

Katharina Voß

# Monte-Carlo Generation in ATLAS: An overview of the workflow

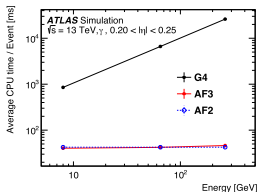
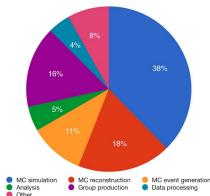
CPPS Retreat, Meinerzhagen  
15<sup>th</sup> February 2024





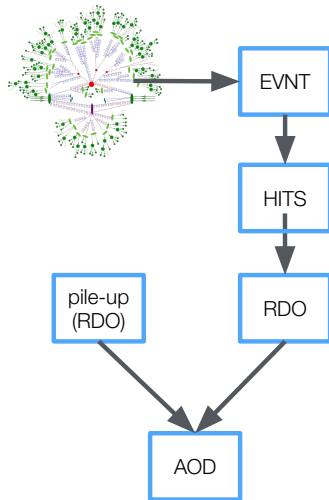
# Why is the generation of new samples slow?

Wall clock consumption per workflow



[CERN-LHCC-2020-015] [ComputSoftwBigSci6,7(2022)]

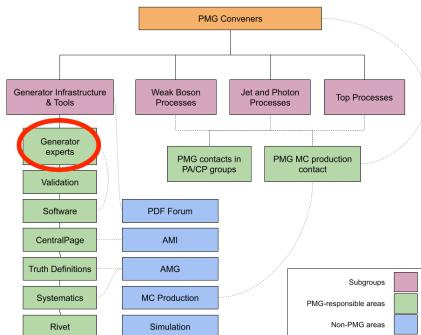
→ trying to give an overview / a feeling why the approval and the production of new Monte Carlo samples can take significant time in ATLAS



# Generator software teams in ATLAS

Tasks of dedicated generator software expert teams within ATLAS

- ATLAS software maintenance and update for specific generator
- answering to technical and physics questions related to the generator



Generator
Powheg
MadGraph5_aMC@NLO
Sherpa
Pythia8
Herwig7



# Uncertainty prescription for the $t\bar{t}$ process

For evaluation of the uncertainties marked in red new samples have to be produced

## Hard process generation

- **scale uncertainty**  
varying  $(K_R, K_F) \in \{(1, 0.5), (1, 2), (0.5, 1), (2, 1)\}$  with  $\mu_{R/F} = K_{R/F}\mu_0$
- **PDF uncertainty**  
PDF4LHC variations added in quadrature (nominal NNPDF3.0)
- **NNLO reweighting**  
use NNLO reweighting based on truth  $p_T^{t\bar{t}}$ ,  $m_{t\bar{t}}$ ,  $p_T^t$  and  $p_T^{\bar{t}}$
- **$h_{\text{damp}}$  variation**  
compare nominal  $h_{\text{damp}} = 1.5m_{\text{top}}$  to  $h_{\text{damp}} = 3m_{\text{top}}$
- **top quark mass**  
compare nominal  $m_{\text{top}} = 172.5$  GeV to  $m_{\text{top}} \in \{172.0, 173.0\}$  GeV samples

## Matching uncertainty

- **Pythia 8  $p_T^{\text{hard}}$  variation**  
compare nominal  $p_T^{\text{hard}} = 0$  to  $p_T^{\text{hard}} = 1$  sample



# Uncertainty prescription for the $t\bar{t}$ process

## Parton shower uncertainties

- **initial state radiation**  
Pythia 8 Var3c variations, vary ISR  $\alpha_S(M_Z) = \{0.115, 0.140\}$ , nominal  $\alpha_S(M_Z) = 0.127$   
[\[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2014-021\]](#)
- **final state radiation**  
vary  $\mu_R$  in FSR splitting kernel by factor 0.5 and 2
- **parton shower**  
comparison of nominal Pwg+Py8 with Pwg+Herwig 7 (H7)

## Specialised uncertainty definitions

- **top line shape** (only for analysis in off-shell region)  
comparison of nominal Pwg+Py8 to Pwg+MadSpin+Py8  $t\bar{t}$  sample
- **recoil-to-top**  
compare nominal (recoil-to-colour) to alternative recoil-to-top sample
- **underlying event**  
Py8 A14 Var1 variations (MPI and UE tuning parameters) [\[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2014-021\]](#)
- **colour reconnection**  
comparison of nominal to tuned results with different CR models CR1 and CR2  
[\[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2017-008\]](#)



# Monte Carlo statistics for $t\bar{t}$ in dileptonic decay

sample	statistics	simulation type
nominal (Pwhg+Py8)	550 M	FullSim
nominal (Pwhg+Py8)	550 M	FastSim
$h_{\text{damp}} = 3m_t$ (Pwhg+Py8)	310 M	FastSim
$m_t$ variations (Pwhg+Py8)	2 × 230M	FastSim
$p_T^{\text{hard}} = 1$ (Pwhg+Py8)	310 M	FastSim
PS uncertainty (Pwhg+H7)	310 M	FastSim
top line shape (Pwhg+Py8)	310M	FastSim
recoil-to-top (Pwhg+Py8)	260 M	FastSim
UE variation (Pwhg+Py8)	2 × 90M	FastSim
colour reconnection (Pwhg+Py8)	2 × 190 M	FastSim

- if misconfiguration of the generator is found in the nominal sample, also systematic varied samples have to be reproduced to not overestimate the modelling uncertainties
- careful validation is needed before nominal sample production can start

## Outline

- integration of a new generator into ATLAS software
- generator software validation in ATLAS (external and internal software)
- Monte Carlo user request workflow



# Integrating a new generator into ATLAS software

Release	e-tag	LCG layer	HepMC	Herwig7	MadGraph	Pythia8	Sherpa	EvtGen	Lhapdf	Starlight	Superchic	Rivet	Powheg ATLAS
22.6.0	e8328	<a href="#">98_ATLAS_6</a>	2.6.11	7.2.1	2.8.1.atlas3	8.244	2.2.11	1.7.0	6.2.3	r313	3.0.6	3.1.2	04-05-01
22.6.1	e8337	<a href="#">98_ATLAS_6</a>	2.6.11	7.2.1	2.8.1.atlas3	8.244	2.2.11	1.7.0	6.2.3	r313	3.0.6	3.1.2	04-05-01
22.6.2	e8345	<a href="#">98_ATLAS_8</a>	2.6.11	7.2.1	2.9.2.atlas	8.244	2.2.11	1.7.0	6.2.3	r313	3.0.6	3.1.2	04-05-01
22.6.3	e8358	<a href="#">100_ATLAS_3</a>	2.6.11	7.2.1	2.9.3.atlas1	8.304	2.2.11	1.7.0	6.2.3	r313	3.0.6	3.1.4	04-05-01

- compiled generator executable needs to be made available in software layer
- user configuration of the generator run is done in python job options scripts
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→ compatible output format for downstream processing in ATLAS + setting up the event generation through python scripts for the end user is very convenient

```
asetup AthGeneration,23.6.22
```

```
Gen_tf.py --ecmEnergy=13000.0 --jobConfig=410472
```

```
--outputEVNTFile=ttbar.EVNT.root --maxEvents=10000 --rivetAnas=MC_TTBAR
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Implementation of new generators is done by software experts, as well as the implementation of new processes in an existing generator by the specific generator software experts in ATLAS (example: adding a new process in PowhegControl [[!66549](#)])

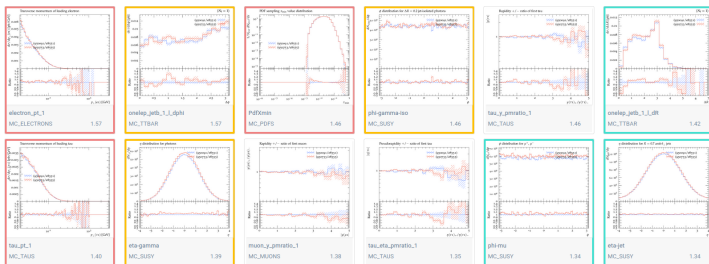




# Generator software validation in ATLAS

→ central validation of new generator versions and ATLAS software changes by comparing Rivet histograms [ATL-PHYS-PUB-2016-001] [JEM/PAVER]

→ dedicated MC validation team with biweekly reports in ATLAS sub group meeting (Generator, Infrastructure and Tools subgroup of Physics Modelling Group in ATLAS)



# Requesting a new sample in ATLAS

## Validation

- private production of EVNT samples (ME+PS+hadronisation) for validation
- depending on size of the request presentation in ATLAS working group meeting

## Official Monte Carlo Request

- opening of an issue on JIRA (two persons per ATLAS WG are responsible for processing these requests)
- registration of the job options (python scripts for generator configuration and starting the generator run) in official git repository
  - several scripts checking e.g. the generated log files, job option names
  - in central production the job options are taken from this central git repository (not just documentation purpose)
- approval of the request by working group conveners
- approval of the request by Physics Modelling conveners
- submitting a production system request
  - information about the request is collected in Google spreadsheets, which are parsed to collect relevant information
- production system request is managed by production system team (monitoring, submitting simulation / reconstruction job after event generation is finished)

→ depending on the size of the request / occupation of the production system a MC request can take 2 weeks to 2 months after validation is finished



## Conclusions and Outlook

Monte Carlo generation within ATLAS can be a long process

- produced samples are used by multiple analyses (not only by the analysis teams requesting the samples)
- careful validation needed
- responsibilities in ATLAS generator software and Monte Carlo request procedures clearly assigned

**Which resources and skills are needed?**

- ATLAS software environment
- C++ and Python knowledge (depends on specific task)
- Overview of current Monte Carlo studies



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**Thank you for your attention!**



**Back Up**



# Integrating a new generator into ATLAS software

Using the Powheg generator as an example

- **compiled generator executable needs to be made available in software layer**

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Using the Powheg generator as an example

- compiled generator executable needs to be made available in software layer
- **user configuration of the generator run needs to be configurable in python job options scripts**

Example PowhegControl:

- generating powheg.input card with ATLAS default values if not overwritten by the user in the job option

```
include('PowhegControl/PowhegControl_tt_Common.py')

PowhegConfig.decay_mode = "t t~ > b l+ vl b~ l- vl~"

# Initial settings
PowhegConfig.hdamp      = 258.75                                # 1.5 * mtop
```

- scheduling needed pre- or postprocessing steps (e.g. Pythia PS)
- steering scripts to pass control from athena to the generator
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Example PowhegControl:

- powheg executable searched for and executed e.g. through [\[singlecore.py\]](#)

`PowhegConfig.generate()`

- conversion scripts of the generated event into HepMC format
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```

////////////////////////////////////
StatusCode Pythia8_i::fillEvt(HepMC::GenEvent *evt){

    ATH_MSG_DEBUG(">>> Pythia8_i from fillEvt");

    evt->set_event_number(m_internal_event_number);

    // if using "getGroupWeight" and | lhastrategy | = 4, then need to convert mb to pb ( done otherwise when calling info.weight(), [...] )
    if( m_internal_event_number == 1 && std::abs(m_pythia->info.lhaStrategy()) == 4 ) {
        m_conversion = (double) PYTHIA8_CONVERSION;
        ATH_MSG_DEBUG(" LHA strategy needs a conversion to fix Pythia8 shower weights bug(s) equal to " << m_conversion);
    }

    if(m_pythia->event.size() < 2){
        ATH_MSG_ERROR("Something wrong with this event - it contains fewer than 2 particles!");
        ATH_MSG_ERROR("internal event number is "<<m_internal_event_number);
        return StatusCode::FAILURE;
    }

    m_pythiaToHepMC.fill_next_event(*m_pythia, evt, m_internal_event_number);

    if(m_theFile != "" && m_storeLHE) addLHEToHepMC(evt);

```

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→ this is done centrally, no generator specific implementation is needed



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Currently dedicated generator expert teams in ATLAS for Powheg, Pythia, Herwig, Sherpa, MadGraph