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# Quantum entanglement in $H \rightarrow ZZ$ leptonic decay channels

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Based on discussions with Rafael Coelho Lopes de Sa, Richard Ruiz,

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Workshop on the foundational tests of Quantum Mechanics at the LHC

Oxford

22/03/2023

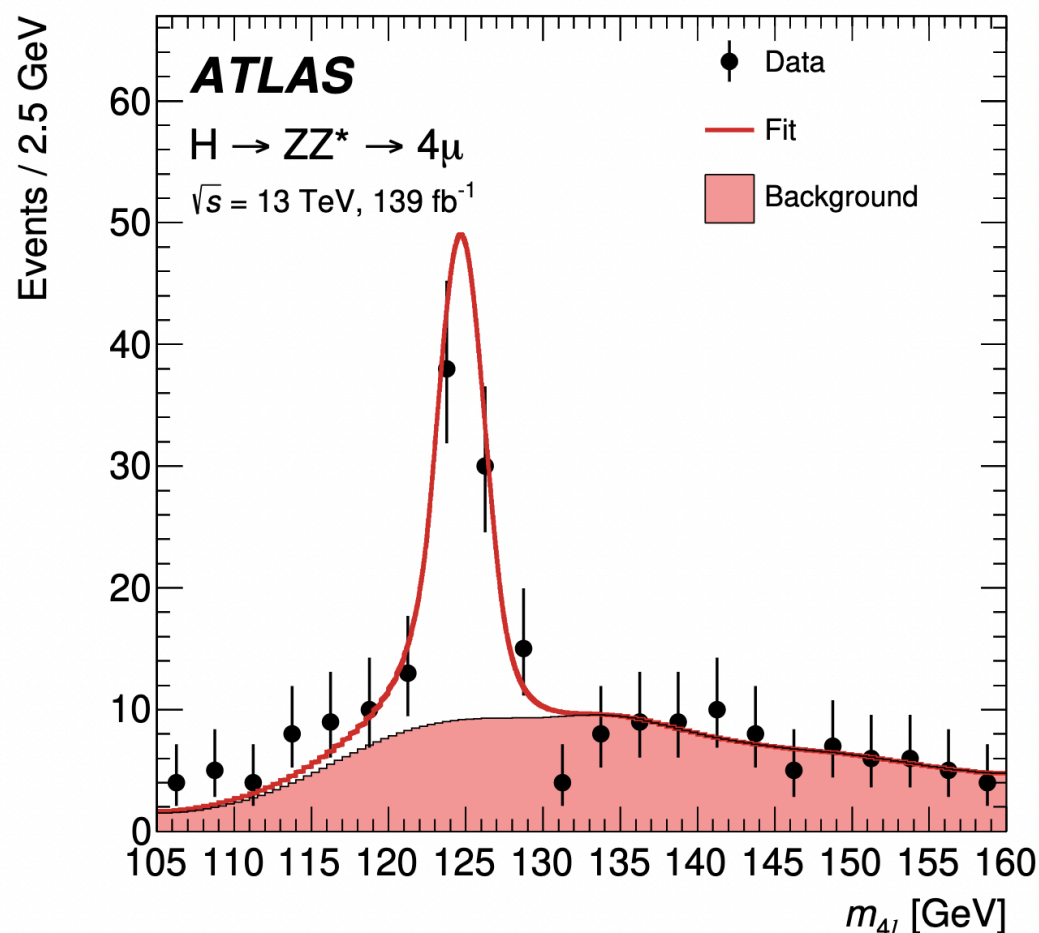
# Overview of $H \rightarrow ZZ$ measurements at ATLAS

- **On-shell**  $H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\ell$

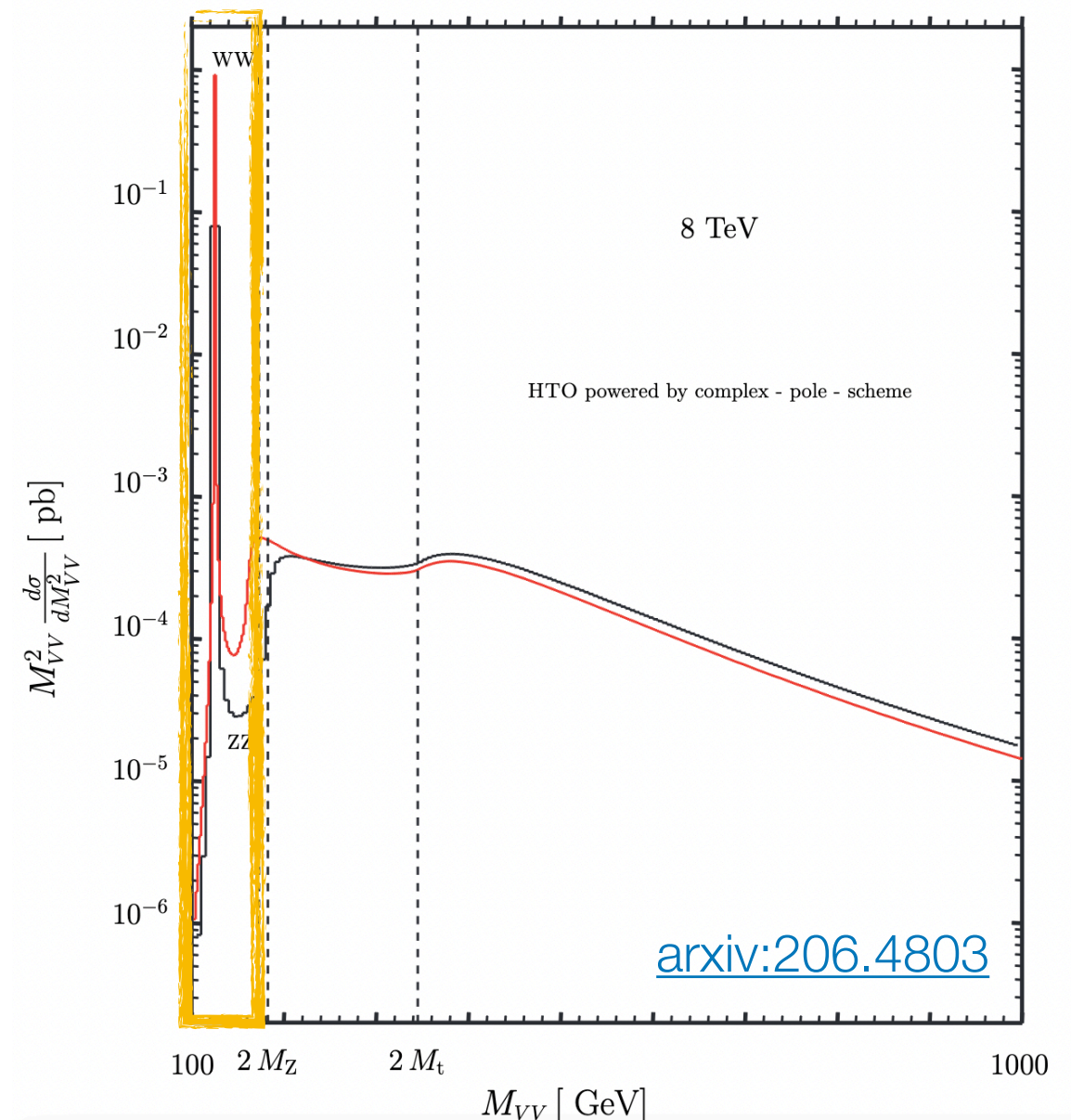
- Higgs Boson mass measurement [\[arxiv:2207.00320\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.00320)

- Measurement of the Higgs boson production mode cross-sections [\[arxiv:2004.03447\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.03447)

- $115 < m_{4\ell} < 130$  GeV



[arxiv:2207.00320](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.00320)

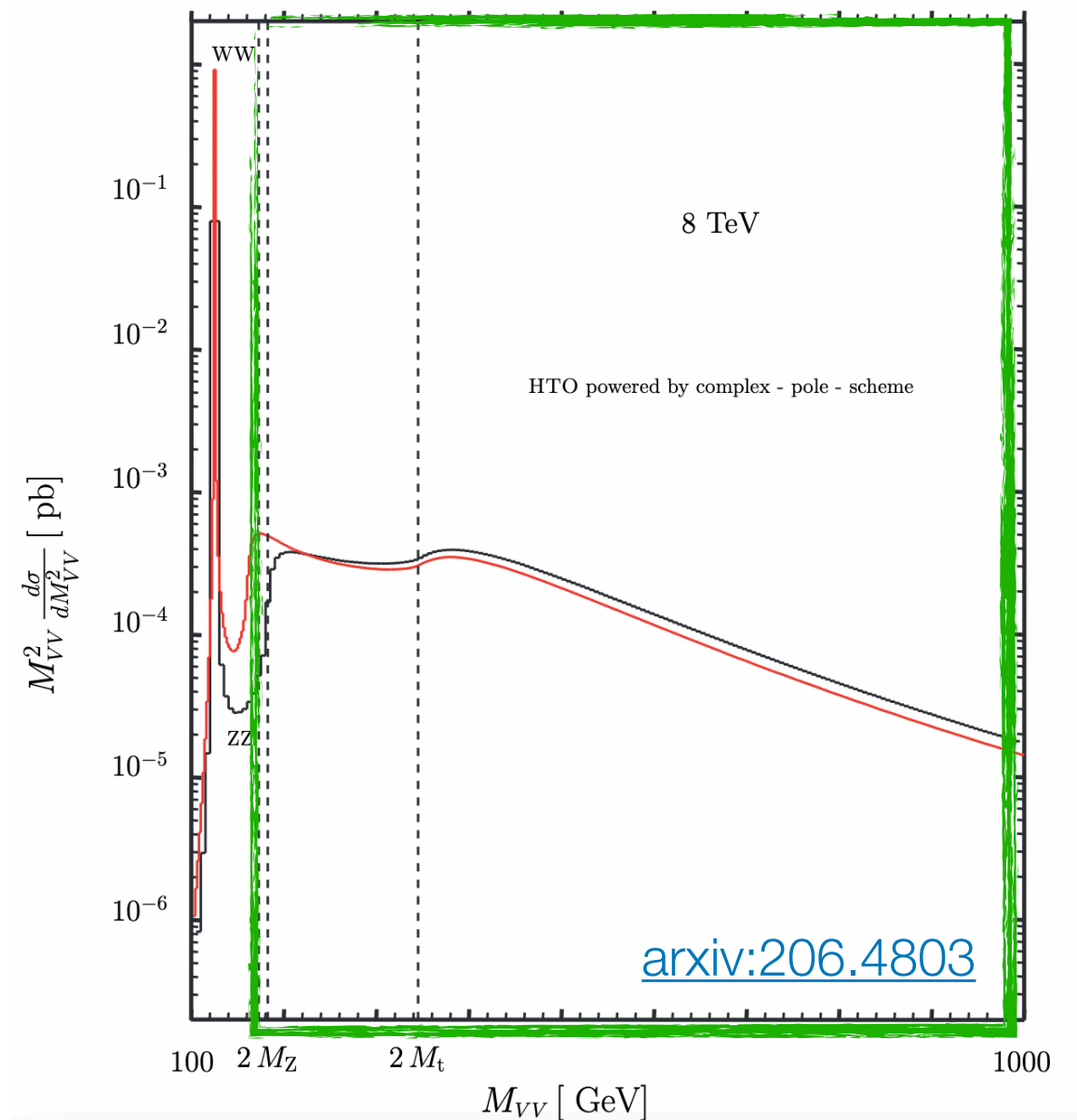
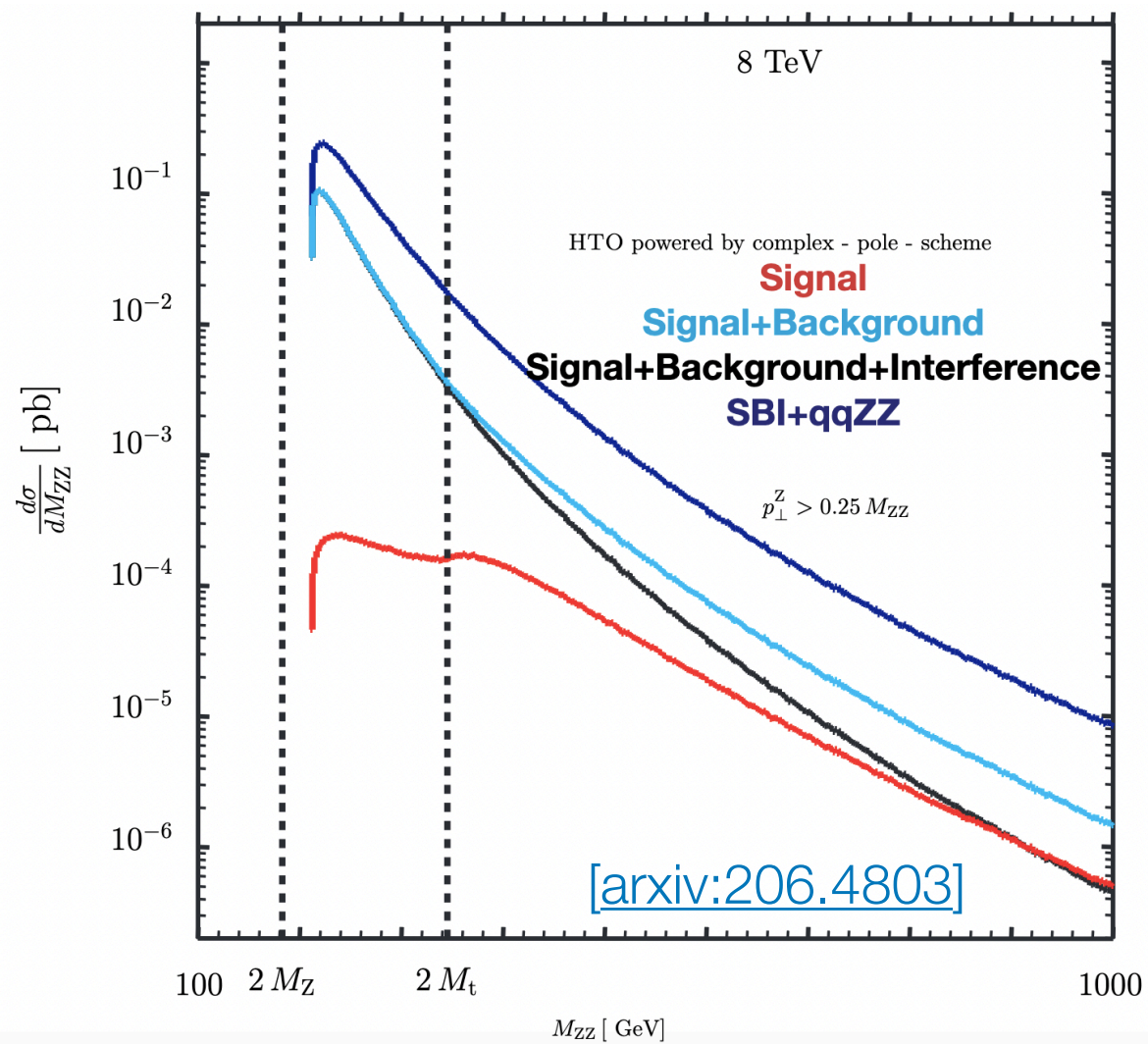


# Overview of $H \rightarrow ZZ$ measurements at ATLAS

- **Off-shell**  $H^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$

- Higgs Boson decay width measurement [\[ATLAS-CONF-2022-068\]](#)

- $m_{4\ell} > 220$  GeV





# How to probe quantum entanglement?

## I) Measuring Z-boson polarisations

i) [[Laboratory-frame tests of QE in  \$H \rightarrow WW\$](#) ]: *J. A. Aguilar-Saavedra*

- Entanglement condition can be reformulated as a binary test: SM versus longitudinal polarisations.

ii) [[Vector boson polarizations in the decay of the Standard Model Higgs](#)]: *E. Maina*

- VB polarizations can be reconstructed analyzing the kinematic distributions of the final state leptons.

## II) Determine experimentally the spin density matrix coefficients

- Requires measurement of spin correlation observables  $\rightarrow$  full reconstruction of the event kinematics.

a) [[Testing entanglement and Bell inequalities in  \$H \rightarrow ZZ\$](#) ]: *J. A. Aguilar-Saavedra , A. Bernal , J. A. Casas and J. M. Moreno*

b) [[Quantum state tomography, entanglement detection and Bell violation prospects in weak decays of massive particles](#)]: *R. Ashby-Pickering, A. Barr, A. Wierzchucka*

# I) Z-boson polarizations

# Z-boson polarizations

- Why is it interesting to measure **polarized gluon-induced processes**?
  - Polarized VBF process already measured [e.g. [Production x-sections of polarized SS WWjj](#)]
  - Polarization of **ggZZ** processes **not yet explored**
  - Polarized **ggH** processes open new opportunities to **probe quantum entanglement**
    - Higgs boson is a scalar, thus the ZZ pair is produced in a spin-singlet state, where the quantum entanglement is maximal.
    - The amplitude for the Higgs decay to four fermions can be **analytically** reformulated in terms of the polarizations of the intermediate vector bosons. The vector polarizations can be then **reconstructed** analyzing the kinematic distributions of the final state leptons.
  - **QE condition** can be reformulated in terms of decay polarisation amplitudes

# How to generate the polarized ggZZ processes?

- MadGraph model provided by *Richard Ruiz*<sup>1</sup>: **SM\_Loop\_ZPolar\_NLO**
  - The automation of **loop-level production + polarization + decay** is not yet supported officially. This model keeps **spin correlation** at every step of the simulation.
  - Z is redefined to be: **Z -> ZX + Z0 + ZT + ZA**
    - ZX is just a field redefinition, its mass and width are MZ and WZ (like in other SM UFO)
    - Z0 has a propagator built solely from **longitudinal polarization vectors**
    - ZT has a propagator built from summing over the **2 transverse polarization vectors**
    - ZA has a propagator built solely from an **auxiliary polarization vector**
      - Describes the behavior not captured by the transverse and longitudinal polarization vector
      - Auxiliary propagator vanishes in the on-shell limit

$$\varepsilon^\mu(q, \lambda = A) = \frac{q^\mu}{M_V} \sqrt{\frac{q^2 - M_V^2}{q^2}}$$

<sup>1</sup> [[Automated Predictions from Polarized Matrix Elements](#)]: VB polarisations studied in VBS (not ggF)

# Polarizations in the Higgs boson off-shell regime?

- Evidence of off-shell production in the HZZ decay channel
  - Published by CMS [[Nature Phys. 18 \(2022\) 1329](#)] and ATLAS [[ATLAS-CONF-2022-068](#)]
- Study polarisation in the off-shell regime is interesting
  - Novel method [[Higgs Couplings without the Higgs](#)] enables to **test the Higgs couplings**, off-shell, via their contributions to the physics of *longitudinally* polarised gauge bosons
    - Grows with energy → promising now and increasingly important in the future
    - Independent and complementary to the well-established on-shell measurements
  - Both Z bosons are on-shell → **polarizations are well-defined**
  - Anomalous modifications of the SM necessarily induce E-growth
    - Novel approach to explore **EFT** interpretations, break degeneracies
  - **QE condition** can be formulated in terms of [decay polarisation amplitudes](#)



# Event generation of polarised samples

- MEs calculated up to one additional parton in the final state for  $ee\mu\mu$  final state<sup>1</sup>

•  $gg \rightarrow ZLZL$

```
import model SM_Loop_ZPolar_NL0
```

```
generate p p > e+ e- mu+ mu- QED=4 QCD=2 [noborn = QCD] / a z zt za @0
add process p p > e+ e- mu+ mu- j QED=4 QCD=3 [noborn = QCD] / a z zt za @1
```

•  $gg \rightarrow ZTZT$

```
generate p p > e+ e- mu+ mu- QED=4 QCD=2 [noborn = QCD] / a z z0 za @0
add process p p > e+ e- mu+ mu- j QED=4 QCD=3 [noborn = QCD] / a z z0 za @1
```

•  $gg \rightarrow ZZ$

```
generate p p > e+ e- mu+ mu- QED=4 QCD=2 [noborn = QCD] / a z0 zt za @0
add process p p > e+ e- mu+ mu- j QED=4 QCD=3 [noborn = QCD] / a z0 zt za @1
```

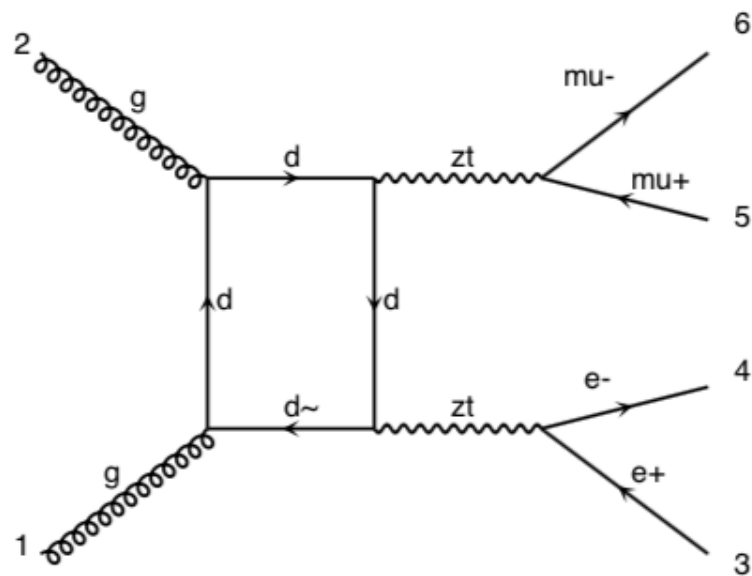


diagram 3 QCD=2, QED=4

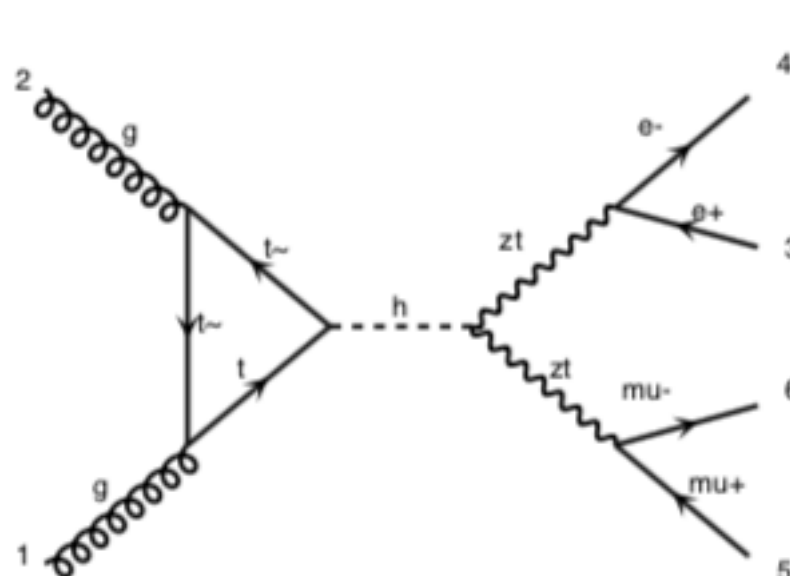


diagram 52 QCD=2, QED=4

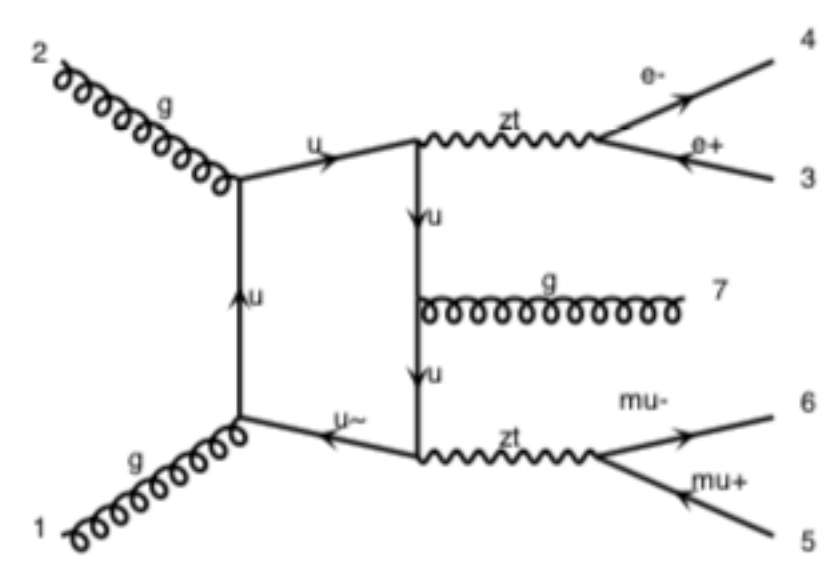


diagram 139 QCD=3, QED=4

<sup>1</sup> loop diagram filter applied in order to remove NNLO corrections to qqZZ

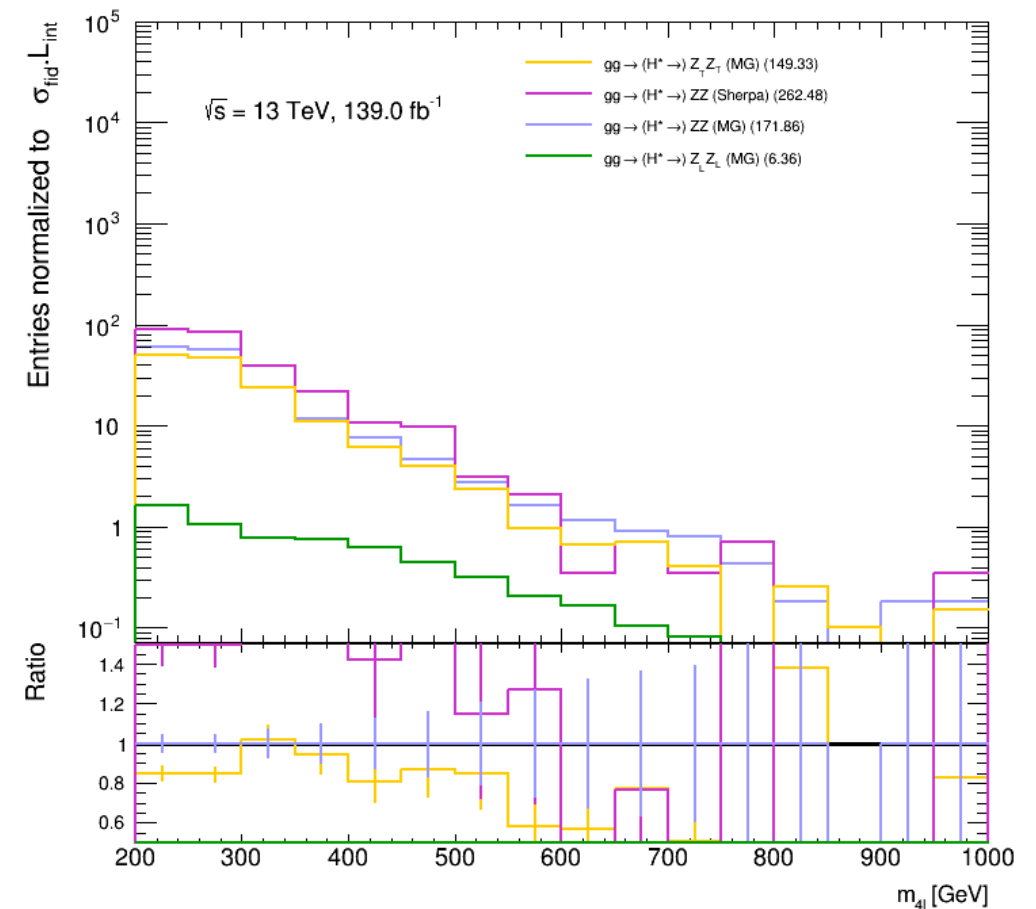
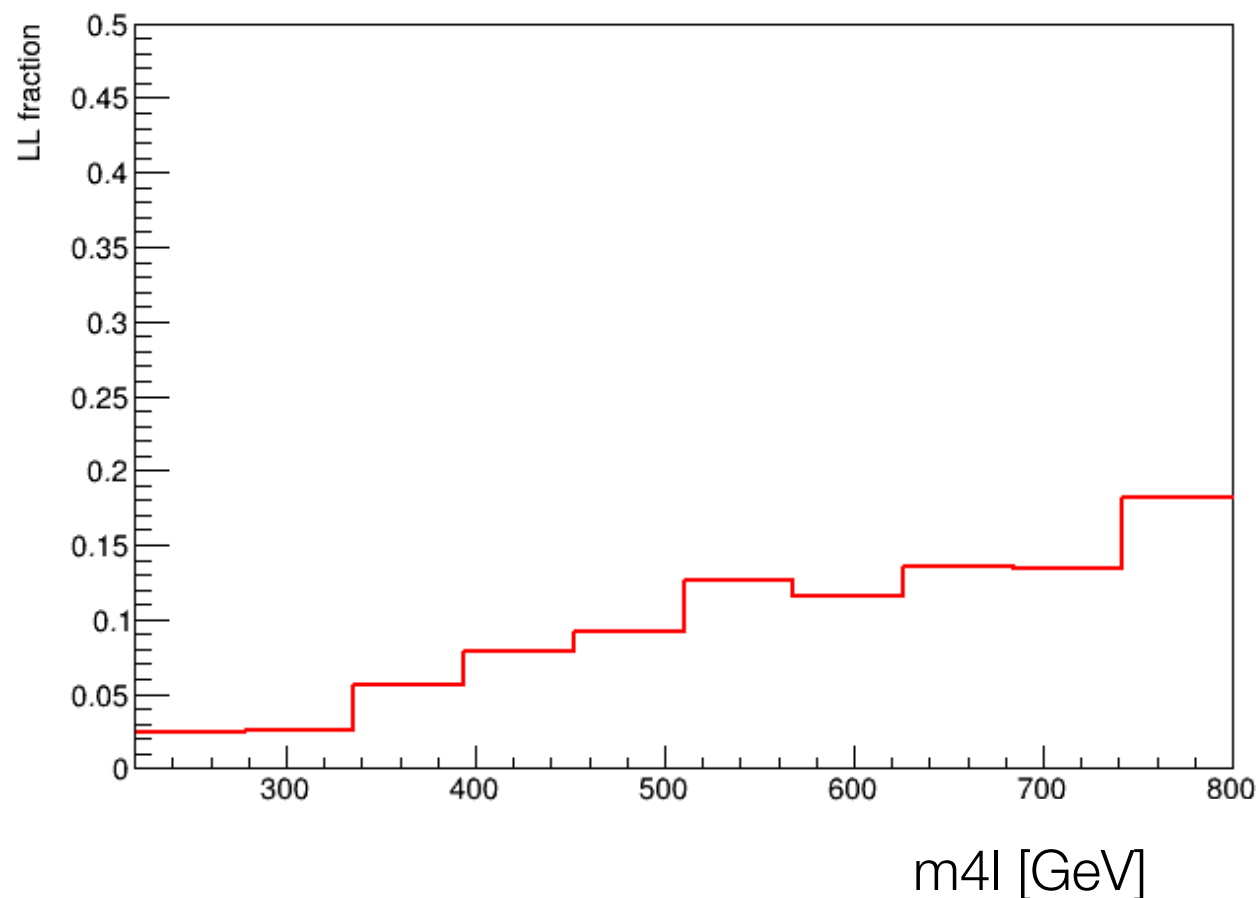
<sup>2</sup> no need to generate AA (only for a sanity check)

# Validation of polarised samples: cross-sections

## • Fiducial cross-sections

- ▶  $gg \rightarrow ZZ$ : 1.172 fb
- ▶  $gg \rightarrow ZTZT$ : 0.9483 fb
- ▶  $gg \rightarrow ZLZL$ : 0.0577 fb

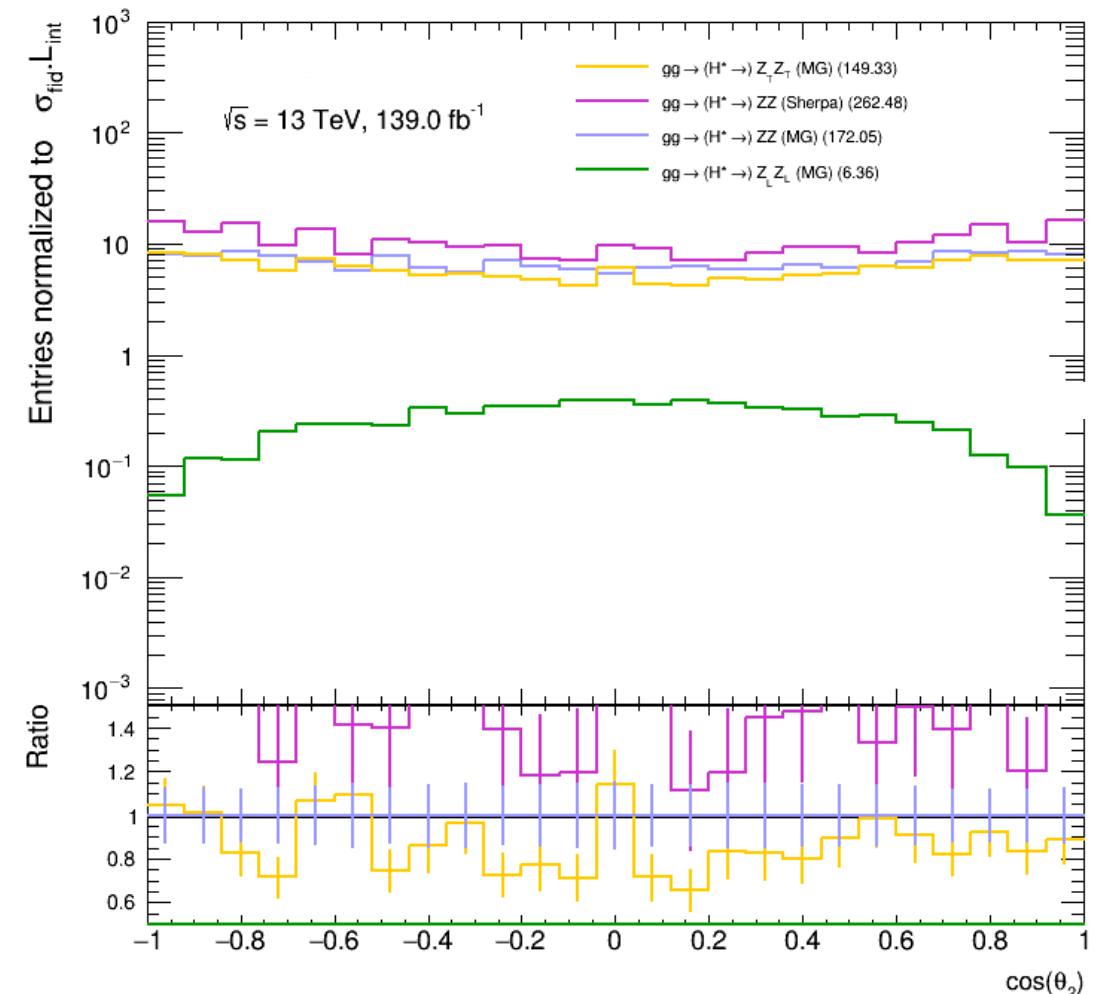
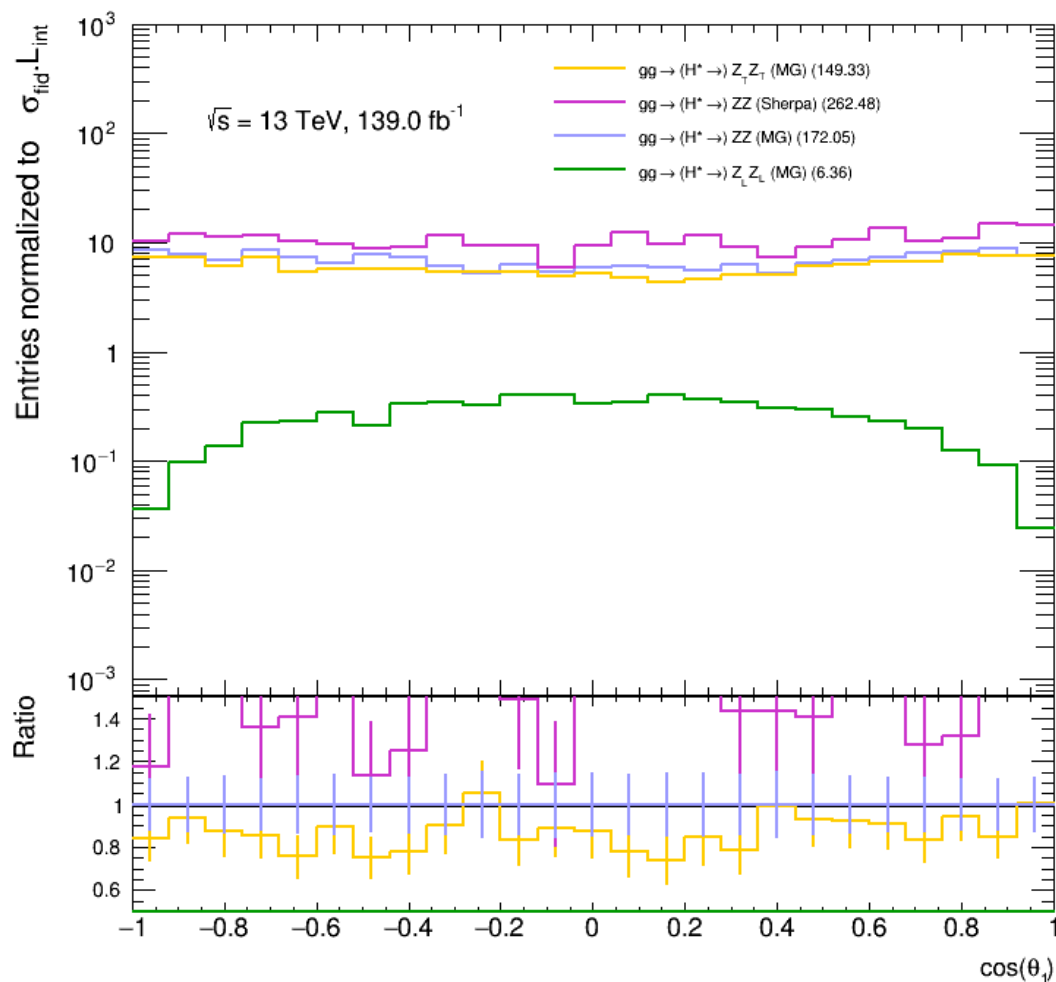
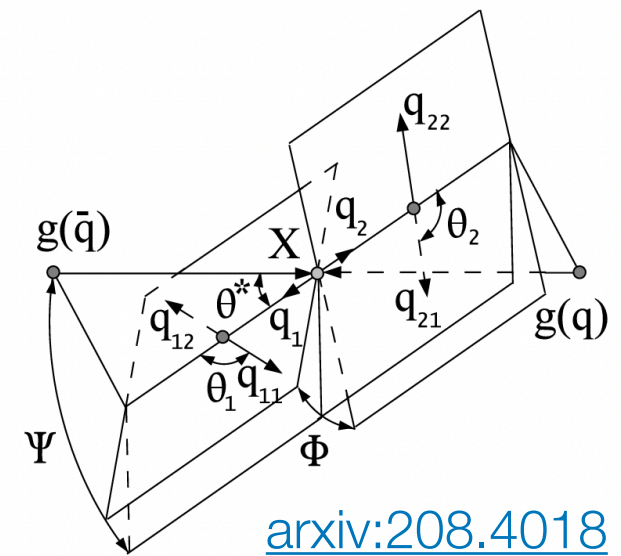
▶  $f^{LL}$  same order of magnitude as the signal Higgs in [ATLAS-CONF-2022-068] ( $f^{LL} = \sigma^{LL} / \sigma^{all} \sim 5\%$ )



# Validation of polarised samples: helicity angles

## • Helicity angles

- ▶ Spin correlation check
- ▶  $\cos \theta_1$  and  $\cos \theta_2$  provide good separation power (LL vs TT)



# Analysis setup

Similar strategy as in the [measurement of off-shell Higgs boson production](#) at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV  
with the data of  $139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

- **Main event selections (same as in the off-shell analysis)**

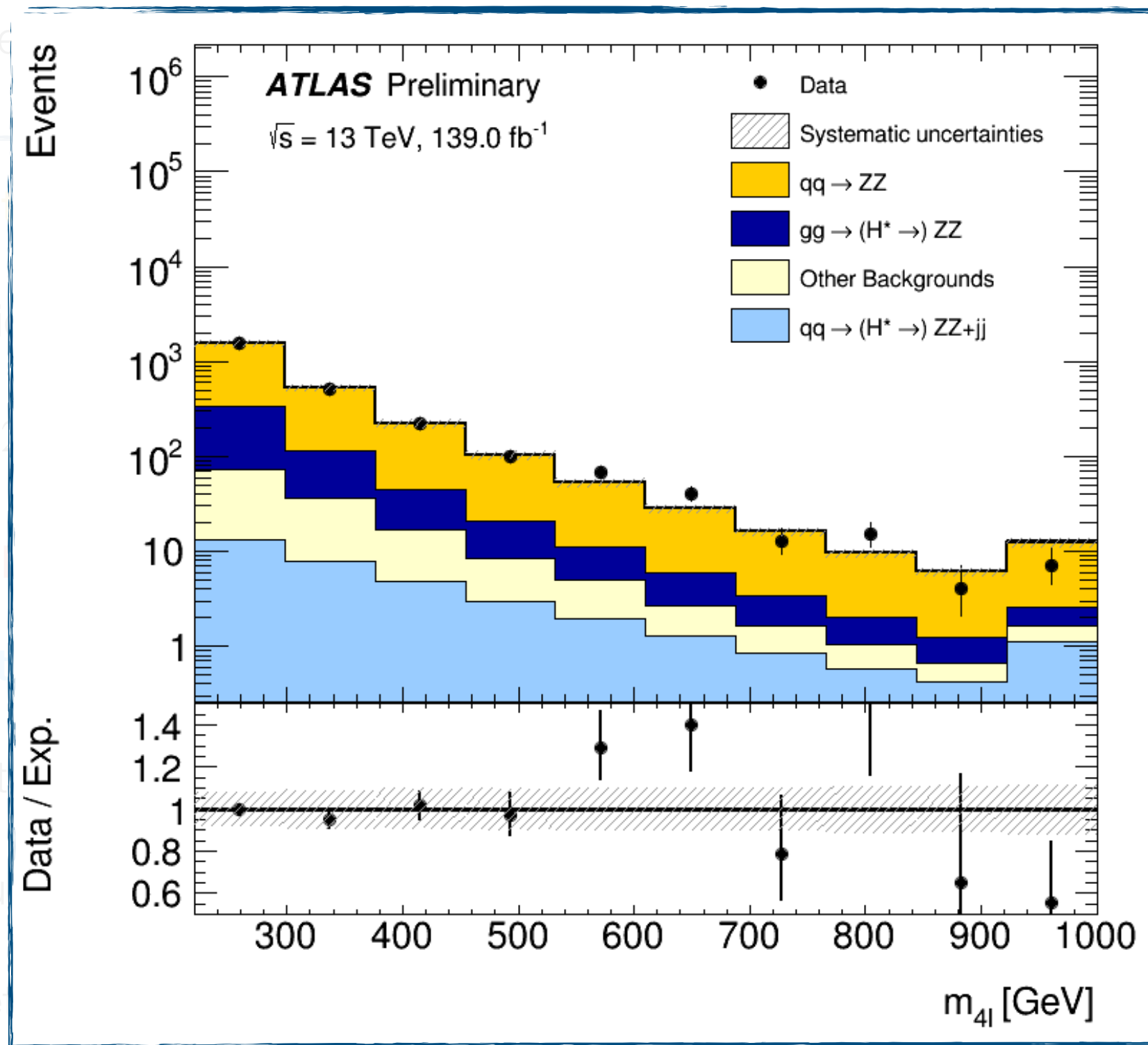
- 4l candidates formed by selecting a lepton-quadruplet made out of 2 SFOS lepton pairs
- $m_{4\ell} > 220$  GeV,  $m_{Z1} \in [50, 106]$  GeV,  $m_{Z2} \in [50, 115]$  GeV

- **Dominant background:** QCD  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZZ$  process

- **Analysis strategy**

- Calculate LO MEs for ggZLZL, ggZTZT and qqZZ processes in the Higgs boson rest frame
- Construct ME ratio to enhance separation of the longitudinal component
- Parametrise gg  $\rightarrow$  ZTZL contribution via: ZZ-ZTZT-ZLZL (in a given observable)
- Use optimal observable (eventually binned in jets) in a maximum-likelihood fit

# Analysis setup

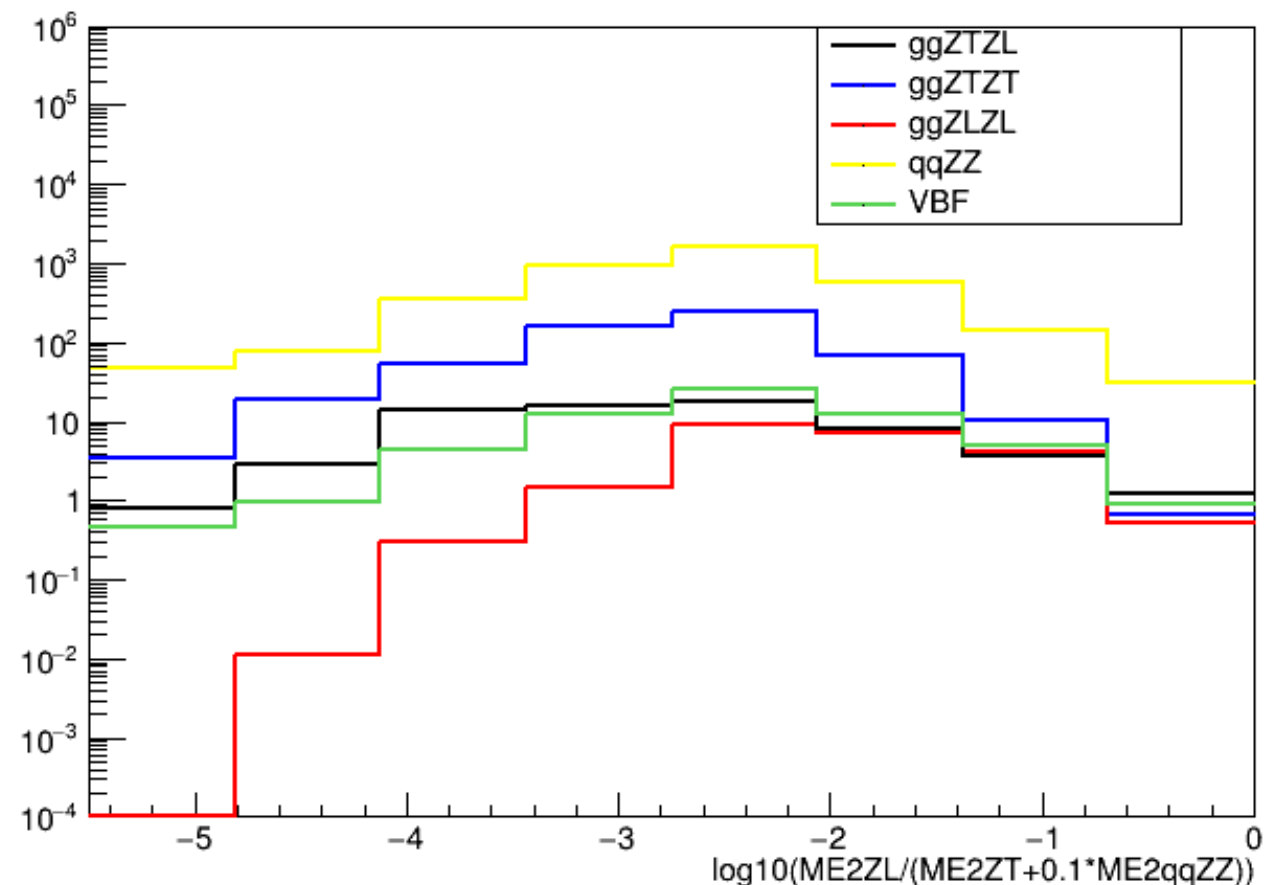
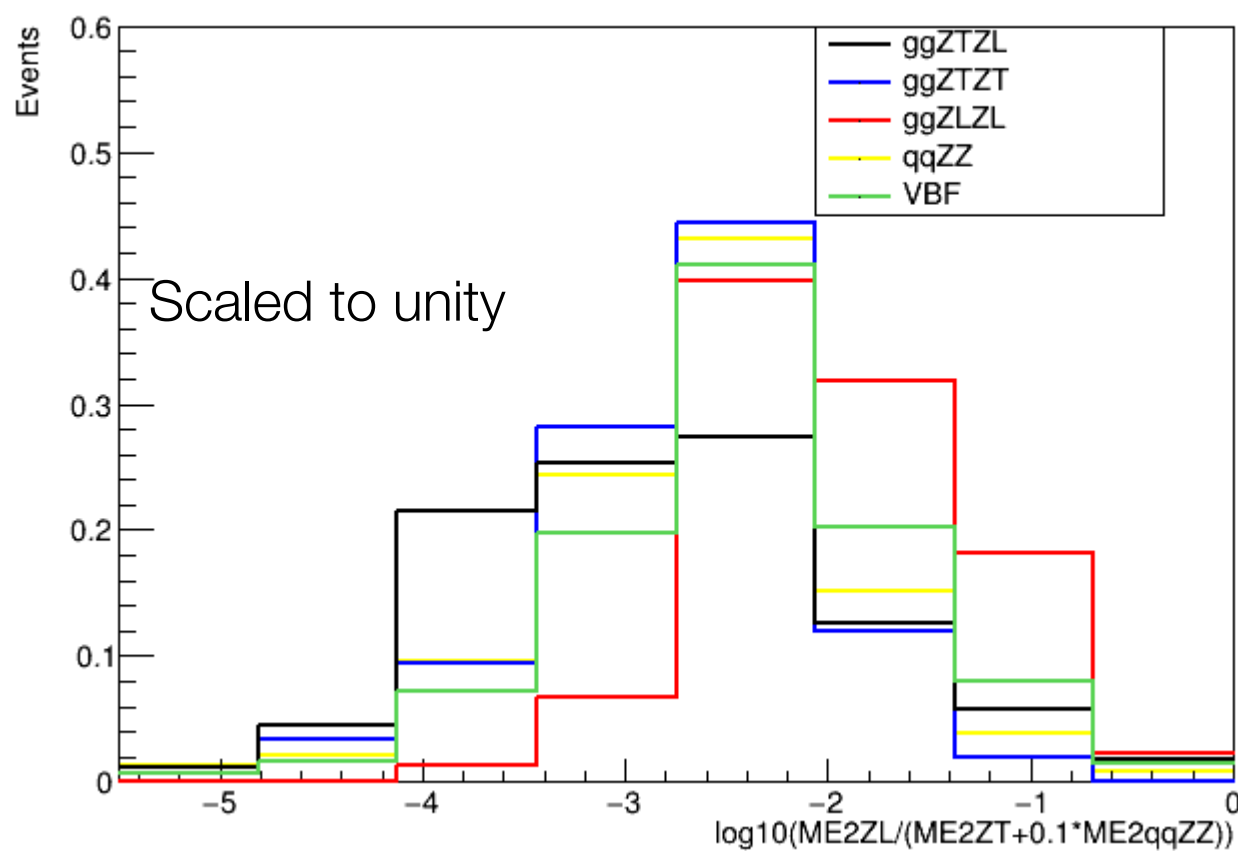


[[ATLAS-CONF-2022-068](#)]



# Looking for the optimal observable

- Calculated LO MEs for
  - long. (ME2ZL) and trans. (ME2ZT) polarisations in the ggZZ process and qqZZ (ME2qqZZ)
- Defined a ME ratio as follows:  $\log_{10}(\text{ME2ZL}/(\text{ME2ZT}+0.1*\text{ME2qqZZ}))$ 
  - For preliminary studies, the same “traditional” ME ratio was used as in the off-shell analysis
  - [Per-Event Likelihood Ratios](#) can be applied



# Statistical interpretation

- Integrated luminosity of **440 ifb** assumed (proxy for Run 2 + Run 3 luminosity)
- Systematic uncertainty of **25%** estimated
  - [[Measurement of off-shell Higgs production](#)]: dominated by parton shower syst. on ggZZ
- Several options

1. Measuring solely the LL ggZZ component (everything else treated as background)

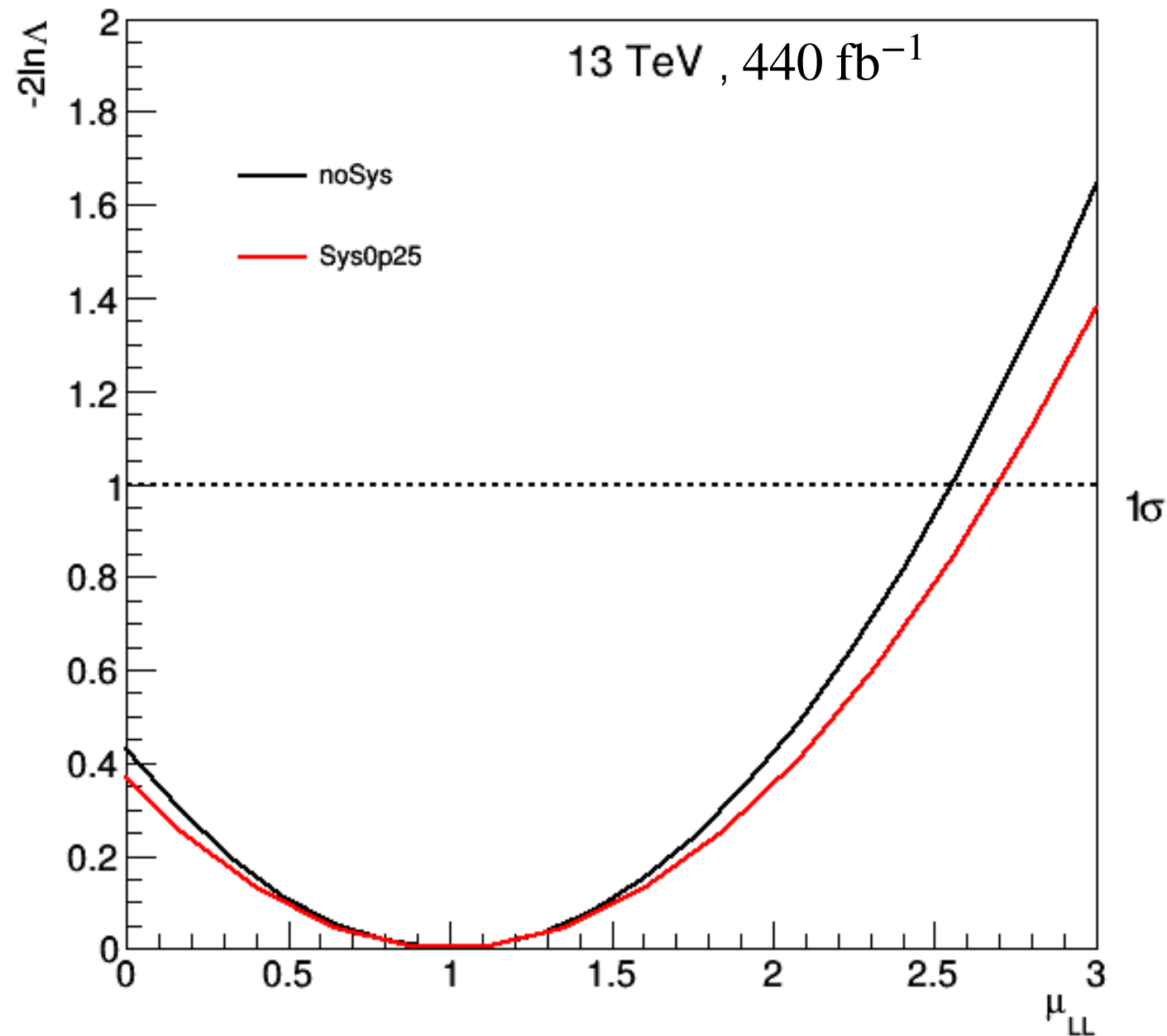
$$N_i^{exp}(\mu) = n_i^{qqZZ} + n_i^{ggZTZL+ggZTZT} + n_i^{VBFZZ} + \mu_{LL} \cdot n_i^{ggZLZL}$$

2. Binning in # jets enables to measure the LL ggZZ and VBF components separately

$$N_i^{exp}(\mu) = n_i^{qqZZ} + n_i^{ggZTZL+ggZTZT} + n_i^{VBFZTZL+VBFZTZT} + \mu_{LL}^{ggF} \cdot n_i^{ggZLZL} + \mu_{LL}^{VBF} \cdot n_i^{VBFZLZL}$$

3. Also considering floating the overall ggZZ normalisation and measuring fractions

# Expected sensitivity for Run 2+3 data



- **Several improvements on the way!**

- Optimize binning

- Test 2D optimal observable

- Build [Per-Event Likelihood Ratios](#)

- Aim to increase *discovery significance* above  $1\sigma$

Expected *discovery significance* is around  $0.6\sigma$

# Can this be interpreted as a test of QE?

- [\[Laboratory-frame tests of QE in  \$H \rightarrow WW\$ \]](#)

- "We can reformulate the entanglement condition as a binary test: **SM versus longitudinal polarisation**. And this binary test can be performed using laboratory-frame observables."

➔ We need to go one step further and separate the LL signal component

## 1) Event generation of signal polarised samples

```
import model SM_Loop_ZPolar_NLO
```

```
generate p p > h > e+ e- mu+ mu- QED=4 QCD=2 [noborn = QCD] / a z zt za @0  
add process p p > h > e+ e- mu+ mu- j QED=4 QCD=3 [noborn = QCD] / a z zt za @1
```

## 2) Looking at the same **optimal observable**: $\log_{10}(\text{ME}_{2ZL}/(\text{ME}_{2ZT}+0.1*\text{ME}_{2qqZZ}))$

- NB: contributions from NLO corrections are not considered in this observable
- ML methods (e.g. used in [Measurement of off-shell Higgs production](#)) can be employed to better explore these differences

# Test of quantum entanglement

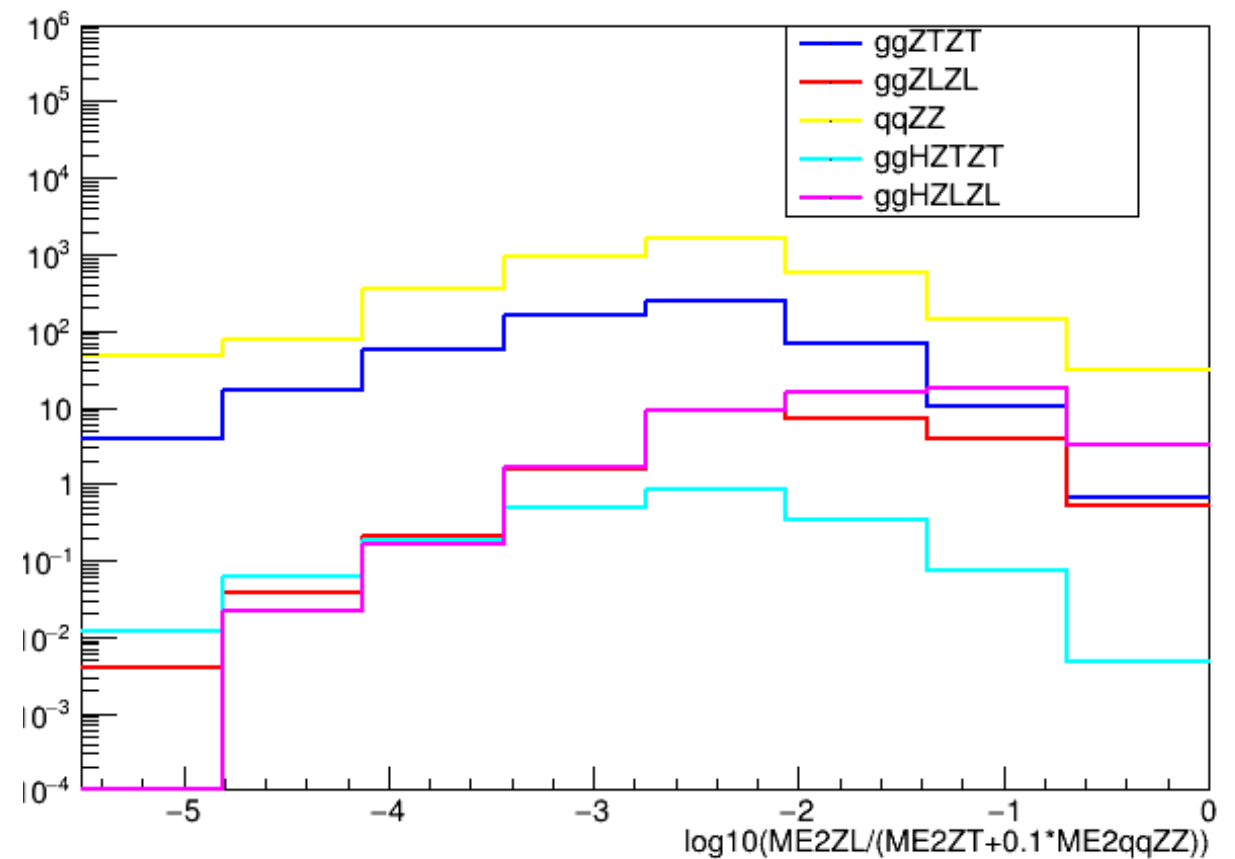
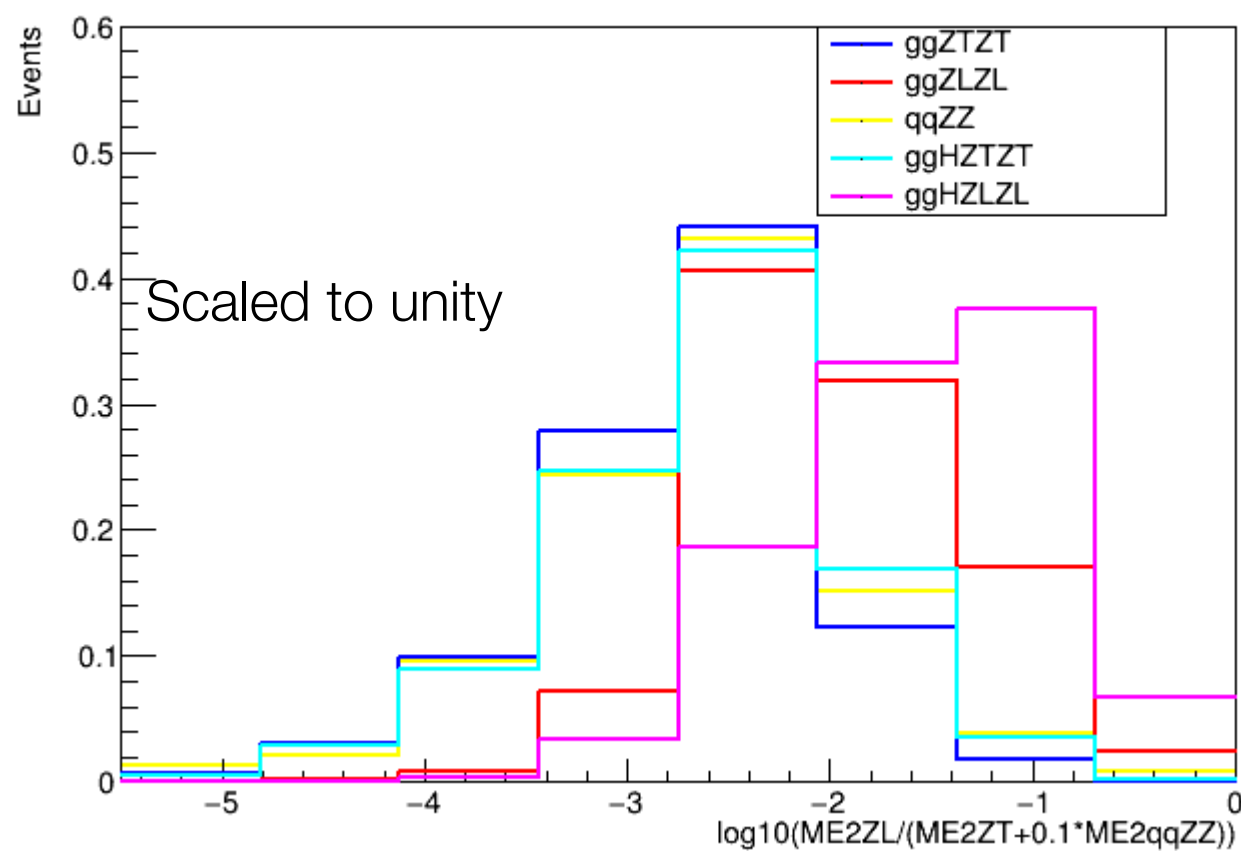
## • Fiducial cross-sections

▶  $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow ZZ$ : 0.08375 fb

▶  $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow ZTZT$ : 0.005435 fb

▶  $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow ZLZL$ : 0.06884 fb

▶ LL component dominates in the off-shell regime:  $f_H^{LL} = \sigma_H^{LL} / \sigma_H^{all} \sim 80\%$





# Test of quantum entanglement

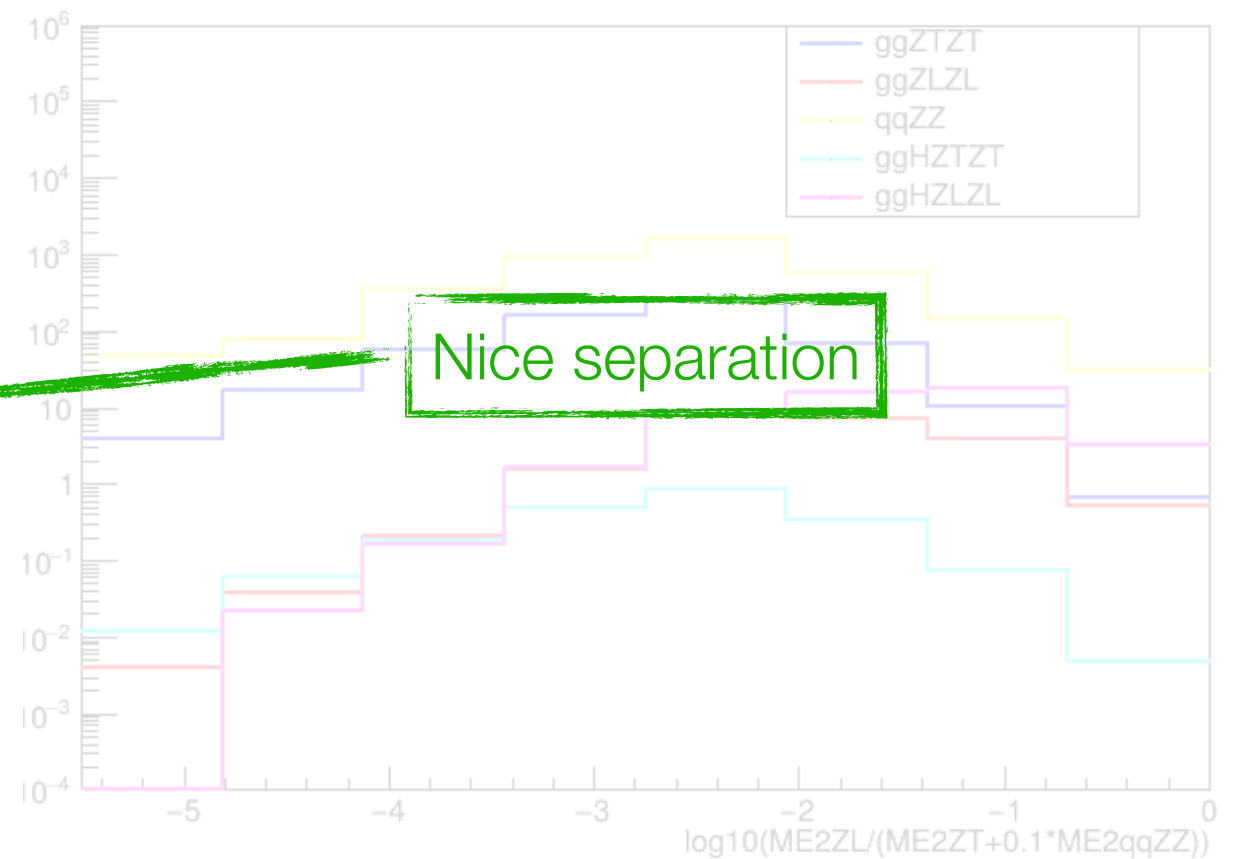
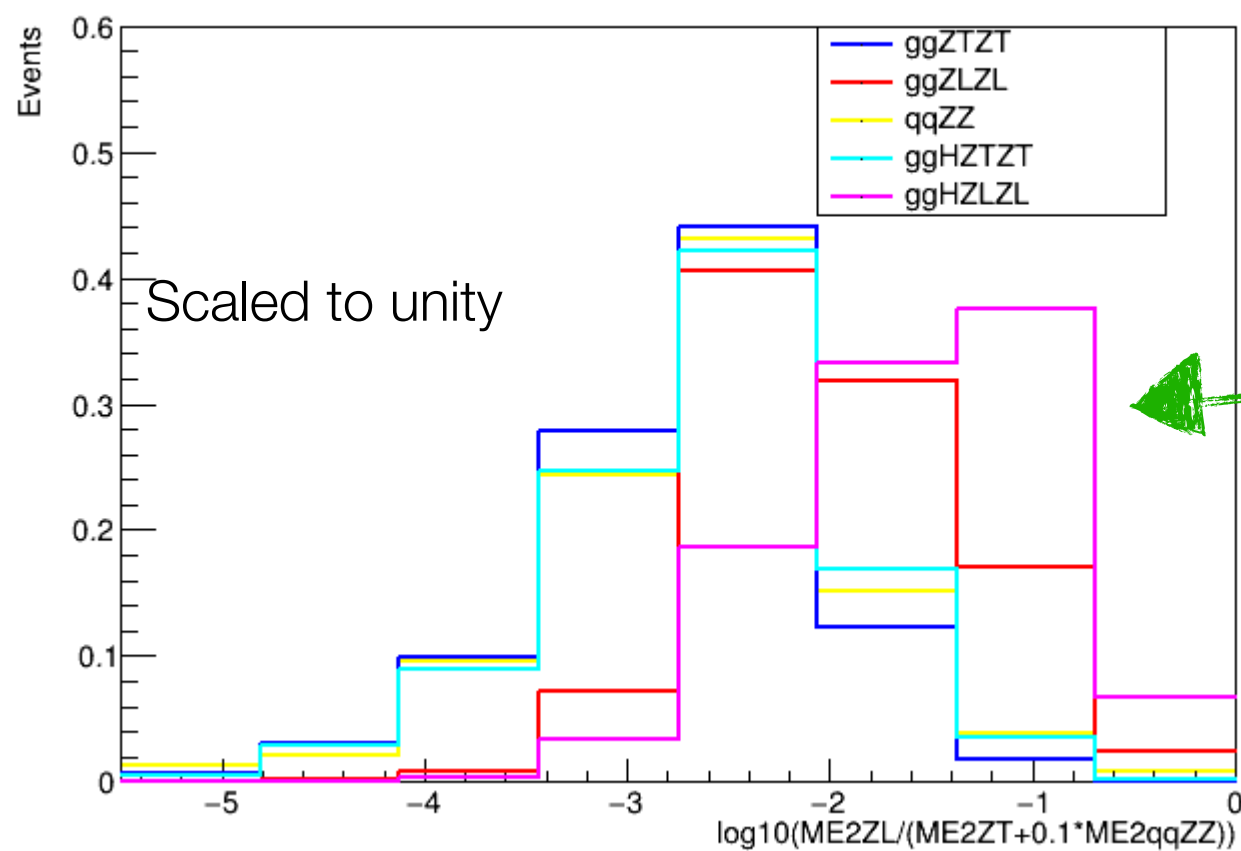
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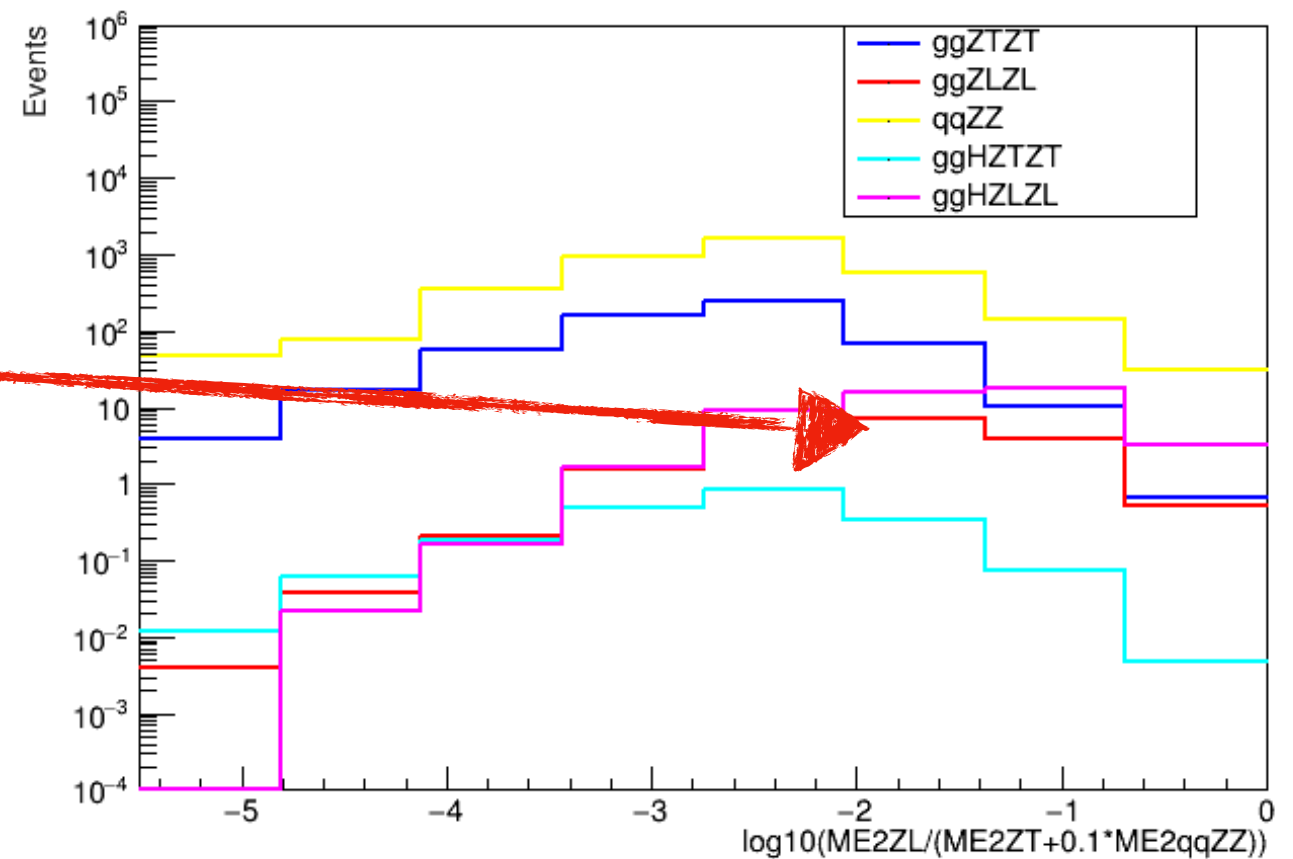
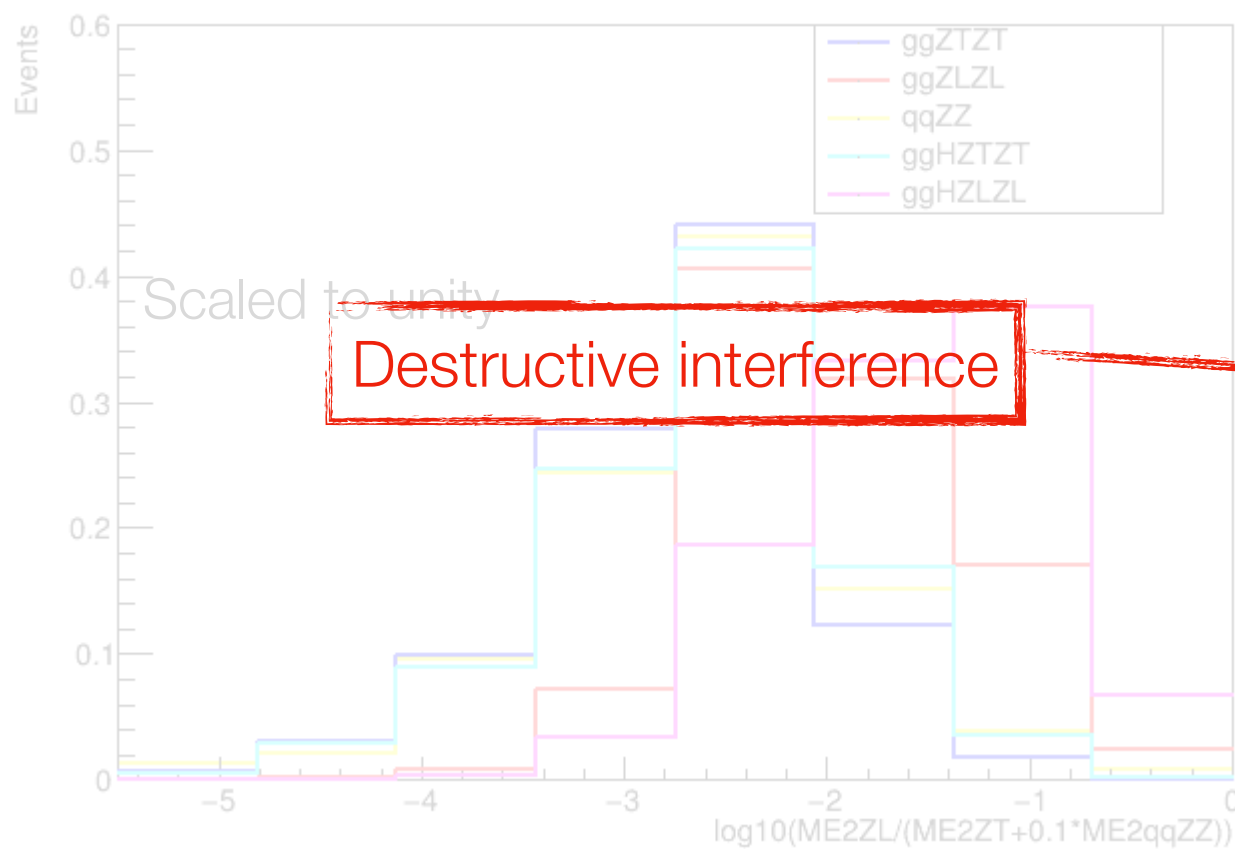
▶ LL component dominates in the off-shell regime:  $f_H^{LL} = \sigma_H^{LL} / \sigma_H^{all} \sim 80\%$



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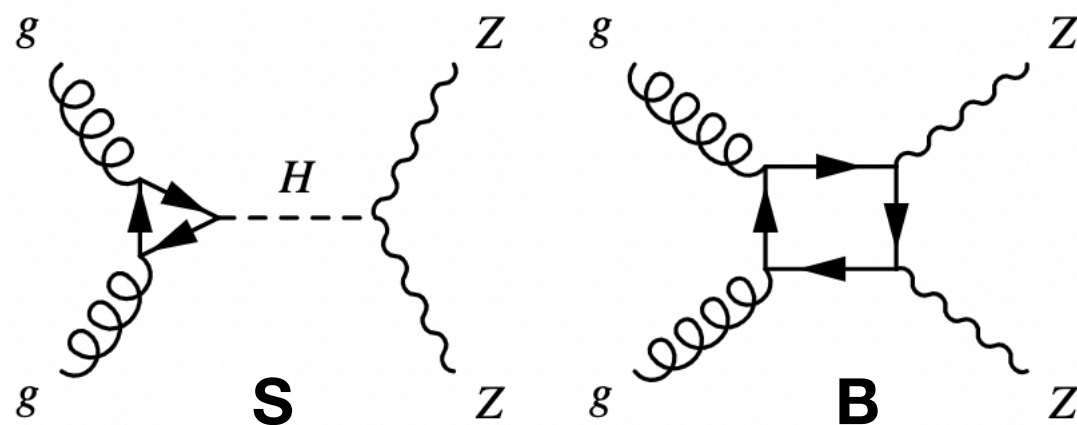


# Statistical interpretation

- Need to deal with sizeable destructive **interference** between the continuum background and the off-shell Higgs boson process

- Scales as  $\sqrt{\mu_{LL}^{\text{Higgs}}}$  (NLL has no longer parabolic shape)

- Similarly as in [[Measurement of off-shell Higgs production](#)]



▶ SBI = signal + background + interference

▶ I = SBI - S - B

- Measuring solely the LL ggH component

$$N^{\text{exp}}(\mu_{LL}^{\text{Higgs}}) = n^{qqZZ} + n^{\text{VBFZZ}} + n_{\text{SBI}}^{\text{ggZTZL+ggZTZT}} + \mu_{LL}^{\text{Higgs}} \cdot n_{\text{S}}^{\text{ggZLZL}} + \sqrt{\mu_{LL}^{\text{Higgs}}} \cdot (n_{\text{SBI}}^{\text{ggZLZL}} - n_{\text{S}}^{\text{ggZLZL}} - n_{\text{B}}^{\text{ggZLZL}}) + n_{\text{B}}^{\text{ggZLZL}}$$

# Statistical interpretation

- Need to deal with sizeable destructive **interference** between the continuum background and the off-shell Higgs boson process

- Scales as  $\sqrt{\mu_{LL}^{\text{Higgs}}}$  (NLL has no longer parabolic shape)

- Similarly as in [Measurement of off-shell Higgs production], [Per event analysis in  $ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ ]

**NLL under construction: generation of ggZLZL bkg samples ongoing**



▶ SBI = signal + background + interference

▶ I = SBI - S - B

- Measuring solely the LL ggH component

$$N^{\text{exp}}(\mu_{LL}^{\text{Higgs}}) = n^{qqZZ} + n^{\text{VBFZZ}} + n_{\text{SBI}}^{\text{ggZTZL+ggZTZT}} + \mu_{LL}^{\text{Higgs}} \cdot n_{\text{S}}^{\text{ggZLZL}} + \sqrt{\mu_{LL}^{\text{Higgs}}} \cdot (n_{\text{SBI}}^{\text{ggZLZL}} - n_{\text{S}}^{\text{ggZLZL}} - n_{\text{B}}^{\text{ggZLZL}}) + n_{\text{B}}^{\text{ggZLZL}}$$

# Polarizations in the Higgs boson on-shell regime?

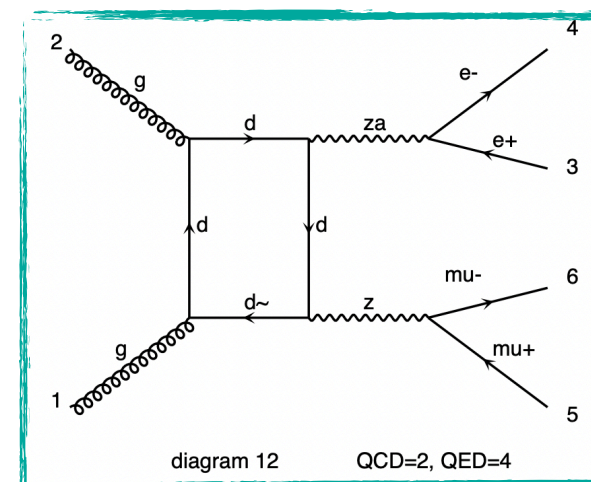
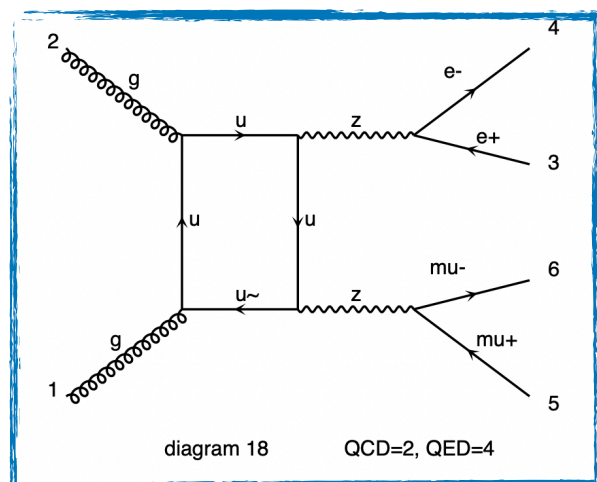
- The helicity polarization of an off-shell Z boson is **not well-defined** because helicity a label of an eigenstate in the mass basis and off-shell states are not eigenstates in this basis.
- However, for massless leptons, the decay amplitude for the **auxiliary polarization is zero** because is proportional to the four-momentum of the virtual boson.
- **Work ongoing** to understand if it is still a good approximation:

i) LO process generated with MG including all polarizations:

- generate  $g g \rightarrow e^+ e^- \mu^+ \mu^-$  QED=4 QCD=2 [noborn = QCD] / a zt z0 za (x-section = 2.311 fb)

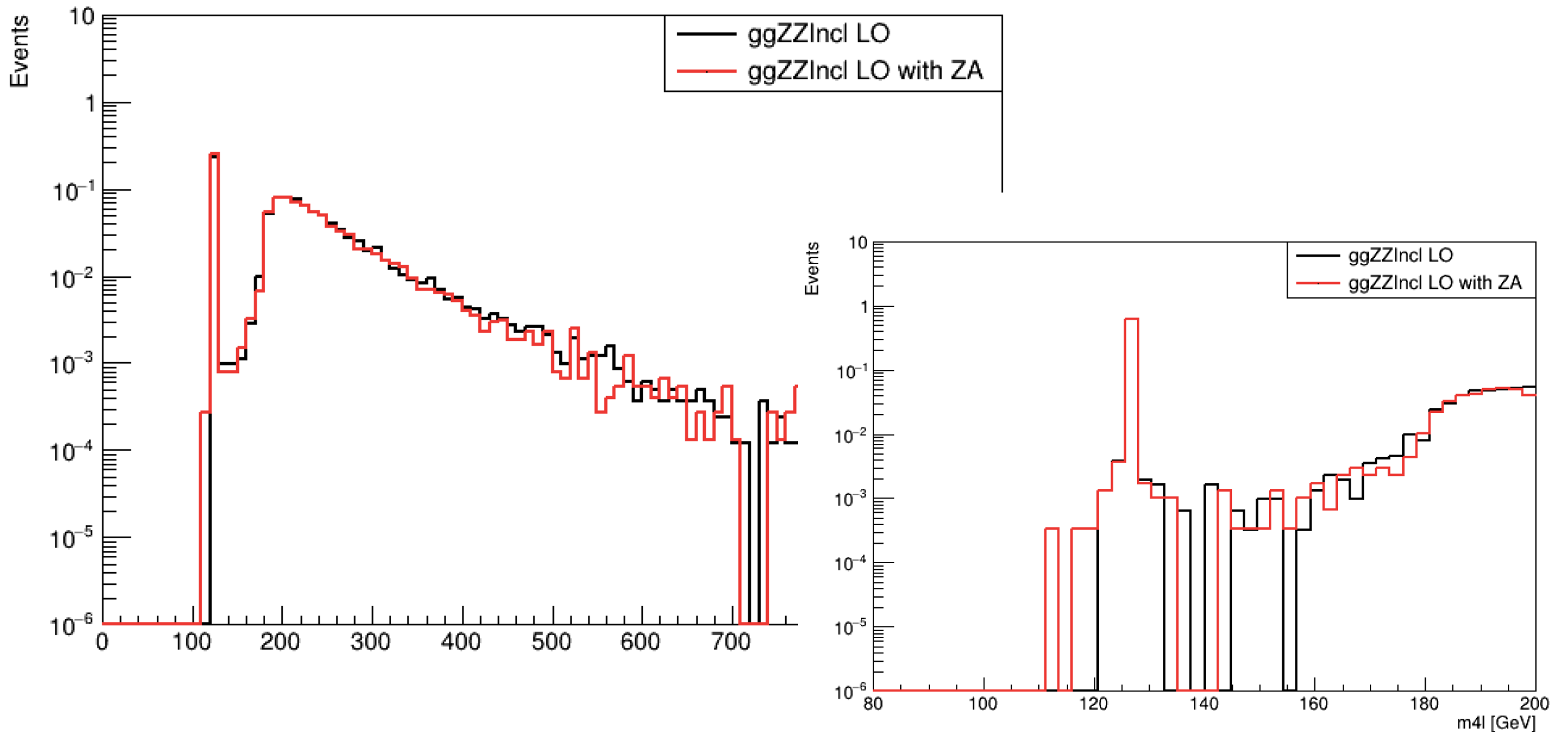
ii) LO process generated with MG including all polarizations and ZA (ZA is double counted):

- generate  $g g \rightarrow e^+ e^- \mu^+ \mu^-$  QED=4 QCD=2 [noborn = QCD] / a zt z0 (x-section = 2.323 fb)





# Polarizations at the Higgs boson on-shell regime?



► This can change with NLO corrections → work ongoing

## II) Spin Density Matrix

# Test of entanglement and Bell inequalities in $H \rightarrow ZZ$

## a) [\[Testing entanglement and Bell inequalities in \$H \rightarrow ZZ\$ \]](#)

- Parameterisation based on the *irreducible tensor operators*.
- Measurement of the density matrix coefficients can be done by **integration with spherical harmonics**, which in turn requires knowledge of the angles  $\theta_i$  and  $\phi_i$  in the respective  $Z_i$  rest frames.

## b) [\[Quantum state tomography, entanglement detection and Bell violation prospects in weak decays of massive particles\]](#)

- Parameterisation based on the generalised d-dimensional *Gell-Mann operators*.
- Density matrix parameters can be found experimentally from **averages of products of Wigner P functions**.

# a) Test of entanglement and Bell inequalities in $H \rightarrow ZZ$

- [[Testing entanglement and Bell inequalities in  \$H \rightarrow ZZ\$](#) ]: *J. A. Aguilar-Saavedra , A. Bernal , J. A. Casas and J. M. Moreno*

- Due to the symmetric form of the possible final states, ( $ZZ$  pair in a singlet spin state), the theoretical form of the spin density matrix has a very defined structure

$$\rho = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6}(\sqrt{2}A_{2,0}^1 + 2) & 0 & \frac{1}{3}C_{2,1,2,-1} & 0 & \frac{1}{3}C_{2,2,2,-2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3}C_{2,1,2,-1} & 0 & \frac{1}{3}(1 - \sqrt{2}A_{2,0}^1) & 0 & \frac{1}{3}C_{2,1,2,-1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3}C_{2,2,2,-2} & 0 & \frac{1}{3}C_{2,1,2,-1} & 0 & \frac{1}{6}(\sqrt{2}A_{2,0}^1 + 2) & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

with

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}A_{2,0}^1 + 1 = C_{2,2,2,-2}.$$

- The coefficients can be experimentally determined by measuring **angular coefficients** of  $H \rightarrow ZZ$  decay and **integrating with spherical harmonics**.

# a) Test of entanglement and Bell inequalities in $H \rightarrow ZZ$

- [[Testing entanglement and Bell inequalities in  \$H \rightarrow ZZ\$](#) ]: *J. A. Aguilar-Saavedra, A. Bernal, J. A. Casas and J. M. Moreno*

- Due to the symmetric form of the possible final states, ( $ZZ$  pair in a singlet spin state), the theoretical form of the spin density matrix has a very defined structure
- The coefficients can be experimentally determined by measuring **angular coefficients** of  $H \rightarrow ZZ$  decay and **integrating with spherical harmonics**.

- **Conditions for entanglement**  $C_{2,1,2,-1} \neq 0$  or  $C_{2,2,2,-2} \neq 0$ .

- **Bell inequality**  $I_3 = \frac{1}{36} \left( 18 + 16\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2} \left( 9 - 8\sqrt{3} \right) A_{2,0}^1 - 8 \left( 3 + 2\sqrt{3} \right) C_{2,1,2,-1} + 6 C_{2,2,2,-2} \right) \leq 2$

$L = 300 \text{ fb}$	$\min m_{Z_2}$				
	0	10 GeV	20 GeV	30 GeV	
$N$	450	418	312	129	
$C_{2,1,2,-1}$	$-0.98 \pm 0.31$	$-0.97 \pm 0.33$	$-1.05 \pm 0.38$	$-1.06 \pm 0.61$	$\sim 3\sigma$
$C_{2,2,2,-2}$	$0.60 \pm 0.37$	$0.64 \pm 0.38$	$0.74 \pm 0.43$	$0.82 \pm 0.63$	$< 2\sigma$
$I_3$	$2.66 \pm 0.46$	$2.67 \pm 0.49$	$2.82 \pm 0.57$	$2.88 \pm 0.89$	$< 2\sigma$



# b) Test of entanglement and Bell inequalities in $H \rightarrow ZZ$

• [[Quantum state tomography, entanglement detection and Bell violation prospects in weak decays of massive particles](#)]: R. Ashby-Pickering, A. Barr, A. Wierzhucka

• Experimental measurement of the density matrix parameter can be obtained by a simple **angular average** (expectation values) **of the Wigner P functions**

• **Entanglement** may be demonstrated by evaluating a lower bound on the square of the concurrence:  $(c(\rho))^2 \geq 2 \text{tr}(\rho^2) - \text{tr}(\rho_A^2) - \text{tr}(\rho_B^2) \equiv c_{MB}^2$ .

Process	$c_{MB}^2$
$pp \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu \ell^- \bar{\nu}$	-0.165
$H(125) \rightarrow WW^{(*)} \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu_\ell \ell^- \bar{\nu}_\ell$	0.947
$H(200) \rightarrow WW \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu_\ell \tau^- (30) \bar{\nu}_\tau$	1.08
$pp \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow e^+ e^- \mu^+ \mu^-$	-0.197
$H(125) \rightarrow ZZ^{(*)} \rightarrow e^+ e^- \mu^+ \mu^-$	0.604
$pp \rightarrow W^+ Z \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \mu^+ \mu^-$	0.09

▶ Quantum mechanical maximum for an entangled pair of qutrits is 4/3

▶ System is entangled is  $c_{MB}^2 > 0$

• **Bell inequality**  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{CGLMP}}^{xy} = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} (S_x \otimes S_x + S_y \otimes S_y) + \lambda_4 \otimes \lambda_4 + \lambda_5 \otimes \lambda_5$

▶ More info in [Alan's talk given on Monday](#)

## b) Test of entanglement and Bell inequalities in $H \rightarrow ZZ$

- [[Quantum state tomography, entanglement detection and Bell violation prospects in weak decays of massive particles](#)]: R. Ashby-Pickering, A. Barr, A. Wierzhucka
  - Experimental measurement of the density matrix parameter can be obtained by a simple **angular average** (expectation values) **of the Wigner P functions**
  - **Entanglement** may be demonstrated by evaluating a lower bound on the square of the concurrence:  $(c(\rho))^2 \geq 2 \text{tr}(\rho^2) - \text{tr}(\rho_A^2) - \text{tr}(\rho_B^2) \equiv c_{MB}^2$ .
  - How does it look in the previously mentioned **off-shell samples**?

Process	$c_{MB}^2$	$I_3$
$gg \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$	0.30	0.32
$gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$	0.53	1.1

- ▶ Final state kinematics fed into scripts provided by Alan Barr and George Barker.

*Thank you!*

- ▶ Both productions yield a positive  $c_{MB}^2$

# Conclusions

# Conclusion/Discussion

- Two approaches of probing quantum entanglement in  $H \rightarrow ZZ^{(*)}$  processes presented:
  - Off-shell Higgs boson regime: measuring the LL polarisations
    - Crucial is to have reliable MC model
    - Crucial is to separate the LL component from other polarisations and the background
  - On-shell Higgs boson regime: measuring the spin density matrix coefficients from the full reconstruction of the relevant event kinematics
    - Crucial is to understand how the measurement is affected by the presence of detector effects, event selections, HO corrections, PS, UE, PDF, FSR, etc
      - Apply unfolding?
      - Build templates?
      - Use unbinned data?

# Backup

# Event selections in on-shell Higgs regime

TRIGGER	
Combination of single-lepton, dilepton and trilepton triggers	
LEPTONS AND JETS	
ELECTRONS	$E_T > 7 \text{ GeV}$ and $ \eta  < 2.47$
MUONS	$p_T > 5 \text{ GeV}$ and $ \eta  < 2.7$ , calorimeter-tagged: $p_T > 15 \text{ GeV}$
JETS	$p_T > 30 \text{ GeV}$ and $ \eta  < 4.5$
QUADRUPLETS	
All combinations of two same-flavour and opposite-charge lepton pairs	
- Leading lepton pair: lepton pair with invariant mass $m_{12}$ closest to the Z boson mass $m_Z$	
- Subleading lepton pair: lepton pair with invariant mass $m_{34}$ second closest to the Z boson mass $m_Z$	
Classification according to the decay final state: $4\mu, 2e2\mu, 2\mu2e, 4e$	
REQUIREMENTS ON EACH QUADRUPLLET	
LEPTON RECONSTRUCTION	- Three highest- $p_T$ leptons must have $p_T$ greater than 20, 15 and 10 GeV
LEPTON PAIRS	- At most one calorimeter-tagged or stand-alone muon
LEPTON ISOLATION	- Leading lepton pair: $50 < m_{12} < 106 \text{ GeV}$
	- Subleading lepton pair: $m_{\min} < m_{34} < 115 \text{ GeV}$
	- Alternative same-flavour opposite-charge lepton pair: $m_{\ell\ell} > 5 \text{ GeV}$
	- $\Delta R(\ell, \ell') > 0.10$ for all lepton pairs
IMPACT PARAMETER SIGNIFICANCE	- The amount of isolation $E_T$ after summing the track-based and 40% of the calorimeter-based contribution must be smaller than 16% of the lepton $p_T$
COMMON VERTEX	- Electrons: $ d_0 /\sigma(d_0) < 5$
	- Muons: $ d_0 /\sigma(d_0) < 3$
	- $\chi^2$ -requirement on the fit of the four lepton tracks to their common vertex
SELECTION OF THE BEST QUADRUPLLET	
- Select quadruplet with $m_{12}$ closest to $m_Z$ from one decay final state in decreasing order of priority: $4\mu, 2e2\mu, 2\mu2e$ and $4e$	
- If at least one additional (fifth) lepton with $p_T > 12 \text{ GeV}$ meets the isolation, impact parameter and angular separation criteria, select the quadruplet with the highest matrix-element value	
HIGGS BOSON MASS WINDOW	
- Correction of the four-lepton invariant mass due to the FSR photons in Z boson decays	
- Four-lepton invariant mass window in the signal region: $115 < m_{4\ell} < 130 \text{ GeV}$	
- Four-lepton invariant mass window in the sideband region: $105 < m_{4\ell} < 115 \text{ GeV}$ or $130 < m_{4\ell} < 160 (350) \text{ GeV}$	

[[arxiv:2004.03447](https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.03447)]



# Event selections in off-shell Higgs regime

## • 4l channel

### • ZZ->4l selection

- 2 same-flavor, opposite-charge lepton pairs
- Leading  $p_T^{\text{lepton}} > 20, 15, 10$  GeV
- $220 < m_{4\ell} < 2000$  GeV /  $180 < m_{4\ell} < 220$  GeV (for CRs)
- $50 < m_{12} < 106$  GeV and  $50 - \max(0, (190 - m_{4\ell})/2) < m_{34} < 115$  (pair 12 defined as the pair closest to  $m_Z$ )

## • 2l2v channel

### • ZZ->4l selection

- 1 same-flavor, opposite-charge lepton pair
- Leading  $p_T^{\text{lepton}} > 30, 20$  GeV
- $76 < m_{\ell\ell} < 106$  GeV
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 120$  GeV

### • Bkg rejection cuts

- 3th lepton veto
- $\Delta R_{\ell\ell} < 1.8$
- $\Delta\phi(Z, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 2.5$  and  $\Delta\phi(\text{jet}_{p_T} > 100\text{GeV}, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 0.4$
- $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  significance  $> 10$
- B-jet veto

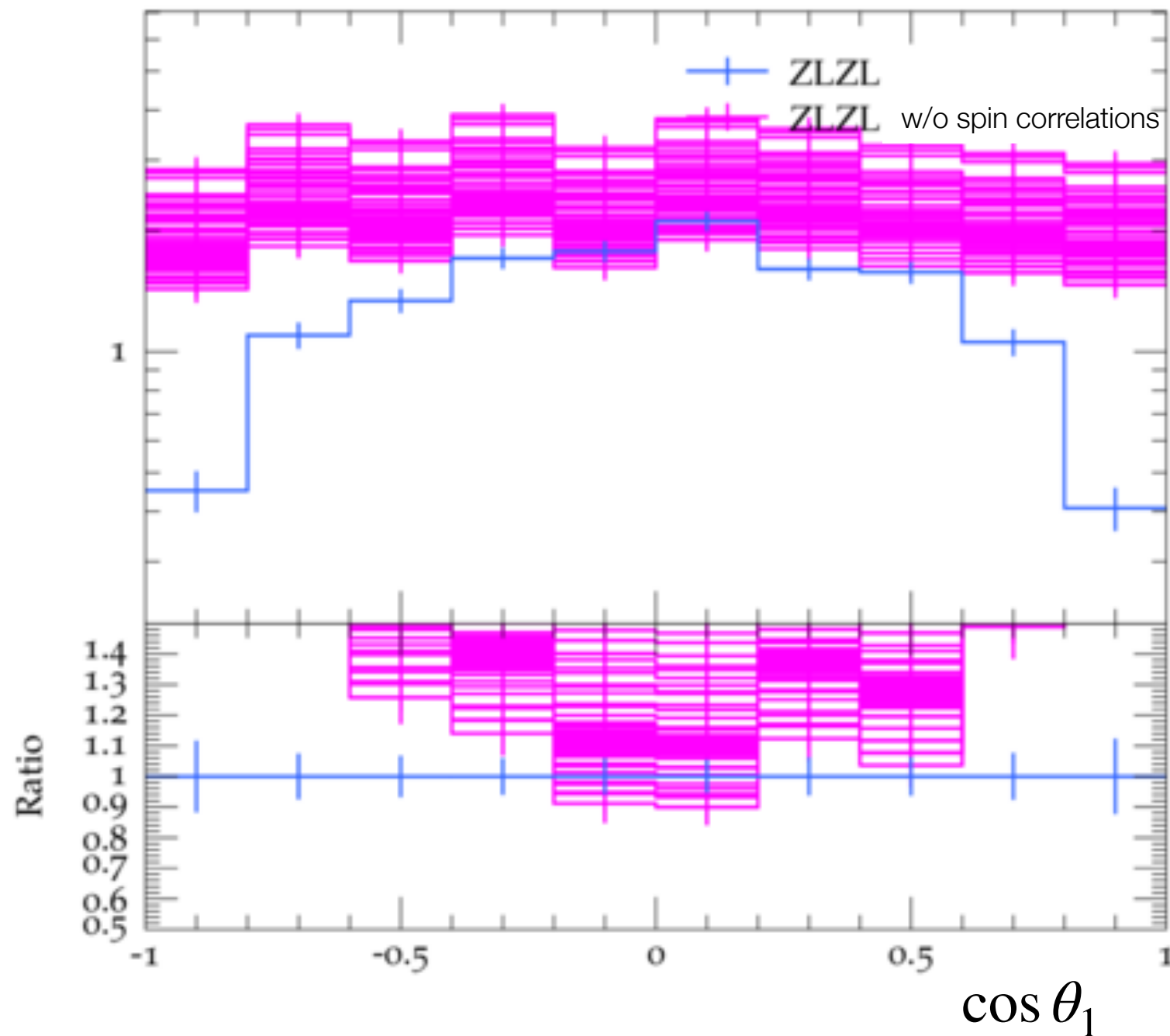
[\[ATLAS-CONF-2022-068\]](#)

# ggZZ sample used in the off-shell analysis

- Generated with Sherpa v2.2.2 + OpenLoops
  - MEs calculated for 0 jets and 1 jet at LO and merged with Sherpa parton shower
- Higher order theory corrections
  - **NLO QCD** corrections [\[Caola et al., 2015\]](#) [\[Caola et al., 2016\]](#)
    - Available for the full process  $gg \rightarrow (H^* \rightarrow )ZZ$
    - $m_{ZZ}$  differential **NLO/LO k-factors**
      - **No such k-factors for the polarisation states available: in contact with the authors**
  - **NNLO QCD** corrections [\[Passarino\]](#), [\[Handbook of LHC Higgs x-sections\]](#)
    - Available only for the signal process  $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow ZZ$  as a function of  $m_{ZZ}$
    - Additional flat **NNLO/NLO K-factor** of 1.2

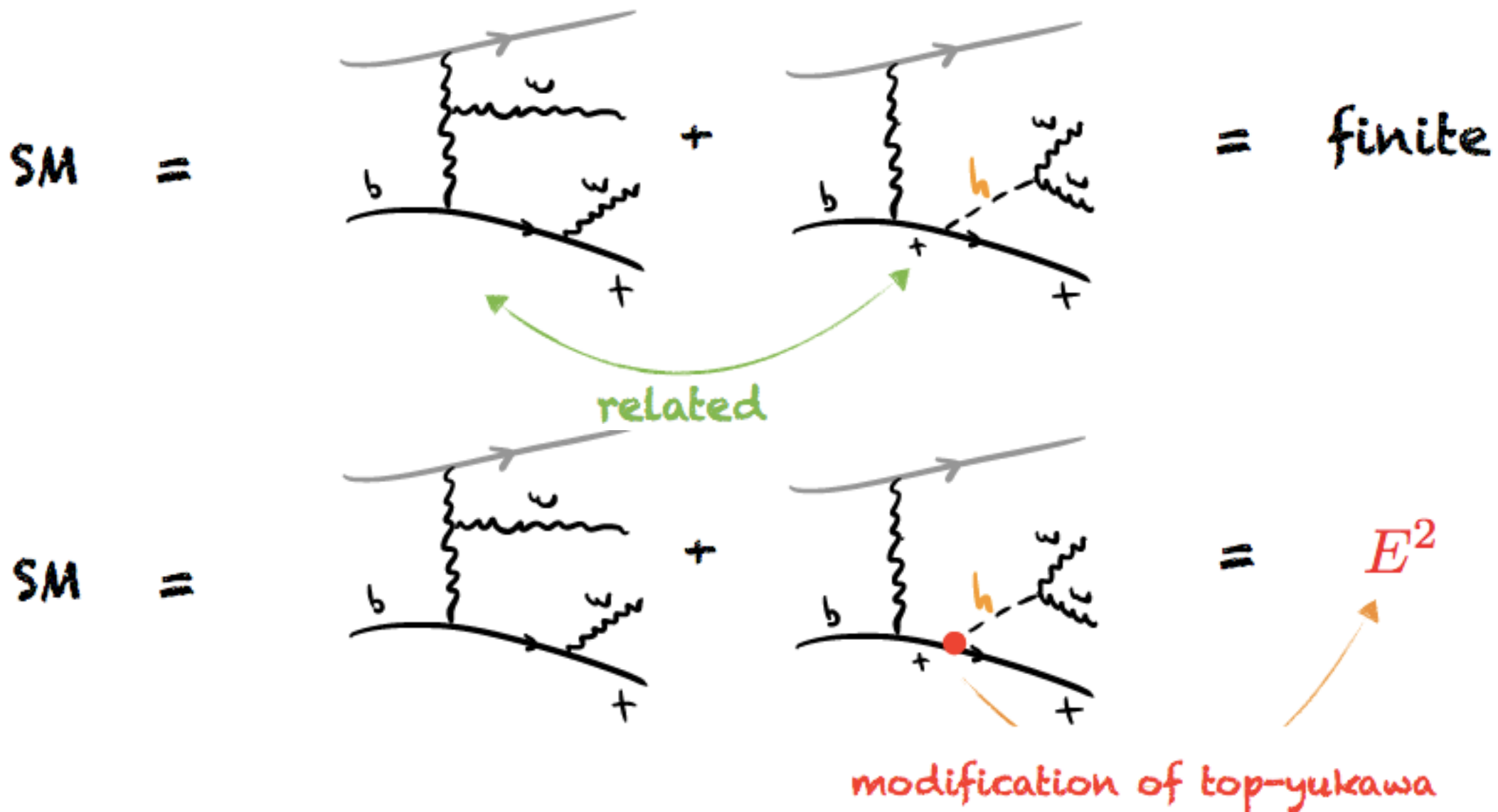
# Spin correlations

- ▶ The shape of  $\cos \theta_1$  distribution is sensitive to spin correlations



# Longitudinally polarised vector bosons

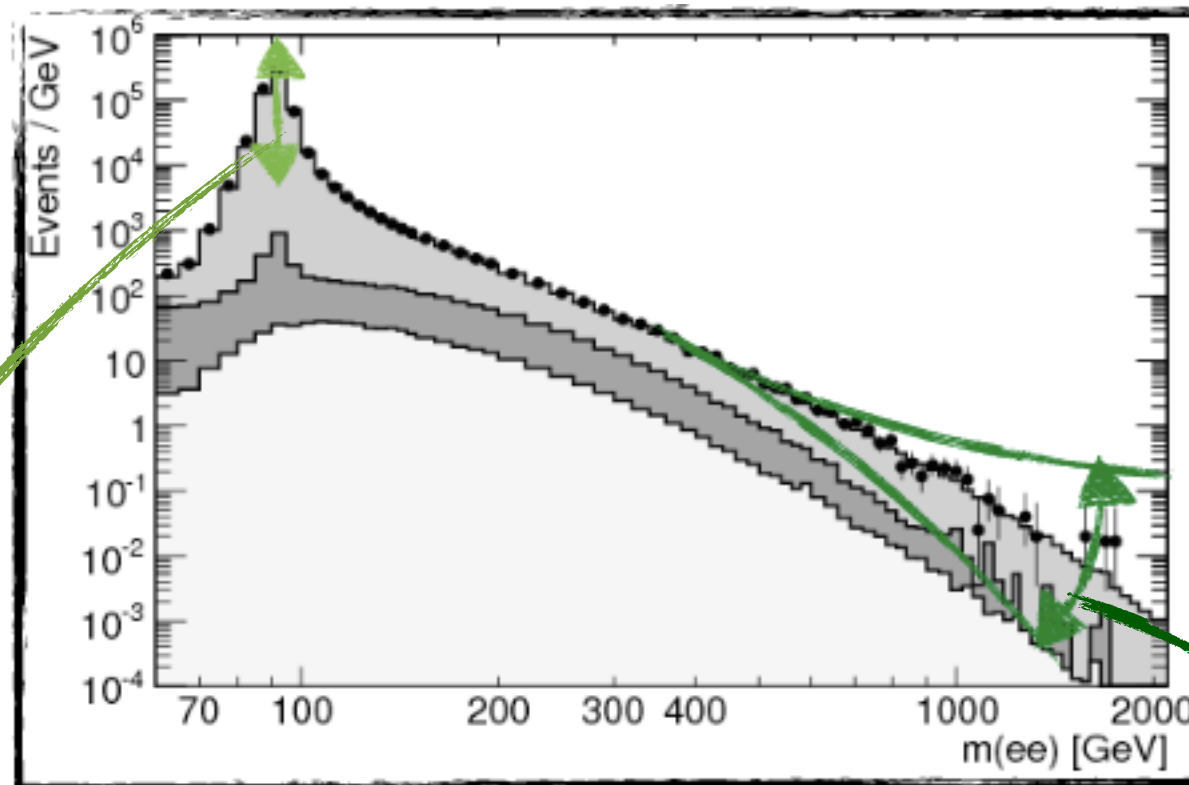
Test the Higgs couplings in the off-shell region via their contributions to the physics of **longitudinally** polarised gauge bosons [[Higgs Couplings without the Higgs](#)]



From Francesco Riva's [slides](#)

# Longitudinally polarised vector bosons

Test the Higgs couplings in the off-shell region via their contributions to the physics of **longitudinally** polarised gauge bosons [[Higgs Couplings without the Higgs](#)]



$$\sigma = \sigma_{\text{SM}} \left( 1 + c \frac{E^2}{\Lambda^2} + \dots \right)$$

$$\left. \frac{\delta\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \right|_{\sqrt{s}=m_H} \sim 1\%$$

$$\left. \frac{\delta\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \right|_{\sqrt{s}=1\text{TeV}} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$$

From Francesco Riva's [slides](#)

# Which coupling constants we can probe?

Interpretation		Energy growth	
$\kappa$ – framework	<i>EFT</i> approach	$\sim \text{const}$	$\sim E^2$
$\kappa_G$	$ H ^2 G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a,\mu\nu}$		
$\kappa_V$	$ H ^2 \partial_\mu H^\dagger \partial^\mu H$		
$\kappa_t$	$ H ^2 Q\tilde{H}t_R$		



# ME ratio at LHE level

- ME ratio:  $D_{ME} = \log_{10}(\text{ME}^2_{ZL}/\text{ME}^2_{ZT})$

