

# Vector Boson Scattering in ATLAS and CMS

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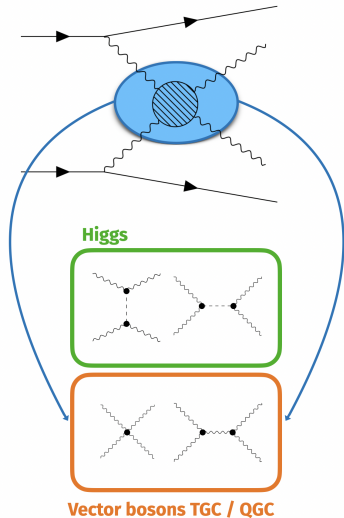
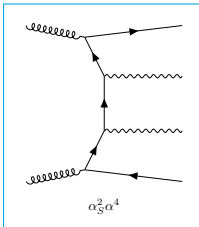
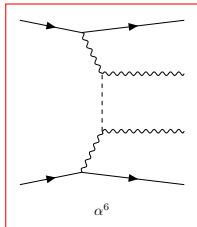


2024 LHC Days in Split

Vector boson scattering (**VBS**) happens at the LHC when the **two incoming partons radiate electroweak vector bosons that interact** with each other

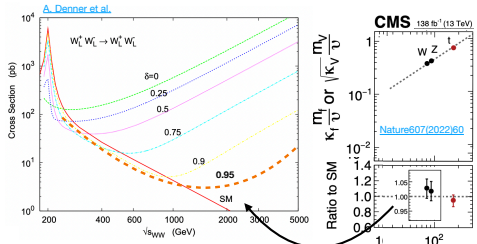
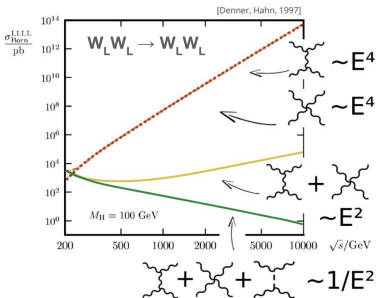
- ▶ **Without photons, VBS presents a 6-fermions final state:** 2 jets coming from the initial state partons, 4 coming from the scattered bosons
- ▶ **Peculiar kinematical properties:** 2 jets in the forward region with high  $\Delta\eta_{jj}$  and  $m_{jj}$ , no additional hadronic activity in the **rapidity gap**

At LO VBS contributions come from **purely-EW processes**  $\alpha^6$ , **QCD-induced**  $\alpha_S^2\alpha^4$  and the interference  $\alpha_S\alpha^5$



**VBS is a fundamental probe to understand the **electroweak symmetry breaking mechanism****

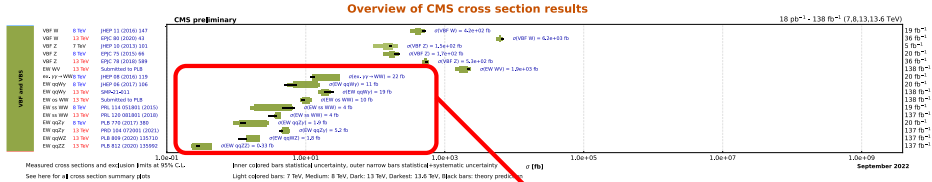
**The presence of the Higgs field regularizes the VBS cross-section** by canceling exactly the  $E^2$  behaviour of bosonic-only processes.



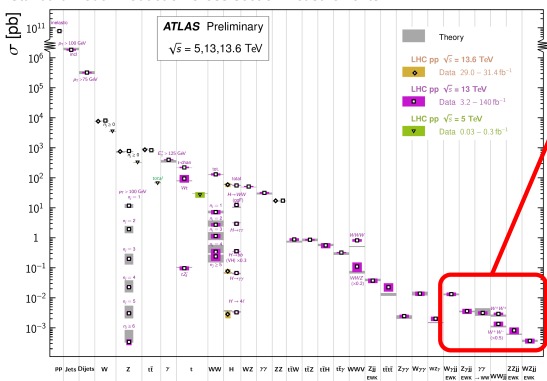
~5% Uncertainty on hVV couplings

**A delicate equilibrium:** if Higgs boson not SM one ( $\delta$ ), energy-growth of  $V_L V_L \rightarrow V_L V_L$  cross section  $\rightarrow$  **New physics**

# VBS Landscape at ATLAS and CMS



## Standard Model Production Cross Section Measurements



**VBS  $\sigma$  varies from 0.33 fb ( $qqZZ$ ) to 19 fb ( $qqW\gamma$ )**

**VBS processes amongst the rarest we have studied at the LHC. Now several results are public with SM and BSM interpretation**

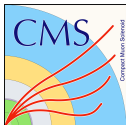
[CMS summary plot](#)  
[ATLAS summary plot](#)



# VBS Landscape at ATLAS and CMS



Thanks to the integrated Run II Luminosity, **VBS measurements are quickly populating the experimental landscape** of Standard Model (SM) measurements.  This talk



$\sqrt{s}$	$\mathcal{L}$	Process	Article	Comments
13 TeV	$137 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $W^\pm W^\pm jj(2l2\nu jj)$	PhysLettB809(2020)	Run II: $\gg 5\sigma$
	$137 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $W^\pm Zjj(3l\nu jj)$	PhysLettB809(2020)135710	Run II: <b>6.8<math>\sigma</math></b>
	$137 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $ZZjj(4ljj)$	PhysLettB812(2021)135992	Run II: <b>4<math>\sigma</math></b>
	$137 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $Z\gamma jj(l\nu\gamma jj)$	PhysRevD.104.072001	Run II: $\gg 5\sigma$
	$138 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $W^\pm \gamma jj(l\nu\gamma jj)$	PhysRevD108(2023)032017	Run II: <b>6.0<math>\sigma</math></b>
	$138 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $W^\pm Vjj(l\nu jjjj)$	PhysLettB834(2022)137438	Run II: <b>4.4<math>\sigma</math></b>
	$138 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $W^\pm W^\mp jj(2l2\nu jj)$	PhysLettB841(2023)137495	Run II: <b>5.6<math>\sigma</math></b>
	$138 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $W^\pm W^\pm jj(\tau l2\nu jj)$	CMS-PAS-SMP-22-008	Run II: 2.7 $\sigma$



$\sqrt{s}$	$\mathcal{L}$	Process	Article	Comments
13 TeV	$140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $Z(\nu\nu\gamma jj)$	JHEP06(2023)082	Run II: <b>3.2<math>\sigma</math></b>
	$140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $Z(l\nu jj)$	PhysLettB846(2023)138222	Run II: $\gg 5\sigma$
	$139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $ZZjj(4l + 2l2\nu jj)$	NaturePhysics19(2023)237	Run II: <b>5.7<math>\sigma</math></b>
	$139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $ZZjj(4ljj)$	JHEP01(2024)004	-
	$139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $W^\pm W^\pm jj(2l2\nu jj)$	JHEP04(2024)026	Run II: $\gg 5\sigma$
	$140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $W^+ W^- jj(e\mu\nu\nu jj)$	JHEP07(2024)254	Run II: <b>7.1<math>\sigma</math></b>
	$140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $W^\pm \gamma jj(l\nu\gamma jj)$	CERN-EP-2024-048	Run II: $\gg 5\sigma$
	$140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	EW $W^\pm Zjj(3l\nu jj)$	JHEP06(2024)192	Run II: $\gg 5\sigma$

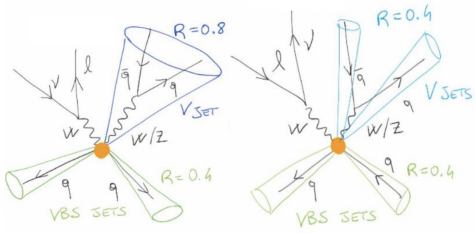
# Semi-leptonic VBS $W^\pm V \rightarrow l\nu jj$



## First LHC evidence of a semileptonic VBS process.

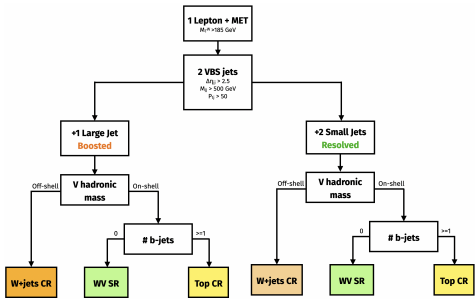
Final state with 4 jets, one charged lepton + MET. Search for  $WV$  VBS where the  $W^\pm \rightarrow l^\pm \nu_l$  and  $V(W^\pm/Z) \rightarrow q\bar{q}$

- ▶ **Resolved regime:** Four  $R = 0.4$  jets resolved in  $\Delta R$
- ▶ **Boosted regime:** Two  $R = 0.4$  and one  $R = 0.8$  jets for boosted decays of the  $V$ -boson



## Harsh multijet background

- ▶ **Dominant  $W$ +jets** production  $\rightarrow$  data driven based corrections in  $p_T^{W,\ell}$  and  $p_T^{VBS}$  in CR.
- ▶ **semileptonic  $t\bar{t}$  and single top:** constrained from data in  $b$ -enriched CR.
- ▶ **Non-prompt** mainly from QCD-multijet, data driven estimate



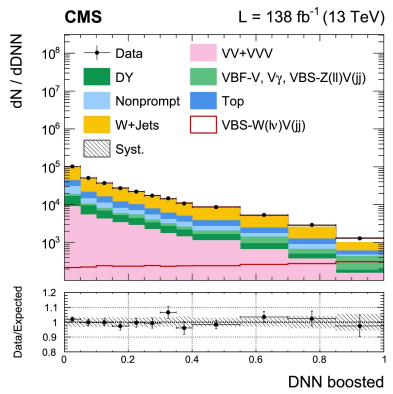
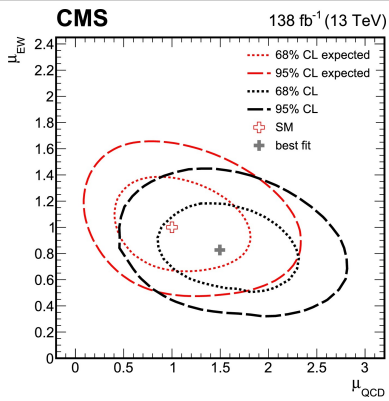
# Semi-leptonic VBS $W^{\pm}V \rightarrow lvjj$

**DNN is used for signal extraction** (boost/res) which improves the significance of a factor 3 with respect to  $m_{jj}$ . Results reported for **pure EW VBS** production, for the joint fit with the **QCD-induced background** and in **2 dimensions** for  $\mu_{EW}, \mu_{QCD}$ . **Measurement agrees with SM expectations**

**Evidence for the VBS EW production of  $W^{\pm}V \rightarrow lvjj$  with a significance of  $4.4\sigma$**

$$\mu_{EW} = 0.85 \pm 0.12(\text{stat})_{-0.17}^{+0.19}(\text{syst}) = 0.85_{-0.21}^{+0.23}$$

$$\mu_{EW+QCD} = 0.97 \pm 0.06(\text{stat})_{-0.21}^{+0.19}(\text{syst}) = 0.97_{-0.22}^{+0.20}$$



# Leptonic $W^+W^- \rightarrow e\mu 2\nu$ ATLAS

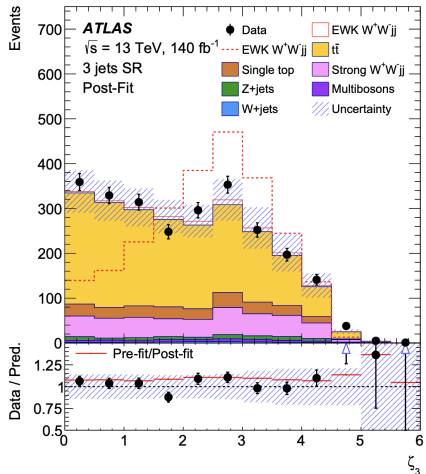
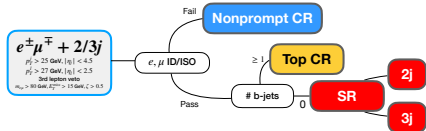
Final state with **2/3 jets, two isolated leptons with opposite charge, different flavour and MET.**

- ▶  $e\mu$  Drell-Yan reduced (low contamination from  $\tau\tau \rightarrow e\mu$ )
- ▶  $m_{e\mu} < 80$  GeV suppresses VBF- $h$
- ▶  $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 15$  GeV further suppresses Drell-Yan
- ▶ **No  $m_{jj}$  cut** but SR split by jet multiplicity (2/3)  $\rightarrow 1\sigma$  increase

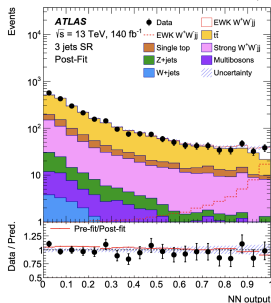
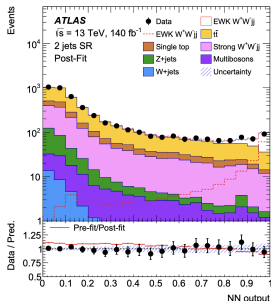
## Backgrounds

- ▶ **Dominant leptonic  $t\bar{t}$**  and **single- $t$** . Dedicated CR for normalization
- ▶ **QCD-induced VBS**. No CR but normalization freely floating

Region	EW-VBS	QCD-VBS	Top
SR2j	3.4%	26.3%	62.6%
SR3j	2.1%	20.2%	72.7%

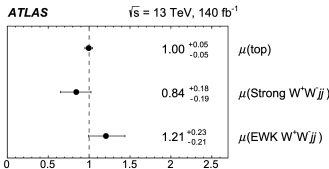


# Leptonic $W^+W^- \rightarrow e\mu 2\nu$ ATLAS



- ▶ Two DNNs trained in 2j and 3j SR to distinguish **EW VBS** **WW** from  **$t\bar{t}$**  + **single-t** + **QCD-induced VBS**.
- ▶ Profiled likelihood fit on DNN spectra in SR(2j,3j) and Top CR
- ▶ Floating signal strength, top and QCD-induced VBS normalization

**Observation of EW  $W^+W^-jj \rightarrow e\mu 2\nu jj$  with a significance of  $7.1\sigma$  ( $6.2$  expected)**



Source	Impact %
<b>Total</b>	<b>18.5</b>
Data stat.	12.3
Tot. syst.	13.8
MC stat.	7.7
Top theory	6.3
Sig. theory	5.8
JES	4.9
Top norm.	4.9
...	...

$\sigma_{EW}^{VBS}$  measured in a fiducial region close to the SR with **additional  $m_{jj} > 500 \text{ GeV}$**  ( $\sim \text{DNN} > 0.6$ ):  
 suppress triboson

$$\sigma_{obs}^{fid} = 2.65_{-0.46}^{+0.49} \text{ fb}; \quad \sigma_{exp}^{fid} = 2.20_{-0.13}^{+0.14} \text{ fb}$$

# Leptonic $W^+W^- \rightarrow 2l2\nu$ CMS

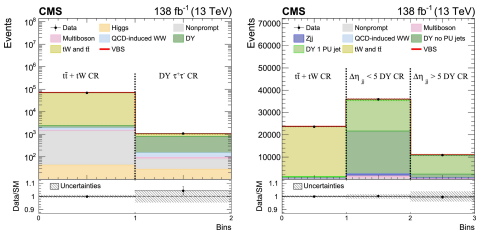
ATLAS:  $e\mu 2\nu$ , CMS:  $2l2\nu \rightarrow$  different background composition with flavour

- ▶  $ee, \mu\mu$  additional DY contribution
- ▶  $e\mu$  DY reduced (low contamination from  $\tau\tau \rightarrow e\mu$ ) → **Driving the sensitivity**

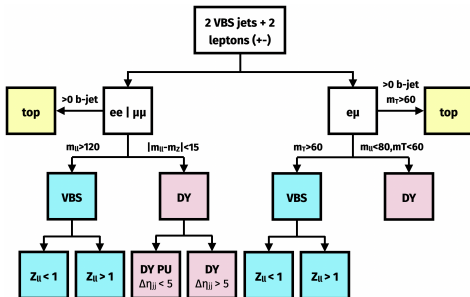
**Fine regions definition** based on  $Z_{ll}$  and  $\Delta\eta_{jj}$ .

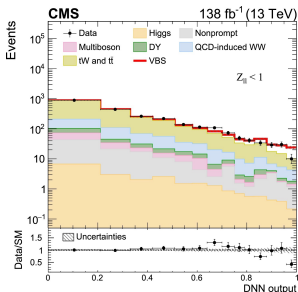
## Backgrounds

- ▶ **Dominant leptonic**  $t\bar{t}$  and  $tW$
- ▶ **DY** only in SF categories → divided into PU and no-PU
- ▶ **QCD-induced VBS**. No CR for this background but normalization freely floating
- ▶ **Nonprompt** mainly from  $W$ +jets, data driven estimate



CR post-fit yield. Right:  $e\mu$ , Left  $ee + \mu\mu$





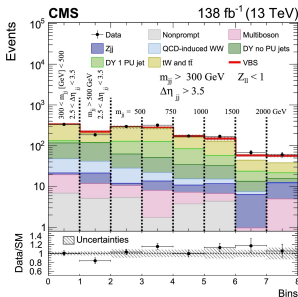
## Lepton-flavour dependent signal extraction

### Different flavour $e\mu$

- ▶ DNN trained against  $t\bar{t}$ ,  $tW$  and QCD-VBS
- ▶ Different models for  $Z_{ll} < 1$  and  $Z_{ll} > 1$

### Same flavour $ee/\mu\mu$

- ▶ 5  $m_{jj}$  bins for  $m_{jj} \geq 500$  GeV and  $\Delta\eta \geq 3.5$
- ▶ 3 bins in  $\Delta\eta$  and  $m_{jj}$  with lower sensitivity



**The VBS EW production of  $W^\pm W^\mp$  is observed with a significance  $5.6\sigma$  ( $5.2$  expected)**

Two fiducial volumes (inclusive and exclusive) used to measure the process cross-section. **Good agreement with SM predictions at LO**

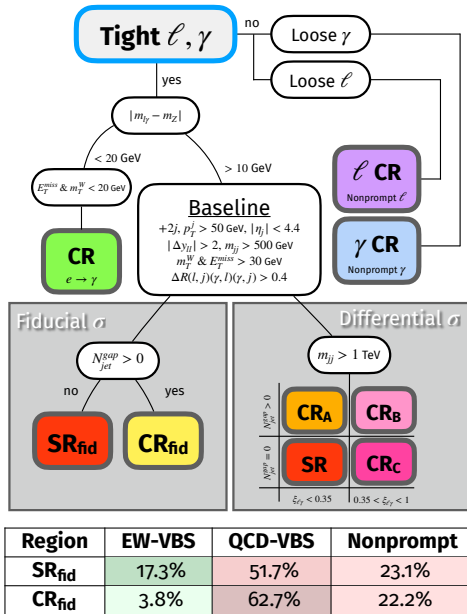
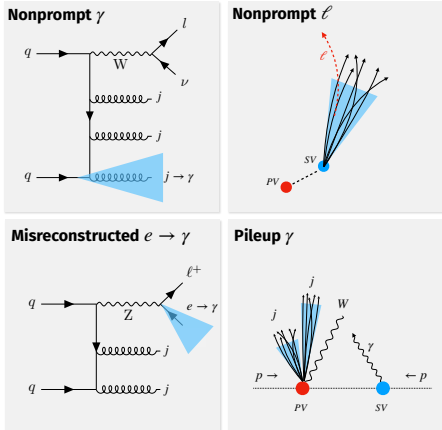
Fiducial region	$\sigma$ measured	$\sigma$ SM@LO
Inclusive	$99 \pm 20$ fb	$89 \pm 5$ fb
Exclusive	$10.2 \pm 2.0$ fb	$9.1 \pm 0.6$

# Leptonic $W^{\pm}\gamma \rightarrow l\nu\gamma$ ATLAS

Final state with **2 VBS-jets, high- $p_T$   $e/\mu$  and  $\gamma$  and MET**. High cross-section ( $\alpha_{EW}^5$ ) but difficult nonprompt  $l, \gamma$  estimation

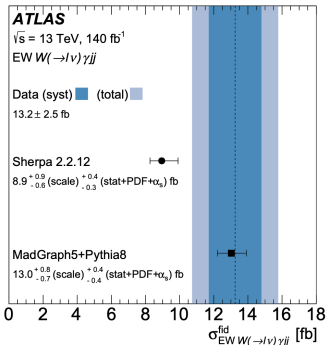
## Backgrounds

- Prompt  $l, \gamma$ :** QCD-VBS,  $Z\gamma jj$ ,  $tX + \gamma$





# Leptonic $W^{\pm}\gamma \rightarrow l\nu\gamma$ ATLAS

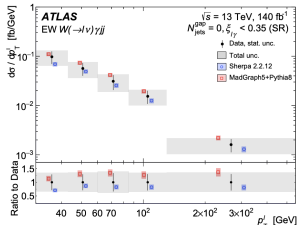
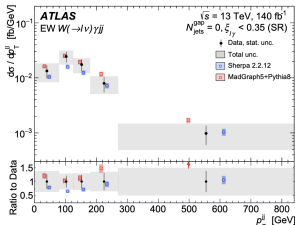
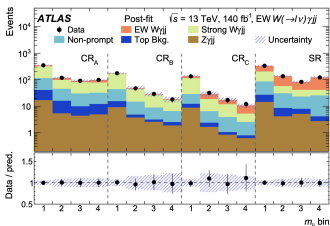


Profile likelihood fit of **DNN spectra** (EW-VBS vs QCD-VBS +  $Z\gamma jj$  + top) in  $SR_{fid}$ ,  $CR_{fid}$  to measure  $\mu_{EW}$  and  $\sigma_{EW}$  in fiducial phase space  $\rightarrow$  large uncertainty in generator choice (Sherpa, MG5)

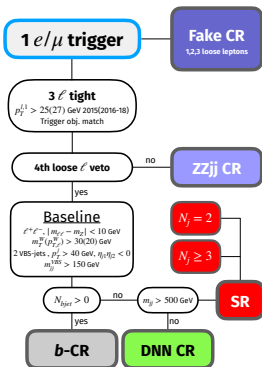
**Observation of EW  $W\gamma jj$  with a significance  $> 6.0 \sigma$**

$$\sigma_{EW}^{\text{fid}} = 12.3 \pm 2.5 \text{ fb}; \quad \mu_{EW} = 1.5 \pm 0.5$$

**Differential cross section** in  $m_{jj}$ ,  $p_T^{jj}$ ,  $\Delta\phi_{jj}$ ,  $m_{e\gamma}$ ,  $p_T^e$ ,  $\Delta\phi_{e\gamma}$  (iterative  $n = 2$  Bayesian unfolding). **EFT dimension-8 interpretation** from  $p_T^{jj}(f_T, i)$ ,  $p_T^e(f_M, i)$ : **in agreement with SM** within unitary bounds on  $m_{W\gamma}$

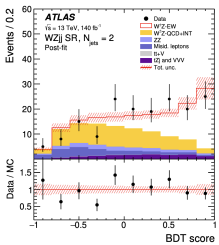
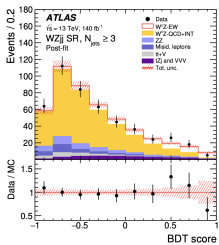
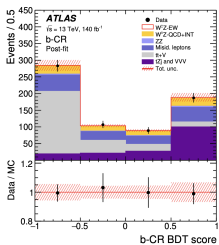
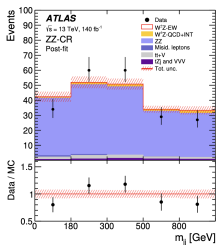


# Leptonic $W^\pm Z \rightarrow 3l\nu$ ATLAS



Final state with **2 VBS-jets, 3 leptons** ( $e, \mu$ ) compatible with WZ and MET

- ▶ Good S/B, **dominant background strong-WZjj** production ( $\alpha_{EW}^4 \alpha_S^2$ )  $\rightarrow$  BDT to separate from EW signal
- ▶ **Nonprompt** ( $Z + j, Z\gamma, t\bar{t}, tW, WW$ ) data-driven matrix method
- ▶ BDT to separate  $t\bar{t} + \nu$  and  $tzj$  in  $b$ -CR, constrain normalization in data
- ▶ **ZZjj CR** to constrain normalization in data
- ▶ **Signal BDT validated** in low  $m_{jj}^{VBS}$  region and with an **Adversarial-NN unbiased** in  $m_{jj}^{VBS}$

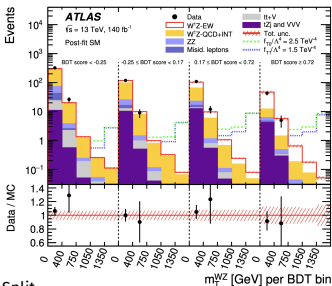
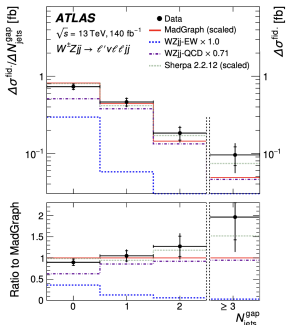
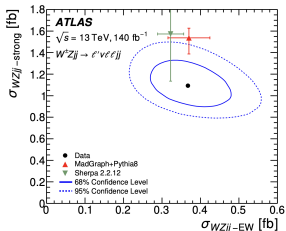


# Leptonic $W^\pm Z \rightarrow 3l\nu$ ATLAS

**WZjj-EW and QCD inclusive and differential measurements. EW prediction in agreement, QCD shows tension in  $N_j = 2$  SR and for  $0.5 < m_{jj}^{VBS} < 1.3$  TeV**

$$\sigma_{WZjj}^{EW} = 0.37 \pm 0.07 \text{ fb}; \quad \sigma_{WZjj}^{QCD} = 1.09 \pm 0.14 \text{ fb}$$

**Differential cross section for the WZjj(EW+QCD) production in  $\sum p_T^\ell$ ,  $\Delta\phi_{WZ}$ ,  $m_T^{WZ}$ ,  $N_j$ ,  $\delta y_{jj}$ ,  $m_{jj}$ ,  $N_j^{gap}$ ,  $\Delta\phi_{jj}$ ,  $z_{j3}$  and BDT (iterative  $n = 3$  Bayesian unfolding). **Direct EFT interpretation at dimension-8 from  $m_T^{WZ}$  preserving unitarity. No deviation from SM observed, agreement with CMS.****



	Expected [TeV <sup>-4</sup> ]	Observed [TeV <sup>-4</sup> ]
$f_{T0}/\Lambda^4$	[-0.80, 0.80]	[-0.57, 0.56]
$f_{T1}/\Lambda^4$	[-0.52, 0.49]	[-0.39, 0.35]
$f_{T2}/\Lambda^4$	[-1.6, 1.4]	[-1.2, 1.0]
$f_{M0}/\Lambda^4$	[-8.3, 8.3]	[-5.8, 5.6]
$f_{M1}/\Lambda^4$	[-12.3, 12.2]	[-8.6, 8.5]
$f_{M7}/\Lambda^4$	[-16.2, 16.2]	[-11.3, 11.3]
$f_{S02}/\Lambda^4$	[-14.2, 14.2]	[-10.4, 10.4]
$f_{S1}/\Lambda^4$	[-42, 41]	[-30, 30]

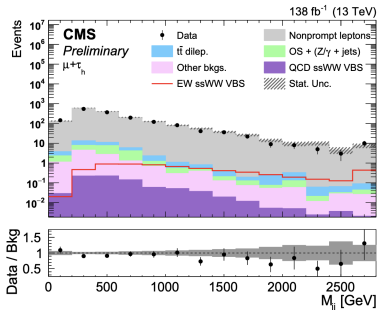
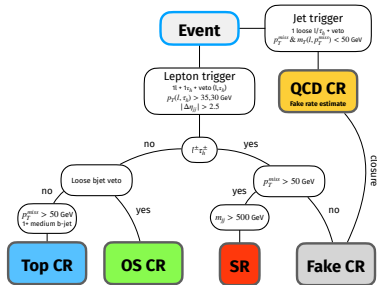
# Leptonic $W^\pm W^\pm \rightarrow \tau_h \ell 2\nu$ CMS

$W^\pm W^\pm$  VBS: minimum QCD-induced background.  
Exploit  $\tau_h$  **channel for the first time in VBS**. Final state with 2 VBS-jets, high-pT  $e/\mu$   $\tau_h$  and MET.

$\tau$ Decay	$e$	$\mu$	$\pi^-$	$\pi^- \pi^0$	$3\pi$	Other
BR (%)	18	18	11	25	18	10

## Backgrounds

- **Dominant Nonprompt** ( $W + jets$ , QCD) jets misidentified as leptons or  $\tau_h$ , dedicated CR
- **Leptonic  $t\bar{t}$** , normalization constrained in CR
- **Opposite sign** (VBS,  $Z/\gamma + jets$ ), normalization constrained in CR



Region	EW-VBS	Fake	$t\bar{t}$	OS+Z/ $\gamma$	QCD-VBS
SR $e\tau_h$	3.0%	92.2%	0.9%	2.0%	0.3%
SR $\mu\tau_h$	3.1%	93.3%	0.5%	1.7%	0.3%
$t\bar{t}$ CR	-	37.1%	61.6%	8.2%	-
OS CR	-	56.4%	7.9%	35.1%	-

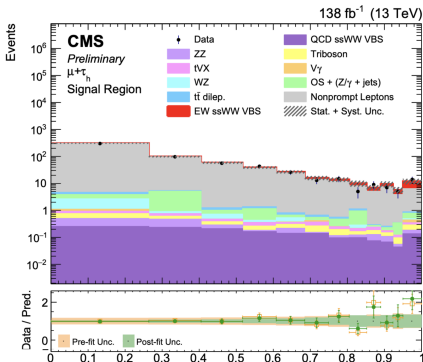
# Leptonic $W^\pm W^\pm \rightarrow \tau_h \ell 2\nu$ CMS

**Profiled likelihood fit to DNN spectra** in SR and OS, Top CR  $\rightarrow$  enhance discrimination of EW VBS from backgrounds:

- ▶ **SR + loose  $\ell$**  (nonprompt proxy):  $W$ +jets, had/semilep  $t\bar{t}$ ,  $Z/\gamma$  + jets
- ▶ **SR + tight  $\ell$** : ZZ, OS, leptonic  $t\bar{t}$

**EW  $W^\pm W^\pm jj \rightarrow \ell \tau_h 2\nu jj$  significance of  $2.7\sigma$**   
( $2.9\sigma$  EW+QCD).

$$\mu_{EW} = 1.44^{+0.63}_{-0.53}, \quad \mu_{EW+QCD} = 1.43^{+0.60}_{-0.54}$$

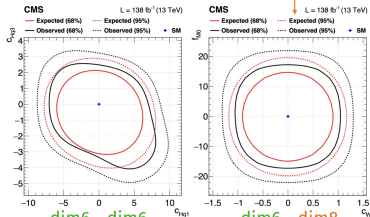


**BSM search in the context of SMEFT up to dimension-8: no deviations from SM**

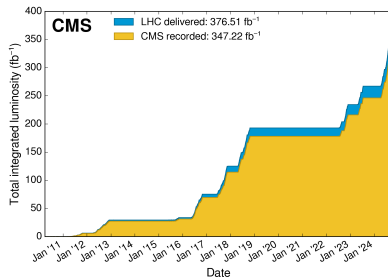
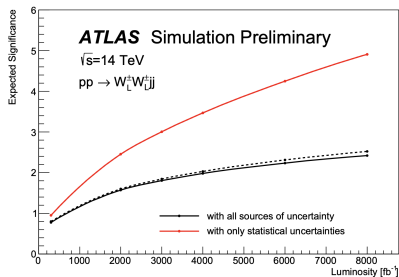
Wilson coefficient	95% CL interval		
	Observed	Expected	
dim-6	$c_W$	$[-0.842, 0.818]$	$[-0.987, 0.974]$
	$c_{HW}$	$[-8.68, 7.60]$	$[-9.99, 9.05]$
dim-8	$f_{T0}$	$[-1.32, 1.38]$	$[-1.52, 1.58]$
	$f_{M0}$	$[-13.1, 12.8]$	$[-14.6, 14.5]$
	$f_{S0}$	$[-15.9, 16.1]$	$[-17.4, 17.9]$

$$|A|^2 = |A_{SM}|^2 + \sum_{\alpha} \frac{c_{\alpha}}{\Lambda^2} \cdot 2 \operatorname{Re}(A_{SM} A_{Q_{\alpha}}^{\dagger}) + \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \frac{c_{\alpha} c_{\beta}}{\Lambda^4} \cdot (A_{Q_{\alpha}} A_{Q_{\beta}}^{\dagger}) + \sum_i \left[ \frac{f_i}{\Lambda^4} \cdot 2 \operatorname{Re}(A_{SM} A_{O_i}^{\dagger}) + \frac{f_i^2}{\Lambda^8} \cdot |A_{O_i}|^2 \right]$$

First time in VBS!



- ▶ **VBS among the rarest processes** to be measured at ATLAS and CMS
- ▶ Significant advancements from both collaborations: evidences and observations in various final states. **Good agreement with SM so far**
- ▶ Systematic indirect searches for new physics call for a coordinated and collective effort.
- ▶ **Run-3 data under analysis:** statistically limited channels will largely benefit from additional data



# BACKUP

Final state with **2 VBS-jets** and **two pairs of oppositely charged isolated leptons** with same flavour compatible with decay products of a Z boson.

## Regions

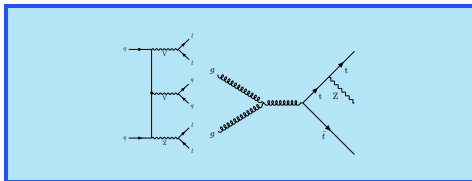
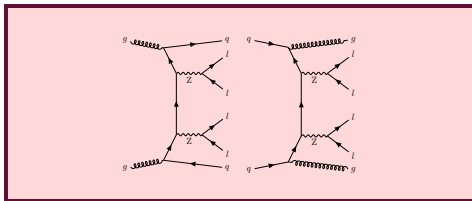
- ▶ EW significance, total fiducial cross sections and search for aQGCs in **ZZ-inclusive region**  $m_{jj} > 100$  GeV
- ▶ fiducial cross section measurements done in **two VBS-enriched** regions with  $\Delta\eta > 2.4$  and  $m_{jj} > 400$  GeV or  $m_{jj} > 1$  TeV
- ▶ **One background control region** with events from inclusive region not entering the loose VBS-enriched region

## Backgrounds

- ▶ **Dominant QCD-induced** ZZ production ( $q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZZ, gg \rightarrow ZZ$ )
- ▶  $t\bar{t}$ +jets,  $VV$ +jets irreducible
- ▶ Fake and non-prompt leptons mainly from Z+jets but also  $t\bar{t}$ +jets,  $WZ$ +jets

[PhysLettB812\(2021\)135992](#)

Region	EW-VBS	QCD-ZZ	Irr.	Z+jets
Inclusive	6.5%	82.3%	8.7%	2.5%
Loose	21.0%	71.7%	5.3%	2.1%
Tight	48.4%	46.2%	3.7%	1.7%





# Leptonic VBS ZZ $\rightarrow 4l$

**Signal extracted with Matrix Element Discriminant ( $K_D$ ).** Check that MVAs bring no significant gain

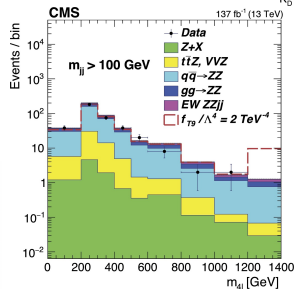
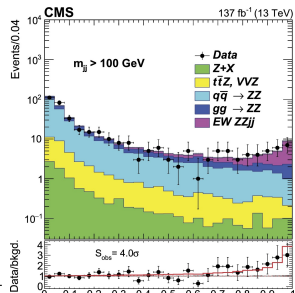
- ▶ **Evidence for EW VBS production  $4.0 \sigma$**  ( $3.5$  expected)
- ▶ Cross section (EW and EW+QCD) measured in three fiducial volumes with VBS-EW simulation at LO and NLO **Good agreement with SM**

Region	$\sigma$ (EW) fb
Inclusive	$0.33^{+0.11}_{-0.10}$ (stat) $^{+0.04}_{-0.03}$ (syst)
Loose	$0.180^{+0.070}_{-0.060}$ (stat) $^{+0.021}_{-0.012}$ (syst)
Tight	$0.09^{+0.04}_{-0.03}$ (stat) $\pm 0.02$ (syst)

**Limits on Wilson coefficients (W.c.) of transverse (T) dimension-8 operators** extracted from  $m_{4l}$  distribution. The VBS-ZZ is extremely sensitive to charged ( $T_0, T_1, T_2$ ) and neutral operators ( $T_8, T_9$ )

- ▶ **Unitarization** of the scattering amplitude  $|\mathcal{A}_{SM} + \frac{f_i}{\Lambda^4} \mathcal{A}_{O_8}|$  taken into account
- ▶ **No significant deviations from SM observed**

Coupling	Exp. lower	Exp. upper	Obs. lower	Obs. upper	Unitarity bound
$f_{T0}/\Lambda^4$	-0.37	0.35	-0.24 (-0.26)	0.22 (0.24)	2.4
$f_{T1}/\Lambda^4$	-0.49	0.49	-0.31 (-0.34)	0.31 (0.34)	2.6
$f_{T2}/\Lambda^4$	-0.98	0.95	-0.63 (-0.69)	0.59 (0.65)	2.5
$f_{T8}/\Lambda^4$	-0.68	0.68	-0.43 (-0.47)	0.43 (0.48)	1.8
$f_{T9}/\Lambda^4$	-1.5	1.5	-0.92 (-1.02)	0.92 (1.02)	1.8



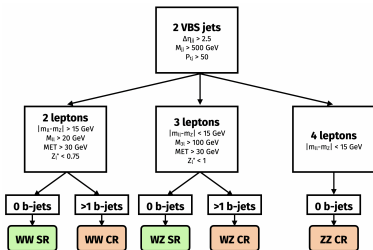
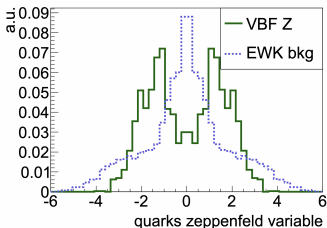
Final state with **2 VBS-jets, two isolated leptons with same charge and MET**. A Significant background comes from VBS-WZ  $\rightarrow$  **measure  $W^\pm W^\pm$  and WZ together**

**Golden channel:** the presence of two same-signed leptons reduces drastically the QCD-induced background

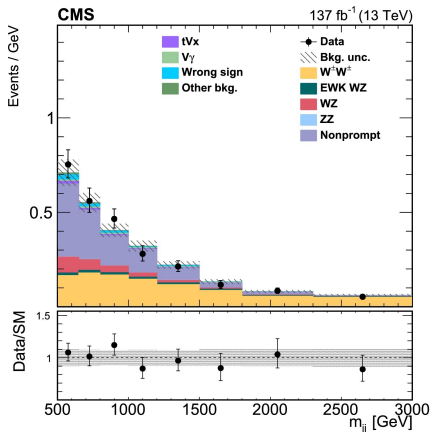
## Backgrounds

- ▶ **Dominant non-prompt**, estimated from data
- ▶ **Wrong-sign** from mischarge identification mainly from Z+jets
- ▶ **EW VBS  $W^\pm Z$**  where one Z-lepton is lost
- ▶ **QCD-induced  $W^\pm W^\pm + 2$ jets** and  **$W^\pm Z + 2$ jets**
- ▶ QCD and EW induced **ZZ + 2jets**

The **Zeppenfeld variable**  $Z_l$  used to reduce QCD-induced background  $Z_X = |\eta_X - \bar{\eta}_j| / |\Delta\eta_{jj}|$ . Plot from [P. Govoni, C. Mariotti](#)



Maximum Likelihood (ML) fit to 5 regions simultaneously. **Including NLO EW+QCD corrections** ( $\mathcal{O}(10\%)$ ) at order  $\alpha^7$ ,  $\alpha_S \alpha^6$  to VBS  $W^\pm W^\pm$  and WZ



## Observables

- ▶  $W^\pm W^\pm$  signal extracted with **2D variable**:  $m_{ll}$  and  $m_{jj}$
- ▶ **Boosted Decision Tree** trained for EW VBS WZ
- ▶  $m_{jj}$  to measure WZ-QCD and ZZ normalization from data

**The VBS EW production of  $W^\pm W^\pm$  is observed with a significance  $\gg 5\sigma$**

# Leptonic VBS $W^\pm Z \rightarrow 3l\nu$

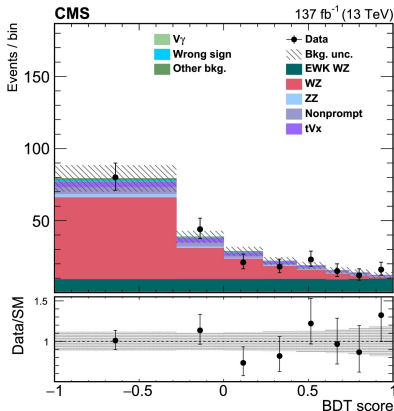
The VBS production of  $WZ$  is treated as a background to the  $W^\pm W^\pm$  analysis but **is an interesting process by itself**. Measured together with  $W^\pm W^\pm$ .

## Backgrounds

- ▶ **Dominant QCD induced**
- ▶ **Non-prompt** estimated from data
- ▶ **Wrong-sign** from mischarge identification mainly from  $Z$ +jets
- ▶ QCD and EW induced  **$ZZ$  + 2jets**

In order to reduce the overwhelming QCD background a **BDT is employed to extract the signal** trained with reported variables

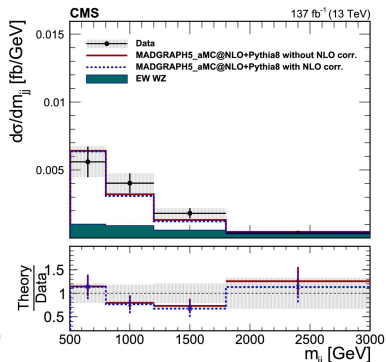
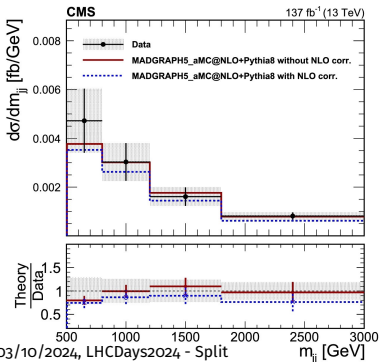
Variable	Definition
$m_{lj}$	Mass of the leading and trailing jets system
$\Delta\eta_{lj}$	Absolute difference in rapidity of the leading and trailing jets
$\Delta\phi_{lj}$	Difference in azimuth angles of the leading and trailing jets
$p_T^{j1}$	$p_T$ of the leading jet
$p_T^{j2}$	$p_T$ of the trailing jet
$\eta^{j1}$	Pseudorapidity of the leading jet
$ \eta^W - \eta^Z $	Absolute difference between the rapidities of the $Z$ boson and the lepton from the decay of the $W$ boson
$z_i^*$ ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ )	Zeppenfeld variable of the three selected leptons: $z_i^* =  \eta_i - (\eta_{j1} + \eta_{j2})/2  / \Delta\eta_{lj}$
$z_{3\ell}^*$	Zeppenfeld variable of the triple-lepton system
$\Delta R_{j1,Z}$	The $\Delta R$ between the leading jet and the $Z$ boson
$ p_T^{vec}  / \sum_i p_T^i$	Transverse component of the vector sum of the bosons and tagging jets momenta, normalised to their scalar $p_T$ sum



**The VBS EW production of  $W^\pm Z$  is observed with a significance of  $6.8\sigma$  ( $5.3$  expected)**

**Inclusive and differential cross-sections measurements** are reported in fiducial phase spaces for  $W^\pm W^\pm$  and  $W^\pm Z$  with selections targeting VBS-signature. **Good agreement with SM**

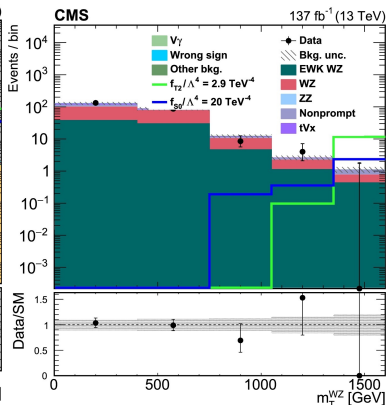
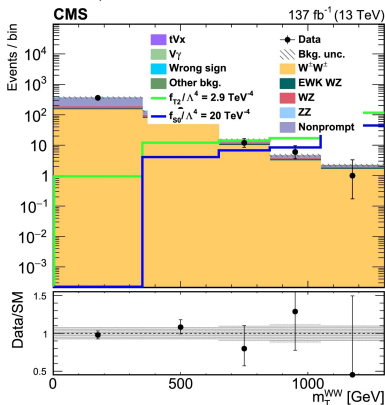
Process	$\sigma B$ (fb)	Theory prediction (fb)	Theory prediction with NLO corrections (fb)
EW $W^\pm W^\pm$	$3.98 \pm 0.45$ (0.37 (stat) $\pm$ 0.25 (syst))	$3.93 \pm 0.57$	$3.31 \pm 0.47$
EW+QCD $W^\pm W^\pm$	$4.42 \pm 0.47$ (0.39 (stat) $\pm$ 0.25 (syst))	$4.34 \pm 0.69$	$3.72 \pm 0.59$
EW WZ	$1.81 \pm 0.41$ (0.39 (stat) $\pm$ 0.14 (syst))	$1.41 \pm 0.21$	$1.24 \pm 0.18$
EW+QCD WZ	$4.97 \pm 0.46$ (0.40 (stat) $\pm$ 0.23 (syst))	$4.54 \pm 0.90$	$4.36 \pm 0.88$
QCD WZ	$3.15 \pm 0.4$ (0.45 (stat) $\pm$ 0.18 (syst))	$3.12 \pm 0.70$	$3.12 \pm 0.70$



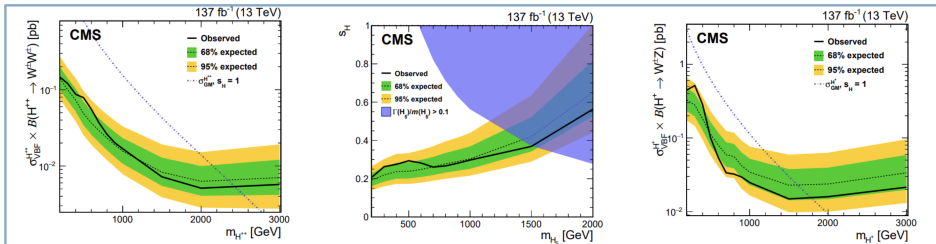
**Anomalous quartic gauge coupling search** carried under **EFT** framework constraining dimension-8 operators.  
 Cannot define  $m_{VV}$ , 2D variable with **transverse mass  $m_T$  and  $m_{jj}$**

$$m_T(VV) = \sqrt{\left(\sum_i E_i\right)^2 - \sum_i p_{z,i}^2}$$

- ▶ **9 operators** investigated
- ▶ No unitarization procedure is applied → **Clipping EFT predictions at limit**
- ▶ **No excess of events with respect to the SM is observed**



# Leptonic $W^\pm W^\pm \rightarrow 2l2\nu$ CMS

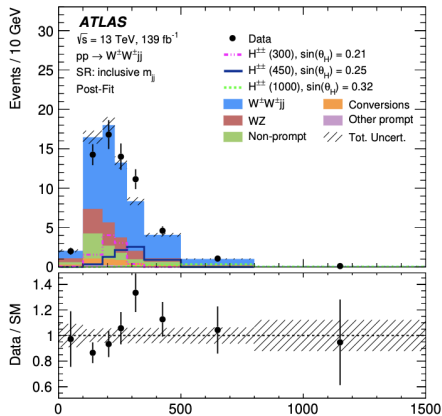
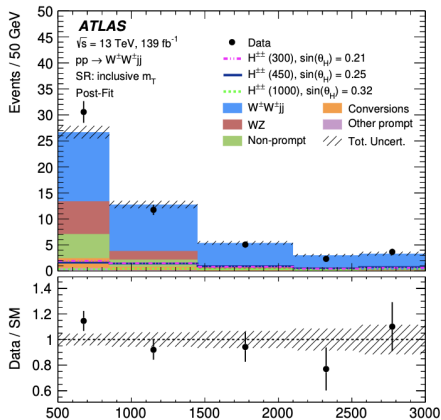


# Leptonic $W^\pm W^\pm \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ ATLAS



JHEP04(2024)026

Doubly-charged Higgs boson interpretation (GM model [doi.10.1016](https://doi.org/10.1016)).  $H_5^{\pm\pm}$  BR to SSWW pairs in VBF topology is 100%. VBF  $H_5^{\pm\pm}$  production depends on two parameters  $m_{H_5^{\pm\pm}}$  and  $\sin\theta_H$ .  $m_{T,WW}$  used to extract limits.

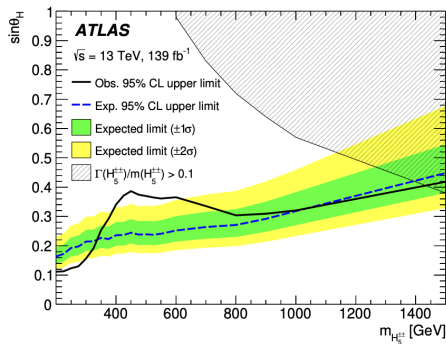
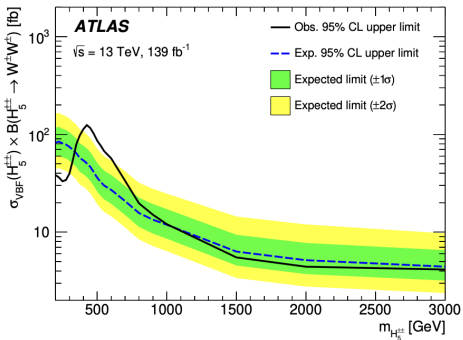




# Leptonic $W^\pm W^\pm \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ ATLAS



Local excess of  $3.2 \sigma$  450 GeV, 2.5  $m\sigma$  global.



# Leptonic $W^{\pm}\gamma \rightarrow l\nu\gamma$ CMS



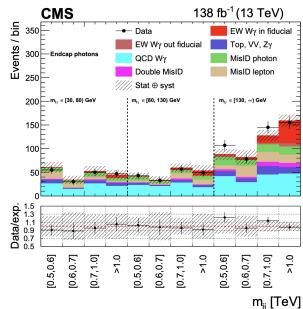
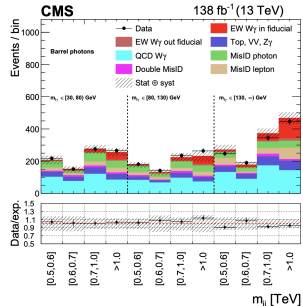
Final state with **2 VBS-jets, high- $p_T$   $e/\mu$  and  $\gamma$  and MET.**  
 Purely EW at  $\alpha^5$  order

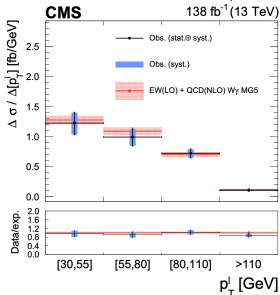
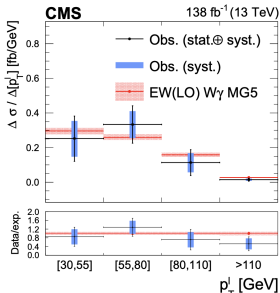
- **SR:**  $m_{jj} (> 500 \text{ GeV})$ , extract signal with  $m_{jj} - m_{l\gamma}$
- **CR:**  $200 < m_{jj} < 500 \text{ GeV}$ , constrain QCD-induced  $W\gamma jj$

## Backgrounds

- **Dominant QCD-induced VBS.** constrained from data
- **One misID lepton:** from  $W + jets$ . data-driven  $\sigma_{\eta\eta}$  template fit  $\rightarrow$  loose-to-tight factors ( $p_{T,\gamma} - \eta_\gamma$ )
- **One misID photon:** from  $W + jets$ . data-driven loose-to-tight factor  $f_l/(1 - f_l)$ ,  $f_l$  being lepton misID rate.
- **One misID photon and lepton:** loose-to-tight factor product  $l, \gamma$ . Weight subtraction to avoid double counting in single misID data-driven estimates.

Region	EW-VBS	QCD-VBS	misID $\gamma$	misID $l$	misID $l, \gamma$
Barrel	12.9%	44.0%	14.7%	10.9%	4.0%
Endcap	12.9%	42.3%	14.0%	15.2%	4.6%





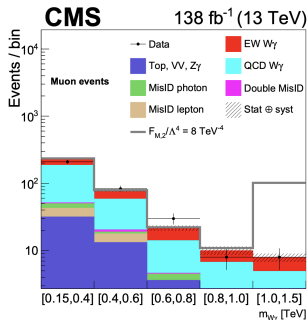
**Observation of EW  $W^{\pm}\gamma jj \rightarrow l\nu\gamma jj$  with a significance of  $6.0\sigma$  (6.8 expected). Fiducial cross-section measurement in agreement with SM (MG@LO) for EW and EW+QCD**

$$\sigma_{fid}^{EW} = 23.5^{+4.9}_{-4.7} \text{ fb}; \quad \sigma_{fid}^{EW+QCD} = 113.0^{+13.0}_{-13.0} \text{ fb}$$

**BSM search with aQGC (EFT dimension-8) using reconstructed  $m_{W\gamma}$ . VBS enhanced phase space  $m_{jj} > 800\text{GeV}$ ,  $|\Delta\eta_{jj}| > 2.5$ ,  $m_{W\gamma} > 150\text{ GeV}$ ,  $p_T^\gamma > 100\text{ GeV}$**

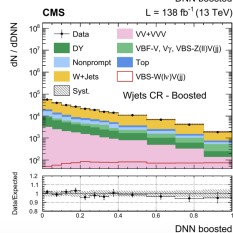
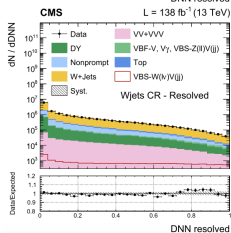
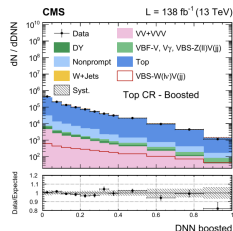
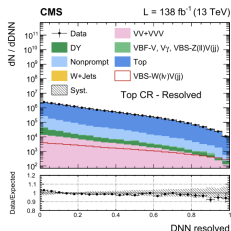
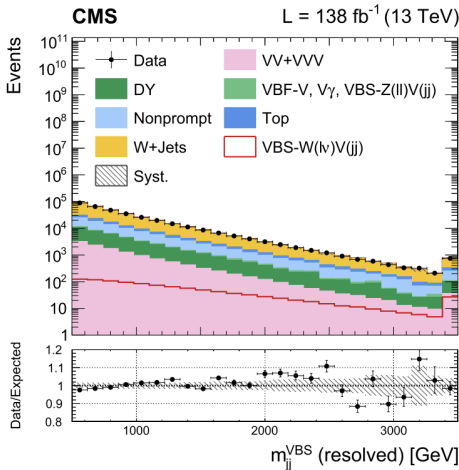
$$\mathcal{L}_{EFT} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + c_i^{(8)} / \Lambda^4 \mathcal{O}_i^{(8)}$$

Expected limit	Observed limit	$U_{bound}$
$-5.1 < f_{M,0}/\Lambda^4 < 5.1$	$-5.6 < f_{M,0}/\Lambda^4 < 5.5$	1.7
$-7.1 < f_{M,1}/\Lambda^4 < 7.4$	$-7.8 < f_{M,1}/\Lambda^4 < 8.1$	2.1
$-1.8 < f_{M,2}/\Lambda^4 < 1.8$	$-1.9 < f_{M,2}/\Lambda^4 < 1.9$	2.0
$-2.5 < f_{M,3}/\Lambda^4 < 2.5$	$-2.7 < f_{M,3}/\Lambda^4 < 2.7$	2.7
$-3.3 < f_{M,4}/\Lambda^4 < 3.3$	$-3.7 < f_{M,4}/\Lambda^4 < 3.6$	2.3
$-3.4 < f_{M,5}/\Lambda^4 < 3.6$	$-3.9 < f_{M,5}/\Lambda^4 < 3.9$	2.7
$-13 < f_{M,7}/\Lambda^4 < 13$	$-14 < f_{M,7}/\Lambda^4 < 14$	2.2
$-0.43 < f_{T,0}/\Lambda^4 < 0.51$	$-0.47 < f_{T,0}/\Lambda^4 < 0.51$	1.9
$-0.27 < f_{T,1}/\Lambda^4 < 0.31$	$-0.31 < f_{T,1}/\Lambda^4 < 0.34$	2.5
$-0.72 < f_{T,2}/\Lambda^4 < 0.92$	$-0.85 < f_{T,2}/\Lambda^4 < 1.0$	2.3
$-0.29 < f_{T,5}/\Lambda^4 < 0.31$	$-0.31 < f_{T,5}/\Lambda^4 < 0.33$	2.6
$-0.23 < f_{T,6}/\Lambda^4 < 0.25$	$-0.25 < f_{T,6}/\Lambda^4 < 0.27$	2.9
$-0.60 < f_{T,7}/\Lambda^4 < 0.68$	$-0.67 < f_{T,7}/\Lambda^4 < 0.73$	3.1



Most stringent constraints

# Semi-leptonic VBS $W^{\pm}V \rightarrow lvjj$



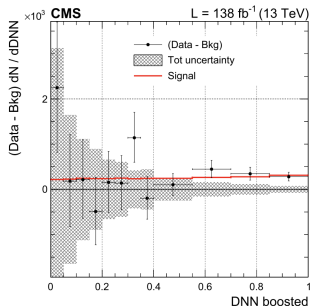
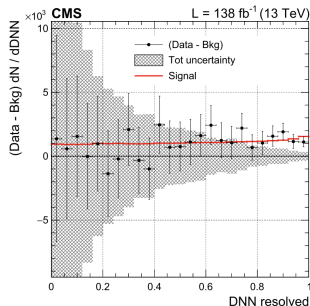
# Semi-leptonic VBS $W^{\pm}V \rightarrow l\nu jj$



**Table 2**

Breakdown of the uncertainties in the EW WV VBS signal strength measurement.

Uncertainty source	$\Delta\mu_{EW}$
Statistical	0.12
Limited sample size	0.10
Normalization of backgrounds	0.08
Experimental	
b-tagging	0.05
Jet energy scale and resolution	0.04
Integrated luminosity	0.01
Lepton identification	0.01
Boosted V boson identification	0.01
Total	0.06
Theory	
Signal modeling	0.09
Background modeling	0.08
Total	0.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.22</b>

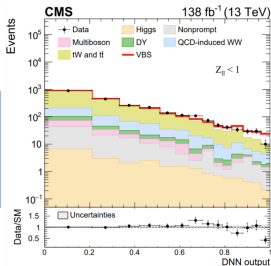


# Leptonic $W^+W^- \rightarrow 2l2\nu$ CMS



## CMS – input variables

- $m_{jj}, |\Delta\eta_{jj}|$
- $p_{j_1}^T, p_{j_2}^T$
- $Z_{\ell_1}, Z_{\ell_2}$
- $p_{\ell\ell}^T, m_{\ell_1}^T, \Delta\phi_{\ell\ell}$



## ATLAS – input variables

- $m_{jj}, |\Delta\eta_{jj}|$
- $m_{\ell\ell}, m_{\ell j}$
- $p_{j_1}^T, p_{j_2}^T, \Delta\phi_{jj}$
- $E_{miss}^T = \frac{|\vec{p}_{miss}^T|^2}{\sigma_L^2 \times (1 - \rho_{LT}^2)}$
- $\zeta, Z_{j_3}$

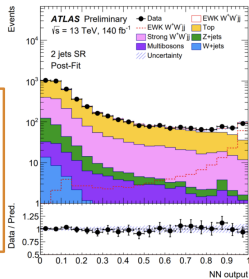


Figure: Slide from Mattia Lizzo

The most striking feature by ATLAS analysis is the  $s/\sqrt{b}$  of the very last DNN bin, which ultimately is the key ingredient to reach the best possible sensitivity

- ▶ **CMS last bin:**  $s \sim 14, b \sim 10 \rightarrow s/\sqrt{b} \sim 4.4$
- ▶ **ATLAS last bin:**  $s \sim 60, b \sim 35 \rightarrow s/\sqrt{b} \sim 10.1$

# Leptonic $W^+W^- \rightarrow 2l2\nu$ CMS



Laboratoire  
Leprince-Ringuet

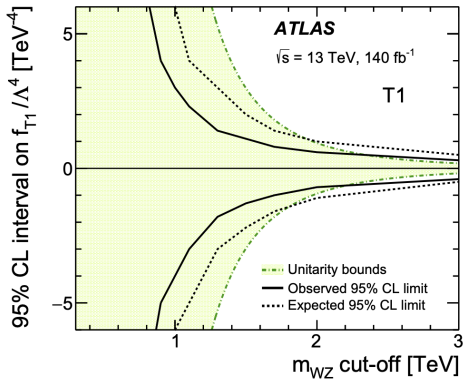
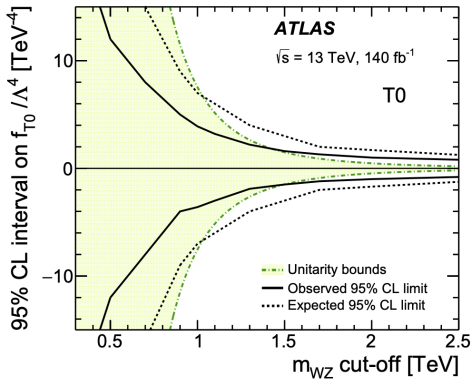
Very different phase space definition from ATLAS and CMS in the  $e\mu$  final state

- ▶ Same amount of signal between ATLAS and CMS driving region but less background in CMS
- ▶ ATLAS larger significance driven by discrimination power if the NN model (last bin)
- ▶ Signal (background) fraction in last bin: CMS  $\sim 9\%$ (0.4%), ATLAS  $\sim 38\%$ (0.6%)

	CMS signal region ( $e\mu$ )		ATLAS signal region	
	$Z_{\ell\ell} < 1$	$Z_{\ell\ell} > 1$	$n_{jet} = 2$	$n_{jet} = 3$
EWK $W^+W^-jj$	$169 \pm 20$	$70 \pm 8$	$158 \pm 27$	$54 \pm 13$
$t\bar{t} + tW$	$1629 \pm 71$	$1453 \pm 70$	$2885 \pm 214$	$1851 \pm 131$
QCD $W^+W^-$	$327 \pm 62$	$409 \pm 77$	$1214 \pm 256$	$514 \pm 121$
$W$ + jets (fake)	$107 \pm 18$	$110 \pm 16$	$37 \pm 97$	$19 \pm 48$
$Z$ + jets	$69 \pm 5$	$102 \pm 6$	$216 \pm 62$	$65 \pm 25$
Multiboson	$68 \pm 7$	$76 \pm 7$	$101 \pm 5$	$42 \pm 3$
Higgs	$27 \pm 2$	$20 \pm 1$	–	–
<b>MC prediction</b>	$2397 \pm 99$	$2240 \pm 106$	$4610 \pm 77$	$2546 \pm 48$
<b>DATA</b>	2441	2192	4610	2533

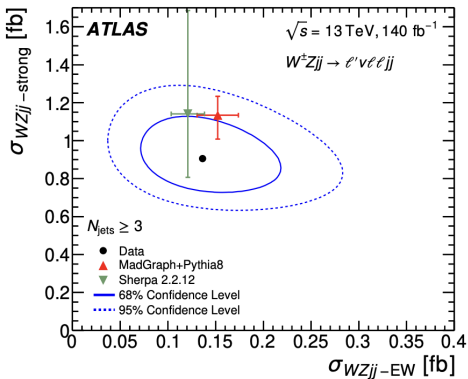
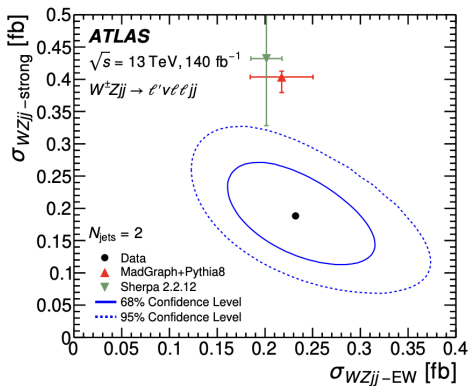
Figure: Slide from Mattia Lizzo

# Leptonic $W^{\pm}Z \rightarrow 3l\nu$ ATLAS





# Leptonic $W^\pm Z \rightarrow 3l\nu$ ATLAS



Source	$\frac{\Delta\sigma_{WZjj-EW}}{\sigma_{WZjj-EW}}$ [%]	$\frac{\Delta\sigma_{WZjj-strong}}{\sigma_{WZjj-strong}}$ [%]
$WZjj$ -EW theory modelling	7	1.8
$WZjj$ -QCD theory modelling	2.8	8
$WZjj$ -EW and $WZjj$ -QCD interference	0.35	0.6
PDFs	1.0	0.06
Jets	2.3	5
Pile-up	1.1	0.6
Electrons	0.8	0.8
Muons	0.9	0.9
$b$ -tagging	0.10	0.11
MC statistics	1.9	1.2
Misid. lepton background	2.3	2.3
Other backgrounds	0.9	0.23
Luminosity	0.7	0.9
All systematics	16	12
Statistics	10	6
Total	19	13