

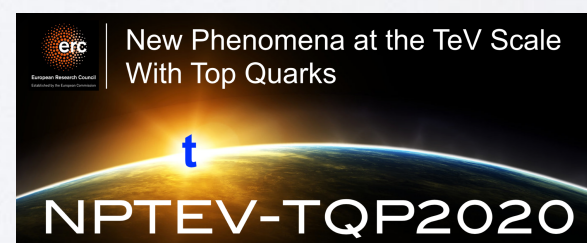
# 34<sup>th</sup> Rencontres de Blois

Blois, France, May 14-19, 2023

## HIGHLIGHTS ON TOP QUARK PHYSICS WITH THE ATLAS EXPERIMENT AT THE LHC

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on behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration



# PHYSICS OF TOP QUARKS

- Test of SM (production, decay, coupling....etc)
- Top quark does not hadronize: momentum and spin transferred to decay products
- Search for processes with similar signature (VLQ, Z'...)
- Natural mass ( $y_t \approx 1$ ), top quark mass is a fundamental parameter of the SM, and crucial for SM constraints via loop diagrams

## Production Rate

- ▶ Pair Production cross section
- ▶ Single (EWK) production,  $IVtbI$
- ▶ FCNC, anomalous couplings
- ▶ Differential cross sections
- ▶ Production mechanism (gg, qq)
- ▶ Associated production

## New Physics in production

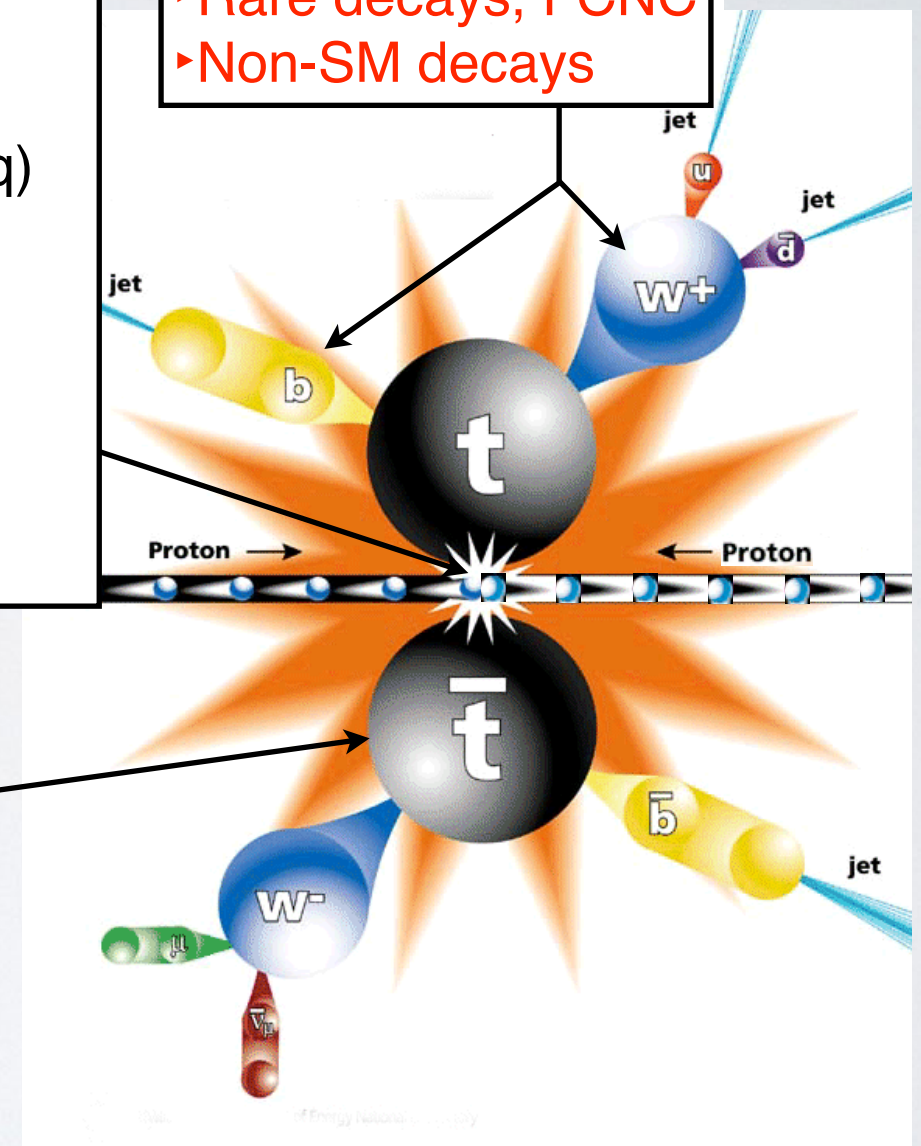
- ▶ Resonant production
- ▶ Heavy Quark production
- ▶ ...

## Properties

- ▶ Top mass
- ▶ Top charge
- ▶ Top width
- ▶ Spin correlation
- ▶ Top polarisation
- ▶ W helicity
- ▶ Charge asymmetry
- ▶ Yukawa coupling

## Decay

- ▶ Branching ratios
- ▶ CP asymmetries
- ▶ Rare decays, FCNC
- ▶ Non-SM decays



**RED: new results (since Jan. 2023), discussed in this talk**

# PART I: PRODUCTION

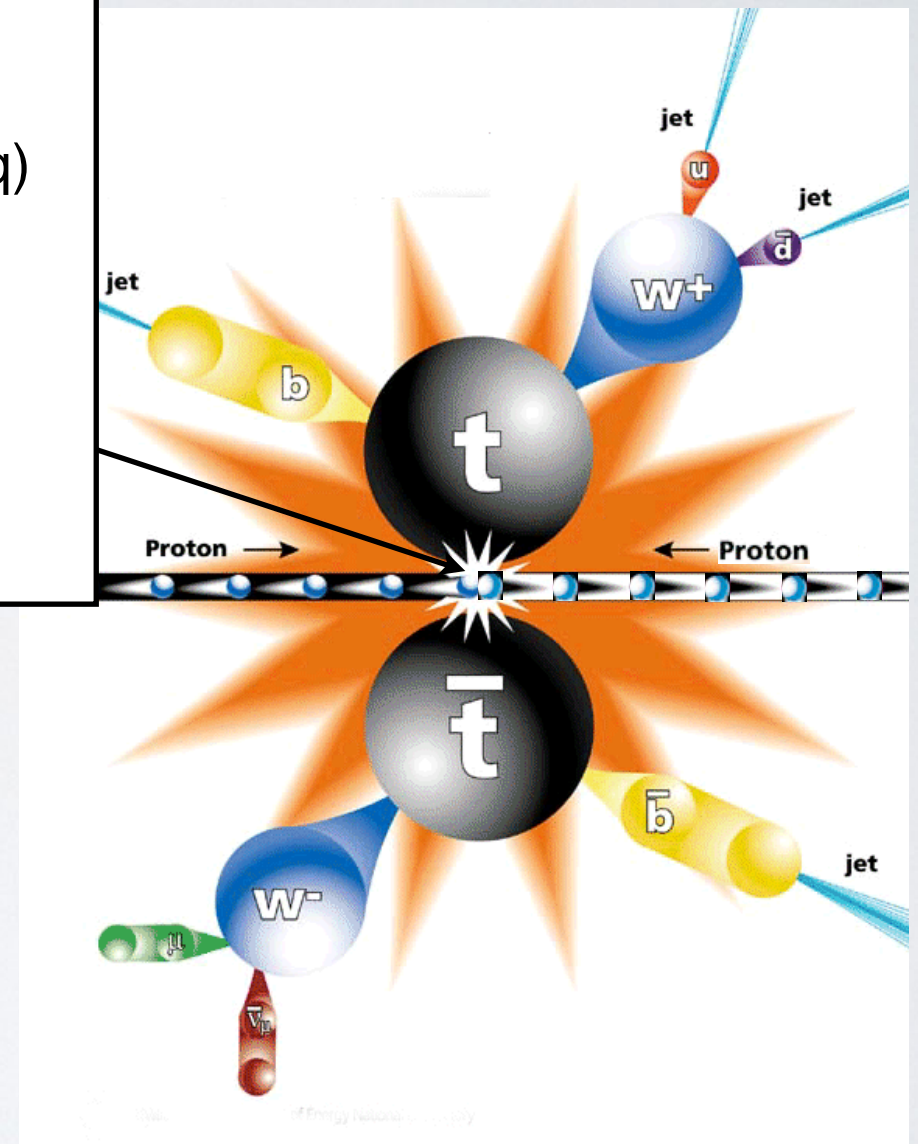
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- ▶ ...



**RED: new results (since Jan. 2023), discussed in this talk**



# Measurement of $t\bar{t}$ and Z-boson cross sections and their ratio using collisions at $\sqrt{s}=13.6$ TeV

- Separate measurements for  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}}$ ,  $\sigma_Z^{fid}$  and  $R_{t\bar{t}/Z}$
- First Top measurement with 13.6 TeV collision energy

ATLAS-CONF-2023-006, March 2023.  
Follows a previous conf note, 1.2 fb<sup>-1</sup>

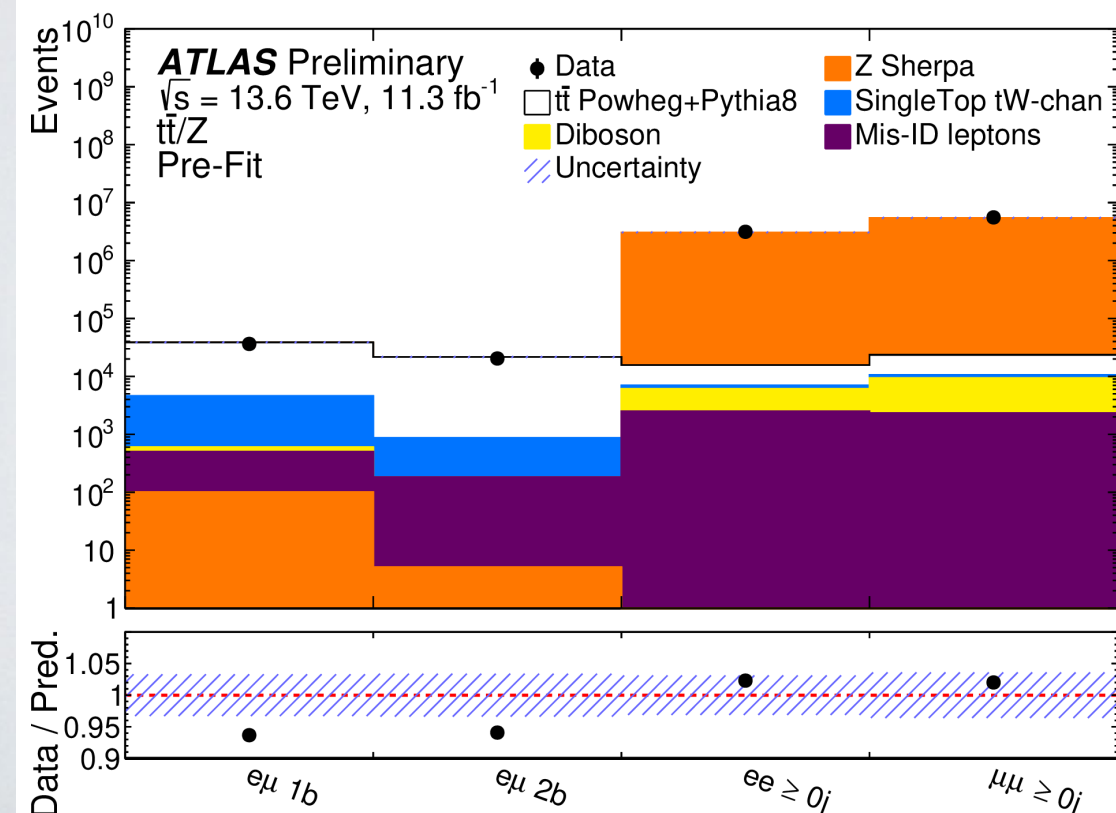
13.6 TeV, 11.3 fb<sup>-1</sup>

**Signature:** Electrons and Muons of opposite electric charges:  $ee$ ,  $\mu\mu$ ,  $e\mu$

- Fiducial phase space for Z with leptons  $p_T > 27$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 2.5$  and  $66 < m_{ll} < 116$  GeV (on-shell)
- 1 and 2  $b$ -tagged jets for the  $t\bar{t}$  production

**Method:** Binned profile-likelihood technique, finding the cross sections and the  $b$ -tagging  $\epsilon_b$

Pre-fit comparison of data and prediction for the event yields in the three lepton channels



## Measurement Results

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}} = 859 \pm 4(\text{stat.}) \pm 22(\text{syst.}) \pm 19(\text{lumi.})\text{pb},$$

$$\sigma_{Z \rightarrow \ell\ell}^{\text{fid.}} = 751 \pm 0.3(\text{stat.}) \pm 15(\text{syst.}) \pm 17(\text{lumi.})\text{pb},$$

$$\epsilon_b = 0.548 \pm 0.002(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.004(\text{syst.}) \pm 0.001(\text{lumi.}).$$

$$R_{t\bar{t}/Z} = 1.144 \pm 0.006(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.022(\text{syst.}) \pm 0.003(\text{lumi.}).$$

The nominal  $\epsilon_b = 0.545$



# Measurement of $t\bar{t}$ and Z-boson cross sections and their ratio at $\sqrt{s}=13.6$ TeV

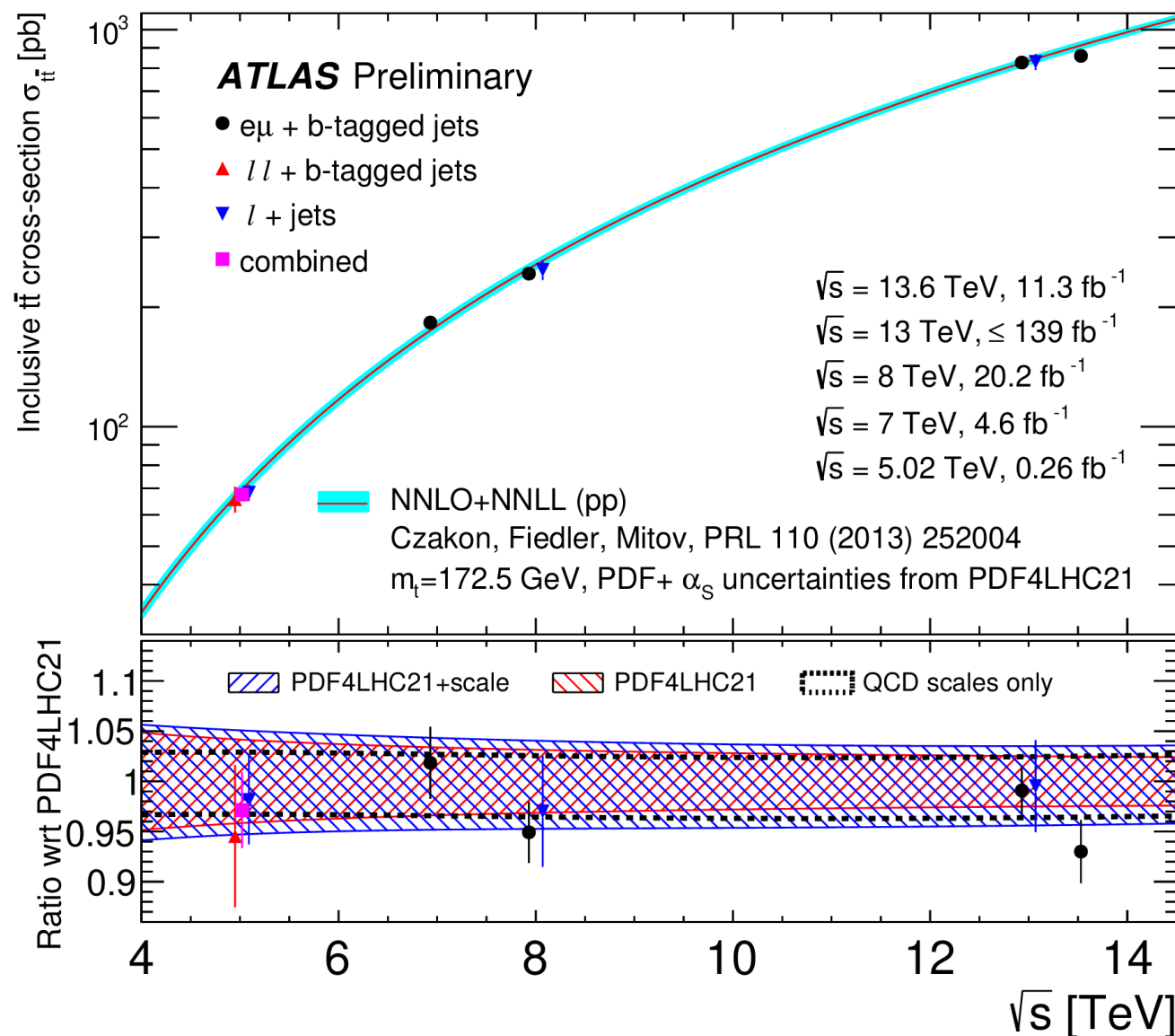
ATLAS-CONF-2023-006

13.6 TeV, 11.3 fb<sup>-1</sup>

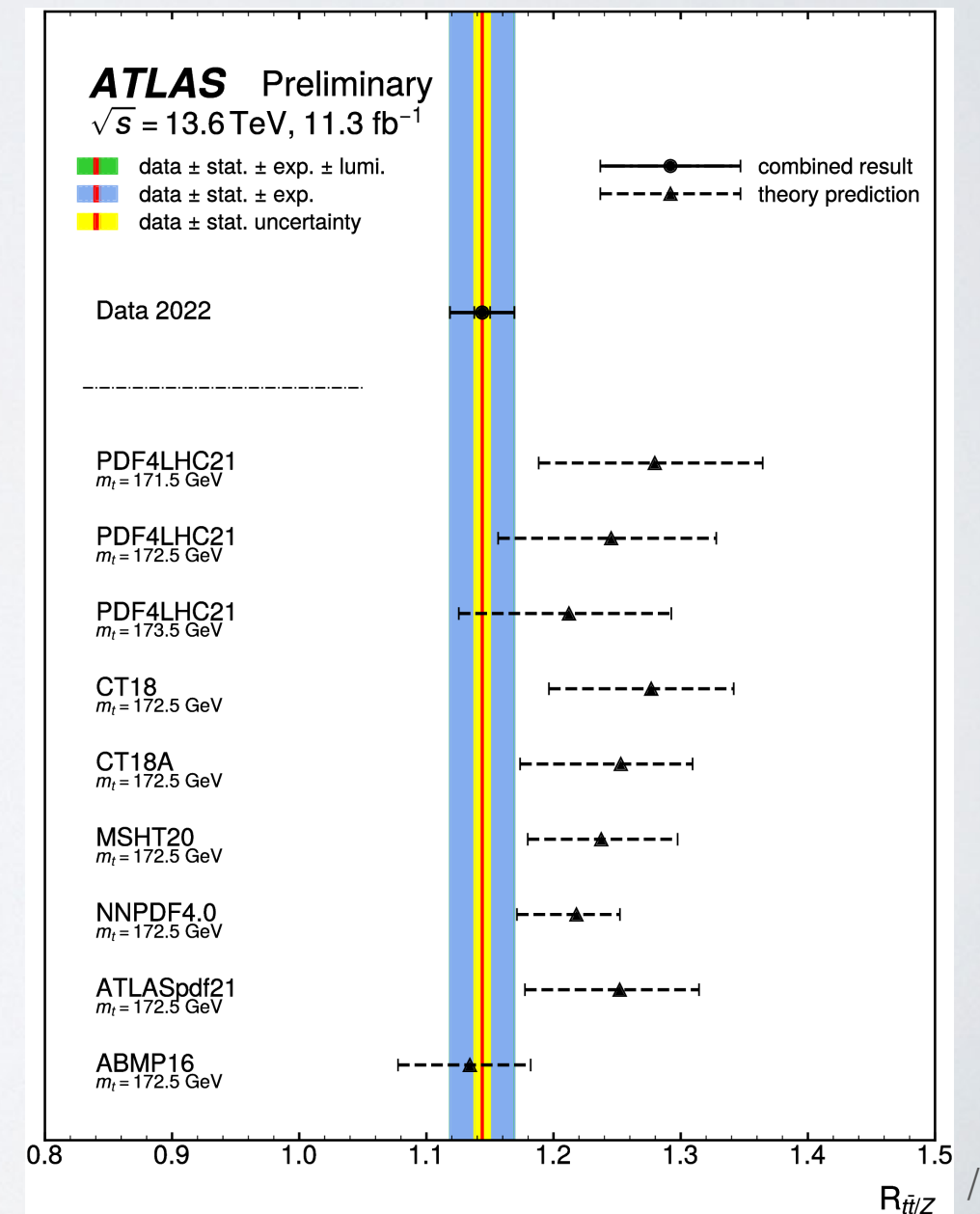


- Comparison of the measured  $t\bar{t}$  cross-sections at various centre-of-mass energies and the theory predictions using the PDF4LHC21 PDF set
- For the PDF4LHC21 PDF set, predictions for different assumptions about the top-quark mass are also displayed.

Measured and predicted  $t\bar{t}$  cross section vs collision energy



Ratio  $t\bar{t}/Z$  production compared to PDF predictions





# Inclusive and differential cross-sections for dilepton $t\bar{t}$ production measured in $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV

hep-ex arXiv:2303.15340  
submitted to JHEP, Mar. 2023  
Updates a previous result with 36 fb<sup>-1</sup>

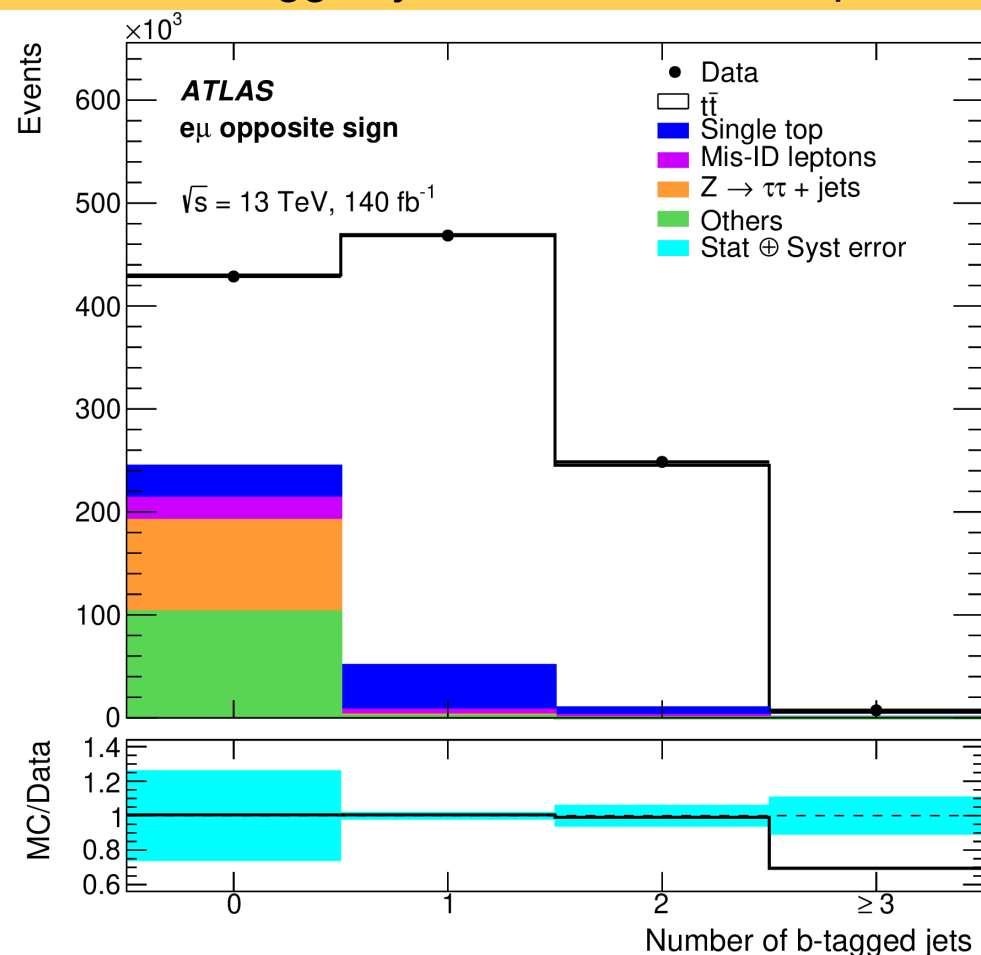
13 TeV, 140 fb<sup>-1</sup>

- Top dilepton analysis both inclusive and 8-kinematic variables differential distributions, with **wider** range and **finer** granularity
- 4 double-differential distributions
- Uses a revised luminosity uncertainty of only  $\pm 0.83\%$

**Signature:** Oppositely charged  $e\mu$  pairs. Full and fiducial phase space at particle level with  $p_{T^\ell} > 27$  (25) GeV and  $|\eta^\ell| < 2.5$ ; Exactly 1 or 2  $b$ -tagged jets. The B.R. to signature is  $3.26 \pm 0.06\%$

**Method:** Log-likelihood fit for cross-section and  $b$ -tagging efficiencies

Number of  $b$ -tagged jets in selected OS  $e\mu$  events



Selected data events with 1- and 2- $b$  jets

$$N_1^i = \mathcal{L} \sigma_{t\bar{t}}^i G_{e\mu}^i 2\epsilon_b^i (1 - \epsilon_b^i C_b^i) + N_{1,\text{bkg}}^i$$

$$N_2^i = \mathcal{L} \sigma_{t\bar{t}}^i G_{e\mu}^i (\epsilon_b^i)^2 C_b^i + N_{2,\text{bkg}}^i$$

Total inclusive cross-section

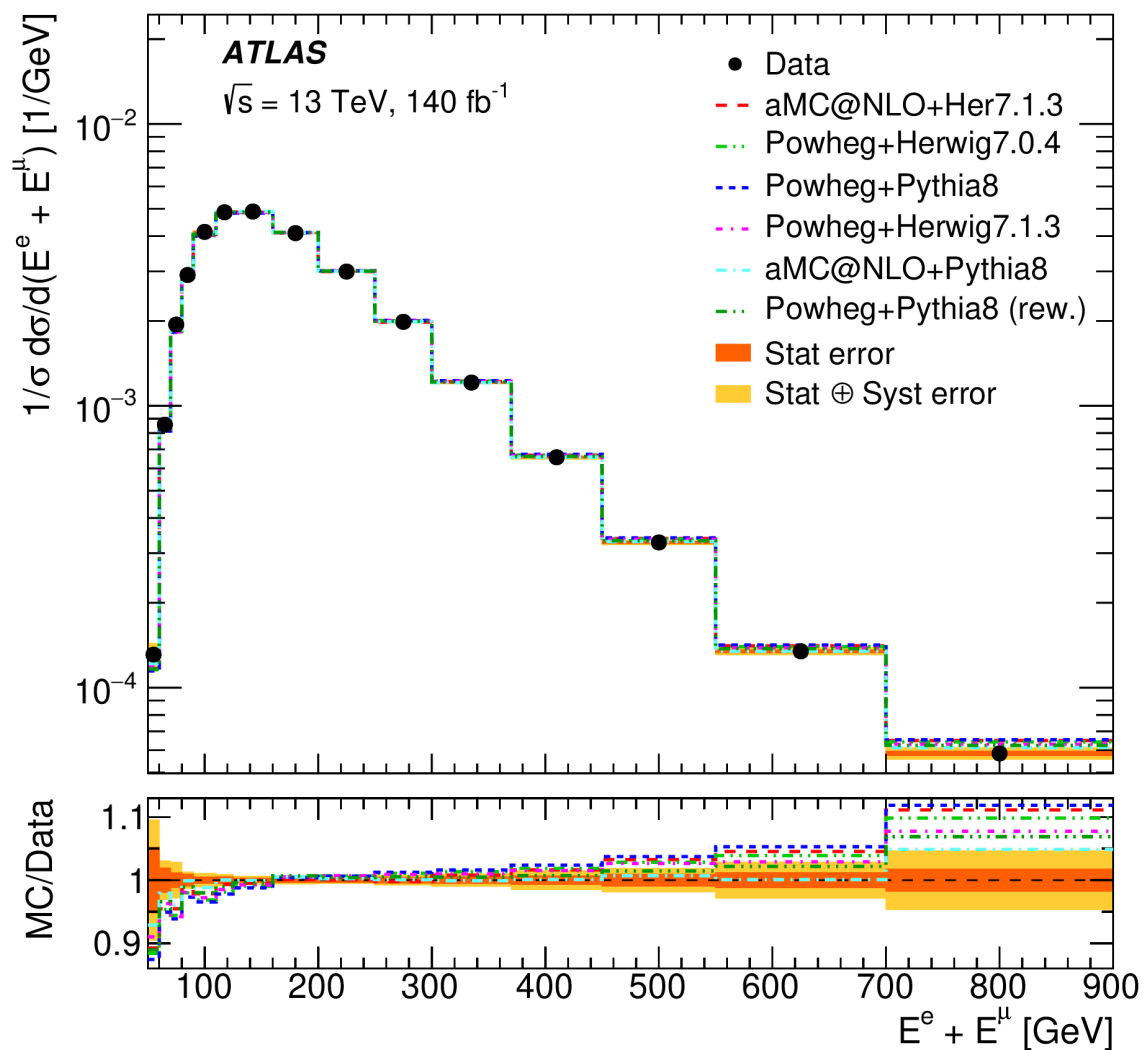
$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}} = 829 \pm 1 \text{ (stat)} \pm 13 \text{ (syst)} \pm 8 \text{ (lumi)} \pm 2 \text{ (beam)} \text{ pb}$$

- Most precise measurement of  $\sigma_{tt}$  ( $\pm 1.8\%$ )
- Dominant uncertainties from: luminosity (0.9%), modelling of top boost (0.6%),  $Wt$  background (0.5%), Electron ID (0.5%)

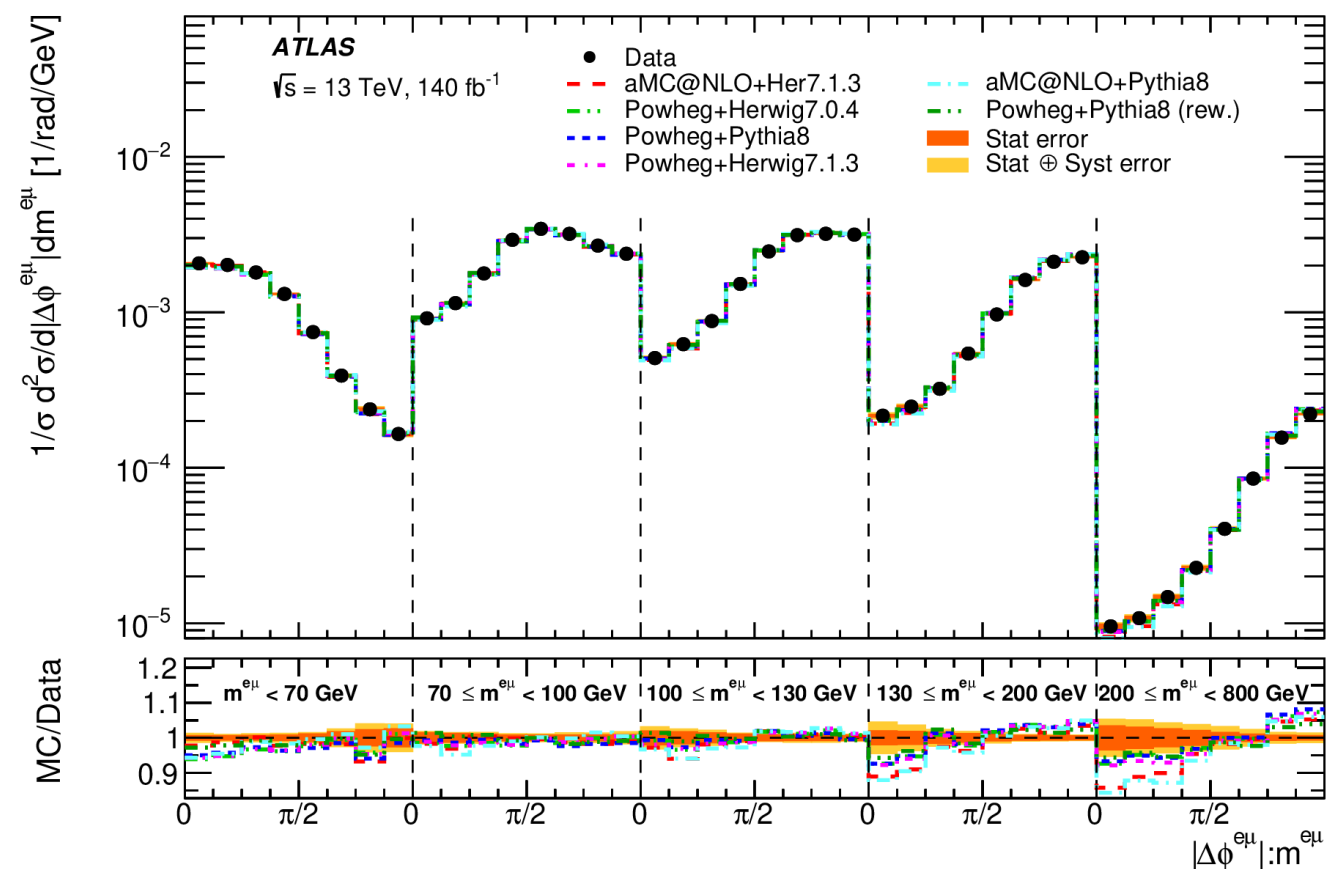


# Inclusive and differential cross-sections for dilepton $t\bar{t}$ production in $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV

Normalised differential cross-section as a function of  $E^{e+\mu}$



Normalised double-differential cross-sections as a function of  $|\Delta\phi^{e\mu}|$  in bins of  $m^{e\mu}$



- The results are compared with the predictions from different Monte Carlo NLO generators normalised to the NNLO (Top++) prediction
- No model can describe **all** measured distributions within their uncertainties.



# Measurement of total and differential cross-sections of $t\bar{t}W$ production

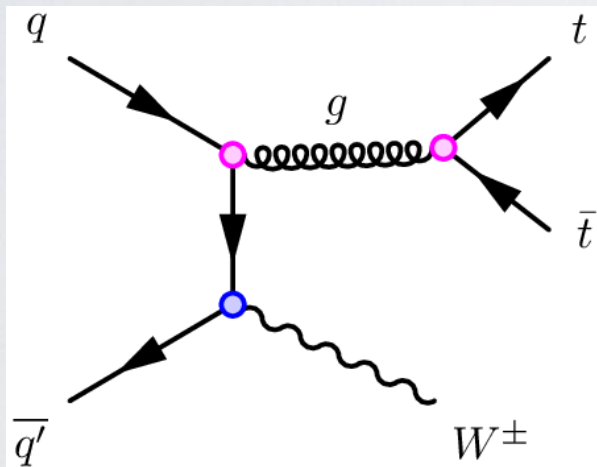
ATLAS-CONF-2023-019, March 2023

Updates earlier measurements with 3.2 fb<sup>-1</sup> and 36.1 fb<sup>-1</sup>

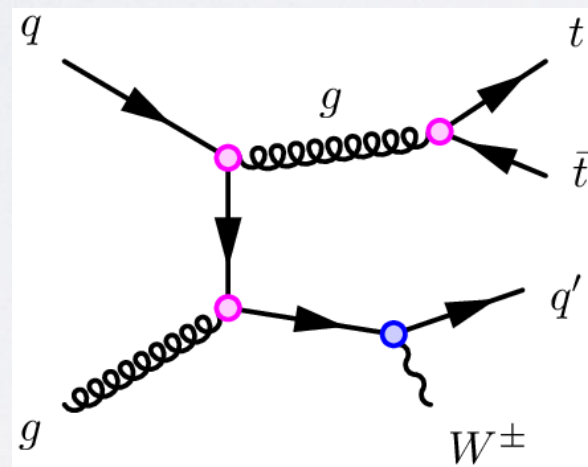
13 TeV, 140 fb<sup>-1</sup>

- Very rare process,  $\mathcal{O}(1 \text{ pb})$ , accessible with Run 2 data, and important background to rare 4-top and  $t\bar{t}H$  processes
- Recent measurements suggested  $t\bar{t}W$  production yields slightly higher than SM (e.g. CMS: JHEP **08** (2018) 011)
- Rich phenomenology from charge-asymmetric production and QCD and EWK corrections

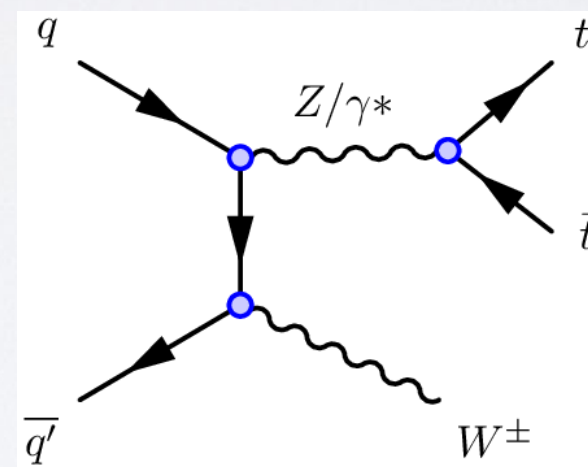
LO contribution ( $\alpha_s^2$ )



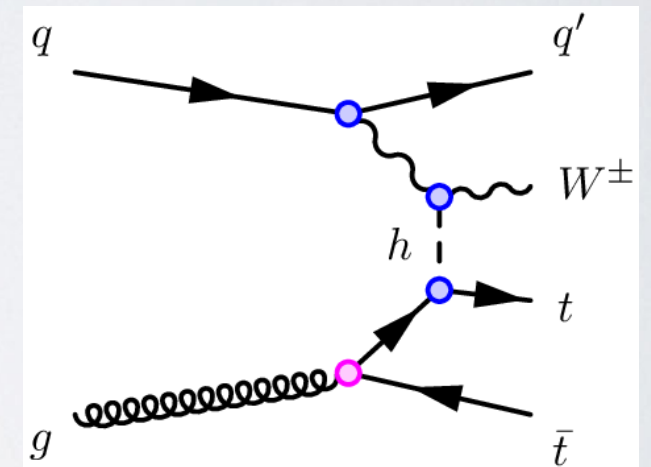
Real emission diagram NLO QCD contribution ( $\alpha_s^3$ )



Tree-level EWK contribution



Representative diagram of combined NLO QCD and EWK contributions ( $\alpha_s$ )



- We measure the inclusive and differential cross sections, and relative charge asymmetry
- Theoretical prediction of  $\sigma(t\bar{t}W) = 722^{+70}_{-78}(\text{scale}) \pm 7 \text{ (PDF) fb}$  [JHEP **11** (2021) 029]



# Measurement of total and differential cross-sections of $t\bar{t}W$ production

ATLAS-CONF-2023-019

13 TeV, 140 fb<sup>-1</sup>



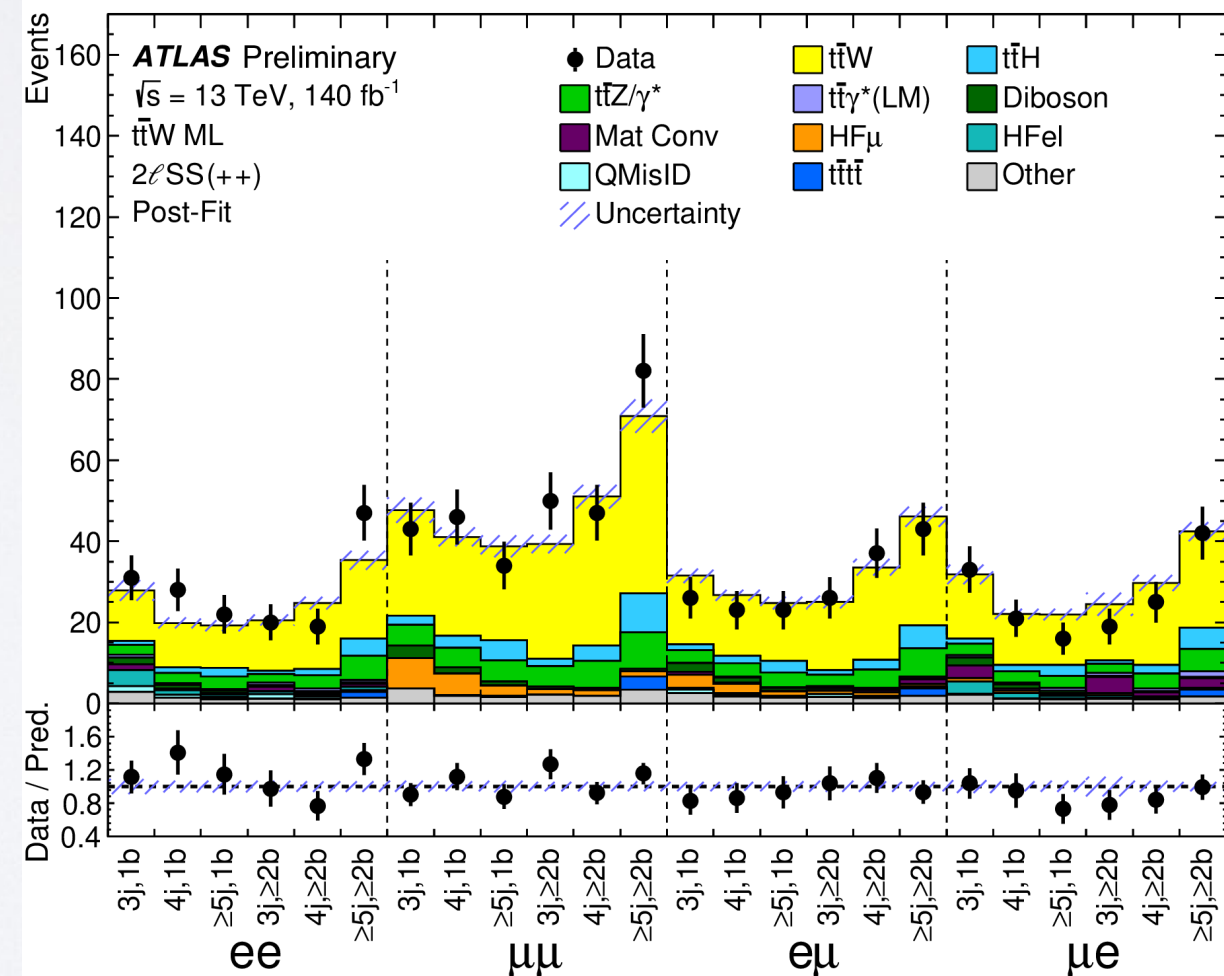
**Signature:** Two same-sign lepton ( $2\ell$ SS) or three lepton ( $3\ell$ ) final states

**Method:** Several Control (CR) and Signal Regions (SR); inclusive cross section measured in full phase space and in fiducial region. Combined likelihood fit to data under the signal plus background hypothesis

Summary of observed and predicted yields in the four signal region categories

	$\ell^-\ell^-$ SR	$\ell^+\ell^+$ SR	$\ell^+\ell^-\ell^-$ SR	$\ell^-\ell^+\ell^+$ SR
$t\bar{t}W$	$261 \pm 20$	$472 \pm 30$	$64 \pm 6$	$116 \pm 10$
$t\bar{t}H$	$66 \pm 9$	$66 \pm 9$	$29 \pm 4$	$28 \pm 4$
$t\bar{t}Z/\gamma^*$	$95 \pm 9$	$100 \pm 10$	$69 \pm 8$	$72 \pm 8$
$t\bar{t}\gamma^*(LM)$	$9 \pm 5$	$9 \pm 5$	$2.6 \pm 1.5$	$2.6 \pm 1.5$
Diboson	$16 \pm 5$	$22 \pm 6$	$9.0 \pm 2.7$	$12 \pm 4$
Mat Conv	$11.1 \pm 3.3$	$19 \pm 5$	$2.5 \pm 0.8$	$3.9 \pm 1.1$
HF $\mu$	$35 \pm 11$	$30 \pm 10$	$6.2 \pm 2.6$	$6.6 \pm 2.6$
HF $\ell$	$14 \pm 6$	$15 \pm 6$	$2.9 \pm 1.3$	$2.0 \pm 0.8$
QMisID	$8.2 \pm 2.7$	$8.2 \pm 2.7$	$0.69 \pm 0.15$	$0.66 \pm 0.13$
$t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$	$9 \pm 7$	$9 \pm 7$	$4.0 \pm 3.2$	$4.2 \pm 3.3$
Other	$32 \pm 5$	$42 \pm 6$	$18.6 \pm 3.1$	$25.0 \pm 3.3$
Total	$557 \pm 16$	$790 \pm 24$	$208 \pm 7$	$273 \pm 9$
Data	546	803	225	269

Comparison between data and background prediction for the event yields in the 24  $2\ell$ SS++ SR categories



# Measurement of total and differential cross-sections of $t\bar{t}W$ production

ATLAS-CONF-2023-019

13 TeV, 140 fb<sup>-1</sup>



## Measurement Results

$$\sigma(t\bar{t}W) = 890 \pm 50 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 70 \text{ (syst.)} = 890 \pm 80 \text{ (tot.) fb}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{fid}}(t\bar{t}W) = 21.7^{+1.1}_{-1.1} \text{ (stat.)}^{+2.1}_{-1.9} \text{ (syst.)} = 21.7^{+2.4}_{-2.2} \text{ (tot.) fb}$$

$$\sigma(t\bar{t}W^+) = 585^{+35}_{-34} \text{ (stat.)}^{+47}_{-44} \text{ (syst.)} = 585^{+58}_{-55} \text{ (tot.) fb}$$

$$\sigma(t\bar{t}W^-) = 301^{+28}_{-27} \text{ (stat.)}^{+35}_{-31} \text{ (syst.)} = 301^{+45}_{-41} \text{ (tot.) fb}$$

With leading systematics from  $t\bar{t}W$  ME and PS modelling

In agreement (1.5 $\sigma$ ) with NNLO prediction

[arxiv 2108:07826]:

$$\sigma(t\bar{t}W) = 722^{+70}_{-78} \text{ (scale)} \pm 7 \text{ (PDF) fb}$$

$$A_C^{\text{rel}} = \frac{\sigma(t\bar{t}W^+) - \sigma(t\bar{t}W^-)}{\sigma(t\bar{t}W^+) + \sigma(t\bar{t}W^-)}$$

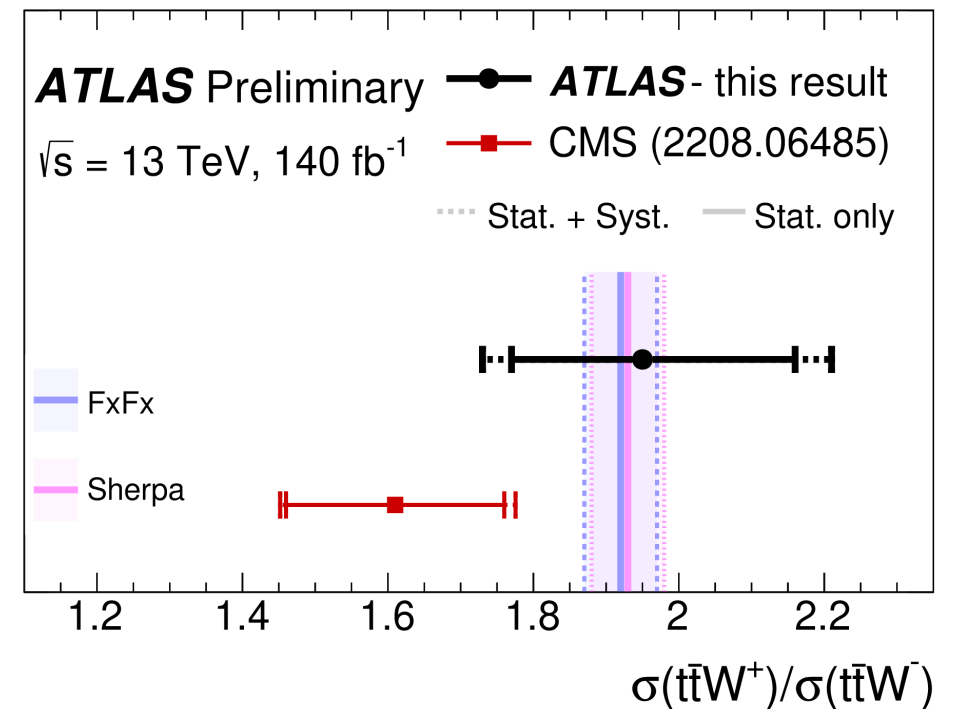
$$A_C^{\text{rel}} = 0.32 \pm 0.05 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.03 \text{ (syst.)} = 0.32 \pm 0.06 \text{ (tot.)}$$

In agreement with Sherpa prediction:

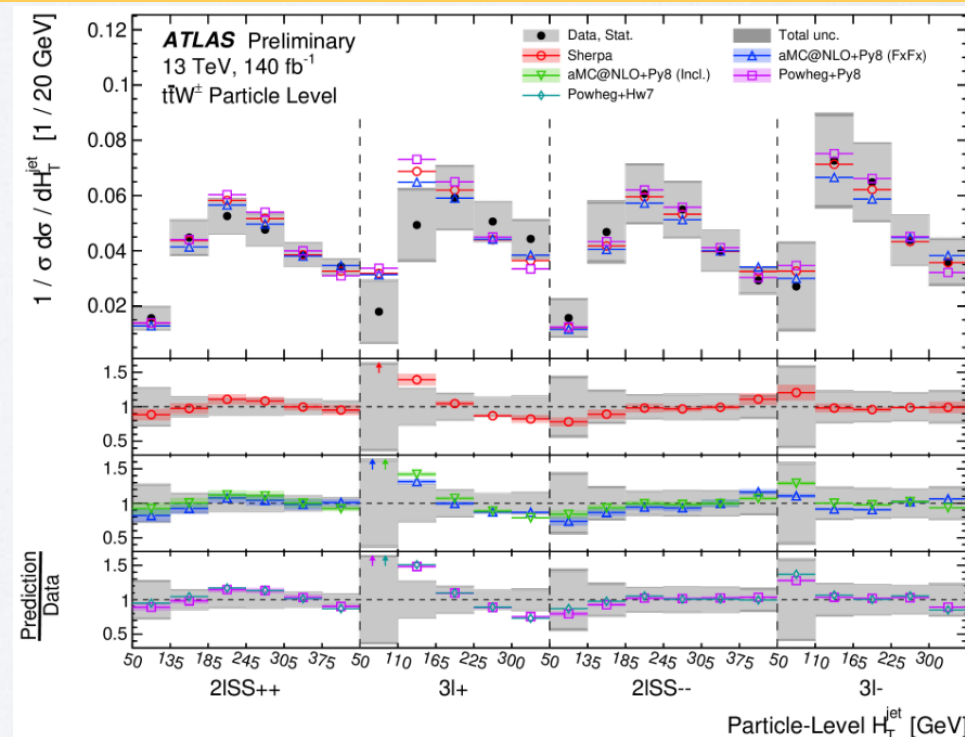
$$A_C^{\text{rel}} = 0.322 \pm 0.003 \text{ (scale)} \pm 0.007 \text{ (PDF)}$$

First differential distributions, 7 variables; in good agreement

## Comparison of the measured $t\bar{t}W^+/t\bar{t}W^-$ cross section ratio to the theoretical predictions



## Unfolded distributions of the lepton charge-split normalised cross section as a function of $H_{T,\text{jets}}$





# Observation of four-top-quark production in the multilepton final state

- Process sensitive to top-Higgs Yukawa coupling and its CP properties
- Sensitive to BSM, including gluino pair, scalar-gluon, heavy-scalar or pseudoscalar bosons in 2HDM or top compositeness
- Predicted NLO QCD+EW @  $\sqrt{s}=13$  TeV is  $\sigma=12$  fb with  $\pm 20\%$  (scale)  
[JHEP 02 (2018) 031]

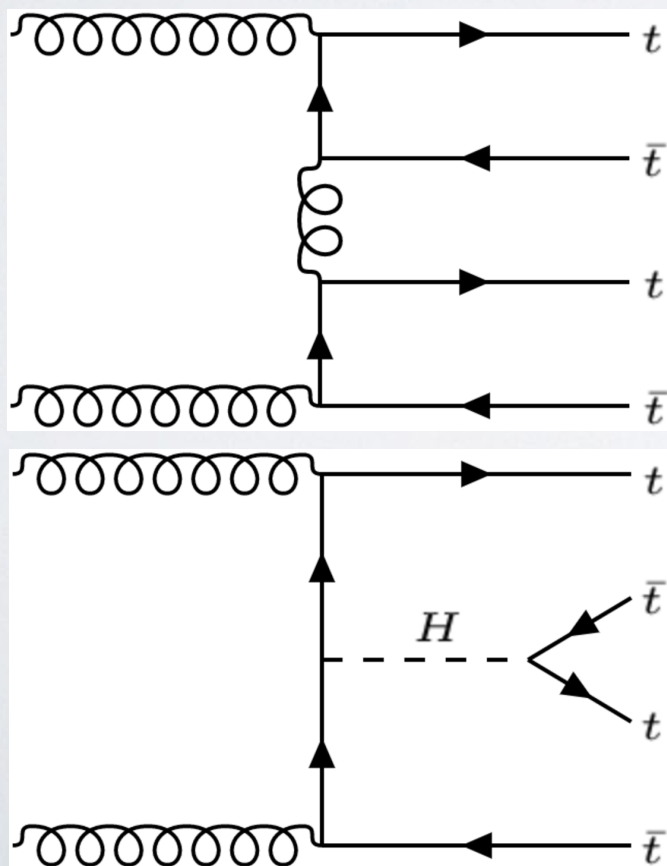
hep-ex arXiv:2303.15061  
accepted by EPJC, March 2023  
Supersedes and improves a previous result with same dataset

13 TeV, 140 fb<sup>-1</sup>

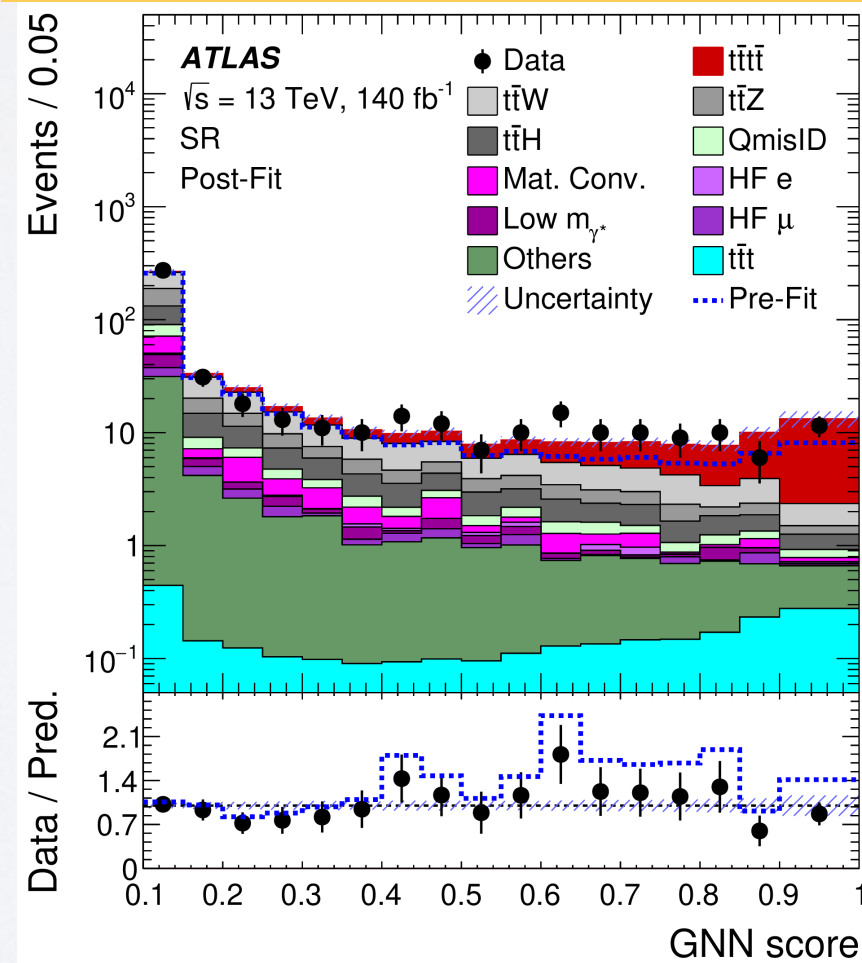
**Signature:** Two leptons with same electric charge (2LSS) or  $\geq 3$  leptons (e or  $\mu$ , 3L) with high light-jet and *b*-jet multiplicity and high overall event energy

**Method:** Multivariate discriminant (Graph Neural Network) to separate signal and background

Tree-level Feynman diagrams for the SM  $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$  signal. The mediator connecting two top quarks can be a gluon, a neutral electroweak gauge boson ( $\gamma$  or  $Z$ ), or a Higgs boson



Comparison between data and the predictions after a fit to data for the GNN distribution in the SR



# Observation of four-top-quark production in the multilepton final state

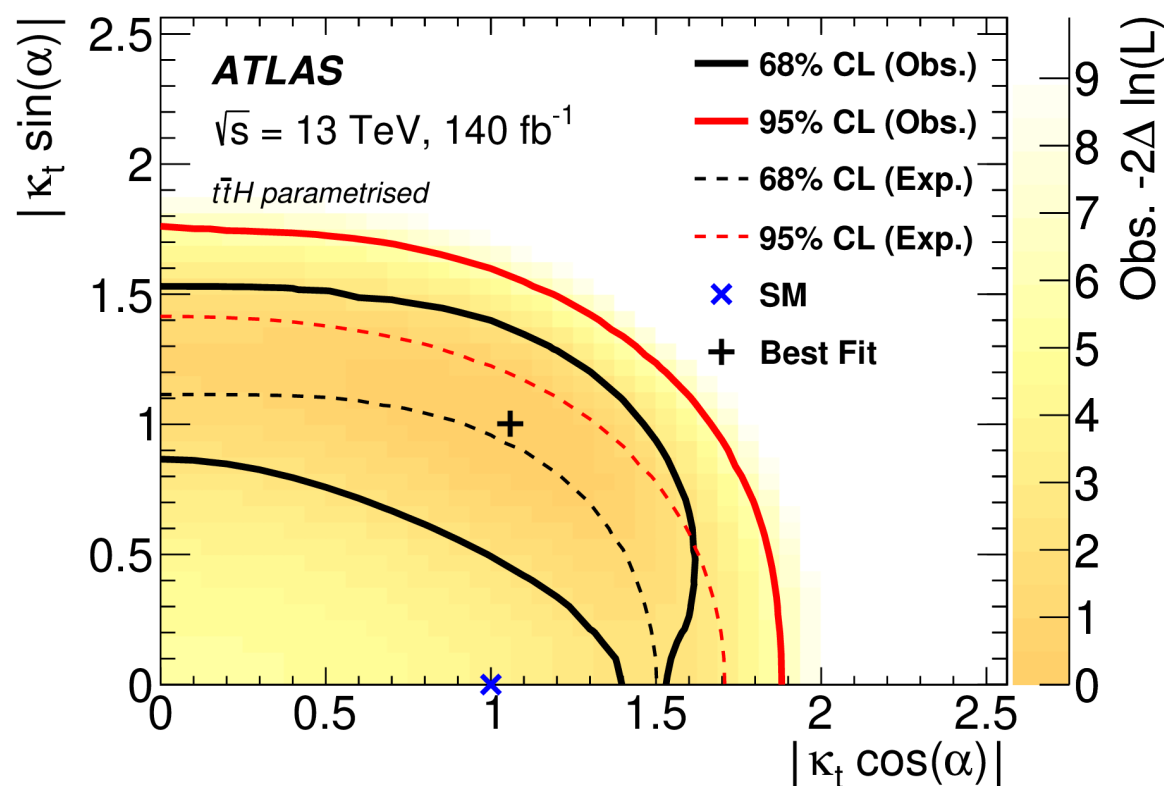
hep-ex arXiv:2303.15061

13 TeV, 140 fb<sup>-1</sup>



Binned likelihood fit to the discriminant score for:  $\sigma_{tt\bar{t}\bar{t}}$ , normalisation of backgrounds and  $t\bar{t}W$

Likelihood contours for the top-Higgs Yukawa coupling strength and CP-even/odd mixing angle



Measured  $t\bar{t}\bar{t}\bar{t}$  cross section:

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}\bar{t}\bar{t}} = 22.5^{+4.7}_{-4.3} (\text{stat})^{+4.6}_{-3.4} (\text{syst}) \text{ fb} = 22.5^{+6.6}_{-5.5} \text{ fb.}$$

consistent ( $1.7\sigma$ ) with the new calculation QCD+EW NLO prediction, incl. NLL threshold resummation [arXiv: 2212.03259 [hep-ph]]:

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}\bar{t}\bar{t}} = 13.4^{+1.0}_{-1.8} \text{ fb}$$

Largest systematic uncertainties from signal modelling (MC generator and PS and Hadronisation) and  $t\bar{t}W$  background



# Observation of single-top-quark production in association with a photon

- Probes non-resonant contributions from BSM physics
- Measurement in fiducial phase space at parton level with  $\gamma$  radiated from the top quark, and a fiducial cross section at particle level.

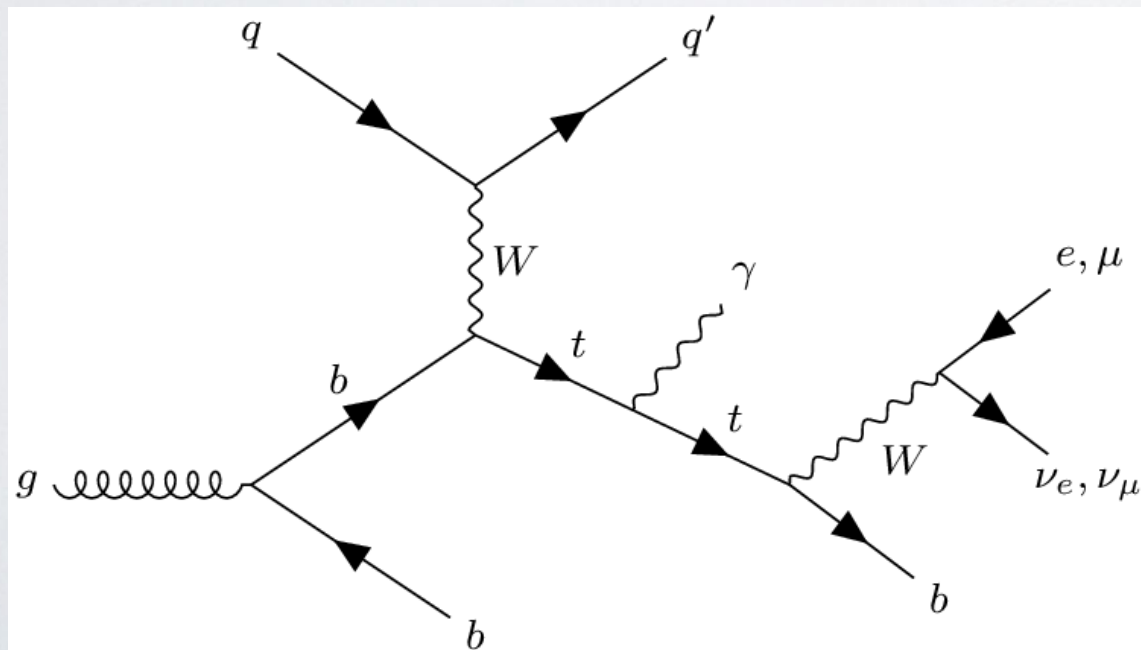
hep-ex arXiv:2302.01283  
 submitted to PRL, Feb. 2023  
 First ATLAS observation of this process

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>

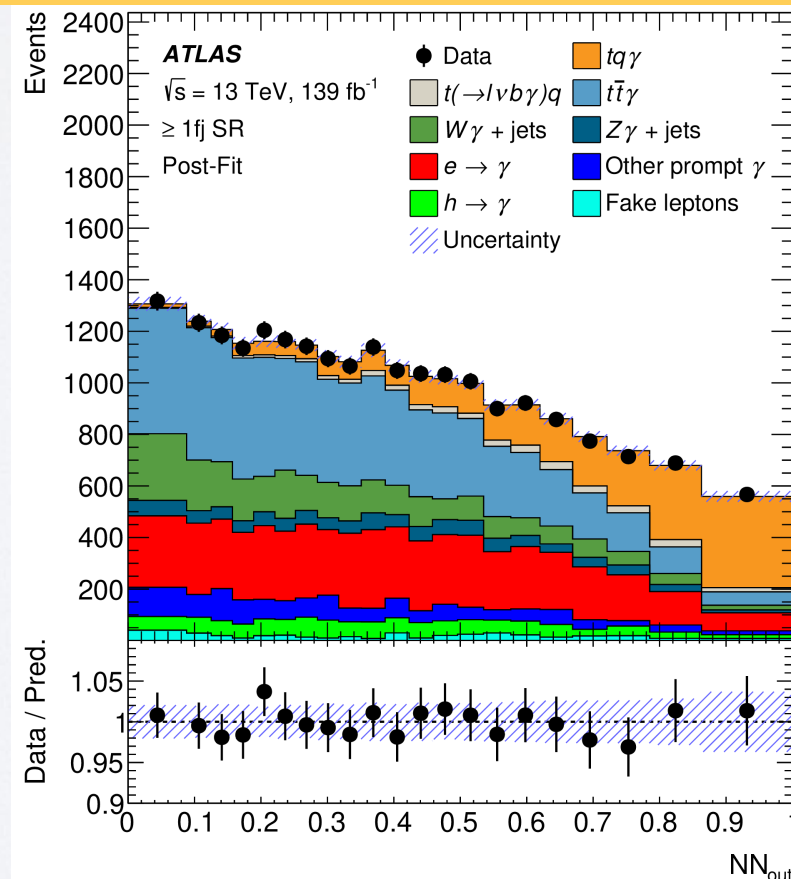
**Signature:** |  $\gamma$ , |  $e$  or  $\mu$ , large MET, |  $b$ -jet, | forward jet identification, characteristic of  $t$ -channel. Two Signal Regions (SR) based on the presence or not of a forward jet.

**Method:** Trained Neural Networks to separate signal from the background with 12 or 15 input variables, with top-mass the variable giving the largest S:B separation. Profile likelihood fit simultaneous in the CRs and SRs.

Representative Feynman diagram at LO in  $\alpha_s$  for  $tq\gamma$  production with semileptonic top-quark decay.



NN output in the SR with at least 1 forward jet, in data and the expected contribution of the signal and background processes



# Observation of single-top-quark production in association with a photon

Measured fiducial **parton**-level cross section:

$$\sigma_{tq\gamma} \times \mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow \ell\nu b) = 688 \pm 23 \text{ (stat.) }^{+75}_{-71} \text{ (syst.) fb}$$

One photon with  $p_T > 20$  GeV and  $|\eta| < 2.37$ , isolated

[Phys. Lett. B 429 (1998) 369] with  $\Delta R < 0.2$

consistent (2.1  $\sigma$ ) with the QCD + EW NLO prediction, arXiv: 2106.02059 [hep-ph]

$$\sigma_{tq\gamma} \times \mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow \ell\nu b) = 515^{+36}_{-42} \text{ fb}$$

Measured fiducial **particle**-level cross section (see definition in the paper):

$$\sigma_{tq\gamma} \times \mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow \ell\nu b) + \sigma_{t(\rightarrow\ell\nu b\gamma)q} = 303 \pm 9 \text{ (stat.) }^{+33}_{-32} \text{ (syst.) fb}$$

consistent (2.0  $\sigma$ ) with the QCD + EW NLO prediction using the signal samples:

$$\sigma_{tq\gamma} \times \mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow \ell\nu b) + \sigma_{t(\rightarrow\ell\nu b\gamma)q} = 217^{+27}_{-15} \text{ fb}$$


Impact of systematic uncertainties by category in the **parton**-level measurement

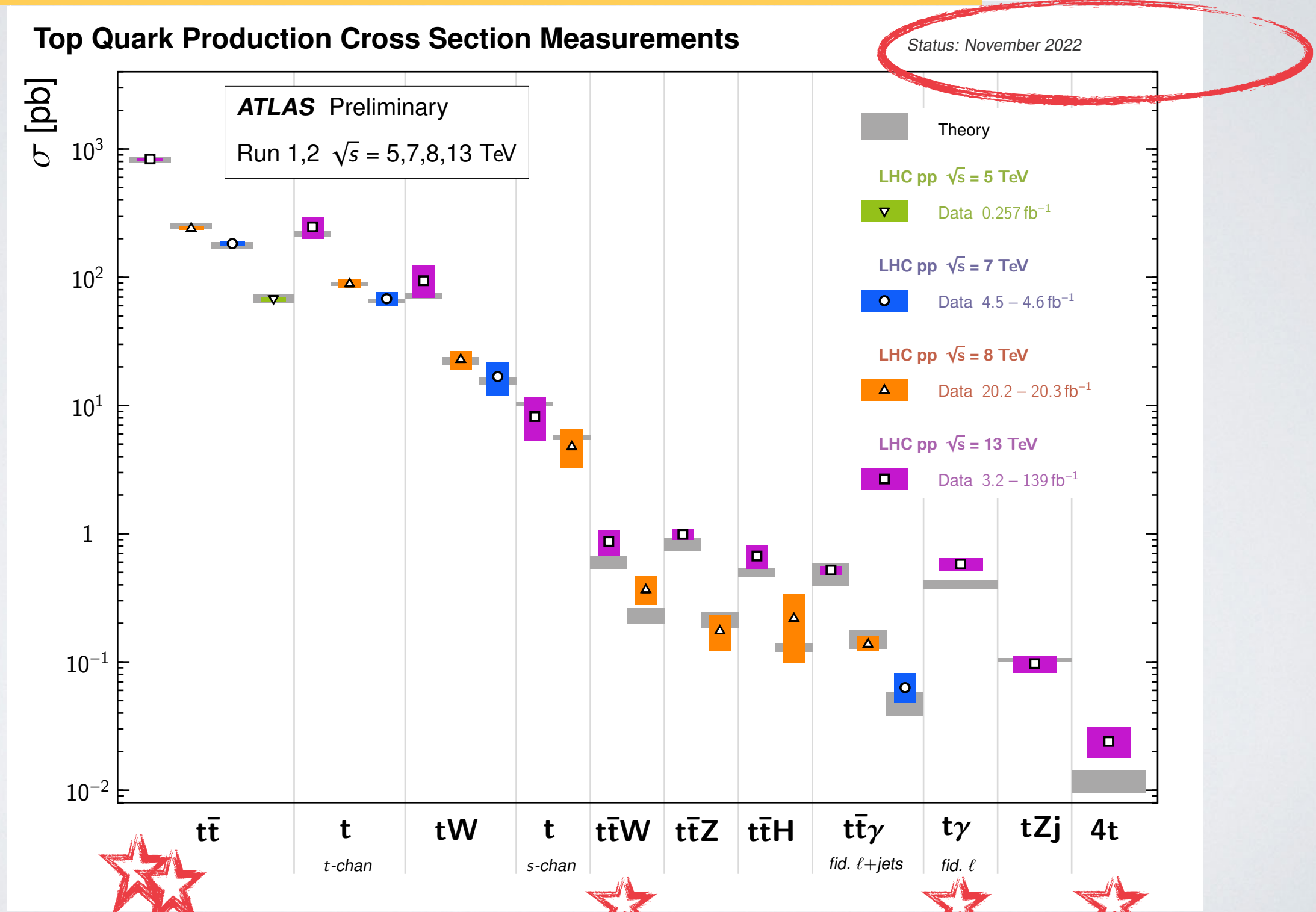
Uncertainty	$\Delta\sigma/\sigma$
$t\bar{t}\gamma$ modeling	$\pm 5.5\%$
Background MC statistics	$\pm 3.5\%$
$tq\gamma$ MC statistics	$\pm 3.3\%$
$t\bar{t}$ modeling	$\pm 2.4\%$
$tq\gamma$ modeling	$\pm 2.0\%$
$t(\rightarrow\ell\nu b\gamma)q$ modeling	$\pm 1.9\%$
Additional background uncertainties	$\pm 1.9\%$
$t(\rightarrow\ell\nu b\gamma)q$ MC statistics	$\pm 0.3\%$
$h \rightarrow \gamma$ photon fakes	$\pm 2.0\%$
Lepton fakes	$\pm 1.9\%$
$e \rightarrow \gamma$ photon fakes	$\pm 0.6\%$
Luminosity	$\pm 2.2\%$
Pileup	$\pm 1.2\%$
Jets and $E_T^{\text{miss}}$	$\pm 3.6\%$
Photons	$\pm 2.5\%$
Leptons	$\pm 0.9\%$
$b$ -tagging	$\pm 0.9\%$
Total systematic uncertainty	$\pm 10.6\%$



# Summary of Top Quark Production Measurements

Summary of several top-quark related production cross-section measurements, compared to the corresponding theoretical expectations. All theoretical expectations were calculated at NLO or higher. **ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-051**

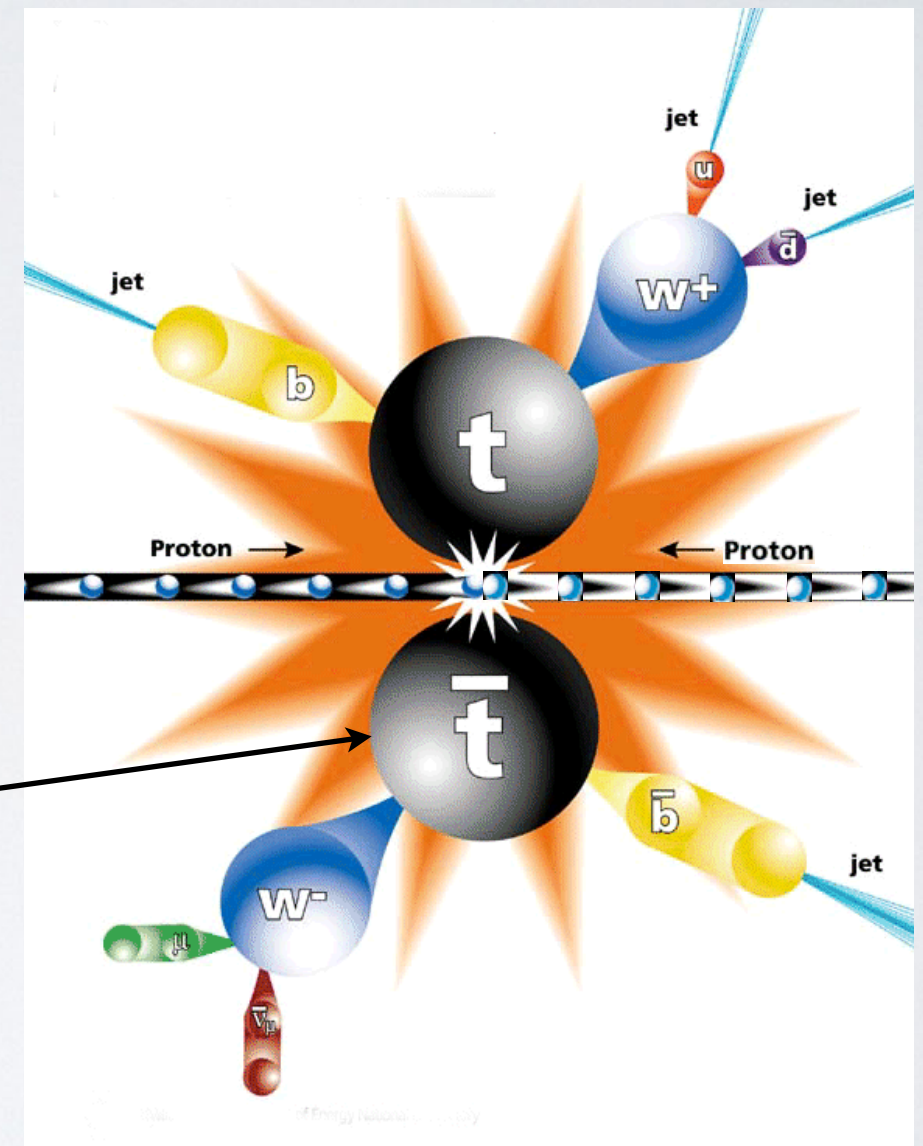
 : new, shown today



# PART 2: PROPERTIES

- Test of SM (production, decay, coupling....etc)
- Top quark does not hadronize: momentum and spin transferred to decay products
- Search for processes with similar signature (VLQ, Z'...)
- Natural mass ( $y_t \approx 1$ ), top quark mass is a fundamental parameter of the SM, and crucial for SM constraints via loop diagrams

- Properties
- Top mass
  - Top charge
  - Top width
  - Spin correlation
  - Top polarisation
  - W helicity
  - **Charge asymmetry**
  - Yukawa coupling



**RED: new results (since Jan. 2023), discussed in this talk**



# Search for leptonic charge asymmetry in $t\bar{t}W$ production in final states with 3 leptons

hep-ex arXiv:2301.04245  
submitted to JHEP, Jan. 2023  
First measurement for  $t\bar{t}W$

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>

- Rare SM process with large perturbative corrections and BSM sensitivity.
- Relative dominance of  $q\bar{q}'$  initial state in  $t\bar{t}W$  enhances the rapidity charge asymmetry wrt standard  $t\bar{t}$  events. Measurements oriented to the **leptonic** charge asymmetry:

$$A_c^\ell = \frac{N(\Delta\eta^\ell > 0) - N(\Delta\eta^\ell < 0)}{N(\Delta\eta^\ell > 0) + N(\Delta\eta^\ell < 0)},$$

**Signature:** Exactly 3 charged light-leptons (e or  $\mu$ ) in the final state. Requirements on the number of jets and  $b$ -tagged jets, are imposed to define 4 Signal Regions

**Method:** Profile likelihood fit to the event yields in pseudorapidities of the charged leptons from top and anti-top quark. BDT classifier for the lepton-top association, with  $\sim 71\%$  efficiency

Measured leptonic charge asymmetry:

$$A_c^\ell(t\bar{t}W) = -0.123 \pm 0.136 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.051 \text{ (syst.)}$$

Consistent with the SM expectation of:

$$A_c^\ell(t\bar{t}W)_{\text{SM}} = -0.084^{+0.005}_{-0.003} \text{ (scale)} \pm 0.006 \text{ (MC stat.)}$$

Measured  $A_c^\ell$  at Particle Level:

$$A_c^\ell(t\bar{t}W)^{\text{PL}} = -0.112 \pm 0.170 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.054 \text{ (syst.)}$$

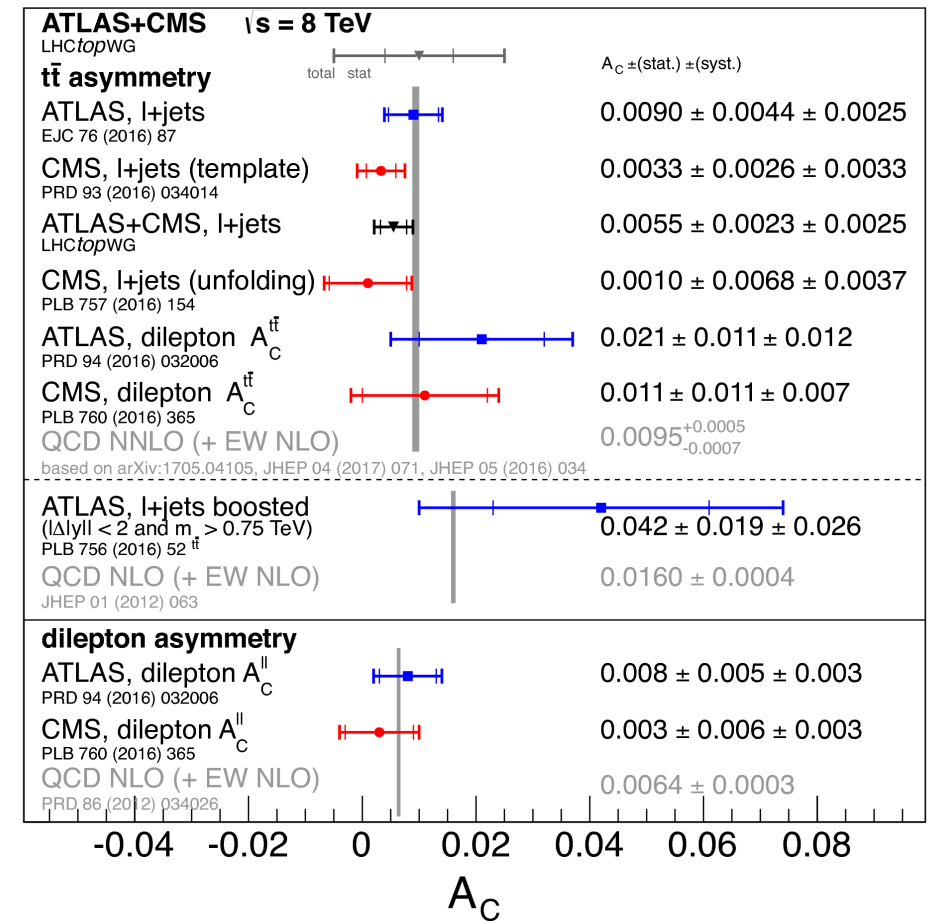
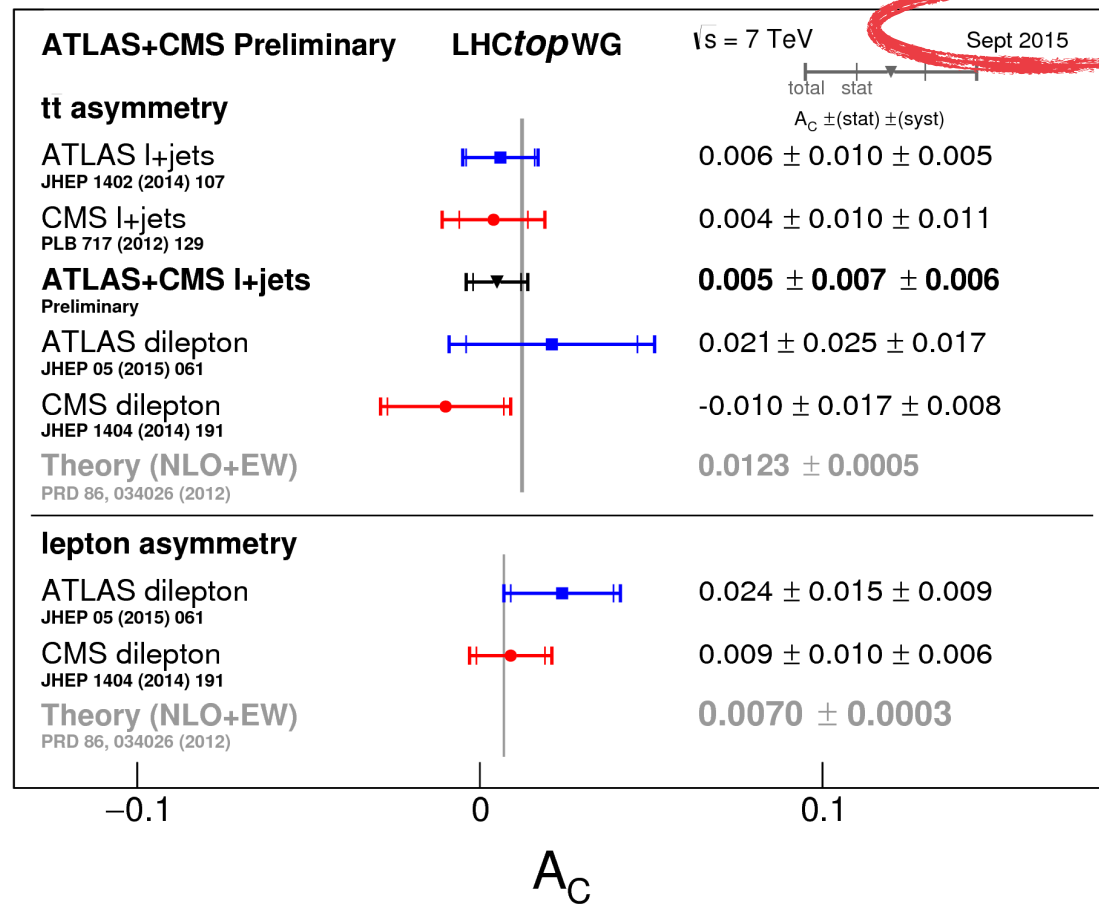
SM expectation from  $t\bar{t}W$  Sherpa:

$$A_c^\ell(t\bar{t}W)_{\text{SM}}^{\text{PL}} = -0.063^{+0.007}_{-0.004} \text{ (scale)} \pm 0.004 \text{ (MC stat.)}$$

# Summary of Other Charge Asymmetry Measurements

Summary of the charge asymmetry measurements on ATLAS and CMS at **7 TeV** showing both the  $t\bar{t}$ -based and lepton-based asymmetry measurements

Summary of the charge asymmetry measurements on ATLAS and CMS at **8 TeV** showing both inclusive measurements and the measurement using boosted events (2017)



Combination of inclusive and differential  $t\bar{t}$  CA measurements, ATLAS and CMS at  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  and 8 TeV:

$$A_C^{\text{LHC7}} = 0.005 \pm 0.007 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.006 (\text{syst}) \text{ at } 7 \text{ TeV and}$$

$$A_C^{\text{LHC8}} = 0.0055 \pm 0.0023 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.0025 (\text{syst}) \text{ at } 8 \text{ TeV.}$$

JHEP **04** (2018) 033, arXiv: 1709.05327 [hep-ex].

Evidence for charge asymmetry in  $t\bar{t}$  production (13 TeV):

$$A_C^{t\bar{t}} = 0.0068 \pm 0.0015 \quad [\text{hep-ex}] \text{ arXiv:2208.12095 accepted by JHEP, Aug. 2022}$$

Charge asymmetry in  $t\bar{t}\gamma$  (13 TeV):

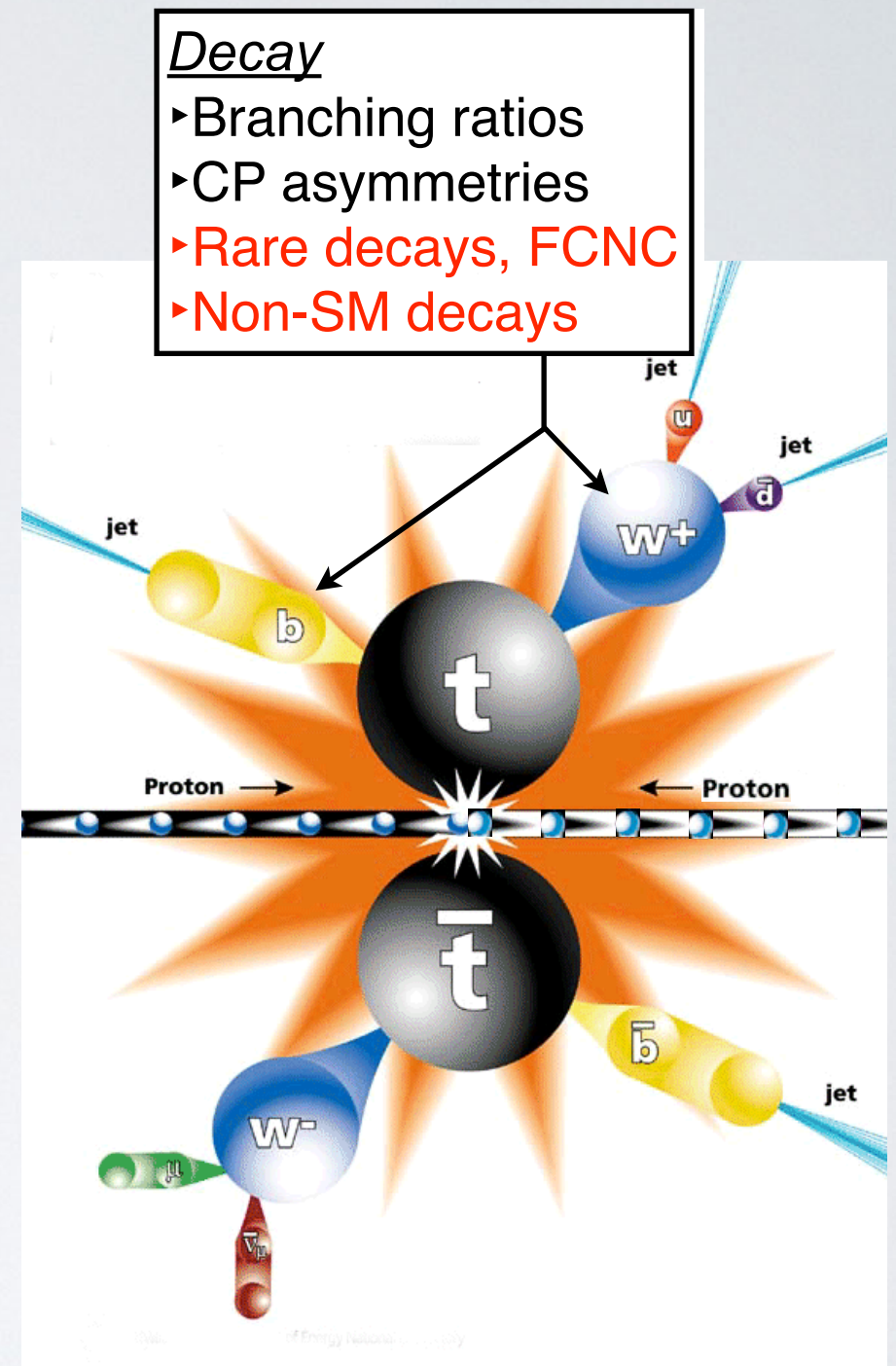
$$A_C = -0.003 \pm 0.029 = -0.003 \pm 0.024 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.017 (\text{syst})$$

[hep-ex] arXiv:2212.10552 accepted by Phys. Lett. B, Dec. 2022



# PART 3: DECAY

- Test of SM (production, decay, coupling....etc)
- Top quark does not hadronize: momentum and spin transferred to decay products
- Search for processes with similar signature (VLQ, Z'...)
- Natural mass ( $y_t \approx 1$ ), top quark mass is a fundamental parameter of the SM, and crucial for SM constraints via loop diagrams



**RED: new results (since Jan. 2023), discussed in this talk**

# Search for flavour-changing neutral-current couplings between the top quark and the Z boson

hep-ex arXiv:2301.11605

submitted to Phys. Rev. D, Jan. 2023

Supersedes previous analysis with 36.1 fb<sup>-1</sup>

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>

FCNC  $tZq$  forbidden at tree-level in SM, suppressed at higher orders, leading to BR of top FCNC decay  $\mathcal{O}(10^{-14})$

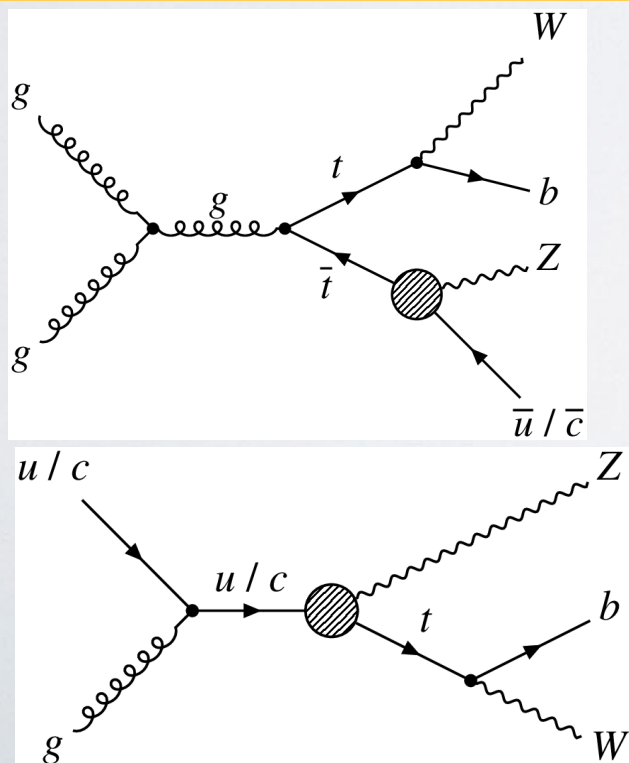
Several SM extensions enhance BR up to  $10^{-4}$ — $10^{-7}$

Search for FCNC in both production ( $gq \rightarrow tZ$ ) and decay of tops ( $t \rightarrow Zq$ ), with sensitivity to  $tZu$  and  $tZc$

**Signature:** Trileptonic final state, a  $b$ -tagged jet, possible additional jets and MET

**Method:** Multivariate technique (Gradient Boosted Decision Tree) to improve the separation Signal vs Background and binned profile likelihood fit to data. Two different optimised Signal Regions

Examples of the lowest-order Feynman diagrams for FCNC decay and production



Overview of the requirements applied to select the events in the signal regions

Common selections			
Exactly 3 leptons with $p_T(\ell_1) > 27$ GeV			
$\geq 1$ OSSF pair, with $ m_{\ell\ell} - m_Z  < 15$ GeV			
SR1	SR2		
$\geq 2$ jets	1 jet	2 jets	
1 $b$ -jet	1 $b$ -jet	1 $b$ -jet	
–	$m_T(\ell_W, \nu) > 40$ GeV	$m_T(\ell_W, \nu) > 40$ GeV	
$ m_{j_a \ell\ell}^{\text{reco}} - m_t  < 2\sigma_{t_{\text{FCNC}}}$	–	$ m_{j_a \ell\ell}^{\text{reco}} - m_t  > 2\sigma_{t_{\text{FCNC}}}$	
–	$ m_{j_b \ell_W \nu}^{\text{reco}} - m_t  < 2\sigma_{t_{\text{SM}}}$	$ m_{j_b \ell_W \nu}^{\text{reco}} - m_t  < 2\sigma_{t_{\text{SM}}}$	



# Search for FCNC couplings between the top quark and the Z boson

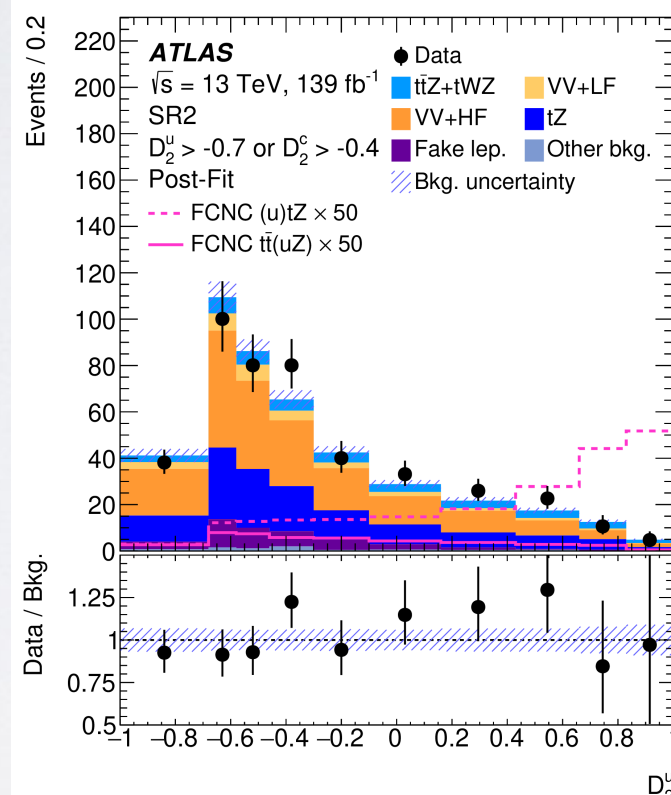
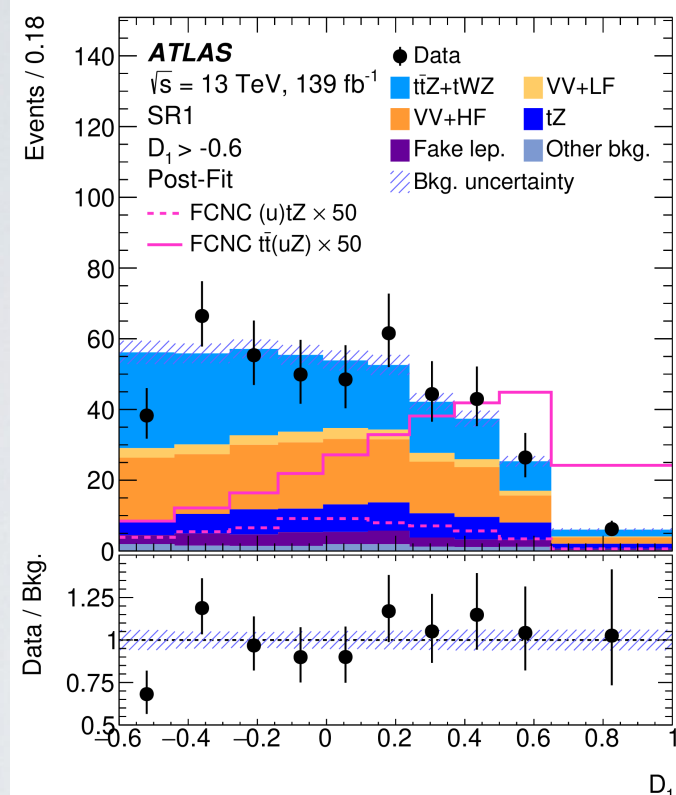
hep-ex arXiv:2301.11605

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>



Comparison between data and background prediction after the fit to data (Post-Fit) for the FCNC  $tZu$  LH coupling extraction for the fitted distributions in the SRs

Observed and expected 95% CL limits on FCNC  $t \rightarrow Zq$  branching ratios and the effective coupling strengths for different vertices and couplings (top eight rows).



Observable	Vertex	Coupling	Observed	Expected
SRs+CRs				
$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow Zq)$	$tZu$	LH	$6.2 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.9^{+2.1}_{-1.4} \times 10^{-5}$
$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow Zq)$	$tZu$	RH	$6.6 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.1^{+2.1}_{-1.4} \times 10^{-5}$
$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow Zq)$	$tZc$	LH	$13 \times 10^{-5}$	$11^{+5}_{-3} \times 10^{-5}$
$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow Zq)$	$tZc$	RH	$12 \times 10^{-5}$	$10^{+4}_{-3} \times 10^{-5}$
$ C_{uW}^{(13)*} $ and $ C_{uB}^{(13)*} $	$tZu$	LH	0.15	$0.13^{+0.03}_{-0.02}$
$ C_{uW}^{(31)} $ and $ C_{uB}^{(31)} $	$tZu$	RH	0.16	$0.14^{+0.03}_{-0.02}$
$ C_{uW}^{(23)*} $ and $ C_{uB}^{(23)*} $	$tZc$	LH	0.22	$0.20^{+0.04}_{-0.03}$
$ C_{uW}^{(32)} $ and $ C_{uB}^{(32)} $	$tZc$	RH	0.21	$0.19^{+0.04}_{-0.03}$
SR1+CRs				
$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow Zq)$	$tZu$	LH	$9.7 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.6^{+3.6}_{-2.4} \times 10^{-5}$
$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow Zq)$	$tZu$	RH	$9.5 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.2^{+3.4}_{-2.3} \times 10^{-5}$
SR2+CRs				
$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow Zq)$	$tZu$	LH	$7.8 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.1^{+2.7}_{-1.7} \times 10^{-5}$
$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow Zq)$	$tZu$	RH	$9.0 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.6^{+2.9}_{-1.8} \times 10^{-5}$

# Search for a new scalar resonance in FCNC top-quark decays $t \rightarrow qX$ ( $q=u,c$ ), with $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

hep-ex arXiv:2301.03902  
 accepted by JHEP, Jan. 2023  
 Extends searches with  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

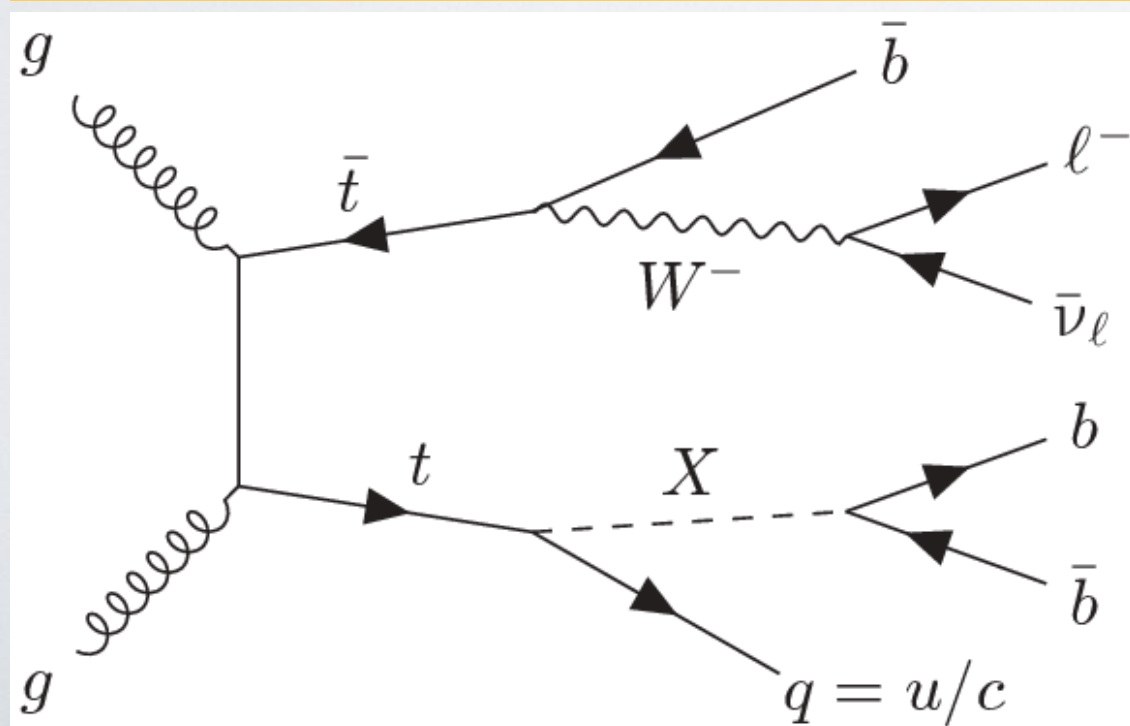
13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>

- Some BSM models predict the existence of new particles (neutral scalar, a pseudoscalar, or an axion-like particle ALP), which are strongly coupled with third generation quarks
- In Froggatt-Nielsen SM extension mechanism [Nucl. Phys. B. **147** (1979) 277], for example,  $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  is the leading decay

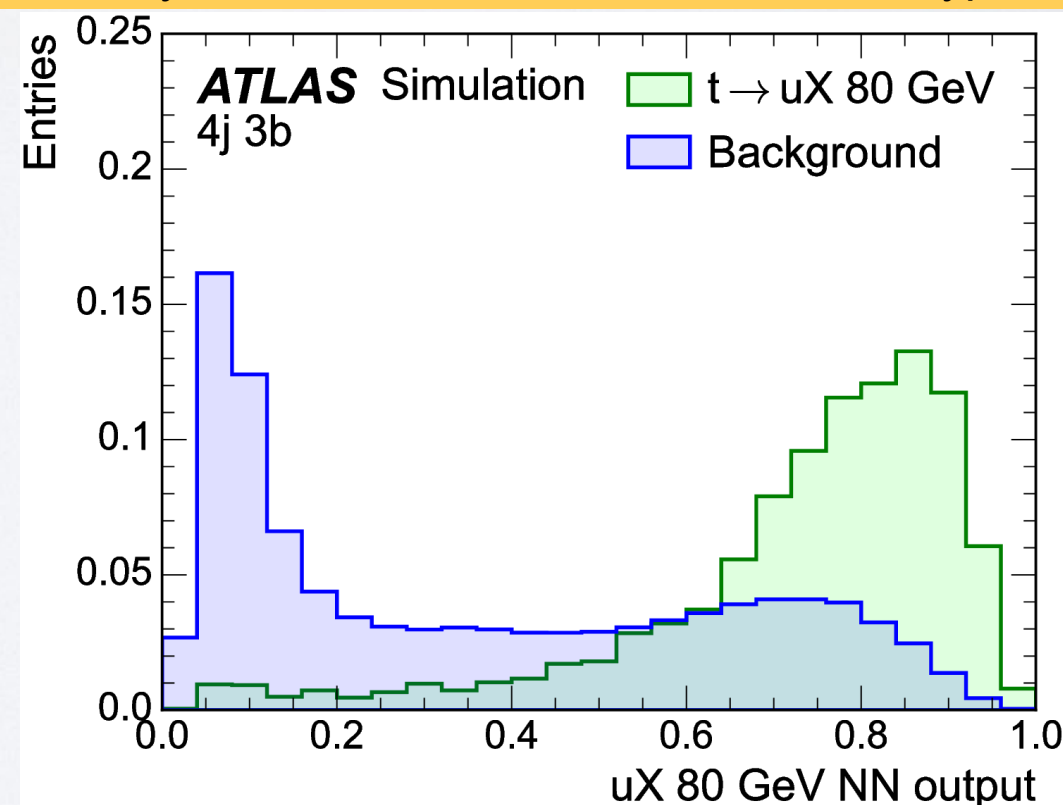
**Signature:** Leptonic  $W$  decay from the SM top decay. Isolated  $e$  or  $\mu$  and  $\geq 4$  jets (3  $b$ -tagged)

**Method:** Neural Network discriminant between Signal and Background. 3 Signal Regions.

Leading-order Feynman diagram for the production of a scalar particle  $X$  in association with a top quark



NN output distributions in the  $4j\ 3b$  signal region for top-quark decays to  $uX$  under the 80 GeV  $X$  mass hypothesis.





# Search for a new scalar resonance in FCNC top-quark decays $t \rightarrow qX$ ( $q=u,c$ ), with $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

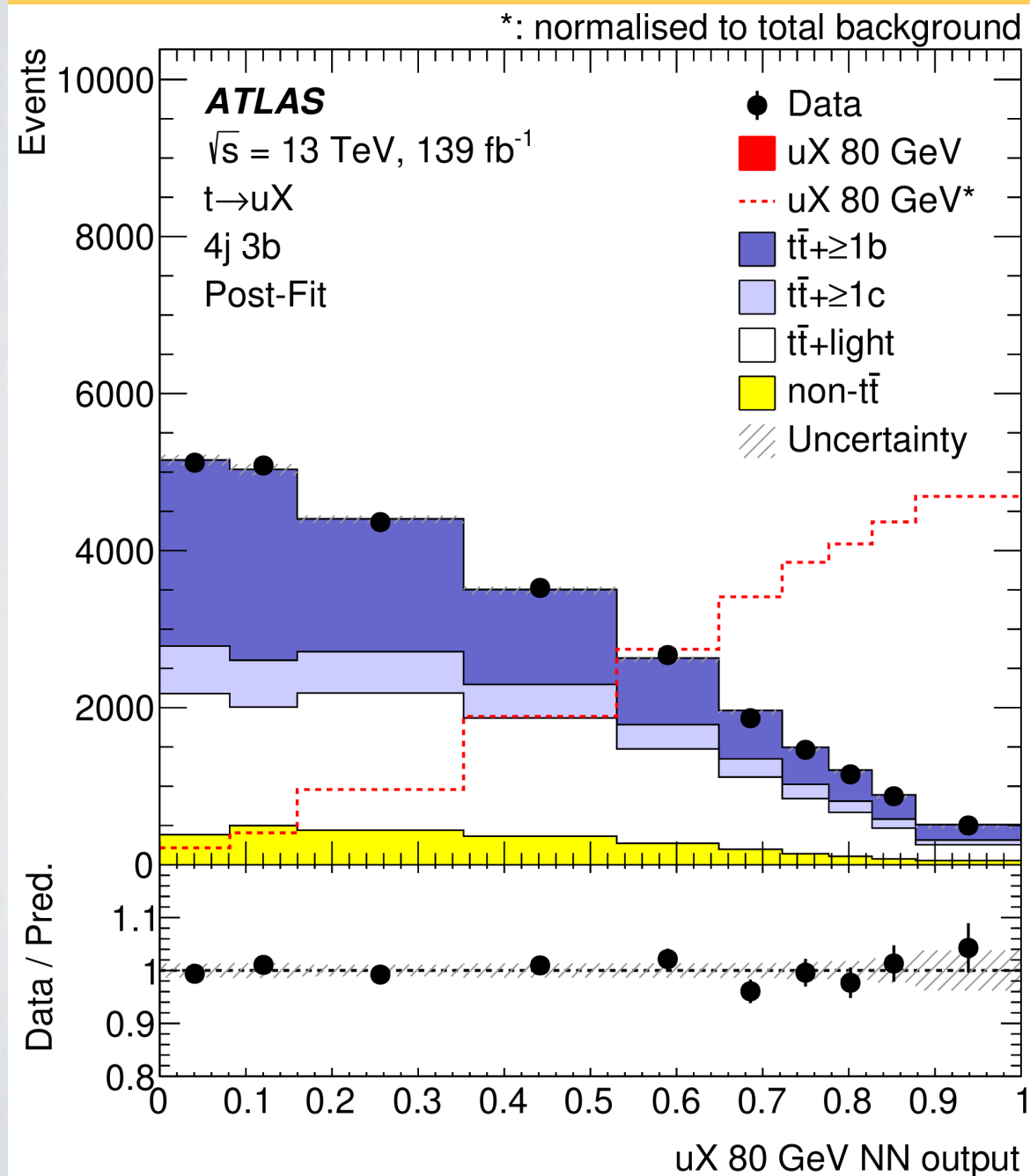
arXiv:2301.03902

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>

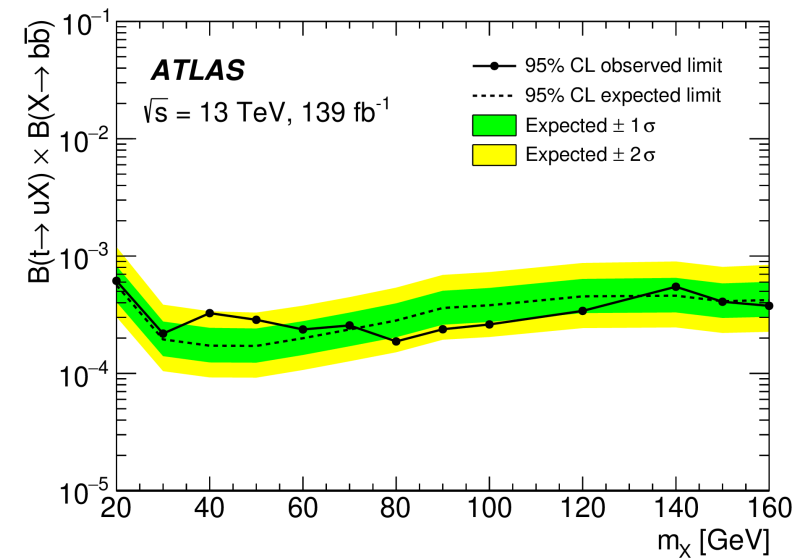


## Binned maximum-likelihood fit to data for $t \rightarrow qX$ and the backgrounds

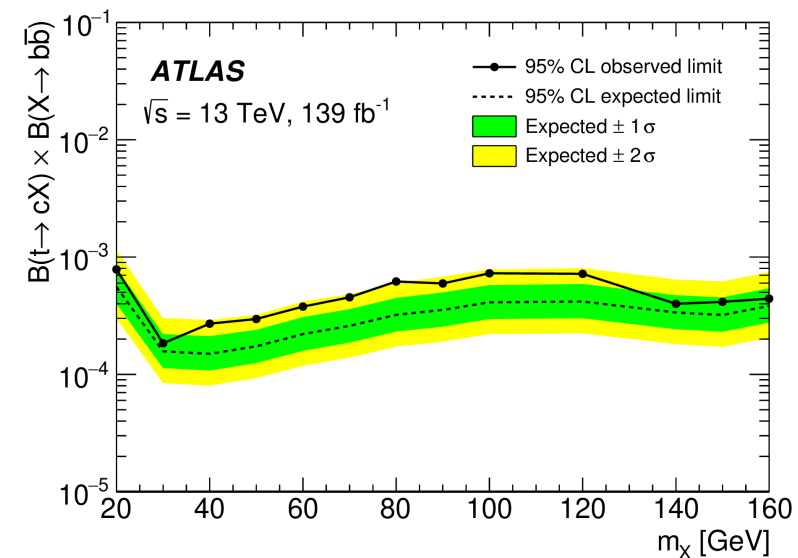
Data and prediction for the NN output in the 4j 3b region for the  $t \rightarrow uX$  process after the S+B fit to data for the 80 GeV X scalar mass hypothesis.



## Expected and observed 95% CL upper limits



**CL<sub>95</sub>  $B(t \rightarrow uH)$ :  
 0.077%(0.088%)  
 obs(expc)**



**CL<sub>95</sub>  $B(t \rightarrow cH)$ :  
 0.12%(0.076%)  
 obs(expc)**

Limits improve by a factor of  $\sim 3$  earlier analysis with 36 fb<sup>-1</sup> regarding  $t \rightarrow qH$  ( $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ) [JHEP 05 (2019) 123] and similar to  $t \rightarrow qH$  ( $H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ ) [hep-ex arXiv:2208.11415 (2022)]

# Search for charged-lepton-flavour violating $\mu\tau qt$ interactions in top-quark production and decay

- cLFV would provide strong evidence for BSM physics
- Extensions of the SM with leptoquarks, including SUSY and technicolor models provide cLFV with sizeable rates
- Searching for production of a single top quark via  $gq_k \rightarrow t\ell^\pm\ell'^\mp$  with  $k = \{1, 2\}$  and  $\ell\ell' = \{\mu\tau, \tau\mu\}$  and top decay in  $tt$  via  $t \rightarrow \ell^\pm\ell'^\mp q_k$

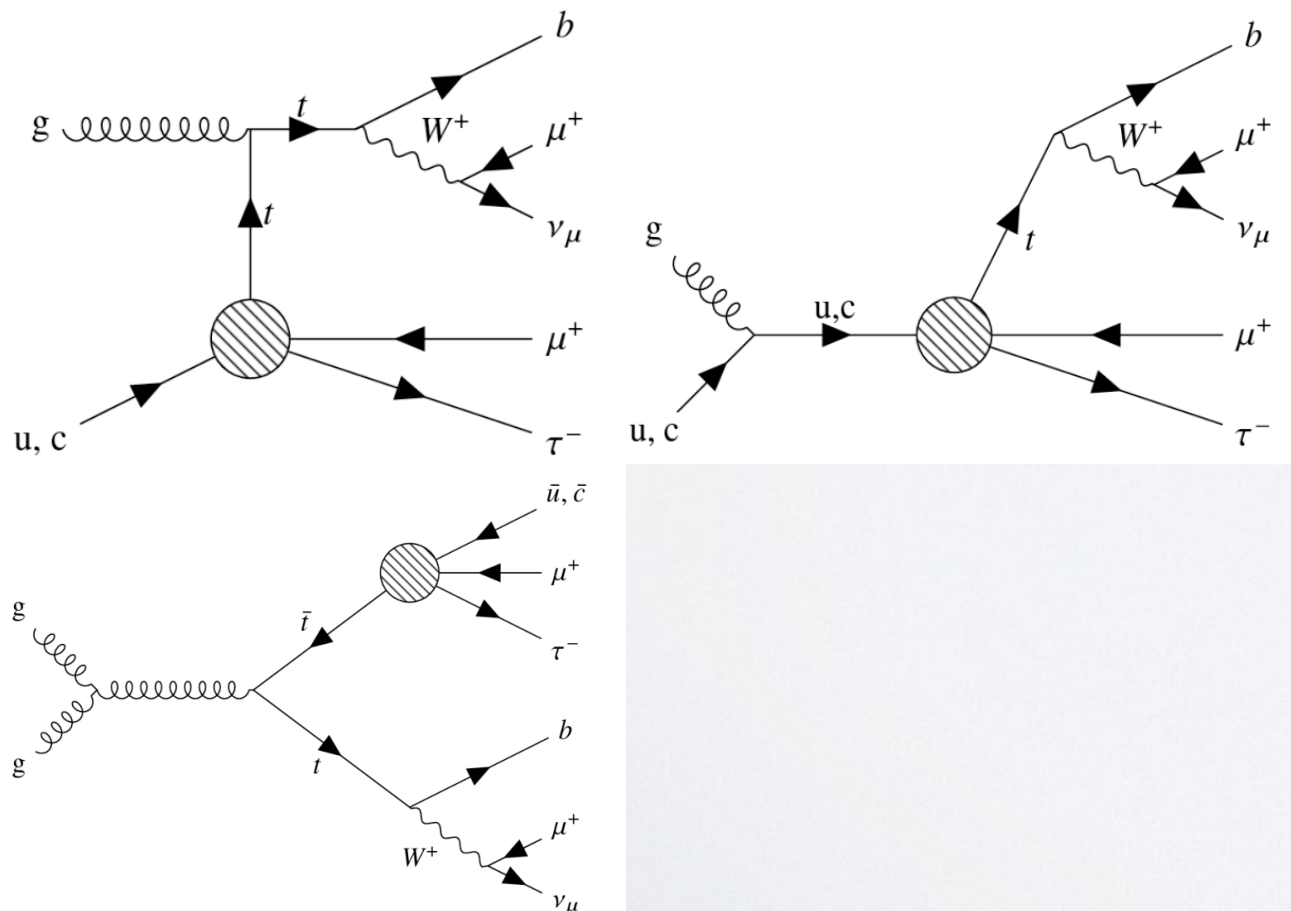
ATLAS-CONF-2023-001, Jan. 2023  
Complements earlier constraints on Wilson coefficients from FCNC  $tZq$

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>

**Signature:** 2  $\mu$  (SS), 1  $\tau$ -hadronic, and 1 or more jets one of which  $b$ -tagged (SR1, SR2)

**Method:** Binned profile-likelihood fit to event yields.  $CR_{t\bar{t}\mu}$  is included in the fit, to determine the normalisation of the non-prompt muon background

Example Feynman diagrams of the process under study, where the hashed circle represents the cLFV vertex



Requirements for each analysis region. The symbol  $\ell_3$  denotes the lowest  $p_T$  lepton.

	SR1	SR2	CR $\tau$	CR $tt\mu$
Lepton flavour		$2\mu 1\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$		$2\mu 1e (\ell_3 = \mu)$
$N_{\text{jets}}$	$\geq 2$	1	$\geq 2$	$\geq 2$
$N_{b\text{-tags}}$	1	1	1	$\leq 2$
Muon $p_T$ cut	$> 15$ GeV	$> 15$ GeV	$> 15$ GeV	$> 10$ GeV
Lowest $p_T$ muon selection	<i>Tight</i>	<i>Tight</i>	<i>Tight</i>	<i>Loose</i>
Muon charges	SS	SS	OS	-
$ m_{\mu\mu}^{OS} - M_Z $	-	-	$< 10$ GeV	$> 10$ GeV

CR $\tau$  only used to estimate the fake  $\tau$  background, not in the fit



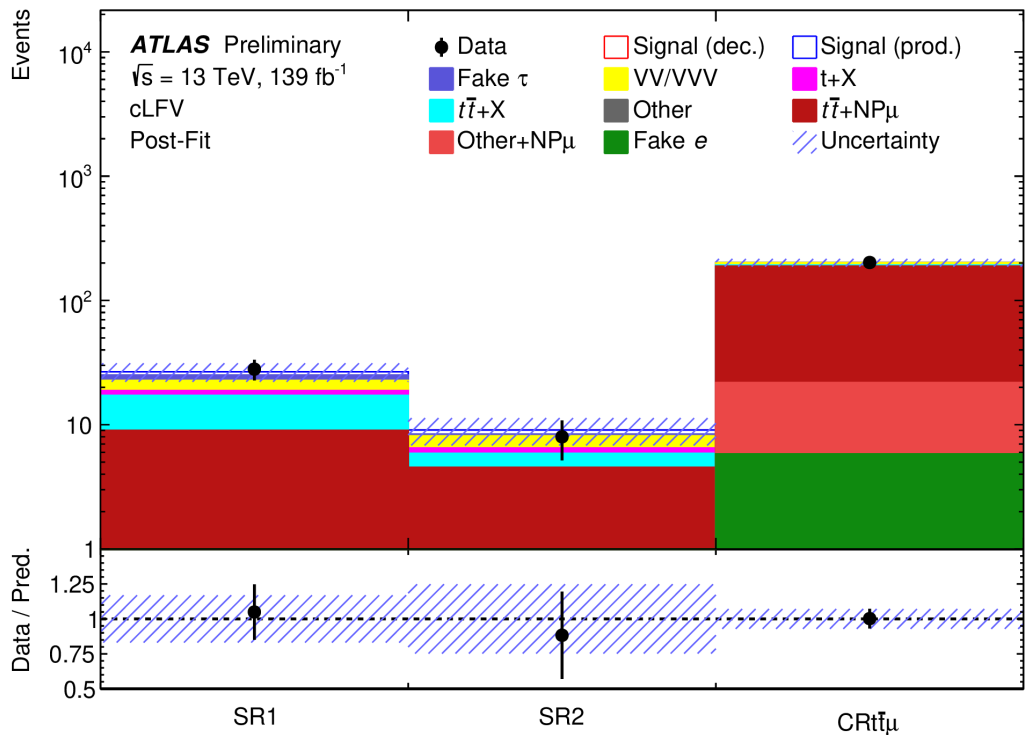
# Search for cLFV $\mu\tau qt$ interactions in top-quark production and decay

ATLAS-CONF-2023-001

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>



Observed event yields in SRs and CR $t\bar{t}\mu$  compared to post-fit expectations from Monte Carlo simulations



Expected and observed 95% CL upper limits on Wilson coefficients corresponding to 2Q2L EFT operators which could introduce cLFV top decay in the  $\mu\tau$  channel, and existing limits from analysis [22]: arXiv: 1809.09624 [hep-ph]


	95% CL upper limits on Wilson coefficients						$c/\Lambda^2$ [TeV <sup>-2</sup> ]	
	$c_{lq}^{-(ijk3)}$	$c_{eq}^{(ijk3)}$	$c_{lu}^{(ijk3)}$	$c_{eu}^{(ijk3)}$	$c_{lequ}^{1(ijk3)}$	$c_{lequ}^{1(ij3k)}$	$c_{lequ}^{3(ijk3)}$	$c_{lequ}^{3(ij3k)}$
<b>Previous (u) [22]</b>	12	12	12	12	26	26	3.4	3.4
<b>Expected (u)</b>	0.47	0.44	0.43	0.46	0.49	0.49	0.11	0.11
<b>Observed (u)</b>	0.49	0.47	0.46	0.48	0.51	0.51	0.11	0.11
<b>Previous (c) [22]</b>	14	14	14	14	29	29	3.7	3.7
<b>Expected (c)</b>	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.8	0.35	0.35
<b>Observed (c)</b>	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.9	0.37	0.37

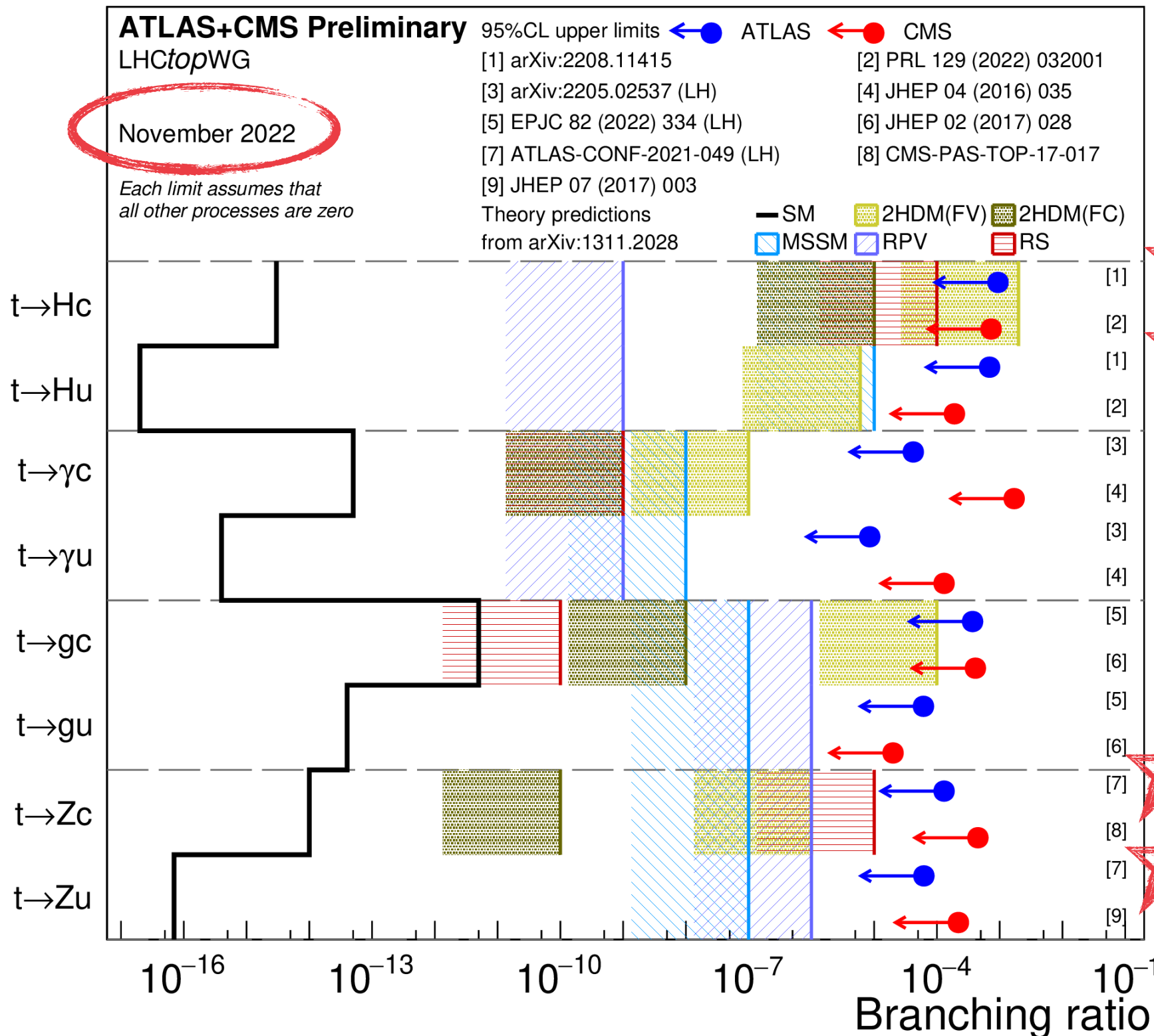
Expected and observed 95% CL upper limits on the inclusive branching ratio corresponding to the decay of a top quark to a muon and a  $\tau$  lepton through a cLFV process.

	95% CL upper limits on BR( $t \rightarrow \mu\tau q$ )	
	Stat. only	All systematics
<b>Expected</b>	$8 \times 10^{-7}$	$10 \times 10^{-7}$
<b>Observed</b>	$9 \times 10^{-7}$	$11 \times 10^{-7}$

# Summary of Other FCNC Measurements

Summary of the current 95% confidence level observed limits on the branching ratios of the top quark decays via flavour changing neutral currents (FCNC) to a quark and a neutral boson  $t \rightarrow Xq$  ( $X = g, Z, \gamma$  or  $H$ ;  $q=u$  or  $c$ ) **ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-049**

 : new, shown today





# SUMMARY

- I presented 9 new measurements from the last 5 months
- 8 full Run 2 datasets and 1 Run 3
- Chance to study rare top processes
- Several other measurements in 2022, including:

- Measurement of  $t\bar{t}$  production cross section using collisions at  $\sqrt{s}=5.02$  TeV, hep-ex arXiv:2207.01354 (2022)
- Evidence for charge asymmetry in  $t\bar{t}$  production, hep-ex arXiv:2208.12095 (2022)
- Measurement of the polarisation of  $W$  bosons produced in top-quark decays using dilepton events, hep-ex arXiv:2209.14903 (2022)
- Measurement of the top-quark mass using a leptonic invariant mass, hep-ex arXiv:2209.00583 (2022)
- Measurement of the top-quark mass in  $t\bar{t}$  dilepton events, ATLAS-CONF-2022-058 (2022)
- Search for FCNC interactions of the top quark and the Higgs boson in events with a pair of  $\tau$ -leptons, hep-ex arXiv:2208.11415 (2022)
- Measurement of the charge asymmetry in top-quark pair production with a photon, hep-ex arXiv:2212.10552 (2022)

5 TeV, 257 pb<sup>-1</sup>

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>

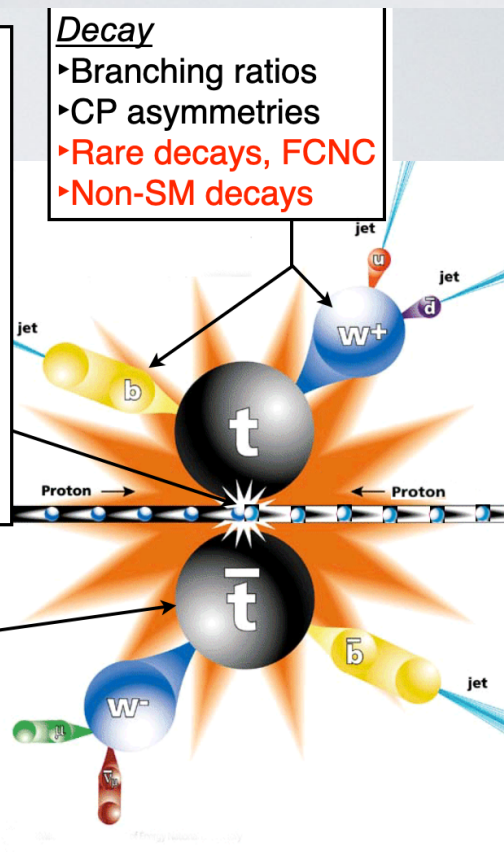
13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>

13 TeV, 36.1 fb<sup>-1</sup>

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>

13 TeV, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>



**Decay**

- ▶ Branching ratios
- ▶ CP asymmetries
- ▶ Rare decays, FCNC
- ▶ Non-SM decays

**Production Rate**

- ▶ Pair Production cross section
- ▶ Single (EWK) production, IVtbI
- ▶ FCNC, anomalous couplings
- ▶ Differential cross sections
- ▶ Production mechanism (gg, qq)
- ▶ Associated production

**New Physics in production**

- ▶ Resonant production
- ▶ Heavy Quark production
- ▶ ...

**Properties**

- ▶ Top mass
- ▶ Top charge
- ▶ Top width
- ▶ Spin correlation
- ▶ Top polarisation
- ▶ W helicity
- ▶ Charge asymmetry
- ▶ Yukawa coupling

Find out more at:



<https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AtlasPublic/TopPublicResults>