

Search for Higgs boson pair-production in the  $bb\tau\tau$   
final state using proton-proton collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$   
TeV data with the ATLAS detector

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# 1 Introduction

## 2 Theory and Motivation

### 2.1 The Standard Model and the Higgs boson

### 2.2 Beyond the Standard Model

## 3 The ATLAS experiment at the Large Hadron Collider

### 3.1 The Large Hadron Collider

### 3.2 The ATLAS Detector

## 4 Data and Monte Carlo samples

## 5 Physics Objects Reconstruction

### 5.1 Track and vertex

### 5.2 Electron

### 5.3 Muon

### 5.4 Jet

### 5.5 $b$ jets

#### 5.5.1 Flavour tagging

The identification of jets containing  $b$ -hadrons ( $b$  jets) against the large background of jets containing  $c$ -hadrons ( $c$  jets) or coming from the hadronization of light ( $u, d, s$ ) quarks or gluons is of major importance in many areas of the physics programme of the ATLAS experiment at the LHC. It is crucial in a large number of Standard Model (SM) precision measurements, studies of the Higgs boson properties, and searches for new phenomena [1, 2, 3]. It also plays an important role in the  $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tau\tau$  searches presenting in Chapter 7.

The ATLAS Collaboration uses various algorithms to identify  $b$  jets[4], referred to as  $b$ -tagging algorithms, when analysing data recorded during Run 2 of the LHC. These algorithms exploit the long lifetime, high mass and high decay multiplicity of  $b$ -hadrons, as well as the properties of the  $b$  quark fragmentation. Given a lifetime of the order of 1.5 ps,  $b$ -hadrons

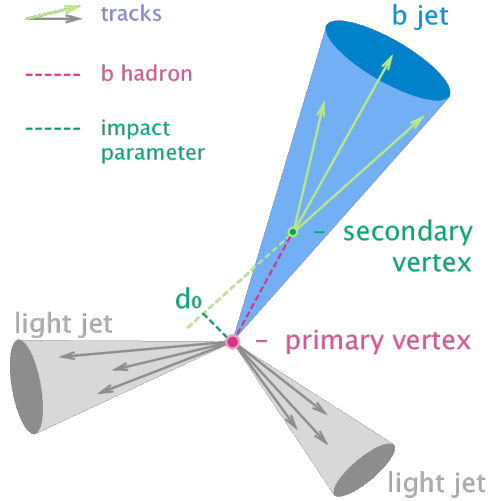


Figure 1: A diagram showing the  $b$  hadron decay initiated jets.

have a significant mean flight length ( $\langle c\tau \rangle \approx 450 \mu m$ ), in the detector before decaying, generally leading to at least one vertex displaced from the hard-scatter collision point, as illustrated in Figure 1.

The strategy developed by the ATLAS Collaboration is based on a two-stage approach. Firstly, low-level algorithms reconstruct the characteristic features of the  $b$  jets via two complementary approaches, one that uses the individual properties of charged-particle tracks, later referred to as tracks, associated with a hadronic jet, and a second which combines the tracks to explicitly reconstruct displaced vertices. These algorithms, first introduced during Run 1 [4], have been improved and retuned for Run 2 [5]. Secondly, in order to maximise the  $b$ -tagging performance, the results of the low-level  $b$ -tagging algorithms are combined into high-level algorithms via multivariate classifiers.

The most performant algorithms presently in use in physics analyses at ATLAS are based on multivariate combinations of the available information (MV2) or additionally using a deep feed-forward neural network (DL1) [6, 7], as shown in Figure 2, where the performance is characterised by the probability of tagging a  $b$  jet ( $b$  jet tagging efficiency,  $\epsilon_b$ ) and the probability of mistakenly identifying a  $c$  jet or a light-flavour jet as a  $b$  jet labelled  $\epsilon_c(\epsilon_l)$ . In addition, the distribution of the output discriminant of the MV2 and DL1 tagger for  $b$  jet,  $c$  jet, and light-flavour jets in the  $t\bar{t}$  simulated events are shown in Figure 3. Depending on the low-level algorithm, the DL1 tagger can be further separated into two taggers: DL1 and DL1r, where the DL1 tagger uses traditional track-based impact parameter taggers IP2D and IP3D [8] and the DL1r tagger uses a Recurrent Neural Network Impact Parameter tagger (RNNIP) [7]. The DL1r tagger is now the default  $b$ -tagging algorithm used for flavour tagging in ATLAS. The performance of the algorithms is quantified in terms of  $c$  jet (light jet) rejections, defined as  $1/\epsilon_c$  and  $1/\epsilon_l$ .

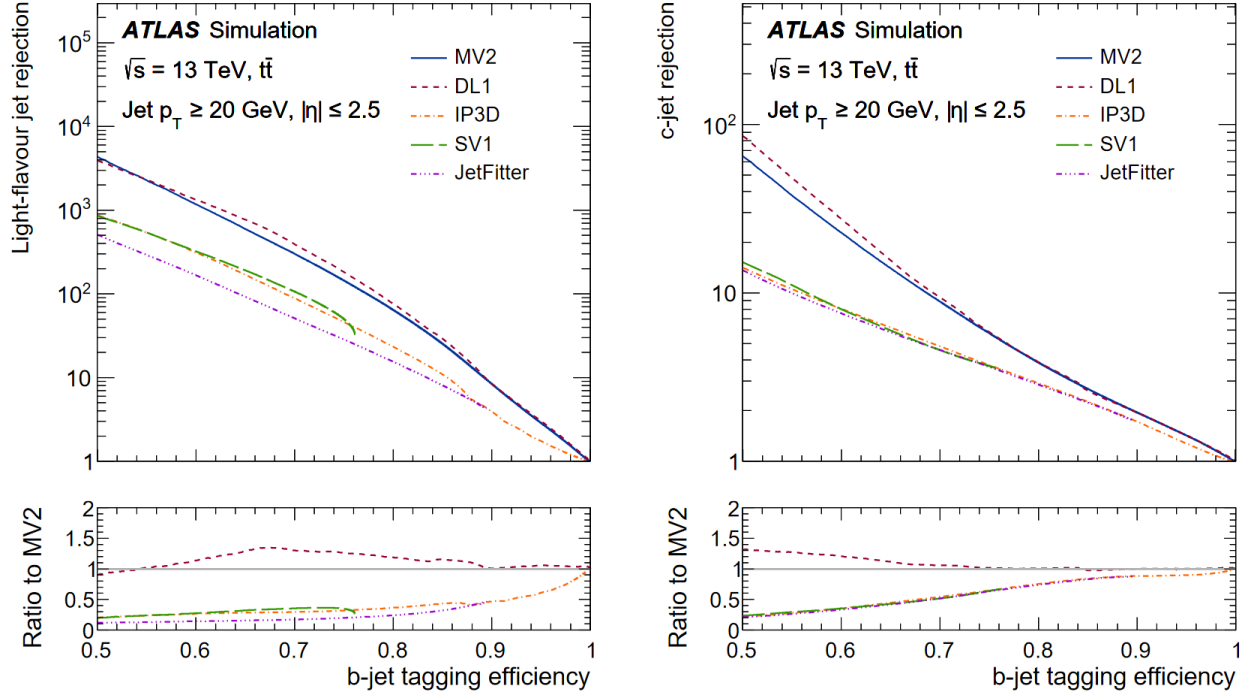


Figure 2: The light-flavour jet (left) and  $c$  jet (right) rejections versus the  $b$  jet tagging efficiency for the IP3D, SV1, JetFitter, MV2 and DL1  $b$ -tagging algorithms evaluated on the  $t\bar{t}$  events [5].

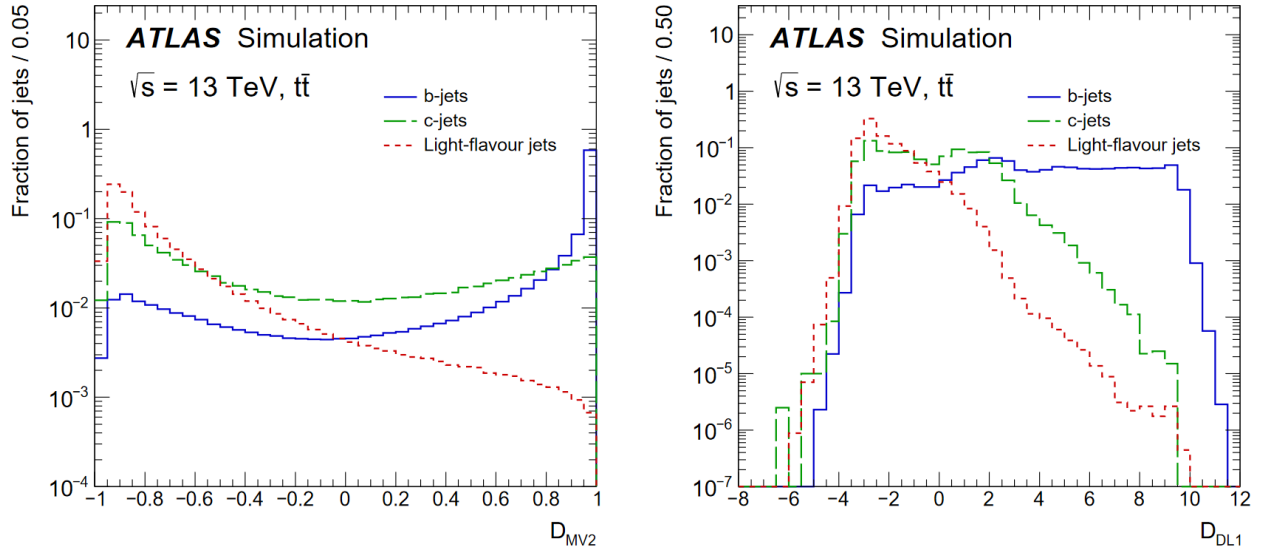


Figure 3: The fraction of light-flavour jets and  $c$  jets versus the  $b$  jets in the MV2 (left) and DL1 (right)  $b$ -tagging algorithms output distribution evaluated on the  $t\bar{t}$  events [5].

## 5.6 Missing transverse energy

## 5.7 Hadronically decaying $\tau$ lepton

# 6 Charm jet mis-tagging calibration

MC simulations are not able to model exactly the performance of the  $b$ -tagging algorithms in data. For this reason calibration is required, i.e. correcting MC to recover the data in

terms of  $b$ -tagging efficiency, charm jet mis-tagging and light jet mis-tagging rates [5]. The calibration is performed for all supported jet collections (TODO: refer back to the object definition chapter) and working points, which are cuts in the  $b$ -tagging algorithm output identifying the different tagging efficiencies and corresponding light jet and  $c$  jet rejection rate. In general, the efficiency is calculated with data and simulations, and scale factors are then calculated to match the efficiency extracted from simulations to the data.

## 6.1 Calibration methods for $b$ jet and light jet

In general, the efficiency is calculated with data and simulations, and scale factors are then calculated to recover the efficiency extracted from simulations to the data. The production of  $t\bar{t}$  pairs at the LHC provides an abundant source of  $b$  jets by virtue of the high cross-section and the  $t \rightarrow Wb$  branching ratio being close to 100%. A very pure sample of  $t\bar{t}$  events can be selected by requiring that both  $W$  bosons decay leptonically, referred to as di-leptonic  $t\bar{t}$  decays in the following. For the  $b$  jet calibration, the performance of the  $b$  tagging algorithms is evaluated in the simulation and the efficiency with which these algorithms identify jets containing  $b$ -hadrons is measured in collision data. The measurement uses a likelihood-based method in the di-leptonic  $t\bar{t}$  sample, where events with exactly 2 jets and 2 opposite-sign leptons are selected. The data  $b$  jet efficiency is then extracted from a combined likelihood fit, and subsequently compared with that predicted by the simulation. Scale factors are then calculated to emulate the performance of the algorithms to the data [5].

For the light jet mis-tagging calibration, two methods are used to measure the mis-tagging rate from the data [9]. The first is the negative tag method, which uses a high statistics data sample enriched in light jets with the application of a modified algorithm which reverses some of the criteria used in the nominal identification algorithm. The second is the adjusted Monte Carlo (adjusted-MC) method, which adjusts the characteristic track observables in the simulation to im the data, and then compares the adjusted simulation to the "standard" simulation. The scale factors are then calculated using the these two methods. The scale factors of the two different methods are in good agreement within the systematic uncertainties.

## 6.2 Calibration method for charm jet

It is worth mentioning that the author's qualification task to become an ATLAS author is to calibrate the rate of a charm jet being mis-identified as a  $b$  jet which is a part of the calibration of the  $b$ -tagging algorithm. During the task the calibration range has been extended down to 20 GeV (previously 25 GeV) in jet  $p_T$  and a new selection category has been developed to increase the data statistics of the scale factors in the high- $p_T$  ( $p_T^{jet} > 70$  GeV) region. The calibration is performed on the PFlow jets and the VR-Track jets

(TODO: refer back to definition in Object reconstruction section).

As determined by the CKM matrix [10, 11], the  $W$  boson decays dominantly to a pair of light quarks ( $u$  quark and  $d$  quark) or to a  $s$  quark and a  $c$  quark. The  $W$  boson decays very rarely to pairs containing a  $b$  quark. More specifically, the branching ratio of a  $W$  boson decays to a  $u$  quark and  $d$  quark pair or a  $s$  quark and  $c$  quark pair is 33.1%, and to pairs containing a  $b$  quark is only 0.057% [12]. Therefore,  $b$ -tagged jets from the  $W$  decay are most likely to be mis-tagged  $c$  jets or light jets.

Furthermore, given the ratio between the DL1 light jet rejection and the corresponding charm jet rejection ranges from 10 to 40 (Figure 2), the  $c$  jet is much more likely to be mis-tagged than the light jet. This allows for a source of mis-tagged  $c$  jets to be obtained in the  $t\bar{t}$  events, requiring that one  $W$  boson decays leptonically and the other decay hadronically (referred to as semi-leptonic  $t\bar{t}$  decay in the following), where the  $b$ -tagged jets from the  $W$  decay are candidates of mis-tagged  $c$  jets. Requiring a  $W$  boson decaying leptonically reduces the number of combinations of jets of different flavour, and allows triggering with the lepton.

The events kinematics are shown by the diagram in Figure 4, where the  $t\bar{t}$  pair decays to a  $b$  and a  $\bar{b}$  quark, circled in red. One of the  $W$  bosons, circled in blue, decays hadronically to quarks, and the other  $W$  boson decays leptonically to either an electron or a muon and the corresponding neutrinos, circled in green and purple, respectively. The lepton in the final state is used for triggering. The following notation will be used: the jets that are the decay products of the  $W$  boson are referred to as  $W$  jets and the remaining two jets are referred to as top-jets.

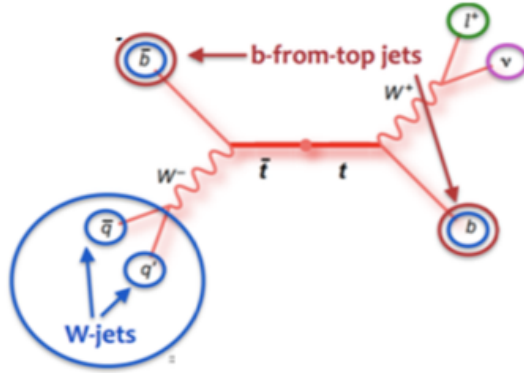


Figure 4: Feynman diagram of the semi-leptonic  $t\bar{t}$  events.

A kinematic likelihood technique, referred to as KLFFitter [13], is used to assign jets to the proper  $t\bar{t}$  decay product (more details in Section 6.4). The following notation will be used: the jets that are assigned as the decay products of the  $W$  boson are referred to as  $W$  jets and the remaining two jets are referred to as top jets.



The charm jet efficiency is defined as the ratio of events with either of the  $W$  jet is tagged. The efficiency is evaluated in four  $p_T$  intervals, with boundaries of 20, 40, 65, 140 and 250 GeV for the PFlow jets and 15, 20, 40, 140 GeV for the VR-Track jets; and for four tagging intervals with the boundaries of 85%, 77%, 70% and 60%.

The choice of the bin boundaries ensures enough statistics for each bin and hence relatively flat statistical uncertainty, given the underlying charm-jet  $p_T$  spectrum as shown in Figure 10. The boundaries for the VR-Track jets are lower than for PFlow jets, since the track jets miss the neutral particles the reconstructed energy is significantly below the true jet energy.

The main method described in the chapter is for the "fixed-cut" calibration where the efficiency is defined as the fraction of  $b$  jets passing the tagger. Jets are said to be tagged (untagged) at particular working point if they have DL1r scores greater (less) than the DL1r score of that working point. The events with both  $W$  jet are discarded to simplify the fit described in the following.

To extract the scale factors of the charm jet mis-tagging, a fit is performed by minimising the  $\chi^2$  defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} \chi^2 = & \sum_{t=1}^4 \sum_{i=1}^4 \sum_{j=1}^4 (N_{\text{data}}^t(i, j) - p(i, j)[c^t(i)N_C^t(i, j) + N_J^t(i, j) + \sum_k c^4(k)N_X^t(i, j, k)])^2 / N_{\text{data}}^t(i, j) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^4 \sum_{j=i}^4 [N_{\text{data}}^{\text{untag}}(i, j) - p(i, j)N_{\text{MC}}^{\text{untag}}(i, j)]^2 / N_{\text{data}}^{\text{untag}}(i, j). \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

The  $c^t(i)$  is the main floating parameter in the fit, which is the charm jet mis-tagging scale factor at working point  $t$  of  $p_T$  bin labelled  $i$ . The other main floating parameter is  $p(i, j)$  that is the normalisation factor scaling the MC to data. The  $N_{\text{data}}^t(i, j)$  is the number of data events with a tagged  $W$  jet in the  $p_T$  bin labelled  $i$  and the other (untagged)  $W$  jet in the  $p_T$  bin labelled  $j$ . Similarly the  $N_C^t(i, j)$  is the number of MC events with a tagged  $W$  jet while the tagged  $W$  jet is indeed a  $c$  jet which can be seen as "signal". In contrast the  $N_J^t(i, j)$  is the number of events with neither the tagged  $W$  jet nor the top jets are  $c$  jets and the  $N_X^t(i, j, k)$  is the number of events with one of the top jets is a  $c$  jet. These two types of events can be seen as "background". The later case is slightly more complicated, as the  $c$  jet lies in a different  $p_T$  bin to the tagged jet, denoted as  $k$ , and it only depends on the  $c^4(k)$  (which is the scale factor of the 4th working point i.e. 60% ) as the top jets are tagged at 60% working point. The calibration is then given as the scale factors of the four working points in bins of  $p_T$  defined in the above text.

### 6.3 Data and Monte Carlo samples

TODO: remove the overlap between this section and the Data MC chapter in the thesis

Dedicated MC are used to model SM processes. The data analysed in this study correspond to  $139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  [14, 15, 16, 17], of  $pp$  collision data collected by the ATLAS detector between 2015 and 2018 with a centre-of-mass energy of 13 TeV. The data sample was collected using a set of single-muon [18] and single-electron triggers [19]. The single-muon triggers had  $p_T$  thresholds in the range 20–26 GeV for isolated muons and 50 GeV for muons without any isolation requirement. The single-electron triggers employed a range of  $p_T$  thresholds varying between 24–300 GeV and a combination of quality and isolation requirements depending on the data-taking period and the  $p_T$  threshold. All detector subsystems were required to be operational during data taking and to fulfil data quality requirements.

All samples were produced using the ATLAS simulation infrastructure [20] and GEANT4 [21]. A subset of samples use a faster simulation based on a parameterisation of the calorimeter response and GEANT4 for the other detector systems [20]. The simulated events are reconstructed with the same algorithms as used for data, and contain a realistic modelling of pile-up interactions. The pile-up profiles in the simulation match those of each dataset between 2015 and 2018, and are obtained by overlaying minimum-bias events, simulated using the soft QCD processes of PYTHIA 8 [22] using the NNPDF2.3LO set of PDFs [23] and a set of tuned parameters called the A3 tune [24].

The events that are used in this study originate mostly due to  $t\bar{t}$  production. This process is modelled using the POWHEGBOX v2 [25, 26, 27, 28] generator at NLO with the NNPDF3.0nlo parton distribution function (PDF) set and the  $h_{\text{damp}}$  parameter<sup>1</sup> set to  $1.5 m_{\text{top}}$  [29]. The events were interfaced to PYTHIA 8.230 to model the parton shower, hadronisation, and underlying event, with parameters set according to the A14 tune and using the NNPDF2.3lo set of PDFs. The decays of bottom and charm hadrons were performed by EVTGEN v1.6.0 [30]. The simulated  $t\bar{t}$  events are split according to the origin of  $W$  jets. The notation “ $t\bar{t}$ , ll” denotes that both  $W$  jets are light flavour jets. Similarly, “ $t\bar{t}$ , cl” (“ $t\bar{t}$ , bl”) indicates that one of the  $W$  jets is a  $c$  jet ( $b$  jet) whereas the other is a light flavour jet.  $W$  jets with origin other than what is discussed above fall into the category denoted by “ $t\bar{t}$ , other”. This category includes events in which at least one of the  $W$  jets comes from a hadronically decaying  $\tau$ -lepton.

In addition to  $t\bar{t}$  production, there are some minor backgrounds that contribute to the final event sample that is used for the calibration. These backgrounds consist mostly of single-top and diboson production, the production of  $t\bar{t}$  in association with a vector boson and the production of a vector boson in association with jets. The details of the modeling

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<sup>1</sup>The  $h_{\text{damp}}$  parameter is a resummation damping factor and one of the parameters that controls the matching of POWHEG matrix elements to the parton shower and thus effectively regulates the high- $p_T$  radiation against which the  $t\bar{t}$  system recoils.

of these samples are given in the following.

Single-top  $s$ -channel production is modelled using the POWHEGBOX v2 generator at NLO in QCD in the five-flavour scheme with the NNPDF3.0nlo [31] parton distribution function (PDF) set. The associated production of top quarks with  $W$  bosons ( $tW$ ) is modelled using the POWHEGBOX v2 [32, 26, 27, 28] generator at NLO in QCD using the five-flavour scheme and the NNPDF3.0nlo set of PDFs [31]. The diagram removal scheme [33] is used to remove interference and overlap with  $t\bar{t}$  production. The events for both single-top  $s$ -channel and  $tW$  production are interfaced to PYTHIA8.230 using the A14 tune and the NNPDF2.3lo set of PDFs.

The production of  $Z$ +jets and  $W$ +jets is simulated with the SHERPA v2.2.1 [34] generator using next-to-leading order (NLO) matrix elements (ME) for up to two partons, and leading order (LO) matrix elements for up to four partons calculated with the Comix [35] and OPENLOOPS [36, 37, 38] libraries. They are matched with the SHERPA parton shower [39] using the MEPS@NLO prescription [40, 41, 42, 43] using the set of tuned parameters developed by the SHERPA authors. The NNPDF3.0nnlo set of PDFs [31] is used and the samples are normalised to a next-to-next-to-leading order (NNLO) prediction [44].

Samples of diboson final states ( $VV$ ) are simulated with the SHERPA v2.2.1 or v2.2.2 [34] generator depending on the process, including off-shell effects and Higgs-boson contributions, where appropriate. Fully leptonic final states and semileptonic final states, where one boson decays leptonically and the other hadronically, are generated using matrix elements at NLO accuracy in QCD for up to one additional parton and at LO accuracy for up to three additional parton emissions. Samples for the loop-induced processes  $gg \rightarrow VV$  are generated using LO-accurate matrix elements for up to one additional parton emission for both cases of fully leptonic and semileptonic final states. The matrix element calculations are matched and merged with the SHERPA parton shower based on Catani-Seymour dipole factorisation [35, 39] using the MEPS@NLO prescription [40, 41, 42, 43]. The virtual QCD correction are provided by the OPENLOOPS library [36, 37, 38]. The NNPDF3.0nnlo set of PDFs is used, along with the dedicated set of tuned parton-shower parameters developed by the SHERPA authors.

The production of  $t\bar{t}$  in association with a vector boson is modelled using the MADGRAPH5\_aMC@NLO v2.3.3 [45] generator at NLO with the NNPDF3.0nlo [31] parton distribution function (PDF). The events are interfaced to PYTHIA8.210 [22] using the A14 tune [46] and the NNPDF2.3lo [31] PDF set. The decays of bottom and charm hadrons are simulated using the EVTGEN v1.2.0 program [47].

## 6.4 Kinematic Likelihood Fitter

The four-vectors of the four highest  $p_T$  jets, the lepton and the event  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  are used as inputs to a likelihood-based  $t\bar{t}$  event reconstruction algorithm, which is described in more detail in

Ref. [13]. This algorithm uses a likelihood function to assign the four jets to the  $t\bar{t}$  decay topology. In particular, the algorithm assigns one jet to be the  $b$  jet from the leptonically decaying top quark ( $t \rightarrow Wb \rightarrow \ell\nu b$ ), another to the  $b$  jet from the hadronically decaying top quark ( $t \rightarrow Wb \rightarrow qq'b$ , where  $qq'$  are the quarks in which the  $W$  boson decays) and the remaining two jets to the jets that come from the hadronic  $W$  boson decay. The jet assignment does not use any  $b$ -tagging information to avoid bias.

## 6.5 Maximising likelihood

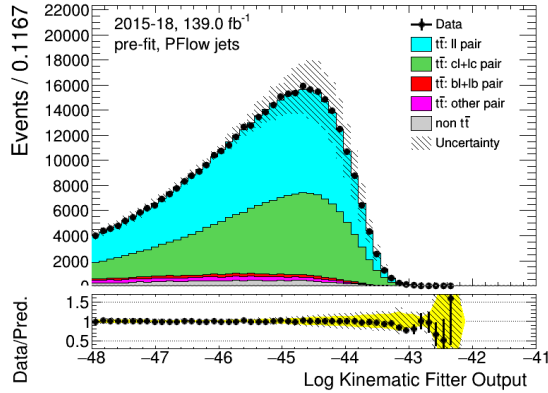


Figure 5: Distribution of the negative logarithm of the likelihood that is used to reconstruct the  $t\bar{t}$  decay.

Taking only four jets in the event limits the total number of possible jet orderings (permutations) in the event. In the semi-leptonic channel, four jets can be permuted a total number of times equal to  $4! = 24$ . However, the two  $W$  jets are kinematically indistinguishable. This reduces the possible number of permutations to 12. For every combination of jet ordering, the likelihood is maximised over its free parameters, the energy of the four jets, the lepton energy and the three components of the momentum of the neutrino, and provides a value based on how closely the kinematic information from the reconstructed objects for a specific jet ordering resembles the expected kinematic behaviour of the decay of a Standard Model semi-leptonic  $t\bar{t}$  event. The likelihood therefore distinguishes the possible permutations on an event-by-event basis. The best permutation, given by the largest log-likelihood value, is adopted as the jet ordering for the event. An additional requirement of log-likelihood  $> -48$  is placed on the output of the likelihood value for the chosen event permutation. An example of the distribution of log-likelihood of the best permutations is shown in Figure 5. In this figure, the data events are compared against the simulation. The majority of the events come from  $t\bar{t}$  production. There is only a very small fraction of events, which is denoted as “non  $t\bar{t}$ ” on the figure, that come from other processes like  $W$  or  $Z$  production in association with jets or single-top production.

## 6.6 Event selection

### 6.6.1 Standard selection

	PFlow jets	Track jets
Data	227118	218351
$t\bar{t}$	$235670 \pm 200$	$223770 \pm 180$
Non $t\bar{t}$	$7610 \pm 120$	$7280 \pm 100$
Data/MC	$0.934 \pm 0.002$	$0.945 \pm 0.002$

Table 1: Standard selection: prefit comparison of the number of events in data and in simulation considering the PFlow jets and the VR-Track jets for events with exactly 4 jets.

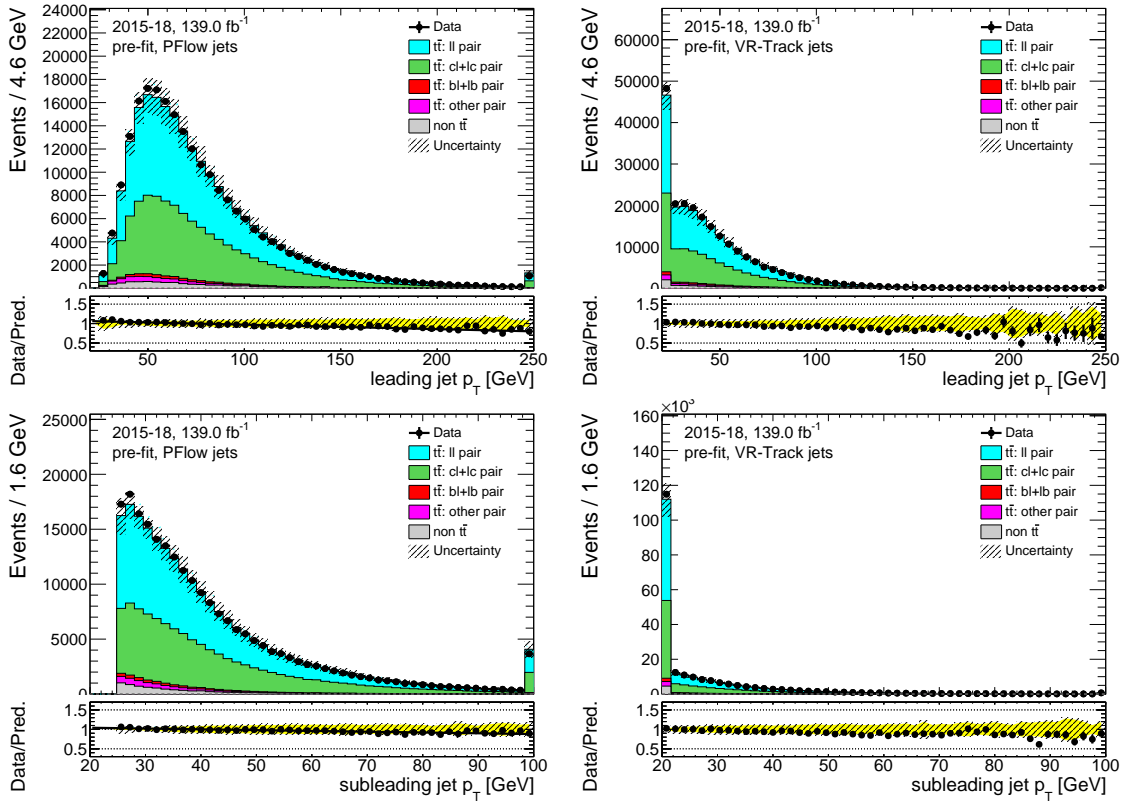


Figure 6: Standard selection: data versus simulation of the leading and sub-leading  $W$  jet  $p_T$  for the PFlow jets in the left column and for VR-Track jets in the right column. The leading jet and sub-leading jet refer to the highest  $p_T$   $W$  jet and the second highest  $p_T$  jet, respectively. The 'non  $t\bar{t}$ ' background indicates background comes from non- $t\bar{t}$  processes like  $W$  or  $Z$  production in association with jets or single-top production. The error in the table (and the following yields tables for different selection) is stats-only.

Events are required to contain exactly one trigger-matched lepton with  $p_T > 27$  GeV and

exactly four jets with  $p_T > 25$  GeV. Leptons are required to have  $p_T$  above 27 GeV in order to avoid the turn-on curve for the single lepton triggers. Events which contain an additional lepton with  $p_T > 27$  GeV are rejected. The events are also required to have  $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 20$  GeV, which is assumed to be the result of the neutrino from the leptonically decaying  $W$  boson. The transverse mass  $m_T$  between the lepton and the  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ , is constrained as follows:

$$m_T = \sqrt{2p_T^\ell E_T^{\text{miss}}(1 - \cos \Delta\phi)} > 40 \text{ GeV},$$

where  $\Delta\phi = \phi(E_T^{\text{miss}}) - \phi(\ell)$  is the azimuthal difference between the lepton and  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ . The yields of the data and the MC are given in Table 1. An example of the  $p_T$  distributions before any tagging or fitting and after the standard selection is shown in Figure 6. More plots can be found in Appendix A.1.1. The yellow band in the lower pad shows the overall systematic uncertainties, combining the experimental uncertainties and the  $t\bar{t}$  modelling uncertainties, as described in Section 6.7. The data/MC ratio shows good agreement within the systematic uncertainties.

### 6.6.2 Low- $p_T$ selection

The author has developed an orthogonal selection to extend the calibration in the low- $p_T$  region so that the calibration can be applied to PFlow jets with  $20 < p_T < 25$  GeV. The  $p_T$  threshold of the VR-Track jets is 10 GeV therefore the low- $p_T$  selection is not needed. Instead of requiring events to have exactly 4 jets  $p_T > 25$  GeV, events are required to have exactly 3 jets with  $p_T > 25$  GeV and exactly 1 jet with  $25 \text{ GeV} > p_T > 20$  GeV. Other than that, all requirements for the selection are the same. This additional cut provides candidates for the PFlow  $W$  jet that is used for calibration in the 20 – 25 GeV region. The inclusive yields of the low- $p_T$  selection of the data and the MC are given in Table 2, and the  $p_T$  distributions of the  $W$  jets are shown in Figure 7. More plots of the kinematic distributions are shown in Appendix A.1.2. Good agreement between MC and data is shown in these distributions, and the  $p_T$  range of the sub-leading has gone down to 20 GeV.

	PFlow jets
Data	59987
$t\bar{t}$	$56530 \pm 90$
Non $t\bar{t}$	$3340 \pm 60$
Data/MC	$1.002 \pm 0.004$

Table 2: Low- $p_T$  selection: prefit comparison of the number of events in data and MC for the PFlow  $W$  jets. Events are required to have exactly 3 jets with  $p_T > 25$  GeV and one jet with  $20 < p_T < 25$  GeV.

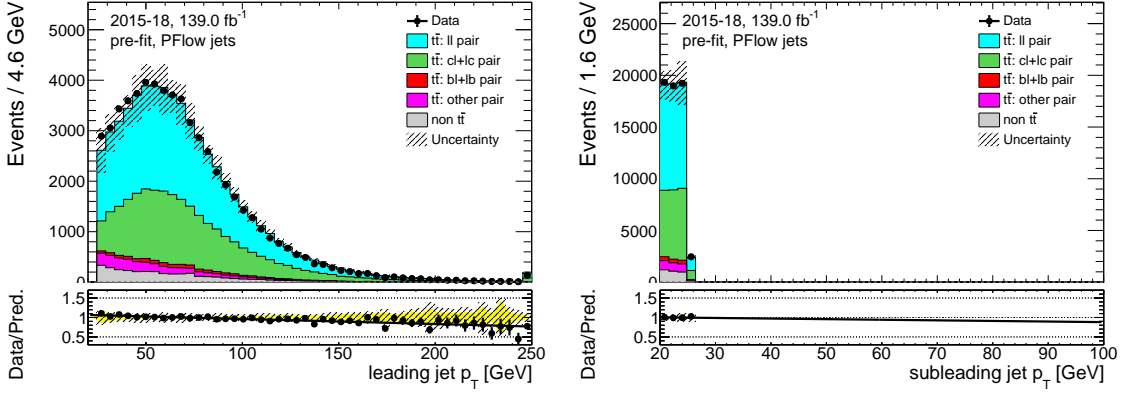


Figure 7: Low- $p_T$  selection: data versus simulation of the PFlow  $W$  jets  $p_T$ .

### 6.6.3 High- $p_T$ selection

It has been observed that in the previous calibrations that the statistics are relatively low for the high- $p_T$  region (e.g. jet  $p_T > 100$  GeV). Therefore, the author has worked on an orthogonal selection to improve this situation. Instead of requiring events to have exactly 4 jets, events are required to have at least 5 jets with  $p_T > 25$  GeV, in which at least 1 jet with  $p_T > 70$  GeV. Other than that, all requirements for the selection remain the same.

The choice of cut value at 70 GeV is based on the study shown in the following. The effect on the  $c$  jet purity and the potential statistical gain is investigated, where the  $c$  jet purity is defined as:

$$c \text{ jet purity} = \frac{N_{\text{true } c \text{ jet}}}{N_{\text{all}}}, \quad (2)$$

where  $N_{\text{true } c \text{ jet}}$  stands for the number of events with a true  $c$  jet from the  $W$  decay, and  $N_{\text{all}}$  stands for the number of all events. The ideal situation is the high- $p_T$  selection will maximally increase the statistics while minimally decreasing the  $c$  jet purity, therefore a figure of merit  $P^{\text{Cut}}$  is defined as:

$$P^{\text{Cut}} = \frac{\sum_i \text{Gain in stats}_i^2}{\sum_i c \text{ jet purity}_i^2},$$

where  $i$  stands for the number of bins. The "Gain in stats" stands for increase in statistics and it's summed over all bins in Figure 8. The  $c$  jet purity and the statistical gain are calculated for 4 different cut values as shown in Figure 8, comparing with the cut value of 0. The value of 70 GeV is chosen as it gives the highest value of  $P^{\text{Cut}}$ .

The yields of the data and the MC are given in Table 3. An example of the  $p_T$  distributions before any tagging or fitting, applying the high- $p_T$  selection is shown in Figure 9. In general the event statistics improve about 80% in region with  $p_T > 70$  GeV as desired. More plots

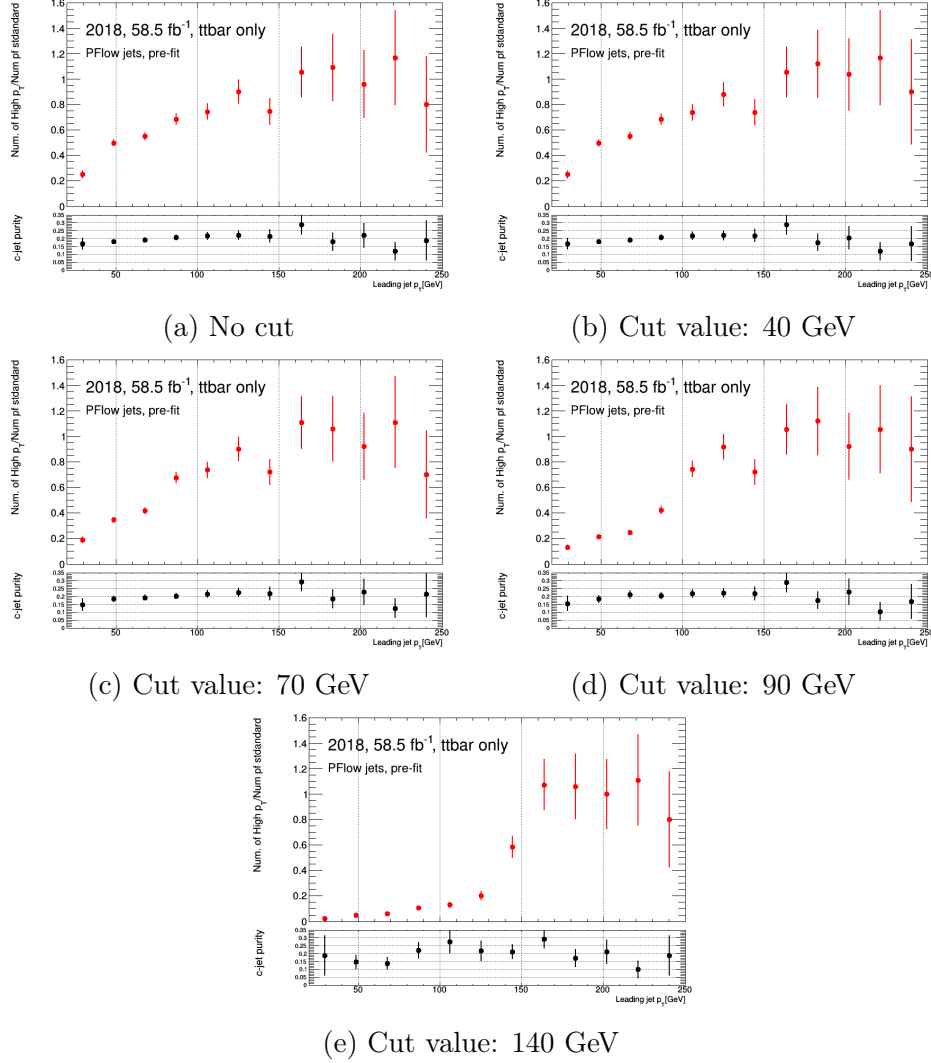


Figure 8: Comparison of different cut values in terms of gain in stats and  $c$  jet purity.

can be found in Appendix A.2.

#### 6.6.4 Combined selection

As the standard selections, low- $p_T$  selection and high- $p_T$  selection are orthogonal to each other, all the selections are combined to provide the maximum range and statistics for the calibration. The yields of the data and the MC are given in Table 4, an example of the  $p_T$  distributions before any tagging or fitting and after the combined selection is shown in Figure 10. More plots can be found in Appendix A.3.



	PFlow jets	Track jets
Data	98273	83957
$t\bar{t}$	$99430 \pm 120$	$87476 \pm 110$
Non $t\bar{t}$	$1842 \pm 21$	$1570 \pm 20$
Data/MC	$0.97 \pm 0.003$	$0.94 \pm 0.003$

Table 3: High- $p_T$  selection: prefit comparison of the number of events in data and in simulation considering the PFlow  $W$  jets and the VR-Track jets.

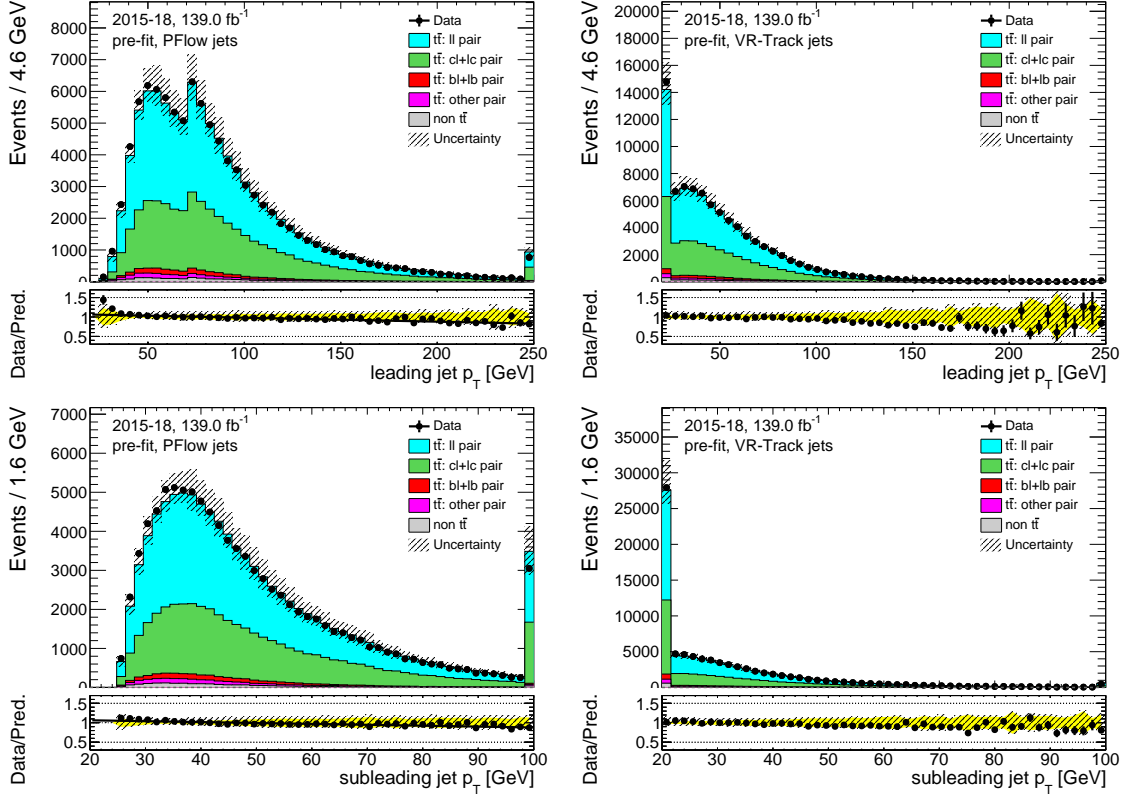


Figure 9: High- $p_T$  selection: data versus simulation of  $W$  jets  $p_T$  for PFlow jets in the left column and for VR-Track jets in the right column.

## 6.7 Systematic uncertainties

The systematic uncertainties considered and propagated in this calibration can be broadly categorised into experimental and modelling systematic uncertainties.

### 6.7.1 Experimental uncertainties

TODO: refer to the analysis Part Experimental uncertainties are related to the detector and estimated using data-driven methods or MC simulations. The lepton energy scale and resolution are corrected to provide better agreement between MC predictions and data,

	PFlow jets	Track jets
Data	385378	302308
$t\bar{t}$	$383520 \pm 230$	$302690 \pm 200$
Non $t\bar{t}$	$12420 \pm 120$	$8570 \pm 100$
Data/MC	$0.973 \pm 0.002$	$0.971 \pm 0.002$

Table 4: Combined selection: prefit comparison of the number of events in data and in simulation considering the PFlow jets and the VR-Track jets for an inclusive selection.

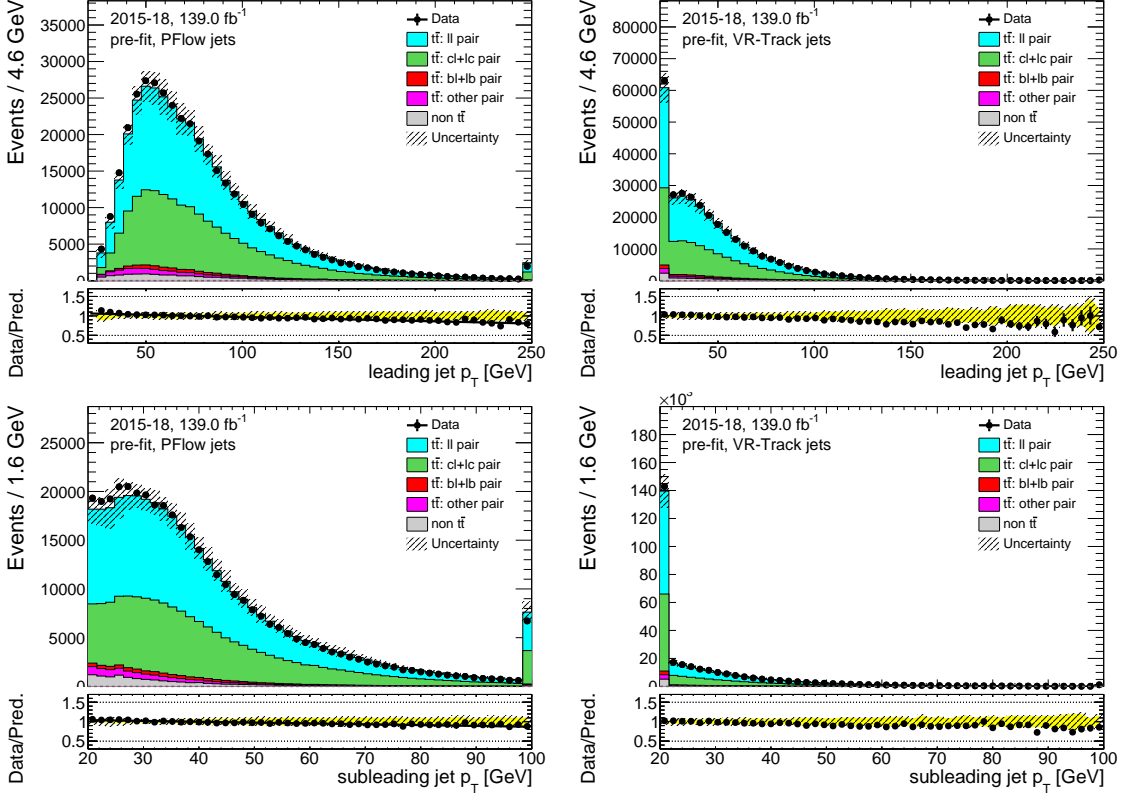


Figure 10: Combined selection: data versus simulation of  $W$  jets  $p_T$  for PFlow jets in the left column and for VR-Track jets in the right column.

uncertainties due the corrections are considered. Uncertainties are taken into account on the electron and muon trigger, identification and reconstruction efficiencies, and for uncertainties associated with the isolation requirements.

The jet energy scale (JES) uncertainty depends on  $p_T$  and  $\eta$  and takes into account uncertainties due to pile-up effects. Uncertainties on the jet energy resolution (JER) are taken into account. Uncertainties on the energy scale and resolution of the electrons, muons, jets and taus are propagated to the calculation of the  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ , which also has additional dedicated uncertainties on the scale, resolution, and reconstruction efficiency of tracks not associated to any of the reconstructed objects, along with the modelling of the underlying event. Un-

certainties on the  $b$ -tagging (mis-tagging) probabilities for  $b$  (light) jets are considered both for the tagging jets assigned to the  $b$  quark from the top decay and for the jets associated to the hadronically decaying  $W$  boson. Supporting material for this section can be found in the appendix, Tab.8.

### 6.7.2 Modelling uncertainties

The uncertainty due to different choices of the parton shower models is estimated by comparing the MC samples generated with nominal parton shower model and with the alternative parton shower model. More specifically, it is derived by comparing the prediction from POWHEG interfaced either to PYTHIA8 or Herwig++. The uncertainty due to additional radiation in the initial state and the final state is estimated by comparing the nominal MC samples with the MC samples with alternative scale of renormalisation and factorisation. The uncertainty on modelling of initial state radiation (ISR) is assessed with two alternative POWHEG+PYTHIA8 samples. The samples include one with an increase in radiation which has the renormalisation and factorisation scales decreased by a factor of two and the  $hdamp$  parameter doubled (which controls the  $p_T$  of the first additional emission), while the sample with a decrease in radiation has the scales increased by a factor of two. In all cases, MC-to-MC SFs are taken into account. In addition, the uncertainty due to the variations samples being produced by fast simulation while the nominal samples being produced full simulation is also considered. The comparisons of the nominal  $t\bar{t}$  sample and the samples with each systematic uncertainty are shown in Table 5.

	PFlow jets		Track jets	
	Yields	Ratio of difference to nominal sample	Yields	Ratio of difference to nominal sample
$t\bar{t}$ Nominal Data/MC	$385378 \pm 230$ $0.973 \pm 0.002$		$302690 \pm 200$ $0.971 \pm 0.002$	
$t\bar{t}$ AF2 DATA/MC(AF2)	$386260 \pm 250$ $0.967 \pm 0.002$	0.716%	$304860 \pm 230$ $0.965 \pm 0.002$	0.716%
$t\bar{t}$ ISR DATA/MC(ISR)	$377130 \pm 220$ $0.989 \pm 0.002$	-1.665%	$297960 \pm 200$ $0.986 \pm 0.002$	-1.562%
$t\bar{t}$ Herwig DATA/MC(Herwig)	$331960 \pm 220$ $1.119 \pm 0.002$	-13.443%	$259940 \pm 190$ $1.126 \pm 0.002$	-14.123%

Table 5: Comparison of the number of events in data and in simulation considering the PFlow jets and the VR-Track jets for an inclusive selection. The uncertainty due to the variations samples being produced by fast simulation is included in the table as  $t\bar{t}$  AF2.

## 6.8 Under-estimation of $t\bar{t}$ + Heavy flavour background

Despite the fact that the true nature of most of the reconstructed  $W$  jets are either  $c$  jets or light jets, there is still a very small amount of them are true  $b$  jets.

There are two main sources of these true  $b$  jets. The first is a  $W$  boson decays to a  $b$  and a  $c$  quark. The second is when the  $t\bar{t}$  plus a gluon process (referred to as  $t\bar{t}$  + heavy flavour process) is selected, and the gluon splits into a pair a  $b$  quarks and one of them is assigned as a  $W$  jet. The first source can be excluded by requiring no  $c$  jets in the  $W$  jets, meaning the true  $b$  jet in the  $W$  jets can only come from the  $t\bar{t}$  + heavy flavour process. This process is underestimated by the MC by about 30% for both the PFlow and VR-Track jets collections, as shown in Table 6 and Figure 11, where an extra cut requiring at least one  $W$  jet with  $DL1r > 8$  is added to the combined selection to reject most of the true  $c$  jets and true light jet. A more thorough study is done in Ref. [48], where the mis-modelling factor is measured to be  $1.25 \pm 0.25$ , which is also consistent with the 30% mismodelling observed in the previous study. Therefore, events in the simulation in which the top jets and at least one of the  $W$  jets are  $b$  jets (referred to as 3 true  $b$  jets events), are scaled by  $1.25 \pm 0.25$ . All results shown in this chapter have this scale factor implemented, and the full difference between the simulation before applying this scale factor and after is taken as a systematic uncertainty. This uncertainty has been added in quadrature to the systematic uncertainties described in Section 6.7 in all the plots in this chapter.

	PFlow jets	VR-Track jets
Data	1589	1336
$t\bar{t}$	$1100 \pm 13$	$940 \pm 12$
Non $t\bar{t}$	$83 \pm 6$	$69 \pm 5$
Data/MC	$1.34 \pm 0.04$	$1.32 \pm 0.04$

Table 6: Yields of the 2018 data and MC of the combined selection, requiring at least 1 PFlow or track  $W$  jet with  $DL1r > 8$  to reject most of the light- and  $c$  jets.

## 6.9 Results

### 6.9.1 Overview

Four rounds of calibrations have been carried out, containing different jet collections, Monte Carlo samples, analysis framework and  $b$  jet identification algorithm. In the latest round, the calibration includes the PFlow jet and the VR-Track jet collection, and MV2c10, DL1 and DL1r taggers. The low- $p_T$  selection and the standard selection are carried out for all four calibrations, while the high- $p_T$  selection is only implemented in the latest calibration.

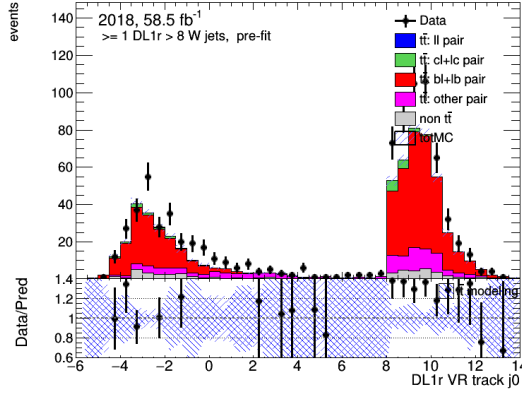
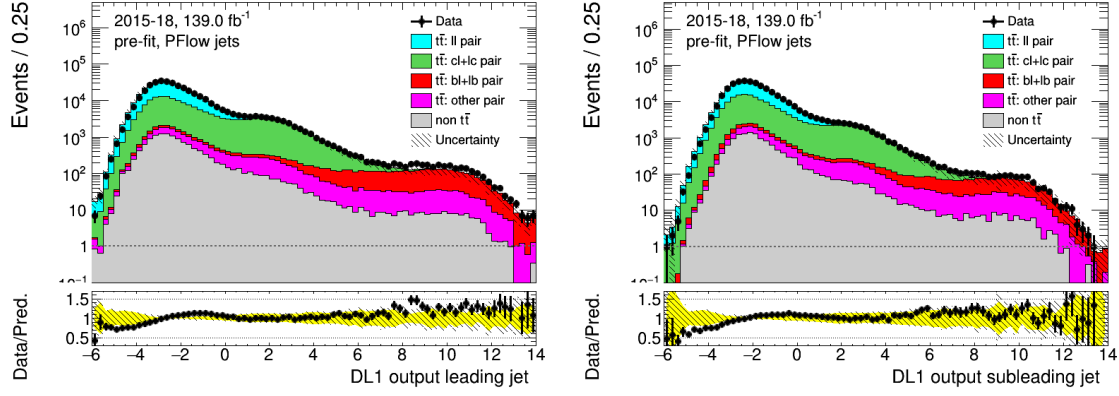


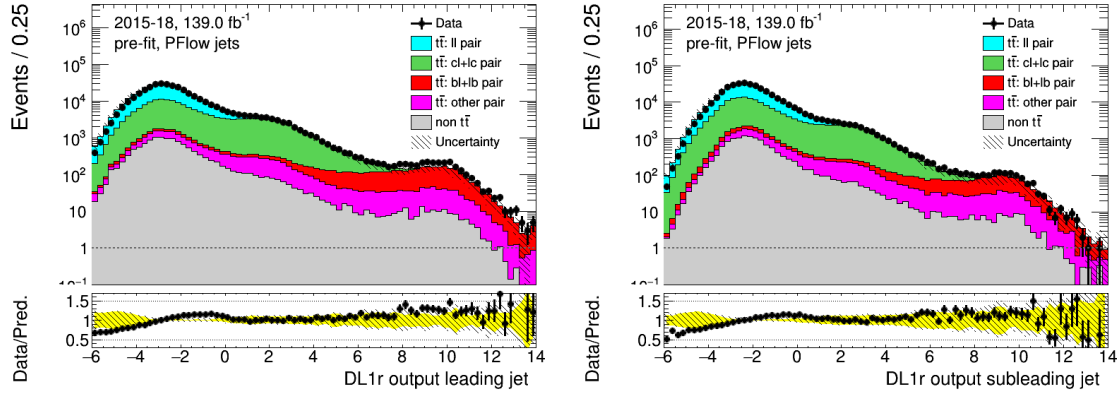
Figure 11: The DL1r score distribution of the leading VR-Track jet, requiring at least 1 VR-Track jets have  $DL1r > 8$  to reject most of the light and the  $c$  jets, with  $t\bar{t}$  modelling and statistical uncertainties.

### 6.9.2 $b$ -tagging algorithms output distribution

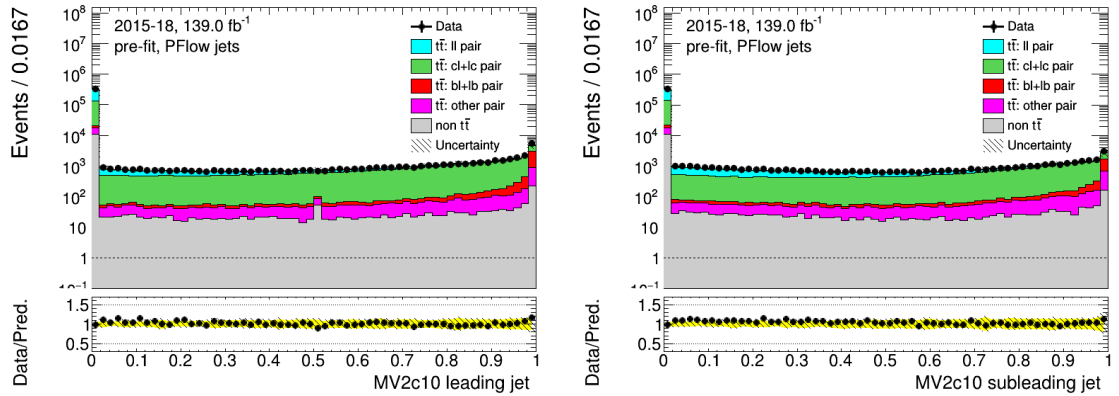
The distributions of the  $b$ -tagging algorithm' output of the MC and the data of the latest calibration (December 2020) are shown in Figure 12 for the PFlow jets and Figure 13 for the VR-Track jets, combining the standard selection, low  $p_T$  and the high- $p_T$  selection. In these figure, the data events are compared against the simulation. The majority of the events come from  $t\bar{t}$  production. There is only a very small fraction of non  $t\bar{t}$  events. The  $W$  jets pairs are mostly light jets pairs and  $c$  jet light jet pairs, and a very small fraction of the pairs are  $b$  jet light jet pairs or pairs containing one or more  $\tau$  hadron(s). The yellow band in the lower pad indicates the overall systematic uncertainties and the black band represents the  $t\bar{t}$  modelling systematic uncertainty, which dominates at low  $b$ -tagging discriminant (DL1 or  $DL1r < 4$ ). The experimental systematic uncertainty is in general very small. At high  $b$ -tagging discriminant ( $DL1$  or  $DL1r > 4$ ), the uncertainty due to the  $1.25 \pm 0.25$  scale factor becomes more important.



(a) DL1 tagger output

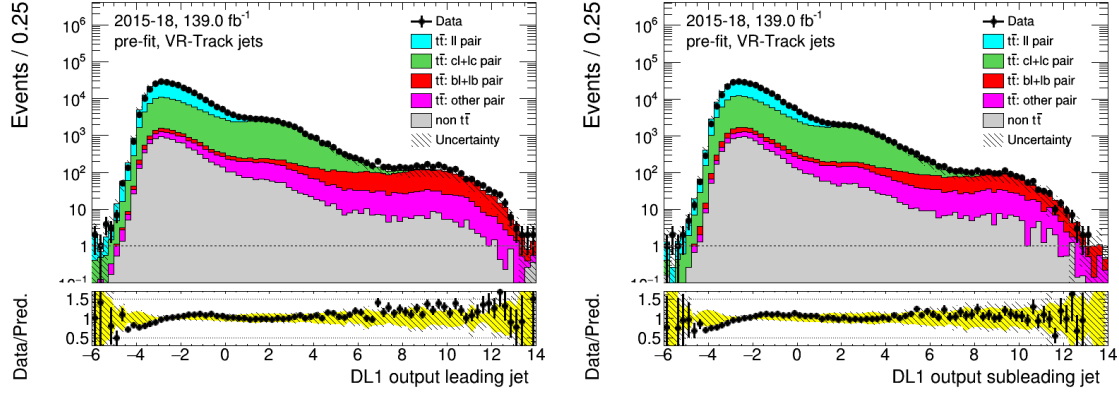


(b) DL1r tagger output

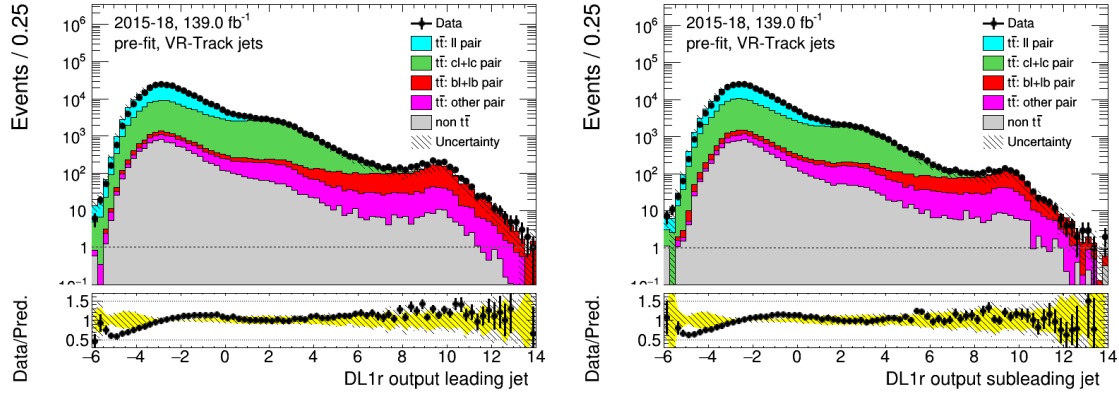


(c) MV2c10 tagger output

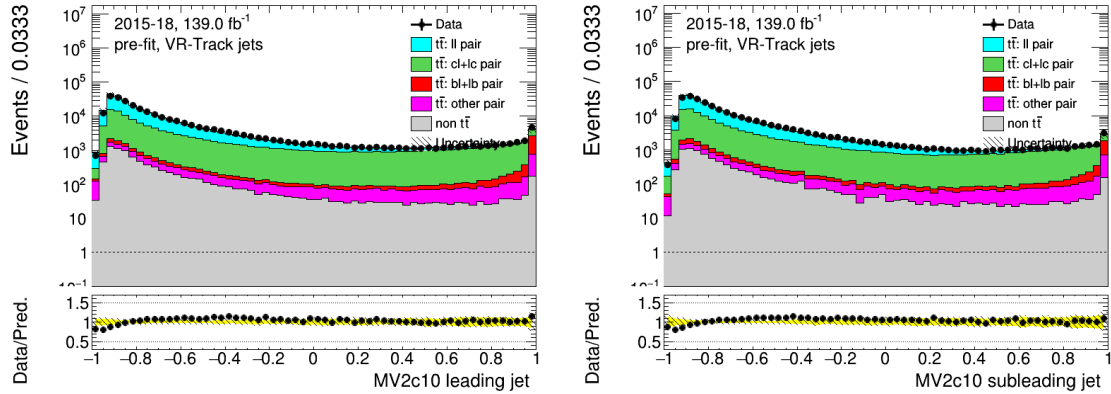
Figure 12: PFlow jets: distributions of the DL1, DL1r and MV2c10 tagger outputs of the combined selection, leading jet in the left column and sub-leading jet in the right column, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.



(a) DL1 tagger output



(b) DL1r tagger output



(c) MV2c10 tagger output

Figure 13: VR-Track jets: distributions of the DL1, DL1r and MV2c10 tagger outputs of the combined selection, leading jet in the left column and sub-leading jet in the right column, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

### 6.9.3 Efficiencies and Scale Factors

The DL1 and DL1r  $c$  jet efficiencies and scale factors with systematics uncertainties are calculated with four fixed cut working points for the PFlow and VR VR-Track jets collection in the latest derivation in December 2020.

The  $c$  jet mis-tagging efficiencies are shown in Figure 14-17 for the PFlow jet collections and the VR-Track jets with the DL1 and the DL1r tagger. For PFlow jets, these results combine the standard selection, low  $p_T$  selection and the high- $p_T$  selection and for the VR-Track jets they combine the standard selection and the high- $p_T$  selection.

The  $1.25 \pm 0.25$  scale factor is applied on events with 3 true  $b$  jets. The overall uncertainties are shown in the red band. The scale factors are shown in Figure 18-21 for the PFlow jets and the VR-Track jets with the DL1 and DL1r tagger. The tighter working points (60%, 70%) show larger uncertainties and bigger deviation from 1, while the looser working points (77%, 85%) have much smaller uncertainty and the simulation is able to recover the data well due to more abundant events statistics. For the PFlow jets, in most of the working points the systematic uncertainties dominate in the low- $p_T$  bins ( $p_T < 150$ ) and the statistical error, represented by the error bars on the markers, become more important in the last bin. For the VR-Track jets the statistical uncertainty is relatively constant for all bins while the systematic uncertainty increases as the  $p_T$  increases. To demonstrate the effect on statistics with the high- $p_T$  selection, the fractional statistical uncertainties of 60% working point scale factor are shown in Table 7 for the standard and the combined selection. In some bins the statistical uncertainty can decrease up to 30%, suggesting that the high- $p_T$  selection is successful at increasing events statistics.

	PFlow jets			VR-Track jets		
	Standard selection	High- $p_T$ selection	Fractional decrease	Standard selection	High- $p_T$ selection	Fractional decrease
Bin No.1	3.3%	3.3%	0.0%	5.6%	5.3%	5.7%
Bin No.2	3.1%	2.8%	10.7%	4.2%	3.7%	13.5%
Bin No.3	3.4%	2.6%	30.8%	5.8%	4.9%	18.4%
Bin No.4	12.1%	9.3%	30.1%	7.2%	5.6%	28.6%

Table 7: Comparison of the fractional statistical uncertainty in the DL1r 60% working point scale factor. The  $p_T$  range of each bin can be found in section 6.2.



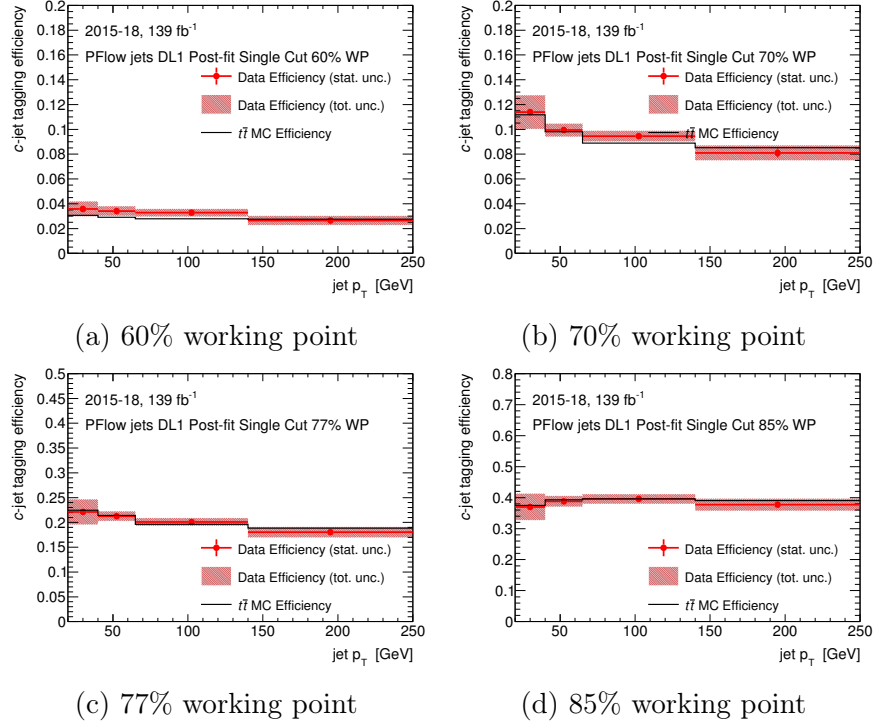


Figure 14: Charm-jet efficiencies for the PFlow jets collection with the DL1 tagger.

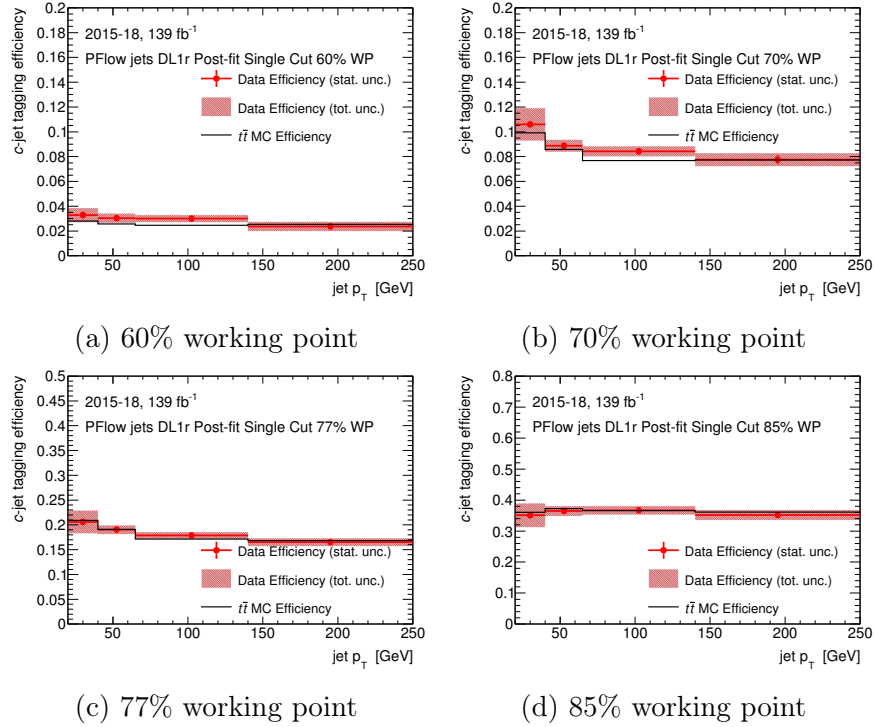


Figure 15: Charm-jet efficiencies for the PFlow jets collection with the DL1r tagger.

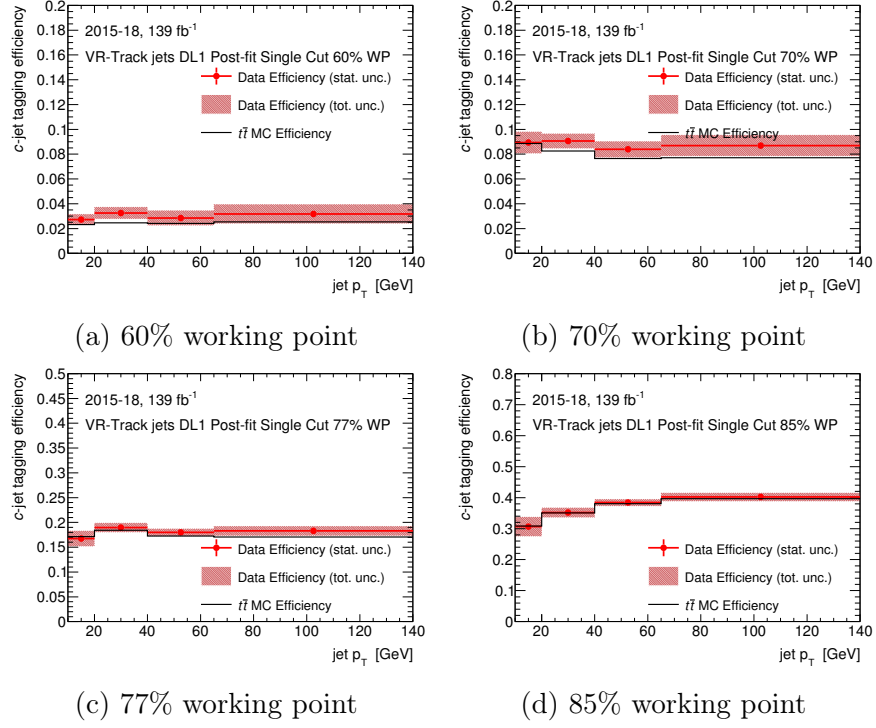


Figure 16: Charm-jet efficiencies for the VR-Track jets collection with the DL1 tagger.

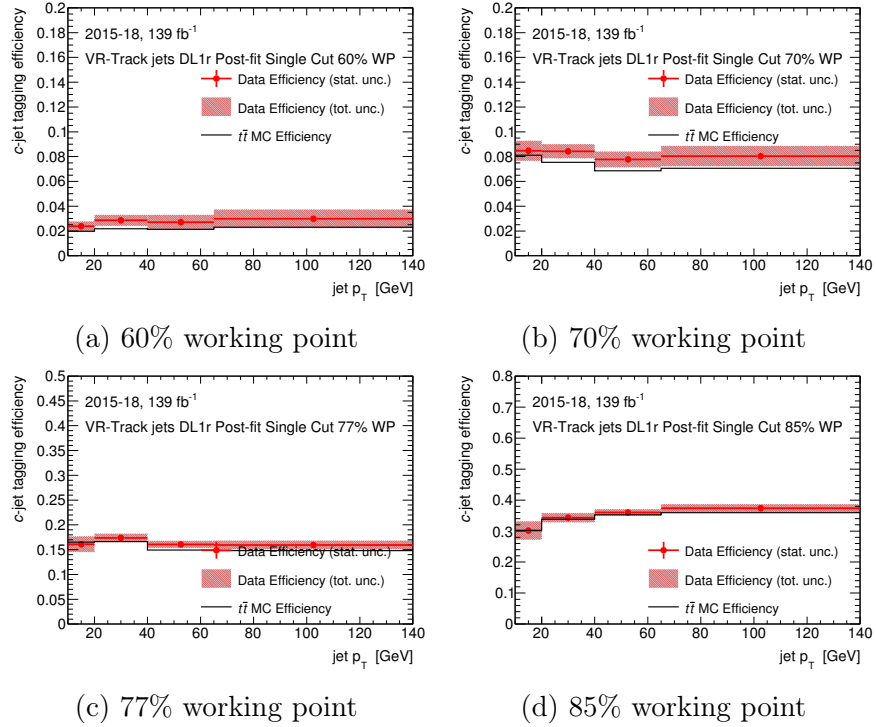


Figure 17: Charm-jet efficiencies for the VR-Track jets collection with the DL1r tagger.

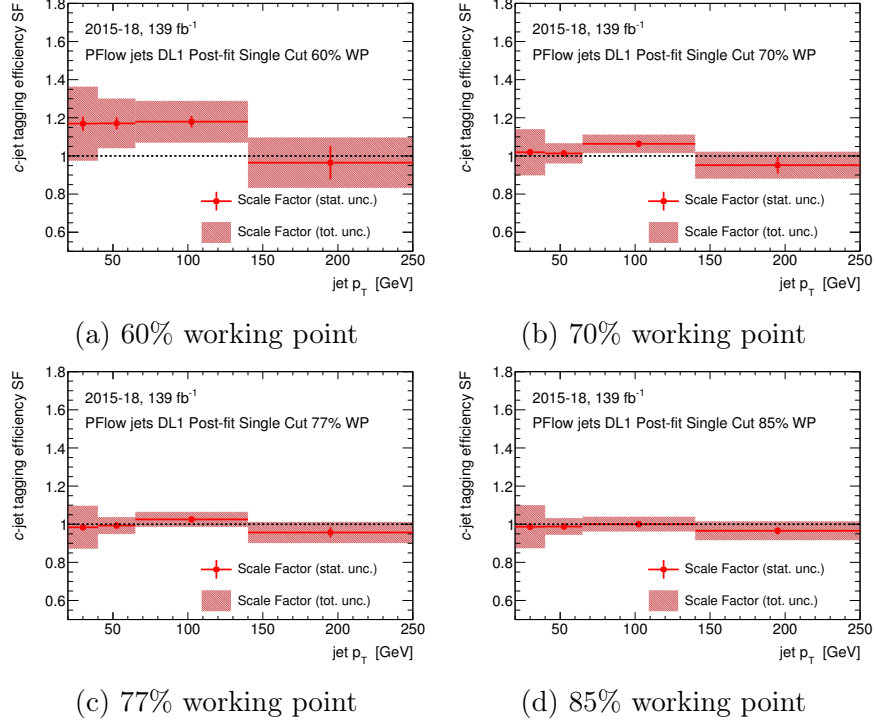


Figure 18: Charm-jet scale factors for the PFlow jets collection with the DL1 tagger.

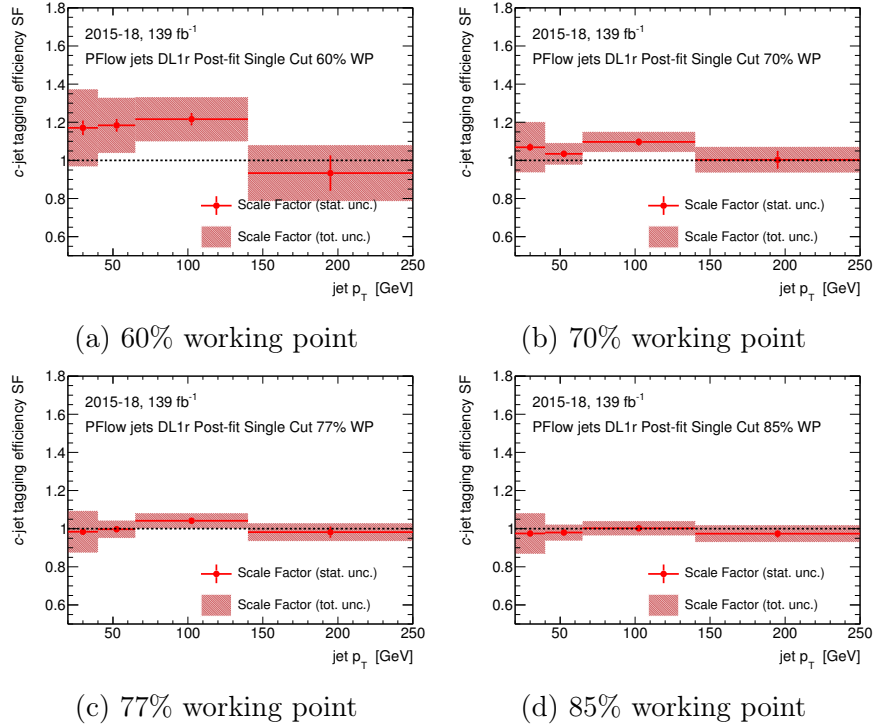


Figure 19: Charm-jet scale factors for the PFlow jets collection with the DL1r tagger.

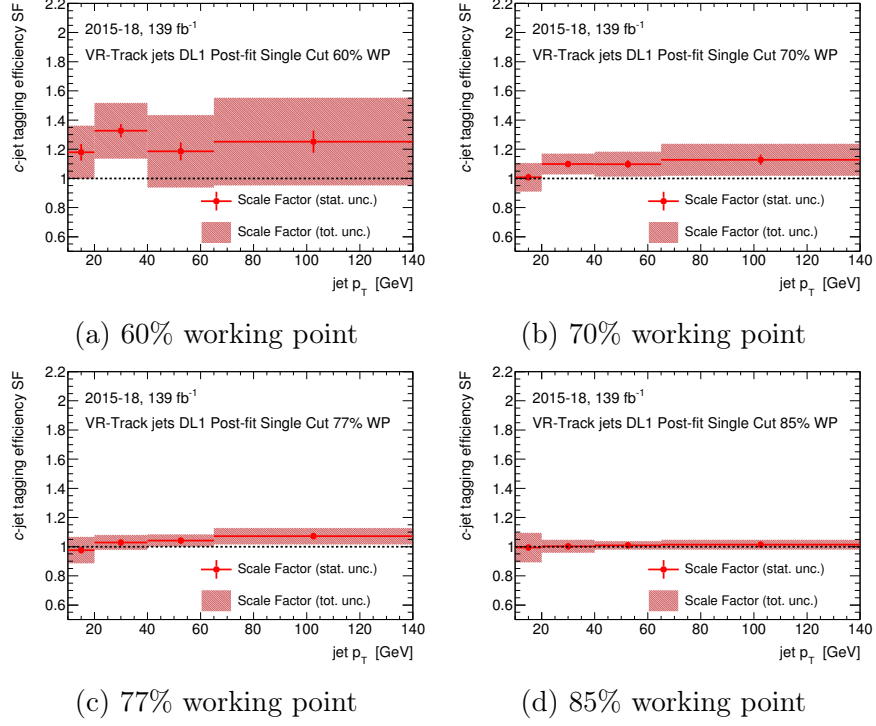


Figure 20: Charm-jet scale factors for the VR-Track jets collection with the DL1 tagger.

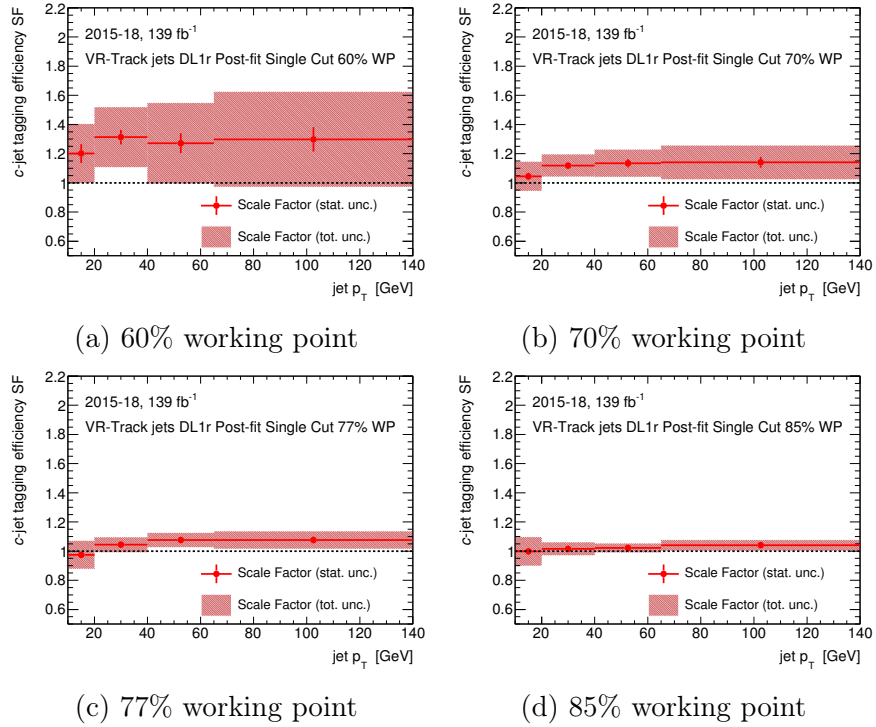


Figure 21: Charm-jet scale factors for the VR-Track jets collection with the DL1r tagger.

## 7 Search for Higgs boson pair production in the $b\bar{b}\tau\bar{\tau}$ channel

### 7.1 Data and Monte Carlo samples

### 7.2 Trigger and event selection

### 7.3 Background estimation

### 7.4 Multivariate analysis

### 7.5 Systematic uncertainties

### 7.6 Results

## 8 Summary

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## A Supplementary material for $c$ jet calibration

### A.1 Additional plots for kinematic variables

#### A.1.1 Standard selection

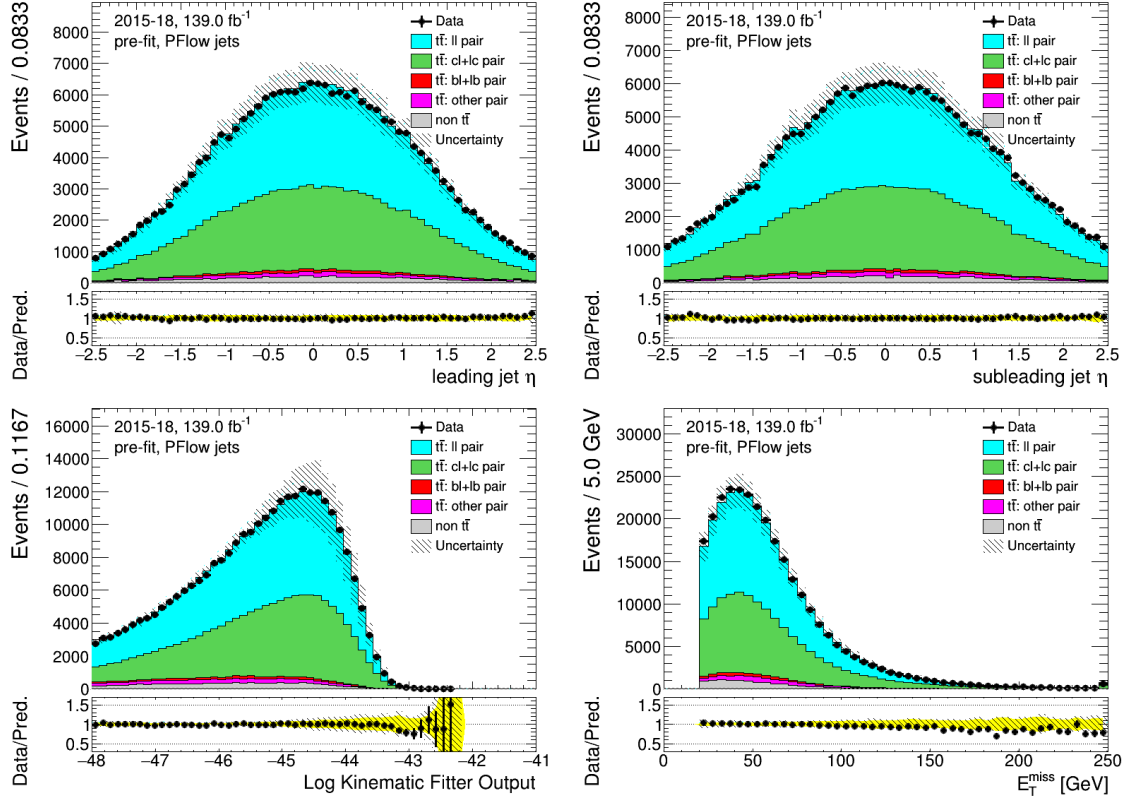


Figure 22: PFlow jets: distributions of the leading and sub-leading jets from W decay, KLFitter output and the transverse missing transverse energy of the standard selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

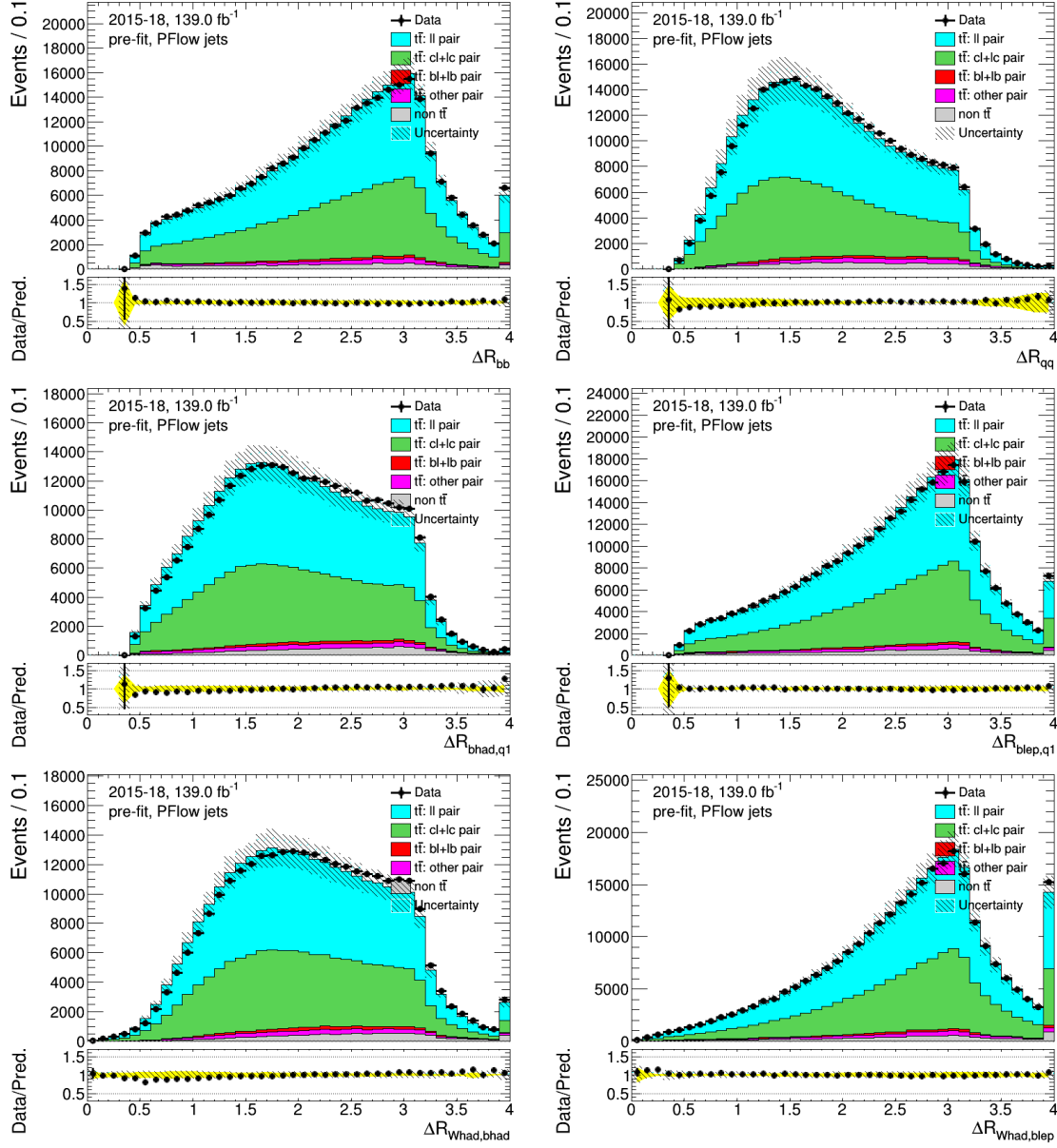


Figure 23: PFlow jets: distributions of angle related variables of the combination of the standard selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

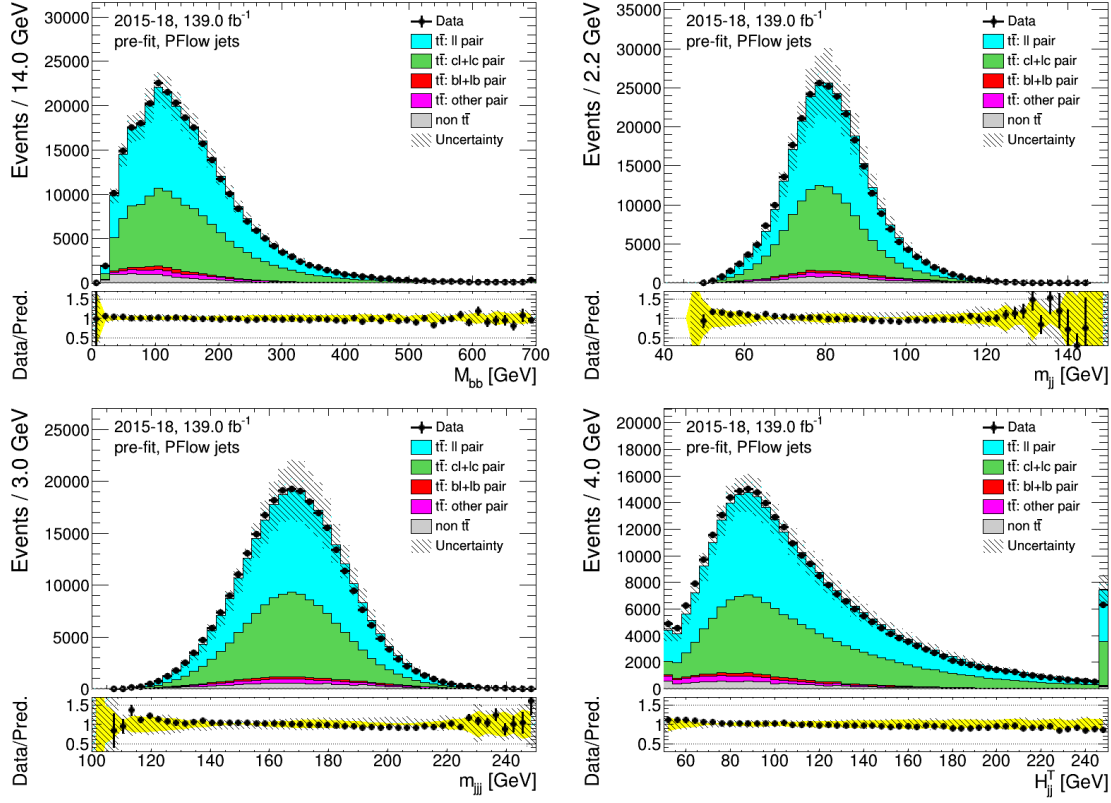


Figure 24: PFlow jets: distributions of mass related variables of the standard selection, before fitting or tagging with stat-only uncertainties.

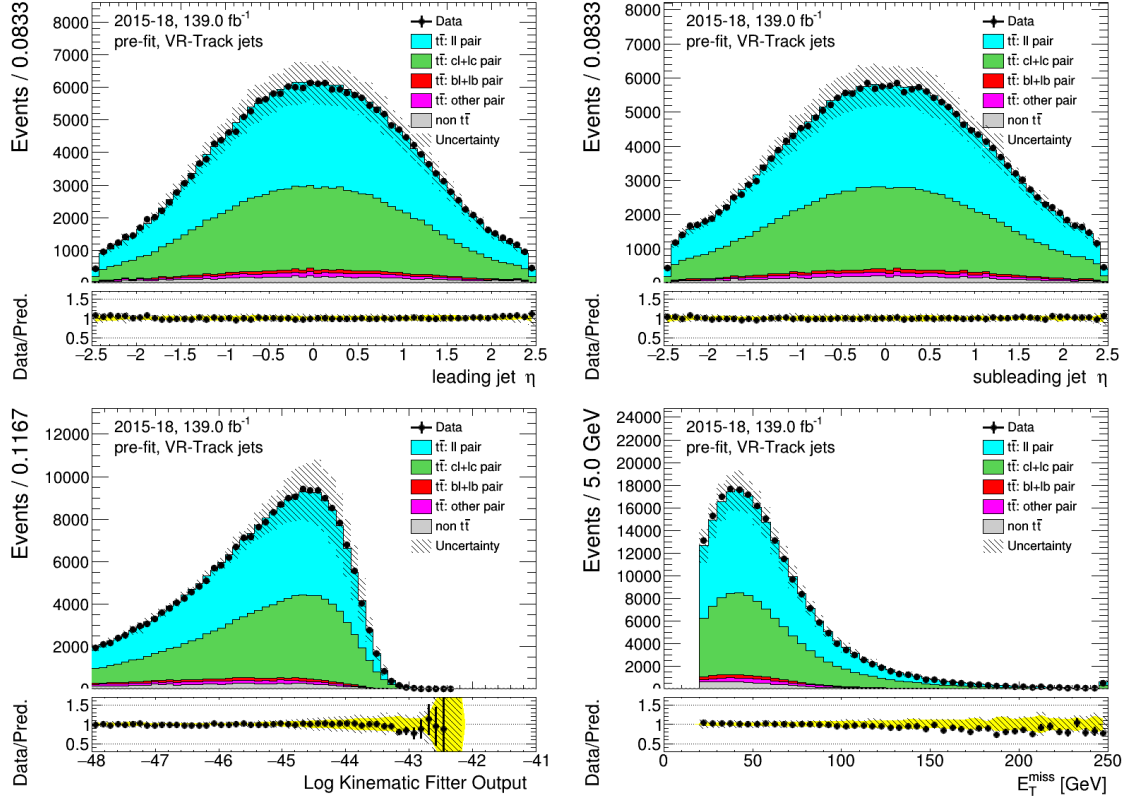


Figure 25: VR-Track jets: distributions of the leading and sub-leading jets from W decay, KLFitter output and the transverse missing transverse energy of the standard selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

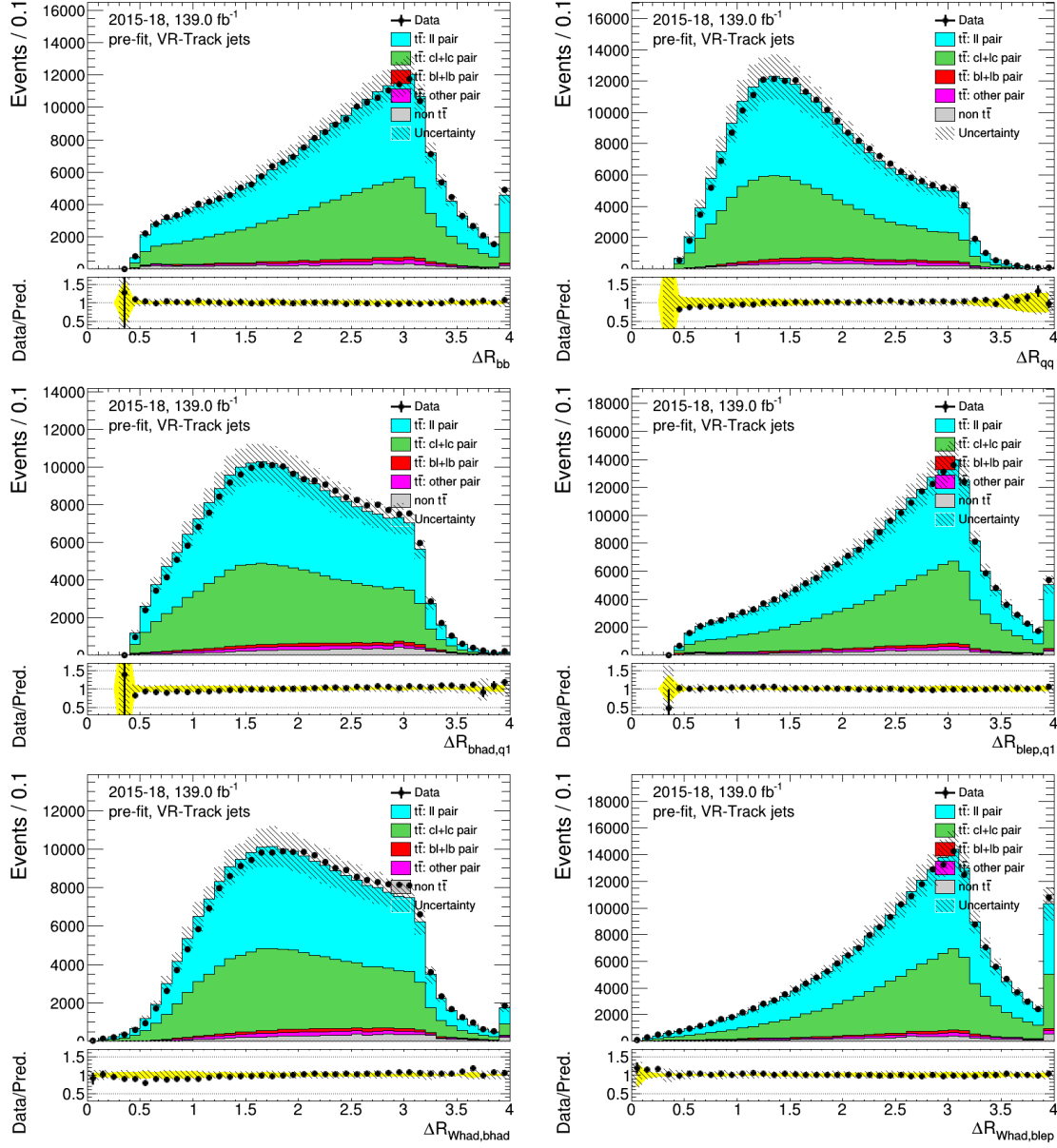


Figure 26: VR-Track jets: distributions of angle related variables of the combination of the standard selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

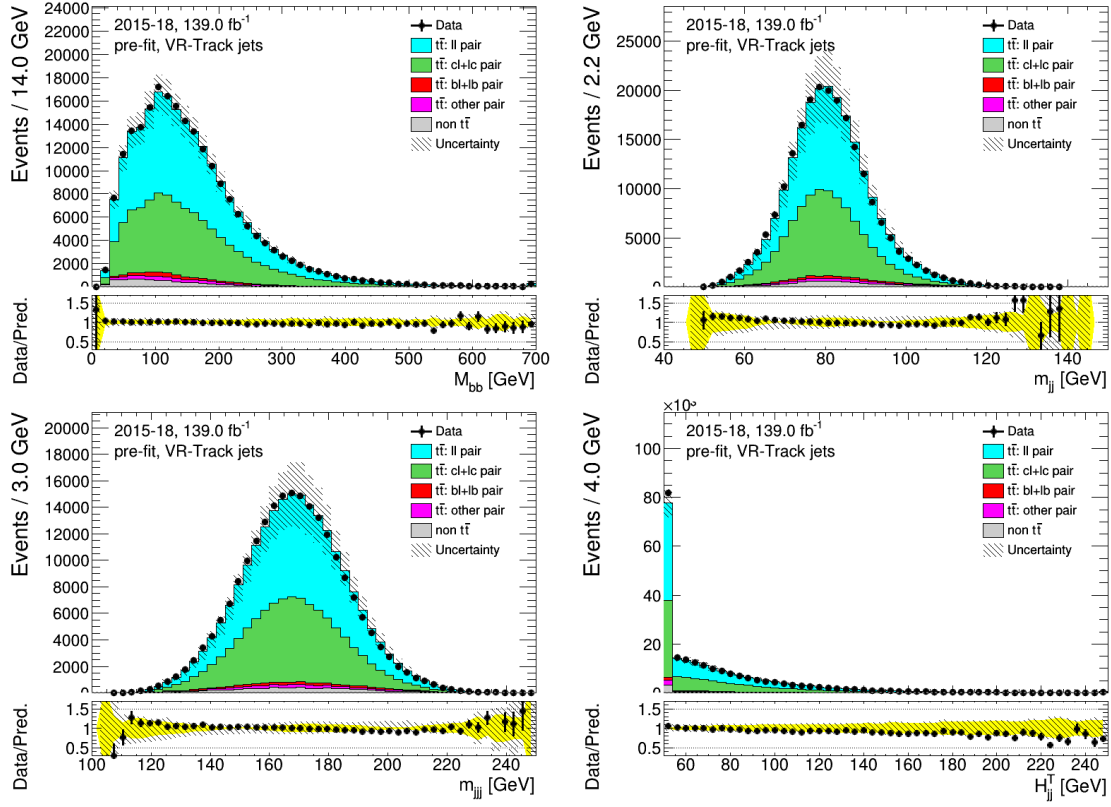


Figure 27: VR-Track jets: distributions of mass related variables of the standard selection, before fitting or tagging with stat-only uncertainties.

### A.1.2 Low- $p_T$ selection



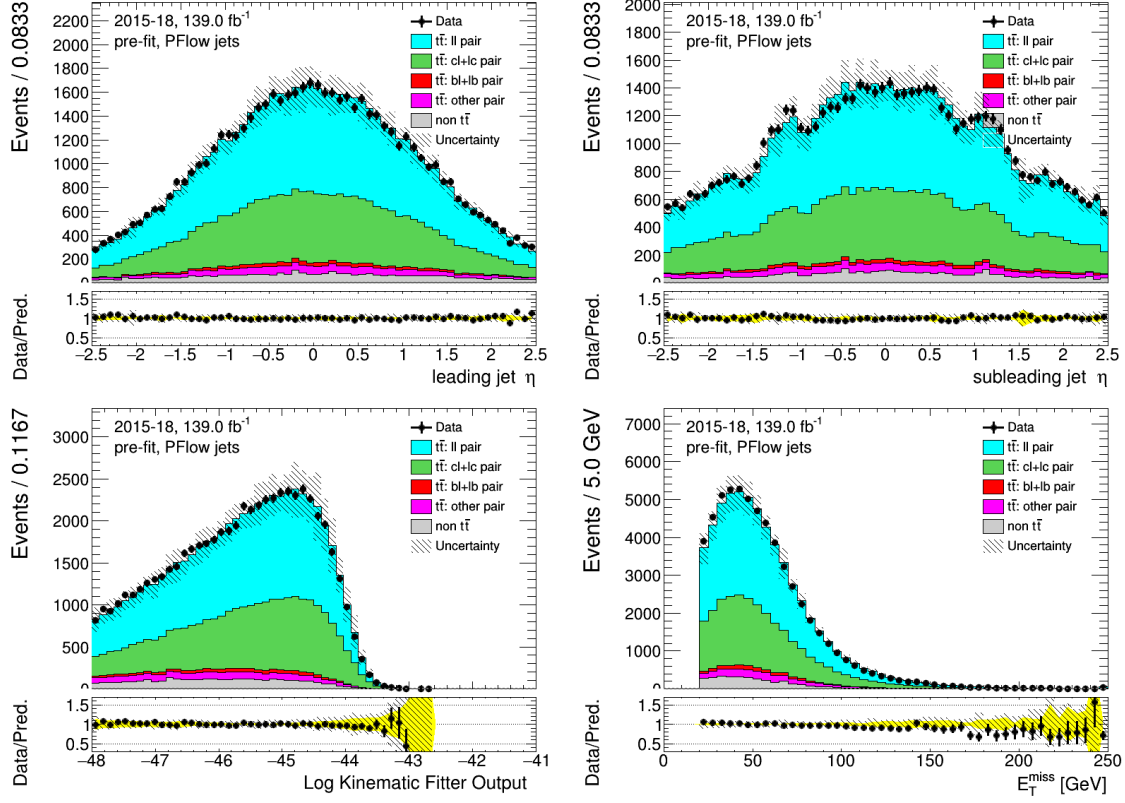


Figure 28: PFlow jets: distributions of the leading and sub-leading jets from W decay, KLFitter output and the transverse missing transverse energy of the low- $p_T$  selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

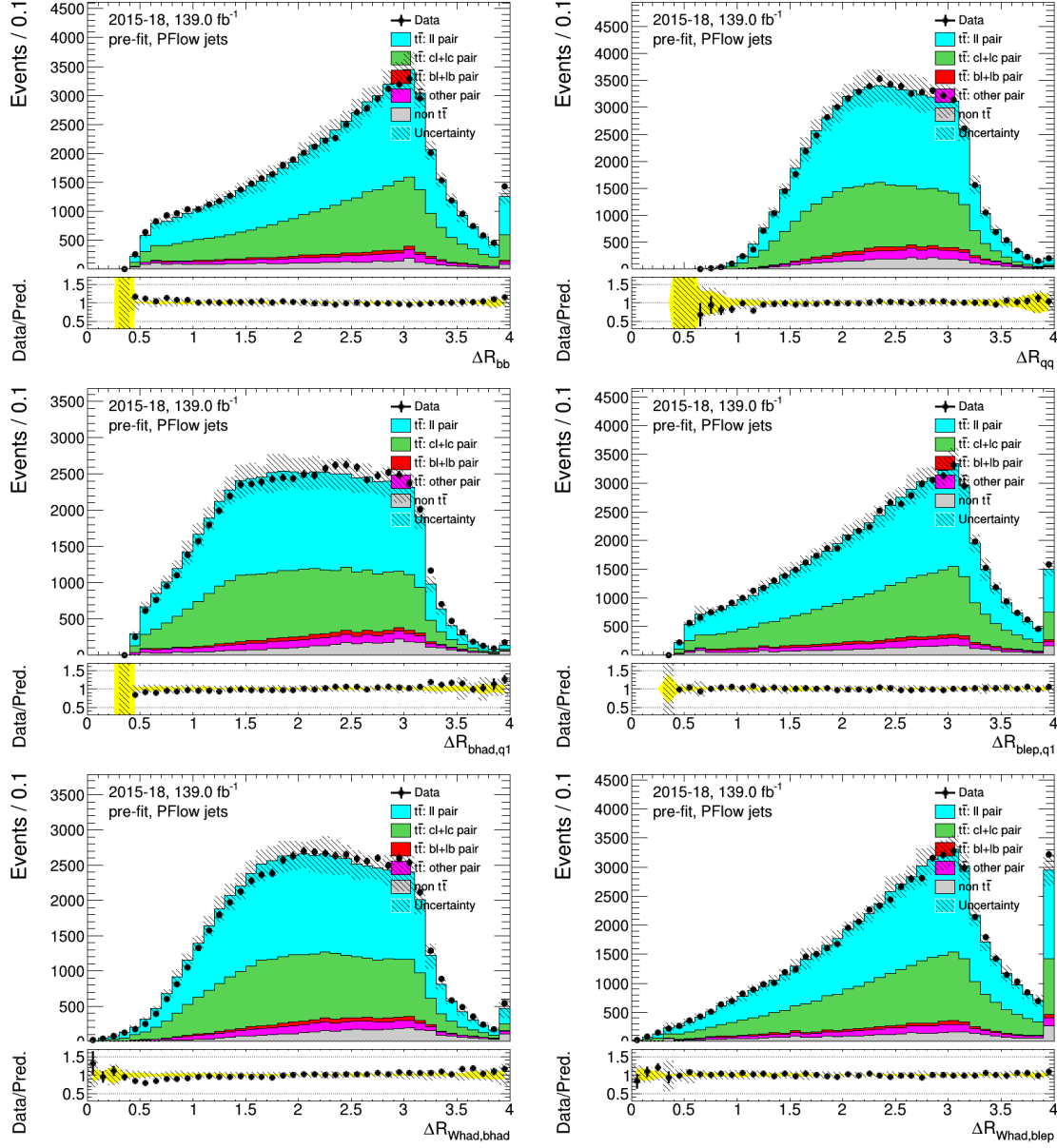


Figure 29: PFlow jets: distributions of angle related variables of the combination of the low- $p_T$  selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

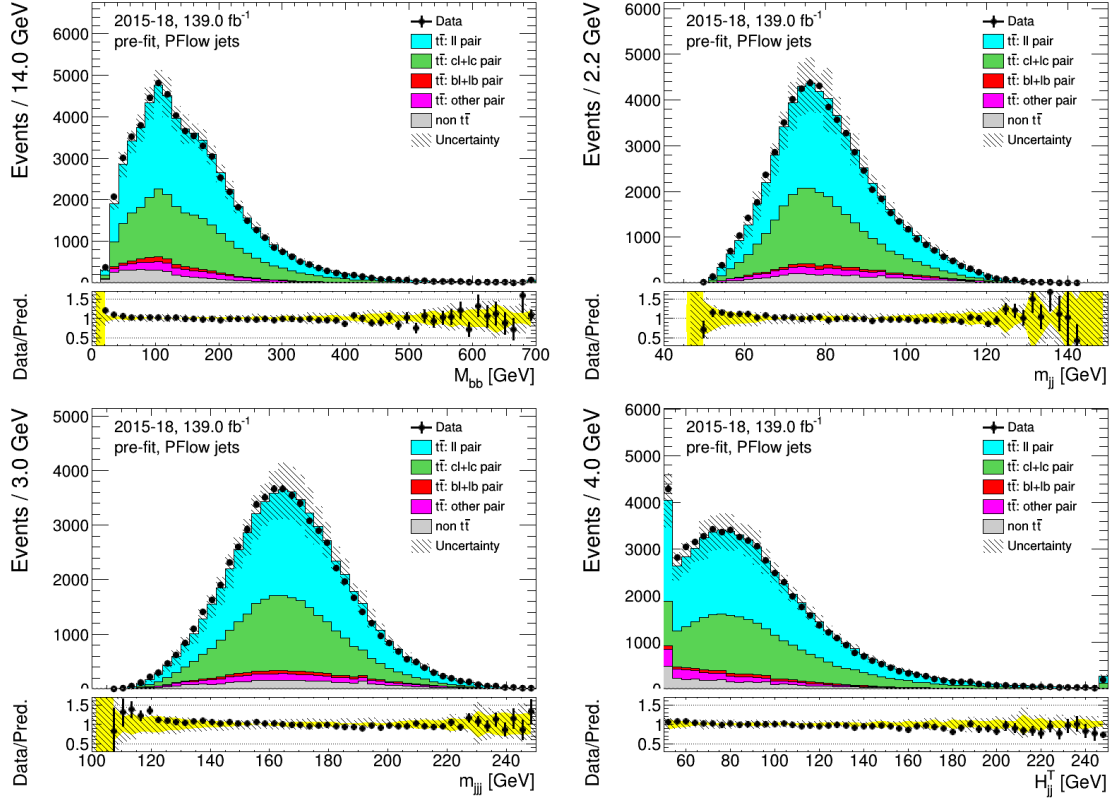


Figure 30: PFlow jets: distributions of mass related variables of the low- $p_T$  selection, before fitting or tagging with stat-only uncertainties.

## A.2 High- $p_T$ selection

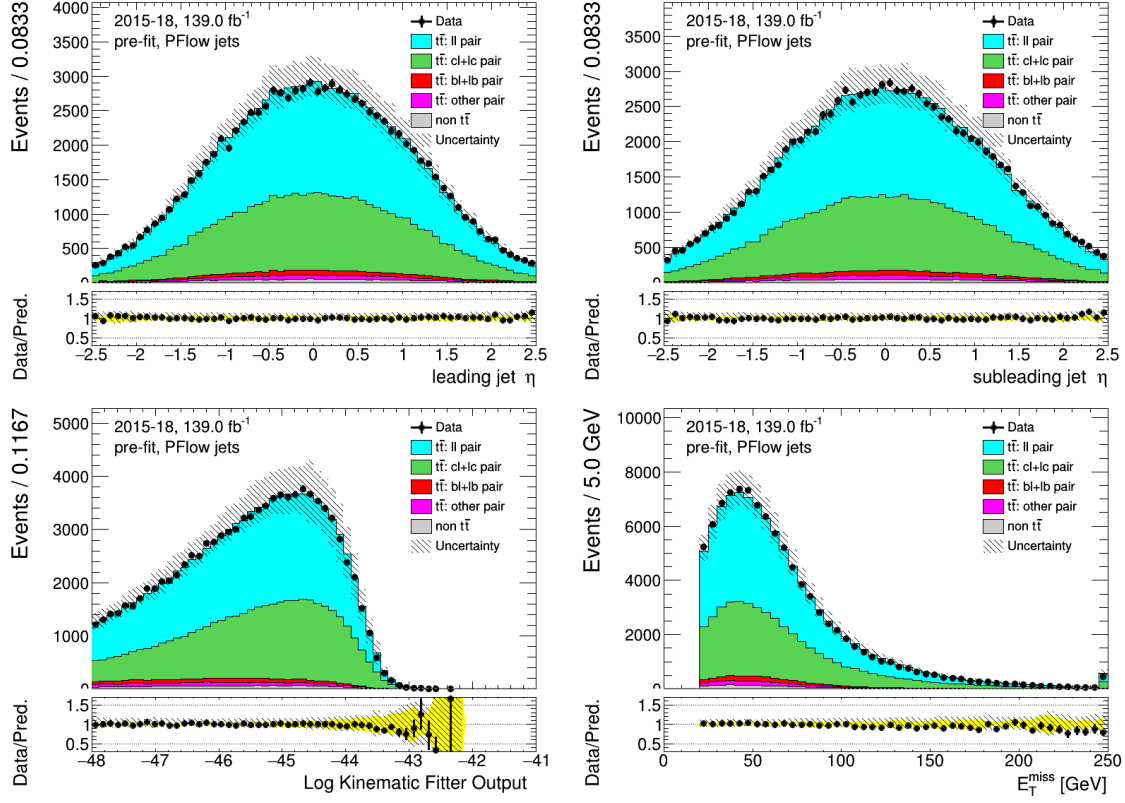


Figure 31: PFlow jets: distributions of the leading and sub-leading jets from W decay, KLFitter output and the transverse missing transverse energy of the high- $p_T$  selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

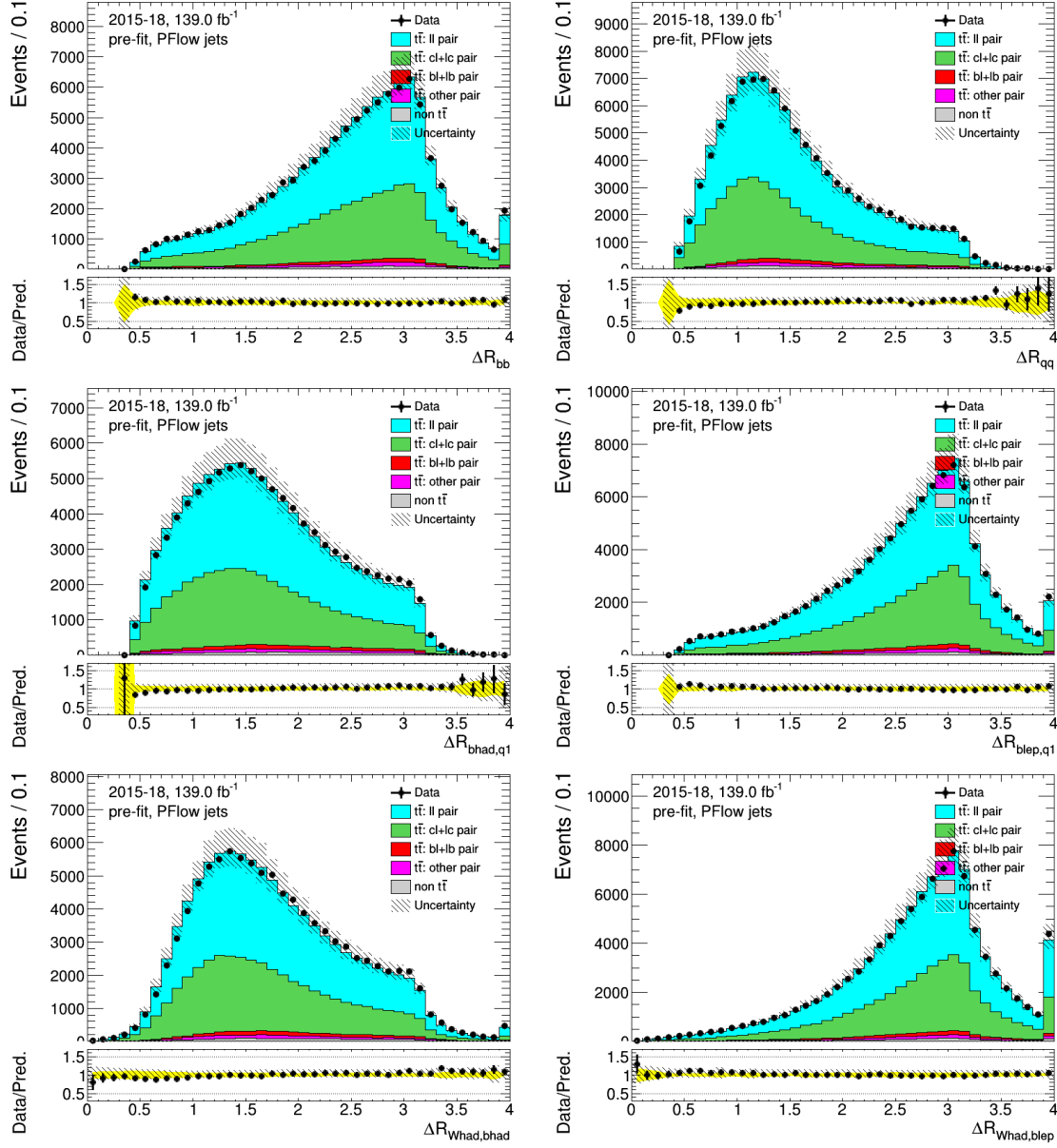


Figure 32: PFlow jets: distributions of angle related variables of the combination of the high- $p_T$  selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

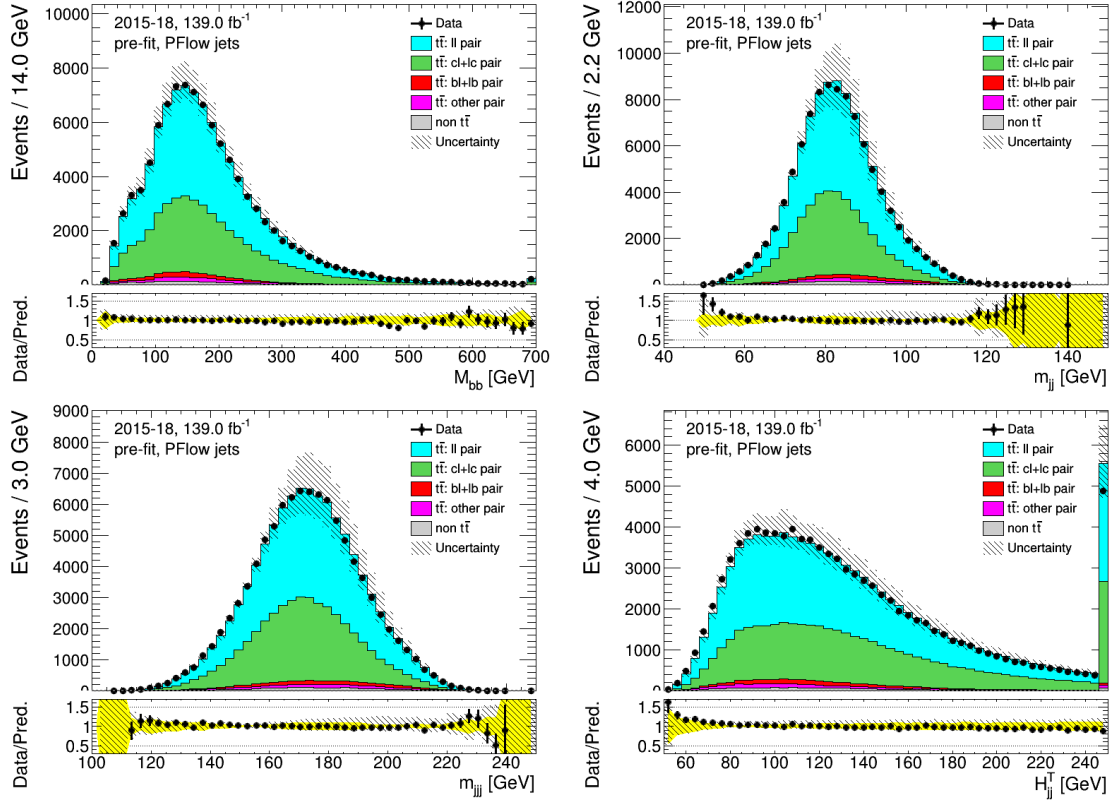


Figure 33: PFlow jets: distributions of mass related variables of the high- $p_T$  selection, before fitting or tagging with stat-only uncertainties.

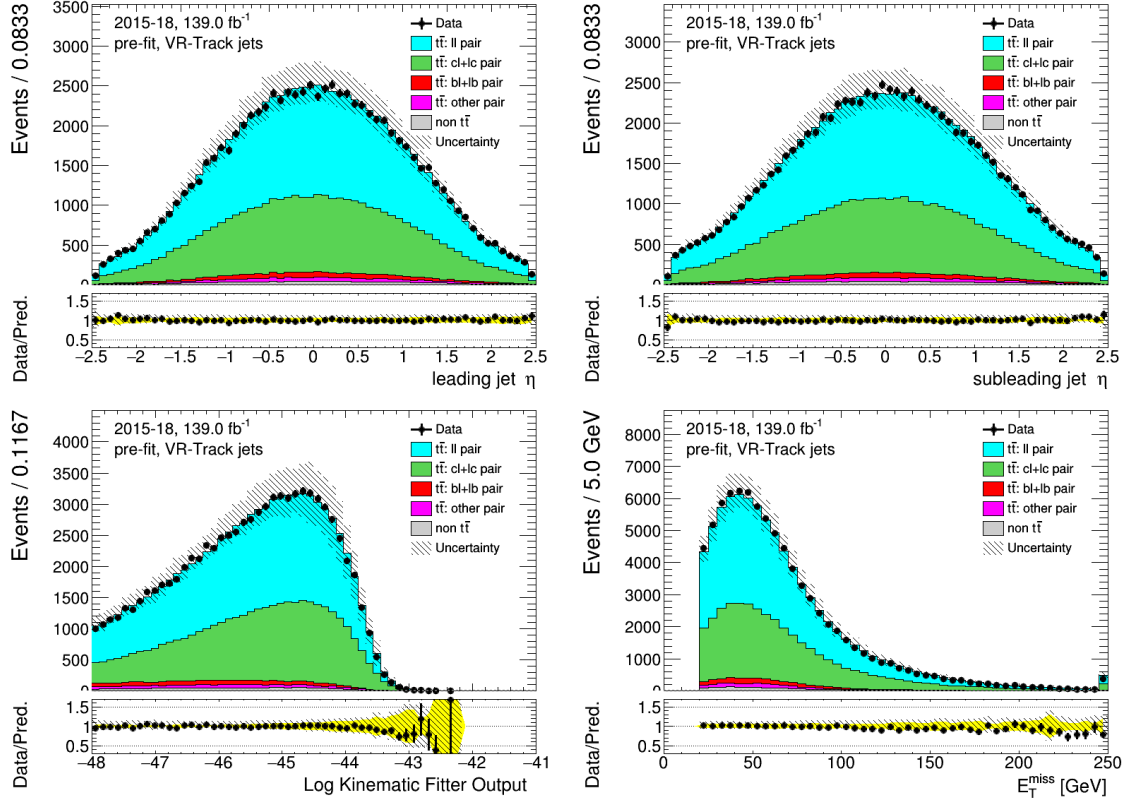


Figure 34: VR-Track jets: distributions of the leading and sub-leading jets from W decay, KLFitter output and the transverse missing transverse energy of the high- $p_T$  selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

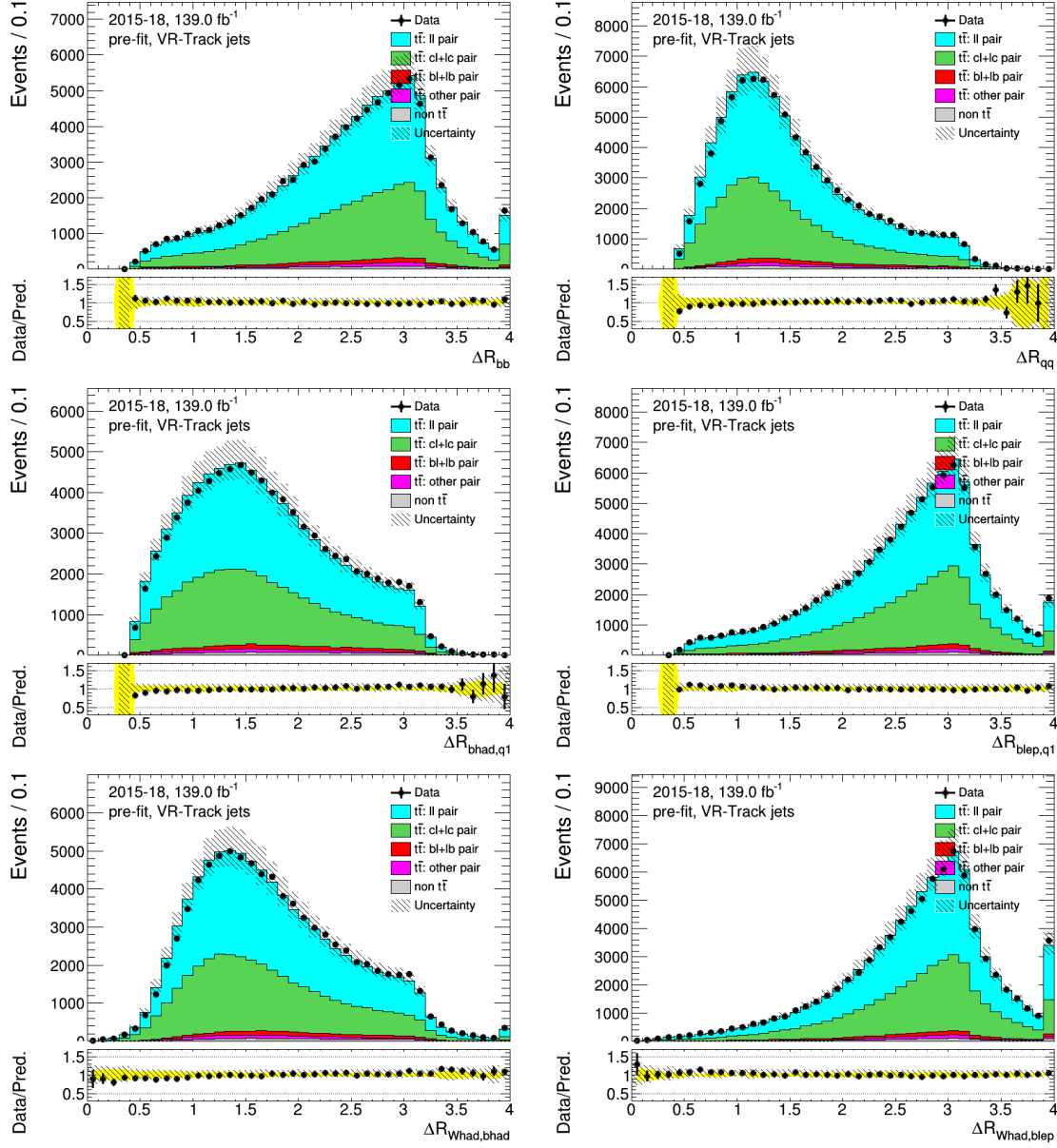


Figure 35: VR-Track jets: distributions of angle related variables of the combination of the high- $p_T$  selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.



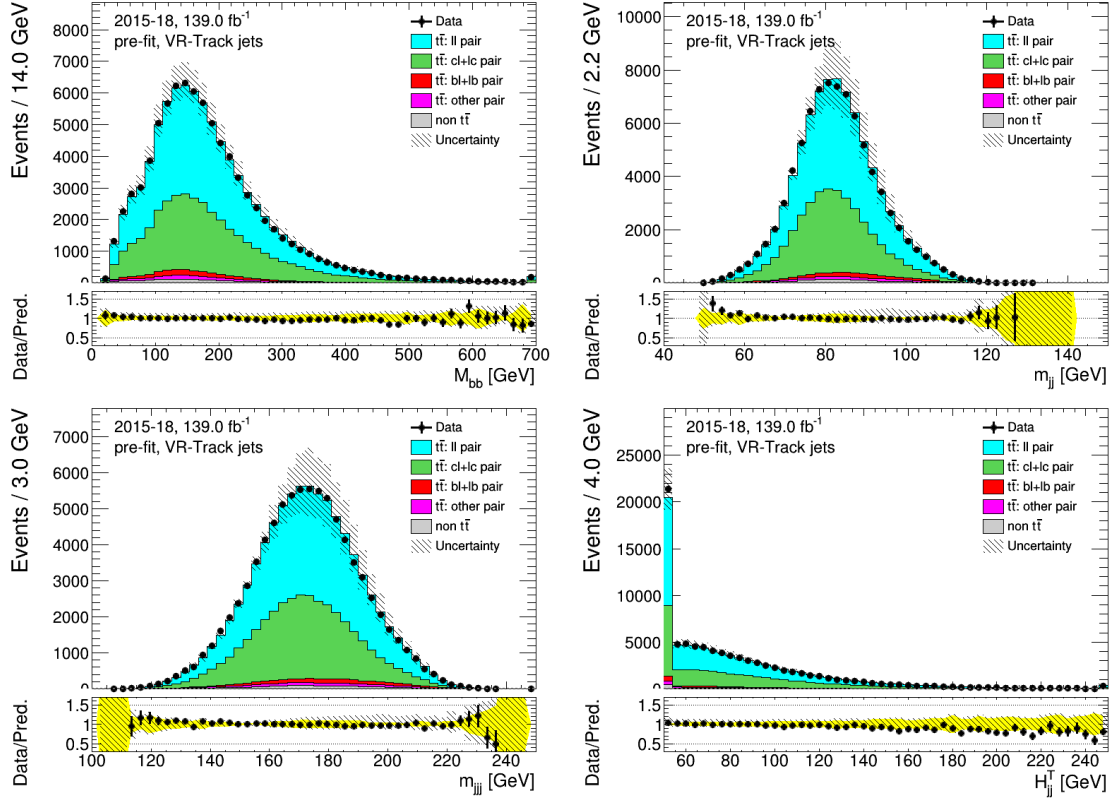


Figure 36: VR-Track jets: distributions of mass related variables of the high- $p_T$  selection, before fitting or tagging with stat-only uncertainties.

### A.3 Combined selection

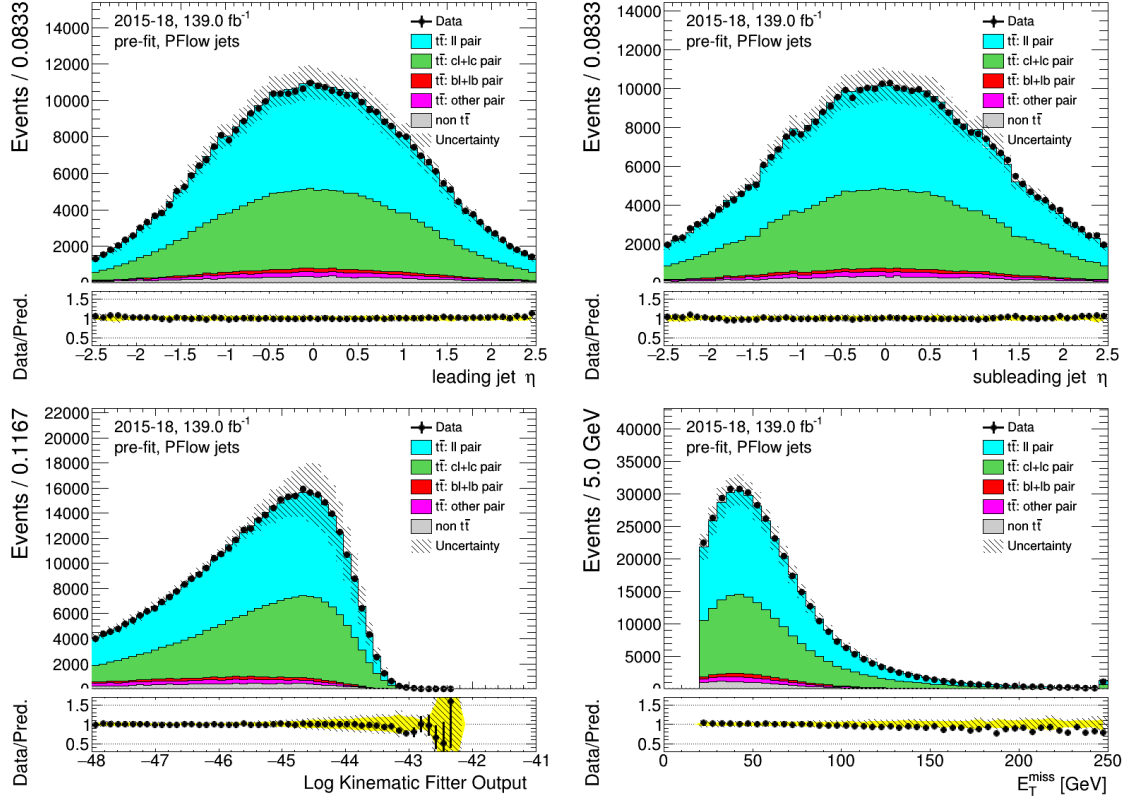


Figure 37: PFlow jets: distributions of the leading and sub-leading jets from W decay, KLFitter output and the transverse missing transverse energy of the combined selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

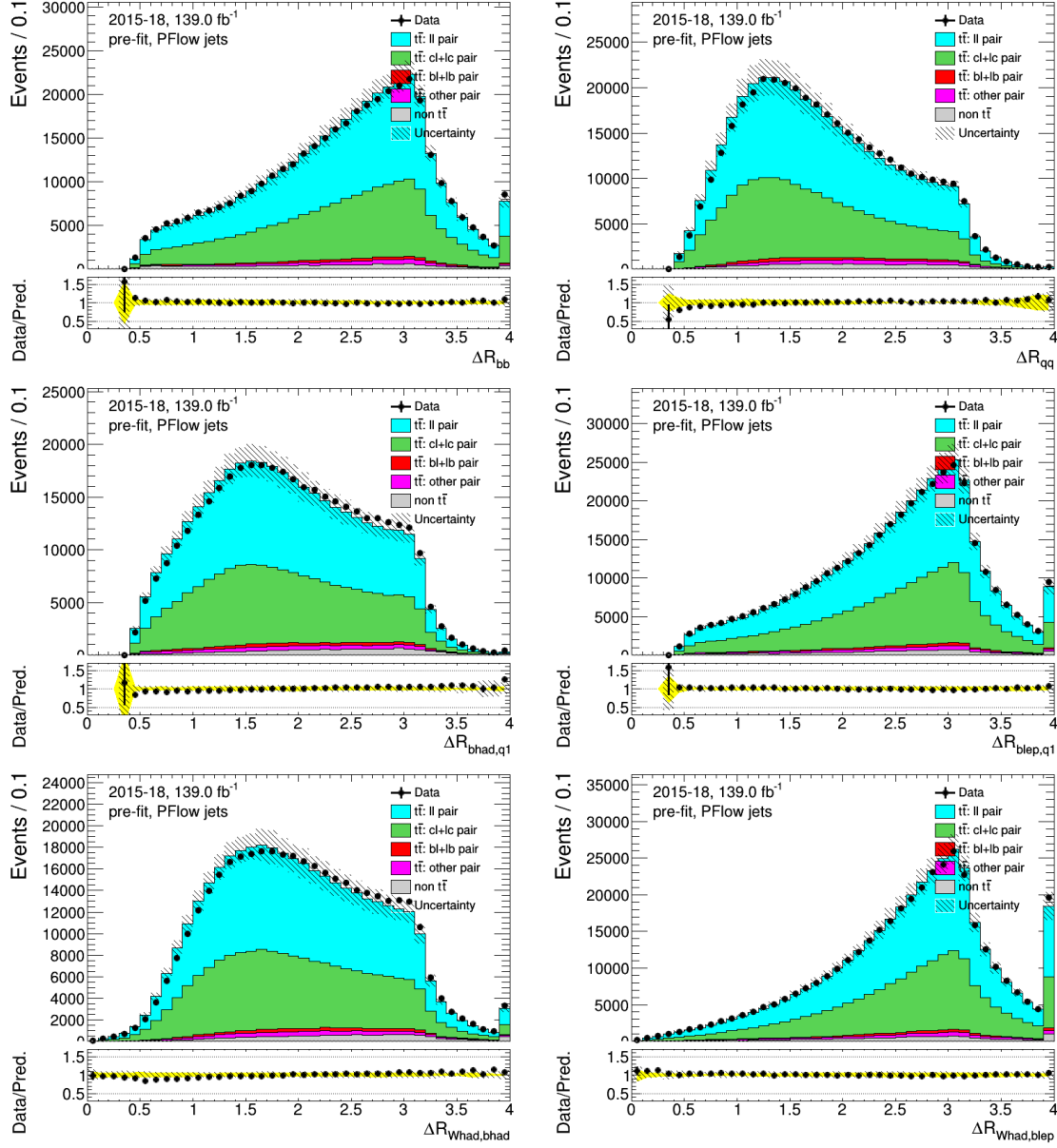


Figure 38: PFlow jets: distributions of angle related variables of the combination of the combined selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

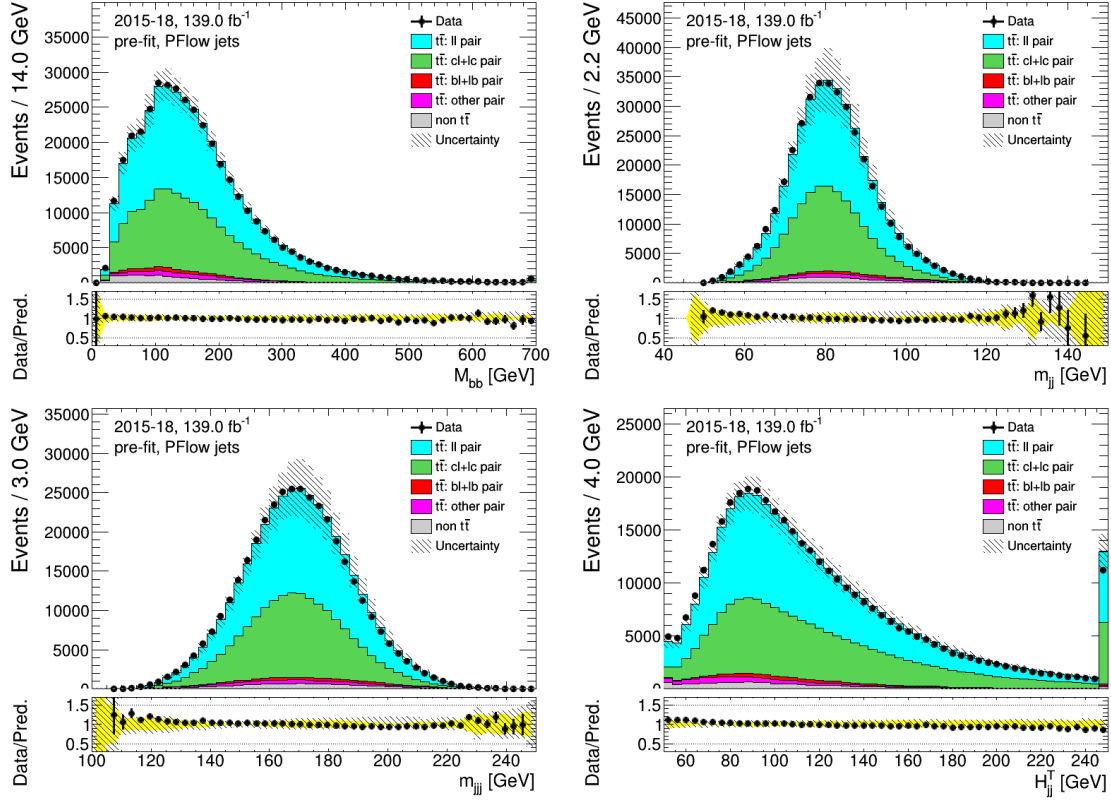


Figure 39: PFlow jets: distributions of mass related variables of the combined selection, before fitting or tagging with stat-only uncertainties.

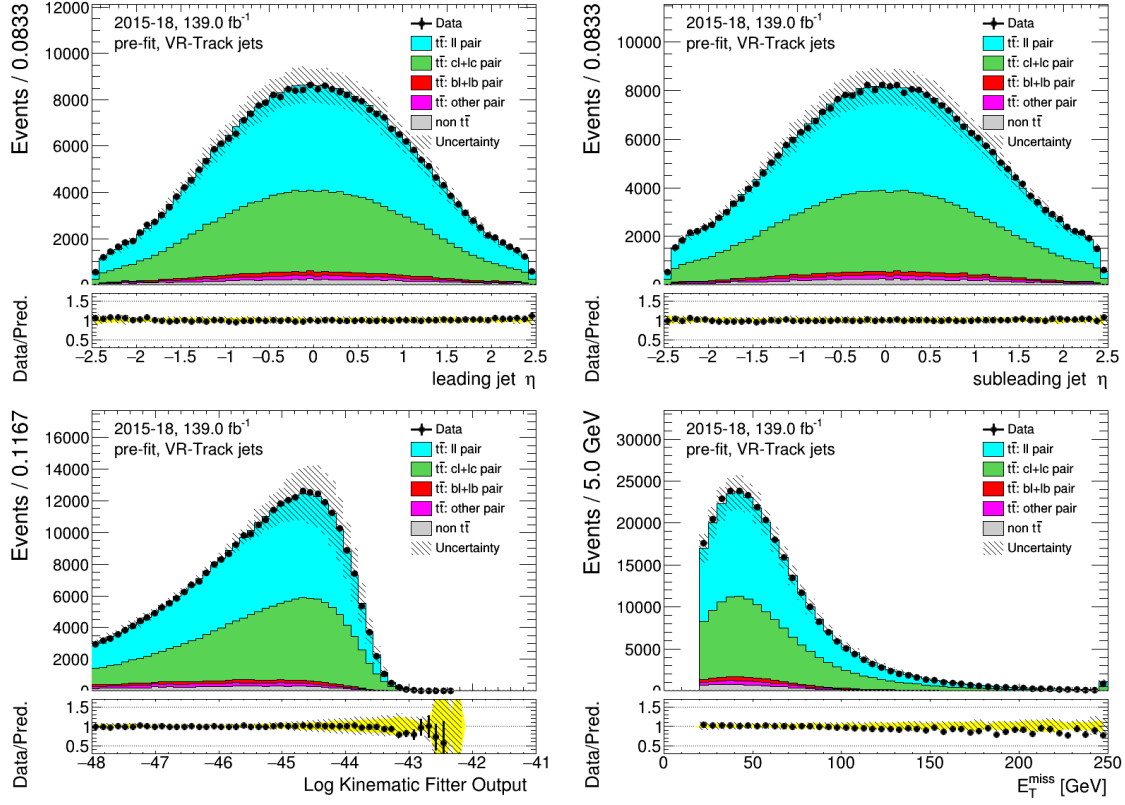


Figure 40: VR-Track jets: distributions of the leading and sub-leading jets from W decay, KLFitter output and the transverse missing transverse energy of the combined selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

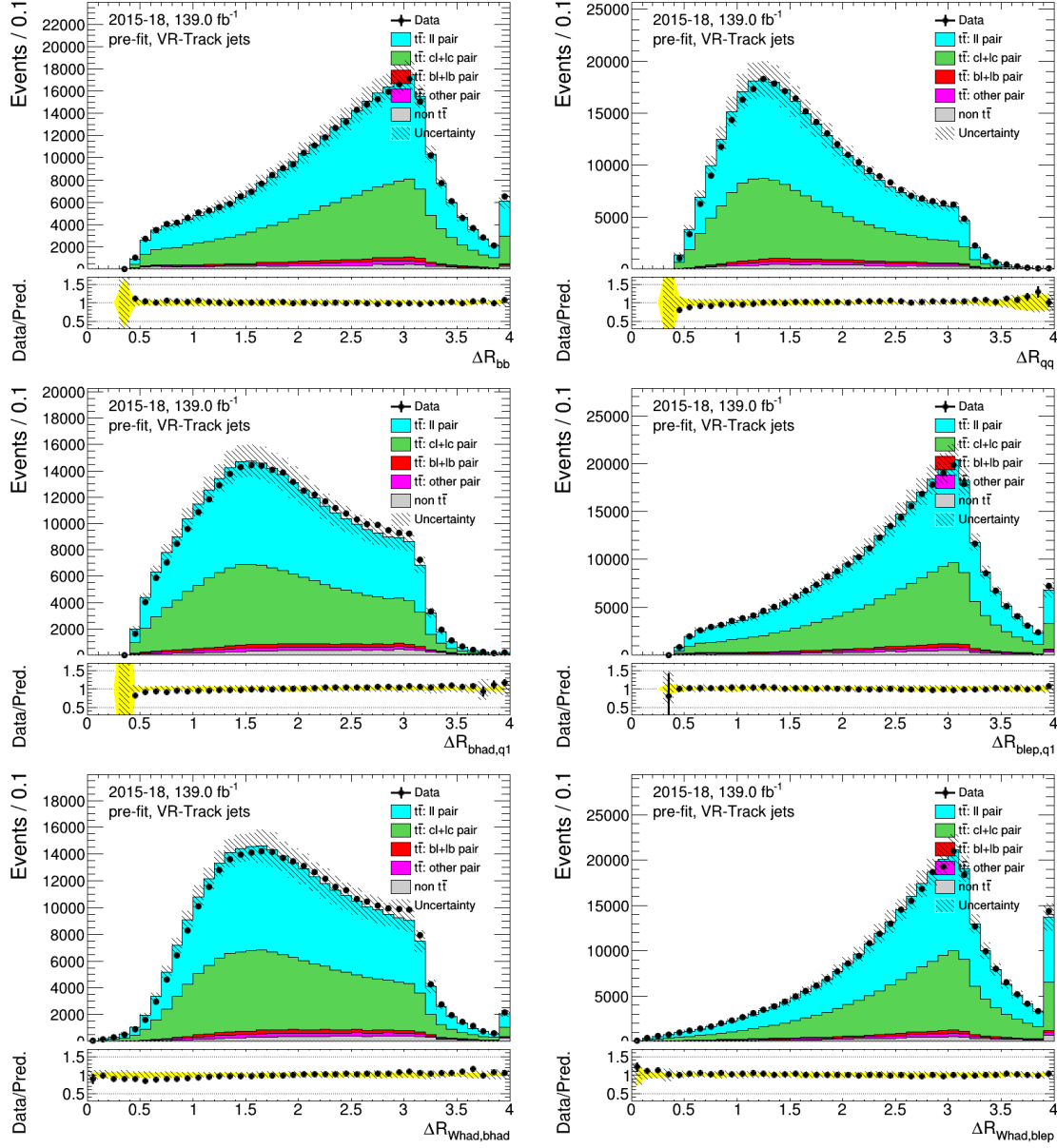


Figure 41: VR-Track jets: distributions of angle related variables of the combination of the combined selection, before fitting or tagging with full uncertainties.

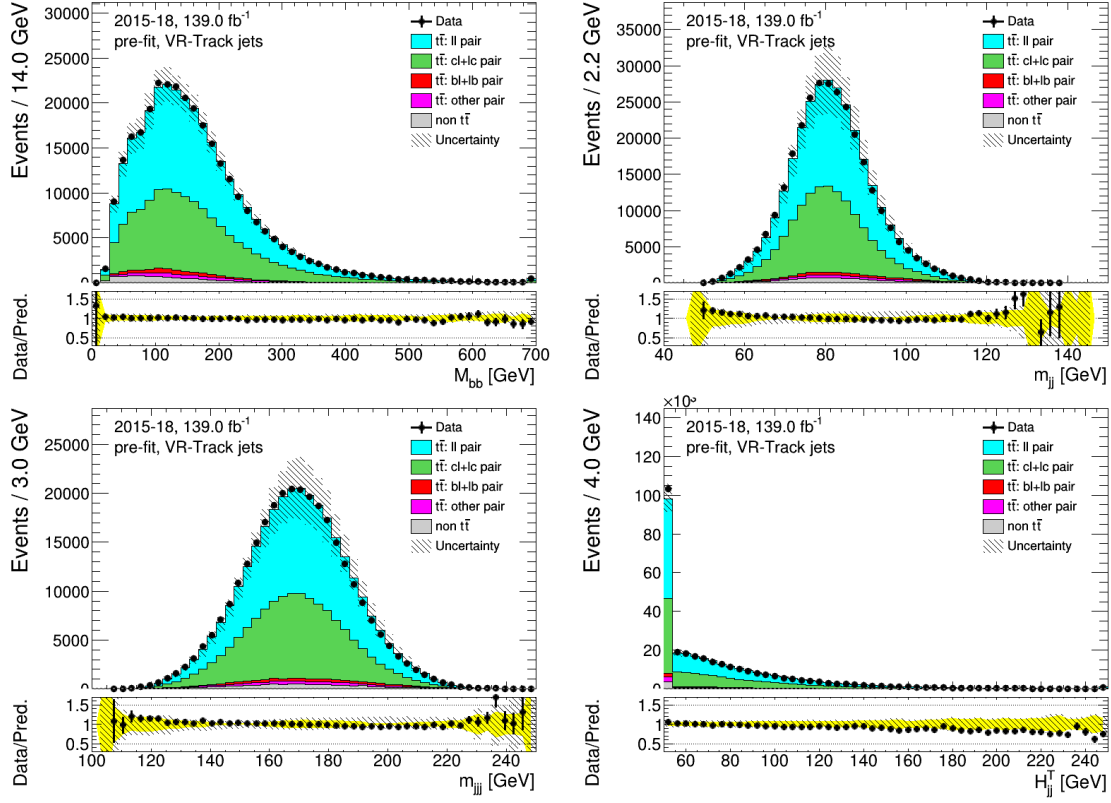


Figure 42: VR-Track jets: distributions of mass related variables of the combined selection, before fitting or tagging with stat-only uncertainties.



## A.4 Experimental uncertainties

<b>Systematic uncertainty</b>
EG_RESOLUTION_ALL
MUON_ID
MUON_MS
MET_SoftTrk_ResoPara
MET_SoftTrk_ResoPerp
MET_SoftTrk_ScaleDown
MET_SoftTrk_ScaleUp
JET_Pileup_OffsetNPV
JET_Pileup_RhoTopology
JET_EffectiveNP_Modelling1
JET_EffectiveNP_Modelling2
JET_EffectiveNP_Modelling3
JET_EffectiveNP_Modelling4
JET_EffectiveNP_Statistical4
JET_EffectiveNP_Detector1
JET_JER_EffectiveNP_1
JET_JER_EffectiveNP_2
JET_JER_EffectiveNP_3
JET_JER_EffectiveNP_4
JET_BJES_Response
JET_Flavor_Composition
JET_Flavor_Response

Table 8: List of experimental systematics.