

Understanding the top quark mass

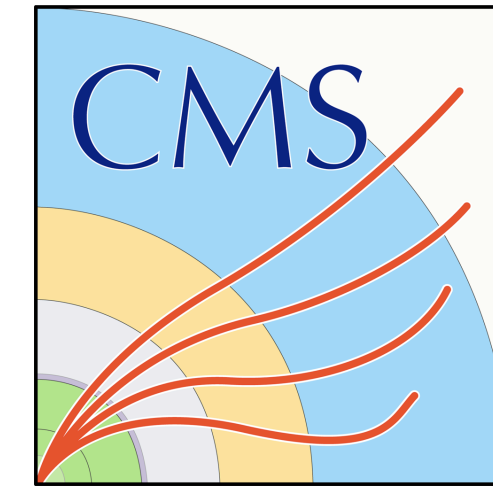
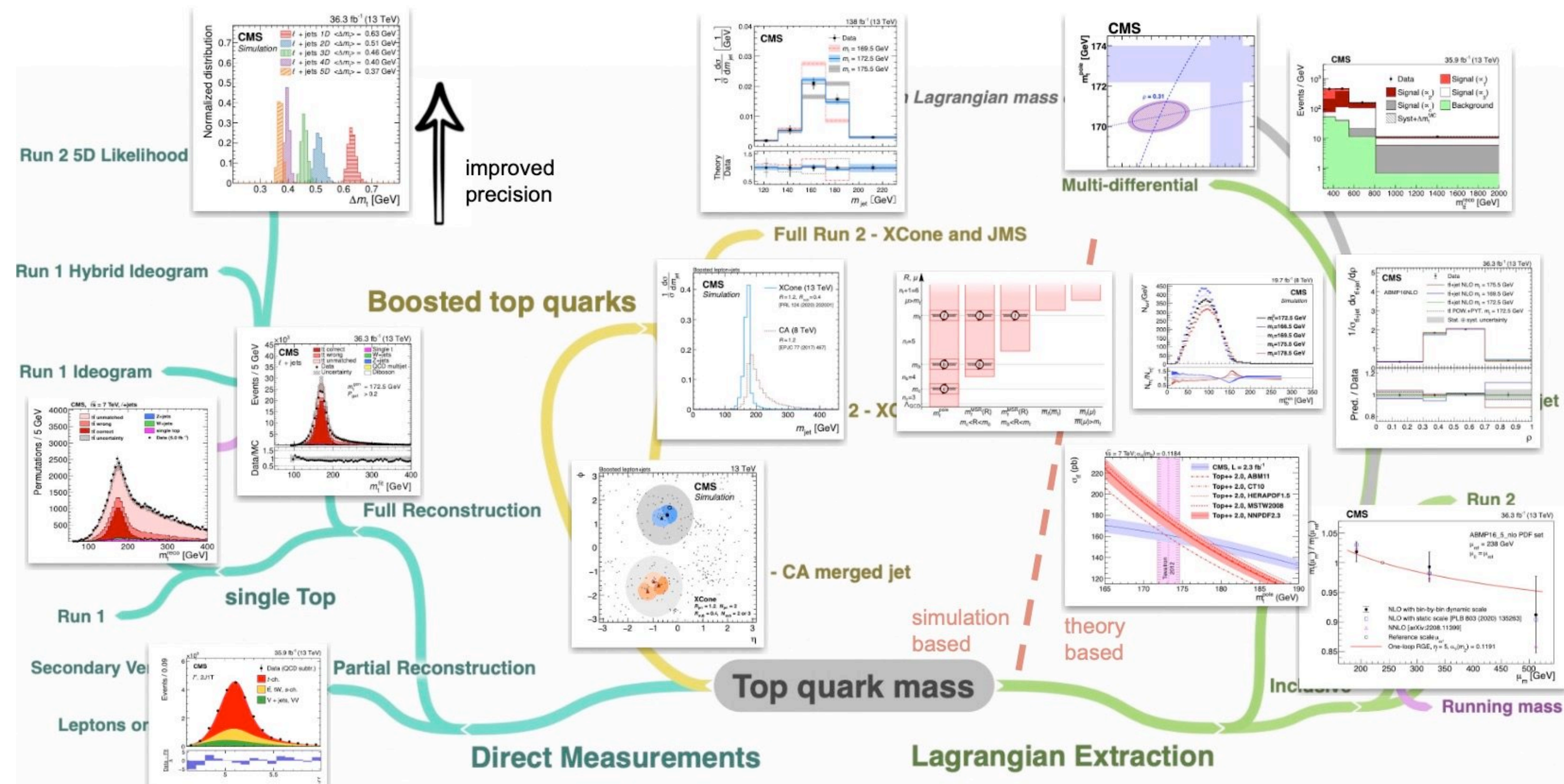


Illustration from CMS Physics Briefing

Experimental Particle Physics Seminar

University of Ghent
May 7th, 2024

Matteo M. Defranchis (CERN)





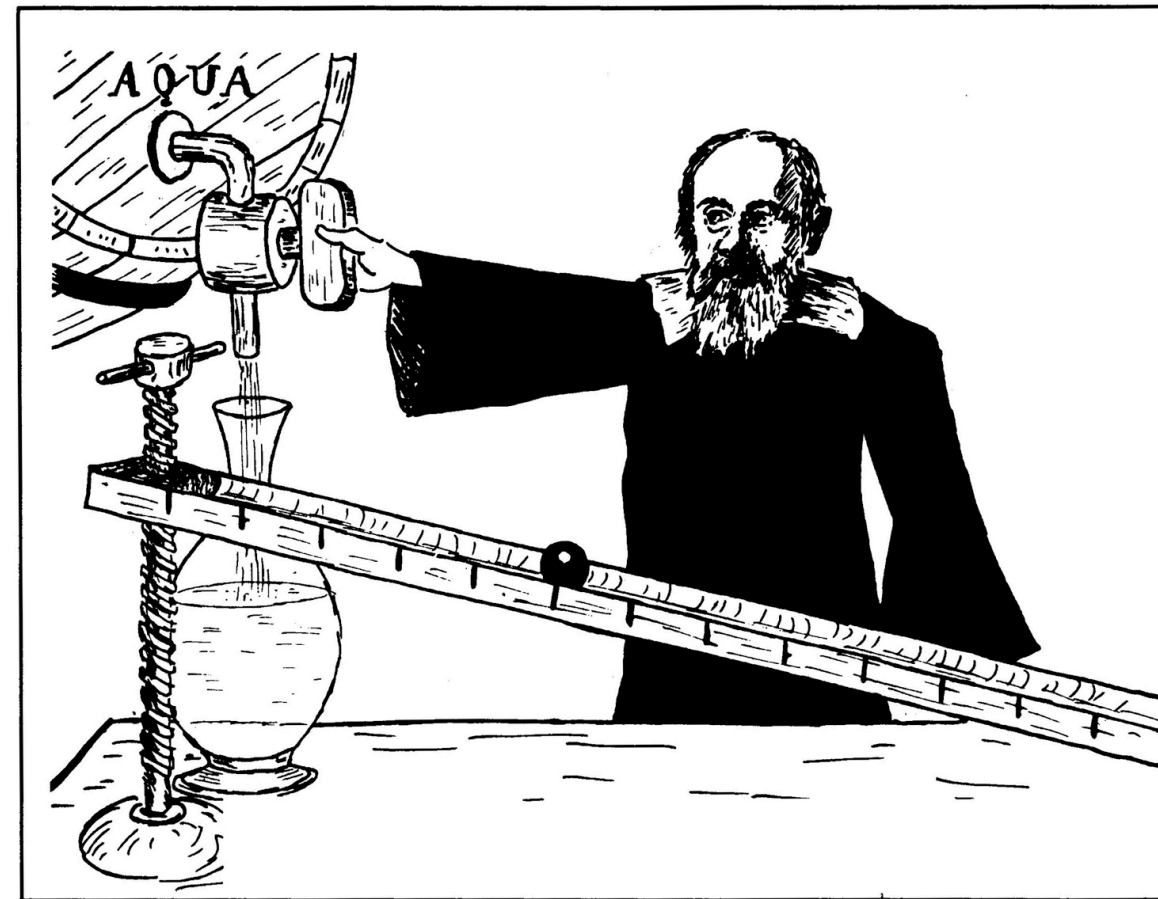
EPP Seminar - University of Ghent
May 14th, 2019

The mass of the top quark: which one? a pseudo-historical approach

Matteo M. Defranchis
Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY)

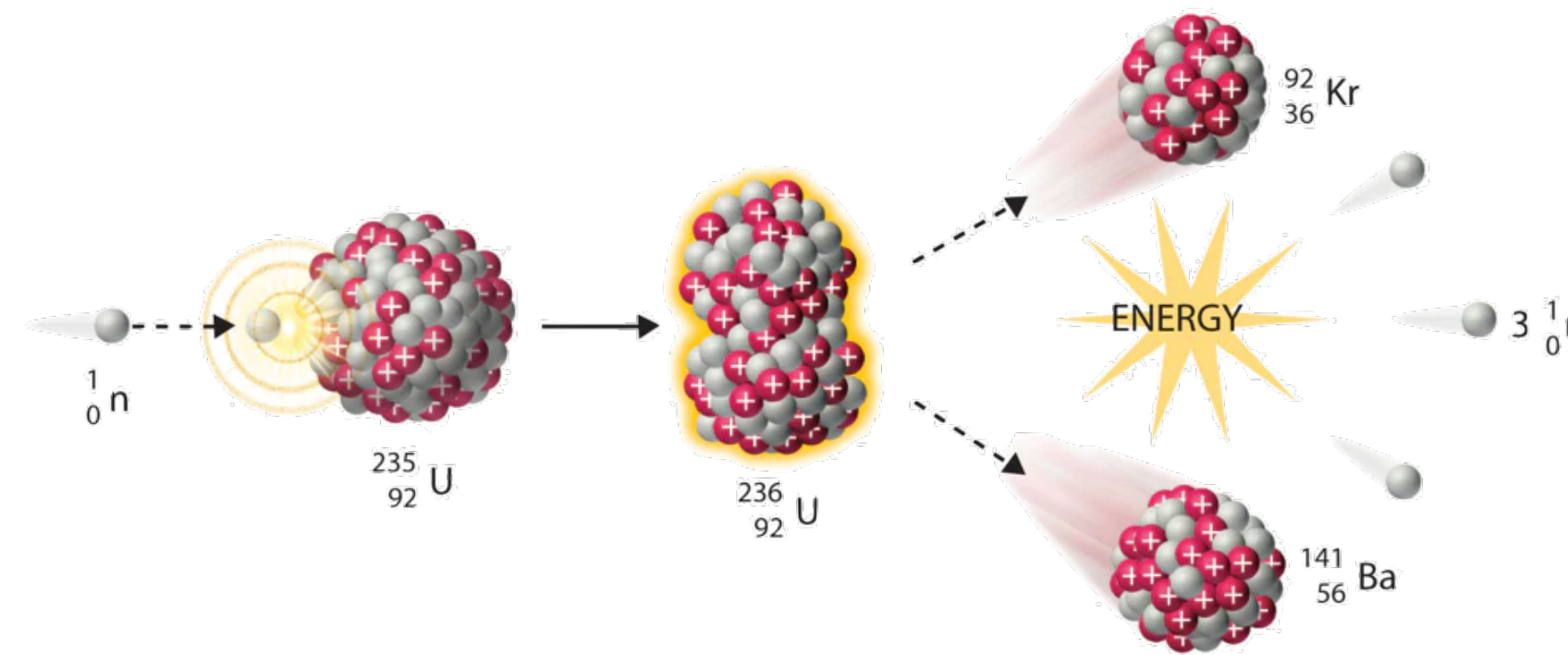
Next update: May 2029

The concept of mass at the test of time



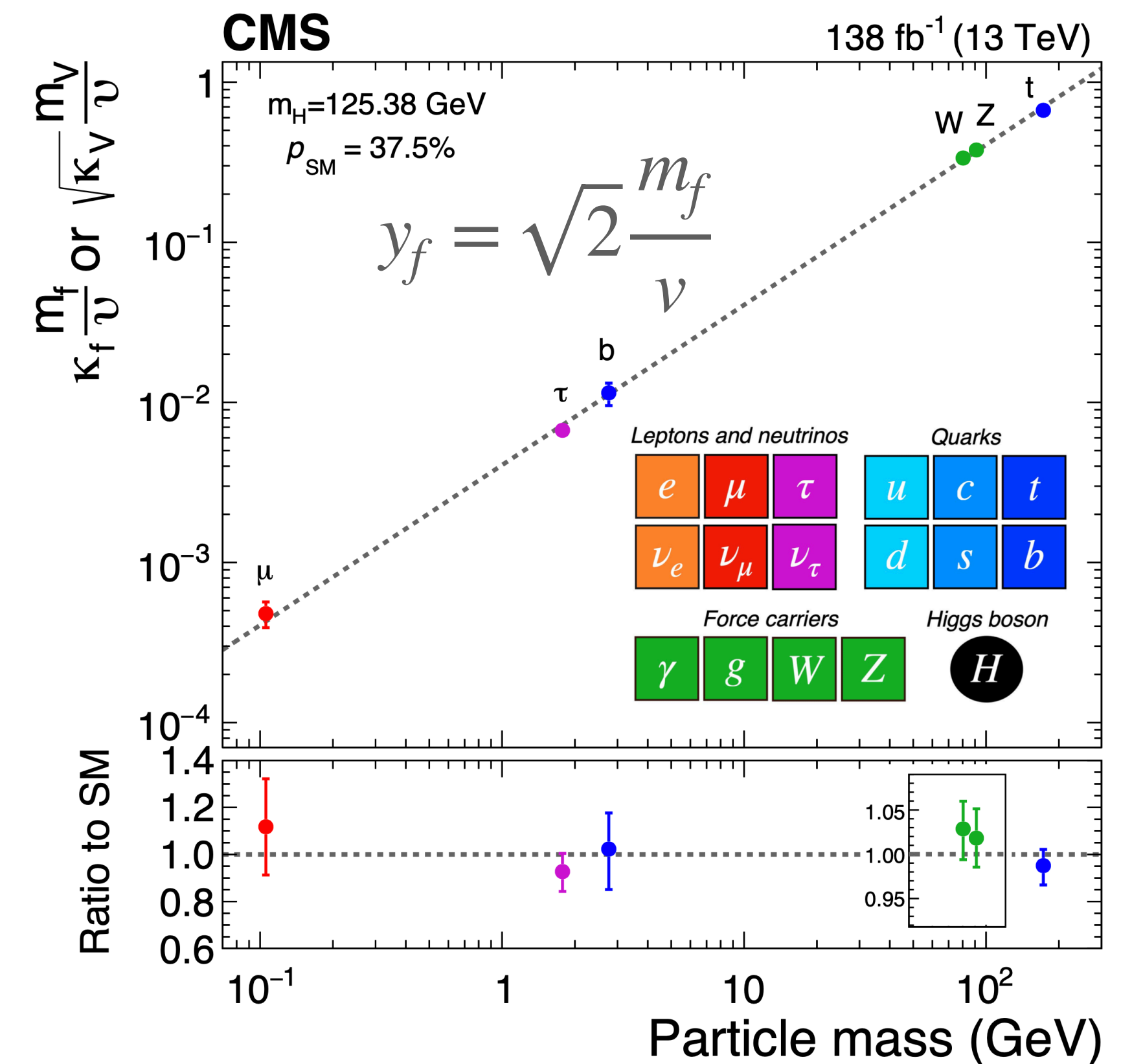
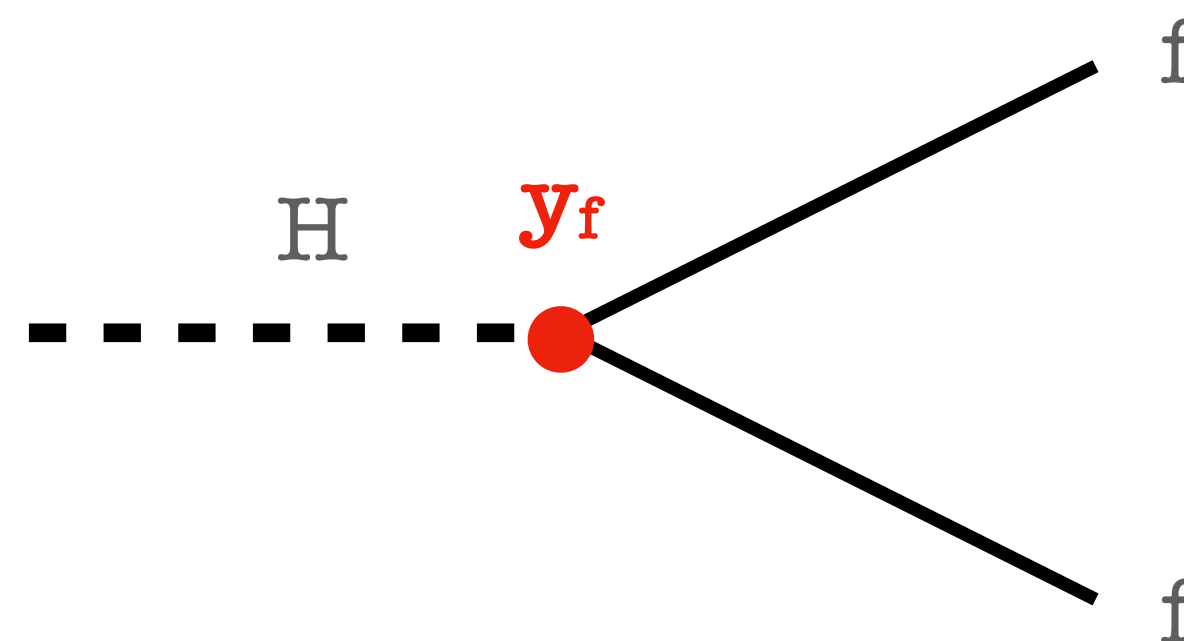
Galileo studia il moto accelerato di una pallina che rotola lungo un piano inclinato (dis. G. Gamow).

- 1687 **Newton**: inertial mass, laws of gravitation
- 1905 **Einstein**: equivalence between mass and energy



- 1964 **Brout-Englert-Higgs**: coupling to the Higgs field (in the case of elementary particles)

Is the top quark the only elementary particle with a “natural” mass?



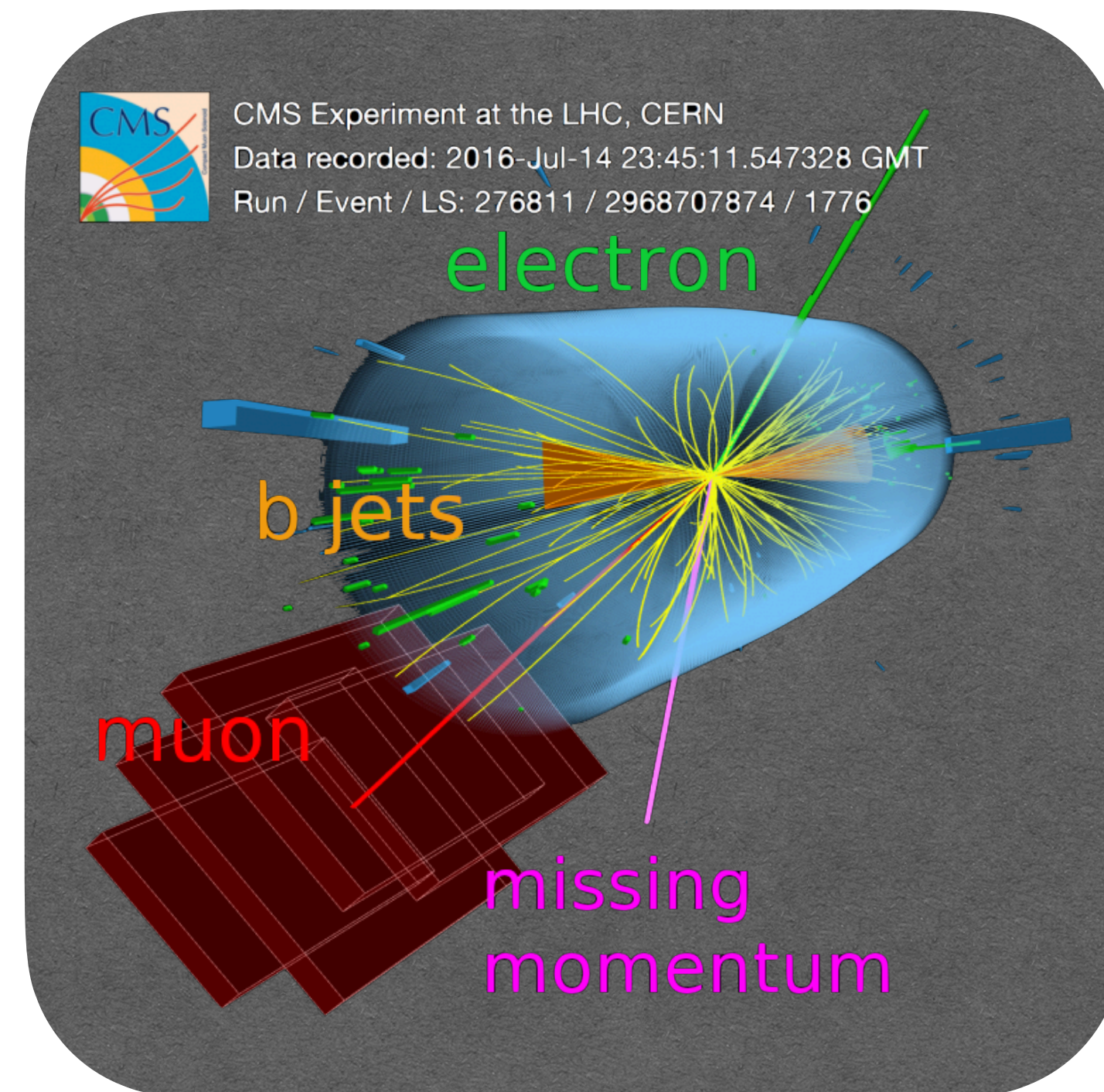
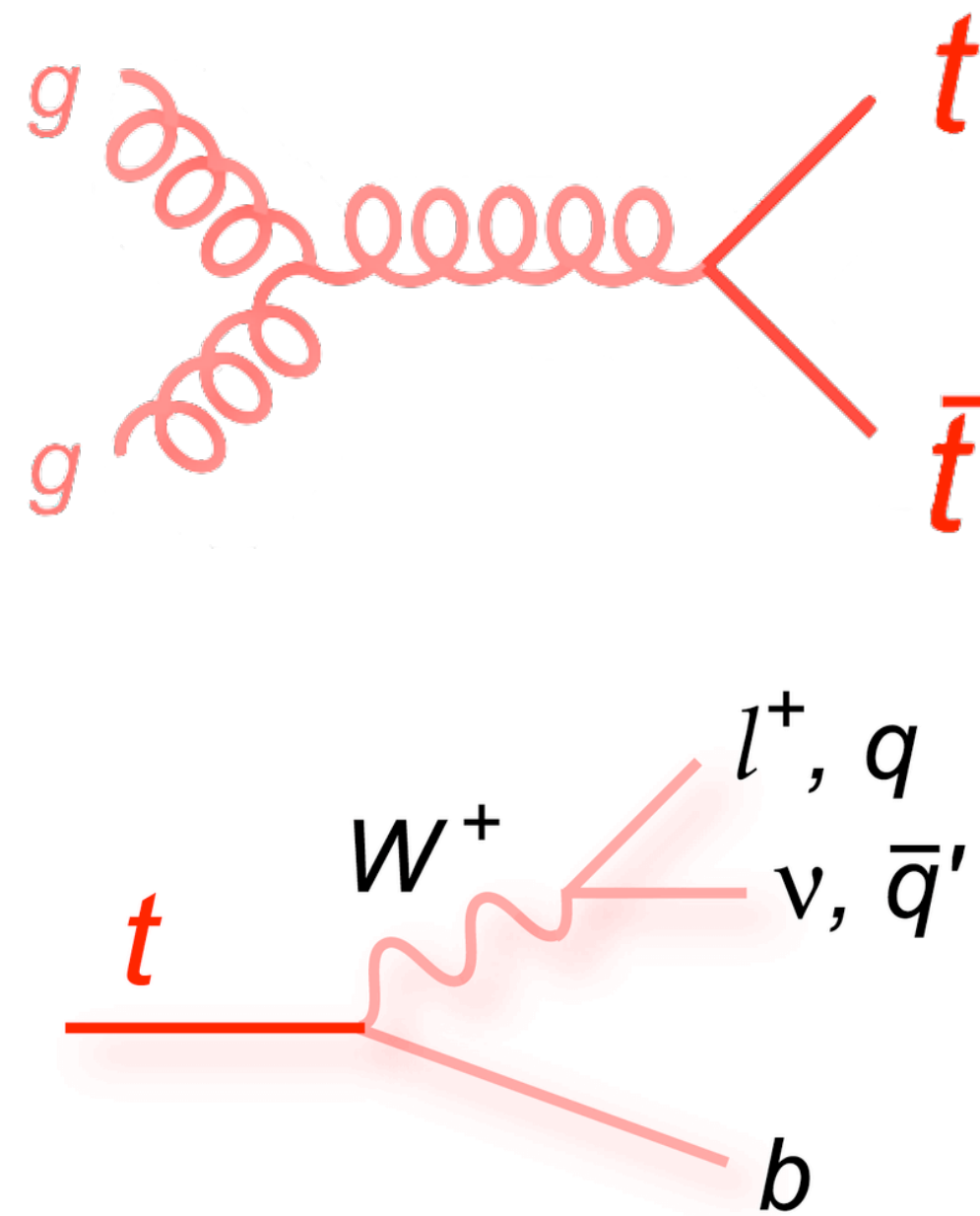
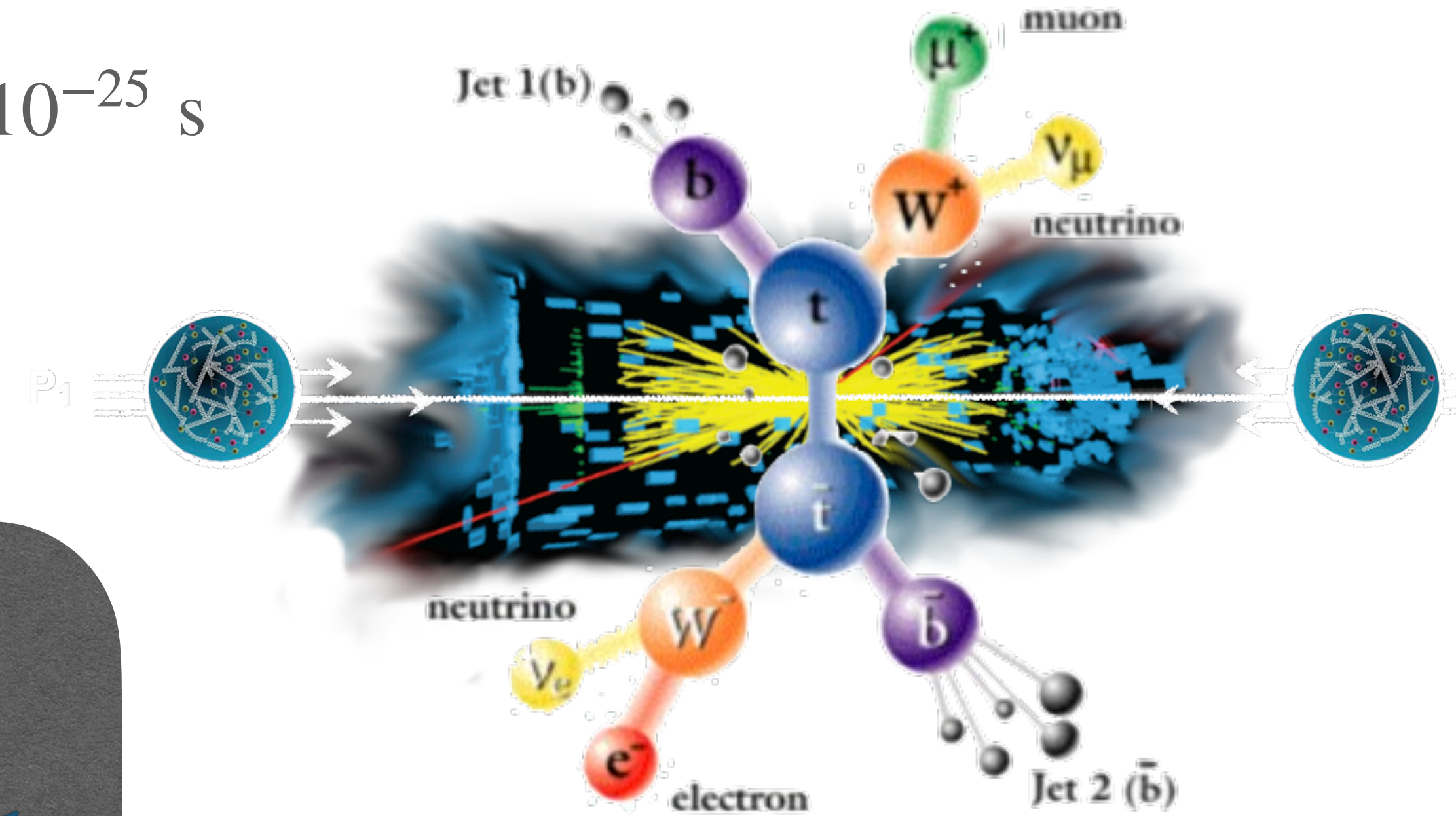
m_t makes the top quark special



Unlike all other quarks, the top quark decays before forming bound states

$$\tau_t = \frac{1}{\Gamma_t} \sim 10^{-25} \text{ s}$$

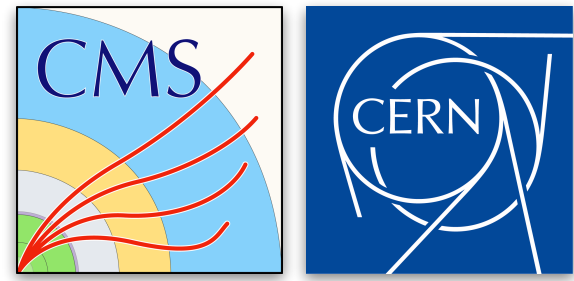
- Behaves (approximately) as a **free particle**
- Mass can be reconstructed from decay products



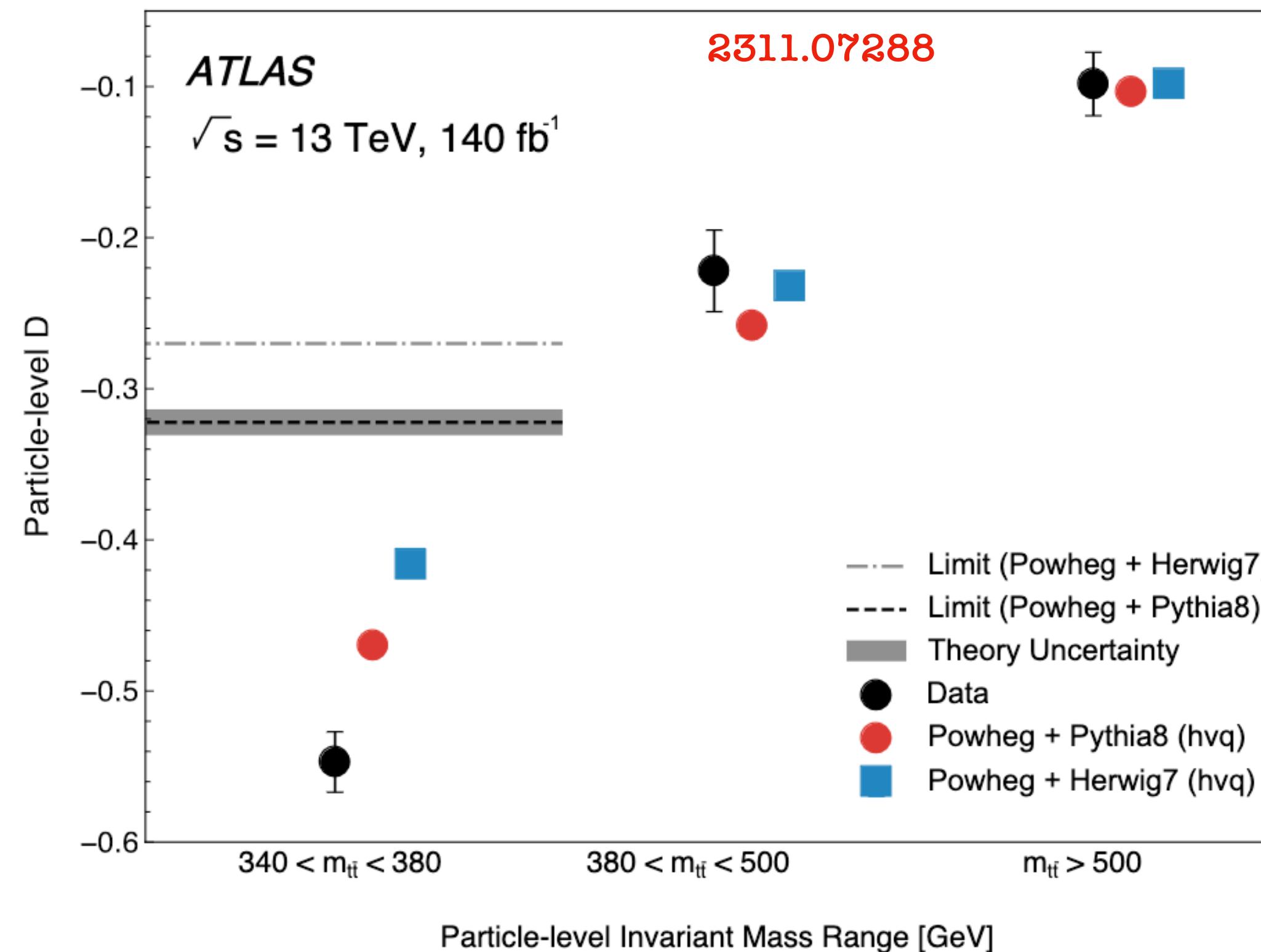
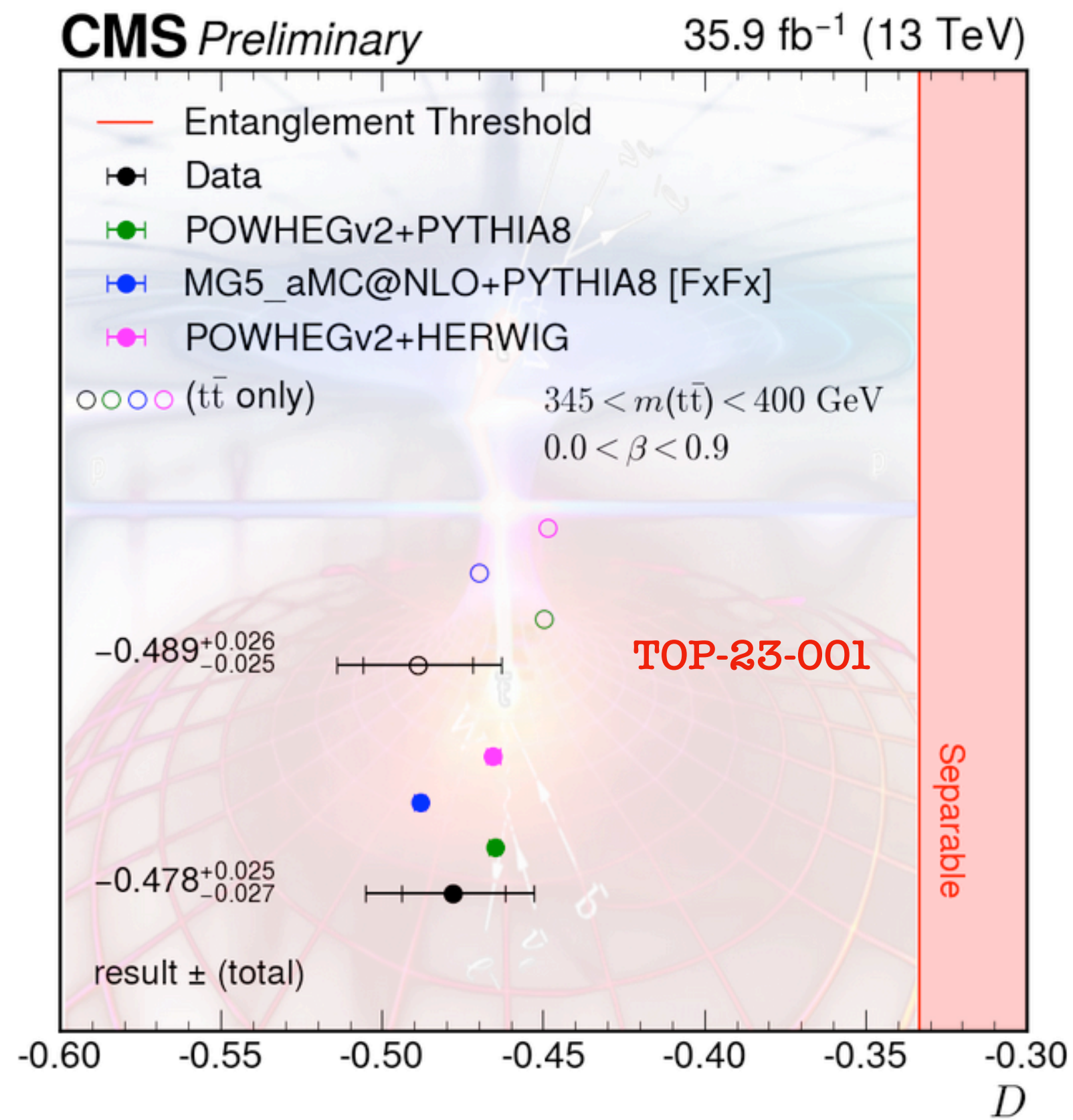
Relatively narrow resonance
 -> conceptually we can factorise
 top quark production and decay

EW decay makes top quark “easy”
 to identify experimentally

m_t makes the top quark special



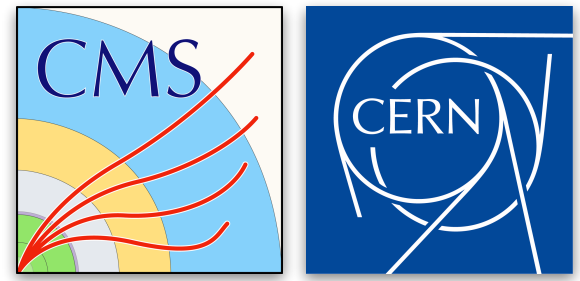
- Spin correlation and quantum entanglement information transferred to decay products



Highest energy observation (so far) of quantum entanglement between elementary particles

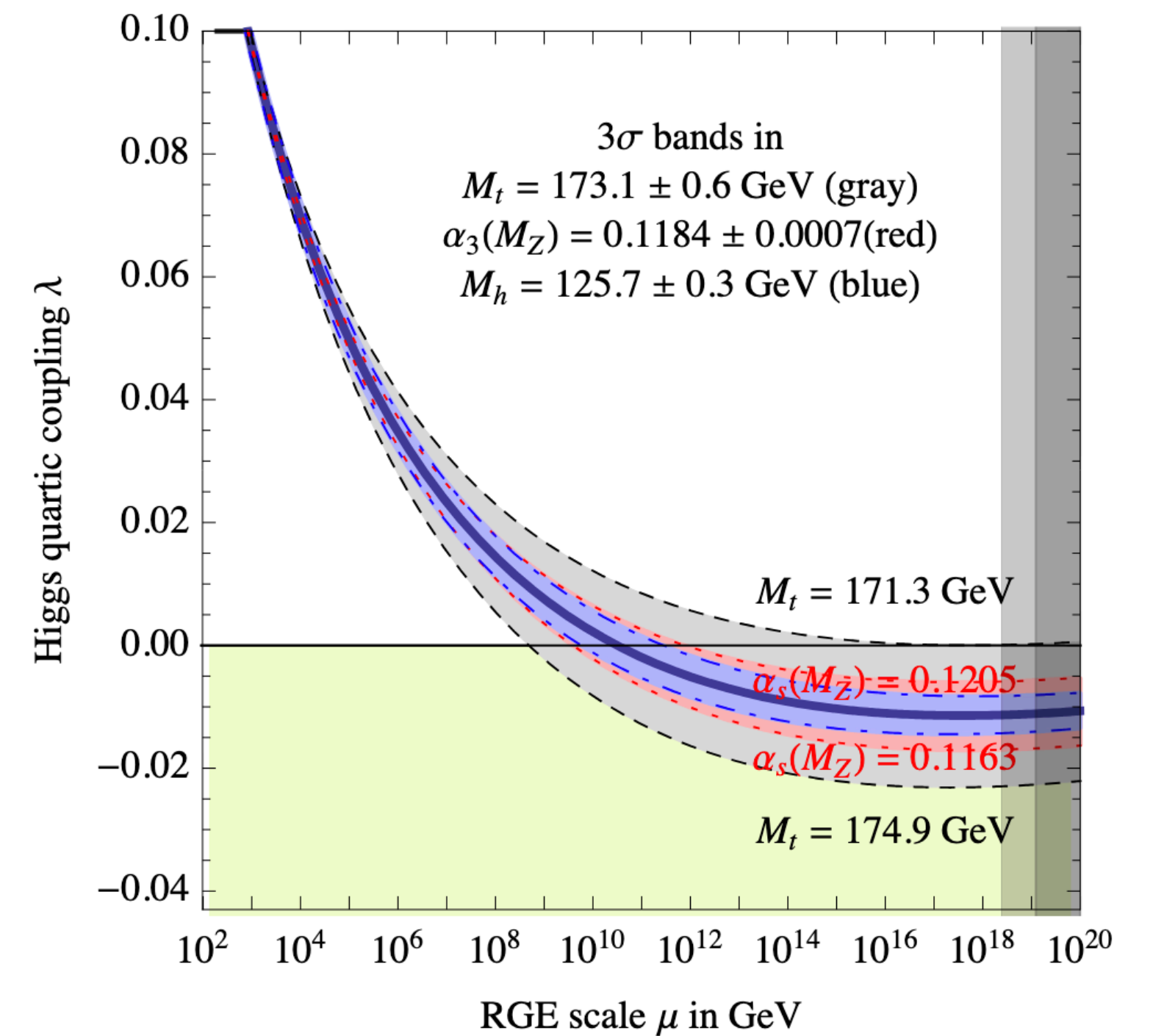
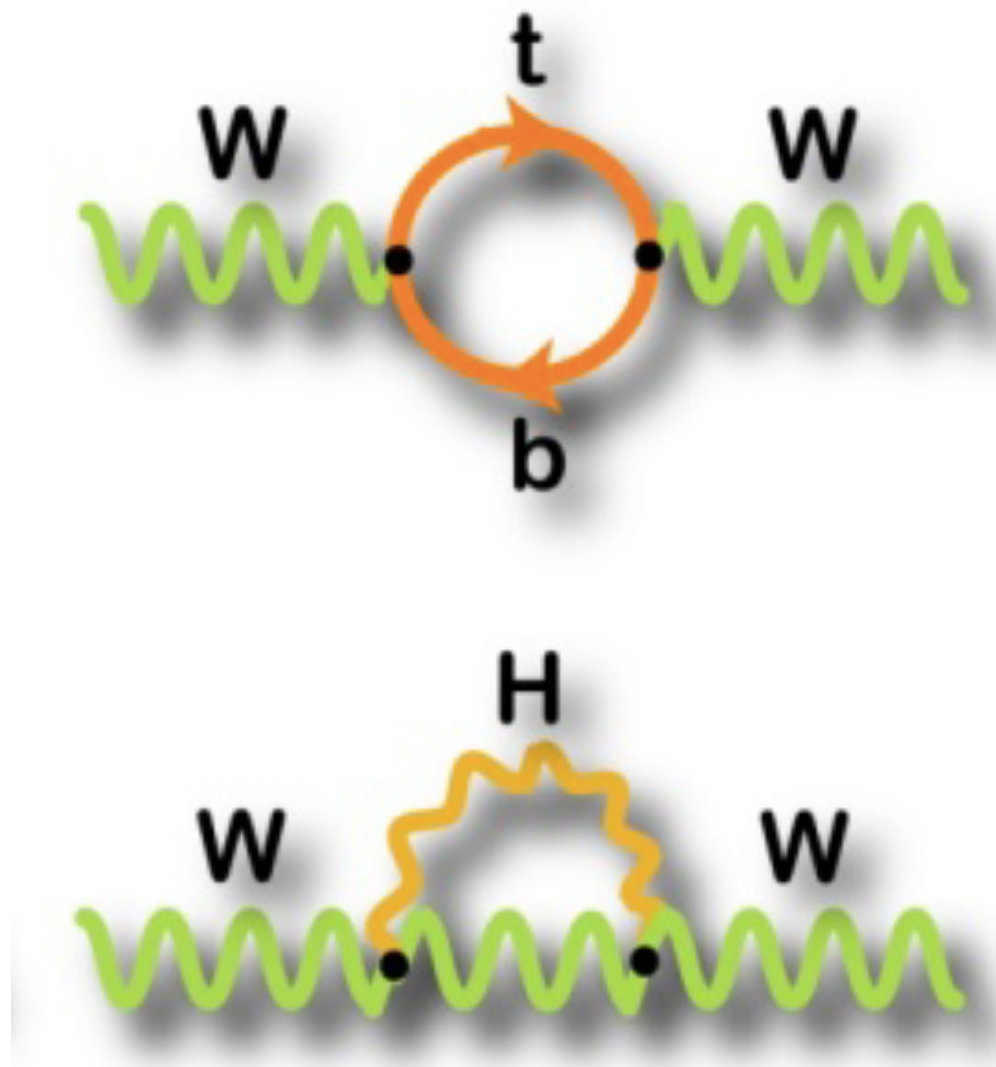
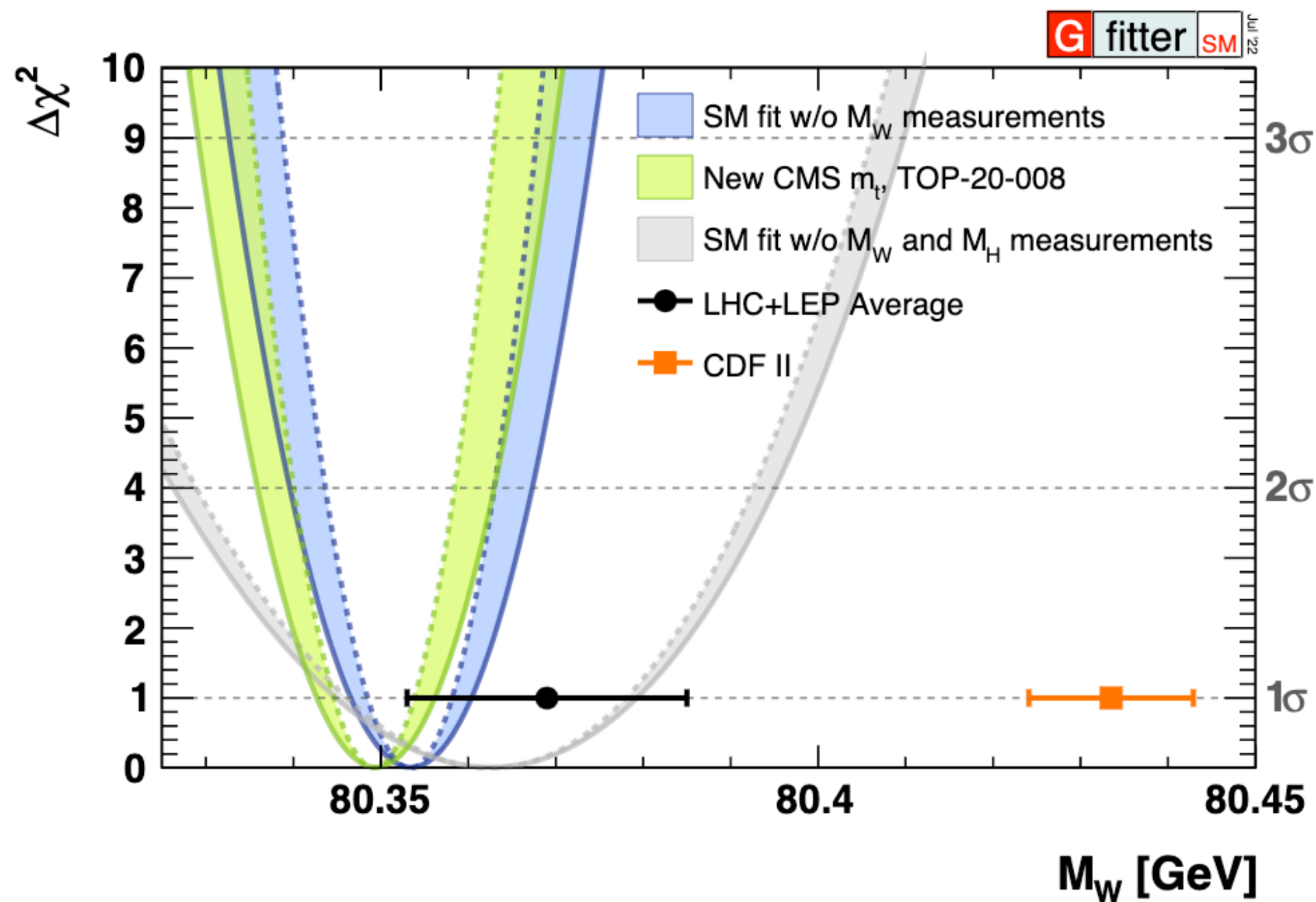
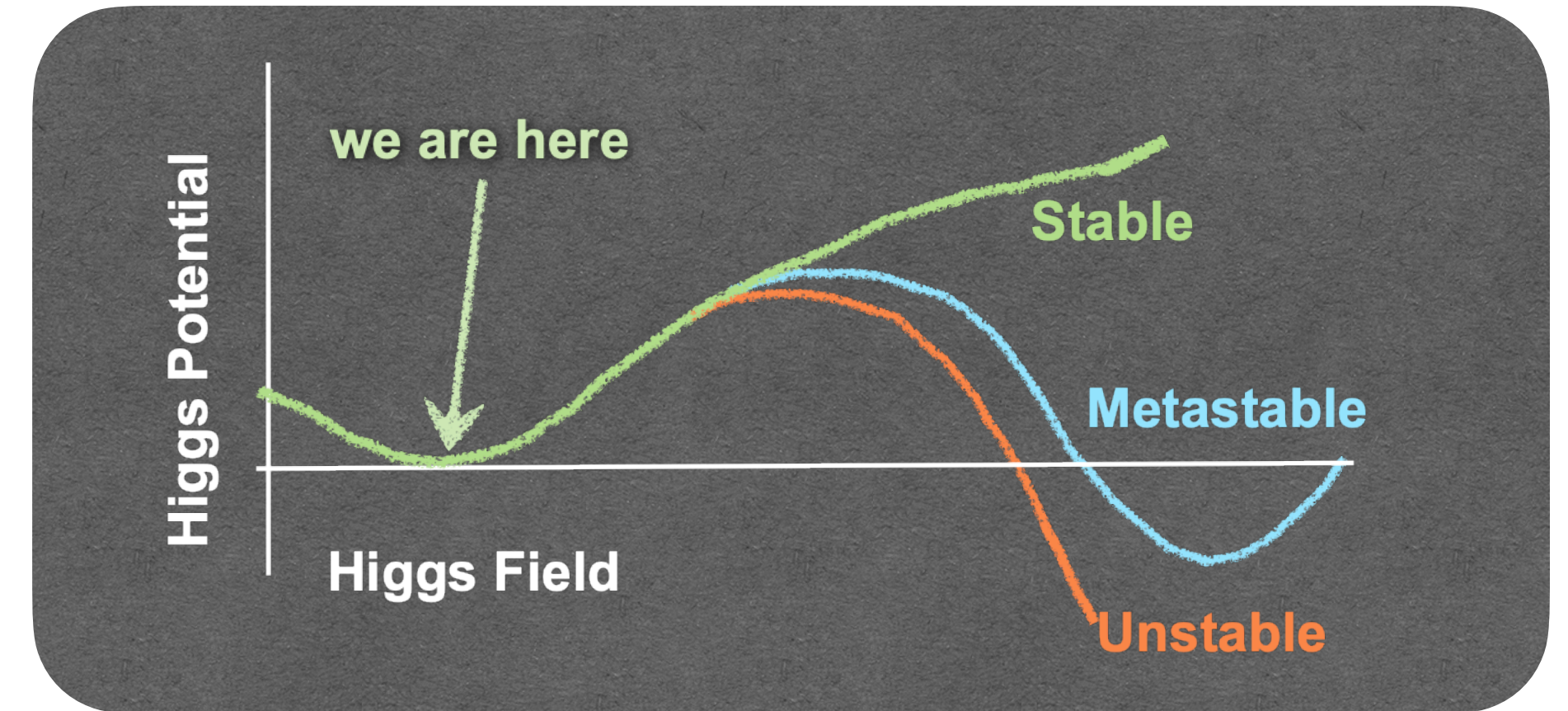
In the near future this will be used as a probe for physics beyond the SM

Can m_t break the standard model?



In the SM, m_t can be related to m_W and m_H thanks to loop corrections to precision EW observables
 -> **internal consistency of SM**

Stability of Higgs potential at the Planck scale depends on value of m_t
 -> $\lambda < 0$ would be indirect evidence of BSM physics



Where do we stand?

CMS review of top quark mass measurements [arXiv:2403.01313]



Large number of measurements performed by CMS (and ATLAS) during LHC Run1 and Run2

- Demonstrates the relevance of the topic

Measurements classified into **different classes**

- Different methods and topologies, as a cross check to each other
- But not only...

Significant improvement in precision over the years thanks to advancements in data analysis techniques

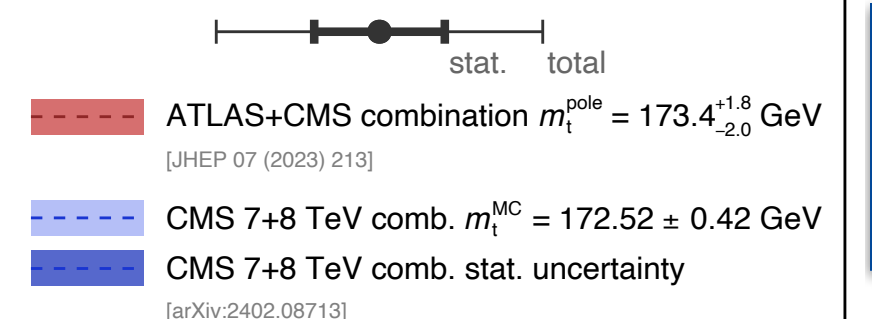
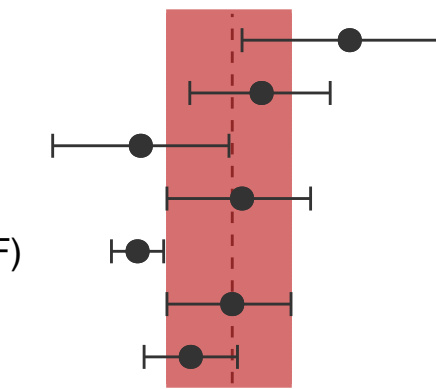
CMS

2403.01313

Lagrangian mass extractions

Pole mass from cross section

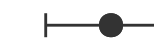
- Inclusive $t\bar{t}$ 7 TeV, NNLO \otimes CT10
- Inclusive $t\bar{t}$ 7+8 TeV, NNLO \otimes CT14
- Inclusive $t\bar{t}$ 13 TeV, NNLO \otimes CT14
- Inclusive $t\bar{t}$ 13 TeV, NNLO \otimes CT14
- Differential $t\bar{t}$ 13 TeV, NLO + 3D fit ($m_t^{\text{pole}}, \alpha_s, \text{PDF}$)
- Dilepton 7+8 TeV, ATLAS+CMS cross section
- Differential $t\bar{t}$ +jet 13 TeV, NLO \otimes CT18



$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 177.0$	$^{+3.6}_{-3.3}$ (tot) GeV	[PLB 728 (2014) 496]
$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 174.3$	$^{+2.1}_{-2.2}$ (tot) GeV	[JHEP 08 (2016) 029]
$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 170.6 \pm 2.7$	(tot) GeV	[JHEP 09 (2017) 051]
$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 173.7$	$^{+2.1}_{-2.3}$ (tot) GeV	[EPJC 79 (2019) 368]
$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 170.5 \pm 0.8$	(tot) GeV	[EPJC 80 (2020) 658]
$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 173.4$	$^{+1.8}_{-2.0}$ (tot) GeV	[JHEP 07 (2023) 213]
$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 172.13 \pm 1.43$	(tot) GeV	[JHEP 07 (2023) 077]

\overline{MS} mass from cross section

- Inclusive $t\bar{t}$ 13 TeV, NNLO \otimes CT14

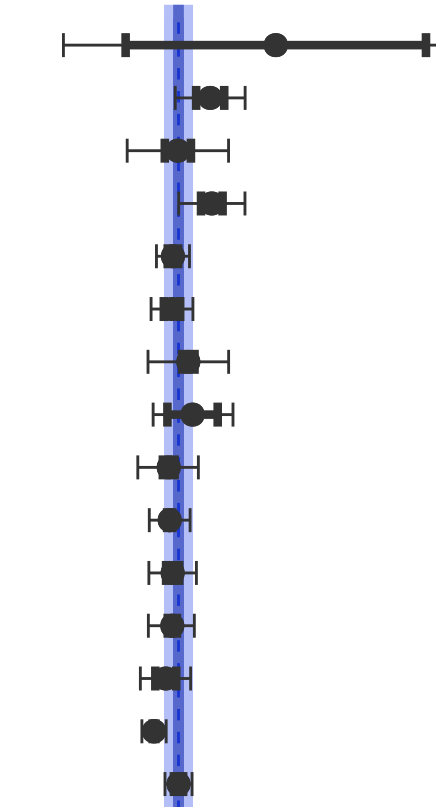


$m_t(m_t) = 165.0$	$^{+1.8}_{-2.0}$ (tot) GeV	[EPJC 79 (2019) 368]
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Direct measurements

Full reconstruction

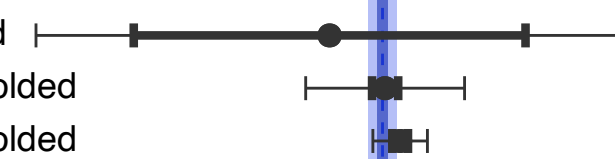
- Dilepton 7 TeV, KINb and AMWT
- Lepton+jets 7 TeV, 2D ideogram
- Dilepton 7 TeV, AMWT
- All-jets 7 TeV, 2D ideogram
- Lepton+jets 8 TeV, Hybrid ideogram
- All-jets 8 TeV, Hybrid ideogram
- Dilepton 8 TeV, AMWT
- Single top quark 8 TeV, Template fit
- Dilepton 8 TeV, $M_{b1}+M_{T2}^{bb}$ Hybrid fit
- Lepton+jets 13 TeV, Hybrid ideogram
- All-jets 13 TeV, Hybrid ideogram
- Dilepton 13 TeV, m_{b1} fit
- Single top quark 13 TeV, $\ln(m_t / 1 \text{ GeV})$ fit
- Lepton+jets 13 TeV, Profile likelihood
- Combination 7+8 TeV



$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 175.5 \pm 4.6$	(stat) ± 4.6 (sys) GeV	[JHEP 07 (2011) 04]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 173.49 \pm 0.43$	(stat) ± 0.98 (sys) GeV	[JHEP 12 (2012) 105]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.5 \pm 0.4$	(stat) ± 1.5 (sys) GeV	[EPJC 72 (2012) 2202]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 173.54 \pm 0.33$	(stat) ± 0.96 (sys) GeV	[EPJC 74 (2014) 2758]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.35 \pm 0.16$	(stat) ± 0.48 (sys) GeV	[PRD 93 (2016) 072004]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.32 \pm 0.25$	(stat) ± 0.59 (sys) GeV	[PRD 93 (2016) 072004]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.82 \pm 0.19$	(stat) ± 1.22 (sys) GeV	[PRD 93 (2016) 072004]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.95 \pm 0.77$	(stat) $^{+0.97}_{-0.93}$ (sys) GeV	[EPJC 77 (2017) 354]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.22 \pm 0.18$	(stat) $^{+0.89}_{-0.93}$ (sys) GeV	[PRD 96 (2017) 032002]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.25 \pm 0.08$	(stat) ± 0.62 (sys) GeV	[EPJC 78 (2018) 891]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.34 \pm 0.20$	(stat) ± 0.70 (sys) GeV	[EPJC 79 (2019) 313]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.33 \pm 0.14$	(stat) $^{+0.66}_{-0.72}$ (sys) GeV	[EPJC 79 (2019) 368]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.13 \pm 0.32$	(stat) $^{+0.69}_{-0.71}$ (sys) GeV	[JHEP 12 (2021) 161]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 171.77 \pm 0.04$	(stat) ± 0.37 (sys) GeV	[EPJC 83 (2023) 963]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.52 \pm 0.14$	(stat) ± 0.39 (sys) GeV	[arXiv:2402.08713]

Boosted measurements

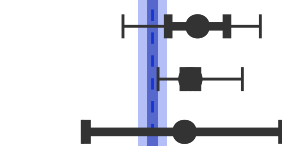
- Boosted 8 TeV, C/A jet mass unfolded
- Boosted 13 TeV, X Cone jet mass unfolded
- Boosted 13 TeV, X Cone jet mass unfolded



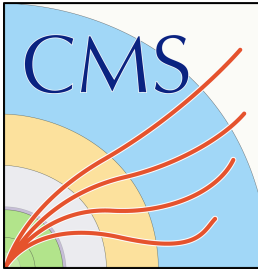
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 170.9 \pm 6.0$	(stat) ± 6.7 (sys) GeV	[EPJC 77 (2017) 467]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 172.6 \pm 0.4$	(stat) ± 2.4 (sys) GeV	[PRL 124 (2020) 202001]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 173.06 \pm 0.24$	(stat) ± 0.80 (sys) GeV	[EPJC 83 (2023) 560]

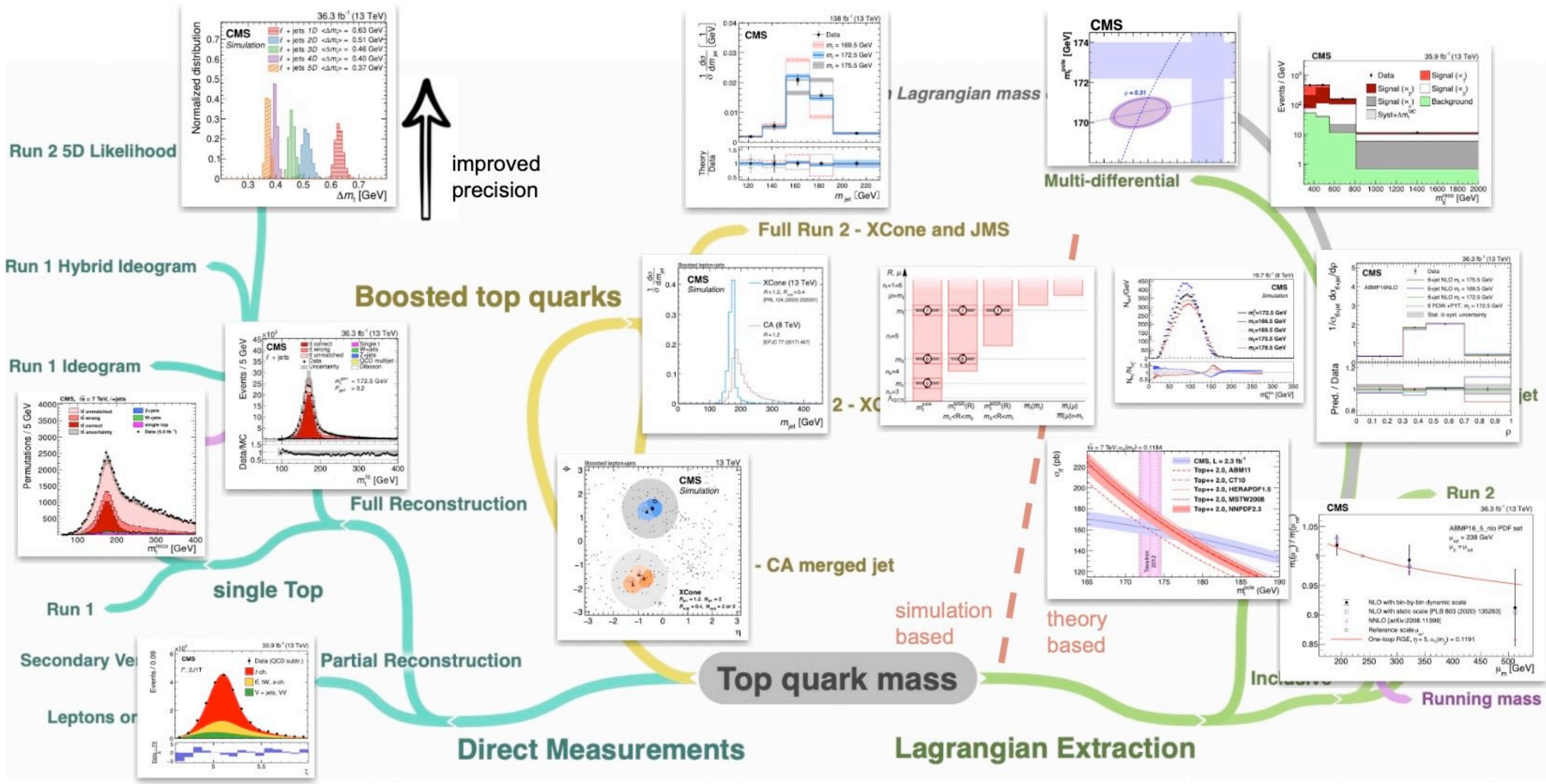
Alternative measurements

- Dilepton 7 TeV, Kinematic endpoints
- 1+2 leptons 8 TeV, Lepton + secondary vertex
- 1+2 leptons 8 TeV, Lepton + J/Ψ



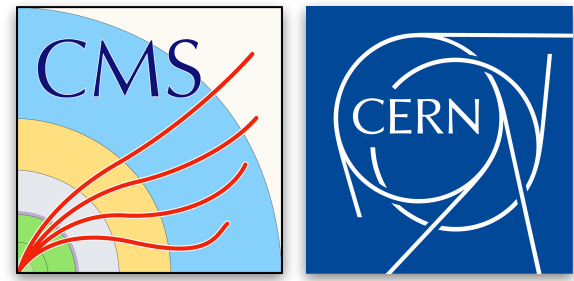
$m_t = 173.9 \pm 0.9$	(stat) $^{+1.7}_{-2.1}$ (sys) GeV	[EPJC 73 (2013) 2494]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 173.68 \pm 0.20$	(stat) $^{+1.58}_{-0.97}$ (sys) GeV	[PRD 93 (2016) 092006]
$m_t^{\text{MC}} = 173.5 \pm 3.0$	(stat) ± 0.9 (sys) GeV	[JHEP 12 (2016) 123]





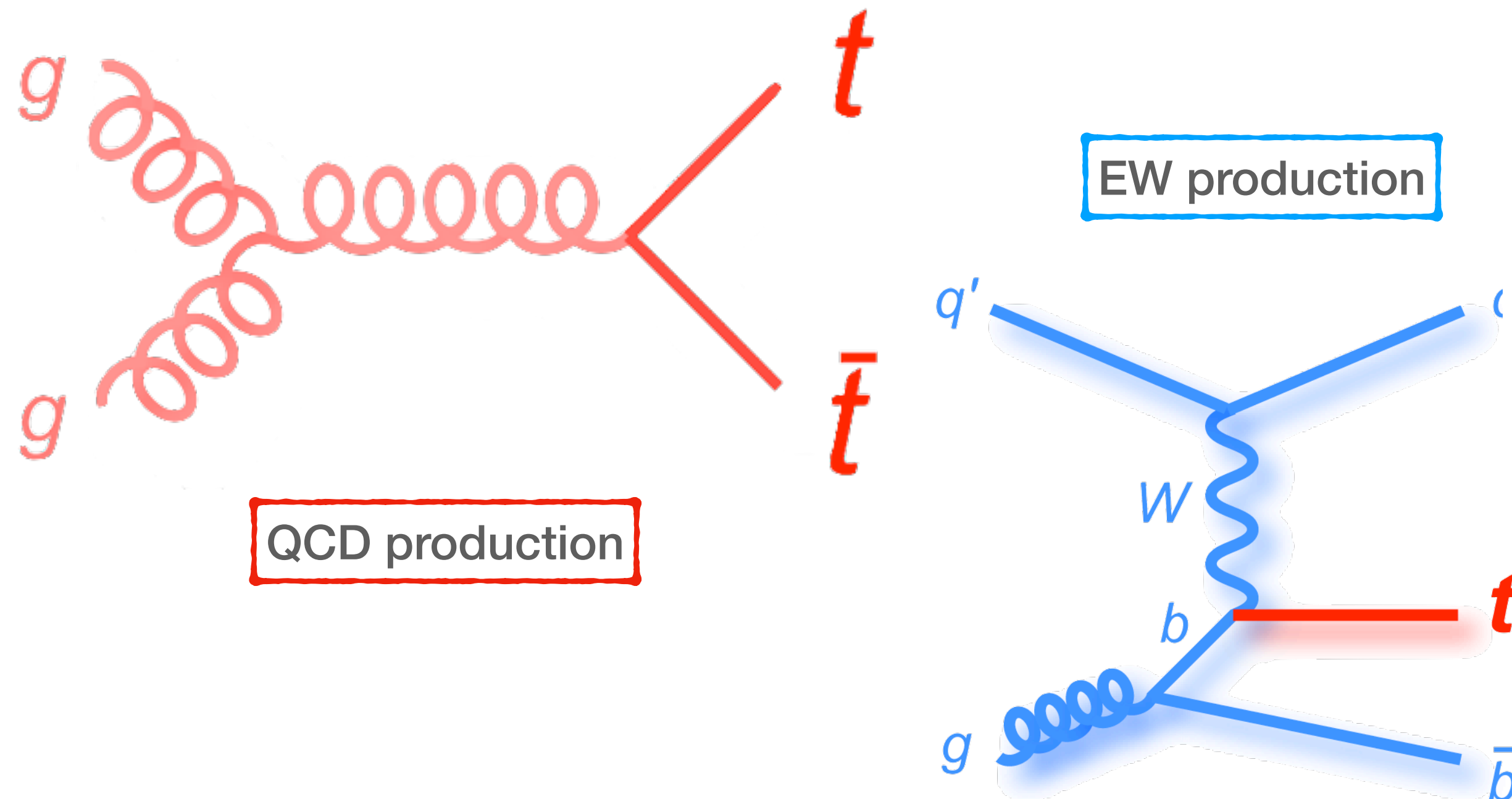
Each measurement is a piece of the puzzle...

Top quark production at the LHC

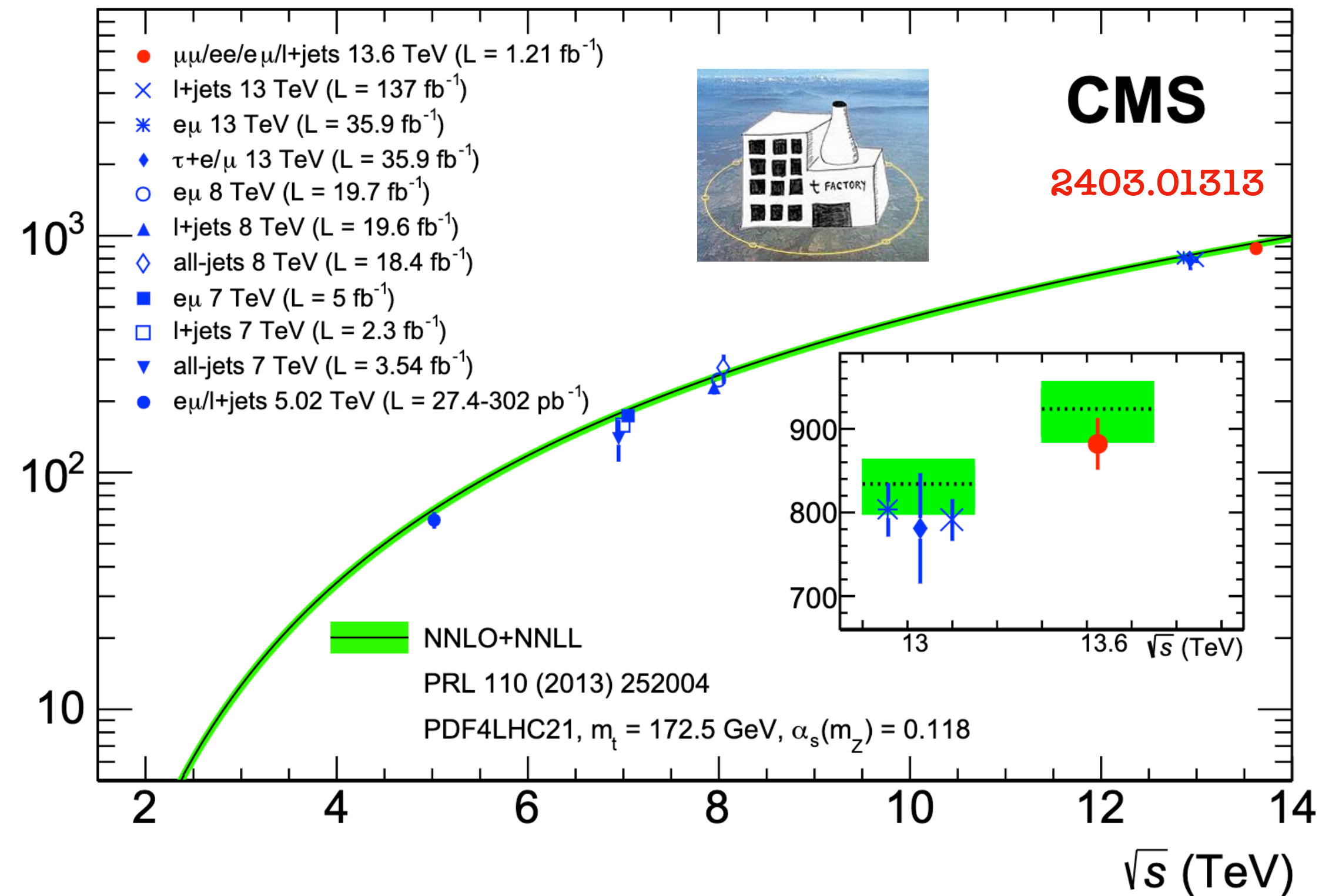


$gg \rightarrow tt$ is by far the dominant production channel

- Most relevant in the context of m_t measurements
- Other channels (e.g. t-channel) can be used, and bring some benefits in **combinations**



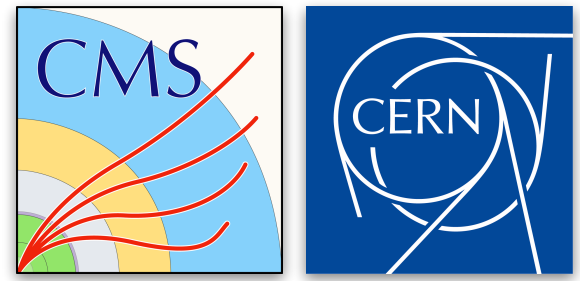
Inclusive tt cross section (pb)



More than 10 tt pairs produced every second at the LHC

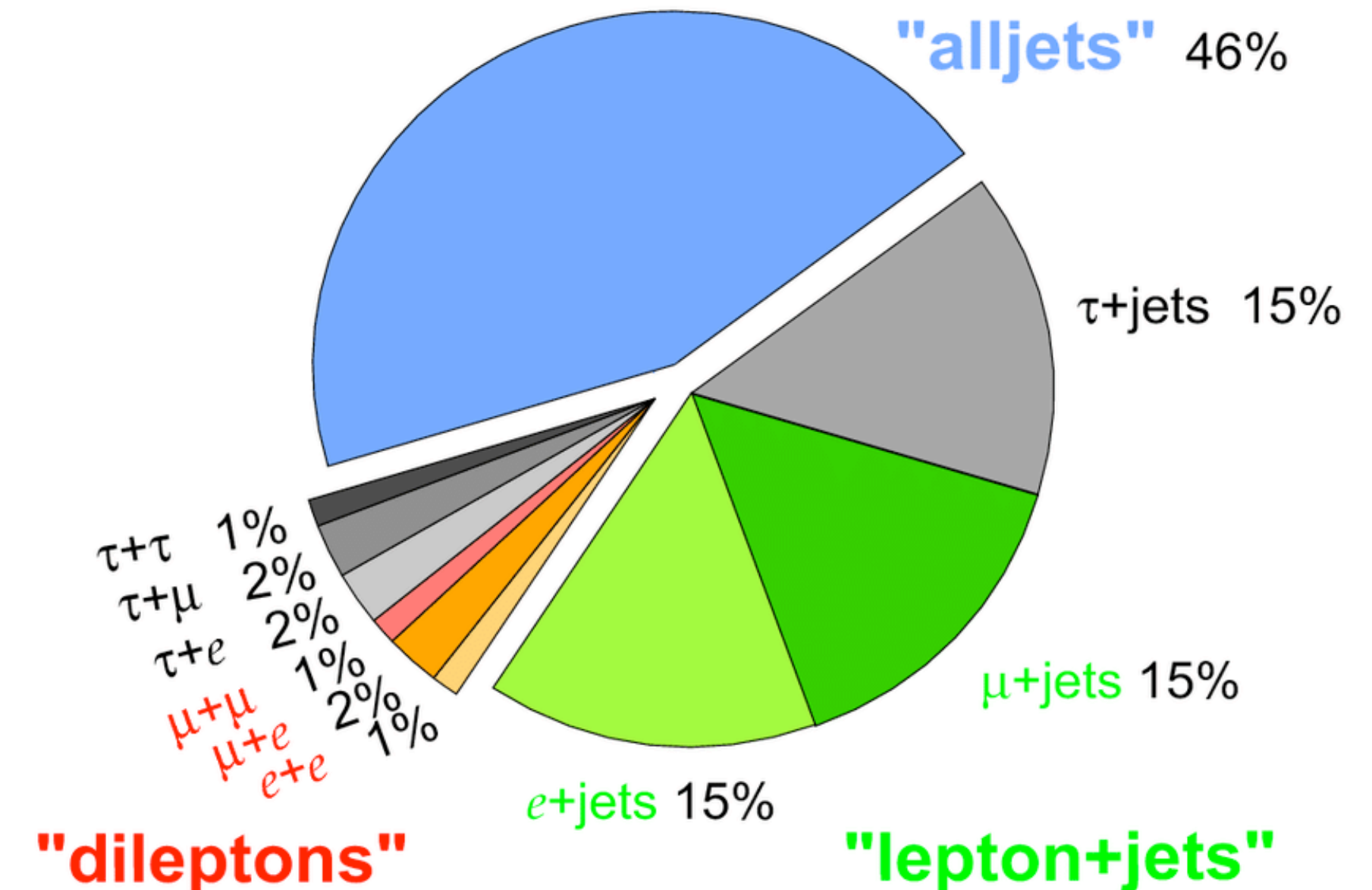
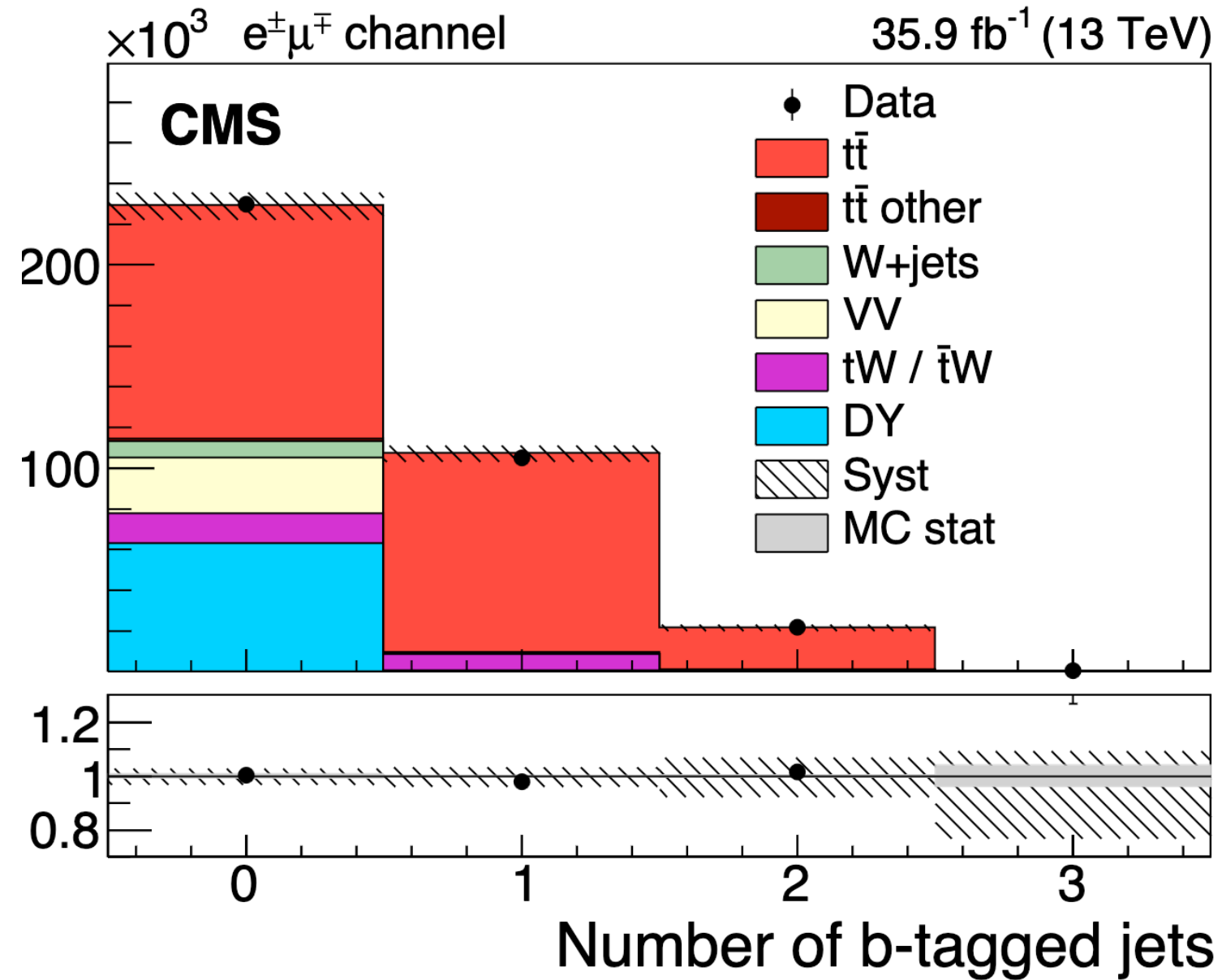
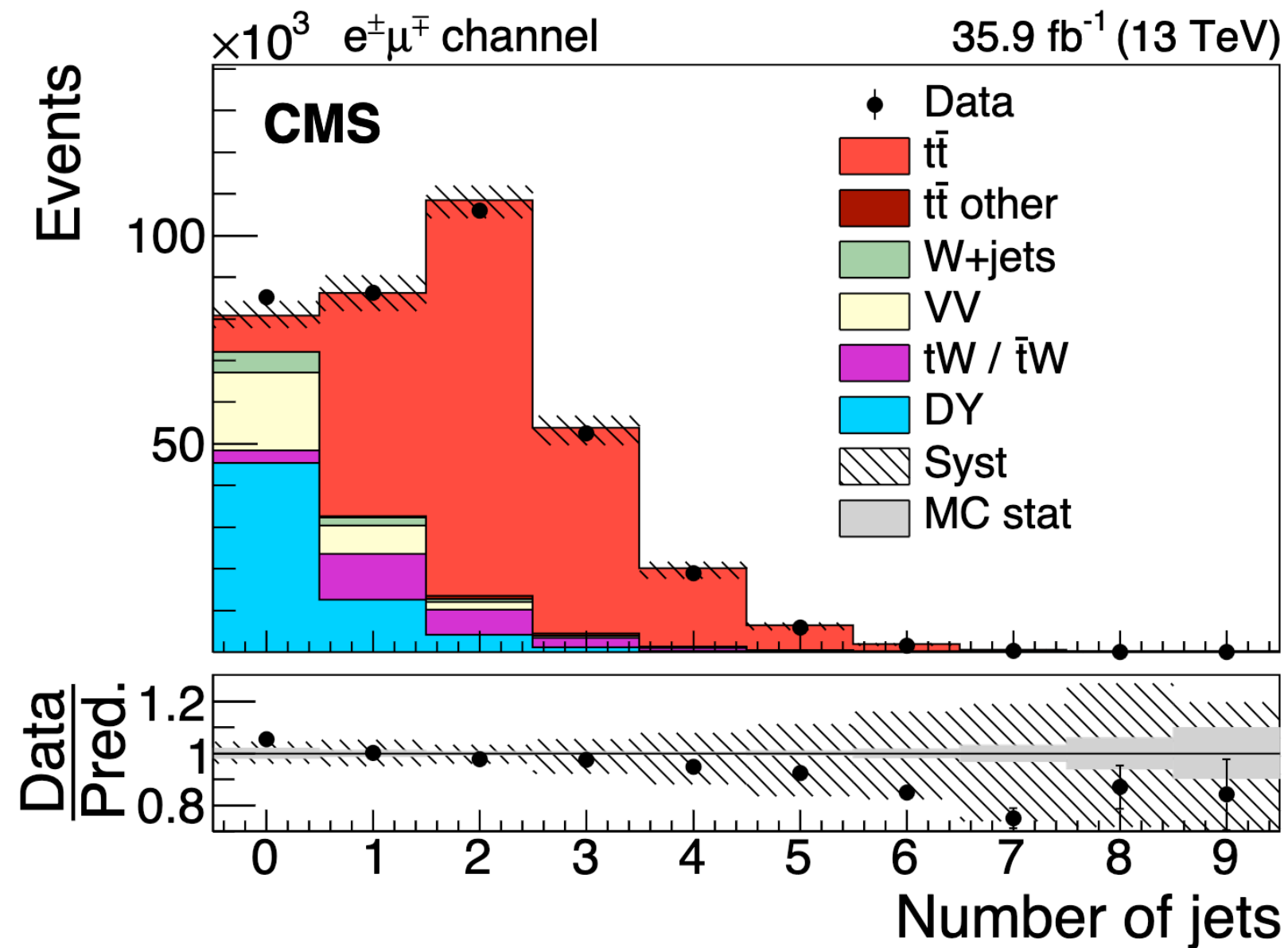
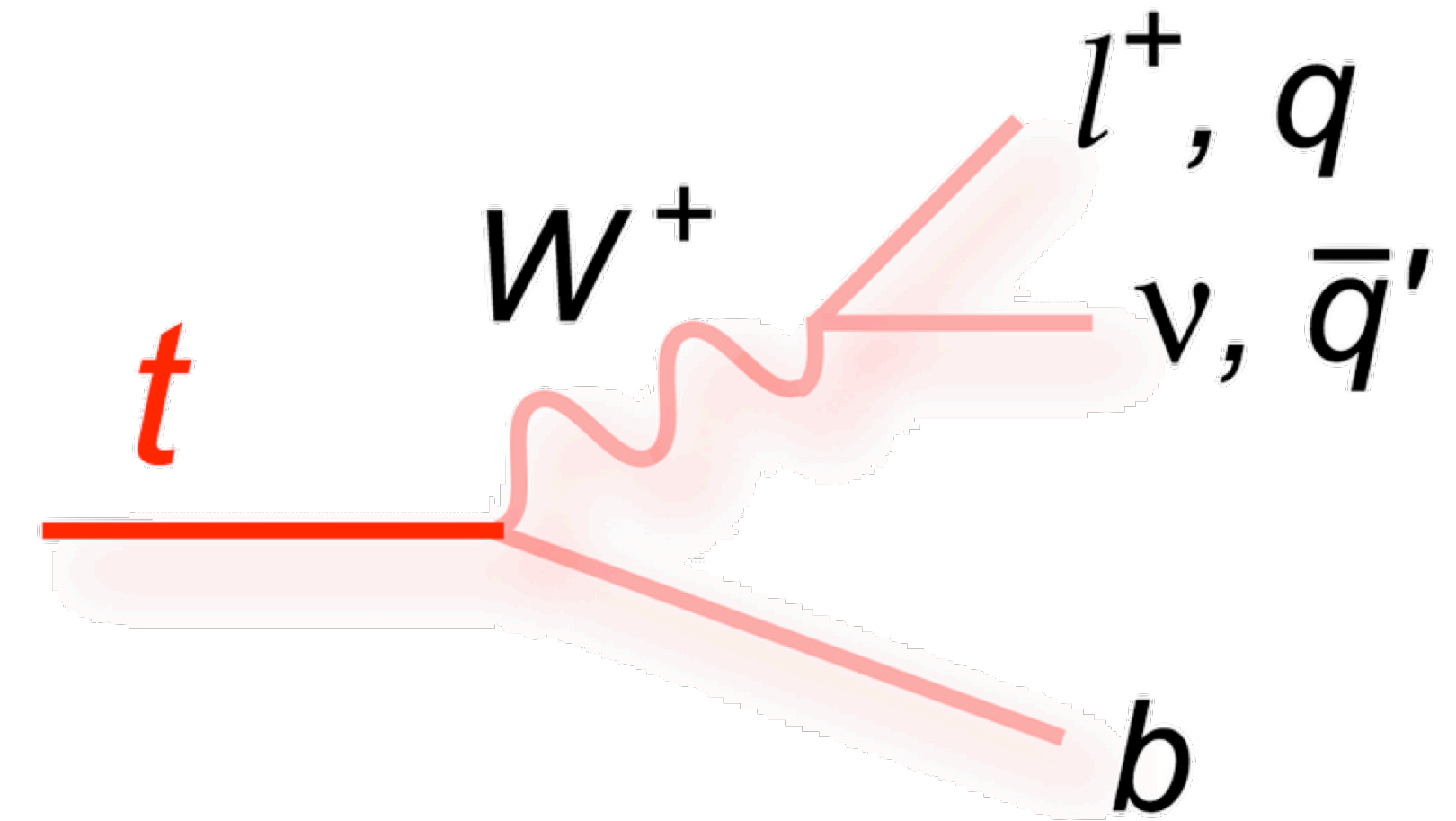
- Well understood process on a wide range of energy scales

Zooming in on $t\bar{t}$: the final states

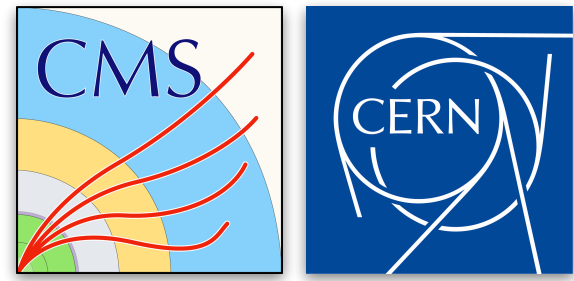


- Di-lepton final state extremely clean, but only **partial reconstruction** of the top quark mass is possible. Ideal for cross section measurements
- Fully hadronic final state pays the price of large QCD background
- Lepton+jets final state allows for **full reconstruction of m_t**

EPJC [1812.10505]

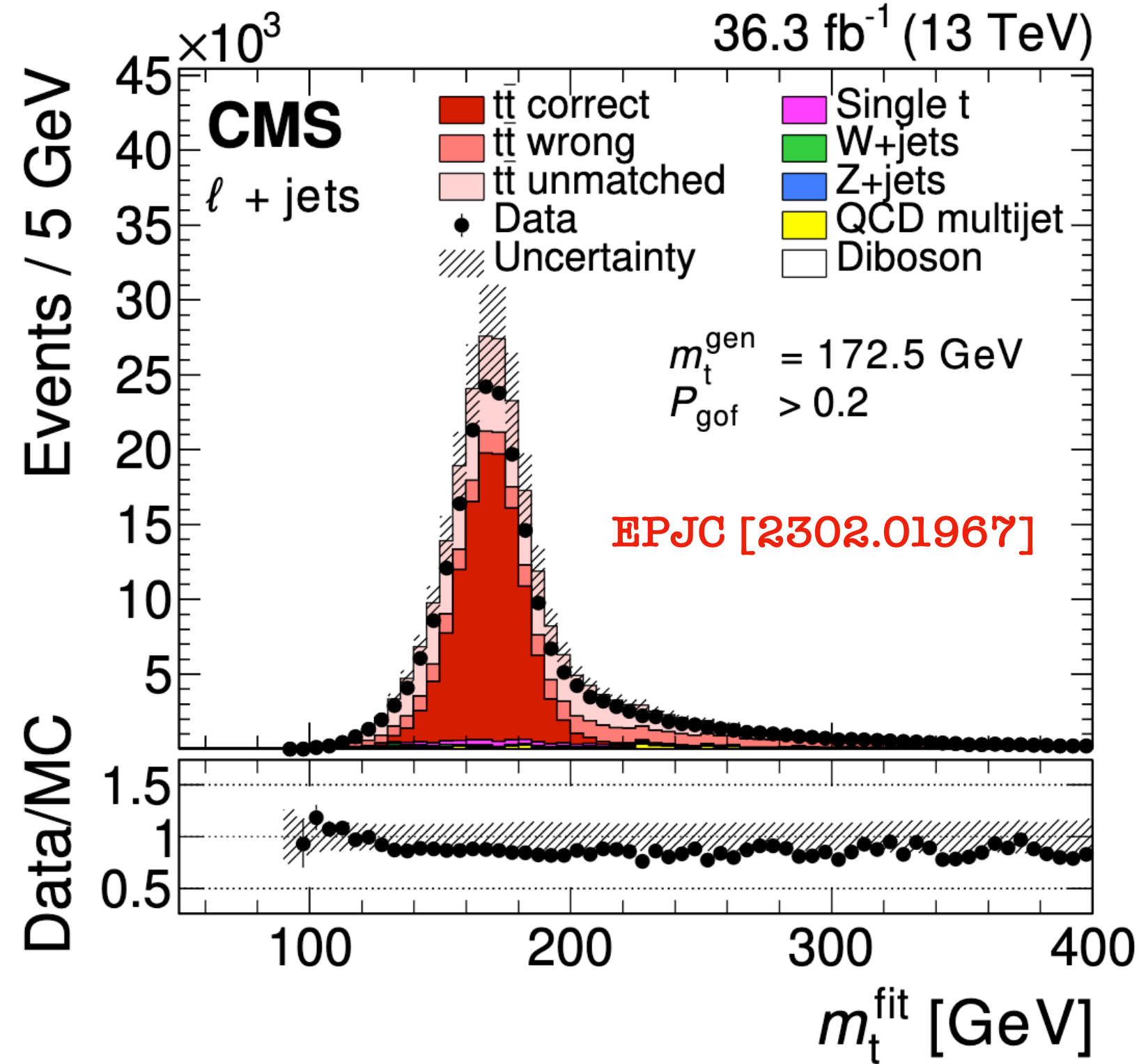


Direct measurements



Full reconstruction

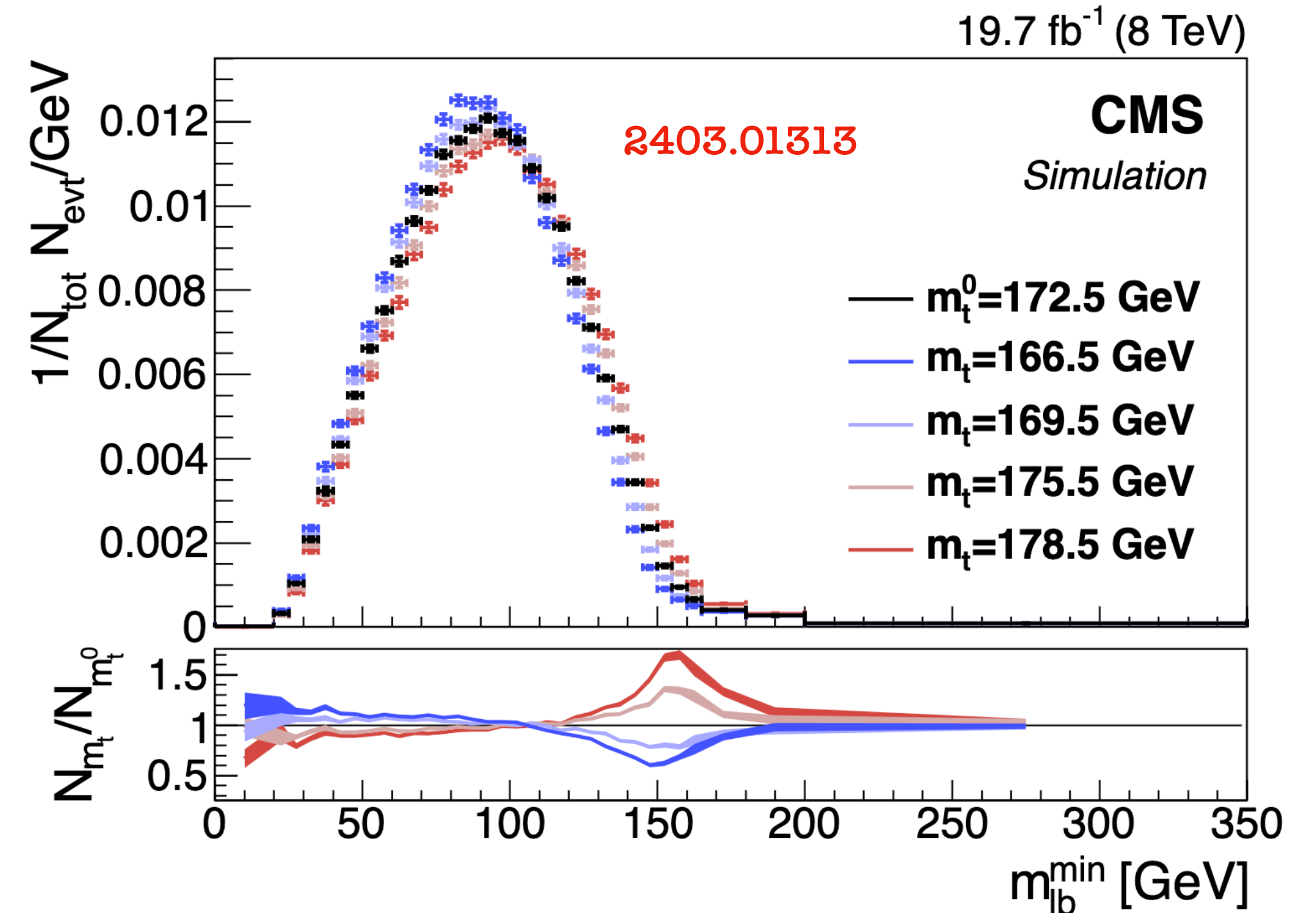
- Only possible in l+jets and fully hadronic channels
- In l+jets, longitudinal component of neutrino momentum estimated imposing a **W mass constraint**
- m_t constraint needed in di-lepton channel -> cannot be used in m_t measurement -> **partial reconstruction**



P_{gof} cut
suppresses
backgrounds in
l+jets channel

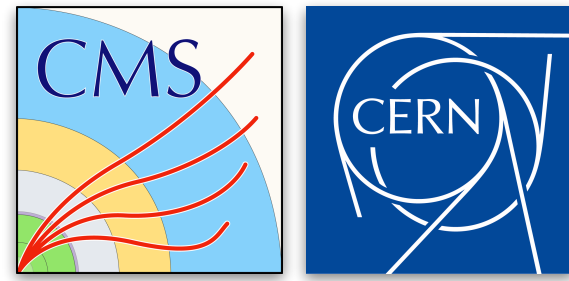
$$\chi^2 \equiv (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^m)^T G (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^m)$$

$$P_{\text{gof}} = \exp(-\chi^2/2)$$



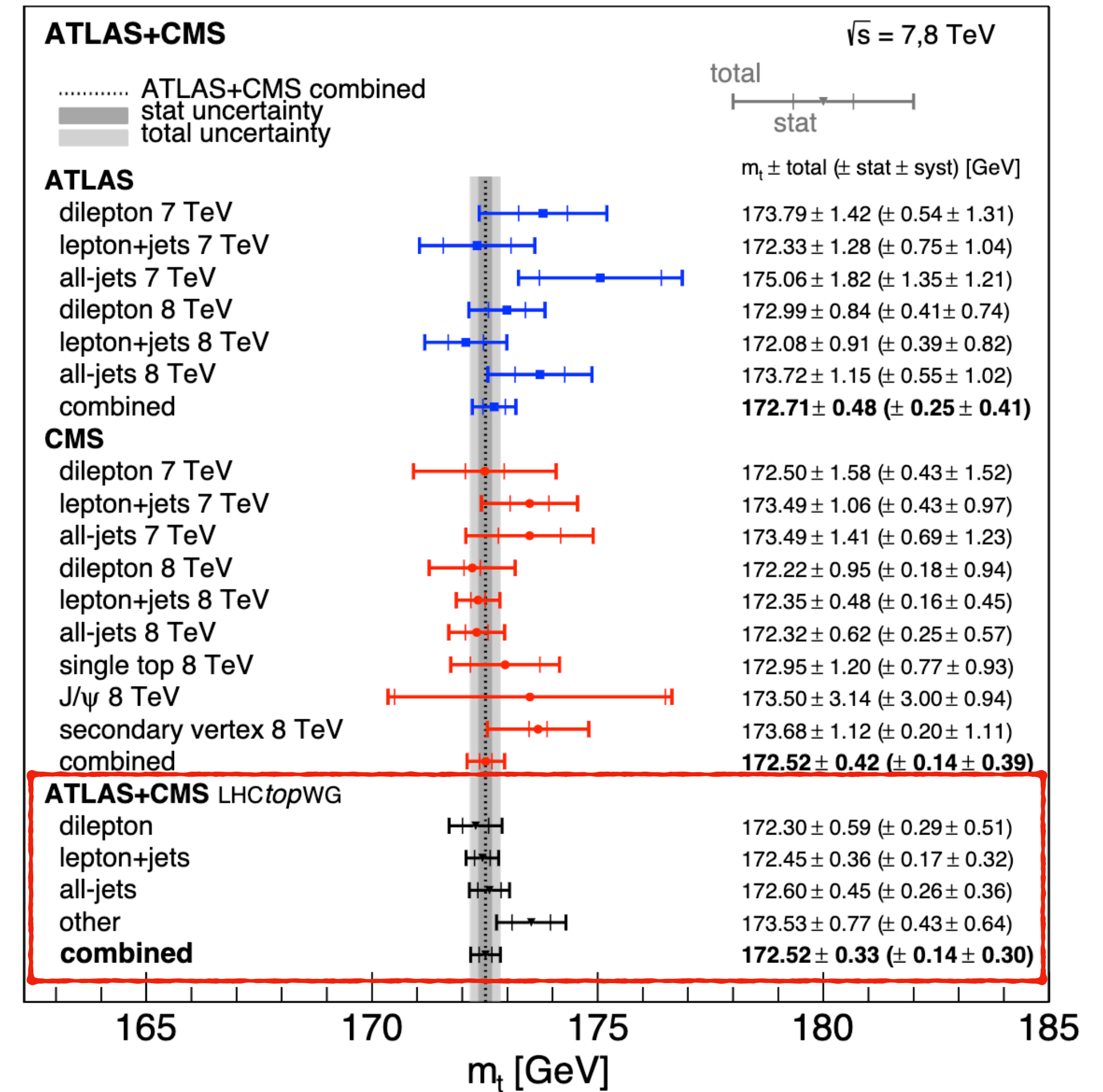
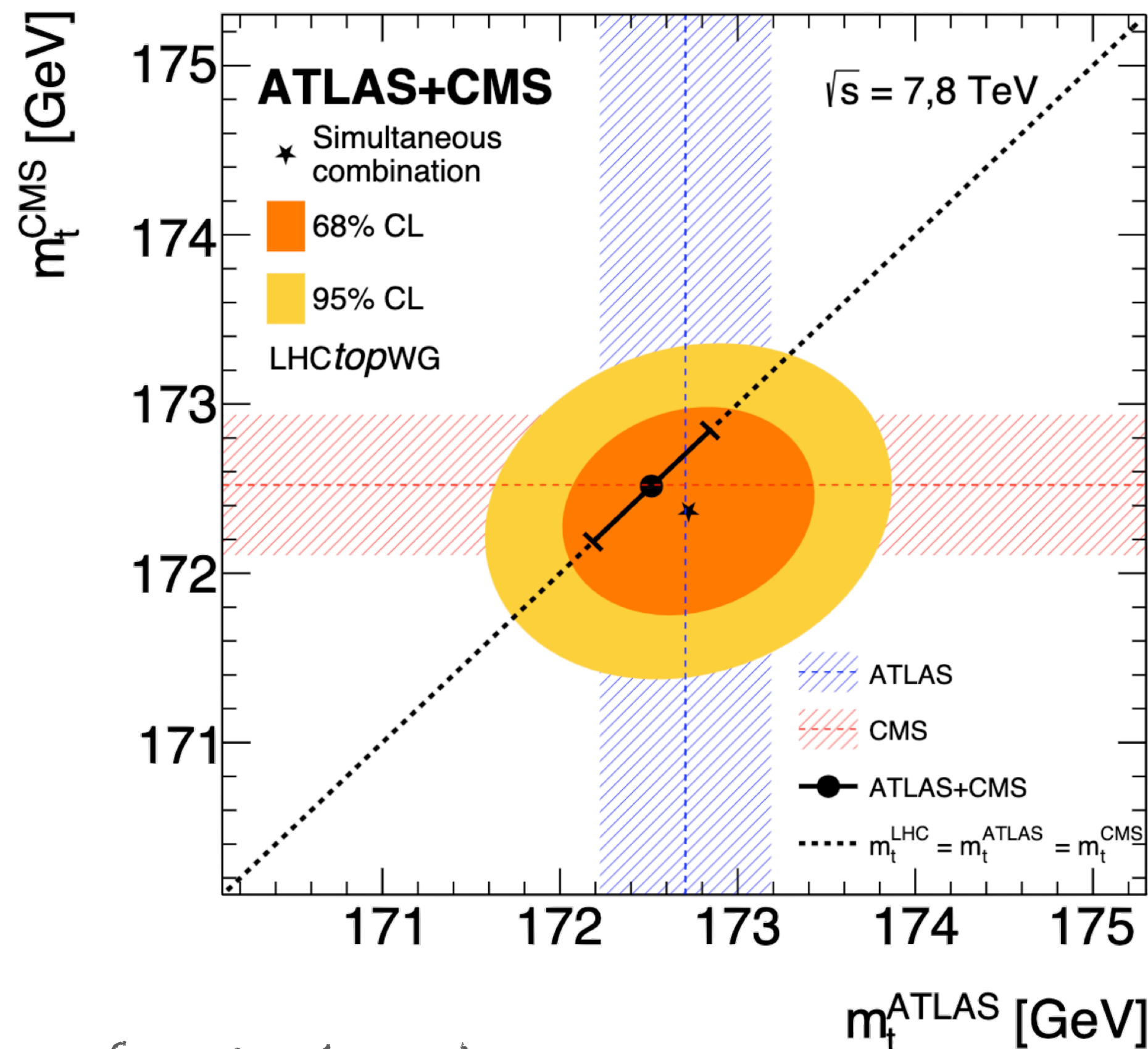
LHC Run1 combination (7 and 8 TeV)

PRL [2402.08713]



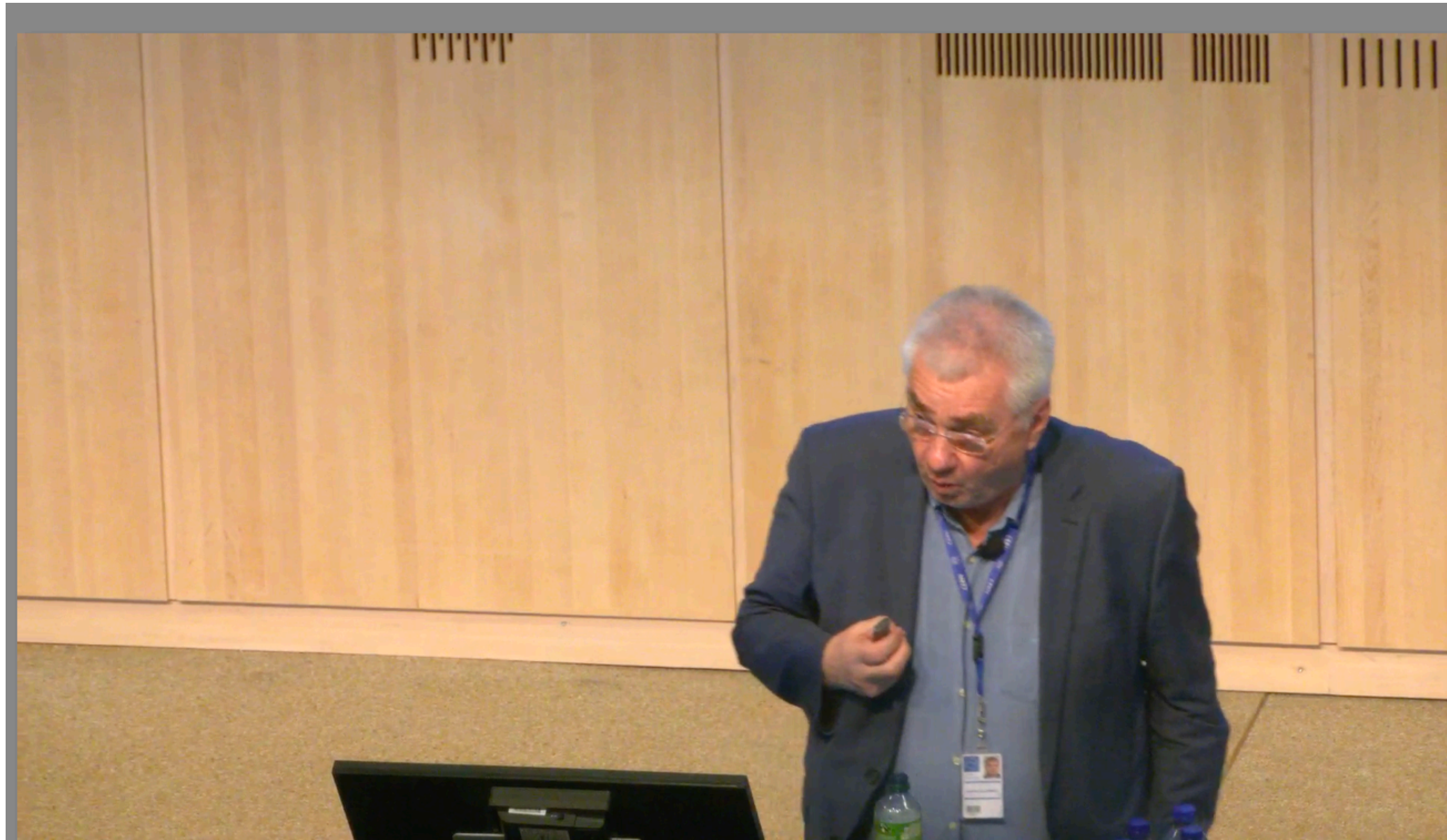
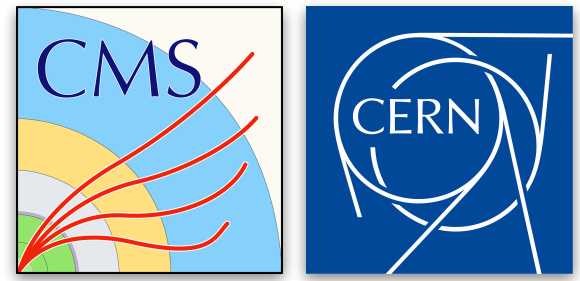
- Combination of **15 input measurements** (6 ATLAS + 9 CMS)
- Better than 0.2% precision -> **most precise result** to date
- Includes 3 CMS measurements from “alternative methods”

-> Precision limited by b-quark jet energy scale uncertainty



> 30% improvement over most precise input measurement

Only LHC result highlighted at Directorate's 2024 new year presentation



ATLAS/CMS Top Mass Combination



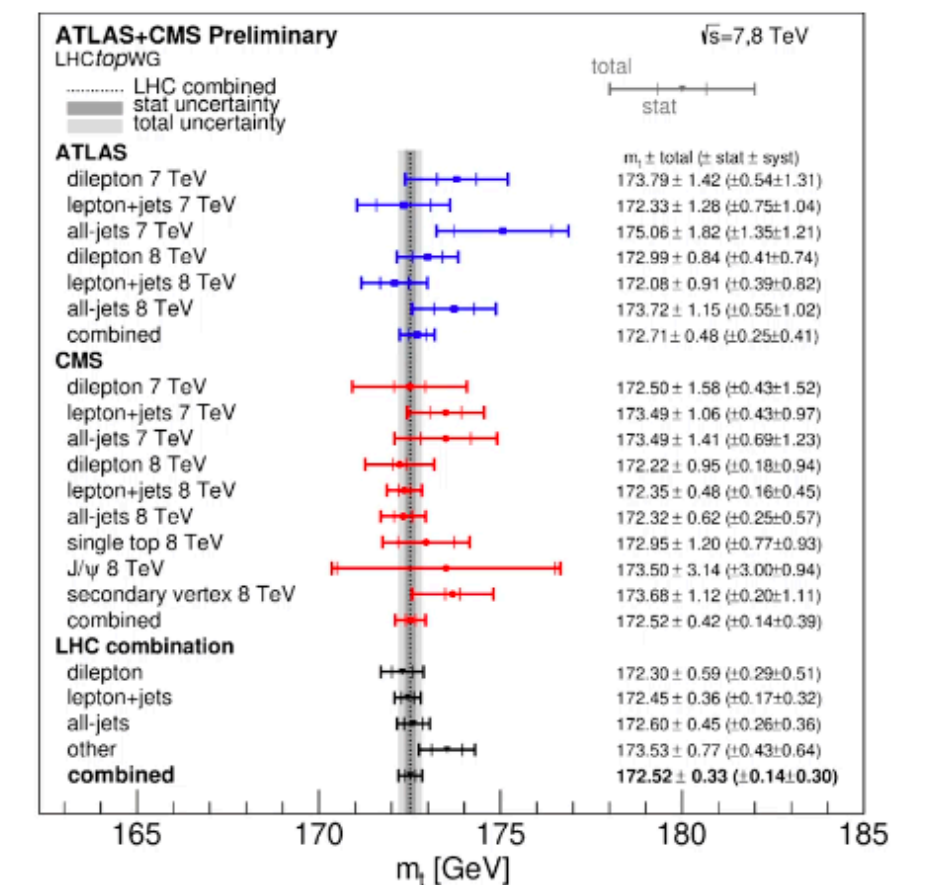
All experiments continue to produce many first class scientific results

One example: Combination of 15 top quark mass measurements by ATLAS and CMS (Run 1)

$$m_{\text{top}} = 172.52 \pm 0.14 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.30 (\text{sys}) \text{ GeV}$$

total uncertainty of 0.33 GeV (< 0.2%!)

- ❑ Most precise top mass measurement to date thanks to the combination
- ❑ Measurements are consistent between ATLAS and CMS and between top-pair decay channels

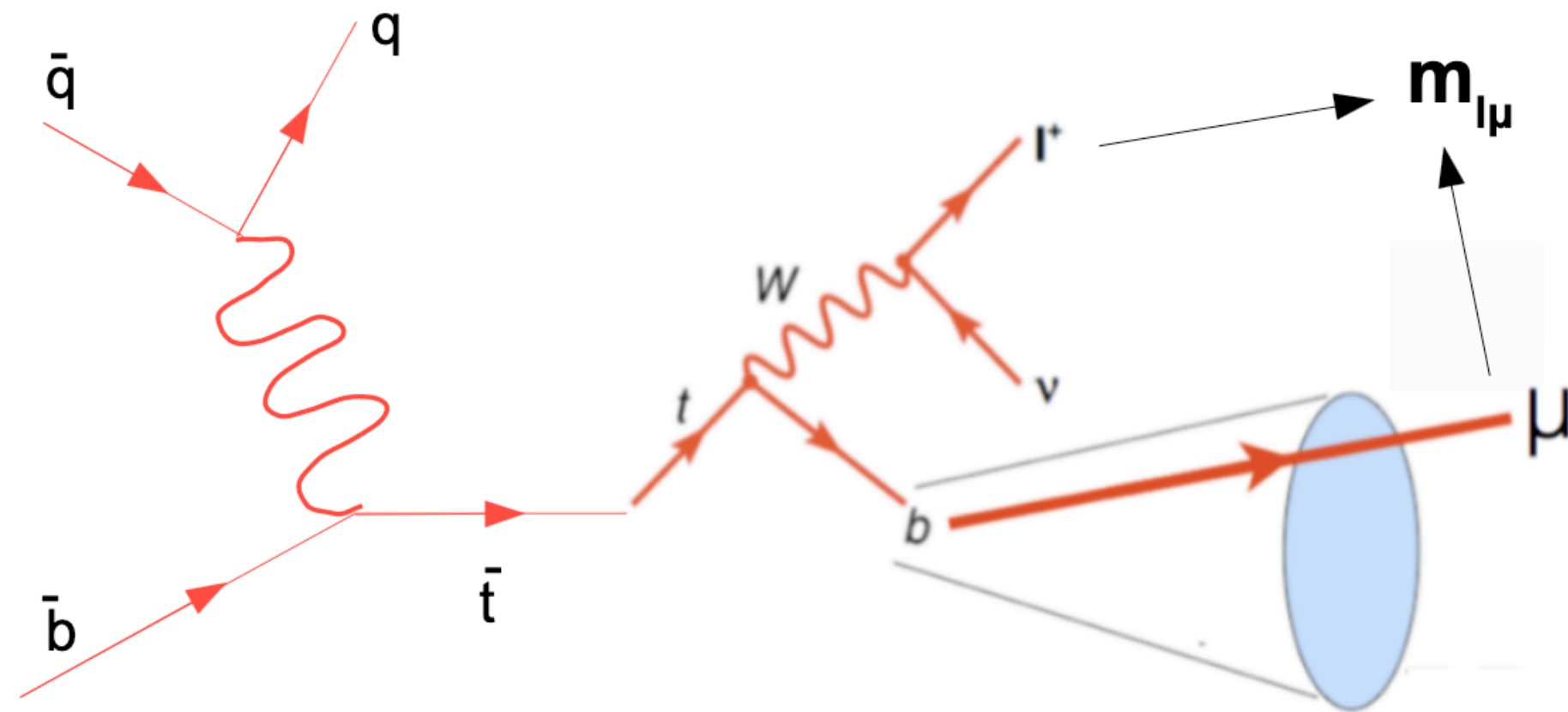
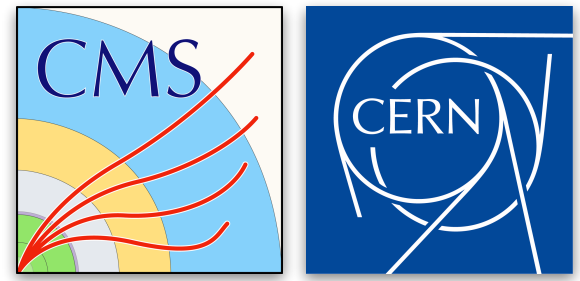


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“Alternative” methods (e.g. soft muon)



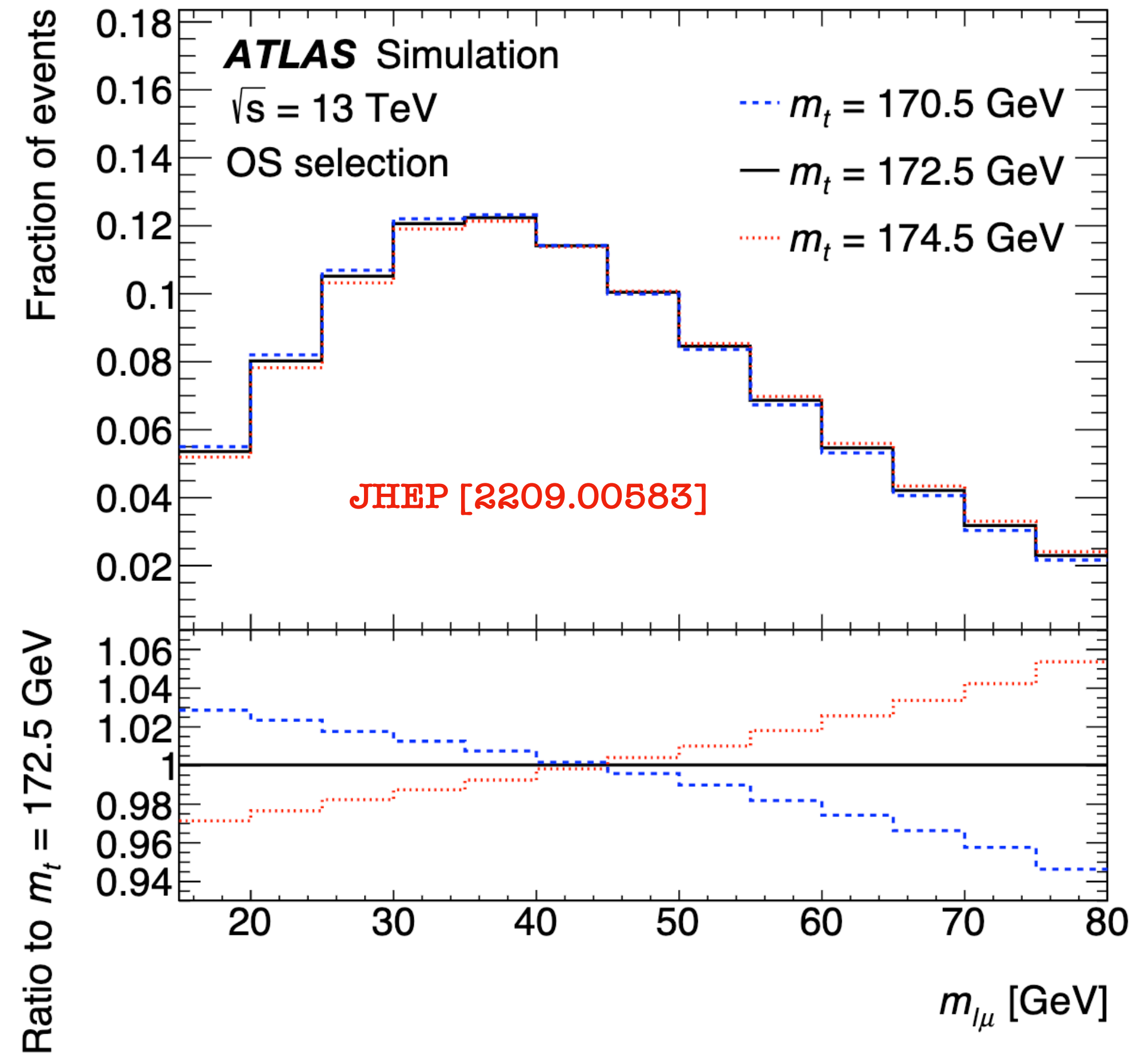
$$f(z) = \frac{1}{z^{1+br_b m_b^2}} (1-z)^a \exp(-bm_T^2/z)$$

- **Partial reconstruction** of invariant mass of top decay products
- Often consider only certain constituents of b quark jets
 - Soft lepton from B decays, J/Ψ, secondary vertex

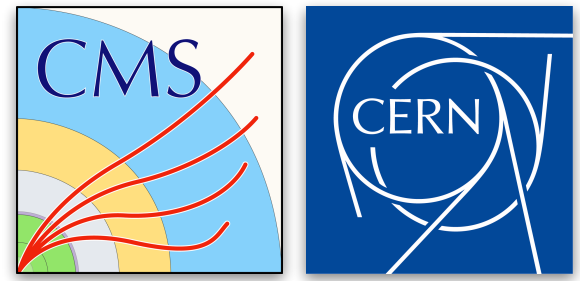
Pros: reduced sensitivity to b-quark jet energy scale
 -> beneficial for combinations

Cons: sensitive to fragmentation effects,
 -> overall less precise

$$m_t = 174.41 \pm 0.39 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.66 \text{ (syst.)} \pm 0.25 \text{ (recoil) GeV}$$



13 TeV measurement w/ profile likelihood

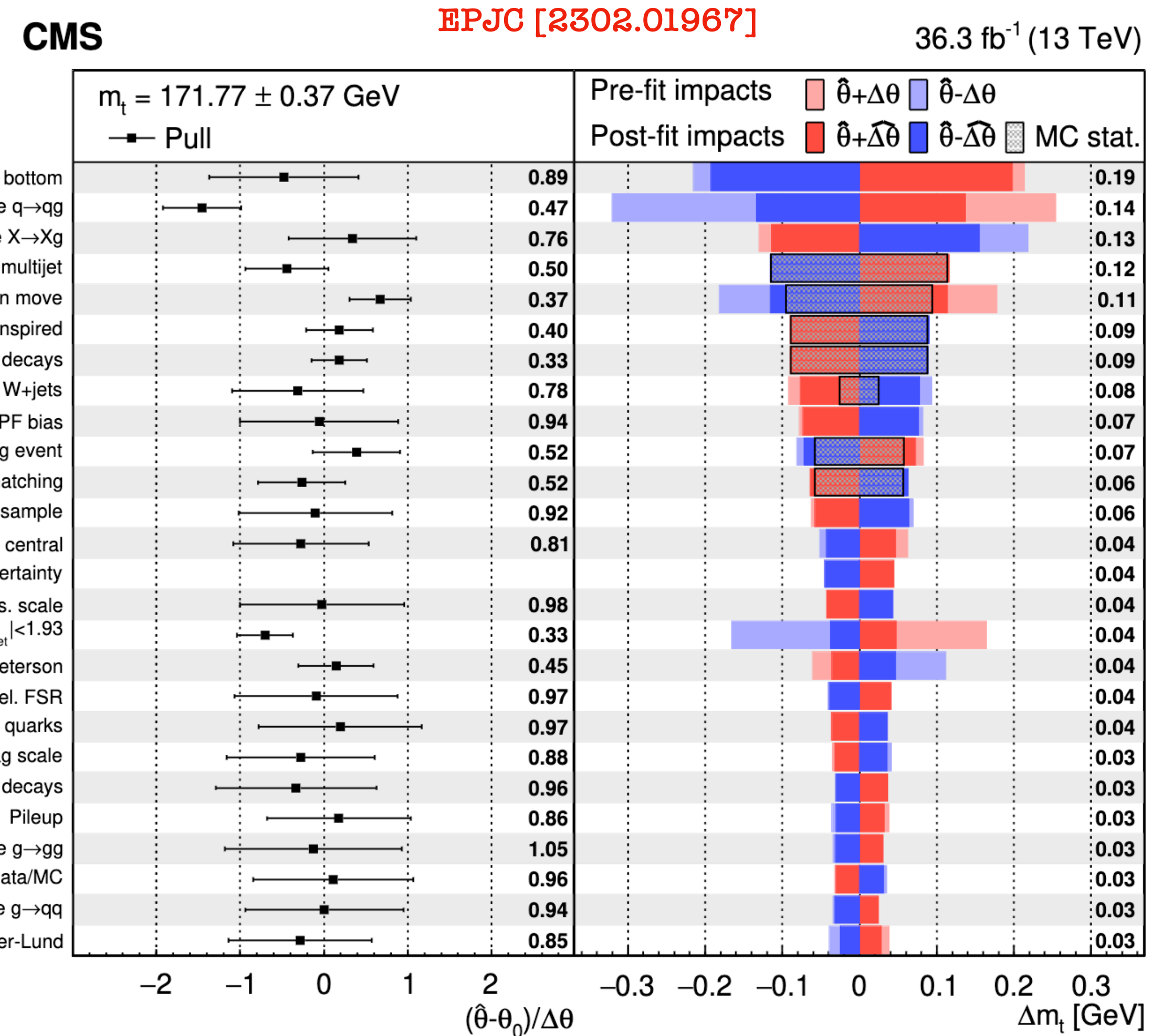


“Traditional” method: vary each parameter in the analysis and repeat extraction of parameter of interest

- Simple to implement and interpret
- **Neglects correlations between systematics**
- Does not make use of data to constrain systematics

Profile-likelihood approach: fit parameter(s) of interest and systematic uncertainties (nuisance parameters) all at once

- Takes all correlations into account
- Makes optimal use of **multiple distributions**
- Can **constrain** systematic effects from data
- Harder to diagnose, unclear interpretation of “theory” nuisance parameters
- Can **significantly mitigate bias** on parameter(s) of interest



$$\mathcal{L}(m_t, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_N)$$

13 TeV profile likelihood result

EPJC [2302.01967]

Most precise standalone result

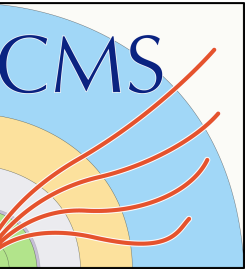
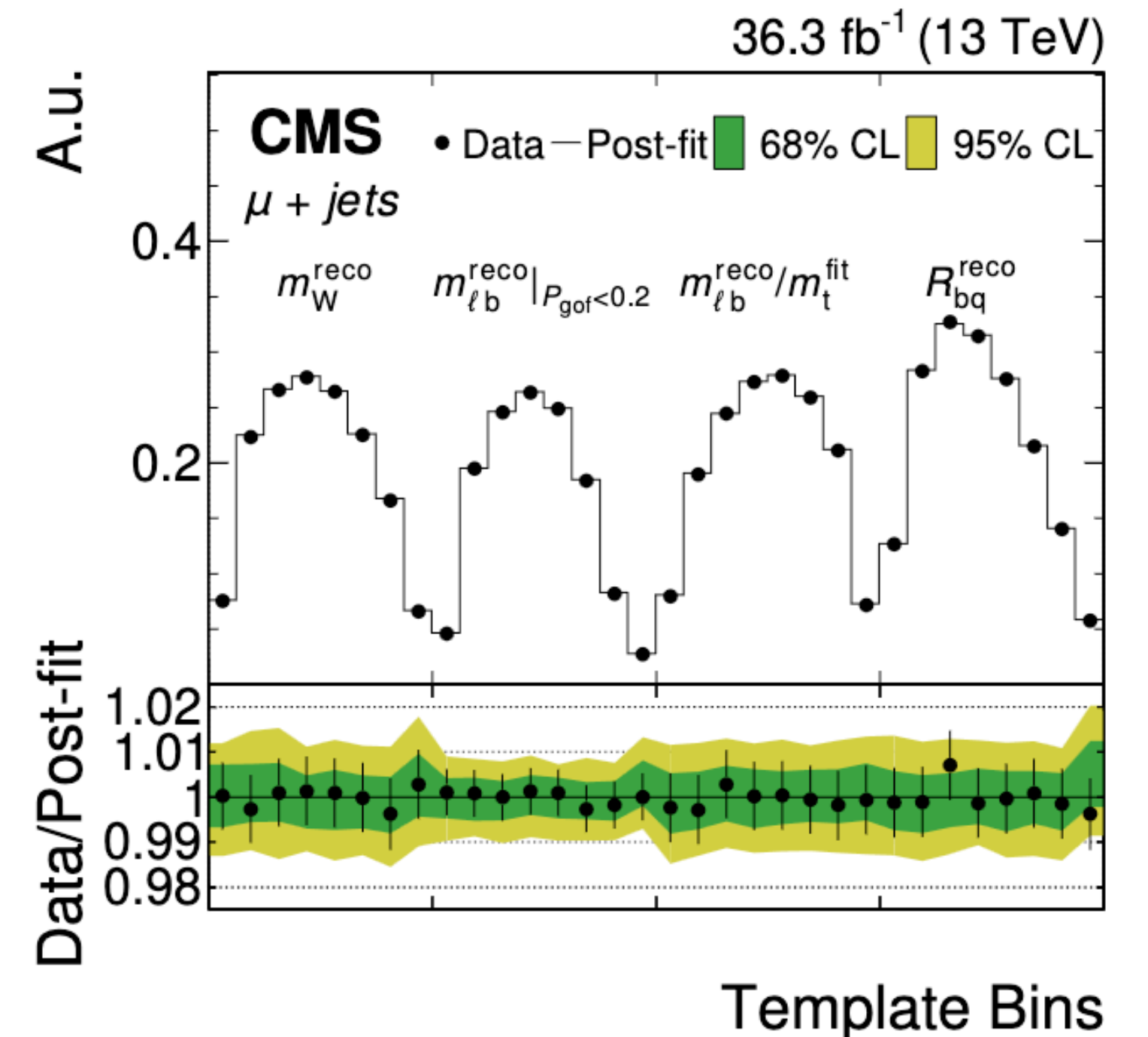
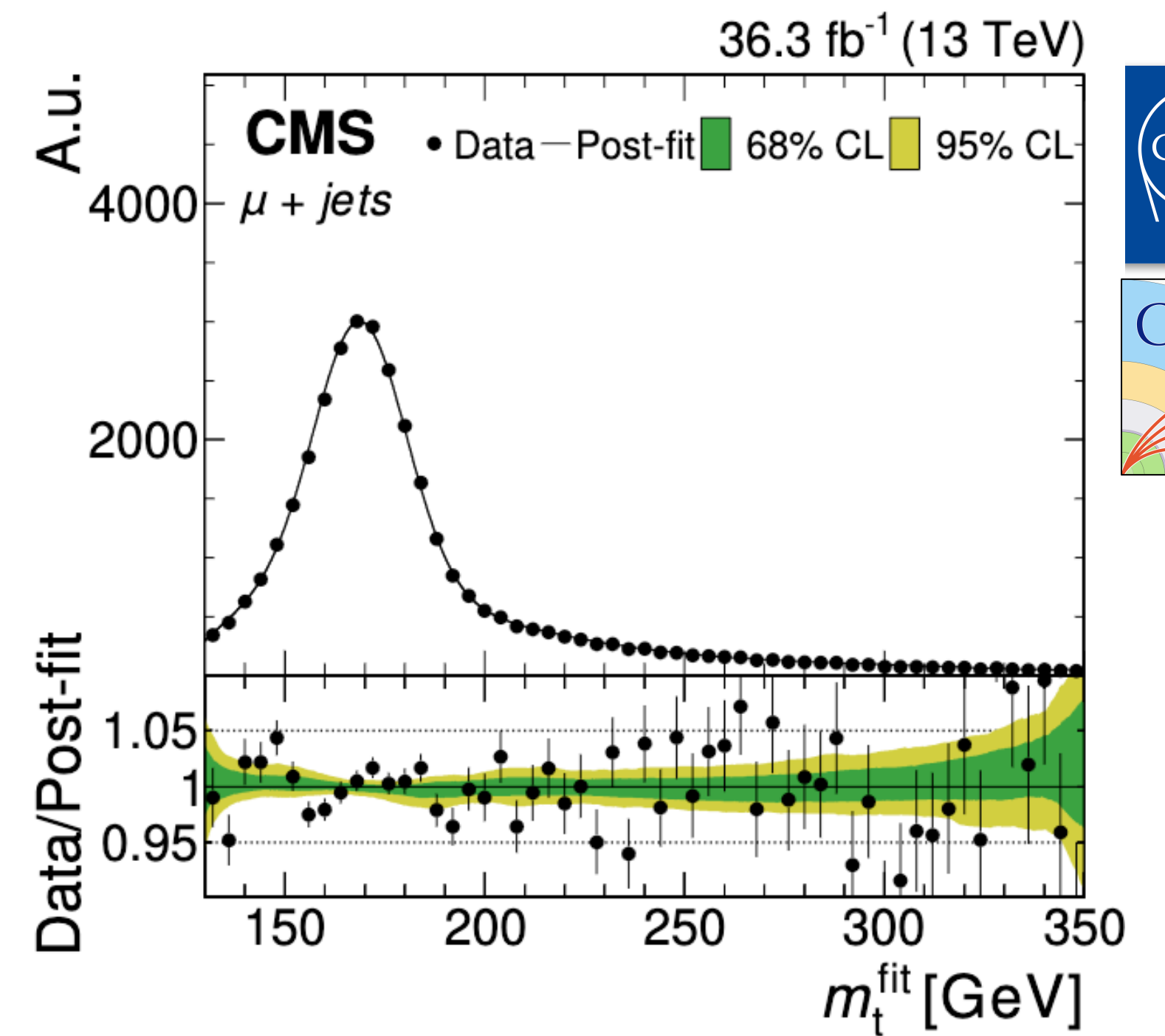
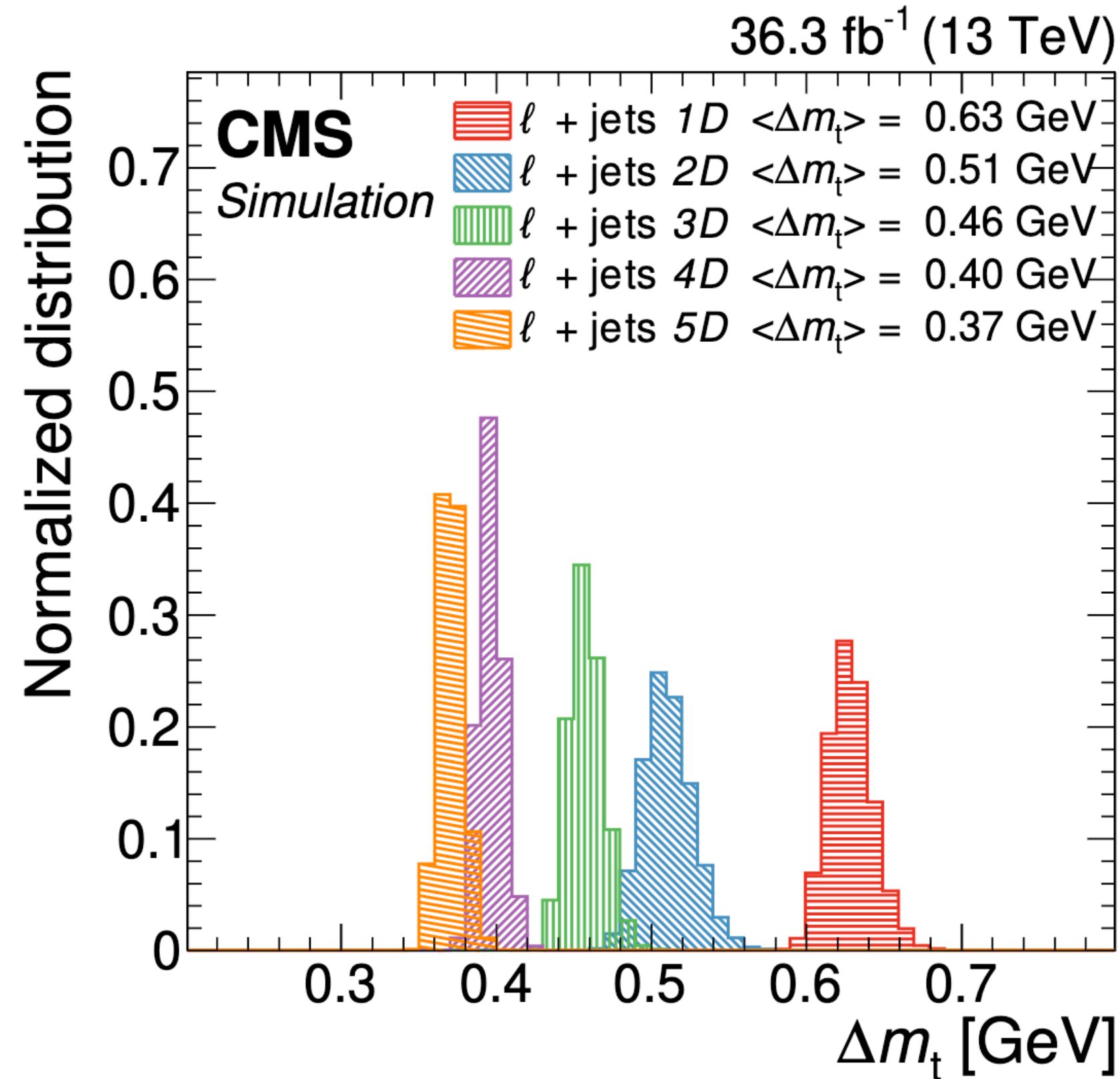
Electron+jets: $m_t^{5D} = 172.11 \pm 0.49$ GeV,

Muon+jets: $m_t^{5D} = 171.98 \pm 0.42$ GeV,

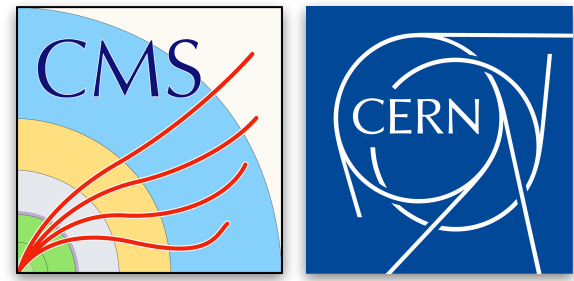
Lepton+jets: $m_t^{5D} = 171.77 \pm 0.37$ GeV.

- Combination of different decay channels and distributions significantly improves precision

- **Nearly as precise as the combination of 15 Run1 measurements!**



Uncertainty on m_t vs time



2403.01313

CMS

Improvement in precision well **beyond** decrease in statistical uncertainty

- Like many other class of measurements, significant benefit from **advancement in data analysis techniques**

Natural questions:

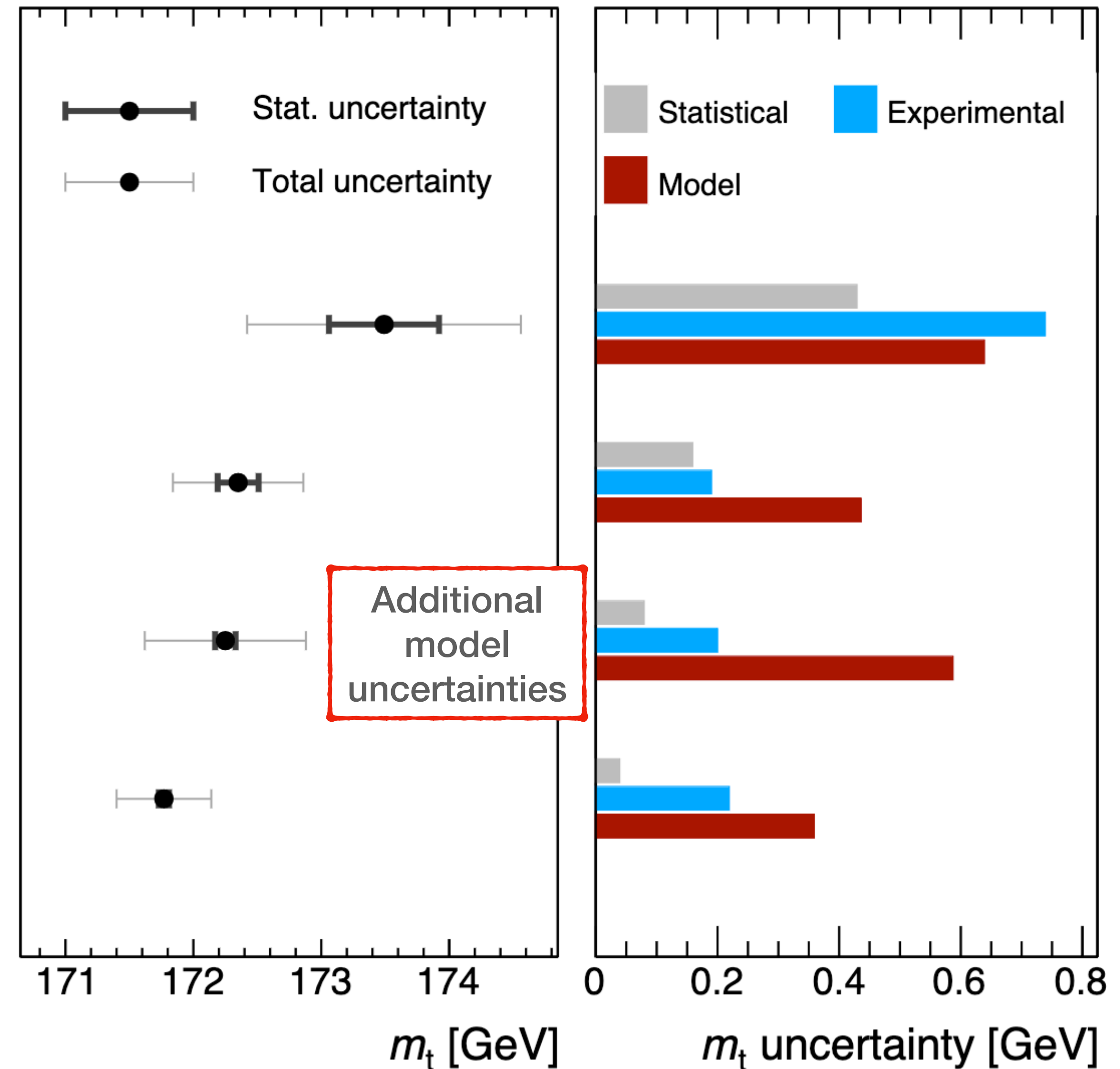
- Do we need to know m_t more precisely than this?
- How much more precisely can we measure it?

7 TeV (5.0 fb⁻¹) ideogram
 $m_t = 173.49 \pm 1.07$ GeV
 JHEP 12 (2012) 105

8 TeV (19.7 fb⁻¹) ideogram
 $m_t = 172.35 \pm 0.51$ GeV
 Phys. Rev. D 93 (2016) 072004

13 TeV (35.9 fb⁻¹) ideogram
 $m_t = 172.25 \pm 0.63$ GeV
 Eur. Phys. J. C 78 (2018) 891

13 TeV (36.3 fb⁻¹) profiled
 $m_t = 171.77 \pm 0.37$ GeV
 Eur. Phys. J. C 83 (2023) 963

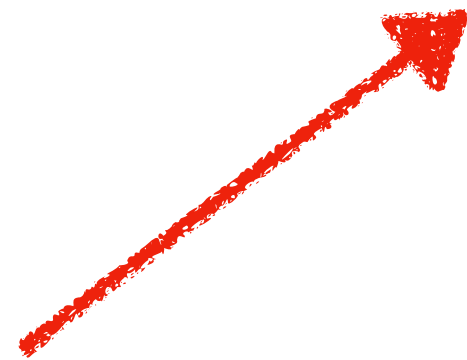


Issues with direct measurements

- Matrix element: calculated at fixed order in QCD (NLO)
- Parton-shower: leading-logarithmic (LL) approximation of soft and collinear emissions
- Colour reconnection, hadronisation, and underlying event: QCD-inspired heuristic models

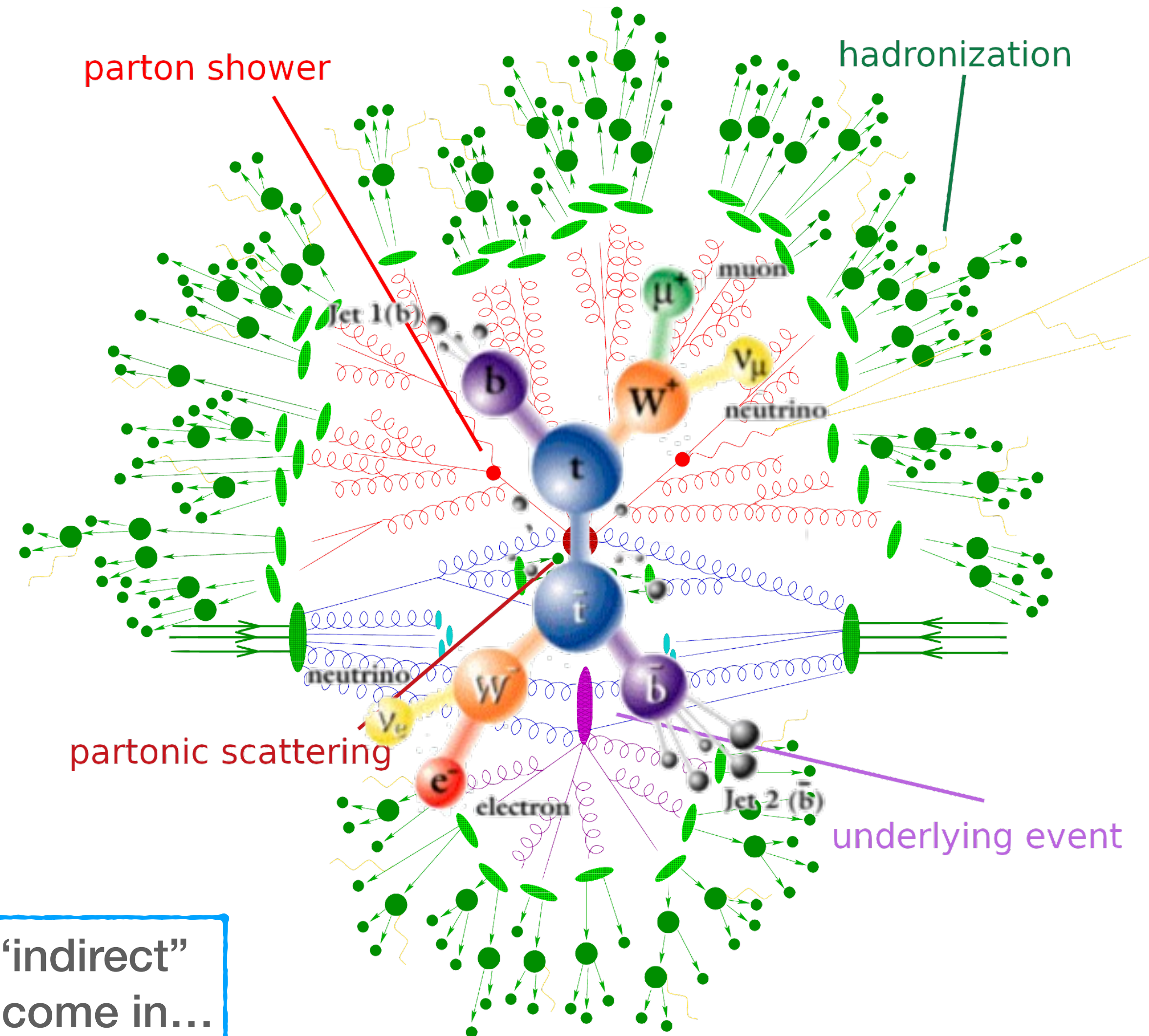
Hard to interpret results of direct measurements in a consistent theoretical framework (Lagrangian mass)

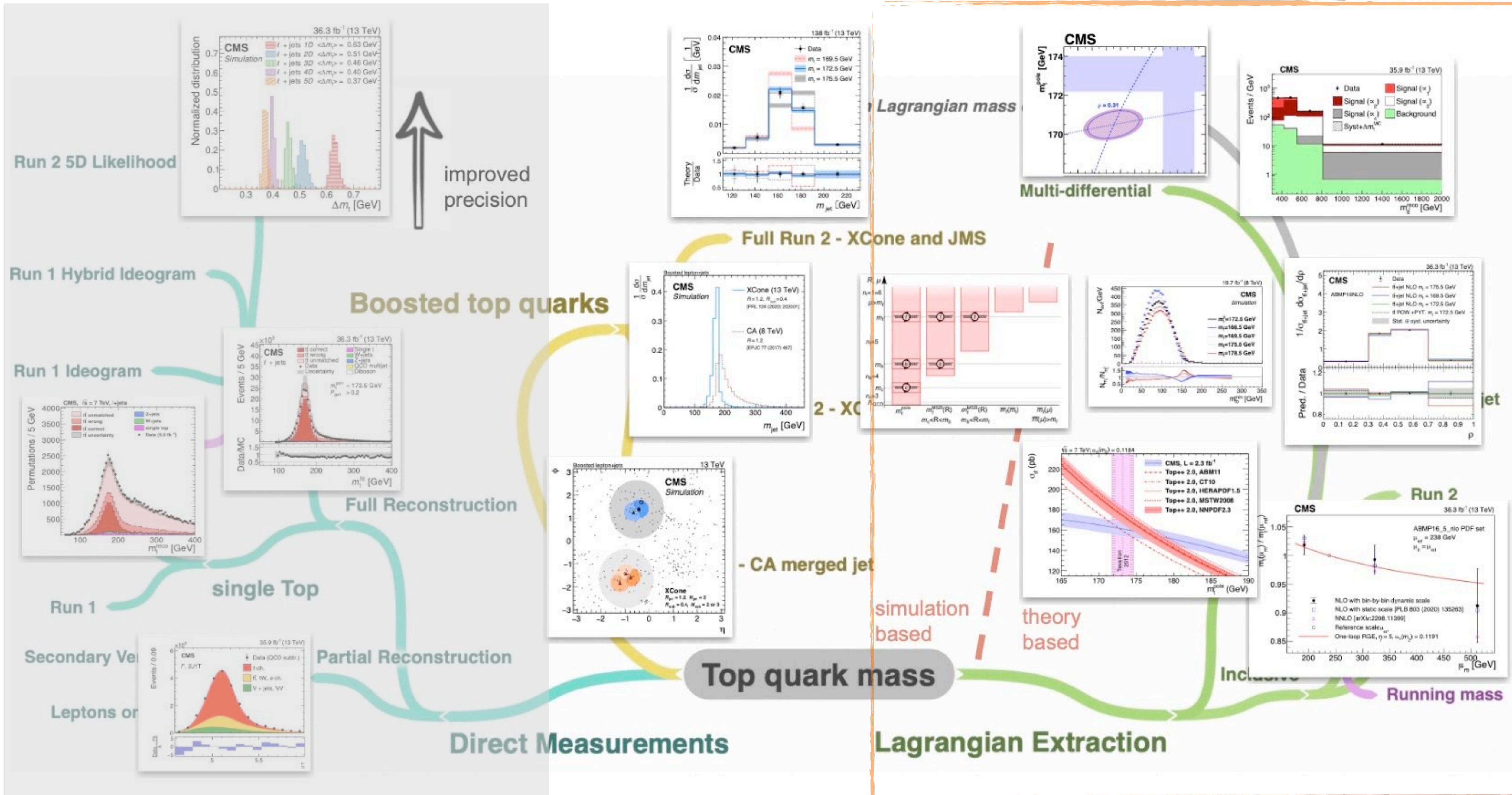
$$m_t^{\mathcal{L}} = m_t^{\text{MC}} + \Delta_{\text{MC}}^{\text{bias}} \pm \Delta_{\text{MC}}^{\text{unc}}$$



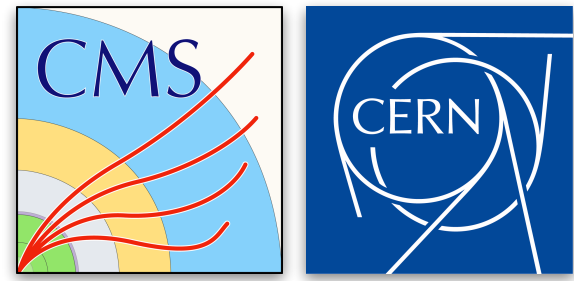
Cannot be estimated from first principles (yet)

This is where “indirect” measurements come in...



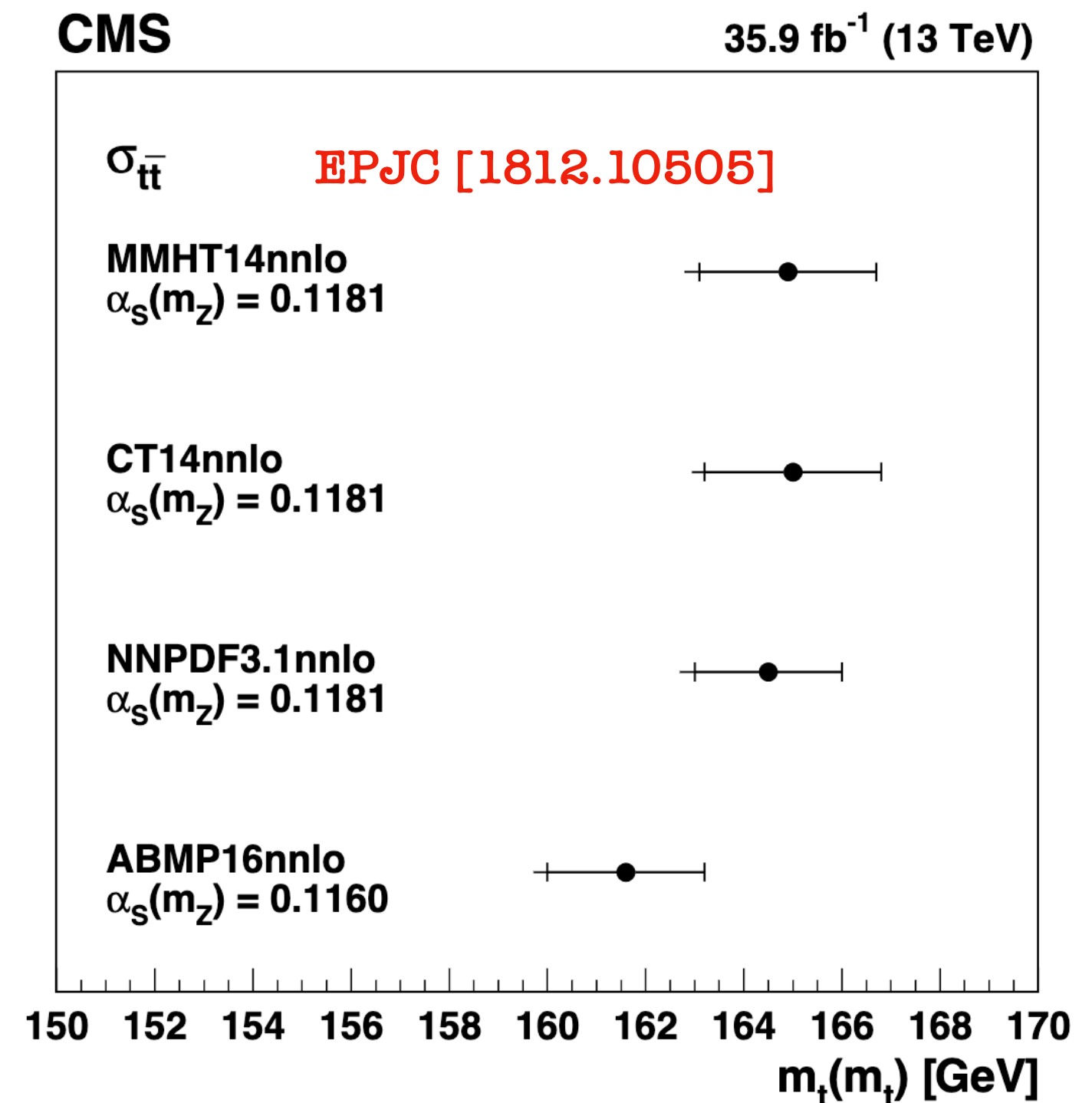
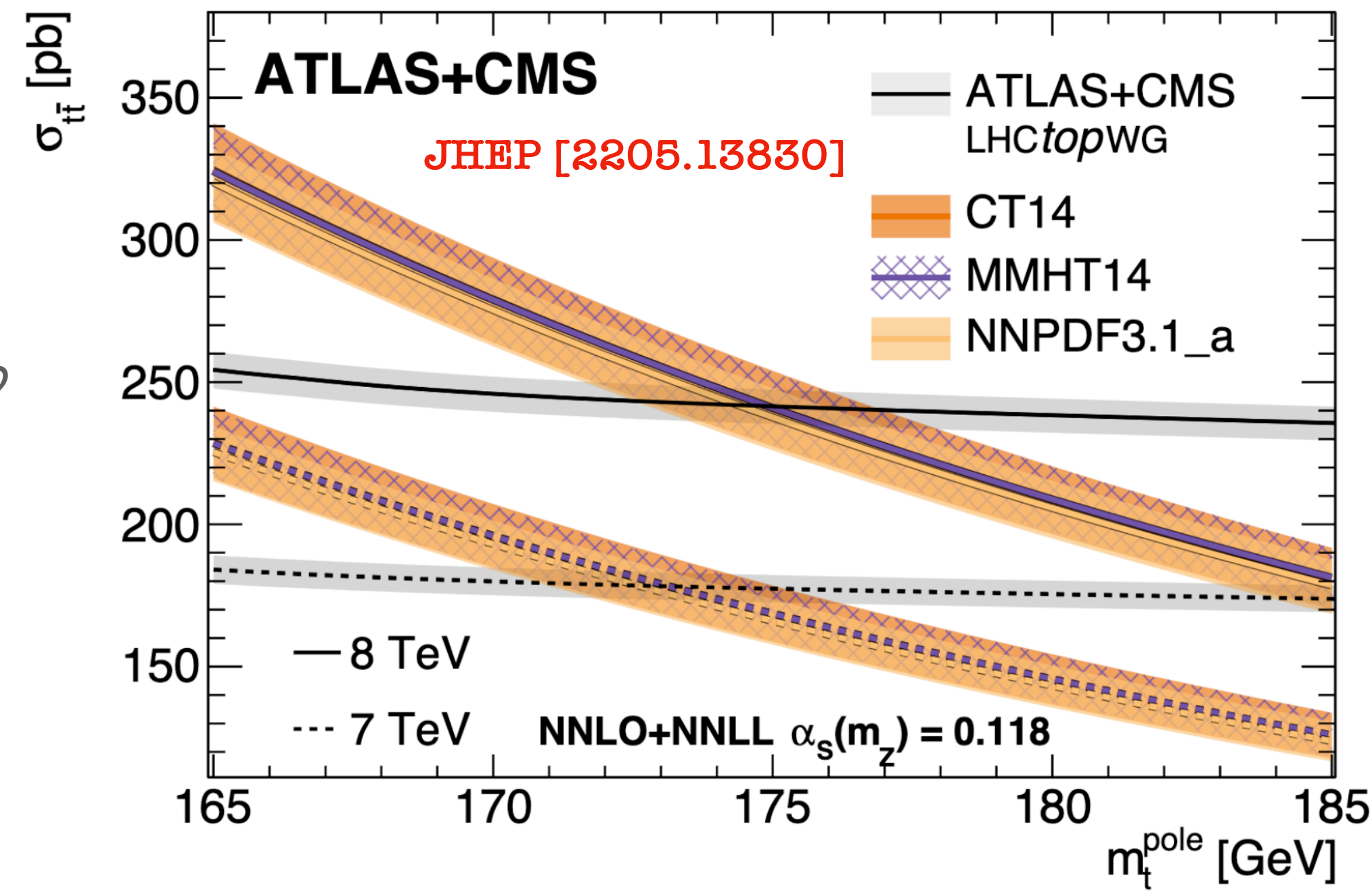
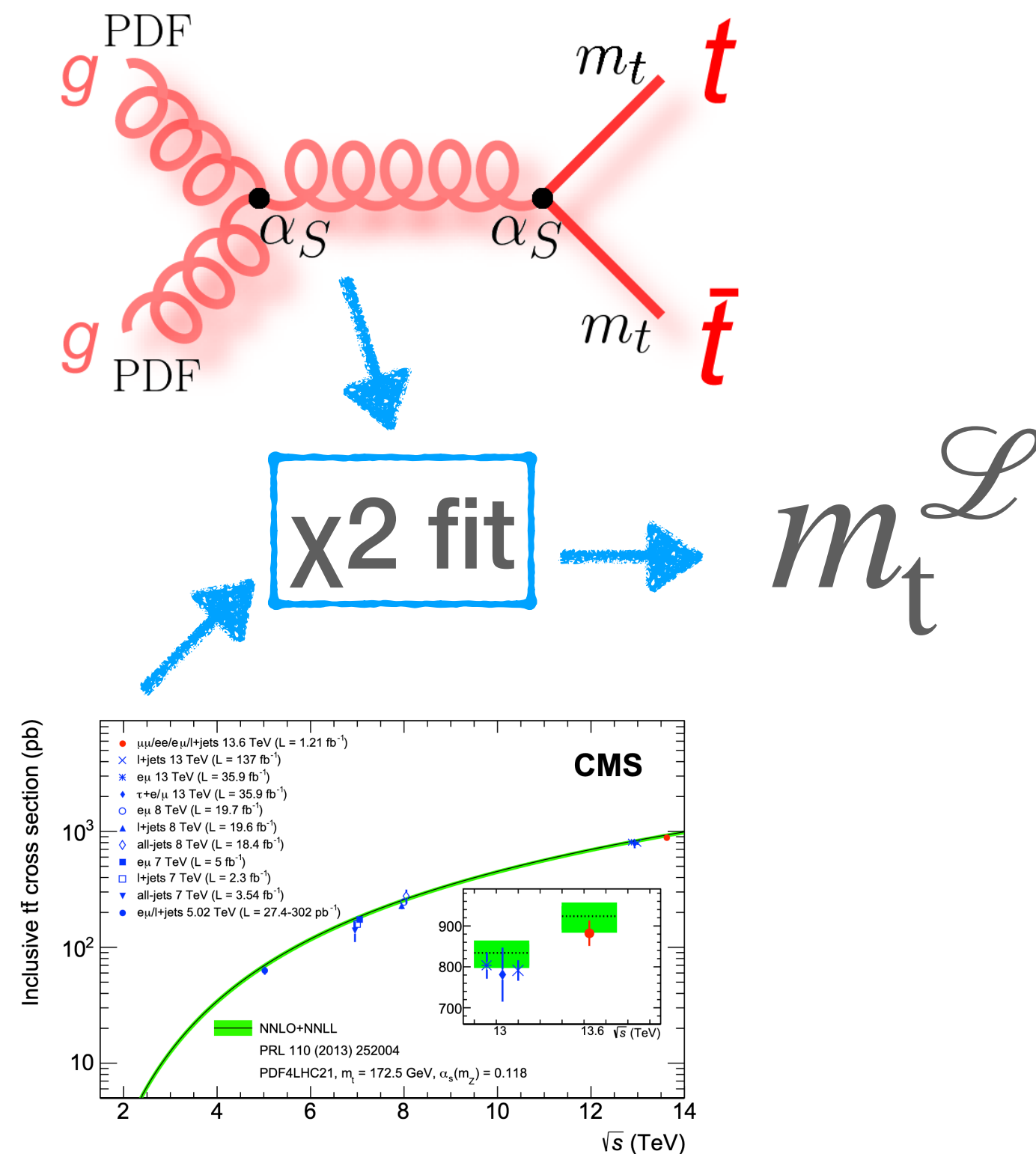


The principle of indirect measurements



First of all, “admit” that m_t is not a physics observable (as it renormalisation-scheme dependent)

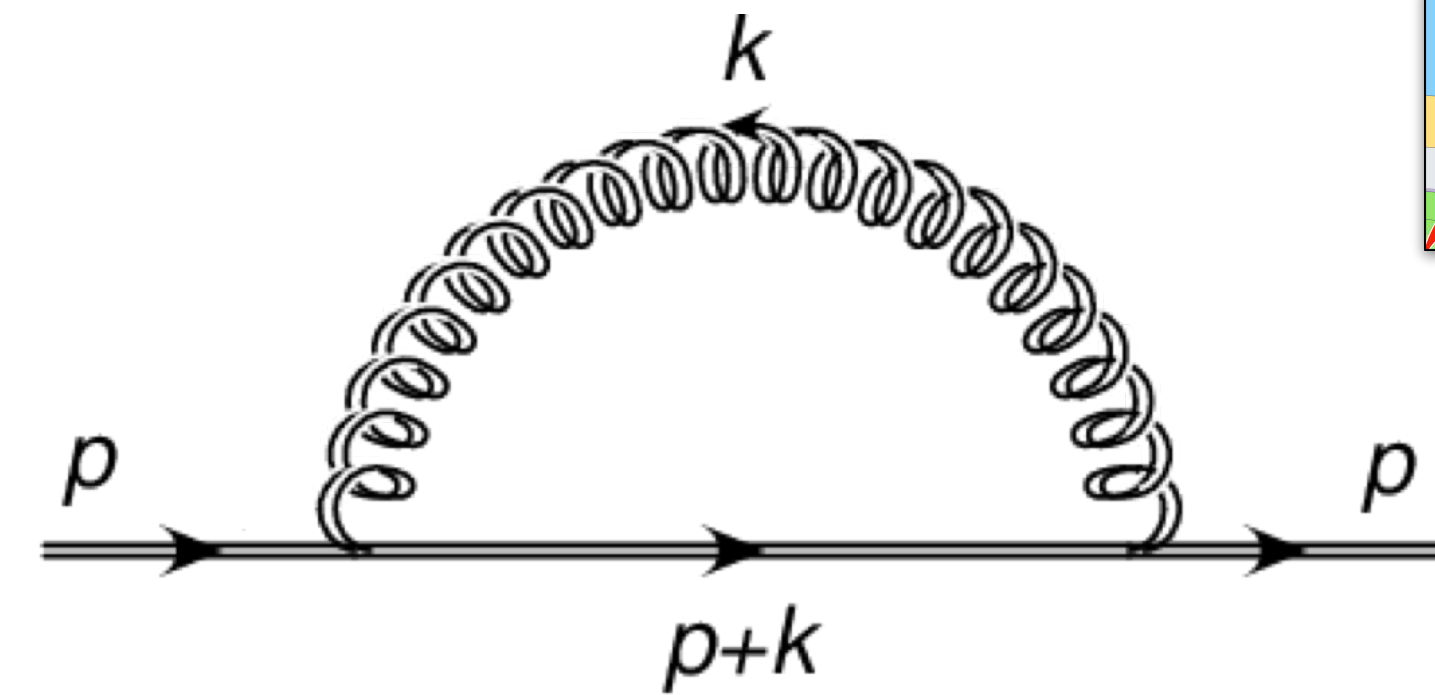
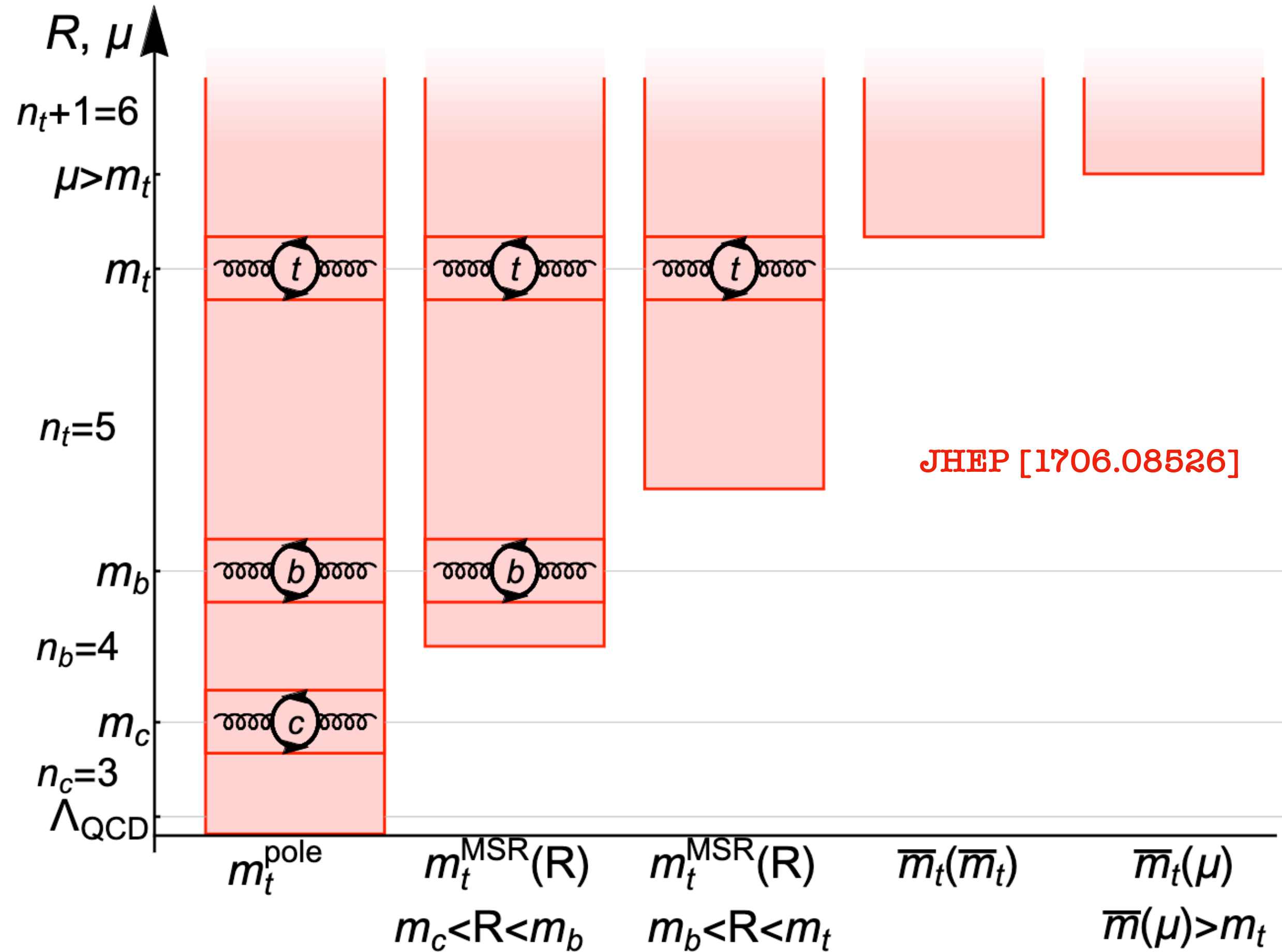
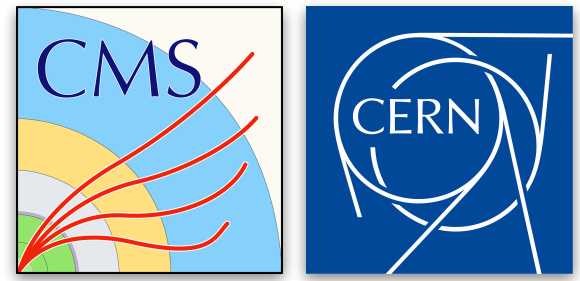
- Measure an observable (cross section) sensitive to m_t
- Use **standalone theory prediction** to extract m_t in a given renormalisation scheme



$$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 173.4^{+1.8}_{-2.0} \text{ GeV} \neq$$

$$m_t(m_t) = 164.5^{+1.8}_{-2.1} \text{ GeV}$$

The Lagrangian top quark mass



m_t^{pole} : pole of the top quark propagator

- Numerically similar to m_t^{MC}
- Sensitive to IR effects that give rise to fundamental (renormalon) **ambiguity** of order $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \approx 250 \text{ MeV}$

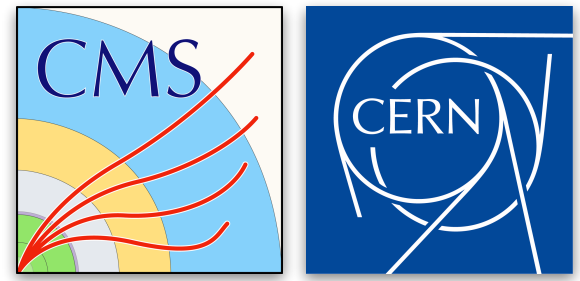
MSbar: short distance mass

- Same renormalisation scheme as α_s
- Reabsorbs IR divergencies into bare mass
- Free of (linear) renormalon

-> as α_s , the top mass becomes **scale dependent**

$$m_q(m_q) = m_q^{\text{pole}} \left[1 - \frac{4}{3\pi} \alpha_s(m_q) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2) \right]$$

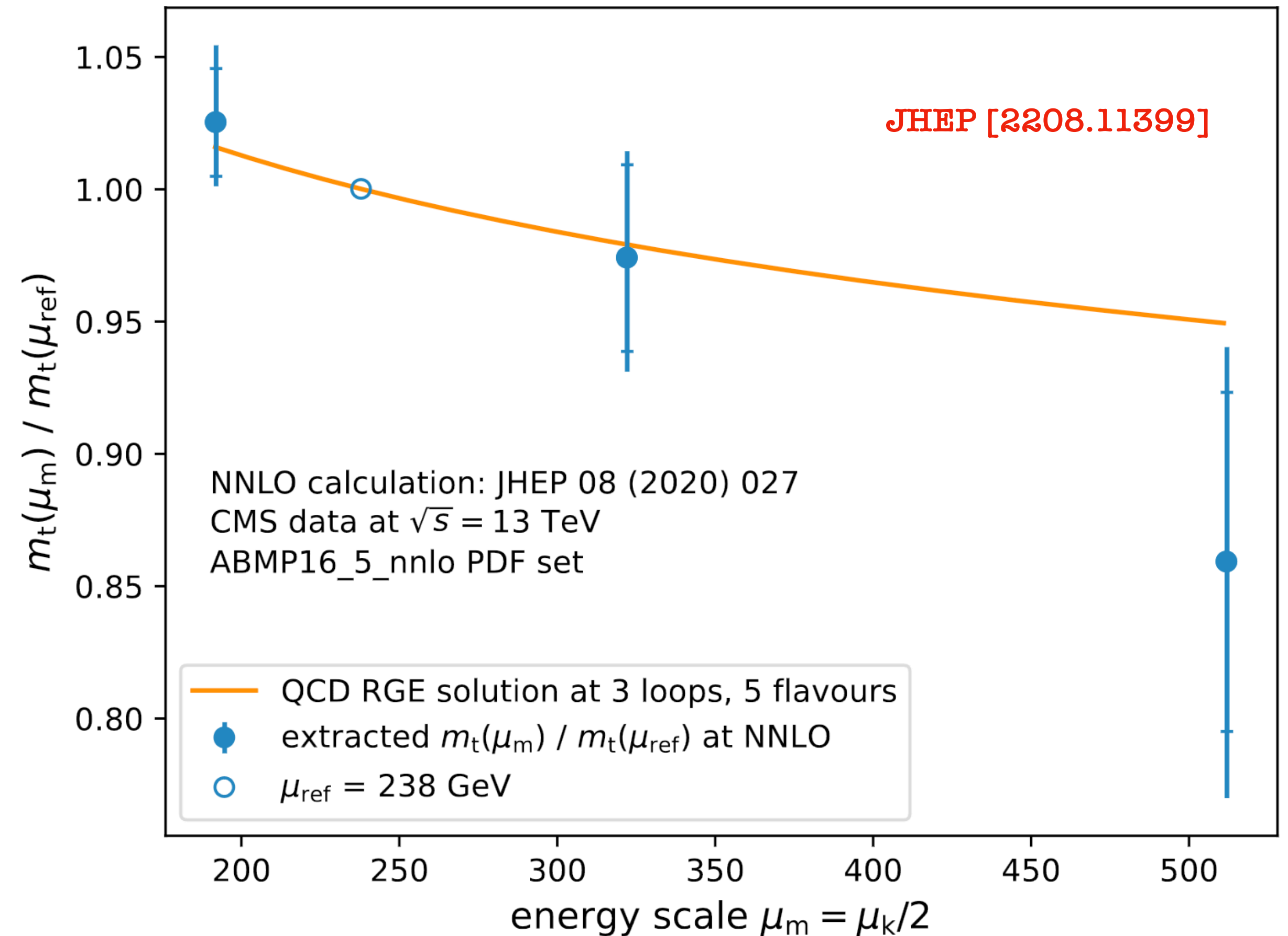
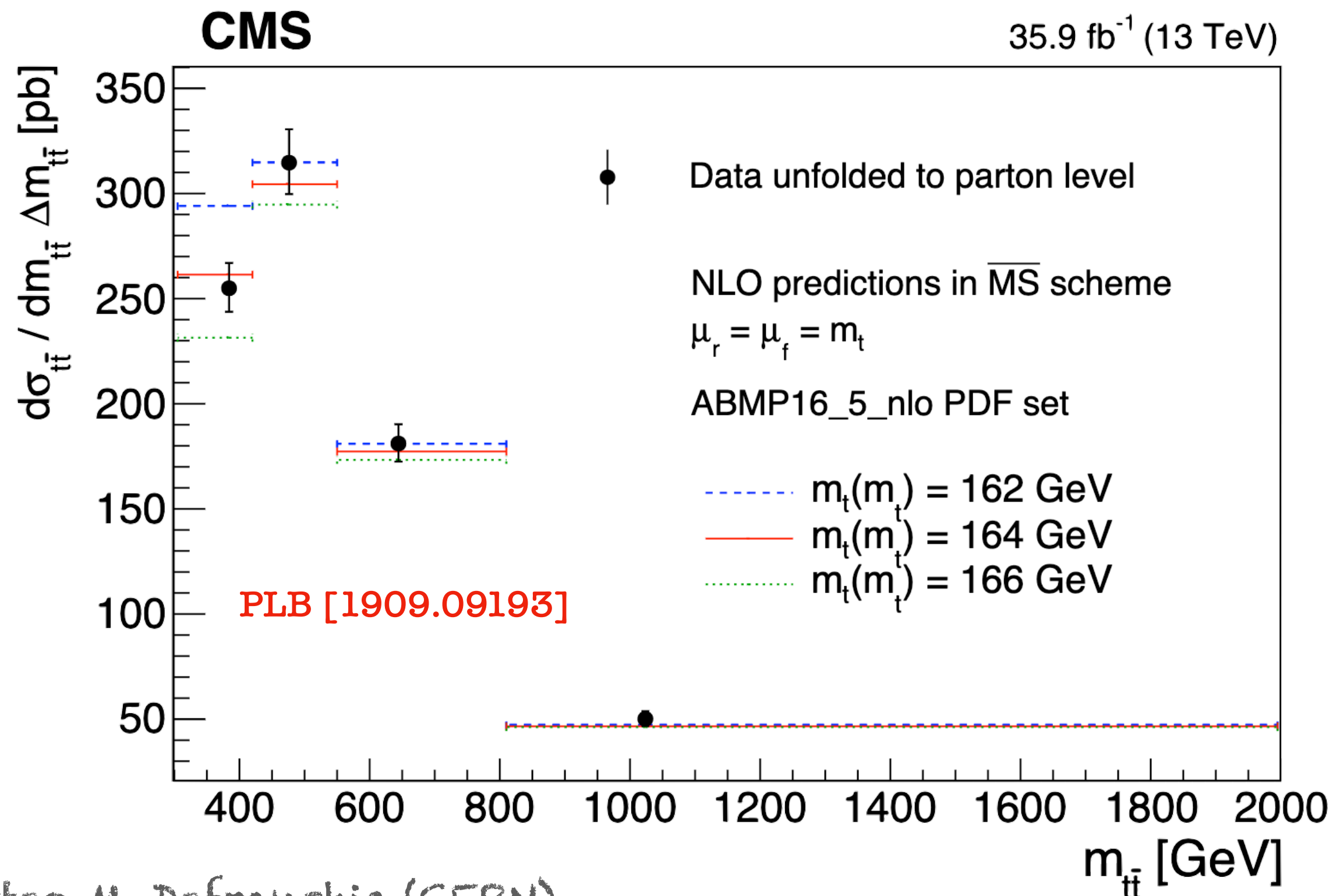
The running of m_t



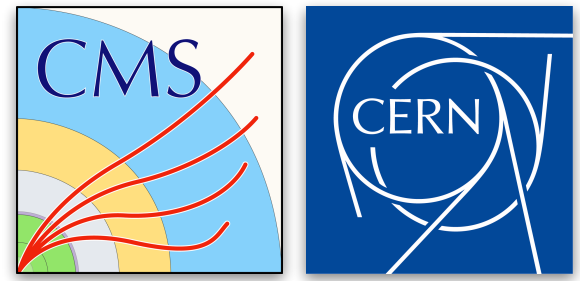
- Described by **renormalisation group equations** of QCD
- Can be extracted from a measurement of a differential cross section as a function of the energy scale of the process (similar to α_s extraction)
- Good agreement with RGE solution at 3 loops
- Can be used as a probe of **BSM physics**

$$\mu^2 \frac{\partial m}{\partial \mu^2} = -\gamma_m(\alpha_s) m$$

running of m_t at NNLO in QCD



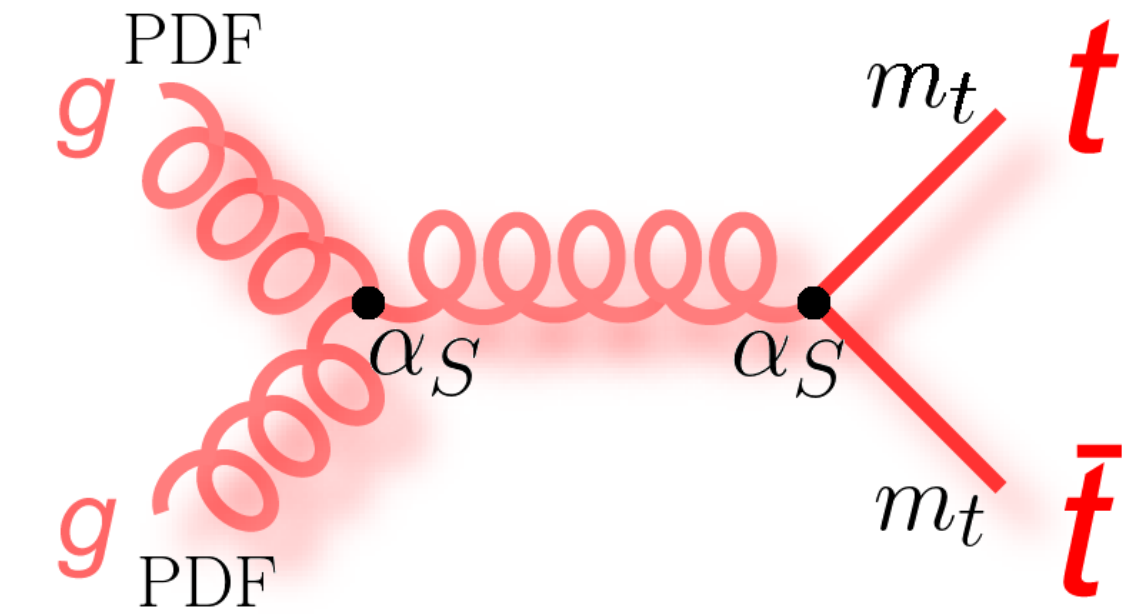
The “ultimate” pole mass measurement?



Multi-differential distributions allow to simultaneously constrain top mass, strong coupling constant, and PDF

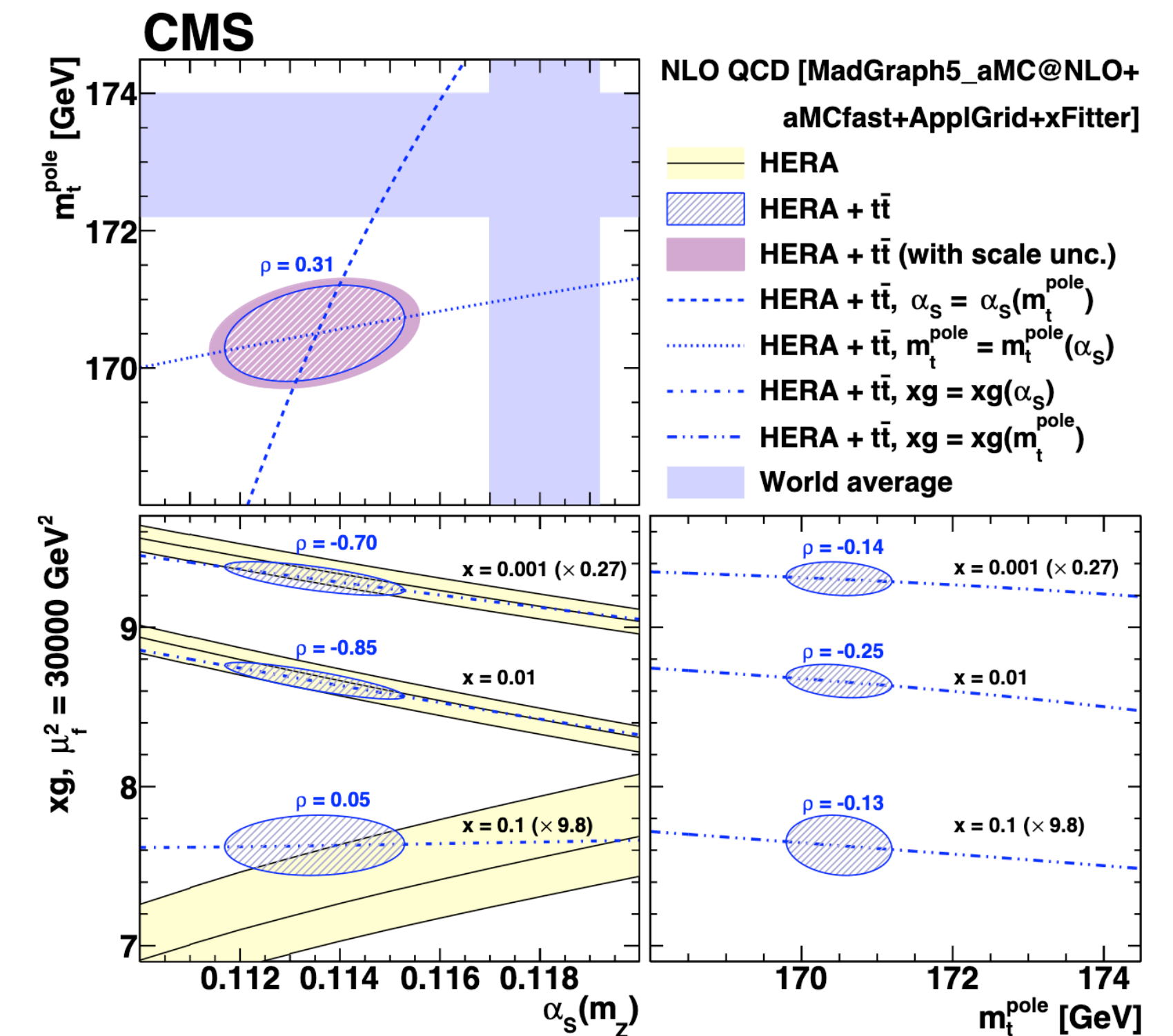
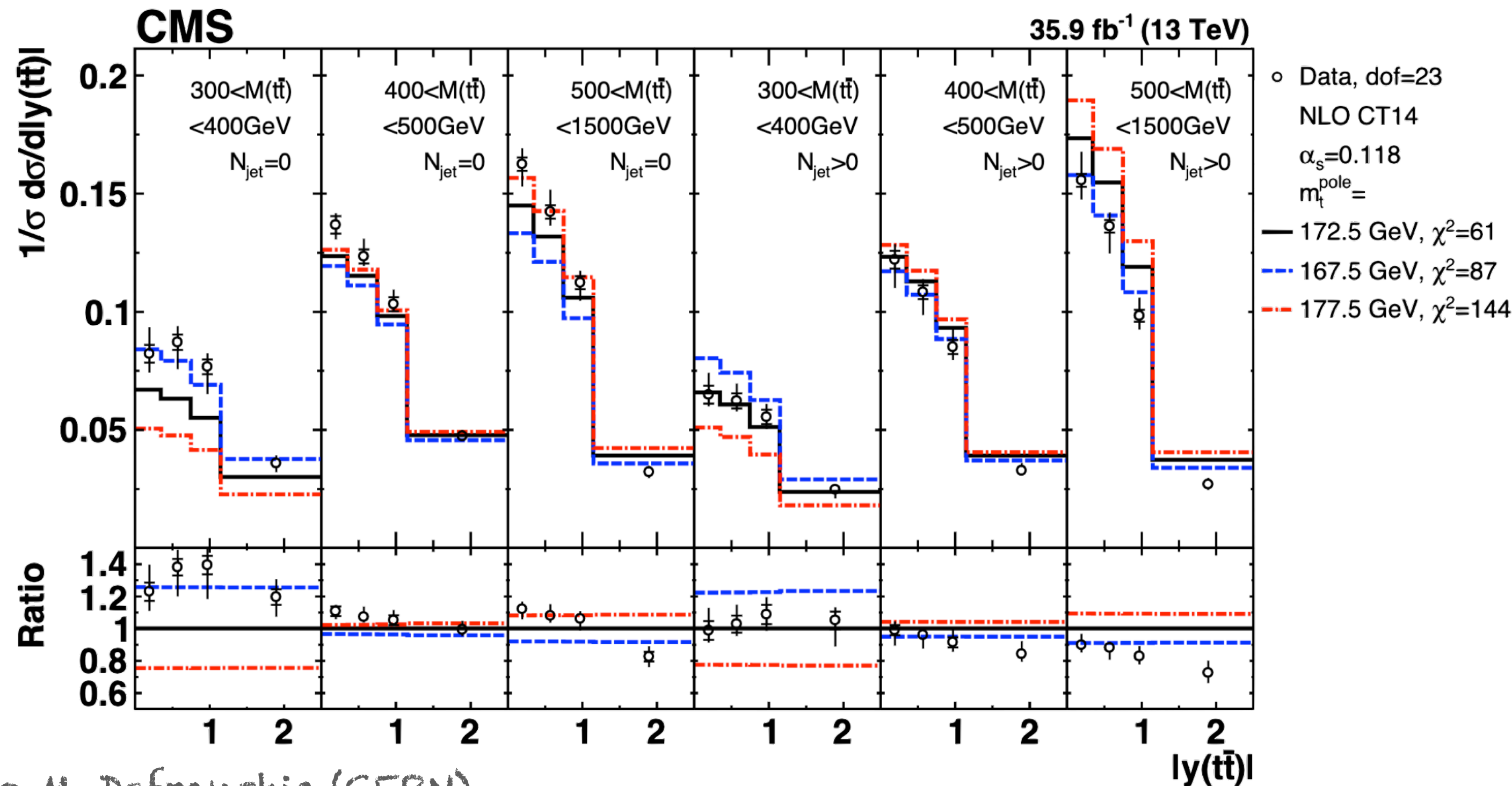
Simultaneous fit with HERA deep inelastic scattering data (NLO)

Results in remarkable precision of **0.8 GeV**, which be further improved by using the full 13 TeV dataset

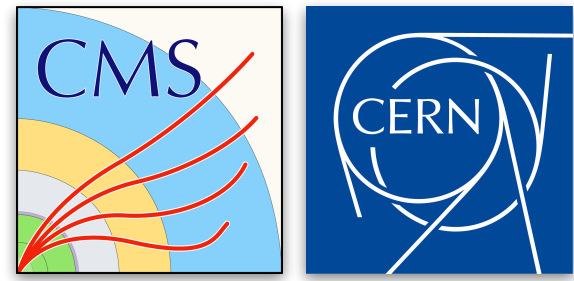


EPJC [1904.05237]

$$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 170.5 \pm 0.8 \text{ GeV}$$



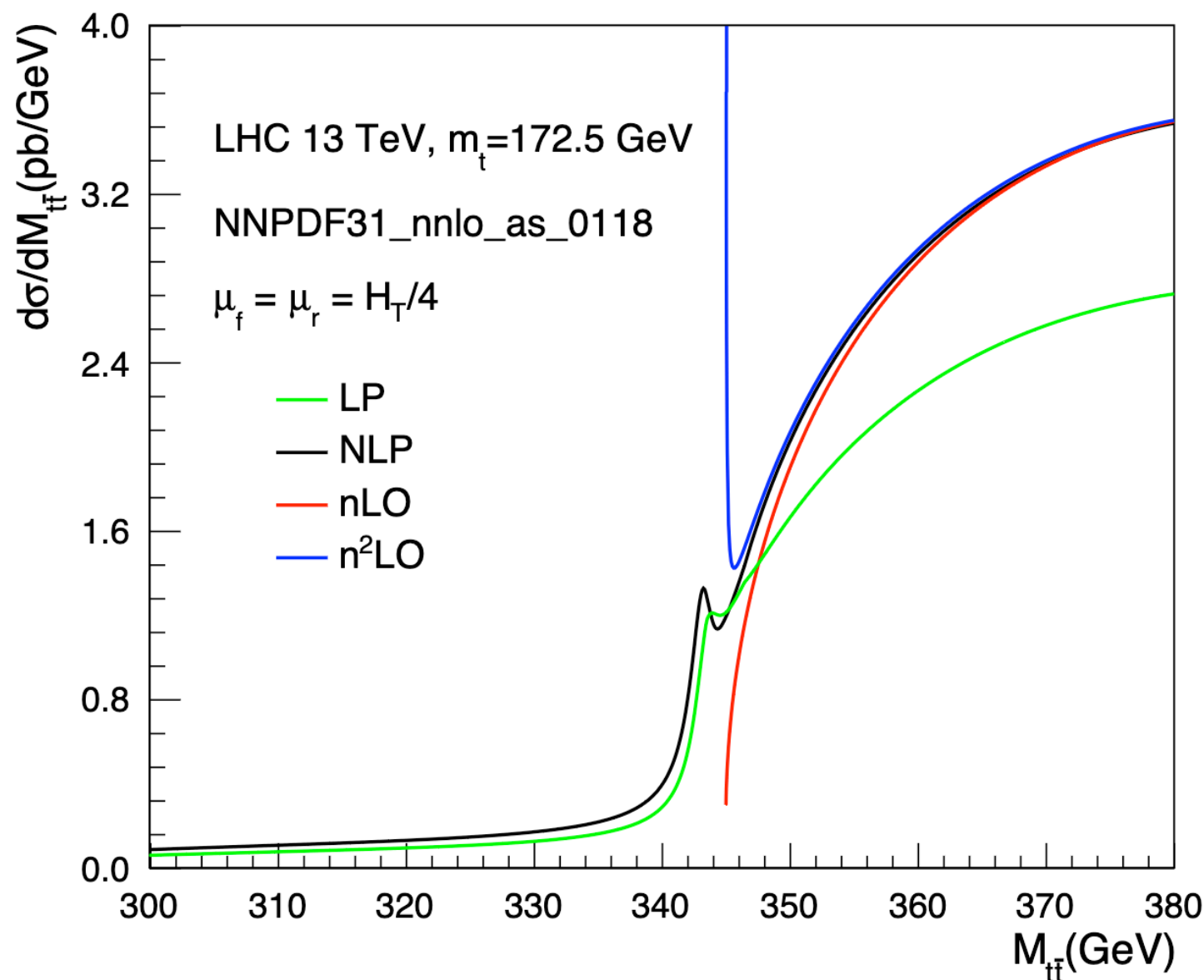
A closer look at the 3D measurement



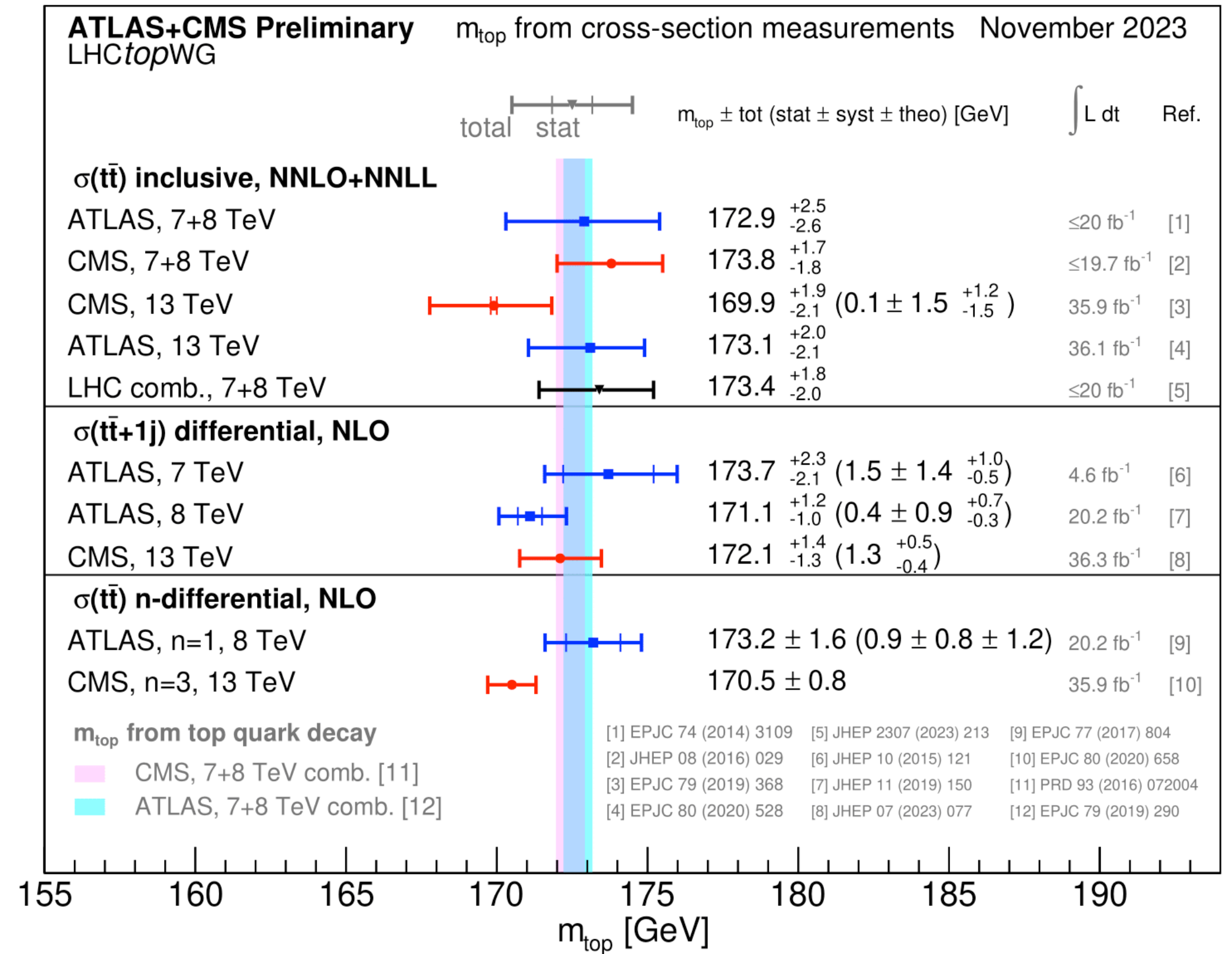
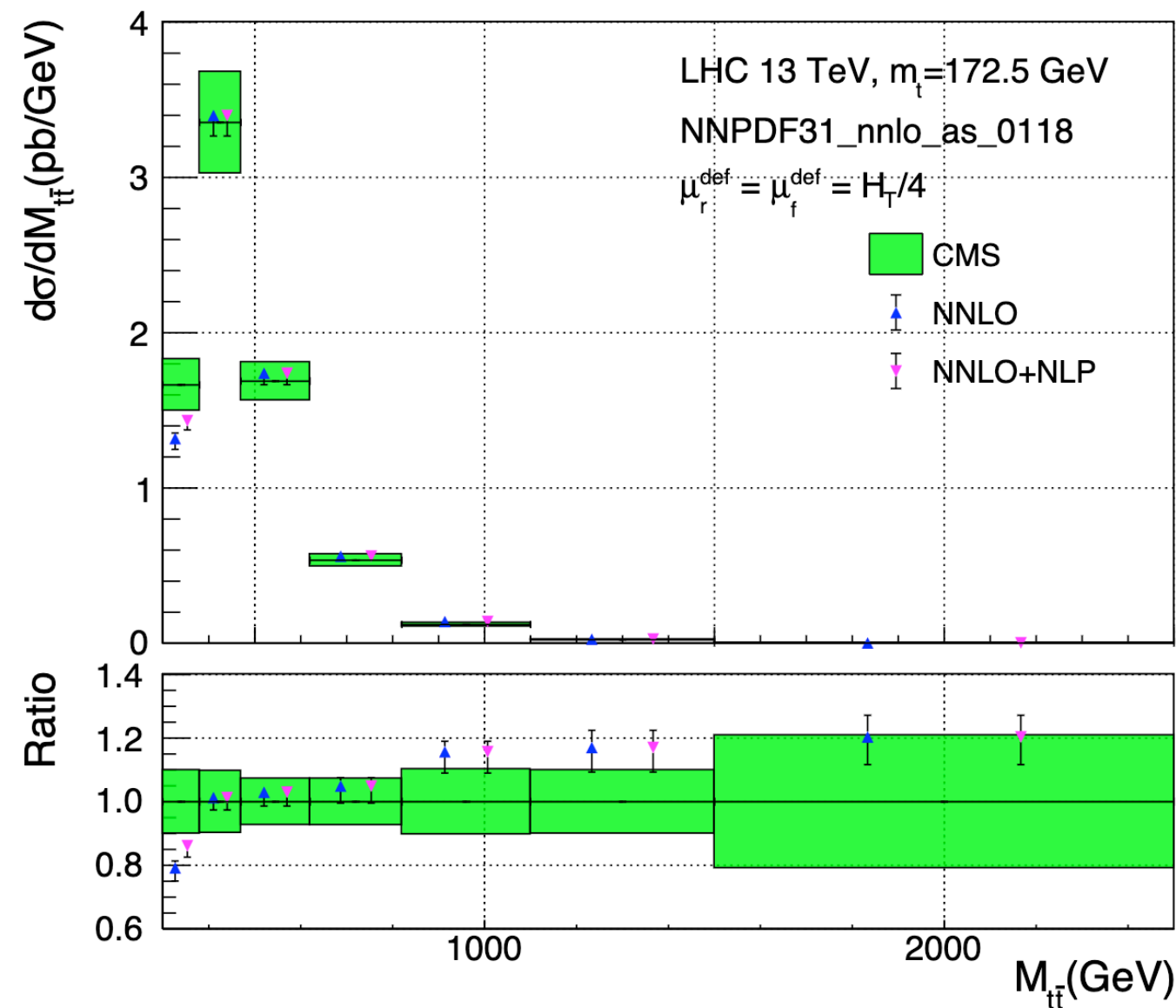
Result in **tension** with ATLAS+CMS combination of 7 and 8 TeV measurements

Limitations of fixed order calculations are particularly pronounced in the **threshold region**

- Soft gluon resummation (up to NNLL)
- **Toponium**-like bound state effects -> can lead to a bias of up to +1.4 GeV in first bin



JHEP [2004.03088]

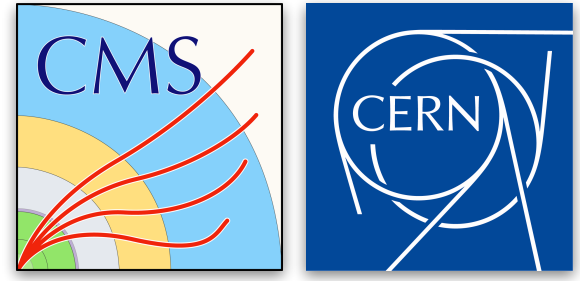
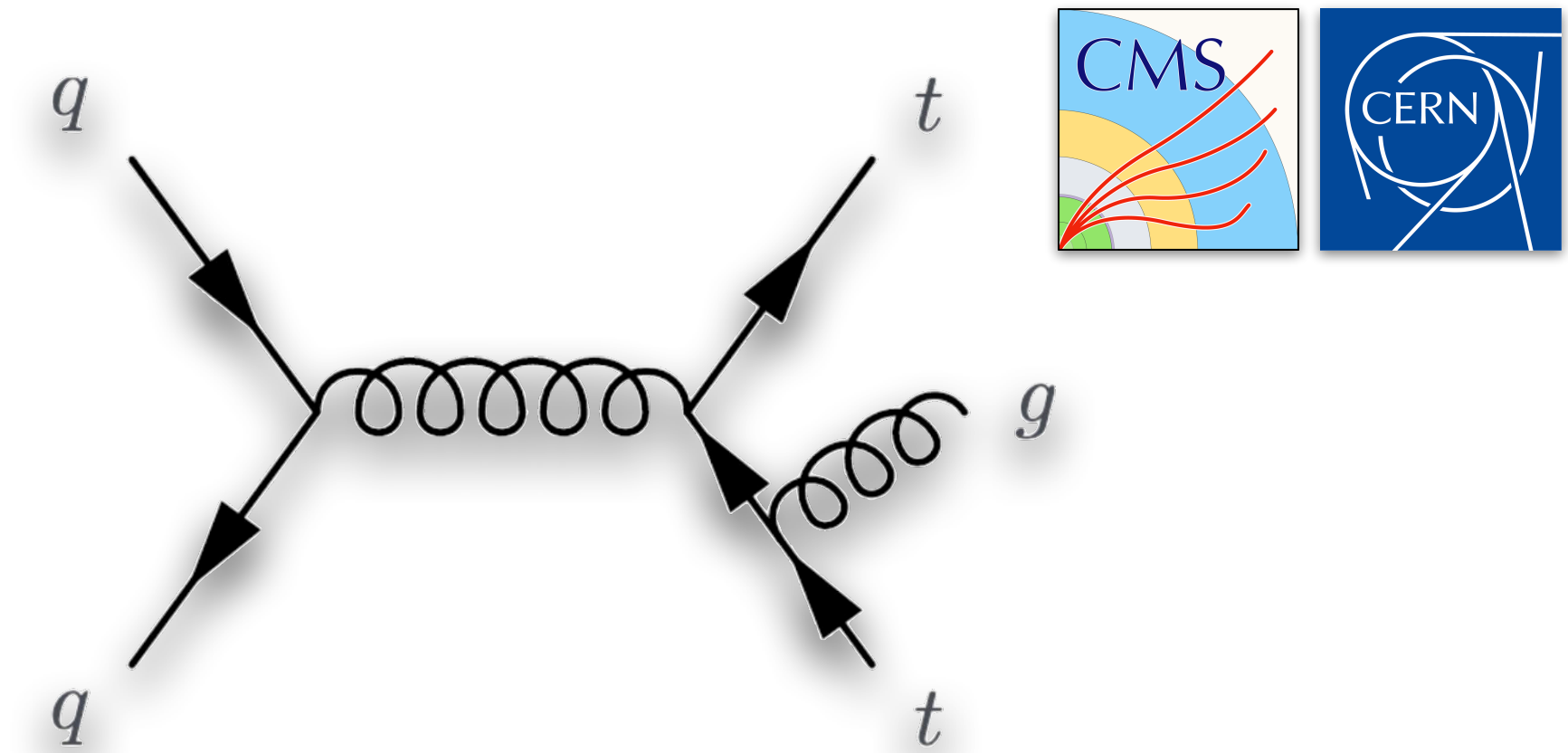


Modelling of the $t\bar{t}$ production threshold limiting factor for Lagrangian mass extraction

Are we doomed to pay this price?

$$\rho = \frac{2m_0}{m_{t\bar{t}+jet}}$$

$$m_t^{\text{pole}} = 172.93 \pm 1.26 \text{ (fit)} \begin{matrix} +0.51 \\ -0.43 \end{matrix} \text{ (scale) GeV}$$

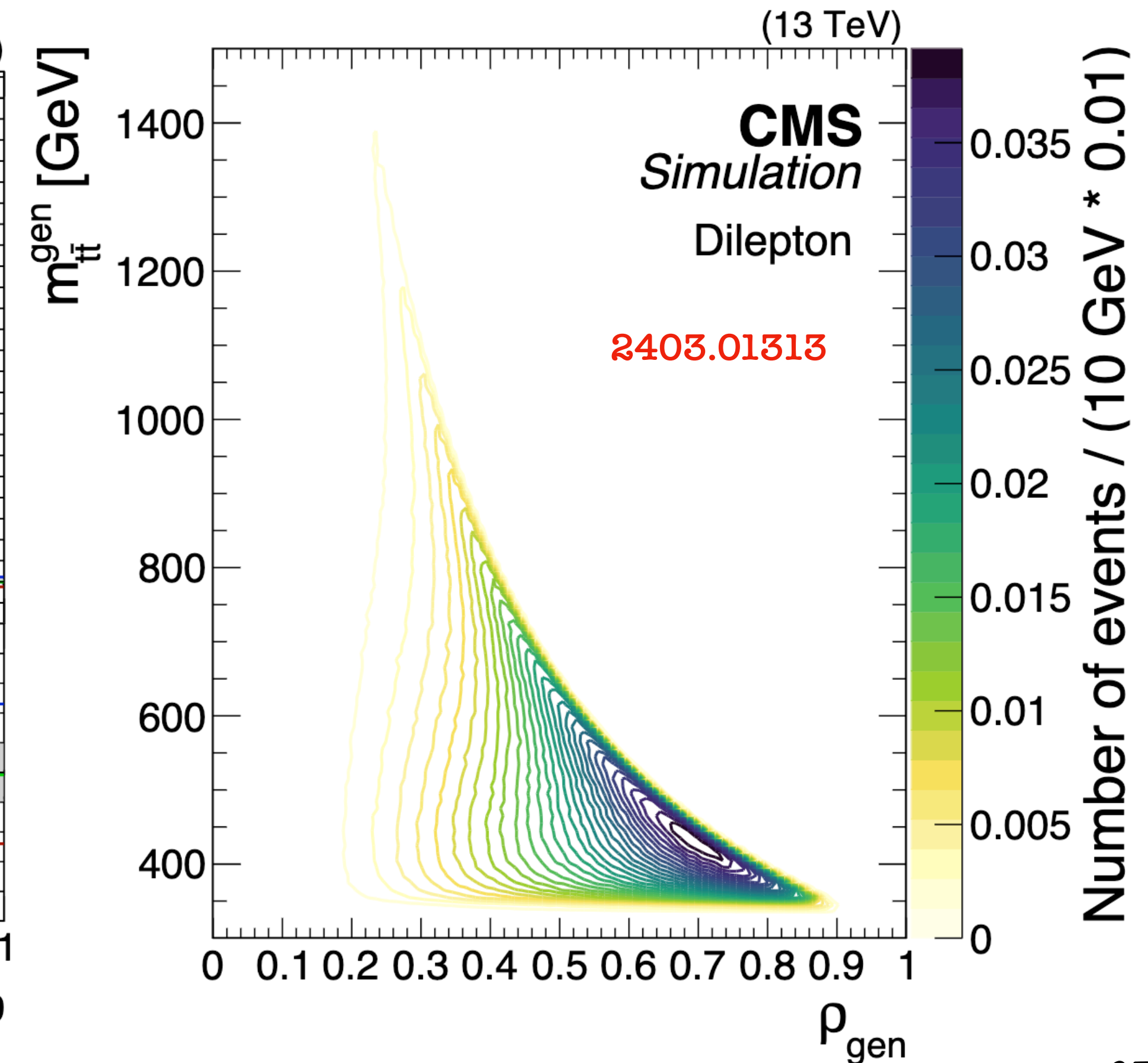
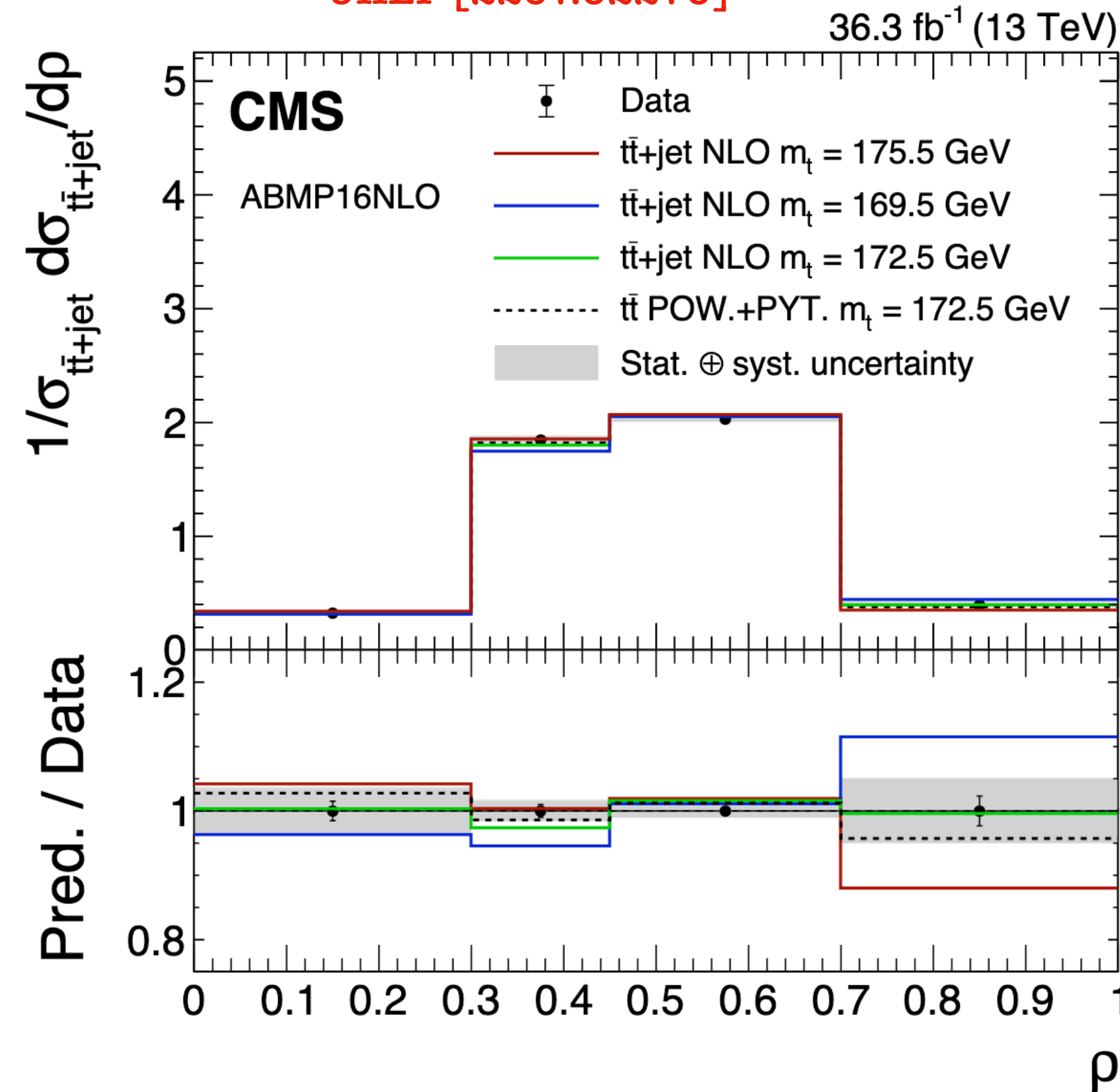


Invariant mass of **tt+jet** system significantly less sensitive to modelling of production threshold

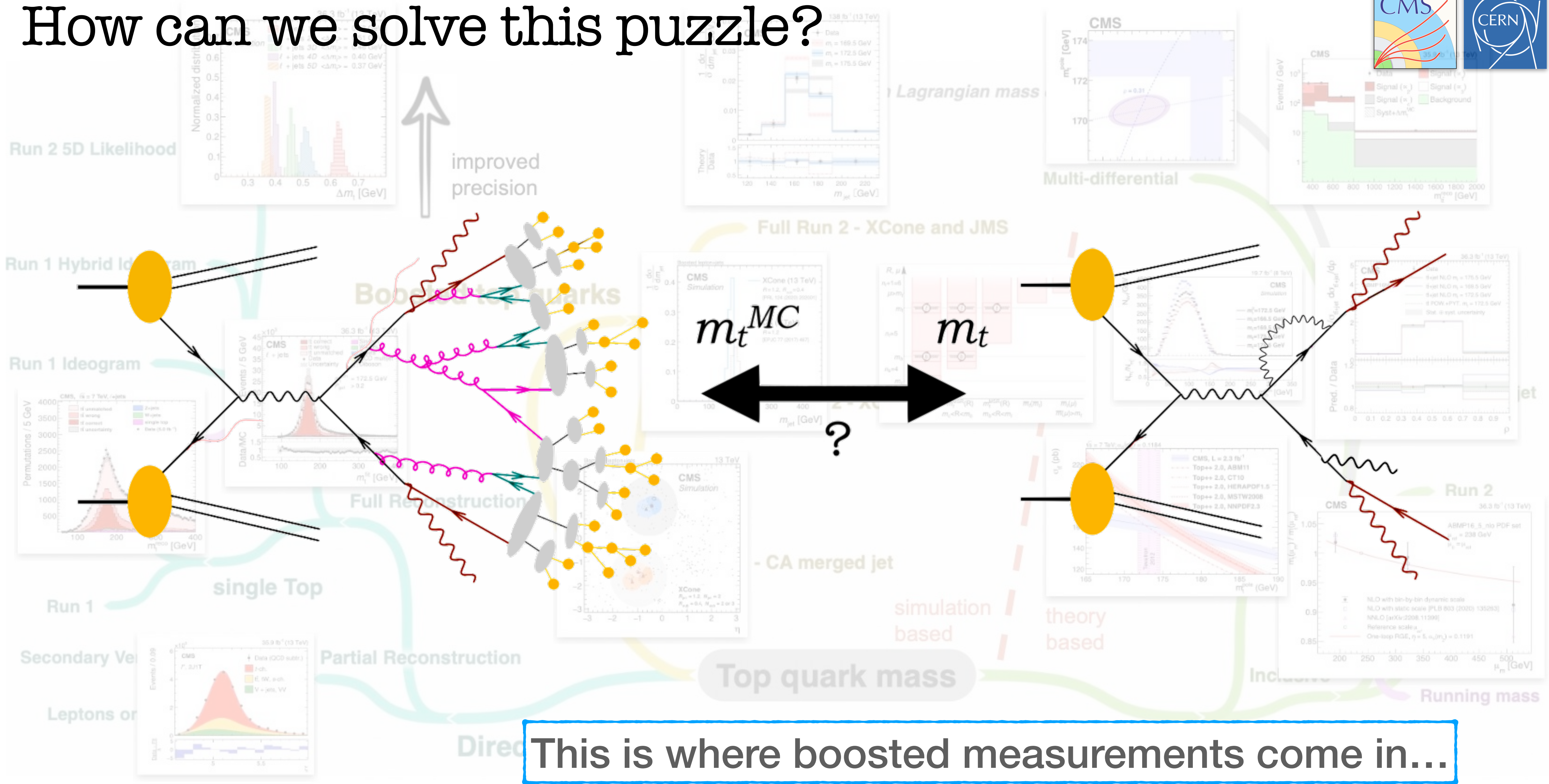
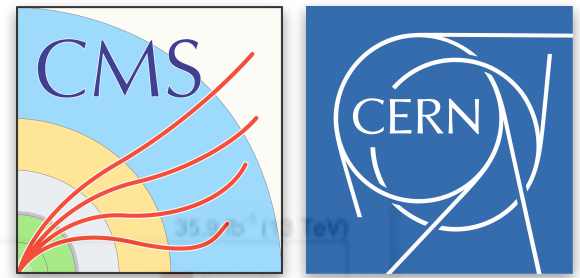
Theoretical uncertainties under better control

Precision can be significantly improved with additional data

JHEP [2207.02270]



How can we solve this puzzle?



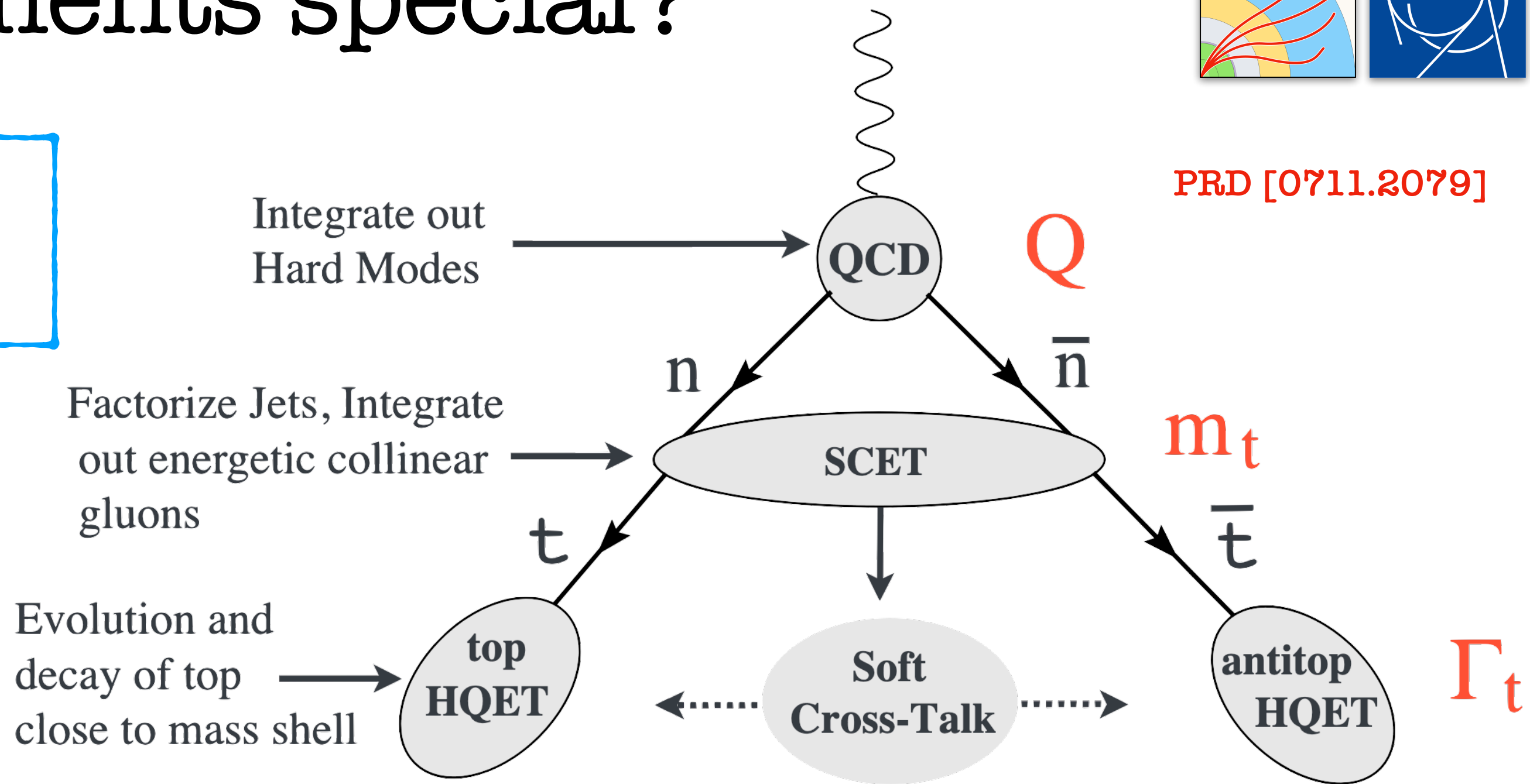
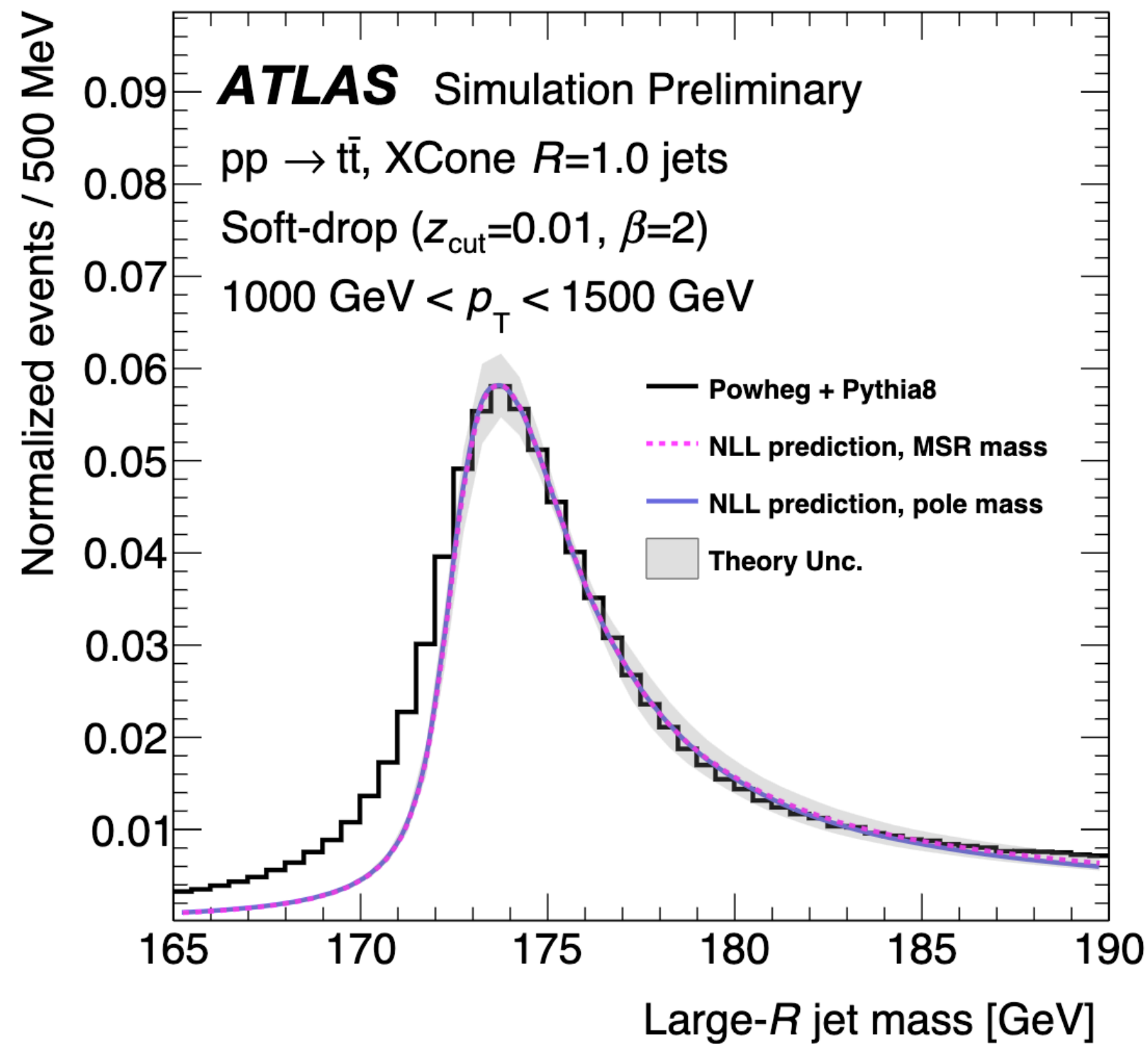
Why are boosted measurements special?



PRD [0711.2079]

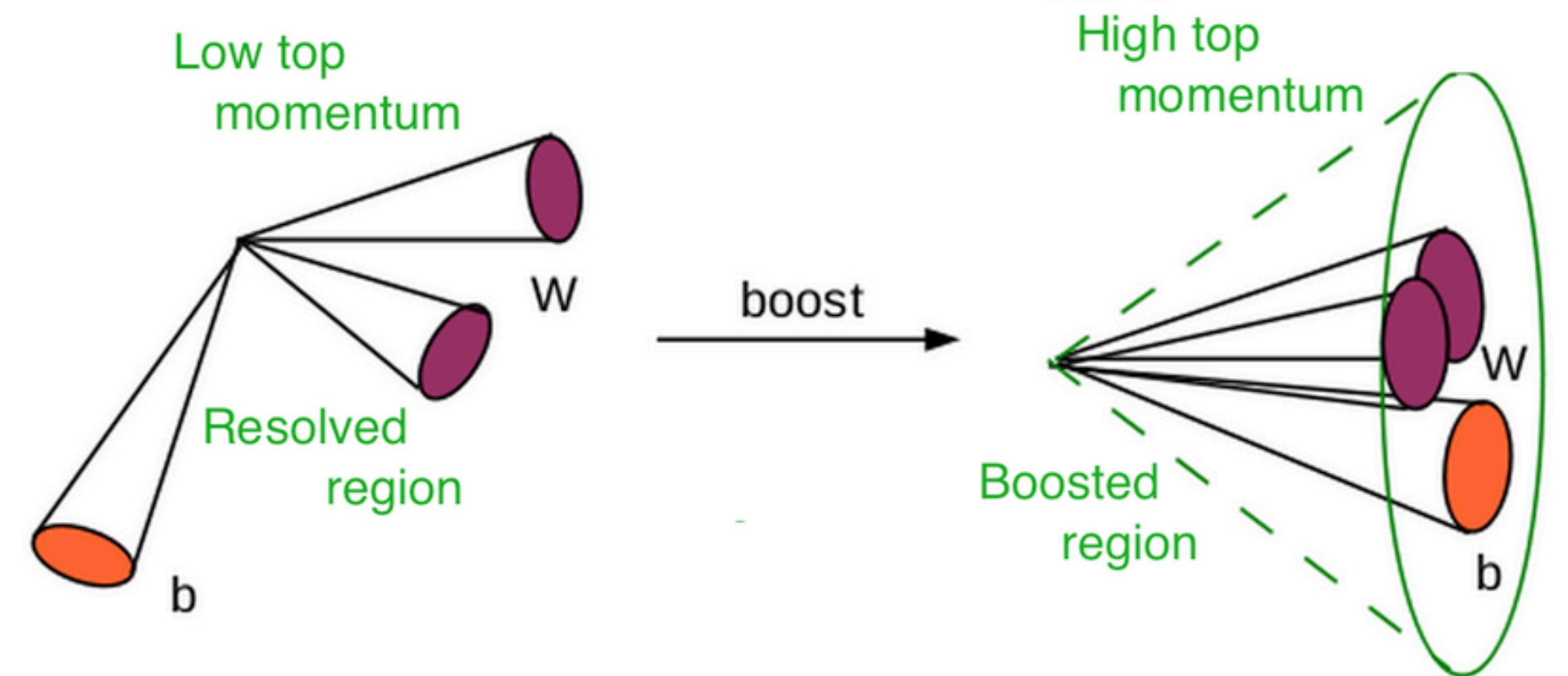
Large- R jet mass from boosted top decays can be compared to both MC simulation and standalone theory prediction in a given renormalisation scheme

$$m_t^{\text{MC}} - m_t^{\text{MSR}}(R = 1 \text{ GeV}) = 80^{+350}_{-410} \text{ MeV}$$

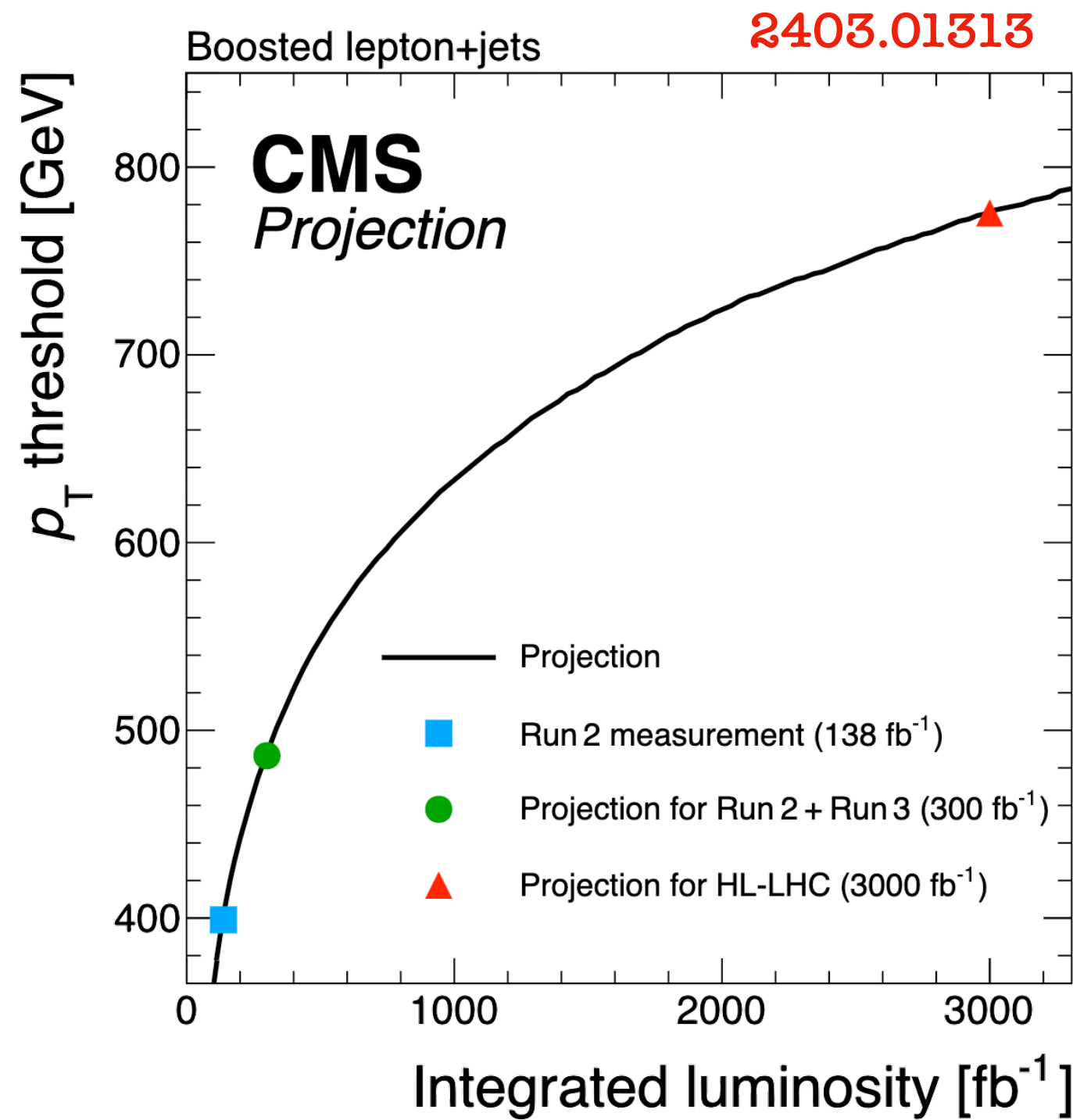
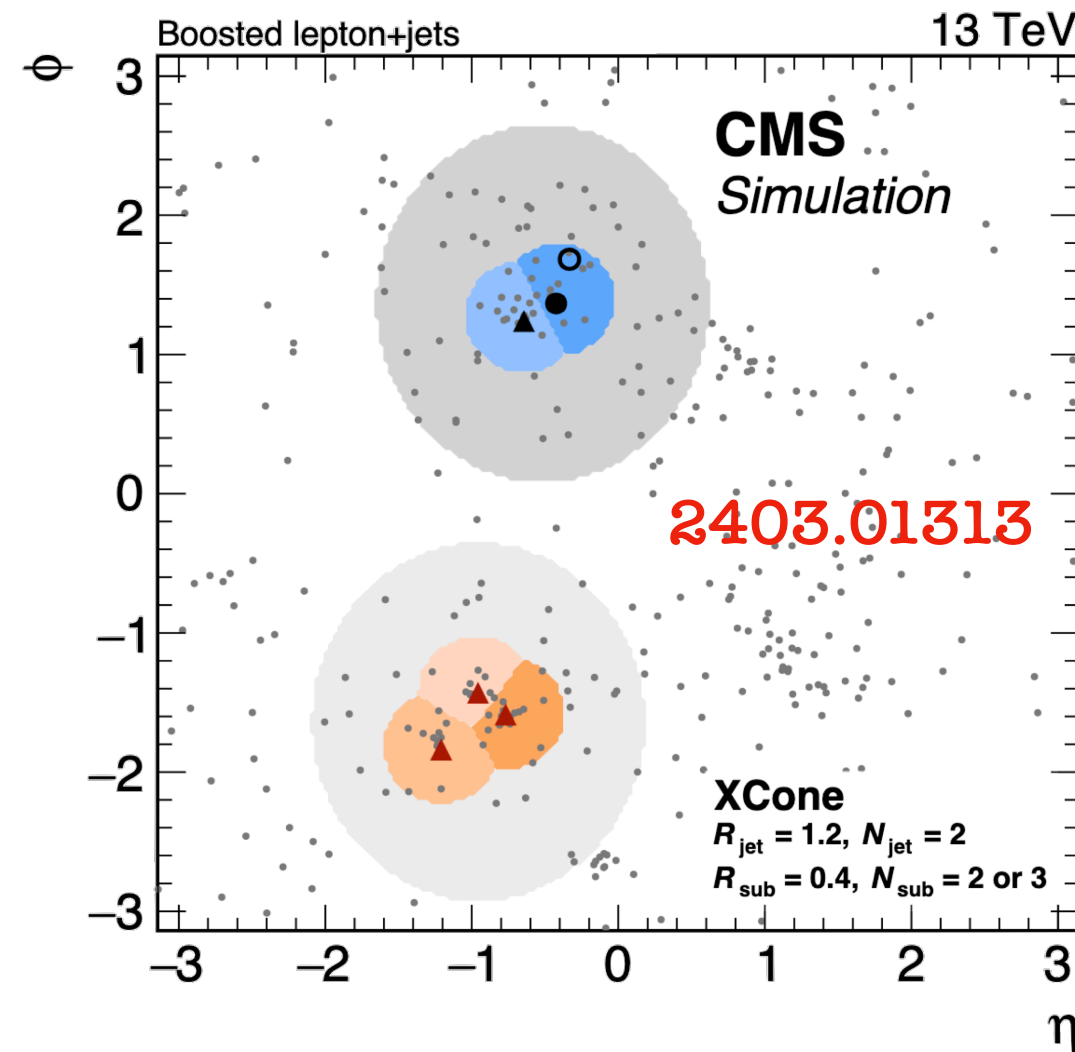


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Measurements in the boosted regime can be used to relate m_t^{MC} to well-defined Lagrangian mass definition



The present and future of boosted measurements

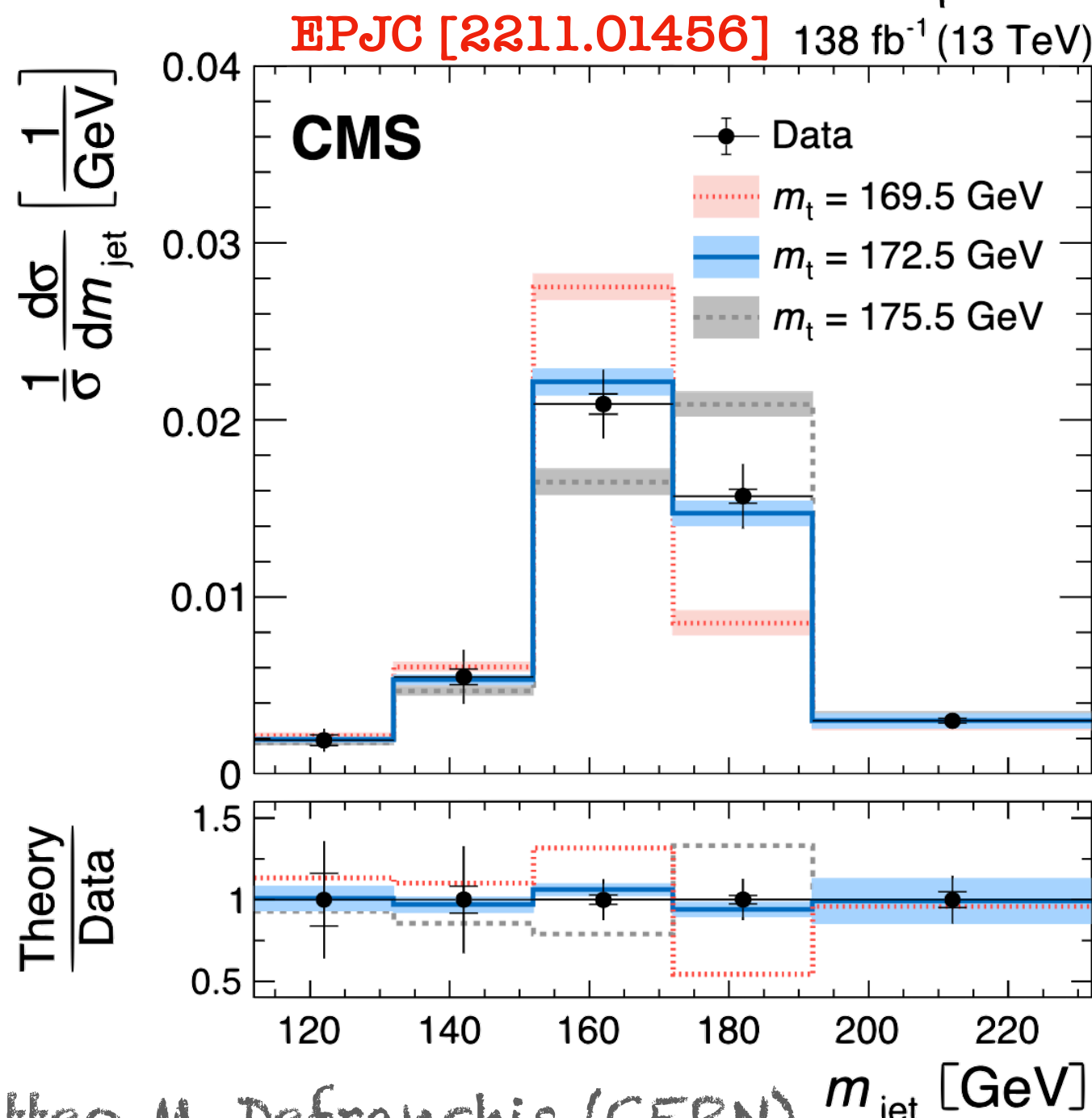
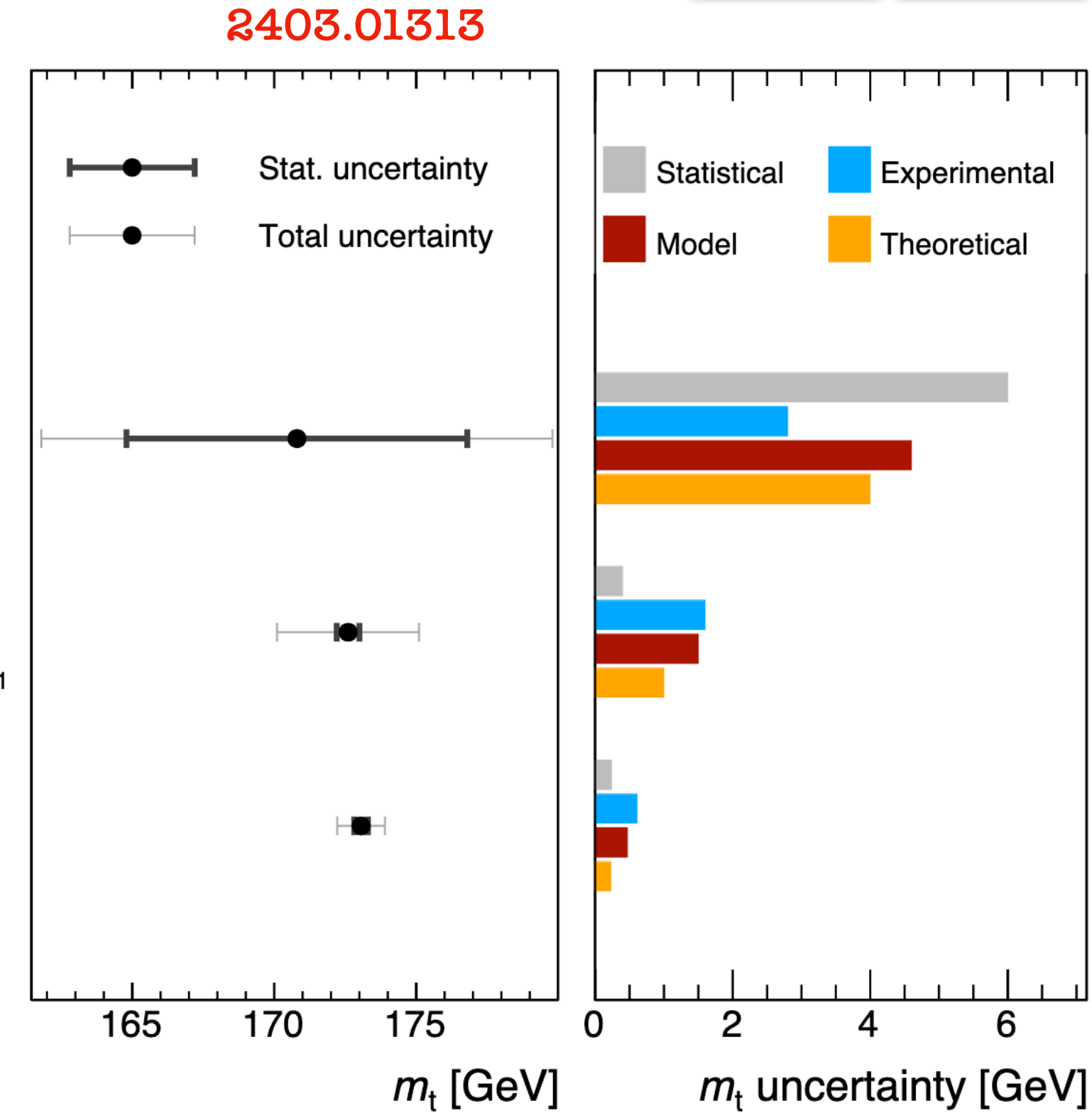


CMS

8 TeV (19.7 fb⁻¹)
 $m_t = 170.8 \pm 9.0$ GeV
 Eur. Phys. J. C 77 (2017) 467

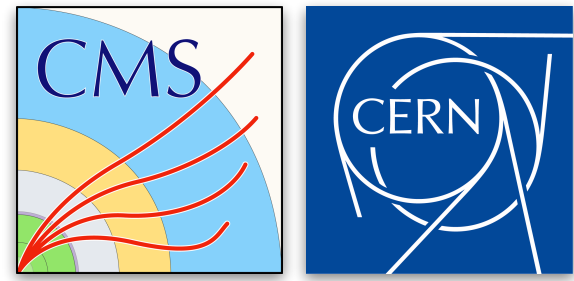
13 TeV (35.9 fb⁻¹)
 $m_t = 172.6 \pm 2.5$ GeV
 Phys. Rev. Lett. 124 (2020) 202001

13 TeV (138 fb⁻¹)
 $m_t = 173.06 \pm 0.84$ GeV
 Eur. Phys. J. C 83 (2023) 560



- **Improvement in precision of x10** compared to first 8 TeV result
- Will significantly benefit from **HL-LHC** dataset
- Bold (personal) prediction: **the future of m_t at the LHC is boosted!**

Top mass beyond the (HL-) LHC



m_t can be measured via **e^+e^- scan** e.g. at FCC-ee

- Extracted from the peak position corresponding to the **spin-1 toponium state** (J/Ψ -like)
- Requires mass definition that is not sensitive to large correction to Coulomb potential
-> potential subtracted (PS) mass

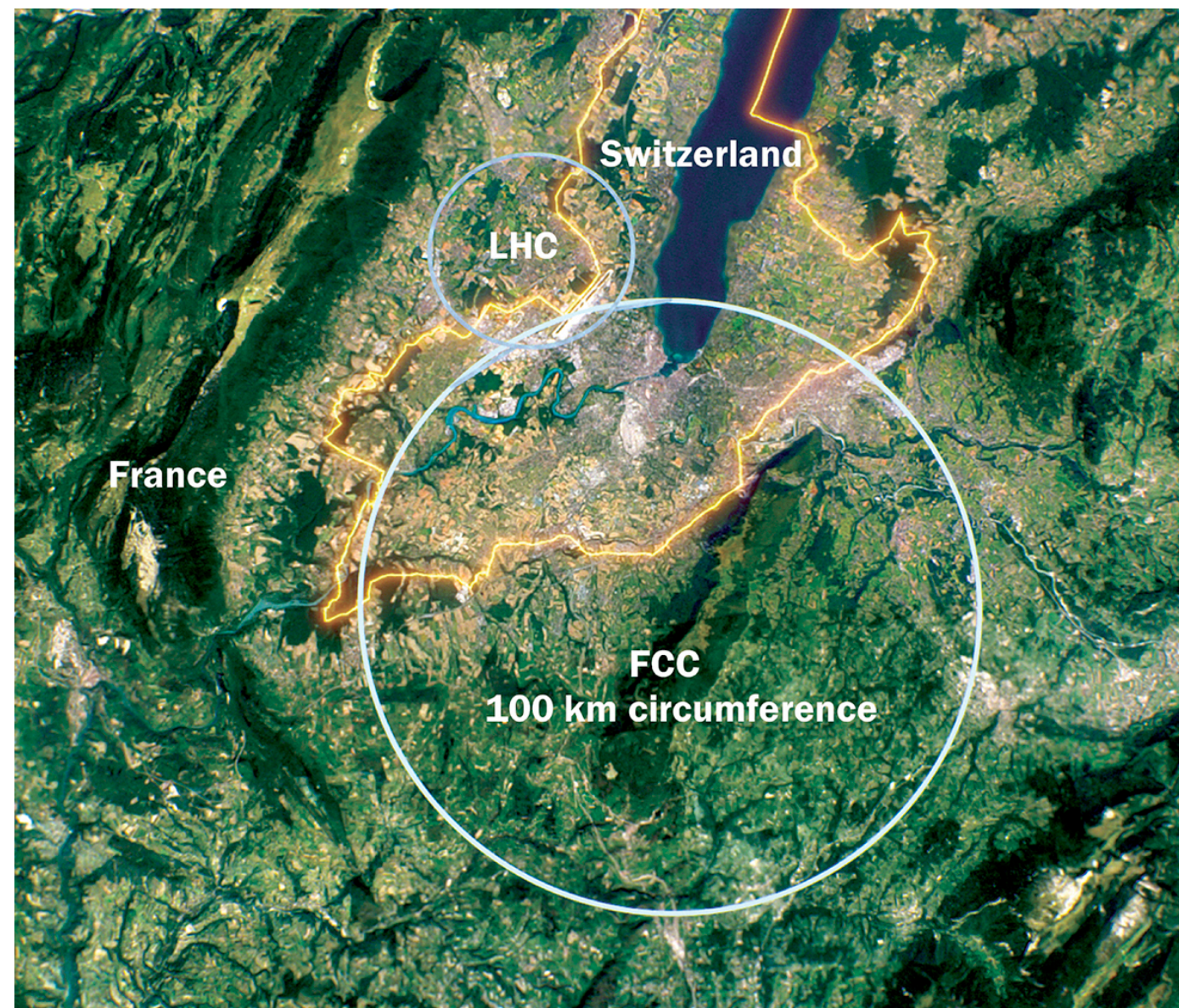
PLB [9804241]

$$m_{t,PS}(\mu_f) = m_t - \delta m_t(\mu_f)$$

2203.06520

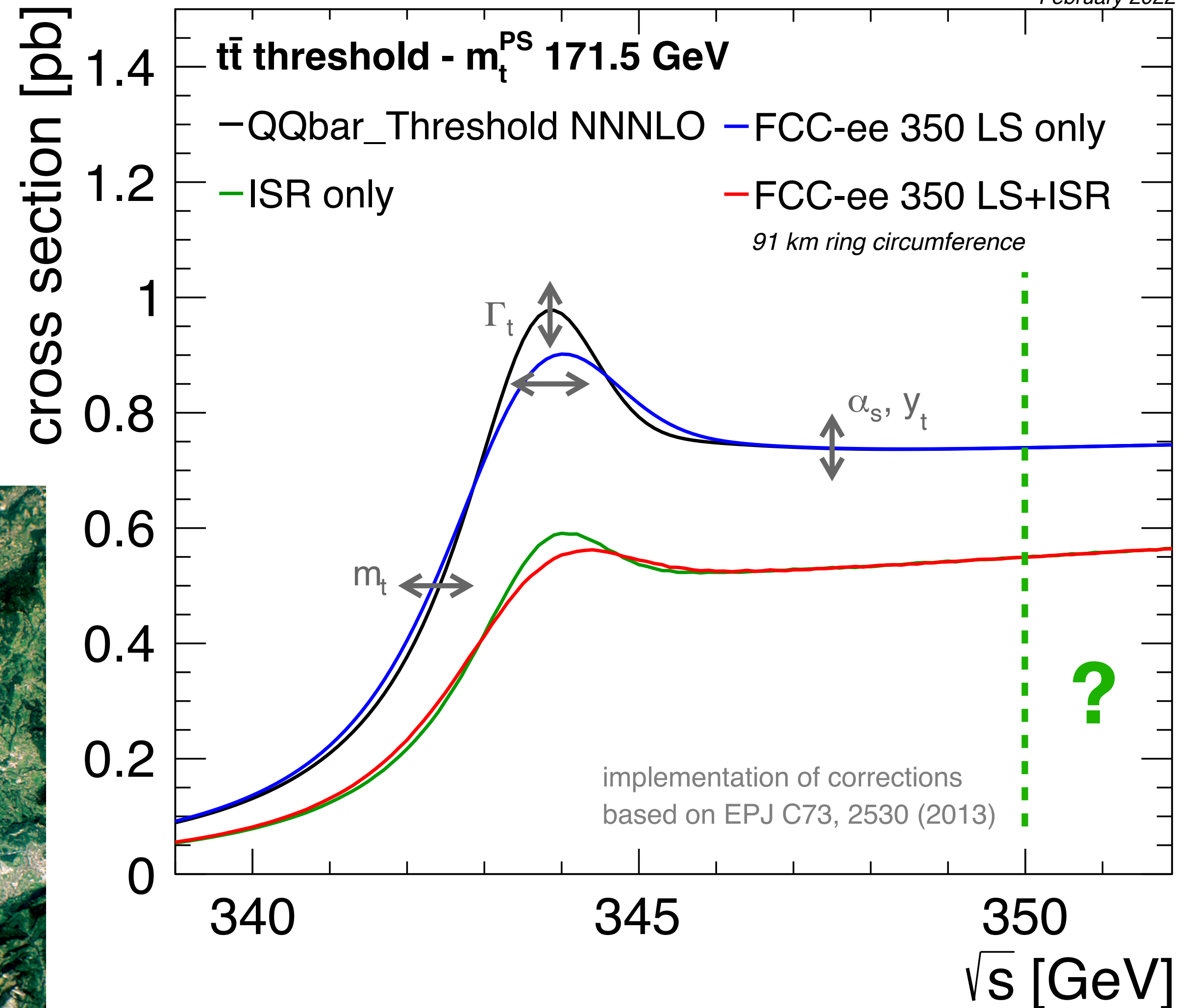
At FCC-ee m_t could be measured at the level of 50 MeV or better

Estimates currently limited by theoretical uncertainties

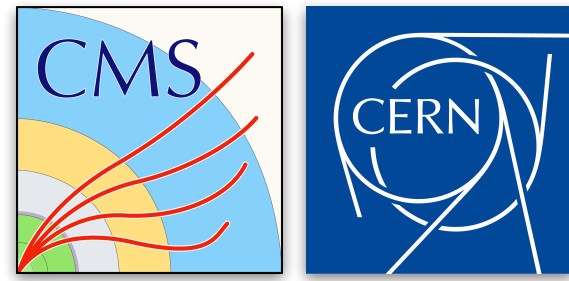


2203.06520

February 2022



The grand plan for ultimate precision

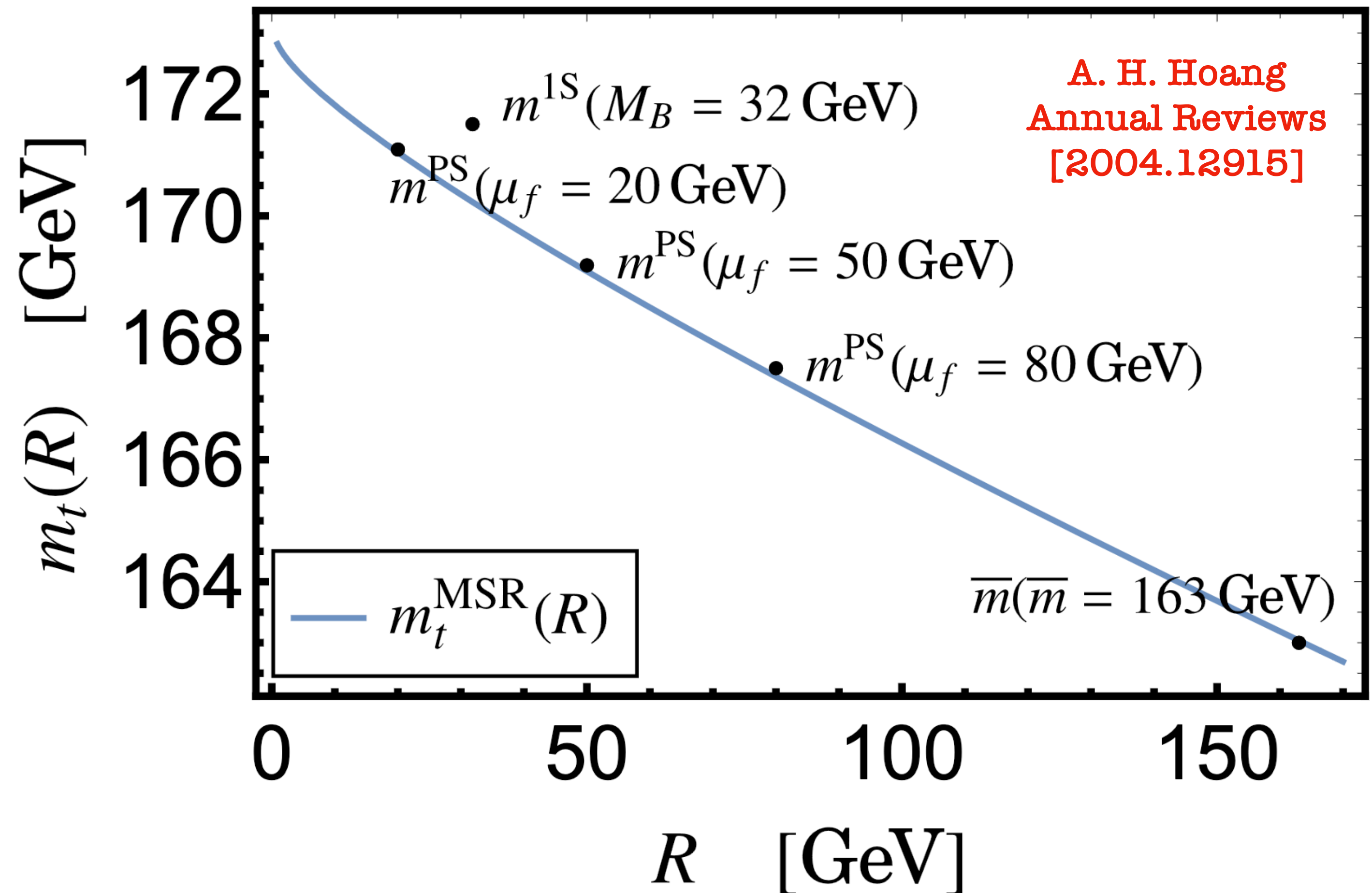


The MSR mass can be used as a tool to provide a **unified picture**

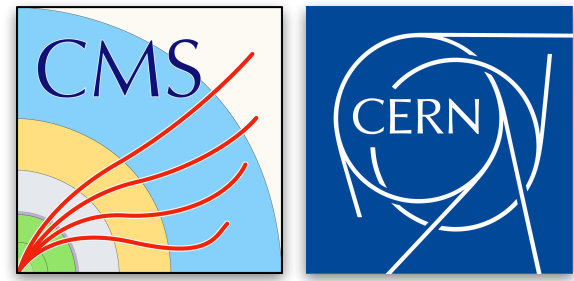
- Smoothly interpolates between different mass definitions (pole, PS, MSbar)
- Can be **naturally related to m_t^{MC}** via boosted measurements, thanks to its intrinsic IR cut-off

Once all the experimental and theoretical ingredients are in place:

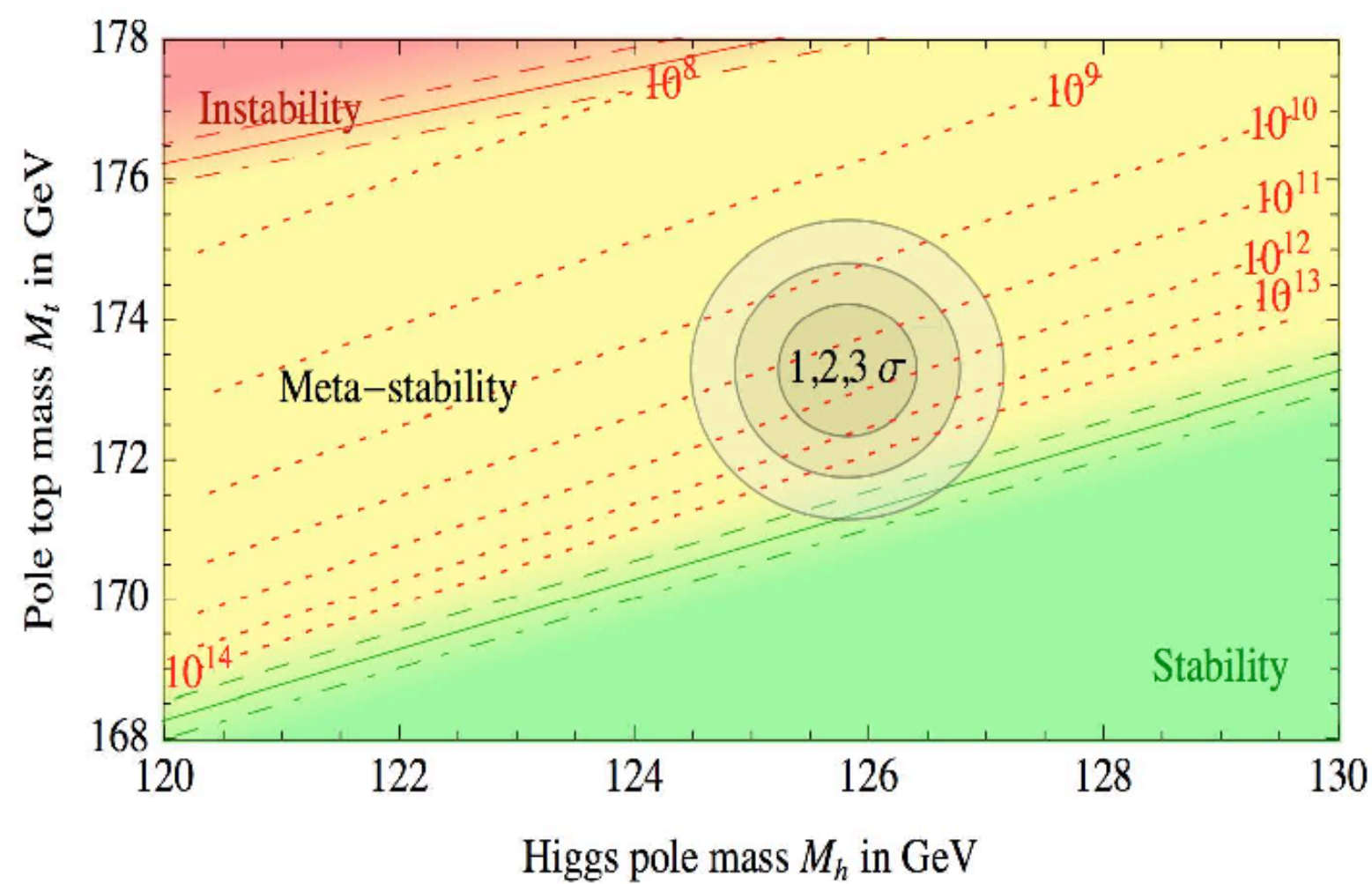
- Can check consistency between results direct and indirect measurements
- Can perform the “final” grand-combination and obtain the “ultimate” result



From the mess to the mass



- It is crucial to measure m_t at the highest level of precision in order to test the **consistency** of the SM
- Despite the remarkable precision achieved so far, **fundamental theoretical issues** make the interpretation of the results somewhat unclear
- **Remarkable progress** is being made on the experimental side, which can provide vital input for theoretical developments -> watch out for HL-LHC and (hopefully) a future e^+e^- collider



See you in 2029... if the universe is still there!

