



Uppsala, Sweden
4-8 November 2024

Measurements of Higgs boson production with top quarks with the ATLAS detector

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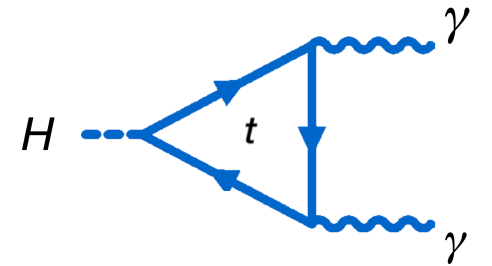
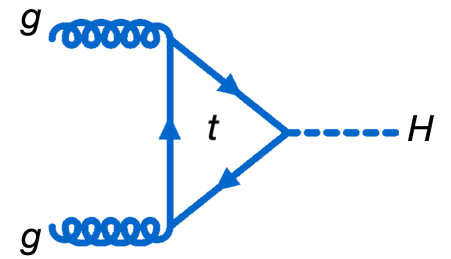
On behalf of the ATLAS collaboration

Higgs 2024 conference



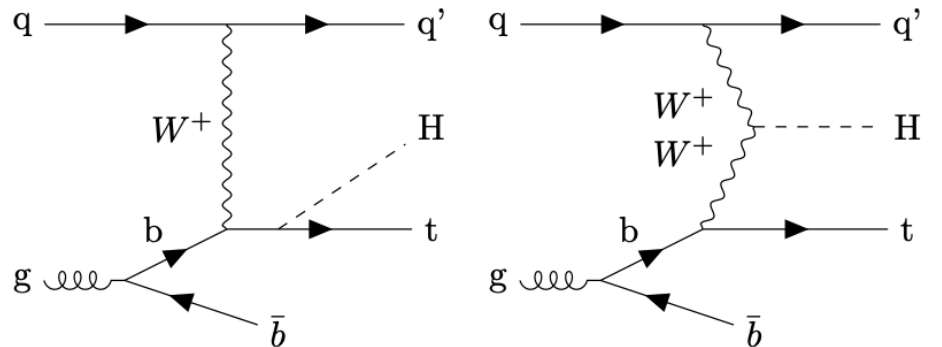
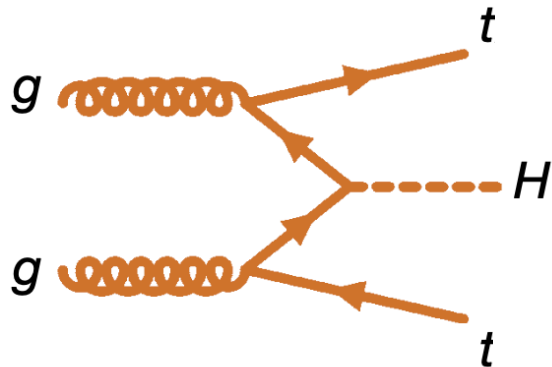
Top Yukawa coupling: key interaction in the SM and BSM

- Higgs boson couples to fermions (**Yukawa interaction**) proportionally to their masses
 - ➔ Top quark is the **heaviest in the SM** \Leftrightarrow **Largest Yukawa coupling** ($\lambda_t = \frac{m_t \sqrt{2}}{v} \sim 1$)
 - ➔ **Sensitive probe** to New physics (BSM)
 - ➔ Gluon-gluon fusion and $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ enable **indirect** access to λ_t in a model-dependent way
- **Top-associated** Higgs boson production provides a **direct access** to the top Yukawa
 - ➔ $t\bar{t}H$: best way to measure λ_t (tree-level process), $\sigma_{t\bar{t}H} \propto \lambda_t^2$
 - ➔ tH : lower cross-section in the SM (mainly tHq production)
 - ★ Interference between top and W couplings \rightarrow sensitive to the sign of λ_t and BSM effects



$\sigma_{SM}^{t\bar{t}H} \sim 0.5 \text{ pb}$

70k events produced in ATLAS during Run 2

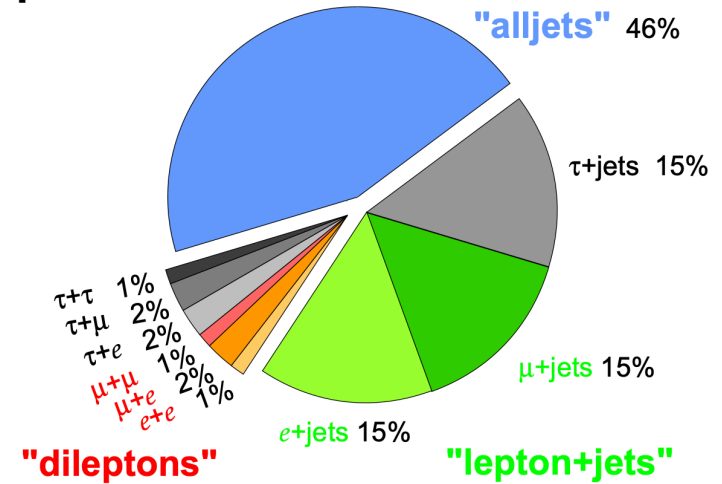


$\sigma_{SM}^{tH} \sim 0.09 \text{ pb}$

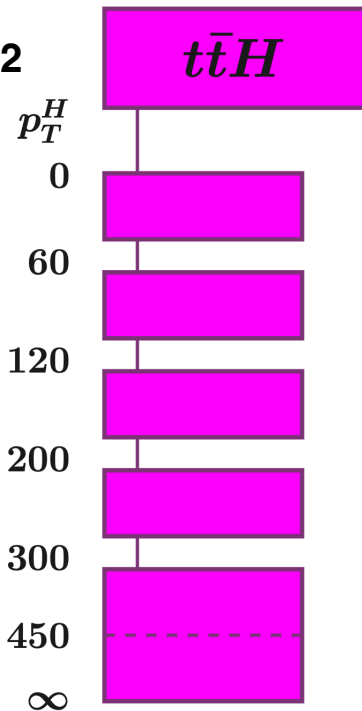
Top Yukawa coupling: measuring $t\bar{t}H/tH$ production

- Combination of top quarks and Higgs decays → **variety of complex final states**
 - ➔ Many objects: jets, b-jets, light leptons (ℓ), hadronic taus (τ_{had}) and photons
- $t\bar{t}H$ production **observed** combining several final states in [ATLAS](#) and [CMS](#)
 - ➔ established with $> 5\sigma$ significance
 - ➔ tH production **not observed yet** given very small cross-section in SM

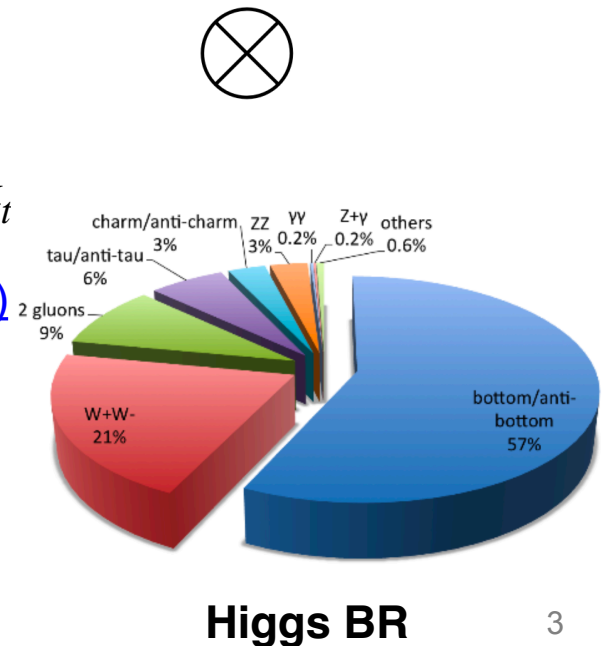
$t\bar{t}$ pair BR



STXS Stage 1.2



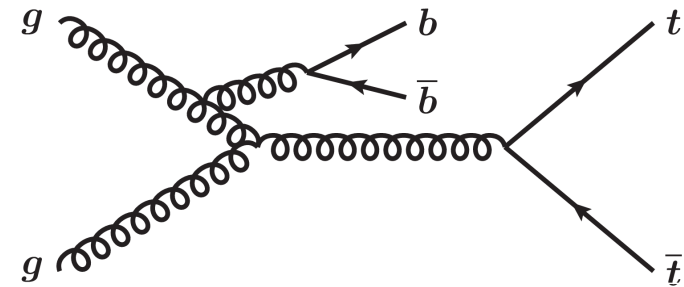
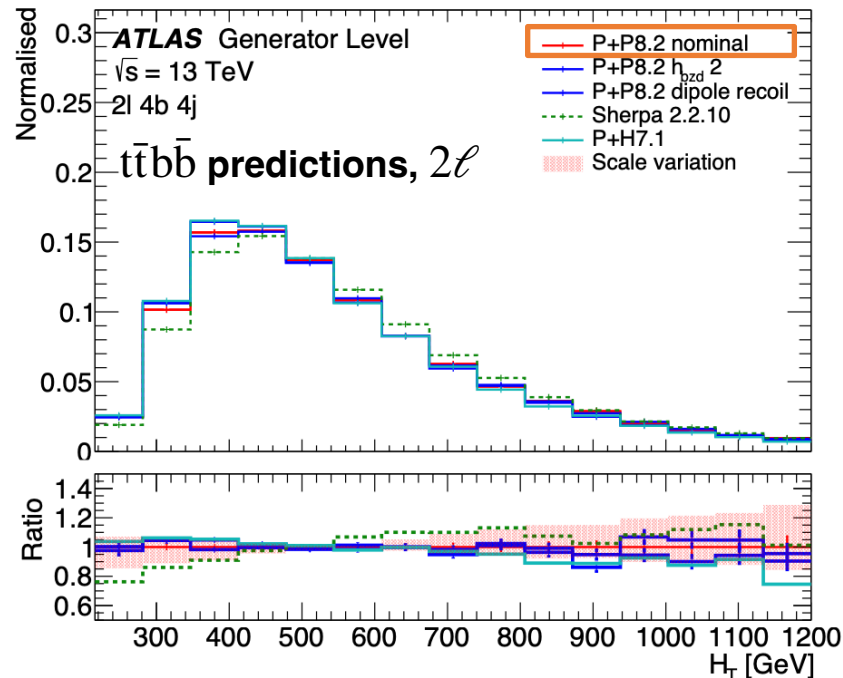
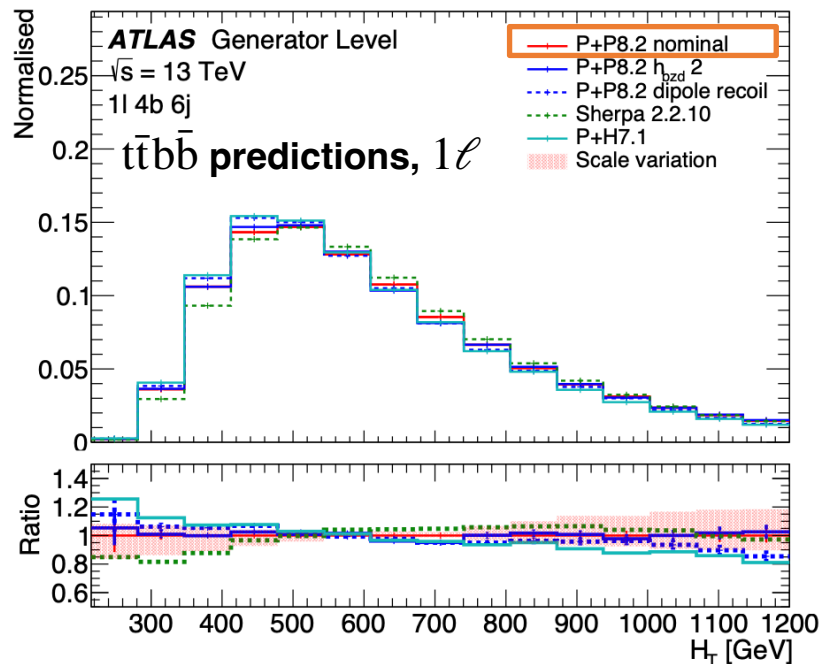
- Results of measured couplings expressed in terms of:
 - ➔ **Signal strengths** $\mu = \sigma/\sigma_{SM}$ or **coupling modifiers** k_t
- $t\bar{t}H$ part of the [Simplified Template Cross-Section \(STXS\)](#)
 - ➔ 5 or 6 bins in **Higgs boson** p_T



Couplings/STXS: $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ w/ 140 fb^{-1}

[arXiv:2407.10904](https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.10904) (submitted to EPJC)

- **Re-analysis of the full Run 2 data** superseding the previous analysis [JHEP 06 \(2022\) 97](#)
- Targeting $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ mode with largest branching fraction ($\sim 58\%$) \rightarrow valuable contribution to Higgs combination at higher p_T^H
 - \rightarrow Large and irreducible background from $t\bar{t} + b$ – jets \rightarrow **leading source of uncertainty in the previous round.**
- Events categorised by $t\bar{t}$ decay ($1\ell/2\ell$) and p_T^H including 1ℓ boosted categories for $p_T^H > 300 \text{ GeV}$
- Major improvements in this round:
 - \rightarrow advanced b-jet identification algorithm (DL1r), consolidated physics objects
 - \rightarrow Improved $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$ modelling using a **new MC sample** with reduced associated systematics ([ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-006](#))

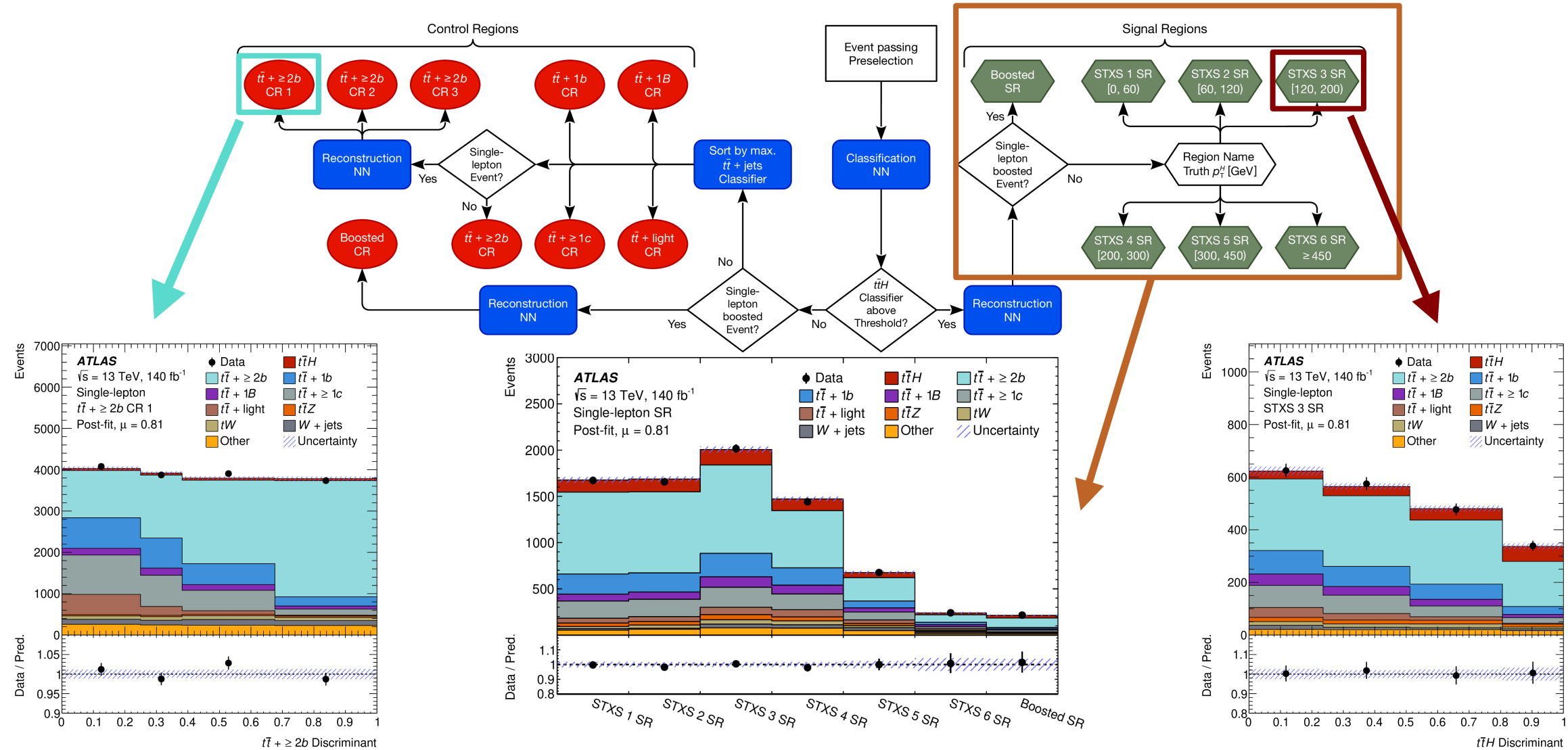


Couplings/STXS: $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ w/ 140 fb^{-1}

[arXiv:2407.10904](https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.10904) (submitted to EPJC)

➔ Enhanced event categorisation and reconstruction using transformer Neural Networks

★ Allowed to loosen kinematic preselection tripling signal events acceptance

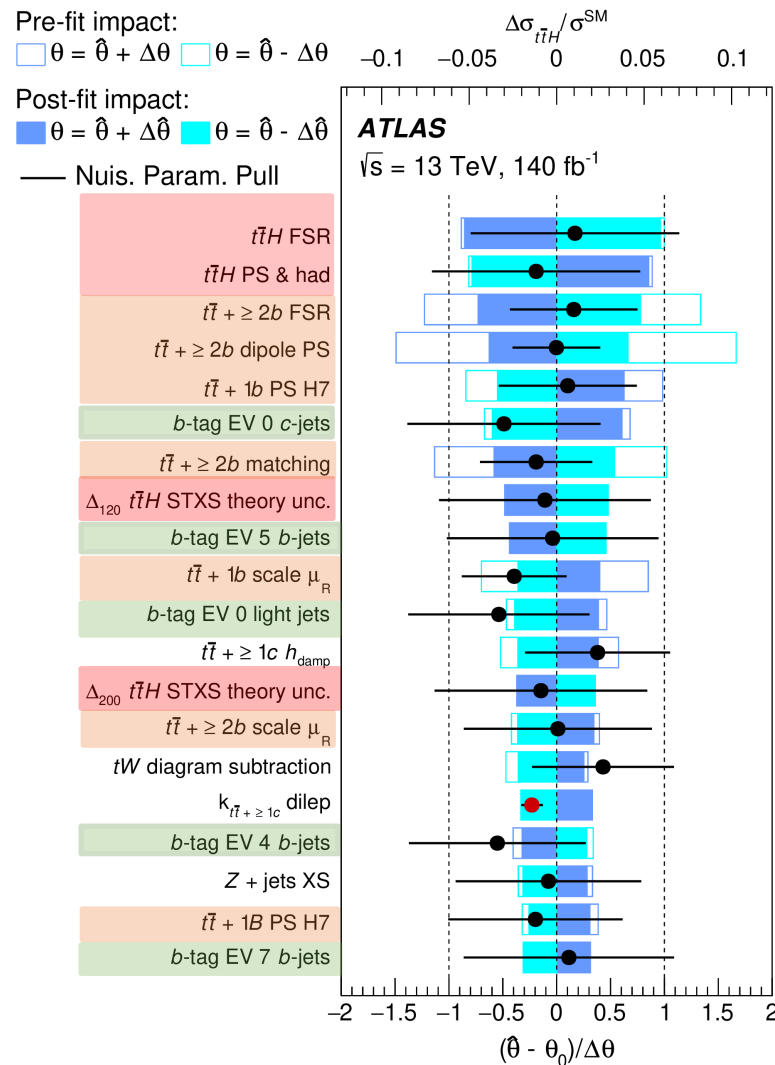
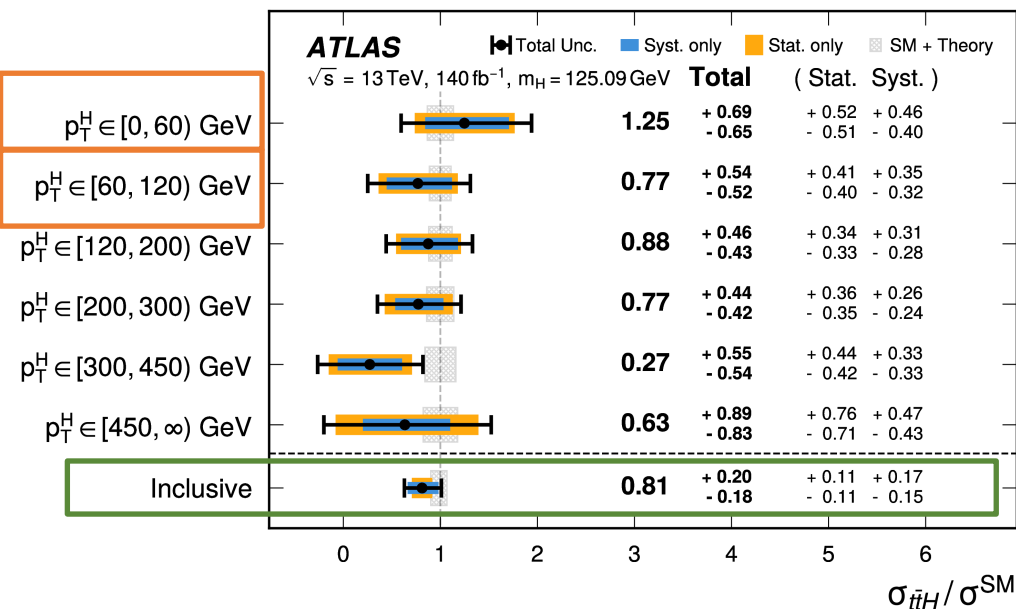


Couplings/STXS: $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ w/ 140 fb^{-1}

arXiv:2407.10904 (submitted to EPJC)

- Simultaneous profile likelihood fit: 14 SRs/ 12 CRs
 - ➔ Signal cross-section and bkg normalisations free-floating

- Observed (expected) signal significance: **4.6 (5.4) σ**
 - ➔ Compared to 1.0 (2.7) σ in previous round



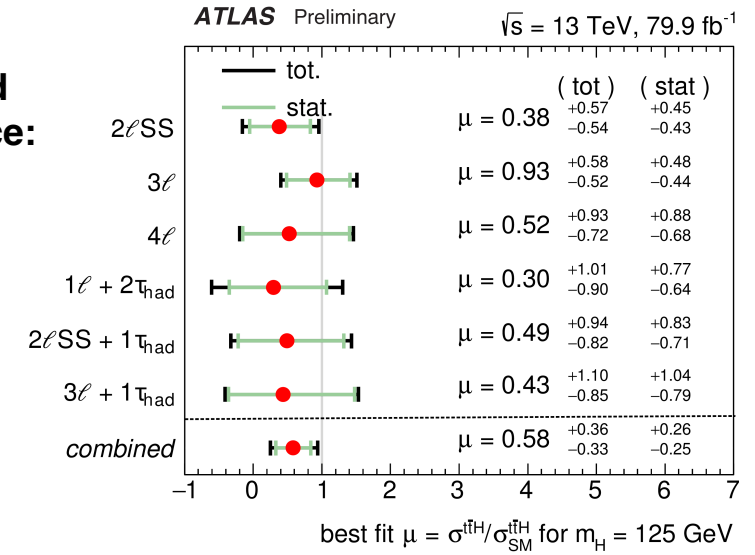
- Full STXS stage 1.2 (6 Higgs p_T bins)
 - ➔ STXS Compatibility with SM: **89%**
- Sensitivity dominated by **signal modelling**, **$t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$ modelling** and **b -tagging**

Highest precision achieved in single channel $t\bar{t}H$ cross-section measurement to date, both inclusive and differential

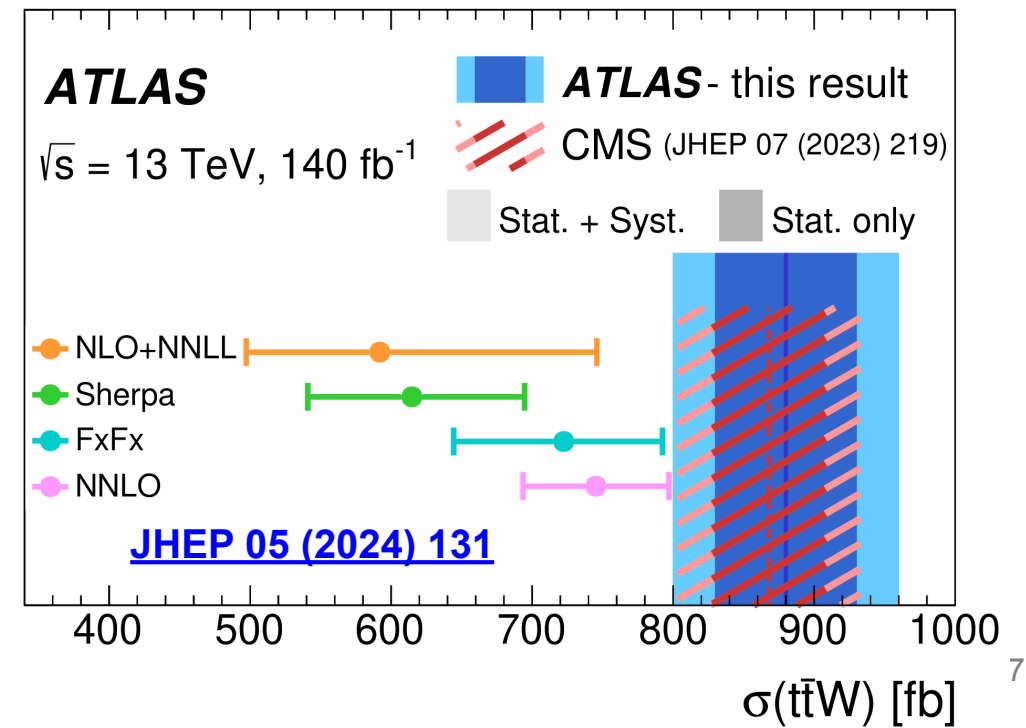
Couplings: $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow WW^*, ZZ^*, \tau\tau)$ w/ 80 fb^{-1}

- Relatively **large branching ratios** and low yet **challenging** backgrounds
- Targeting events with leptons in the H decay final states and **leptonic $t\bar{t}$ decays**
 - ➔ **6 channels** based on **number, flavour** and **charge** of lepton candidates
- Main backgrounds:
 - ➔ **Irreducible:** $t\bar{t}W$ (normalisation free-floated in the fit), $t\bar{t}Z$ and VV ;
 - ➔ **Reducible:** non-prompt leptons, charge misID electrons and electrons from photon conversions

Observed significance:
 1.8σ

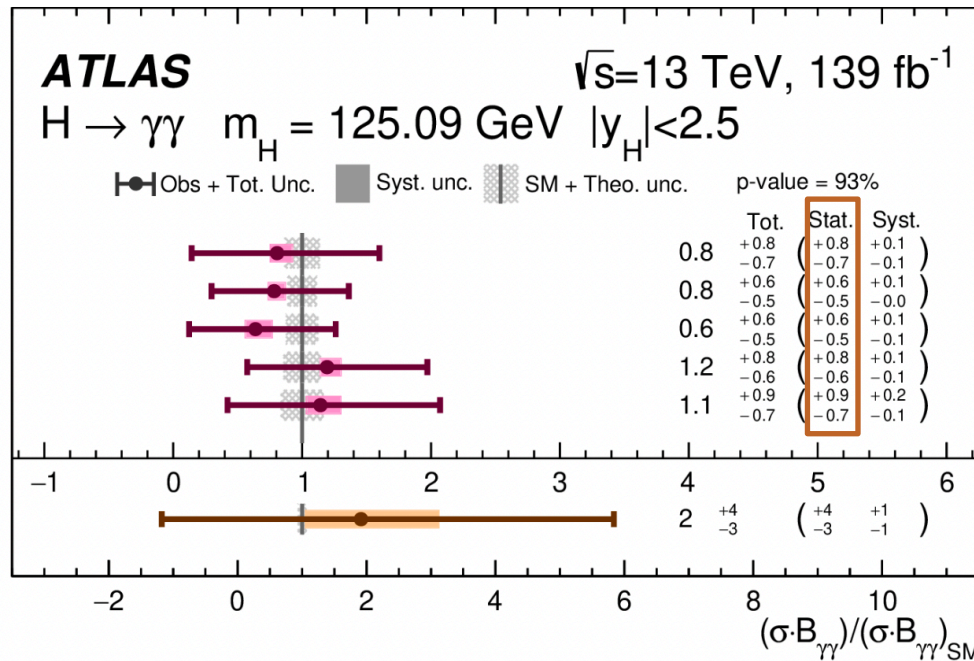
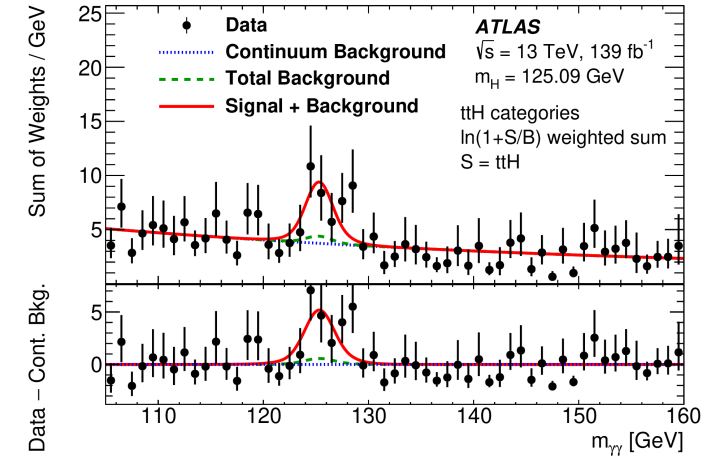


- $t\bar{t}W$ normalisation determined to be in the range ~ 1.3 - 1.7 w.r.t Sherpa 2.2.1-based prediction
 - ➔ $t\bar{t}W$ **modelling main limitation of analysis sensitivity**
- Dedicated $t\bar{t}W$ cross-sections measurements w/ 140 fb^{-1} performed:
 - ➔ tensions with predictions remain despite **improved theoretical calculations accounting for higher order QCD and EW corrections**
 - ➔ **Key input for the background modelling in the legacy $t\bar{t}H$ -multilepton analysis.**

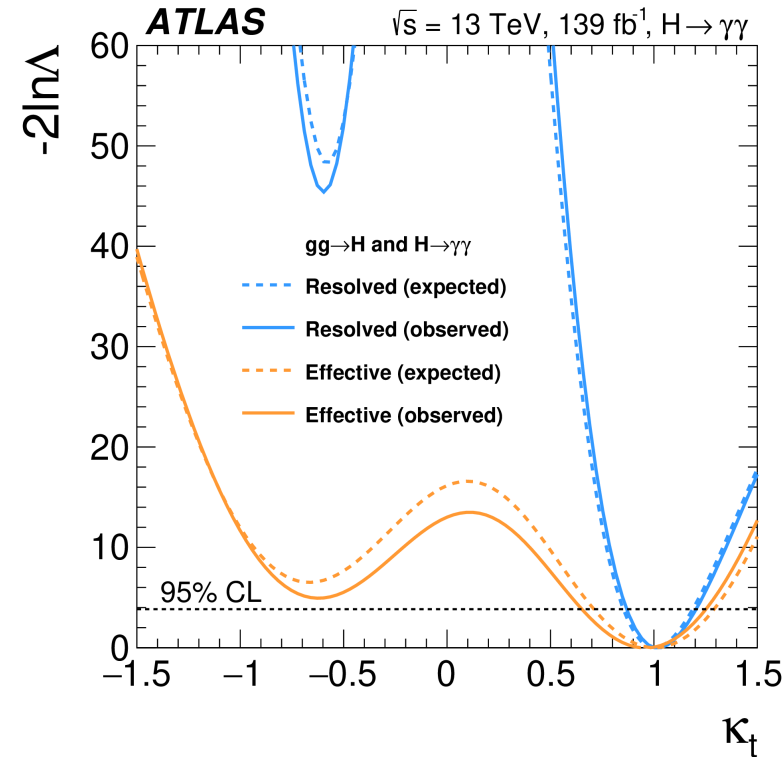


Couplings/STXS: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

- Analysis targets several production modes → focussing on $t\bar{t}H/tH$ production here
- Small BR but clear signal peak and low background level
- Refined event categorisation using Multiclass and binary BDTs → 13 dedicated to $t\bar{t}H/tH$
 - Using $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ as discriminant in the signal extraction fit
- k_t probed with two different configurations:
 - Resolved: k_t in ggF and $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ loops
 - Effective: effective coupling (k_g and k_γ) fixed to the SM prediction



Upper limit on tH cross-section: $10 \times \text{SM}$ prediction @95% CL



negative k_t values excluded with $\geq 2.2\sigma$

values outside the range $0.65 < k_t < 1.25$ (expected $0.71 < k_t < 1.29$) excluded @ 95% CL

CP nature of top-Higgs interaction

- SM predicts the Higgs boson to be a **CP-even particle** ($J^{\text{CP}} = 0^{++}$, **scalar**)
- Signs of pure **CP-odd** or **CP-mixed** couplings to SM particles would hint at new physics beyond the SM
 - ➔ **Additional sources of CP violation** (on top of CKM) needed to explain observed baryon asymmetry in the universe
- Effective Lagrangian describing top Yukawa coupling can be parameterized as:

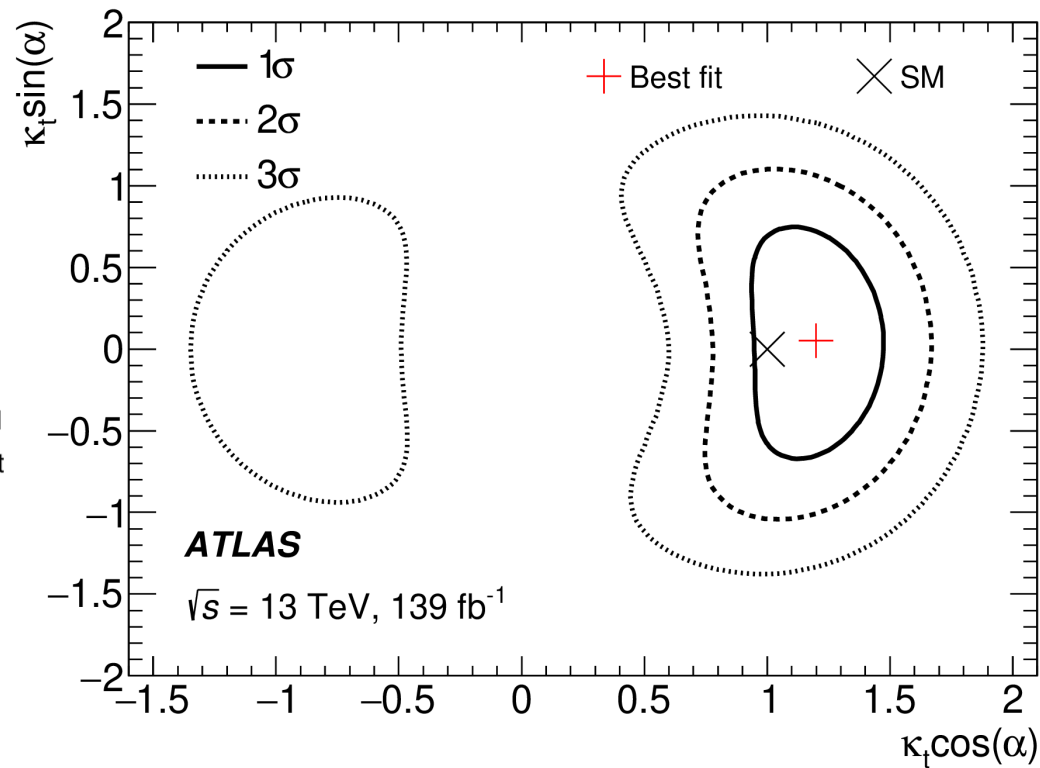
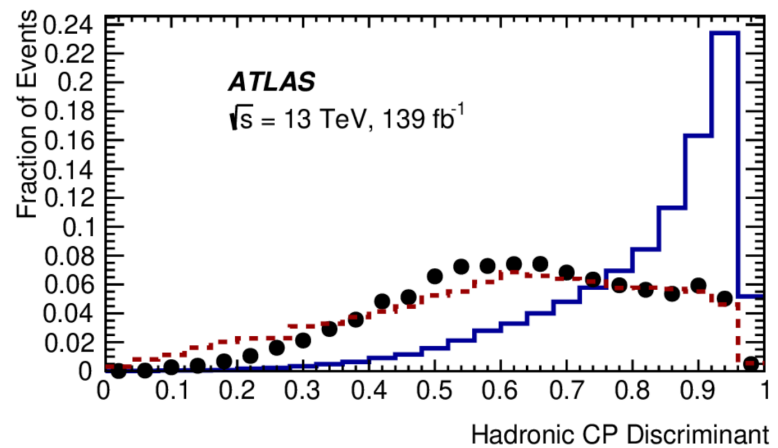
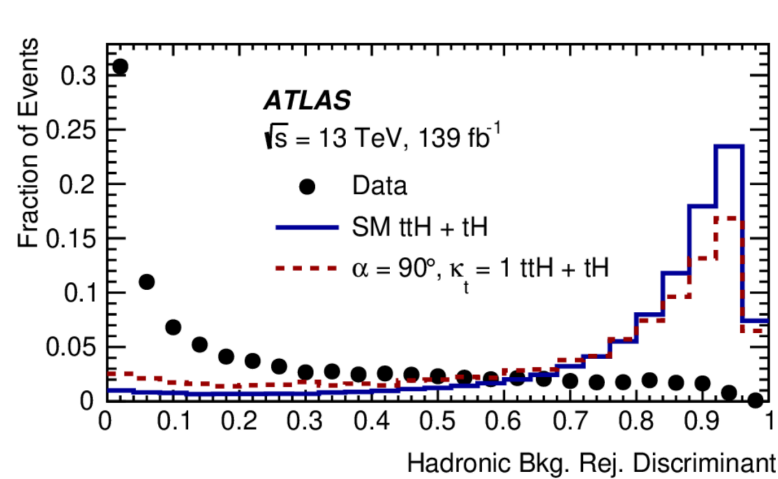
$$\mathcal{L} = - \frac{m_t}{v} \left\{ \bar{\psi}_t \kappa_t [\cos(\alpha) + i \sin(\alpha) \gamma_5] \psi_t \right\} H$$

- ★ k_t : coupling modifier parameter (SM: $k_t = 1$) $\rightarrow k_t \neq 1$ leads to variations in the cross-section
- ★ α : CP-mixing angle (SM: $\alpha = 0^\circ$; pure CP-odd: $\alpha = 90^\circ$) $\rightarrow \alpha \neq 0^\circ$ implies an admixture with pseudo-scalar coupling resulting in both cross-section and kinematics variations.
- **CP properties** of the top Yukawa coupling can be directly probed through $t\bar{t}H/tH$ processes
 - ➔ exploiting $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

CP properties: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

[PRL 125 \(2020\) 061802](#)

- Sharing similarities w/ the STXS analysis e.g signal and background modelling, discriminant variable $m_{\gamma\gamma}$
- Events categorisation using 2 BDTs: **Background rejection BDT** and **CP BDT (CP-even vs CP-odd)** → 20 categories



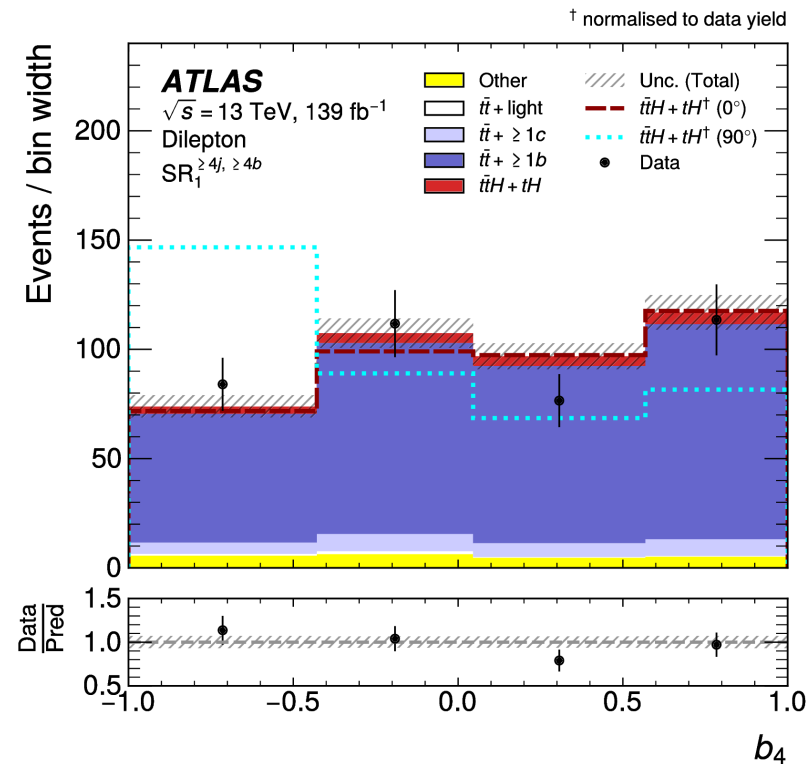
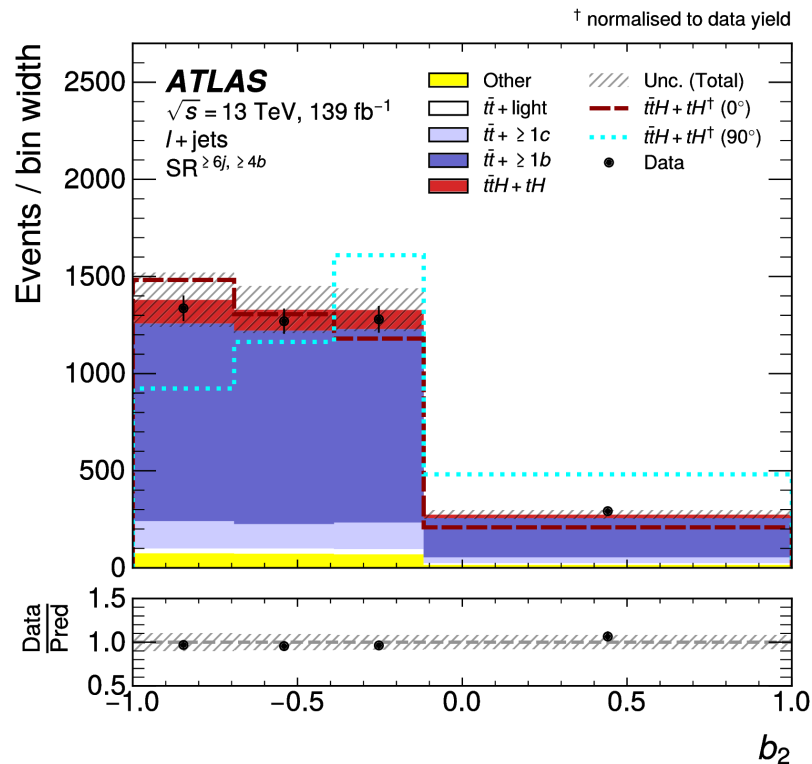
- **Statistically dominated** measurement
- Data **strongly favours the CP even** hypothesis:
 - ➔ $|\alpha| > 43^\circ$ excluded @ 95% CL
 - ➔ **Pure CP-odd coupling excluded at 3.9σ**

CP properties: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

PLB 849 (2024) 138469

- Similar strategy to previous iteration of $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ cross-section analysis with full Run 2 data [JHEP 06 \(2022\) 97](#)
 - ➔ **BDTs used for event reconstruction and event classification** (optimised for SM $t\bar{t}H$)
 - ➔ Considering both $t\bar{t}H$ and tH as signals
- **Dedicated CP sensitive observables** are built relying on angular separation between reconstructed top quarks
 - ➔ **b2**: enhanced for narrower azimuthal separation of top quarks in CP-odd case
 - ➔ **b4**: enhanced for top quarks in opposite directions and closer to the beamline
 - ❖ used as **fitting observables** in the signal regions

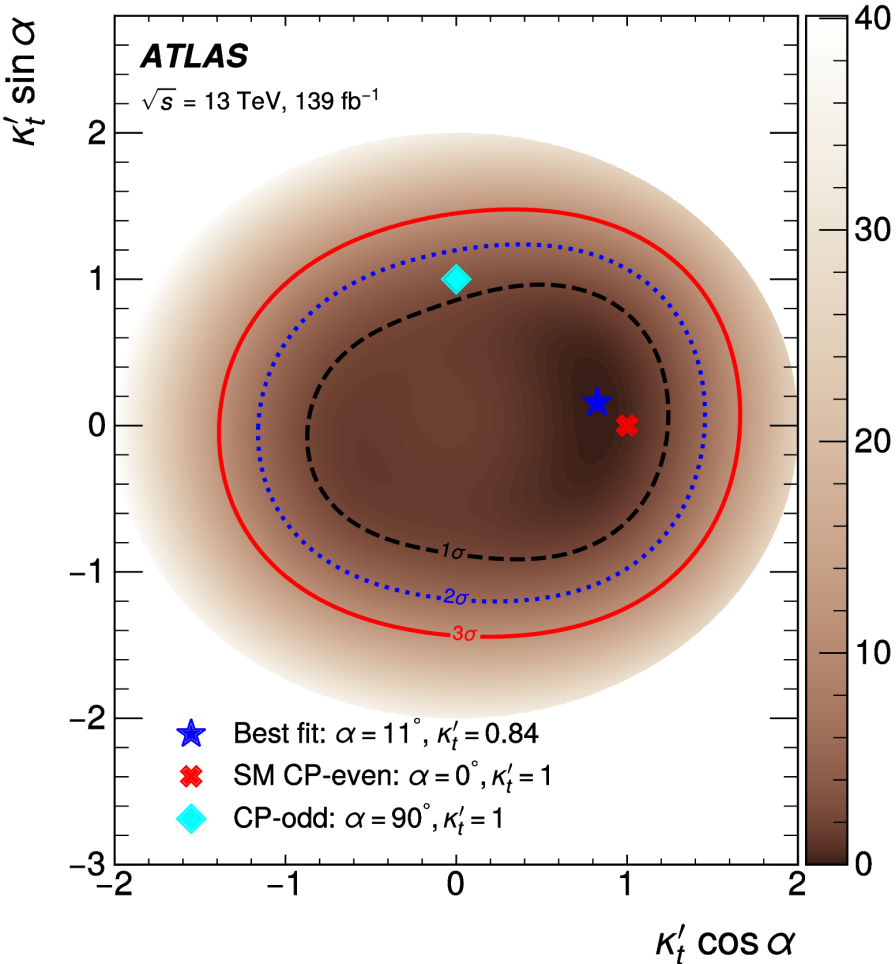
$$b_2 = \frac{(\vec{p}_1 \times \hat{z}) \cdot (\vec{p}_2 \times \hat{z})}{|\vec{p}_1| |\vec{p}_2|}$$



$$b_4 = \frac{(\vec{p}_1 \cdot \hat{z})(\vec{p}_2 \cdot \hat{z})}{|\vec{p}_1| |\vec{p}_2|}$$

CP properties: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

[PLB 849 \(2024\) 138469](#)



- Best fit values:

➔ CP-mixing angle $\alpha = 11^{+52}_{-73}^\circ$

➔ coupling strength $\kappa_t' = 0.84^{+0.30}_{-0.46}$

★ Compatible with both $\alpha = 0^\circ$ and $\alpha = 90^\circ$

★ Data prefers SM and disfavours CP-odd hypothesis at **1.2 σ significance**.

- Sensitivity driven by the $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$ modelling uncertainties:

➔ Same as in previous round of $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ analysis

➔ would benefit greatly from the improved modelling

Can enhance CP measurement precision when combined with $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ measurement

Summary

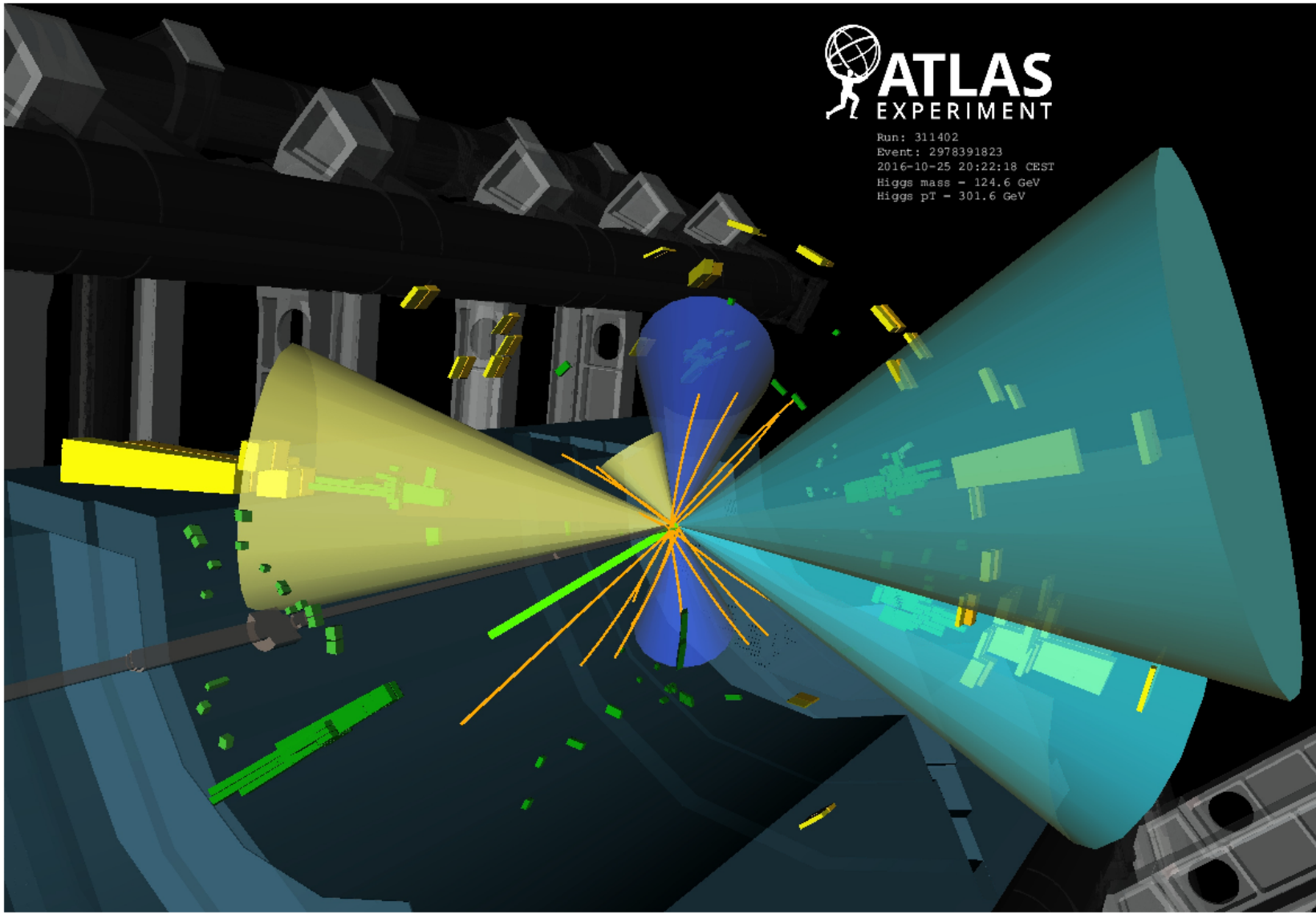
- An overview of the **latest $t\bar{t}H/tH$ ATLAS measurements with full Run 2 data** given
 - ➔ targeting $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}, \gamma\gamma, ZZ^*, WW^*, \tau\tau$ decay modes with complex final states
 - ➔ $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$ resonant leptonic decay with fully hadronic top decays covered in [Enrique's talk](#)
- **Largest ever dataset available** allowing to evolve from individual coupling measurements to the **STXS approach**
 - ➔ detailed $t\bar{t}H$ measurements as a function of the **Higgs boson p_T**
- Several analyses also exploring the **CP nature of the Higgs-top interaction**: $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}, \gamma\gamma$
- All measurements are **remarkably consistent with the predictions of the SM predictions**
 - ➔ some **limited by statistics** ($\gamma\gamma$) while others by the **understanding of the background modelling** ($b\bar{b}$, multilepton)
- With Run 3 and beyond an unprecedented amount of data awaits!
 - ➔ would drive the precision of $t\bar{t}H/tH$ analyses even higher...**stay tuned!**

$t\bar{t}H$	$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	$H \rightarrow WW^*, ZZ^*, \tau\tau$
$\mu_{t\bar{t}H}$	$0.81^{+0.20}_{-0.18}$	$0.89^{+0.32}_{-0.30}$	$0.58^{+0.36}_{-0.33}$
$\alpha(\mathbf{CP})$	$11^{+52^\circ}_{-73^\circ}$	$ \alpha > 43^\circ$ excl. @95 CL	—

Backup

Couplings/STXS: $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ w/ 140 fb^{-1}

Couplings/STXS: $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$



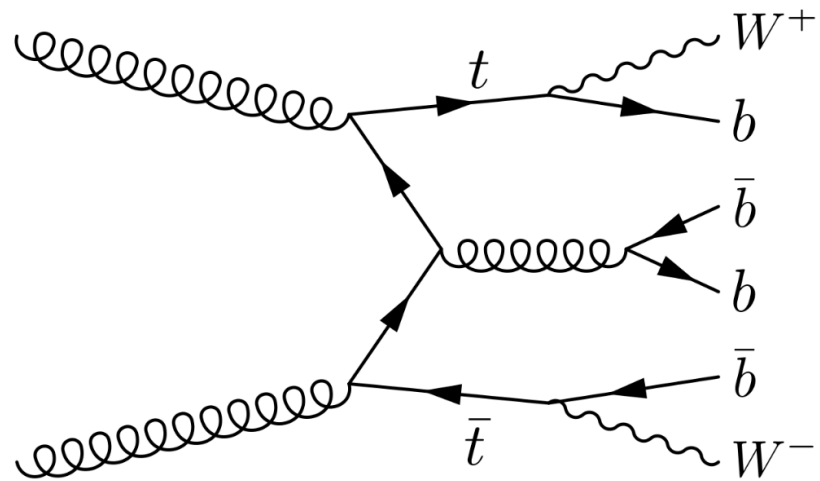
Preselection

Channel	# Jets	# DL1r b -Tags			# e/μ	# τ_{had}	# Boosted Higgs Candidates
		@ 70 %	@ 77 %	@ 85 %			
Dilepton	≥ 3	≥ 2	–	≥ 3	2	0	n/a
ℓ + Jets Resolved	≥ 5	≥ 3	–	–	1	≤ 1	–
ℓ + Jets Boosted	≥ 4	–	≥ 2	≥ 4	1	≤ 1	≥ 1

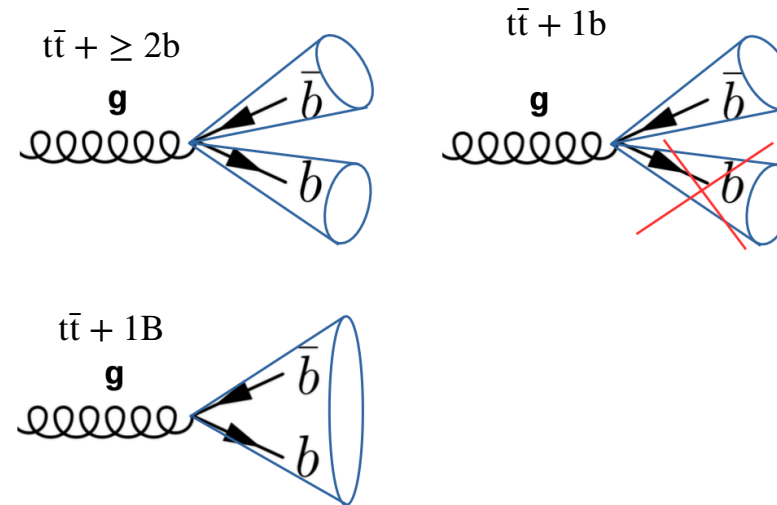
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$t\bar{t}$ + jets classification

- $t\bar{t}$ + jets events classified based on the flavour of additional non- $t\bar{t}$ jets: determined via matching particle jets to $p_T > 5$ GeV b/c-hadrons with $\Delta R < 0.4$
- 4FS $t\bar{t}bb$ component split into 3 categories



$t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$ sub-components



- 5FS $t\bar{t}$ components classified into
 - $t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$: one or more non- $t\bar{t}$ jets matched to c-hadrons, no non- $t\bar{t}$ jets matched to b-hadrons
 - $t\bar{t} + \text{light}$: no non- $t\bar{t}$ jets matched to b/c-hadrons

t \bar{t} + jets modeling

- Nominal t \bar{t} bb 4FS sample generated based on the PowhegBoxRes+Pythia8 setup
- t \bar{t} + $\geq 1c$ and t \bar{t} + light 5FS samples generated based on the PowhegBox+Pythia8 setup

Optimised tbb setup w.r.t previous round

Parameter	previous value	new default value
PDF	NNPDF3.0 nnlo Nf4	NNPDF3.1 nnlo Nf4
Scale choice ^{a b}	$\mu_R^{\text{def}} = \sqrt[4]{\prod_{i=t,\bar{t},b,\bar{b}} E_{T,i}}$ $\mu_F^{\text{def}} = \frac{1}{2} [\sum_{i=t,\bar{t},b,\bar{b},j} E_{T,i}]$	$\mu_R = 0.5 \cdot \mu_R^{\text{def}}$ $\mu_F = \mu_F^{\text{def}}$
h_{bzd}	2	5
h_{damp}	$H_T/2$	$H_T/2$
Decay handling	MadSpin	POWHEG
PYTHIA8 POWHEG: <i>pT def</i>	2	1
PYTHIA8 SpaceShower:dipoleRecoil	off (global recoil)	off (global recoil)

[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-006](#)

$t\bar{t}$ + jets systematic model

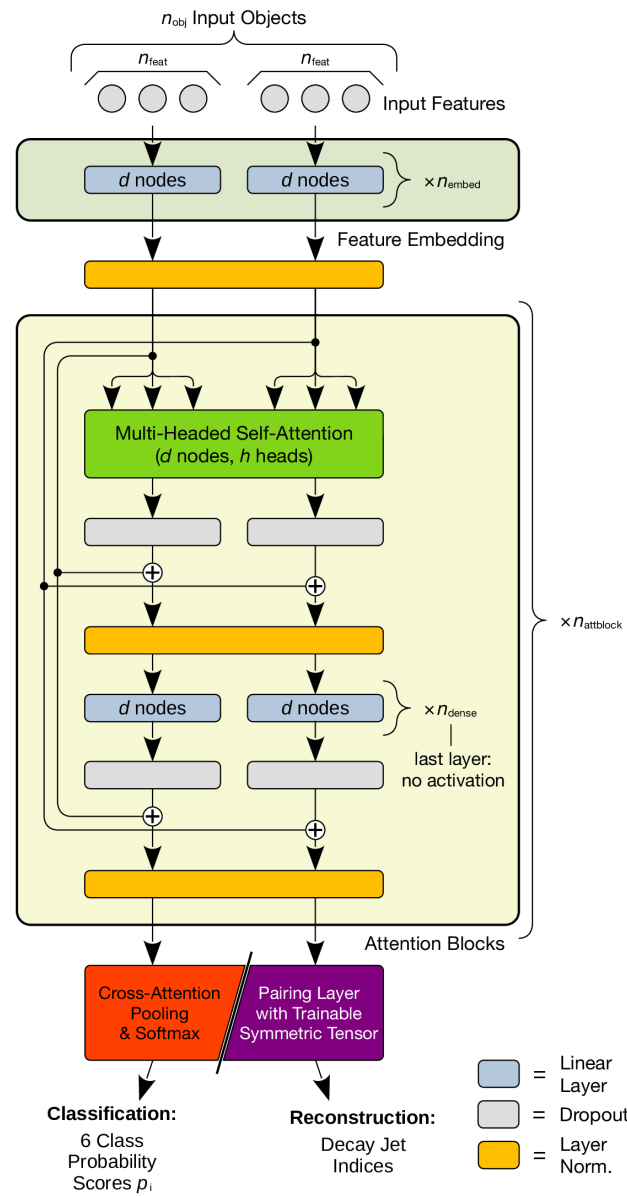
- $t\bar{t}$ + jets components normalisation free-floating in the fit (only inclusive $t\bar{t}$ + $\geq 1b$ normalisation floating in previous round)

Systematic	ATLAS First Full Run 2	ATLAS Run 2 Legacy
ME Scale	-	independent ME μ_R, μ_F variations
ISR	Var3c and ME μ_R, μ_F variations	A14 tune Var3c variations
FSR	PS FSR μ_R variations	
Parton Shower & Hadronisation	Powheg + Herwig7 alternative (5FS only)	Powheg + Herwig7 alternative (5FS and 4FS)
NLO Matching	MG5_aMC@NLO + Pythia8 (5FS only)	PP8 p_T -hard = 1 alternative (5FS and 4FS)
ISR Recoil	-	PP8 dipole recoil alternative ($t\bar{t}$ + $\geq 1b$ only)
h_{damp} variation	-	h_{damp} up-variation alternative ($t\bar{t}$ + c/light only)

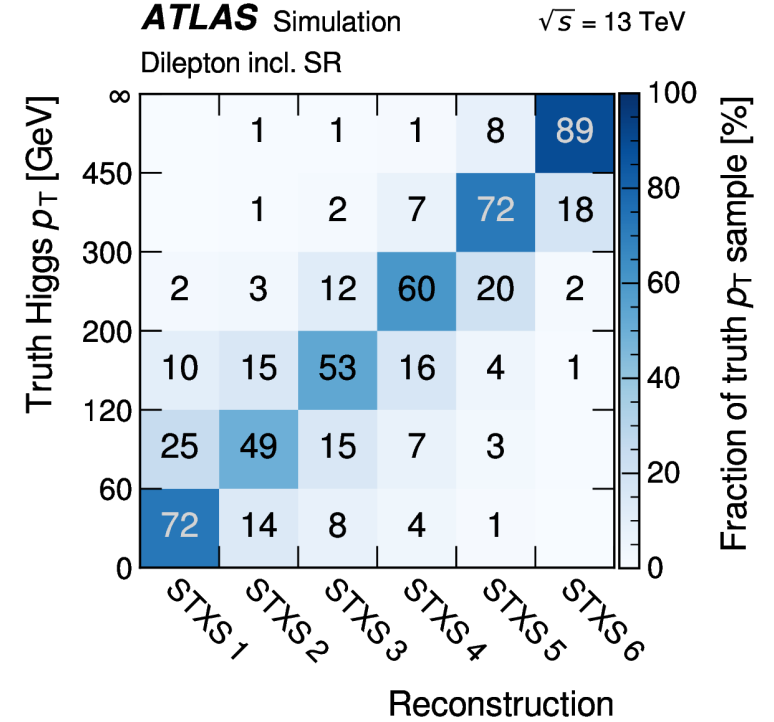
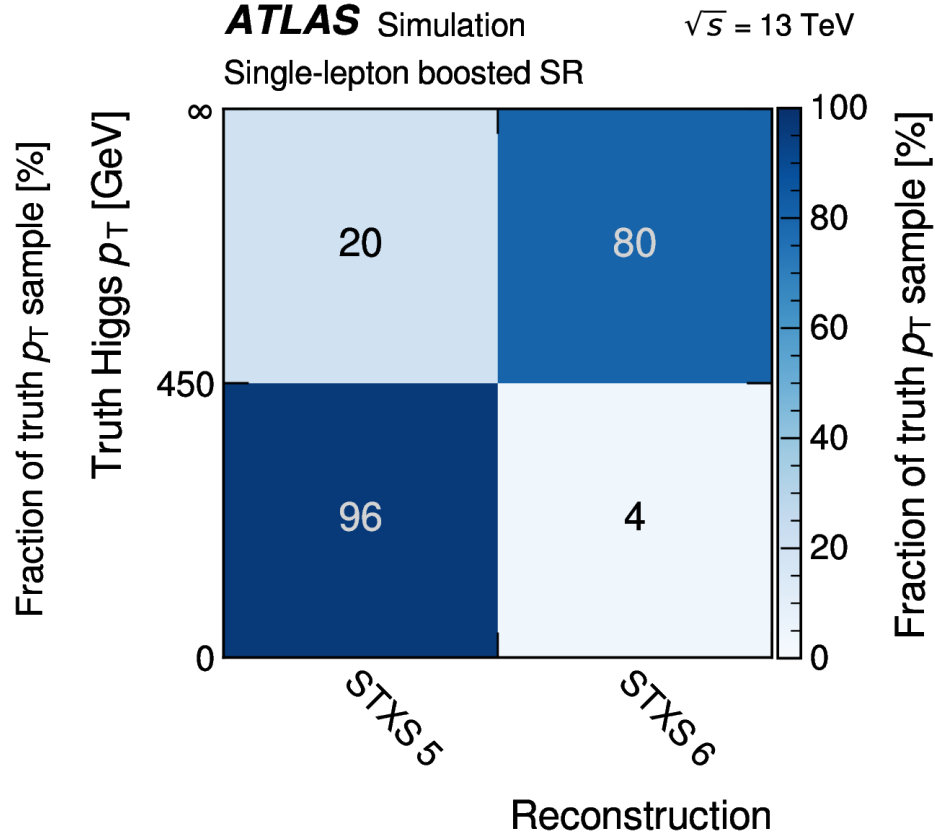
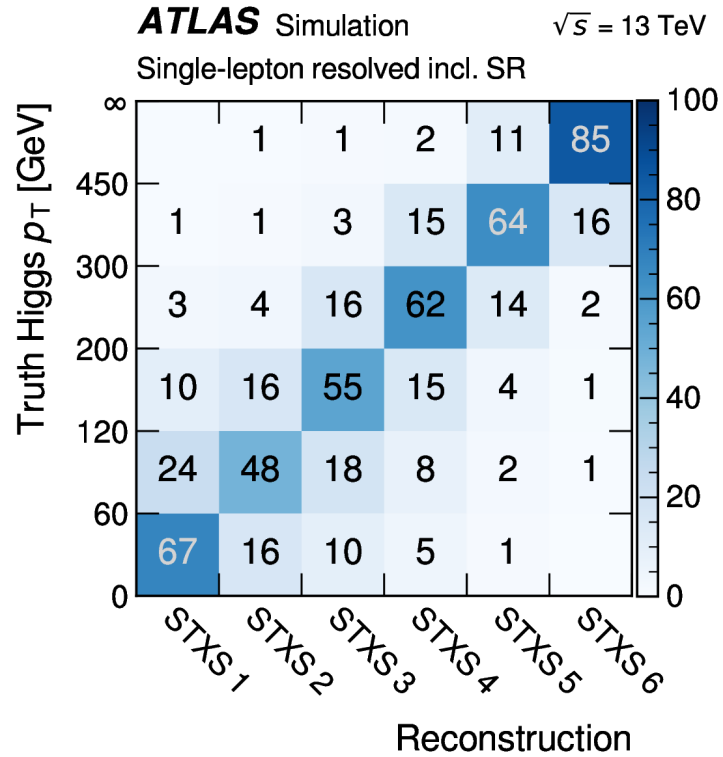
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Transformers architecture (classification/reconstruction)

Feature	Description	Feature Transformations
p_x	Object momentum in x -direction.	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
p_y	Object momentum in y -direction.	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
p_z	Object momentum in z -direction.	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
energy	Object energy.	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
p_T	Object transverse momentum.	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
mass	Object mass.	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
η	Object pseudo-rapidity.	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
ϕ	Object azimuthal angle.	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
$\cos \phi$	Sine of object azimuthal angle.	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
$\sin \phi$	Cosine of object azimuthal angle.	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
PCBT bin	DL1r pseudo-continuous b-tagging bin assigned to jets in the following manner. Set to 0 for leptons and E_T^{miss} .	None.
	$\text{feature} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if un-tagged} \\ 2, & \text{if tagged at } [85\%, 77\%) \\ 3, & \text{if tagged at } [77\%, 70\%) \\ 4, & \text{if tagged at } [70\%, 60\%) \\ 5, & \text{if tagged at } 60\%. \end{cases}$	
lepton type	Lepton type of input objects. Set to 1 for electrons, 2 for muons, and 0 for jets and E_T^{miss} .	None.
lepton charge	Charge of lepton objects in units of e . Set to 0 for jets and E_T^{miss} .	Re-scaled to $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$.
E_T^{miss} flag	Whether input object is E_T^{miss} (value of 1) or not (value of 0).	None.

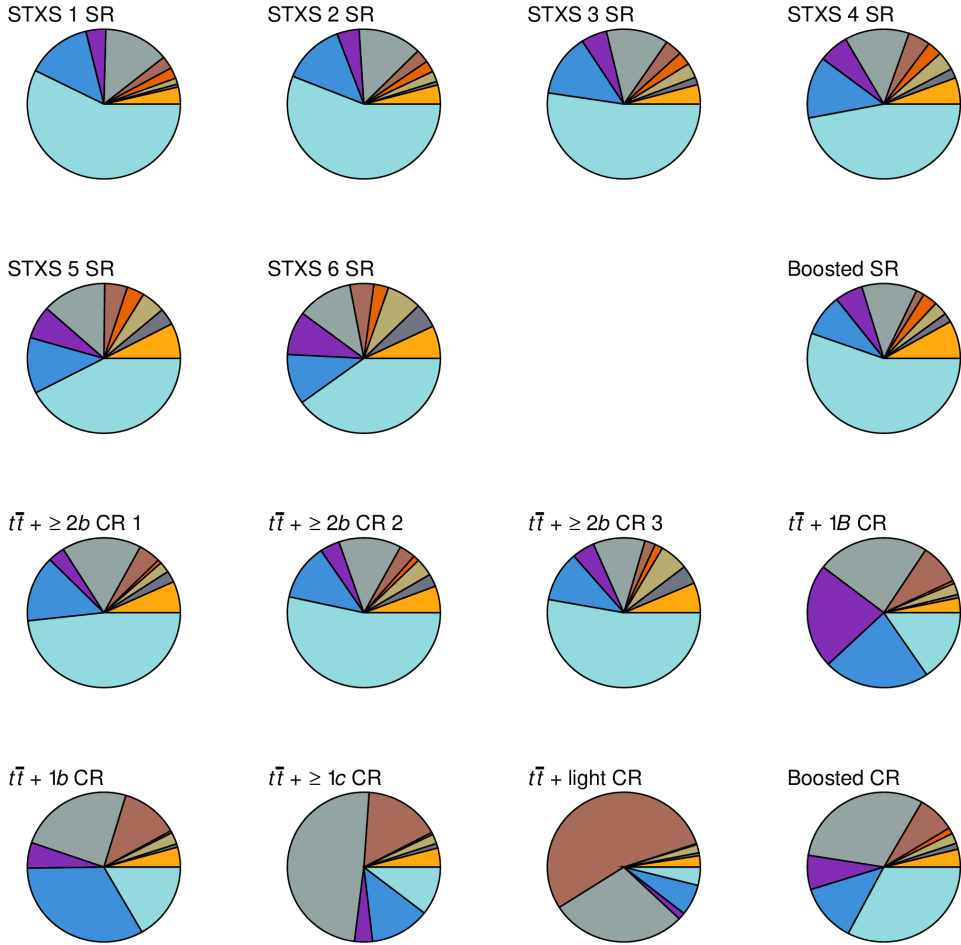
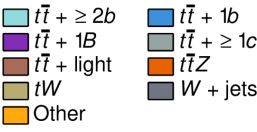


STXS migration matrices

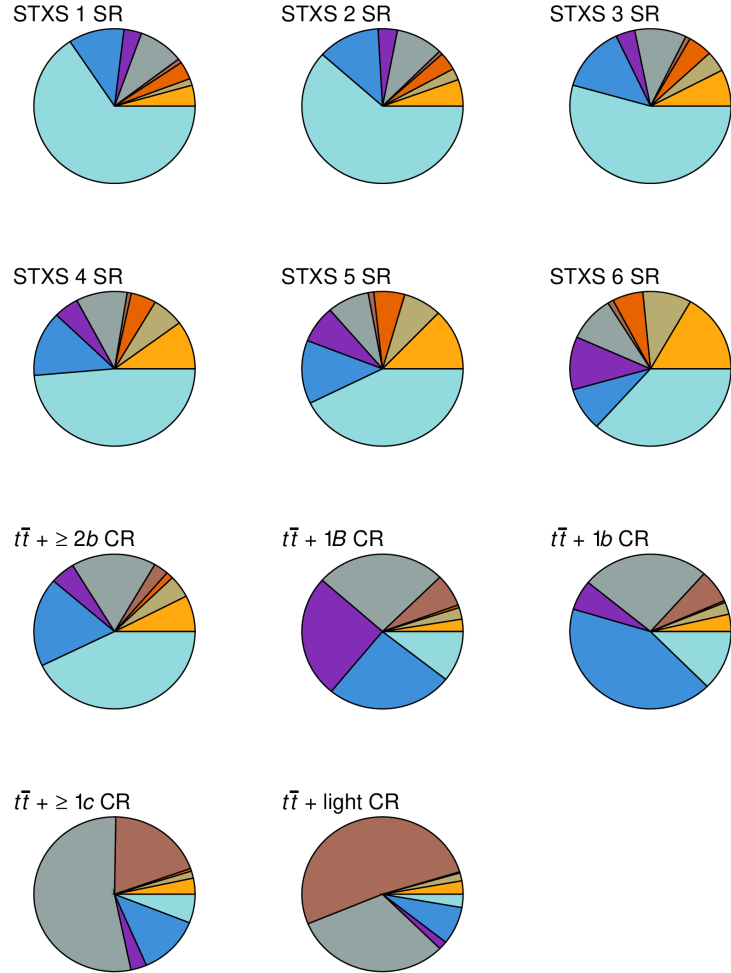
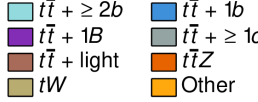


Background composition

ATLAS Simulation
 $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$
 Single-lepton

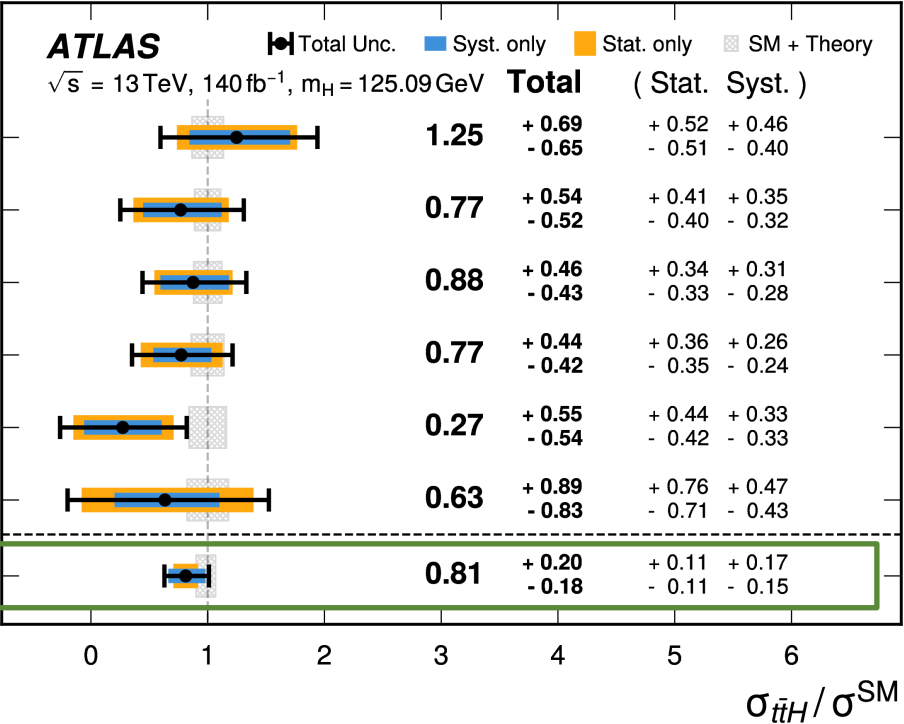
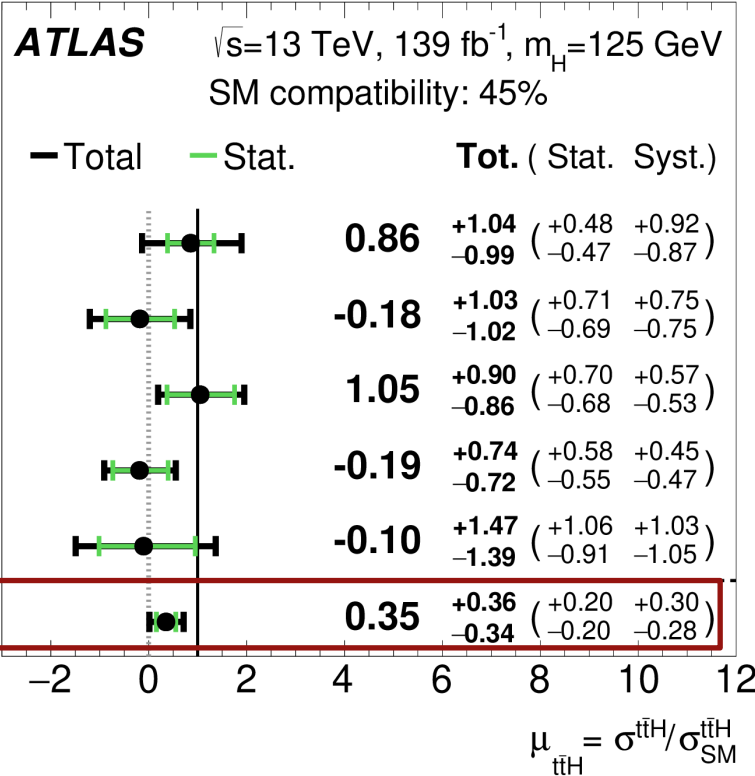


ATLAS Simulation
 $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$
 Dilepton



STXS measurements comparison w/ previous round

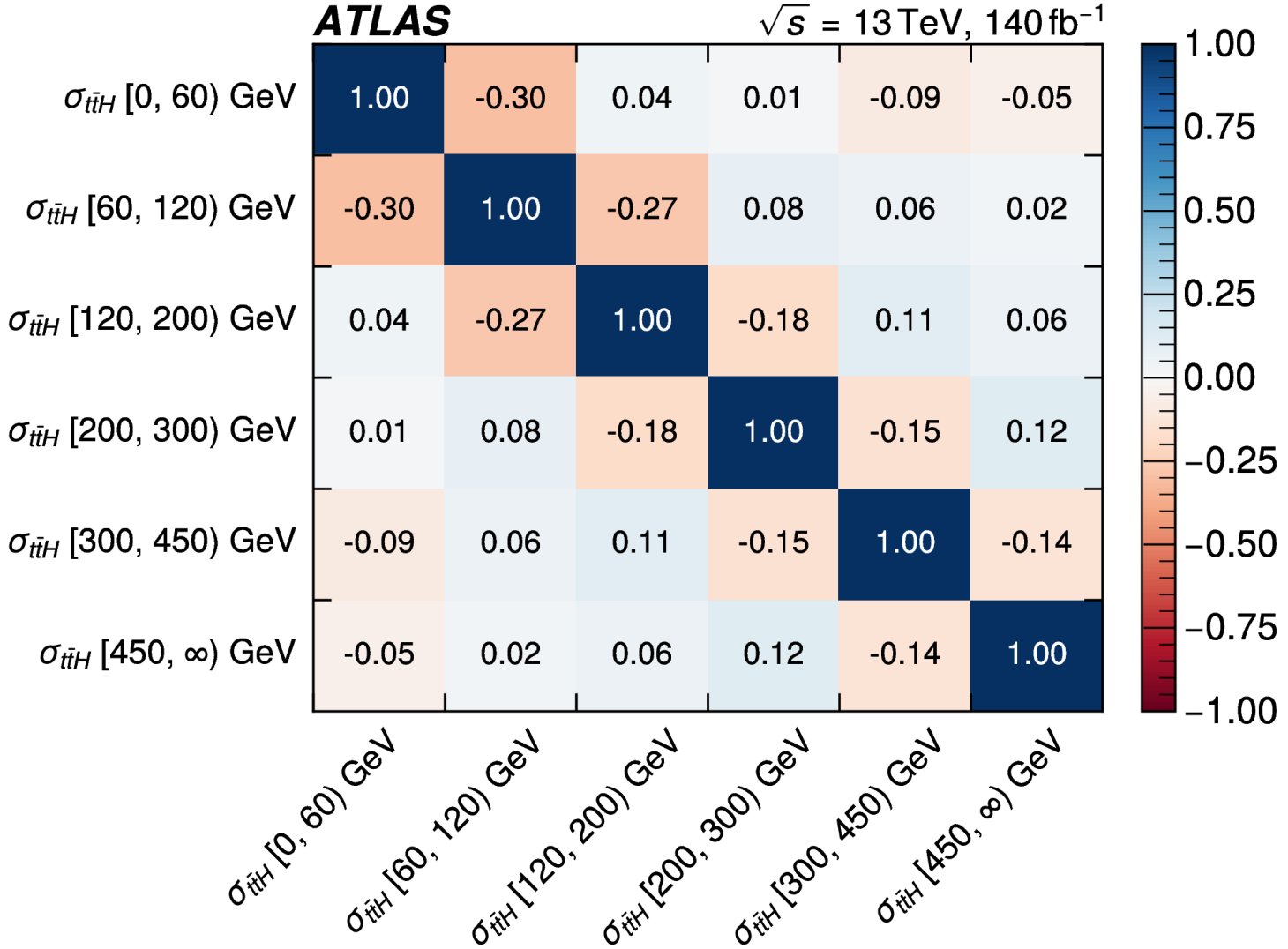
Previous round



Background normalisation

Normalisation factor	$t\bar{t} + \text{light}$	$t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$	$t\bar{t} + 1b$	$t\bar{t} + 1B$	$t\bar{t} + \geq 2b$
Single-lepton	$0.78^{+0.08}_{-0.08}$	$1.51^{+0.19}_{-0.18}$	$1.06^{+0.10}_{-0.10}$	$1.15^{+0.15}_{-0.14}$	$0.94^{+0.08}_{-0.08}$
Dilepton	$0.88^{+0.11}_{-0.10}$	$1.36^{+0.10}_{-0.10}$	$1.24^{+0.09}_{-0.09}$		

STXS correlations



Systematics grouped impact

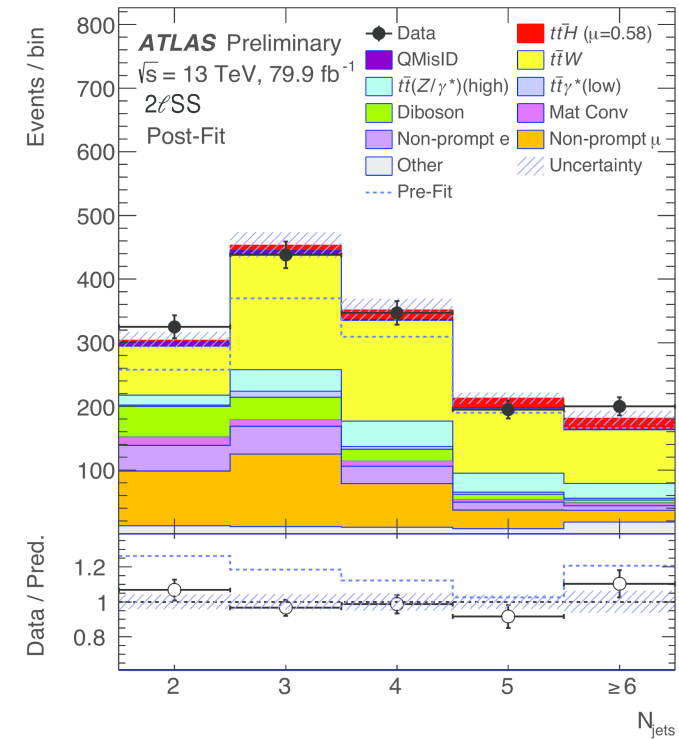
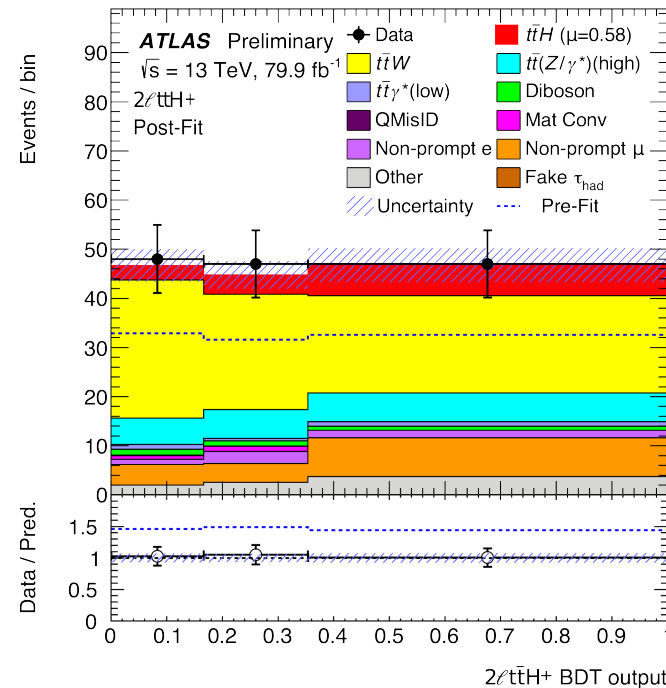
Uncertainty source	$\Delta\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}$ (fb)		$\Delta\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}/\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}$ (%)	
Process modelling				
<i>t\bar{t}H</i> modelling				
<i>t\bar{t}H</i> radiation	+35	-21	+9	-5
<i>t\bar{t}H</i> parton shower	+32	-19	+8	-5
<i>t\bar{t}H</i> matching	<0.1	-0.3	<0.1	-0.1
<i>t\bar{t}H</i> theory	+25	-17	+6	-4
<i>t\bar{t} + $\geq 1b$</i> modelling				
<i>t\bar{t} + $\geq 1b$</i> radiation	± 31		± 8	
<i>t\bar{t} + $\geq 1b$</i> parton shower	± 29		± 7	
<i>t\bar{t} + $\geq 1b$</i> matching	± 19		± 5	
<i>t\bar{t} + $\geq 1c$</i> modelling	± 18		± 4	
<i>t\bar{t} + light</i> modelling	± 5		± 1	
<i>tW</i> modelling	± 16		± 4	
Minor background modelling	± 19		± 5	
Flavour tagging	± 36		± 9	
Jet modelling	± 22		± 5	
Monte-Carlo statistics	± 17		± 4	
Other instrumental	± 10		± 2	
Total systematic uncertainty	+85	-75	+21	-18
Normalisation factors	± 21		± 5	
Total statistical uncertainty	± 54		± 13	
Total uncertainty	+101	-92	+25	-22

Couplings: $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow WW^*, ZZ^*, \tau\tau)$ w/ 80 fb^{-1}

Analysis strategy

- Relatively **large branching ratios** and low yet **challenging** backgrounds
- Targeting events with leptons in the H decay final states and **leptonic $t\bar{t}$ decays**
 - ➔ **6 channels** based on **number, flavour and charge** of lepton candidates: $2\ell SS$, 3ℓ , 4ℓ , $2\ell SS + 1\tau_{had}$, $3\ell + 1\tau_{had}$ and $1\ell + 2\tau_{had}$
 - ➔ MVA discriminants used in the $2\ell SS$, 3ℓ , 4ℓ and $1\ell + 2\tau_{had}$ for event classification (signal and control regions)
 - ❖ also used in signal extraction fit for signal regions (except for 4ℓ)

$\lambda_{ttW}^{2\ell LJ}$	$\lambda_{ttW}^{2\ell HJ}$	$\lambda_{ttW}^{3\ell}$
$1.56^{+0.30}_{-0.28}$	$1.26^{+0.19}_{-0.18}$	$1.68^{+0.30}_{-0.28}$



State-of-the-art ttW predictions

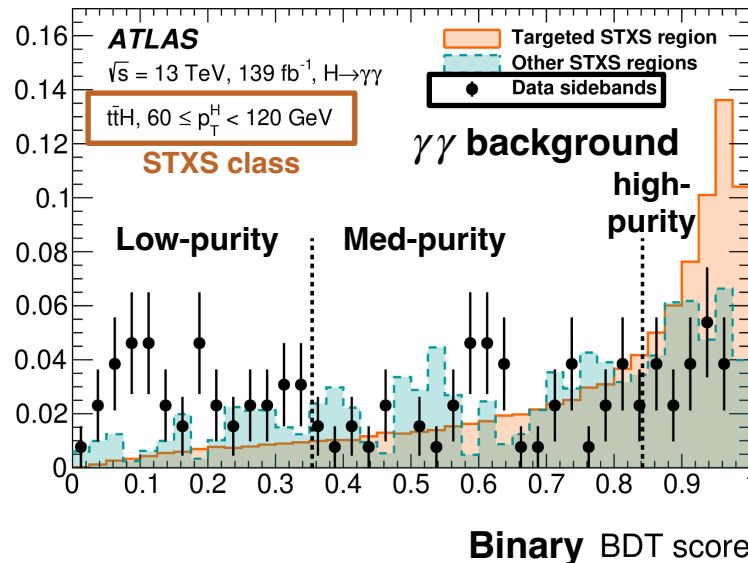
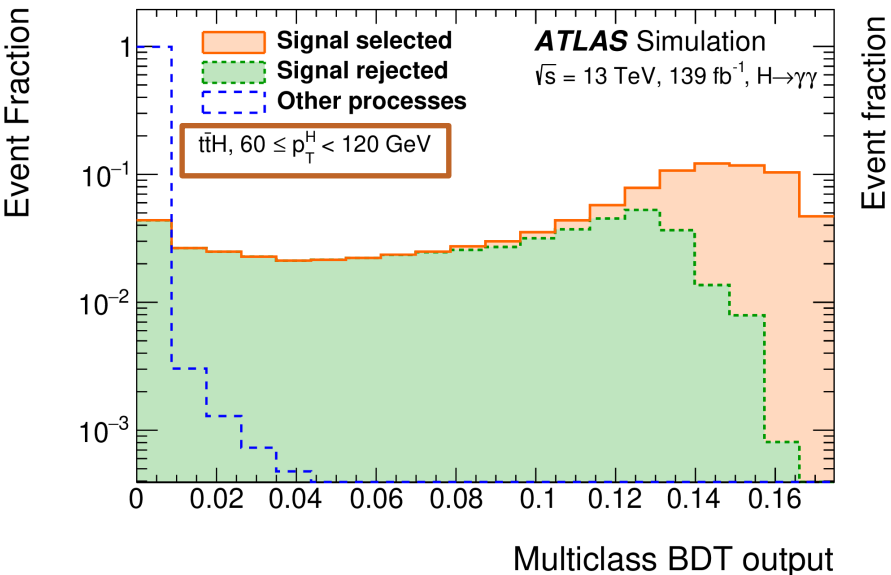
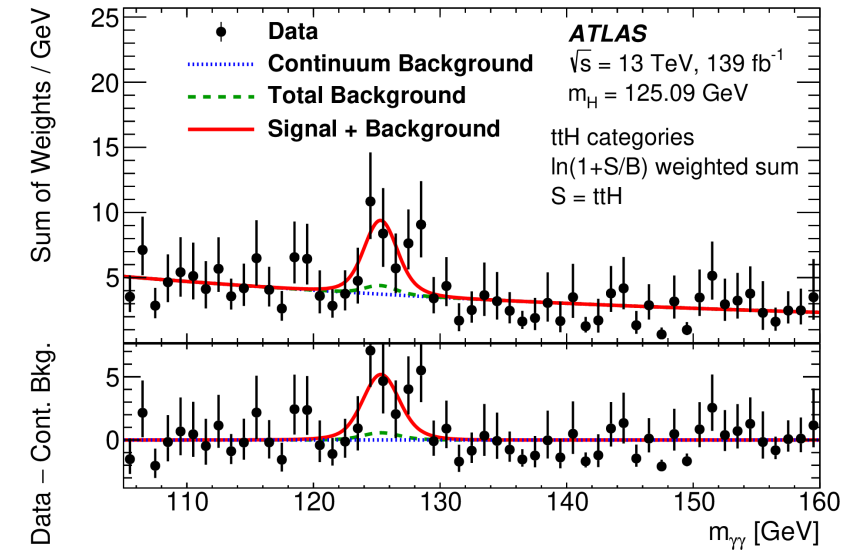
NNLO [15]		FxFx [27]	
Order	σ [fb]	Order	σ [fb]
LO QCD: $\alpha_s^2\alpha$	420^{+106}_{-79}	$t\bar{t}W+0,1,2j@NLO$	691^{+66}_{-74}
NLO QCD: $+\alpha_s^3\alpha$	622^{+79}_{-72}		
NNLO QCD: $+\alpha_s^4\alpha$	$711^{+35}_{-46} \pm 14$		
NLO EWK: $+\alpha_s\alpha^3 + \alpha_s^2\alpha^2 + \alpha^4$	$745 \pm 50 \pm 13$	$+\alpha_s\alpha^3$	739^{+75}_{-81}
		$+\alpha_s^2\alpha^2 + \alpha^4$	722^{+70}_{-78}

Table 1. Summary of theoretical predictions with NNLO precision in the strong coupling [15] and using FxFx NLO multijet merging [27], both including NLO EWK corrections. The first uncertainty is due to variations of the chosen renormalisation and factorisation scales. Where there is a second contribution to the uncertainty, this corresponds to the approximation used in the 2-loop calculation. Uncertainties due to the choice of PDF and α_s are omitted.

Couplings/STXS: $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

Analysis strategy

- **Small BR but clear signal peak and low background level**
 - ➔ excellent performance of **photon reconstruction/identification** in ATLAS.
- Event categorisation using a **Multiclass BDT** classifying signal events into **45 different STXS analysis regions**
 - ➔ **7 STXS regions** dedicated to $t\bar{t}H/tH$ (5 Higgs boson p_T regions for $t\bar{t}H$, tWH , $tHqb$)
- Each STXS class is further **subdivided into categories** based on **binary MVA classifiers**
 - ➔ $t\bar{t}H/tWH$: binary BDT separating signal from continuum $\gamma\gamma$ background
 - ➔ $tHqb$: two-stages NN binary classification to reduce background and separate $k_t = 1$ vs $k_t = -1$



- Signal modelled as **double-sided Crystal Ball function**
- Background modelled as **power law, Bernstein polynomial or exponential function of polynomials**
 - ➔ chosen based on a spurious signal test
- Simultaneous **Maximum Likelihood fit** to $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ performed in 101 analysis categories (**13 dedicated to $t\bar{t}H/tH$**)

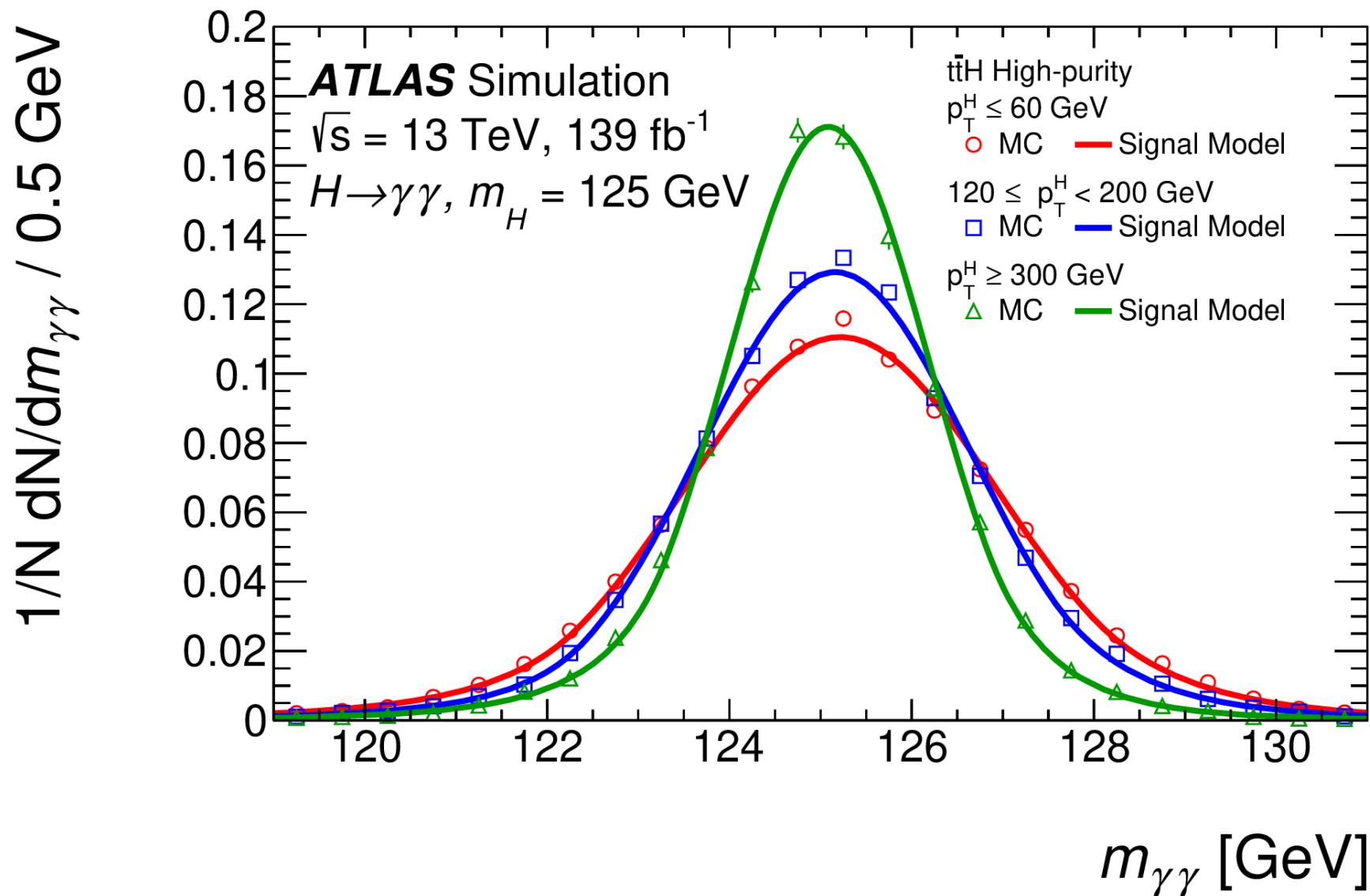
Multiclass BDT input features

$\eta_{\gamma_1}, \eta_{\gamma_2}, p_T^{\gamma\gamma}, y_{\gamma\gamma},$
 $p_{T,jj}^\dagger, m_{jj},$ and $\Delta y, \Delta\phi, \Delta\eta$ between j_1 and $j_2,$
 $p_{T,\gamma\gamma j_1}, m_{\gamma\gamma j_1}, p_{T,\gamma\gamma jj}^\dagger, m_{\gamma\gamma jj}$
 $\Delta y, \Delta\phi$ between the $\gamma\gamma$ and jj systems,
minimum ΔR between jets and photons,
invariant mass of the system comprising all jets in the event,
dilepton $p_T,$ di- e or di- μ invariant mass (leptons are required to be oppositely charged),
 E_T^{miss}, p_T and transverse mass of the lepton + E_T^{miss} system,
 p_T, η, ϕ of top-quark candidates, $m_{t_1 t_2}$
Number of jets †, of central jets ($|\eta| < 2.5$) †, of b -jets † and of leptons,
 p_T of the highest- p_T jet, scalar sum of the p_T of all jets,
scalar sum of the transverse energies of all particles ($\sum E_T$), E_T^{miss} significance,
 $\left| E_T^{\text{miss}} - E_T^{\text{miss}}(\text{primary vertex with the highest } \sum p_{T,\text{track}}^2) \right| > 30 \text{ GeV}$
Top reconstruction BDT of the top-quark candidates,
 $\Delta R(W, b)$ of $t_2,$
 $\eta_{j_F}, m_{\gamma\gamma j_F}$
Average number of interactions per bunch crossing.

Binary classifiers input features

STXS classes	Variables
Individual STXS classes from $gg \rightarrow H$ $qq' \rightarrow Hqq'$ $qq \rightarrow H\ell\nu$ $pp \rightarrow H\ell\ell$ $pp \rightarrow H\nu\bar{\nu}$	All multiclass BDT variables, $p_T^{\gamma\gamma}$ projected to the thrust axis of the $\gamma\gamma$ system ($p_T^{\gamma\gamma}$), $\Delta\eta_{\gamma\gamma}, \eta^{Z\text{EPP}} = \frac{\eta_{\gamma\gamma} - \eta_{jj}}{2}$, $\phi_{\gamma\gamma}^* = \tan\left(\frac{\pi - \Delta\phi_{\gamma\gamma} }{2}\right) \sqrt{1 - \tanh^2\left(\frac{\Delta\eta_{\gamma\gamma}}{2}\right)}$, $\cos\theta_{\gamma\gamma}^* = \left \frac{(E^{\gamma_1} + p_z^{\gamma_1}) \cdot (E^{\gamma_2} - p_z^{\gamma_2}) - (E^{\gamma_1} - p_z^{\gamma_1}) \cdot (E^{\gamma_2} + p_z^{\gamma_2})}{m_{\gamma\gamma} + \sqrt{m_{\gamma\gamma}^2 + (p_T^{\gamma\gamma})^2}} \right $ Number of electrons and muons.
all $t\bar{t}H$ and tHW STXS classes combined	p_T, η, ϕ of γ_1 and γ_2 , p_T, η, ϕ and b -tagging scores of the six highest- p_T jets, $E_T^{\text{miss}}, E_T^{\text{miss}}$ significance, E_T^{miss} azimuthal angle, Top reconstruction BDT scores of the top-quark candidates, p_T, η, ϕ of the two highest- p_T leptons.
$tHqb$	$p_T^{\gamma\gamma} / m_{\gamma\gamma}, \eta_{\gamma\gamma}$, p_T , invariant mass, BDT score and $\Delta R(W, b)$ of t_1 , p_T, η of t_2 , p_T, η of j_F , Angular variables: $\Delta\eta_{\gamma\gamma t_1}, \Delta\theta_{\gamma\gamma t_2}, \Delta\theta_{t_1 j_F}, \Delta\theta_{t_2 j_F}, \Delta\theta_{\gamma\gamma j_F}$ Invariant mass variables: $m_{\gamma\gamma j_F}, m_{t_1 j_F}, m_{t_2 j_F}, m_{\gamma\gamma t_1}$ Number of jets with $p_T > 25$ GeV, Number of b -jets with $p_T > 25$ GeV*; Number of leptons*, E_T^{miss} significance*

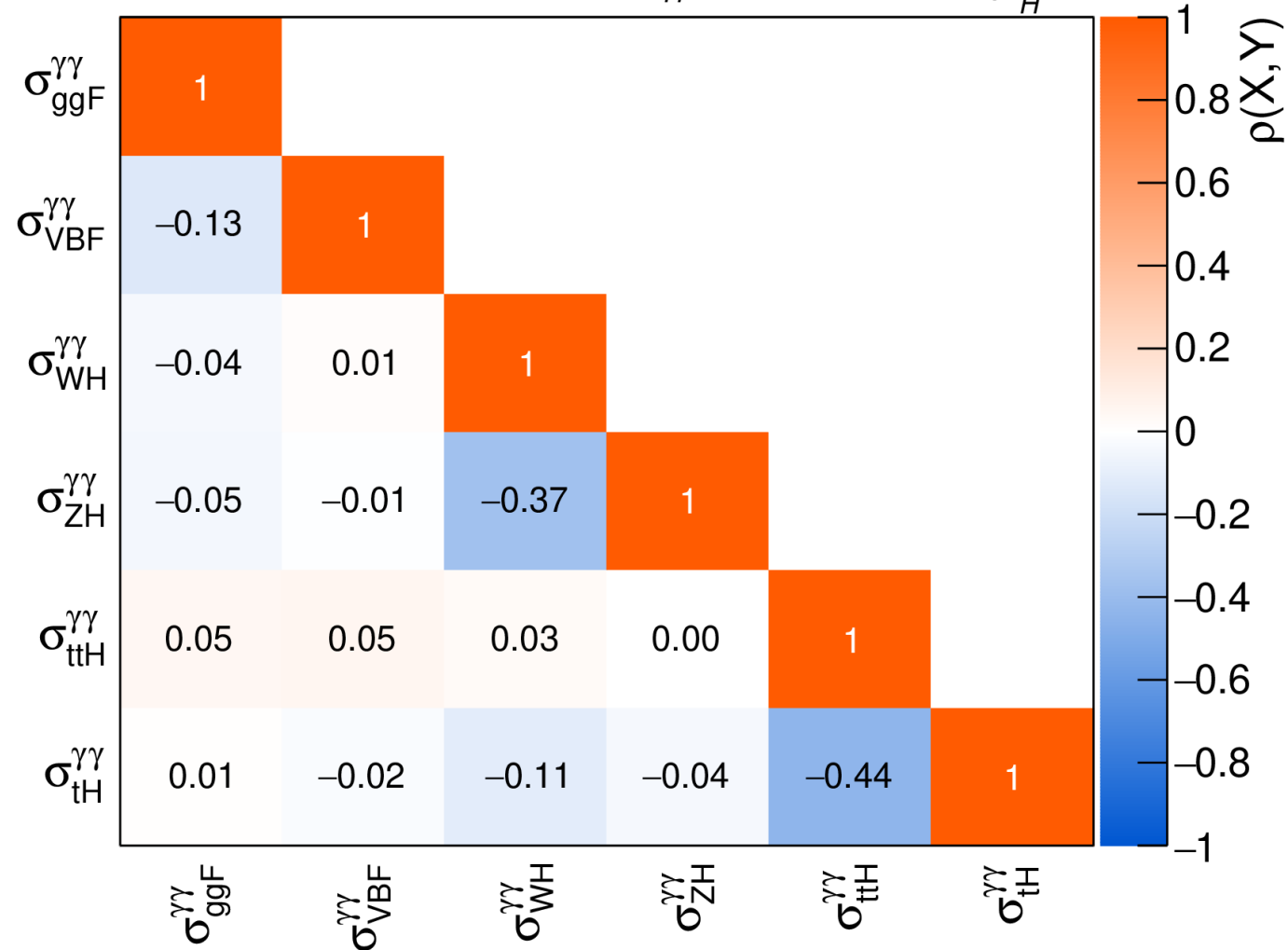
Signal modeling



STXS correlations

ATLAS

$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}, 139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$
 $m_H = 125.09 \text{ GeV}, |y_H| < 2.5$



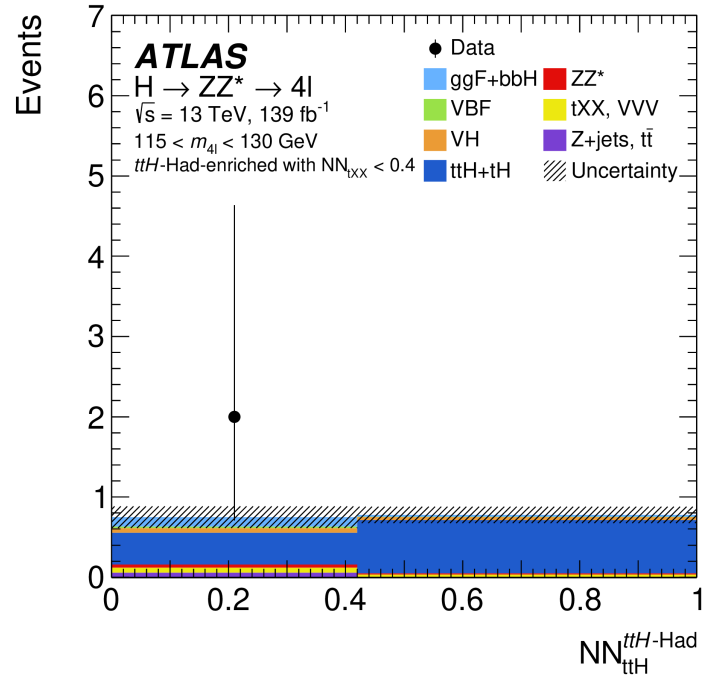
κ parametrisation

Table 1: Parameterization of Higgs boson production cross-sections σ_i , the partial decay widths $\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}$, Γ_{gg} and $\Gamma_{Z\gamma}$ of the $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, $H \rightarrow gg$ and $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ decays, respectively, and the total width Γ_H , normalized to their SM values, as functions of the coupling-strength modifiers κ . The coefficients for $\sigma(tHW)$ and $\sigma(tHqb)$ include acceptance effects that differ between analysis categories as described in the text. Other coefficients are derived following the methodology in Refs. .

Production cross-section	Main interference	Effective modifier	Resolved modifier
$\sigma(\text{ggF})$	t - b	κ_g^2	$1.040 \kappa_t^2 + 0.002 \kappa_b^2 - 0.038 \kappa_t \kappa_b - 0.005 \kappa_t \kappa_c$
$\sigma(\text{VBF})$	-	-	$0.733 \kappa_W^2 + 0.267 \kappa_Z^2$
$\sigma(q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZH)$	-	-	κ_Z^2
$\sigma(\text{gg} \rightarrow ZH)$	t - Z	-	$2.456 \kappa_Z^2 + 0.456 \kappa_t^2 - 1.903 \kappa_Z \kappa_t$ $- 0.011 \kappa_Z \kappa_b + 0.003 \kappa_t \kappa_b$
$\sigma(WH)$	-	-	κ_W^2
$\sigma(t\bar{t}H)$	-	-	κ_t^2
$\sigma(tHW)$	t - W	-	$A \kappa_t^2 + B \kappa_W^2 + C \kappa_t \kappa_W$, category-dependent
$\sigma(tHqb)$	t - W	-	$A \kappa_t^2 + B \kappa_W^2 + C \kappa_t \kappa_W$, category-dependent
$\sigma(b\bar{b}H)$	-	-	κ_b^2
Partial and total decay widths			
$\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}$	t - W	κ_γ^2	$1.589 \kappa_W^2 + 0.072 \kappa_t^2 - 0.674 \kappa_W \kappa_t + 0.009 \kappa_W \kappa_\tau$ $+ 0.008 \kappa_W \kappa_b - 0.002 \kappa_t \kappa_b - 0.002 \kappa_t \kappa_\tau$
Γ_{gg}	t - b	κ_g^2	$1.111 \kappa_t^2 + 0.012 \kappa_b^2 - 0.123 \kappa_t \kappa_b$
$\Gamma_{Z\gamma}$	t - W	-	$1.118 \kappa_W^2 + 0.004 \kappa_t^2 - 0.125 \kappa_W \kappa_t + 0.003 \kappa_W \kappa_b$
Γ_H	-	κ_H^2	$0.581 \kappa_b^2 + 0.215 \kappa_W^2 + 0.063 \kappa_\tau^2$ $+ 0.026 \kappa_Z^2 + 0.029 \kappa_c^2 + 0.0023 \kappa_\gamma^2$ $+ 0.0004 \kappa_s^2 + 0.00022 \kappa_\mu^2$ $+ 0.082 (\Gamma_{gg}/\Gamma_{gg}^{\text{SM}})$ $+ 0.0015 (\Gamma_{Z\gamma}/\Gamma_{Z\gamma}^{\text{SM}})$

Couplings/STXS: $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow ZZ^*)$ res. w/ 139 fb^{-1}

- $t\bar{t}H$ production also explored in **resonant** leptonic Higgs decays (orthogonal to $t\bar{t}H$ multilepton)
 - ➔ very good separation from other production modes achieved with (b)-jets requirements
 - ➔ Low signal yields expected
- $t\bar{t}H(ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\ell)$ targets leptonic and fully hadronic top quarks decays
 - ➔ NN used to separate signal from $t\bar{t}V$ and ggF Higgs production in the hadronic channel
 - ❖ also used as observable in the fit
 - ➔ **Results:** $\mu_{t\bar{t}H} = 1.6^{+1.7}_{-1.1}$ (stat) $^{+0.3}_{-0.2}$ (syst)
 - ➔ Largely **statistically limited** and to date less precise than other production modes for $H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\ell$ final state.

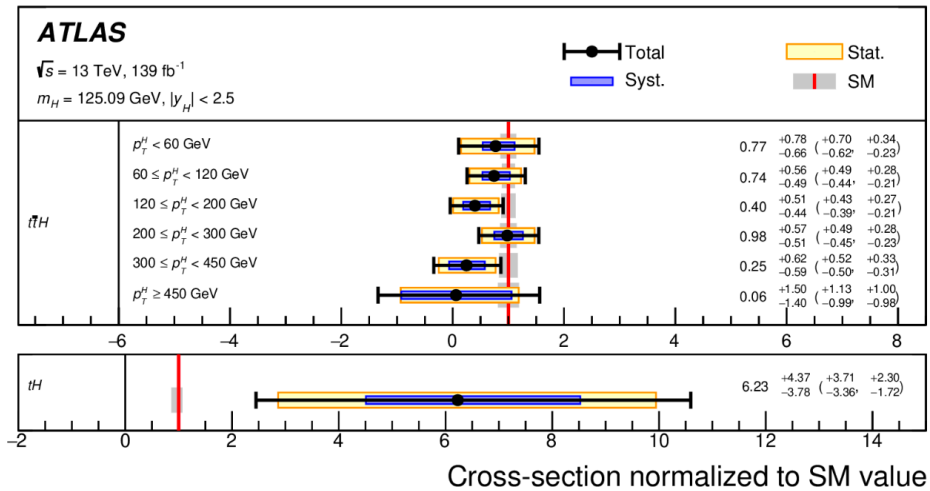


$t\bar{t}H$ combination

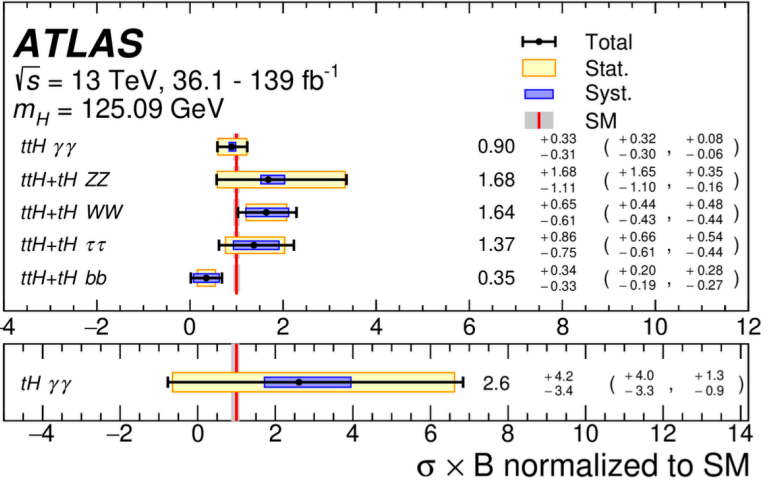
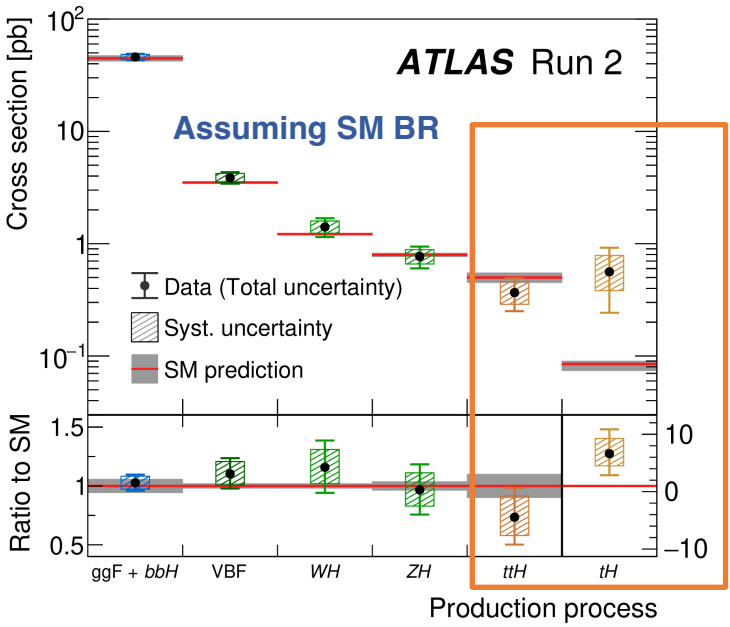
$t\bar{t}H$ combination

Nature 607 52 (2022)

- Detailed $t\bar{t}H/tH$ combination for the Higgs boson 10th discovery anniversary
 - ➔ Considering individual measurements targeting the various decay modes
 - ➔ Including $t\bar{t}H$ multilepton measurement from [PRD 97 \(2018\) 072003](#)
- Splitting $t\bar{t}H$ measurement for different decay channels
 - ➔ $\gamma\gamma, ZZ^*, WW^*, \tau\tau, b\bar{b}$
 - ➔ free floating $\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}(\sigma_{t\bar{t}H+tH}) \times BR_i$



- Combined measurements for six Higgs boson p_T
 - ➔ Low p_T statistically limited ($H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$)
 - ➔ Higher p_T systematically dominated



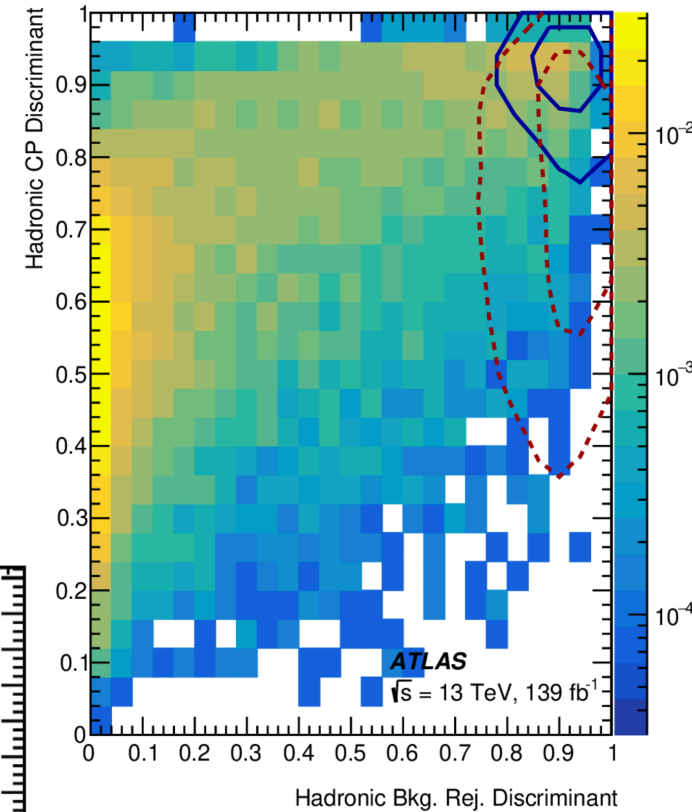
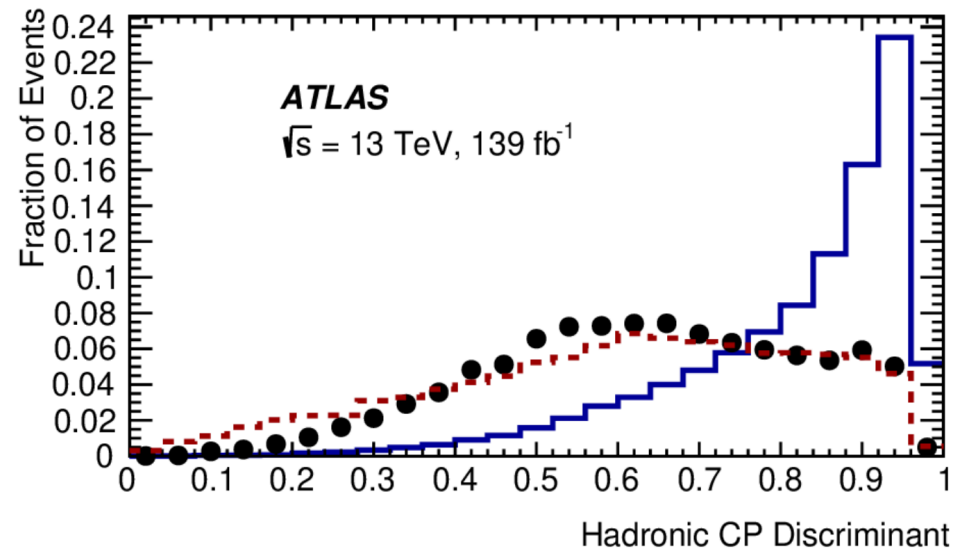
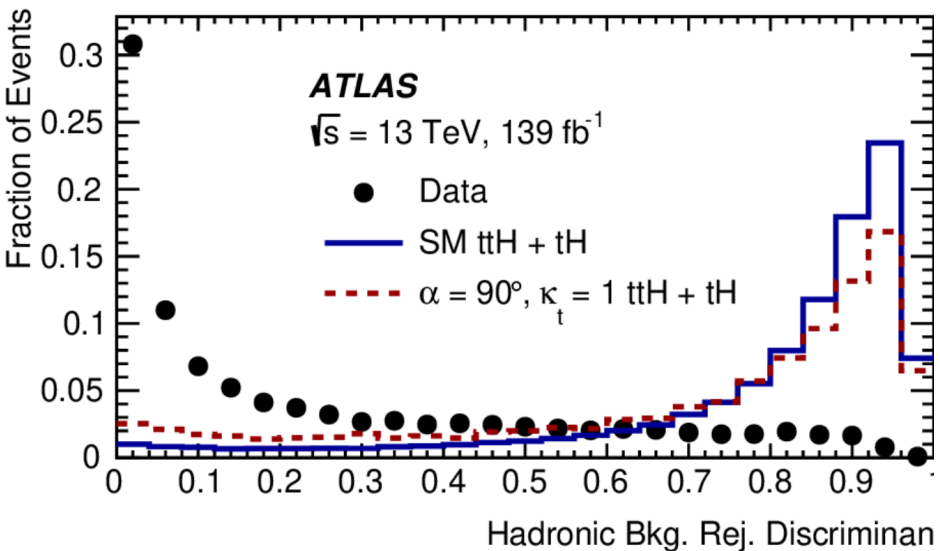
Measurements agree very well with the SM predictions

CP properties: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

CP properties: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

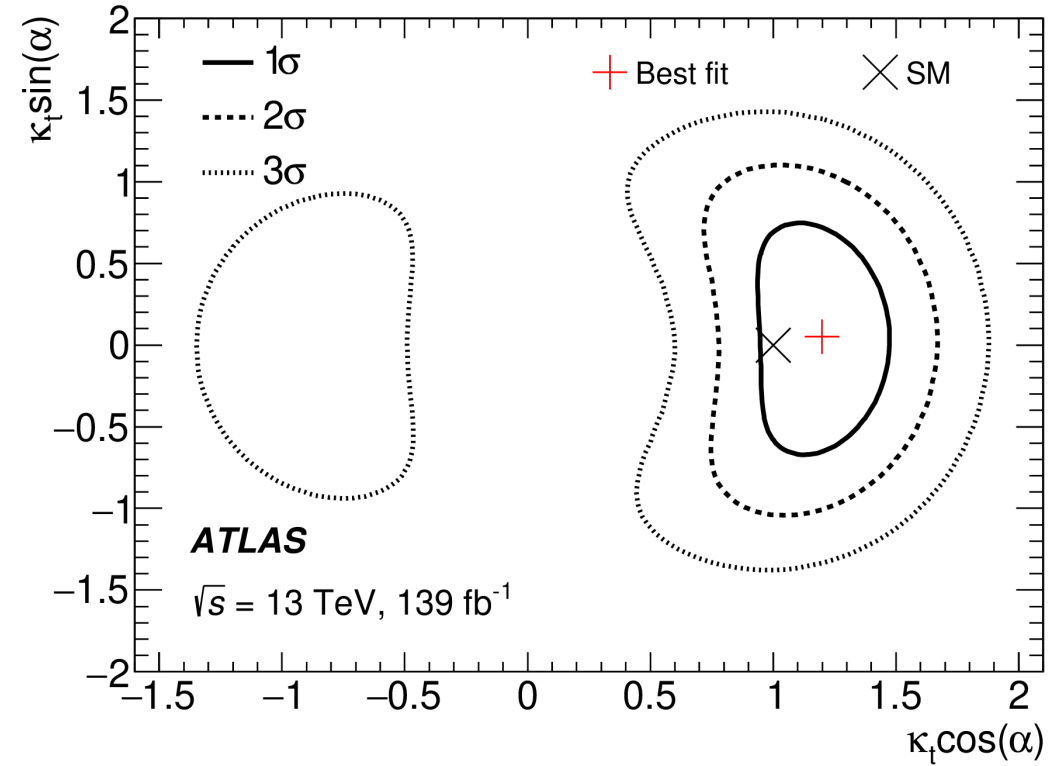
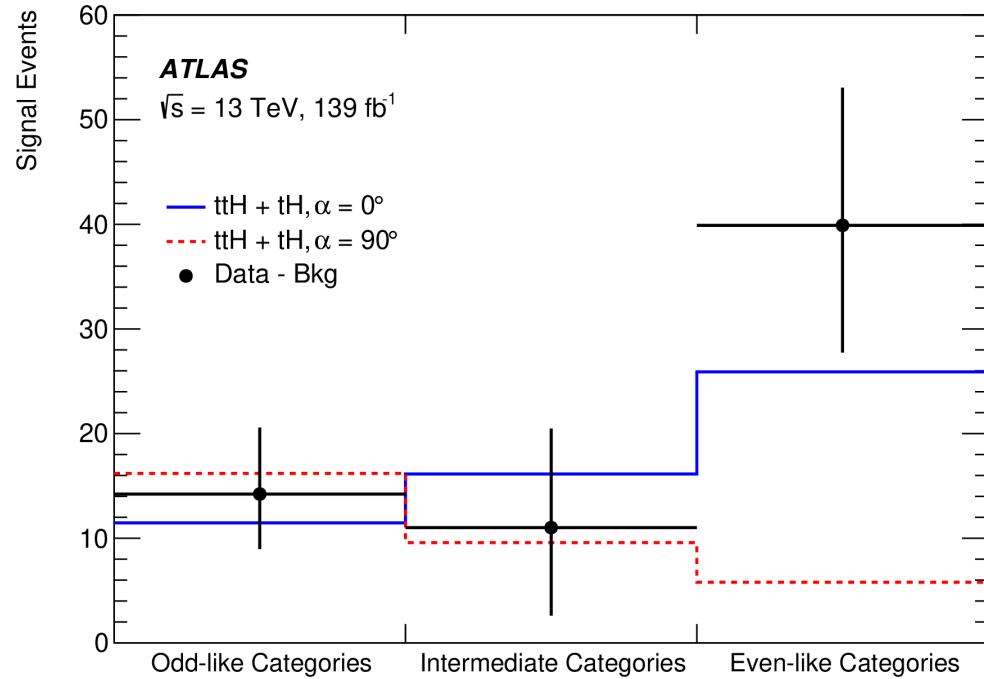
[PRL 125 \(2020\) 061802](#)

- Sharing similarities with the STXS analysis e.g signal and background modelling, discriminant variable $m_{\gamma\gamma}$
- Events split into two $t\bar{t}H$ -enriched channels: **Lep** ($\geq 1\ell$: leptonic tops), **Had** (0ℓ : hadronic tops)
- Events further categorised in each channel using **2 BDTs**:
 - ➔ **Background rejection BDT**: $t\bar{t}H$ vs main backgrounds ($\gamma\gamma + \text{jets}$, $t\bar{t} + \gamma\gamma$)
 - ➔ **CP BDT**: separate **CP-even** and **CP-odd** in the signal
- **20 categories** defined in 2D BDT space optimising $t\bar{t}H$ significance and **CP-odd** vs **CP-even** separation
 - ➔ 12 hadronic and 8 leptonic



CP properties: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

[PRL 125 \(2020\) 061802](#)



- Simultaneous maximum likelihood fit in all categories to $m_{\gamma\gamma}$
 - ➔ Higgs couplings to photons and gluons constrained by the Run 2 combination results in [Phys. Rev. D 101 \(2020\) 012002](#)
 - ➔ **Statistically dominated** measurement
- Data **strongly favours the CP even** hypothesis:
 - ➔ Exclusion of $|\alpha| > 43^\circ$ @ 95% CL
 - ➔ **Pure CP-odd coupling excluded at 3.9σ**

CP properties: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow bb)$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

CP properties: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

[PLB 849 \(2024\) 138469](#)

- Dedicated CP sensitive observables are built relying on angular separation between reconstructed top quarks
 - ➔ b_2 : enhanced for narrower azimuthal separation of top quarks in CP-odd case
 - ➔ b_4 : enhanced for top quarks in opposite directions and closer to the beamline

$$b_2 = \frac{(\vec{p}_1 \times \hat{z}) \cdot (\vec{p}_2 \times \hat{z})}{|\vec{p}_1| |\vec{p}_2|}$$

$$b_4 = \frac{(\vec{p}_1 \cdot \hat{z})(\vec{p}_2 \cdot \hat{z})}{|\vec{p}_1| |\vec{p}_2|}$$

- \vec{p}_i with $i = 1, 2$ correspond to the three-vectors of the two top quarks, \hat{z} : unit vector in the direction of the beam line, defines the z-axis.
- b_2 calculation is performed in $t\bar{t}H$ rest frame to enhance discrimination

Input features for reconstruction BDTs

Single lepton

Variables
Topological information from $t\bar{t}$
Mass of top_{lep}
Mass of top_{had}
Mass of W_{had}
Mass of W_{had} and b from top_{lep}
Mass of W_{lep} and b from top_{had}
$\Delta R(W_{\text{had}}, b \text{ from } \text{top}_{\text{had}})$
$\Delta R(W_{\text{had}}, b \text{ from } \text{top}_{\text{lep}})$
$\Delta R(\ell, b \text{ from } \text{top}_{\text{lep}})$
$\Delta R(\ell, b \text{ from } \text{top}_{\text{had}})$
$\Delta R(b \text{ from } \text{top}_{\text{lep}}, b \text{ from } \text{top}_{\text{had}})$
$\Delta R(q_1 \text{ from } W_{\text{had}}, q_2 \text{ from } W_{\text{had}})$
$\Delta R(b \text{ from } t_{\text{had}}, q_1 \text{ from } W_{\text{had}})$
$\Delta R(b \text{ from } t_{\text{had}}, q_2 \text{ from } W_{\text{had}})$
Min. $\Delta R(b \text{ from } \text{top}_{\text{had}}, q_i \text{ from } W_{\text{had}})$
$\Delta R(\text{lep}, b \text{ from } \text{top}_{\text{lep}}) - \min. \Delta R(b \text{ from } \text{top}_{\text{had}}, q_i \text{ from } W_{\text{had}})$
Topological information from the Higgs boson candidate
Mass of Higgs
Mass of Higgs and q_1 from W_{had}
$\Delta R(b_1 \text{ from Higgs}, b_2 \text{ from Higgs})$
$\Delta R(b_1 \text{ from Higgs}, \text{lepton})$

Dilepton lepton

Variables	BDT w/ Higgs	BDT w/o Higgs
Topological information from $t\bar{t}$		
Mass of top	✓	✓
Mass of anti-top	✓	✓
Mass difference between top and anti-top	✓	✓
$\Delta R(\ell, b)$ from top	✓	✓
$\Delta R(\ell, b)$ from anti-top	✓	✓
$-\Delta R(\ell, b)$ from top $- \Delta R(\ell, b)$ from anti-top	—	✓
$\Delta R(b \text{ from top}, b \text{ from anti-top})$	✓	—
$\Delta\phi(b \text{ from top}, b \text{ from anti-top})$	—	✓
$p_{\text{T}} b$ from top	—	✓
$p_{\text{T}} b$ from anti-top	—	✓
Min. $\Delta\eta(\ell, b \text{ from top or anti-top})$	—	✓
Topological information from the Higgs boson candidate		
Max. $\Delta R(\text{Higgs}, b \text{ from top or anti-top})$	✓	—
Mass of Higgs	✓	—
$\Delta R(\text{Higgs}, t\bar{t})$	✓	—
$\Delta R(b_1 \text{ from Higgs}, b_2 \text{ from Higgs})$	✓	—

Input features for classification BDTs

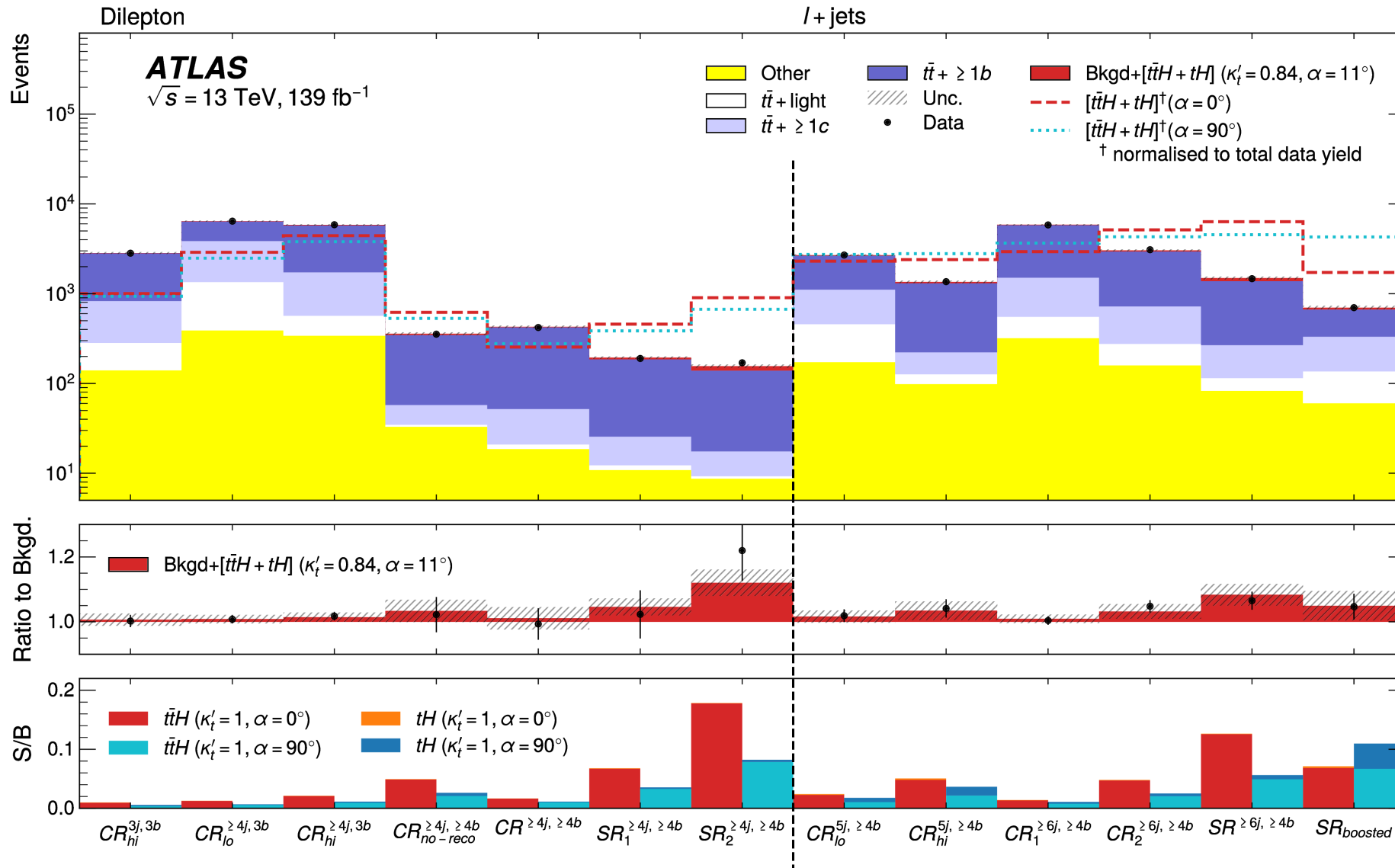
Single lepton

Variable	Definition
General kinematic variables	
$\Delta R_{bb}^{\text{avg}}$	Average ΔR for all b -tagged jet pairs
$\Delta R_{bb}^{\text{max } p_T}$	ΔR between the two b -tagged jets with the largest vector sum p_T
$\Delta \eta_{jj}^{\text{max}}$	Maximum $\Delta \eta$ between any two jets
$m_{bb}^{\text{min } \Delta R}$	Mass of the combination of two b -tagged jets with the smallest ΔR
$N_{bb}^{\text{Higgs } 30}$	Number of b -tagged jet pairs with invariant mass within 30 GeV of the Higgs boson mass
Aplanarity	$1.5\lambda_2$, where λ_2 is the second eigenvalue of the momentum tensor [Phys. Rev. D 48 (1993) R3953] built with all jets
H_1	Second Fox–Wolfram moment computed using all jets and the lepton
Variables from reconstruction BDT	
BDT output	Output of the reconstruction BDT †
m_{bb}^{Higgs}	Higgs candidate mass
$m_{H,b_{\text{lep top}}}$	Mass of Higgs candidate and b -jet from leptonic top candidate
$\Delta R_{bb}^{\text{Higgs}}$	ΔR between b -jets from the Higgs candidate
$\Delta R_{H,t\bar{t}}$	ΔR between Higgs candidate and $t\bar{t}$ candidate system †
$\Delta R_{H,\text{lep top}}$	ΔR between Higgs candidate and leptonic top candidate
Variables from likelihood calculations	
LHD	Likelihood discriminant
Variables from b -tagging	
$w_{b\text{-tag}}^{\text{Higgs}}$	Sum of b -tagging discriminants of jets from best Higgs candidate from the reconstruction BDT
B_{jet}^3	3 rd largest jet b -tagging discriminant
B_{jet}^4	4 th largest jet b -tagging discriminant
B_{jet}^5	5 th largest jet b -tagging discriminant

Dilepton lepton

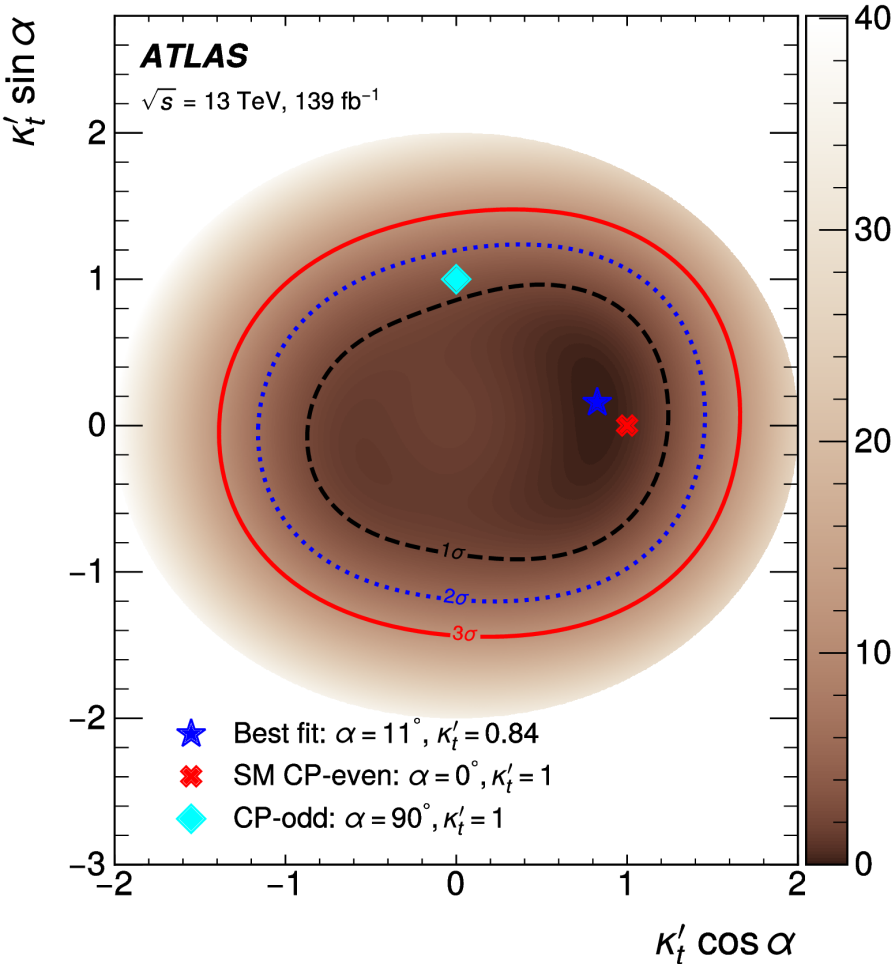
Variable	Definition
General kinematic variables	
m_{bb}^{min}	Minimum invariant mass of a b -tagged jet pair
$m_{bb}^{\text{min } \Delta R}$	Invariant mass of the b -tagged jet pair with minimum ΔR
$m_{jj}^{\text{max } p_T}$	Invariant mass of the jet pair with maximum p_T
$m_{bb}^{\text{max } p_T}$	Invariant mass of the b -tagged jet pair with maximum p_T
$\Delta \eta_{bb}^{\text{avg}}$	Average $\Delta \eta$ for all b -tagged jet pairs
$N_{bb}^{\text{Higgs } 30}$	Number of b -tagged jet pairs with invariant mass within 30 GeV of the Higgs boson mass
Variables from reconstruction BDT	
BDT outputs	Output of the reco. BDT w/ Higgs info. for the combination selected by the reco. BDTs w/ or w/o Higgs info. ‡
m_{bb}^{Higgs}	Higgs candidate mass
$\Delta R_{H,t\bar{t}}$	ΔR between Higgs candidate and $t\bar{t}$ candidate system †
$\Delta R_{H,\ell}^{\text{min}}$	Minimum ΔR between Higgs candidate and lepton
$\Delta R_{H,b}^{\text{min}}$	Minimum ΔR between Higgs candidate and b -jet from top

CP properties: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}



CP properties: $t\bar{t}H/tH(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ w/ 139 fb^{-1}

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- Best fit values:

- ➔ CP-mixing angle $\alpha = 11^{+52}_{-73}^\circ$

- ➔ coupling strength $k'_t = 0.84^{+0.30}_{-0.46}$

- ★ Compatible with both $\alpha = 0^\circ$ and $\alpha = 90^\circ$

- ★ Data prefers SM and disfavours CP-odd hypothesis at **1.2 σ significance**.

- Sensitivity driven by the $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$ modelling uncertainties:

- ➔ Same as in previous round of $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ analysis

- ➔ NLO matching (PowhegBox vs. MadGraph5_aMC@NLO)

- ➔ Choice of 4 flavour scheme (with massive b-quarks from ME) vs 5FS with massless b-quarks in the PDF)

- ➔ Parton Shower and Hadronisation (Pythia 8 vs Herwig7)