

# PDFs and SMEFT

## A study of the interplay of Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs) and BSM signals in global fits

Work with Maria Ubiali and her group:

[PBSP, 2307.10370, JHEP]

[PBSP, 2402.03308]

[Hammou et Ubiali, 2410.00963]

[PBSP, Forthcoming]



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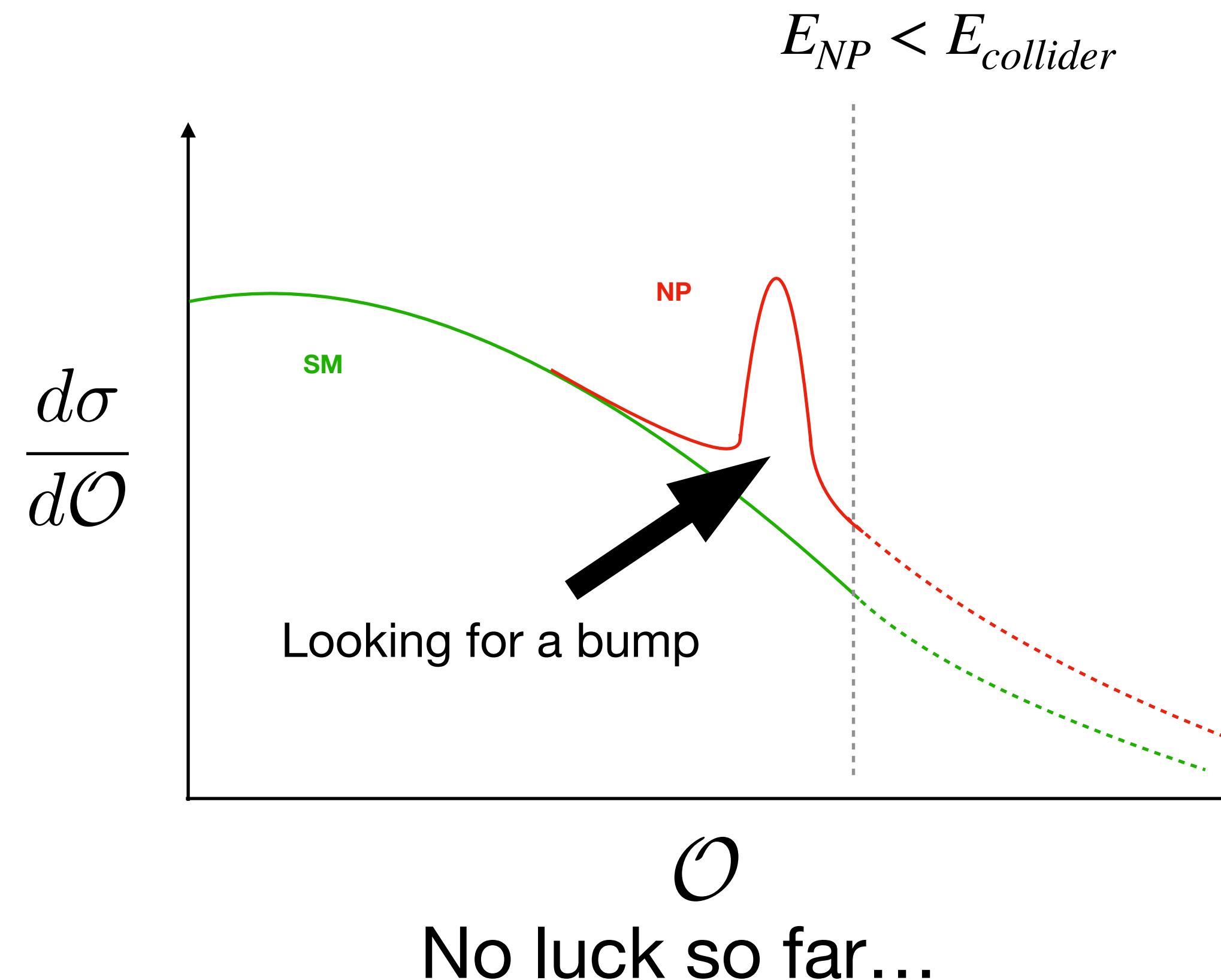


**Elie Hammou, University of Cambridge**  
**EFTs and Beyond workshop, Dec 2024, MITP Youngst@rs**

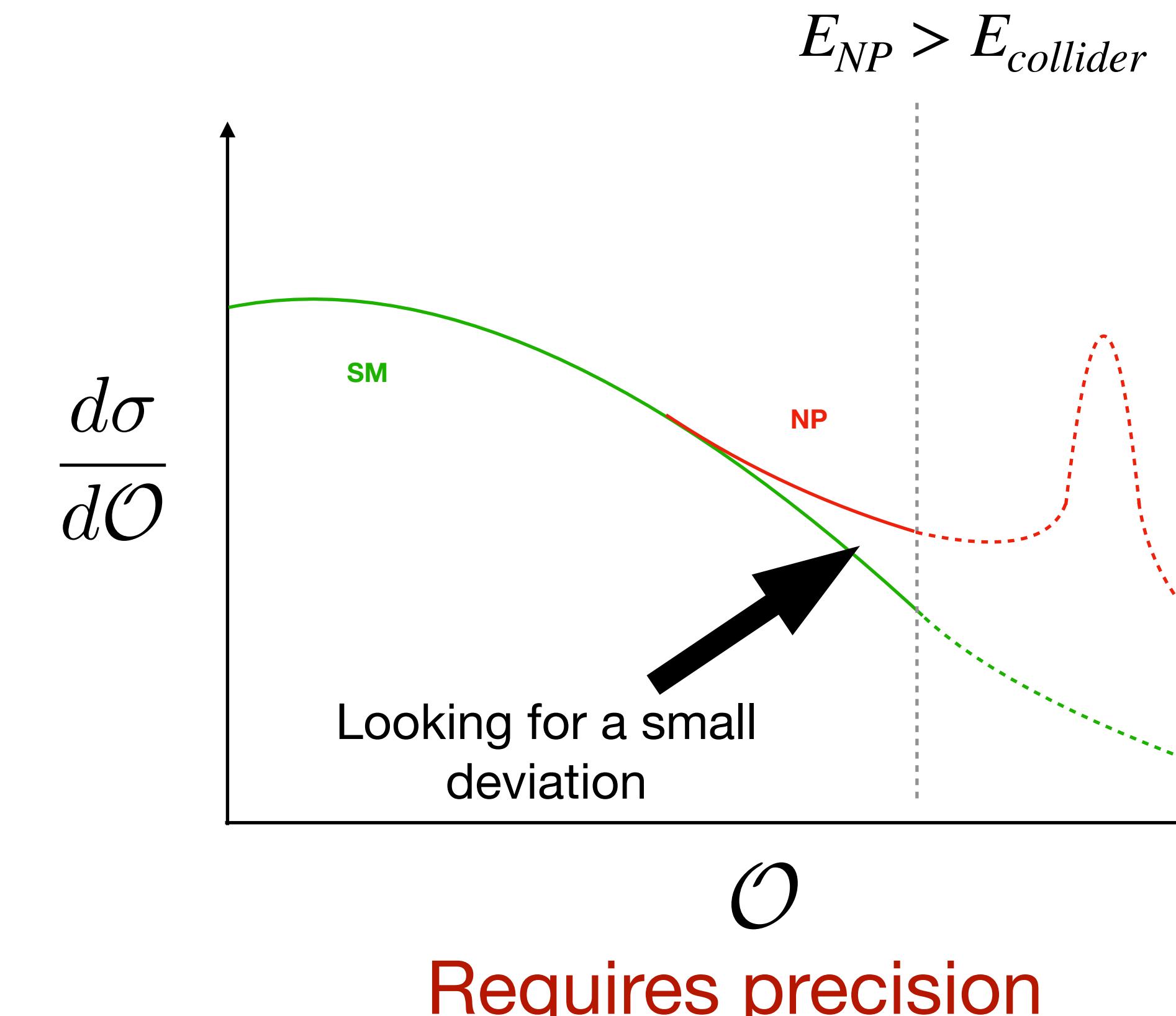
# New physics searches

Looking toward higher energy scales and indirect searches

Direct searches

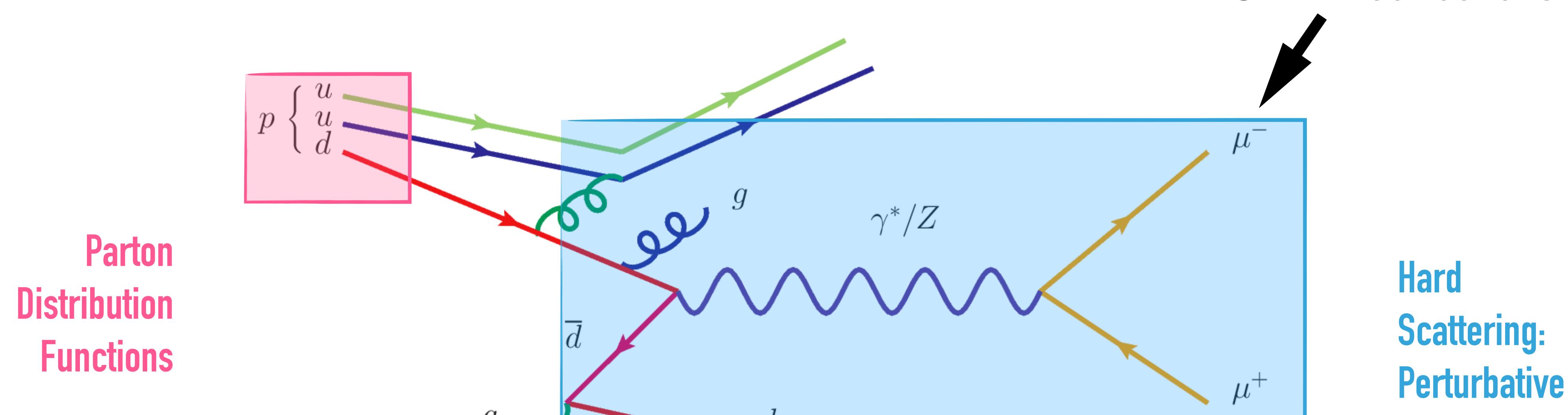


Indirect searches



# Hadron colliders and PDFs

## Collinear factorization theorem



Parton  
Distribution  
Functions

Hard  
Scattering:  
Perturbative  
QCD + EW

$$d\sigma^{pp \rightarrow ab} = \sum_{i,j} [f_i \otimes f_j] \otimes [\hat{d\sigma}^{ij \rightarrow ab}] + \dots$$

# Background on Parton Distribution Functions

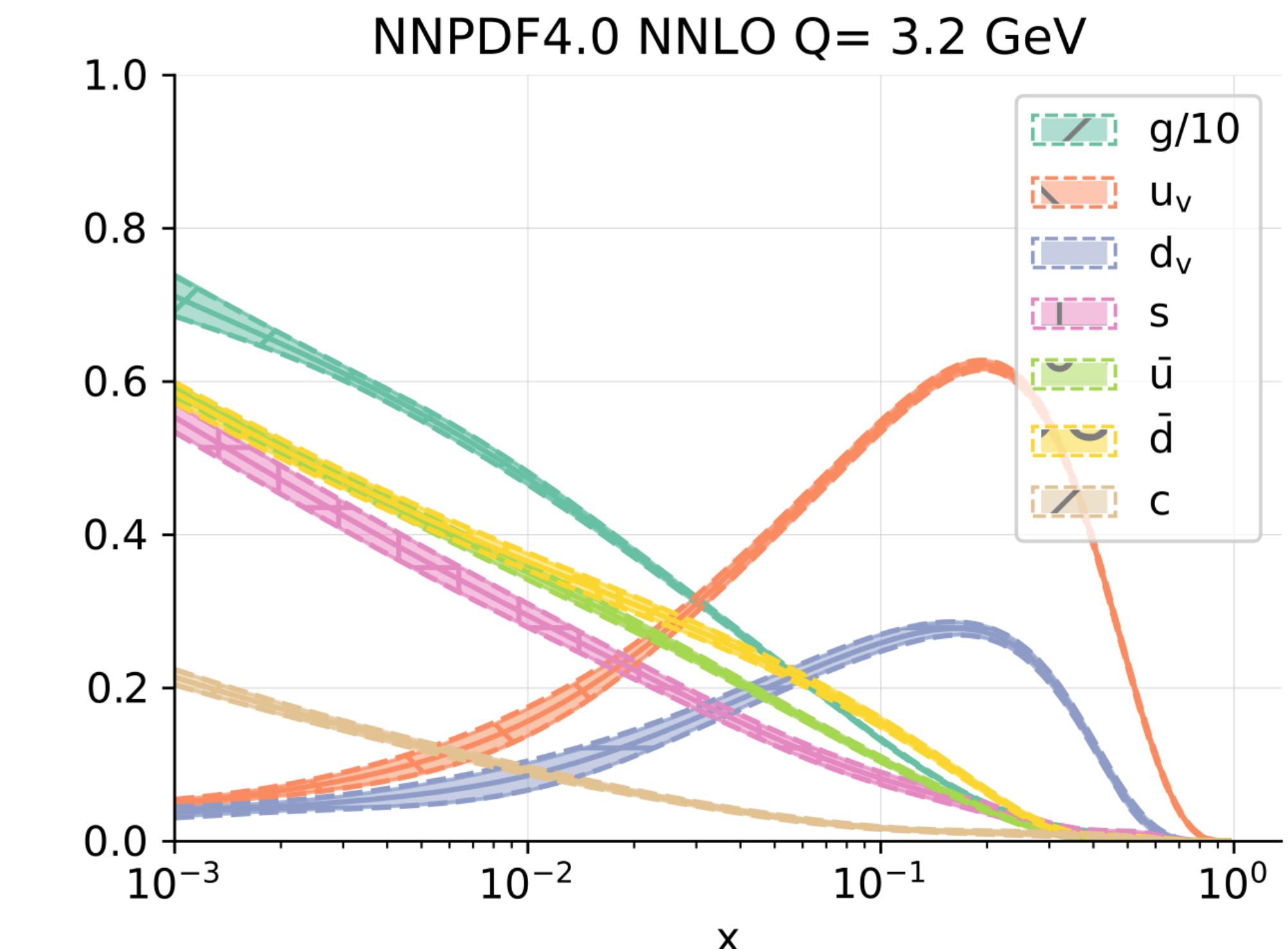
Hadron collider observable:

$$\sigma = \hat{\sigma} \otimes f_1 \otimes f_2$$

PDFs in a nutshell:

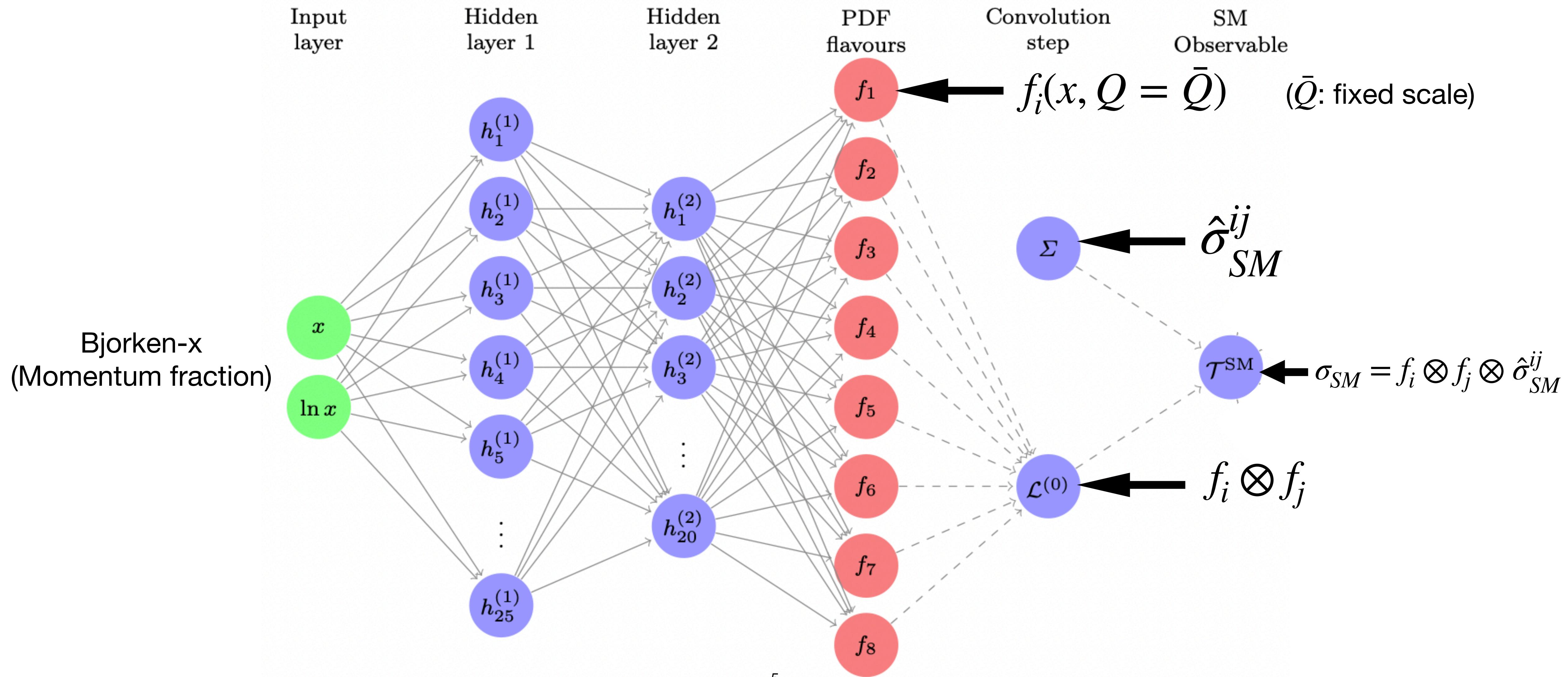
- describe proton's partonic content
  - $f(x, Q)$
  - $x$  dependence: non-perturbative QCD
- **Fitted from data**

Using NNPDF methodology



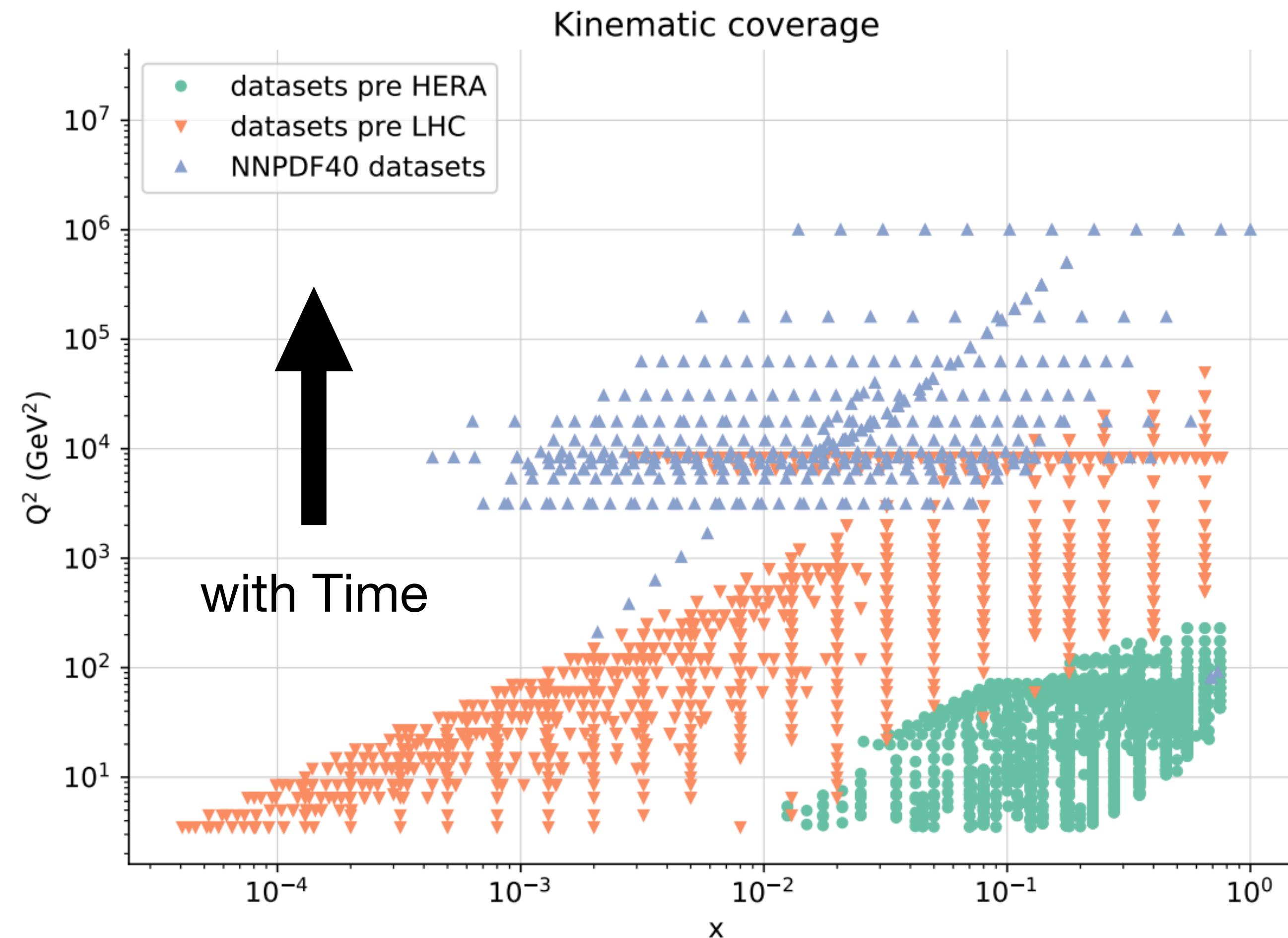
[Ball et al., NNPDF4.0, 2109.02653]

# NNPDF methodology: fitting PDFs



# Fitting PDF from data

## The dataset used by NNPDF

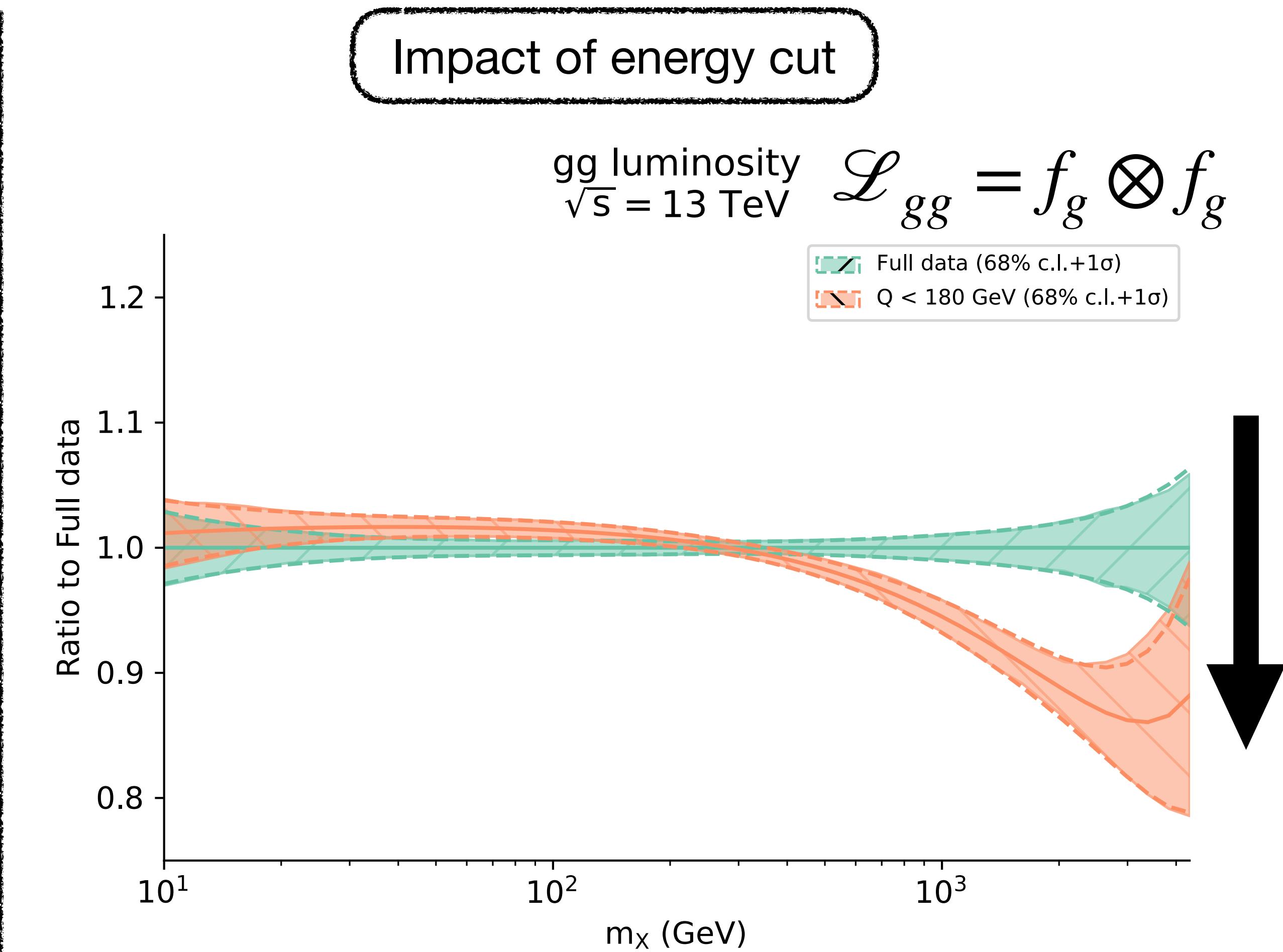
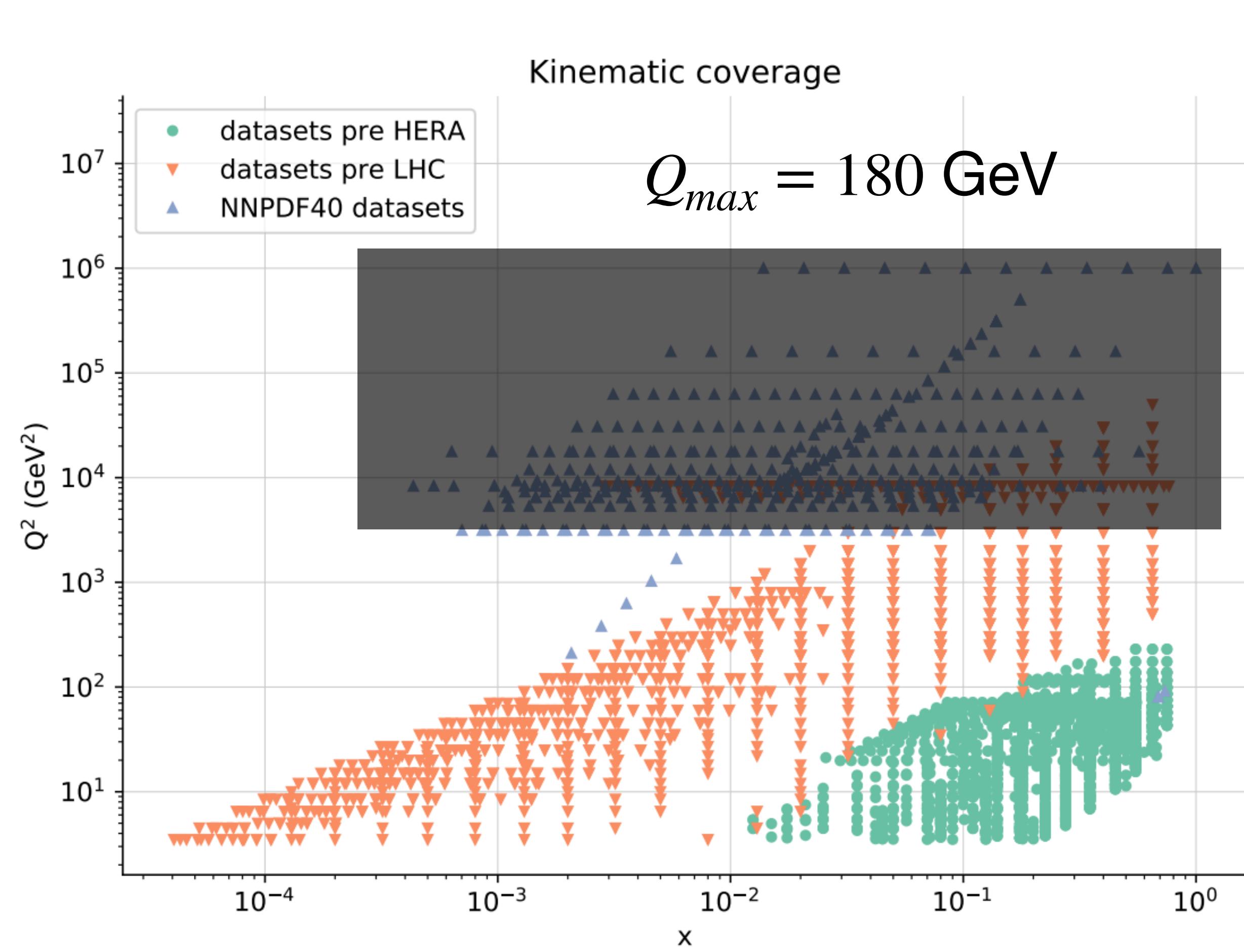


Evolution of the dataset through time:

- Moved toward higher energies
- 30% is LHC data
- More to come with HL-LHC run

# Discrepancy between low and high-energy data fits

## Comparison of full data and no LHC PDF fit



# Risk of absorbing new physics in PDFs?

## Methodology for risk assessment

### Perform a “Contamination test”:

1. Choose a BSM model and a “true PDF” set
2. Produce BSM pseudodata
3. Fit PDFs on pseudodata assuming SM
4. Compare results with baseline PDFs (no BSM physics)

[2307.10370]

### Contamination criteria:

- Incompatible with baseline
- Fit quality does not deteriorate

$$\rightarrow \chi^2 = (\text{Dat} - \text{Th})^\top \cdot \Sigma_{\text{cov}}^{-1} \cdot (\text{Dat} - \text{Th})$$

### **PDF contamination:**

→ **PDFs have absorbed new physics signals**

# New physics scenarios: $W'$

## From UV to the SMEFT

Heavy triplet under  $SU(2)_L$  :  $W'$

$$\mathcal{L}_{UV}^{W'} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} - \frac{1}{4} W'_{\mu\nu}^a W'^{a,\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} M_{W'}^2 W'_\mu^a W'^{a,\mu} - g_W W'^{a,\mu} \sum_{f_L} \bar{f}_L T^a \gamma^\mu f_L - g_W (W'^{a,\mu} \varphi^\dagger T^a i D_\mu \varphi + \text{h.c.})$$

→ Creates two charged particles:  $W'^+$  /  $W'^-$  and a neutral one:  $W'_3$

Matching to the SMEFT:

$$\mathcal{L}_{SMEFT}^{W'} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} - \frac{g_{W'}^2}{2M_{W'}^2} J_L^{a,\mu} J_{L,\mu}^a \quad J_L^{a,\mu} = \sum_{f_L} \bar{f}_L T^a \gamma^\mu f_L$$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{SMEFT}^{W'} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} - \frac{g^2 \hat{W}}{2m_W^2} J_L^{a,\mu} J_{L,\mu}^a \quad \hat{W} = \frac{g_{W'}^2}{g^2} \frac{m_W^2}{M_{W'}^2} \propto \frac{c}{\Lambda^2} \quad \text{New physics parameter}$$

# New physics scenarios: $W'$

$pp \rightarrow l^-\bar{\nu}$        $M_{W'} = 13.8 \text{ TeV}$

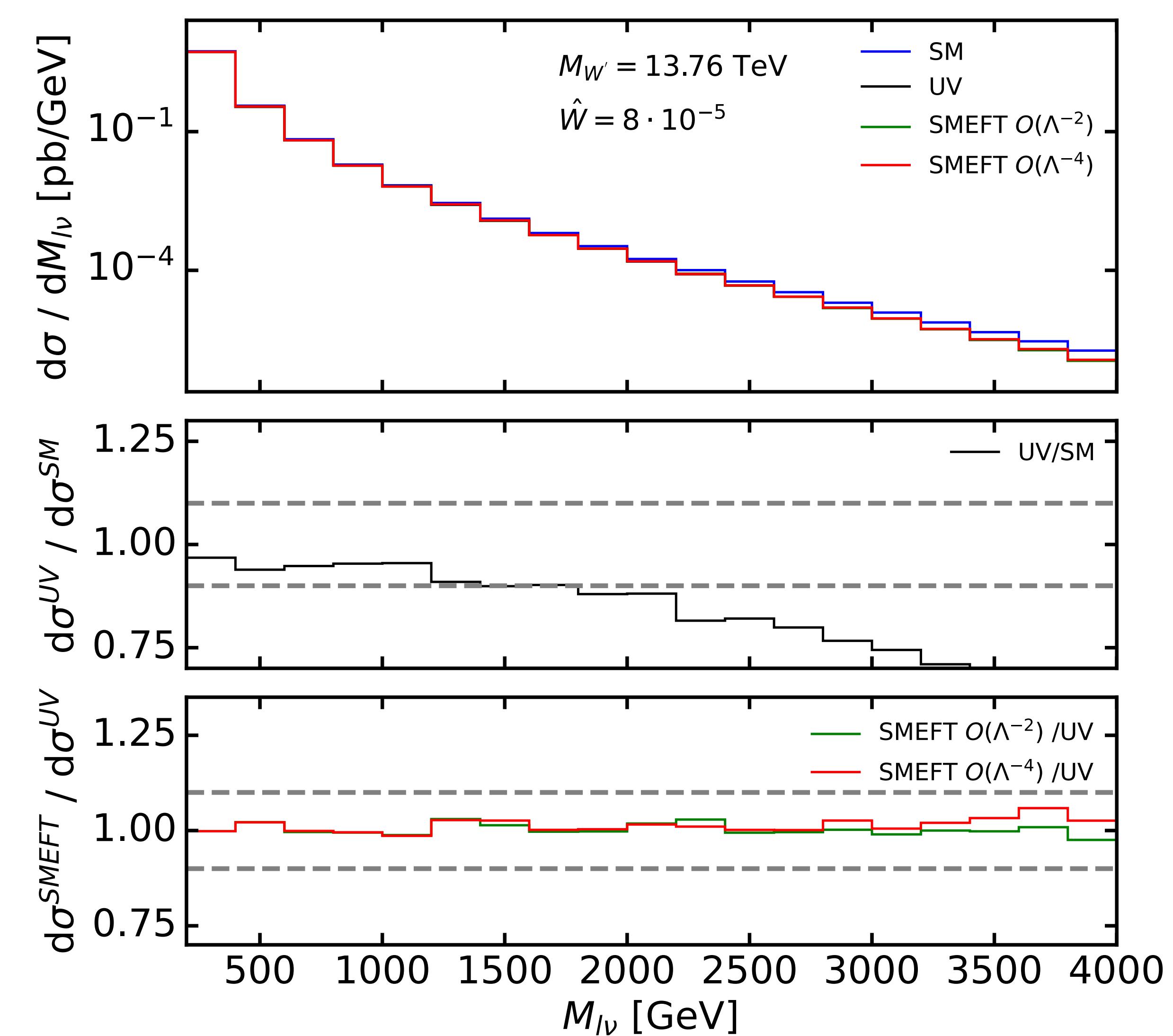
## Generation of the pseudodata

$$\hat{W} \leftrightarrow M_{W'} \quad (g_{W'} = 1)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{SMEFT}^{W'} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} - \frac{g^2 \hat{W}}{2m_W^2} J_L^{a,\mu} J_{L,\mu}^a$$

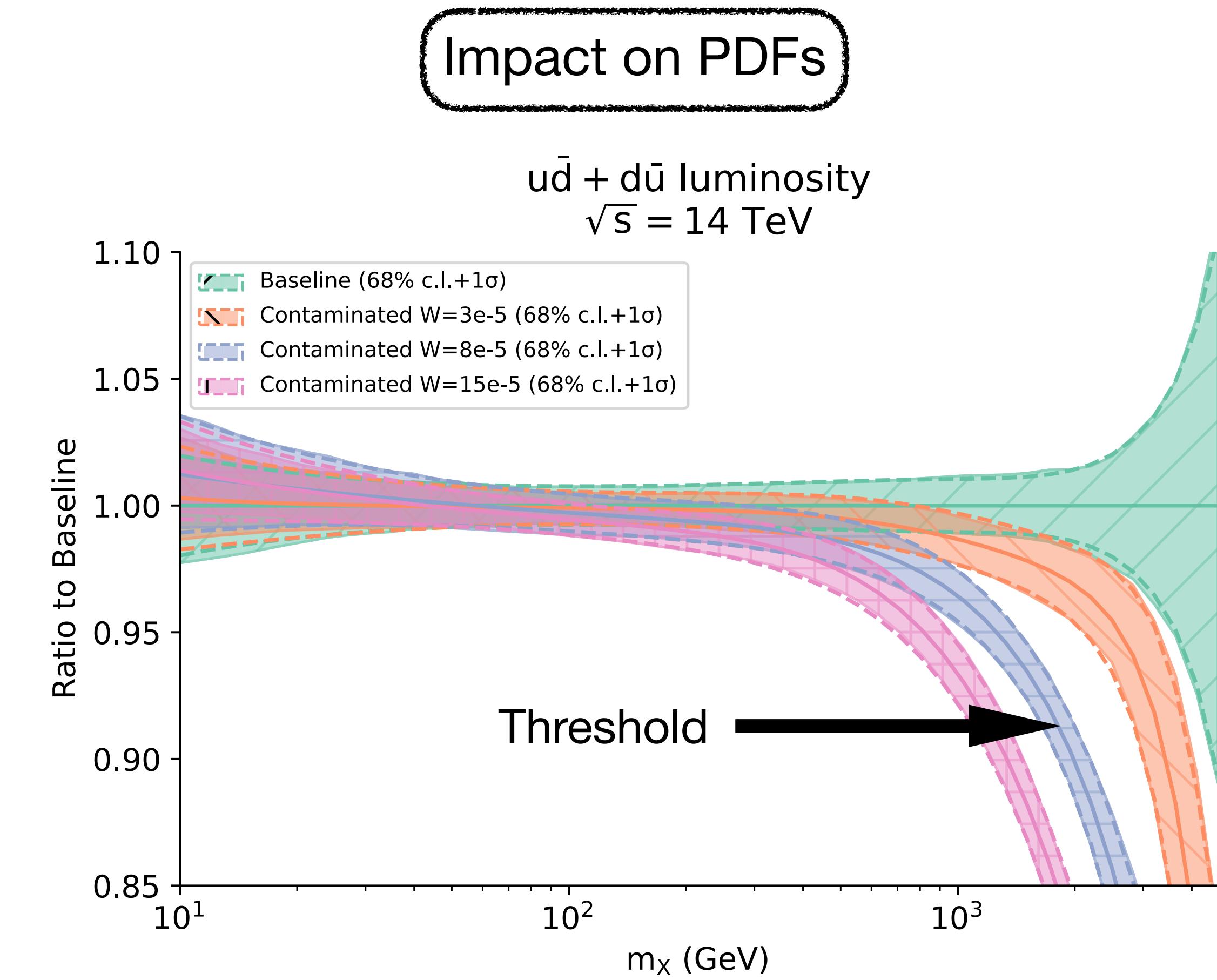
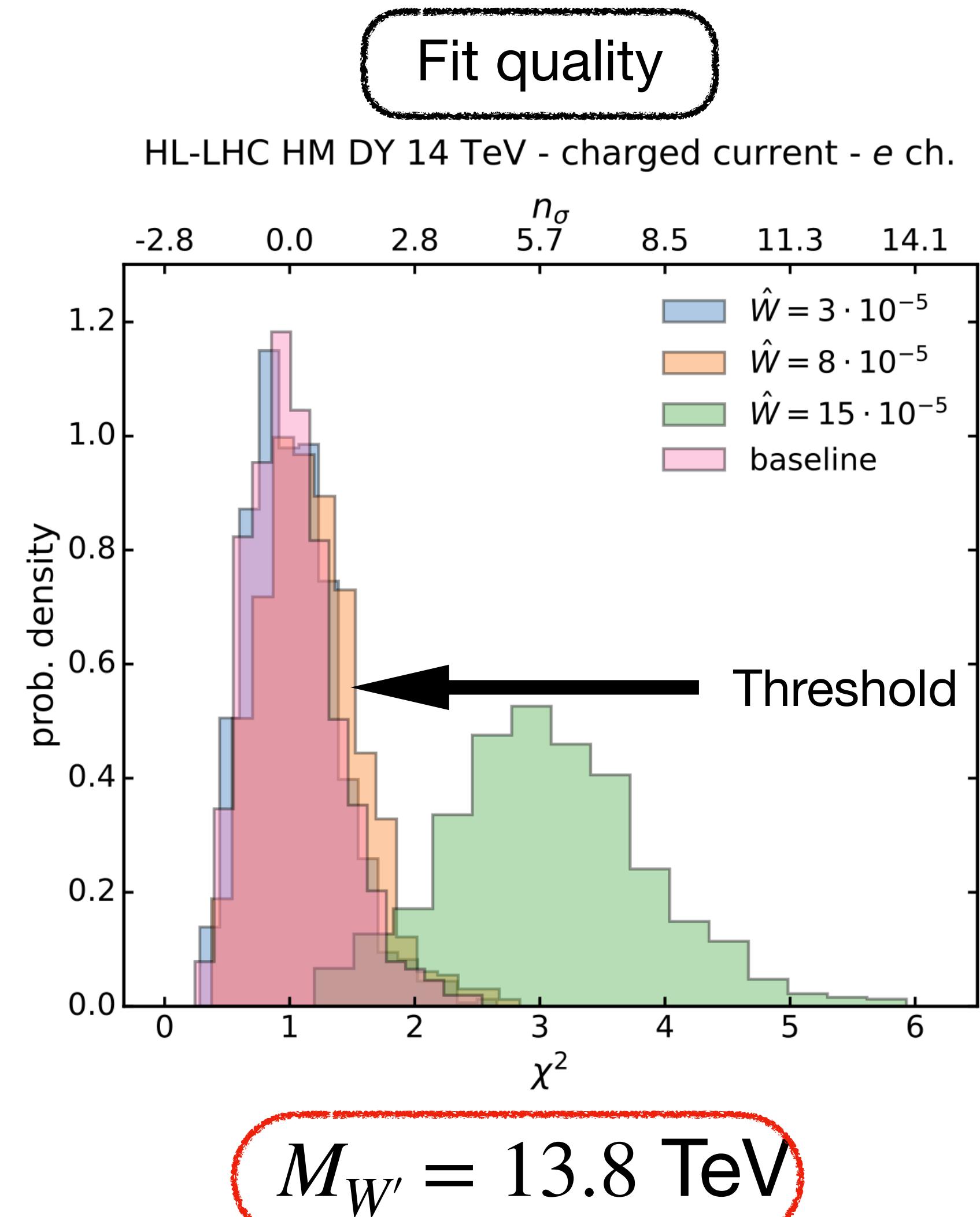
→ Impacts CC and NC Drell-Yan

HL-LHC Projections



# Impact of contamination on the PDFs

## Comparison between contaminated and Baseline PDFs

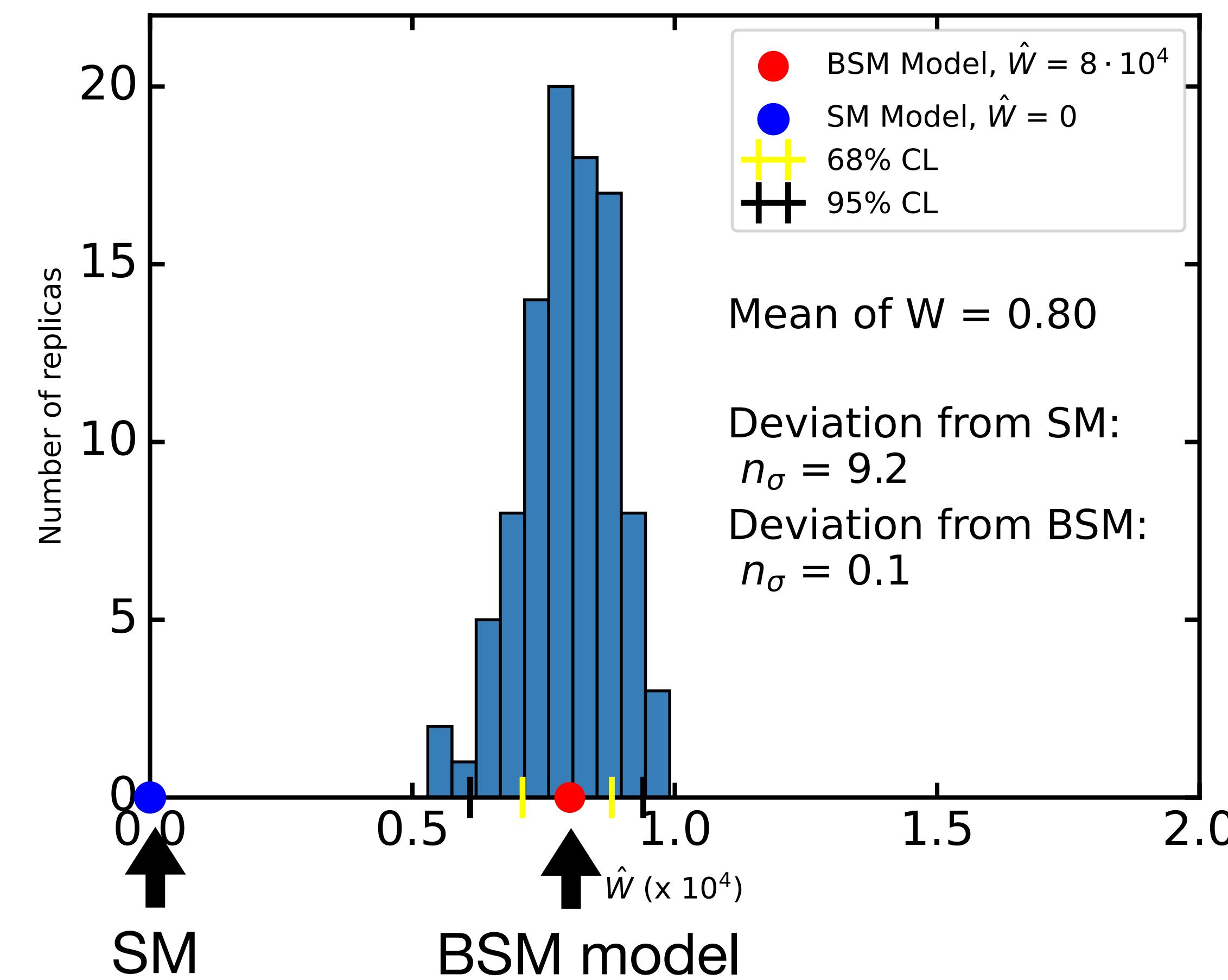


$$\sigma_{BSM}^{Data} \approx \hat{\sigma}_{SM} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{BSM}$$

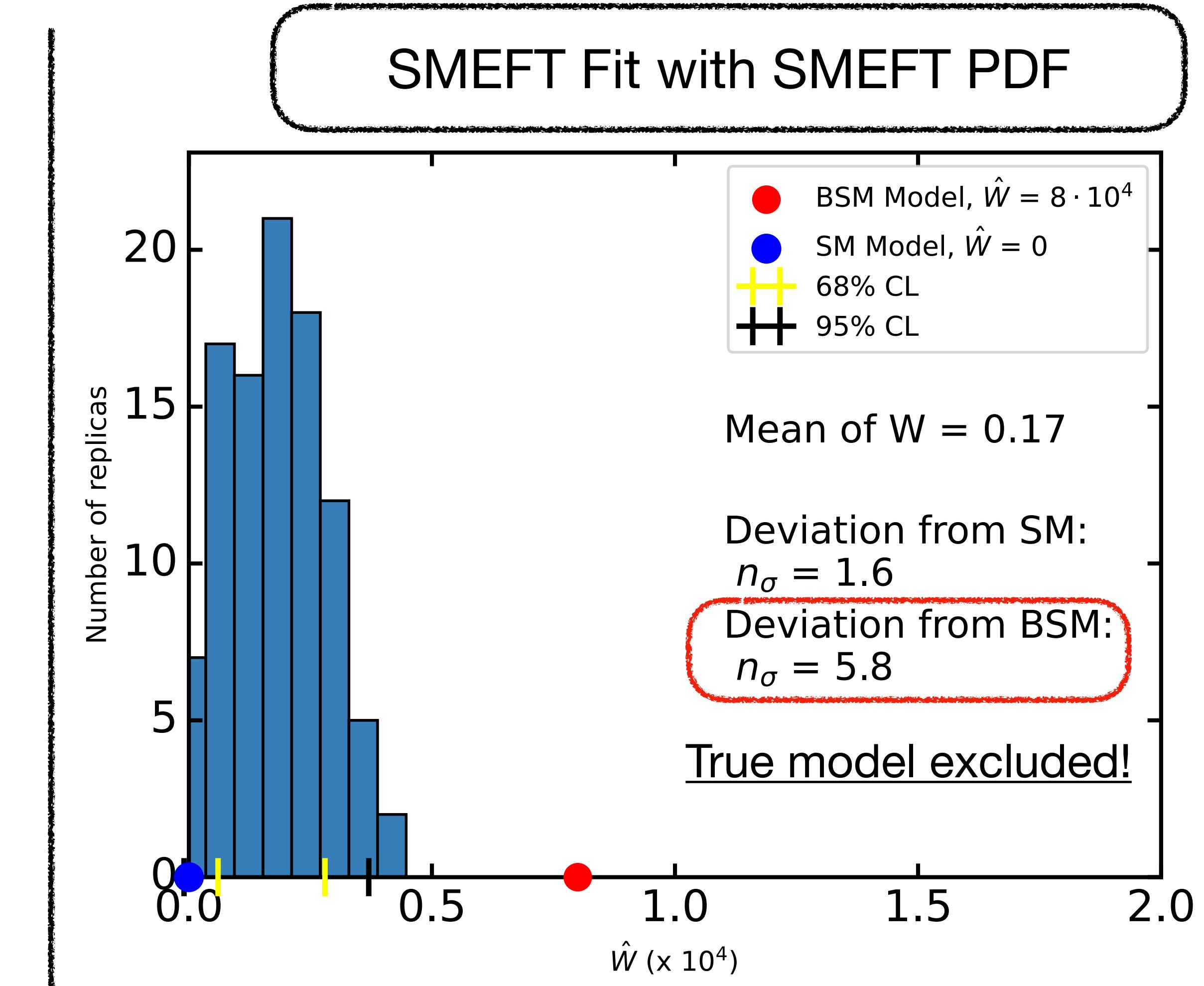
# Missing new physics

## Impact of the PDF contamination on SMEFT fits

SMEFT Fit with true PDF



SMEFT Fit with SMEFT PDF



# Apparition of fake deviations

## Impact of contamination on predictions for other sectors

Theory predictions (red band):

- BSM PDFs + SM

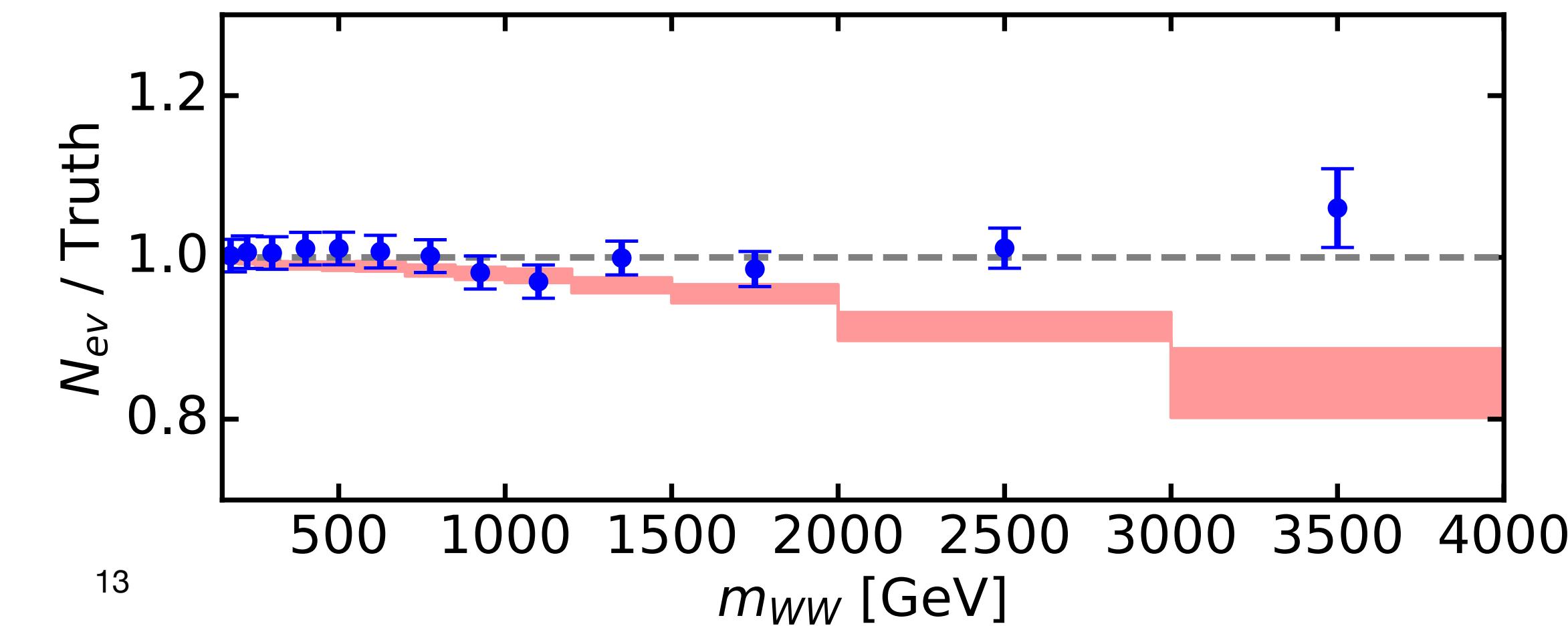
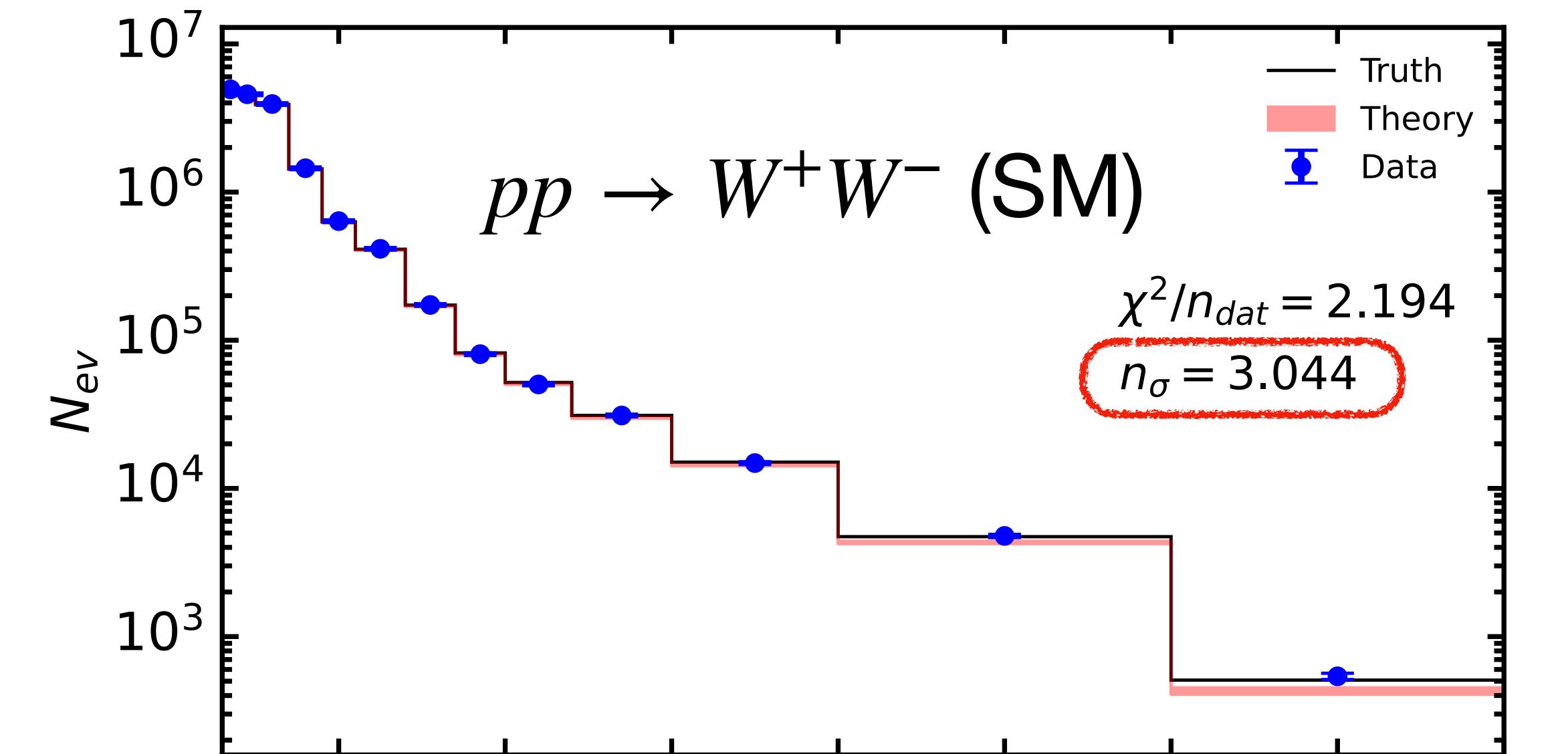
Data (blue dots):

- True PDFs + SM

→ Fake deviation from SM

Also seen in WH, WZ, ZH production

HL-LHC Projections



# PDF/BSM signals mixing: summary

- BSM data in PDF fit:
    - ▶ At best: BSM data flagged and excluded
    - ▶ At worst: BSM signal absorbed by the PDF
  - Consequences of PDF contamination:
    - ▶ New physics is hidden (model can be ruled out)
    - ▶ Introduced fake deviations in other sectors
- Possible solution?

# Simultaneous fit of PDF and new physics

## Separate versus simultaneous fits

Separate fits

PDF fit:

$$T(\{\theta\}, \{c = 0\}) = \text{PDF}(\{\theta\}) \otimes \hat{\sigma}(\{c = 0\})$$

$$\rightarrow \bar{\theta}$$

Assumes SM:  
source of bias

SMEFT fit:

$$T(\{\theta = \bar{\theta}\}, \{c\}) = \text{PDF}(\{\theta = \bar{\theta}\}) \otimes \hat{\sigma}(\{c\})$$

$$\rightarrow \bar{c}$$

Risk of getting  
wrong value

Simultaneous fits

$$T(\{\theta\}, \{c\}) = \text{PDF}(\{\theta\}) \otimes \hat{\sigma}(\{c\})$$

$$\rightarrow \{\bar{\theta}, \bar{c}\}$$

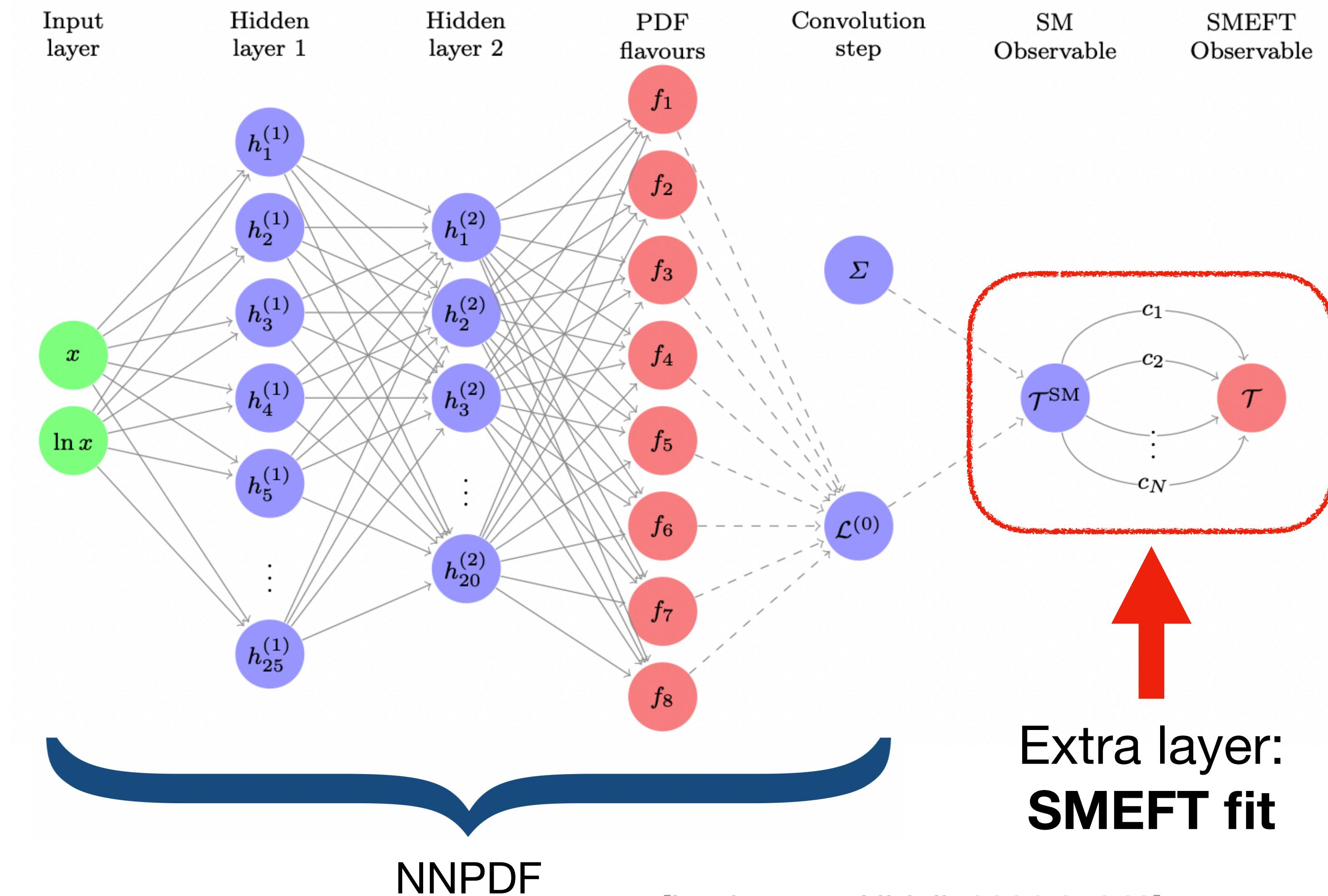
Removes assumption-based bias

# Simultaneous fit of PDF and new physics

## Presentation of the tool: SIMUnet

### SIMUnet:

- Open-source tool:  
[github.com/HEP-PBSP/SIMUnet](https://github.com/HEP-PBSP/SIMUnet)  
[2402.03308]
- Fits PDFs and WC simultaneously

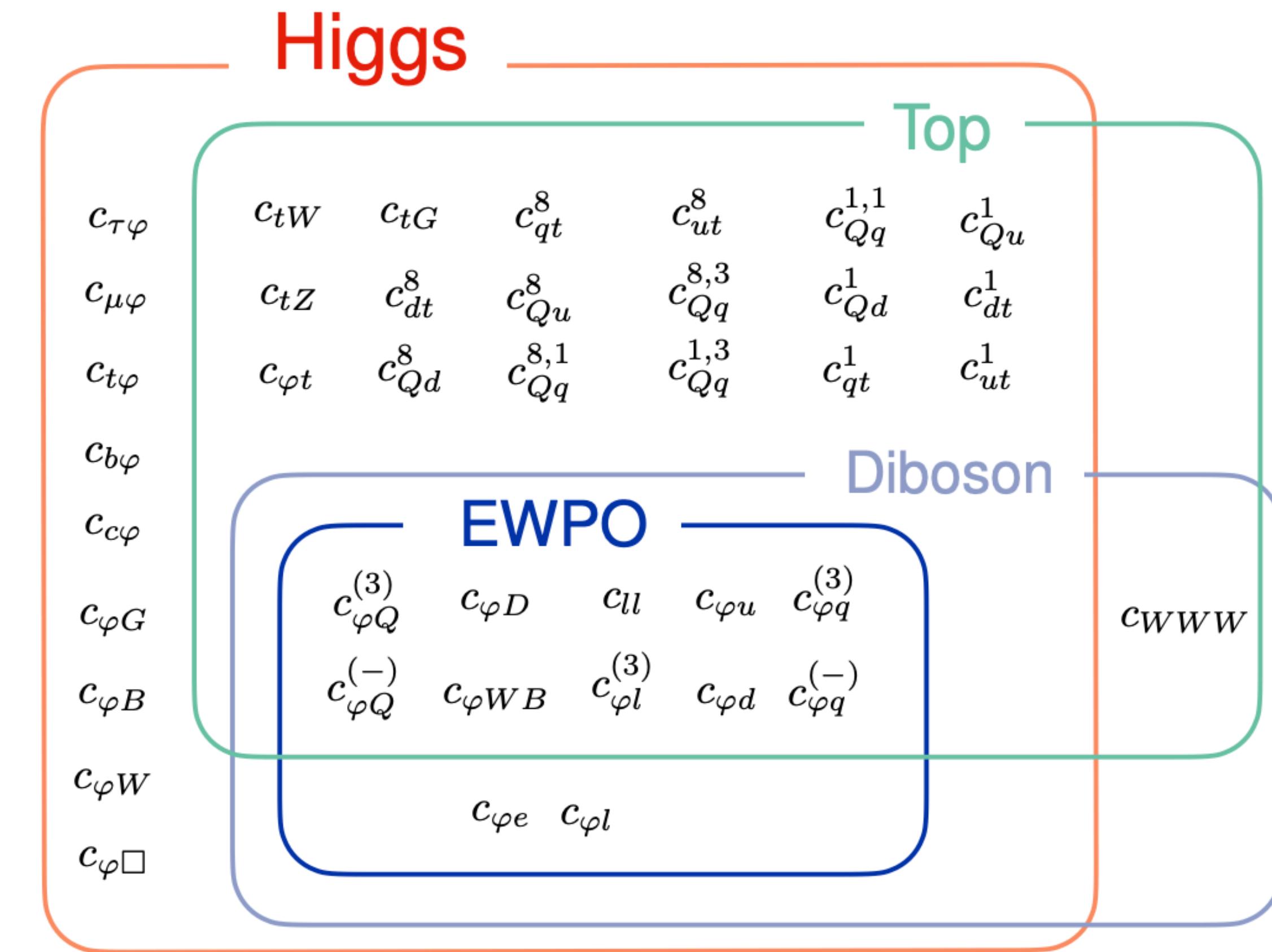


[Iranipour et Ubiali, 2201.07240]

# Simultaneous fit of PDF and new physics

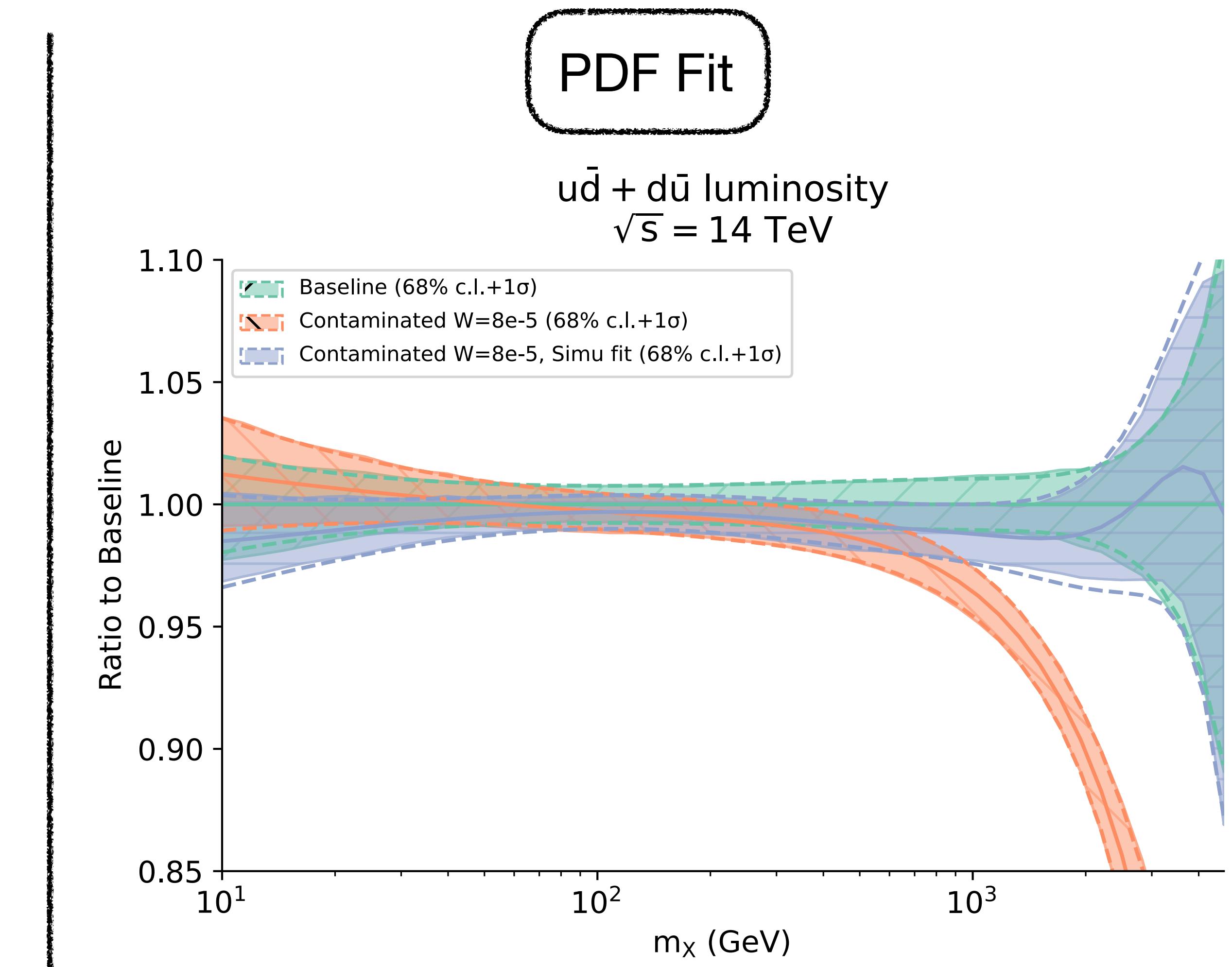
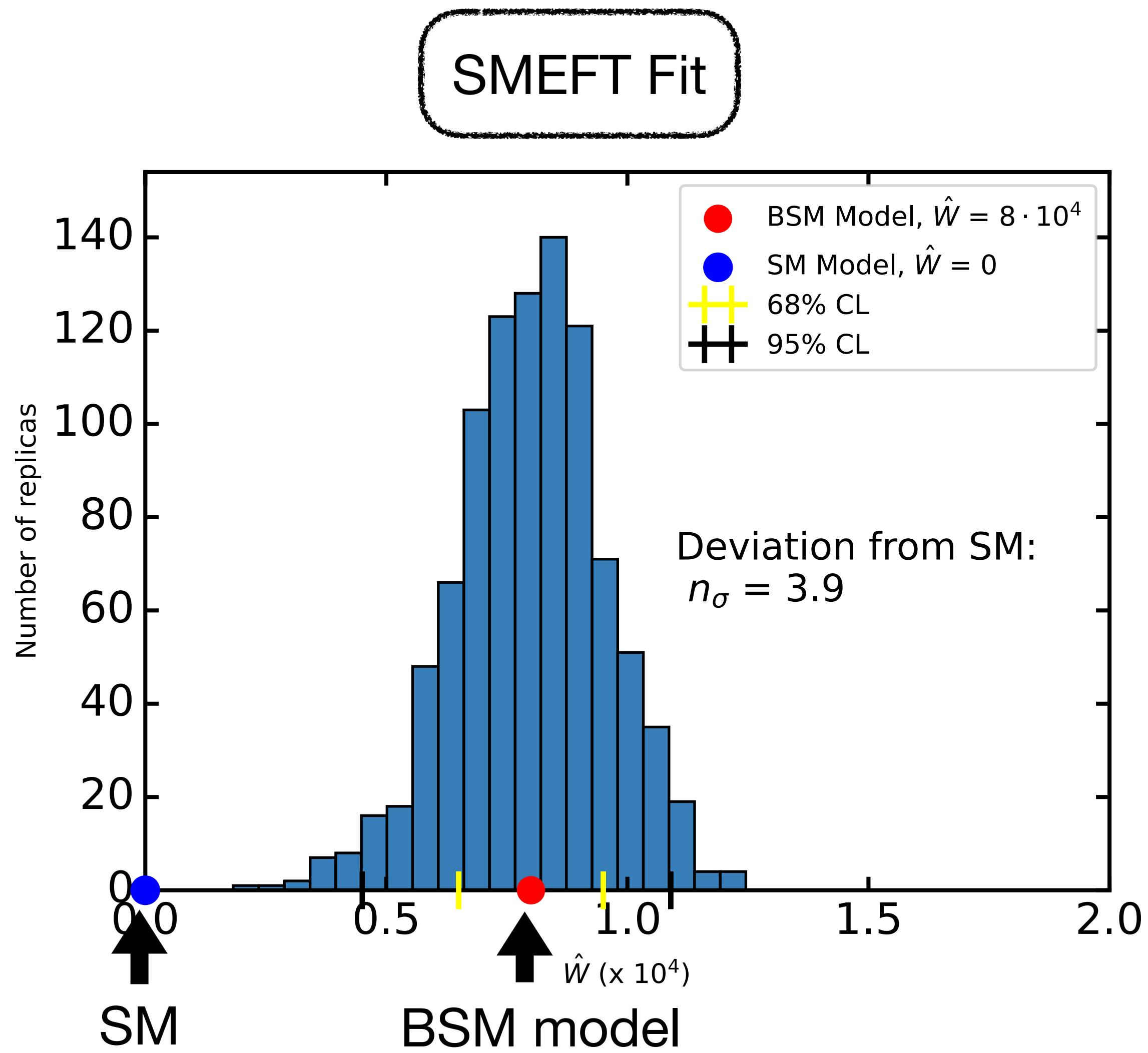
## SMEFT operators implemented

- 40 operators implemented
- Observables:
  - ▶ top sector
  - ▶ diboson
  - ▶ Higgs
  - ▶ Drell-Yan
  - ▶ EW Precision Observables



# Simultaneous fit of PDF and new physics

## Disentangling PDF contamination



# Limits of the simultaneous fits

- Technical limits:
  - ▶ Can only fit linear SMEFT corrections (fitting method)
  - ▶ Working on an alternative bayesian method
- Fundamental limits:
  - ▶ More difficult than PDF fit
  - ▶ Need to choose SMEFT operators[PBSP, forthcoming]
  - ▶ PDF still universal?
  - ▶ Risk of fitting QCD/EWK corrections as BSM signals

# Summary and outlook

- Signs of  $W'$  got fitted away in PDF parametrisation
  - ▶ Missed new physics
  - ▶ Introduced fake deviations in other sectors
- Simultaneous fits of PDFs and SMEFT:
  - ▶ **SIMUnet** tool available
  - ▶ Seems to disentangle PDF and SMEFT

You can contact me at:  
[eh651@cam.ac.uk](mailto:eh651@cam.ac.uk)

**Thank you for your  
attention!**

# **Extra slides**

# Synergy of high and low-energy data

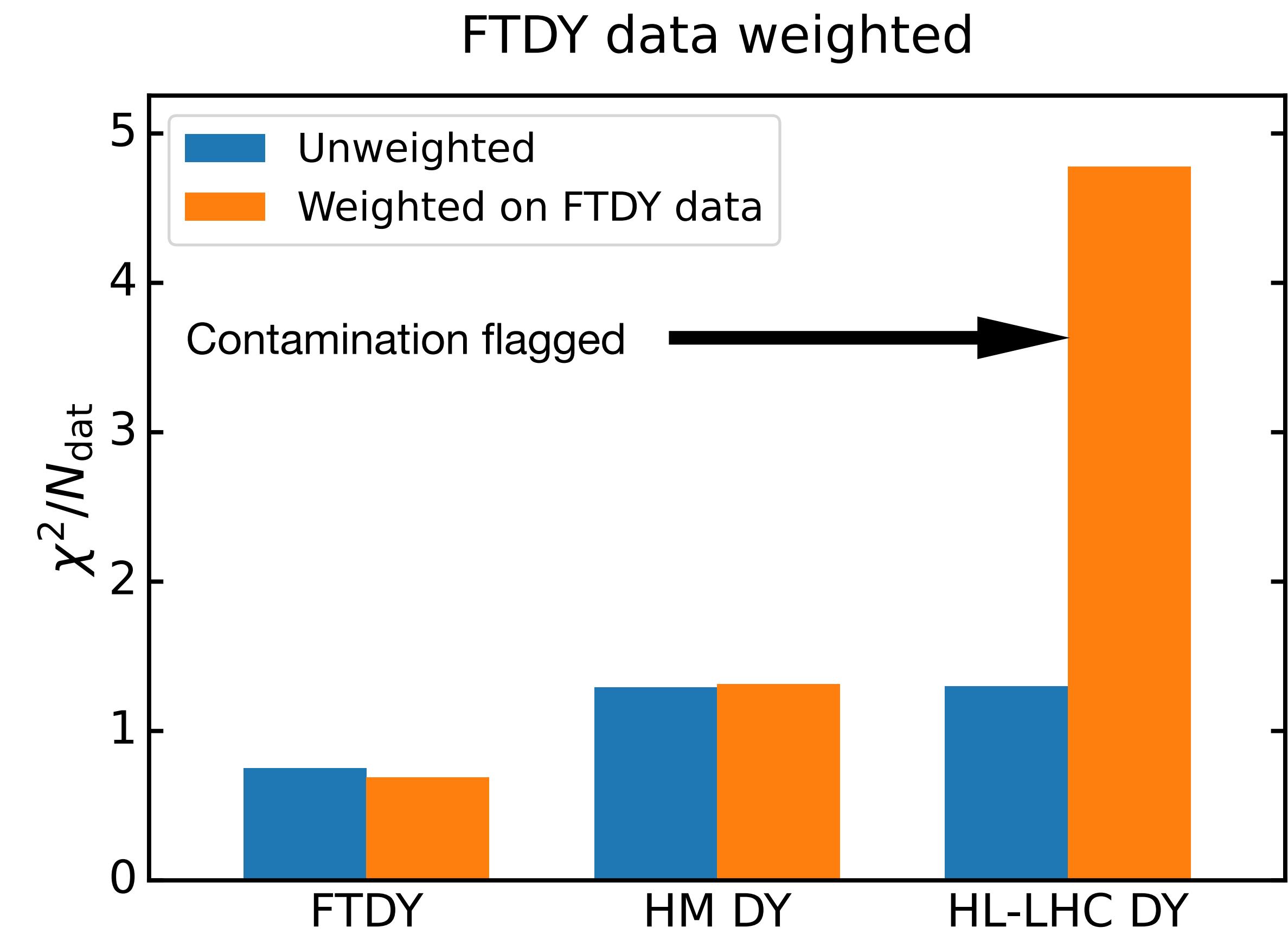
## Adding low-energy dataset constraining the large-x region

Excessive antiquark PDF flexibility in large-x region:

- Accommodates real data and BSM pseudodata
- Allows contamination

Including low-energy large-x data:

- Constraint large-x region
- Safe from BSM contamination

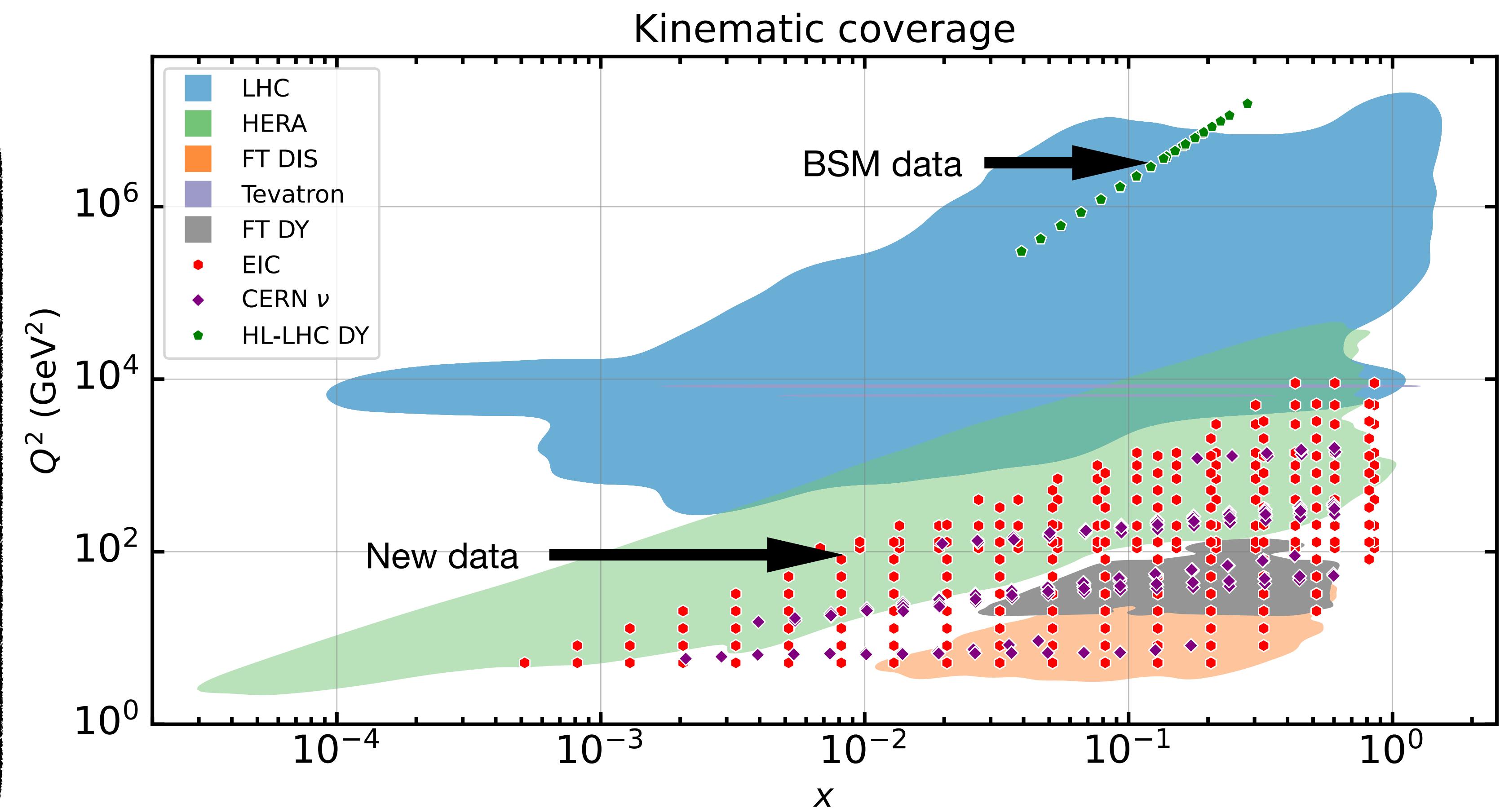


# Future low energy data

## Kinematic coverage

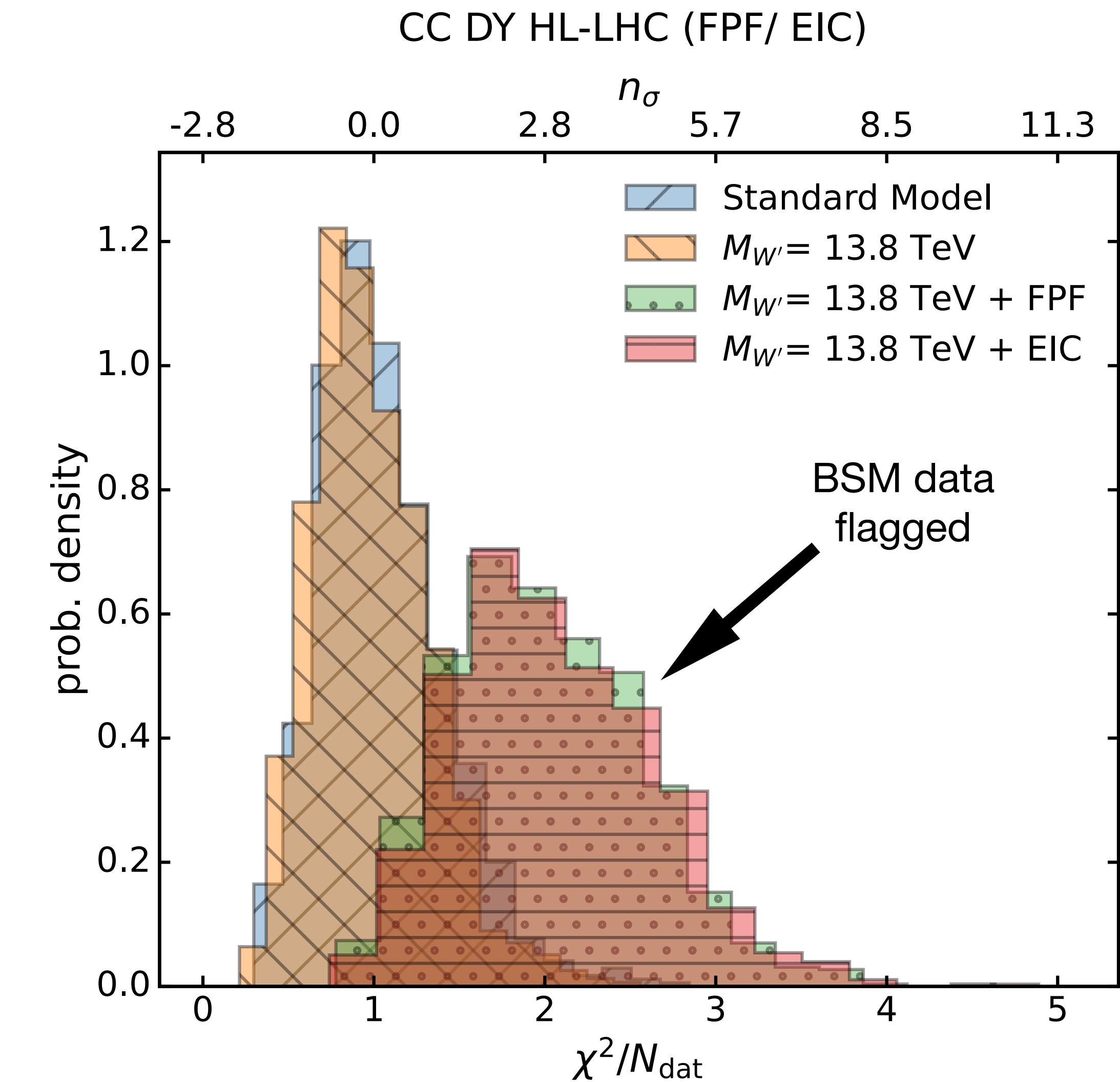
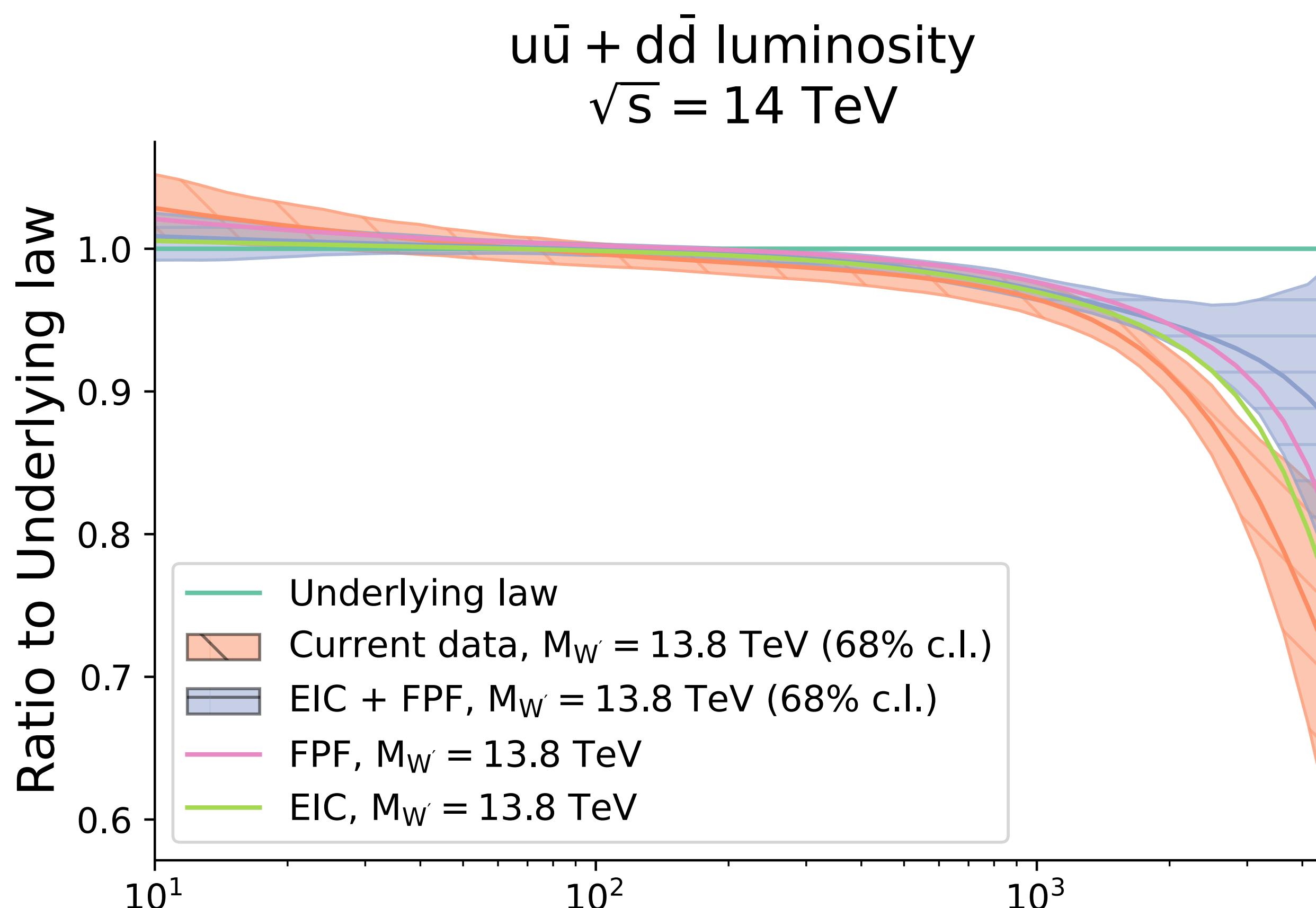
### Projection data:

- Electron Ion Collider (EIC)
- Forward Physics Facility (FPF) (neutrino DIS)



# Impact on the PDF contamination

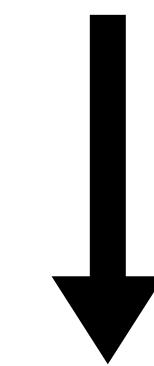
## Flagging the BSM data



# Recovering the signs of new physics

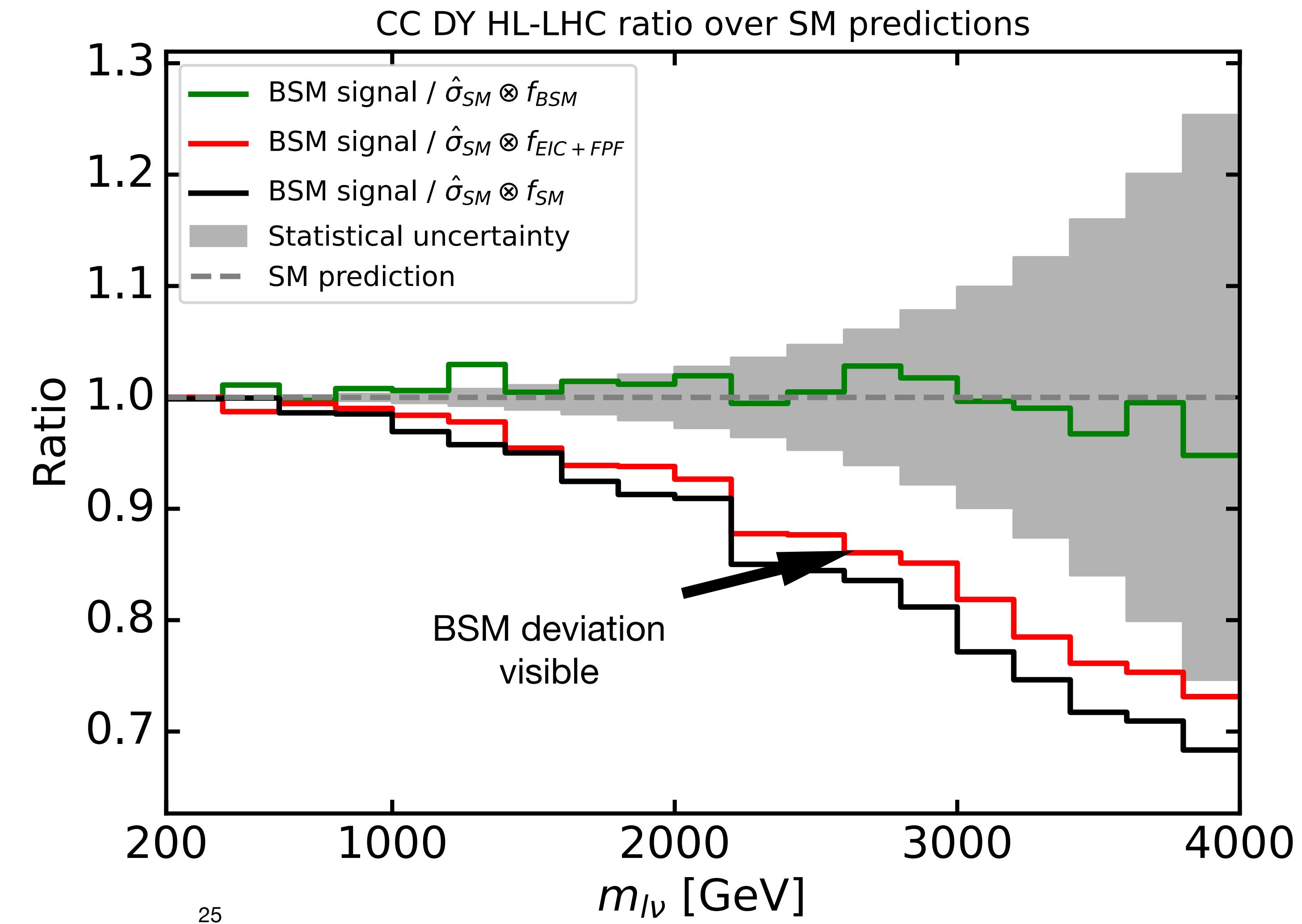
## BSM data versus SM theory predictions

$$\hat{\sigma}_{BSM} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{SM} \approx \hat{\sigma}_{SM} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{BSM}$$



$$\hat{\sigma}_{BSM} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{SM} \neq \hat{\sigma}_{SM} \otimes \mathcal{L}_{EIC+FPF}$$

$M_{W'} : 13.8 \text{ TeV}$



# Shift of the contamination threshold

## From the fit quality

Not a complete solution:

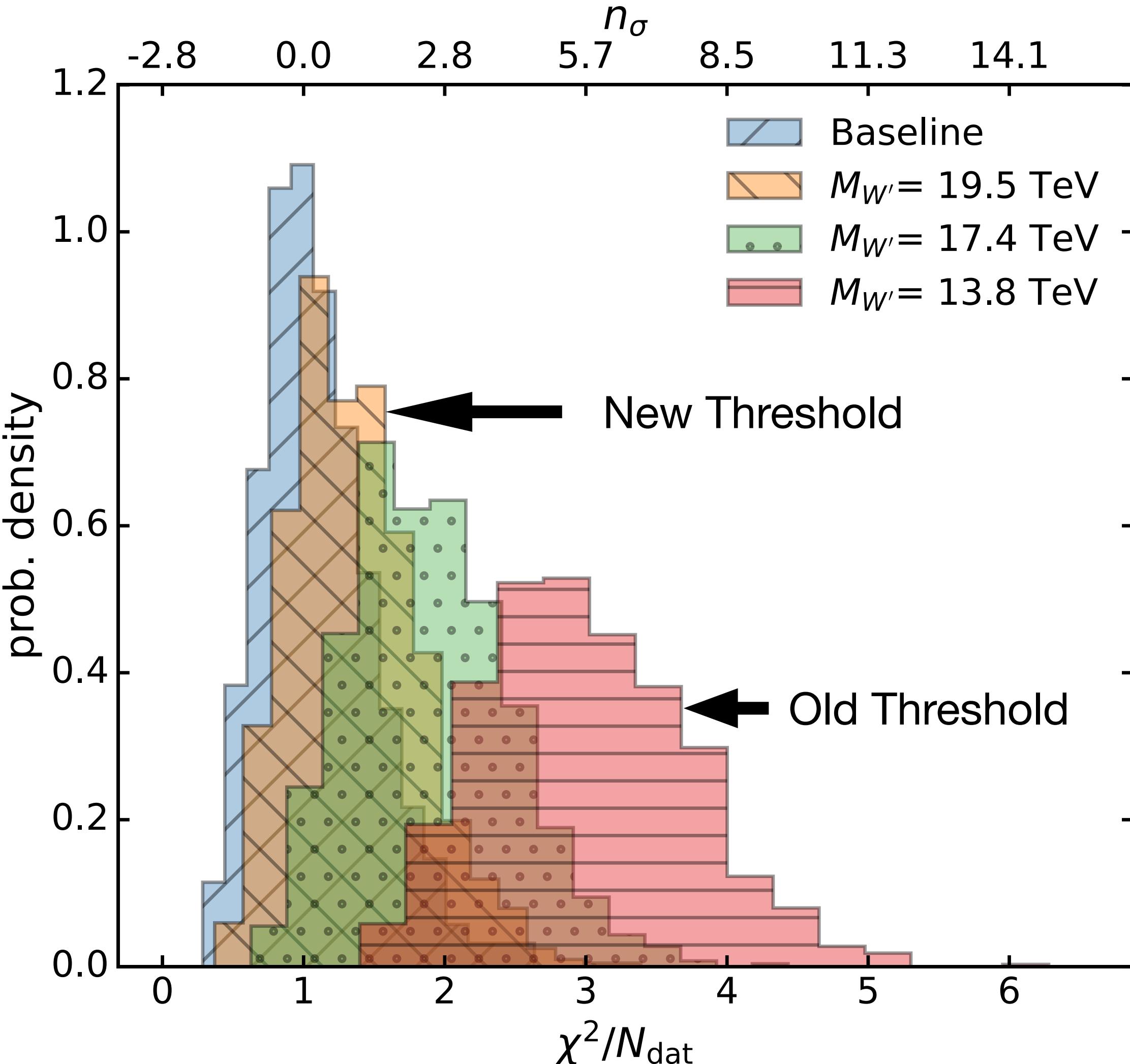
Smaller deviations can still be absorbed

→ risk at higher BSM mass

Reduction of the “blindspot”:

$M_{W'} : 13.8 \rightarrow 19.5 \text{ TeV}$

HL-LHC CC DY 14 TeV (EIC + FPF)

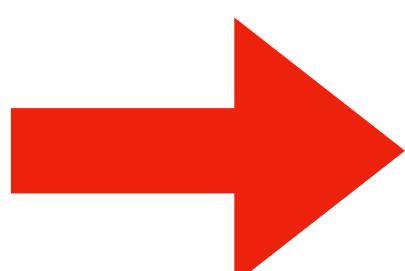


# New physics scenarios: $Z'$

## Generation of the pseudodata

$$\mathcal{L}_{SMEFT}^{Z'} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} - \frac{g_{Z'}^2}{2M_{Z'}^2} J_Y^\mu J_{Y,\mu}$$

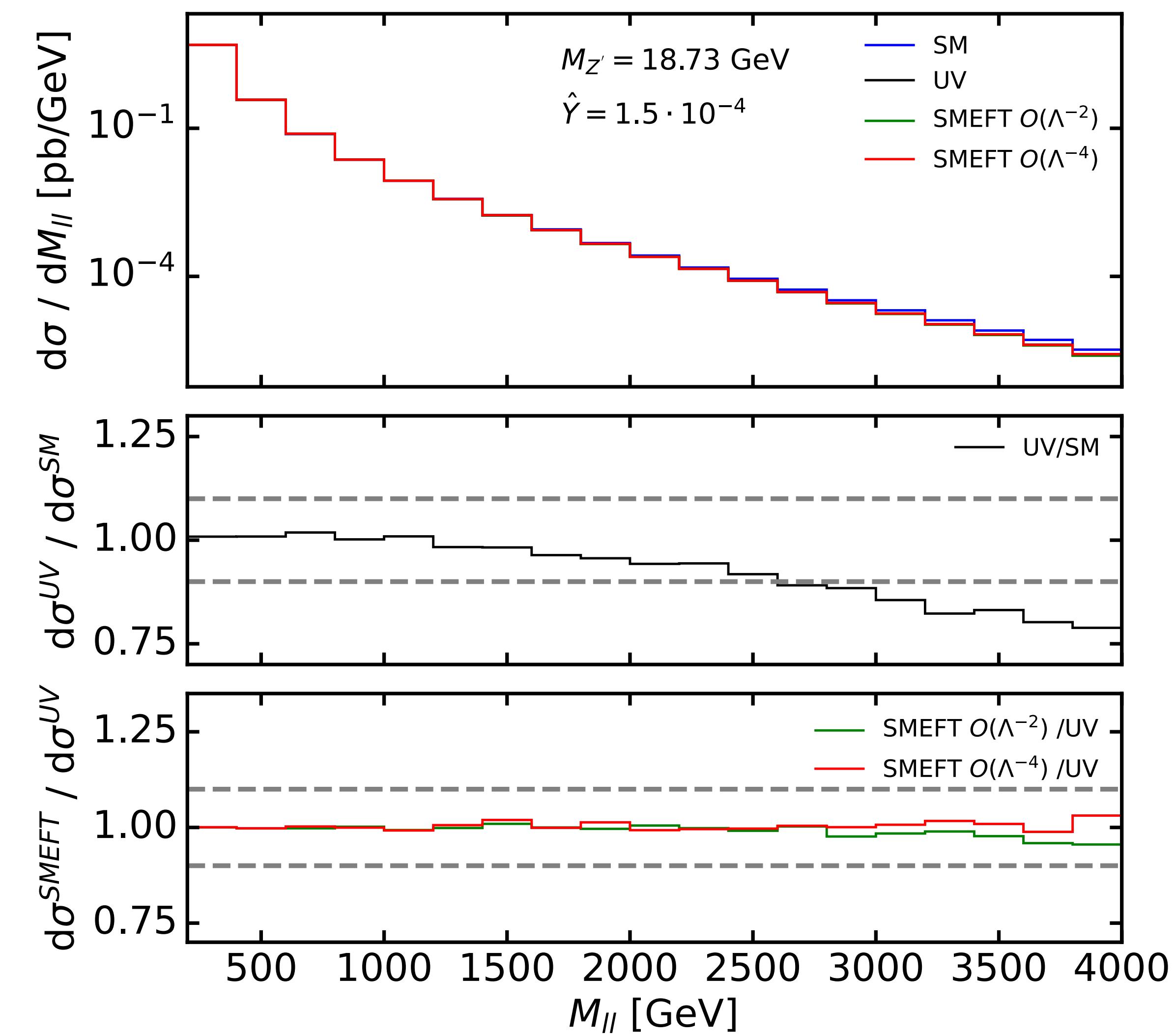
$$J_Y^\mu = \sum_f Y_f \bar{f} \gamma^\mu f$$



Impacts neutral current Drell-Yan processes

$$p\bar{p} \rightarrow l^+l^-$$

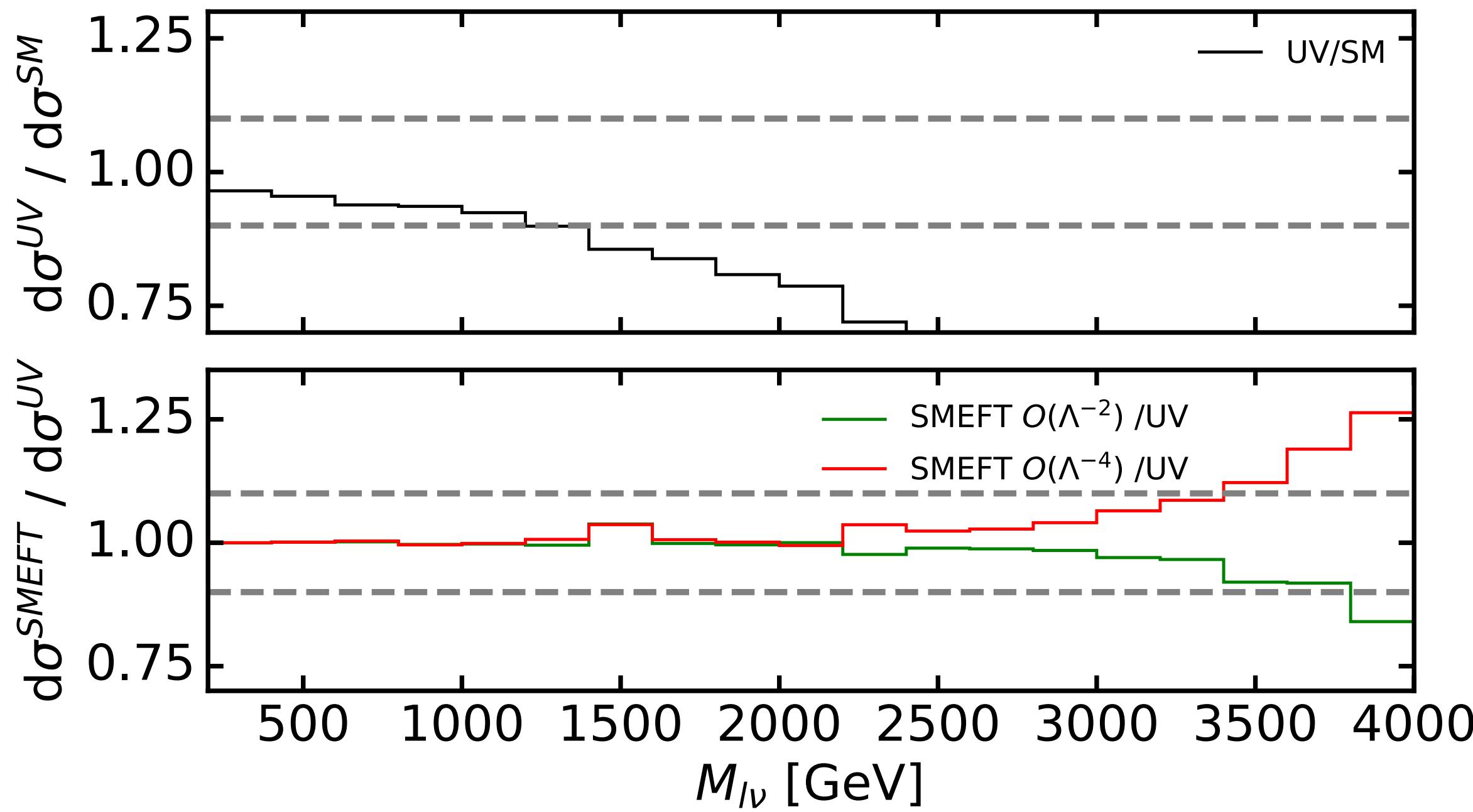
$$M_{Z'} = 18.7 \text{ TeV}$$



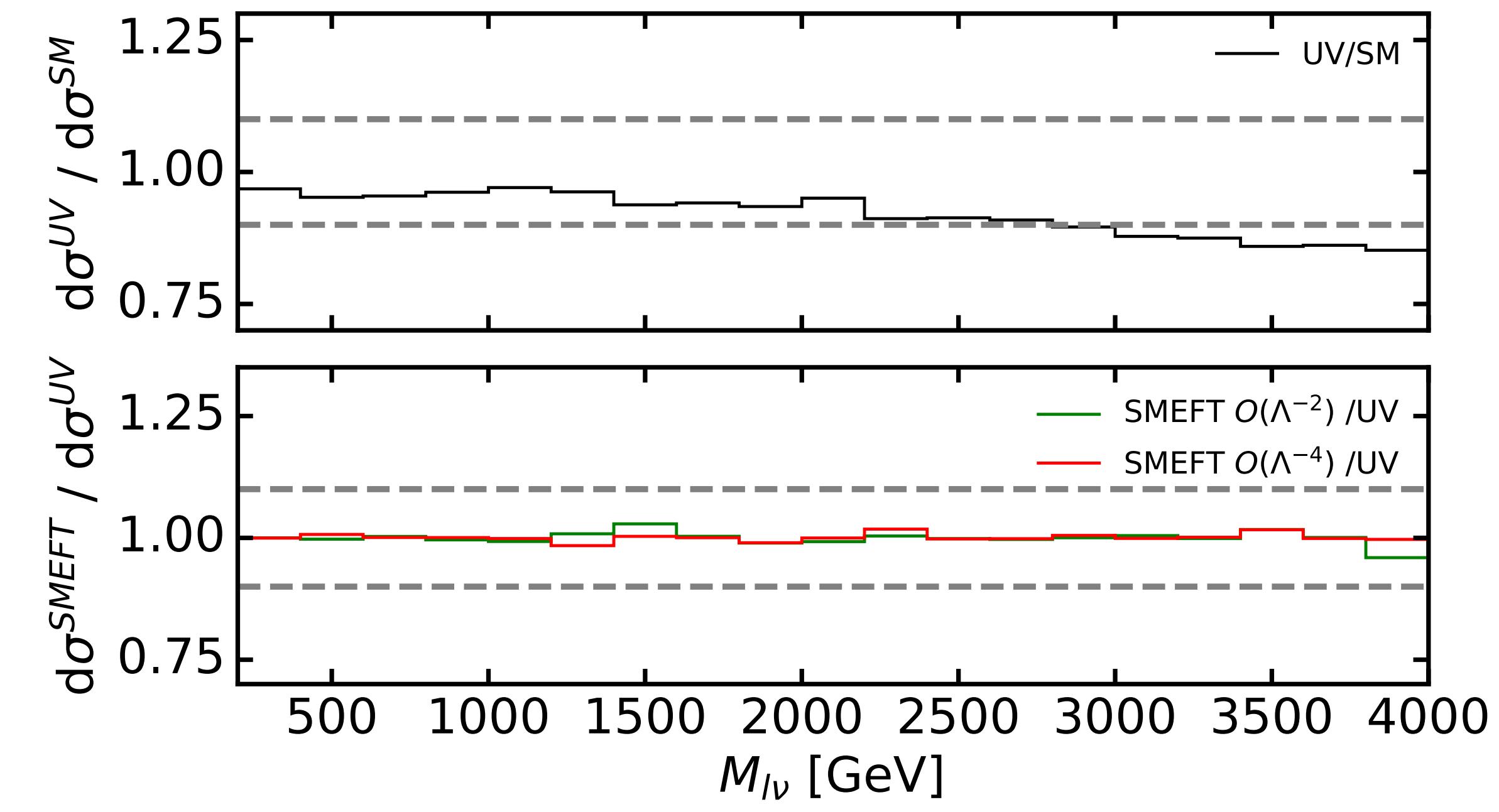
# New physics scenarios: $W'$

## Consideration of different masses

$M_{W'} = 10 \text{ TeV}$



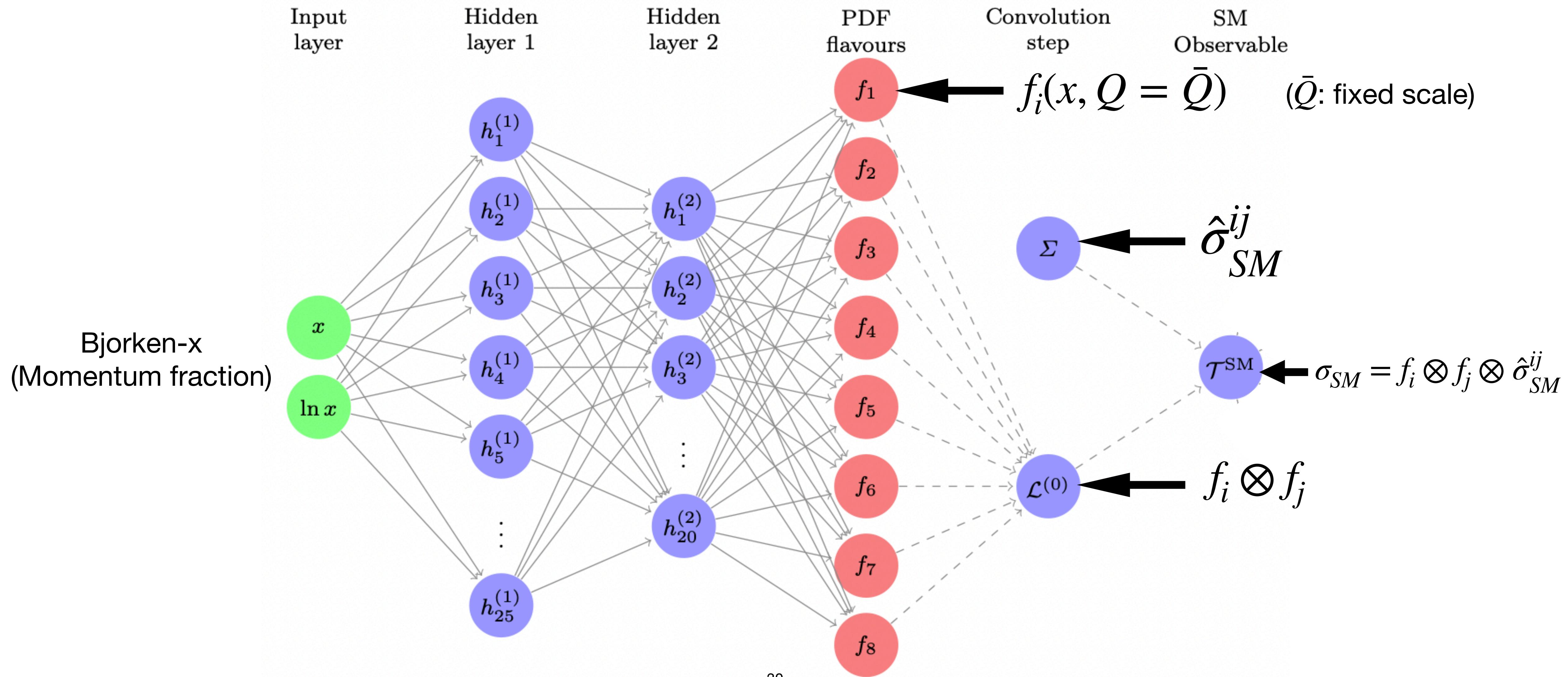
$M_{W'} = 22.5 \text{ TeV}$



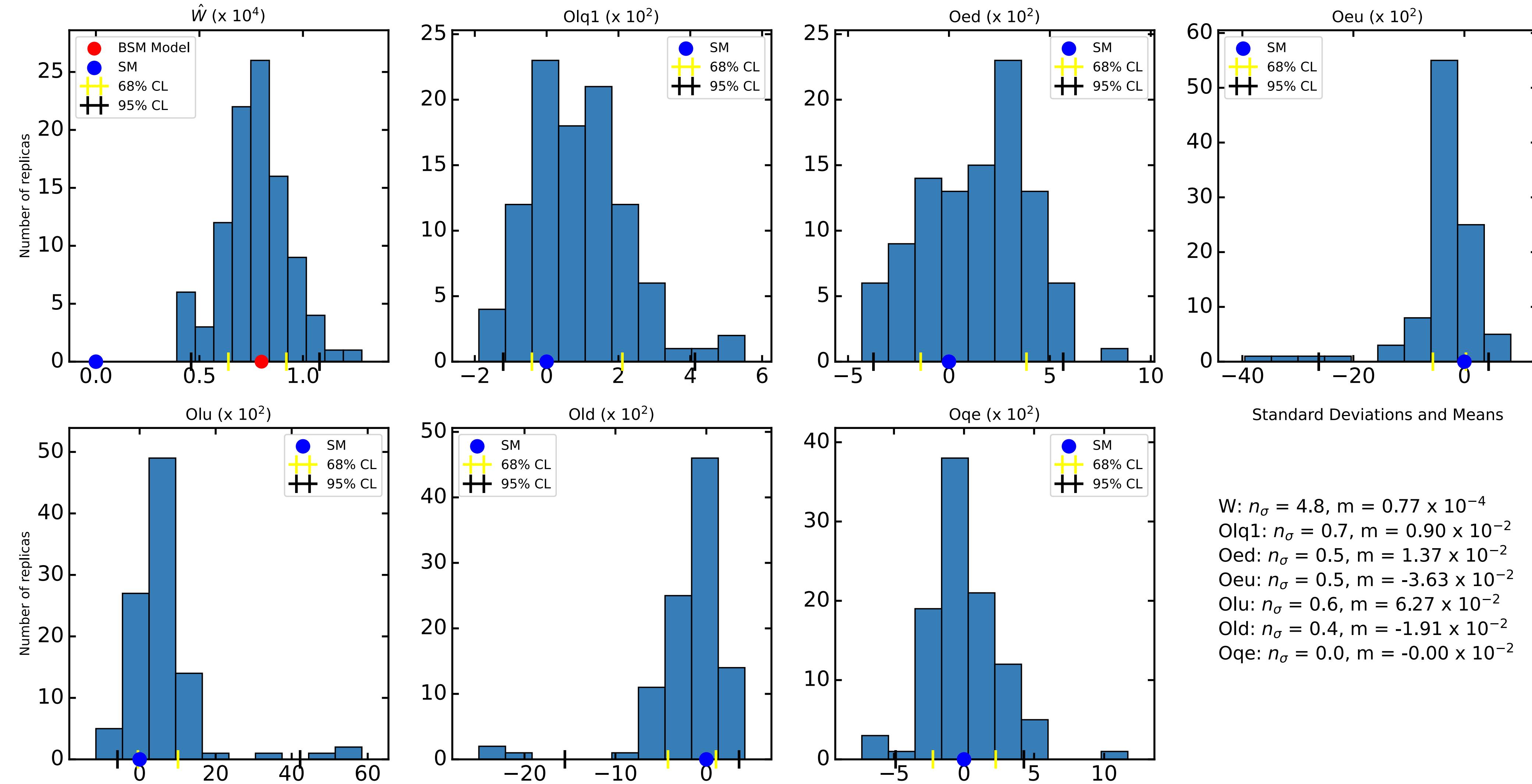
# List of deviations

Dataset	HL-LHC		Stat. improved	
	$\chi^2/n_{\text{dat}}$	$n_\sigma$	$\chi^2/n_{\text{dat}}$	$n_\sigma$
$W^+H$	1.17	0.41	1.77	1.97
$W^-H$	1.08	0.19	1.08	0.19
$W^+Z$	1.08	0.19	1.49	1.20
$W^-Z$	0.99	-0.03	1.02	0.05
$ZH$	1.19	0.44	1.67	1.58
$W^+W^-$	2.19	3.04	2.69	4.31
VBF $\rightarrow H$	0.70	-0.74	0.62	-0.90

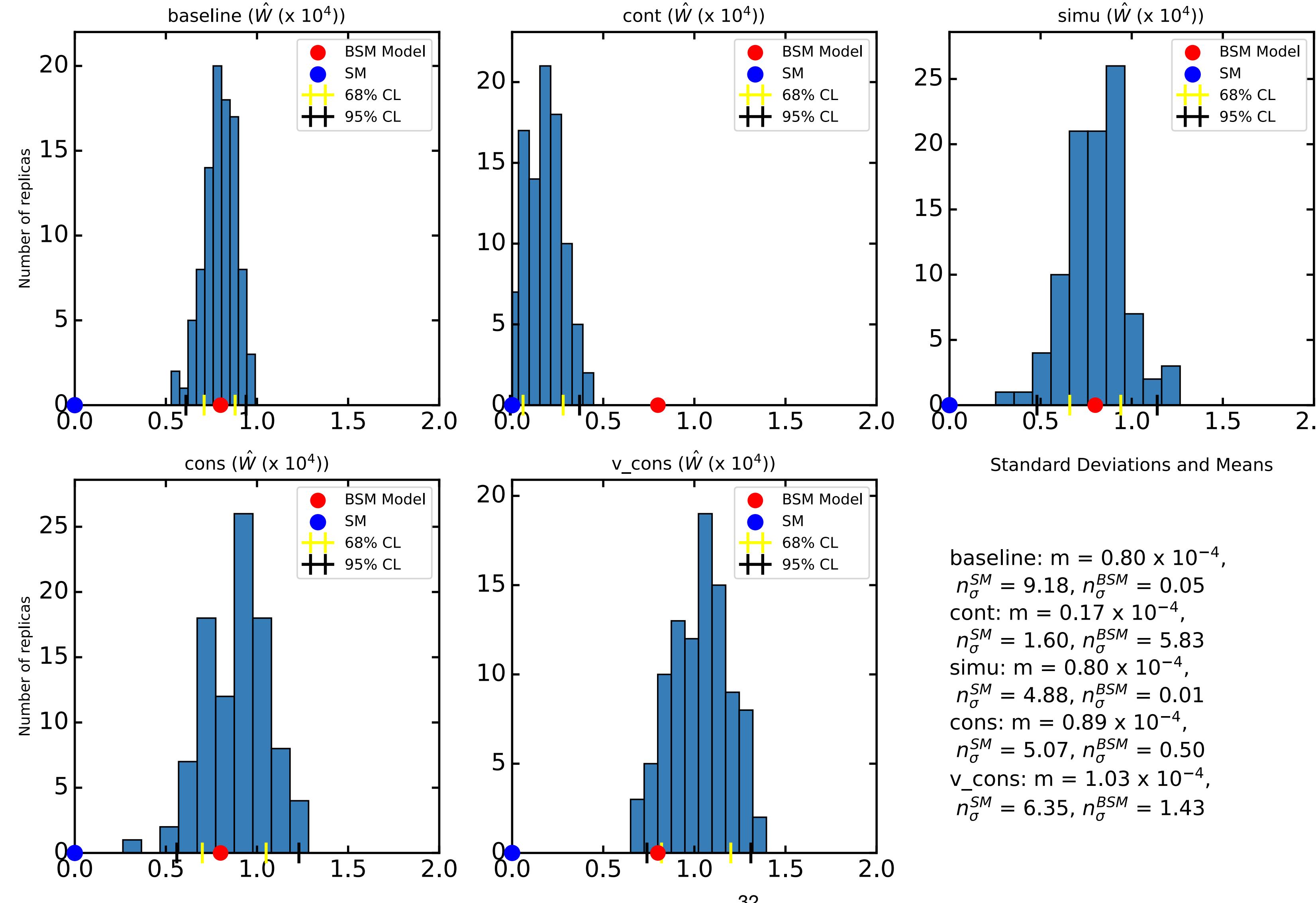
# NNPDF methodology



# Global SMEFT fit, 4 fermions operators

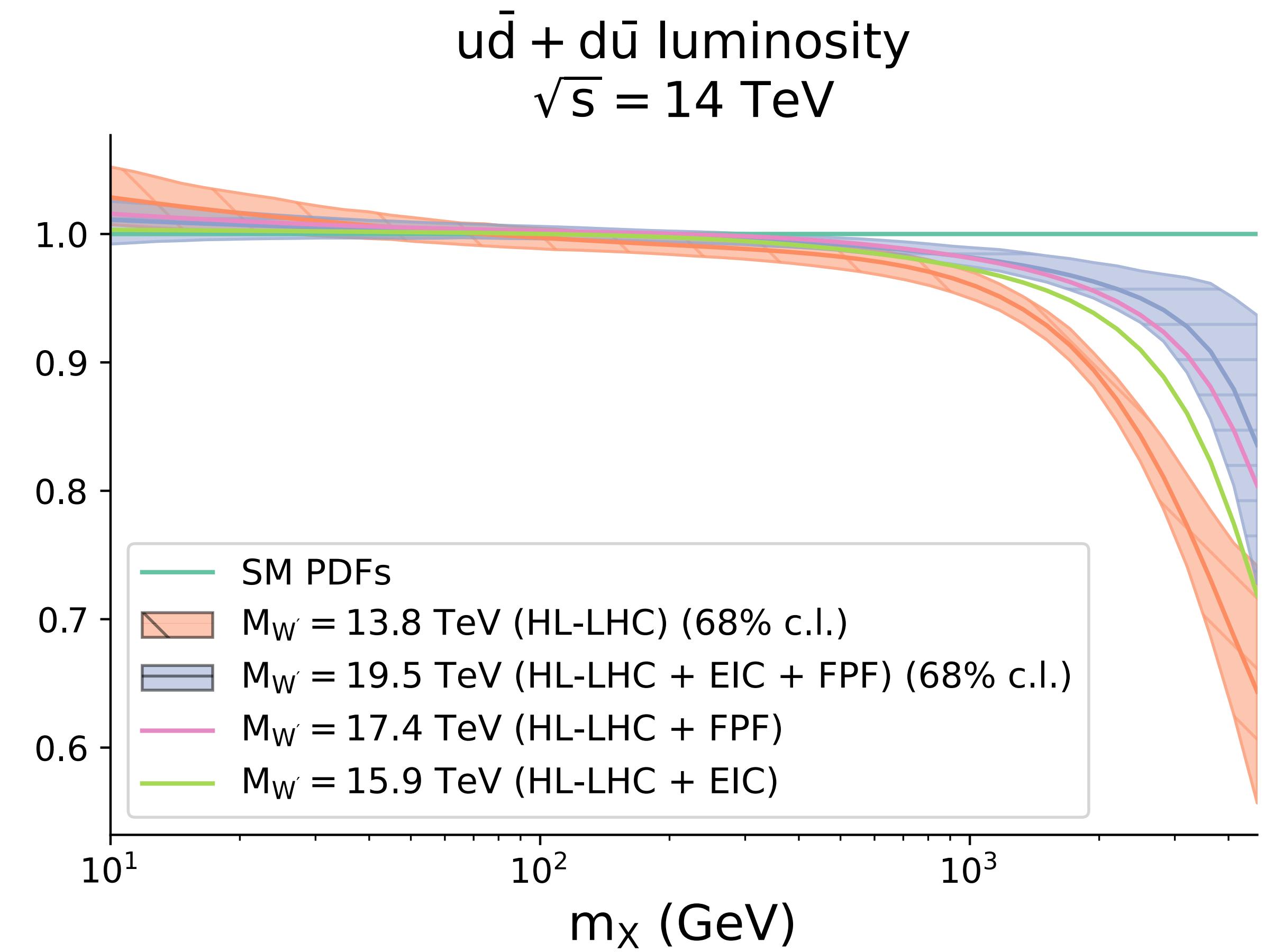
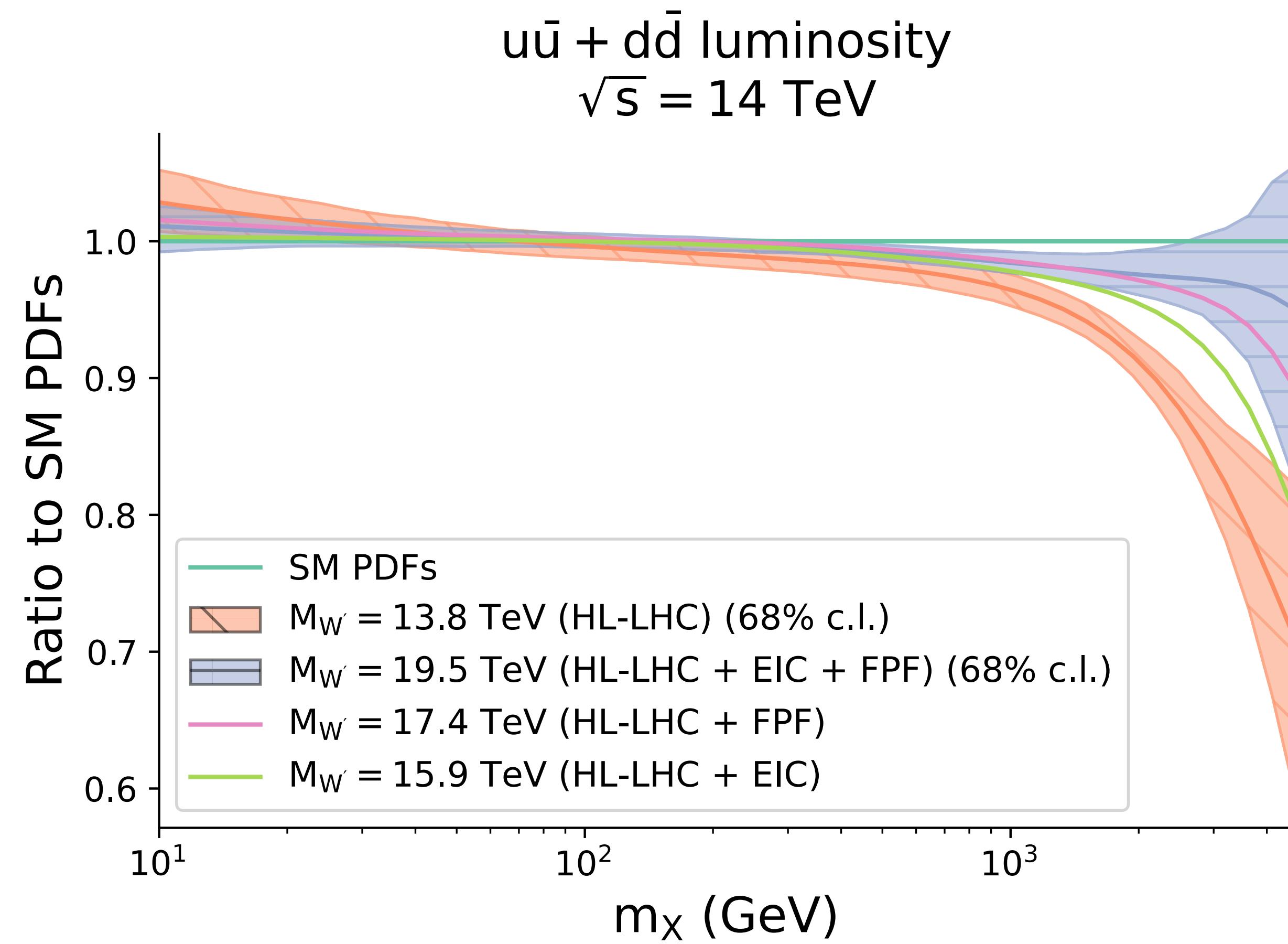


# SMEFT fits with different PDFs



# Shift of the contamination threshold

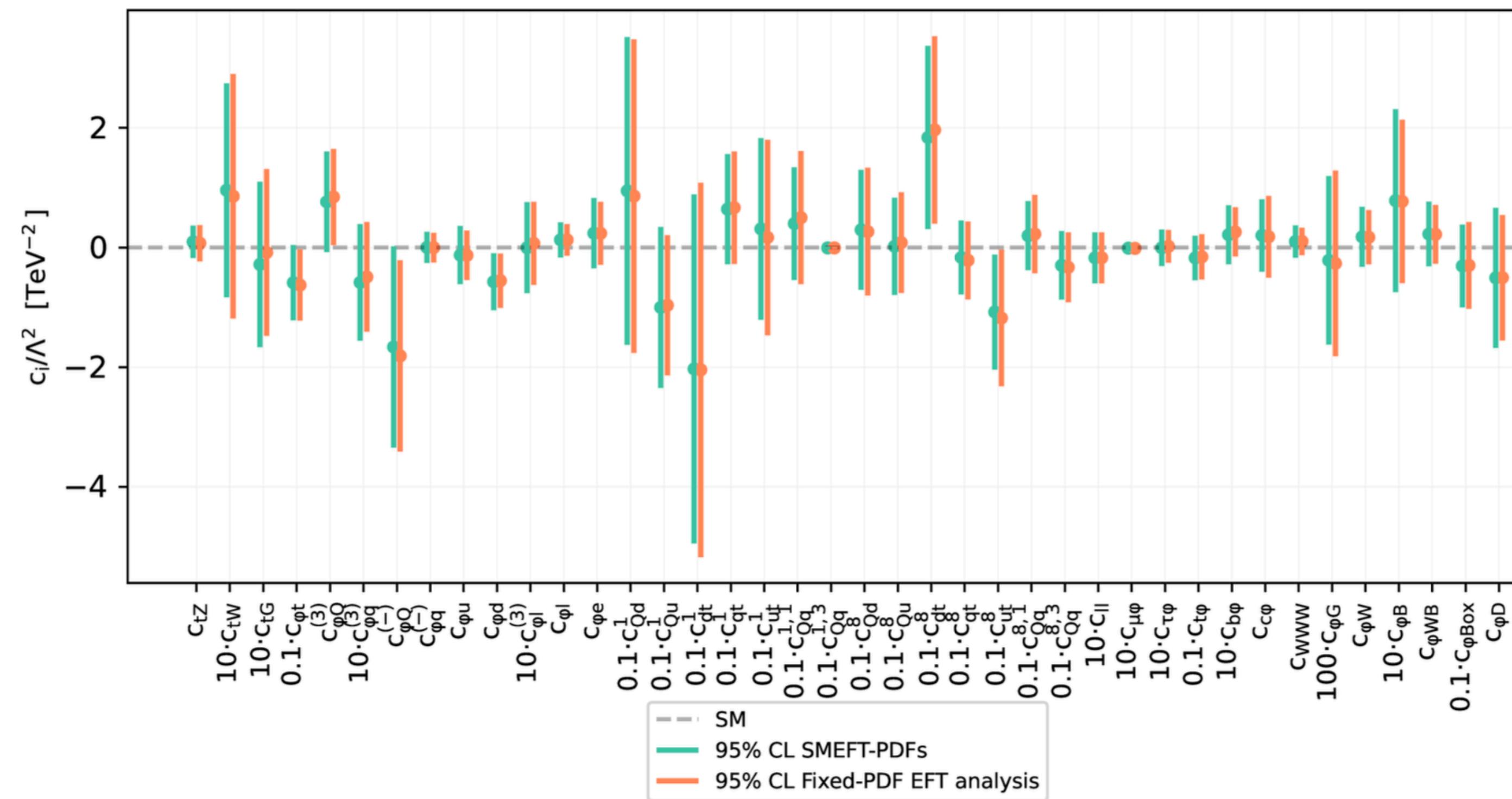
## Impact on PDF luminosities



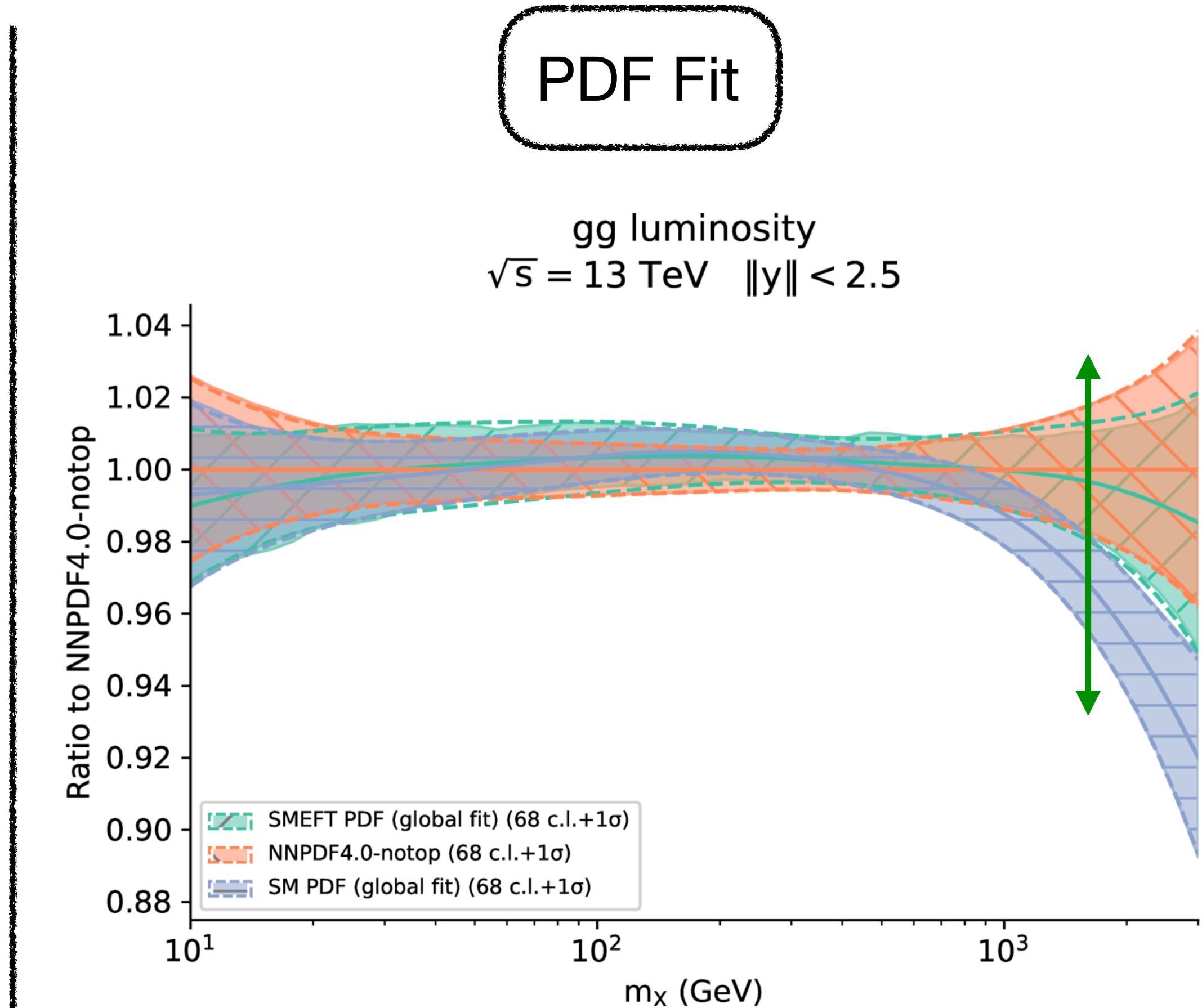
# Application to the top sector (real data)

In progress

SMEFT Fit

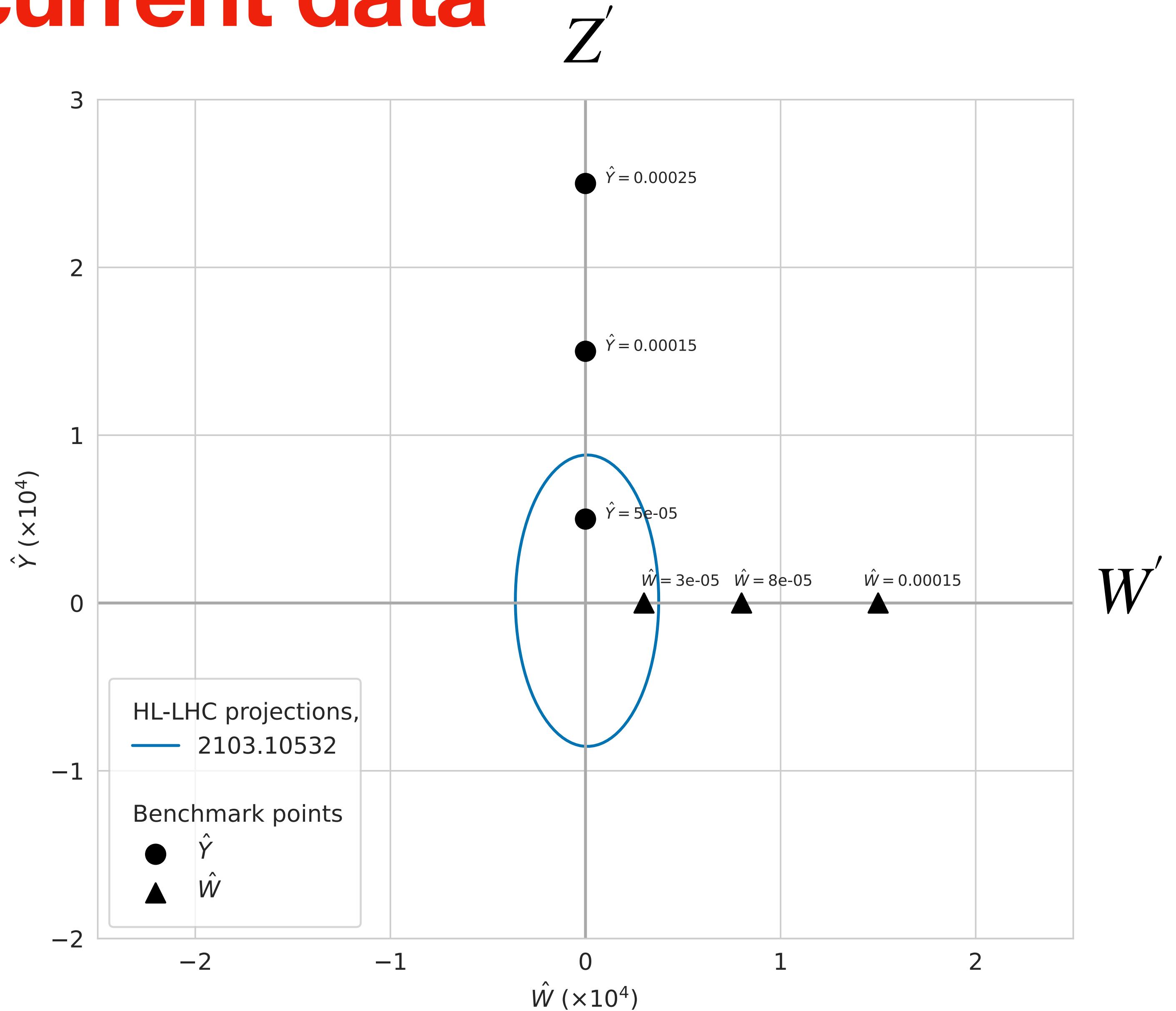


PDF Fit



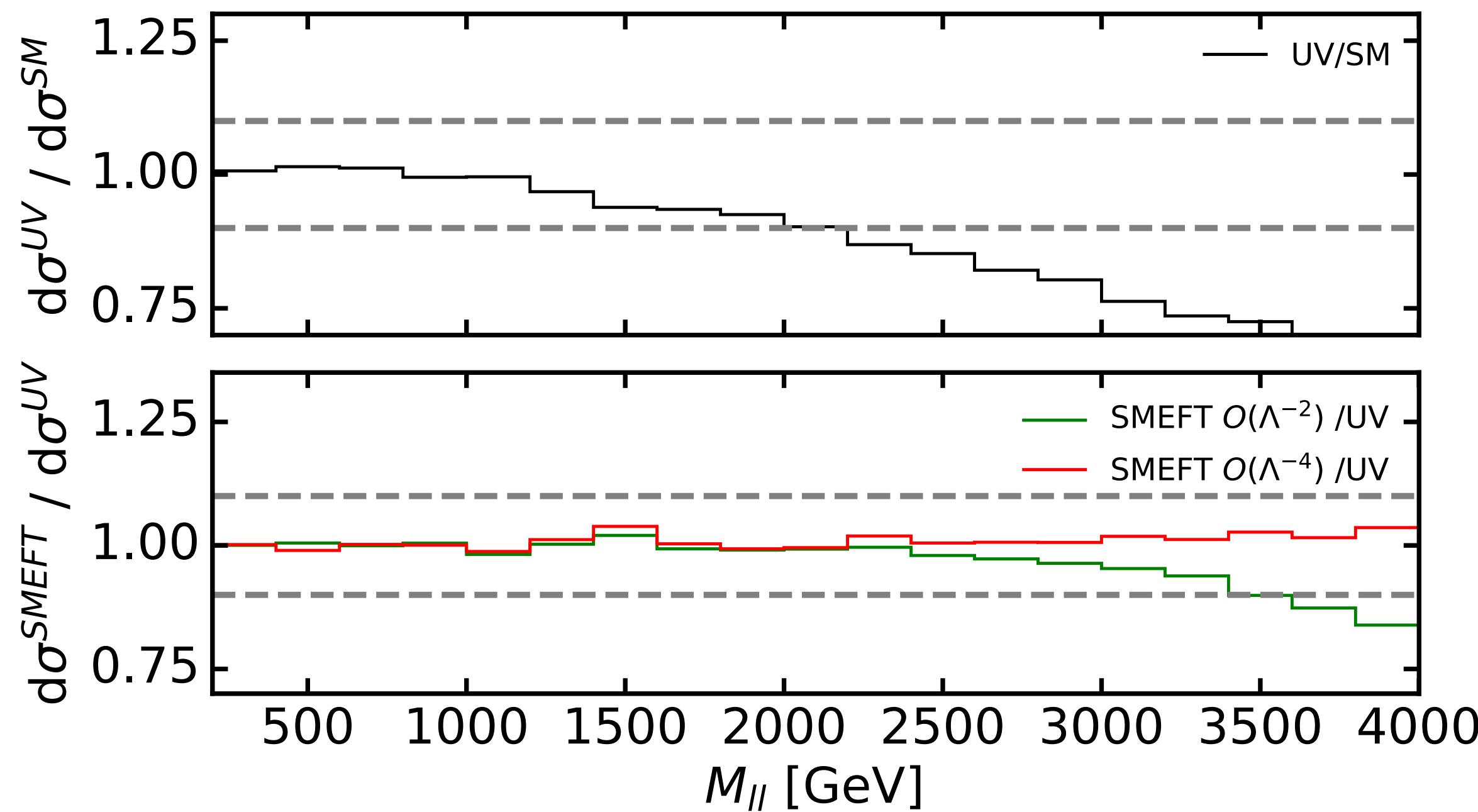
# Constraints from current data

- New physics scenarios compared to constraints at 95% CL

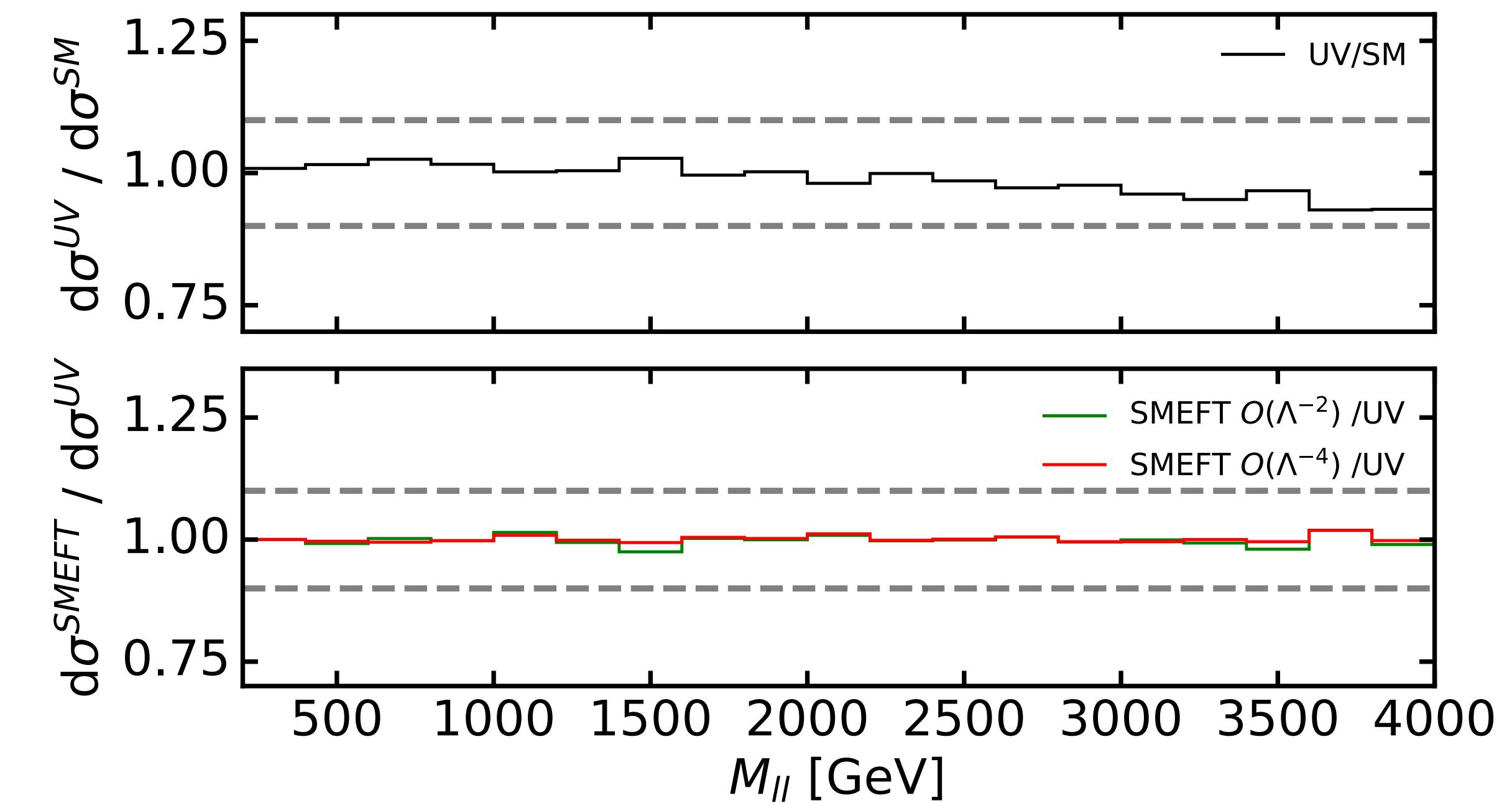


# New physics scenarios: $Z'$

$M_{Z'} = 14.5 \text{ TeV}$

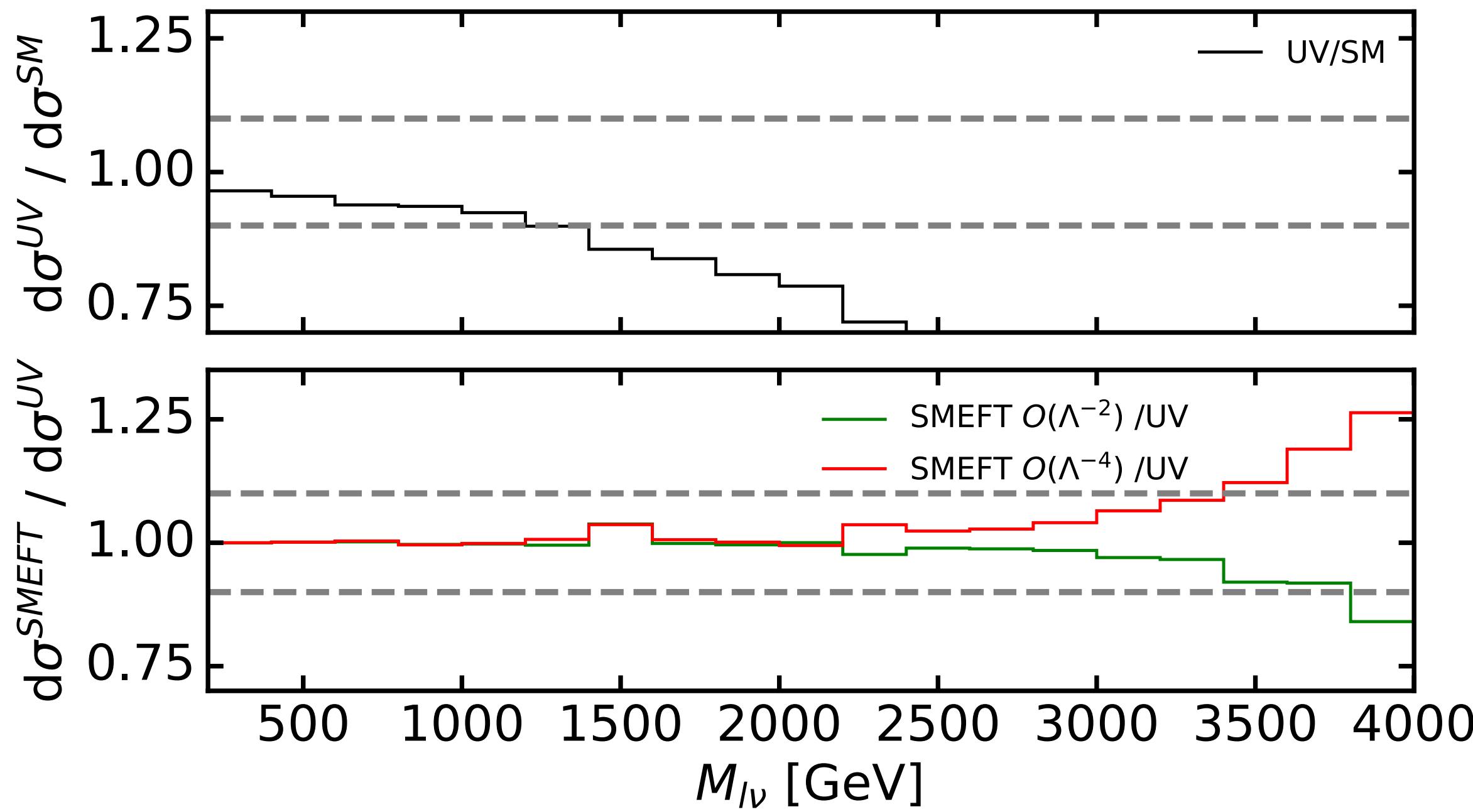


$M_{Z'} = 32.5 \text{ TeV}$



# New physics scenarios: $W'$

$M_{W'} = 10 \text{ TeV}$



$M_{W'} = 22.5 \text{ TeV}$

