

Color reconnection in $t\bar{t}$ final states

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work in collaboration with [Torbjörn Sjöstrand](#)

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Why bother about color reconnection?

Experiment	m_{top} [GeV]	Error due to CR	Reference
World comb.	173.34 ± 0.76	310 MeV (40%)	arXiv:1403.4427
CMS	172.22 ± 0.73	150 MeV (20%)	CMS-PAS-TOP-14-001
D0	174.98 ± 0.76	100 MeV (13%)	arXiv:1405.1756

CR is one of the **dominant systematics in top mass measurements**

→ reduce the error on the top mass

→ learn about the soft component of $t\bar{t}$ events

Our goal

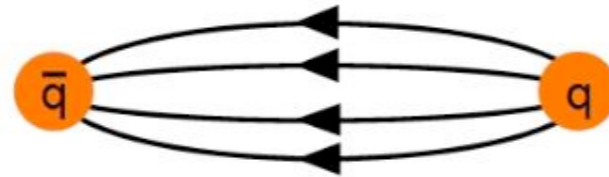
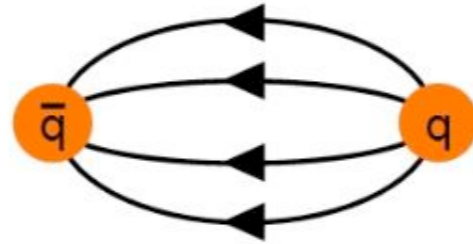
produce a range of different CR models in Pythia 8 to

study how big an effect color reconnection could have on m_{top}

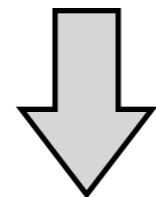
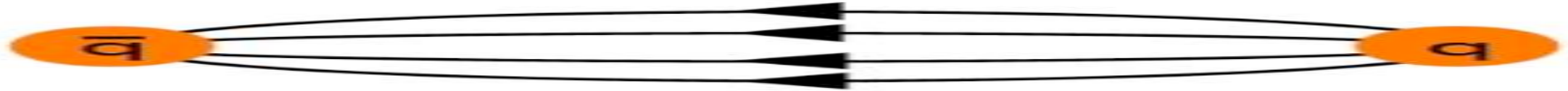
1. What CR is and how it affects $t\bar{t}$ final states
2. How the CR uncertainty is determined
3. What we did to improve it
 - a. new models
 - b. their effect on the top mass
 - c. estimate for the CR uncertainty
 - d. how to reduce the uncertainty

1. CR and its effect on the top mass

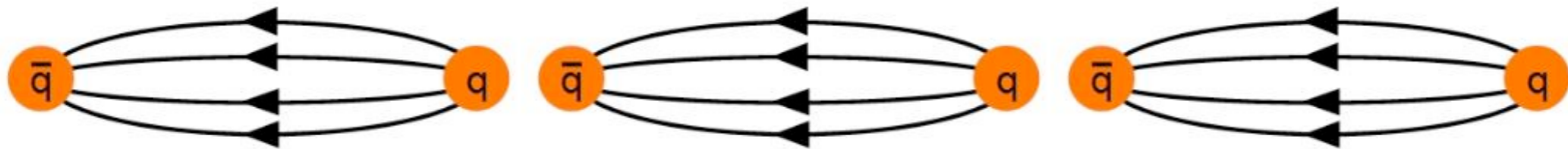
Hadrons from strings



$V \sim r$  Confinement via string



Strings break
forming hadrons

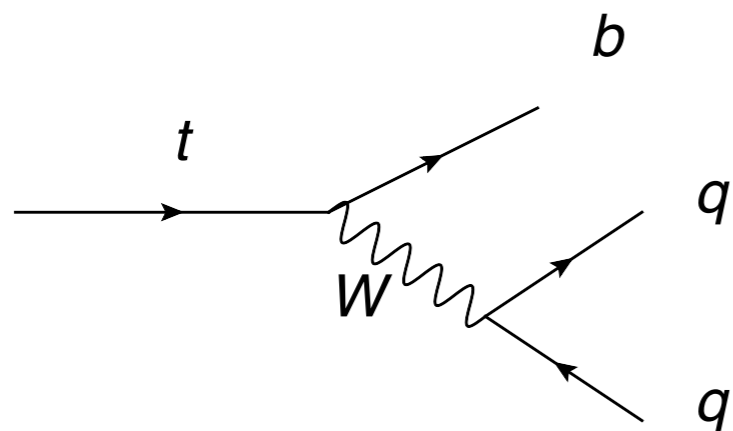


'Longer' strings \Rightarrow more hadrons

length measured in $\lambda = \ln \left(1 + \frac{m_{ij}^2}{m_0^2} \right)$

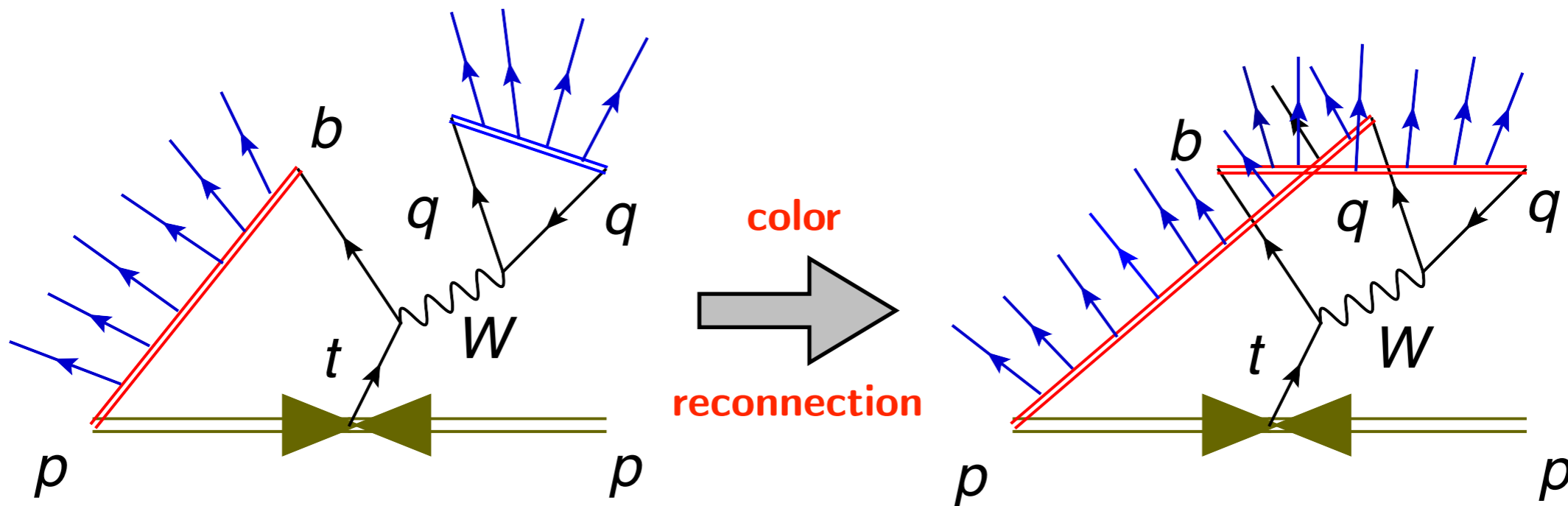
Effect of CR on m_{top}

Direct m_{top} measurement (lepton+jets channel)

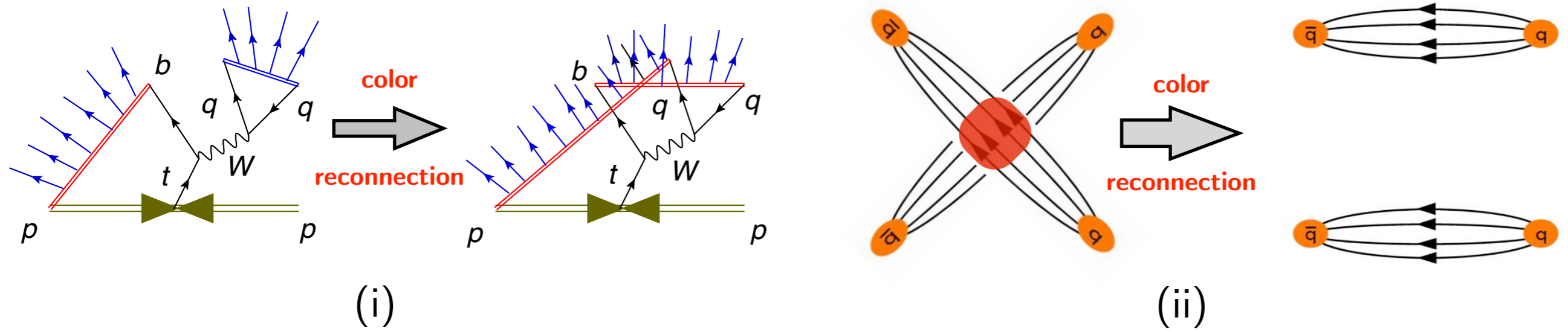


$$m_{\text{top}}^2 = (p_b + p_{j1} + p_{j2})^2$$

We are interested in the **color topology...**



Some remarks on CR



- i. **Perturbative part:** Parton showers (generally) use $N_c \rightarrow \infty$
this means in particular that **quarks from W will always have a different color than the top**
➔ **Color reconnection probes sub-leading ($1/N_c$) effects**

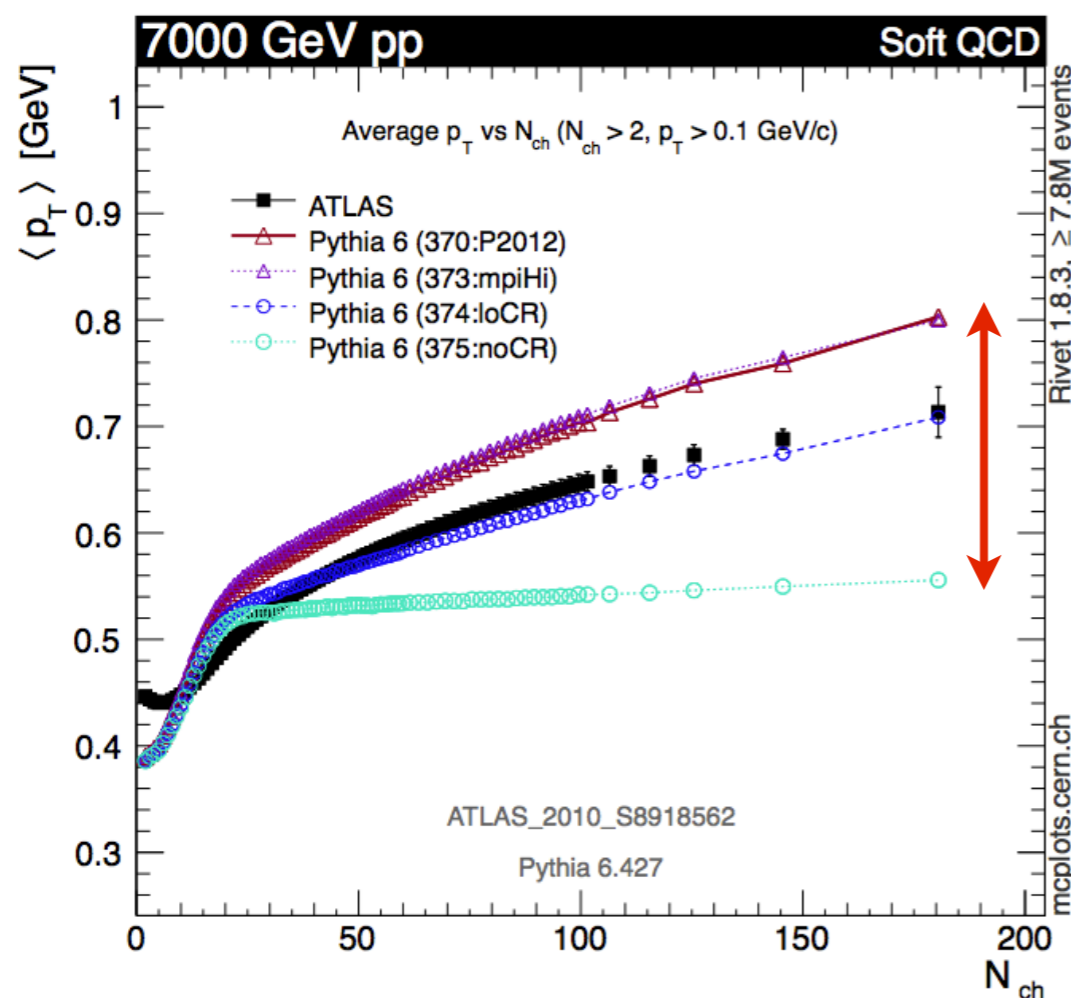
- ii. **Non-perturbative part:** in busy events strings can overlap \Rightarrow many soft gluon exchanges impossible to handle perturbatively
➔ **Color reconnection allows to model non-perturbative interactions between color fields during the hadronization transition**

2. Assigning an uncertainty

Estimating the CR uncertainty

$$\Delta m_{\text{top}} = m_{\text{top}}(\text{default CR}) - m_{\text{top}}(\text{no CR})$$

Until now this was done with **Pythia 6**, where multiple CR models are available.



The problem

- **'no CR' is unphysical** (uncertainty overestimated?)
- $m_{\text{top}}(\text{no CR})$ might not provide a bound for Δm_{top} (**uncertainty underestimated?**)
- **limited range of modeling options** in Pythia 8

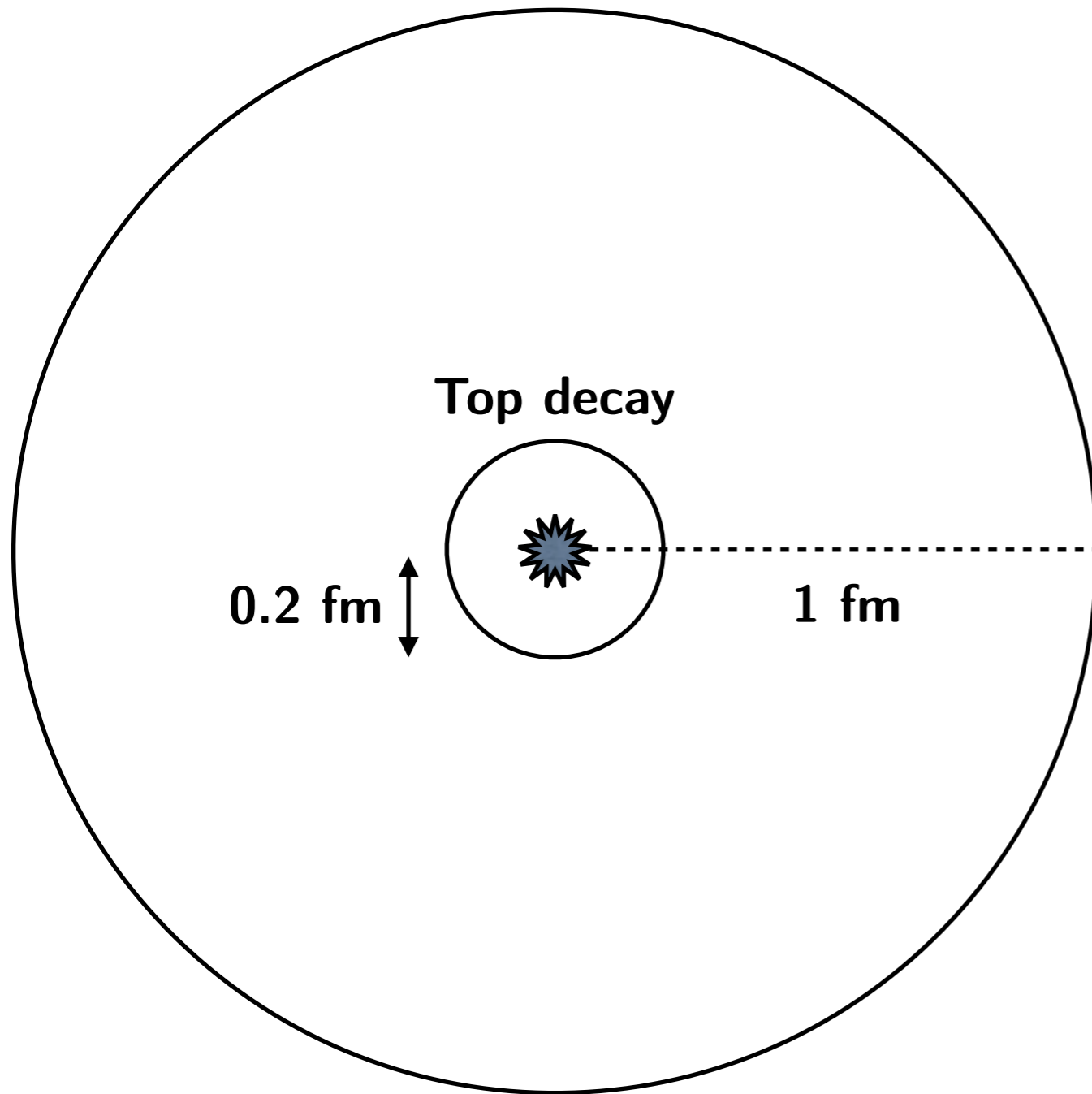
We want:

- **range of (new) CR models**
- models that will **envelop the data** \Rightarrow **uncertainty band**
- a **way to kill them**

3a. The new models

A word on time scales

Typical hadronization scale



$$l = \frac{\gamma\beta c\hbar}{\Gamma_{\text{top}}} \simeq 0.2 \text{ fm}$$

CR in top can be different than CR in Min Bias

Two extreme options:

- **late resonance decay**

top decay products cannot reconnect

- **early resonance decay**

top decay products can reconnect

The models

Old

- default
- default ERD

New (toy models)

- forced random
- forced nearest
- forced farthest
- forced smallest $\Delta\lambda$
- smallest $\Delta\lambda$

only top events
default CR afterburner

New (more sophisticated)

- swap
- move
- swap + flip
- move + flip

all events

All models available in **Pythia 8.2** - [examples/main29.cc](https://pythia.org/examples/main29.cc)

Models differ in...

When a CR is made

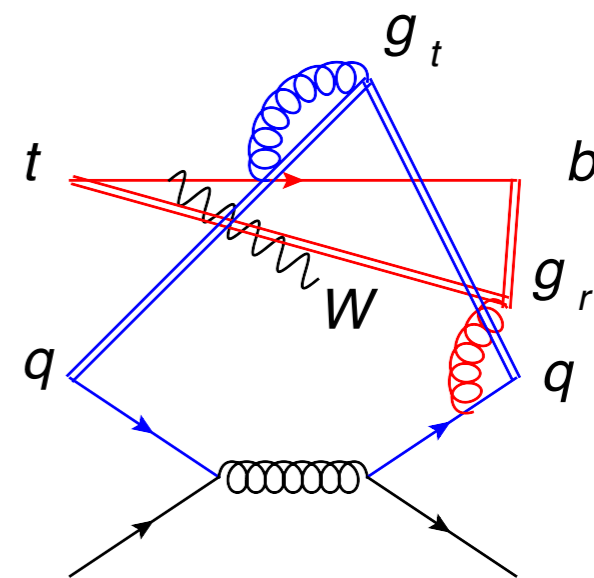
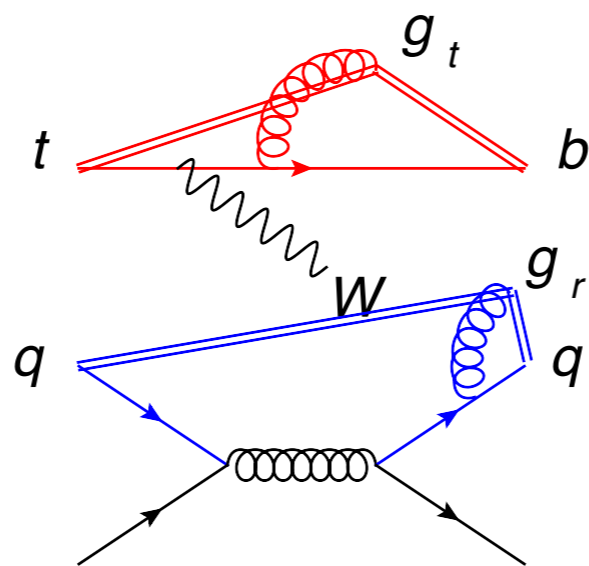
1. random
2. forced
3. minimization

How a CR is made

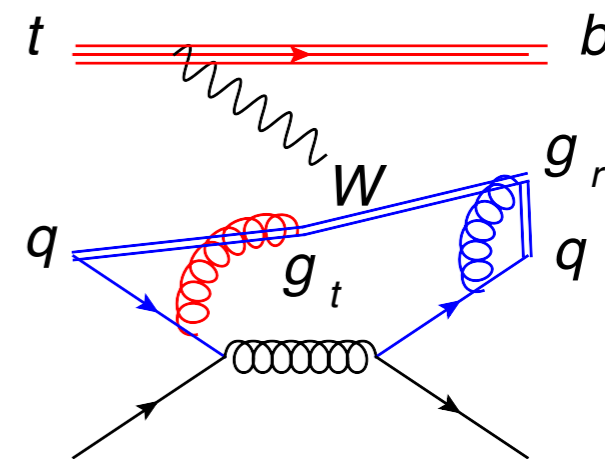
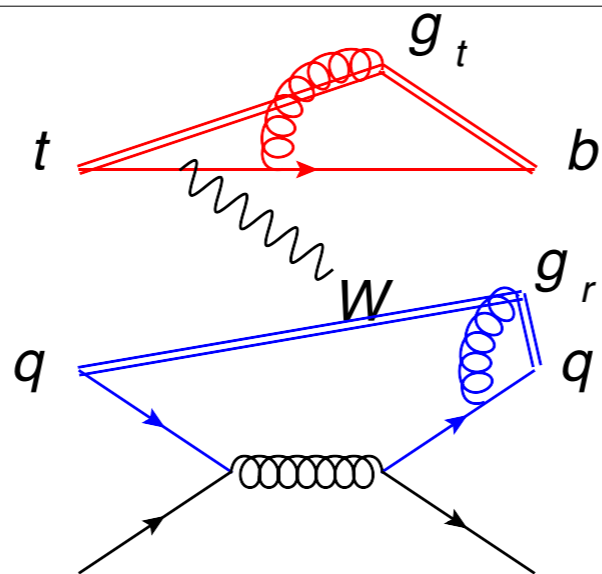
- A. gluon move
- B. color swap (both indices)
- C. color flip (single index)

How a CR is made

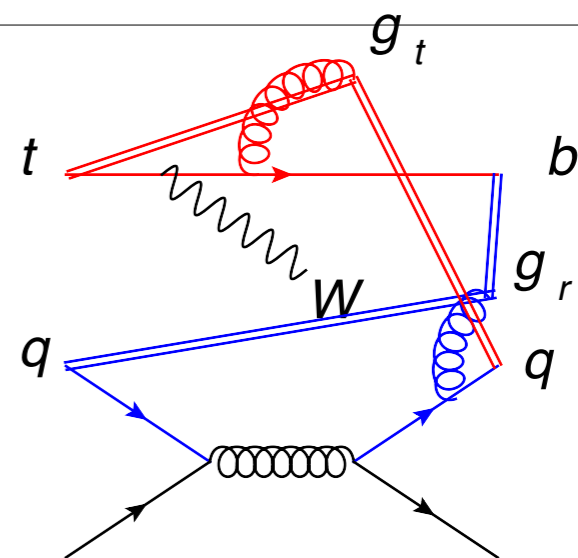
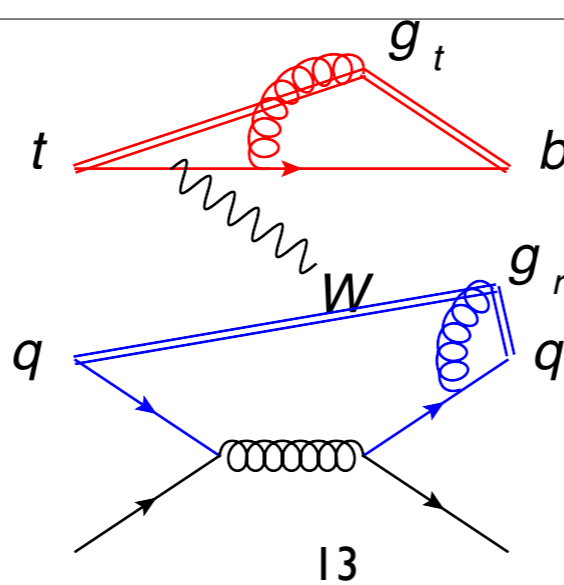
Color swap



Gluon move



Color flip



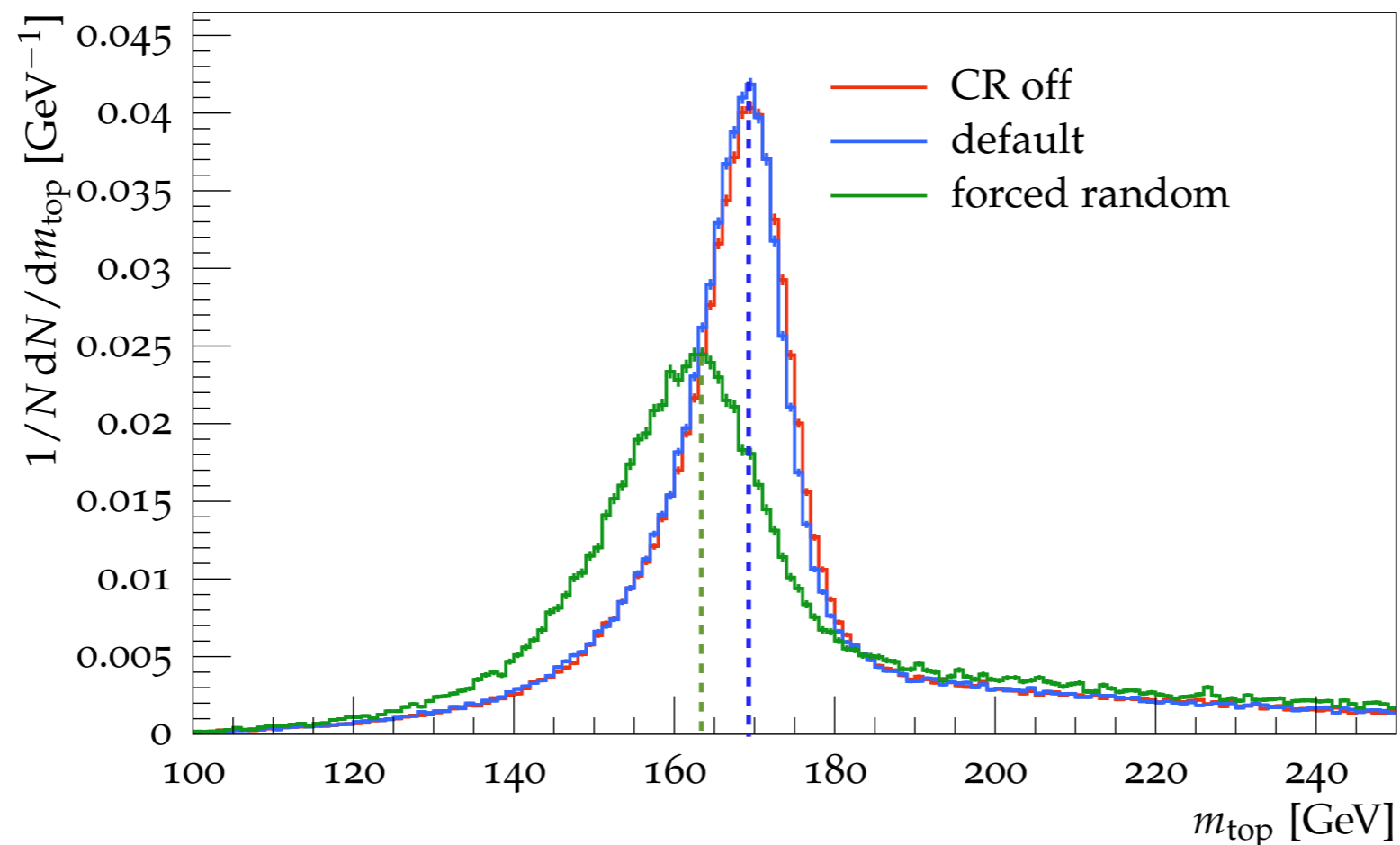
3b. Effect on m_{top}

Disclaimer!

What we do is a **toy top mass measurement**. A real experimental measurement is expected to have different sensitivity to the effects probed herein.

Effect on m_{top} (before tuning)

Reconstructed top mass, $m_W \in [75, 85]$ GeV, $p_T(\text{jets}) > 40$ GeV

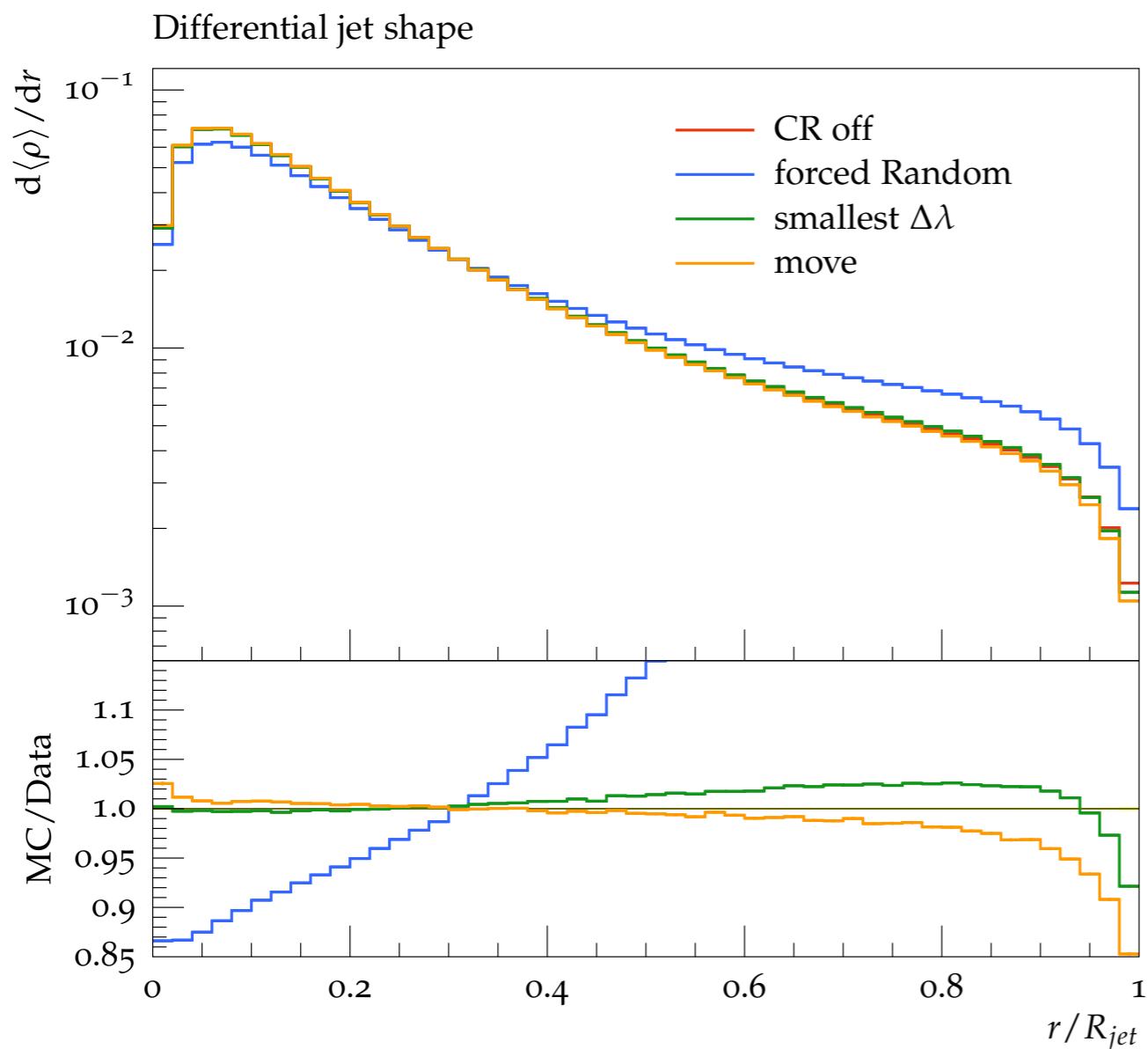


Model	$\Delta m_{\text{top}}^{\text{rescaled}}$ [GeV]
default	+0.209
default ERD	+0.285
forced random	-6.508

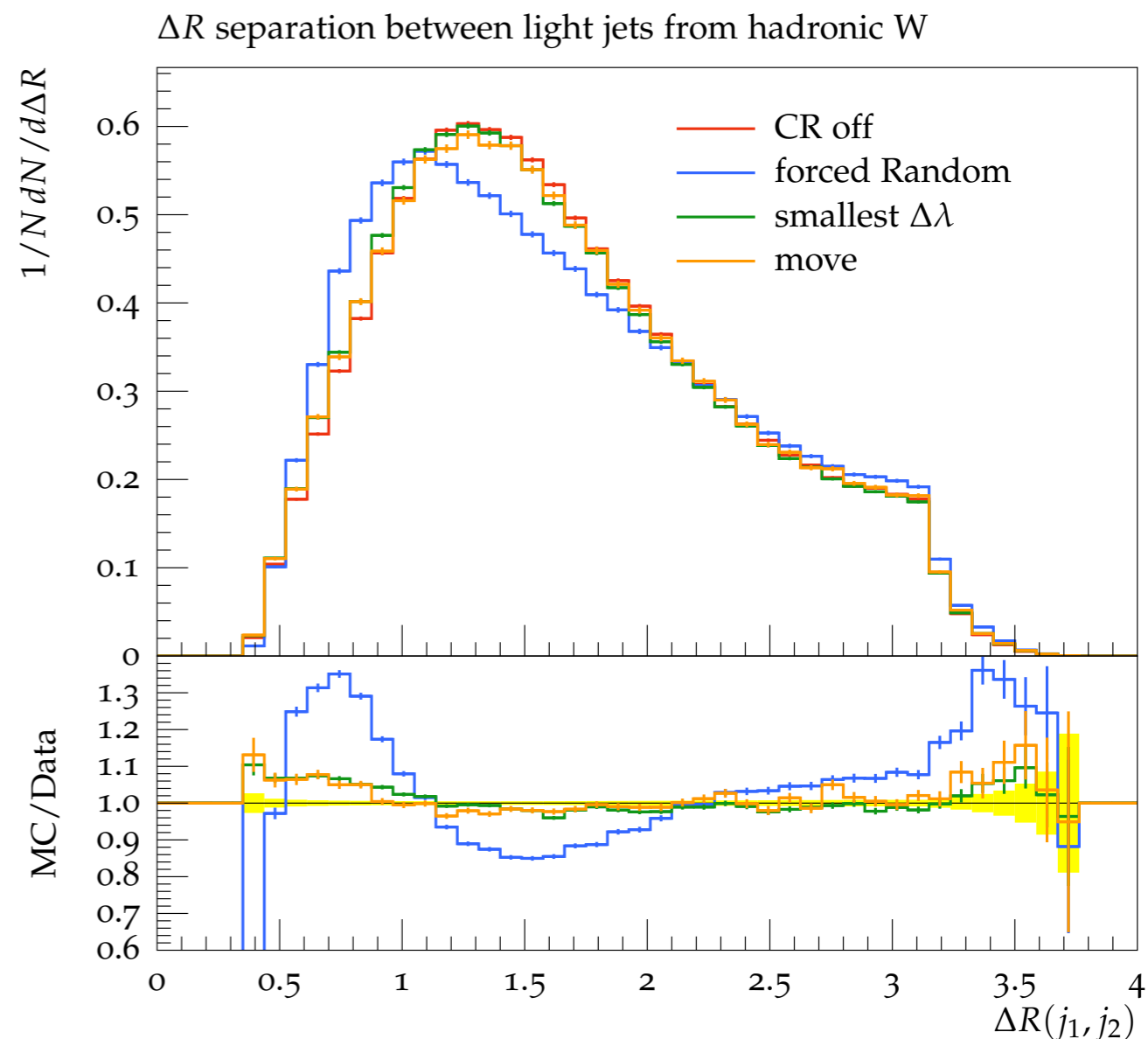
1. **CR can** inherently **have big effects!**
2. Δm_{top} is not bounded by $m_{\text{top}}(\text{no CR})$, in other words **$m_{\text{top}}(\text{CR}) - m_{\text{top}}(\text{no CR})$ probably underestimates the uncertainty**
3. **Effects are asymmetric** - negative mass shift easy, positive one hard

Why CR shifts m_{top}

$$m_{\text{top}}^2 = (p(b) + p(j_1) + p(j_2))^2$$



changes in p (**leakage** of hadrons
out of the jet cone)

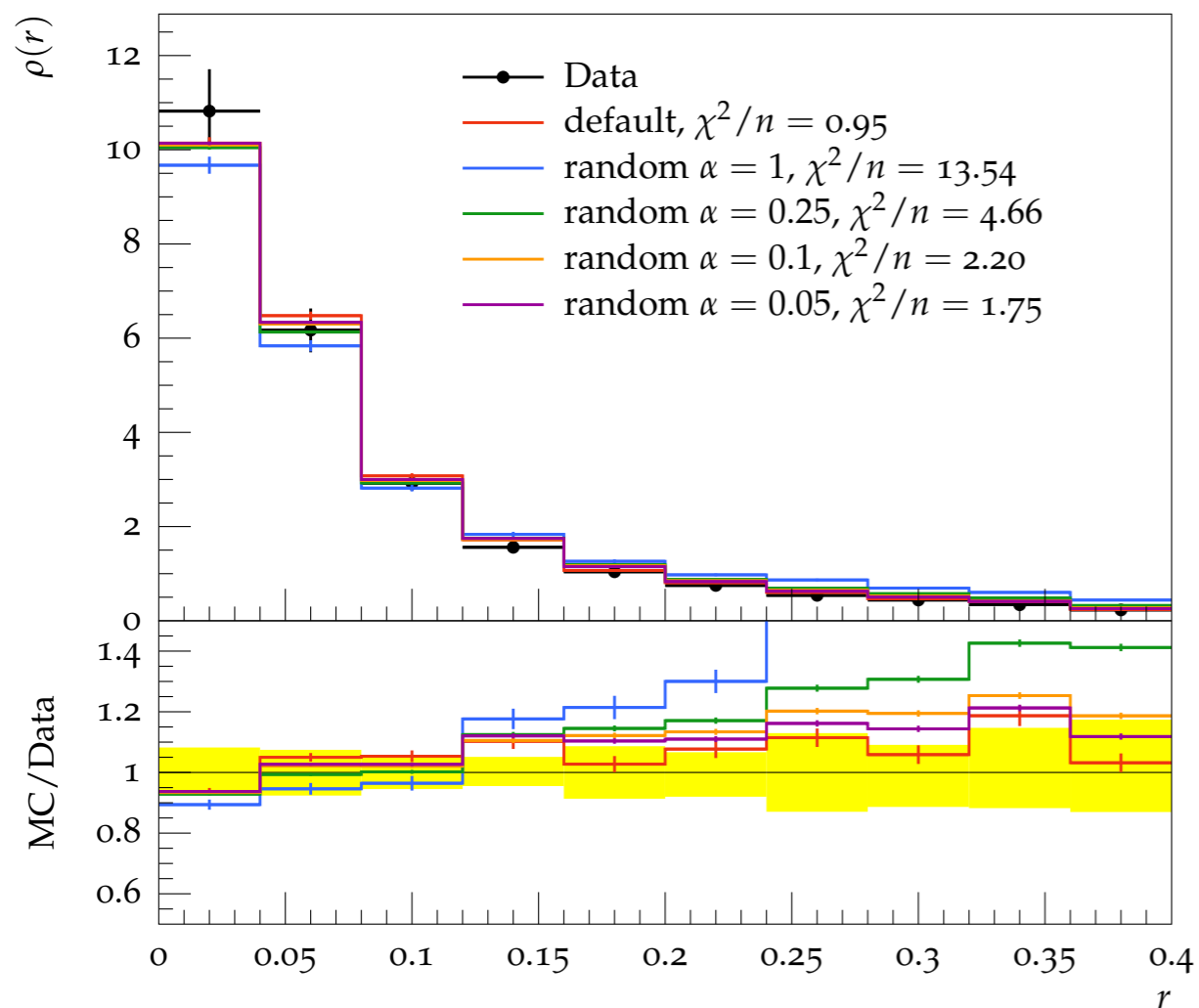


changes in $p_{j_1} p_{j_2} \sim \cos\theta_{j_1 j_2}$

Tuning

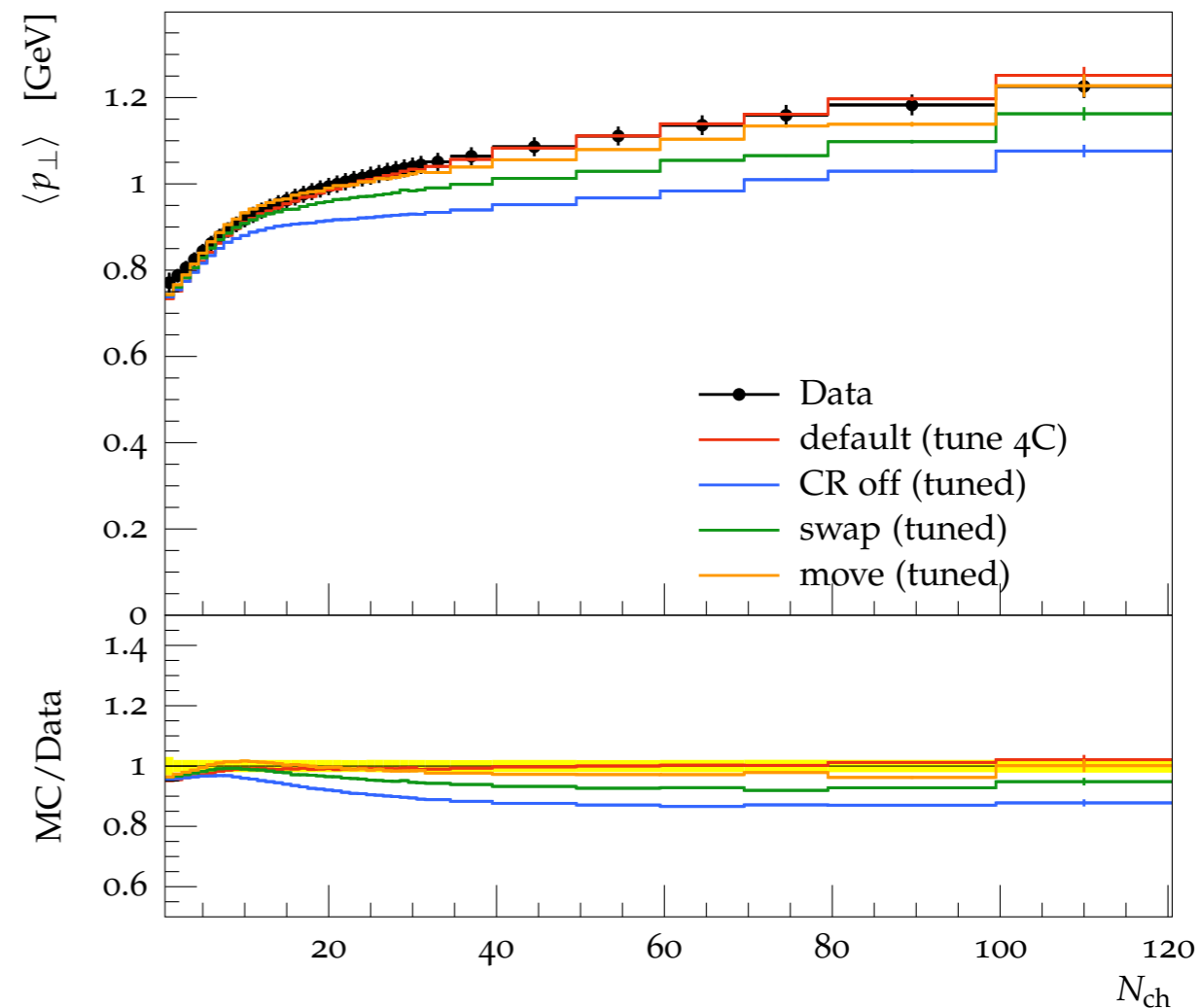
- toy models: **jet shapes** in **$t\bar{t}$ events** (CR strength α)
- **MB models**: **minimum bias** data (p_{T0}^{ref} , $\Delta\lambda_{\text{cut}}$)

Differential jet shape for light-jets with $50 \text{ GeV} < p_T < 70 \text{ GeV}$



Forced models with high CR strength disfavored

Charged $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle$ vs. N_{ch} at 7 TeV, track $p_{\perp} > 500 \text{ MeV}$, for $N_{\text{ch}} \geq 1$



Minimization models require maximal CR strength

Effect on m_{top} (after tuning)

Model	$\Delta m_{\text{top}}^{\text{rescaled}}$ [GeV]
default	+0.239
forced random (min)	-0.524
move	+0.239
swap (max)	+0.273

- **Maximum variation:** $m_{\text{top}}^{\text{max}} - m_{\text{top}}^{\text{min}} \approx 800 \text{ MeV}$
- considering **only** the more **sophisticated models**:

$$\Delta m_{\text{top}} \approx 500 \text{ MeV}$$

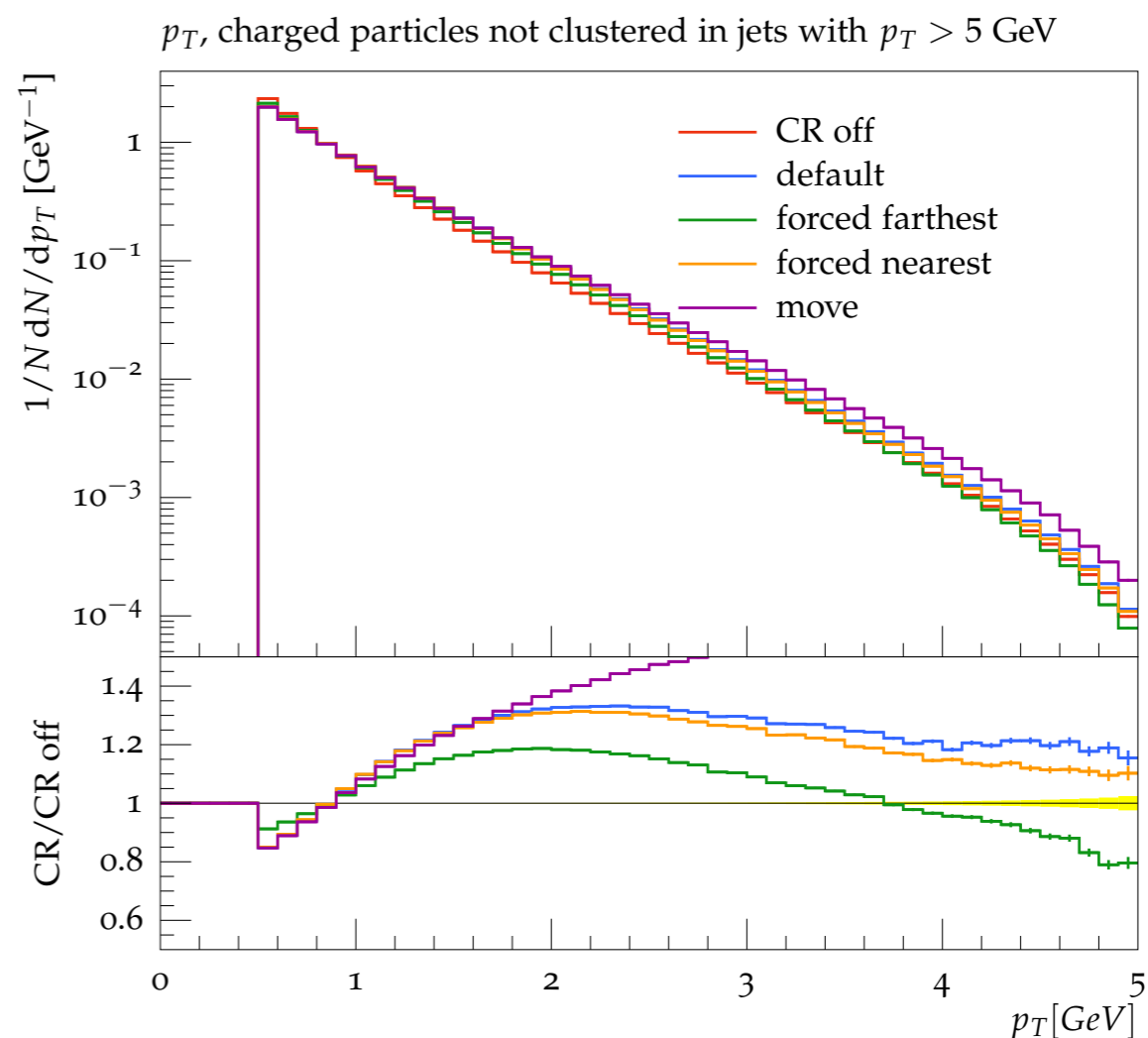
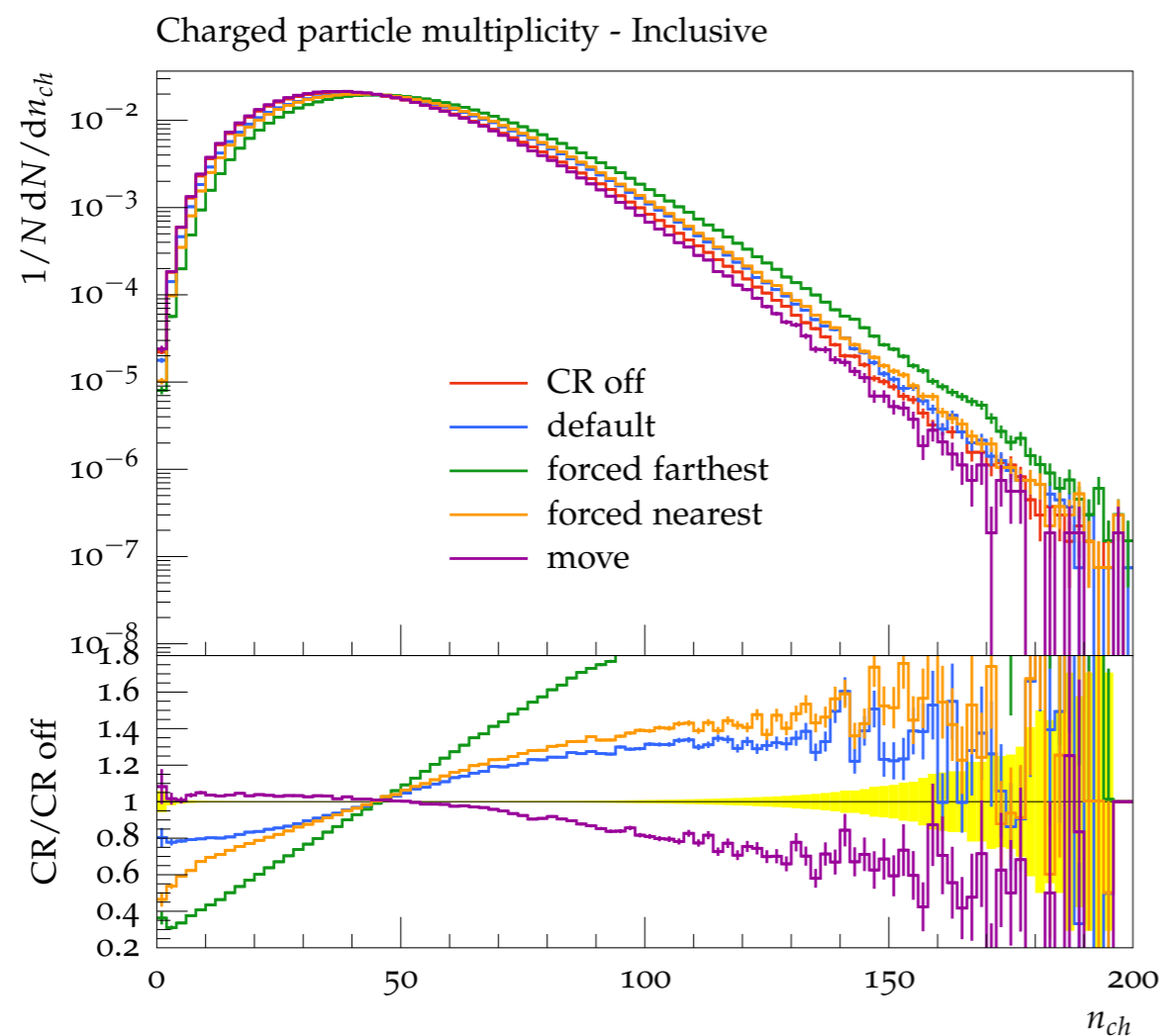
We believe that this is a realistic estimate of the CR uncertainty based on our **current understanding** of the phenomenon and on the **available measurements**.

3d. How to reduce the uncertainty

How to reduce CR uncertainty

Make measurements that can constrain the models

- e.g. inclusive ones: **charged particle multiplicity, transverse momentum**
- UE type measurements in $t\bar{t}$ events, e.g. charged particle spectra in different regions (as in CMS-PAS-TOP-13-007), $\langle n_{ch} \rangle (\Delta R_{Wb})$ etc



Ongoing and future analyses will hopefully incorporate these measurements

The situation so far...

- **until recently very few measurements** to constrain CR **in top events**
- $m_{\text{top}}(\text{CR}) - m_{\text{top}}(\text{no CR})$ probably **underestimates the uncertainty**
(at least with Pythia8 model)

Our work...

- **new CR models** developed and tuned to data
- a **realistic estimate** for the top mass **uncertainty** is of the order of **500 MeV**
- **observables to constrain/exclude CR models** with **existing LHC data**

New “QCD-based” model by **J.Christiansen and P.Skands** also introduced in **Pythia 8.2 (arXiv:1410.3012)** - its effects on the top mass are under study

Thanks for your attention!

CR in the default model

When

1. Starting from lowest p_T interaction calculate **reconnection probability**

$$P_{\text{rec}}(p_T) = \frac{(R_{\text{rec}} p_{T0})^2}{(R_{\text{rec}} p_{T0})^2 + p_T^2}$$

$$p_T \downarrow \implies P_{\text{rec}} \uparrow$$

softer systems easier to reconnect
soft = extended wavefunction

2. Iterate (1) for all interactions ; if $P_{\text{rec}} > \alpha \in [0,1]$ do reconnection



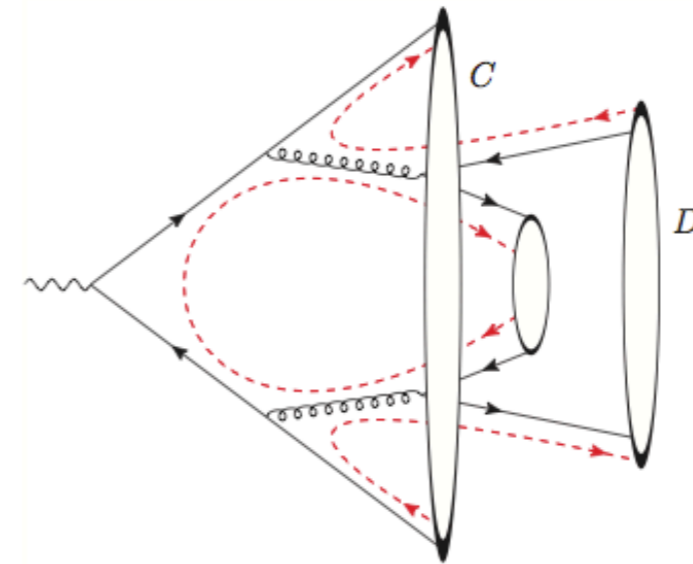
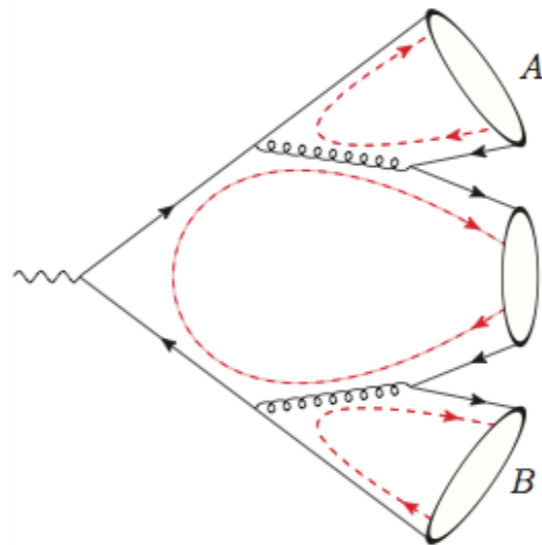
How

1. Sort interactions that where CR will happen in **decreasing p_T**
2. Starting from the **hardest interaction** find color dipoles (i,j)
3. **Move gluons** {k} from softer interactions **to dipole** (i,j) **that minimizes the increase in 'string length'**

minimally affect
the perturbative
color flow!

$$\Delta\lambda = \lambda_{ik} + \lambda_{jk} - \lambda_{ij} = \ln \frac{(p_i \cdot p_k)(p_j \cdot p_k)}{(p_i \cdot p_j)m_0^2}$$

$$\lambda \sim \Delta y \sim \langle n \rangle$$



Plain Color Reconnection

- iterating over quarks in all clusters, try reconnection
- Select reconnection which minimizes $m_C + m_D$ iff $m_C + m_D < m_A + m_B$
- Accept reconnection with probability P_{reco}

Statistical Color Reconnection

- starting from cluster with low “color length”: $\lambda \equiv \sum_{\text{cluster}} m_{\text{cluster}}^2$
- Accept all reconnections which reduce λ
- Accept reconnections which increase λ with probability $P = \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda_{\text{after}} - \lambda_{\text{before}}}{T}\right)$
- $T_{\text{in}} = c \cdot \text{median}|\Delta\lambda|$ decreasing after each step by a tunable amount
- Algorithm stops when no reconnections are made or after a tunable number of steps