

# QCD Measurements with ATLAS

---

Luca Colangeli  
on behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration

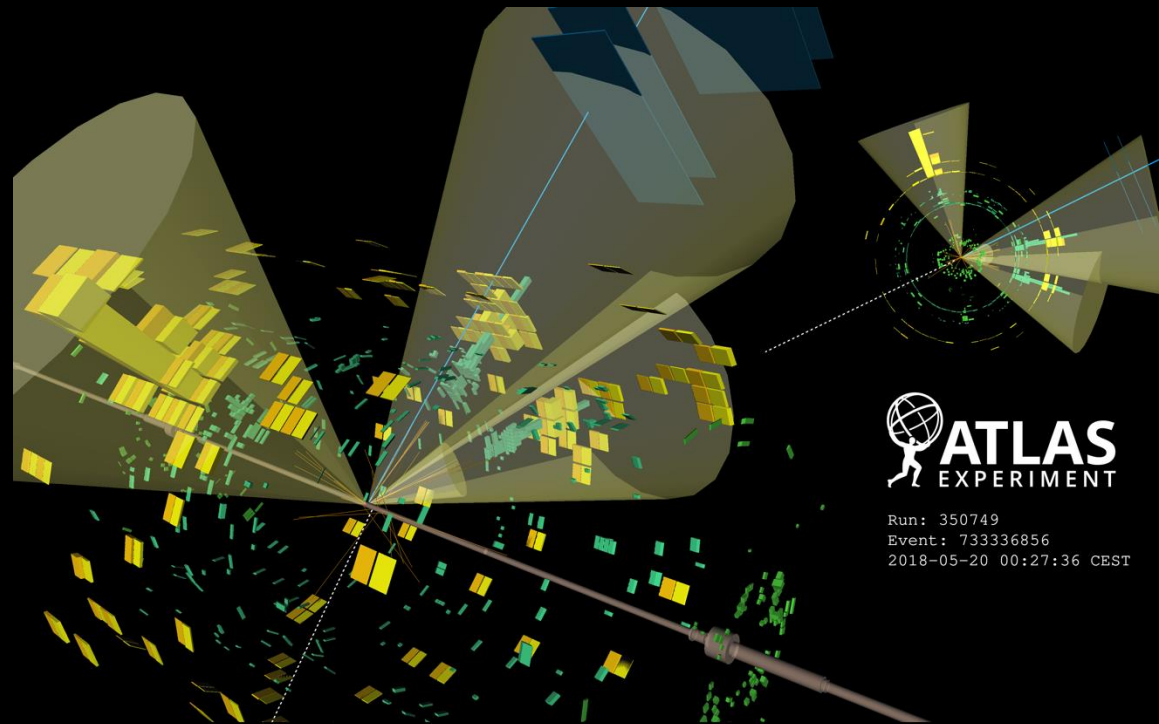
XXXI Cracow Epiphany Conference  
January 15, 2025



UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

# Introduction: QCD and Jet Substructure

- **Jet substructure (JSS)** measurements allow us to test QCD
- Provides a pathway to address open questions in QCD such as:
  - Hadronization and jet formation
  - Colour confinement
  - Non-perturbative QCD
  - Quark gluon plasma
  - And more...



**ATLAS**  
EXPERIMENT

Run: 350749  
Event: 733336856  
2018-05-20 00:27:36 CEST

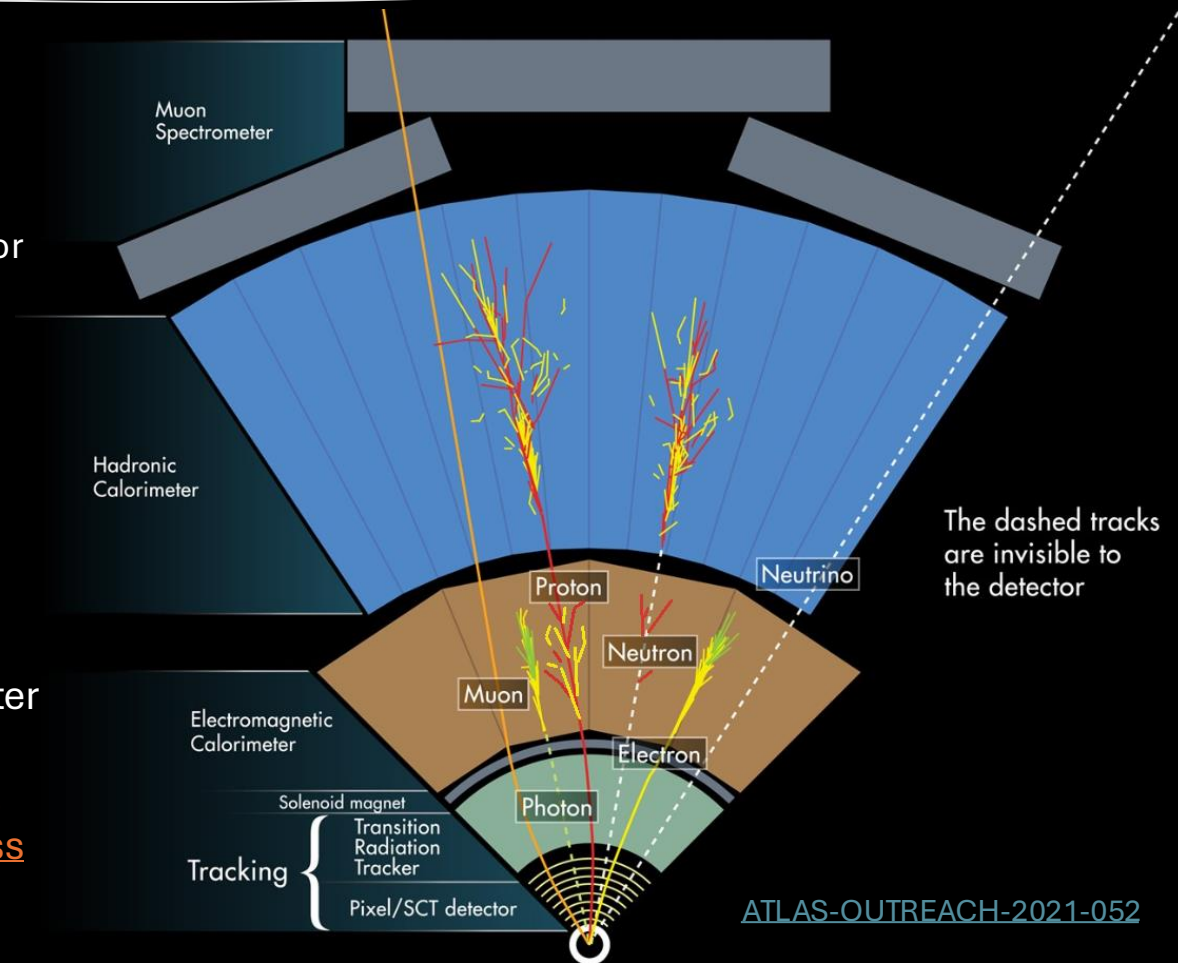
<https://atlas.cern/Updates/Briefing/Advanced-Particle-Tagging>

# Introduction: The ATLAS Detector

- General purpose particle detector
- Inner detector (ID) in a 2 T magnetic field
  - Measures tracks of charged particles
  - Silicon pixel detector with fine granularity for resolving particle hits in dense jet cores

## In this talk:

- Deposits in electromagnetic and hadronic calorimeters used to form particle flow objects (PFOs)
  - Associated with tracks measured by ID
- Jets can be reconstructed from PFOs using the anti- $k_t$  algorithm given a radius parameter (ex:  $R=0.4$  for small-R jets)
  - Assume selected jets for the analyses presented here are anti- $k_t$   $R=0.4$  unless stated otherwise



# Contents

In this talk, the following recent QCD measurements made by ATLAS in 2024 will be presented:

- Measurement of jet track functions in ATLAS run 2 data ([ATLAS-CONF-2024-012](#))
- Measurements of jet cross-section ratios in 13 TeV proton–proton collisions with ATLAS ([arXiv:2405.20206](#) [hep-ex])
- Measurement of the Lund jet plane in hadronic decays of top quarks and  $W$  bosons with the ATLAS detector ([arXiv:2407.10879](#) [hep-ex])
- Measurements of Lund subjet multiplicities in 13 TeV proton-proton collisions with the ATLAS detector ([arXiv:2402.13052](#) [hep-ex])

# Jet Track Functions



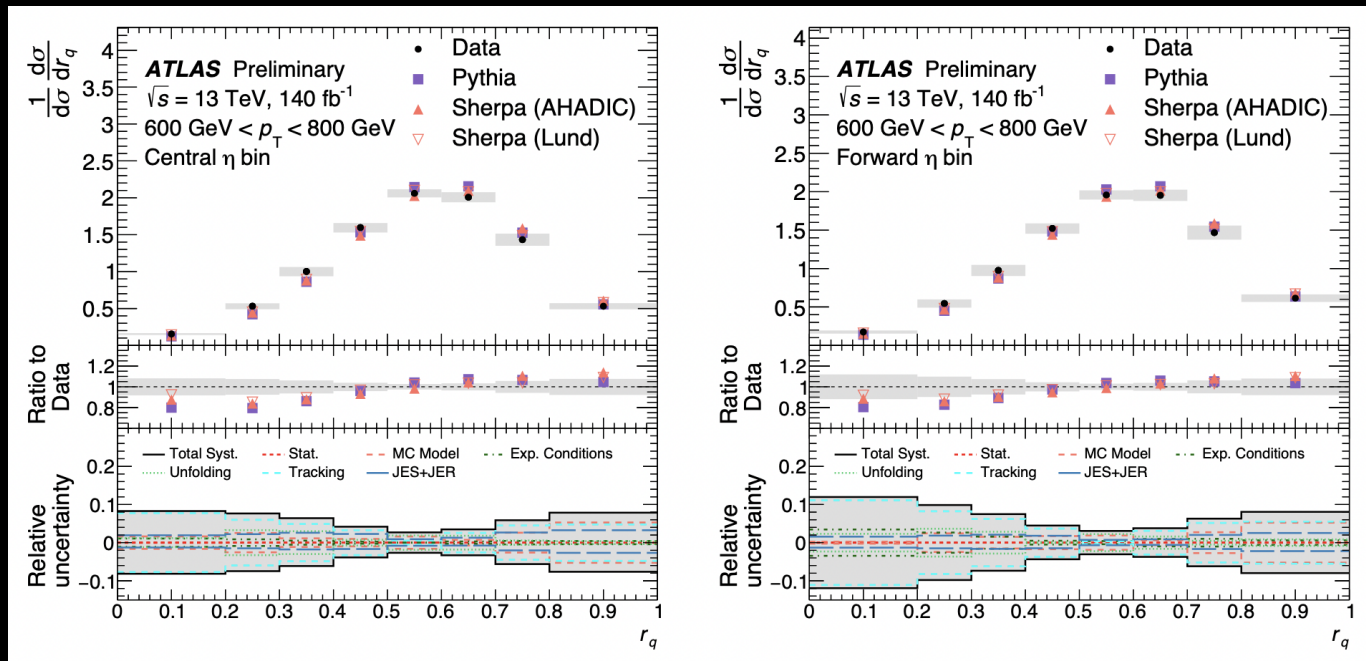
# Jet Track Functions

## Track functions:

- Ratio of  $p_T$  from all charged particles (tracks) to total  $p_T$  of a jet:  $r_q = \frac{p_T^{\text{charged}}}{p_T^{\text{all}}}$
- Energy distribution of **charged hadrons** in jets
- Universal and **non-perturbative**
  - Cannot yet be calculated from first principles
  - Must be measured
- First moment (i.e. the average):  $\langle r_q \rangle \sim \frac{2}{3}$  due to isospin symmetry
- Higher moments encode information about the hadronization process
  - Recall:  $n^{\text{th}}$  moment is  $\langle r_q^n \rangle$
- Scale evolution of these values tests QCD beyond DGLAP paradigm
- Insights into non-linear renormalization group (RG) evolution

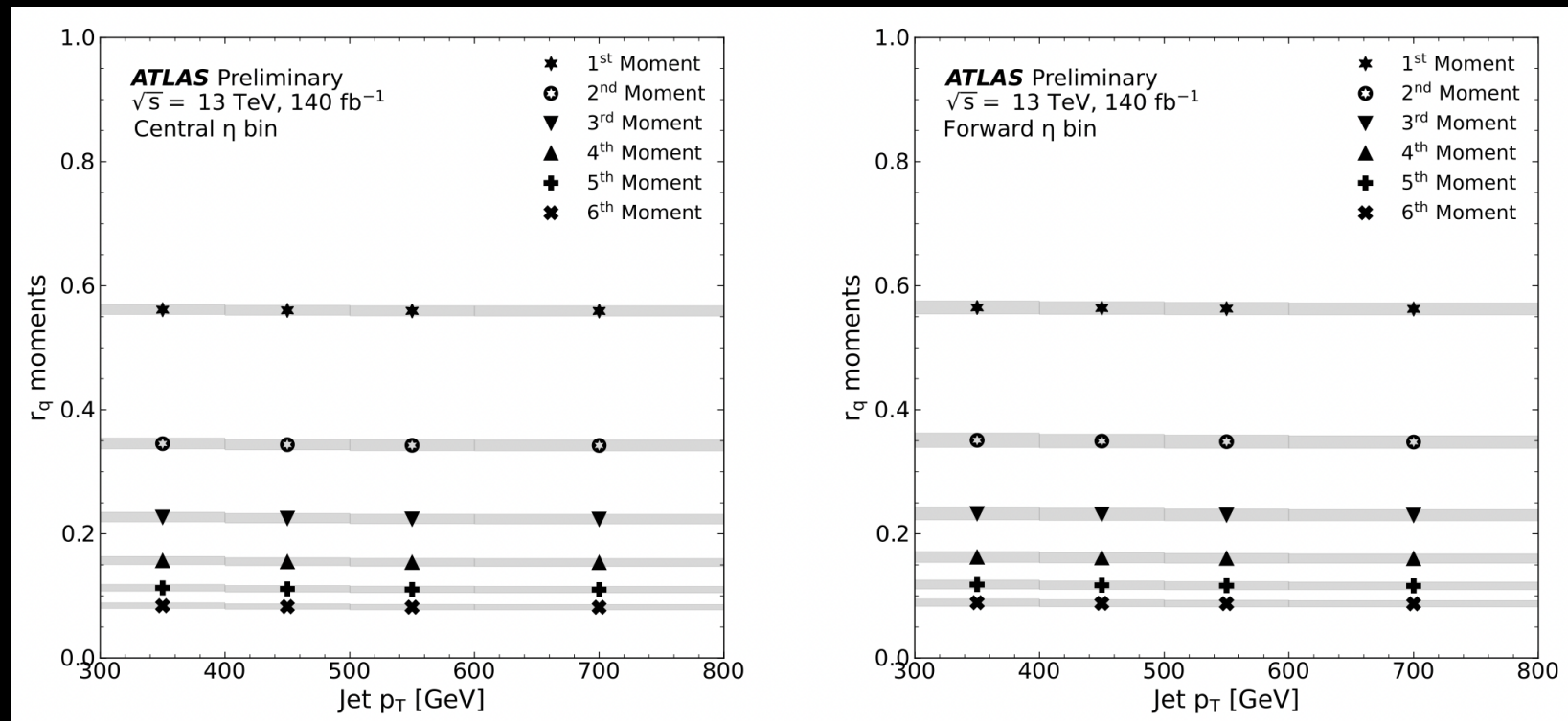
# Results

- Cross-sections of  $r_q$  shown for **central** ( $|\eta| < 2.5$ ) and **forward** ( $|\eta| > 2.5$ ) regions
- General agreement between MC and data
  - Underestimation at low  $r_q$  and overestimation at high  $r_q$



# Extracted Moments

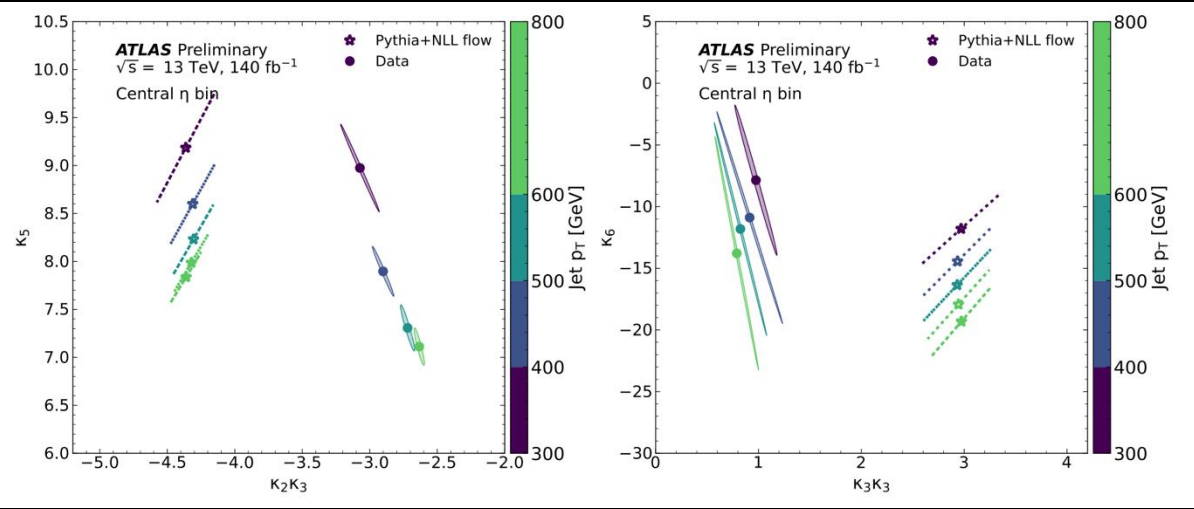
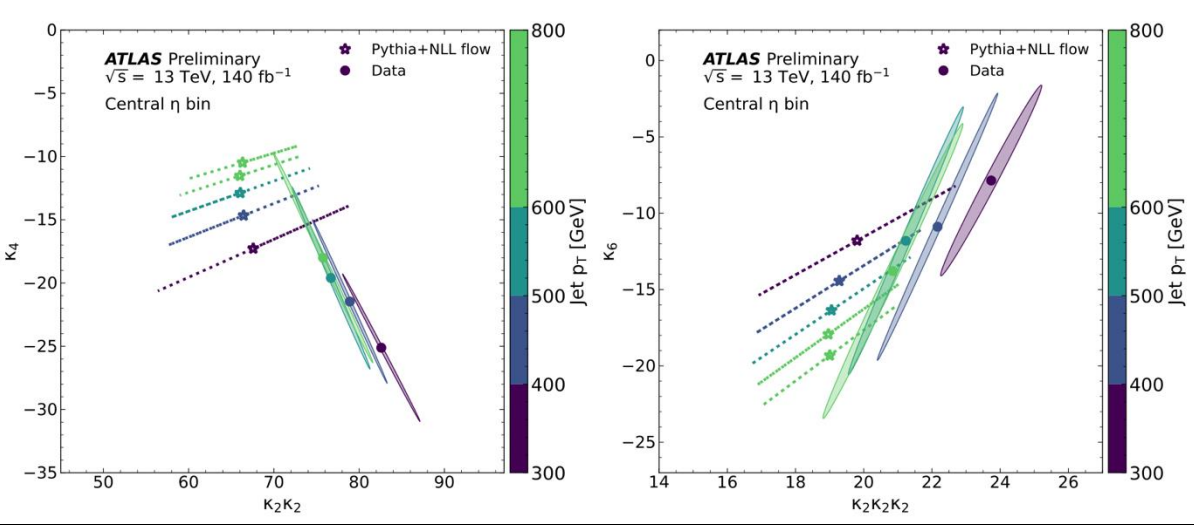
- Moment extractions use **OmniFold**: machine-learning based, data-driven correction for binning artifacts





# Non-Linear RG Evolution

- Extracted moments of  $r_q$  expressed in terms of cumulants of distribution,  $\kappa_n$
- Non-trivial RG flows theoretically determine energy dependence of relationships between cumulants
- Unfolded data compared to next-to-leading-logarithm (NLL) QCD predictions of the RG flow
- Theory predicts cumulants should converge to a fixed point at higher  $p_T$ 
  - Top 2 figures in agreement
  - Bottom 2 figures  $\rightarrow$  results flow in opposite directions, need further study to understand this discrepancy



# Jet Cross-Section Ratios



# Jet Cross-Section Ratios

- Measure cross-sections and their ratios in multijet events
- Goal is to compare data to MC to study and improve QCD predictions
- Separate observables chosen for sensitivity to:
  - Jet energy scale (JES)  $\rightarrow$  tests accuracy of fixed-order matrix element predictions
  - Angular distribution of hadronic energy flow  $\rightarrow$  indirectly tests our understanding of vector boson scattering/fusion (VBS/VBF) and parton distribution functions (PDFs)
- Observables:

Sensitive  
to JES

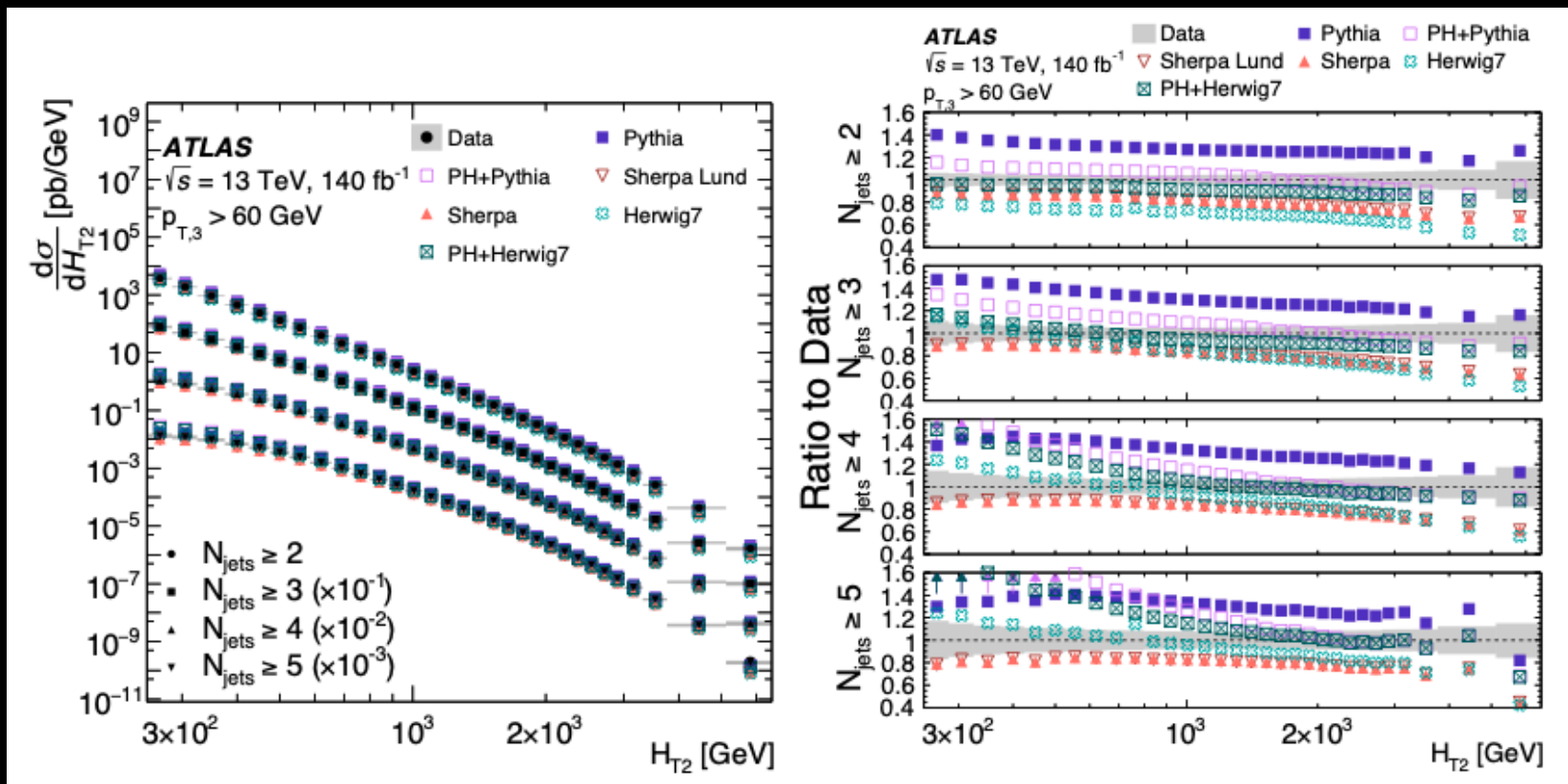
- $H_{T2} = p_{T,j1} + p_{T,j2} \rightarrow$  Sum of transverse momenta of the leading two jets
- $\rightarrow$  Chosen as a proxy of the energy scale for the interaction
- $p_T^{\text{incl}} \rightarrow$  Inclusive jet  $p_T$  distribution

Sensitive  
to angular  
distribution

- $\Delta y_{jj} \ \& \ \Delta y_{jj,\text{max}}$
- $m_{jj} \ \& \ m_{jj,\text{max}}$

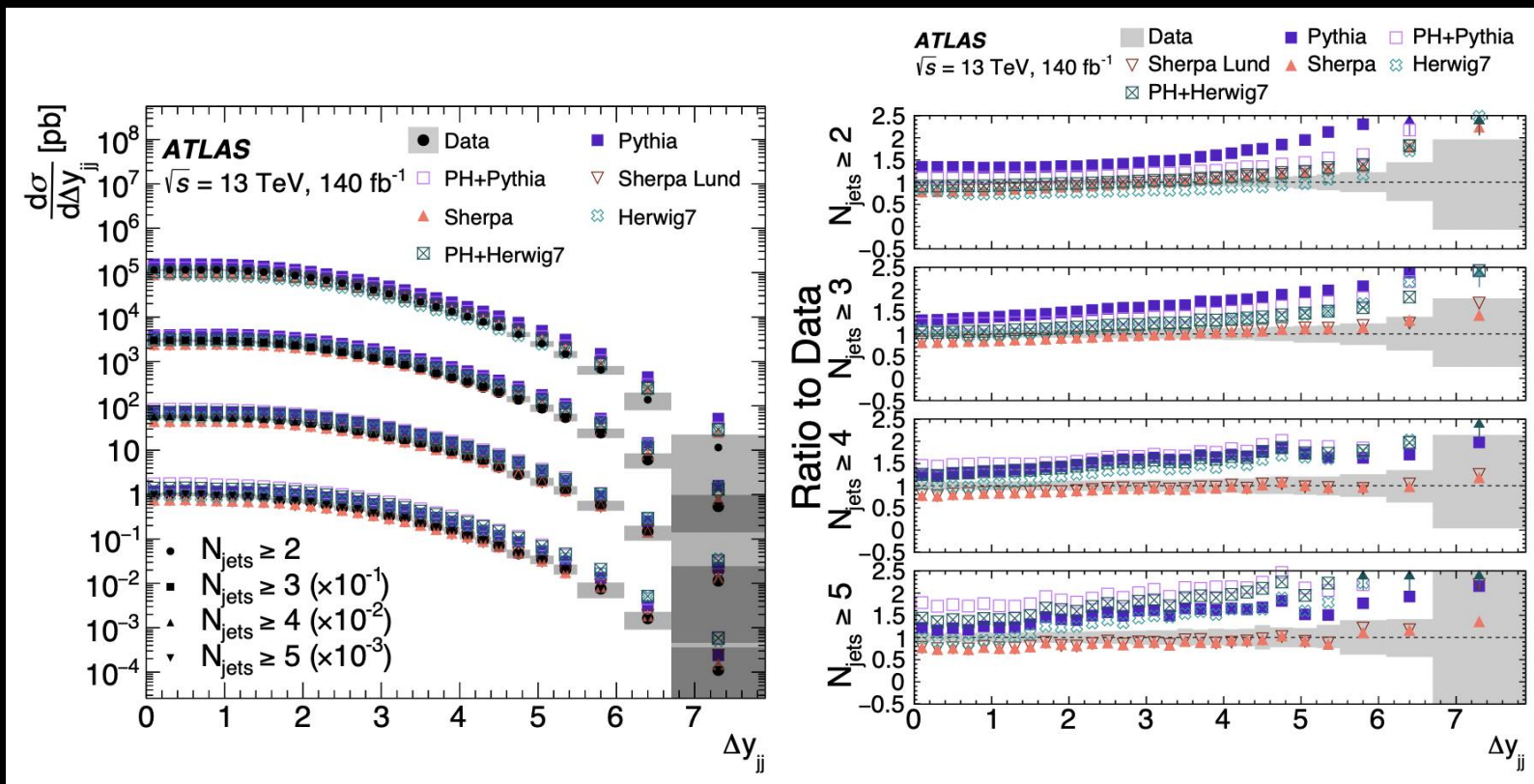
# Results: Cross-Sections

- No single MC prediction can describe the data across all bins



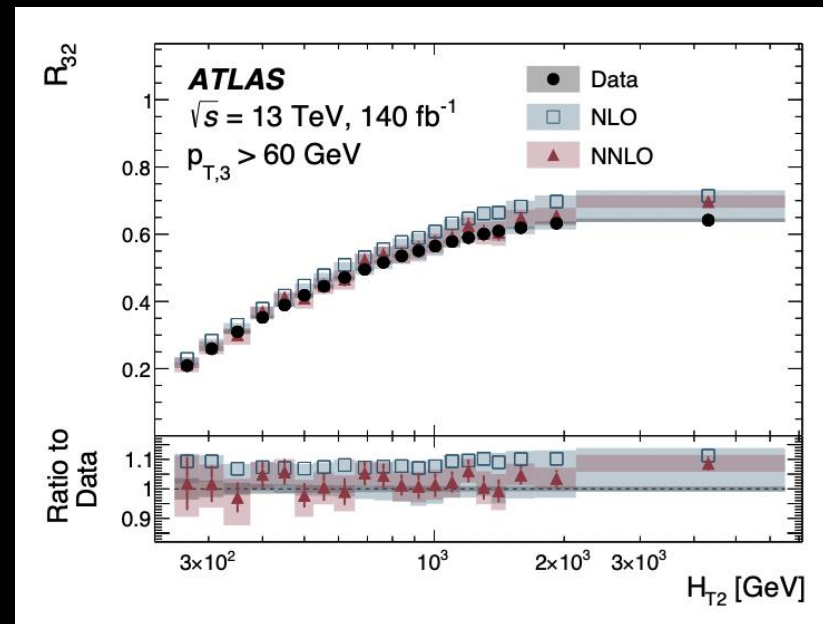
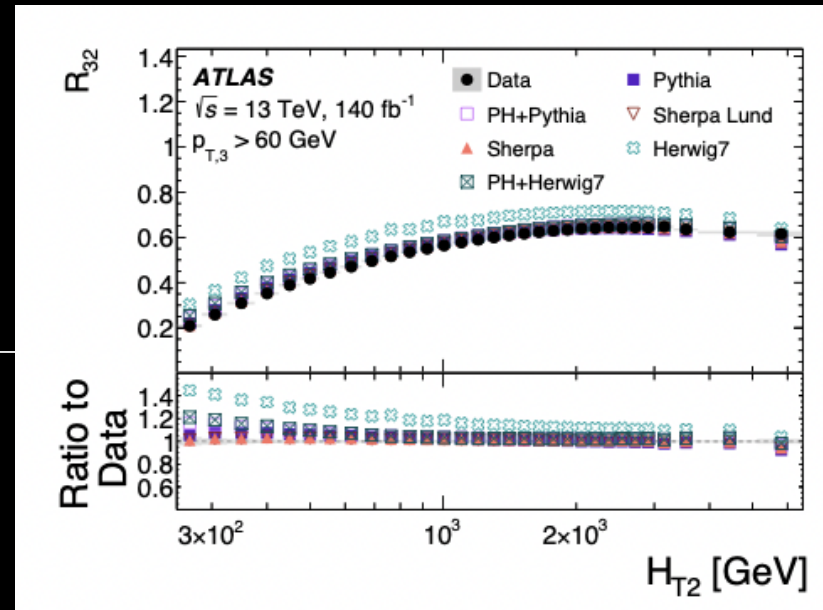
# Results: Cross-Sections

- Significant difference between data and MC for large  $\Delta y_{jj}$  and  $m_{jj}$



# Results: $R_{32}$

- Ratio of jet cross-sections of different multiplicities
- $R_{32} \rightarrow$  3-jet to 2-jet cross section ratio
- Sherpa agrees well with data
- Herwig underestimates 2-jet cross-section
- Next-to-next-to-leading-order (NNLO) agrees well with data
- Next-to-leading order (NLO) overestimates  $R_{32}$



# The Lund Jet Plane in Top and W Decays



# The Lund Jet Plane (LJP)

- 2D JSS observable representing the kinematics of parton showers and hadronization
- Jets are reconstructed using the CA algorithm which combines particles into **proto-jets** based on:
  - Distance between particles in  $(y, \phi)$  plane
  - Radius parameter of the jet algorithm (ex:  $R=0.4$  for small-R jets)
- LJP is constructed by starting with the finished jet and going through pairs of proto-jets in previous steps of the shower
- Lower- $p_T$  proto-jet ( $j$ ) is the **emission**
- Higher- $p_T$  proto-jet ( $i$ ) is the **core**

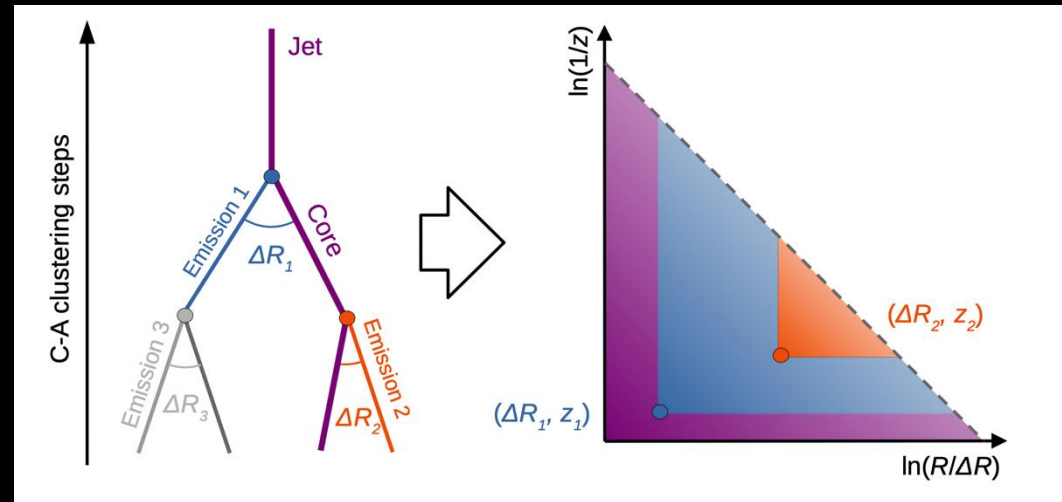
$$p_T^j < p_T^i$$

$$\Delta R^2 = (y_i - y_j)^2 + (\phi_i - \phi_j)^2$$

Angular separation of proto-jets

$$z = \frac{p_T^j}{p_T^i + p_T^j}$$

Relative transverse momentum of emission

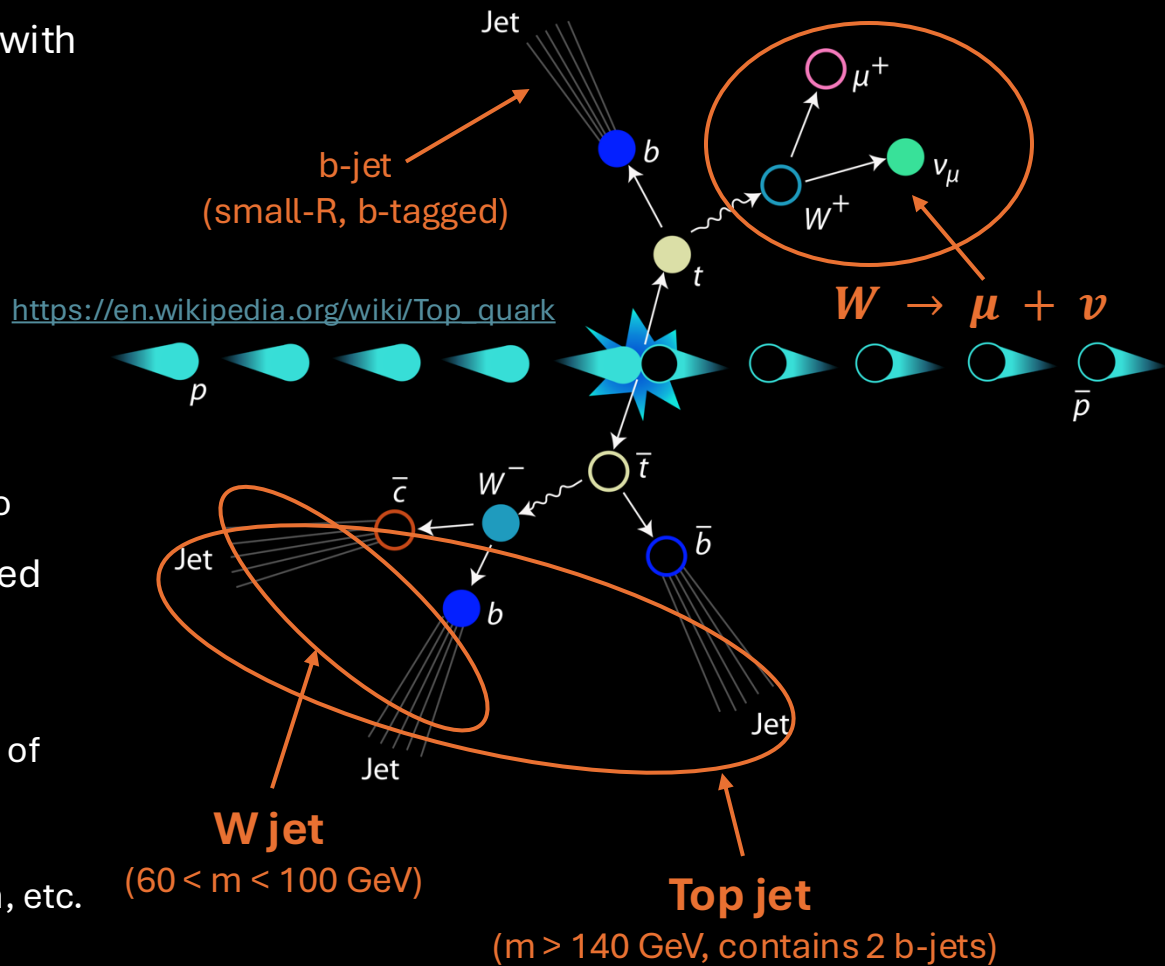


Variables  $\ln(R/\Delta R)$  and  $\ln(1/z)$  plotted for each emission from the core branch. Colored areas indicate size of phase space in which subsequent emissions may appear.



# LJP Measurements in Top and W Jets

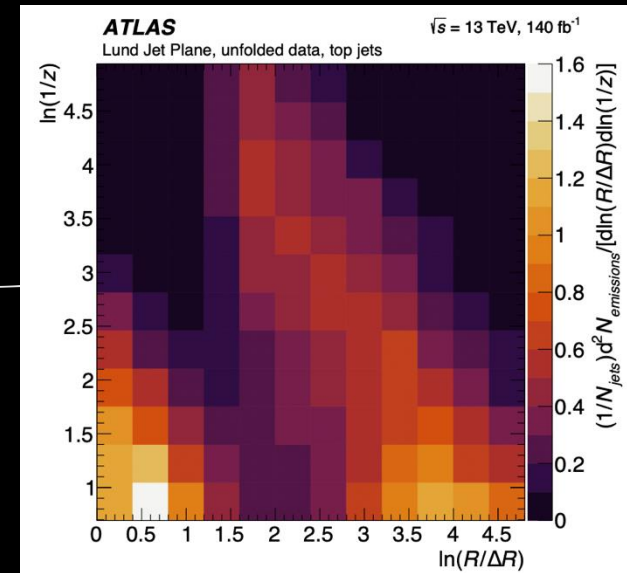
- Select **anti- $k_t$  jets with  $R = 1.0$  (large-R jets)** with  $p_T > 350$  GeV
- Must contain full decay products of either:
  1. **Top quark**
  2. **Daughter W boson**
- Selecting  $t\bar{t}$  events where:
  - Top quarks decay to W and b quark
  - One W decays hadronically into jets
  - Other W goes to electron or muon + neutrino
- Jet classified as either 'top jet' or 'W jet' based on decay topology
- Motivation:
  - Improve MC generators in modelling decays of heavy quarks and bosons
  - Improve jet tagging algorithms
  - Probe jet structure, evolution, hadronization, etc.



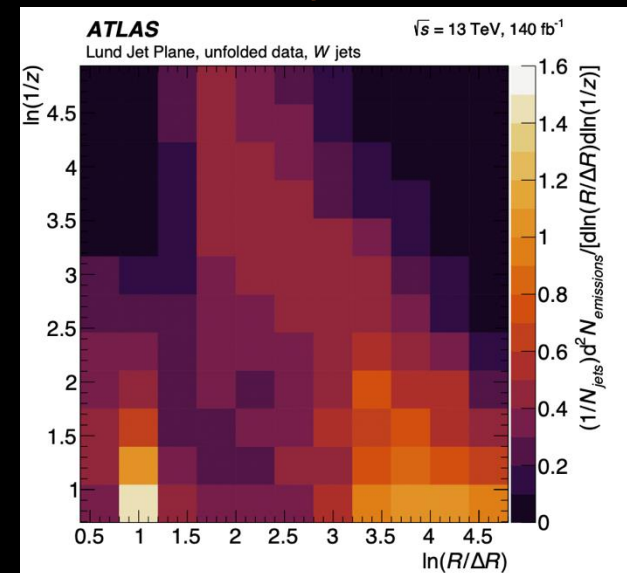
# Results

- Measured density of emissions in the LJP for top and W jets
- Bottom left region contains decays of high- $p_T$  top quarks and W bosons
  - For top jets, peak is shifted to wider angles (larger  $\Delta R$ ) due to top mass  $>$  W mass
- Average number of emissions per jet is:
  - Top jets:  $6.74 \pm 0.02$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.13$  (syst.)
  - W jets:  $6.02 \pm 0.04$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.22$  (syst.)
  - Implies on average  $\sim 1$  extra emission for top jets
- High density of emissions in perturbative – non-perturbative transition region where  $k_T = \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ 
  - Density of emissions proportional to  $\alpha_s(k_T)$
  - Running of  $\alpha_s$  causes increase in emissions
- Upper right corner  $k_T < \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ , large non-perturbative corrections
  - Number of emissions is suppressed

## Top jets



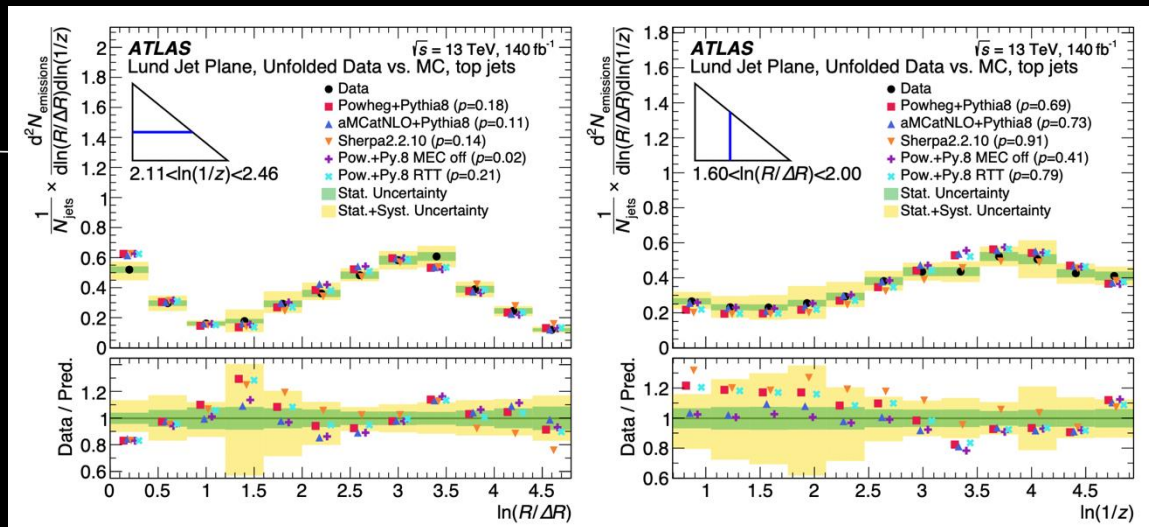
## W jets



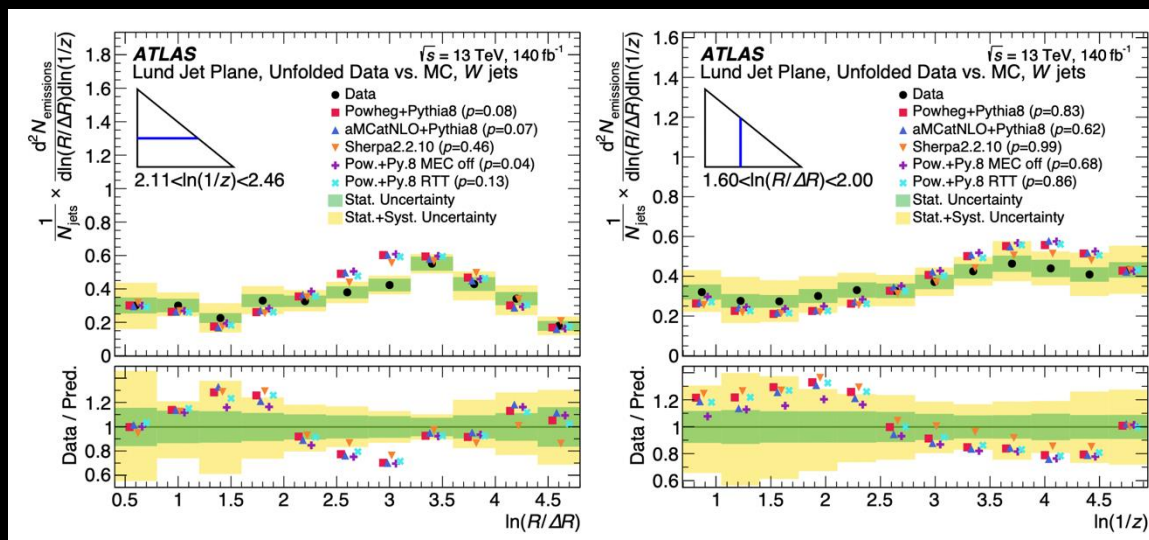
# Comparison with MC

- Disagreement between data and MC in large regions of the spectra
- Sizeable differences in central region of LJP, especially for W jets
- Large amount of statistical uncertainty, precision could improve with larger dataset

Top jets



W jets



# Lund Subjet Multiplicities

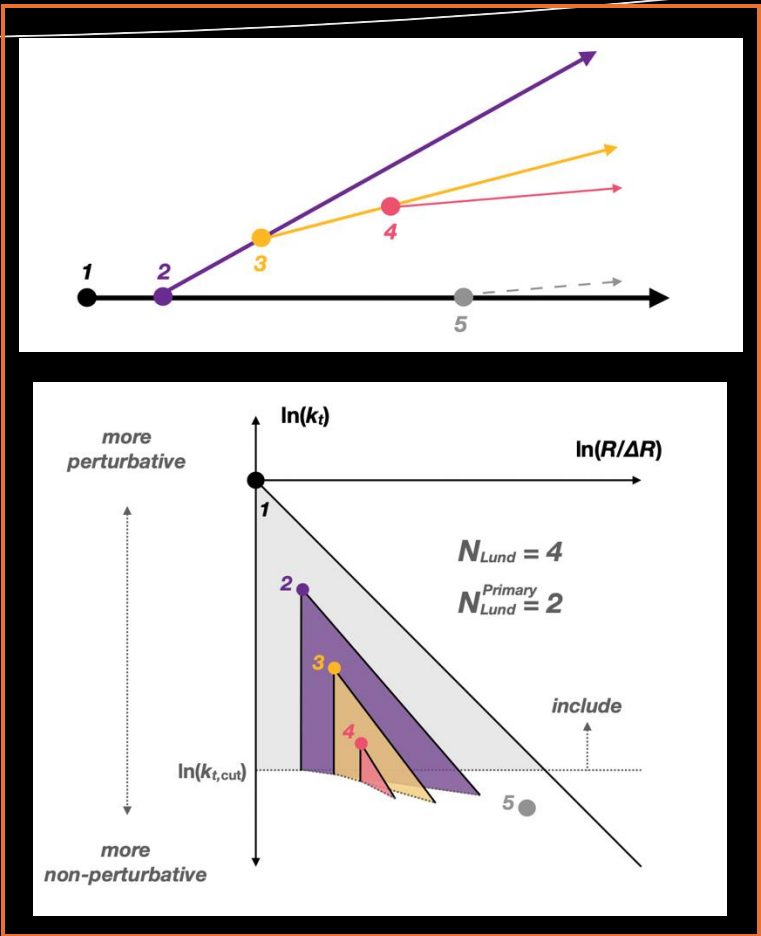


# Lund Subject Multiplicity

$$k_t = p_T^{\text{emission}} \cdot \Delta R(p^{\text{emission}}, p^{\text{core}})$$

Transverse momentum of emission relative to core

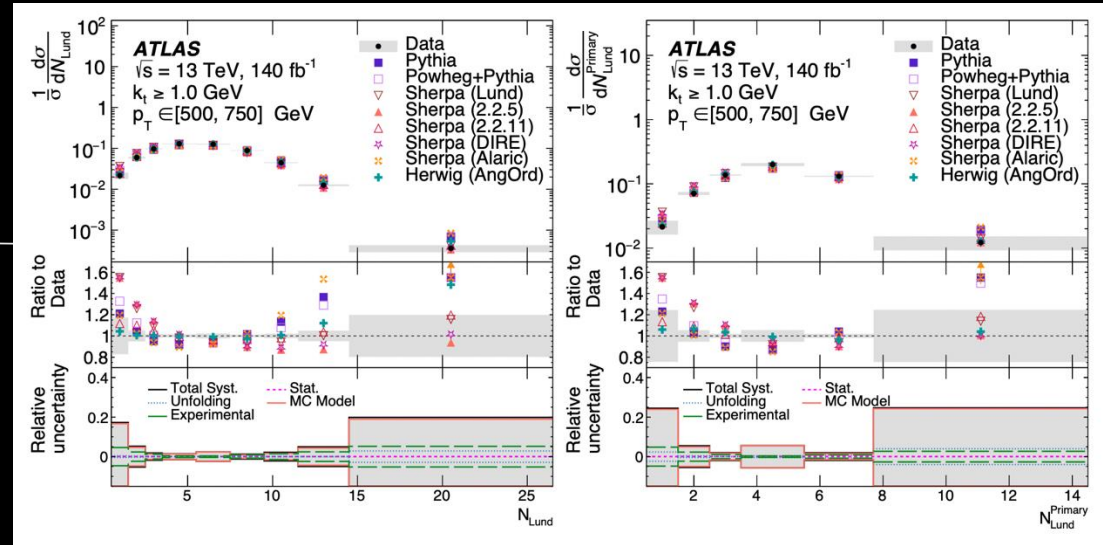
- Counts number of subjects in the clustering history
- Subject must be above a minimum  $k_T$  to be counted in Lund multiplicity
- $N_{\text{Lund}} \rightarrow$  full count in the whole LJP
- $N_{\text{Lund}}^{\text{Primary}} \rightarrow$  only counting along the primary clustering (jet core)
- Ex: '5' doesn't pass the  $k_T$  cut and isn't counted  $\longrightarrow$
- Motivation:
  - Improve parton shower MC algorithms (PSMCs) by incorporating **double-soft splittings**  $\rightarrow$  emissions of 2 soft gluons or a quark-antiquark pair (beyond tree-level in QCD)
  - Lund multiplicity will test for inclusion of double-soft splittings



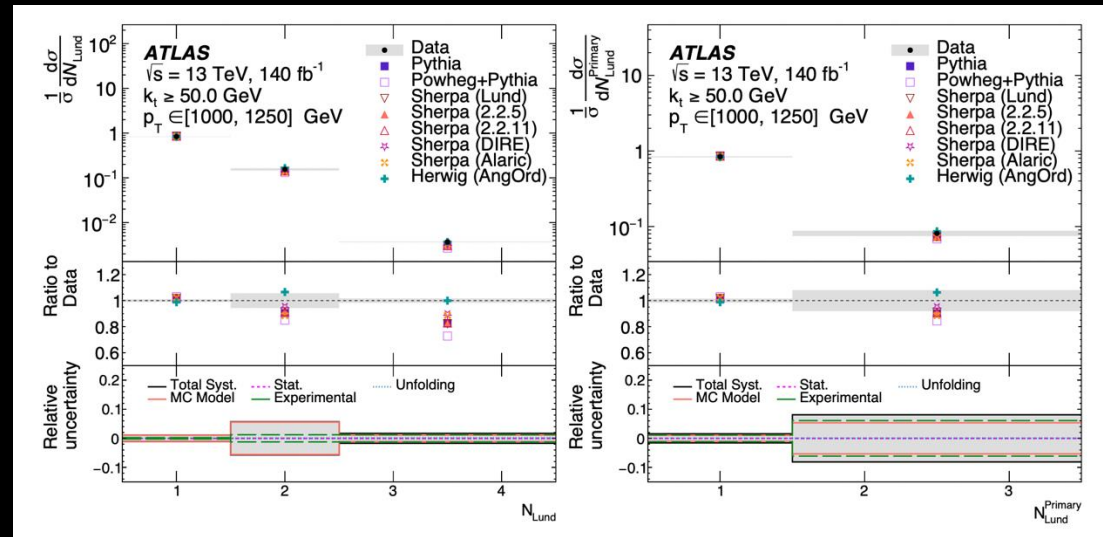
# Results

- Cross-section distribution of Lund multiplicities shown for  $k_T$  thresholds of 1 GeV and 50 GeV
- Most MC generators don't describe data well, especially for low and high multiplicities
- Herwig performs the best
- For smaller  $k_T$  cuts ( $\leq 2$  GeV), Sherpa does better at high multiplicity where more non-perturbative emissions are allowed

$k_T \geq 1.0$  GeV



$k_T \geq 50.0$  GeV



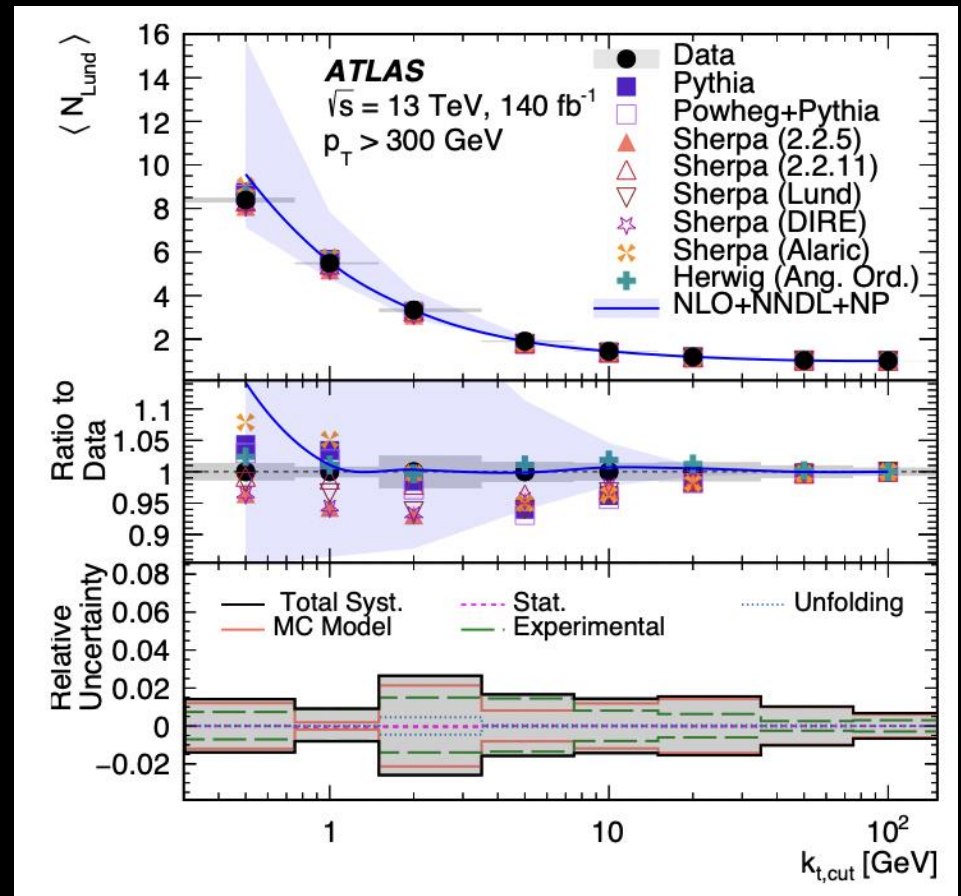
$N_{Lund}$

$N_{Lund}^{Primary}$



# Results

- Distribution of average Lund multiplicity vs  $k_T$  cut plotted
- Herwig agrees best
- Resummed analytic prediction (NLO+NNDL+NP) in good agreement with data in perturbative region ( $k_T > 2$  GeV)



Conclusion

---



# Summary

- Several exciting new QCD measurements provide us insights into **jets** and their **formation** and **substructure**
- These better our understanding and modelling of QCD in several ways
- **Track functions** of jets were measured → extrapolated statistical moments allow for the study of non-linear renormalization group evolution
- **Jet cross-section ratios** measured to test MC methods
- **Lund jet plane** measured for the first time in  $t\bar{t}$  events → help to improve modelling of heavy quark/boson decays
- **Lund multiplicities** measured to improve parton shower modelling

Thank you!



# Backup

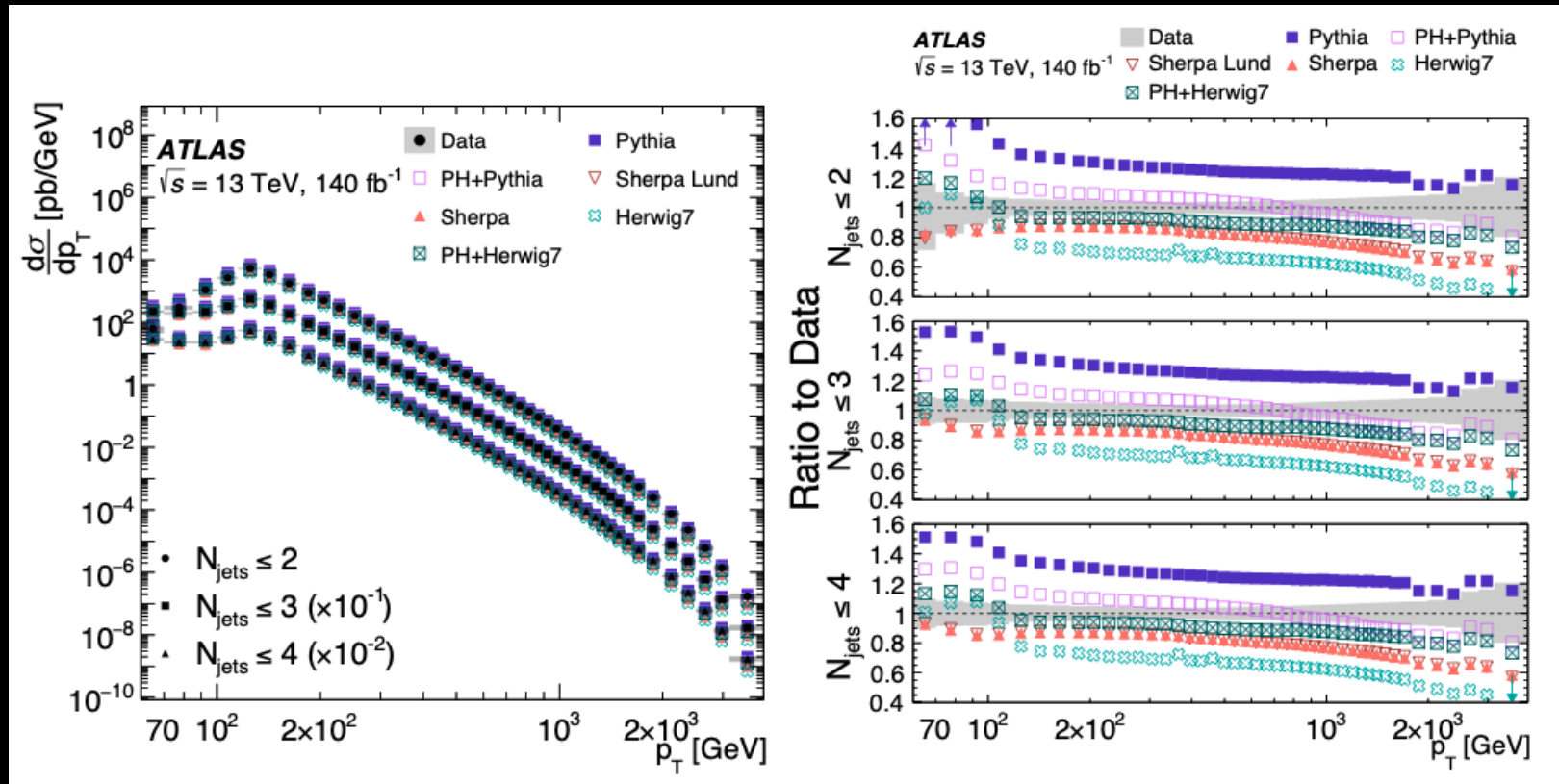
---

# Jet Cross-Section Ratios



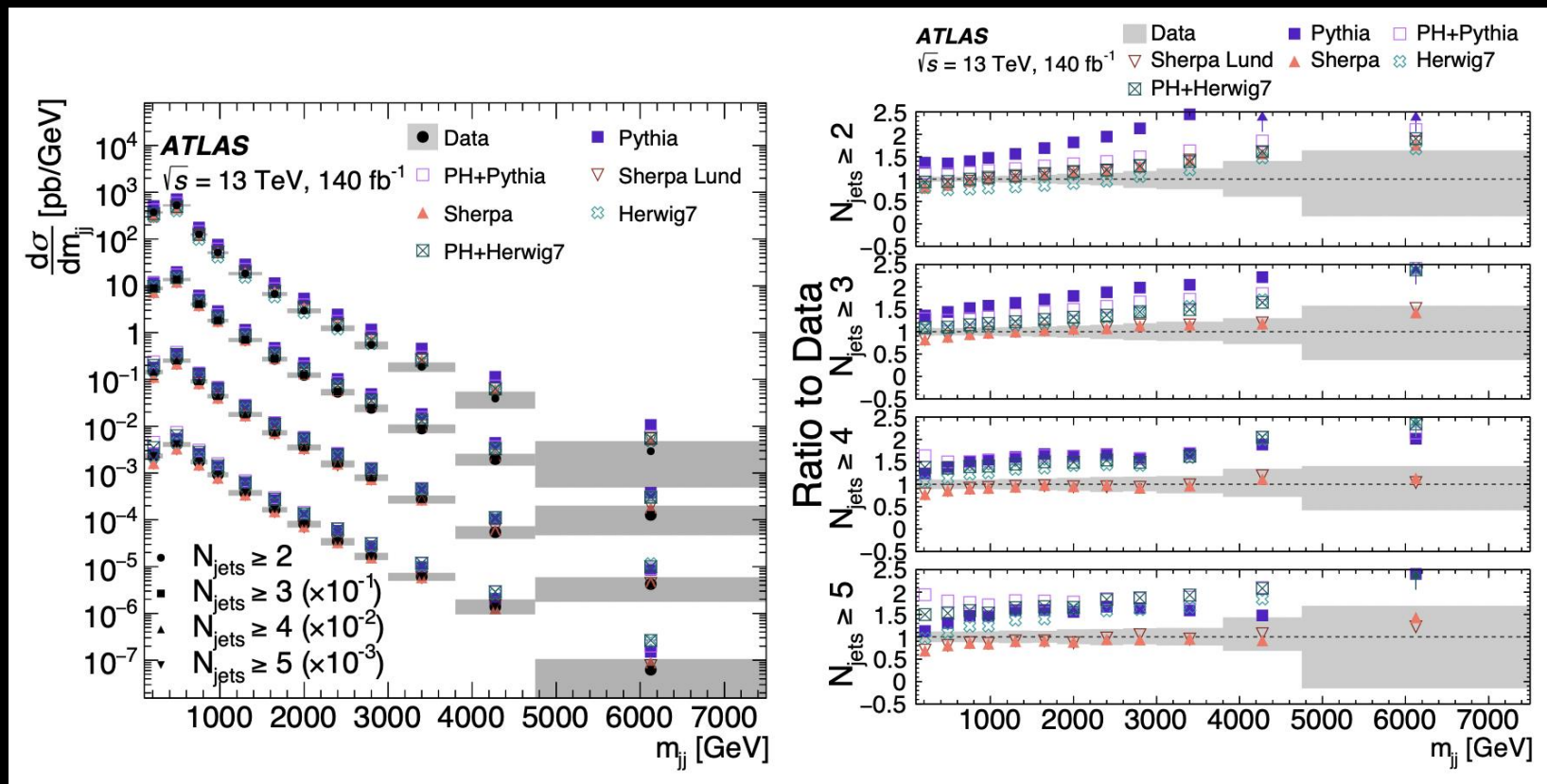
# Results: Cross-Sections

- No single MC prediction can describe the data across all bins



# Results: Cross-Sections

- Significant difference between data and MC for large  $\Delta y_{jj}$  and  $m_{jj}$



# Results: Cross-Section Ratios

- Ratios of jet cross-sections of different multiplicities
- Ex:  $R_{42} \rightarrow$  4-jet to 2-jet cross section ratio
- Sherpa agrees well with data
- Herwig underestimates 2-jet cross-section

