

# Global PDF Analyses and Precision Physics

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Lattice@CERN 2024, July 9th 2024

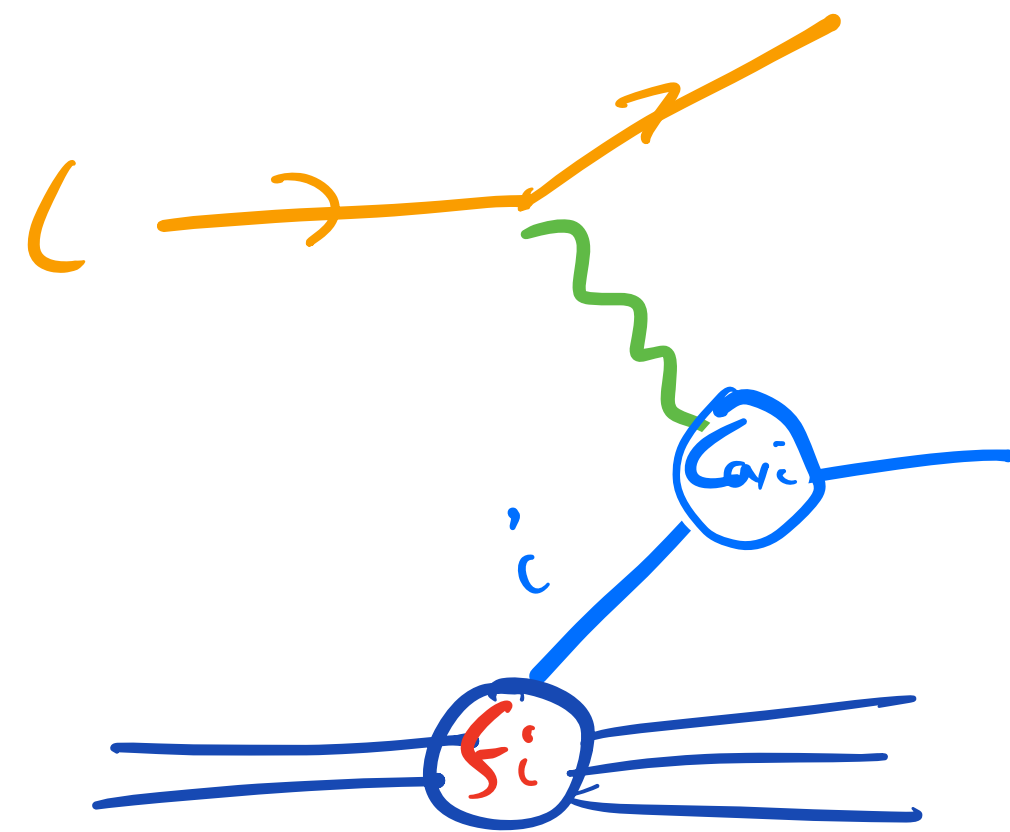


Collinear, unpolarized

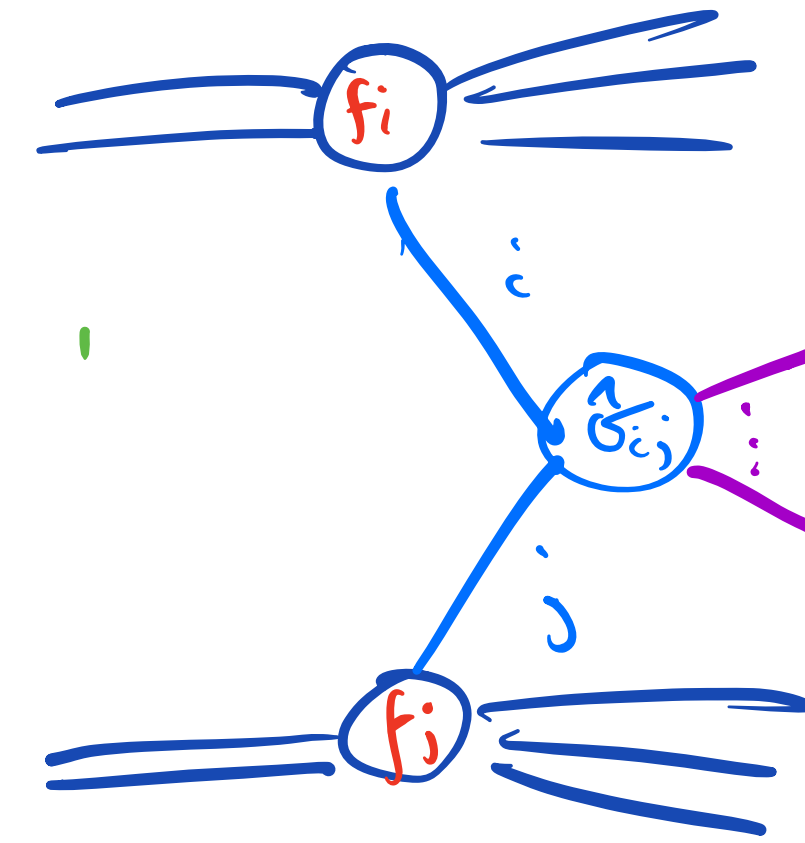


# Setting the Scene...

- Parton distribution functions (PDFs): a key ingredient in hadron collider physics!
- QCD factorization: perturbative physics separated from **universal** non-perturbative PDFs



$$F_a(x, Q^2) = \sum_{i=q, \bar{q}, g} \int_0^1 \frac{dz}{z} f_i(z, Q^2) C_{a,i} \left( \frac{x}{z}, \alpha_S(Q^2) \right) + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{\Lambda_{QCD}^2}{Q^2} \right)$$



$$\sigma = \sum_{ij} \int_{x_{min}}^1 dx_1 dx_2 f_i(x_1, \mu_f^2) f_j(x_2, \mu_f^2) \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(x_1 p_1, x_2 p_2, Q, \mu_F^2)$$

Factorization  $\Rightarrow f_i^{\text{DIS}}(x, Q^2) \equiv \{ f_i^{\text{Collider}}(x, Q^2) \}$  ← **Drell Yan, Jets, Higgs...**

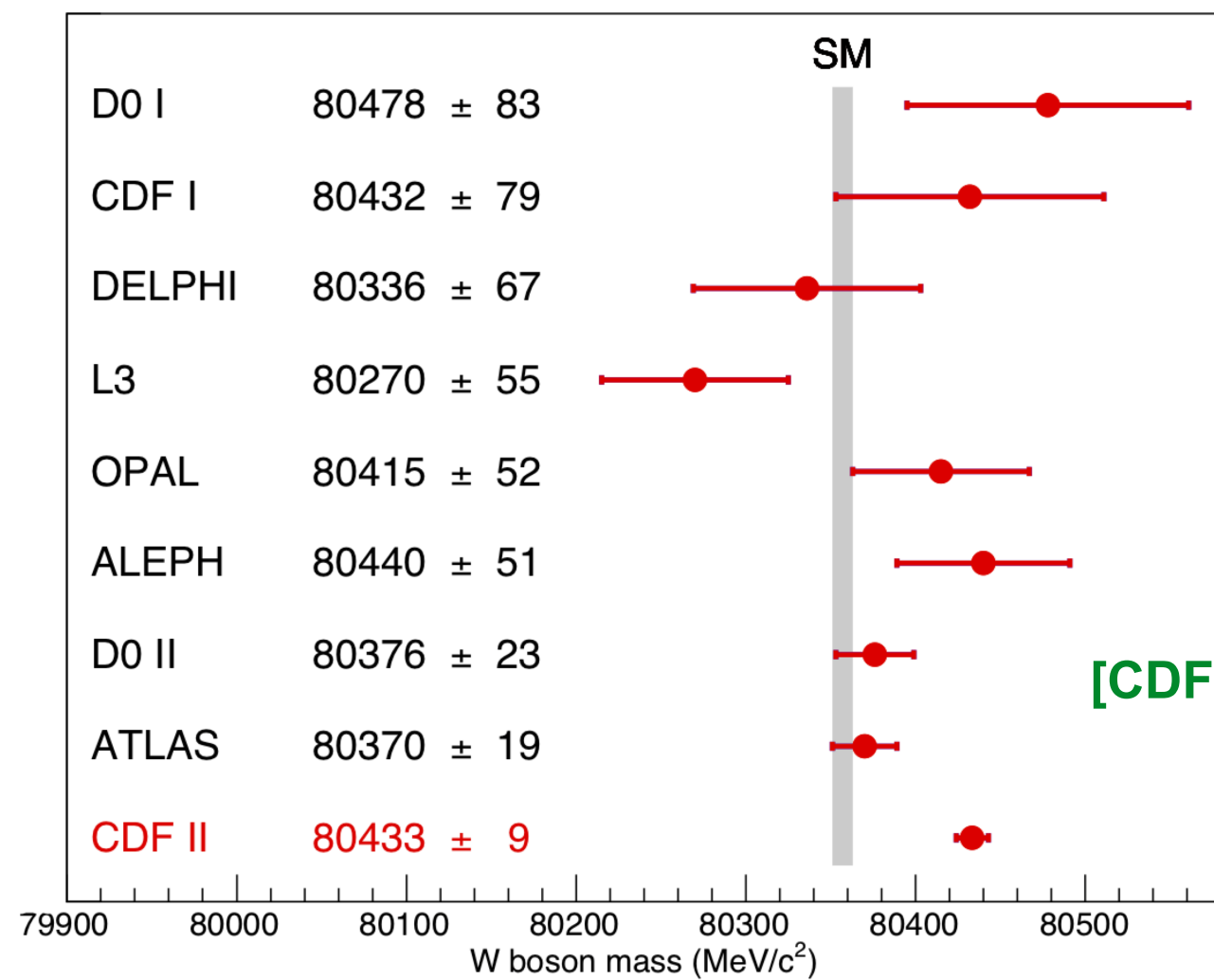
- PDFs at different scales connected by DGLAP evolution  $\frac{\partial f_q^{NS}(x, \mu^2)}{\partial \log \mu^2} = \frac{\alpha_S}{2\pi} \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} f_q^{NS}(z, \mu^2) P_{qq}^{NS}(x/z)$  **etc...**
- Foundation of global PDF fits: use data at different scales and processes to extract PDFs.

# Why do we care about PDFs?

- The LHC is a Standard Model precision machine, and PDFs are a key ingredient in this. Increasingly a limiting factor:

## W mass

W boson mass from different experiments



SM expectation:  $M_W = 80,357 \pm 4_{\text{inputs}} \pm 4_{\text{theory}}$  (PDG 2020)

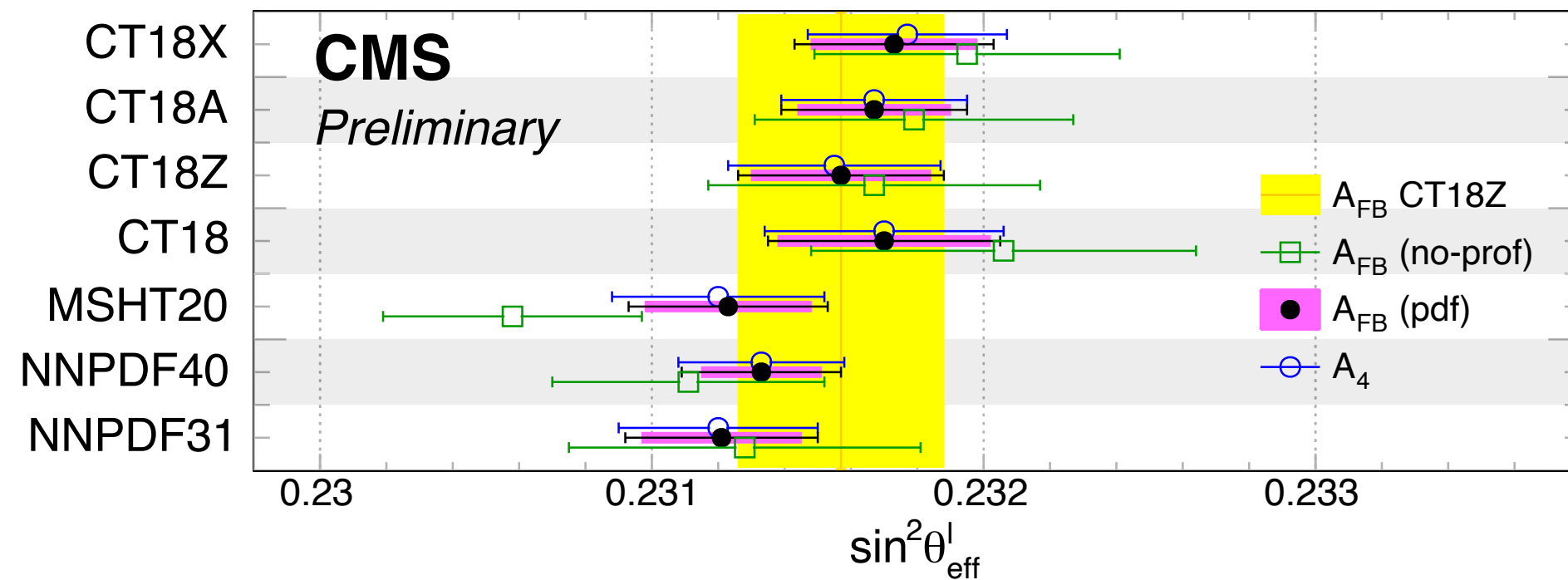
LHCb measurement:  $M_W = 80,354 \pm 23_{\text{stat}} \pm 10_{\text{exp}} \pm 17_{\text{theory}} \pm 9_{\text{PDF}}$  [JHEP 2022, 36 (2022)]

PDF unc. of CDF / ATLAS / LHCb: 3.9 / 8 / 9 MeV

$$\sigma_{\text{PDF}} \sim \sigma_{\text{tot}}/2$$

(up to)

## $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^l$

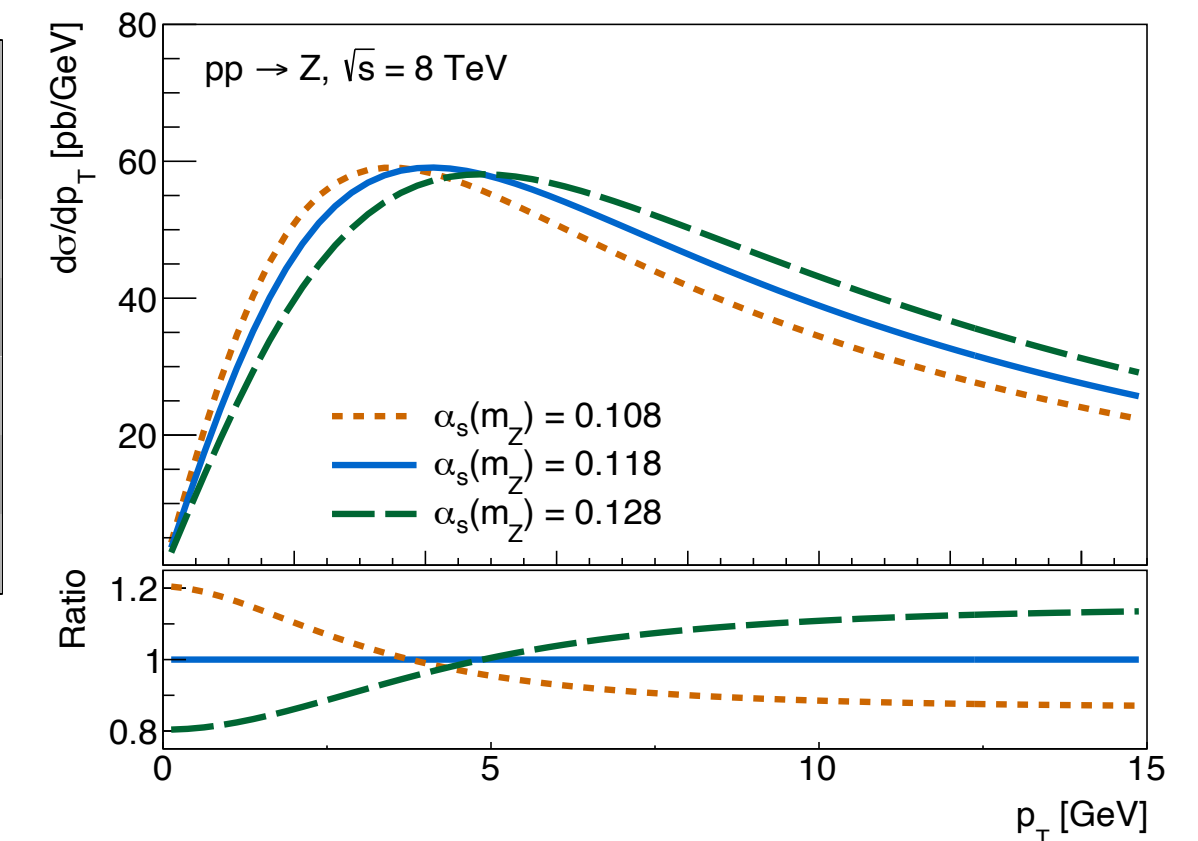


CMS PAS SMP-22-010

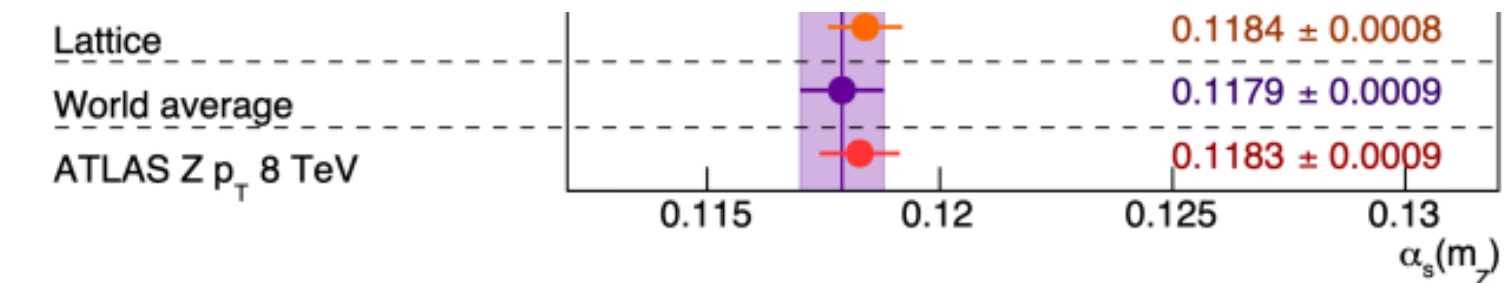
$$\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^l = 0.23157 \pm 0.00010(\text{stat}) \pm 0.00015(\text{syst}) \pm 0.00009(\text{theo}) \pm 0.00027(\text{PDF}),$$

$$\sigma_{\text{PDF}} \sim \sigma_{\text{tot}}$$

## $\alpha_S$



ATLAS, 2309.12986

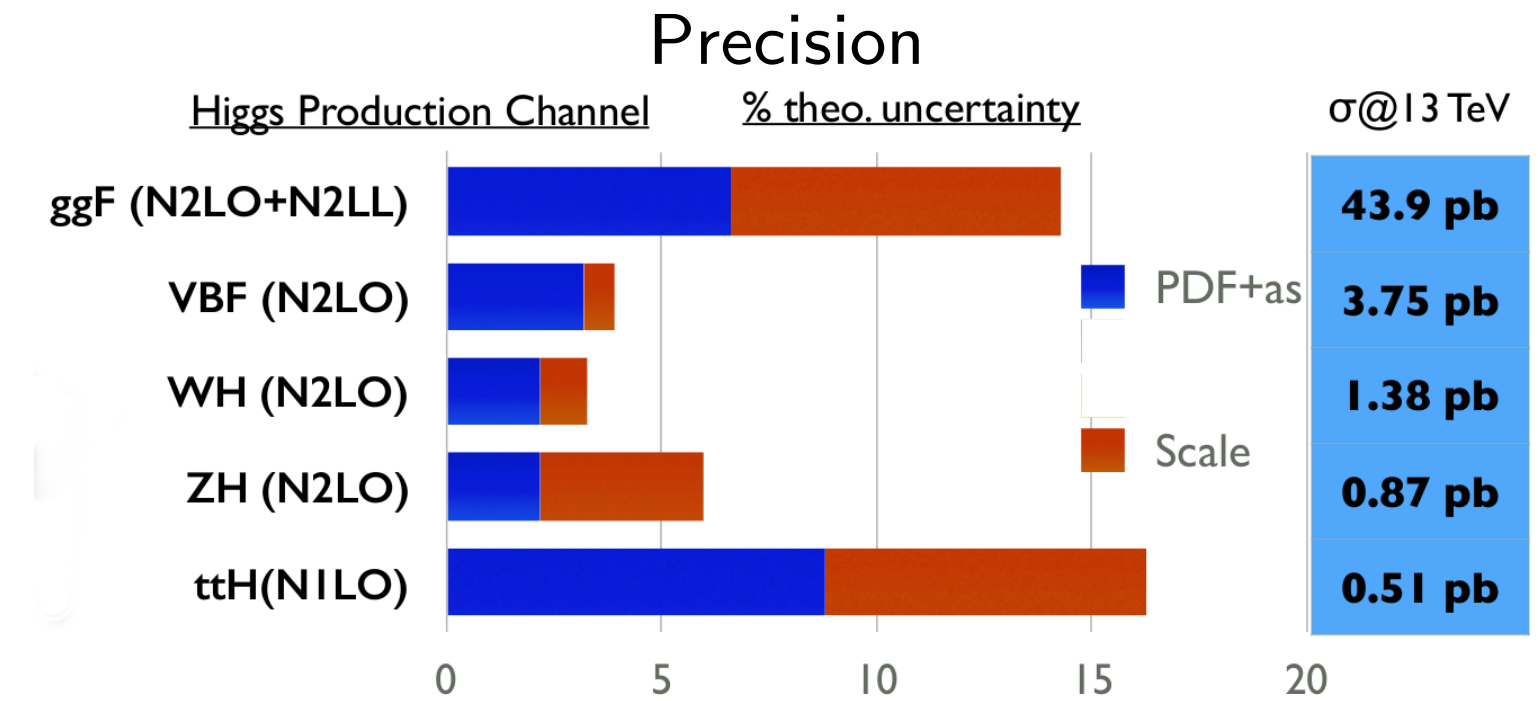
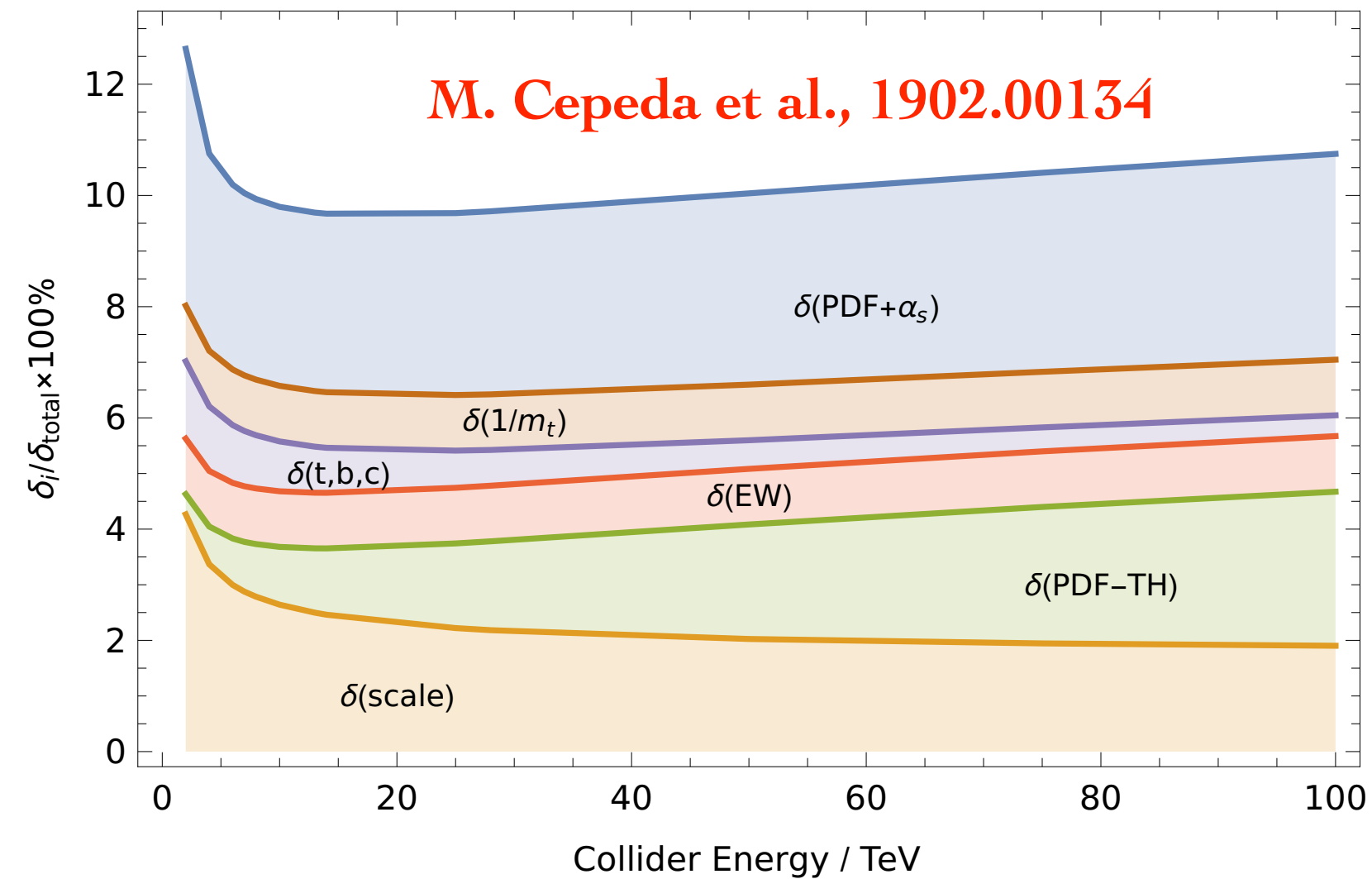


$$\sigma_{\text{PDF}} \sim \sigma_{\text{tot}}/2$$

Disclaimer: will generally refer to papers by their arxiv number, even if published.

- The LHC is a **Higgs** factory: PDFs play a key role here.

Image Credit: Emanuele Nocera



- The LHC is a **BSM** search machine. Often need PDFs here.
- High mass = high  $x$ , where PDFs are less well known. Key when looking for small/smooth deviations.

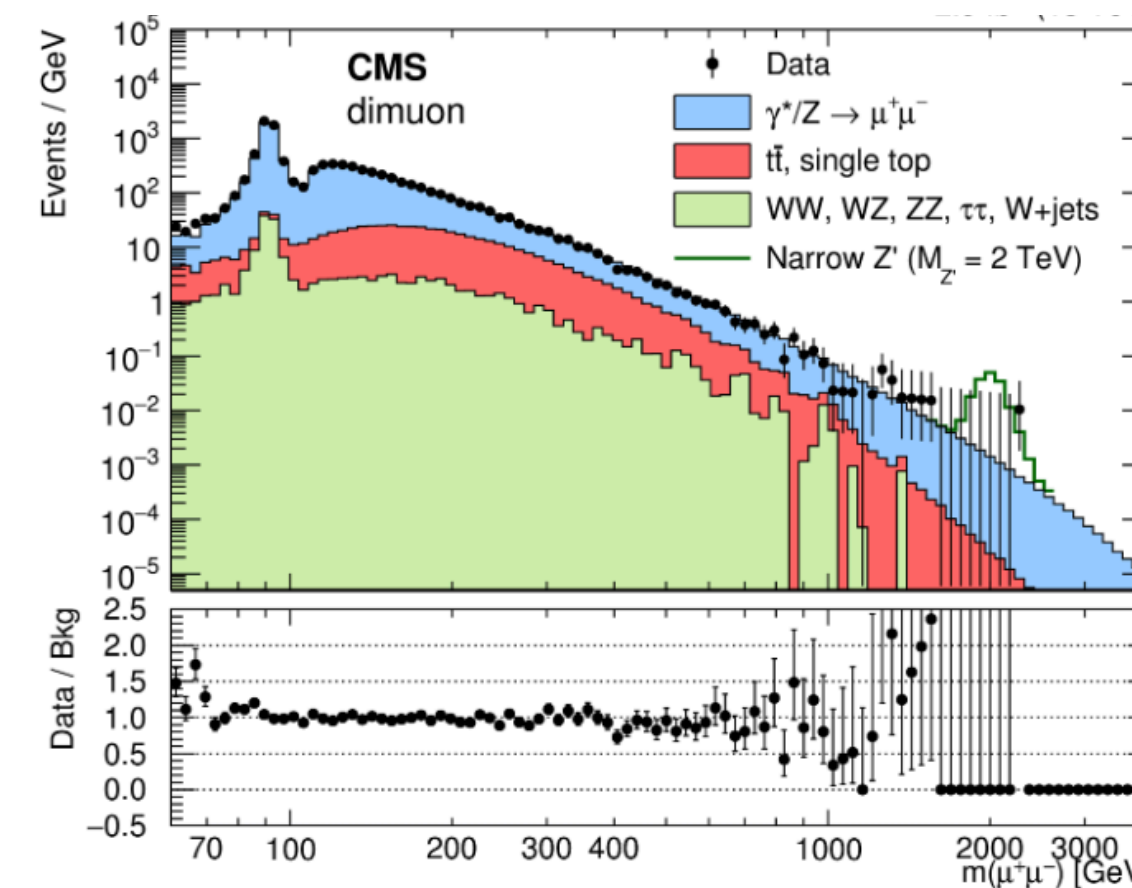
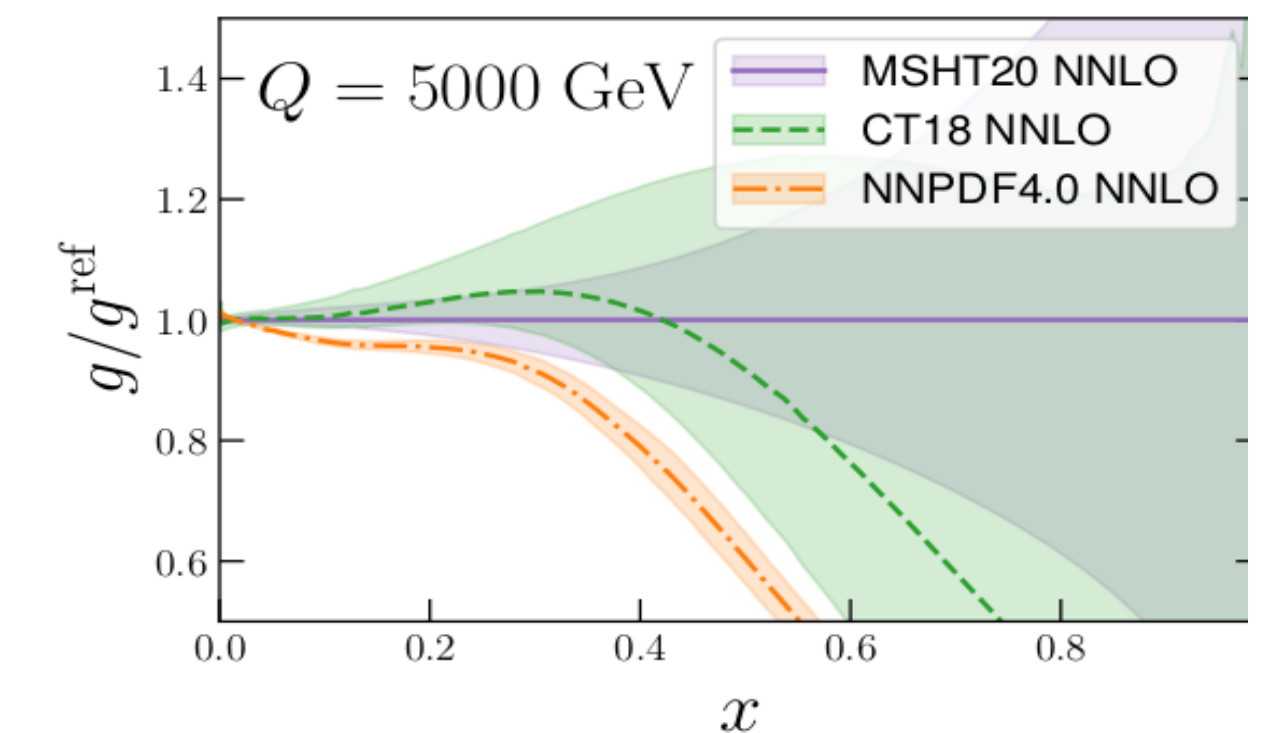


Image Credit: Tom Cridge



# Global PDF Fits

- Basic idea is simple:

$$\text{Data} = \text{PDF} \otimes \sigma_H$$

but many ingredients enter! Three key areas:

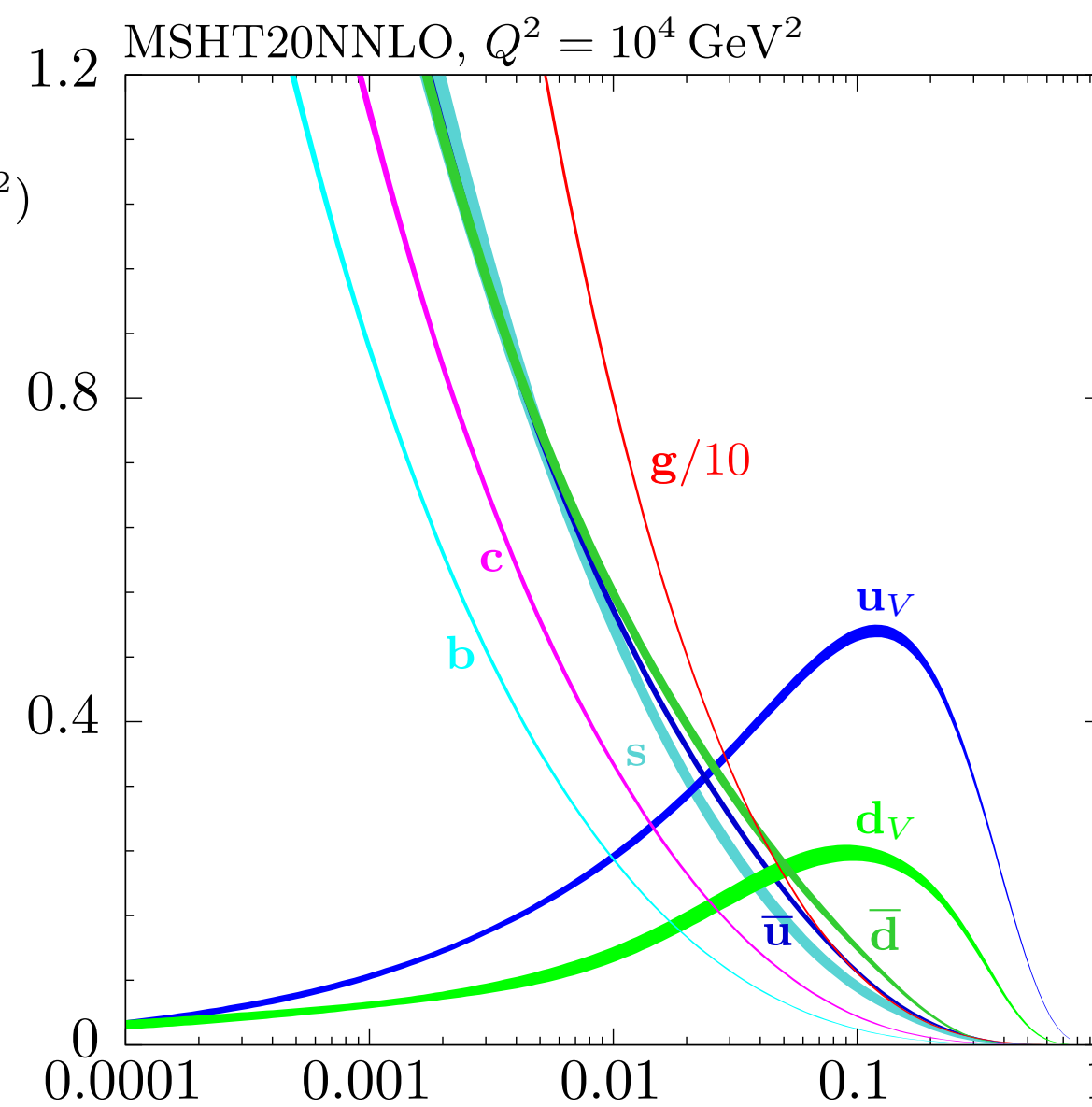
measure      fit      predict

Methodology

- PDF parameterisation, uncertainty prescription...

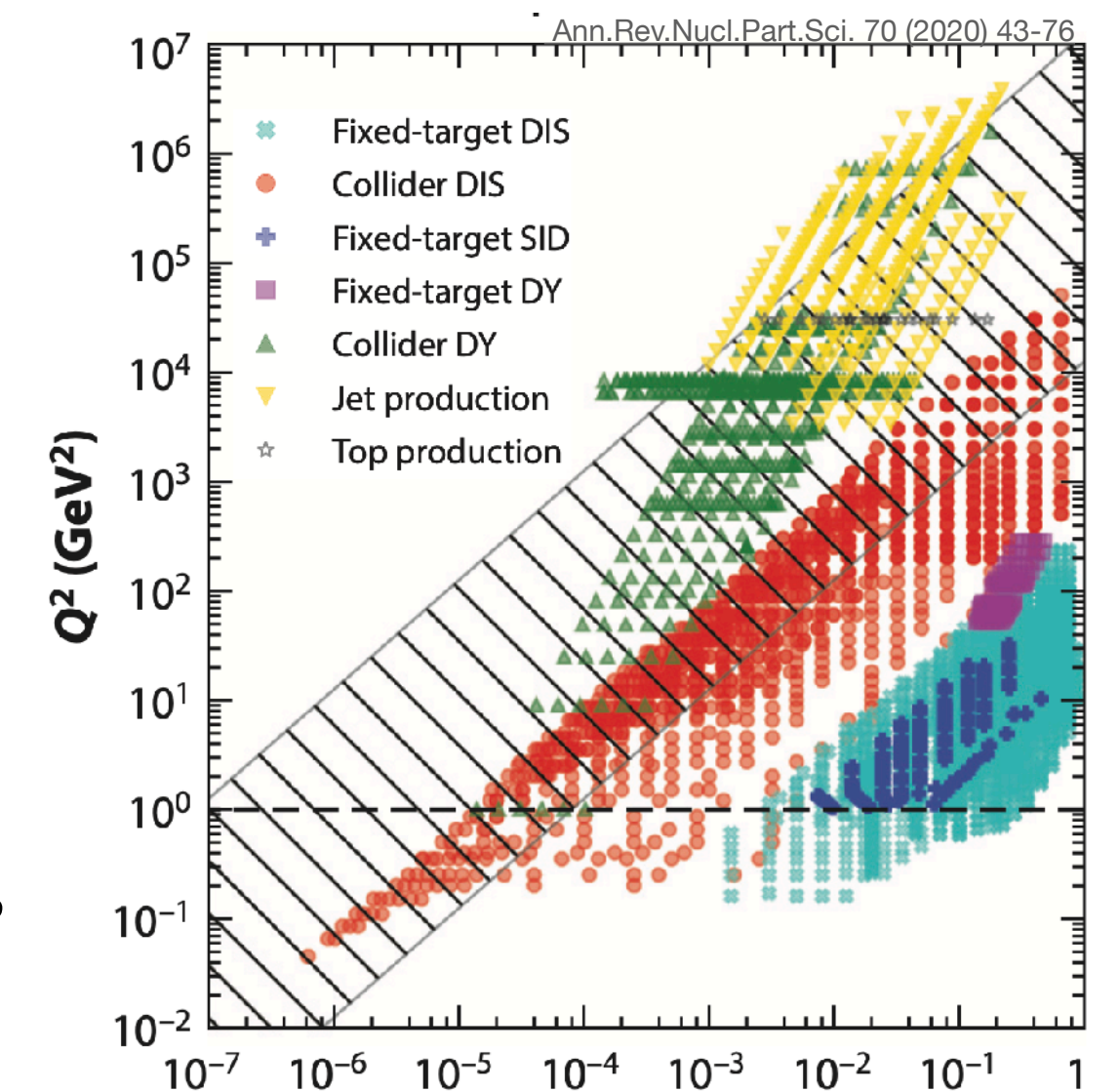
Theory

- High precision: NNLO QCD + NLO EW the standard



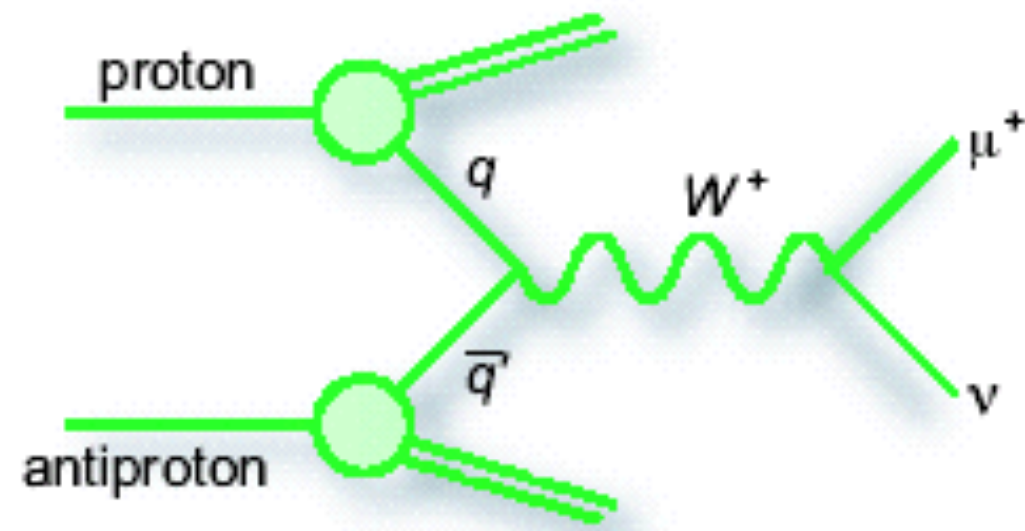
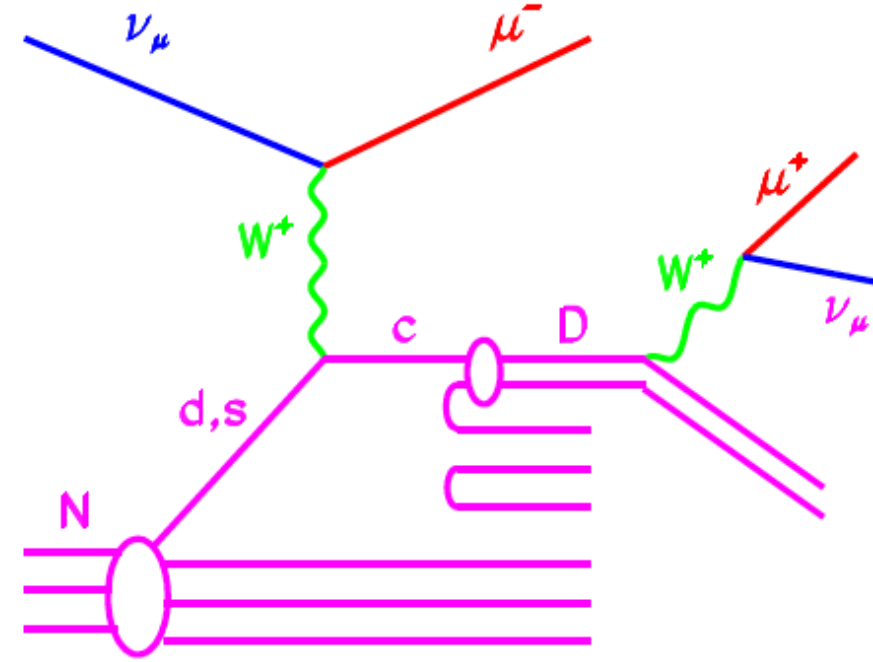
Data

- From fixed target, to HERA DIS and collider. LHC data increasingly important.

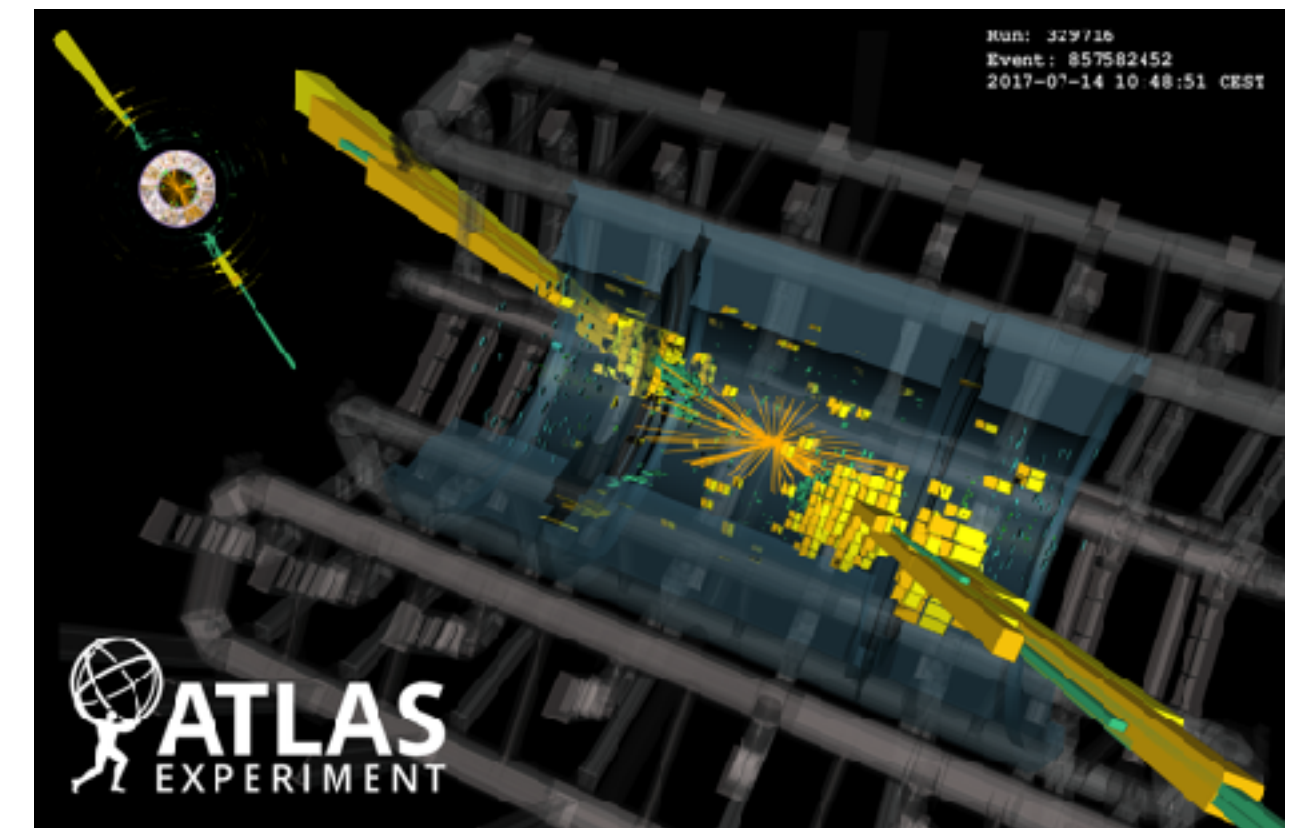
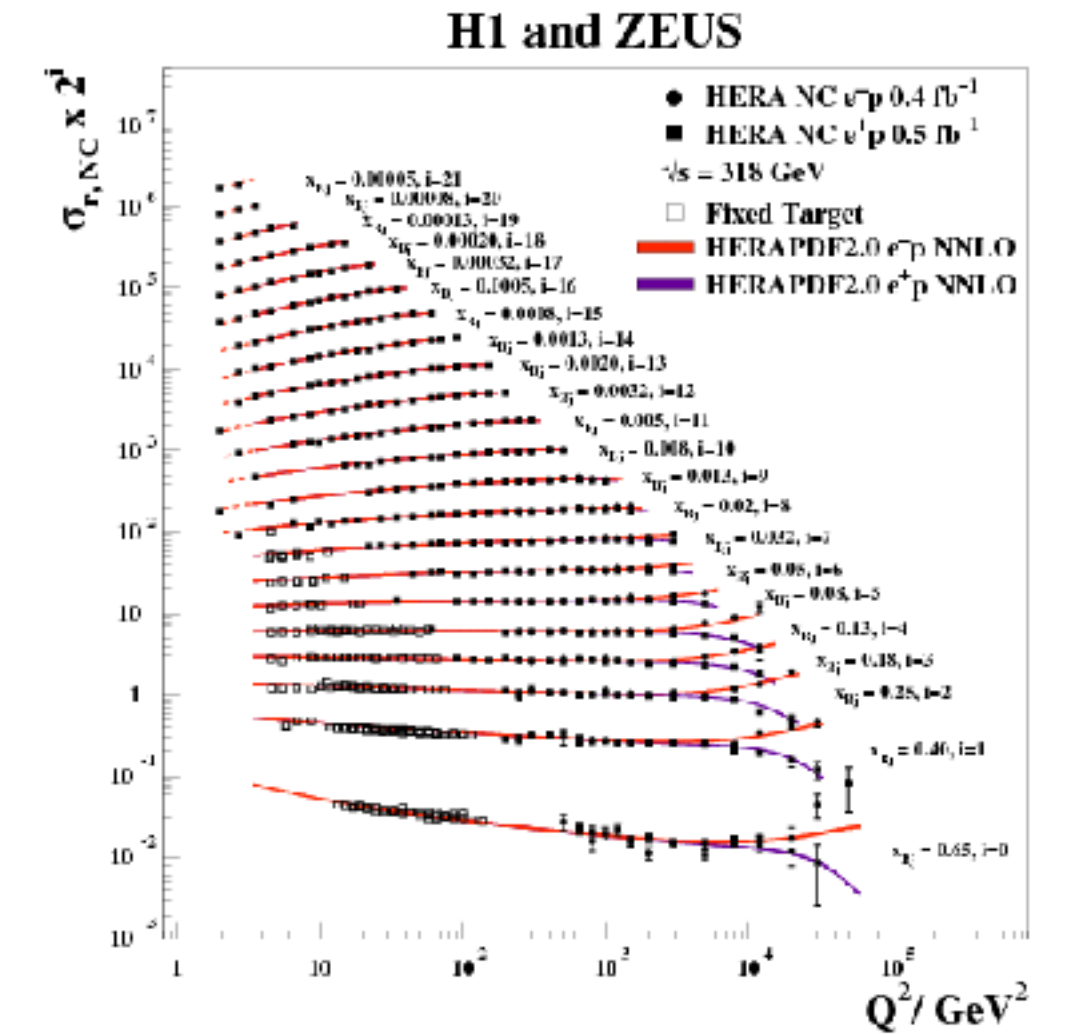


- Aim: high precision theory + wide range of data → **precise** + **accurate** PDFs
- Alternative/complementary route: input from lattice.

# Global PDF fits: datasets



	Process	Subprocess	Partons	$x$ range
Fixed Target	$\ell^\pm \{p, n\} \rightarrow \ell^\pm + X$	$\gamma^* q \rightarrow q$	$q, \bar{q}, g$	$x \gtrsim 0.01$
	$\ell^\pm n/p \rightarrow \ell^\pm + X$	$\gamma^* d/u \rightarrow d/u$	$d/u$	$x \gtrsim 0.01$
	$pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- + X$	$u\bar{u}, d\bar{d} \rightarrow \gamma^*$	$\bar{q}$	$0.015 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.35$
	$pn/pp \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- + X$	$(u\bar{d})/(u\bar{u}) \rightarrow \gamma^*$	$\bar{d}/\bar{u}$	$0.015 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.35$
	$\nu(\bar{\nu}) N \rightarrow \mu^-(\mu^+) + X$	$W^* q \rightarrow q'$	$q, \bar{q}$	$0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.5$
	$\nu N \rightarrow \mu^- \mu^+ + X$	$W^* s \rightarrow c$	$s$	$0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.2$
	$\bar{\nu} N \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- + X$	$W^* \bar{s} \rightarrow \bar{c}$	$\bar{s}$	$0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.2$
Collider DIS	$e^\pm p \rightarrow e^\pm + X$	$\gamma^* q \rightarrow q$	$g, q, \bar{q}$	$0.0001 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.1$
	$e^+ p \rightarrow \bar{\nu} + X$	$W^+ \{d, s\} \rightarrow \{u, c\}$	$d, s$	$x \gtrsim 0.01$
	$e^\pm p \rightarrow e^\pm c\bar{c} + X$	$\gamma^* c \rightarrow c, \gamma^* g \rightarrow c\bar{c}$	$c, g$	$10^{-4} \lesssim x \lesssim 0.01$
	$e^\pm p \rightarrow e^\pm b\bar{b} + X$	$\gamma^* b \rightarrow b, \gamma^* g \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	$b, g$	$10^{-4} \lesssim x \lesssim 0.01$
	$e^\pm p \rightarrow \text{jet} + X$	$\gamma^* g \rightarrow q\bar{q}$	$g$	$0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.1$
Tevatron	$p\bar{p} \rightarrow \text{jet} + X$	$gg, qg, q\bar{q} \rightarrow 2j$	$g, q$	$0.01 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.5$
	$p\bar{p} \rightarrow (W^\pm \rightarrow \ell^\pm \nu) + X$	$ud \rightarrow W^+, \bar{u}\bar{d} \rightarrow W^-$	$u, d, \bar{u}, \bar{d}$	$x \gtrsim 0.05$
	$p\bar{p} \rightarrow (Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) + X$	$uu, dd \rightarrow Z$	$u, d$	$x \gtrsim 0.05$
	$p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t} + X$	$qq \rightarrow t\bar{t}$	$q$	$x \gtrsim 0.1$
LHC	$pp \rightarrow \text{jet} + X$	$gg, qg, q\bar{q} \rightarrow 2j$	$g, q$	$0.001 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.5$
	$pp \rightarrow (W^\pm \rightarrow \ell^\pm \nu) + X$	$u\bar{d} \rightarrow W^+, d\bar{u} \rightarrow W^-$	$u, d, \bar{u}, \bar{d}, g$	$x \gtrsim 10^{-3}$
	$pp \rightarrow (Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) + X$	$q\bar{q} \rightarrow Z$	$q, \bar{q}, g$	$x \gtrsim 10^{-3}$
	$pp \rightarrow (Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) + X, p_\perp$	$gq(\bar{q}) \rightarrow Zq(\bar{q})$	$g, q, \bar{q}$	$x \gtrsim 0.01$
	$pp \rightarrow (\gamma^* \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) + X, \text{Low mass}$	$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma^*$	$q, \bar{q}, g$	$x \gtrsim 10^{-4}$
	$pp \rightarrow (\gamma^* \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) + X, \text{High mass}$	$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma^*$	$\bar{q}$	$x \gtrsim 0.1$
	$pp \rightarrow W^+ \bar{c}, W^- c$	$sg \rightarrow W^+ c, \bar{s}g \rightarrow W^- \bar{c}$	$s, \bar{s}$	$x \sim 0.01$
	$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} + X$	$gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$	$g$	$x \gtrsim 0.01$
	$pp \rightarrow D, B + X$	$gg \rightarrow c\bar{c}, b\bar{b}$	$g$	$x \gtrsim 10^{-6}, 10^{-5}$
	$pp \rightarrow J/\psi, \Upsilon + pp$	$\gamma^*(gg) \rightarrow c\bar{c}, b\bar{b}$	$g$	$x \gtrsim 10^{-6}, 10^{-5}$
$pp \rightarrow \gamma + X$	$gq(\bar{q}) \rightarrow \gamma q(\bar{q})$	$g$	$x \gtrsim 0.005$	

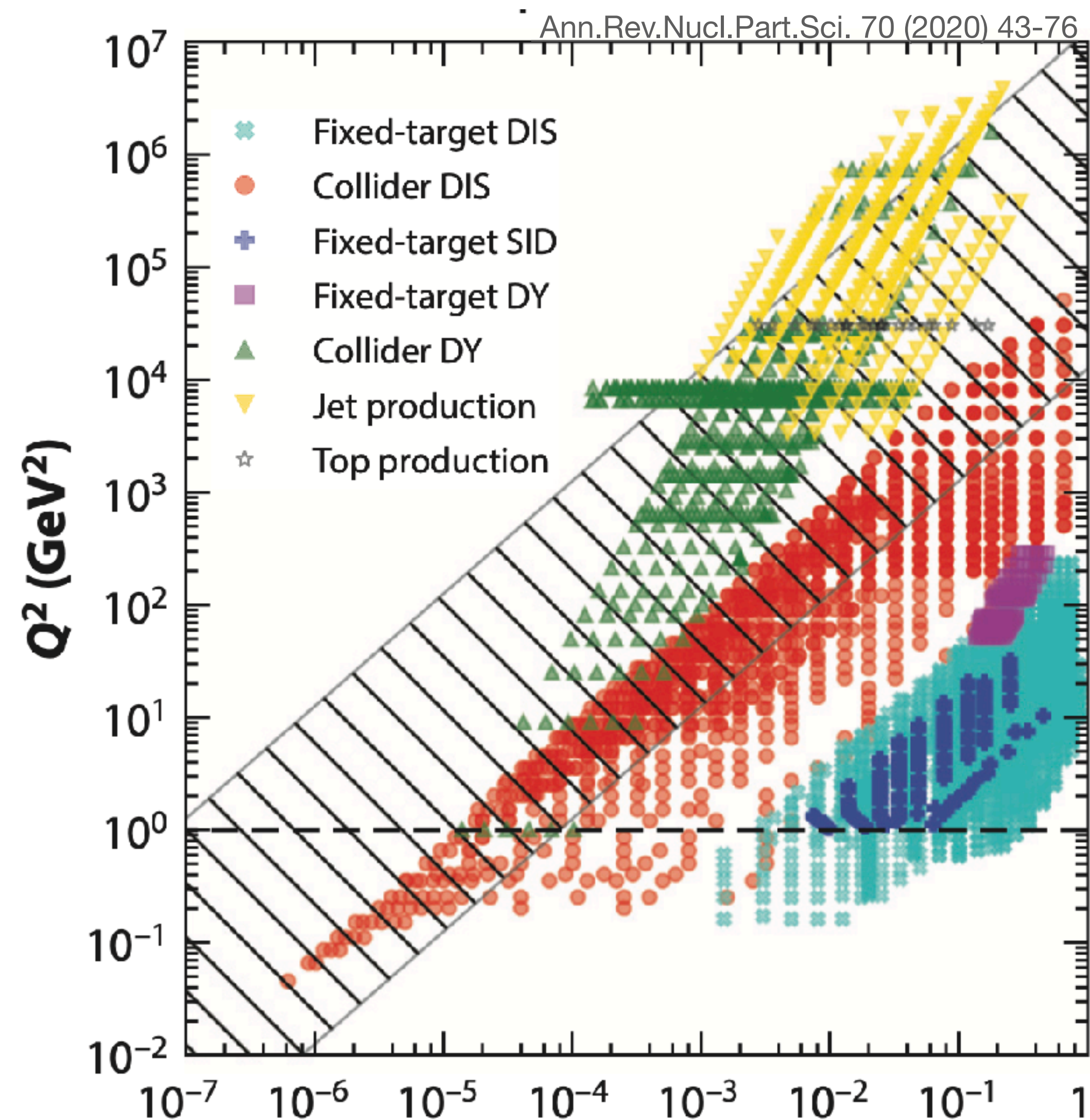


- From fixed target, to HERA DIS and collider. LHC data increasingly important.

$$N_{\text{dataset}} \sim 50 - 60 \quad N_{\text{pts}} \sim 4000 - 5000$$

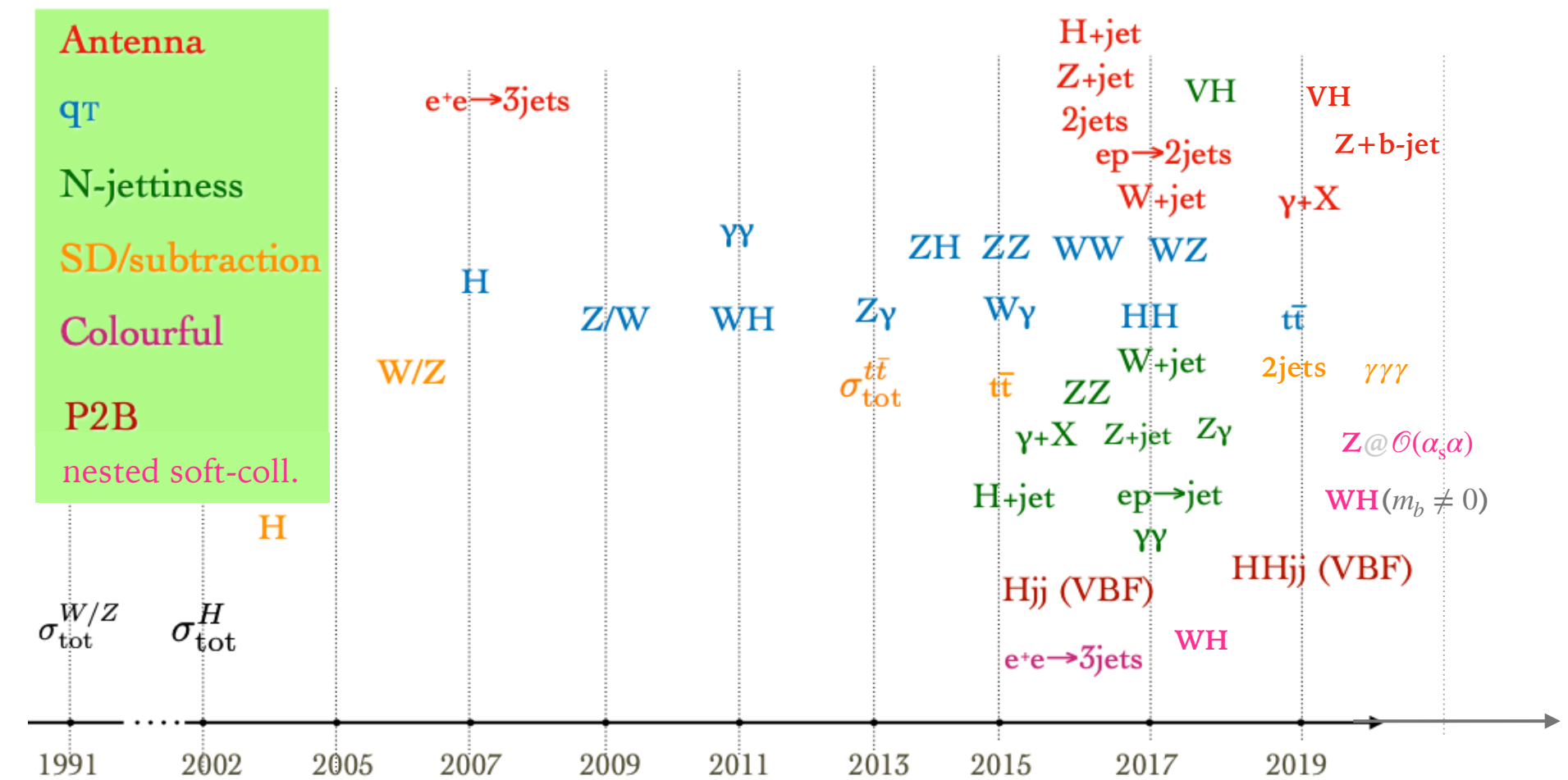
# Kinematic Coverage

- Global fits achieve **broad coverage** from low to high  $Q^2$ , and over many orders of magnitude in  $x$ .



# Precision Theory

- Has been significant progress in perturbative calculations: **NNLO QCD + NLO EW** now long been the standard.



[based on slide by M. Grazzini; QCD@LHC 2019]

## MSHT20

- Not simply question of adding in a bit more precision. E.g. **NNLO QCD** is essential to give good description to global data set (LHC in particular).

Data set	$N_{\text{pts}}$	NLO $\chi^2/N_{\text{pts}}$	NNLO $\chi^2/N_{\text{pts}}$
ATLAS 8 TeV s. diff $t\bar{t}$	25	1.56	0.98
CMS 8 TeV d. diff $t\bar{t}$	15	2.19	1.50
ATLAS 7 TeV W, Z	61	5.00	1.91
ATLAS 8 TeV W	22	3.85	2.61
ATLAS 8 TeV d. diff Z	59	2.67	1.45
ATLAS 8 TeV Z $p_T$	104	2.26	1.81
ATLAS 8 TeV W + jets	39	1.13	0.60
<b>Total LHC data</b>	<b>1328</b>	<b>1.79</b>	<b>1.33</b>
Total non-LHC data	3035	1.13	1.10
Total	4363	1.33	1.17



# Methodology

- Two distinct methodologies on the market to parameterising PDFs: **Neural Nets** (NNPDF) or **Explicit Parameterisation** (CT, MSHT).

$$f_i(x, Q_0) : A_f x^{a_f} (1-x)^{b_f} \times \begin{cases} \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_{f,i} P_i(y(x)), \text{ CT, MSHT...} \\ \rightarrow \text{NN}_i(x) \quad \text{NNPDF} \end{cases}$$

- MSHT: **52** free parameters in terms of Chebyshev polynomials.

- NNPDF: **763** free parameter Neural Net.

$$u_V(x, Q_0^2) = A_u (1-x)^{\eta_u} x^{\delta_u} \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^6 a_{u,i} T_i(y(x)) \right)$$

$$s_+(x, Q_0^2) = A_{s_+} (1-x)^{\eta_{s_+}} x^{\delta_{s_+}} \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^6 a_{s_+,i} T_i(y(x)) \right)$$

$$d_V(x, Q_0^2) = A_d (1-x)^{\eta_d} x^{\delta_d} \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^6 a_{d,i} T_i(y(x)) \right)$$

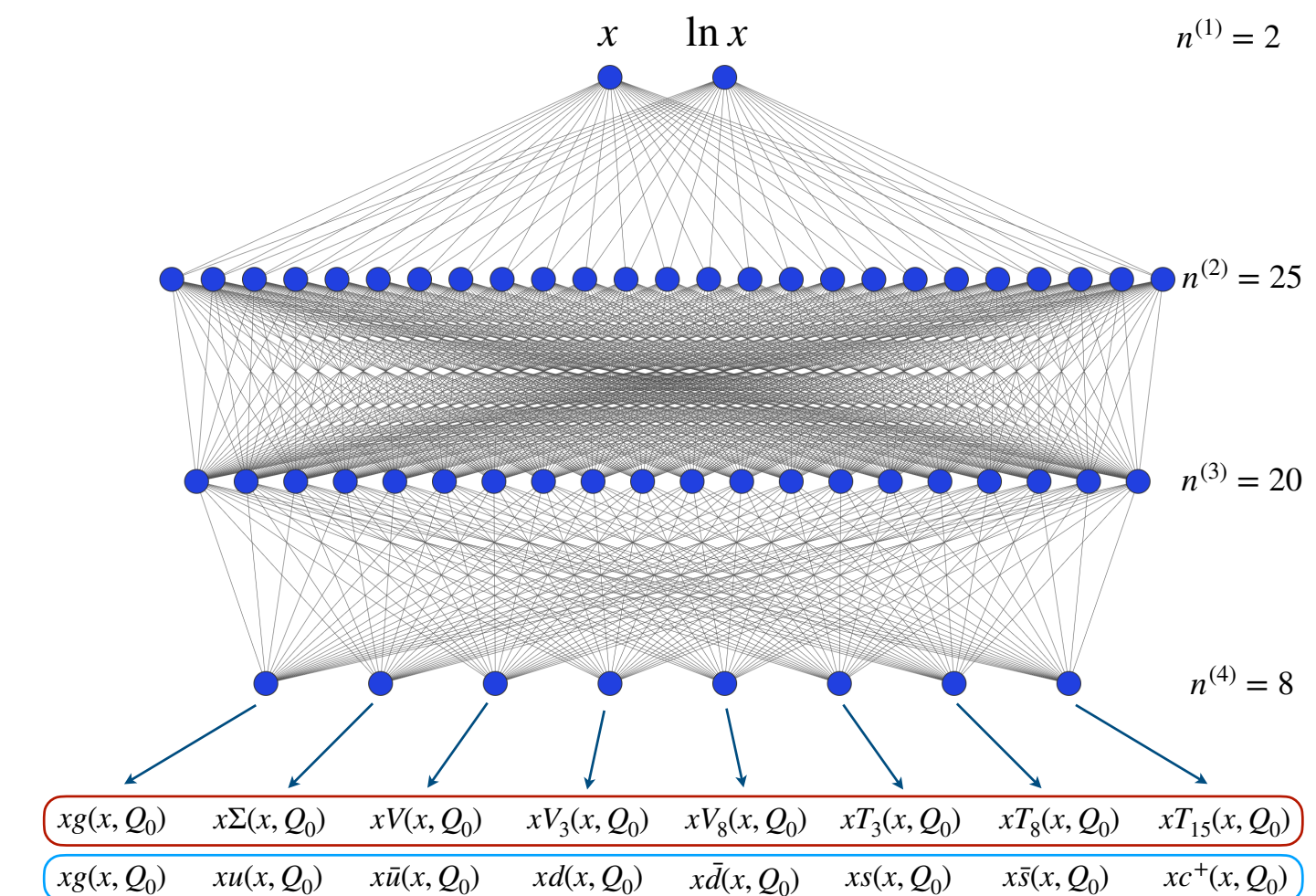
$$g(x, Q_0^2) = A_g (1-x)^{\eta_g} x^{\delta_g} \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^4 a_{g,i} T_i(y(x)) \right) + A_{g-} (1-x)^{\eta_{g-}} x^{\delta_{g-}}$$

$$s_-(x, Q_0^2) = A_{s_-} (1-x)^{\eta_{s_-}} (1-x/x_0) x^{\delta_{s_-}}$$

$$S(x, Q_0^2) = A_S (1-x)^{\eta_S} x^{\delta_S} \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^6 a_{S,i} T_i(y(x)) \right)$$

$$(\bar{d}/\bar{u})(x, Q_0^2) = A_\rho (1-x)^{\eta_\rho} \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^6 a_{\rho,i} T_i(y(x)) \right)$$

- Less flexible in general - need to be sure flexible enough! Allows direct handle on uncertainties in Hessian framework.

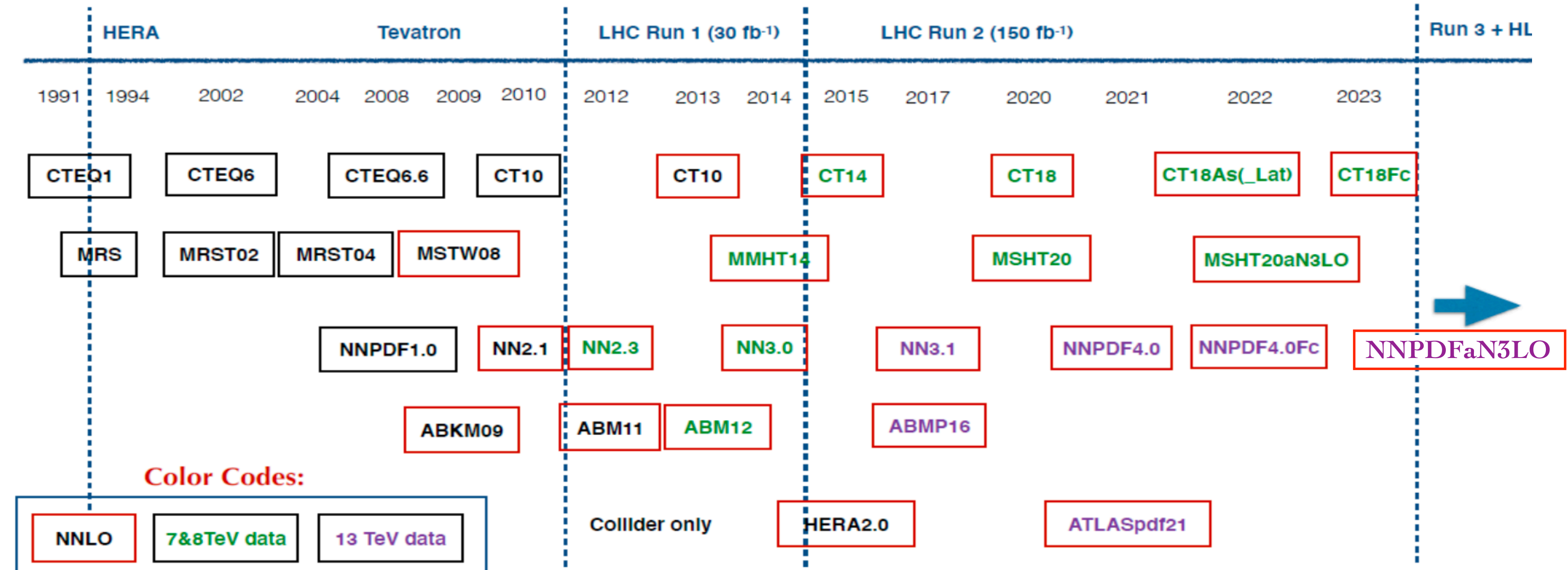


- Increased flexibility, but needs robust optimisation + stopping (avoid over and under fitting).

# Major PDF Analyses

- Multiple PDF analyses, with different methodologies and datasets. Cannot cover these all here!
- Major releases from 3 global fitters (CT, MSHT, NNPDF) ~ 2 or more years ago. But they have been busy:

- ★ Major push to approximate **N<sup>3</sup>LO** + theoretical uncertainties
- ★ **QED/EW** corrections standard
- ★ Many dedicated studies



- These advances all build towards next generation of releases.

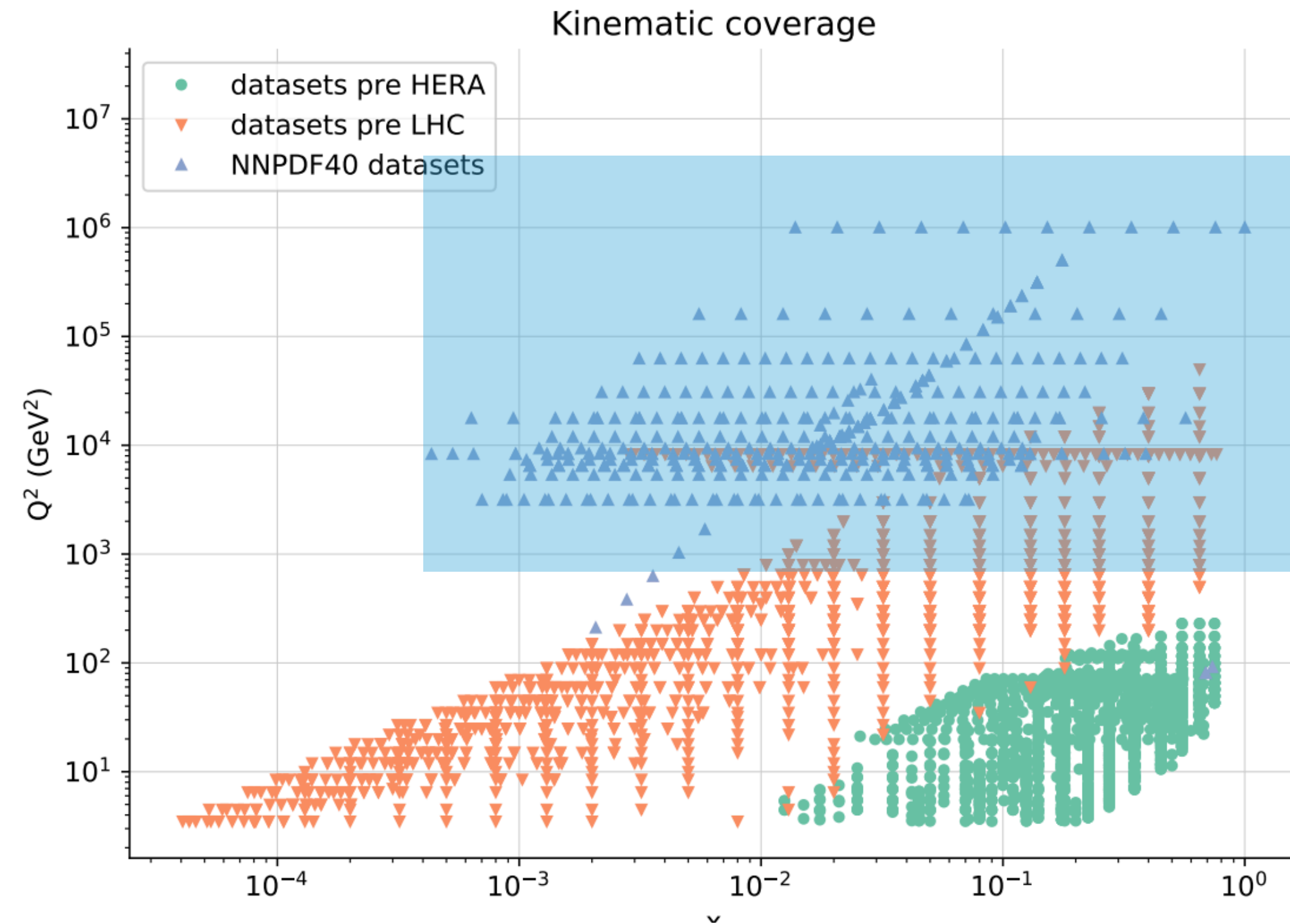
Image Credit:  
Jun Gao

# **New Data**

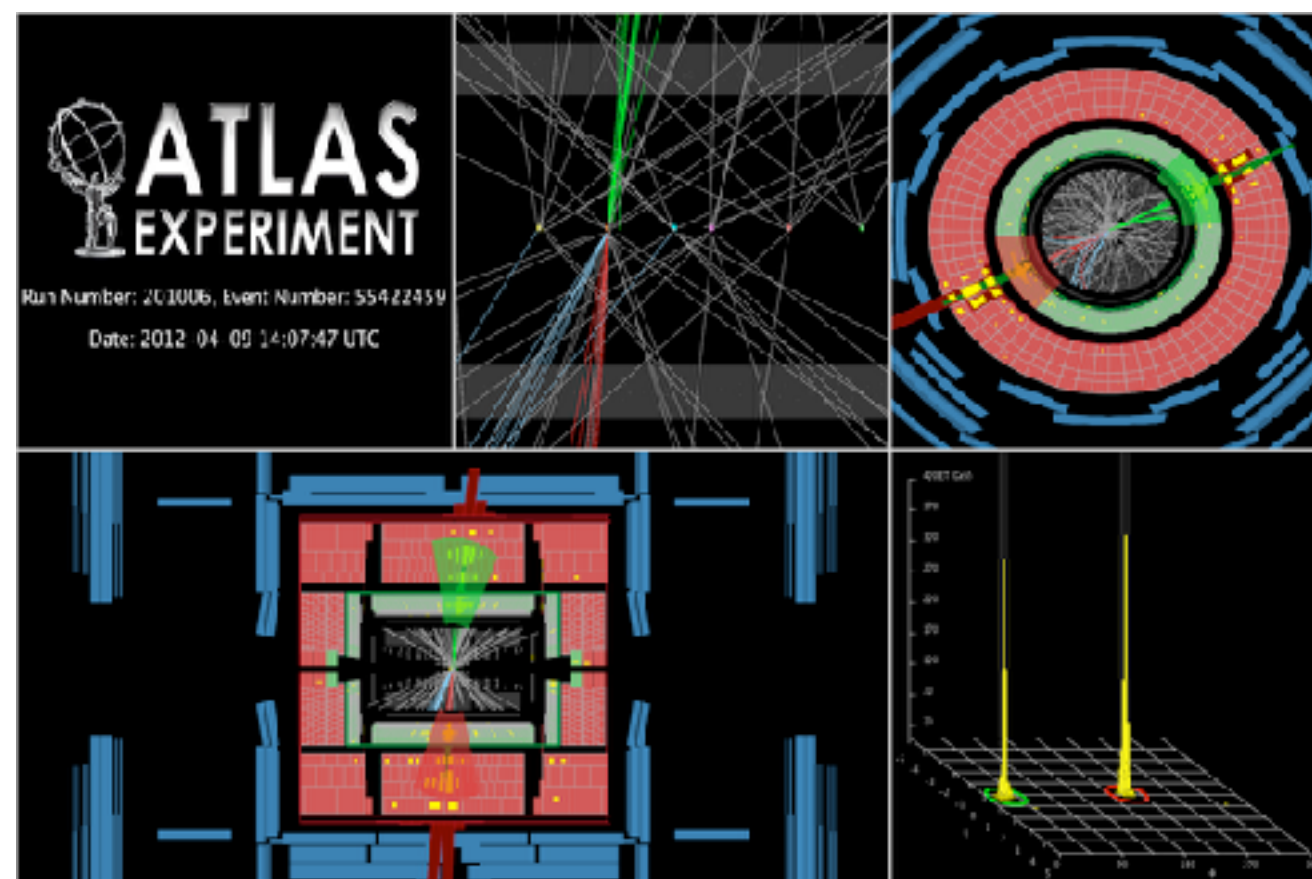
# LHC data!

Maria Ubiali, ep/ea synergy workshop, CERN Feb 24

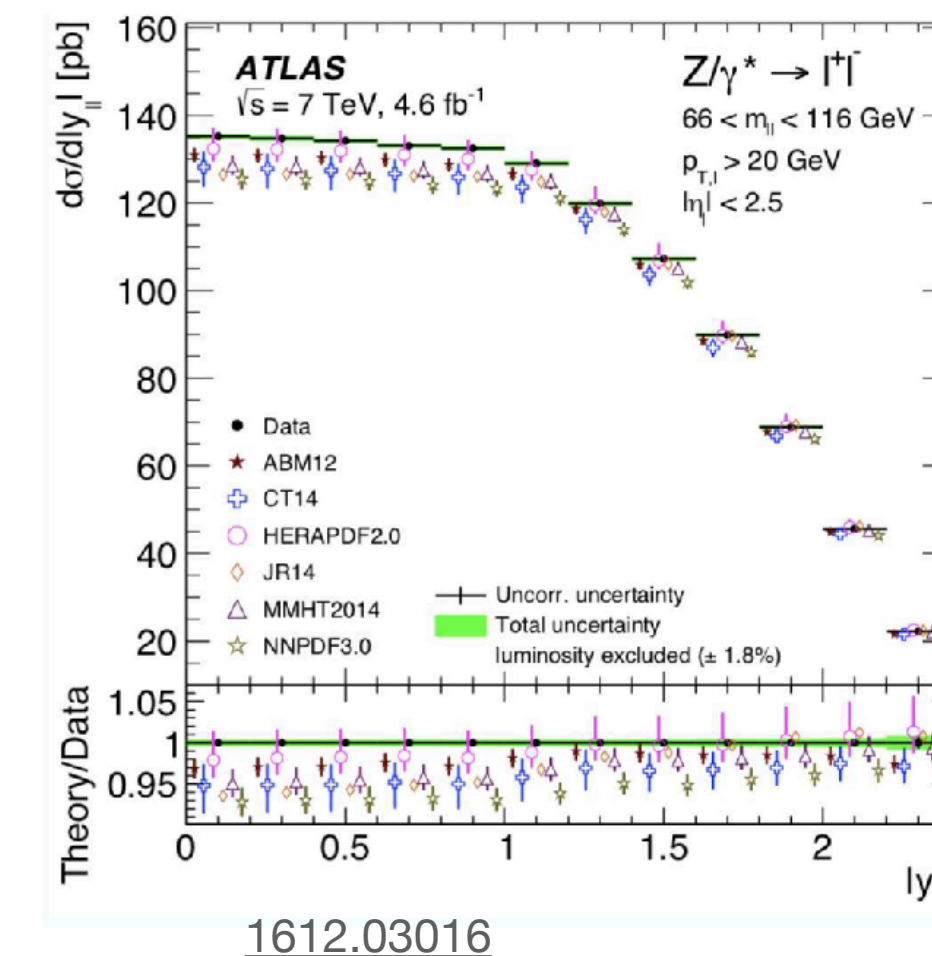
- A wealth of data from the **LHC**, playing a significant role in PDF fits.
- Two key categories:
  - ★ **High energy** data - probing the high  $x$  region. Jets, top quarks, vector boson  $p_{\perp} \dots$



NNPDF4.0:  
About 30% of  
input data are  
LHC data!

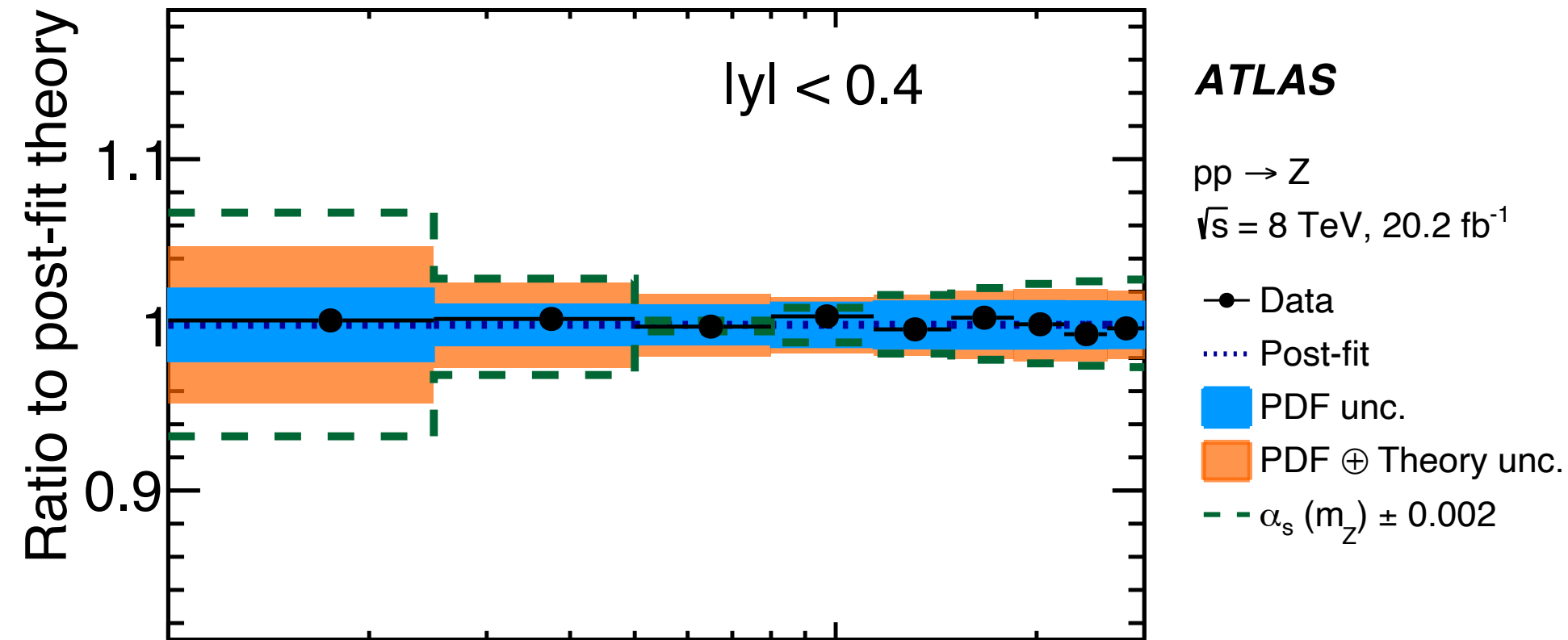


- ★ **High precision** data - Drell Yan and flavour structure

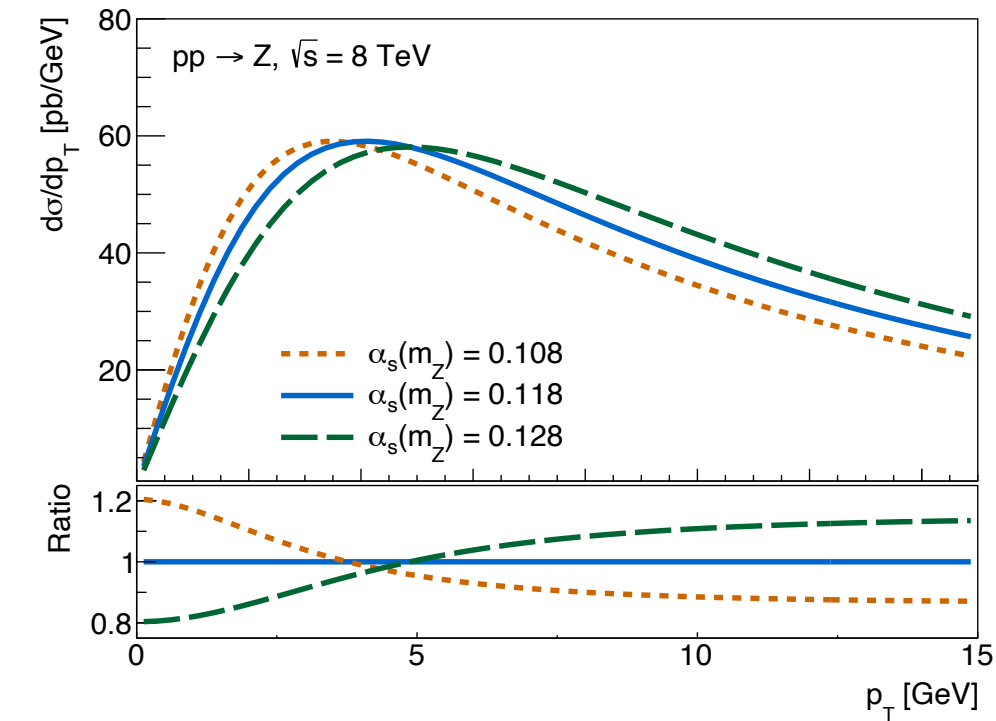


# LHC data - Some Examples

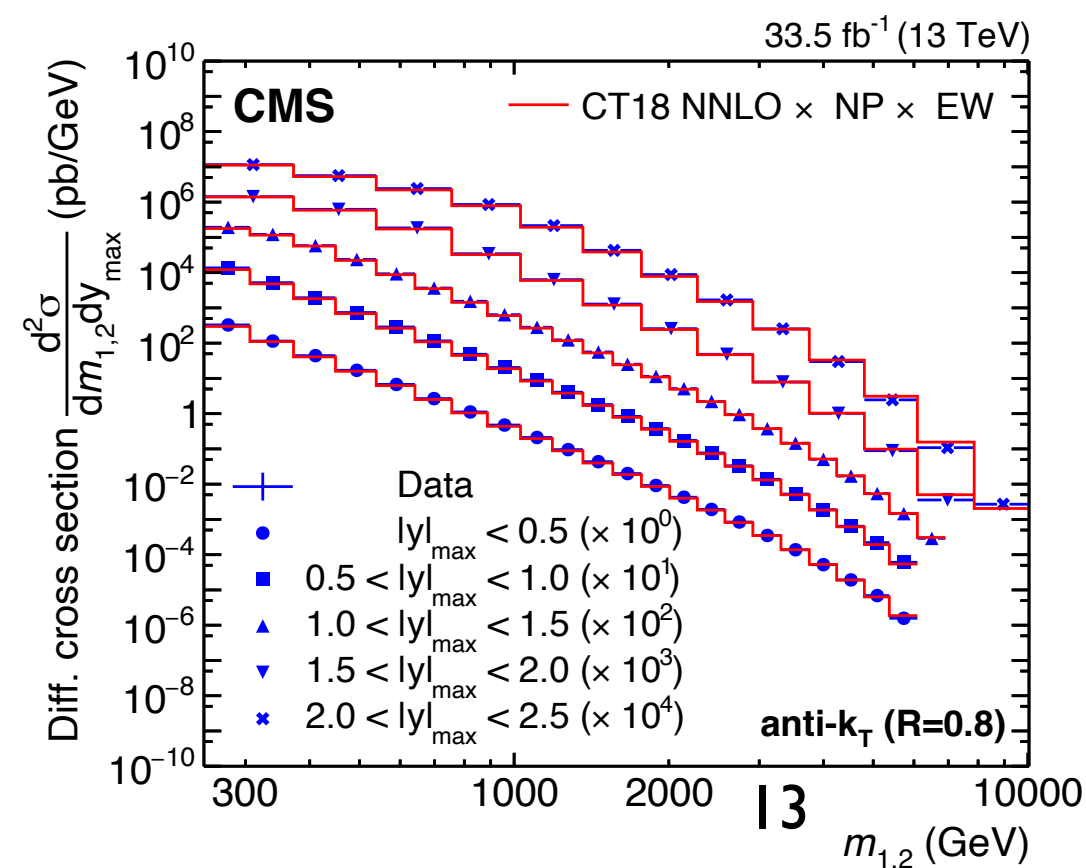
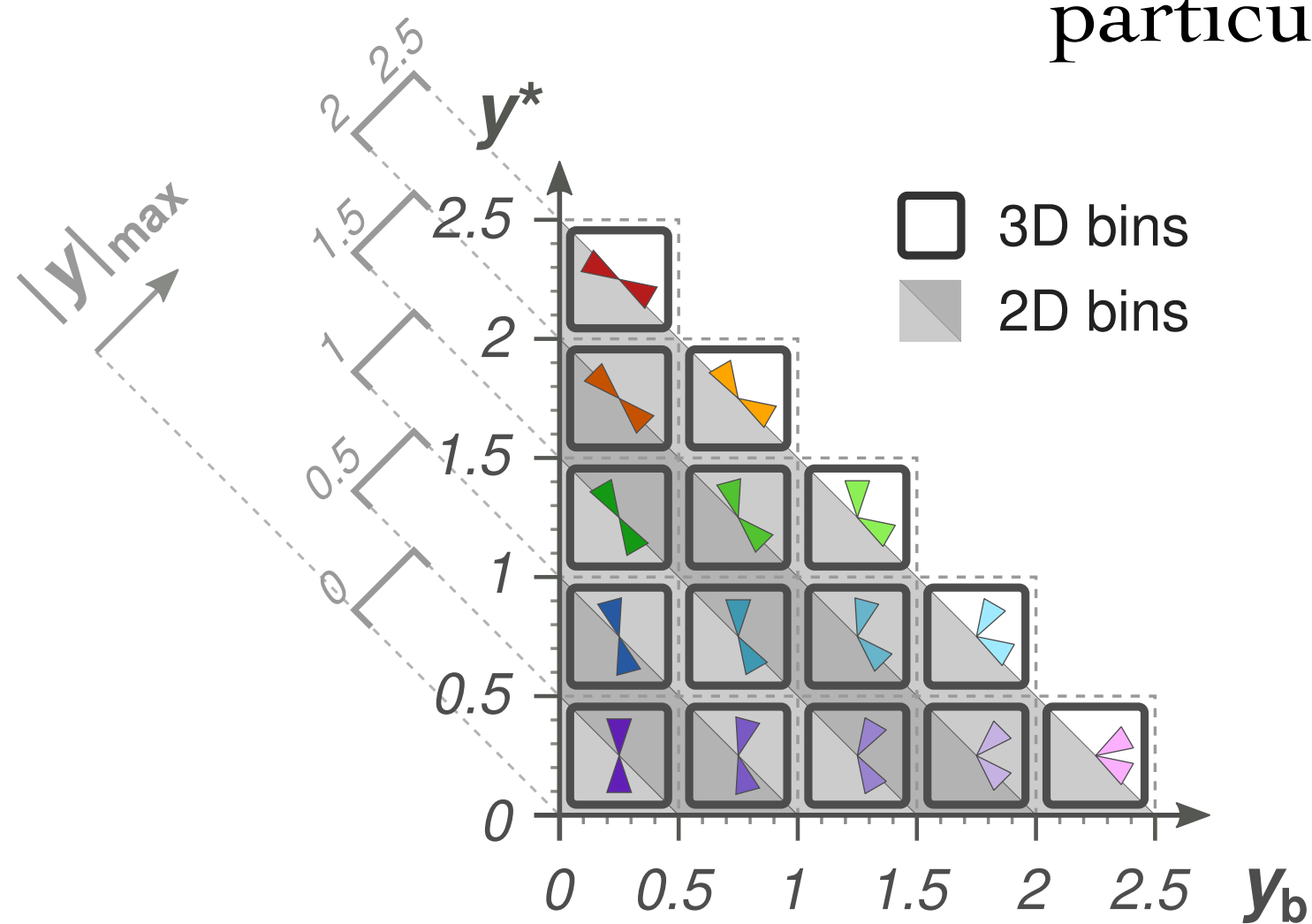
ATLAS, arXiv:2309.12986



- ATLAS first extraction of strong coupling from Sudakov peak of  $Z p_{\perp}$  distribution, at up to aN3LO.
- Also displays PDF sensitivity to e.g. gluon at intermediate  $x$ .

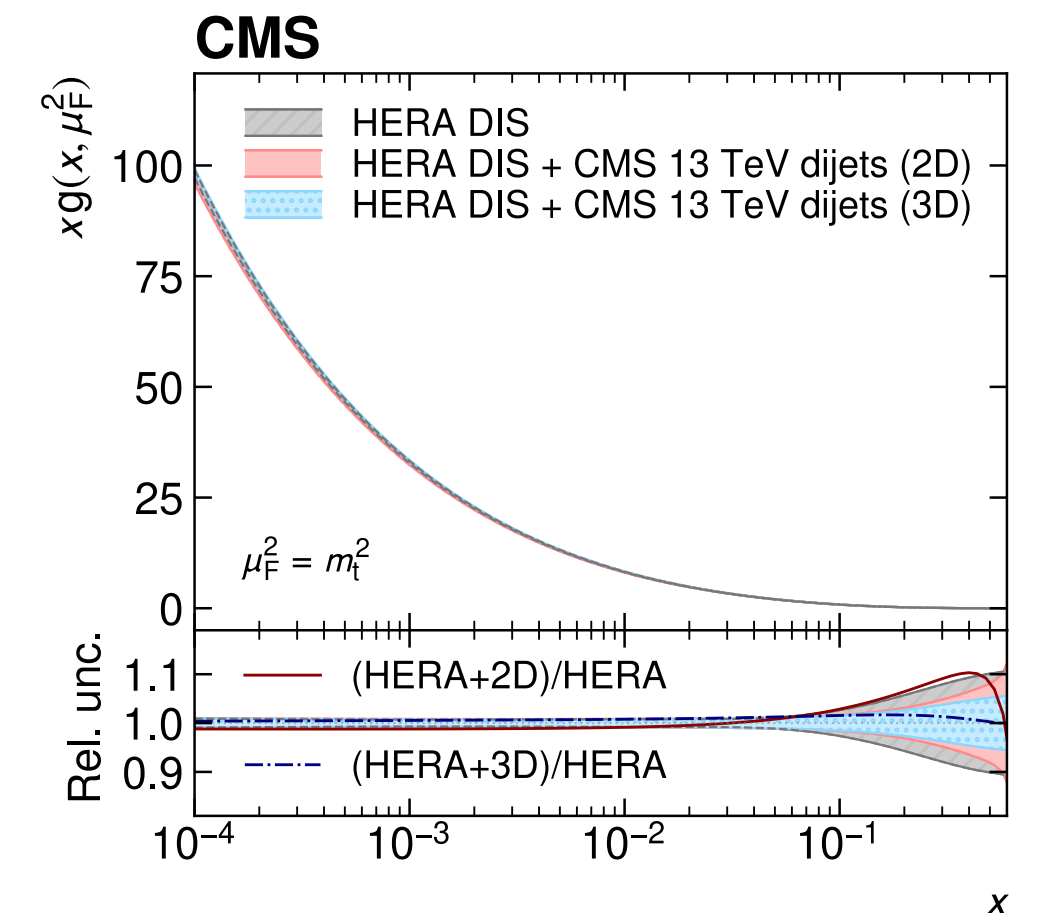


- Extensive range of jet measurements: triple differential dijet production particularly promising. More differential = more constraining!



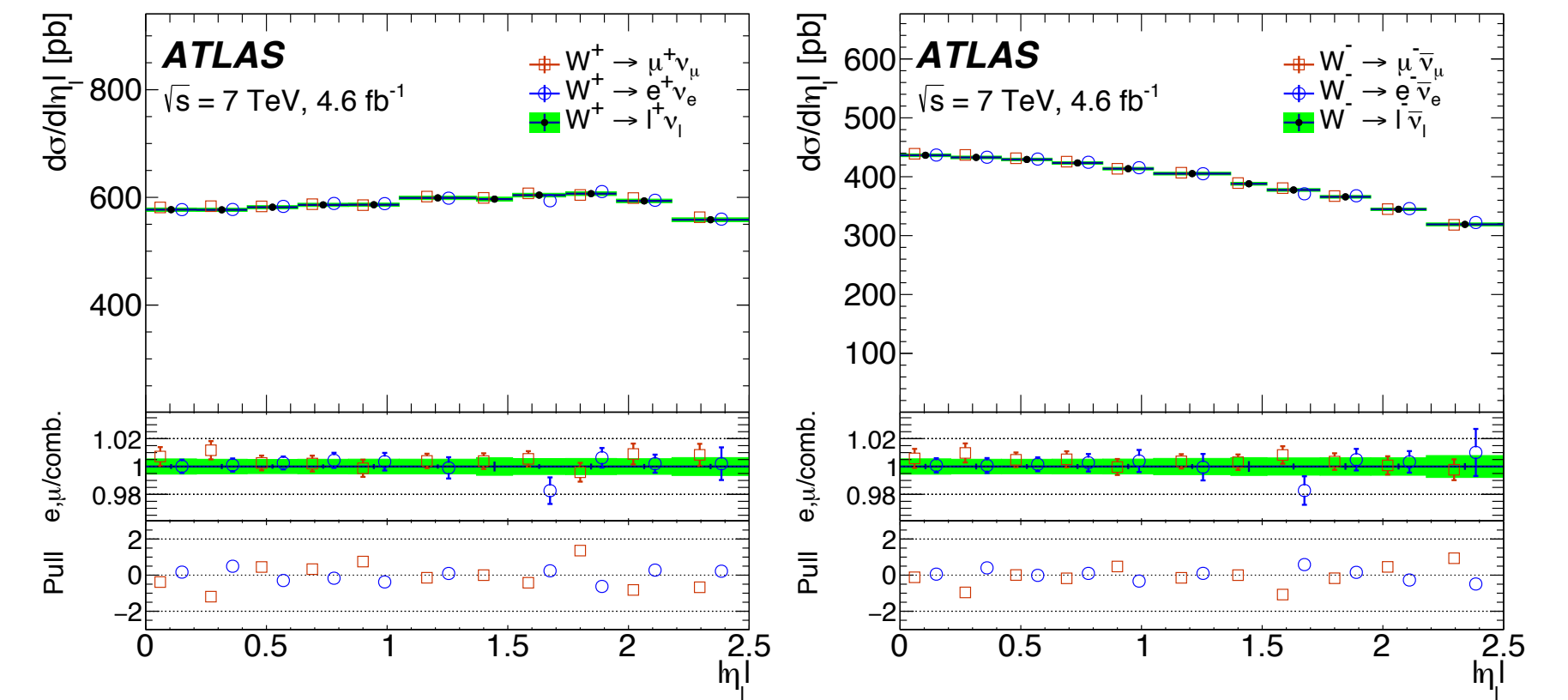
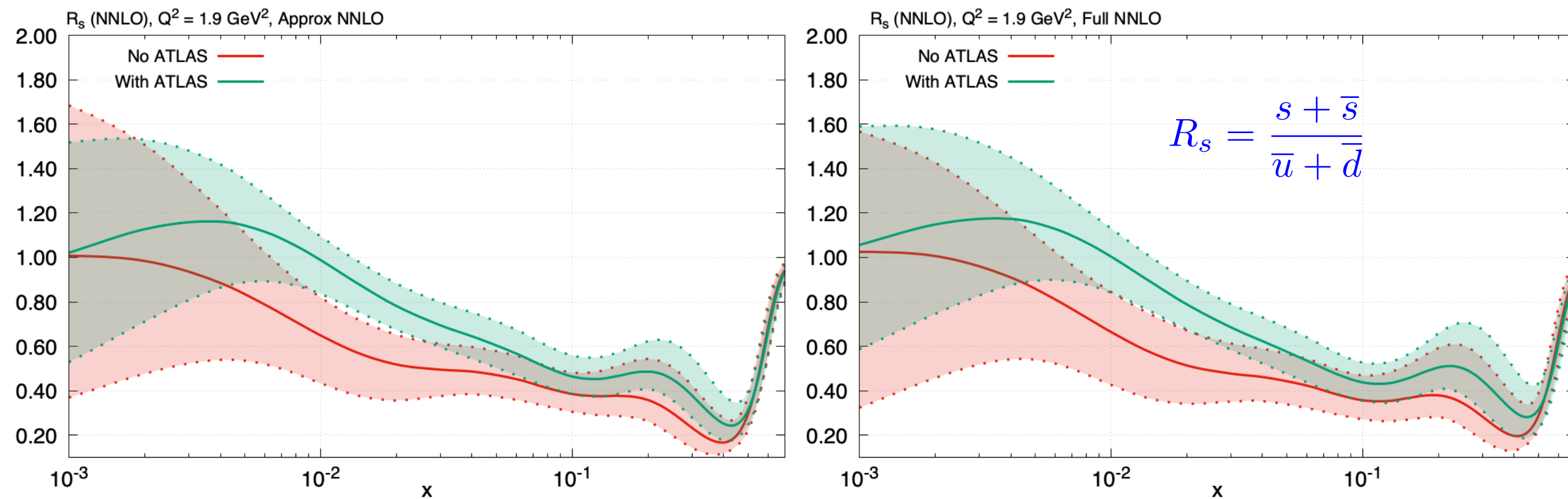
- Sensitivity to e.g. gluon at high  $x$ .

CMS, arXiv:2312.16669



- Extensive range of multi-differential Drell Yan measurements.

- ATLAS high precision DY data even from Run I had significant impact on PDF fits, notably strangeness.



**ATLAS, Eur. Phys. J C77 (2017) 367**

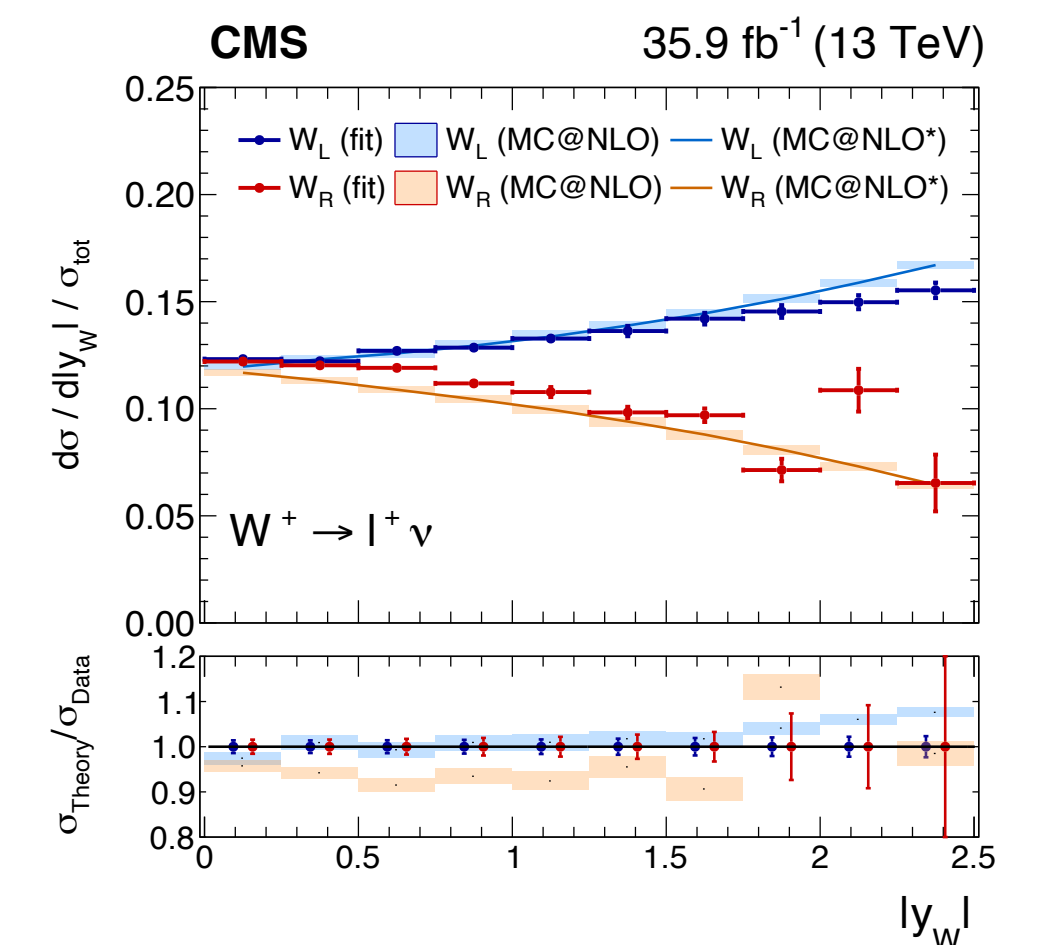
**CMS, Phys.Rev.D 102 (2020) 9, 092012**

- Many more measurements since then....

- Recent example - polarised W boson production.
- Improved sensitivity to valence quarks and strangeness.

Measurements of the W boson rapidity, helicity, double-differential cross sections, and charge asymmetry in pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV

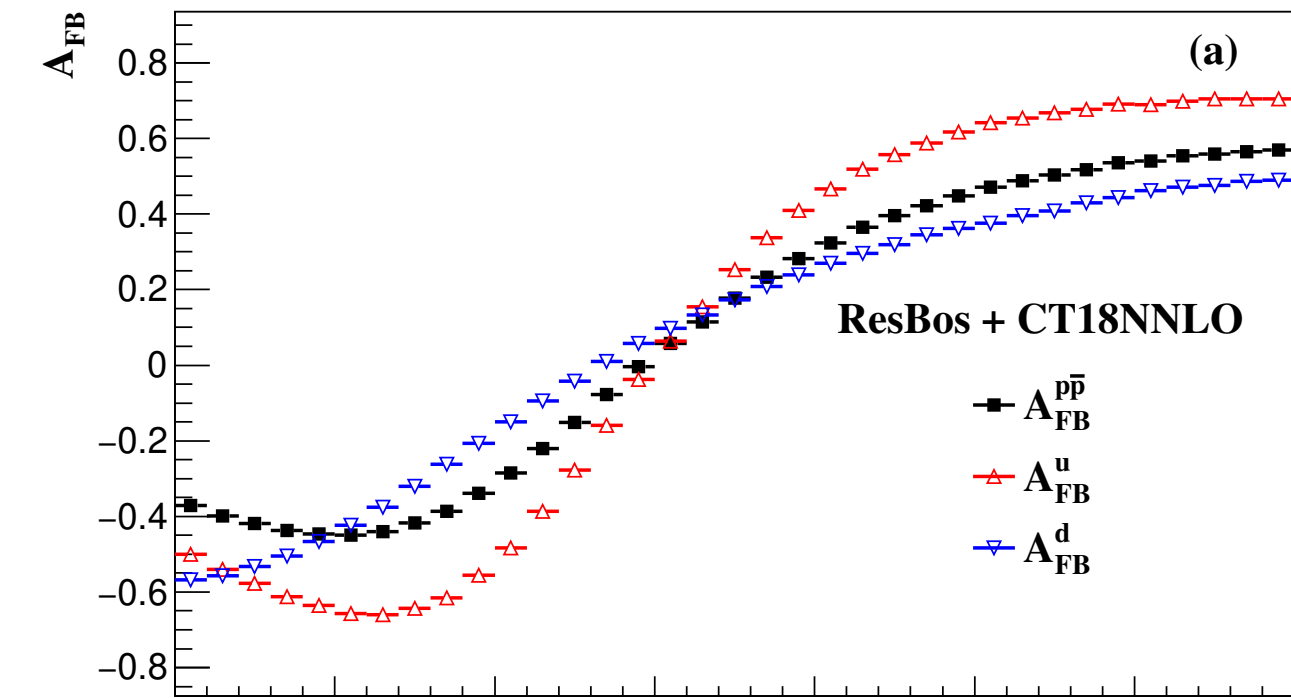
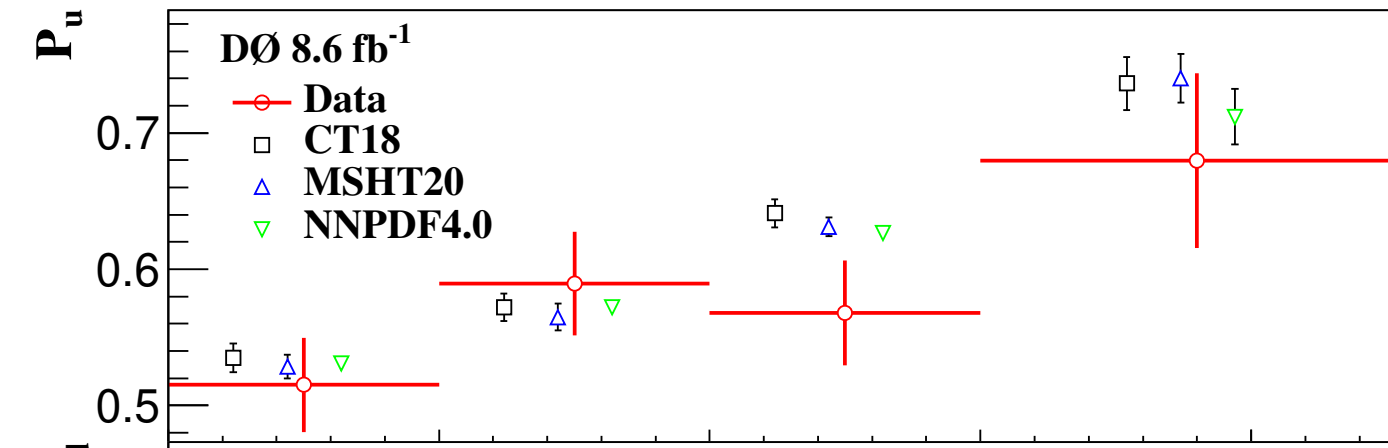
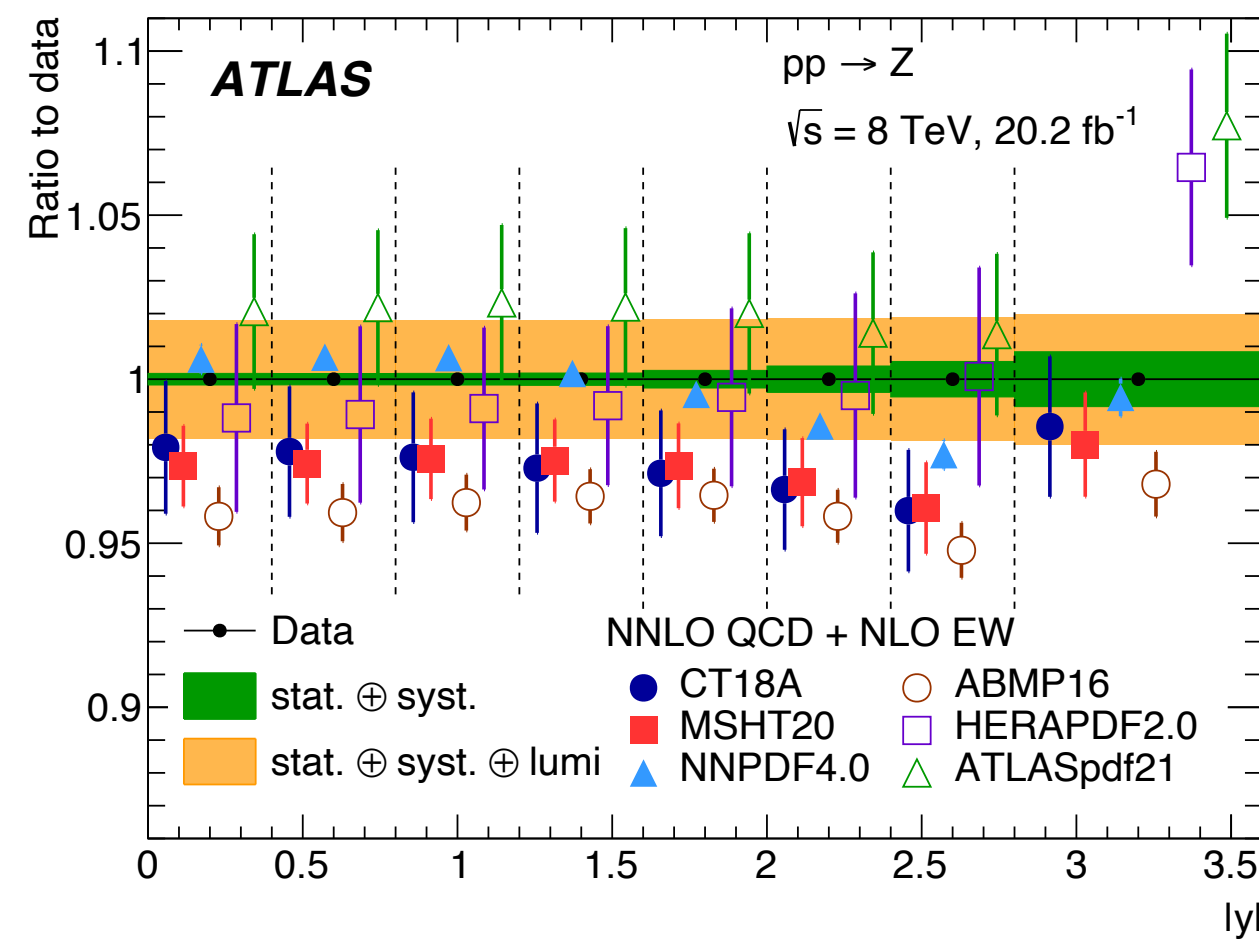
The CMS Collaboration\*



- Many other new observables/data from other experiments also available for future fits:

★ **New observables:**  $l^+l^-$  corrected to full phase space. Angular coefficients - limit extrapolation uncertainty.

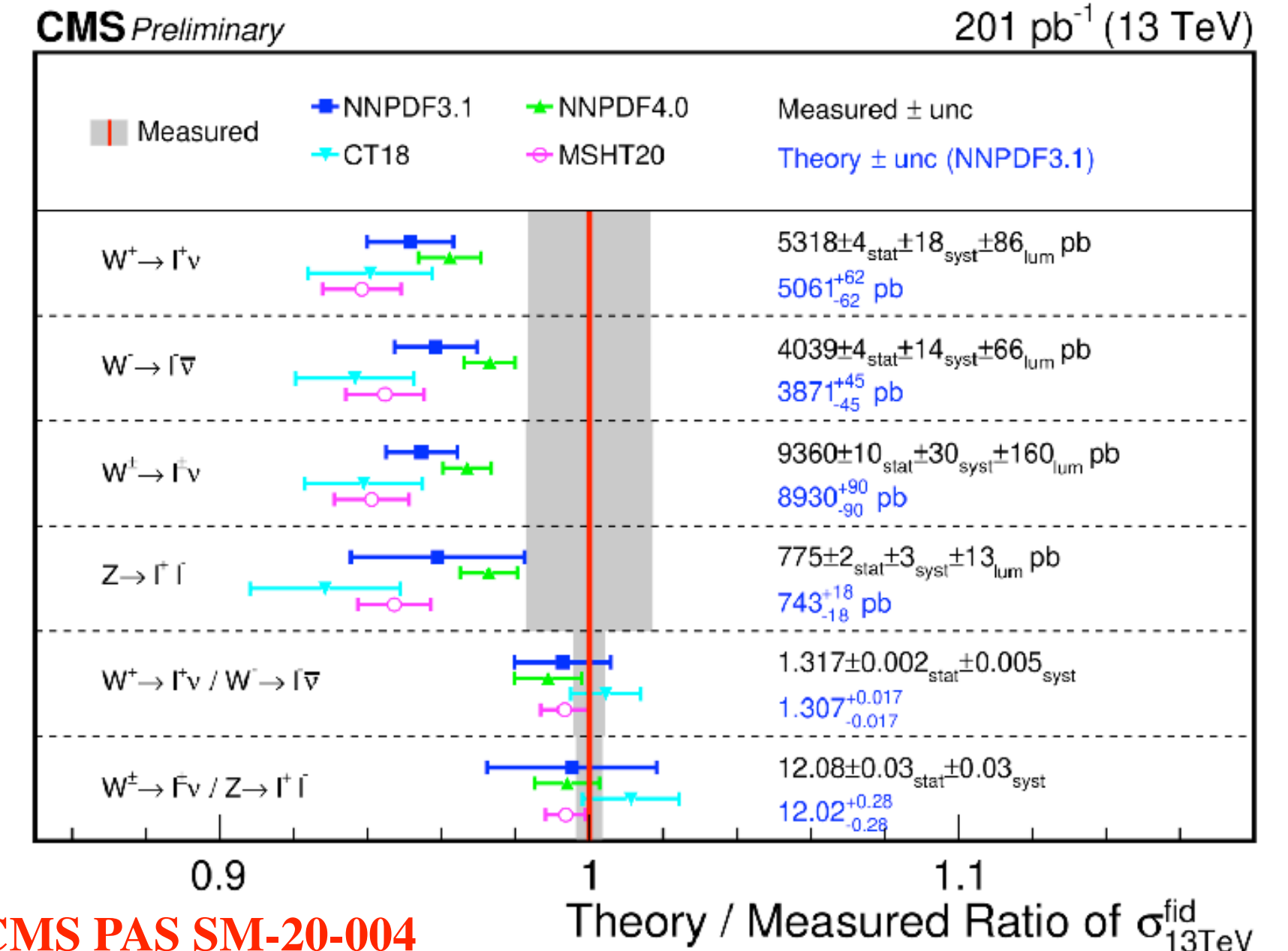
★ **New data:** Not just the LHC. Recent **D0** measurement of dilepton AFB. Sensitivity to high  $x$  flavour structure.



PDF set	Total $\chi^2$ / d.o.f.	$\chi^2$ p-value	Pull on luminosity
MSHT20aN <sup>3</sup> LO [58]	13/8	0.11	$1.2 \pm 0.6$
CT18A [59]	12/8	0.17	$0.9 \pm 0.7$
MSHT20 [60]	10/8	0.26	$0.9 \pm 0.6$
NNPDF4.0 [61]	30/8	0.0002	$0.0 \pm 0.2$
ABMP16 [62, 63]	30/8	0.0002	$1.8 \pm 0.4$
HERAPDF2.0 [64]	22/8	0.005	$-1.3 \pm 0.8$
ATLASpdf21 [65]	20/8	0.01	$-1.1 \pm 0.8$

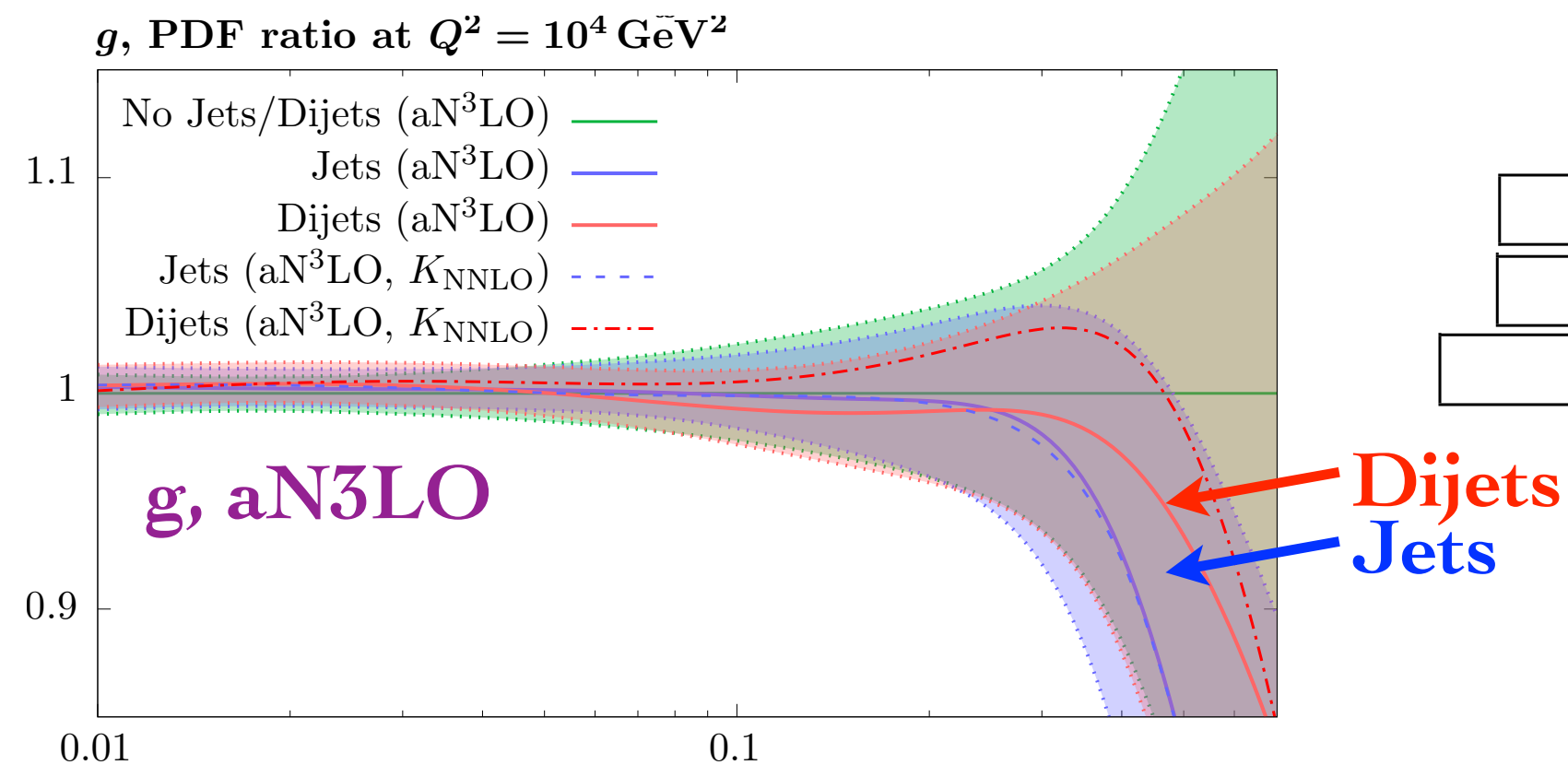
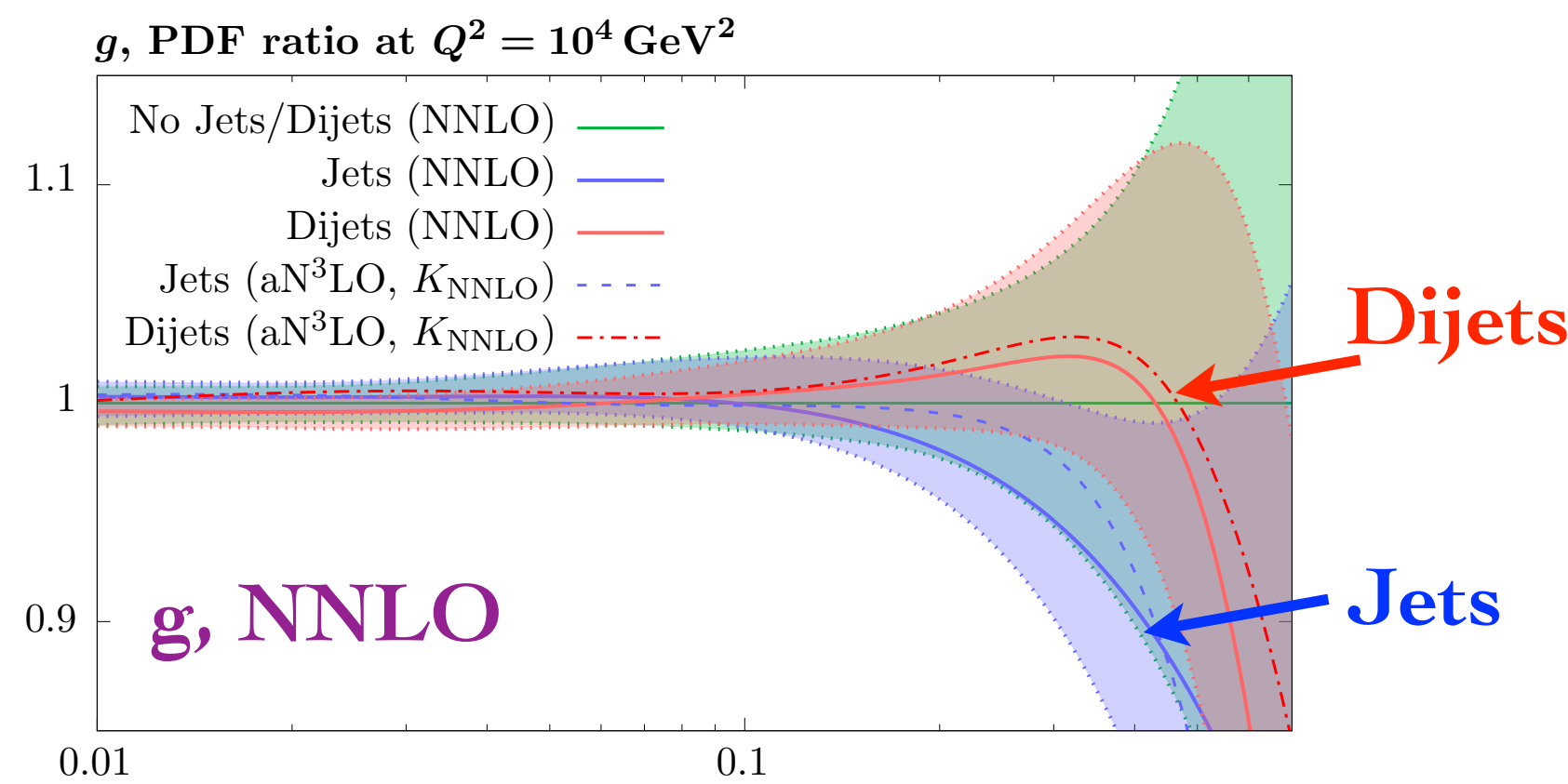
★ **New ratios:** low lumi runs. Ratios at different energies increase PDF sensitivity.

- And much more not shown here.



# Impact of New Data

- Impact of newer (13 TeV) data being assessed, and older (7-8 TeV) data within new theory approaches:
  - ★ New study of impact of **jet** vs. **dijet** production at up to **aN3LO** order (more later).
  - ★ Preference for dijet data, and for aN3LO. PDF impact depends on order (NNLO vs aN3LO).



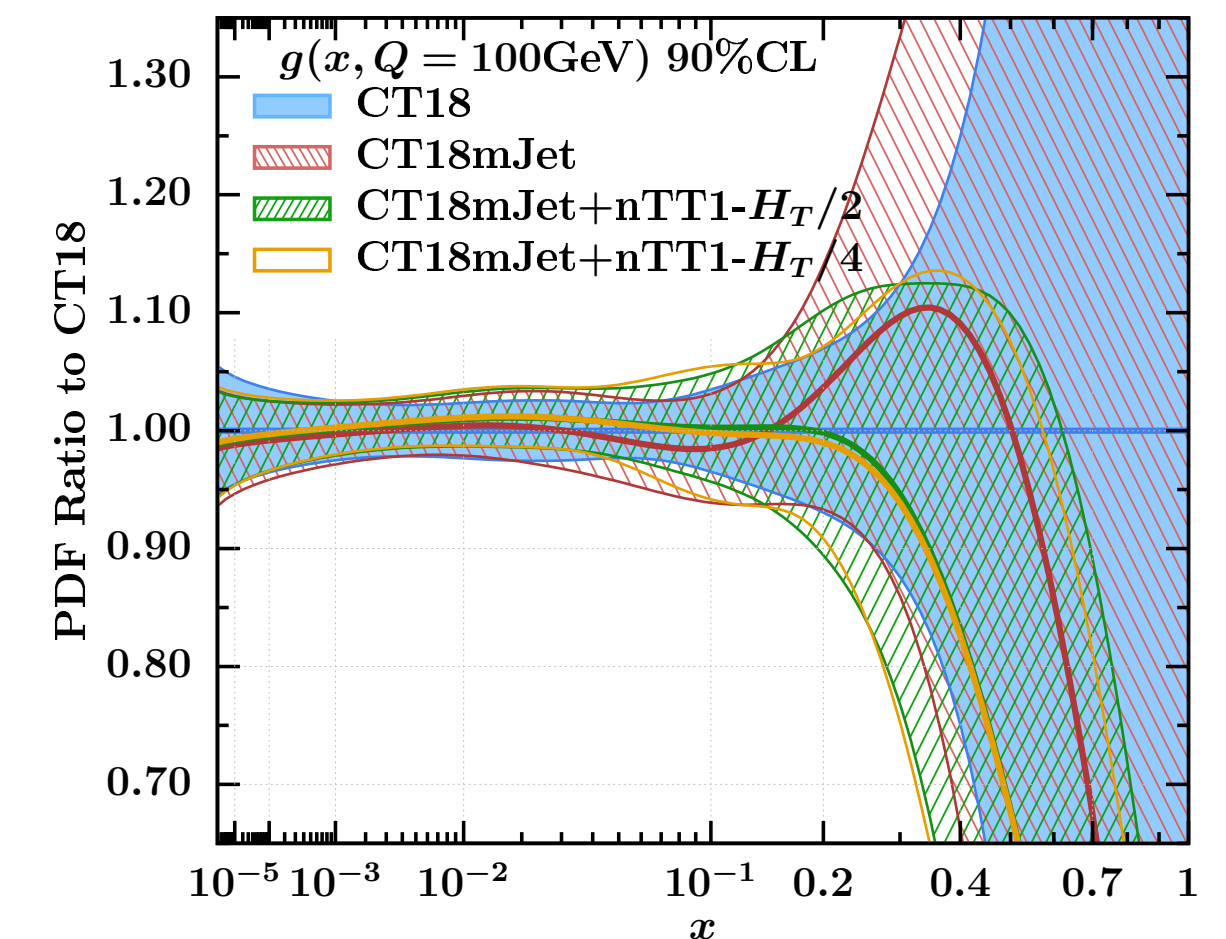
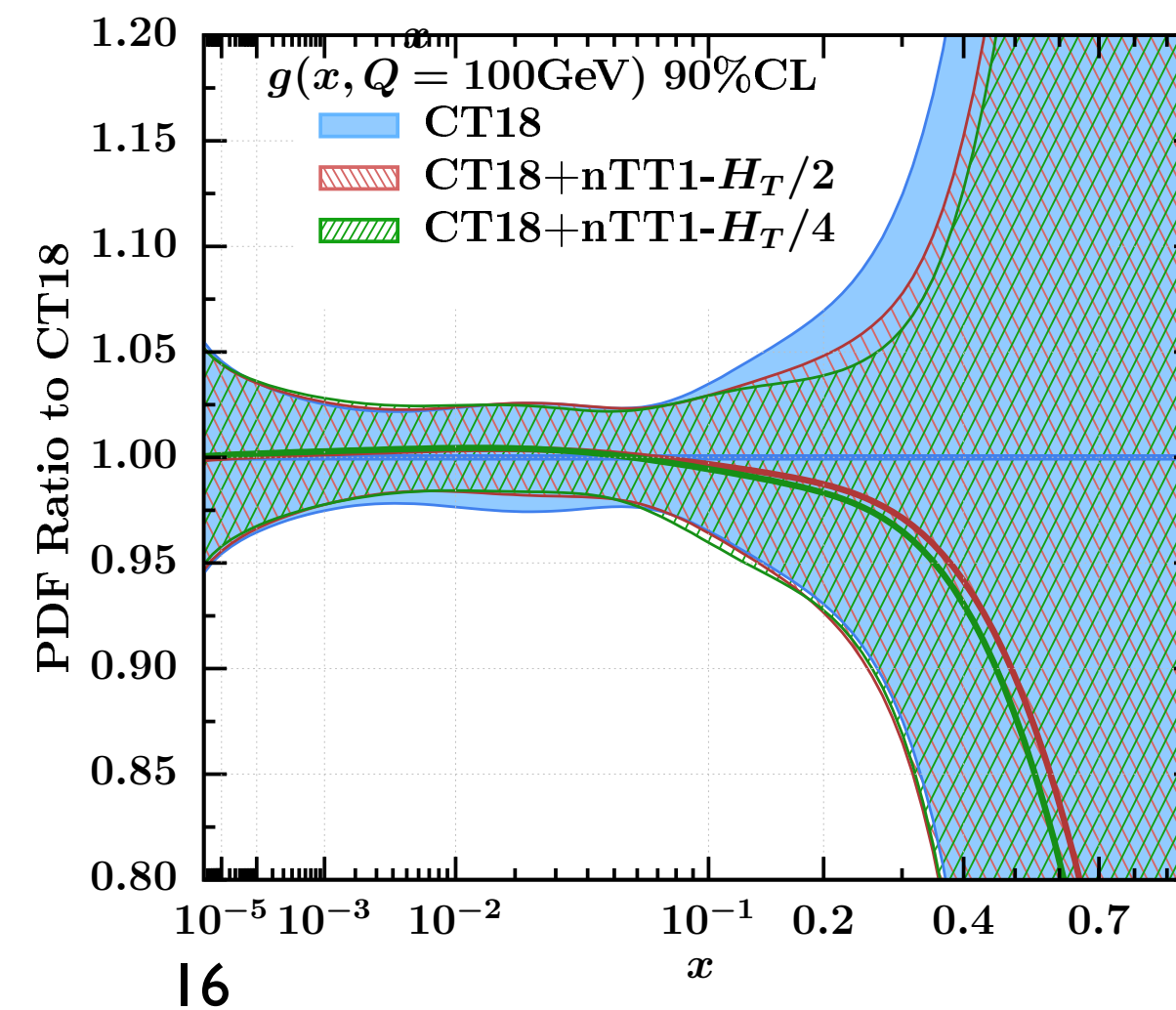
$$\chi^2 / N_{\text{pts}}$$

	$N_{\text{pts}}$	NNLO	aN <sup>3</sup> LO
Total Jets	643	<u>1.67</u>	<u>1.63</u>
Total Dijets	266	<u>1.13</u>	<u>1.04</u>

MSHT, arXiv:2312.12505

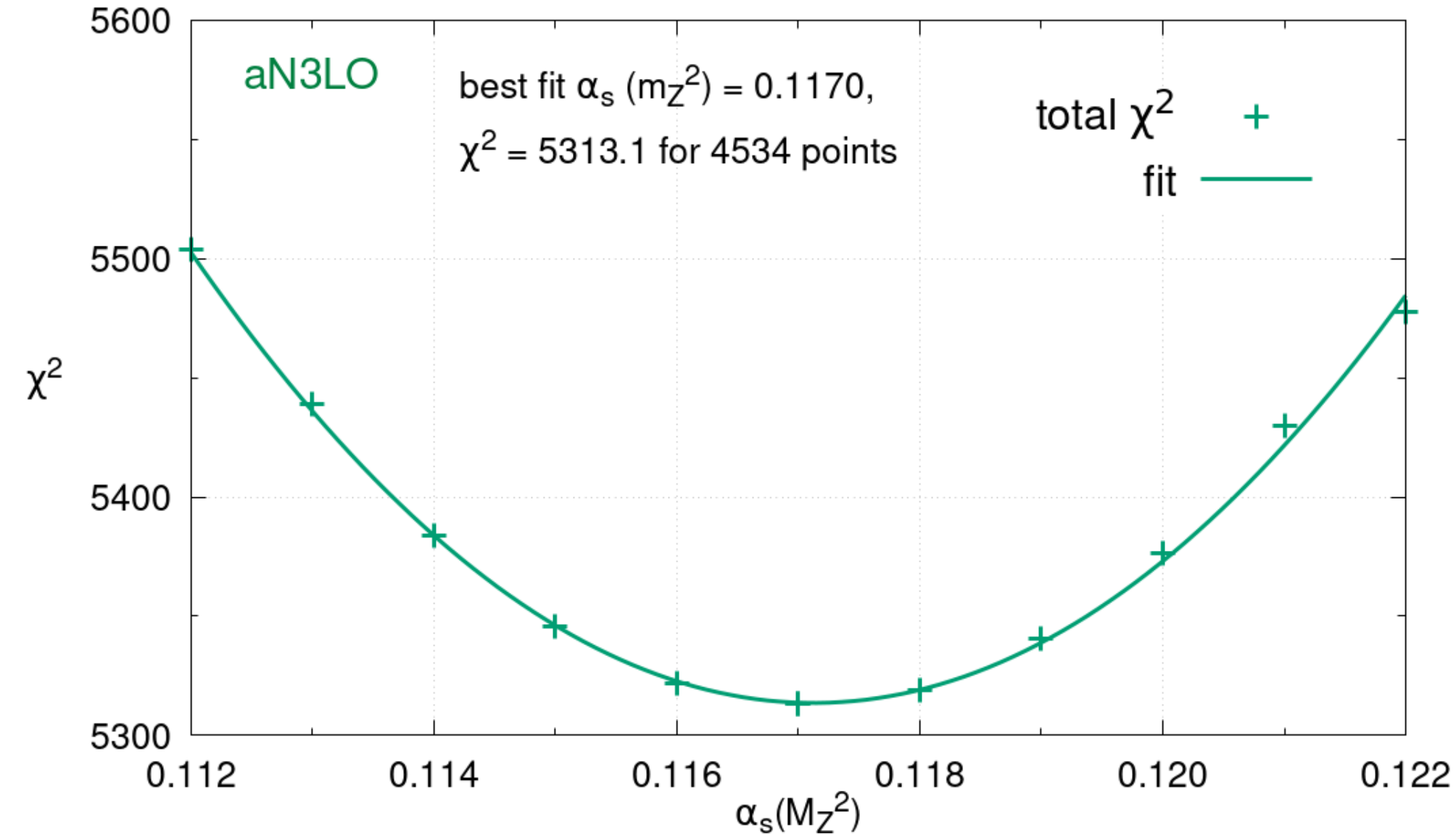
- ◆ 13 TeV  $t\bar{t}$  : study within **CT** global PDF fit.
- ◆ Impact moderate but non-negligible.
- ◆ Complementarity with LHC jet data highlighted.

A. Ablat et al., arXiv:2307.11153





★ First simultaneous  $\alpha_S$  + global PDF extraction at aN3LO.



MSHT, arXiv:2404.02964

$$\alpha_S(M_Z^2)(\text{NNLO}) = 0.1171 \pm 0.0014$$

$$\alpha_S(M_Z^2)(\text{aN}^3\text{LO}) = \underline{0.1170 \pm 0.0016}$$

★ Nice **convergence** from NNLO to aN3LO.

Fully consistent with PDG.

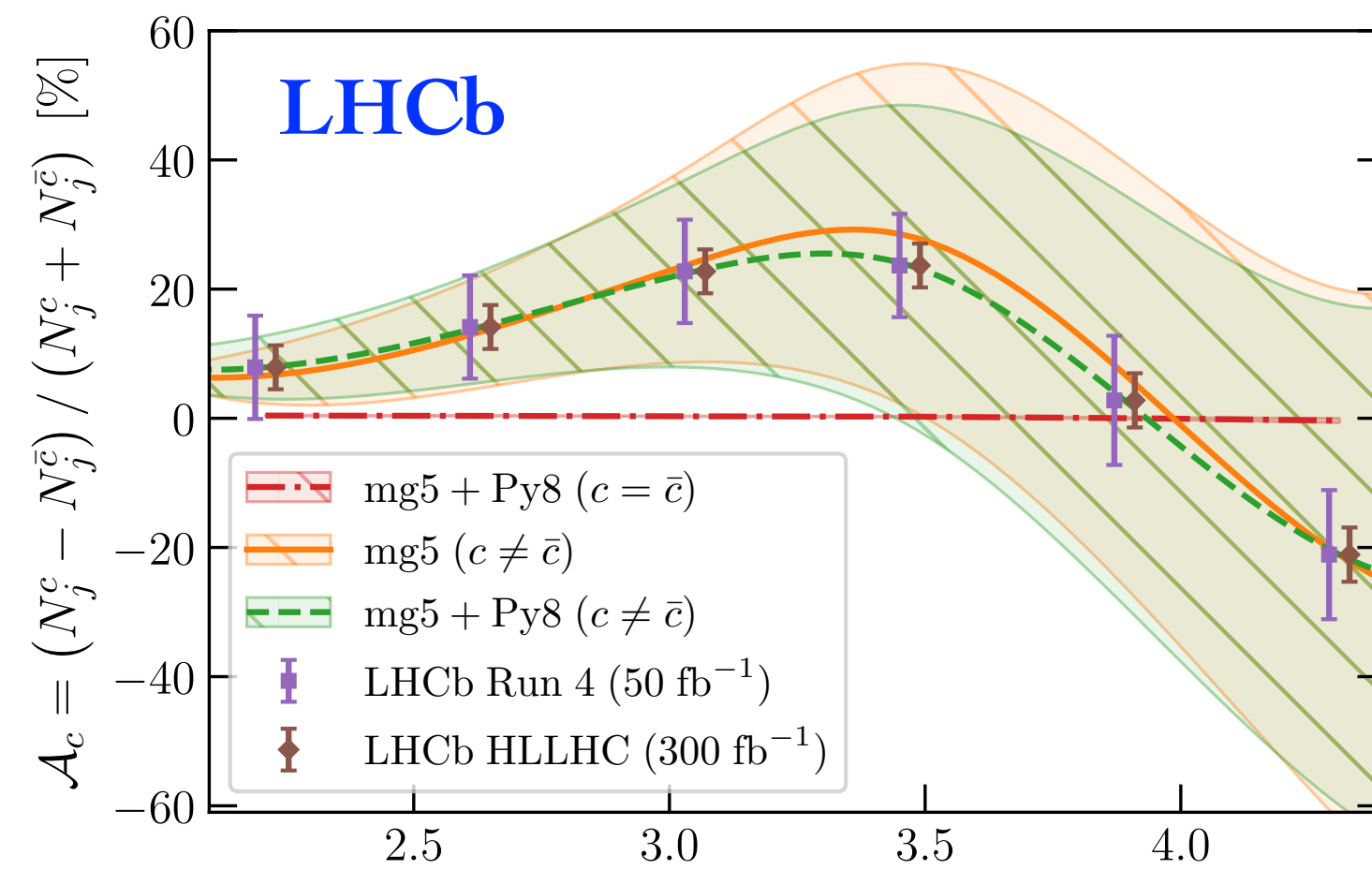
★ Errors slightly larger (more accurate) due to MHO uncertainty.

◆ New data - and theory - **'valence' charm** in proton. Evidence for non perturbatively generate charm and charm difference - 'intrinsic' charm.

◆ Evidence from global fit quality, but particular LHC (+ EIC) data sets can have further impact.

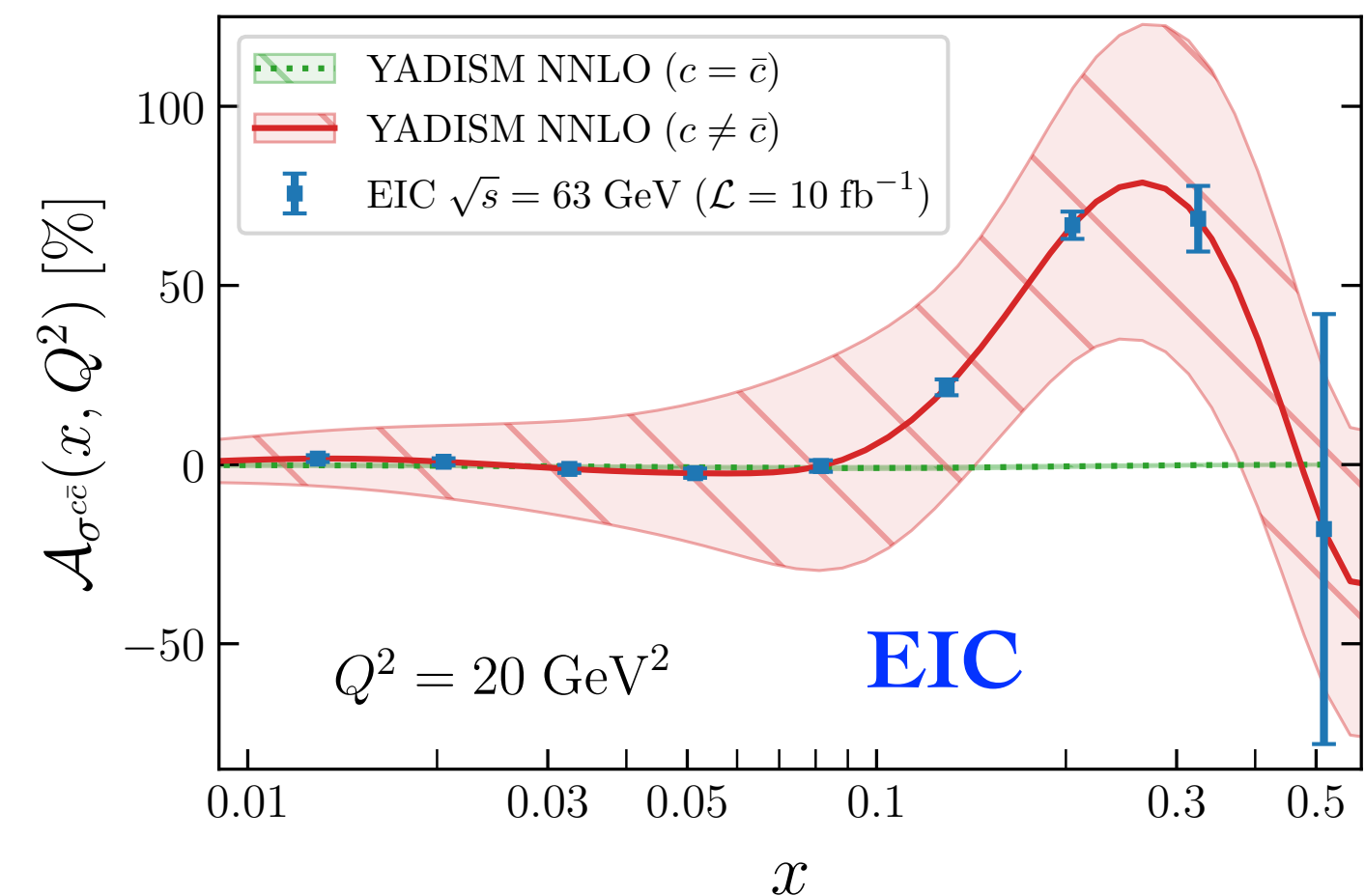
See talk by J. Rojo

R. Ball et al., arXiv:2311.00743



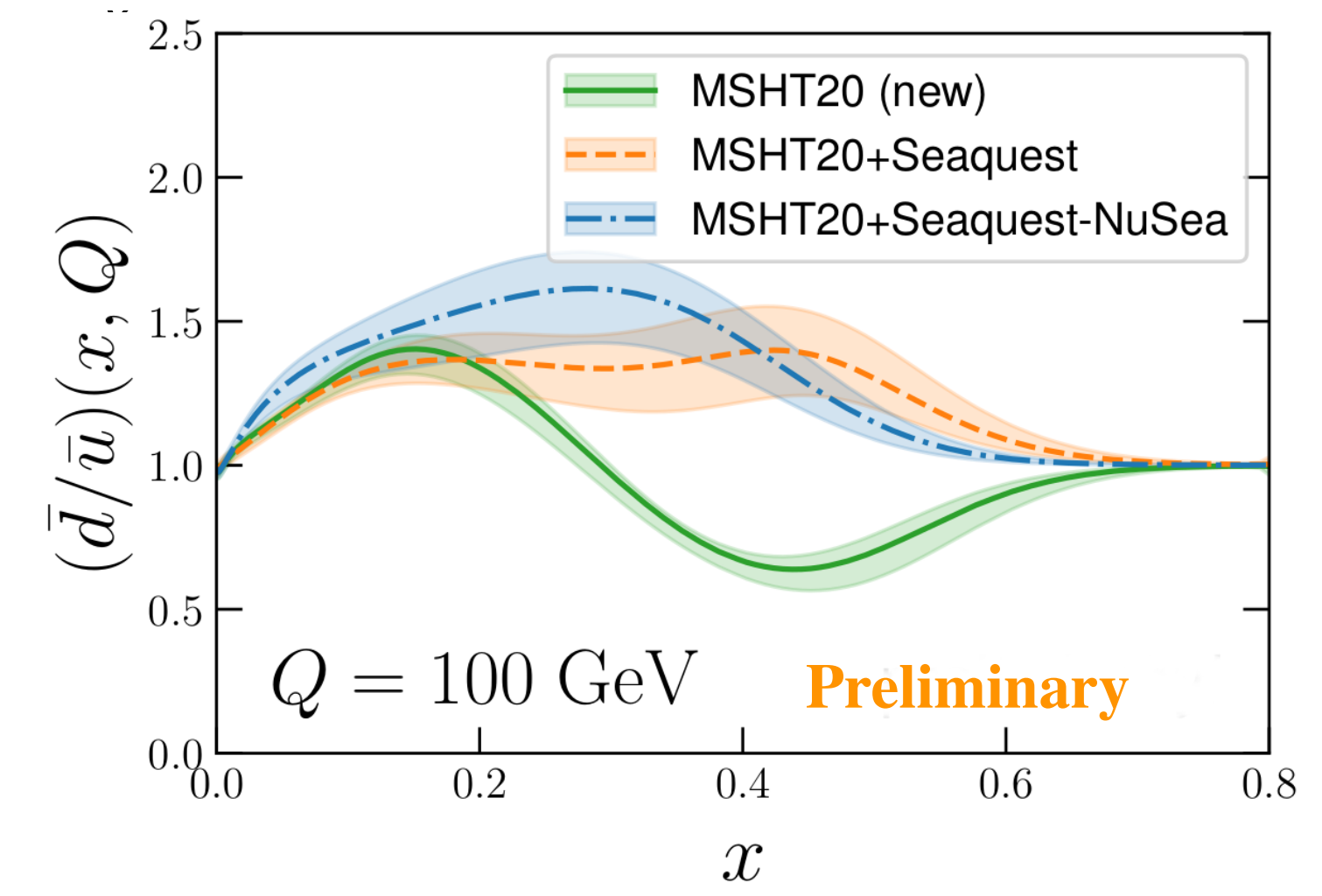
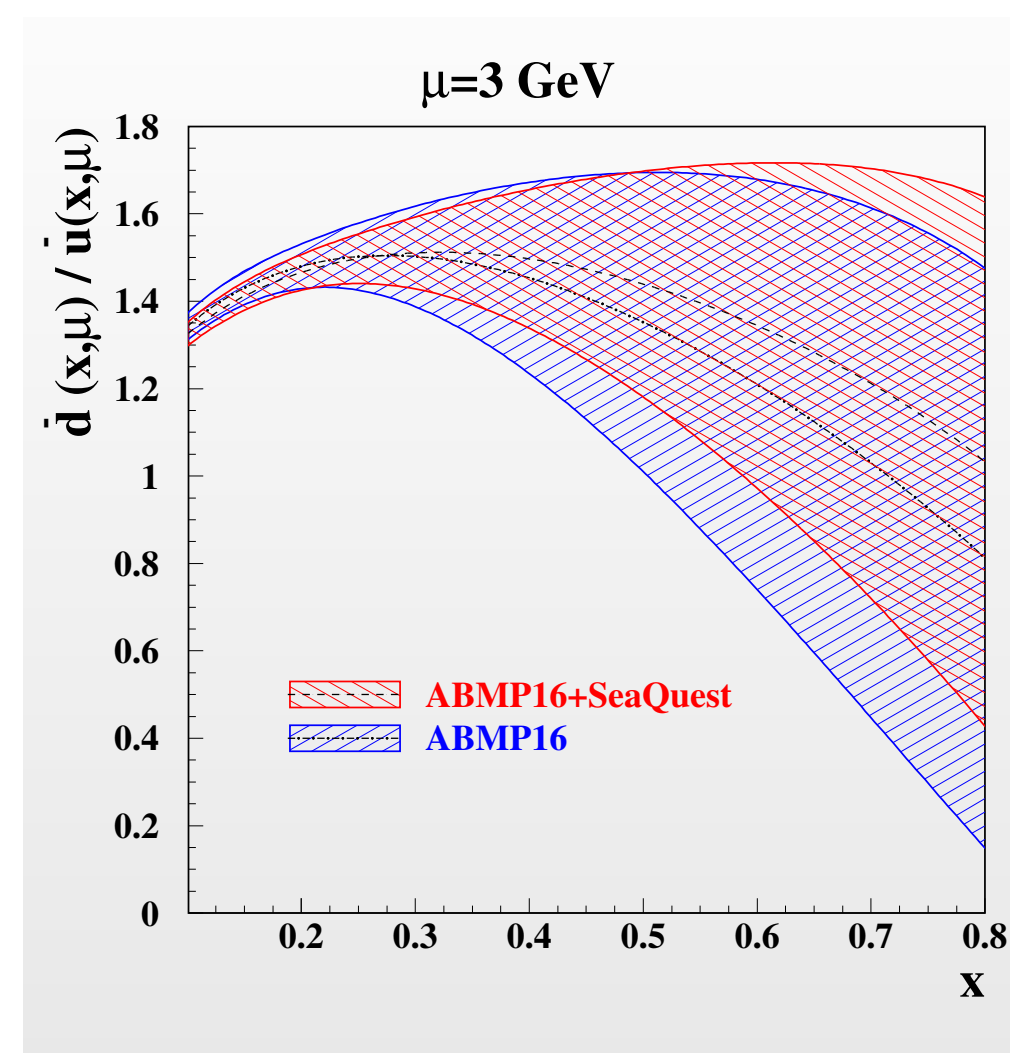
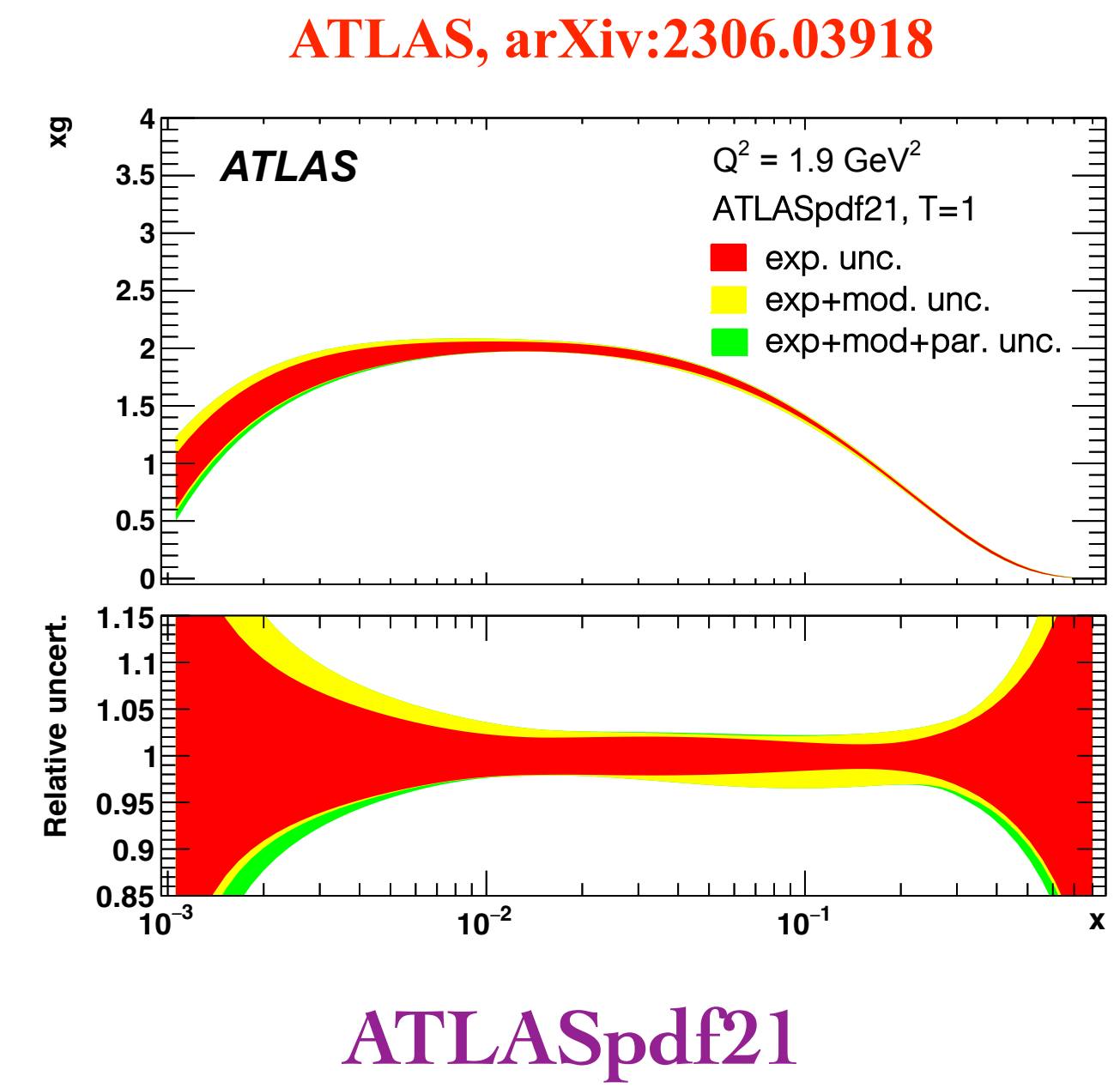
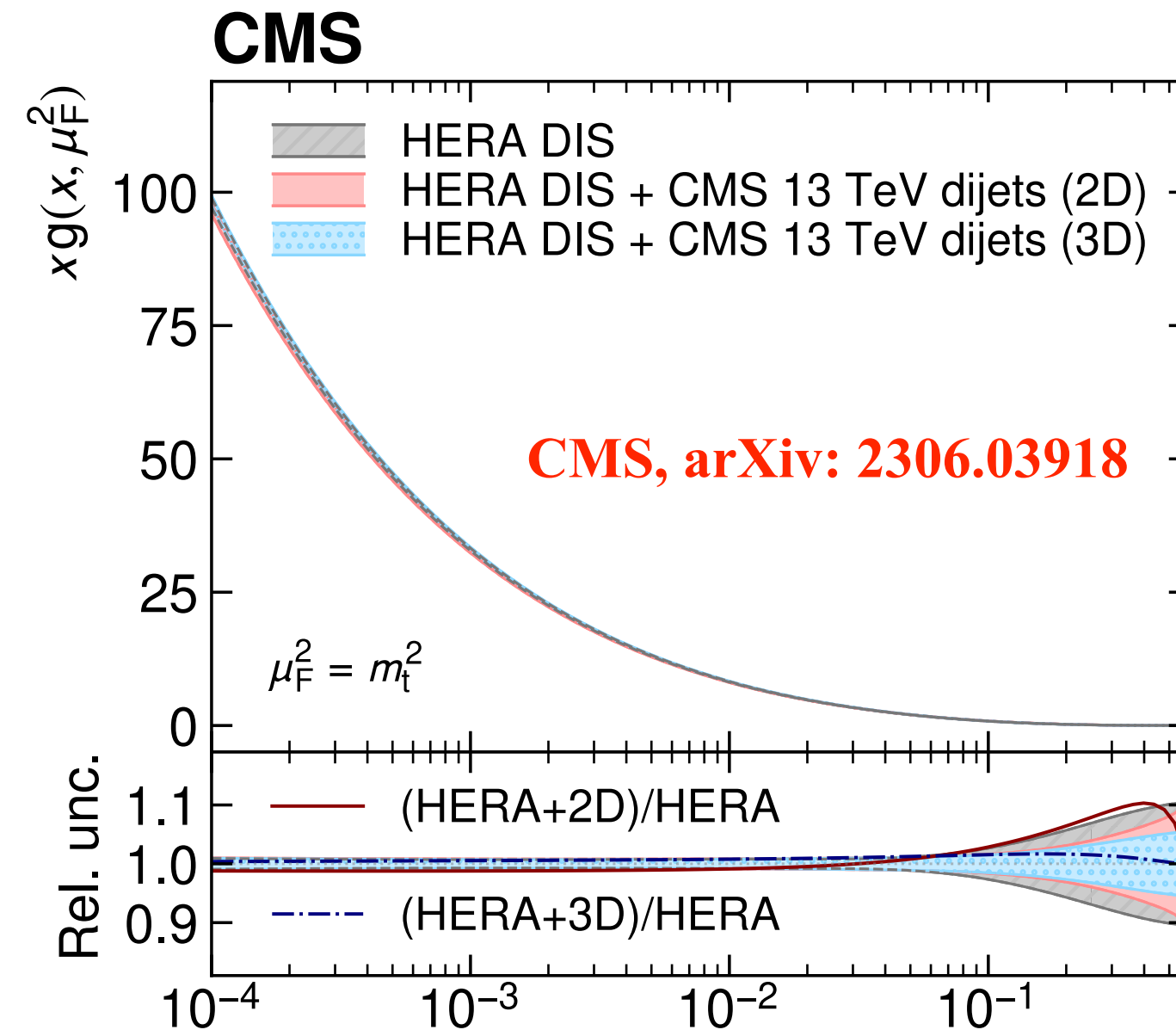
$$\mathcal{A}_c(yz) \equiv \frac{N_j^c(yz) - N_j^{\bar{c}}(yz)}{N_j^c(yz) + N_j^{\bar{c}}(yz)}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\sigma^{c\bar{c}}}(x, Q^2) \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\text{red}}^c(x, Q^2) - \sigma_{\text{red}}^{\bar{c}}(x, Q^2)}{\sigma_{\text{red}}^{c\bar{c}}(x, Q^2)}$$





- ★ Not just global fitters - experimental collaborations also busily assessing impact of their data on PDFs.
- ★ Though some caution often needed: impact not the same as in global fit.
- ★ Not just LHC data. Seaquest example of non-LHC dataset with important impact (high  $x$  flavour decomposition).
- ★ Though some tension with other (NuSea) data!



# **New Developments**

# Motivation

- **N3LO:**

- ★ State of the art is NNLO for PDF fits but a lot known at N3LO about DGLAP evolution and DIS (light + heavy flavours). Why not use this?

- ★ For hadron colliders less is known but already quite a bit

- **Uncertainty** due to lack of N3LO PDFs a key factor  $\Rightarrow$  need to - and can - go to N3LO!

$$\delta(\text{PDF} - \text{TH}) = \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{\sigma_{\text{NNLO-PDFs}}^{(2)} - \sigma_{\text{NLO-PDFs}}^{(2)}}{\sigma_{\text{NNLO-PDFs}}^{(2)}} \right|$$

**C. Anastasiou et al.,  
arxiv:1602.00695**

- **Missing higher orders:**

- ★ As (LHC) data becomes ever more precise sensitivity to any data/theory mismatch increases.

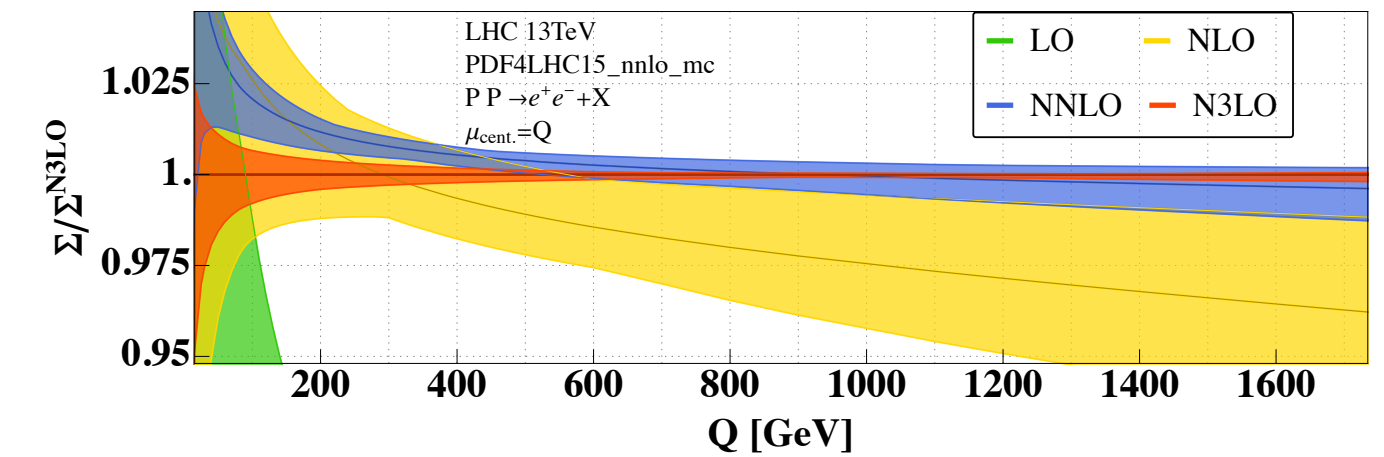
$$\chi^2 \sim \sum \frac{(D - T)^2}{\sigma_{\text{exp}}^2} \quad T_{\text{N}^x\text{LO}} \neq D \Rightarrow \chi^2 \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } \sigma_{\text{exp}} \rightarrow 0$$

- ★ Need to account for this missing higher order uncertainty:

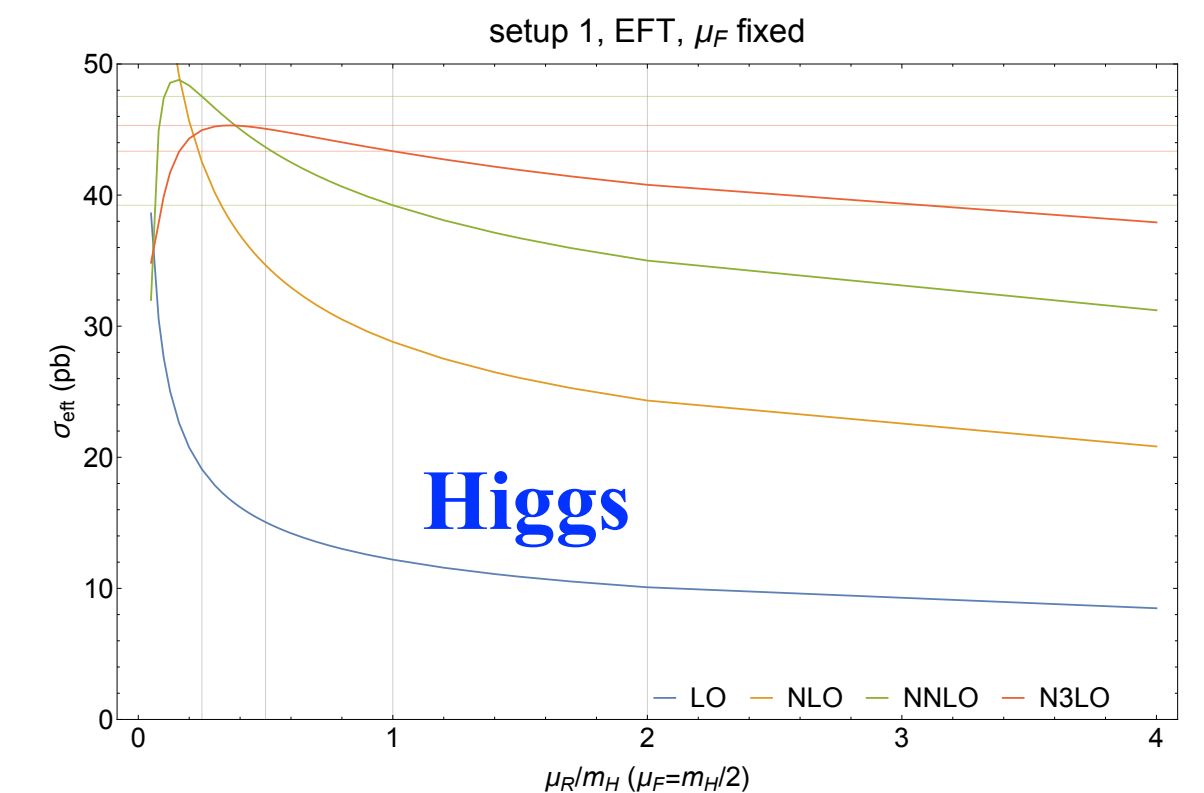
- More accurate PDF uncertainty.

- Weight datasets correctly in fit (less well known  $\Rightarrow$  larger uncertainty).

## Drell Yan



**C. Duhr and B. Mistlberger, arXiv:2111.10379**



# New Developments : aN3LO and missing higher orders

- Two approximate N3LO (aN3LO) global PDF sets available: **MSHTaN3LO** and **NNPDF4.0aN3LO**.

- Approximate splitting functions built up from known information. Approximate  $\neq$  poorly known. A lot of information available:

## Splitting Functions

Singlet ( $P_{qq}, P_{gg}, P_{gq}, P_{qg}$ )

– large- $n_f$  limit [NPB 915 (2017) 335; arXiv:2308.07958]

– small- $x$  limit [JHEP 06 (2018) 145]

– large- $x$  limit [NPB 832 (2010) 152; JHEP 04 (2020) 018; JHEP 09 (2022) 155]

– 5 (10) lowest Mellin moments [PLB 825 (2022) 136853; ibid. 842 (2023) 137944; ibid. 846 (2023) 138215]

Non-singlet ( $P_{NS,v}, P_{NS,+}, P_{NS,-}$ )

– large- $n_f$  limit [NPB 915 (2017) 335; arXiv:2308.07958]

– small- $x$  limit [JHEP 08 (2022) 135]

– large- $x$  limit [JHEP 10 (2017) 041]

– 8 lowest Mellin moments [JHEP 06 (2018) 073]

**Emanuele Nocera, Forward Physics and QCD at the LHC and EIC, Bad Honnef 23**

- And a great deal of progress recently!

**G. Falcioni et al., arXiv:2307.04158**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \gamma_{\text{qg}}^{(3)}(N=2) &= -654.4627782 n_f + 245.6106197 n_f^2 - 0.924990969 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{qg}}^{(3)}(N=4) &= 290.3110686 n_f - 76.51672403 n_f^2 - 4.911625629 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{qg}}^{(3)}(N=6) &= 335.8008046 n_f - 124.5710225 n_f^2 - 4.193871425 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{qg}}^{(3)}(N=8) &= 294.5876830 n_f - 135.3767647 n_f^2 - 3.609775642 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{qg}}^{(3)}(N=10) &= 241.6153399 n_f - 135.1874247 n_f^2 - 3.189394834 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{qg}}^{(3)}(N=12) &= 191.9712464 n_f - 131.1631663 n_f^2 - 2.877104430 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{qg}}^{(3)}(N=14) &= 148.5682948 n_f - 125.8231081 n_f^2 - 2.635918561 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{qg}}^{(3)}(N=16) &= 111.3404252 n_f - 120.1681987 n_f^2 - 2.443379039 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{qg}}^{(3)}(N=18) &= 79.51561588 n_f - 114.6171354 n_f^2 - 2.285486861 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{qg}}^{(3)}(N=20) &= 52.24329555 n_f - 109.3424891 n_f^2 - 2.153153725 n_f^3.
 \end{aligned}$$

**G. Falcioni et al., arXiv:2302.07593**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \gamma_{\text{ps}}^{(3)}(N=2) &= -691.5937093 n_f + 84.77398149 n_f^2 + 4.466956849 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{ps}}^{(3)}(N=4) &= -109.3302335 n_f + 8.776885259 n_f^2 + 0.306077137 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{ps}}^{(3)}(N=6) &= -46.03061374 n_f + 4.744075766 n_f^2 + 0.042548957 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{ps}}^{(3)}(N=8) &= -24.01455020 n_f + 3.235193483 n_f^2 - 0.007889256 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{ps}}^{(3)}(N=10) &= -13.73039387 n_f + 2.375018759 n_f^2 - 0.021029241 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{ps}}^{(3)}(N=12) &= -8.152592251 n_f + 1.819958178 n_f^2 - 0.024330231 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{ps}}^{(3)}(N=14) &= -4.840447180 n_f + 1.438327380 n_f^2 - 0.024479943 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{ps}}^{(3)}(N=16) &= -2.751136330 n_f + 1.164299642 n_f^2 - 0.023546009 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{ps}}^{(3)}(N=18) &= -1.375969240 n_f + 0.960873318 n_f^2 - 0.022264393 n_f^3, \\
 \gamma_{\text{ps}}^{(3)}(N=20) &= -0.442681568 n_f + 0.805745333 n_f^2 - 0.020918264 n_f^3.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_0^1 dx x^{N-1} P(x)$$

**Up to  $N = 20$  even moments in quark sector**

# N3LO - What do we know?

- **Approximate**  $\neq$  **poorly known!**

$$P(x, \alpha_s) = \alpha_s P^{(0)}(x) + \alpha_s^2 P^{(1)}(x) + \alpha_s^3 P^{(2)}(x) + \alpha_s^4 P^{(3)}(x) + \dots$$

- ★ **Splitting functions:** a wealth of information. Moments & various limits, with much recent further progress.

**G. Falcioni et al., arXiv:2307.04158, arXiv:2302.07593**

$$F_2(x, Q^2) = \sum_{\alpha \in H, q, g; \beta \in q, H} (C_{\beta, \alpha}^{VF, n_f+1} \otimes A_{\alpha i}(Q^2/m_h^2) \otimes f_i^{n_f}(Q^2))$$

- ★ **DIS:** massless coefficient functions known (+ massive high  $Q^2$ ). Massive low  $Q^2$  approx. known.

$$f_{\alpha}^{n_f+1}(x, Q^2) = [A_{\alpha i}(Q^2/m_h^2) \otimes f_i^{n_f}(Q^2)](x)$$

- ★ **Heavy Flavour:** again wealth of information. Moments & various limits, with much recent progress.

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 + \sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3 + \dots \equiv \sigma_{N3LO} + \dots$$

- ★ **Hadronic Cross Sections:** while much progress made, thus far not useable in PDF fits.

- First three ingredients now largely known with sufficient precision to give close to a N3LO fit. Final ingredient clearly the bottleneck for that - approximation + uncertainty required.

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## Splitting Functions

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– 8 lowest Mellin moments [JHEP 06 (2018) 073]

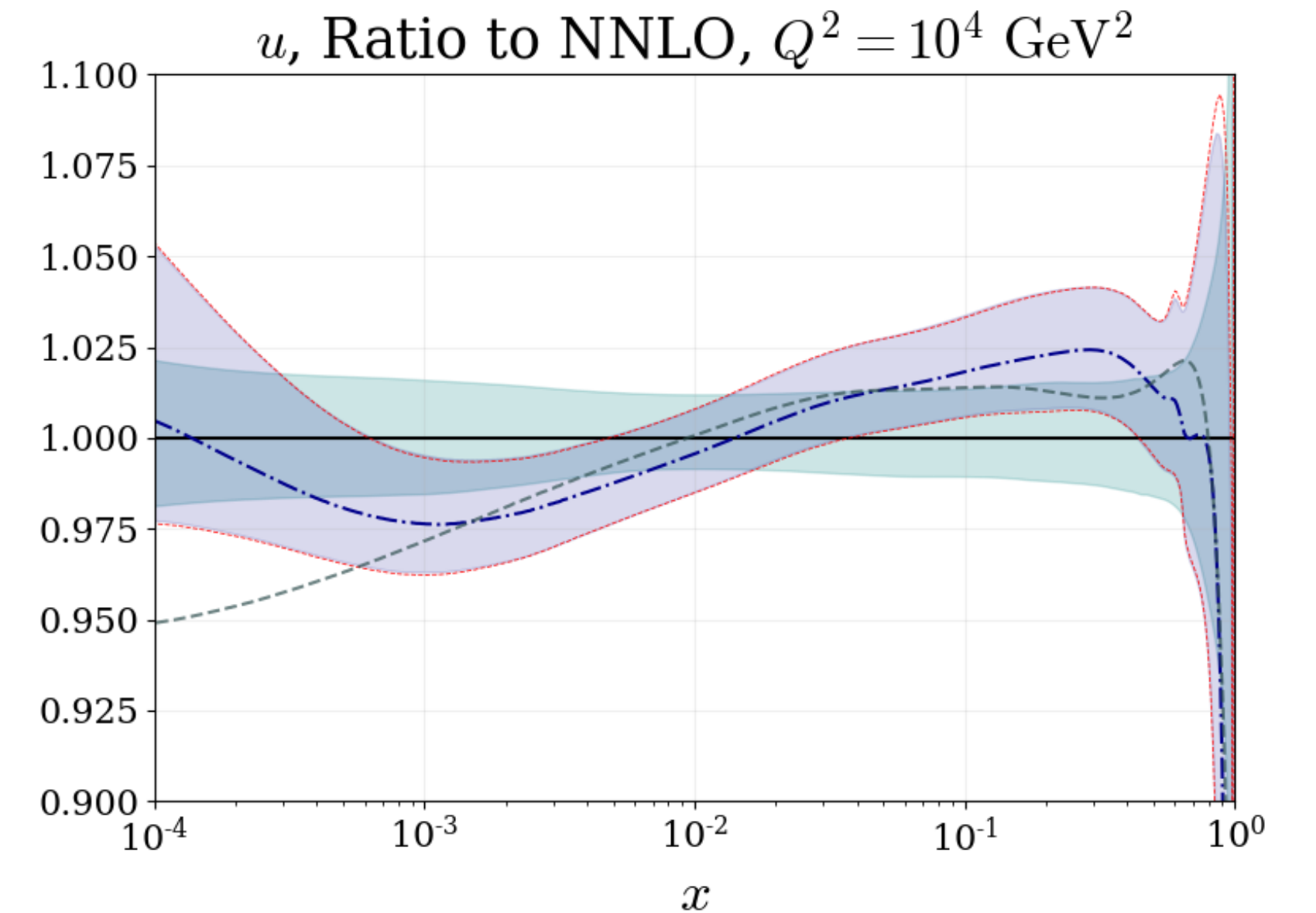
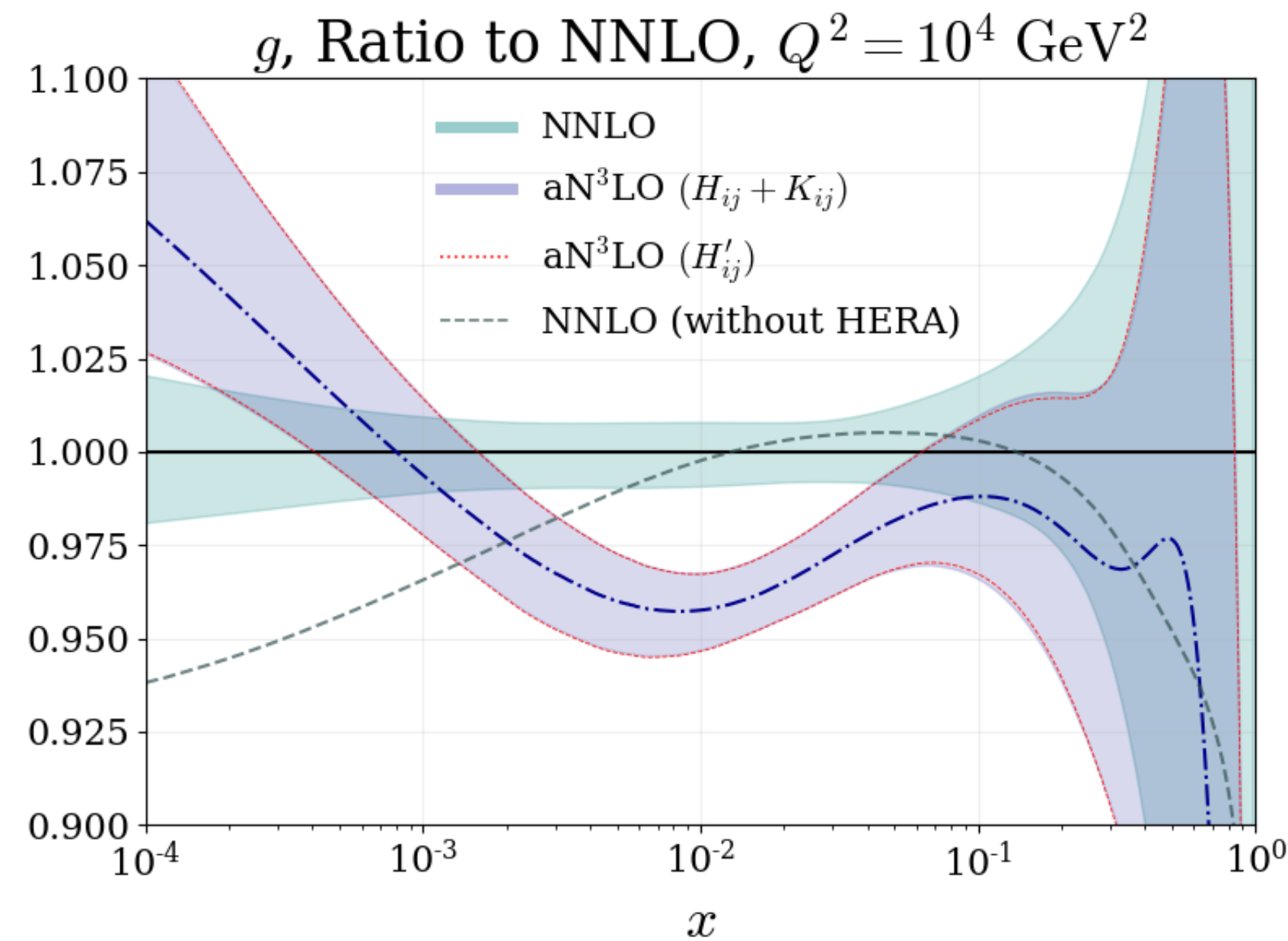
# MSHTaN3LO

- First global aN3LO analysis - [MSHT20aN3LO](#). Released ~ 2 years ago.
- Main bottleneck to ‘real’ N3LO is hadronic cross sections. Include via nuisance parameters:

- Clear improvement in fit quality, ~ driven by known N3LO.

	LO	NLO	NNLO	N <sup>3</sup> LO
$\chi^2_{N_{pts}}$	2.57	1.33	1.17	1.14

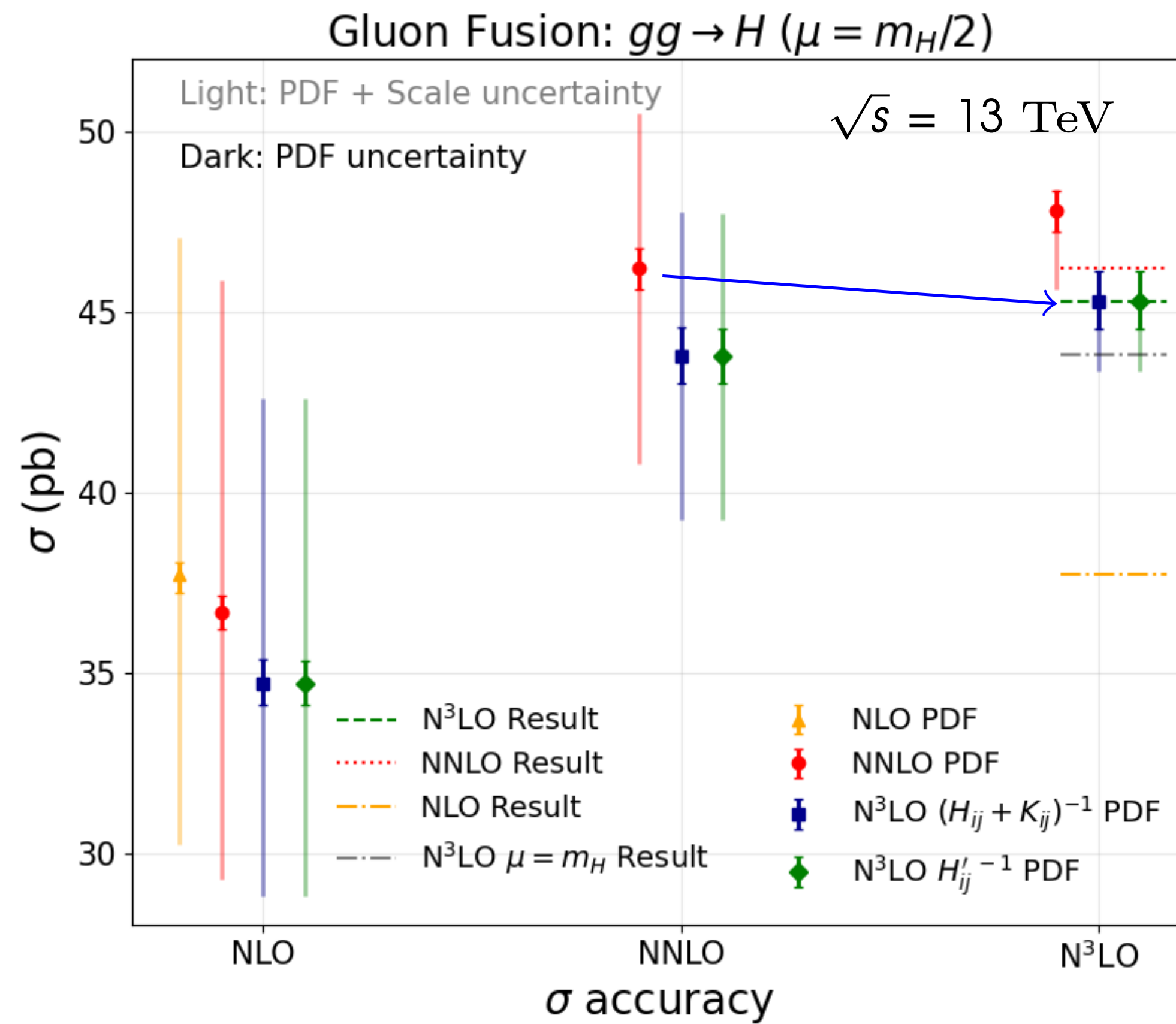
- Evidence that aN3LO reduces tensions between low and high  $x$  regions.



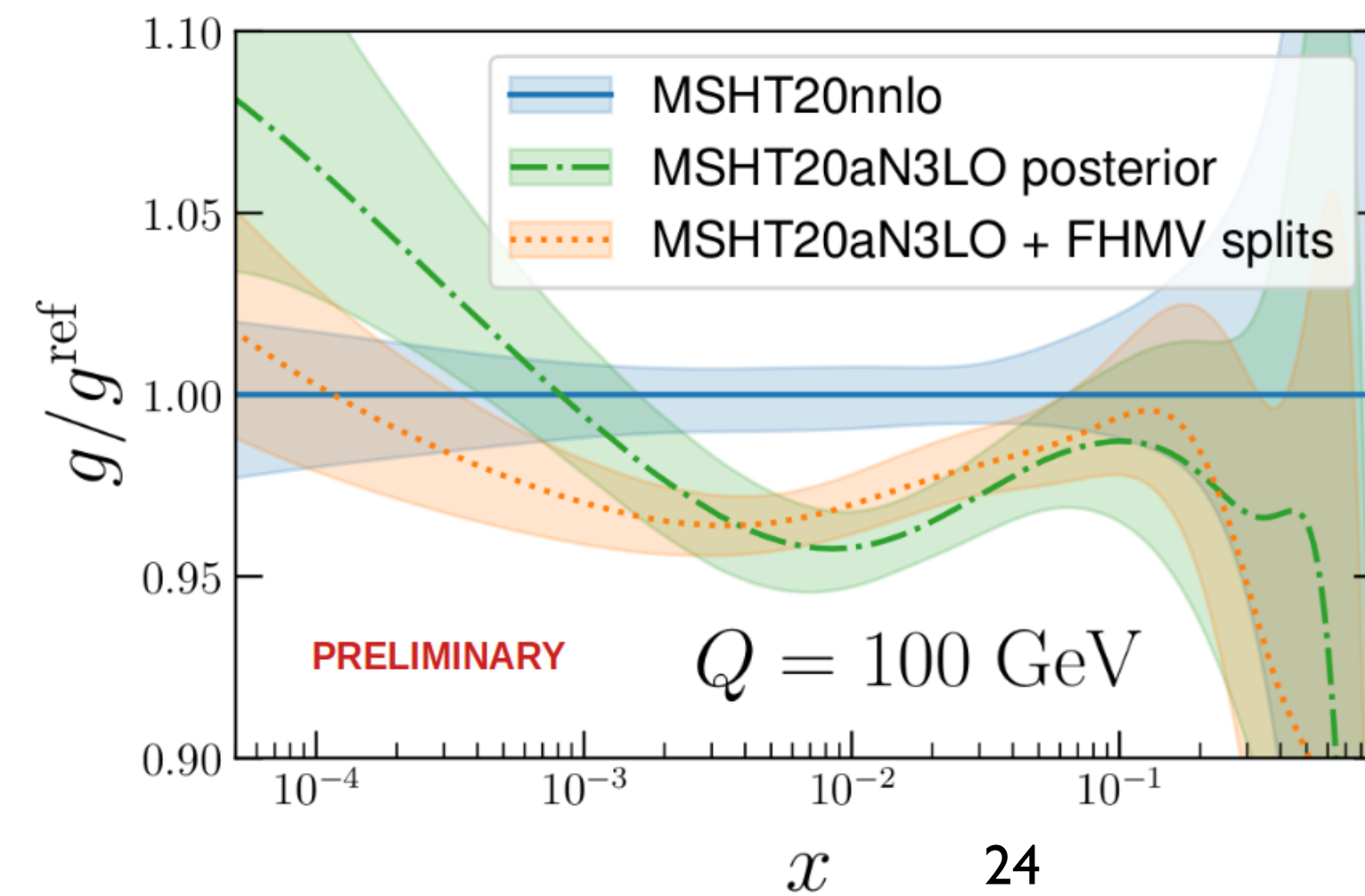
- Largest change is in gluon at low and intermediate  $x$ . Some change in e.g. quarks at high  $x$ .

- More recent [NNPDF4.0aN3LO](#) analysis sees qualitatively similar results, some quantitative differences.

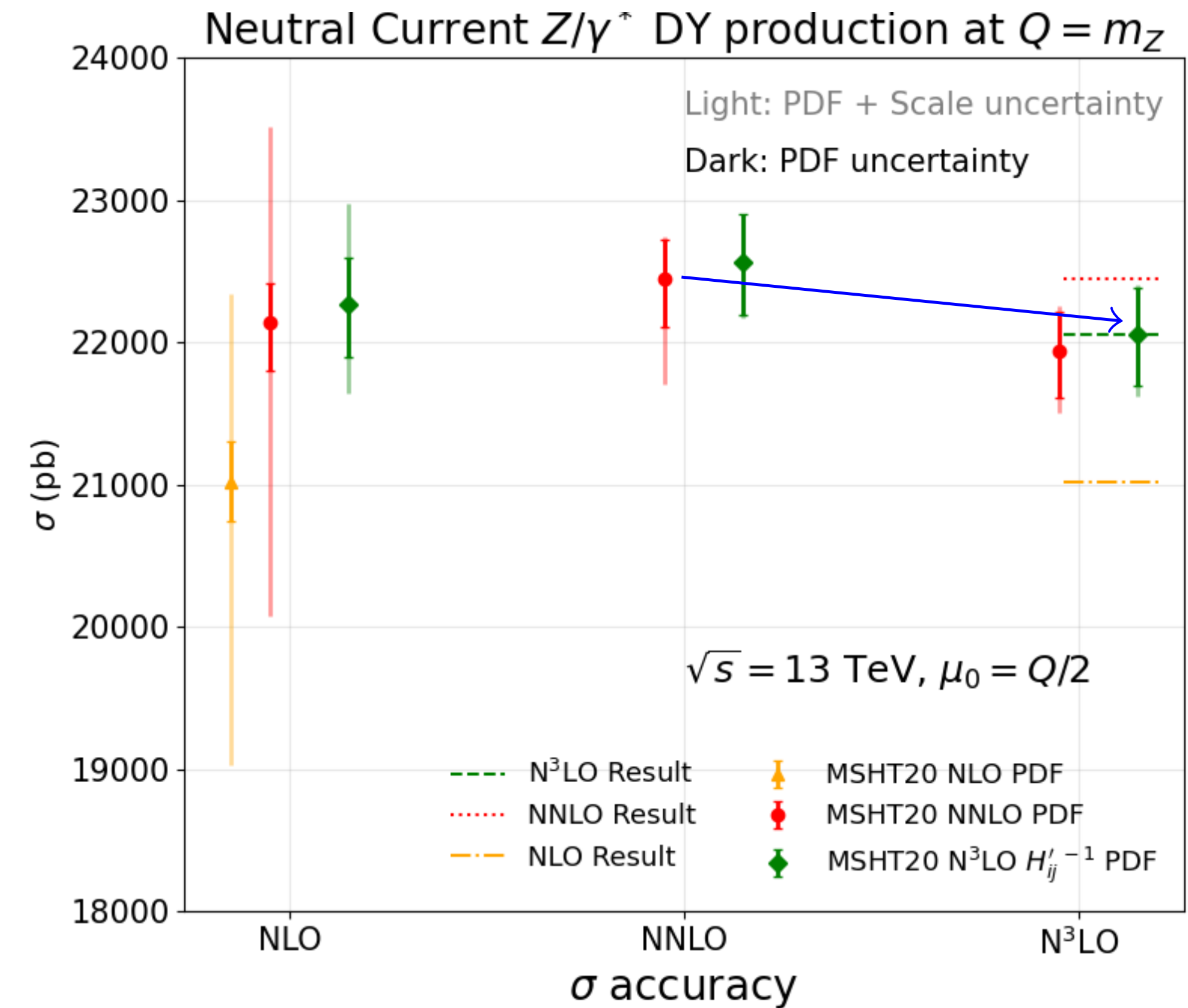
- Change in gluon corresponds to reduction in e.g.  $ggH$  at N3LO - improves stability.



- Have studied impact of newer splitting function information. Moderate impact, within uncertainties.



- Some increase in NC DY - again mild improvement in stability.





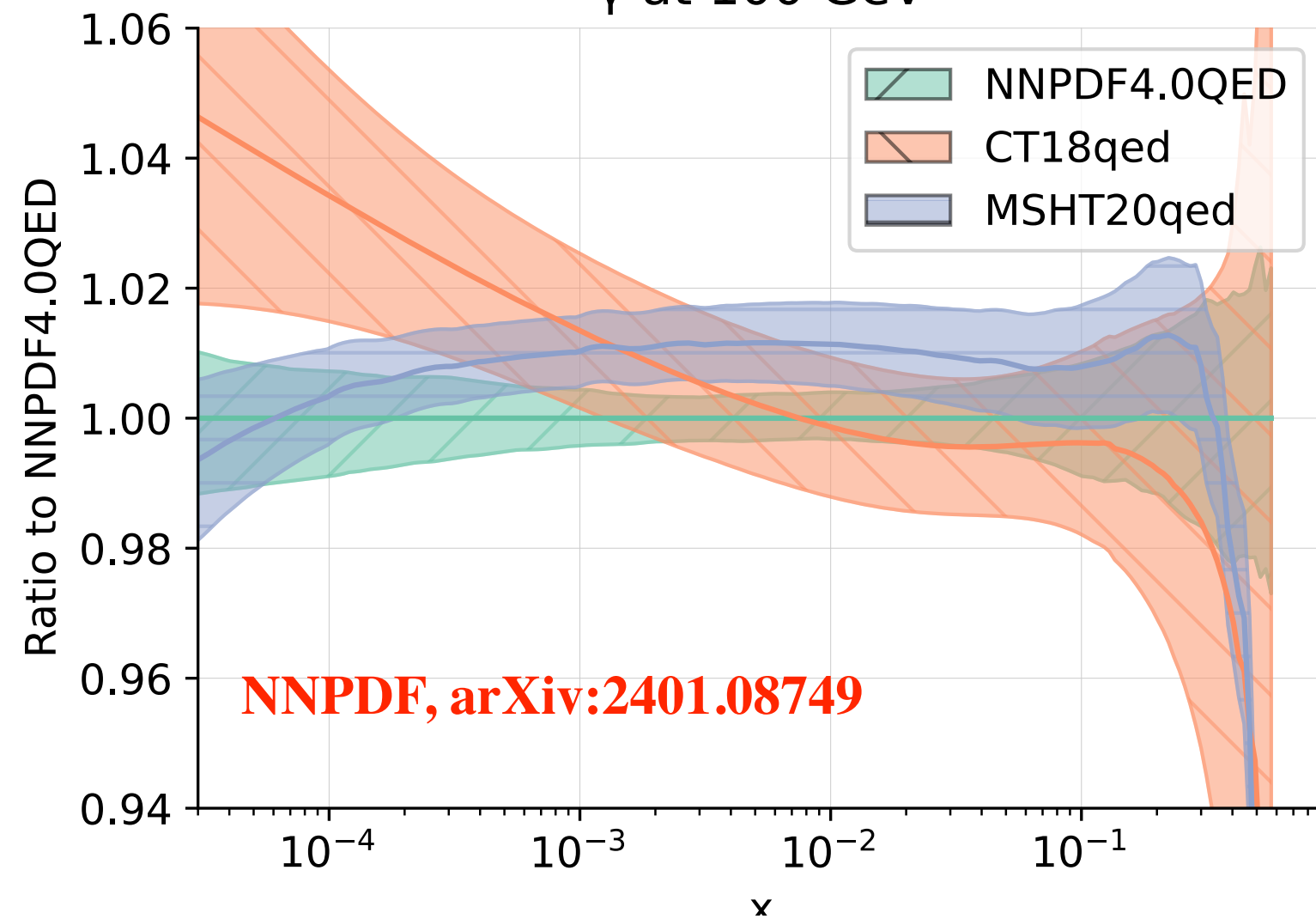
# New Developments : QED corrections

- QED corrections key part of PDF fit. Requires the **photon** be included as another parton of the proton: **LUXqed** breakthrough enables high precision. Some recent highlights:

A. Manohar et al., JHEP 1712 (2017) 046

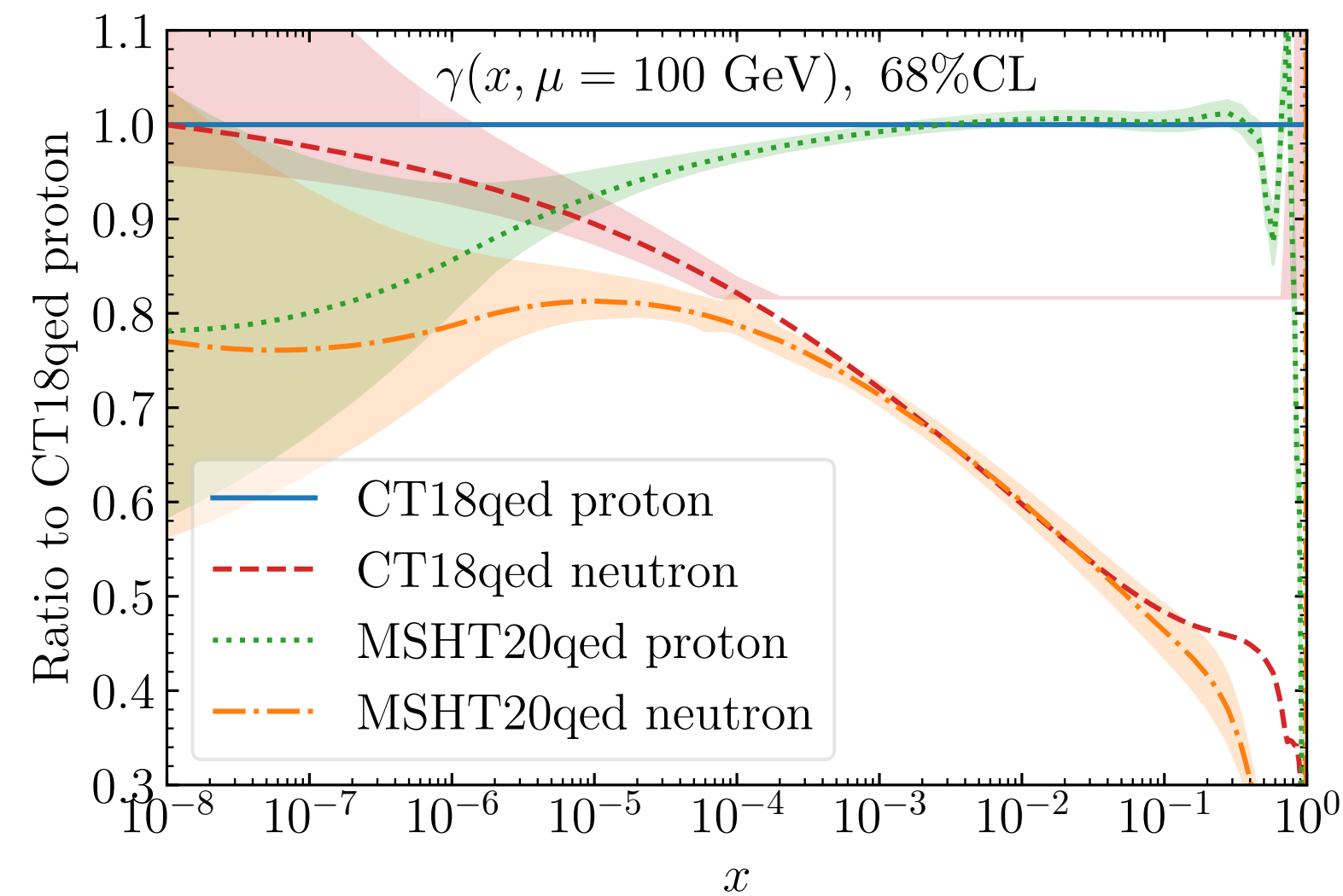
- ★ **NNPDF4.0QED**: latest addition to QED baseline sets

$\gamma$  at 100 GeV



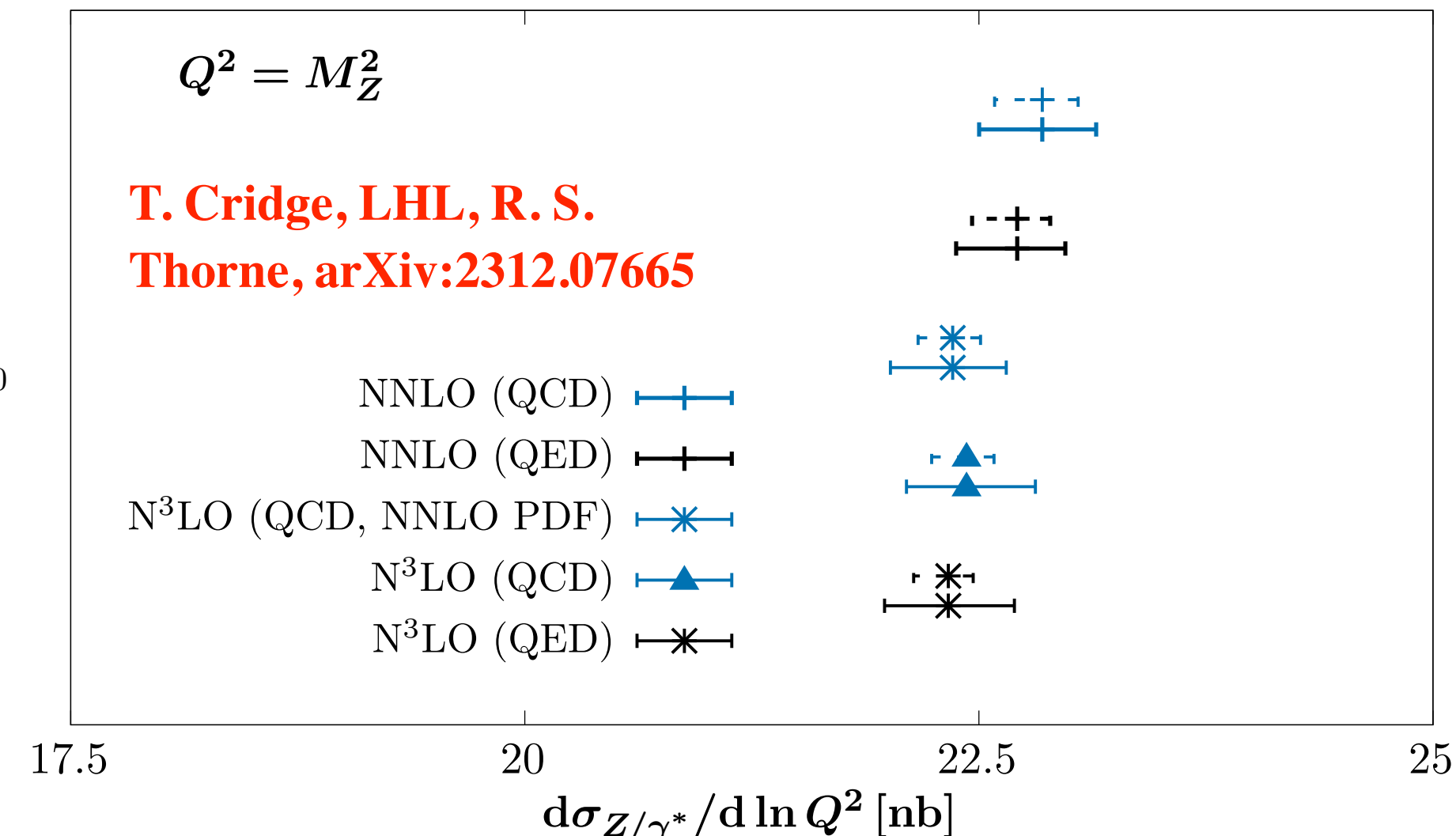
NNPDF, arXiv:2401.08749

- ★ Not just the proton! Recent CT study on photon content of the **neutron**.



K. Xie, B. Zhou and T. Hobbs, arXiv:2305.10497

- ★ First combined **QED + aN3LO** set - **MSHT**. In future should/will be the standard.
- ★ QED on PDFs effects smaller than or  $\sim$  aN3LO. Need both!



# New Developments : New Physics + PDFs

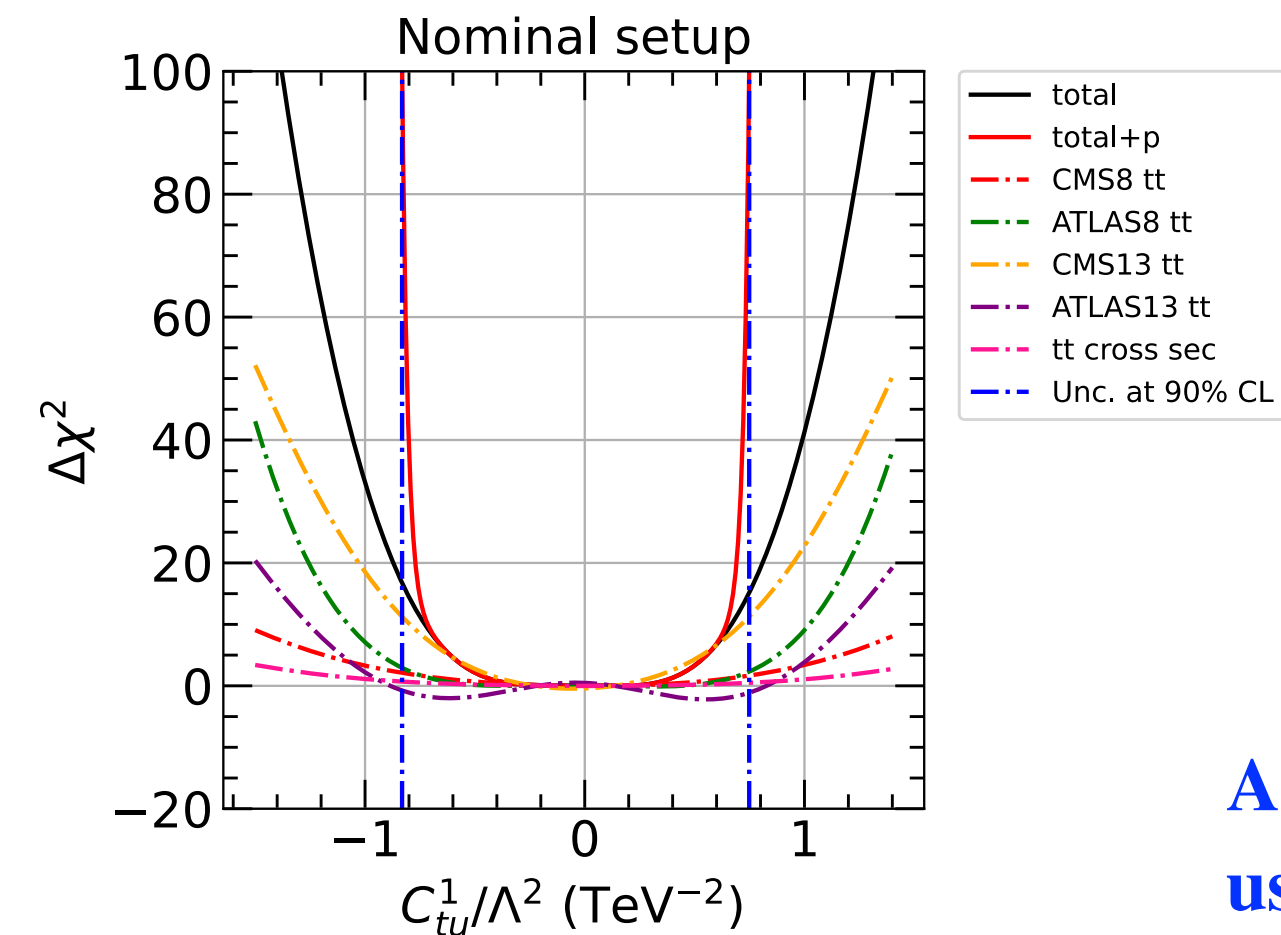
- Key element of LHC precision physics: looking for indirect signs of new physics in high energy data. Parameterise in **SMEFT**:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i \frac{C_i O_i^{(6)}}{\Lambda^2} + \dots,$$

- When constraining BSM with **SMEFT** fits, in principle need to account for interplay with **PDF** fit.

★ CT study - joint fit to SMEFT + PDF parameters.

★ For current LHC data PDF - SMEFT correlation small (safely fit SMEFT with fixed PDFs).



J. Gao et al., arXiv:2211.020194

Aside: both of these studies rely on use of Neural Networks!

'Physics Beyond the Standard Proton'



◆ NNPDF (**PBSP**) study: similar conclusion for current data, but what about the HL-LHC?

◆ HL-LHC pseudodata study: could new physics be absorbed in PDF fit, and if so what to do?

E. Hammou et al., arXiv:2307.10370

'Reality'

- Predictions are formed from **TRUE** PDFs, and **TRUE** New Physics parameters:

$$\sigma = \hat{\sigma}_{\text{SM+NP}} \otimes f_{\text{true}}$$

Result of fit

- Predictions are formed from **CONTAMINATED** PDFs, and **NO** New Physics parameters:

$$\sigma = \hat{\sigma}_{\text{SM}} \otimes f_{\text{cont}}$$

See also A. Anataichuk et al., arXiv:2310.19638

# New Developments : New Physics + PDFs

★ HL-LHC pseudodata study: could **new physics** might be **absorbed** in PDF fit?  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i \frac{C_i O_i^{(6)}}{\Lambda^2} + \dots,$

- For certain models **it can**. New physics in high mass DY absorbed into PDFs, with still reasonable fit quality.

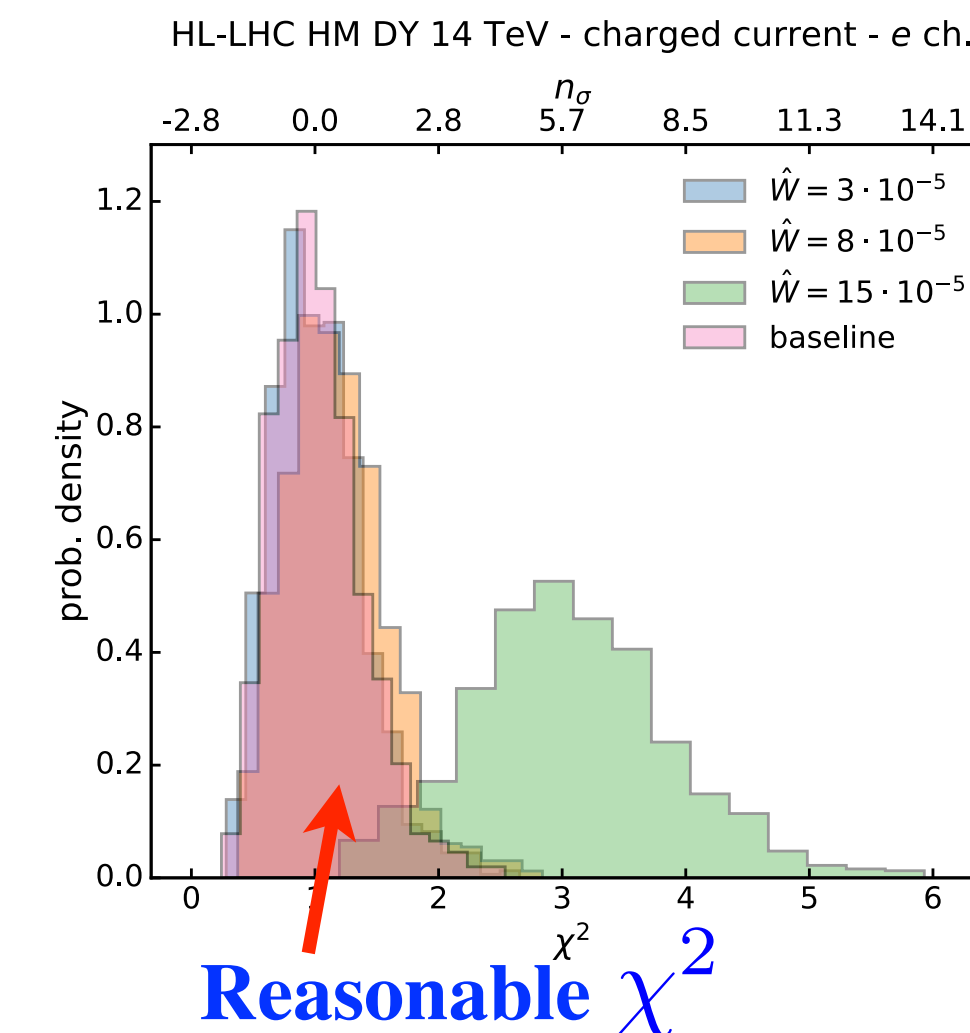
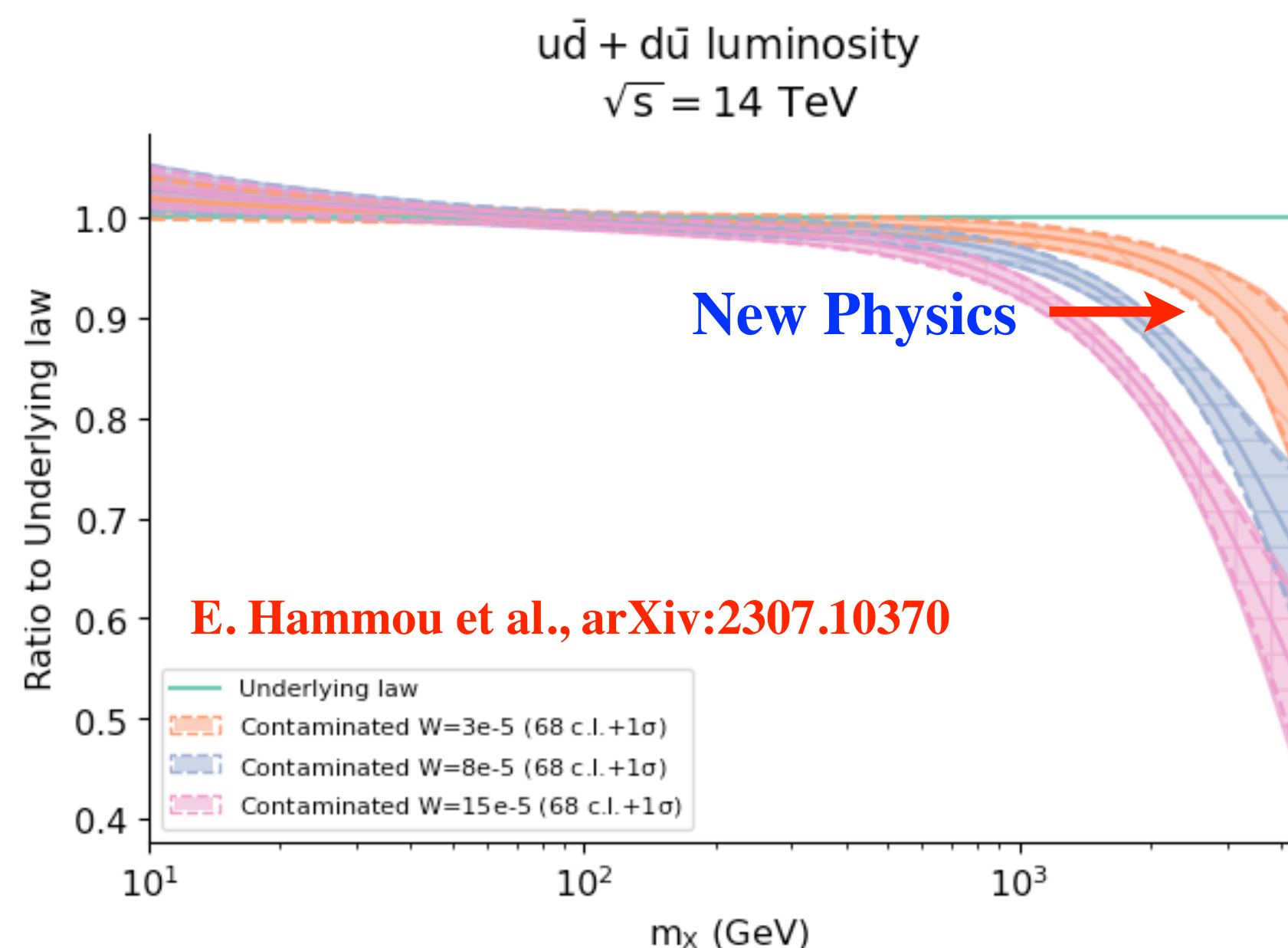
Public 'SIMUnet' tool for this:

<https://hep-pbsp.github.io/SIMUnet>

PBSB collab., arXiv:2402.03308

- Solutions?

- ◆ Limit PDF fits to lower mass? **Too Naive**: if high mass deviation seen, first place would look is PDFs. Suitable choice of observables, e.g. cross section ratios better.
- ◆ **LHC(b)** forward data: yes, unclear for high  $x$  antiquarks  $\Rightarrow$  Low energy future data (**EIC**), lattice?
- ◆ More broadly highlights benefit of **global fit**: different data constraints can limit above effect. Of course relies on a good understanding of PDF absent BSM...



# Challenges and Methodology

# New Challenges

- PDF fitting is a **challenging** environment.  $\frac{\chi^2}{N_{pts}} \gg 1 + \sigma(N_{pts}) \sim 1.02$

MSHTaN3LO

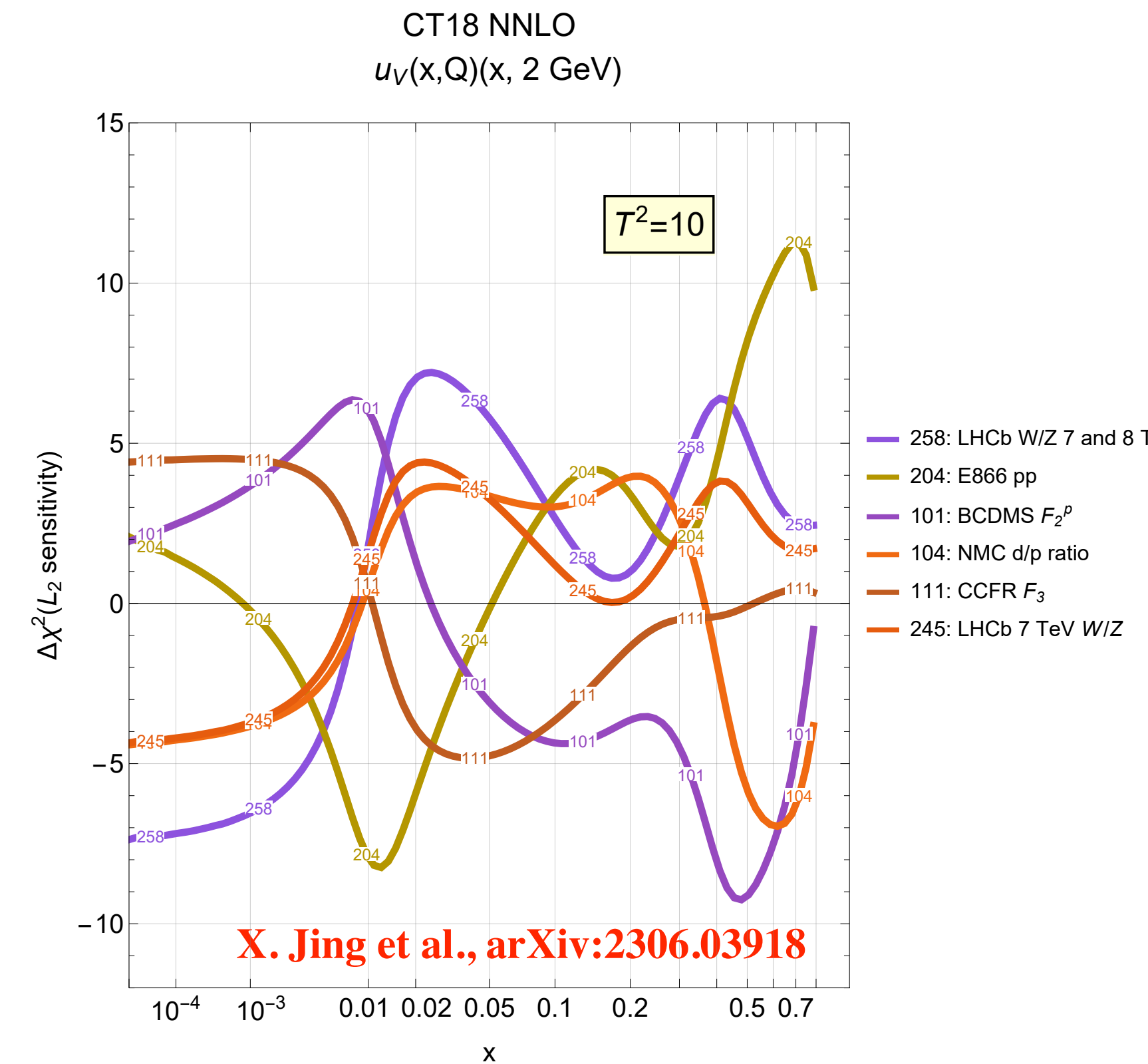
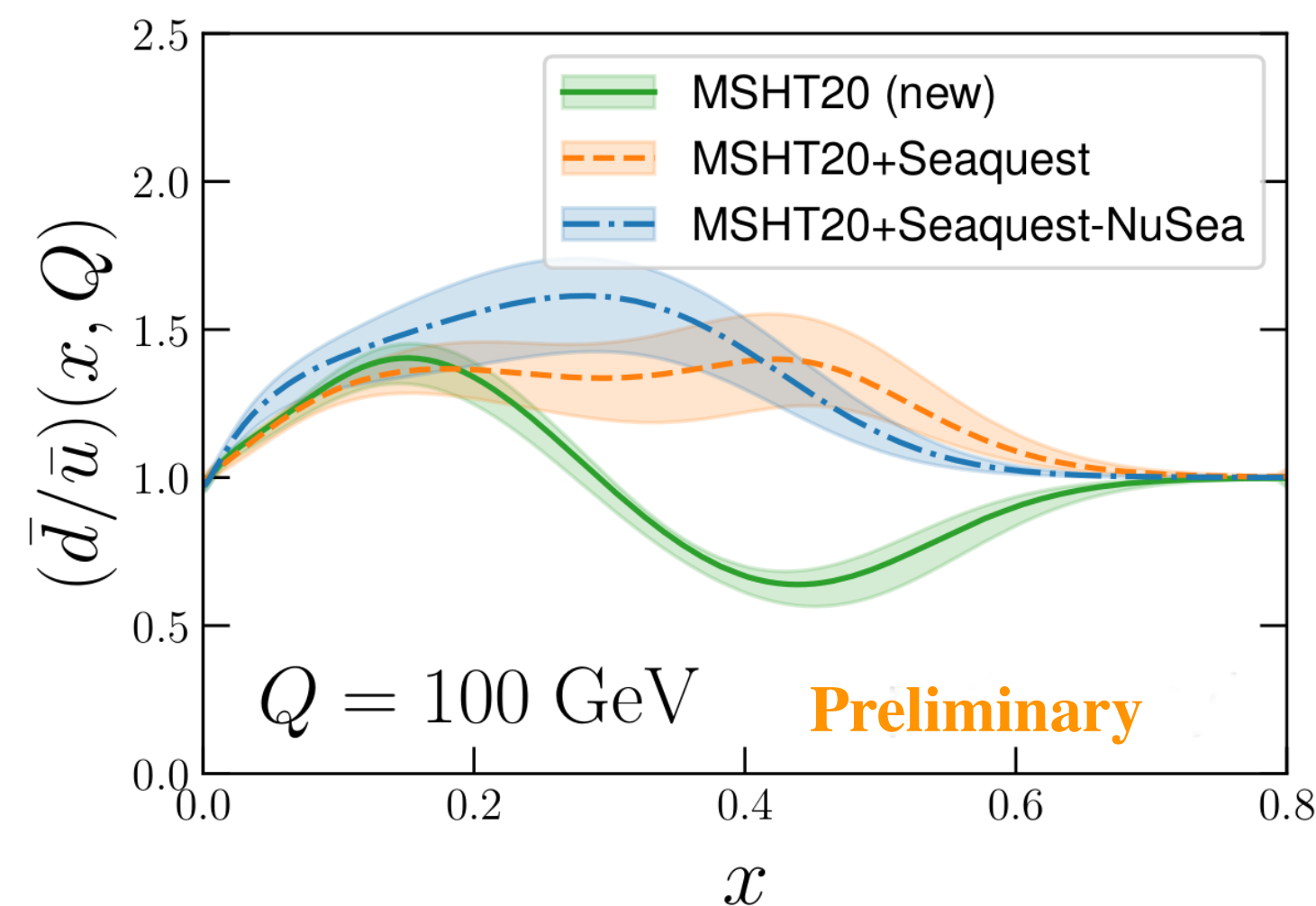
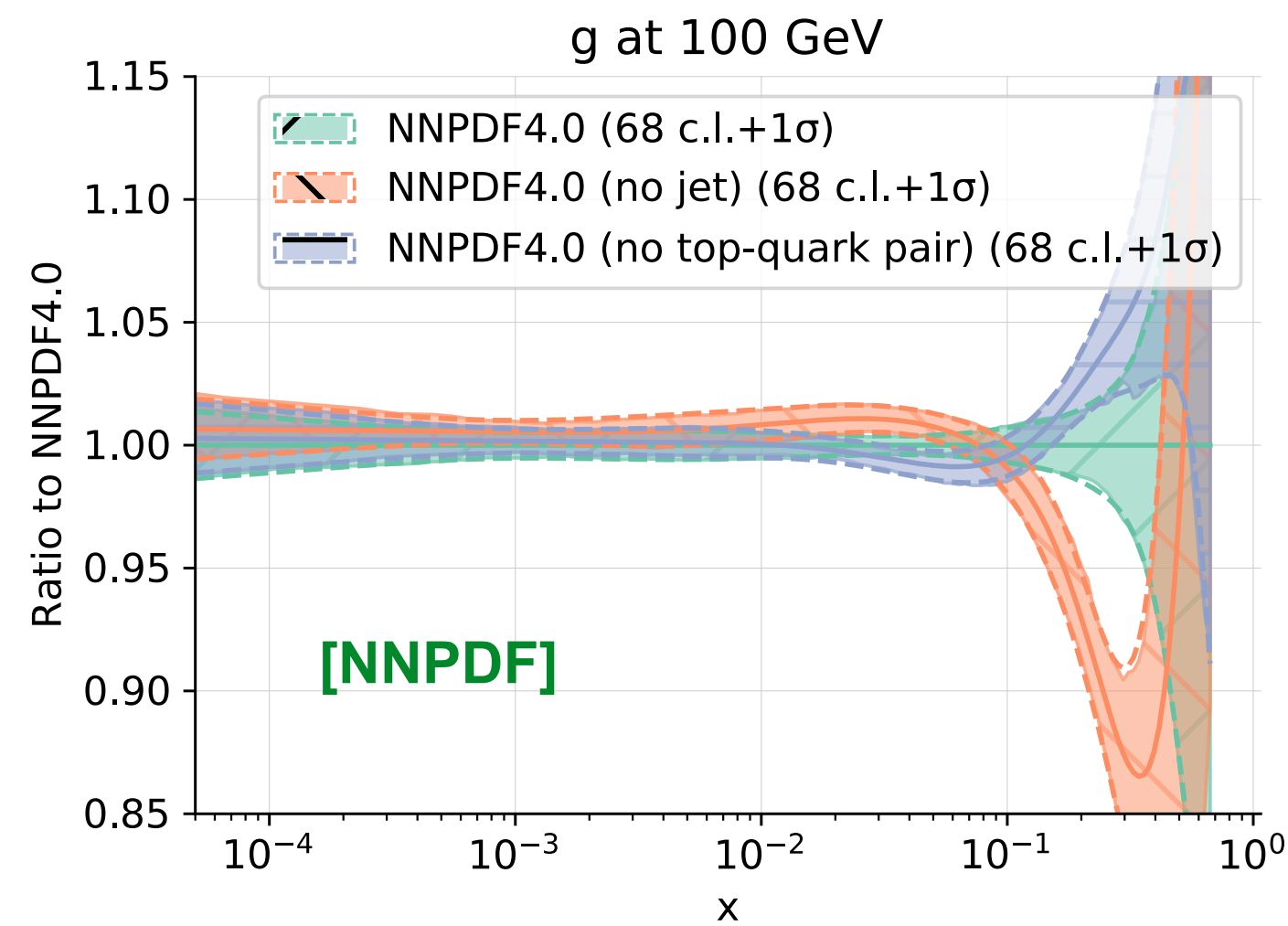
	LO	NLO	NNLO	N <sup>3</sup> LO
$\chi^2_{N_{pts}}$	2.57	1.33	1.17	<u>1.14</u>

- Global PDF **fit qualities** not good by textbook definition.

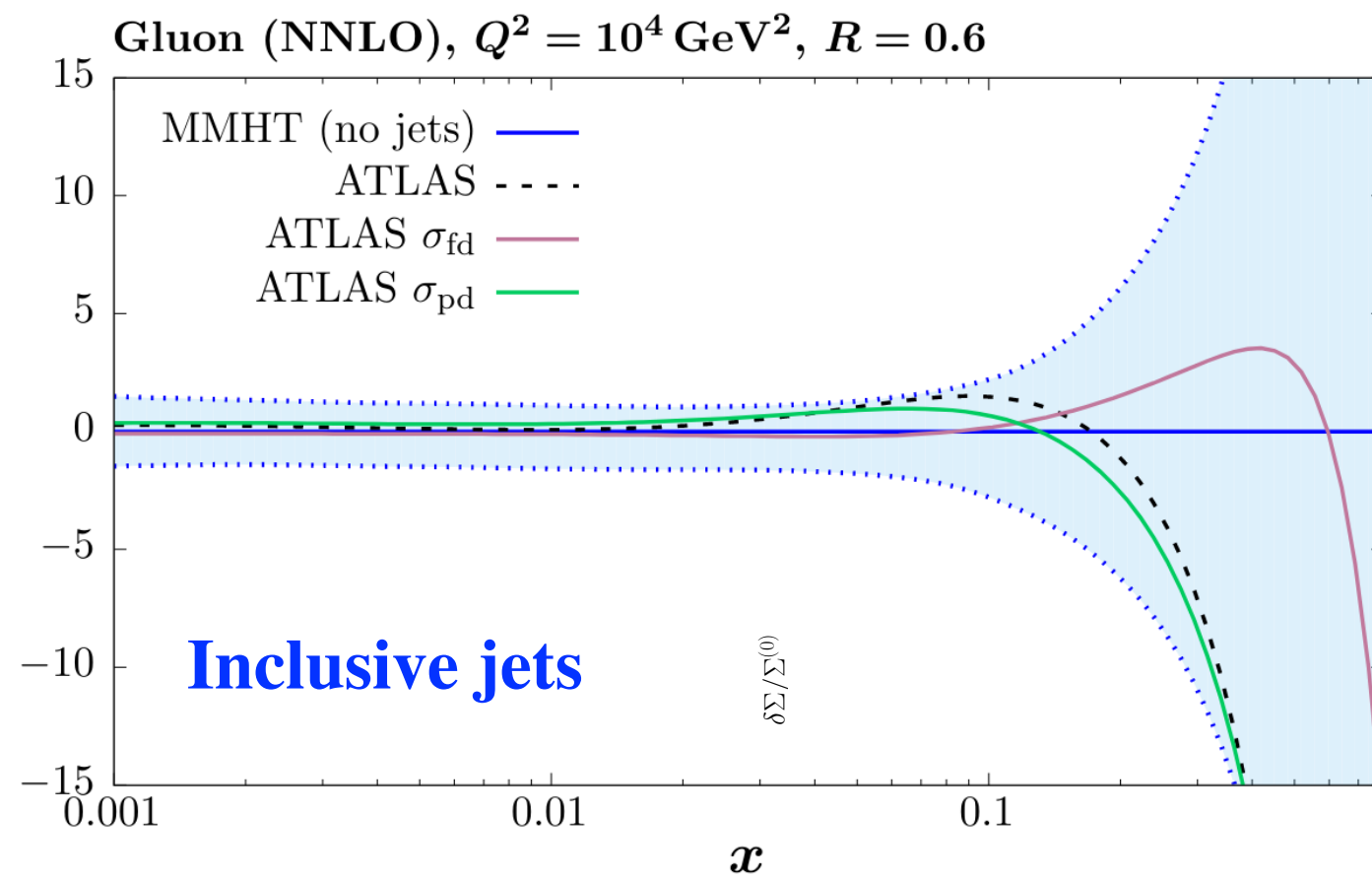
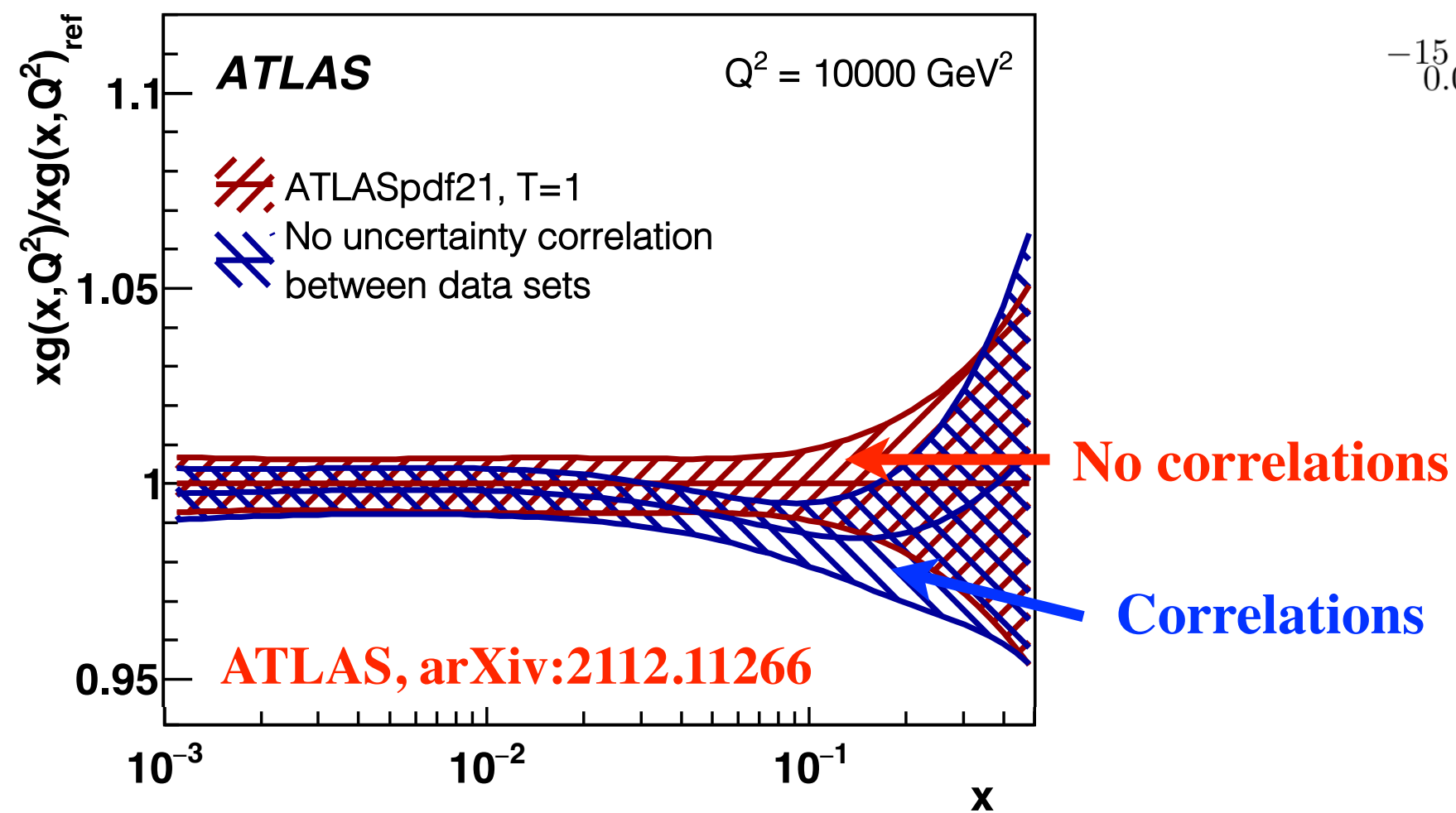
Many reasons for this:

- ★ Global fits adversarial - different datasets pull in different directions and **tensions** exist. See recent study on 'L2' sensitivity

And similar for other fits!

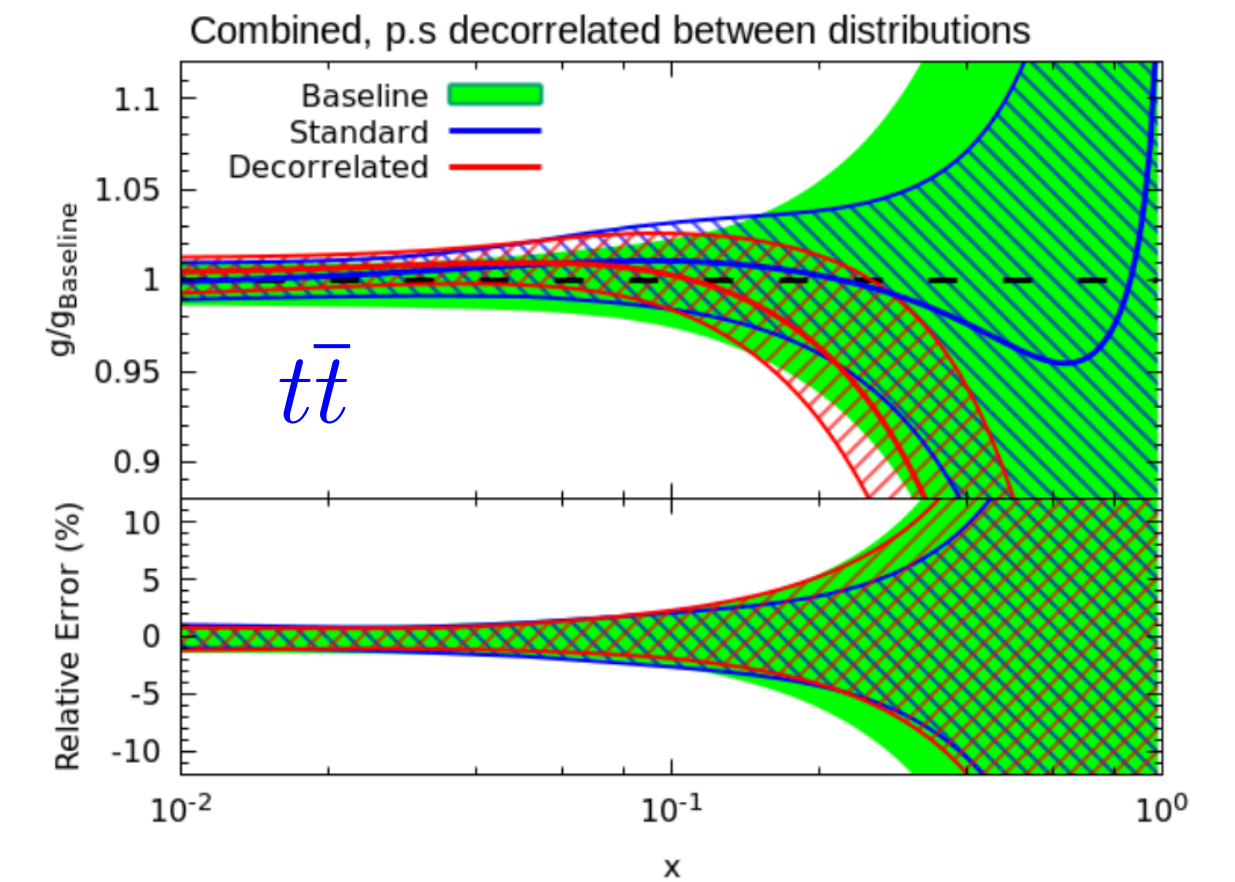


- ★ As LHC datasets become increasingly **systematics** dominated, sensitive to precise treatment of these, and their correlations...
- ★ ...as well as correlations between datasets!



S. Bailey et al., arXiv:2012.04684

$n_{\text{dat}}$	default	part. decorr.	full decorr.
140	1.89	1.28	0.83

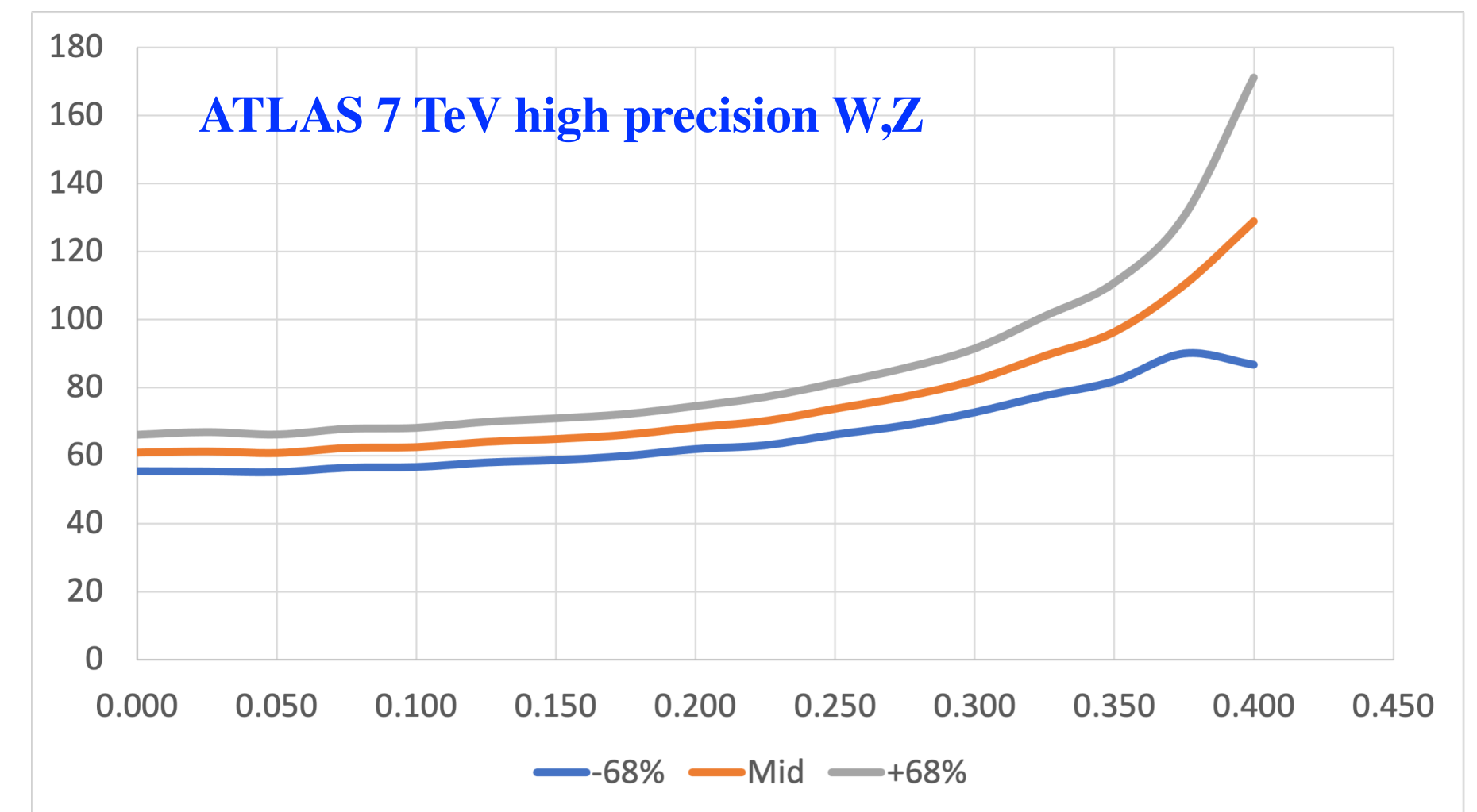


S. Bailey and LHL, arXiv:1909.10541

$n_{\text{dat}}$	default	stat. uncorr.	p.s. uncorr
25	7.00	3.28	1.80

- ★ Could be that a more systematic approach is needed here: include errors on the errors fit quality.
- ★ Monitor what size of error is needed to match observed  $\chi^2$  for high precision datasets.

$$L(\mu, \theta, \sigma_{u_i}^2) = P(y|\mu, \theta) \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{u_i}^2}} e^{-(u_i - \theta_i)^2 / 2\sigma_{u_i}^2} \frac{\beta_i^{\alpha_i}}{\Gamma(\alpha_i)} v_i^{\alpha_i - 1} e^{-\beta_i v_i}$$



M. Reader et al., In Preparation

# PDF Uncertainties

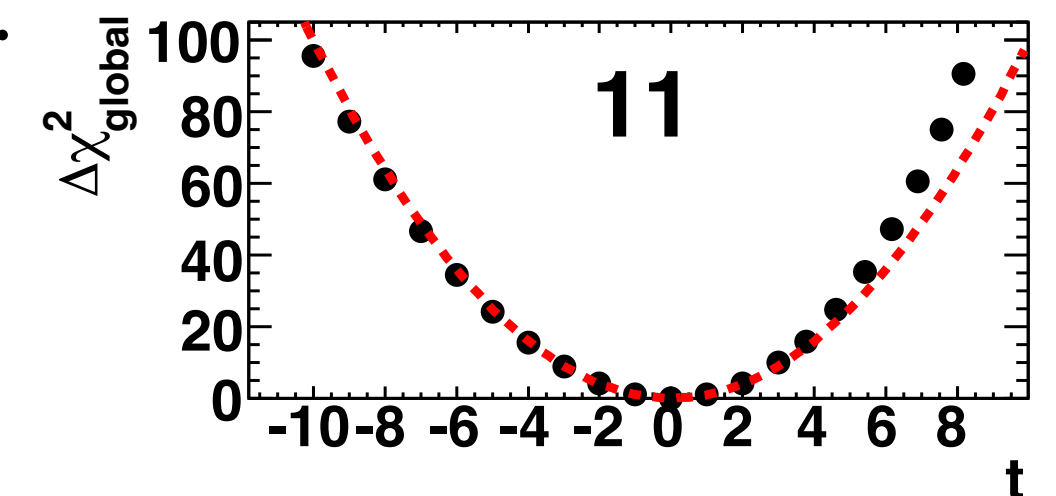
- Above issues (and others) feed into question of how we define our PDF uncertainties. All 3 groups do this differently:

★ Fixed parameterisation (MSHT/CT):  $\chi_{\text{global}}^2 \sim \frac{(D_{\text{ata}} - T_{\text{heory}})^2}{\sigma^2}$

$$H_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \chi_{\text{global}}^2}{\partial a_i \partial a_j} \Big|_{\text{min}}$$

- ◆ Find global minimum of  $\chi^2$  and evaluate eigenvectors of Hessian matrix at this point.
- ◆ Parameter shifts corresponding to given  $\Delta\chi^2$  criteria given in terms of these

$$a_i(S_k^\pm) = a_i^0 \pm t e_{ik}, \quad \text{with } t \text{ adjusted to give desired } T = \Delta\chi_{\text{global}}^2$$



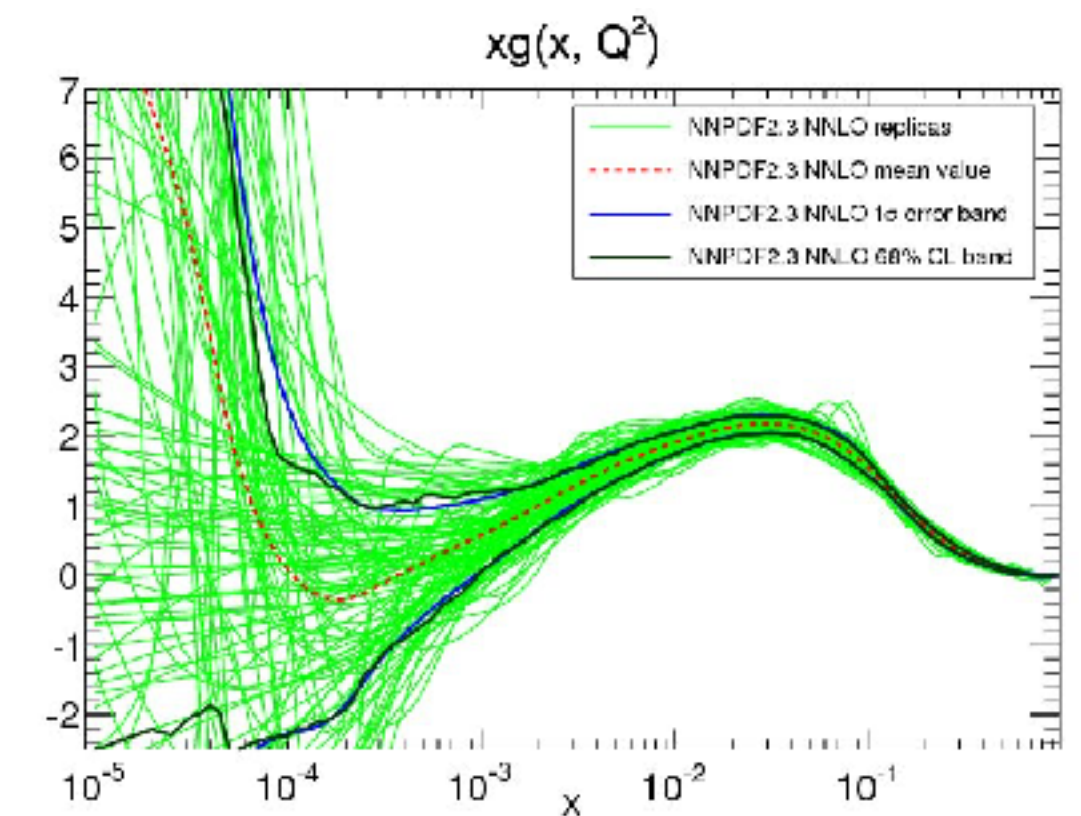
- ◆ Procedure for choosing this 'tolerance' T differs between MSHT/CT.

★ NNPDF: ◆ Generate set of MC 'replicas' by shifting data by errors.

Each  $D_i$  gives  $f_i$  and from  $\{f_i\} \Rightarrow$  PDF errors

**G. Watt and R. Thorne, arXiv:1205.4024**

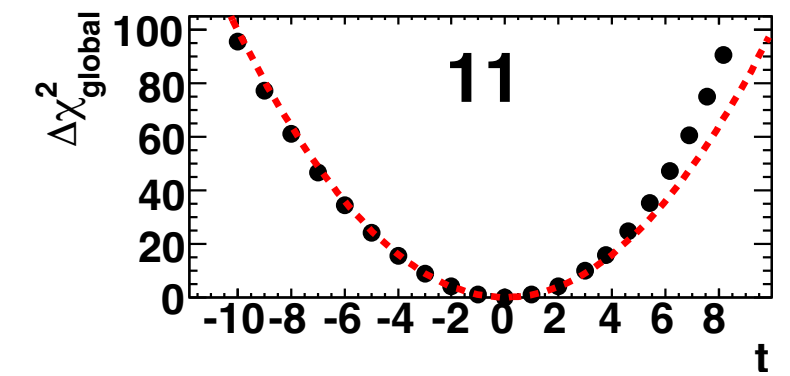
- ◆ Note not specific to NNs: can apply in fixed parameterisation as well: shown to be ~ equivalent to Hessian  $\Delta\chi^2 = 1$  in that case.



- ◆ However, in NN approach direct correspondence is lost as Hessian approach does not apply.

- Why introduce a tolerance?

$$a_i(S_k^\pm) = a_i^0 \pm t e_{ik}, \quad \text{with } t \text{ adjusted to give desired } T = \Delta\chi_{\text{global}}^2$$



Fixed target, DIS, Tevatron, LHC

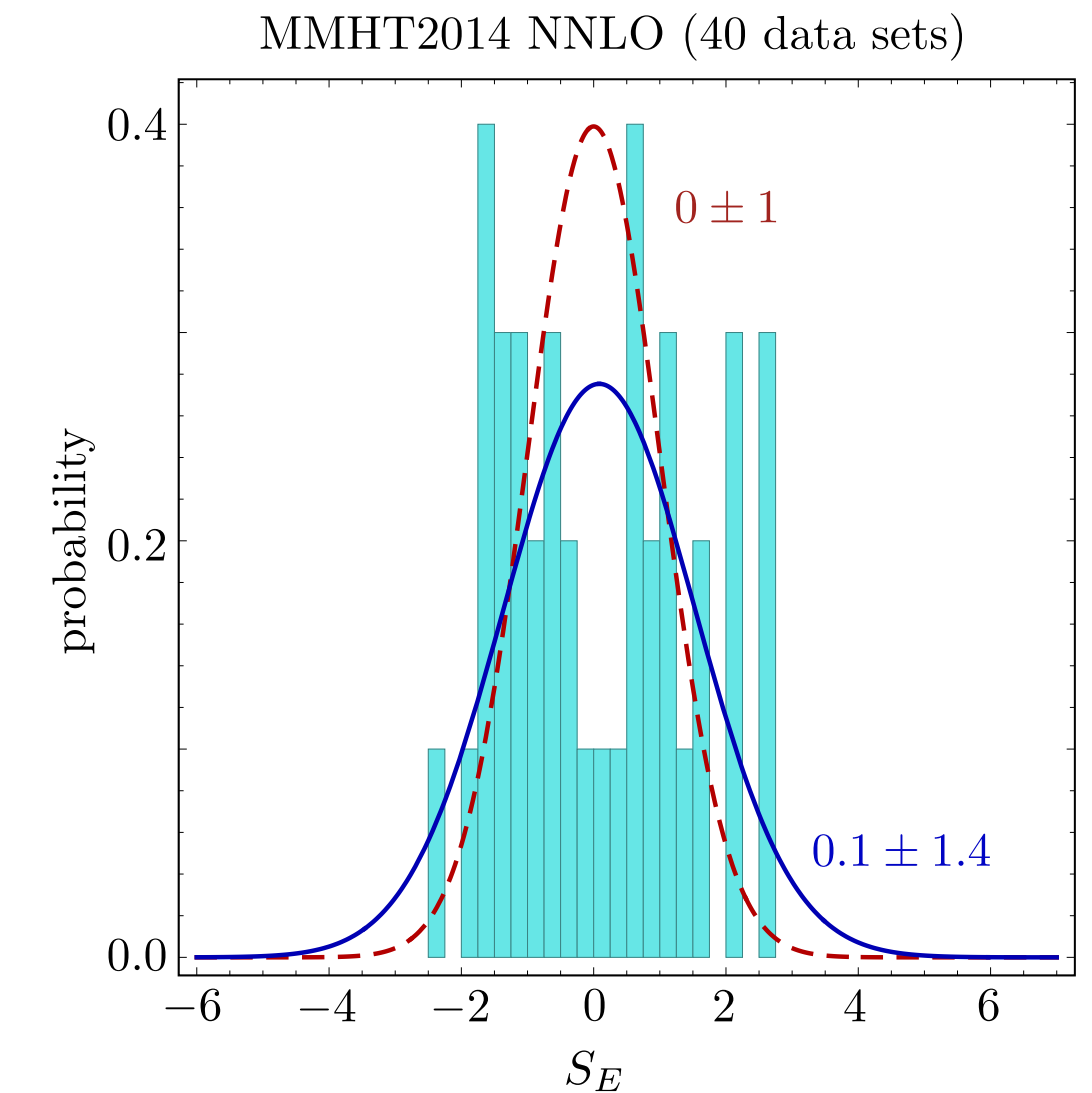
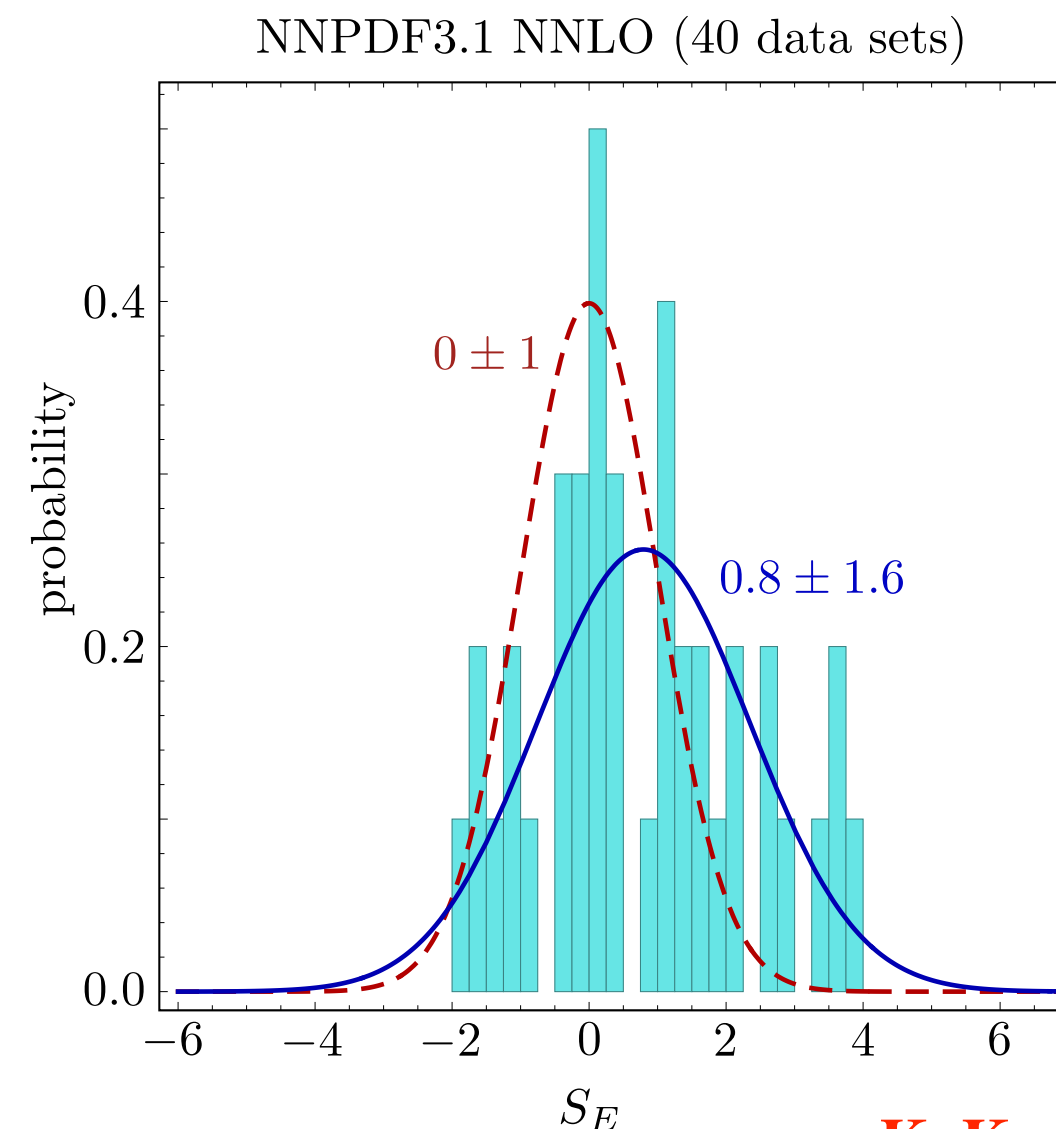
- $T = 1$  : 'textbook' criterion for 68% C.L., would apply if:

$$N_{\text{dataset}} \sim 50 - 60$$

- ★ Complete statistical compatibility between multiple datasets entering fit.
- ★ Completely faithful evaluation of experimental uncertainties within each dataset.
- ★ Theoretical calculations that match these exactly.

G. Watt and R. Thorne, arXiv:1205.4024   M. Yan et al., arXiv.2406.01664  
J. Pumplin, arXiv:0909.0268

- Good evidence that first two points do not always hold, while last point known not be true (though progress towards missing higher order uncertainties made).
- Applying textbook tolerance to global dataset with tensions does not lead to automatically larger errors.



K. Kovarich et al., arXiv.1905.06957

$$N_{\text{pts}} \sim 4000 - 5000$$

- Given complete statistical compatibility, global PDF fit very constraining. Danger is claimed (high) precision will increasingly not match accuracy with  $T = 1$ . Motivates enlarged tolerance  $T > 1$ .



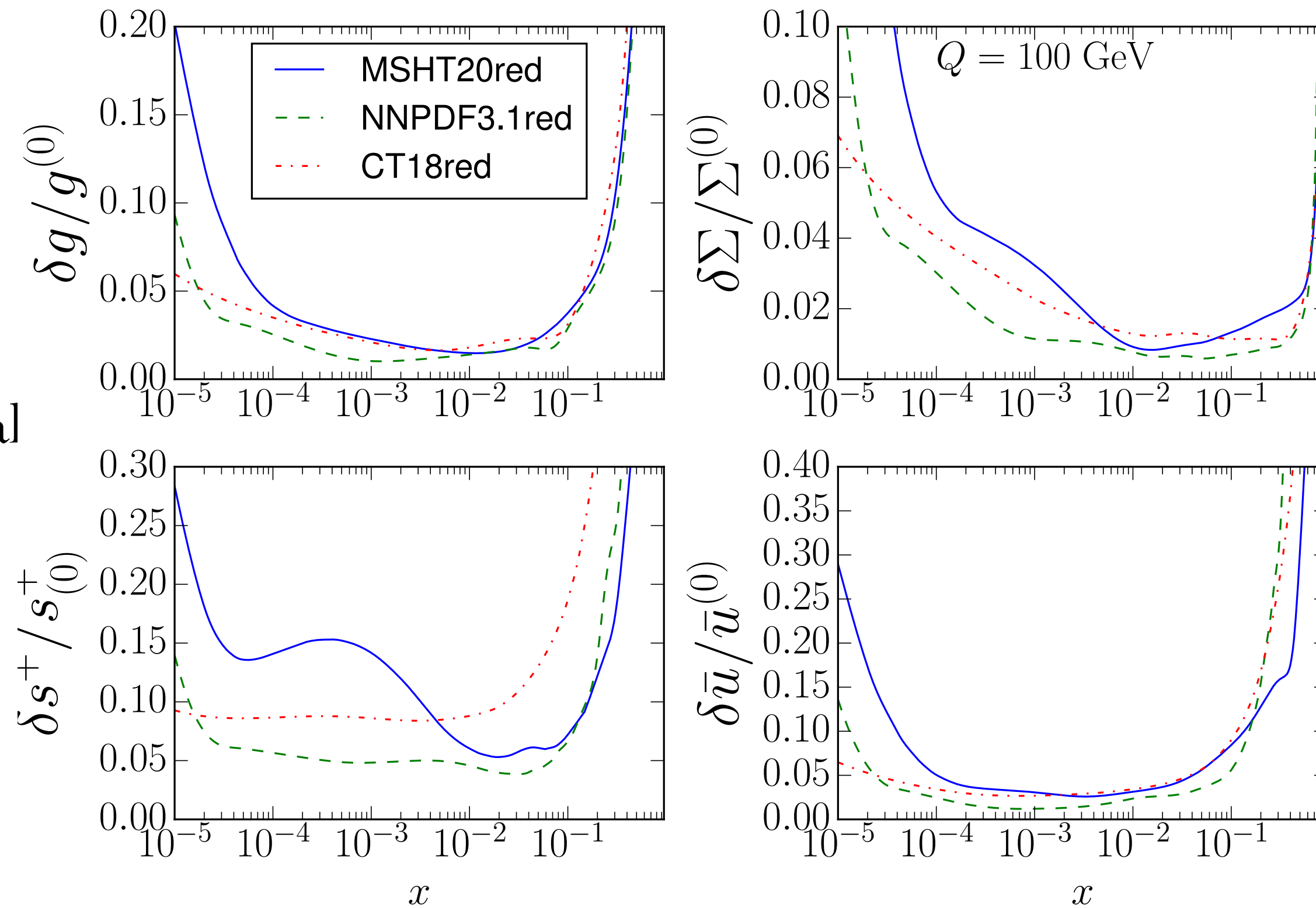
# Impact on PDFs

PDF4LHC21, arXiv:2203.05506

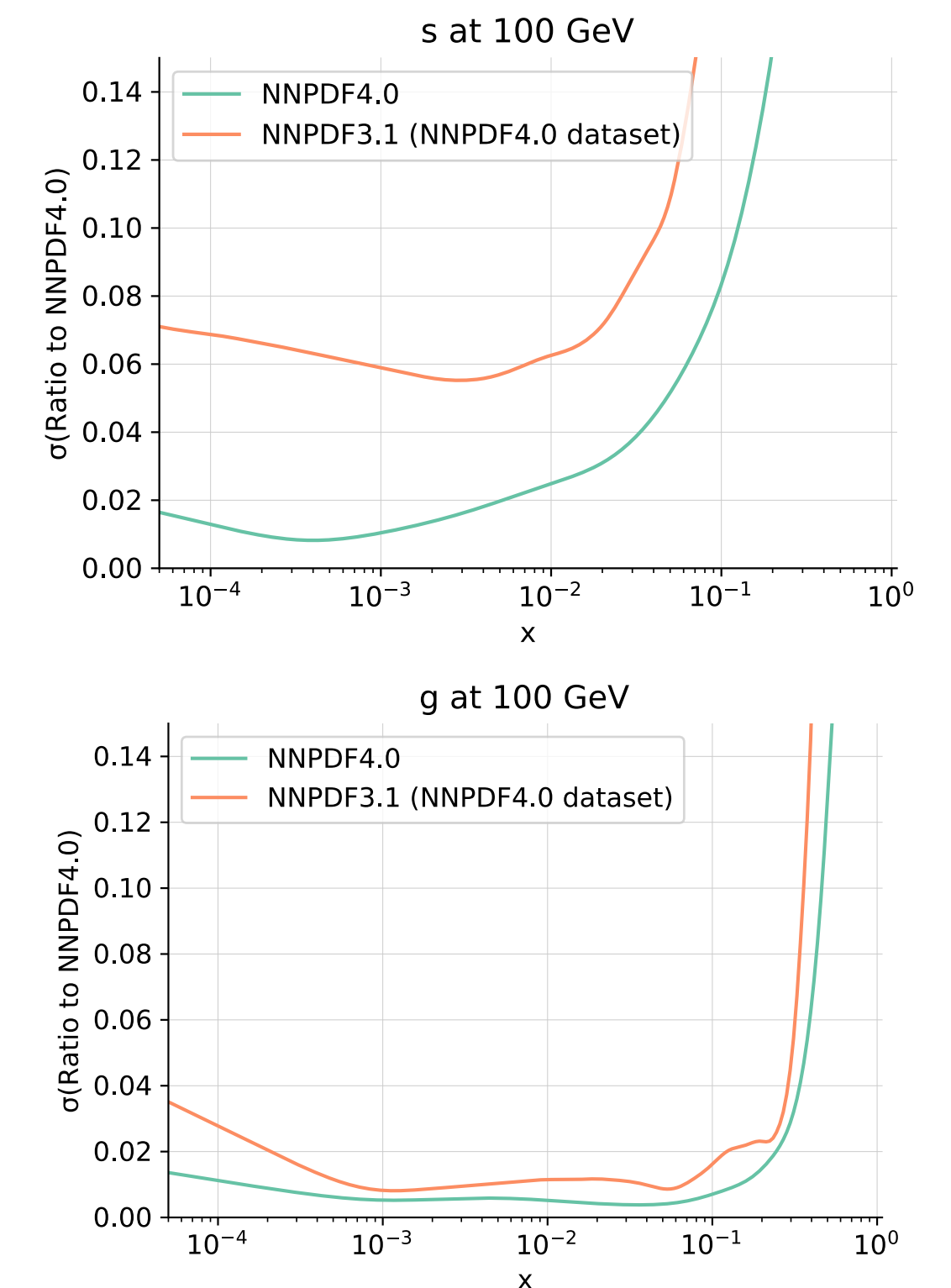
- Comparison/benchmarking of PDFs considered in PDF4LHC21 study. Fit representative subset of global dataset, unified between 3 global fits and with very close theory settings. Find:

- ♦ Global fits give different errors in PDF4LHC21 benchmarking. NNPDF3.1 in general **smaller errors.**

**Benchmark = similar data/settings**



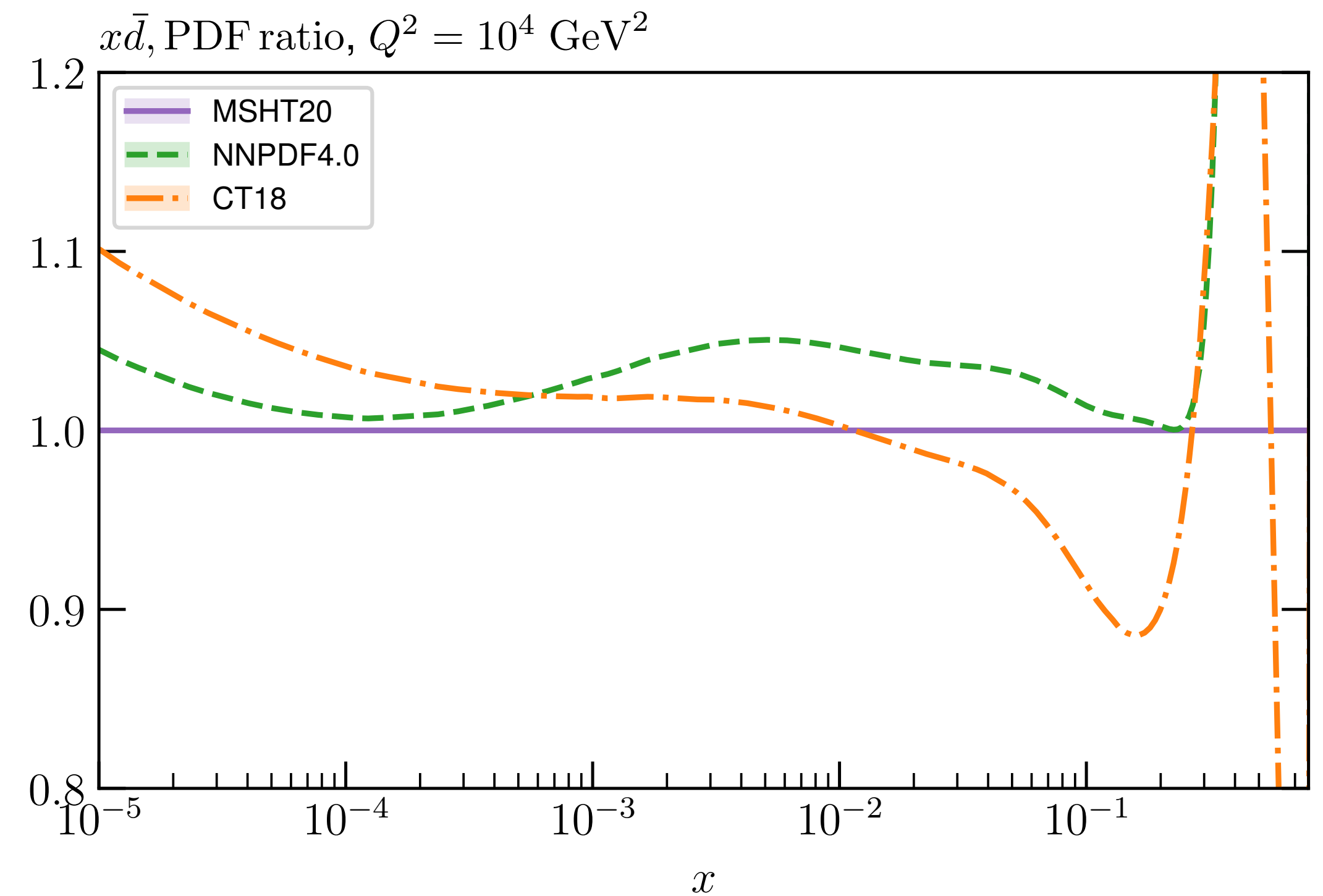
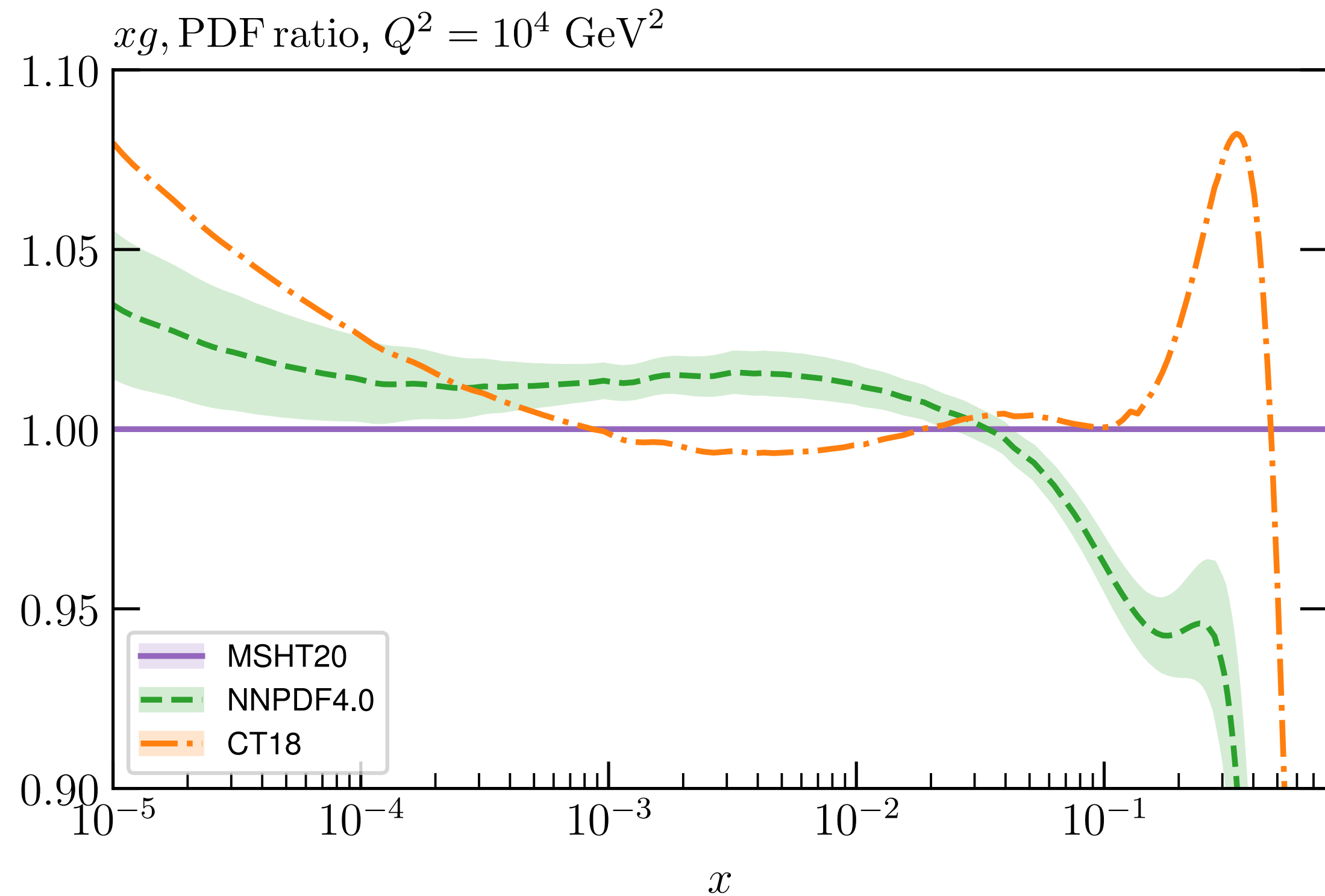
- ♦ And **4.0 methodology** gives further errors reduction.



- Different methodologies giving different results.

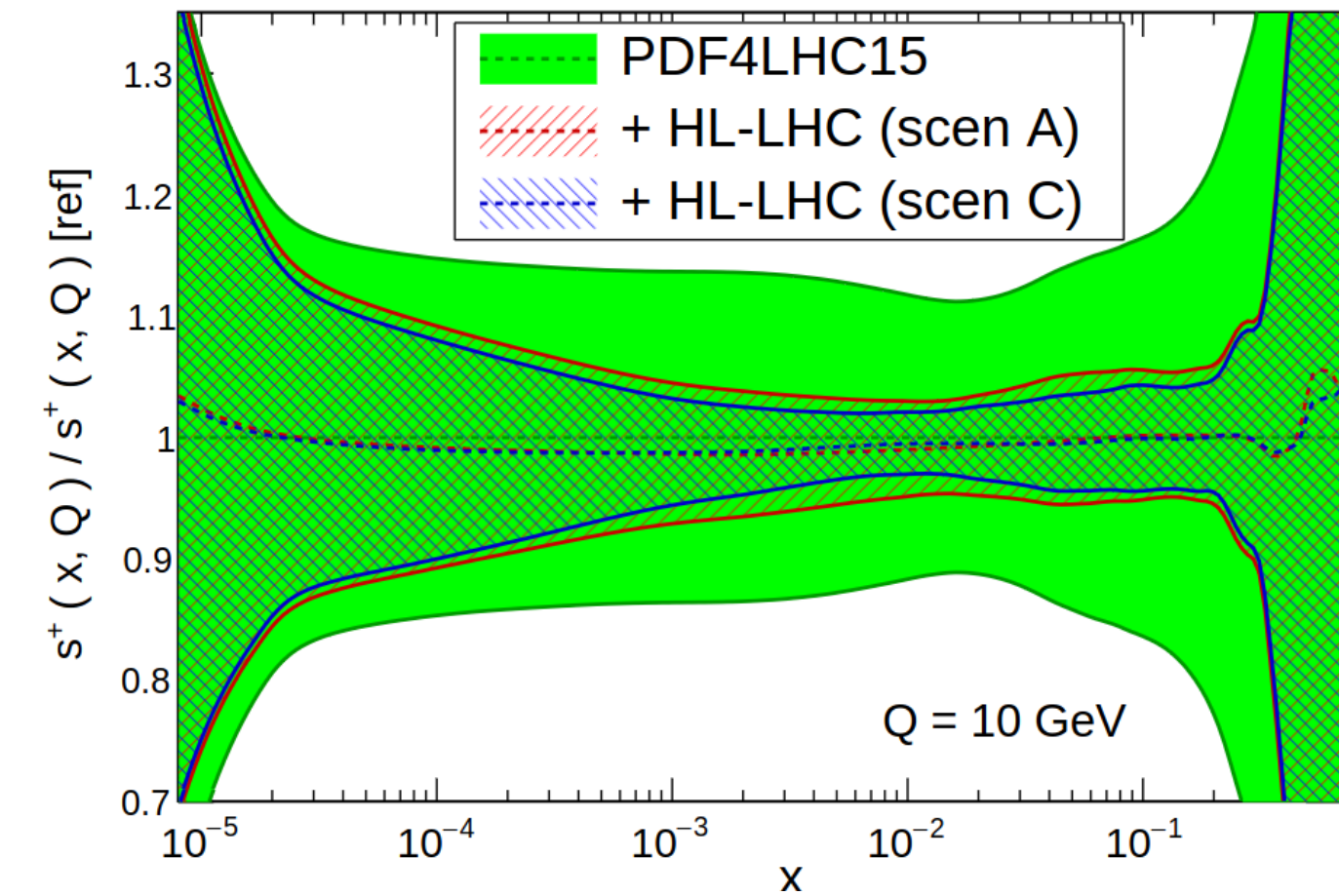
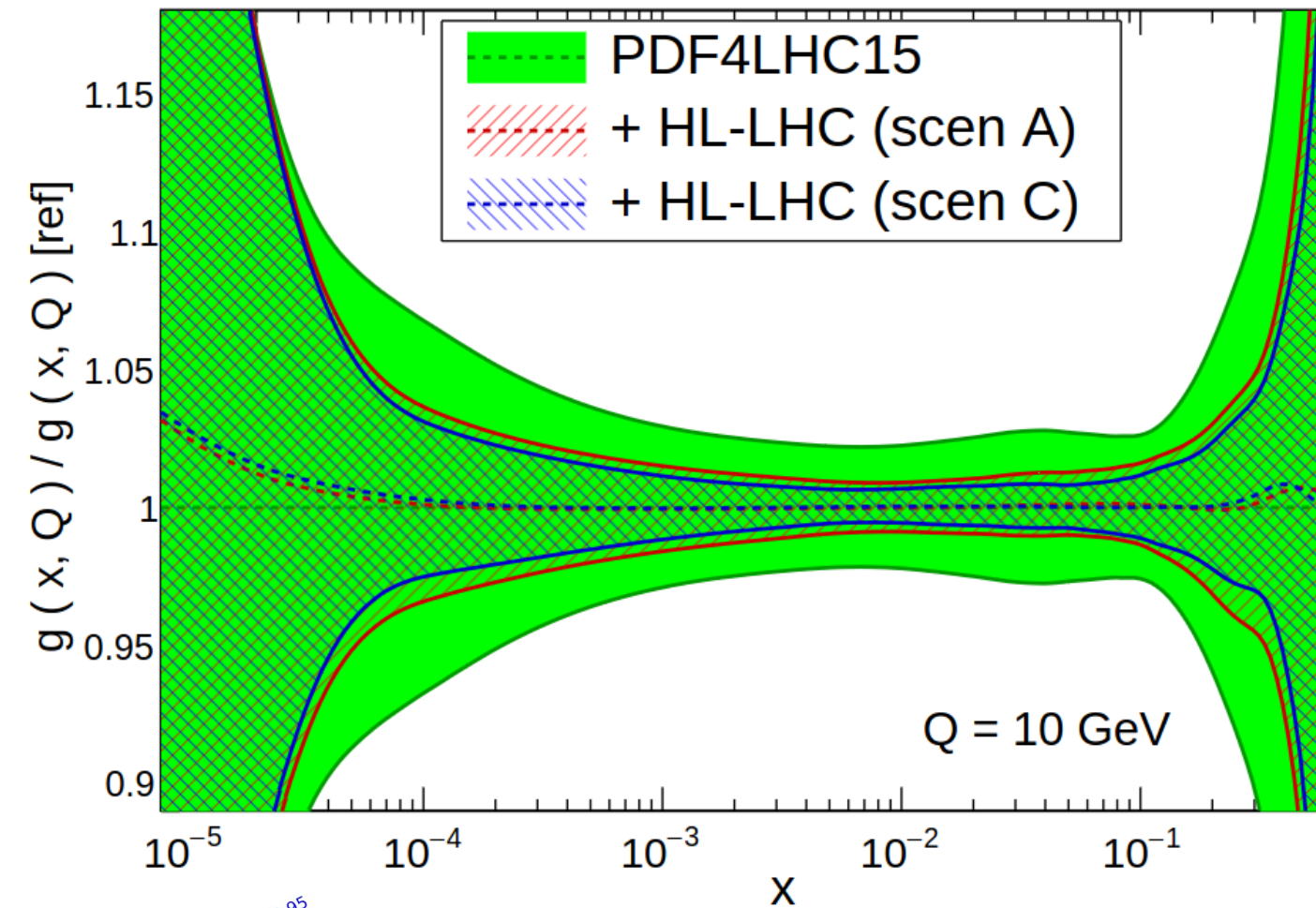
# Where do we stand?

- New (LHC) data in fits has clear impact - PDF uncertainties continue to reduce - and theoretical precision continues increase, up to now aN3LO order.
- However, global PDF fits are complex: agreement between sets not always good at level of PDFs or uncertainties. Evidence that methodology can be just as important as data in fits.

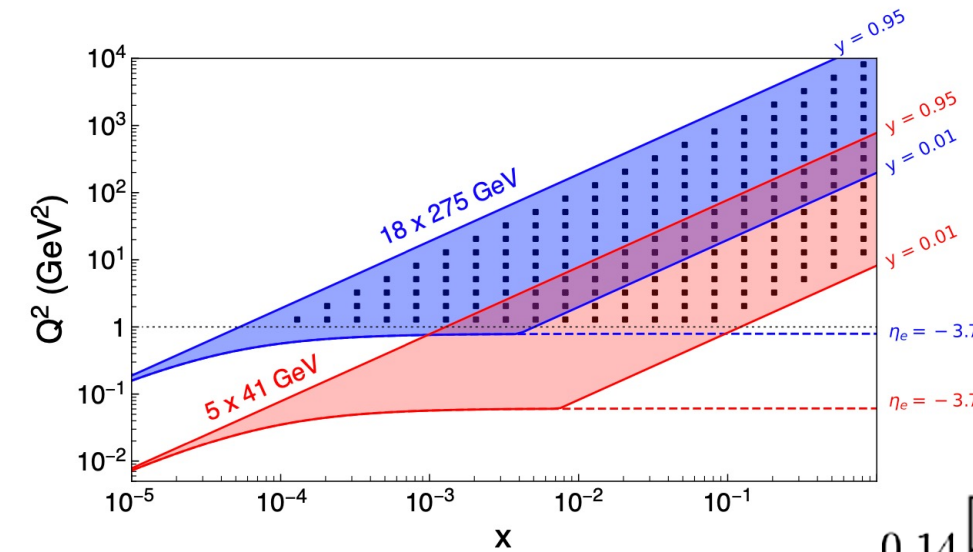


# Where might we go? Future Data

- LHC continuing to have an impact, and **HL-LHC** projected to beyond that...
- ...but these are only projections. Reality usually more complicated. Other experiments/colliders providing complementary information will be key.

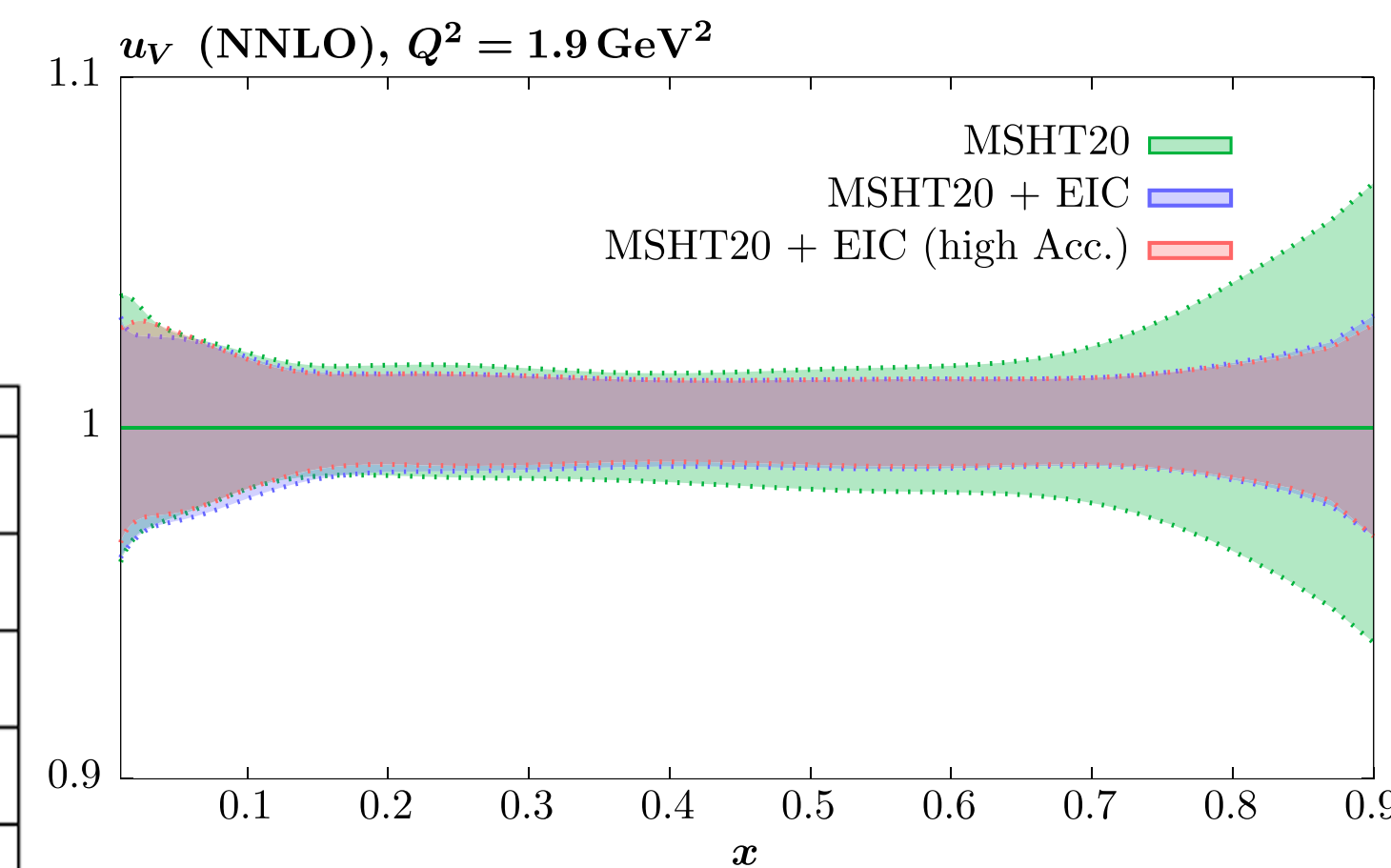
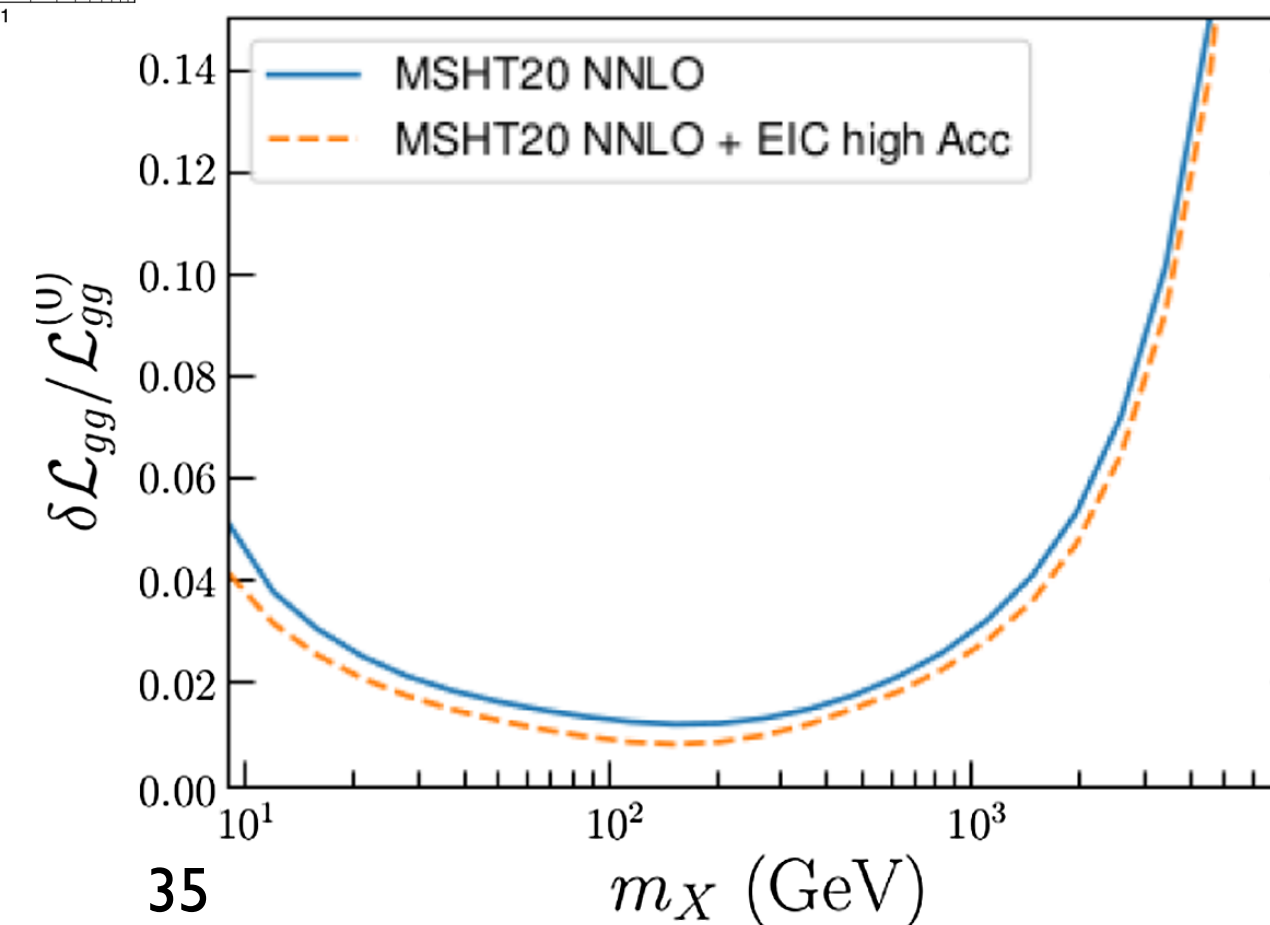


- Amongst many things the **EIC** will give us are better constraints on high  $x$  PDFs.



N. Armesto et al., arXiv:2309.11269

- Expected impact in global PDF context moderate **but** complementarity is key. See BSM studies - what if see a disagreement in high energy data?



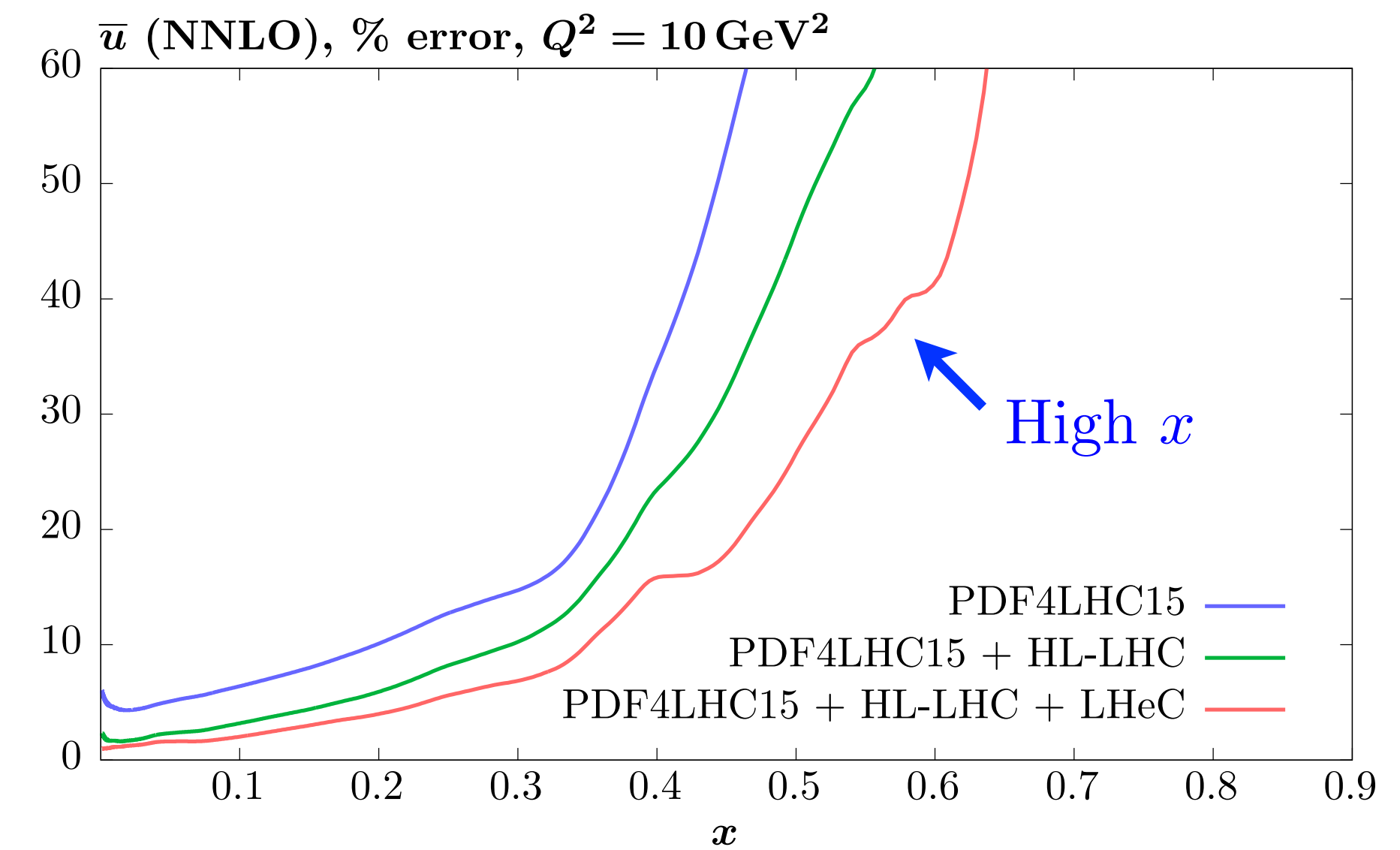
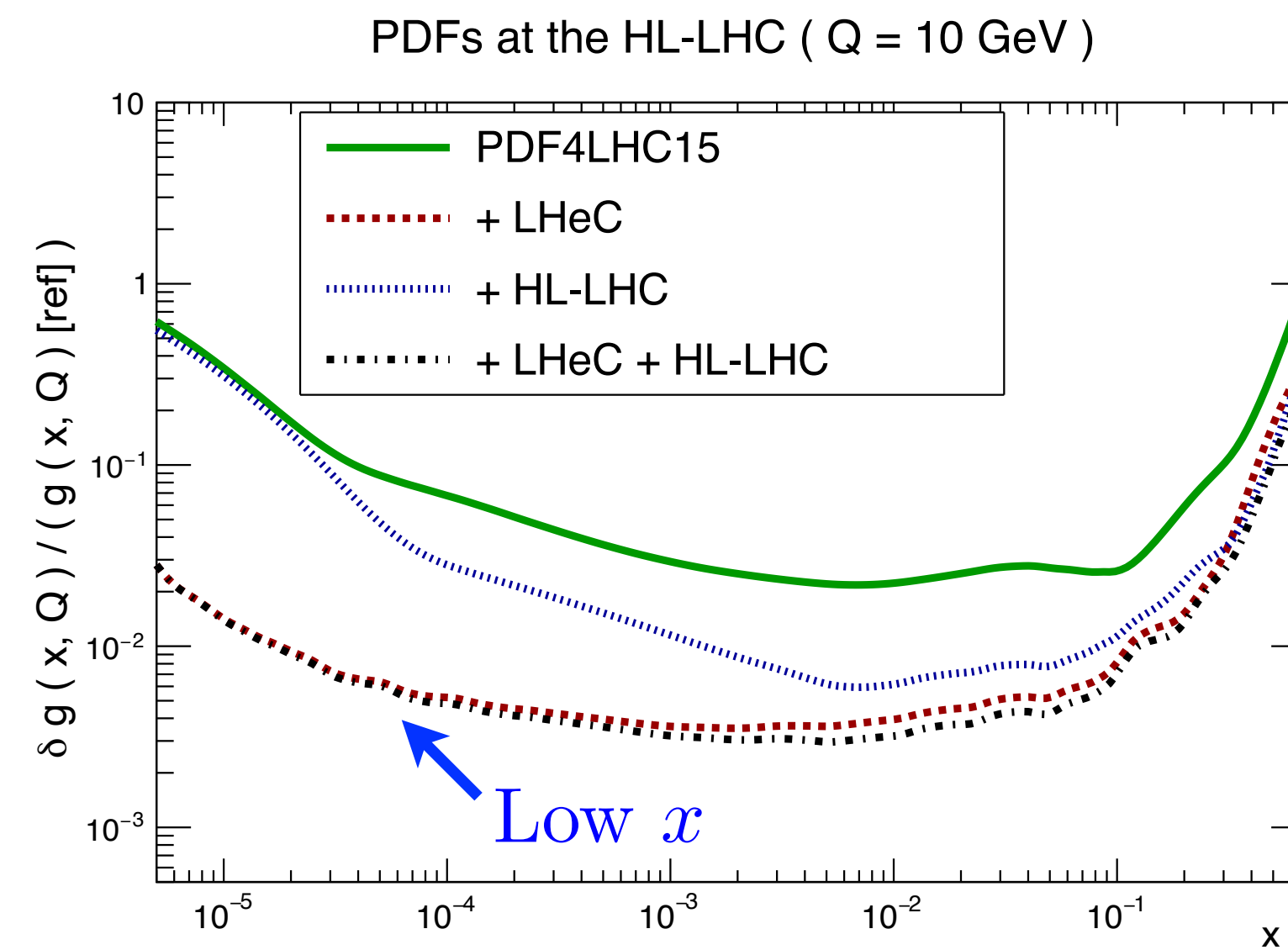
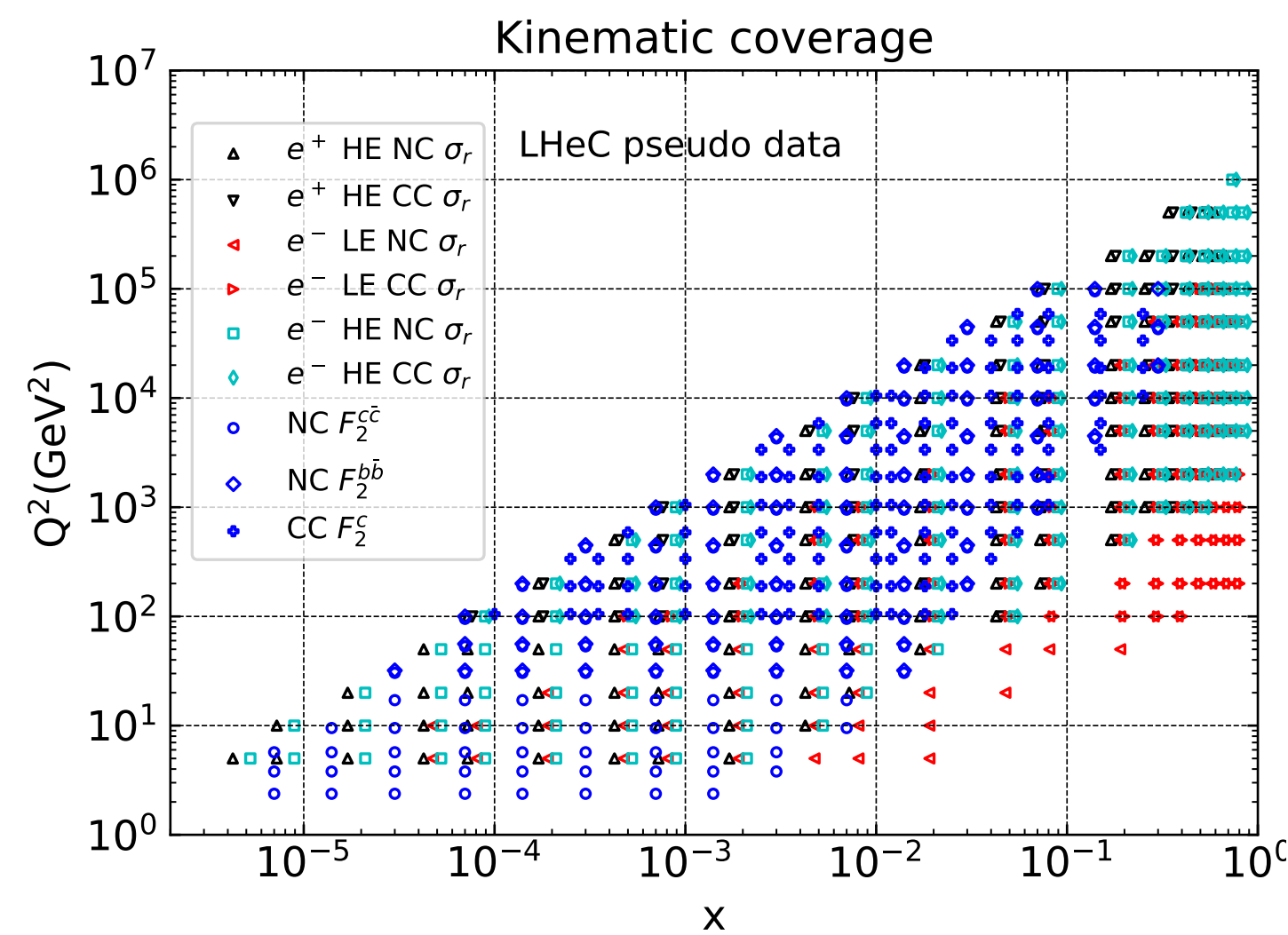
# Future Data?

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1367865/overview>

Synergy workshop between ep/eA and pp/pA/AA physics experiments

29 February 2024 to 1 March 2024  
CERN  
Europe/Quadrant time zone

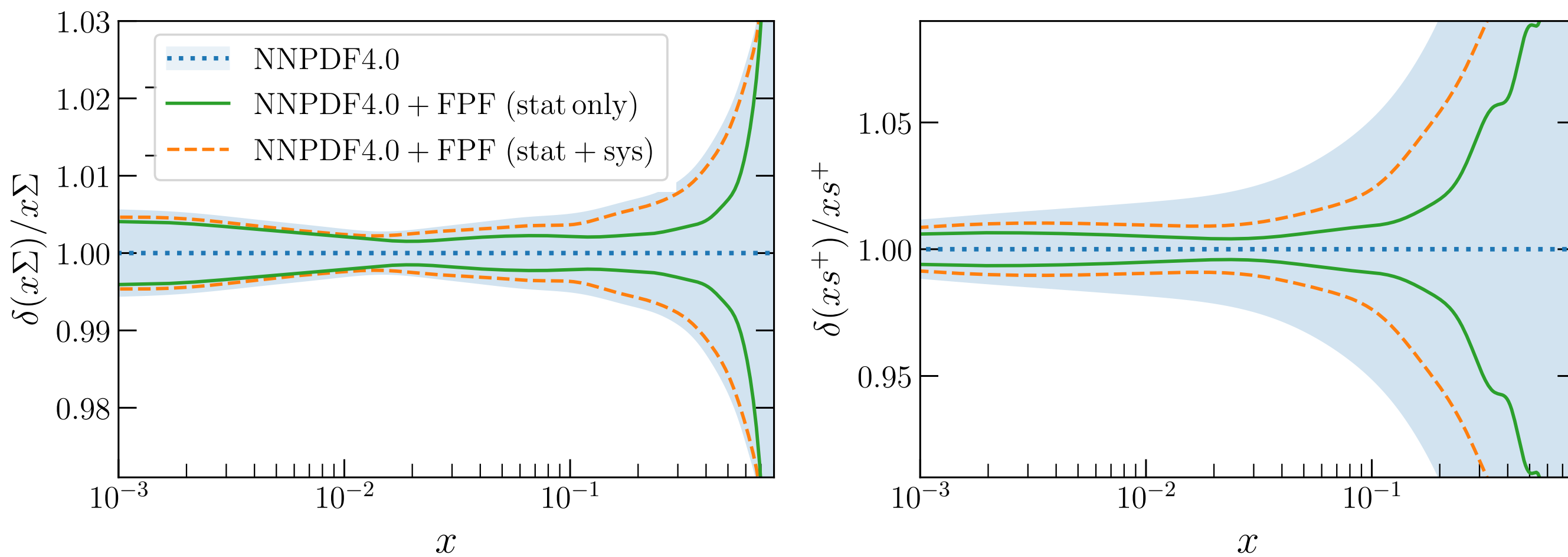
- In this context **LHeC** proposal also very advantageous.
- Clean and complementary ep data over wide region of phase space, with impressive PDF projections.



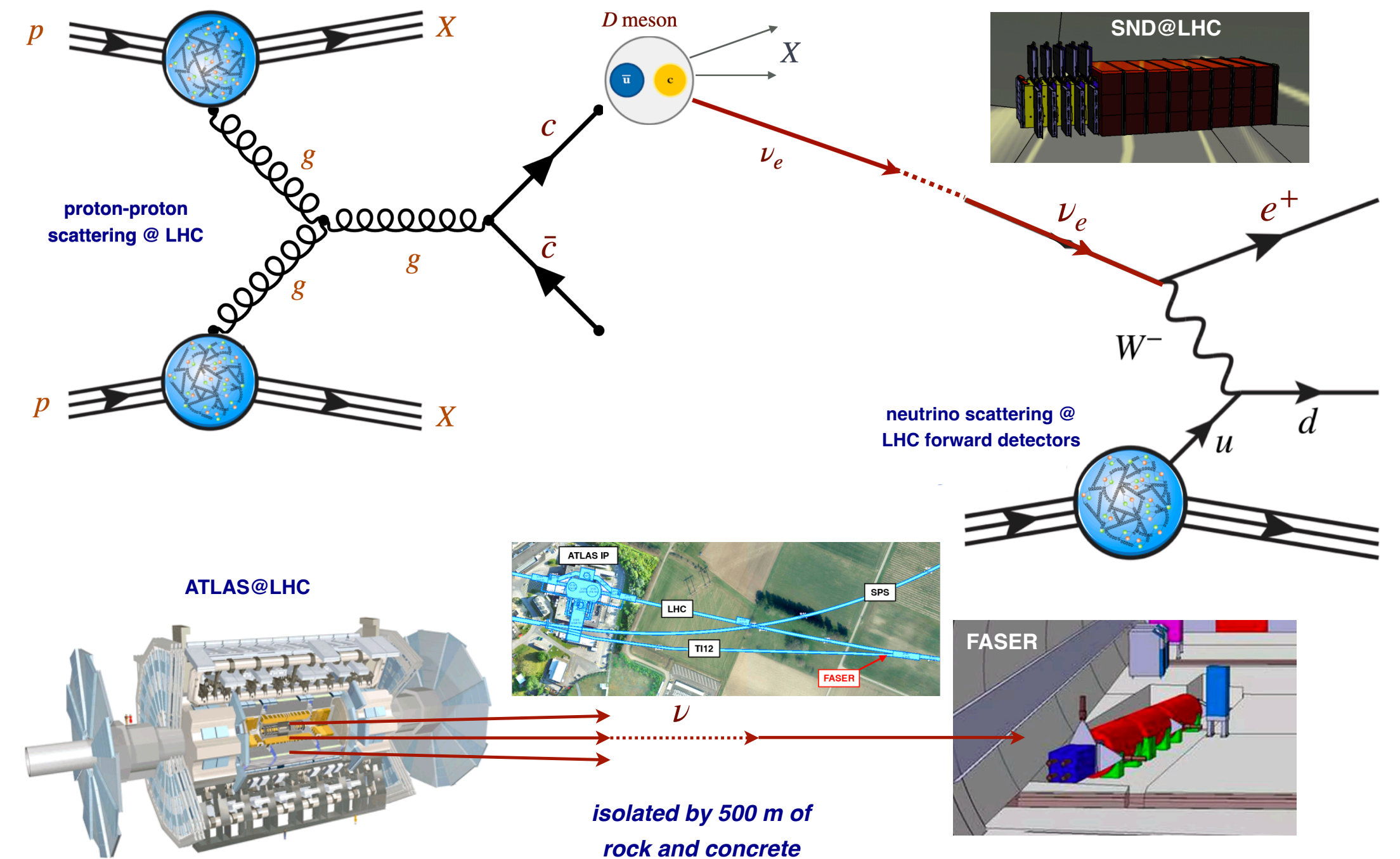
R. Abdul Khalek et al., arXiv:1906.10127

# Future Data?

- **FPF** proposal to extend far forward detectors also shows promising potential for high energy (TeV) neutrino-induced DIS data at the LHC.
- Promising projected constraints on quark flavour structure.



**J. Cruz-Martinez et al., arXiv:2309.09581**



**J. Rojo, PDF4LHC23**

# Impact of Lattice?

- Recent studies from CT and NNPDF groups.

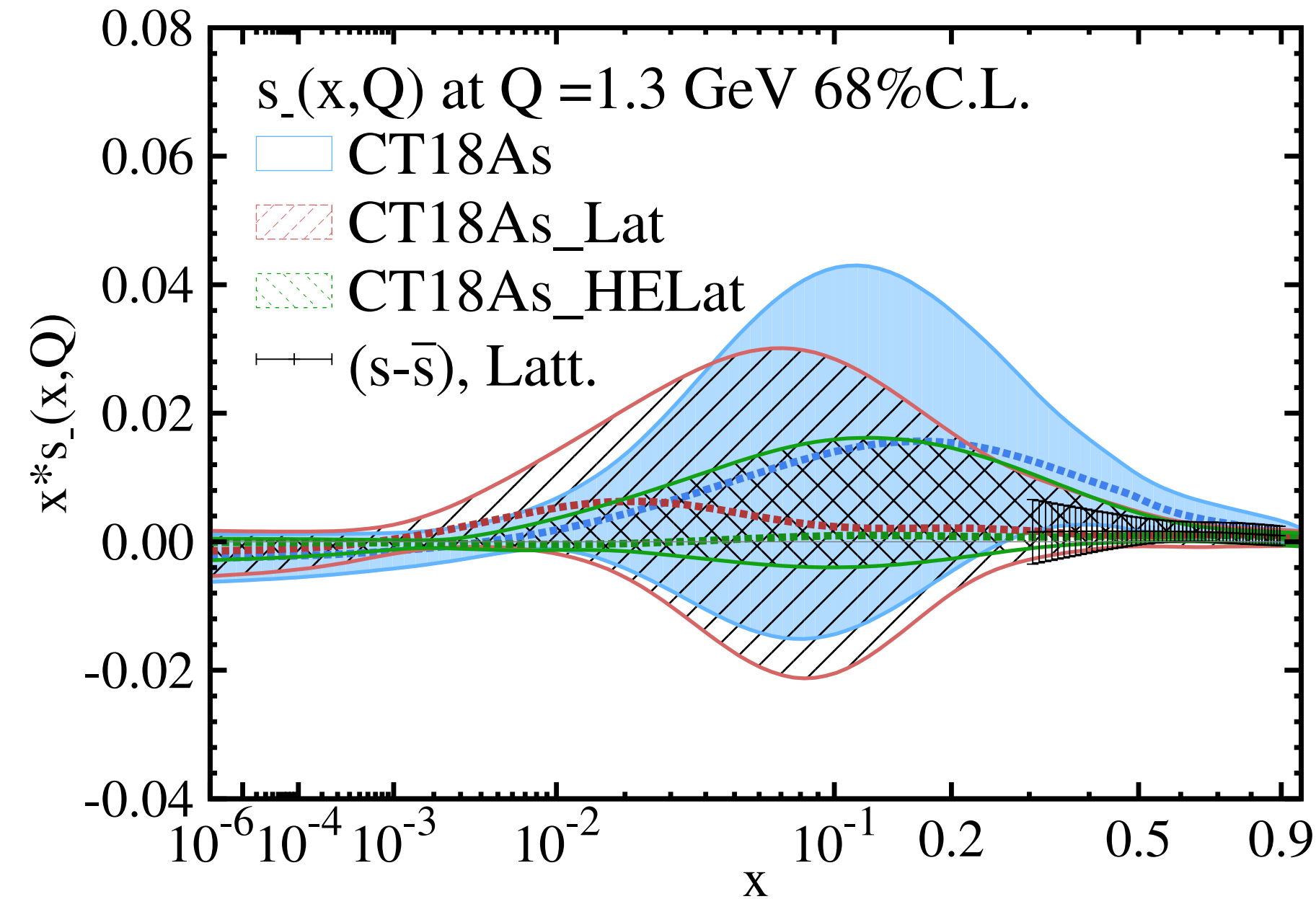
**K. Cichy, L. Del Debbio and T. Giani, arXiv:1907.06037**

**L. Del Debbio et al., arXiv:2010.03996**

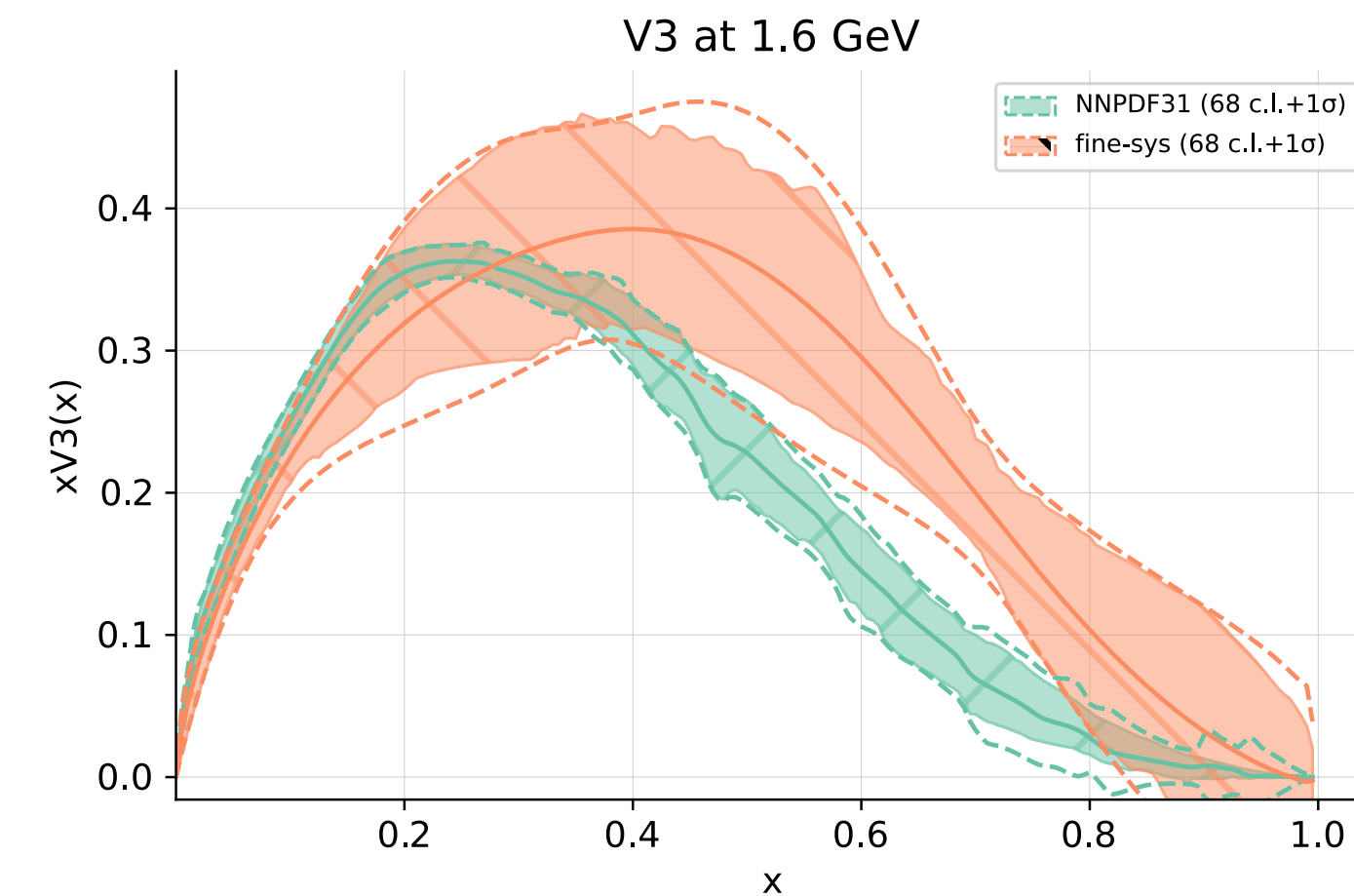
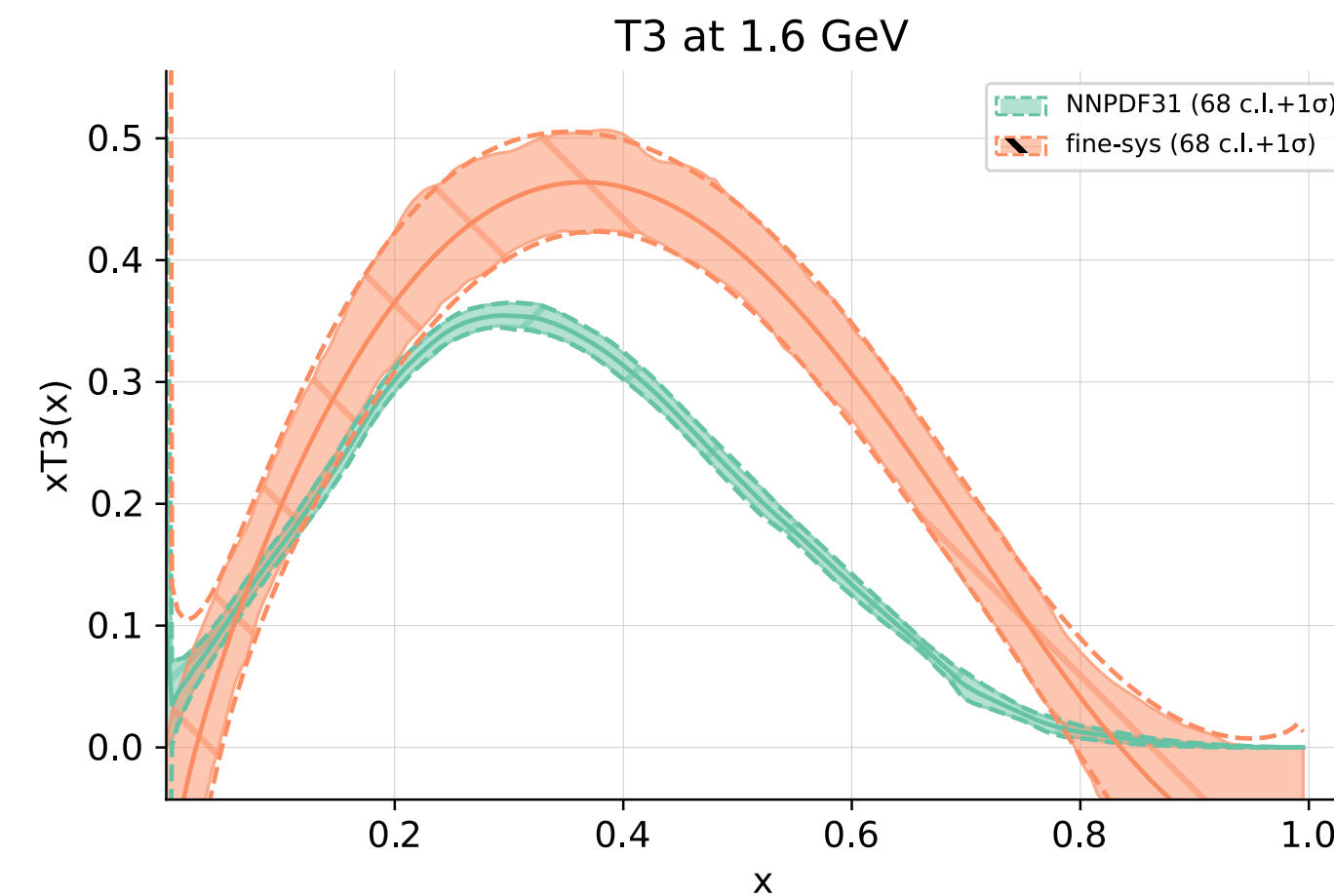
- ★ CT: Impact of quasi-PDF lattice data on strangeness asymmetry promising at high  $x$  ?

$$T3 = (u + \bar{u}) - (d + \bar{d})$$

$$V3 = (u - \bar{u}) - (d - \bar{d})$$



**T-J Hou et al., arXiv:2211.11064**



- ★ NNPDF: looking at well determined non-singlet quantities some further room for improvement?

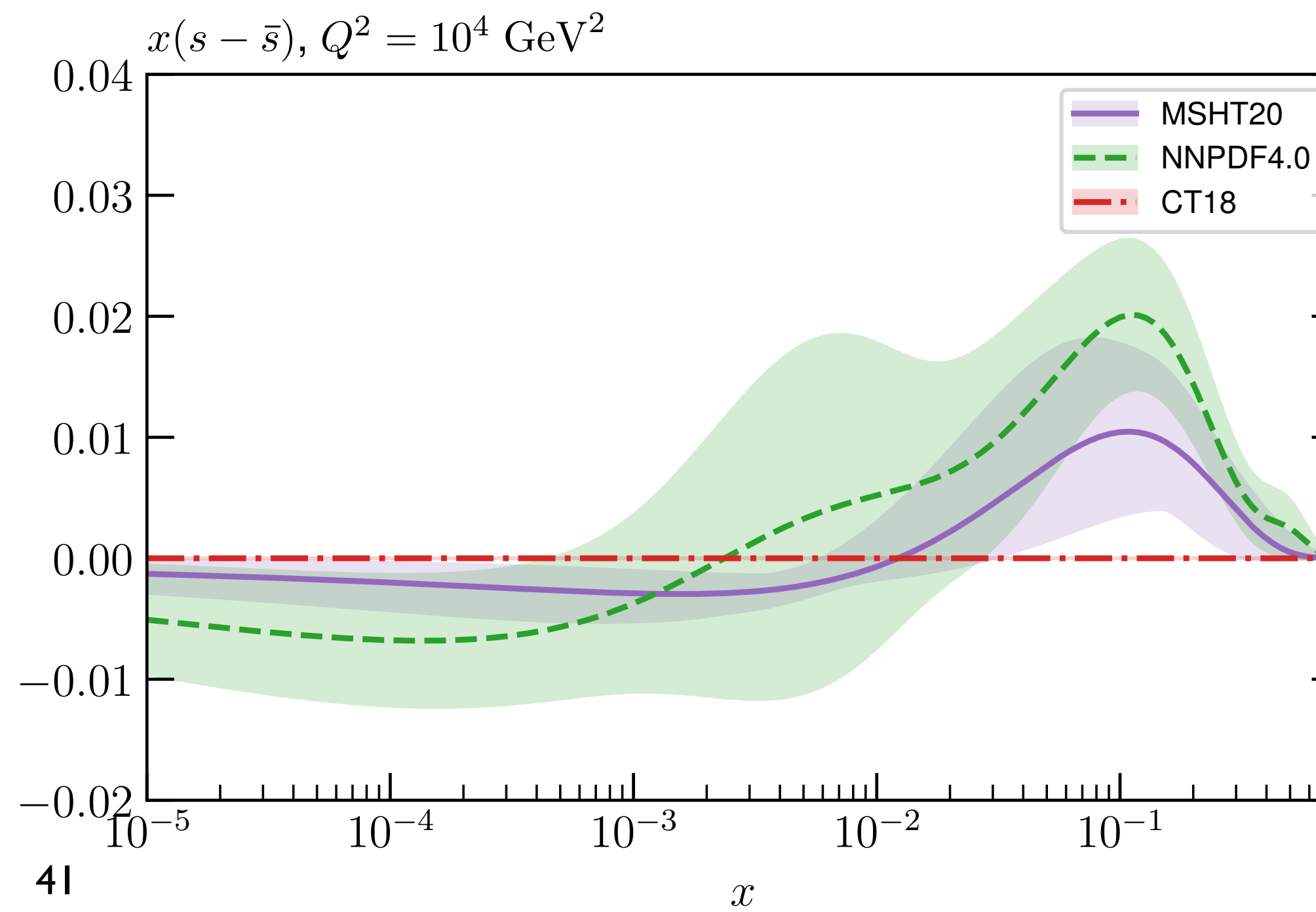
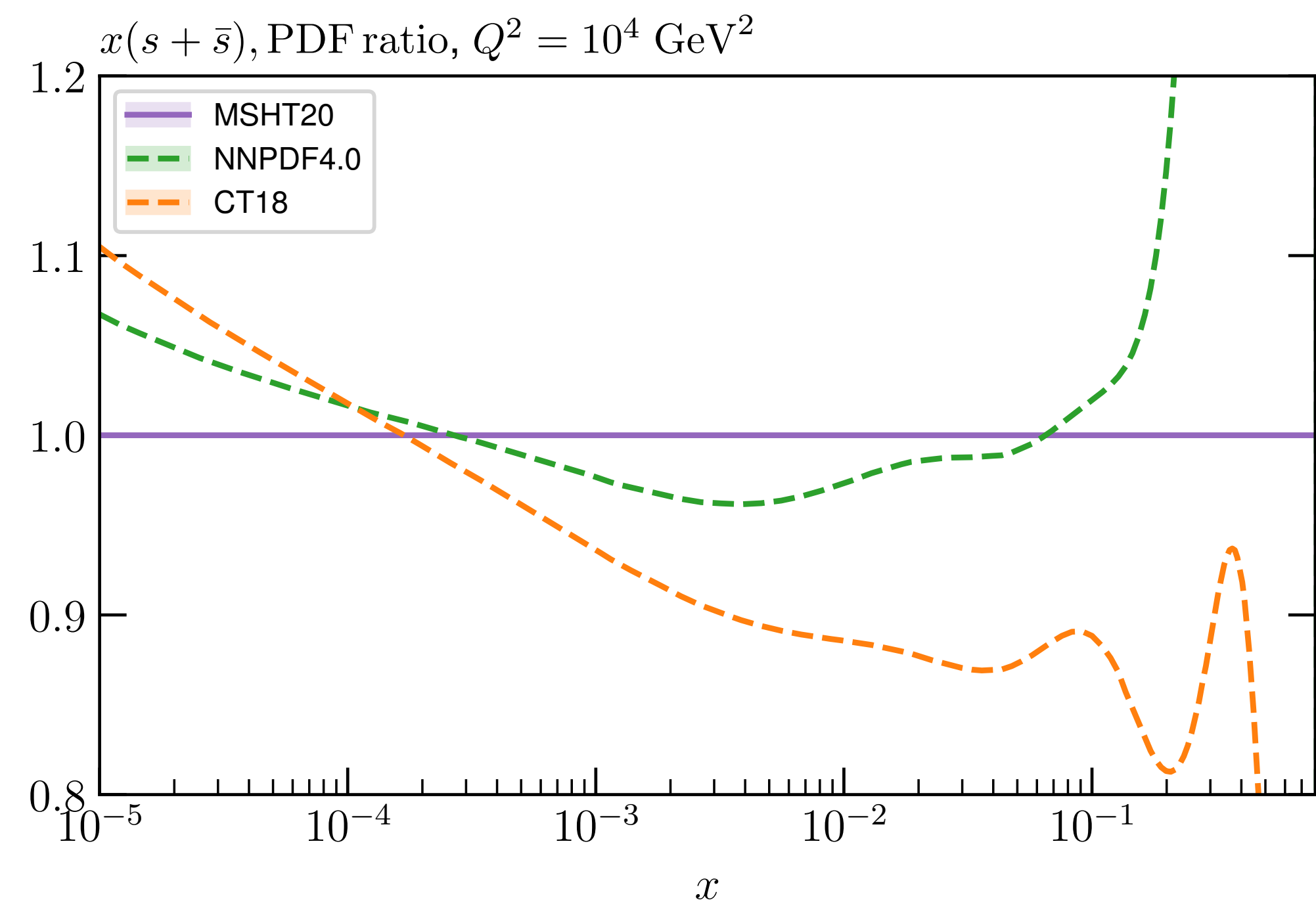
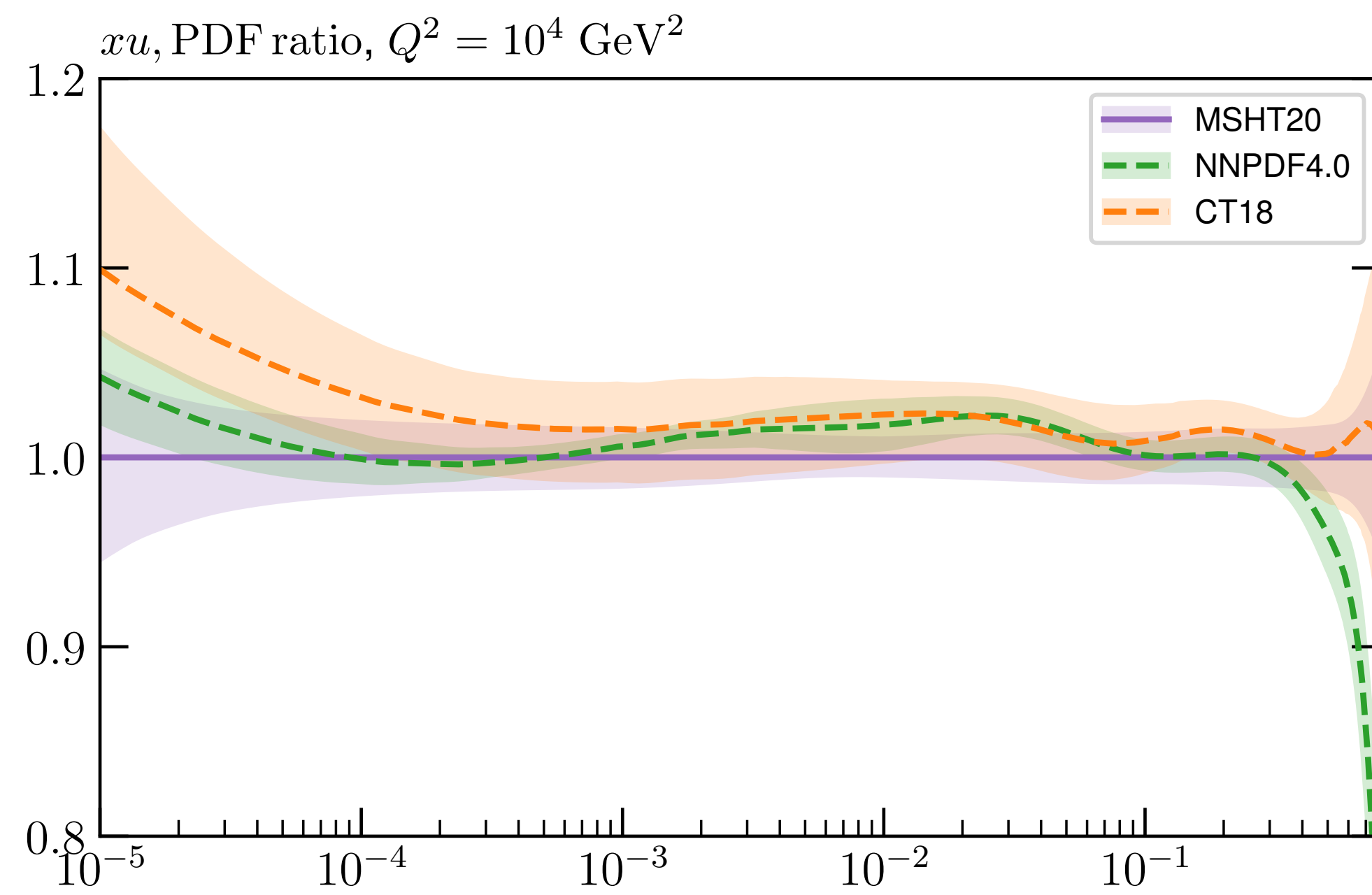
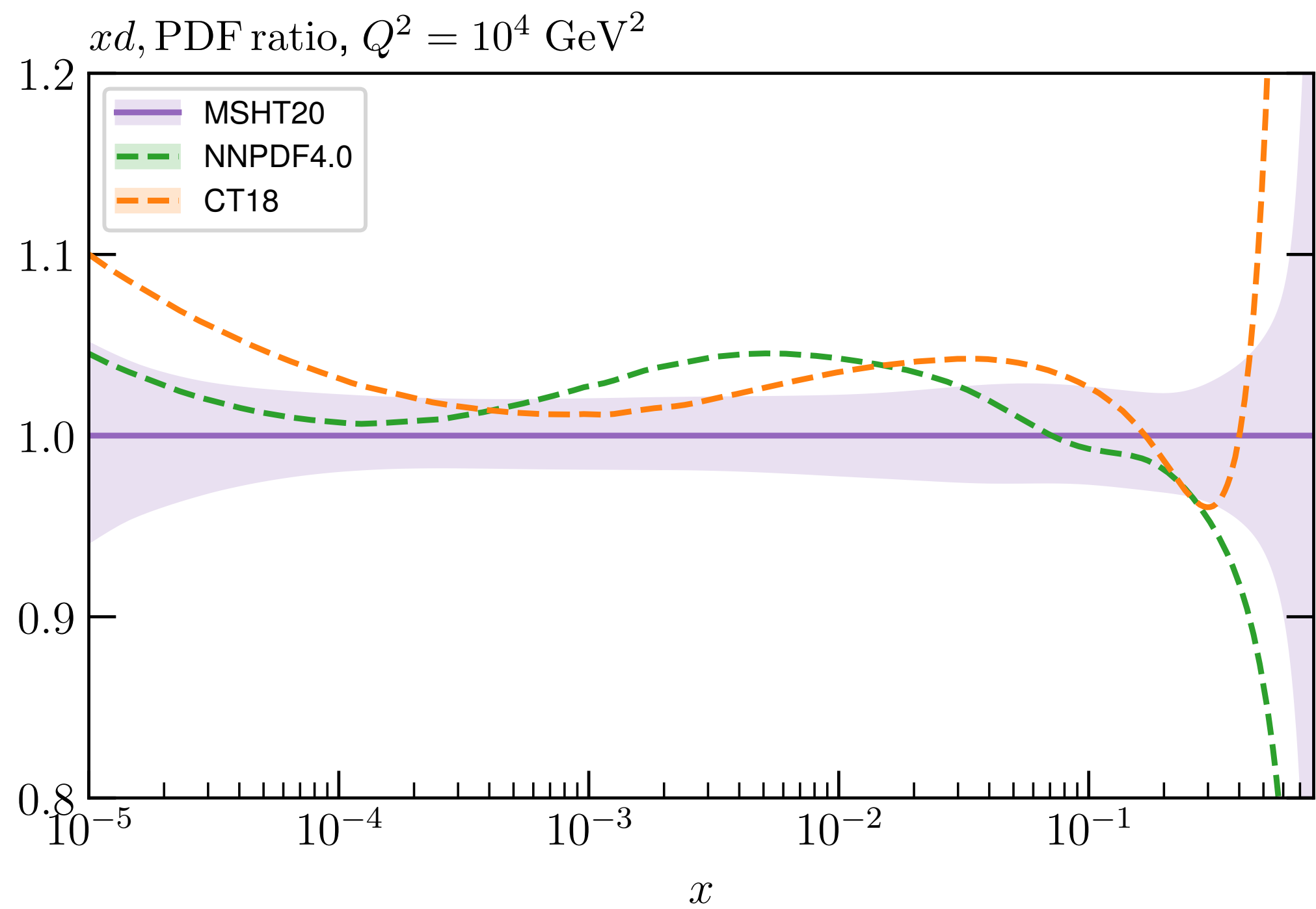
# Conclusions

- ★ Parton Distribution Functions a key input in the precision physics programme of LHC and beyond.
- ★ Precise and accurate PDF determination crucial. Global PDF fits currently the best way to achieve this.
- ★ A significant deal of experimental and theoretical progress: high precision LHC data driving PDF fits, and up to (approximate) N<sup>3</sup>LO will be the standard (+ NLO EW) for theory.
- ★ But path to achieving accuracy and precision is not an easy one: non-negligible differences between latest PDF fits. Clear understanding of uncertainties and comparison of methodologies essential.
- ★ One takeaway: not simply a question of looking at nominal precision of given PDF set to assess potential impact of lattice. May also help disentangle above differences? Complementarity is key!

Thank you for listening!

# Backup

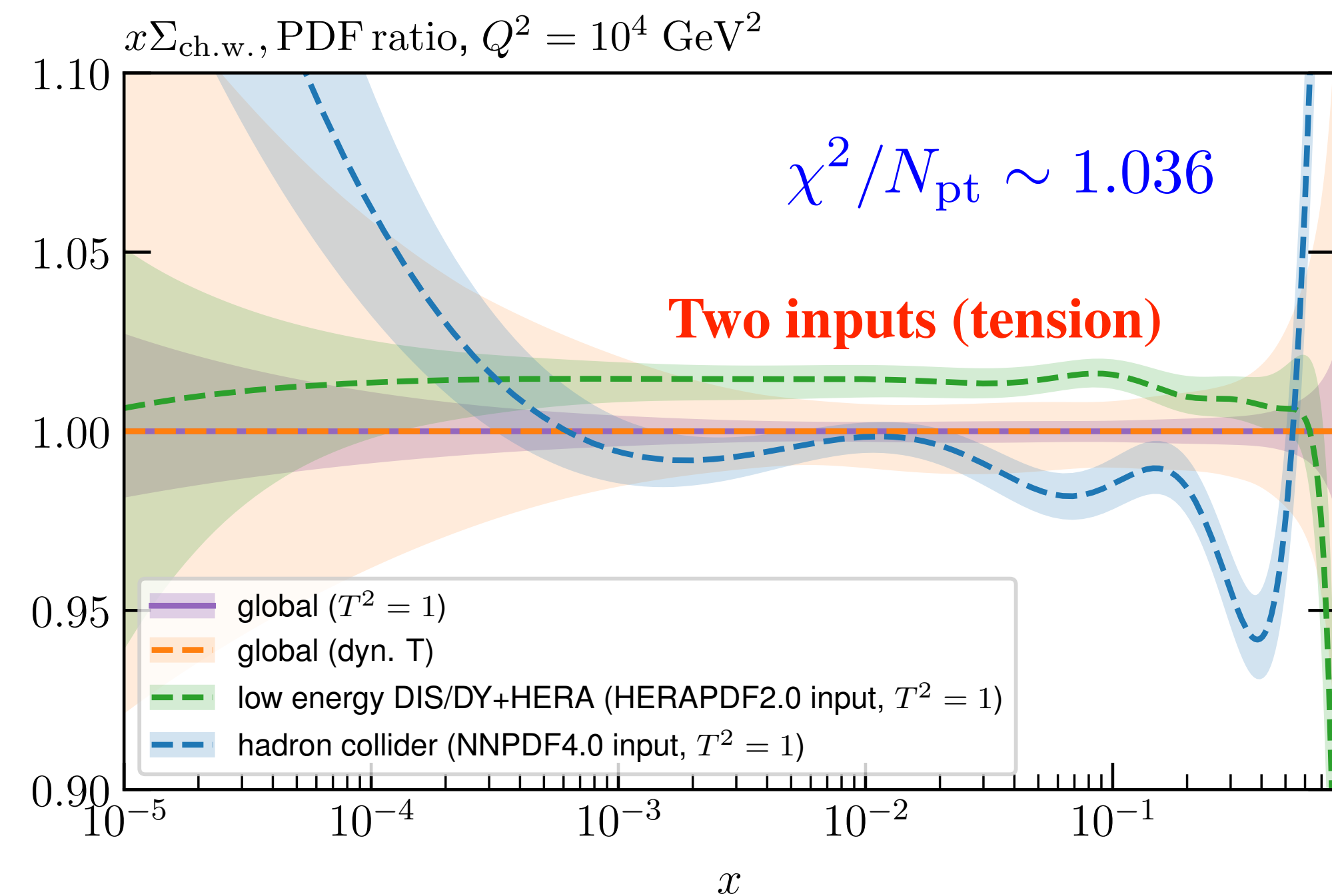
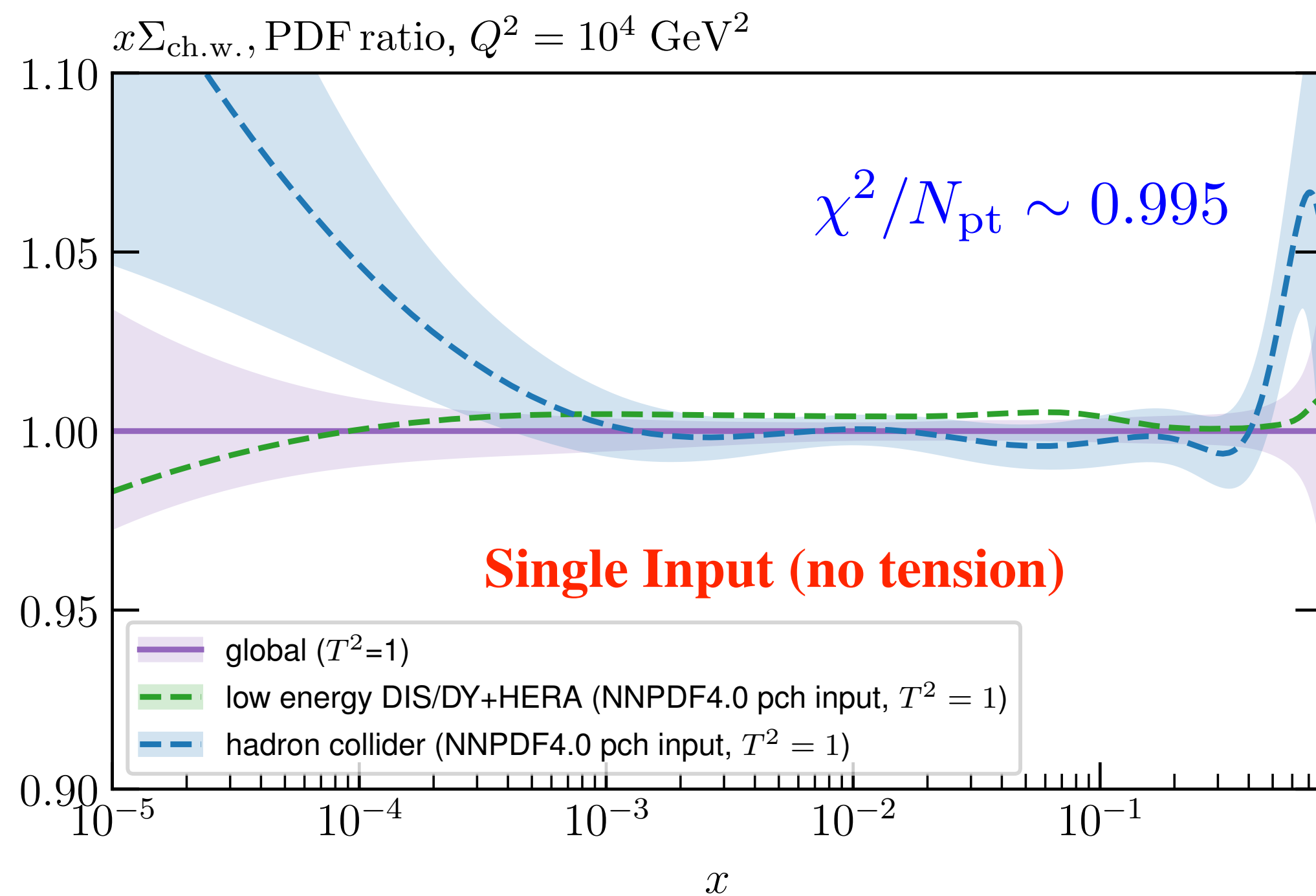




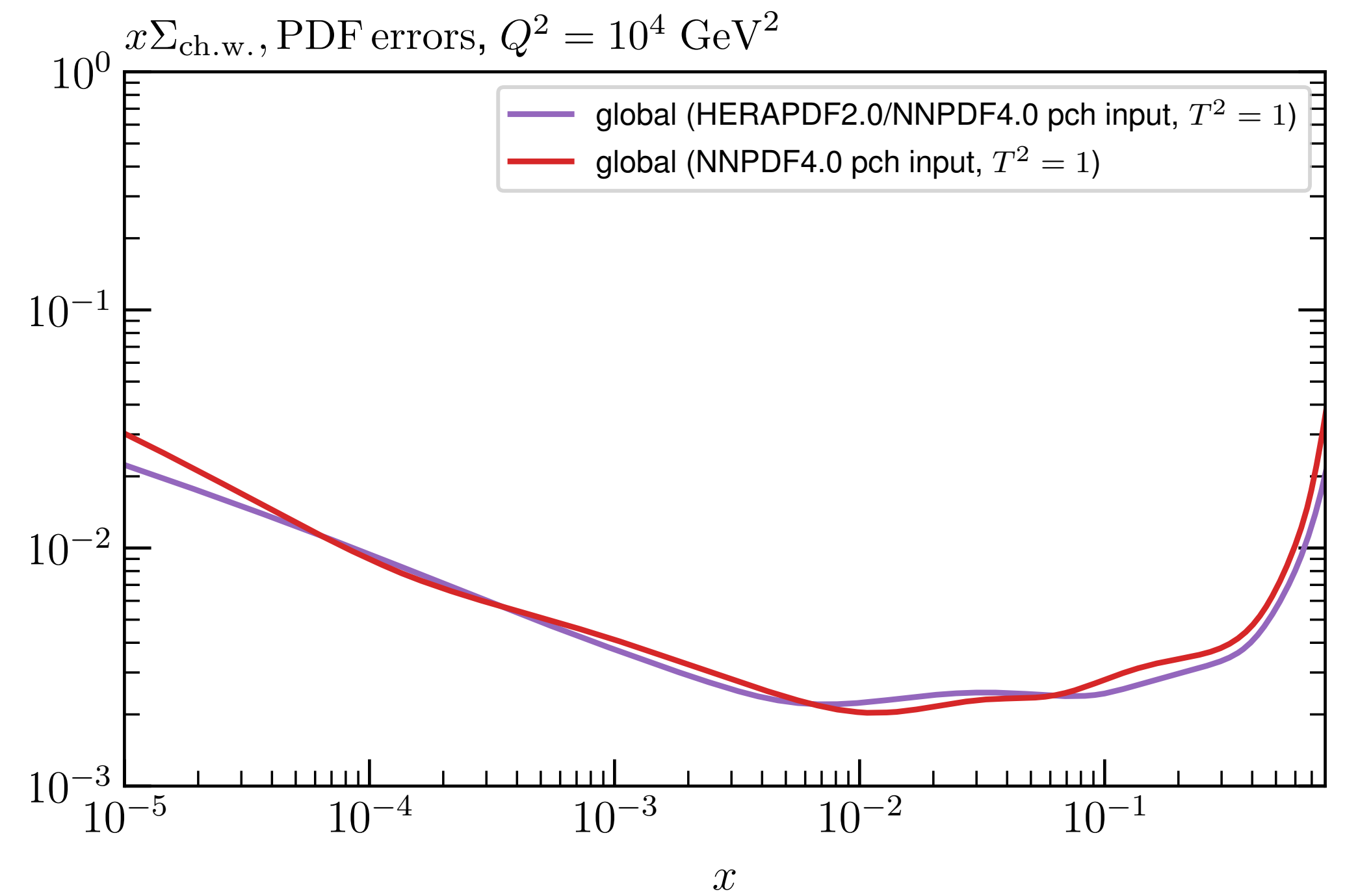
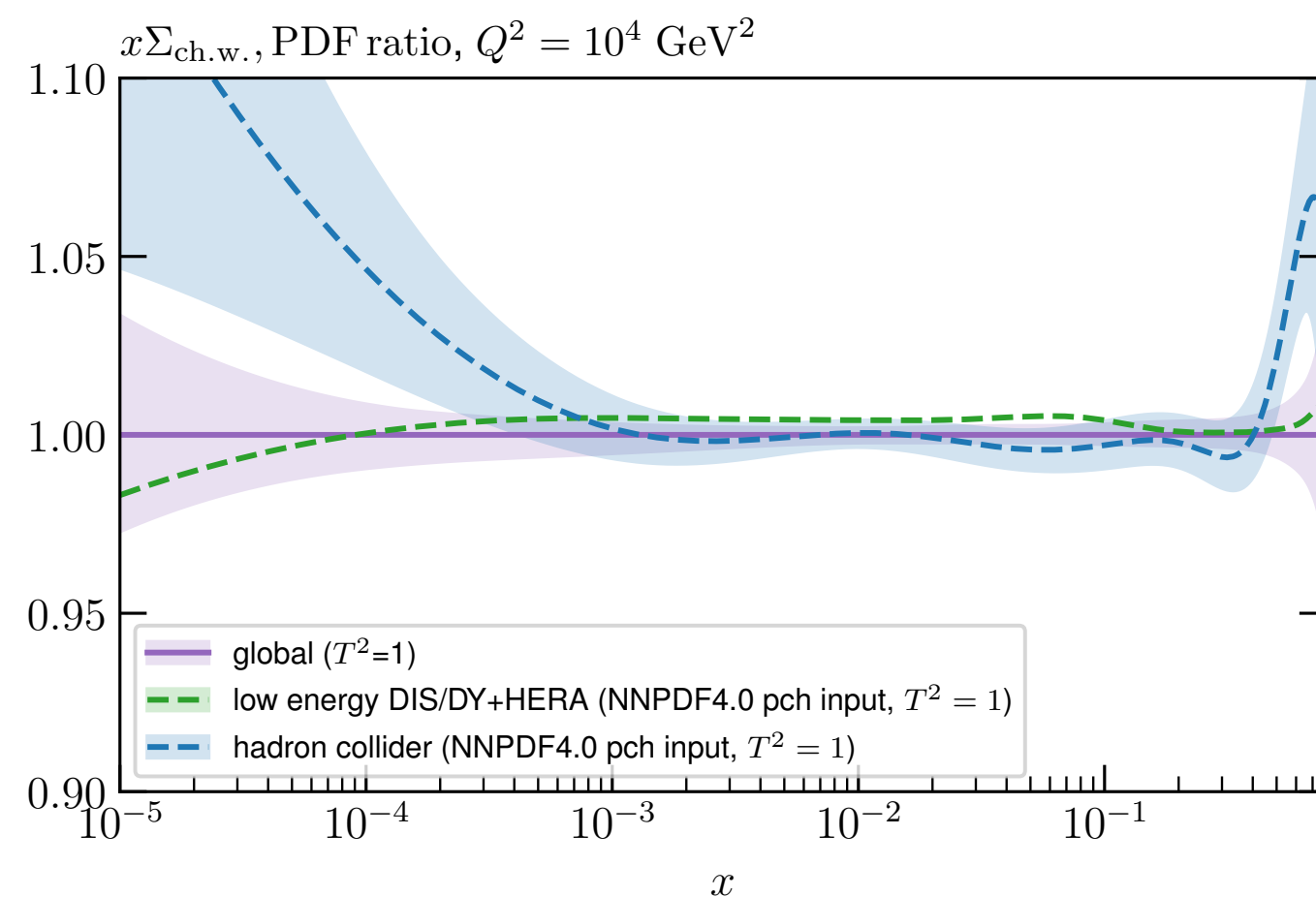
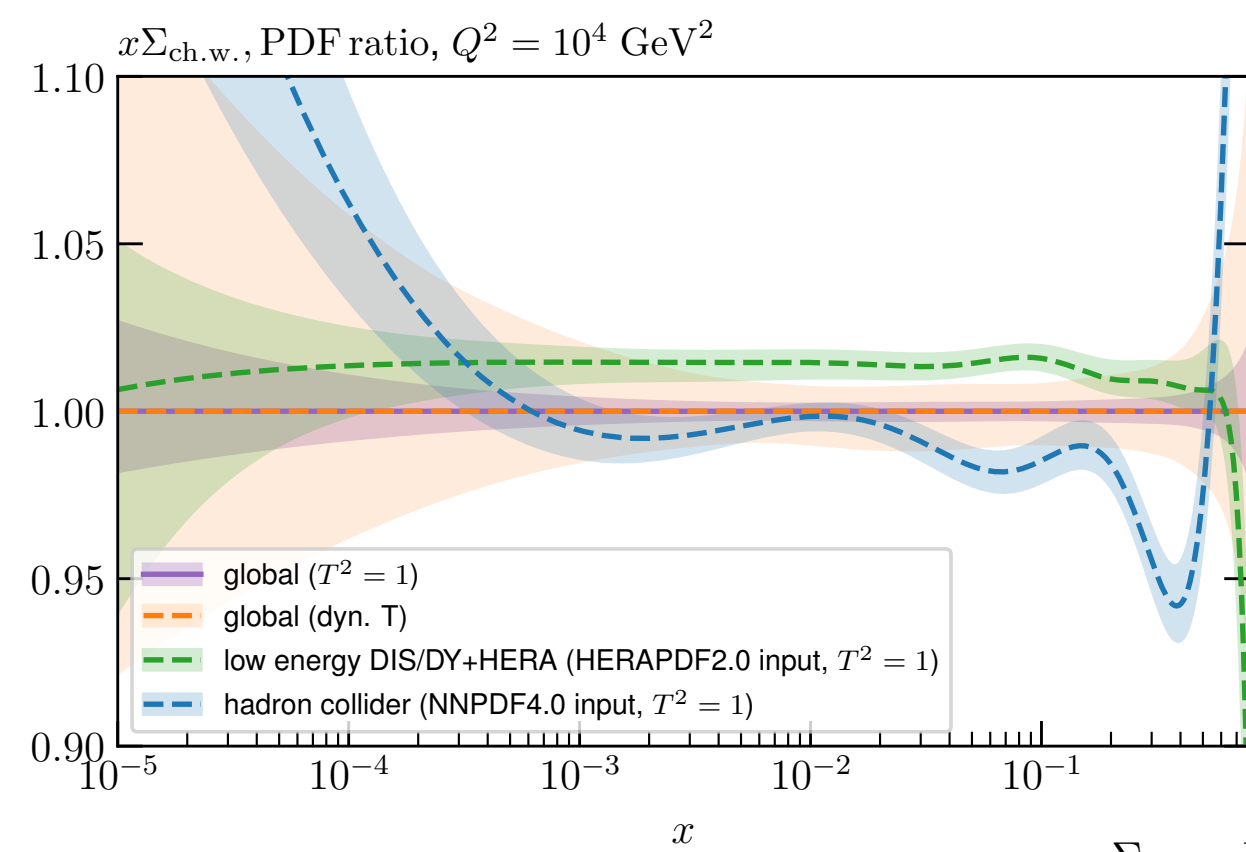
# Tolerance (Again)

See also G. Watt and R. Thorne,  
arXiv:1205.4024

- Can also use closure test to motivate need for tolerance. Generate:
  - ★ **Fixed-Target DY + DIS** data with **HERAPDF2.0** input.
  - ★ **Hadron Collider** data with **NNPDF4.0** (pch) input.
- Inputs are indeed in tension for various PDFs - simply model of incompatibility in fit. What do we find?



- Fit including tension lies  $\sim$  in the middle where tension appears. The  $T = 1$  error clearly too small - enlarged MSHT tolerance does rather better. Crucially the  $T = 1$  error v. similar between left + right...



**Backup**

- This effect is completely expected. Can show in simple toy model: PDF uncertainties driven by the quoted experimental (theoretical) uncertainties whether underlying fit is self-consistent or not.
- Naive application of  $T = 1$  criterion in such a scenario will lead to overly **aggressive errors**.