



## **Topical Lectures**

### **Dr Clara Nellist**

(she/her)



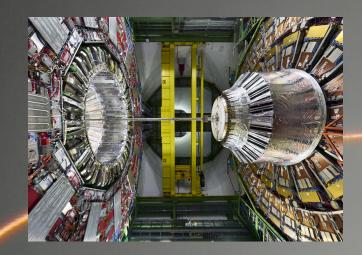


## **Objective**

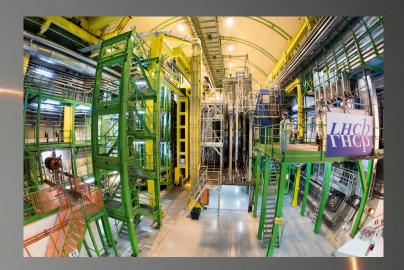
- Want to give you an experimental overview of the top quark and why it's interesting (in < 1 hour!)</li>
- Focus on the what we learn from studying the top quark at the LHC.
  - Won't go into the full details of the selections for every analysis.
  - Won't go into every kind of measurement.



### The LHC detectors



CMS

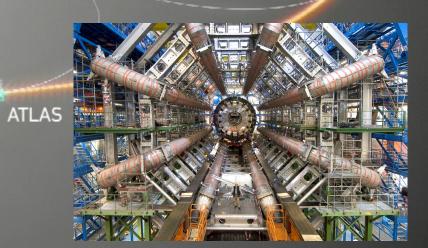


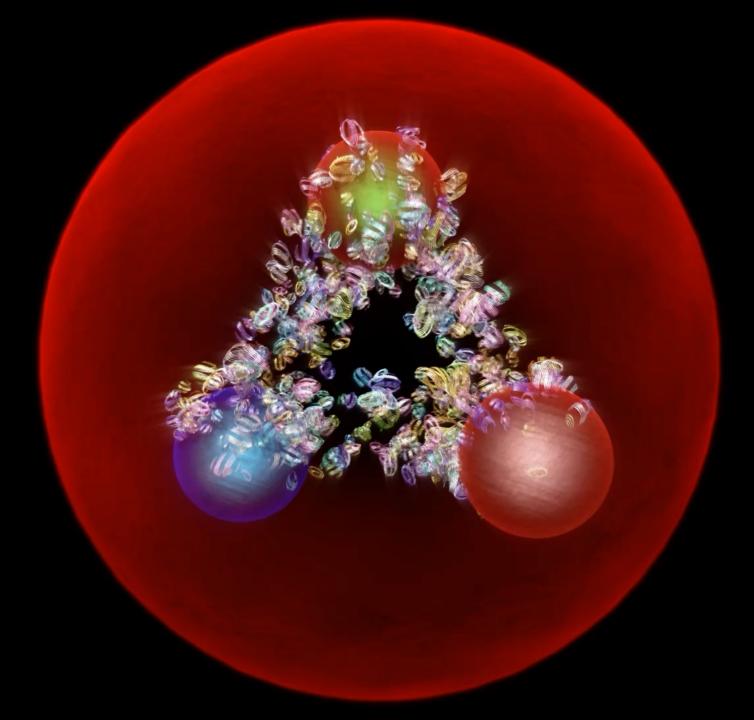
LHCb

ALICE









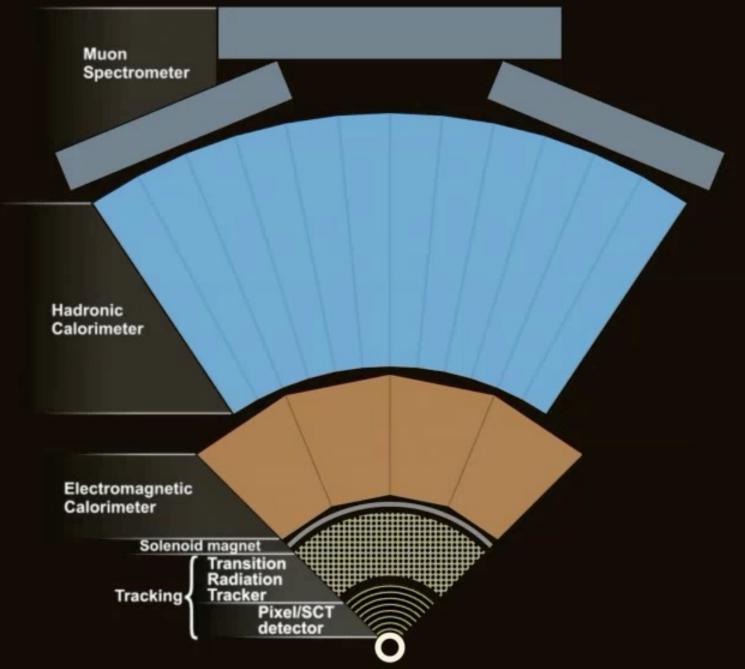
## **Colliding** protons

We wanted to explore a high range of masses: from 50 GeV to 1 TeV

## **ATLAS** Installation in the cavern 2004

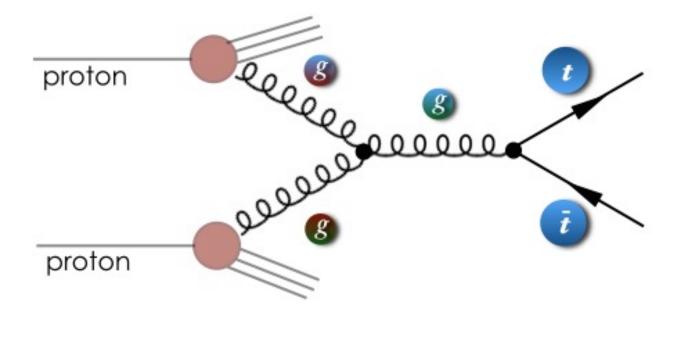


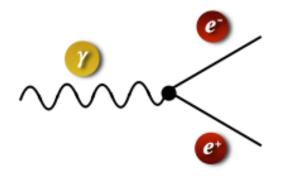


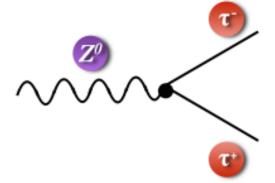


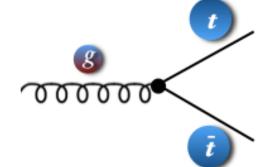


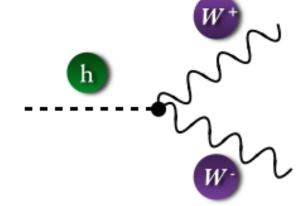
# What is a Feynman diagram?



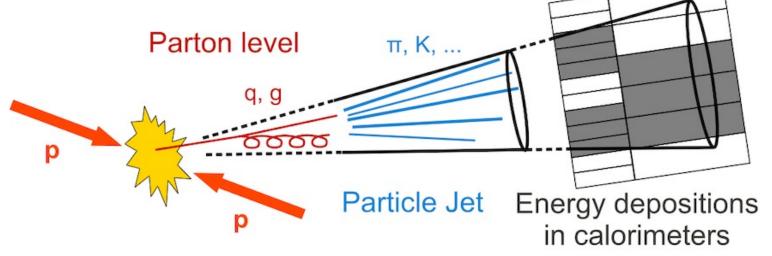




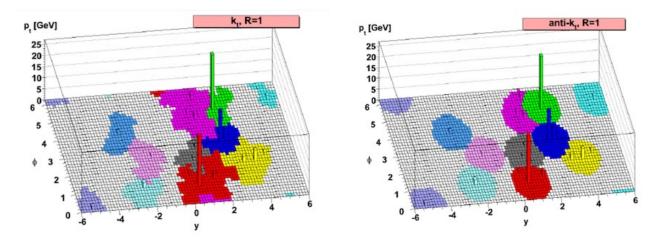




### **Jets**



- Partons (quarks and gluons) carry colour charge and therefore don't like to be alone.
- Energy deposits in the calorimeter can be grouped together and declared a jet.



• Jet Vertex Tagging allows us to ignore (some) jets from pile-up by looking at tracks associated with the jets.

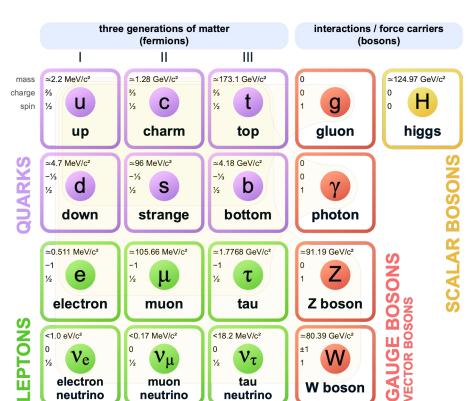


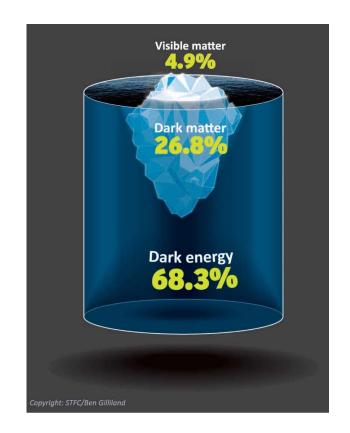
## **The Big Questions**



Image: Jorge Cham / PhD Comics

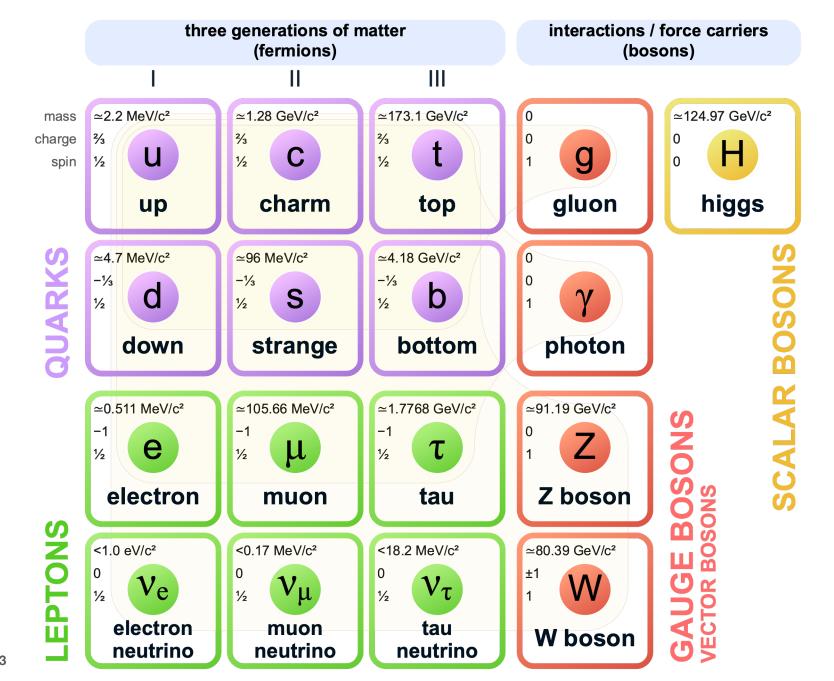








# The Standard Model



### The discovery of a new boson!

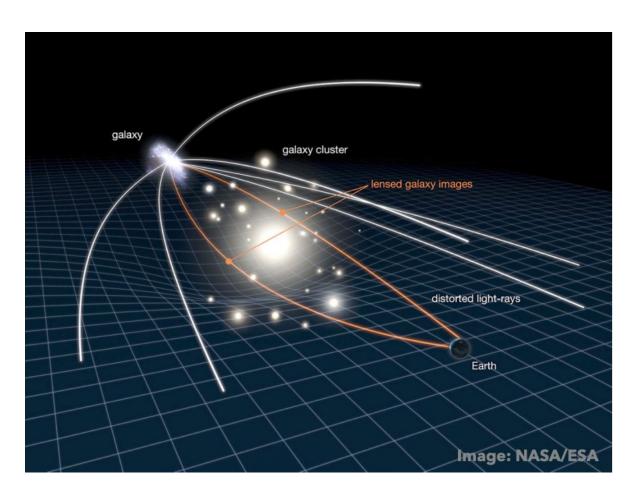


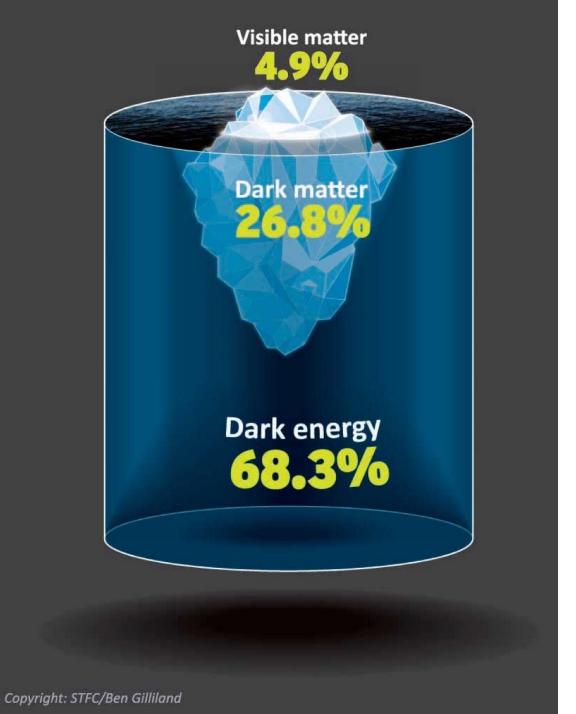
The Higgs boson – a major success of the first LHC run.



This will be covered by Robin later

## The search for new particles (dark matter?)

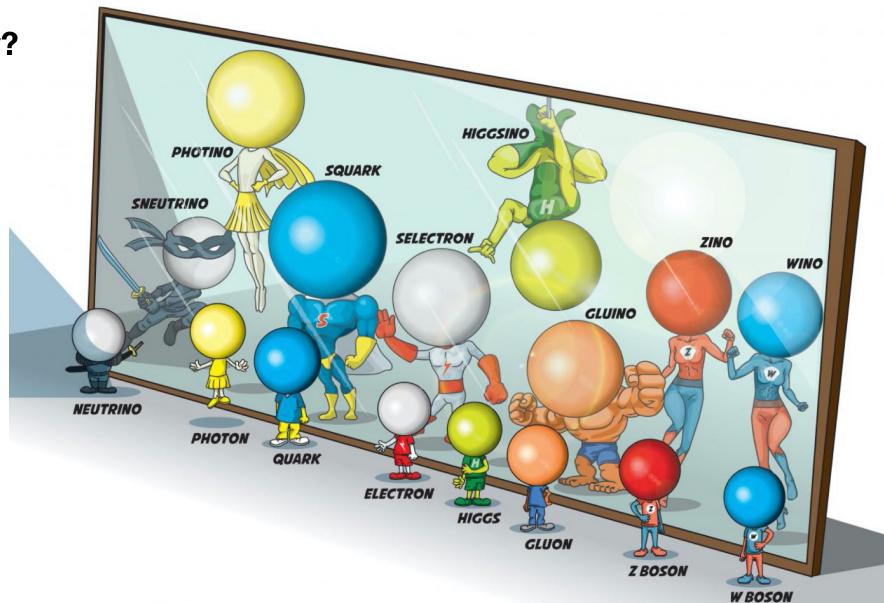






### **Dark Matter**

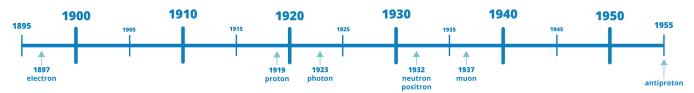
**Supersymmetry?** 

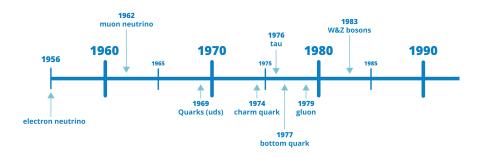


## The road to the top quark



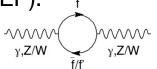
#### **Key particle discoveries**

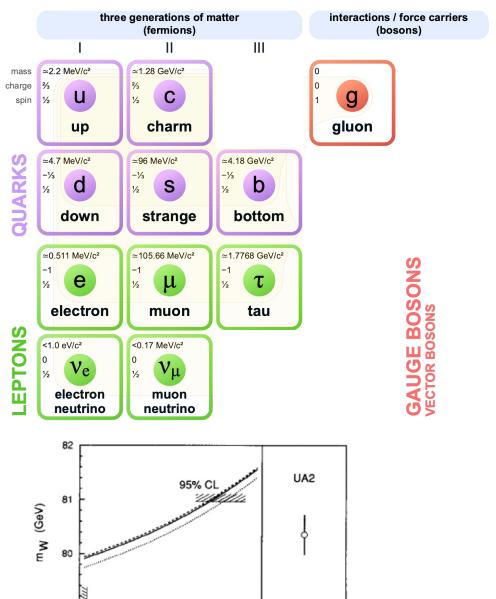




- Once the tau lepton and the b-quark had been discovered, there was the assumption that there must be an up-type quark in the third generation.
- Limits on the mass were set from loops within diagrams for W & Z bosons (from SppS and LEP).

•  $m_{top} = 160^{+50}_{-60} \text{ GeV}$ 





100

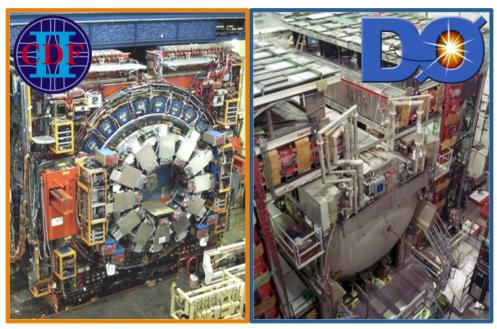
200

300

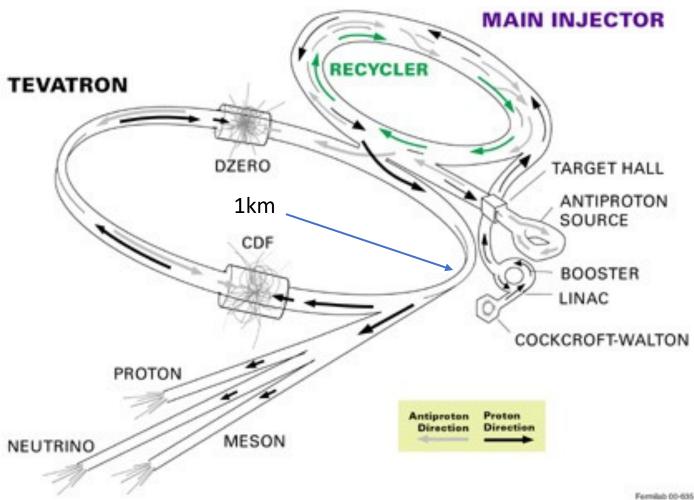
m top (GeV)

## In steps the Tevatron





#### FERMILAB'S ACCELERATOR CHAIN





Discovered in **1995** by D0 and CDF at Fermilab in the US.

CoM Energy: 1.8 TeV

Looked at ~2x10<sup>12</sup> proton-antiproton collisions

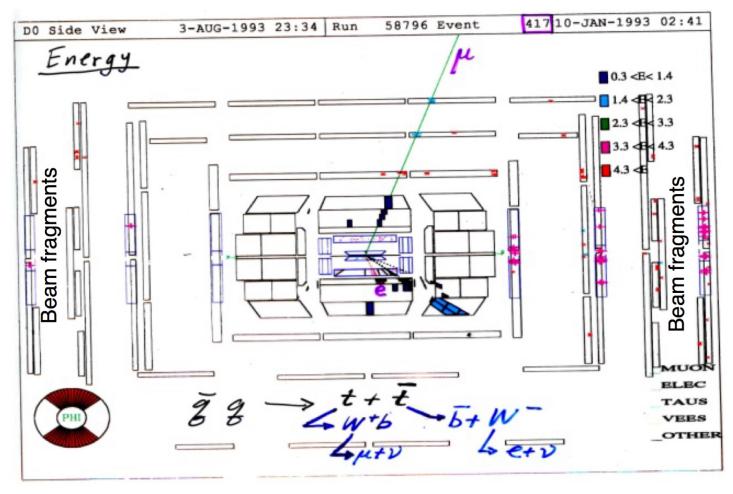
Events with a W bosons (leptonic decay) and 3 or more jets (with at least one b-tag)

CDF, PRL 74, 2626 (1995) D0, PRL 74, 2632 (1995)

Photo: Reidar Hahn, Fermilab

## The top quark

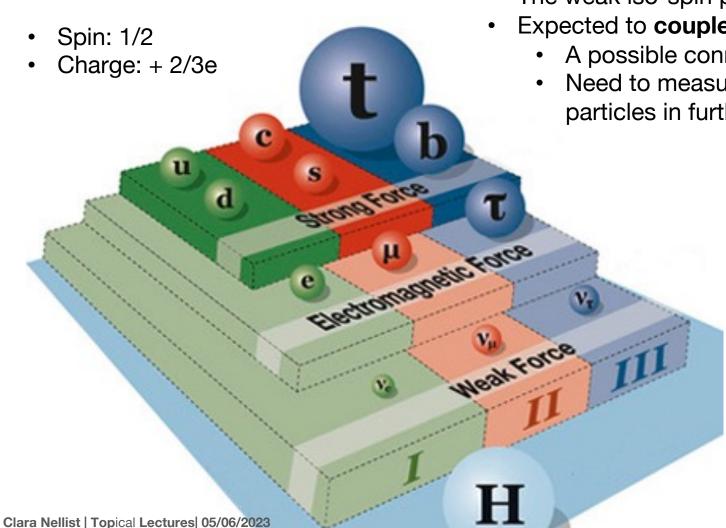
Discovered in 1995 by D0 and CDF at Fermilab in the US.



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## The top quark

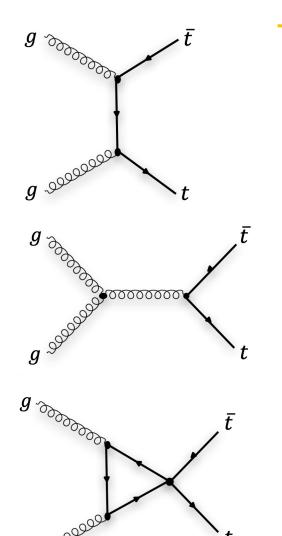
- The heaviest fundamental particle.
  - ~170 GeV (but we don't know why it's so heavy).
  - Very short lifetime.
- The weak iso-spin partner of the b quark
- Expected to couple strongly to the Higgs boson (~1).
  - A possible connection to new physics!
  - Need to measure its properties and interactions with other particles in further detail to find out!

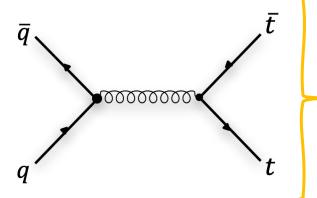


Production time Lifetime Hadronisation time 
$$\frac{1}{m(t)} < < \frac{1}{\Gamma(t)} < < \frac{1}{\Lambda_{QCD}}$$
 ~4 x 10-27 s ~4 x 10-25 s ~3 x 10-24 s



## Top quark production (LHC)





90% Gluon-gluon fusion



+ some others

## **Pairs**



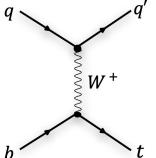
## Single top

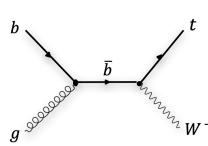
10% quarkantiquark annihilation



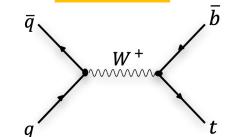




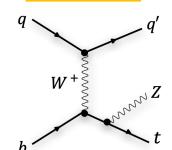




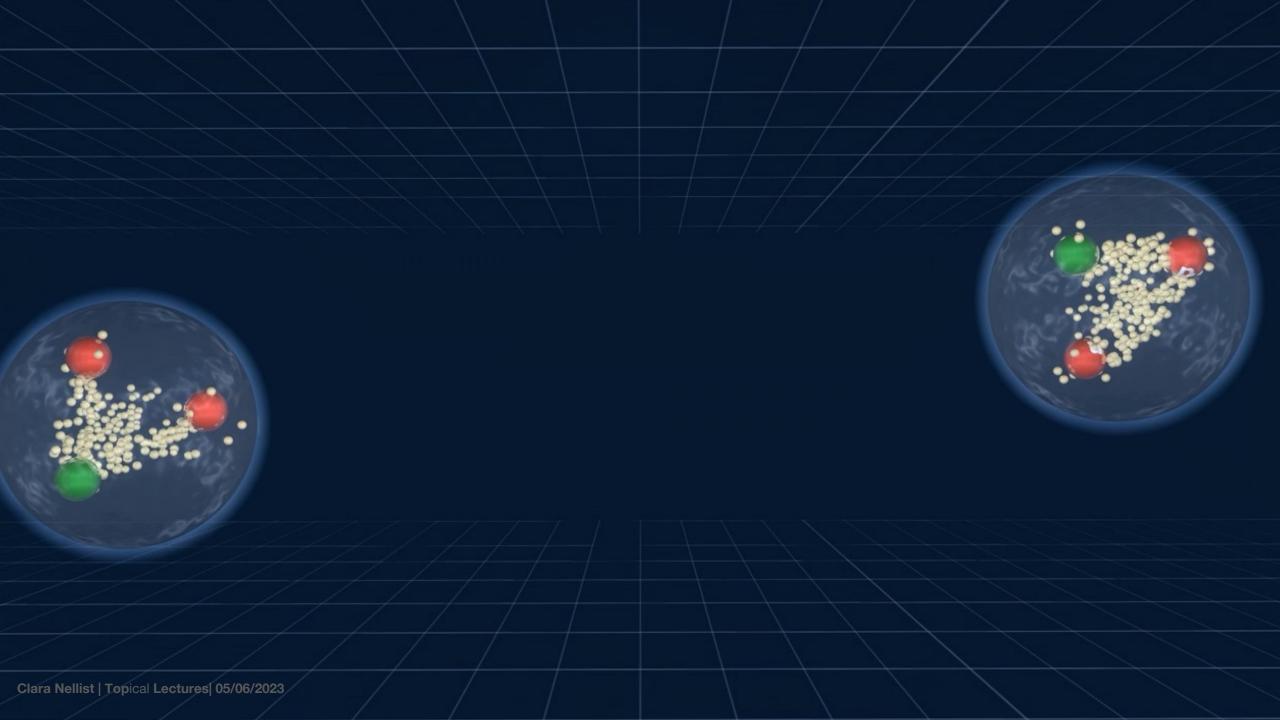
s-channel



tZ production



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## The top quark decay

#### l+jets:

- 1 charged lepton
- 1 neutrino (missing momentum)
- 4 jets

Good signal / background, but there are large jet and modelling uncertainties.



#### dilepton:

- 2 charged leptons (opposite charge)
- 2 neutrinos (missing momentum)
- 2 jets

Very clean signal, but difficult to reconstruct the kinematics.

#### **All-hadronic:**

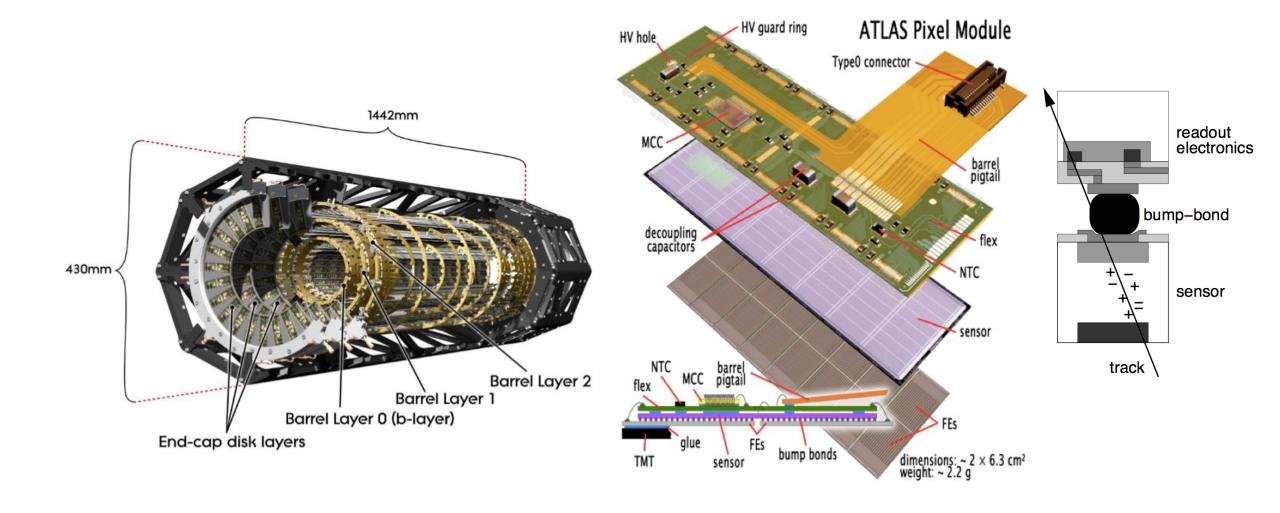
- 6 jets
- Largest BR, but also large multi-jet background.

Jet

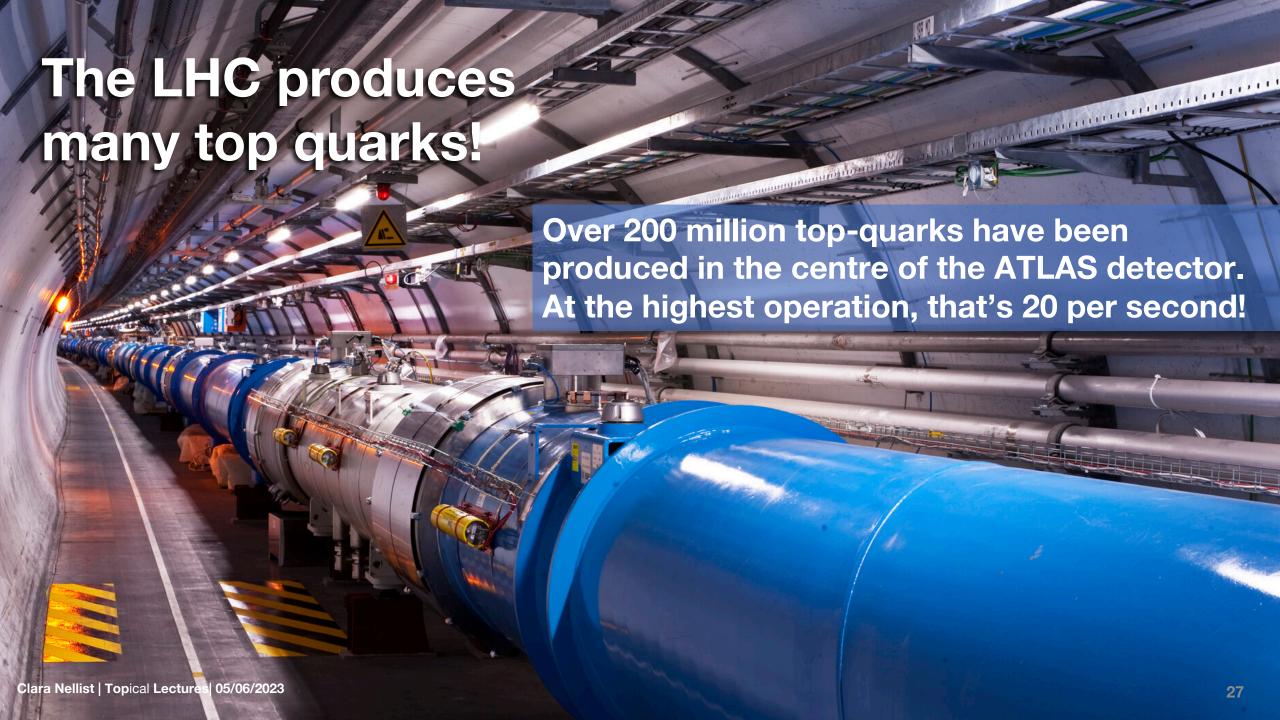
Jet

## **B-tagging** b-jet **Displaced Tracks** Secondary **Vertex** Jet **Primary Vertex** Prompt **Tracks** Jet Clara Nellist | Topical Lectures | 05/06/2023

### Requires a very precise pixel detector



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## LHC Run 1 and 2 history and some selected highlights

#### • Run 1

- Rediscovery of the top quark
- First associated production (ttγ)
- Spin correlations

#### • Run 2

- Searches for FCNC
- Boosted differential tt analyses
- Observation of tttt and of ty
- Energy asymmetry & single-top polarization measurements



As the data increases, we have improved precision measurements and searches, but systematic uncertainties have now begun to dominate.

## Top quark production

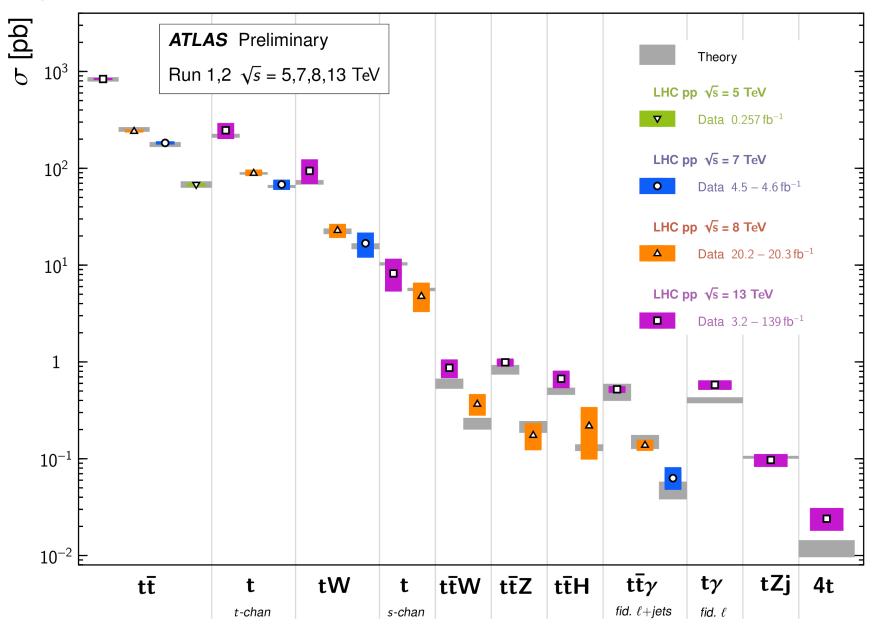
Another test of the Standard Model is to measure the rates at which top quarks are produced.

#### Single-top t-channel

- ~30 million collisions in ATLAS Run 2
- Probe of the electroweak interaction
- Top polarized: sensitive to new physics

Four top quarks at once is very rare => challenging

#### **Top Quark Production Cross Section Measurements**

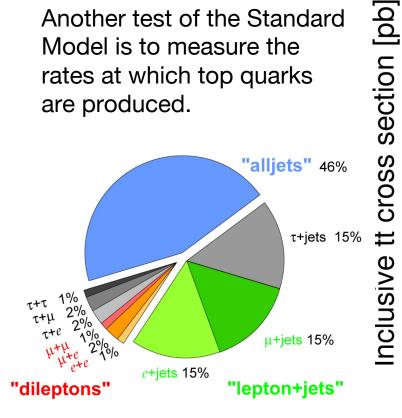


Status: November 2022

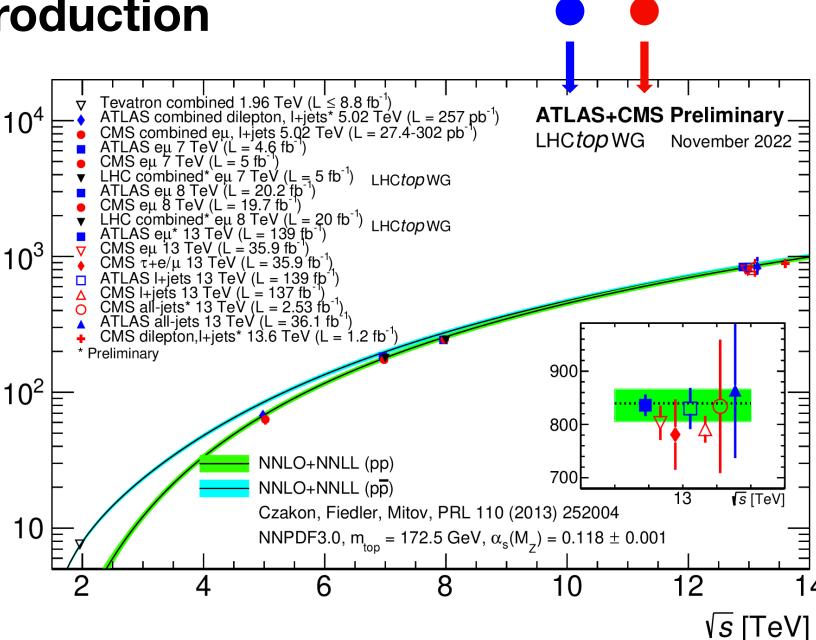
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## Top quark pair production

Another test of the Standard Model is to measure the rates at which top quarks are produced.



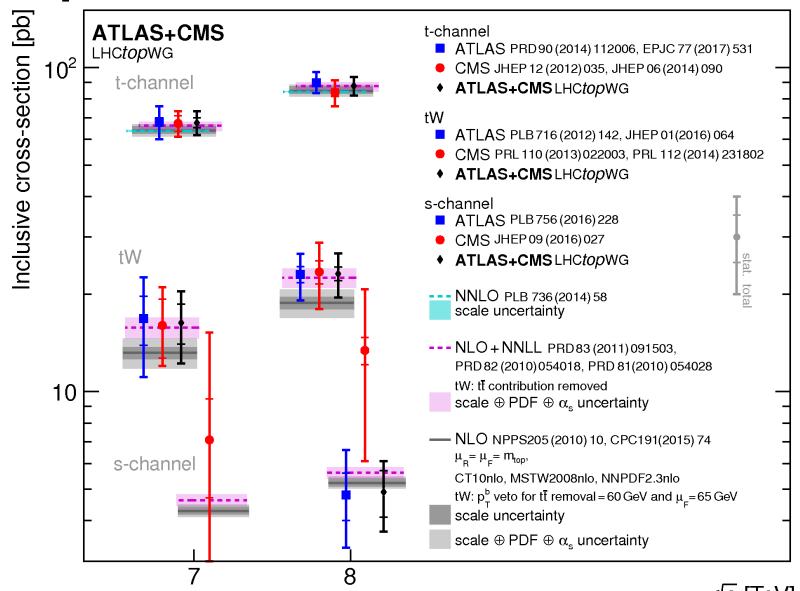
There is a very impressive agreement between prediction and measurements



Note:

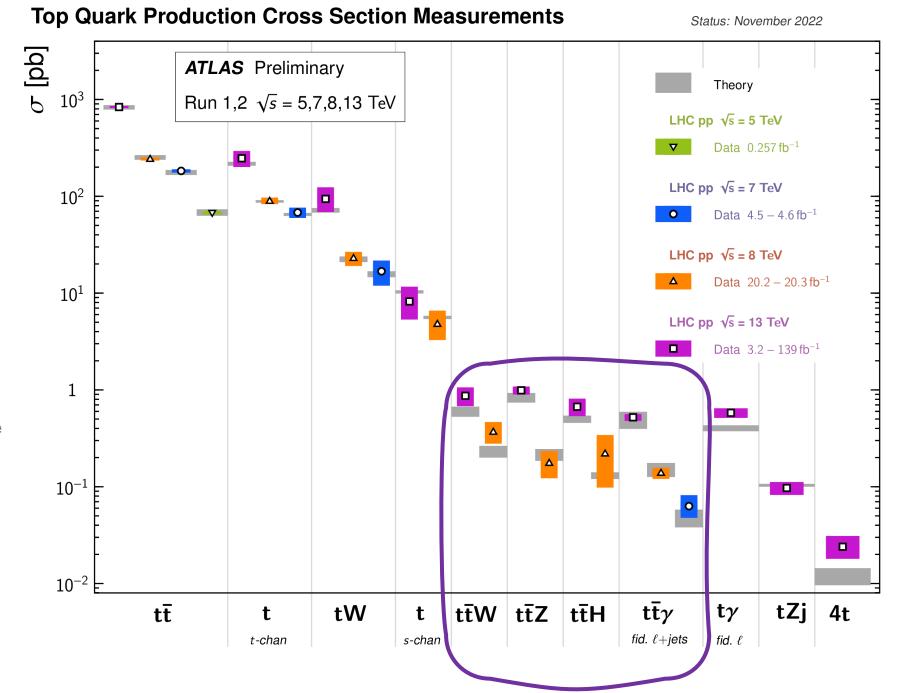
## Single top quark production

Another test of the Standard Model is to measure the rates at which top quarks are produced.

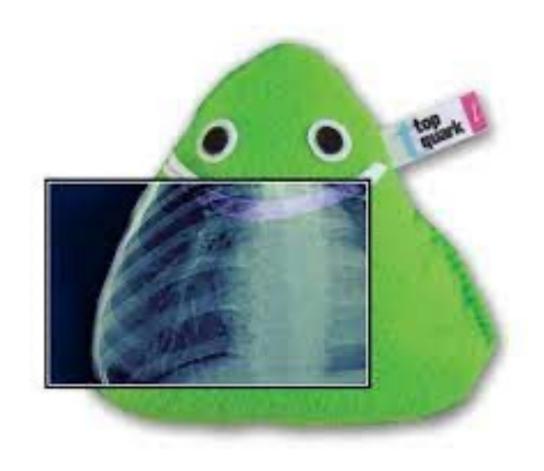


## tt+X production

- To understand the top quark and validate the Standard Model, we need to look at how it interacts with other particles.
  - Higgs Boson Yukawa coupling
  - Photons Determine the charge of the top quark
  - Heavy gauge bosons: Z and W - Direct probe of the weak couplings of the top quark.
  - Four tops High sensitivity to New Physics.



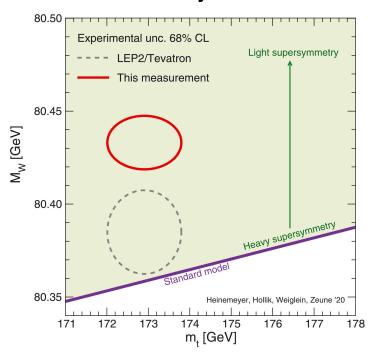
## **Top Properties**



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## **Top Mass**

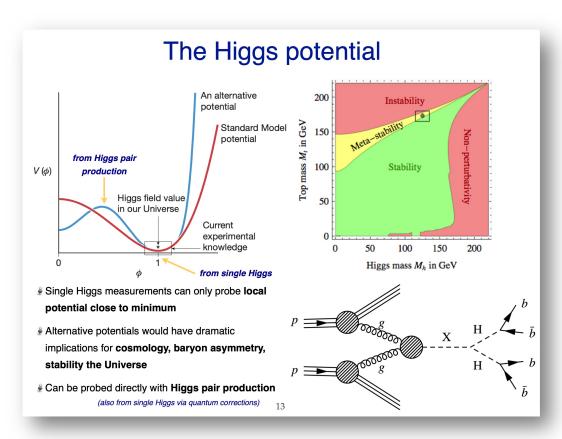
- Properties of the top quark are well predicted
  - ⇒ precision test of the SM
  - Mass measurement is also a probe of the consistency of the SM



## The stability of the universe depends on it!

(Please note: measuring this doesn't affect the stability)

As you saw from Juan:



**Top Mass** How to directly measure the mass?

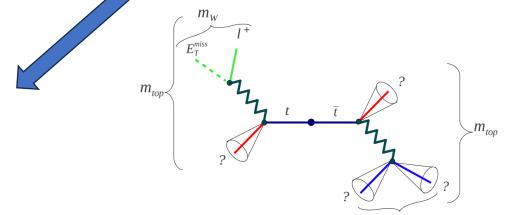
3. Reconstruct event

1. Monte Carlo simulation



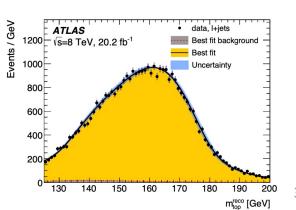
2. Select events

4. Templates for different masses



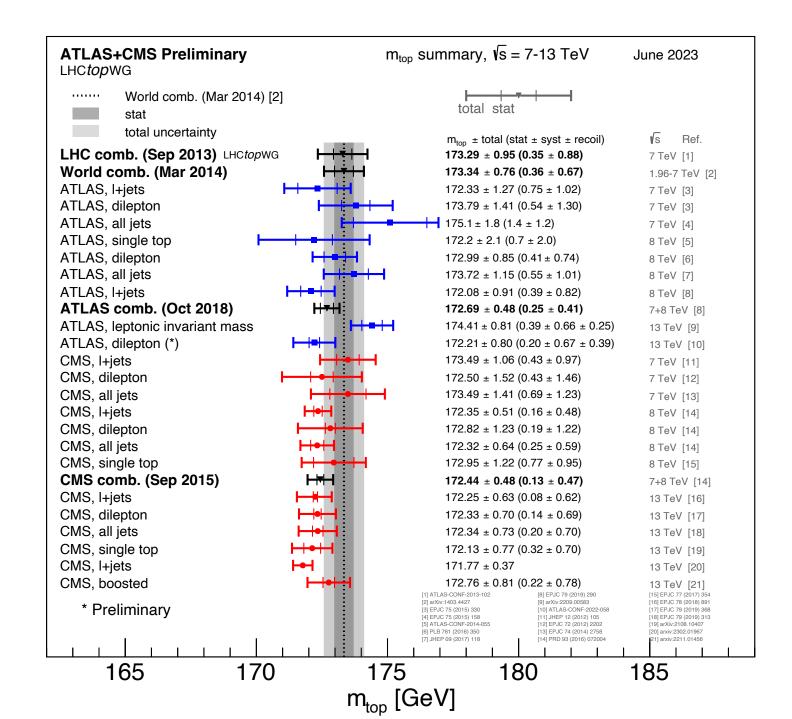
ATLAS Simulation  $m_{top} = 172.5 \text{ GeV}$ 150 160 m<sub>top</sub> [GeV]

5. Obtain top mass from fit to data



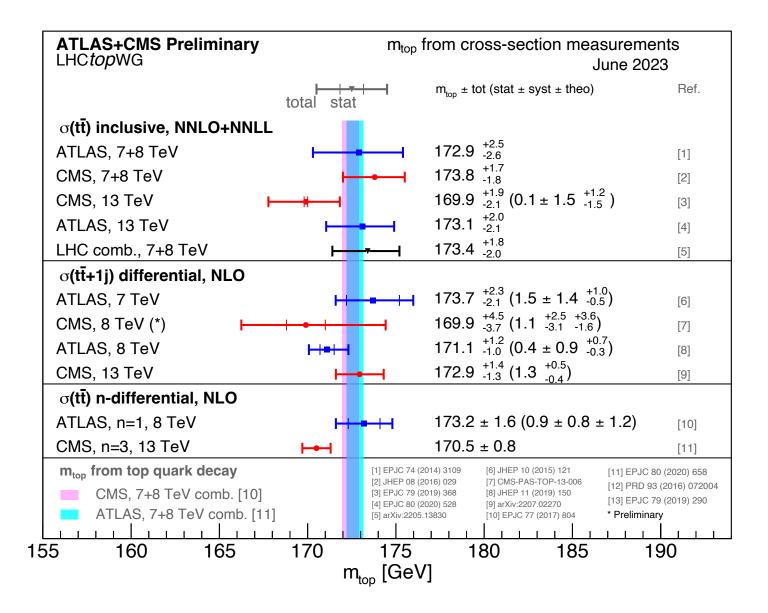
Slide credit: A. Knue https://cern.ch/5gkk5

## **Top Mass**



# **Top Mass**

- Alternative methods of measuring mass:
  - Design cross-section measurement to be insensitive to mass.
  - Then compare to well-defined predictions

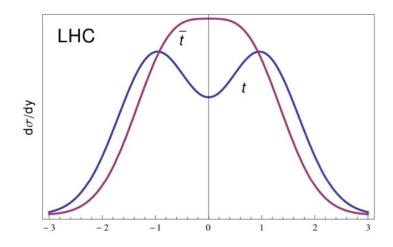


# **Charge Asymmetry**

Top and anti-top quarks are not produced equally with respect to the beam direction.

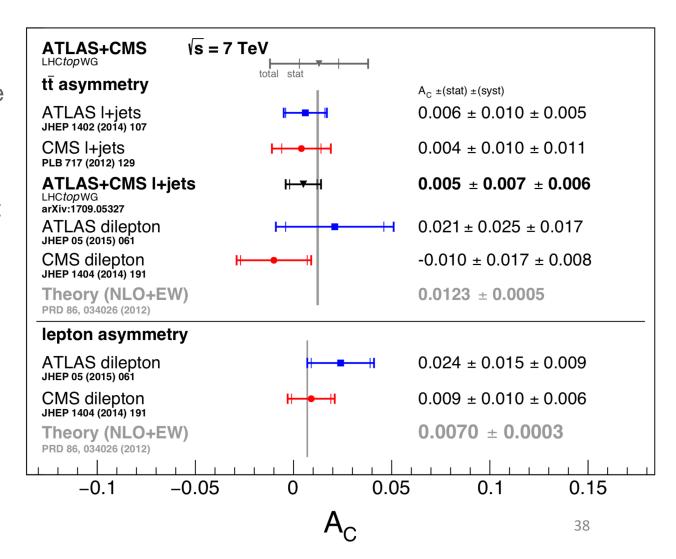
Top quarks are produced preferentially in the centre of the LHC's collisions, while anti-top quarks are produced preferentially at larger angles.

This is known as a 'charge asymmetry' and is a test of the Standard Model.



$$A_C = \frac{N(\Delta|y|>0) - N(\Delta|y|<0)}{N(\Delta|y|>0) + N(\Delta|y|<0)}$$
  

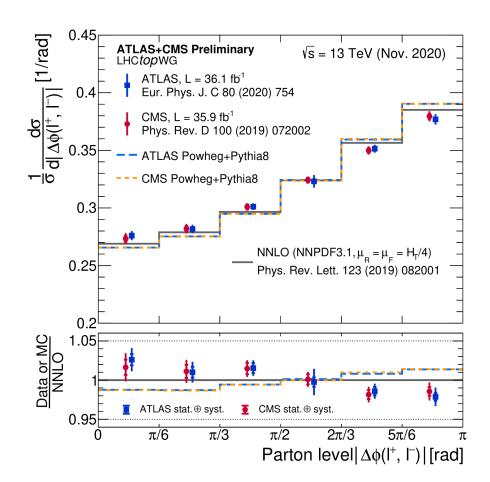
$$(\Delta|y| = |y_t| - |y_{\bar{t}}|)$$

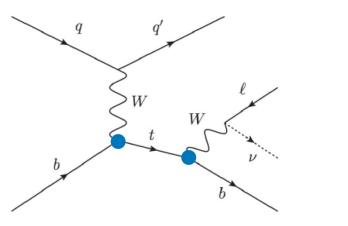




# **Spinning tops**

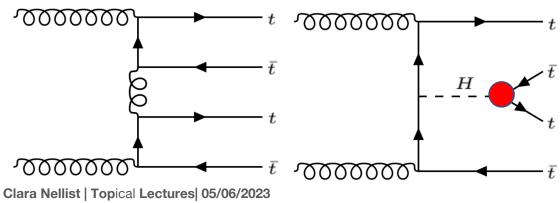
- Since the top quark decays before hadronization, can study 'bare' properties.
- The spins of the top quark and the anti-top quark in a pair can be preferentially aligned or anti-aligned, depending on their production mechanism.
- Single-top t-channel here in Nikhef!
  - ~30 million collisions in ATLAS Run 2
  - Probe of the electroweak interaction
  - Top is polarized due to left-handed W-coupling
  - Top spin points in the direction of the spectator-quark (q')
  - Top polarized: sensitive to new physics
- Systematically limited channel
  - => need to increase sensitivity and improve reconstruction.



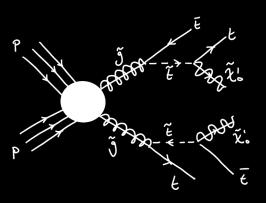


# Four top quarks produced at once!

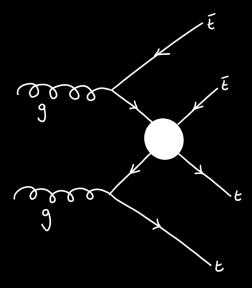
- The **rarest** process including top quarks measured at the LHC so far!
  - One event for every 70,000 top-quark pairs.
- **Heaviest** particle final state ever seen at the LHC
  - Provides physicists with a **unique** opportunity to study the top quark's relationship to the Higgs boson.



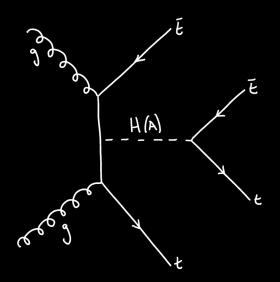
### SUSY (gluino/sgluino pair, for example)



### **Contact Interaction**



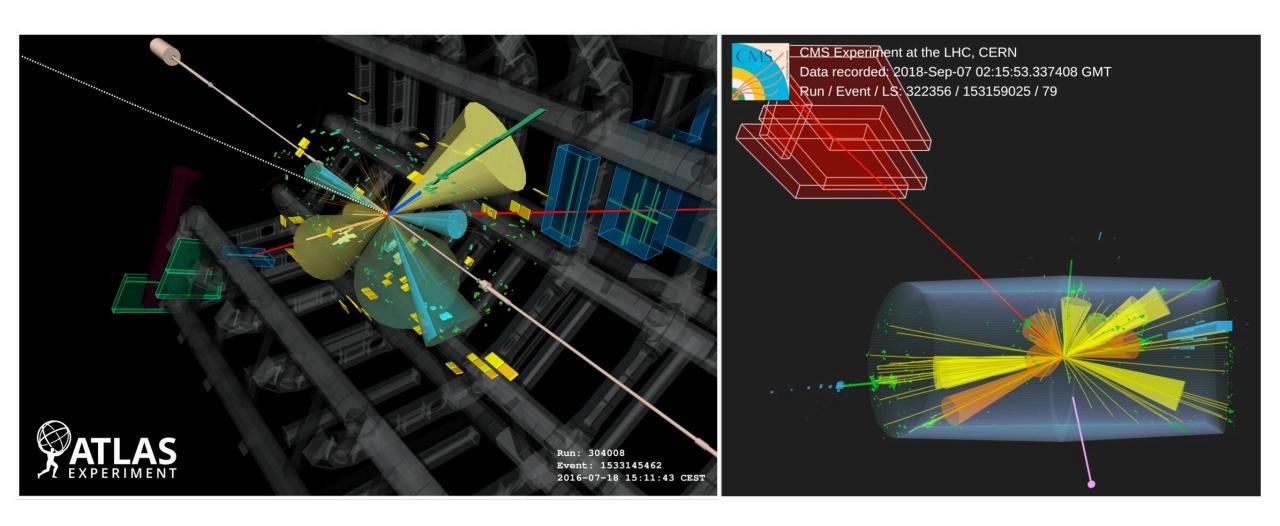
### 2HDM



Production rate could be **enhanced** by various new BSM theories

providing a unique window to search for new physics.

# Four top quarks produced at once!



# Four top production cross-section

A maximum likelihood fit is performed with all systematic uncertainties included.

The predicted cross-section is: SM NLO QCD+EW: **12.0** +2.0 -2.5 fb [JHEP02(2018)031]

Signature: from 0-4 charged leptons and up to 12 jets produced by the quarks!

### Multi-lepton channel (2LSS/3L):

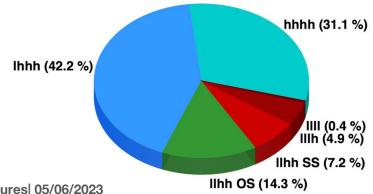
Low branching fraction (13%).

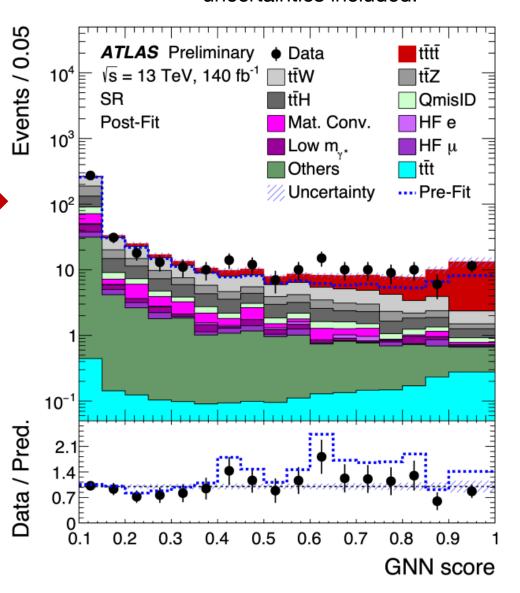
Cleaner signal.

### Single lepton / dilepton opposite sign (1L/2LOS):

Higher branching fraction (57%).

Suffers from a large irreducible background.





# Four top production cross-section

The signal strength (measured XS / SM prediction):

$$\mu = 1.9 \pm 0.4(\text{stat})^{+0.7}_{-0.4}(\text{syst}) = 1.9^{+0.8}_{-0.5}$$

Therefore the measured cross-section is:

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}t\bar{t}} = 22.5^{+4.7}_{-4.3}(\text{stat})^{+4.6}_{-3.4}(\text{syst}) \text{ fb} = 22.5^{+6.6}_{-5.5} \text{ fb}.$$

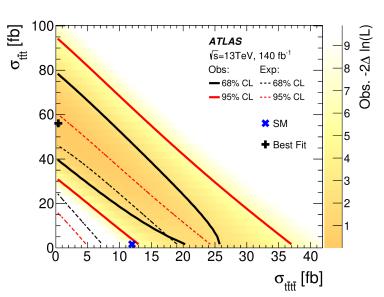
Gives us an observed (expected) significance of:

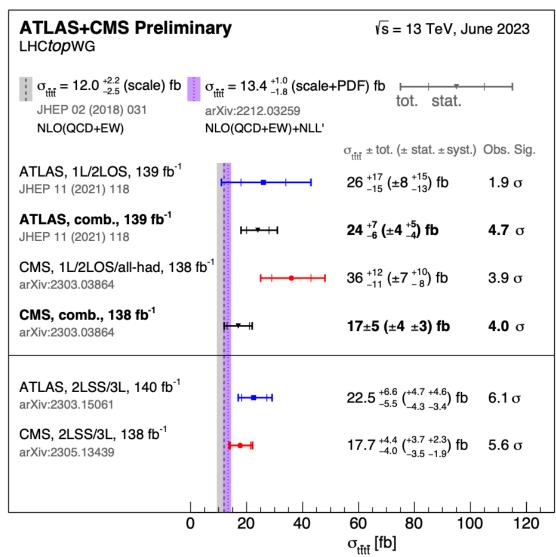
• 6.1 (4.3) standard deviations

### => OBSERVATION!

Triple top quarks:

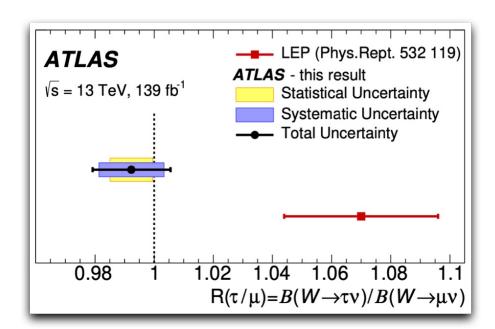
- always produced in association with other particles
- split into the tt<sup>-</sup>tW & tt<sup>-</sup>tq processes





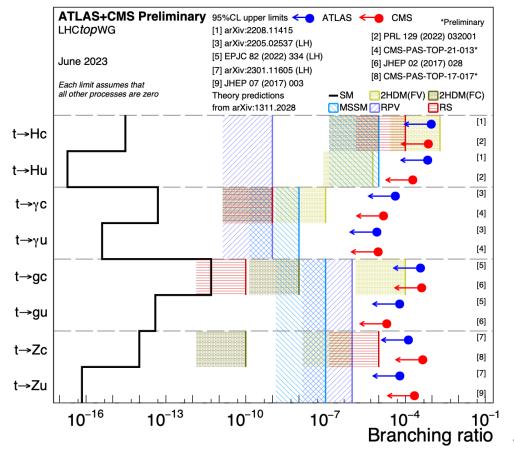
## **Lepton Flavour Universality**

- In the Standard Model, leptons coupling to W&Z bosons is not dependent on mass.
  - ⇒ Lepton flavour should be universal.
  - $\Rightarrow$  But we want to test it!
- We measure the ratio of two decays and see how far it is from 1.



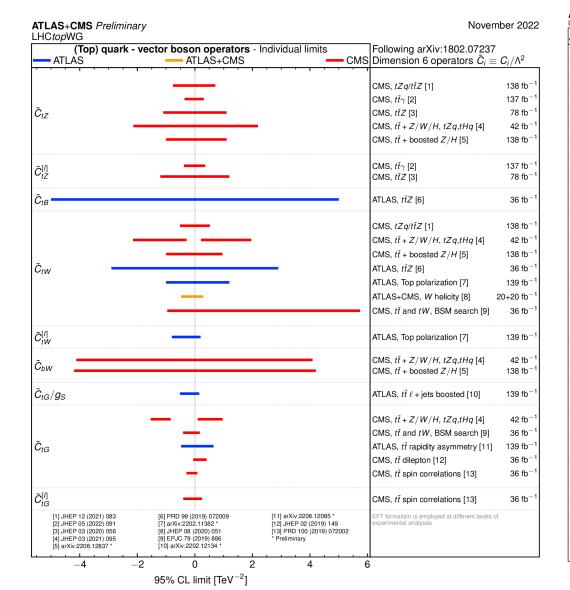
# Flavour Changing Neutral Current

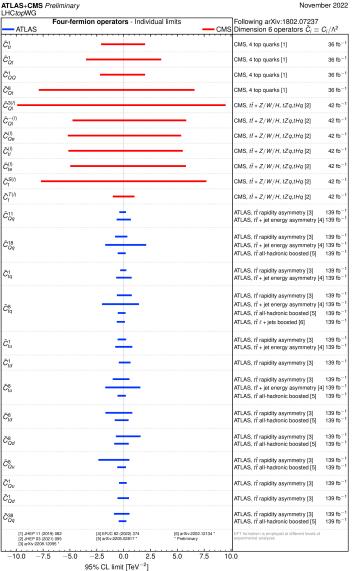
- Changing the flavour of a particle without changing the charge.
  - => If they occur, it's a clear indication of new physics.



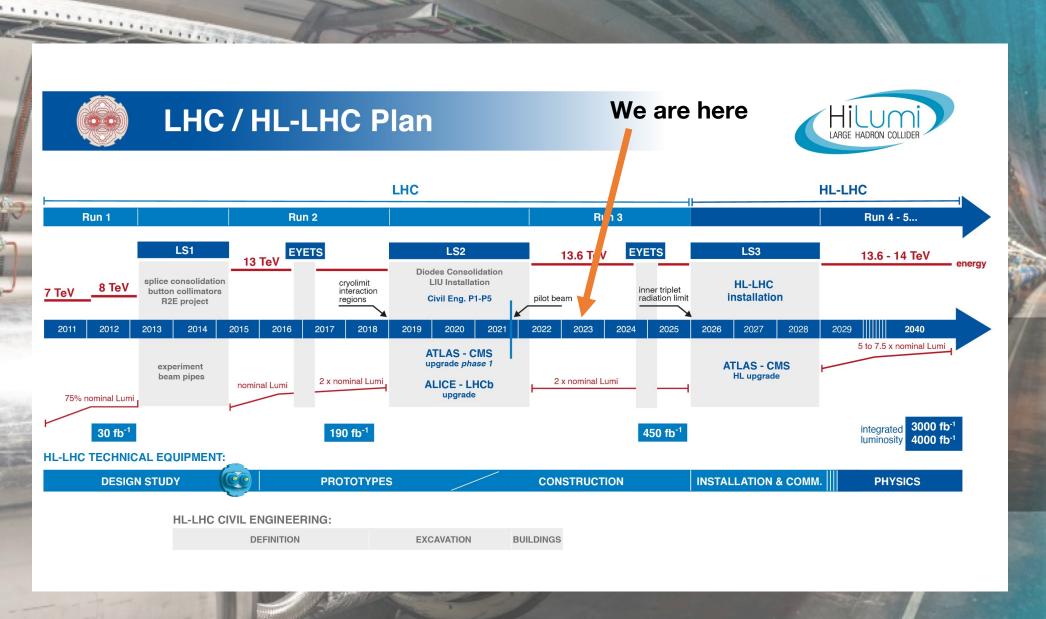
# Effective Field Theory (EFT) with tops

- Allows us to test for new physics in a model independent way
- Plenty of EFT activity going on at the LHC with top quarks
- Comparisons are already a reality
- Combinations in progress between CMS and ATLAS





November 2022



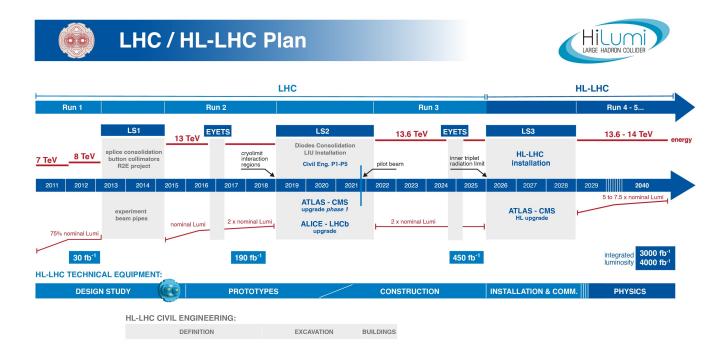
Have only taken ~ 10% of planned data so far

# The LHC schedule

More on this from Ewen this afternoon.

# Tops at the the HL-LHC?

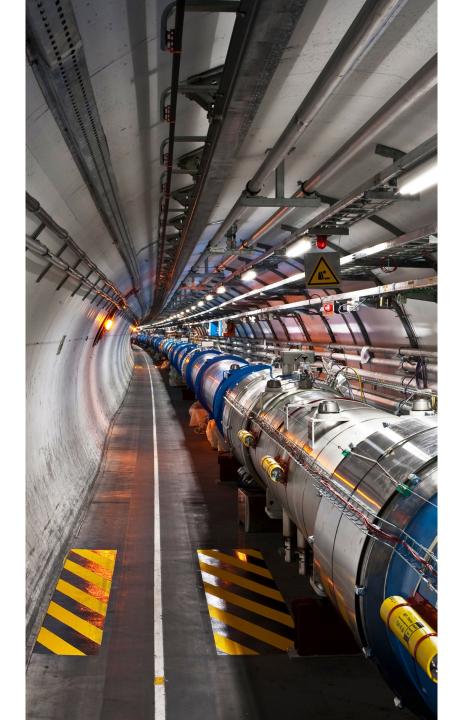
- Increase the integrated luminosity by a factor of 10 beyond the LHC design luminosity
  - Integrated luminosity 3000-4000fb<sup>-1</sup>
  - Expected pile-up (PU) 140-200 collisions per bunch crossing
- Increased data is going to greatly benefit the measurement of rare processes.
- Pile-up is going to be a huge challenge
- ATLAS upgrades:
  - Completely new tracking detector (ITk)
    - Extended to |η|=4.0
  - Timing detector (HGTD)
    - Time resolution of 30 ps



# The future is top!

- The top quark is 28 this year!
  - And yet there's still so much to learn about & from this particle.
- So far there has been no concrete sign of new physics in top data, but plenty of analyses with machine learning and EFT measurements still to come.





# Mank you!

# Backup Here's one I prepared earlier

# W-helicity

