

Measurements of the $t\bar{t}H + tH$ production with the CMS detector

Matteo Marchegiani
(ETH Zürich)

on behalf of the CMS collaboration



LHCP 2024
June 4th, 2024

ETH zürich

Outline

- Introduction on ttH and tH processes
- ttH ($H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$)
- ttH+tH multilepton
- ttH ($H \rightarrow bb$)
- ttH ($H \rightarrow bb$) EFT

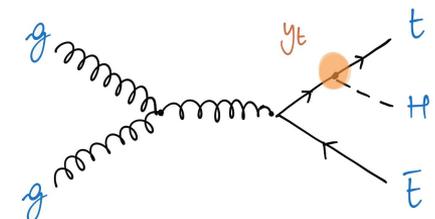
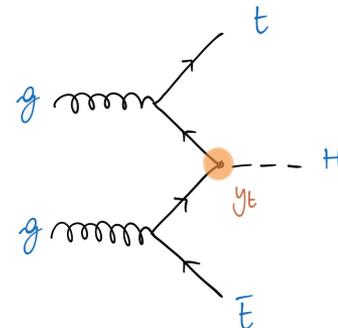
Why measuring ttH...?

The ttH production process is a direct probe of the top-Higgs interaction...

- Access to the top-Higgs Yukawa coupling y_t
- The top quark has the largest Higgs-fermion coupling in the SM ($y_t^{\text{SM}} \approx 1$)
- y_t has a crucial role in the stability of the electroweak vacuum
- Sensitive to new physics

... and a challenging process to observe due to its rarity

- **Cross section:** ~ 507 fb at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV (@ NNLO)



It was first observed by ATLAS and CMS in 2018, combining several channels

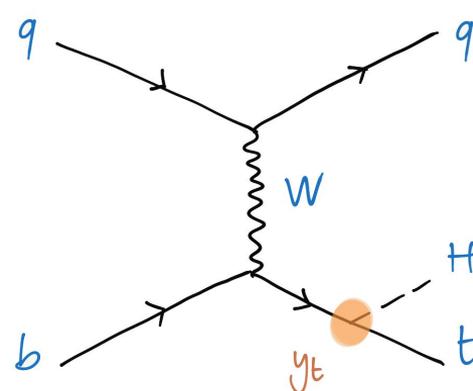
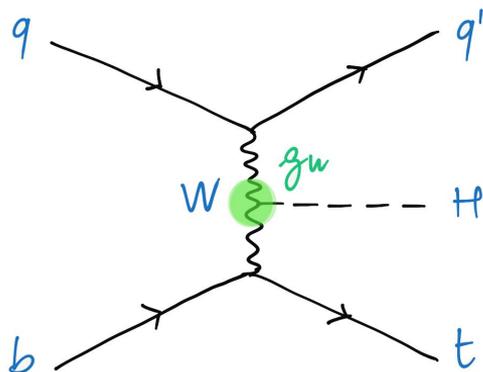
CMS result: 5.2σ (4.2σ exp.) with Run 1 + 35.9 fb^{-1} Run 2

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 120 \(2018\) 231801](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.07445)

... and tH?

The tH production is also an important probe of the top-Higgs interaction

- Sensitive to the relative sign of y_t and g_W
- Enhancement of cross section up to $10\times$ in the inverted top coupling scenario
- tH final state is orthogonal to ttH



tH is even more rare than ttH

- Cross section: ~ 90 fb at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV
- No evidence yet in CMS data

Measurements overview

ttH/tH analyses span a wide range of final states

- Several combinations of top and Higgs decays
- Many possible final states including several different particles
 - jets, b-tagging, leptons, photons, MET
- Accurate modeling of backgrounds is crucial

Covered in this talk:

ttH ($H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$) Run 2

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 \(2020\) 061801](#)
[JHEP 07 \(2021\) 027](#)

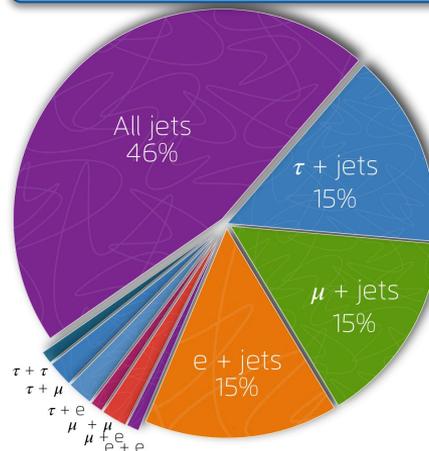
ttH multilepton Run 2

[Eur. Phys. J. C 81 \(2021\) 378](#)

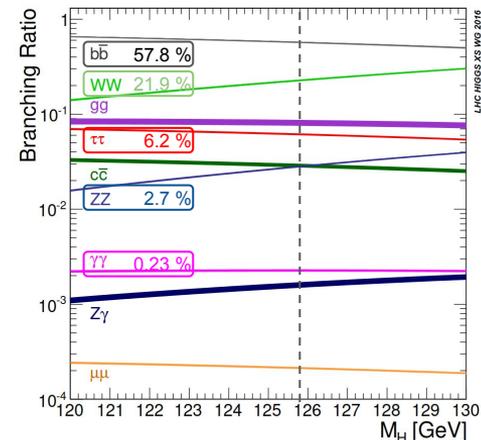
ttH ($H \rightarrow bb$) Run 2

[CMS-PAS-HIG-19-011](#)
[Phys. Rev. D 108 \(2023\) 032008](#)

Top pair branching ratios



Higgs decay modes



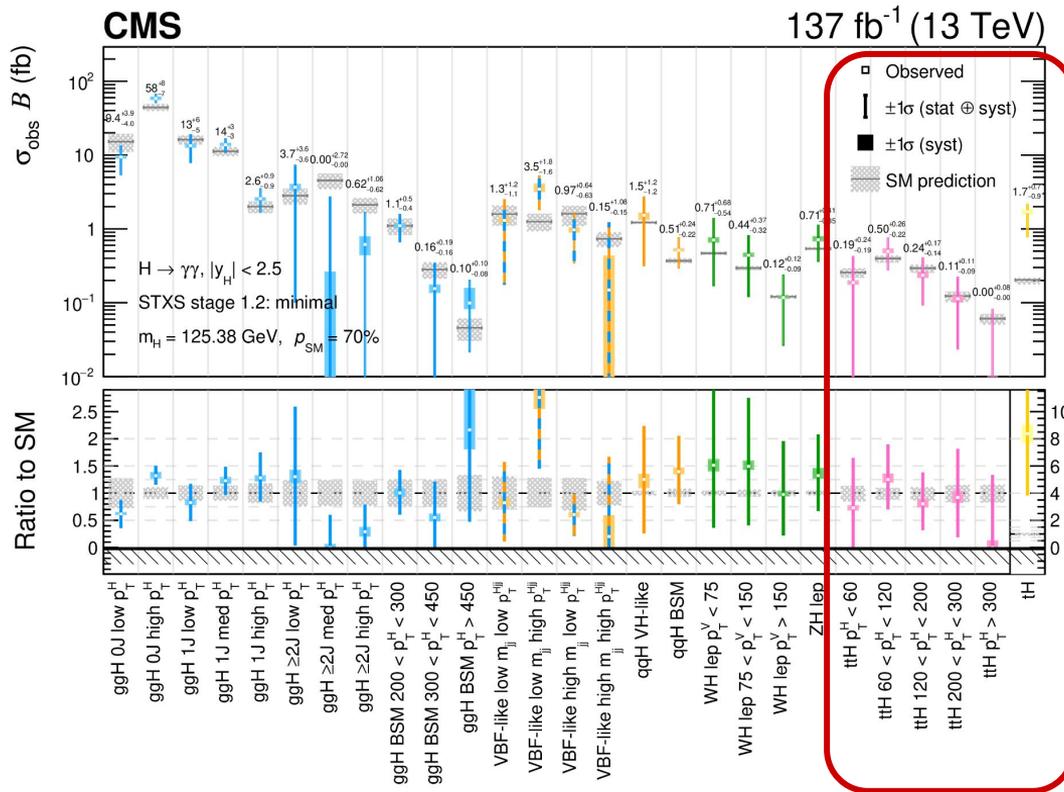
ttH (H → γγ) – Differential measurements

JHEP 07 (2021) 027



Categorization in STXS bins based on $p_T(\gamma\gamma)$

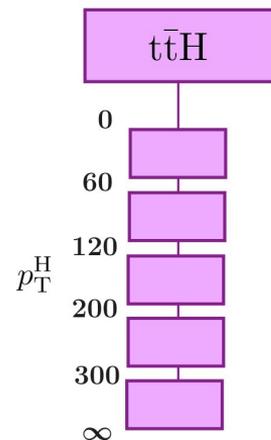
STXS = Simplified Template Cross Sections



ttH+tH categories from STXS H → γγ combination

- Same categorization as in the inclusive measurement
- 5 STXS bins for ttH
- One STXS bin for tH

tH signal strength
 $\mu_{tH} = 8^{+3}_{-5}$

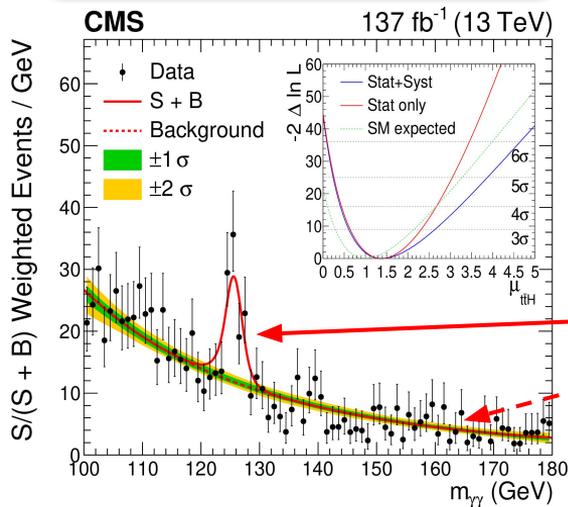


ttH (H → γγ)

H → γγ provides a clear signature

- Reconstruct Higgs boson from pairs of photons in ECAL
- Exploit outstanding mass resolution (1%)

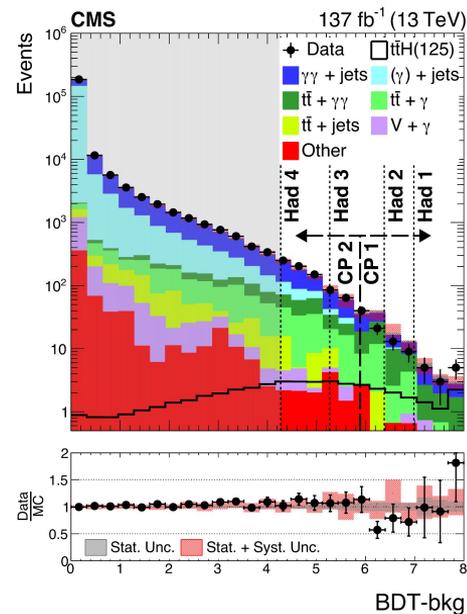
Fit to diphoton mass distribution and likelihood scan for μ_{ttH}



Analysis strategy

- Events divided into **leptonic and hadronic channels**
- BDT discriminants for each channel
→ maximise sensitivity to CP and μ_{ttH}
- Simultaneous fit to $m_{\gamma\gamma}$
→ **Signal:** Gaussian + Crystal-Ball
→ **Background:** analytic function

BDT distribution for signal extraction in hadronic channel



ttH (H → γγ) – Results

Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 (2020) 061801



First observation in single-Higgs decay channel with full Run 2

Significance: 6.6σ (4.7σ exp.)

$$\mu_{t\bar{t}H} = 1.38_{-0.26}^{+0.36} = 1.38_{-0.27}^{+0.29} (\text{stat})_{-0.11}^{+0.21} (\text{syst})$$

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}H} \mathcal{B}_{\gamma\gamma} = 1.56_{-0.32}^{+0.34} = 1.56_{-0.30}^{+0.33} (\text{stat})_{-0.08}^{+0.09} (\text{syst}) \text{ fb}$$

First measurement of CP structure of Htt vertex

Pure CP-odd coupling excluded at 3.2σ (2.6σ exp.)

$$f_{CP}^{Htt} = 0.00 \pm 0.33$$

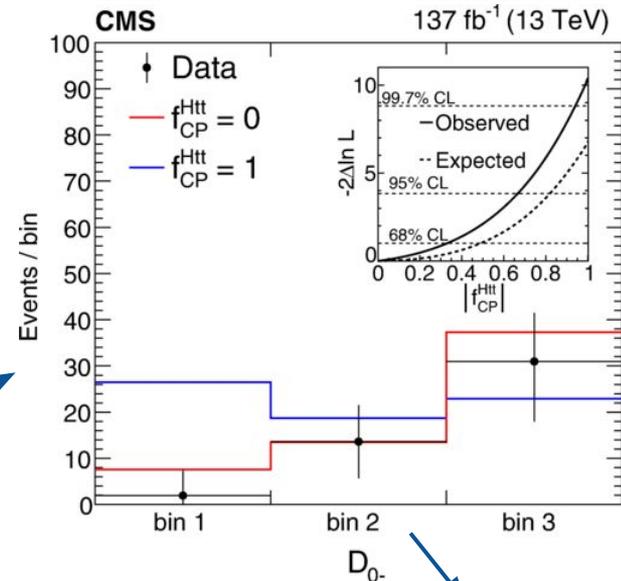
where: $f_{CP}^{Htt} = \frac{|\tilde{\kappa}_t|^2}{|\kappa_t|^2 + |\tilde{\kappa}_t|^2} \text{sign}(\tilde{\kappa}_t/\kappa_t)$

=0 in the SM

=1 if pure CP-odd coupling

extracted via BDT regression

Events in bins of the D_{0^-} observable and likelihood scan for f_{CP}^{Htt}

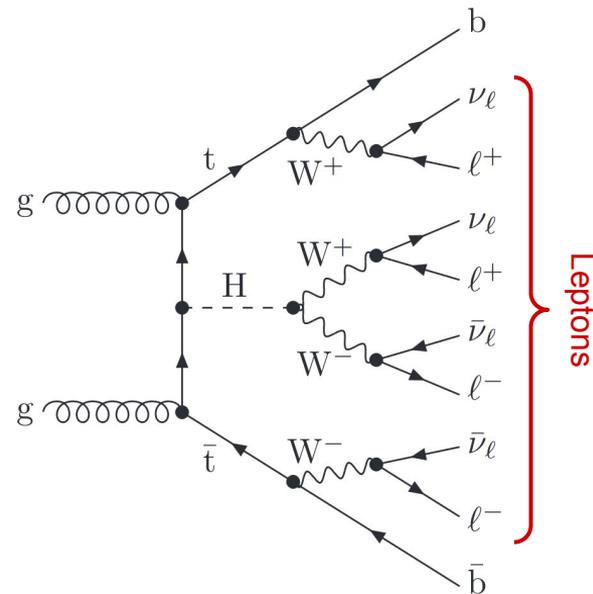


ttH multilepton

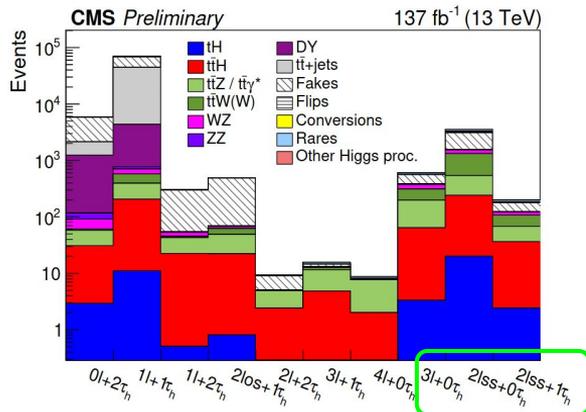
Analysis targeting $H \rightarrow WW/ZZ/\tau\tau$ decay channels

- Multitude of final states including e/μ leptons and hadronic τ
- Dedicated categories sensitive to tH production
- First simultaneous measurement of ttH and tH

Example diagram for ttH with $H \rightarrow WW$ decay



Process contribution per category



tH enriched categories

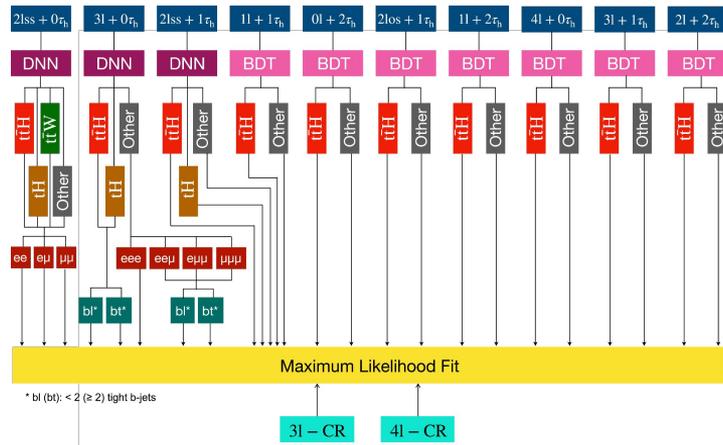
Challenging background estimation:

- Irreducible: **ttW, ttZ/gamma, diboson**
- Reducible: **non-prompt or fake leptons**

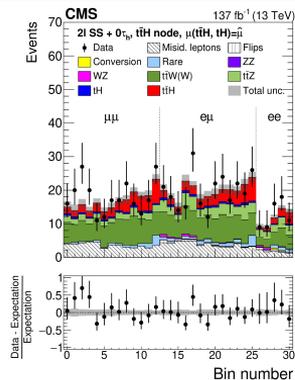
ttH multilepton – Analysis strategy

- **10 event categories** based on
 - lepton flavour, multiplicity and electric charge
- Signal extraction with
 - **DNN** in tH enriched categories
 - **BDT** in other categories
- 3 control regions to constrain ttW and ttZ backgrounds
- Simultaneous fit of signal and control regions

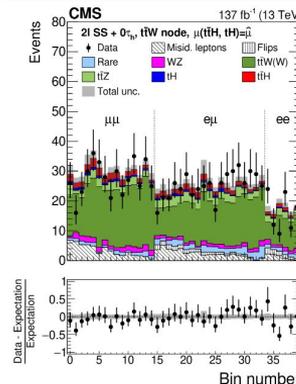
Categorization strategy used for signal extraction



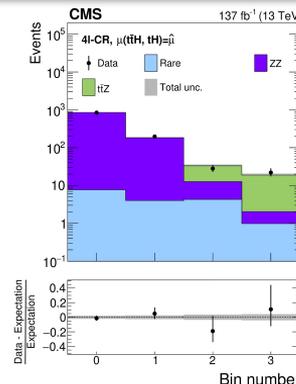
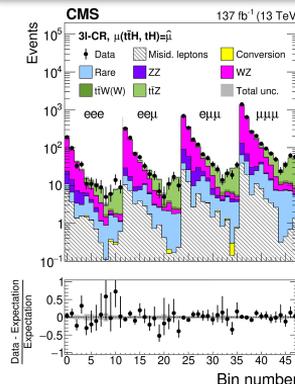
Signal region



ttW(W) control region



ttZ control regions



ttH multilepton – Results

Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 378



Significance **ttH**: 4.7σ (5.2σ exp.) **tH**: 1.4σ (0.3σ exp.)

ttH and tH signal strength

$$\mu_{t\bar{t}H} = 0.92 \pm 0.19 \text{ (stat)}_{-0.13}^{+0.17} \text{ (syst)}$$

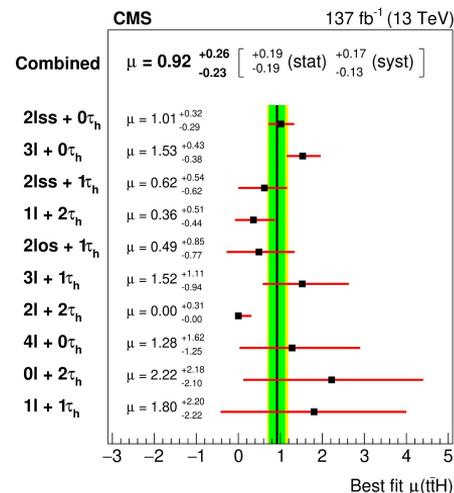
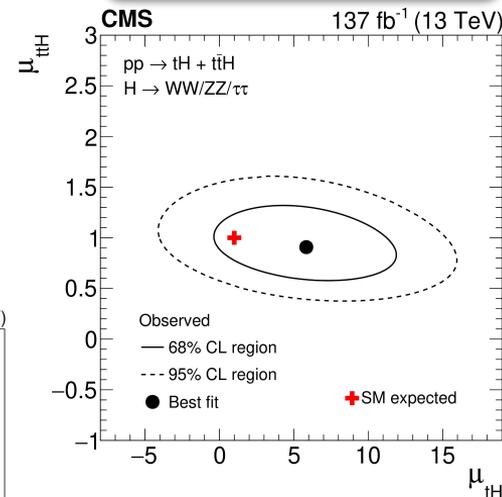
$$\mu_{tH} = 5.7 \pm 2.7 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.3 \text{ (syst)}$$

Constraint on κ_t coupling modifier

$$-0.9 < k_t < -0.7 \quad \text{or}$$

$$0.7 < k_t < 1.1 \quad \text{at 95\% C.L.}$$

2D likelihood contours
for $\mu_{t\bar{t}H}$ and μ_{tH}



Production rate per
channel and combined



ttH (H → bb)

Higgs decay channel with highest BR

- Ambiguity in assignment of jets to the Higgs candidate
- Irreducible **tt+bb background**
 - difficult to model

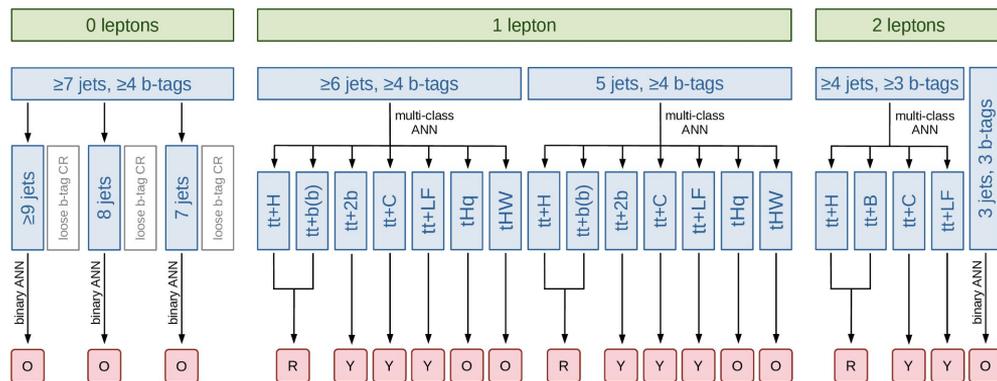
Complex analysis strategy

- Categories in lepton, jet and b-jet multiplicity
- BDT for jet-parton assignment
- Signal extracted using DNN multi-classifiers
- Simultaneous fit of discriminant scores

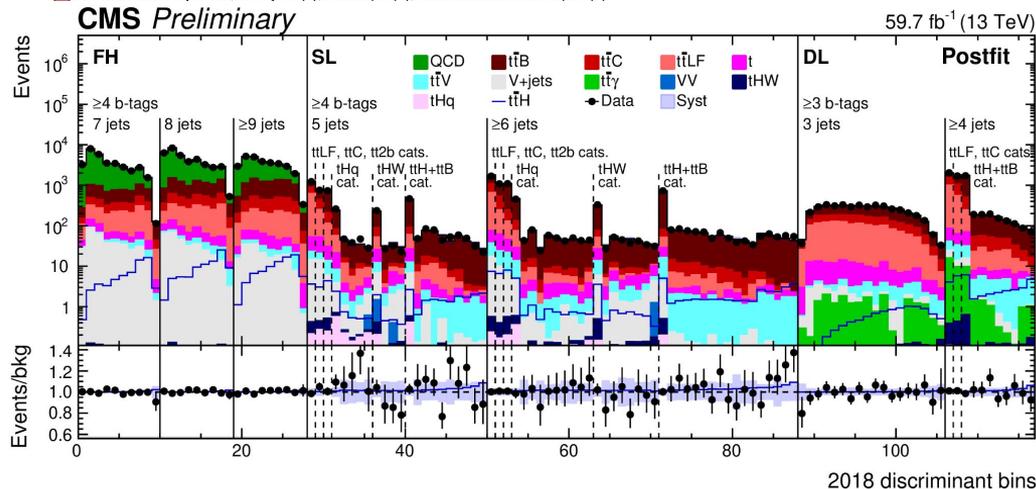
Postfit yields in each discriminant

CMS-PAS-HIG-19-011

ETH zürich



○ Distribution in template fit, event yield (Y), ANN output (O), likelihood ratio of ANN outputs (R)



ttH (H → bb) – tt+bb background

CMS-PAS-HIG-19-011



tt+bb is the irreducible background

- Difficult to model and to measure
- Simulations underpredict cross-section by ~20-30%
- Data/MC differences in relevant distributions

Two approaches to simulate events:

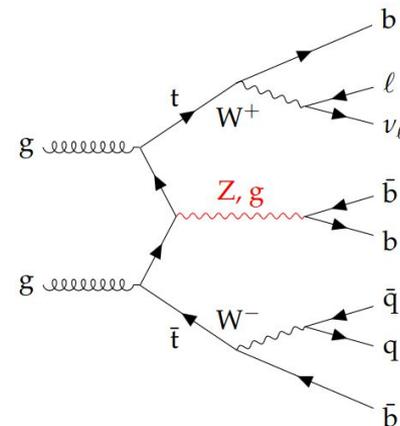
- tt ME @NLO + PS g→bb splitting (5FS)
- ttbb ME @NLO (4FS)

ME: matrix element, PS: parton shower, FS: flavour scheme

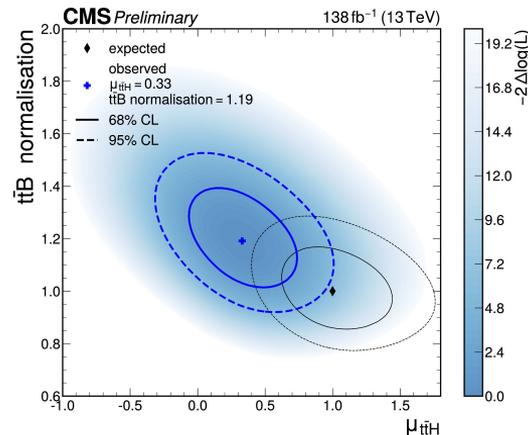
tt+bb background joint simulation:

- ttbb Powheg 4FS
- tt inclusive Powheg 5FS
- Overall tt+bb normalization freely-floating

Example diagram for tt+bb



2D likelihood scan for μ_{ttH} and ttB background normalisation



Background normalisation

$tt\bar{B}$ norm. = 1.19 ± 0.13

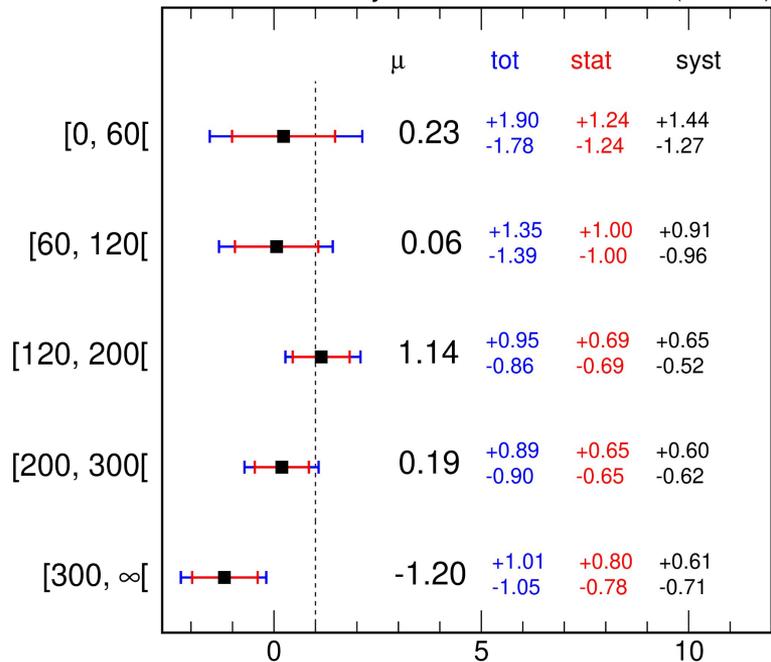
ttH (H → bb) – Results

CMS-PAS-HIG-19-011



Measured μ_{ttH} in STXS bins

CMS Preliminary 138 fb⁻¹ (13 TeV)

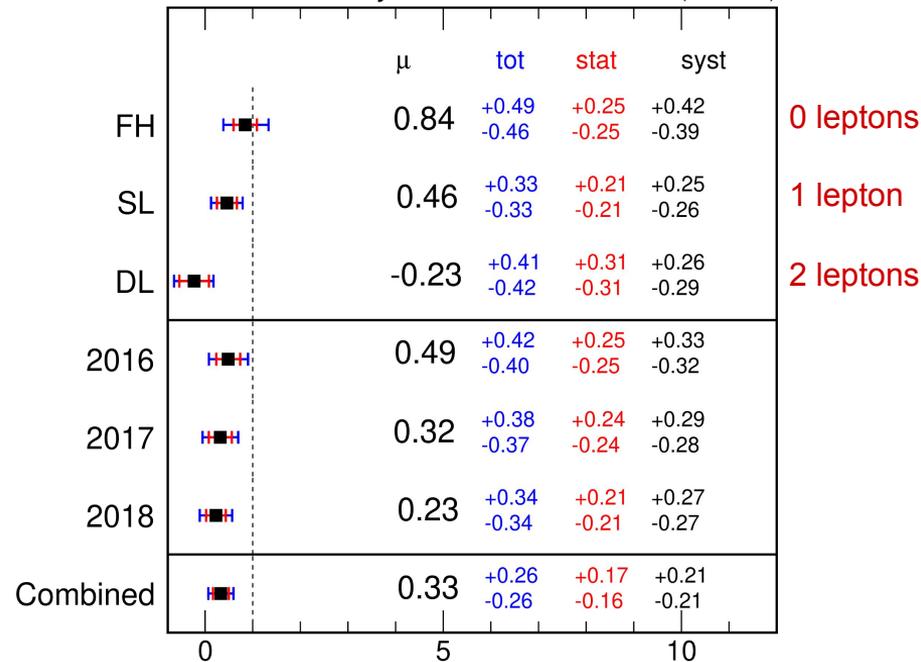


$$\hat{\mu} = \hat{\sigma} / \sigma_{SM}$$

Dominated by systematic uncertainties

Measured μ_{ttH} split by channel and year

CMS Preliminary 138 fb⁻¹ (13 TeV)



$$\hat{\mu} = \hat{\sigma} / \sigma_{SM}$$

Significance: 1.3 σ (4.1 σ exp.)

ttH (H → bb) – EFT

Phys. Rev. D 108 (2023) 032008



$$\mathcal{L}_{SM} = \mathcal{L}_{SM}^{(4)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \sum_k c_k^{(5)} Q_k^{(5)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_k C_k^{(6)} Q_k^{(6)} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\Lambda^3}\right)$$

Standard Model EFT Lagrangian

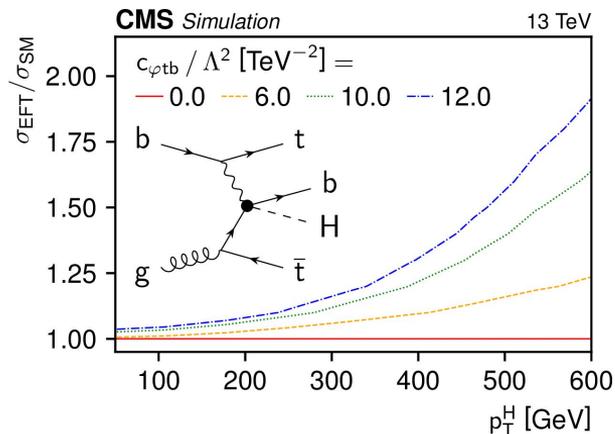
=0 for lepton number conservation

68% and 95% CL intervals for 8 Wilson Coefficients

SM EFT cross-section as a function of Higgs pT and $c_{\varphi tb}$

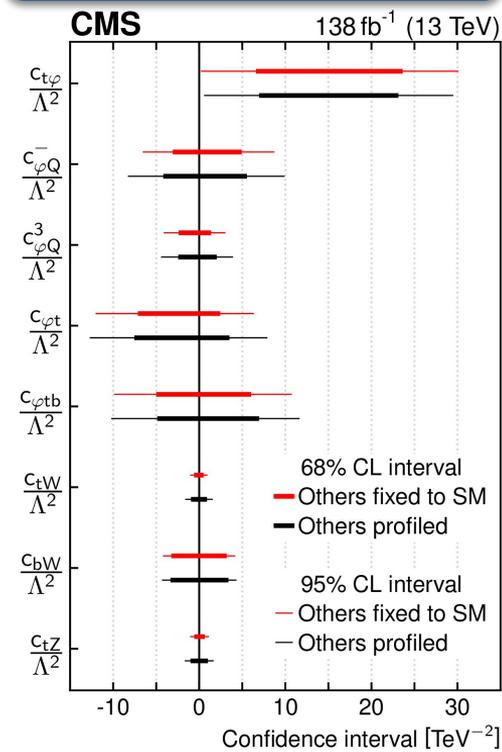
- Targeting ttZ + ttH in boosted topology
- DNN discriminant to select X→bb AK8 jets
- Constraints on 8 Wilson Coefficients of dim-6 operators relevant to ttH and ttZ

All measured Wilson Coefficients are compatible with the SM



First constraint of EFT parameters in ttH (H → bb)

See more in [Suman's talk!](#)



Summary

- Plethora of analyses targeting the ttH final state
 - ttH ($H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$), ttH multilepton, ttH ($H \rightarrow bb$)
- Very challenging measurement due to small cross section and complex final states
 - ML-based strategies are fundamental
- Good precision of inclusive ttH results
- First differential results and analysis of CP structure in ttH+tH
- Observations are overall compatible with the SM

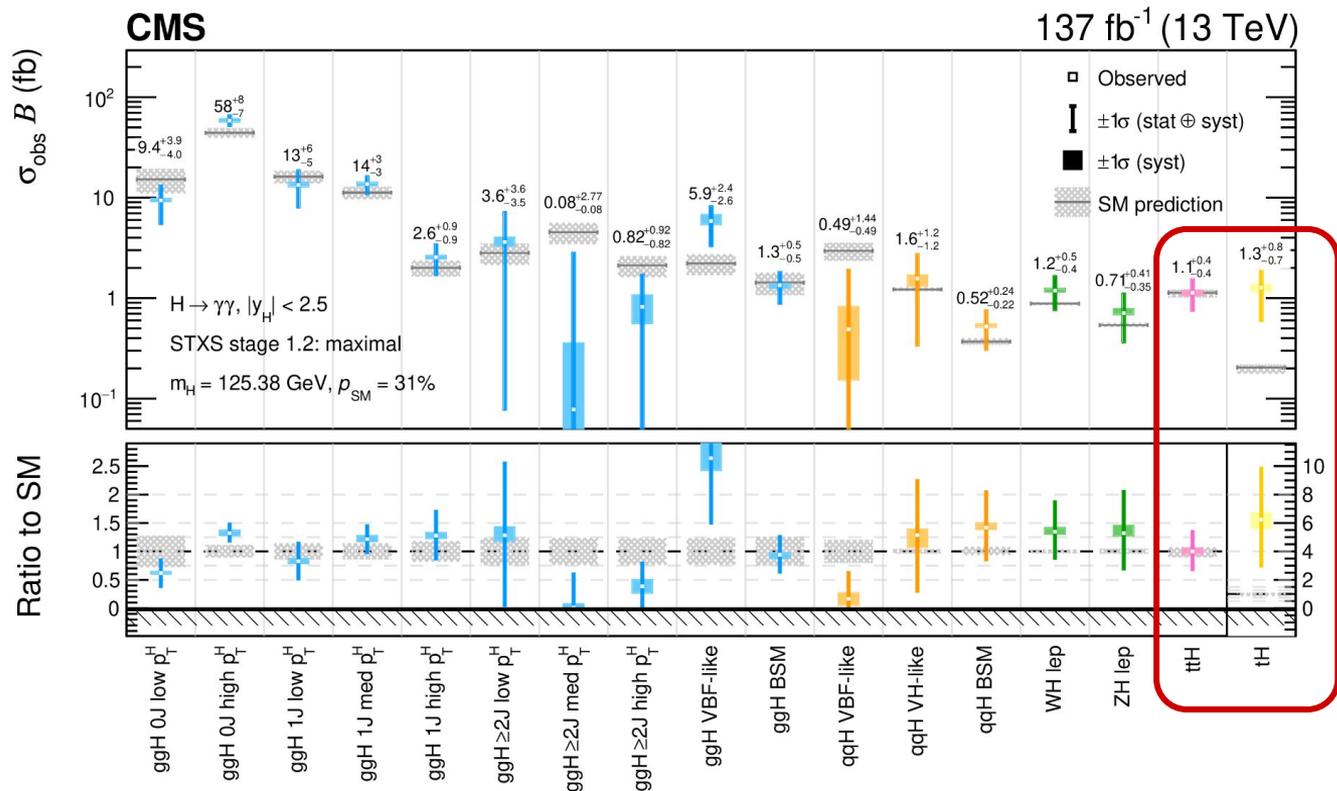
A lot was learnt in Run 2, looking forward to apply new ideas in Run 3!



*Thank you for
the attention!*

ttH (H → γγ) – STXS results

JHEP 07 (2021) 027



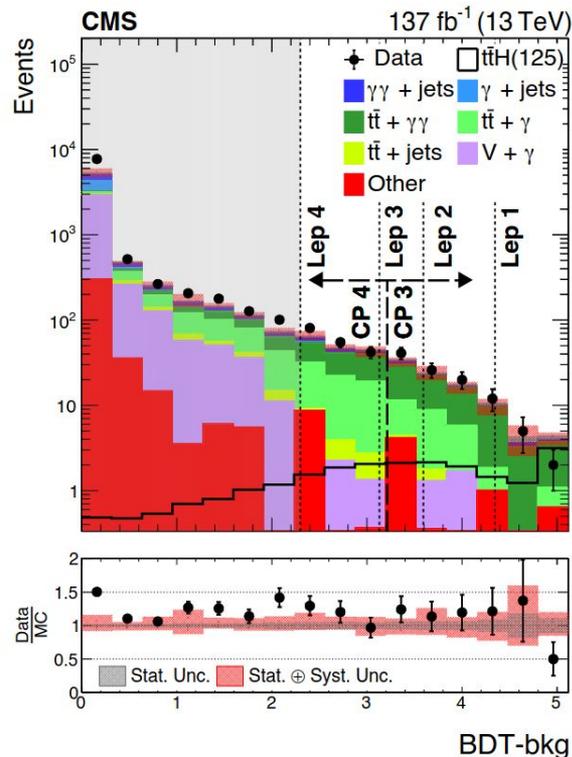
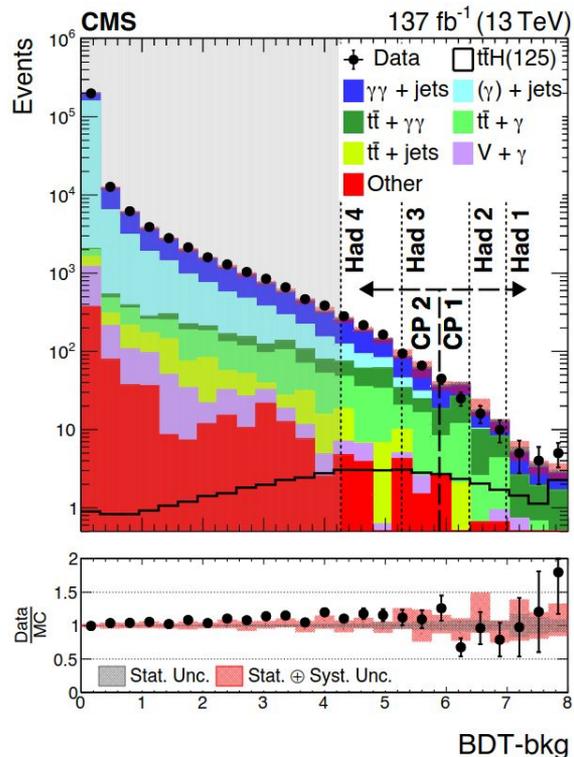
Observed results of the maximal merging scheme STXS fit

ttH+tH categories from STXS H → γγ combination

ttH ($H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$)

Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 (2020) 061801

ETH zürich



Distributions of BDT-bkg output used for event categorization, for the hadronic (left) and the leptonic (right) channels.

ttH multilepton – Background normalisation

ttZ and ttW signal strength

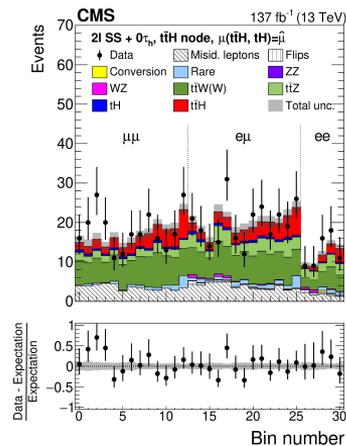
$\mu_{t\bar{t}Z} = 1.03 \pm 0.14$ (stat + syst)

$\mu_{t\bar{t}W} = 1.43 \pm 0.21$ (stat + syst)

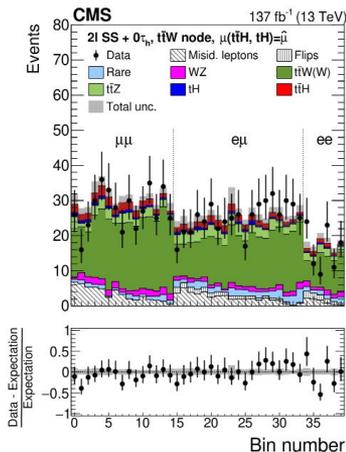
ttZ normalisation compatible with SM

ttW 2σ above SM

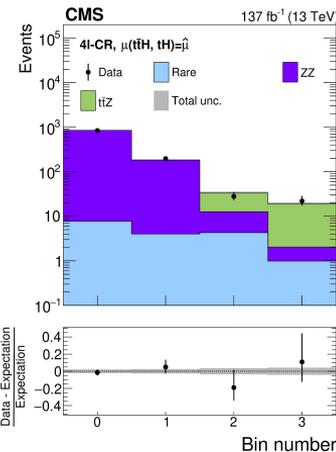
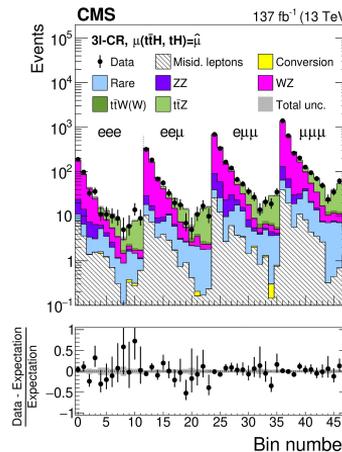
Signal region



ttW(W) control region



ttZ control regions



ttH – CP properties

CMS-PAS-HIG-19-011

JHEP 07 (2023) 092

ETH zürich



2D likelihood scan as a function of κ_t and $\tilde{\kappa}_t$ for
ttH multilepton and (H $\rightarrow \gamma\gamma$) (left) and ttH (H $\rightarrow bb$) (right)

