

# Prospects for single and di-Higgs measurements at the HL-LHC with the ATLAS experiment

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On behalf of the ATLAS experiment



# Introduction (1)

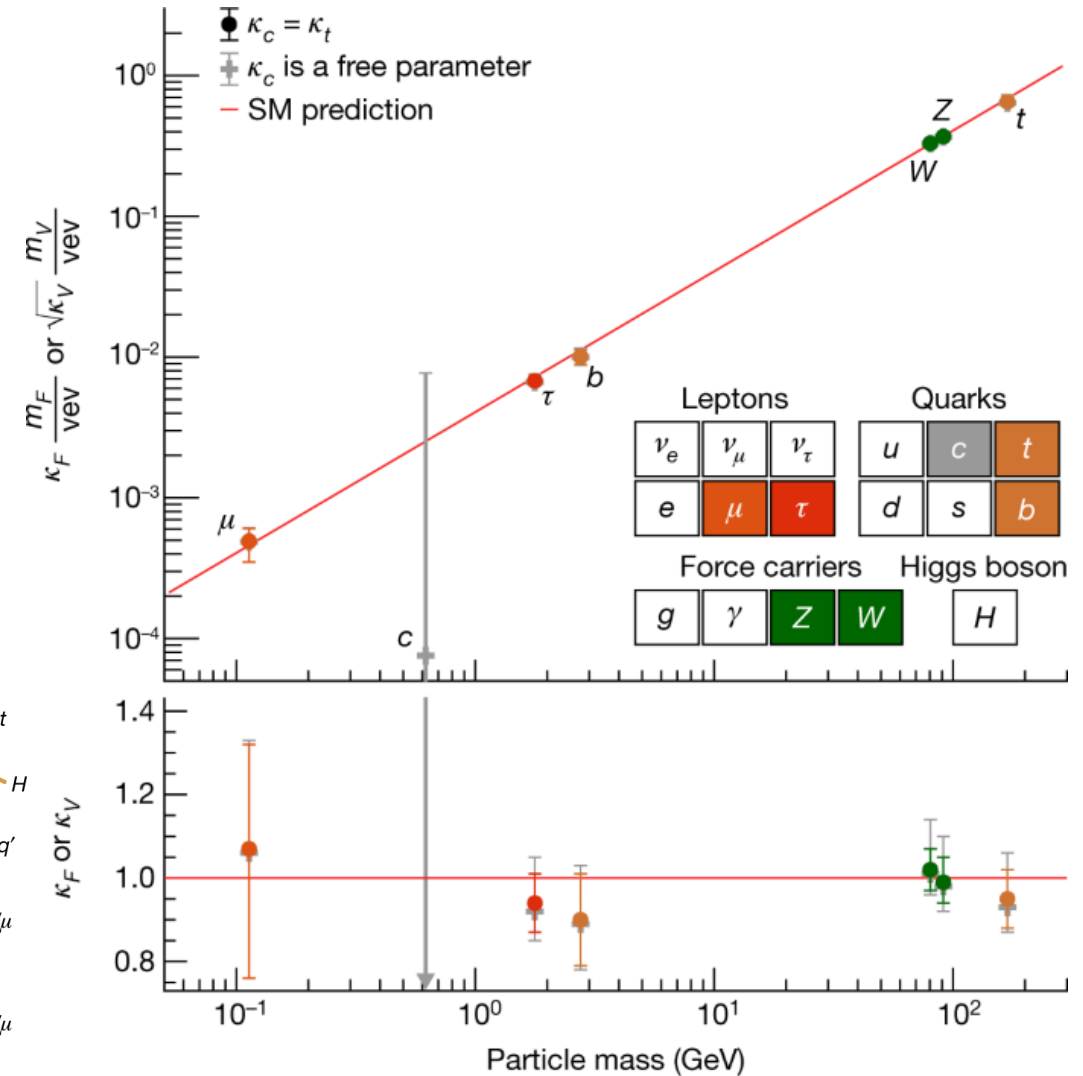
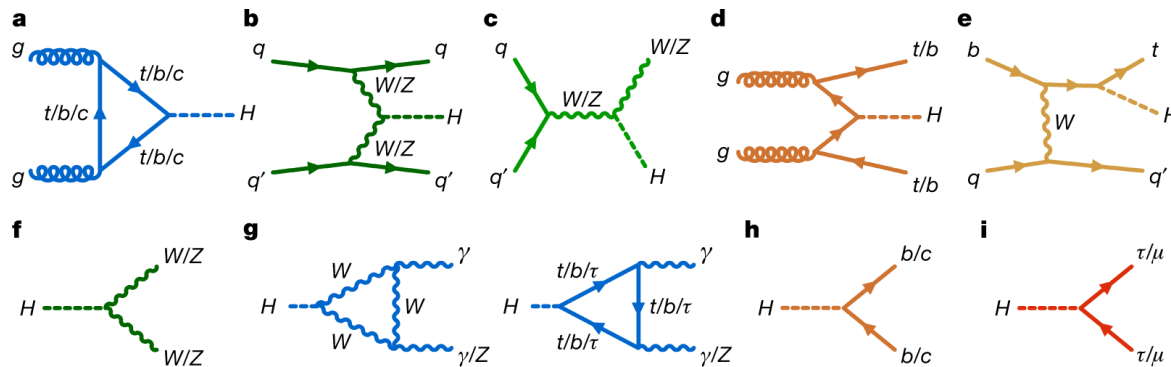
With Run 2 data, ATLAS and CMS have been able to study many of the dominant Higgs production and decay modes

All compatible so far with the SM

Still hope for BSM physics!

- measurements of **rare Higgs boson couplings**
- **precision measurements** in specific kinematic regions

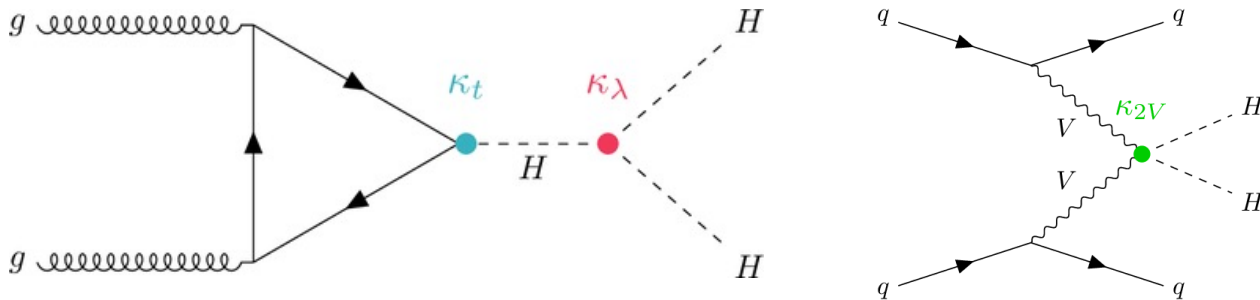
But many are limited by Run 2 statistics



# Introduction (2)

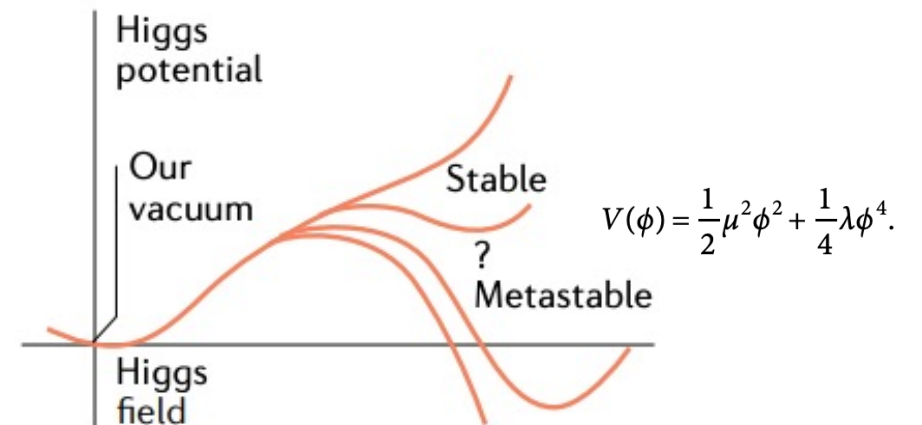
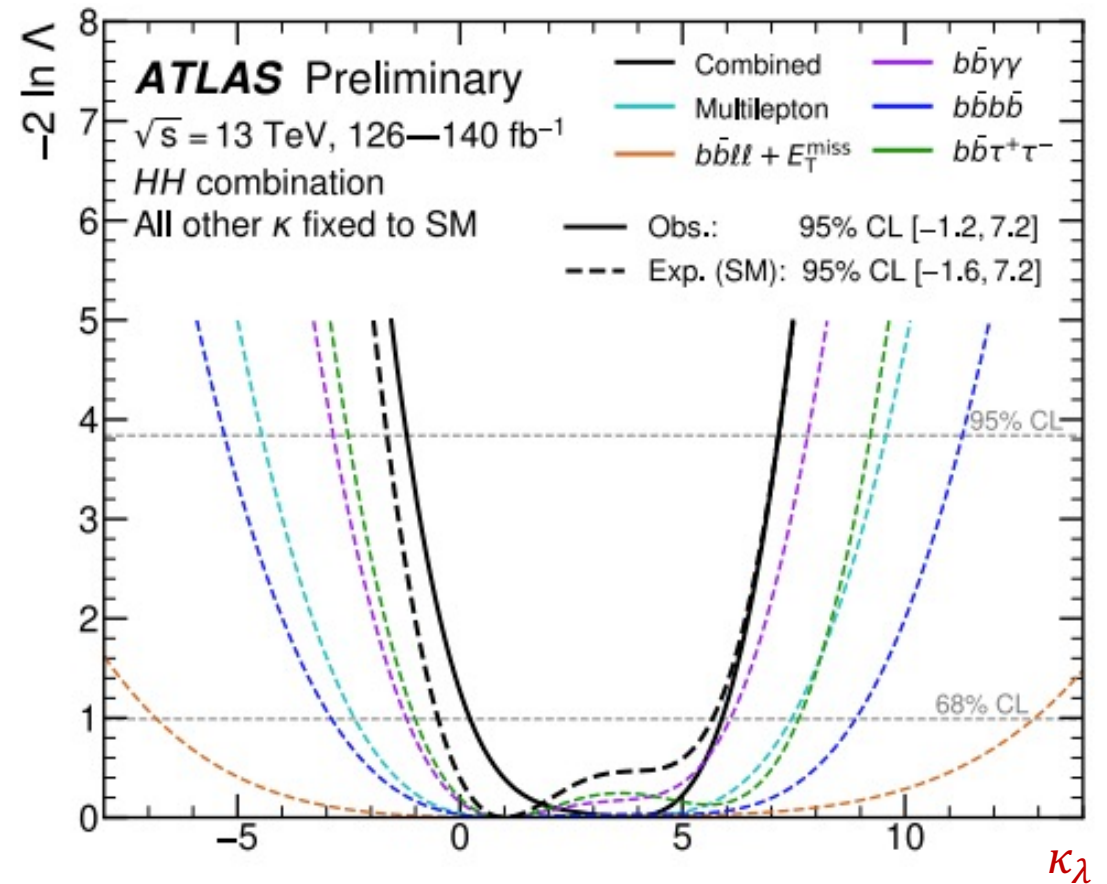
**Di-Higgs (HH) production** can give access to the Higgs trilinear self coupling  $\lambda_{HHH}^{SM} = m_H^2/2v^2$  and the shape of the Higgs potential

But the production rate is  $\sim 30\text{fb}$ , 1000x smaller than single Higgs production



These kinds of measurements will be one of the main focuses of the **High Luminosity LHC**, which will aim for **3000fb of 14 TeV data**

How well can we do?



# Extrapolation procedure

HL-LHC sensitivity is estimated by projecting current Run 2 analyses:

- Luminosity:  $X \rightarrow 3000 / \text{fb}$
- Cross-section from increased c.m. energy of 13  $\rightarrow$  14 TeV: generally  $\sim 1.10 - 1.20$

Object reco and i.d. efficiencies (such as b-tagging) at the HL-LHC assumed to be identical to the full Run 2 analysis

- increased pile-up will be canceled out by improved software and hardware, such as the ITk upgrade

Source	Scale factor
Luminosity	0.6
b/c tagging efficiency	0.5
Photon ID	0.8
ETmiss	0.5
Leptons, Jets	1
Theory	0.5
+ others...	

Baseline Scenario

Optimistic



Pessimistic

4 common systematic uncertainty scenarios (optimistic to pessimistic)

- Stat-only (no systematic uncertainties)
- Baseline, following [YR18](#) recommendations (with some [updates](#) for Snowmass 2022)
  - Theory uncertainties halved
  - Run 2 experimental systematics due to stat limitations is scaled down with  $\sqrt{L}$
- Theory uncertainties halved; Run 2 experimental systematic uncertainties
- All run 2 systematic uncertainties

Projection: [ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-001](#)  
 Run2: [Phys. Rev. D 106 \(2022\) 052001](#)

# $HH \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$

Small branching ratio but high S/B, excellent ATLAS photon resolution

Signature: two high  $p_T$  photons and bjets

Analysis regions defined based on  $m_{bb\gamma\gamma}^*$  and MVA output, with  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$  as final discriminant

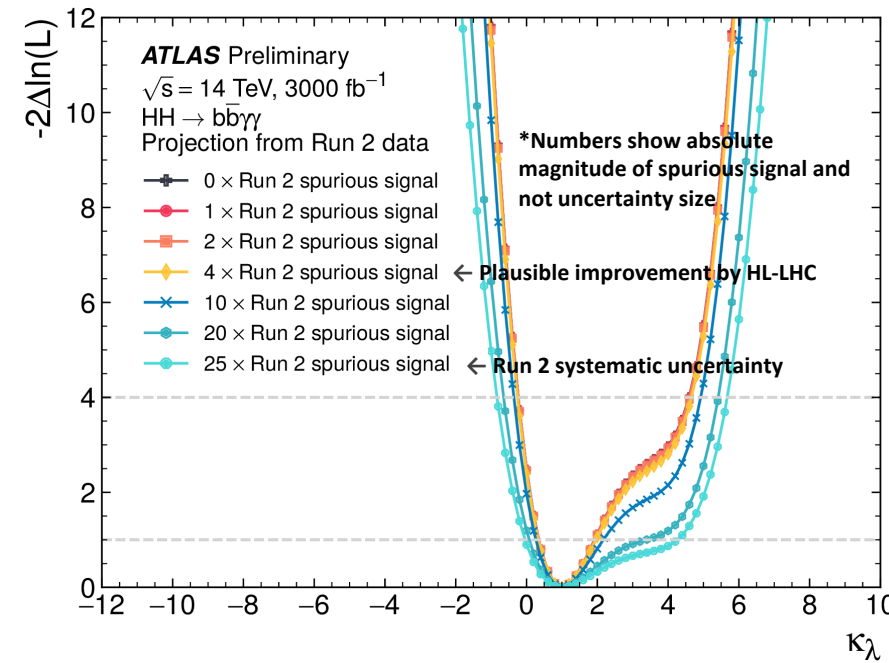
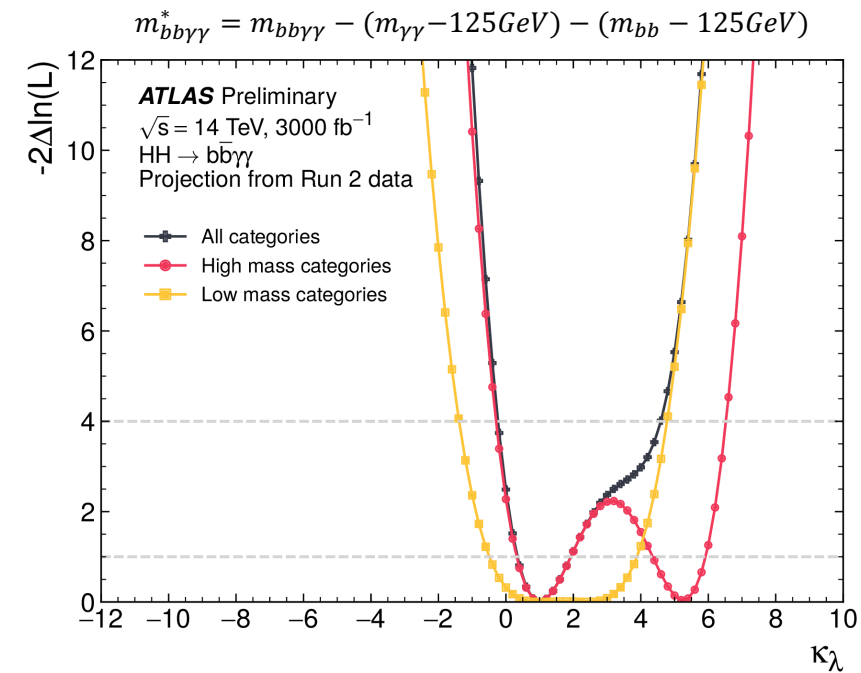
High and low  $m_{bb\gamma\gamma}^*$  categories to target SM (BSM)-like signals

SM signal significance of  $2.2\sigma$  ( $2.3\sigma$ ) with the baseline (stat-only) scenario  
 $\kappa_\lambda \in [0.3, 1.9]$  ( $[0.4, 1.8]$ )  $\rightarrow$  **Still heavily dominated by stats at the HL-LHC**

Projection systematics include theory signal uncertainties, single Higgs + heavy-flavour quark production cross-section, and photon energy resolution

No background systematic uncertainty (spurious signal) included in baseline scenario

However additional studies scan various plausible scaling values for this uncertainty



(resolved)  $HH \rightarrow bbbb$ 

Largest branching ratio but challenging combinatorial multi-jet background

Jets paired to minimize the  $\Delta R$  separation for the highest  $p_T$  bjets with additional kinematic cuts based on ggF/VBF topology and rejecting  $\bar{t}t$

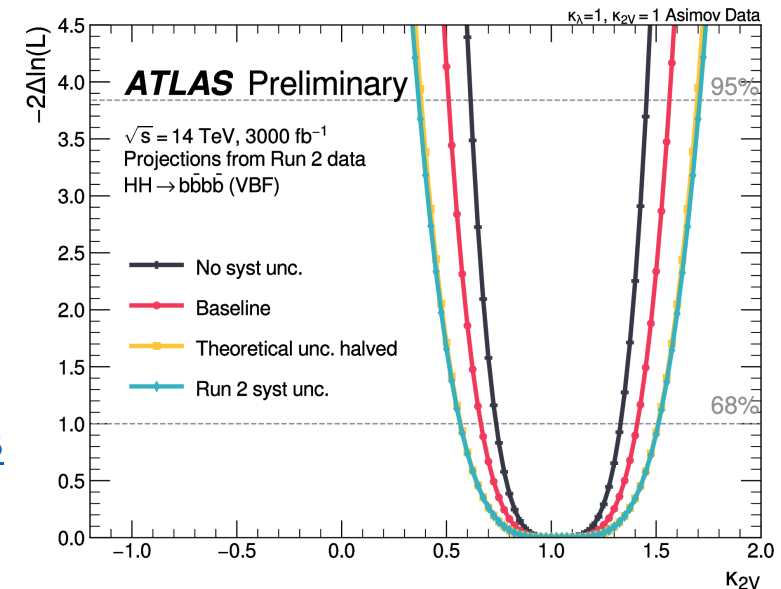
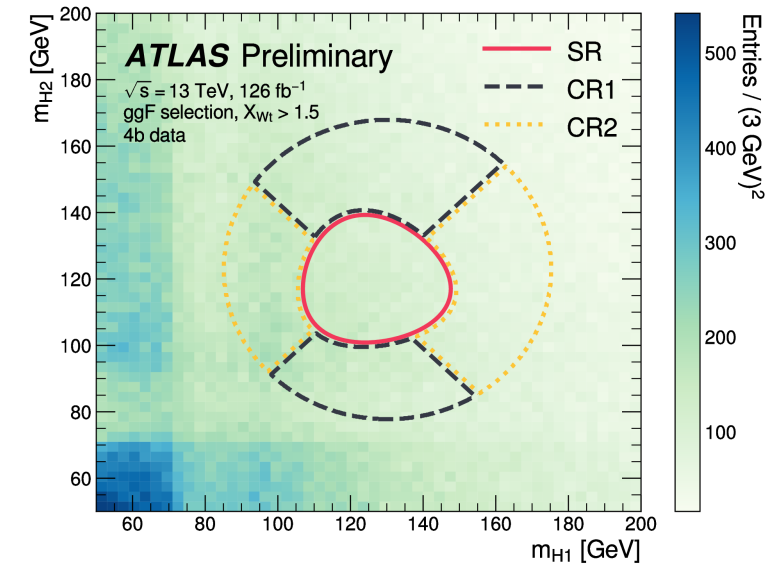
Background estimated with data-driven NN-based reweighting of a 2b control region to the 4b signal region; final fit to  $m_{HH}$  discriminant

SM signal significance of  $1.0\sigma$  ( $1.8\sigma$ ) with the baseline (stat-only) scenario

**Current strategy will become systematics limited at the HL-LHC**

$\kappa_\lambda \in [-0.5, 6.1], \kappa_{2V} \in [0.7, 1.4]$  baseline

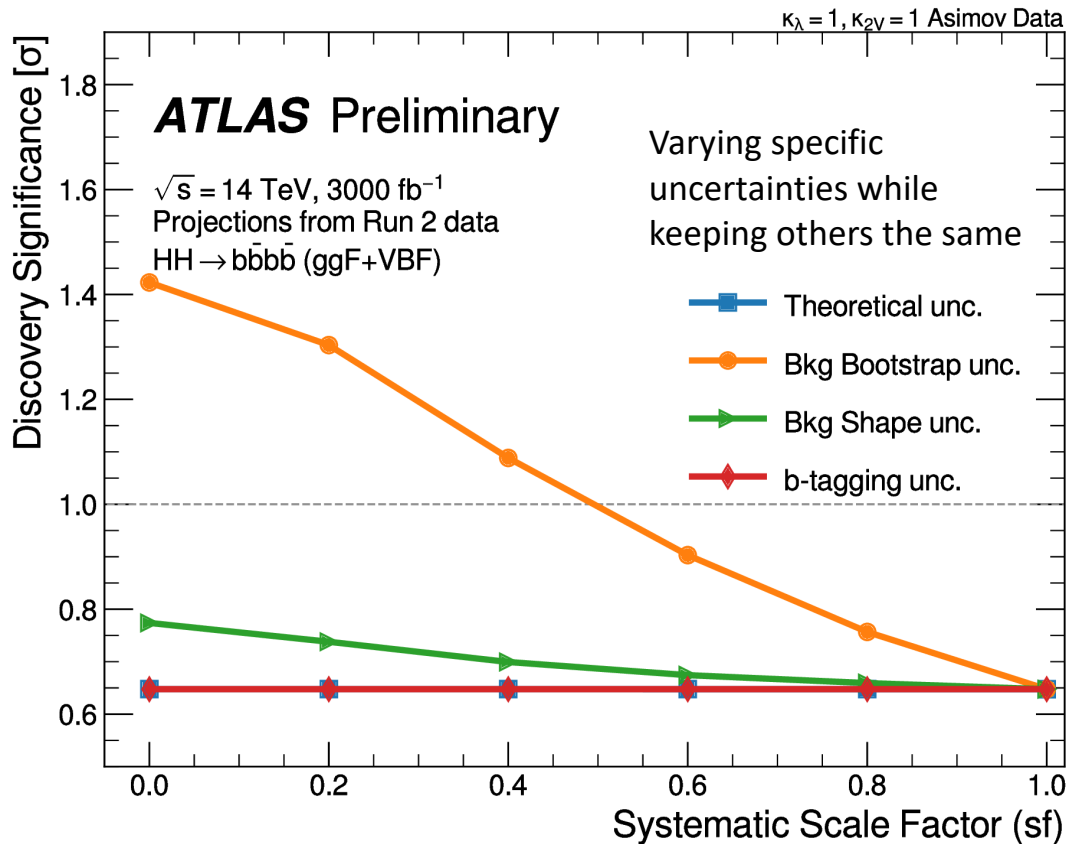
Caveat: The projected  $\kappa_{2V}$  constraint here is already surpassed by the boosted VBF  $HH \rightarrow bbbb$  ([Phys. Lett. B 858 \(2024\) 139007](#)) with Run 2!



# $HH \rightarrow bbbb$

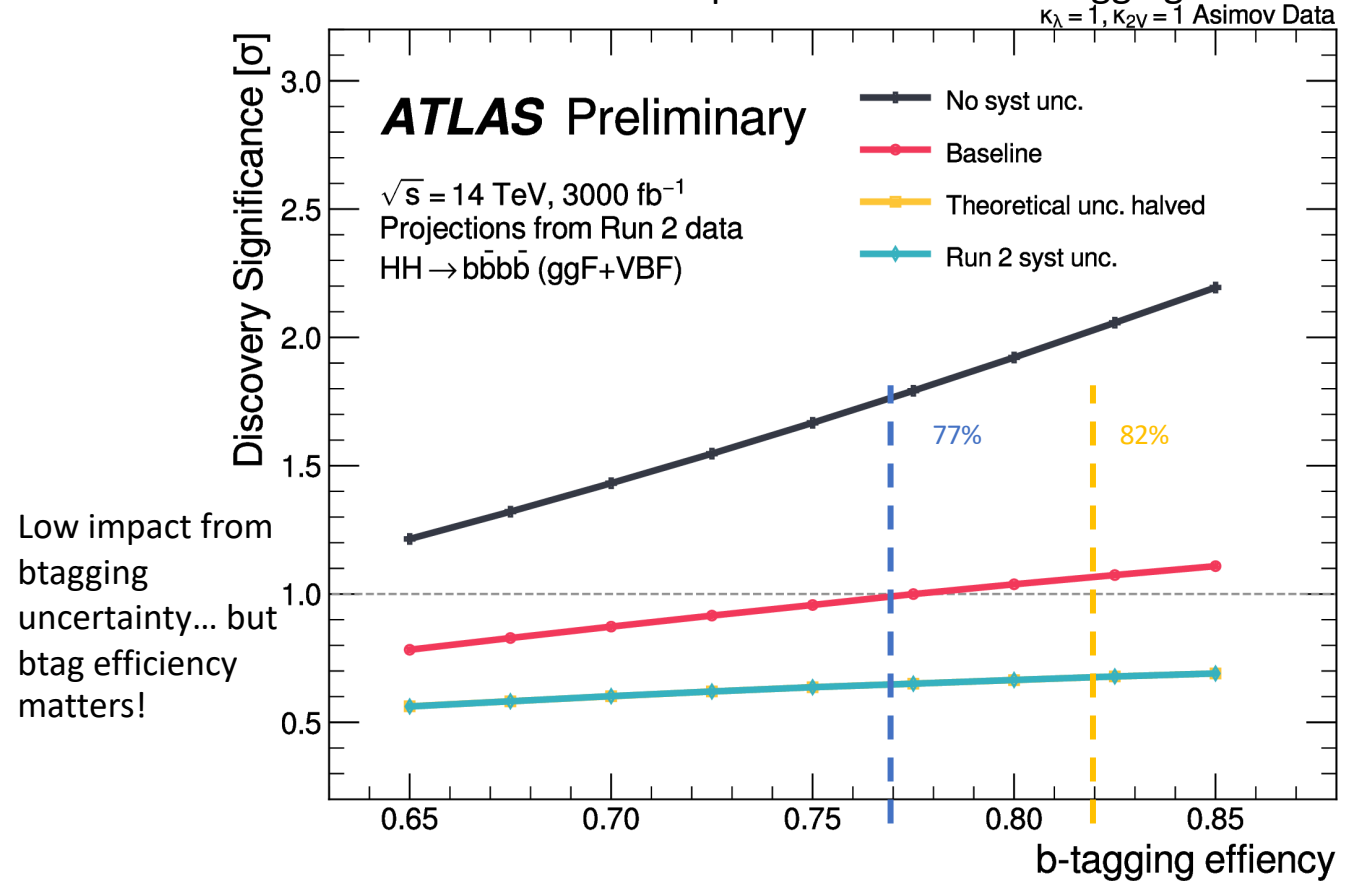
Projection heavily dominated by systematic uncertainties from reweighting: **bootstrap (training of the reweighting NN)** and **shape (choice of reweighting control region)**  
x 1 in baseline  
x 0.5 in baseline

Large impact from bootstrap unc.



November 6 2024

Potential improvements from b-tagging



Low impact from btagging uncertainty... but btag efficiency matters!

Alex Wang (UCSC)



$HH \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$  **NEW**

Balanced branching ratio and S/B

Analysis signature of two b-jets and two  $\tau$ s

Fully hadronic ( $\tau_{had}\tau_{had}$ ) and semi-leptonic ( $\tau_{lep}\tau_{had}$ ) regions with final fit on MVA discriminant

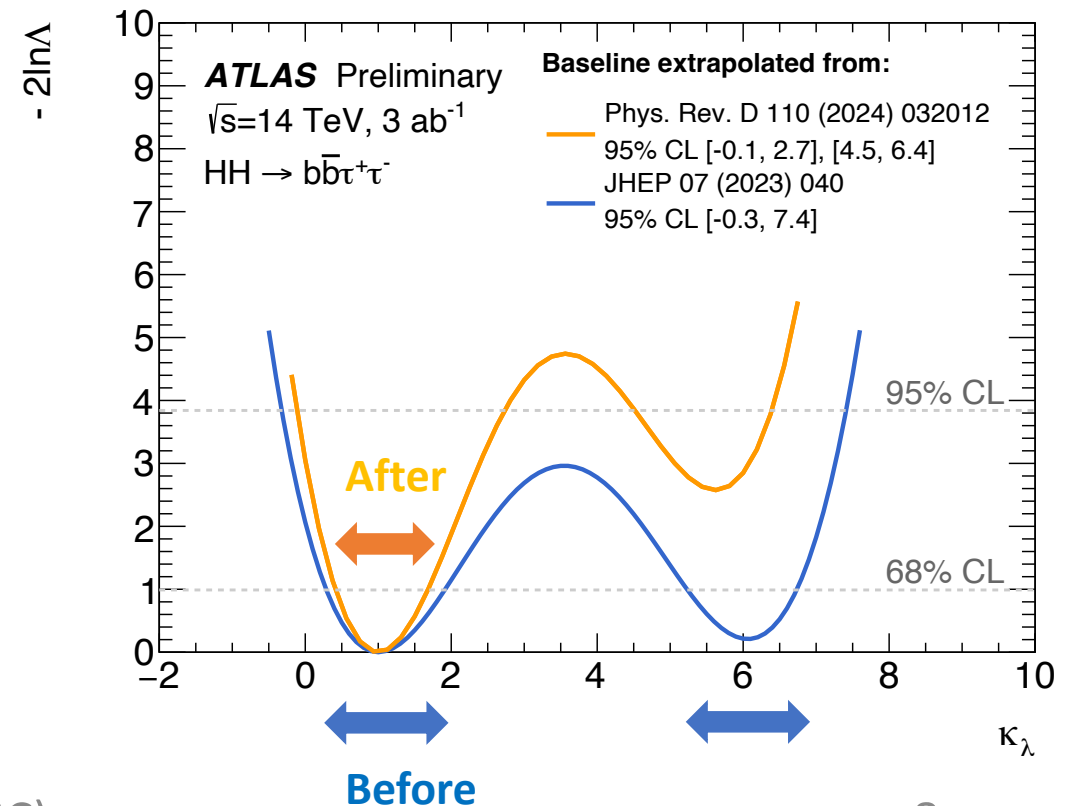
Very recent **update to be based on the Legacy Run 2 analysis** instead of the full Run 2 analysis!!

Improved MVA classifiers increase sensitivity to SM and BSM ggF  $HH$  production, as well as VBF  $HH$

- $3.5\sigma$  ( $4.6\sigma$ ) sensitivity to SM  $HH$  in the baseline (stat-only) scenario, compared to  $2.8$  ( $4.0$ ) before

Projected sensitivity evenly split between statistical and systematics (dominated by theory and background modelling)

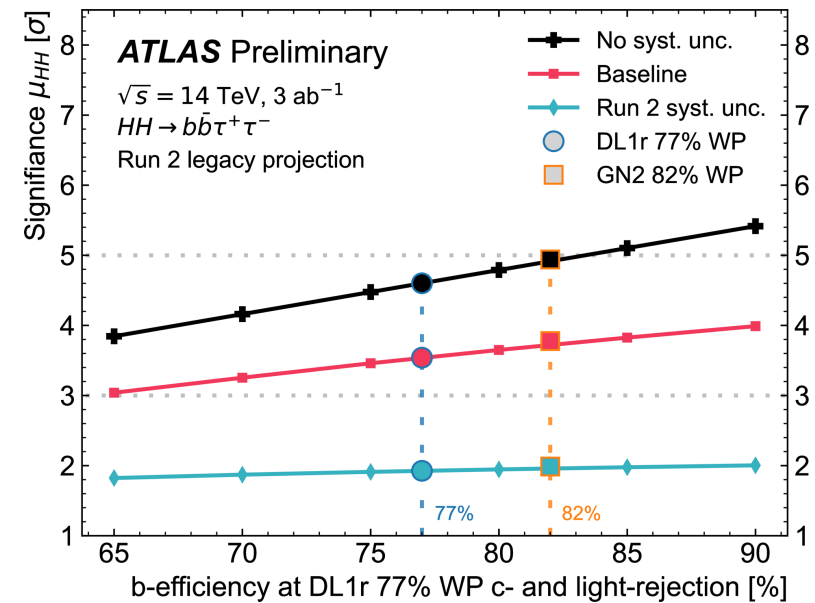
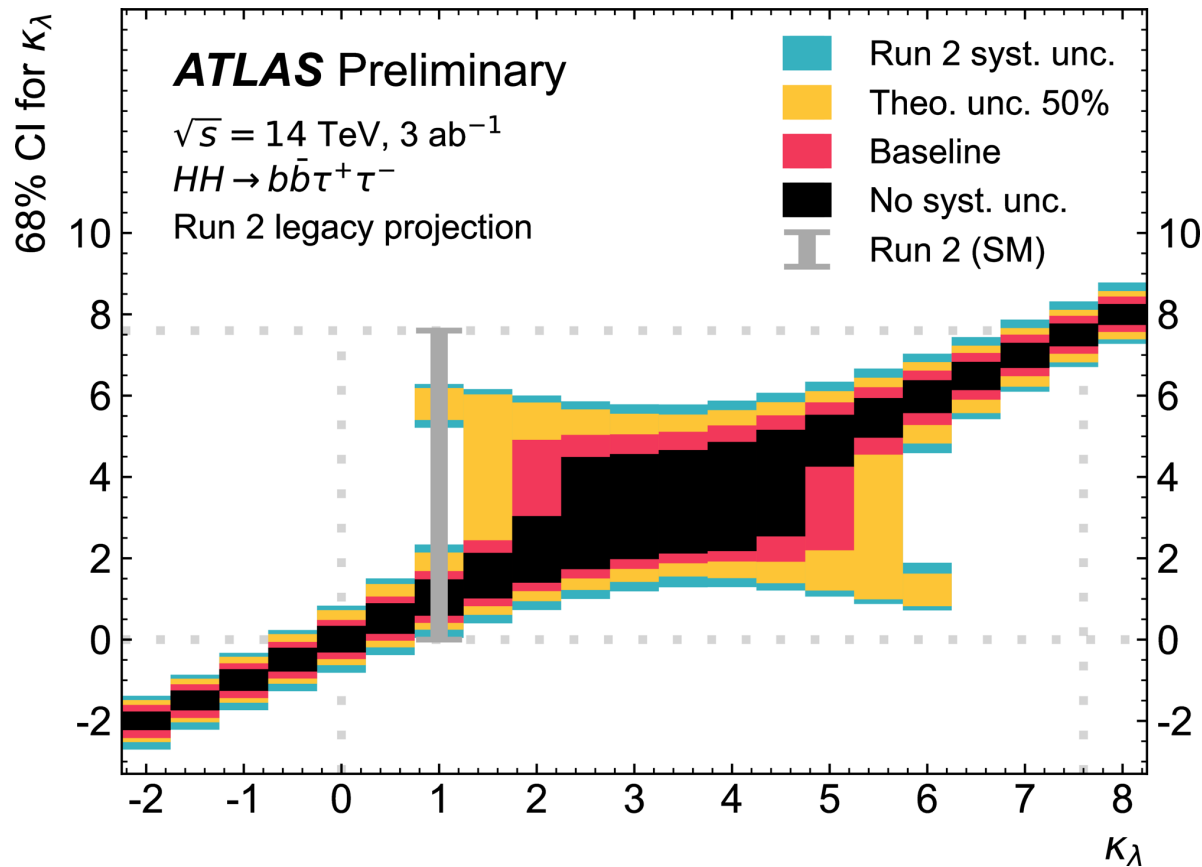
Addition of  $m_{HH}$  split in ggF and VBF SR help resolve previous double-minimum structure in  $\kappa_\lambda$  likelihood





# $HH \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$ **NEW**

New type of plot showing the expected constraints on  $\kappa_\lambda$  ( $\kappa_{2V}$ ) for a given assumption on  $\kappa_\lambda$  ( $\kappa_{2V}$ )



Impact of improved  $b$ -tagging and  $\tau$ -identification algorithms also studied

10% increase in significance using new GN2 already in Run 3

# $HH$ combination

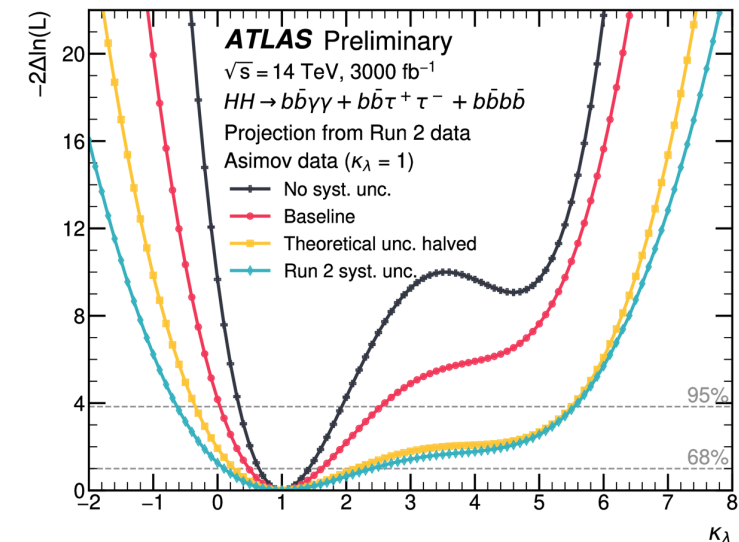
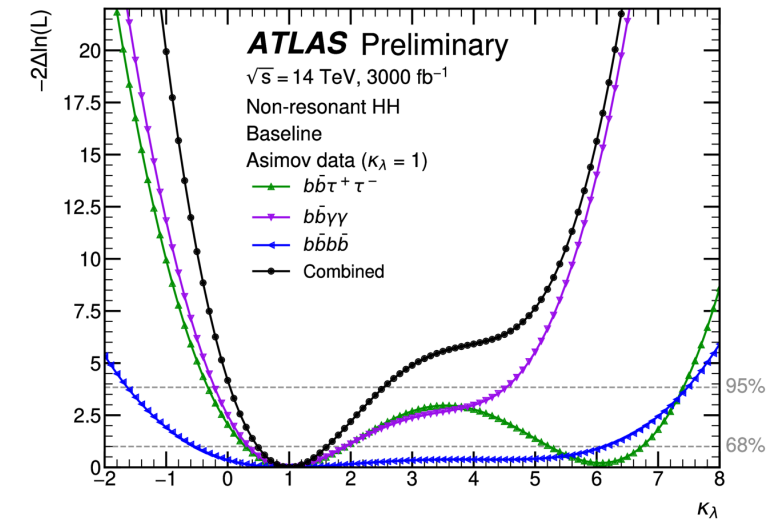
Statistical combination of  $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma, b\bar{b}b\bar{b}, (old)b\bar{b}\tau\tau$  channels

SM significance of  $3.4\sigma$  ( $4.9\sigma$ ) with the baseline (stat-only) scenario, primarily from  $b\bar{b}\tau\tau$  and  $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$

- **Potential for  $5\sigma$  with baseline scenario if further combined with CMS!**

$\kappa_\lambda$  precision of  $\sim 50\%$  ( $30\%$ ) – compare to latest run 2  $HH$  combination precision of  $1.0^{+4.7}_{-1.5}$

Expect even better results with updated projections based on Legacy Run 2



Uncertainty scenario	Significance [ $\sigma$ ]			
	$b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$	<sup>old</sup> $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$	$b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$	Combination
No syst. unc.	2.3	4.0	1.8	4.9
Baseline	2.2	2.8	0.99	3.4
Theoretical unc. halved	1.1	1.7	0.65	2.1
Run 2 syst. unc.	1.1	1.5	0.65	1.9

# $VH \rightarrow bb/cc$

$VH$   
 $\rightarrow bb$

Analysis regions separated by  $p_T^V$ , jet multiplicity, signal/control regions, with BDT as discriminant

Measurement uncertainty of 8% (7%) on WH (ZH) signal strength

**Current projections limited by systematic uncertainties, especially signal modelling**

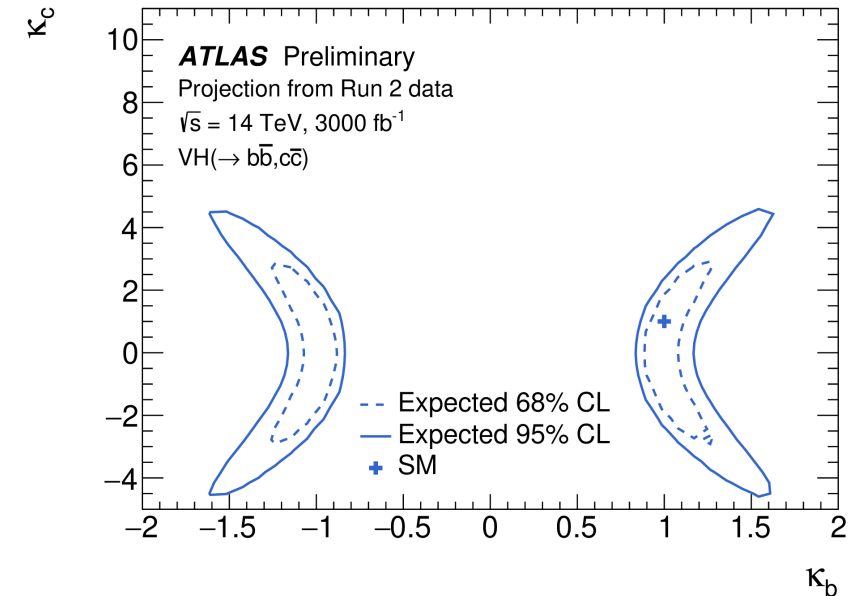
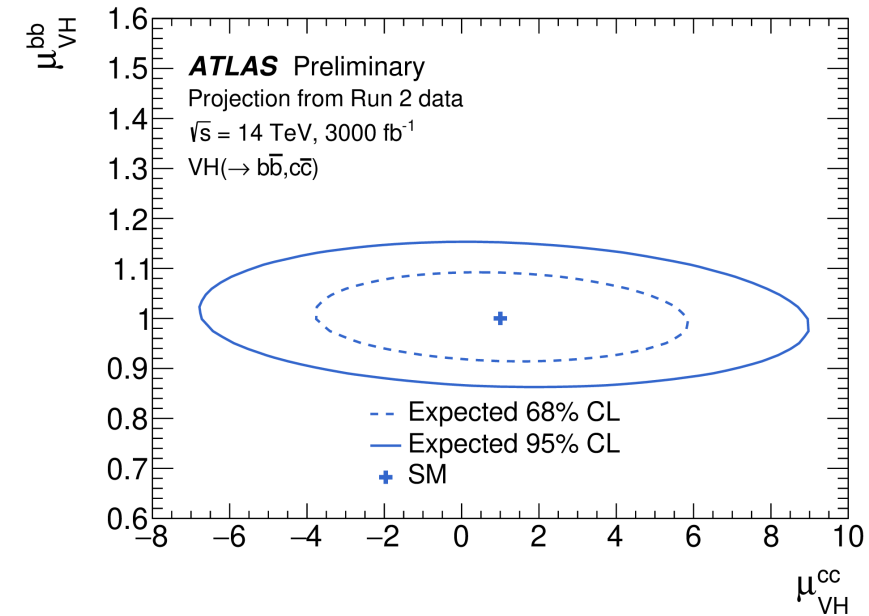
$VH$   
 $\rightarrow cc$

Analysis regions separated by number of c-tags,  $p_T^V$ , jet multiplicity, signal/control regions,  $m_{cc}$  as discriminant

- 95% CL Upper limit of 6.4 times SM cross-section
- $|\kappa_c| < 3.0$  at 95% CL

Combined  $VH \rightarrow bb/cc$  measurement performed with uncertainty of 6% (320%) on  $VH \rightarrow bb(cc)$  signal strength

$$\left| \frac{\kappa_c}{\kappa_b} \right| < 2.7 \text{ at 95\% CL (compared to 5.1 from Run 2)}$$



$$H \rightarrow \tau\tau$$

Events separated into  $\tau_{lep}, \tau_{lep}$ ;  $\tau_{lep}, \tau_{had}$ ;  $\tau_{had}, \tau_{had}$  channels

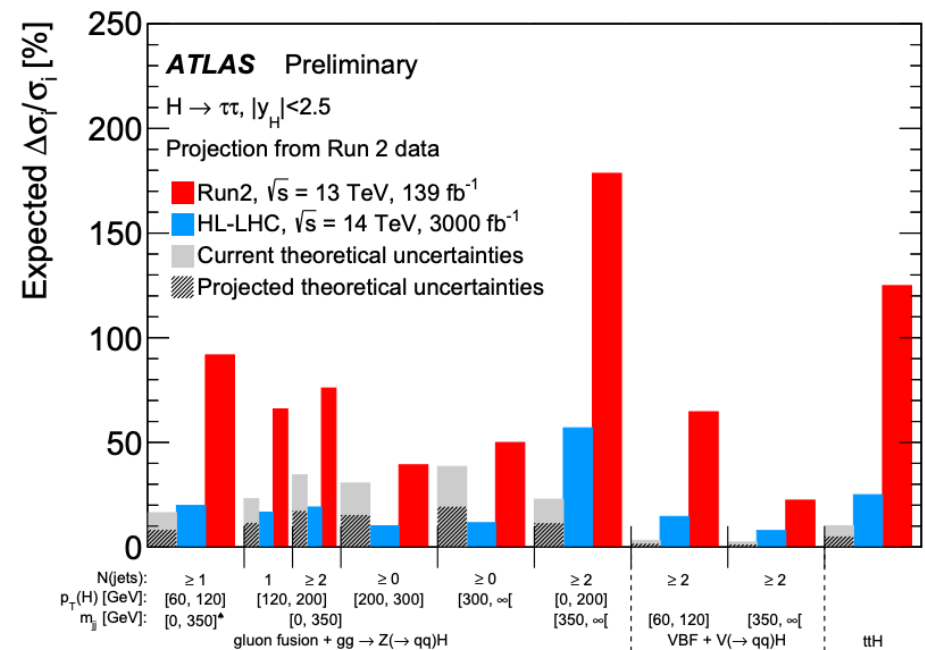
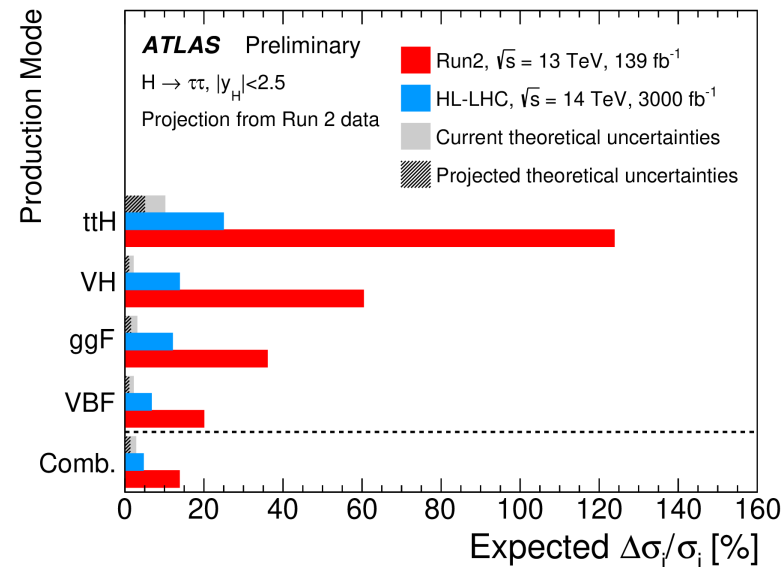
Further categorized into Boost (high  $p_T$  ggF), VBF, and  $V(had)H$ , and  $ttH$  sensitive regions

Uncertainty on inclusive  $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$  cross-section of 5%

Uncertainties on the order of 10% - 15% for ggF, VBF, and VH production modes, and 25% for  $ttH$

Kinematic dependence also studied using Simplified Template Cross-section (STXS) framework, contributing especially to the high  $p_T^H$  region

Dominant uncertainties from theory signal for all production modes, and jet + ETmiss for  $VH$  and  $ttH$



# Summary

First set of projections based on full Run 2 datasets already show great potential for single and di-Higgs measurements at the HL-LHC

New round of improved projections based on the legacy results under way for the European Strategy Update next year ( $bb\tau\tau$  already out)

Projections are often simple and **don't account for new analysis/object reconstruction improvements** that will be developed in the meantime

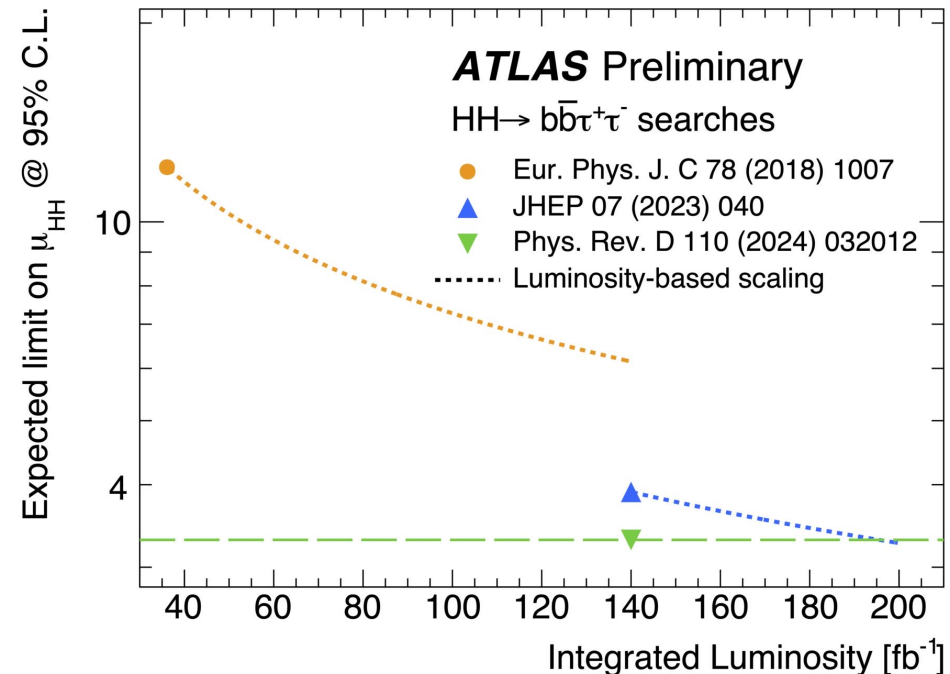
Stay tuned for updated projections soon!

[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2024-016](#)

## Updated projection of the sensitivity of searches for Higgs boson pair production in the $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ final state from LHC Run 2 to the High Luminosity LHC with the ATLAS detector

An updated projection of the sensitivity to non-resonant Higgs boson pair production in the  $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$  final state from LHC Run 2 to the High Luminosity LHC with the ATLAS detector is presented. Sensitivities are projected assuming a centre-of-mass energy of 14 TeV for a variety of integrated luminosities ranging from 1000 to 3000  $\text{fb}^{-1}$ . Assuming SM  $HH$  production, a signal significance of  $3.5\sigma$  ( $4.6\sigma$ ) is expected in the baseline (statistical only) extrapolation scenario for an integrated luminosity of 3000  $\text{fb}^{-1}$ . This translates into expected 95% confidence level constraints on  $\kappa_\lambda$  which correspond to two allowed regions,  $[-0.1, 2.7]$  and  $[4.5, 6.4]$  in the baseline scenario and just one,  $[0.2, 2.1]$  in the one without systematic uncertainties. Furthermore, the impact of  $b$ -tagging and  $\tau$ -identification algorithms on the sensitivity is studied. Improvements in  $b$ -tagging developed for Run 3 are expected to further increase the signal significance to  $3.8\sigma$  ( $4.9\sigma$ ).

20 September 2024



We always do better than simple lumi scaling!

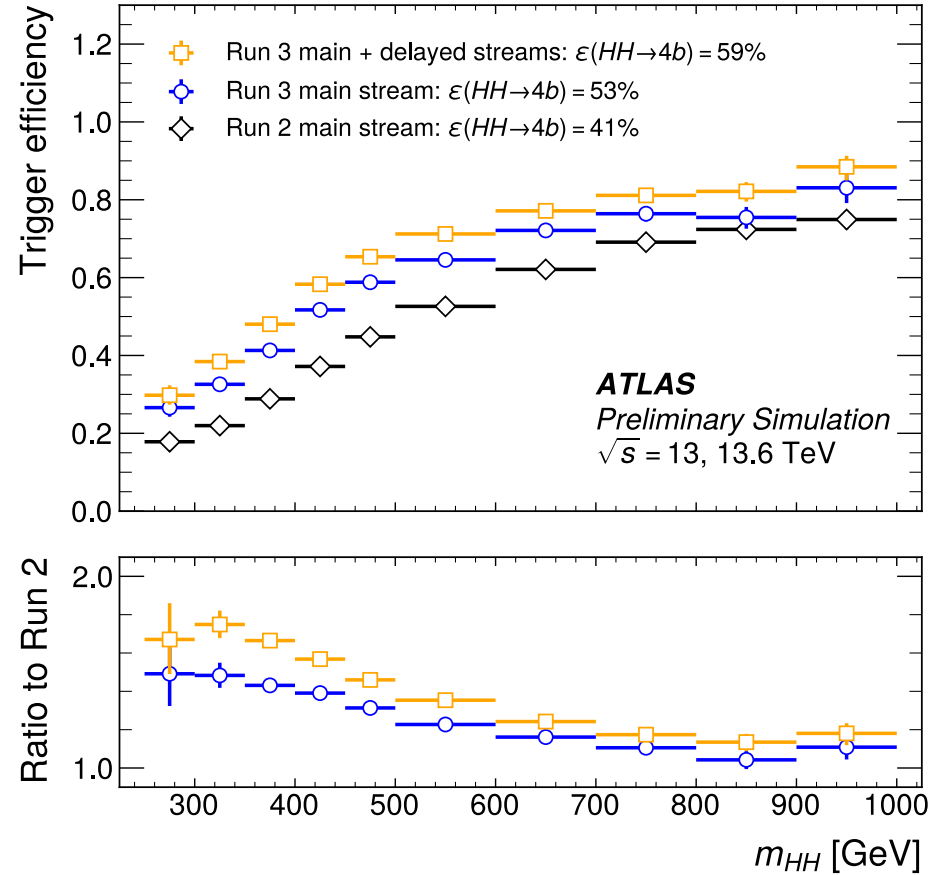
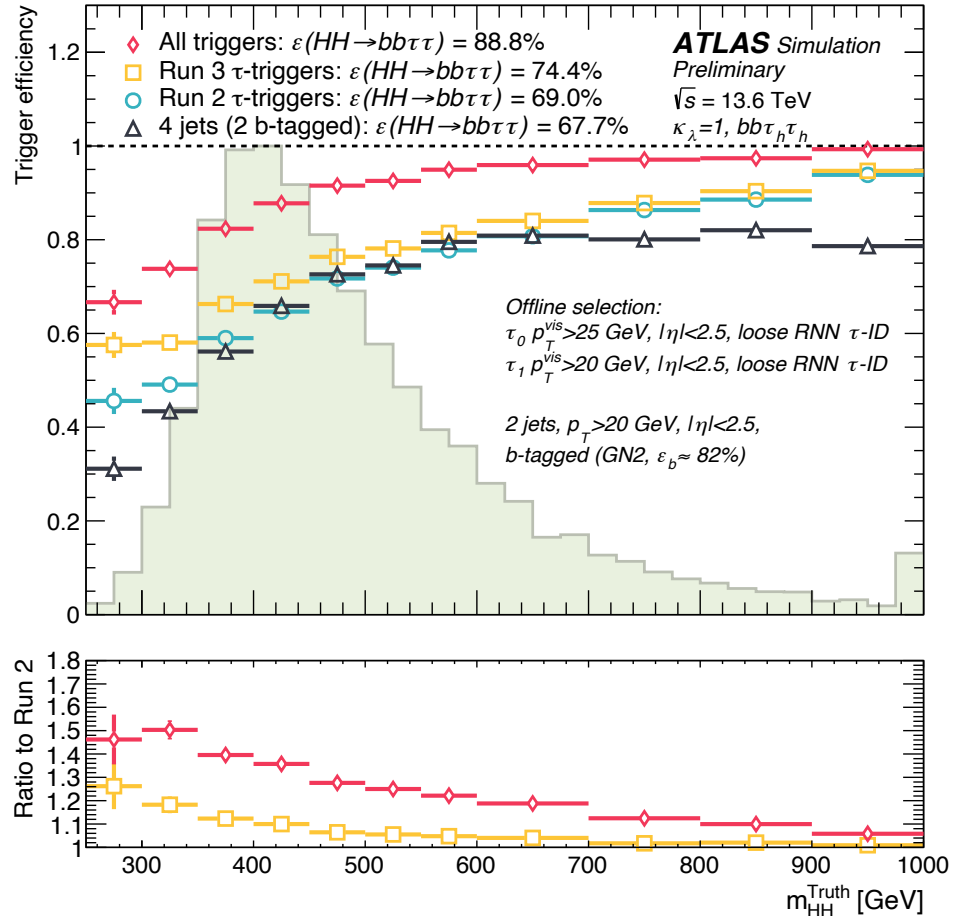
# Backup

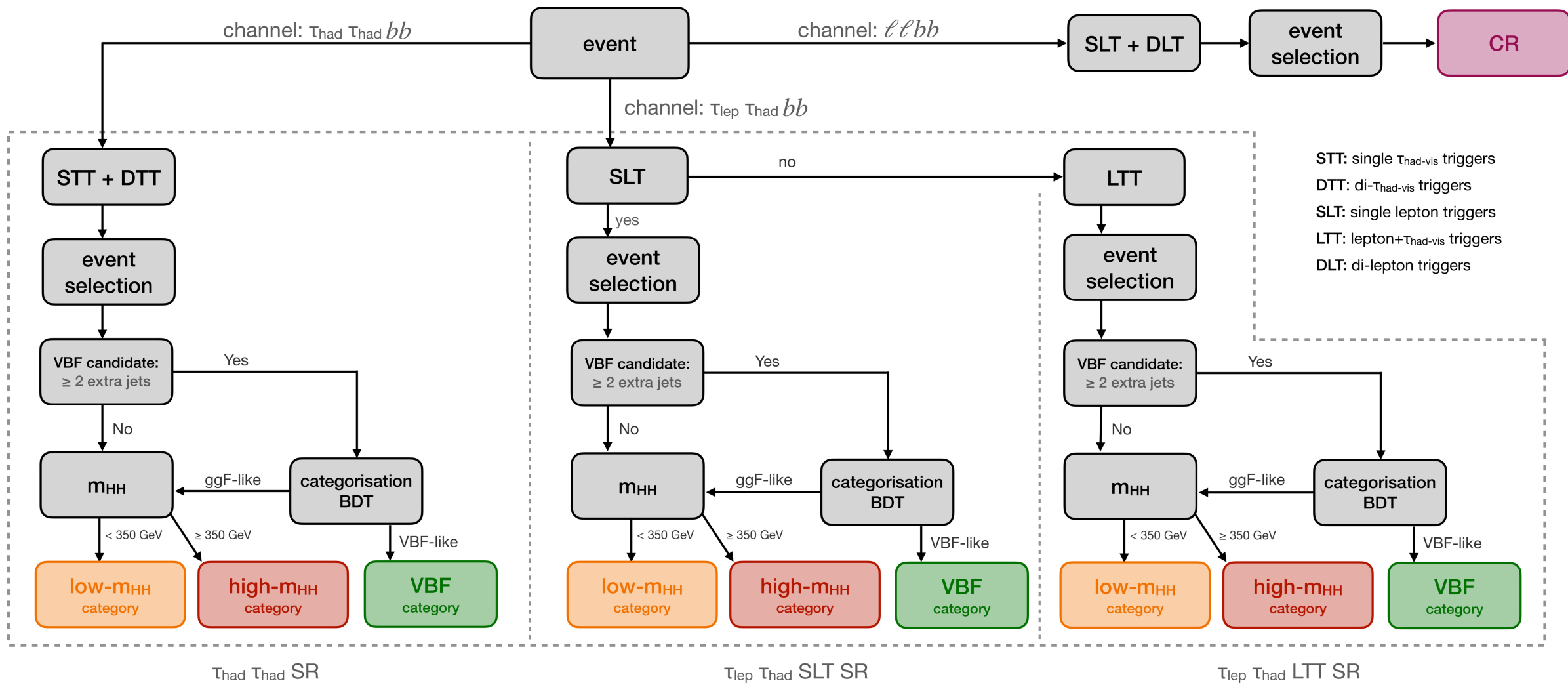
# XS scaling

<b>Process</b>	<b>Scale factor</b>
<b>Signals</b>	
$ggF\ HH$	1.18
$VBF\ HH$	1.19
<b>Backgrounds</b>	
$ggF\ H$	1.13
$VBF\ H$	1.13
$WH$	1.10
$ZH$	1.12
$ttH$	1.21
Others	1.18

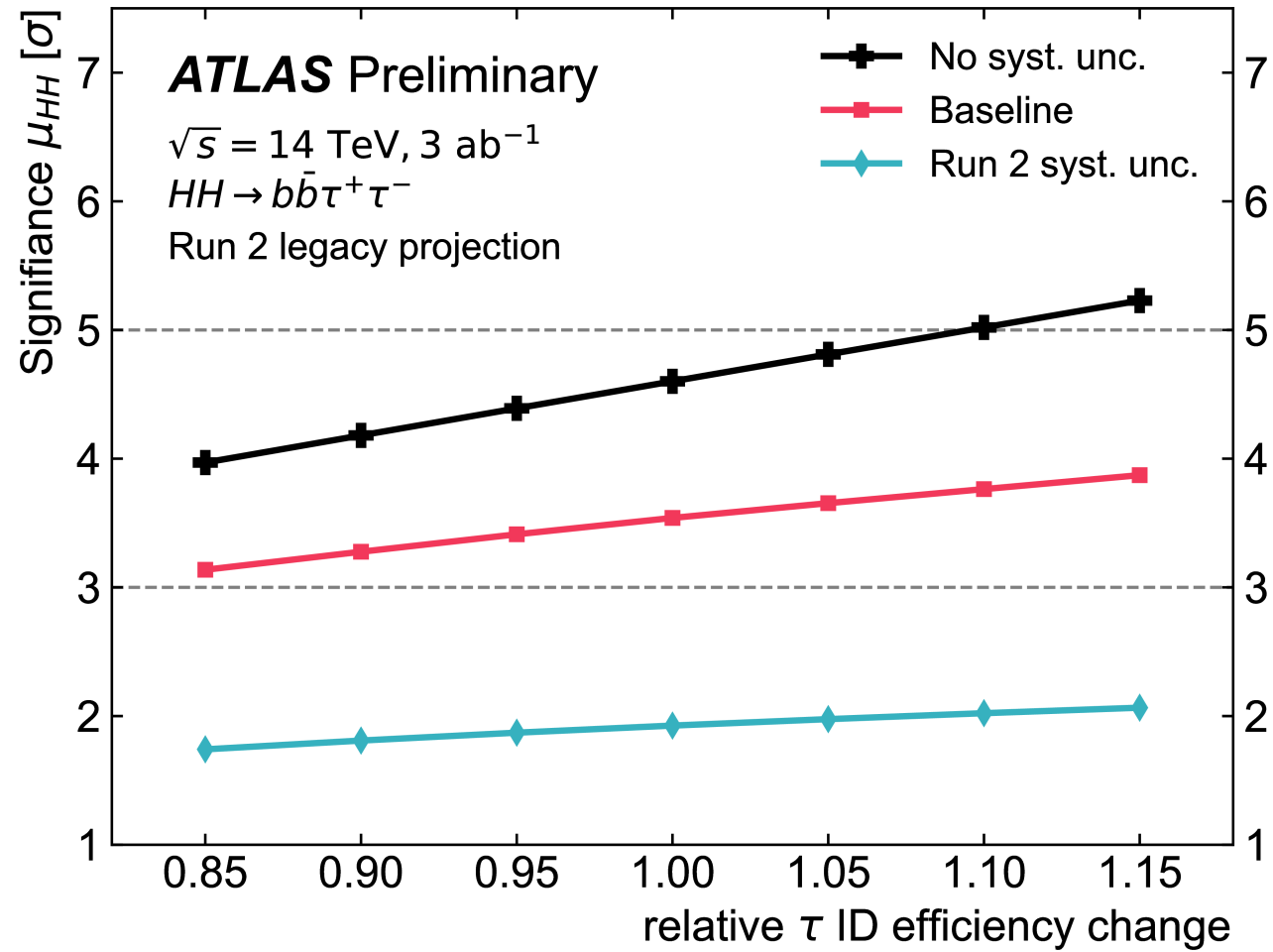


# Hadronic triggers





# $\tau$ ID



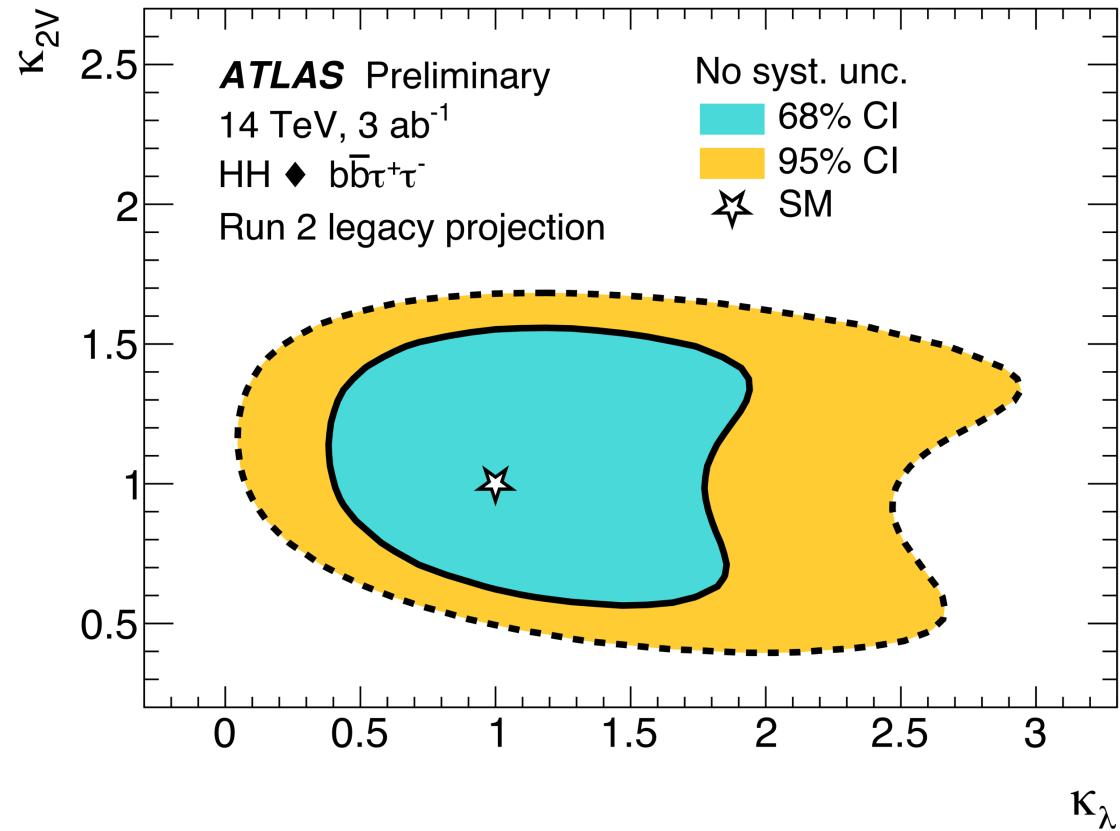
# $bb\tau\tau$

Uncertainty scenario	Significance [ $\sigma$ ]			Combined signal strength precision [%]
	$b\bar{b}\tau_{\text{lep}}\tau_{\text{had}}$	$b\bar{b}\tau_{\text{had}}\tau_{\text{had}}$	Combination	
$L_{\text{int}} = 2000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$				
No syst. unc.	1.9	3.2	3.8	-28 / 29
Baseline	1.5	2.6	3.0	-36 / 40
Baseline with MC luminosity scaled	1.4	2.5	2.9	-37 / 41
MC luminosity scaled	1.3	2.1	2.4	-42 / 59
Theoretical unc. halved	0.9	1.8	2.0	-49 / 51
Run 2 syst. unc.	0.9	1.7	1.8	-52 / 65
$L_{\text{int}} = 3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$				
No syst. unc.	2.3	4.0	4.6	-23 / 24
Baseline	1.8	3.1	3.5	-31 / 34
Baseline with MC luminosity scaled	1.7	3.0	3.4	-32 / 35
MC luminosity scaled	1.6	2.4	2.7	-37 / 53
Theoretical unc. halved	1.0	1.9	2.2	-46 / 47
Run 2 syst. unc.	0.9	1.8	1.9	-51 / 65

Source of uncertainty	Baseline $\Delta\mu_{HH}$		Run 2 Syst. $\Delta\mu_{HH}$	
Total	+0.35	-0.31	+0.65	-0.51
Statistical	+0.24	-0.23	+0.24	-0.23
↔ Data stat only	+0.24	-0.23	+0.24	-0.23
↔ Floating normalisations	+0.02	-0.02	+0.04	-0.02
Systematic	+0.25	-0.20	+0.61	-0.46
Experimental uncertainties				
Electrons and muons	< 0.01		< 0.01	
$\tau$ -leptons	+0.03	-0.03	+0.06	-0.05
Jets	+0.06	-0.06	+0.06	-0.07
$b$ -tagging	+0.02	-0.02	+0.04	-0.03
$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$	+0.03	-0.02	+0.04	-0.02
Pile-up	+0.01	-0.01	+0.01	-0.01
Luminosity	+0.02	-0.01	+0.02	-0.01
Theoretical and modelling uncertainties				
Signal	+0.12	-0.05	+0.39	-0.07
Backgrounds	+0.19	-0.17	+0.37	-0.30
↔ Single Higgs boson	+0.17	-0.15	+0.34	-0.27
↔ $Z$ + jets	+0.06	-0.05	+0.10	-0.09
↔ $W$ + jets	< 0.01		< 0.01	
↔ $t\bar{t}$	+0.02	-0.02	+0.03	-0.02
↔ Single top quark	+0.01	-0.01	+0.03	-0.04
↔ Diboson	< 0.01		< 0.01	
↔ Jet $\rightarrow$ $\tau_{\text{had}}$ fakes	+0.05	-0.05	+0.09	-0.08
MC statistical	< 0.01		+0.38	-0.36

# $bb\tau\tau$



# Combination uncertainty scenarios

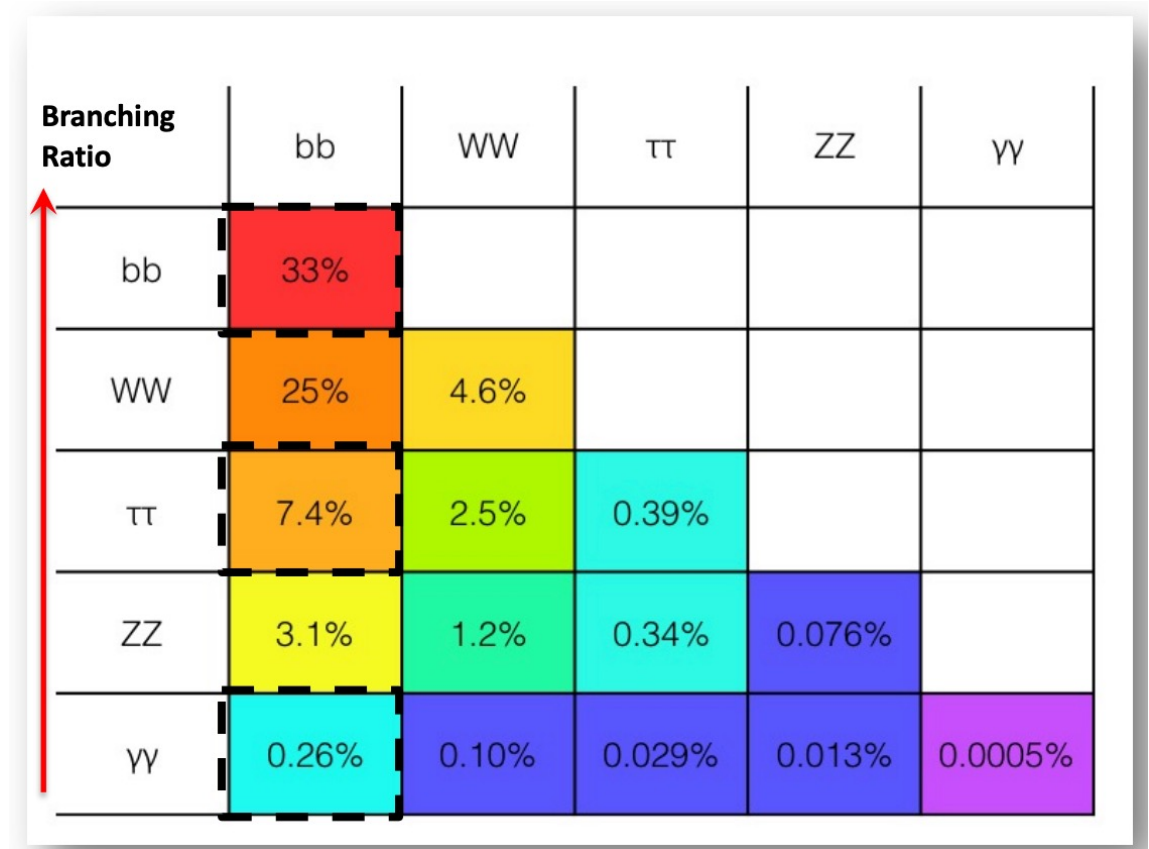
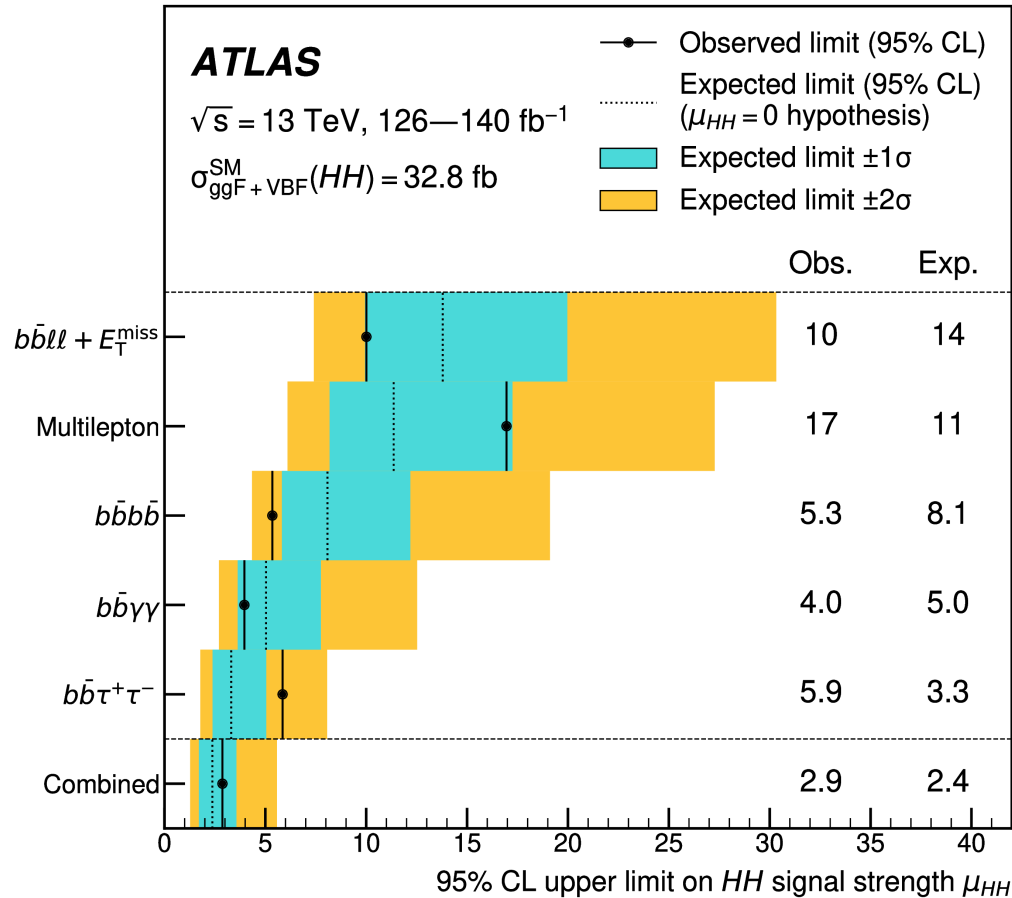
Systematic uncertainties	Scale factors for HL-LHC baseline scenario
Theoretical uncertainty	0.5
<b>b-jet tagging efficiency</b>	0.5
<b>c-jet tagging efficiency</b>	0.5
<b>Light-jet tagging efficiency</b>	1.0
<b>Jet energy scale and resolution</b>	1.0
<b>Luminosity</b>	0.6
<b>Background bootstrap uncertainty</b>	0.5
<b>Background shape uncertainty</b>	1.0

Uncertainty scenario	Scaling factors (sf)	
	Bootstrap unc.	Shape unc.
Pessimistic bkg. unc.	1.0	1.0
Conservative bkg. unc. 1 (fix bootstrap unc.)	1.0	0.2
Conservative bkg. unc. 2 (fix shape unc.)	0.2	1.0
Optimistic bkg. unc.	0.2	0.2

Source	Scale factor
<b>Experimental Uncertainties</b>	
Luminosity	0.6
<i>b</i> -jet tagging efficiency	0.5
<i>c</i> -jet tagging efficiency	0.5
Light-jet tagging efficiency	1.0
Jet energy scale and resolution, $E_T^{\text{miss}}$	1.0
$\kappa_\lambda$ reweighting	0.0
Photon efficiency (ID, trigger, isolation efficiency)	0.8
Photon energy scale and resolution	1.0
Spurious signal	0.0
Value of $m_H$	0.08
$\tau_{\text{had}}$ efficiency (statistical)	0.0
$\tau_{\text{had}}$ efficiency (systematic)	1.0
$\tau_{\text{had}}$ energy scale	1.0
Fake- $\tau_{\text{had}}$ estimation	1.0
MC statistical uncertainties	0.0
<b>Theoretical Uncertainties</b>	0.5

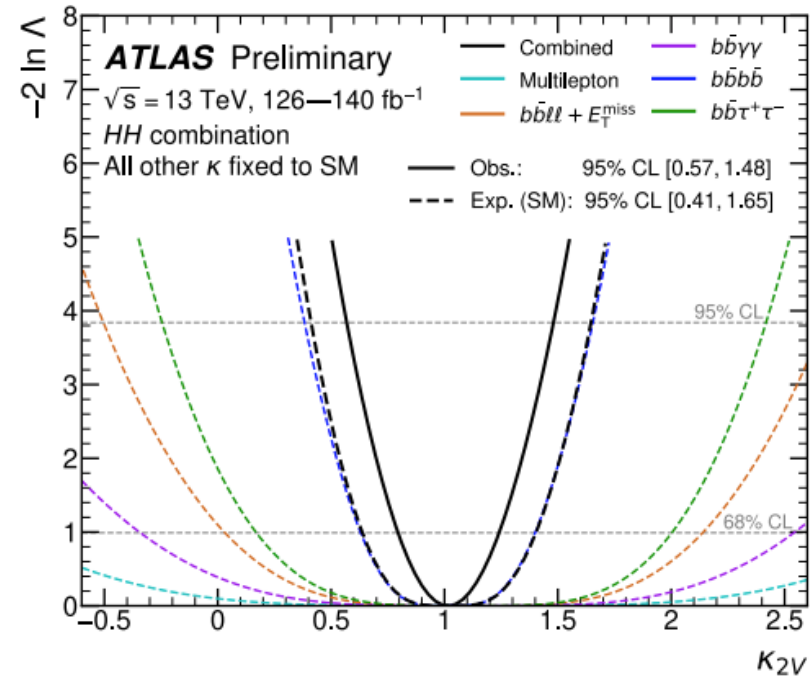
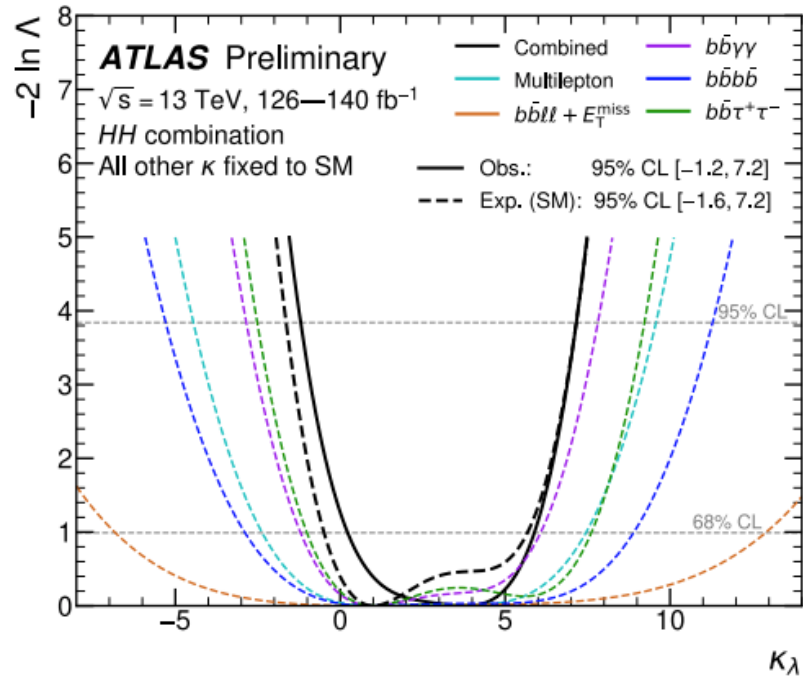
# $HH$ production

Sensitivity to  $HH$  at ATLAS is dominated by three channels:  $b\bar{b}\tau\tau$ ,  $b\bar{b}bb$ , and  $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$



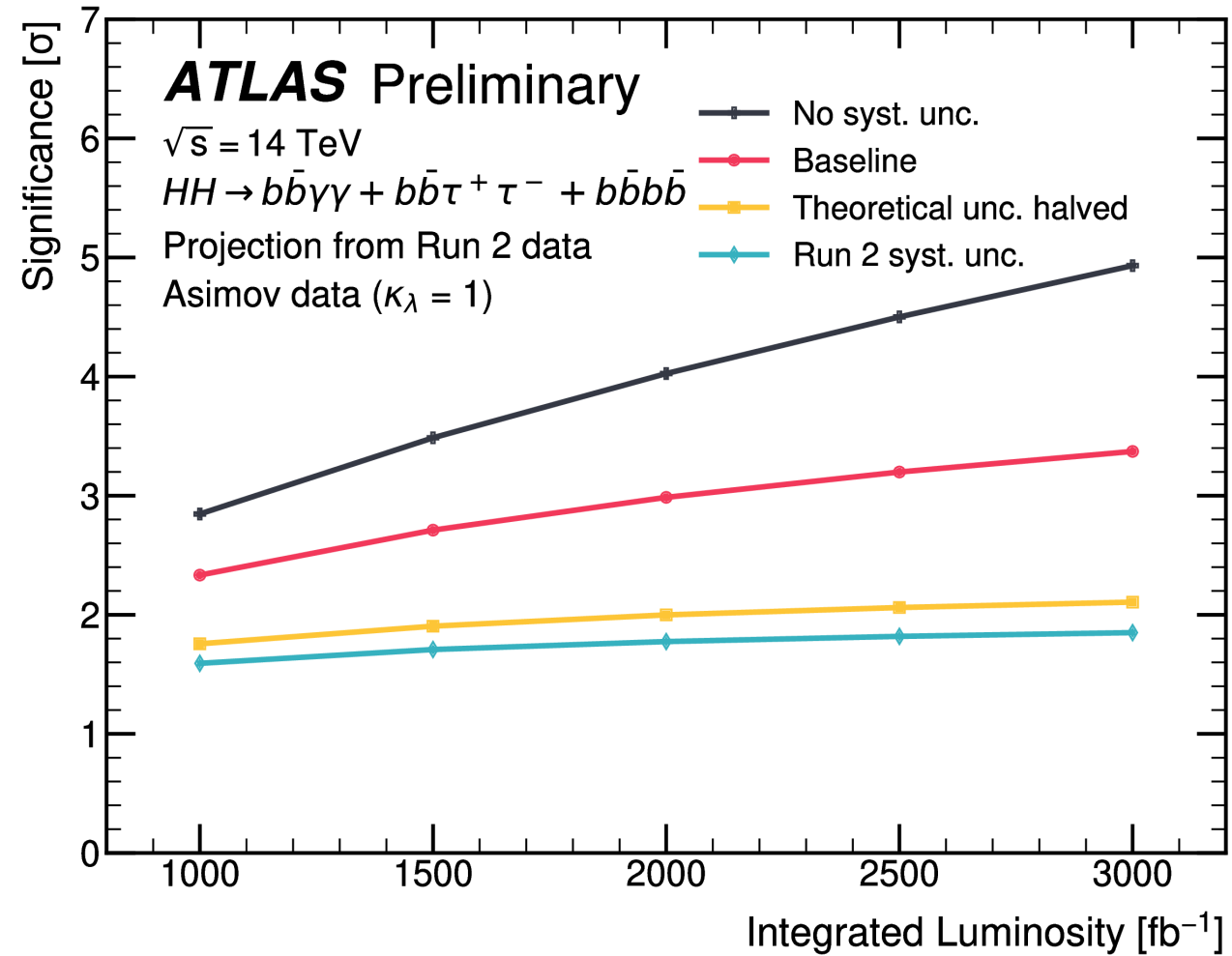


# Combination



	Best fit	Obs 95% CL	Exp 95% CL	Leading channel
$\kappa_{\lambda}$	3.8	[-1.2, 7.2]	[-1.6, 7.2]	$b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma, b\bar{b}\tau\tau$
$\kappa_{2V}$	1.0	[0.6, 1.5]	[0.4, 1.6]	$b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ (boosted)

# As function of Lumi



# $VH \rightarrow c\bar{c}$

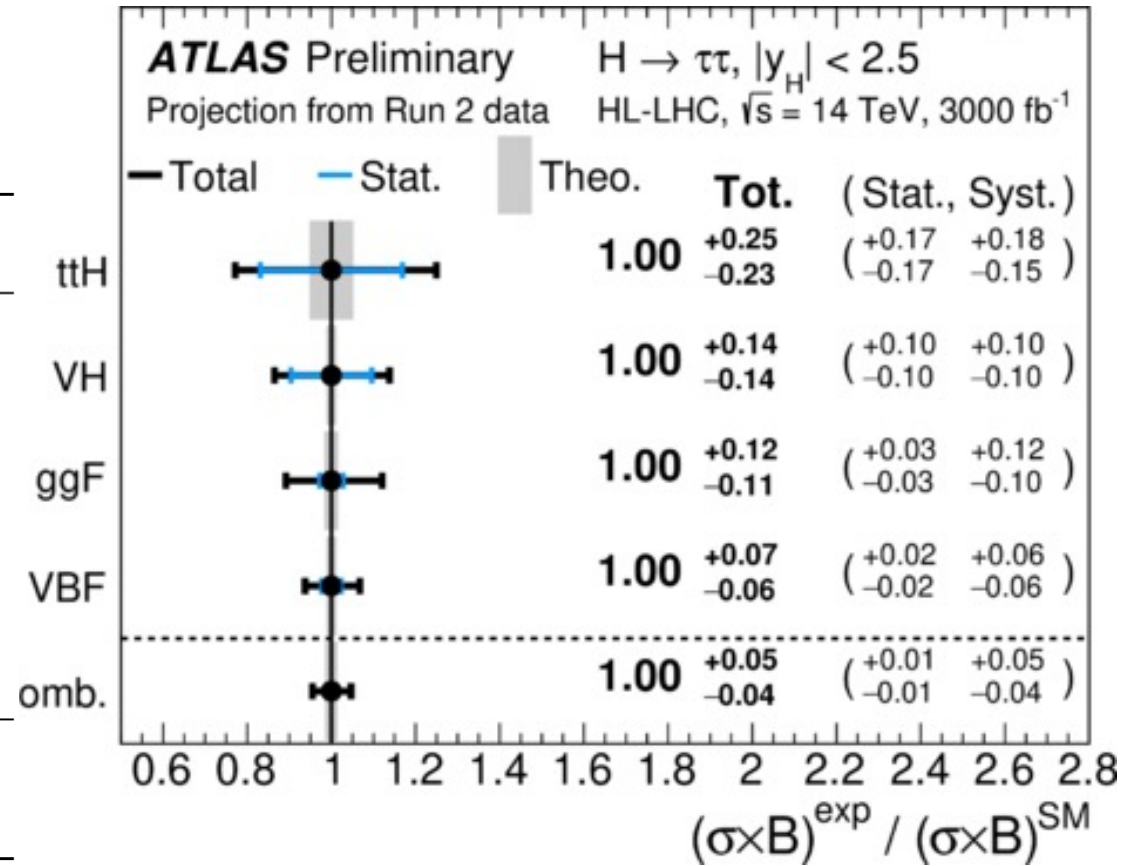
Source of uncertainty	$\Delta\mu_{ZH}^{b\bar{b}}$	$\Delta\mu_{WH}^{b\bar{b}}$	
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.070</b>	<b>0.081</b>	
Statistical	0.034	0.039	
Systematics	0.063	0.070	
<b>Statistical uncertainties</b>			
Data statistics only	0.031	0.037	
$t\bar{t}$ $e\mu$ control region	0.006	0.003	
Floating normalisations	0.017	0.028	
<b>Theoretical and modelling uncertainties</b>			
Signal	0.047	0.031	
Z+jets	0.017	0.010	
W+jets	0.004	0.022	
single top	0.005	0.012	
$t\bar{t}$	0.007	0.017	
Diboson	0.020	0.027	
Multi-Jet	< 0.001	0.001	
<b>Experimental uncertainties</b>			
Jets	0.022	0.032	
Leptons	0.006	0.011	
$E_T^{\text{miss}}$	0.006	0.005	
Pile-up and luminosity	0.009	0.009	
	<i>b</i> -jets	0.018	0.009
Flavour tagging	<i>c</i> -jets	0.004	0.035
	light-jets	0.006	0.009

Source of uncertainty	$\Delta\mu_{VH}^{c\bar{c}}$	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.21</b>	
Statistical	1.97	
Systematics	2.53	
<b>Statistical uncertainties</b>		
Data statistics only	1.59	
Floating normalisations	0.95	
<b>Theoretical and modelling uncertainties</b>		
$VH, H \rightarrow c\bar{c}$	0.27	
Z+jets	1.77	
Top-quark	0.96	
W+jets	0.84	
Diboson	0.34	
$VH, H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	0.29	
Multi-Jet	0.09	
<b>Experimental uncertainties</b>		
Jets	0.59	
Leptons	0.20	
$E_T^{\text{miss}}$	0.18	
Pile-up and luminosity	0.19	
	<i>c</i> -jets	0.61
Flavour tagging	<i>b</i> -jets	0.16
	light-jets	0.51
	$\tau$ -jets	0.19

Uncertainties	Scale Factor
$E_T^{\text{miss}}$	0.5
Lepton	1
Jet	1
Flavour tagging <i>c</i> -, <i>b</i> - and $\tau$ -jets	0.5
Flavour tagging light-jets (MV2c10 in $VH(bb)$ )	0.5
Flavour tagging light-jets (DL1 in $VH(cc)$ )	1.0
Luminosity	0.58
Signal modelling	0.5
Background modelling	0.5
MC statistics	0
Truth-tagging uncertainties ( $VH, H \rightarrow c\bar{c}$ only)	0

# $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$

Source of uncertainty	Impact on $\Delta\sigma / \sigma(pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow \tau\tau)$ [%]			
	ggF	VBF	VH	$t\bar{t}H$
Theoretical uncertainty on the signal	10.0	5.6	5.6	9.5
Jet and $E_T^{\text{miss}}$	4.1	1.9	4.8	7.6
Background sample size	1.9	1.0	3.7	4.9
Hadronic $\tau$ decays	1.9	1.1	2.6	2.4
Misidentified $\tau$	1.9	1.0	1.8	3.0
Luminosity	1.2	0.6	0.2	0.2
Theoretical uncertainty in $Z$ + jets processes	1.4	0.8	0.5	1.0
Theoretical uncertainty in Top processes	0.8	0.3	0.9	4.7
Flavor tagging	0.7	0.2	0.3	2.2
Electrons and muons	0.9	0.4	1.4	1.3
<b>Total systematic uncertainty</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>17.2</b>
Data sample size	2.8	2.3	9.6	16.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>23.1</b>



# Looking Ahead: HH at HL-LHC

Table 9: Expected significance for several channel combinations, for a luminosity of  $3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$ , including the expected uncertainties quoted in the text, using the asymptotic approximation. This table only takes into account the  $\tau_{\text{lep}}\tau_{\text{had}}$  and  $\tau_{\text{had}}\tau_{\text{had}}$  channels.

Channel	Significance	Combined in channel	Total combined
$e + \text{jets}$	0.31	0.43	0.60
$\mu + \text{jets}$	0.30		
$\tau_{\text{had}}\tau_{\text{had}}$	0.41	0.41	

**HL-LHC  $bb\tau\tau$  significance expected in 2015**  
[\(ATL-PHYS-PUB-2015-046\)](#)

assuming SM kinematics for the signal, the 95% CL upper limit on the  $HH$  signal strength is projected to be at 0.71 times the SM prediction with respect to the background-only hypothesis assuming an integrated luminosity of  $3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  and  $\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}$ . The signal significance is extrapolated to  $2.8\sigma$ , and assuming a true value of  $\kappa_\lambda = 1$ , the self-coupling modifier is constrained to the  $1\sigma$  CI  $[0.3, 1.9] \cup [5.2, 6.7]$ . If no  $HH$

**HL-LHC  $bb\tau\tau$  significance expected in 2021**  
[\(ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-044\)](#)

a variety of integrated luminosities ranging from 1000 to  $3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . Assuming SM  $HH$  production, a signal significance of  $3.5\sigma$  ( ~~$4.6\sigma$~~ ) is expected in the baseline (statistical only) extrapolation scenario for an integrated luminosity of  $3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . This translates into expected

**HL-LHC  $bb\tau\tau$  significance expected in 2024**  
[\(ATL-PHYS-PUB-2024-016\)](#)