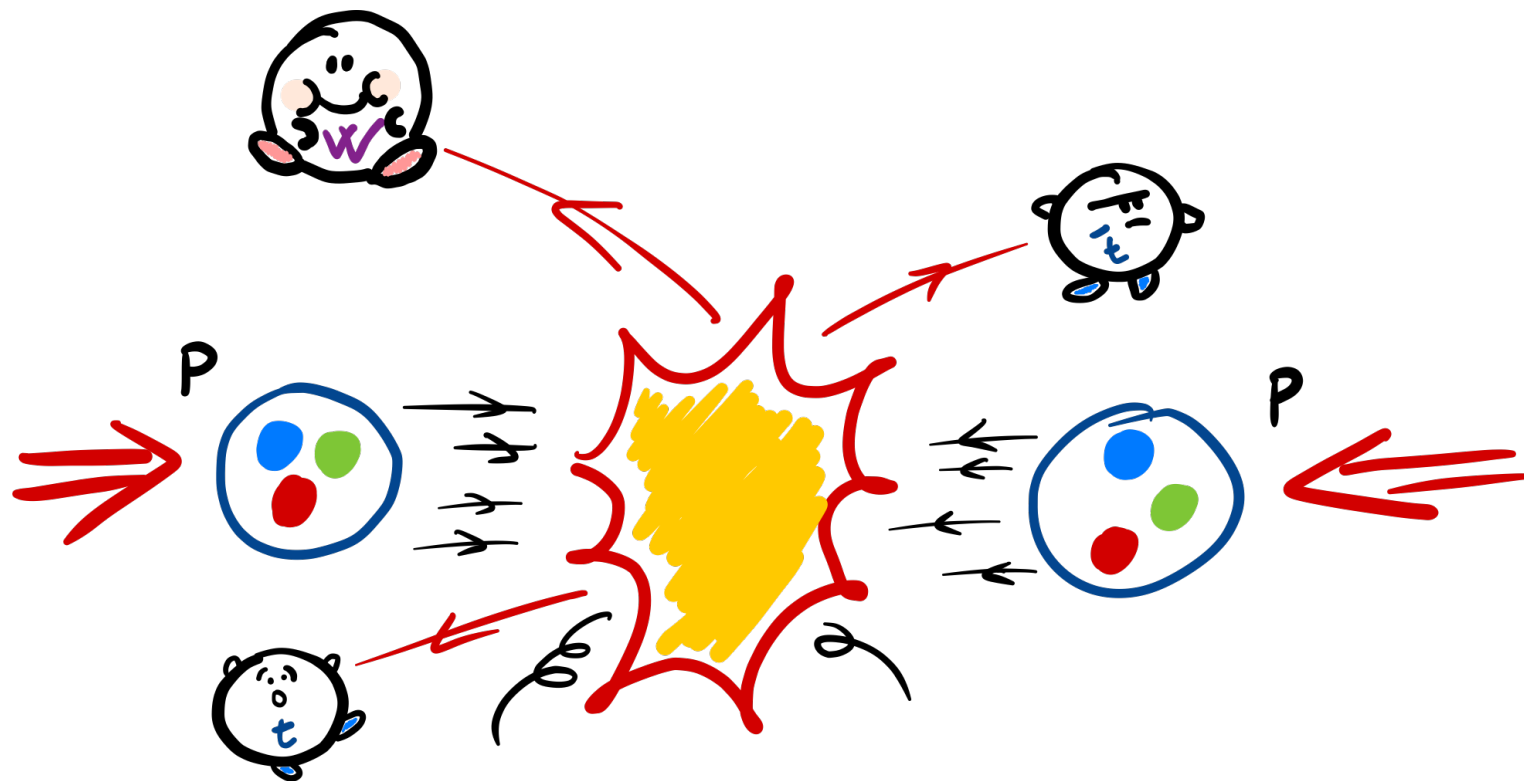
Scale uncertainties

- **NNLO corrections: +4%** (13 TeV), **+2%** (100 TeV);
- Reduction of **scale uncertainties**;
- Soft approximation uncertainty significantly **smaller** than remaining perturbative uncertainties.



$t\bar{t}W$ PRODUCTION

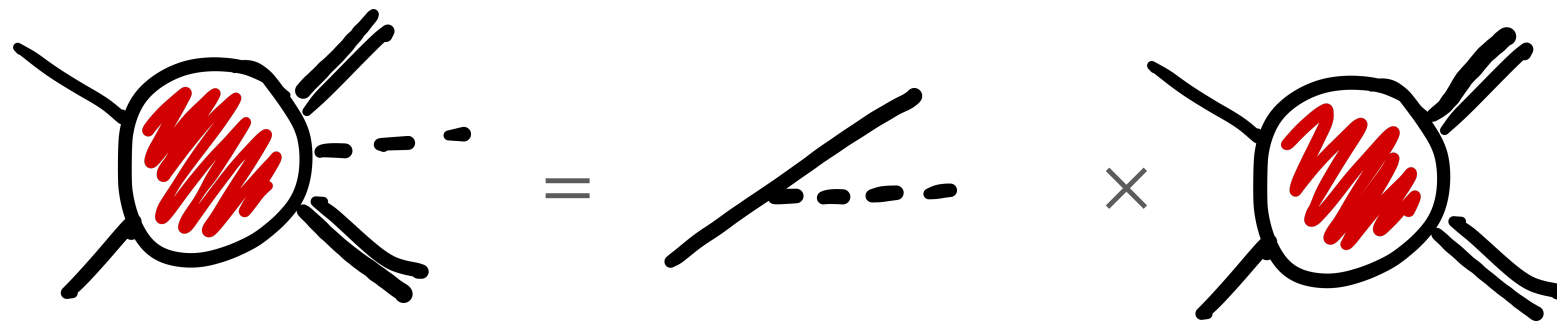
[*ArXiv:2306.16311*]



CHOICE OF THE APPROXIMATIONS

[L. Buonocore, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, L. Rottoli, C. Savoini: [2306.16311](#)]

- Amplitudes for the process $c\bar{c} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ available [P. Bärnreuther, M. Czakon, P. Fiedler: 1312.6279]:
we can use the soft approximation.



$$\mathcal{M}_{q\bar{q}' \rightarrow t\bar{t}W}(\{p_i\}, k) \simeq \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{p_2 \cdot \varepsilon^*(k)}{p_2 \cdot k} - \frac{p_1 \cdot \varepsilon^*(k)}{p_1 \cdot k} \right) \mathcal{M}_{q_L\bar{q}'_R \rightarrow t\bar{t}}(\{p_i\})$$

- The soft emission of a W selects the **helicity configuration** $\mathcal{M}_{q_L\bar{q}'_R \rightarrow t\bar{t}}$;
- In contrast with the $t\bar{t}H$ case, the soft W is emitted by the **initial-state partons**;
- To map the $t\bar{t}W$ kinematics into a $t\bar{t}$ kinematics ($Q_{t\bar{t}W} \rightarrow Q_{t\bar{t}}$), we use use a **prescription symmetrised** with respect to the one employed for $t\bar{t}H$ case:
- We reabsorb the W momentum equally in the top-quark momenta;
 - We leave unchanged the initial-state parton momenta.

CHOICE OF THE APPROXIMATIONS

[L. Buonocore, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, L. Rottoli, C. Savoini: [2306.16311](#)]

- Amplitudes for the massless process $c\bar{c} \rightarrow q\bar{q}W$ available [S. Abreu, F. Febres Cordero, H. Ita, M. Klinkert, B. Page, V. Sotnikov: [2110.07541](#)]: **we can use the massification procedure;**



$$\mathcal{M}(\{p_i\}, k; \mu_R, \epsilon) \sim Z_{[q]}^{(m_t|0)} \left(\alpha_S(\mu_R), \frac{m_t}{\mu_R}, \epsilon \right) \mathcal{M}^{m_t=0}(\{p_i\}, k; \mu_R, \epsilon)$$

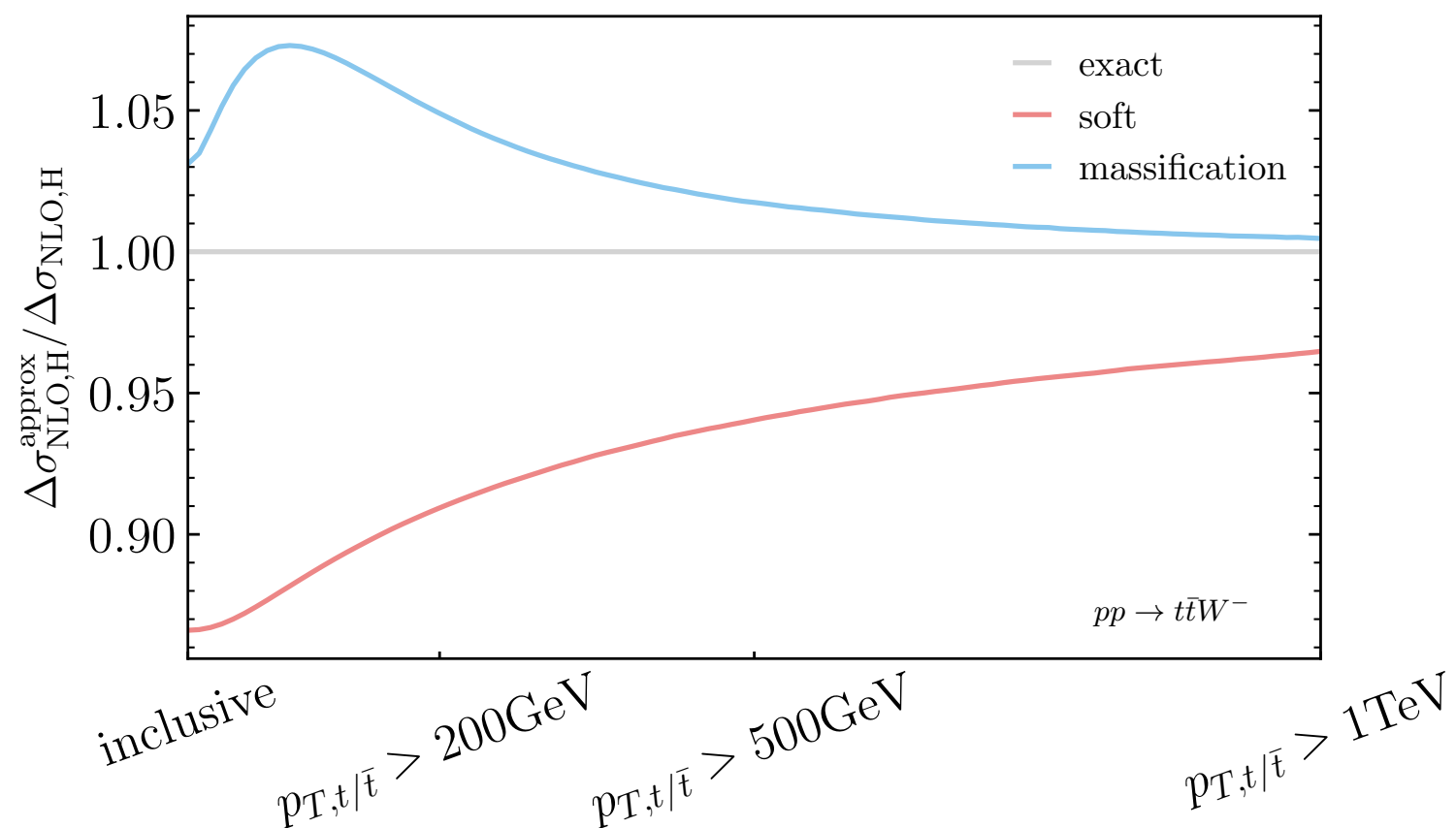
- Massification of the amplitudes implemented in a **C++ library**, **WQQAmp** [L. Buonocore, L. Rottoli, C. Savoini, <https://gitlab.com/lrottoli/WQQAmp>];
- We need to map the massless kinematics into a massive one: we do it by preserving the momentum of the $t\bar{t}$ pair.

TESTING THE APPROXIMATIONS

[L. Buonocore, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, L. Rottoli, C. Savoini: [2306.16311](#)]

To **validate** our procedure: test the approximations at NLO!

- Both approximations provide a **good estimation** also at the inclusive level;
- We observe a **pattern**: **soft approximation undershoots** the exact result, while the **massification procedure overshoots**;
- As expected, both approximations get closer to the exact result when a **harder cut** is imposed

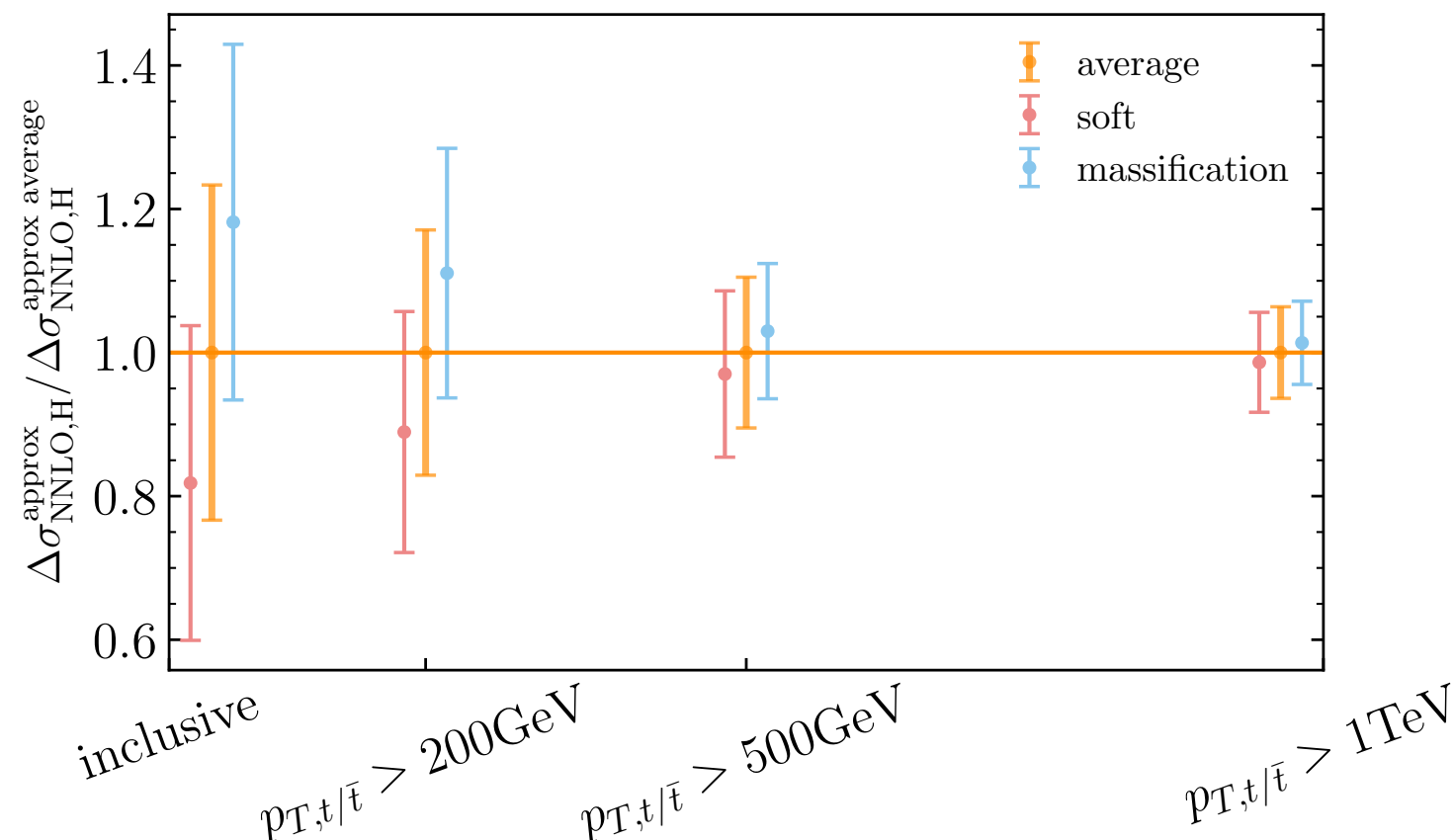


UNCERTAINTIES ESTIMATION

[L. Buonocore, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, L. Rottoli, C. Savoini: [2306.16311](#)]

How to estimate the NNLO uncertainties of each approximation?

- **Method 1**: we take the difference between exact and approximated result at NLO and we multiply by a **tolerance factor** of **2**;
- **Method 2**: we consider the effect of using a **different subtraction scales**
 $\mu_{IR} \rightarrow 2\mu_{IR}, \mu_{IR} \rightarrow 1/2\mu_{IR}$;
- The uncertainty is defined as the **maximum between these two estimates**.



- The two approximations are **fully consistent**;
- Our best prediction is obtained by taking their **average** and **linearly combining** the uncertainties.

Final uncertainty:

- $\pm 25\%$ on $\Delta\sigma_{\text{NNLO,H}}$
- $\pm 2\%$ on σ_{NNLO}

RESULTS

[L. Buonocore, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, L. Rottoli, C. Savoini: [2306.16311](#)]

LHC@13TeV	$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W^+}$ [fb]	$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W^-}$ [fb]	$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W}$ [fb]	$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W^+}/\sigma_{t\bar{t}W^-}$
LO _{QCD}	$283.4^{+25.3\%}_{-18.8\%}$	$136.8^{+25.2\%}_{-18.8\%}$	$420.0^{+25.3\%}_{-18.8\%}$	$2.071^{+3.2\%}_{-3.2\%}$
NLO _{QCD}	$416.9^{+12.5\%}_{-11.4\%}$	$205.1^{+13.2\%}_{-11.7\%}$	$622.0^{+12.7\%}_{-11.5\%}$	$2.033^{+3.0\%}_{-3.4\%}$
NNLO _{QCD}	$475.2^{+4.8\%}_{-6.4\%} \pm 1.9\%$	$235.5^{+5.1\%}_{-6.6\%} \pm 1.9\%$	$710.7^{+4.9\%}_{-6.5\%} \pm 1.9\%$	$2.018^{+1.6\%}_{-1.2\%}$
NNLO _{QCD} +NLO _{EW}	$497.5^{+6.6\%}_{-6.6\%} \pm 1.8\%$	$247.9^{+7.0\%}_{-7.0\%} \pm 1.8\%$	$745.3^{+6.7\%}_{-6.7\%} \pm 1.8\%$	$2.007^{+2.1\%}_{-2.1\%}$

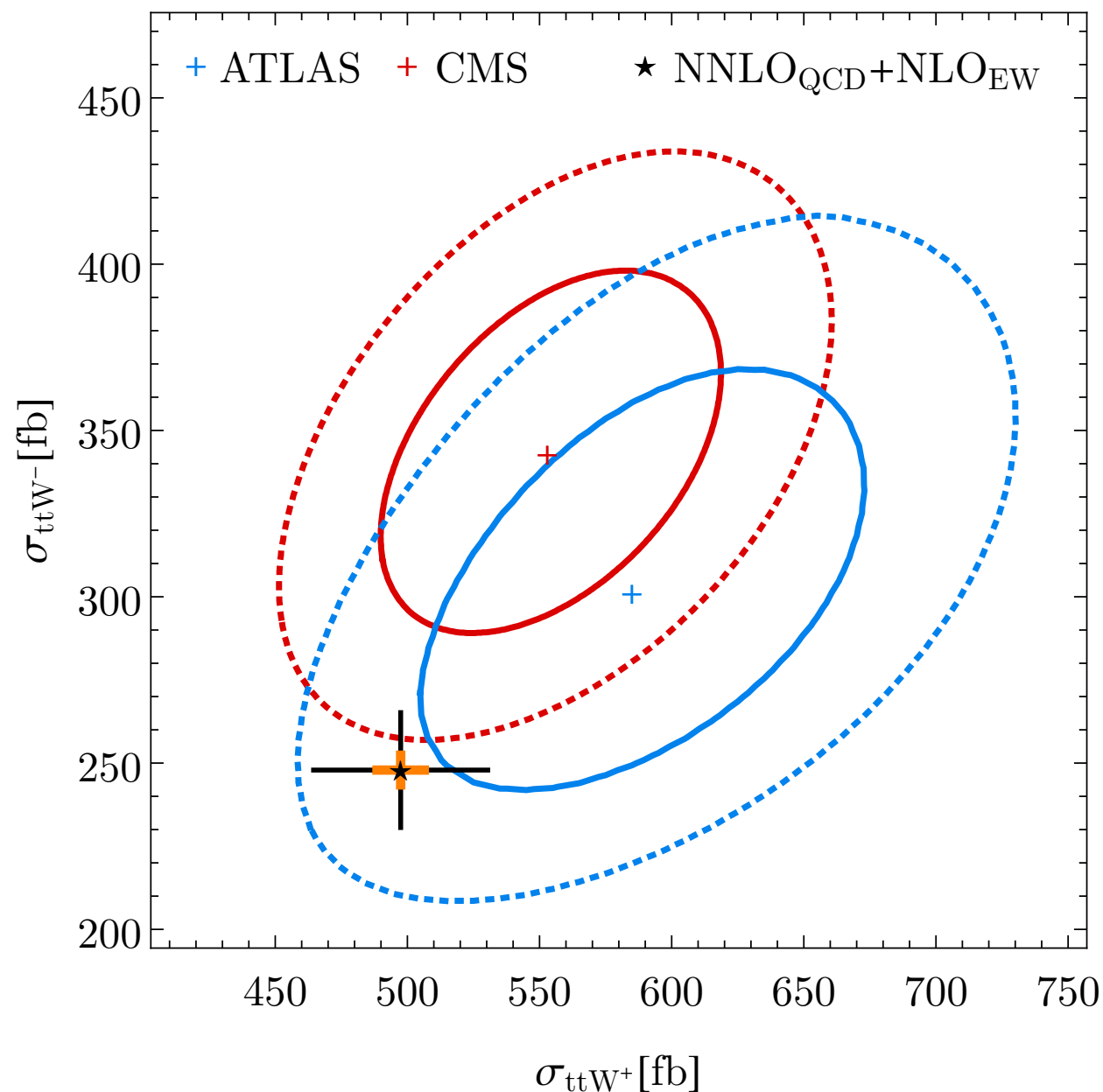
Scale uncertainties

Uncertainties from 2 loop amplitudes

- We choose $\mu_0 = M/2$;
- NNLO predictions show first sign of **perturbative convergence**;
- ratio $\sigma_{t\bar{t}W^+}/\sigma_{t\bar{t}W^-}$ have a **very stable** perturbative behaviour;
- **PDF uncertainties** $\pm 1.8\%$ (computed with MATRIX + PINEAPPL interface [SD, T. Ježo, S. Kallweit, C. Schwan, in preparation])
- **α_s uncertainties** $\pm 1.8\%$;
- by combining with EW corrections, we get our **best prediction**;
- to be conservative, scale uncertainties for NNLO_{QCD}+NLO_{EW} are **symmetrised**.

RESULTS

[L. Buonocore, SD, M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit,
J. Mazzitelli, L. Rottoli, C. Savoini: [2306.16311](#)]

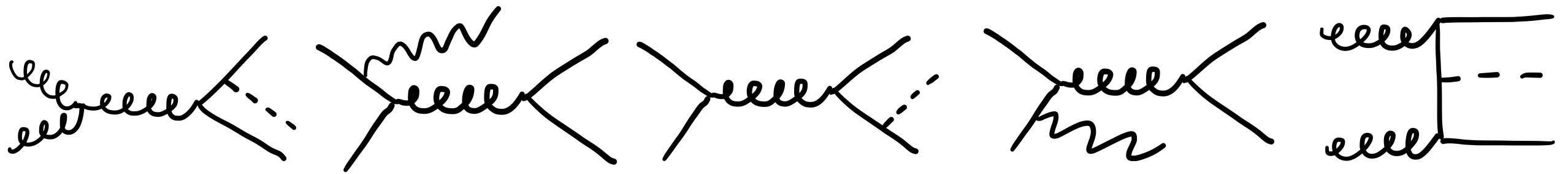


- We compare our best prediction to **ATLAS and CMS measurements**;
- With respect to the **FxFx prediction**, the current theory reference, higher rate and smaller uncertainties;

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W}^{NNLO_{QCD}+NLO_{EW}} = 745.3^{+6.7\%}_{-6.7\%}$$

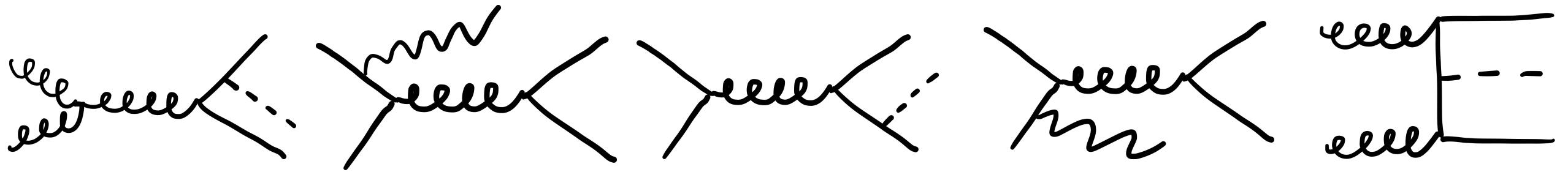
$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}W}^{FxFx} = 722.3^{+9.7\%}_{-10.8\%}$$

- Tension remains at the **1σ – 2σ level**.



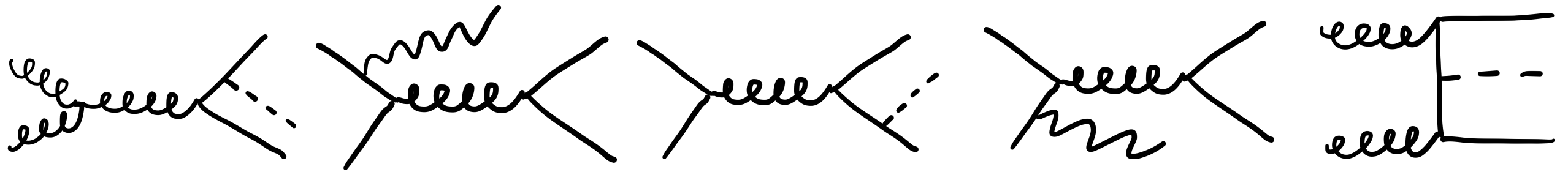
SUMMARY & OUTLOOK

- We computed within q_T subtraction formalism the **NNLO QCD corrections** to $t\bar{t}H$ production and $t\bar{t}W$ production;
- The **missing ingredients** we needed for the computation are:
 - **NNLO soft contribution** in arbitrary kinematics;
 - **two-loop amplitudes** (**massification** and/or **soft approximation**);
- **First** (almost) exact computations at NNLO QCD for a **$2 \rightarrow 3$ process** with massive coloured particles.



SUMMARY & OUTLOOK

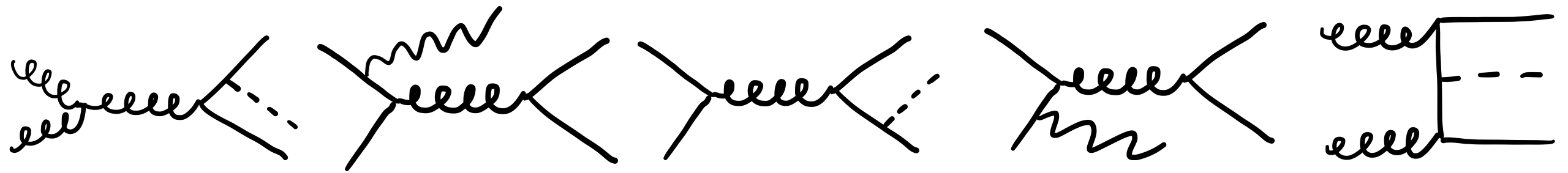
- **Differential distributions;**
- Further phenomenological studies.



SUMMARY & OUTLOOK

- **Differential distributions;**
- Further phenomenological studies.

THANKS!



BACKUP SLIDES

IR SUBTRACTION METHODS (NLO)

$$\Delta\sigma^{NLO} = \int d\sigma^{NLO} = \boxed{\int_{m+1} d\sigma^R} + \boxed{\int_m d\sigma^V}$$

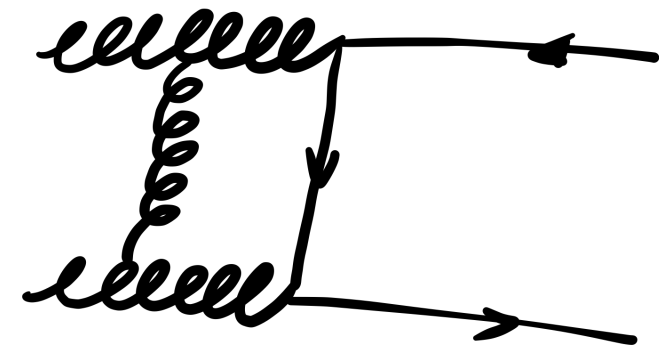
Divergent Divergent

REAL



- No explicit ϵ poles;
- Singular in unresolved limit.

VIRTUAL



- Explicit poles up to order $1/\epsilon^2$;
- No additional PS singularity

IR SUBTRACTION METHODS (NLO)

$$\Delta\sigma^{NLO} = \int d\sigma^{NLO} = \int_{m+1} \left[d\sigma^R - d\sigma^{CT} \right] + \left[\int_m d\sigma^V + \int_1 d\sigma^{CT} \right]$$

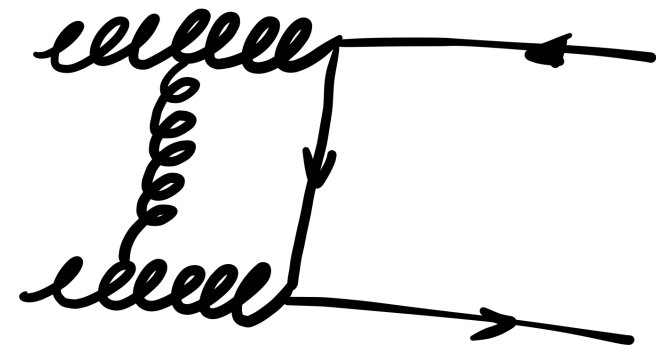
~~Divergent~~ **CONVERGENT!** ~~Divergent~~ **CONVERGENT!**

REAL



- No explicit ϵ poles;
- Singular in unresolved limit.

VIRTUAL



- Explicit poles up to order $1/\epsilon^2$;
- No additional PS singularity

TOTAL CROSS SECTION

	$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$		$\sqrt{s} = 100 \text{ TeV}$	
$\sigma \text{ [fb]}$	gg	$q\bar{q}$	gg	$q\bar{q}$
σ_{LO}	261.58	129.47	23055	2323.7
$\Delta\sigma_{\text{NLO,H}}$	88.62	7.826	8205	217.0
$\Delta\sigma_{\text{NLO,H}} _{\text{soft}}$	61.98	7.413	5612	206.0
$\Delta\sigma_{\text{NNLO,H}} _{\text{soft}}$	$-2.980(3)$	$2.622(0)$	$-239.4(4)$	$65.45(1)$

➤ Soft Higgs approximation at LO:

- gg channel: factor 2.3 ($\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$)/factor 2.0 ($\sqrt{s} = 100 \text{ TeV}$)
- $q\bar{q}$ channel: factor 1.11 ($\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$)/factor 1.06 ($\sqrt{s} = 100 \text{ TeV}$)

➤ At LO there is no reweighting!

CHANGING THE SUBTRACTION SCALE

$$H_{t\bar{t}H}^{(2)} = \frac{2 \operatorname{Re}(\mathcal{M}_{t\bar{t}H}^{(2)}(\mu_{IR}, \mu_R) \mathcal{M}_{t\bar{t}H}^{(0)})_{soft}}{|\mathcal{M}_{t\bar{t}H}^{(0)}|_{soft}^2}$$

- The subtraction scale μ_{IR} is the scale at which the IR poles are subtracted (equivalently, at which the soft approximation is applied);
- Effect of using a different subtraction scales $\mu_{IR} \rightarrow 2 \mu_{IR}$, $\mu_{IR} \rightarrow 1/2 \mu_{IR}$.
 - gg channel +164%/-25% ($\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV)
+142%/-20% ($\sqrt{s} = 100$ TeV)
 - $q\bar{q}$ channel +4%/-0% ($\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV)
+3%/-0% ($\sqrt{s} = 100$ TeV)

SOFT HIGGS APPROXIMATION

Eikonal approximation

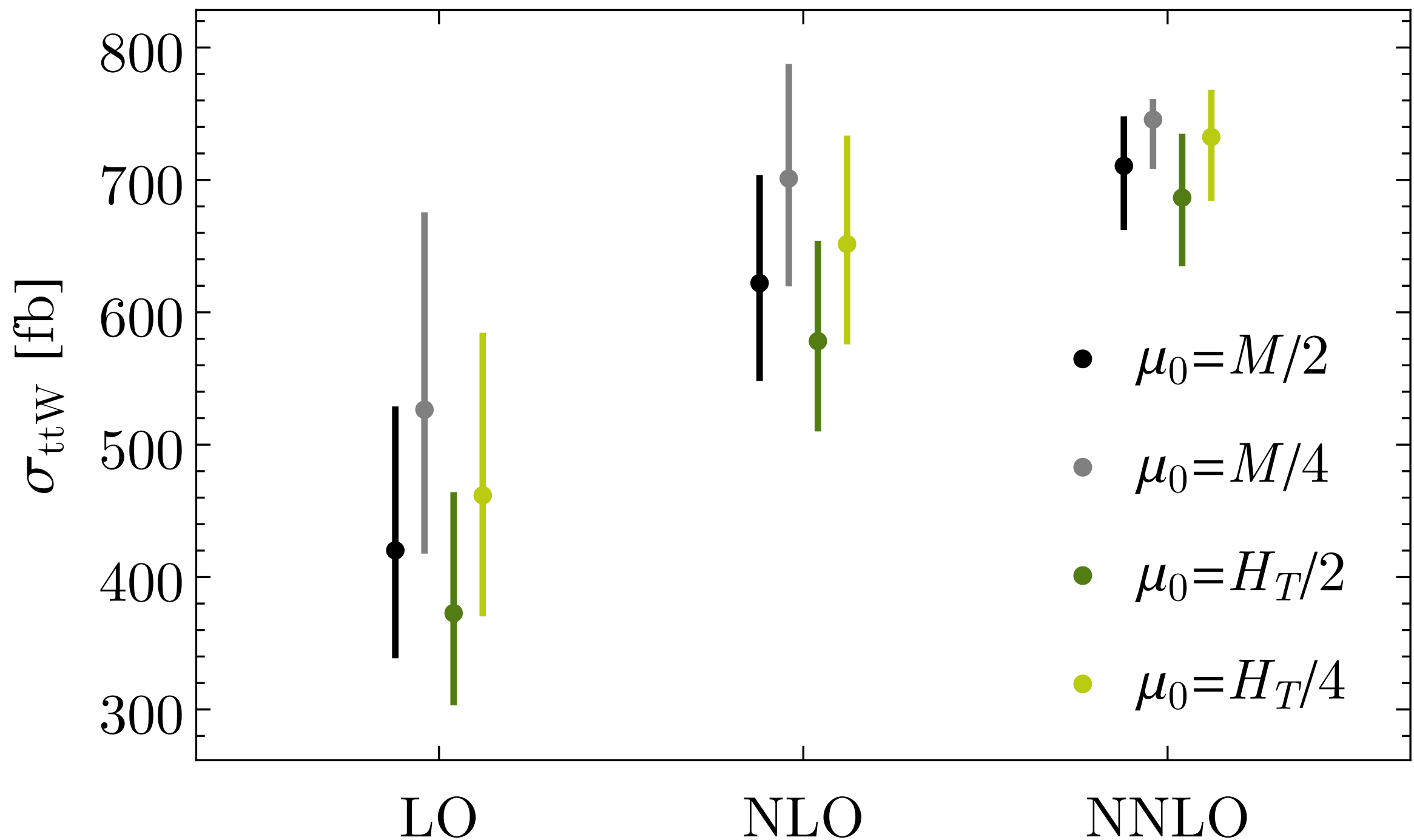
$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{M}_{t\bar{t}H}(\{p_i\}, k) = F(\alpha_S(\mu_R); m_t/\mu_R) \frac{m_t}{v} \sum_{i=3,4} \frac{m_t}{p_i \cdot k} \mathcal{M}_{t\bar{t}}(\{p_i\})$$

Low Energy Theorem

$$\lim_{q \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{M}^{\text{bare}}(p \rightarrow p + q) = \frac{1}{v} m_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial m_0} \mathcal{M}^{\text{bare}}(p \rightarrow p) \Big|_{p^2=m^2}$$

$$F(\alpha_S(\mu_R); m_t/\mu_R) = 1 + \frac{\alpha_S(\mu_R)}{2\pi} (-3 C_F) \\ + \left(\frac{\alpha_S(\mu_R)}{2\pi} \right)^2 \left(\frac{33}{4} C_F^2 - \frac{185}{12} C_F C_A + \frac{13}{6} C_F (n_L + 1) - 6 C_F \beta_0 \ln \frac{\mu_R^2}{m_t^2} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_S^3)$$

$t\bar{t}W$: DIFFERENT SCALE CHOICES



THE SLICING

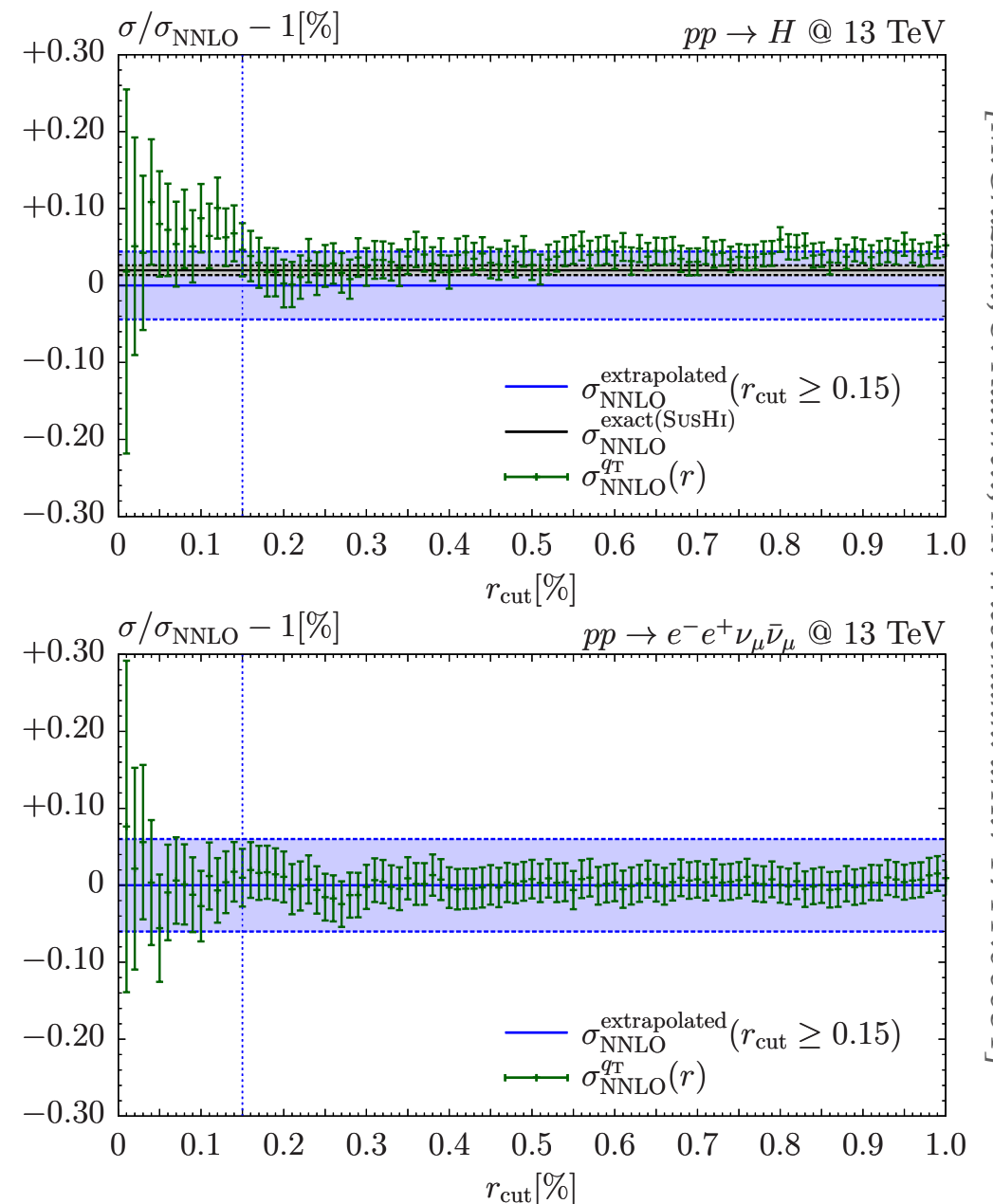
$$d\sigma_{(N)NLO}^F = \mathcal{H}_{(N)NLO}^F \otimes d\sigma_{LO}^F + \left[d\sigma_{(N)LO}^{F+jets} - d\sigma_{(N)LO}^{CT} \right]$$

$d\sigma_{(N)LO}^{F+jets}$ and $d\sigma_{(N)LO}^{CT}$ are separately divergent.

In practice, q_T subtraction is implemented as a slicing method:

- introducing a cutoff $r_{cut} = Q/M$;
- performing the limit $r_{cut} \rightarrow 0$.

Quality of the $q_T \rightarrow 0$ extrapolation can be understood looking at the r_{cut} dependence



[M. Grazzini, S. Kallweit, M. Wiesemann: arXiv 1711.06631]

r_{cut} DEPENDENCE

