



# Bread & Butter Physics at the LHC

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Pheno 23 Symposium

In collaboration with CTEQ-TEA members

CTEQ – Tung et al. (TEA)  
in memory of Prof. Wu-Ki Tung

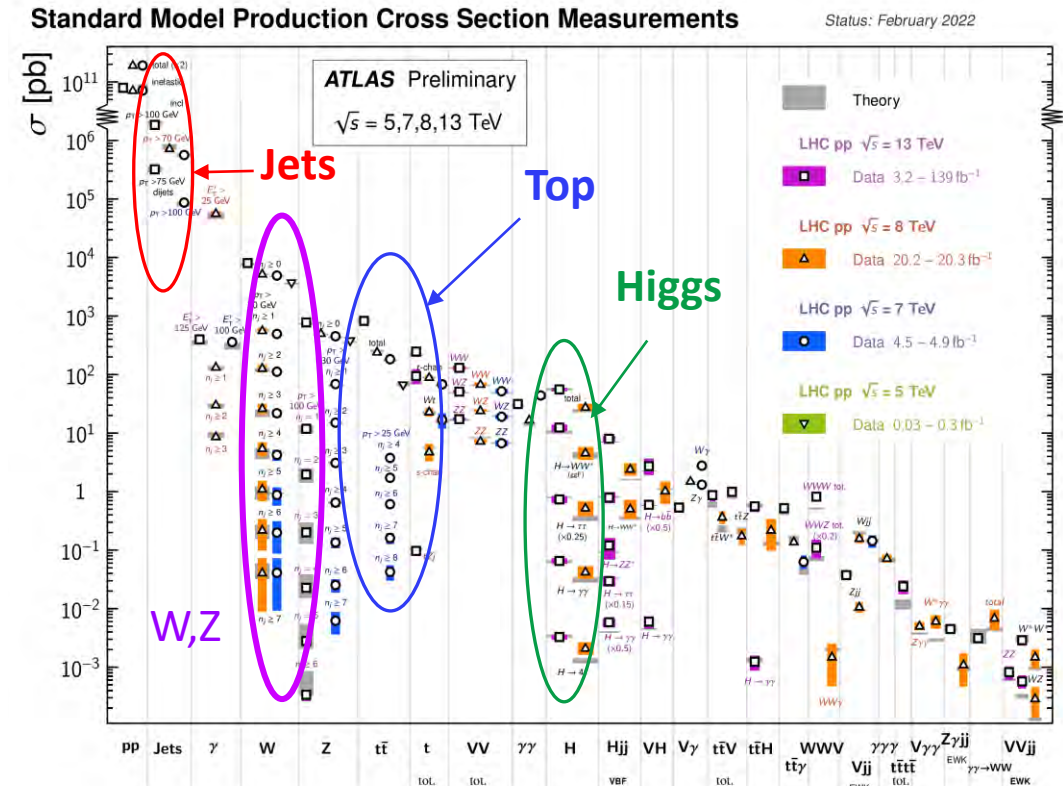
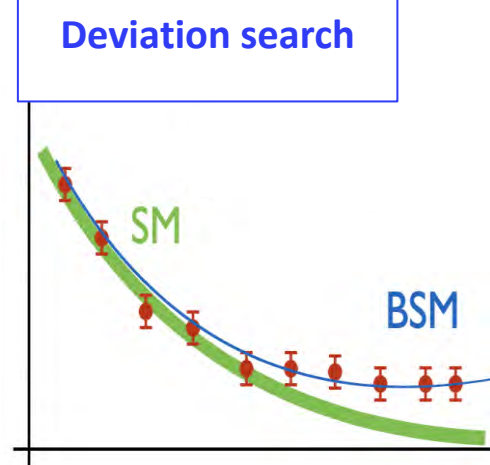
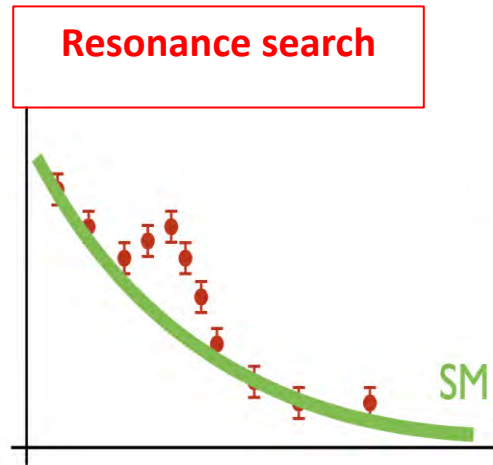


# What is the bread-and-butter physics at the LHC?

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The bread and butter of a situation or activity is its most *basic* or *important* aspects. --- Dictionary

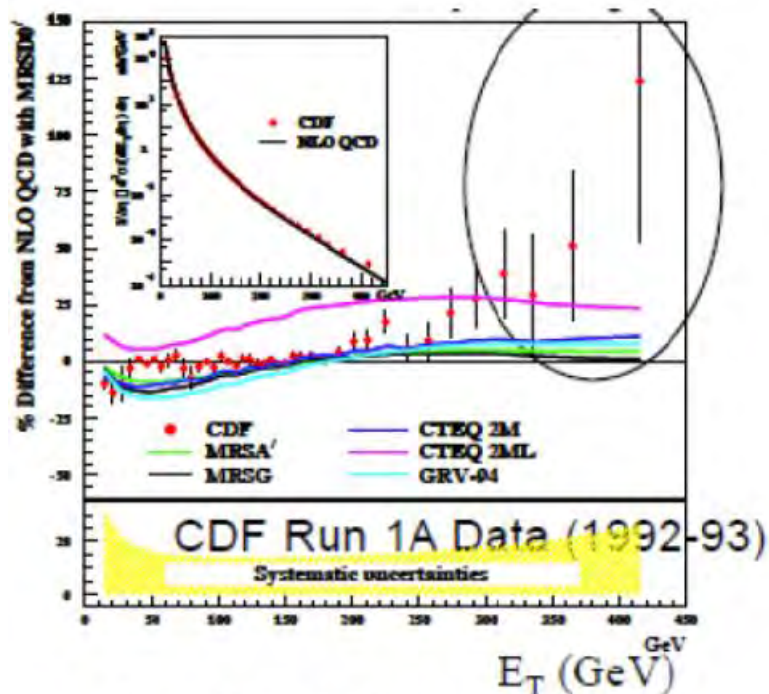
- **Goals:** 1. Test Standard Model (SM)  
2. Find New Physics (NP)





# New Physics Found (in 1996) ?

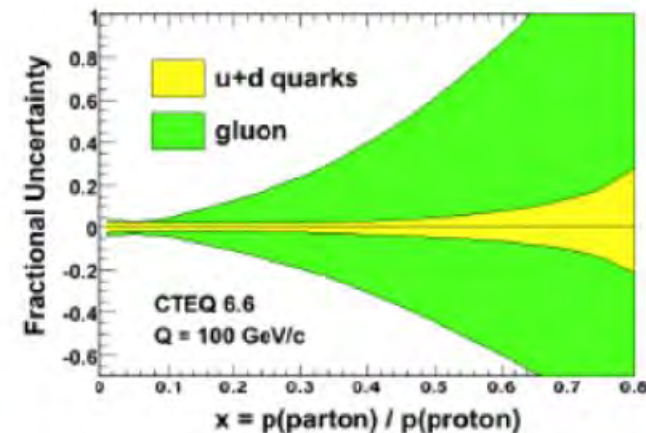
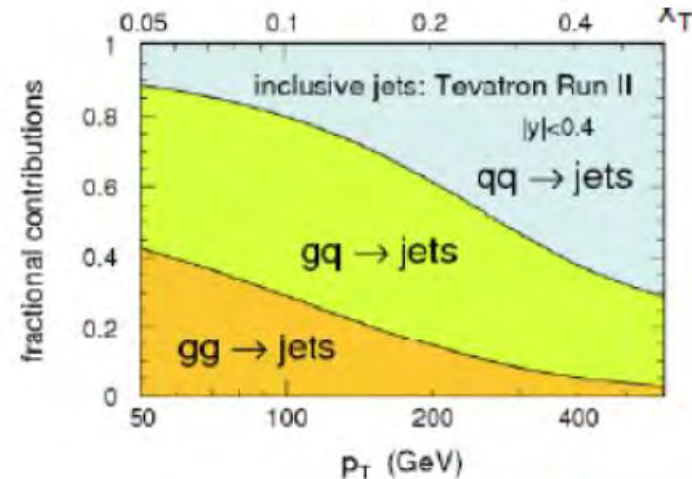
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Phys. Rev. Lett. 77, 438 (1996)

High- $x$  gluon not well known

...can be accommodated in the Standard Model

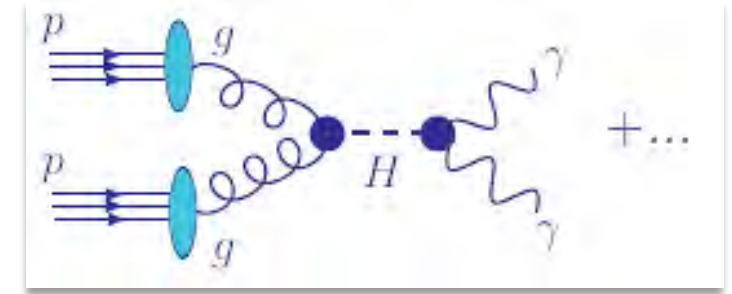


Explained by having better determined PDFs from global analysis; no need for NP scenario yet.

J. Huston, E. Kovacs, S. Kuhlmann, J.L. Lai, J.F. Owens, D. Soper, W.K. Tung, Phys. Rev. Lett. 77 (1996) 444.

# QCD Factorization Theorem and PDFs

$$\sigma_{pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma X}(Q) = \sum_{a,b=g,q,\bar{q}} \int_0^1 d\xi_a \int_0^1 d\xi_b \hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma} \left( \frac{x_a}{\xi_a}, \frac{x_b}{\xi_b}, \frac{Q}{\mu_R}, \frac{Q}{\mu_F}; \alpha_s(\mu_R) \right) \\ \times f_a(\xi_a, \mu_F) f_b(\xi_b, \mu_F) + O\left(\frac{\Lambda_{QCD}^2}{Q^2}\right)$$



$\hat{\sigma}$  is the hard cross section; computed order-by-order in  $\alpha_s(\mu_R)$   
 $f_a(x, \mu_F)$  is the distribution for parton  $a$  with momentum fraction  $x$ , at scale  $\mu_F$

$f_{a/h}(x, Q)$

**Unpolarized collinear** parton distribution functions (PDFs)

$f_{a/h}(x, Q)$  are associated with probabilities for finding a parton  $a$  with the “+” momentum  $x p^+$  in a hadron  $h$  with the “+” momentum  $p^+$  for  $p^+ \rightarrow \infty$ , at a resolution scale  $Q > 1$  GeV.

The (unpolarized) collinear PDFs describe long-distance dynamics of (single parton scattering) in high-energy collisions.

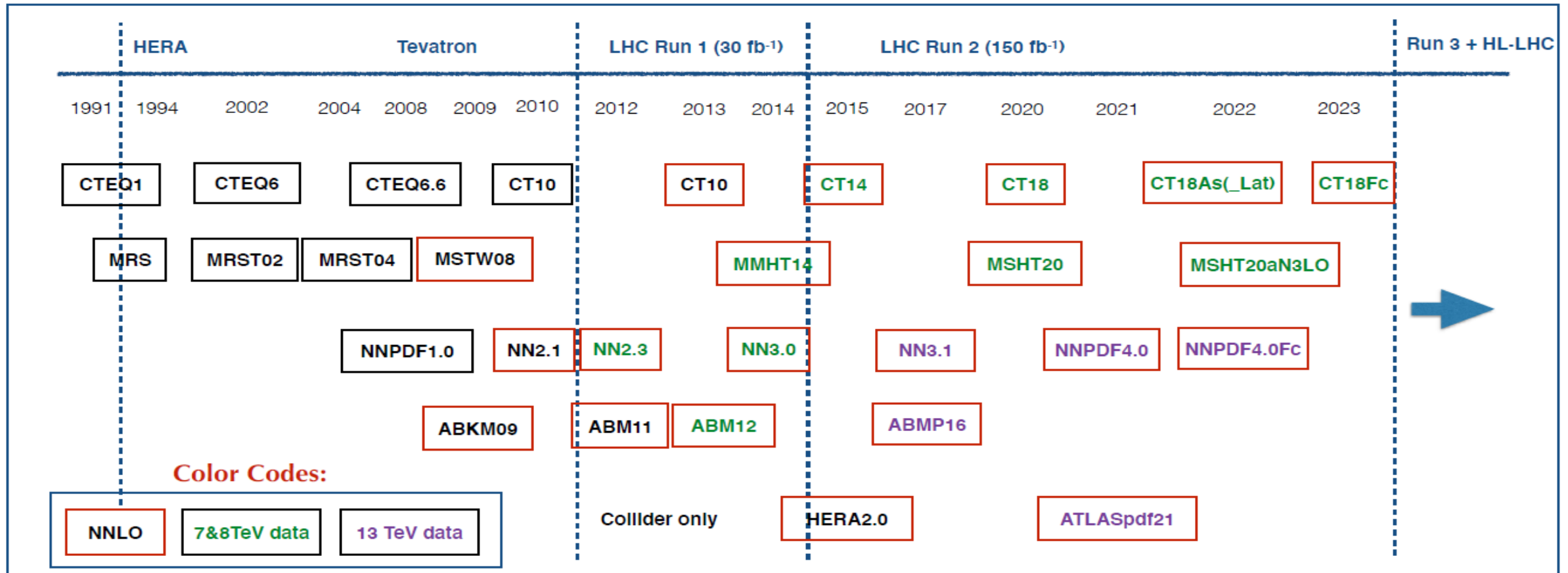


# Some PDF sets of QCD global analysis

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Jun Gao, DIS 2022

- PDFs provided by several major analysis groups (CT, MSHT, NNPDF, ABM, HERAPDF, ATLASpdf, CJ, JAM...) using slightly different heavy-quark schemes, selections of data, and methodologies





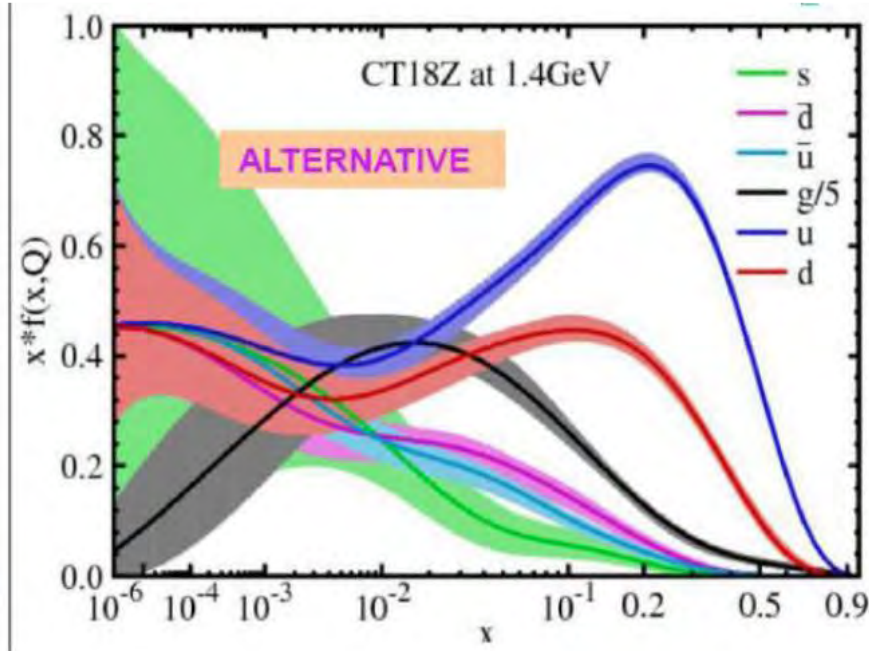
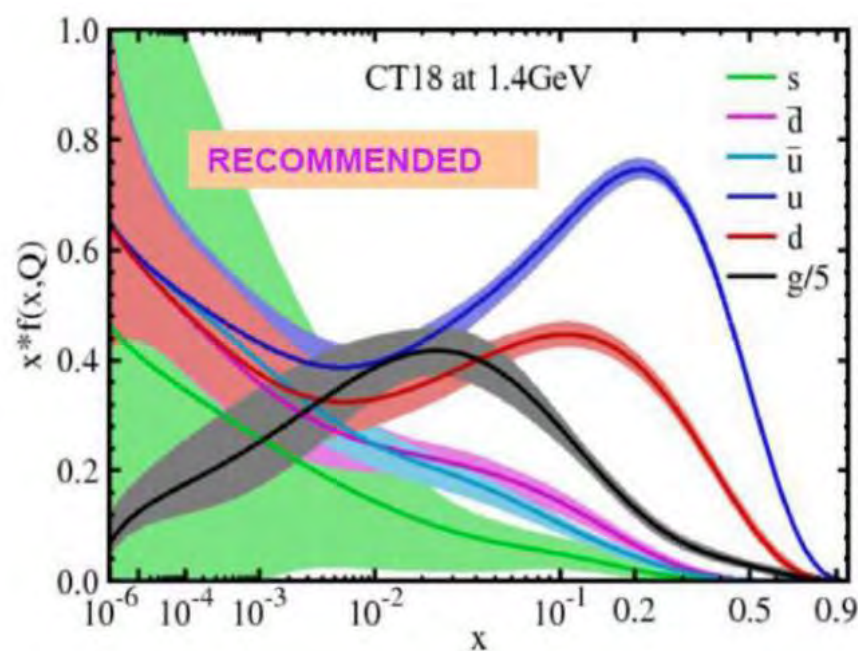


# CT18 family PDFs

<https://ct.hepforge.org/PDFs/ct18/>

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arXiv:1912.10053



\* **CT18 (N)NLO PDF set is recommended for the majority of LHC applications**

- CT18Z has enhanced gluon and strange PDFs at  $x \sim 10^{-4}$ , and reduced light-quark PDFs at  $x < 10^{-2}$ . The CT18Z maximizes the differences from CT18 PDFs, while preserving about the same goodness-of-fit as for CT18.
- CT18A and CT18X include some features of CT18Z, lie between CT18 and CT18Z.

CT18  
CT18A  
CT18X  
CT18Z  
CT18\_as

NNLO  
NLO

Extensions

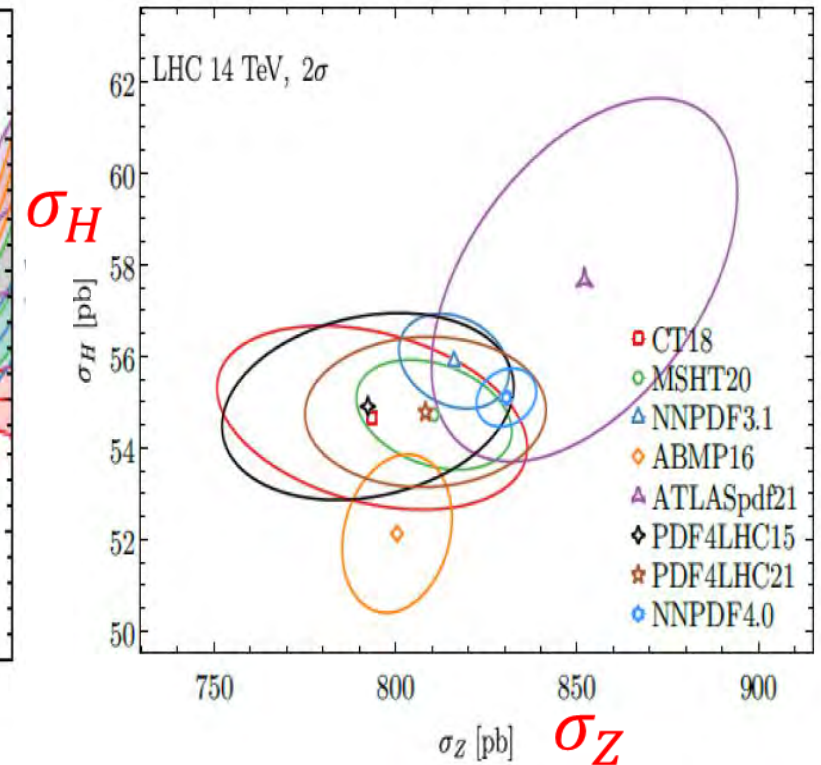
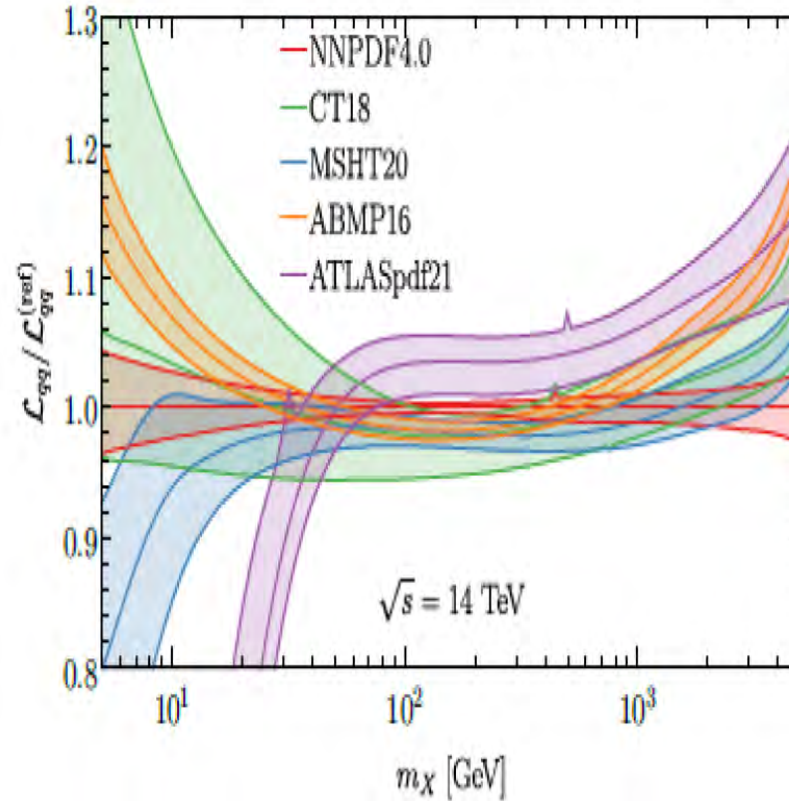
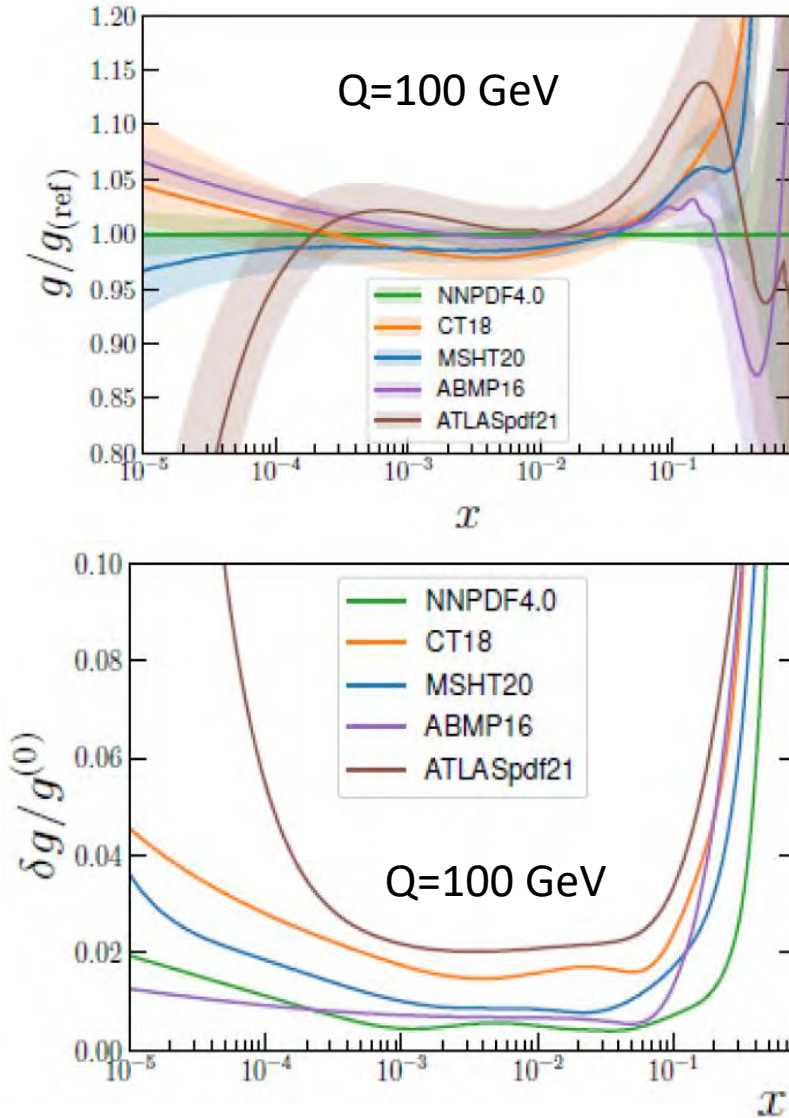
CT18qed  
CT18As  
CT18As\_Lat  
CT18FC  
CT18LO

# Comparing predictions from various QCD global analysis groups

Snowmass 2021, 2203.13923

Smaller PDF errors lead to smaller

PDF luminosity errors, then smaller PDF-induced errors in cross sections.





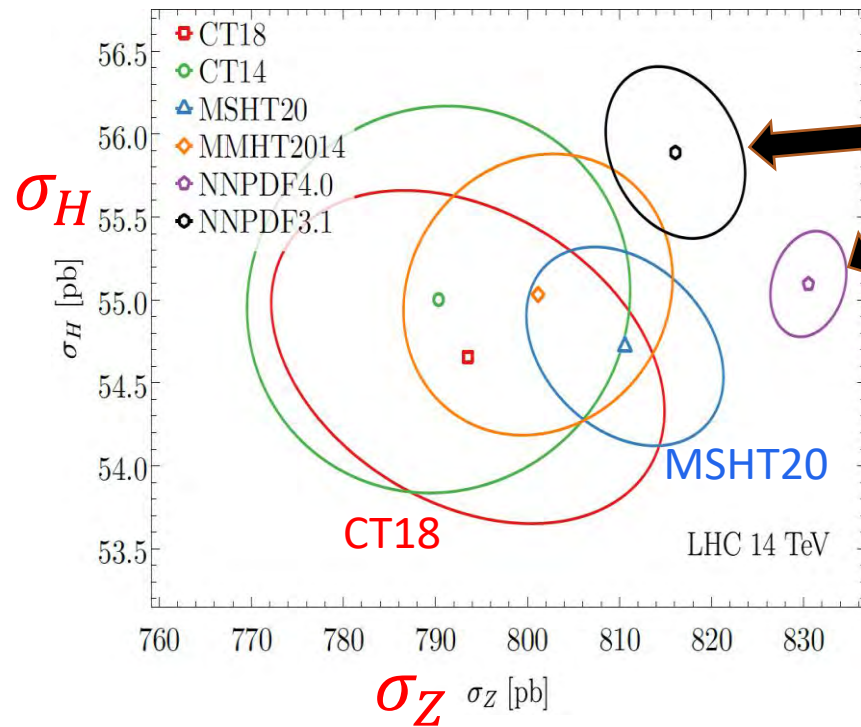
# Comparing predictions from various QCD global analysis groups

Snowmass 2021, 2203.13923

The PDF-induced errors @ 68% CL in  $gg \rightarrow h$  and  $q \bar{q} \rightarrow Z$  NNLO cross sections



Due to different choices of



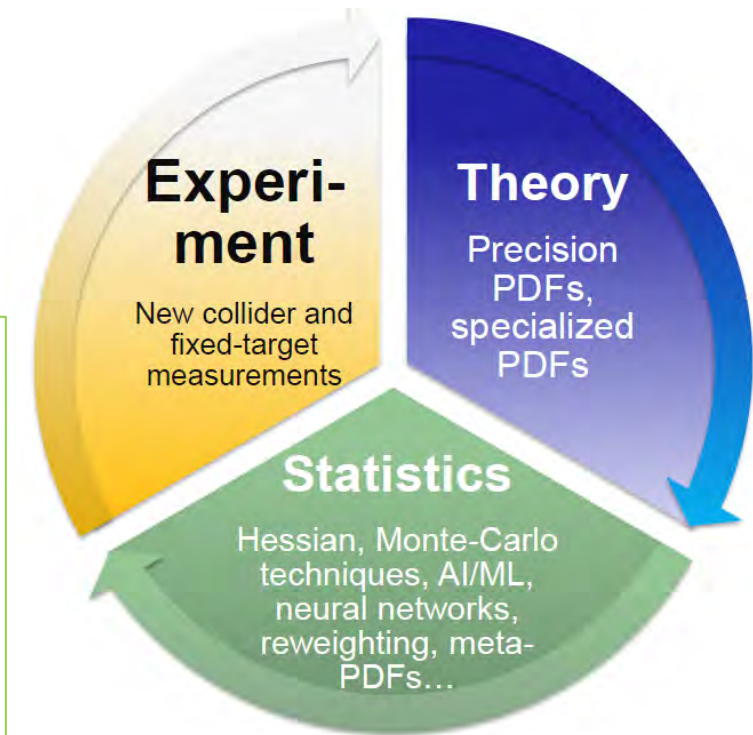
NNPDF3.1

Their predictions do not overlap at  $1\sigma$  level.

NNPDF4.0

Different (though mostly consistent) predictions on

- central values and error estimates of PDFs,
- parton luminosities,
- physical cross sections, and
- various correlations among PDFs and data ...



Components of a global QCD fit

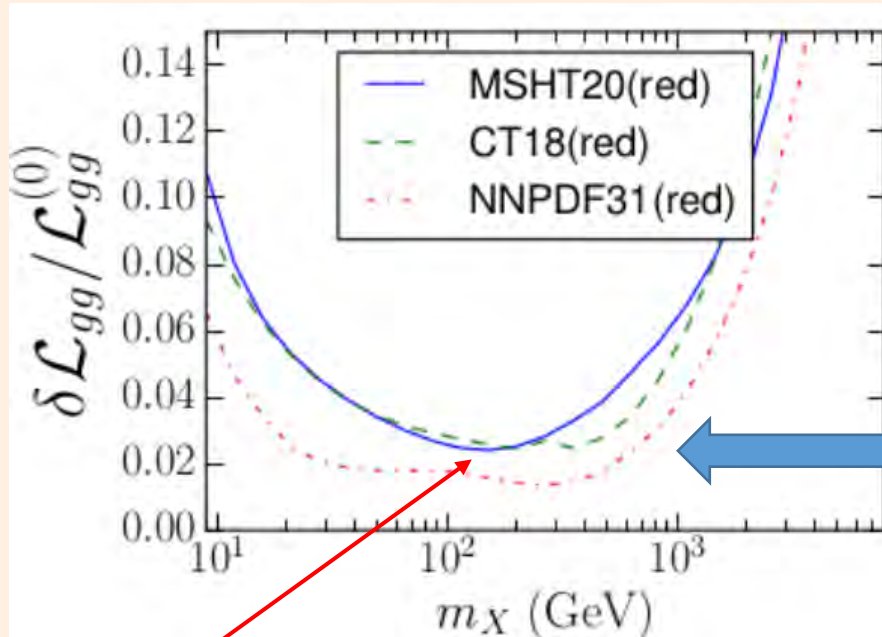


# Benchmark Study: PDF4LHC21

arXiv:2203.05506

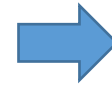
Relative PDF uncertainties on the  $gg$  luminosity at 14 TeV in three PDF4LHC21 fits to the **identical** reduced global data set

arXiv:2203.05506



× 1.5 – 2 difference

- Each analysis group (CT, MSHT, NNPDF) used the **same (reduced) data sets** and **same theory predictions** in the analysis



Smaller error size found by NNPDF

- NNPDF3.1' and especially 4.0 (based on the NN's+ MC technique) tend to give smaller uncertainties in data-constrained regions

The size of PDF error estimates depends on the **methodology of global analysis** adopted by the PDF fitting group.

# Sources of PDF errors

Factorization Theorem:

$$\text{Data} = \text{PDFs} \otimes \text{Hard part cross sections (Wilson coeff.)}$$

## Experimental errors:

- Statistical
- Systematic
  - uncorrelated
  - correlated
- $\chi^2$  definition (experimental or  $t_0$ )
- Possible tensions among data sets

## Extracted with errors, dependent of methodology of analysis

- Non-perturbative parametrization forms of PDFs
- Additional theory prior
- Choice of Tolerance ( $T^2$ ) value

## Theoretical errors:

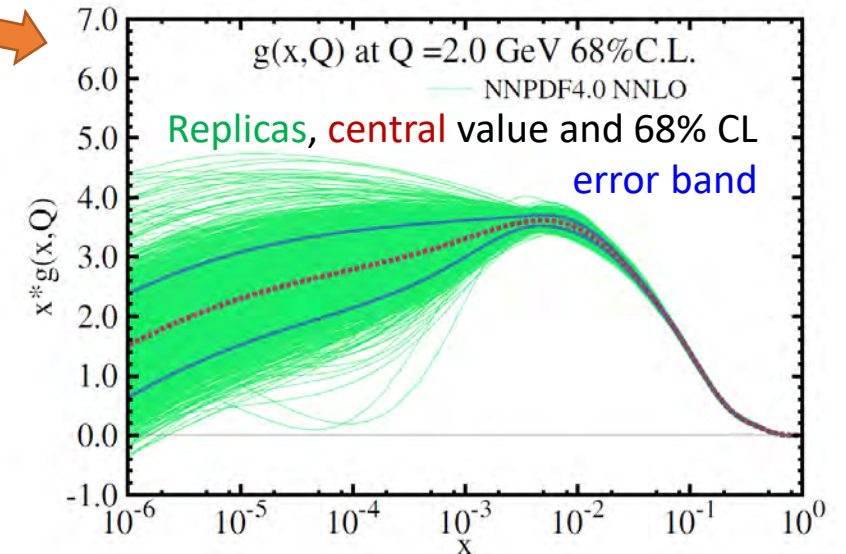
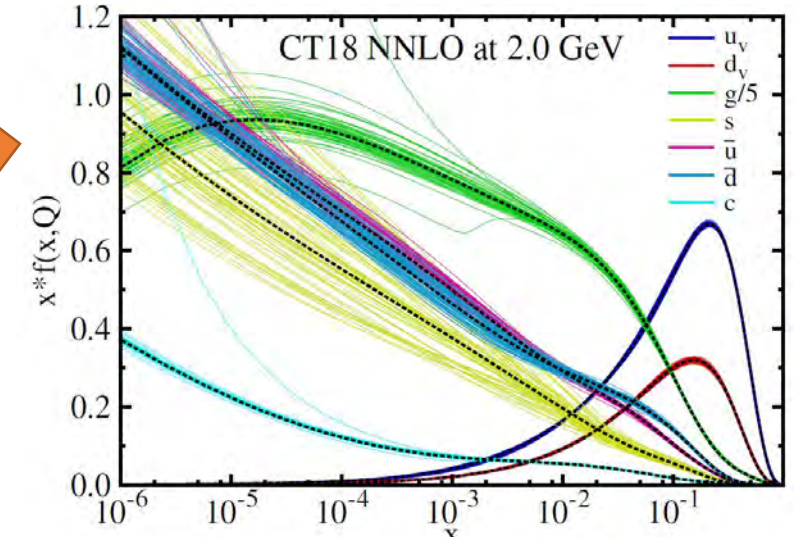
- Which order: (NLO, NNLO, ..., resummation – BFKL, qT, threshold)
- Which scale: ( $\mu_F$ ,  $\mu_R$ )
- Which code: (antenna subtraction, sector decomposition, ..., qT, N-jettiness, ...)
- Monte Carlo error: (most efficient implementation, ...)



# How to estimate PDF errors in QCD global analysis

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- Error estimate is important.
- Two different methodology in global analysis
  - ❖ **Hessian PDF eigenvector (EV) sets**,  
from analytic parametrizations of PDFs  
➡ (ABM, CTEQ, HERA, MSHT, ...)
  - ❖ **Monte Carlo (MC) PDF replicas**,  
from Neural Network (NN) parametrizations  
➡ (NNPDF)
- Both methods assume some non-perturbative input of PDFs at the initial  $Q_0$  scale, around 1 GeV. (analytical parametrization vs. NN architecture)
- They are two powerful and complementary representations.
- Hessian PDFs can be converted into MC ones, and vice versa.







# How to quantify PDF uncertainties

was first introduced in 2001 by  
Jon Pumplin, Dan Stump and Wu-Ki Tung  
@ Michigan State University

hep-ph/0101032

Uncertainties of predictions from PDFs:

The Hessian method

hep-ph/0101051

Uncertainties of predictions from PDFs:

The Lagrange multiplier method

$$\chi^2 = \chi_0^2 + \sum_{i,j} H_{ij} (a_i - a_i^0) (a_j - a_j^0)$$

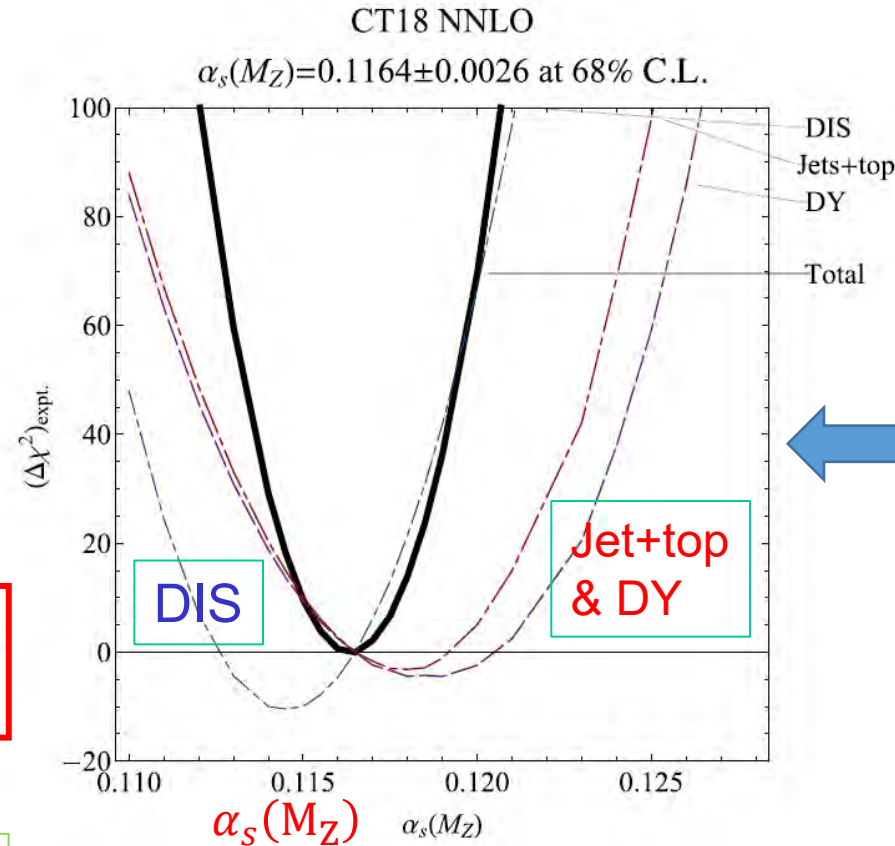
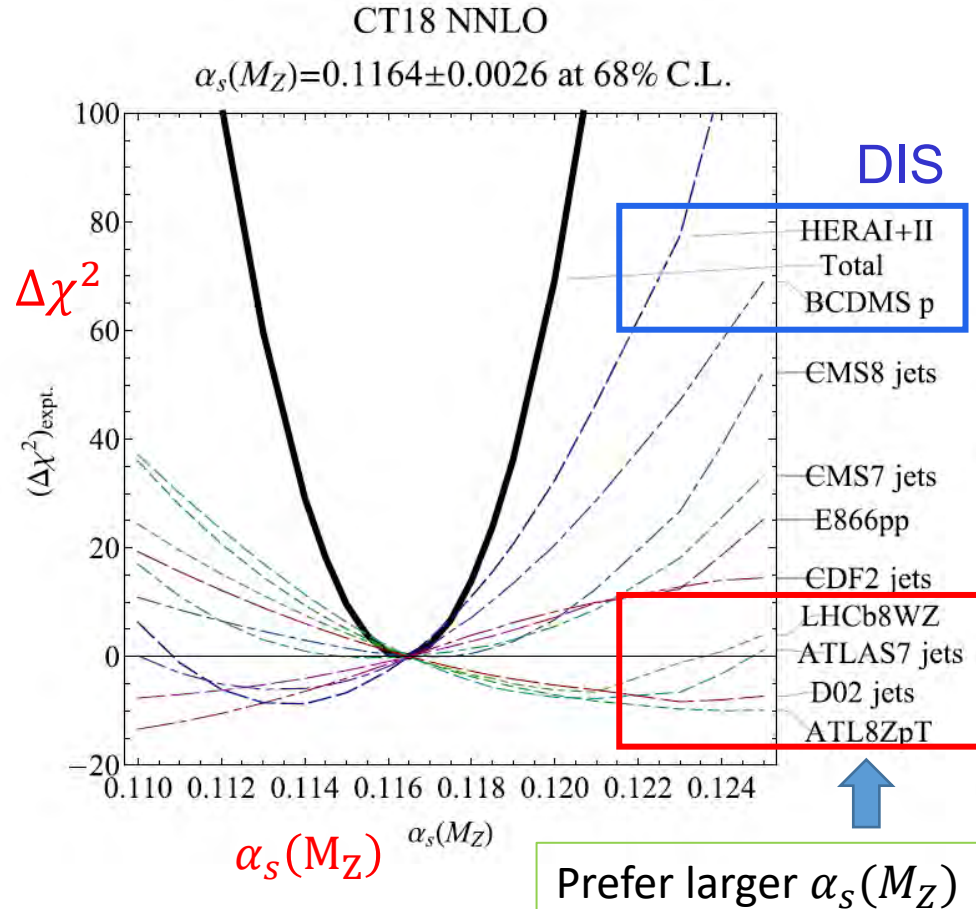
It was first implemented in CTQE6 PDFs.

They were used to determine **uncertainty of PDFs**, **physical cross sections**,  $\alpha_s$  and  $m_t$  as well as exploring **tensions among data sets** in the CTEQ-TEA analysis.

# Lagrange Multiplier scan

To explore **PDF-induced errors** in the determination of  $\alpha_s(M_Z)$  and **tensions among data sets** included in the fit

arXiv:1912.10053



➤ The opposing pulls (i.e., tensions) of DIS and jet+top&DY experiments significantly exceed  $\Delta\chi^2 = 1$  variation, as implied by the simplest statistical framework.

➤ Require a large value of Tolerance  $T^2$ , the maximum allowed total  $\Delta\chi^2$ , with  $\Delta\chi^2 > 1$

The scan of  $\alpha_s(M_Z)$  values in CT18 NNLO PDF analysis.



# Tolerance ( $T^2$ ) values in various PDF analysis groups

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- Tolerance  $T^2$ , the maximum allowed total  $\Delta\chi^2$  value away from the best (or central) fit, was introduced to account for the sampling of
  - non-perturbative parametrization of PDFs (or NN architecture, smoothness, positivity) and
  - the allowed PDF variation due to various choices of data sets and theory calculations, etc.
- Roughly speaking, at the 68% CL,
  - CTEQ-TEA (CT) Tier-1  $T^2 \sim 30$
  - MSHT dynamical  $T^2 \sim 10$
  - NNPDF effective  $T^2 \sim 2$  (for MC replicas and their Hessian representation)
- A smaller  $T^2$  value typically yields a smaller PDF error estimate.



To reduce PDF uncertainty, one must maximize both

**PDF fitting accuracy**  
(accuracy of experimental, theoretical and other inputs)

and

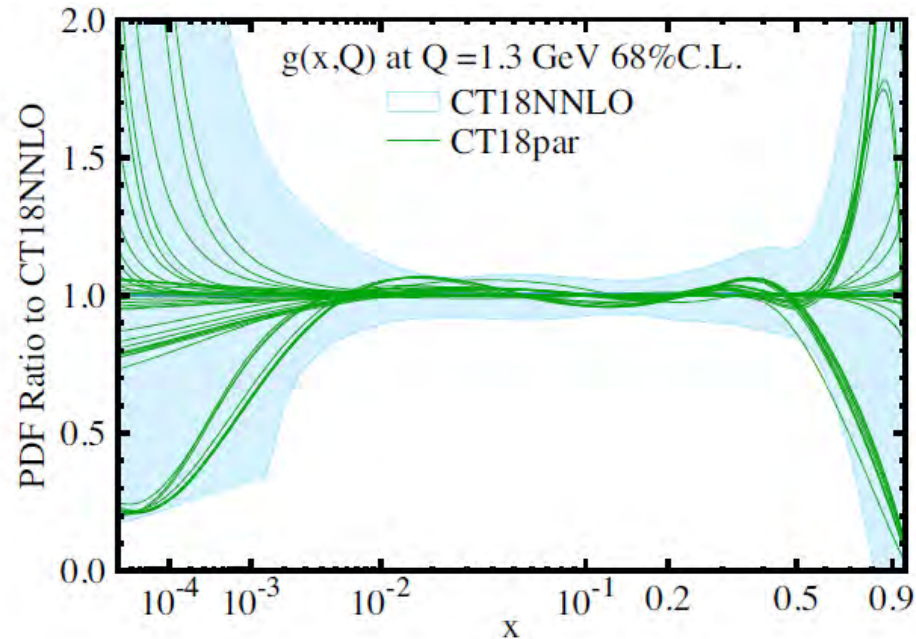
**PDF sampling accuracy**  
(adequacy of sampling in space of possible solutions)

CT tolerance includes both Tier-1 and Tier-2 contributions.



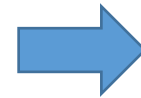
# Large Tolerance value $T^2$ in the CT fits

$$\Delta\chi^2 \gg 1$$



A large part of the CT18 PDF uncertainty accounts for the **sampling** over

- 250-350 parametrization forms of PDFs,
- possible choices of fitted experiments, definitions of  $\chi^2$ ,
- theory predictions, and
- analysis method (Hessian, LM, MC)

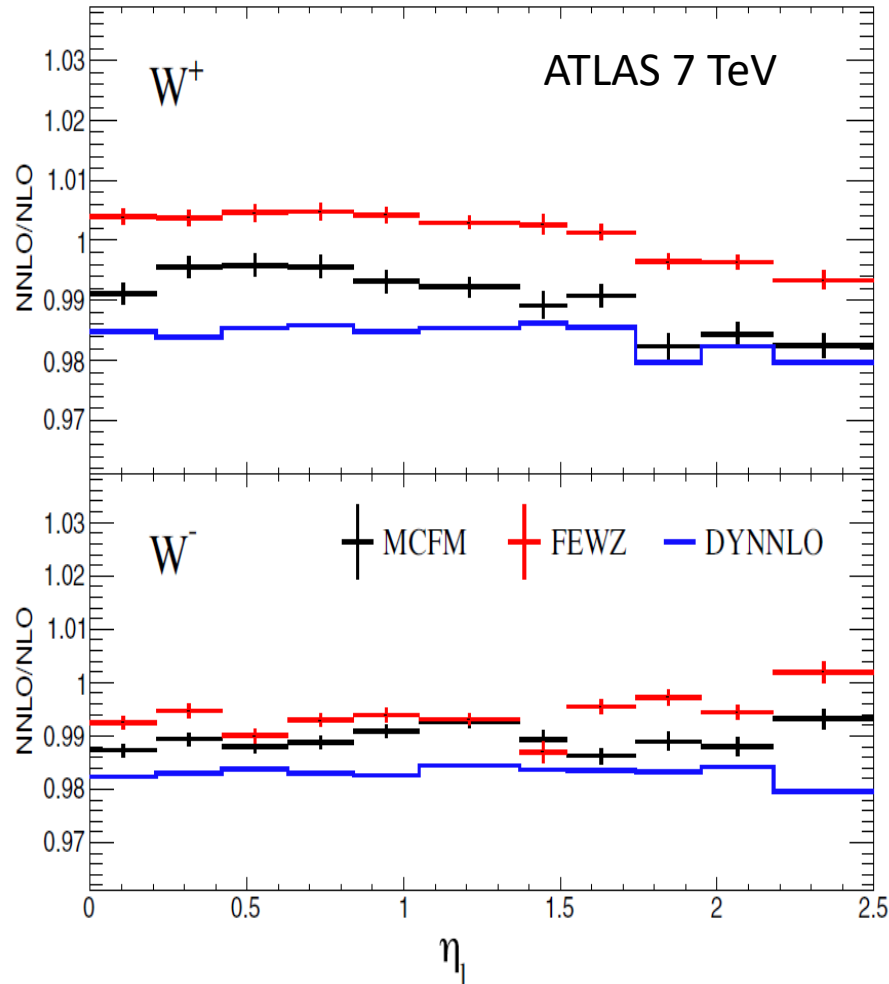


Total  $\Delta\chi^2 \gg 1$  @ 68% CL

- In CT fits, we estimate that **varying non-perturbative inputs at the initial scale of the PDFs** (at 1.3 GeV) could contribute to  $T^2$  around 10 to 15 units @ 68% CL.
- Hence, CT PDF errors are defined with  $T^2=100$  @ 90% CL, or equivalently,  $T^2=100/(1.645)^2 = 37$  @ 68% CL
- A more advanced CT tolerance prescription is under development.

# Different (NNLO) theory predictions from various codes; require $\Delta\chi^2 > 1$

arXiv:1912.10053



- Compare predictions of three different codes:
  - FEWZ (sector decomposition)
  - MCFM (N-jettiness)
  - DNNLO (qT)
- Their predictions agree well at NLO.
- Their NNLO predictions agree well for inclusive cross sections (without imposing kinematic cuts).
- Their NNLO predictions for fiducial cross sections (with kinematic cuts) can differ at percent level, while the statistical error of the data is at the sub-percent level.

- The resulting PDFs from various theory predictions only differ slightly, when including this data in the CT18A fit.
- The kind of theory uncertainty is accounted for by choosing a larger Tolerance value than 1 (i.e.,  $\Delta\chi^2 > 1$ ) at the 68% CL.

# Some data requires all-order (resummation) calculations

- When applying a symmetric  $p_T$  cut (with same magnitude) on the decay leptons of inclusive W or Z boson production, the two leptons are almost back-to-back, decaying from a low  $p_T$  gauge boson.
- Fixed order predictions cannot correctly predict the low  $p_T$  distribution of W or Z.
- It requires a **resummation calculation**, such as **ResBos**, to resum all the large logs arising from multiple soft-gluon radiation.

## What's QCD Resummation?

- Perturbative expansion

$$\frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dq_T^2} \sim \alpha_s \left\{ 1 + \alpha_s + \alpha_s^2 + \dots \right\}$$

- The singular pieces, as  $\frac{1}{q_T^2}$  (1 or log's)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dq_T^2} &\sim \frac{1}{q_T^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{2n-1} \alpha_s^n \ln^{(m)} \left( \frac{Q^2}{q_T^2} \right) \\ &\sim \frac{1}{q_T^2} \left\{ \alpha_s (L+1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \alpha_s^2 (L^3 + L^2 + L + 1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \alpha_s^3 (L^5 + L^4 + L^3 + L^2 + L + 1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \dots \right\} \end{aligned}$$

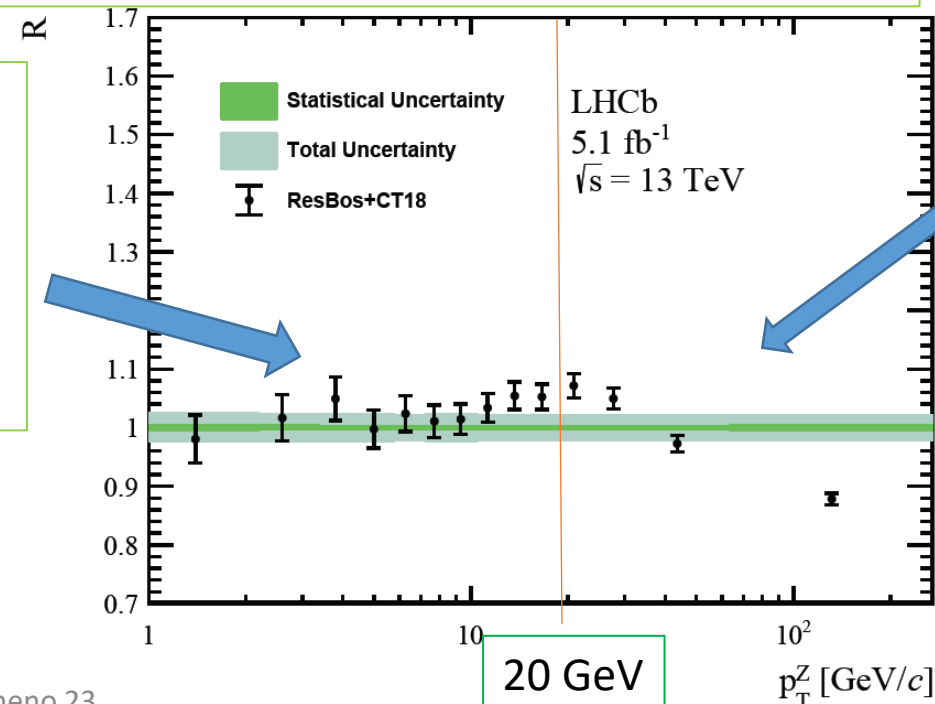
$$L \equiv \ln \left( \frac{Q^2}{q_T^2} \right)$$

**ResBos + CT18**  
can describe  
well low  $p_T(Z)$   
region, with  
 $p_T(Z) < 20$   
GeV

$$\alpha_s \ln \left( \frac{Q^2}{q_T^2} \right) \sim 1$$

Resummation is to reorganize the results in terms of the large Log's.

Compare to LHCb 13 TeV Z data; arXiv:2112.07458



High  $p_T(Z)$   
region  
needs  $\alpha_s^3$   
contribution

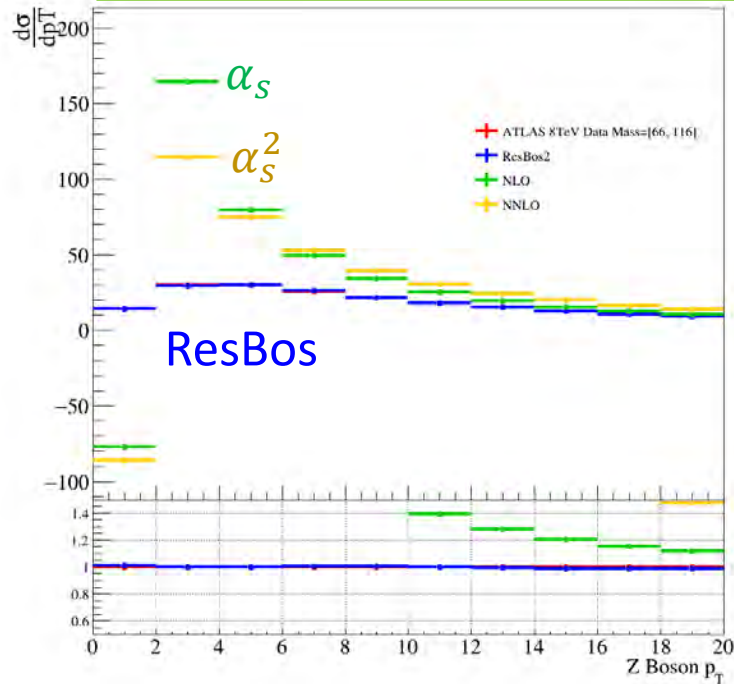




# Some data requires all-order (resummation) calculations: ResBos

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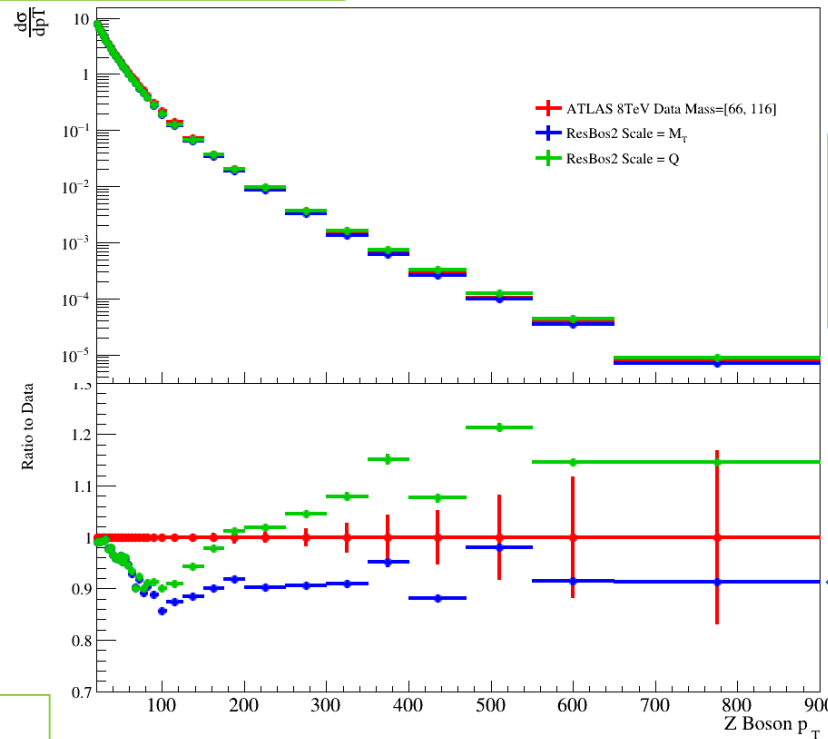
Compare to ATLAS 8 TeV Z data; arXiv:1606.00689



The low  $p_T$  Z data, with  $p_T(Z) < 20$  GeV, can be described well by ResBos, but not fixed order (NLO, NNLO,...) calculations which yield singular result as  $p_T(Z) \rightarrow 0$ .

<https://gitlab.com/resbos2>

arXiv:2205.02788



- Sensitive to scale choices at  $\alpha_s^2$
- High  $p_T(Z)$  region requires yet higher order ( $\alpha_s^3$ ) contribution.

Use  $\mu_F = \mu_R = Q$   
Invariant mass, at  $\alpha_s^2$

Use  $\mu_F = \mu_R = m_T$   
where  $m_T = \sqrt{Q^2 + p_T^2}$   
Transverse mass, at  $\alpha_s^2$

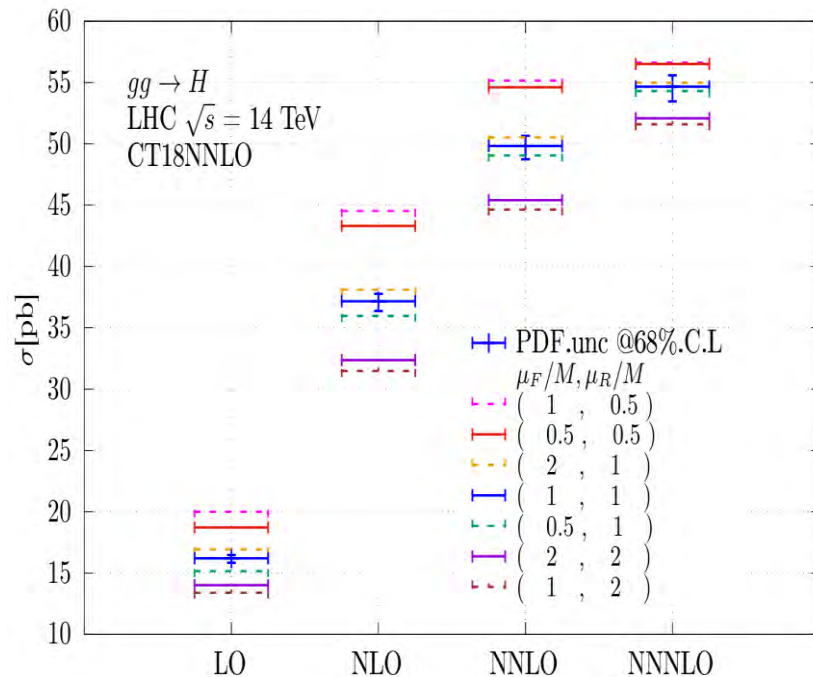
Require higher (fixed) order calculations for  $p_T(Z) > 20$  GeV;  $\alpha_s^3$  correction increases the rate by about 10% when using the scale  $m_T$  and renders a good agreement with data.

# Missing higher order (MHO) uncertainty estimated by scale variation

- General wisdom: Varying a “typical scale” by a factor of 2 (or 7-point scales) to estimate missing higher order (MHO) contribution.
- This wisdom does not always work. Namely, **varying the factorization and normalization scales by a factor of 2 cannot accurately estimate MHO contribution.**



The complete higher order calculations in QCD, EW, and the mixed QCD+EW are all very important for making precision theory prediction to compare to precision experimental data in order to extract precision PDFs.



$\sigma(gg \rightarrow H)$  at 14 TeV LHC

**7-point scale variation** at N3LO in QCD  
for  $m_t = 172.5$  GeV and  
 $M = m_H = 125$  GeV

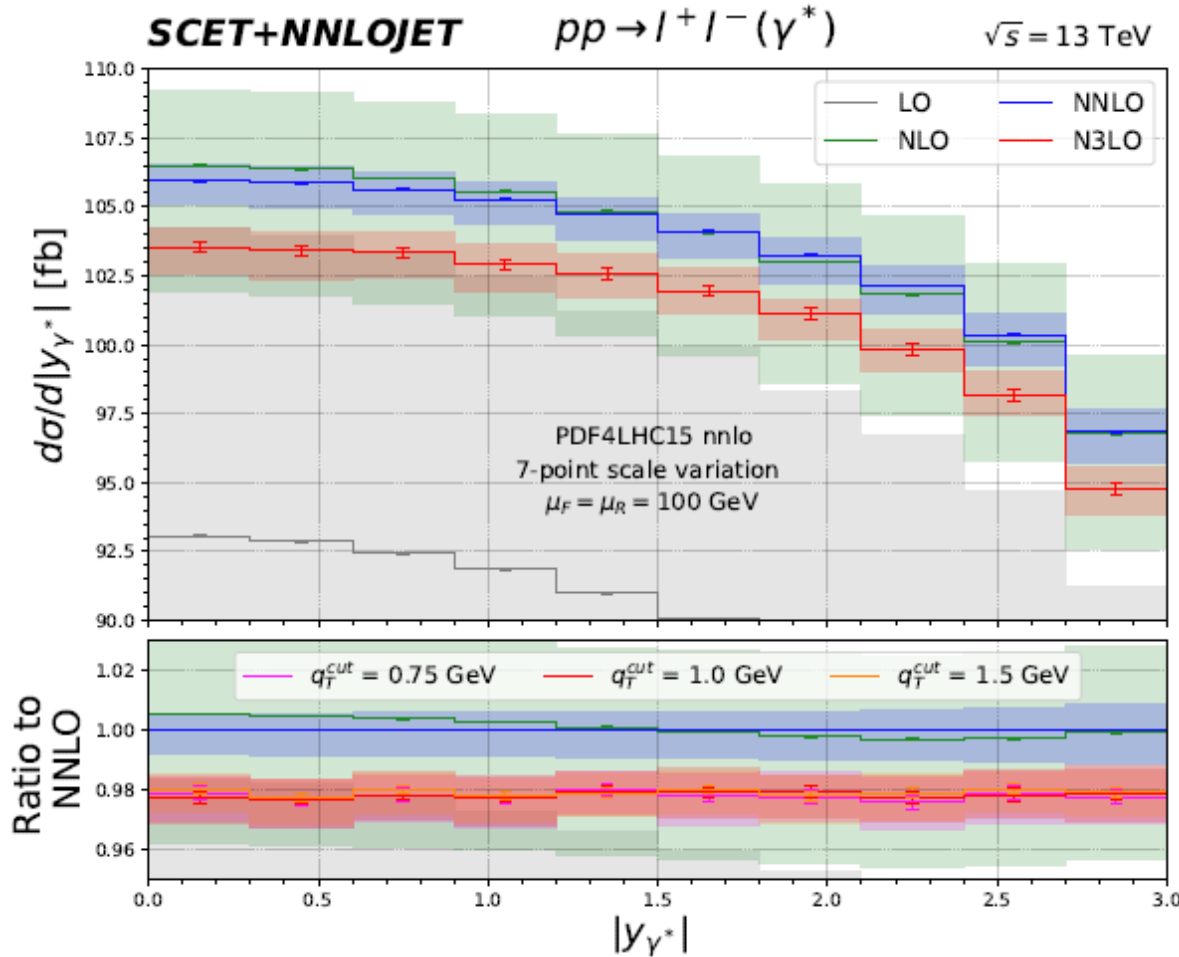
$\mu_F/M$ $\mu_R/M$	0.5	1	2
0.5	3.4%	3.6%	-
1	-0.6%	-	0.6%
2	-	-5.6%	-4.7%

Tools : ggHiggs( Marco Bonvini)

- The K-factor of electroweak (EW) correction is about 1.05
- The PDF uncertainty is about 2.8%

# Estimating missing higher order contribution via varying $\mu_f$ and $\mu_R$ scales

arXiv:2107.09085



- Varying the factorization  $\mu_f$  and renormalization  $\mu_R$  scales by a factor of 2 around their nominal values (with 7-point scale variation) does not always lead to a good estimate of missing higher order (MHO) effect in the perturbative calculation.
- The N3LO correction is outside the scale variation band predicted at NNLO, due to accidental cancellation among various partonic subprocess contributions.

$\alpha_s^2$   
 $\alpha_s^3$

This comparison does not include PDF and  $\alpha_s$  induced errors.



# Finding the faithful PDF uncertainty on QCD cross sections: Hopscotch scans

arXiv: 2205.10444

P. Nadolsky, MWDays 2023 @ CERN

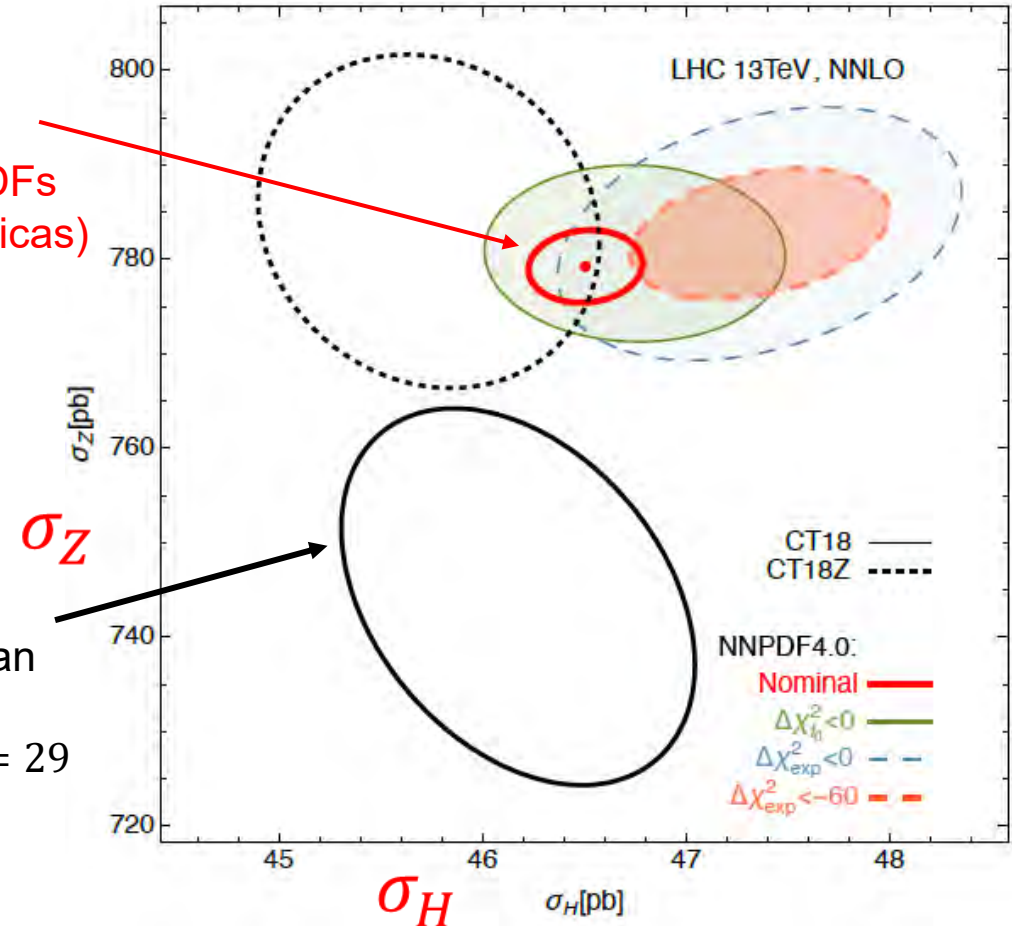
- The *prior uncertainty due to methodology* (parametrization/NN architecture, smoothness, data tensions, model for syst. errors, ...) is comparable to the impact of most recent data sets.
- An undetected **sampling bias** may result in a wrong prediction with a low nominal uncertainty.

Investigate using the **hopscotch scans**

**Hopscotch scans** find regions containing well-behaving PDF solutions with  $\Delta\chi^2 < 0$ , suggesting enlarged NNPDF4.0 PDF uncertainties.

Nominal  
NNPDF4.0  
Hessian PDFs  
(or MC replicas)  
 $N_{par} = 50$

CT18  
Hessian  
PDFs;  
 $N_{par} = 29$

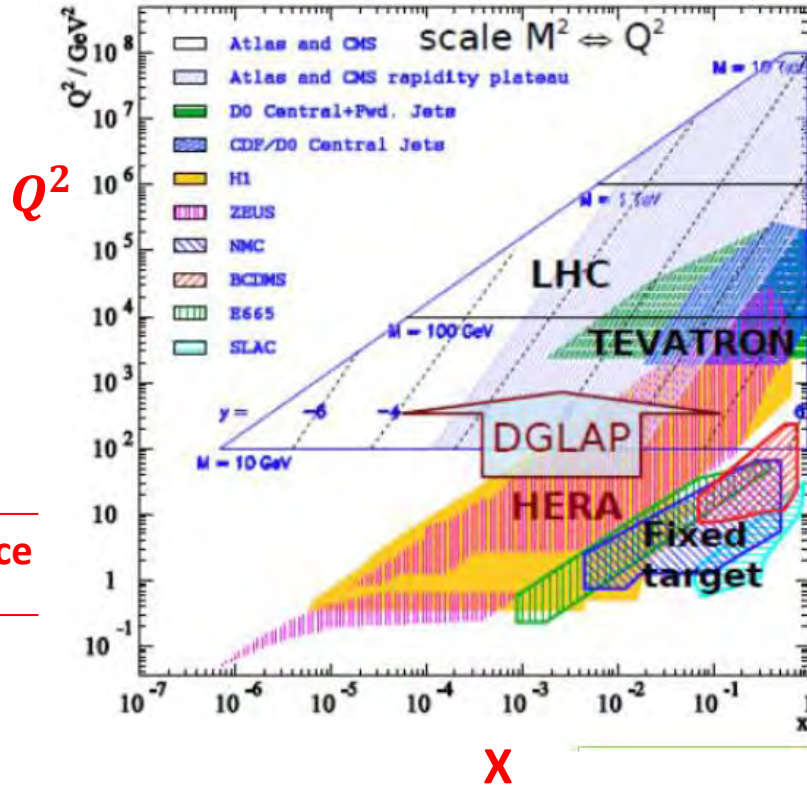


The ellipses are projections of 68% CL ellipsoids in  $N_{par}$ -dim PDF shape parameter spaces.



# How to use PDFs and their tools from a user's point of view

# Some basics about PDFs: relevant kinematics in $(x, Q^2)$



- Parton Distribution Function  $f(x, Q)$
- Given a heavy resonance with mass  $Q$  produced at hadron collider with c.m. energy  $\sqrt{S}$
- What's the typical  $x$  value?

$$\langle x \rangle = \frac{Q}{\sqrt{S}} \quad \text{at central rapidity } (y=0)$$

- Generally,  $x_1 = \frac{Q}{\sqrt{S}} e^y$  and  $x_2 = \frac{Q}{\sqrt{S}} e^{-y}$

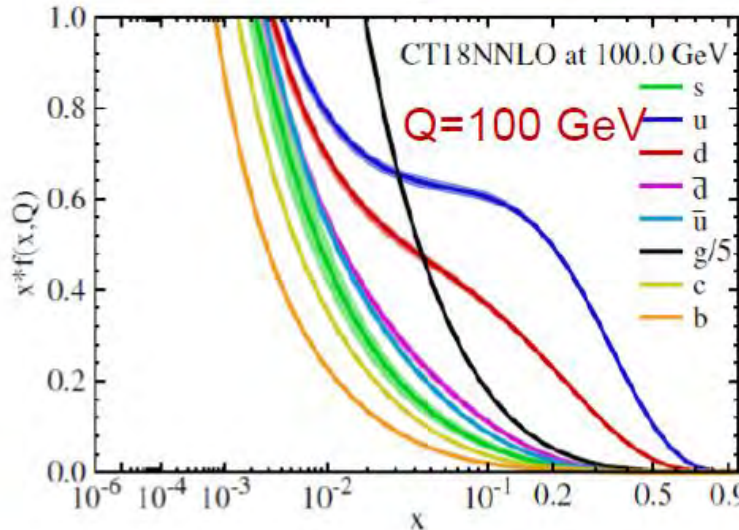
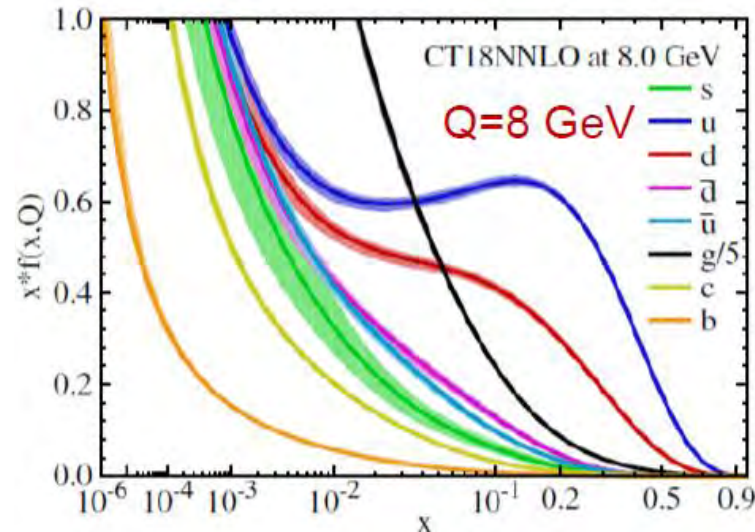
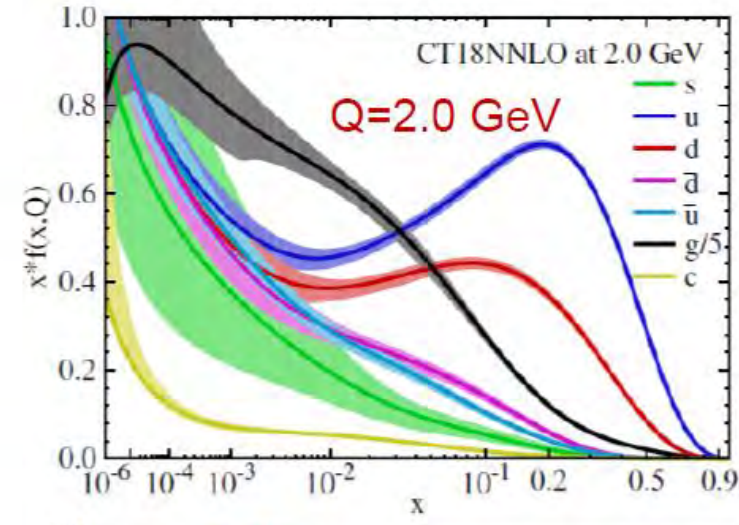
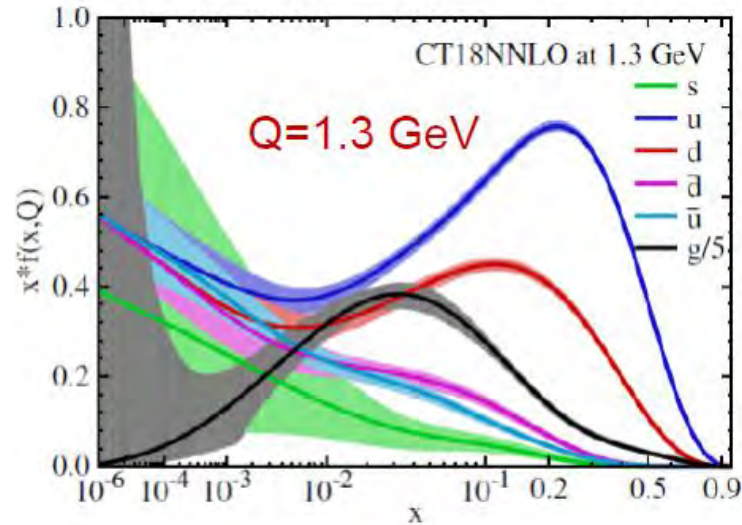
$$x_1 + x_2 = 2 \frac{Q}{\sqrt{S}} \cosh(y) \quad \longrightarrow \quad y_{\max} : x_1 + x_2 = 1$$



# PDF uncertainties vary as Q via DGLAP evolution

## CT18 NNLO PDFs

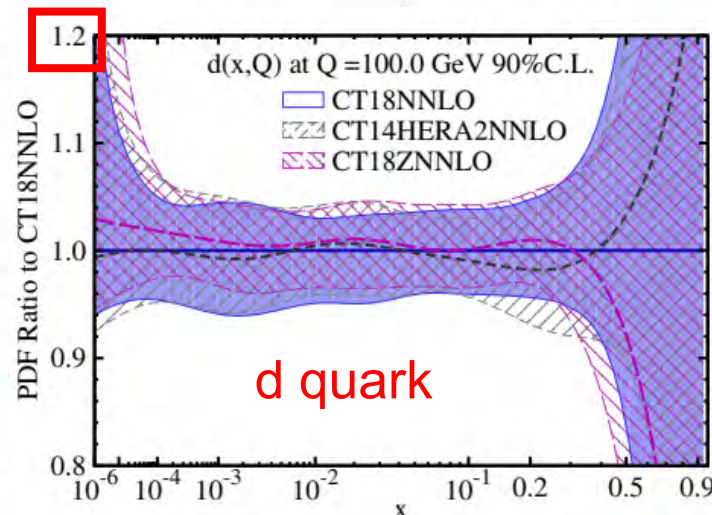
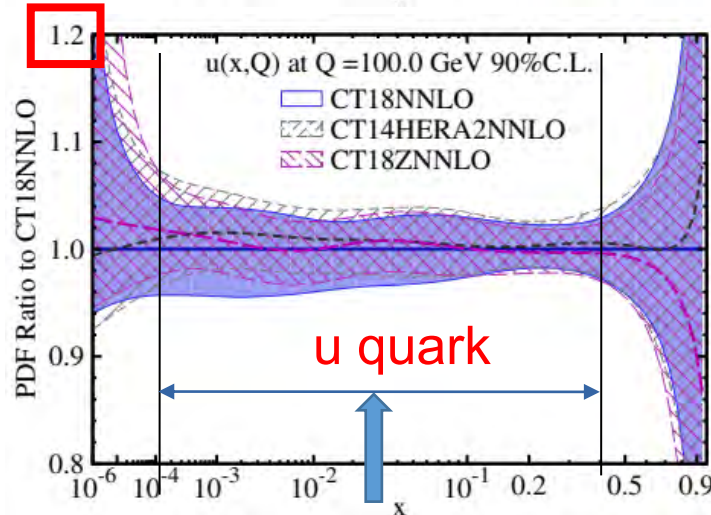
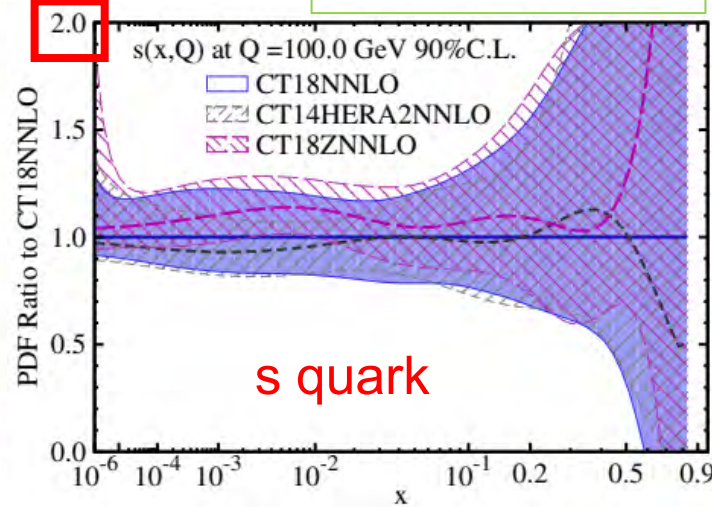
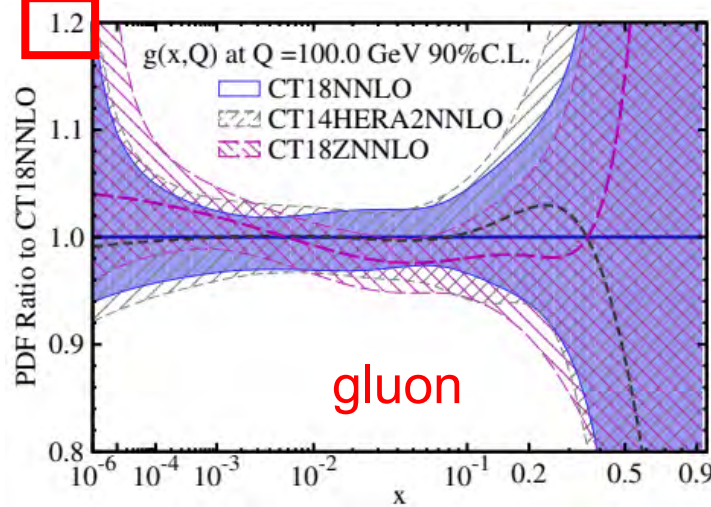
- Faster DGLAP evolution at low Q values.
- Smaller PDF error bands at higher Q values.
- At high Q, perturbative contribution becomes more important than the non-perturbative part of PDF.





# CT18 PDFs and their uncertainties

arXiv:1912.10053



- PDFs are better determined at  $10^{-4} < x < 0.4$
- Regions of  $x \rightarrow 1$  and  $x \rightarrow 0$  are not experimentally accessible; could use **lattice QCD predictions** at large x
- Large uncertainty for strangeness PDF, especially in large x region.

Using **Hessian method**:

$$\delta^+ X = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{N_a} \left[ \max \left( X_i^{(+)} - X_0, X_i^{(-)} - X_0, 0 \right) \right]^2},$$

$$\delta^- X = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{N_a} \left[ \max \left( X_0 - X_i^{(+)}, X_0 - X_i^{(-)}, 0 \right) \right]^2},$$

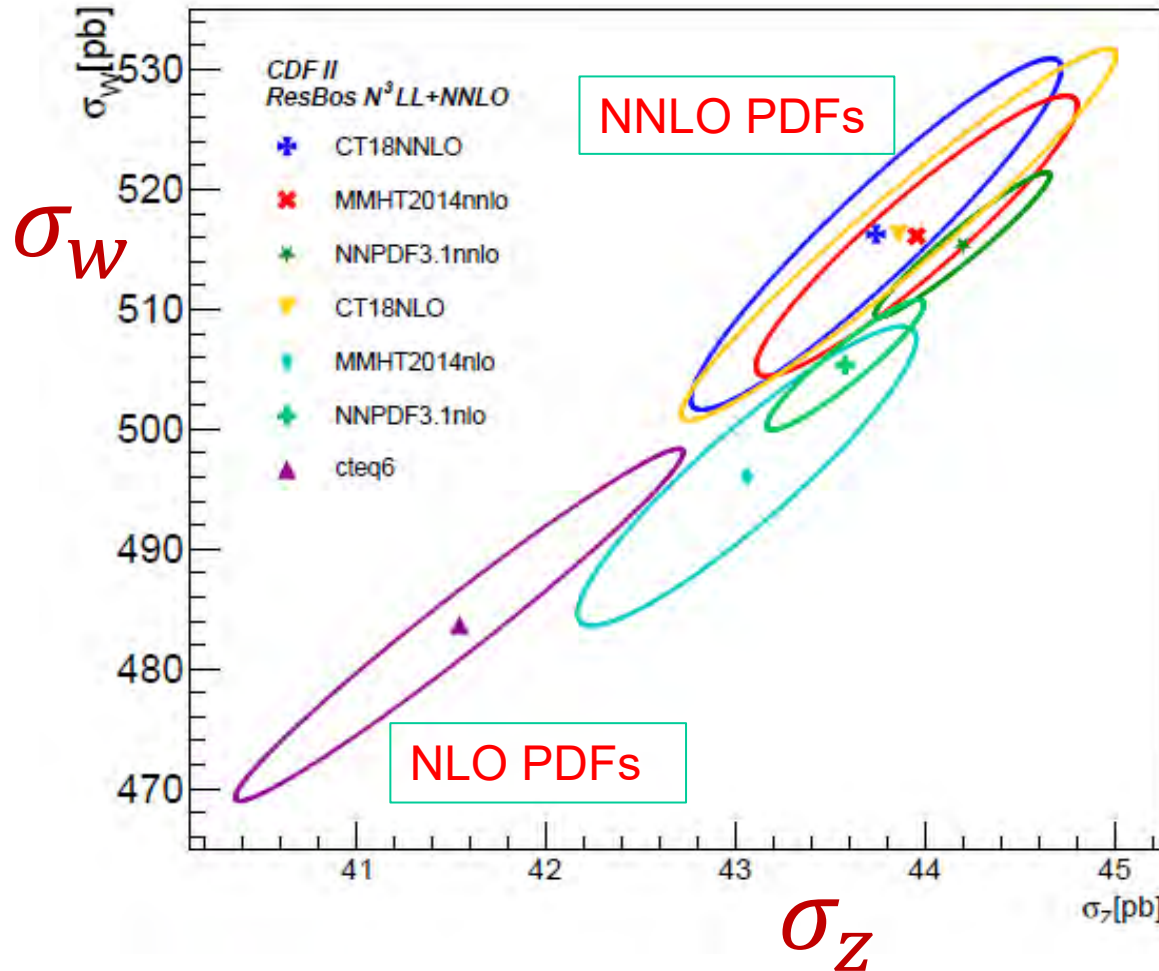
For CT18,  $N_a = 29$

Better constrained by precision experimental data

# PDF-induced correlation ellipses for CDF II W-mass measurement

ResBos2 predictions

arXiv:2205.02788



- Gluon PDF can contribute to NLO and NNLO predictions.
- Slightly larger PDF-induced errors by NLO PDF sets than NNLO PDF sets.
- Correlation of W and Z (fiducial) cross sections, varies with different PDF sets.
- $\sigma_Z/\sigma_W$  is strongly correlated with s PDF.
- $\sigma_Z + \sigma_W$  is strongly correlated with g PDF.

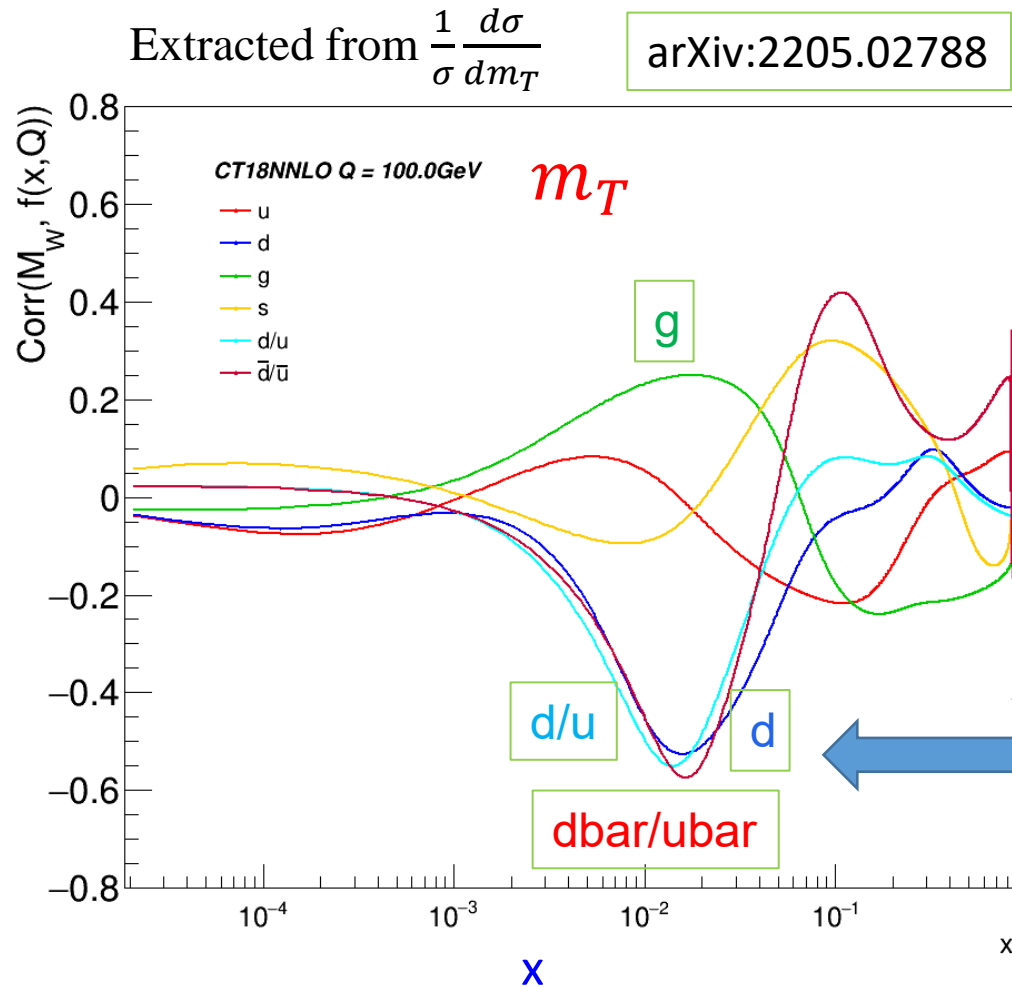
FIG. 10. PDF-induced correlation ellipses, at the 68% confidence level (C.L.), between the fiducial cross sections of W and Z boson production at the Tevatron Run II.



# Correlation cosine between the extracted $M_W$ (at CDF II) and CT18 PDFs

CTEQ

Which flavor PDF's error affects most the  $M_W$  measurement?



Using Hessian method, the correlation between two observables  $X$  and  $Y$ , which are functions of PDFs, can be described by the correlation cosine

$$\cos \varphi = \frac{\vec{\nabla} X \cdot \vec{\nabla} Y}{\Delta X \Delta Y} = \frac{1}{4 \Delta X \Delta Y} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \left( X_{\alpha}^{(+)} - X_{\alpha}^{(-)} \right) \left( Y_{\alpha}^{(+)} - Y_{\alpha}^{(-)} \right)$$

with symmetric error  $\Delta X = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_a} [X(\{z_i^+\}) - X(\{z_i^-\})]^2 \right)^{1/2}$

It shows that the CDF-II  $W$  boson mass extracted from the normalized  $m_T$  distribution is most sensitive to  $\bar{d}/\bar{u}$ ,  $d/u$  and  $d$  PDFs at  $x$  around 0.01 to 0.1





# $L_2$ Sensitivity

CTEQ

Quantify the degree of tensions among data sets in a fit

<https://ct.hepforge.org/PDFs/ct18/figures/L2Sensitivity/>

The  $L_2$  Sensitivity for each experiment,  $E$ , is defined as

$$S_{f,L2}(E) = \vec{\nabla} \chi_E^2 \cdot \frac{\vec{\nabla} f}{|\vec{\nabla} f|} = \Delta \chi_E^2 \cos \varphi(f, \chi_E^2)$$

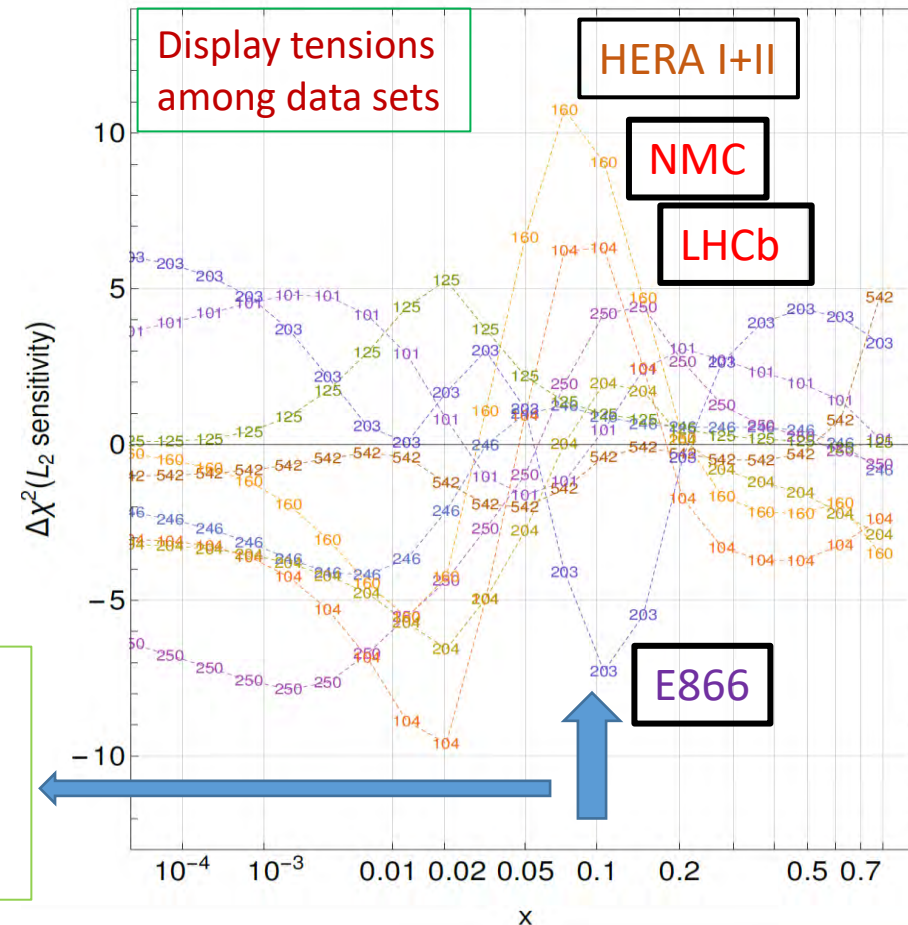
where the correlation angle between PDFs and  $\chi_E^2$  is

$$\varphi(f, \chi_E^2) = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\vec{\nabla} f}{|\vec{\nabla} f|} \cdot \frac{\vec{\nabla} \chi_E^2}{|\vec{\nabla} \chi_E^2|} \right)$$

The  $L_2$  Sensitivity is a fast approximation to the Lagrange Multiplier (LM) scan

When increasing  $\bar{d}(x)/\bar{u}(x)$  at  $x=0.1$  and  $Q = 2$  GeV, the  $\Delta \chi^2$  of E866  $pd/pp$  (203) decreases and that of HERA I+II (160), NMC  $pd/pp$  (104), and LHCb 8 W/Z (250) increases. Hence, they have tensions.

CT18 NNLO,  $\bar{d}(x,Q)/\bar{u}(x,Q)(x, 2 \text{ GeV})$



When increasing  $\bar{d}(x)/\bar{u}(x)$  at 2 GeV by 1  $\sigma$  error, the change in  $\Delta \chi^2$ .

246 LHCb8Zeer  
 250 LHCb8WZ  
 542 CMS7jtR7y6T  
 160 HERAIIpII  
 101 BcdF2pCor  
 104 NmcRatCor  
 125 NuTvNbChXN  
 203 e866f  
 204 e866ppxf

$T^2 = 37$  @68% CL





Perform a fast fit to explore the impact of  
new data on updating the existing PDFs:  
Hessian profiling

CTEQ

arXiv: 1806.07950  
arXiv: 1907.12177

## ePump (error PDF Updating Method Package)

- A tool to examine **the impact of a new data set** to further constrain the existing PDFs without using a global analysis code.
- A tool to **reduce the total number of error PDF sets** relevant to specific experimental observables.
- Getting the numerical results in minutes, not hours or days.

ePump-updating

ePump-optimization

<https://epump.hepforge.org/>

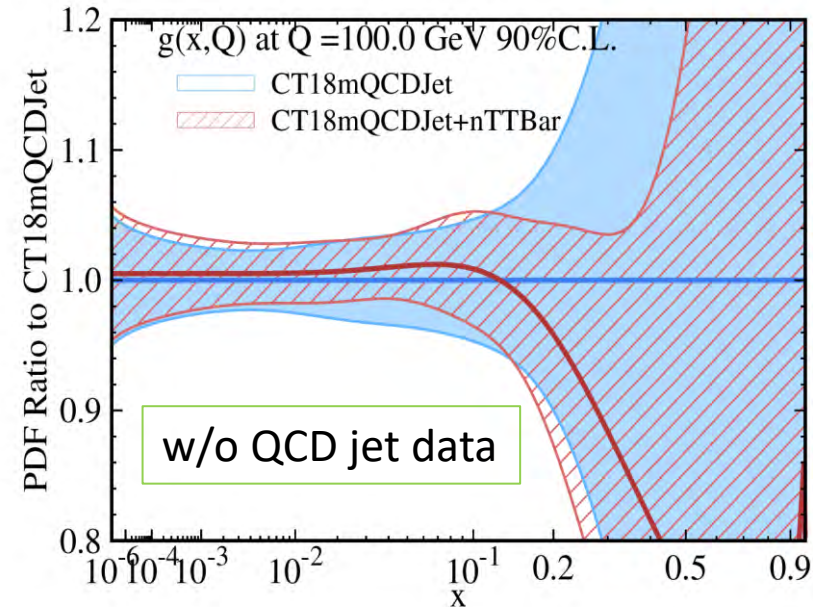
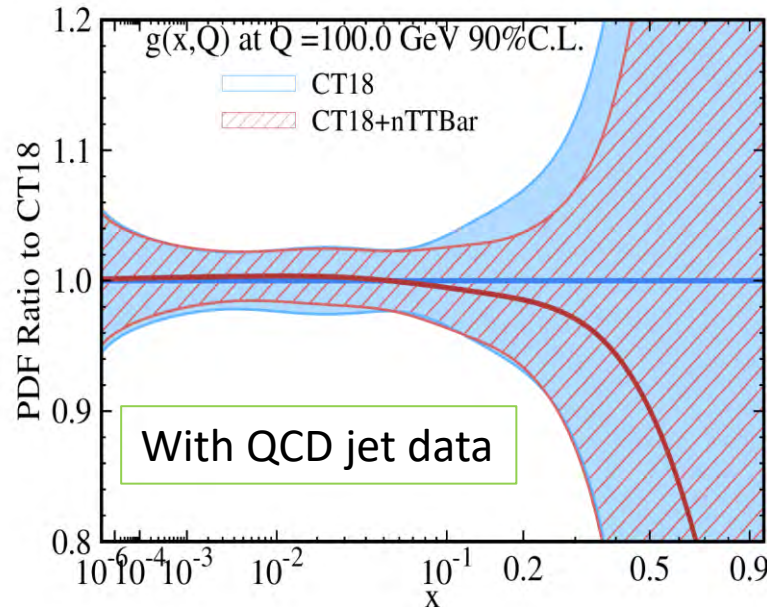
# Impact of $\bar{t}t$ data to large-x gluon PDF

## Interplay between top-quark and jet data in CT2X fit

Do  $\bar{t}t$  data strongly modify and constrain the PDFs, especially g-PDF at large x?

Use **ePump** to update the CT18 PDFs by including the post-CT18  $\bar{t}t$  data (nTTBar) at the 13 TeV LHC.

It depends:



The “base” PDF set CT18mQCDJet was obtained without including QCD jet data in the fit.

- The 13 TeV LHC  $\bar{t}t$  data prefer a softer gluon-PDF, than CT18, at large x.
- If precision jet data (typically with more data points) are not included in the “base” PDFs, the impact of  $\bar{t}t$  data to large-x gluon PDF would become stronger.
- Different scale choice yields different g-PDF



# Hessian profiling of CT and MSHT PDFs cannot use $\Delta\chi^2 = 1$

CTEQ

ATLAS-CONF-2023-015

arXiv: 1907.12177

arXiv:1912.10053

The statistical analysis for the determination of  $\alpha_s(m_Z)$  is performed with the xFitter framework [60]. The value of  $\alpha_s(m_Z)$  is determined by minimising a  $\chi^2$  function which includes both the experimental uncertainties and the theoretical uncertainties arising from PDF variations:

$$\chi^2(\beta_{\text{exp}}, \beta_{\text{th}}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{data}}} \frac{(\sigma_i^{\text{exp}} + \sum_j \Gamma_{ij}^{\text{exp}} \beta_{j,\text{exp}} - \sigma_i^{\text{th}} - \sum_k \Gamma_{ik}^{\text{th}} \beta_{k,\text{th}})^2}{\Delta_i^2} + \sum_j \beta_{j,\text{exp}}^2 + \sum_k \beta_{k,\text{th}}^2.$$

profiling of CT and MSHT PDFs requires to include a tolerance factor  $T^2 > 10$  as in the ePump code

- xFitter profiling uses  $\Delta\chi^2 = 1$ , by default.
- For CT (or MSHT) PDFs, using  $\Delta\chi^2 = 1$  in profiling is equivalent to assigning a weight of about 30 (or 10) to the new data included in the fit. Hence, it will overestimate the impact of new data.
- CT:  $T^2 \sim 30$ ; MSHT:  $T^2 \sim 10$

When profiling a new experiment with the prior imposed on PDF nuisance parameters  $\lambda_{\alpha,\text{th}}$ :

$$\chi^2(\vec{\lambda}_{\text{exp}}, \vec{\lambda}_{\text{th}}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{pt}}} \frac{[D_i + \sum_{\alpha} \beta_{i,\alpha}^{\text{exp}} \lambda_{\alpha,\text{exp}} - T_i - \sum_{\alpha} \beta_{i,\alpha}^{\text{th}} \lambda_{\alpha,\text{th}}]^2}{s_i^2} + \sum_{\alpha} \lambda_{\alpha,\text{exp}}^2 + \sum_{\alpha} T^2 \lambda_{\alpha,\text{th}}^2. \quad \beta_{i,\alpha}^{\text{th}} = \frac{T_i(f_{\alpha}^+) - T_i(f_{\alpha}^-)}{2},$$

new experiment

priors on expt. systematics  
and PDF params



# Extensions of CT18 family PDFs: post-CT18

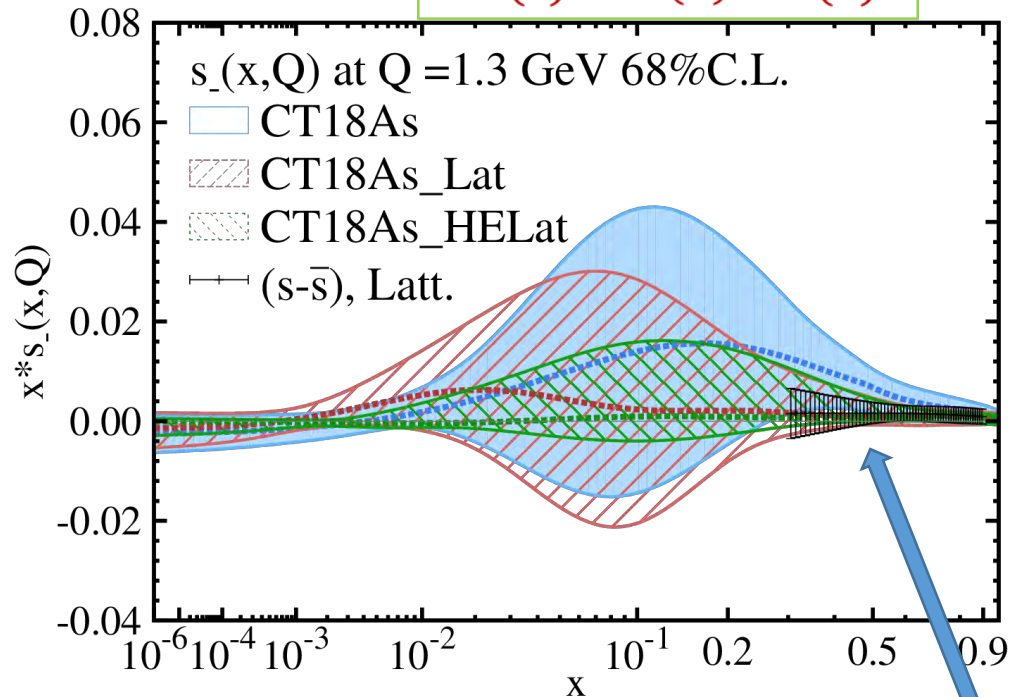
- **CT18As**: CT18A (a CT18 fit with the inclusion of ATLAS 7 TeV W, Z data), but with non-zero strangeness asymmetry  $s_-(x, Q_0) = s(x, Q_0) - \bar{s}(x, Q_0)$  at  $Q_0 = 1.3$  GeV.
- **CT18As\_Lat**: CT18As, but including **Lattice QCD data on strangeness asymmetry**  $s_-(x, Q_0) = s(x, Q_0) - \bar{s}(x, Q_0)$
- **CT18FC**: fitted charm PDF  $c(x, Q_0) \neq 0$  ; for  $c(x, Q_0) =$  **or**  $\neq \bar{c}(x, Q_0)$
- **CT18qed**: take photon as a parton of proton;  $\gamma(x, Q_0) \neq 0$
- **Machine Learning approach**: A fast version of Lagrange Multiplier scan (for simultaneous fit to PDFs and SMEFT)
- **CT18LO**: LO PDF for event generators, e.g., PYTHIA



# Lattice QCD data as an input to PDF global analysis

arXiv: 2211.11064

$$s_-(x) = s(x) - \bar{s}(x)$$



- The **uncertainties of PDFs** can be further reduced by including Lattice QCD predictions in global analysis
- Complementarity of collider experimental data and lattice QCD data

**CT18As:** CT18A with non-zero strangeness asymmetry  $s_-(x)$  at  $Q_0 = 1.3$  GeV.

**CT18As\_Lat:** CT18As PDFs with lattice input on  $s_-(x)$

**CT18As\_HELat:** CT18As\_Lat with the lattice errors reduced by half.

CT18A = CT18 + ATLAS W,Z data

- Lattice QCD calculation provides prediction at  $0.3 < x < 0.8$ , while NuTeV and CCFR SIDIS di-muon data constraint strangeness PDFs at  $0.015 < x < 0.336$ .
- **Lattice QCD data are consistent with  $s(x) = \bar{s}(x)$  at large  $x$ .**
- **CT18 assumes  $s(x, Q_0) = \bar{s}(x, Q_0)$ ; NNLO DGLAP evolution generates  $s(x, Q) \neq \bar{s}(x, Q)$  at  $Q > Q_0$**

arXiv: 2005.12015



# Nonperturbative (intrinsic) charm of proton CT18FC

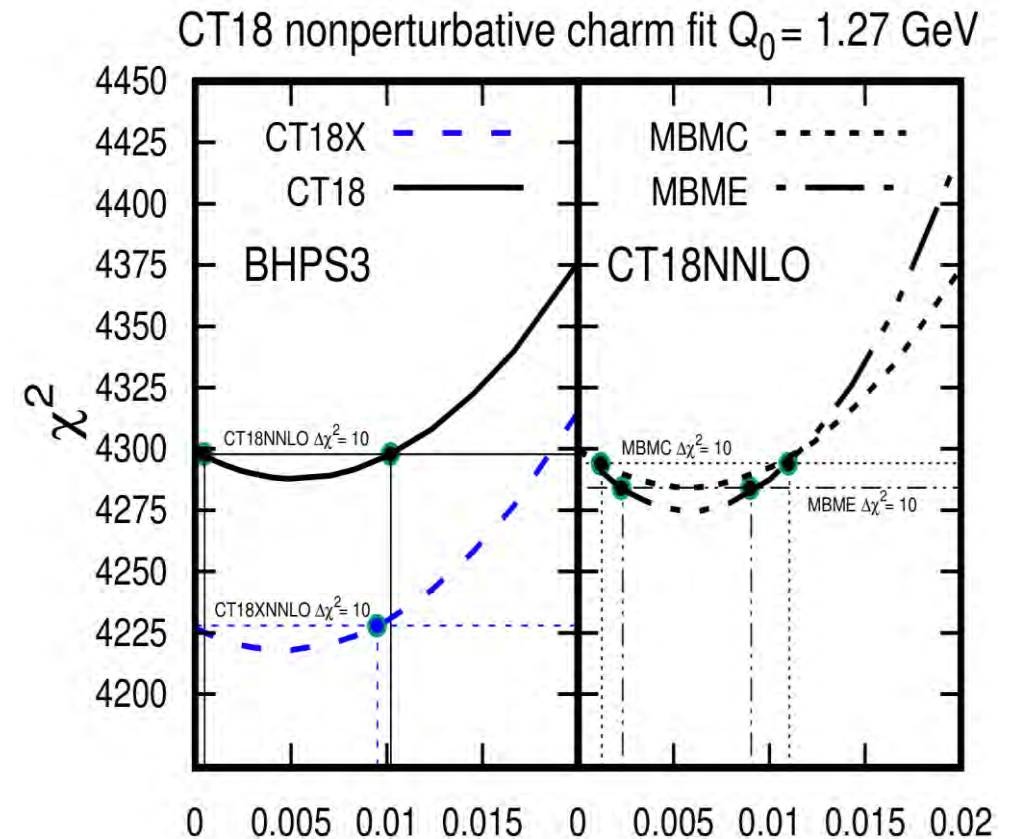
CTEQ

arXiv:2211.01387

- Proton's intrinsic charm, a non-vanishing charm PDF at  $Q_0$  (around 1 GeV) scale, remains indeterminate.
- Challenging to formulate a rigorous definition of **intrinsic charm (IC)** and its relation to **fitted charm (FC)**.
- Need more NNLO and better showering calculations.
  - Z+c theory predictions have sizable uncertainties, e.g., flavor-tag jet definition, multi-parton interaction (MPI), showering effect.
- Need more sensitive data

arXiv: 2302.12844

- CT18FC study found no significant evidence for non-zero IC, as NNPDF4.0 IC, Nature 608 (2022) 7923, 483.
- FC in CT18FC study is currently consistent with zero, and with shallower  $\Delta\chi^2$  than CT14IC.

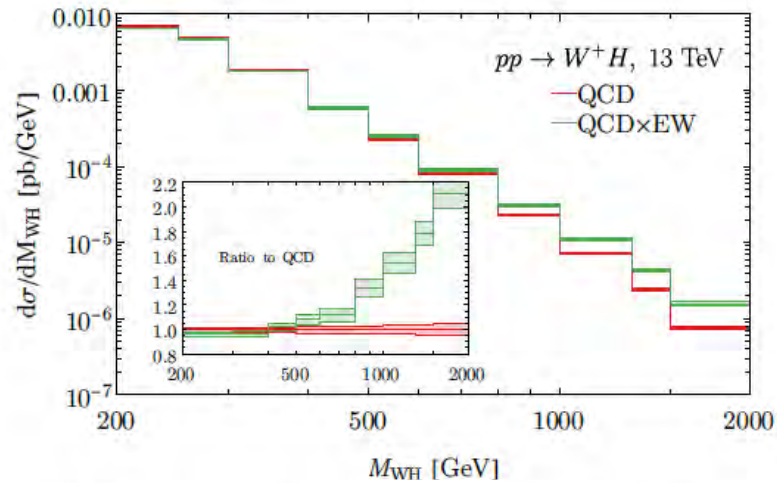


$$\langle x \rangle_{\text{FC}} \approx 0.5\% \ (\Delta\chi^2 \gtrsim -25) \text{ vs. } \langle x \rangle_{\text{FC}} \approx 0.8-1\% \ (\Delta\chi^2 \gtrsim -40) \text{ in CT14 IC}$$

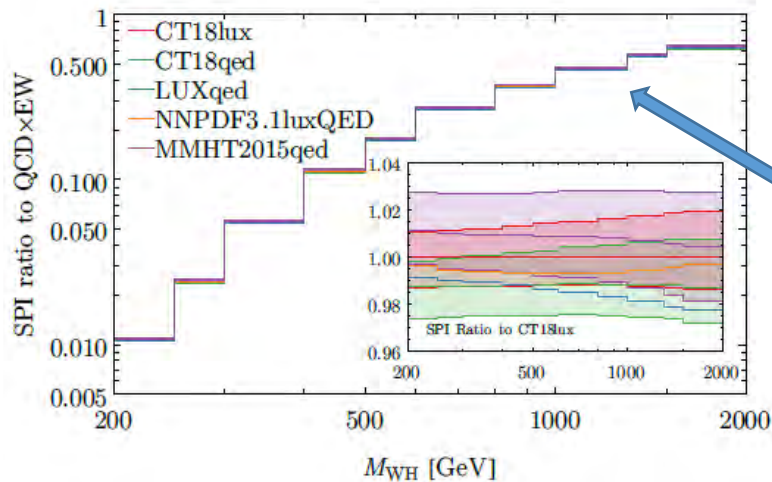
# Photon PDF of proton: CT18qed

arXiv:2106.10299

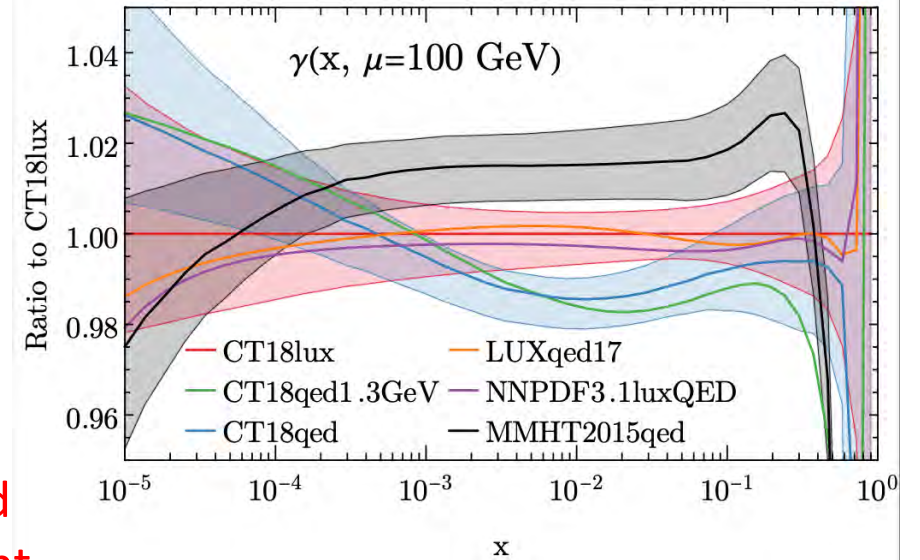
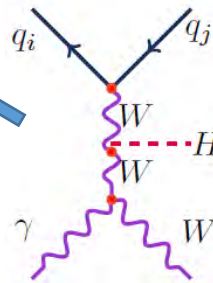
$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow W^+ H)$$



At  $\alpha_s^2$  accuracy, EW corrections and explicit photon PDF  $\gamma(x, Q^2)$  are needed.



Single-photon-initiated (SPI) process; important at TeV scale



- CT18lux provides the photon PDF at all scales,  $\mu$ .
- CT18qed initializes photon PDF at  $\mu_0$ , and evolves to high scales.
- CT18lux gives the photon in between LUXqed(17) and MMHT2015qed, while CT18qed gives smaller photon.





# CT18 NNLO high-energy neutrino-nucleon DIS cross sections from $10^2$ to $10^7$ GeV

CTEQ

We published the first **GM NNLO calculation**  
for **charged current DIS** processes in  
[arXiv:2107.00460](#), which is needed for

- DUNE (Deep underground neutrino exp)
- EIC (Electron-Ion Collider)
- IceCube Neutrino Observatory
- **FASER** (Forward search exp **at the LHC**;  
the first observation of collider neutrino  
events)

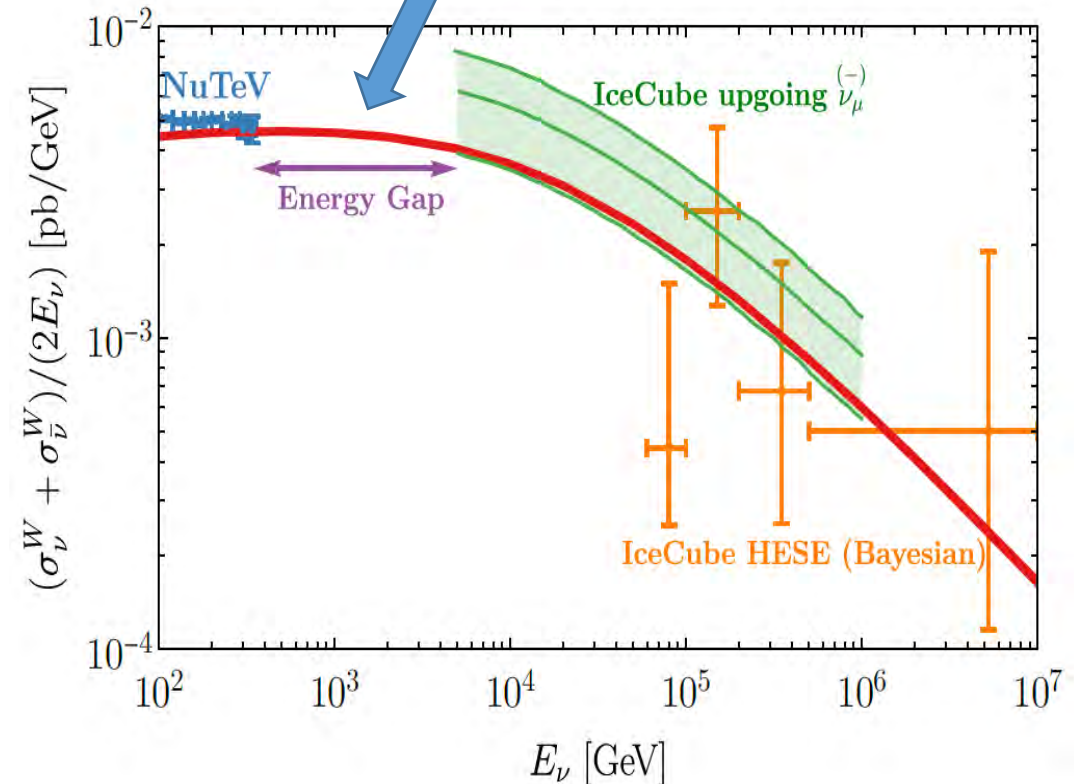
[arXiv:2303.14185](#)

At low  $E_\nu$  the contributions from quasi-elastic (QE)  
scattering and resonance (RES) production are important,  
and not included in this comparison.

(See talk by Keping Xie, Pheno23)

[arXiv:2303.13607](#)

To be filled by **FASER** measurement at the LHC



Future data can further constrain PDFs.





# Machine Learning in CTEQ-TEA analysis: SMEFT

CTEQ

It is a simultaneous fit of PDFs and SMEFT couplings.

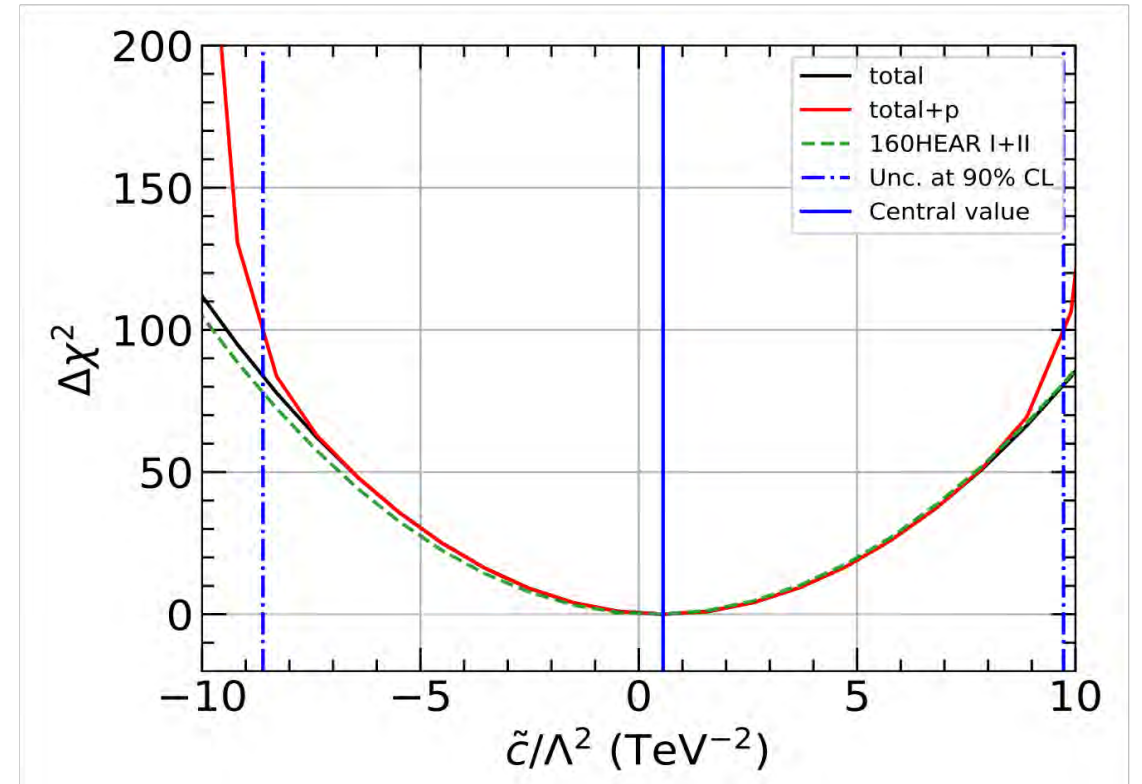
The machine-learning (ML) approach ensures efficient scans over the full PDF parameter space, especially the Lagrange Multiplier scans of  $\chi^2$ , as demonstrated for a study on the constraint of SMEFT couplings.

arXiv:2201.06586

## Lepton-quark contact interactions of SMEFT

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}} &= \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_{i,j} \frac{c_{ij}}{\Lambda^2} (\bar{q}_i \gamma_\mu q_i) (\bar{l}_j \gamma^\mu l_j) \\ &= \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \frac{\tilde{c}}{\Lambda^2} \sum_{i,j} e_{q_i} e_{l_j} (\bar{q}_i \gamma_\mu q_i) (\bar{l}_j \gamma^\mu l_j)\end{aligned}$$

## LM scans on SMEFT couplings



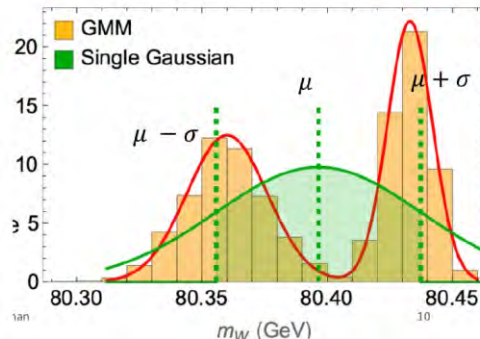
- Up to now, we only discuss PDFs at NNLO accuracy, but some progress has been made **toward aN3LO**.
- We only focus on higher order QCD corrections, but precision data also require knowing EW and QCD+EW corrections, including resummation (with heavy-flavor mass effect...)
- ...

[MSHTaN3LO: \[arxiv:2207.04739\]](#)

NNPDF@aN3LO:  
G. Magni, DIS2023

## Tevatron/LHC Combination

- An essentially completed project, waiting to be published
- Addressed QCD and PDF corrections needed to “match” the available measurements; not on the scale of the presently observed discrepancy
- Final presentation of results still under discussion (difficult!)



The W-boson mass  
M. Boonekamp  
DIS2023

Kirtimaan Mohan, WG1

- NNPDF and MSHT aN3LO do not agree on  $xP_{qg}$ .
  - NNPDF group makes an ansatz in N-space
  - MSHT group makes an ansatz in x-space.
  - The current information about splitting functions is still not complete.
- How to perform a combined fit to data sets with obvious tension?

(See talk by Kirtimaan Mohan at Pheno23)



# Toward a new generation of CT202X PDFs

CTEQ

1. Identify sensitive, mutually consistent new experimental data sets using preliminary fits and fast techniques ( $L_2$  sensitivities and *ePump*)
2. Implement N3LO QCD and NLO EW contributions as they become available. N3LO accuracy is reached only when N3LO terms are **fully** implemented.
  - Meanwhile, “**NNLO+**” **PDFs**: e.g., include theoretical uncertainty due to QCD scale dependence for key processes as has been done in CT18/CT18X NNLO PDFs
3. Explore quark sea flavor dependence:  $s - \bar{s}$  (CT18As), fitted charm (CT18FC),...
4. Include lattice QCD constraints (CT18As\_Lat)
5. Next-generation PDF uncertainty quantification: META PDFs, Bézier curves, MC sampling, multi-Gaussian combination, ...
6. Lattice QCD: Provides constraints on hadron structures not accessible experimentally



# CTEQ-TEA group

CTEQ

- CTEQ – Tung Et Al. (TEA)

in memory of Prof. Wu-Ki Tung, who co-established CTEQ Collaboration in early 90's

- Current members:

**China:** Sayipjamal Dulat, Ibrahim Sitiwaldi, Alim Albet (Xinjiang U.), Jun Gao (Shanghai Jiaotong U.), Mengshi Yan (Peking U.) , Tie-Jiun Hou (U. of South China), Yao Fu (USTC)

**Mexico:** Aurore Courtoy (Unam, Mexico)

**USA:** Marco Guzzi (Kennesaw State U.), Tim Hobbs (Argonne Lab), Pavel Nadolsky, Xiaoxian Jing (Southern Methodist U.), Keping Xie (Pittsburgh U.) Joey Huston, Huey-Wen Lin, Dan Stump, Carl Schmidt, CPY (Michigan State U.)

Some useful websites:

- CT18 PDFs

<https://ct.hepforge.org/PDFs/ct18/>

- L2 Sensitivity

<https://ct.hepforge.org/PDFs/ct18/figures/L2Sensitivity/>

- ePump

<https://epump.hepforge.org/>

- ResBos2

<https://gitlab.com/resbos2>





# Lesson learned from W mass measurement

CTEQ

Experimentalists



Theorists

2017 Featured Story #1: Million-dollar gift establishes endowed professorship in honor of the late Dr. Wu-Ki Tung



Michigan State University  
(1992-2009)

<http://www.pa.msu.edu/node/5921>

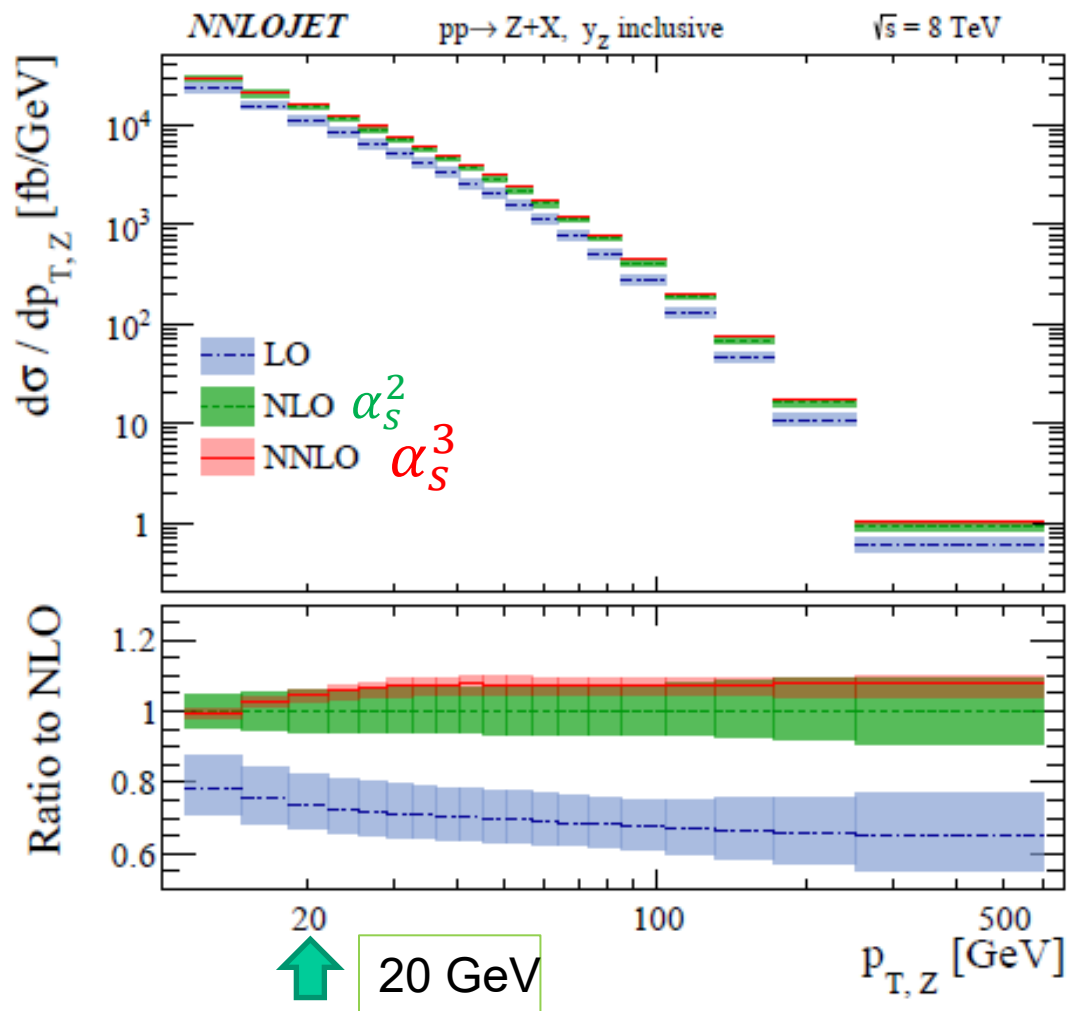
- Co-founder of CTEQ (The Coordinated Theoretical-Experimental Project on QCD) in 1989 – present
- Nowadays, many other collaborations are doing precisely that.



CTEQ

Backup slides

# Higher order contributions are important



arXiv:1708.00008

- The  $\alpha_s^3$  prediction has much smaller scale variation as compared to  $\alpha_s^2$  calculation.
- For  $p_{T(Z)} > 20 \text{ GeV}$ , the K-factor of  $\alpha_s^3/\alpha_s^2$  is roughly a constant, about 1.1





# ePump-optimization

arXiv: 1806.07950; 1907.12177

CTEQ

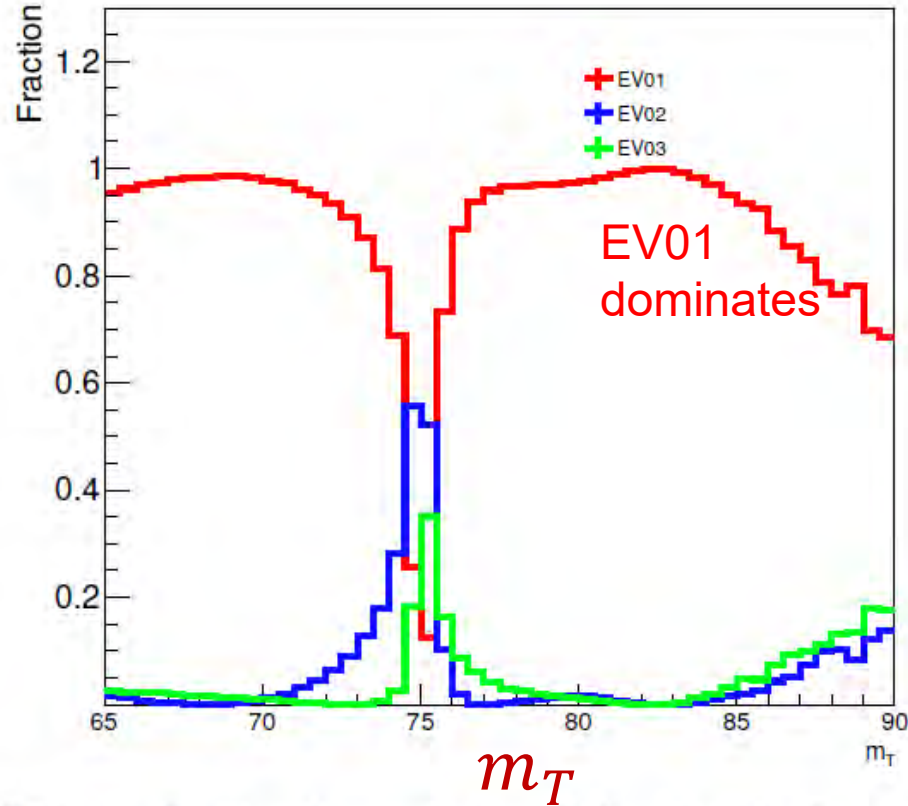


FIG. 12. Fractional contribution of the three leading optimized eigenvector PDFs (EV01, EV02 and EV03) to the variance of the  $m_T$  distribution, normalized to each bin, obtained from the ePump-optimization analysis.

The three eigenvalues are 44.5, 3.0 and 2.4, respectively, with 50 bins in the  $m_T$  distribution.

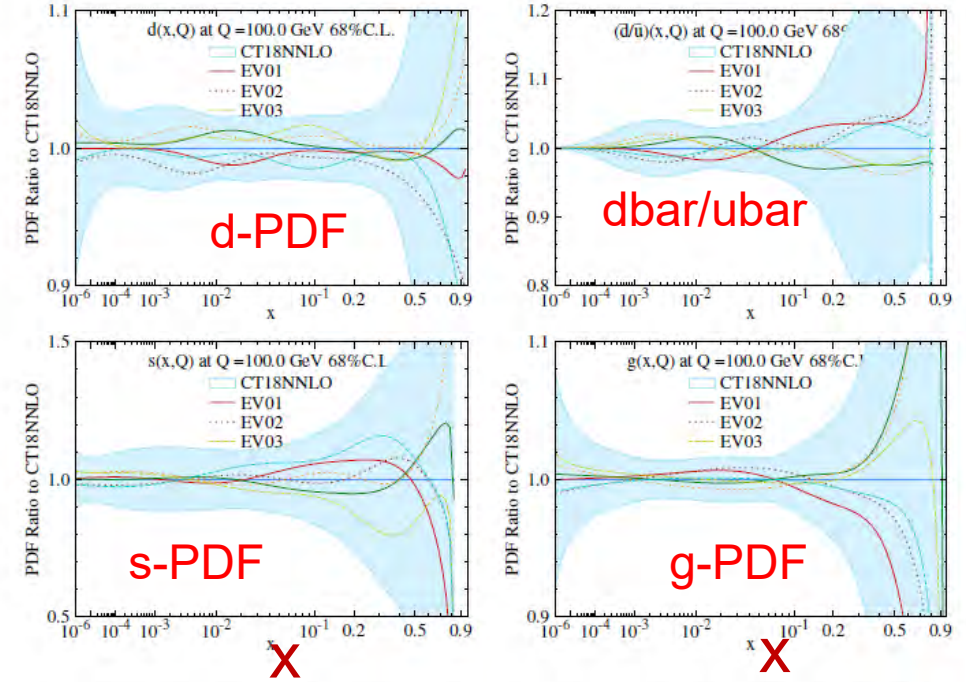


FIG. 13. Ratios of the top three pairs of eigenvector PDFs and the original CT18 NNLO error PDFs, at  $Q = 100$  GeV, to the CT18 NNLO central value of  $d$ ,  $\bar{d}/\bar{u}$ ,  $s$  and  $g$  PDFs. These eigenvector PDFs were obtained after applying the ePump-optimization to the original CT18 NNLO PDFs with respect to the  $m_T$  distribution.