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How to look for a charged Higgs in ATLAS data. The MVA approach

Kraków, 11.01.24

EIPHANY Conference

Zuzanna Żak on behalf of
the ATLAS collaboration



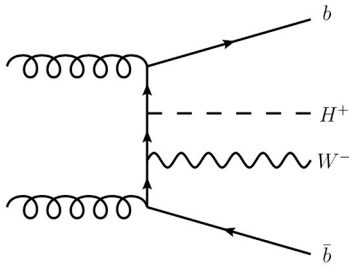


Motivation

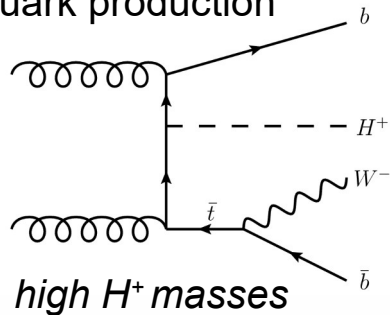
- Is the Higgs boson discovered at LHC the one predicted by the SM, or a part of an extended scalar sector?
- In the Two-Higgs-Doublet-Model, 2HDM (an extension of the SM), there are predicted five Higgs states:
 - Two charged bosons H^\pm
 - Two CP-even neutral bosons h (observed at the LHC) and H
 - One CP-odd neutral boson A
- **A discovery of the H^\pm would be a clear evidence of physics beyond the Standard Model.**

H⁺ production

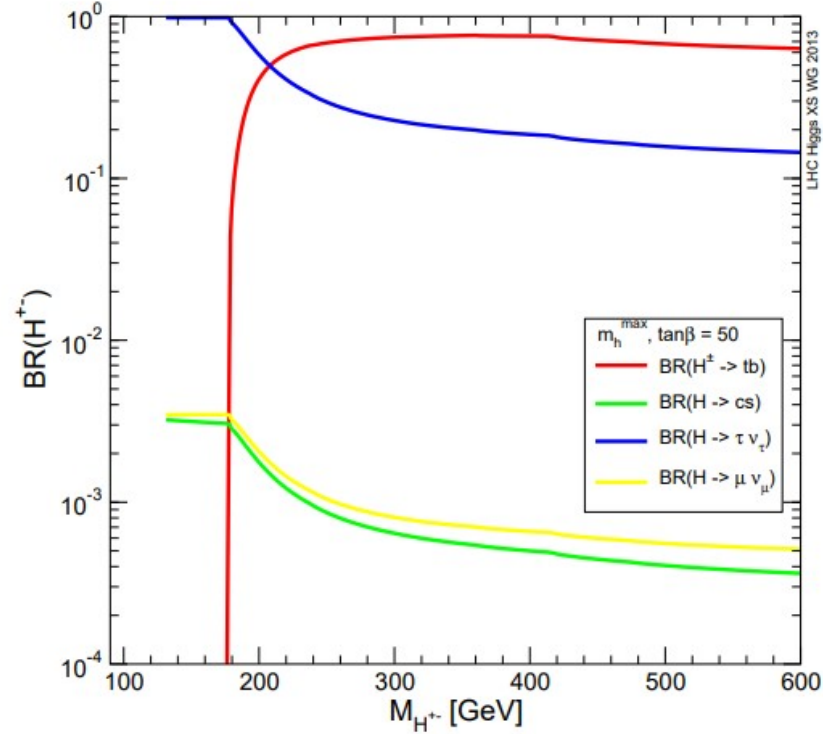
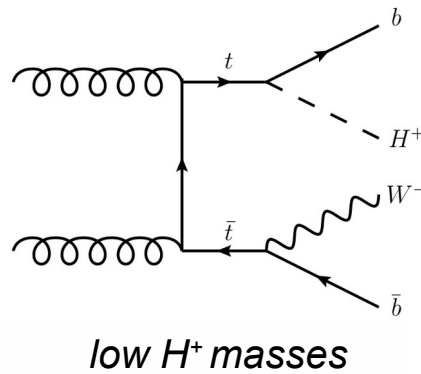
non-resonant top quark production



single-resonant top quark production



double-resonant top quark production



Branching ratios of the H⁺ decays
as a function of m_{H⁺} for tanβ=50

[arXiv:1307.1347](https://arxiv.org/abs/1307.1347)



Search for charged Higgs bosons decaying via $H^\pm \rightarrow \tau^\pm \nu_\tau$ in the τ +jets and τ +lepton final states with 36 fb^{-1} of pp collision data recorded at $\sqrt{s}=13 \text{ TeV}$ with the ATLAS experiment

[JHEP 09 \(2018\) 139](#)

- Signal mass range: 90-2000 GeV.
- Two channels are targeted, depending on the decay mode of the associated W boson: **τ +jets** and **τ +leptons**.

τ + jets

Sensitive at large m_{H^\pm} .

Event selection:

- Electron and muon veto,
- $E_{\text{tmiss}} > 150 \text{ GeV}$,

τ + lep

Sensitive at low and intermediate m_{H^\pm} .

Event selection:

- 1 lepton with $p_T > 30 \text{ GeV}$
- $E_{\text{tmiss}} > 50 \text{ GeV}$,
- Lepton and τ with opposite signs.

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Backgrounds [JHEP 09 \(2018\) 139](#)

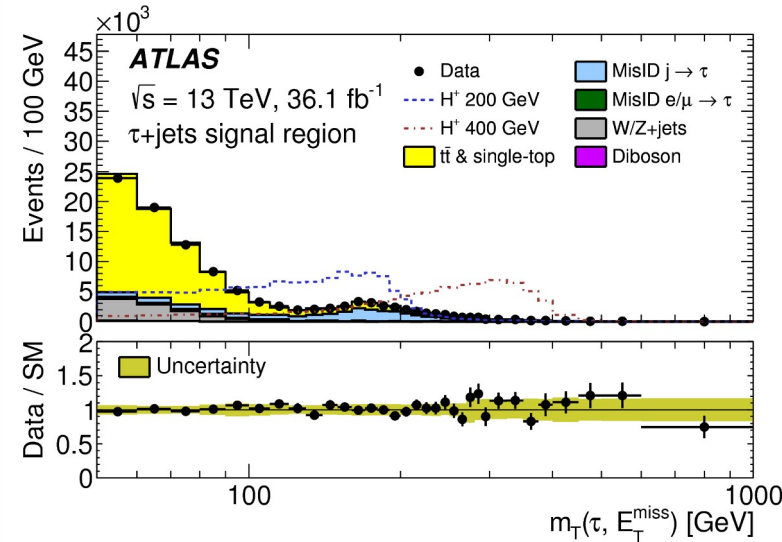
Sample	Event yields $\tau_{\text{had-vis}} + \text{jets}$		
True τ_{had}			
$t\bar{t}$	6900	± 60	± 1800
Single-top-quark	750	± 20	± 100
$W \rightarrow \tau\nu$	1050	± 30	± 180
$Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$	84	± 42	± 28
Diboson (WW, WZ, ZZ)	63.2	± 4.6	± 7.2
Misidentified $e, \mu \rightarrow \tau_{\text{had-vis}}$	265	± 12	± 35
Misidentified jet $\rightarrow \tau_{\text{had-vis}}$	2370	± 20	± 260
All backgrounds	11500	± 80	± 1800
H^+ (170 GeV), hMSSM $\tan\beta = 40$	1400	± 10	± 170
H^+ (1000 GeV), hMSSM $\tan\beta = 40$	10.33	± 0.06	± 0.78
Data	11021		

- Expected event yields for the backgrounds and a hypothetical H^+ signal.

Dominant backgrounds: $t\bar{t}$ production, jets misidentified as fake τ .

Background estimation:

- Backgrounds with a true τ : MC
- Backgrounds with leptons faking τ : MC + data driven corrections
- Backgrounds with jets faking τ : data-driven fake-factor method



- Distribution of m_{τ} for the background and signal corresponding to the H^+ mass 200 and 400 GeV.

Since the H^+ signal is weak compared to the SM backgrounds, an effective way of signal-background separation is needed.



Multivariate Analysis approach [JHEP 09 \(2018\) 139](#)

- The output score of the machine learning algorithm is used to separate the signal from the SM background processes.
- Machine learning algorithm used: Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs)
- Separate trainings for τ +jets and τ +lep channels
- Training in 5 H^+ mass bins.
- Polarisation variable Υ is used for 1-prong τ objects with $m_{H^+} < 500$ GeV

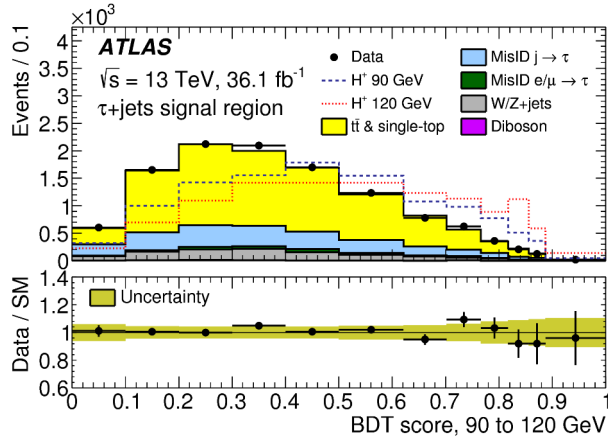
BDT input variable	$\tau_{\text{had-vis+jets}}$	$\tau_{\text{had-vis+lepton}}$
E_T^{miss}	✓	✓
p_T^τ	✓	✓
$p_T^{b\text{-jet}}$	✓	✓
p_T^ℓ		✓
$\Delta\phi_{\tau, \text{miss}}$	✓	✓
$\Delta\phi_{b\text{-jet, miss}}$	✓	✓
$\Delta\phi_{\ell, \text{miss}}$		✓
$\Delta R_{\tau, \ell}$		✓
$\Delta R_{b\text{-jet}, \ell}$		✓
$\Delta R_{b\text{-jet}, \tau}$	✓	
Υ	✓	✓

$$\Upsilon = \frac{E_T^{\pi^\pm} - E_T^{\pi^0}}{E_T^\tau} \approx 2 \frac{p_T^{\tau\text{-track}}}{p_T^\tau} - 1$$

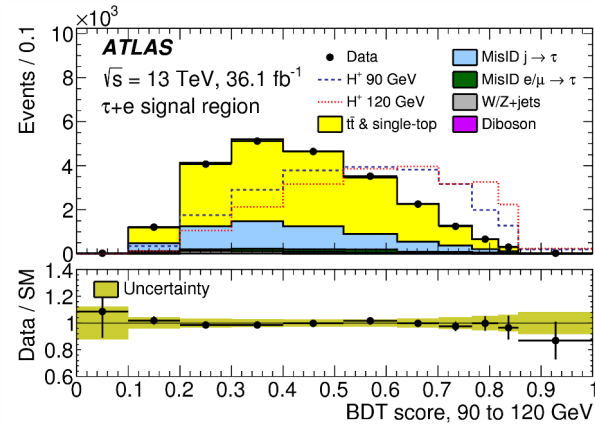


Boosted Decision Trees scores [JHEP 09 \(2018\) 139](#)

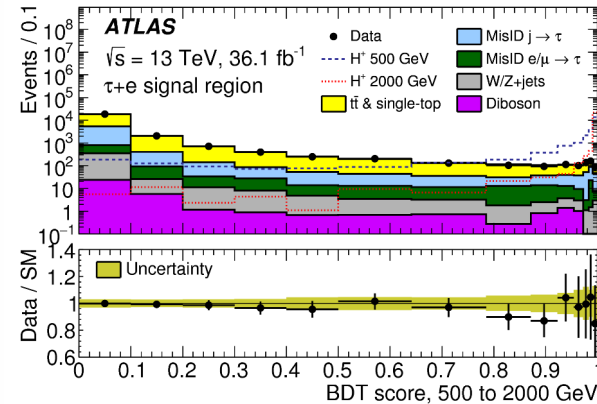
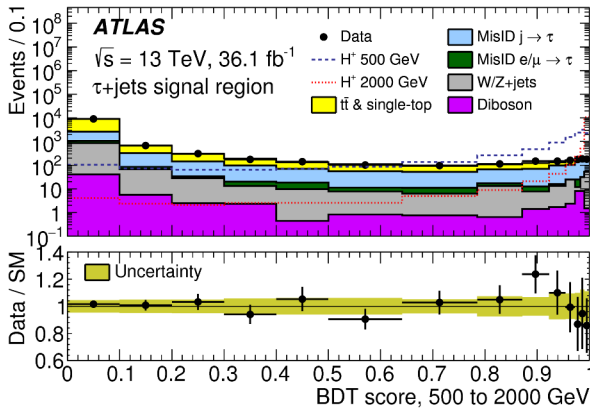
τ +jets signal region



τ +e signal region



H^+ mass:
90-120 GeV



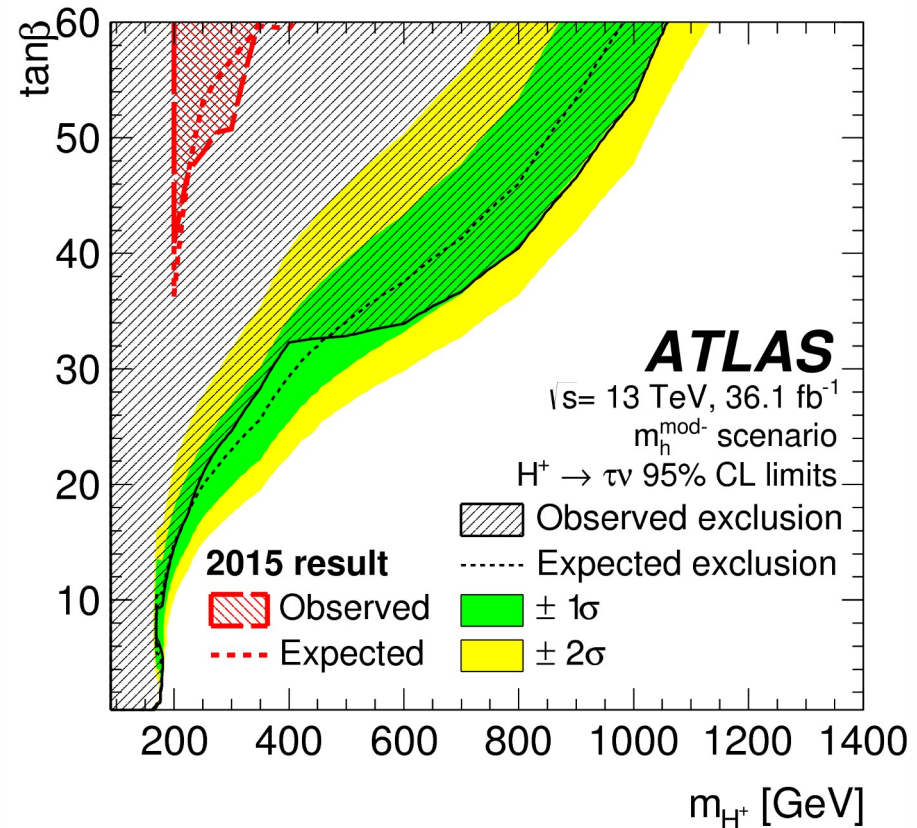
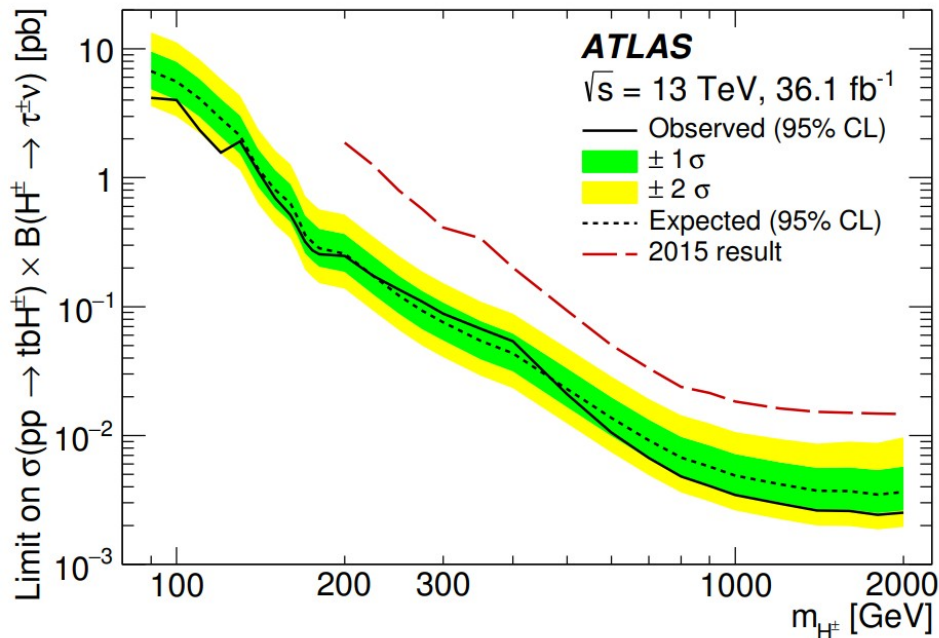
H^+ mass:
500-
- 2000 GeV

$H^+ \rightarrow \tau\nu$ analysis – results [JHEP 09 \(2018\) 139](#)

Systematic uncertainties:

dominant at low m_{H^+} : fake factors method

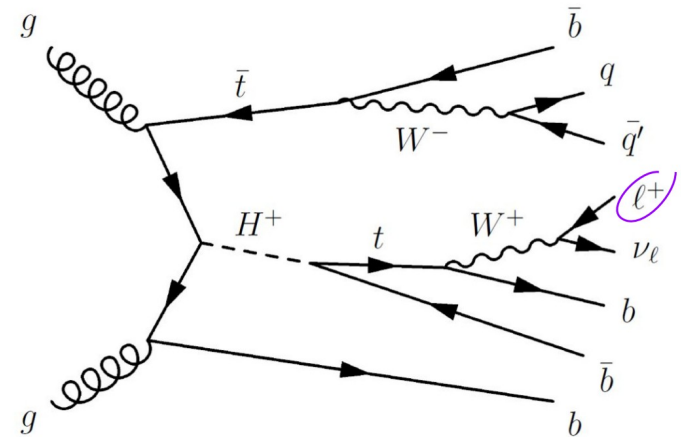
dominant at high m_{H^+} : signal modelling



No statistically significant deviation from the SM predictions found.

Search for charged Higgs bosons decaying into a top quark and a bottom quark at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV with the ATLAS detector [JHEP 06 \(2021\) 145](#)

- 139 fb⁻¹ of data from the whole Run2.
- H[±] mass range 200-2000 GeV.
- Single lepton channel targeted.
- **Event selection:**
 - Exactly one lepton (e⁺ or μ⁺).
 - ≥ 5 jets, ≥ 2 b-tagged at 70% efficiency.
- **Classify events according to jet and b-jet multiplicities:**
 - Four signal regions: 5j3b, 5j≥4b, ≥6j3b, ≥6j≥4b.

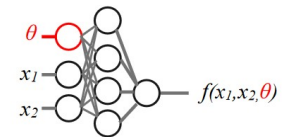
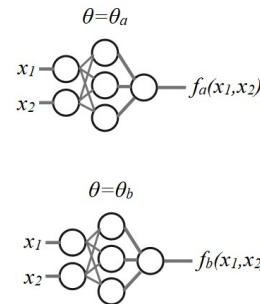


Dominant backgrounds: ttbar + jets
Similarly to the H[±] → τν process, the high amount of the backgrounds requires an effective method of signal-background separation.

[JHEP 06 \(2021\) 145](#)

Parametrised Neural Networks [JHEP 06 \(2021\) 145](#)

- This kind of algorithm is able to smoothly interpolate between the values of the parameter (in this case, the mass of H^+).
- High-level kinematic variables (e.g. leading jet p_T) are used as an input to the pNN algorithm.
- A single training is performed for each signal region.
- All H^+ samples are included in a single training:
 - Simplifies training, benefits from the continuity, effectively more signal statistics, allows interpolation.



Instead of training the network for each value of the parameter „ θ ”, this parameter is added to the list of input variables.

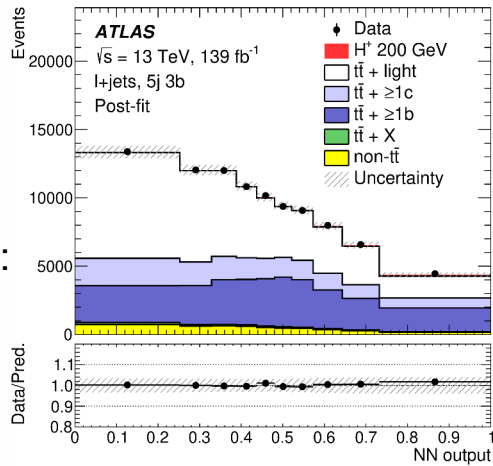
<https://doi.org/10.1140/epjc/s10052-016-4099-4>



PNN scores [JHEP 06 \(2021\) 145](#)

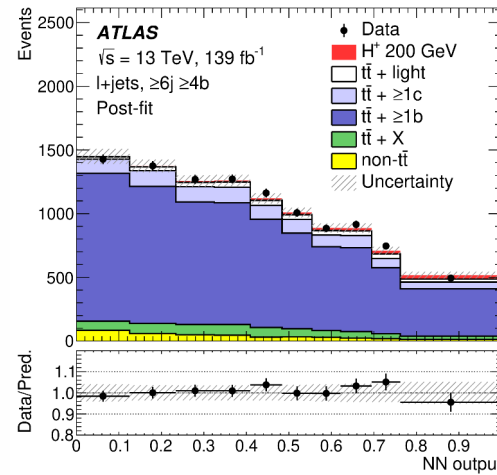
H⁺ mass:
200 GeV

Signal region:
>6j ≥ 4b



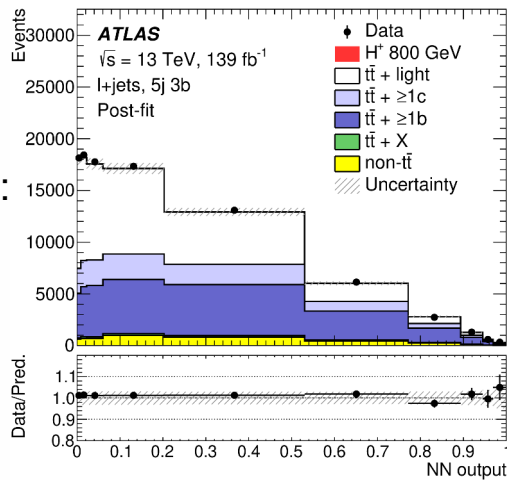
H⁺ mass:
200 GeV

Signal region:
>6j ≥ 4b



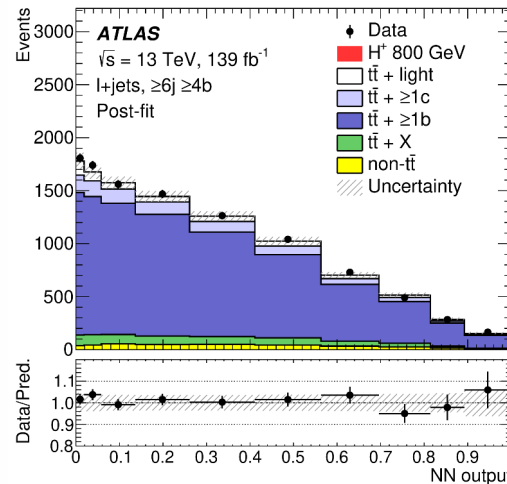
H⁺ mass:
800 GeV

Signal region:
>6j ≥ 4b



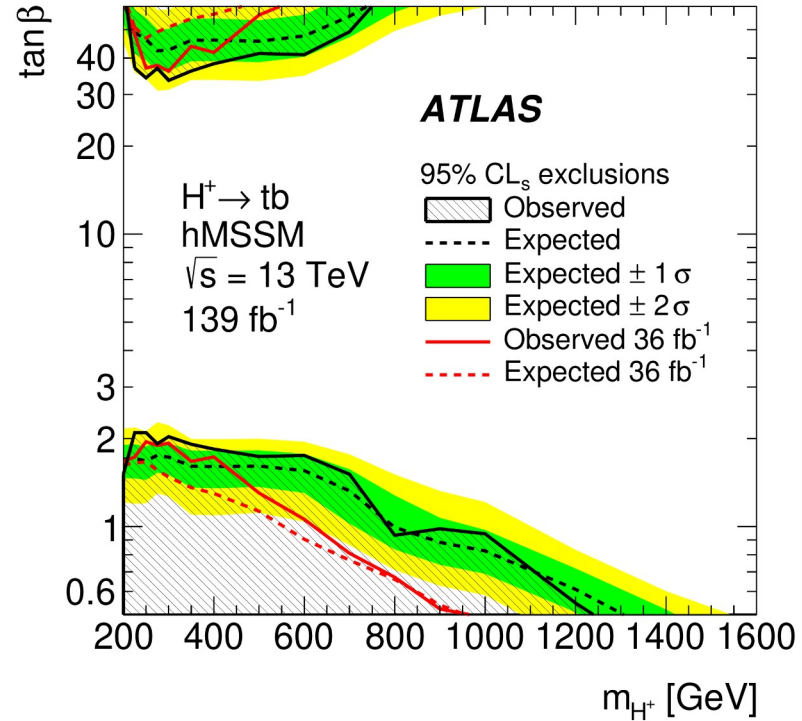
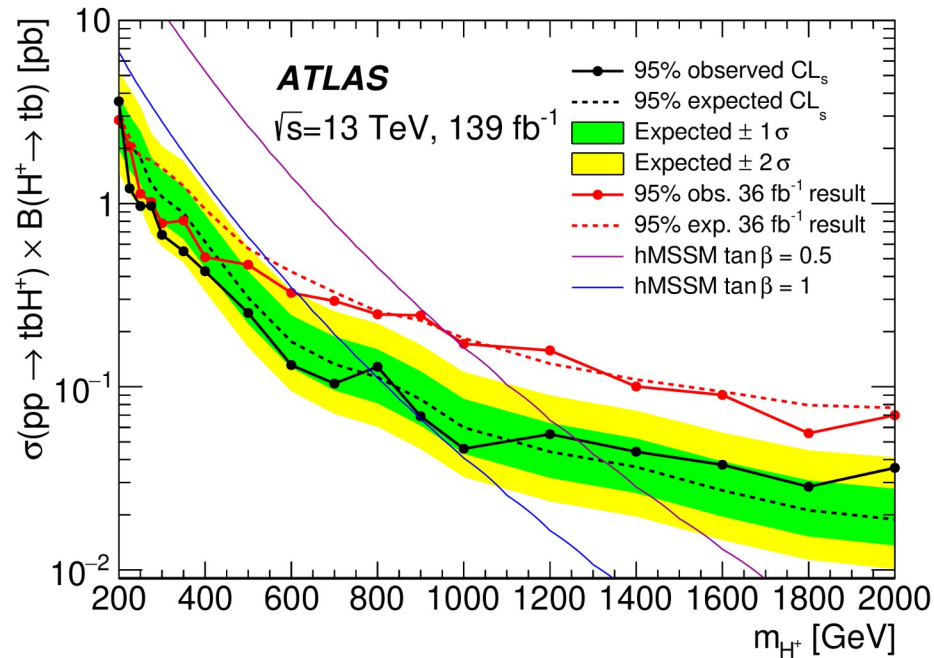
H⁺ mass:
800 GeV

Signal region:
>6j ≥ 4b



$H^+ \rightarrow tb$ analysis – results

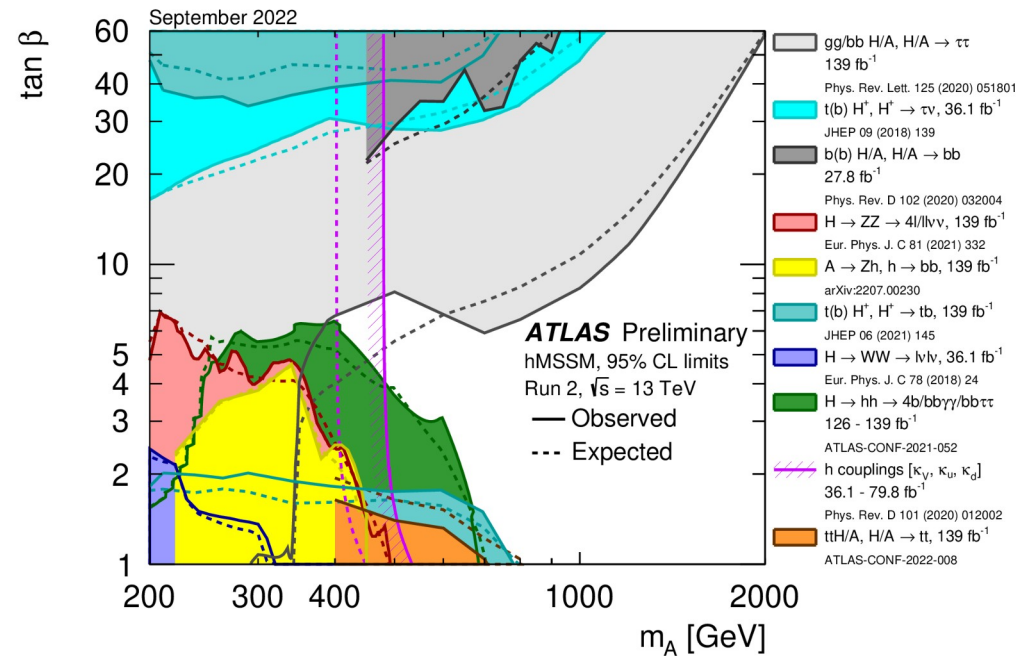
[JHEP 06 \(2021\) 145](#)



- No statistically significant deviation from the SM predictions found.
- Dominant systematic uncertainties: $t\bar{t} \geq 1b$ modelling.

Summary

- Finding the H^+ would be an evidence for the physics beyond the Standard Model.
- The searches for H^+ are targeting different production and decay modes, such as $H^+ \rightarrow \tau\nu$, $H^+ \rightarrow tb$.
- Both analyses helped to update the exclusion limits on the corresponding decays.
- MVA proves to be a valuable tool for data analysis in this type of searches.



Exclusion limits on $\tan \beta$ in the context of hMSSM. Results from both described analyses are included.

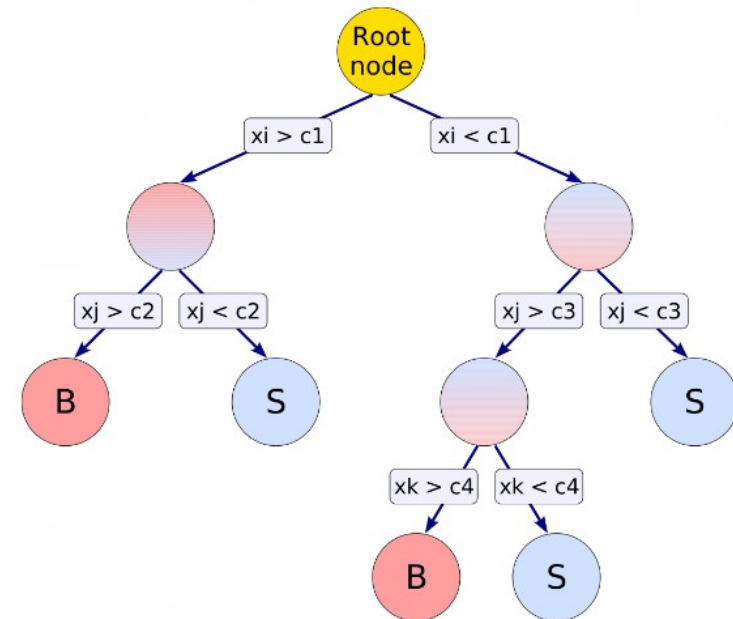
ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-043



BACKUP SLIDES

Boosted Decision Trees

- The goal of the algorithm is to predict whether the event belongs to the „signal” or „background” class.
- After each of the tree nodes, a cut is applied which produces two daughter nodes.
- After the stopping condition is reached, a purity value is assigned to the final node.





$H^+ \rightarrow tb$ background composition

$m_{H^+} = 200$ GeV hypothesis				
	5j, 3b	5j, $\geq 4b$	$\geq 6j, 3b$	$\geq 6j, \geq 4b$
$t\bar{t} + \text{light}$	45000 ± 4000	310 ± 110	32000 ± 4000	340 ± 140
$t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$	29600 ± 2900	2940 ± 220	40200 ± 3300	8000 ± 500
$t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$	14000 ± 4000	440 ± 140	19000 ± 6000	1010 ± 290
$t\bar{t} + W$	110 ± 15	3.2 ± 0.6	236 ± 35	16.2 ± 2.7
$t\bar{t} + Z$	300 ± 40	51 ± 6	670 ± 90	174 ± 23
Single-top Wt -channel	2300 ± 600	80 ± 50	1900 ± 800	150 ± 90
Single-top t -channel	740 ± 300	51 ± 20	500 ± 400	60 ± 50
Other top-quark sources	128 ± 16	17.5 ± 3.2	180 ± 70	58 ± 24
VV & V + jets	1600 ± 600	65 ± 23	1600 ± 600	120 ± 40
$t\bar{t}H$	530 ± 60	127 ± 19	1140 ± 120	430 ± 60
H^+	600 ± 900	70 ± 90	700 ± 1000	160 ± 230
Total	95700 ± 2900	4150 ± 140	98400 ± 2900	10500 ± 400
Data	95852	4109	98929	10552

$m_{H^+} = 800$ GeV hypothesis				
	5j, 3b	5j, $\geq 4b$	$\geq 6j, 3b$	$\geq 6j, \geq 4b$
$t\bar{t} + \text{light}$	46000 ± 4000	330 ± 120	33000 ± 4000	500 ± 200
$t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$	29600 ± 3100	2920 ± 210	41000 ± 4000	8100 ± 400
$t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$	14000 ± 6000	440 ± 190	17000 ± 7000	870 ± 330
$t\bar{t} + W$	108 ± 15	3.3 ± 0.6	233 ± 35	16.0 ± 2.7
$t\bar{t} + Z$	300 ± 40	50 ± 7	660 ± 90	171 ± 23
Single-top Wt -channel	2000 ± 500	56 ± 33	1400 ± 500	100 ± 60
Single-top t -channel	740 ± 300	53 ± 21	600 ± 500	70 ± 50
Other top-quark sources	130 ± 16	17.7 ± 3.2	190 ± 70	61 ± 24
VV & V + jets	1900 ± 700	73 ± 25	1700 ± 600	130 ± 50
$t\bar{t}H$	520 ± 60	125 ± 19	1130 ± 120	420 ± 60
H^+	30 ± 80	4 ± 10	70 ± 180	20 ± 50
Total	94700 ± 2800	4070 ± 140	97800 ± 2800	10400 ± 400
Data	95852	4109	98929	10552



$H^+ \rightarrow \tau\nu$ analysis – kinematic variables used for the MVA

1. E_T^{miss} - missing transverse energy;
2. p_T^τ - visible transverse momentum of τ lepton; in case of more τ_{had} candidates the one with the highest p_T^τ is chosen;
3. p_T^{b-jet} - transverse momentum of b-tagged jet; in case of more b-jets the one with the highest p_T^{b-jet} was chosen;
4. $\Delta\Phi_{\tau_{had-vis}, E_T^{miss}}$ - difference in azimuthal angle between a reconstructed hadronically decaying τ lepton and the direction of the missing transverse momentum;
5. $\Delta\Phi_{b-jet, E_T^{miss}}$ - difference in azimuthal angle between a reconstructed b-tagged jet and the direction of the missing transverse momentum;
6. $\Delta R_{b-jet, \tau_{had-vis}}$ - difference of radius parameter between a reconstructed b-tagged jet and a reconstructed hadronically decaying τ lepton.

$$\Upsilon = \frac{E_T^{\pi^\pm} - E_T^{\pi^0}}{E_T^\tau} \approx 2 \frac{p_T^{\tau-track}}{p_T^\tau} - 1,$$

where: $E_T^{\pi^\pm, 0}$ - energies carried by the charged and neutral pions in the 1-prong τ lepton decay, $p_T^{\tau-track}$ - transverse momentum of the track associated with τ_{had} , E_T^τ - transverse energy of the τ lepton. This variable can be only defined for the events where τ_{had} has only one associated track.



$H^+ \rightarrow tb$ analysis – kinematic variables used for the MVA

- kinematic discriminant D defined in the text,
- scalar sum of the p_T of all jets,
- centrality calculated using all jets and leptons,
- p_T of the leading jet,
- p_T of fifth leading jet,
- invariant mass of the b -jet pair with minimum ΔR ,
- invariant mass of the b -jet pair with maximum p_T ,
- largest invariant mass of a b -jet pair,
- invariant mass of the jet triplet with maximum p_T ,
- invariant mass of the untagged jet-pair with minimum ΔR (not in $5j \geq 4b$),
- average ΔR between all b -jet pairs in the event,
- ΔR between the lepton and the pair of b -jets with smallest ΔR ,
- second Fox-Wolfram moment calculated using all jets and leptons
- number of jets (only in $\geq 6j3b$ and $\geq 6j \geq 4b$ regions), and
- number of b -jets (only in $5j \geq 4b$ and $\geq 6j \geq 4b$ regions).



BDT architecture in the $H^+ \rightarrow \tau\nu$ analysis

Hyperparameter	Mass ranges	Mass points
n estimators	100	80
learning rate	0.1	0.1
max depth	10	8
min samples leaf	0.005	0.005
min samples split	0.01	0.02

pNN architecture in the $H^+ \rightarrow tb$ analysis

- 2 fully connected layers of 64 nodes
- Activation function: rectified linear unit
- Loss function: binary cross-entropy
- Dropout: 10%



Expected distributions of the pNN output in the $H^+ \rightarrow tb$ analysis

