

# Parton Distribution Functions at the LHC

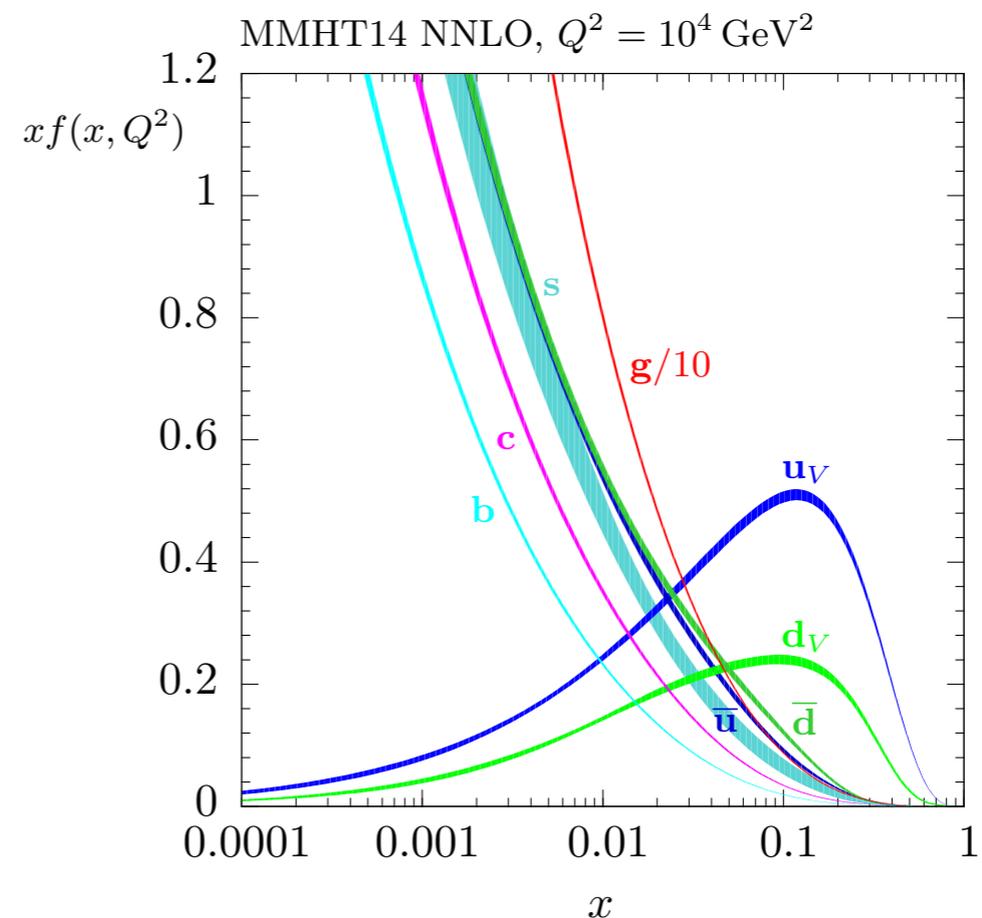
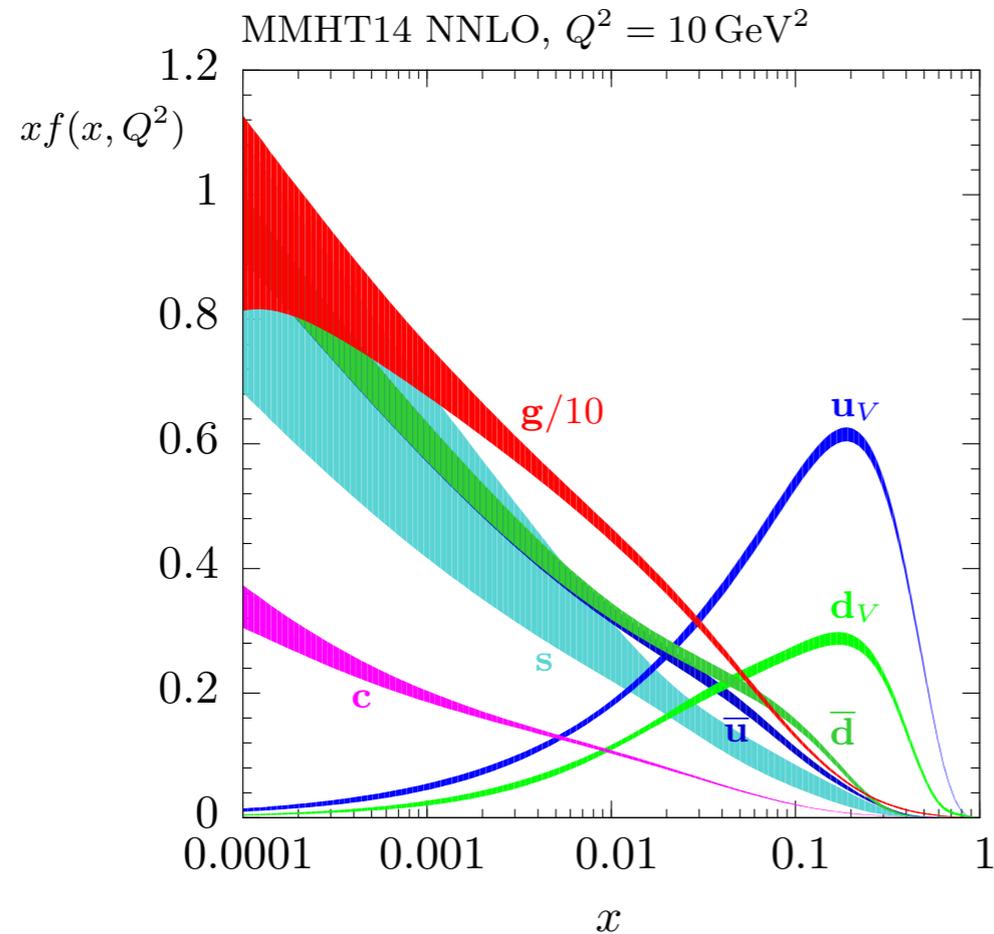
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Elementary Particle Physics Seminar, University  
of Warwick, 9 Jan 2020



# Outline

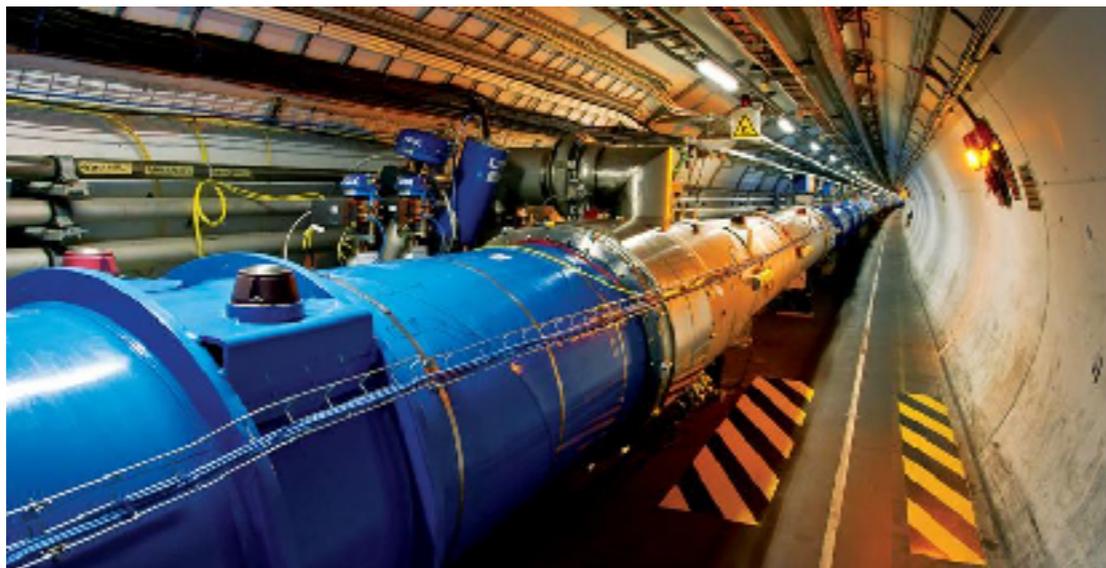
- ★ What are PDFs? Why are they important? How do we extract them?
- ★ Opportunities and challenges for PDF determination in high precision LHC era.



# **An Introduction to PDFs**

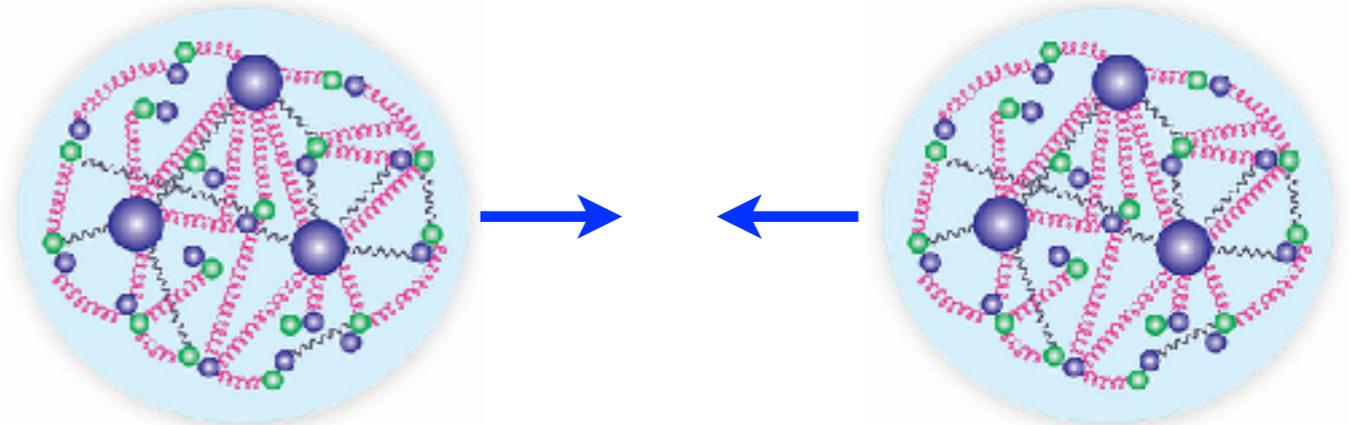
# The LHC: a proton-proton collider

- The **LHC** works by colliding proton beams head on at high energy.
- We examine the debris of these interactions for signs of the Higgs, BSM and to understand the SM better.
- Before doing any of that that: we need to understand what we are colliding: the **proton**.

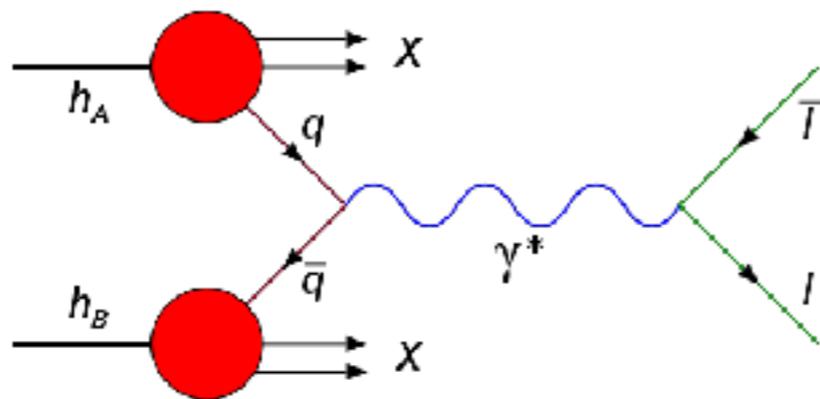


# Modeling LHC Collisions

- Proton is composite - LHC collision involves quarks/gluons:



- **Basic idea:** recast proton-proton collisions in terms of more fundamental quark/gluon collision.



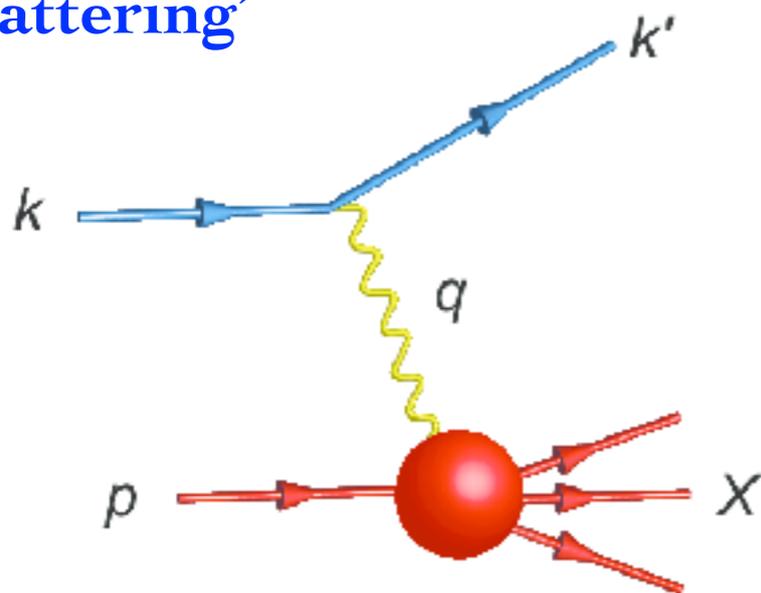
$$\sigma^{DY} \sim \sigma(q\bar{q} \rightarrow e^+e^-) \otimes \underbrace{q(x_1) \otimes \bar{q}(x_2)}_{\text{PDFs}}$$

- **Parton distributions functions** (PDFs) encode the binding of the quark/gluons within the proton. In more detail...

# Where do PDFs come from?

- Idea goes right back to discovery of quarks at **SLAC** in 1967.
- High\* energy beam of electrons collided with proton target. Scattering inelastic, breaking up proton.
- Electron scattering rate vs. angle/energy ( $\leftrightarrow x_B, Q^2$ ) measured, with surprising result...

'Deep  
Inelastic  
Scattering'



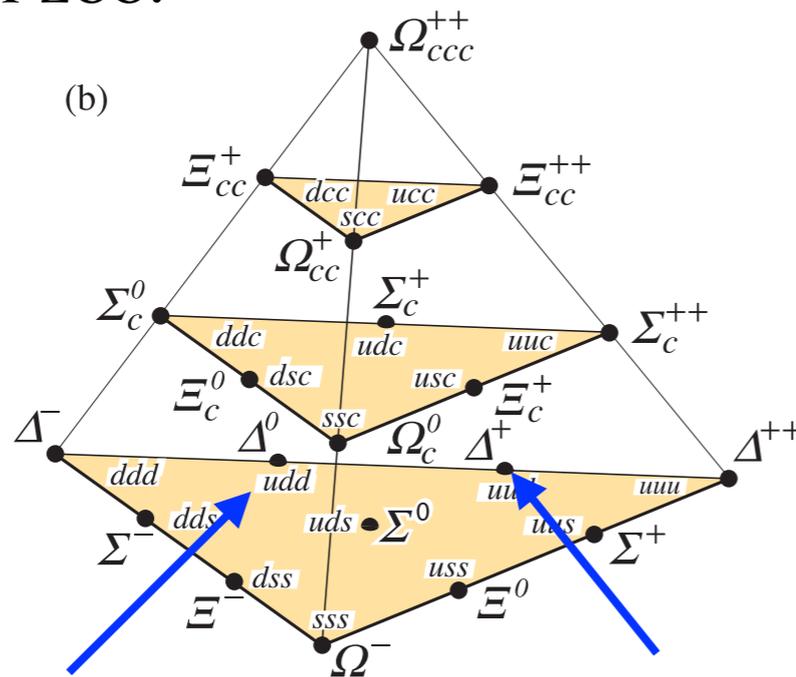
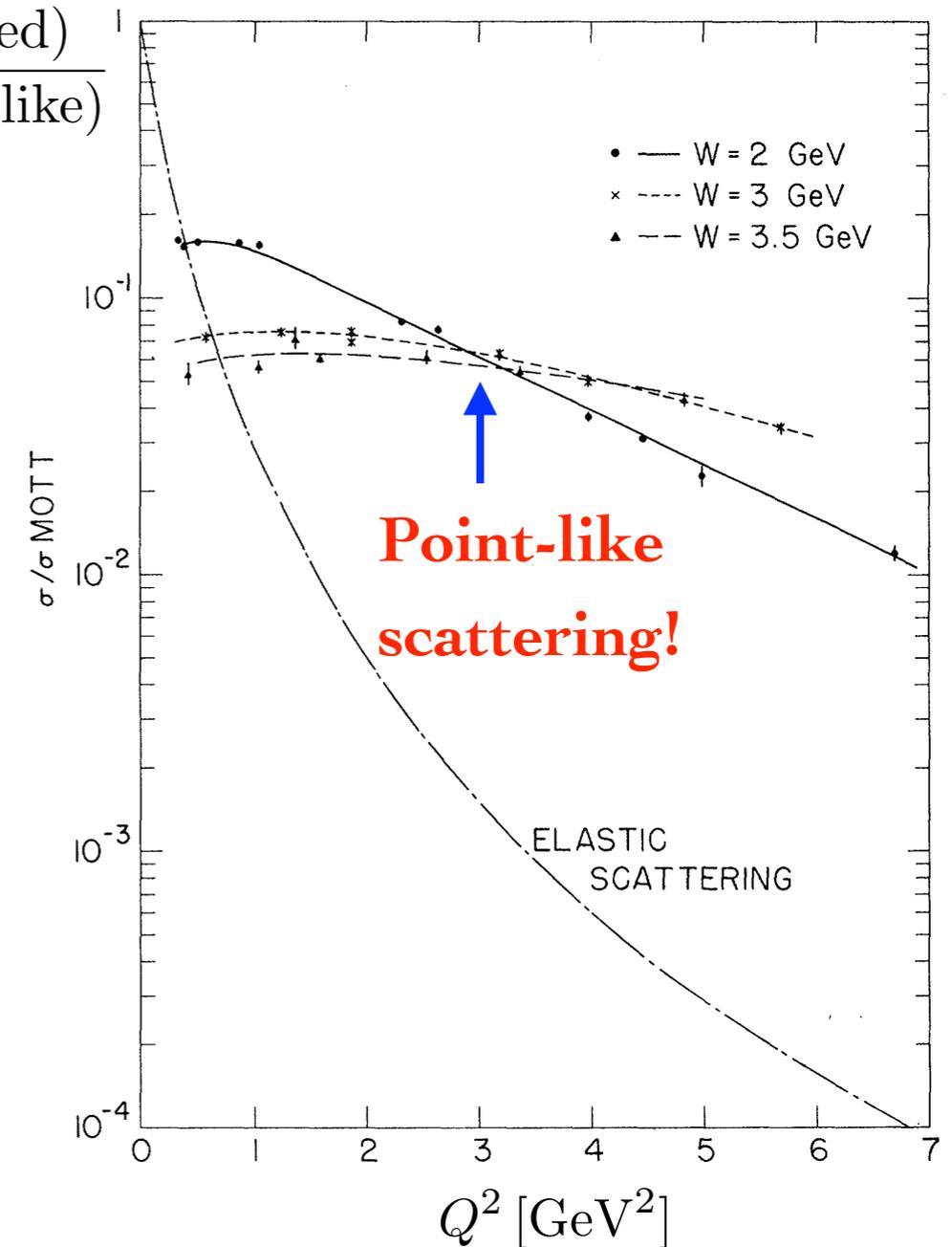
$$Q^2 = -(k - k')^2 = 4EE' \sin^2 \left( \frac{\theta}{2} \right)$$
$$x_B = \frac{Q^2}{2p \cdot q} = \frac{Q^2}{2m_p(E - E')}$$

\*By standards of the day!

# SLAC measurement

- Cross section found to follow expectation for scattering off **point-like** objects within proton.
- These objects, first given agnostic label of '**partons**' by Feynman.
- Soon identified with Gell-Mann/Zweig's **quarks** introduced to explain the hadron zoo.

$$\frac{\sigma(\text{observed})}{\sigma(\text{point-like})}$$

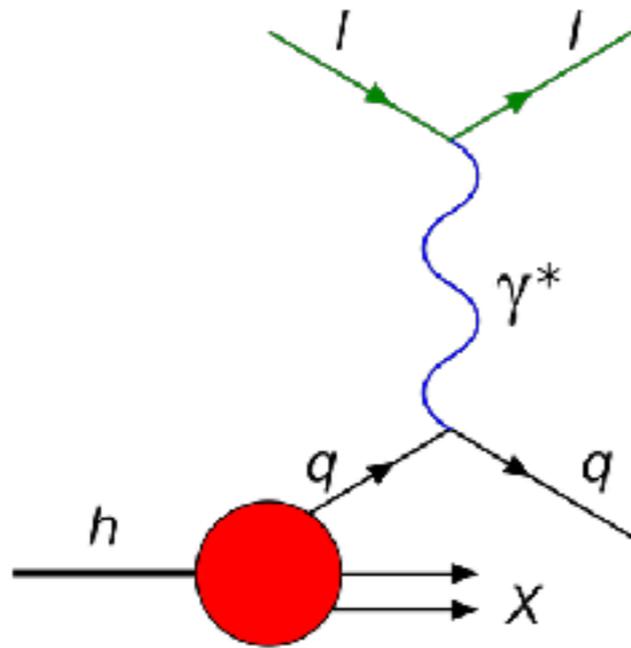


Neutron

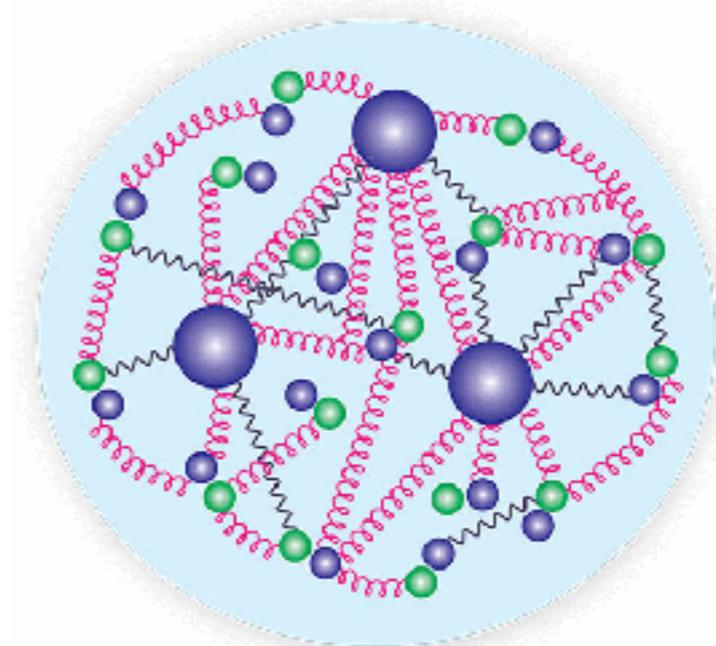
Proton

# Quark/gluon binding?

- **Experimental fact:** potentially complex **electron-proton** interaction really due to simple scattering between point-like **electron** and **quark** within proton, with rest of proton playing **no role**.



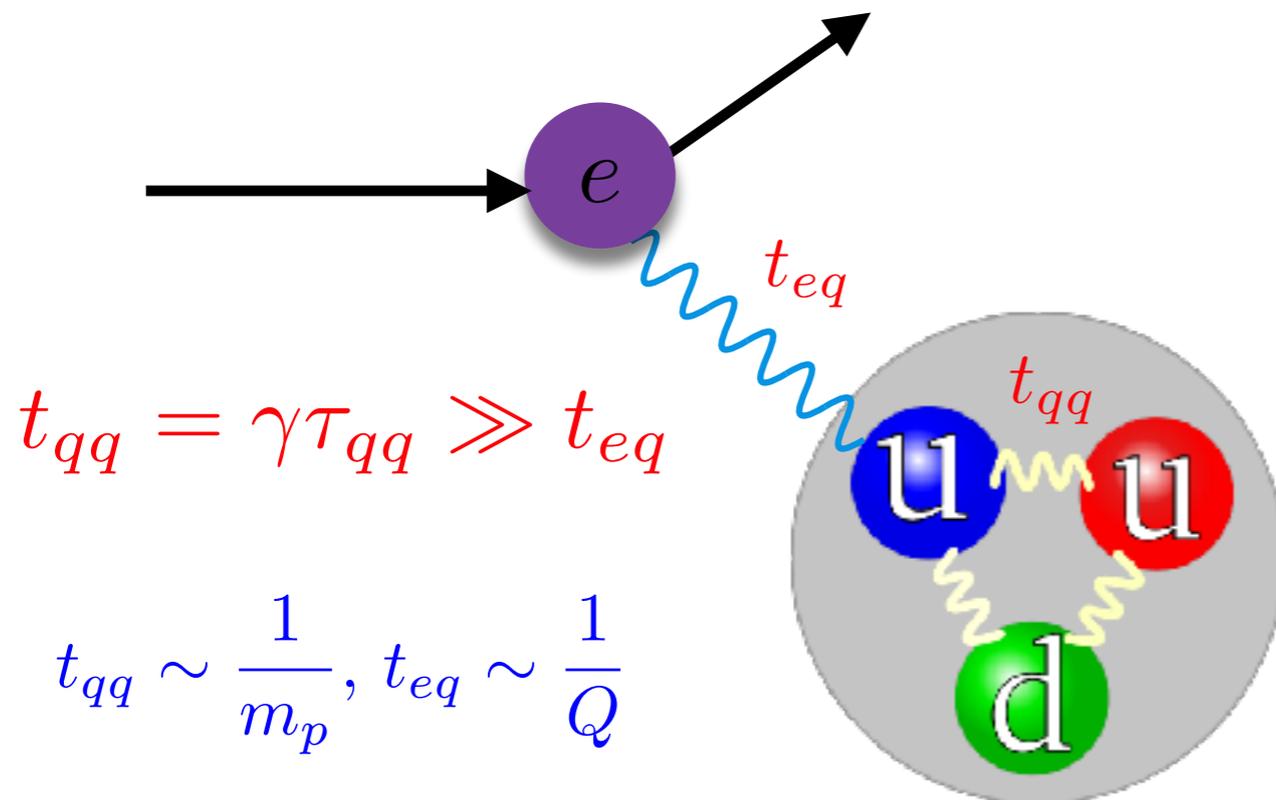
$$\sigma(ep) \sim \sigma(eq)$$



- But how can this be? Quarks are part of a complex and **self-interacting bound** state: the proton. Does this not affect the scattering process?

# Proton 'Snapshot'

- Relativity comes to rescue. Proton at **rest**: complex system of interacting quarks ( $\tau_{qq} \approx 10^{-24} s$ ).
- However we are interested in very **high energy** proton collisions. Proton has velocity  $\mathbf{v} \sim \mathbf{c}$ , and **relativity** comes into the game.
- What does electron 'see'? **Time dilation**: proton 'clock' much slower than when at rest, electron only sees a **static snapshot** of the proton!



- Electron-quark interaction time  $\ll$  timescale of internal quark interactions!

- Note separation of timescales/distances at heart of all QCD 'factorization'.

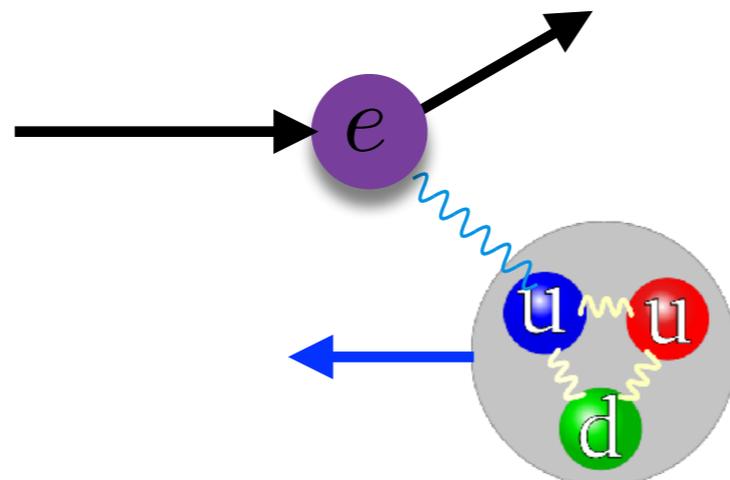
# Colliding Protons

- Electron scatters off a quark within the **static** proton **snapshot**. The **quark interactions** within the proton are **frozen** and can be ignored.
- Valid to consider in terms of **free** quark-electron scattering.

$$\sigma(ep) \sim \sigma(eq) \quad \checkmark$$

- Final element: what does the frozen distribution of quarks look like?  
Relevant degree of freedom: amount of proton's energy carried by quark.

- Introduce **new variable**:  $x = \frac{E_{\text{quark}}}{E_{\text{proton}}} \quad 0 < x < 1$



$$p_p = (E, 0, 0, E)$$

**c.m.s. frame**

$$p_q = x(E, 0, 0, E)$$

$$m_p \ll E$$

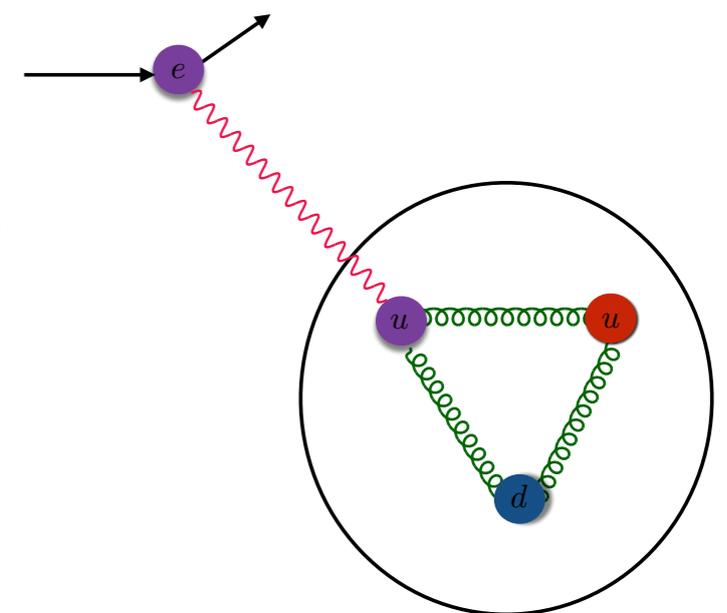
# Mapping out the Proton

- Collision by collision the proton snapshot will be different, but expect it to have some **statistical distribution**.
- Statistical distribution known as '**Parton Distribution Function**' (**PDF**).

$f(x)$  : **Probability of finding a quark with energy fraction  $x$  in proton snapshot.**

**Electron-proton scattering rate:**

$$\sigma_{ep} = \int_0^1 dx f_q(x) \sigma_{eq}(x)$$



- In DIS: electron energy and scattering angle directly related to quark  $x$  and photon  $Q^2$ . By scanning over these, can map out distribution.

- What do they look like?

**At LO in QCD:**  $x = x_B = \frac{Q^2}{2p \cdot q}$

# The Proton Backbone

- Without going into details, some broad features can be picked out:

$$u_V = u - \bar{u} \quad d_V = d - \bar{d}$$

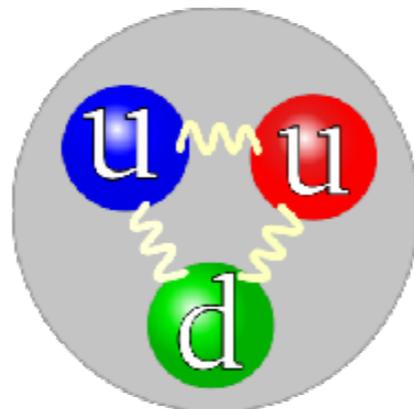
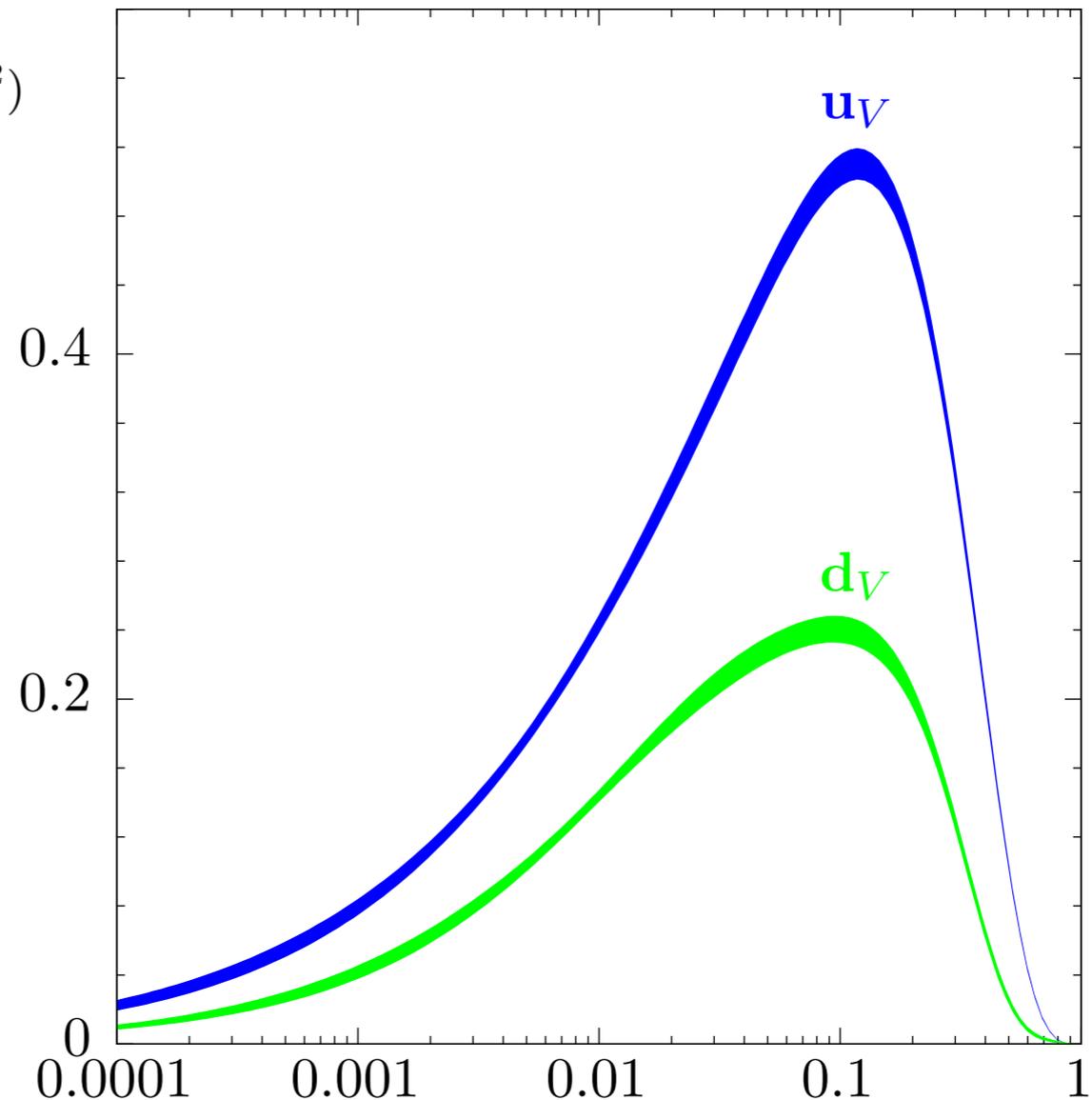
$$\mu_F \sim M_Z$$

- ‘Valence’ up and down quark structure consistent with basic **uud** picture.

- $u_V \approx 2d_V$

- Peaked at  $x \approx \frac{1}{3}$ .

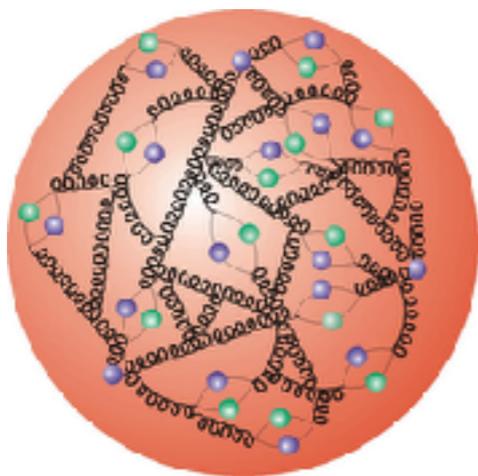
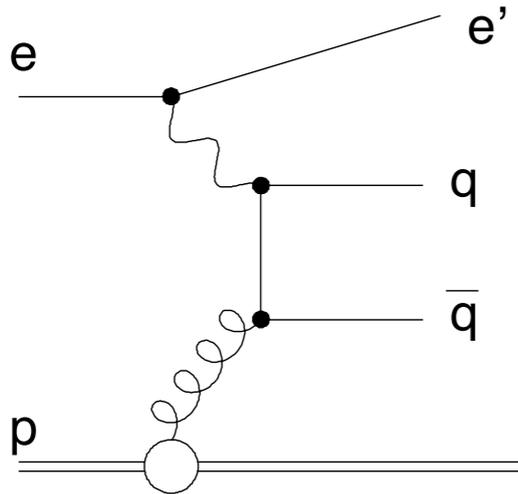
- Not exactly  $x = \frac{1}{3}$  as quark interactions can redistribute momenta.



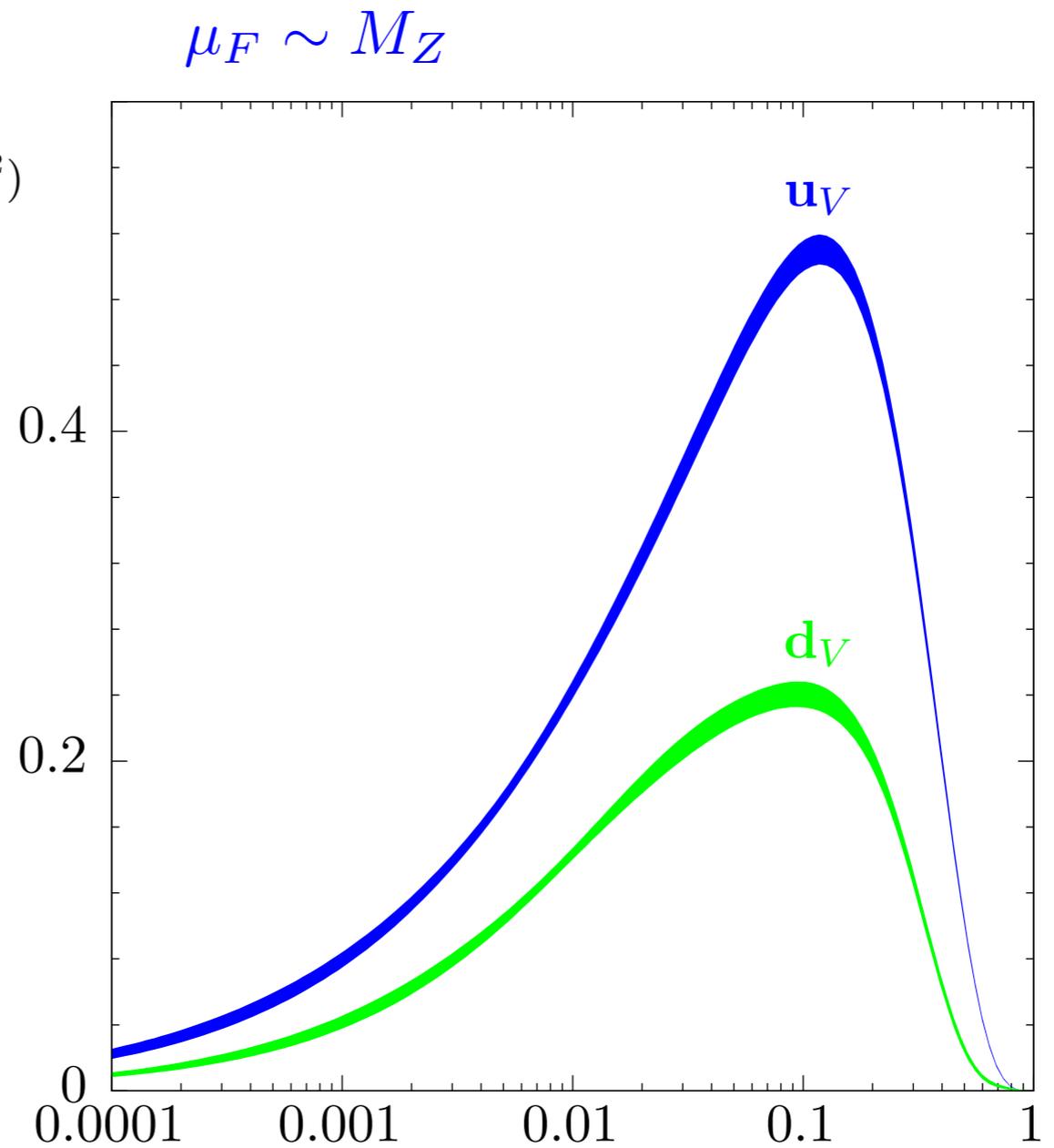
# Gluons

- What happens when we add **gluons** into the picture?

Can also scatter off these.

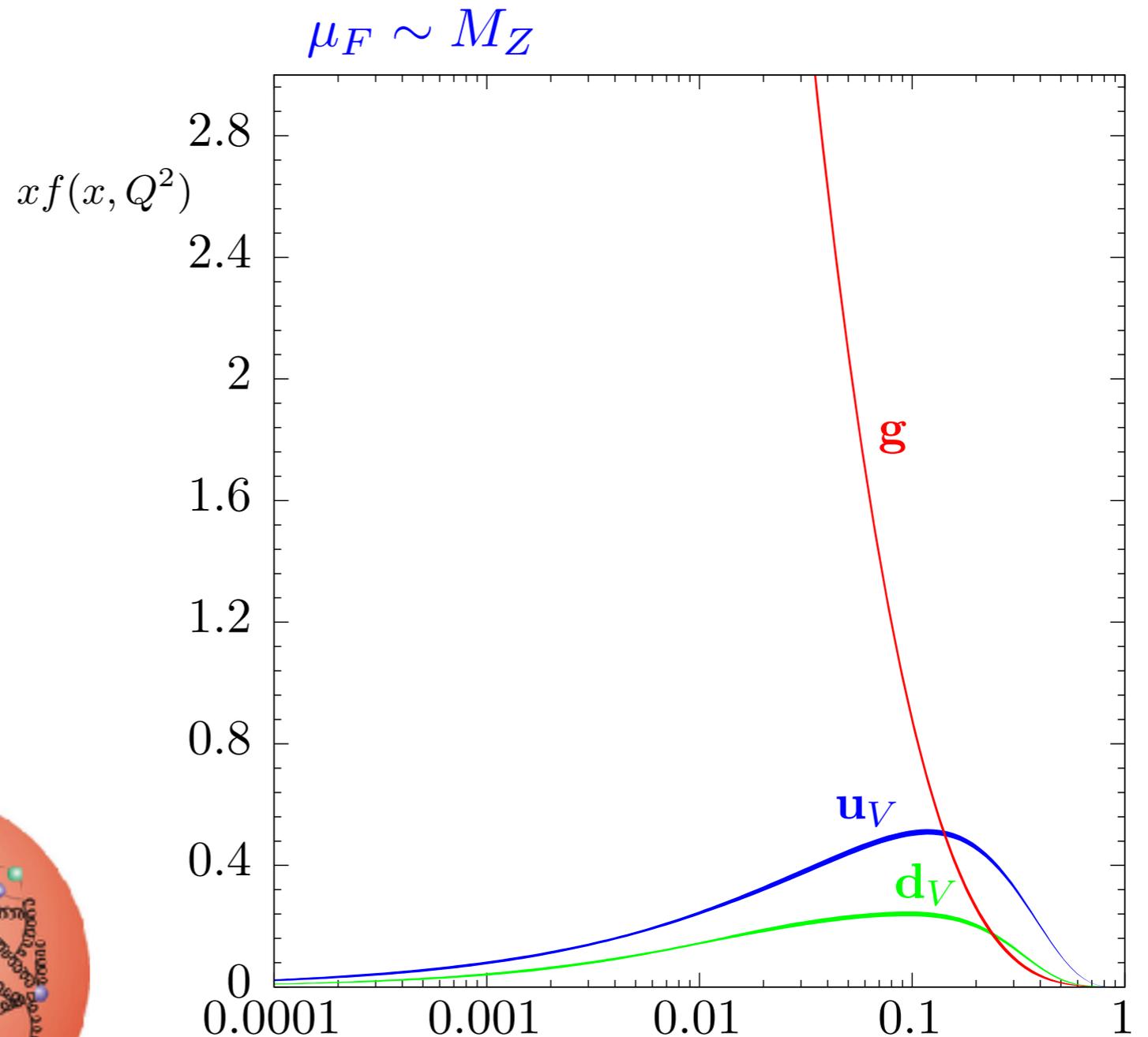
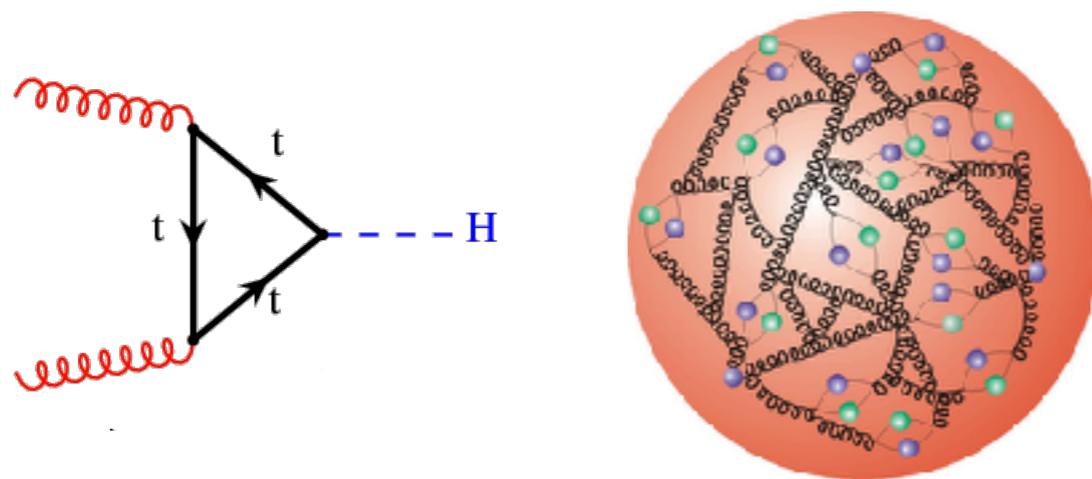


$xf(x, Q^2)$

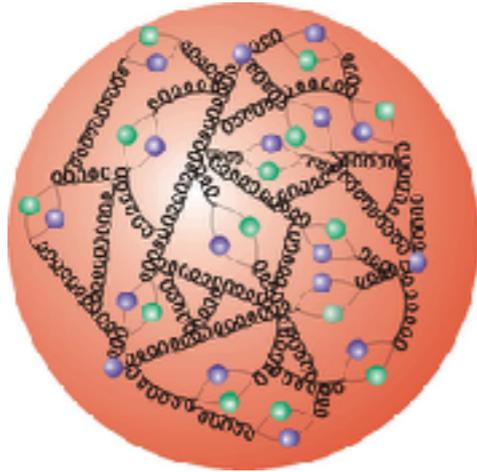


# Gluons!

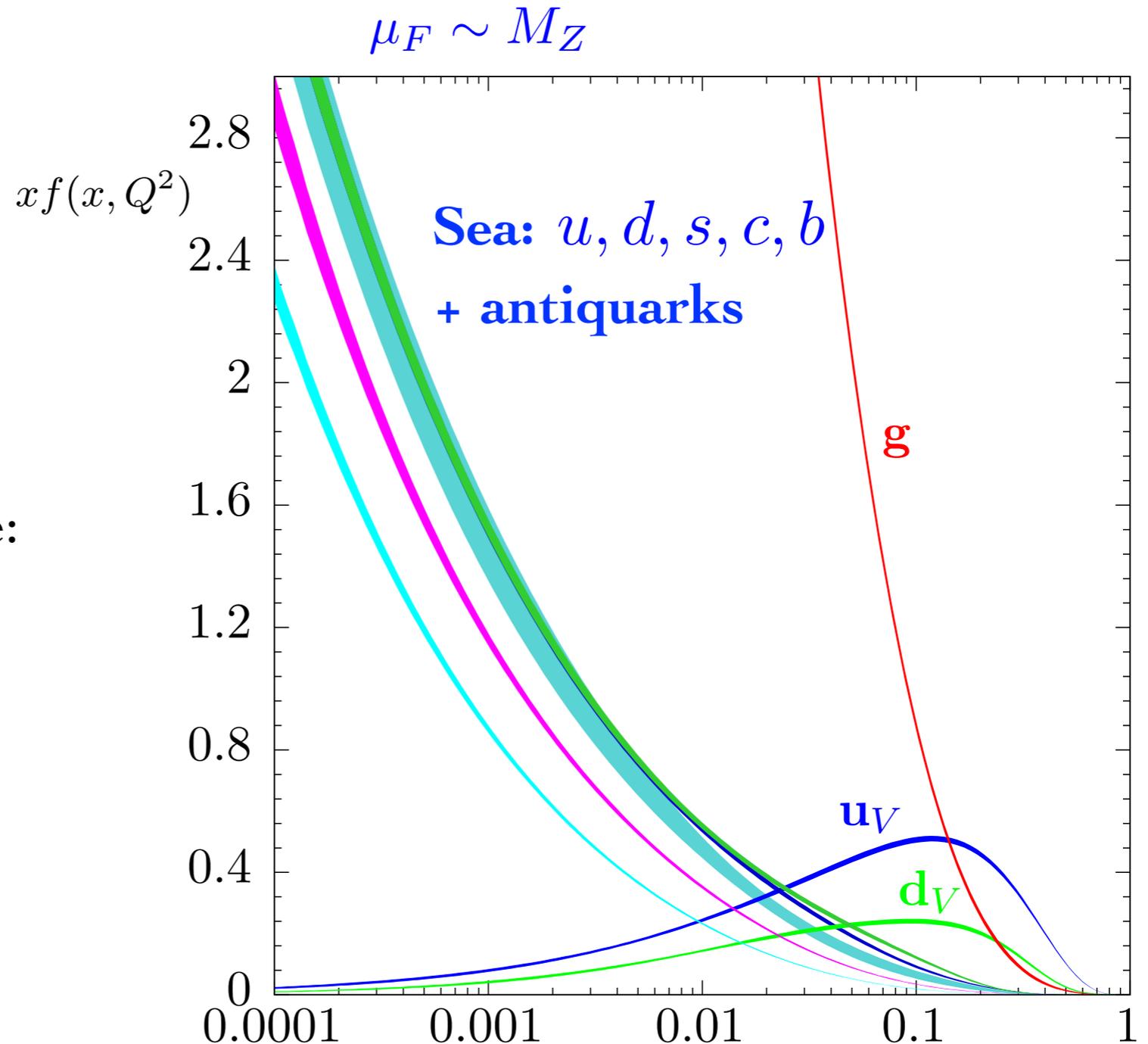
- Contribution from gluons is huge.
- In fact, roughly **50%** of proton energy carried by gluons.
- LHC a gluon-gluon collider: crucial for e.g. **Higgs** physics.



# The Quark Sea

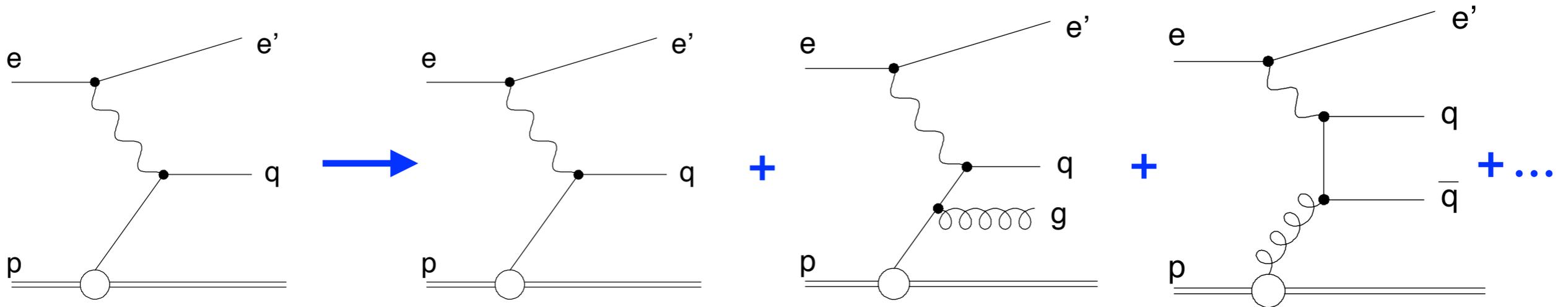


- Quark content of proton not just due to **uud** valence: virtual  $q\bar{q}$  pairs contribute.
- This quark '**sea**' completely dominant over valence in many regions.



# Adding QCD

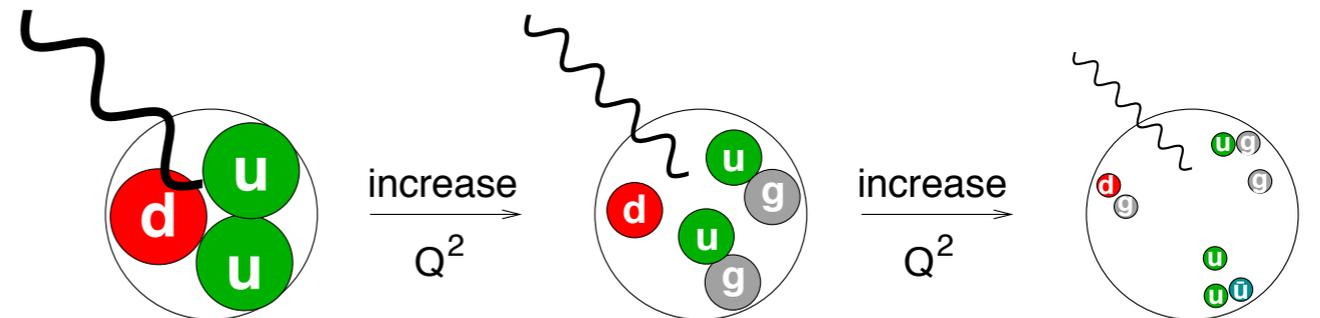
- Simple picture somewhat complicated by inclusion of **interacting QCD**: quarks and gluons like to **radiate**:



- Amount of radiation depends on scale  $\Rightarrow$  so do PDFs:

$$\sigma^{lp} \sim \sigma^{lq}(\mu_F) \otimes q(x, \mu_F) \quad \mu_F : \text{factorization scale} \quad \text{DIS: } \mu_F^2 = Q^2$$

- Physically  $Q^2 \sim$  **resolution** at which we resolve proton:



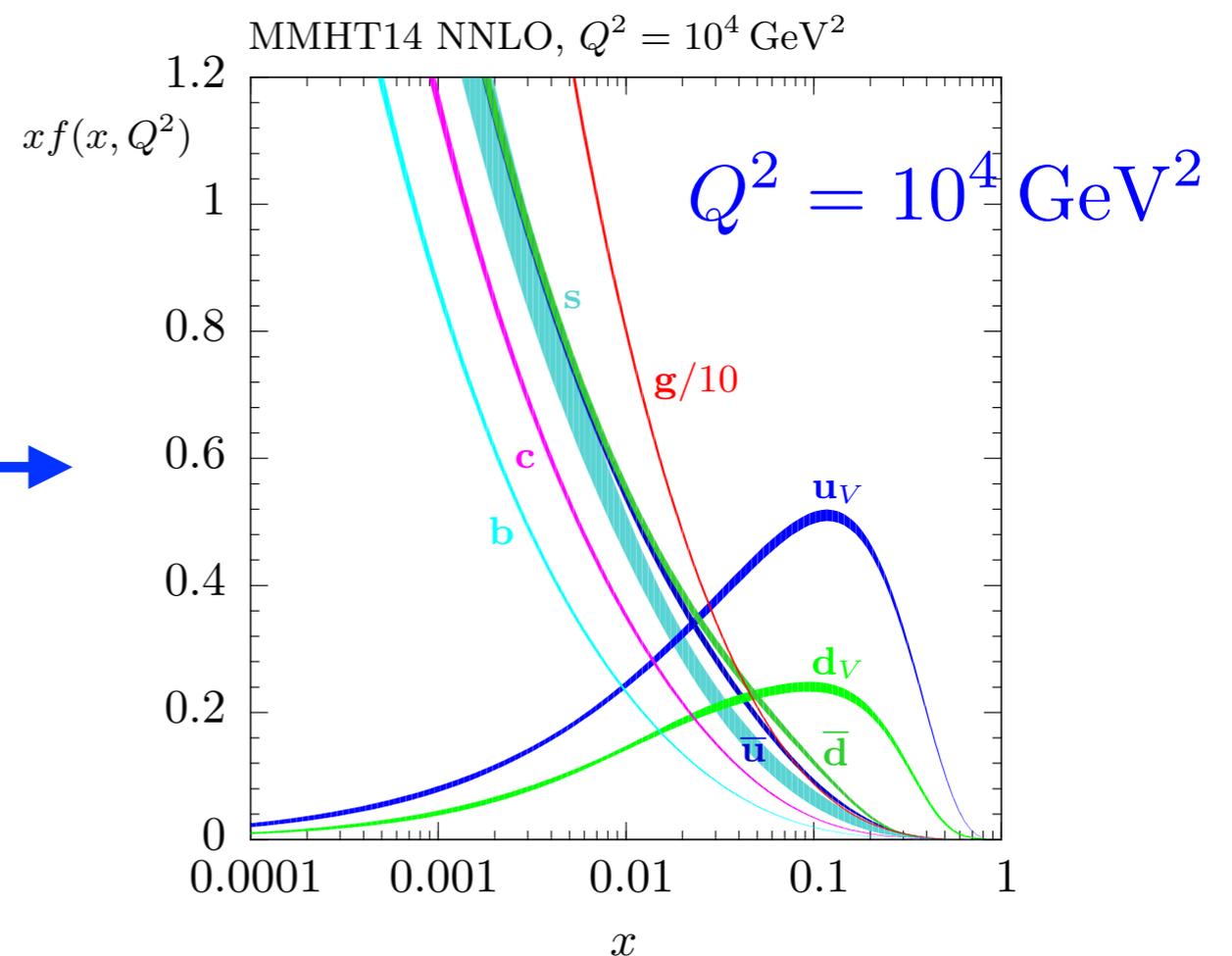
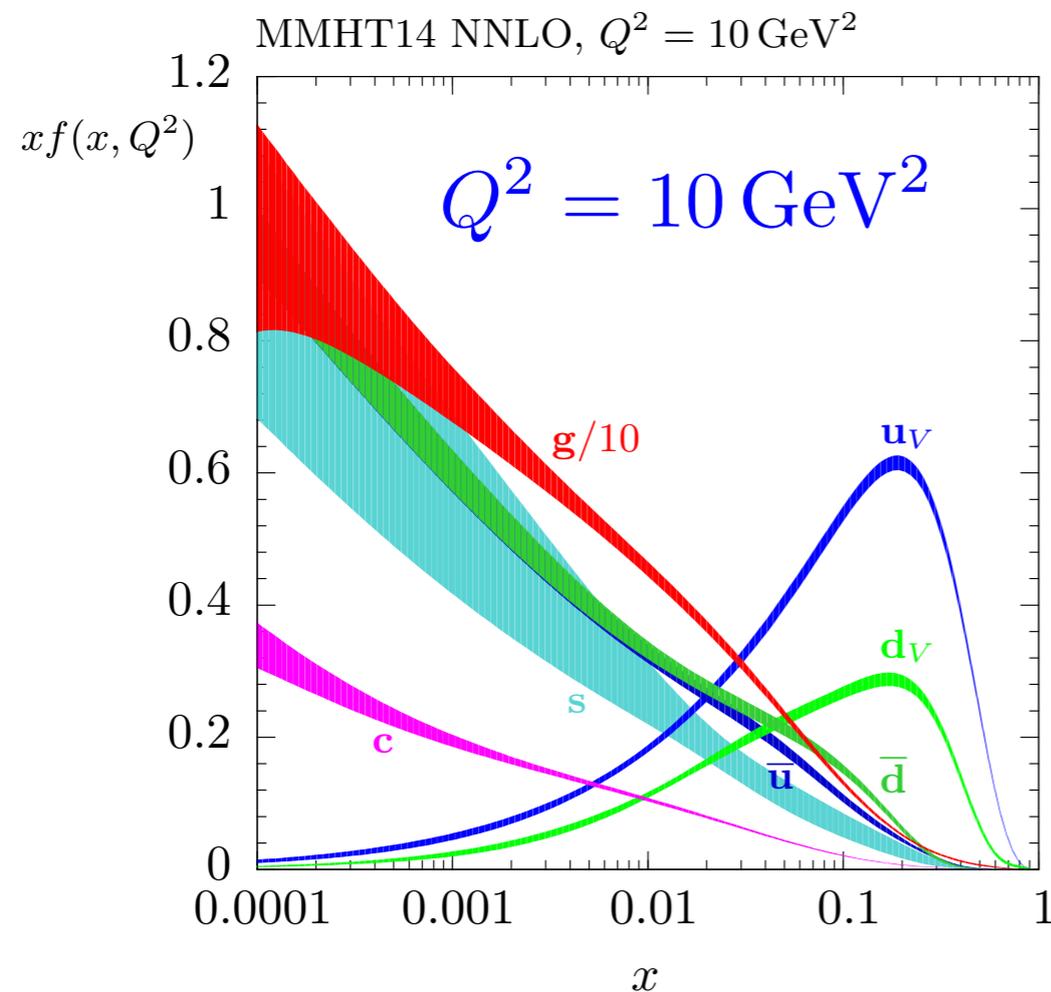
- Note this effect means we lose the interpretation in terms of a classical probability distribution, but still intuitive to think of PDFs in those terms.

- Dependence of PDFs on resolution scale predicted by QCD, via ‘**DGLAP**’ equation:

$$\frac{\partial q(x, \mu_F^2)}{\partial \mu_F} = P_{qq} \otimes q(x, \mu_F) + P_{qg} \otimes g(x, \mu_F)$$



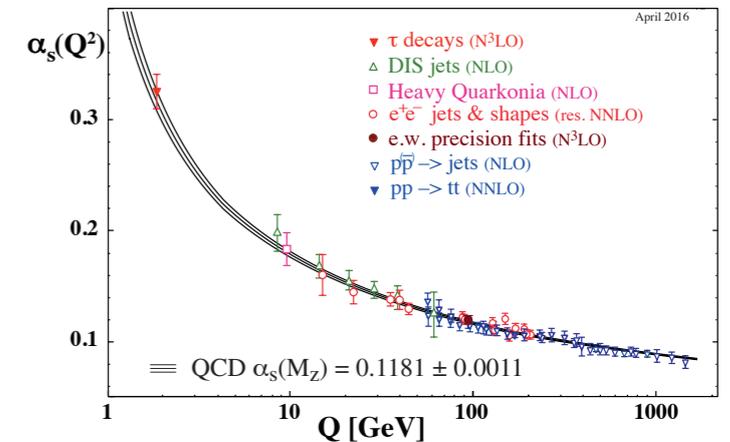
- Specifics rather complicated, basic impact simple: higher  $Q^2 \Rightarrow$  more  $q, \bar{q}, g$  at low  $x$ , less at high  $x$ , due to radiation ( $q \rightarrow qg, g \rightarrow q\bar{q}, g \rightarrow gg\dots$ ).



# Extracting PDFs

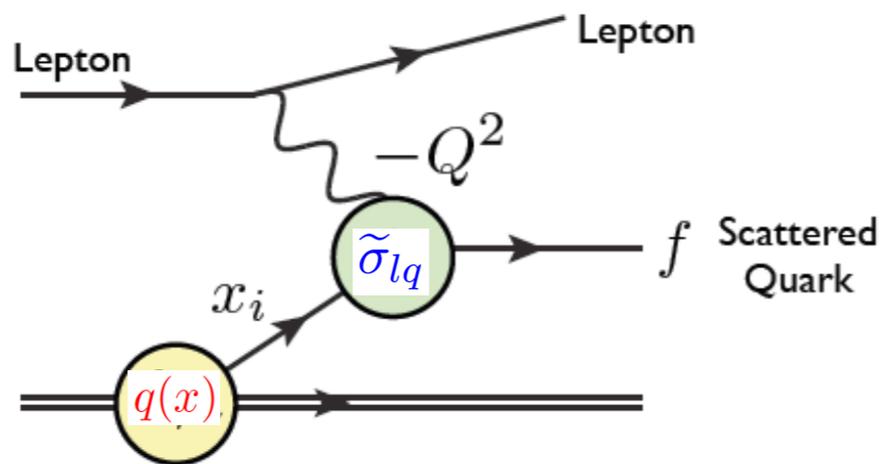
# Extracting PDFs

- Binding of quark/gluons in proton due to low-energy QCD  $\Rightarrow$  **cannot** use perturbation theory.

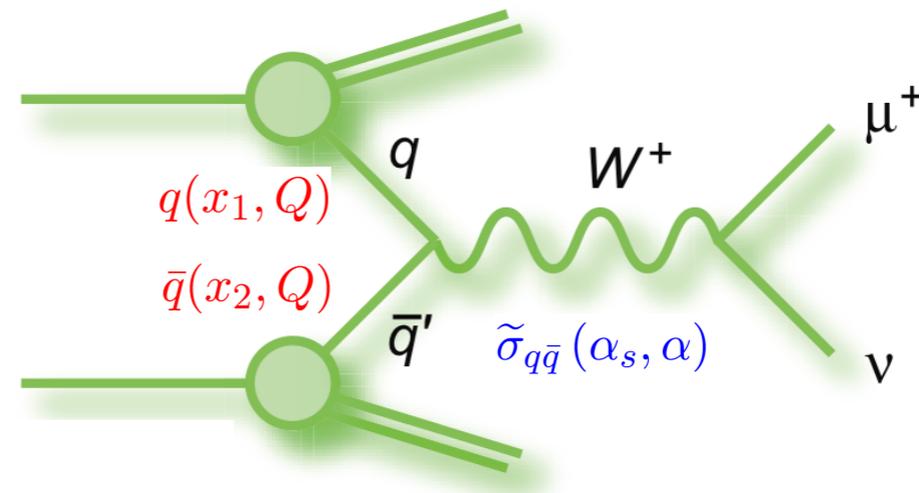


- However **PDFs** are **universal**: same quark (antiquark) PDFs enter DIS and Drell-Yan cross sections.

$$\sigma_{lp} \simeq \tilde{\sigma}_{lq}(\alpha_s, \alpha) \otimes q(x, Q)$$



$$\sigma_{pp} \simeq \tilde{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}(\alpha_s, \alpha) \otimes q(x_1, Q) \otimes \bar{q}(x_2, Q)$$

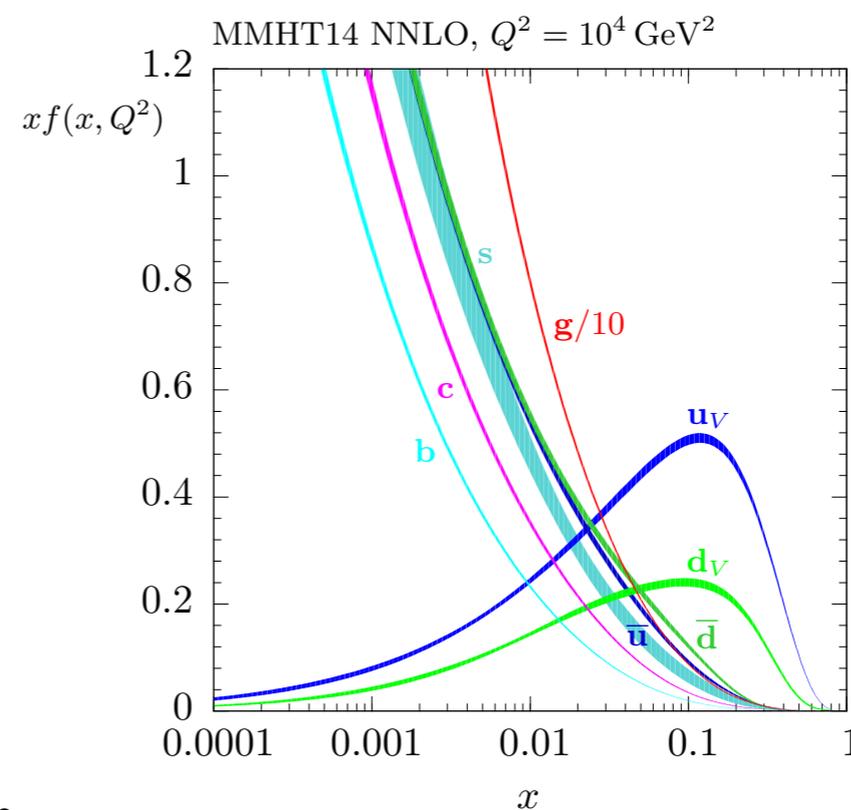
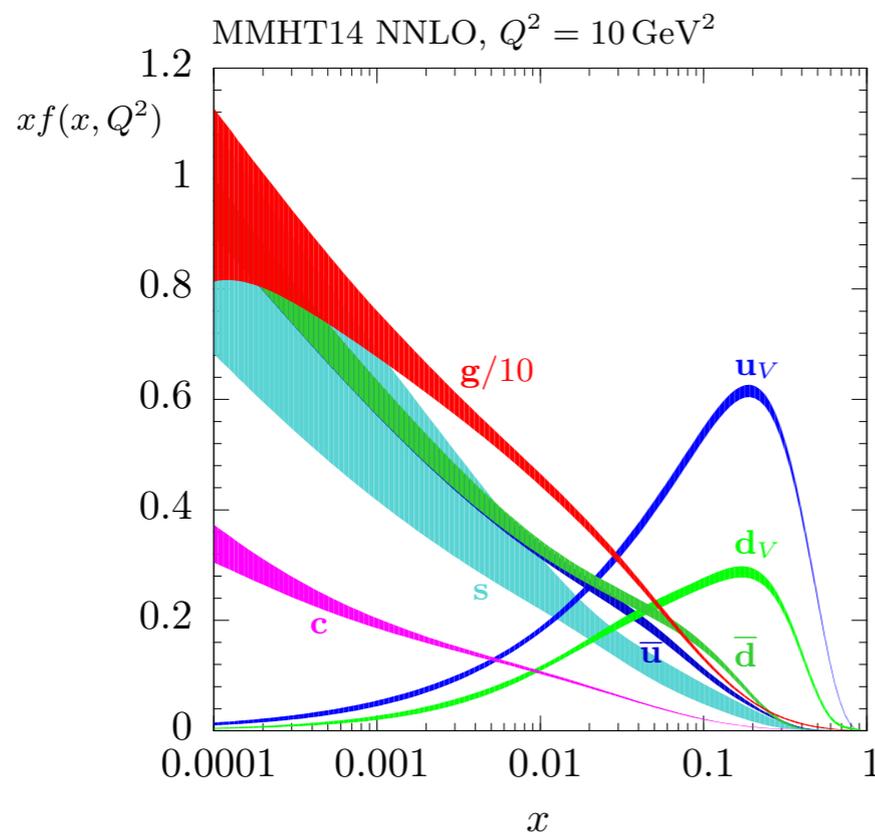


$$\text{Factorization} \Rightarrow q_{DIS}(x, Q^2) \equiv q_{DY}(x, Q^2)$$

$\rightarrow$  **Fit** PDFs to one dataset (e.g. DIS) and use to make prediction for another (e.g. DY).

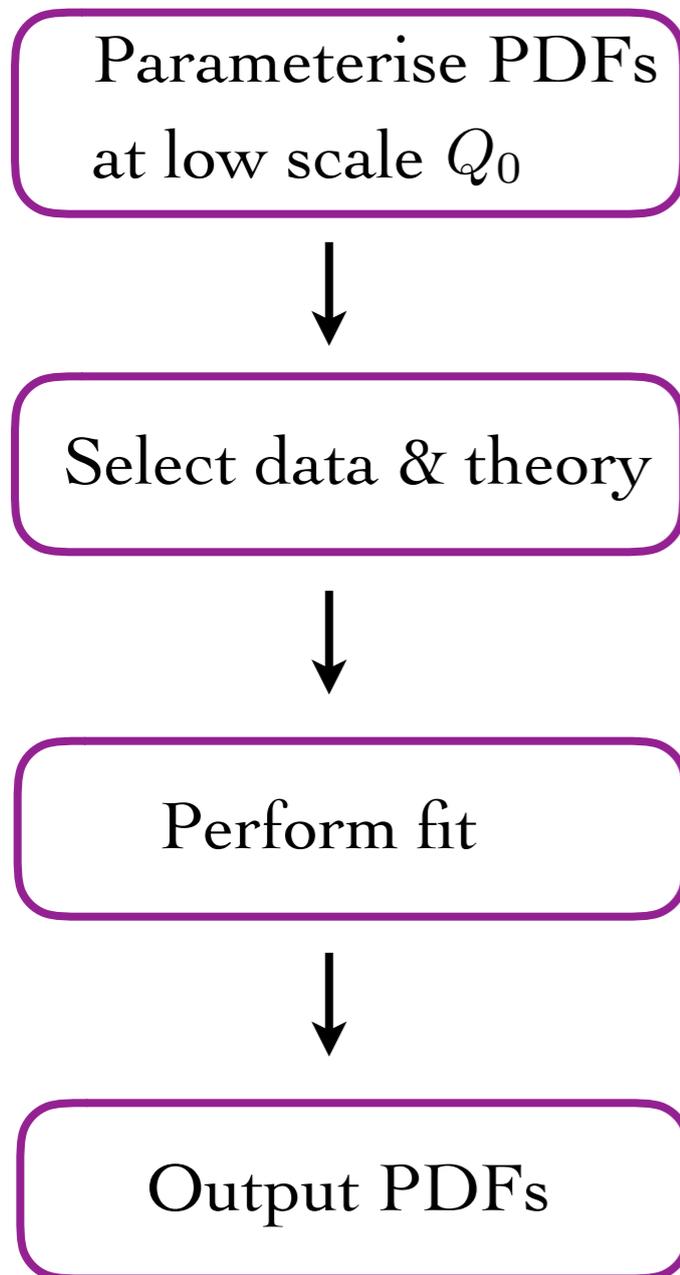
# PDF Fits

- For LHC (and elsewhere) aim to constrain PDFs to high precision for all flavours ( $q, \bar{q}, g \dots$ ) over a wide  $x$  region. To achieve this: performs **global PDF fits** to wide range of data.
- Various major global fitting collaboration (**ABM, CT, MMHT, NNPDF**), each taking different approach to this.
- Also various specialised PDF sets: **CJ** (focus on high  $x$ ), **HERAPDF** (fit to HERA data alone), while **ATLAS/CMS** also performing fits to their data.



# PDF Fits: Work Flow

In detail...

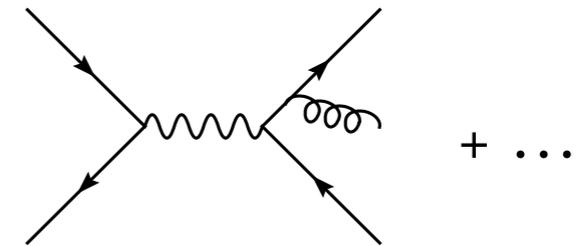


**Basic idea:**  $O \sim f \otimes \sigma$   
 measure (data)  $\nearrow$  fit  $\nwarrow$  predict (pQCD)

$$f_i(x, Q_0) : A_f x^{a_f} (1-x)^{b_f} \times \longrightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_{f,i} P_i(y(x)), \text{ CT, MMHT...}$$

$\searrow$   $NN_i(x)$  **NNPDF**

Perturbative QCD for parton-level theory



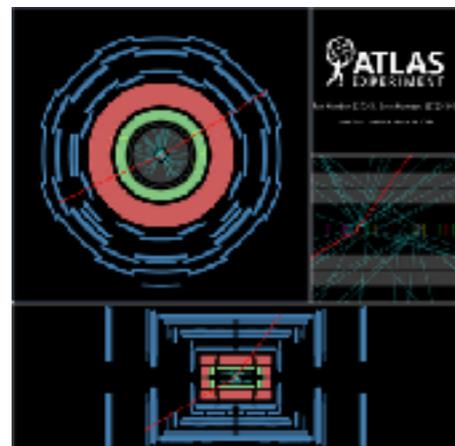
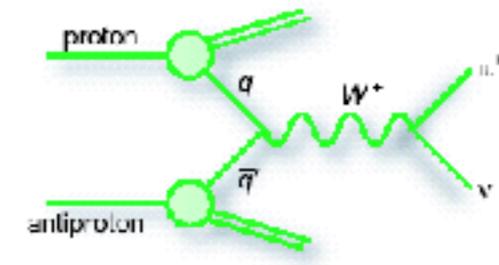
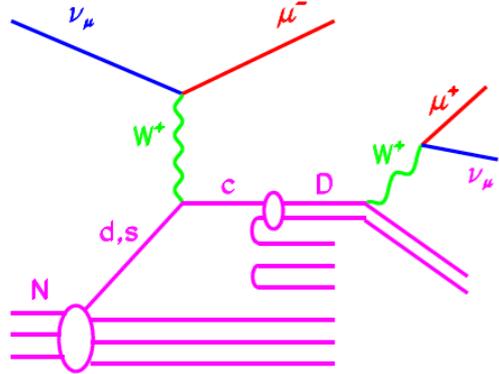
**Minimise**  $\chi^2(\{a\}, \{\lambda\}) = \sum_{k=1}^{N_{pt}} \frac{1}{s_k} \left( D_k - T_k - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \beta_{k,\alpha} \lambda_\alpha \right)^2 + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \lambda_\alpha^2,$

**DGLAP:**  $f(x, Q_0) \rightarrow f(x, \mu_{\text{data}})$

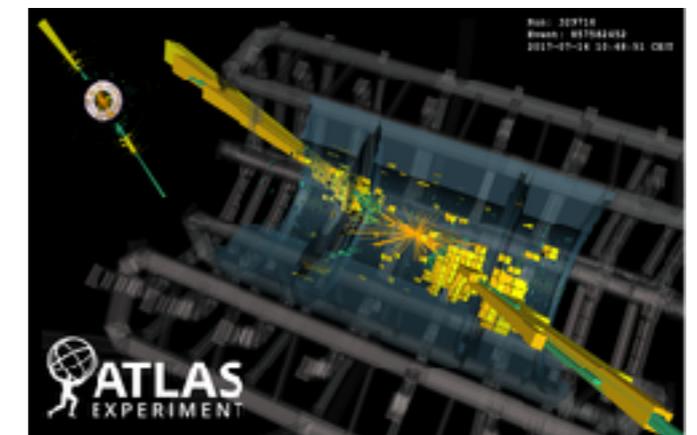
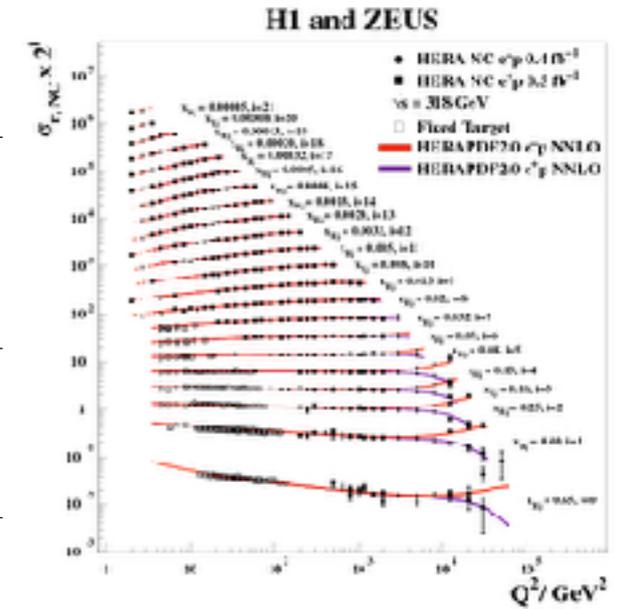
$$f(x, \mu) \pm \Delta(x, \mu)$$

$\longleftarrow$  Due to error in data in fit

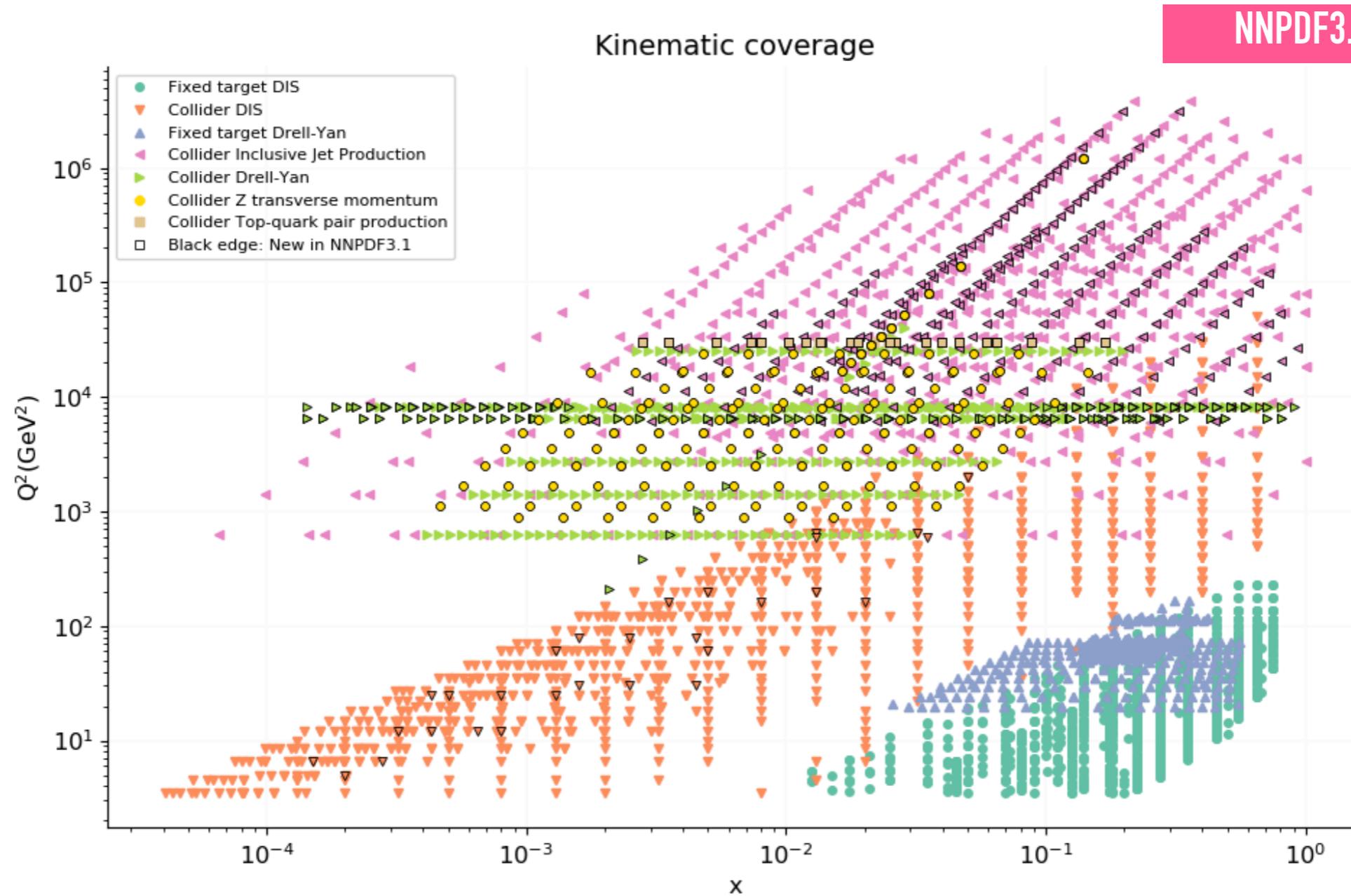
# Global Fits: Datasets



	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	$pp \rightarrow \text{jet} + X$	$gg, qg, q\bar{q} \rightarrow 2j$	$g, q$	$0.001 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.5$
	$pp \rightarrow (W^\pm \rightarrow \ell^\pm \nu) + X$	$u\bar{d} \rightarrow W^+, d\bar{u} \rightarrow W^-$	$u, d, \bar{u}, \bar{d}, g$	$x \gtrsim 10^{-3}$
	$pp \rightarrow (Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) + X$	$q\bar{q} \rightarrow Z$	$q, \bar{q}, g$	$x \gtrsim 10^{-3}$
	$pp \rightarrow (Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) + X, p_\perp$	$gq(\bar{q}) \rightarrow Zq(\bar{q})$	$g, q, \bar{q}$	$x \gtrsim 0.01$
	$pp \rightarrow (\gamma^* \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) + X, \text{Low mass}$	$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma^*$	$q, \bar{q}, g$	$x \gtrsim 10^{-4}$
	$pp \rightarrow (\gamma^* \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) + X, \text{High mass}$	$q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma^*$	$\bar{q}$	$x \gtrsim 0.1$
	$pp \rightarrow W^+ \bar{c}, W^- c$	$sg \rightarrow W^+ c, \bar{s}g \rightarrow W^- \bar{c}$	$s, \bar{s}$	$x \sim 0.01$
	$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} + X$	$gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}$	$g$	$x \gtrsim 0.01$
	$pp \rightarrow D, B + X$	$gg \rightarrow c\bar{c}, b\bar{b}$	$g$	$x \gtrsim 10^{-6}, 10^{-5}$
	$pp \rightarrow J/\psi, \Upsilon + pp$	$\gamma^*(gg) \rightarrow c\bar{c}, b\bar{b}$	$g$	$x \gtrsim 10^{-6}, 10^{-5}$
$pp \rightarrow \gamma + X$	$gq(\bar{q}) \rightarrow \gamma q(\bar{q})$	$g$	$x \gtrsim 0.005$	



# Global Fits: Kinematic Coverage



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

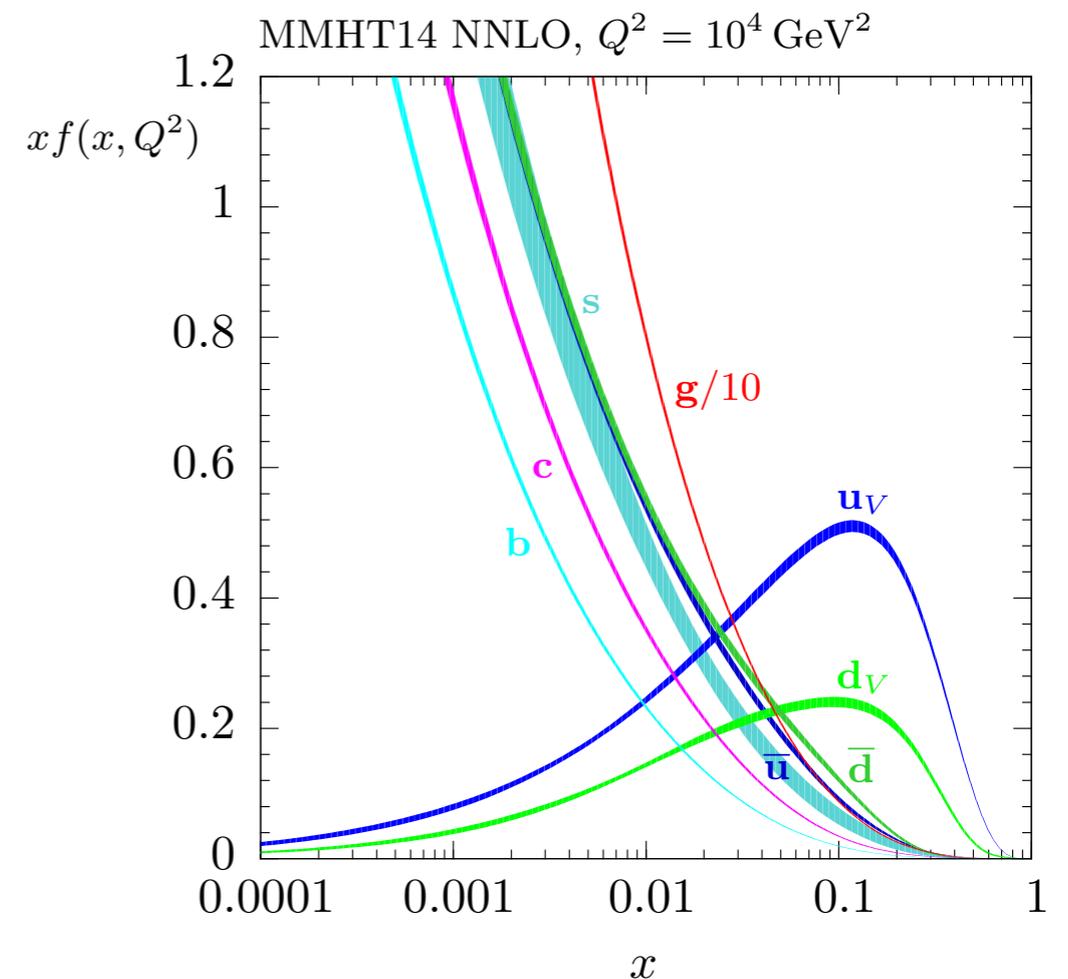
# Fit Quality

- Fits to wide range of data from different colliders/experiments. Is a good/reliable fit possible from this? **Yes!**

$$\chi^2/\text{dof} \sim 1$$

⇒ **Non-trivial  
check of QCD.**

Data set	LO	NLO	NNLO
BCDMS $\mu p F_2$ [125]	162 / 153	176 / 163	173 / 163
BCDMS $\mu d F_2$ [19]	140 / 142	143 / 151	143 / 151
NMC $\mu p F_2$ [20]	141 / 115	132 / 123	123 / 123
NMC $\mu d F_2$ [20]	134 / 115	115 / 123	108 / 123
NMC $\mu n/\mu p$ [21]	122 / 137	131 / 148	127 / 148
E665 $\mu p F_2$ [22]	59 / 53	60 / 53	65 / 53
E665 $\mu d F_2$ [22]	52 / 53	52 / 53	60 / 53
SLAC $ep F_2$ [23, 24]	21 / 18	31 / 37	31 / 37
SLAC $ed F_2$ [23, 24]	13 / 18	30 / 38	26 / 38
NMC/BCDMS/SLAC/HERA $F_L$ [20, 125, 24, 63, 64, 65]	113 / 53	68 / 57	63 / 57
E866/NuSea $pp$ DY [88]	229 / 184	221 / 184	227 / 184
E866/NuSea $pd/pp$ DY [89]	29 / 15	11 / 15	11 / 15
NuTeV $\nu N F_2$ [29]	35 / 49	39 / 53	38 / 53
CHORUS $\nu N F_2$ [30]	25 / 37	26 / 42	28 / 42
NuTeV $\nu N xF_3$ [29]	49 / 42	37 / 42	31 / 42
CHORUS $\nu N xF_3$ [30]	35 / 28	22 / 28	19 / 28
CCFR $\nu N \rightarrow \mu\mu X$ [31]	65 / 86	71 / 86	76 / 86
NuTeV $\nu N \rightarrow \mu\mu X$ [31]	53 / 40	38 / 40	43 / 40
HERA $e^+p$ NC 820 GeV [61]	125 / 78	93 / 78	89 / 78
HERA $e^+p$ NC 920 GeV [61]	479 / 330	402 / 330	373 / 330
HERA $e^-p$ NC 920 GeV [61]	158 / 145	129 / 145	125 / 145
HERA $e^+p$ CC [61]	41 / 34	34 / 34	32 / 34
HERA $e^-p$ CC [61]	29 / 34	23 / 34	21 / 34
HERA $ep F_2^{\text{charm}}$ [62]	105 / 52	72 / 52	82 / 52
H1 99-00 $e^+p$ incl. jets [126]	77 / 24	14 / 24	—
ZEUS incl. jets [127, 128]	140 / 60	45 / 60	—
DØ II $pp$ incl. jets [119]	125 / 110	116 / 110	119 / 110
CDF II $pp$ incl. jets [118]	78 / 76	63 / 76	59 / 76
CDF II $W$ asym. [66]	55 / 13	32 / 13	30 / 13
DØ II $W \rightarrow \nu e$ asym. [67]	47 / 12	28 / 12	27 / 12
DØ II $W \rightarrow \nu \mu$ asym. [68]	16 / 10	19 / 10	21 / 10
DØ II $Z$ rap. [90]	34 / 28	16 / 28	16 / 28
CDF II $Z$ rap. [70]	95 / 28	36 / 28	40 / 28
ATLAS $W^+, W^-, Z$ [10]	94 / 30	38 / 30	39 / 30
CMS $W$ asymm $p_T > 35$ GeV [9]	10 / 11	7 / 11	9 / 11
CMS asymm $p_T > 25$ GeV, 30 GeV [77]	7 / 24	8 / 24	10 / 24
LHCb $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$ [79]	76 / 9	13 / 9	20 / 9
LHCb $W$ asymm $p_T > 20$ GeV [78]	27 / 10	12 / 10	16 / 10
CMS $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$ [84]	46 / 35	19 / 35	22 / 35
ATLAS high-mass Drell-Yan [83]	42 / 13	21 / 13	17 / 13
CMS double diff. Drell-Yan [86]	—	372 / 132	149 / 132
Tevatron, ATLAS, CMS $\sigma_{t\bar{t}}$ [91]–[97]	53 / 13	7 / 13	8 / 13
ATLAS jets (2.76 TeV+7 TeV) [108, 107]	162 / 116	106 / 116	—
CMS jets (7 TeV) [106]	150 / 133	138 / 133	—



**LHL et al., Eur. Phys. J. C75 (2015) no.5 204**

All data sets	<b>3706 / 2763</b>	<b>3267 / 2996</b>	<b>2717 / 2663</b>
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**LO**

**NLO**

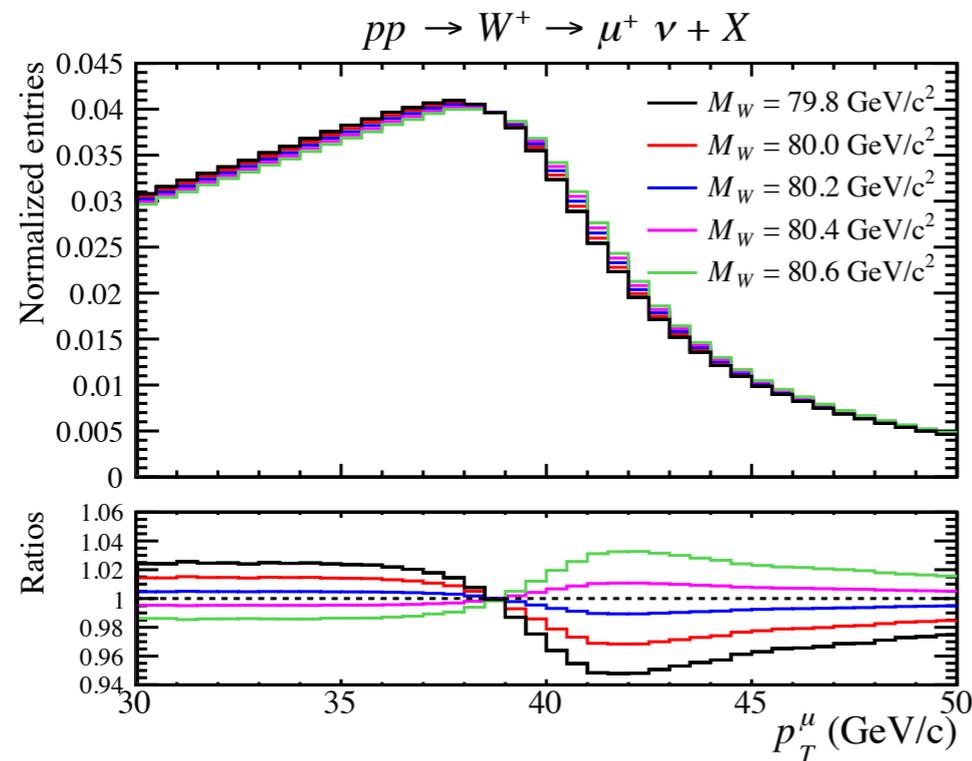
**NNLO**

# PDFs at the LHC

# Precise PDFs for the LHC

- Why do we care about PDFs at LHC?

★ **Precision SM** measurements.



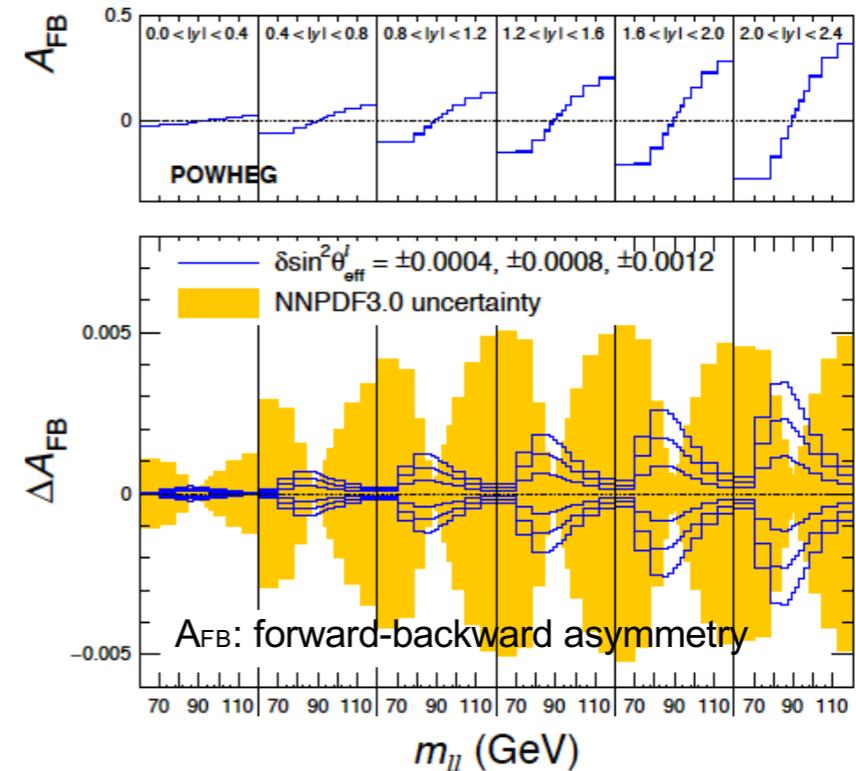
S. Farry et al., EPJC79 (2019) no.6, 497

- W mass: fit to lepton ( $W \rightarrow l\nu$ ) kinematics.

Combined categories	Value [MeV]	Stat. Unc.	Muon Unc.	Elec. Unc.	Recoil Unc.	Bckg. Unc.	QCD Unc.	EW Unc.	PDF Unc.	Total Unc.
$m_{T-p_T^\ell}, W^\pm, e-\mu$	80369.5	6.8	6.6	6.4	2.9	4.5	8.3	5.5	<u>9.2</u>	18.5

- Both approaching level of indirect EW determination, but strongly sensitive to **PDF uncertainties** via underlying  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow W, Z$  process.

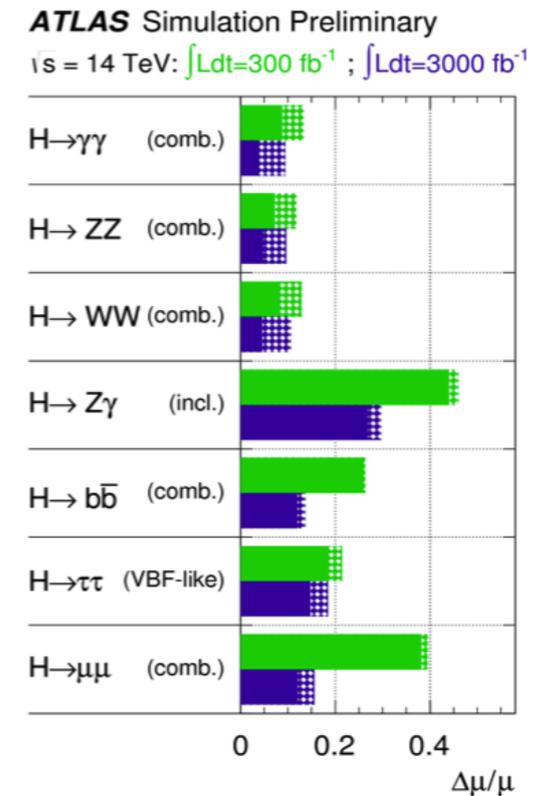
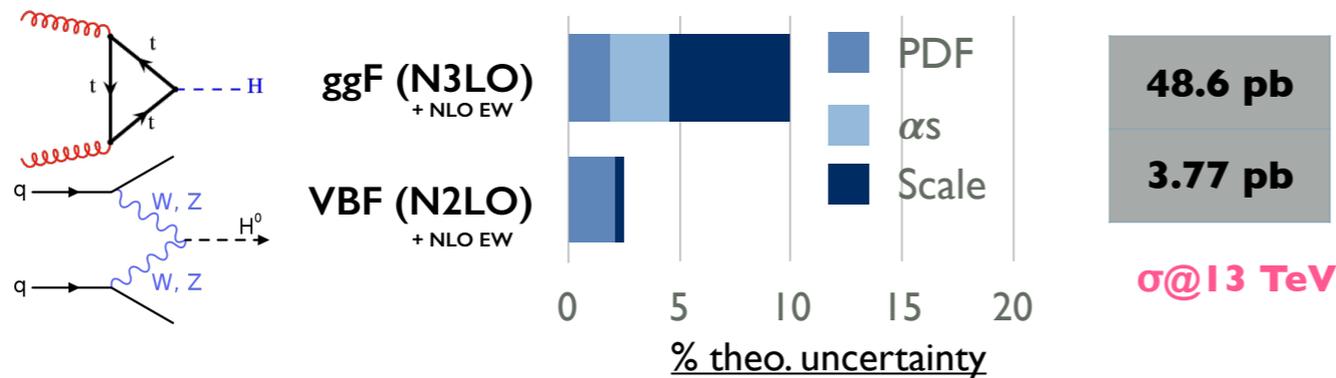
CMS collab., EPJC78 (2018) no.9, 701



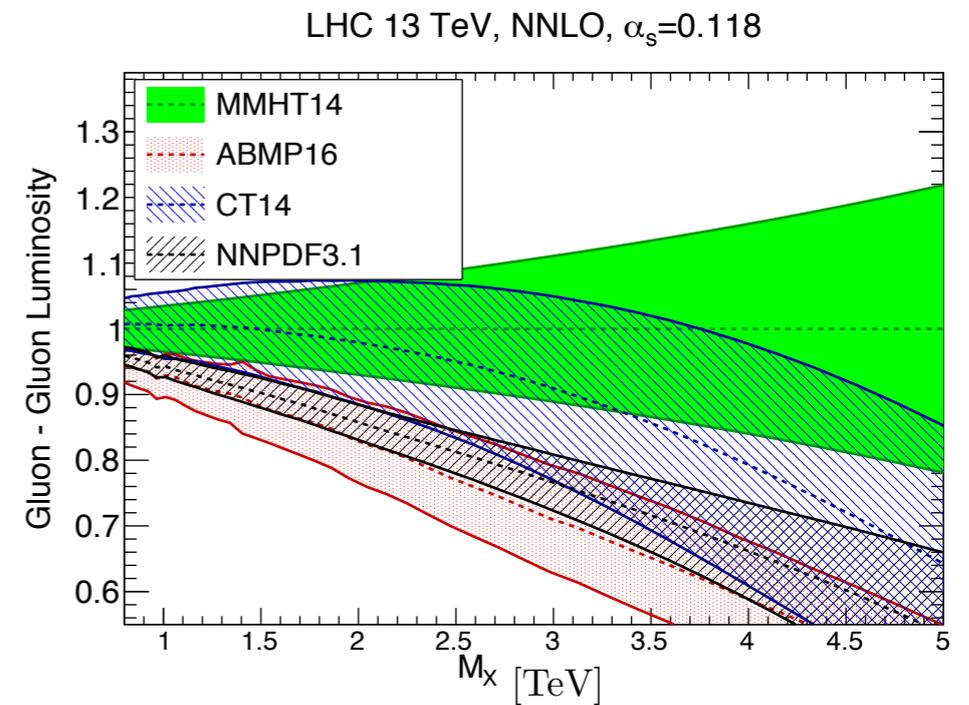
- Weak mixing angle  $\theta_W$  : lepton decay distribution ( $Z \rightarrow l^+l^-$ ) w.r.t. initial quark.

ATLAS collab., EPJC78 (2018) no.2, 110

★ **Higgs couplings** → need to model SM production precisely.



★ **High mass searches** for new resonances/contact interactions - PDFs in high  $x$  region. Currently constraints poor.

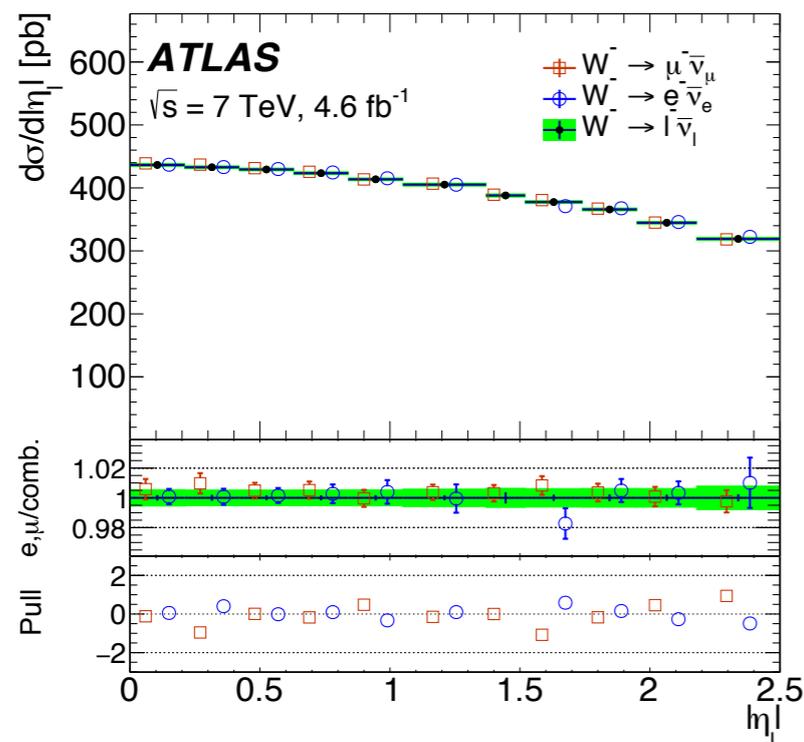


→ Ultimate reach of LHC limited by knowledge of PDFs.

# Fits Today

- Current fits very much aiming for (and in some cases achieving) high precision ( $\sim 1\%$  level) PDF determination in some regions. Key ingredients:

## Extremely precise LHC data



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

## NNLO QCD calculations 'standard'

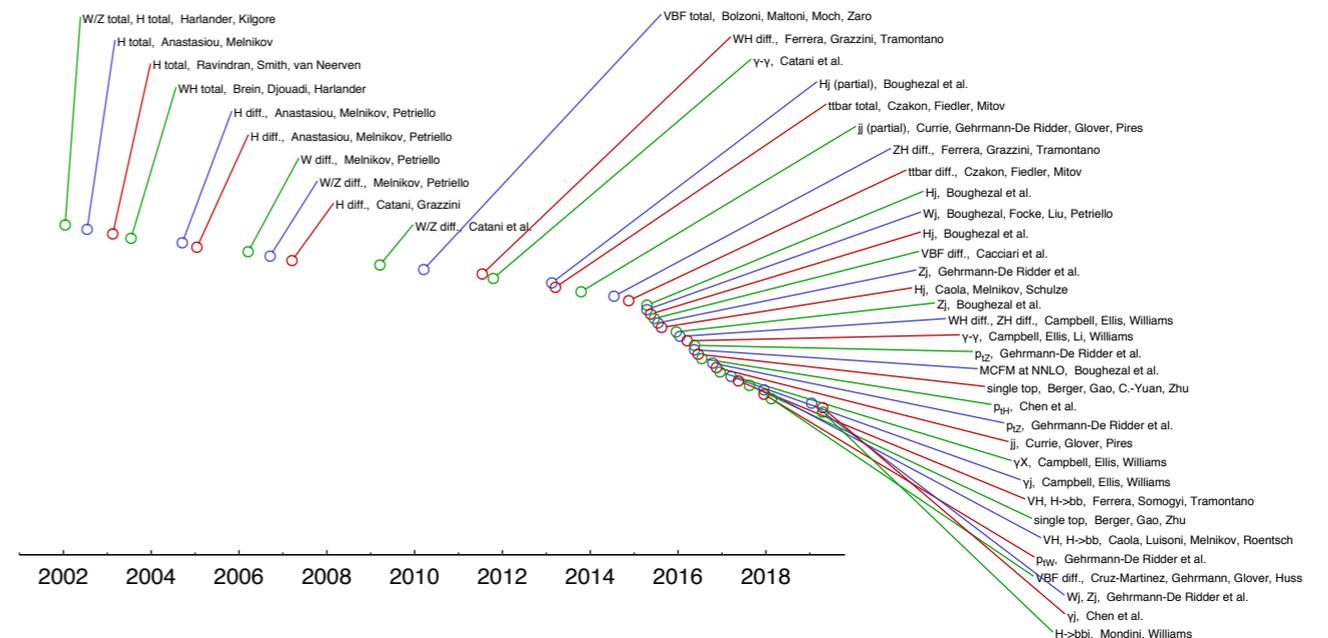
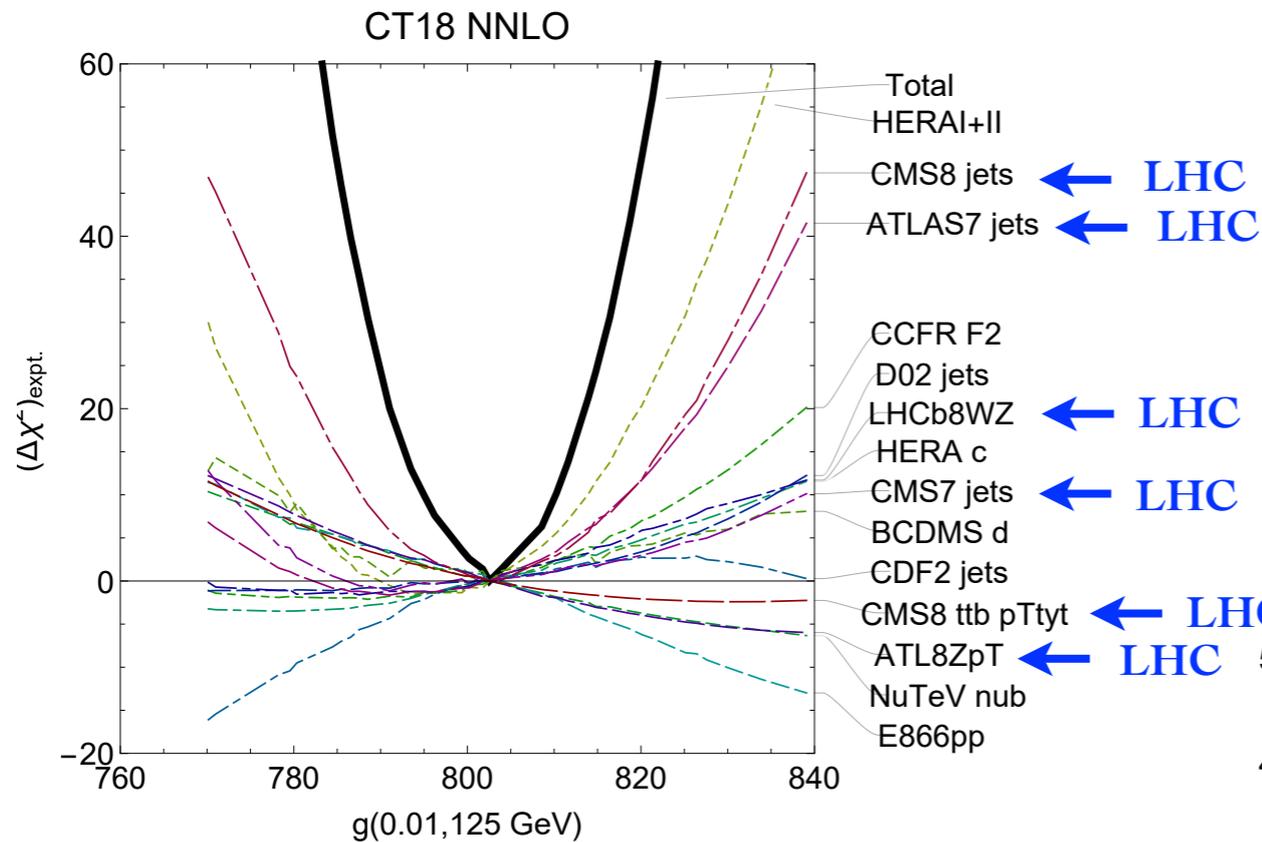


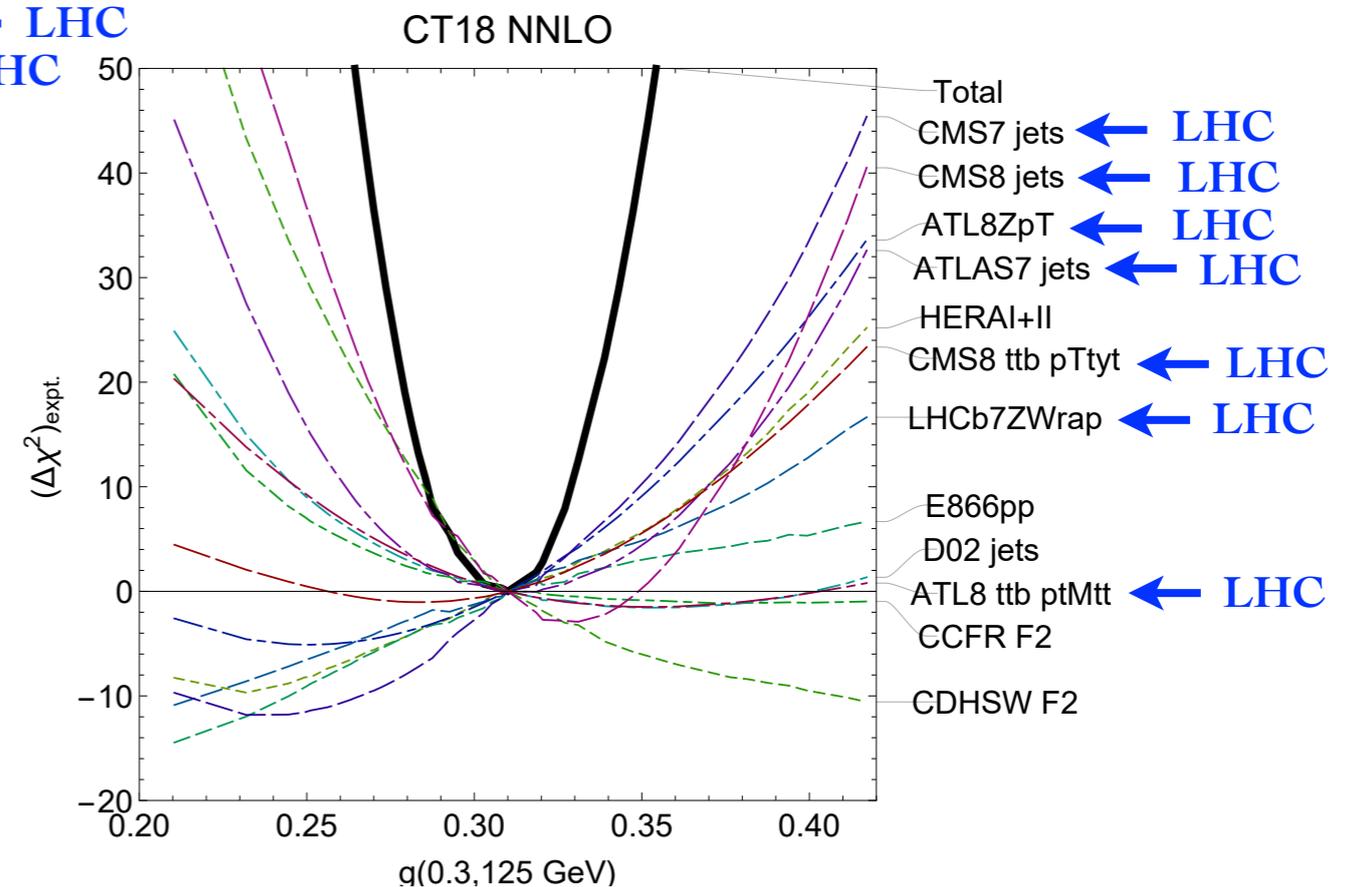
Image Credit: Gavin Salam

- **LHC data** now playing a key role in all fits.

- Example from recent **CT18** fit. Lagrange multiplier scans determining constraints on gluon at different  $\chi^2$  values:

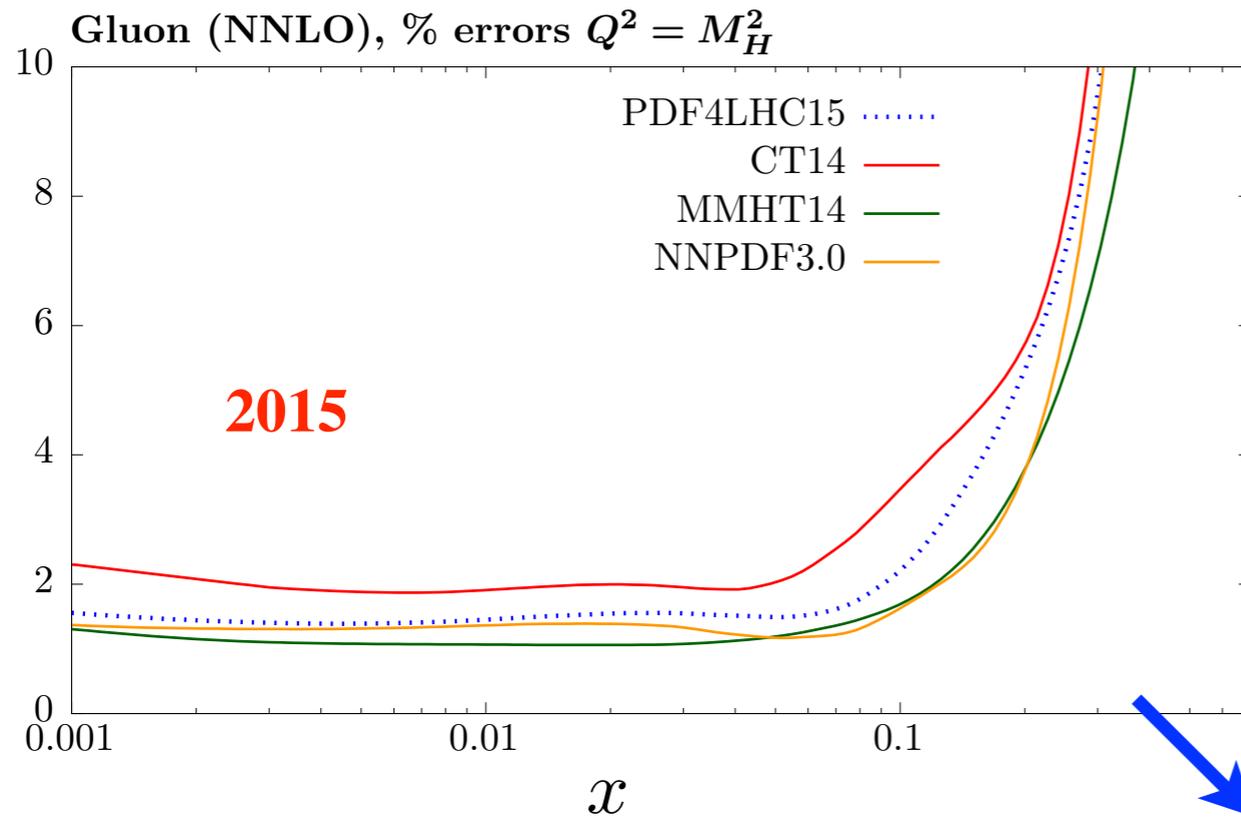


- Plenty of LHC data driving fits!



T-J Hou et al., arXiv:1908.11238

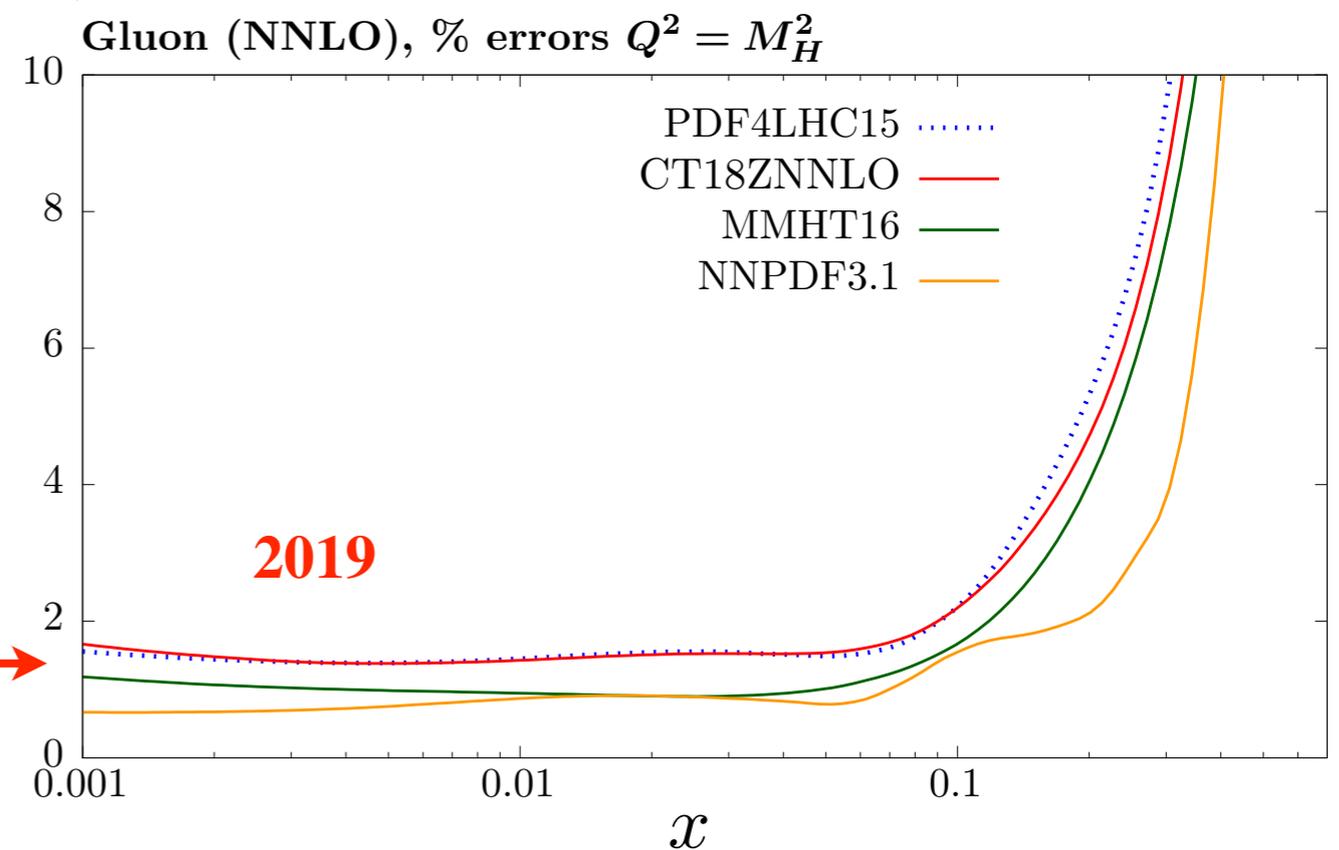
# PDF Errors Today



- Consider e.g. **gluon PDF**.
- Clear reduction in **individual errors** in fits from 2019 vs. 2015.

- Driven by new **LHC data**.

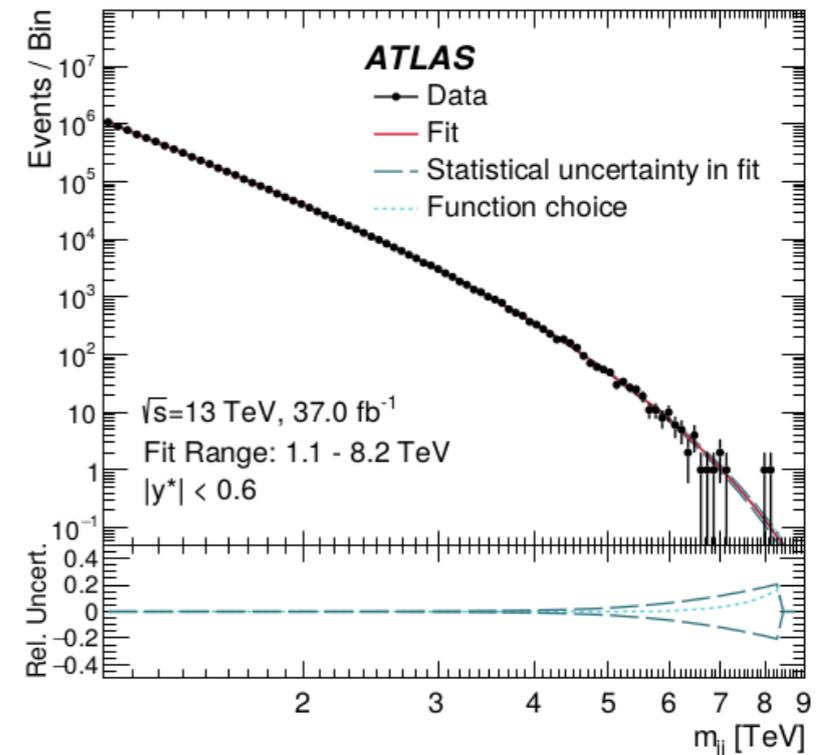
**% level  
uncertainty** →



# Opportunities

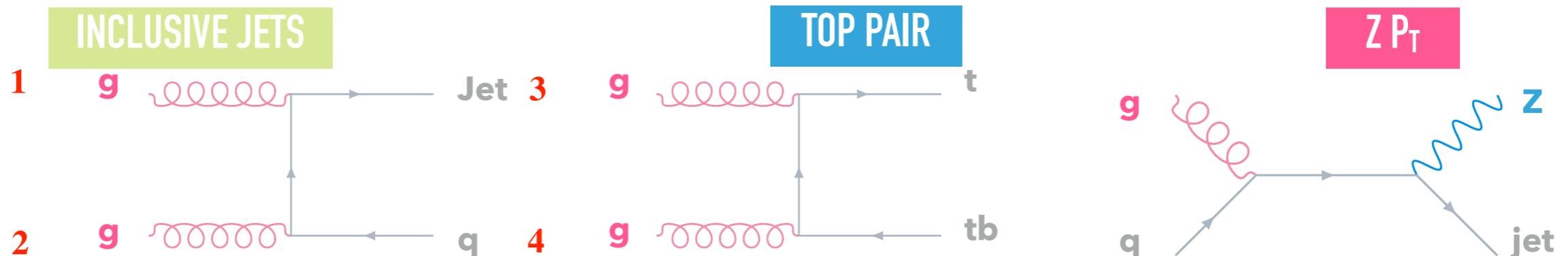
# Example 1 - The Gluon

- Gluon at high  $x$  is both important for **BSM searches** and quite **poorly constrained** from DIS.
- LHC data such plays crucial role in constraining this.

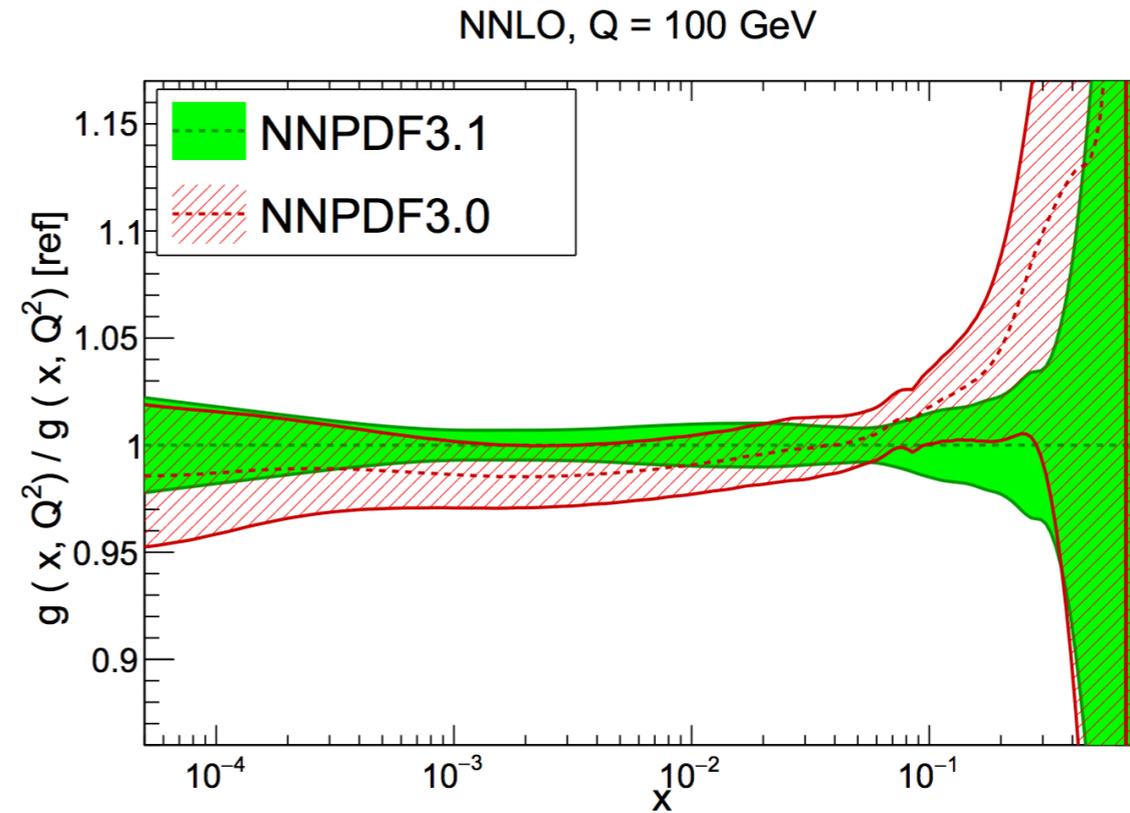
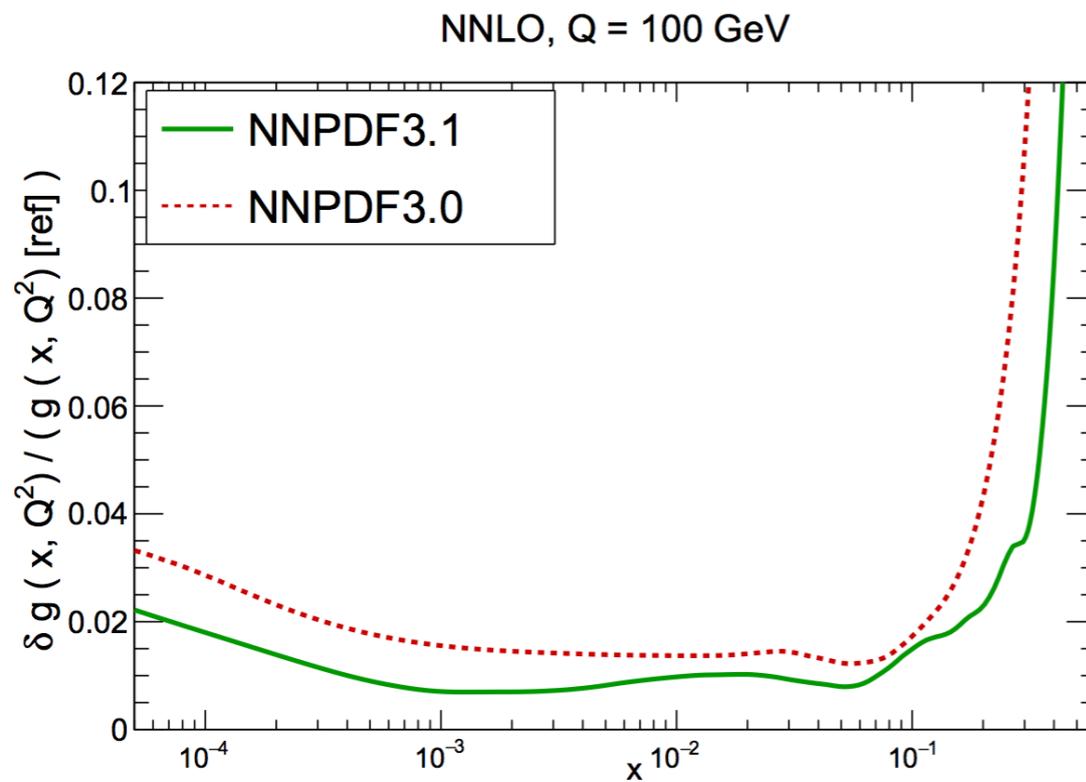


- Generically achieved by looking for gluon-initiated processes at high system transverse momentum/invariant mass/rapidity.
- Three textbook candidates at LHC:

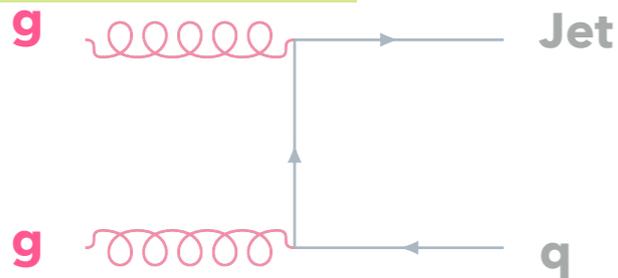
$$x_{1,2} = \frac{p_{\perp}}{\sqrt{s}} (e^{\pm y_3} + e^{\pm y_4})$$



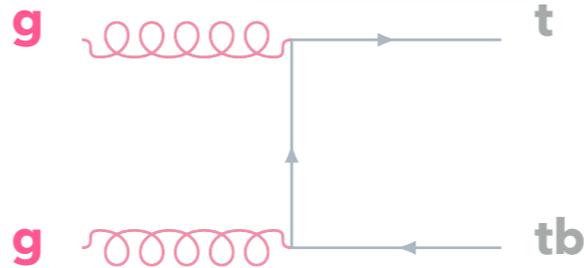
# Example 1 - The Gluon



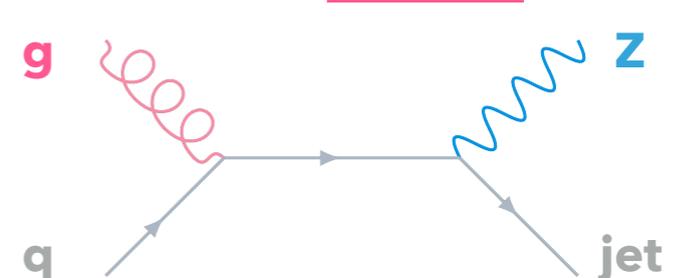
INCLUSIVE JETS



TOP PAIR



$Z P_T$



NNPDF collaboration, arXiv:1706.00428

M. Ubiali, Higgs Coupling 2019

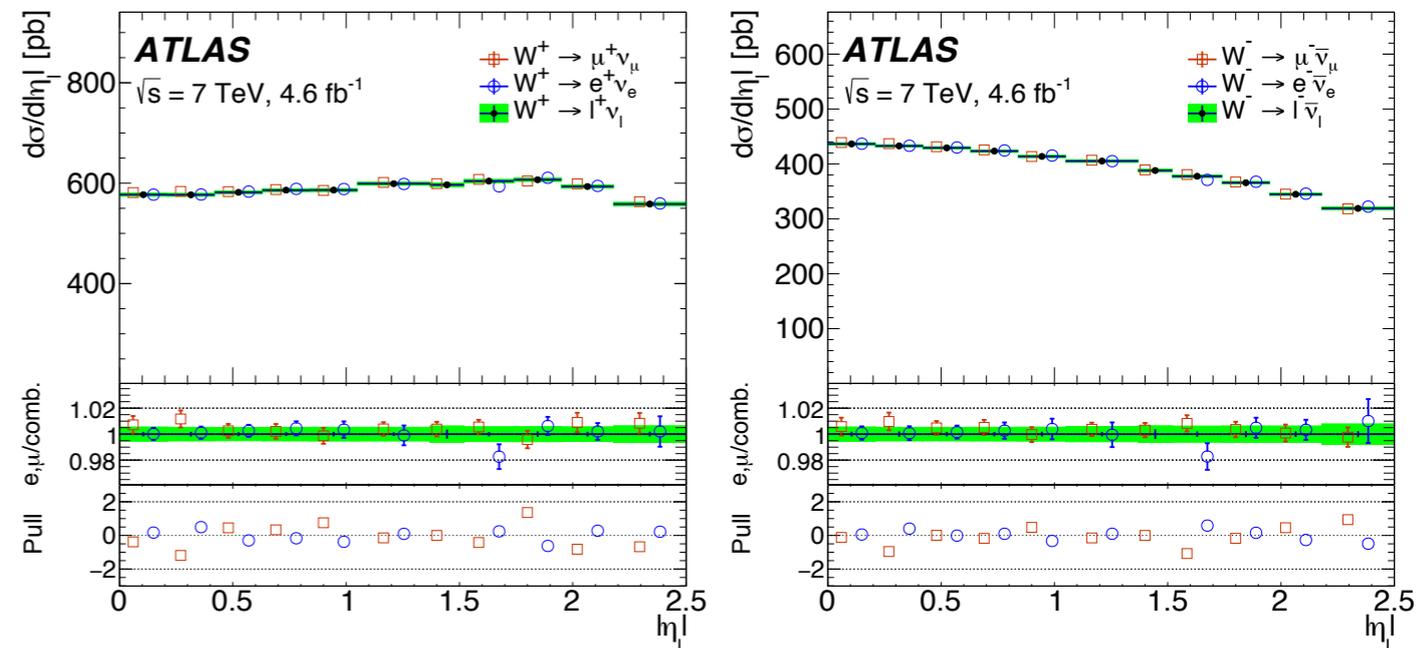
7

- Impact of most recent LHC data (red  $\rightarrow$  green) **significant**, with percent level uncertainties across wide range of  $x$ .

# Example 2 - Proton Strangeness

- Vector boson ( $W$ ,  $Z$ ) production proceeds via range of channels.
 
$$\begin{aligned} \bar{u}\bar{d}, \bar{c}\bar{s} & \quad (u\bar{s}, c\bar{d}) \rightarrow W^+ , \\ \bar{d}\bar{u}, \bar{s}\bar{c} & \quad (s\bar{u}, d\bar{c}) \rightarrow W^- , \\ q\bar{q} & \rightarrow Z/\gamma^* , \end{aligned}$$
- Least constrained involves initial state  $s, \bar{s}$  (no valence  $s$ )  $\rightarrow$  sensitive to **proton strangeness**.
- Only in principle: small contribution, requires **precise data** to pin down.

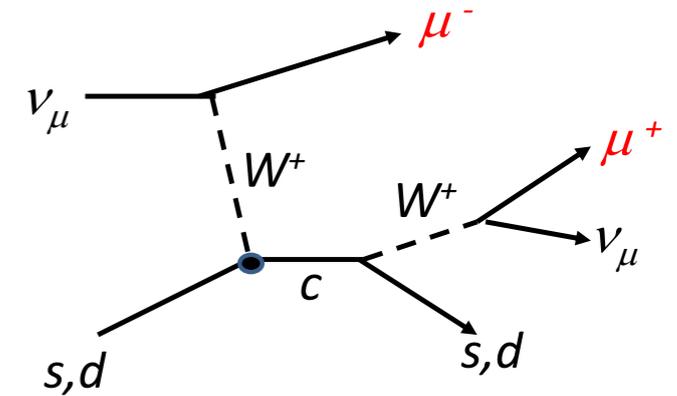
- Now available - highest ever precision measurement of  $W, Z$  production by **ATLAS**.
- Data uncertainties at the sub-% level. Statistical errors negligible completely dominated by systematics.



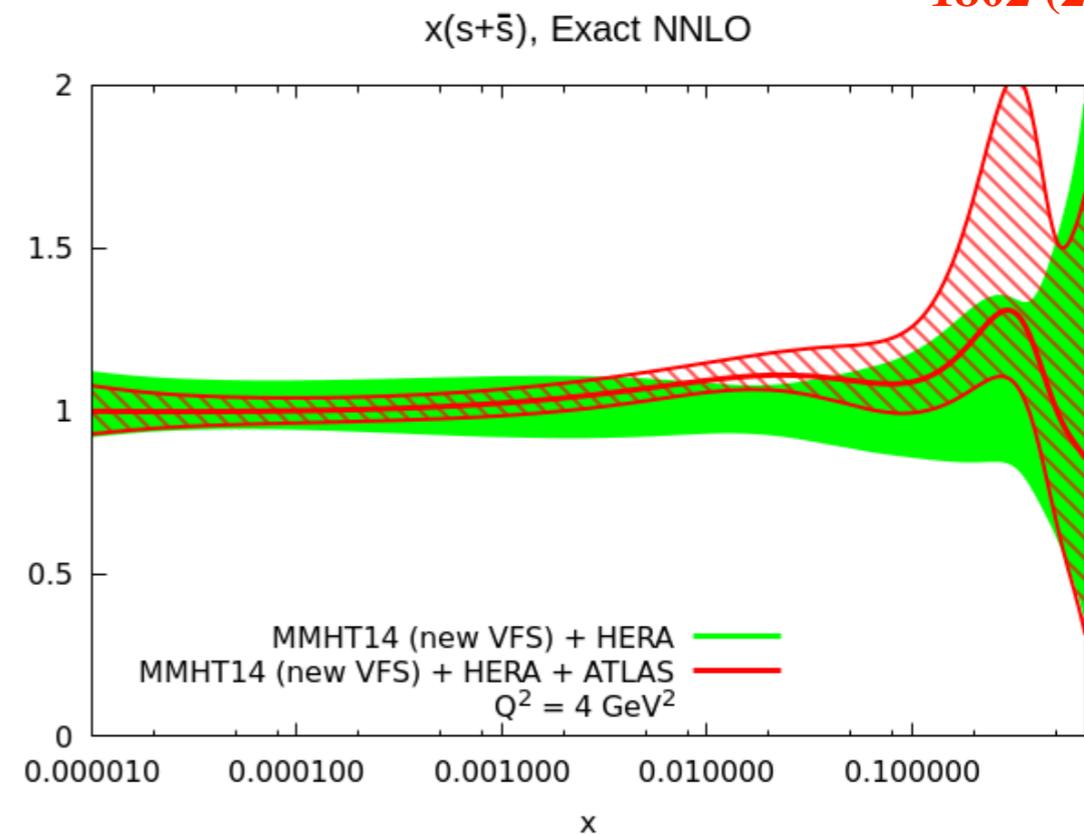
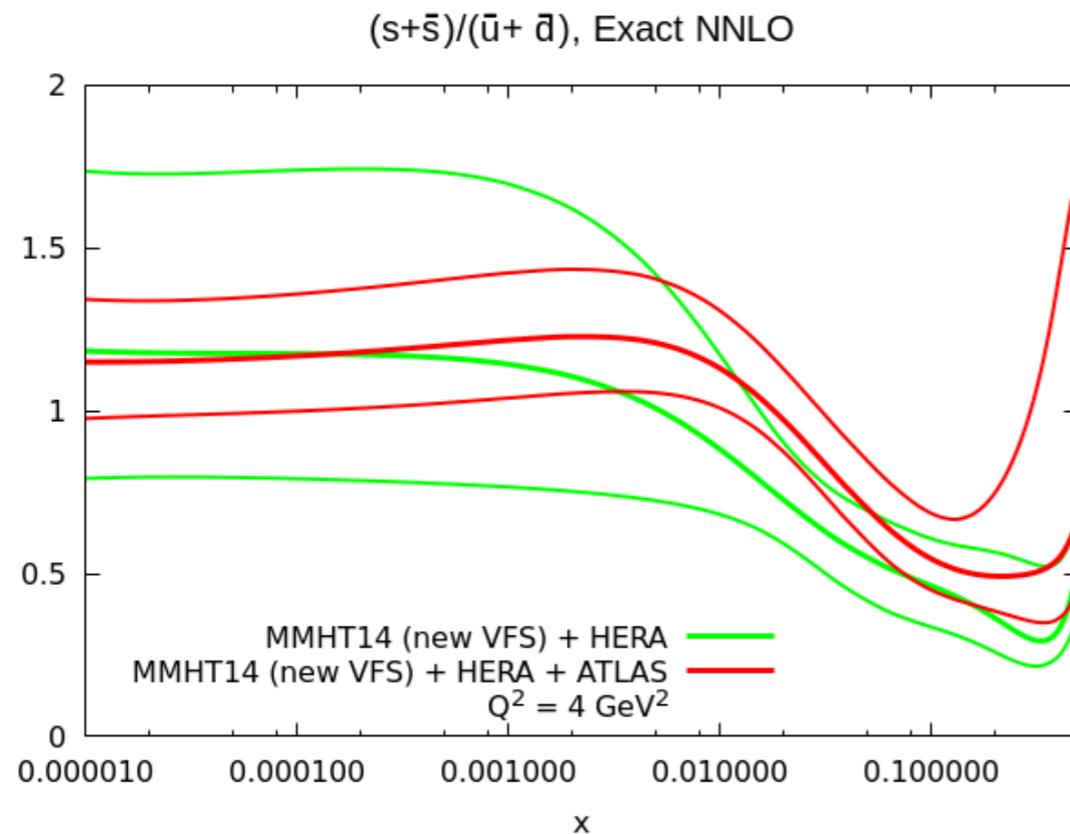
ATLAS collab., Eur. Phys. J C77 (2017) 367

# Example 2 - Proton Strangeness

- Impact of ATLAS data significant. Most notably: prefers **larger** strangeness than global fits, where previous constraints from neutrino-induced DIS ( $\bar{\nu}s \rightarrow lc$ ).
- However global fits can safely accommodate both (rather distinct) datasets. Key ingredient: new **NNLO** calculation of DIS process.



**J. Gao, JHEP  
1802 (2018) 026**



**R. Thorne, DIS19**

# Summary: LHC Data For PDF Fits

- **Wide range** of LHC data available and included in/to be included in PDF fits. No time to cover everything, but in summary...

Single, double, triple differential

+ jets, W/Z  $p_{\perp}$  distribution

**Electroweak Boson Production**

Low/High Mass, Central/Forward

+ charm/bottom

Inclusive Jet

**Jets and Photons**

Dijets (double, triple differential)

Isolated  
Photon

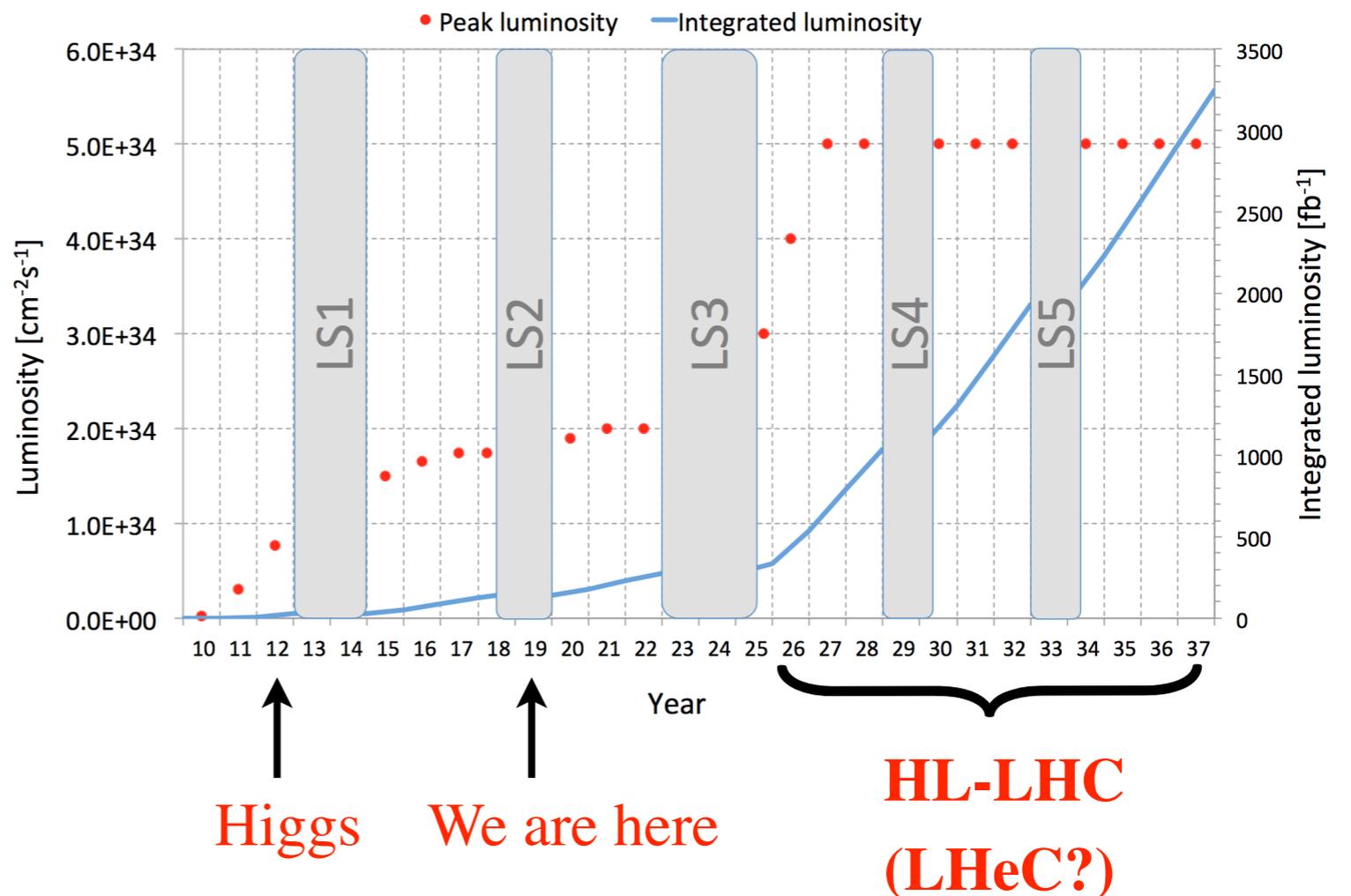
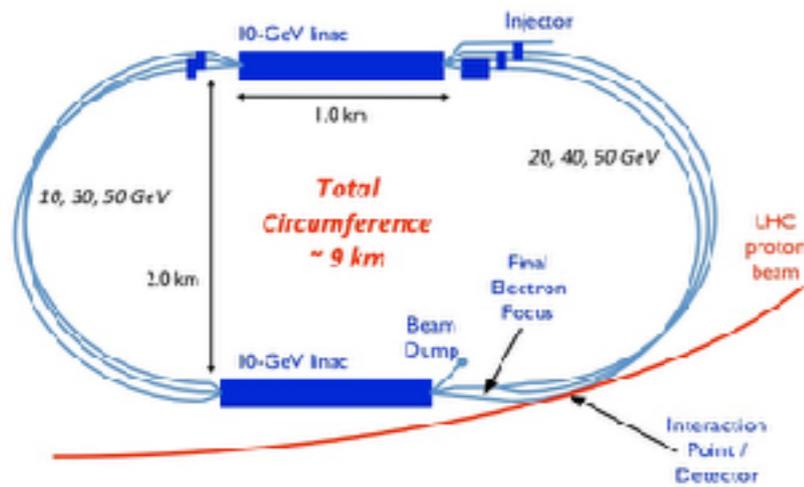
Pair production: total, single,  
double differential

**Top Quark**

Single top

# LHC: The Future

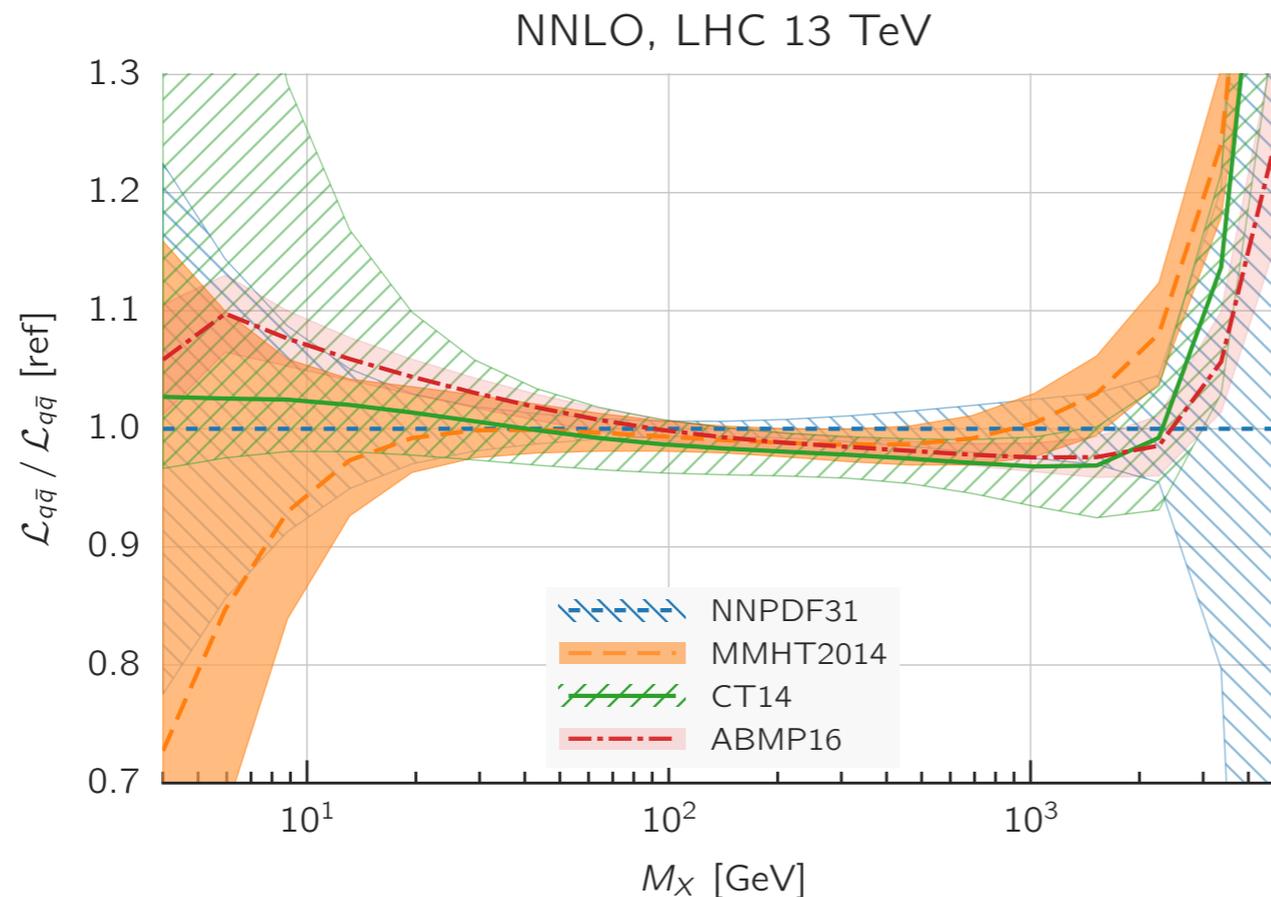
- At very **early stage** in LHC: so far only a few percent of the final projected data sample to be collected during High Luminosity **(HL)-LHC** running.



- In addition exciting upgrade possibility of Large Hadron Electron Collider **(LHeC)**: colliding lepton beam with LHC protons. Providing unprecedented high precision DIS data on proton structure.

# Ultimate PDFs - Motivation

- Both HL-LHC and LHeC (if approved) will provide a vast range of data with a direct impact on the PDFs.
- **Question:** what exactly can we expect that impact to be?
- Collaborative effort to produce '**Ultimate**' PDF set.



**R. Abdul Khalek, S. Bailey, J. Gao, LHL, J. Rojo. Eur.Phys.J. C78 (2018) no.11, 962 & SciPost Phys. 7, 051 (2019)**

# Basic Idea

Produce theory predictions for relevant processes, in kinematic region probed by HL-LHC and LHeC



Produce pseudodata - binned predictions, provided with corresponding statistical + systematic errors



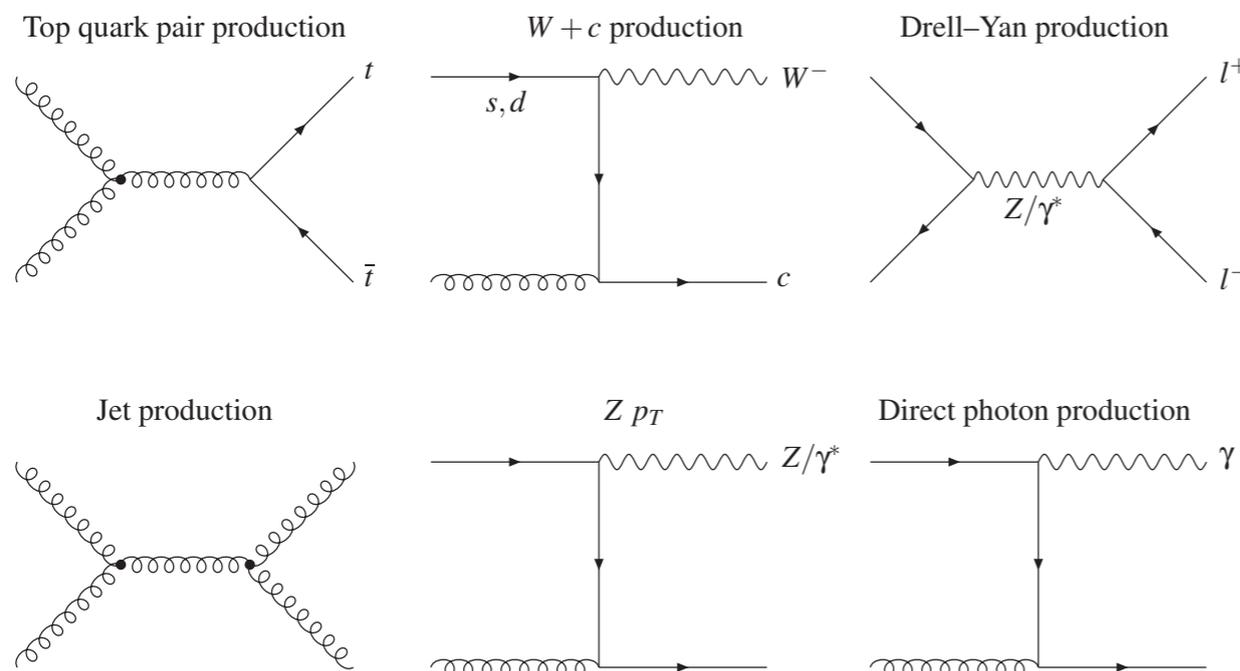
Perform PDF fit to this pseudodata



Evaluate impact on PDF uncertainties

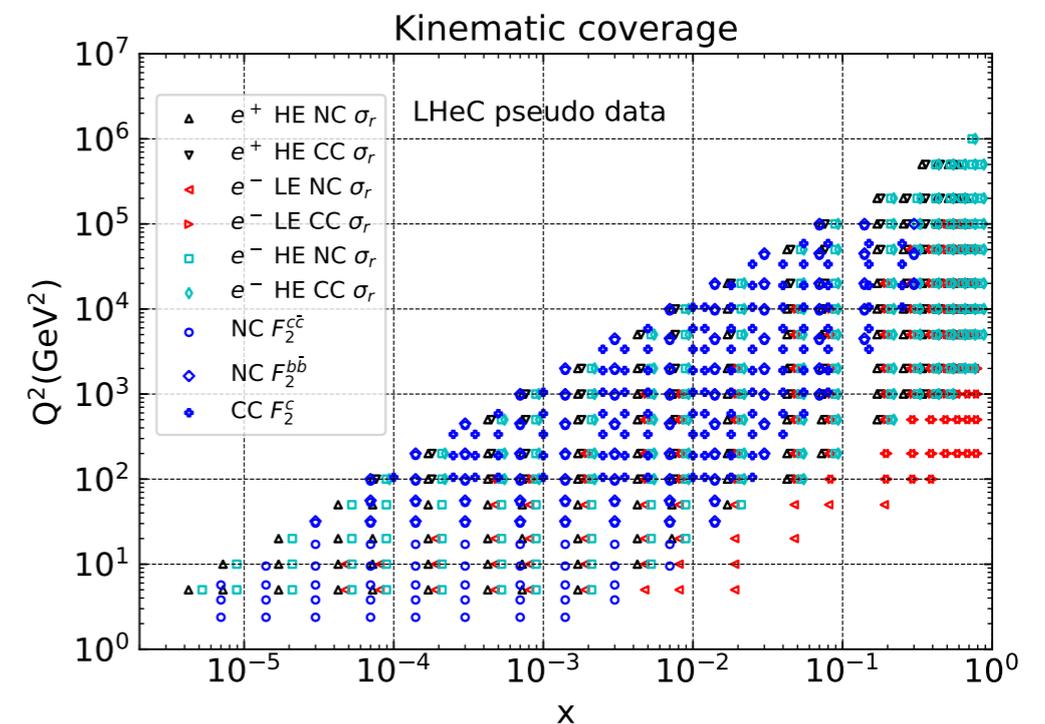
- **HL-LHC** processes: emphasis on high  $x$  region + measurements not already limited by systematic uncertainties.
- **LHeC**: range of DIS processes, according to official projections.
- Improvement in **statistical** uncertainties: straightforward extrapolation.
- Improvement in **systematics**: for HL-LHC take conservative/aggressive scenarios (little dependence in the end). For LHeC take official projections.
- Generate pseudo-data for these using **PDF4LHC** set: demonstrate expected improvement w.r.t.  $\sim$  current state of the art fits.

R. Abdul Khalek, S. Bailey, J. Gao, LHL, J. Rojo. Eur.Phys.J. C78 (2018) no.11, 962

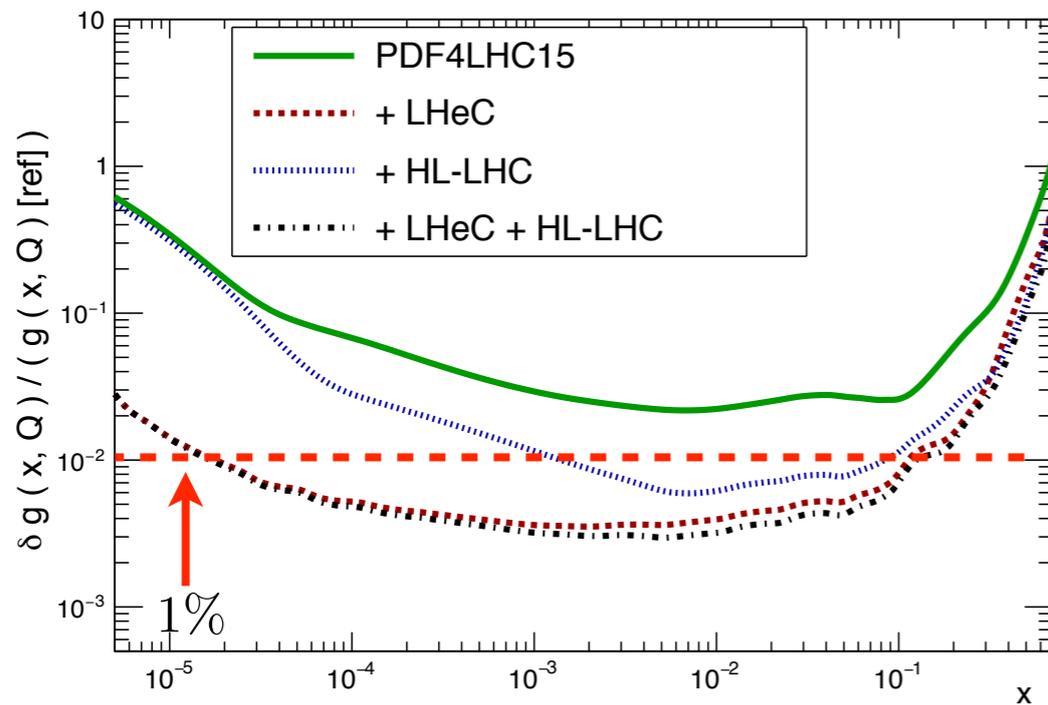
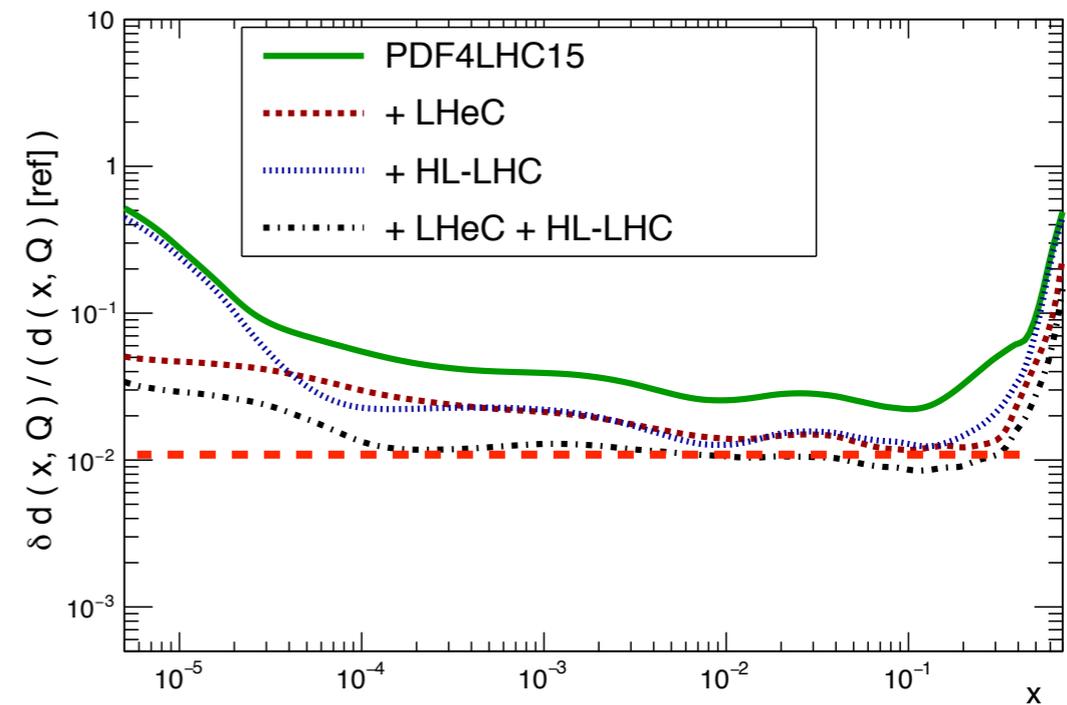
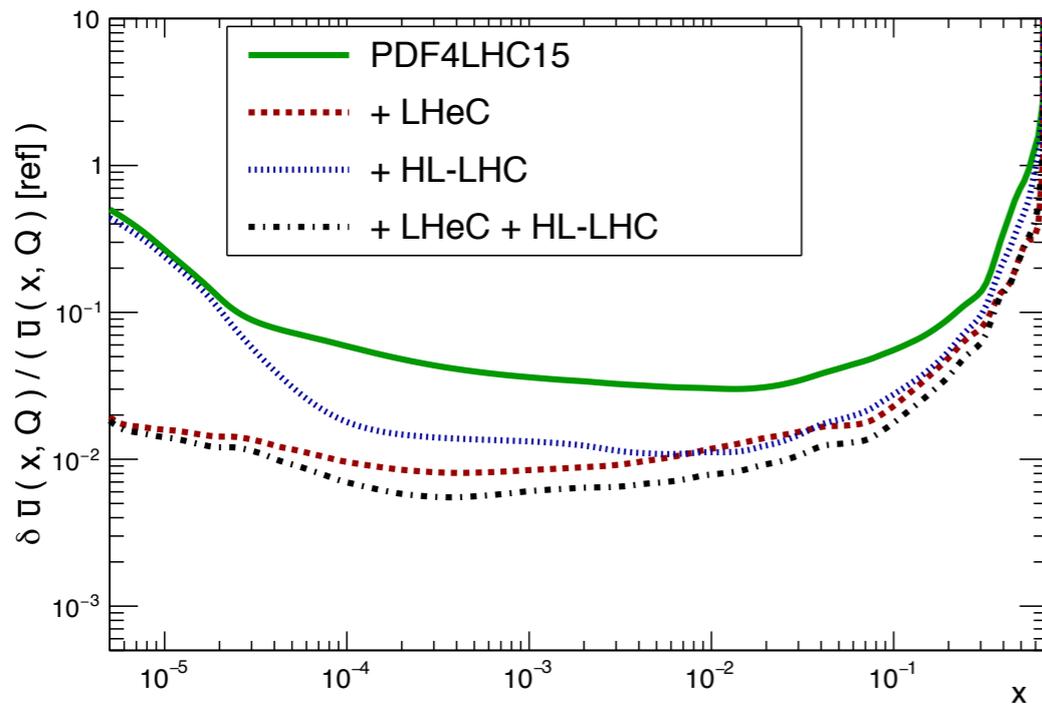
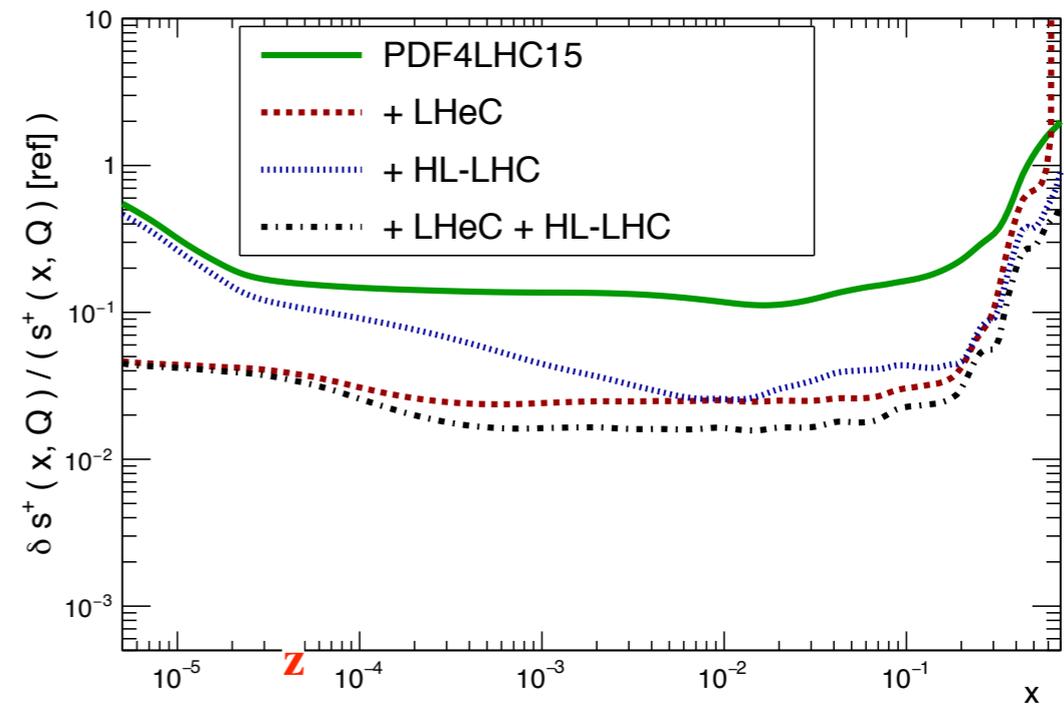


**HL-LHC**

R. Abdul Khalek, S. Bailey, J. Gao, LHL, J. Rojo. SciPost Phys. 7, 051 (2019)



**LHeC**

PDFs at the HL-LHC (  $Q = 10$  GeV )PDFs at the HL-LHC (  $Q = 10$  GeV )PDFs at the HL-LHC (  $Q = 10$  GeV )PDFs at the HL-LHC (  $Q = 10$  GeV )

- **Sub percent level** uncertainty in e.g. gluon in some  $x$  regions. Impressive constraints out to rather high  $x$  in general.
- LHeC placing very clean constraints across  $x$  range.

**Standard Model Physics  
at the HL-LHC and HE-LHC**

Report from Working Group 1 on the Physics of the HL-LHC, and Perspectives at the HE-LHC

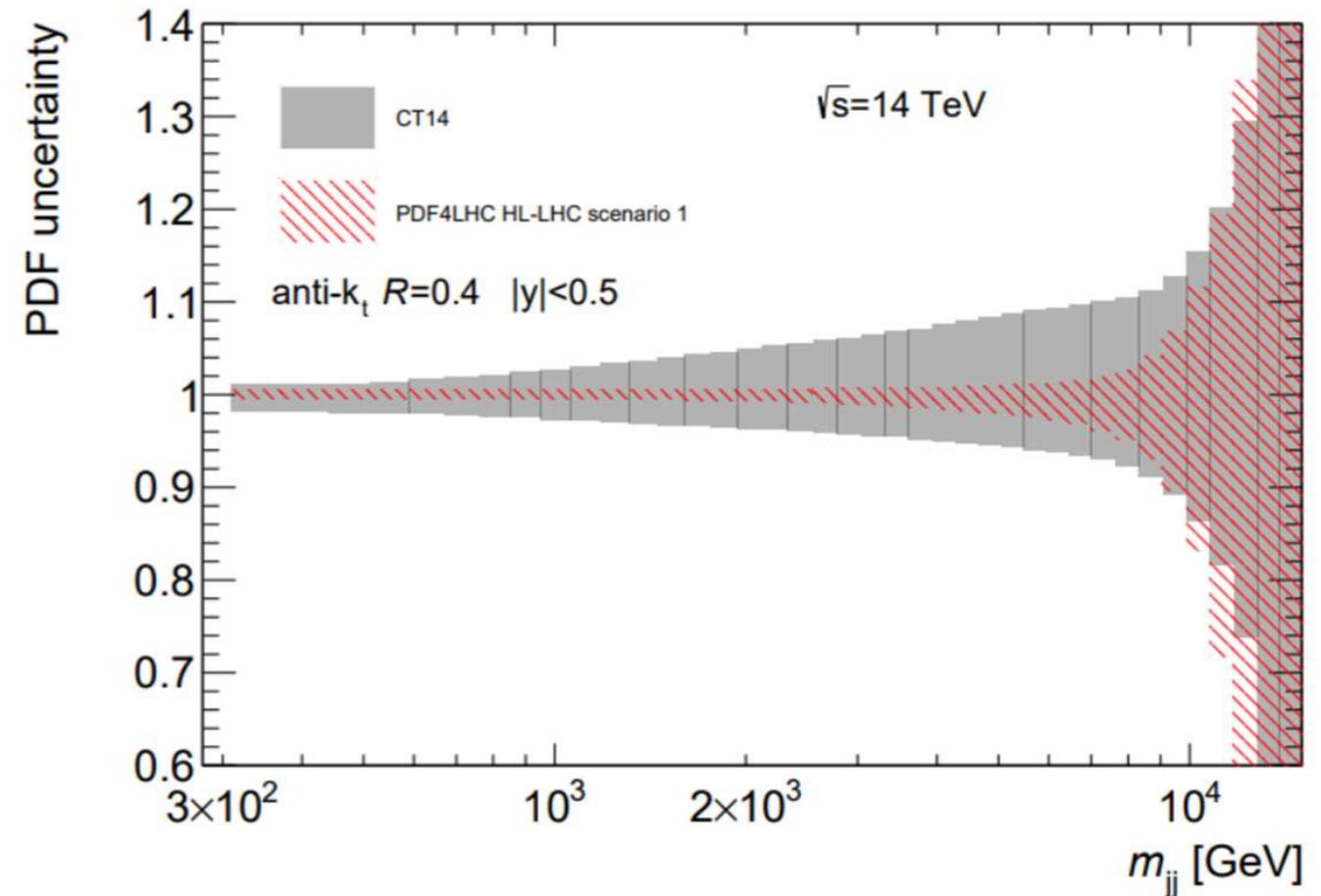
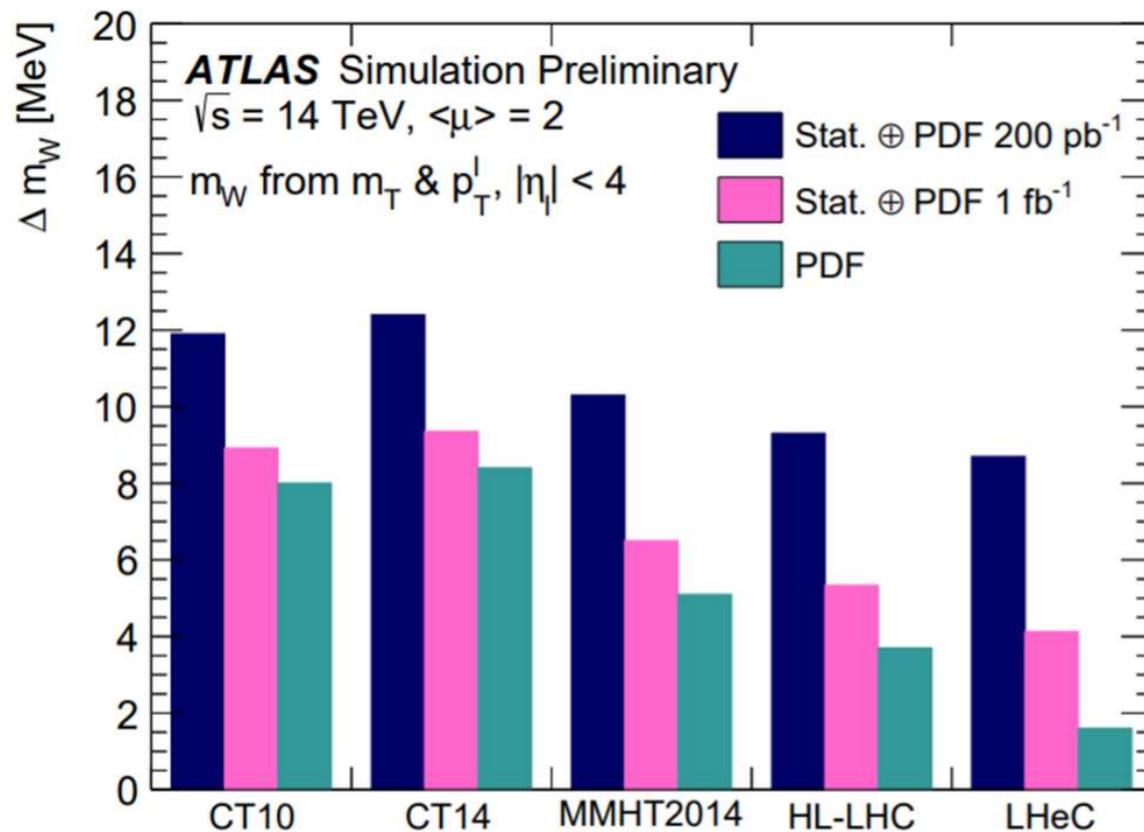
Editors:  
P. Azzi<sup>1</sup>, S. Farry<sup>2</sup>, P. Nason<sup>3,4</sup>, A. Tricoli<sup>5</sup>, D. Zeppenfeld<sup>6</sup>

Contributors:  
R. Abdul Khalek<sup>7,8</sup>, J. Alimena<sup>9</sup>, N. Andari<sup>10</sup>, L. Aperio Bella<sup>11</sup>, A.J. Armbruster<sup>11</sup>, J. Baglio<sup>12</sup>, S. Bailey<sup>13</sup>, E. Bakos<sup>14</sup>, A. Bakshi<sup>15</sup>, C. Baldenegro<sup>16</sup>, F. Balli<sup>10</sup>, A. Barker<sup>15</sup>, W. Barter<sup>17</sup>, J. de Blas<sup>18,1</sup>, F. Blekman<sup>19</sup>, D. Bloch<sup>20</sup>, A. Bodek<sup>21</sup>, M. Boonekamp<sup>10</sup>, E. Boos<sup>22</sup>, J.D. Bossio Sola<sup>23</sup>, L. Cadamuro<sup>24</sup>, S. Camarda<sup>11</sup>, F. Campanario<sup>25</sup>, M. Campanelli<sup>26</sup>, J.M. Campbell<sup>27</sup>, Q.-H. Cao<sup>28,29,30</sup>, V. Cavaliere<sup>31</sup>, A. Cerri<sup>32</sup>, G.S. Chahal<sup>17,32</sup>, B. Chergeishvili<sup>33</sup>, C. Charlot<sup>34</sup>, S.-L. Chen<sup>35</sup>, T. Chen<sup>36</sup>, L. Cieri<sup>37</sup>, M. Ciuchini<sup>37</sup>, G. Corcella<sup>38</sup>, S. Cotoogno<sup>34</sup>, R. Covarelli<sup>39,40</sup>, J.M. Cruz-Martinez<sup>41</sup>, M. Czakon<sup>42</sup>, A. Dainese<sup>43</sup>, N.P. Dang<sup>43</sup>, L. Darve<sup>44</sup>, S. Dawson<sup>45</sup>, H. De la Torre<sup>45</sup>, M. Deile<sup>11</sup>, F. Deliot<sup>10</sup>, S. Demers<sup>46</sup>, A. Denner<sup>47</sup>, F. Derue<sup>48</sup>, L. Di Ciaccio<sup>49</sup>, W.K. Di Clemente<sup>50</sup>, D. Dominguez Damiani<sup>51</sup>, L. Dudko<sup>52</sup>, A. Durglishvili<sup>53</sup>, M. Dünser<sup>54</sup>, J. Ebadi<sup>52</sup>, R.B. Ferreira De Faria<sup>53</sup>, G. Ferrera<sup>54,54</sup>, A. Ferroglia<sup>55</sup>, T.M. Figy<sup>56</sup>, K.D. Finelli<sup>56</sup>, M.C.N. Fiolhais<sup>57,53</sup>, E. Franco<sup>58</sup>, R. Frederix<sup>59</sup>, B. Fuks<sup>60,61</sup>, B. Galhardo<sup>62,62</sup>, J. Gao<sup>63</sup>, J.R. Gaunt<sup>11</sup>, T. Gehrmann<sup>64</sup>, A. Gehrmann-De Ridder<sup>65</sup>, D. Giljanovic<sup>66,64</sup>, F. Giulini<sup>67</sup>, E.W.N. Glover<sup>68</sup>, M.D. Goodsell<sup>69</sup>, E. Gouveia<sup>53</sup>, P. Govoni<sup>70</sup>, C. Goy<sup>71</sup>, M. Grazzini<sup>72</sup>, A. Grohsjean<sup>73</sup>, J.F. Grosse-Oetringhaus<sup>11</sup>, P. Gunnellini<sup>69</sup>, C. Gwenlan<sup>70</sup>, L.A. Harland-Lang<sup>74</sup>, P.F. Harrison<sup>71</sup>, G. Heinrich<sup>72</sup>, C. Helsens<sup>11</sup>, M. Herndon<sup>75</sup>, O. Hindrichs<sup>21</sup>, V. Hirschi<sup>65</sup>, A. Hoang<sup>76</sup>, K. Hoepfner<sup>72</sup>, J.M. Hogan<sup>76,76</sup>, A. Huss<sup>11</sup>, S. Jahn<sup>72</sup>, Sa.

070v2 [hep-ph] 25 Feb 2019

**CERN Yellow Rep. Monogr. 7 (2019) 1-220**

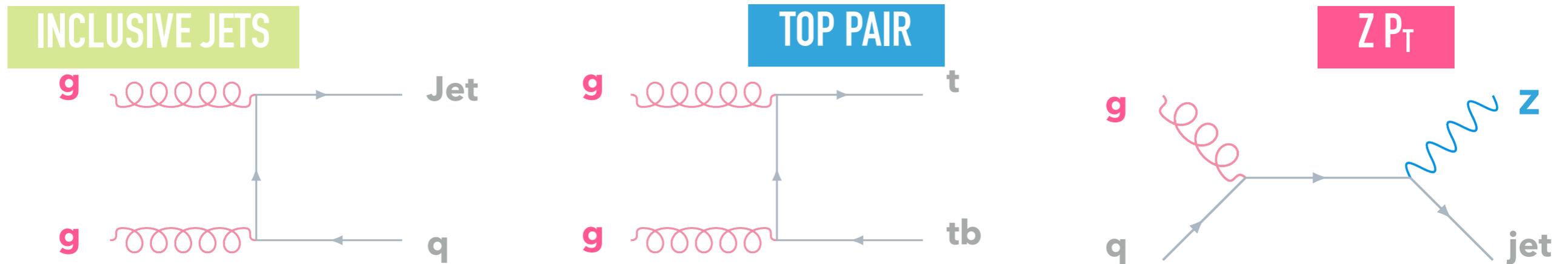
- PDFs used in corresponding HL-LHC + HE-LHC **yellow report** document.
- Clear reduction in PDF uncertainty for e.g.  $W$  mass and dijet measurements.



# Challenges

# Confronting Precise Data

- **Good news:** LHC has already had significant impact on PDFs and HL-LHC has potential to improve on this even further.
- However in a number of cases we are seeing **difficulty** in confronting such high precision data in PDF fits.
- Occurs in three 'textbook' LHC processes for PDF determination:



M. Ubiali, Higgs Coupling 2019

- Will consider one case (ATLAS 8 TeV  $t\bar{t}$  production) in detail, but one of many datasets where significant issues seen: CMS top (single/double differential), ATLAS/CMS  $Z p_{\perp}$ , ATLAS isolated photon....

# What Drives Fit Quality?

- The  $\chi^2$  in presence of correlated errors can be written as:

$$\chi^2(\{a\}, \{\lambda\}) = \sum_{k=1}^{N_{pt}} \frac{1}{s_k^2} \left( D_k - T_k - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \beta_{k,\alpha} \lambda_\alpha \right)^2 + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \lambda_\alpha^2,$$

$$D_k \rightarrow D_k - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \beta_{k,\alpha} \hat{\lambda}_\alpha$$

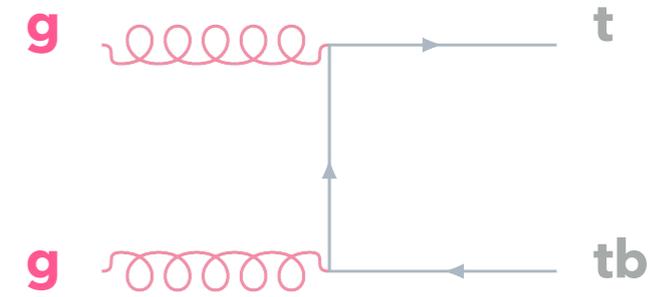
Uncorrelated errors

Correlated errors

Penalty for shifts

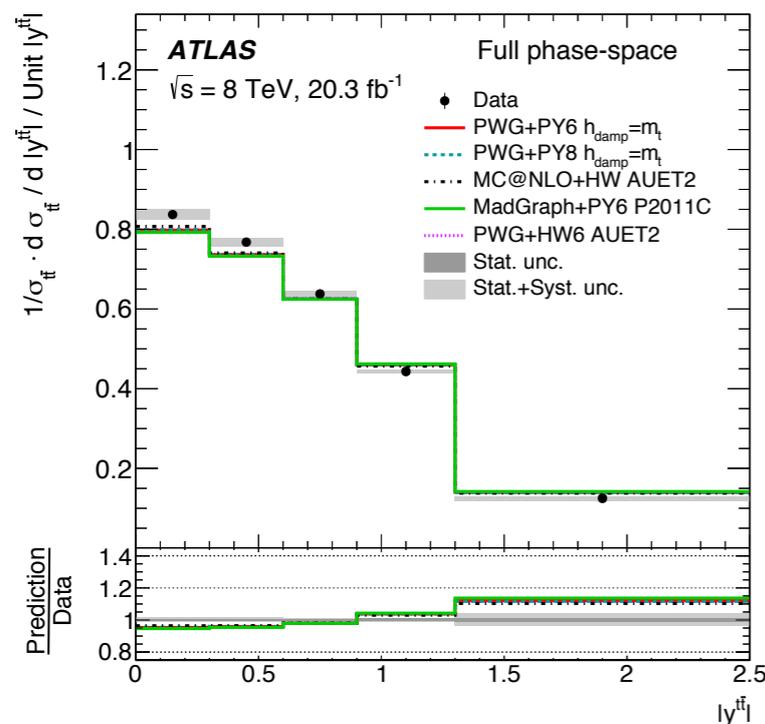
- The set of  $N_\lambda$  nuisance parameters  $\lambda_\alpha$  take values so as to minimise  $\chi^2$ , effectively shifting data points  $D_k$ .
- At LHC we are increasingly in the  $s_k \rightarrow 0$  regime. Dominance of:
  - ★ **Experimental systematic** errors,  $\beta_{k,\alpha}$ .
  - ★ **Theoretical uncertainties** (in particular missing higher orders).
- In both cases strong sensitivity not just to the size of the errors but to their **correlation**. Complicates interpretation of fit quality greatly.

# Top Quark Production



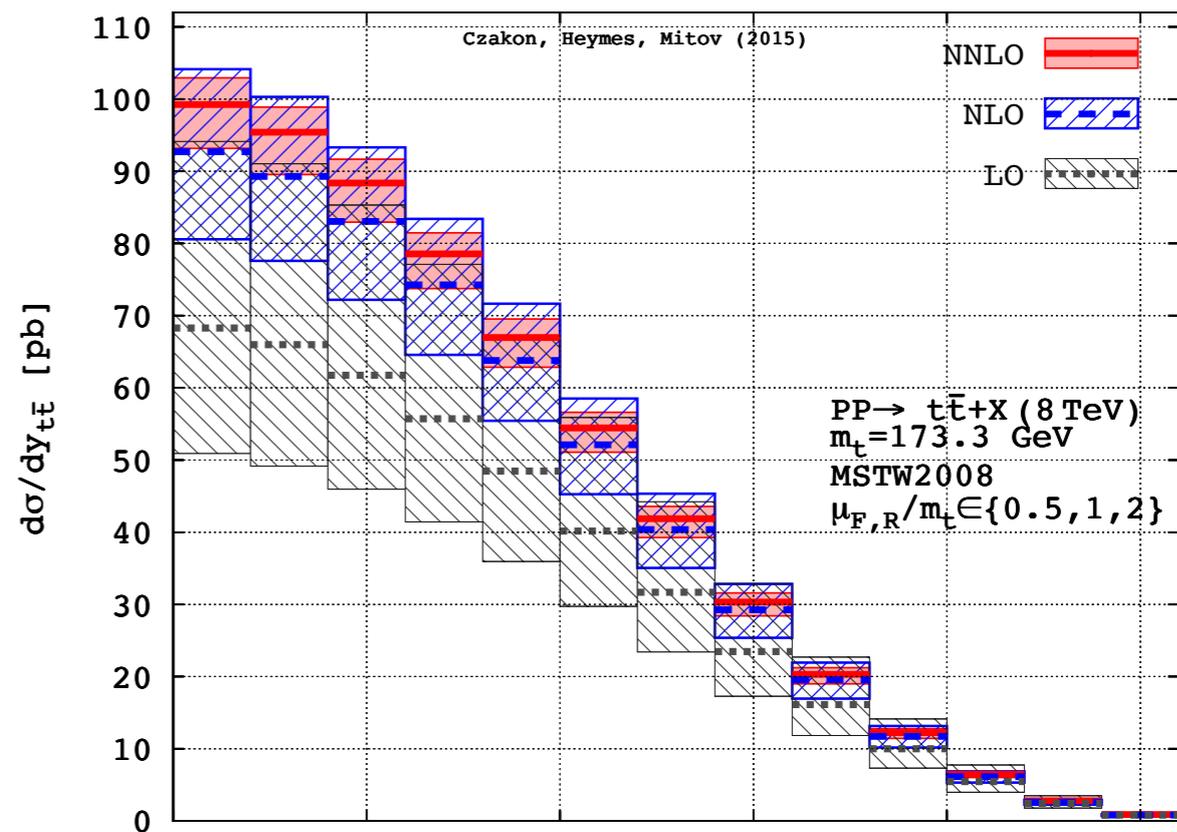
- **In principle** ideal candidate for precision PDF determination: parton-level theory known to **NNLO** in QCD, while precise data provided multi-differentially in various observables.

$$y_t, y_{t\bar{t}}, p_{\perp}^t, M_{t\bar{t}}$$



**ATL-PHYS-PUB-2018-017**

**Lepton + jet channel**



**M. Czakon, D. Heymes, A. Mitov, PRL 116 (2016) no.8, 082003**

- Recent study: attempt to fit this dataset...

**S. Bailey & LHL, arXiv:1909.10541**

$$\chi^2 / N_{\text{pts}} \quad (N_{\text{pts}}^{\text{tot}} = 25)$$

$p_T$	0.53
$y_t$	3.12
$y_{t\bar{t}}$	3.51
$M_{t\bar{t}}$	0.70
$p_T + M_{t\bar{t}}$	5.73
Combined	<u>7.00</u>

S. Bailey & LHL, arXiv:1909.10541

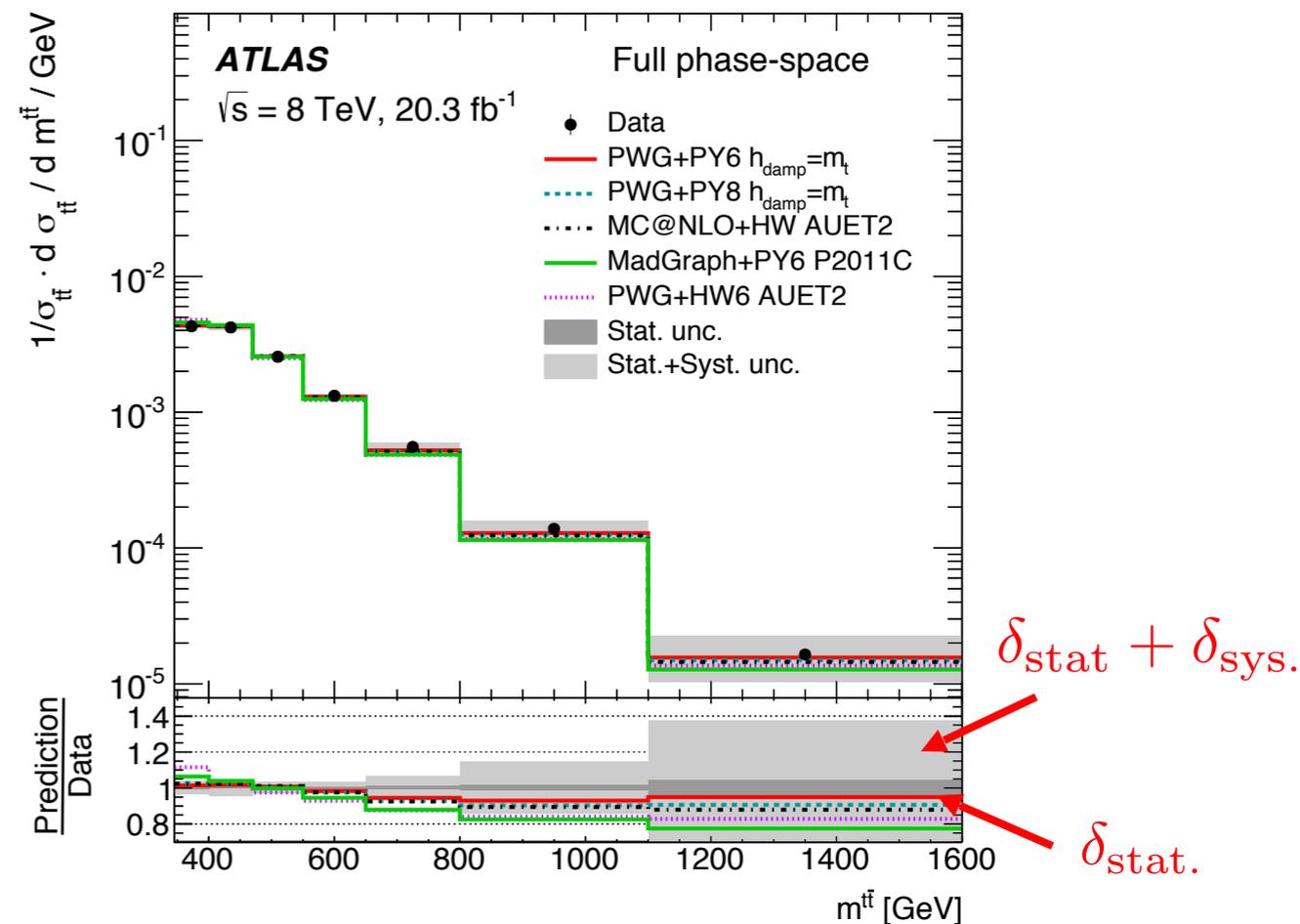
- ...find **terrible fit** quality!  
What is going on?

- **Clue:** look at relative size of statistical vs. systematic errors.

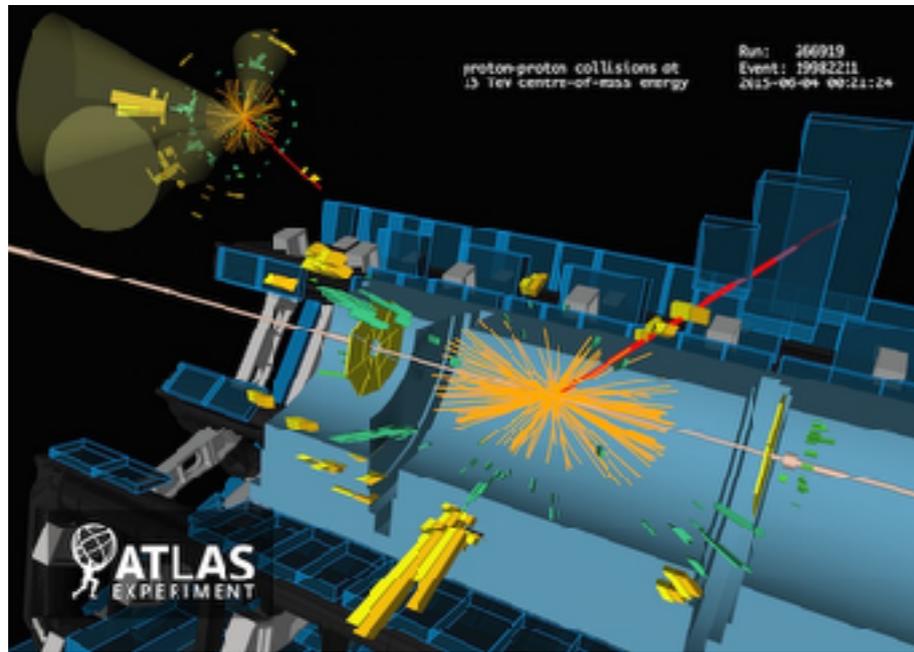
- Systematics completely **dominant**.

$$\chi^2(\{a\}, \{\lambda\}) = \sum_{k=1}^{N_{pt}} \frac{1}{s_k^2} \left( D_k - T_k - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \beta_{k,\alpha} \lambda_\alpha \right)^2 + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \lambda_\alpha^2,$$

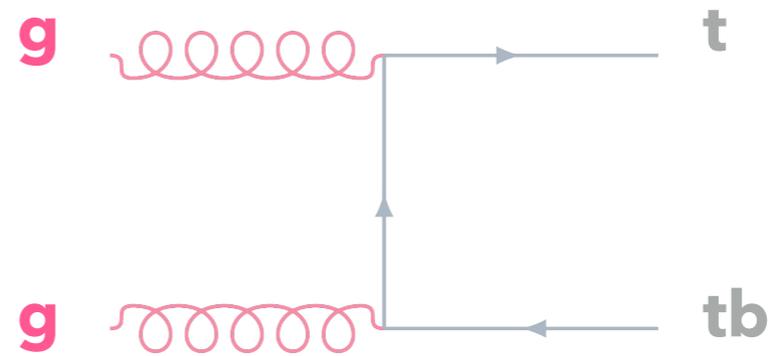
- These are in many cases highly correlated across  $y_t$ ,  $y_{t\bar{t}}$ ,  $p_\perp^t$ ,  $M_{t\bar{t}}$ .



- Many sources of systematics, but by far the largest related to **unfolding** from detector back to top quark level:



### Measurement

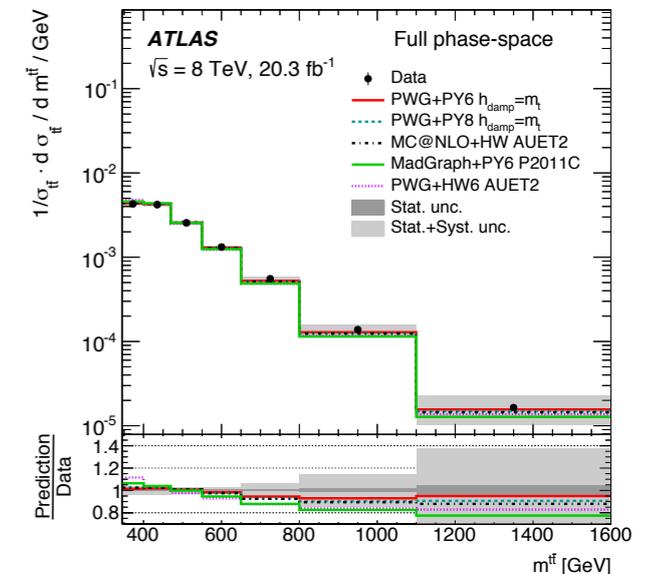


### PDF Fit

- Requires understanding of top quark production/decay and subsequent showering/hadronization. All of this needs theory (**Monte Carlo**) input.
- If we get correction (  ) wrong the top-quark level data will be wrong.
- Uncertainty due to this? Take event sample with second MC, apply correction (  ) derived with baseline MC. Difference between this and true result gives uncertainty.

- These **two-point** MC uncertainties by far the largest:
  - ★ Parton Shower: POWHEG + Herwig vs. POWHEG + Pythia
  - ★ Hard Scattering: MC@NLO + Herwig vs. POWHEG + Herwig
  - ★ ISR/FSR: POWHEG + Pythia(1) vs. POWHEG + Pythia(2)

- Uncertainty **and** correlation effectively given by envelope of two MCs ~ reasonable as correction should be smooth between bins. But will not capture the full correlation  $\Rightarrow$  fit quality sensitive to it.



- Our study\*: try some reasonable **loosening** of the assumed **correlation**:

$$\sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \beta_{k,\alpha} \rightarrow \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\tilde{N}_\lambda} \tilde{\beta}_{k,\alpha} \quad \chi^2(\{a\}, \{\lambda\}) = \sum_{k=1}^{N_{pt}} \frac{1}{s_k^2} \left( D_k - T_k - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \beta_{k,\alpha} \lambda_\alpha \right)^2 + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \lambda_\alpha^2,$$

**S. Bailey & LHL, arXiv:1909.10541**

- Note input (clear breakdown of errors) from experiment **essential** here: which systematics can we do this to?
- Taking the above two-point MC errors and applying this **decorrelation...**

**\*Similar more limited study in ATL-PHYS-PUB-2018-017**

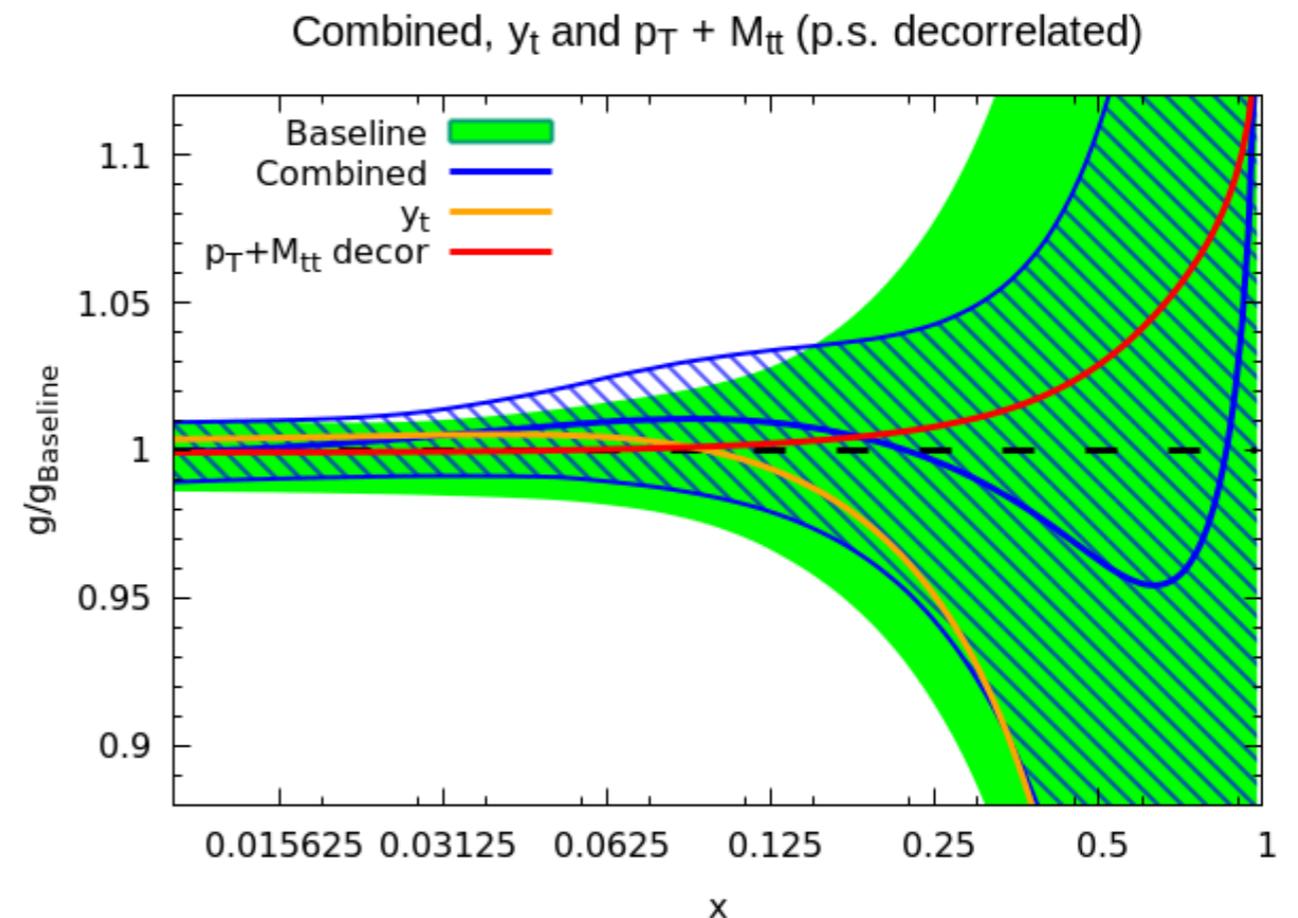
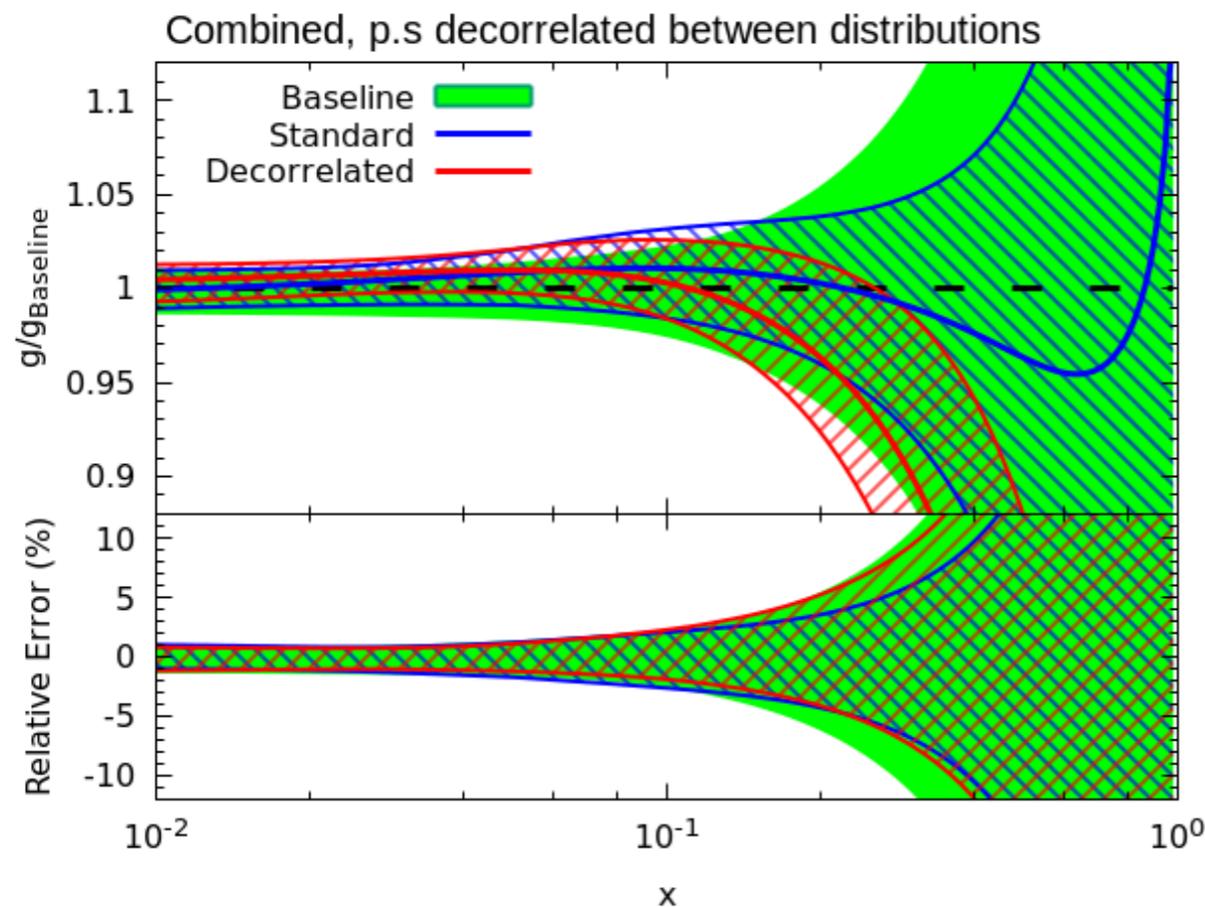
- Consider decorrelation of just one error source, e.g. ‘**parton shower**’ error (other two similar).
- Gives **huge improvement** in fit quality!
- Has **significant** impact on gluon: larger than NLO vs. NNLO theory difference and not same as picking one distribution (e.g.  $y_t$ ).

**Allow independent variation across  $y_t, y_{t\bar{t}}, p_{\perp}^t, M_{t\bar{t}}$  but keep correlation within.**

$y_t, y_{t\bar{t}}, p_{\perp}^t, M_{t\bar{t}}$



Distribution	p.s. correlated	p.s. decorrelated
Combined	7.00	1.80
$p_{\perp}^t + M_{tt}$	5.73	0.66



# ATLAS Jets

LHL, R.S. Thorne, A.D. Martin, EPJC78 (2018) no.3, 248

- ATLAS **Jet data**: again systematics dominated, and fit quality highly sensitive to correlations.
- Again identify systematics with potentially too strong assumption about correlations. **Decorrelating** again has **large impact** on fit quality.
- Detailed **ATLAS study**: identifies those error sources that can be decorrelated and by how much.
- However also find that including **theory uncertainties** from missing higher order in pQCD theory improves fit.

	Full	21	62	21,62
$\chi^2/N_{\text{pts.}}$	2.85	1.58	2.36	1.27

ATLAS Collab., JHEP 09 (2017) 020

$\chi^2/\text{ndf}$	$p_{\text{T}}^{\text{jet,max}}$		$p_{\text{T}}^{\text{jet}}$	
	$R = 0.4$	$R = 0.6$	$R = 0.4$	$R = 0.6$
$p_{\text{T}} > 70 \text{ GeV}$				
CT14	349/171	398/171	340/171	392/171
HERAPDF2.0	415/171	424/171	405/171	418/171
NNPDF3.0	351/171	393/171	350/171	393/171
MMHT2014	356/171	400/171	354/171	399/171

Table 4: Summary of the 18 options for splitting the two-point systematic uncertainties into two (first 12 options) or three (last 6 options) sub-components. One or two sub-components are defined in the table, as fractions of the original uncertainty. An extra (complementary) sub-component completes them, such that the sum in quadrature of all the sub-components in each splitting option equals the original uncertainty.  $L(x, \min, \max) = (x - \min)/(\max - \min)$ , for  $x$  in the range  $[\min, \max]$ ,  $L(x, \min, \max) = 0$  for  $x < \min$ ,  $L(x, \min, \max) = 1$  for  $x > \max$ .

Splitting option	Sub-component(s) definition(s), completed by complementary
1	$L(\ln(p_{\text{T}}[\text{TeV}]), \ln(0.1), \ln(2.5)) \cdot \text{uncertainty}$
2	$L(\ln(p_{\text{T}}[\text{TeV}]), \ln(0.1), \ln(2.5)) \cdot 0.5 \cdot \text{uncertainty}$
3	$L(p_{\text{T}}[\text{TeV}], 0.1, 2.5) \cdot \text{uncertainty}$
4	$L(p_{\text{T}}[\text{TeV}], 0.1, 2.5) \cdot 0.5 \cdot \text{uncertainty}$
5	$L((\ln(p_{\text{T}}[\text{TeV}]))^2, (\ln(0.1))^2, (\ln(2.5))^2) \cdot \text{uncertainty}$
6	$L((\ln(p_{\text{T}}[\text{TeV}]))^2, (\ln(0.1))^2, (\ln(2.5))^2) \cdot 0.5 \cdot \text{uncertainty}$
7	$L( y , 0, 3) \cdot \text{uncertainty}$
8	$L( y , 0, 3) \cdot 0.5 \cdot \text{uncertainty}$
9	$L(\ln(p_{\text{T}}[\text{TeV}]), \ln(0.1), \ln(2.5)) \cdot L( y , 0, 3) \cdot \text{uncertainty}$

# Theory Uncertainties?

- Focus in previous discussion on experimental systematics, but not the end of the story.
- Consider fit quality again:

$$\chi^2(\{a\}, \{\lambda\}) = \sum_{k=1}^{N_{pt}} \frac{1}{s_k^2} \left( D_k - T_k - \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \beta_{k,\alpha} \lambda_\alpha \right)^2 + \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_\lambda} \lambda_\alpha^2 ,$$

- Even if experimental systematics perfectly accounted for, in  $s_k \rightarrow 0$  limit the theory  $T_k$  will not by default match the data  $D_k$ , and  $\chi^2 \rightarrow \infty$ .
  - Why? Because  $T_k$  given by (fixed order) pQCD, and uncertainty on this due to **missing higher orders** (MHOs) not generally included.
- Essential to include measure of this if we are to have reasonable/viable interpretation of **fit quality** at high precision, in particular if default poor. Without this may be biasing fit.
- Additional motivation, to give estimation of **uncertainty** in extracted PDFs due to MHOs in fit.

# Theory Uncertainties

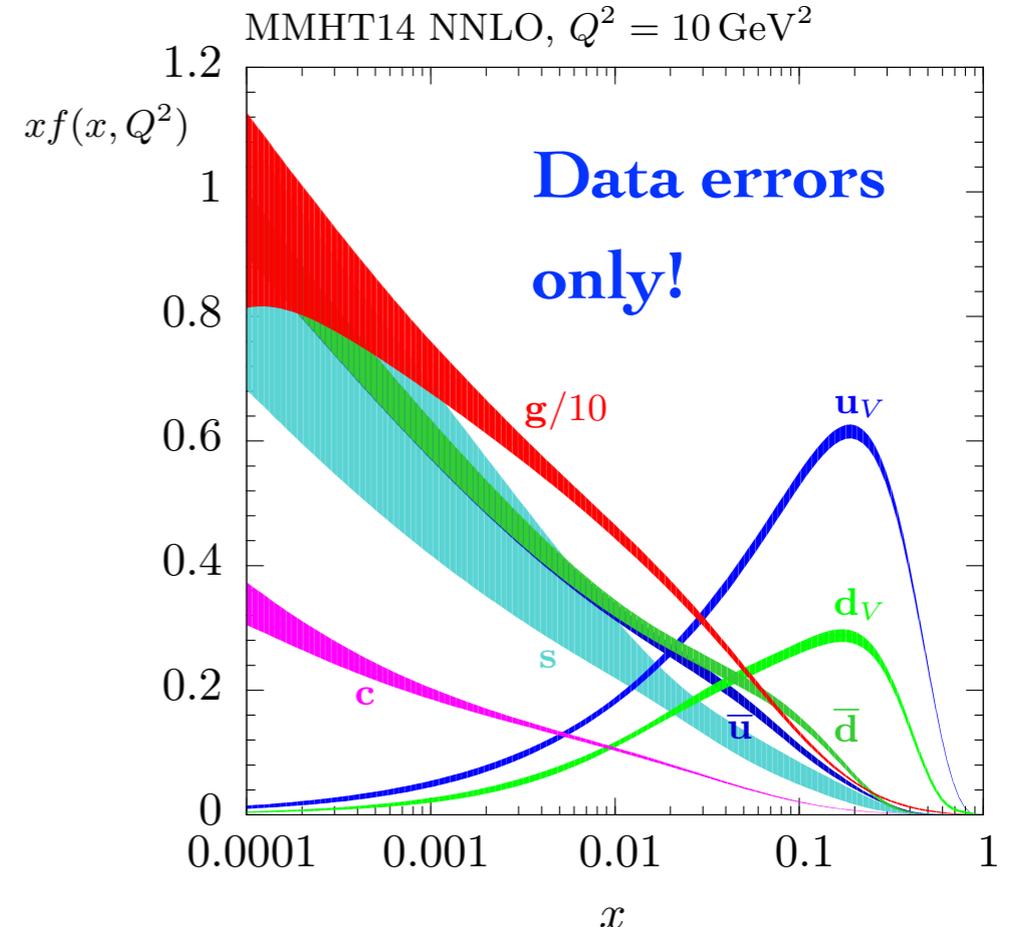
- PDF fit schematically given by inverting:

$$\text{Dataset} \quad O \sim f \otimes \sigma \sim f \otimes \left( \sigma^{(0)} + \alpha_S \sigma^{(1)} + \dots \right)$$

- Until recently only PDF errors corresponding to data errors in fit included.
- However in principle not only error source. Also that due to **missing higher orders** (the ‘...’) in theory, from truncation of pert. expansion.

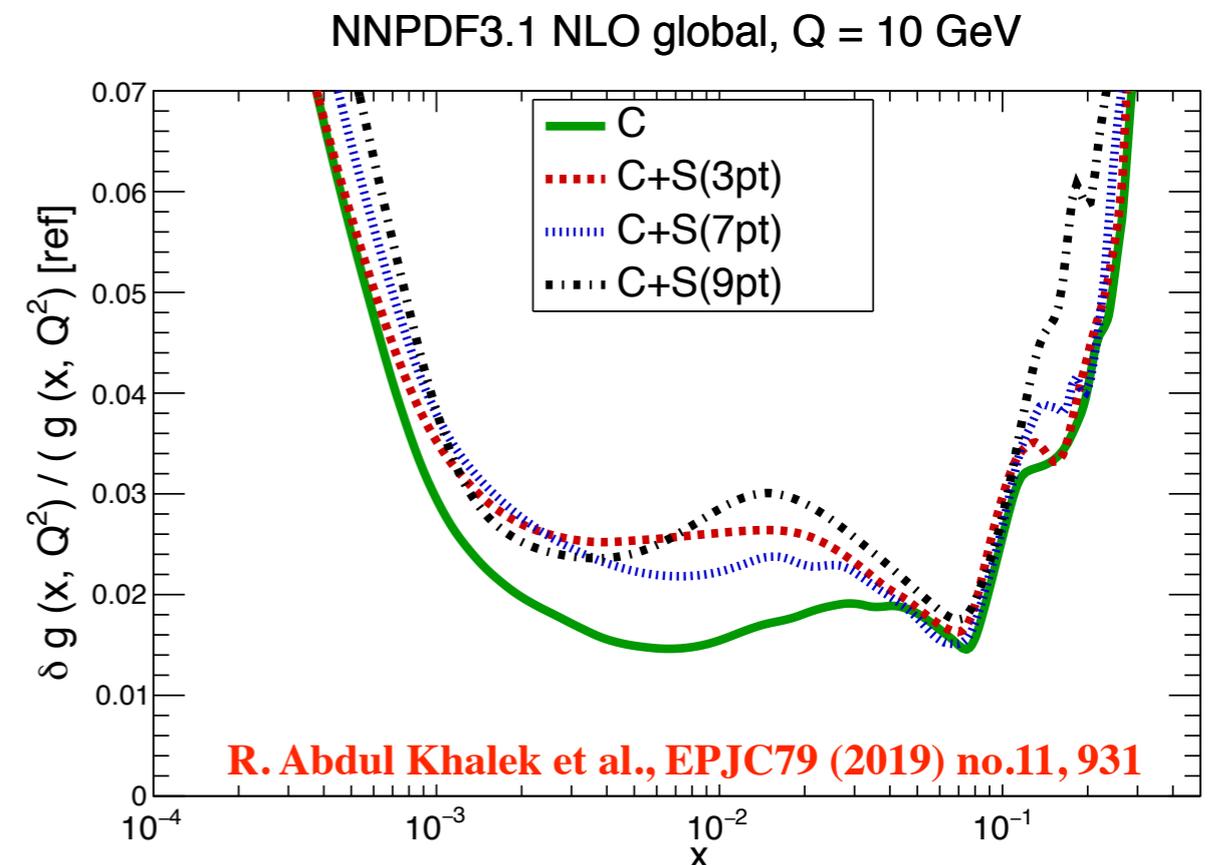
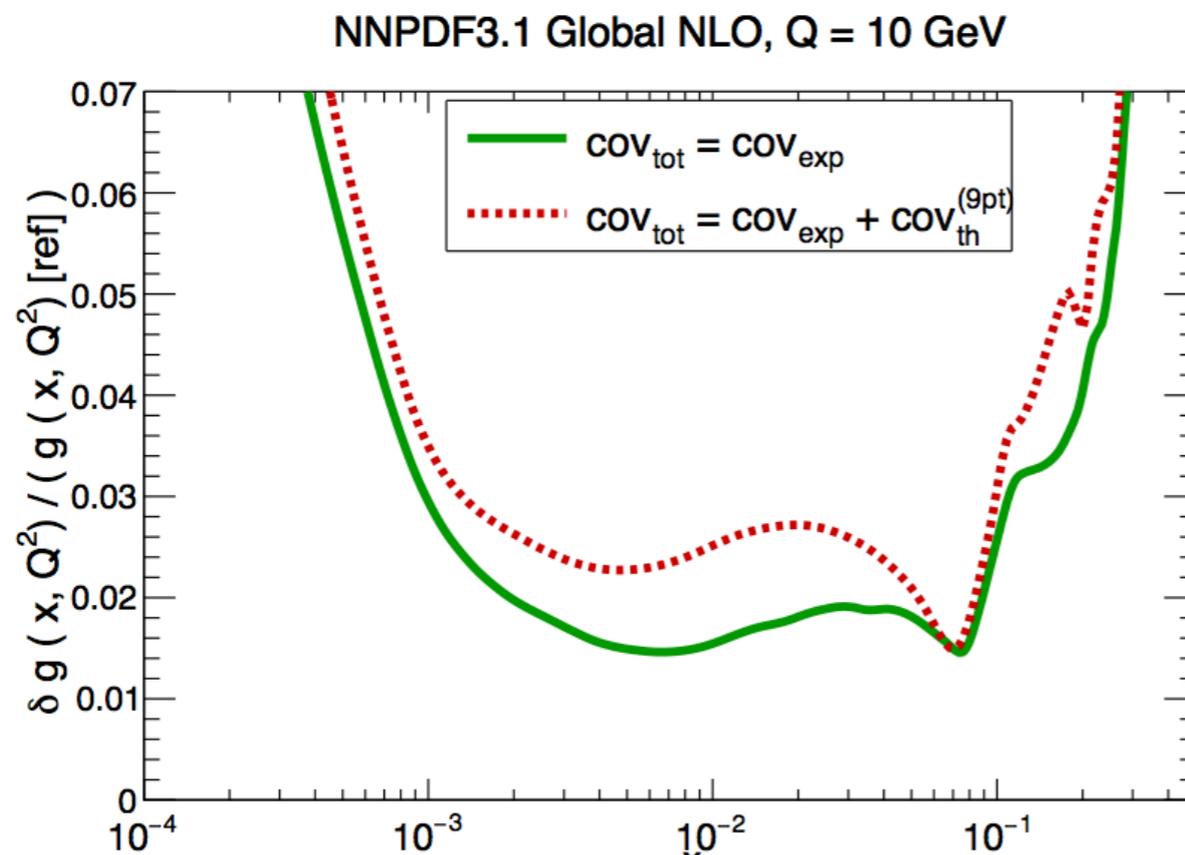
- In truth impossible to know the size of these ‘...’ but various ways to estimate.
- Standard method: factorization/renormalization **scale variations**.

$$\delta O(\mu_F, \mu_R, \mu_0) : \quad \mu_{F,R} \in \left( k\mu_0, \frac{\mu_0}{k} \right)$$



# Theory Uncertainties

- Recent work: MHO uncertainties via **scale variations** in **NLO NNPDF** fit. Impact on PDF uncertainties not negligible (will be less at NNLO).



- Important **open questions**:

- ★ Significant source of ambiguity: how one treats the correlations (between/across datasets) for these errors.
- ★ Are scale variations the best way to estimate MHOs?
- ★ Risk of **double counting** with MHO uncertainty already accounted for when making predictions via PDFs?

Recent work: yes! 

- ★ We already include MHO uncertainty (by scale variation) when predicting observables with PDFs. Risk of **double counting**?
- ★ **Simplified study**: recast PDF fit as direct relationship between fit and predicted observables.

LHL and R. S. Thorne, EPJC79 (2019), no.1, 39

**Fit**  $O_{\text{fit}} \sim f_i(\mu^2) \otimes \sigma_i(\mu^2) \sim f_i(\mu^2) \otimes \left( \sigma_i^{(0)}(\mu^2) + \alpha_S \sigma_i^{(1)'}(\mu^2) + \dots \right)$

↓ **A**
↓ **B**
↓ **C**

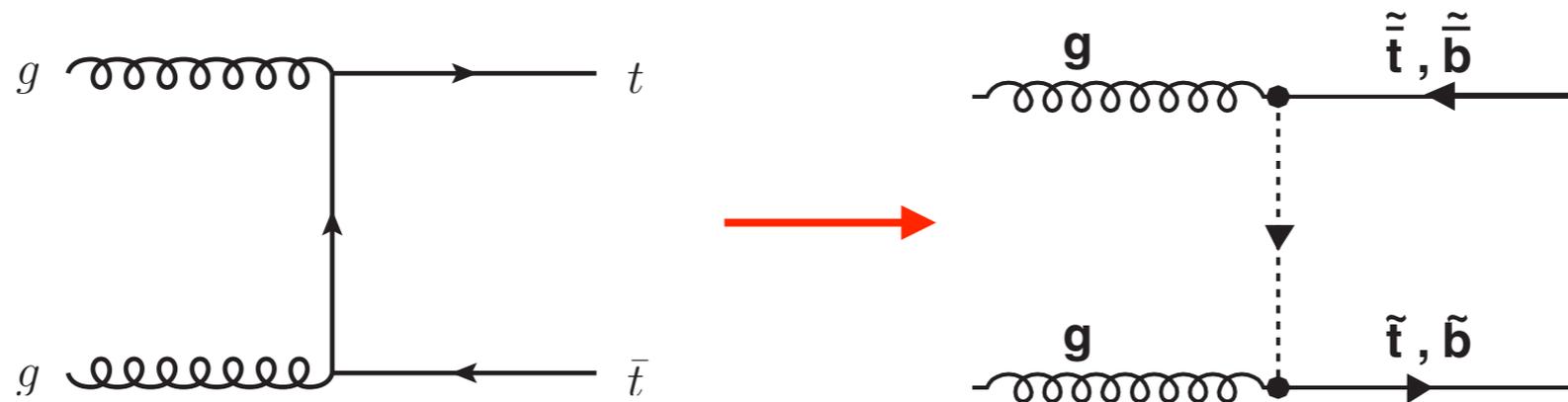
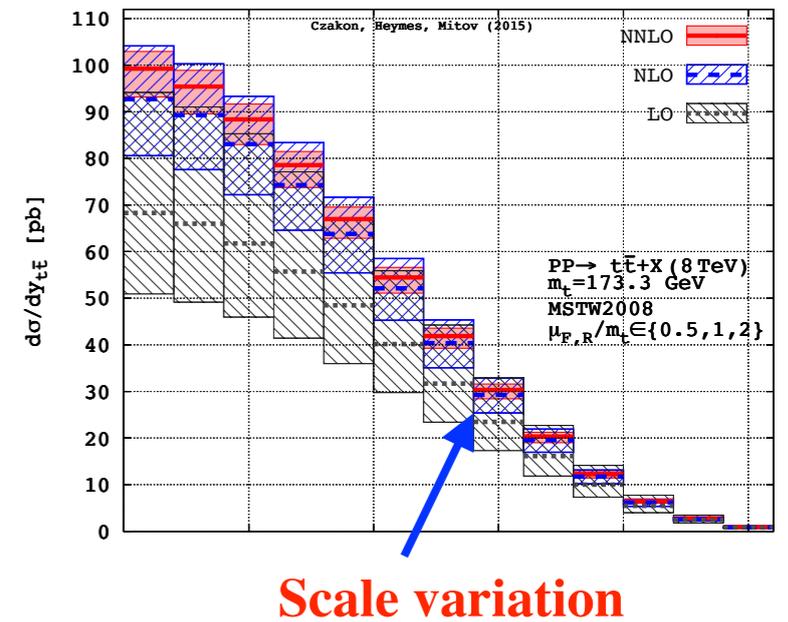
$f_i$   $i : \text{PDF type}$

**Prediction**  $O_{\text{pred}} \sim f_i(\mu^2) \otimes \sigma_i'(\mu^2) \sim f_i(\mu^2) \otimes \left( \sigma_i^{(0)'}(\mu^2) + \alpha_S \sigma_i^{(1)'}(\mu^2) + \dots \right)$

- Can propagate MHO uncertainty (scale variation) through to PDFs, but will then include such an uncertainty **again** in prediction.
- ‘**Theory uncertainty**’: that inherent in expressing predicted quantity in terms of measured one. Varying at both **B** and **C** not obviously right.
- Recasting in terms of  $O_1 \leftrightarrow O_2$  via **A** makes this concrete.

Details in paper!

- **Cutting to chase**: in certain cases including MHO uncertainty in PDFs and in prediction risks double counting, i.e. **overestimating error** on predictions.
- **Standard example**: fit process sensitive to high  $x$  gluon (e.g. top quark pair production) and predicts gluon-initiated BSM production.



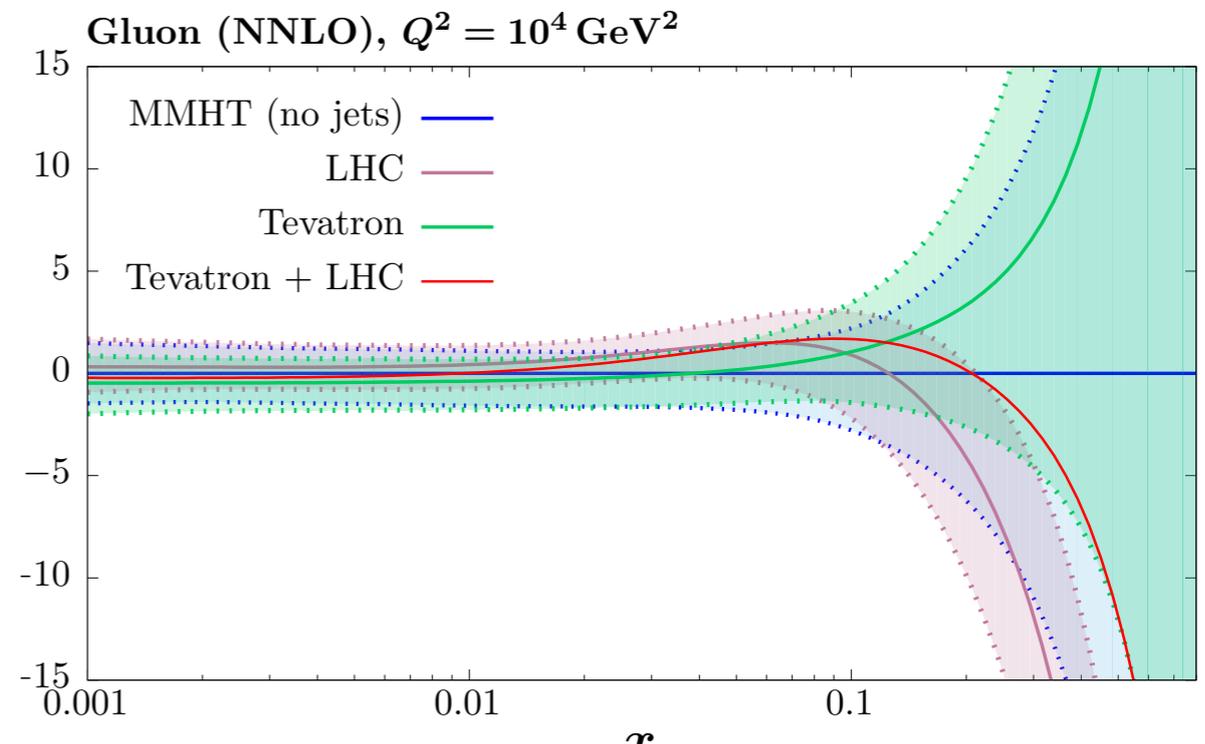
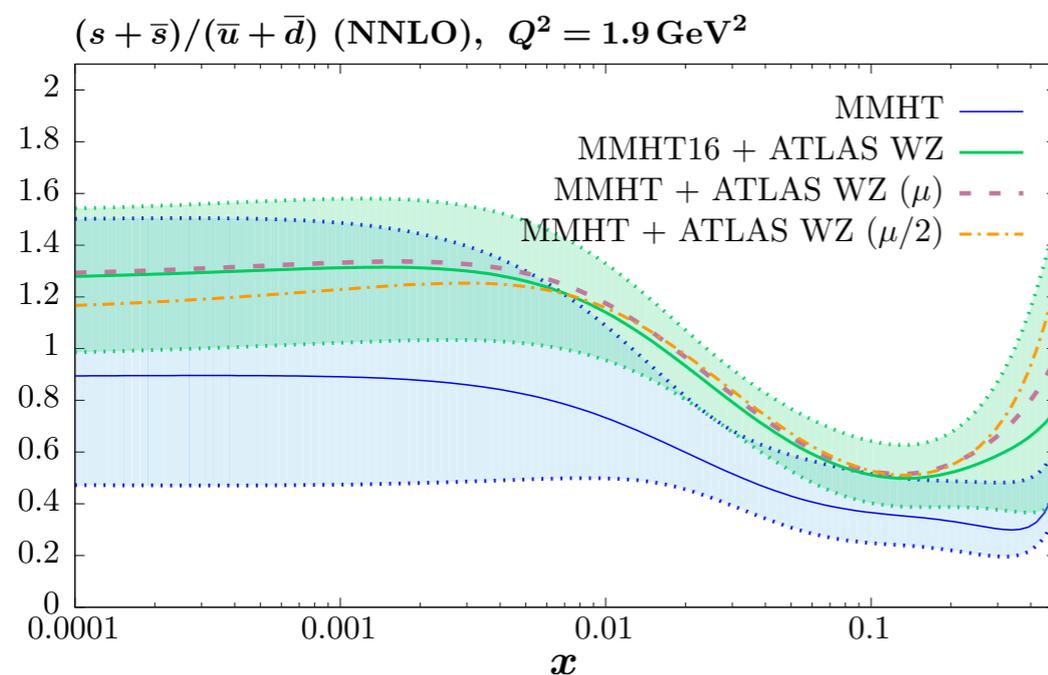
- ★ Bottom line: as well as correlation in theory uncertainty between/within processes in fit, also have those between fit and prediction.
- ★ Not easy to do this in standard PDF fit, but indication that more work is needed here. Studies **ongoing** in this direction...stay tuned!

# Interpreting Fit Quality: Summary

- In high precision LHC era, interpreting fit quality not straightforward. Depends sensitively on **experimental systematic** and **theoretical uncertainties**, and their **correlations**.
- Miss out/get wrong and very bad  $\chi^2/N_{\text{pt}}$  occurs, with unreliable PDF fit.
  - ★ **Cannot** simply sweep these issues under carpet, by e.g. post-hoc choice of fitting subset of data (individual distributions etc).
  - ★ **Full breakdown** of systematics and indication of uncertainty on default correlations seems essential (far from the current default).
  - ★ Including theoretical (MHO) uncertainty **mandatory**.
- But still many **open questions**: how much can we decorrelate experimental systematics? How do we best account for MHO uncertainties and their correlations?
- At what point is a bad  $\chi^2/N_{\text{pt}}$  due to new physics? Clearly question not just of relevance to PDF fitting!

# Towards 'MMHT' 19

- Global groups busily updating fits to include new LHC data.  
 'MMHT'19 on its way. Include:
  - ★ Full LHC Run I dataset & latest updates from Tevatron/HERA.
  - ★ Extended parameterisation.
  - ★ Photon 'a la LUX' as standard.
- Much LHC Run-I data included already, with encouraging results!



# Summary/Outlook

- ★ PDFs a key ingredient in LHC physics.
- ★ Precision LHC era: significant opportunity for PDF determination.
- ★ Projections for future: still encouraging potential for greatly improved PDF constraints from LHC.
- ★ But significant challenges before us: confronting high precision data in fits, dealing with tensions, poor fit quality, including theory uncertainties effectively etc.
- ★ Not simply question of adding ever more data to PDF fits. Much work ahead to make sense of what we are seeing...

Thank you for listening!