

The background of the slide features a 3D visualization of a particle detector. It shows a central point where particles are produced, with several large, semi-transparent cones extending outwards, representing the detector's acceptance regions. The scene is filled with small, colorful particles (yellow, blue, green) and lines, suggesting a complex particle event. The overall color scheme is dark with teal and yellow highlights.

Searches for New Massive Scalars in ATLAS

LHCP 2024

12th edition of the Large Hadron Collider Physics

Northeastern University, Boston, USA, 03-07.06.2024

Pawel Brückman de Renstrom
(Institute of Nuclear Physics P.A.N., Cracow PL)



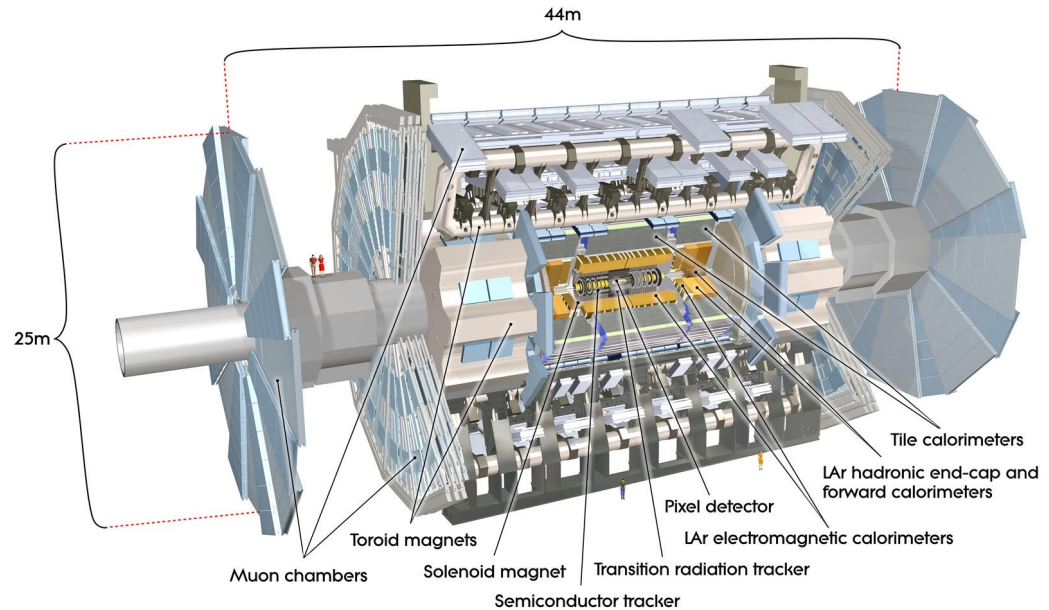
Foreword

We are getting to know the H_{125} resonance ever better.

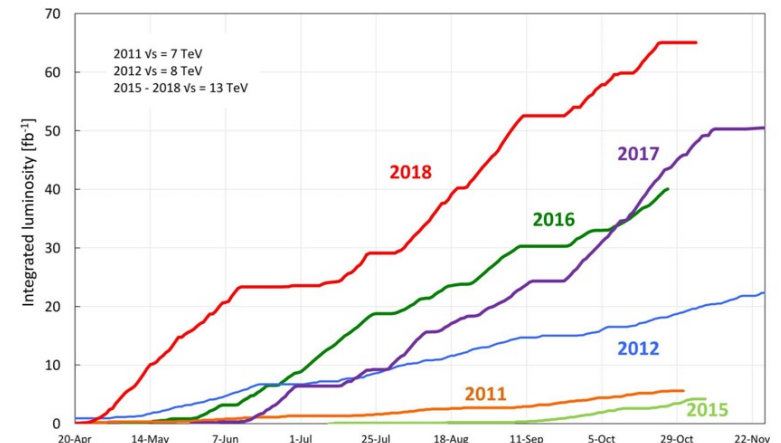
It has confirmed it's SM Higgs predicted properties

- ⇒ BSM ~alignment limit
- ⇒ suppressed bosonic couplings

- ❖ Couplings to down-type fermions probed by tauonic & $b\bar{b}$ final states ✗
- ❖ Couplings to up-type fermions @ high masses require $t\bar{t}$ final states (particularly difficult!) ✓
- ❖ Generic scenarios can be probed in scalar cascades ✓
- ❖ Numerous searches rely on Narrow Width Approximation (NWA) !



140 fb^{-1} of Run 2 data still in the game!



Menu of the talk – Search for heavy scalar resonances

In the decay to a $t\bar{t}$ pair:

- $A/H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$, (l, ll_{OS} final state) **NEW**
- $t\bar{t}A/H \rightarrow t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$, (l, ll_{OS} final state) **NEW**
- $A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow l^+l^- + t\bar{t}$ (in the backup)

In cascade decays involving H_{125} and/or other scalar states:

- $R/A \rightarrow SH/ZH \rightarrow 4l + E_T^{miss}$ **NEW**
- $X \rightarrow SH_{125} \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ **NEW**
- $X \rightarrow SH_{125} \rightarrow VV\gamma\gamma$ (in the backup) **NEW!!!**
[Talk from Shigeki](#) on Monday

In the decay into a H_{125} pair:

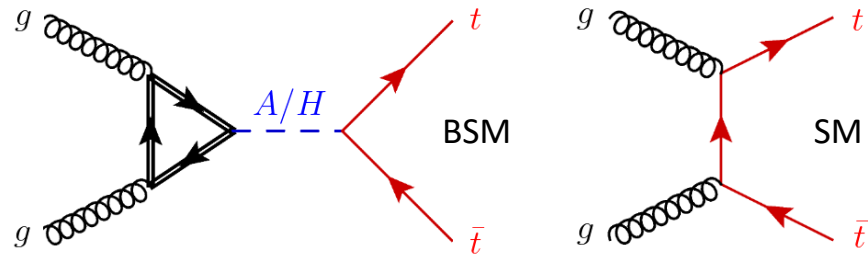
- $X \rightarrow HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}, b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-, b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ combination

Full Run 2 ATLAS data ($\sim 140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$)

Search for heavy CP even/odd scalar decaying to a pair of top quarks in the leptonic final state

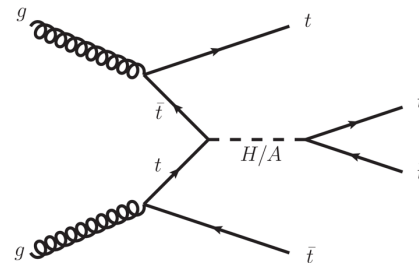
- Inclusive channel suffers from the strong interference with $t\bar{t}$ continuum

$A/H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$
(l, ll_{OS} final state)



- Top associated production potentially less prolific

$t\bar{t}A/H \rightarrow t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$
(l, ll_{OS} final state)



A/H $\rightarrow t\bar{t}$ (l, ll_{OS} final states)

[arXiv:2404.18986](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.18986)

Meticulous treatment of the signal model!

- ❖ Simple limit on μ not feasible ☹️

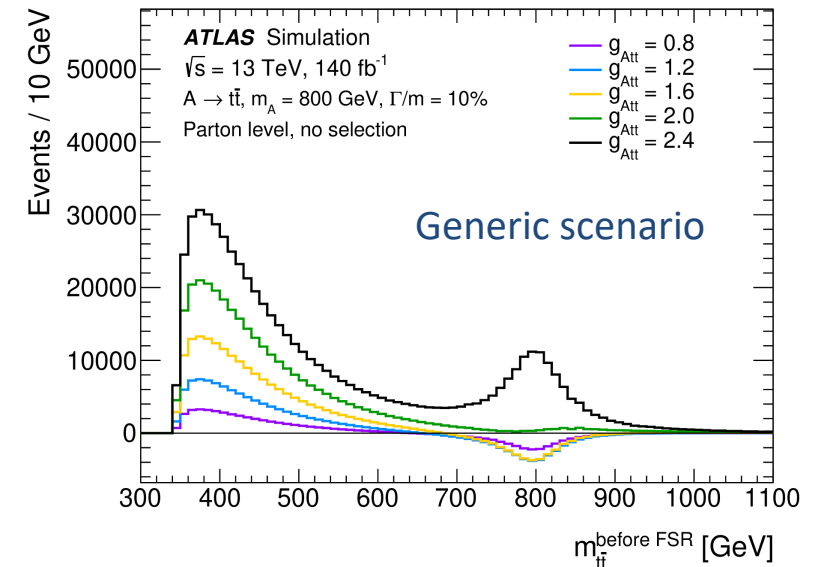
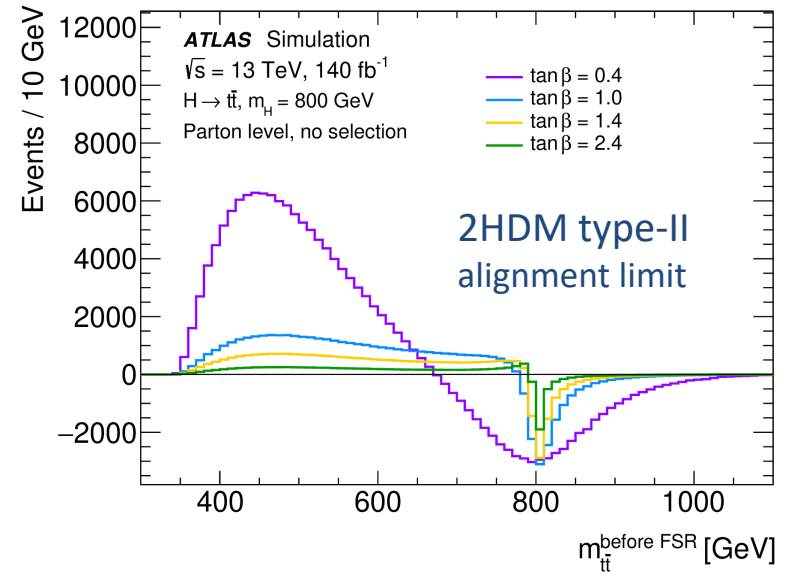
$$\mu S + \sqrt{\mu} I + B = (\mu - \sqrt{\mu}) S + \sqrt{\mu} (S + I) + B$$

- ❖ Signal generated with MadGraph (LO) with a dedicated provision to subtract the $B_{t\bar{t}}$ component:

$$S + I = (S + I + B_{t\bar{t}}) - B_{t\bar{t}}$$

- ❖ Signal S and $S + I$ simulations for individual $(m_{A/H}, \tan \beta)$ or $(m_{A/H}, \Gamma_{A/H})$ with event-by-event reweighting after detector simulation separately for H & A hypothesis

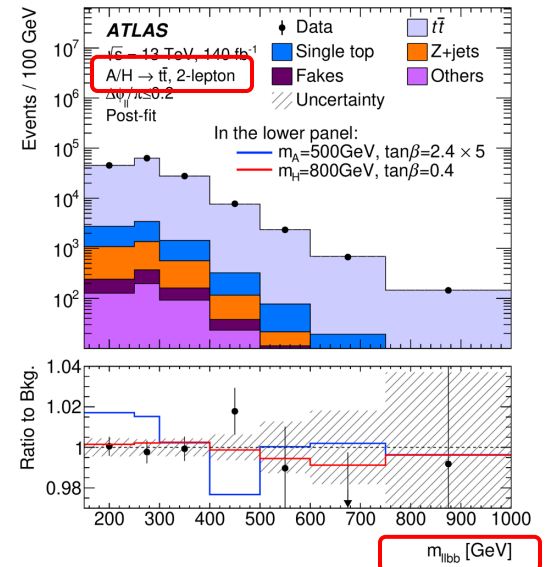
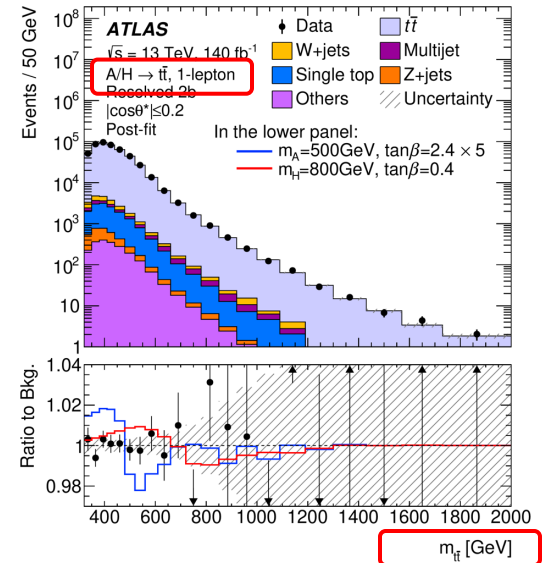
- ❖ k -factors applied affecting both shape & normalisation of the $S + I$.



A/H $\rightarrow t\bar{t}$ (l, ll_{OS} final states)

[arXiv:2404.18986](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.18986)

- ❖ Multiple scenarios considered:
 - 2HDM type-II, hMSSM, 2HDM+a, Simplified Generic ($m_{A/H}, \Gamma_{A/H}, g_{A/Ht\bar{t}}$)
- ❖ **1-lepton** channel (exactly 1 e or μ $p_T > 28$ GeV, $\geq 1b$ -jet): **11 Signal Regions**, discriminant: m_{tt}
 - merged topology (1 large- V R (re-clustered) jet $p_T > 200$ GeV, $m > 100$ GeV, $\geq 1b$ -jet)
 - resolved topology (≥ 4 jets $p_T > 25$ GeV, ≥ 1 top), χ^2 -based $t\bar{t}$ reconstruction - further split into 10 SR's based on 1/2 b -jet & $|\cos\theta^*|$
- ❖ **2-lepton** channel (OS lepton pair, ≥ 2 jets, $\geq 1b$ -jet, $m_{ll} > 15$ GeV, **5 SR's**, discriminant: m_{llbb} ($E_T^{miss} > 45$ GeV, $m_{ll} \neq m_Z$) $_{ee,\mu\mu}$ - further split into 5 $\Delta\phi_{ll}$ SR's
- ❖ Main systematic from $t\bar{t}$ background modelling (theory)



A/H $\rightarrow t\bar{t}$ (l, ll_{OS} final states)

[arXiv:2404.18986](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.18986)

Non-standard statistical analysis!

(for details see [talk from Nicola De Biase](#))

❖ Search stage: Fit $\sqrt{\mu}$

$$(\mu - \sqrt{\mu})\mathbf{S} + \sqrt{\mu}(\mathbf{S} + \mathbf{I}) + \mathbf{B}$$

for each mass/width hypothesis.

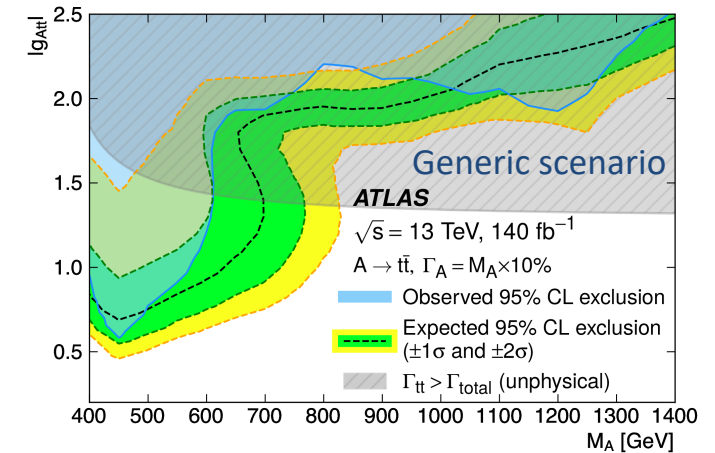
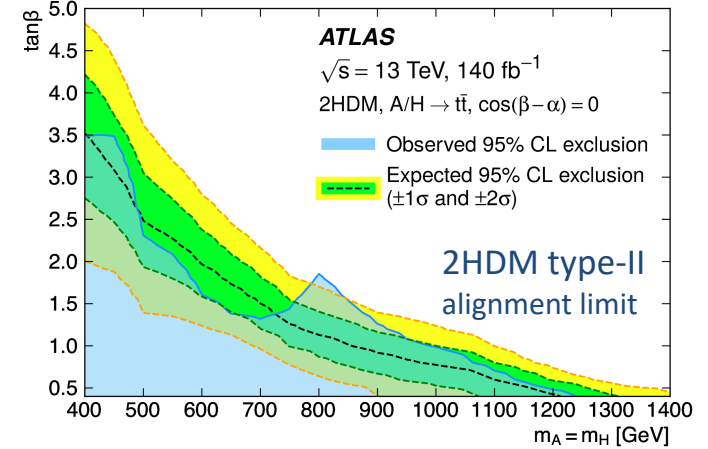
Goal: potential rejection of $\mu = 0$ hyp.

❖ Exclusion stage: $q = -2\ln(\mathcal{L}_1/\mathcal{L}_0)$

Goal: reject $\mu = 1$ hyp. against $\mu = 0$ one.

❖ Nonlinear dependence of \mathcal{L} on $\sqrt{\mu}$!

Disjoint exclusions possible. Full scan of H/A ($m_{A/H}, \tan\beta$) or ($m_{A/H}, g_{Att}, \Gamma_{A/H}$)!



Data found compatible with the SM prediction.

Largest deviation for $m_A \approx 800 \text{ GeV}$, $\frac{\Gamma_A}{m_A} = 10\%$ $\sqrt{\mu} = 4 @ 2.3\sigma$

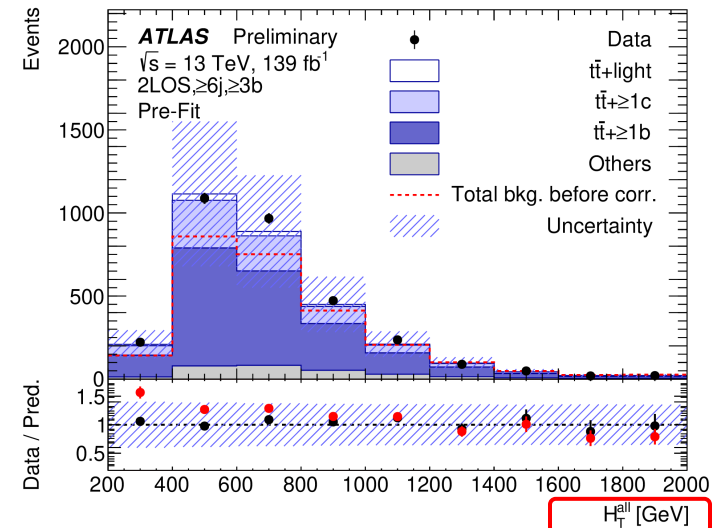
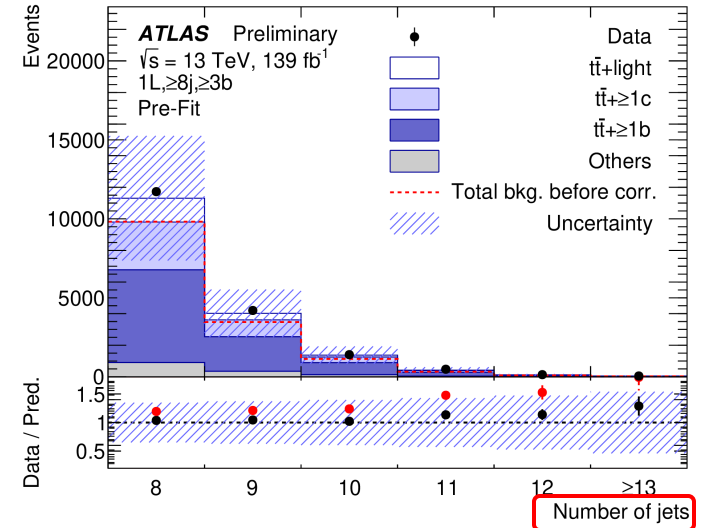
95% CL exclusions for the considered models extracted ($400 < m_{A/H} < 1400$)

$t\bar{t}A/H \rightarrow t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$ (l, ll_{OS} final states)

[ATLAS-CONF-2024-002](#)

Not suffering from significant interference!

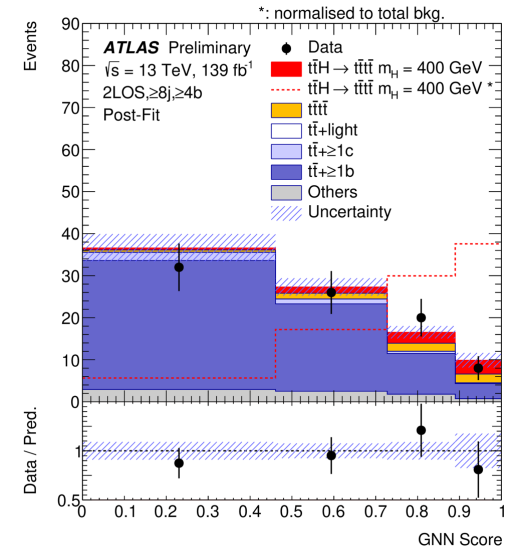
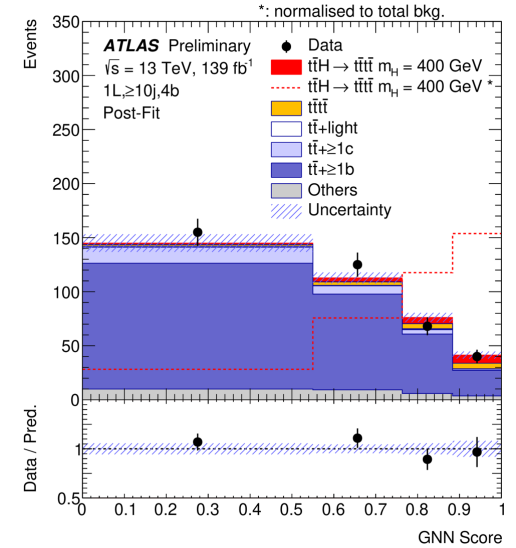
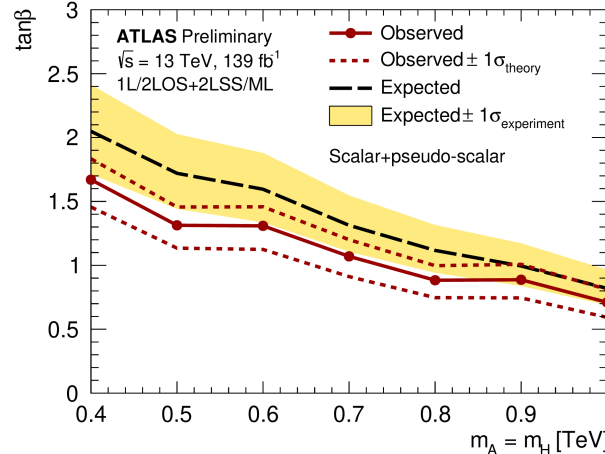
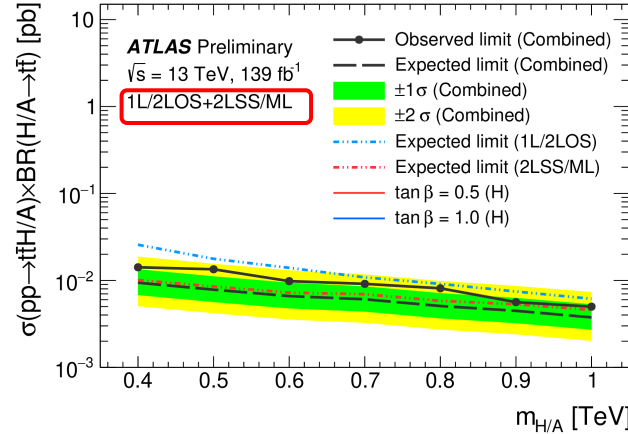
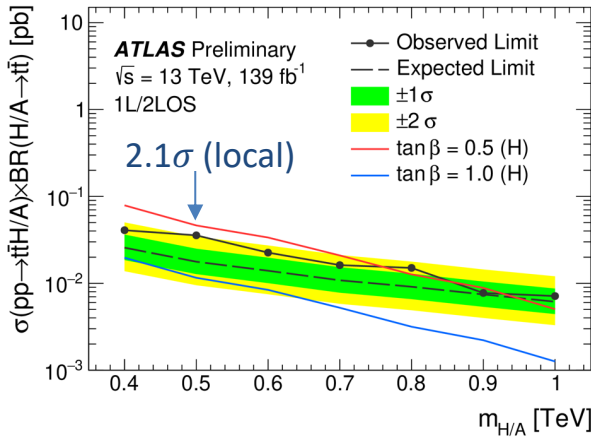
- ❖ SM $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$ has been established by [ATLAS](#) & [CMS](#)! (featuring a mild excess)
- ❖ Difficult modelling of the dominant $t\bar{t}$ +jets background ← data-driven “flavour rescaling” (in 5j & 7j bins)
- ❖ NN binary classifier trained to discriminate data from MC - multidim. kinematics (\mathbf{x}) → $w(\mathbf{x})$. Applied to MC on event-by-event basis
- ❖ Uncertainties dominated by the $t\bar{t}$ +jets modelling and modelling of the SM $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$ process (both theory & data-driven corrections)
- ❖ GNN are trained on multiple input variables separately for 1L and 2LOS categories.



$t\bar{t}A/H \rightarrow t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$ (l, ll_{OS} final states)

Limits obtained from simultaneous fit to **GNN score** in the SR's and H_T in the CR's

⊕ JHEP 07 (2023) 203



No significant excess over SM

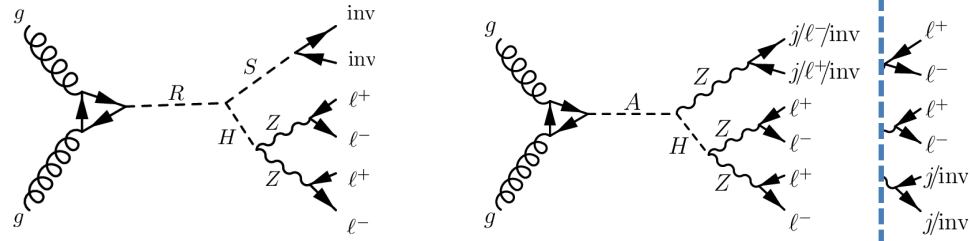
95% CL limits are set on $\sigma \times BR$ ($400 < m_{A/H} < 1000$)

⇒ Exclusions in 2HDM type-II in the alignment limit

Search for heavy CP even/odd scalar in cascade decays involving another scalar

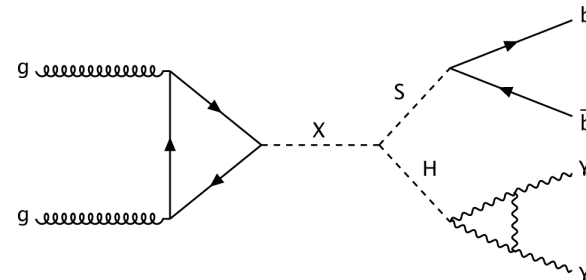
- CP even scalar R (CP odd A) decaying to a lighter scalar S (Z boson) and a heavy Higgs going to a ZZ pair

$R/A \rightarrow SH/ZH$
 ($4l + E_T^{miss}$ final state)



- A scalar X decaying to a lighter scalar S and SM Higgs

$X \rightarrow SH_{125} \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$



$$R \rightarrow SH \rightarrow 4l + E_T^{miss}$$

$$A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow 4l + X$$

❖ **Scenarios considered:**

- (extended) 2HDM+S, S decays invisibly (DM portal!)
- 2HDM-based baryogenesis; X stands for $ll/jj/inv.$

❖ **Selection:** single/multi-lepton triggers, 2 SFOS leptons (μ or e) consistent with m_Z . FSR correction & m_Z constraint improve $4l$ mass resolution.

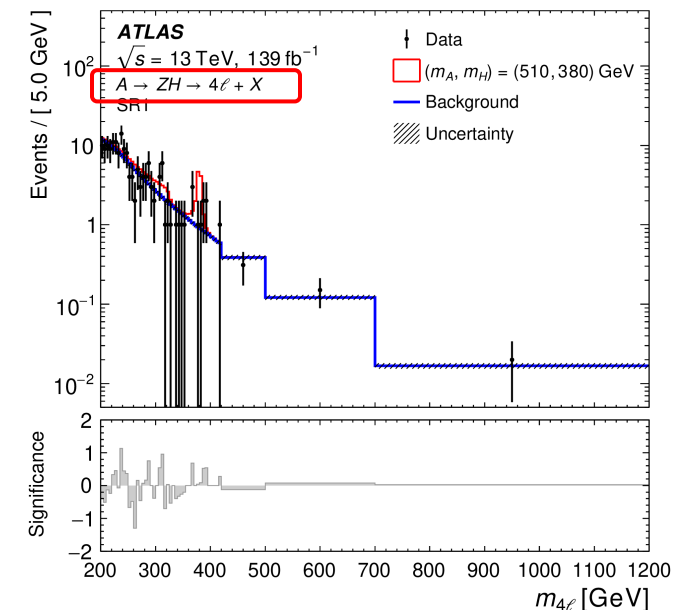
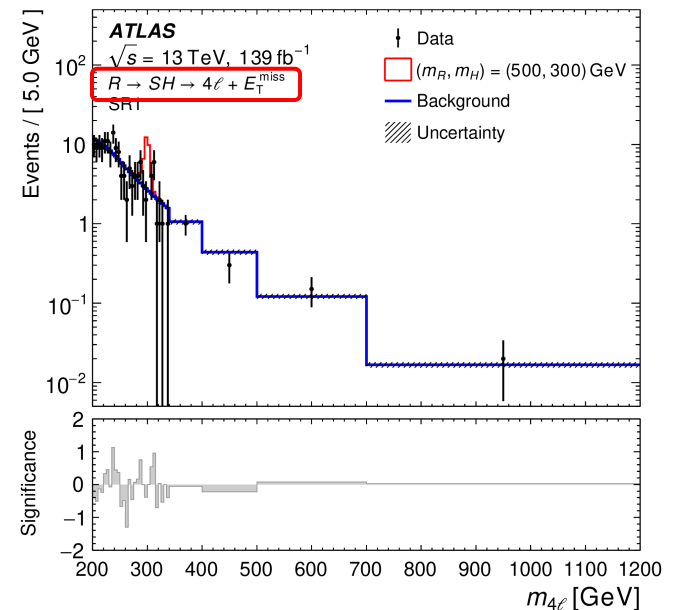
❖ **7 SR's** defined by n_{jets} , n_{b-jets} and E_T^{miss} signific.

❖ Main background from $(q\bar{q}) ZZ$ production

❖ A dense grid of mass points generated, further proliferated by interpolation.

❖ A simultaneous fit is performed on the m_{4l} distributions in the SR's.

[arXiv:2401.04742](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.04742)



$$R \rightarrow SH \rightarrow 4l + E_T^{miss}$$

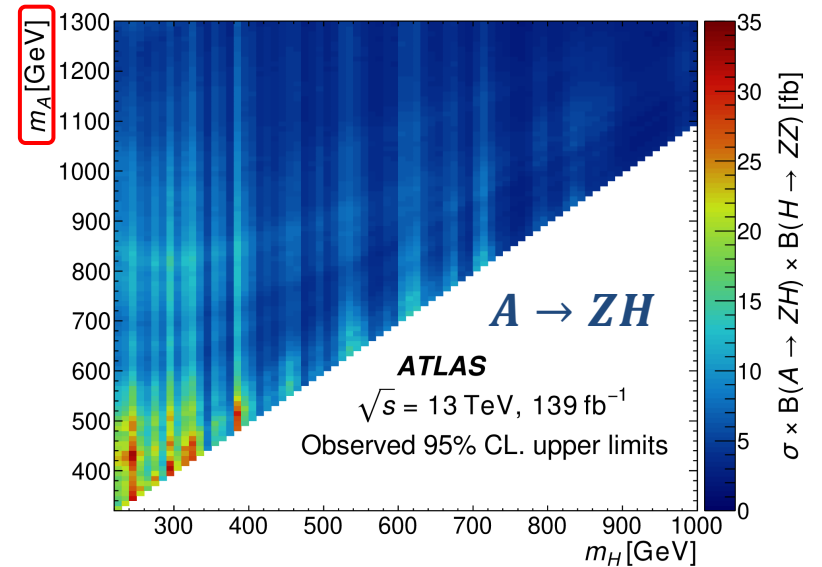
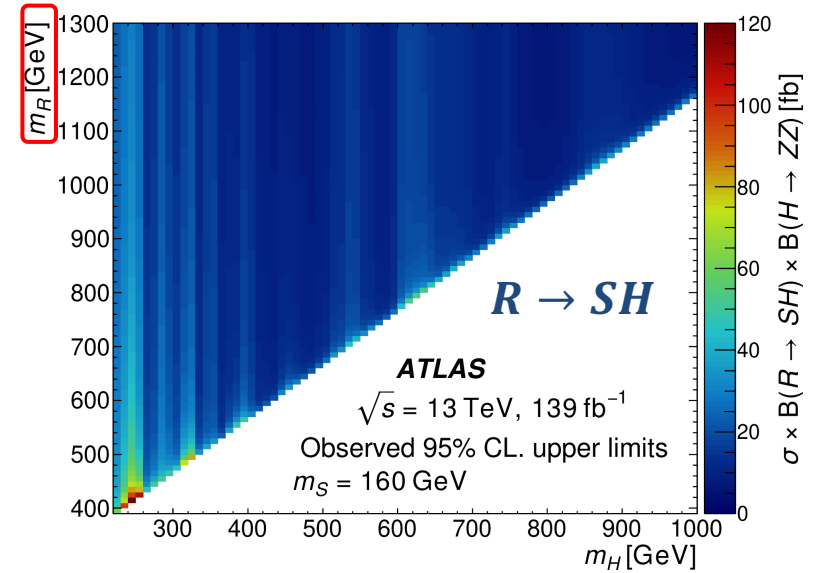
$$A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow 4l + X$$

[arXiv:2401.04742](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.04742)

Results

- ❖ No significant excess of data over SM background observed.
- ❖ Limits were set on m_R/m_H & m_A/m_H plane under the NWA, with negligible dependence on m_S (fixed to 160 GeV)
- ❖ Impact from Large Width Approx. also evaluated:

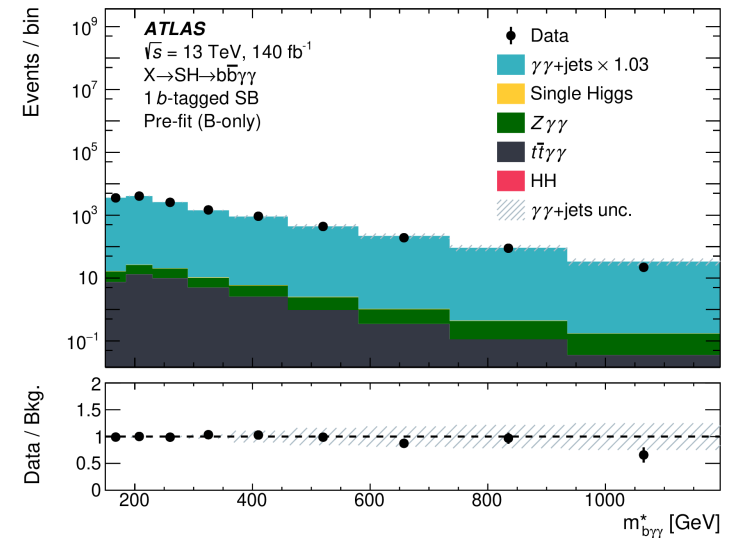
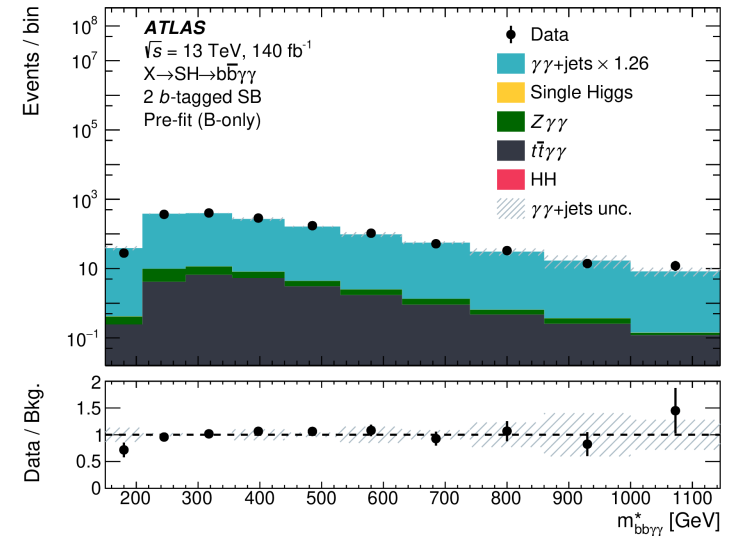
Width assumptions	Mass points [GeV]	Upper limits in the $\sigma(gg \rightarrow A)$ [fb]		Ratio w.r.t Narrow width
		Observed	Expected	
Narrow width	$(m_A, m_H) = (320, 220)$	19.6	25.1	1.0
	$(m_A, m_H) = (1190, 600)$	4.8	3.5	1.0
$(\Gamma_A/m_A, \Gamma_H/m_H) = (15\%, 5\%)$	$(m_A, m_H) = (320, 220)$	31.5	36.2	1.4
	$(m_A, m_H) = (1190, 600)$	8.3	6.0	1.7
$(\Gamma_A/m_A, \Gamma_H/m_H) = (30\%, 10\%)$	$(m_A, m_H) = (320, 220)$	38.9	42.5	1.7
	$(m_A, m_H) = (1190, 600)$	8.9	6.6	1.9



$$X \rightarrow S(\rightarrow b\bar{b})H_{125}(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$$

[arXiv:2404.12915](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.12915)

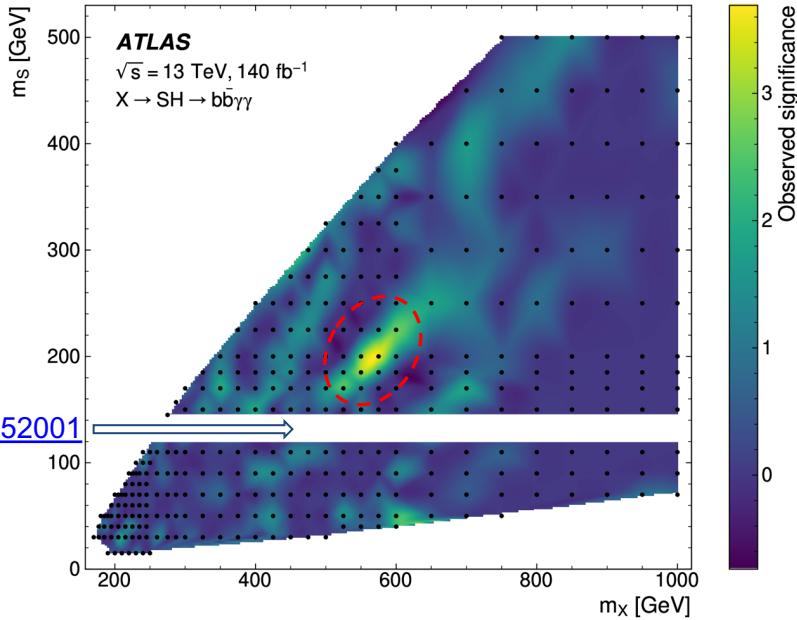
- ❖ **Scenarios considered:**
- ❖ Generic search targeting 2HDM type models or SM extended by singlets with at least 2 DoF's.
- ❖ NWA is assumed throughout.
- ❖ **Selection:** di-photon triggers, 2 photon mass consistent with H_{125} [120,130], exactly one b -jet (**1b SR**) or exactly 2 b -jets (**2b SR**)
- ❖ Main background ($\gamma\gamma$ +jets) normalised from $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ side bands
- ❖ **Discriminant:**
 - 1b SR: PNN parameterised in (m_X)
 - 2b SR: PNN parameterised in (m_X, m_S)



$X \rightarrow S(\rightarrow b\bar{b})H_{125}(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$

[arXiv:2404.12915](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.12915)

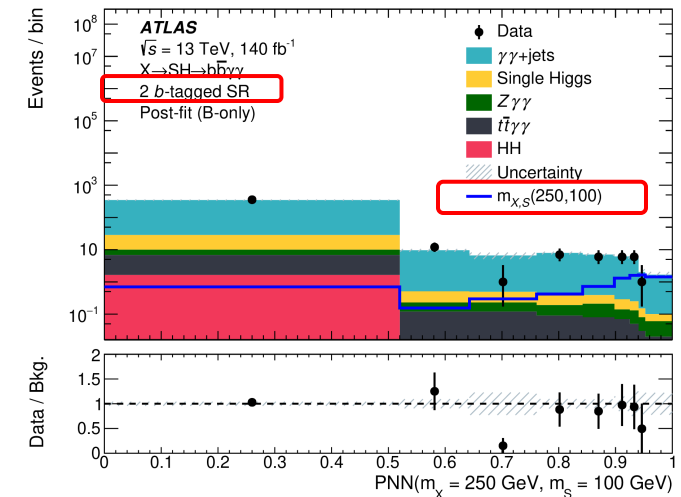
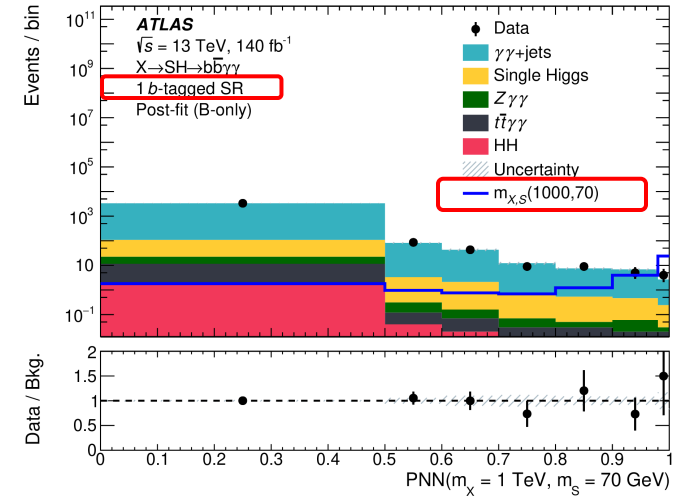
Results



Covered by
dedicated analysis

[Phys. Rev. D 106 \(2022\) 052001](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.052001)

- ❖ A simultaneous fit is performed on the PNN score distributions in the SR's & sideband CR's.
- ❖ Model independent limits on $\sigma(X \rightarrow SH_{125} \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma)$

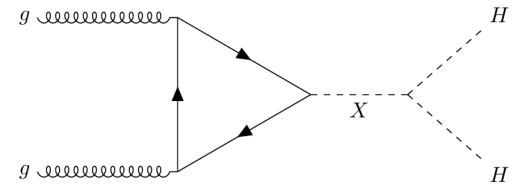


Data found compatible with the SM prediction.

Largest deviation for $(m_X, m_S) = (575, 200)$ GeV @ local (global) $3.5(2.0)\sigma$

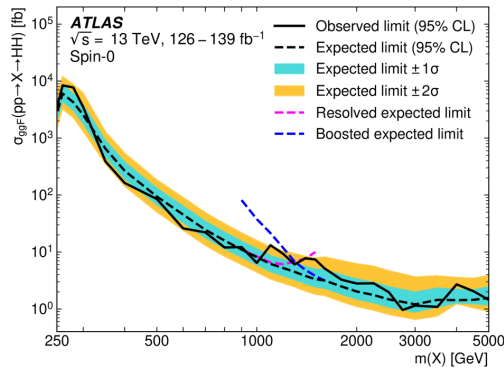
CMS excess @ $(m_X, m_S) = (650, 90)$ GeV, $3.8(2.8)\sigma$, [arXiv:2310.01643](https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.01643) not confirmed.

Search for a heavy scalar in the decay into a H_{125} pair



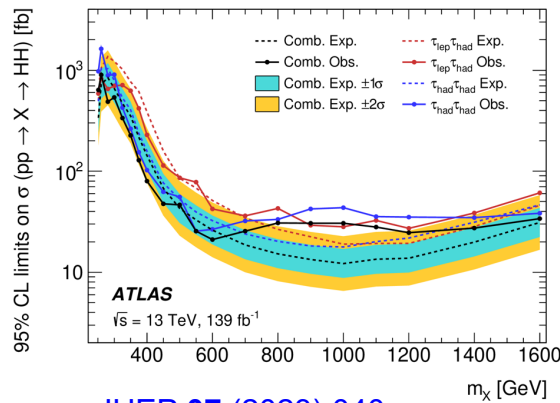
- Combining three recent searches for resonant di-Higgs production (complementary in the X mass coverage):

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



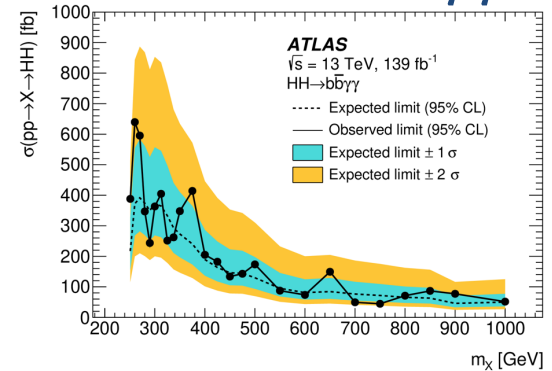
[Phys. Rev. D 105 \(2022\) 092002](#)

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



[JHEP 07 \(2023\) 040](#)

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

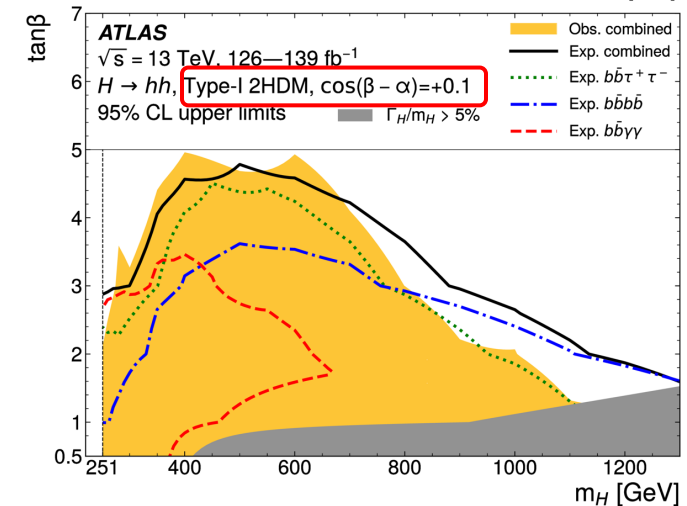
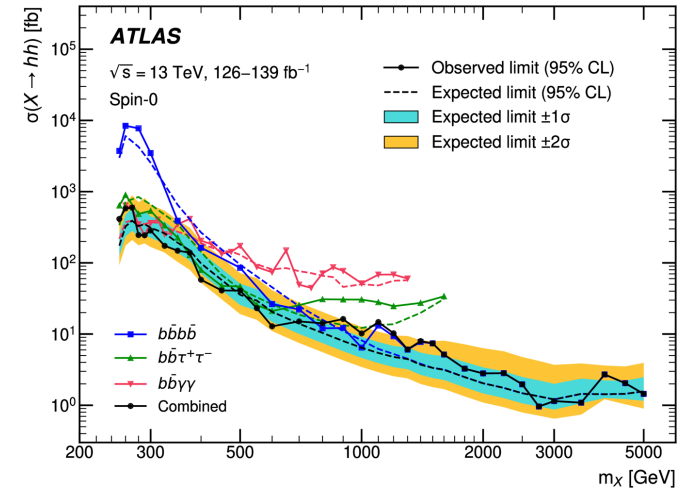


[Phys. Rev. D 106 \(2022\) 052001](#)

$$X \rightarrow H_{125}H_{125}$$

Results

- ❖ $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ exploits both four b -tagged $R=0.4$ jets as well as two $R=1.0$ jets tagged by constituent track jets.
Final variable: $m_{b\bar{b}b\bar{b}}$
- ❖ $b\bar{b}\tau\tau$ exploits $\tau_{had}\tau_{had}$ and $\tau_{lep}\tau_{had}$ channels.
Final variable: PNN score
- ❖ $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ exploits high resolution of the $\gamma\gamma$ system.
Final variable: $m_{\gamma\gamma}$
- ❖ The upper limits on the resonant $\sigma(X \rightarrow hh)$ is extracted from a simultaneous fit of all signal categories.
- ❖ Limits interpreted in 2HDM type-1 & MSSM models.



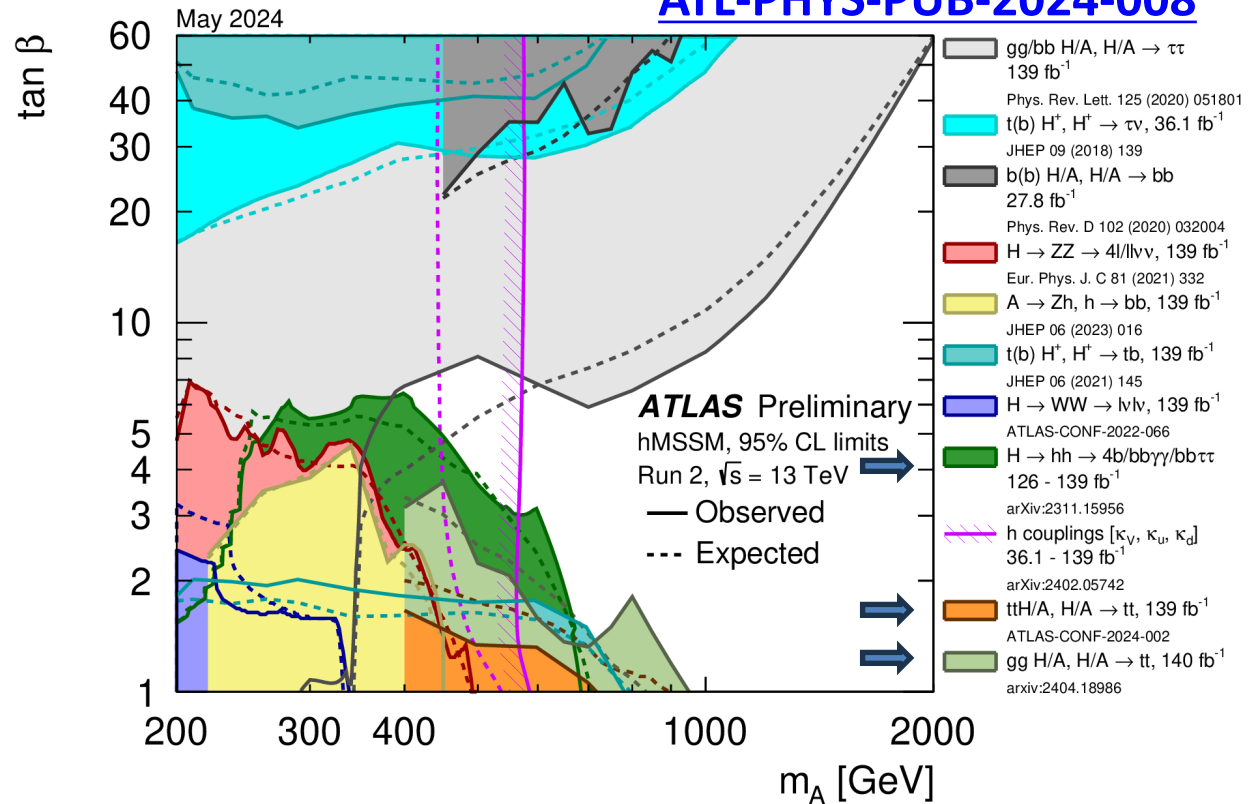
Data found compatible with the SM background prediction over the entire mass range 251 GeV to 5 TeV

Largest excess seen @ 1.1 TeV with local (global) significance 3.3 (2.1) σ

SUMMARY

ATLAS-PHYS-PUB-2024-008

- ❖ No new heavy scalar resonance confirmed so far.
- ❖ $t\bar{t}$ and di-Higgs final states extend exclusions on 2HDM-type models in the low and intermediate $\tan\beta$ range
- ❖ New exclusions on generic models with at least two additional heavy (pseudo)scalars (2D scans)



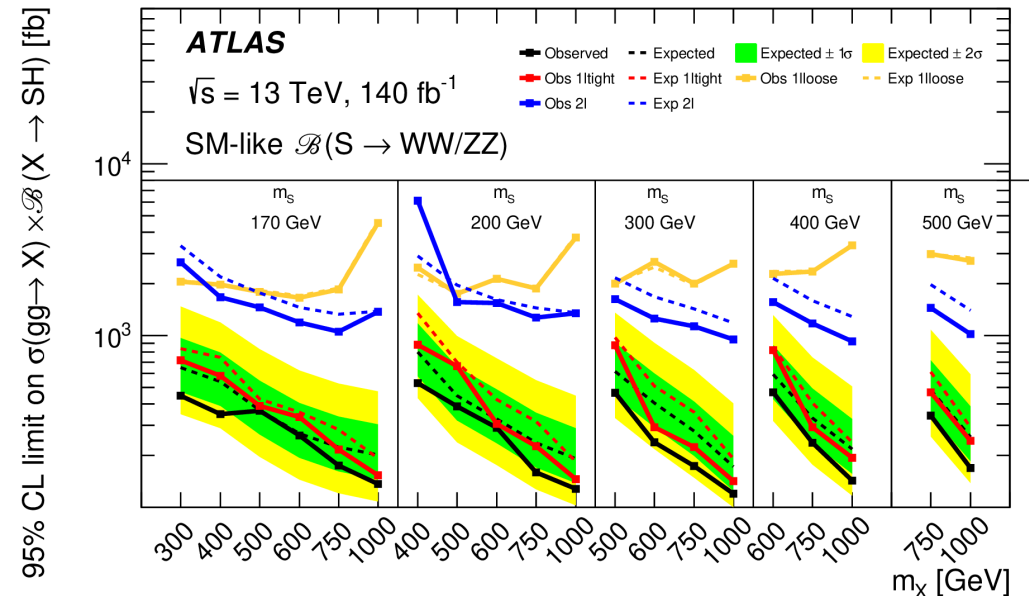
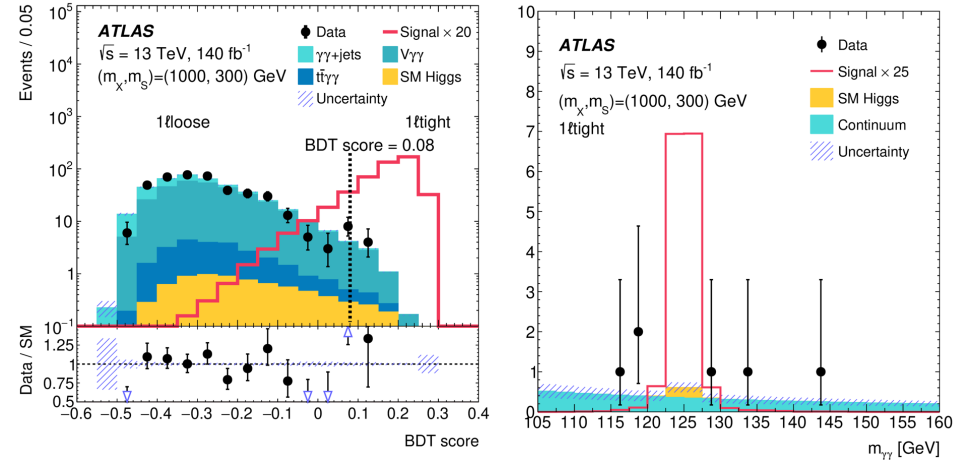
THANK YOU

BACKUP

$X \rightarrow S(\rightarrow VV)H_{125}(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ $\gamma\gamma + 1(2)l$

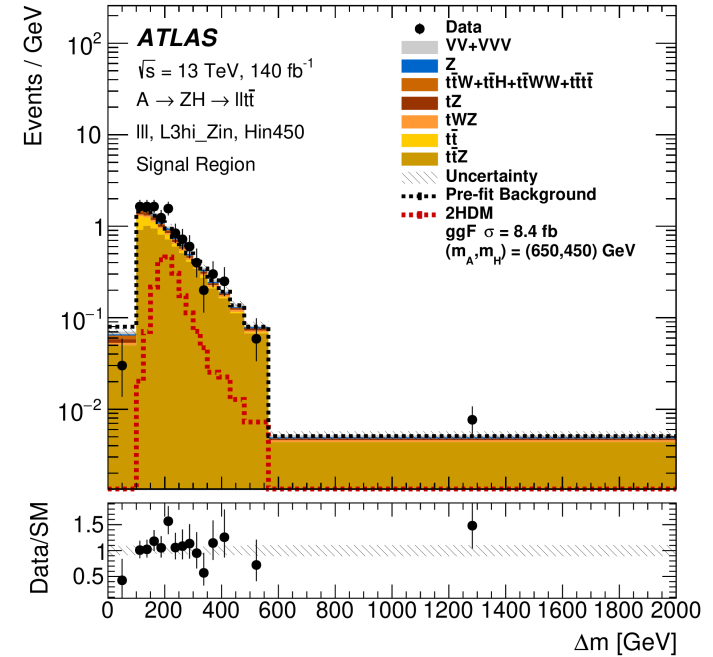
arXiv:2405.20926

- ❖ Scenarios considered:
- ❖ Generic search targeting 2HDM+S type models.
- ❖ Selection: di-photon triggers, 2 photon mass consistent with H_{125} [120,130], exactly one (1l) or two leptons (2l), b -veto
- ❖ Further enhanced by BDT in the $\gamma\gamma WW$ SR.
- ❖ Main background ($\gamma\gamma$ +jets) normalised from $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ side bands
- ❖ Discriminant: $m_{\gamma\gamma}$



$A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow l^+l^- + t\bar{t}$

- ❖ Motivated by: 2HDM-based baryogenesis ($m_A > m_H$)
- ❖ **Selection:** three high- p_T leptons (OSSF pair, μ or e , consistent with m_Z), ≥ 4 jets, 2 b -jets
- ❖ SR/VR's/CR's based on m_{ll} (Z) and $m_{t\bar{t}}$ (H sliding w.)
- ❖ Main background from $t\bar{t}Z$ events and leptonic $t\bar{t}$ events with a non-prompt third lepton.

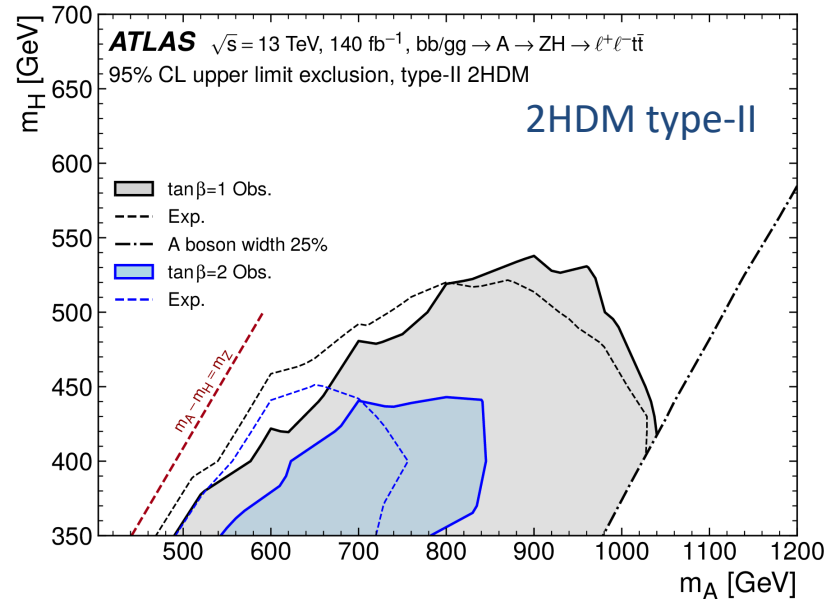
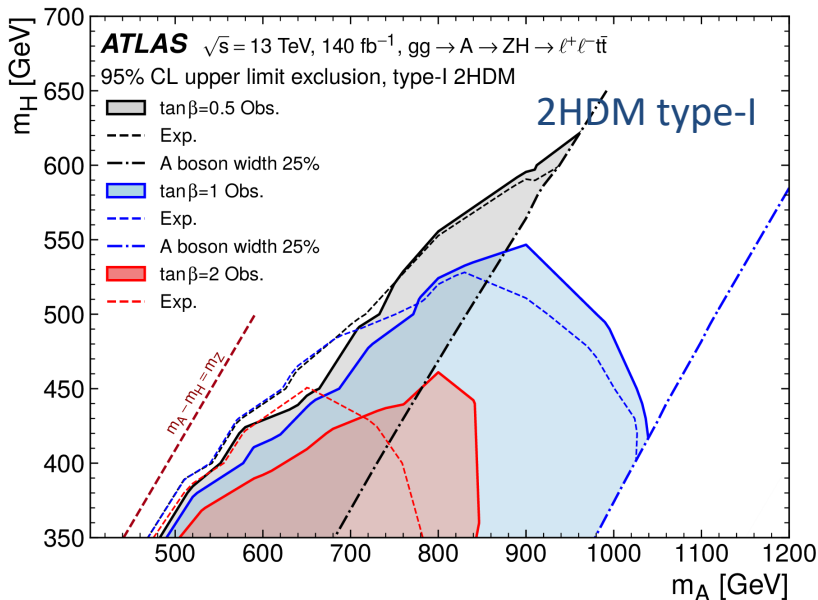
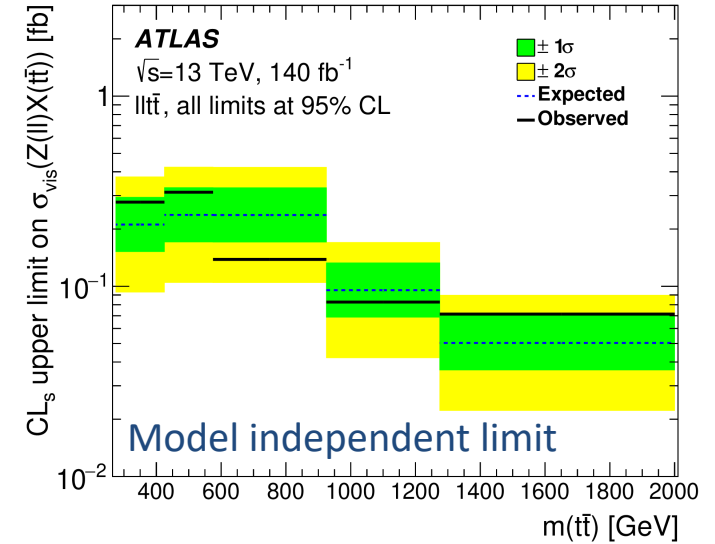


Requirement	Regions				
	ss (CR)	L3hi_Zout (VR)	L3hi_Zin		L3lo_Zin (VR)
			Hlo/Hhi (CR)	Hin (SR)	
Number of leptons $p_T(\ell_1)$ Number of jets Number of b -jets $ \eta_{H\text{-cand}}^{ZH\text{-r.fr.}} $			3 > 27 GeV		
$p_T(\ell_3)$			≥ 4		
			2		
			$< 2.2 + 0.0004 \cdot m(t\bar{t})[\text{GeV}] - 0.0011 \cdot m(\ell^+\ell^-\bar{t}\bar{t})[\text{GeV}]$		
			> 13 GeV		> 7 GeV & < 13 GeV
Lepton flavour	$ee\mu/\mu\mu e$		$eee/ee\mu/\mu\mu e/\mu\mu\mu$		
OSSF lepton pairs	0		≥ 1		
$ m_Z^{\text{cand}} - m_Z $	< 20 GeV	> 10 GeV & < 20 GeV	< 10 GeV		
$ m(t\bar{t}) - m_H $	$m_H < 500$ GeV	-	> 0.32 $\cdot m_H$	< 0.32 $\cdot m_H$	-
	$m_H \geq 500$ GeV	-	> 0.24 $\cdot m_H$	< 0.24 $\cdot m_H$	-

$A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow l^+l^- + t\bar{t}$

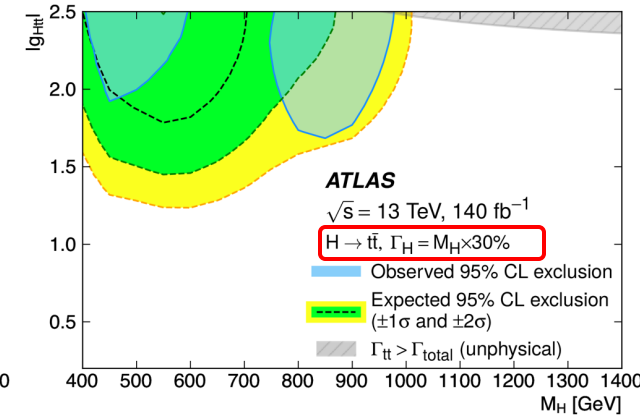
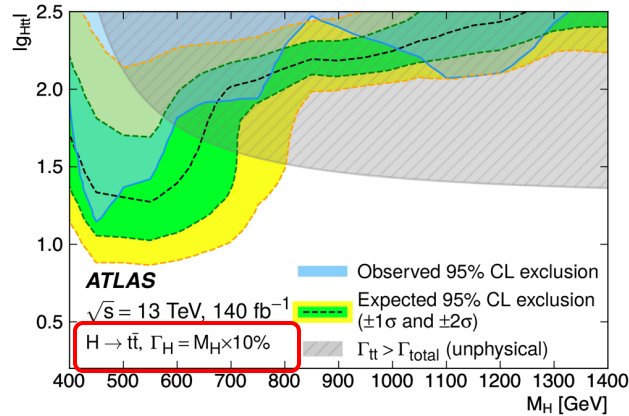
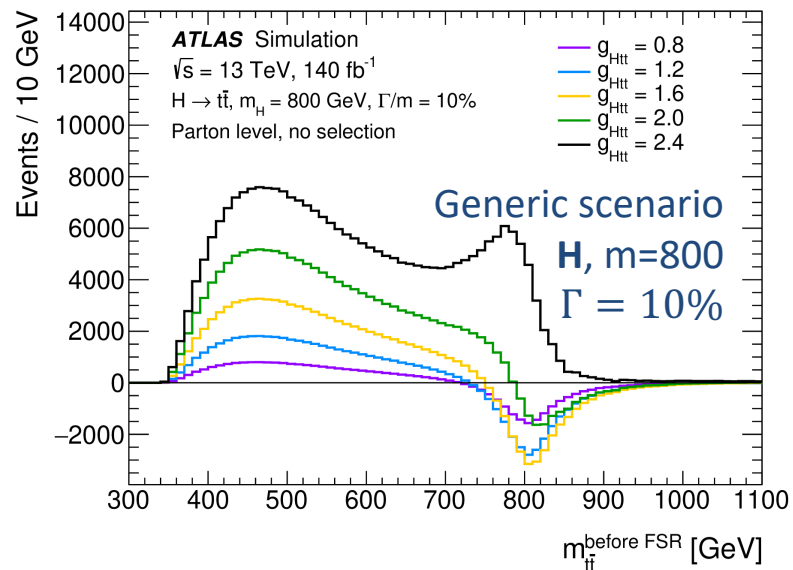
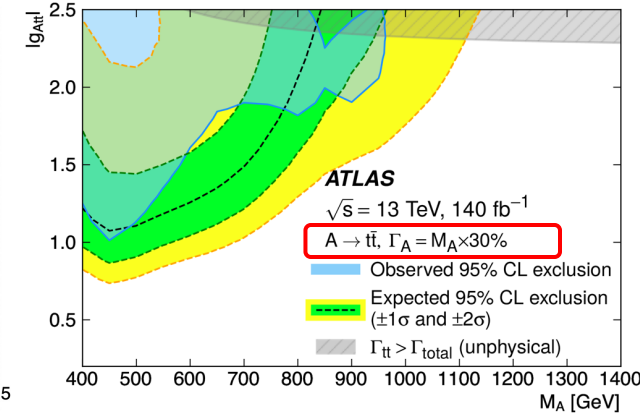
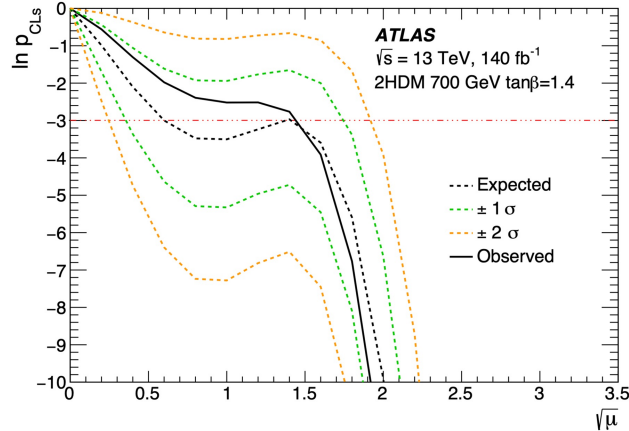
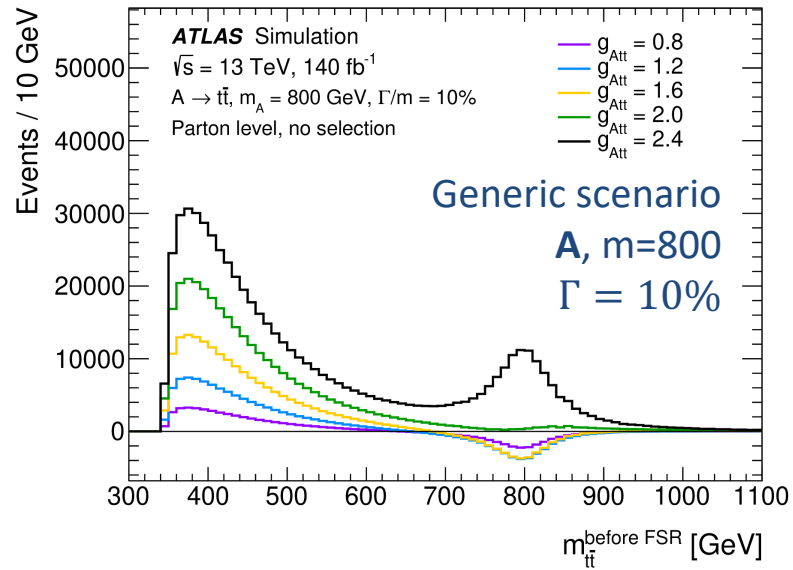
- ❖ A simultaneous fit is performed to the $\Delta m = m(llt\bar{t}) - m(t\bar{t})$ distribution in SR and event yields in the SS ($t\bar{t}$ norm.), Hlo & Hhi ($t\bar{t}Z$ norm.) CR's.
- ❖ The result is limited statistically

No significant excess over SM observed
 The largest excess of local (global) significance 2.85 (2.35) σ observed for $(m_A, m_H) = (650, 450)$ GeV



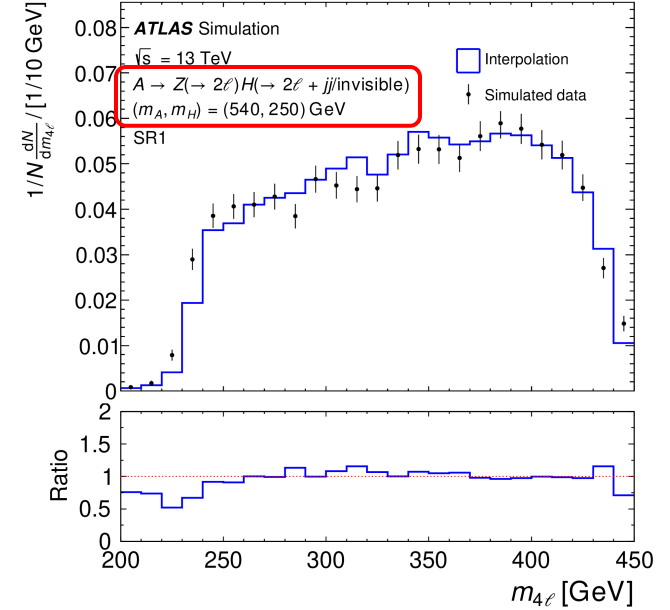
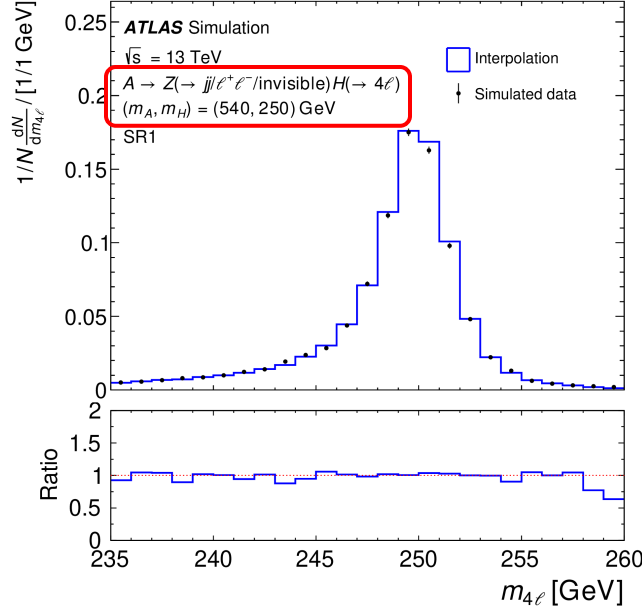
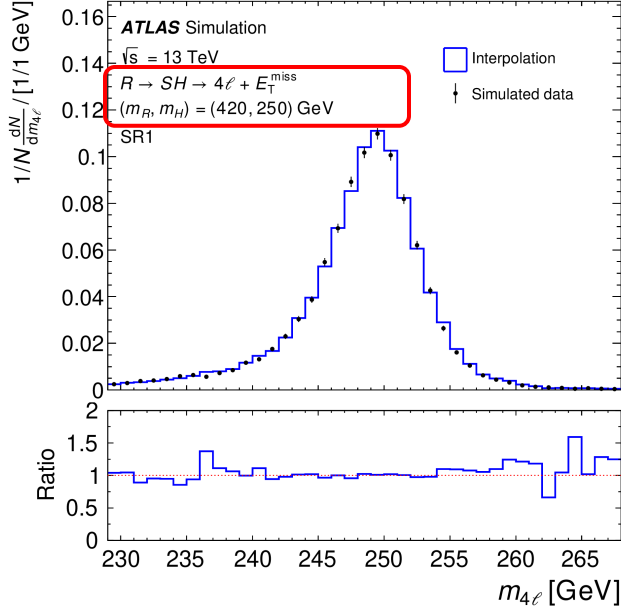
$A/H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ (l, ll_{OS} final states)

[arXiv:2404.18986](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.18986)



$R \rightarrow SH \rightarrow 4l + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ $A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow 4l + X$

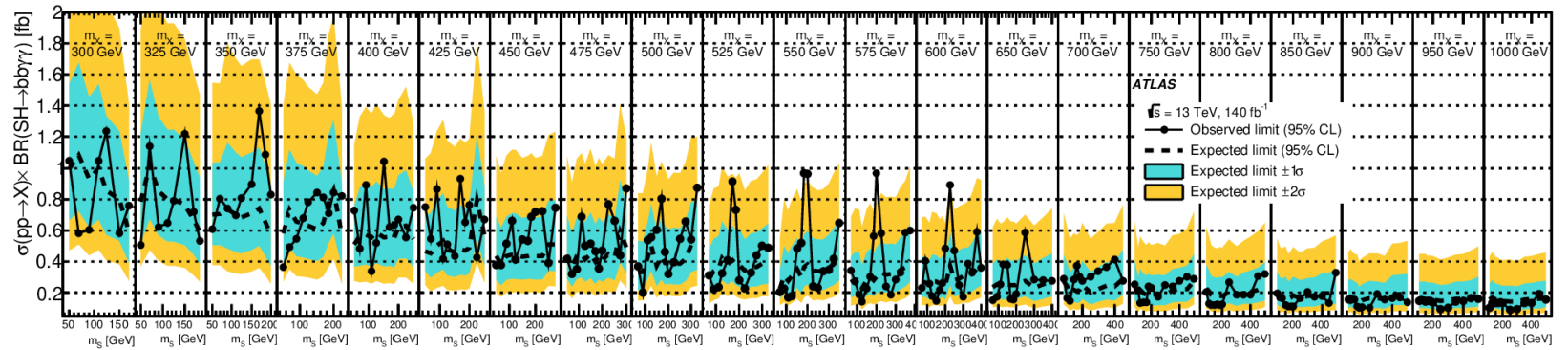
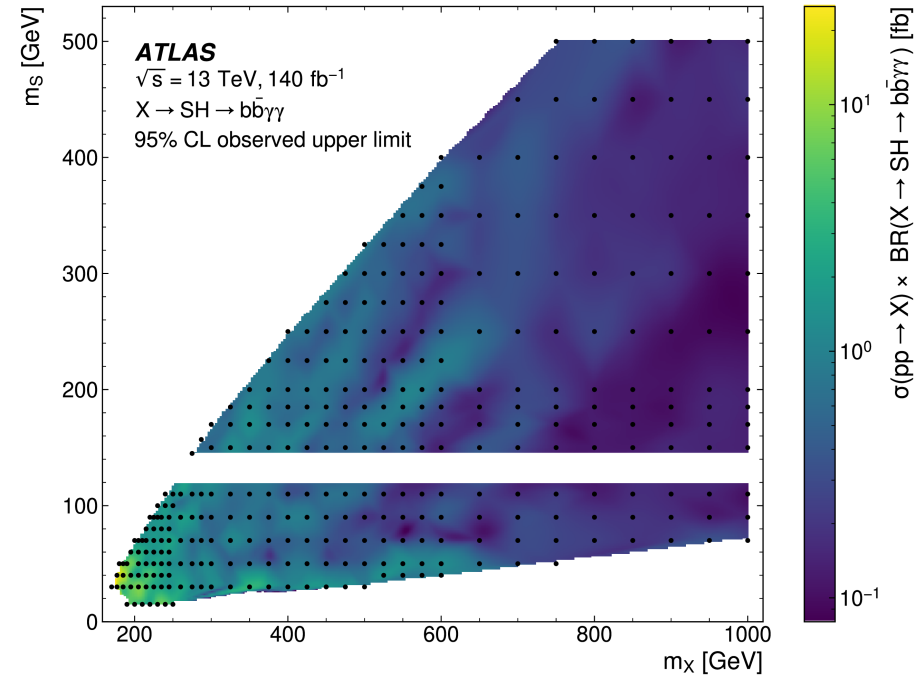
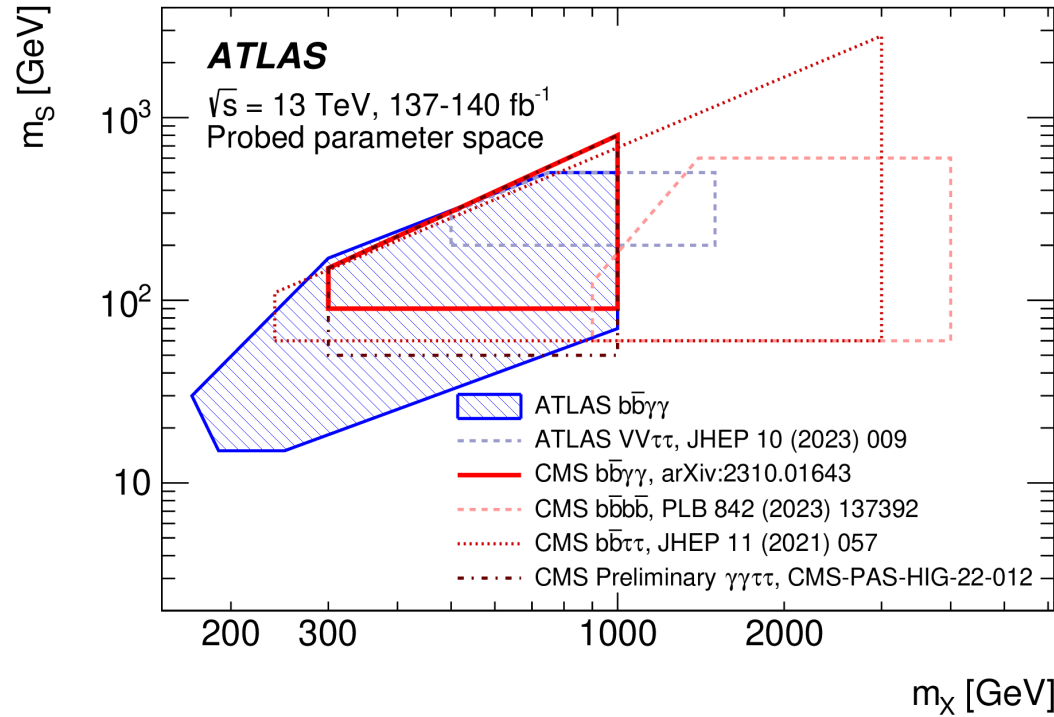
[arXiv:2401.04742](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.04742)



Signal region	$R \rightarrow SH \rightarrow 4\ell + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and $A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow 4\ell + X$			
SR1	$n_{b\text{-jets}} = 0$	$n_{\text{jets}} = 0$	$p_T^{4\ell} > 20 \text{ GeV}$	E_T^{miss} significance > 2.0
SR2		$n_{\text{jets}} \geq 1$	$p_T^{4\ell} > 10 \text{ GeV}$	E_T^{miss} significance > 3.5
SR3		$n_{\text{jets}} \geq 1$	$p_T^{4\ell} < 10 \text{ GeV}$	$2.5 < E_T^{\text{miss}}$ significance < 3.5
	$A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow 4\ell + X$			
SR4	$n_{b\text{-jets}} = 0$	$n_{\text{jets}} \geq 2$	$ m_{jj} - m_Z < 20 \text{ GeV}$	
SR5			$ m_{jj} - m_Z > 20 \text{ GeV}$	
SR6		$n_{\text{jets}} = 1$		
SR7	$n_{b\text{-jets}} \geq 1$			

$X \rightarrow S(\rightarrow b\bar{b})H_{125}(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$

[arXiv:2404.12915](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.12915)



Other related ATLAS results

CDM (2HDM+a) combination:

[EXOT-2018-64](#)

$t\bar{t}A/H \rightarrow t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$ (ll_{SS} , ML final states)

[EXOT-2019-26](#)

$X \rightarrow$ multilepton + b -jets

[HDBS-2020-03](#)

$X \rightarrow HS \rightarrow VV\tau\tau$

[HDBS-2022-44](#)

Corresponding CMS results

$A/H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$ [HIG-17-027](#) (36 fb⁻¹)

$A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow \tau\tau ll$ [HIG-18-023](#)

$X \rightarrow SH_{125} \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ [HIG-21-011](#) **NEW**

$X \rightarrow HY \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ [B2G-21-003](#)

$X \rightarrow HS \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tau\tau$ [HIG-20-014](#)

$X \rightarrow HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}WW$ [HIG-21-005](#) **NEW**

$X \rightarrow HH \rightarrow WWWW, WW\tau\tau, \tau\tau\tau\tau$ [HIG-21-002](#)