

Vector-boson production at hadron colliders — Lecture I

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Lectures at the CTEQ School on QCD and Electroweak Phenomenology

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Outline of the lectures

Lecture I:

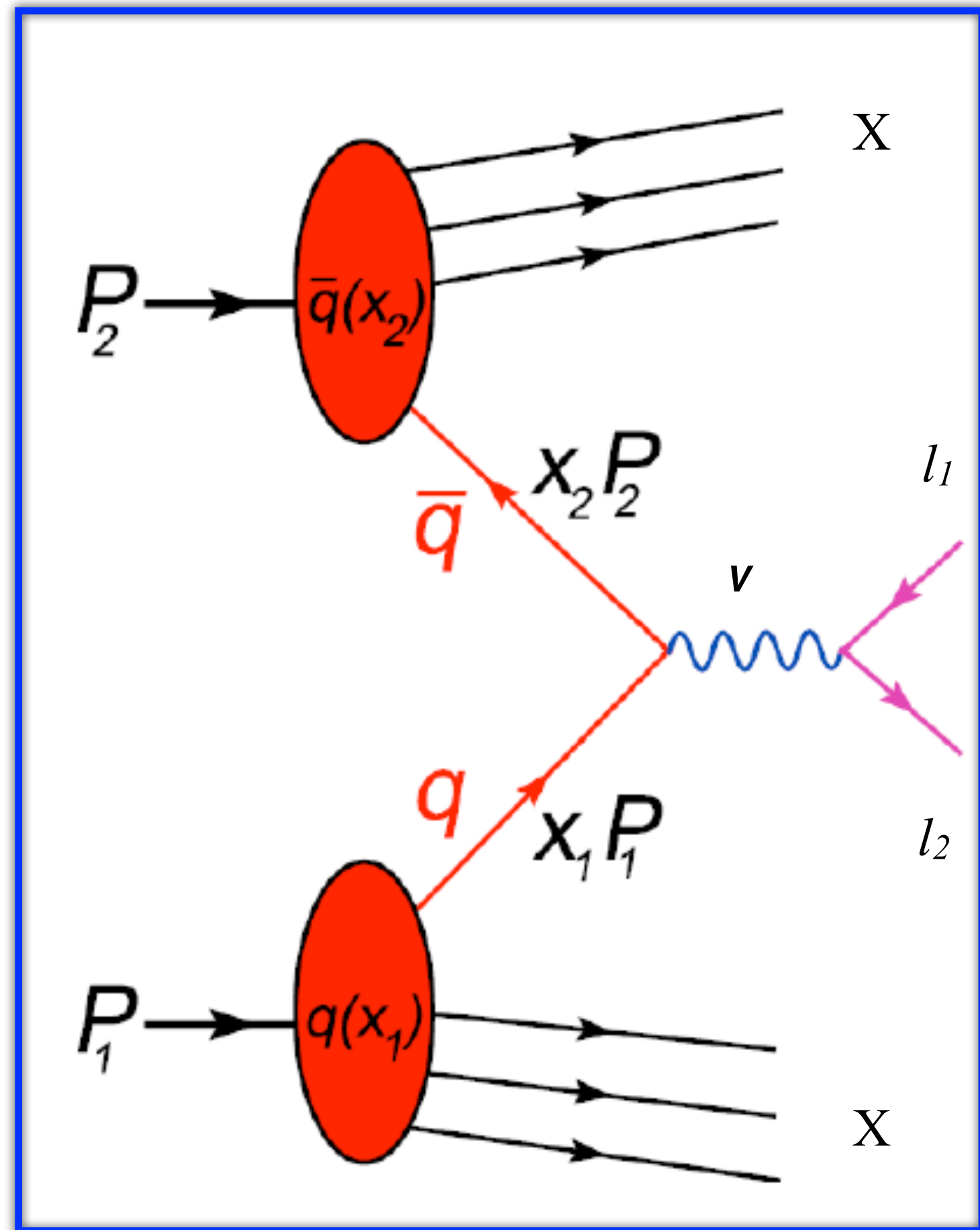
- Drell-Yan like gauge boson production: overview of the basics and historical importance
- Underlying theory framework for W/Z production
- Importance of higher order corrections: QCD, electroweak, mixed QCD-EW
- Modern applications: W-mass, PDFs, BSM searches
- Drell-Yan in the future

Lecture II:

- W-production at NLO in QCD: calculation and lessons learned
- Vector boson production in association with jets: phenomenological importance
- Transverse momentum resummation for W/Z production
- The importance of multi-boson production and the special role of self-interactions — unitarity

Lecture I

Drell-Yan-like gauge boson production



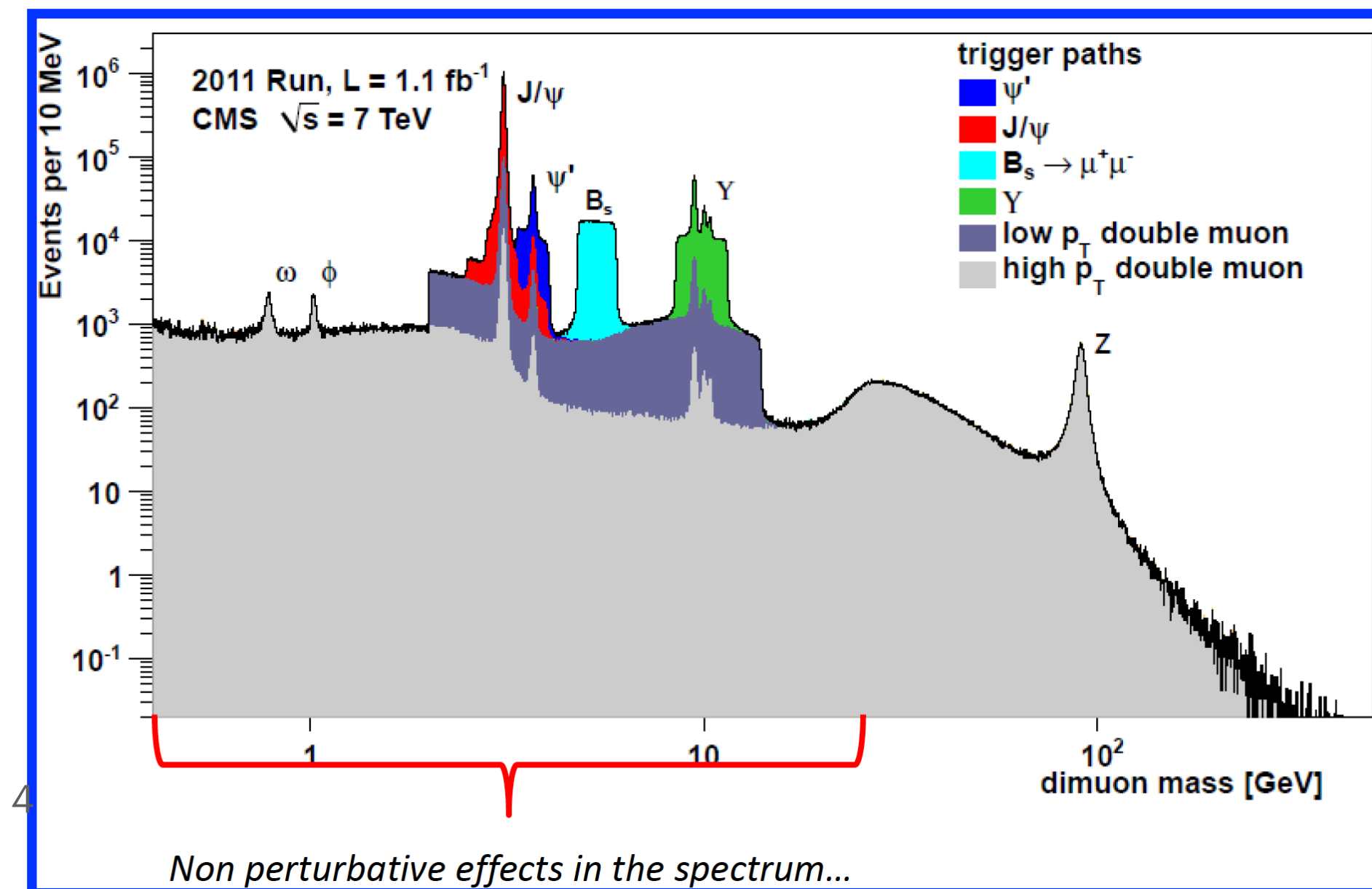
- Drell-Yan is the production of lepton pairs in the s-channel. Drell-Yan like processes include:

$$h(P_1) + h'(P_2) \rightarrow (\gamma^*, Z \rightarrow l^+l^-)X \text{ with } l = e, \mu$$

$$h(P_1) + h'(P_2) \rightarrow (W \rightarrow l\nu)X$$

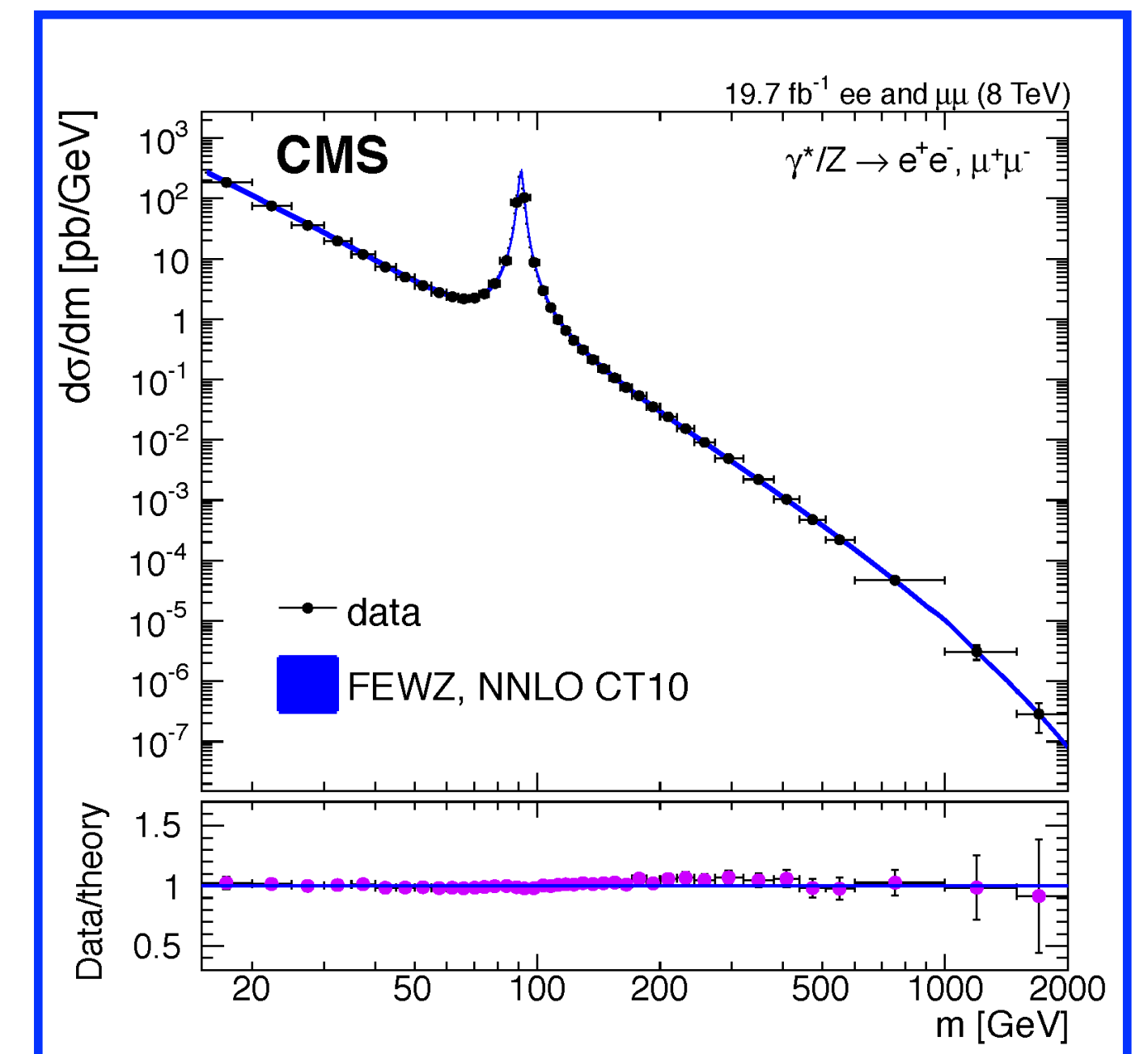
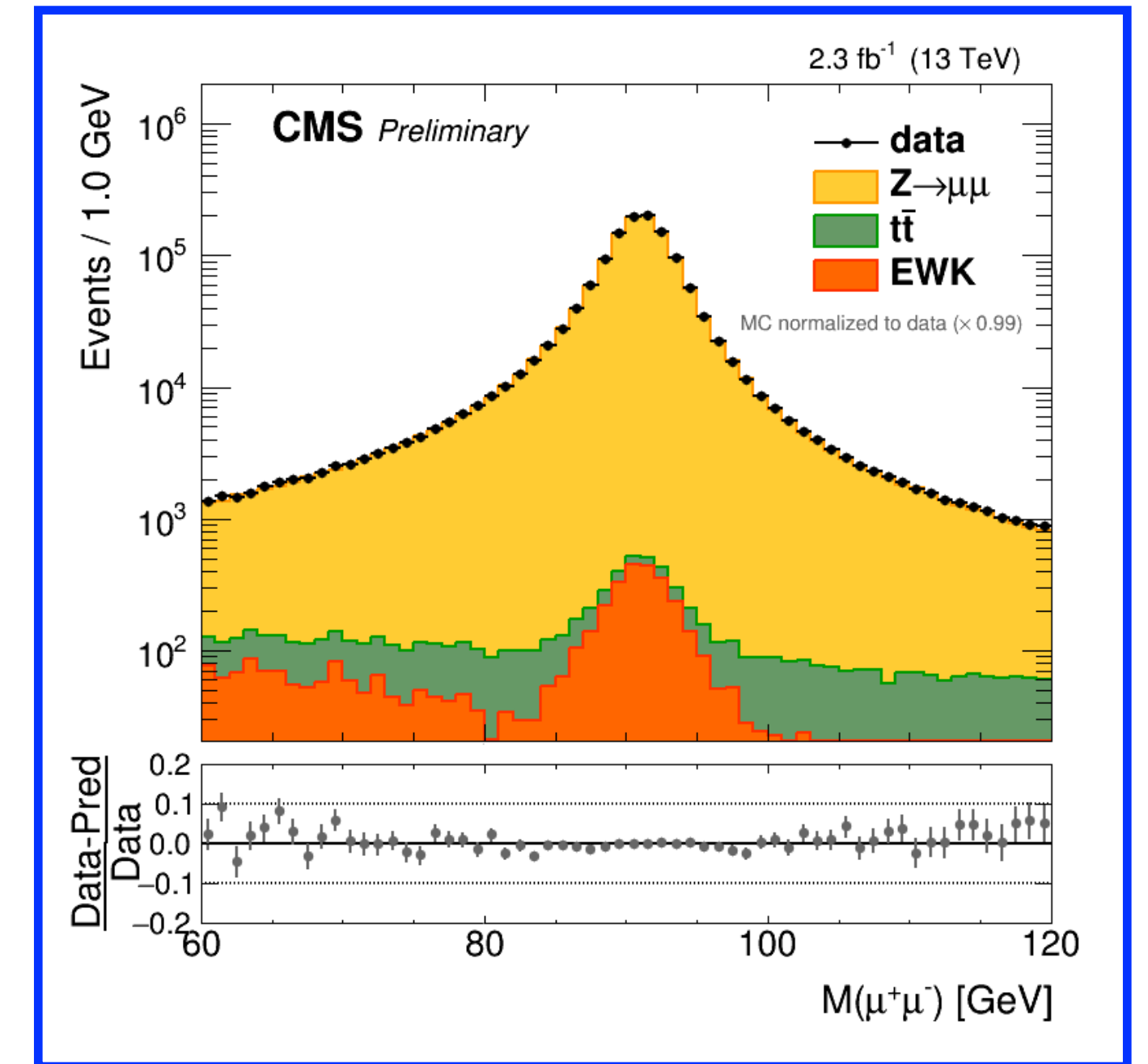
$$h(P_1) + h'(P_2) \rightarrow V_{BSM}X; \quad V = Z', \dots$$

- Many resonances were discovered by studying the di-muon final state in Drell-Yan (J/Ψ , γ , Z , ...)



Facts about Drell-Yan

- Clean signal at hadron colliders, since the lepton pair does not interact strongly
- One of the best theoretically studied processes at a hadron collider with uncertainties at the few percent level
- factorization is proved to all orders in QCD perturbation theory ([Collins-Soper-Sterman](#))
- Standard candle for detector calibration (eg. detector response to lepton energy)



Feynman rules for electroweak interactions

- The Lagrangian for EW interactions:

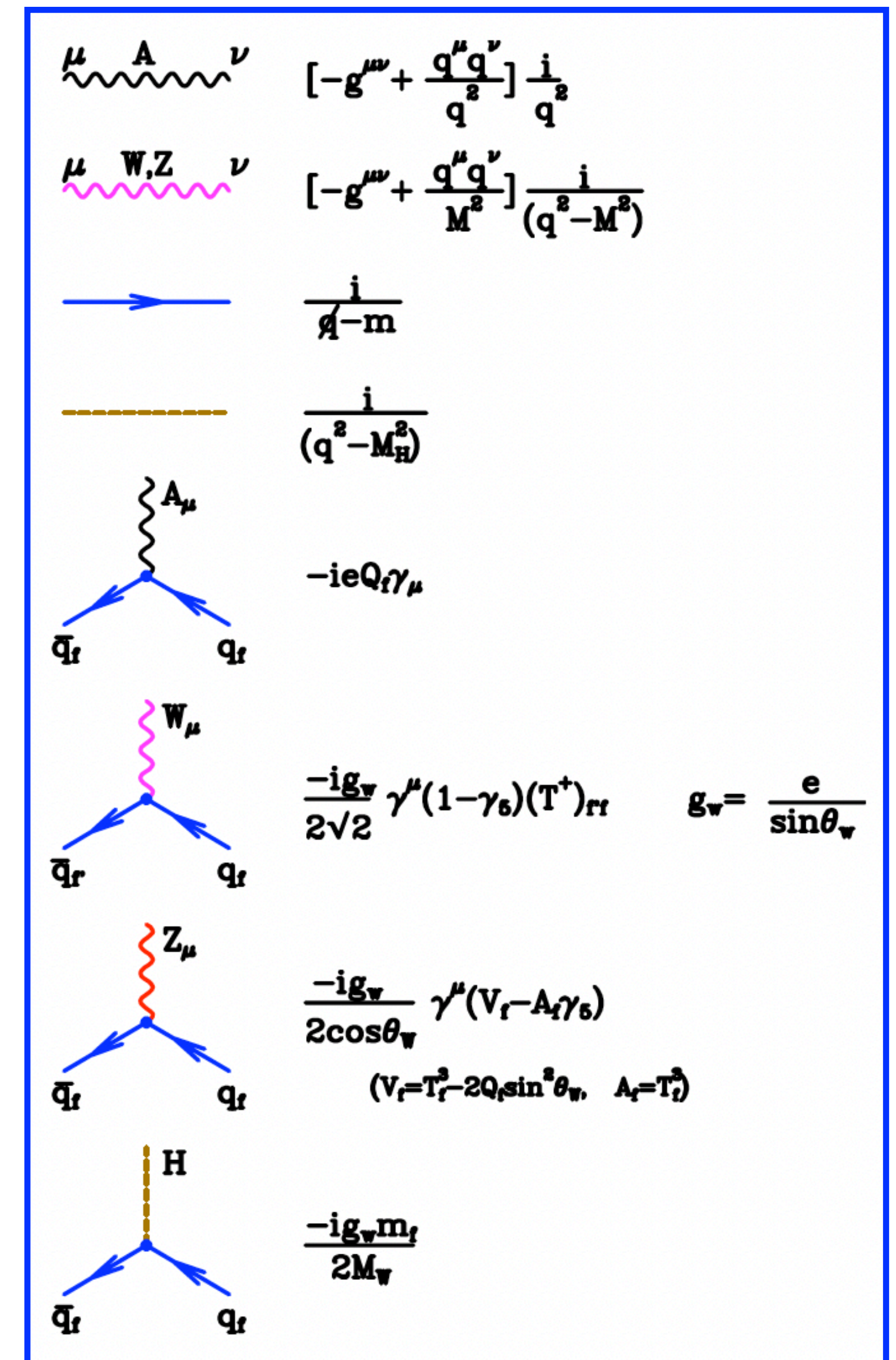
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \sum_f \bar{\psi}_f \left(i\not{\partial} - m_f - g_W \frac{m_f H}{2M_W} \right) \psi_f \\ & - \frac{g_W}{2\sqrt{2}} \sum_f \bar{\psi}_f (\gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) T^+ W_\mu^+ + \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma_5) T^- W_\mu^-) \psi_f \\ & - e \sum_f Q_f \bar{\psi}_f A \psi_f - \frac{g_W}{2 \cos \theta_W} \sum_f \bar{\psi}_f \gamma^\mu (V_f - A_f \gamma_5) \psi_f Z_\mu \end{aligned}$$

- W-boson couples to left-handed fermions, while the Z-boson couples to both with different strength:

$$V_f - A_f \gamma_5 = \frac{V_f + A_f}{2} (1 - \gamma_5) + \frac{V_f - A_f}{2} (1 + \gamma_5)$$

- Vector and Axial vector couplings in terms of weak isospin $T^3_{f= \pm 1/2}$

$$\begin{aligned} V_f &= T_f^3 - 2Q_f \sin^2 \theta_W \\ A_f &= T_f^3 \\ V_u &\approx 0.2, \quad V_d \approx -0.35, \quad V_\nu = \frac{1}{2}, \quad V_e \approx -0.04 \\ A_u &= \frac{1}{2}, \quad A_d = -\frac{1}{2}, \quad A_\nu = \frac{1}{2}, \quad A_e = -\frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$



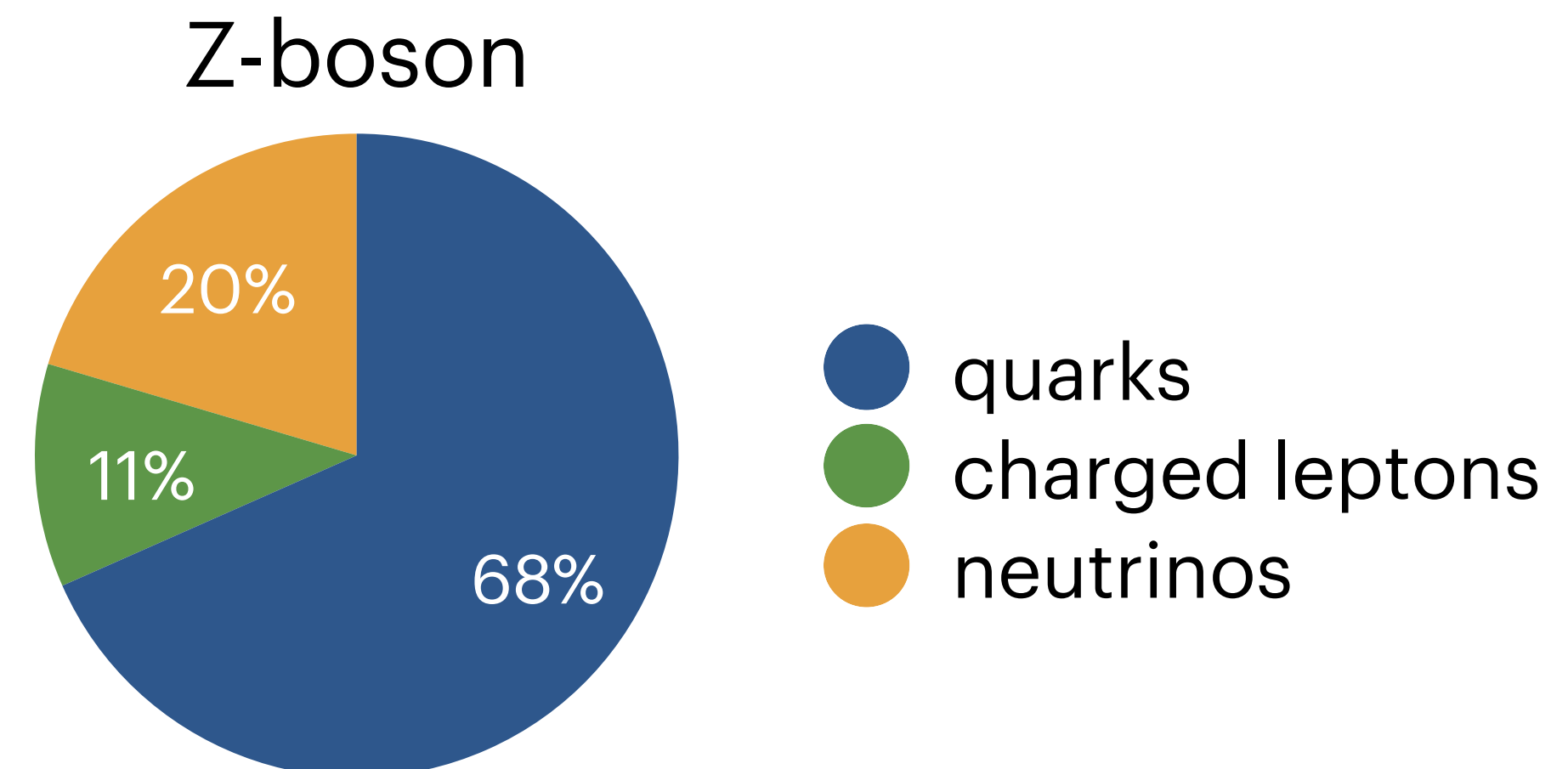
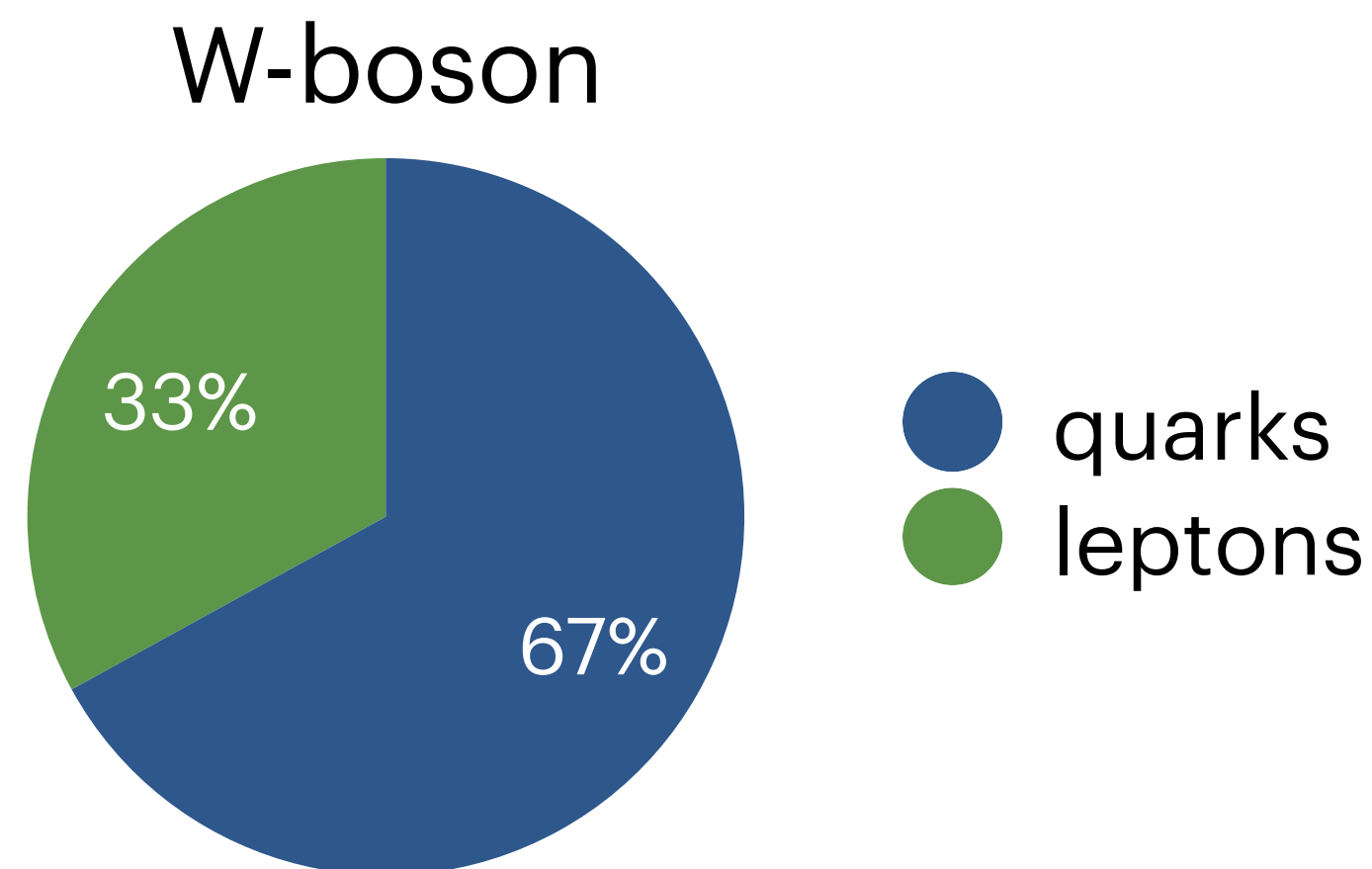
Decays of W- and Z-bosons

- At leading order (LO), the partial decay widths are given by:

$$\Gamma(W^+ \rightarrow f \bar{f}') = C \frac{G_F M_W^3}{6\sqrt{2}\pi} \quad \Gamma(Z \rightarrow f \bar{f}) = C \frac{G_F M_Z^3}{6\sqrt{2}\pi} (V_f^2 + A_f^2)$$

C=1 leptons / C=3 quarks

- W decays:** 3 charged leptons, and 2 light quark generations $\Rightarrow \text{Br}(W^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu) = 1/9$
- Z decays:** $V_e \approx 0, |A_e| = |A_\nu| = |V_\nu| \Rightarrow \text{Br}(Z \rightarrow \nu\nu) \approx 2 \times \text{Br}(Z \rightarrow e^+e^-)$



- Large fraction of decays into difficult-to-measure modes.

Parton kinematics

- Drell-Yan as an example:** lets look at lepton pair production via quark-antiquark annihilation

Lepton-pair four momentum (at LO):

$$\begin{cases} E = (x_1 + x_2)\sqrt{s}/2 \\ p_z = (x_1 - x_2)\sqrt{s}/2 \end{cases}$$

$$Q^2 = E^2 - p_z^2 = x_1 x_2 s$$

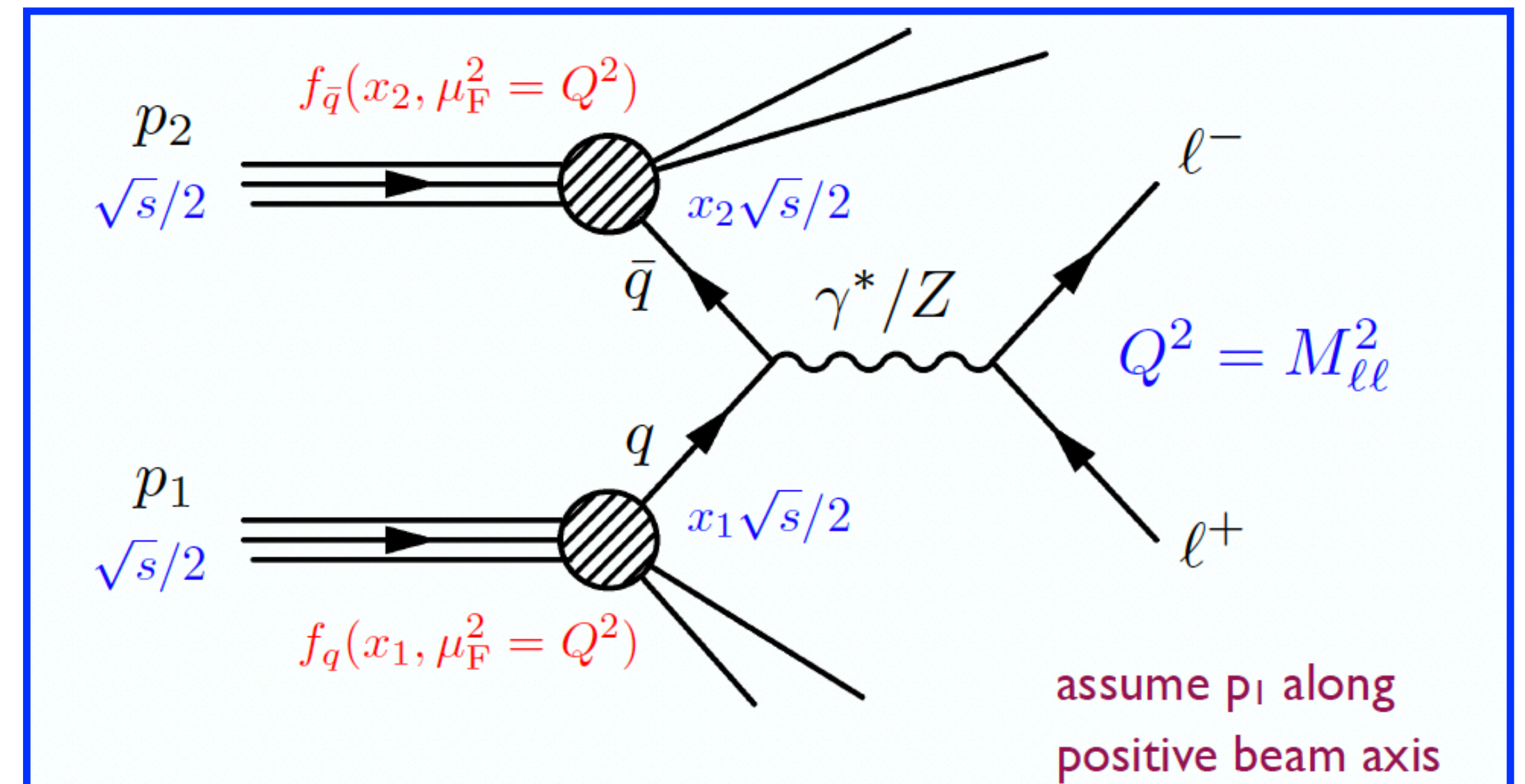
The **rapidity** ``y'' is defined as:

$$\frac{x_1}{x_2} = \frac{E + p_z}{E - p_z} \equiv e^{2y}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 x_2 &= Q^2/s \\ x_1/x_2 &= e^{2y} \end{aligned} \Rightarrow$$

$$x_{1,2} = \frac{Q}{\sqrt{s}} e^{\pm y}$$

$$q(x_1) + \bar{q}(x_2) \rightarrow \gamma^*/Z \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$$



For a given Q^2 the **rapidity** ``y'' of the lepton pair defines the x_1 and x_2 of the two partons

Parton kinematics

- Kinematic variables often studied at hadron colliders:

$$p_T \equiv \sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}$$

$$y \equiv \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{E + p_z}{E - p_z}$$

Transverse momentum p_T

Rapidity y

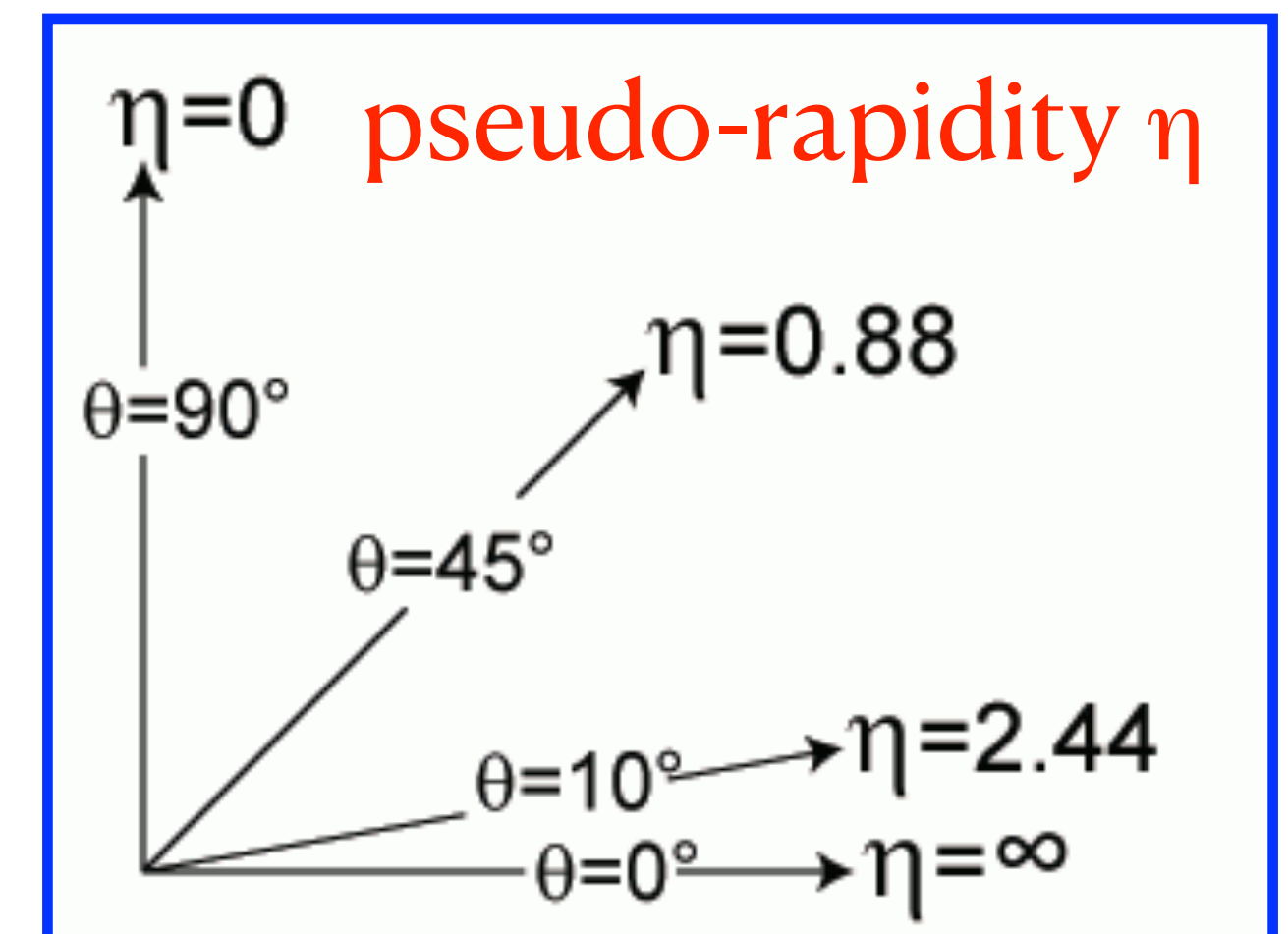
The transverse momentum p_T is invariant under Lorentz boosts along z

- Sometimes we talk about the rapidity and other times we talk about the pseudo-rapidity. What is the difference?

For a **massless particle** ($E \gg M$):

$$y \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1 + \cos \theta}{1 - \cos \theta} = -\ln \tan \theta/2 \equiv \eta$$

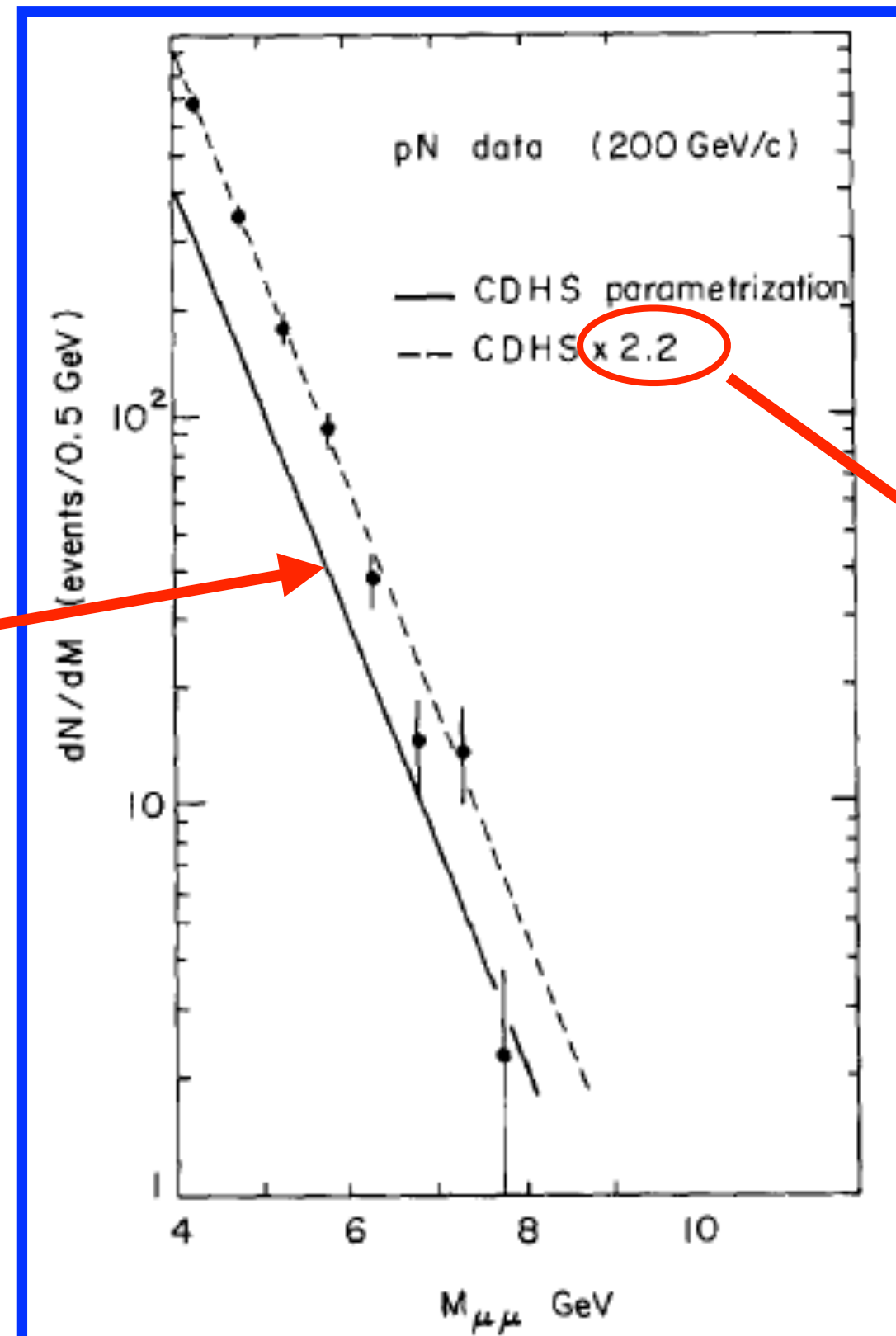
pseudo-rapidity



θ : centre-of-mass scattering angle

Historical importance

- Study of the Drell-Yan process was critically important in establishing QCD as a quantitative theory
- Comparison of di-muon invariant mass data from the NA3 experiment (proton-nucleon scattering) at CERN in 1979:



LO cross section obtained using old CDHS parametrization of PDFs

In all the channels studied the experimental cross section is significantly larger by a factor of 2.3 ± 0.5 than expected

The first introduction of a “K-factor” to explain discrepancies between theory and data

$$K = (d^2\sigma/dx_1 dx_2)_{\text{exp}} / (d^2\sigma/dx_1 dx_2)_{\text{DY model}}$$

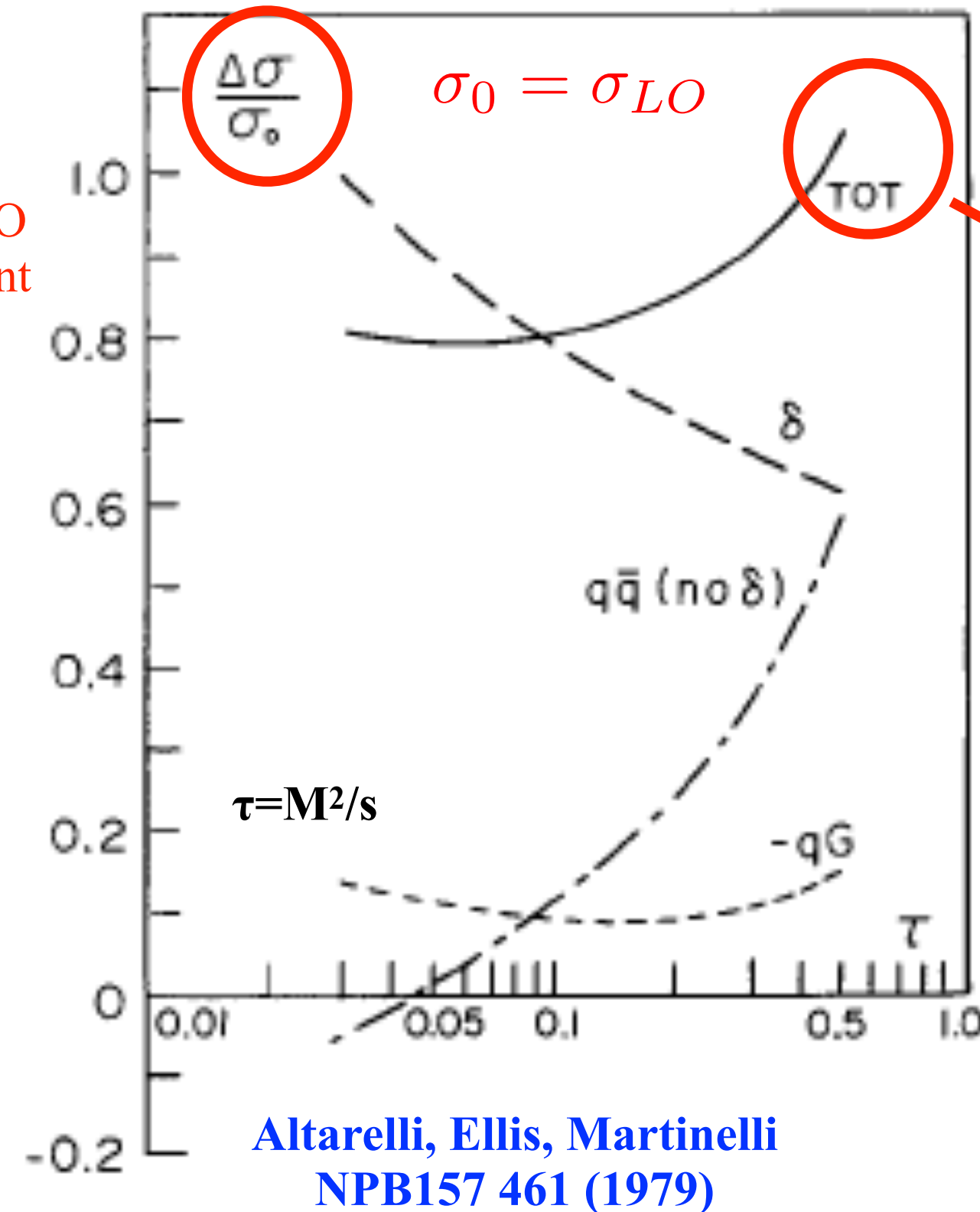
Reaction	pN	$\bar{p}N$
K	2.2 ± 0.4	2.4 ± 0.5

Historical importance

- Study of the Drell-Yan process was critically important in establishing QCD as a quantitative theory

TOT= sum of all partonic channels @ NLO

$\Delta\sigma$ = pure NLO coefficient



$$\Delta\sigma_{TOT}/\sigma_0 \sim 0.8 - 1.0$$

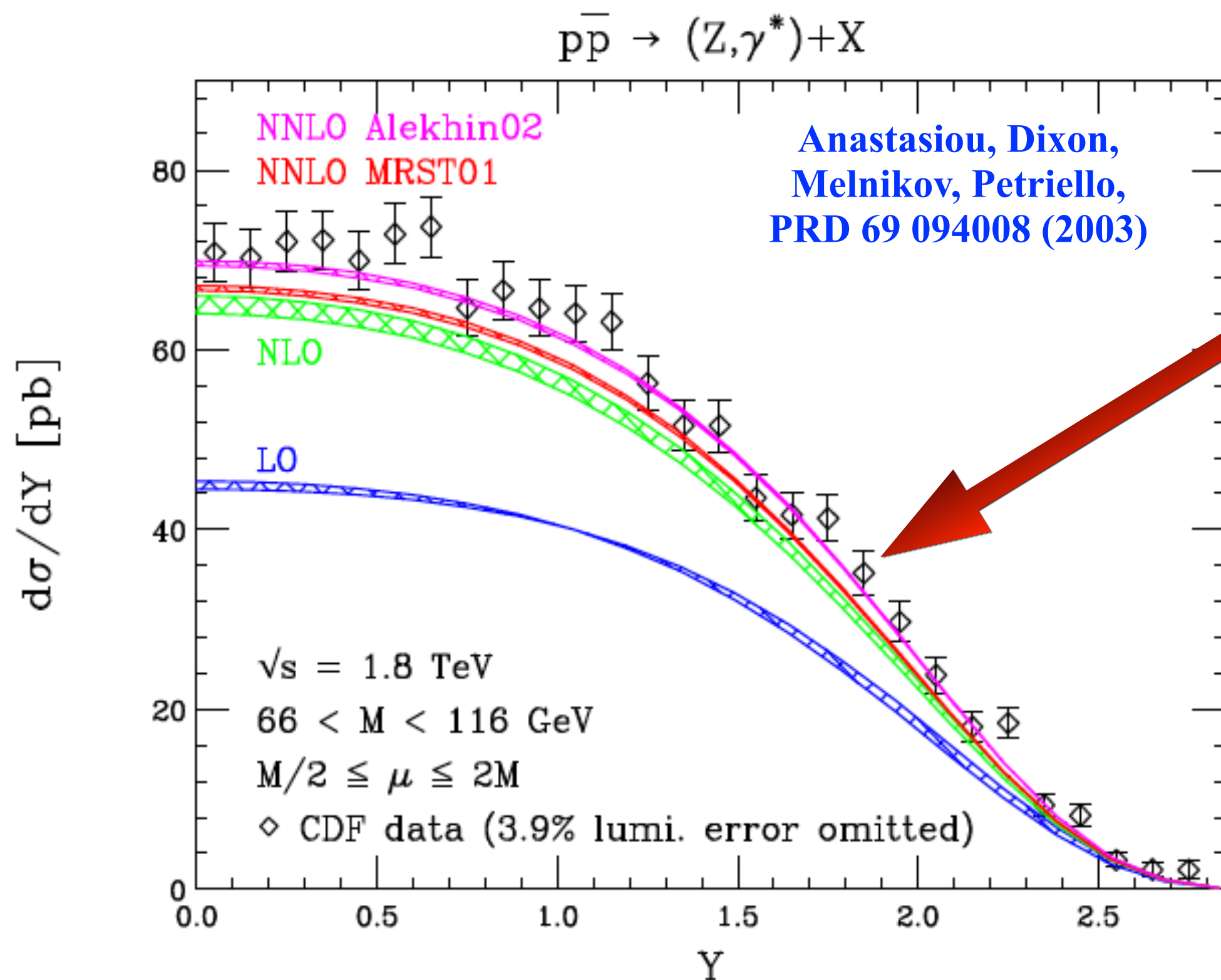
$$\sigma_{NLO} = \sigma_0 + \Delta\sigma_{TOT}$$

NLO QCD corrections reach nearly a factor of 2, greatly reducing tension between theory and experiment

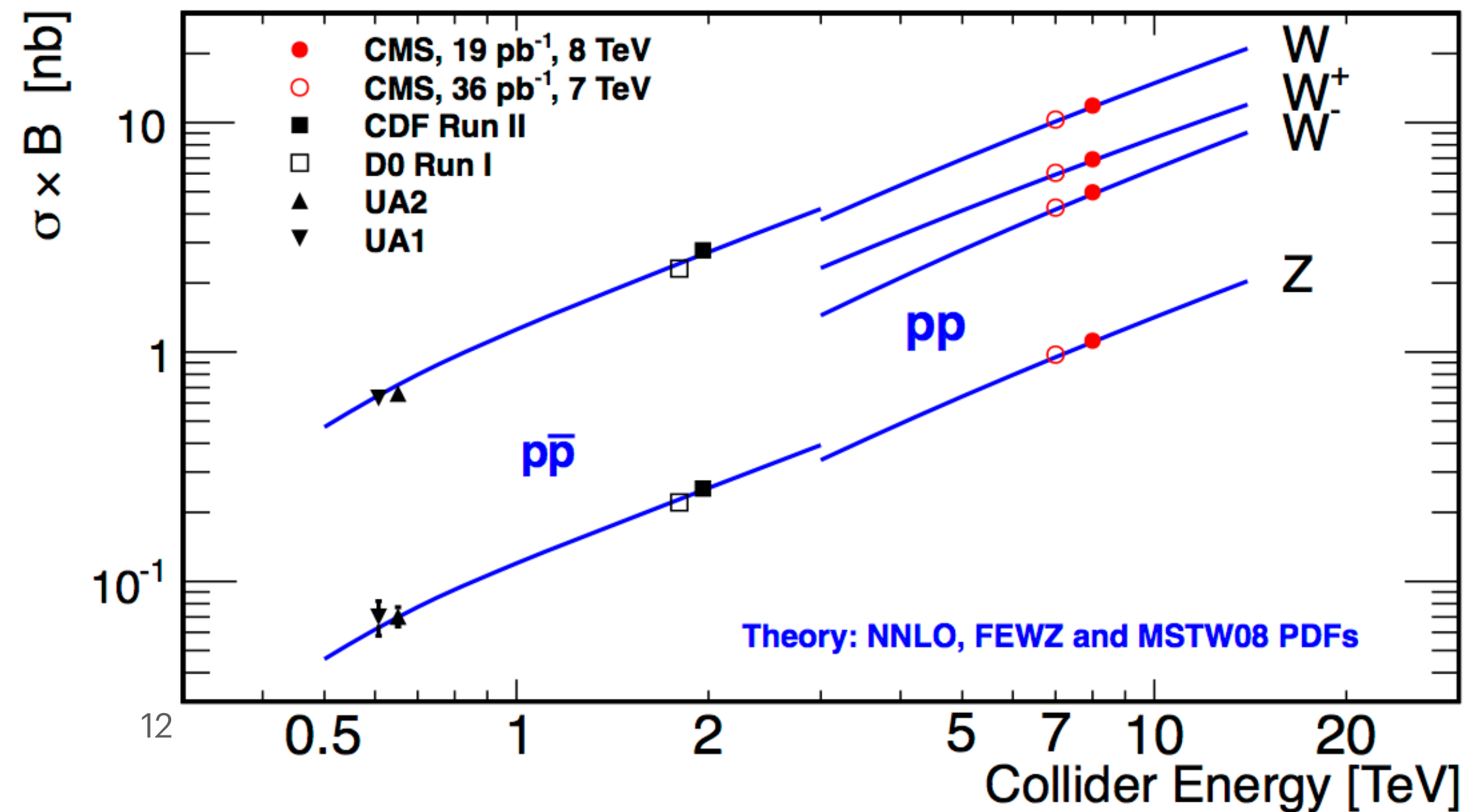
Discrepancy resolved by next-to-leading order QCD!

Historical importance

- Understanding of vector boson production through the Drell-Yan process has required continued advances in our ability to understand QCD precisely, with data from the Tevatron and the LHC requiring NNLO predictions and beyond.



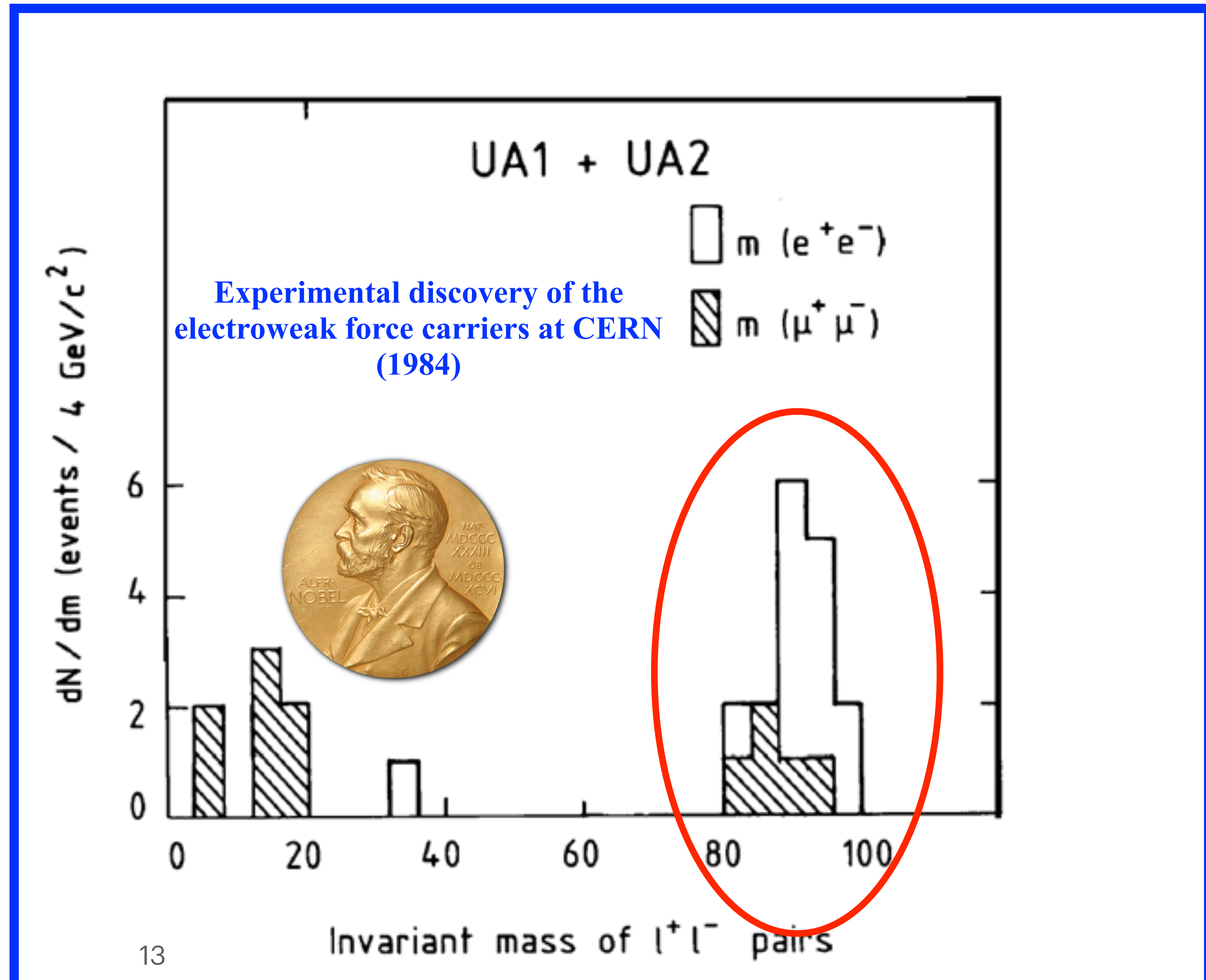
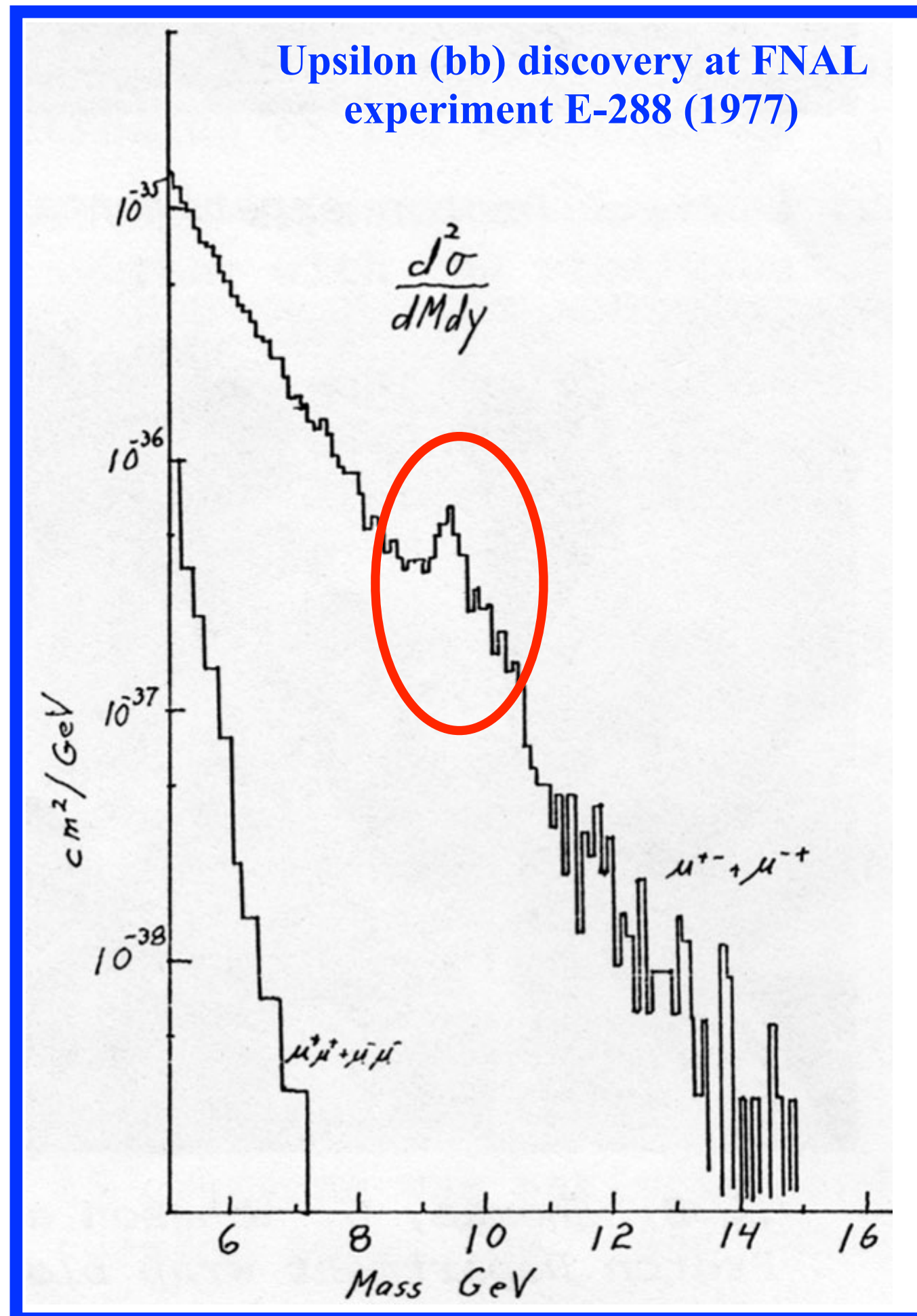
Drell-Yan data and predictions can be used to improve our understanding of proton structure



Historical importance

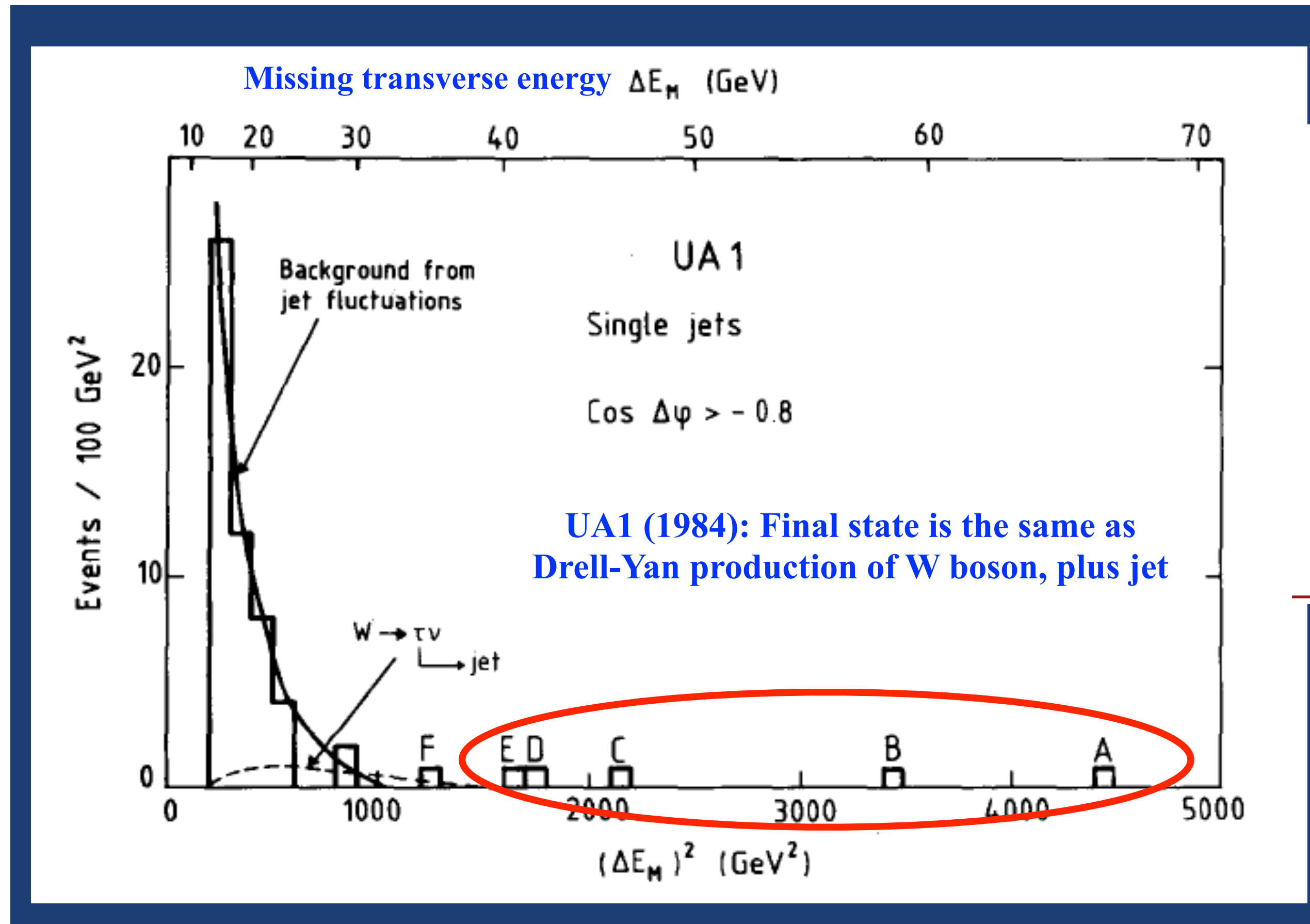
- The Drell-Yan process has been an important discovery mode throughout the modern history of high energy physics

E-288: fixed target DY production at Fermilab



Historical importance

- The Drell-Yan production of vector bosons has also played a prominent role in famous non-discoveries in particle physics...



4. *Conclusions.* We have presented a sample of five single-jet events and two “photon” events with $\Delta E_M > 40$ GeV. We have been unable to find a reasonable explanation in terms of background including W and Z⁰ decays or within the expectation of the Standard Model. Therefore we believe they are due to some new physical phenomenon.



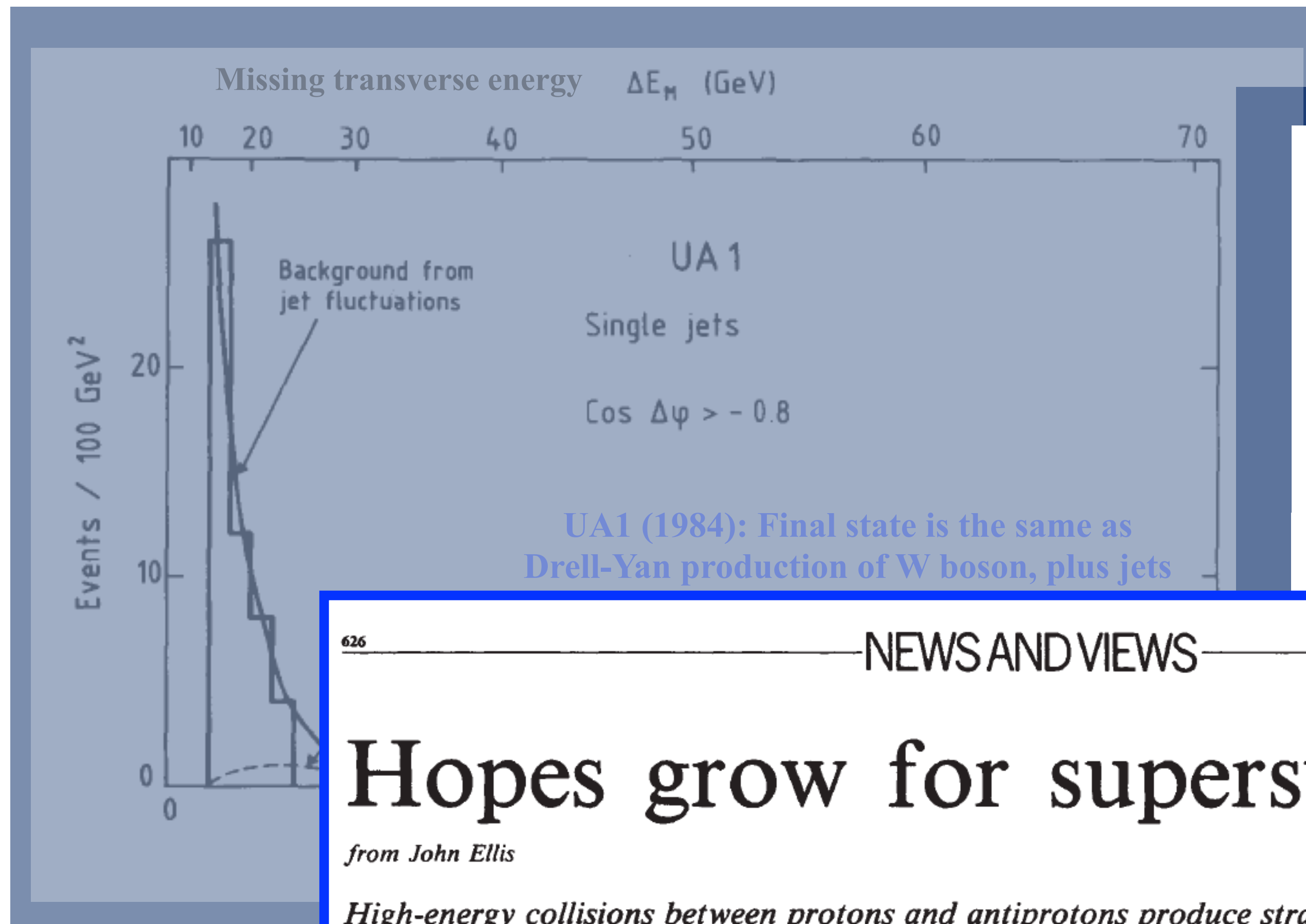
Physics Letters B
Volume 139, Issues 1–2, 3 May 1984, Pages 115–125

Experimental observation of events with large missing transverse energy accompanied by a jet or a photon (S) in pp collisions at $s = 540$ GeV

UA1 Collaboration, G. Arnison^m, O.C. Allkofer^g, A. Astbury^{m, 1}, B. Aubert^b, C. Bacci^l, G. Bauer^p, A. Bézaguet^d, R.K. Bock^d, T.J.V. Bowcock^h, M. Calvetti^d, P. Catz^b, P. Cennini^d, S. Centro², F. Ceradini^l, S. Cittolin^d, D. Cline^p, C. Cochetⁿ ... M. Yvert^b

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4. *Conclusions.* We have presented a sample of five single-jet events and two “photon” events with $\Delta E_M > 40$ GeV. We have been unable to find a reasonable explanation in terms of background including W and Z⁰ decays or within the expectation of the Standard Model. Therefore we believe they are due to some new physical phenomenon.

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NEWS AND VIEWS

NATURE VOL. 313 21 FEBRUARY 1985

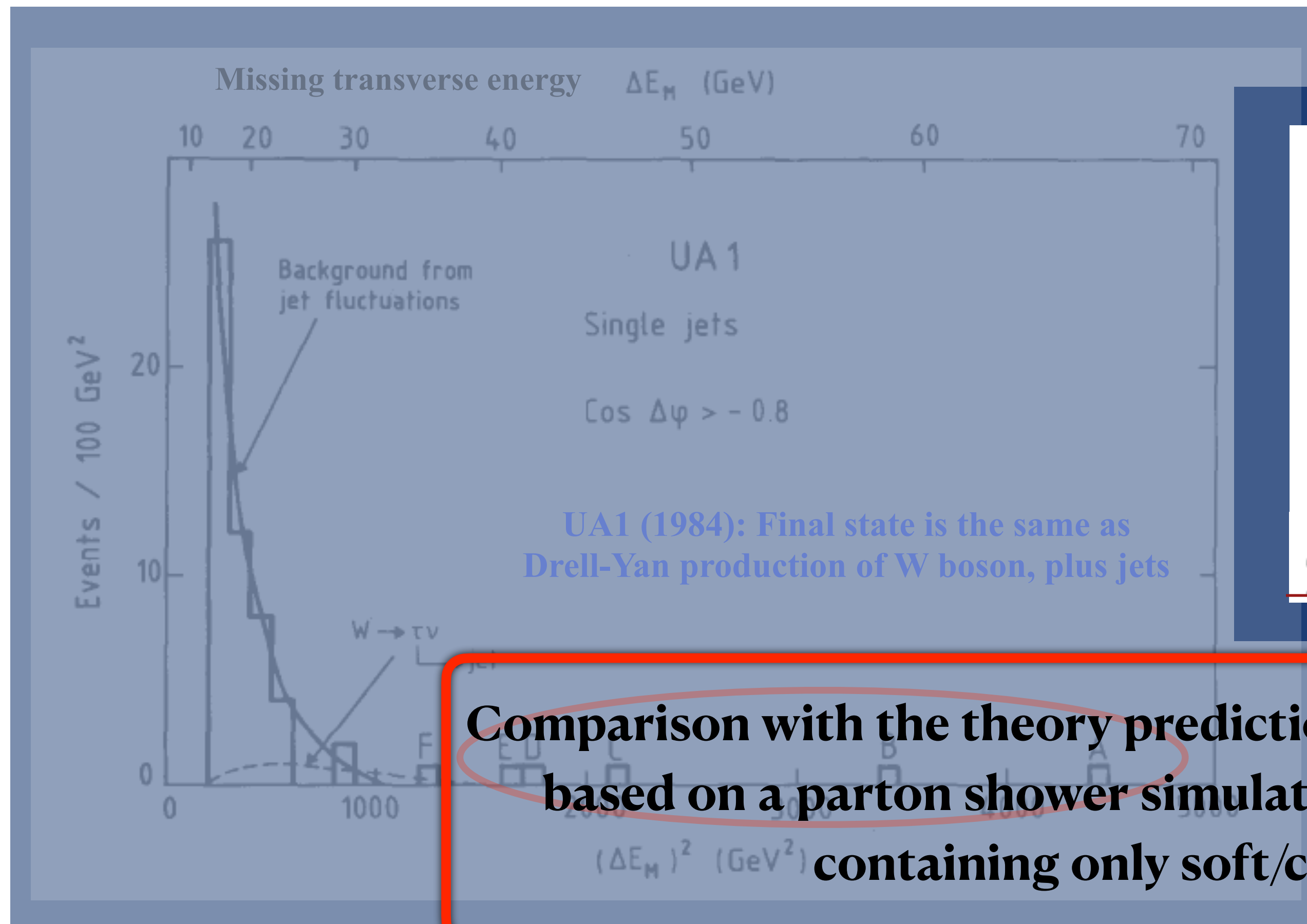
Hopes grow for supersymmetry

from John Ellis

High-energy collisions between protons and antiprotons produce strange events in which momentum fails to balance. Missing momentum may be carried by photinos, super-partners of the photon.

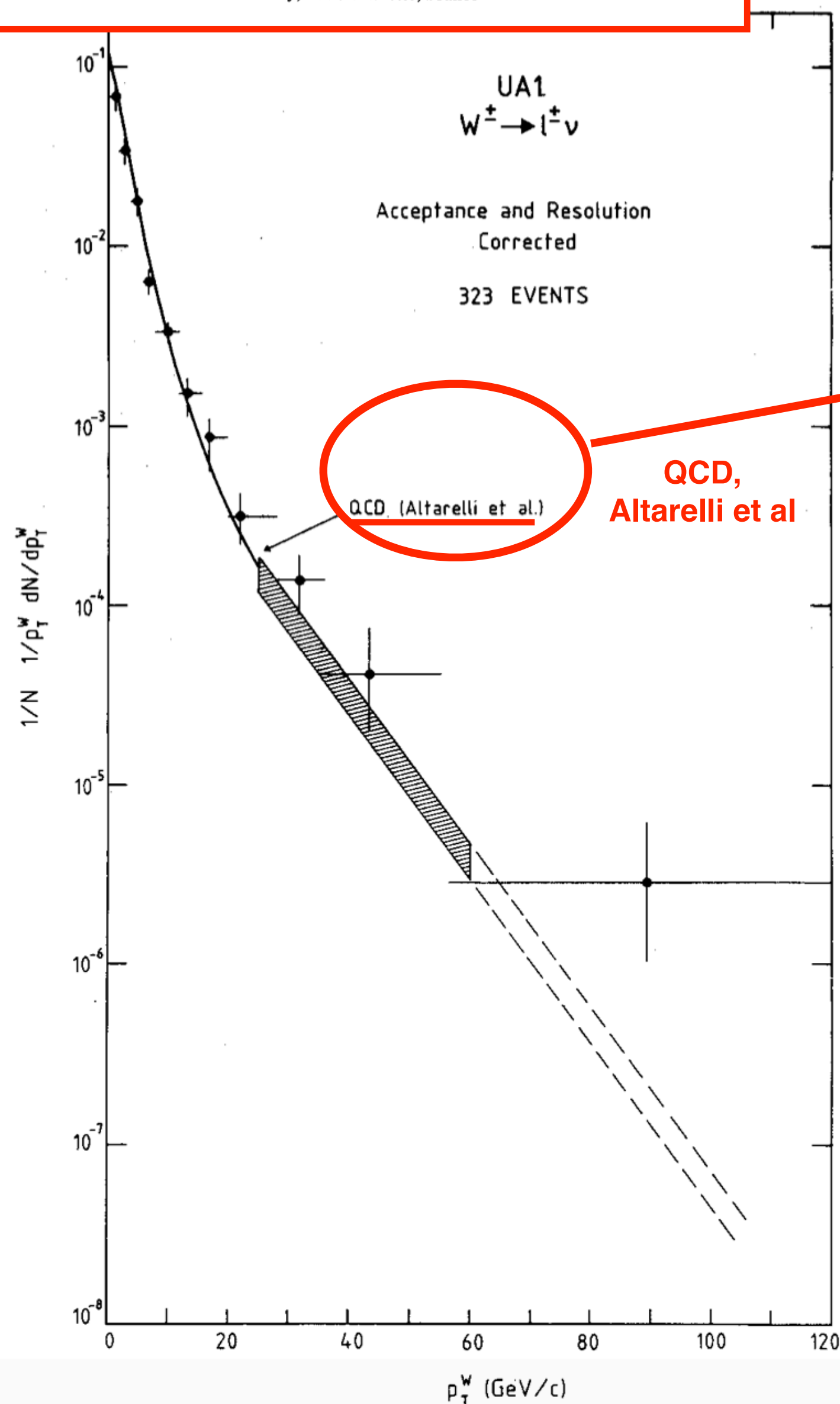
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4. *Conclusions.* We have presented a sample of five single-jet events and two “photon” events with $\Delta E_M > 40$ GeV. We have been unable to find a reasonable explanation in terms of background including W and Z⁰ decays or within the expectation of the Standard Model. Therefore we believe they are due to some new physical phenomenon.

Historical importance



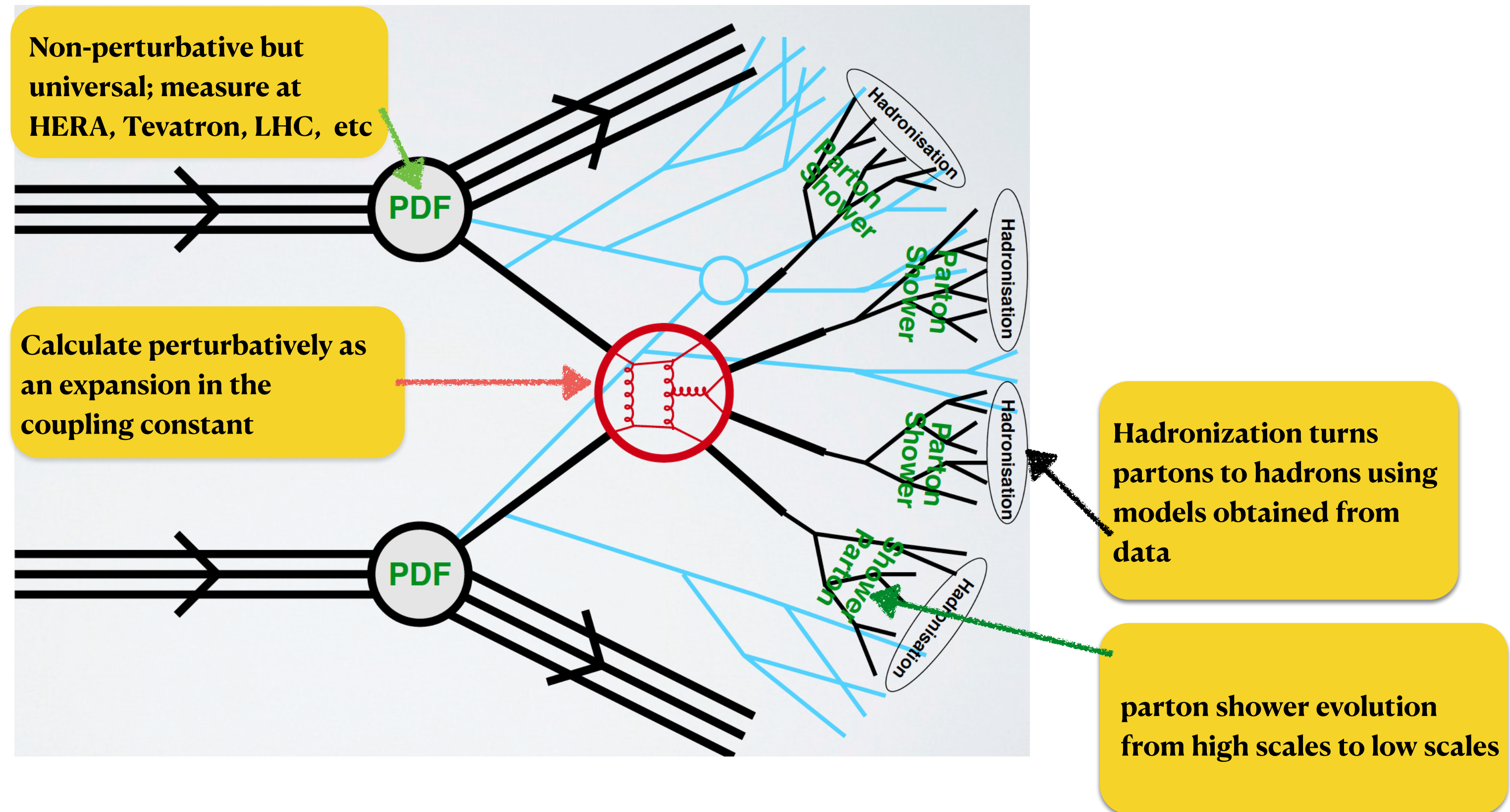
A proper SM prediction for the background requires including W +hard jet emissions. This explained the discrepancy!

Parton showers without matching to exact tree level matrix elements do not explain hard emissions correctly.

UA1 CM energy = 540 GeV \Rightarrow 40 GeV missing energy is hard, not soft !

Predicting hadronic cross sections

- How does theory allow us to peer into the inner hard-scattering in a typical hadron collider process?



We rely on factorization: divide and conquer!

Predicting hadronic cross sections

- Our formalism for predicting hadronic cross sections:

$$\sigma(P_1, P_2) = \sum_{i,j} \int dx_1 dx_2 f_{i/h_1}(x_1, \mu_F^2) f_{j/h_2}(x_2, \mu_F^2) \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(p_1, p_2, \alpha_S(\mu_R), Q^2; \mu_F^2, \mu_R^2) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\Lambda_{QCD}}{Q}\right)$$

Parton density functions, universal, non-perturbative

Parton level cross sections, process dependent, perturbative

Power suppressed contributions

factorization and renormalization scales

- The parton level cross sections are obtained from the matrix elements. They are model and process dependent.
- Parton density functions (PDFs) are universal, i.e process independent.

Predicting hadronic cross sections

$$\hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow X}(\hat{s}, \mu_F, \mu_R) \quad \text{Parton-level cross section}$$

Computed perturbatively as an expansion in the coupling constant, for example the strong coupling:

$$\hat{\sigma} = \sigma^{\text{Born}} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \sigma^{(1)} + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right)^2 \sigma^{(2)} + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right)^3 \sigma^{(3)} + \dots \right)$$

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known for up to
W+5jets

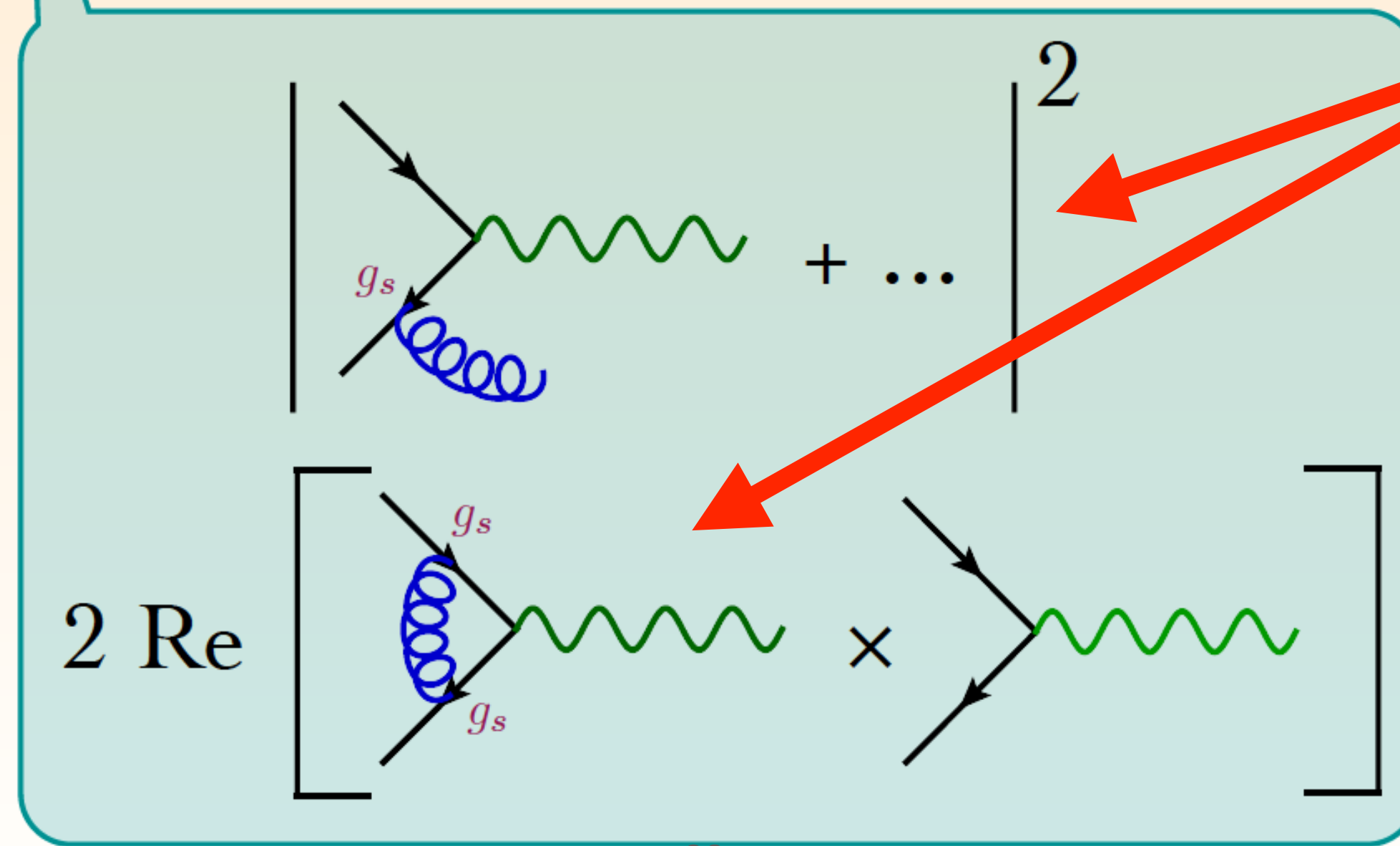
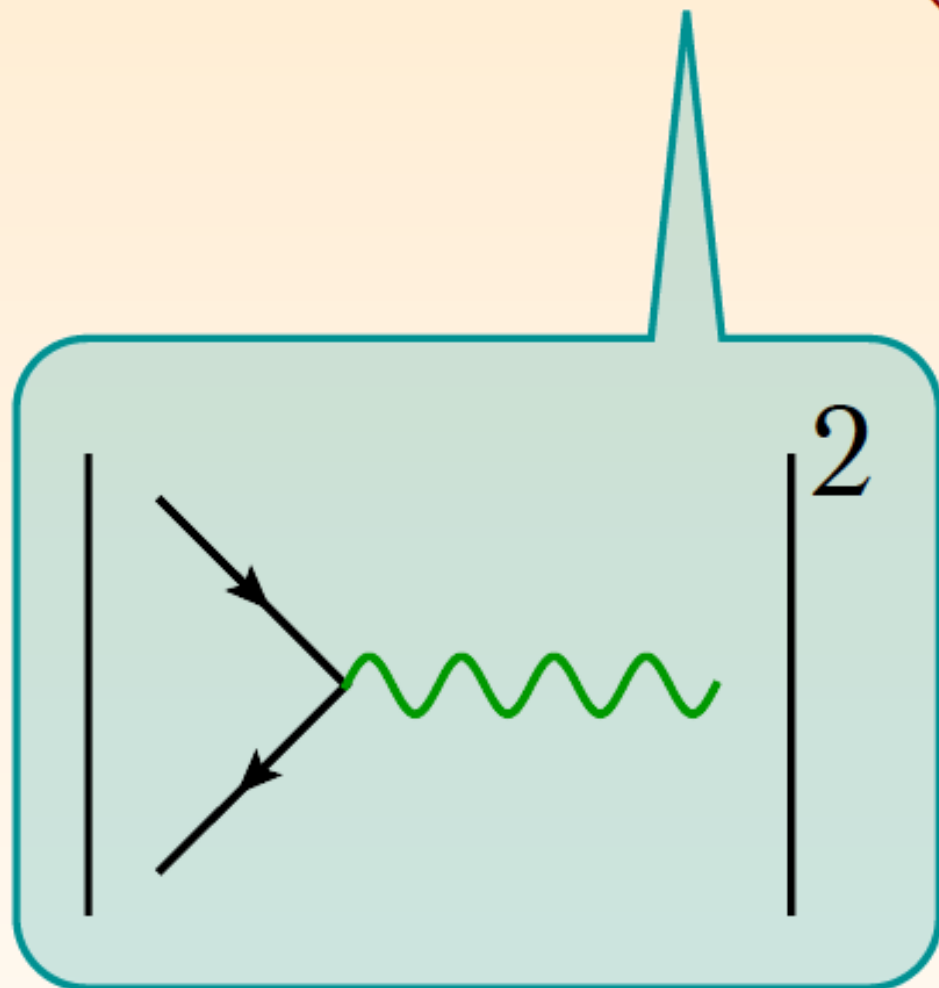
known for most
relevant 2 → 2
processes

known for inclusive
Higgs and DY
production

Predicting partonic cross sections

- Drell-Yan as an example:

$$\hat{\sigma} = \sigma^{\text{Born}} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \sigma^{(1)} + \dots \right)$$



Both real and virtual corrections are needed to cancel all singularities arising from soft and collinear emissions

Predicting partonic cross sections

$$\hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow X}(\hat{s}, \mu_F, \mu_R) \quad \text{Parton-level cross section}$$

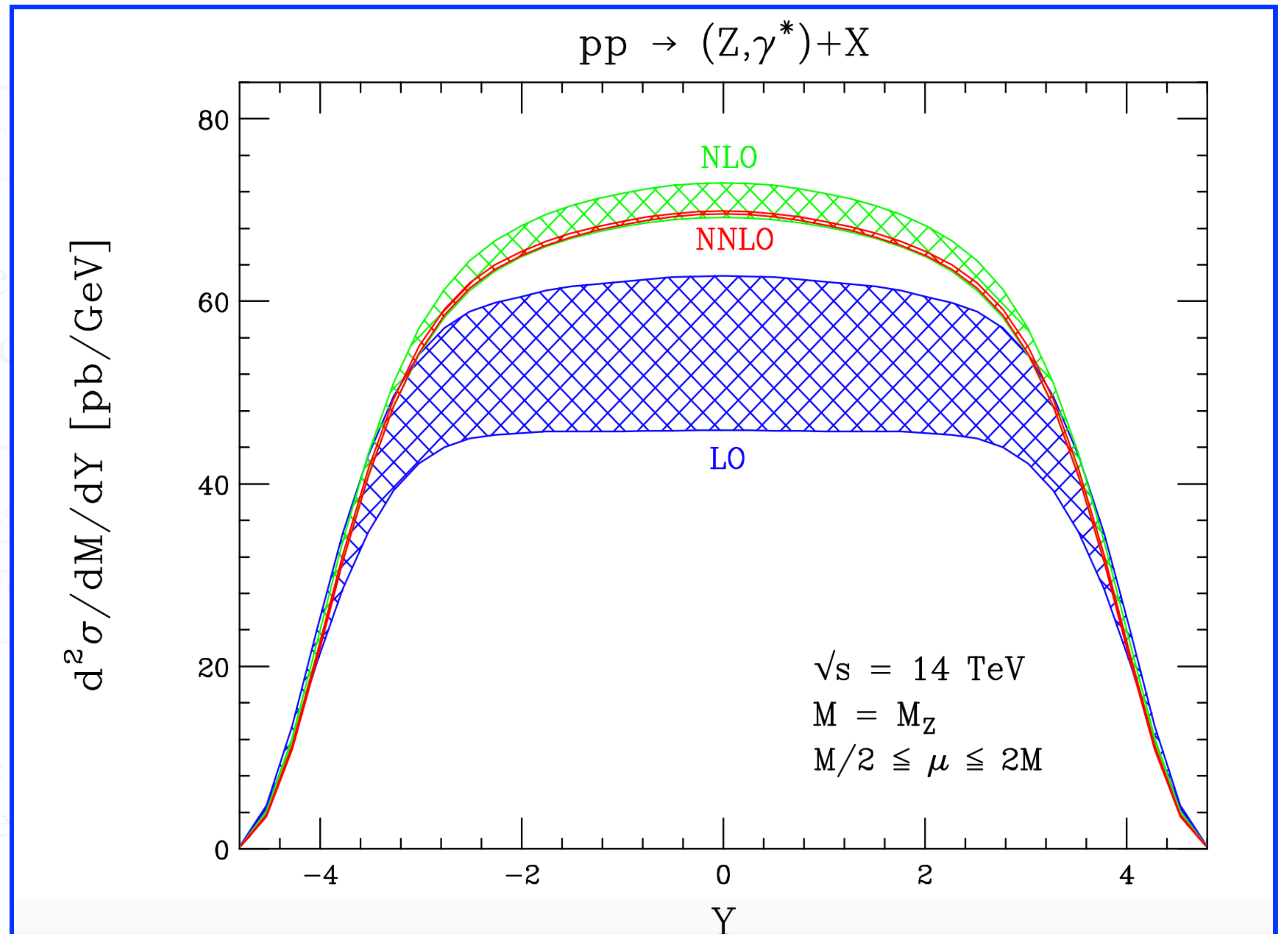
Computed perturbatively as an expansion in the coupling constant, for example the strong coupling:

$$\hat{\sigma} = \sigma^{\text{Born}} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \sigma^{(1)} + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right)^2 \sigma^{(2)} + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right)^3 \sigma^{(3)} + \dots \right)$$

Including higher orders in the perturbative expansion improves the accuracy of our prediction and reduces the dependence on non-physical parameters such as μ_F and μ_R .

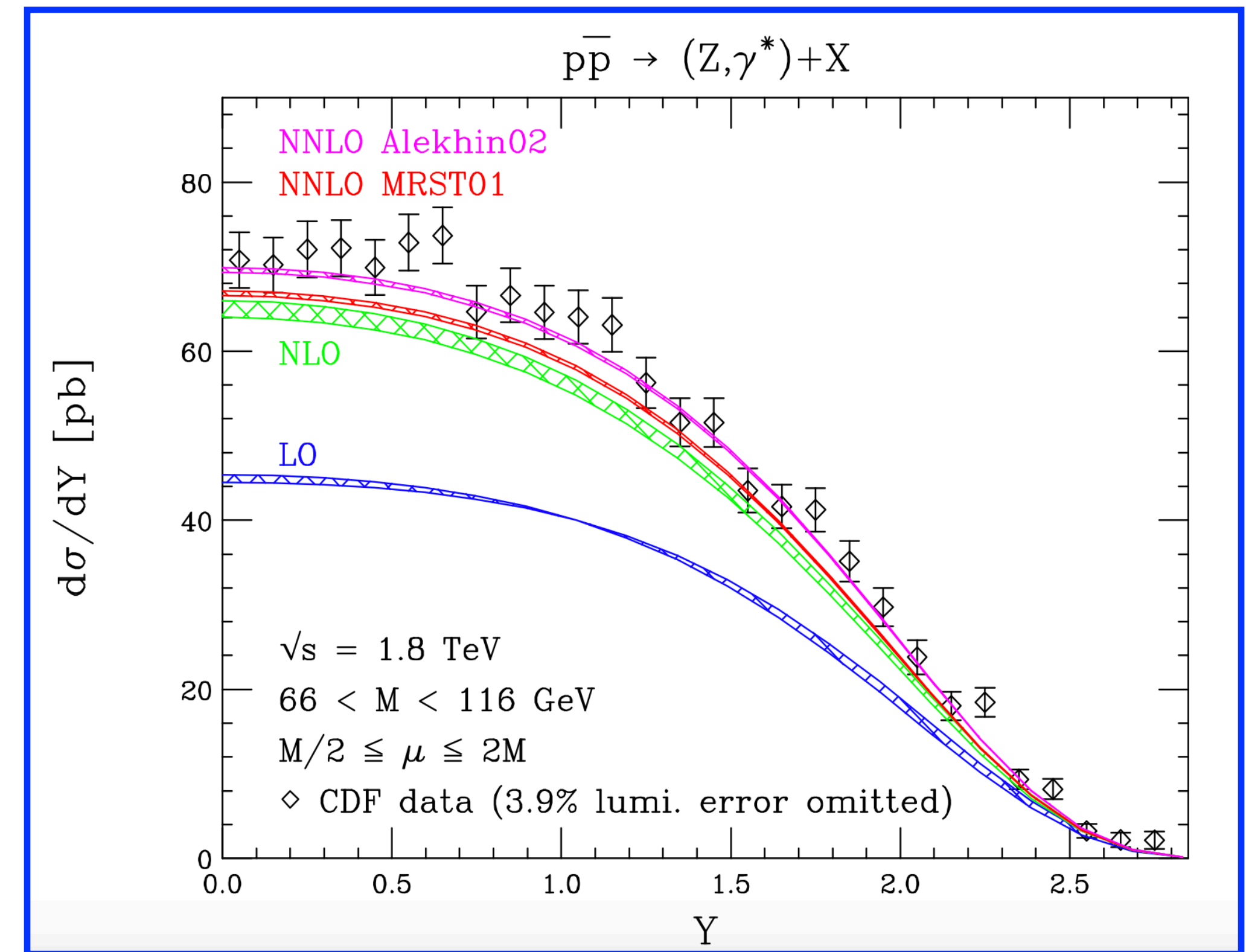
Predicting partonic cross sections

Very large corrections from LO to NLO in QCD. The correction is smaller when going from NLO to NNLO
⇒ the perturbative expansion is converging and stable



Predicting partonic cross sections

- LO tree level predictions are not sufficient to describe the data. NLO QCD corrections were the first quantitatively reliable prediction.
- ~50% increase in the cross section was observed for the rapidity distribution when going from LO → NLO
- NNLO QCD results available for the fully exclusive case (Melnikov, Petriello, 2006; Catani, Cieri, Ferrera, de Florian, Grazzini, 2009), as well as NLO electroweak and QED corrections (Baur, Keller, Wackerath, 1999; Dittmaier, Kramer, 2007; Calame, Montagna, Nicrosini, Vicini, 2007).
- The state-of-the-art inclusive N³LO QCD corrections to DY due to a γ^* , Z exchange as well as a charged current are now available (Duhr, Dulat, Mistlberger, 2020; Duhr, Mistlberger, 2021)

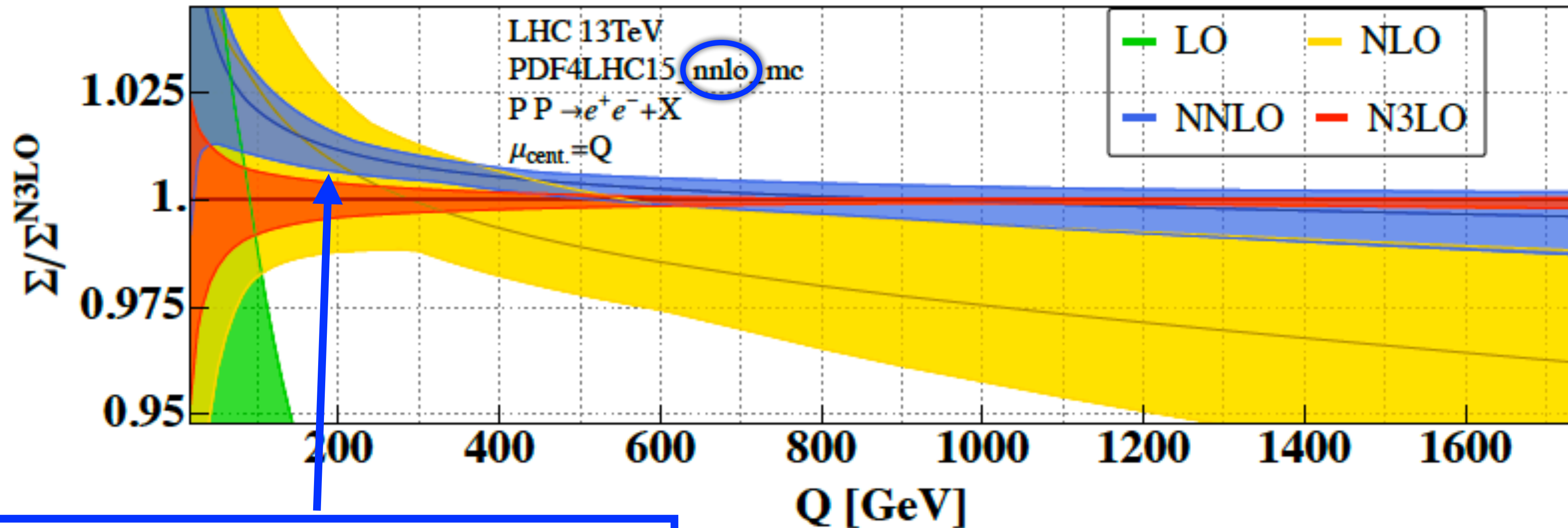


Anastasiou, Dixon, Melnikov, Petriello (2004)

$$Y = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{E + p_z}{E - p_z} \right)$$

Drell-Yan at N3LO

- Neutral current cross section as an example (Duhr, Mistlberger, 2021):



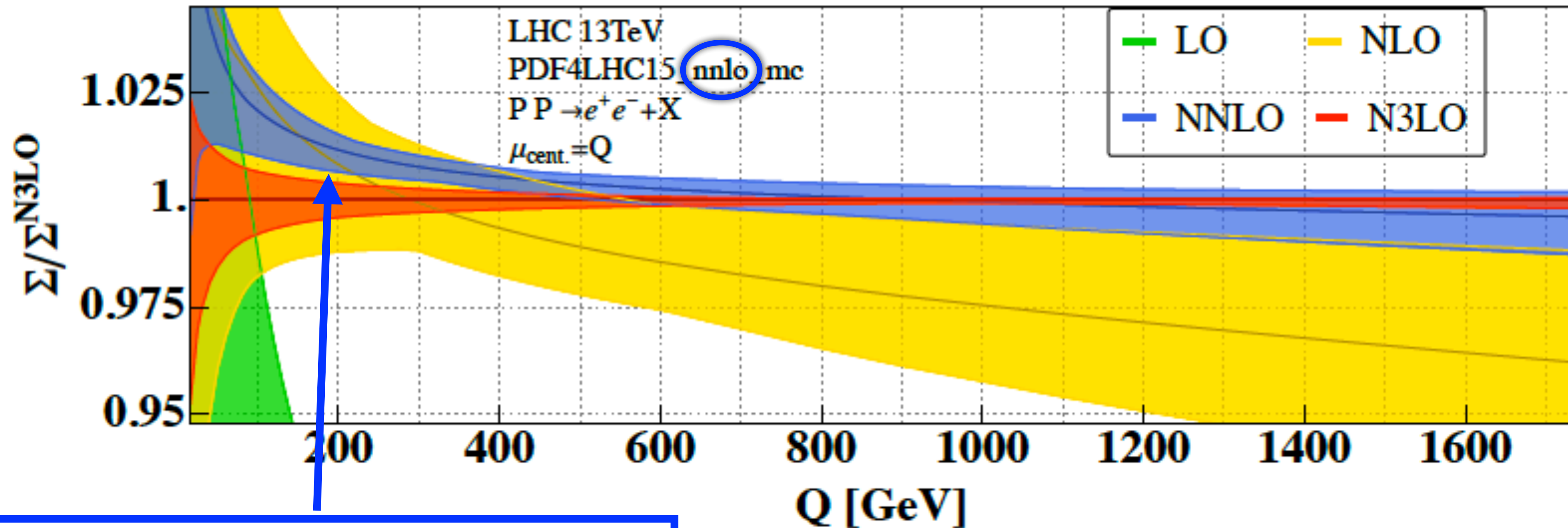
The ratio of lower-order results to N3LO reveals a slight non-overlap of scale variation bands for $40 < Q < 400$ GeV

Central scale: $\mu_R = \mu_F = Q = m_{H}$

$$\frac{1}{2} \leq \frac{\mu_R}{\mu_F} \leq 2$$

Drell-Yan at N3LO

- Neutral current cross section as an example (Duhr, Mistlberger, 2021):

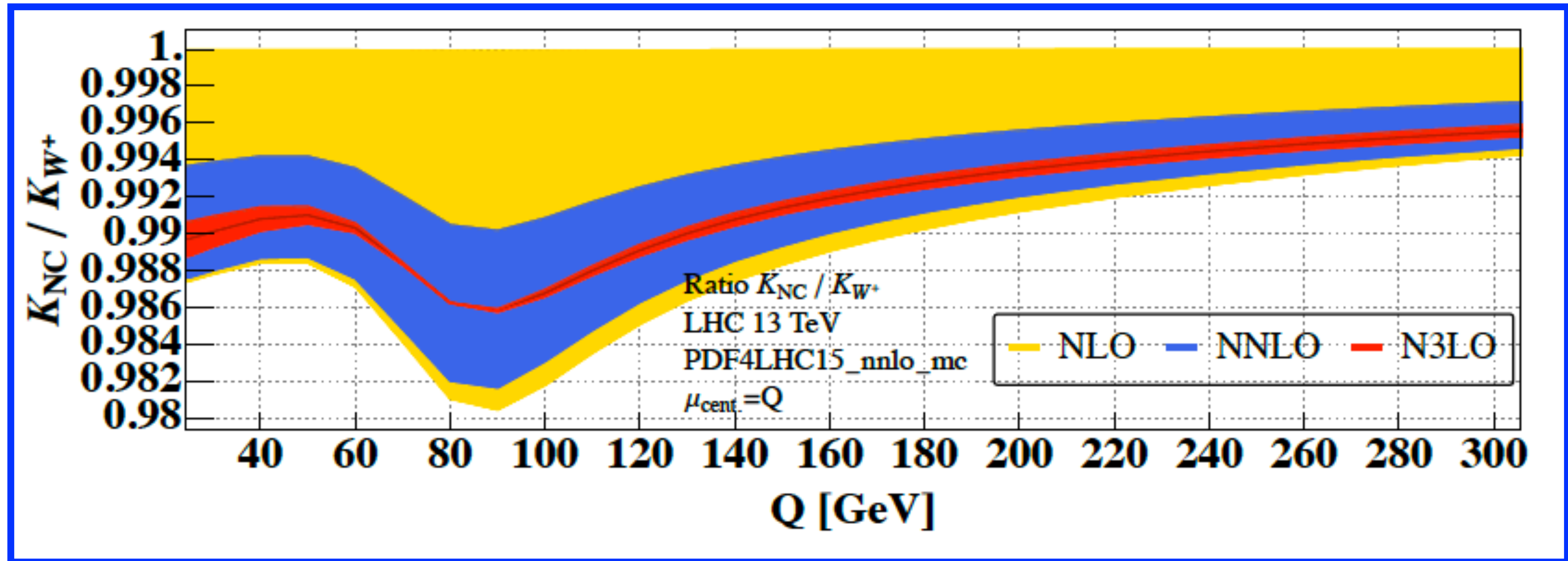


The corrections show delicate cancellations between qg and qqbar partonic channel; this effect may be due to missing N3LO PDFs

Central scale: $\mu_R = \mu_F = Q = m_{H}$

$$\frac{1}{2} \leq \frac{\mu_R}{\mu_F} \leq 2$$

Drell-Yan at N3LO

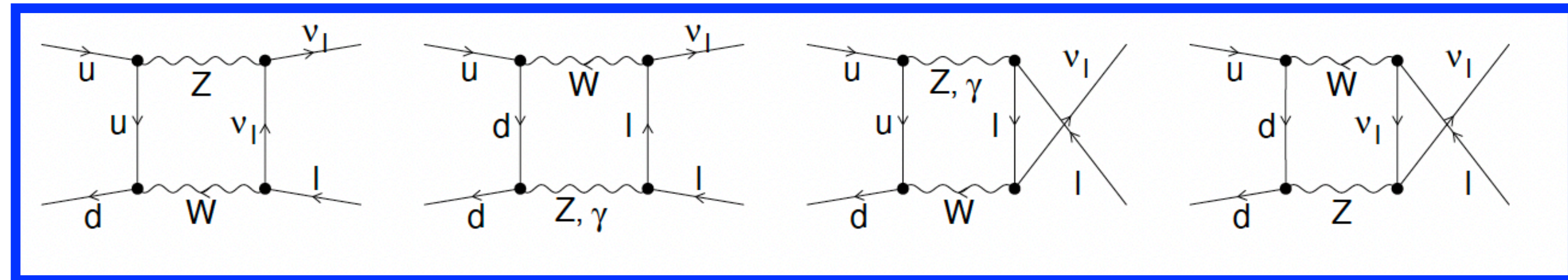


Ratio of neutral-current to charged-current K-factors extremely well-behaved in QCD perturbation theory; almost no residual scale dependence, overlap between NNLO and N3LO

Electroweak and QED corrections

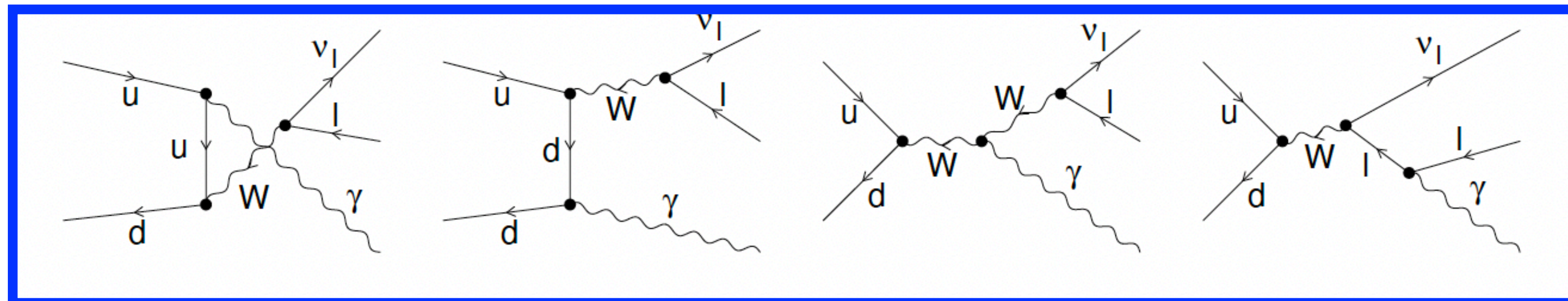
- Numerically we expect NNLO QCD corrections to be comparable to NLO QED and EW effects: $O(\alpha_s^2) \sim O(\alpha)$
- Virtual loops include photons, W and Z. For real radiation only photons are considered since the massive W and Z real radiation are reconstructed as di-boson event samples
- Example** contributing diagrams to charged-current lepton pair production at NLO:

Virtual corrections:



Real corrections:

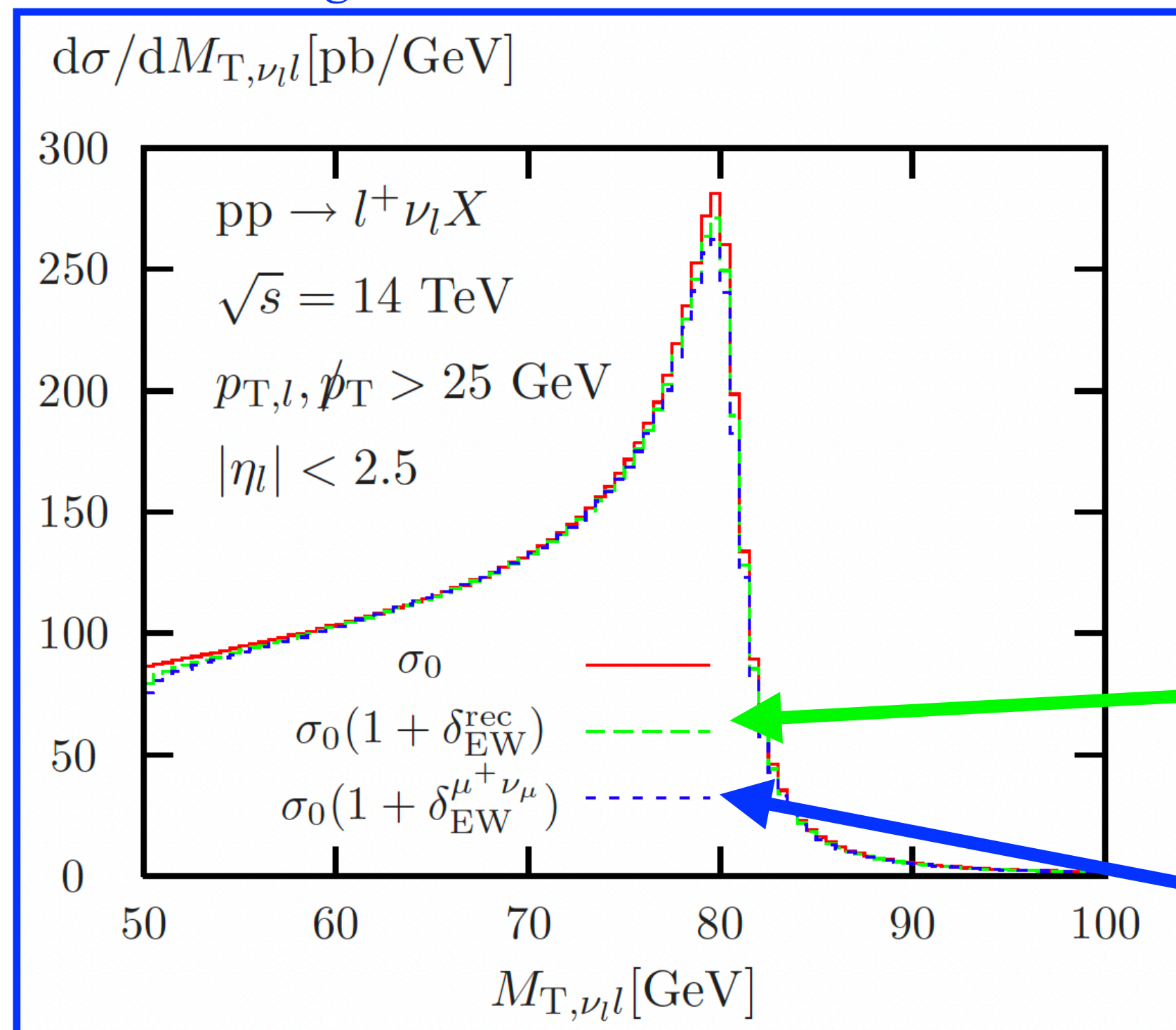
($q\bar{q}/\gamma\gamma$ processes are also present at higher orders)



Electroweak and QED corrections

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- Virtual loops include photons, W and Z. For real radiation only photons are considered since the massive W and Z real radiation is reconstructed as di-boson event samples.
- Example:** corrections to the W-transverse mass distribution $M_{T,l\nu} = \sqrt{2p_{Tl} \cancel{p}_T (1 - \cos\phi_{\nu l})}$

Brensing, Dittmaier, Kraemer, Mueck, 2008



- QCD corrections (not shown) are $\sim 20\text{-}30\%$ but flat
- Shape distortion near the Jacobian peak. Leads to a shift in MW determination by ~ 100 (50) MeV for bare (dressed) leptons
- The peak at $M_{T,l\nu} \approx M_W$ is used in the W-mass determination

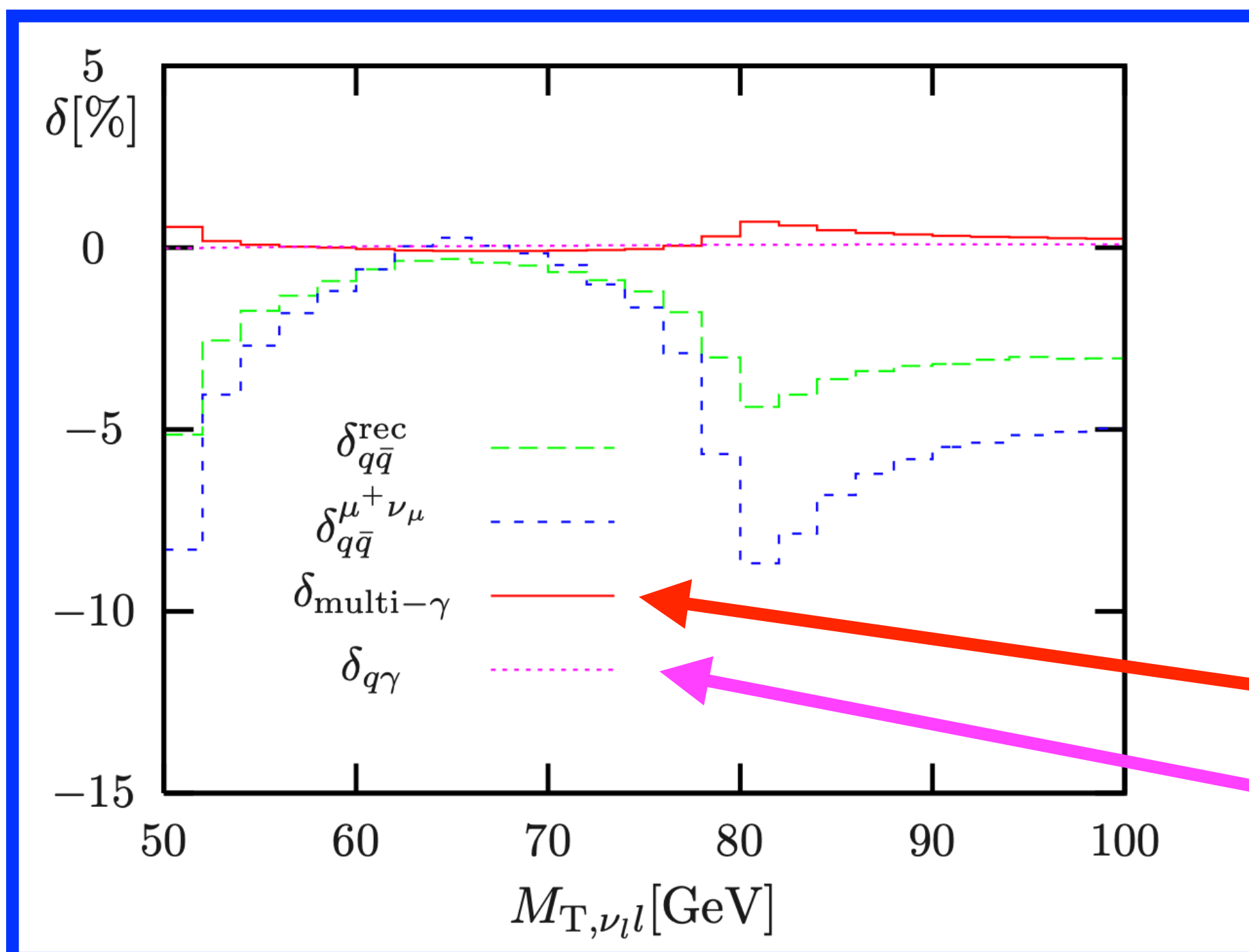
EW corrections with photon recombination, where leptons and sufficiently collinear photons are treated as one quasi particle

Bare final state muon, no photon recombination

Electroweak and QED corrections

- Numerically we expect NNLO QCD corrections to be comparable to NLO QED and EW effects: $O(\alpha_s^2) \sim O(\alpha)$
- Virtual loops include photons, W and Z. For real radiation only photons are considered since the massive W and Z real radiation is reconstructed as di-boson event samples.
- Example: corrections to the W-transverse $M_{T,\nu}$ distribution $M_{T,\nu} = \sqrt{2p_{Tl} p_T (1 - \cos\phi_{\nu l})}$

Brensing, Dittmaier, Kraemer, Mueck, 2008



- Near the peak $\delta_{q\bar{q}}$ reaches 10% for bare muons and 5% after photon recombination. Sensitivity to the definition of the lepton (bare vs dressed)
- Photon induced corrections are small near the resonance region
- Multi-photon emission reaches the percent near $M_{T,\nu} \approx MW$ and induces a distortion that affects MW determination from the shape of the $M_{T,\nu}$ distribution

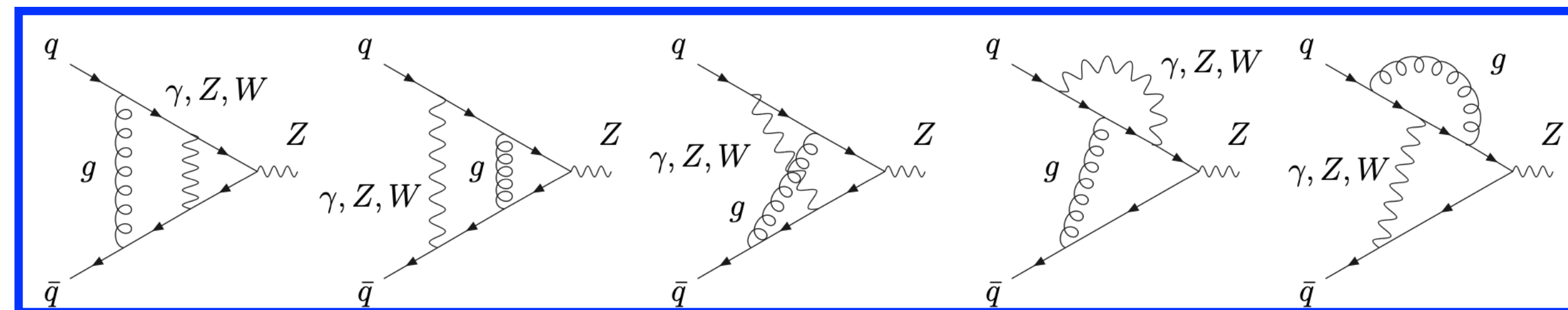
Multi-photon final state radiation

Photon induced processes

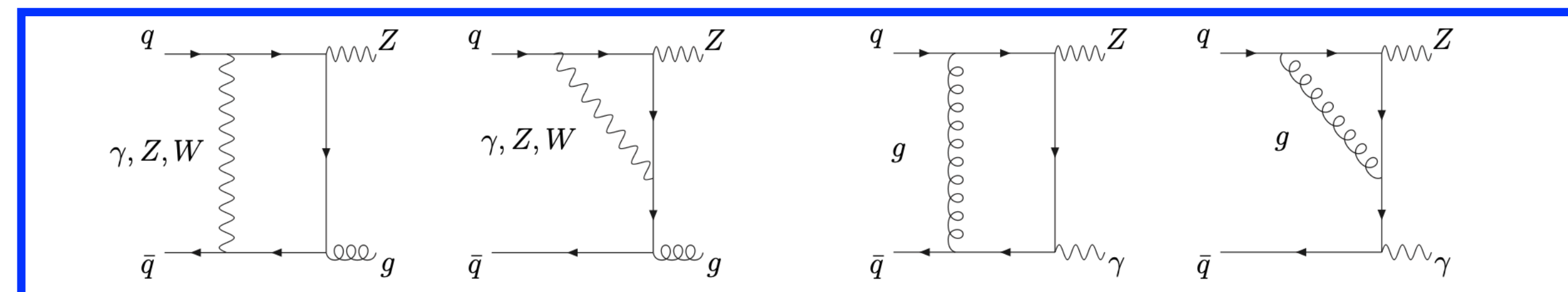
Mixed QCD-EW corrections

- At this level of precision mixed QCD-EW corrections that go as $O(\alpha\alpha_s)$ must be considered. Can identify two categories of EW corrections: QED (includes a photon real radiation or loop), and purely weak (doesn't include a photon, loops only)
- Example diagrams: $O(\alpha\alpha_s)$ corrections to Z-production

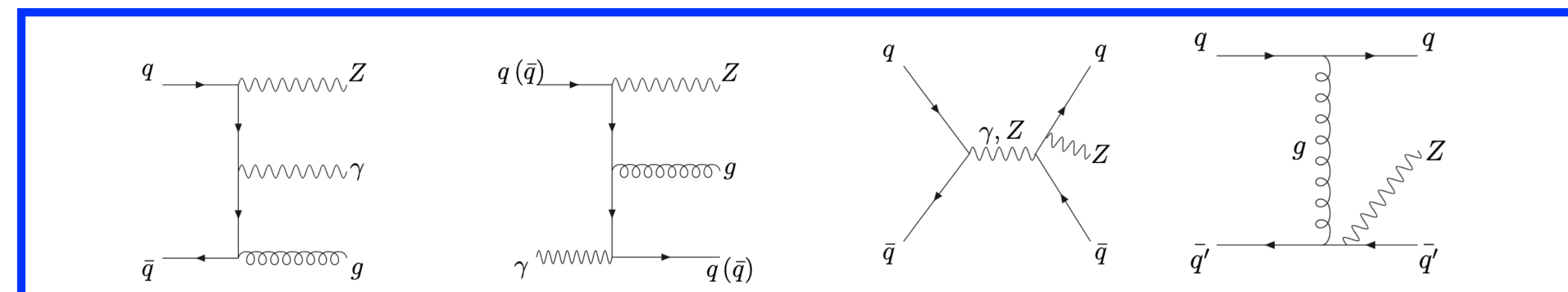
2-loop Virtual corrections:



Real-virtual corrections:

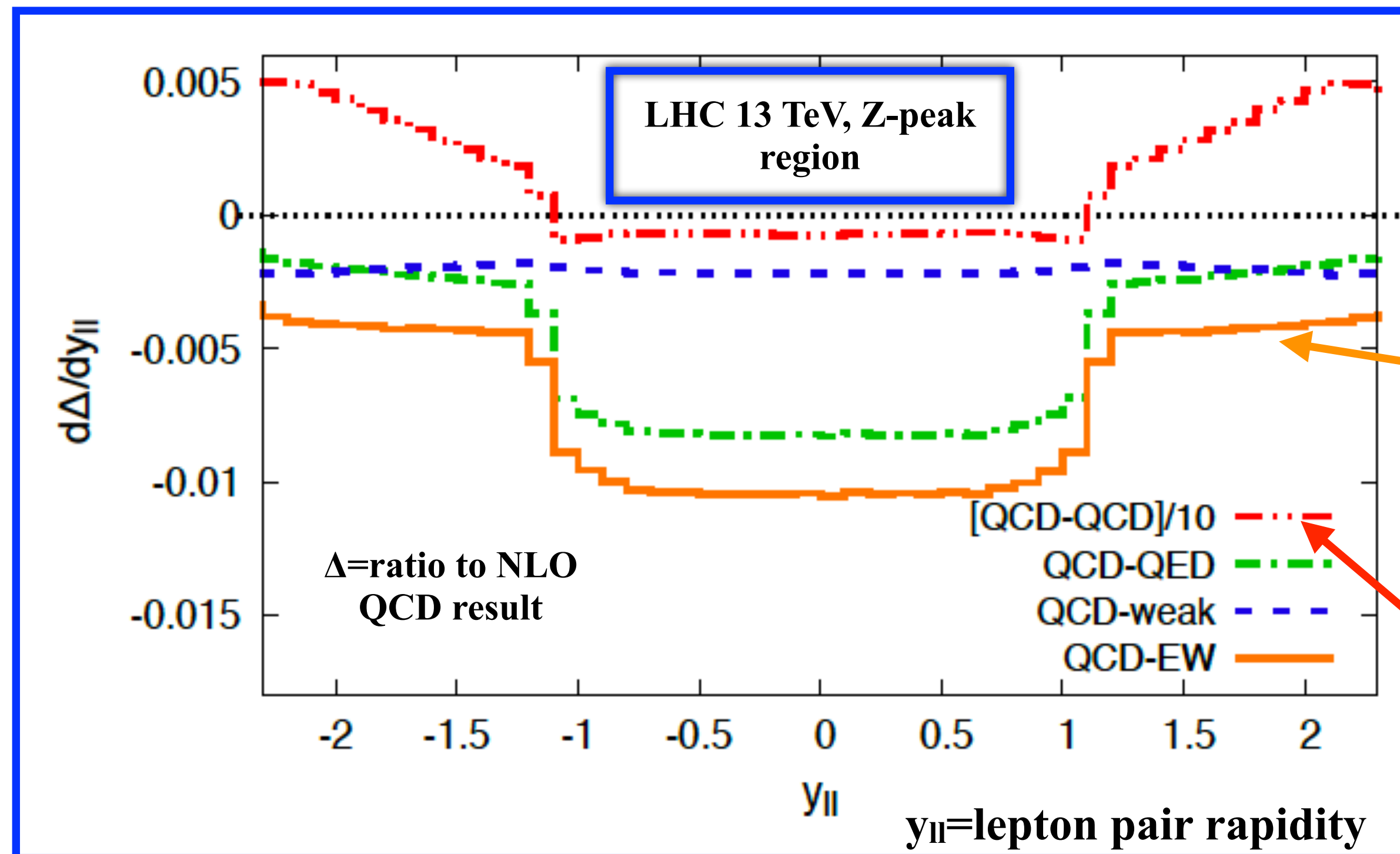


Double-real corrections:



Mixed QCD-EW corrections

- At this level of precision mixed QCD-EW corrections that go as $O(\alpha\alpha_s)$ must be considered. Can identify two categories of EW corrections: QED (includes a photon real radiation or loop), and purely weak (doesn't include a photon, loops only)

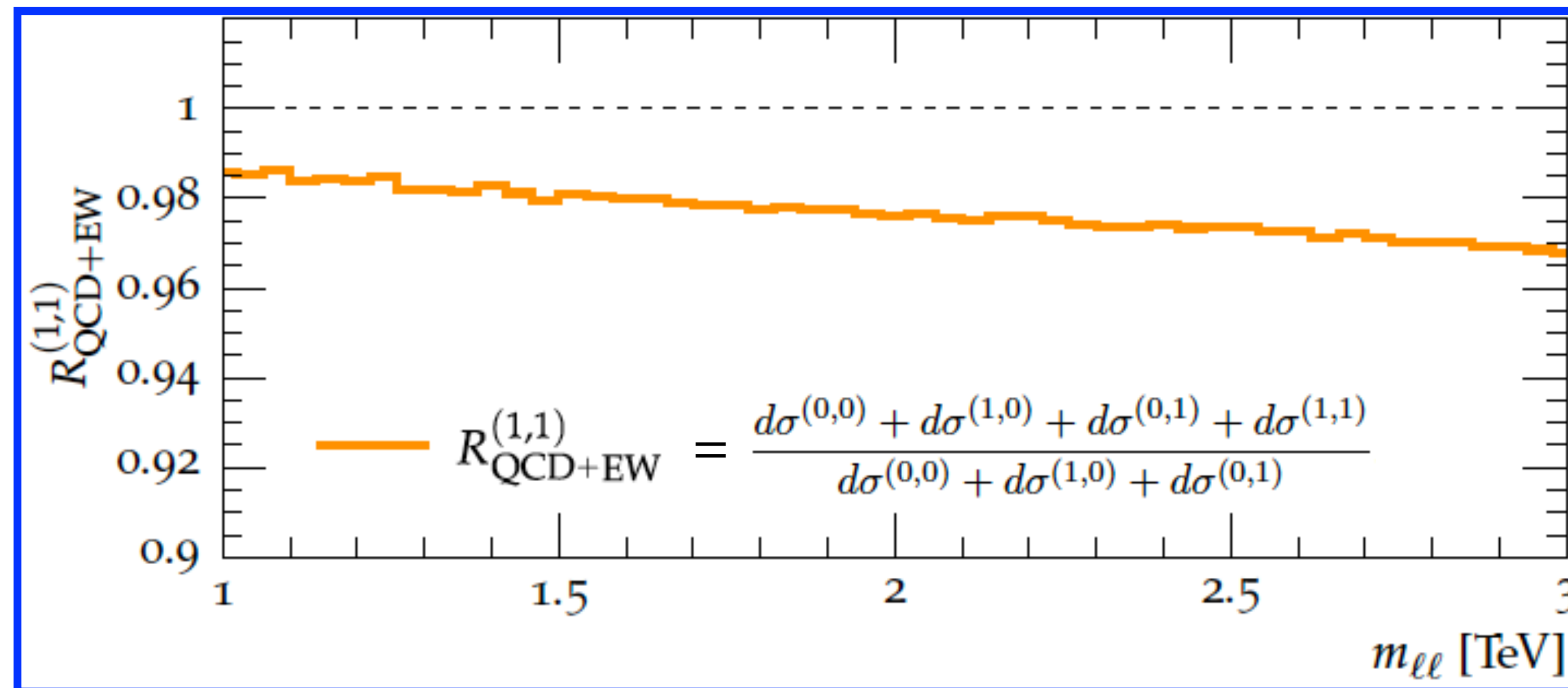


- An example of mixed QCD-EW corrections to on-shell Z production at the LHC. Corrections applied to both production and decay in this plot
- Corrections are generically small, but dependent on kinematics
- Interplay between final-state cuts and real radiation leads to the structure observed in the corrections

NNLO QCD

Mixed QCD-EW corrections

- Another phase-space region of interest is the high-invariant mass region, relevant for new physics searches at the LHC

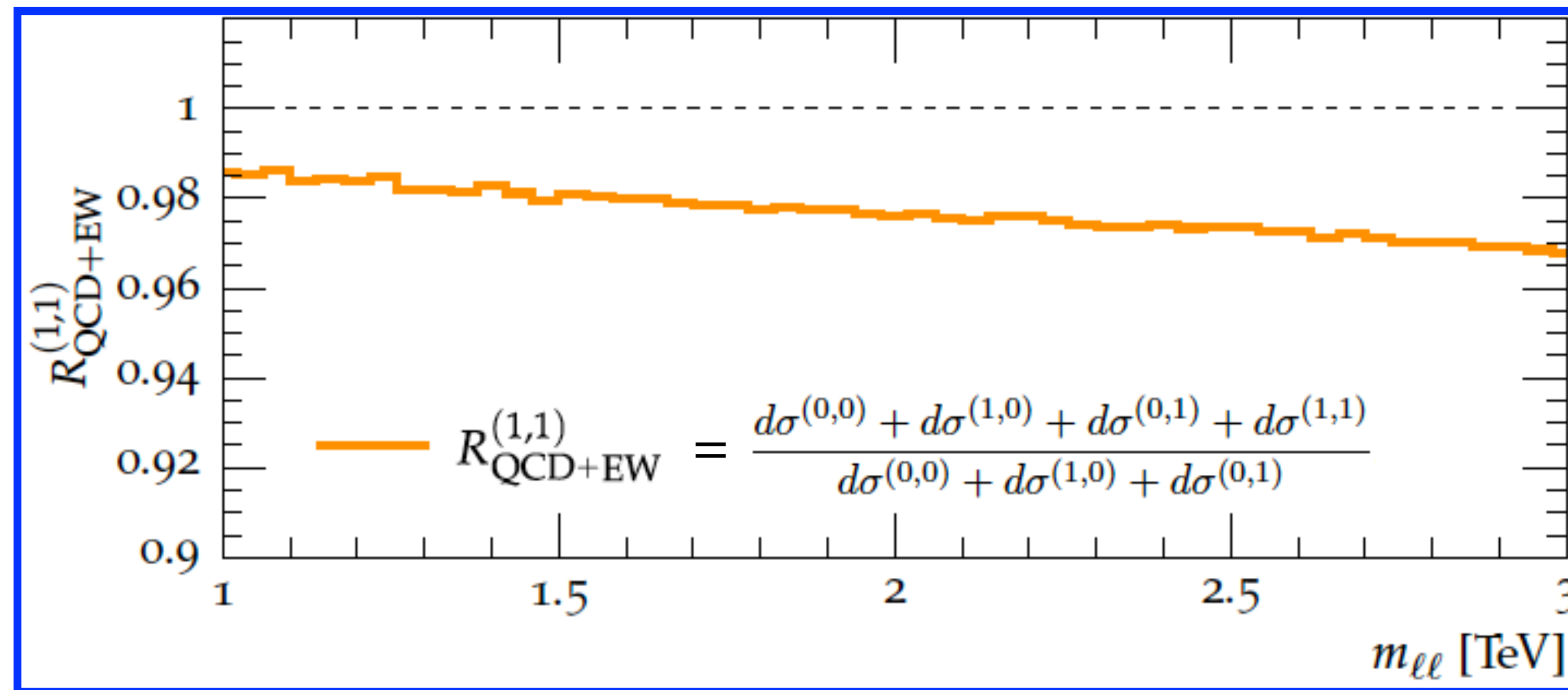


Buccioni, Caola, Chowdhry,
Devoto, Heller, 2022

Numerator includes mixed QCD-EW corrections; denominator only has NLO QCD and NLO EW separately. Mixed corrections result in a shift of 1-4%, which slowly increases with invariant mass.

Mixed QCD-EW corrections

- Another phase-space region of interest is the high-invariant mass region, relevant for new physics searches at the LHC

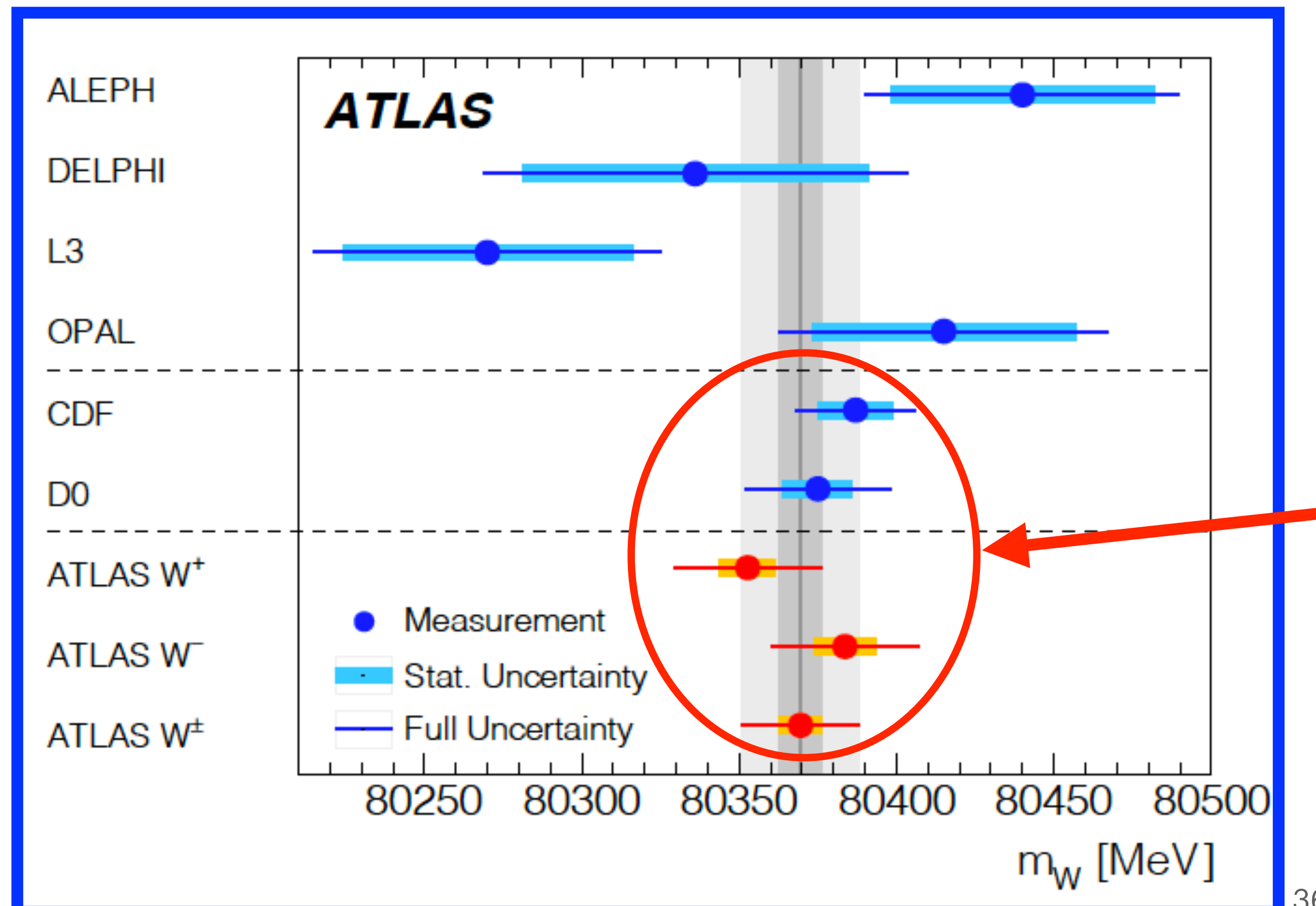


Buccioni, Caola, Chowdhry,
Devoto, Heller, 2022

A common approximation for mixed corrections: multiply NLO QCD with NLO EW corrections, i.e. $(1 + \delta^{\text{NLO}}_{\text{QCD}}) \times (1 + \delta^{\text{NLO}}_{\text{EW}})$. This is found to reproduce the exact mixed QCD-EW corrections well for invariant masses above 1 TeV.

Modern applications

- The W-boson mass is an important observable in the global fit to electroweak precision data. The agreement between the direct M_W measurement and the indirect determination from fitting other data is a powerful constraint on Standard Model extensions.



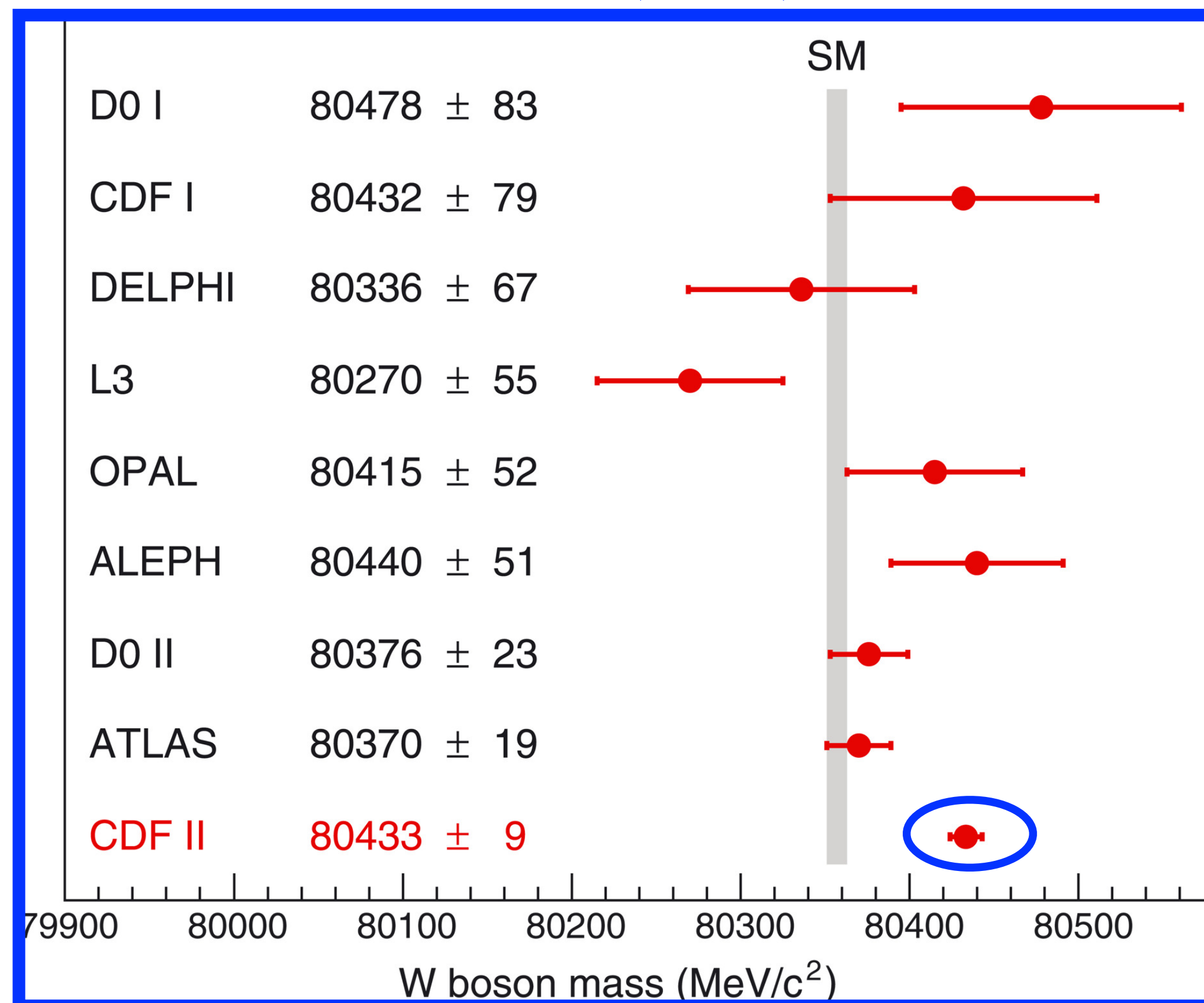
Direct measurement

Most precise determinations of M_W are from Drell-Yan production at the Tevatron and LHC

New W-mass result

- Note that there is a very recent measurement of the W-mass using 8.8 fb⁻¹ of integrated luminosity from CDF that differs from previous results by 7-sigma!

CDF, Science (2022) 376 170

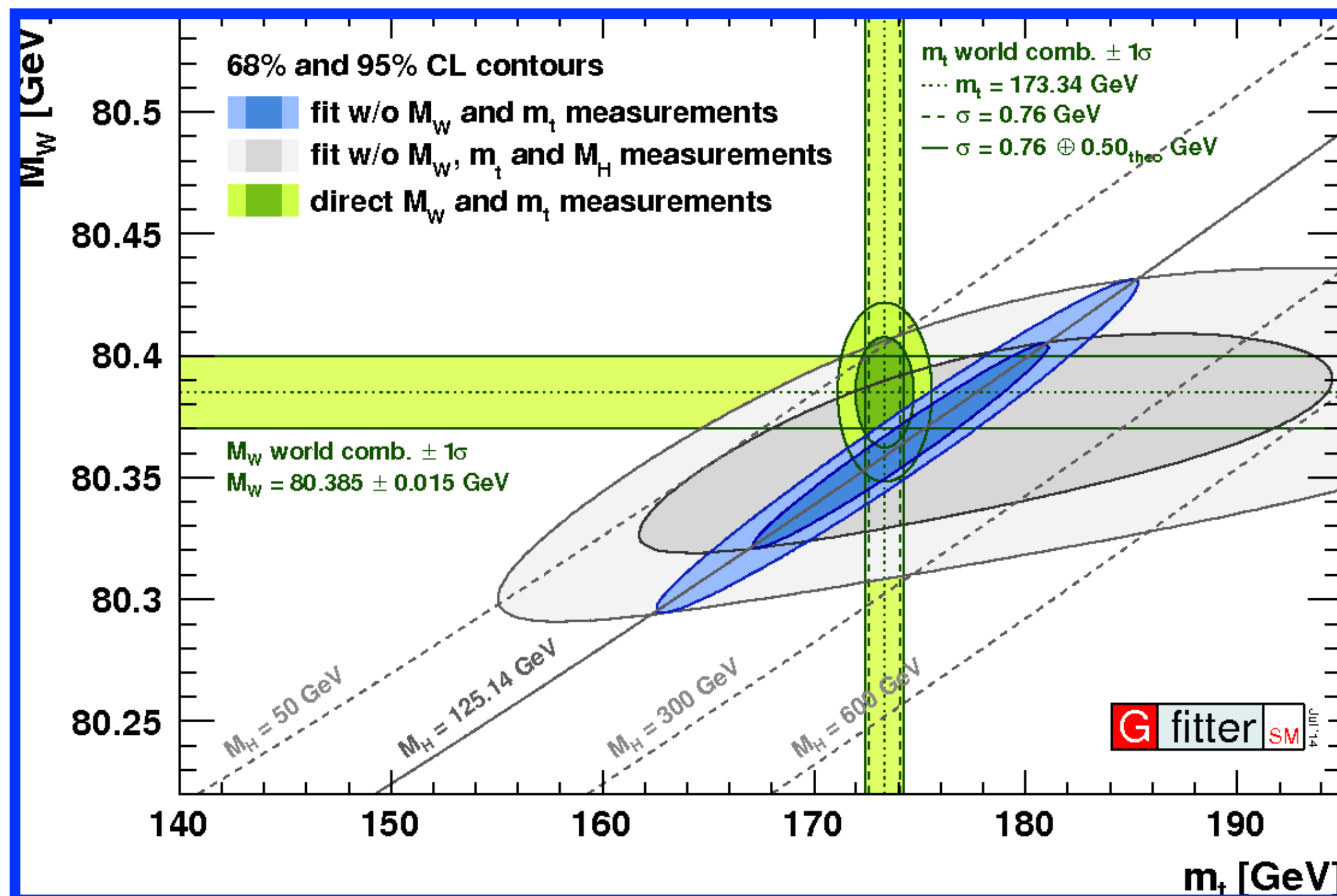


- There has been significant discussions whether this could be due to the QCD modeling used in the analysis; most detailed study argues this isn't the case [Isaacson, Fu, Yuan 2205.02788](#)
- Other SM explanations have been explored ([Gao, Liu, Xie 2205.03942](#)) but there is no conclusive result yet

Stay tuned!

Modern applications

- The W-boson mass is an important observable in the global fit to electroweak precision data. The agreement between the direct M_W measurement and the indirect determination from fitting other data is a powerful constraint on Standard Model extensions.



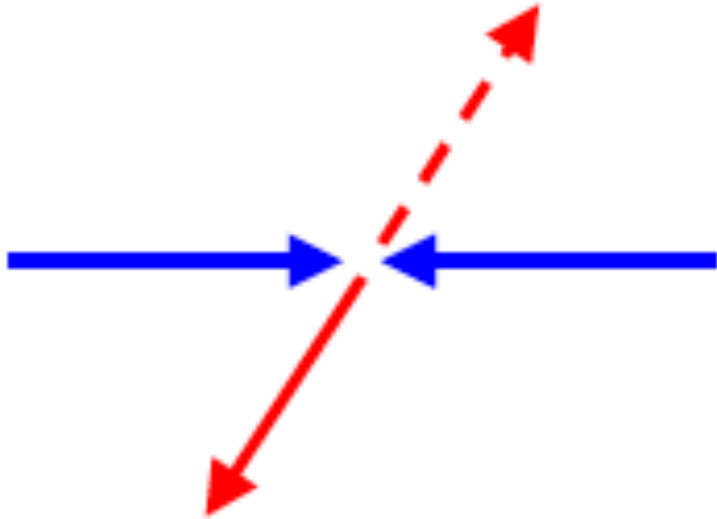
Indirect measurement

- All fits: use primarily LEP data (eg. forward-backward asymmetries in lepton pair production, total hadronic cross section, etc)
- Blue fit: uses in addition LHC Higgs mass measurement
- Grey fit: does not use LHC Higgs mass measurement

Good agreement between direct and indirect measurements

Measuring the W-mass

- The $W \rightarrow l\nu$ contains final-state missing energy; cannot reconstruct the W mass peak

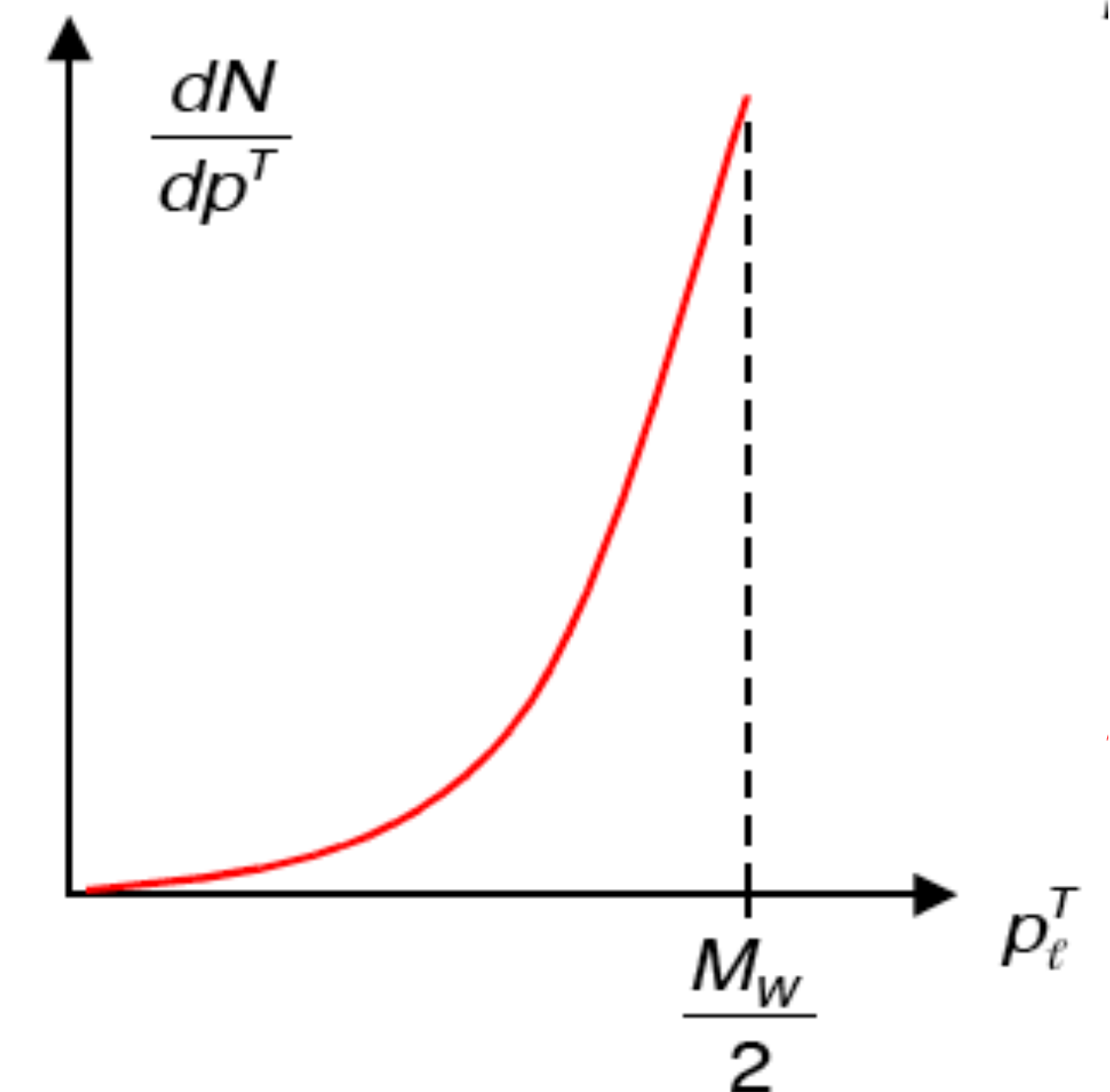


In the W rest frame:

- $|\vec{p}_\ell| = |\vec{p}_\nu| = \frac{M_W}{2}$
- $|p_\ell^T| \leq \frac{M_W}{2}$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dp_T^e} = \underbrace{\left| \frac{d \cos \theta_*}{dp_T^e} \right|}_{\text{Jacobian}} \frac{d\sigma}{d \cos \theta_*} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{2p_T^e}{M_W}\right)^2}} \frac{4p_T^e}{M_W^2} \frac{d\sigma}{d \cos \theta_*}$$

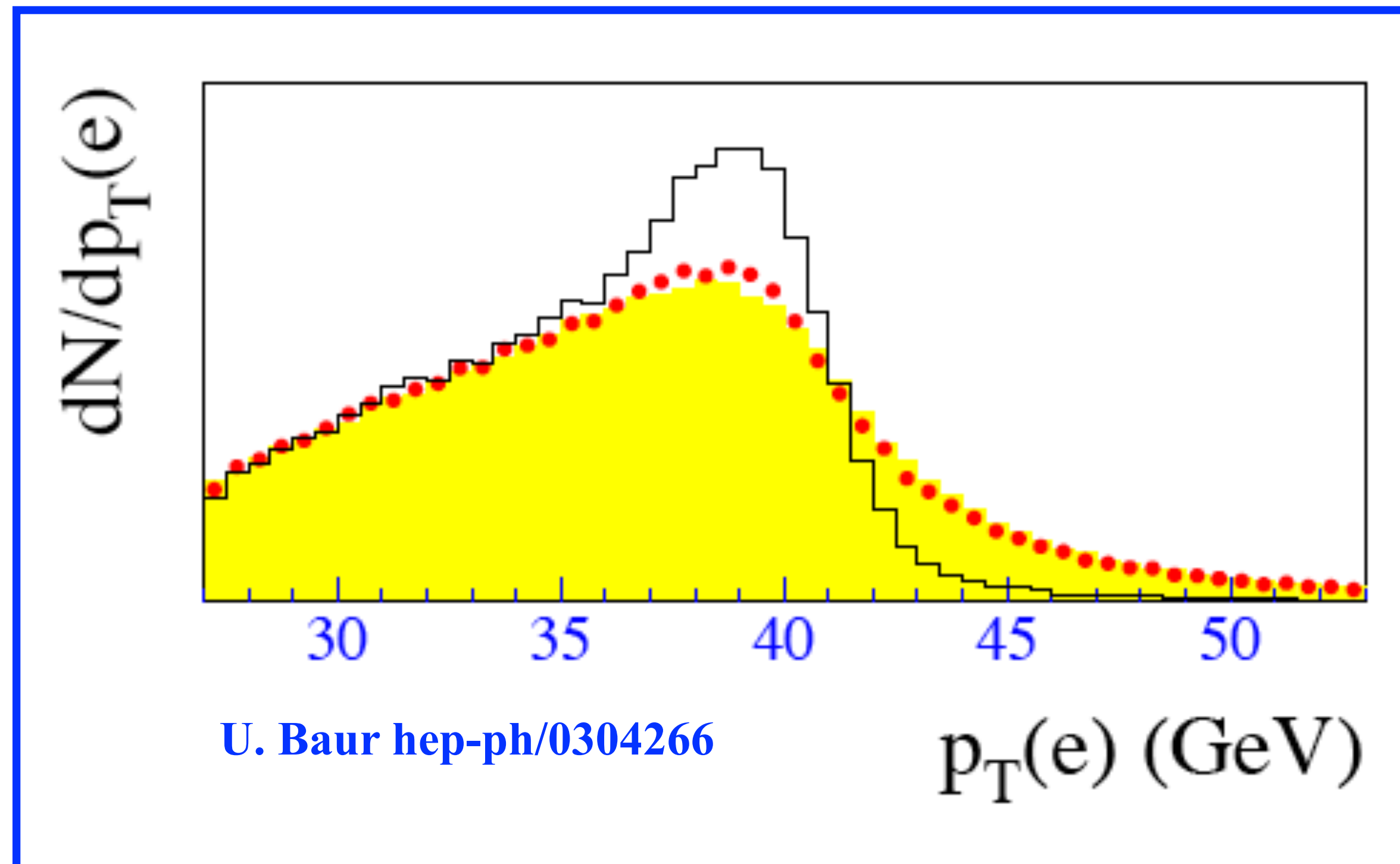
This is a smooth function (can write it in terms of spherical harmonics)



Predict a sharp drop at $M_W/2$; this distribution is sensitive to the W mass! Called a “**Jacobian peak**”

Measuring the W-mass

- Sensitivity to M_W reduced by several effects: width of the W boson, addition of finite p_{TW} (the previous derivation was valid for $p_{TW}=0$), detector smearing

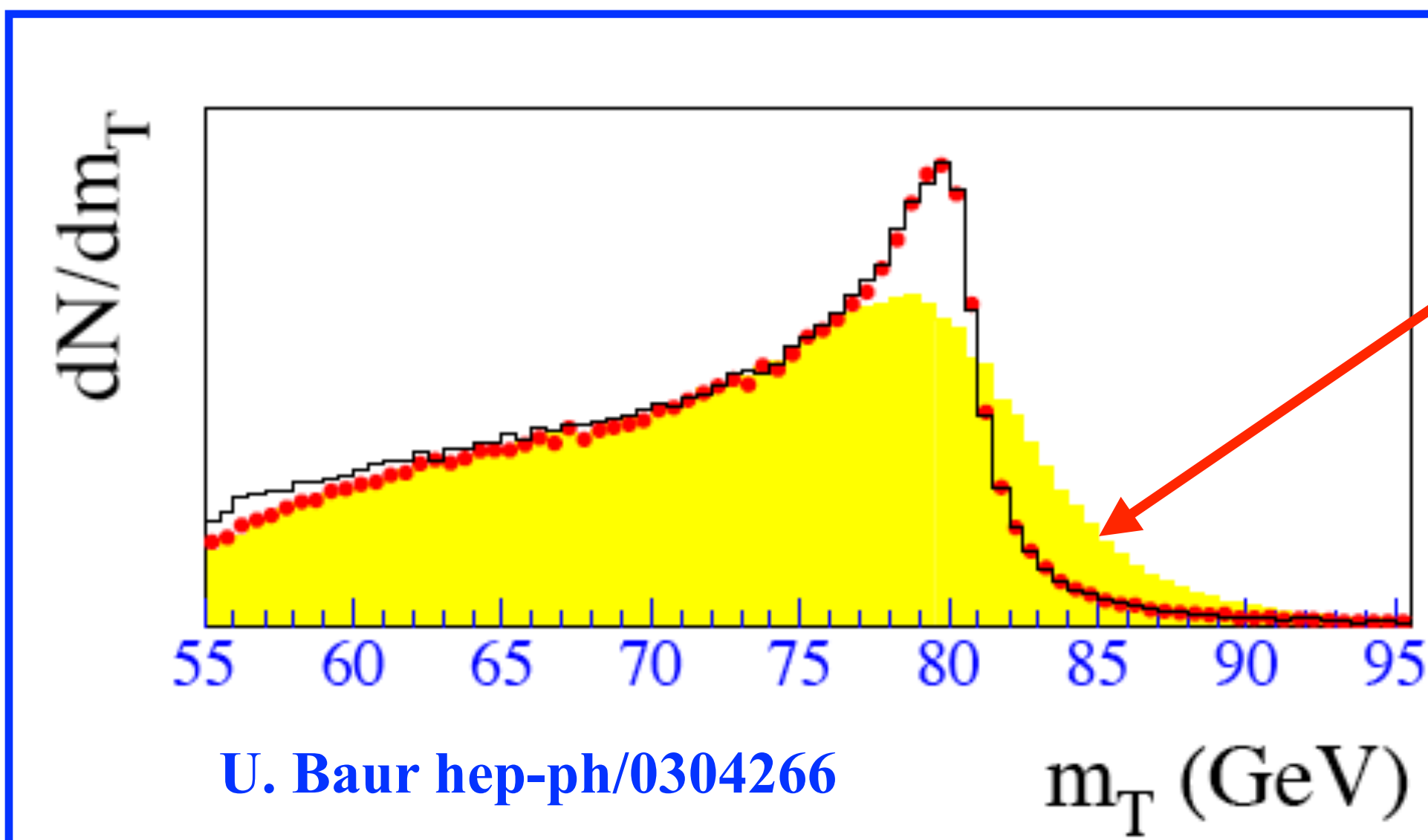


- Black histogram: shows the effect of the width Γ_W
- Red dots: show the effect of a non-zero p_{TW} due to the hadronic radiation
- Yellow histogram: shows the effect of detector smearing

Measuring the W-mass

- Can construct the transverse mass, which is less sensitive to our theoretical understanding of p_{TW}

$$M_T = \sqrt{2p_T(\ell)p_T(\nu)(1 - \cos(\phi_{\ell,\nu}))}$$

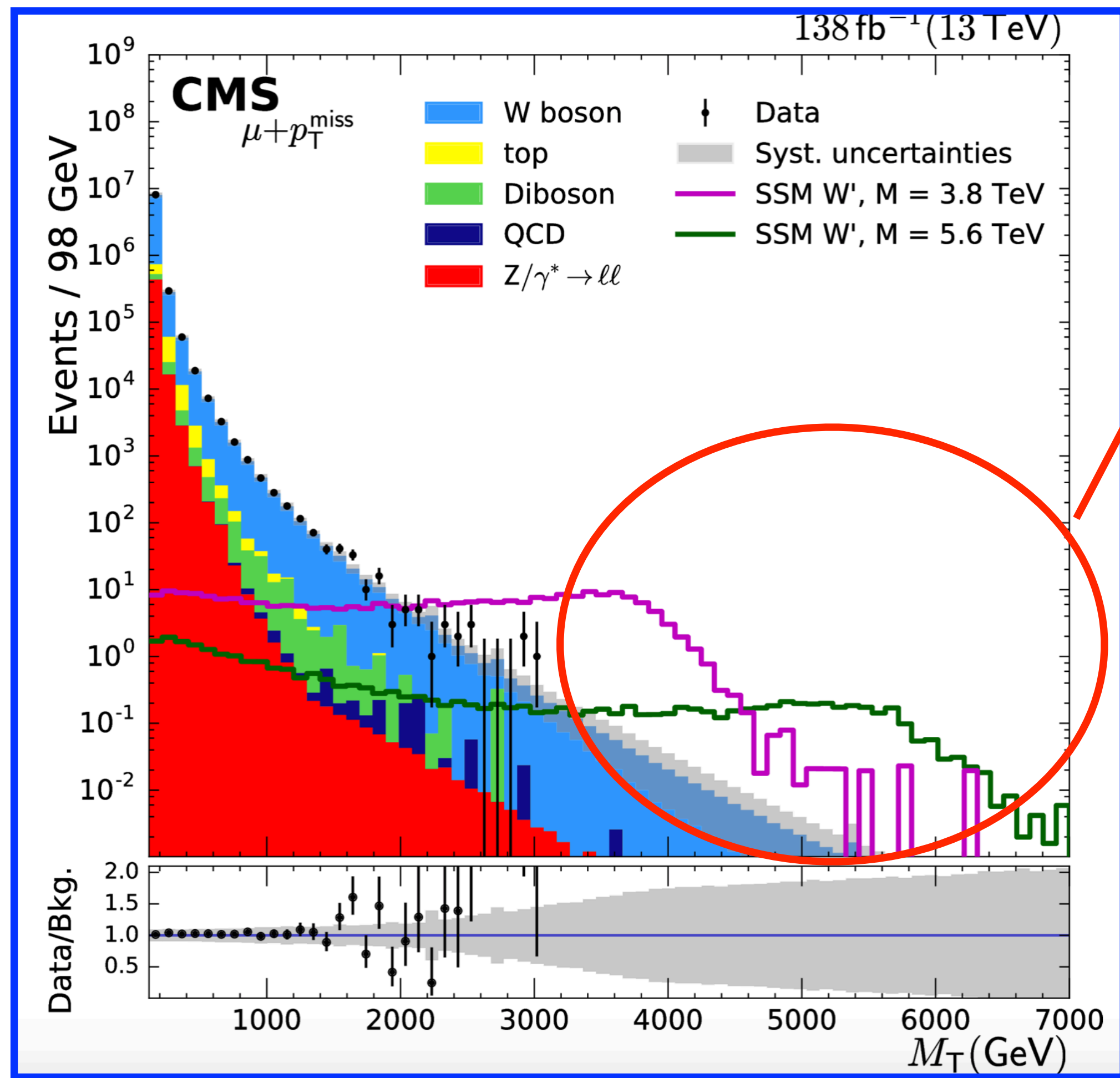


- Finite- p_{TW} corrections to the m_T distribution are suppressed by p_{TW}^2/M_W^2
- However, it is still sensitive to detector smearing
- In practice, m_T and p_T of both the electron and missing energy are used

Distribution	W -boson mass (MeV)	χ^2/dof
$m_T(e, \nu)$	$80\,408 \pm 19_{\text{stat}} \pm 18_{\text{syst}}$	52/48
$p_T^\ell(e)$	$80\,393 \pm 21_{\text{stat}} \pm 19_{\text{syst}}$	60/62
$p_T^\nu(e)$	$80\,431 \pm 25_{\text{stat}} \pm 22_{\text{syst}}$	71/62

Modern applications

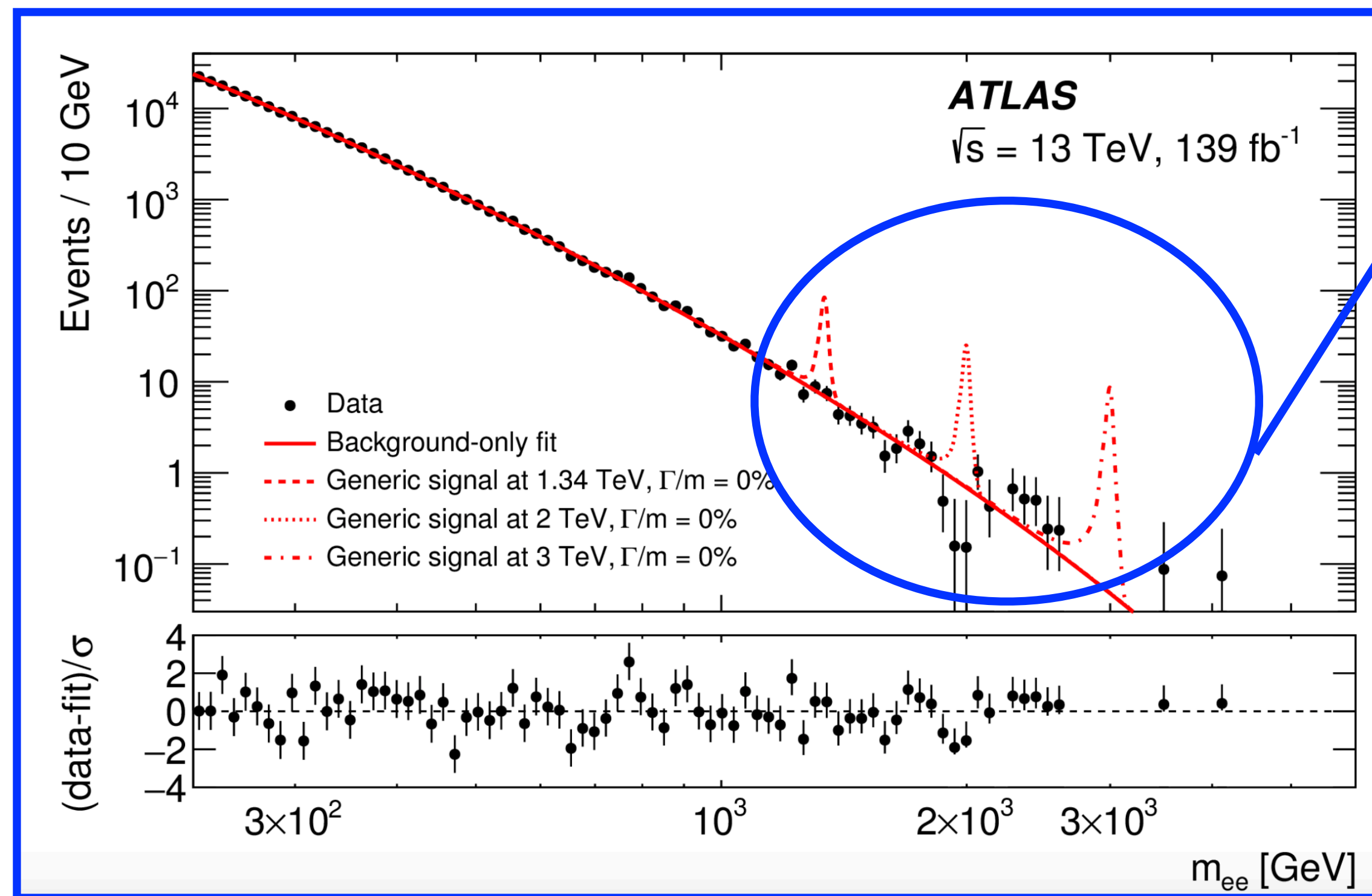
- Drell-Yan is the primary search mode for W' and Z' bosons that would signal an extension of the Standard Model gauge group



- Hypothetical signature of a W' boson with fermionic couplings identical to the Standard Model W couplings in the muon+missing transverse energy channel in CMS
- Probes extensions of the Standard Model to several TeV
- Note the Jacobian peak that appears for $M_T = M_{W'}$; same structure that appears for the Standard Model W

Modern applications

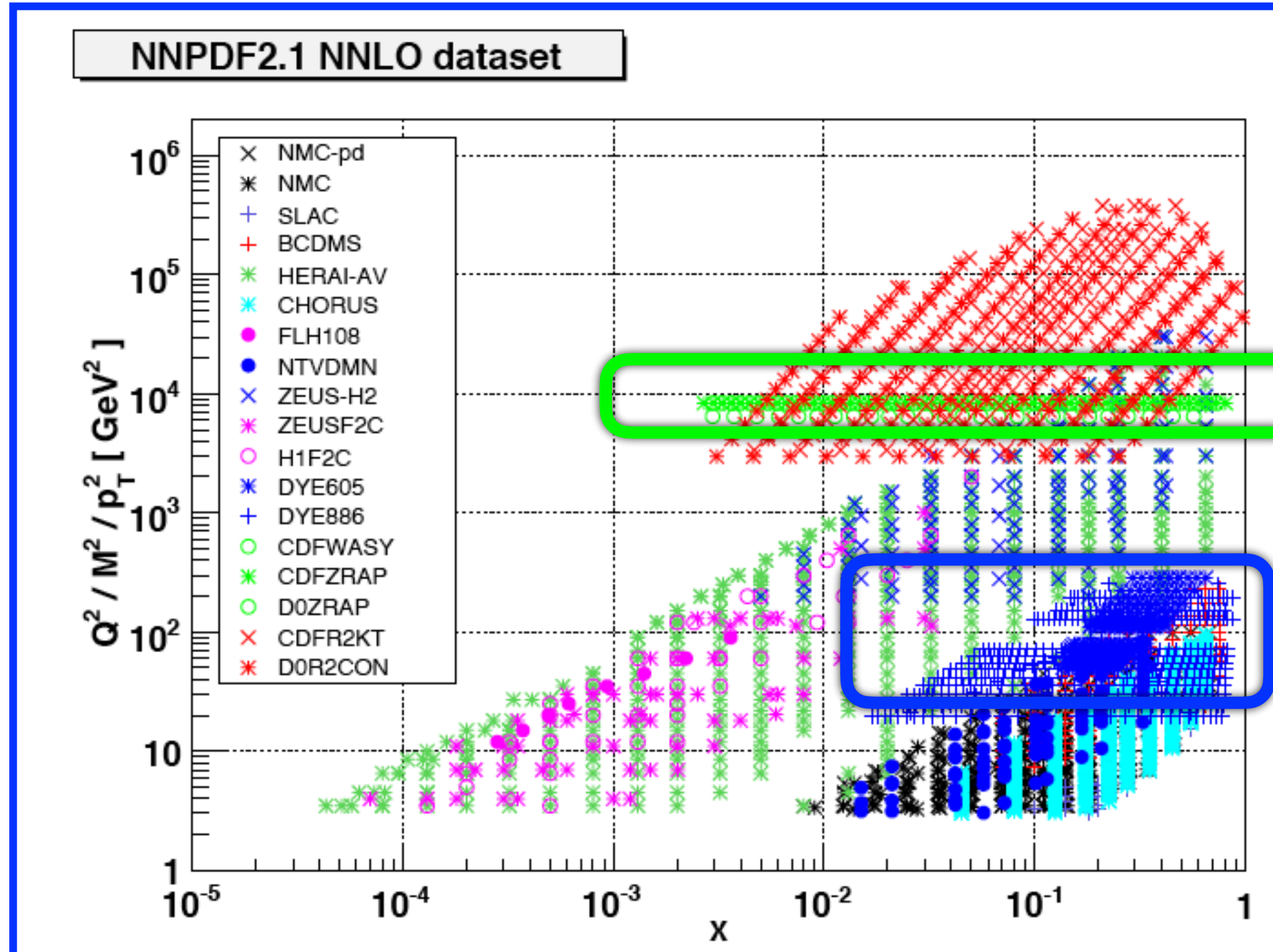
- Drell-Yan is the primary search mode for W' and Z' bosons that would signal an extension of the Standard Model gauge group



- Hypothetical signatures of an example Z' boson in the di-electron channel in ATLAS
- Probes extensions of the Standard Model to 4 TeV or beyond, depending on the exact model
- In this case the mass peak can be fully reconstructed

Modern applications (PDFs)

- Drell-Yan production, at both collider energies and fixed-target energies, provides invaluable information on PDFs

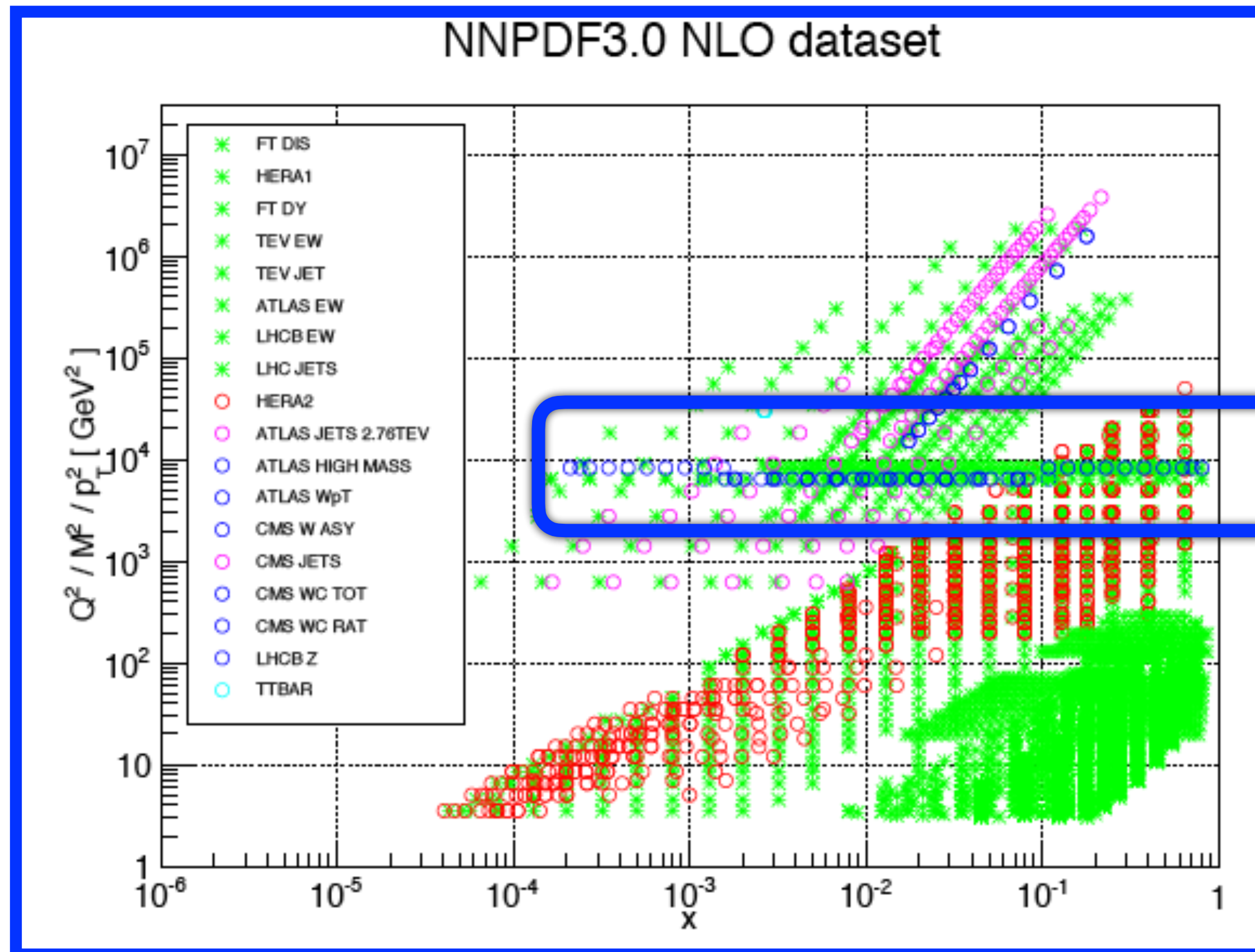


Tevatron W and Z production probe
quark PDFs down to $x \sim 10^{-3}$
(CDFWASY, CDFZRAP, DoZRAP)

Important constraints on quark/anti-
quark PDFs at higher- x from fixed-
target Drell-Yan (E605, E866)

Modern applications (PDFs)

- Drell-Yan production, at both collider energies and fixed-target energies, provides invaluable information on PDFs



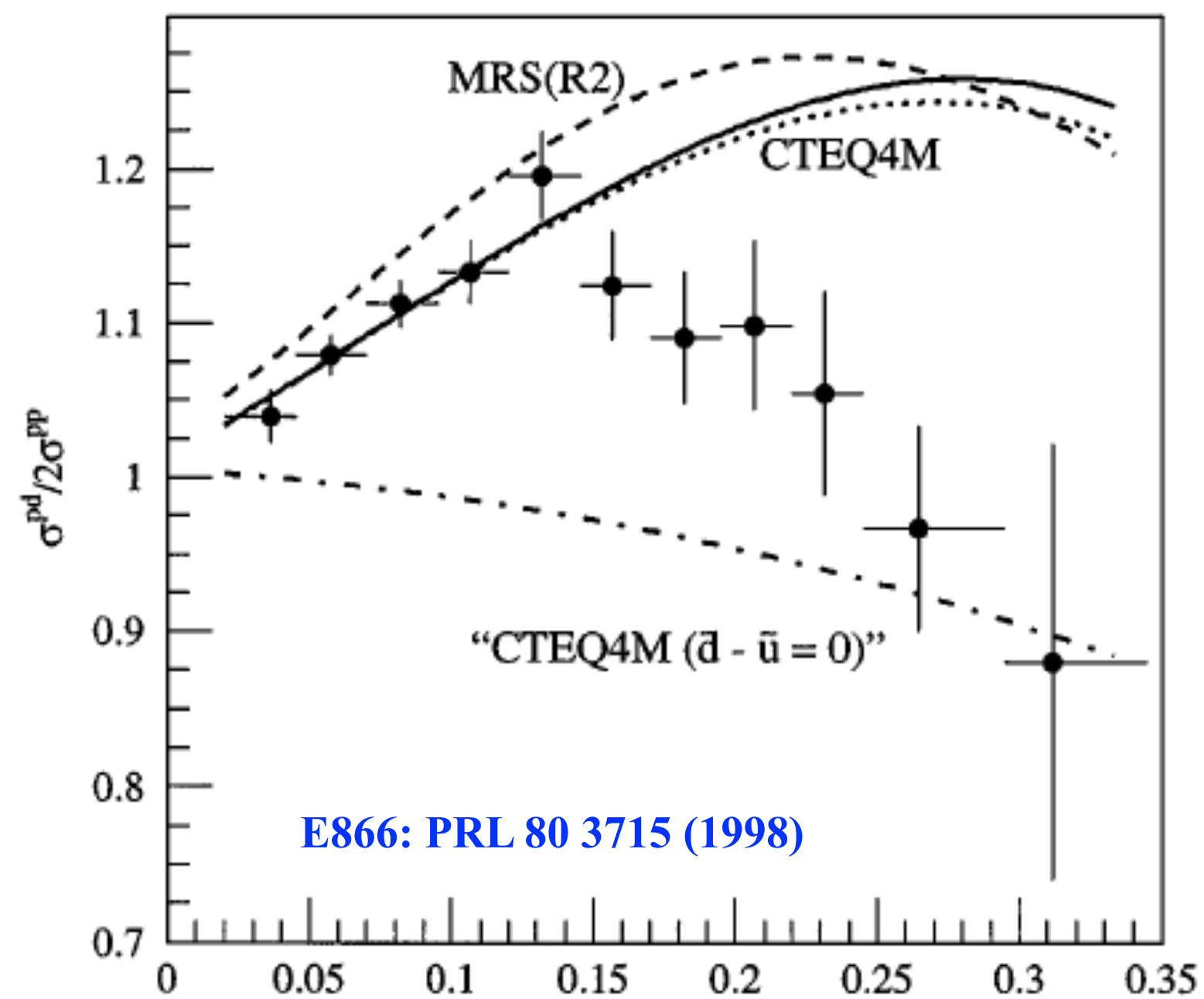
High-precision LHC data on W/Z production is critically an important element of modern PDF fits (eg. [CMS W ASY](#))

Flavor separation of sea quarks

- Measuring Drell-Yan on a variety of nuclear targets probes differences in sea-quark PDFs

σ_{pd} : proton-deuterium xsection

deuterium has 1 proton and 1 neutron



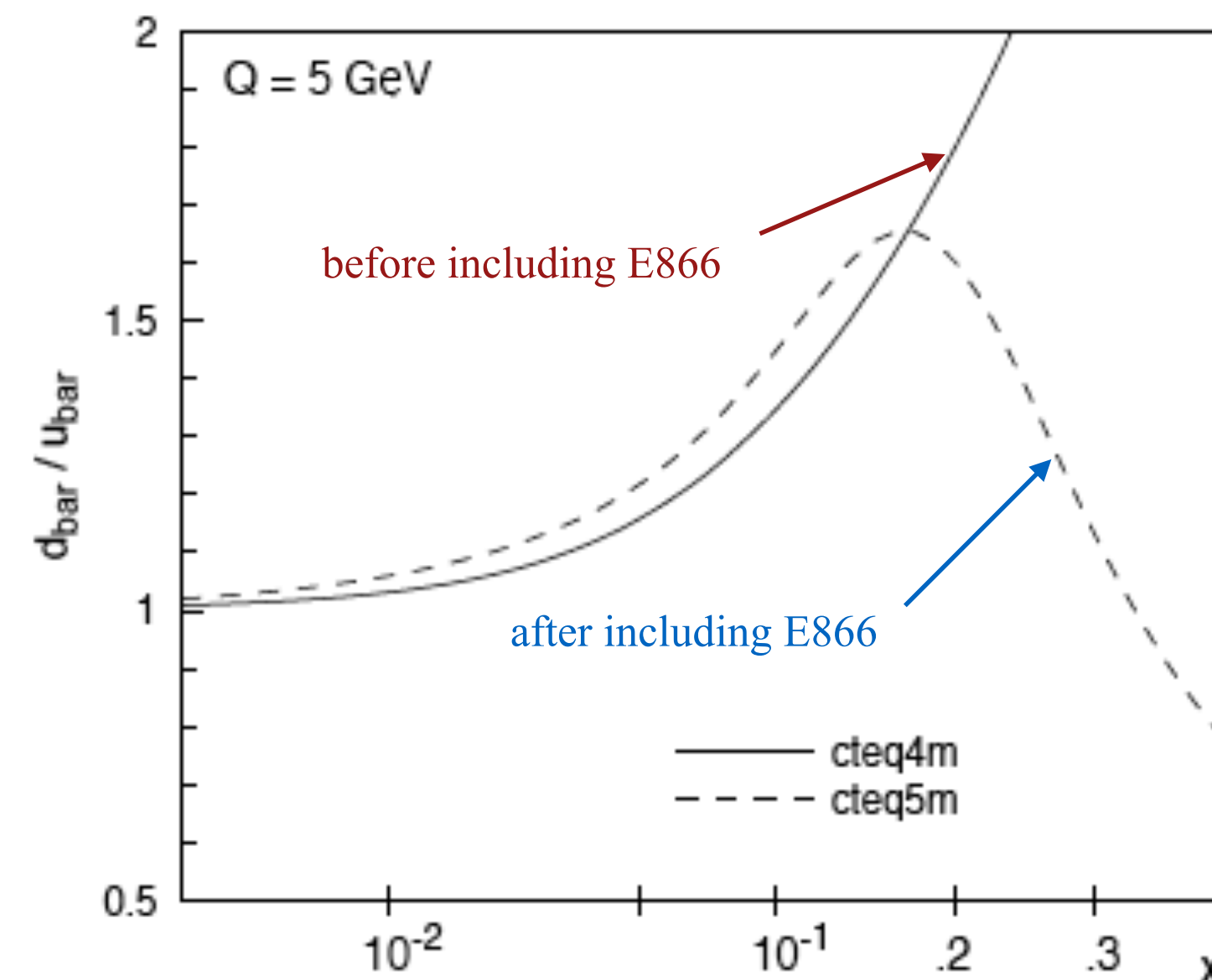
E866: lower energy DY measurement

E866: PRL 80 3715 (1998)

x_2
momentum fraction of the target quark

Historically important in ensuring an appropriate parameterization of the sea quarks in the high-x region

Accounting for E866 in CTEQ5:



Flavor separation of valence quarks

- Tevatron measurements of the W-boson charge asymmetry probes the flavor separation of the up/down valence quark ratio

$$A_{ch}(y_W) = \frac{\frac{d\sigma^{W^+}}{dy_W} - \frac{d\sigma^{W^-}}{dy_W}}{\frac{d\sigma^{W^+}}{dy_W} + \frac{d\sigma^{W^-}}{dy_W}} \approx \frac{\frac{u(x_A)}{d(x_A)} \frac{\bar{d}(x_B)}{\bar{u}(x_B)} - 1}{\frac{u(x_A)}{d(x_A)} \frac{\bar{d}(x_B)}{\bar{u}(x_B)} + 1}$$

$$x_A = \frac{M_W}{\sqrt{s}} e^{y_W}; \quad x_B = \frac{M_W}{\sqrt{s}} e^{-y_W}$$

Assuming born kinematics and valence quarks domination of the cross section

- As y_W goes to its maximum value (large rapidity), x_B becomes small (while $x_A \rightarrow 1$) and the ratio $\bar{d}/\bar{u} \rightarrow 1$ (see the plot on the previous slide for $\bar{d}(x)/\bar{u}(x)$). This allows us to constrain $u(x_A)/d(x_A)$.

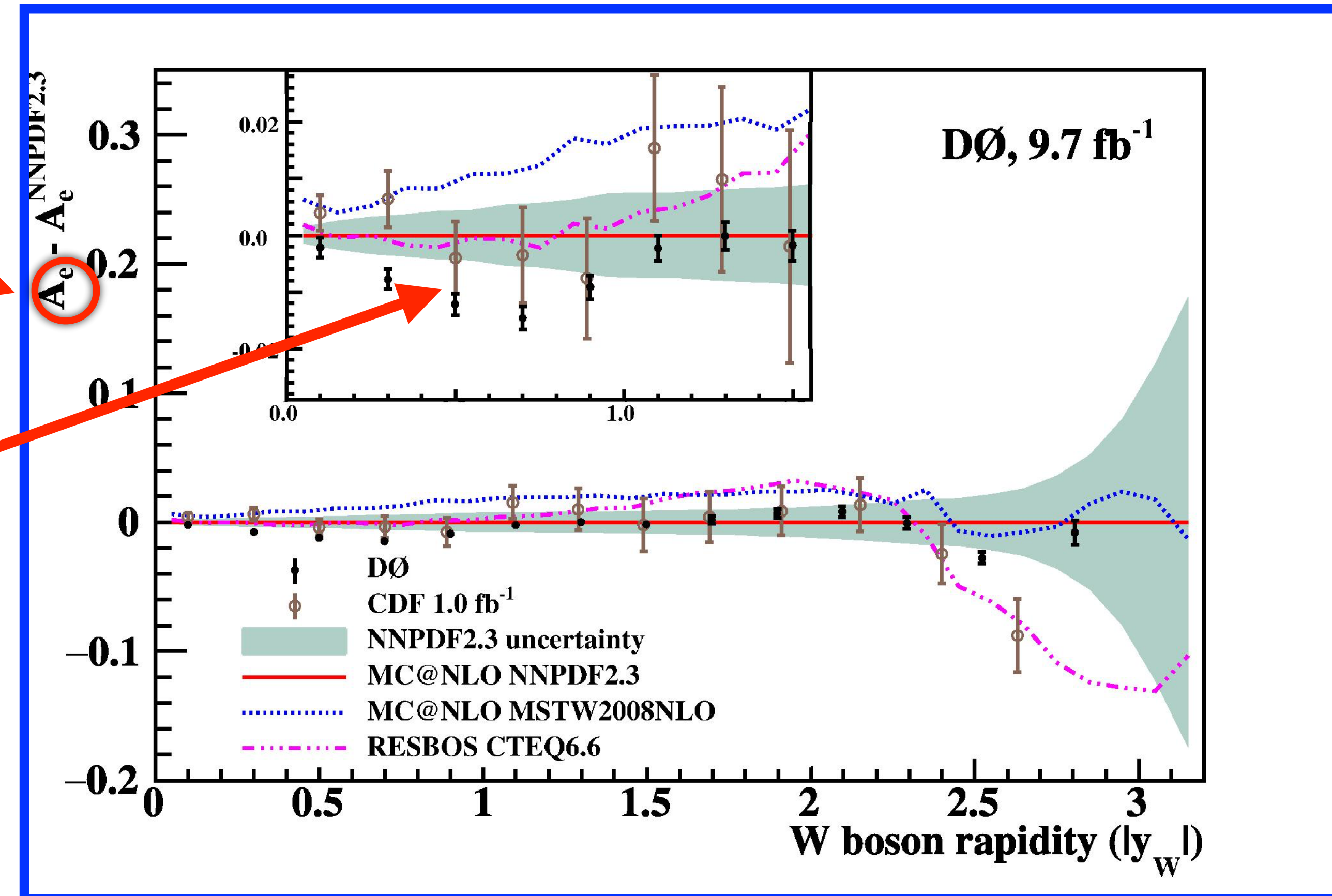
Flavor separation of valence quarks

- Tevatron measurements of the W-boson charge asymmetry probes the flavor separation of the up/down valence quark ratio

electron charge asymmetry predicted using different codes and PDF sets

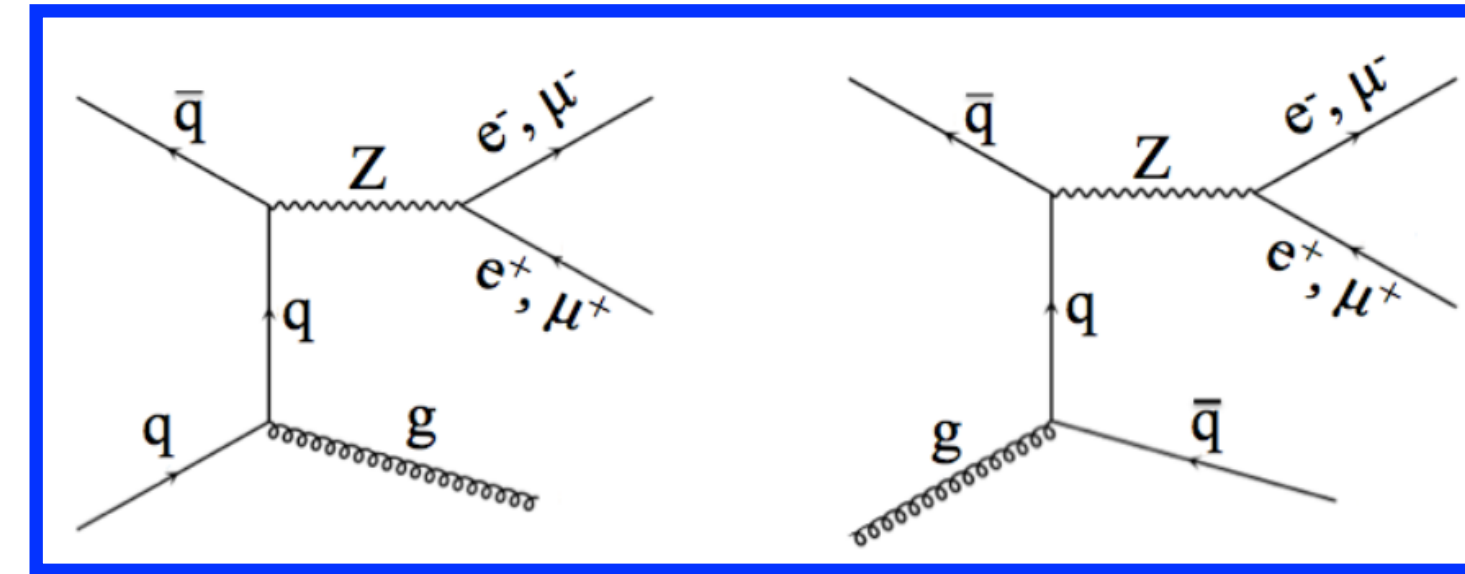
The intermediate rapidity range ($y_W \sim 1$) shows differences between MSTW and NNPDF when using the same code (**MC@NLO**)

The charge asymmetry dataset is needed to better determine the proton structure

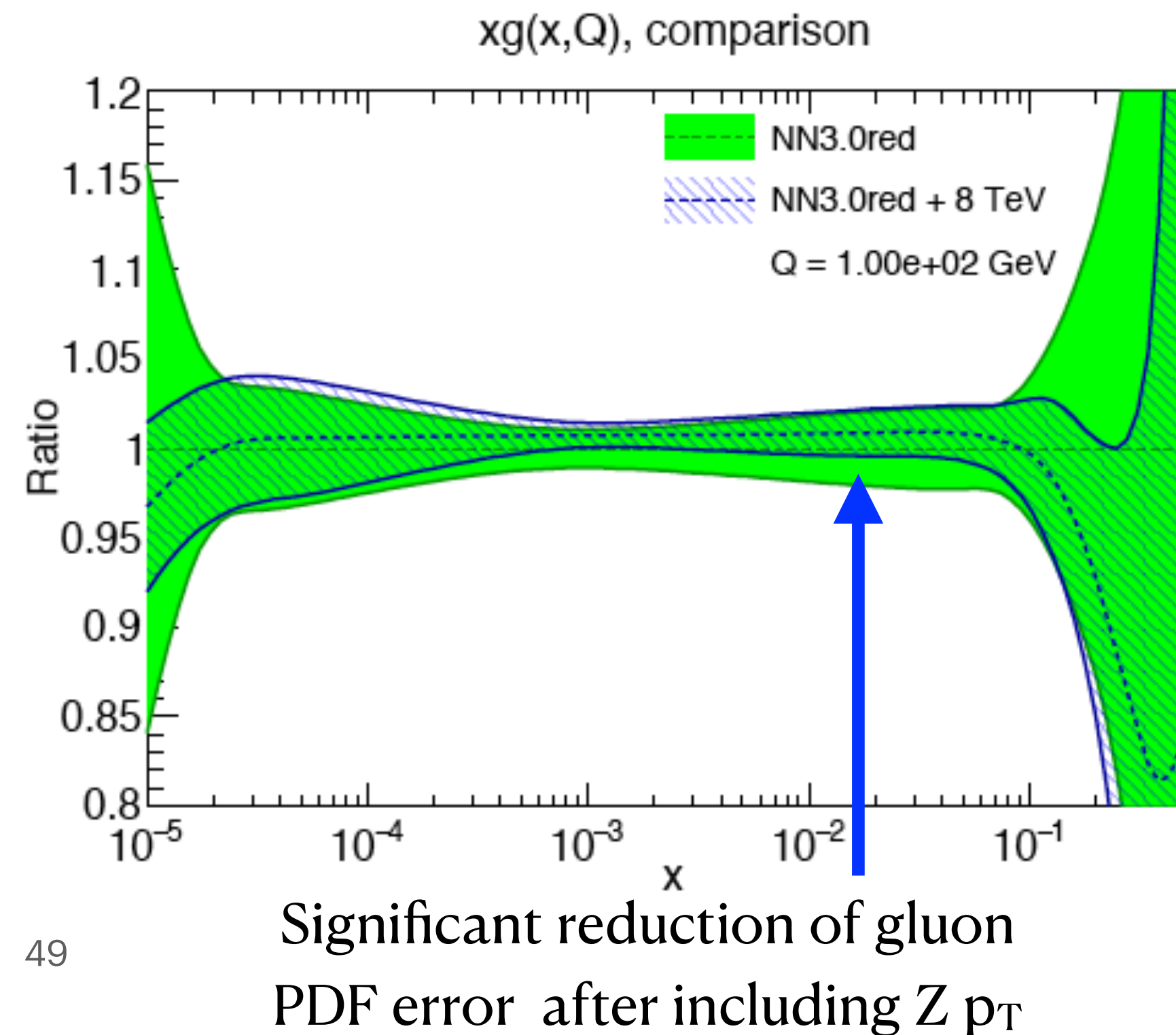
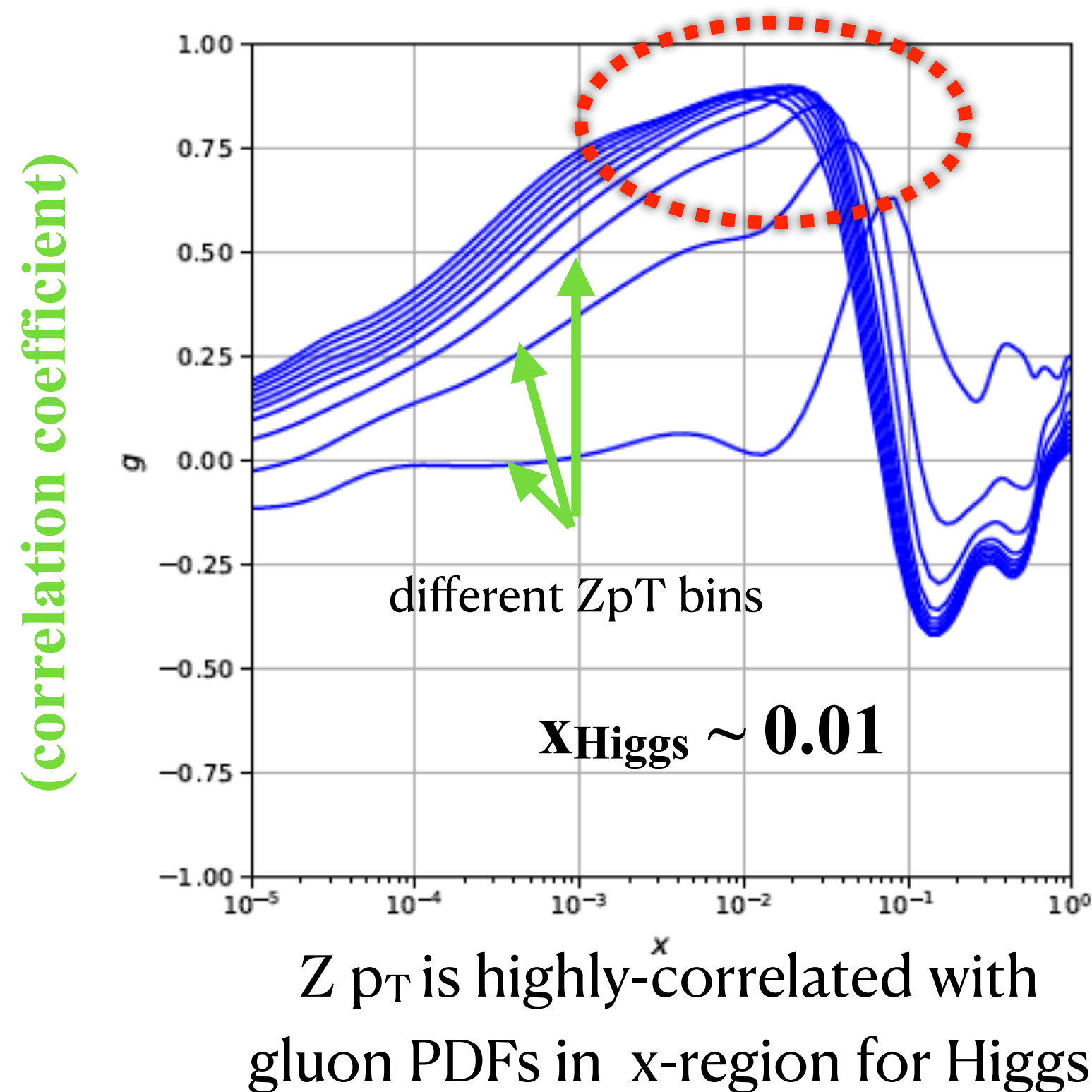


Gluon PDFs from the Z-boson p_T

- Can constrain the intermediate- x gluon PDFs relevant for Higgs production using the Z-boson p_T spectrum

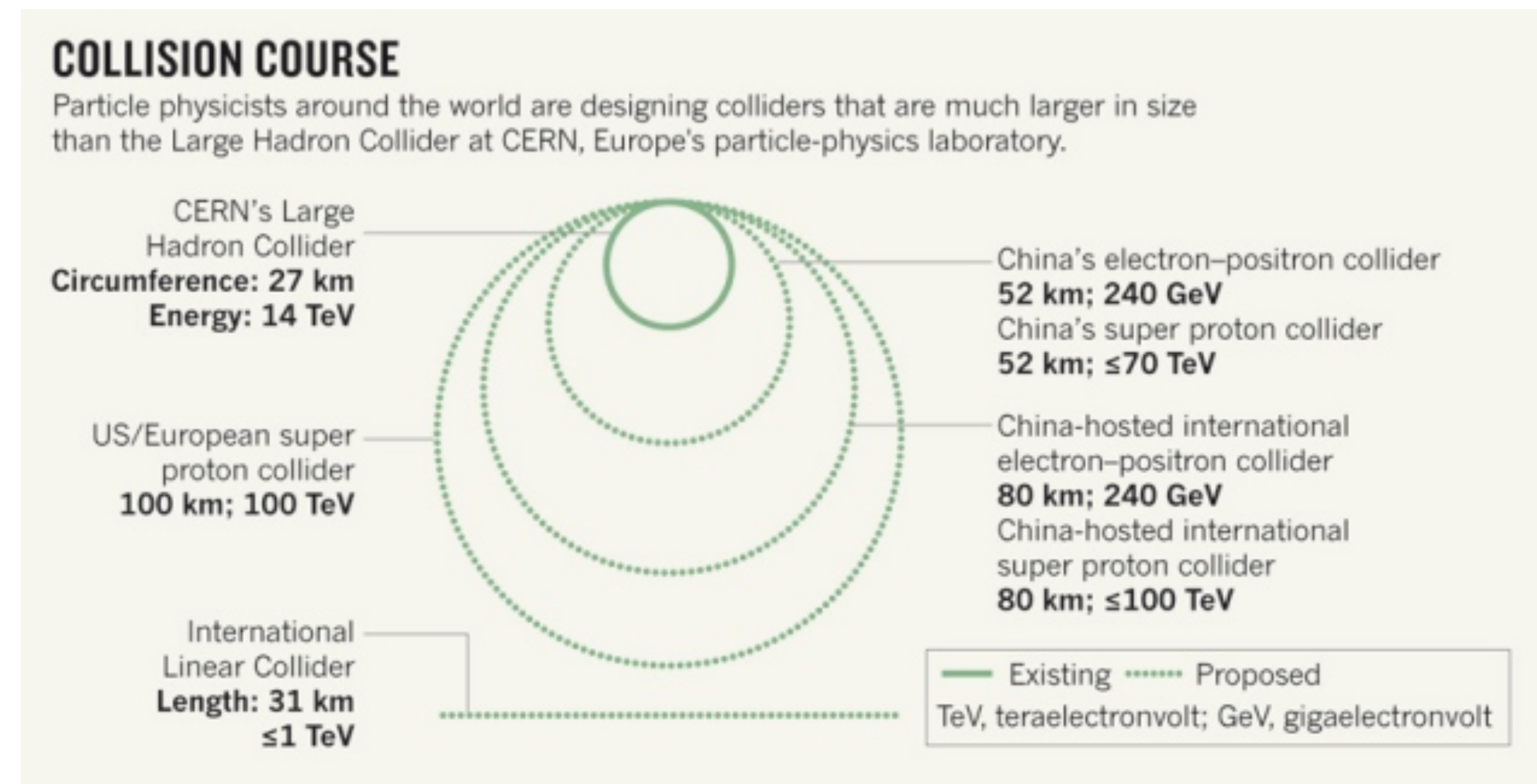
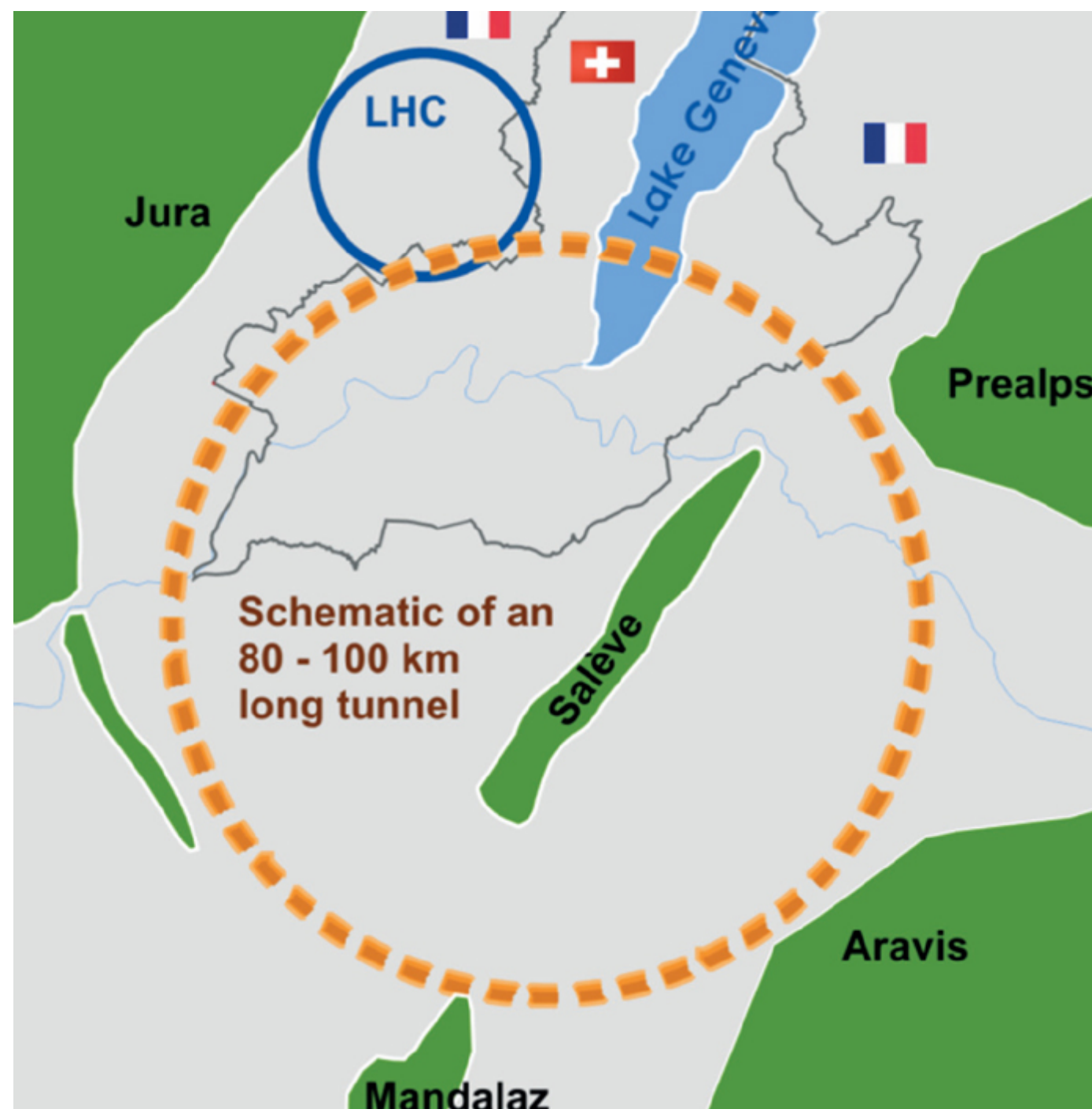


RB, Guffanti, Petriello, Ubiali, 2017



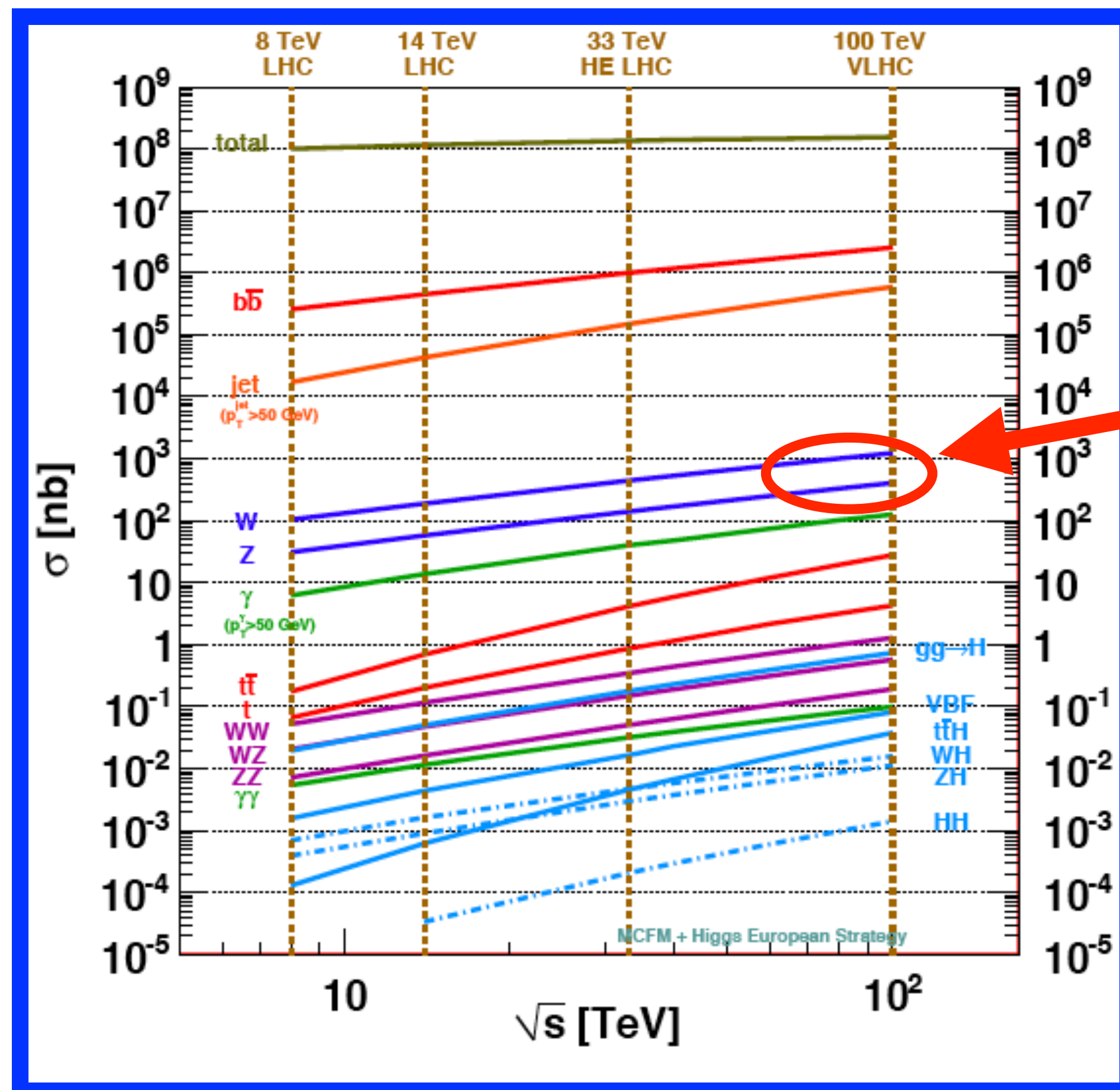
Drell-Yan in the future

- There is growing interest in the HEP community to build a future high-energy pp machine with CM energy ~ 100 TeV
- Possible locations at CERN and China have been discussed. If at CERN this would possibly be after an e^+e^- Higgs factory is constructed.



Drell-Yan in the future

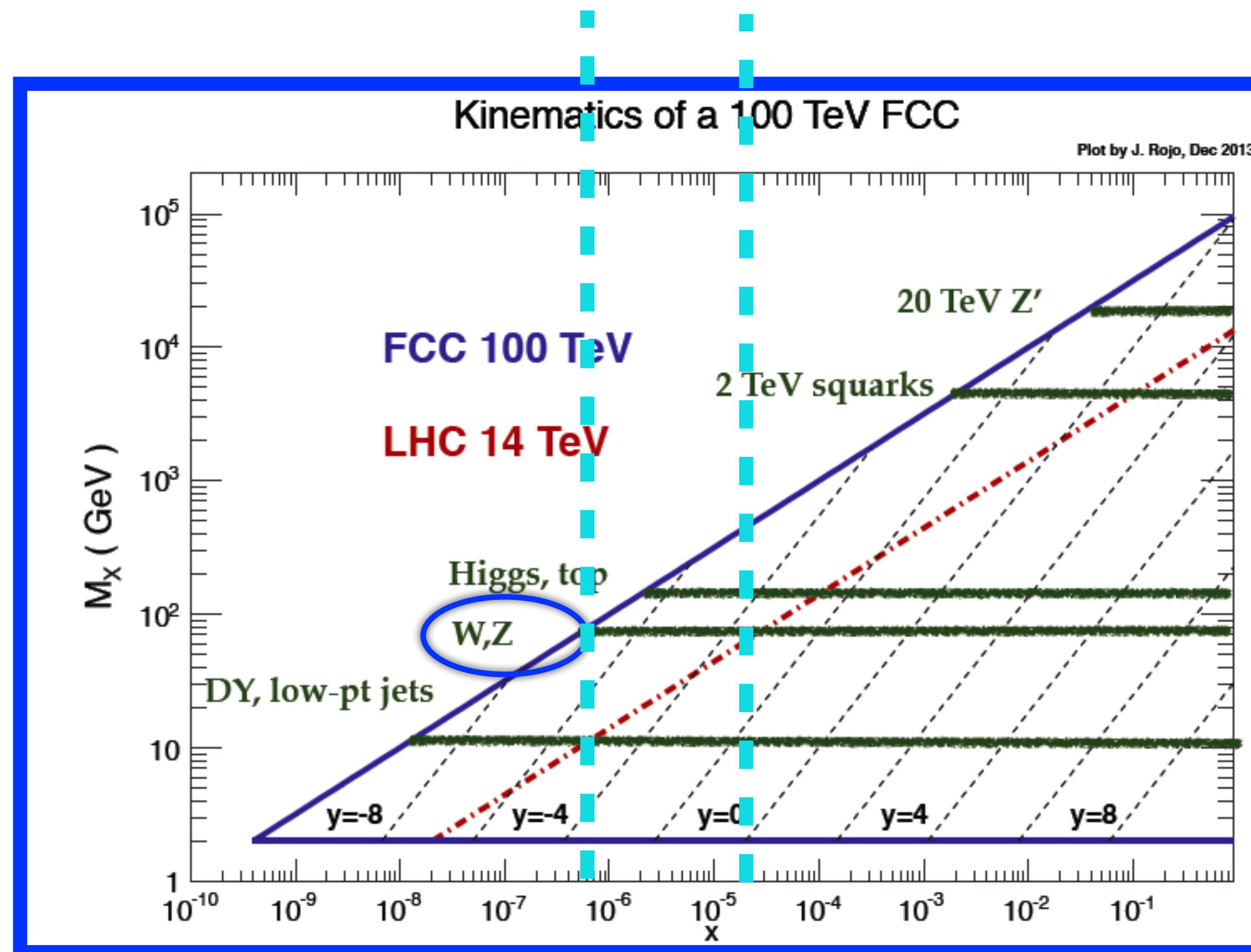
- Drell-Yan will continue to play an integral role of the physics program at such future machines



Large production rates for W and Z boson production via Drell-Yan at 100 TeV; will remain an important background to any searches at high energies

Drell-Yan in the future

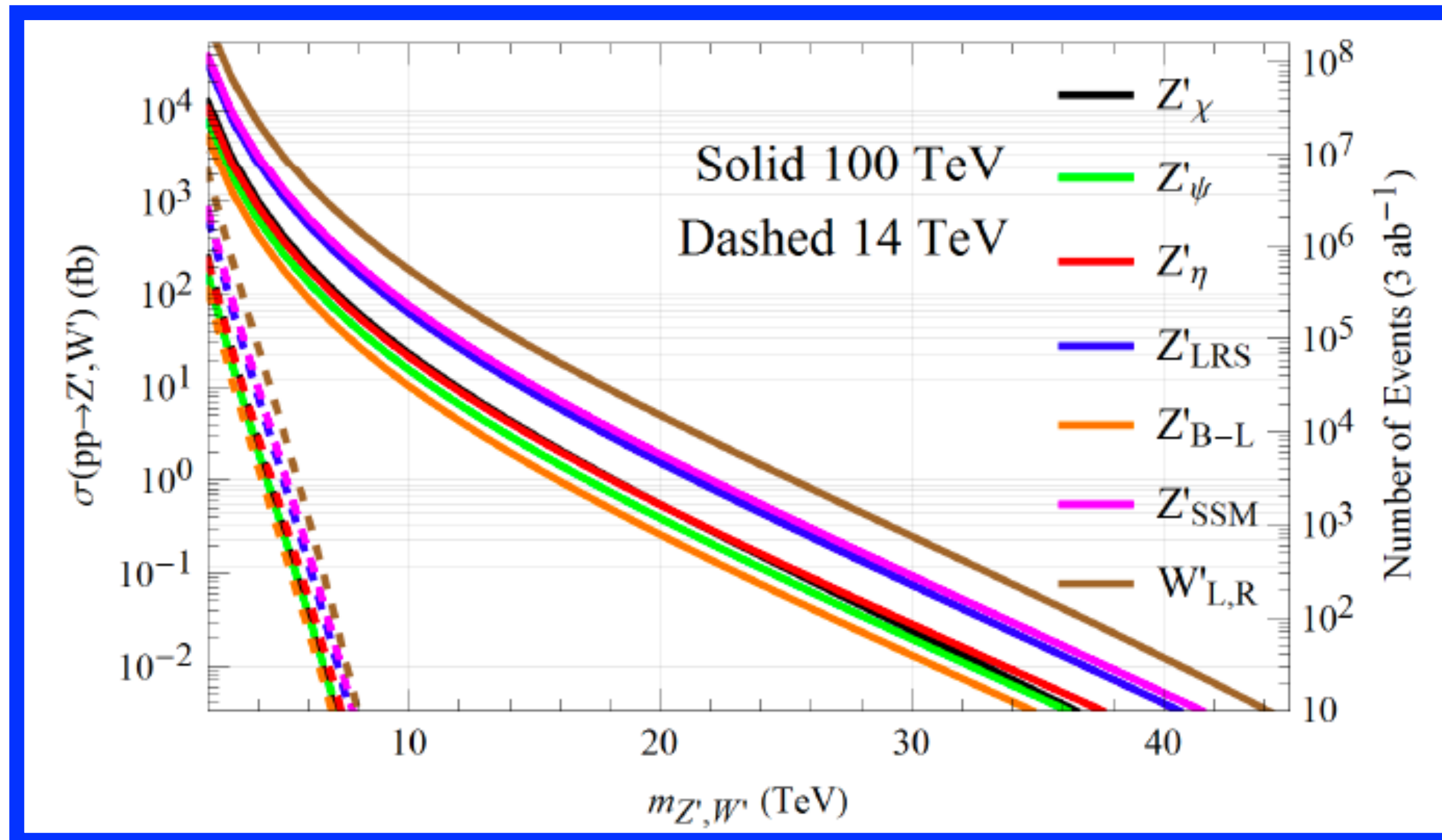
- Drell-Yan will continue to play an integral role of the physics program at such future machines



New kinematic regions probed; W/Z production down to Bjorken $x \sim 10^{-6}$, more than an order of magnitude lower than LHC 14 TeV coverage

New gauge bosons at 100 TeV

- Unmatched reach for new gauge bosons which would indicate new forces of Nature beyond $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$



Ultimate LHC reach in mass is
 $\sim 7-8$ TeV

A 100 TeV machine extends
this out to 35 TeV or beyond,
depending on the model

Summary of lecture I

- What we covered in this lecture:
 - Overview of Drell-Yan basics and historical importance: relevance of higher-order corrections in resolving discrepancies with data over the years, discoveries, non-discoveries
 - State-of-the-art predictions including NNLO QCD, NLO EW, mixed QCD-EW effects
 - Modern applications of Drell-Yan processes: W-mass, flavor separation of sea quarks, valence quarks
 - Drell-Yan in the future: searches for BSM resonances