



$t\bar{t}b\bar{b} + t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$ measurements at the LHC

ATLAS and CMS results

Tae Jeong Kim (Hanyang University) on behalf of ATLAS and CMS collaborations
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$t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ cross section measurement

- $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ is the main background for the $t\bar{t}H(b\bar{b})$ signature
- a good test of the NLO QCD theory
- Measurements of $t\bar{t}$ + heavy flavor are challenging
 - Huge combinatorics from multiple b-jets
 - Identification of b-jets origin: top quark, gluon splitting, Higgs, other?
 - large theory uncertainty due to the presence of two very different scales (top quark mass, b quark mass)

Differential cross section measurement



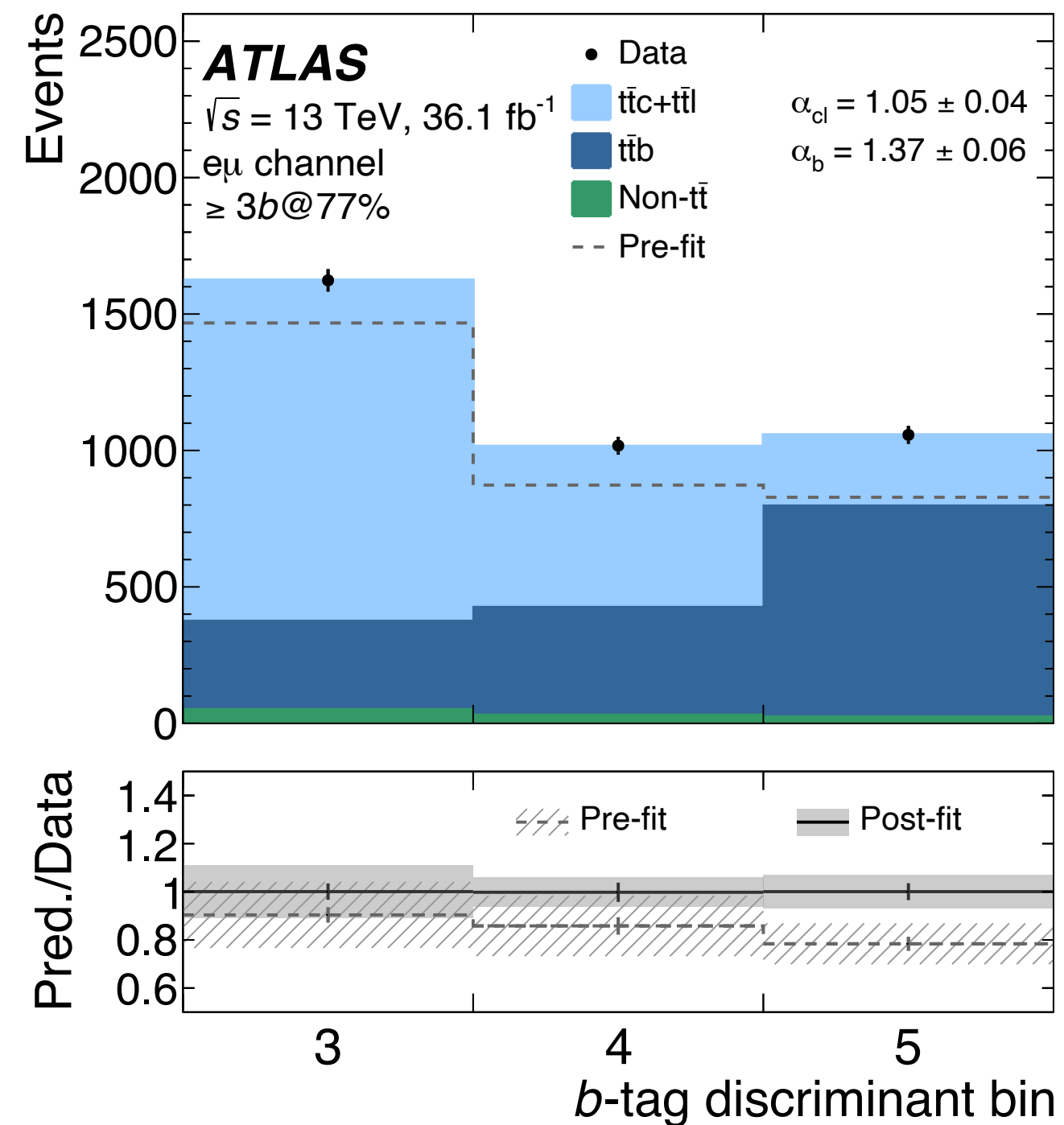
$t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ process

- Which b jets? - Need to identify two b jets at the generator level
 - How do we find those b jets at the reconstruction level?
 - Additional b jets can mean
 - Two b jets with the highest p_T - targeting b jets from Higgs
 - Two b jets with the closest angle between them - targeting b jets from gluon splitting
 - Two b jets not from a top quark →
 - more accurate and sensitive to modeling of gluon splitting
 - DNN at the reconstruction level
- Remove systematic uncertainty on the theory dependence
 - Consistent with the reconstruction level definition

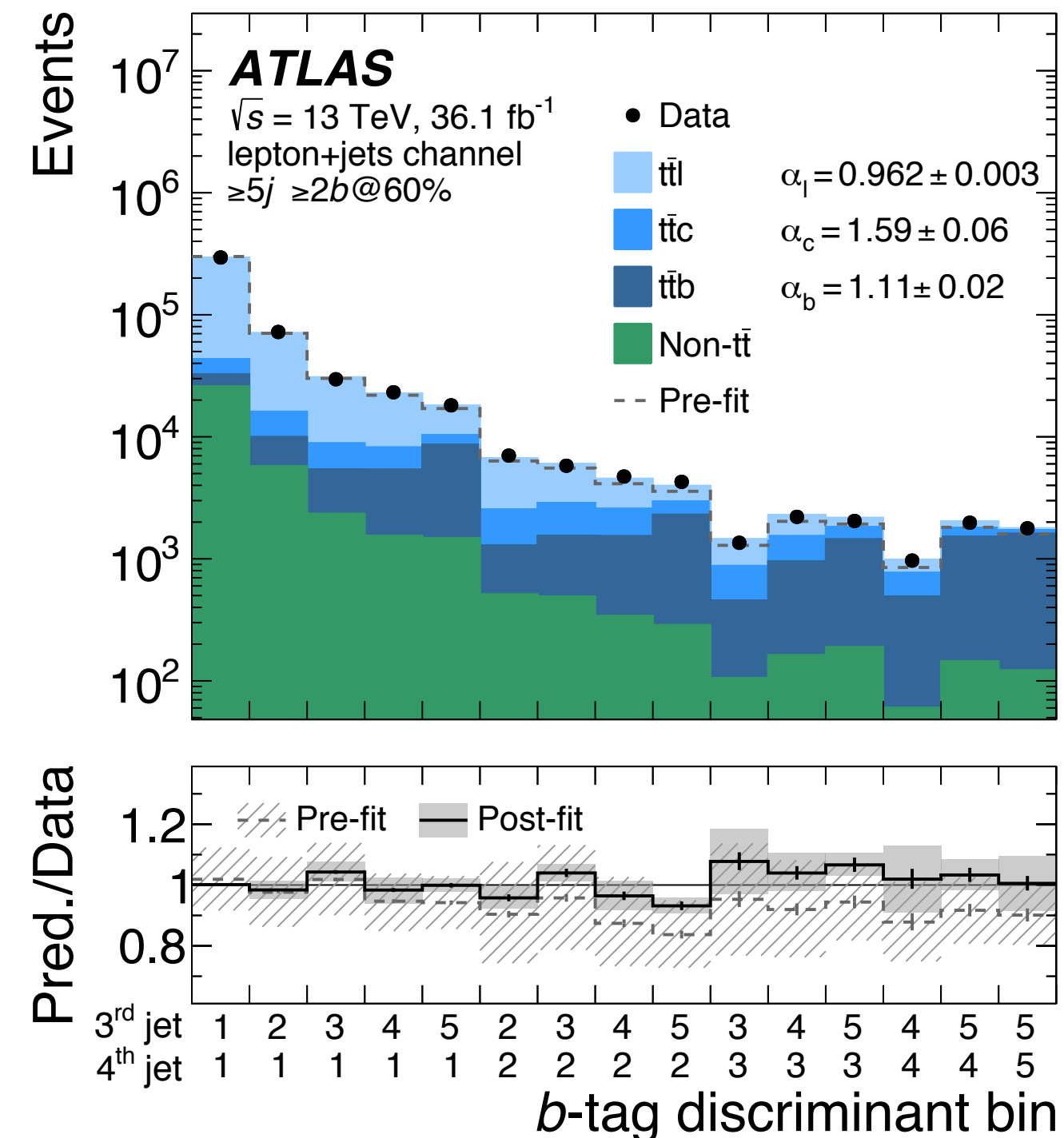
Signal extraction

- Binned maximum-likelihood fitting to extract $t\bar{t}b, t\bar{t}c, t\bar{t}l$
- Unfolded back to particle level by correcting detector resolution, efficiency and acceptance
- Iterative Bayesian unfolding technique in RooUNFOLD Package

Template of third highest b-tagged jets in $e\mu$ channel

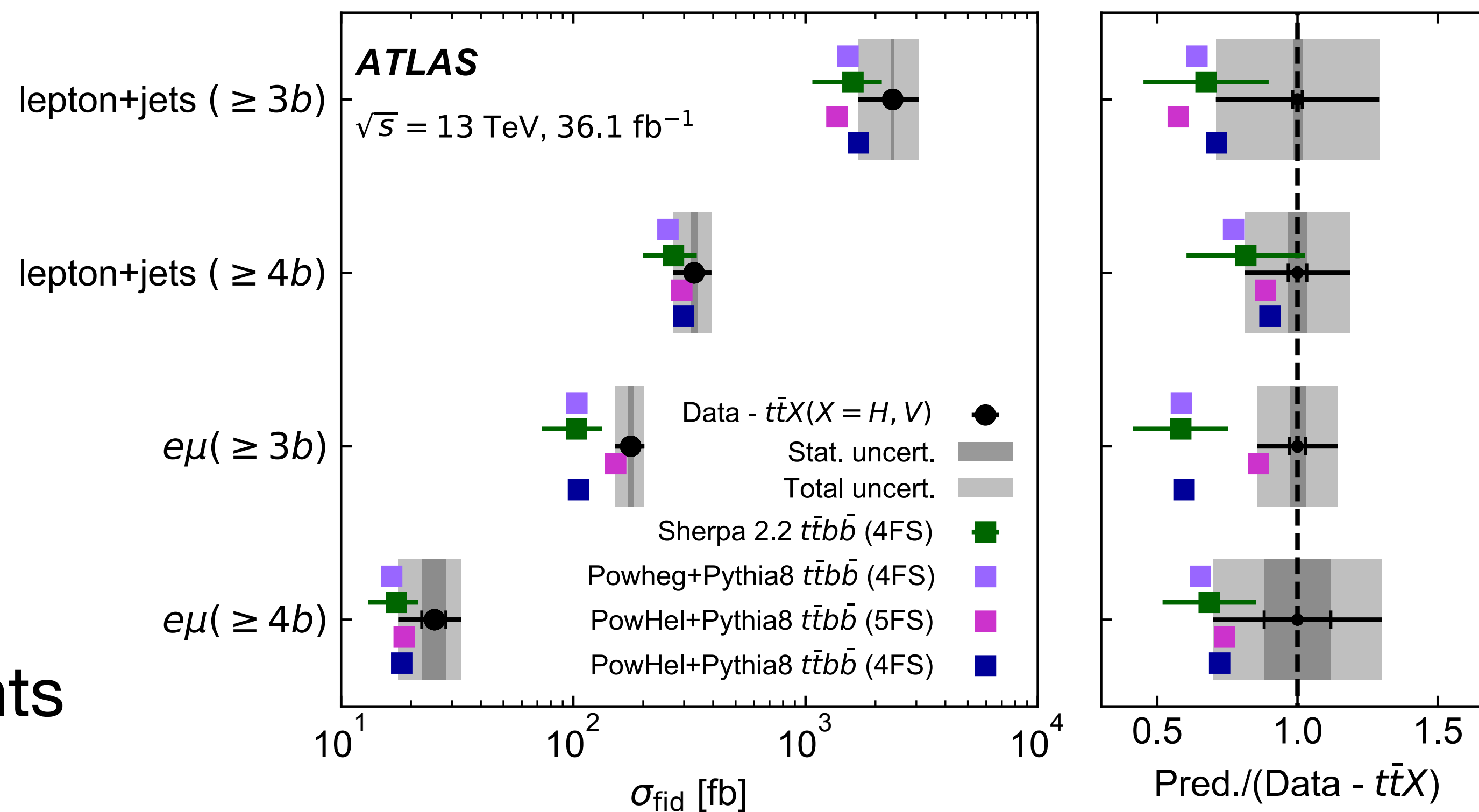


Template of third and fourth highest b-tagged jets in lepton+jets channel



Inclusive cross section measurement

- $t\bar{t}H$ and $t\bar{t}V$ contributions are subtracted to facilitate the comparison with theory
- $e\mu$ channel shows more precise measurement
- Observed generally lower prediction than the measurements

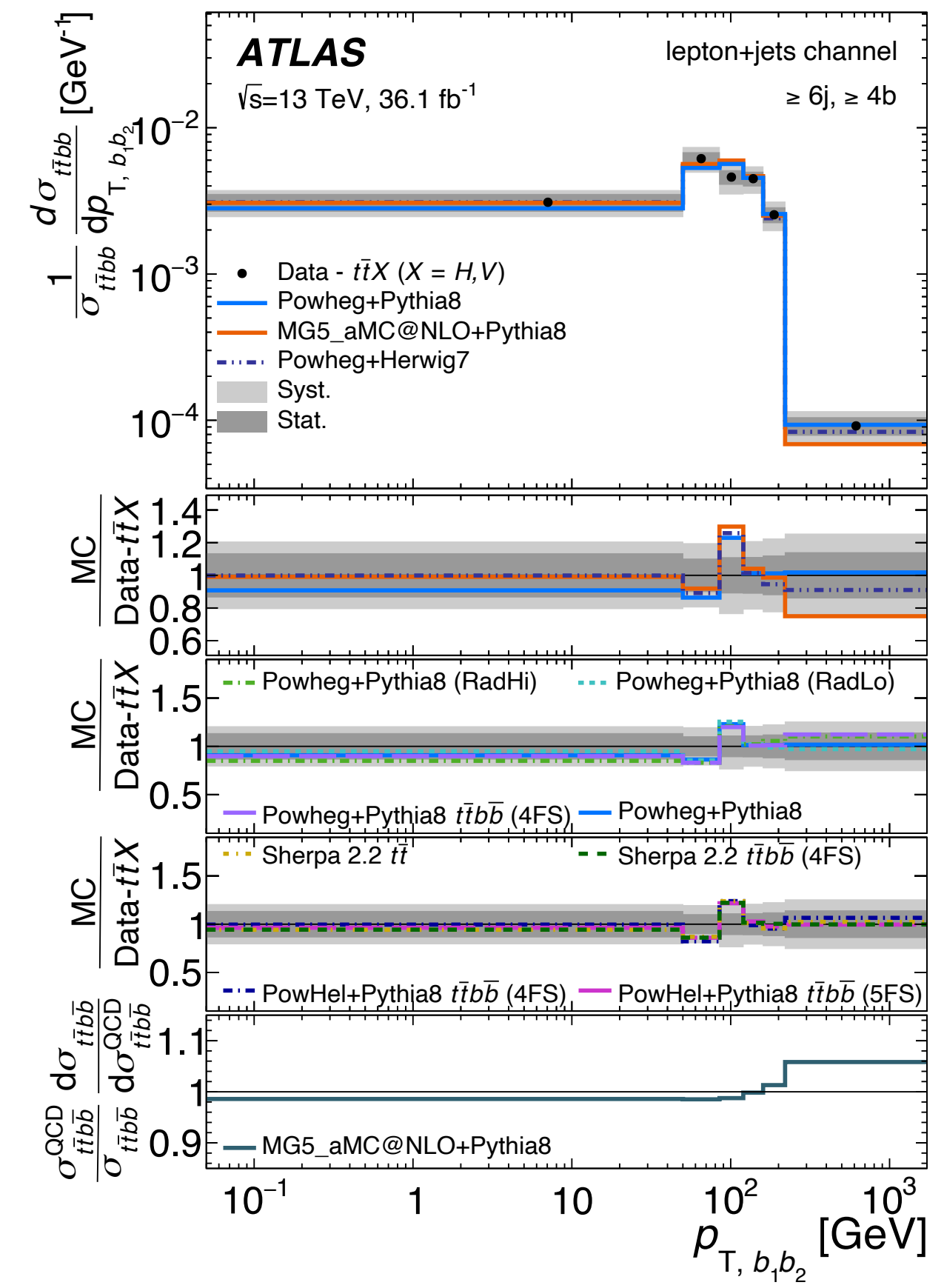
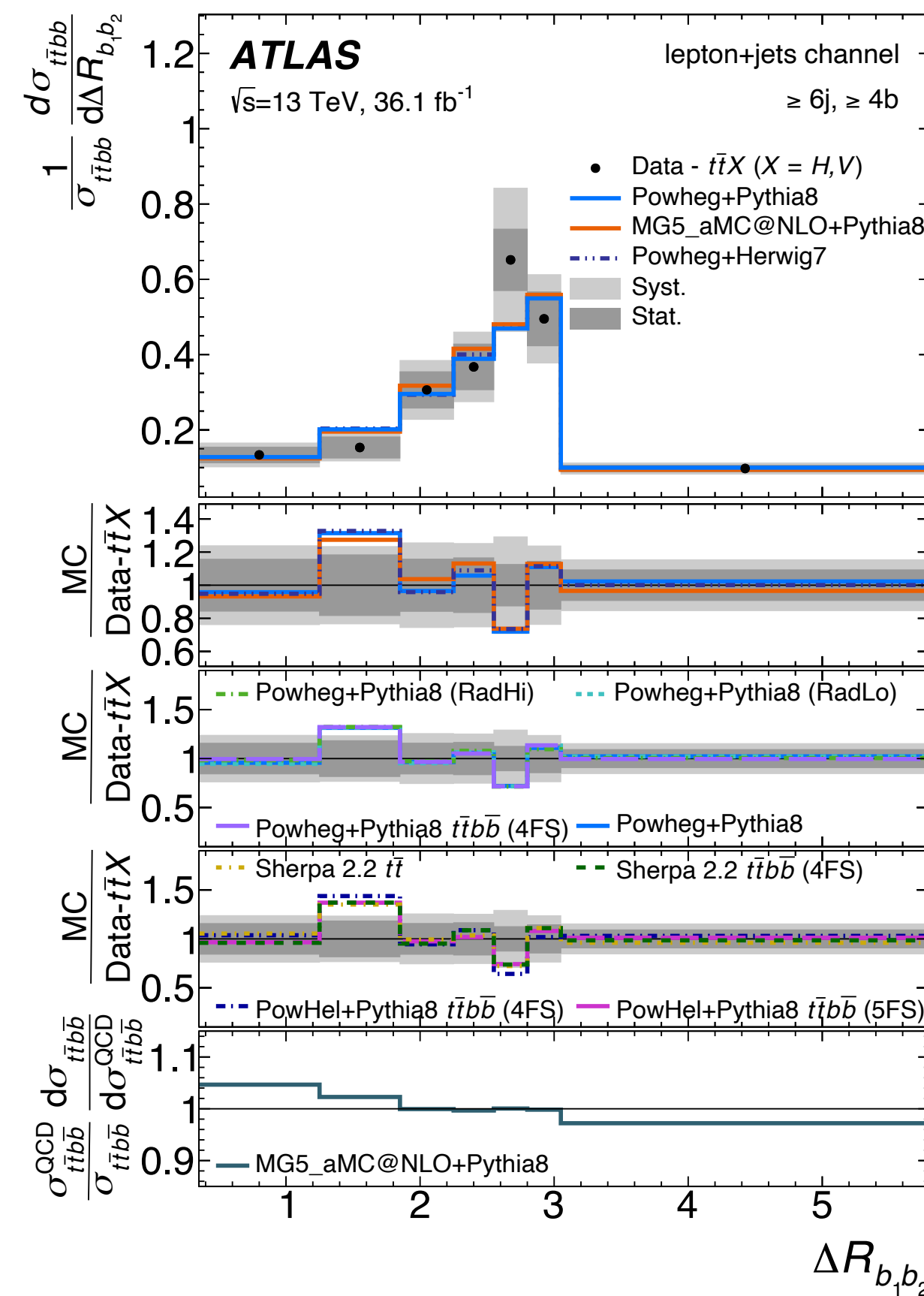
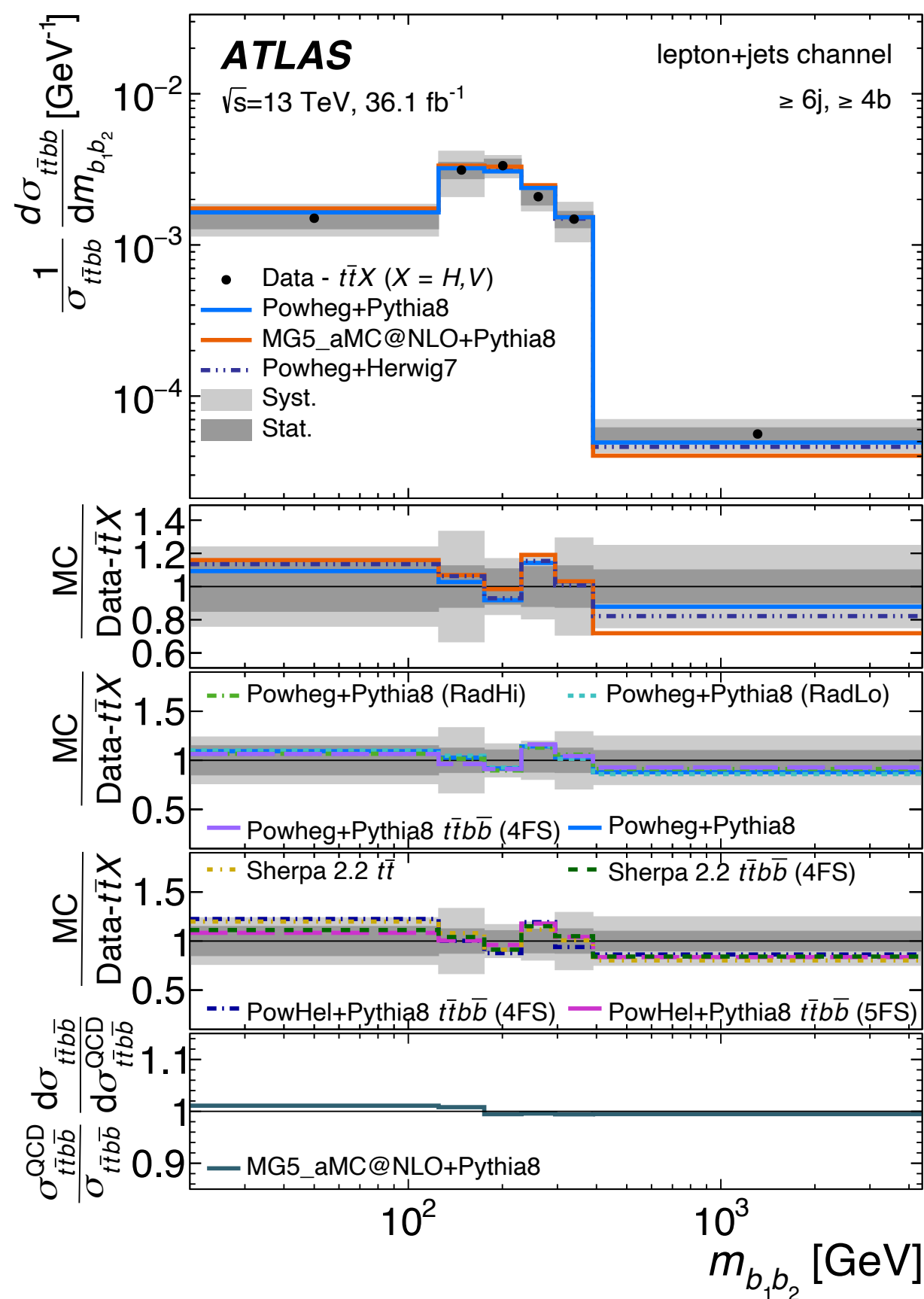


Visible Phase Space

Differential cross section

Extra b jets using the highest p_T b jets

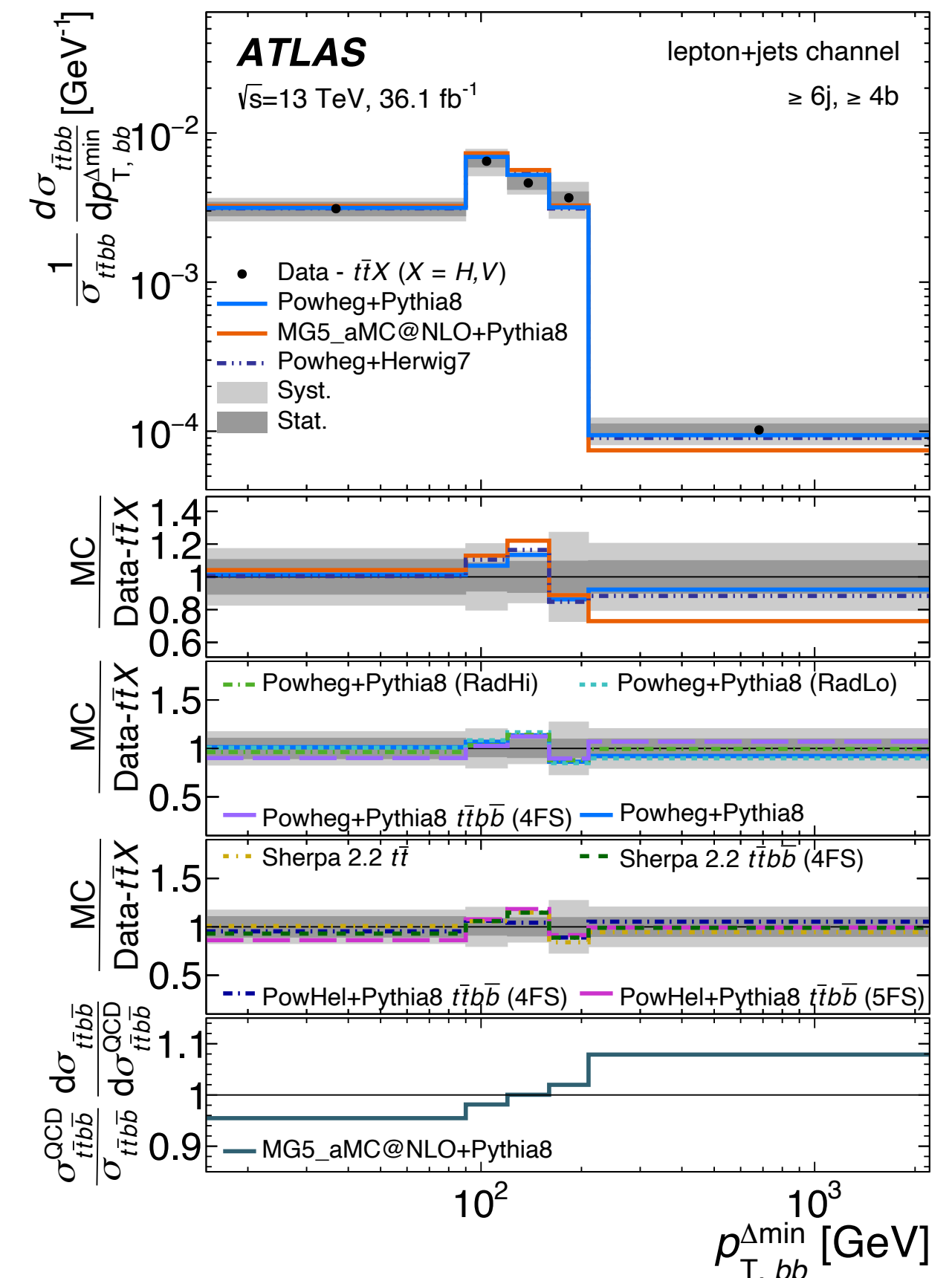
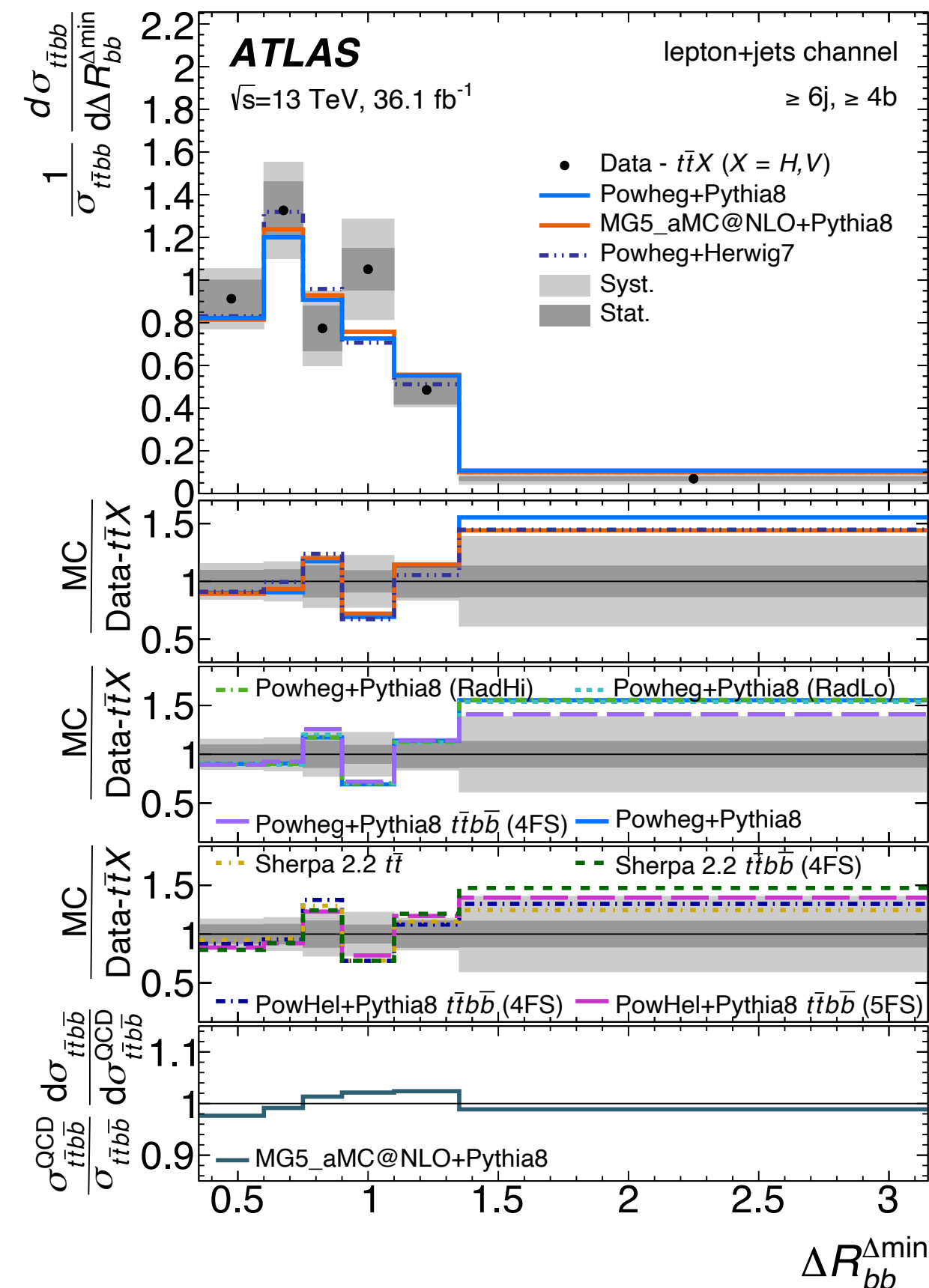
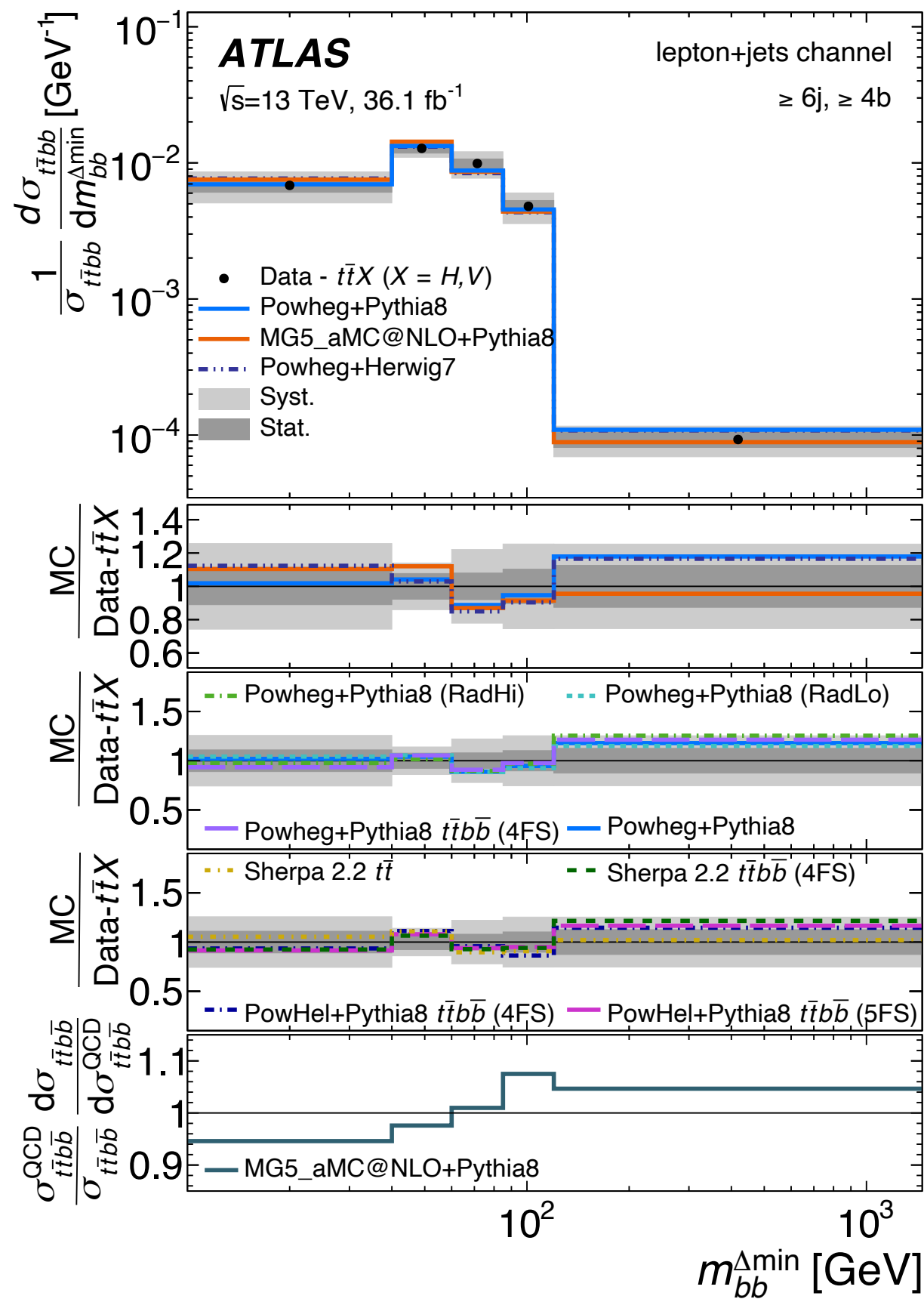
- $\geq 6j$, $\geq 4b$ phase space: measurements are generally consistent with predictions



Differential cross section

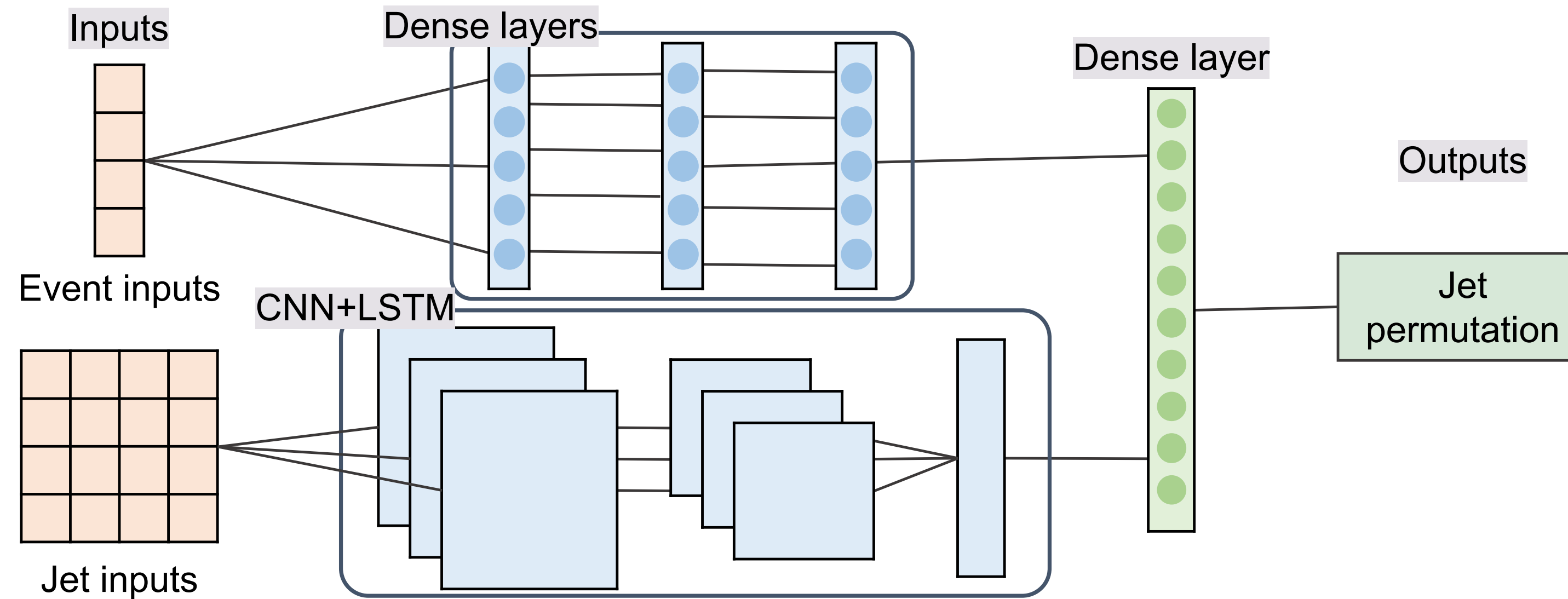
Extra b jets using the closest b jets

- $\geq 6j$, $\geq 4b$ phase space: measurements are generally consistent with predictions



DNN for additional b jets

To identify b jet not from top quark in 6j4b category



- Combinations of four highest p_T b-jets : 6 combinations (6 output nodes)
- Jet specific variables (jet p_T , jet η , b-tag, m_{bl} , Δ_{bl}) for CNN+LSTM and global event variables (sum of jet p_T , b-tagged multiplicity, lepton specific variables, etc...) for Dense layers : both are connected later
- The highest output of the pair per event is selected : correct assignment of b-jets $\sim 49\%$

Unfolding

[arXiv:2309.14442](https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.14442)

- b-jet multiplicity as Ancillary variables
 - Divide signal and background regions
- Unfolded to the particle level by removing detector effect and acceptance
- Maximum likelihood fitting is performed

$$L(\vec{\mu}, \vec{\alpha}) = \left[\prod_{e,i} \text{Poi} \left(D_{e,i} \middle| S_{e,i}(\vec{\mu}, \vec{\alpha}) + \sum_{p \in \text{bkg.}} N_{e,i}^p(\vec{\alpha}) \right) \right] \mathcal{N}(\vec{\alpha})$$

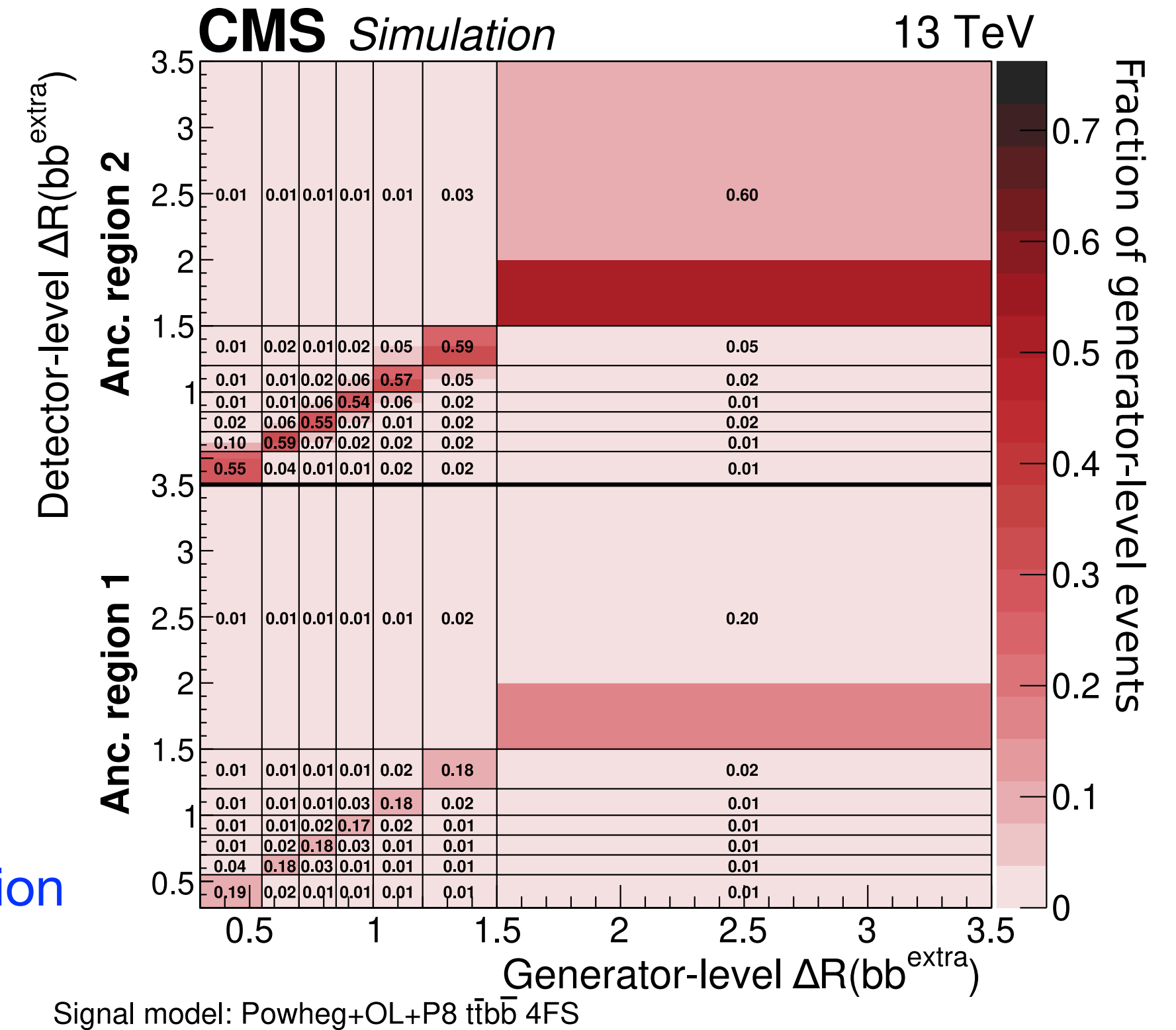
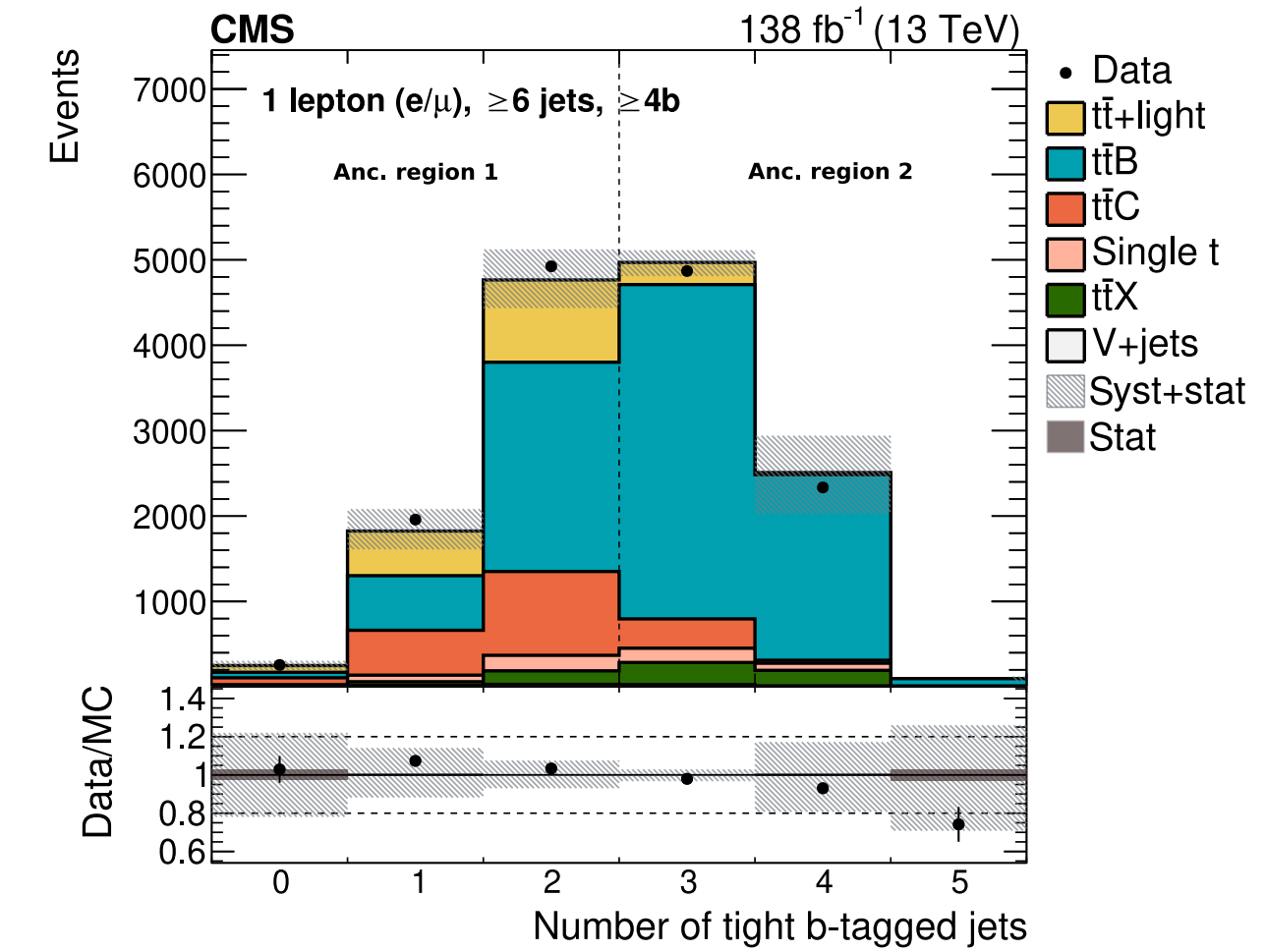
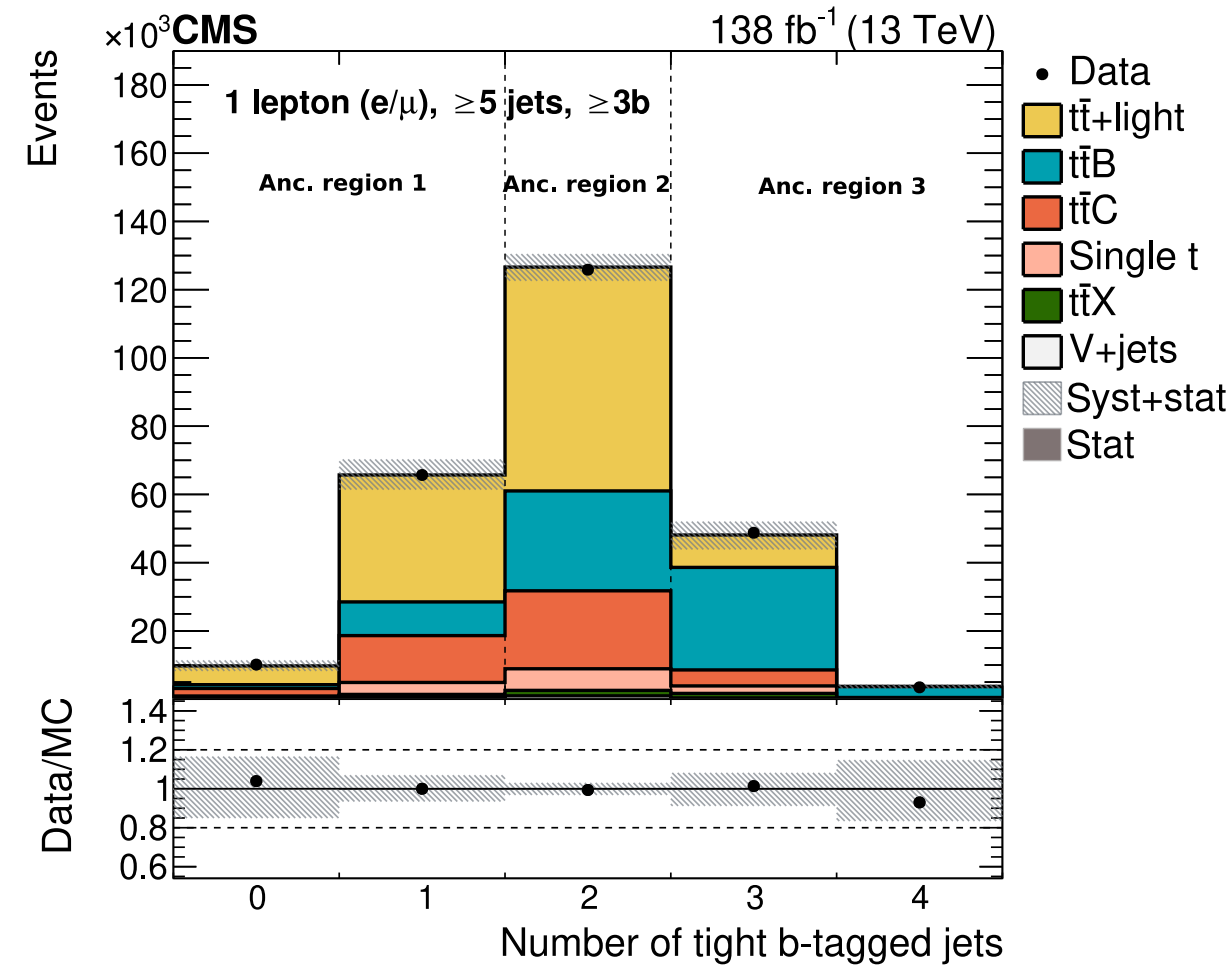
$$S_{e,i}(\vec{\mu}, \vec{\alpha}) = \mu_{\text{fid}} \sum_{j=1}^n \mu_j M_{ij}^e(\vec{\alpha}),$$

i = detector-level bin, j = generator-level bin

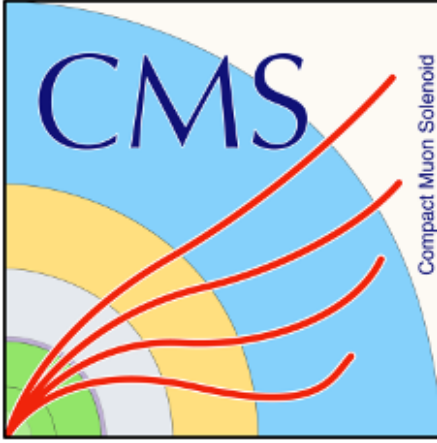
M_{ij} is expected event using the response matrix

μ_{fid} = signal-strength modify for the inclusive cross section

μ_j = parameters for the fraction of signal in each i bin



Signal model: Powheg+OL+P8 $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ 4FS



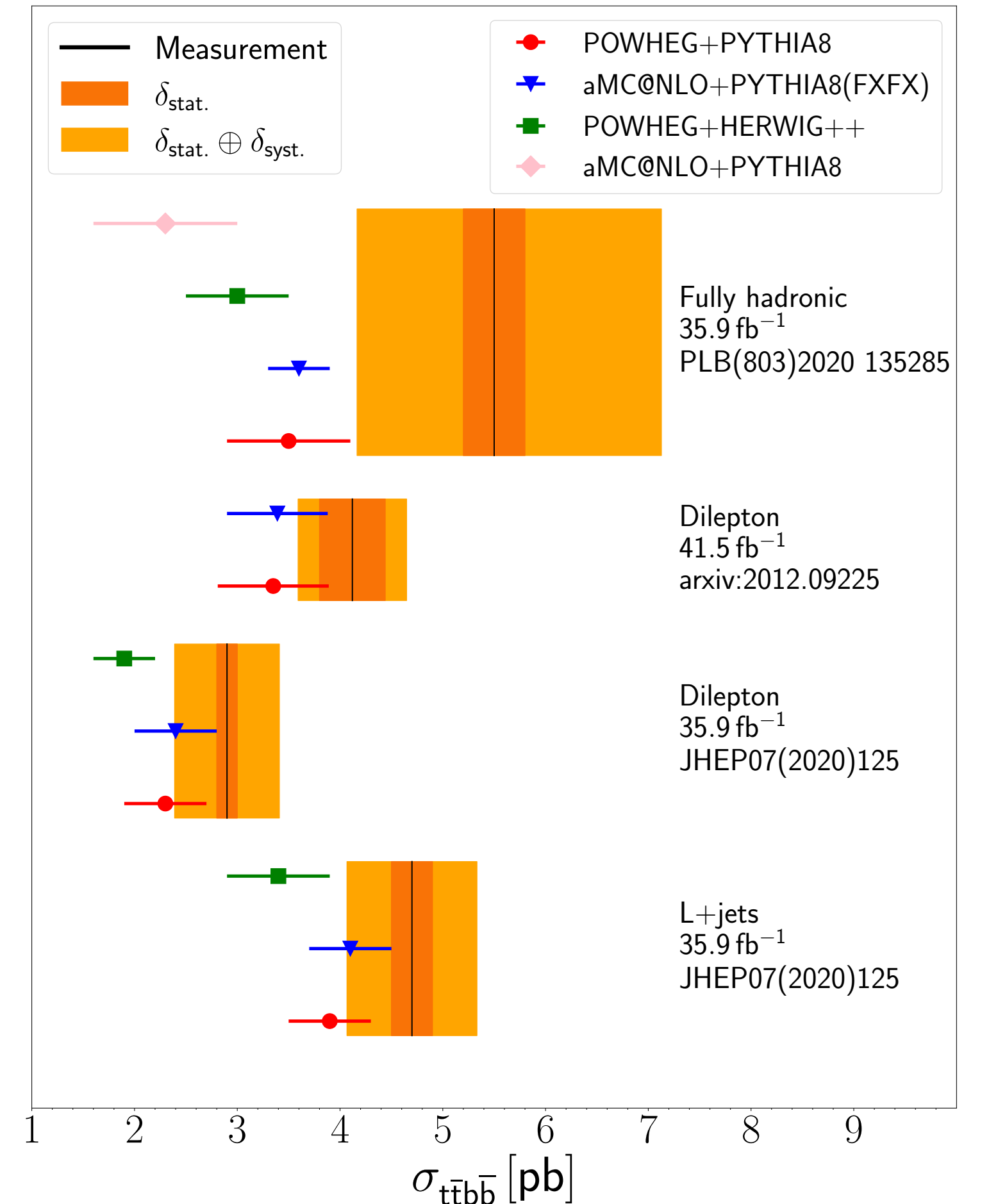
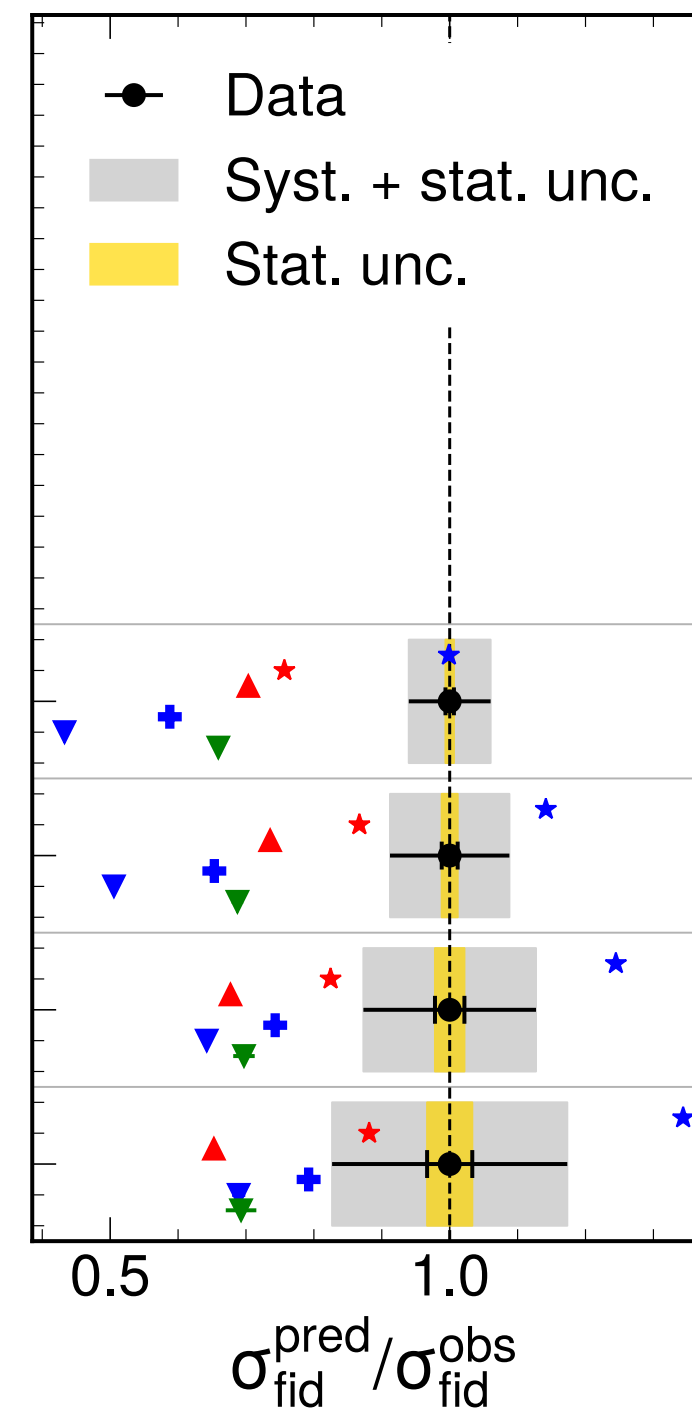
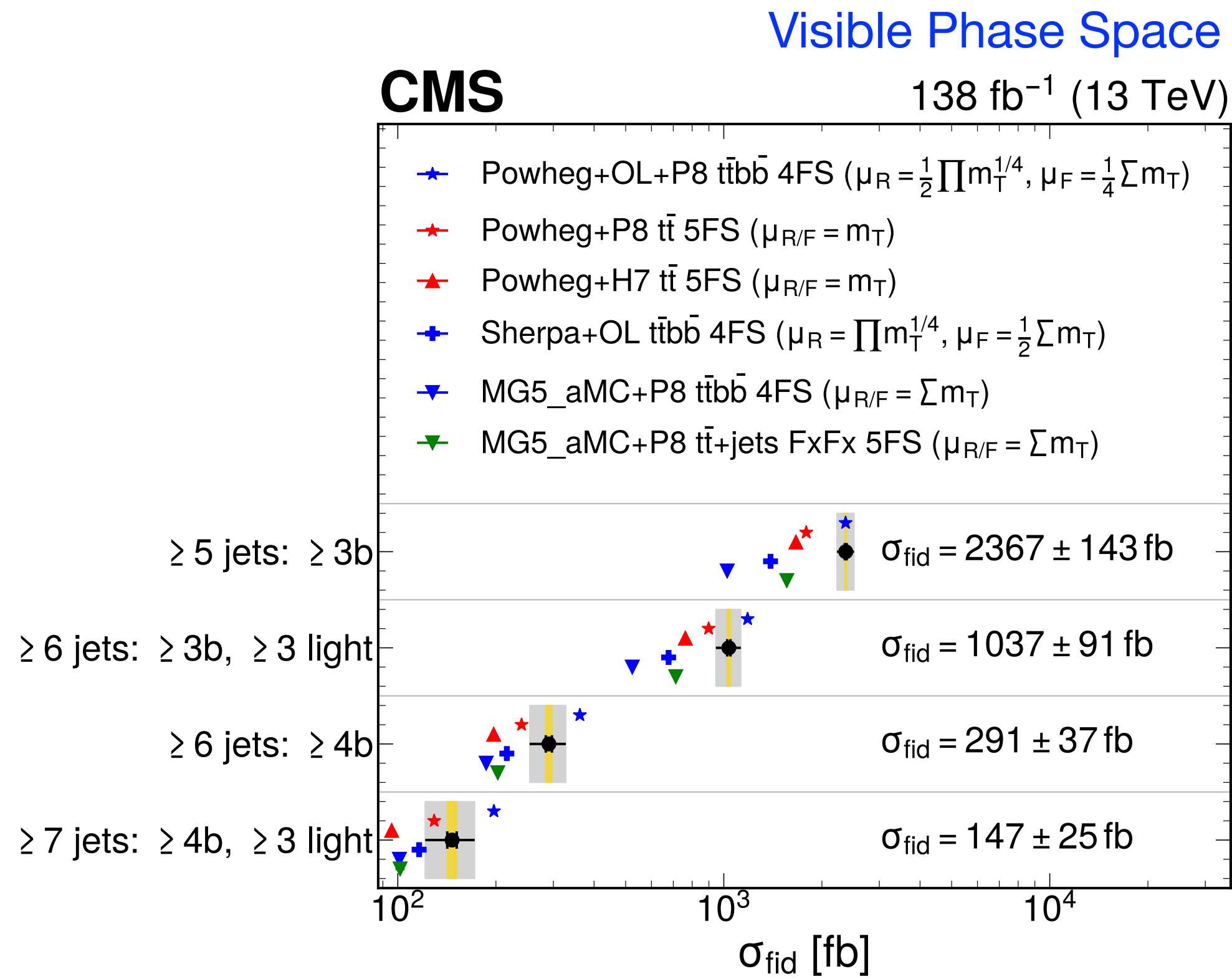
Inclusive cross section measurements

- 4 different phase spaces
- Observed the same trend as before - measured value is higher than the prediction

CMS Top Quark Summary Figures Full Phase Space

CMS Preliminary

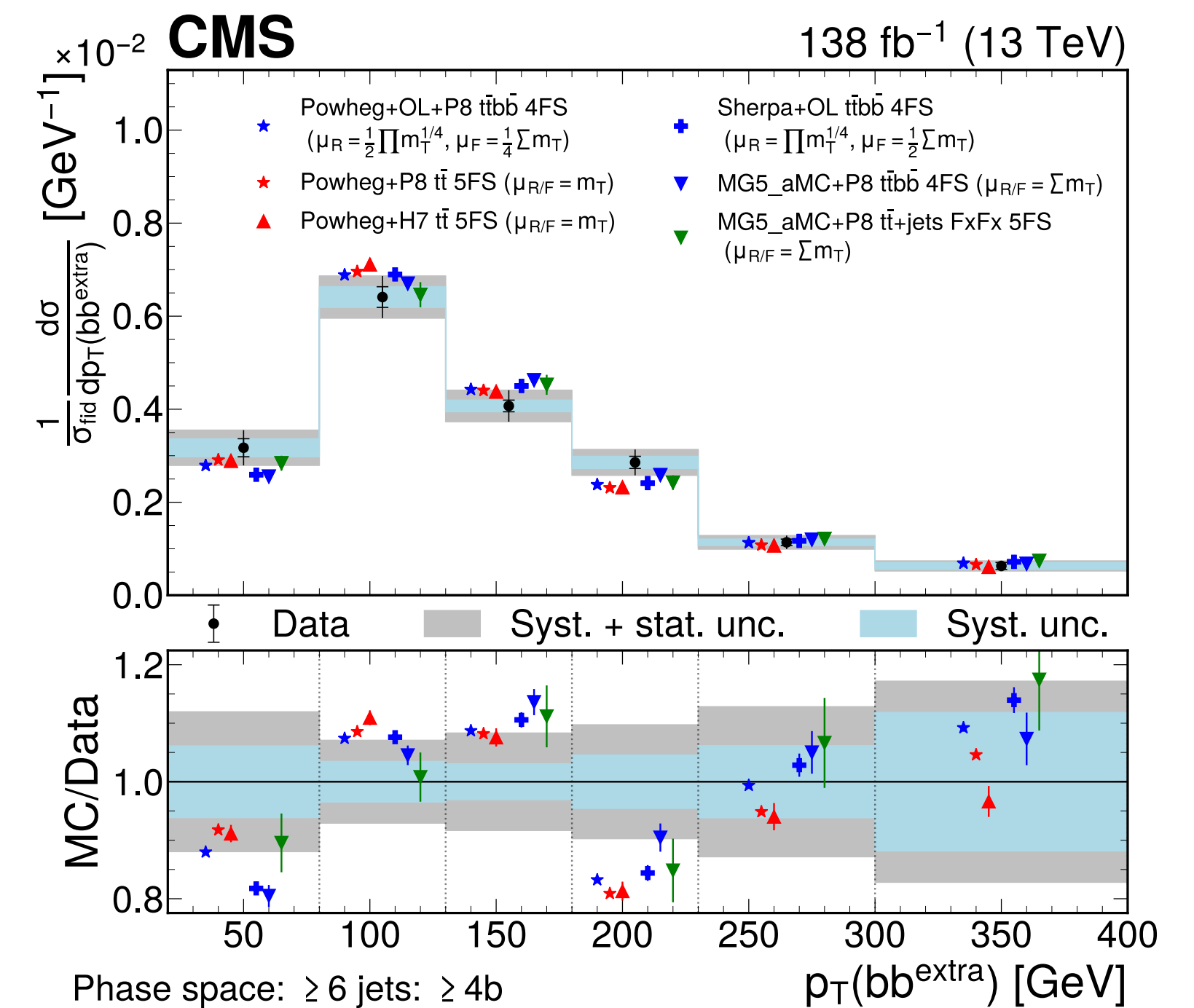
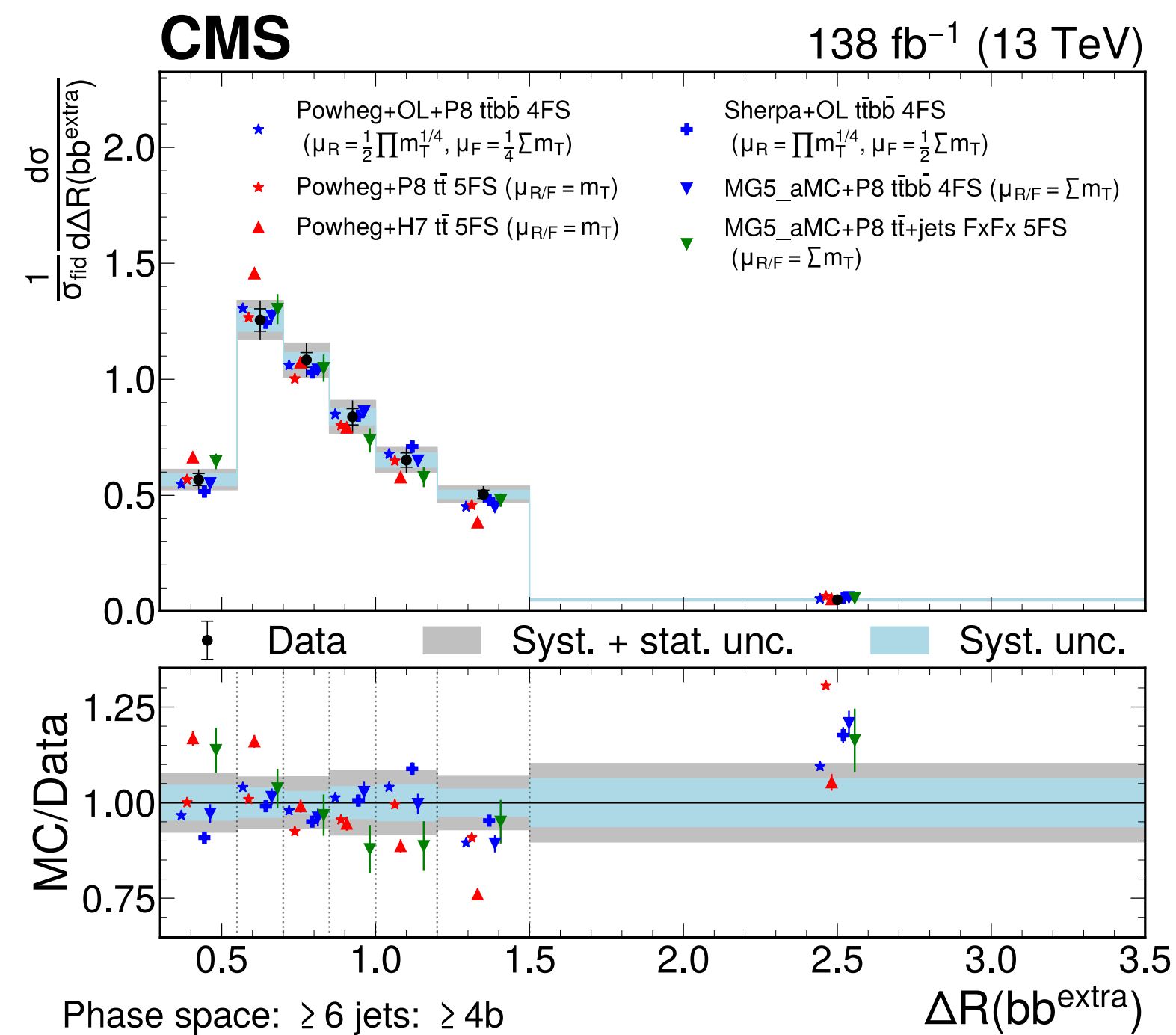
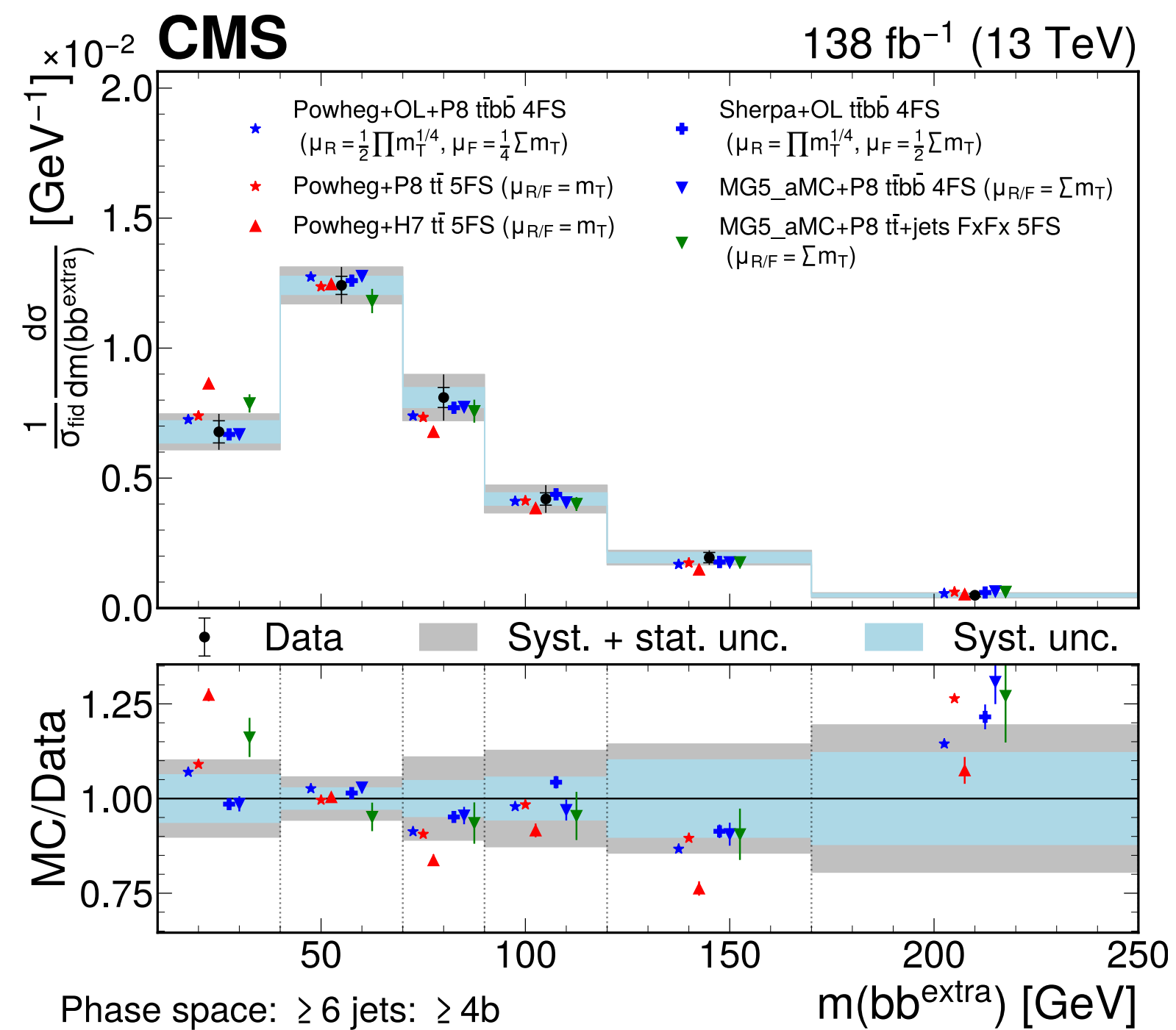
June 2021



Differential cross section

Extra b jets using the closest b jets

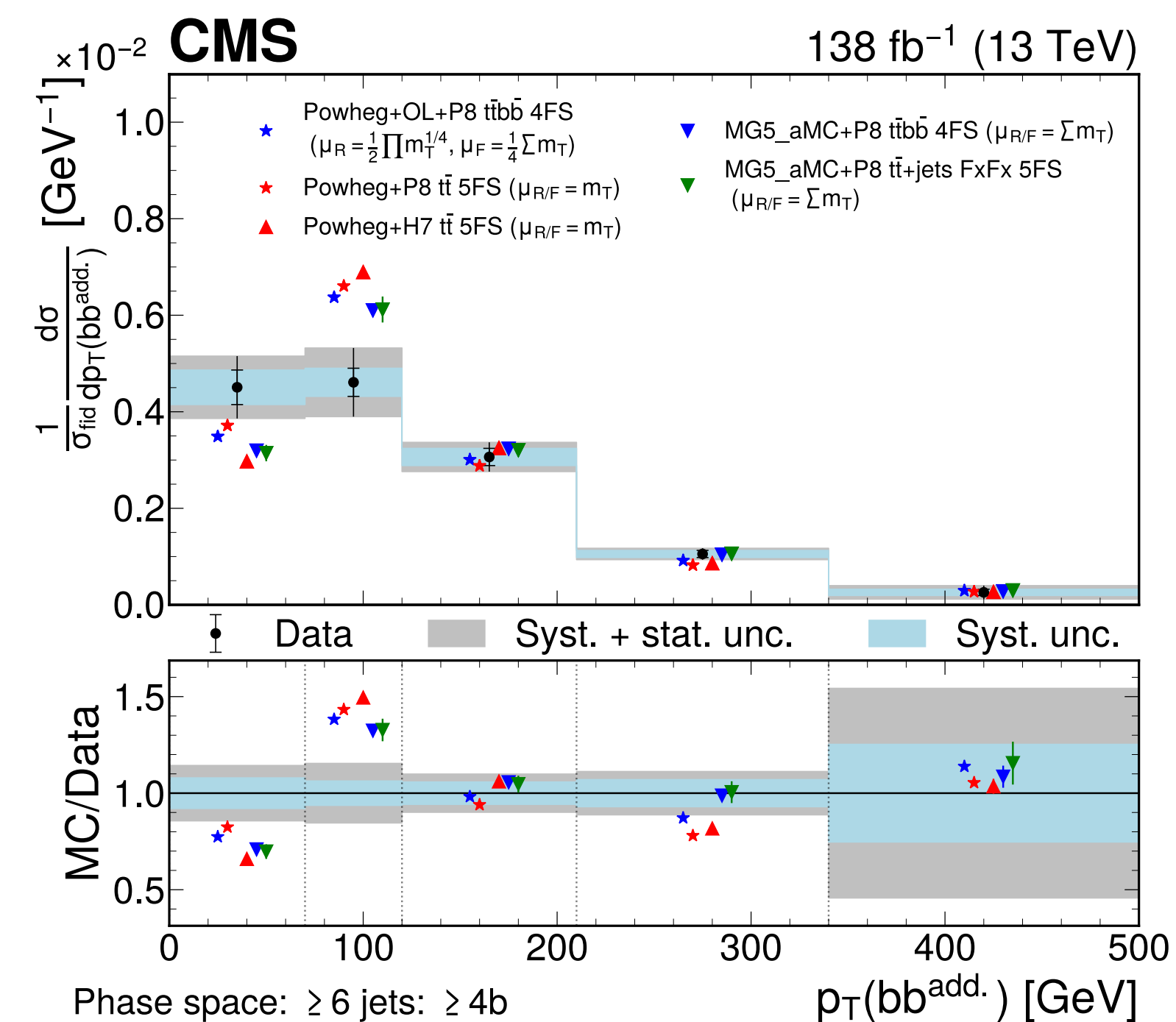
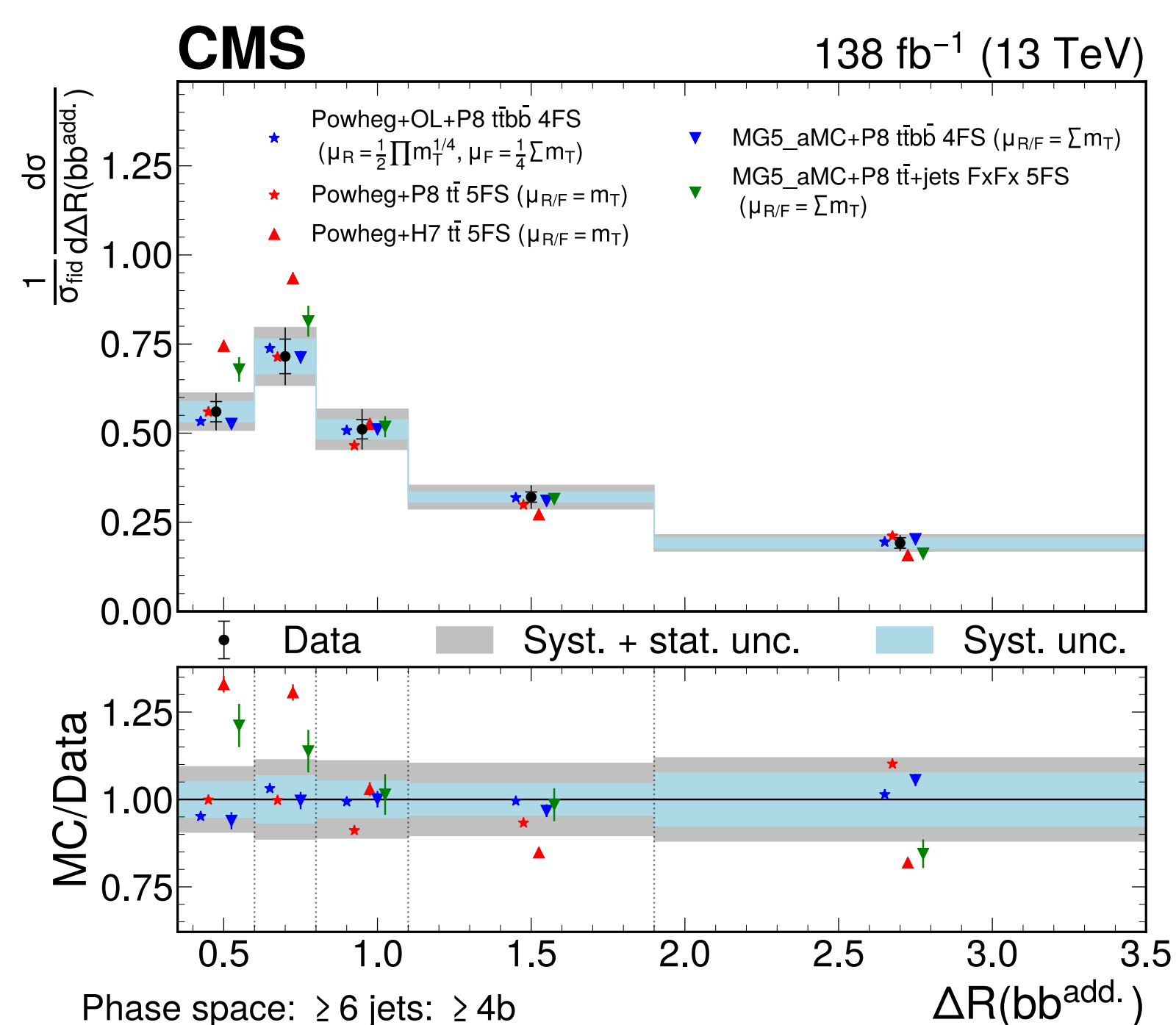
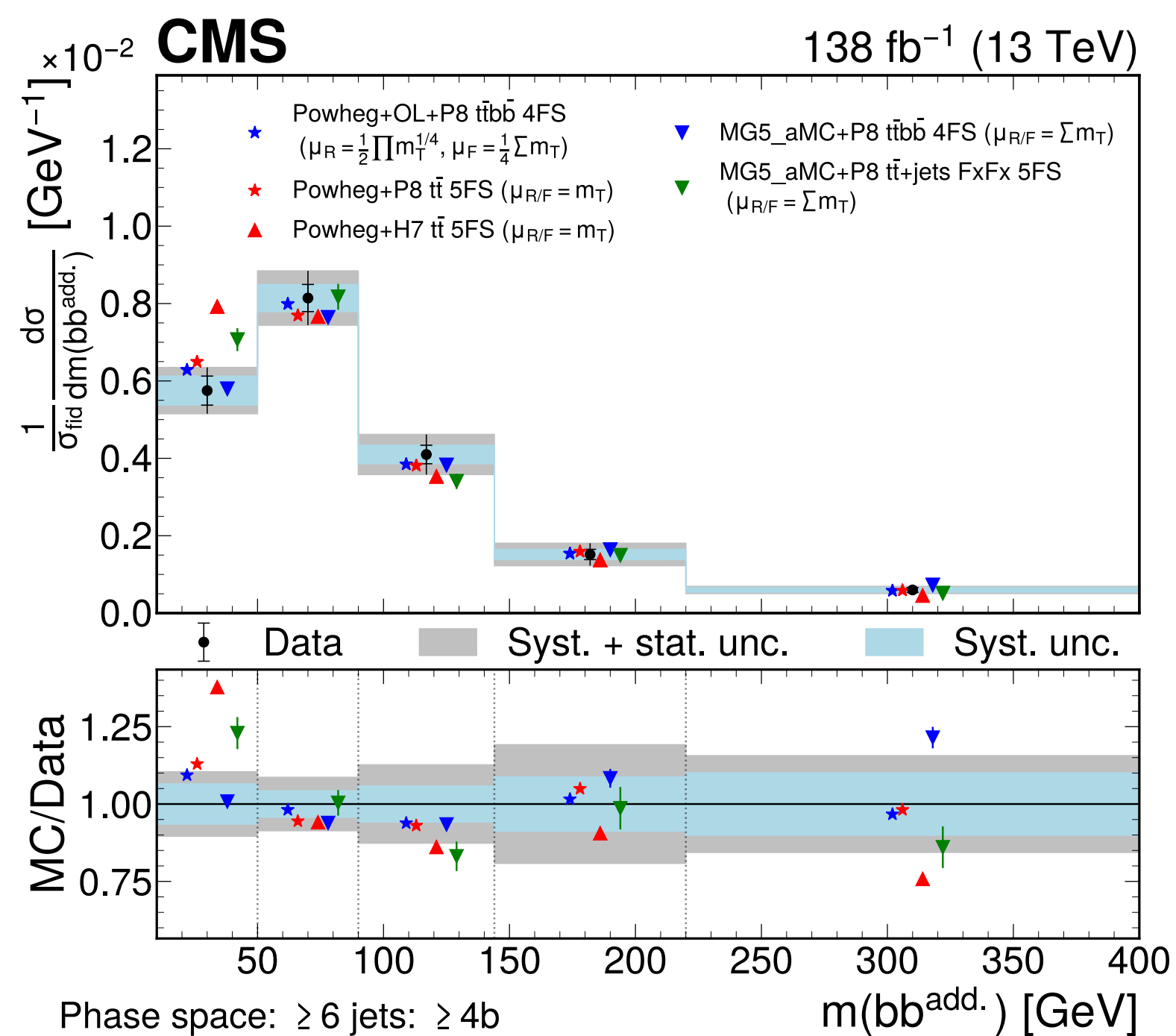
- $\geq 6j$, $\geq 4b$ phase space: HERWIG tends to produce two additional b jets with smaller angle than data



Differential cross section

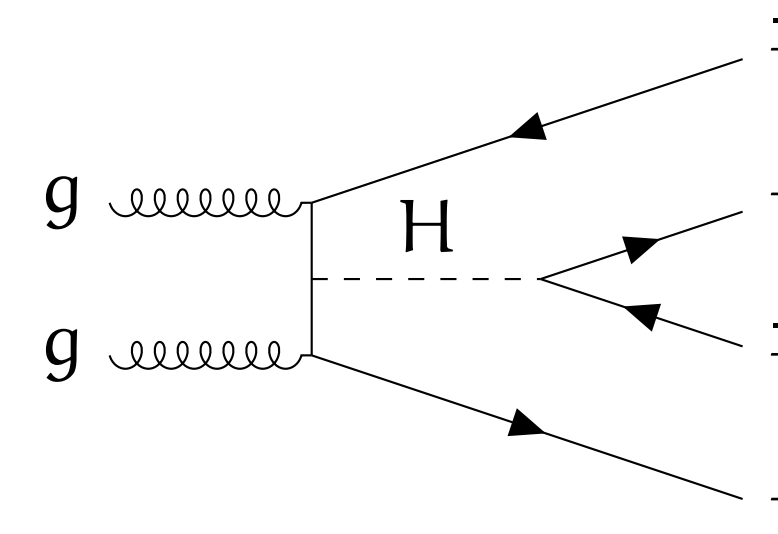
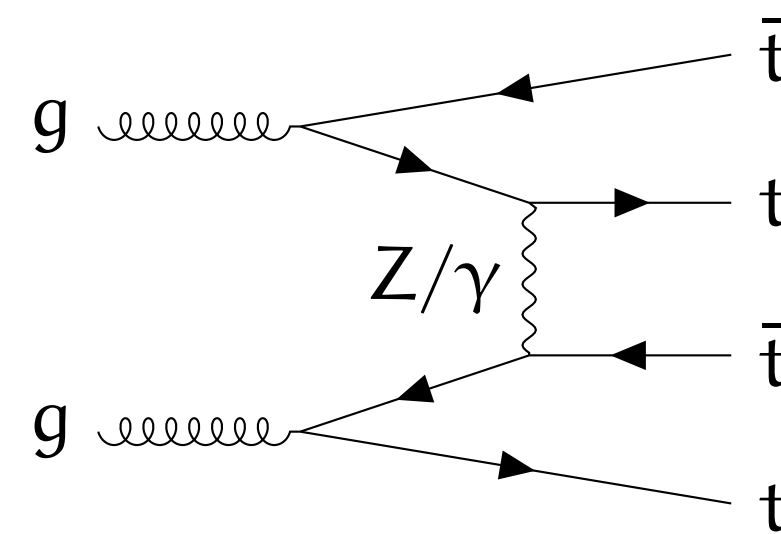
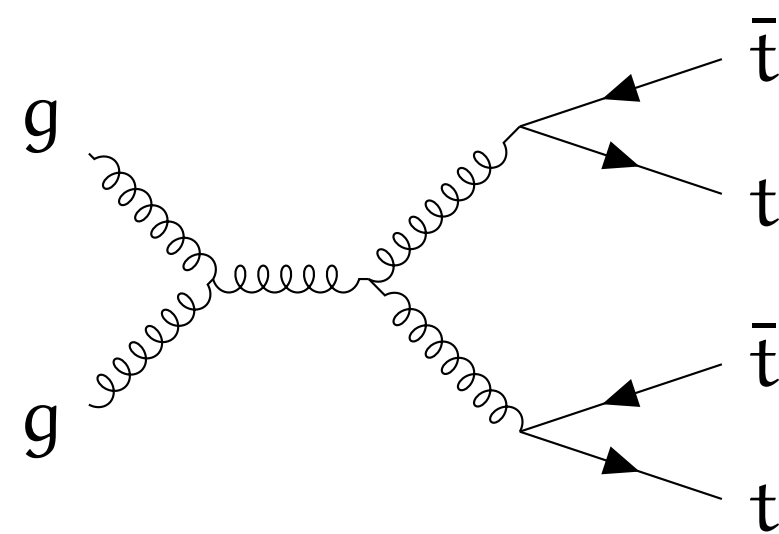
Additional b jets not from top quark

- $\geq 6j$, $\geq 4b$ phase space: HERWIG tends to produce two additional b jets with smaller angle than data



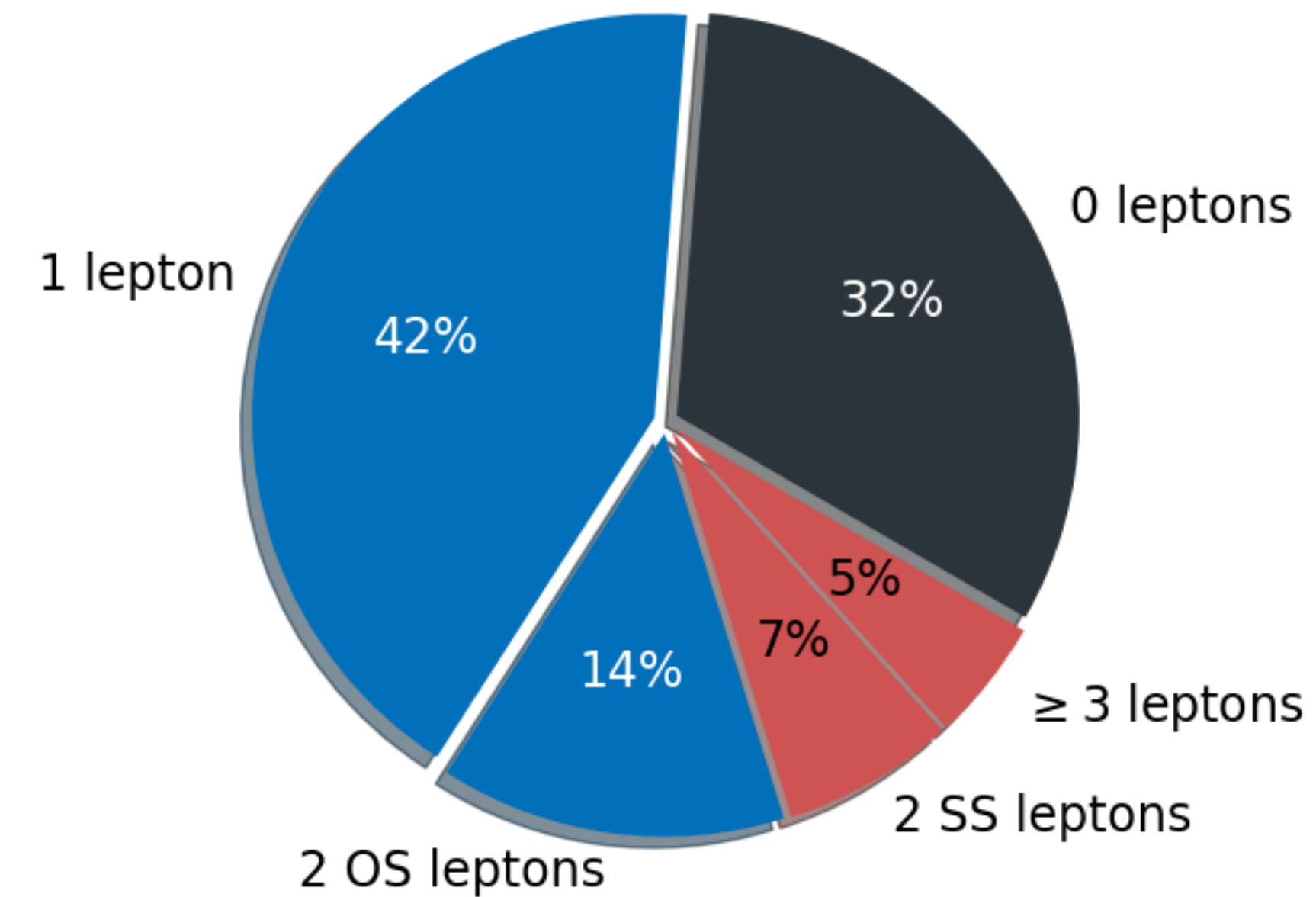
Four top searches

- Four top production is a very rare SM process
 - 12.0 ± 2.4 fb (NLO) - [JHEP 02 \(2018\) 031](#)
 - $13.4_{-1.8}^{+1.0}$ fb (NLO+NLL') - [arXiv:2212.03259](#) (see the talk by Anna Kulesza)
- Probe of top-Higgs Yukawa coupling
- This process is the heaviest final state observed at the LHC
- Sensitive to new physics and effective field theory operator



Four top final states

- Four top quarks have large object multiplicity
 - 4 b quarks (jets) and the decay products of 4 W bosons
- Three different channels
 - All hadronic (0L)
 - Single lepton and opposite sign dilepton (1L, OSDL) : Large branching ratio and $t\bar{t}$ background
 - Same-sign dilepton and multilepton (SSDL, ML) : smaller branching ratio and clean signature
- Heavy use of machine learning techniques to maximize signal to background ratio
 - Boosted Decision Trees (BDT)
 - Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



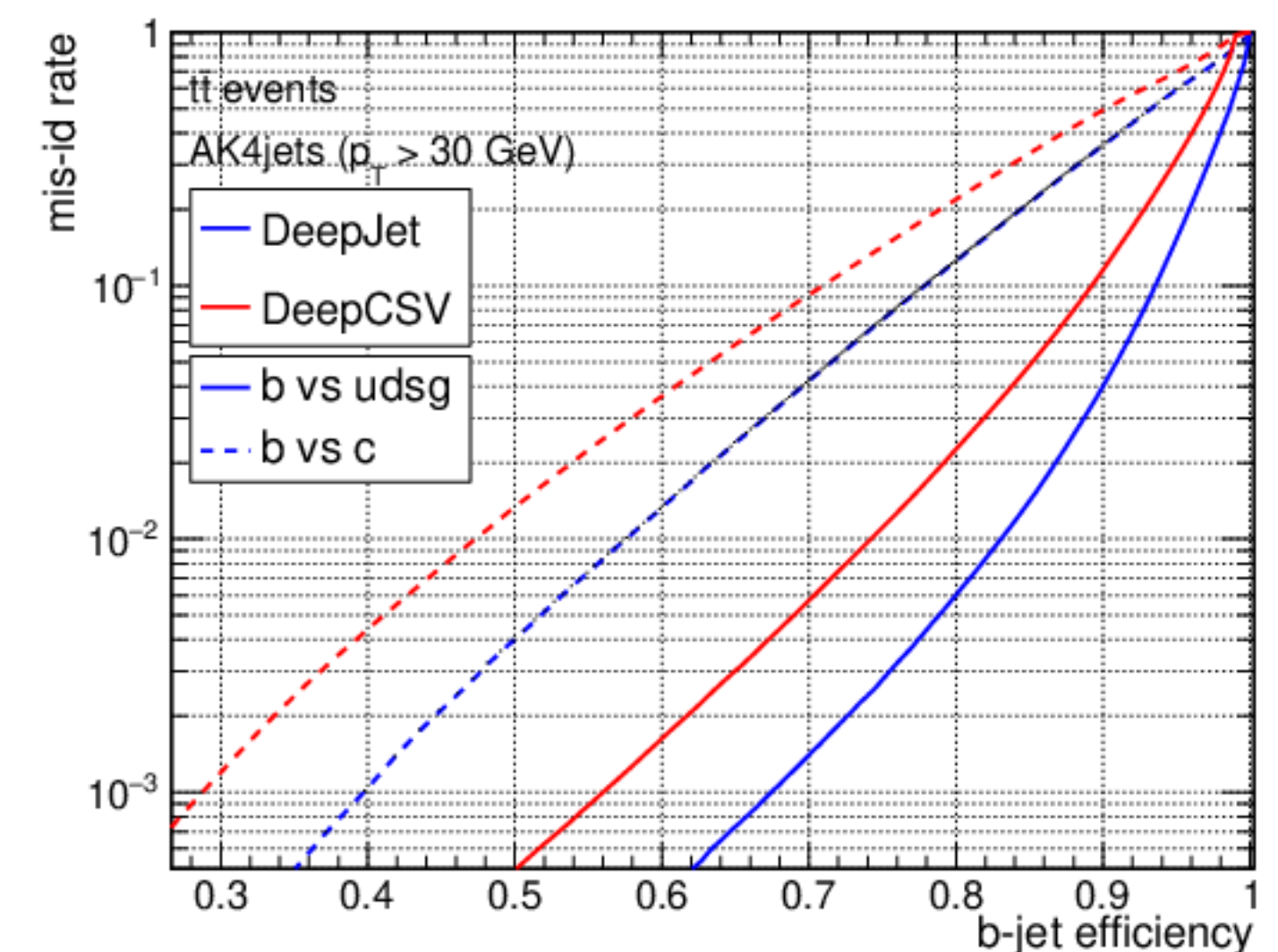
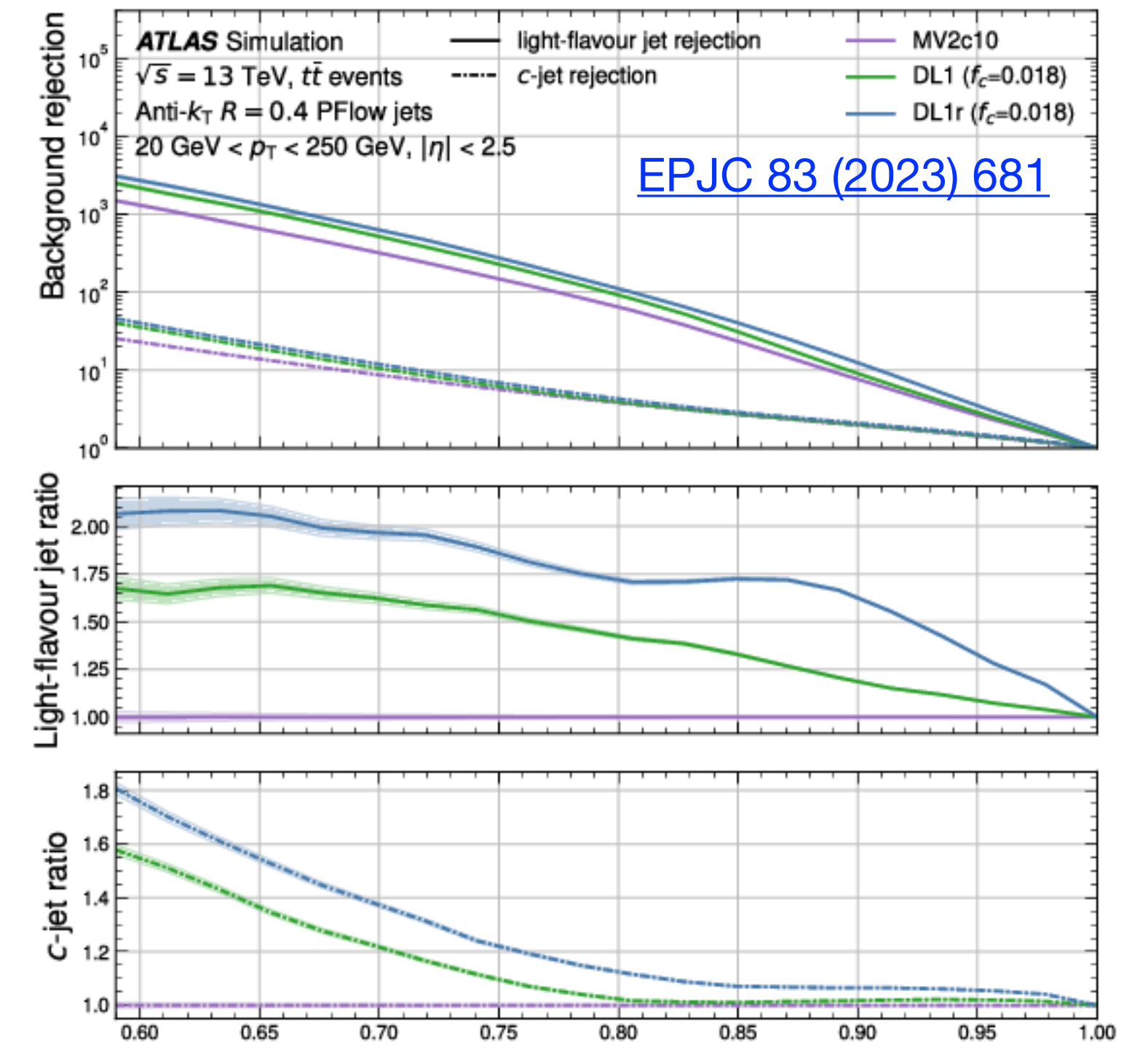
Observation

[ATLAS : EPJC 83 \(2023\) 496](#)

[CMS : PLB 847 \(2023\) 138290](#)

First observation from ATLAS and CMS

- Re-analysis of Run 2 data for SSDL and ML channels
 - better lepton identification method
 - improved b-tagging
- Major improvements
 - GNN (ATLAS) and multiclass BDTs (CMS)
 - Better estimation of $t\bar{t}X$ backgrounds
 - Better handling the uncertainty on 3 tops



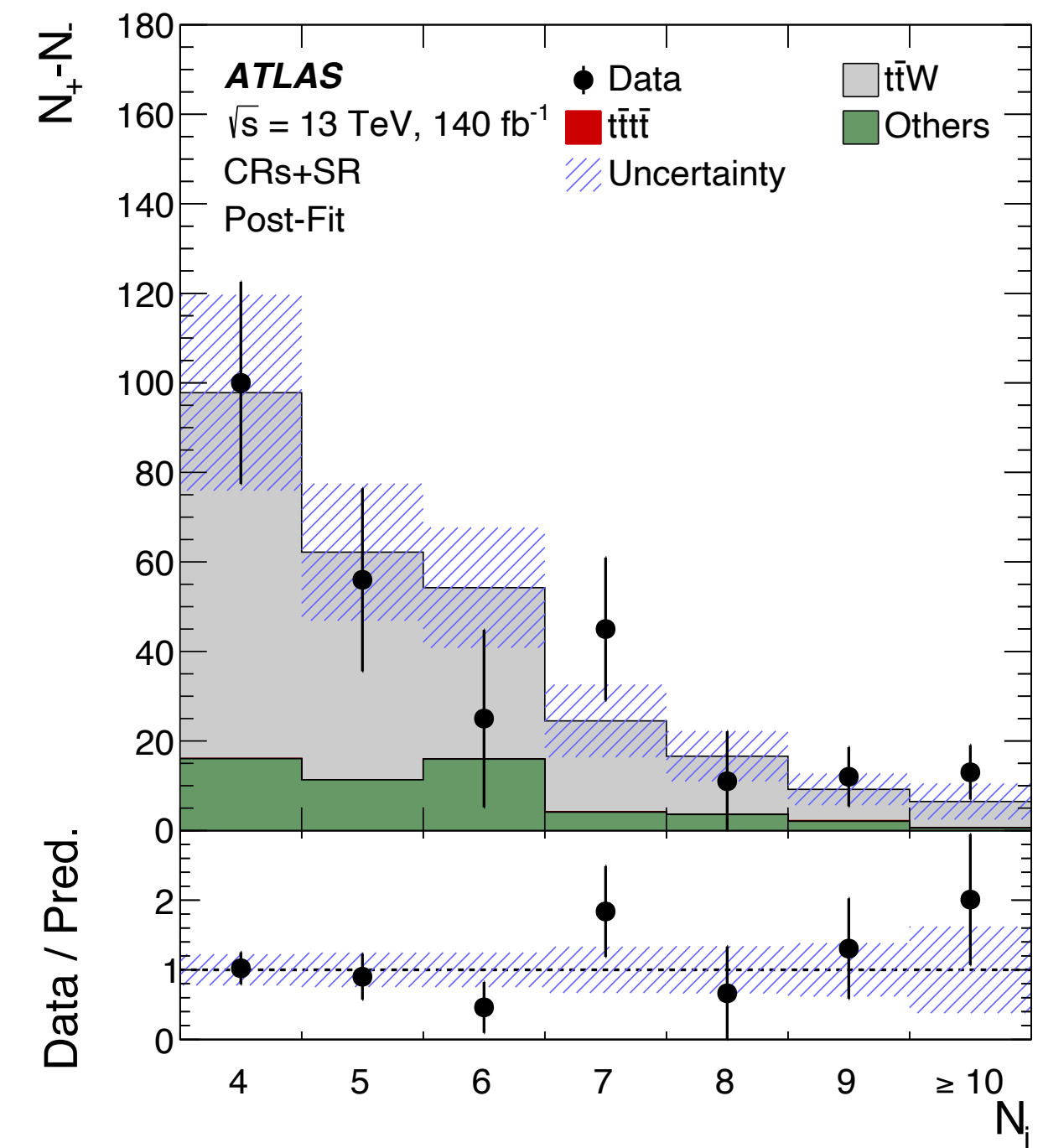
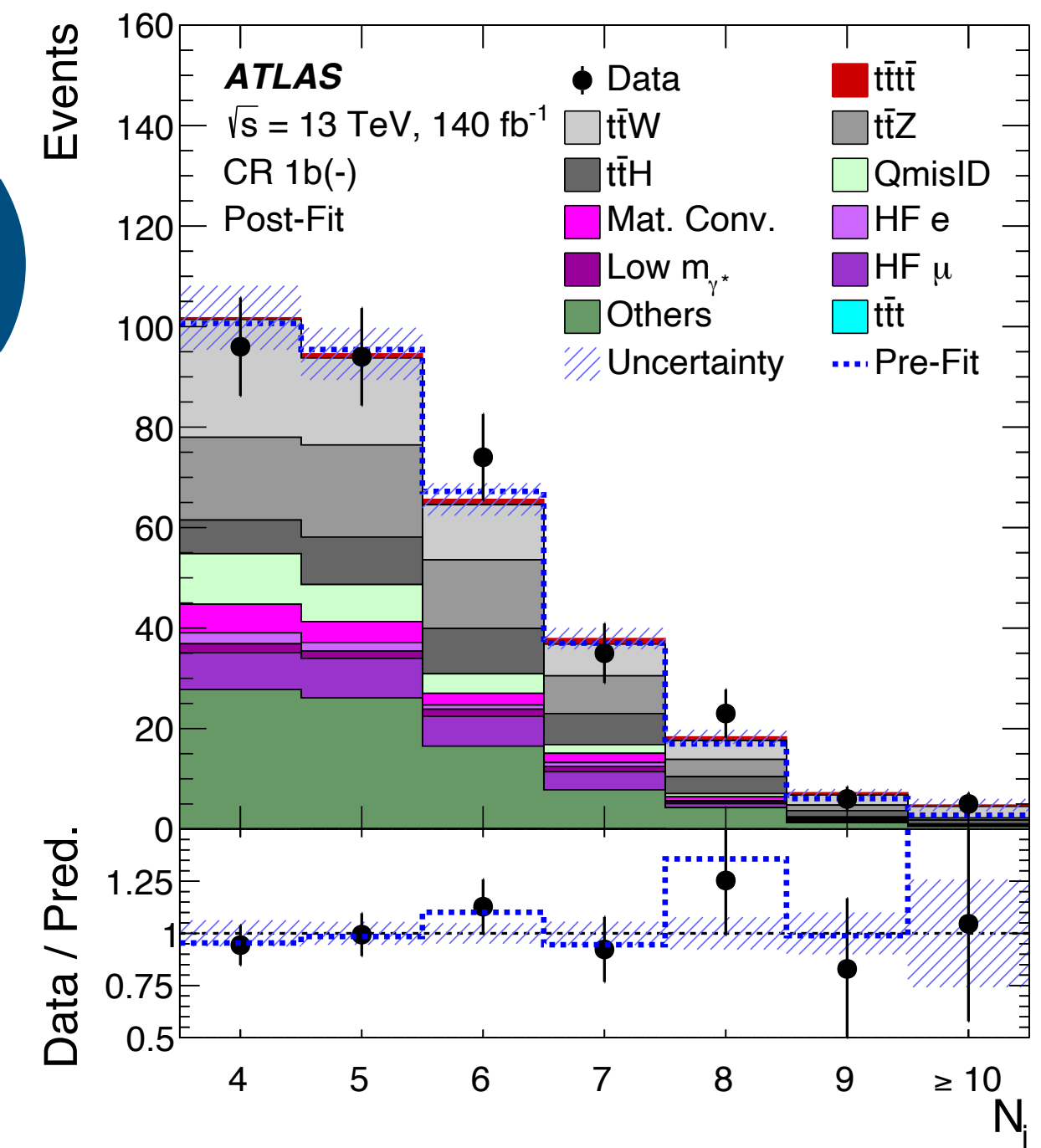


Background modeling (ATLAS)

$t\bar{t}W$ modeling

- N_{jets} distributions are corrected using data (ATLAS)
 - $R(j) = N(j + 1)/N(j)$, j is the jet multiplicity
 - Staircase scaling: $R(j) = a_0$ for high jet multiplicities
 - Poisson scaling: $R(j) = a_1/(1 + n)$, n is num. of additional jets
- 4 dedicated control regions to determine $a_0, a_1, 2NF_{4jets}$
- Use the difference $N_+ - N_-$ to validate $t\bar{t}W$

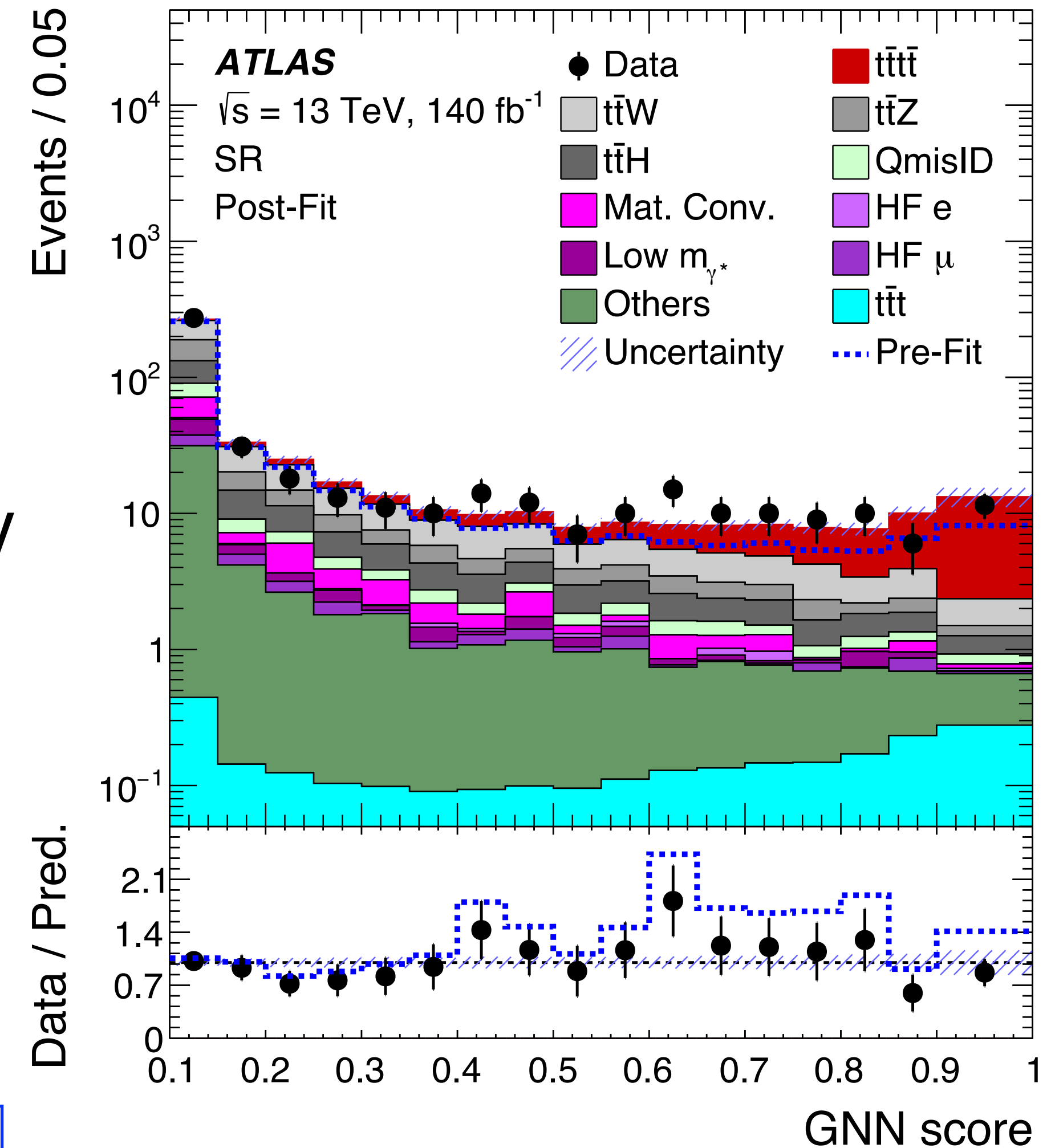
$t\bar{t}W$ background	a_0	a_1	$NF_{t\bar{t}W^+}(4jet)$	$NF_{t\bar{t}W^-}(4jet)$
Value	0.51 ± 0.10	$0.22^{+0.25}_{-0.22}$	$1.27^{+0.25}_{-0.22}$	$1.11^{+0.31}_{-0.28}$



Signal extraction (ATLAS)

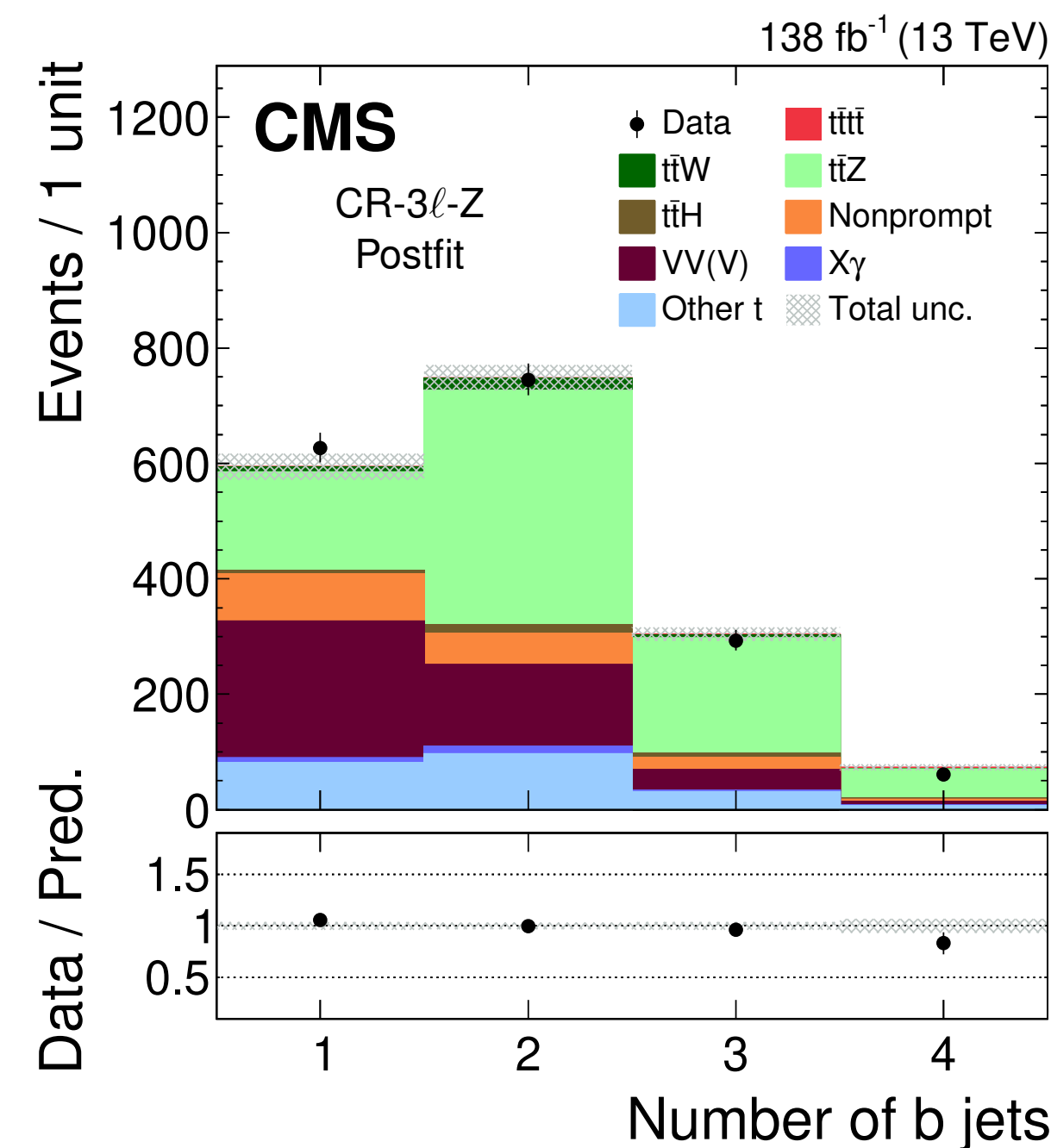
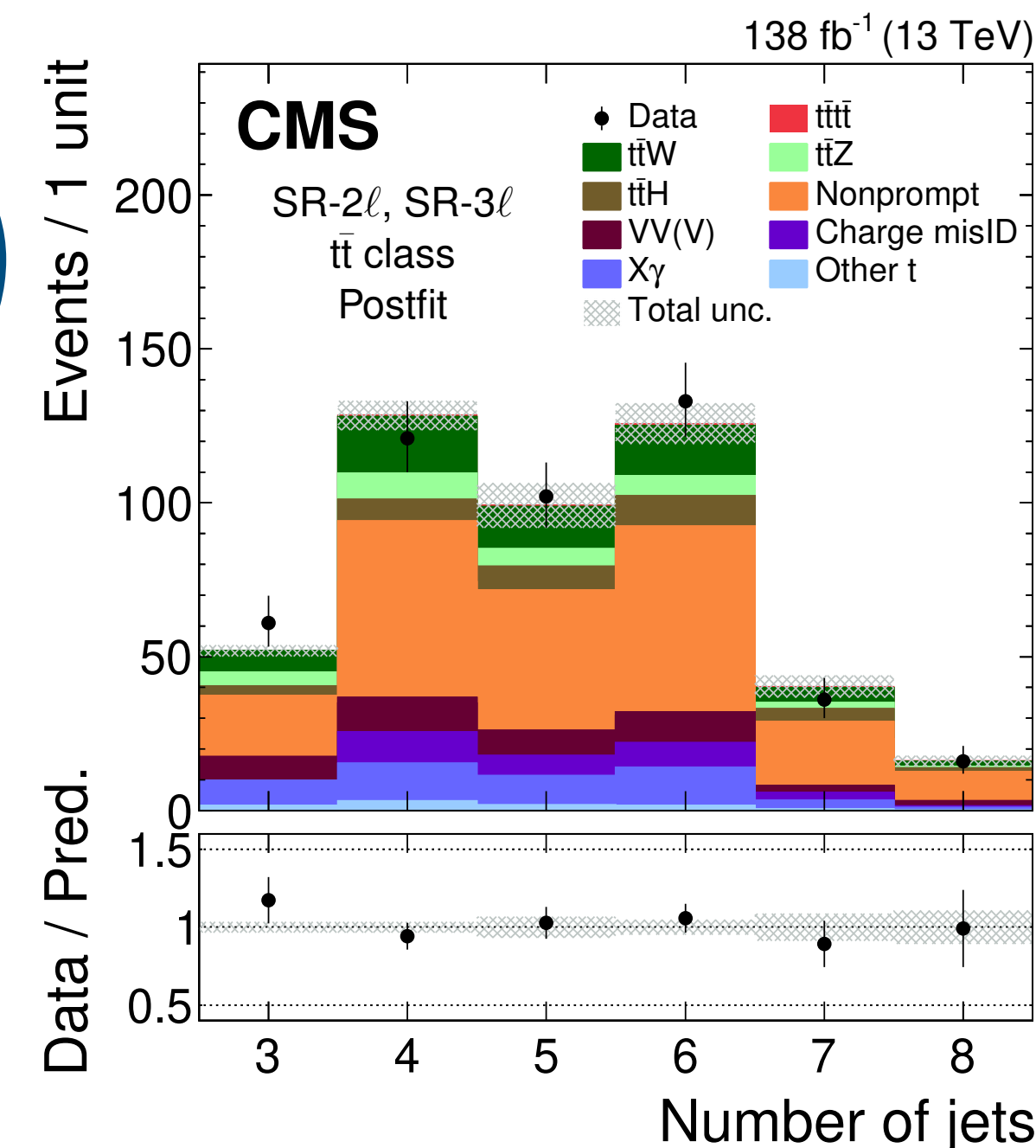
- Signal extraction
 - 4 control regions for $t\bar{t}W$ and 4 control regions for non-prompt and conversions background
 - Combines SSDL and ML events for signal region
 - ≥ 6 jets, ≥ 2 b jets, $HT (\sum \text{jet and lepton}) > 500$ GeV
 - Graph Neural Network (GNN) to separate signal from background
- Sensitivity: 6.1σ observed (4.7σ expected)
- Measured cross section: $22.5^{+4.7}_{-4.3}(\text{stat})^{+4.6}_{-3.4}(\text{syst})$ fb

~ 27%



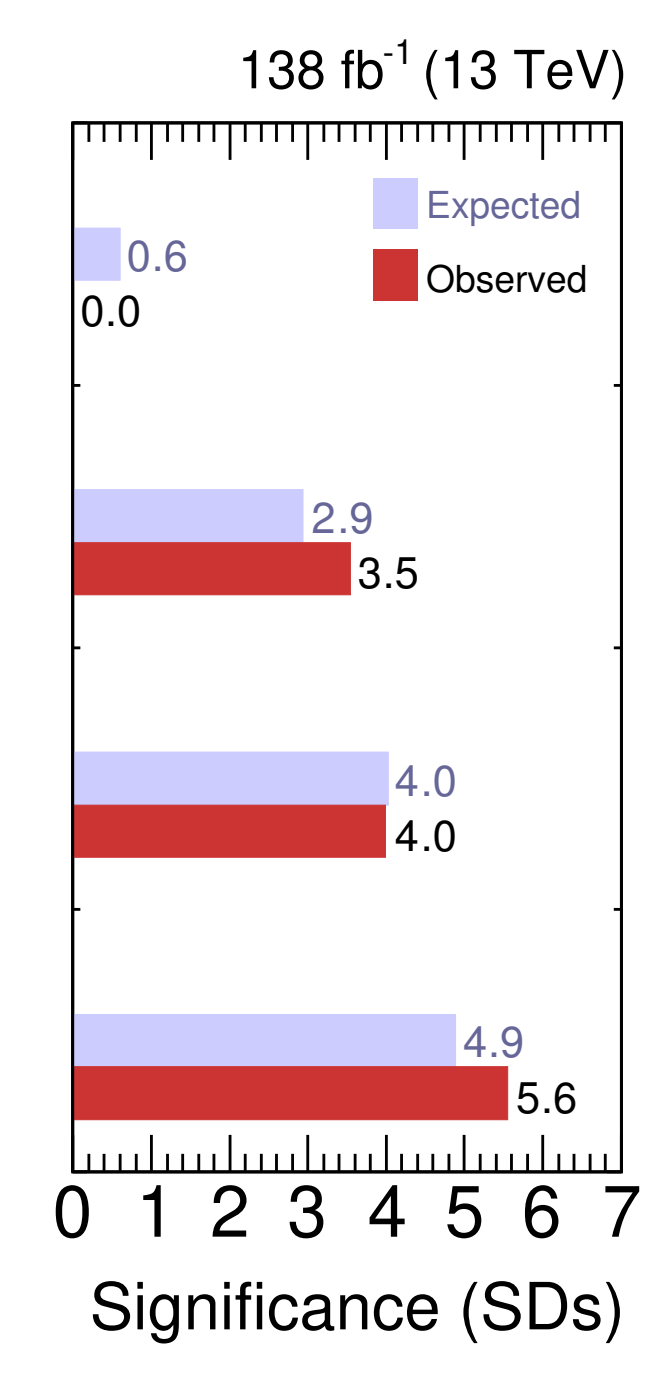
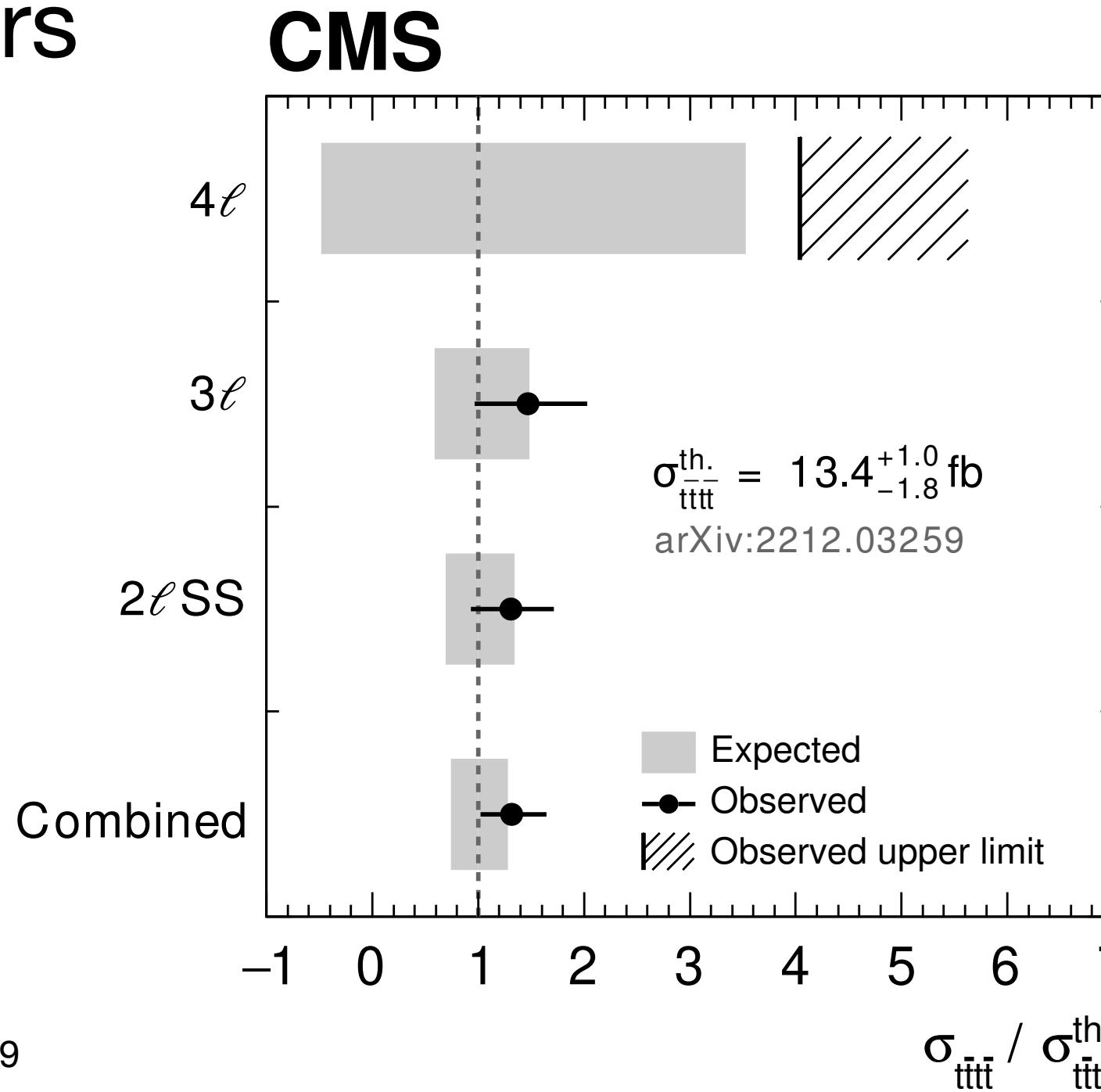
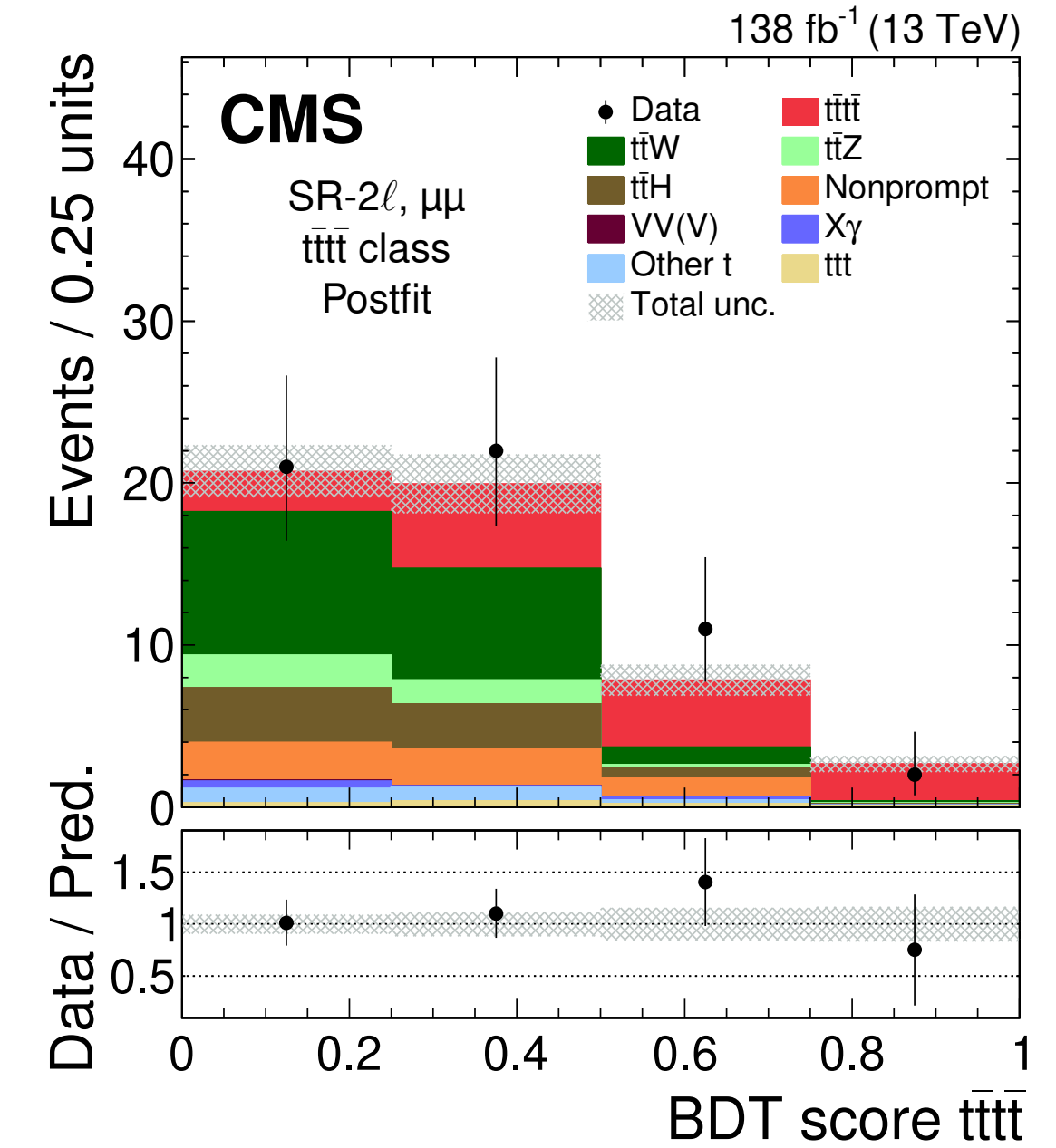
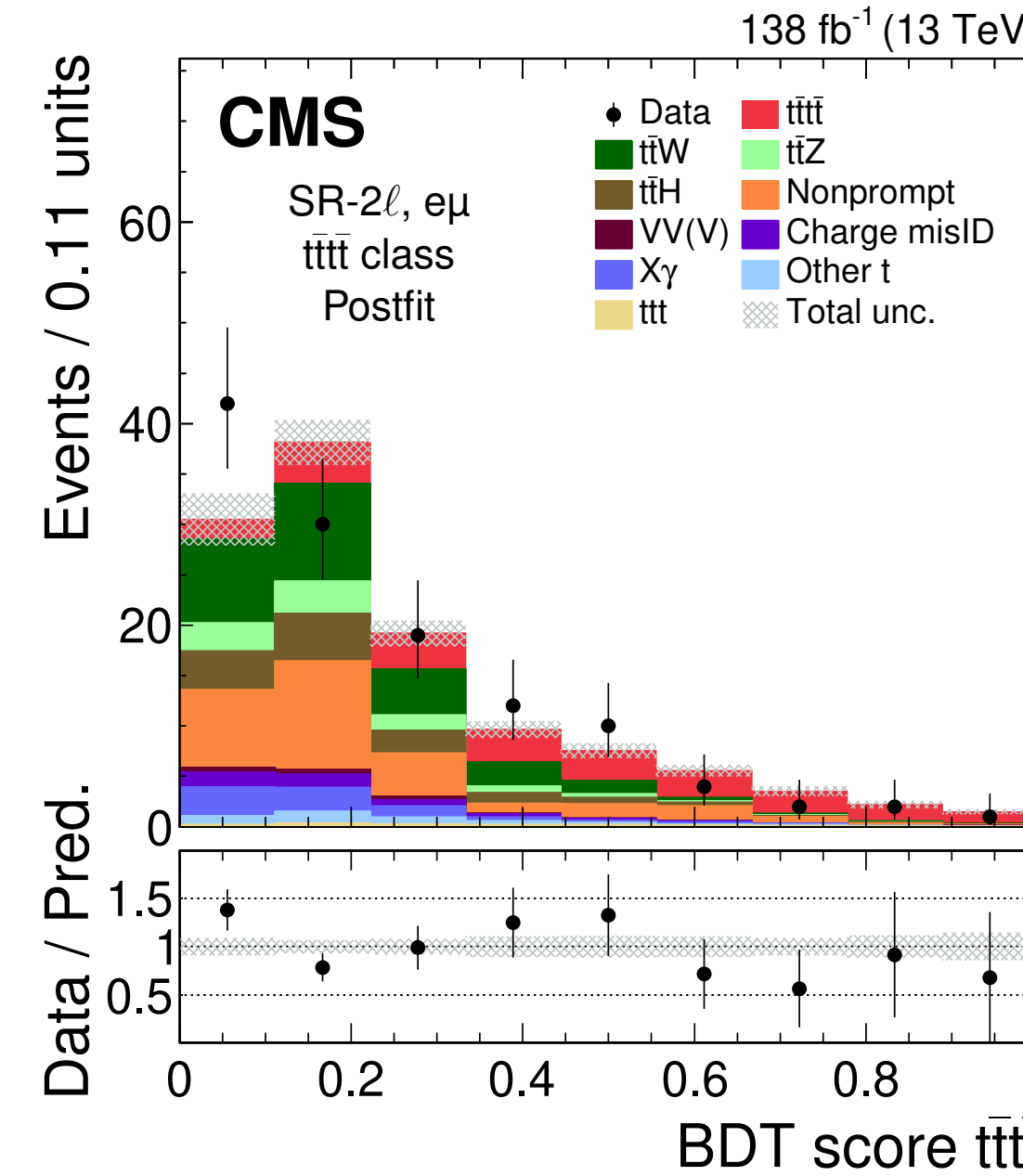
Background estimation (CMS)

- $t\bar{t}W$ modeling: NLO QCD MC
 - Additional large uncertainty on $t\bar{t}W$ + jets (mis-modeling additional (b) jets)
 - Free-floating normalization in fit
 - Postfit normalization: 990 ± 98 fb (compatible with CMS measurement) [JHEP 07 \(2023\) 219](#)
 - Constrained by 2 control regions and multi-class BDT
- Z control regions (3 and 4 lepton channels)
 - $|m_{ll} - m_Z| < 15$ GeV
 - Allow for free-floating $t\bar{t}Z$ normalization in fit
 - Postfit normalization: 945 ± 81 fb (compatible with CMS measurement) [EPJC 80 \(2020\) 428](#)
 - Control over WZ & ZZ with additional (b) jets

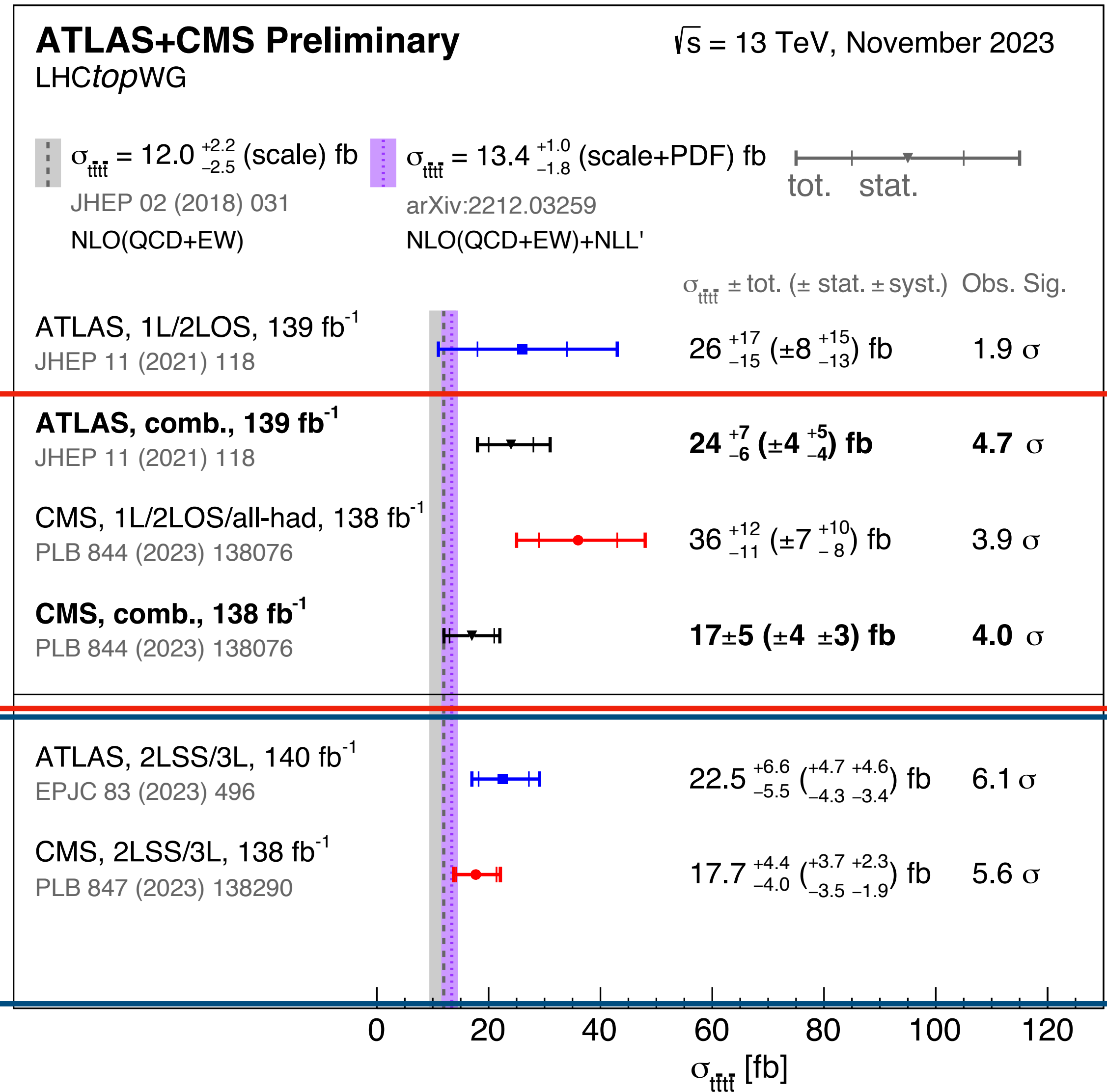


Signal extraction (CMS)

- Signal extraction
 - 3 signal regions - SSDL, 3L and 4 L
 - BDT multi-classification : $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$, $t\bar{t}X$, $t\bar{t}$
 - SSDL : split into 3 different lepton flavors
- Sensitivity
 - 5.6σ observed (4.9σ expected)
- Measured cross section
 - $17.7^{+3.7}_{-3.5}(\text{stat})^{+2.3}_{-1.9}(\text{syst}) \text{ fb}$ ~ 24%



Four top summary



Evidence

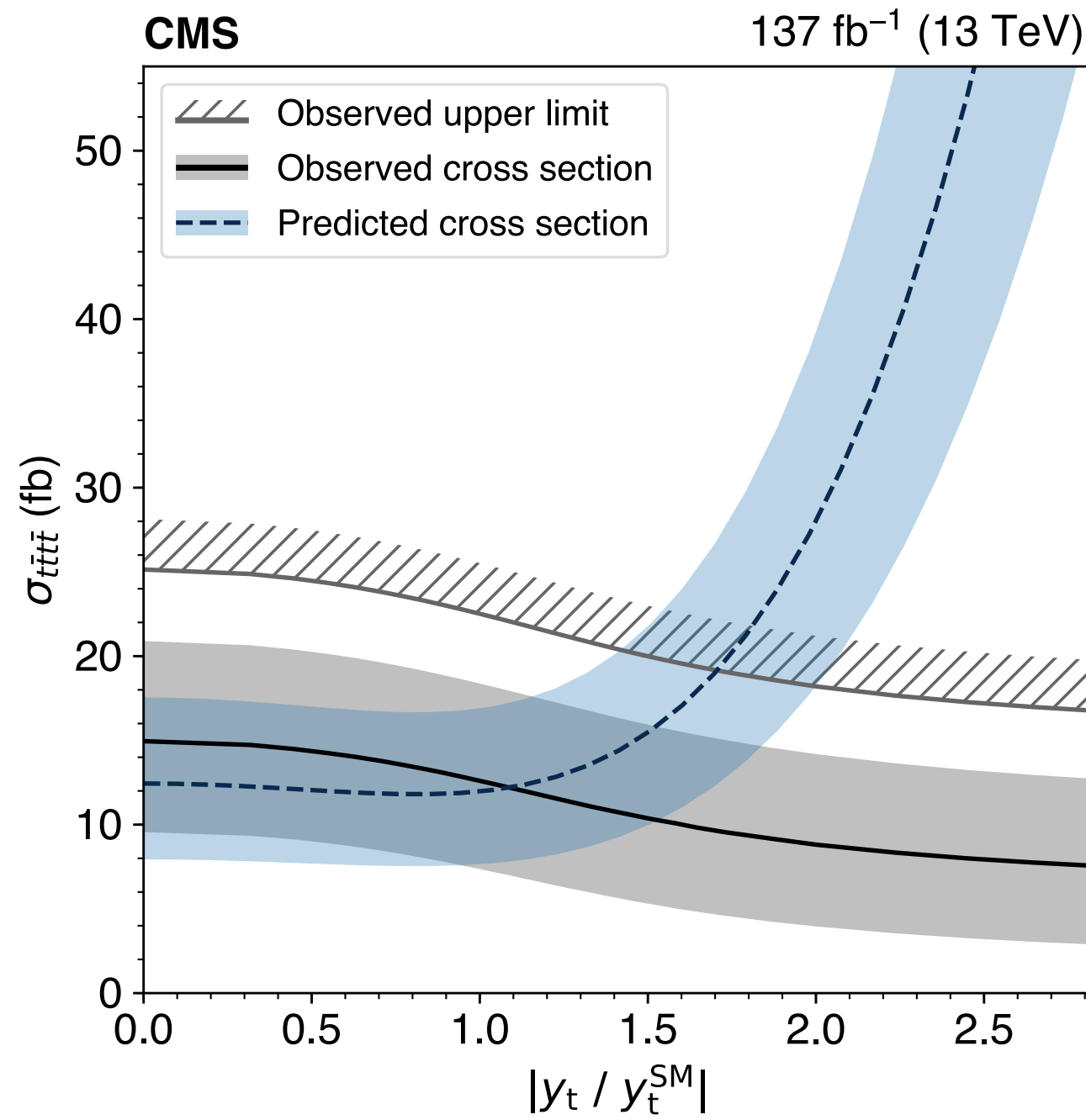
Observation

← In this talk

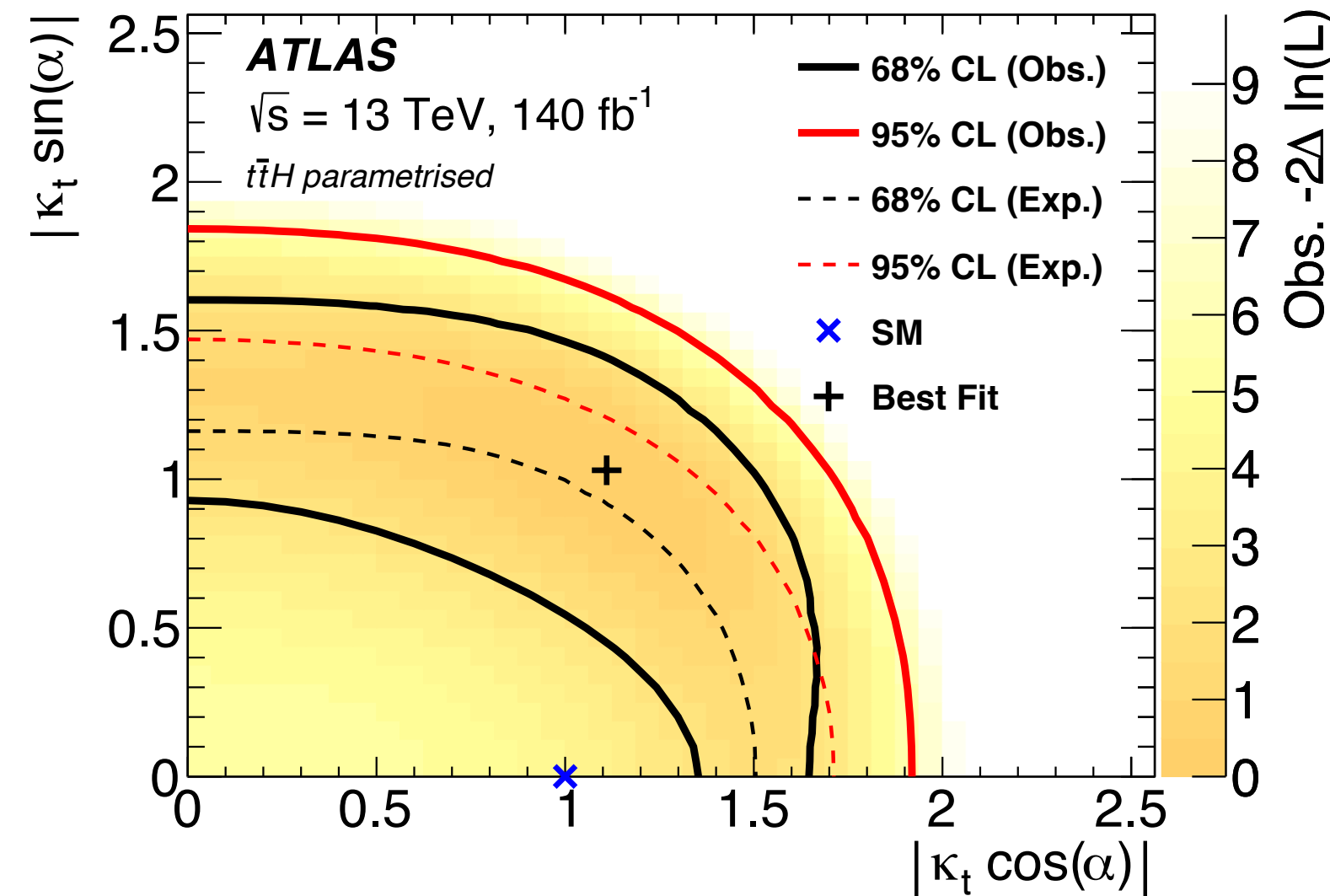


Interpretation

- Limits on top-quark Yukawa coupling



$k_t < 1.7$



$k_t < 1.9$

$k_t = t\bar{t}H$ signal strength
 $\alpha =$ mixing angle between CP even and CP odd components

- Limits on EFT operators (ATLAS)

- $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$ is sensitive to four heavy fermion operators
- probe the BSM models

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}t\bar{t}} = \sigma_{t\bar{t}t\bar{t}}^{SM} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_i C_i \sigma_i^{(1)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^4} \sum_{i \leq j} C_i C_j \sigma_{i,j}^{(2)}$$

Operators	Expected C_i/Λ^2 [TeV ⁻²]	Observed C_i/Λ^2 [TeV ⁻²]
O_{QQ}^1	[-2.5, 3.2]	[-4.0, 4.5]
O_{Qt}^1	[-2.6, 2.1]	[-3.8, 3.4]
O_{tt}^1	[-1.2, 1.4]	[-1.9, 2.1]
O_{Qt}^8	[-4.3, 5.1]	[-6.9, 7.6]

Limits on four heavy flavor interpretation

Conclusion

- For $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ cross section measurements, generally predictions under-estimate cross sections
 - mis-modeling due to only NLO in QCD or new physics
- Twice more data in Run 3 and more data-driven techniques can give us more information
- Should make use of EFT approach for possible new physics for the $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ and $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$
 - Differential measurement may be crucial in this approach