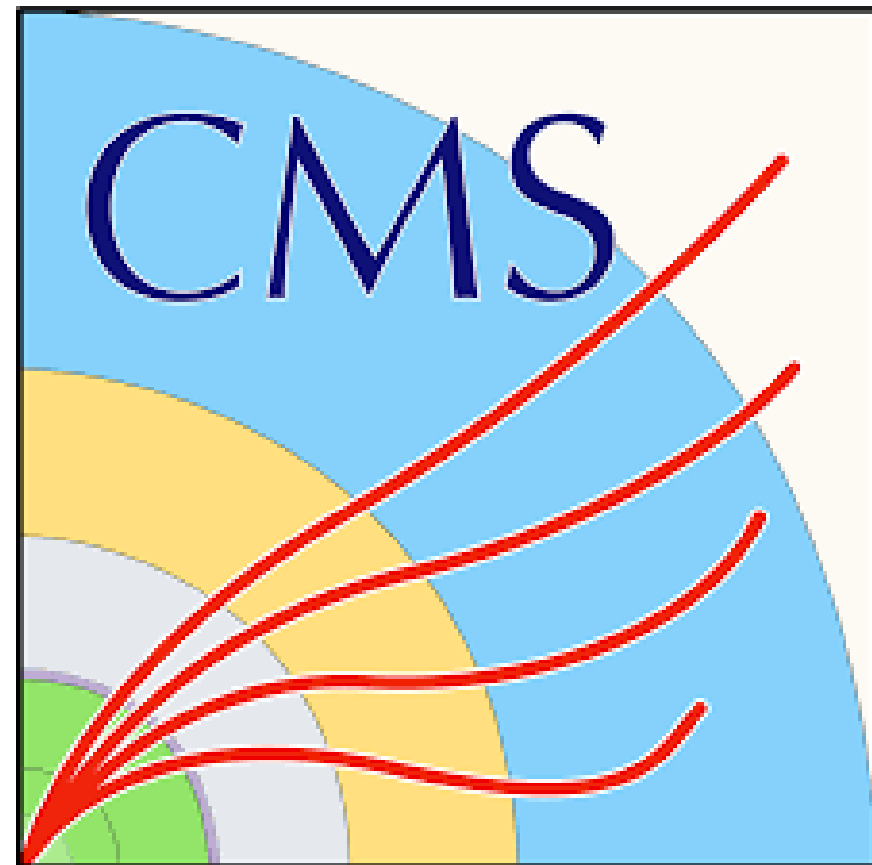


W-helicity and top-quark polarization

Contents:

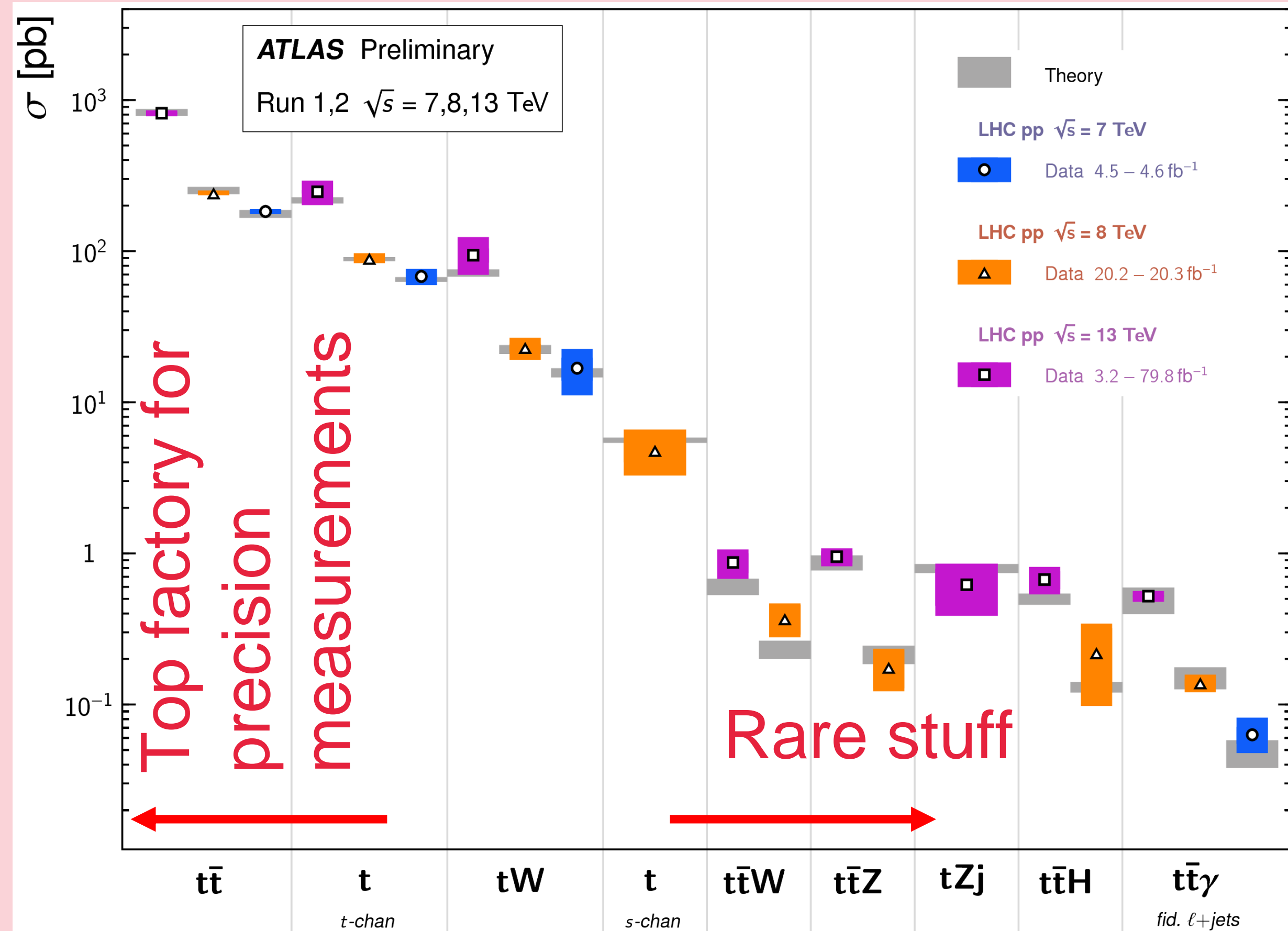
- W-helicity combination ATLAS+CMS
- Top quark polarisation in single top/ EFT interpretation
- Top quark spin correlation/ search for CP-violation in $t\bar{t}$



Marcel Vreeswijk
(UvA/Nikhef - Amsterdam)
for the ATLAS and CMS Collaboration



TOP QUARK PHYSICS @LHC - WHAT DO WE STUDY?



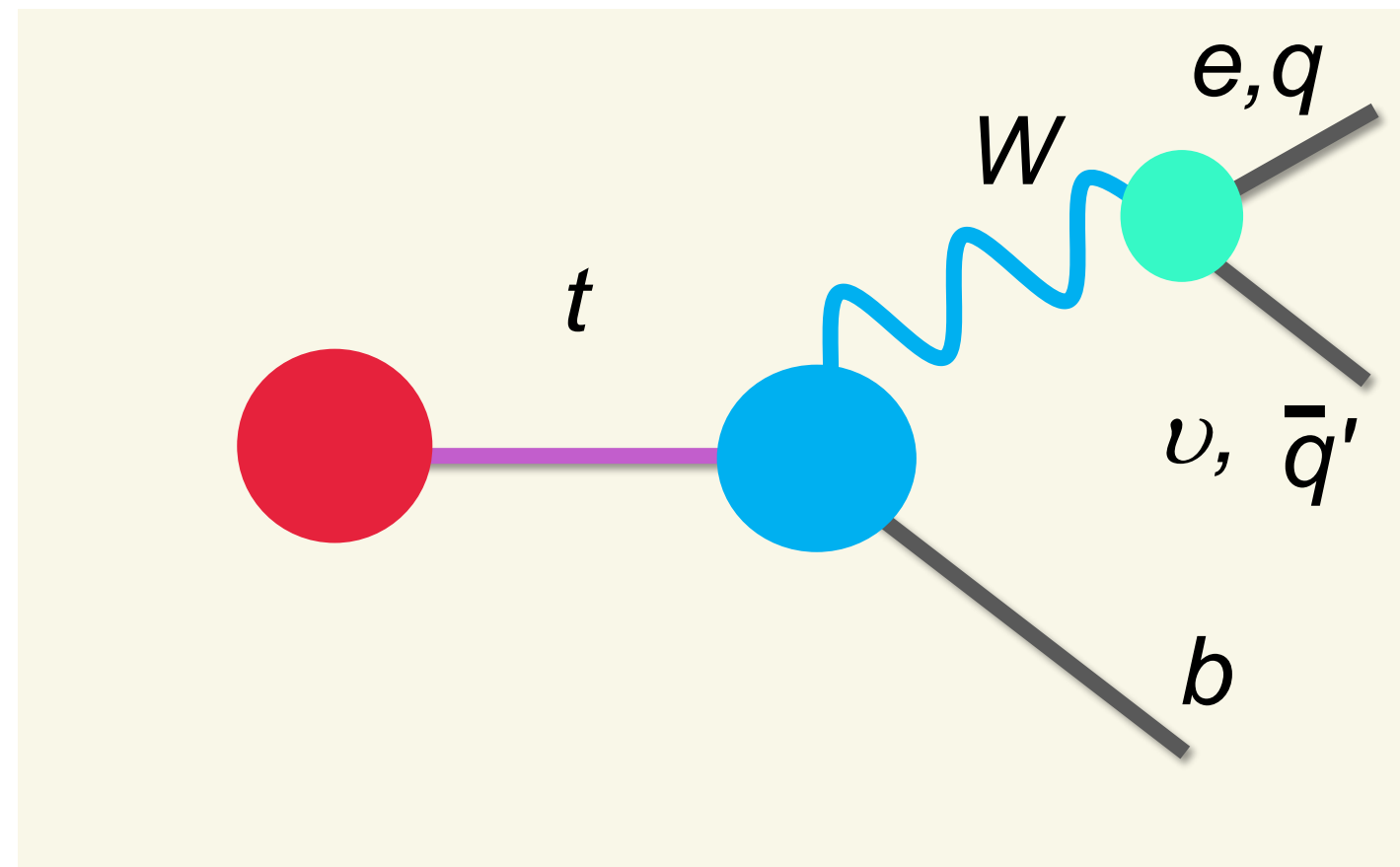
Production

Cross section

- Tests of QCD (pair)
- Electroweak (single)

Top properties

- Mass
- **Spin**
- Charge, Width



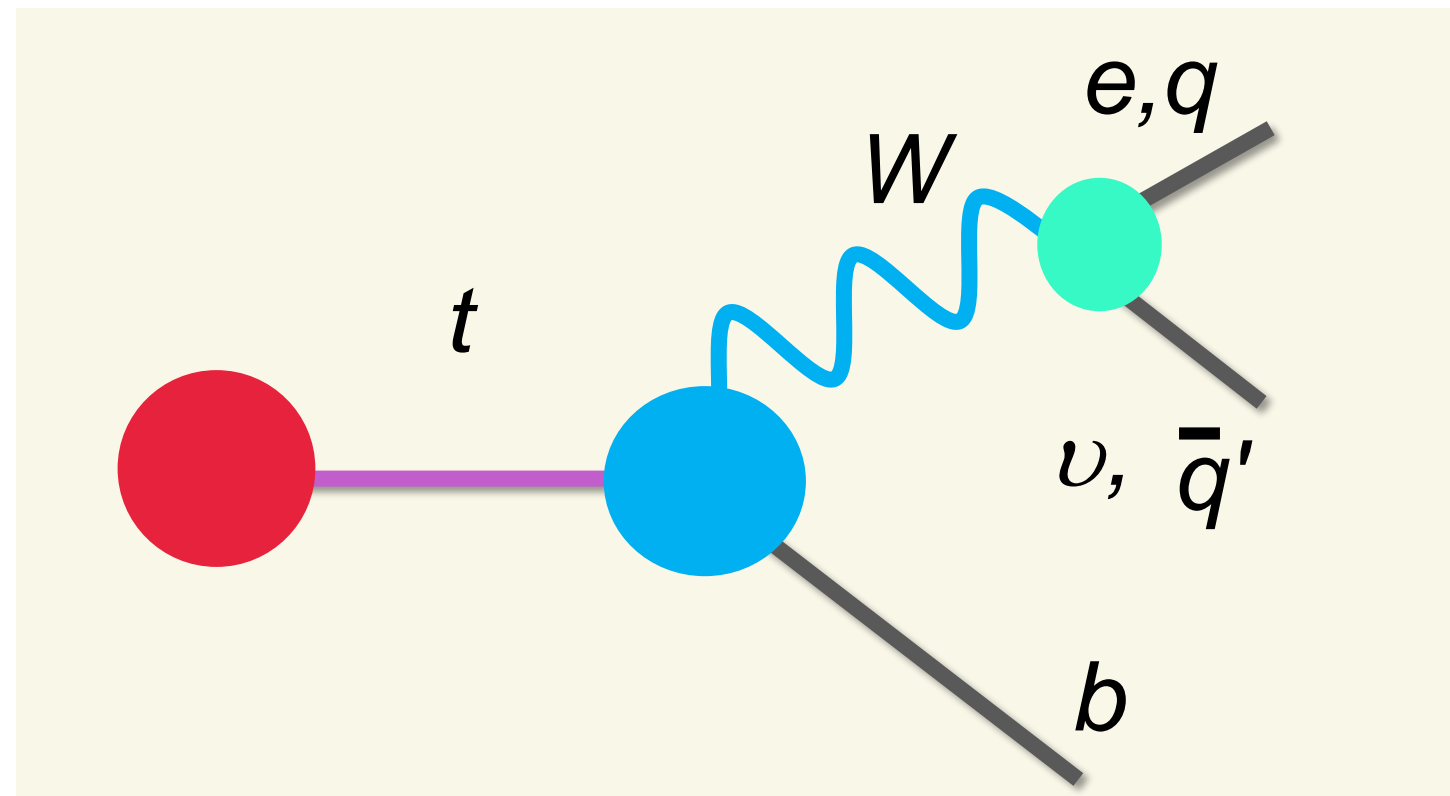
SM decay:

- $t \rightarrow Wb$ (~100%)
- W leptonic $e, \mu, (\tau)$ ~22% (11%)
 → Clean but neutrino escapes (missing E_T)
- hadronic ~66%
 → Jet Energy Scale and backgrounds

Structure Wtb vertex:

- Vtb and other couplings
- **Spin properties**
- Exotics, FCNC

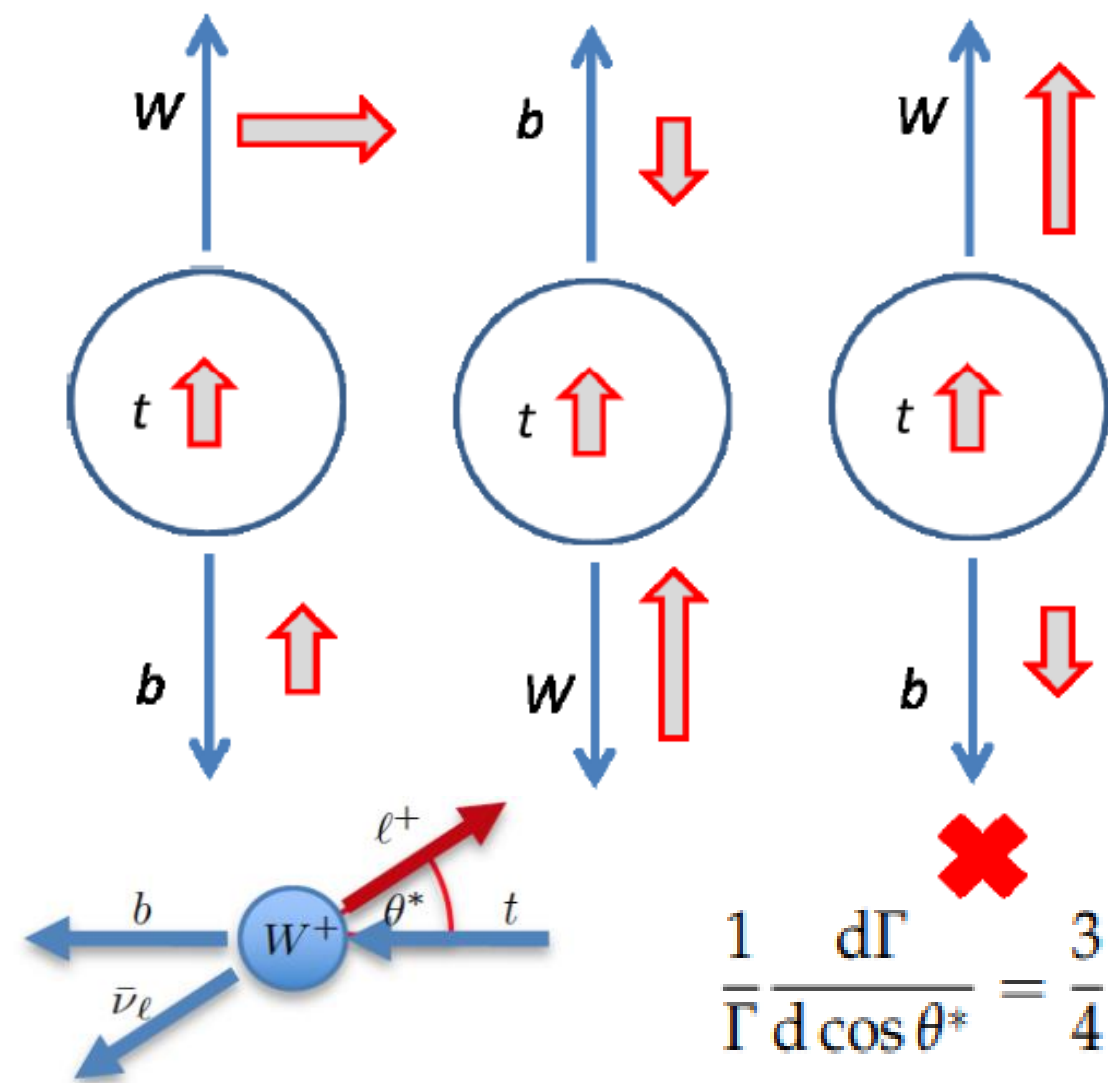
Top-quark spin; why do we care?



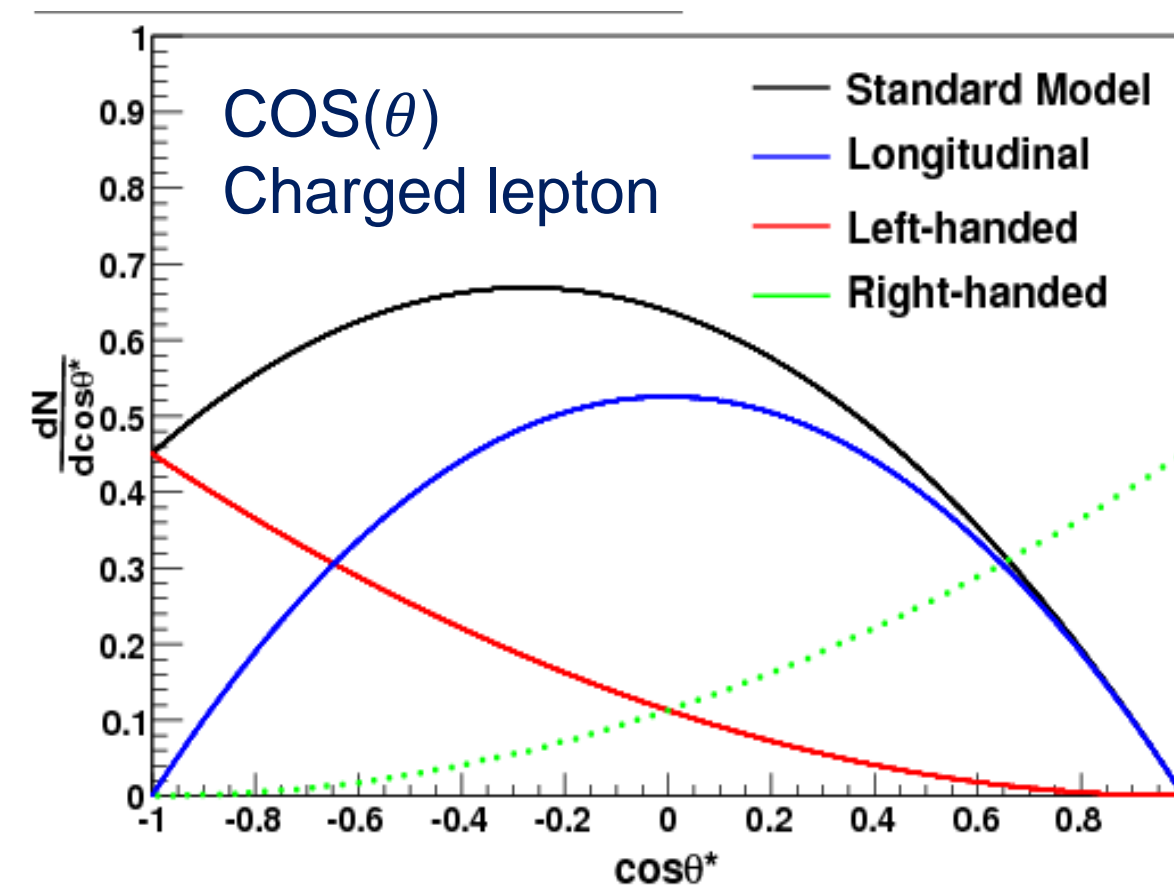
Wtb vertex: Spin structure

- Top decay products remember its Spin
- Measure V_{tb} and new couplings
- CP violation beyond the SM
- Cosmological context: Baryogenesis

Helicity basis

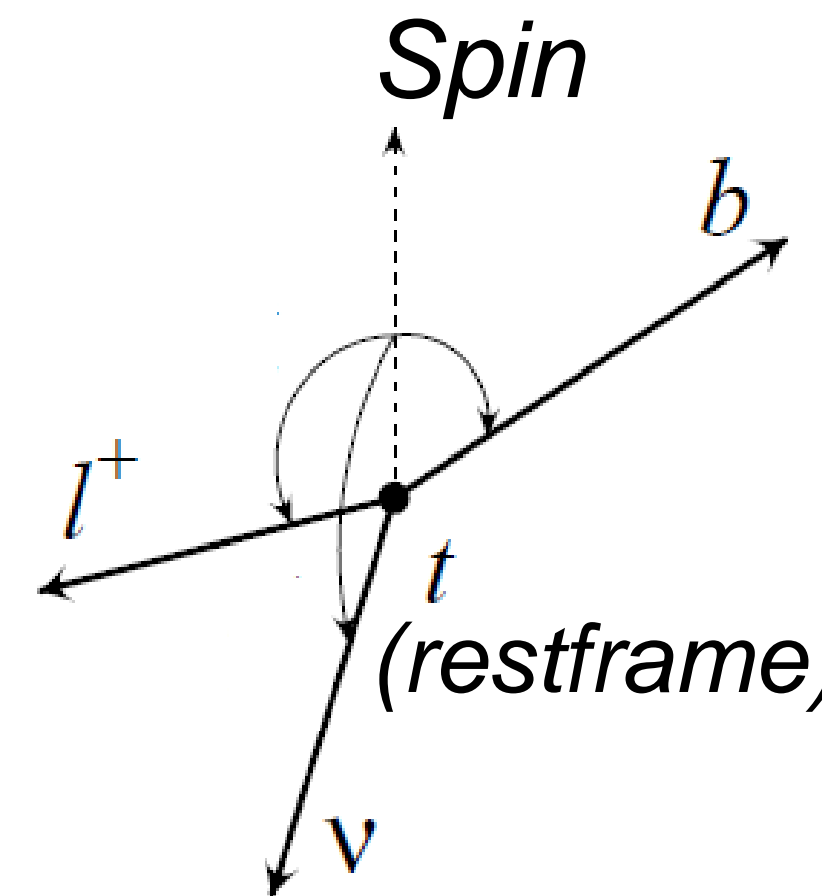


W helicity (in W rest frame)



$$\frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta^*} = \frac{3}{4} (1 - \cos^2\theta^*) F_0 + \frac{3}{8} (1 - \cos\theta^*)^2 F_L + \frac{3}{8} (1 + \cos\theta^*)^2 F_R$$

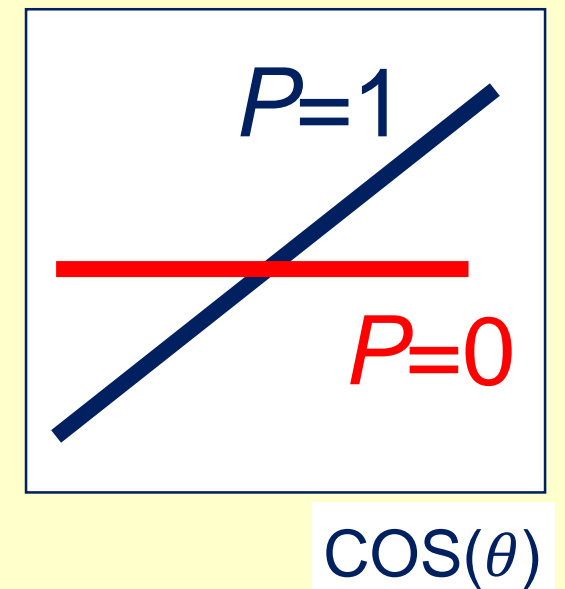
Top Polarization (in top rest frame)



$$P = \text{top polarisation} = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \alpha_X P \cos\theta_X)$$

$$\alpha_i = \begin{cases} +1.0 & l^+ \text{ or } \bar{d}\text{-quark} \\ -0.31 & \bar{\nu} \text{ or } u\text{-quark} \\ -0.41 & b\text{-quark} \end{cases}$$

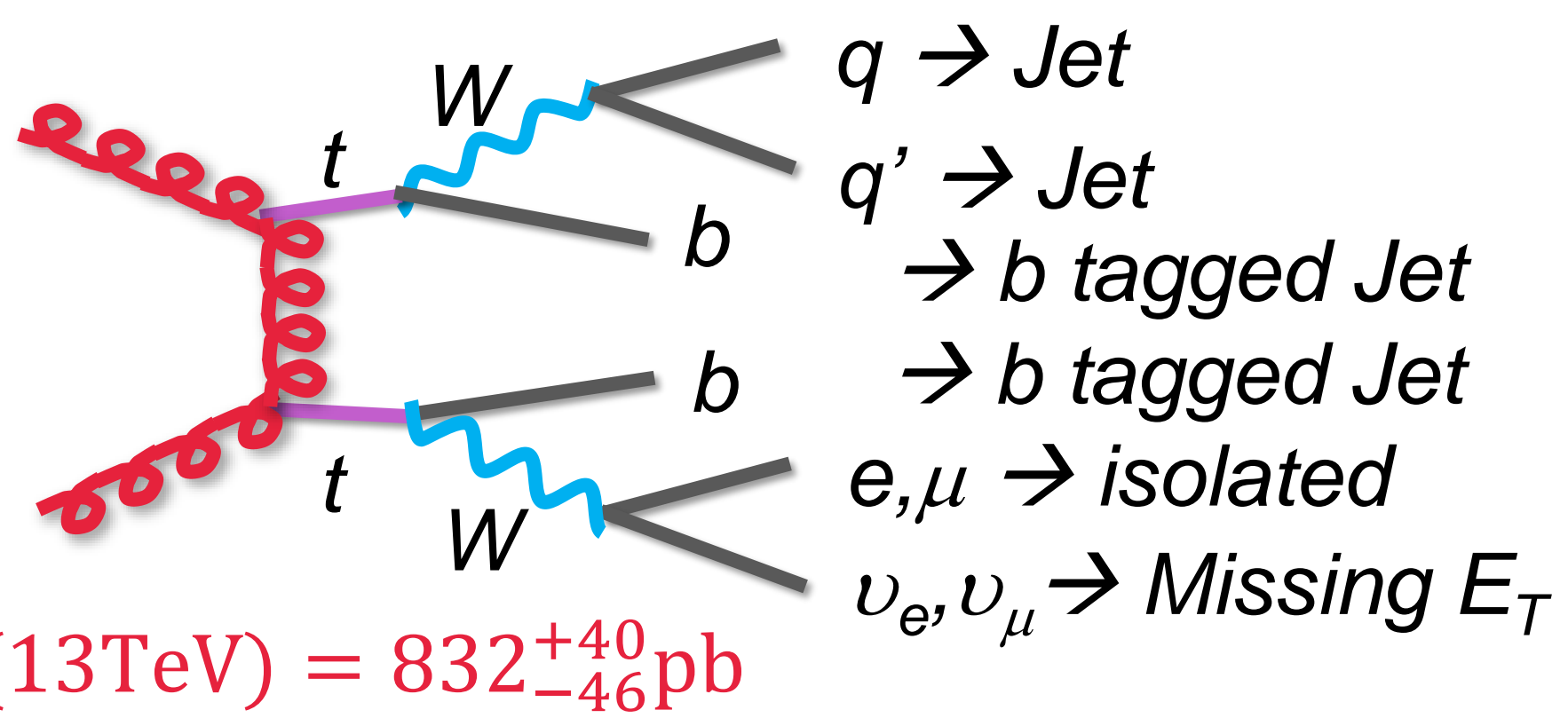
Asymmetry



W-helicity combined measurement 8 TeV

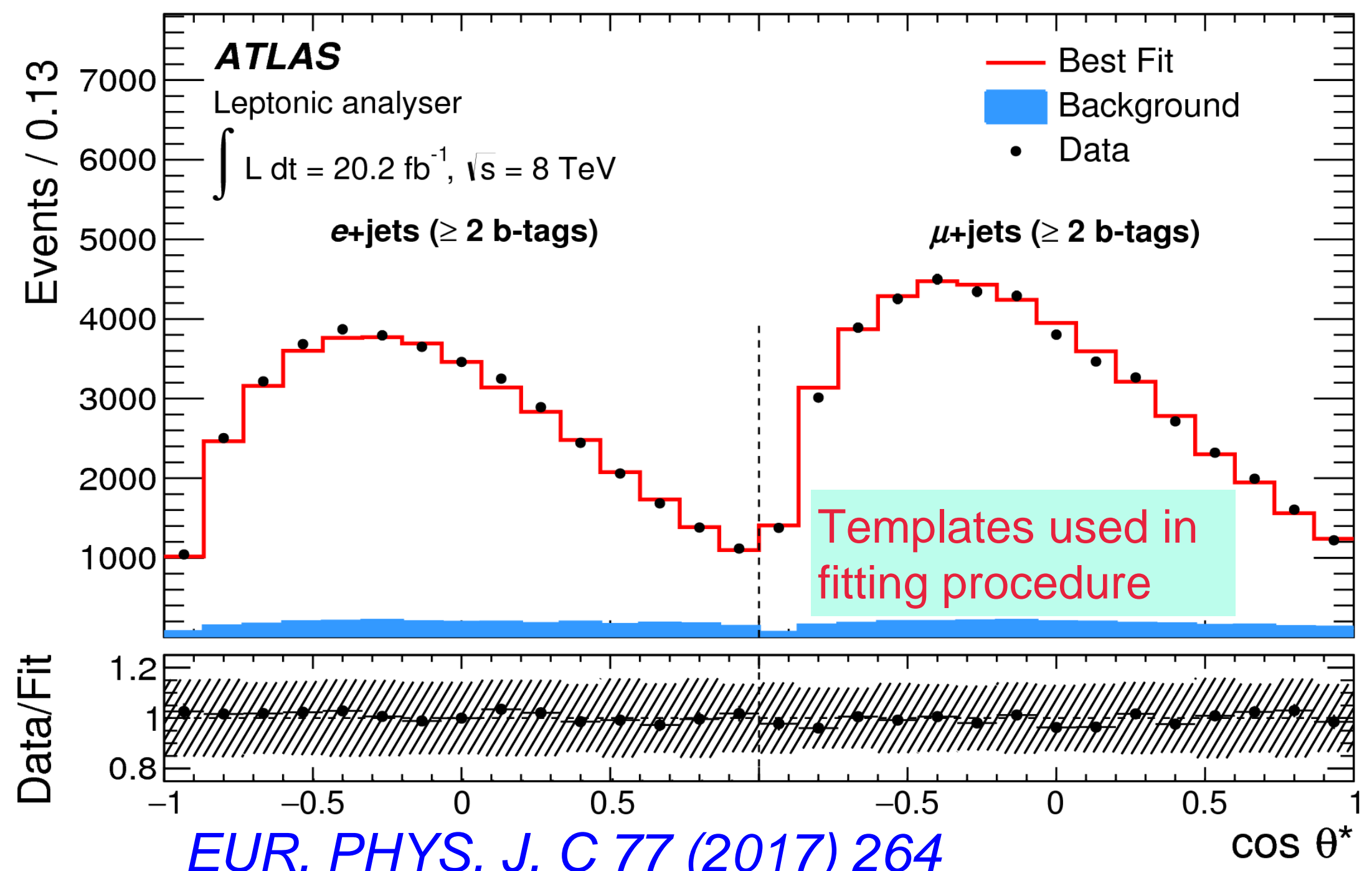
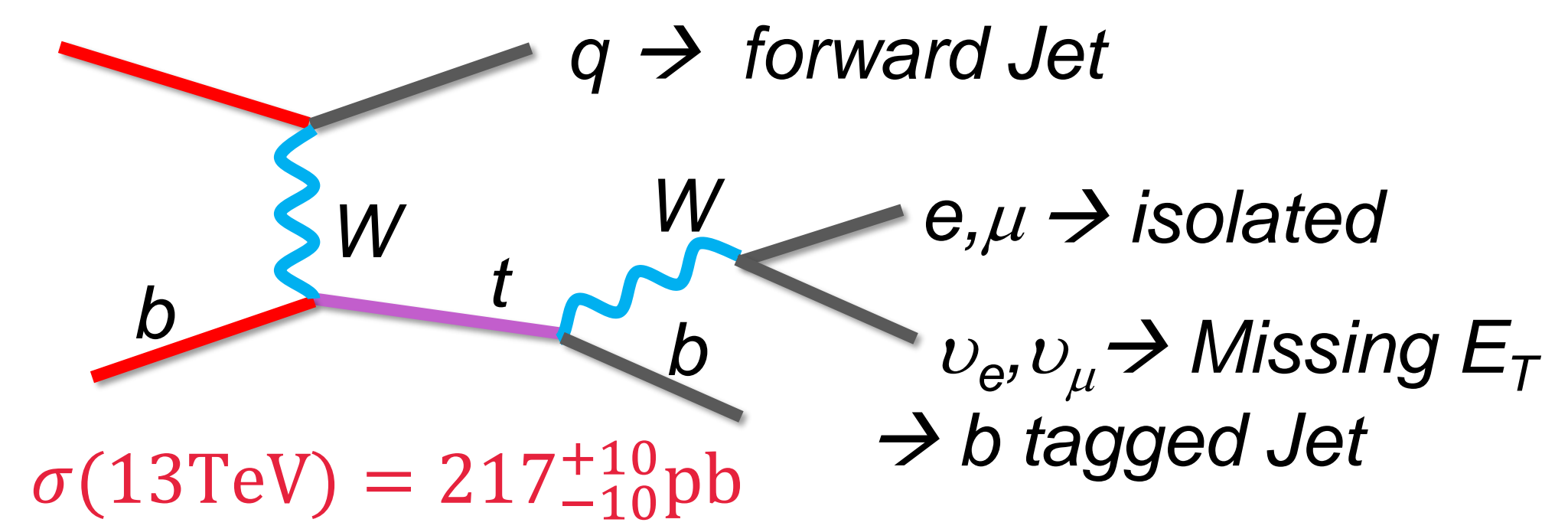
W-helicity in top quark decay

ttbar final state
"semi-leptonic"



Typical cut
on objects
 $p_T > 25 \text{GeV}$

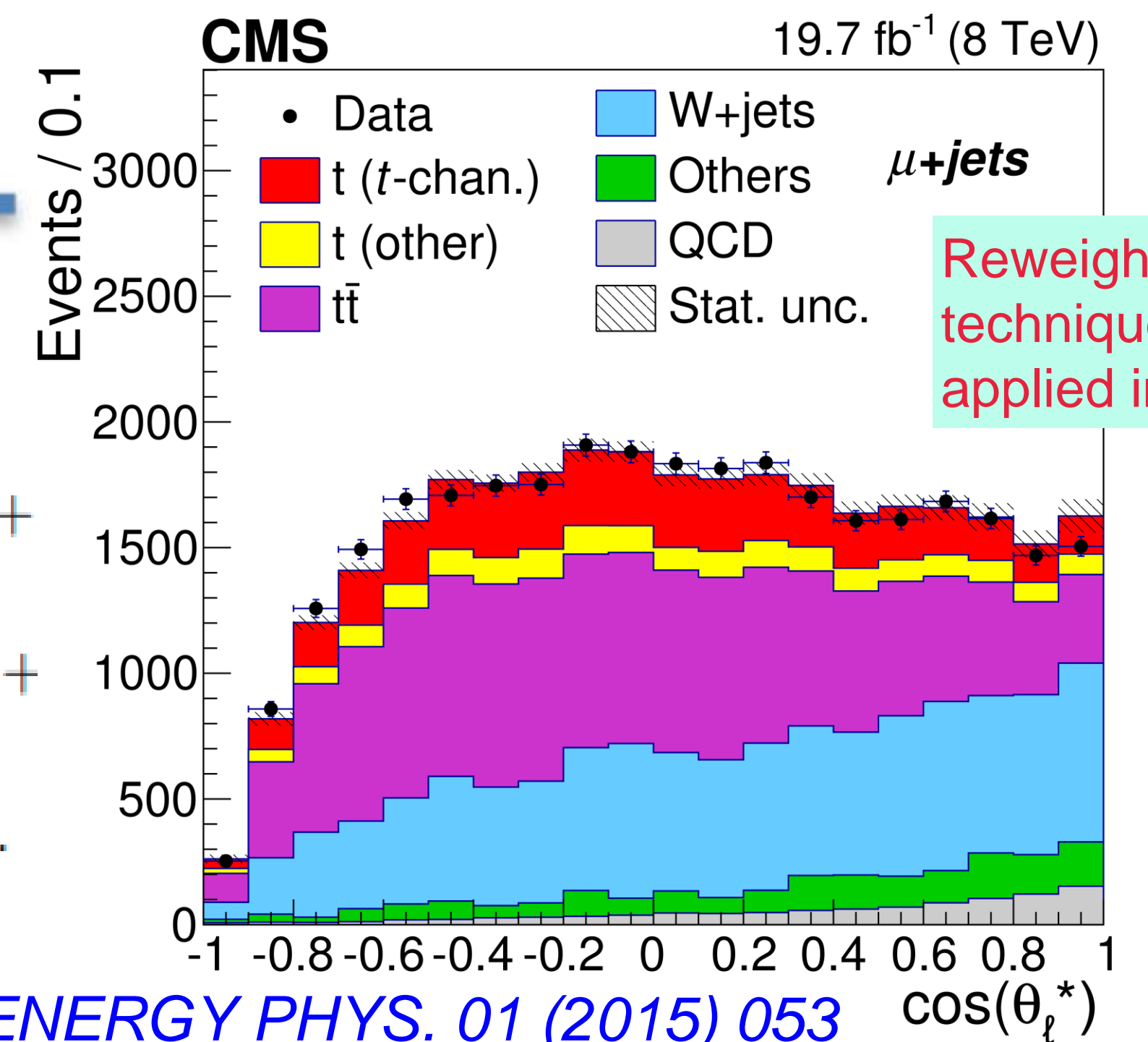
single top
t-channel



EUR. PHYS. J. C 77 (2017) 264

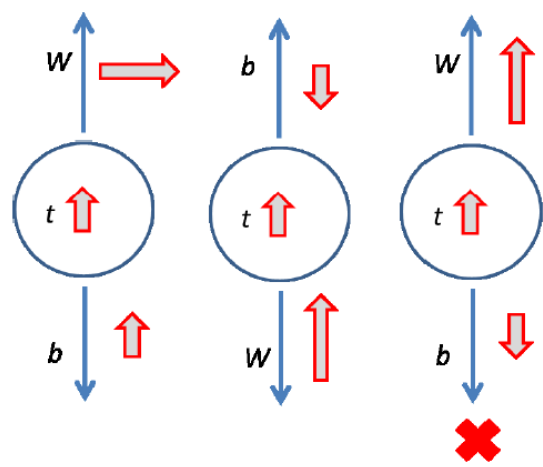
$$\frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{d \cos \theta^*} = \frac{3}{4} (1 - \cos^2 \theta^*) F_0 + \frac{3}{8} (1 - \cos \theta^*)^2 F_L + \frac{3}{8} (1 + \cos \theta^*)^2 F_R$$

J. HIGH ENERGY PHYS. 01 (2015) 053



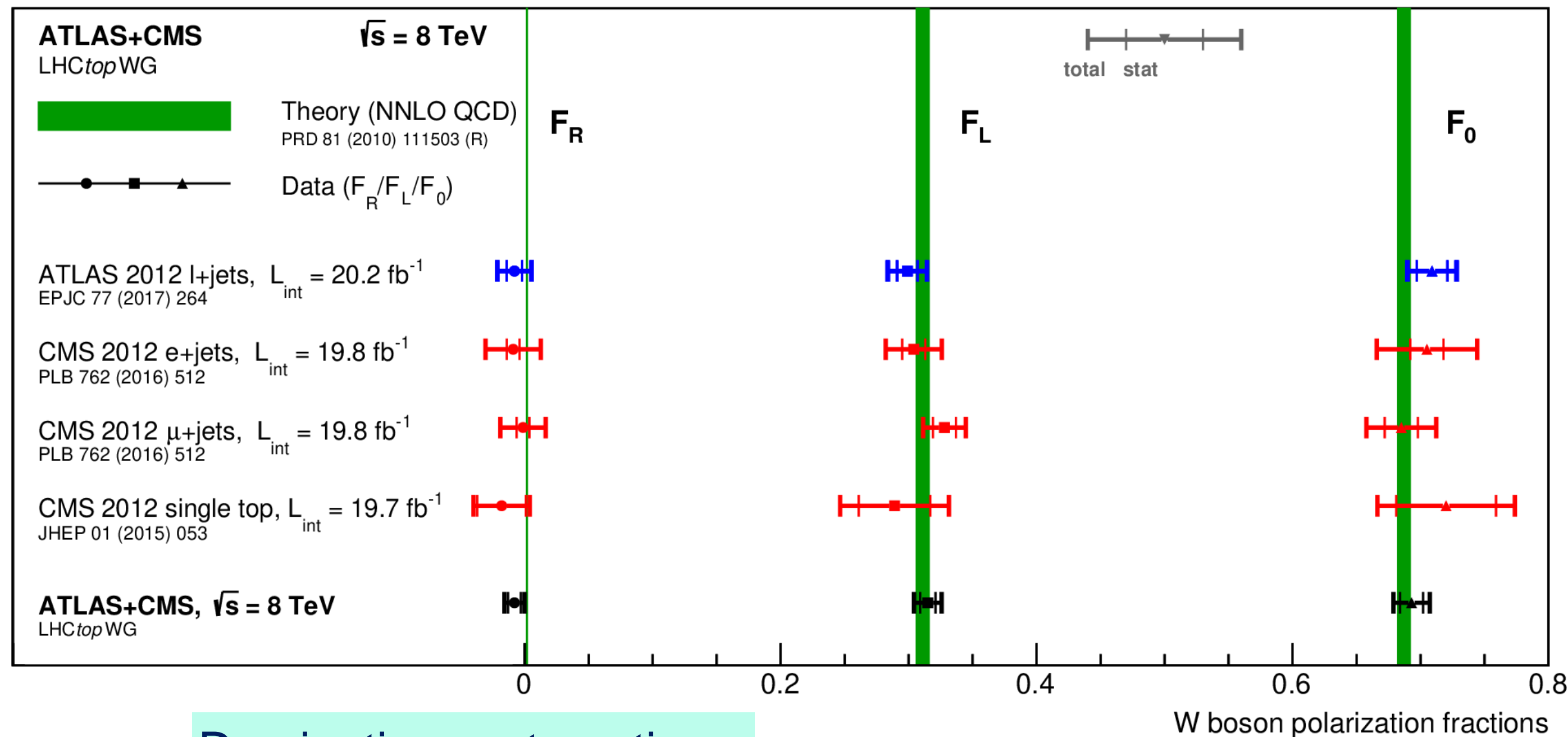
W-helicity ATLAS+CMS combination 8 TeV

[JHEP 08 \(2020\) 51](#)



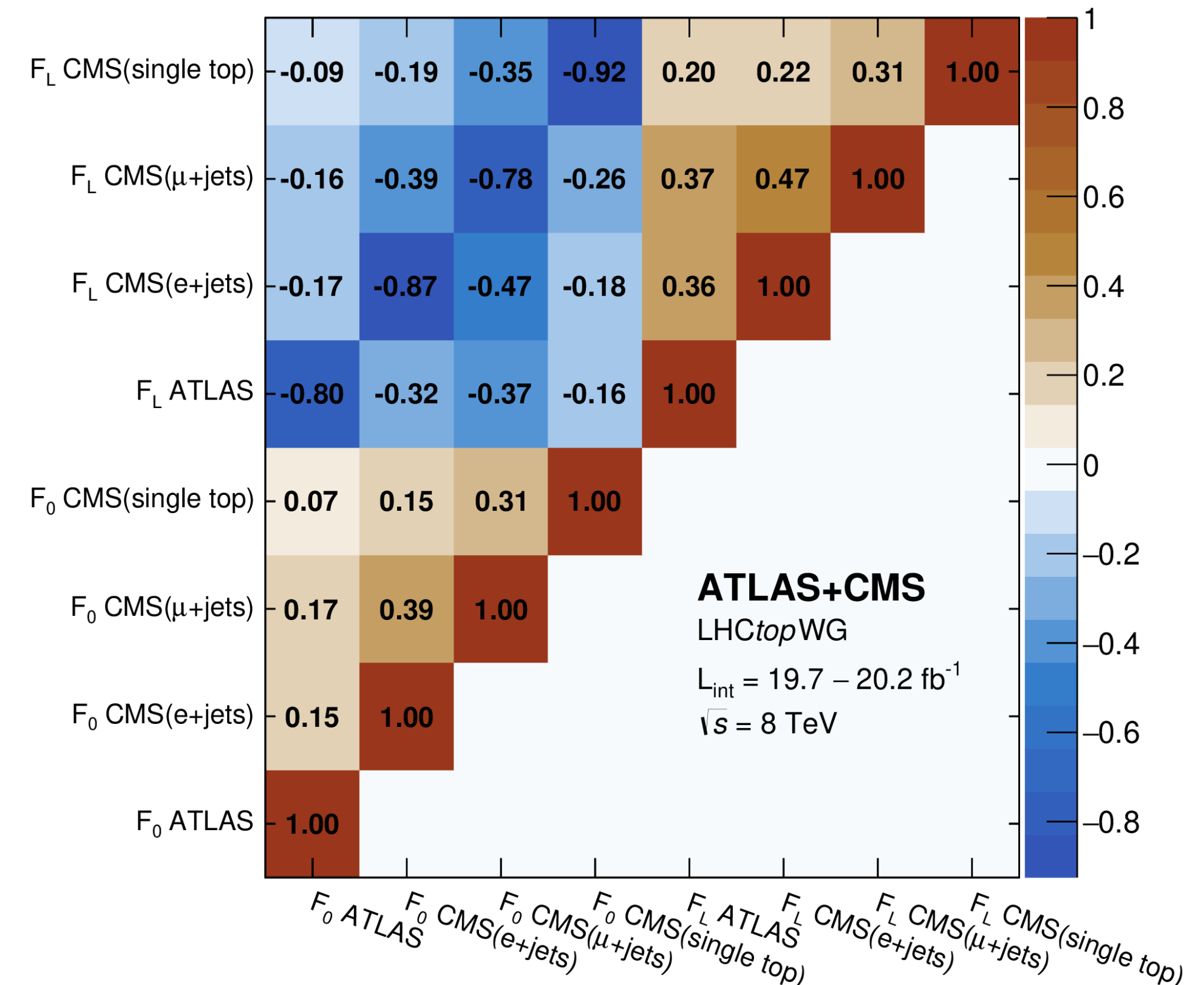
$$\frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta^*} = \frac{3}{4} (1 - \cos^2\theta^*) F_0 + \frac{3}{8} (1 - \cos\theta^*)^2 F_L + \frac{3}{8} (1 + \cos\theta^*)^2 F_R.$$

BLUE method used to combine



Dominating systematics:
-Exp: Jes, Jer
-Theo: Simulation model, radiation, scale

F0 uncertainty 2.0%, 25% more precise than inputs
FL uncertainty 3.5%, 29% more precise than inputs
FR < 0.007 at 95% CL, factor of 2 more precise than inputs

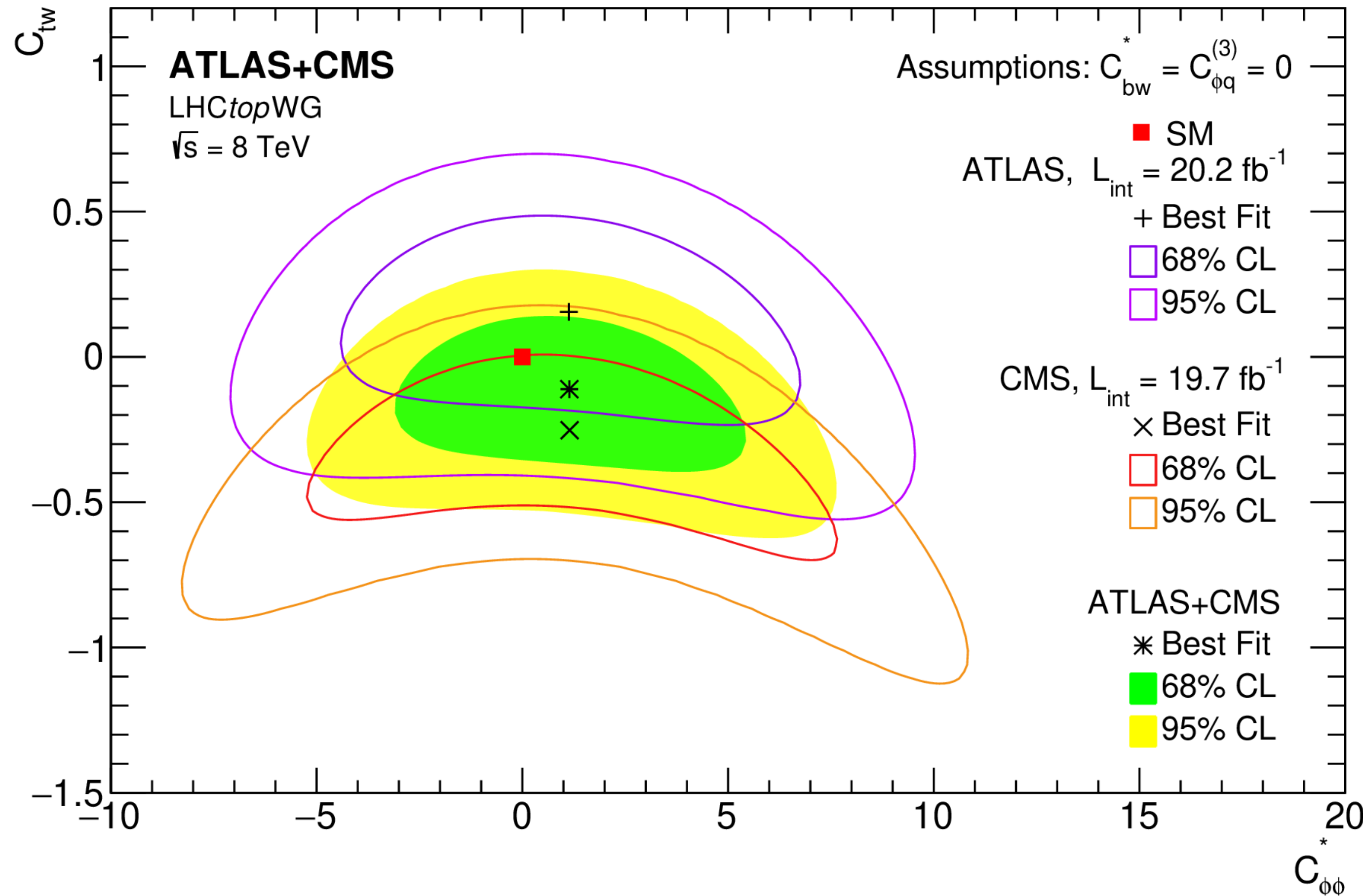


W-helicity EFT interpretation

SM Effective Field Theory (SMEFT) interpretation up to dim6

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i \frac{C_i}{\Lambda^2} O_i^{[6]}$$

Coefficient Operator-dim6
Scale BSM physics.
Set to 1 TeV²



$$O_{\phi\phi} = i(\tilde{\phi}^\dagger D_\mu \phi)(\bar{t}_R \gamma^\mu b_R),$$

$$O_{tW} = (\bar{q}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} \tau^I t_R) \tilde{\phi} W_{\mu\nu}^I,$$

$$O_{bW} = (\bar{q}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} \tau^I b_R) \phi W_{\mu\nu}^I,$$

Coefficient	95%CL (INDIV.) ATLAS+CMS
$C_{\phi\phi}^*$	$[-3.48, 5.16]$
C_{bW}^*	$[-0.96, 0.67]$
C_{tW}	$[-0.48, 0.29]$

Note: values kept real

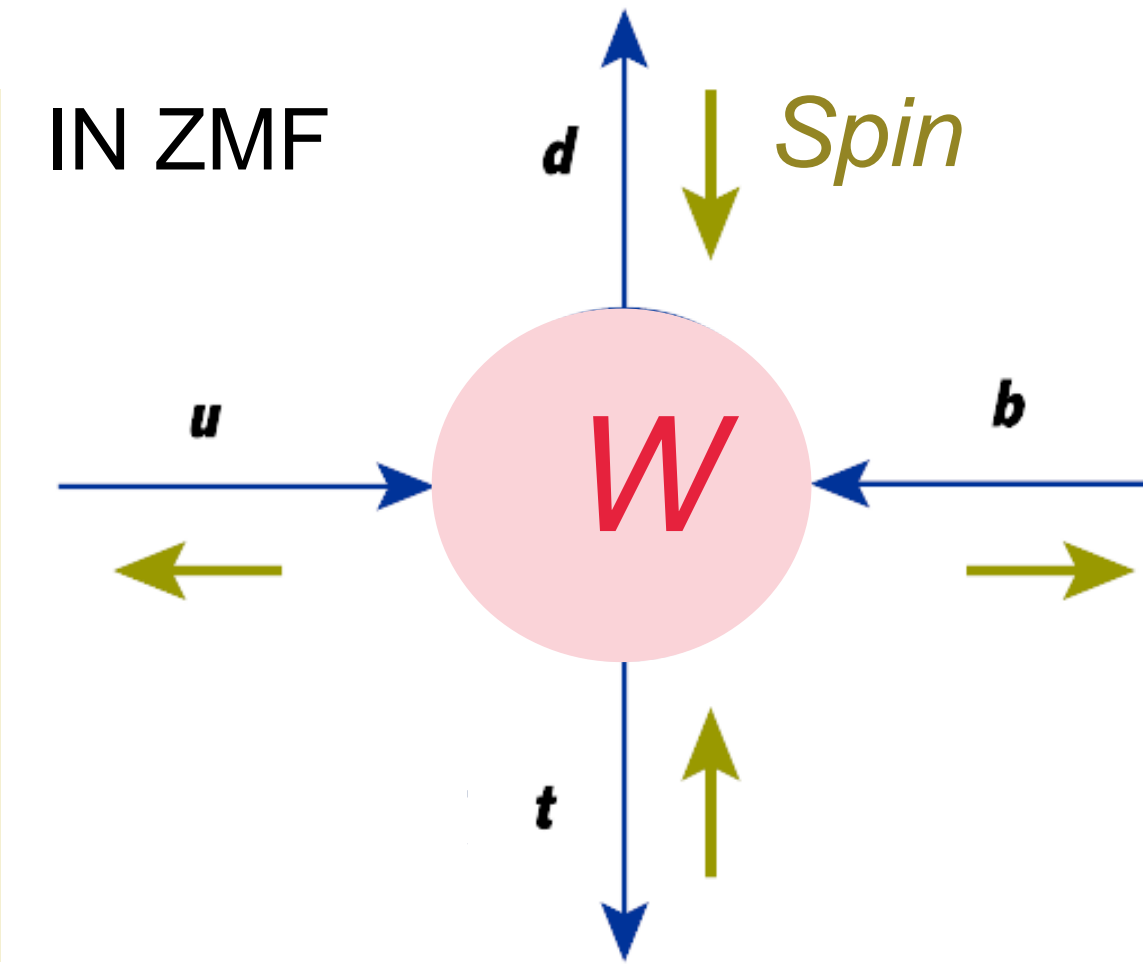
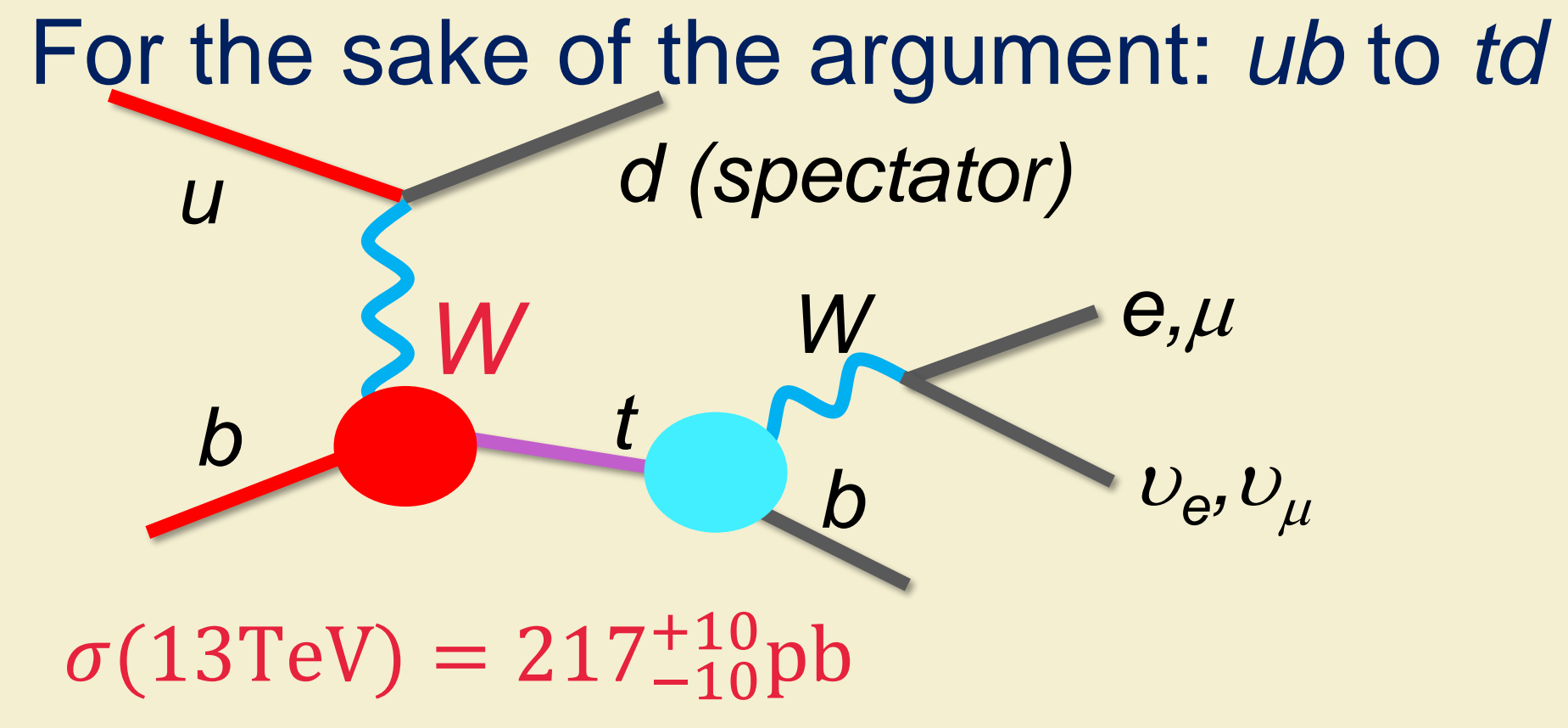
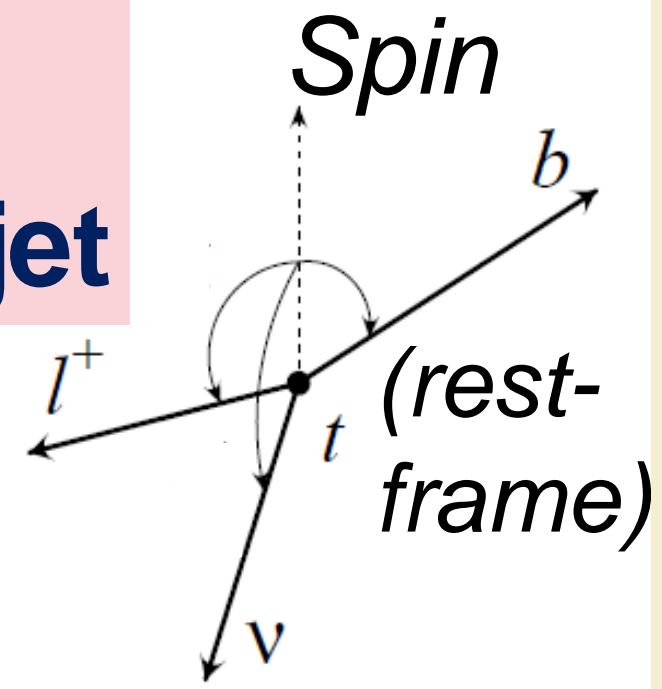
Polarized top production (single top)

Wtb vertex: Polarized production in t-channel

EW production:
Top spin polarized in
direction of **spectator jet**

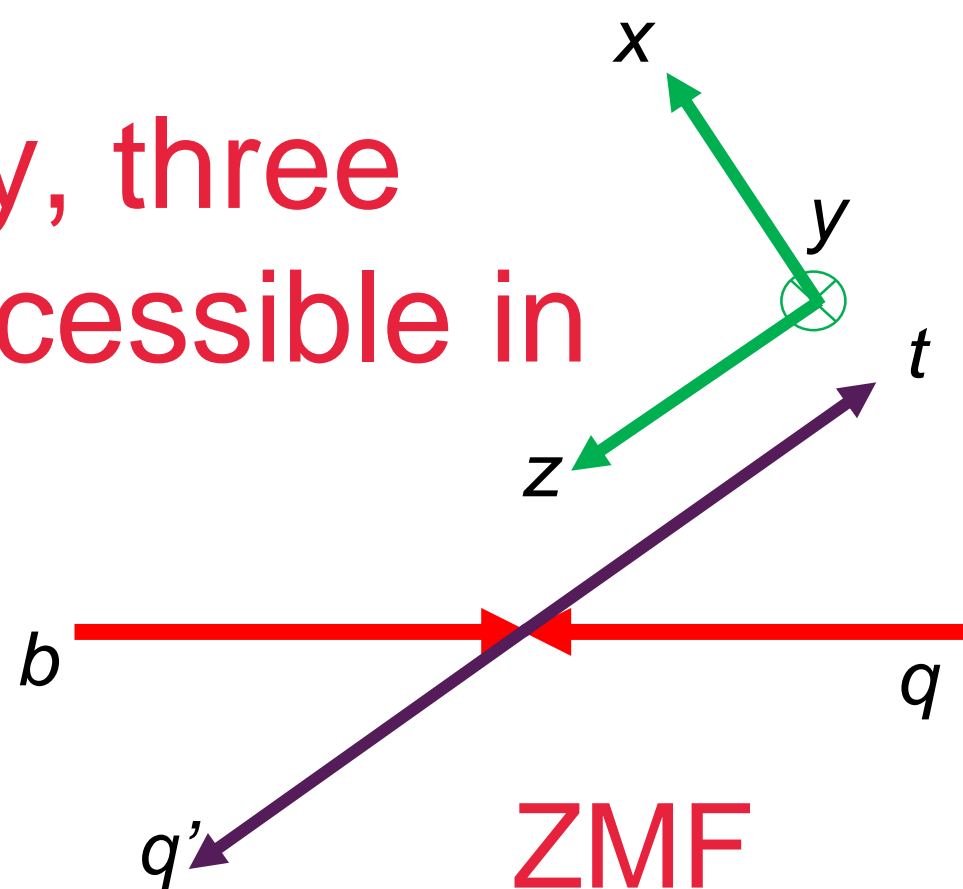
$$\frac{1}{2}(1 + \alpha_l P \cos(\theta_l))$$

lepton: $\alpha_l \cong 1$ top pol.

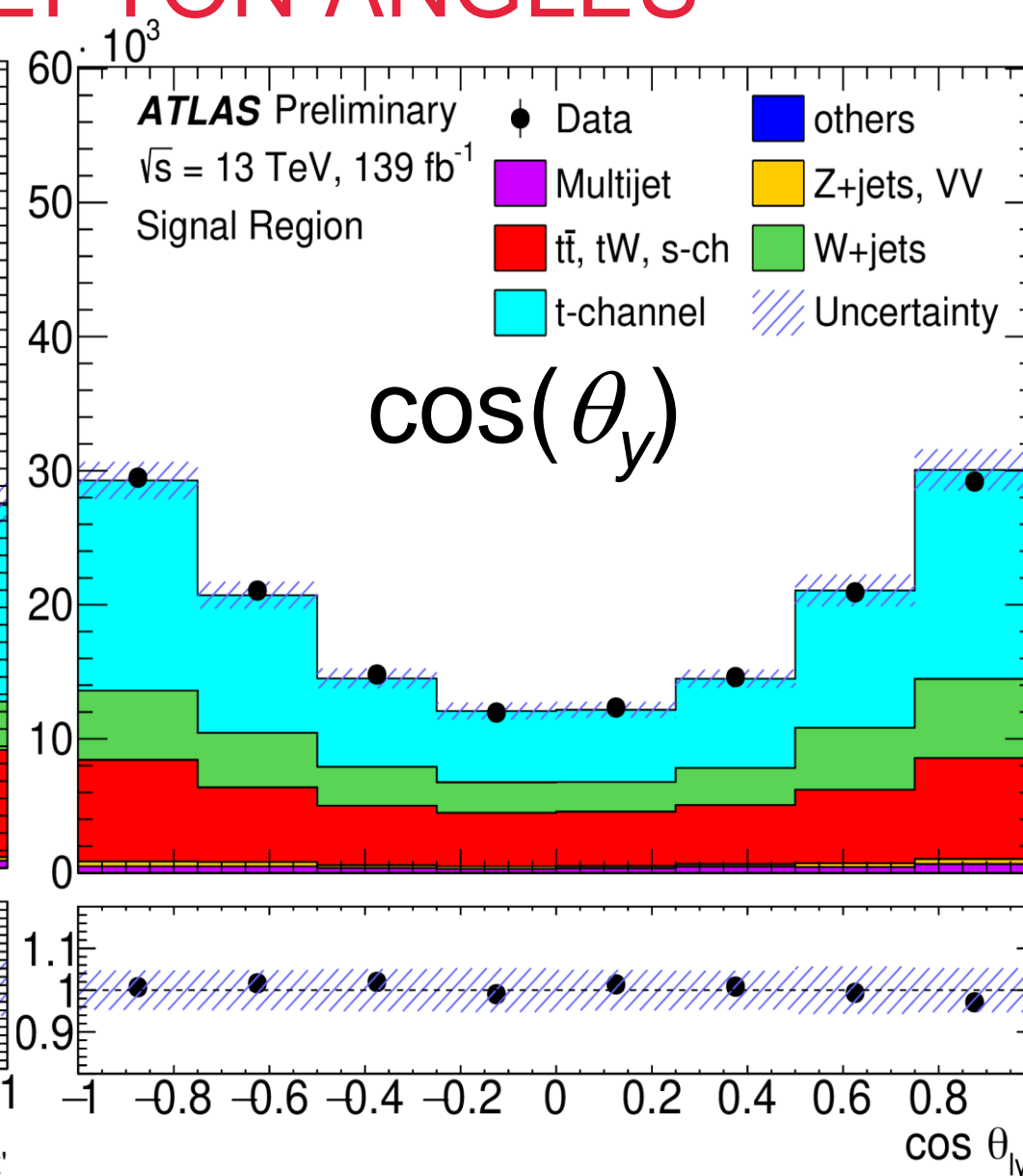
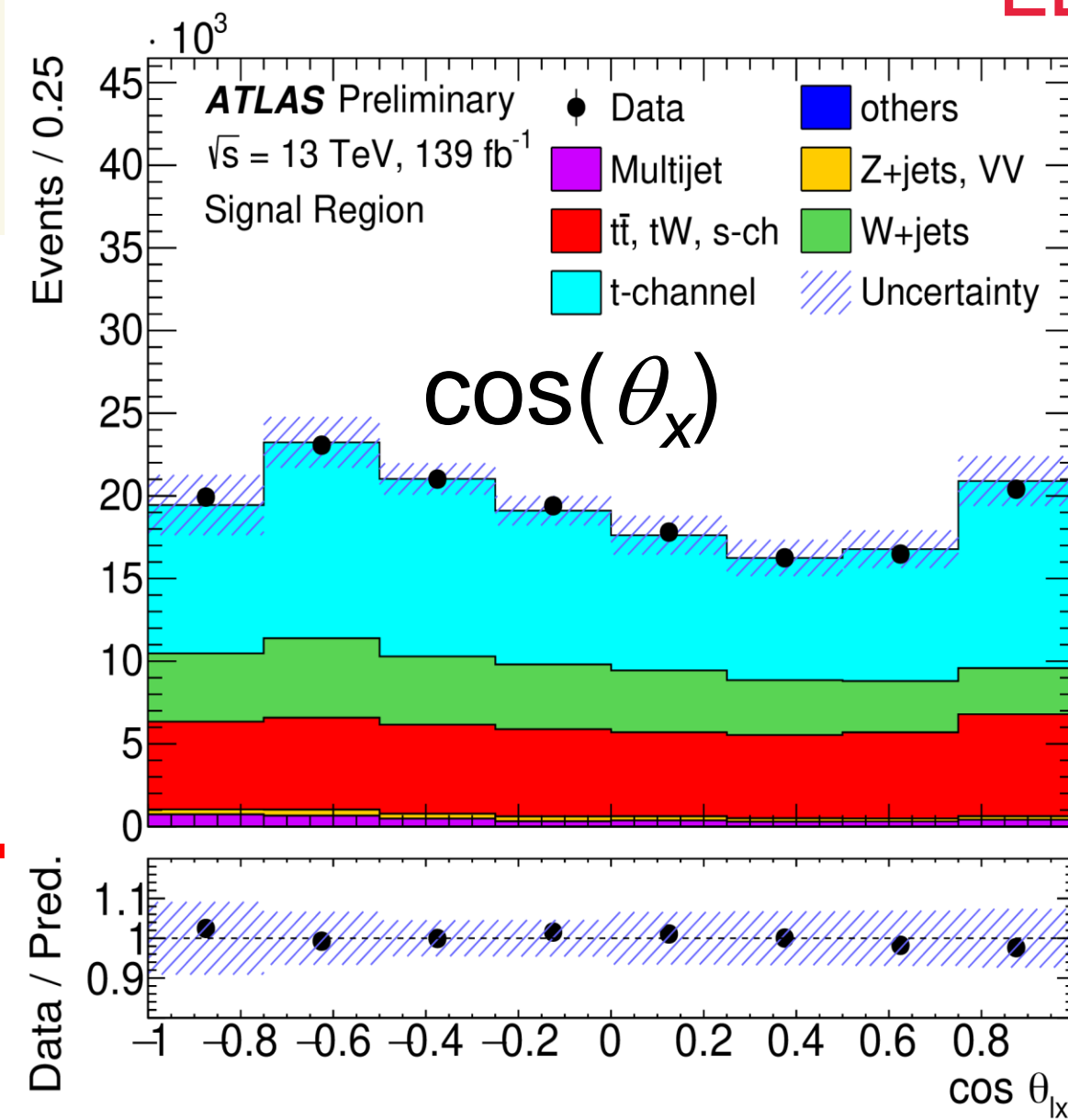


Leads to Asymmetries in angular distributions
→ secrets of the Wtb vertex

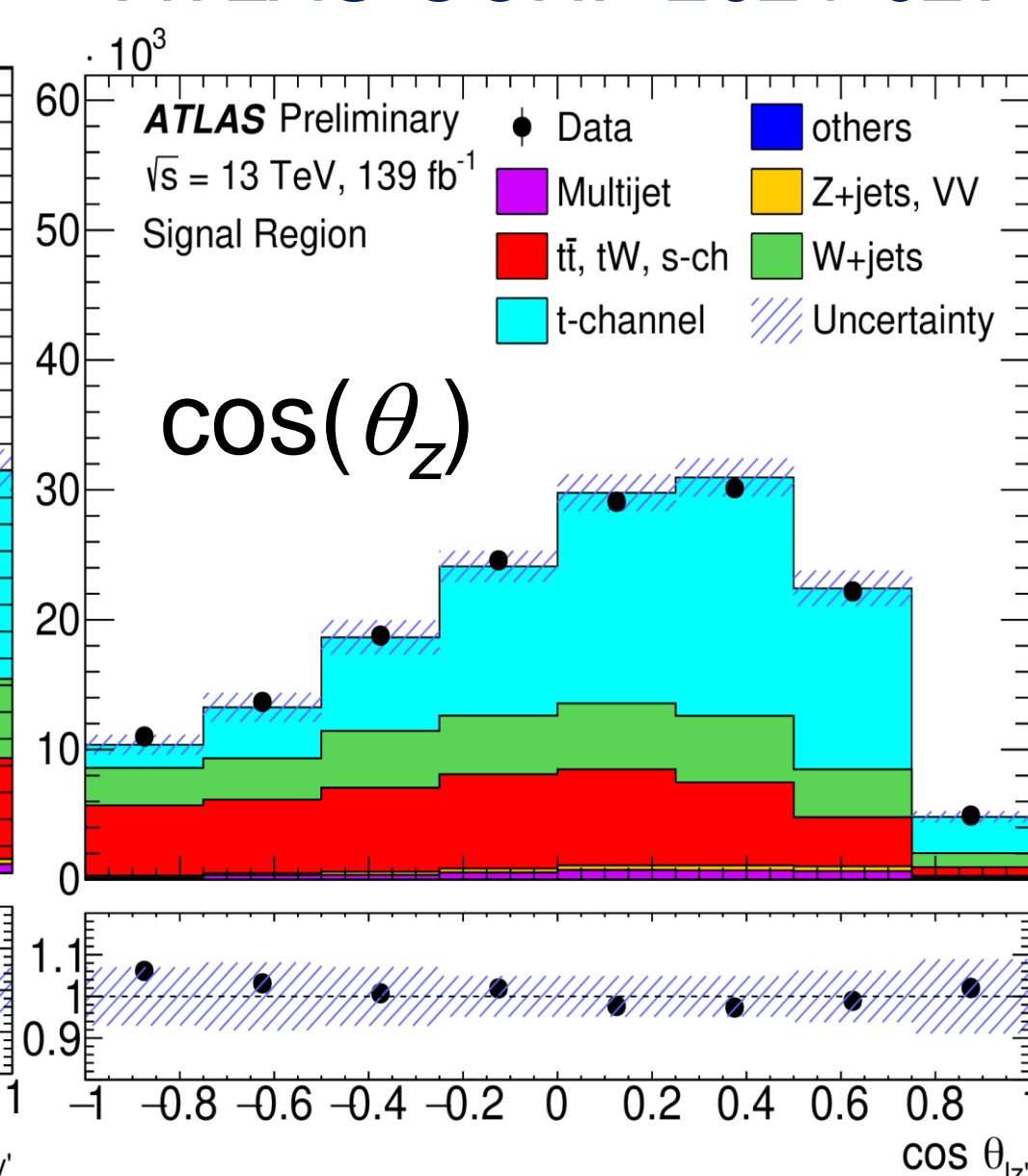
Experimentally, three
projections accessible in
top restframe:
 P_x, P_y, P_z



LEPTON ANGLES



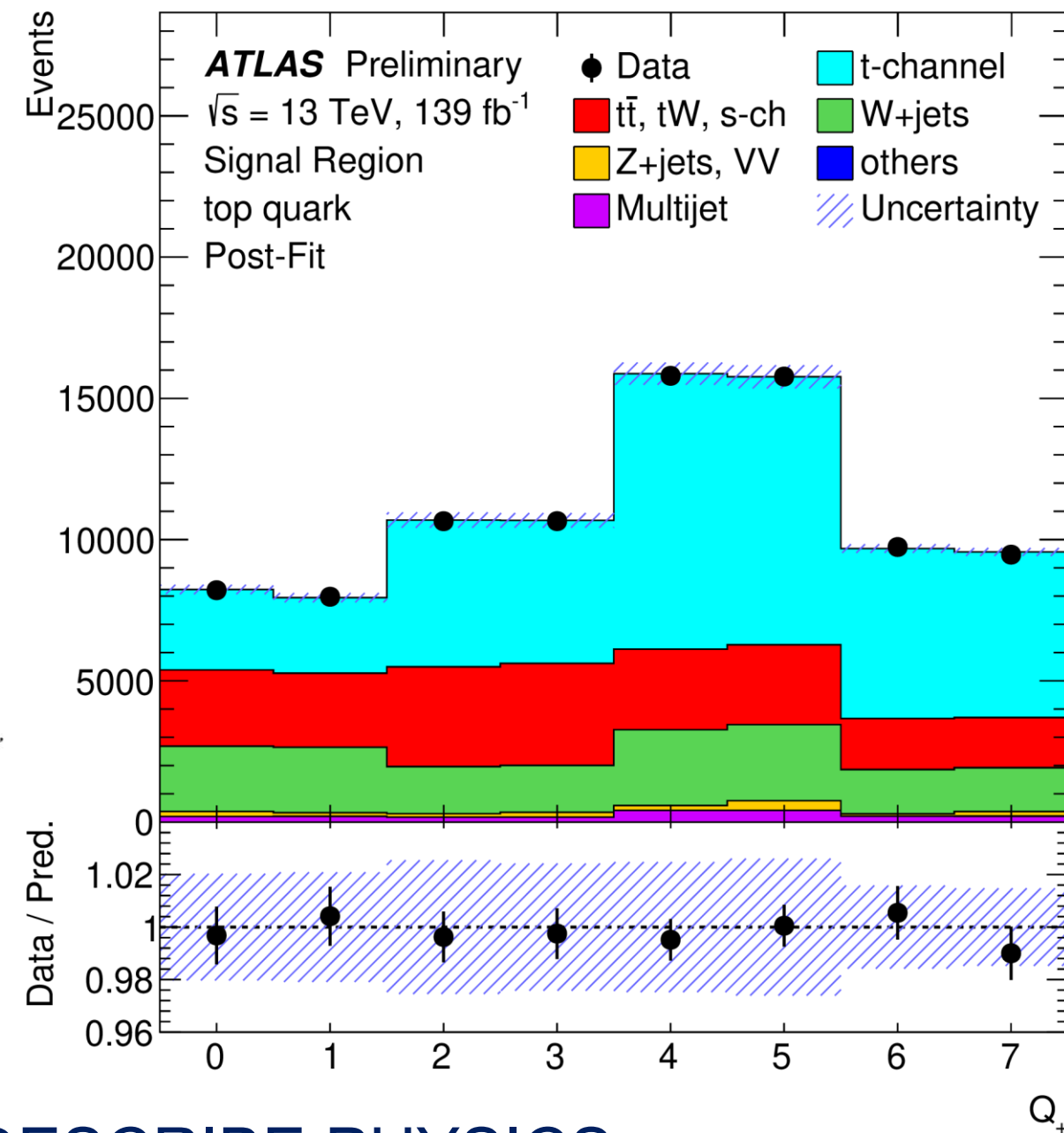
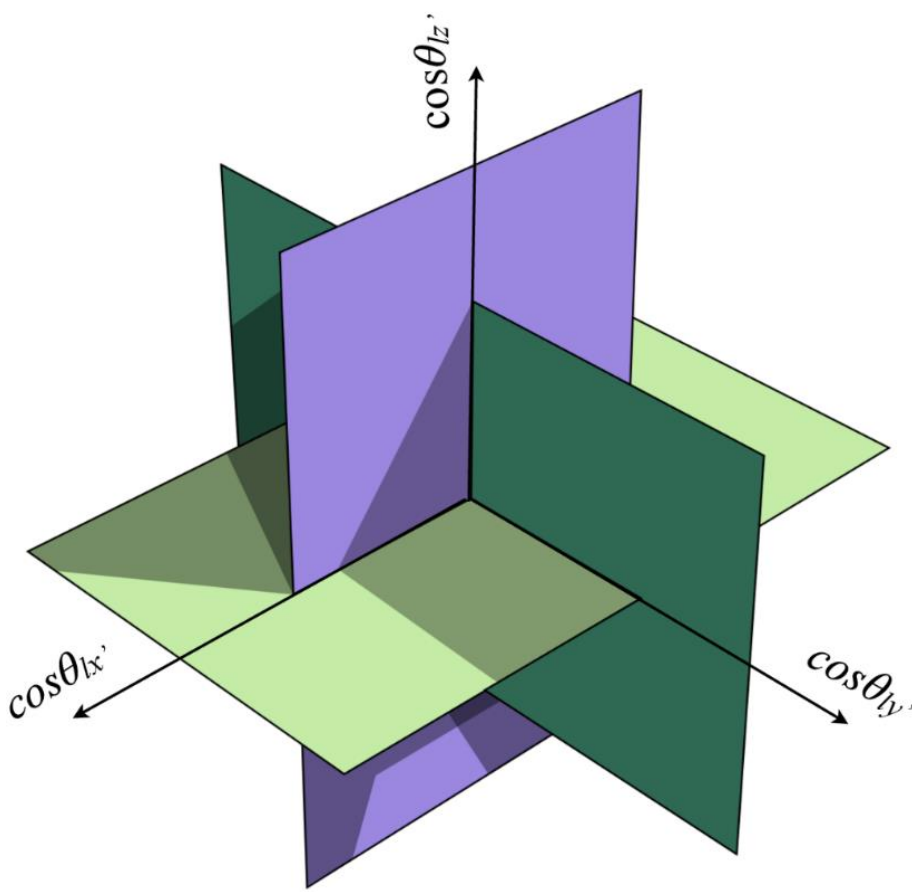
ATLAS-CONF-2021-027



Wtb vertex: Polarized production in t-channel

The three angular $\cos(\theta)$ distributions are mapped to 8 independent bins

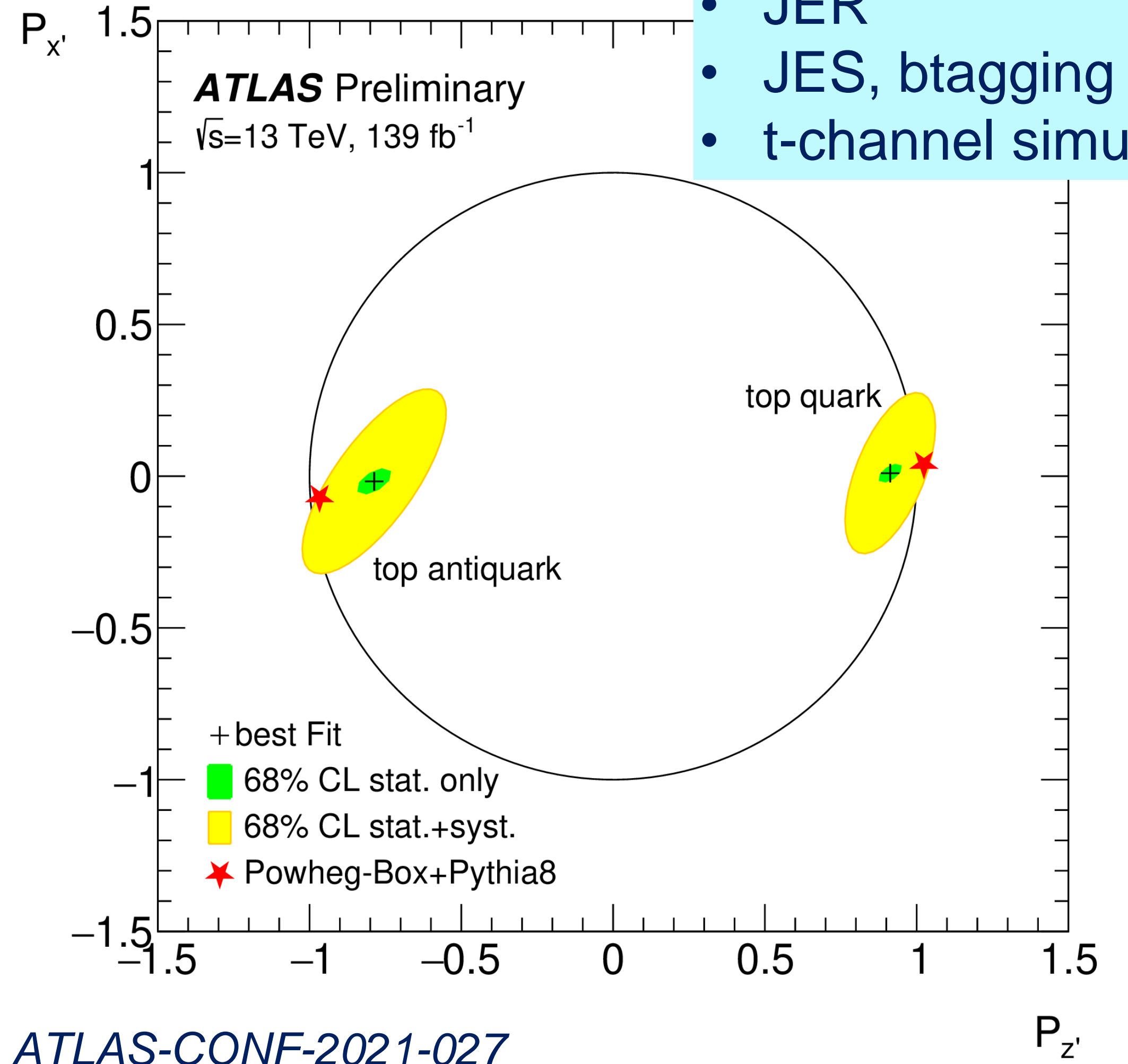
$$Q = 4 \cdot \Theta(\cos \theta_{\ell z'}) + 2 \cdot \Theta(\cos \theta_{\ell x'}) + \Theta(\cos \theta_{\ell y'})$$



“ONLY” 4 TEMPLATES DESCRIBE PHYSICS:

$$\frac{1+P_z}{2} \mathcal{F}_{z+} + \frac{1-P_z}{2} \mathcal{F}_{z-} + \frac{P_x}{2} \mathcal{F}_x + \frac{P_y}{2} \mathcal{F}_y$$

→ Template fit



- Systematics:
- JER
 - JES, btagging
 - t-channel simulation

ATLAS-CONF-2021-027

t-channel: particle level and EFT interpretation

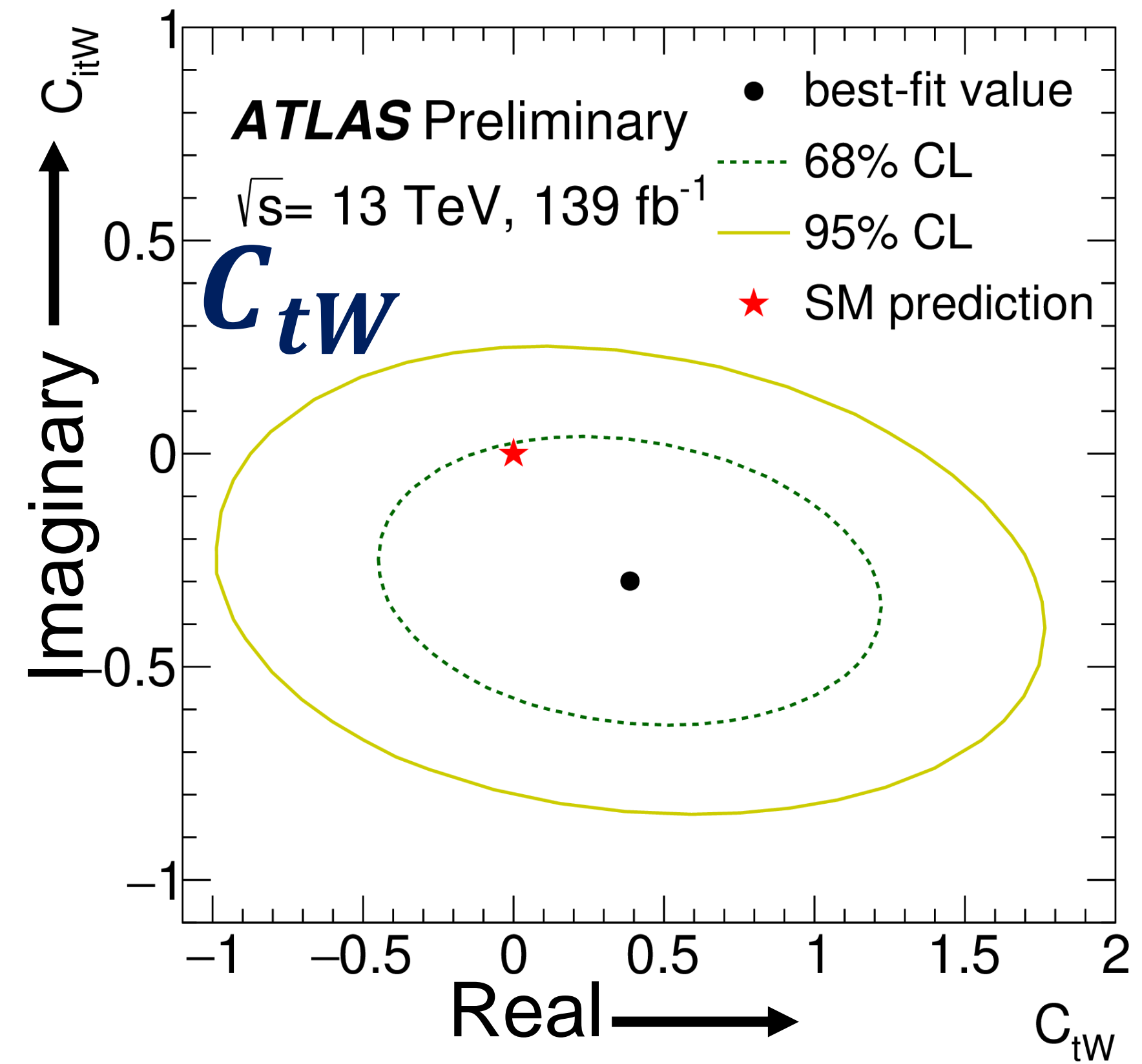
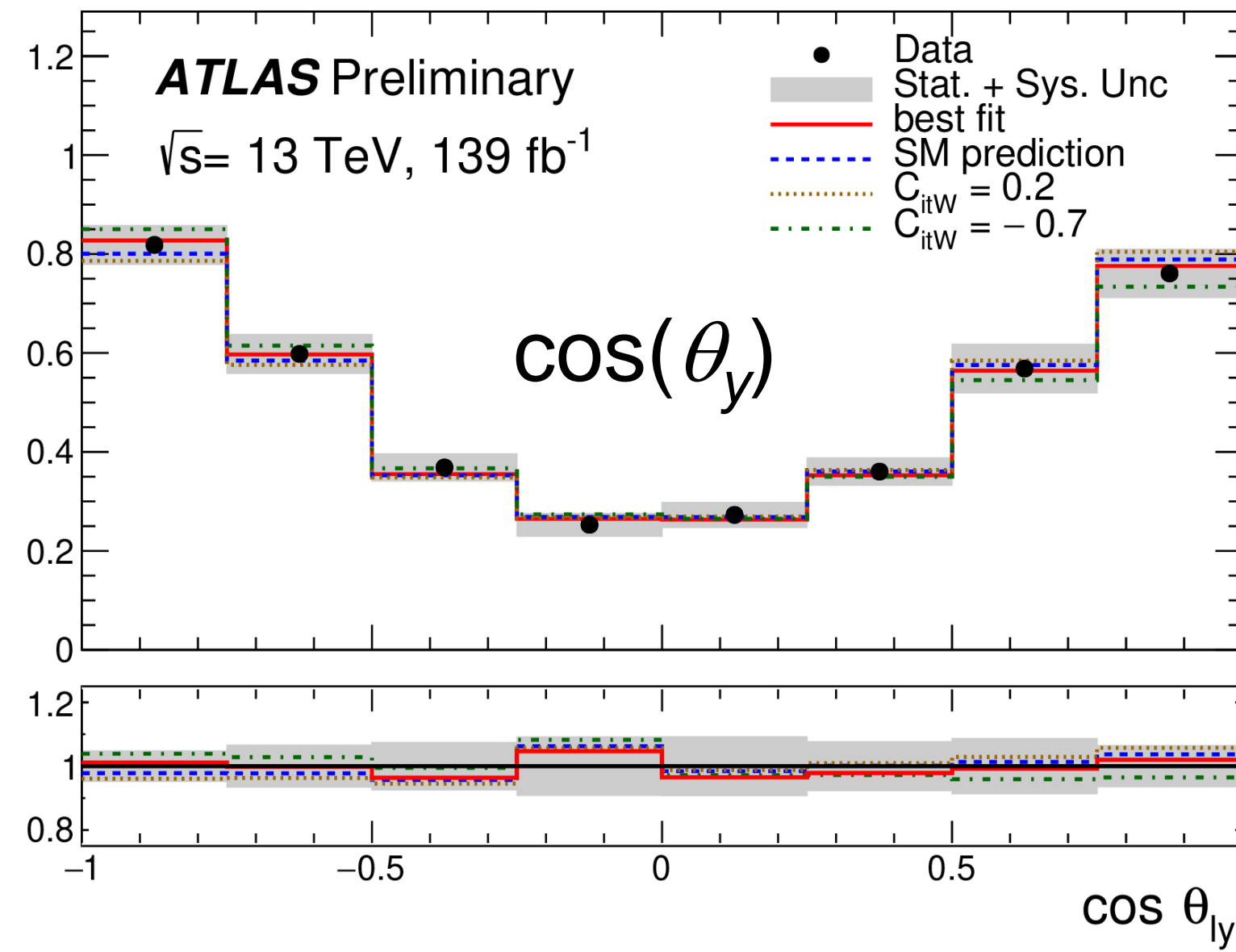
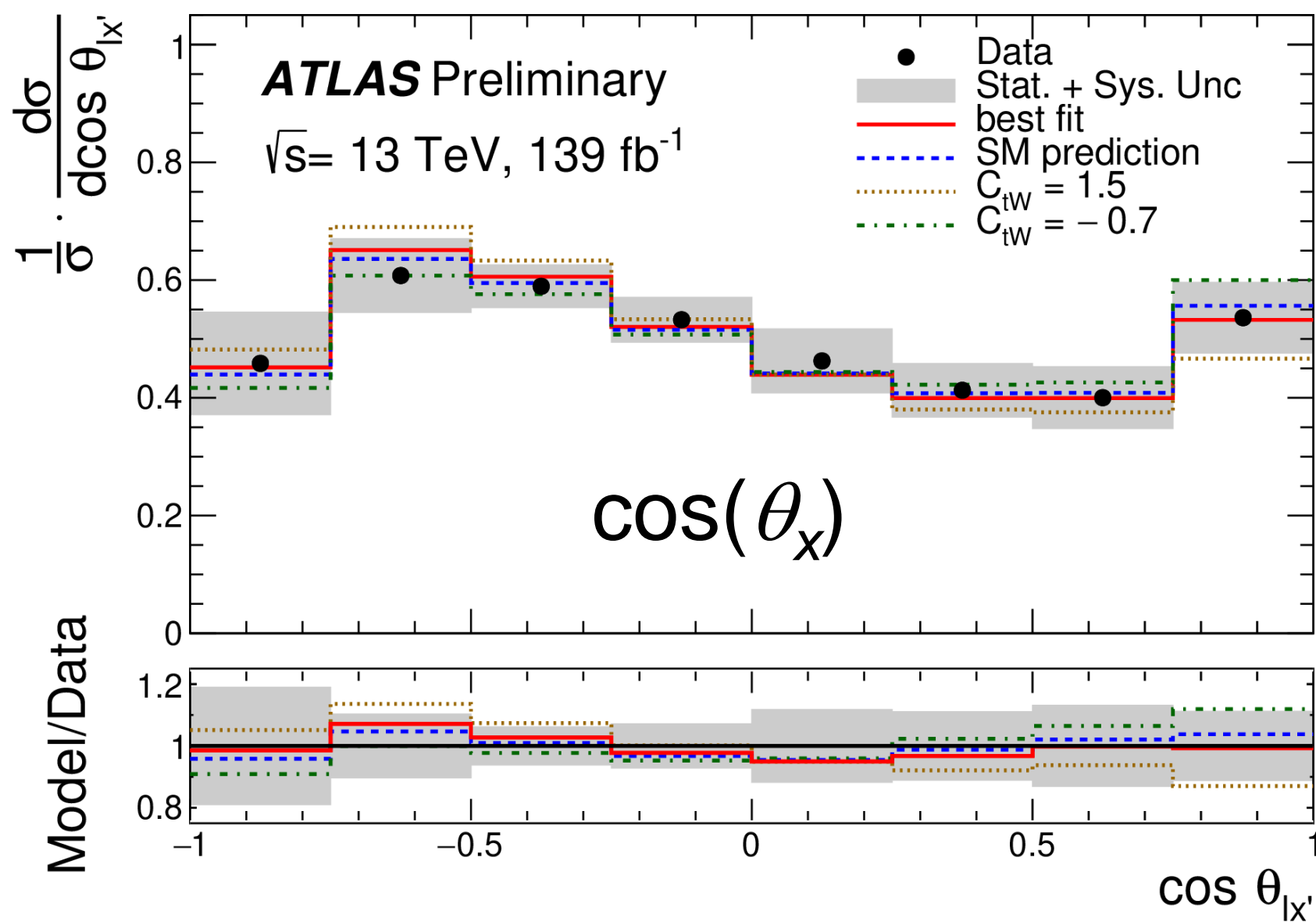
In EFT many operators can contribute, ~ 1000 .

In t-channel only three operators that interfere with SM.

$$C_{tW}, C_{qQ}, C_{\varphi Q}$$

Normalized $\cos(\theta_x)$ and $\cos(\theta_y)$ distribution sensitive to C_{tW}

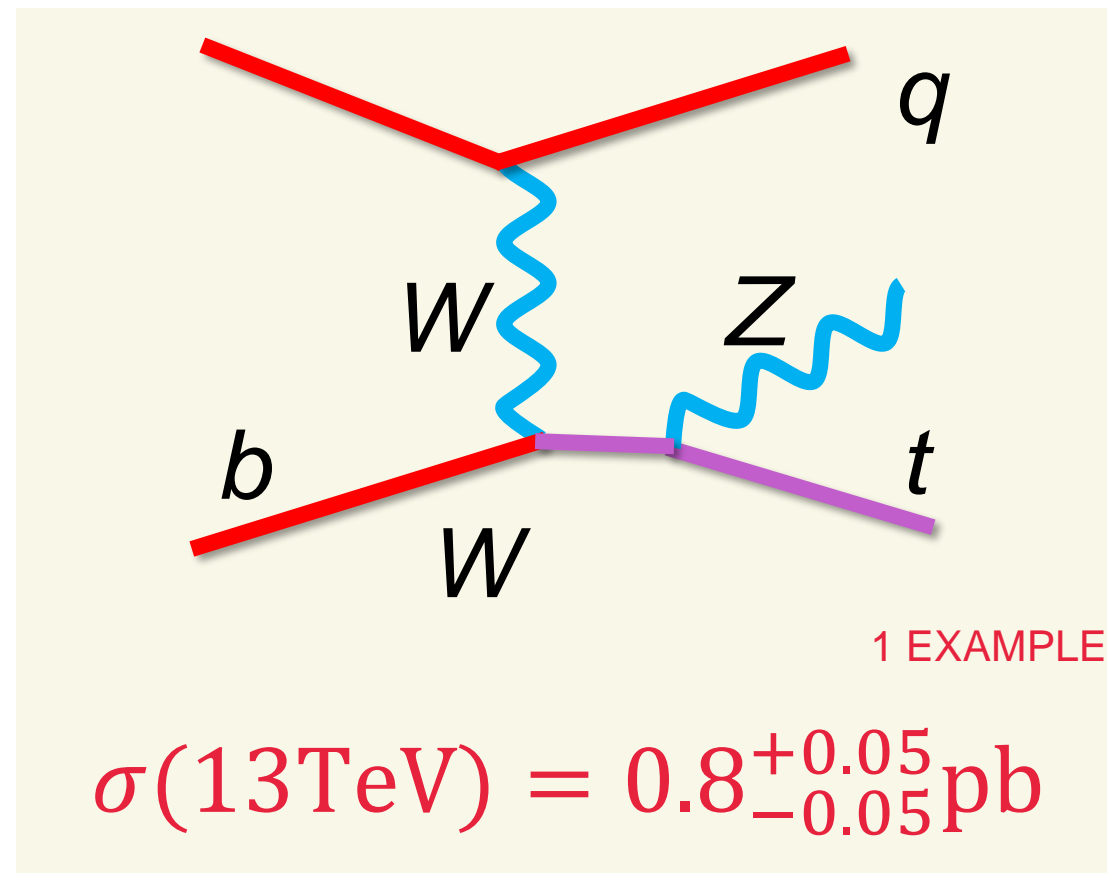
CP violation $\rightarrow C_{tW} \neq C_{itW}^*$



C_{tW}		C_{itW}	
68% CL	95% CL	68% CL	95% CL
$[-0.2, 0.9]$	$[-0.7, 1.5]$	$[-0.5, -0.1]$	$[-0.7, 0.2]$

Top polarization in tZq, a rare production process

CMS PAS TOP-20-010

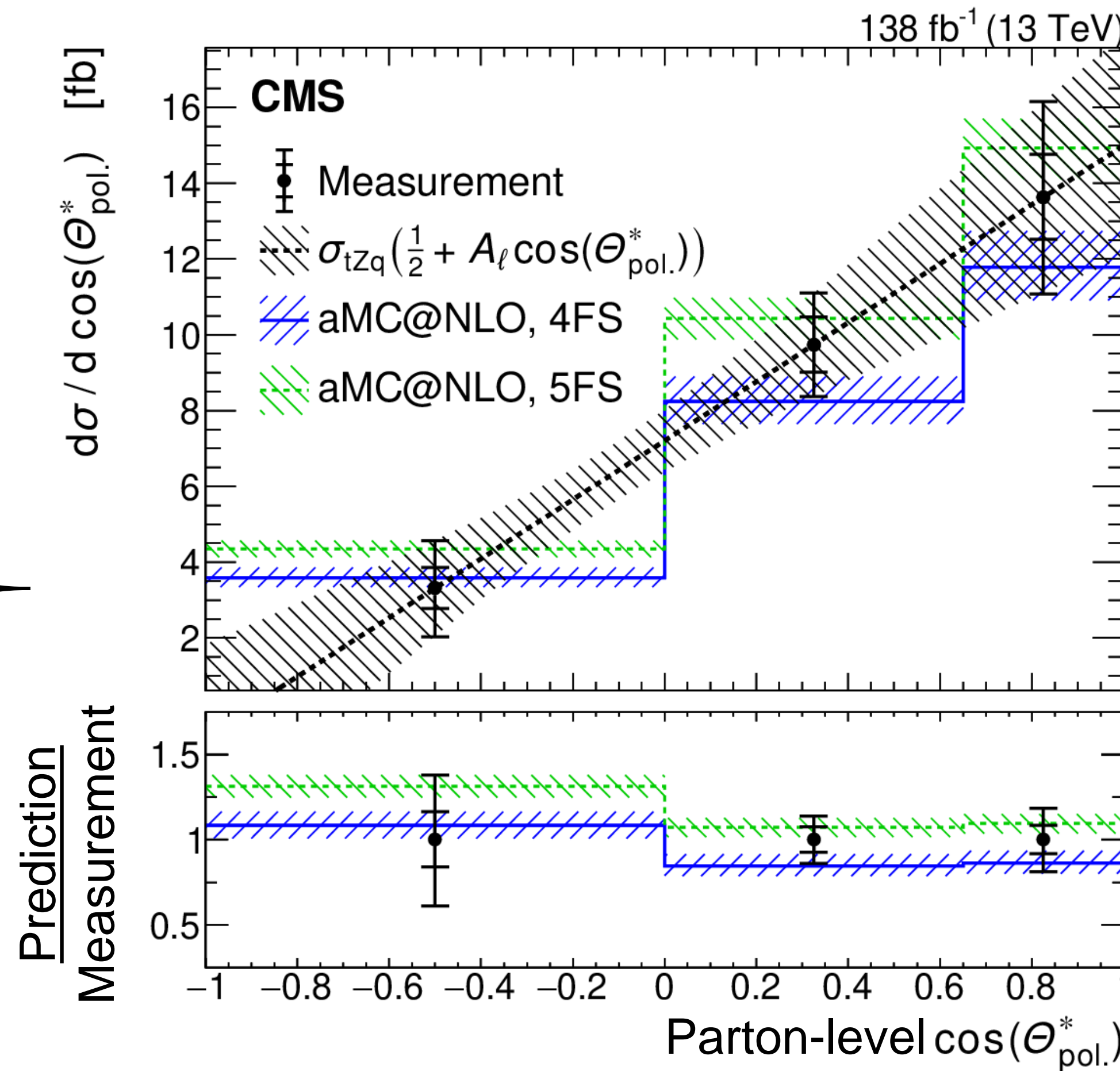


Event selection based on three leptons
1 pair consistent with Z decay

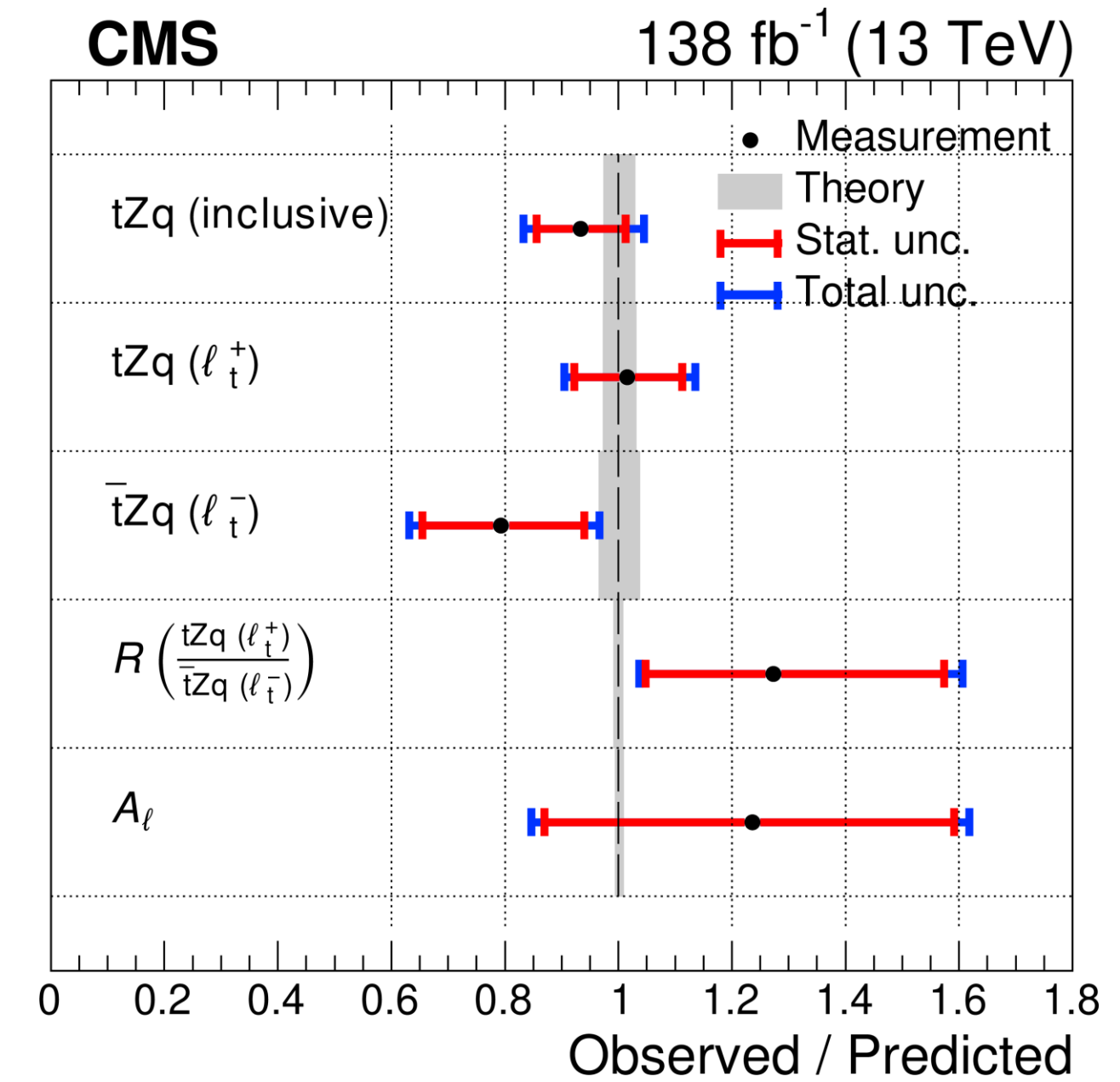
Polarisation angle defined in top rest frame

$$\frac{1}{2} (1 + \alpha_l P \cos(\theta_l))$$

lepton: $A_l = \frac{1}{2} \alpha_l P$



$$A_\ell = 0.54 \pm 0.16 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.06 \text{ (syst)}$$



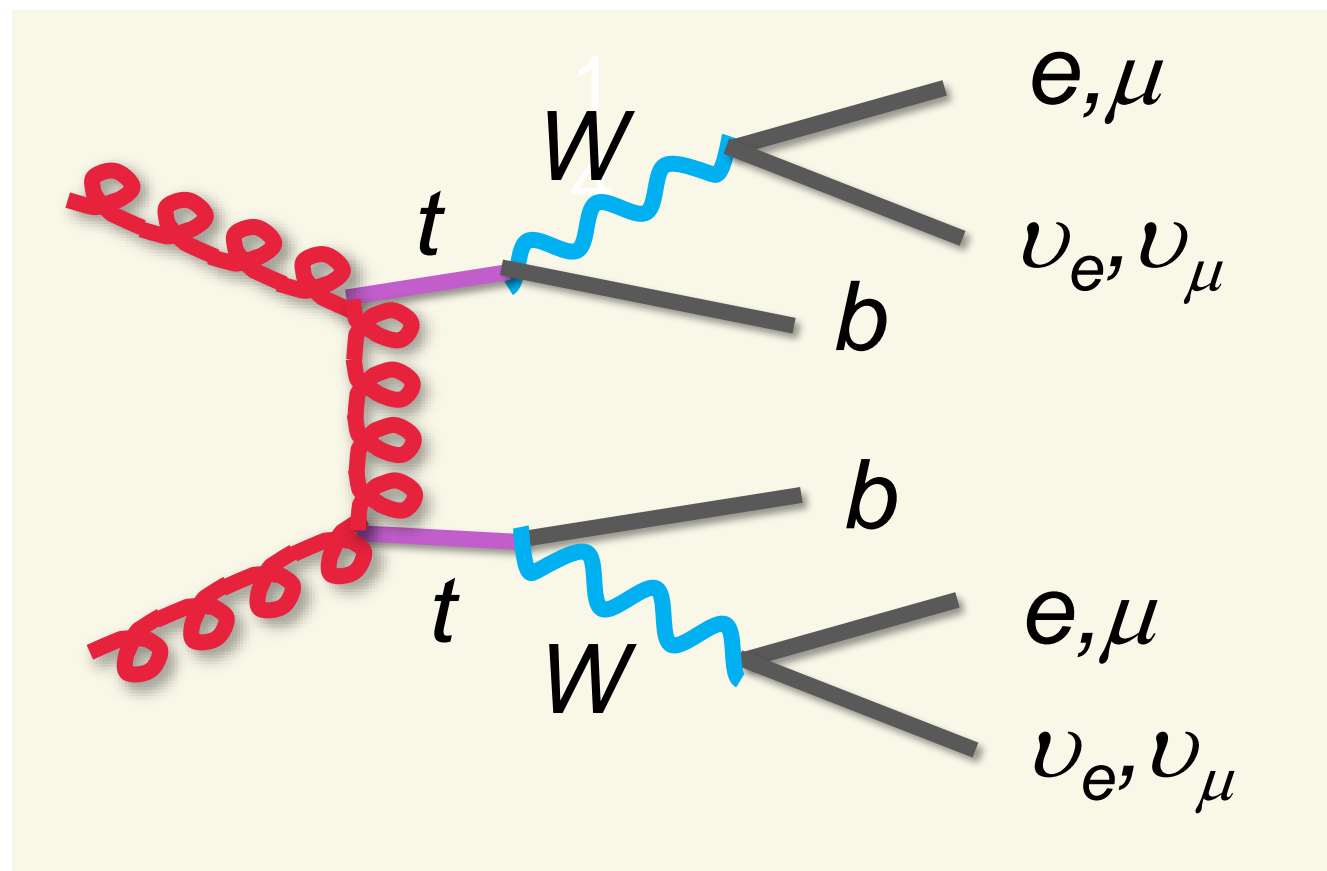
systematics:

- Background modelling
- B-tagging, lepton-id
- JES
- scales and radiation

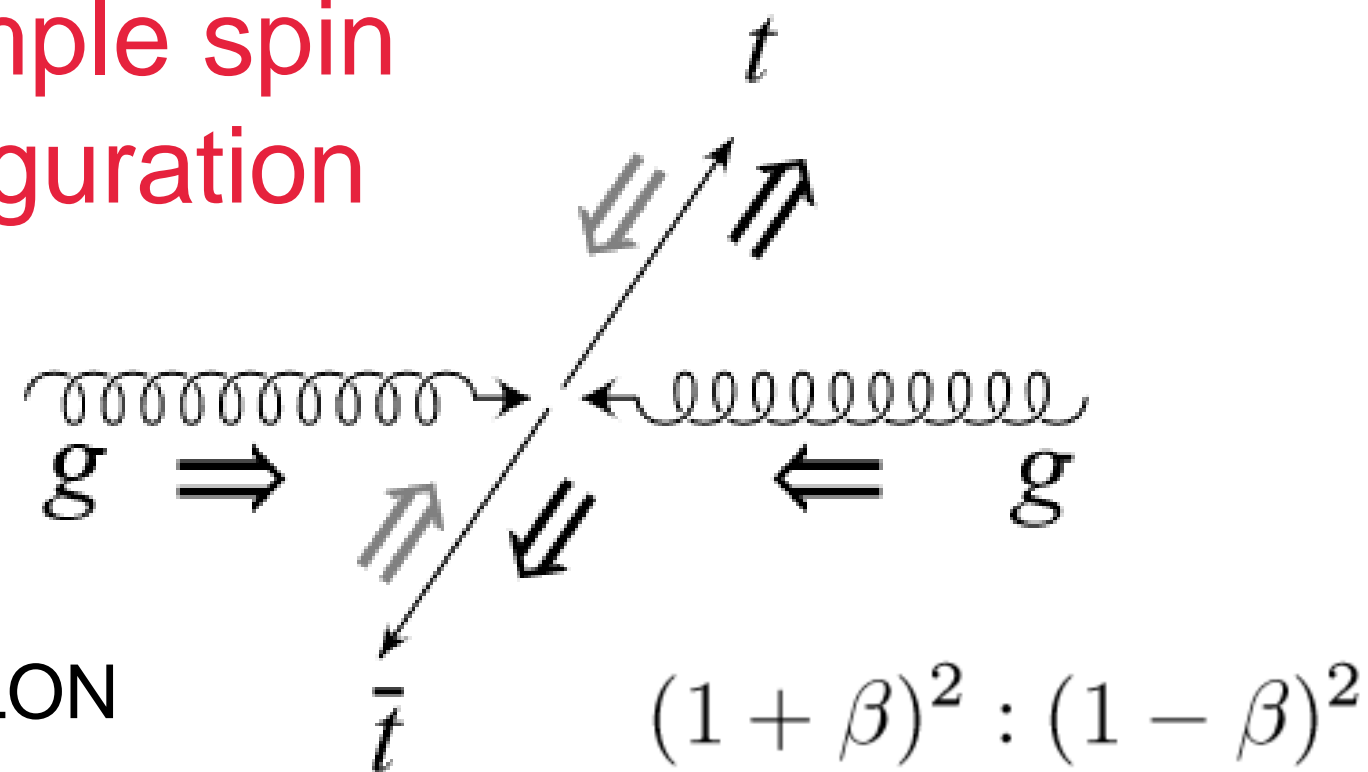
Unpolarized top production ($t\bar{t}$)

Spin correlation
and
Search for CP violation

TOP QUARK PAIR PRODUCTION: SPIN CORRELATION

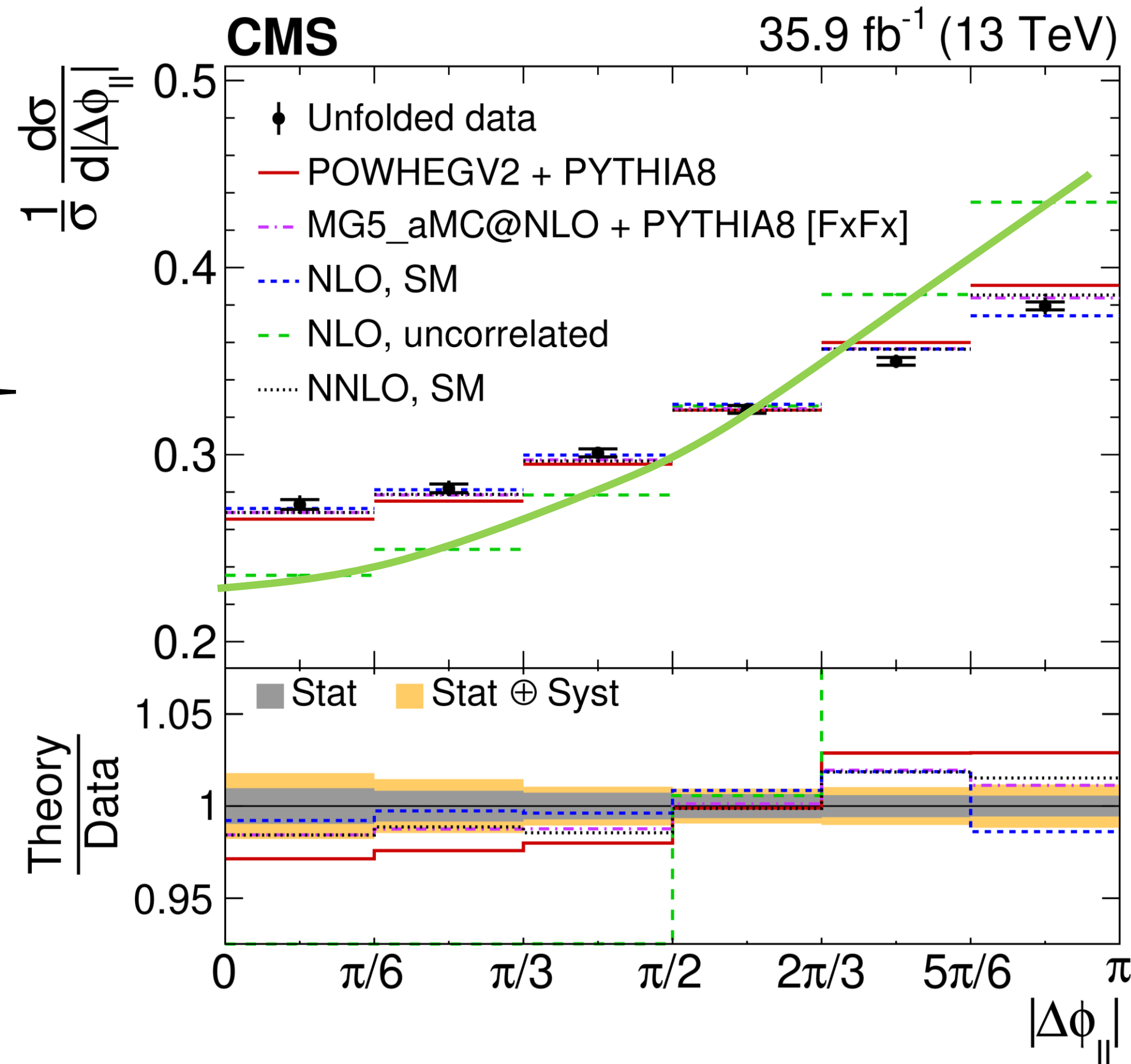


Example spin configuration



Several other spin configurations possible: there is a net effect

- Many angular combinations to study (in $t\bar{t}$ frame)
- “Easy” quantity in lab frame in di-lepton events: azimuthal angle $\Delta\phi_{ll}$



[CMS: PHYS. REV. D 100 \(2019\) 072002](#)
[ATLAS: EUR. PHYS. J. C 80 \(2020\) 754](#)

Spin correlation!

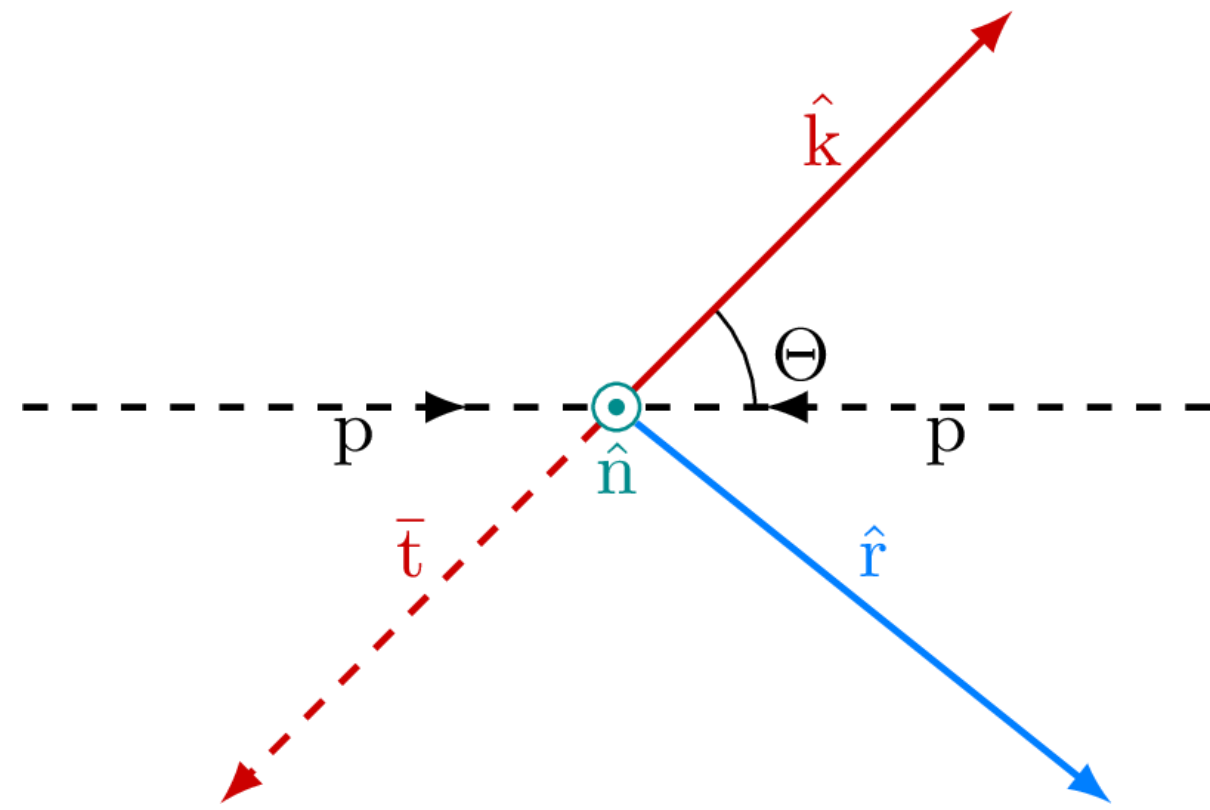
Some tension seen in data vs Powheg.

Disappears when NLO QCD- and EW- corrections are consistently included in the normalized differential cross section.

ttbar: A closer look into spin polarisation and correlation

Reminder:

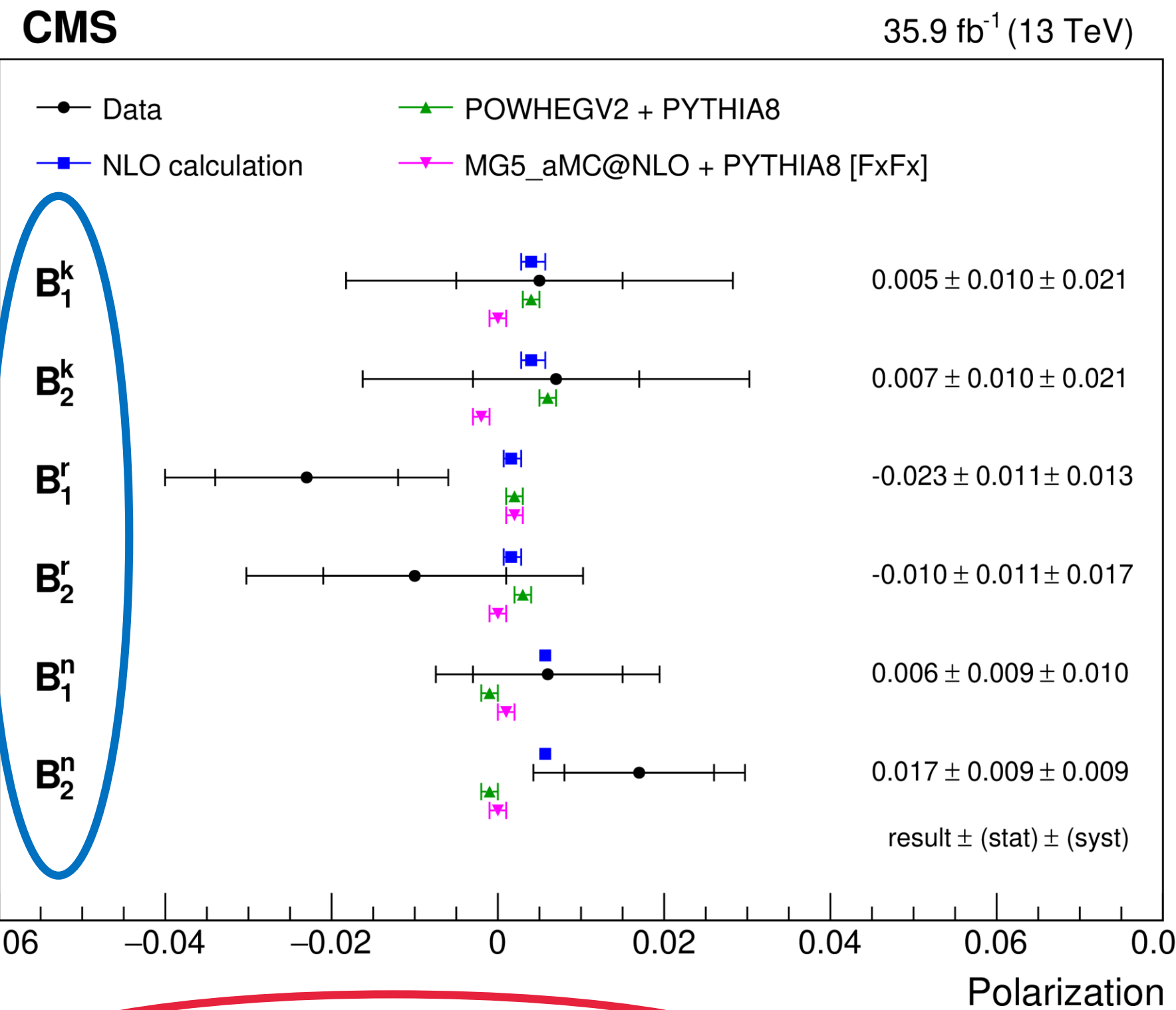
top is produced unpolarised in ttbar



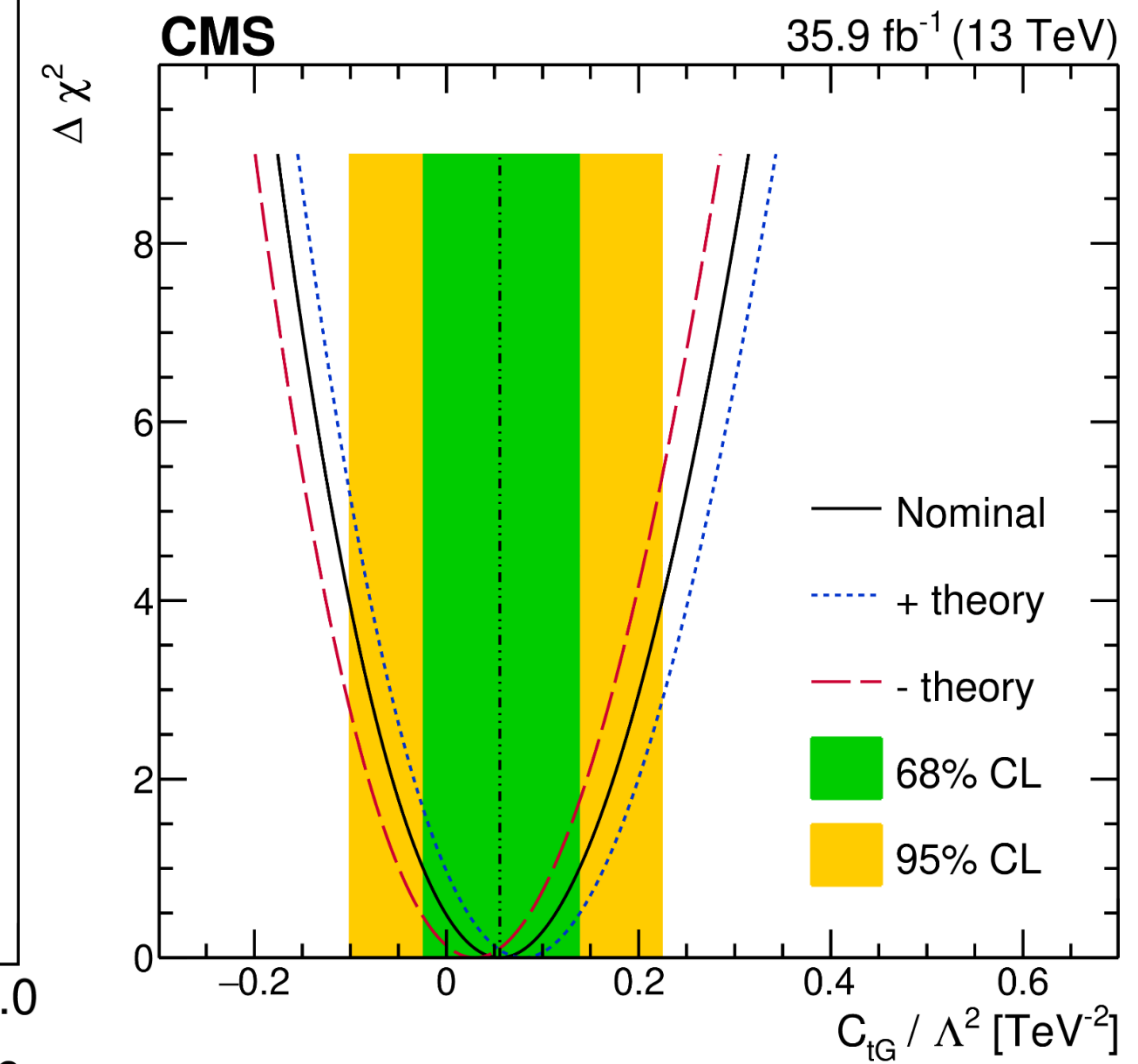
Measure 3+3 (t+tbar) angular projections of lepton in ttbar system

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d^4\sigma}{d\Omega_1 d\Omega_2} = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left(1 + \mathbf{B}_1 \cdot \hat{\ell}_1 + \mathbf{B}_2 \cdot \hat{\ell}_2 - \hat{\ell}_1 \cdot \mathbf{C} \cdot \hat{\ell}_2 \right)$$

Polarisation
Correlation



CMS-TOP-18-006/
PRD 100 (2019) 072002



Correlation "matrix" is also measured \rightarrow
EFT interpretation: limits operator O_{tG}

$$-0.24 < C_{tG}/\Lambda^2 < 0.07 \text{ TeV}^{-2} \text{ and } -0.33 < C_{tG}^I/\Lambda^2 < 0.20 \text{ TeV}^{-2}$$

Chromo-magnetic-dipole-moment Chromo-electric-dipole-moment

Hunting CP violation in ttbar

Search for CP-odd new physics in semi-leptonic ttbar.

CMS PAS TOP-20-005

(di-leptonic: CMS-PAS-TOP-18-007)

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{g_s}{2} \bar{t} T^a \sigma^{\mu\nu} (a_t^g + i\gamma_5 d_t^g) t G_{\mu\nu}^a$$

$$d_t^g = \frac{\sqrt{2}v}{\Lambda^2} \text{Im}(d_{tG}),$$

Related to CEDM= chromo-electric-dipole-moment

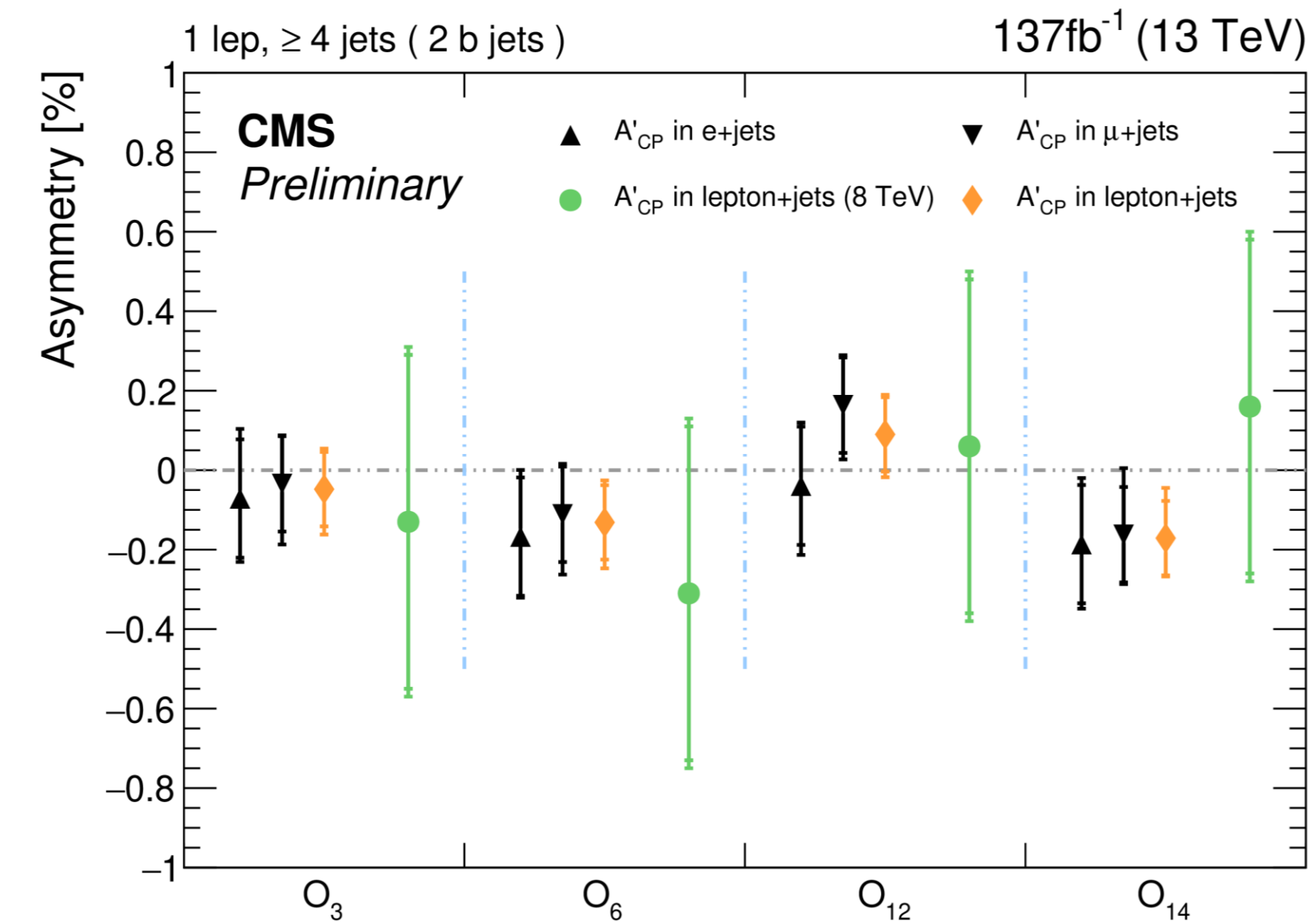
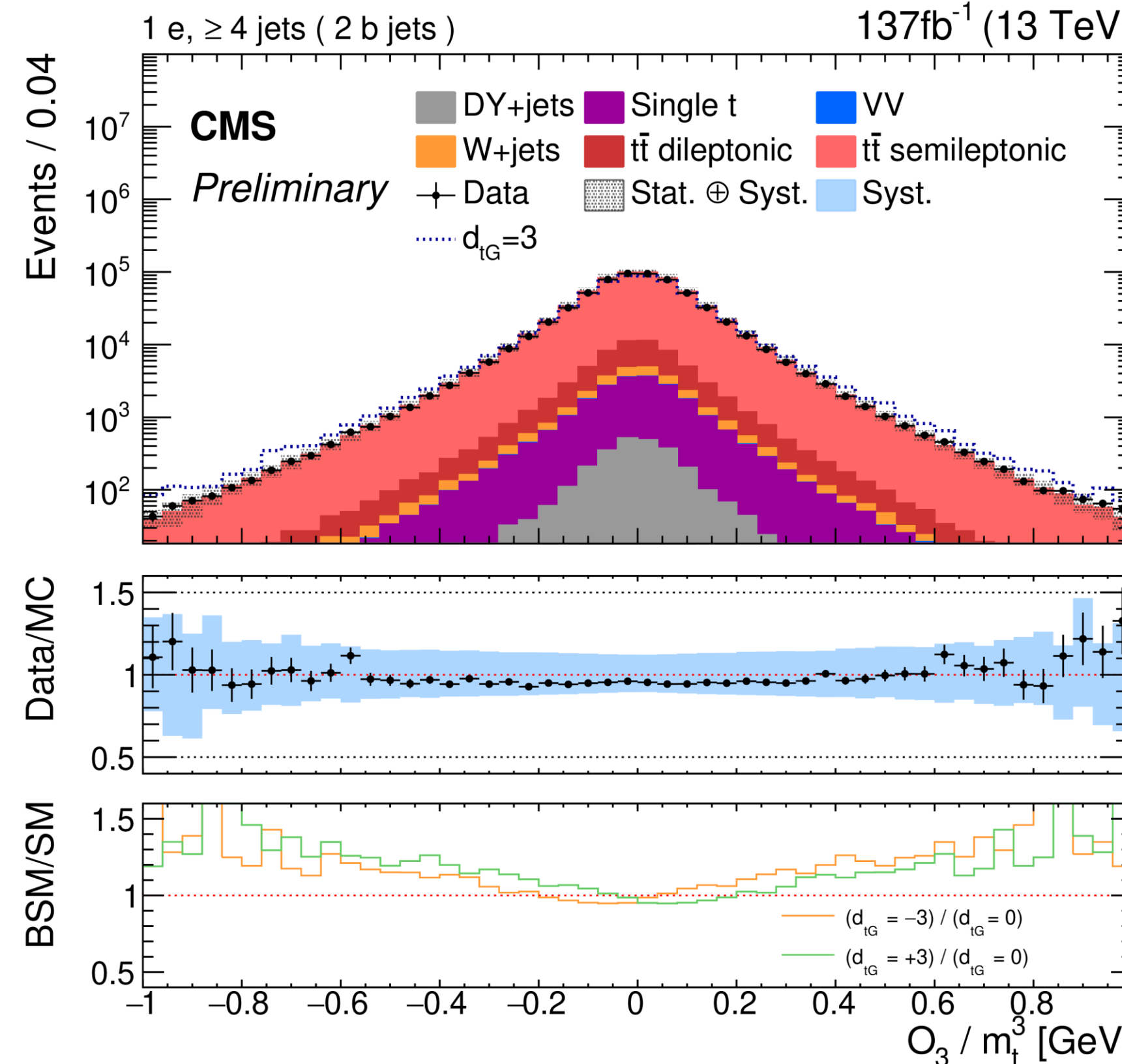
(related to C'_{tG})

$$\begin{aligned} O_3 &= Q_\ell \epsilon(p_b, p_{\bar{b}}, p_\ell, p_{j_1}) \propto Q_\ell \vec{p}'_b \cdot (\vec{p}'_\ell \times \vec{p}'_{j_1}) \\ O_6 &= Q_\ell \epsilon(P, p_b - p_{\bar{b}}, p_\ell, p_{j_1}) \propto Q_\ell (\vec{p}_b - \vec{p}_{\bar{b}}) \cdot (\vec{p}_\ell \times \vec{p}_{j_1}) \\ O_{12} &= q \cdot (p_b - p_{\bar{b}}) \epsilon(P, q, p_b, p_{\bar{b}}) \propto (\vec{p}_b - \vec{p}_{\bar{b}})_z \cdot (\vec{p}_b \times \vec{p}_{\bar{b}})_z \\ O_{14} &= \epsilon(P, p_b + p_{\bar{b}}, p_\ell, p_{j_1}) \propto (\vec{p}_b + \vec{p}_{\bar{b}}) \cdot (\vec{p}_\ell \times \vec{p}_{j_1}). \end{aligned}$$

$A_{CP}(O_i)$

$$= \frac{N_{\text{events}}(O_i > 0) - N_{\text{events}}(O_i < 0)}{N_{\text{events}}(O_i > 0) + N_{\text{events}}(O_i < 0)}$$

$i = 3, 6, 12, 14.$



CONCLUSION

- LHC is a top factory
- Spin structure of the Wtb vertex is being pinned down

BACKUP

Wtb vertex function vs EFT

Model independent search for New Physics at the EW symmetry breaking scale

Traditional vertex function

$$\mathcal{L}_{Wtb} = -\frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{b} \gamma^\mu (V_L P_L + V_R P_R) t W_\mu^- - \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{b} \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\nu}{m_W} (g_L P_L + g_R P_R) t W_\mu^-$$

CP violation if $g_R \neq g_R^*$

Newer: SM Effective Field Theory (SMEFT) interpretation up to dim6

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i \frac{C_i}{\Lambda^2} O_i^{[6]}$$

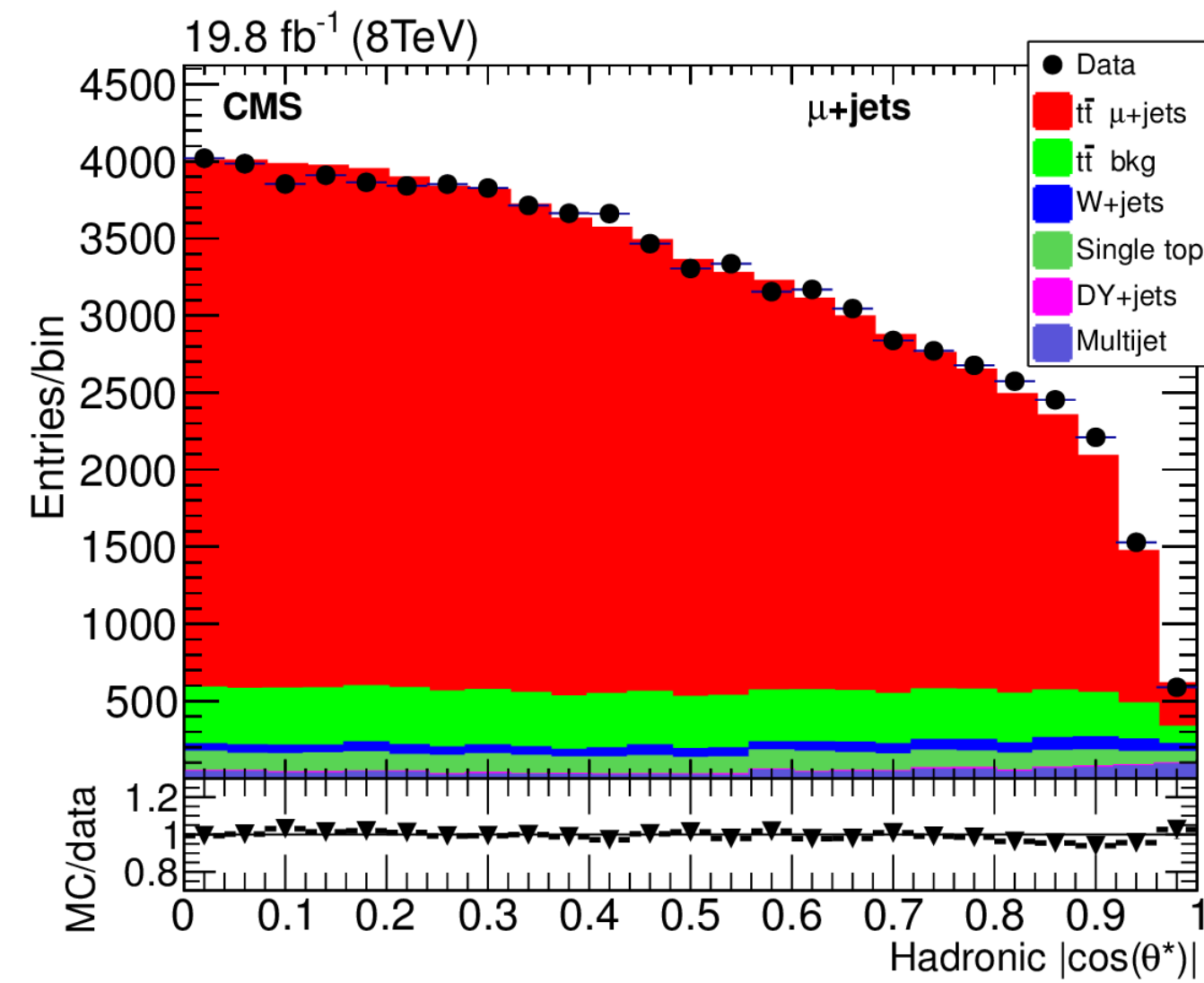
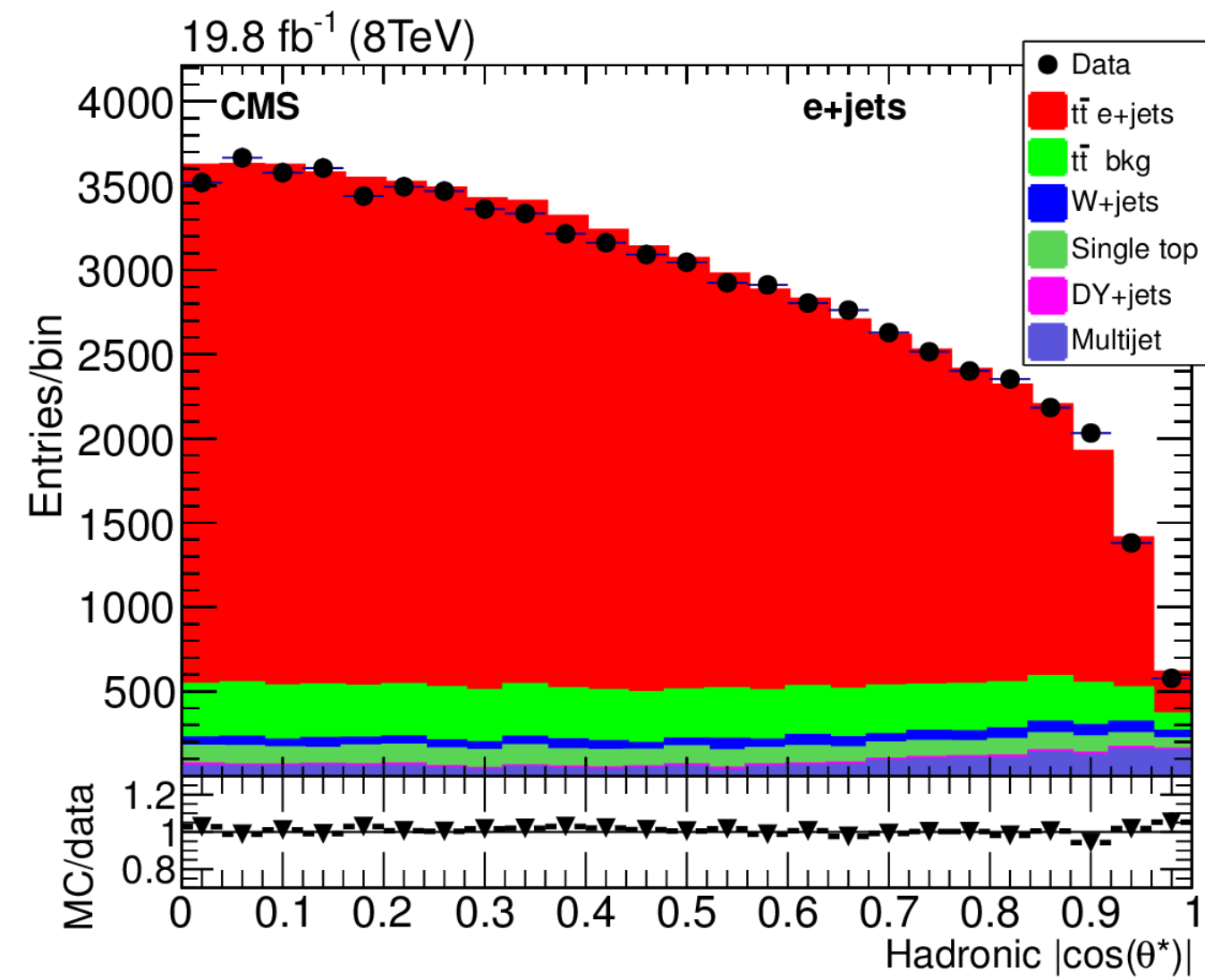
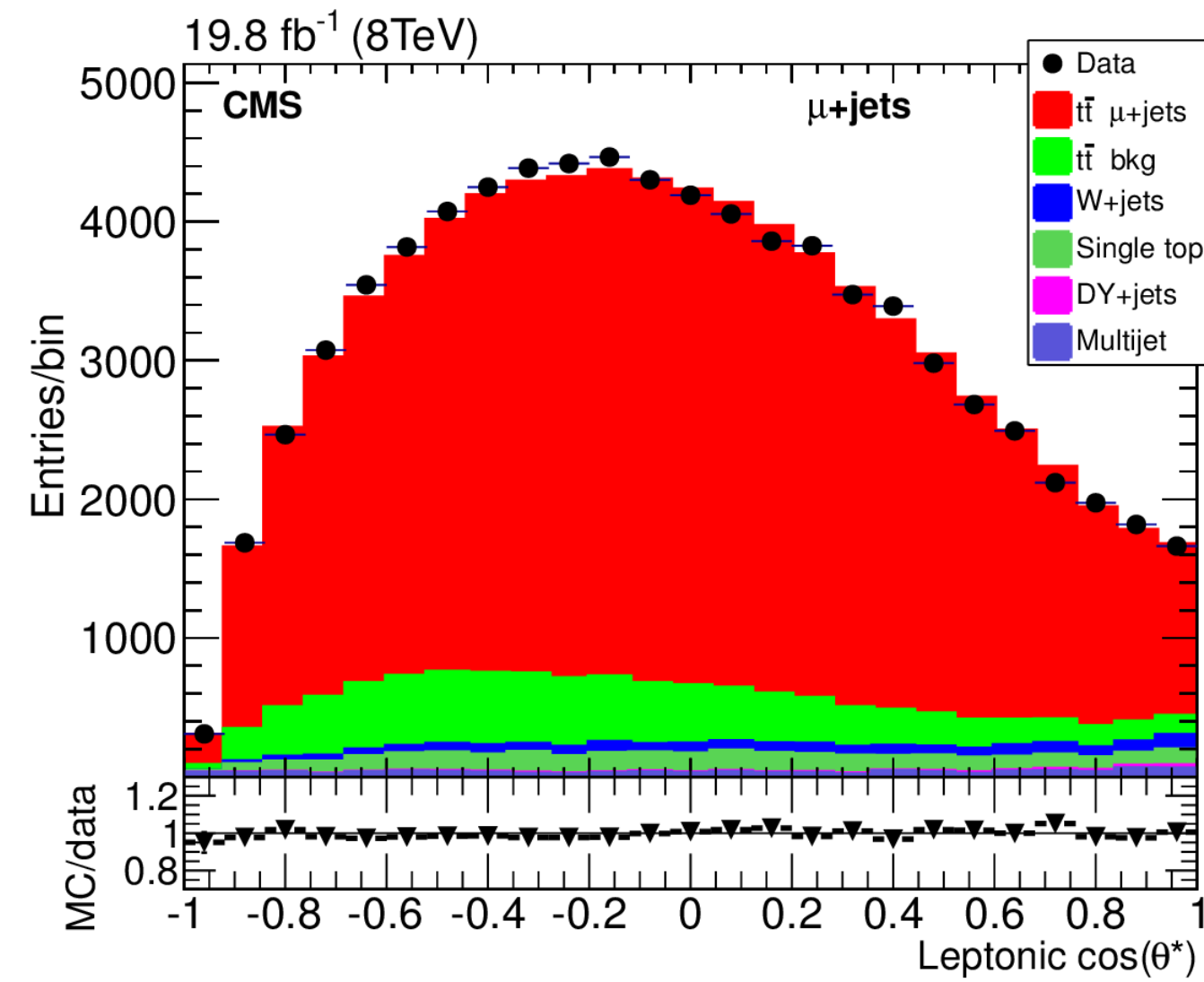
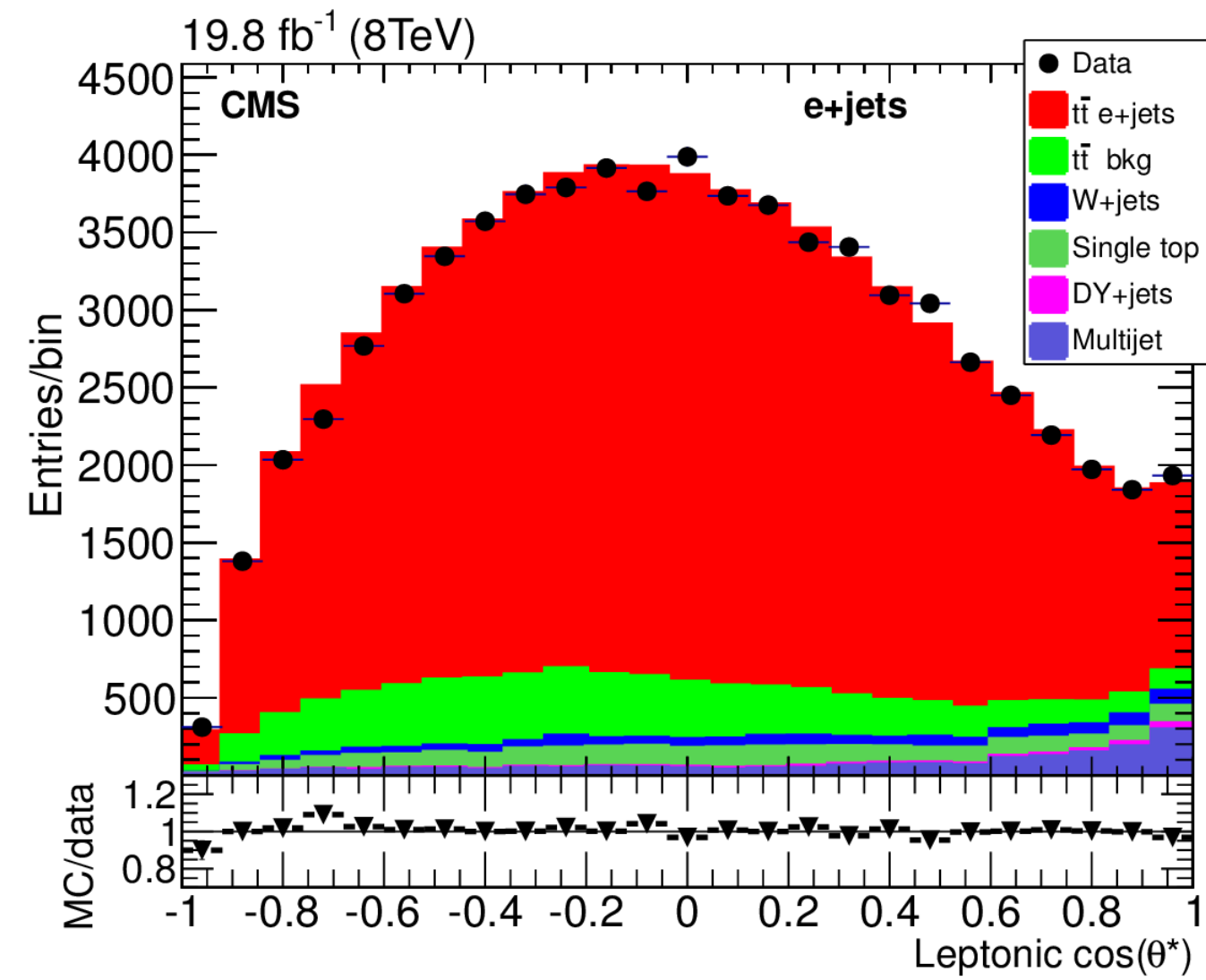
Correspond

In EFT many operators can contribute, ~1000.
In t-channel only three operators that interfere with SM.

$$C_{tW}, C_{qQ}, C_{\varphi Q}$$

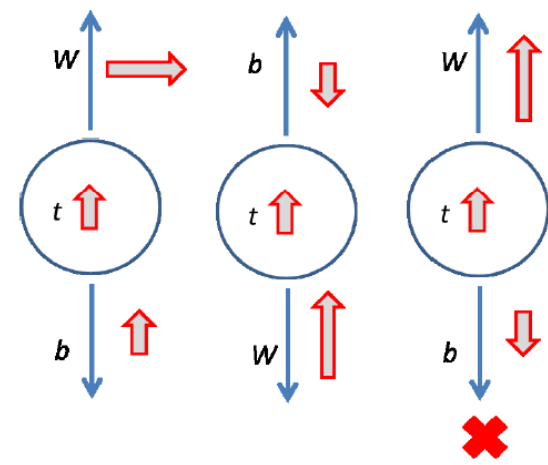
CP violation if $C_{tW} \neq C_{tW}^*$

W-HELICITY



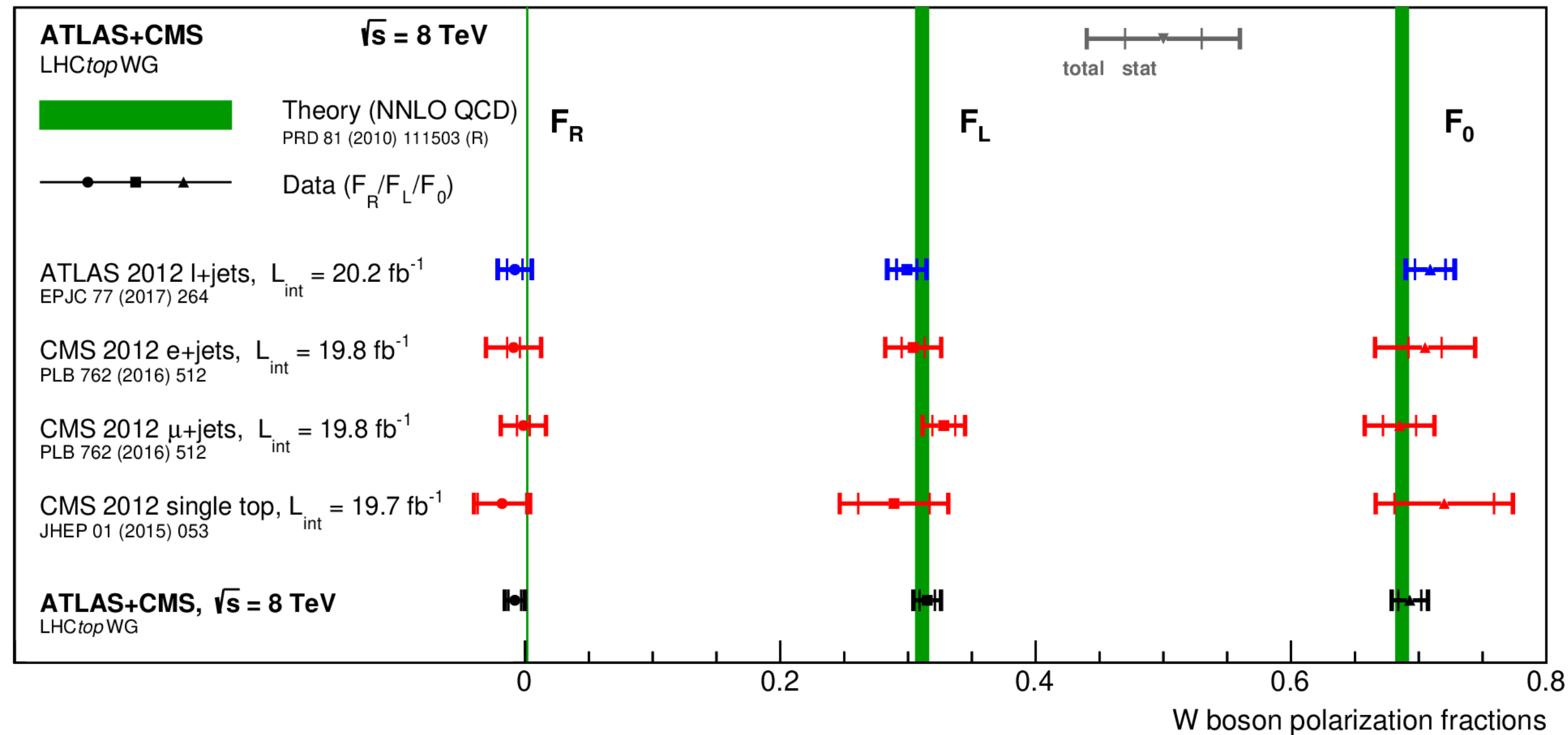
[PHYS. LETT. B 762 \(2016\) 512](#)

W-HELICITY ATLAS+CMS COMBINATION 8 TEV



$$\frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta^*} = \frac{3}{4} (1 - \cos^2\theta^*) F_0 + \frac{3}{8} (1 - \cos\theta^*)^2 F_L + \frac{3}{8} (1 + \cos\theta^*)^2 F_R.$$

[JHEP 08 \(2020\) 51](#)

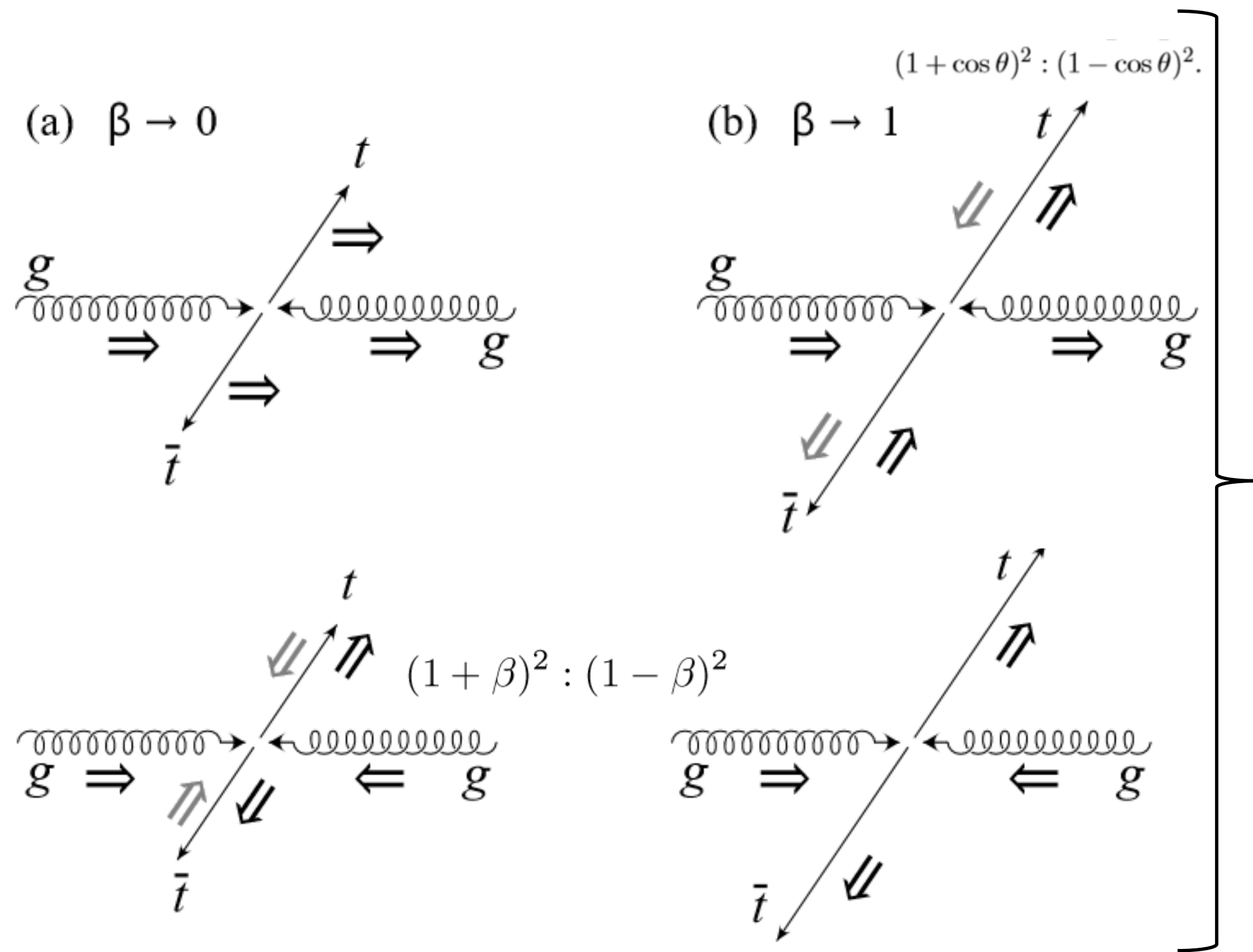


	ATLAS+CMS combination	
	F_0	F_L
Fractions	0.693	0.315
Uncertainty category		
<i>Samples size and background determination</i>		
Stat+bkg	0.009	0.006
Size of simulated samples	0.005	0.003
<i>Detector modelling</i>		
JES	0.004	0.002
JER	0.004	0.002
b tagging	0.001	0.001
JVF	0.001	0.001
Jet reconstruction	< 0.001	< 0.001
Lepton efficiency	0.002	0.001
Pileup	< 0.001	< 0.001
<i>Signal modelling</i>		
Top quark mass	0.003	0.004
Simulation model choice	0.006	0.005
Radiation and scales	0.005	0.004
Top quark p_T	0.001	0.002
PDF	0.001	0.001
Single top method	0.001	< 0.001
Total uncertainty	0.014	0.011

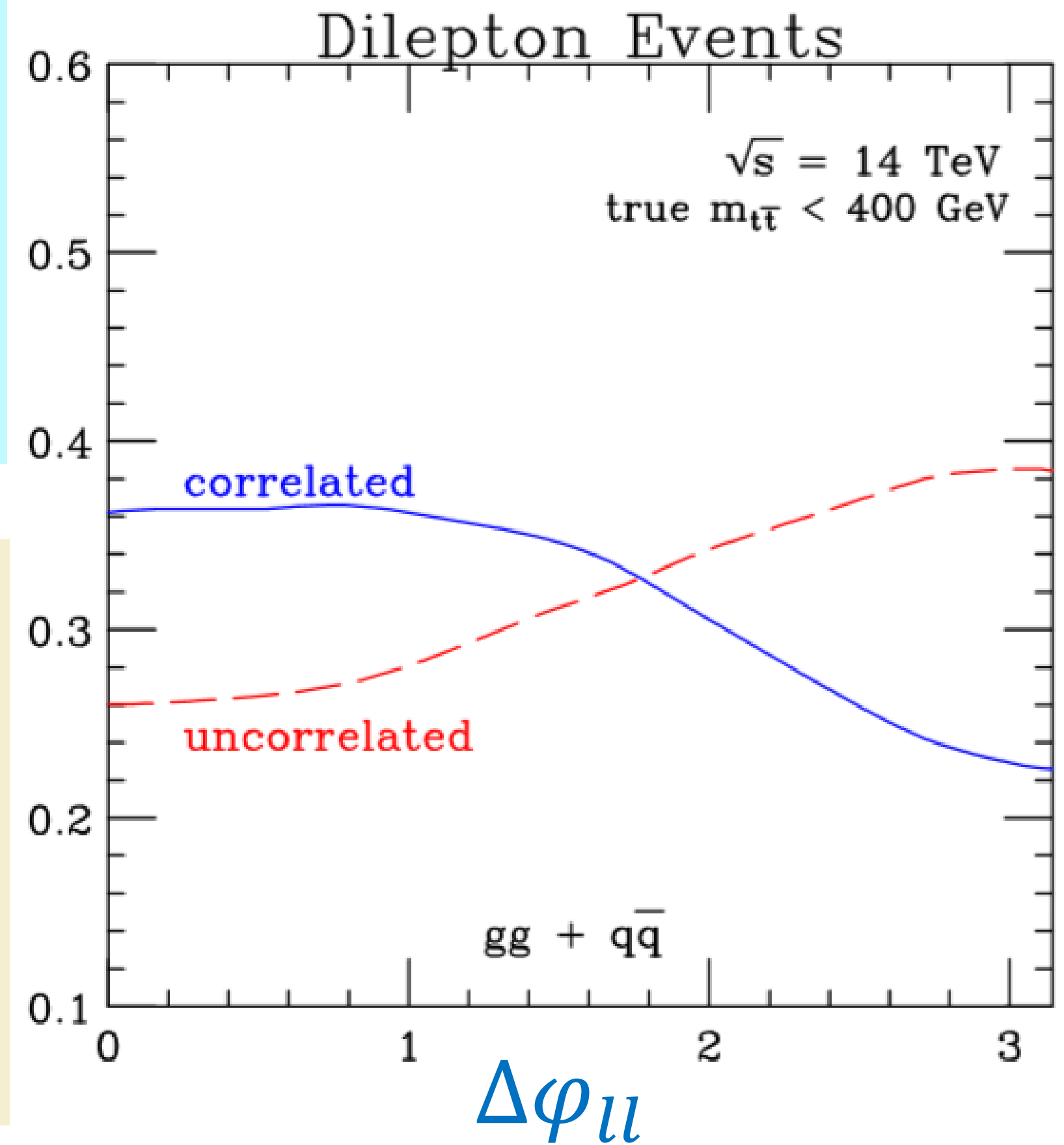
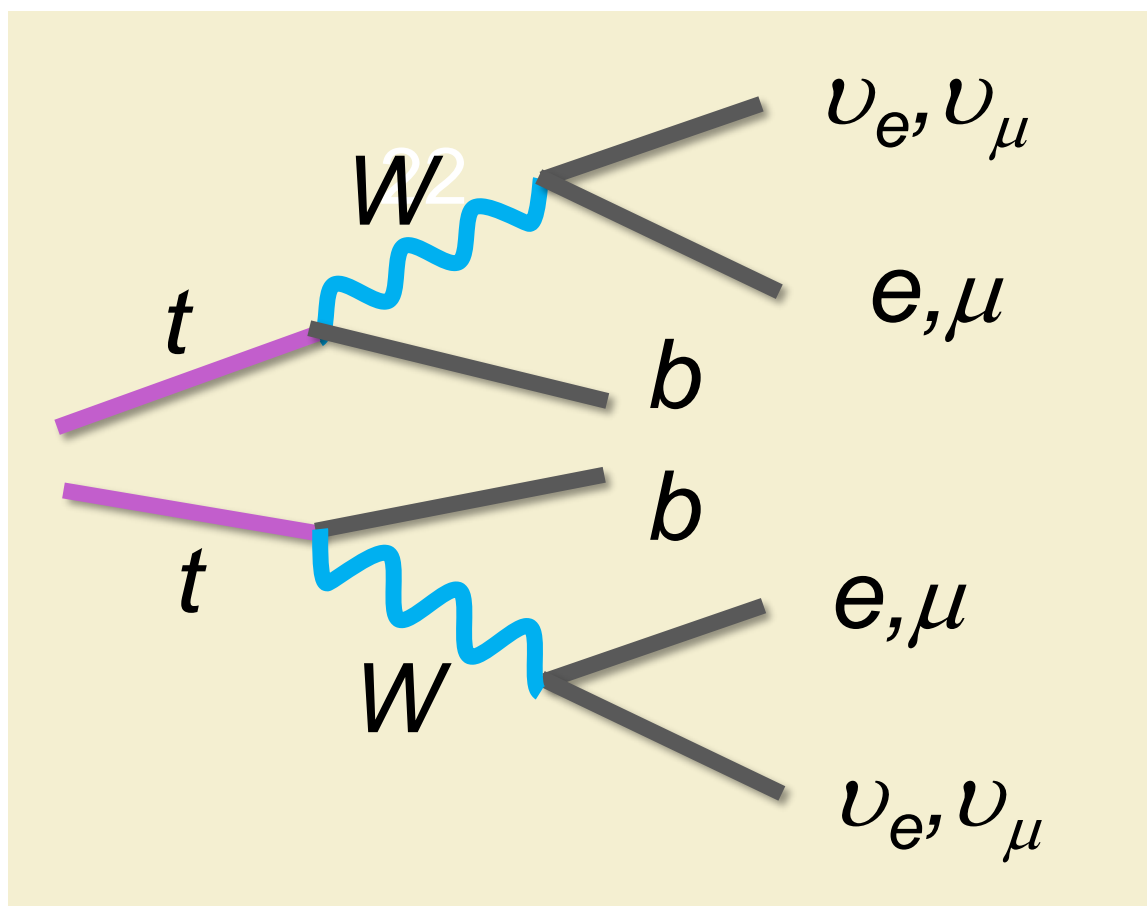
Measurement	F_0	F_L	F_R
ATLAS (ℓ +jets)	$0.709 \pm 0.012 \pm 0.015$	$0.299 \pm 0.008 \pm 0.013$	$-0.008 \pm 0.006 \pm 0.012$
CMS (e+jets)	$0.705 \pm 0.013 \pm 0.037$	$0.304 \pm 0.009 \pm 0.020$	$-0.009 \pm 0.005 \pm 0.021$
CMS (μ +jets)	$0.685 \pm 0.013 \pm 0.024$	$0.328 \pm 0.009 \pm 0.014$	$-0.013 \pm 0.005 \pm 0.017$
CMS (single top)	$0.720 \pm 0.039 \pm 0.037$	$0.298 \pm 0.028 \pm 0.032$	$-0.018 \pm 0.019 \pm 0.011$

TOP QUARK PAIR PRODUCTION: SPIN CORRELATION

Top pair produced unpolarised but correlated!

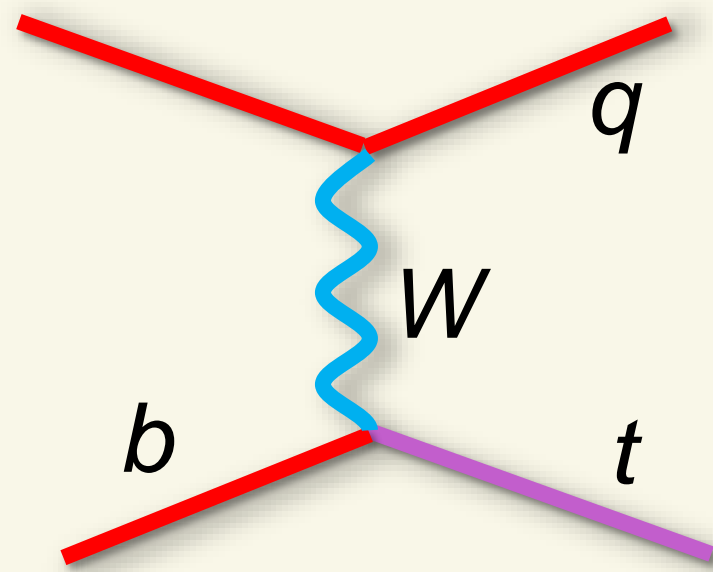


- Nett effect
- Several "optimal" spin axis possible
- "Easy" quantity: in di-lepton events use azimuthal angle $\Delta\varphi_{ll}$



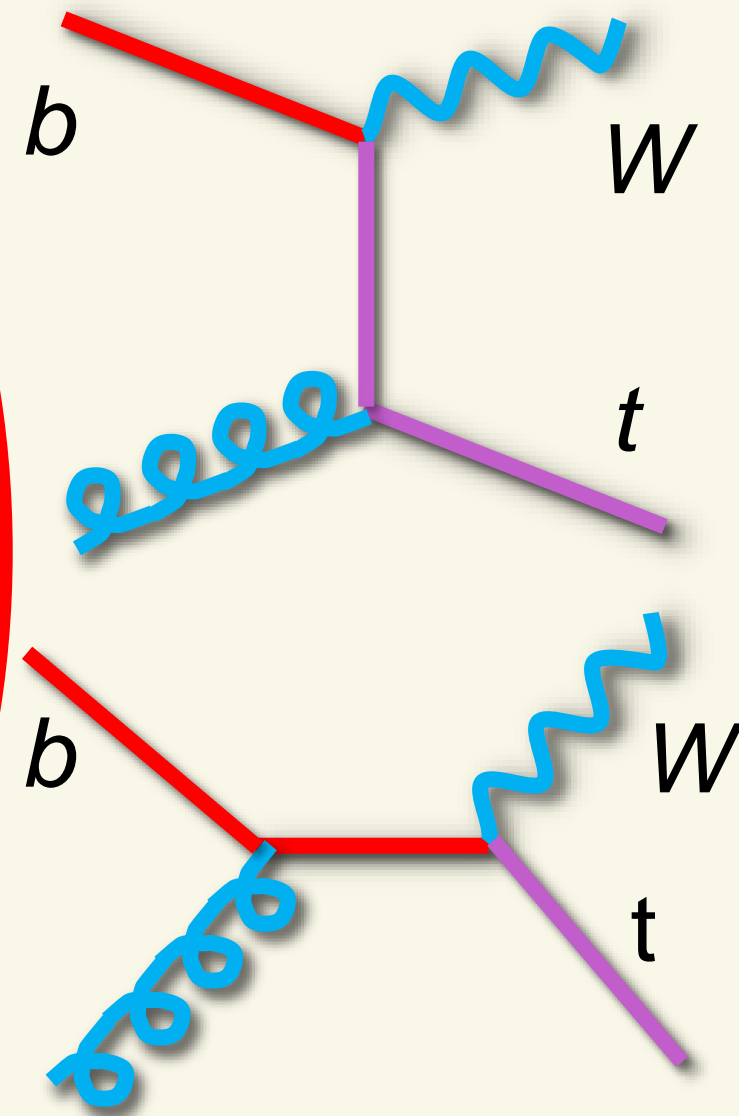
SINGLE TOP QUARK PAIR PRODUCTION

t-channel



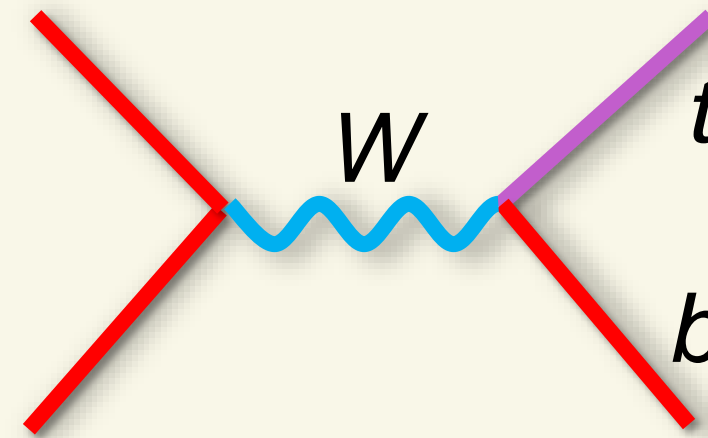
$$\sigma(13\text{TeV}) = 217_{-10}^{+10}\text{pb}$$

tW-channel



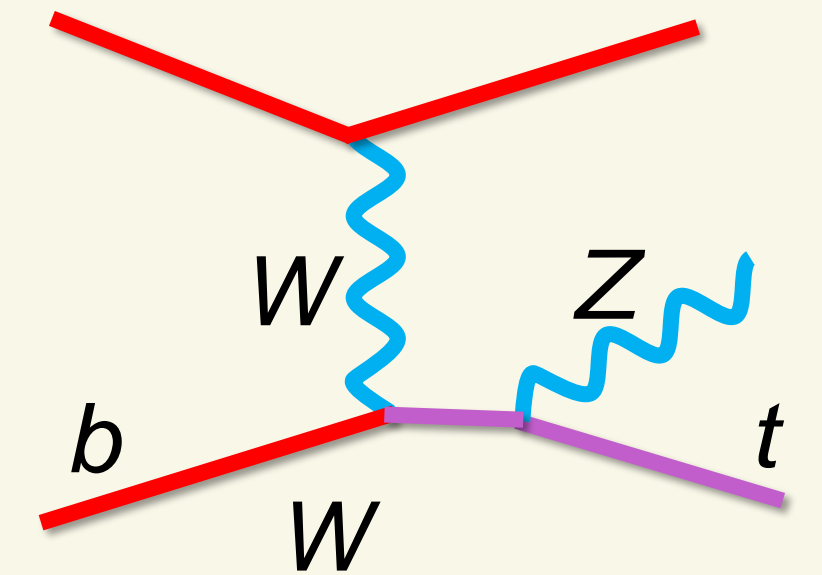
$$\sigma(13\text{TeV}) = 72_{-4}^{+4}\text{pb}$$

s-channel



$$\sigma(13\text{TeV}) = 10.3_{-0.4}^{+0.4}\text{pb}$$

tZq channel
(rare SM process)



1 EXAMPLE

$$\sigma(13\text{TeV}) = 0.8_{-0.05}^{+0.05}\text{pb}$$

Focus here on t-channel:

Large cross section, small background
EW Production → Spin Polarised

SM

CP violation if $g_R \neq g_R^*$

$$\mathcal{L}_{Wtb} = -\frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{b} \gamma^\mu (V_L P_L + V_R P_R) t W_\mu^- - \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{b} \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\nu}{m_W} (g_L P_L + g_R P_R) t W_\mu^-$$