

# ML in Data Analysis: Systematic Uncertainties with ML

Lecture 4

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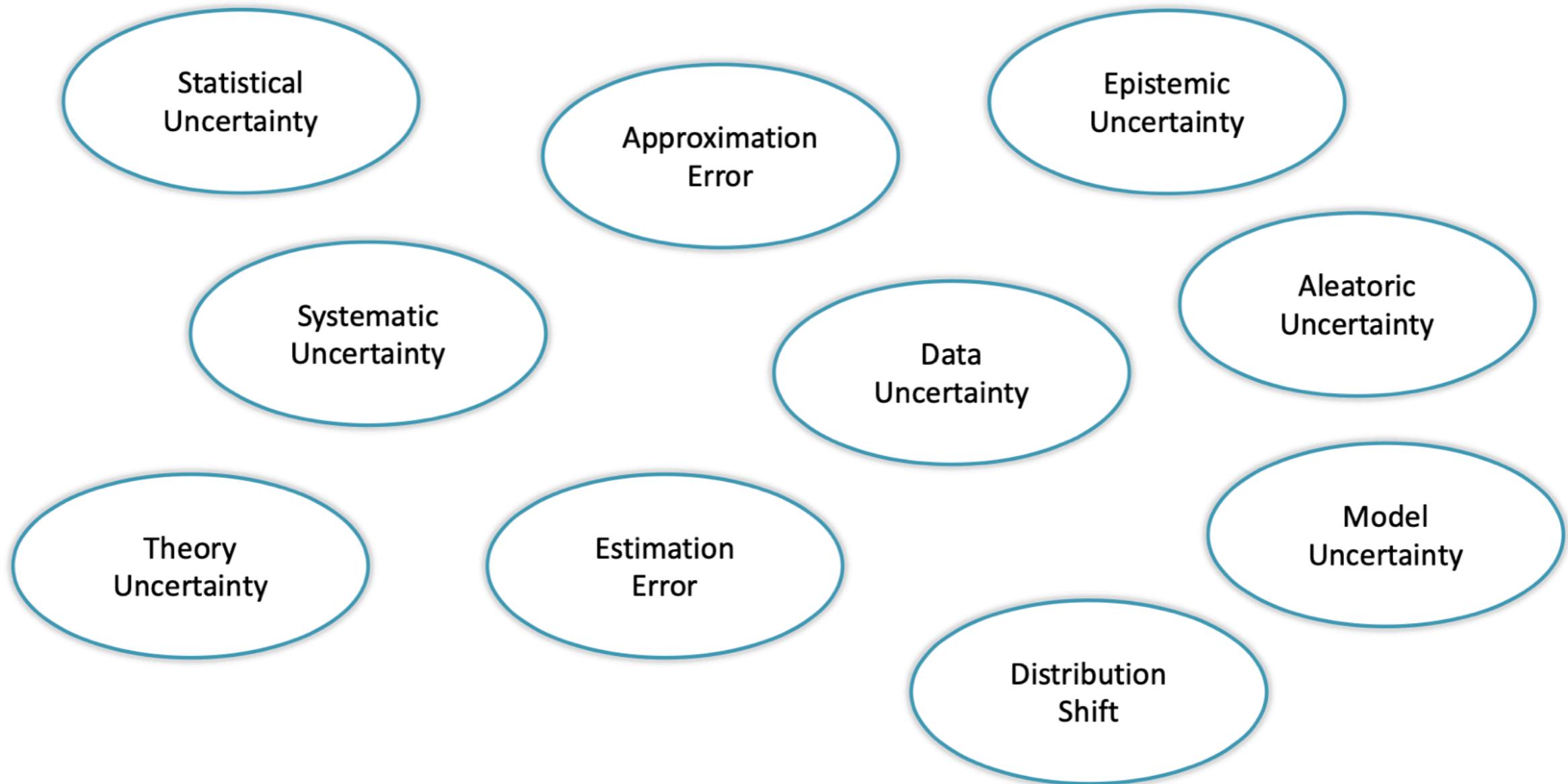
Thematic CERN School of Computing on Machine Learning  
18th October 2024



# Introduction

## Many Terminologies Around Uncertainty

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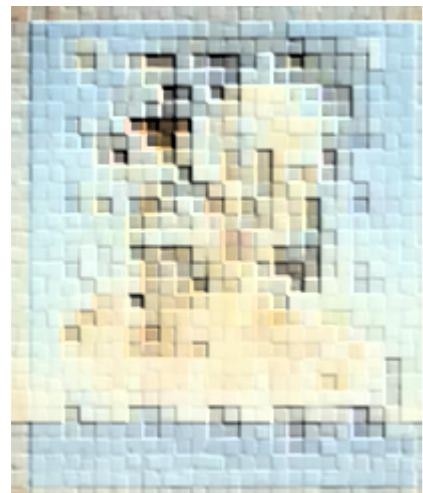
**Goal of today's lecture: understand the different concepts and link them together**

2

# Introduction: Why systematics are important?

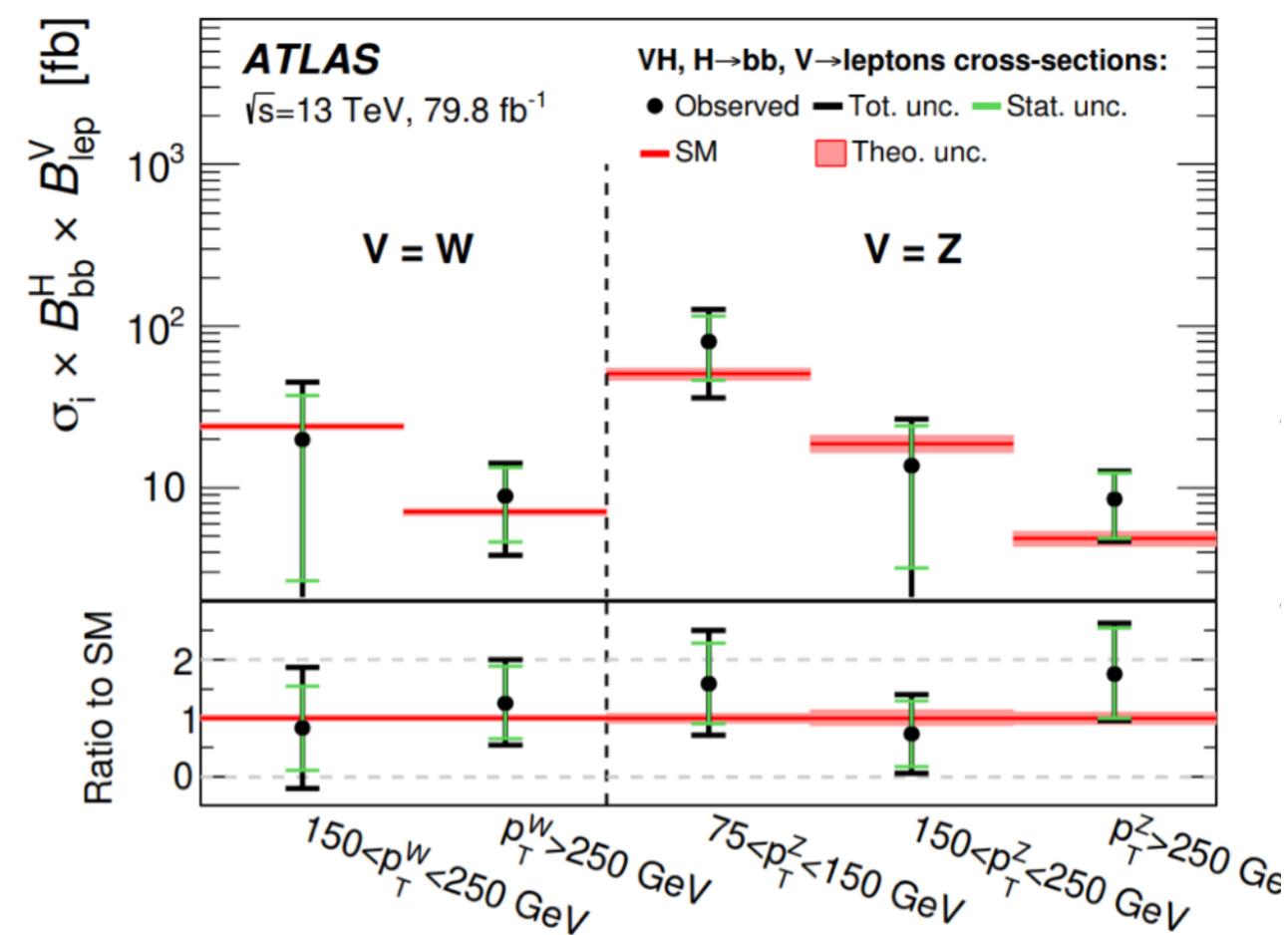
We are entering in a new era:

After the Higgs boson discovery, the focus shifted toward the **measurement of its properties**:



**Is this “the Higgs”?**

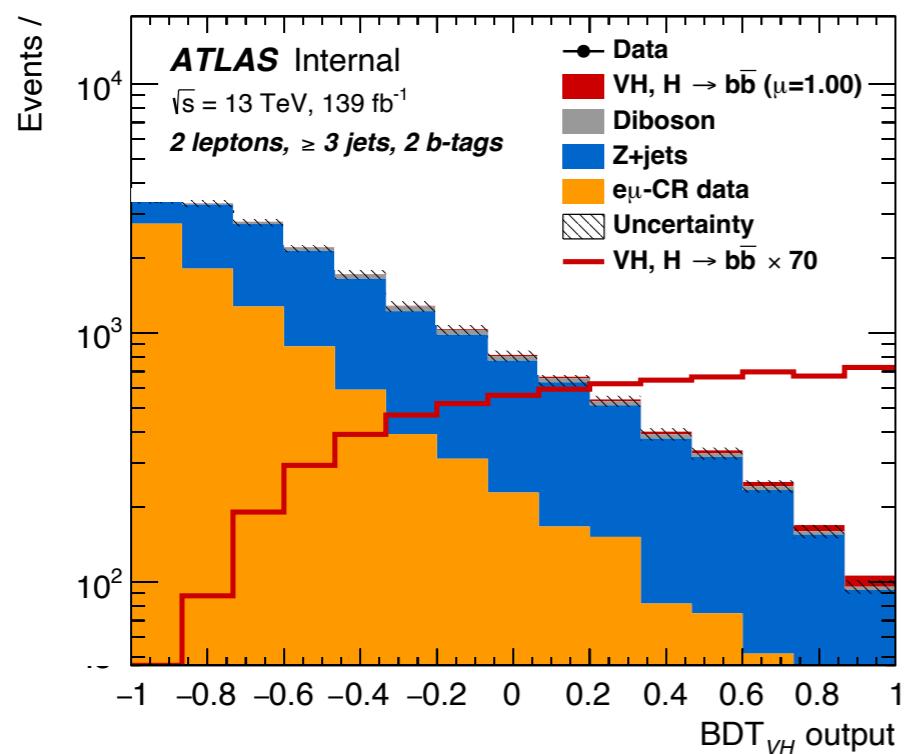
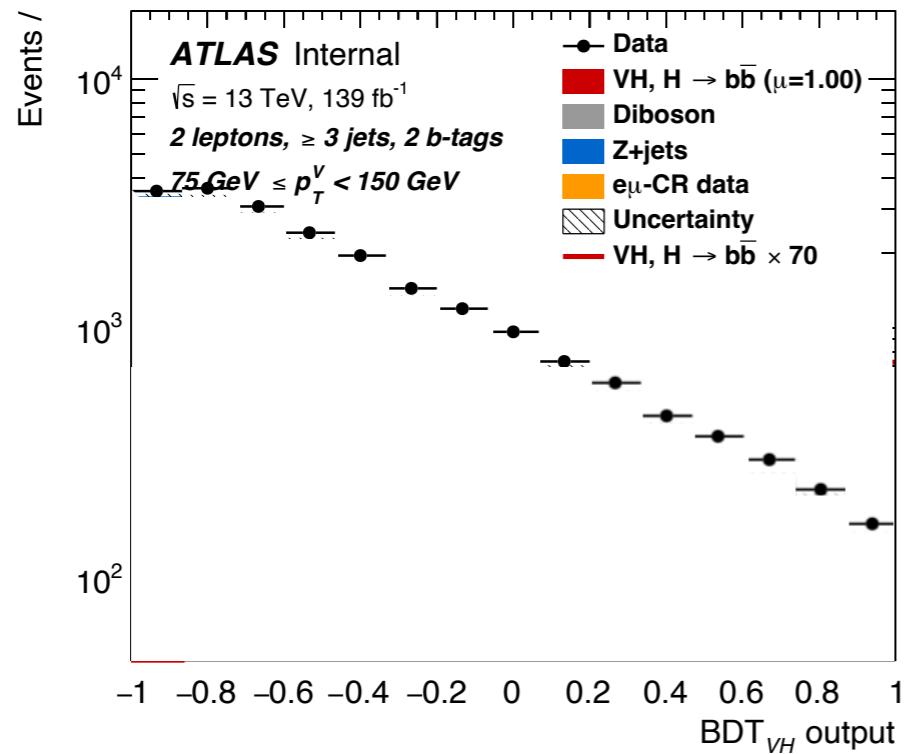
**“precise” Higgs measurements** → reduce the uncertainties to **increase the sensitivity** to tiny BSM induced anomalies.



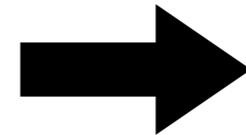
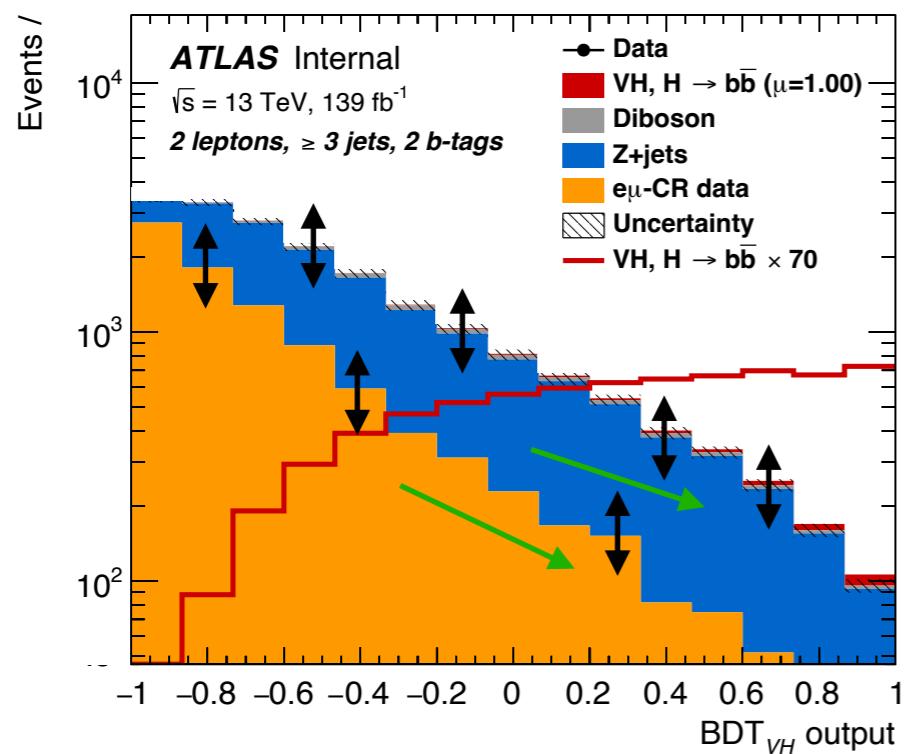
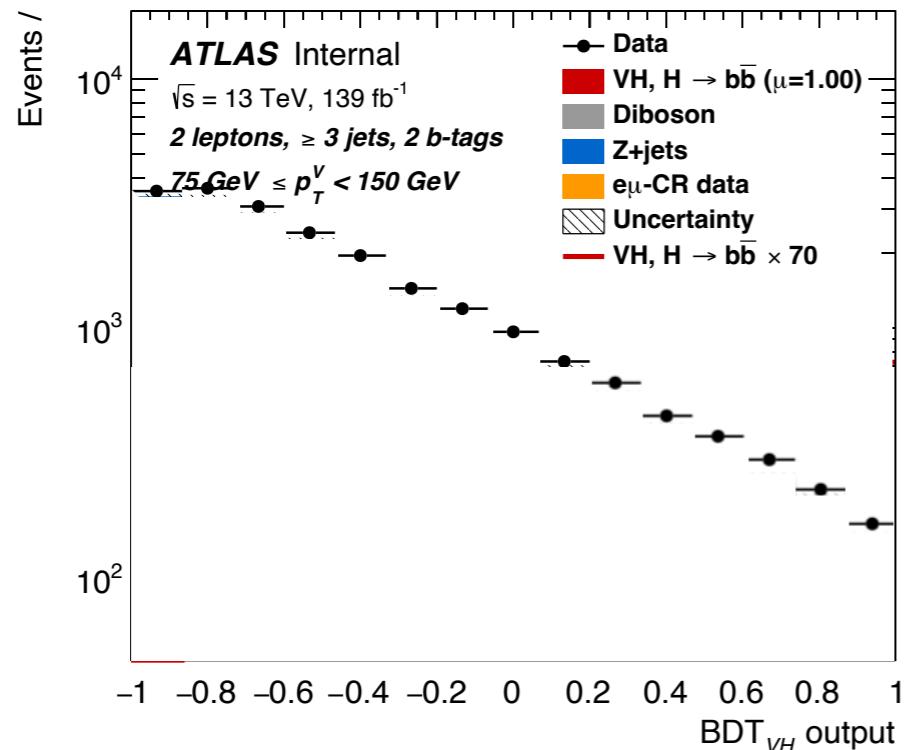
# Systematic uncertainties in HEP

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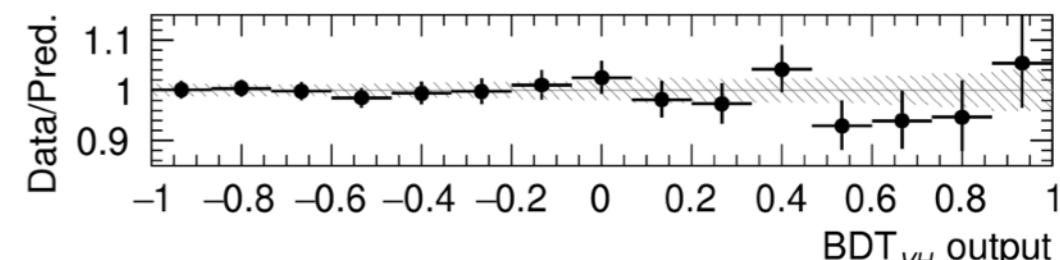
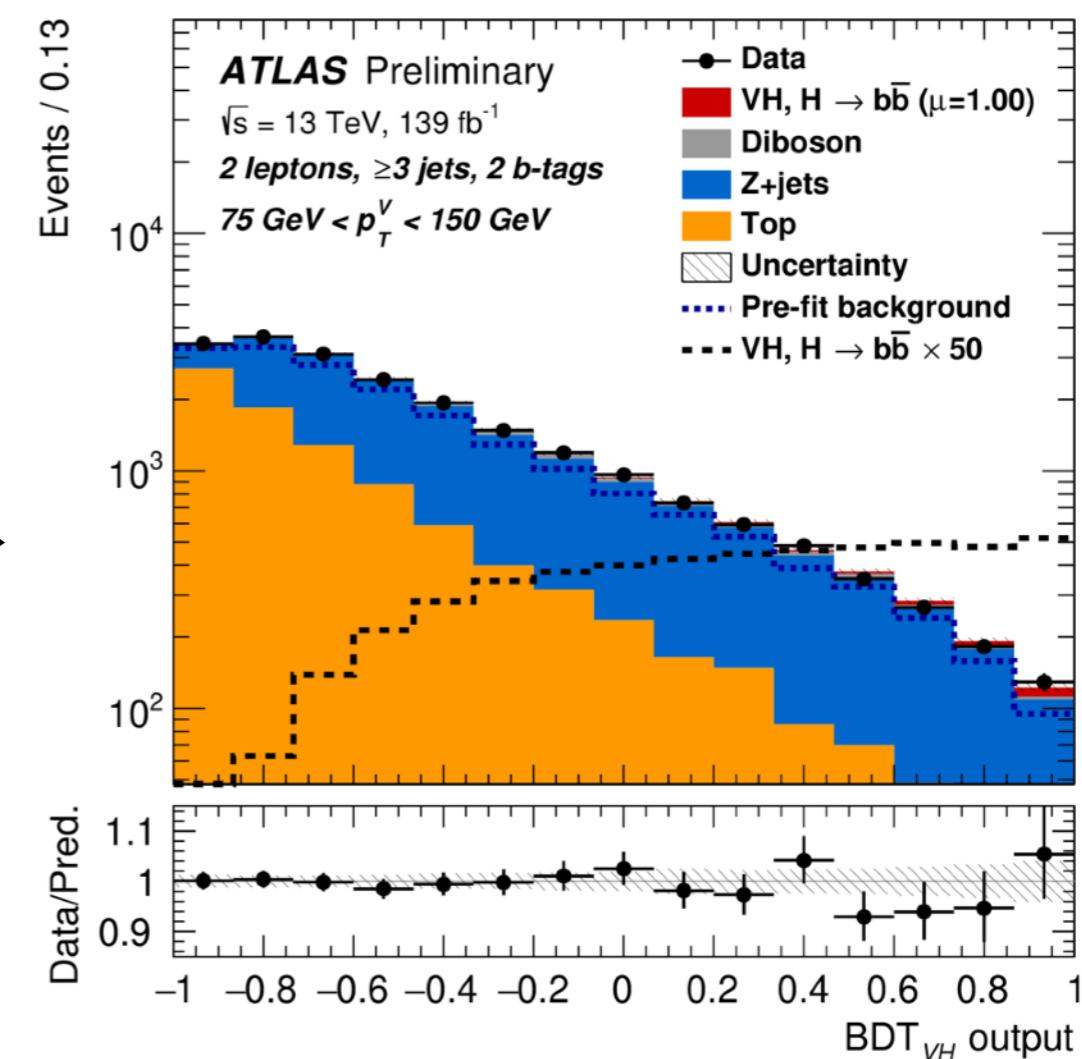
# How does a fit (usually) work in HEP?



# How does a fit (usually) work in HEP?



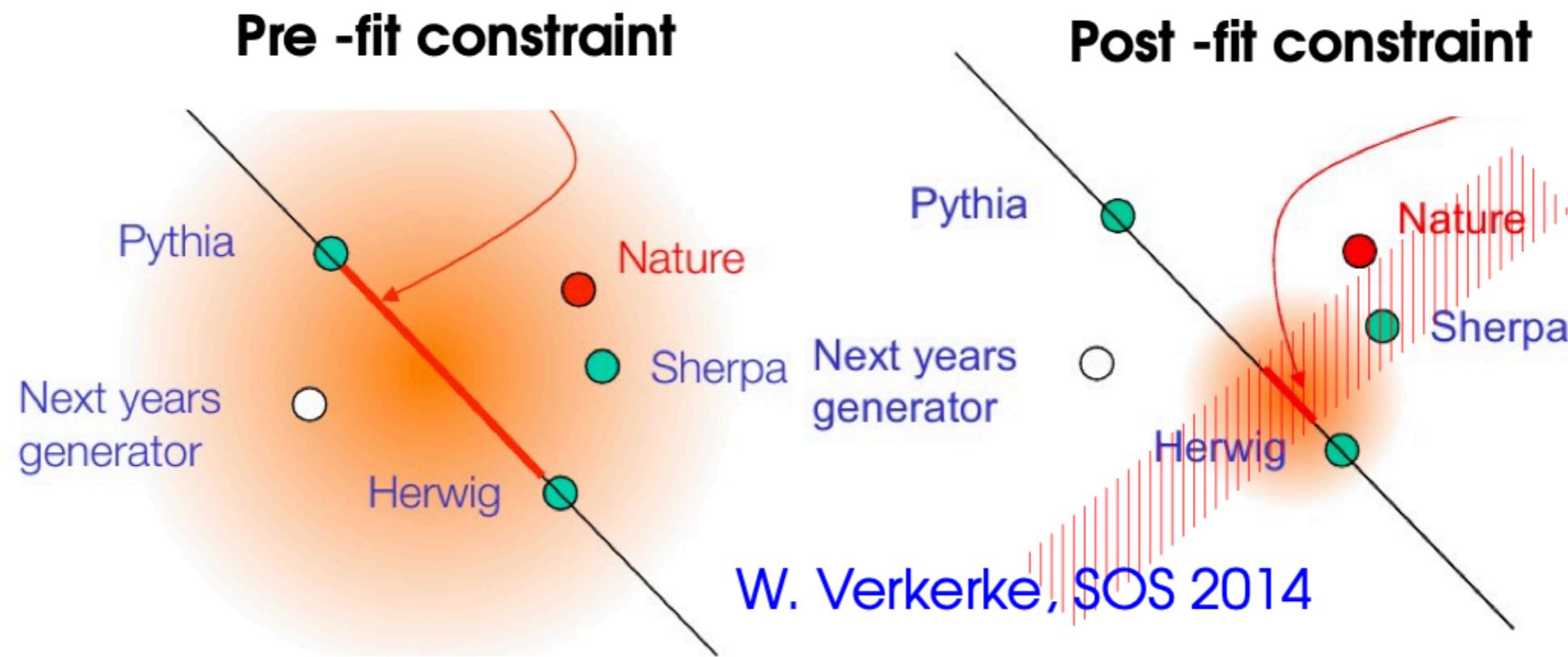
**Note: sometimes the Montecarlo can be replaced by a certain function, like for example for  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$**



**Maximise the likelihood**  
 $\dots$ within some boundaries

# Nuisance parameters

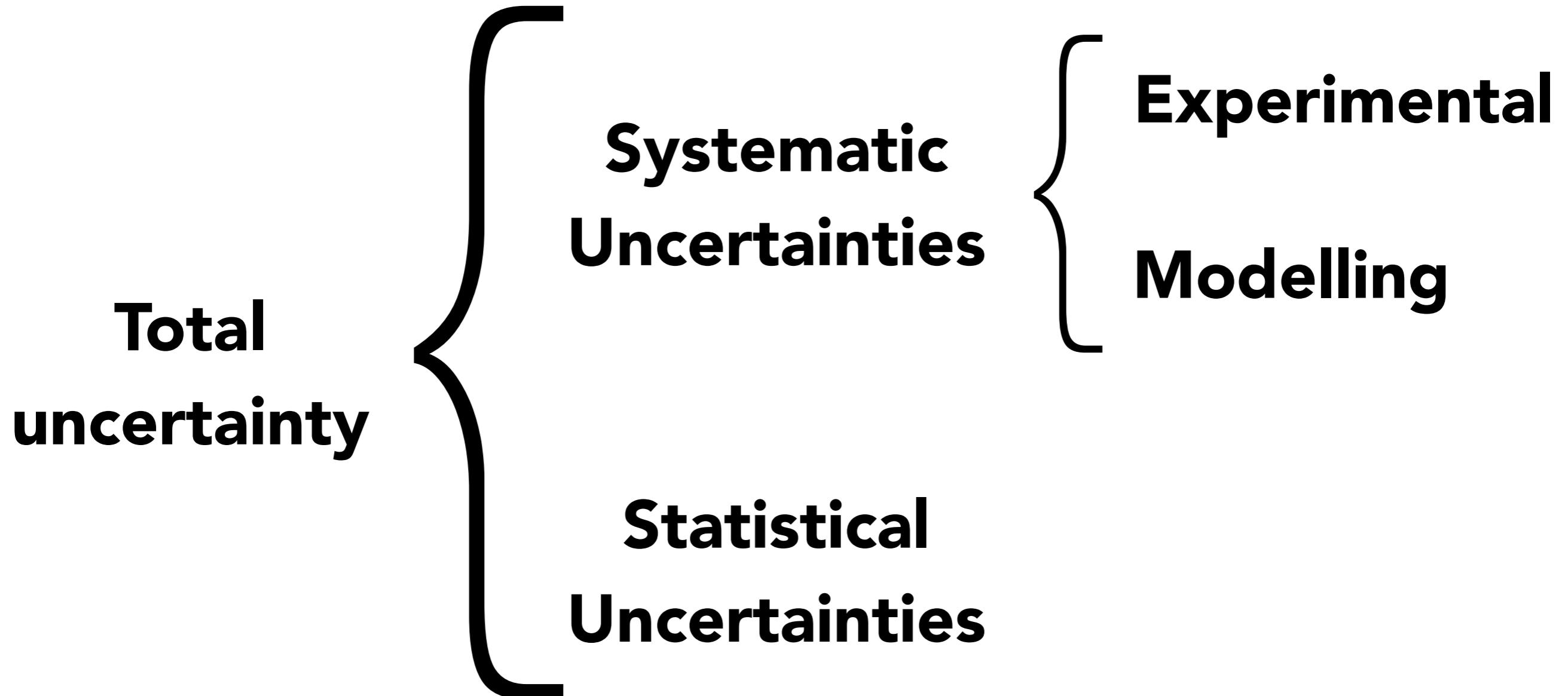
These boundaries are called “nuisance parameters” and define our level of uncertainty on the montecarlo



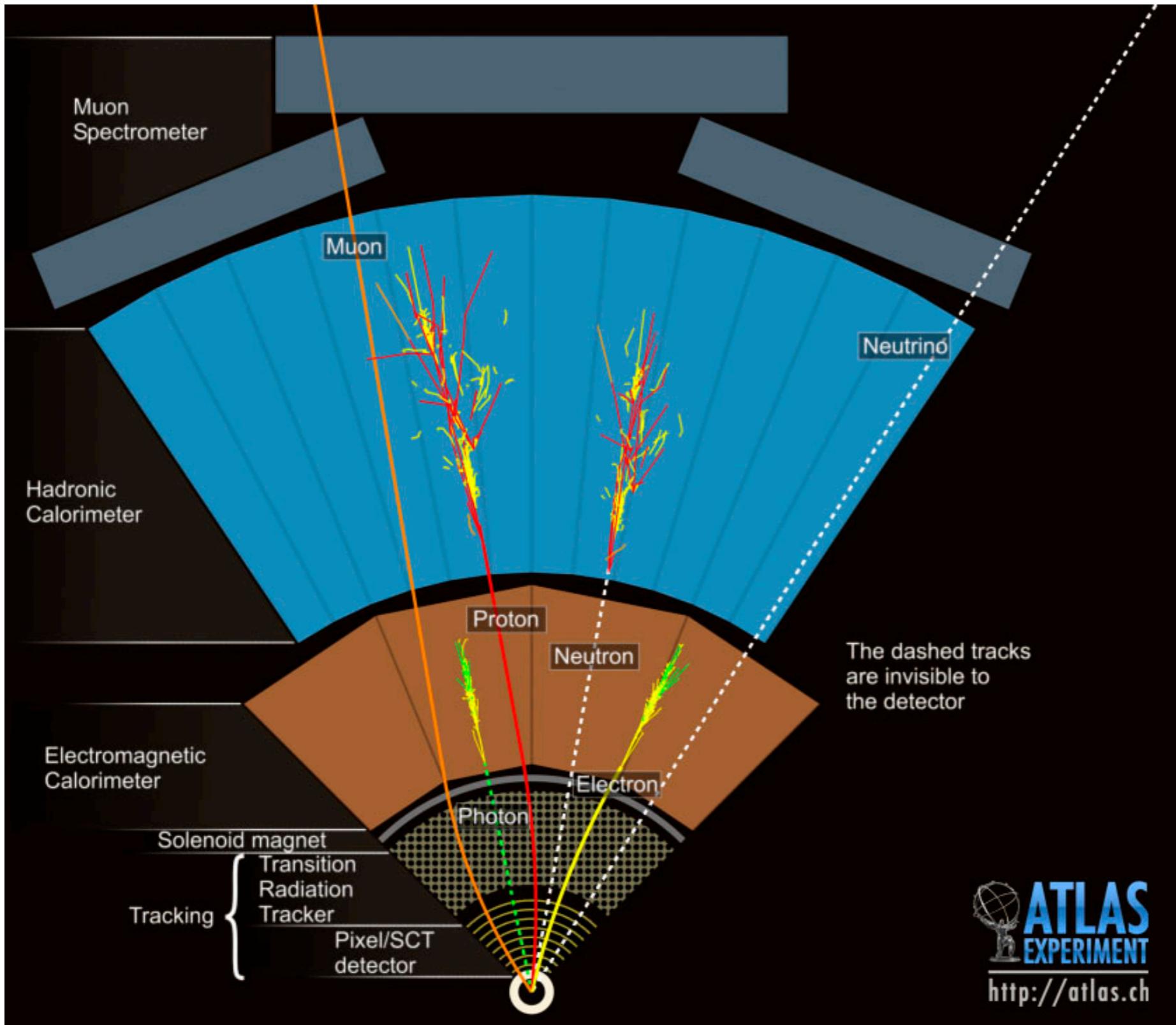
- Account for shape differences
- Account for normalisation effects
- Account for uncertainties in the applied corrections or in the theory
- Account for uncertainties associated with limited data

# Types of uncertainty

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# Experimental uncertainties



## Muons:

Match tracks in the MS and in the ID (combined muons)

$$\chi^2_{match}$$

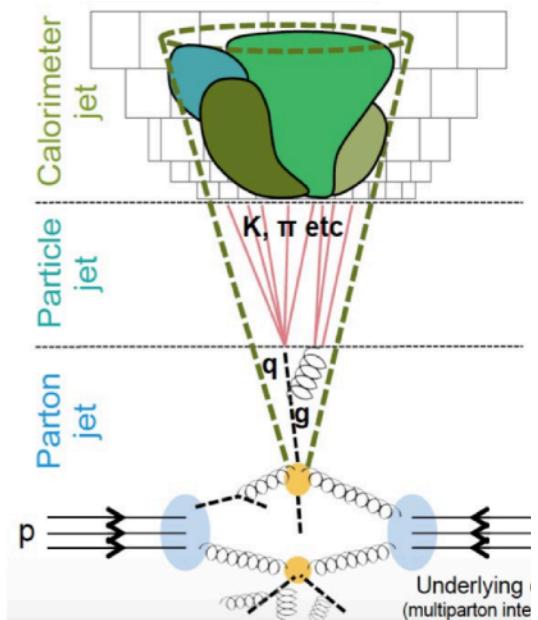
## Electrons:

match a cluster in ECAL with an ID track



## Jets:

Reconstructed from clusters in the ECAL+HCAL  
Anti- $k_T$  algorithm



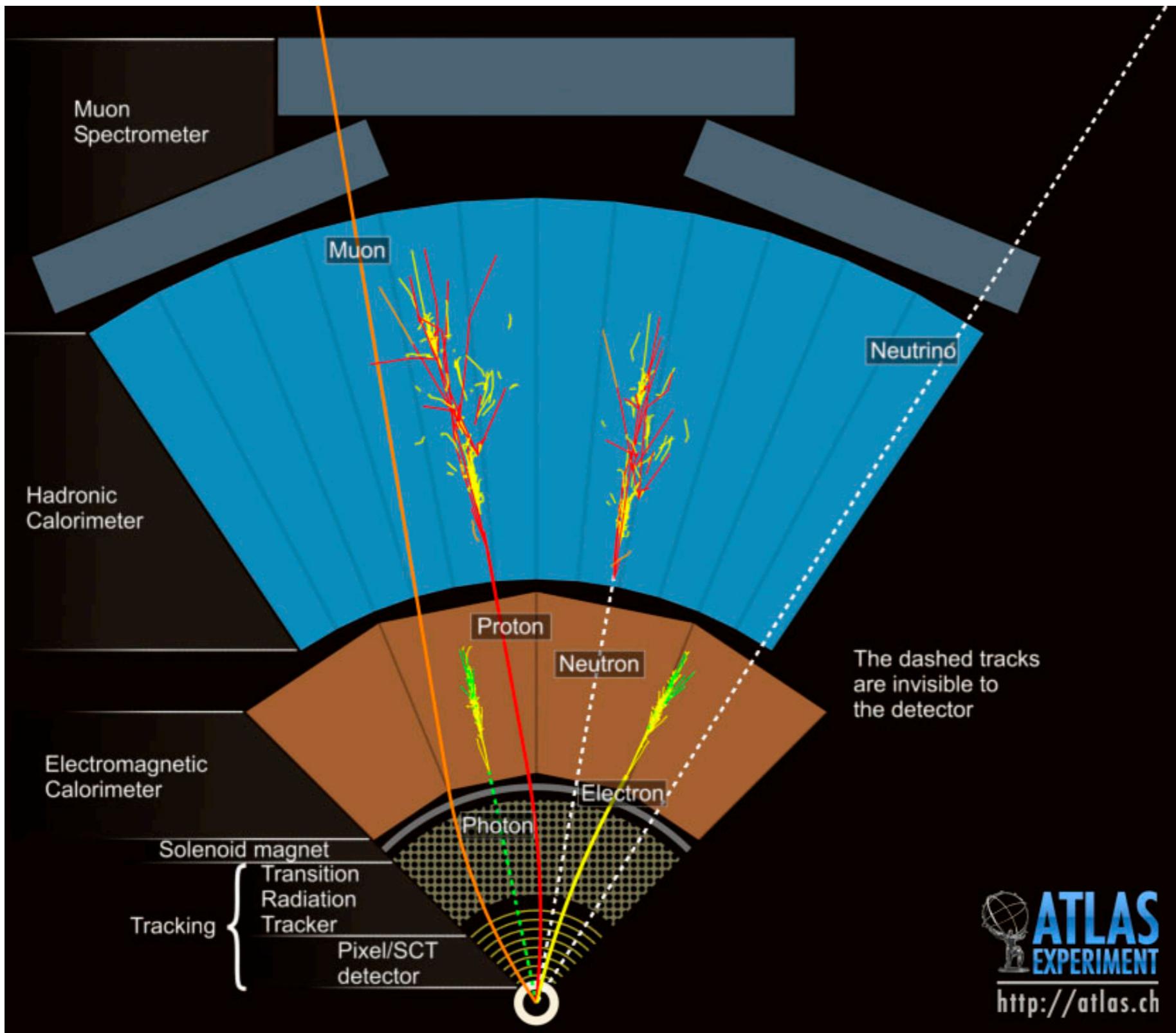
## $E_T$ miss:

**Missing Transv. Momentum**

Momentum imbalance in the transverse plane:

$$\vec{E}_T^{miss} = - \sum_{i \in obj.} \vec{p}_T^i$$

# Experimental uncertainties



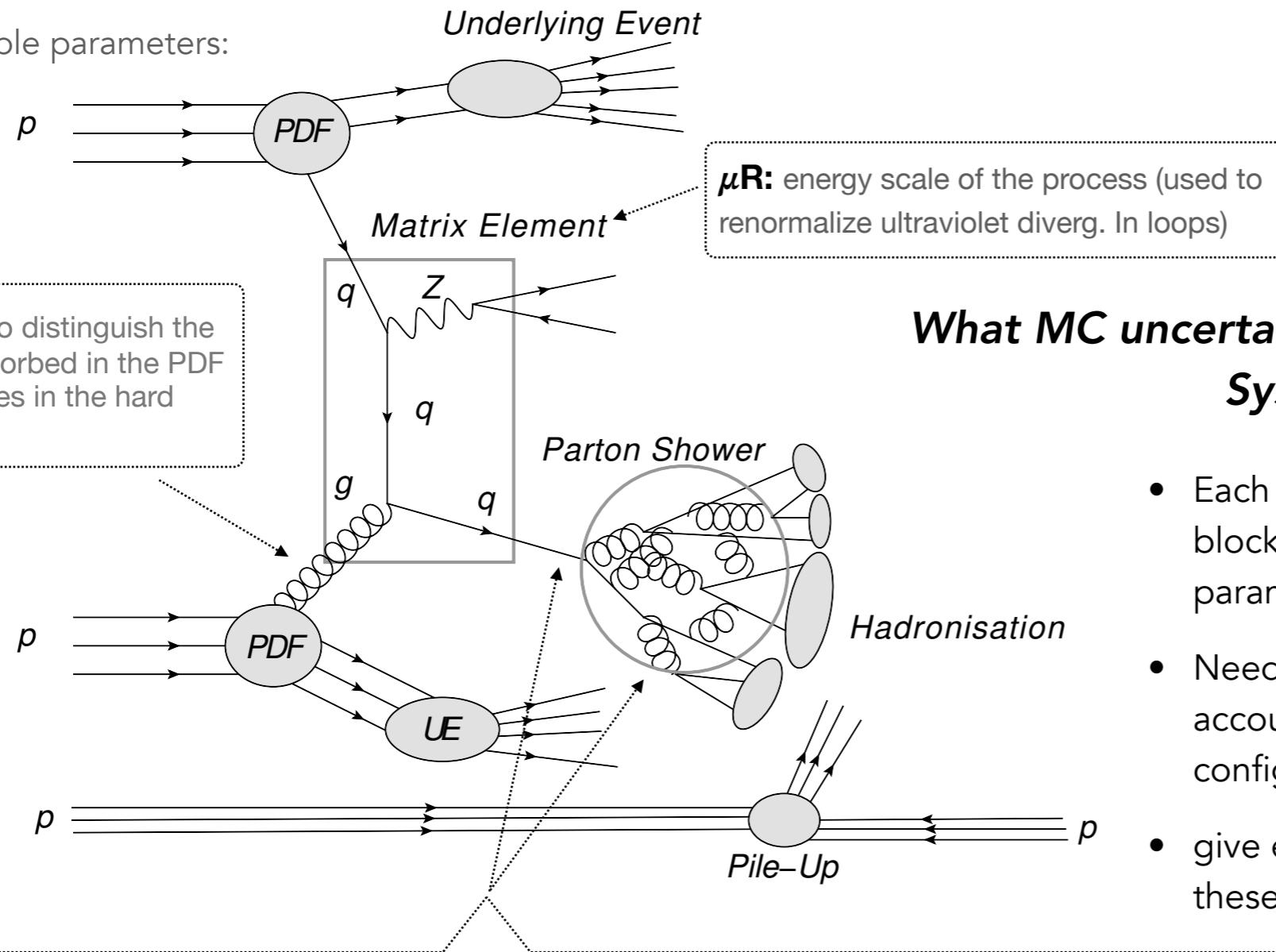
## Some examples:

- Calibrations
- Identification
- Trigger uncertainties
- Jet energy scales
- Flavour tagging
- Energy corrections

# Modelling uncertainties

## Start building the MC Systematic Model

Configurable parameters:



## What MC uncertainties should we consider in our Systematic Model?

- Each generator is made up of building blocks tuned using an array of configurable parameters.
- Need to build our systematic model to account for the uncertainties on these configurable parameters.
- give enough freedom to the fit to absorb these potential Data/MC differences.

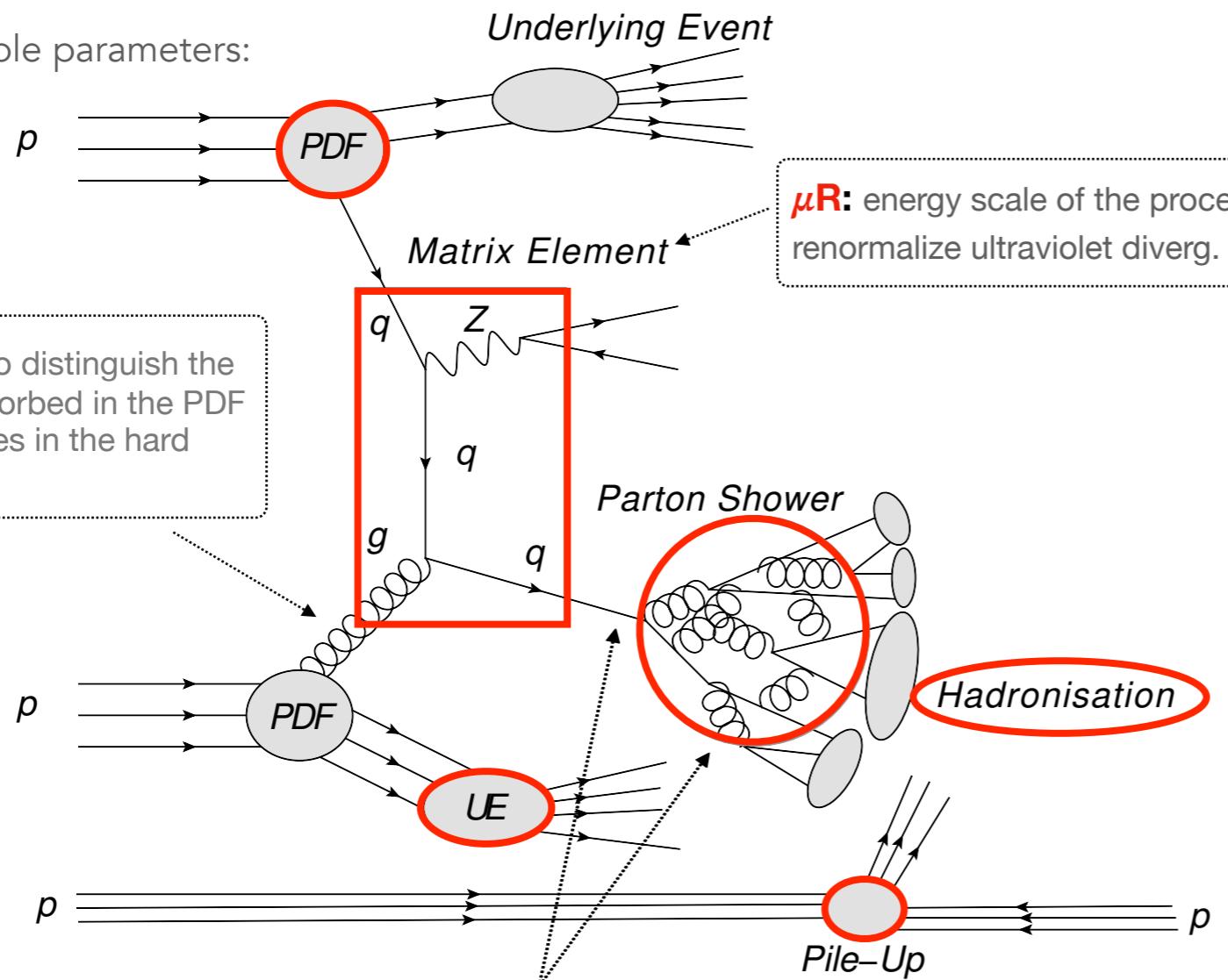
**Matrix element matching scale (CKKW):** the scale taken for the calculation of the overlap between jets from the matrix element and the parton shower.

**Resummation scale (QSF):** the scale used for the resummation of soft gluon emissions.

# Modelling uncertainties

## Start building the MC Systematic Model

Configurable parameters:



**$\mu F$ :** cutoff to distinguish the partons absorbed in the PDF from the ones in the hard scattering.

**$\mu R$ :** energy scale of the process (used to renormalize ultraviolet diverg. In loops).

**Matrix element matching scale (CKKW):** the scale taken for the calculation of the overlap between jets from the matrix element and the parton shower.

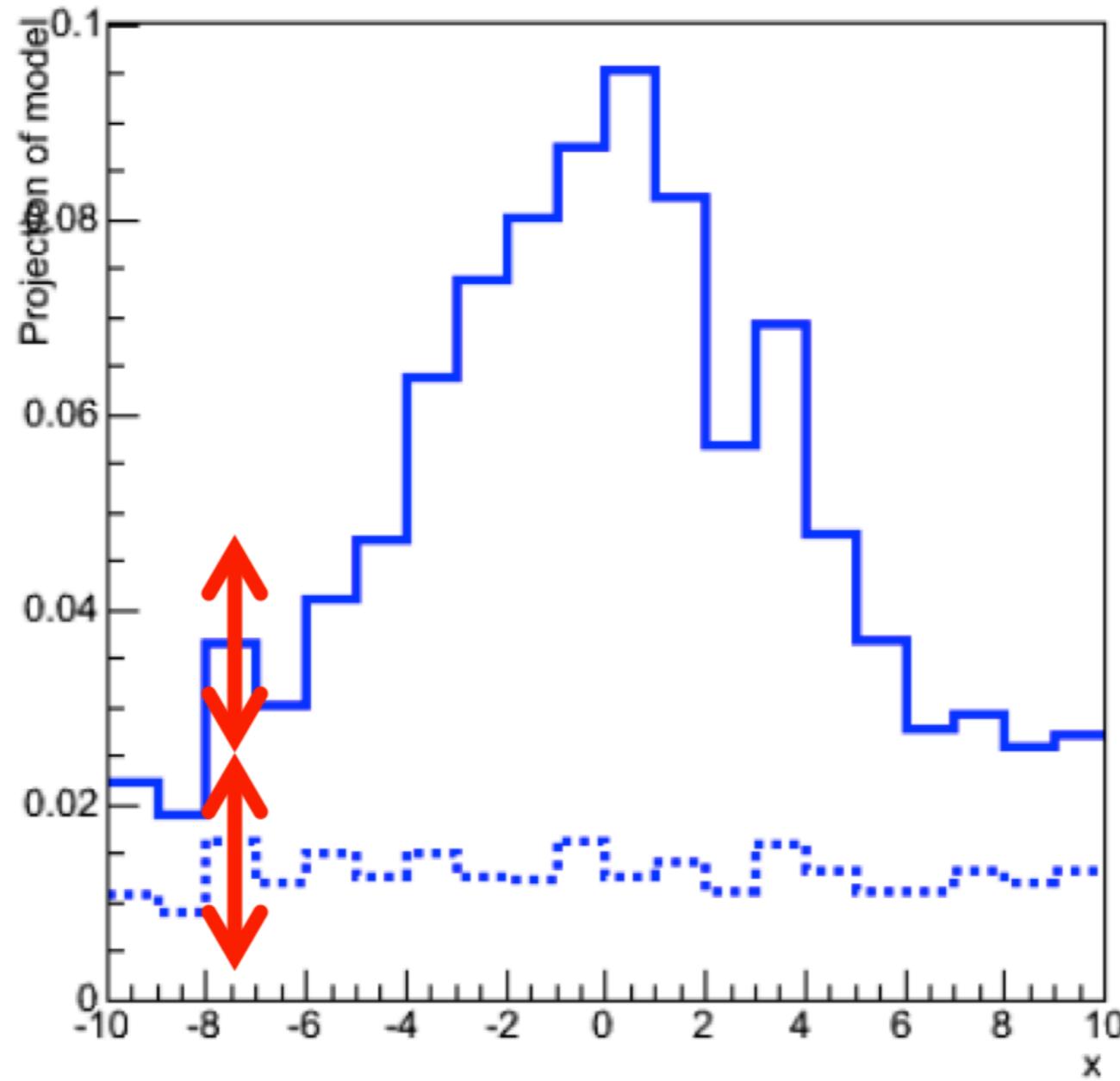
**Resummation scale (QSF):** the scale used for the resummation of soft gluon emissions.

Consider one effect at a time:

- PDF
- Renormalization scale ( $\mu R$ )
- Factorisation scale ( $\mu F$ )
- Matrix Element
- Parton Shower
- Resummation Scale (QSF)
- CKKW
- Underlying Event
- Pile-up (not covered)
- EW corrections (not covered)
- Radiation High/Low

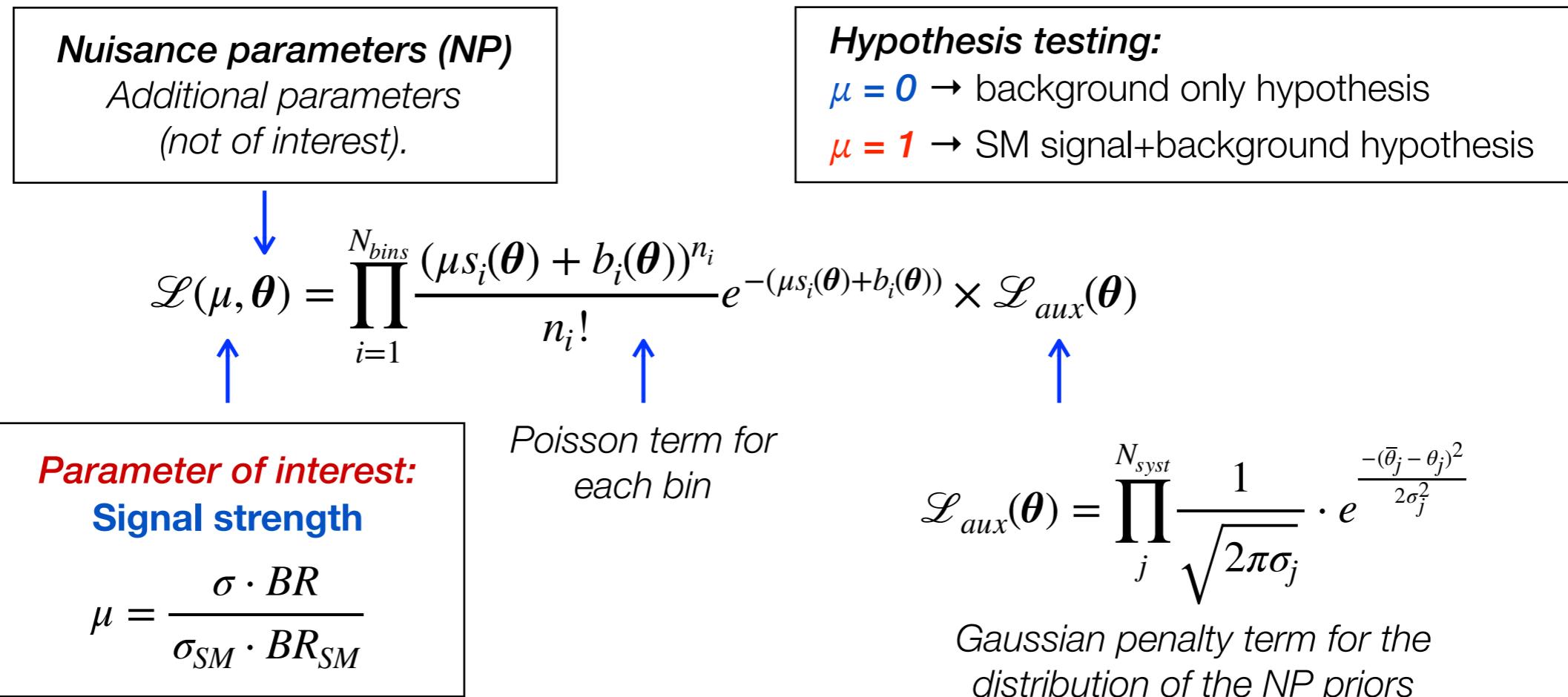
# Statistical uncertainties

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# The fit model:

Simultaneous binned Likelihood fit built across multiple analysis categories:



Systematic uncertainties are parametrized by **nuisance parameters (NPs)**, constrained with priors:

- ▶ JES, JER, MET
- ▶ Lepton reco, ID, iso, calibration
- ▶ b-tagging uncertainties
- ▶ Lumi, pile-up
- ▶ Shapes and relative normalizations across regions
- ▶ Flavor composition uncertainties
- ▶ Theory uncertainties: PDF, scales, PS/UE
- ▶ ...

# A concrete example:

$Z + \text{jets}$	
$Z + ll$ normalisation	18%
$Z + cl$ normalisation	23%
$Z + \text{HF}$ normalisation	Floating (2-jet, 3-jet)
$Z + bc\text{-to-}Z + bb$ ratio	30 – 40%
$Z + cc\text{-to-}Z + bb$ ratio	13 – 15%
$Z + bl\text{-to-}Z + bb$ ratio	20 – 25%
0-to-2 lepton ratio	7%
$m_{bb}, p_T^V$	S
$W + \text{jets}$	
$W + ll$ normalisation	32%
$W + cl$ normalisation	37%
$W + \text{HF}$ normalisation	Floating (2-jet, 3-jet)
$W + bl\text{-to-}W + bb$ ratio	26% (0-lepton) and 23% (1-lepton)
$W + bc\text{-to-}W + bb$ ratio	15% (0-lepton) and 30% (1-lepton)
$W + cc\text{-to-}W + bb$ ratio	10% (0-lepton) and 30% (1-lepton)
0-to-1 lepton ratio	5%
$W + \text{HF CR to SR}$ ratio	10% (1-lepton)
$m_{bb}, p_T^V$	S
$t\bar{t}$ (all are uncorrelated between the 0+1- and 2-lepton channels)	
$t\bar{t}$ normalisation	Floating (0+1-lepton, 2-lepton 2-jet, 2-lepton 3-jet)
0-to-1 lepton ratio	8%
2-to-3-jet ratio	9% (0+1-lepton only)
$W + \text{HF CR to SR}$ ratio	25%
$m_{bb}, p_T^V$	S
Single top-quark	
Cross-section	4.6% ( $s$ -channel), 4.4% ( $t$ -channel), 6.2% ( $Wt$ )
Acceptance 2-jet	17% ( $t$ -channel), 55% ( $Wt(bb)$ ), 24% ( $Wt(\text{other})$ )
Acceptance 3-jet	20% ( $t$ -channel), 51% ( $Wt(bb)$ ), 21% ( $Wt(\text{other})$ )
$m_{bb}, p_T^V$	S ( $t$ -channel, $Wt(bb)$ , $Wt(\text{other})$ )
Multi-jet (1-lepton)	
Normalisation	60 – 100% (2-jet), 90 – 140% (3-jet)
BDT template	S

# A concrete example:

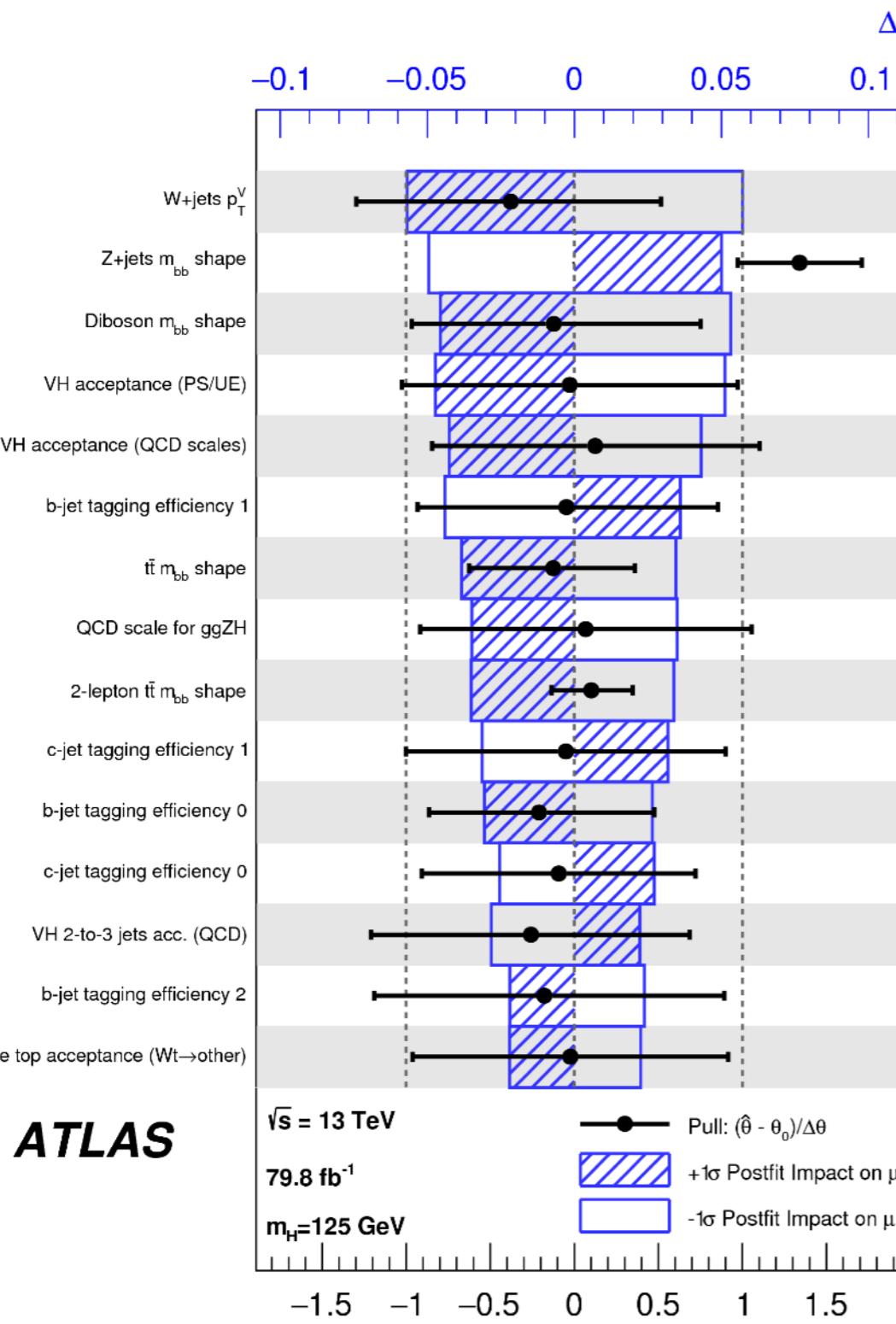
Z + jets		
Z + ll normalisation		18%
Z + cl normalisation		23%
Z + HF normalisation		Floating (2-jet, 3-jet)
Z + bc-to-Z + bb ratio		30 – 40%
Z + cc-to-Z + bb ratio		13 – 15%
Z + bl-to-Z + bb ratio		20 – 25%
0-to-2 lepton ratio		7%
$m_{bb}, p_T^V$		S
W + jets		
W + ll normalisation		32%
W + cl normalisation		37%
W + HF normalisation		Floating (2-jet, 3-jet)
W + bl-to-W + bb ratio		26% (0-lepton) and 23% (1-lepton)
W + bc-to-W + bb ratio		15% (0-lepton) and 30% (1-lepton)
W + cc-to-W + bb ratio		10% (0-lepton) and 30% (1-lepton)
0-to-1 lepton ratio		5%
Signal		
$t\bar{t}$ (all are uncorrelated between them)		0.7% ( $qq$ ), 27% ( $gg$ )
Cross-section (scale)		1.9% ( $qq \rightarrow WH$ ), 1.6% ( $qq \rightarrow ZH$ ), 5% ( $gg$ )
Cross-section (PDF)		1.7%
$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ branching fraction		2.5 – 8.8%
Acceptance from scale variations		2.9 – 6.2% (depending on lepton channel)
Acceptance from PS/UE variations for 2 or more jets		1.8 – 11%
Acceptance from PS/UE variations for 3 jets		0.5 – 1.3%
Acceptance from PDF+ $\alpha_S$ variations		S
$m_{bb}, p_T^V$ , from scale variations		S
$m_{bb}, p_T^V$ , from PS/UE variations		S
$m_{bb}, p_T^V$ , from PDF+ $\alpha_S$ variations		S
$p_T^V$ from NLO EW correction		S
Single-lepton		
Cross-section	4.6%	
Acceptance 2-jet	17% ( $t\bar{t}$ )	
Acceptance 3-jet	20% ( $t\bar{t}$ )	
$m_{bb}, p_T^V$		
Multi-jet (1-lepton)		
Normalisation	60 – 100% (2-jet), 90 – 140% (3-jet)	
BDT template	S	

# A concrete example:

Z + jets		ZZ	
Z + ll normalisation	18%		
Z + cl normalisation	23%		
Z + HF normalisation	Floating (2-jet, 3-jet)		
Z + bc-to-Z + bb ratio	30 – 40%		
Z + cc-to-Z + bb ratio	13 – 15%		
Z + bl-to-Z + bb ratio	20 – 25%		
W + jets		WZ	
W + ll normalisation	32%		
W + cl normalisation	37%		
W + HF normalisation	Floating (2-jet, 3-jet)		
W + bl-to-W + bb ratio	26% (0-lepton) and 23% (1-lepton)		
W + bc-to-W + bb ratio	15% (0-lepton) and 30% (1-lepton)		
W + cc-to-W + bb ratio	10% (0-lepton) and 30% (1-lepton)		
0-to-1 lepton ratio		gg	
W + HF CR to SR ratio	5%		
m <sub>bb</sub> , p <sub>T</sub> <sup>V</sup>			
$t\bar{t}$ (all are uncorrelated between them)			
$t\bar{t}$ normalisation	Floating		
0-to-1 lepton ratio	H → b $\bar{b}$ branching fraction		
2-to-3-jet ratio	Acceptance from scale variations		
W + HF CR to SR ratio		WW	
m <sub>bb</sub> , p <sub>T</sub> <sup>V</sup>	Acceptance from PS/UE variations for 2 or more jets		
	Acceptance from PS/UE variations for 3 jets		
	Acceptance from PDF+ $\alpha_S$ variations		
	m <sub>bb</sub> , p <sub>T</sub> <sup>V</sup> , from scale variations		
	m <sub>bb</sub> , p <sub>T</sub> <sup>V</sup> , from PS/UE variations		
	m <sub>bb</sub> , p <sub>T</sub> <sup>V</sup> , from matrix-element variations		
Single-lepton			
Cross-section	4.6%		
Acceptance 2-jet	17% (t-channel), 15% (s-channel)		
Acceptance 3-jet	20% (t-channel), 18% (s-channel)		
m <sub>bb</sub> , p <sub>T</sub> <sup>V</sup>	p <sub>T</sub> from NLO EW correction		
Multi-jet (1-lepton)			
Normalisation	60 – 100% (2-jet), 90 – 140% (3-jet)		
BDT template	S		

# A concrete example:

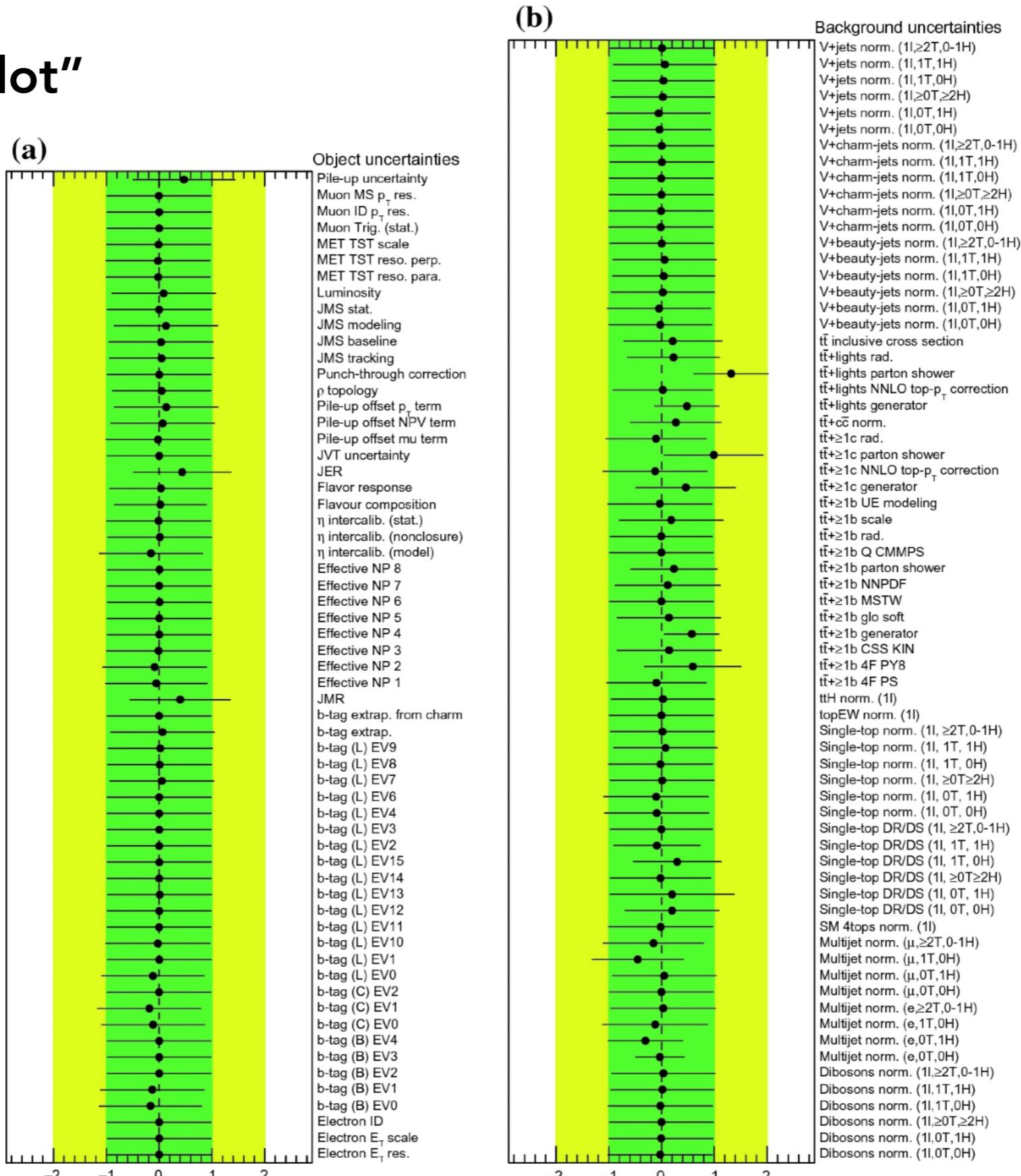
# A concrete example:



Source of uncertainty	$\sigma_\mu$
Total	0.259
Statistical	0.161
Systematic	0.203
Experimental uncertainties	
Jets	0.035
$E_{\text{miss}}^T$	0.014
Leptons	0.009
b-jets	0.061
c-jets	0.042
light-flavour jets	0.009
extrapolation	0.008
Pile-up	0.007
Luminosity	0.023
Theoretical and modelling uncertainties	
Signal	0.094
Floating normalisations	0.035
$Z +$ jets	0.055
$W +$ jets	0.060
$t\bar{t}$	0.050
Single top quark	0.028
Diboson	0.054
Multi-jet	0.005
MC statistical	0.070

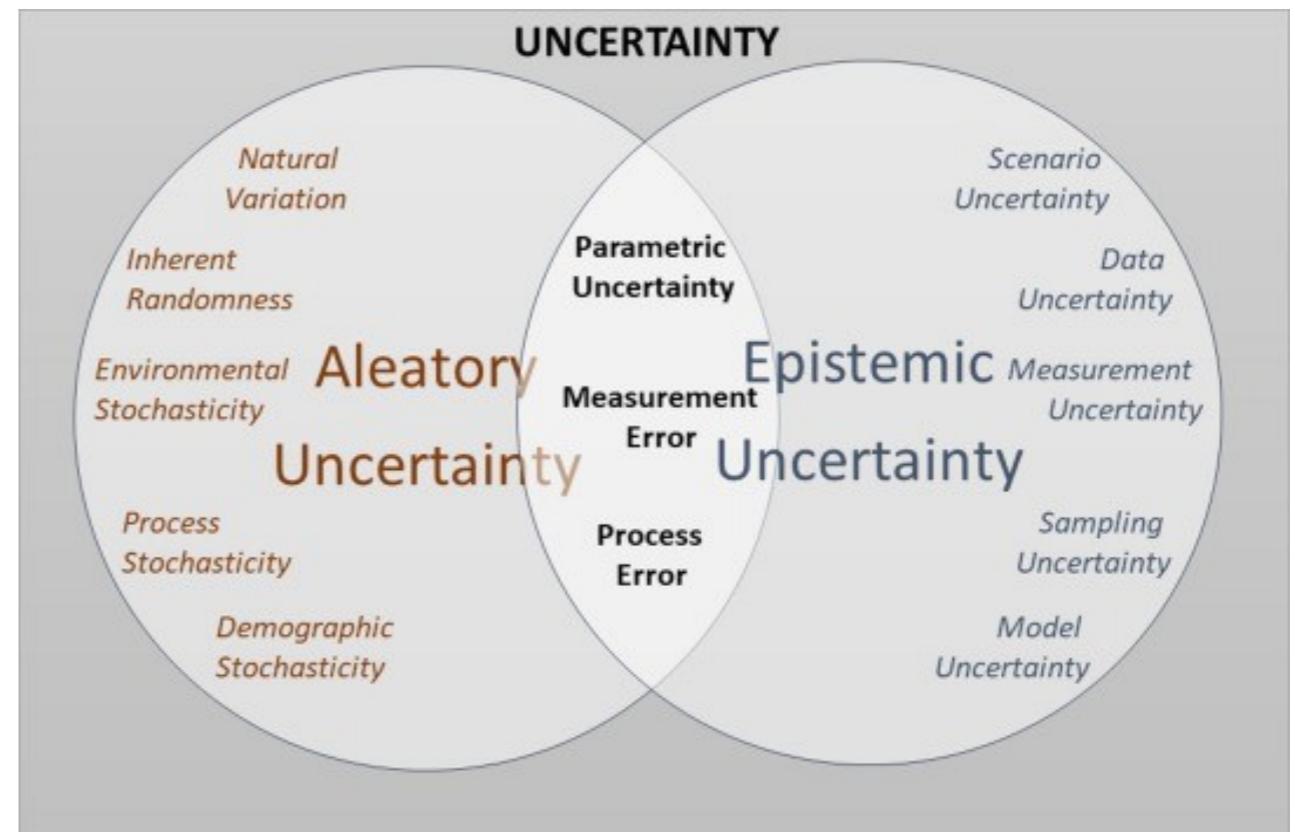
# A concrete example:

## The “pull plot”



# Uncertainties in Machine Learning

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# Introduction

Let  $x$  an input point,  $f_\omega$  a predictive model with parameters  $\omega$

**Objective:** Quantifying the uncertainty on the prediction  $f_\omega(x)$

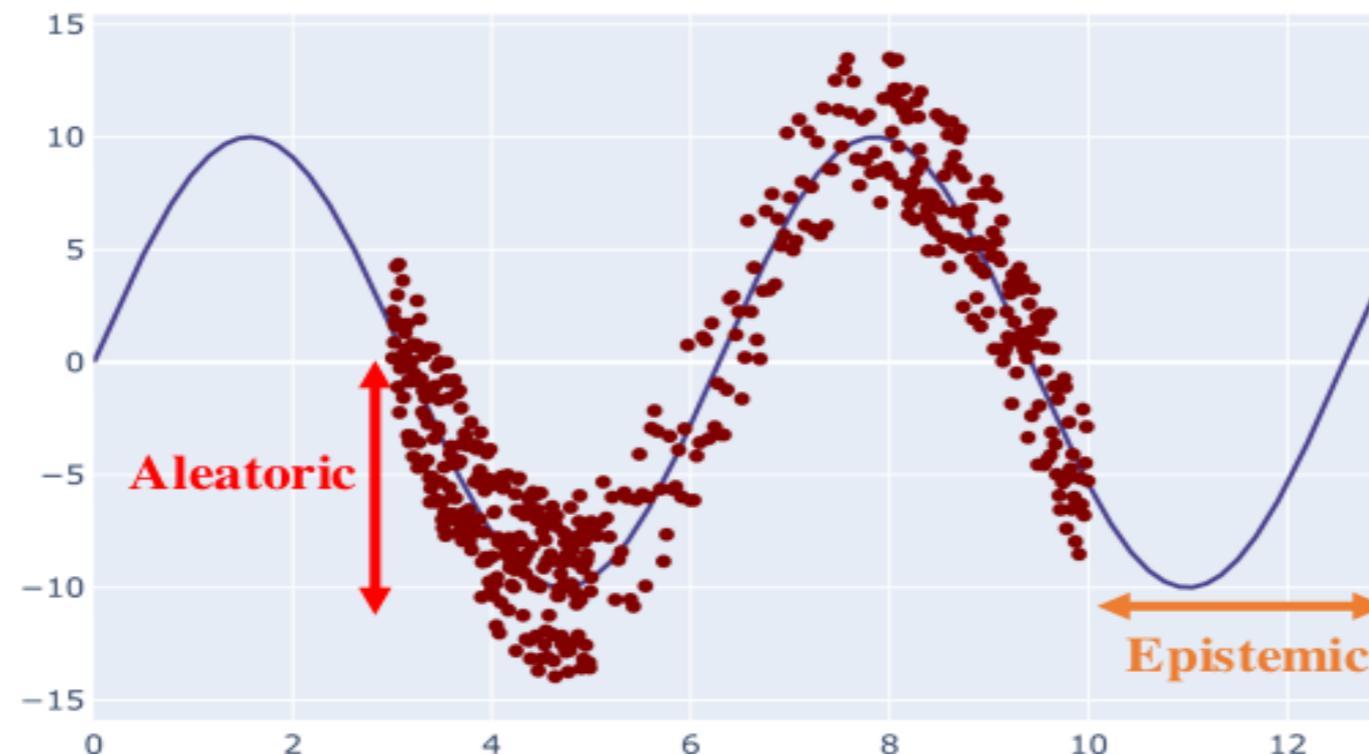
**Predictive uncertainty**

**Aleatoric uncertainty**

Uncertainty related to the data

**Epistemic uncertainty**

Uncertainty related to the model



Representation of the total **predictive uncertainty** by a probability distribution

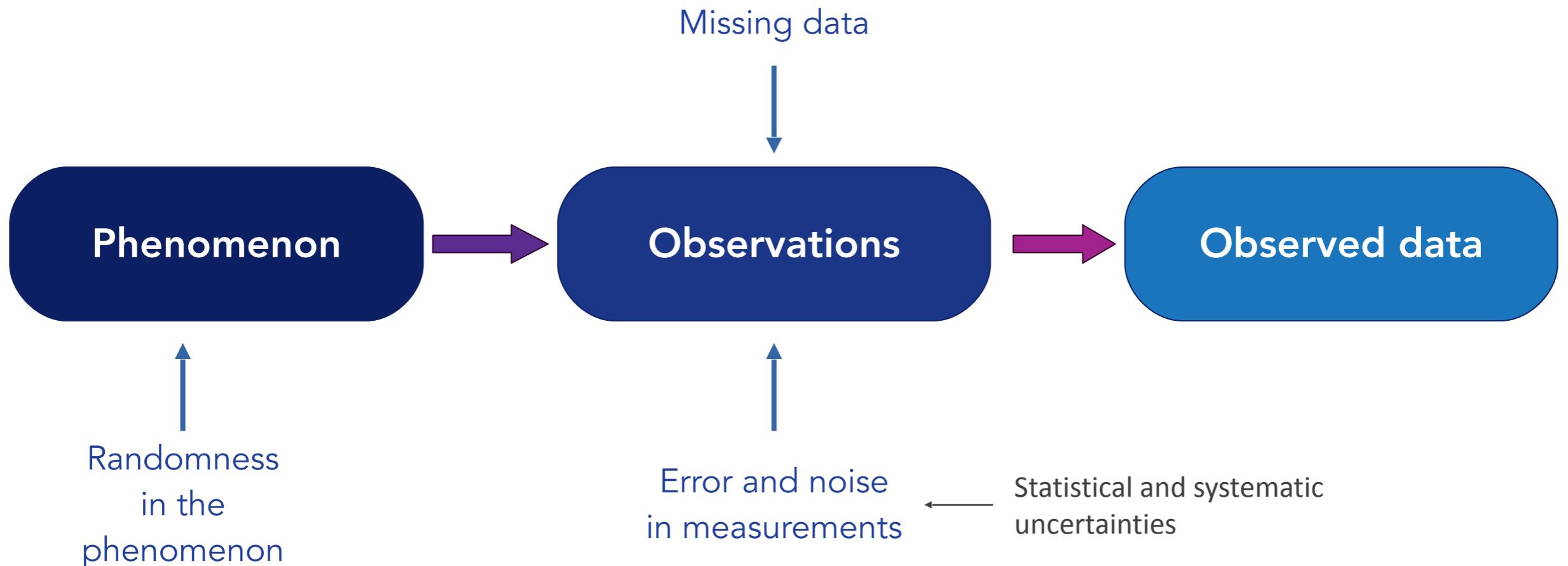
$$p(y^* | x, D) = \int p(y^* | x, \omega) p(\omega | D) d\omega$$

$\omega$  **Aleatoric**      **Epistemic**

$x$  : input data point  
 $\omega$  : model parameters  
 $y^*$  : possible output  
 $D$  : Training dataset

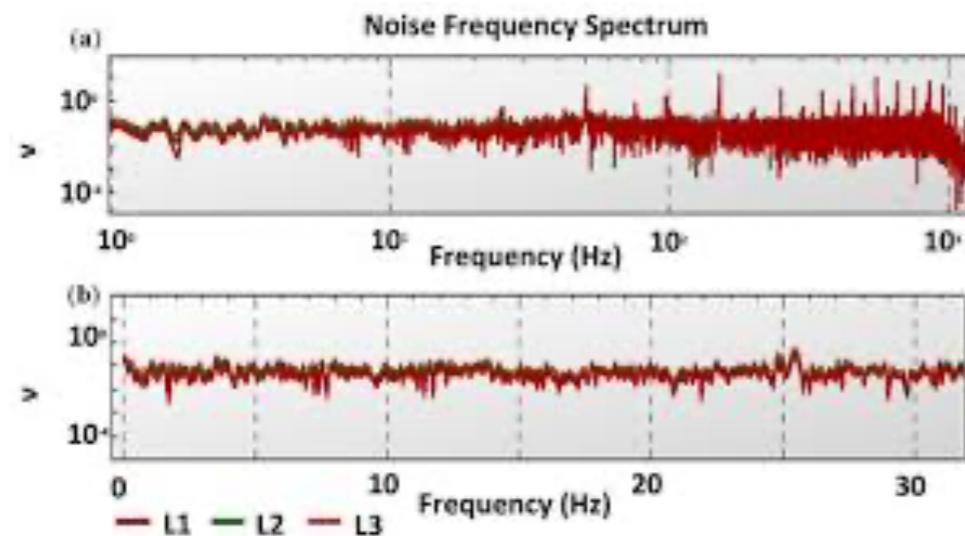
# Aleatoric uncertainties

Uncertainty intrinsic within the data, irreducible by improving the model or increasing the dataset  
**A larger dataset does not reduce aleatoric uncertainty,  
but it helps to give a better estimation!**

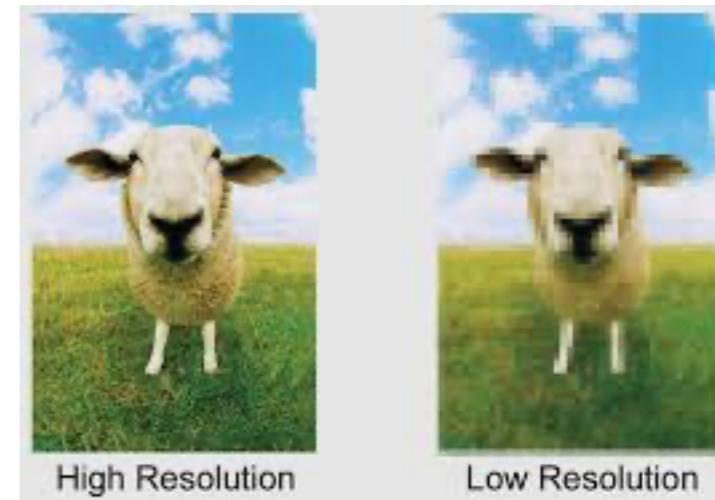


We can reduce the aleatoric uncertainty **by improving the measurement (reducing the error or noise)** for instance.

# Aleatoric uncertainties: examples



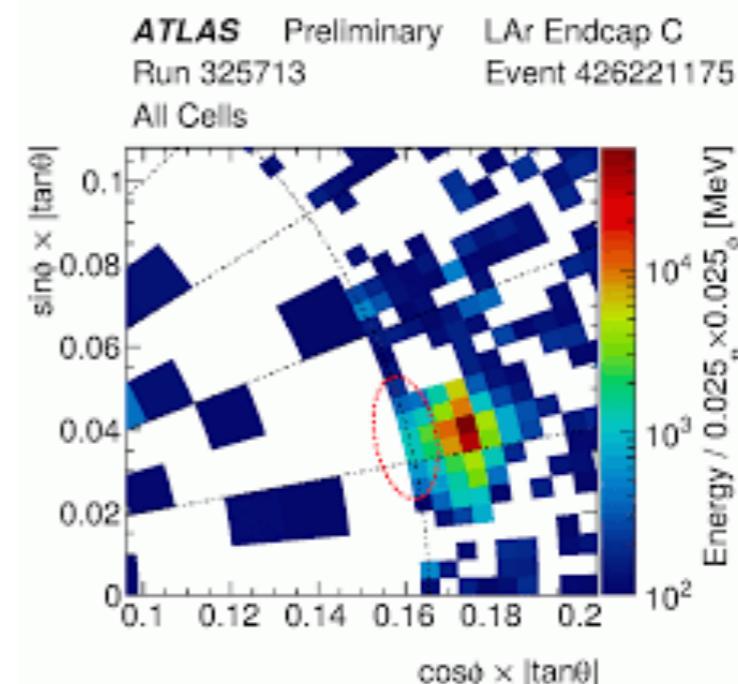
Noisy spectra



Noisy images



Text from social media



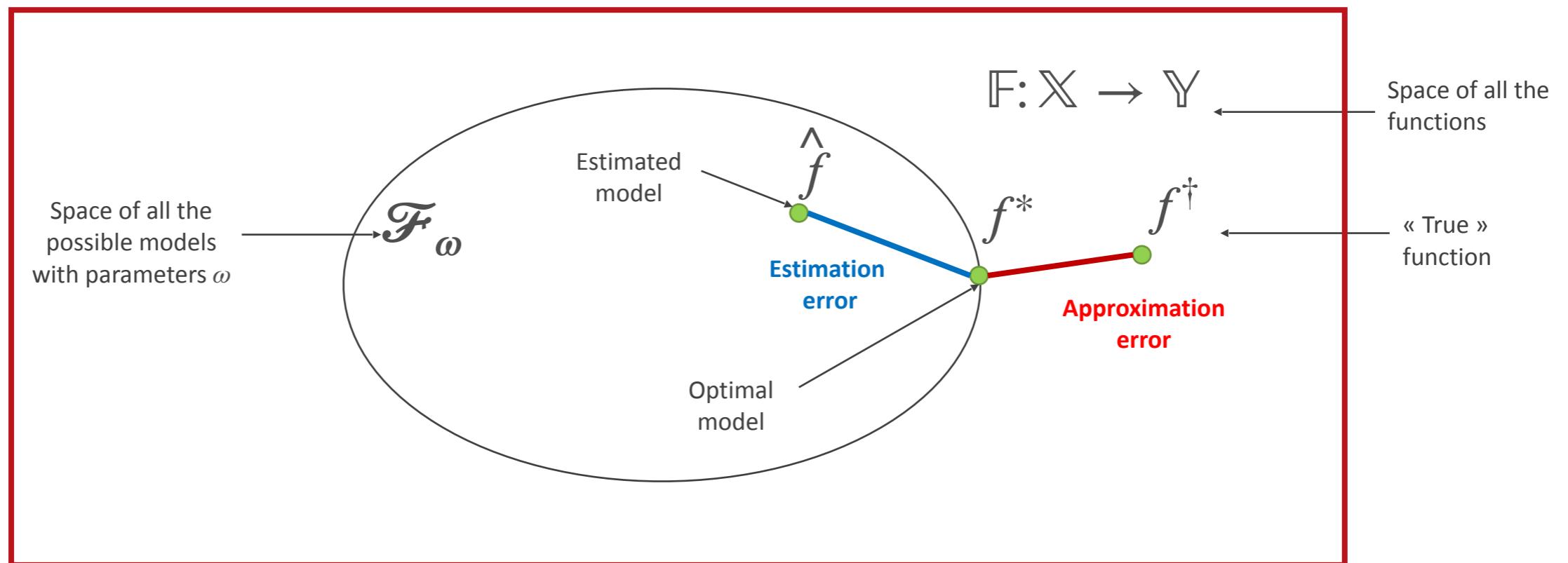
Noisy detector channels  
(e.g. for reconstruction)

# Epistemic uncertainties

**Represents the lack of « knowledge » or « understanding » of a model on a specific input data point**

Two main origins of epistemic uncertainty for machine learning models:

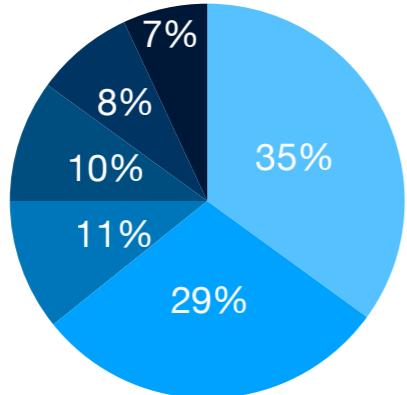
- **Estimation error:** the training dataset is just a sample of all the possible observable data
- **Approximation error:** no model can approximate perfectly the unknown « true » function



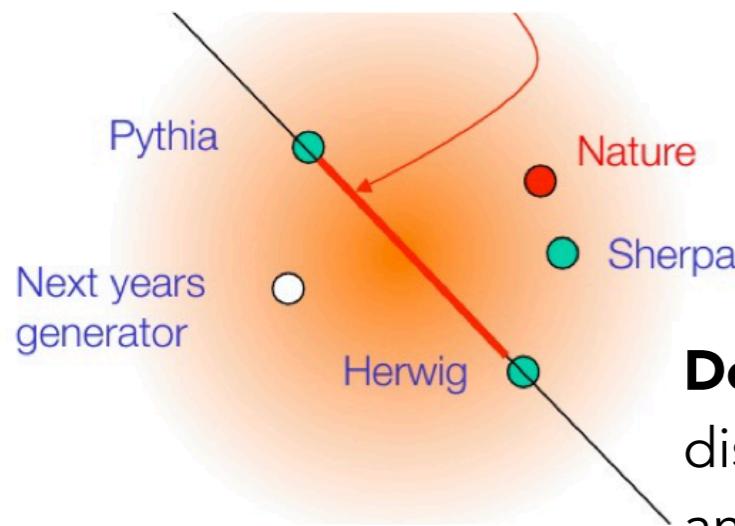
It can be possible to reduce epistemic uncertainty by using more data  
and increasing the model complexity

# Epistemic uncertainties: examples

Epistemic uncertainty refers to the uncertainty of the model (epistemology is the study of knowledge) and is **often due to a lack of training data**.



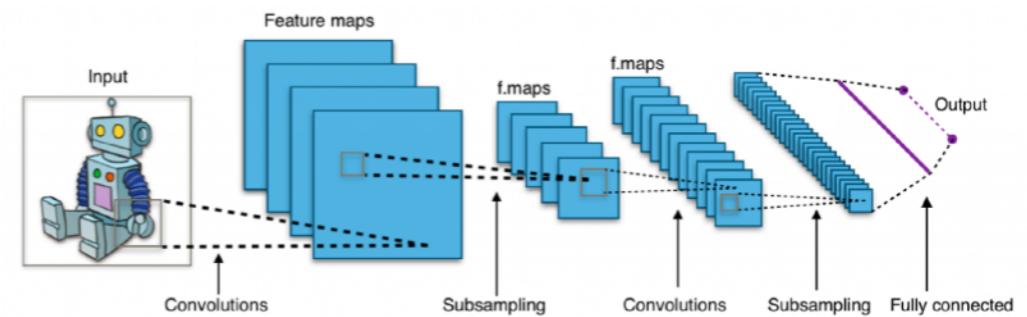
Rare or underrepresented occurrences in a dataset



**Domain shift:** differences in distribution between data and Montecarlo or between test and training datasets



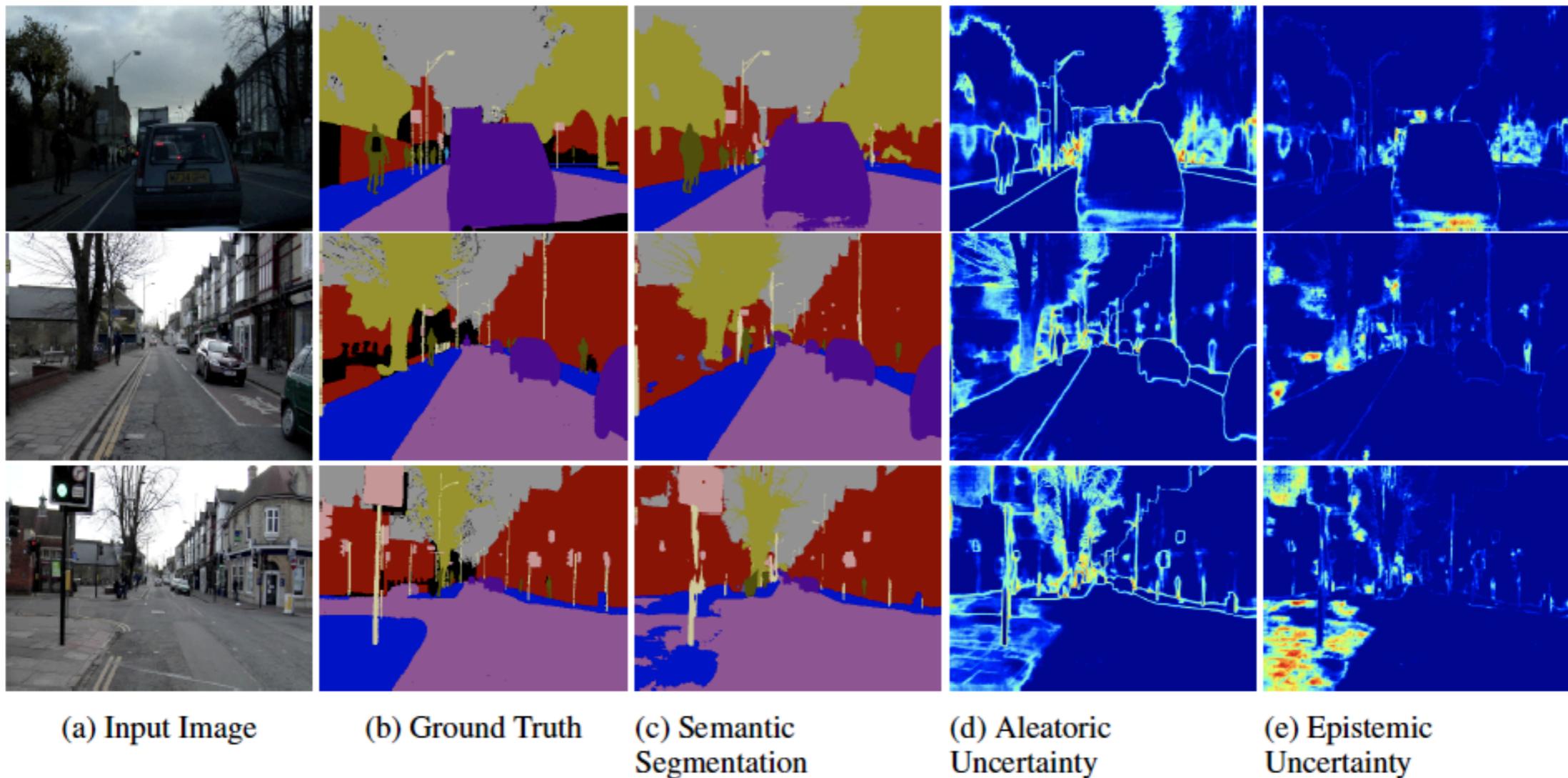
Rare words in a text dataset



**Choice of the ML architecture**

# Uncertainties example

the model fails to segment the footpath due to increased epistemic uncertainty, but not aleatoric uncertainty



# Can we match these uncertainties with what we have seen in HEP analyses?

- Aleatoric uncertainties
- Epistemic uncertainties
- Experimental uncertainties
- Modelling uncertainties
  - Shape uncertainties (change in distribution)
  - From limited knowledge of the distribution
- Statistical uncertainties

# Final answer (debatable, but still...):

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## Machine Learning

### Aleatoric uncertainty

- “Statistical” / “Data” Uncertainty
- Uncertainty Inherent to data
- Not reduced w/ more data

### Epistemic uncertainty

- “Model” Uncertainty
- Uncertainty from Imperfect knowledge
- Reduces with more data

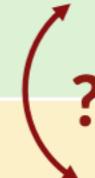
### Domain Shift

- Imperfect model of data generation process

## HEP

### Detector Noise Resolutions

### Stat. errors in HEP



Systematic errors induced by ML model training on finite stats.

Systematic Uncertainties from data / simulation differences

\*Even within the ML community, these terms can be ambiguous

# How to reduce uncertainties:

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## How might we **reduce** uncertainty? (ML perspective)

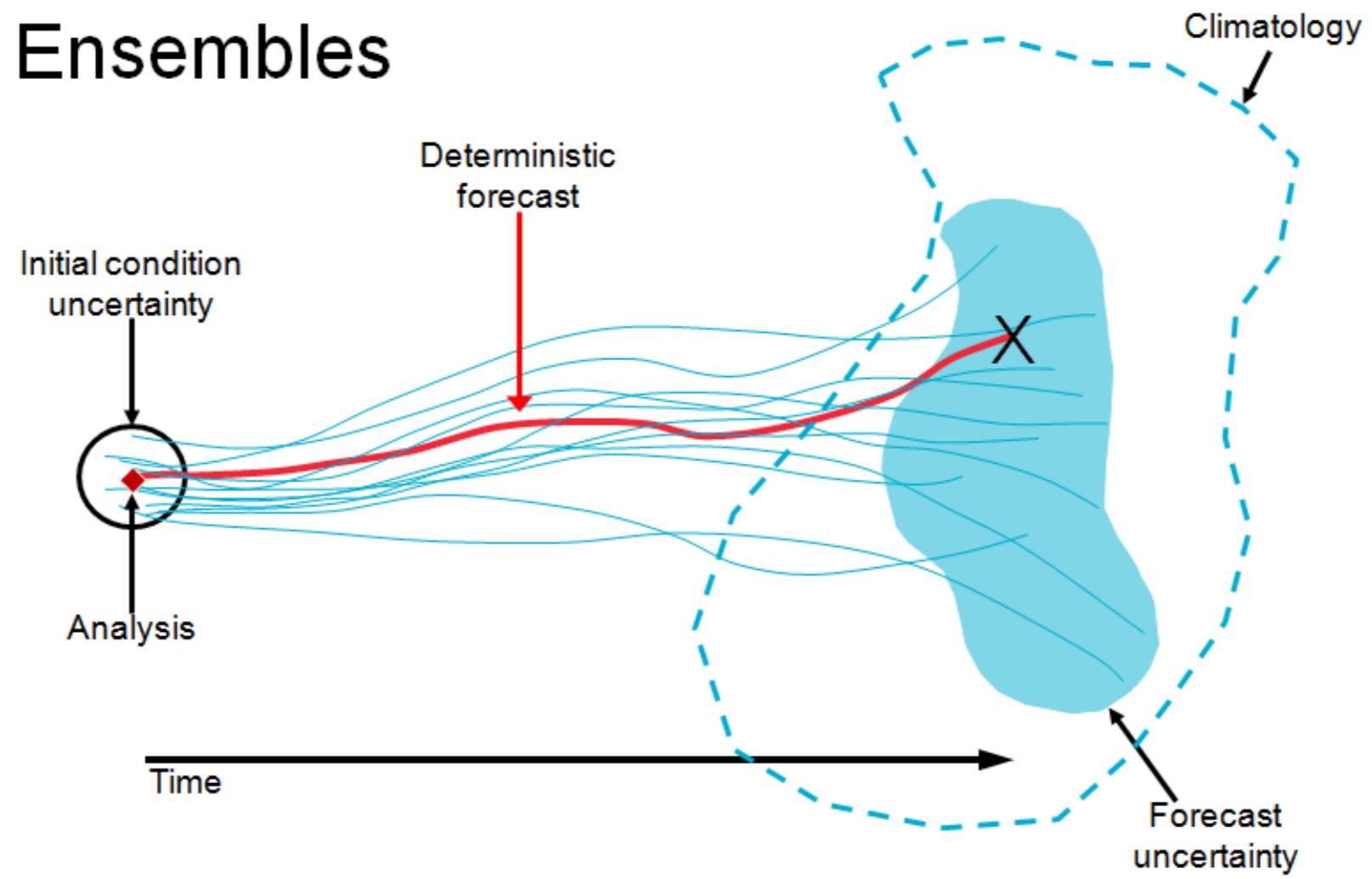
<b>Uncertainty about the model (its structure and parameters)</b>	<b>Initial condition uncertainty</b>	<b>Uncertainty due to limitations of the model (modelled as stochastic dynamics)</b>
<p>Use <b>more historical data</b> and <b>compute</b> for model selection and parameter learning.</p> <p>More data-efficient and compute-efficient model architectures and learning methods</p>	<p>Assimilate <b>more observations</b> (and more precise obs)</p> <p>Better assimilation methods (could be ML-based)</p> <p>Better models used for assimilation (see &lt;-- and --&gt;)</p>	<p><i>Subject to enough data:</i> allow the model more:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Learning capacity</b> (parameter count, ...)</li><li>• <b>Computational capacity</b> (resolution, latent size, message-passing steps, ...)</li><li>• <b>State representation capacity</b> (resolution, latent size, ...)</li></ul>

Limits of predictability: we expect some uncertainty is irreducible, for anything short of a perfect model and perfect initial conditions

# Deterministic vs stochastic models

- For ML models, stochasticity is bound up with physical realism.
- Much easier to produce realistic outputs from a stochastic ML model ('generative model') than a deterministic ML model.
- Technical tip: Deterministic ML loss functions without physical constraints will tend to blur the hedge of uncertainty

## Ensembles



# How to represent uncertainties

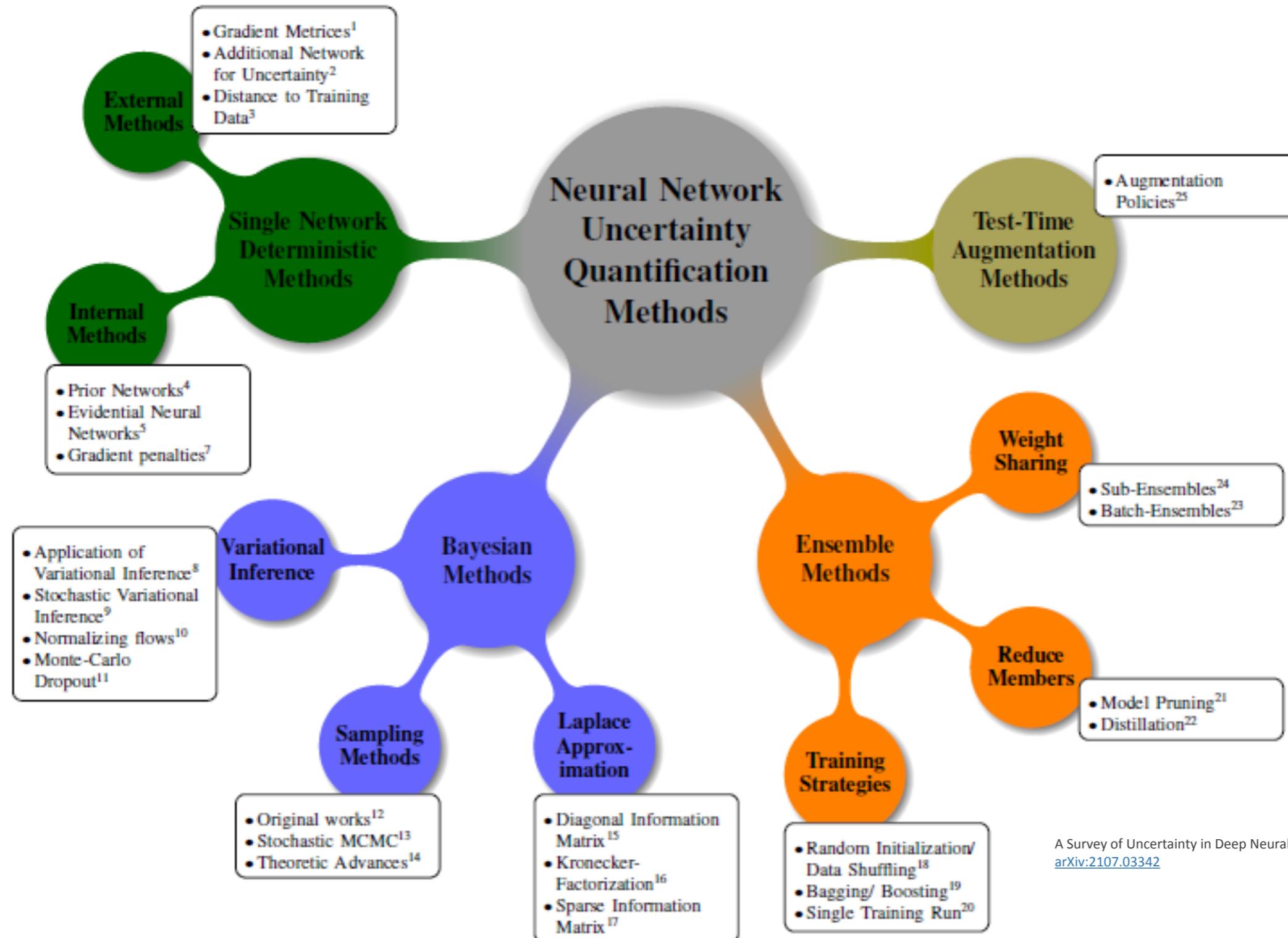
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## How might we **represent** uncertainty? (ML perspective)

<b>Uncertainty <i>about</i> the model (its structure and parameters)</b>	<b>Initial condition uncertainty</b>	<b>Uncertainty <i>due to</i> limitations of the model</b> (modelled as stochastic dynamics)
Bayesian ML methods: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to obtain approximate posterior over parameters</li><li>• or over model structures</li></ul> Ad-hoc multi-model ensembles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>trained from multiple random initializations</b></li><li>• trained on different resampled datasets</li></ul> ...	<b>Ensemble data assimilation</b> <b>Ad-hoc initial perturbations</b> End-to-end ML model conditioning directly on obs ...	<b>Probabilistic generative models</b> <b>(Diffusion, GANs, VAEs, flows, scoring-rule minimization, ...)</b> Ad-hoc perturbations at each timestep ...

# A list

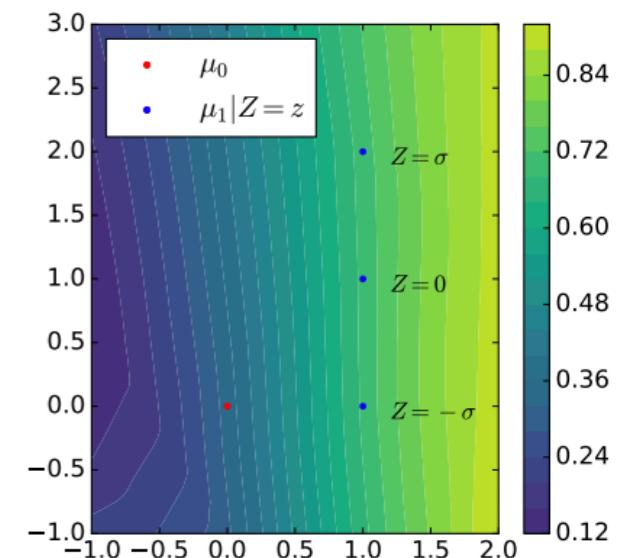
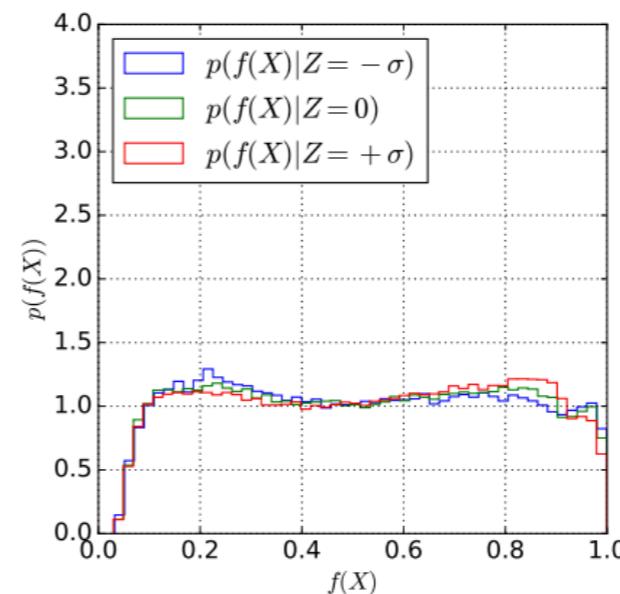
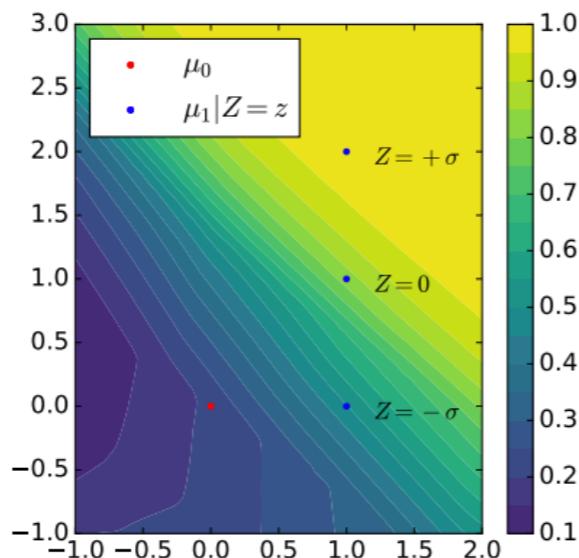
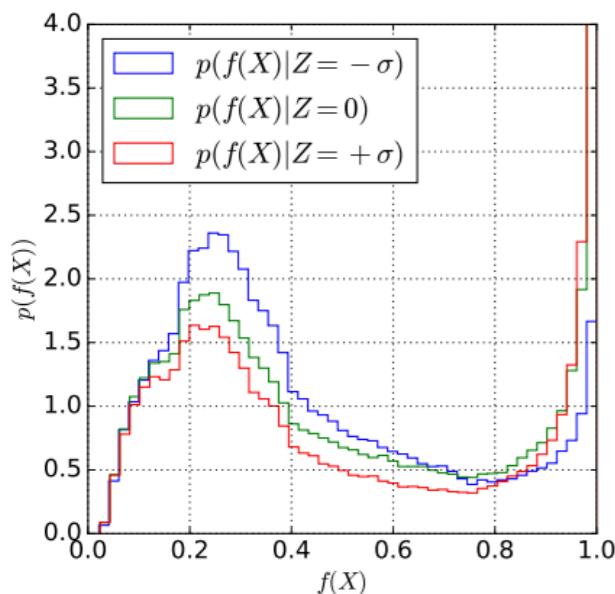
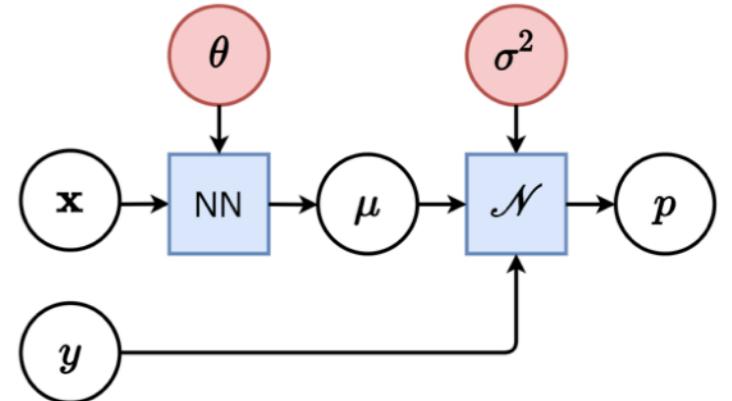
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A Survey of Uncertainty in Deep Neural Networks, J. Gawlikowski et al.,  
[arXiv:2107.03342](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.03342)

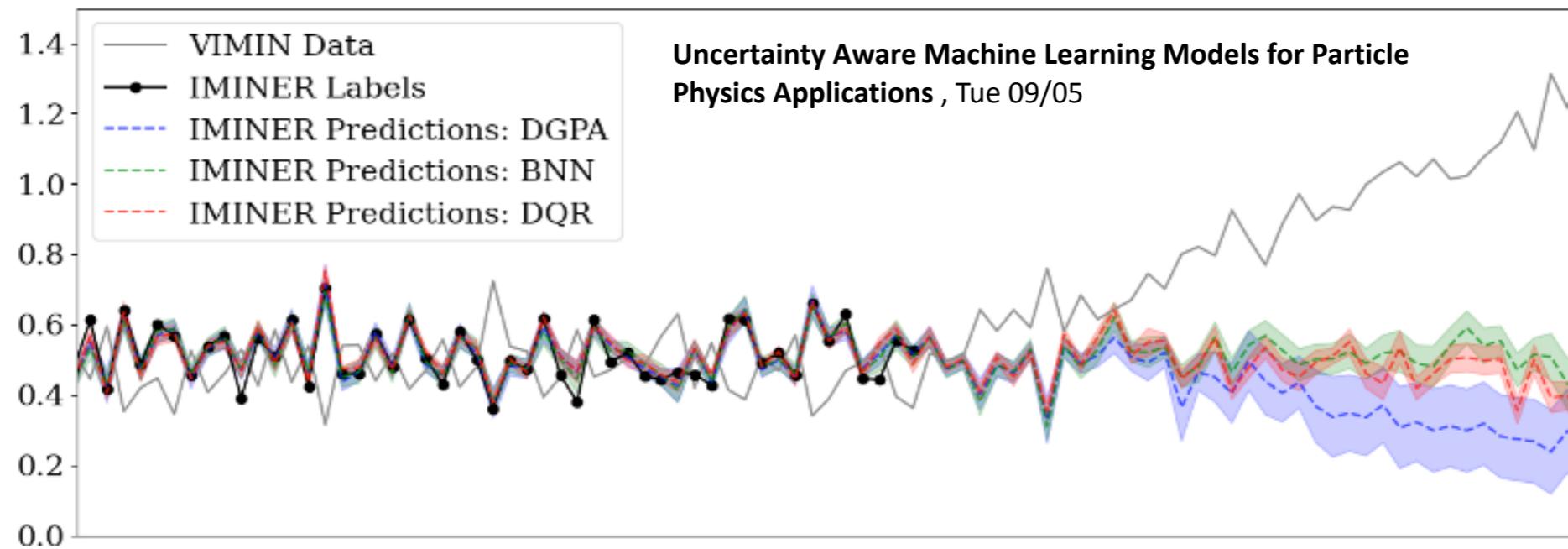
# Example: Learning Systematics

- **Ex. Regression:** model aleatoric uncertainty in the output by modelling the conditional distribution as a Normal distribution
- Generative models –based uncertainty learning

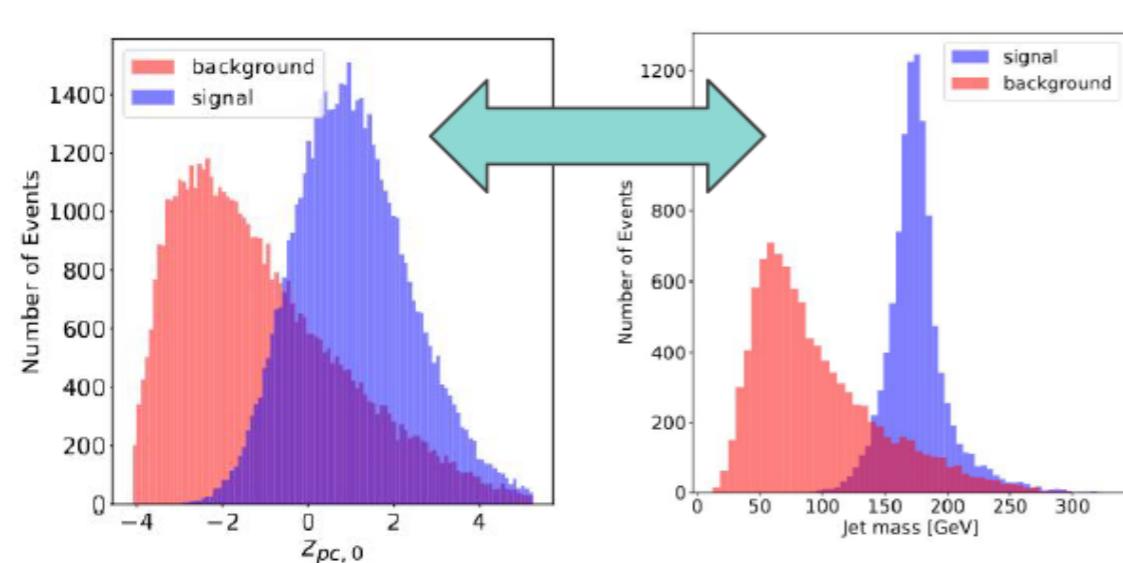


Louppe, Gilles, Michael Kagan, and Kyle Cranmer. "Learning to pivot with adversarial networks." arXiv:1611.01046 (2016).

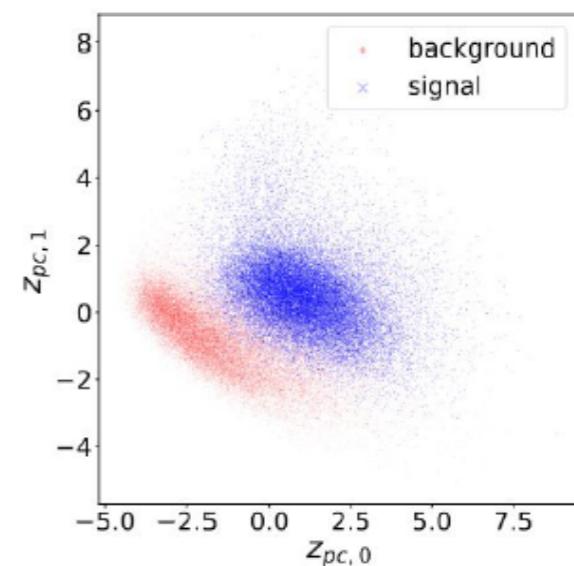
# Interpretability



Interpretability Inspires: Explainable AI for DNN Top Taggers, CHEP2023



Jet class information is encoded in the correlation structure of the latent spaces

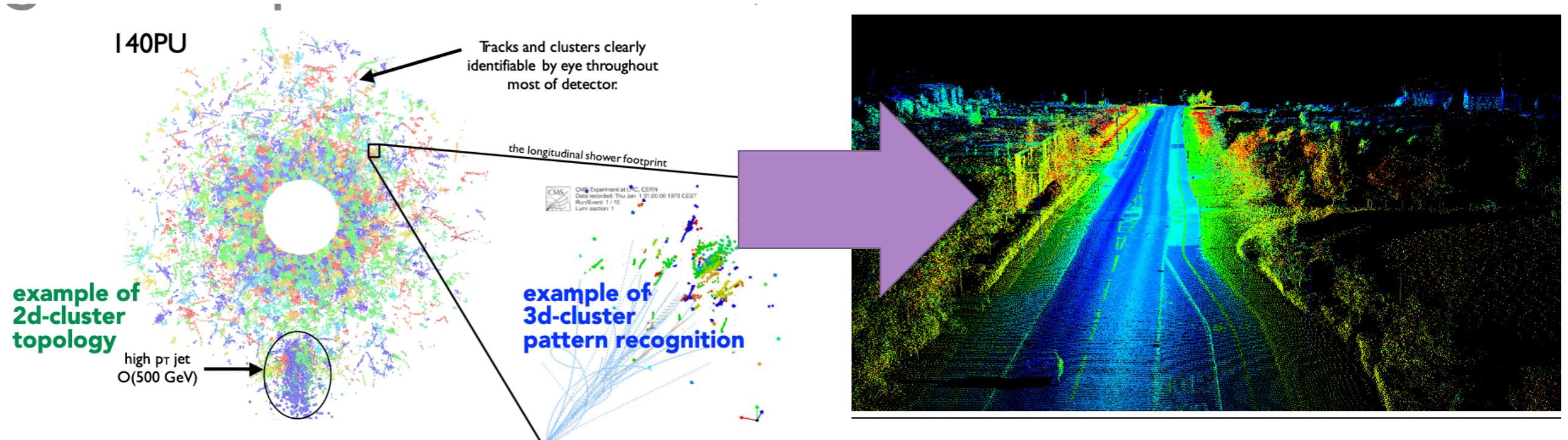


# FAIR principles

FAIR4HEP: Fair AI models in High Energy Physics, CHEP2023

**FAIR:**

**F**indability, **A**ccessibility, **I**nteroperability, and **R**euse of digital assets



# Some resources:

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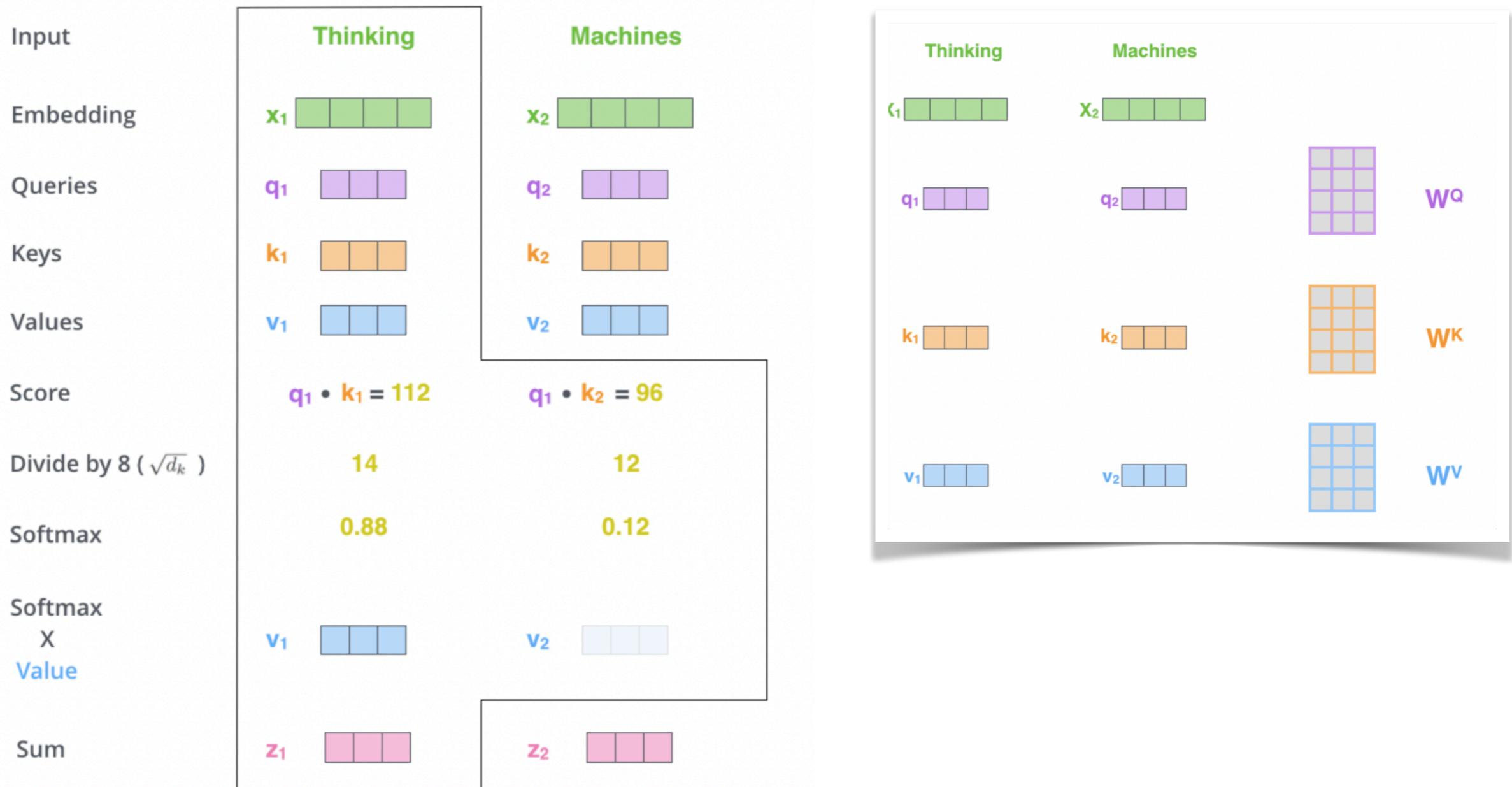
- PHYSTAT seminar: On relating Uncertainties in Machine Learning and HEP [[link](#)]
- Uncertainties workshop at Learning to Discover
- Great new ML review in PDG: [[Cranmer, Seljak, Terao, 2021](#)]
- Snowmass paper on uncertainty for ML in HEP: [[2208:03284](#)]
- Book Chapter: [[Dorigo, de Castro Manzano](#)]

# Backup

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# Keys, queries, values

<http://jalammar.github.io/illustrated-transformer/>

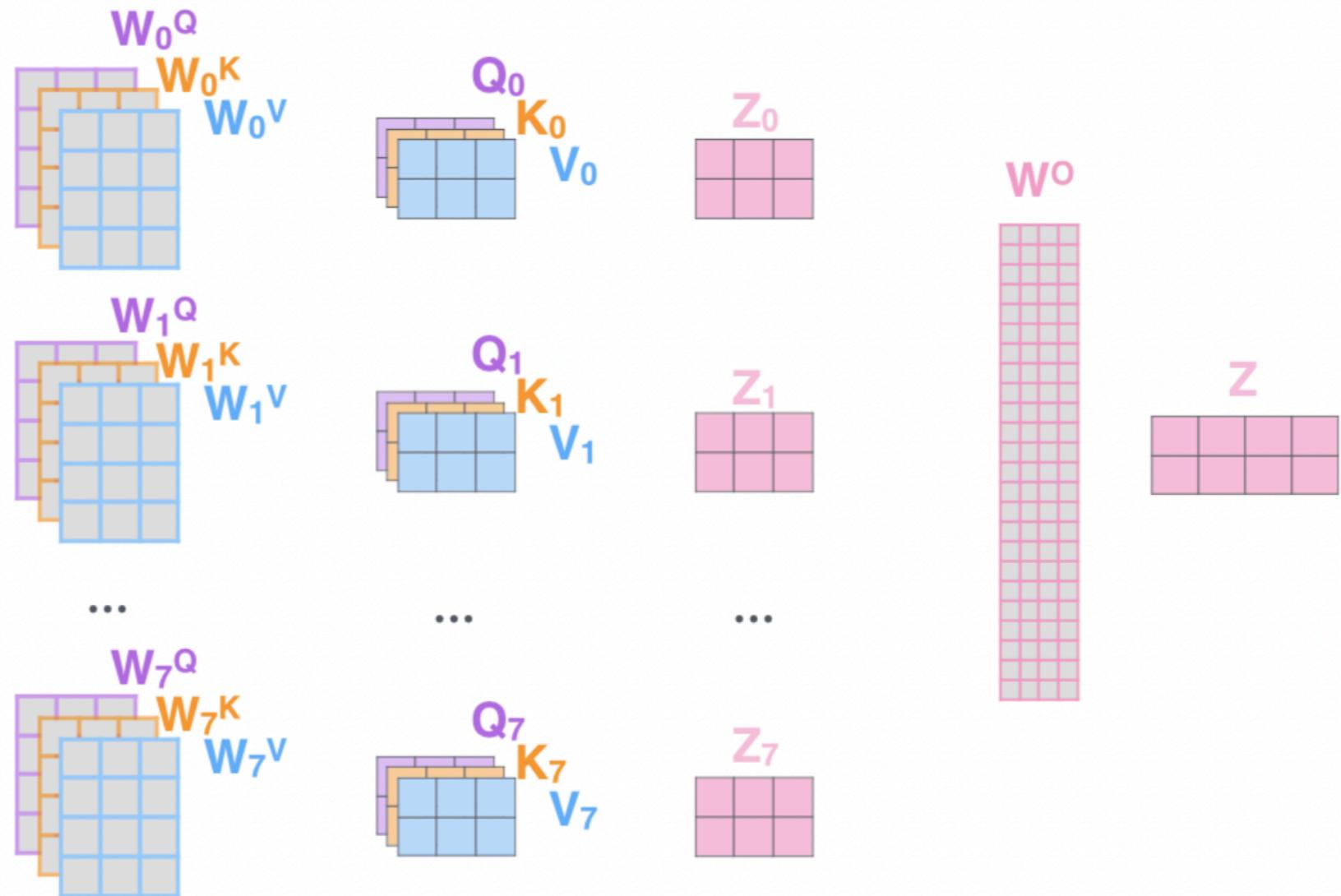


Multiplying  $x_1$  by the  $W^Q$  weight matrix produces  $q_1$ , the "query" vector associated with that word. We end up creating a "query", a "key", and a "value" projection of each word in the input sentence.

# Transformers

<http://jalammar.github.io/illustrated-transformer/>

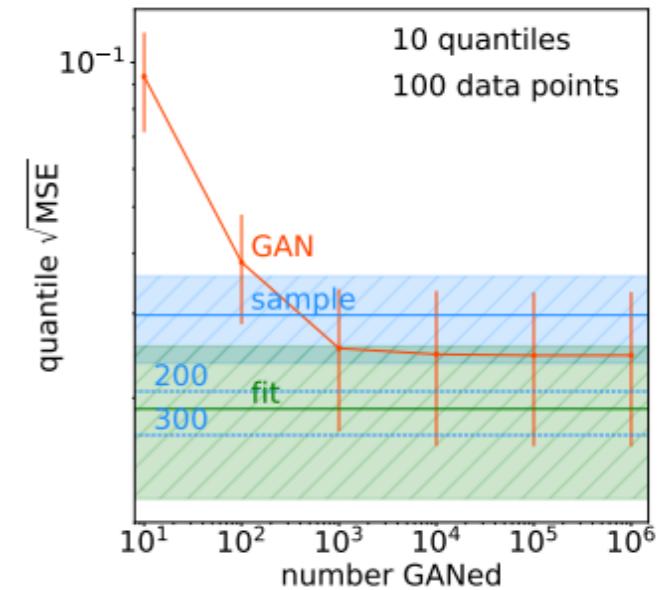
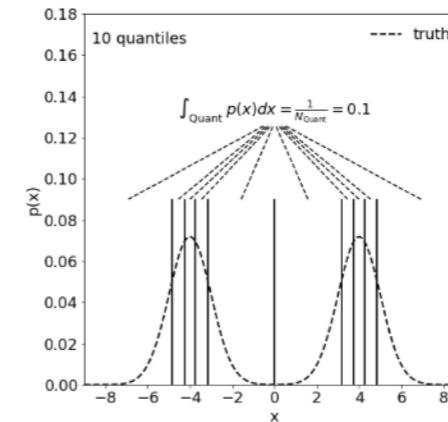
- 1) This is our input sentence\*  $X$
- 2) We embed each word\*  $R$
- 3) Split into 8 heads. We multiply  $X$  or  $R$  with weight matrices  $W_0^Q, W_0^K, W_0^V$ ,  $W_1^Q, W_1^K, W_1^V$ , ...,  $W_7^Q, W_7^K, W_7^V$
- 4) Calculate attention using the resulting  $Q/K/V$  matrices  $Q_0, K_0, V_0$ ,  $Q_1, K_1, V_1$ , ...,  $Q_7, K_7, V_7$
- 5) Concatenate the resulting  $Z$  matrices, then multiply with weight matrix  $W^O$  to produce the output of the layer



# Systematics: training dataset size

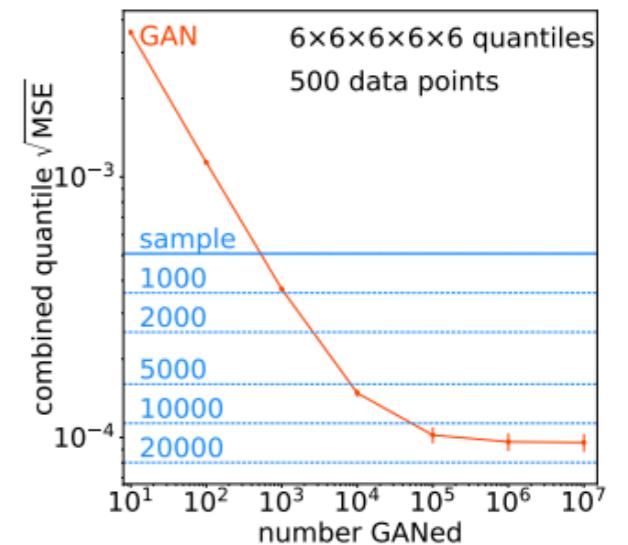
arxiv:2008.06545  
NEW: arxiv:2202.073

- If a GAN is trained on **N** data points, how many **new** points can be drawn?
- GAN can describe distribution better than training data
- Needs 10,000 GAN points to match 150 true points
- In terms of **information**:
  - **sample**: only data points
  - **fit**: data + true function
  - **GAN**: data + smooth, continuous function

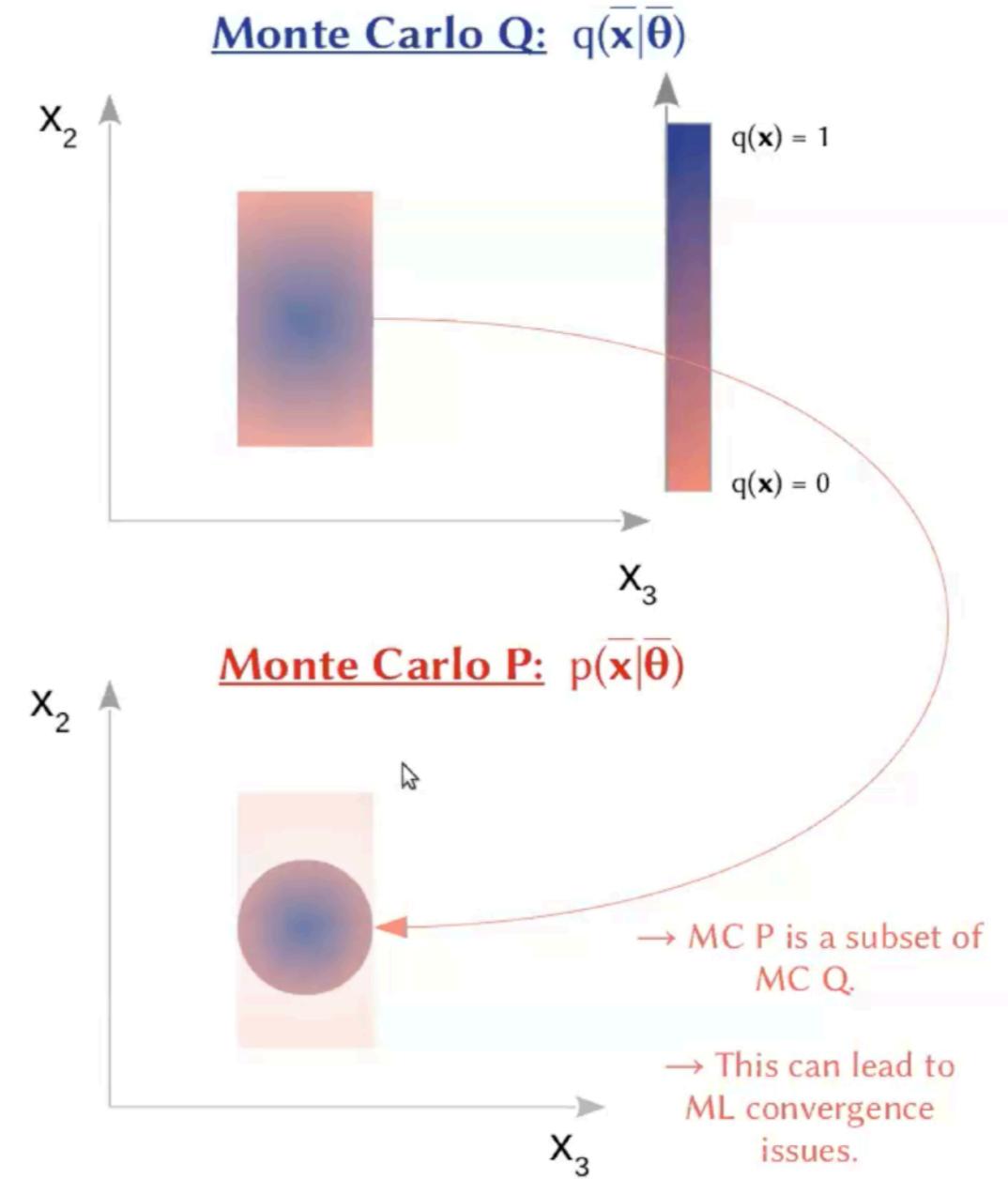
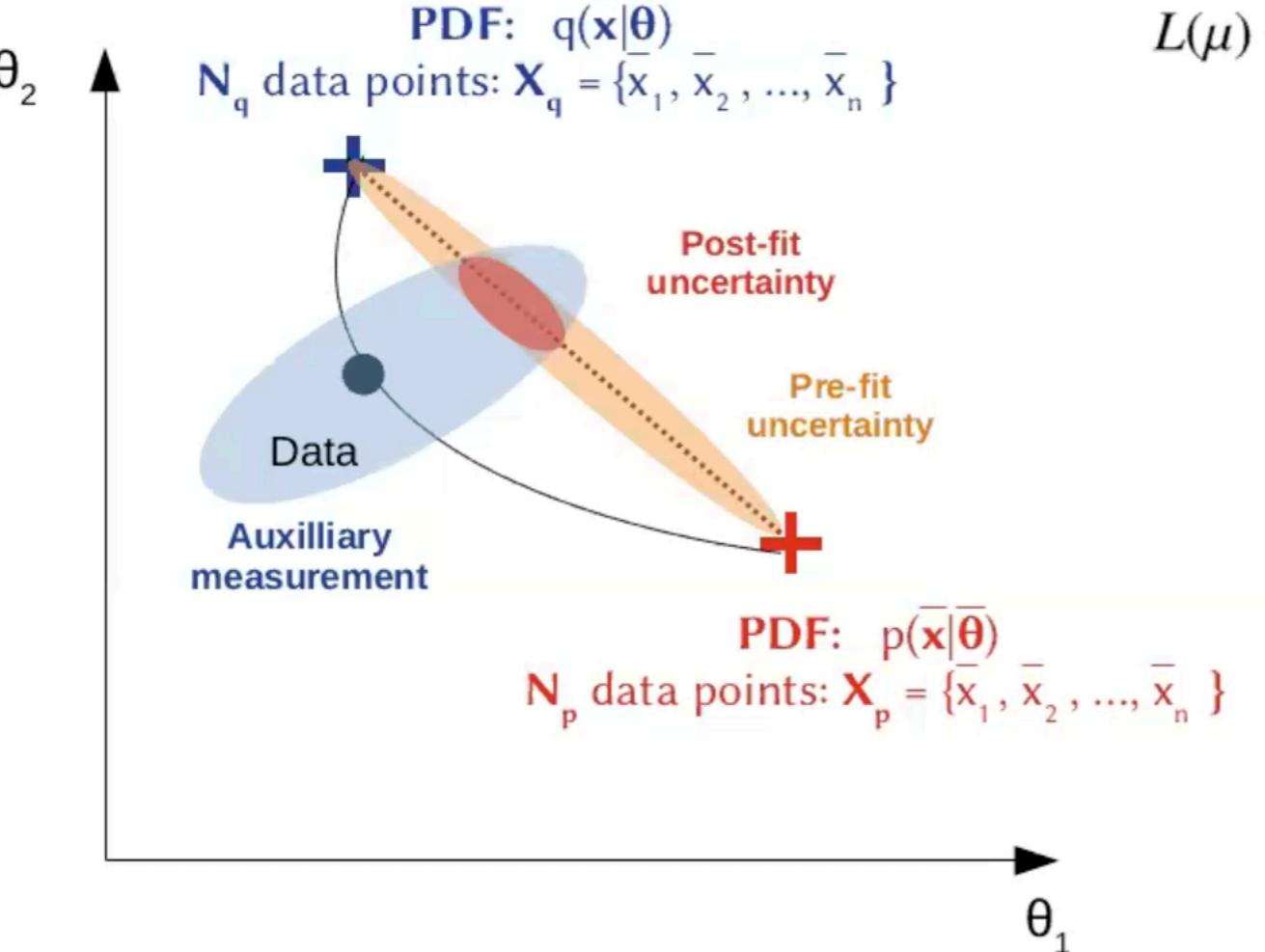


Generalisation  
to multi-  
dimensional  
problem

Most physics data sets described by continuous function →  
GAN can interpolate



# Bonus: Montecarlo reweighting with NN



# Systematic uncertainties: image similarity

GAN can exhibit **mode-collapse** or **mode-drop**

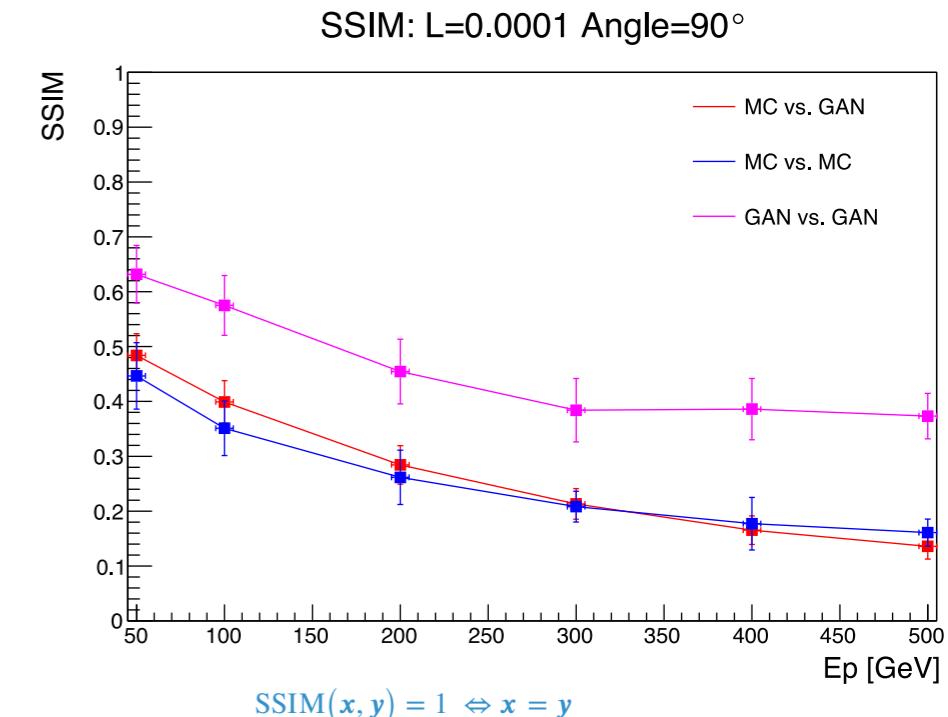
How much **diversity** in the generated sample?

- Use the **Structural Similarity Index**

$$\text{SSIM}(x, y) = \frac{(2\mu_x\mu_y + C_1)(2\sigma_{xy} + C_2)}{(\mu_x^2 + \mu_y^2 + C_1)(\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2 + C_2)}$$

where  $x, y$  are two samples to be compared

- Calculated on sliding windows, then averaged.
- Ours is a 3D problem: SSIM computed in **xy plane**, 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension is **channel**
- Adjust C1-C2 to the pixel dynamic range



# Systematics: rare events

It is important to reproduce correctly  
the topology and occurrence of rare  
events

