

# Physics and Computing with ATLAS and US ATLAS

Peter Onyisi

TIGER Workshop, 9 Apr 2025



# About Myself

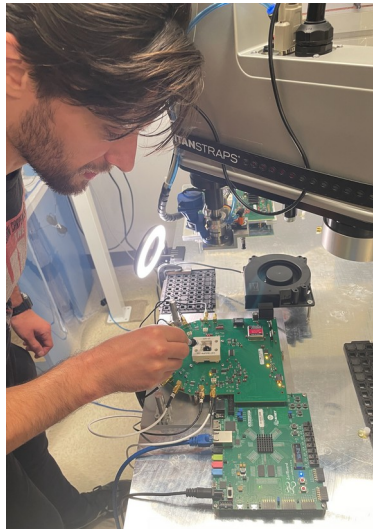
- Founder and one of two PIs of the UT-Austin ATLAS group
  - supported by the Department of Energy
- 17 years on ATLAS
  - before then: CLEO-c and CDF experiments
- Deputy US ATLAS Maintenance and Operations manager
- Physics:
  - Higgs discovery
  - observation of top quark-Higgs boson interactions
  - searches for rare top quark decays
  - proton structure (multi-parton interactions)
  - rare bottom quark decays
- Main technical contribution: ATLAS data quality monitoring software
- Started as an “associated institute” with the University of Chicago, became a full member of ATLAS after becoming a two PI group



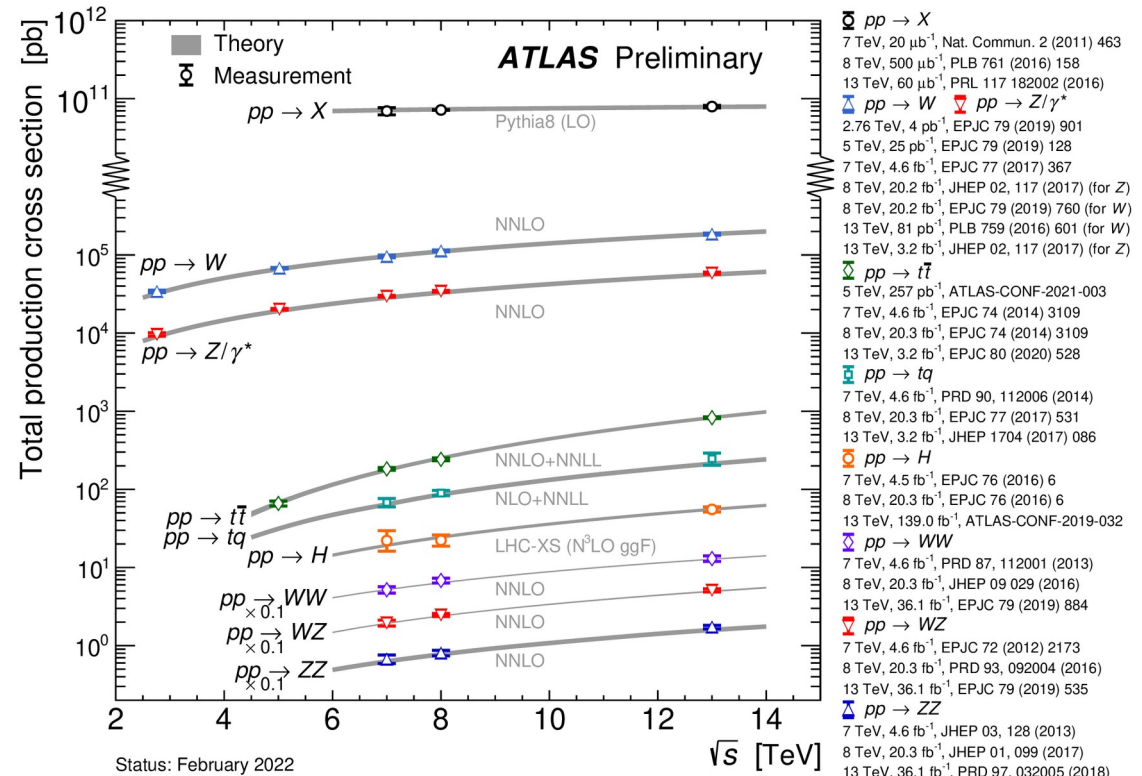
# The UT-Austin Group

Physics is more friendly in a group...

- 17 people total – faculty, postdocs, engineers, grad and undergrad students
- I do more software, the other PI – Tim Andeen – is more hardware-oriented (liquid argon calorimeter electronics)
- Complementary physics interests – measurements vs searches



The Standard Model successfully predicts everything within its domain, but ...



Electron anomalous magnetic moment:

Exp 0.001 159 652 180 48(18)  
Th 0.001 159 652 182 03 2(720)

# Incomplete list of problems

## No gravity!

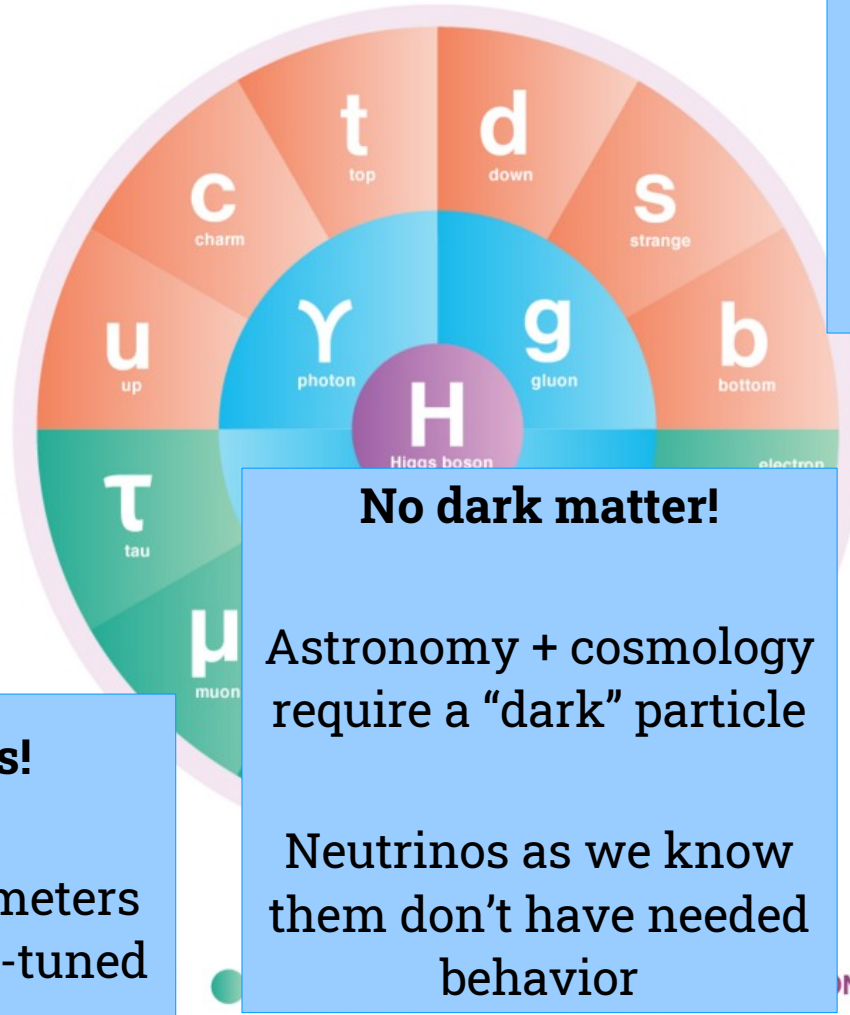
No verified theory of quantum gravity

## No neutrino masses!

Neutrino masses require degrees of freedom beyond the SM

## Naturalness!

Higgs field parameters seem highly fine-tuned



## No dark matter!

Astronomy + cosmology require a “dark” particle

Neutrinos as we know them don't have needed behavior

## No dark energy!

The universe is being inflated by an invisible source of energy – what?

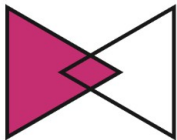
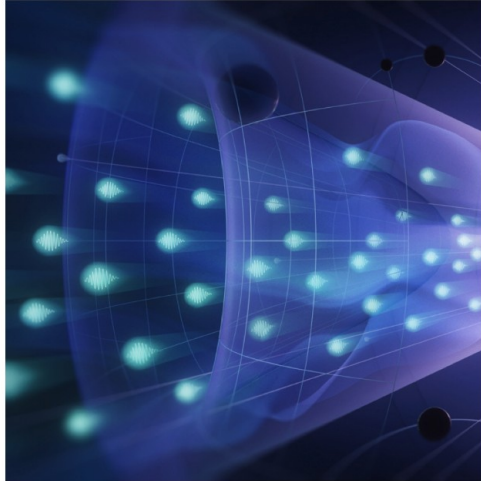
## Not enough matter!

Unable to generate enough asymmetry between matter & antimatter in the Big Bang



# US Particle Physics Roadmap

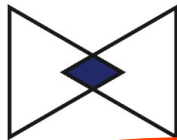
- LHC activities address four of the six science drivers for the next decade+ identified by the 2023 Particle Physics Project Prioritization Panel



Decipher  
the  
Quantum  
Realm

Elucidate the Mysteries  
of Neutrinos

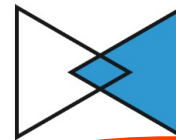
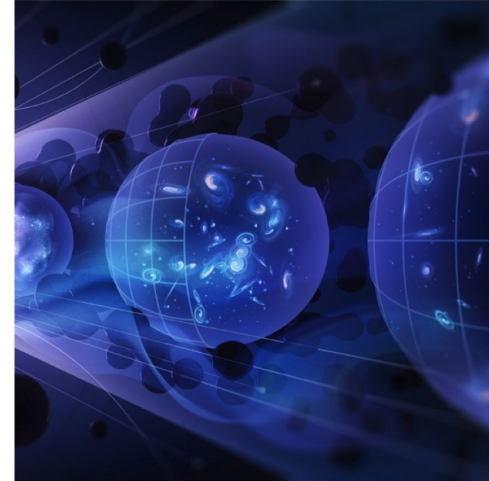
Reveal the Secrets of  
the Higgs Boson



Explore  
New  
Paradigms  
in Physics

Search for Direct Evidence  
of New Particles

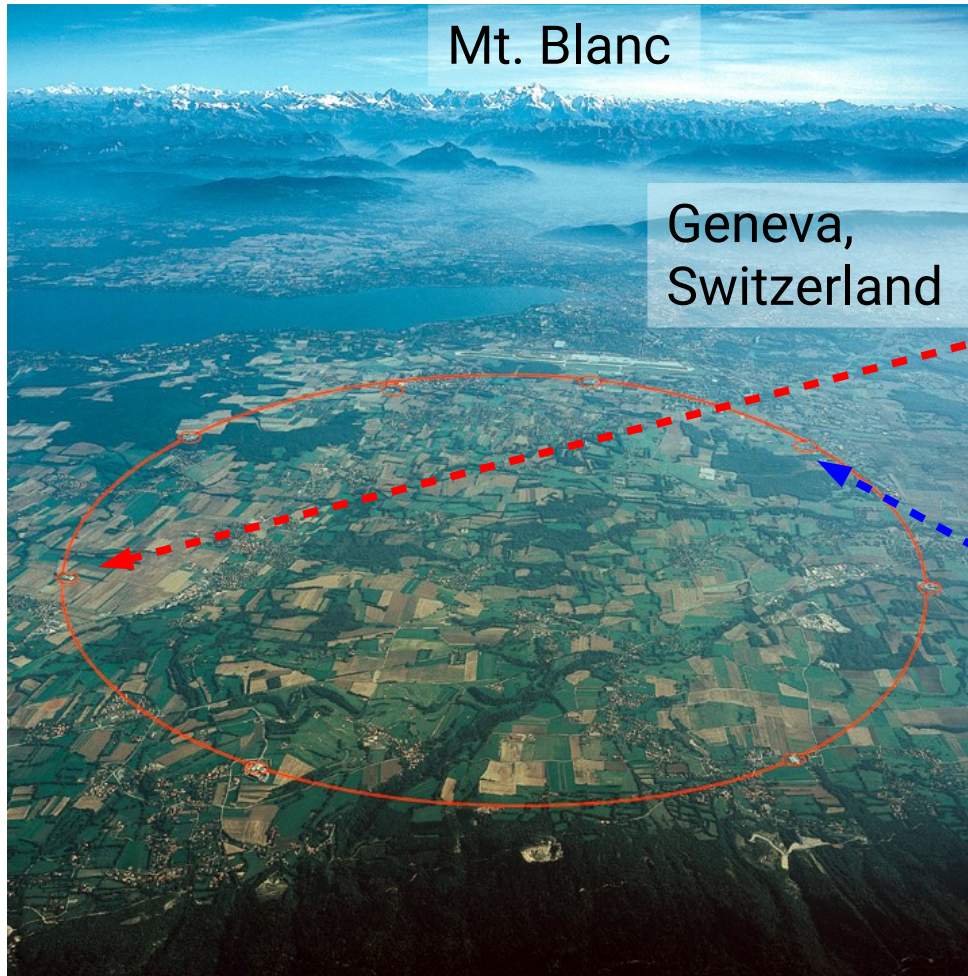
Pursue Quantum Imprints  
of New Phenomena



Illuminate  
the  
Hidden  
Universe

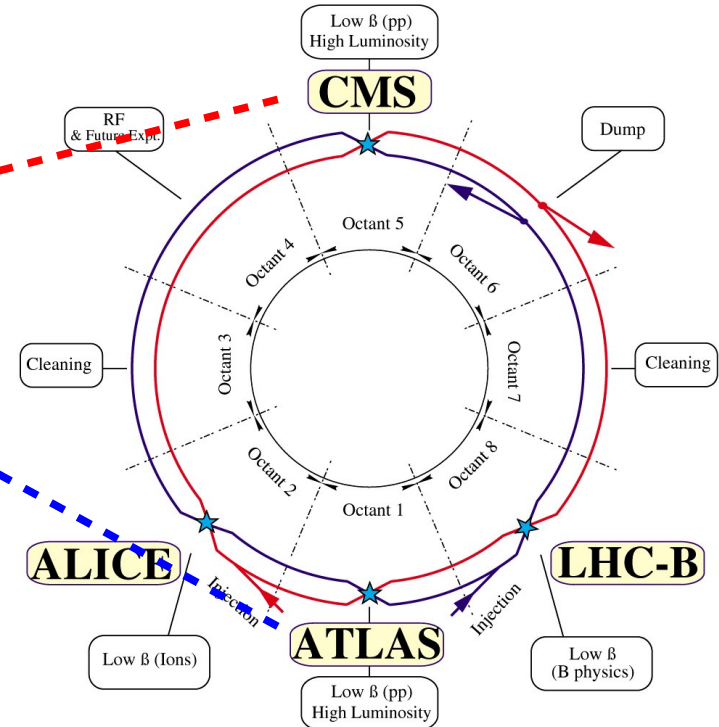
Determine the Nature  
of Dark Matter

Understand What Drives  
Cosmic Evolution

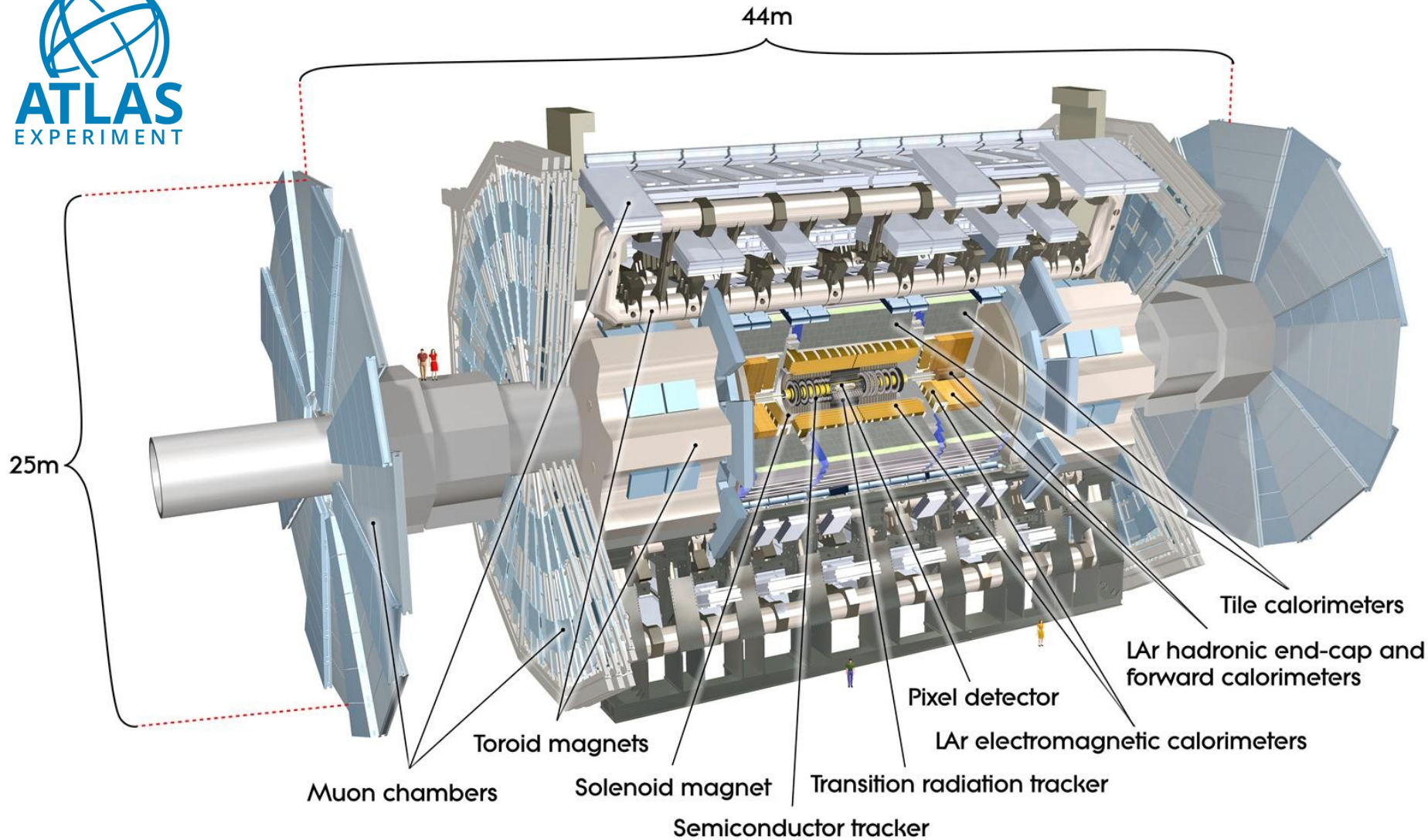


## LHC LAYOUT

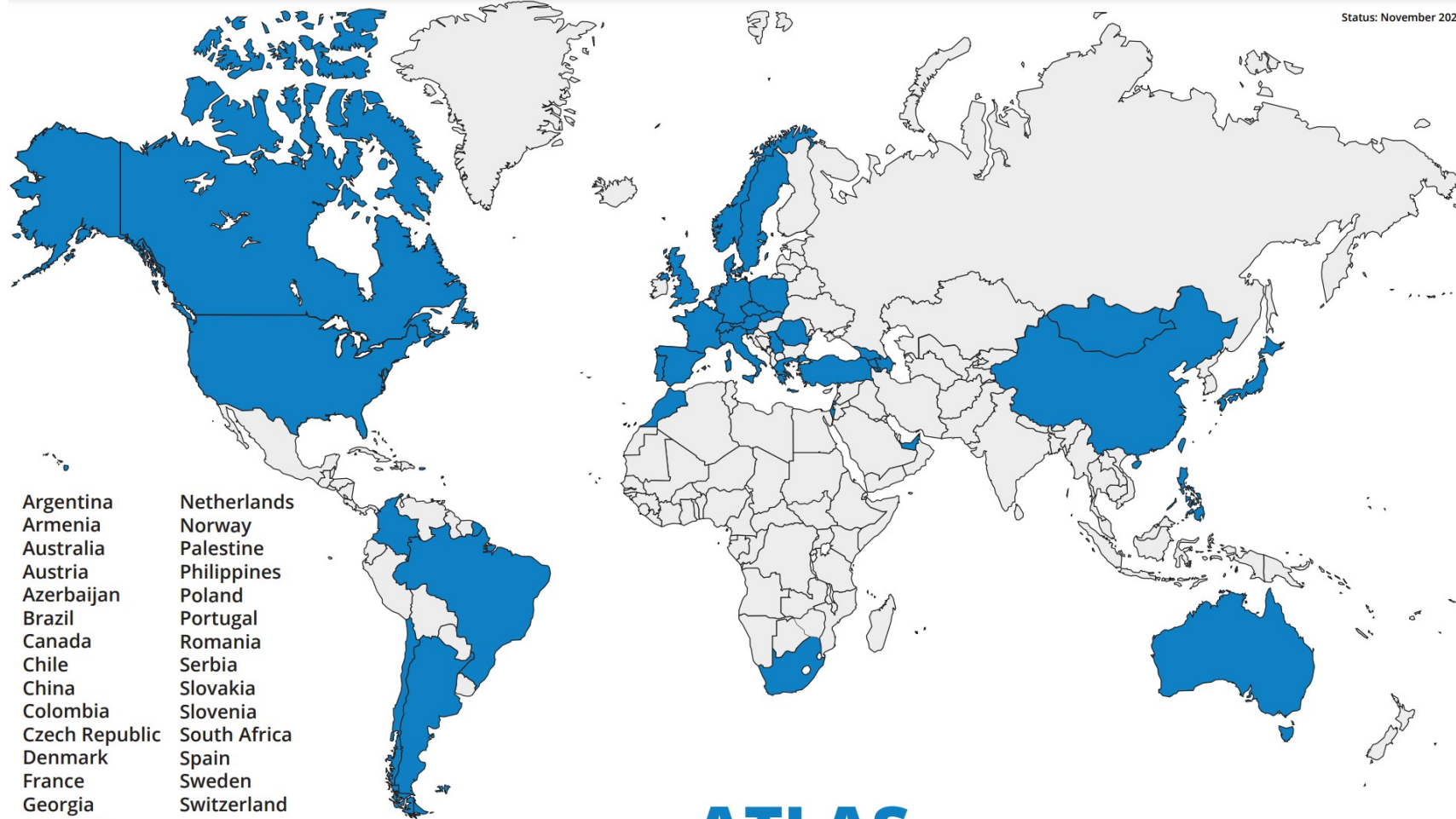
27 km circumference











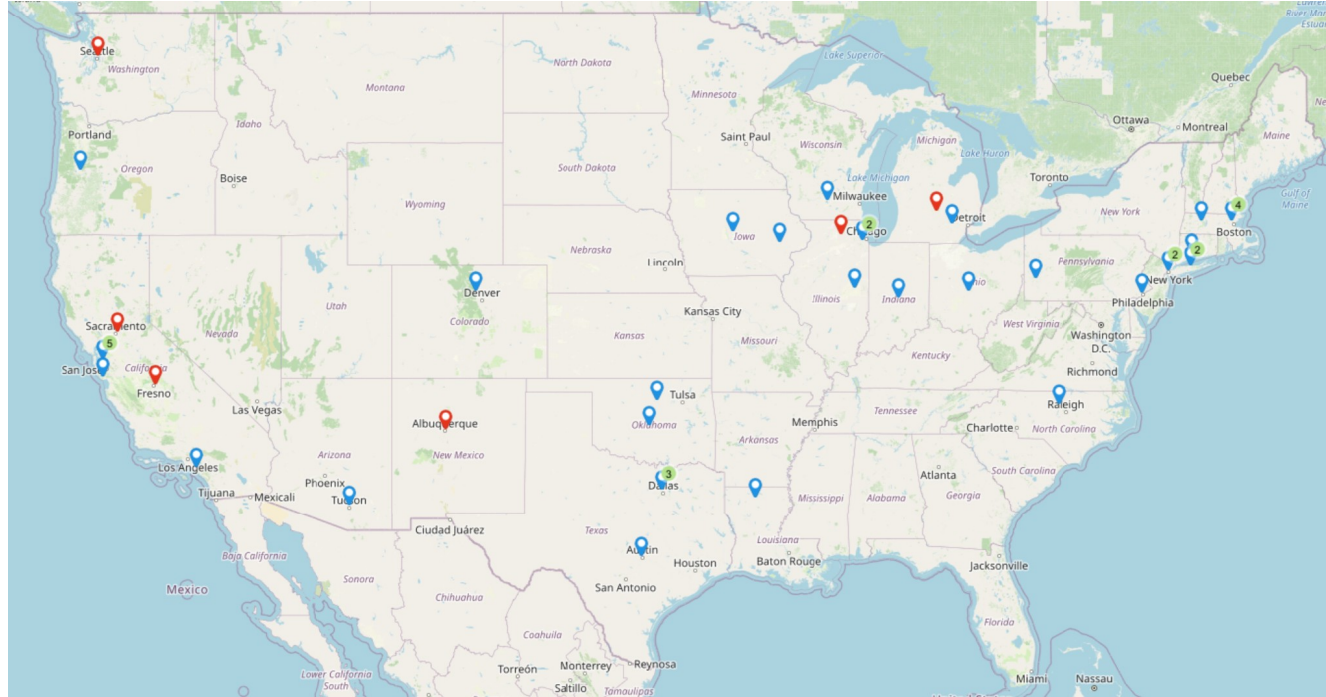
Argentina  
Armenia  
Australia  
Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Brazil  
Canada  
Chile  
China  
Colombia  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
France  
Georgia  
Germany  
Greece  
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Japan  
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Morocco  
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Norway  
Palestine  
Philippines  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Serbia  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
South Africa  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Taiwan  
Türkiye  
UAE  
UK  
USA  
CERN  
JINR

# ATLAS Collaboration

*177 institutions (243 institutes) from 40 countries*

# The US in ATLAS

- Roughly 20% of the collaborators in ATLAS are from US institutions
  - 5 national laboratories,  $\approx$  40 university groups
  - largest single country
- Involved in almost every aspect of construction, operation, and physics analysis



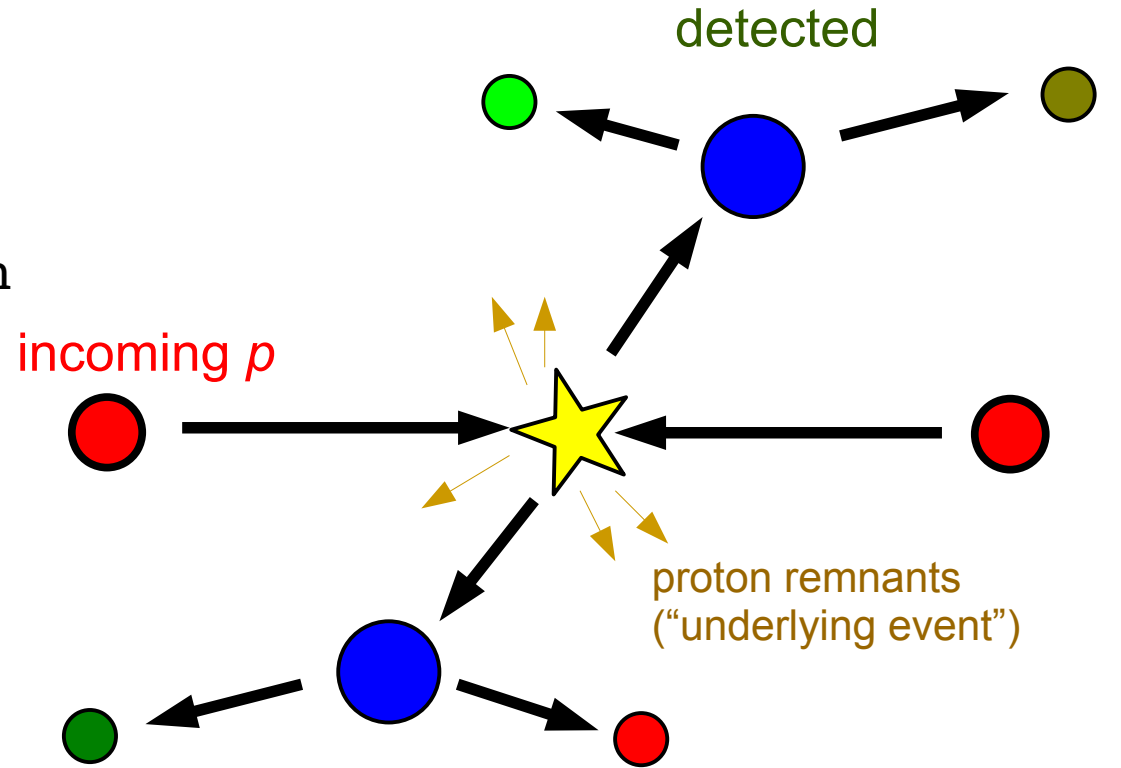
# General Principle

convert **kinetic** energy to **mass** energy  
of new particles

Proton kinetic energy 7250 times proton  
mass

Protons are messy things, actually  
collide proton constituents!

Detect long-lived resulting particles in  
detectors, look for patterns



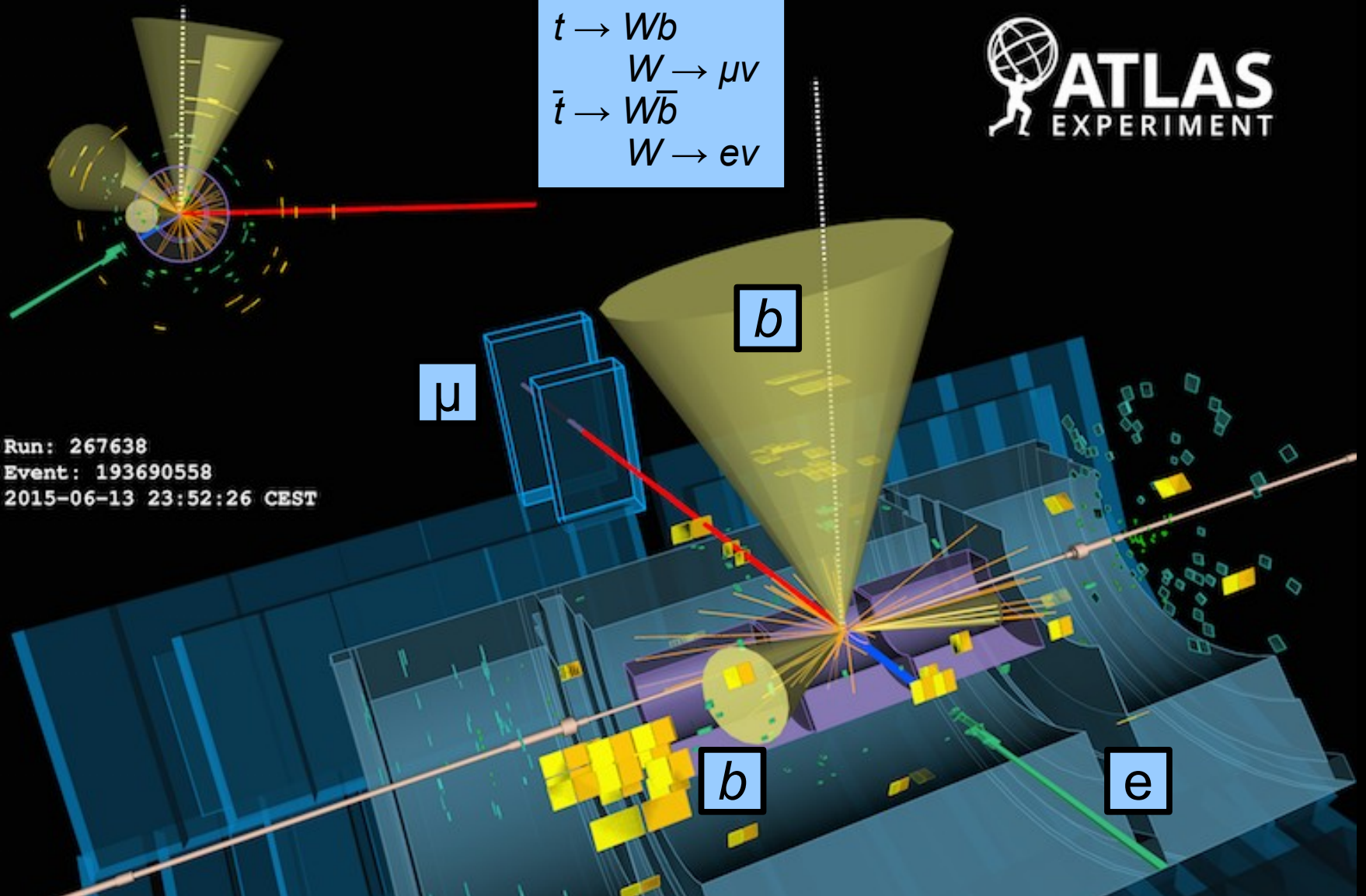
Higgs lifetime  $\sim 10^{-22}$  s  
top quark lifetime  $\sim 5 \times 10^{-25}$  s

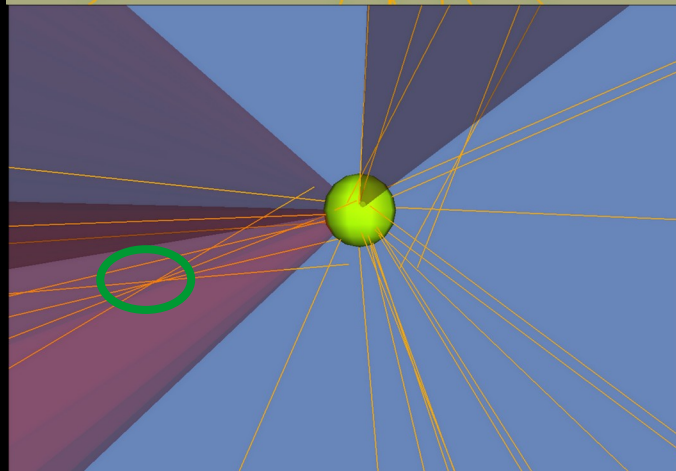
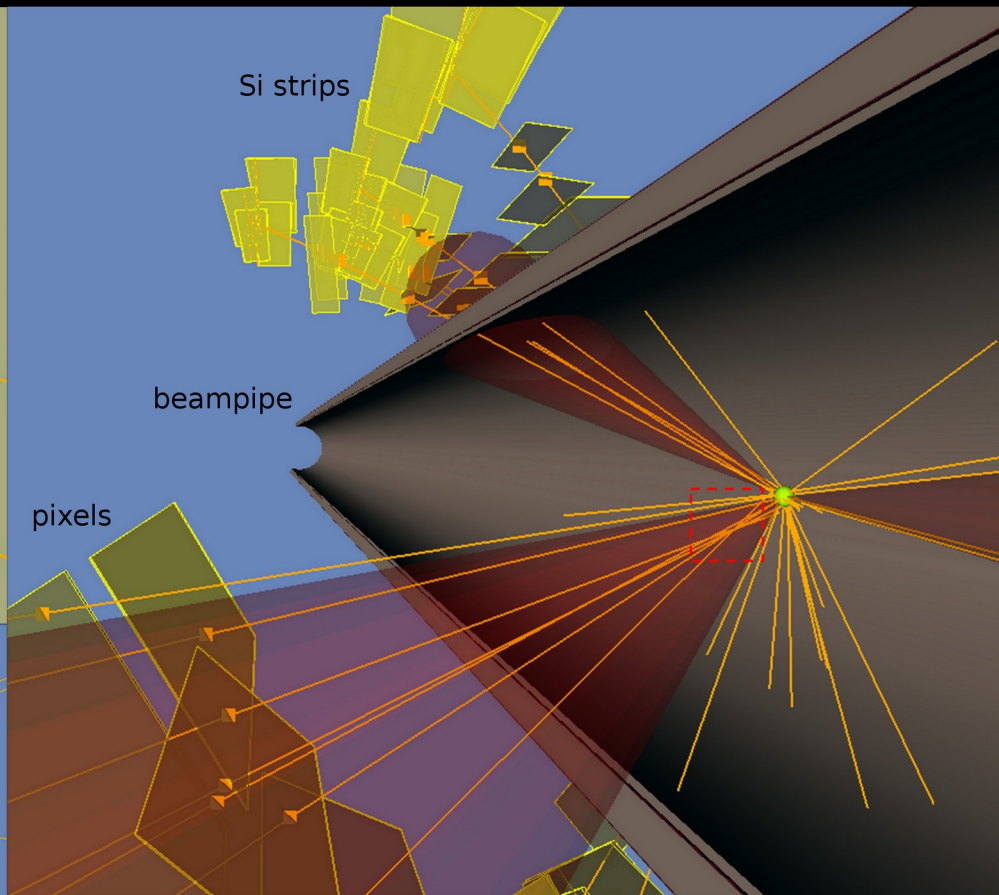
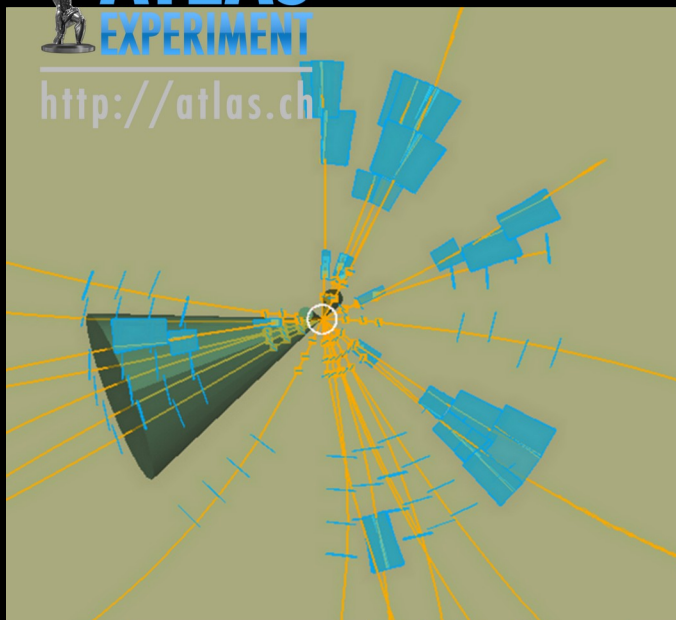


$t \rightarrow Wb$   
 $W \rightarrow \mu\nu$   
 $\bar{t} \rightarrow W\bar{b}$   
 $W \rightarrow e\nu$



Run: 267638  
Event: 193690558  
2015-06-13 23:52:26 CEST



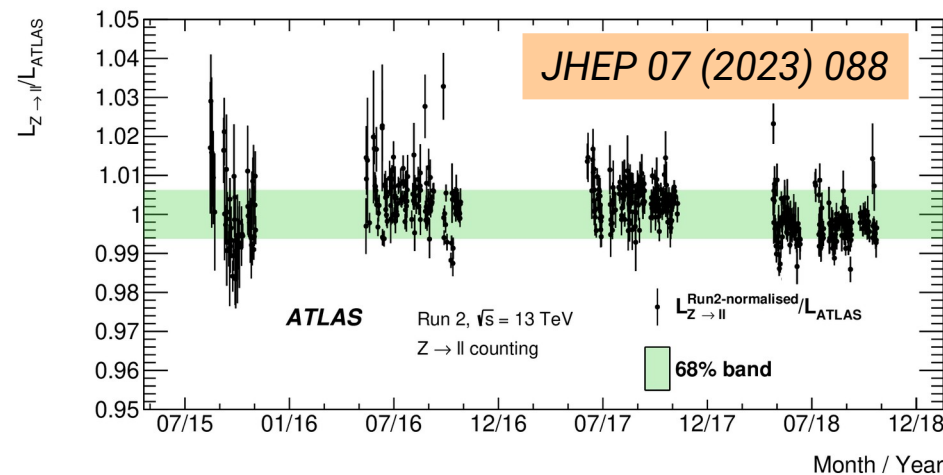
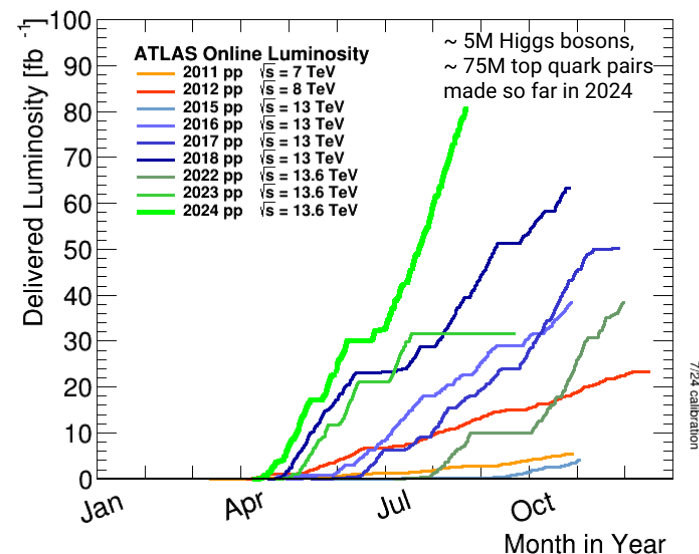


jet  
 $p_T = 19$  GeV (measured at electromagnetic scale)

4 b-tagging quality tracks in the jet

# Collecting Data

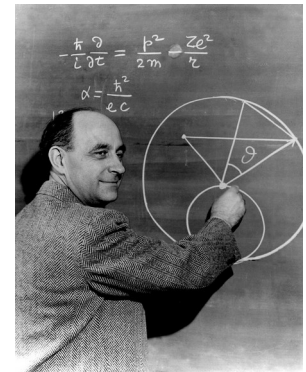
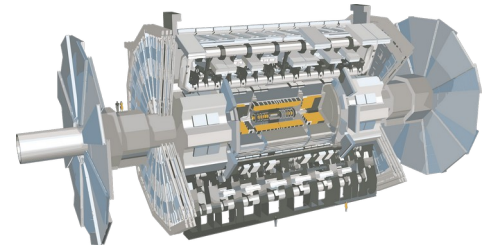
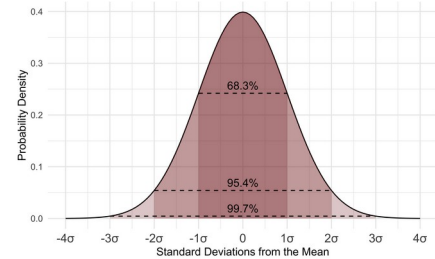
- Run 2 (2015-18) of the LHC was a great success
  - center of mass energy 13 TeV
  - routinely achieved luminosity 2x higher than design
    - design lumi ( $10^{34} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) = 8 top pairs produced per second
  - data still being analyzed
- Started Run 3 in 2022
  - center of mass energy 13.6 TeV
- Need to carefully calibrate the number of recorded collisions
  - One standard candle technique pioneered at UT





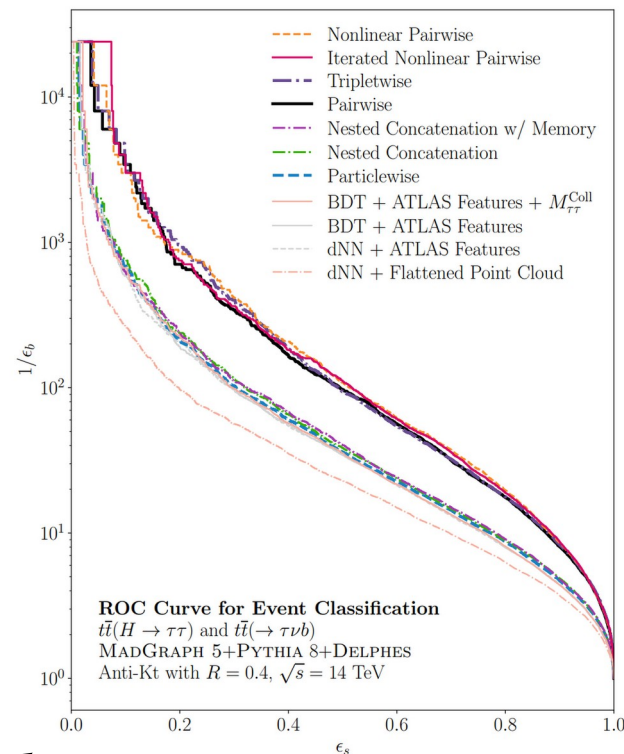
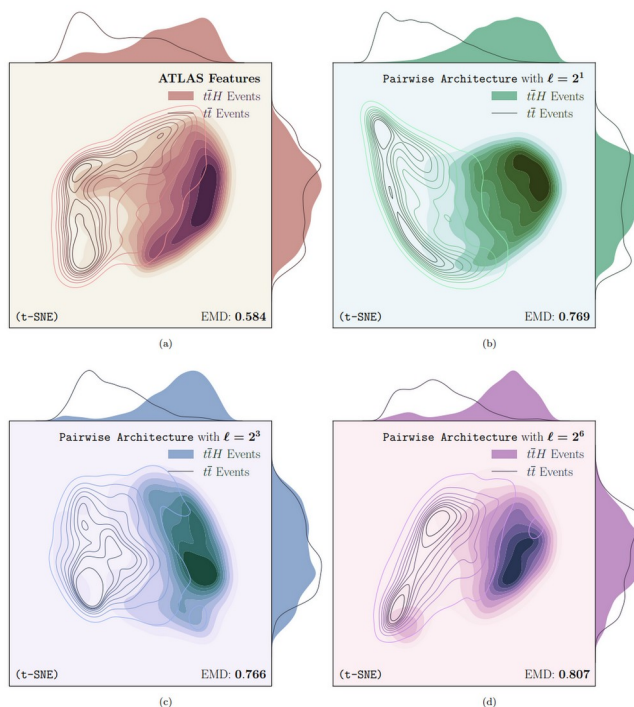
# What limits our sensitivity?

- Statistics
  - some things are just very rare
  - or hard to distinguish from other background processes
- Detector understanding
  - many calibrations need to be done *in situ*
  - simulations of detectors are never perfect
- Theory
  - perturbation theory calculations inherently have truncation uncertainties
  - many nonperturbative effects encapsulated in (imperfect) models



# Machine Learning

- AI/ML is a standard part of particle physics workflows
- Our data are kind of weird
  - number & type of particles differs between collisions
  - no natural “order” of particles (unlike language)
- R&D on powerful but practical ML still important
  - can't afford infinite training sets or compute



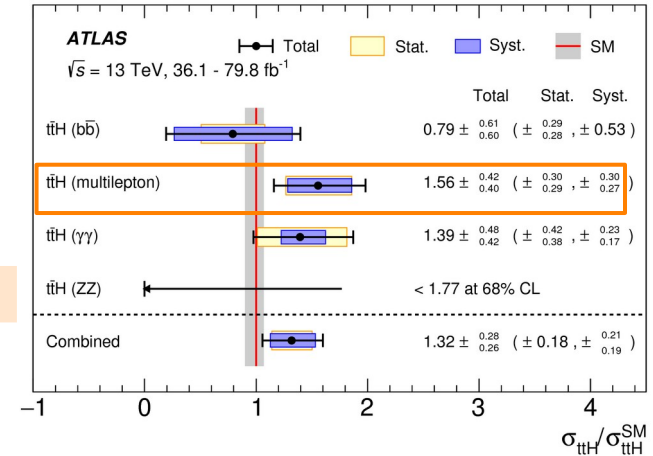
Simple way to include varying particle content in a permutation-invariant way: **DeepSets**

Onyisi, Thaler, Shen  
PRD 108, 012001 (2023)

# Higgs boson couplings

- First direct observation of the top quark-Higgs boson interaction in 2022

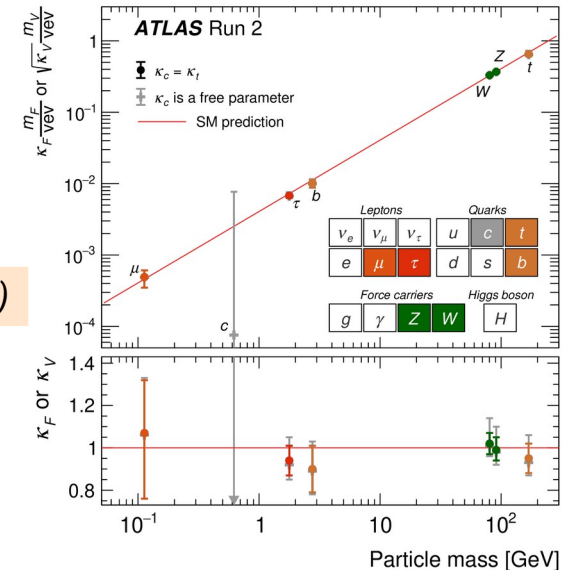
*Phys. Lett. B784 173 (2018)*



- Part of a comprehensive program of Higgs boson interaction studies

- Observations are compatible with SM predictions at the 5-10% level

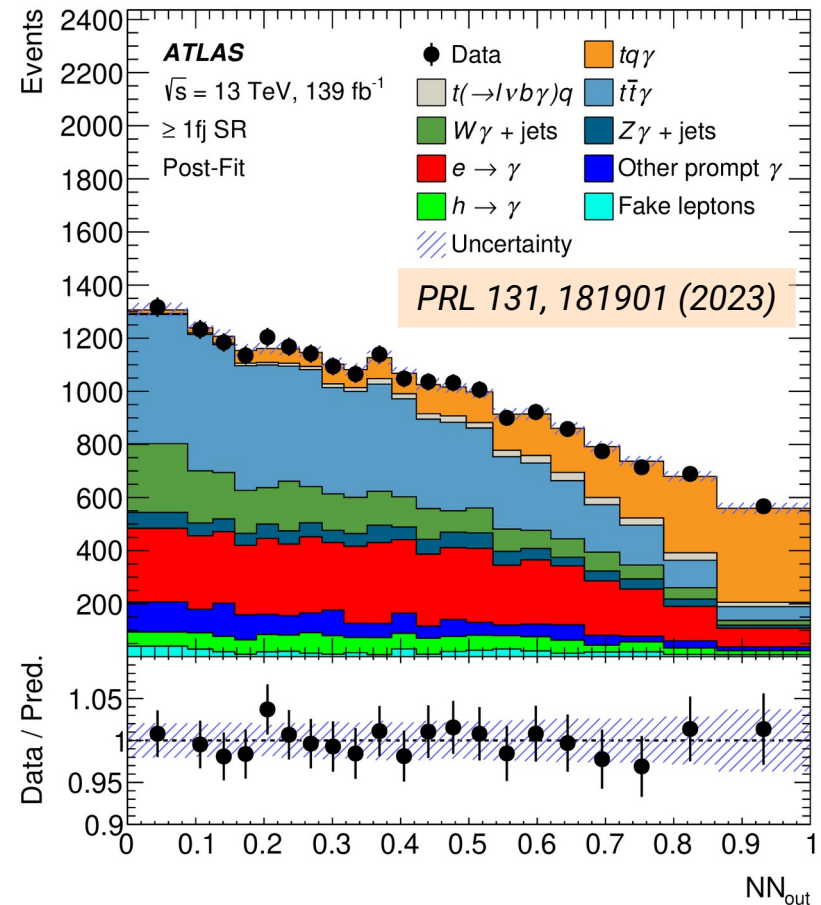
*Nature 607, 52 (2022)*





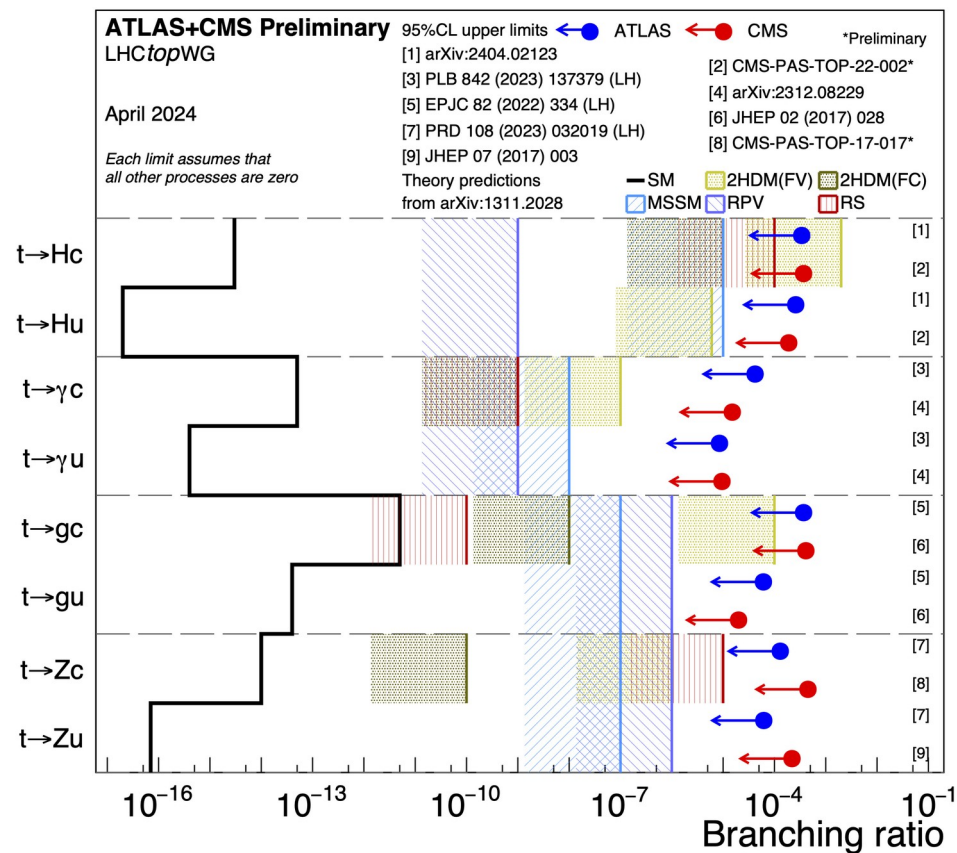
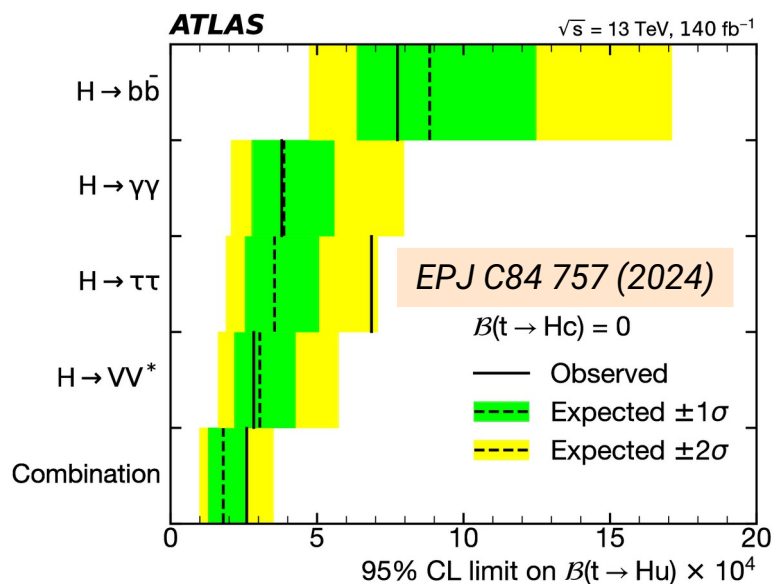
# Top-Photon couplings

- In the SM, top quark-photon interactions are fully determined by the top quark's electric charge ( $+2/3 e$ )
  - heavy charged particles interacting with the top quark could alter this
- Made a first observation of single top quark + photon production
  - in reasonable agreement with SM but a bit higher than expected  $[(1.34 \pm 0.13) \times \text{SM}]$
  - machine learning critical to signal extraction

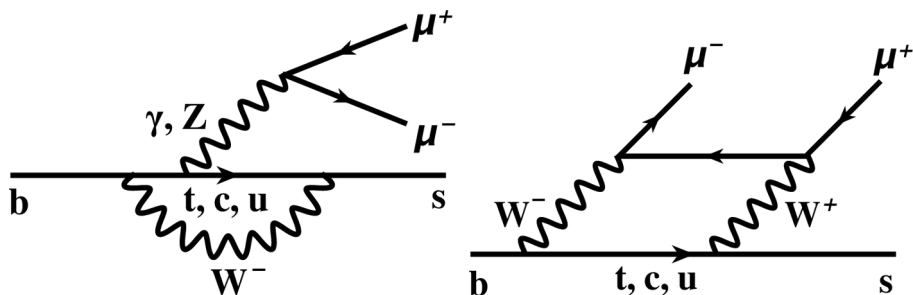


# Top Flavor Changing Neutral Currents

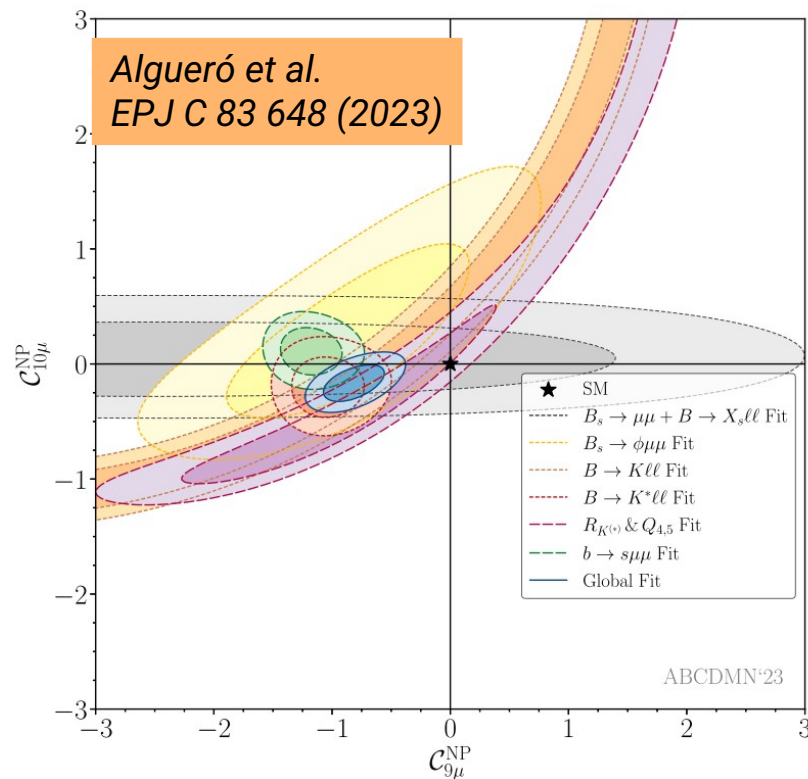
- The decay  $t \rightarrow Hq$  is unobservable in the SM
  - not hard to generate with non-SM particles
- No signal of this so far
  - beginning to exclude certain simple models



# Weak Decays: $bs\ell\ell$



- Interesting vertex with many suggestions of anomalies
  - (in my opinion) biggest theory-experiment discrepancy right now
- Main probes are for  $bs\mu\mu$ :  $B_s \rightarrow \mu\mu$  and  $B_d \rightarrow K^{(*)}\mu\mu$
- Aiming to confirm with ATLAS data



$$\mathcal{O}_9 = (\bar{s}\gamma_\mu P_L b)(\bar{\ell}\gamma^\mu \ell)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{10} = (\bar{s}\gamma_\mu P_L b)(\bar{\ell}\gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \ell)$$

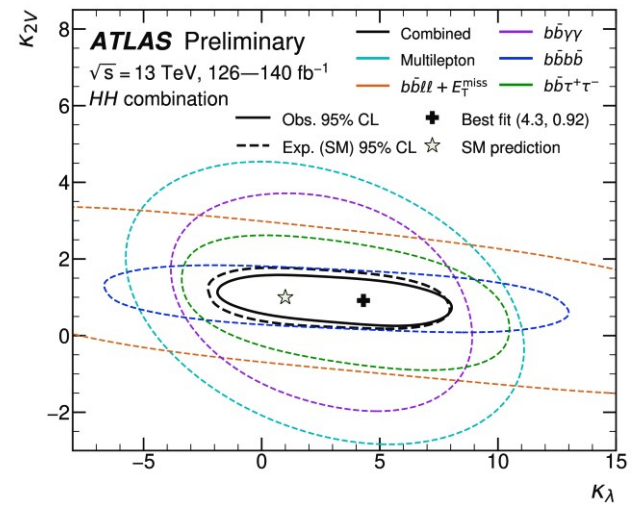
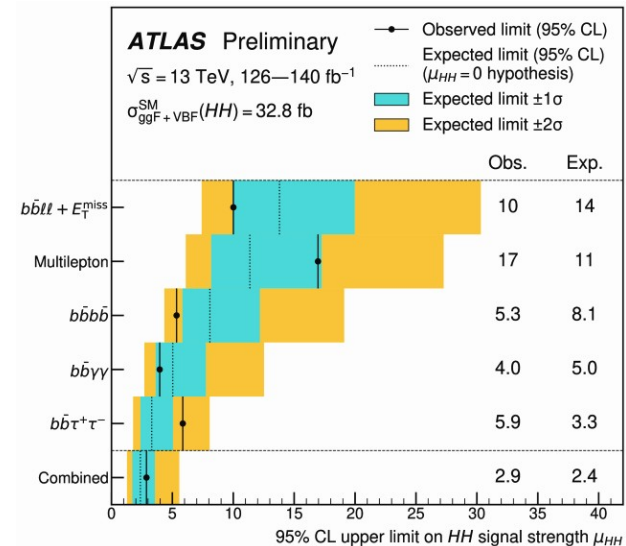
$$\mathcal{O}'_9 = (\bar{s}\gamma_\mu P_R b)(\bar{\ell}\gamma^\mu \ell)$$



# Di-Higgs

- Our most statistics-intensive search:  
looking for the Higgs boson interacting  
with itself
  - measure how the Higgs bootstraps its own  
mass
- Relies on (hampered by) quantum  
interference
- Combine the results of many searches
  - not near Standard Model sensitivity, but ...
  - doing better than we originally expected

ATLAS-CONF-2024-006



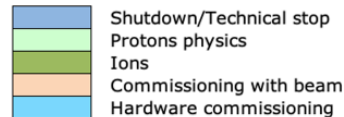
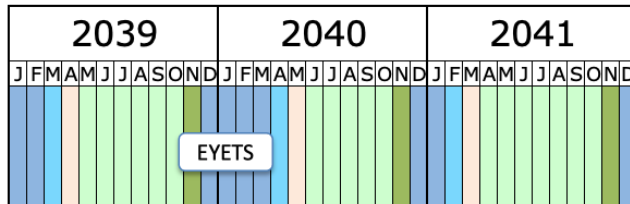
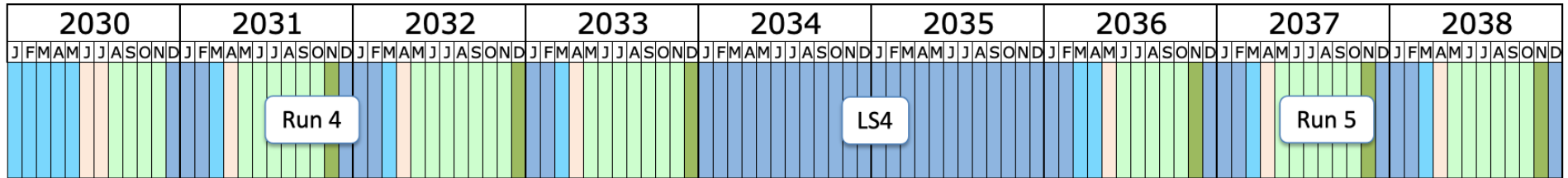
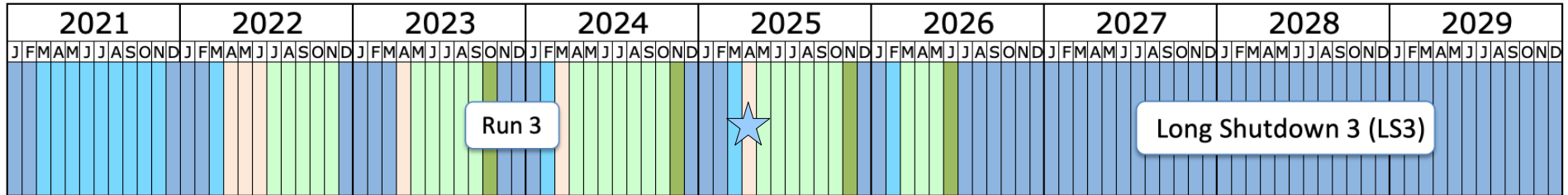
# Software & Computing in the US

- ATLAS computing occurs on the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid
  - federation of computing infrastructure from many participating countries
- Many computing centers in the US contribute
  - range from university clusters to DOE/NSF supercomputer centers
  - can be specialized, e.g. supercomputers typically prefer to run simulations
  - scheduling software developed with heavy involvement from UT-Arlington and BNL
- We also have many experts on the reconstruction and analysis software – algorithms, I/O systems, storage formats, evolution to new architectures (GPU? FPGA?), machine learning
- University groups can use common US resources
- Evolution to needs of HL-LHC being studied



# LHC Schedule

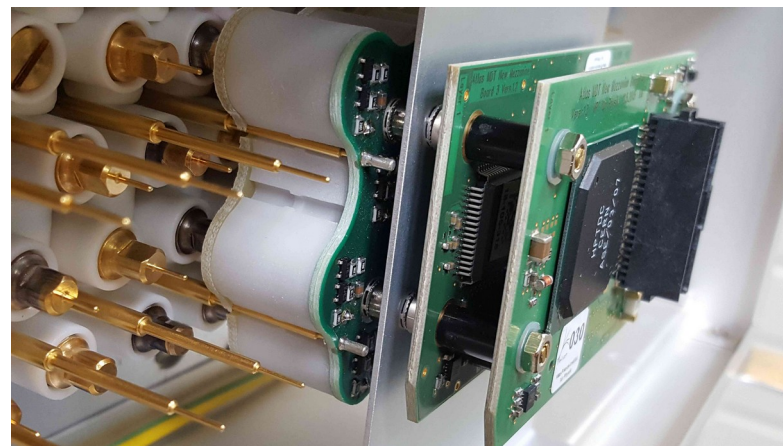
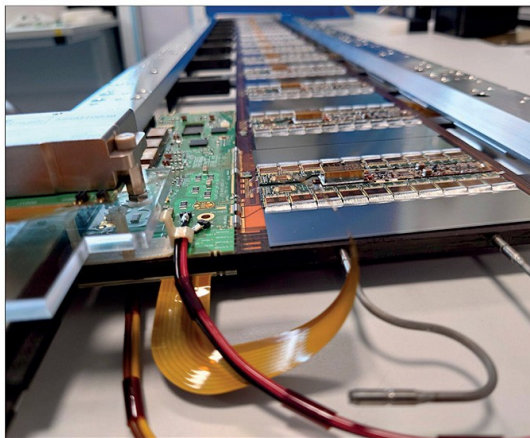
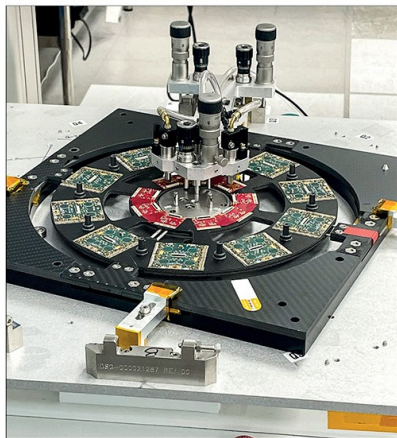
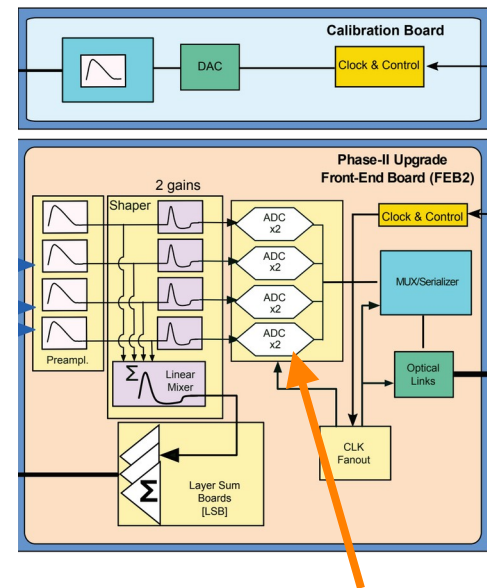
- Long Shutdown 3: major experiment + accelerator upgrades
- 2030 onwards: accumulate x10 existing data set



Last update: November 24

# Upgrades

- High-Luminosity LHC experiment upgrades to be installed and commissioned in the next five years
- US is deeply involved in many efforts
  - see next talk for discussion of new inner tracker system
- Not just a matter of installing physical hardware
  - need to design control, readout, and monitoring software and firmware
  - integrate into reconstruction
  - design and perform calibrations

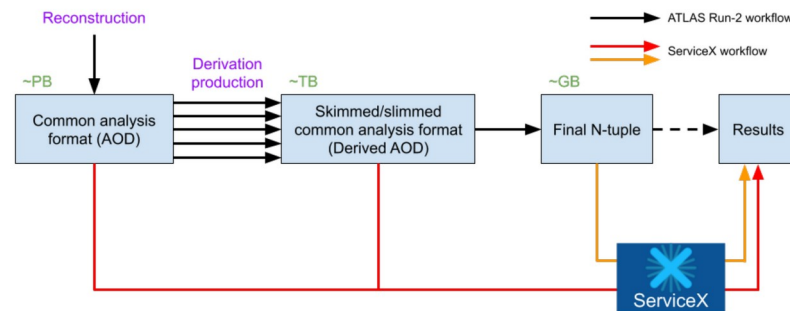




# Analyzing Data at the HL-LHC

- Reducing petabytes of data and simulations to a few plots: we have a “big data” problem
- Want to leverage industry tools (Python, etc.) while providing good abstractions
  - physicists are not generally computing professionals!
- ServiceX project: generic data processing and reduction service for particle physics data
  - aim for transformative user experience

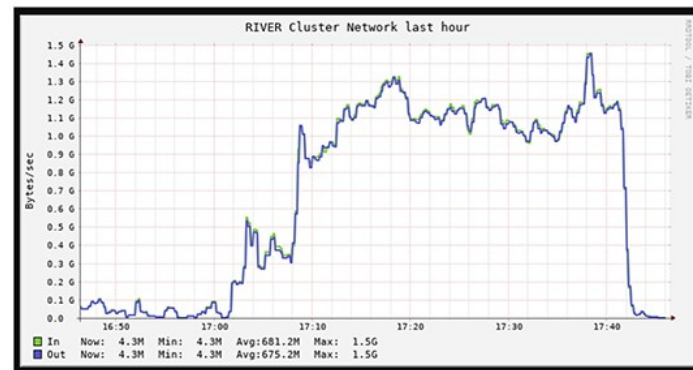
<https://iris-hep.org/projects/servicex.html>



Queue 9c6a46d0-dedf-4490-b06d-a32c1c048b85

Overview

Queued messages [last hour: ?]



# Many thanks to...

## Postdocs/Engineers



Rohin Narayan



KyungEon Choi

## Grad students



Harish Potti



Aaron Webb

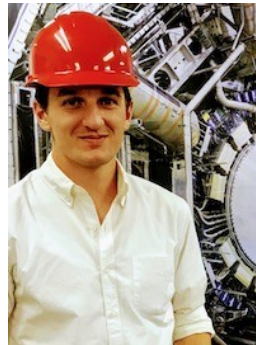
## Undergrads



Spencer Stubbs



Ketan Mahajan



Chuck Burton



Marc Tost



Bryce Holloway



Delon Shen

Click to add Title

Extra

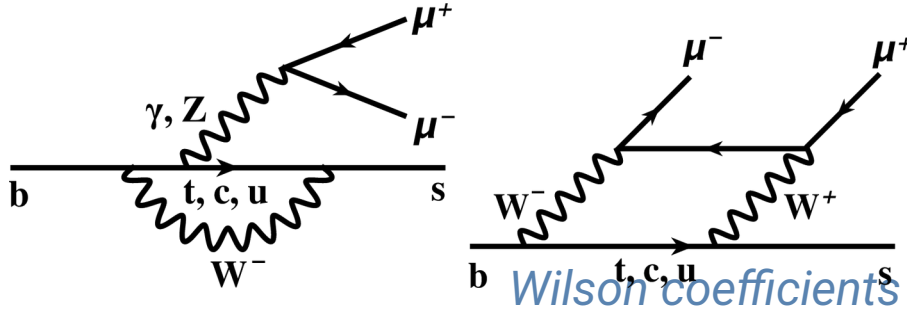
# Process for Joining US ATLAS

- <https://www.usatlas.org/joining-atlas-collaboration-institutions>

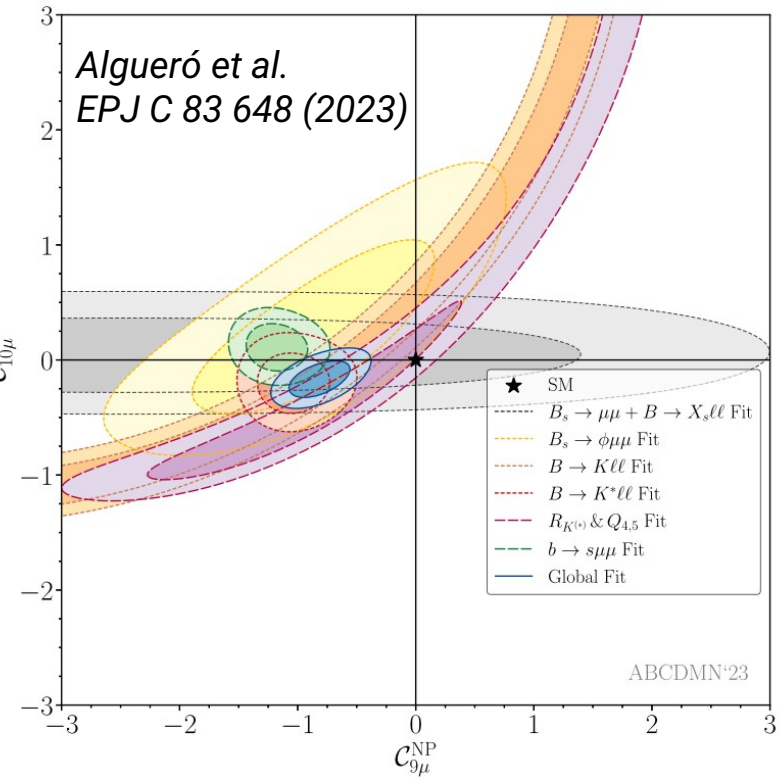


# Weak Decays: $b \rightarrow s \ell \ell$

- Fits significantly favor non-SM interactions
  - remarkably consistent effective field theory picture
- SM can only explain this if hadronic calculations are wrong
  - some of these could be constrained with data
- Aim to confirm with ATLAS data



$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{4G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{tb} V_{ts}^* \sum (C_i \mathcal{O}_i + C'_i \mathcal{O}'_i) + \text{h.c.}$$



$$\mathcal{O}_9 = (\bar{s} \gamma_\mu P_L b) (\bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \ell)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{10} = (\bar{s} \gamma_\mu P_L b) (\bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \ell)$$

$$\mathcal{O}'_9 = (\bar{s} \gamma_\mu P_R b) (\ell \gamma^\mu \ell)$$