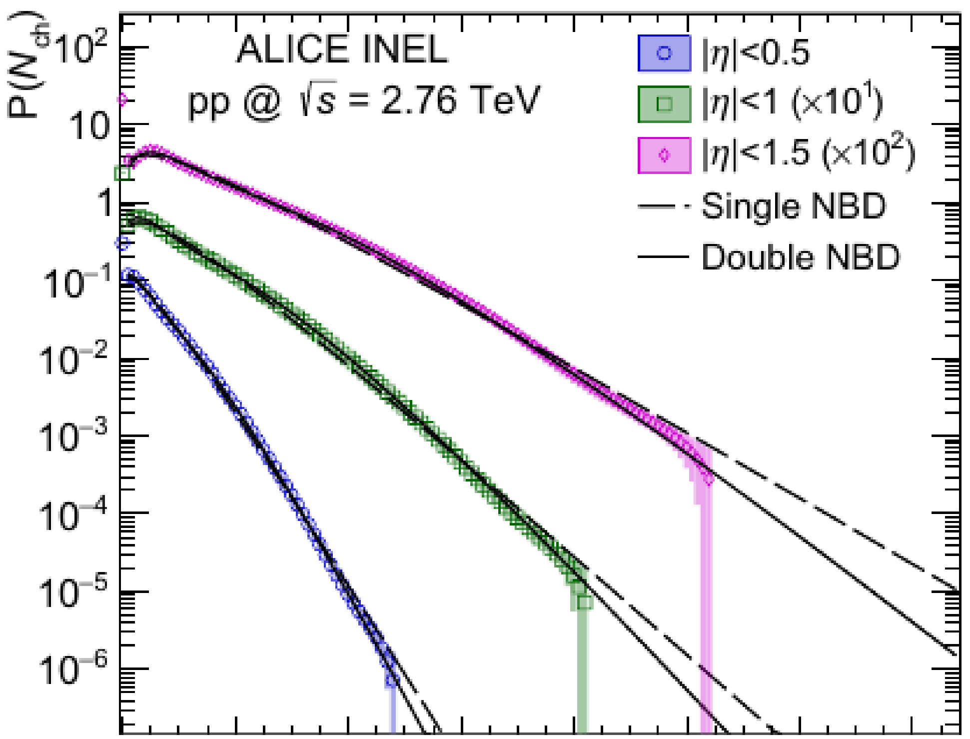
Modern Particle Physics Experiments

The probability

Many aspects of particle physics are of stochastic nature:

- final state properties in particle collisions:
  - **number of particles**
  - type of particles
  - particle four-momenta



https://arxiv.org/abs/1509.07541

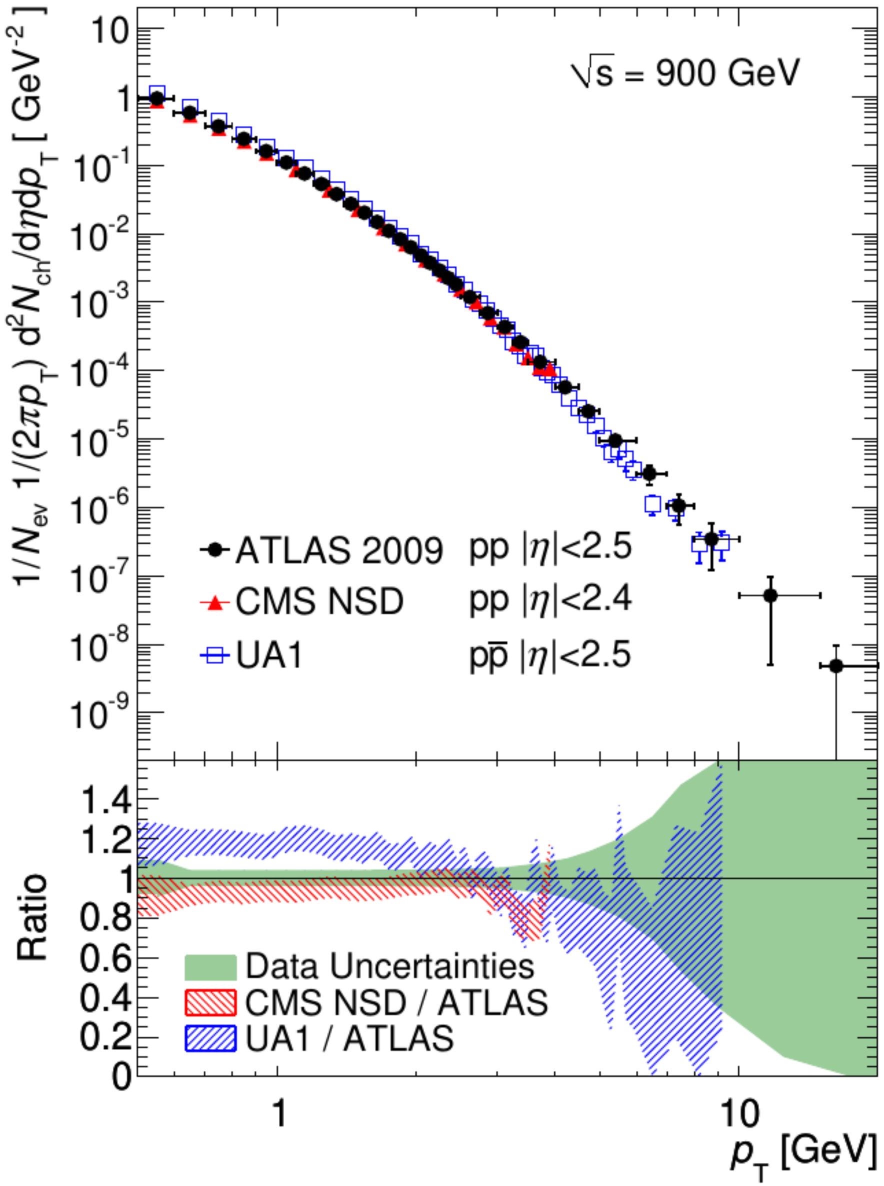
The probability

Many aspects of particle physics are of stochastic nature:

- final state properties in particle collisions:

https://arxiv.org/abs/1003.3124

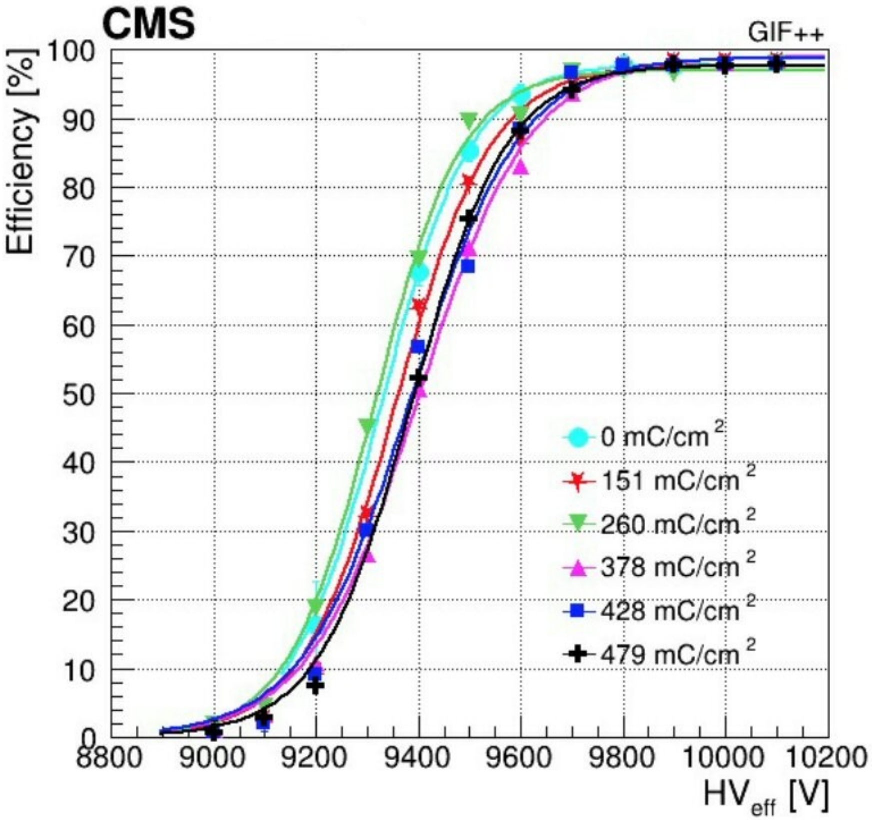
  - number of particles
  - type of particles
  - **particle four-momenta**



The probability

Many aspects of particle physics are of stochastic nature:

- response of the detector:
  - efficiency of
    - **detector elements**
    - trigger
    - reconstruction algorithms
  - difference of measured values from the true values (resolution)

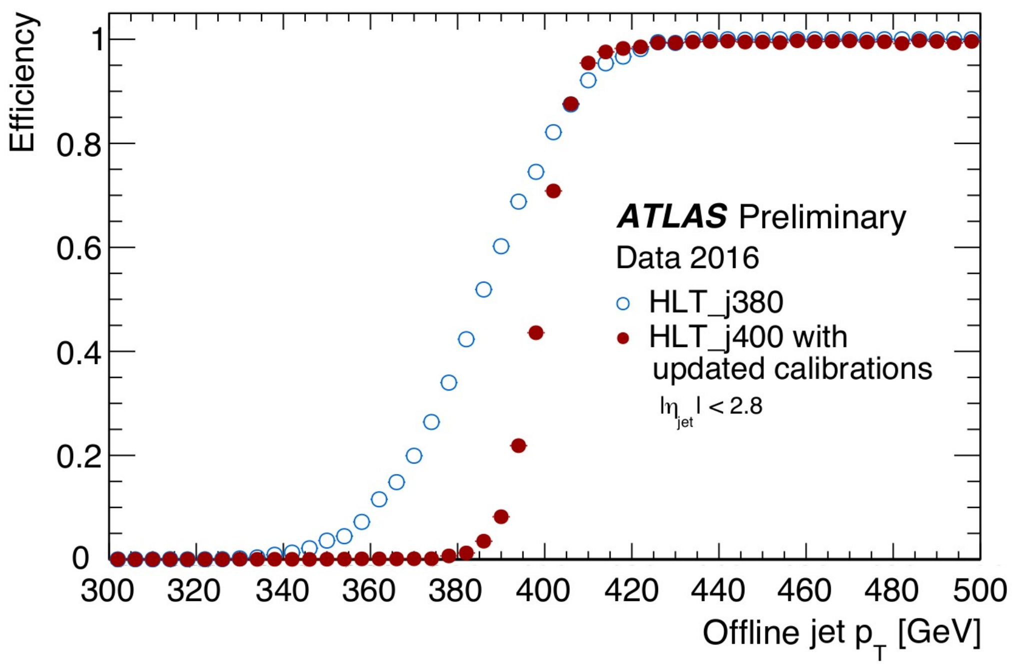


https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.11397

The probability

Many aspects of particle physics are of stochastic nature:

- response of the detector:
  - efficiency of
    - detector elements
    - **trigger**
    - reconstruction algorithms
  - difference of measured values from the true values (resolution

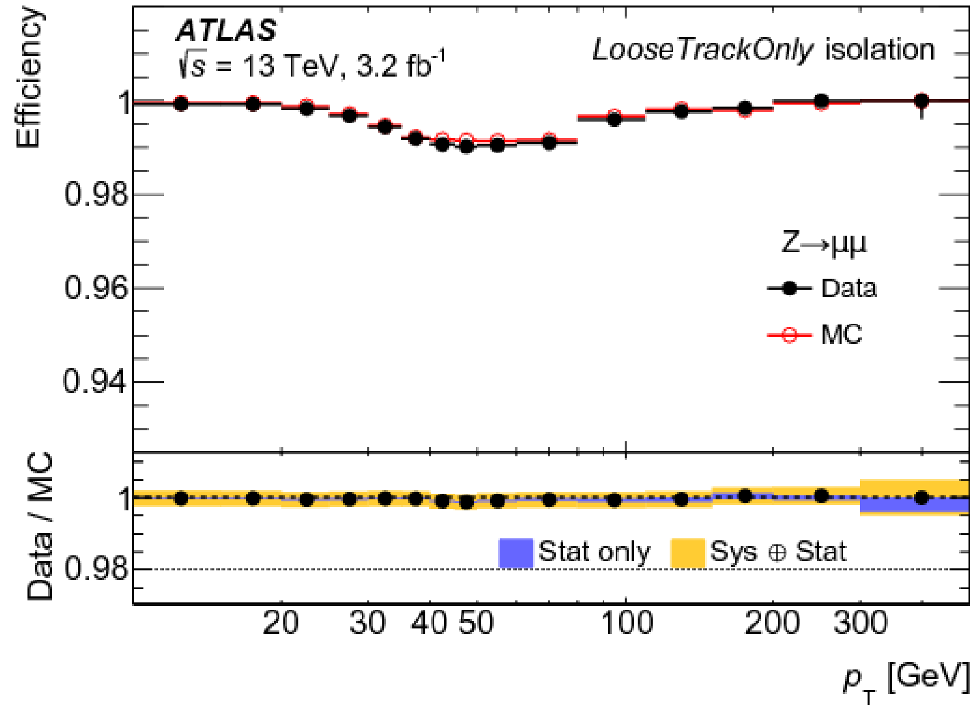


https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.02946

The probability

Many aspects of particle physics are of stochastic nature:

- response of the detector:
  - efficiency of
    - detector elements
    - trigger
    - **reconstruction algorithms**
  - difference of measured values from the true values (resolution)

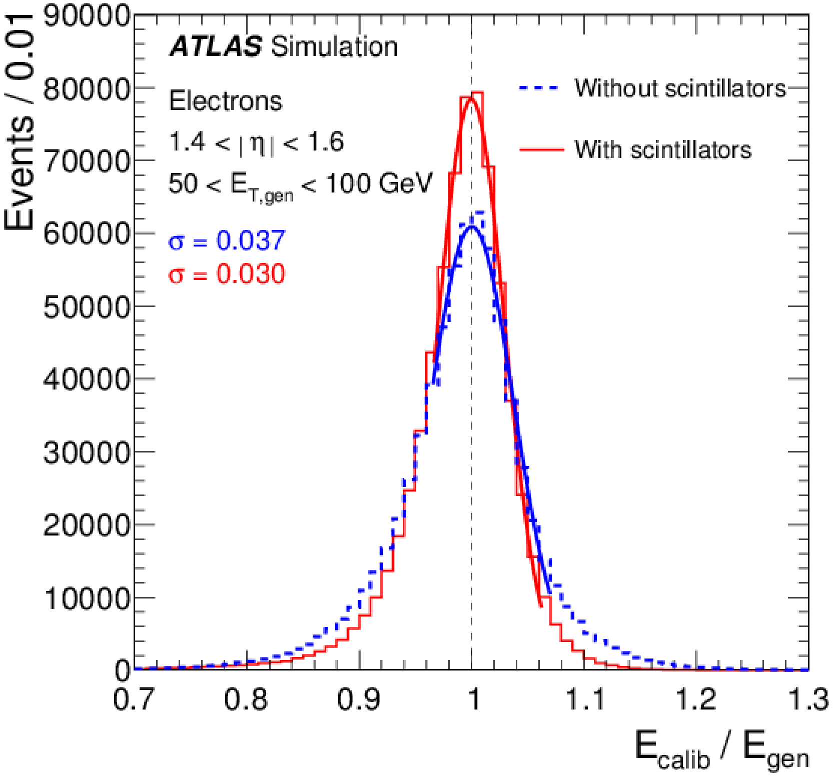


https://arxiv.org/abs/1603.05598

The probability

Many aspects of particle physics are of stochastic nature:

- response of the detector:
  - efficiency of
    - detector elements
    - trigger
    - reconstruction algorithms
  - **difference of measured values from the true values (resolution)**



https://arxiv.org/abs/1812.03848

The probability

Probability distribution, or probability density for results of particle interactions are proportional to differential cross sections:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dN} = \ldots, \quad \frac{d\sigma}{dp_T} = \ldots, \quad \frac{d\sigma}{d\eta} = \ldots$$

Probability distribution has to correctly normalized:

$$p(\eta) = \frac{1}{\sigma_{tot}} \frac{d\sigma}{d\eta}$$

total cross section – normalization constant

differential cross section – the distribution shape

Electron spectrum from μ decay

What is the probability distribution for the electron energy for electrons from muon decay?

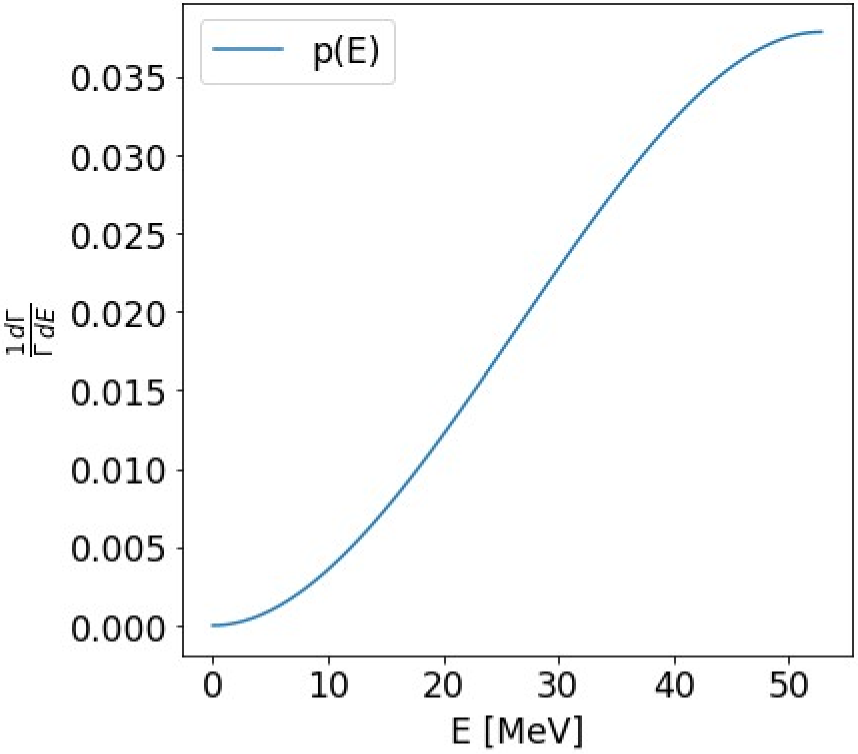
- the differential decay width section is as follows:

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dE_e} = \frac{G_F^2}{4\pi^3} m_\mu^2 E_e^2 \left(1 - \frac{4E_e}{3m_\mu}\right)$$

- the total decay width is as follows:

$$\Gamma_\mu = \frac{G_F^2 m_\mu^5}{192\pi^3}$$

- the probability is: $p(E)\,dE = \frac{1}{\Gamma}\frac{d\Gamma}{dE_e}dE$



Event generation

How to generate fake dataset (energy values only for now) of electrons from μ decay?

• draw numbers (energy values) from correct probability distribution.

How? Let’s look at cumulative distribution function (CDF):

$$F(x)=\int_{-\infty}^{x} p(x)\,dx\,,\ \ 0\leq F(x)\leq 1$$

$$p(x)=\frac{dF(x)}{dx}$$

•what is probability distribution for F(x)?

Probability distribution for CDF

$$P(x_0 < x < x_1) = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} p(x)\,dx = \int_{F(x_0)}^{F(x_1)} p(F)\,dF$$

$$\parallel$$

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} \frac{dF(x)}{dx}\,dx =$$

property of inverse function derivative

$$\int_{F(x_0)}^{F(x_1)} \frac{dF}{dx}\frac{dx}{dF}\,dF = \int_{F(x_0)}^{F(x_1)} \frac{dF}{dx}\left(\frac{dF}{dx}\right)^{-1} dF =$$

change of integration variable x→ F

$$\int_{F(x_0)}^{F(x_1)} 1\,dF$$

$$\boxed{p(F) = \frac{dF}{dx}\left(\frac{dF}{dx}\right)^{-1} = 1}$$

CDF has a flat distribution over [0,1] range.

How to generate a number from arbitrary distribution?

1) draw a random number z, from flat distribution in [0,1]

2) pretend this is a CDF value for your distribution at some x:

$$z = \int_0^x p(x)\,dx$$

3) calculate x using functional form of $F^{-1}(z)$:

$$x = F^{-1}(z)$$

Problem: $F^{-1}(z)$ is often not easy (or possible) to calculate.

Hit-or-miss method

1) draw the value of number of interest (e.g. energy, E) from flat distribution in desired range: [E_{min}, E_{max}]

2) draw a second number, z, from flat distribution in [0,1]

3) calculate p(E)

4) accept the "event" if x<p(E)

Materials

Review articles of probability and statistics on PDG portal:

- *The Review of Particle Physics*

Python packages:

- *Scikit-HEP Project*