

Search for the Higgs boson in the $t\bar{t}H$ production channel using the ATLAS detector



ATLAS
EXPERIMENT

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SUSY 2015

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Higgs boson discovered. Must verify properties!

- Relative rates of production and decay modes
- Coupling to other particles
 - Fermion mass is proportional to this coupling; largest is coupling to top quark

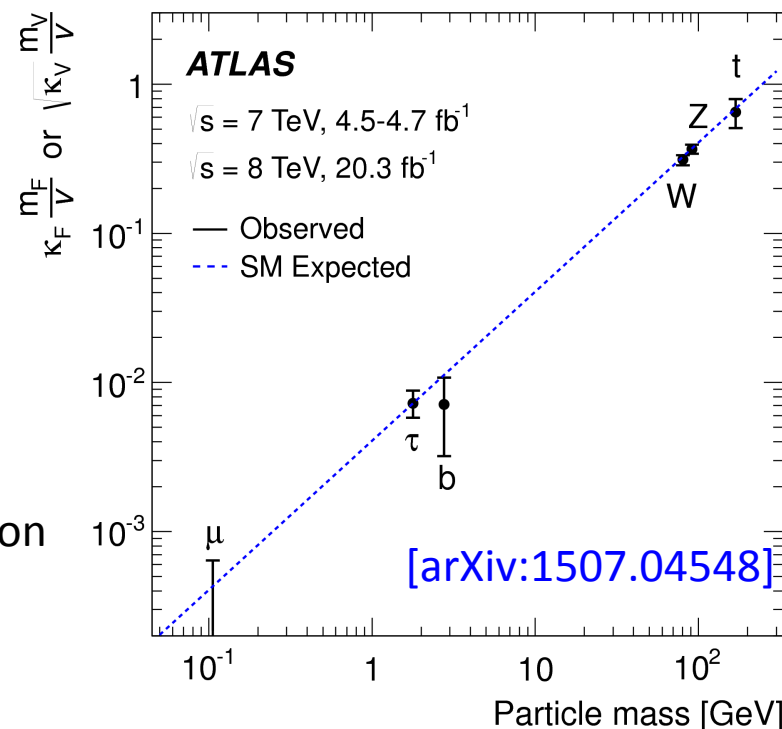
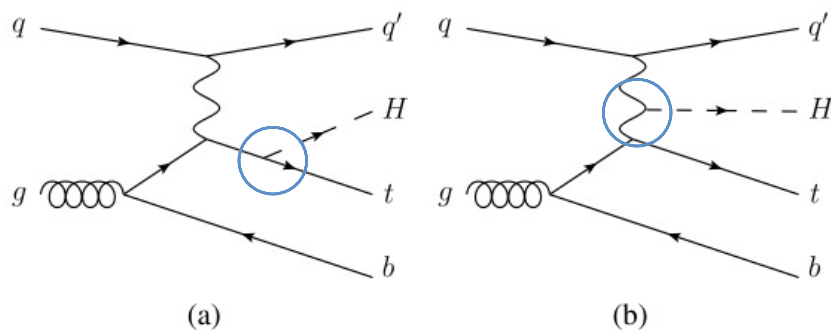
$$Y_X = \sqrt{2} \frac{m_X}{V_H}$$

Measurement of ttH allows direct access to the top Higgs Yukawa coupling

ttH analyses also sensitive to tH

- Sensitive to relative the sign of κ_t given the interference between Y_t and g_{HWW}
- Any deviation from SM will affect tH cross section

$$\sigma(qb \rightarrow tHq') \sim 3.4\kappa_t^2 + 3.56\kappa_w^2 - 5.96\kappa_t\kappa_w$$

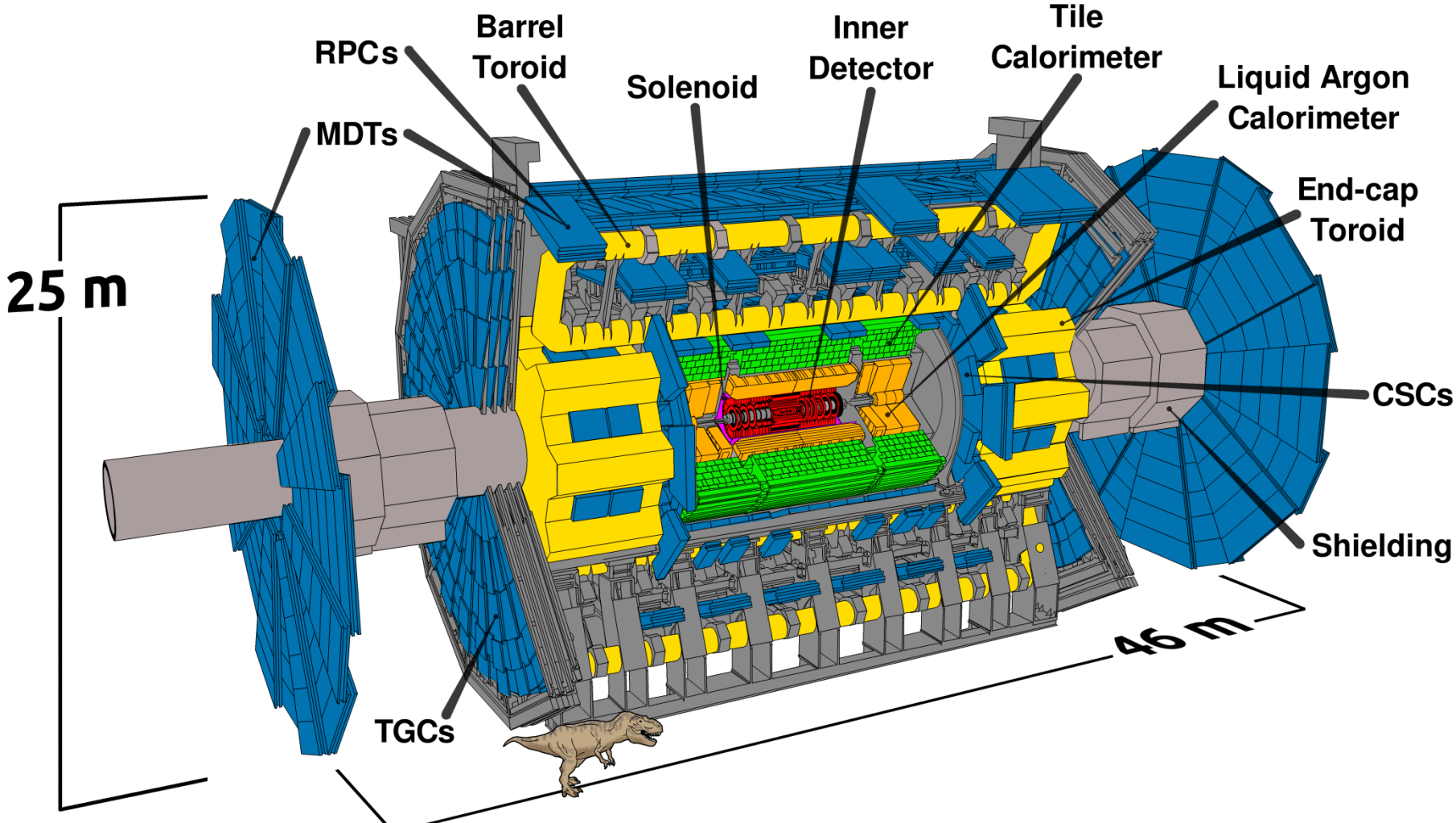


$$Y_t = Y_t^{SM} \kappa_t$$

$$\kappa_X^2 = \frac{\Gamma_{H \rightarrow X}}{\Gamma_{H \rightarrow X}^{SM}}$$



ATLAS:



Analyses are separated by different Higgs decays, which contain several different final state signatures

$t\bar{t}H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ [Eur. Phys. J. C 75 \(2015\) 349](#)

$\mathcal{L} = 20 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ (8 TeV)

Highest branching fraction

But important tbar +heavy/light flavour background

$t\bar{t}H \rightarrow \text{multileptons}$
(WW/ $\tau\tau$ /ZZ)

[ATLAS-HIGG-2013-26](#)
(Accepted by PLB)

$\mathcal{L} = 20 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ (8 TeV)

Good signal purity and good branching ratio

Low statistics

$t\bar{t}H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ [Physics Letters B 740 \(2015\) 222-242](#)

$\mathcal{L} = 25 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ (7 & 8 TeV)

Best mass peak resolution

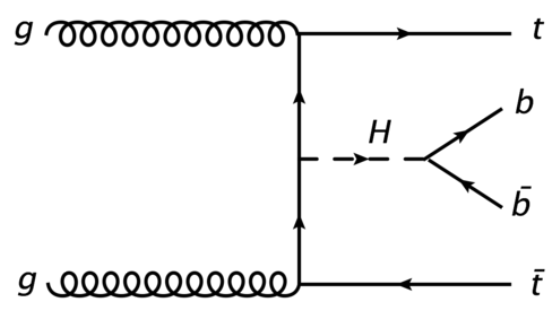
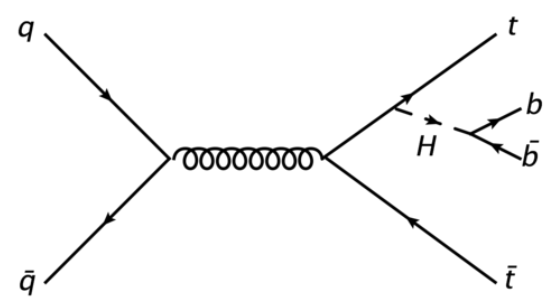
High signal purity
Low statistics
BR(H $\rightarrow\gamma\gamma$)~0.2%

$$\bar{t}tH \rightarrow b\bar{b}$$



Analysis 'channels' according to decay of top quark pair

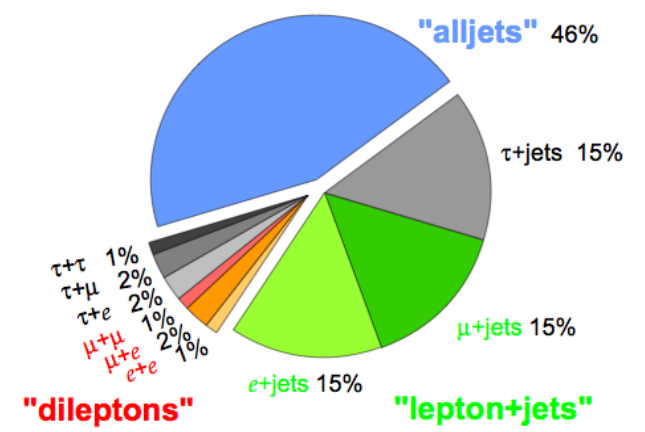
- Dilepton
- Single lepton



Di-lepton:

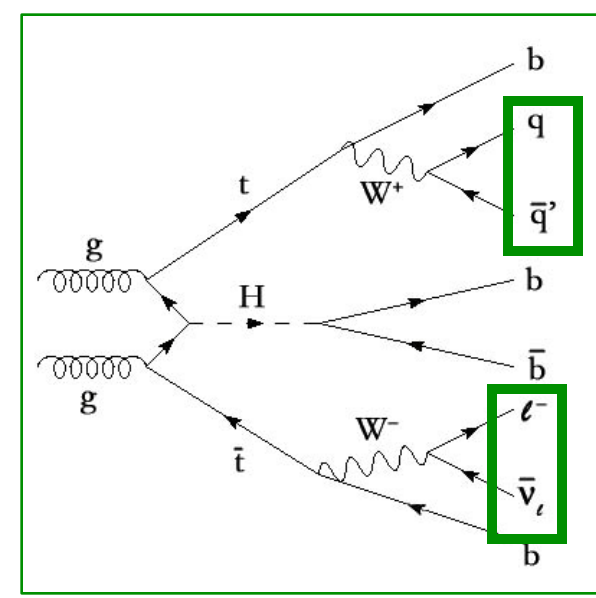
- Both tops decay leptonically
- 4 b jets + 2 lepton

Top Pair Branching Fractions

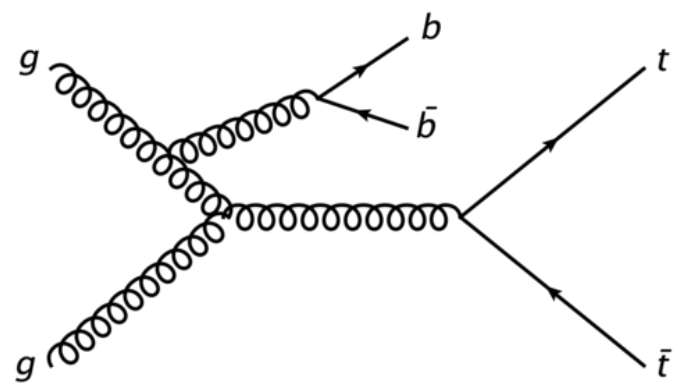


Single lepton:

- One top decays leptonically, the other hadronically
- 6 jets (including 4 b jets) + 1 lepton



Primary background is top pair + b jets (tt+bb)

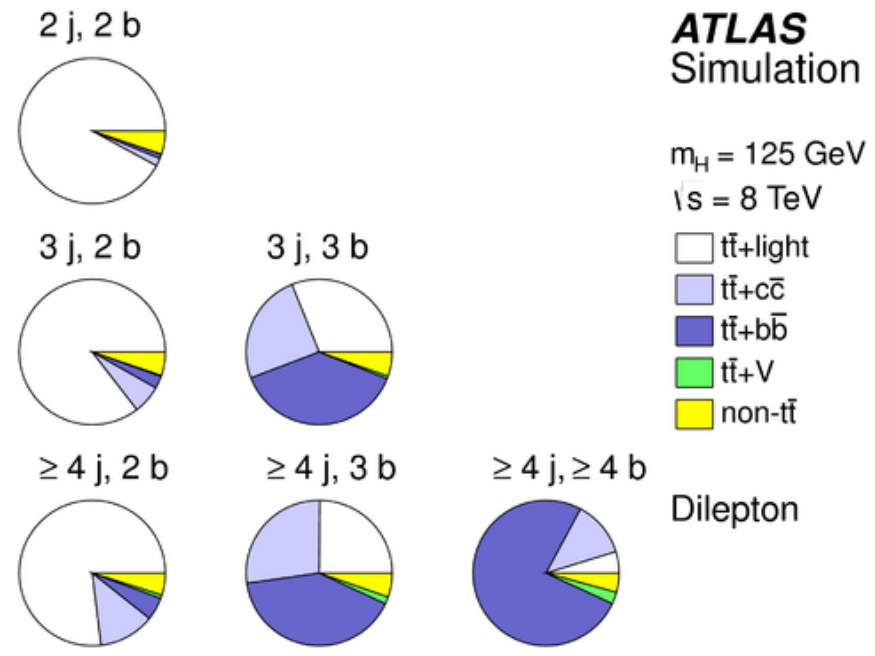


- Identical final state, irreducible background
- Signal vs background discrimination is difficult
- Gluon can also produce light or c quarks
- To enhance sensitivity, categorize events into regions in jet and b-tag multiplicity

$\sigma(ttH)$ at 8 TeV ~ 0.13 pb

$\sigma(ttbb)$ at 8 TeV $\sim \mathcal{O}(12)$ pb

- tt+bb background modeled with Powheg +Pythia 6 (NLO + Parton Shower) reweighted to Sherpa OpenLoops (NLO Matrix Element)

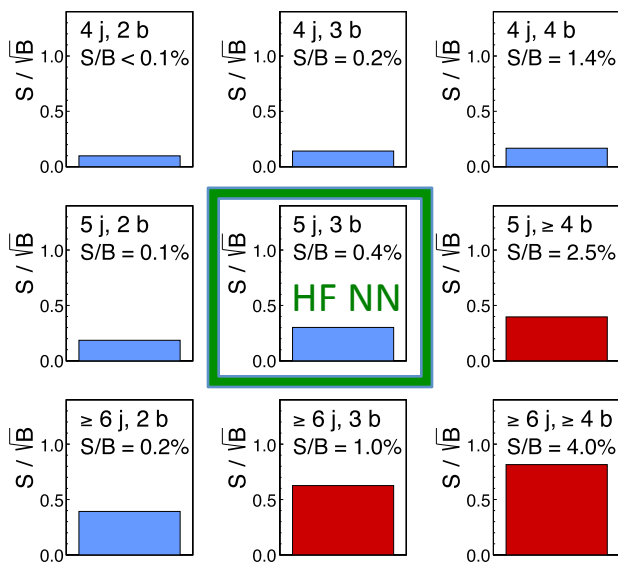


Background composition in Dilepton



ATLAS Simulation
 $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}, 20.3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

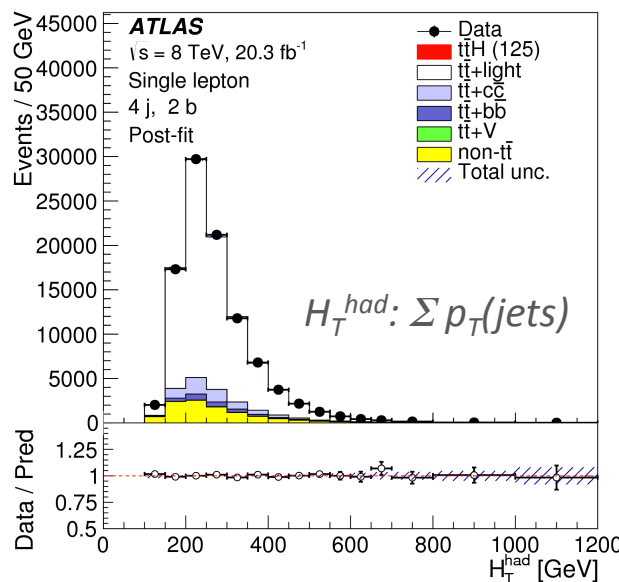
Single lepton
 $m_H = 125 \text{ GeV}$



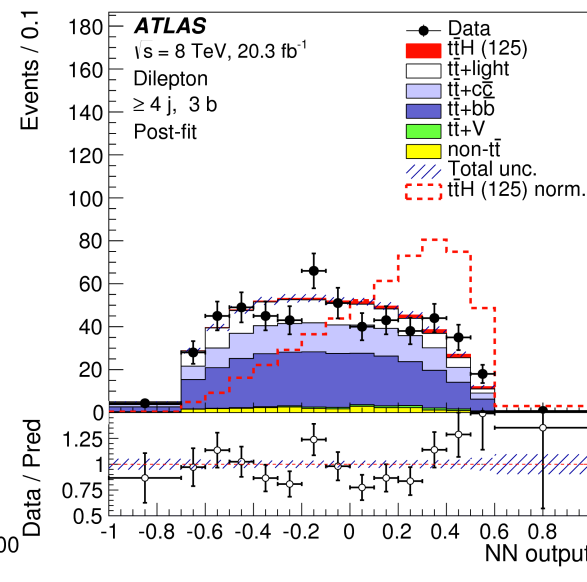
5j 3b region in single lepton channel has a unique network trained to distinguish $t\bar{t} + \text{HF}$ (heavy flavor) from $t\bar{t} + \text{light}$

- S/VB shown for single lepton channel. Red for signal regions and blue for control regions
- Fit signal and control regions simultaneously to reduce impact of systematics in signal region
- Both channels use a neural network discriminant in signal region and H_T variable in control regions

4j 2b in single lepton

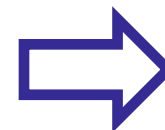
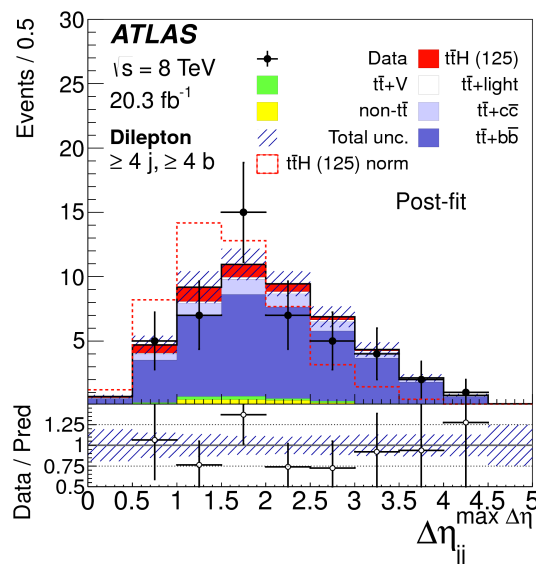
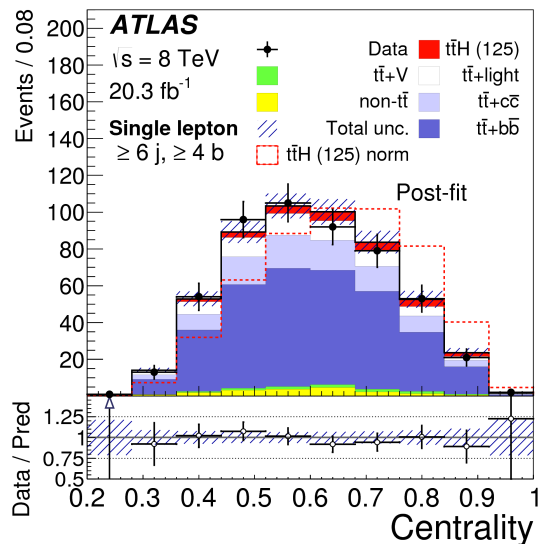


4j 3b in dilepton

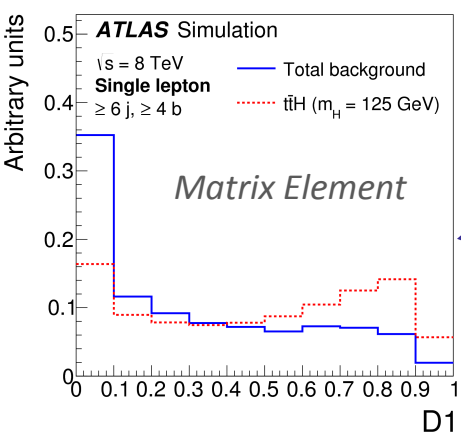
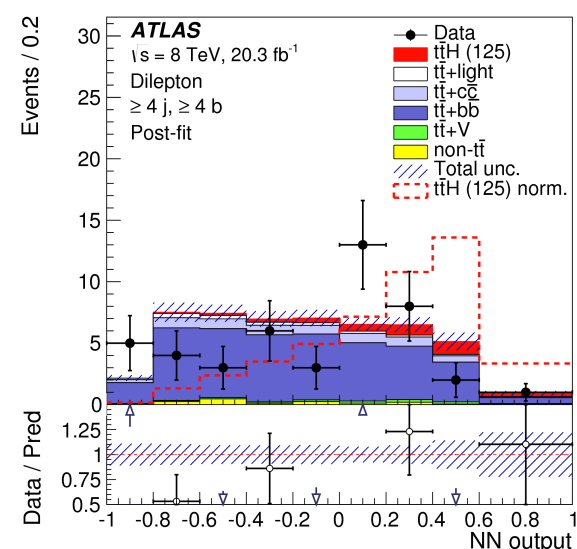
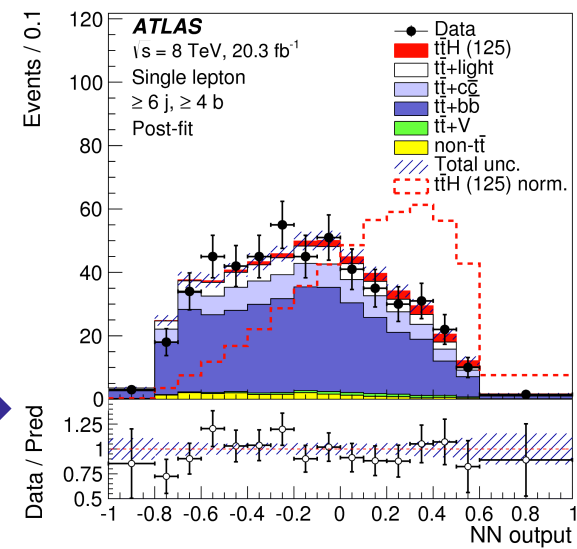


- Use kinematic variables to train network to distinguish signal from background
- Neural networks trained individually in each region
- Variable choice (10 or 12 variables) optimized for each region

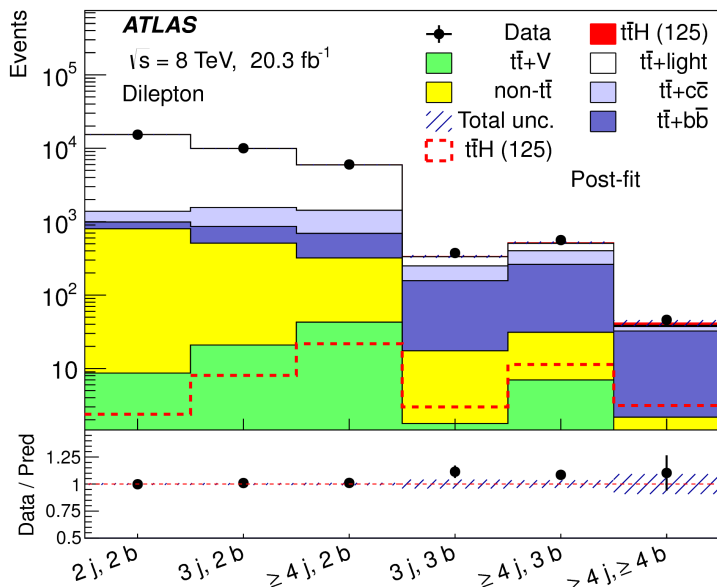
Input Variables:



NN Output:



2 variables from matrix element method added in single lepton channel neural networks



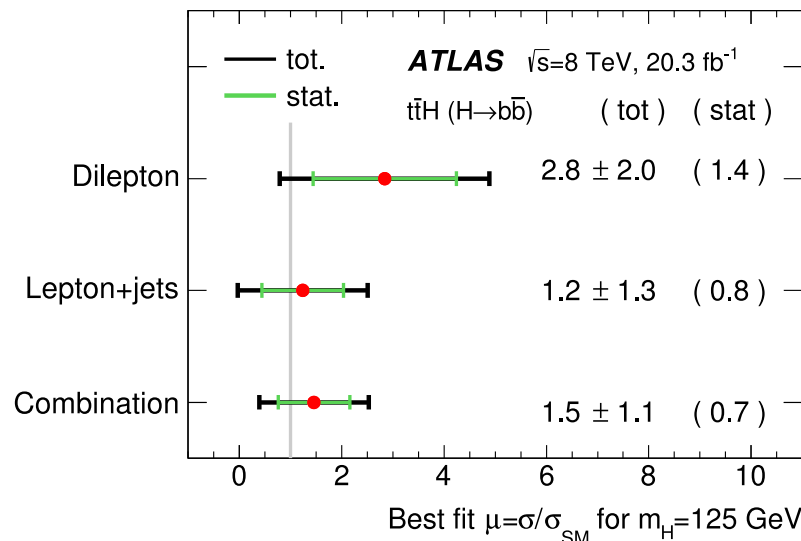
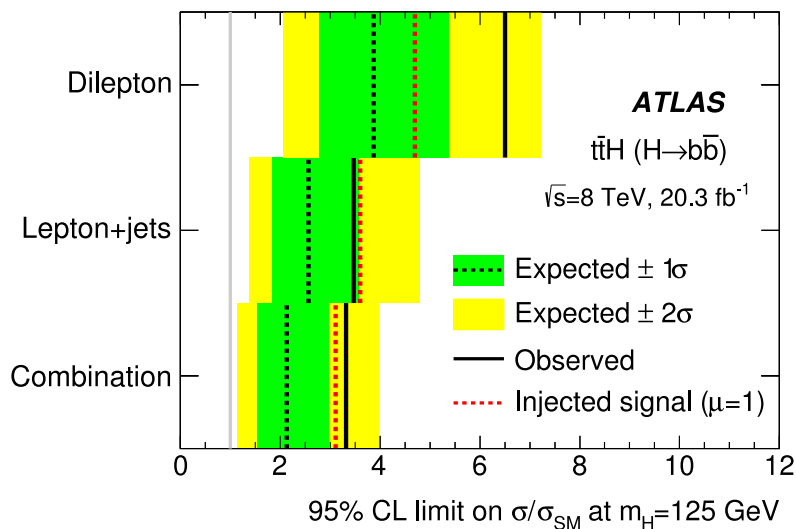
○ Systematics treated as nuisance parameters in profile likelihood fit across all regions

○ Most significant systematics are

1. $tt+bb$ normalization
2. Jet energy scale
3. $tt+cc$ normalization
4. $tt+bb$ renormalization and scale

$\mu_{ttH}(\sigma/\sigma_{SM}) < 3.4 \text{ obs (2.2 exp) @ 95\% CL}$

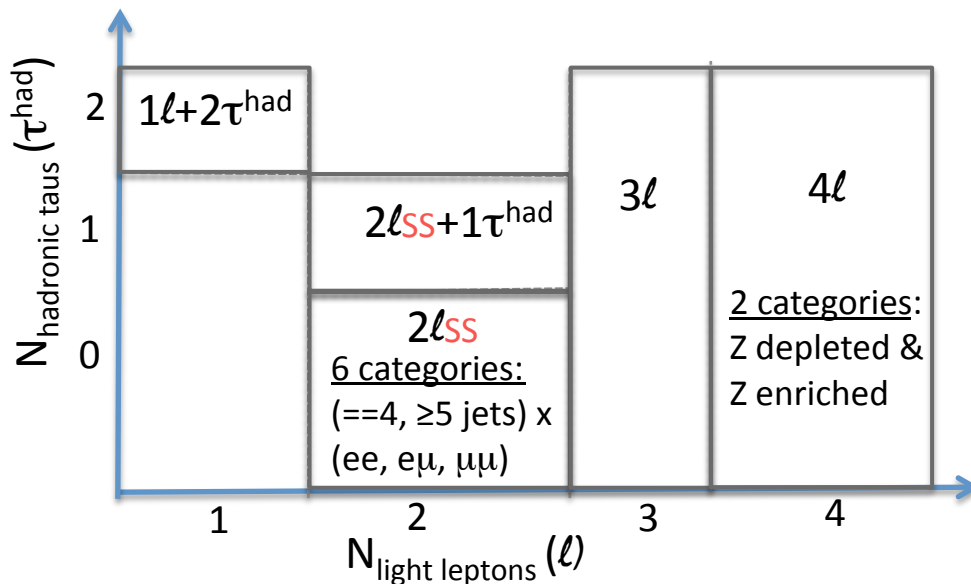
$\mu = 1.5 \pm 1.1$



$t\bar{t}H \rightarrow \text{multileptons}$

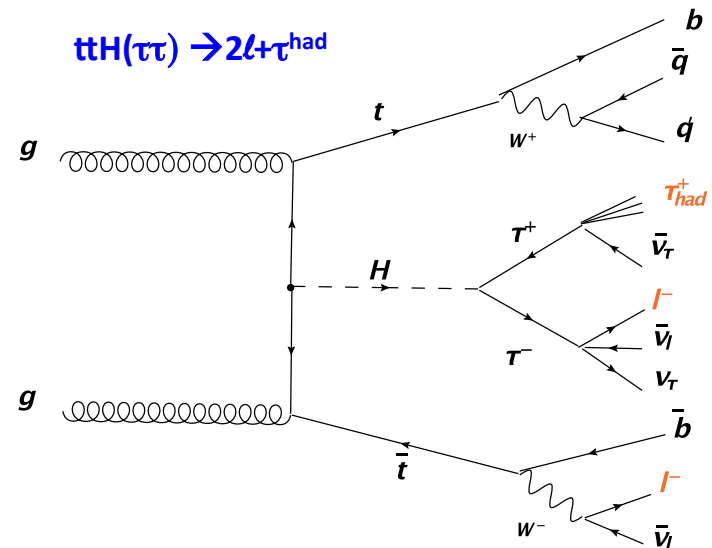


Analysis split into 5 channels in e/μ and tau multiplicity



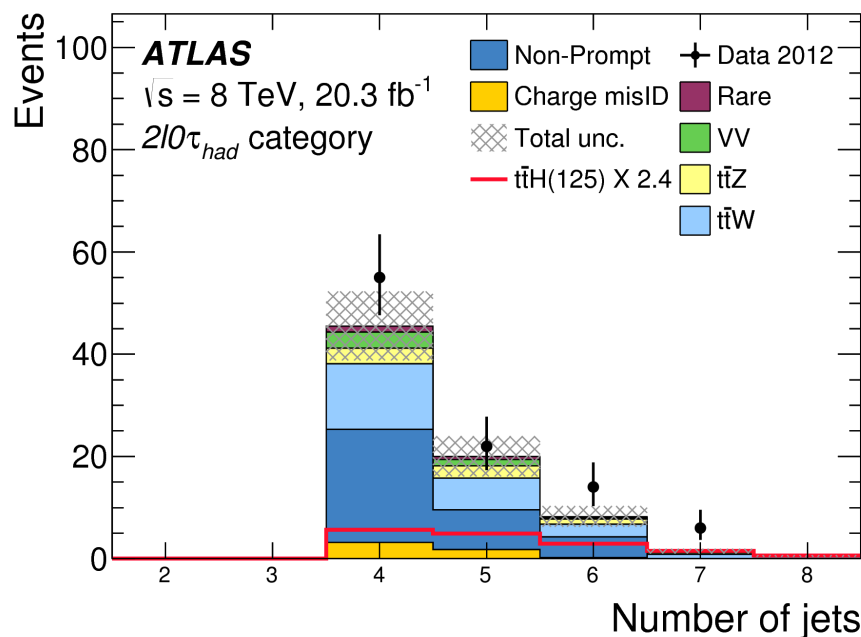
Selection criteria for each channel tuned to maximize sensitivity for various final states, e.g. cuts on # jets, m(OS lepton pairs), # b-tags, etc...

Category	Higgs boson decay mode			
	WW*	ττ	ZZ*	Other
2ℓ0τ _{had}	80%	15%	3%	2%
3ℓ	74%	15%	7%	4%
2ℓ1τ _{had}	35%	62%	2%	1%
4ℓ	69%	14%	14%	4%
1ℓ2τ _{had}	4%	93%	0%	3%



Contributions from leading Higgs decay modes to each channel





Primary Backgrounds:

Irreducible, Estimated from MC:

- $t\bar{t}W, t\bar{t}Z$
- Diboson

Reducible, data driven:

- Non-prompt leptons
- Charge mis-identification

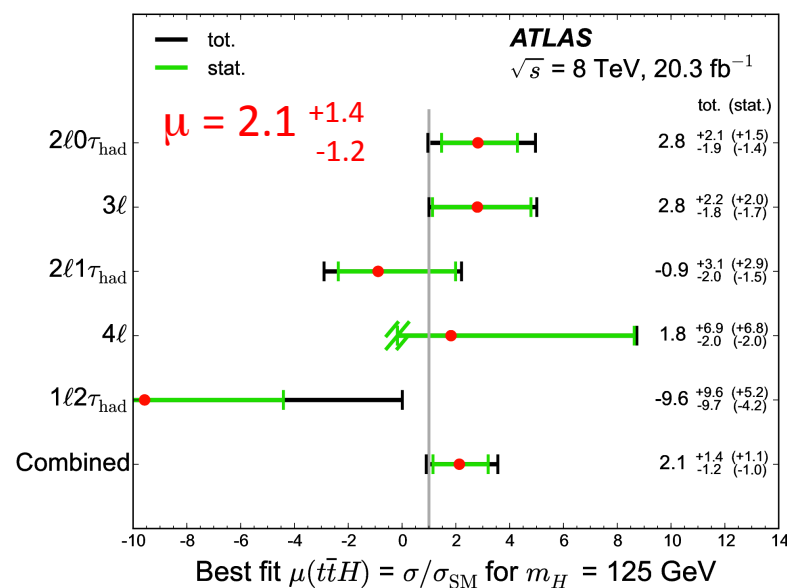
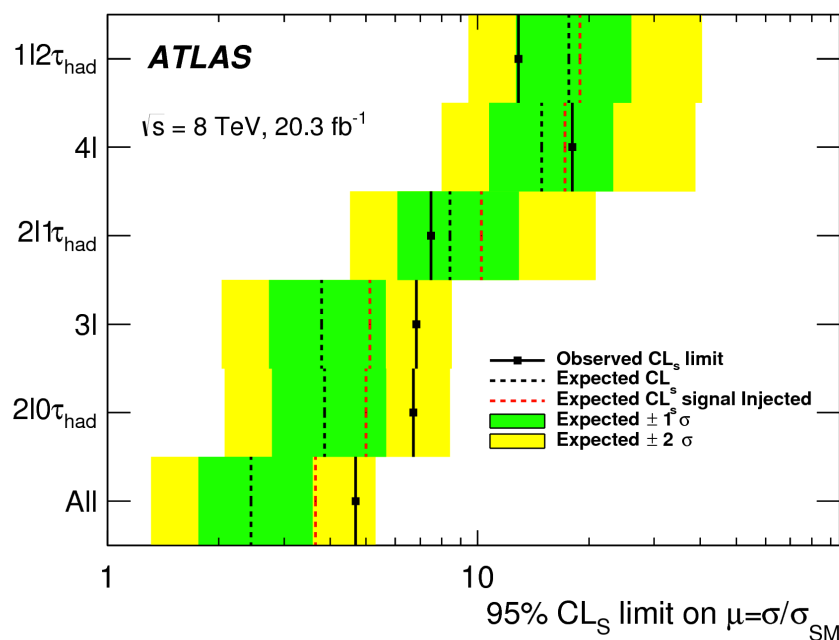
Leading systematic uncertainties and impact on μ :

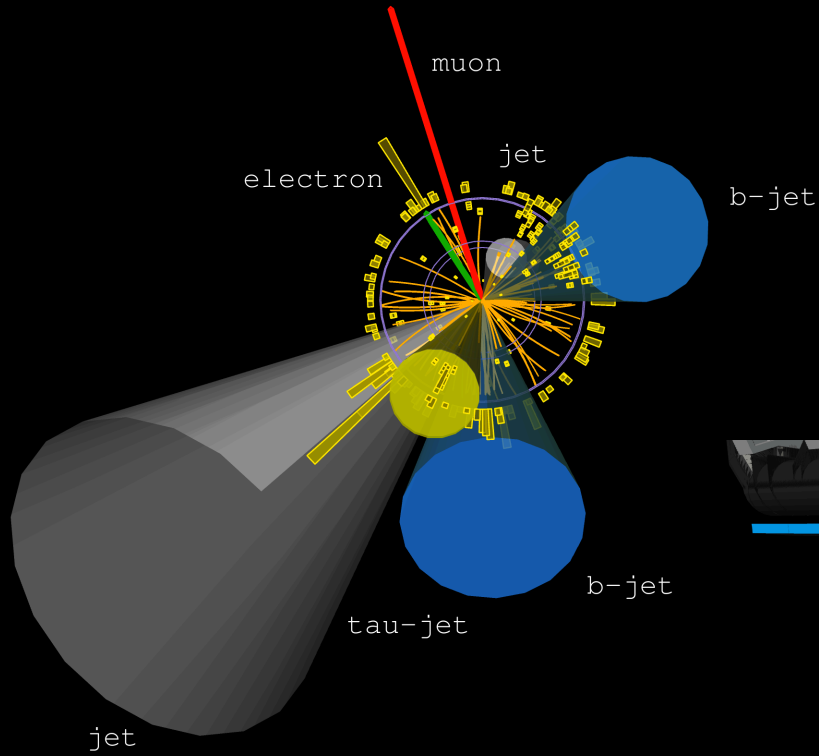
Source	$\Delta\mu$	
$2l0\tau_{had}$ non-prompt muon transfer factor	+0.38	-0.35
$t\bar{t}W$ acceptance	+0.26	-0.21
$t\bar{t}H$ inclusive cross section	+0.28	-0.15
Jet energy scale	+0.24	-0.18
$2l0\tau_{had}$ non-prompt electron transfer factor	+0.26	-0.16
$t\bar{t}H$ acceptance	+0.22	-0.15
$t\bar{t}Z$ inclusive cross section	+0.19	-0.17
$t\bar{t}W$ inclusive cross section	+0.18	-0.15
Muon isolation efficiency	+0.19	-0.14
Luminosity	+0.18	-0.14

Background enriched control regions
are used to verify modeling

Channel	SM Higgs	Backgrounds	Data
$2\ell SS+0\tau^{\text{had}}$	6.6 ± 1.4	77 ± 13	98
3ℓ	2.34 ± 0.32	11.4 ± 3.1	18
$2\ell SS+1\tau^{\text{had}}$	0.47 ± 0.02	1.4 ± 0.6	1
4ℓ	0.20 ± 0.01	0.55 ± 0.17	1
$1\ell+2\tau^{\text{had}}$	0.68 ± 0.07	16 ± 6	10

$\mu_{t\bar{t}H}(\sigma/\sigma_{\text{SM}}) < 4.7$ obs (2.4 exp) @ 95% CL



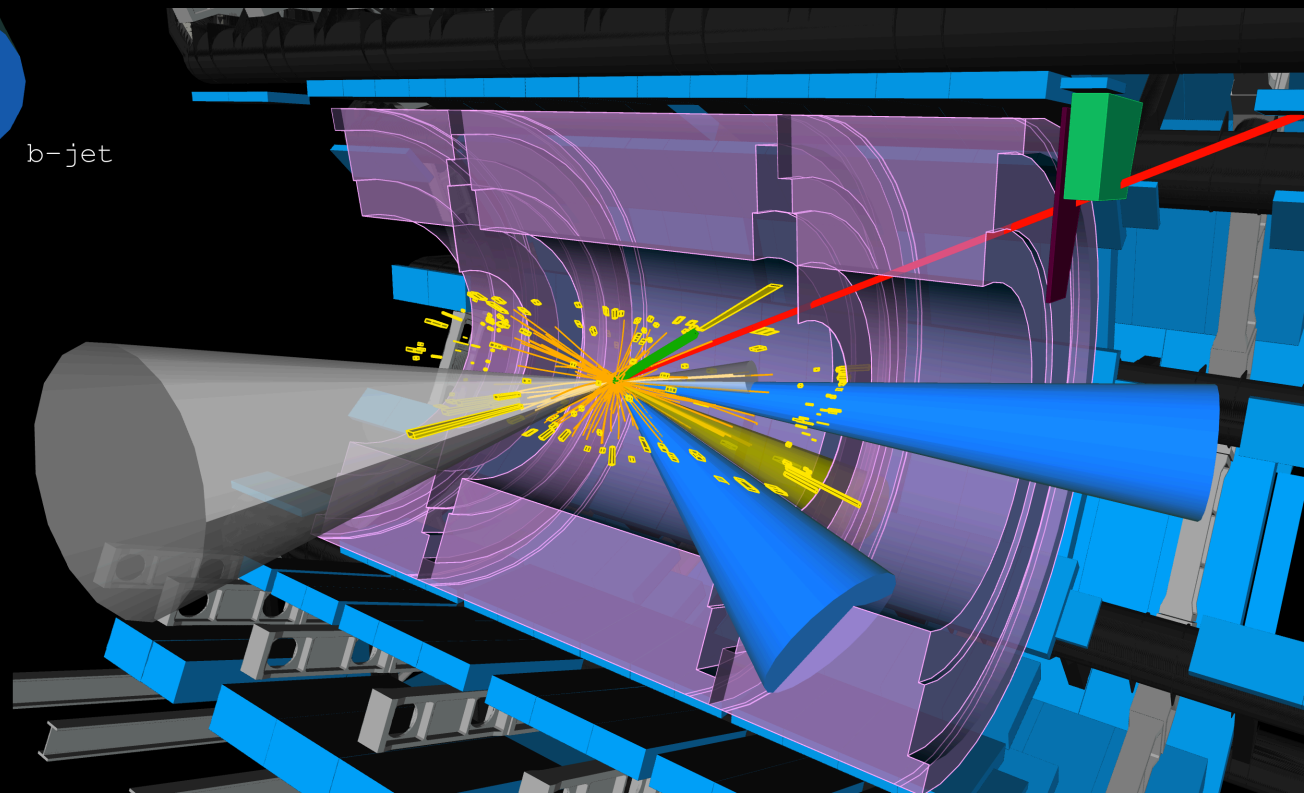


ATLAS
EXPERIMENT
<http://atlas.ch>

Run: 205016

Event: 24402934

2012-06-15 04:26:56 CEST



single 2l+tau candidate event

$$t\bar{t}H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$



H -> $\gamma\gamma$ also split into channels according to top pair decay:

Leptonic (Single lepton and Di-lepton included)

- Cuts are chosen to retain some sensitivity to tH

Hadronic (Both tops decay hadronically)

Overall strategy is to fit sideband for background shape of $M_{\gamma\gamma}$, then fit signal on top

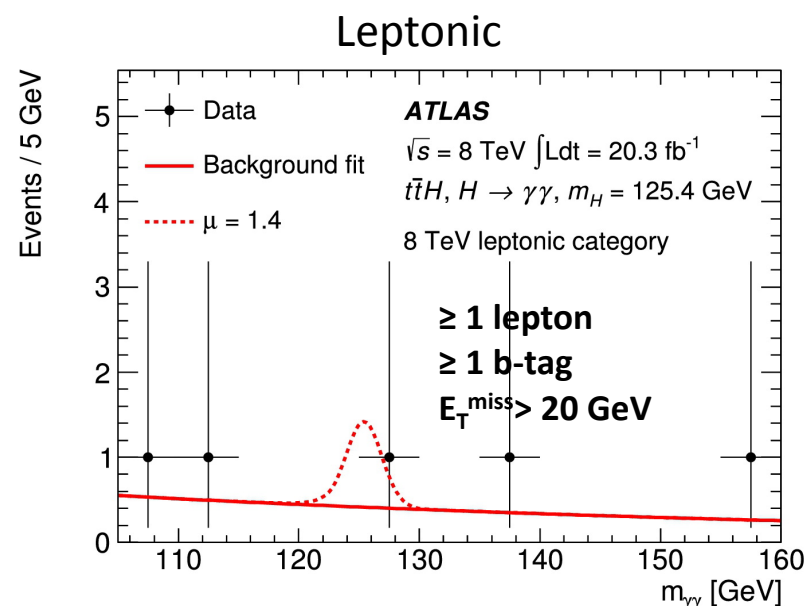
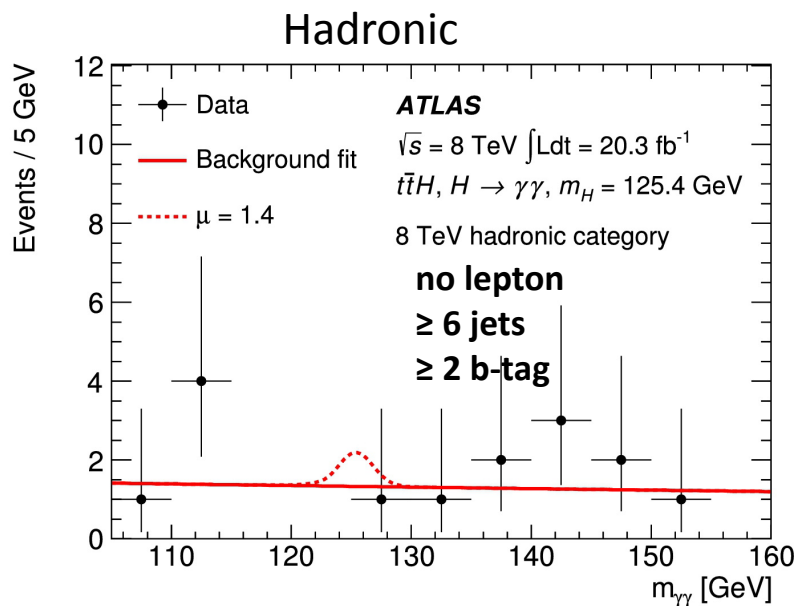
Expected number of events
for $M_H = 125.4$ GeV
after event selection – **Total = 1.3**

Background integral in
signal region (120-130)
determined from S+B
unbinned fit to the
range 105-160 GeV
Total = $4.6^{+1.3}_{-0.9}$

Category	N_H	ggF	VBF	WH	ZH	$t\bar{t}H$	$tHqb$	WtH	N_B
7 TeV leptonic selection	0.10	0.6	0.1	14.9	4.0	72.6	5.3	2.5	$0.5^{+0.5}_{-0.3}$
7 TeV hadronic selection	0.07	10.5	1.3	1.3	1.4	80.9	2.6	1.9	$0.5^{+0.5}_{-0.3}$
8 TeV leptonic selection	0.58	1.0	0.2	8.1	2.3	80.3	5.6	2.6	$0.9^{+0.6}_{-0.4}$
8 TeV hadronic selection	0.49	7.3	1.0	0.7	1.3	84.2	3.4	2.1	$2.7^{+0.9}_{-0.7}$

Expected percentages of non-ttH contamination (largest source of systematic uncertainty)





Limit:

$\mu_{t\bar{t}H} < 6.7 \text{ obs (4.9 exp) @ 95\% CL}$

Measured μ :

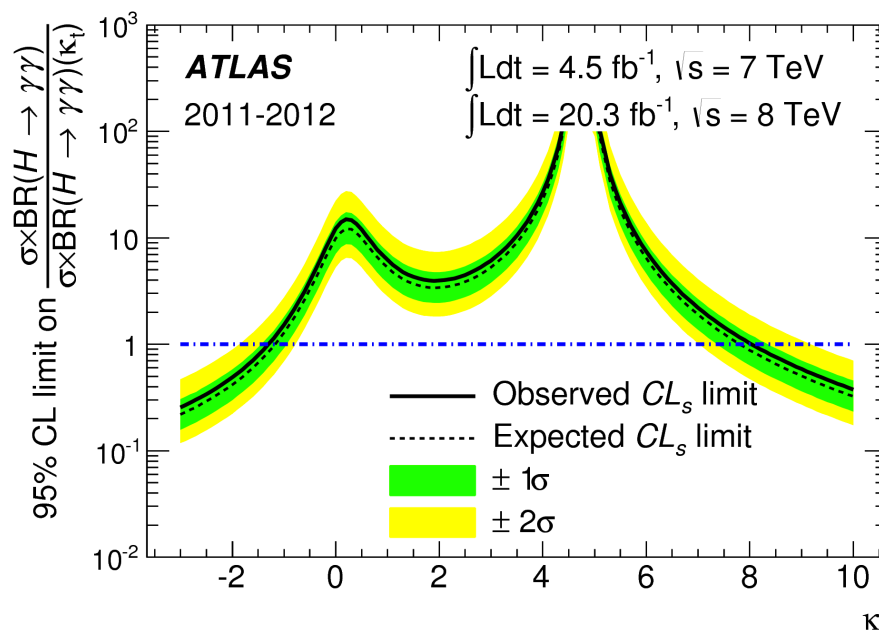
$\mu = 1.3^{+2.5}_{-1.7}(\text{stat.})^{+0.8}_{-0.4}(\text{syst.})$

Also sets limits on strength of top Yukawa coupling, κ_t :



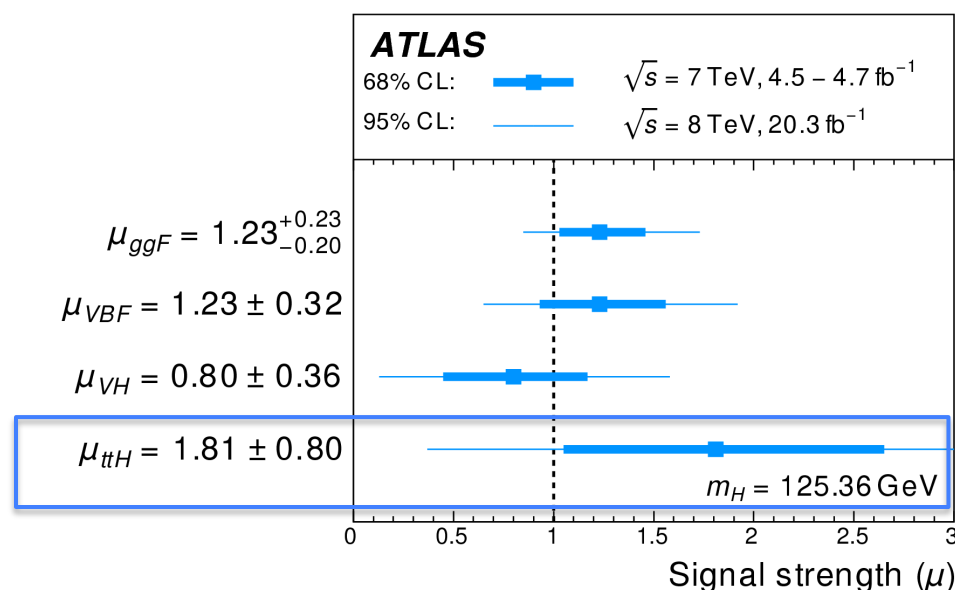
$-1.3 < \kappa_t < +8.0 \text{ @ 95\% CL}$

Total $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ cross section as function of κ_t :



With Run I Data, ATLAS has set limits and measurements on the Higgs boson produced in association with a top quark pair through 3 channels:

- $ttH \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$: $\mu < 6.7$ obs (4.9 exp);
- $ttH \rightarrow bb$: $\mu < 3.4$ obs (2.2 exp);
- $ttH \rightarrow$ leptons: $\mu < 4.7$ obs (2.4 exp);



Combined fitted result for ttH production is $\mu = 1.81 \pm 0.80$

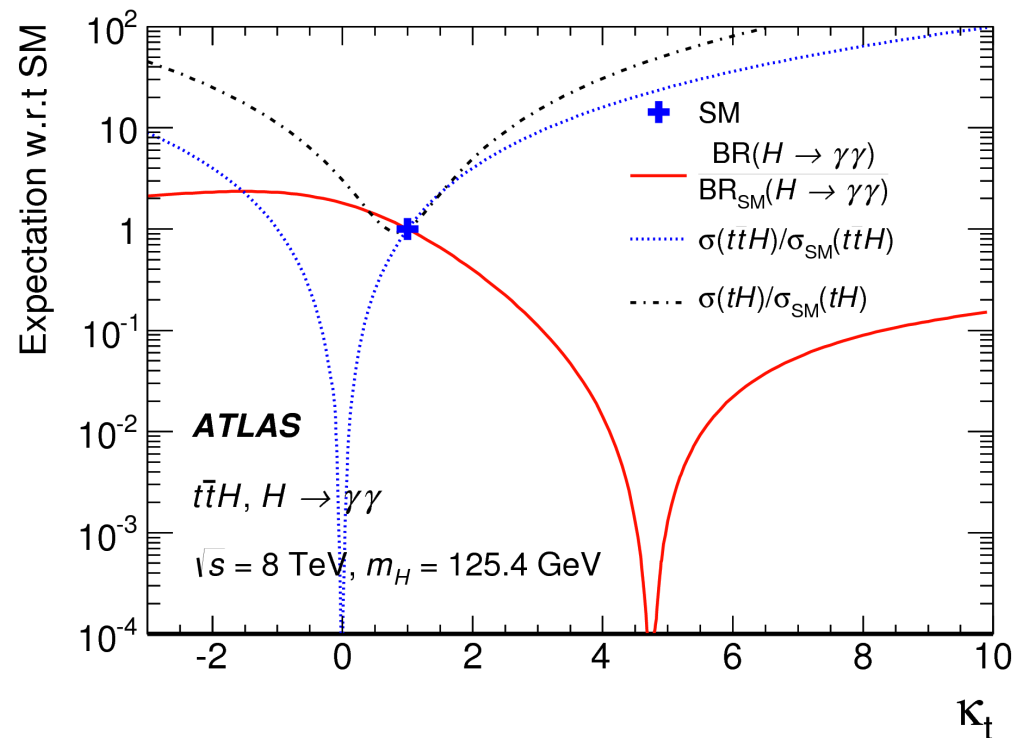
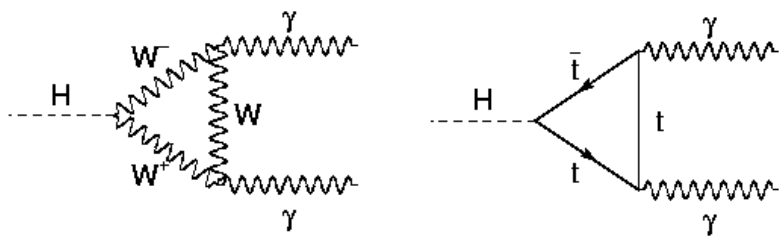
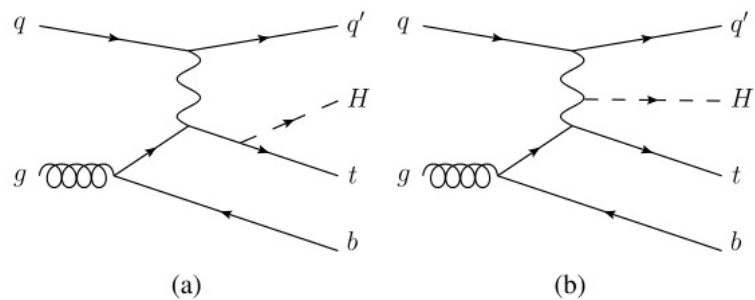
From 8 to 13 TeV:

Increase in $\sigma(ttH) \sim 4$

Increase in $\sigma(tt) \sim 3.3$







For $k_t = 0$ process is turned off, and the top quark contribution to $t\bar{t}H$ production and to the loop-induced $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ decay is removed, leaving mainly the contribution from W bosons.

Cancellations of the contributions of top quarks and W bosons to the loop-induced $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ decay lead to a minimum of the $BR(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ around a value of $k_t = +4.7$.



Higgs Production mechanisms

(single top processes discussed later)

