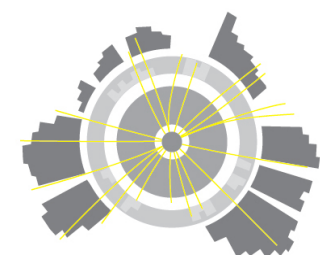




Search for Lepton Flavour Violation with the **ATLAS** detector

Brian Le

University of Melbourne
on behalf of the **ATLAS** collaboration



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ARC Centre of Excellence for
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Introduction

In SM, LFV is highly suppressed.

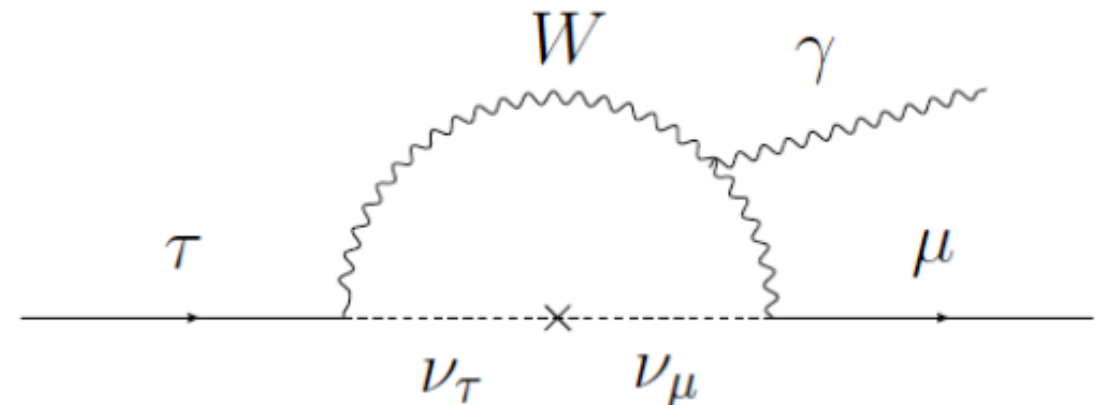
Many BSM models predict LFV in some manner (e.g 2HDM, Randall-Sundrum, composite Higgs)

Direct decays of leptons ($\ell \rightarrow \ell' \gamma$, $\ell \rightarrow 3\ell'$) measured with precision experiments.

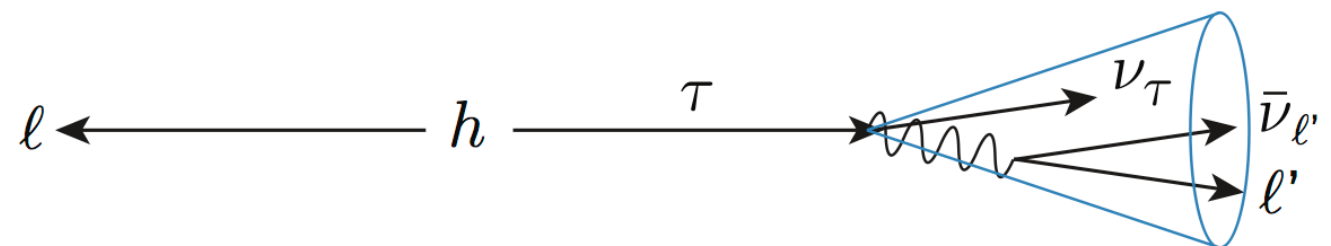
ATLAS can probe more specific couplings than these broader searches.

Main searches are neutral boson decays (focus on τ decay). Also in top quark decays (NEW) and $\tau \rightarrow 3\mu$ (see Matteo's poster).

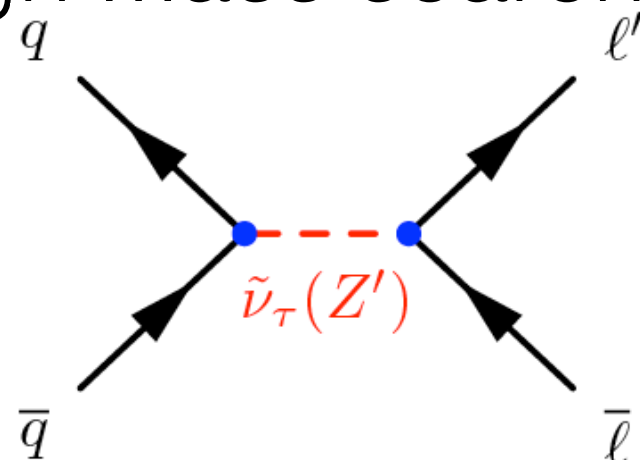
Low energy (precision)



H/Z searches



High Mass searches



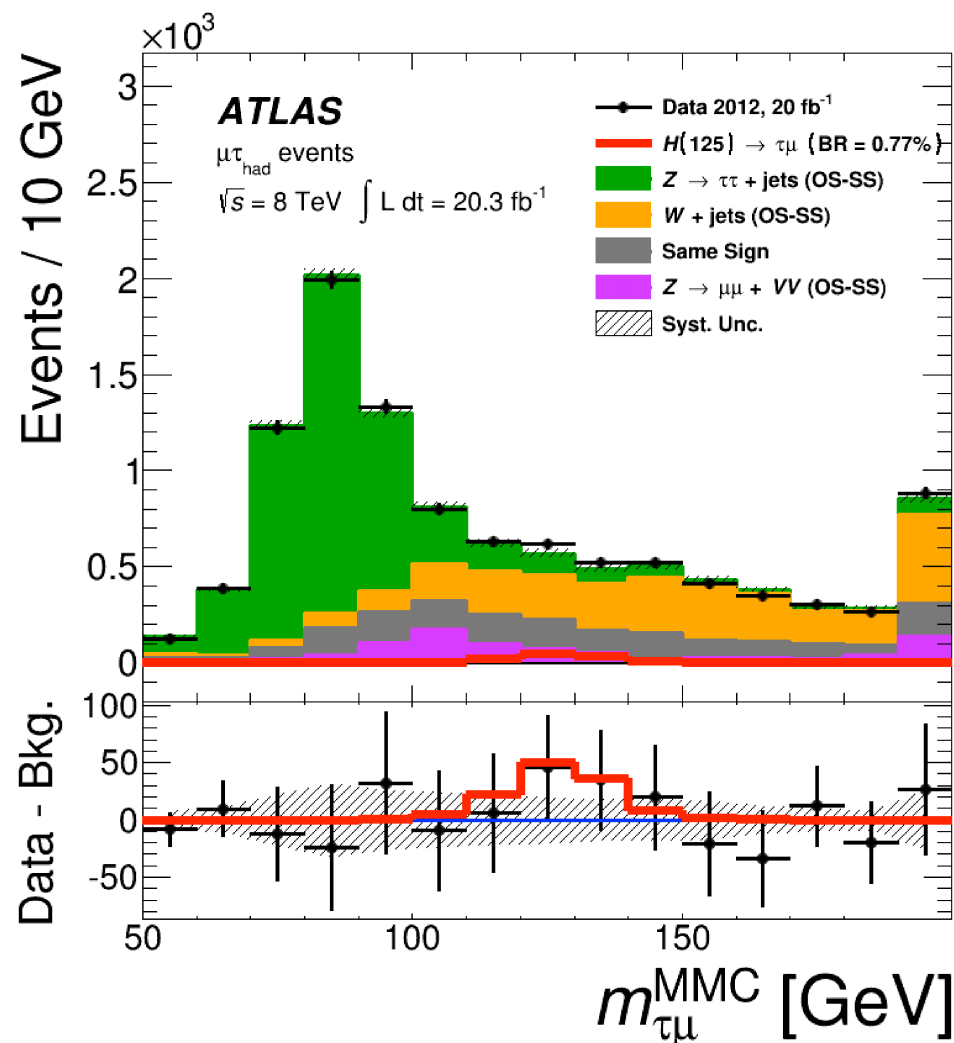
Summary

- We have a new measurement for Z decays (incl. $e\tau$) with 13 TeV data
- Also updated High Mass result with 13 TeV dataset
- Higgs results still under study (but we are working hard to get results public)
- New measurement involving top quark decays ([ATLAS-CONF-2018-044](#))

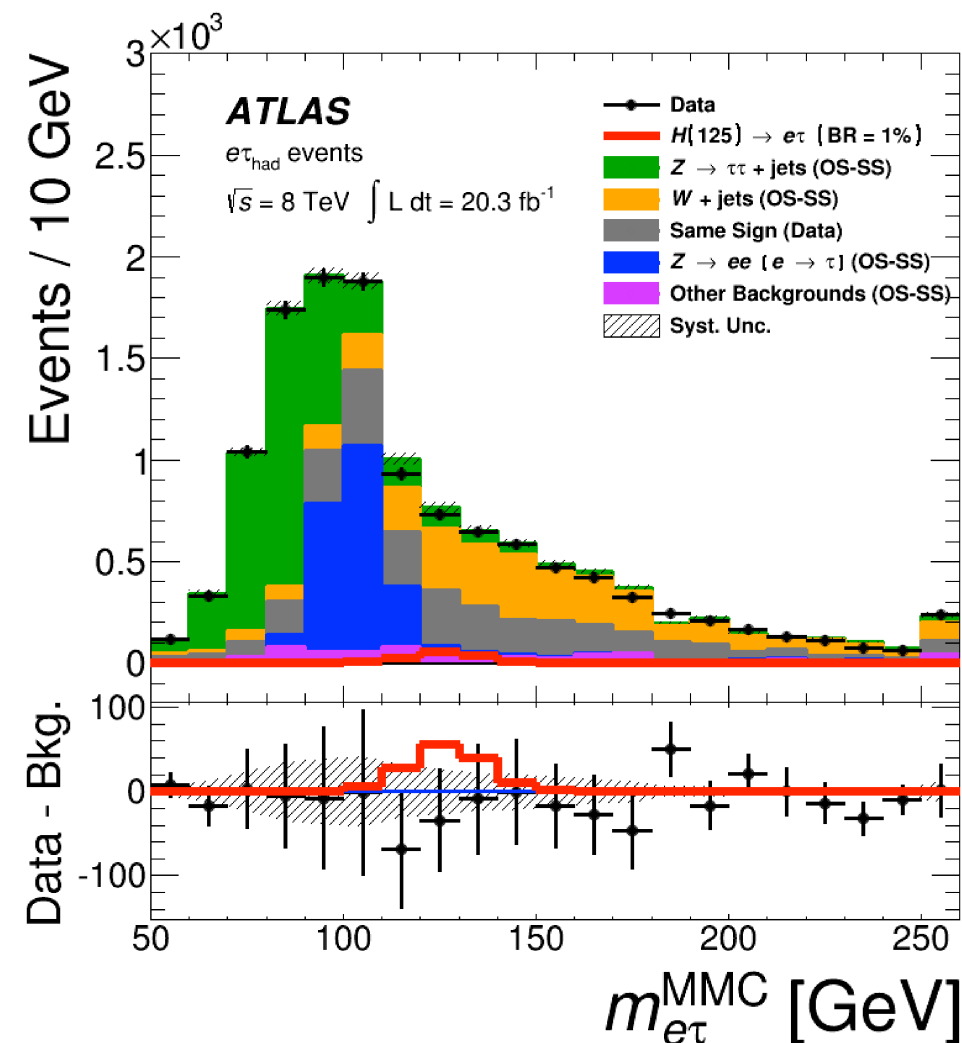
		Higgs boson	Z boson	High Mass
8 TeV	$e\tau$	<u>1604.07730</u> 1.04%	-	<u>1503.04430</u>
	$\mu\tau$	<u>1508.03372 & 1604.07730</u> 1.43%	<u>1604.07730</u> 1.69×10^{-5}	
13 TeV	$e\tau$	In progress	<u>1804.09568</u> 5.8×10^{-5}	<u>1807.06573</u>
	$\mu\tau$		<u>1804.09568</u> 1.3×10^{-5}	

Higgs boson decays (8 TeV)

- Higgs boson decays sensitive to new Yukawa type couplings
- Search in all $e\tau$, $\mu\tau$ modes (leptonic and hadronic decays)
- Signal separated per channel (not necessarily correlated)
- Hadronic channel major backgrounds:
 - SM $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ decays
 - Misidentified τ_{had} candidates



$\mu\tau$



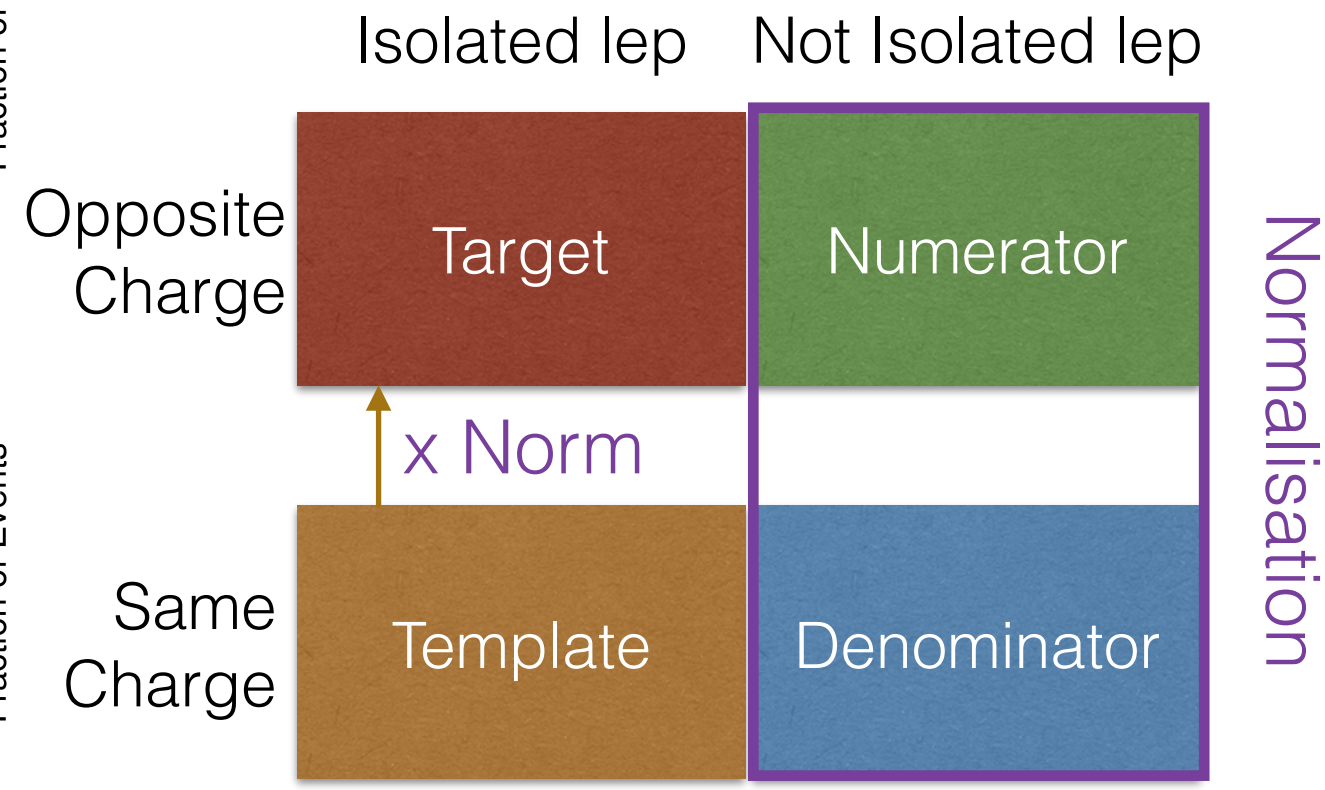
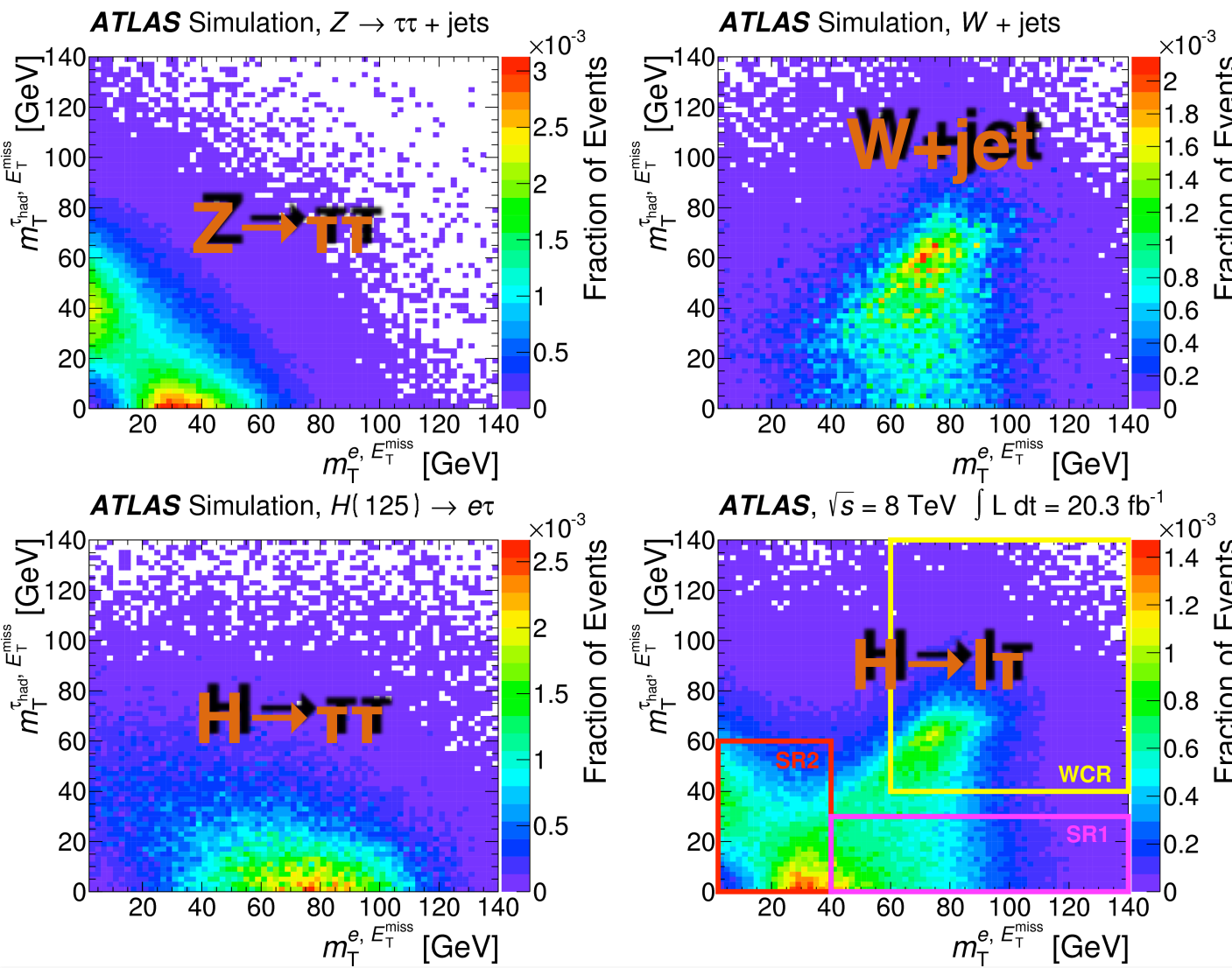
$e\tau$



$H \rightarrow l\tau_{\text{had}}$ decays

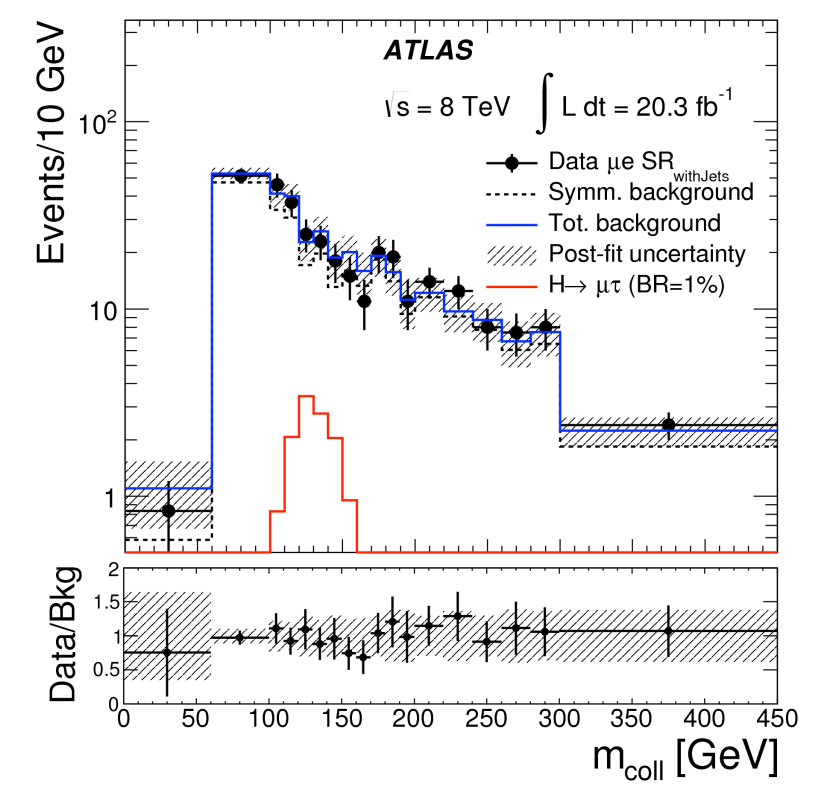
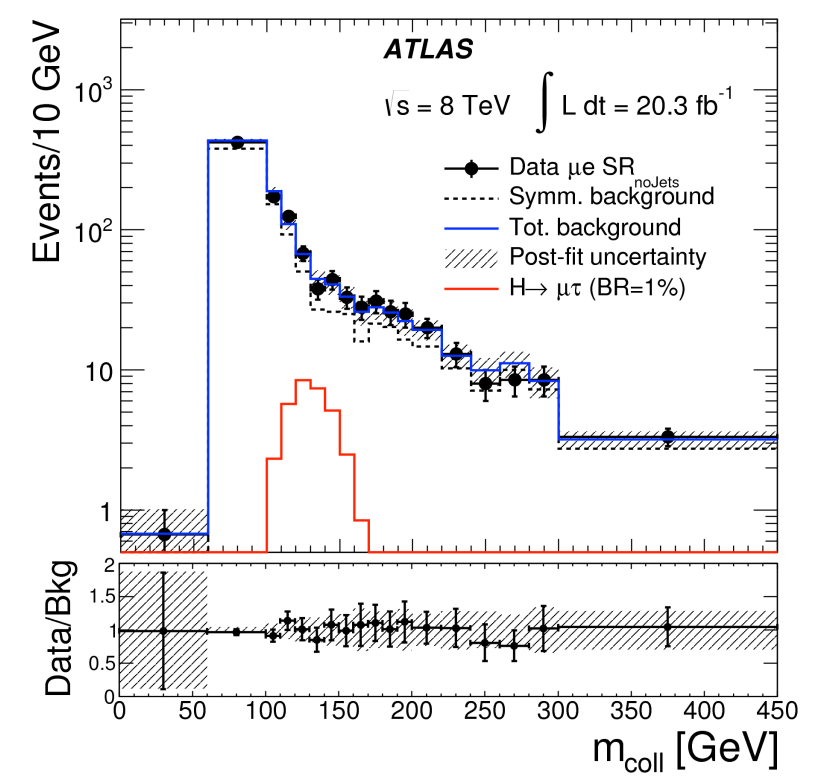
- Two signal regions used to select against two major backgrounds
 - SR1 selects against Z events
 - SR2 selects against W+jets events

- Misidentified τ_{had} modelled with a data-driven background estimation
 - Multijet modelled from same charged jet events
 - $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ modelled with an embedding method

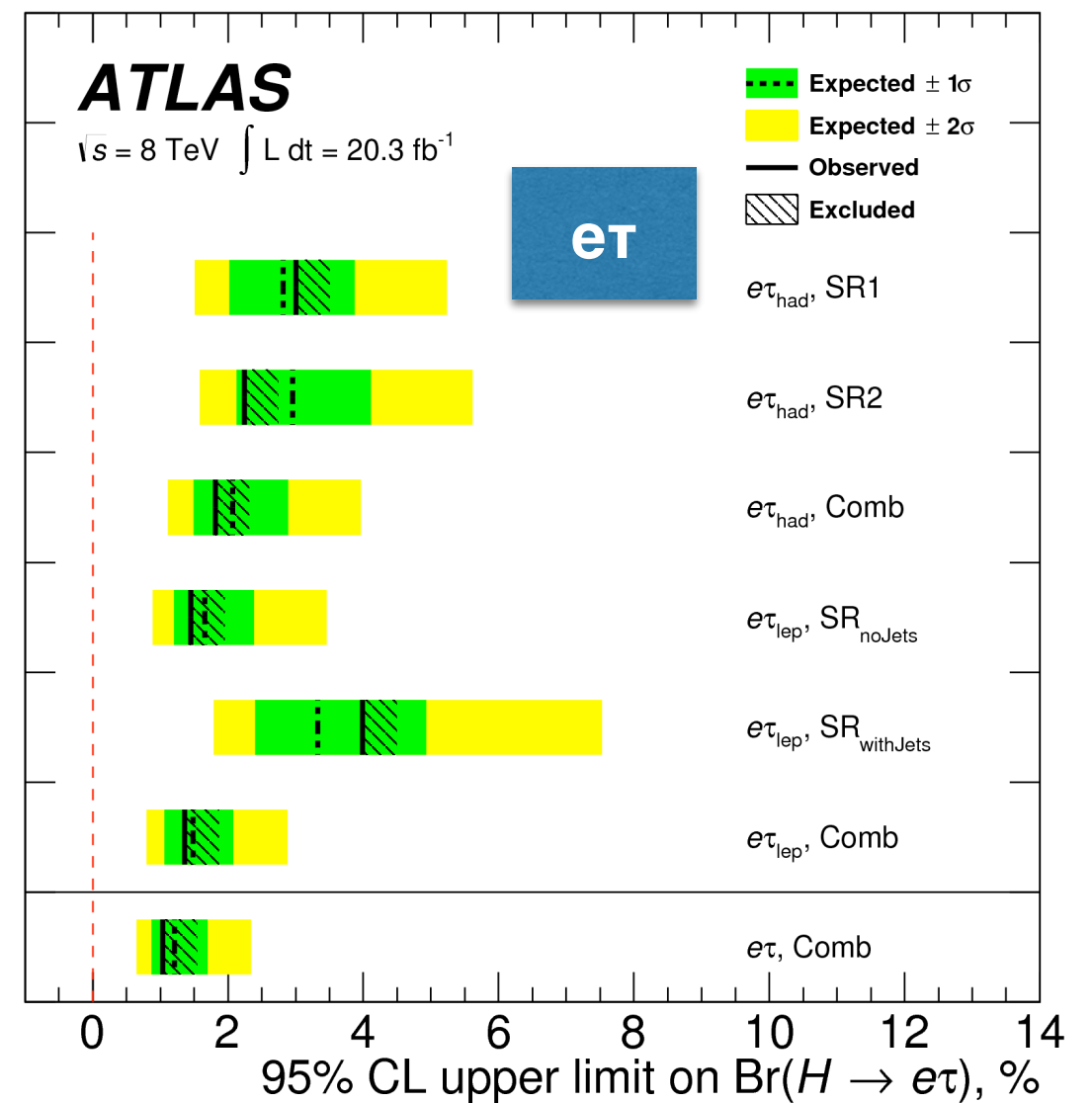
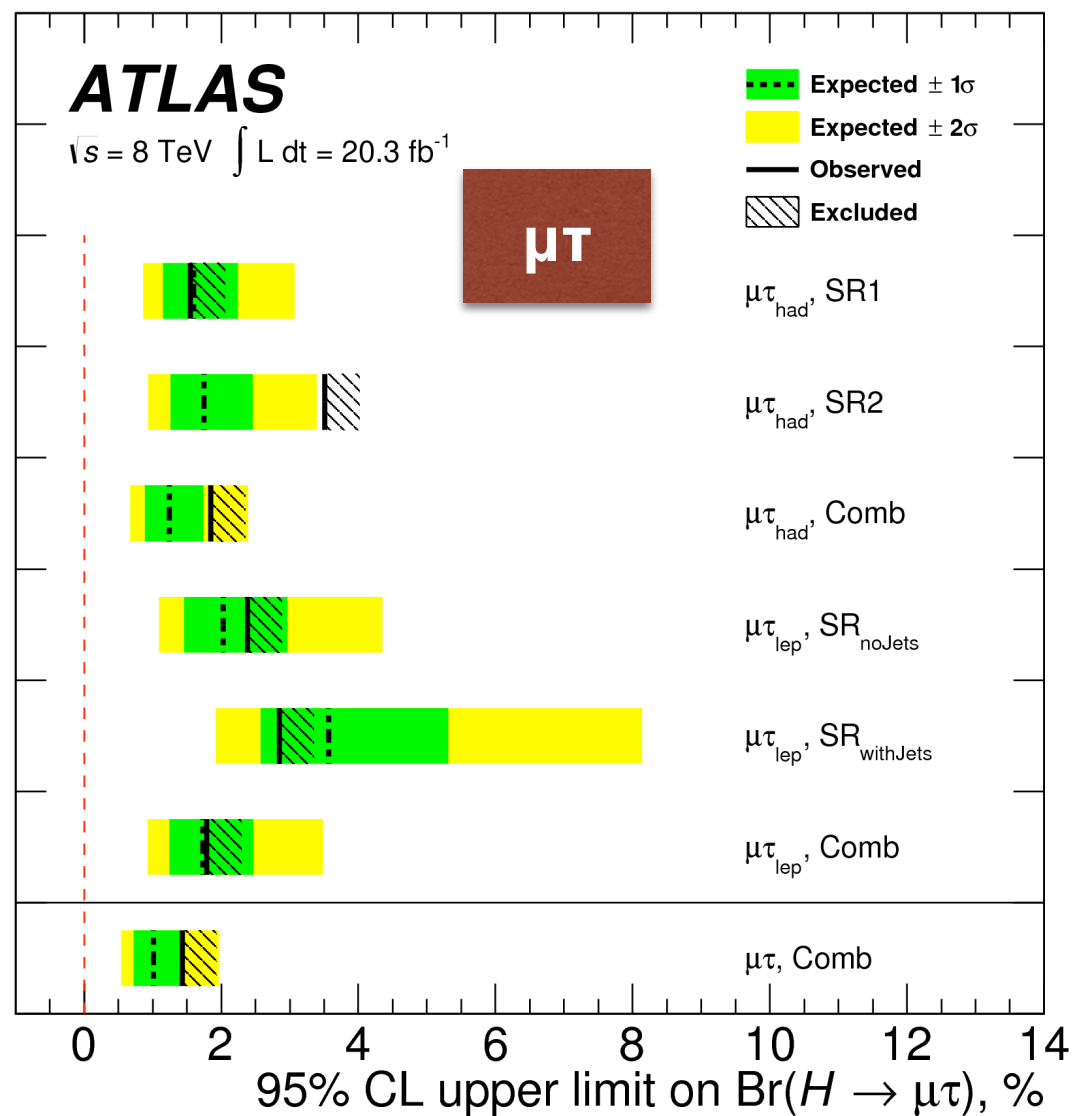


$H \rightarrow l\tau$ decays

- Novel search for leptonic channel
- Background estimation exploits symmetry under e/μ interchange in SM (LFV decays break this)
- Differences in efficiencies in lepton reco/selections accounted for
- Signal extracted from fit to collinear mass distribution
 - Two regions defined (with/without jets)
- No excess found



H → lτ decays

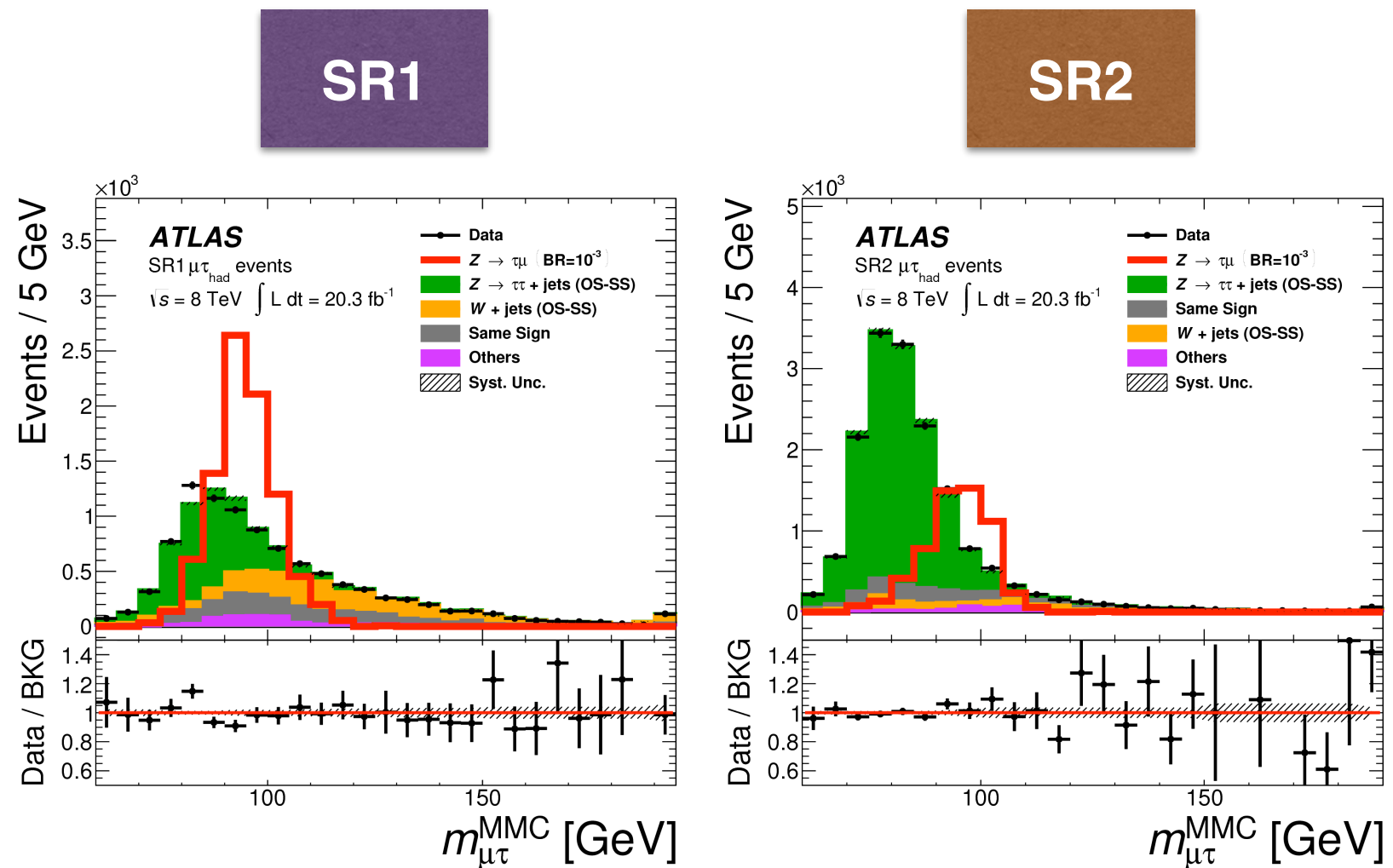


- Upper limits set to 1.04% and 1.43% of H branching ratio for $e\tau$ and $\mu\tau$

- Best fit branching ratio is $-0.34^{+0.64}_{-0.66}$ and $0.53^{+0.51}_{-0.51}$ for $e\tau$ and $\mu\tau$

Z boson decays (8 TeV)

- Only searched for $Z \rightarrow \mu\tau_{\text{had}}$ decays
- Major backgrounds:
 - SM $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ decays
 - Misidentified τ_{had} candidates
- Modelled with same background estimation as Higgs measurement
- Signal extraction via fit to MMC mass in two signal sensitive regions



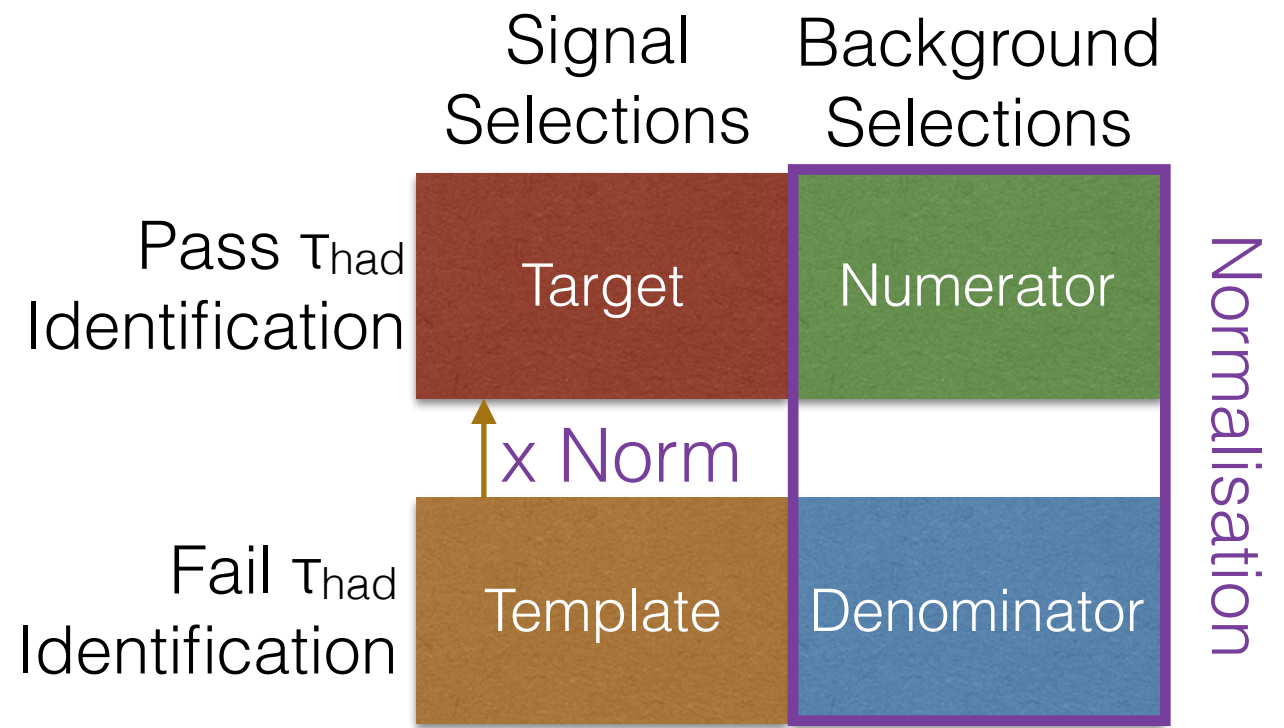
$\text{Br}(Z \rightarrow \mu\tau) [10^{-5}]$	SR1	SR2	Combined
Expected limit	$2.6^{+1.1}_{-0.7}$	$6.4^{-1.8}_{+2.8}$	$2.6^{+1.1}_{-0.7}$
Observed limit	1.5	7.9	1.7
Best fit	$-2.1^{+1.2}_{-1.3}$	$2.6^{+2.9}_{-2.6}$	$-1.6^{+1.3}_{-1.4}$

Z boson decays (13 TeV)

- Search in the $Z \rightarrow e\tau_{\text{had}}$ (new!) and $Z \rightarrow \mu\tau_{\text{had}}$ channels (see Terry's poster)

- Modelling updated (see Lara's talk):

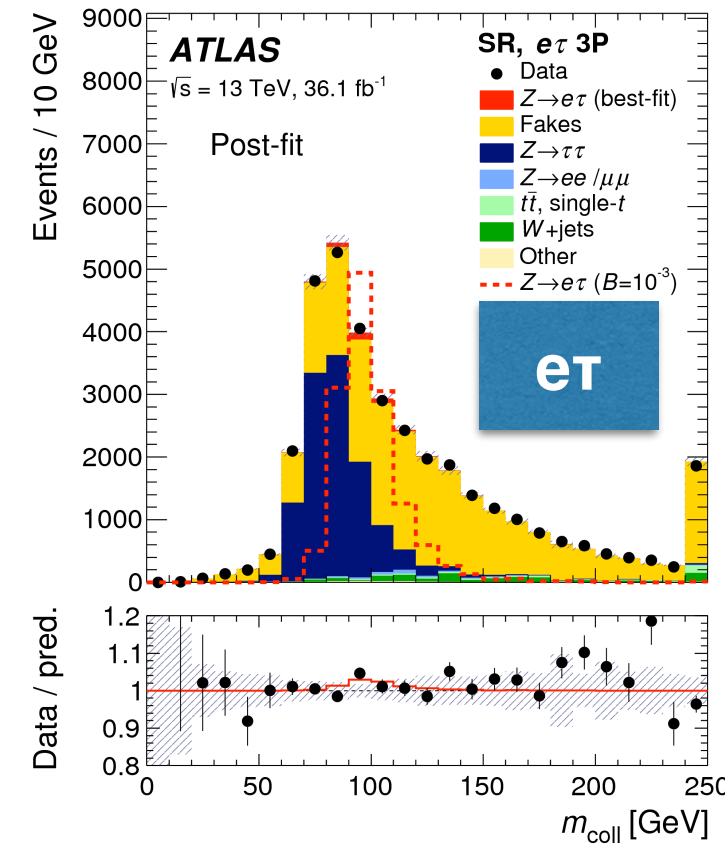
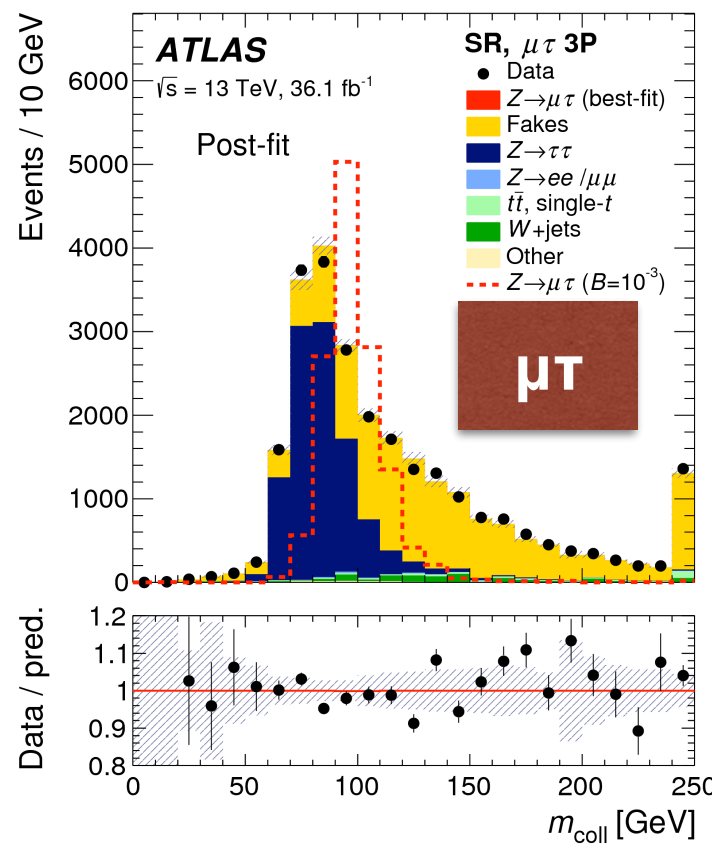
- Misidentified τ_{had} are estimated from events where candidate fails identification



- p_T dependent reweighting based on data-driven (mis)identification probability

- Rates measured separately for 1p and 3p taus

- $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ estimation is purely MC based and normalisation from fit



Signal Extraction (Z 13 TeV)

- Signal extraction is done using a multivariate approach (split into 1P and 3P):
 - Train three sets of Neural Networks to separate signal from $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$, $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ (1P only) and the W +jets backgrounds
- Fit performed on the combined classifier score
- Inputs were:
 - Four vectors (boosted, rotated and scaled for consistency)
 - Higher level mass variables (lab frame)
 - Vectorial p_T and $\Delta\alpha$ variable (lab frame)

$$\text{combined output}(1P) = 1 - \sqrt{(1 - \text{output}_W)^2 + (1 - \text{output}_Z)^2 + (1 - \text{output}_{Z\mu\mu})^2} / \sqrt{3}.$$

Variable	Description	Z NN	Z $\mu\mu$ NN	W NN
\hat{E}^{lep}	light-lepton energy	✓	✓	✓
$\hat{p}_x^{\tau_{\text{had-vis}}}$	$\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ p_x	✓	✓	✓
$\hat{p}_z^{\tau_{\text{had-vis}}}$	$\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ p_z	✓	✓	✓
$\hat{E}^{\tau_{\text{had-vis}}}$	$\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ energy	✓	✓	✓
\hat{p}_z^{miss}	E_T^{miss} component along z -axis	✓	✓	✓
\hat{E}^{miss}	magnitude of E_T^{miss}	✓	✓	✓
p_T^{tot}	transverse component of total momentum	✓	✓	✓
m_{coll}	collinear mass	✓	✓	✓
$\Delta\alpha$	see Eq. (1) [47]	✓	✓	✓
$m(\ell, \tau_{\text{had-vis}})$	invariant mass of light lepton and $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$		✓	

Z boson decays (13 TeV)

- Results show slight excess in $Z \rightarrow e\tau$ channel (2.3σ over background)

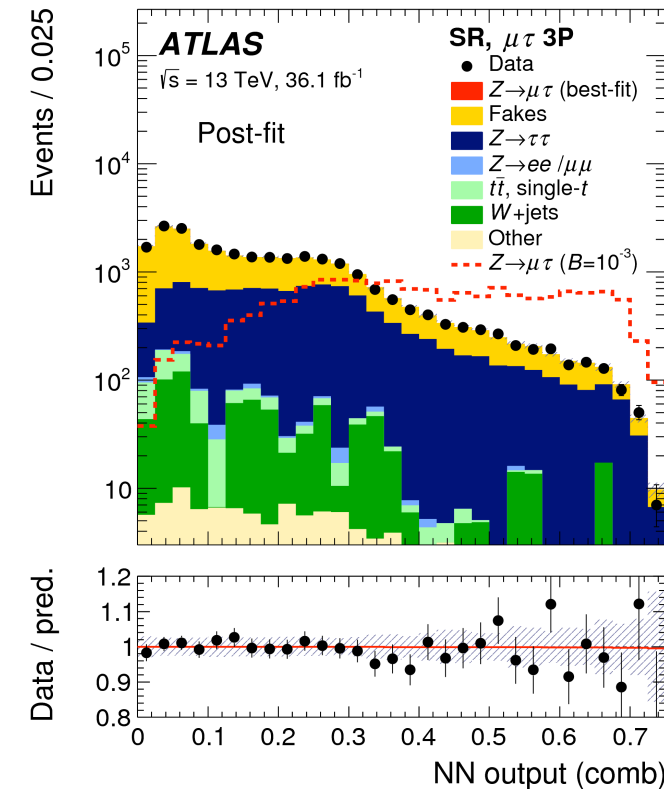
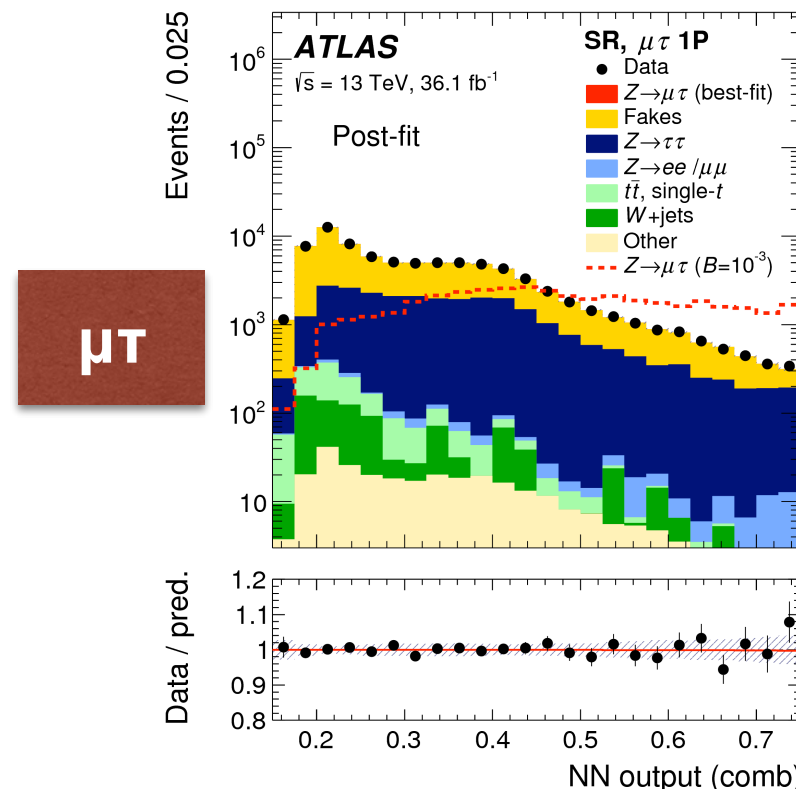
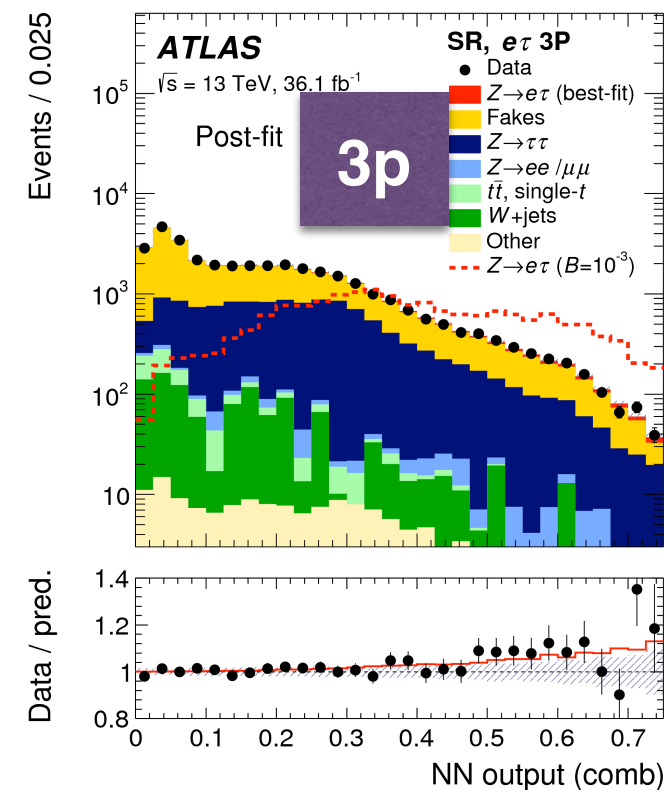
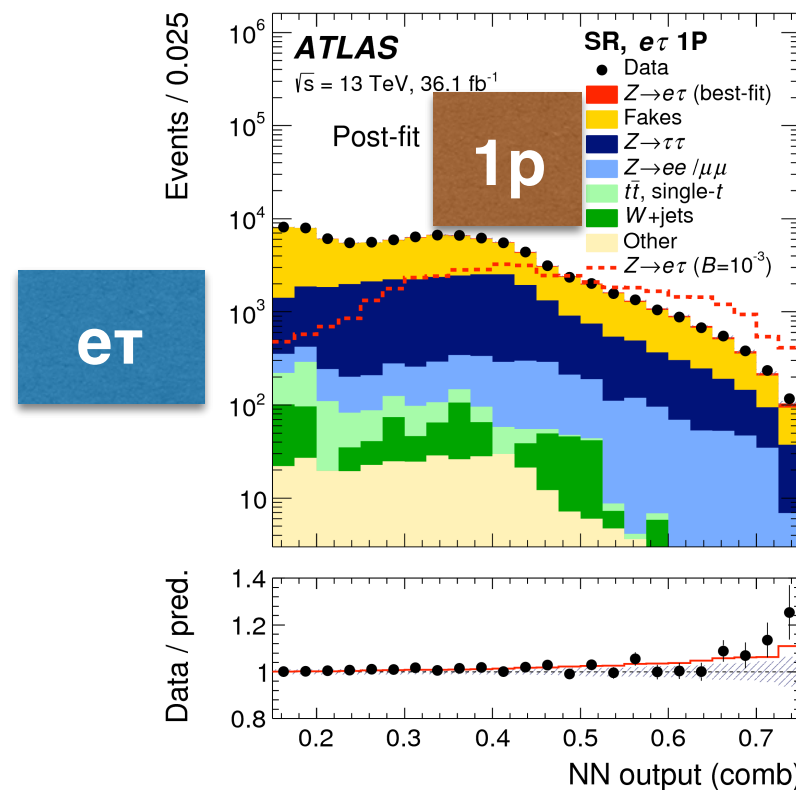
- Best fit **BR = $(3.3^{+1.5}_{-1.4}) \times 10^{-5}$**

- First ATLAS limits set on $Z \rightarrow e\tau$
BR 5.8×10^{-5}

- No excess in $Z \rightarrow \mu\tau$.

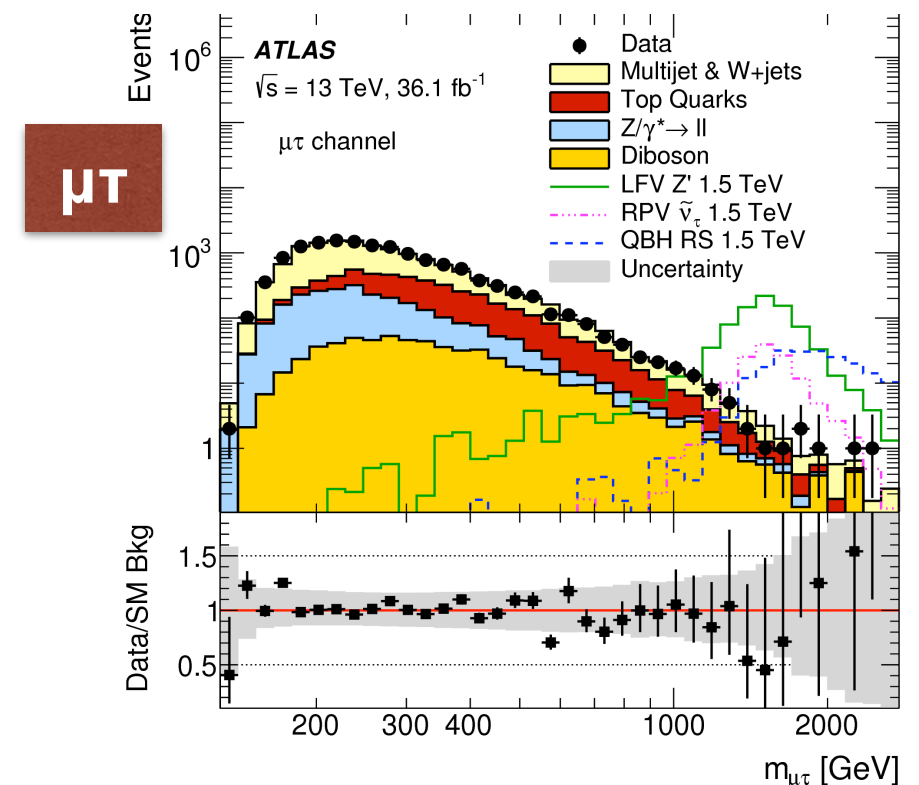
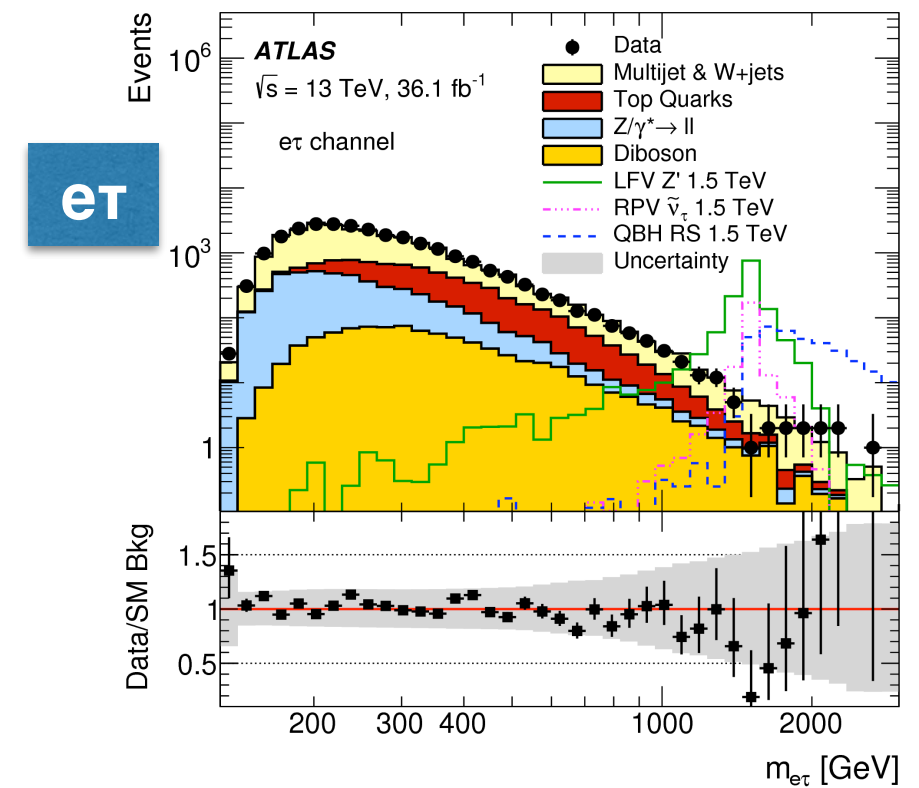
- Best fit **BR = $(-0.1^{+1.2}_{-1.2}) \times 10^{-5}$**

- Limit on $Z \rightarrow \mu\tau$ branching ratio (combined with the 8 TeV dataset) is **1.3×10^{-5}** which is competitive with LEP at 1.2×10^{-5}



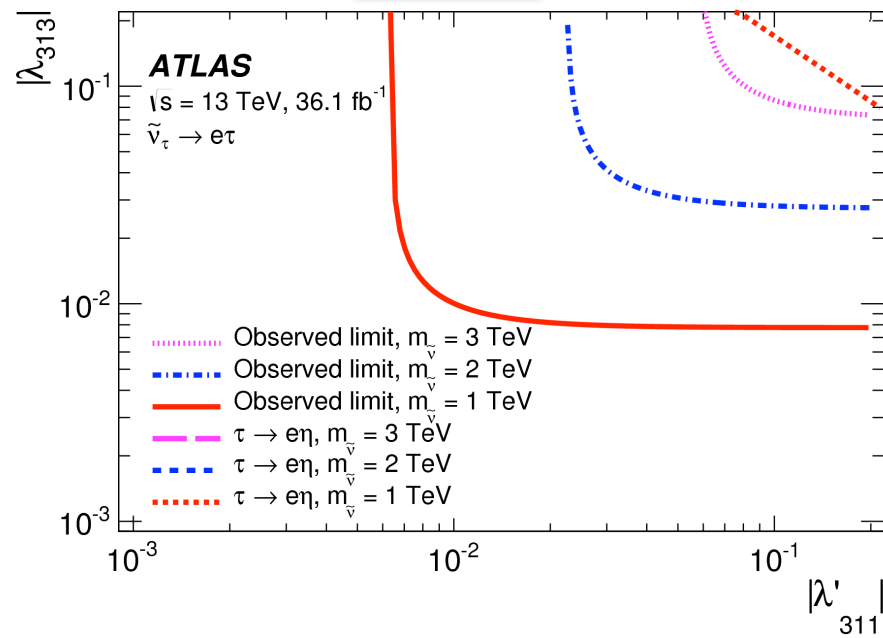
High mass search (13 TeV)

- Motivated by three main models:
 - Z' (same quark couplings, only one LFV coupling)
 - RPV SUSY (τ sneutrino, coupling to 1st gen quarks)
 - Quantum Black Holes (QBH)
- Search channels $e\mu$, $e\tau$, $\mu\tau$ (won't talk about $e\mu$ here)
- Main backgrounds:
 - W +jets estimated with MC, with data-driven fake rate
 - Multijet estimated in similar way to H/Z 8 TeV search (same charged jet events)
 - Top estimated with MC extrapolated to high mass region with fit



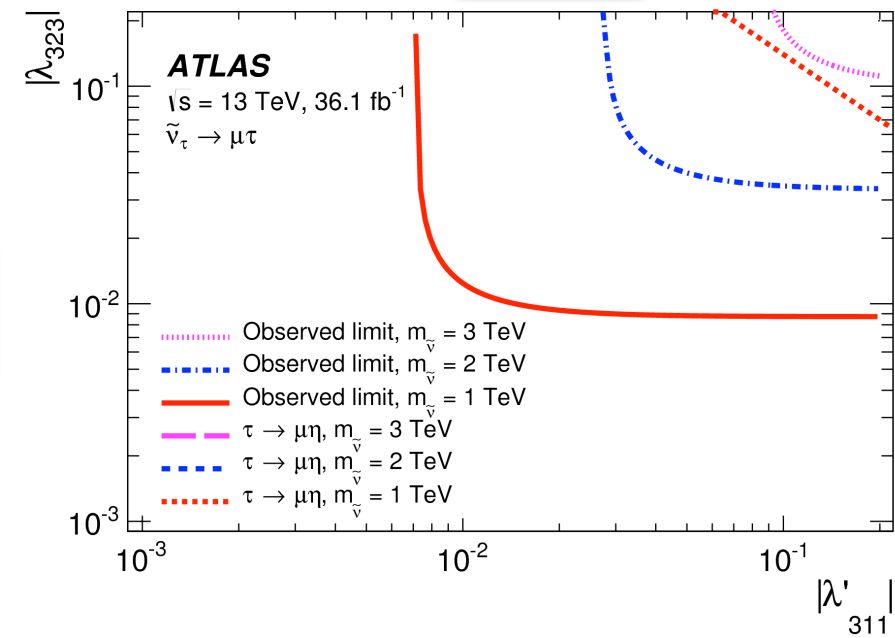
Limits on couplings in New Models

e τ

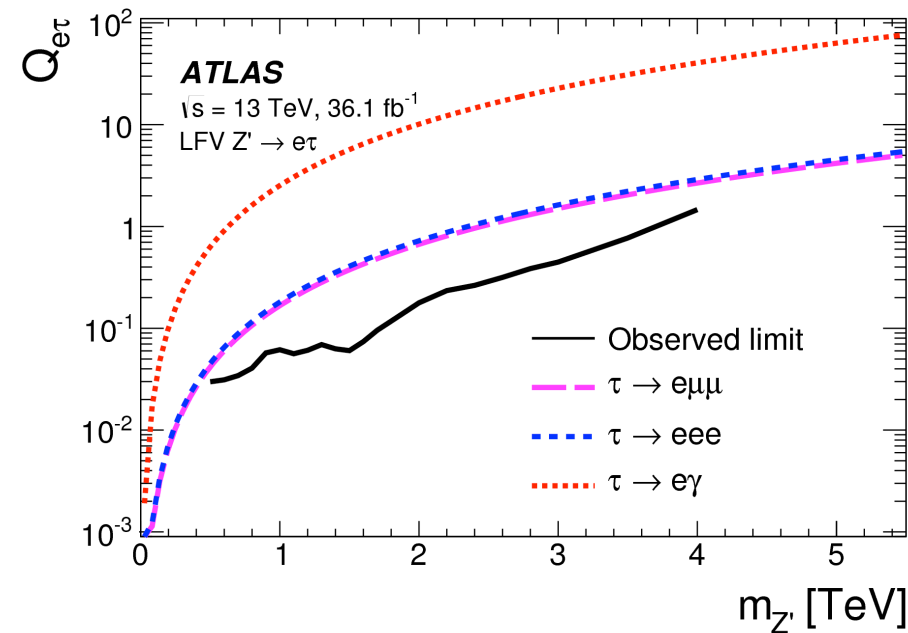
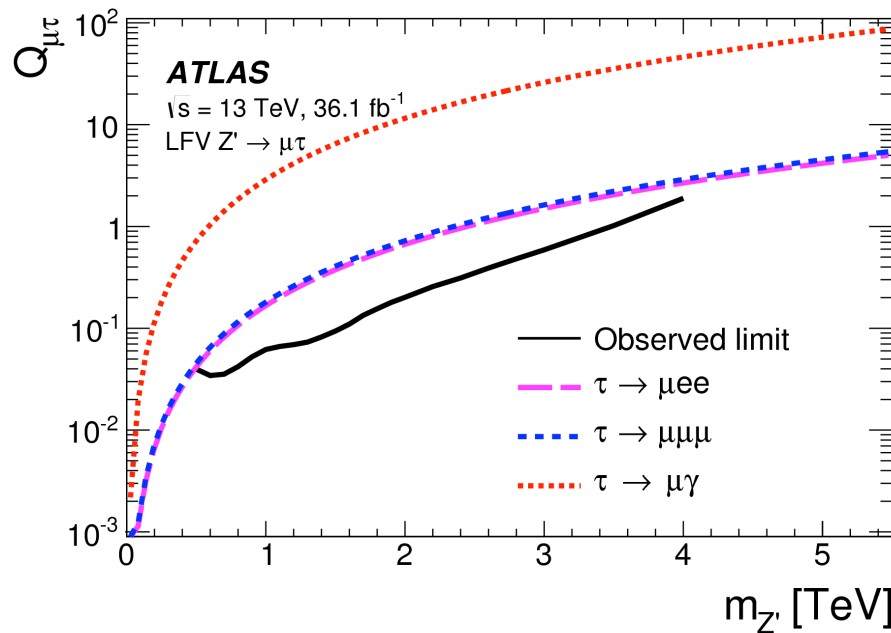


Sneutrino

$\mu\tau$



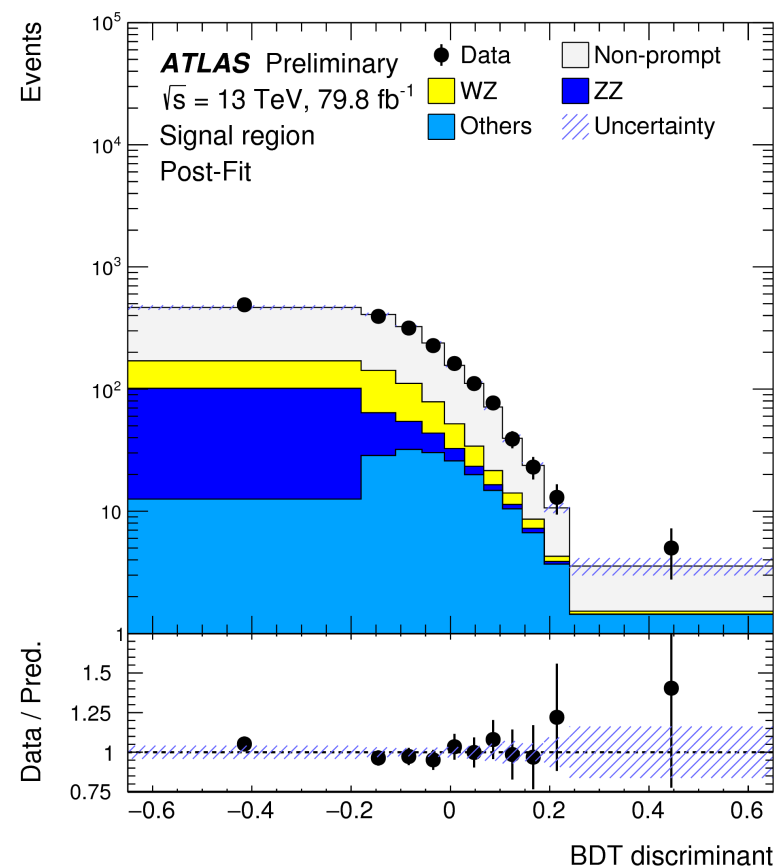
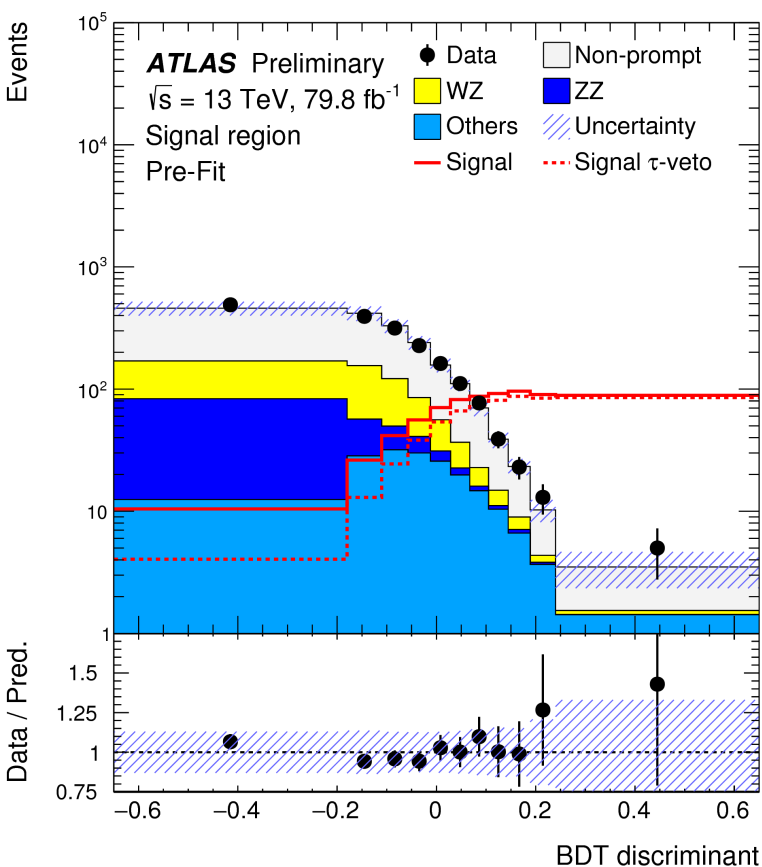
Z'



- Comparing limits from precision experiments, this measurement is now more sensitive for Z' models above 0.5 TeV and $|\lambda_{3\times 3}|$ couplings for τ sneutrino model

Top Quark Decays

- Probing dimension 6 operators through top pair production with decay via $t \rightarrow e\mu q$ (where $q=u$ or c)
- Matrix method used for background estimation of non-prompt lepton
- Signal extraction via a BDT trained on 13 input variables
- Slight fluctuation seen in last two bins, not statistically significant (0.9σ)

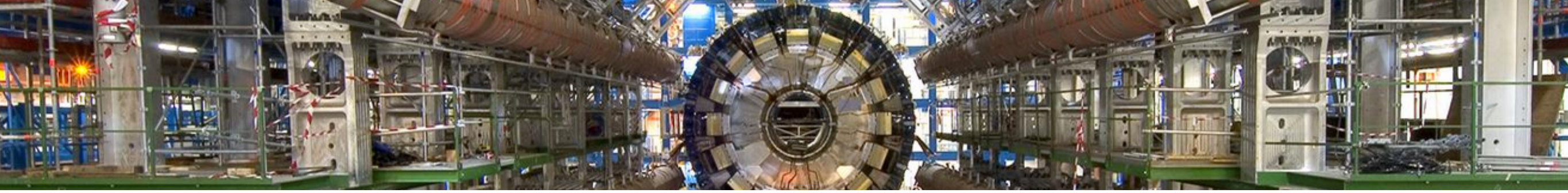


- First direct search for LFV in top quark decays places strong limits
- $\text{BR} < 1.86 \times 10^{-5}$ including leptonic τ decays of 10^{-3} from indirect measurements

The background image shows the interior of the ATLAS detector at CERN, featuring a large circular structure with various components and scaffolding.

Conclusion

- Updated search for LFV Z decays:
 - First limits for $Z \rightarrow e\tau$ with ATLAS have been set!
 - $Z \rightarrow \mu\tau$ limits now competitive with LEP!
- Moving forward with $H \rightarrow e\tau$ and $H \rightarrow \mu\tau$ searches with 13 TeV dataset
 - Keep an eye out!
- High mass searches with 13 TeV dataset are now able to constrain LFV couplings in Z' and RPV SUSY models better than low energy measurements
- Brand new search places strong constraints on lepton flavour violation in top quark physics!
 - Still to analyse the hadronic τ decay mode



BACKUP

Higgs: Selections

$\mu\tau_{\text{had}}$

Cut	SR1	SR2	WCR	TCR
$p_T(\mu)$	>26 GeV	>26 GeV	>26 GeV	>26 GeV
$p_T(\tau_{\text{had}})$	>45 GeV	>45 GeV	>45 GeV	>45 GeV
$m_T(\mu, E_T^{\text{miss}})$	>40 GeV	<40 GeV	>60 GeV	–
$m_T(\tau_{\text{had}}, E_T^{\text{miss}})$	<30 GeV	<60 GeV	>40 GeV	–
$ \eta(\mu) - \eta(\tau_{\text{had}}) $	<2	<2	<2	<2
N_{jet}	–	–	–	>1
$N_{b\text{-jet}}$	0	0	0	>0

$e\tau_{\text{had}}$

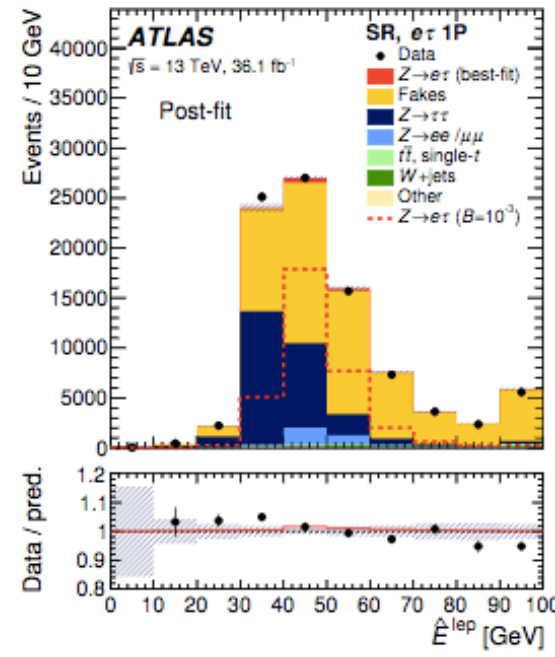
Criterion	SR1	SR2	WCR	TCR
$E_T(e)$	>26 GeV	>26 GeV	>26 GeV	>26 GeV
$p_T(\tau_{\text{had}})$	>45 GeV	>45 GeV	>45 GeV	>45 GeV
$ \eta(e) - \eta(\tau_{\text{had}}) $	<2	<2	<2	<2
$m_T^{e, E_T^{\text{miss}}}$	>40 GeV	<40 GeV	>60 GeV	–
$m_T^{\tau_{\text{had}}, E_T^{\text{miss}}}$	<30 GeV	<60 GeV	>40 GeV	–
N_{jet}	–	–	–	≥ 2
$N_{b\text{-jet}}$	0	0	0	≥ 1

$e\mu$

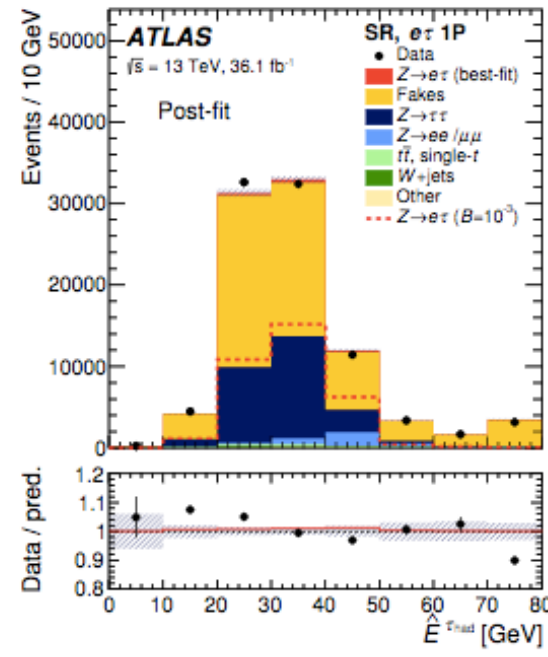
	SR _{noJets}	SR _{withJets}
Light leptons	$e^\pm \mu^\mp$	$e^\pm \mu^\mp$
τ leptons	veto	veto
Central jets	0	≥ 1
b -jets	0	0
$p_T^{\ell_1}$	$\geq 35\text{GeV}$	$\geq 35\text{GeV}$
$p_T^{\ell_2}$	$\geq 12\text{GeV}$	$\geq 12\text{GeV}$
$ \eta^e $	≤ 2.4	≤ 2.4
$ \eta^\mu $	≤ 2.4	≤ 2.4
$\Delta\phi(\ell_2, E_T^{\text{miss}})$	≤ 0.7	≤ 0.5
$\Delta\phi(\ell_1, \ell_2)$	≥ 2.3	≥ 1.0
$\Delta\phi(\ell_1, E_T^{\text{miss}})$	≥ 2.5	≥ 1.0
$\Delta p_T(\ell_1, \ell_2)$	$\geq 7\text{GeV}$	$\geq 1\text{GeV}$

NN inputs ($e\tau 1p$)

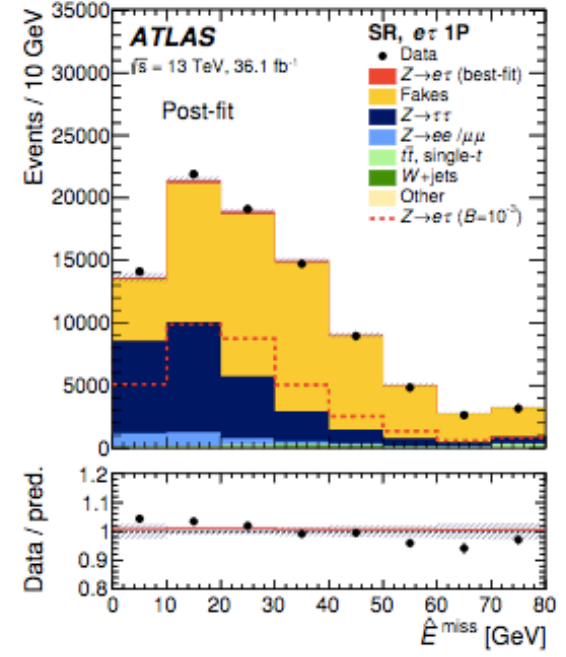
$$\Delta\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_Z^2 - m_\tau^2}{p(\tau_{\text{had-vis}}) \cdot p(\ell)} - \frac{p_T(\ell)}{p_T(\tau_{\text{had-vis}})}$$



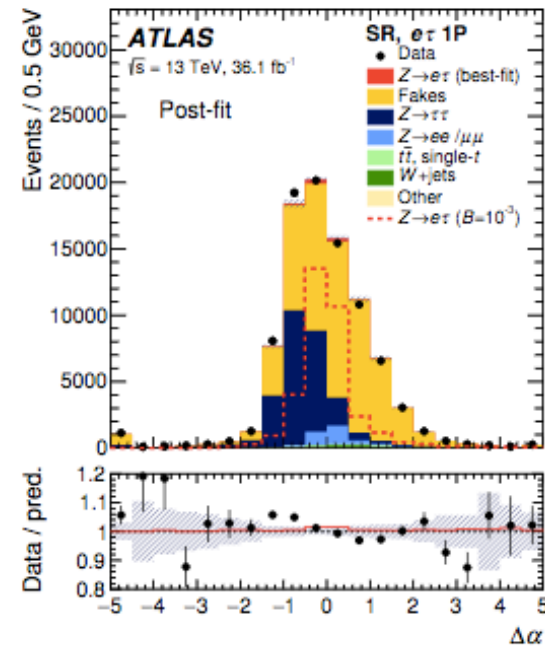
(a) \hat{E}^{lep}



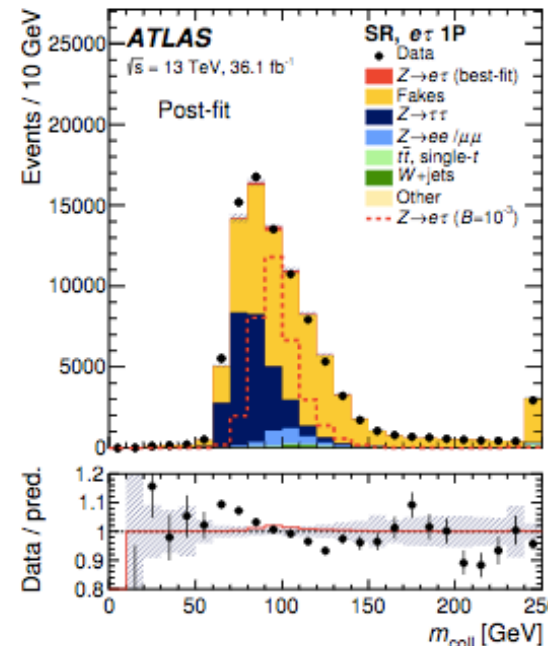
(b) \hat{E}^{had}



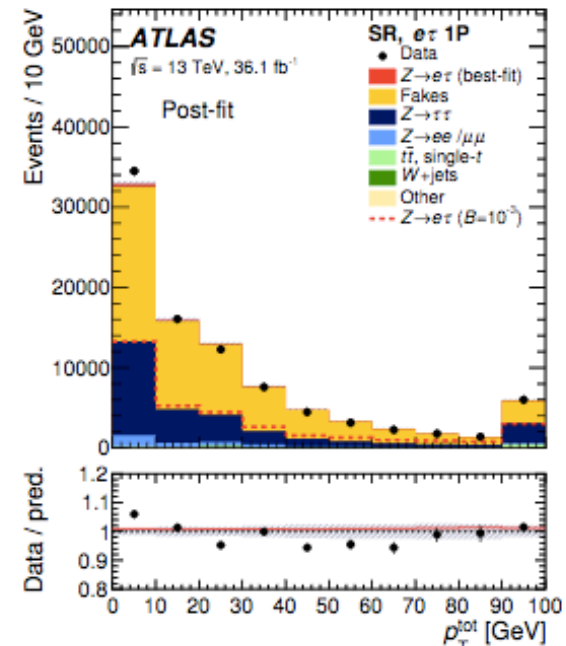
(c) \hat{E}^{miss}



(d) $\Delta\alpha$



(e) m_{coll}

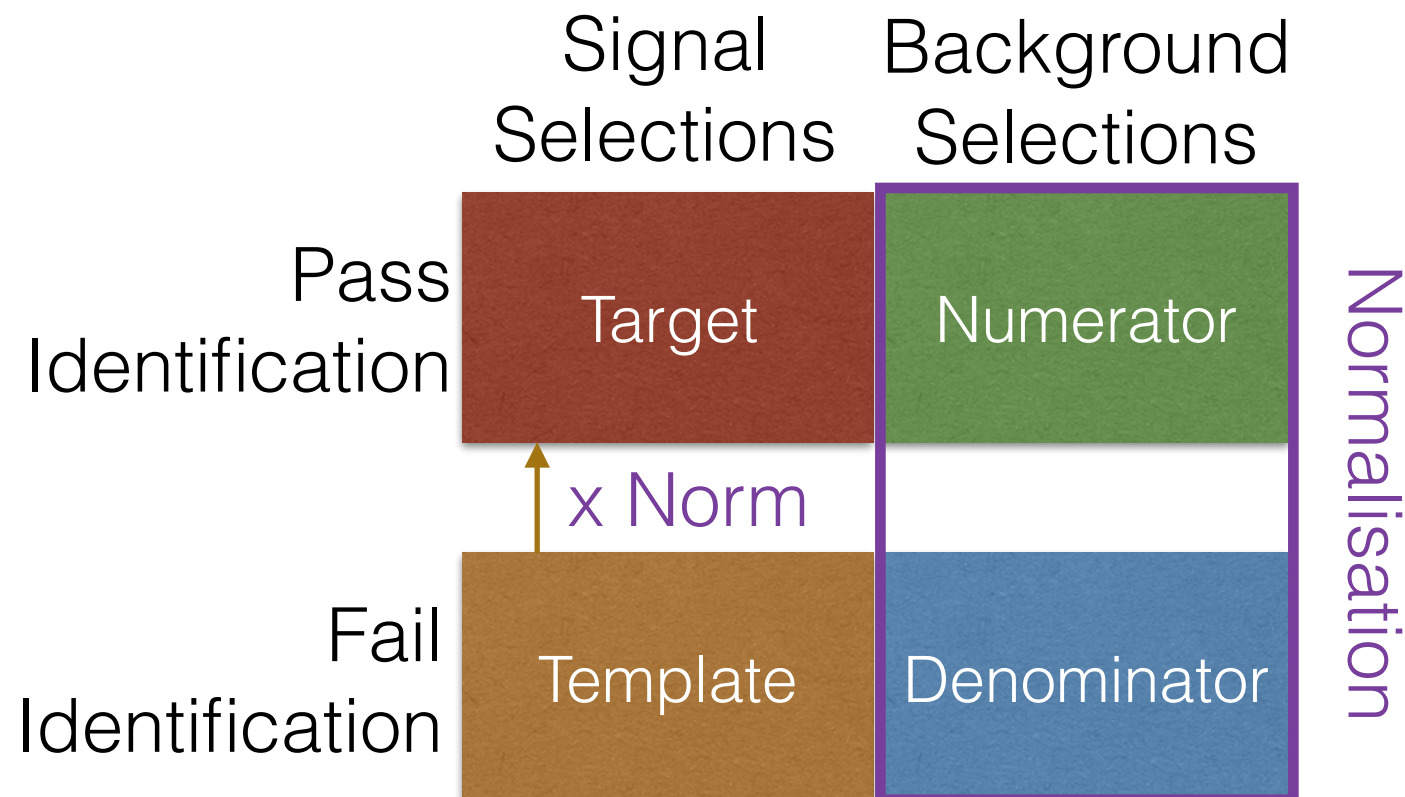


(f) p_T^{tot}

Z: Background

Region	Change relative to SR selection	Purity [%]	
		$e\tau$	$\mu\tau$
CRZII	Two same-flavor opposite-charge light leptons with $81 < m_{\ell\ell} < 101$ GeV	98	98
CRW	$m_T(\ell, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 40$ GeV and $m_T(\tau_{\text{had-vis}}, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 35(30)$ GeV in $e\tau$ ($\mu\tau$) events	84	85
CRT	$N_{b\text{-jets}} \geq 2$	98	98
CRQ	Inverted light-lepton isolation	75	37

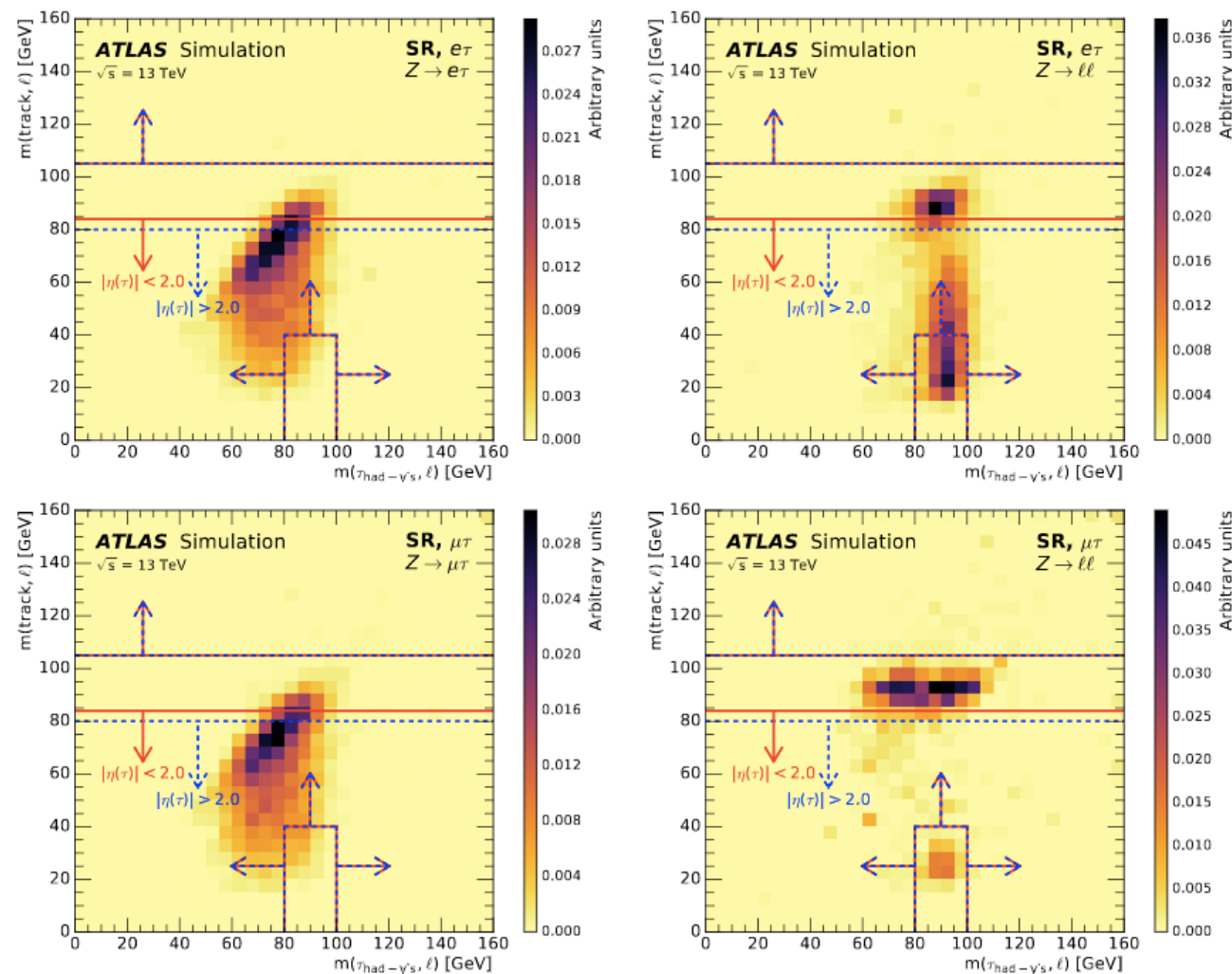
$$N_{\text{SR}}^{\text{fake}} = \sum_k \left(N_{\text{SR,data}}^{\text{fail}} - N_{\text{SR,MC,not jet}\rightarrow\tau}^{\text{fail}} \right)_k \times F_k$$



Z: Selections

Preselection one isolated tight light lepton with $p_T > 30$ GeV matched to a lepton selected at trigger level leading $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ with $p_T > 20$ GeV, $N_{\tau}^{\text{tracks}} = 1$ or 3 and passing tight identification
 if $N_{\tau}^{\text{tracks}} = 1$: $0.0(0.1) < |\eta_{\tau}| < 1.37$ or $1.52 < |\eta_{\tau}| < 2.2(2.5)$ in $e\tau(\mu\tau)$ events
 if $N_{\tau}^{\text{tracks}} = 3$: $0.0 < |\eta_{\tau}| < 1.37$ or $1.52 < |\eta_{\tau}| < 2.5$
 $q_{\ell} \times q_{\tau} = -1$
 no b -jet, no additional light lepton

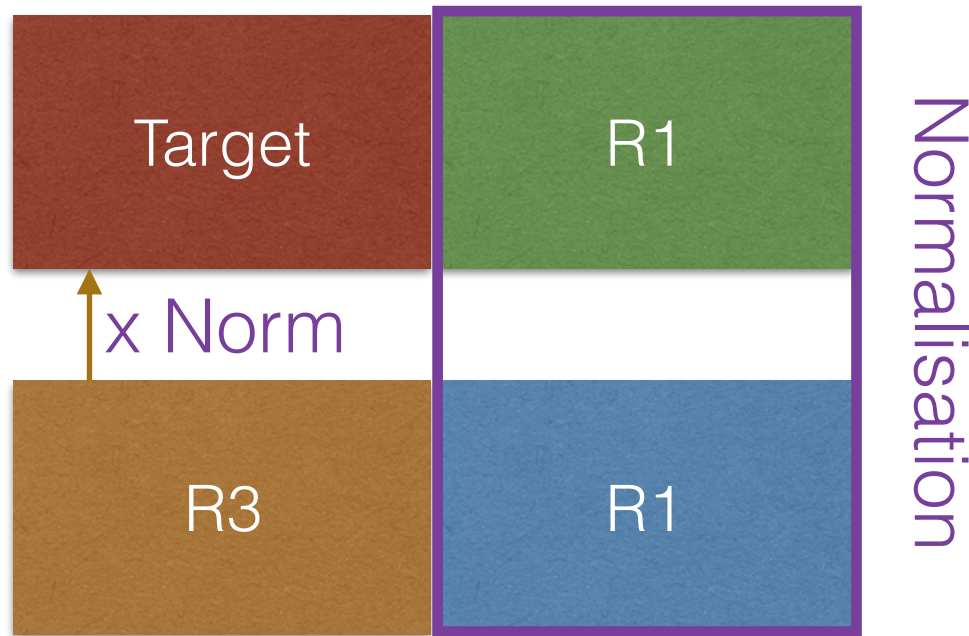
Signal Region $m_T(\tau_{\text{had-vis}}, E_T^{\text{miss}}) < 35(30)$ GeV in $e\tau$ ($\mu\tau$) events
 if $N_{\tau}^{\text{tracks}} = 1$ and $|\eta_{\tau}| < 2.0$: $m(\text{track}, \ell) < 84$ GeV or $m(\text{track}, \ell) > 105$ GeV
 if $N_{\tau}^{\text{tracks}} = 1$ and $|\eta_{\tau}| > 2.0$: $m(\text{track}, \ell) < 80$ GeV or $m(\text{track}, \ell) > 105$ GeV
 if $N_{\tau}^{\text{tracks}} = 1$ and $80 < m(\tau_{\text{had-vis}}, \ell) < 100$ GeV: $m(\text{track}, \ell) > 40$ GeV



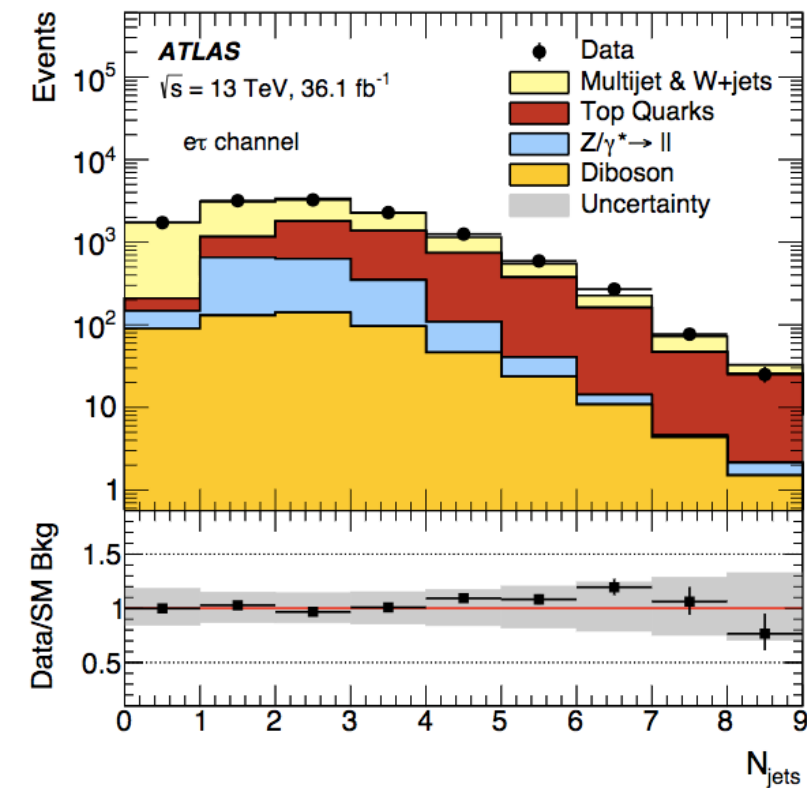
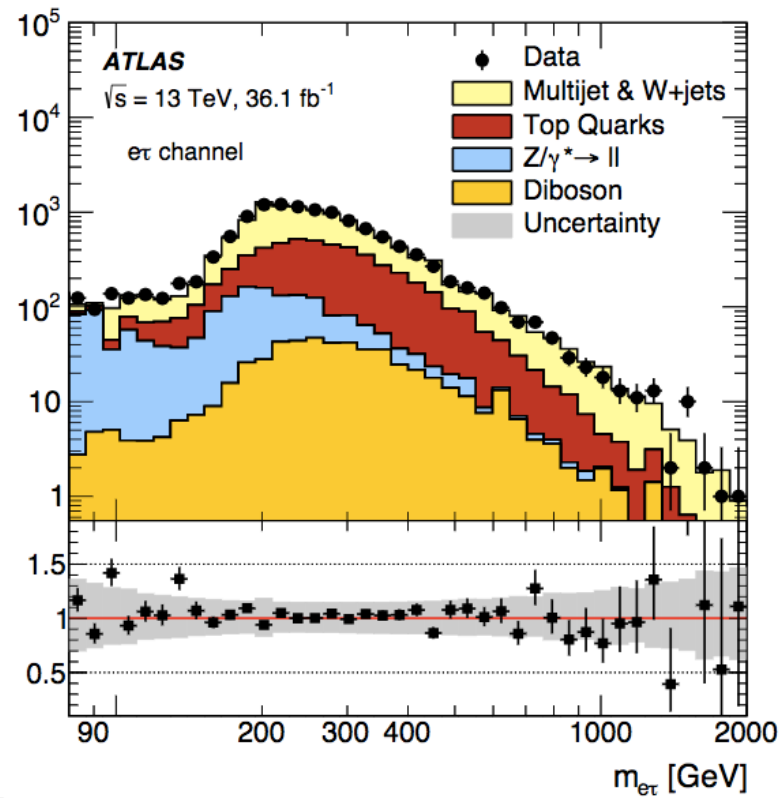
High Mass: Background

Multijet estimation

	Object selection	Lepton-pair charges
R_1	Non-isolated e/μ & $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ failing τ ID requirements (p_{T_ℓ} & $p_{T_\tau} < 200$ GeV)	Same-charge
R_2	Isolated e/μ & pass ID $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ (p_{T_ℓ} & $p_{T_\tau} < 200$ GeV)	Same-charge
R_3	Non-isolated e/μ & $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ failing τ ID requirements	Same-charge + Opposite-charge



W+jets CR



Top: Fit function

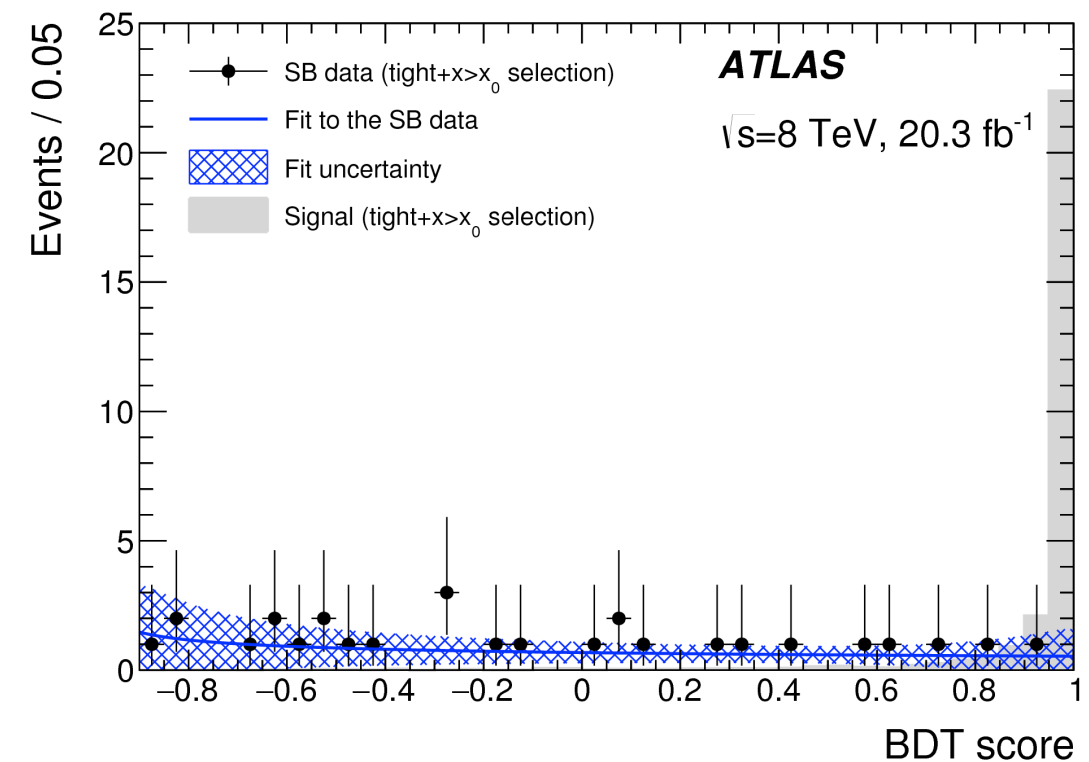
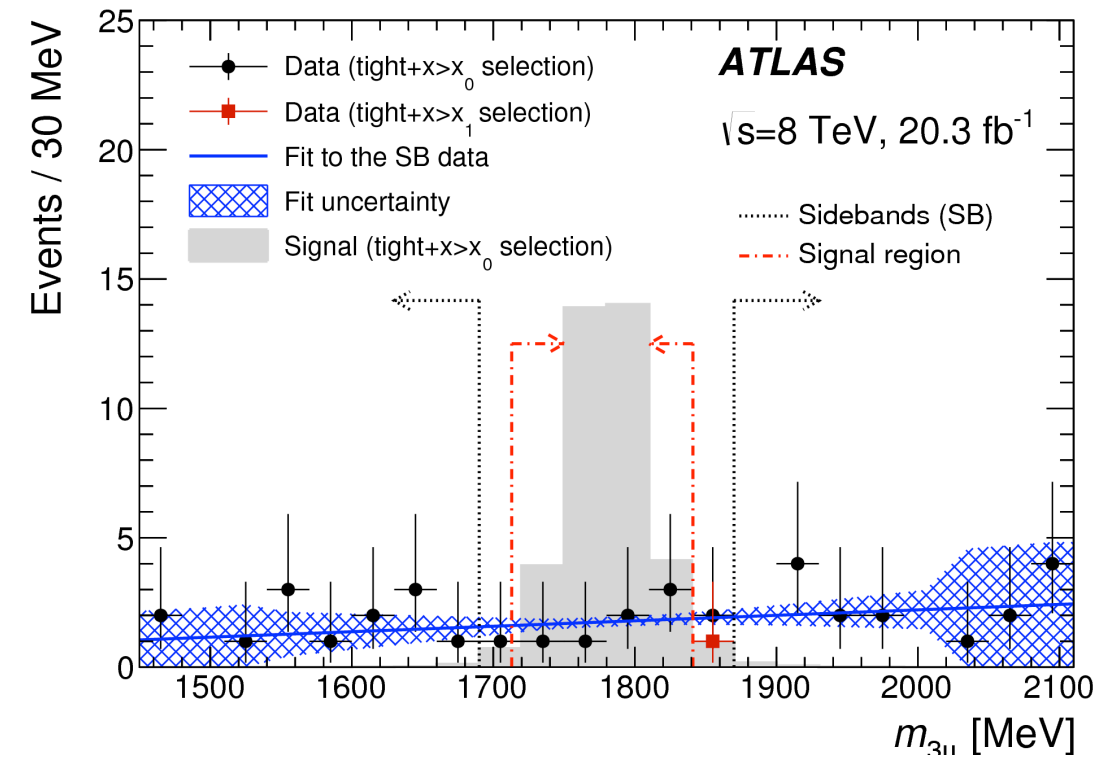
$$a \cdot m_{\ell\ell'}^b \cdot m_{\ell\ell'}^{c \cdot \ln(m_{\ell\ell'})}$$

and

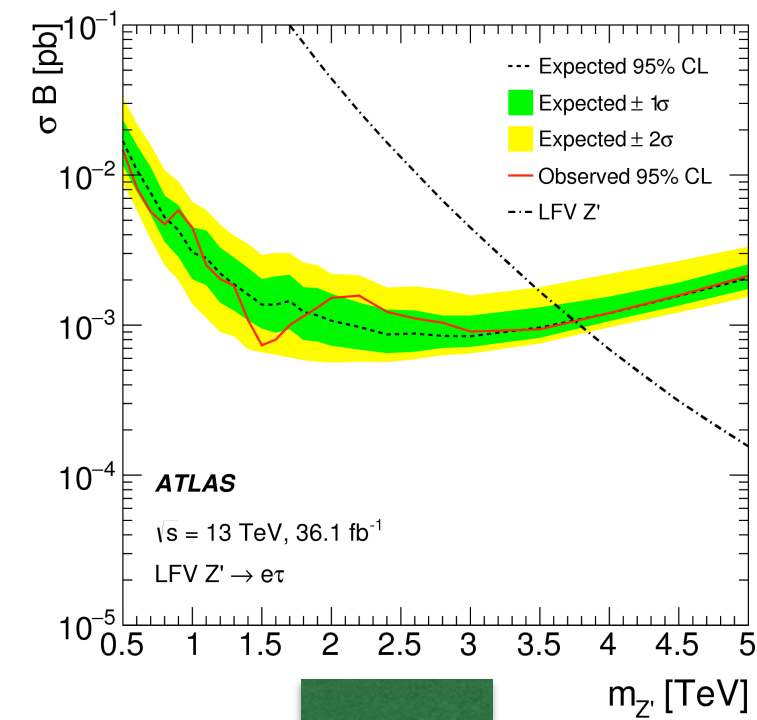
$$\frac{a}{(m_{\ell\ell'} + b)^c}$$

$\tau \rightarrow 3\mu$ Search (1601.03567)

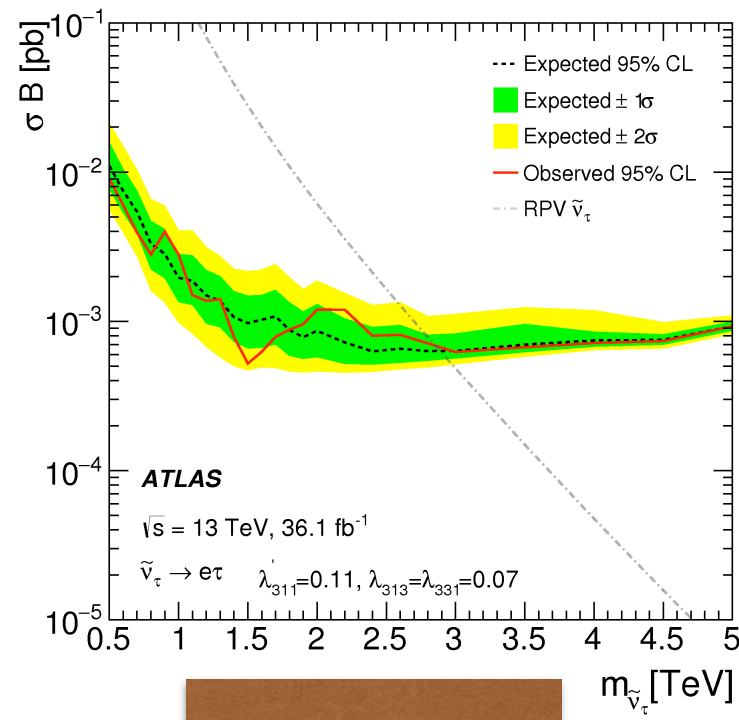
- $\tau \rightarrow 3\mu$ measurement is possible via $W \rightarrow \tau(\rightarrow 3\mu)\nu$ decay
- Very low background measurement
 - Estimated in sidebands
- Boosted decision tree trained on a loose selection (16 input variables)
- Signal extraction on fit of BDT score with tighter requirements
 - Limit is 3.76×10^{-7} of BR of τ decay



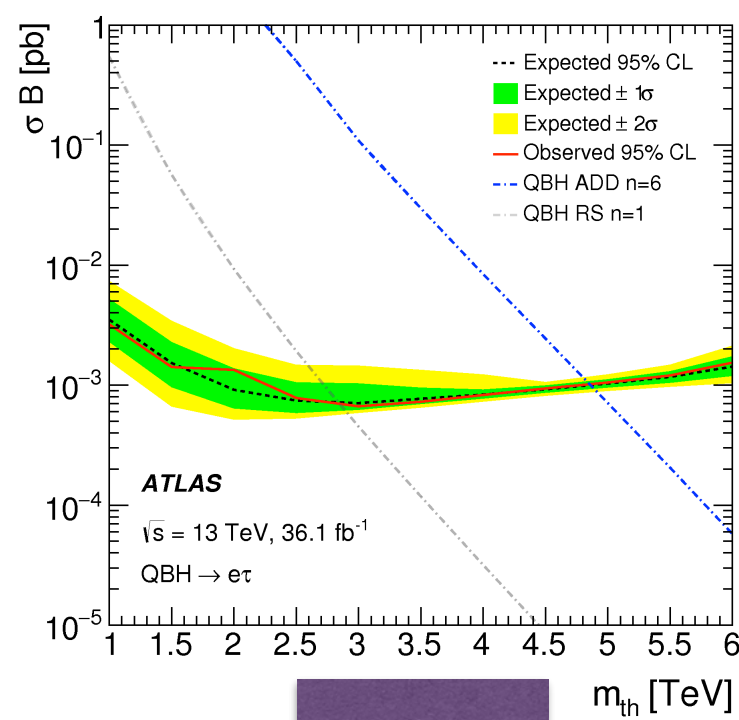
High mass limits



Z'

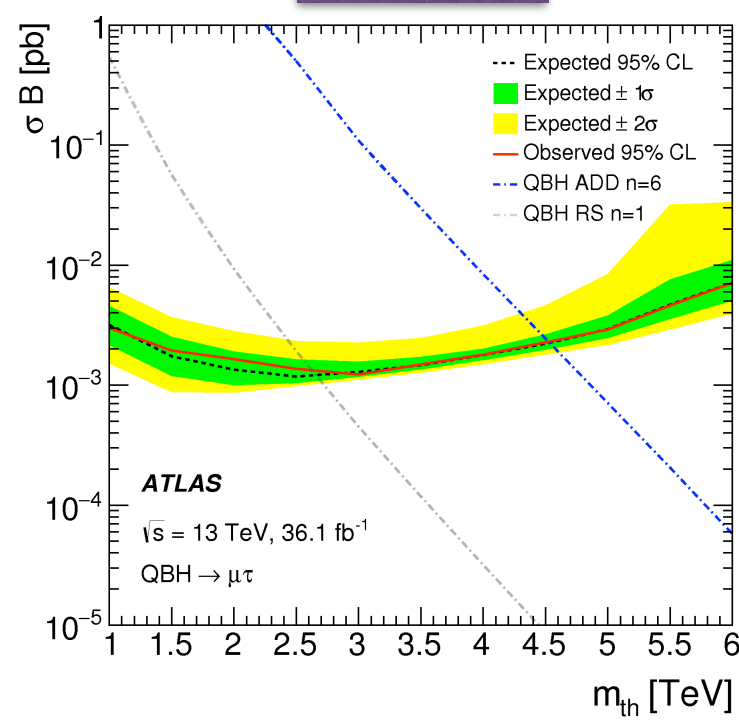
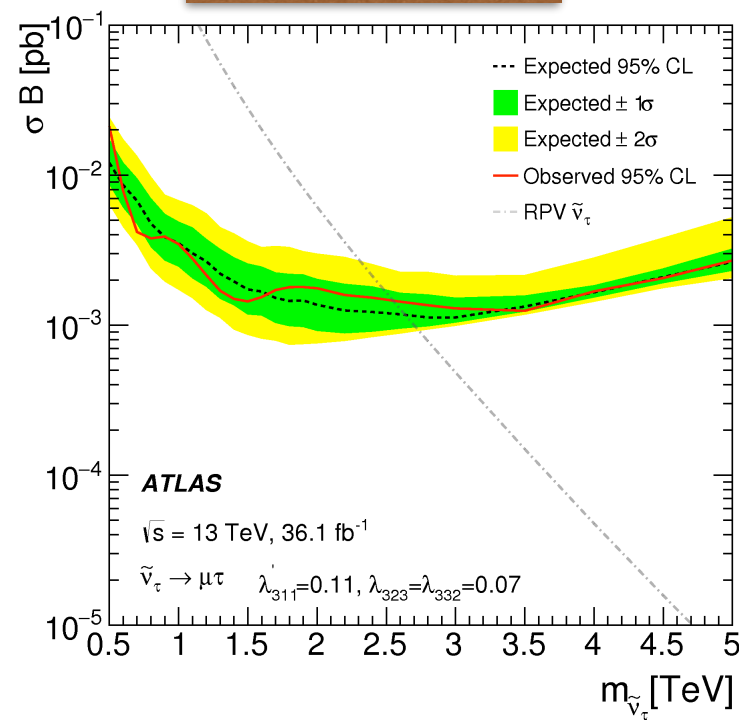
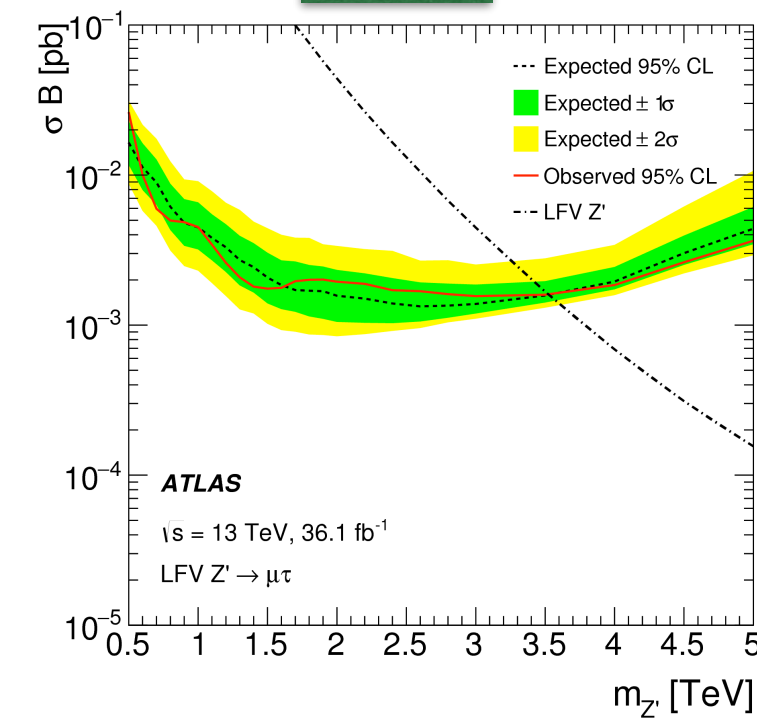


Sneutrino



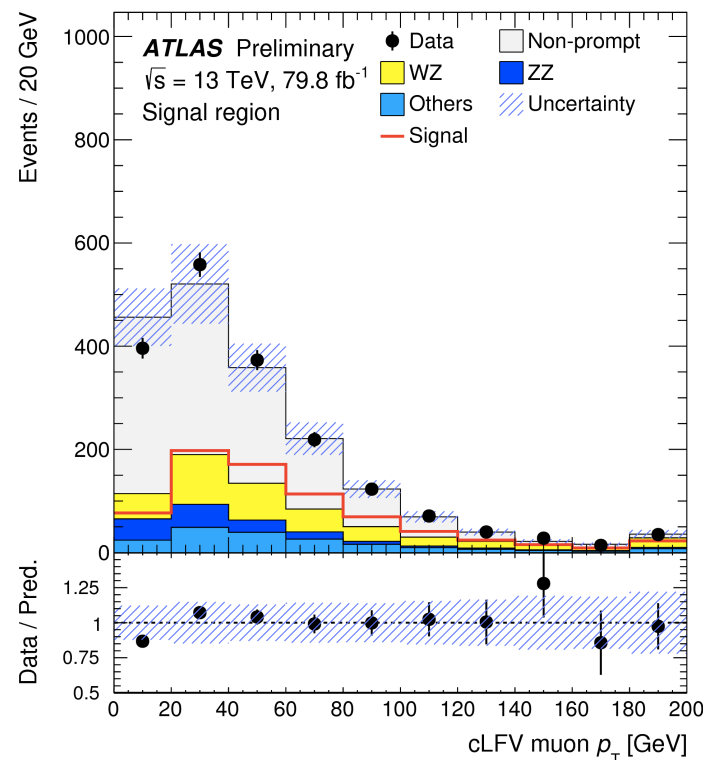
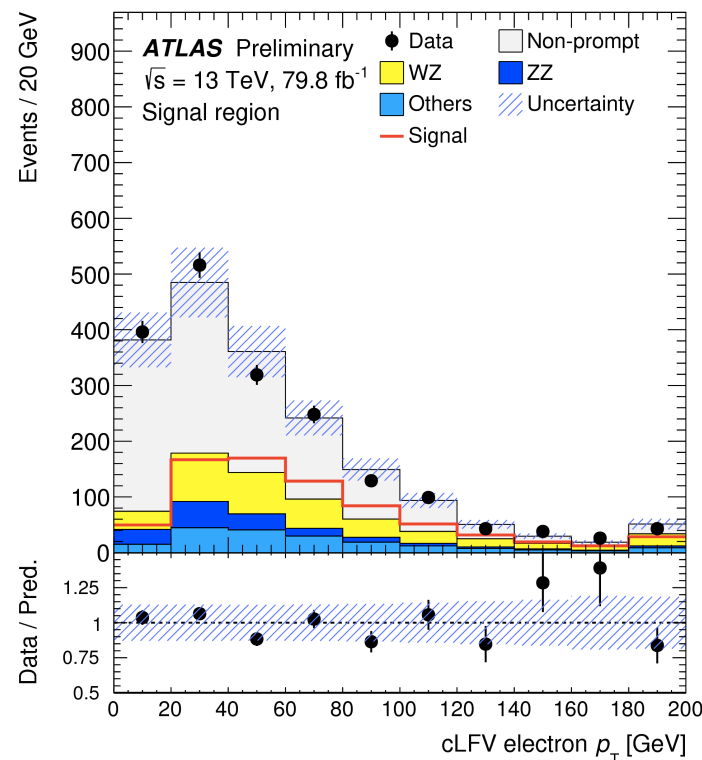
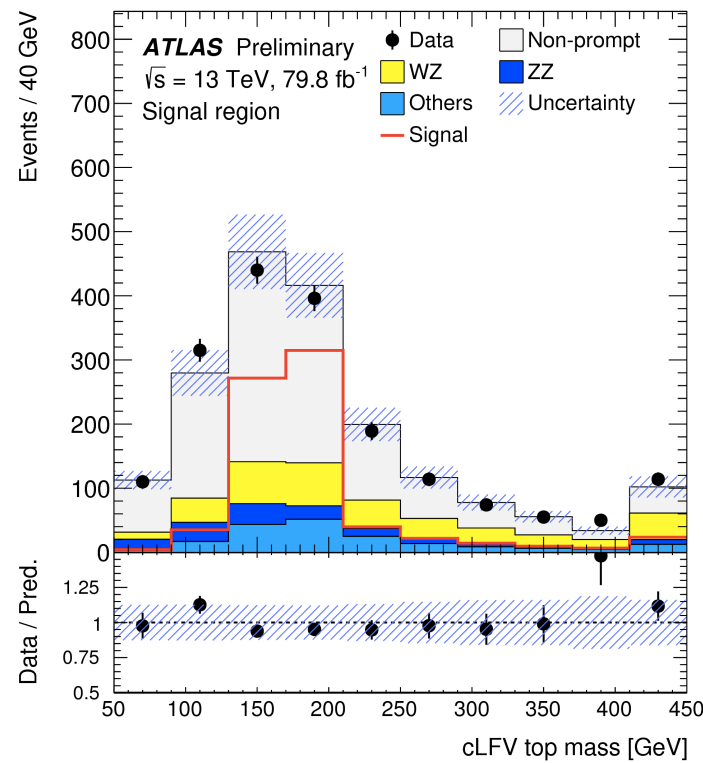
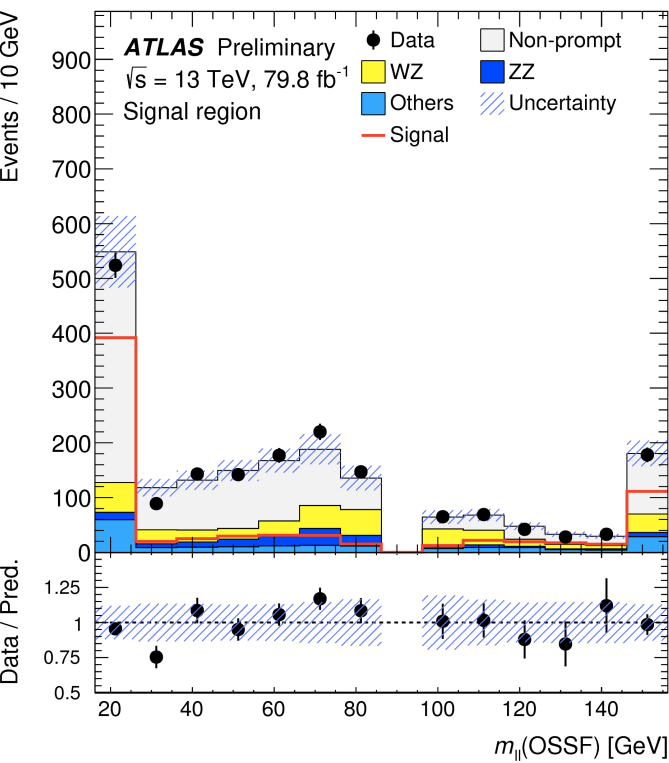
QBH

e τ



$\mu\tau$

Top Quark Decays (BDT inputs)



Variable	Separation (%)
OSSF lepton pair invariant mass	11
cLFV top mass	10
p_T of the electron associated to the cLFV decay	9.1
p_T of the muon associated to the cLFV decay	8.5
p_T of the lepton associated to the SM decay	8.3
Scalar mass of all jets and leptons in the event	7.6
Same-sign electron pair invariant mass	6.9
Missing transverse momentum	6.8
Number of b -jets	6.7
W transverse mass associated to the SM top lepton	6.6
ΔR between the cLFV electron and the cLFV light jet	6.5
SM top mass	6.4
ΔR between the cLFV muon and the cLFV light jet	6.3
BDT discriminant	44