

Physics with Tau Lepton Final States in ATLAS

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Why are taus important in ATLAS?

Discovery searches: Heavy object may couple preferentially to taus (heaviest leptons)

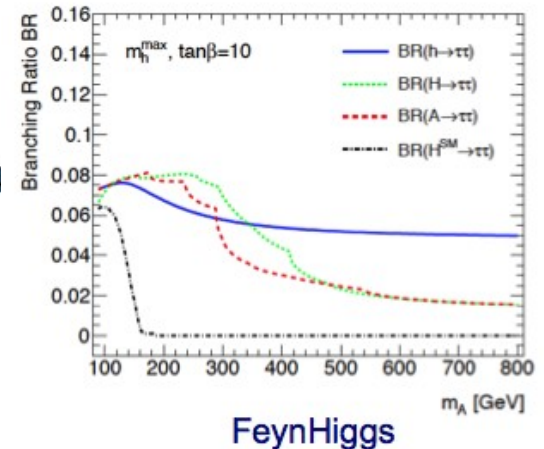
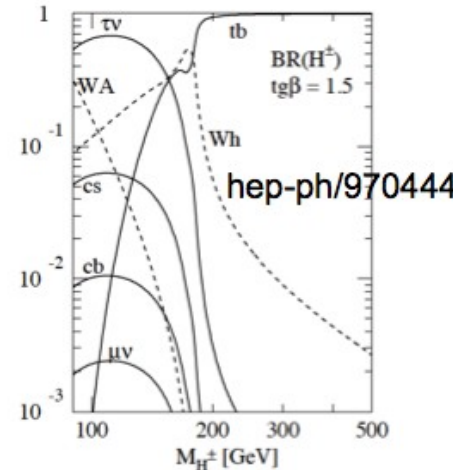
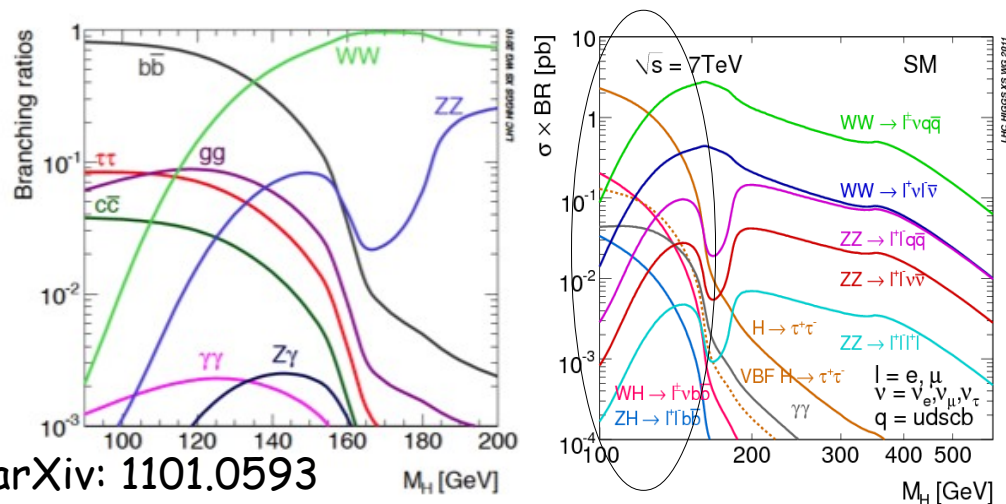
- Higgs boson couples to mass

SM $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$

2nd largest BR for low mass

MSSM: 5 Higgs bosons h, H, A, H^\pm

For large part of parameter space BR is enhanced



- Most of theories predict universal coupling of Z' to leptons, but there are models which predict Z' coupling preferentially to the third generation (Technicolor motivated)
- SUSY decays chains contain soft taus
- Important for completeness

More than discovery probes

Taus are short lived -> **spin information imprinted in tau decay product kinematics!**
 - experimentally possible to distinguish left-handed (LH) from right-handed (RH) taus

- Tau Polarization**

$$P_{\tau} = \frac{\sigma_R - \sigma_L}{\sigma_R + \sigma_L}$$

-Indicates **tendency** for production of left- and right-handed taus **to violate parity**

Can help establish properties of a new particle:

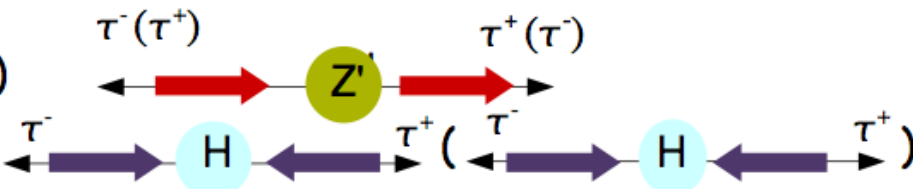
- > RH taus from H+'s vs. LH taus from W's
- > Z has spin 1 and couplings violate parity $\Rightarrow P_{\tau} = -15\%$ vs Higgs has spin 0 $\Rightarrow P_{\tau} = 0$
- > Z' and W' degree of parity violation varies between models
 (possible to constrain E6 models: Phys. Rev. D46 (1992) 290-302)

- Tau spin correlations - direct access to spin of the parent object**

Possible configurations:

Spin 1 (Z') : $Z' \rightarrow \tau_L^- \tau_R^+ (Z' \rightarrow \tau_R^- \tau_L^+)$

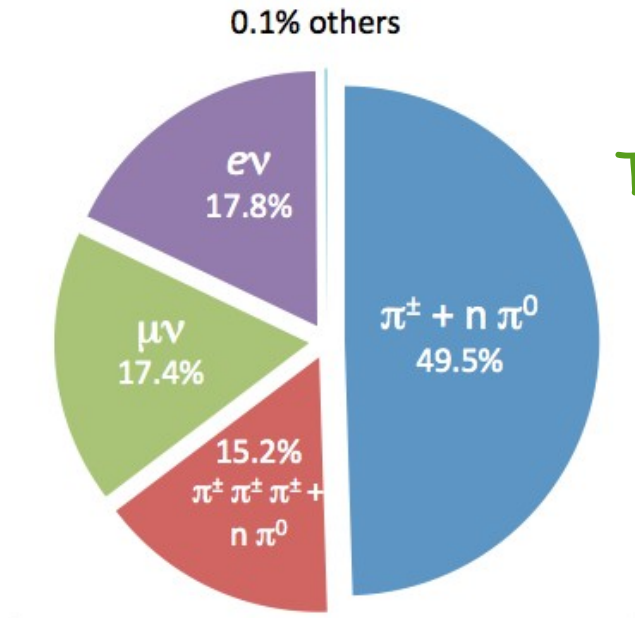
Spin 0 (H) : $H \rightarrow \tau_L^- \tau_L^+ (H \rightarrow \tau_R^- \tau_R^+)$



Taus are experimentally challenging !

Tau events are rare as compared to QCD

Tau decays



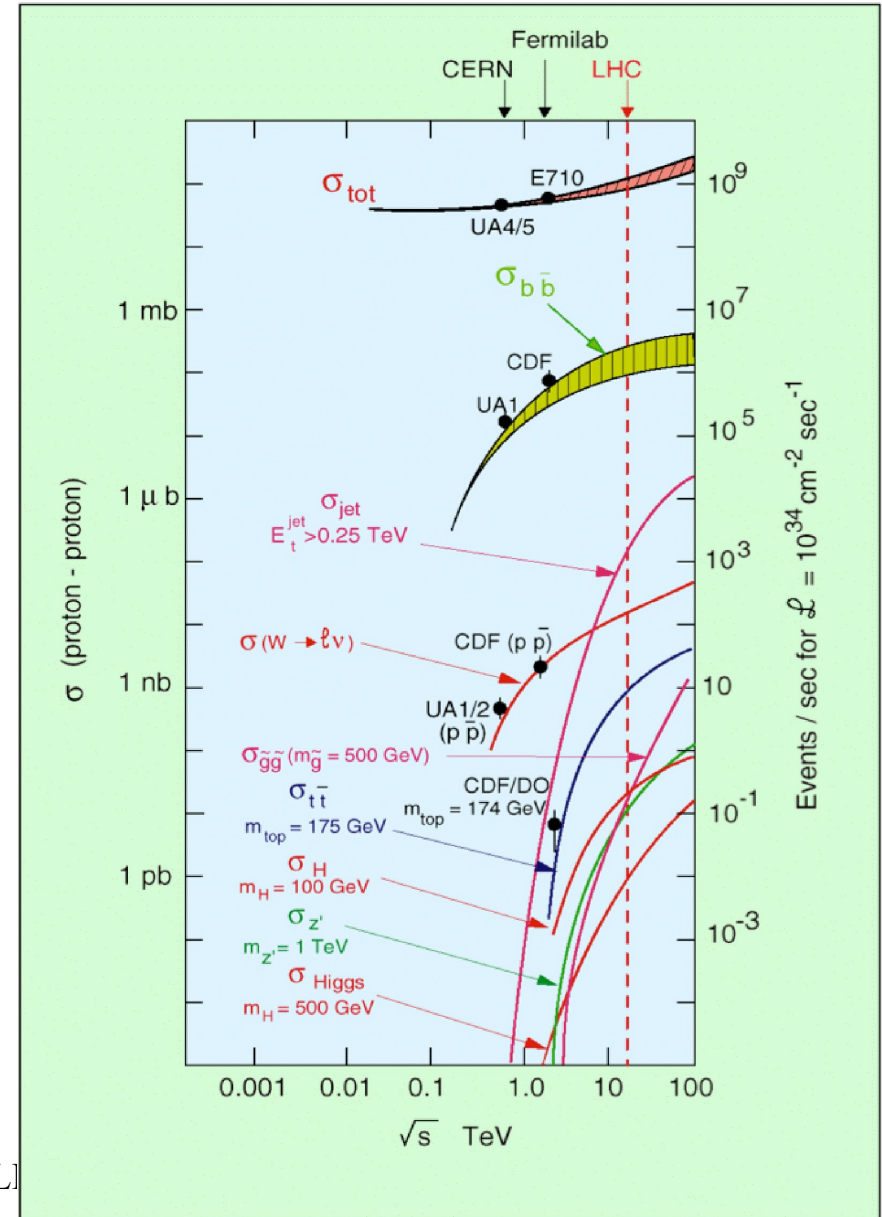
Leptonic decays:

-Not viable to distinguish from prompt leptons

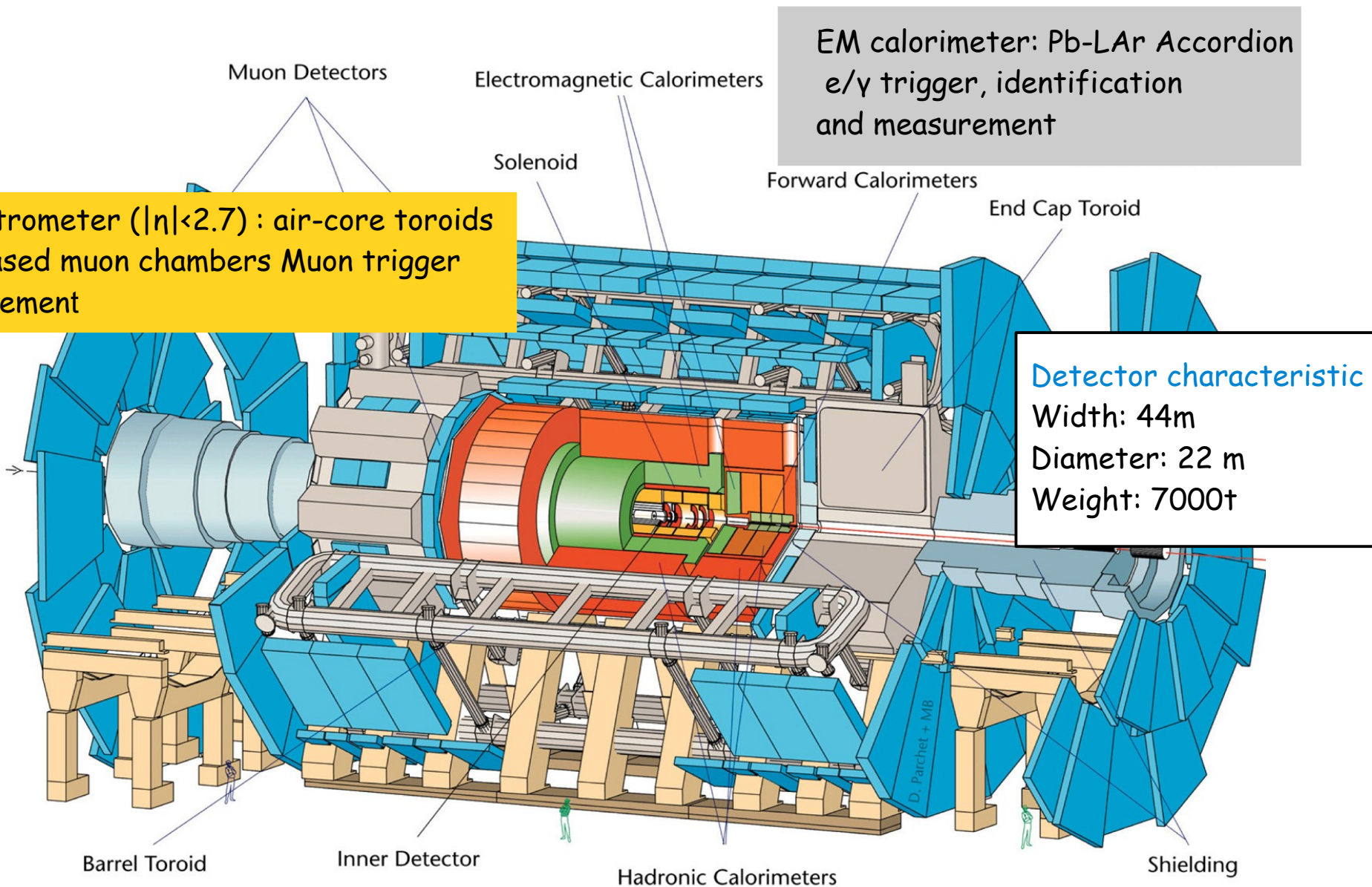
Hadronic decays:

-suffer from huge backgrounds from jets

=> challenge for both online and offline identification



The ATLAS detector



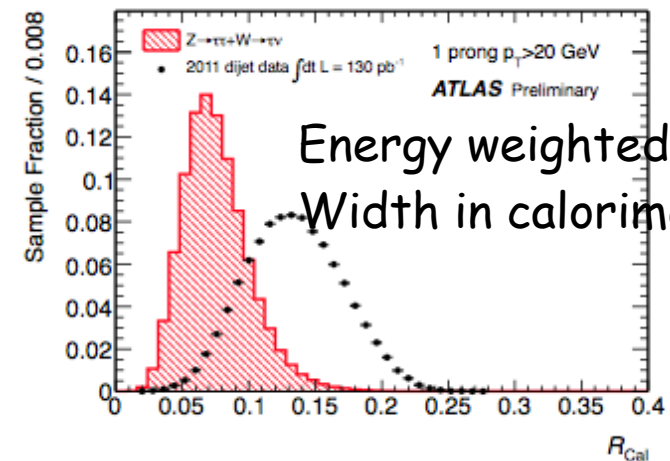
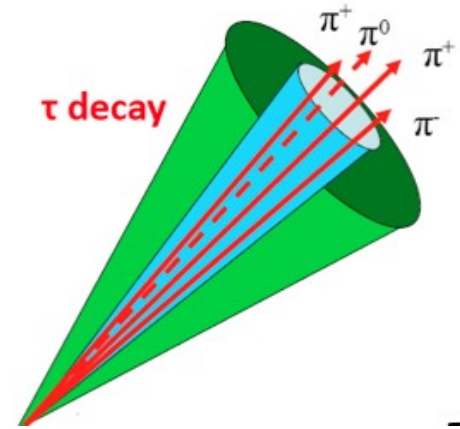
Inner detector ($|\eta| < 2.5$): Si strips/pixels; TRT straws. Vertexing, tracking, e/π separation

work

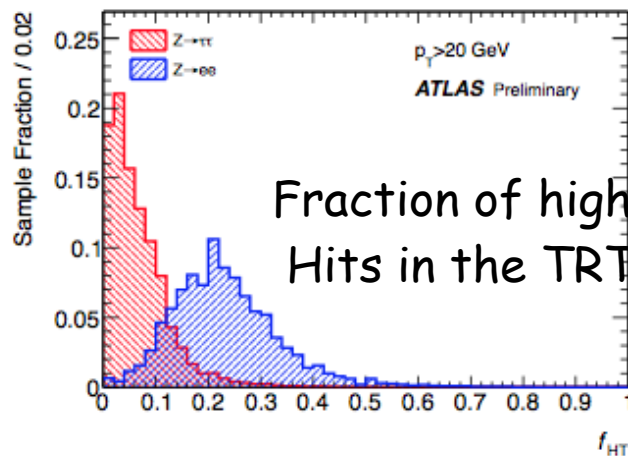
HAD calorimetry ($|\eta| < 5$): segmentation, Fe/scintillator Tiles (central), LAr (fwd)
Trigger and measurement of jets and missing E_T

Tau reconstruction and identification (ID) in ATLAS

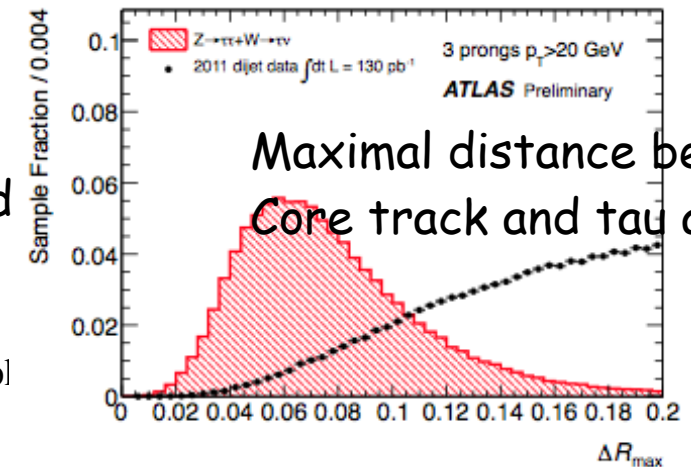
- Reconstructed taus: Anti- k_T jets with $R=0.4$
- Energy scale: jets scale + tau scale derived using MC
 - data driven uncertainties using single pion response
- Discrimination against QCD jets:
 - low track multiplicity
 - narrowness of the shower
- Electron / tau separation
 - Fraction of high threshold hits in TRT & shower shape (hadronic veto)



Energy weighted shower
Width in calorimeter



Fraction of high threshold
Hits in the TRT

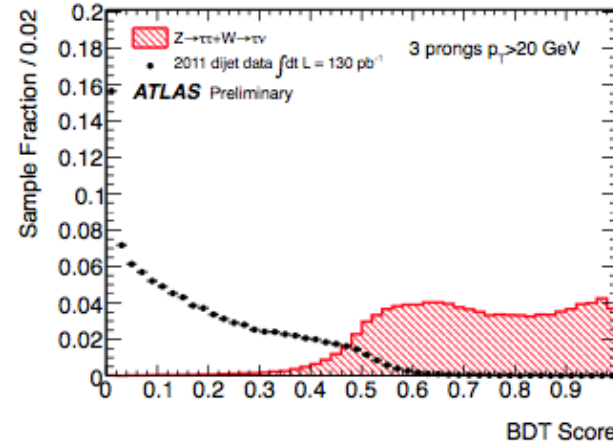
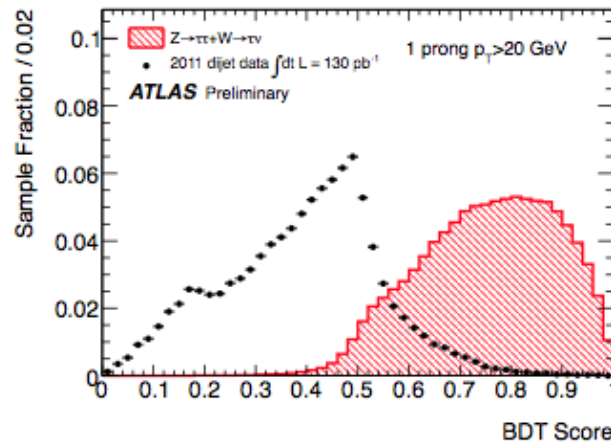


Maximal distance between
Core track and tau axis

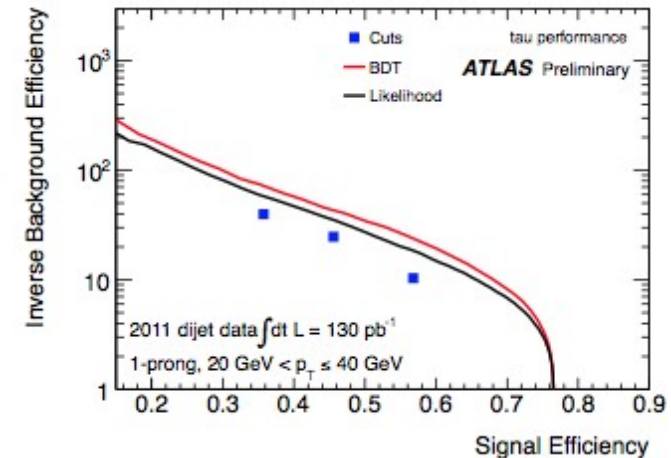
Tau ID performance

ATLAS-CONF-2011-152

Output BDT score

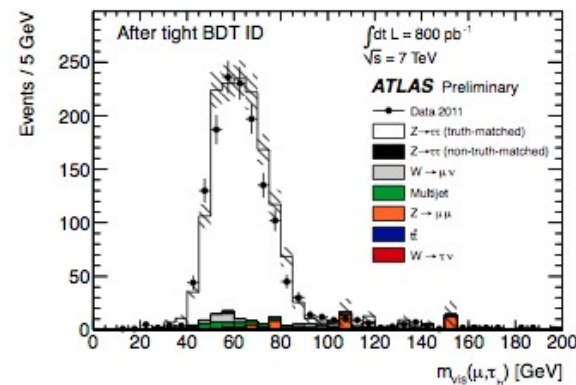
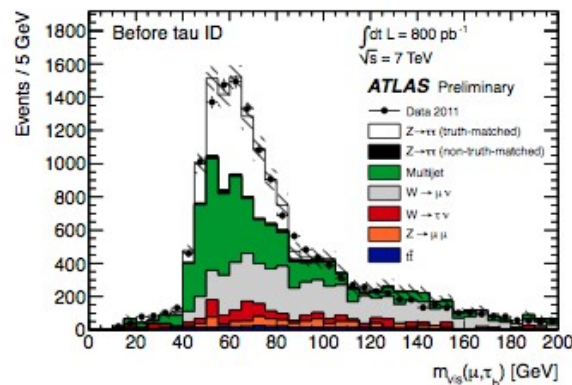


Rejection vs efficiency

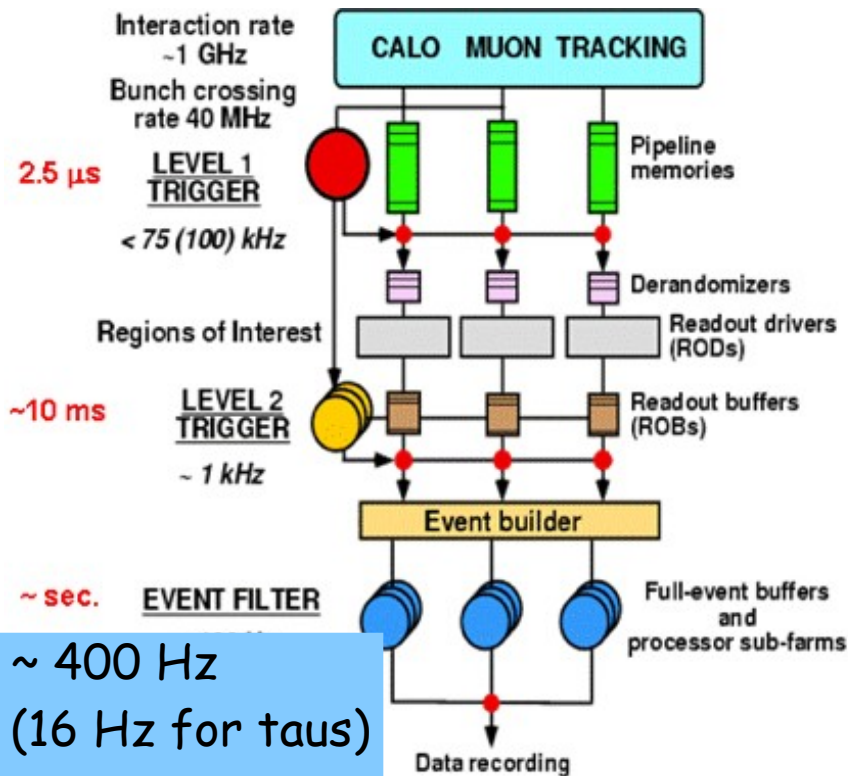


Efficiency measurement using tag-and-probe

- $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ and $W \rightarrow \tau\nu$ events (jet/tau) and $Z \rightarrow ee$ (e/tau)



Triggering tau final states in ATLAS



Item	2011	2012
Single electron	e22	e24
Single muon	e18	e24
e-tau	tau16_e15	tau20_e18
mu-tau		tau20_mu15
di-tau	tau29_tau20	tau20_tau29
tau+xe	tau29_xe35	tau29_xe45
Single tau	tau125	tau125

2012 tighter thresholds & isolation

=> more analysis need to rely on the combined triggers
- Jet/MET triggers too high thresholds

Tau Trigger

L1 based on 4x4 array of trigger towers and EM isolation
L2 adds tracking + higher granularity in the calorimeters
Applies basic tau shower shape cuts to reject QCD
EF full event building. Algorithms imitate offline.

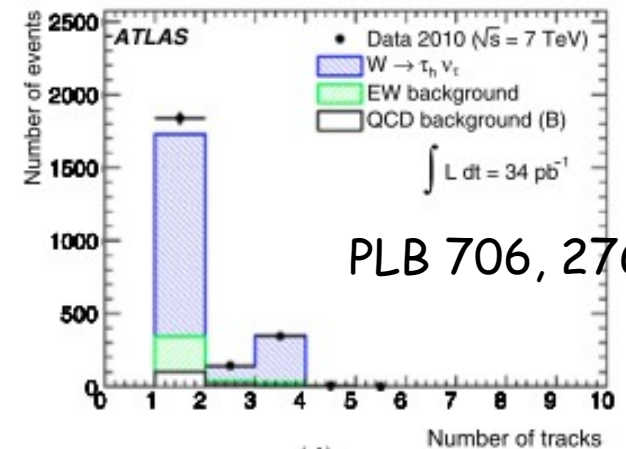
How well do we understand taus in ATLAS?

- $W \rightarrow \tau \nu$ decays : the largest source of true taus in ATLAS

- used for first observation of true taus
- cross section measured using full 2010 dataset
- increasingly difficult @ higher LHC luminosity due online rates

- Main signature:

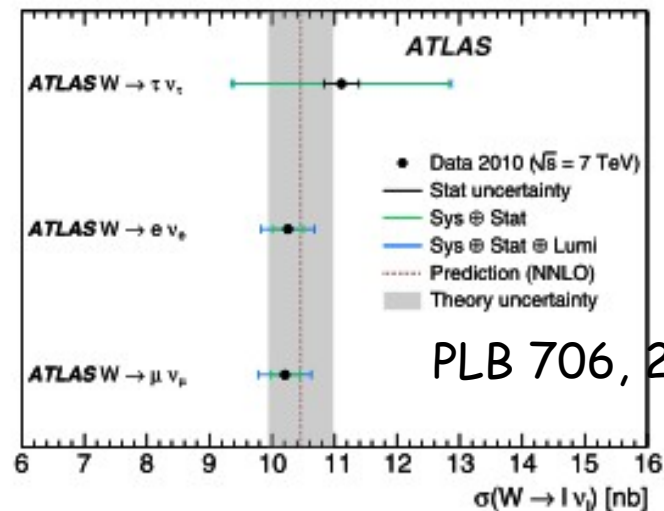
- Hadronically decaying tau and large missing transverse energy (MET)
- Large multi-jet estimated using data driven ABCD Method (tau ID, MET plane)
- EW: $W \rightarrow e \nu / \mu \nu$, $Z \rightarrow \mu \mu$ backgrounds from MC
- Purity: $S/B \sim 4.4$



- Dominant systematics:

- energy scale
- tau ID & trigger efficiency
- total $\sim 15\%$

Result

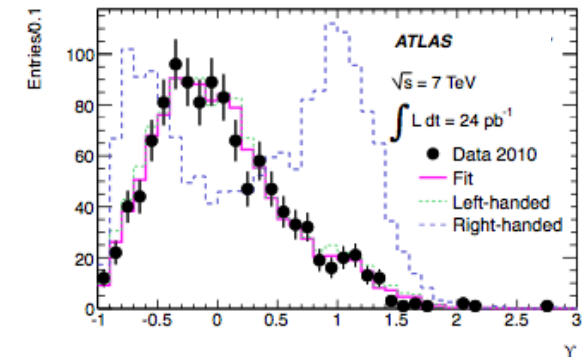
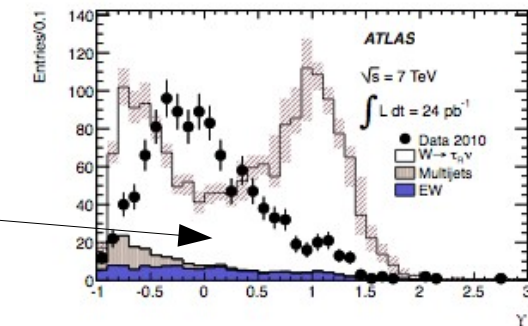
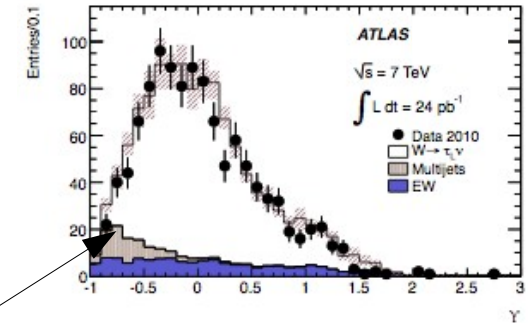


Tau polarization in $W \rightarrow \tau \nu$ decays

- **Observable: charged asymmetry**
 - **energy sharing** of the **charged** and **neutral** pions in the tau decay
 - inclusive: all one track tau decays
- P_T extracted using **binned log-likelihood fit** of the observed distribution in **data** to a linear combination of the **MC templates**
- Dominant systematics: energy scale and MC model

Result: $P_T = -1.06 \pm 0.04 \text{ (stat)} + 0.05 - 0.07$

$P_T \in [-1, -0.91]$ with 95% probability



arXiv:1204.6720v1



First measurement of tau polarization @ hadronic collider
Very first direct test of tau helicity structure @ $Q^2 = m_W^2$

4/05/12

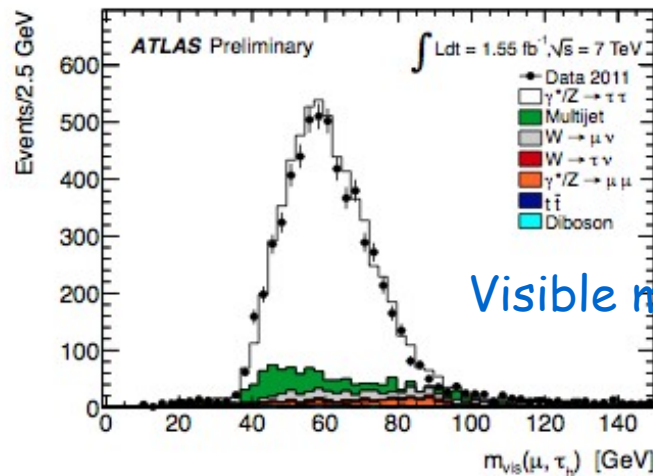
Chicago 2012 workshop on LHC physics

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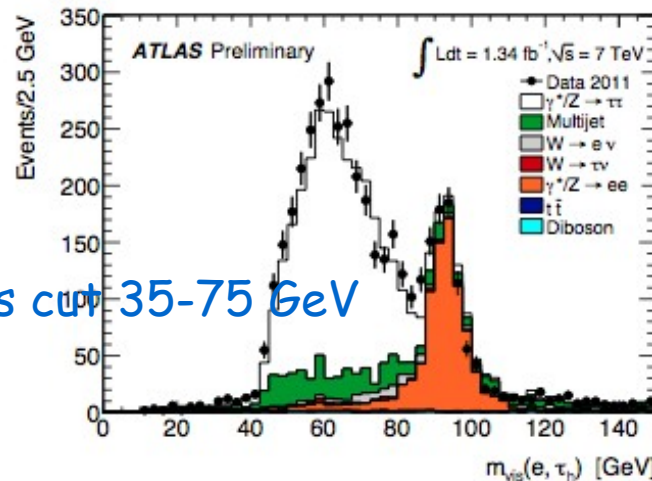
Toward Higgs searches: $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ cross section

ATLAS-CONF-2012-006

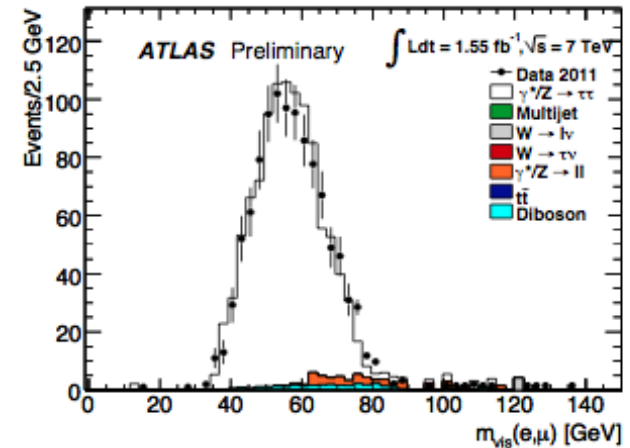
- Cross section measured in e-tau, mu-tau and e-mu channels:



(a) $\tau_\mu\tau_h$ channel



(b) $\tau_e\tau_h$ channel



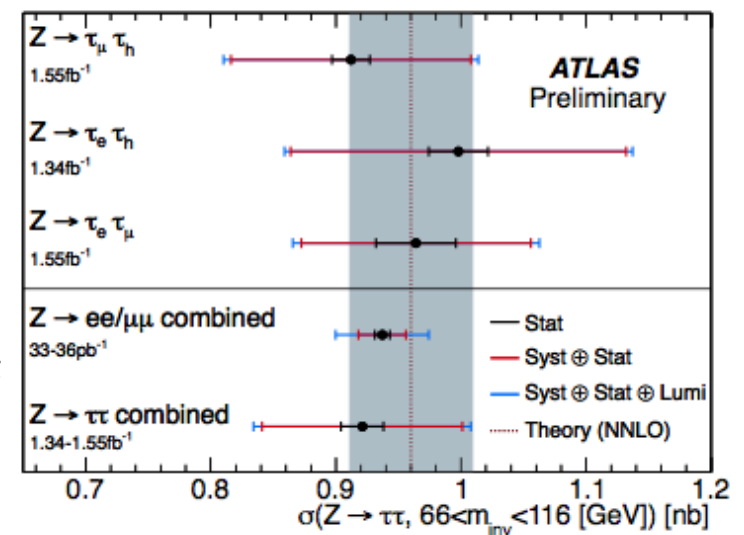
Purity

	$\tau_\mu\tau_h$ (1.55 fb^{-1})	$\tau_e\tau_h$ (1.34 fb^{-1})	$\tau_e\tau_\mu$ (1.55 fb^{-1})
Total background	793 ± 34	449 ± 22	56 ± 8
$\gamma^*/Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$	4544 ± 49	2029 ± 25	981 ± 26
N_{obs}	5184	2600	1035

Systematics:

- e-tau (13%): energy scale, tau & ele ID, trigger eff
- mu-tau (10%): energy scale, tau ID
- e-mu (9%): electron ID & energy scale

Result

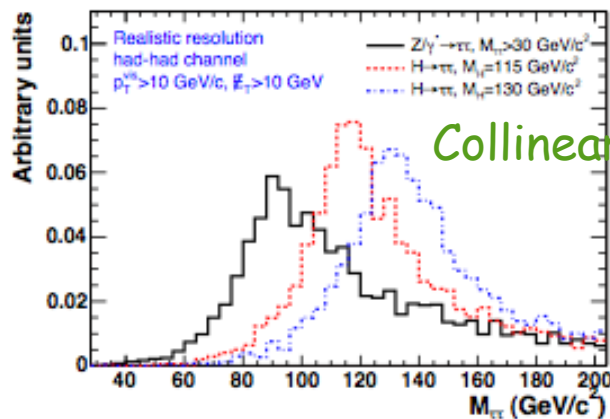


H→ττ common challenges

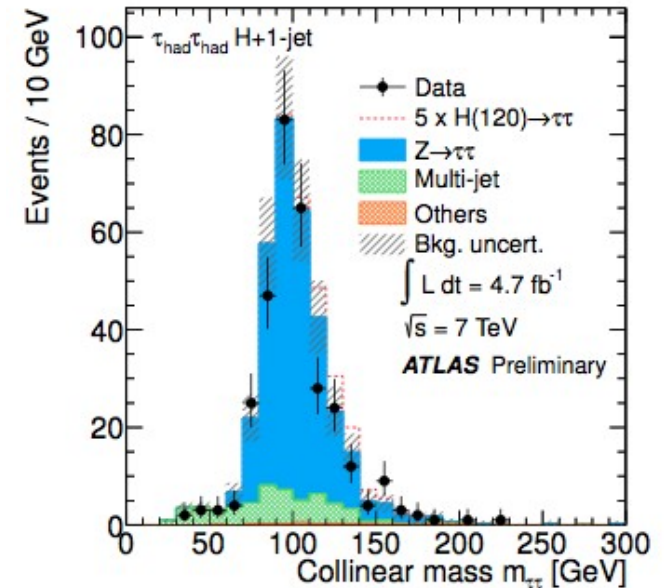
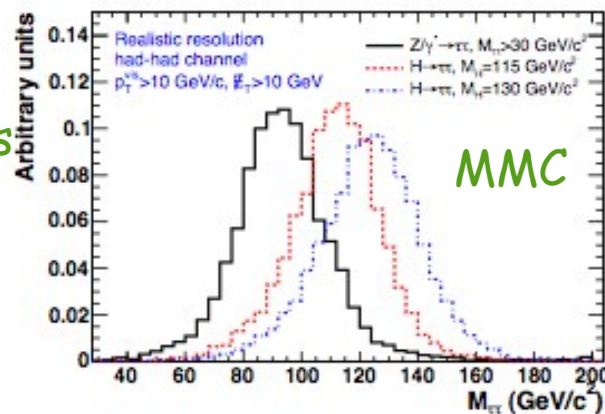
Huge irreducible background from Z→ττ decays

- peaks close to H mass due to poor mass resolution

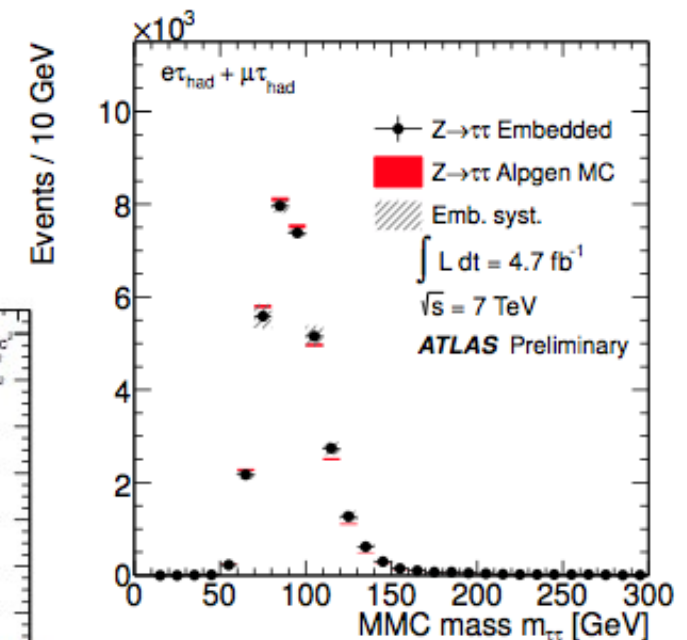
- Two - fold improvements:
- Use **data driven tau embedding** on lighter lepton (Z→μμ sample) to estimate Z→ττ background
- **Improve mass resolution**
 - visible mass
 - collinear mass: assume that visible tau decays products take direction of the parent tau
 - **missing mass calculator (MMC)**: assumes non zero angle between visible decay products and neutrinos)



Ch



ATLAS-CONF-2012-014

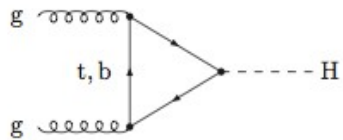


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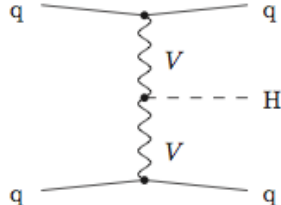
SM $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$ search

Production mechanisms considered in the search:

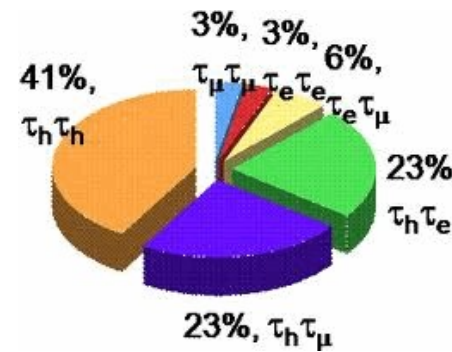
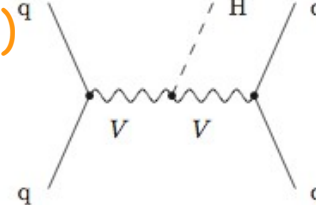
Gluon-gluon fusion



Vector boson fusion (VBF)



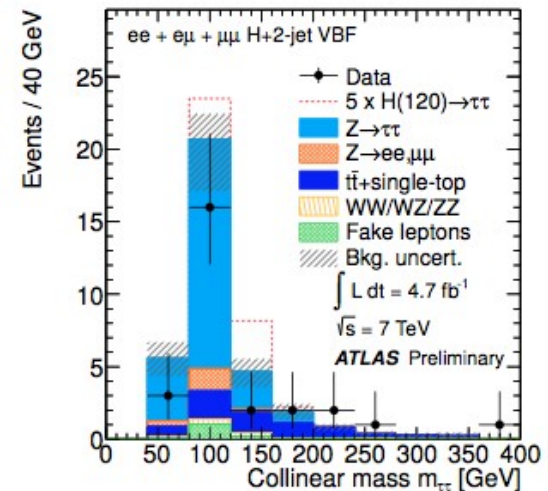
"Higgsstrahlung" (VH)



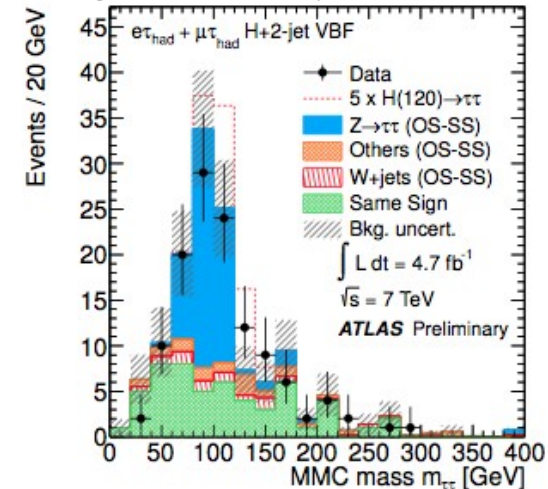
$V=W, Z$
 $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$

Search in all tau-pair decay channels:

- **Lepton-lepton + 4v:**
 - 4 categories: 0 jets, 1 jet, 2 jets VH, 2 jets (VBF)
 - Lepton background estimated using template of sub-lead lepton p_T from a control region with reversed isolation
- **Lepton-hadron + 3v:**
 - 4 categories: 0 jets (low and high MET), 1 jet, 2 jets (VBF)
- **Multijet background estimated using SS charge**
- **hadron-hadron + 2v:**
 - search in 1 jet category
 - 2D track multiplicity fit in the signal region

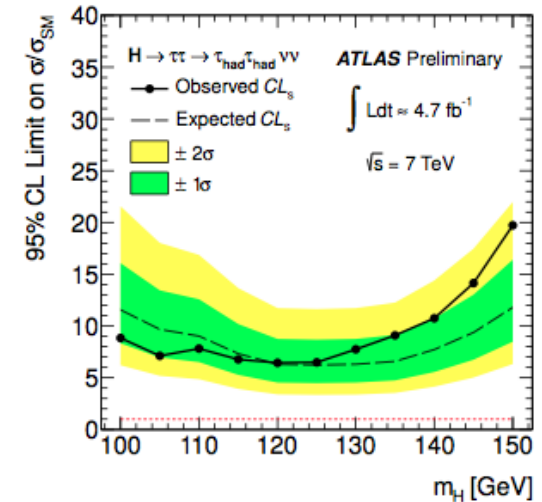
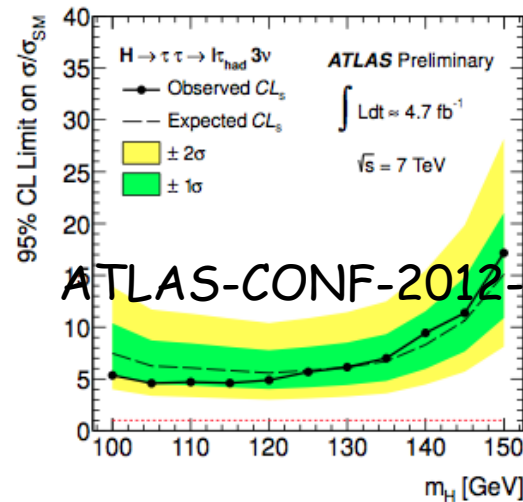
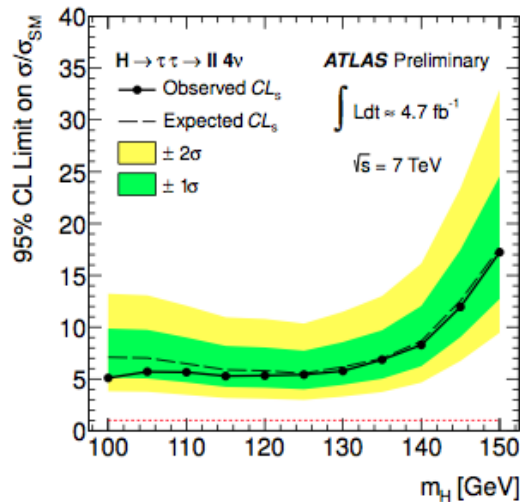


ATLAS-CONF-2012-014



SM Higgs limits

95% CLs limits per channel



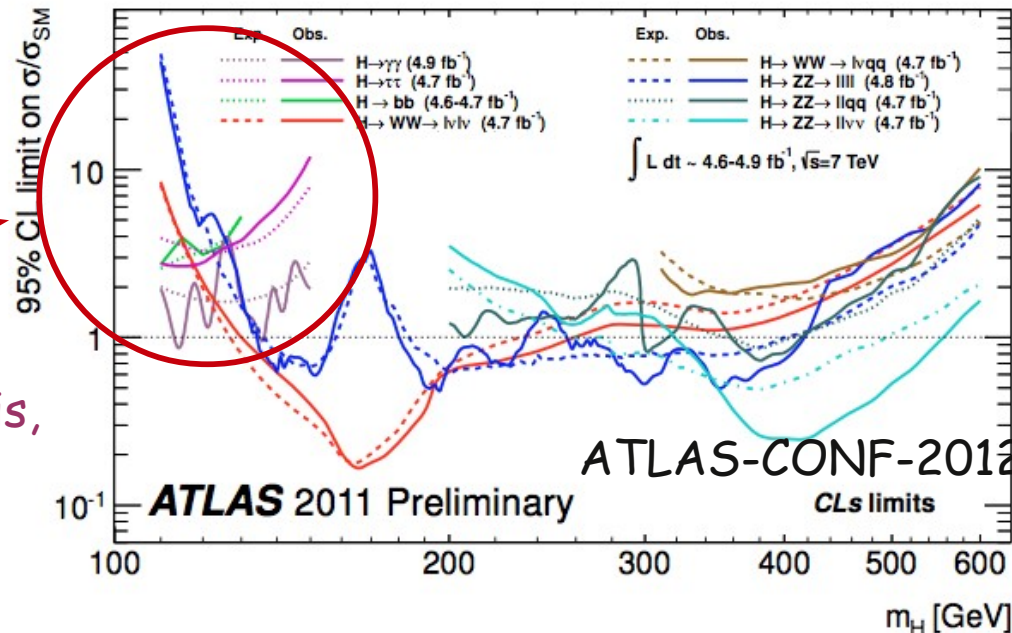
ATLAS-CONF-2012-014

95% exclusion limit

combined for all tau channels:

- Mass range: 100-150 GeV
- Expected: 3-8
- Observed: 3-12

Several improvements to the analysis,
 (tau ID and selection/methods)
 are being investigated



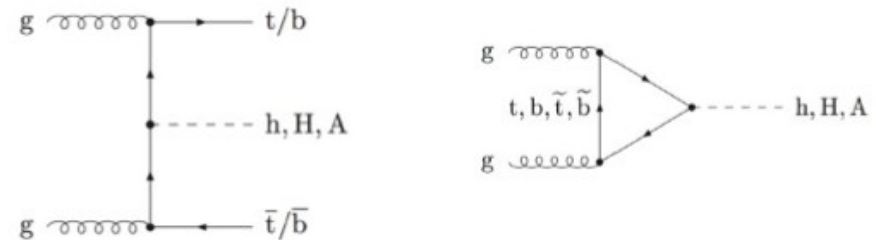
ATLAS-CONF-2012-019

Quick overview of MSSM $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$ search

- Search in all tau-pair channels
- Separation in b-associated production using b-tagging not yet explored

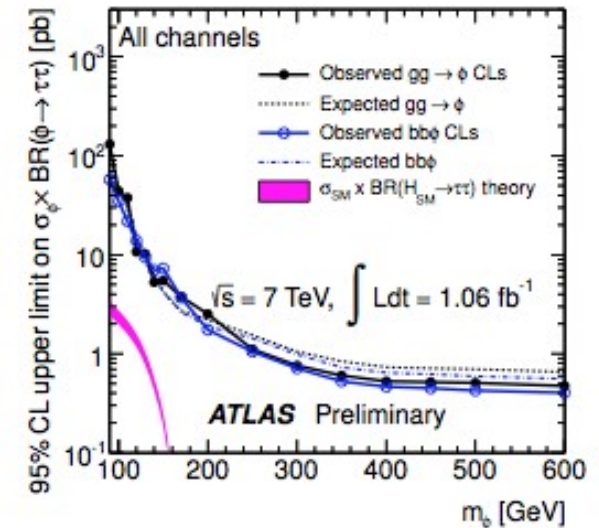
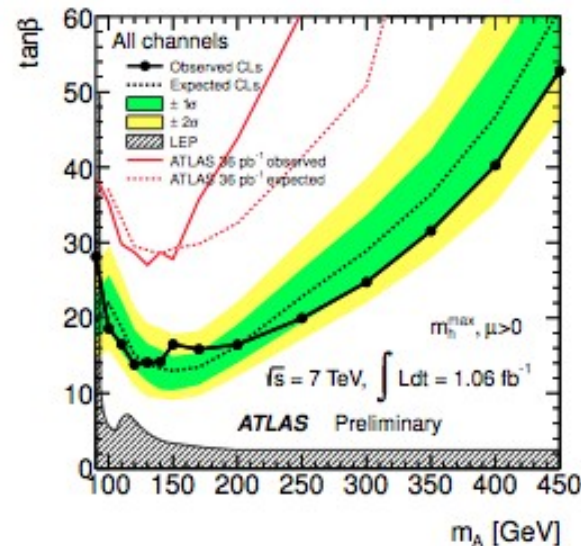
Analysis methods similar to SM Higgs boson searches

Production mechanism



Combined limits on $\sigma \times \text{BR}$

combined limits in " $\tan\beta$ - m_A " space



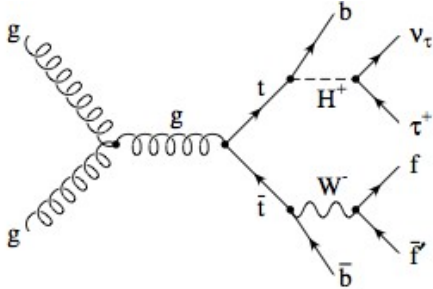
ATLAS-CONF-2011-132

Quick overview of $H \rightarrow \tau\nu$ search

ATLAS-CONF-2012-011

- Charged Higgs predicted by 2HDM (also other BSM models)

Light Higgs Production in MSSM ($m_H < m_{\text{top}}$)



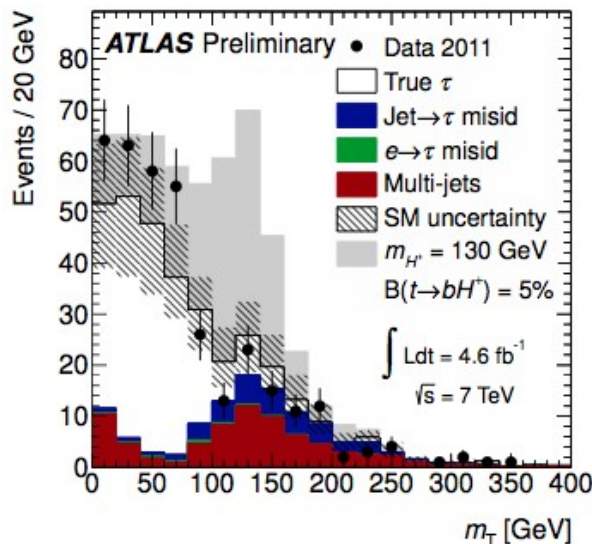
Search channels

- Lepton + jets: $t\bar{t} \rightarrow b\bar{b}WH^+ \rightarrow b\bar{b}(q\bar{q}')(\tau_{\text{lep}}\nu)$
- Tau + lepton: $t\bar{t} \rightarrow b\bar{b}WH^+ \rightarrow b\bar{b}(l\nu)(\tau_{\text{had}}\nu)$
- tau + jets: $t\bar{t} \rightarrow b\bar{b}WH^+ \rightarrow b\bar{b}(q\bar{q}')(\tau_{\text{had}}\nu)$

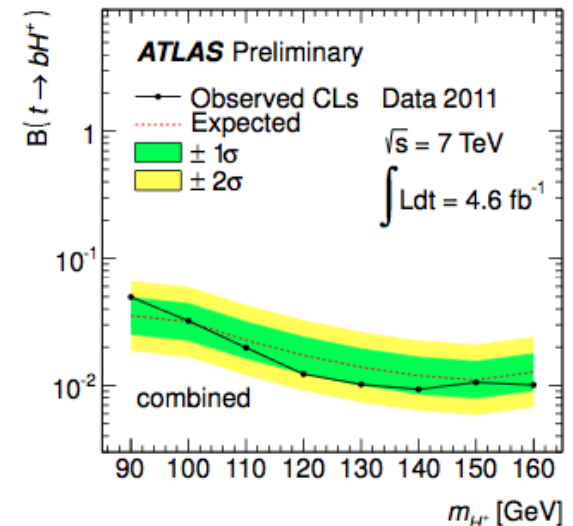
- Some analysis highlights
 - tau + jets is the most sensitive channel

- lepton + jets challenging!
 - suppress $W \rightarrow l\nu$ using inv mass of b-lep & m_T^H
 - \Rightarrow require b-t association

$$\chi^2 = \frac{(m_{jjb} - m_{\text{top}})^2}{\sigma_{\text{top}}^2} + \frac{(m_{jj} - m_W)^2}{\sigma_W^2}$$



Combined limits on BR 1-5%



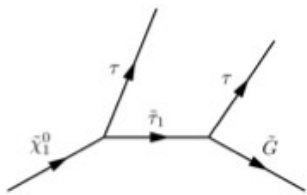
MSSM (m_h^{max}) excluded values of
 $\tan\beta > 13-26$ for $90\text{GeV} < m_{H^+} < 150\text{GeV}$.

SUSY and taus

Jets + MET + at least 1 tau
(CERN-PH-EP-2012-076)

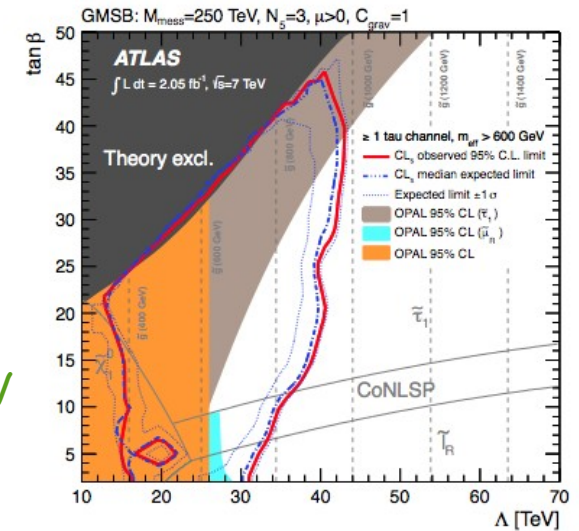
- Taus are important probes of SUSY breaking mechanism
- GMSB : soft SUSY breaking by gauge interactions
- chiral super-multiplets (messengers) couple to ultimate source of SUSY breaking and (s)quarks, (s)leptons, Higgs(inos) of MSSM

Tau production

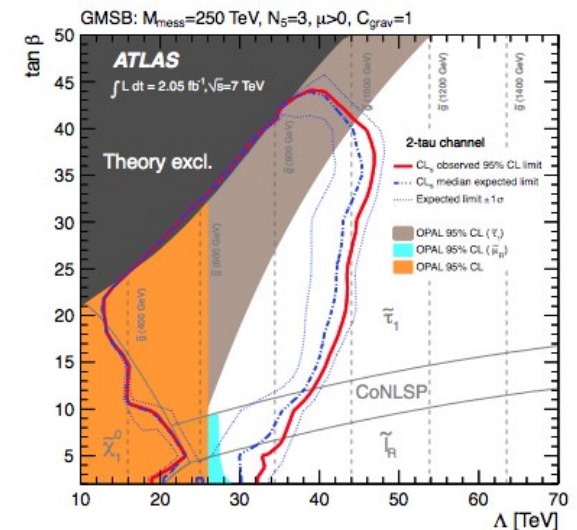


$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\chi}_2^0 &\rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^- \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \\ \tilde{\chi}_1^\pm &\rightarrow \tau^\pm \nu_\tau \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \\ \tilde{\chi}_1^0 &\rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^- \tilde{G}\end{aligned}$$

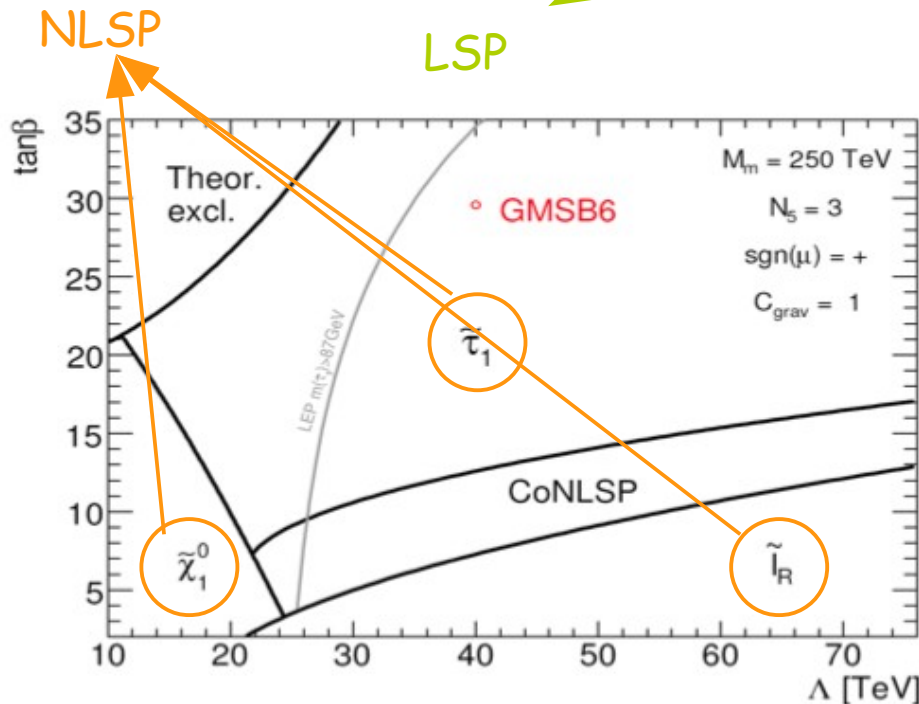
SUSY particles excluded up to breaking scale $\Lambda = 30$ TeV (up to $\Lambda = 43$ TeV for large $\tan \beta$)



Jets + MET + at least 2 taus
(CERN-PH-EP-2012-054)



SUSY particles excluded up to breaking scale $\Lambda = 32$ TeV (up to $\Lambda = 47$ TeV for large $\tan \beta$)



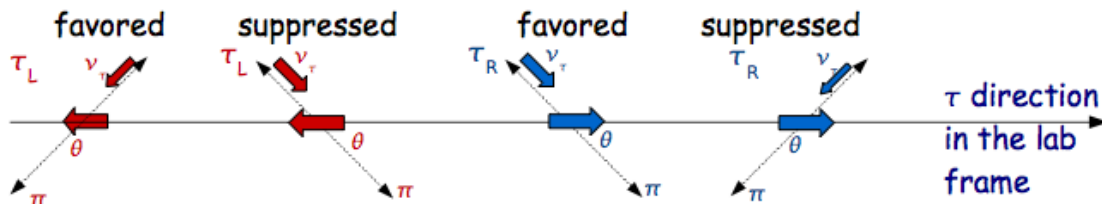
Summary

- Tau leptons are vital probes of new physics in ATLAS
 - Heavy objects may couple preferentially to taus (Higgs, technicolor Z' ,...)
 - The only leptons which provide insight in spin nature of the parent object
 - Decay chains with tau sensitive to SUSY breaking mechanism
- Shown several new results of searches with tau final states
 - No discoveries
 - Most cases limits exceed previous experiments
- Shown first measurement of tau polarization at hadron collider
 - efficacy of the method (& relatively low systematic uncertainty)
confirms potential for future spin measurements using taus
 - the first direct measurement of helicity structure in $W \rightarrow \tau \nu$ events

Back-up slides

How can we measure tau polarization ?

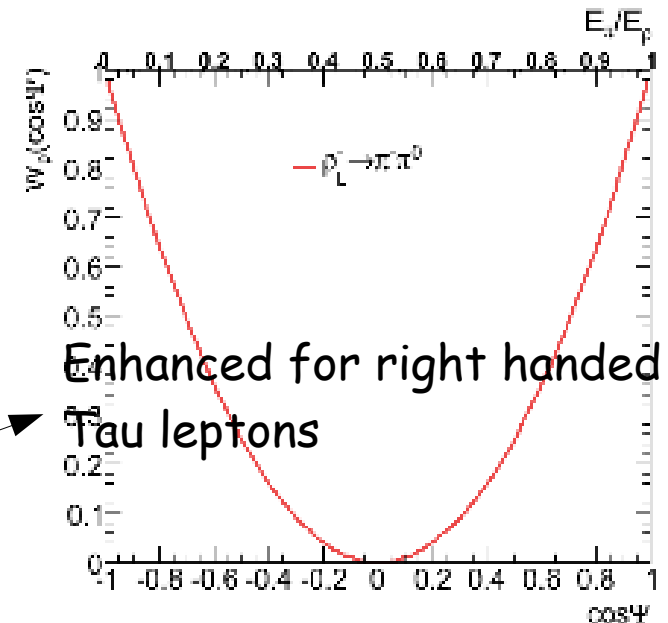
LH taus - soft, RH taus - hard



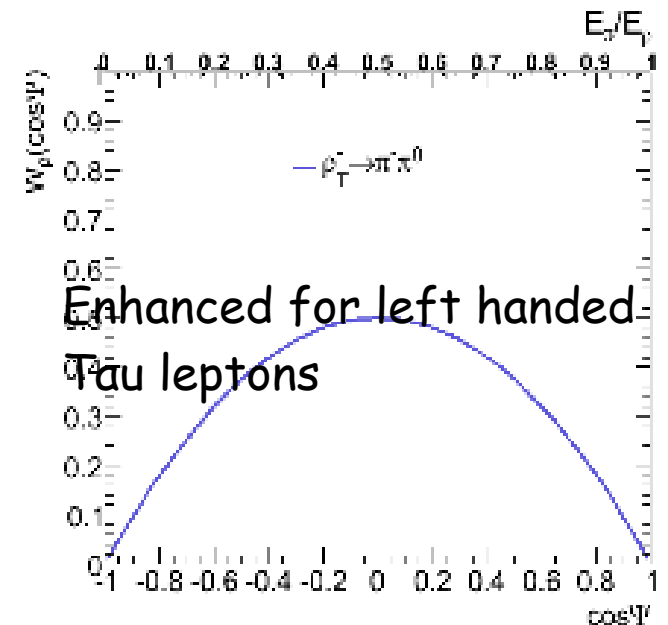
n.a in $W \rightarrow \tau \nu$ decays, $Z/H \rightarrow \tau\tau$ requires tau rest frame (e.g. coll approx)

Explore helicity of rho

$$\cos \psi = \frac{m_\nu}{\sqrt{m_\nu^2 - 4m_\pi^2}} \frac{E_{\pi^-} - E_{\pi^0}}{|\mathbf{p}_{\pi^-} + \mathbf{p}_{\pi^0}|},$$



Enhanced for right handed
Tau leptons



Enhanced for left handed
Tau leptons

Using tau polarization to constrain models

- If parity violation - Z' couples differently to left- and right-handed fermions

Forward - backward asymmetry

$$A_{FB} = (N_F - N_B) / (N_F + N_B)$$

- ✓ Can be measured in all di-lepton final states
- ✗ Difficult to define at symmetric pp collisions
- ✗ Need to be convoluted with PDF's

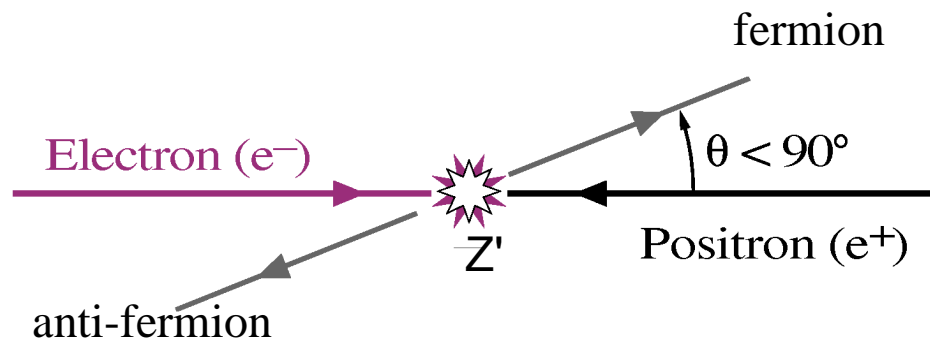
Polarisation asymmetry

$$A_{pol} = (N_L - N_R) / (N_L + N_R) = -P_{\bar{\tau}}$$

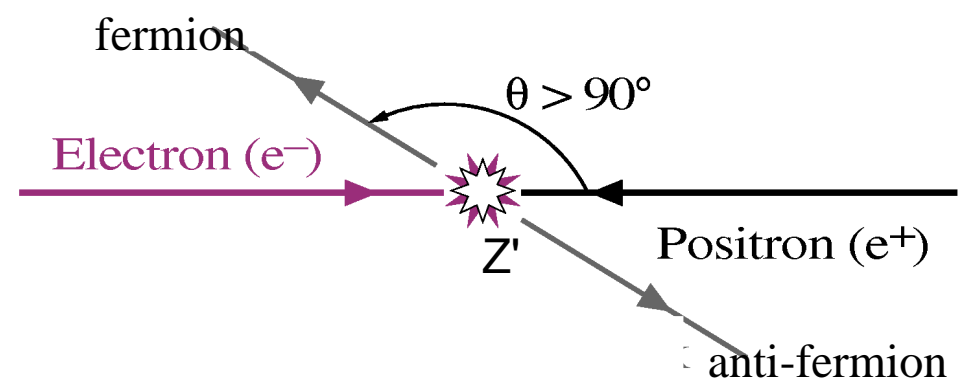
$P_{\bar{\tau}}$ - longitudinal polarisation of tau

- ✗ Only in tau-pair final states (of leptonic)
- ✓ Does not require the knowledge of PDF's

Forward



Backward



- A_{pol} helpful in constraining E_6 model

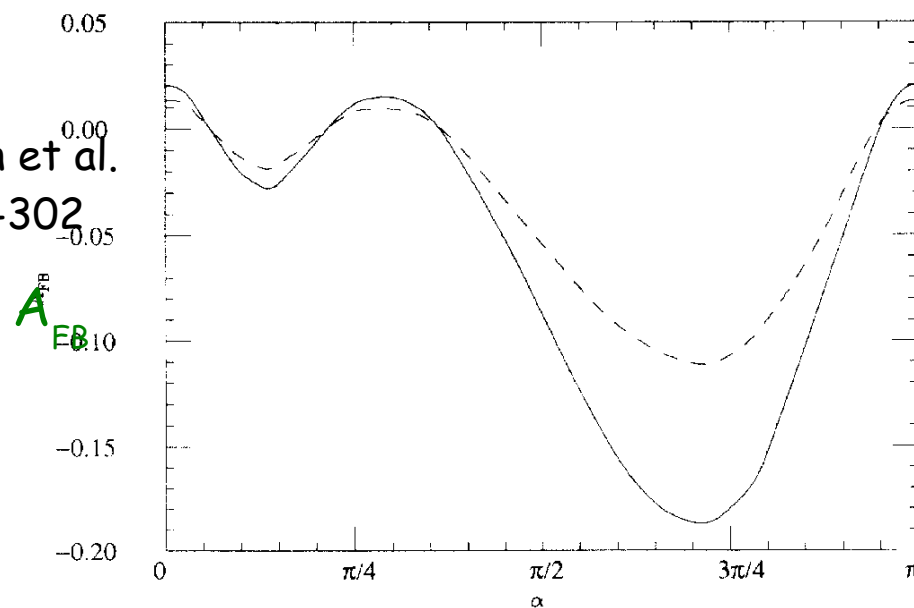
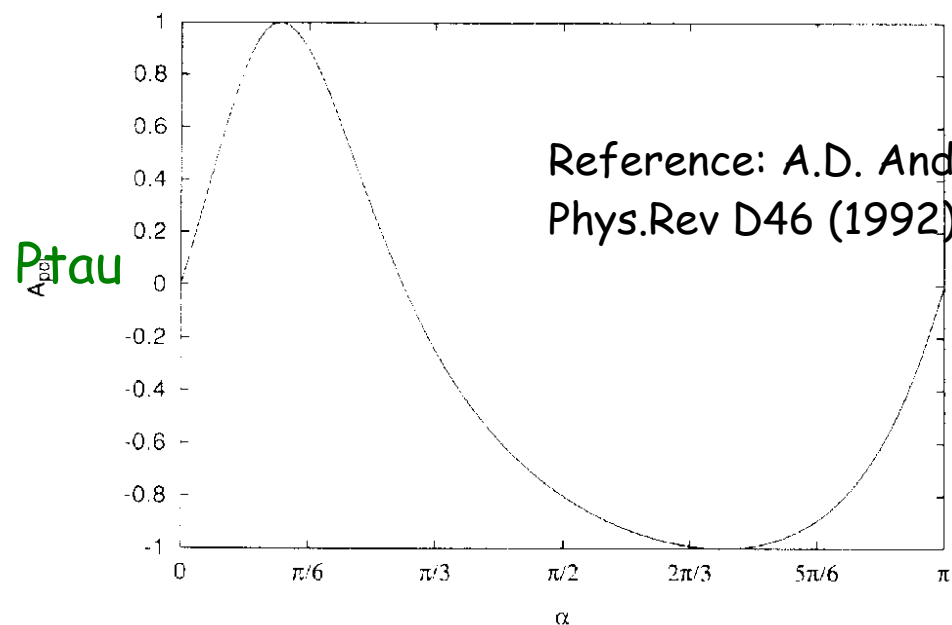
Using tau polarization to constrain models

- E_6 model: two Z' bosons

Linear combination $Z'(\alpha) = Z'_\chi \cos\alpha + Z'_\psi \sin\alpha$

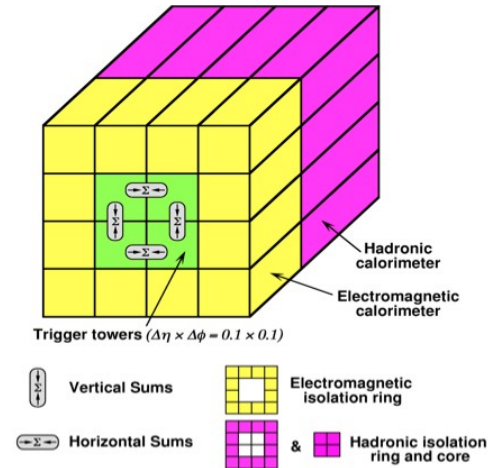
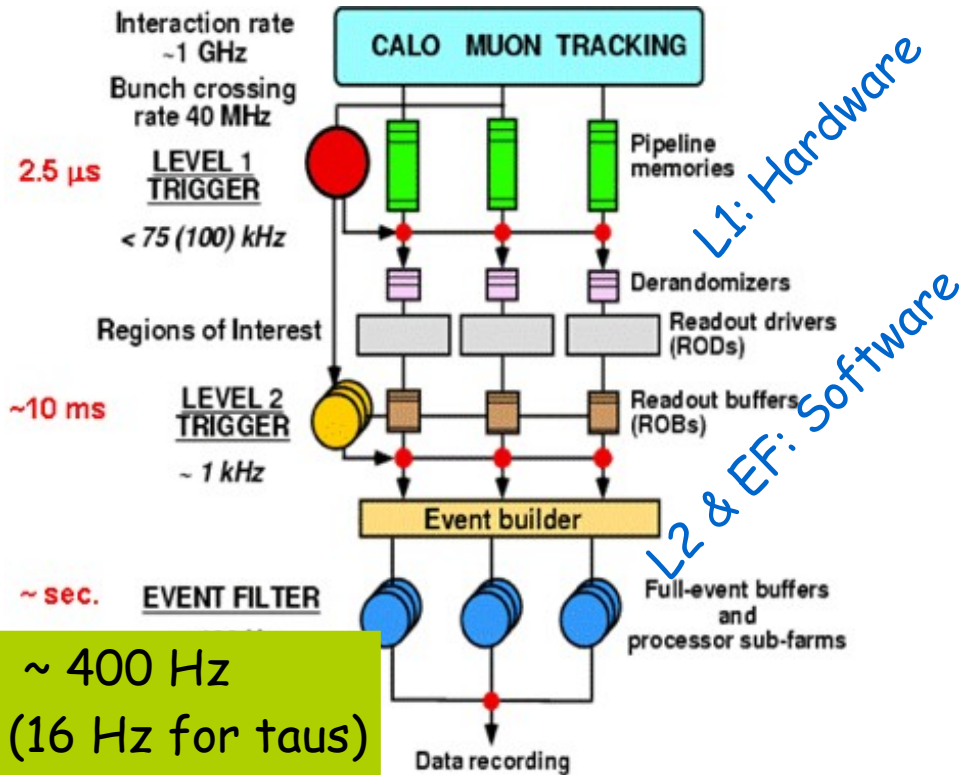
is assumed to have mass $\sim \text{TeV}$ (within the LHC reach)

Parameter α is free and can be constrained by measurement of P_τ and A_{FB}



P_τ provides better determination of α than equally precise measurement of A_{FB}

(Tau) trigger in ATLAS



L1 based on 4x4 array of trigger towers and EM isolation
 L2 adds tracking + higher granularity in the calorimeters
 Applies basic tau shower shape cuts to reject QCD
 EF full event building. Algorithms imitate offline.