

# State of the art review of current VBF Higgs results from ATLAS

Antonio De Maria  
on the behalf of the ATLAS collaboration

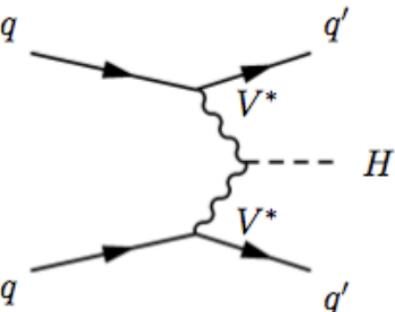
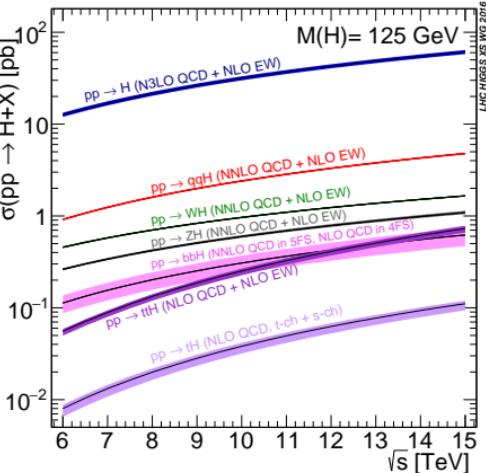
Past, Present and Future of VBF  
Workshop

19/10/2022

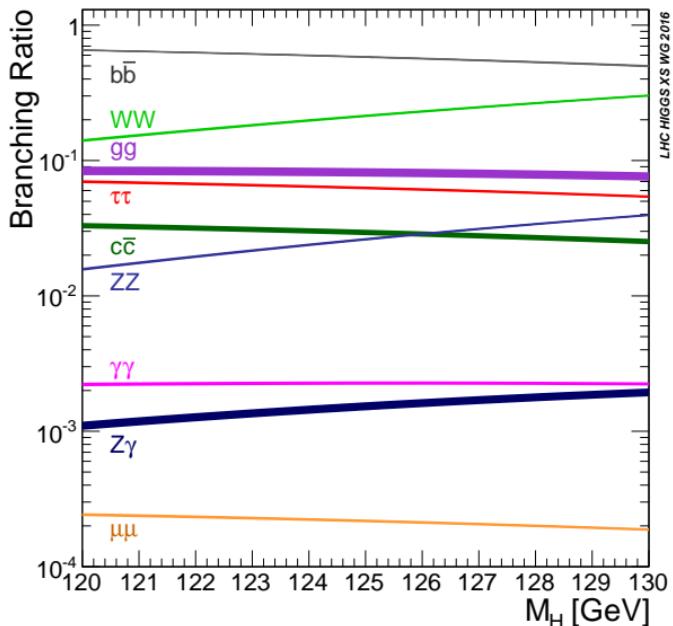


# Introduction to Vector Boson Fusion

- 2nd main Higgs Boson production mode at LHC; cross section  $\simeq 12$  times less than gluon-gluon fusion, but cleaner experimental signature
- Suppressed color exchange between quark lines give rise to:
  - Little jet activity in central rapidity region
  - Scattered quarks  $\rightarrow$  two forward tagging jets (energetic; large rapidity gap)
  - Higgs Boson decay products typically between tagging jets



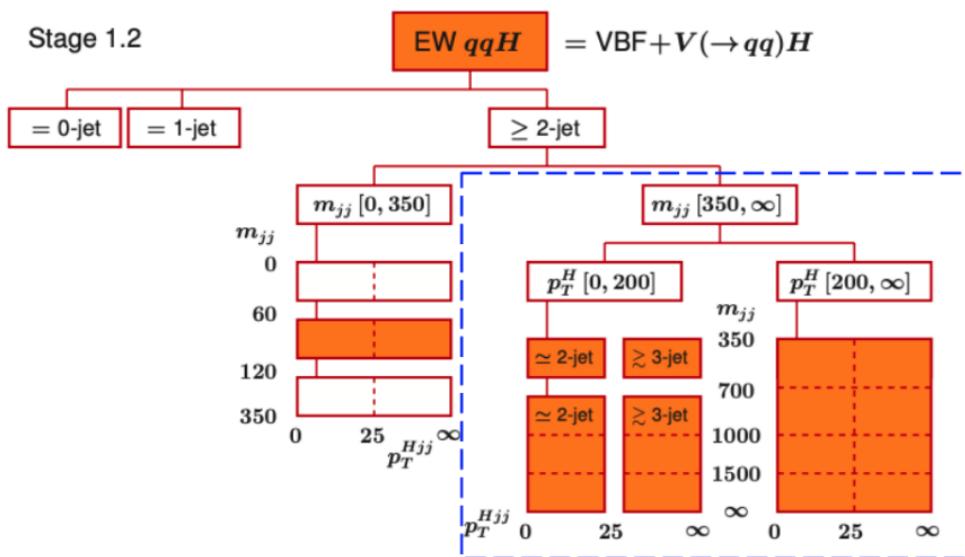
# Higgs boson decay branching ratios



- Larger branching ratio (BR) for  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ,  $H \rightarrow WW^*$  and  $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$ , however poor mass resolution and large background contamination
- $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  and  $H \rightarrow ZZ^*(\rightarrow 4l/2l2\nu)$  have lower BR, but better mass resolution; can be used for precision measurements

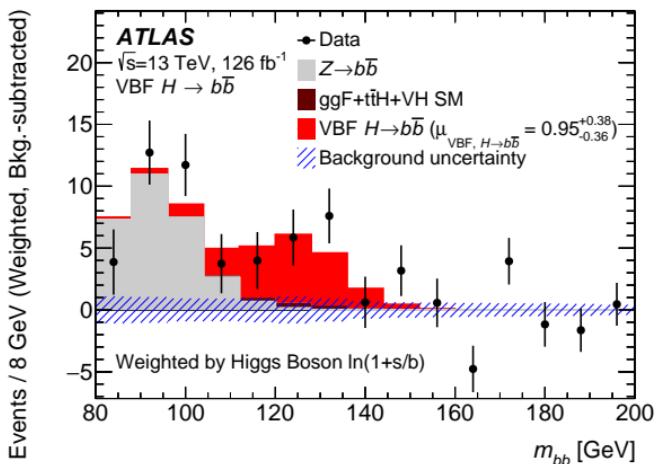
# VBF Measurements

- Several type of measurements performed by ATLAS:
  - Inclusive/differential cross-section measurements
  - Measurement in the STXS framework [arxiv-1906.02754](https://arxiv.org/abs/1906.02754)
  - Charge-Parity (CP) measurements

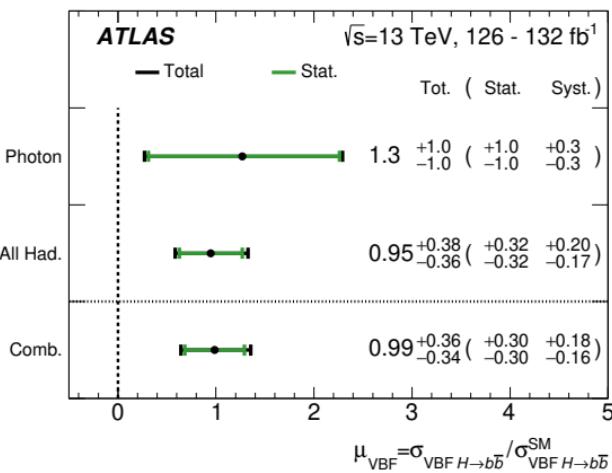




- Use ANN to discriminate signal vs non-resonant background and embedded  $Z \rightarrow ll$  for resonant-background
- Result combined with less sensitive  $H \rightarrow bb + \gamma$  analysis (arxiv-2010.13651)
- VBF measured with a significance of  $3\sigma$

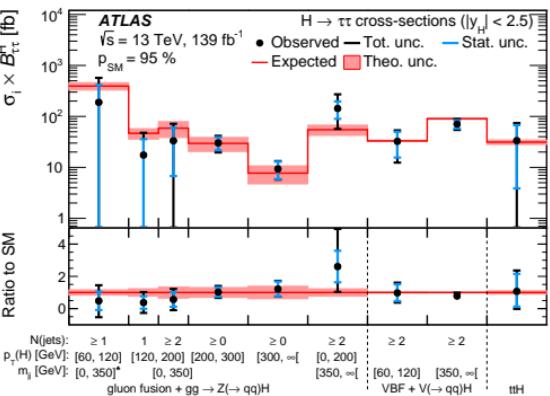
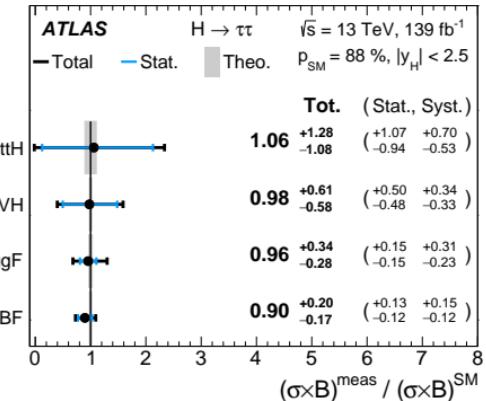
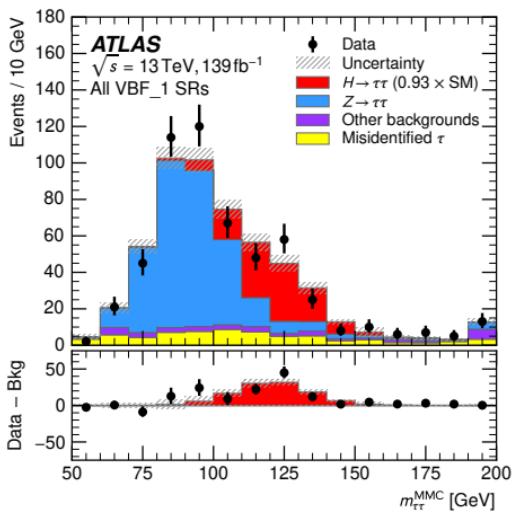


Results	VBF Production	Inclusive Production
Expected significance	$2.9\sigma$	$3.0\sigma$
Observed significance	$2.9\sigma$	$3.0\sigma$
Expected signal strength	$1.00^{+0.36}_{-0.34}$	$1.00^{+0.35}_{-0.34}$
Observed signal strength	$0.99^{+0.36}_{-0.34}$	$0.99^{+0.35}_{-0.33}$





- VBF Higgs boson signal enhanced through BDT using dijet system variables
- VBF production established with 5.3 (6.2)  $\sigma$  obs. (exp)
- Only inclusive VBF measurement in STXS



# VBF H $\rightarrow \tau\tau$ CP measurement

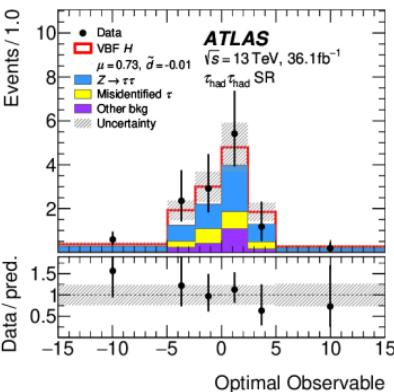
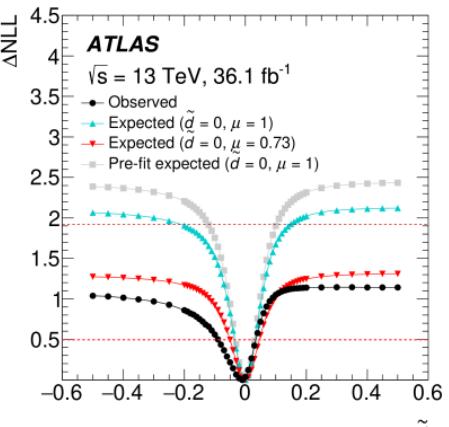
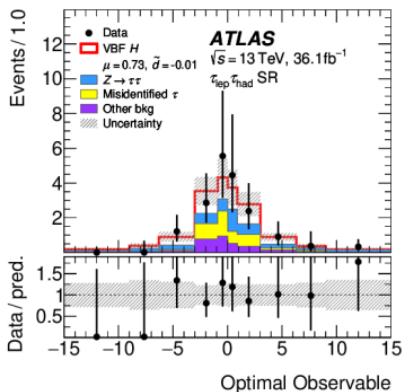
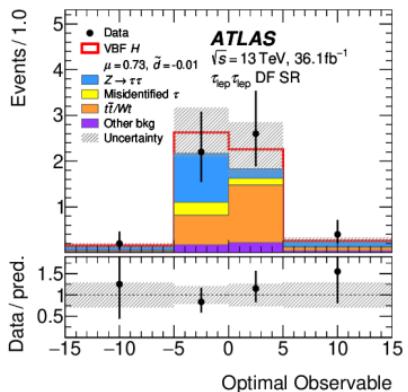
arxiv-2002.05315



- Use *Optimal Observable* to measure CP-violating parameter  $\tilde{d}$

$$OO = \frac{2 \operatorname{Re}(M_{SM}^* M_{CP-odd})}{|M_{SM}|^2}$$

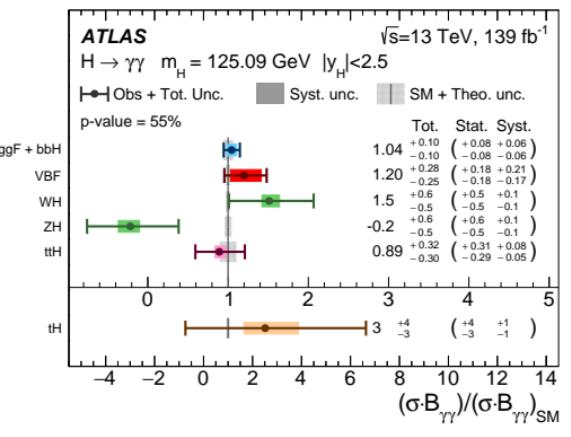
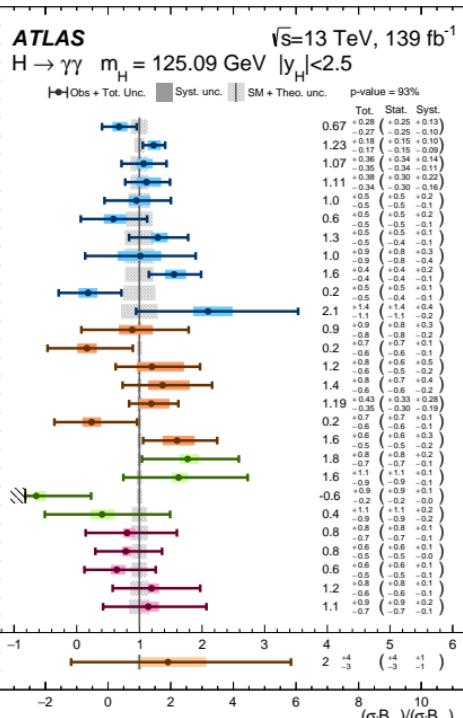
- $\langle OO \rangle \neq 0 \rightarrow$  CP violation neglecting re-scattering effects by new light particles in loops
- Expected (Observed)  $\tilde{d} \in [-0.035, 0.033]$   
([-0.090, 0.035]) at 68% confidence level (CL)



# $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ Incl. and STXS measurement

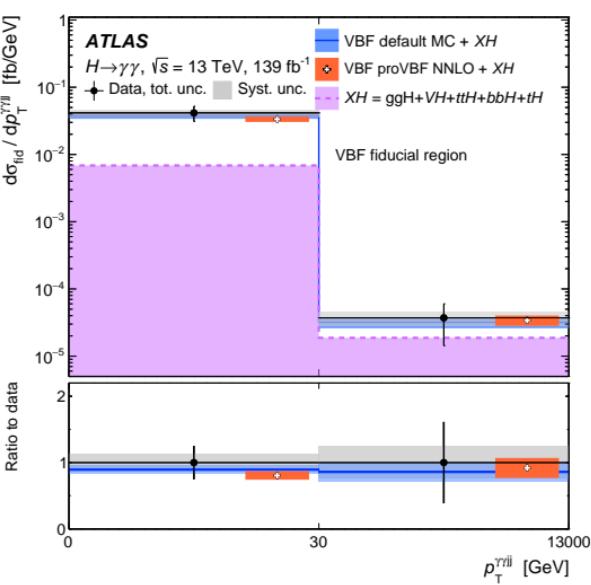
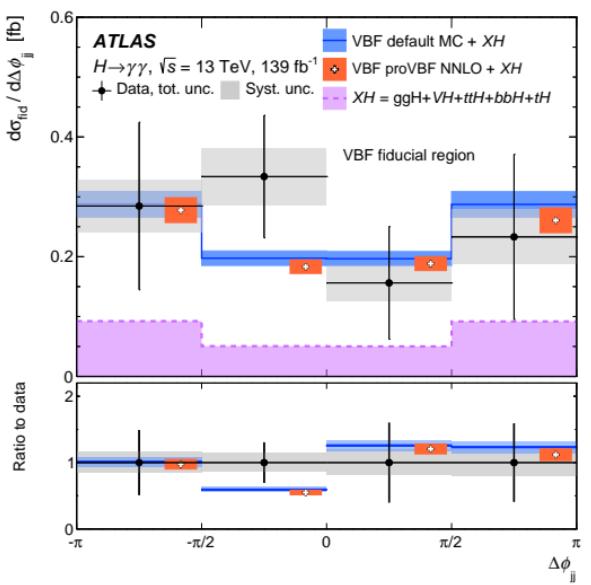
- Signal extracted from diphoton invariant mass in the range [105-160] GeV
  - Signal parameterised using Crystal Ball function
  - Background parameterised using an exponential of a second-order polynomial
- For STXS, most precise VBF measurement in the  $M_{jj} > 1000$  GeV and  $p_T^H < 200$  GeV bin

arxiv--2207.00348



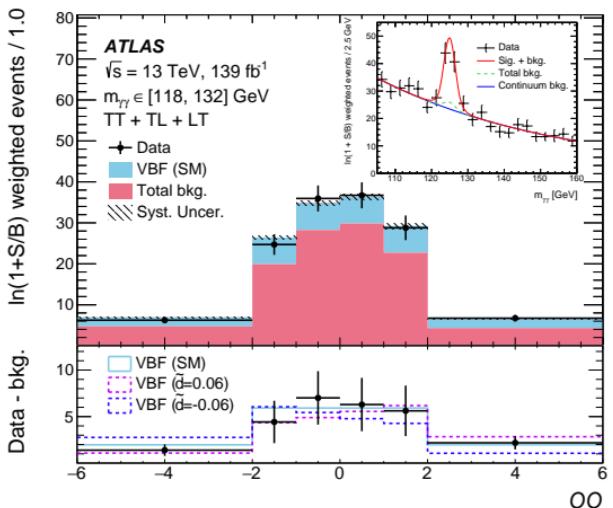
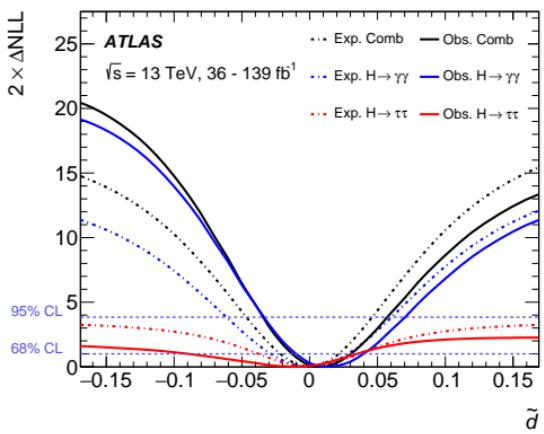


- Cross-section measured in the VBF-enhanced fiducial region (two jets with  $M_{jj} > 600$  GeV and  $|\Delta y_{jj}| < 3.5$ )  $\sigma_{meas} = 1.8 \pm 0.5$  (stat)  $\pm 0.3$  (syst) fb in agreement with SM prediction  $\sigma_{SM} = 1.53 \pm 0.10$  fb with a p-value of 64%
- Single/Double differential measurement performed for main VBF variables





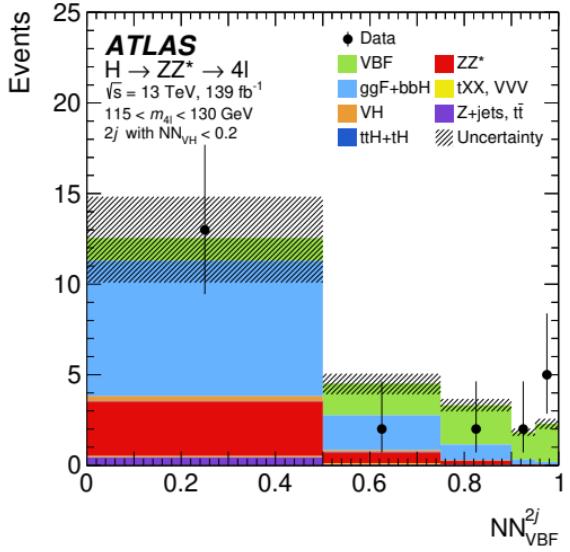
- Use *Optimal Observable* to measure  $\tilde{d}$
- Still no sign of CP violation ( $\langle \text{OO} \rangle$  compatible with 0)
- Expected (Observed)  $\tilde{d}\epsilon [-0.046, 0.045]$  ( $[-0.034, 0.057]$ ) at 95% CL when combining with H $\rightarrow\tau\tau$



	68% (exp.)	95% (exp.)	68% (obs.)	95% (obs.)
$\tilde{d}$ (inter. only)	[-0.027, 0.027]	[-0.055, 0.055]	[-0.011, 0.036]	[-0.032, 0.059]
$\tilde{d}$ (inter.+quad.)	[-0.028, 0.028]	[-0.061, 0.060]	[-0.010, 0.040]	[-0.034, 0.071]
$\tilde{d}$ from H $\rightarrow\tau\tau$	[-0.038, 0.036]	—	[-0.090, 0.035]	—
Combined $\tilde{d}$	[-0.022, 0.021]	[-0.046, 0.045]	[-0.012, 0.030]	[-0.034, 0.057]
$c_{H\bar{W}}$ (inter. only)	[-0.48, 0.48]	[-0.94, 0.94]	[-0.16, 0.64]	[-0.53, 1.02]
$c_{H\bar{W}}$ (inter.+quad.)	[-0.48, 0.48]	[-0.95, 0.95]	[-0.15, 0.67]	[-0.55, 1.07]

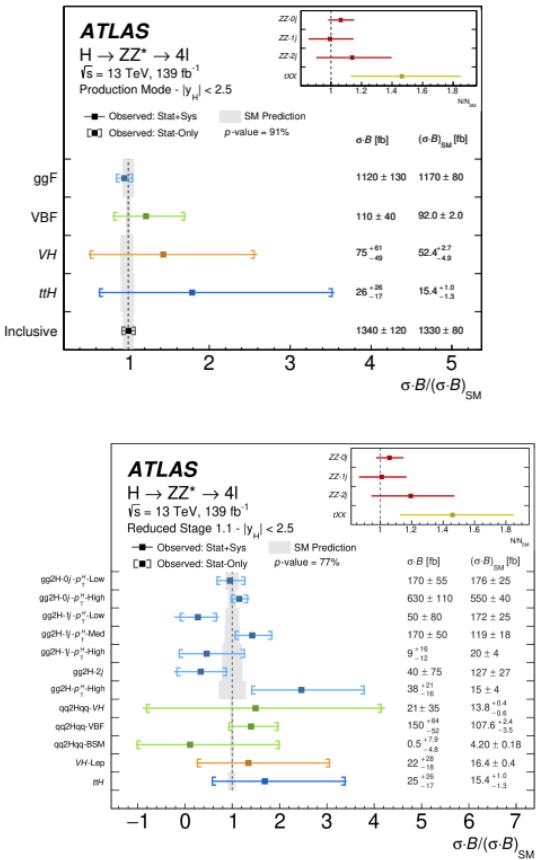
# $H \rightarrow ZZ$ Incl. and STXS measurement

- Events classified using neural networks
- Final discriminant from 3 NNs : 4/  
system, jets and additional event info
- STXS results using Stage 1.1 binning;  
VBF results for  $p_T^H < 200$  GeV bin



arxiv-2004.03447

A. De Maria

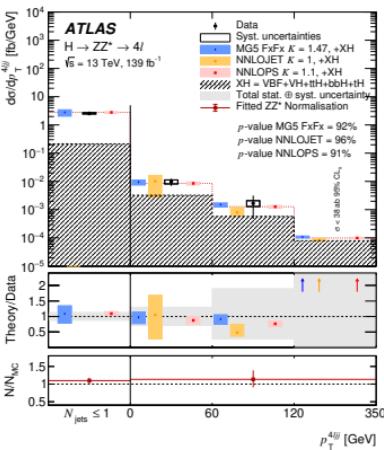
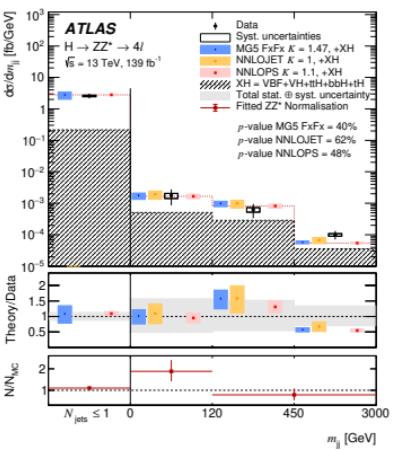
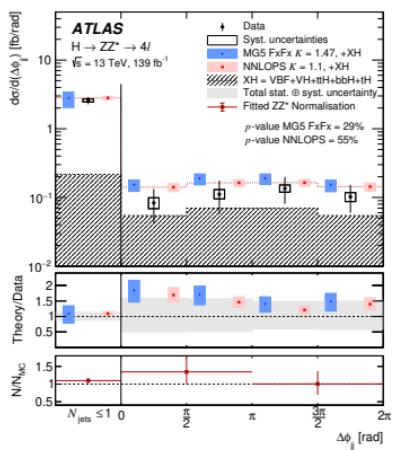


# H $\rightarrow$ ZZ fiducial measurement

arxiv-2004.03969



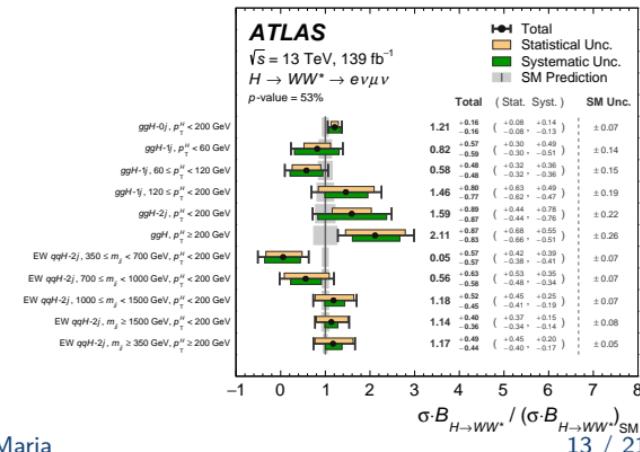
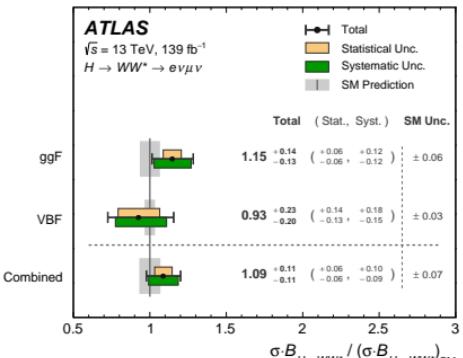
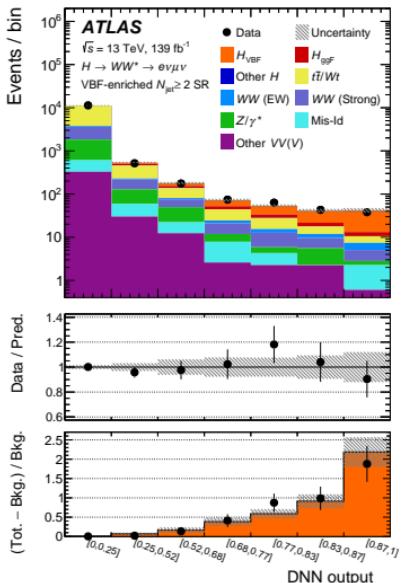
- No VBF-enhanced fiducial region like in H $\rightarrow\gamma\gamma$ , but still measuring differential cross-sections in events with at least two jets
- Double-differential measurements for observables related to the Higgs and accompanying jets
- All measurements in agreement with SM prediction



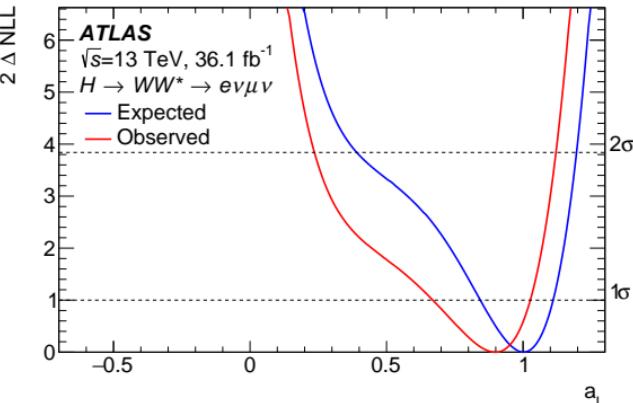
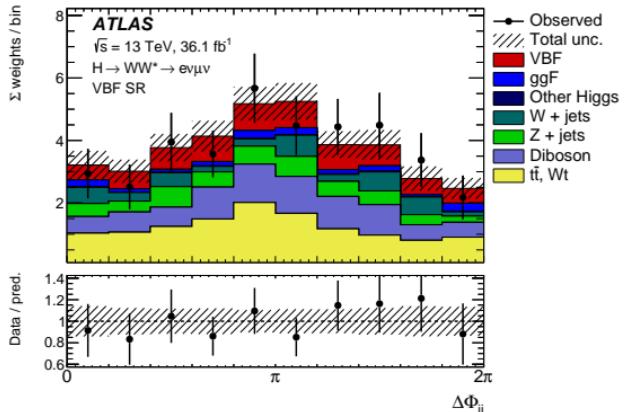
# H $\rightarrow$ WW Incl and STXS measurements

- Used DNN to enhance signal over background
- VBF production established with 5.8 (6.2)  $\sigma$  obs. (exp)
- For STXS, most precise VBF measurement in the  $M_{jj} > 1500$  GeV and  $p_T^H < 200$  GeV bin

arxiv-2207.00338



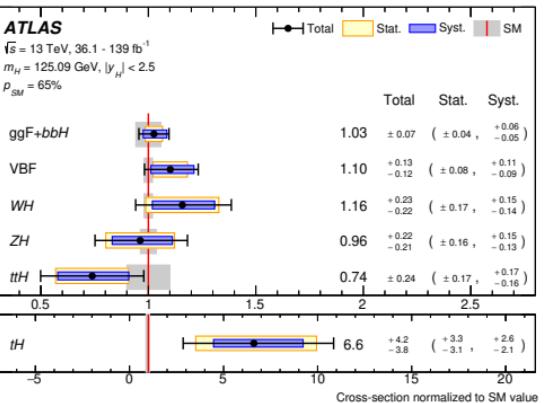
- Use VBF to probe the Higgs boson couplings to longitudinally and transversely polarised W and Z bosons
- Measured polarisation-dependent coupling-strength with respect SM prediction :
  $a_L = 0.91^{+0.10}_{-0.18}(\text{stat.})^{+0.09}_{-0.17}(\text{sys})$ 
  
 $a_T = 1.2 \pm 0.4(\text{stat.})^{+0.2}_{-0.3}(\text{sys})$



- Results in agreement with SM expectations

Type	Expected	Observed
$a_T$ shape-only fit ( $a_L = 1$ )	$1.0 \pm 0.5(\text{stat.})^{+0.3}_{-0.4}(\text{syst.})$	$1.3^{+0.8}_{-0.4}(\text{stat.})^{+0.3}_{-0.2}(\text{syst.})$
$a_L$ shape + rate fit ( $a_T = 1$ )	$1.00^{+0.08}_{-0.10}(\text{stat.})^{+0.07}_{-0.13}(\text{syst.})$	$0.90^{+0.09}_{-0.13}(\text{stat.})^{+0.08}_{-0.18}(\text{syst.})$
$a_T$ shape + rate fit ( $a_L = 1$ )	$1.00^{+0.36}_{-0.49}(\text{stat.})^{+0.19}_{-0.27}(\text{syst.})$	$1.19^{+0.27}_{-0.32}(\text{stat.})^{+0.12}_{-0.14}(\text{syst.})$
$a_L$ shape + rate fit ( $a_T$ profiled)	$1.00^{+0.08}_{-0.10}(\text{stat.})^{+0.08}_{-0.13}(\text{syst.})$	$0.91^{+0.10}_{-0.18}(\text{stat.})^{+0.09}_{-0.17}(\text{syst.})$
$a_T$ shape + rate fit ( $a_L$ profiled)	$1.0^{+0.4}_{-0.5}(\text{stat.})^{+0.2}_{-0.4}(\text{syst.})$	$1.2 \pm 0.4(\text{stat.})^{+0.2}_{-0.3}(\text{syst.})$

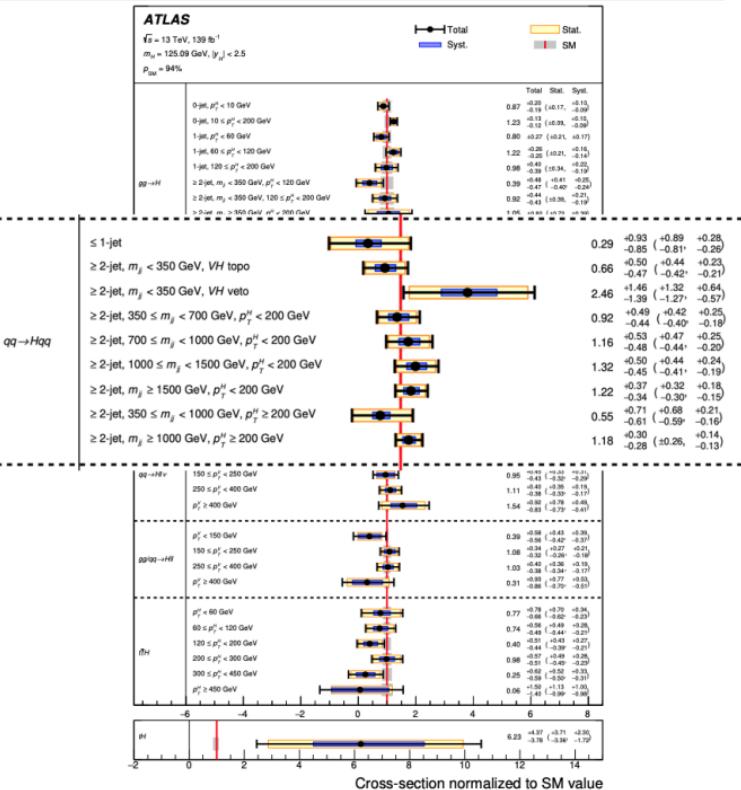
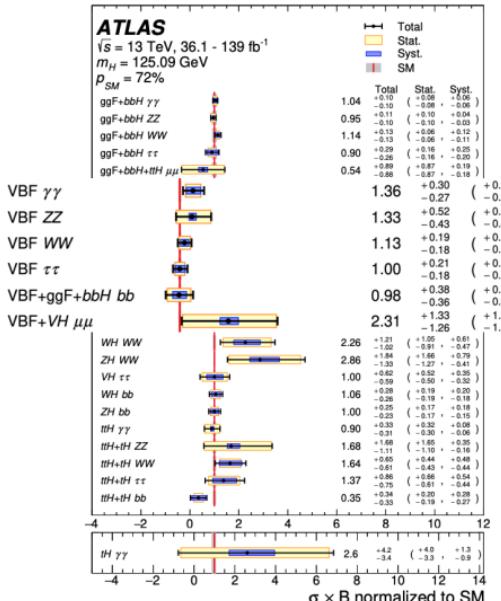
- Combine measurements from the different Higgs boson decays assuming SM Branching ratio
- VBF measured with a precision of  $\simeq 10\%$  with almost same impact from stat and syst uncertainties
- Largest contribution from  $H \rightarrow WW$ ,  $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$  and  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$



Decay mode	Targeted production processes	$\mathcal{L} [\text{fb}^{-1}]$	Ref.	Fits deployed in
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	ggF, VBF, WH, ZH, $t\bar{t}H$ , tH	139	[31]	All
$H \rightarrow ZZ$	ggF, VBF, WH, ZH, $t\bar{t}H$ , tH	139	[28]	All
	$t\bar{t}H$ tH (multilepton)	36.1	[39]	All but fit of kinematics
$H \rightarrow WW$	ggF, VBF	139	[29]	All
	WH, ZH	36.1	[30]	All but fit of kinematics
	$t\bar{t}H$ tH (multilepton)	36.1	[39]	All but fit of kinematics
$H \rightarrow Z\gamma$	inclusive	139	[32]	All but fit of kinematics
$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	WH, ZH	139	[33, 34]	All
	VBF	126	[35]	All
	$t\bar{t}H$ tH	139	[36]	All
	inclusive	139	[37]	Only for fit of kinematics
$H \rightarrow \tau\tau$	ggF, VBF, WH, ZH, $t\bar{t}H$ , tH	139	[38]	All
	$t\bar{t}H$ tH (multilepton)	36.1	[39]	All but fit of kinematics
$H \rightarrow \mu\mu$	ggF, $t\bar{t}H$ , tH, VBF, WH, ZH	139	[40]	All but fit of kinematics
$H \rightarrow c\bar{c}$	WH, ZH	139	[41]	Only for free-floating $\kappa_c$
$H \rightarrow \text{invisible}$	VBF	139	[42]	$\kappa$ models with $B_u$ & $B_{\text{inv}}$
	ZH	139	[43]	$\kappa$ models with $B_u$ & $B_{\text{inv}}$

# Higgs Comb. measurement

arxiv-2207.00092

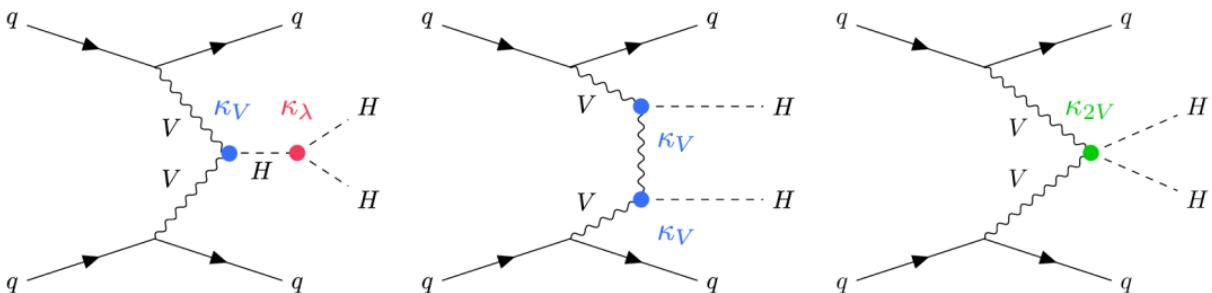


- Best precision in VBF bins with  $M_{jj} > 1000 \text{ GeV}$ - $p_T^H > 200 \text{ GeV}$  bin and  $M_{jj} > 1500 \text{ GeV}$ - $p_T^H < 200 \text{ GeV}$  (dominated by stat uncertainty)

# VBF Di-Higgs production

- Higgs potential influenced by Higgs boson trilinear self coupling term  $\lambda_{HHH}$
- Direct way to measure the coupling modifiers is through Higgs boson pair production (HH)
  - VBF is unique way to probe VVHH vertex ( $k_{2V}$ )
- Several HH decay final states have been explored but yet no observation

Higgs Decay	bb	WW	$\pi\pi$	ZZ	WY
bb	34%				
WW	25%	4.6%			
$\pi\pi$	7.3%	2.7%	0.39%		
ZZ	3.1%	1.1%	0.33%	0.07%	
Y $\gamma$	0.26%	0.10%	0.03%	0.01%	<0.001%

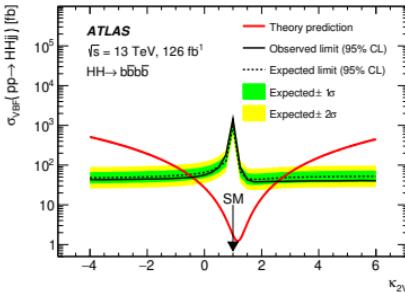
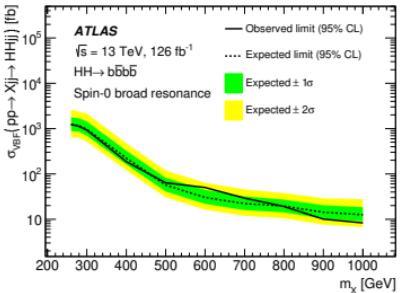
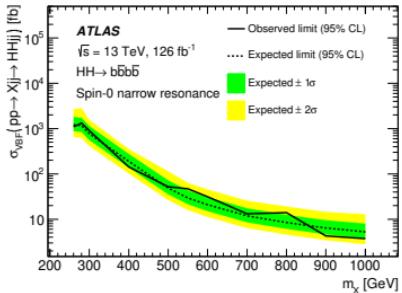
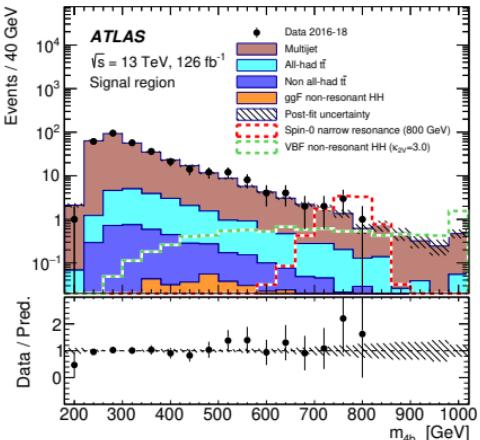


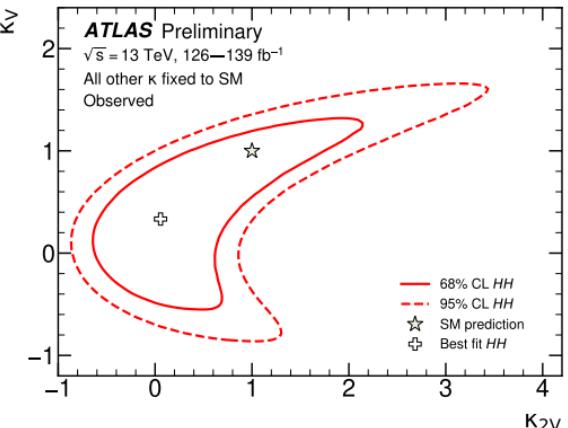
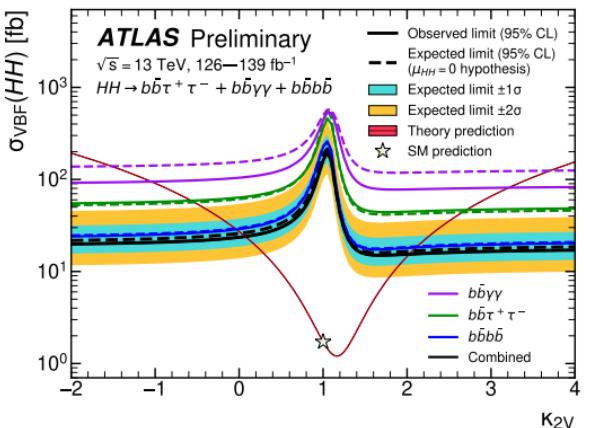
# Search for VBF Di-Higgs 4b

arxiv-2001.05178



- Search is sensitive to VBF production of additional heavy bosons decaying in Di-Higgs
- Non-resonant topology can constrain the quartic coupling between the Higgs bosons and vector bosons
- $k_{2V} < -0.43$  and  $k_{2V} > 2.56$  excluded at 95% CL





- Results from combination of  $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tau\tau$ ,  $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$  and  $HH \rightarrow 4b$
- Observed (expected) 95% CL constraint on  $k_{2V}$ :  $0.1 < k_{2V} < 2.0$  ( $0.0 < k_{2V} < 2.1$ )



- A review of the current VBF Higgs results from ATLAS has been presented
- Lots of results available for the inclusive and fiducial cross-section as well as cross section measurements within the STXS framework
- VBF also used to probe Higgs CP nature, but still no sign of physics beyond the standard Model
- Combination of single Higgs measurements lead ATLAS to measure VBF with a precision of  $\simeq 10\%$ , with most precision at high  $M_{jj}$  region
- VBF is unique way to probe VVHH vertex ( $k_{2V}$ )
  - Combination measurement leads to observed 95% constraint  $0.1 < k_{2V} < 2.0$

*Thanks For Your Attention*