



# **Searches for resonances decaying to pairs of heavy bosons in ATLAS**

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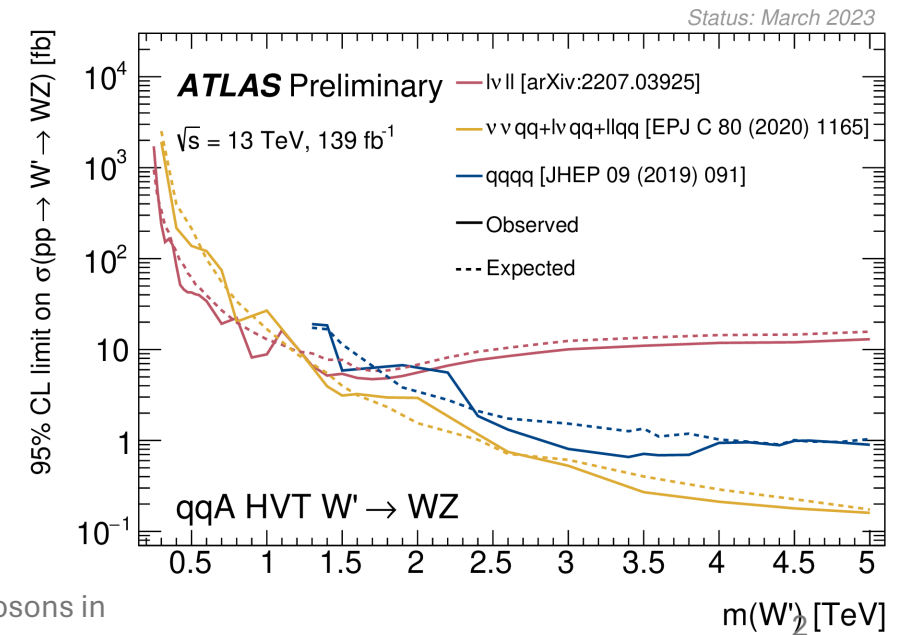
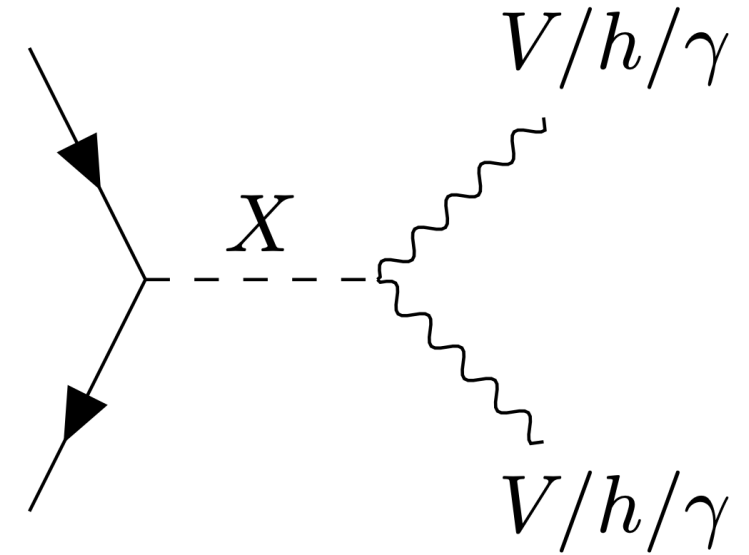
on behalf of the ATLAS and CMS  
collaborations

**Lake Louise Winter Institute 2024**

23/02/2024

# Introduction

- Several scenarios for physics beyond the Standard Model include new particles decaying into pairs of bosons
- This can be due to eg. new Gauge symmetries or extensions to the Higgs sector, like the 2-Higgs Doublet Model, Supersymmetry or models introducing spin-2 gravitons.
- ATLAS present limits on 3 **benchmark models** for these models:
  - Neutral Spin-0: Randal-Sundrum Radion (Charged Spin-0: Georgi-Machacek)
  - Spin-1: Heavy vector triplet (HVT)
  - Spin-2: Randall-Sundrum Graviton
- The SM Higgs boson (in this talk denoted H) provides one (but not the only) promising potential to look for such new resonances
- A common challenge: The presence of **very boosted particles** in the final states – often only in parts of the searched signal parameter space



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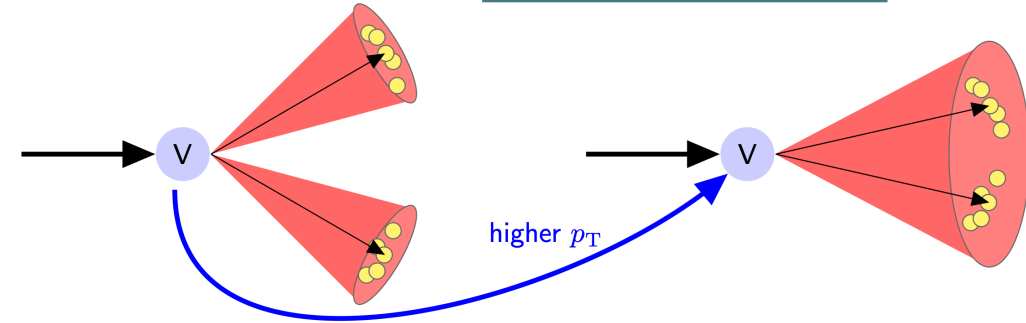
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# Boosted Bosons Reconstruction

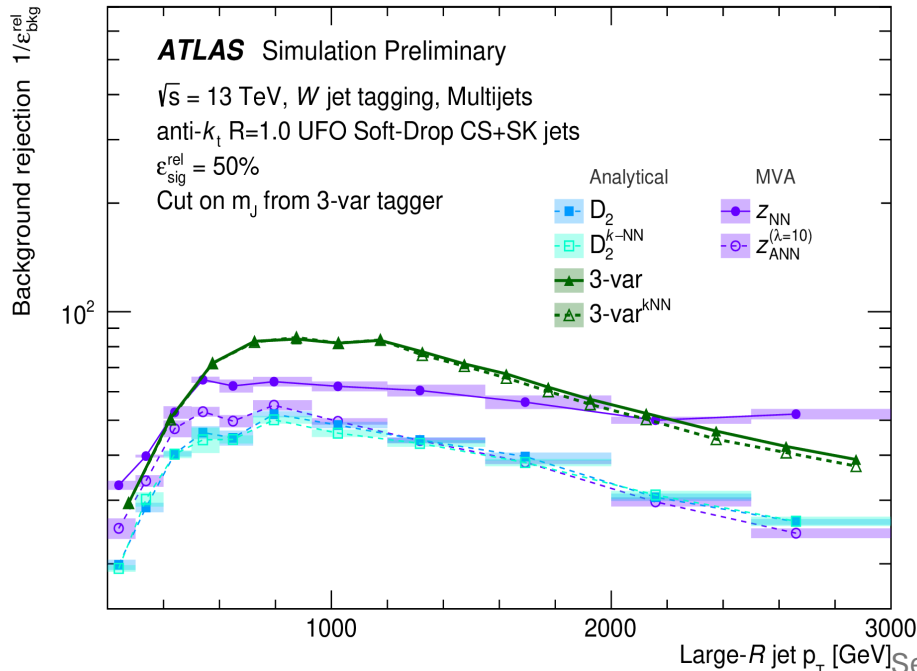
When searching for new heavy resonance the boson  $p_T$  often very high i.e. opening angle of decay products

$$\sim \frac{2m(V/h)}{p_T(V/h)}$$

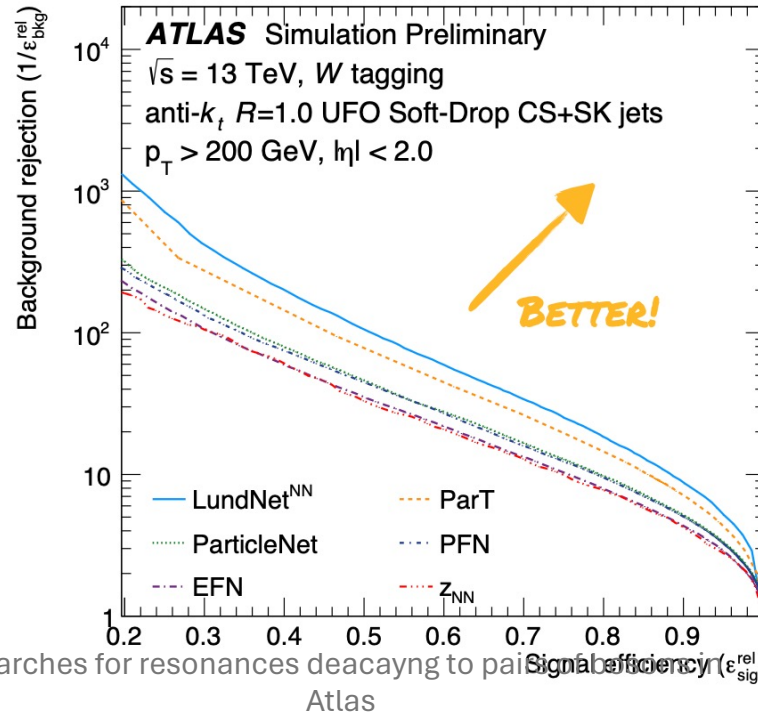


Machine-learning techniques to “tag” large-R jets as heavy bosons (W/Z/h/etc)

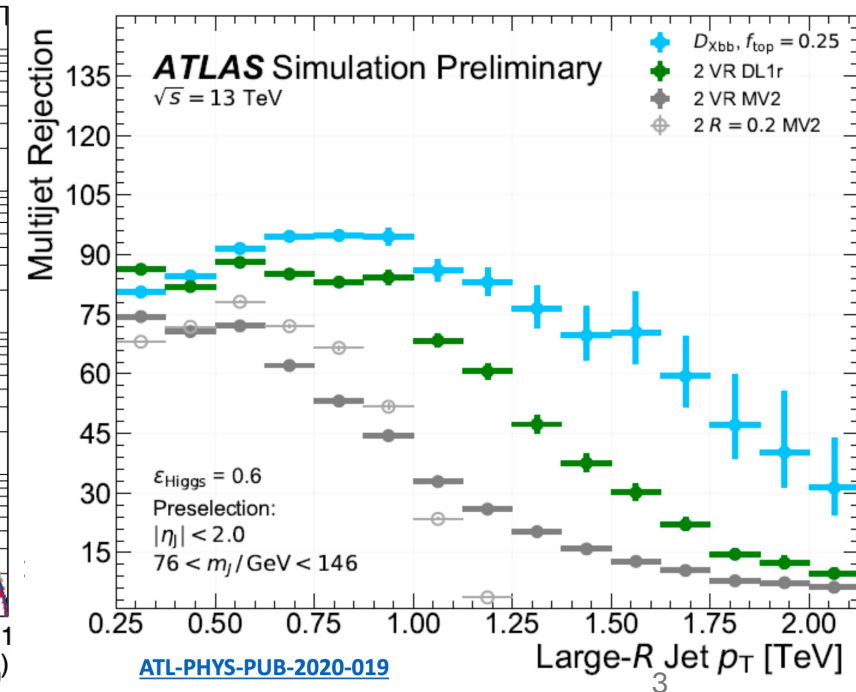
## W/Z taggers (high-level features)



## Costituents based W taggers



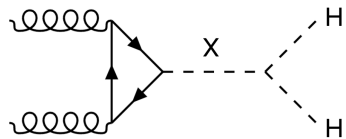
## Higgs (H → bb) Tagging



[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2020-019](#)

# Resonant HH

$$X \rightarrow HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$$



2 channels spanning  $250 < m_X < 5000$  GeV:

**Resolved:** Four R=0.4 b-tagged jets, with BDT to pair them as Higgs candidates

**Boosted:** Two R=1.0 b-tagged jets ( $p_T > 250$  GeV)

Good agreement with SM small excess at 1.1 TeV  
 $2.3\sigma$  for Spin-0 ( $2.5\sigma$  for Spin-2)

$$X \rightarrow HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$$

2 channels spanning  $250 < m_X < 1600$  GeV:

- $\tau_{had}\tau_{had}$ : Two opposite-charge hadronic tau leptons, no electrons or muons (trigger) with leading  $\tau$   $p_T > 100$ -180 GeV
- $\tau_{lep}\tau_{had}$ : Exactly one electron (muon) and one hadronic tau with opposite charge

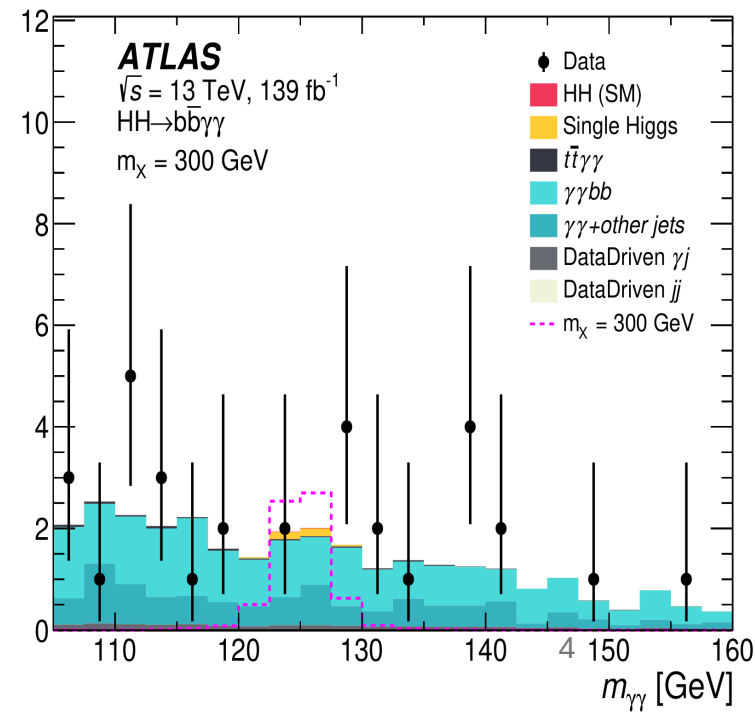
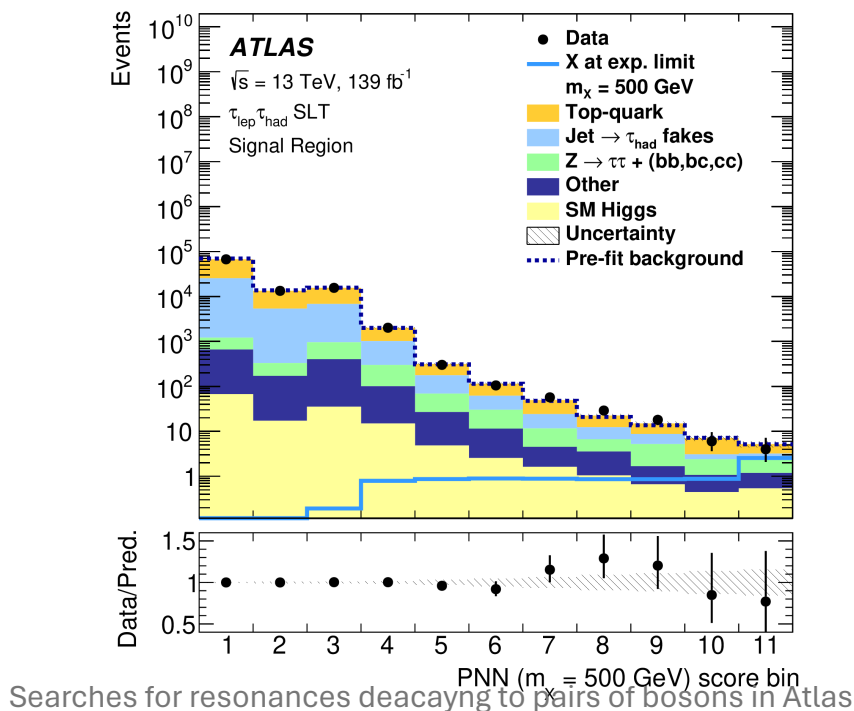
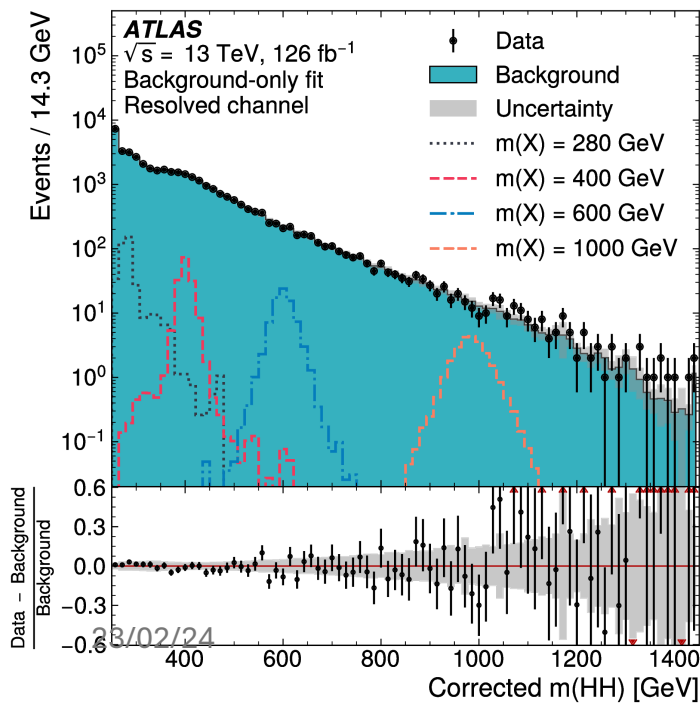
Final fit on **Parametrized NN**  
 largest deviation from SM combined local (global) excess at  $m_X = 1$  TeV, of  $3.1$  ( $2.0$ ) $\sigma$

Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 092002  
 JHEP 11 (2020) 163 JHEP 07 (2023) 040  
 JHEP 07 (2023) 040 JHEP 11 (2020) 163  
 $X \rightarrow HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$

Search  $251 < m_X < 1000$  GeV  
 2 BDTs trained and combined to discriminate signal from non-resonant (continuum) and resonant (single Higgs) backgrounds respectively

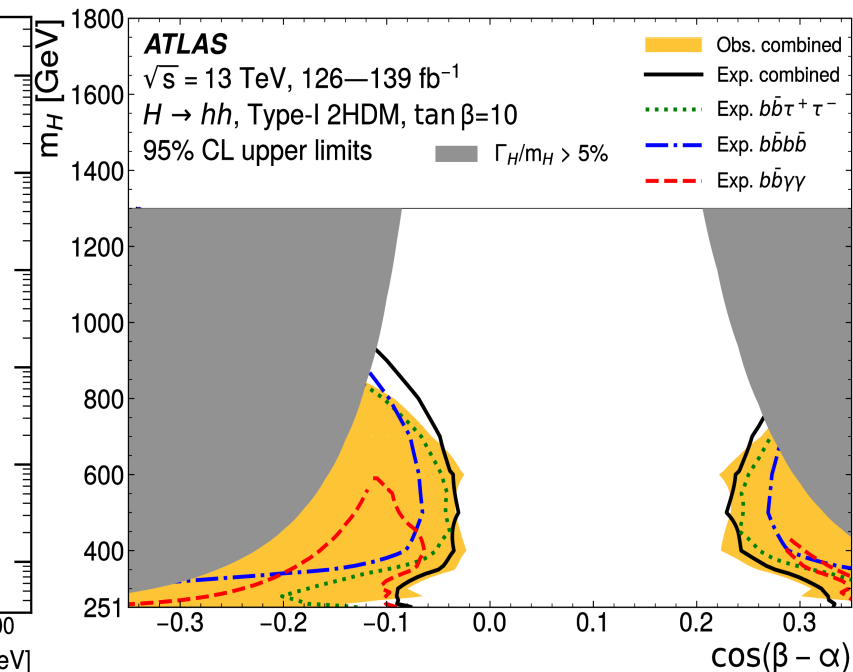
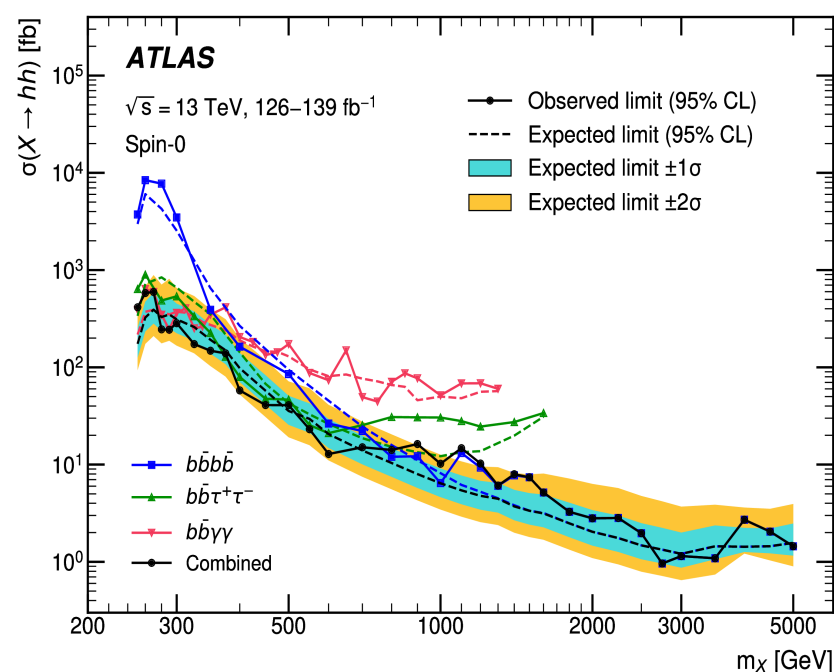
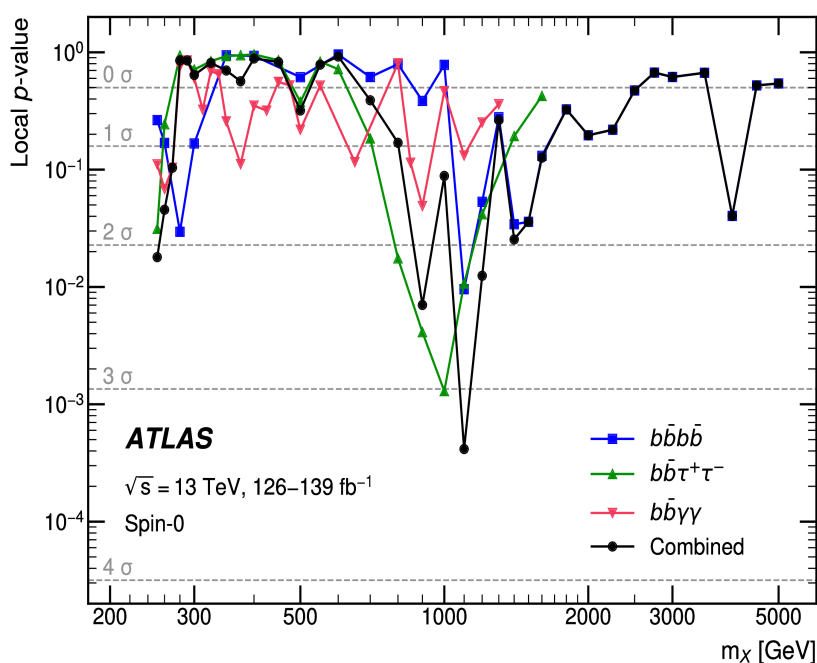
No significant excess observed

Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 092002



# Resonant HH: Combination

- Combined likelihood with inputs from all three HH resonant analyses
- No significant excess wrt SM. Largest combined deviation of 3.3 (2.1) $\sigma$  at 1.1 TeV
- The limits are interpreted in the Type-I Two-Higgs-Doublet Model and the Minimal Supersymmetric Standard Model, and constrain parameter space not previously excluded by other searches



# Heavy Resonance Combination

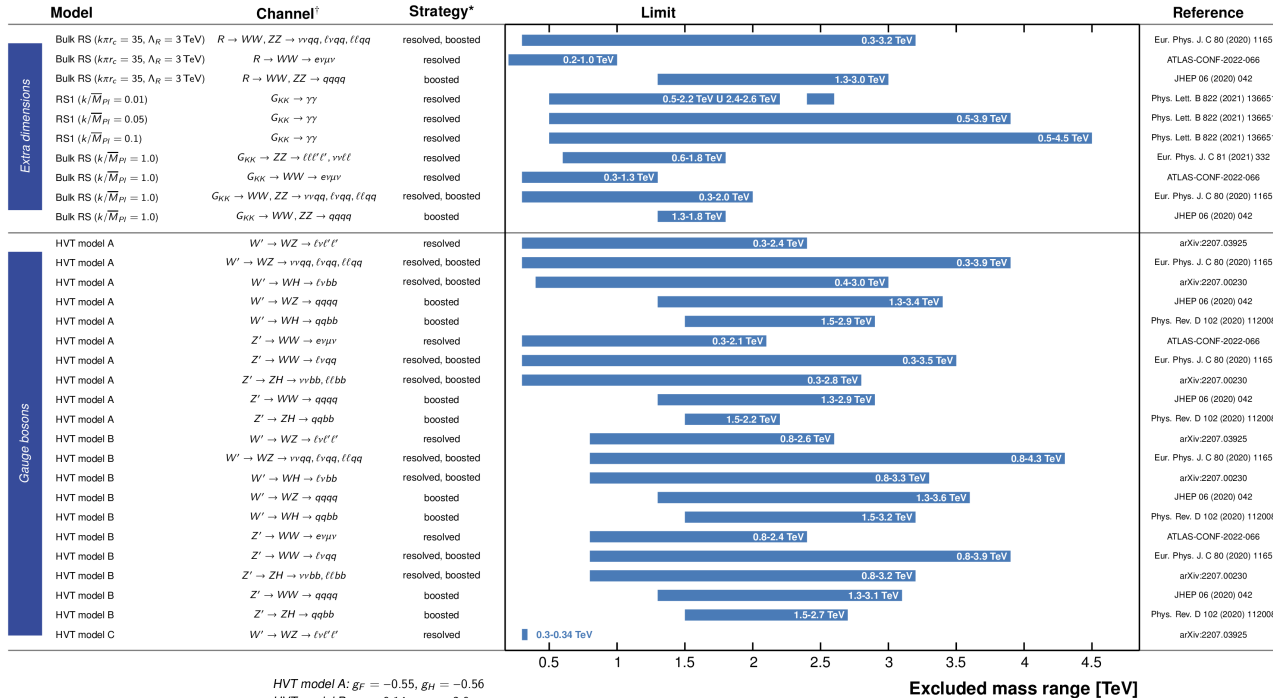
ATLAS published combination of all VV/Vh/H resonance searches using full Run-2 dataset

- Check if local excesses coincide
- Strongest limits
- Limits directly on couplings of benchmark HVT model

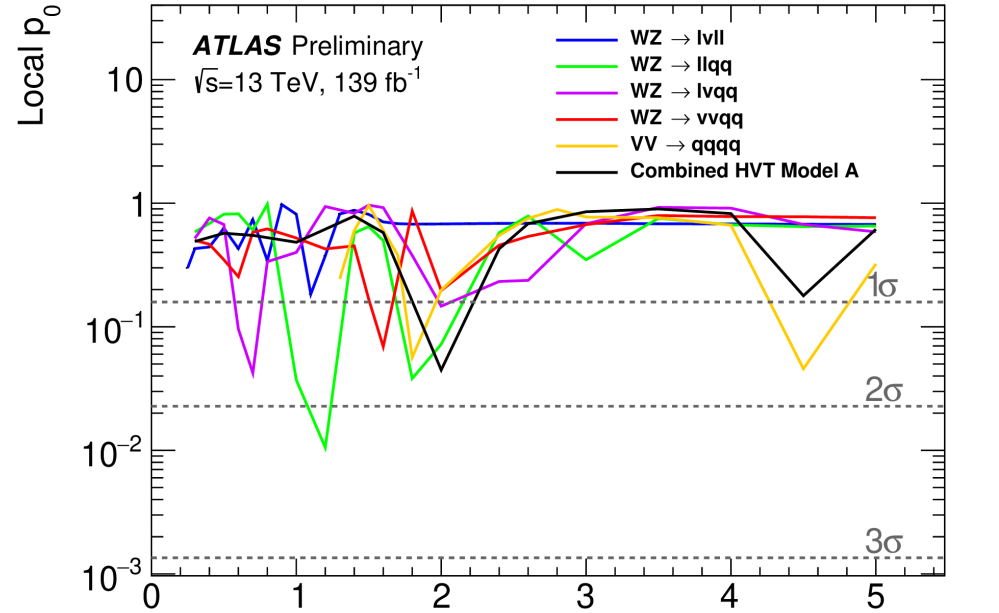
ATLAS Diboson Searches - 95% CL Exclusion Limits  
Status: March 2023

$\mathcal{L} = 139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

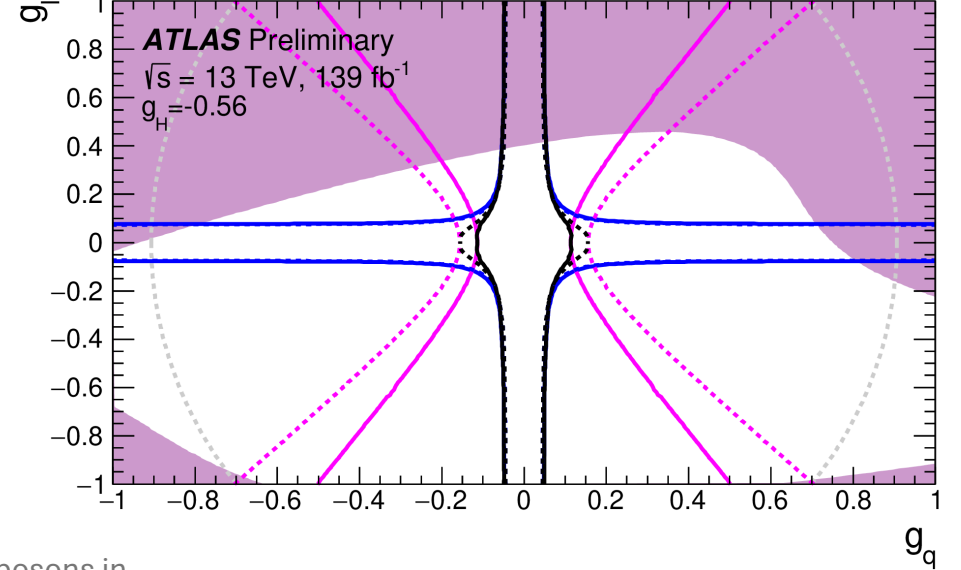
ATLAS Preliminary  
 $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$



HVT model A:  $g_F = -0.55, g_H = -0.56$   
 HVT model B:  $g_F = 0.14, g_H = -2.9$   
 HVT model C:  $g_F = 0, g_H = 1$   
<sup>\*</sup>small-radius (large-radius) jets are used in resolved (boosted) events  
<sup>†</sup>with  $\ell = \mu, e$



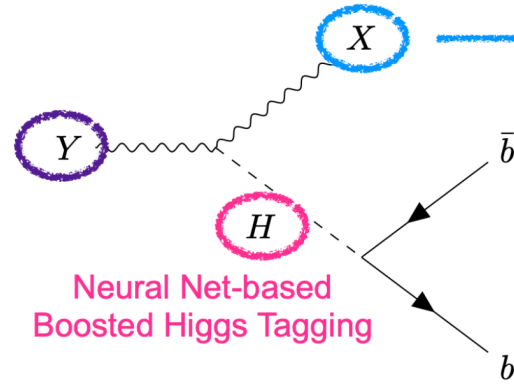
—  $ll+\nu+\tau\nu$  (Obs, 4.0 TeV) —  $VV+VH$  (Obs, 4.0 TeV) —  $VV+VH+ll+\nu+\tau\nu$  (Obs, 4.0 TeV)  
 - - -  $ll+\nu+\tau\nu$  (Exp, 4.0 TeV) - - -  $VV+VH$  (Exp, 4.0 TeV) - - -  $VV+VH+ll+\nu+\tau\nu$  (Exp, 4.0 TeV)  
 - - -  $\Gamma/M > 5\%$  ■ EW fits 4 TeV



# Anomaly detection in $Y \rightarrow XH$

High (~1-6TeV) Y mass resulting in X and H boosted  
 Y reconstructed with two large-R jets

Resonant mass  
 (bump hunt)



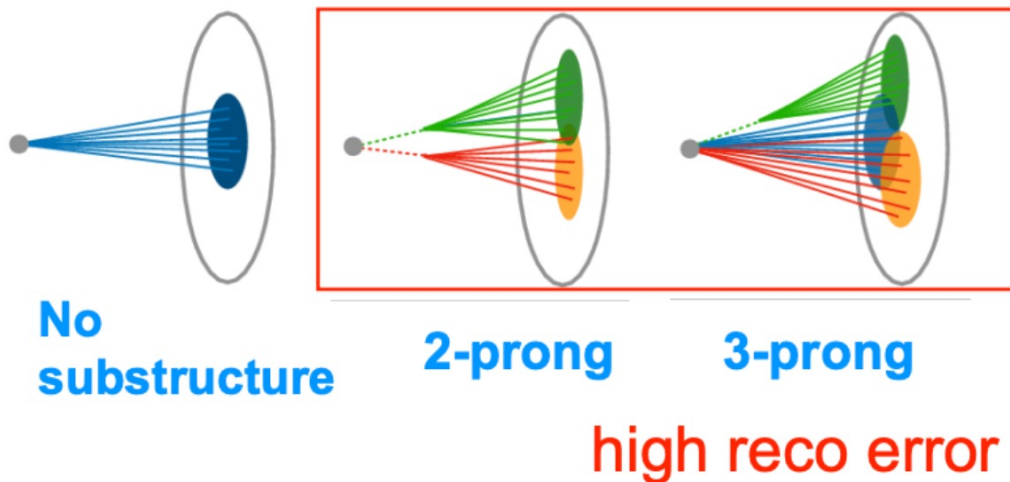
Neural Net-based  
 Boosted Higgs Tagging

Anomaly Score

? Jet-level anomaly score given by a **variational recurrent neural network (VRNN)**: Unsupervised training in data modeled as sequence of kt-ordered constituent 4-vectors.

**H Candidate:** Neural net-based tagging of boosted  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  topology. XbbTagger @60% WP + mass windowcut ( $75\text{GeV} < m_H < 145\text{GeV}$ )

Define anomaly score (AS) per jet as a function of VRNN loss

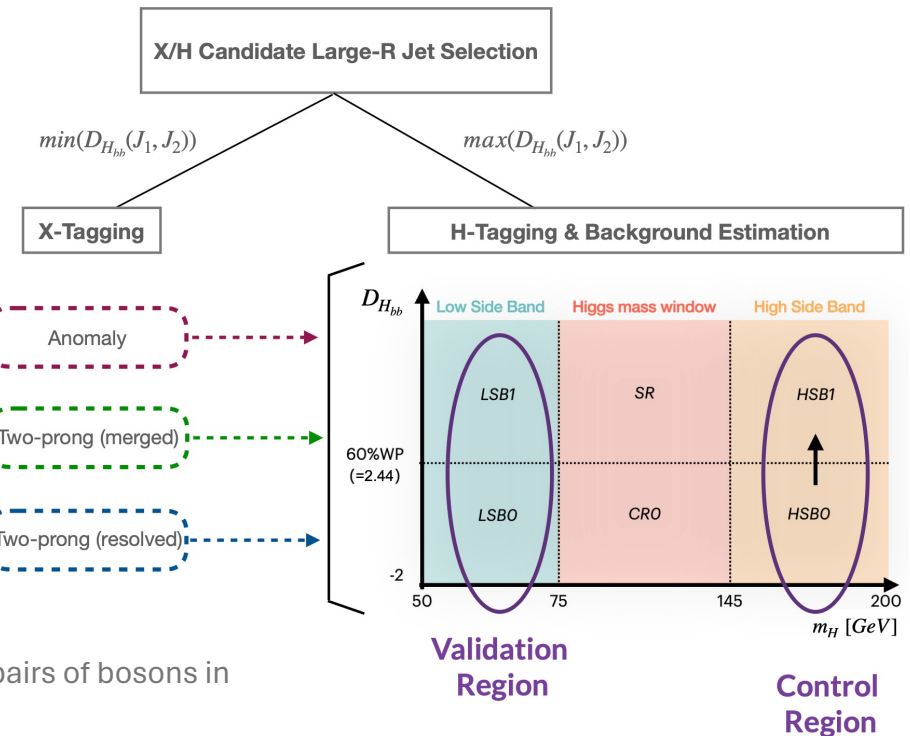


No substructure

2-prong

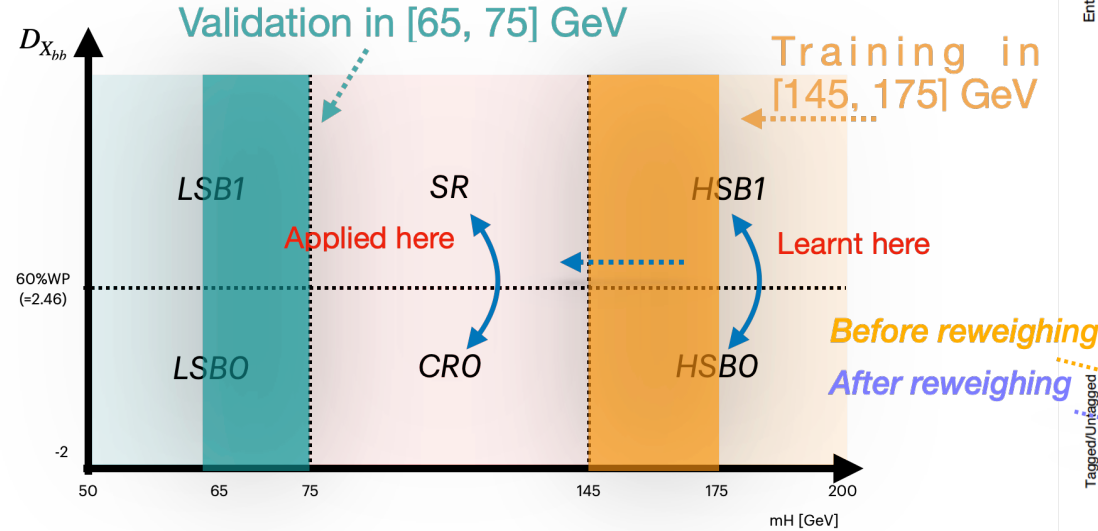
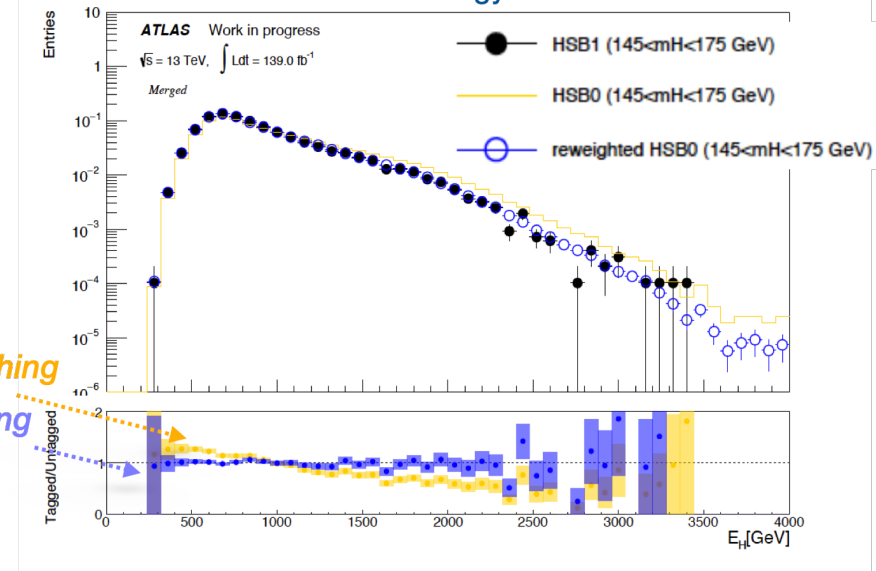
3-prong

high reco error



# Anomaly detection in $Y \rightarrow XH$

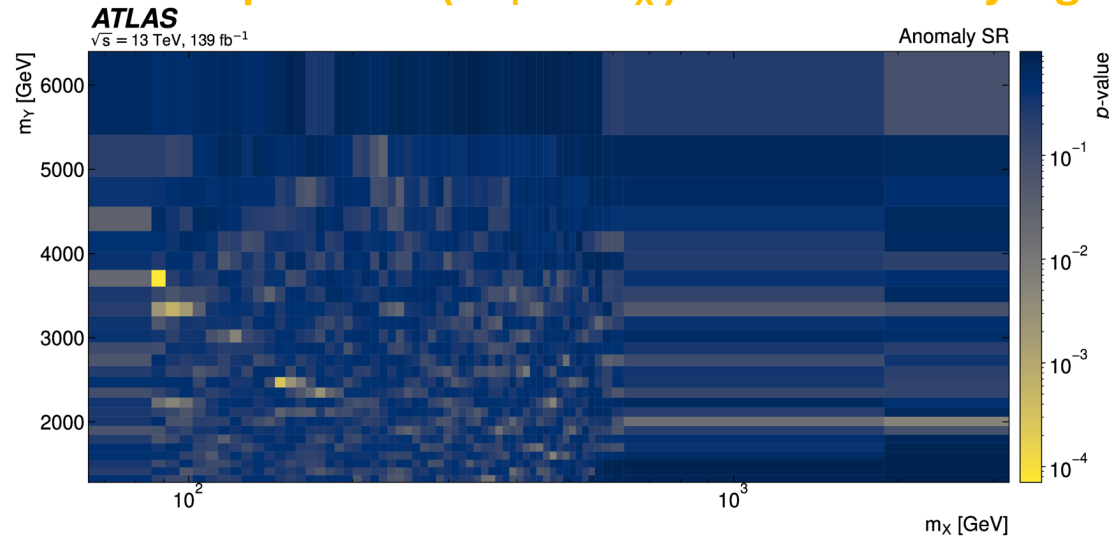
➔ First application of fully unsupervised machine learning to an ATLAS analysis  
H energy



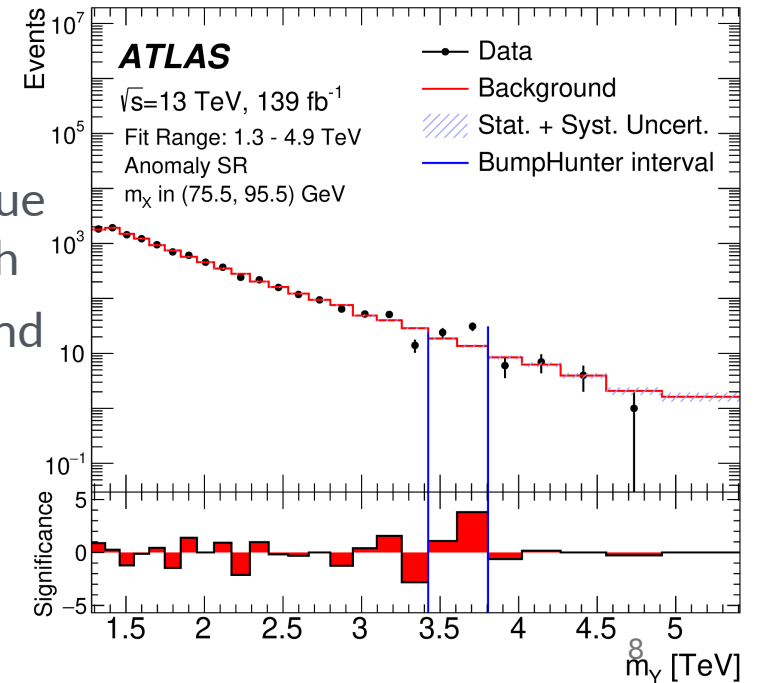
## Background estimation:

DNN has been applied for estimating the likelihood ratio between two kinematic regions and obtaining reweighting factor for the background estimation in the signal region

## Observed $p$ -values ( $m_Y$ vs $m_X$ ) in the anomaly signal region



The lowest observed  $p$ -value corresponds to the bin with  $m_Y \in [3608, 3805]$  GeV and  $m_X \in [75.5, 95.5]$  GeV  
1.4 $\sigma$  global significance in BumpHunter



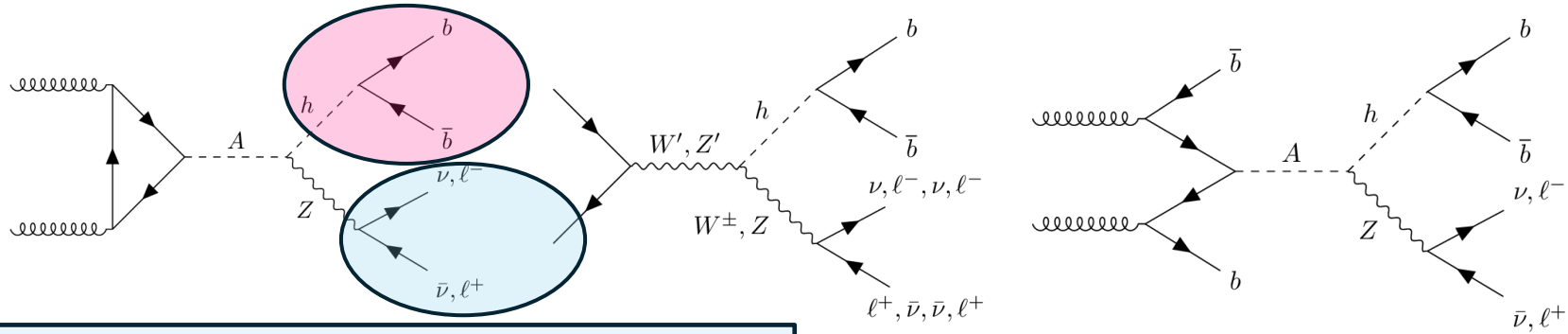


# VH semileptonic resonances

## Recent search for $V h \rightarrow llbb/lvbb/vvbb$

**H candidate:** Different reconstruction techniques for  $h \rightarrow bb$ :

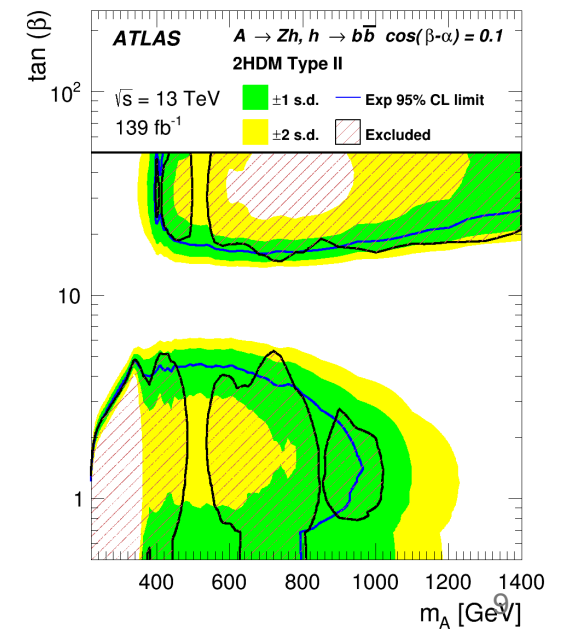
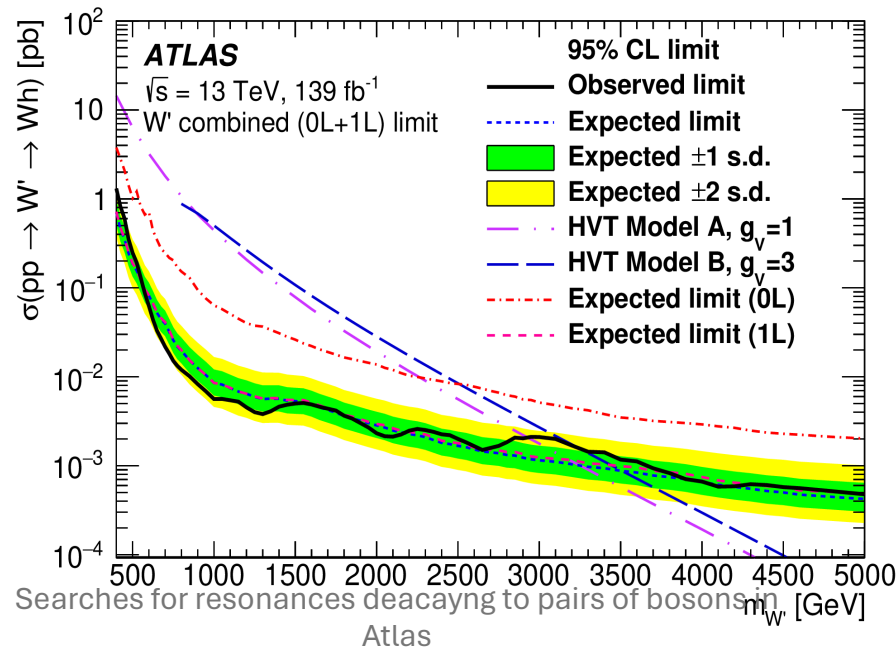
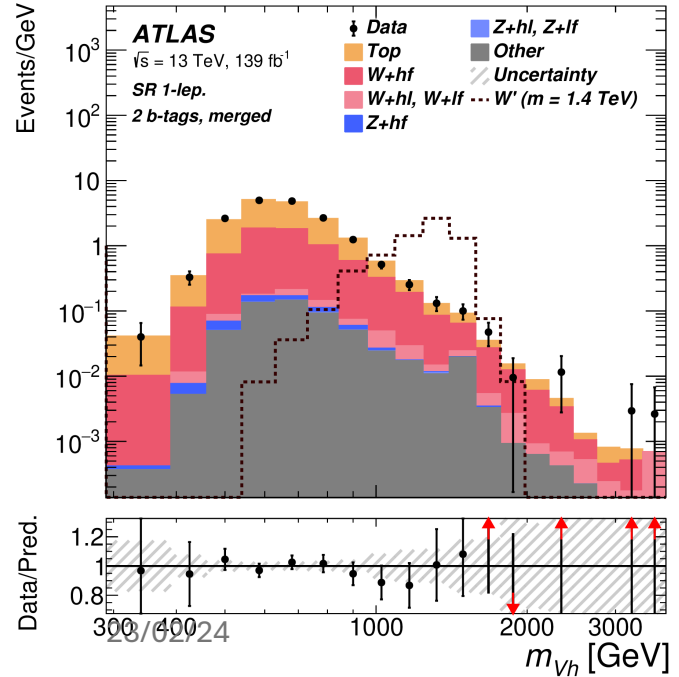
- 2 resolved  $R = 0.4$  jets or 1 large  $R=1.0$  jet
- 1,2 btag jets



**0,1,2 leptons:** The search is conducted by examining the reconstructed invariant or transverse mass distributions of  $Zh$  or  $Wh$  candidates for evidence of a localised excess in the mass range from **220 GeV to 5 TeV**.

## Results consistent with SM

- Limits on HVT model
- Limits on 2HDM model in inclusive and  $b\bar{b}$ -associated

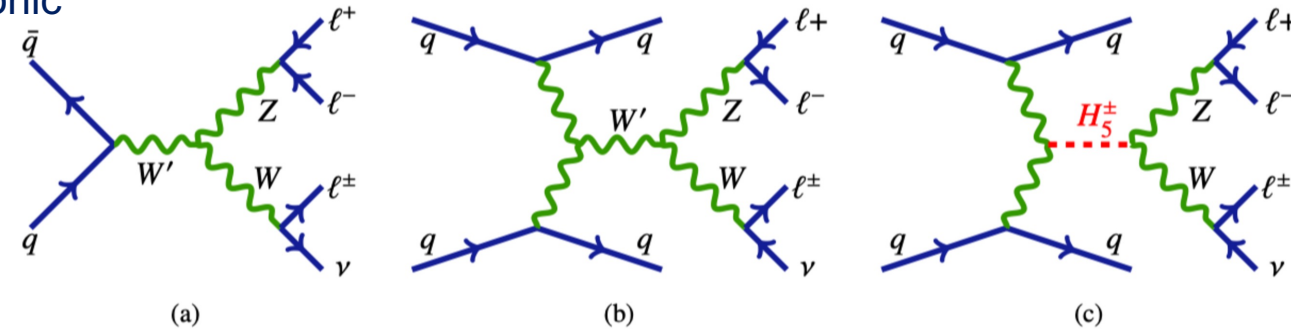


# VV fully leptonic resonances

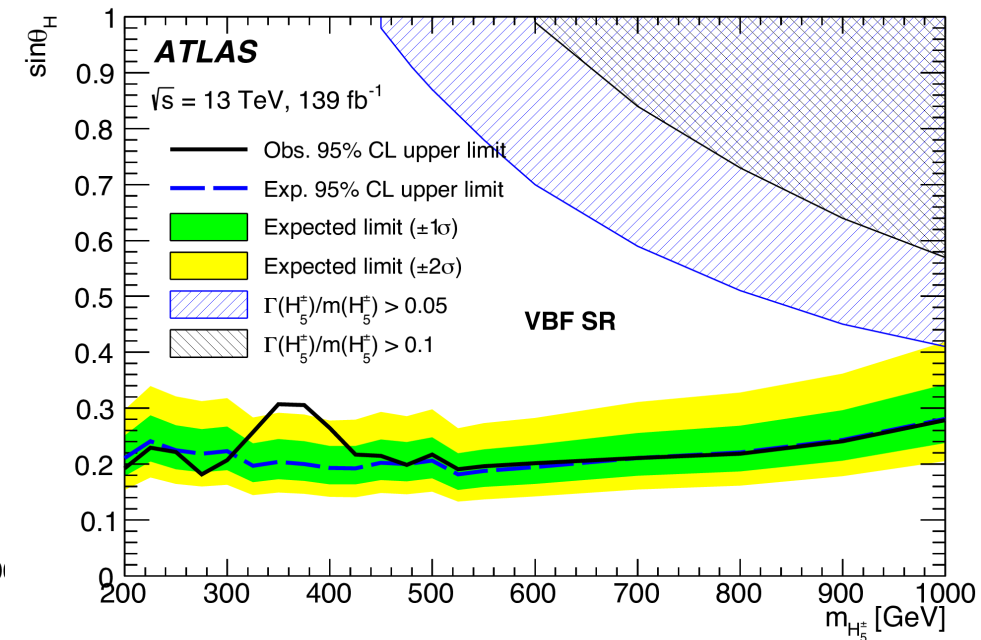
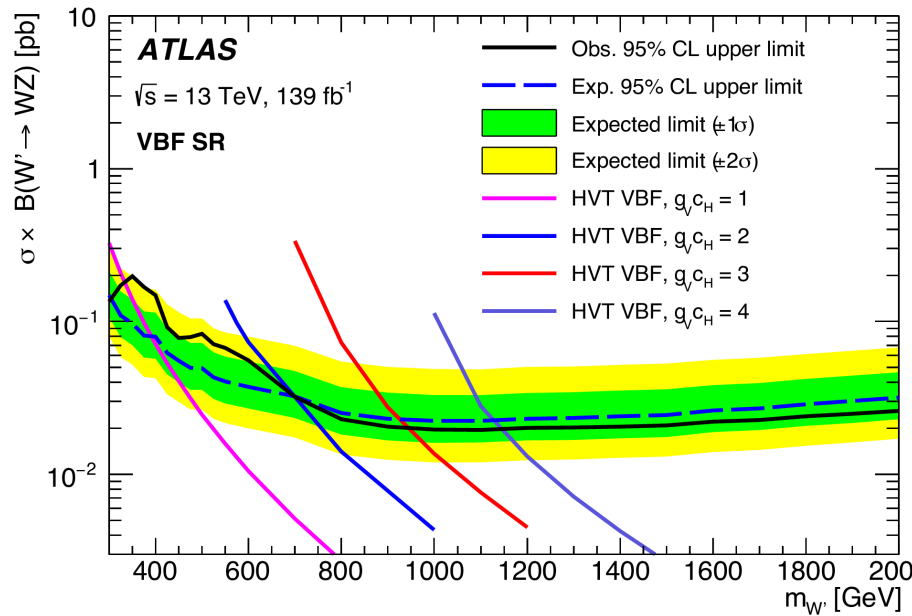
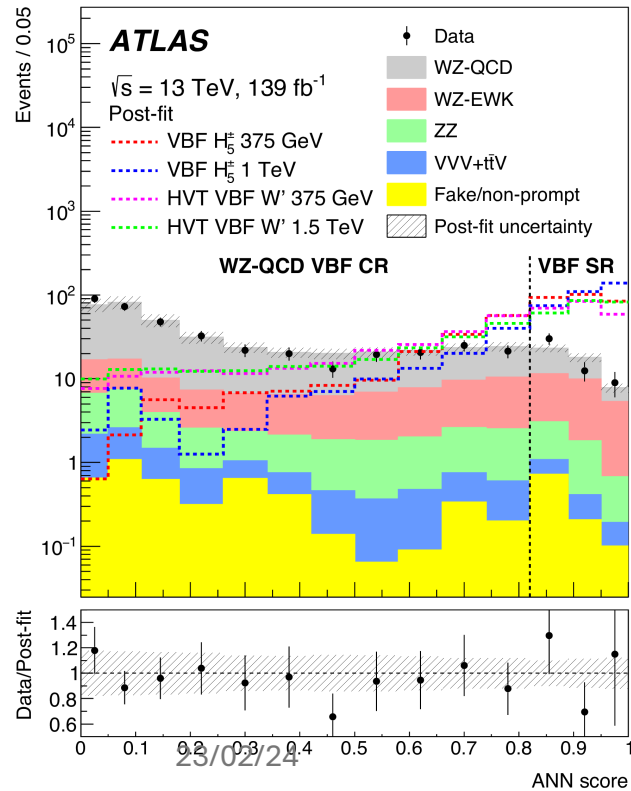
Complementary to fully-hadronic searches, searches with leptonic decays  $WZ \rightarrow l\nu ll$

Very low-background, but also lower signal

- Can rely on good MC predictions
- Better constraints at mid-mass  $300 \text{ GeV} < m(X) < 1 \text{ TeV}$



**Analysis focused on VBF-produced signals**  
**ANN to separate inclusive vs VBF production**



Searches for resonances decaying to pairs of bosons in Atlas

# $X \rightarrow SH \rightarrow VV \tau^+ \tau^-$

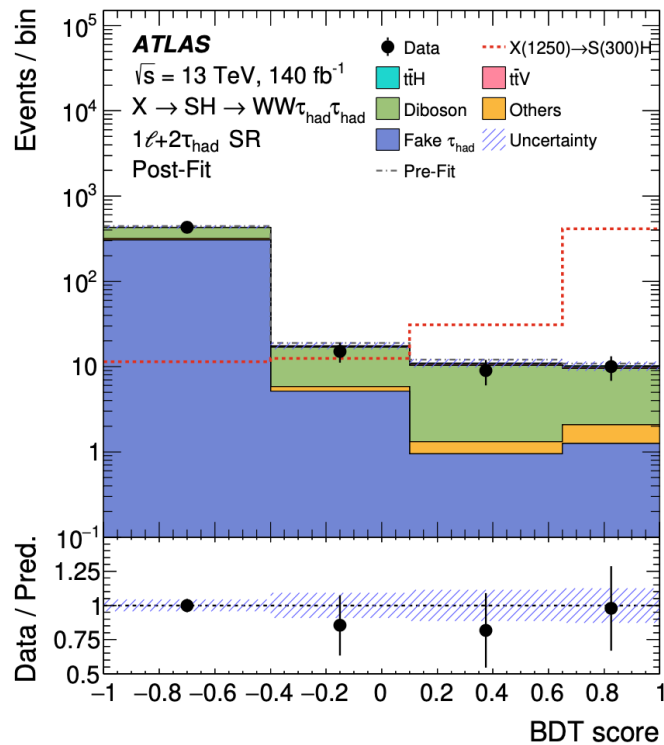
- Scans a window of  $500 < m_X < 1500$  GeV with  $200 < m_S < 500$  GeV
- Select **two opposite-sign**  $\tau_{had}$  ( $p_T > 25$  GeV,  $\Delta R < 2$ )



Signal-to background (dibosons, ttV, fake  $\tau$ ) discrimination with **parameterized BDT** (one per signal region and  $m_S$  hypothesis)

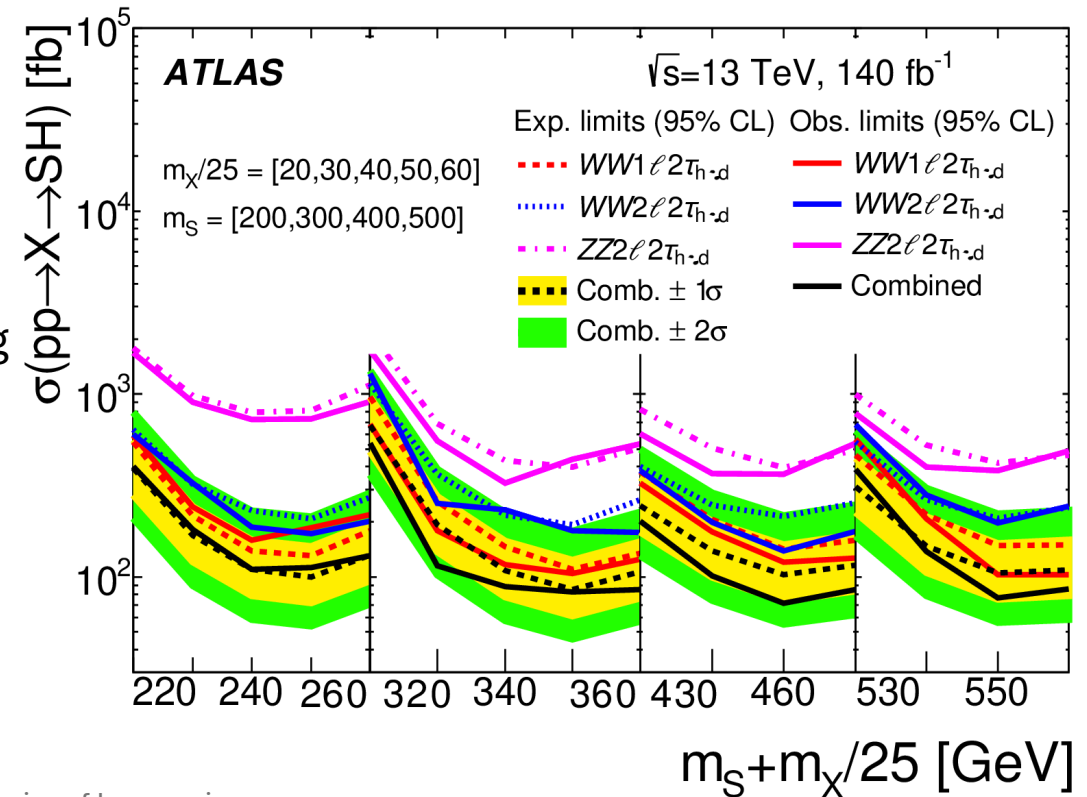
## Three signal regions:

- **WW1l**: == 1 lepton (*main contribution to set limits*)
- **ZZ2l**: same-flavour OS leptons with  $m_{ll}$  in Z window
- **WW2l**: opposite-sign leptons, vetoed if same-flavour leptons in Z window



No significant excess observed in data to SM background expectation

Limits set through combining the 3 SRs obtained under assumption that branching ratios of S equal to those of SM Higgs

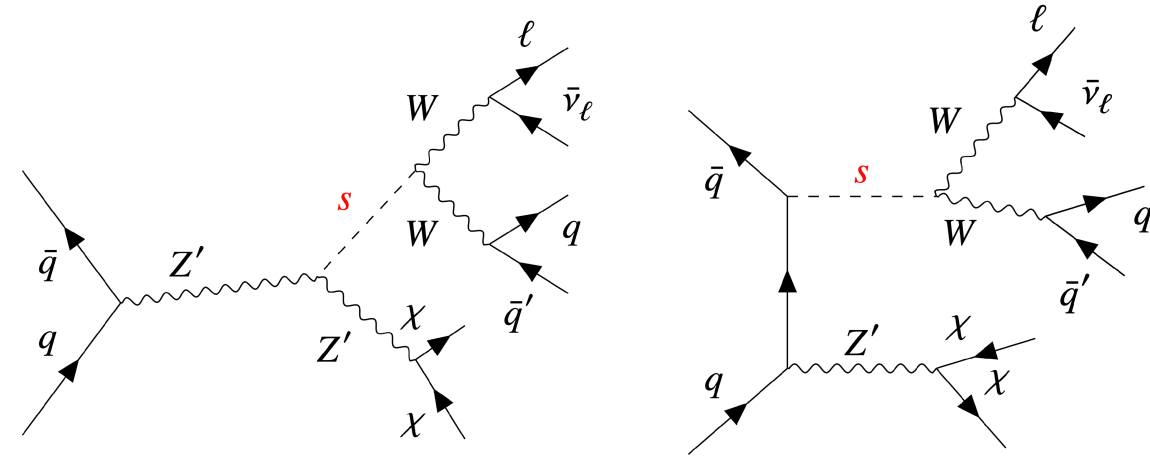


# DM + dark Higgs $\rightarrow$ $VV$

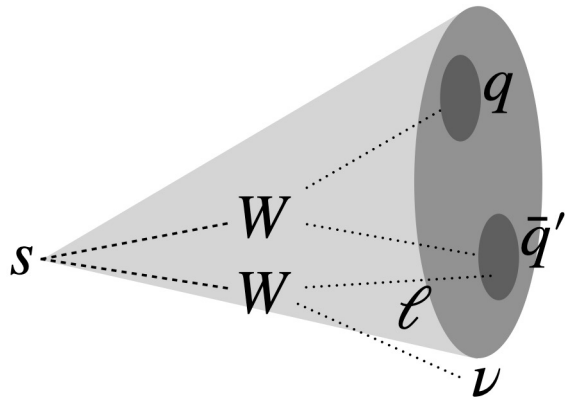
Many DM searches at LHC rely on the  $E_{T,miss} + X$  framework with WIMP-like particles recoiling against SM particles.

Also interest in **two-mediator models** with spin-1  **$Z'$**  and **dark Higgs boson** decaying into  $W+W-$

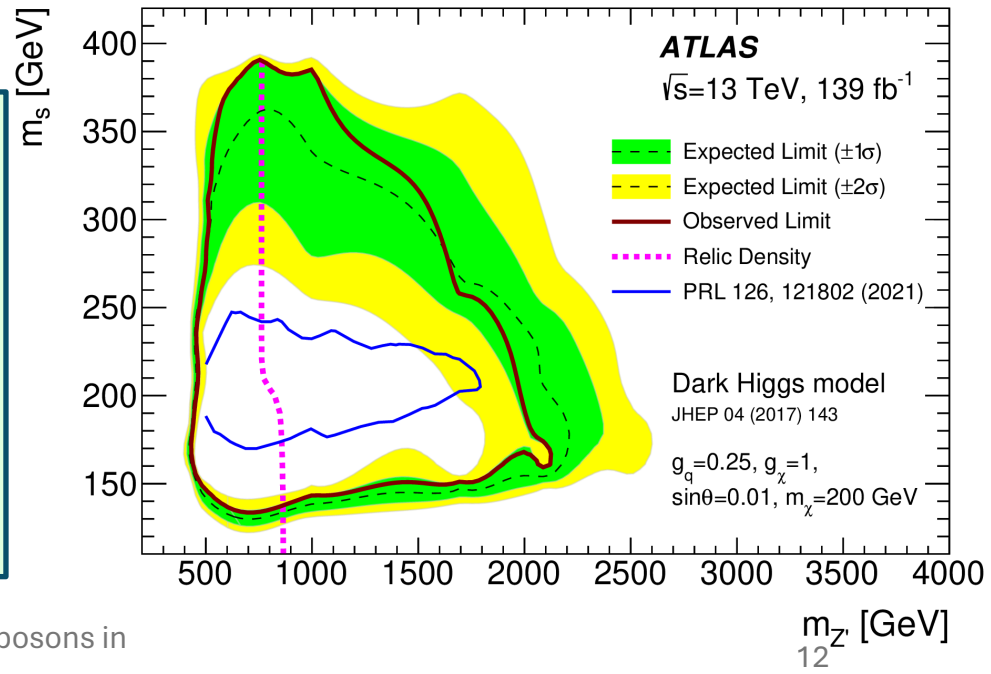
- $s \rightarrow VV$  dominates above  $m_s > 160 \text{ GeV}$



If the dark Higgs boson ( $s$ ) is significantly boosted  $\rightarrow$  reconstructed as a large-(R) jet and often leads to an overlap of the charged lepton  $\ell$  and the large-(R) jet from the  $W \rightarrow qq$  decay.



- $\circ$  **Dominant channels is  $lvqq$**
- $\circ$  Data in agreement with SM predictions: no excesses
- $\circ$  Limits for scenarios with **dark Higgs boson masses ranging between 140 and 390 GeV are excluded** (rely on assumptions of DM mass and couplings)



# Summary

- Atlas experiments have a very broad search programs for resonances decaying to pairs of bosons. The resonance masses in these searches **span in a large range** from  $O(200 \text{ GeV}) < m_X < O(5 \text{ TeV})$  with many different final states.
- Many of these analysis utilize state-of-the-art reconstruction techniques:
  - - **Boosted W/Z/h/t-tagging** is now common place
  - - Many **advanced machine-learning** techniques at play
- So far **no significant excesses** in data to SM expectation found, and we proceed to tightly exclude heavy resonance
- **These resonances remain a promising potential for future analyses** on Run 3 data, moreover EFTs provide framework to extend searches to tail effects of even heavier resonances

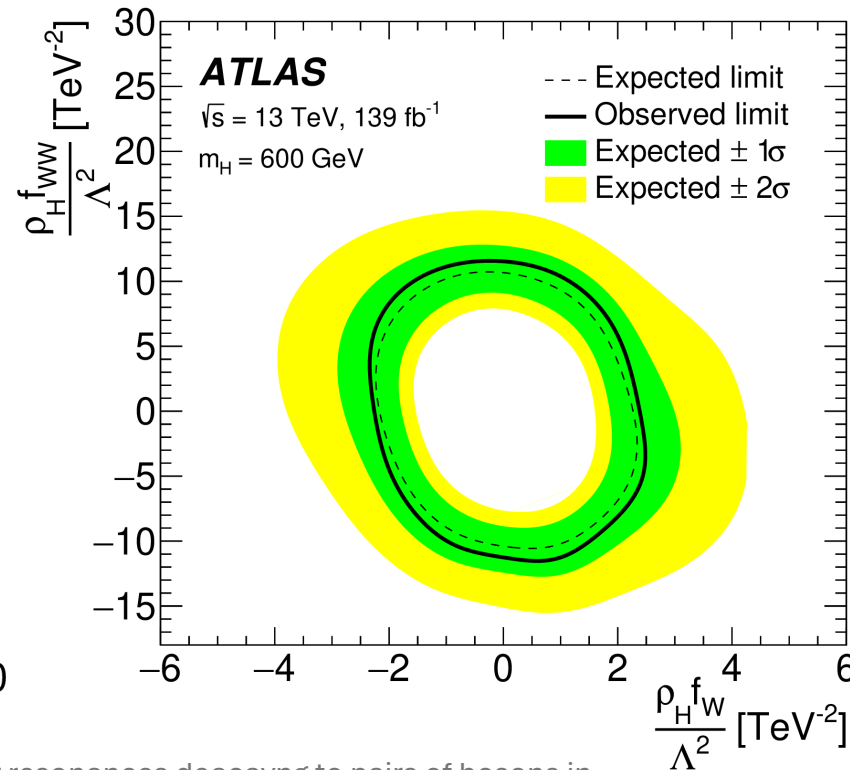
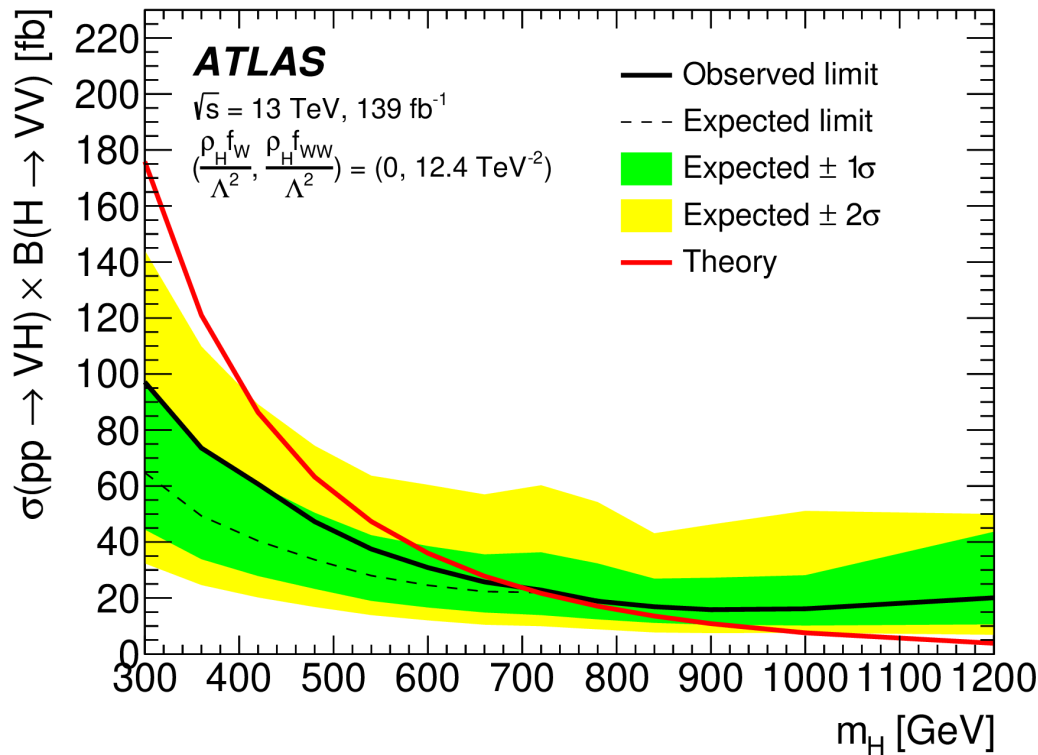
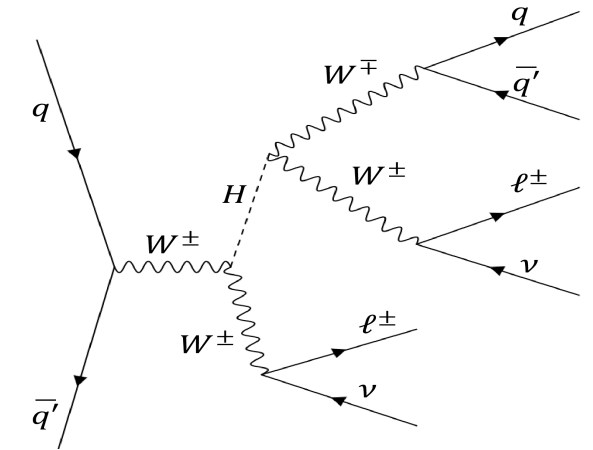


# Generic Search for a Heavy Higgs boson (VH)

Search for heavy Higgs boson produced in VH channel with same-sign di-lepton final state

$$W^\pm H \rightarrow W^\pm W^\pm W^\pm \rightarrow l^\pm \nu l^\pm \nu qq \quad (\text{H not the SM Higgs } h)$$

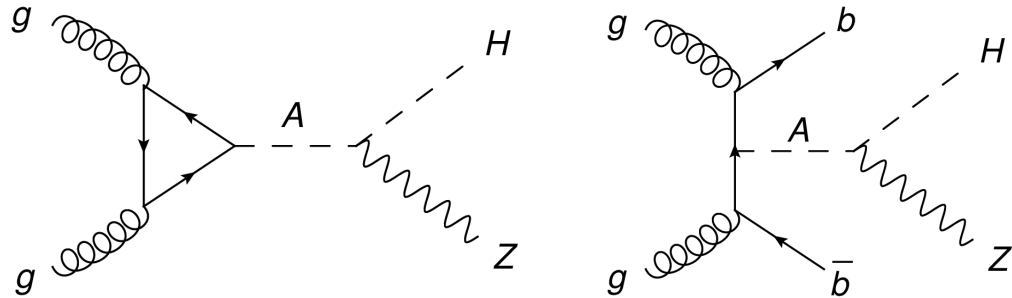
- Highest signal sensitivity among other VH decay channels
- Sizeable Branching Fraction for  $H \rightarrow W^\pm W^\mp$  decay



- **Upper limits** derived as a function of Heavy Higgs mass and coupling strengths to vector boson
- Exclusion Contours show **observed results are consistent** with the expected result within 1 sigma uncertainty

# VH semileptonic resonances ( $m_H \neq 125$ )

Search for a heavy boson **A** (CP-odd Higgs)  $\rightarrow$  **Z** + heavy CP-even boson **H**



Heavy Higgs bosons (*A/H*) from the 2HDM  
 Mass range **400-1200 GeV** for *A*, and **130-800 GeV** for *H*  
 Decay of *A* to a BSM Higgs boson *H* and a *Z* boson  
 $Z \rightarrow 2l$  or  $2\nu$  and  $H \rightarrow tt$  or  $bb$ , leading to ***lltt*** and ***vvbb*** finalstates

Main backgrounds: *ttZ* / *Z+hf*, *tt*

**3 SR categories**, based on number of leptons, jets, *b*-jets, MET, reconstructed *Z* and *H* boson masses:

- 1 *lltt* SR:  $3l$ ,  $\geq 4$  jets and 2 *b*-jets
- 2 *vvbb* SRs:  $0l$ , MET, 2 *b*-jets and  $\geq 3$  *b*-jets

**Final discriminant variables:**

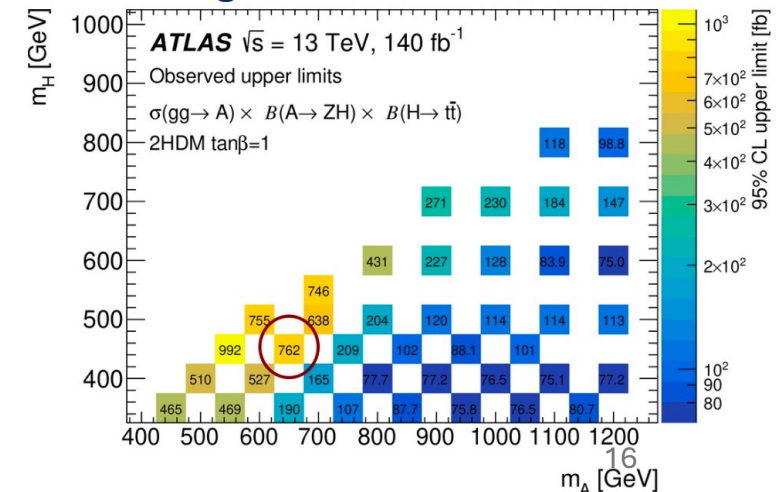
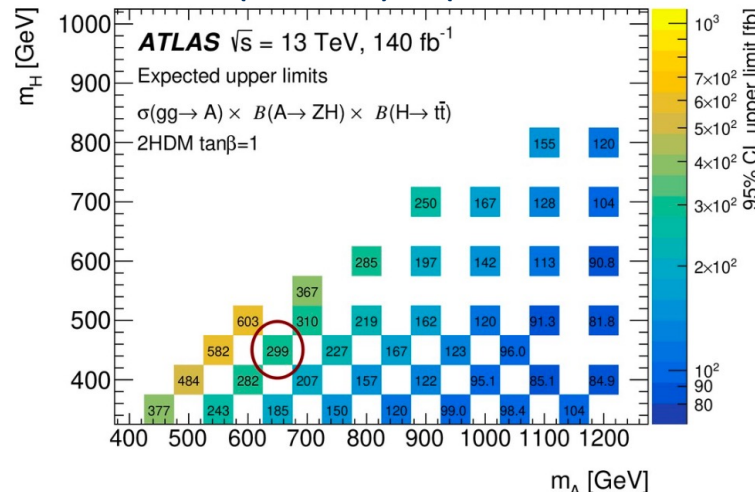
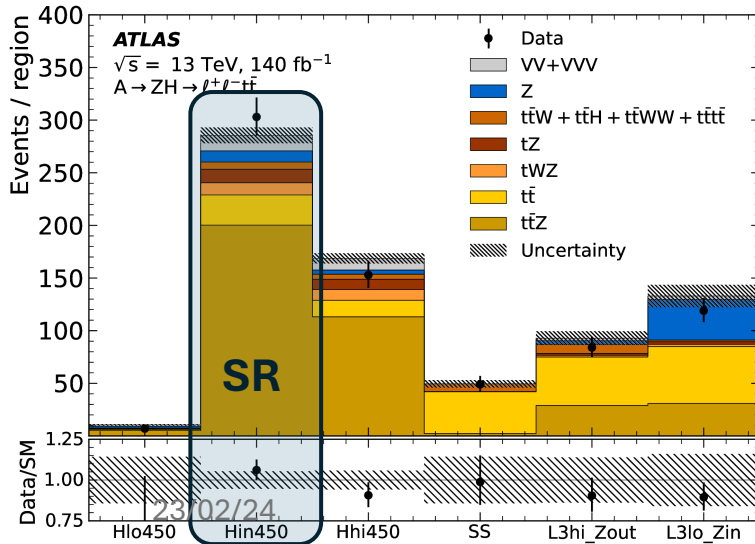
*lltt* SR: mass difference between *A* and *H*:  $\Delta m = m(lltt) - m(tt)$

*vvbb* SRs: transverse mass of *A*  $m_T(VH)$

No significant excess above SM observed

**Mild excess** observed in the *lltt* channel for

$(m_A, m_H) = (650 \text{ GeV}, 450 \text{ GeV})$  with local significance of  **$2.85\sigma$**



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