



Recent results on the Higgs Boson Production in Association with Top Quarks

Jelena Jovićević, TRIUMF - Canada, on behalf of the ATLAS collaboration





Observation of the Higgs Boson Production in Association with Top Quarks

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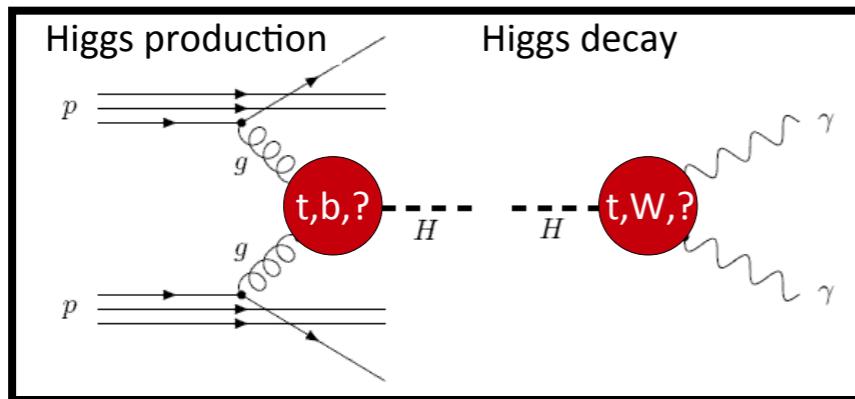
Introduction



TRIUMF

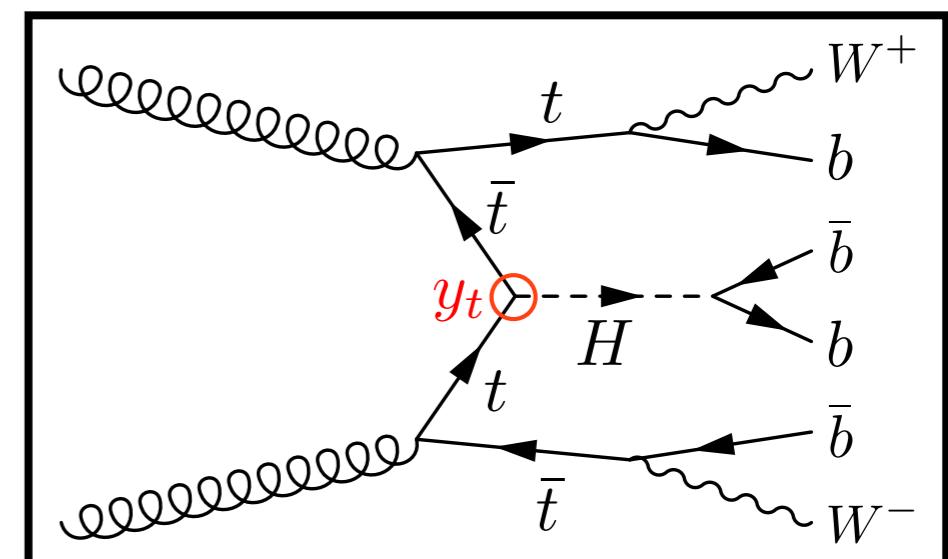
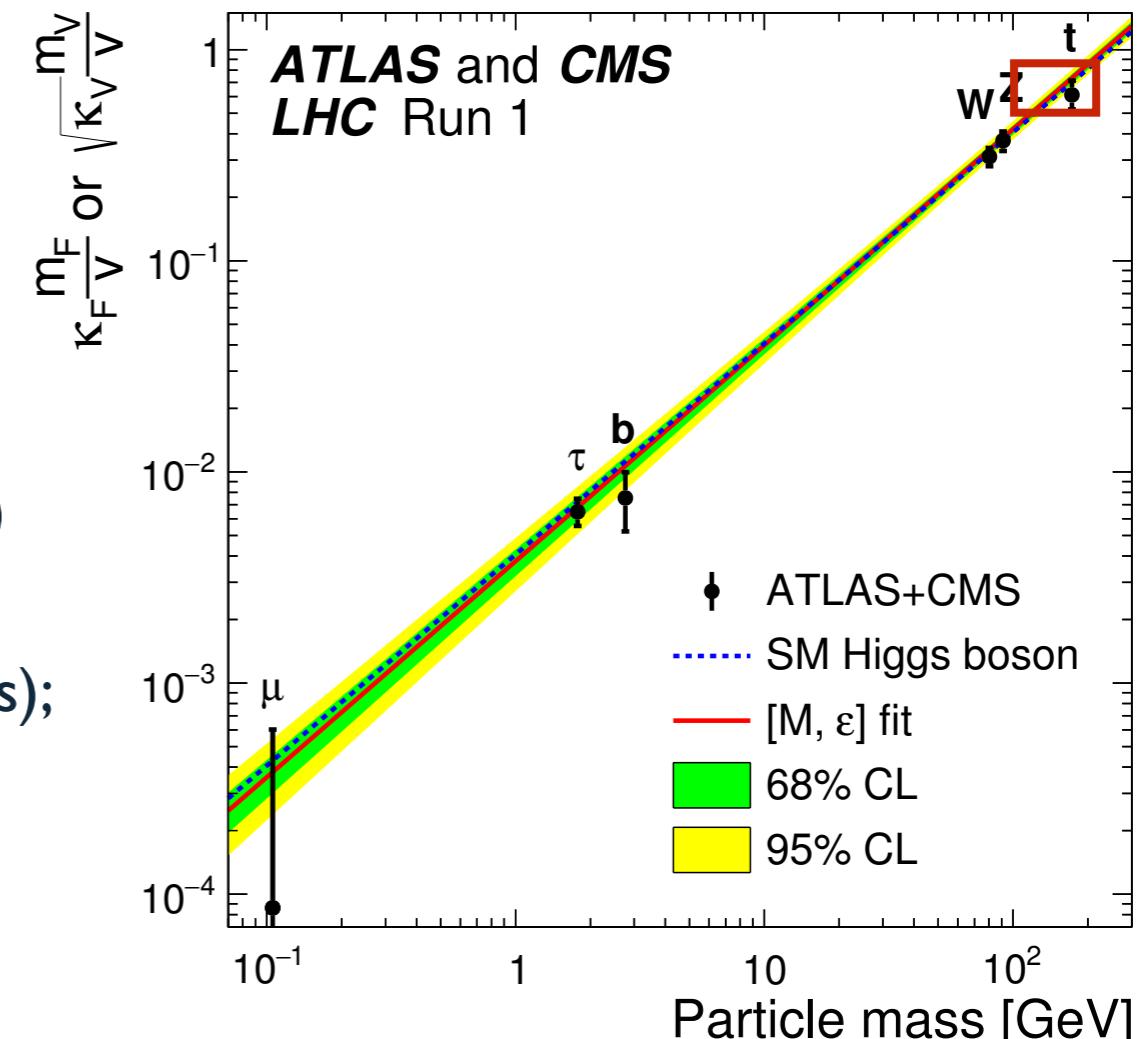
Higgs-top Yukawa coupling

- Largest Yukawa coupling (y_t) in the SM;
Sensitive to presence of new physics!
- Measurement of y_t from global “couplings” fit
using several prod. & decay modes
(ATLAS+CMS Run I combination: $\sigma(K_t) \sim 15\%$)
- Mainly **indirect constraints** from loops in
ggF & H $\gamma\gamma$ vertices (assuming no BSM effects);



- **Directly accessible y_t
by measuring $t\bar{t}H$ production**

Extensive efforts by ATLAS & CMS to measure
 $t\bar{t}H$ process during LHC Run I and Run 2!



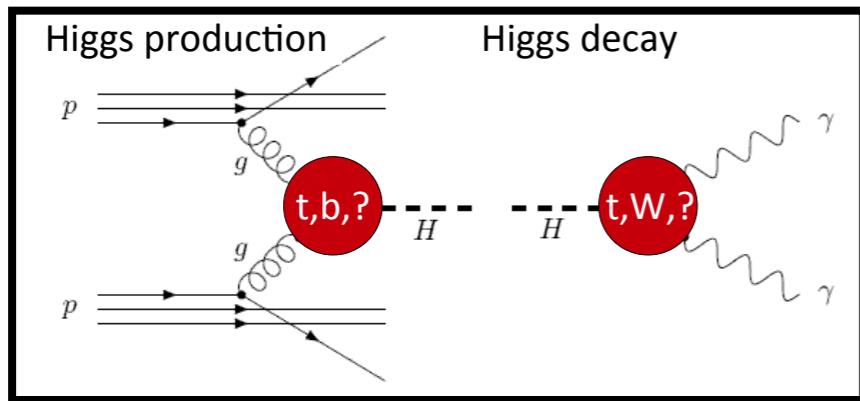
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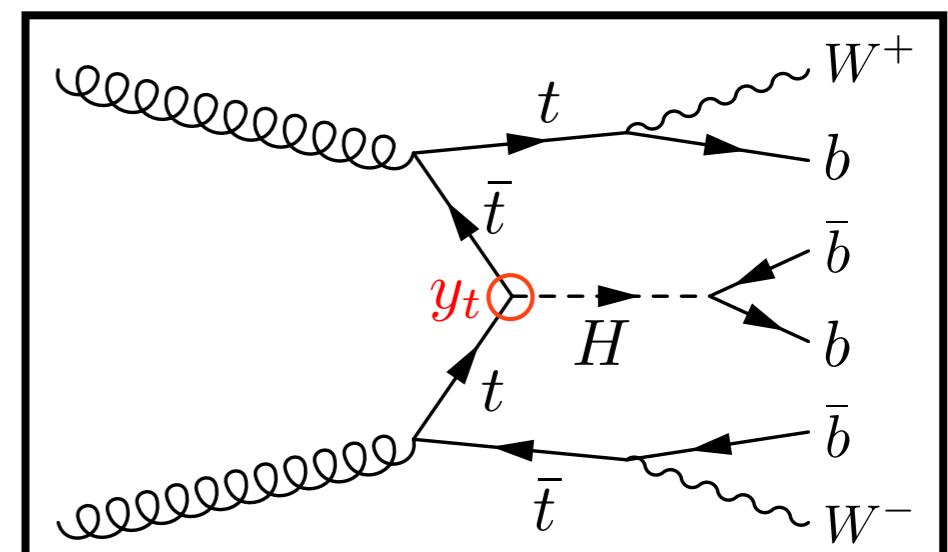
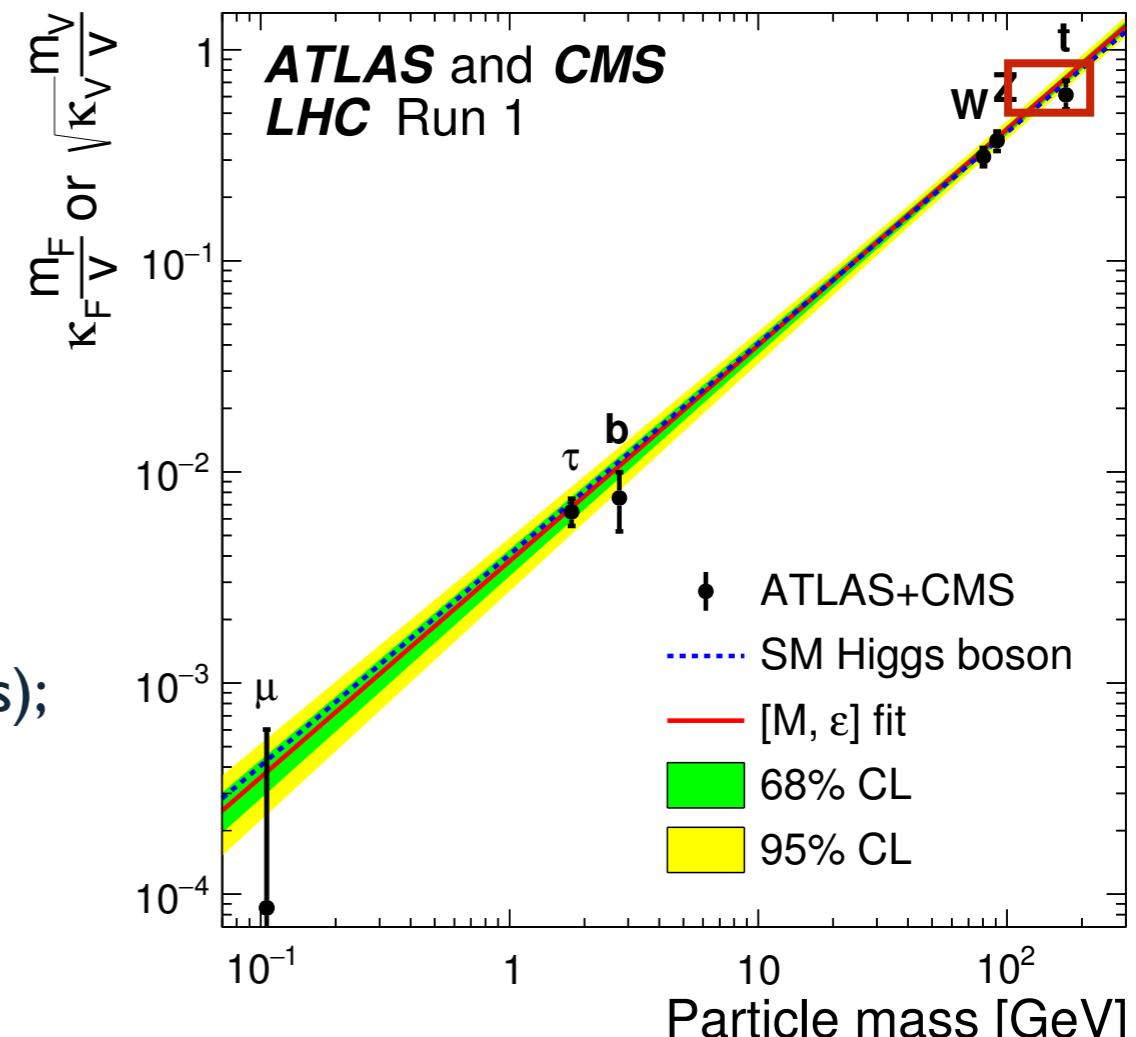
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Recent results on direct $t\bar{t}H$ prod. measurement:

ATLAS: Evidence: 4.2σ (3.8σ exp)
(36fb^{-1} @ 13 TeV)

CMS: Observation: 5.2σ (4.2σ exp)
(5fb^{-1} @ 7 TeV + 20fb^{-1} @ 8 TeV + 36fb^{-1} @ 13 TeV)



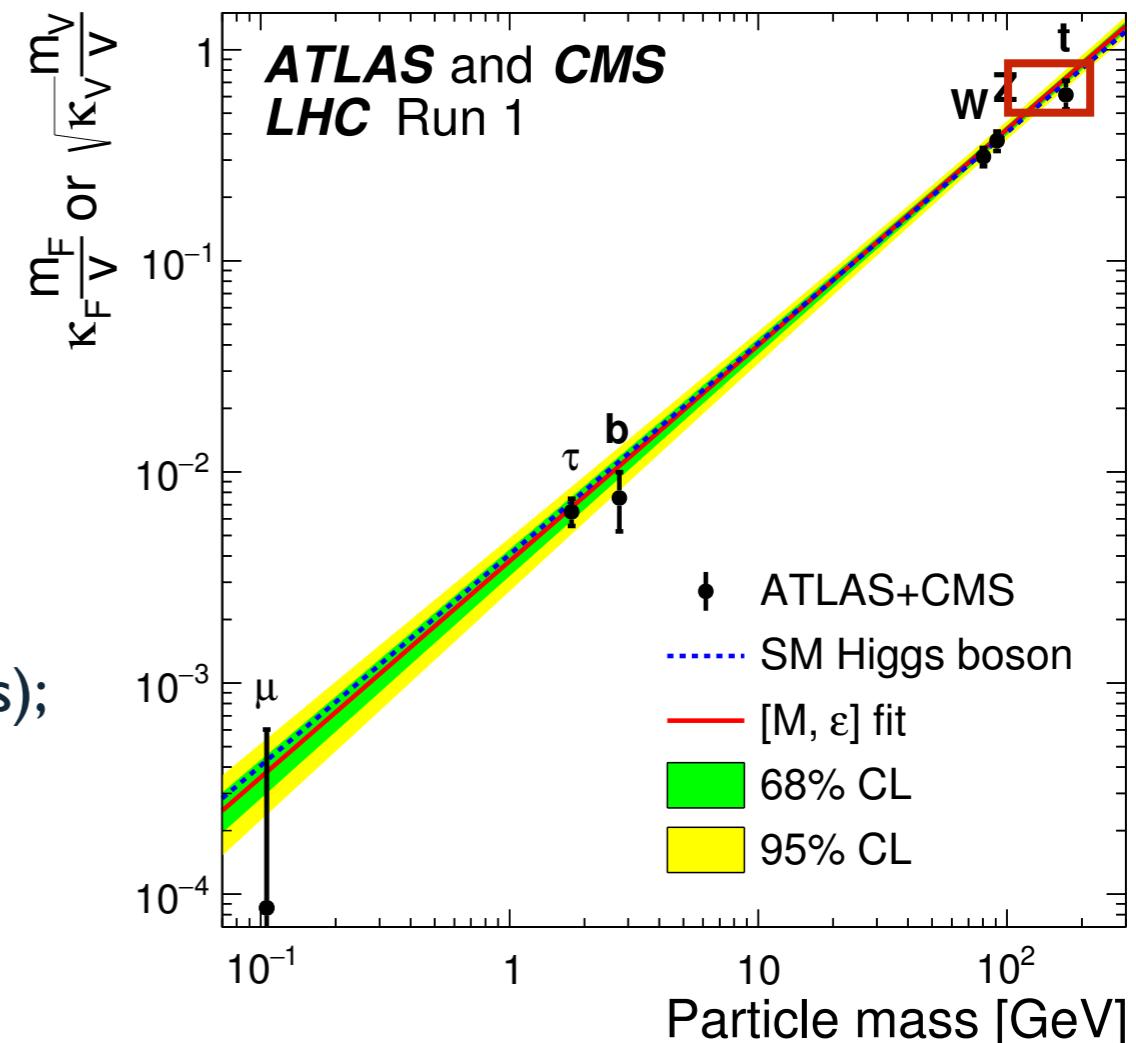
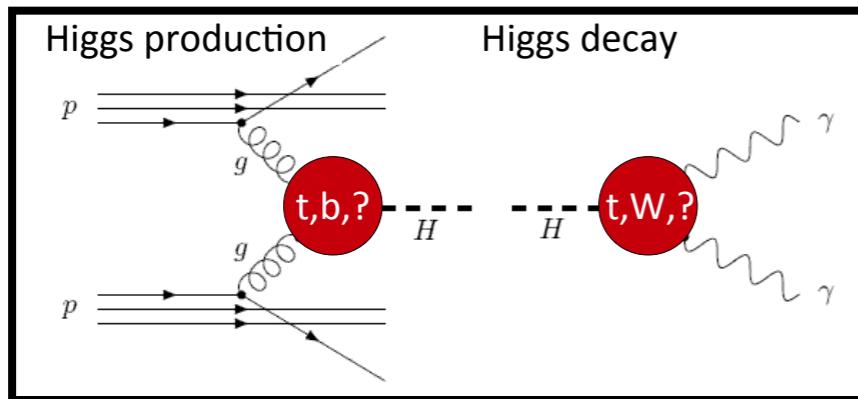
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Higgs-top Yukawa coupling

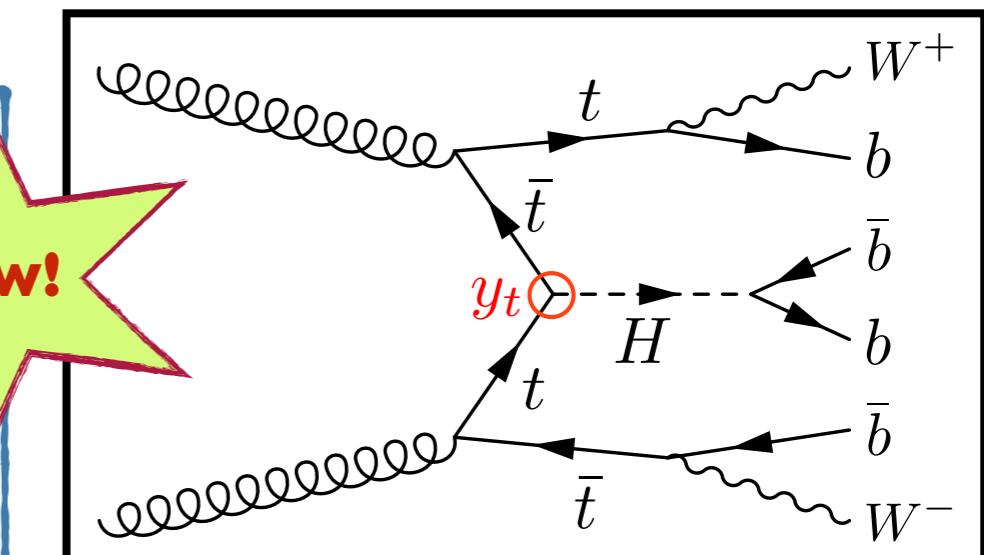
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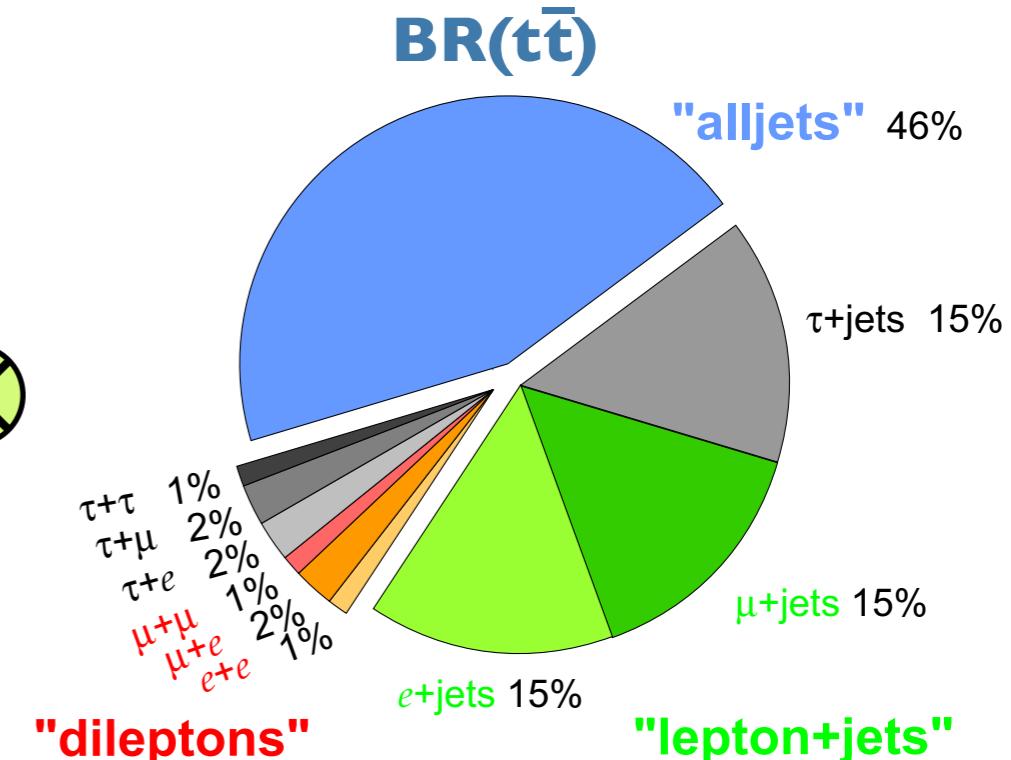
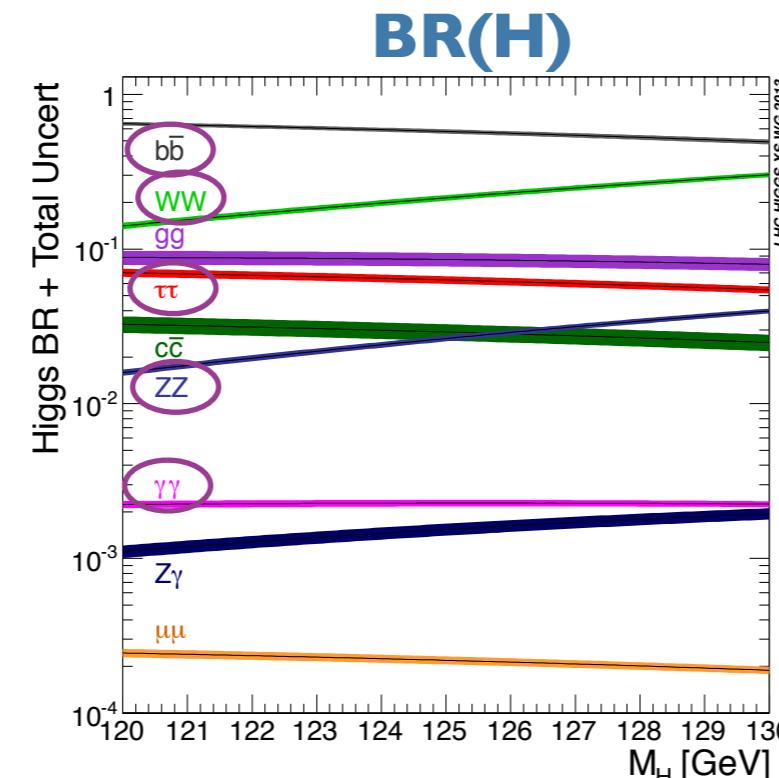
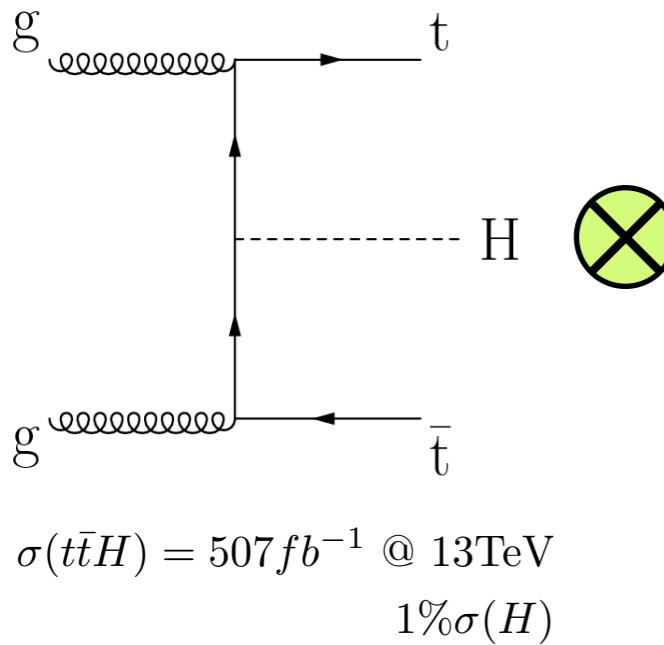


$t\bar{t}H$ - Analysis approach



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$t\bar{t}H$ production



Broad spectrum of analyses explored to cover **multiple final states**:

- Large variety of final states - **need good understanding of all reconstructed objects** [e , μ , γ , hadronically decaying τ , jets, b -jets, $E_T^{\text{miss.}}$].

Thanks to excellent detector performance and hard work of object performance groups!

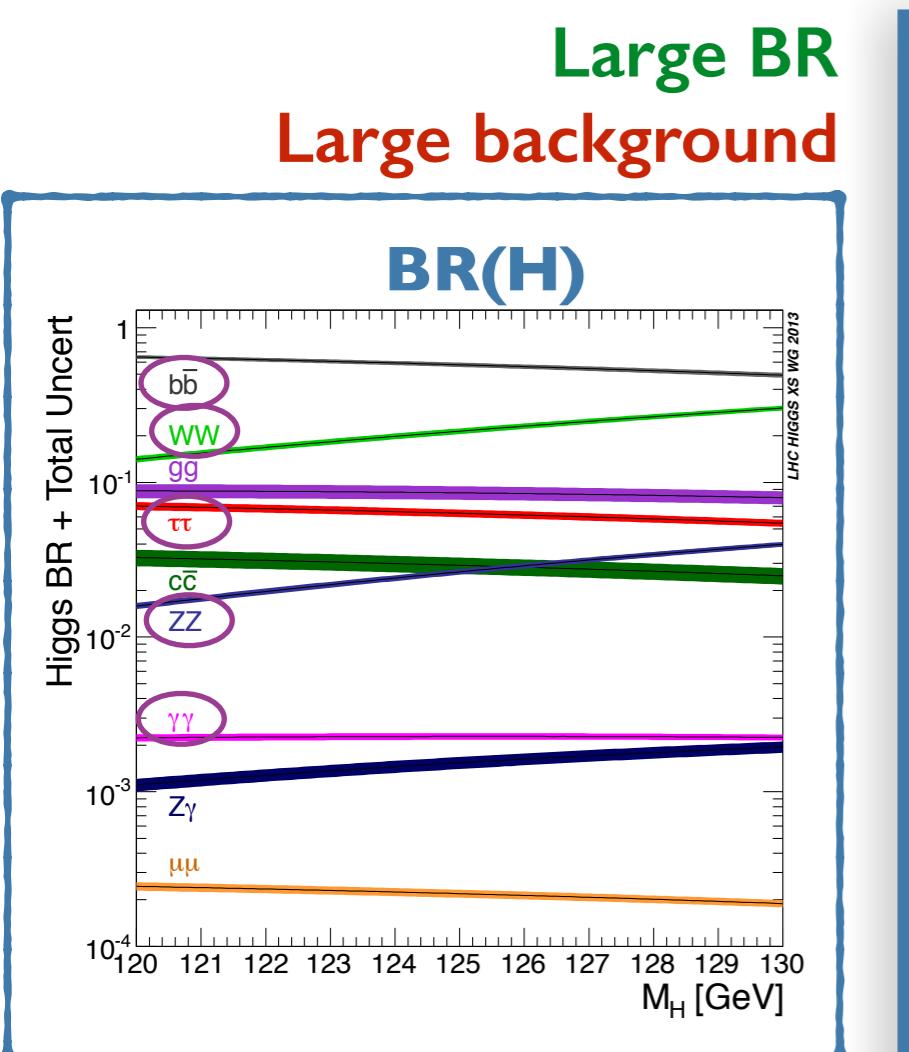
- generally smaller branching ratios correspond to better signal-over-background.

$t\bar{t}H$ - Analysis approach



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Categorisation by Higgs boson decay:



Small BR
Purity and precision

$t\bar{t}H(bb)$

BR~58%, S/B~1-6%

$t\bar{t}H$ multi-leptons (WW*, ττ, ZZ*)

BR = 30%, S/B=4-34%

$t\bar{t}H(\gamma\gamma)$

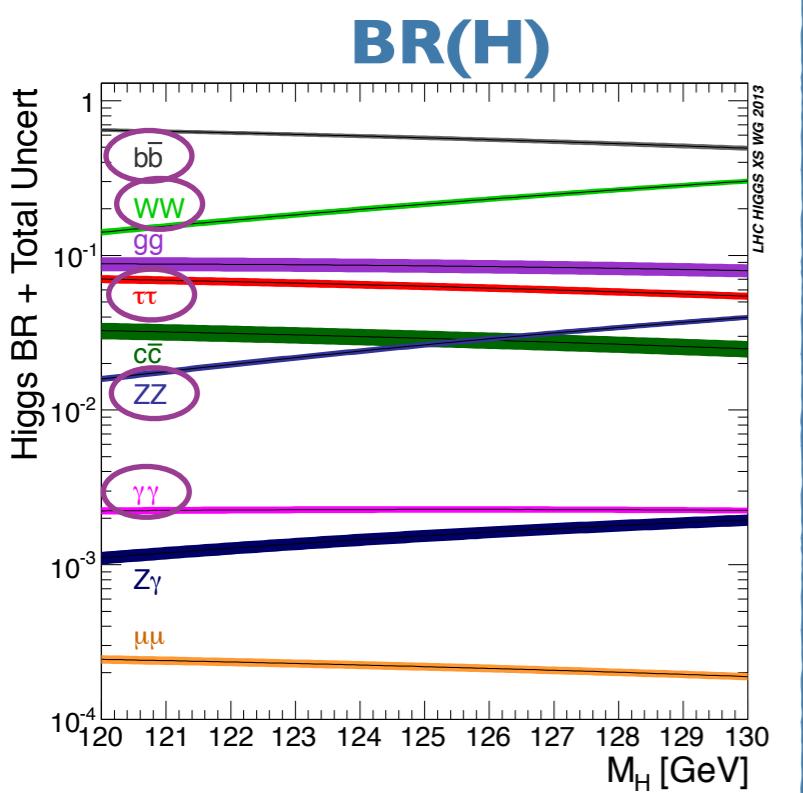
BR = 0.23%, S/B=5-200%

$t\bar{t}H(ZZ^*\rightarrow 4l)$

BR = 0.01%, S/B=50-500%

Categorisation by Higgs boson decay:

Large BR
Large background



Small BR
Purity and precision

$t\bar{t}H(bb)$

[Phys. Rev. D 97 \(2018\) 072016](#)

**$t\bar{t}H$ multi-leptons
(WW*, $\tau\tau$, ZZ*)**

[Phys. Rev. D 97 \(2018\) 072003](#)

$t\bar{t}H(\gamma\gamma)$

[arXiv:1802.04146](#)

$t\bar{t}H(ZZ^*\rightarrow 4l)$

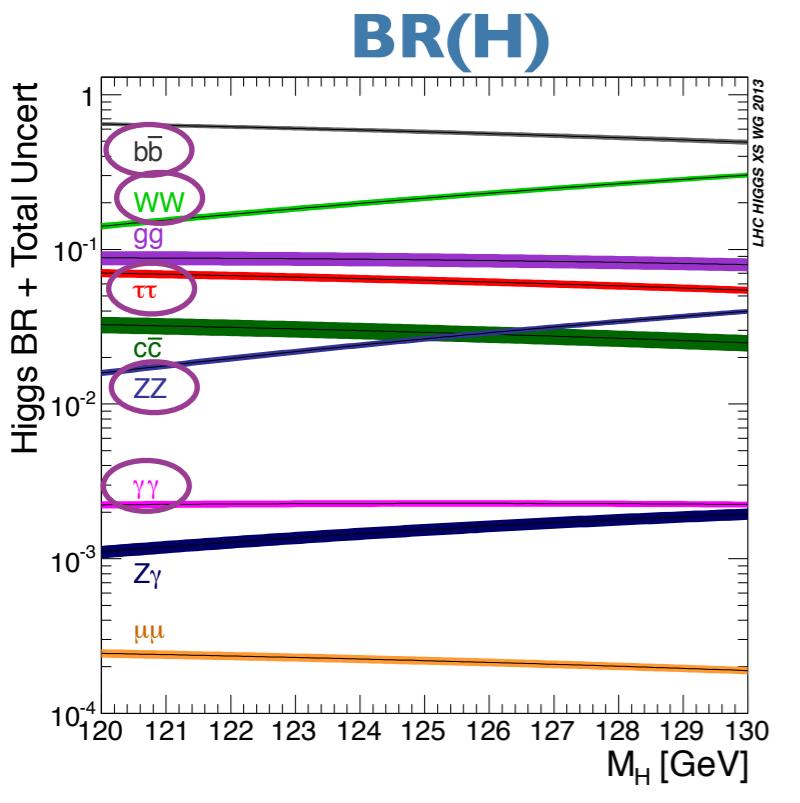
[JHEP 03 \(2018\) 095](#)

Combined
13 TeV
@ 36.1 fb^{-1}
 4.2σ (3.8σ exp)

[Phys. Rev. D 97 \(2018\) 072003](#)

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[Phys. Rev. D 97 \(2018\) 072016](#)

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(WW*, tt, ZZ*)**

[Phys. Rev. D 97 \(2018\) 072003](#)

$t\bar{t}H(\gamma\gamma)$

[arXiv:1806.00425](#)

New!
@80fb⁻¹

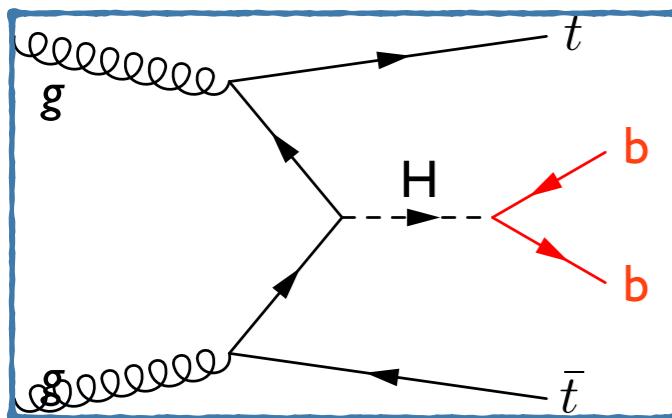
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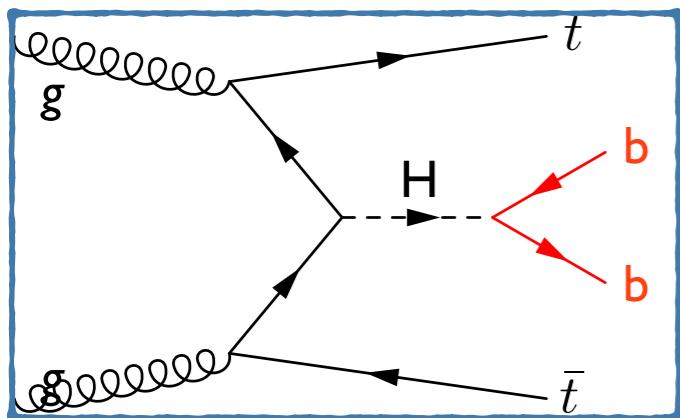
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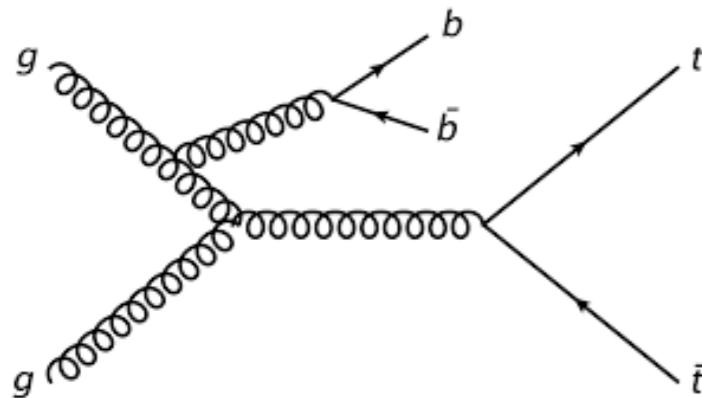
- Fermion-only production and decay; 
- Higgs boson reconstruction possible, but challenging due to multiple b-quarks and additional radiation in the final state; 
- Irreducible $t\bar{t}+b\bar{b}$ background has large theory uncertainty. 



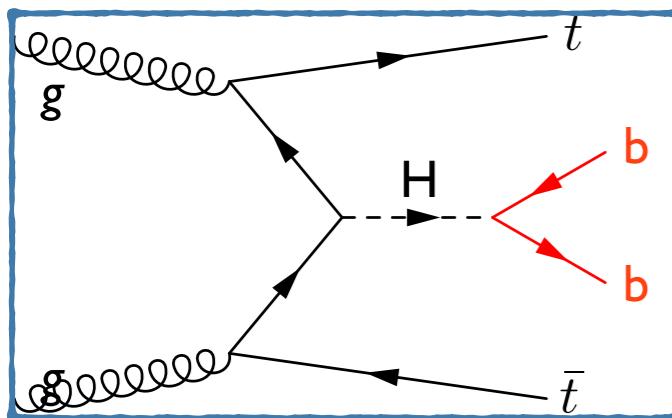
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Biggest challenge: good and precise modelling of the $t\bar{t}+HF (\geq 1b, \geq 1c)$ background



- Nominal sample: 5-flavour scheme;
- Relative contribution of $t\bar{t}+\geq 1b$ subcomponents reweighted to $t\bar{t}+b\bar{b}$ predictions by Sherpa+OpenLoops (4-flavour scheme);

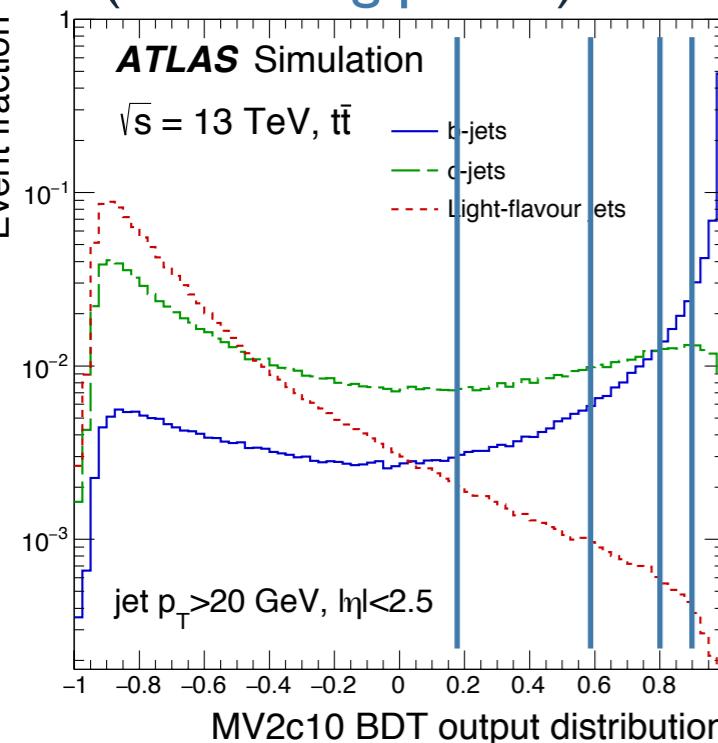


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Analysis strategy - cascade of MVAs

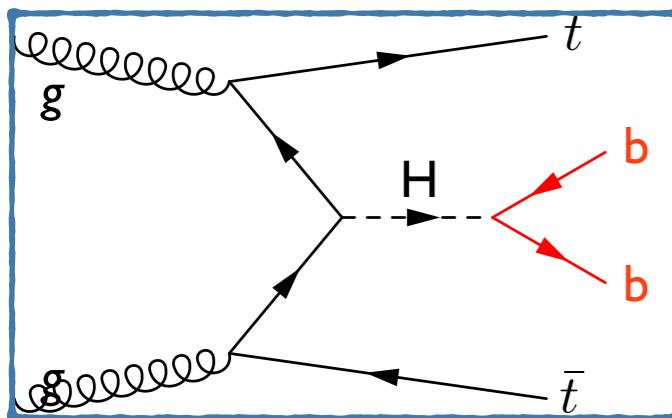
Categorisation:

- $1\ell \& 2\ell$ (e, μ), # of jets;
- b -tag score of jets
(4 working points).



Many categories with very different fractions of $t\bar{t}+\text{light}$, $t\bar{t}+\geq 1\text{c}$, $t\bar{t}+\geq b/t\bar{t}H$;
+ Boosted category - events w/ 1 top quark and the $H \rightarrow bb$ in two large-cone jets

10 CRs
9 SRs



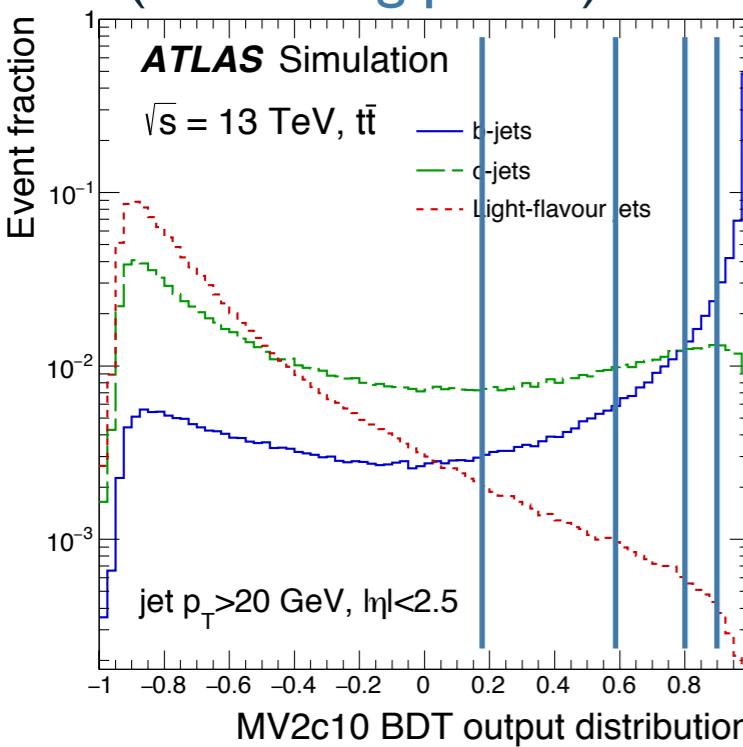
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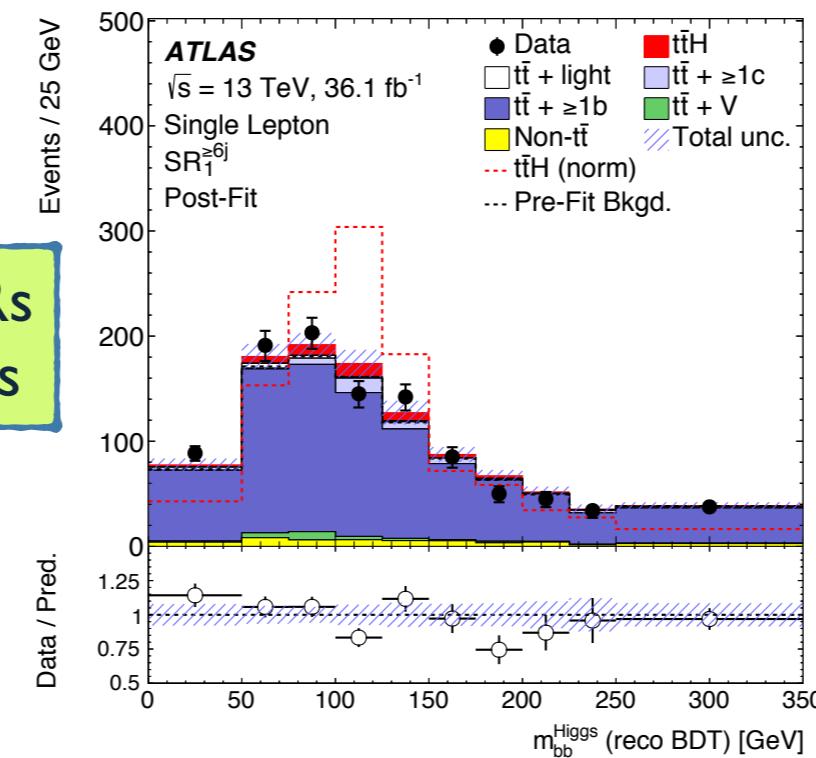
In SRs



10 CRs
9 SRs

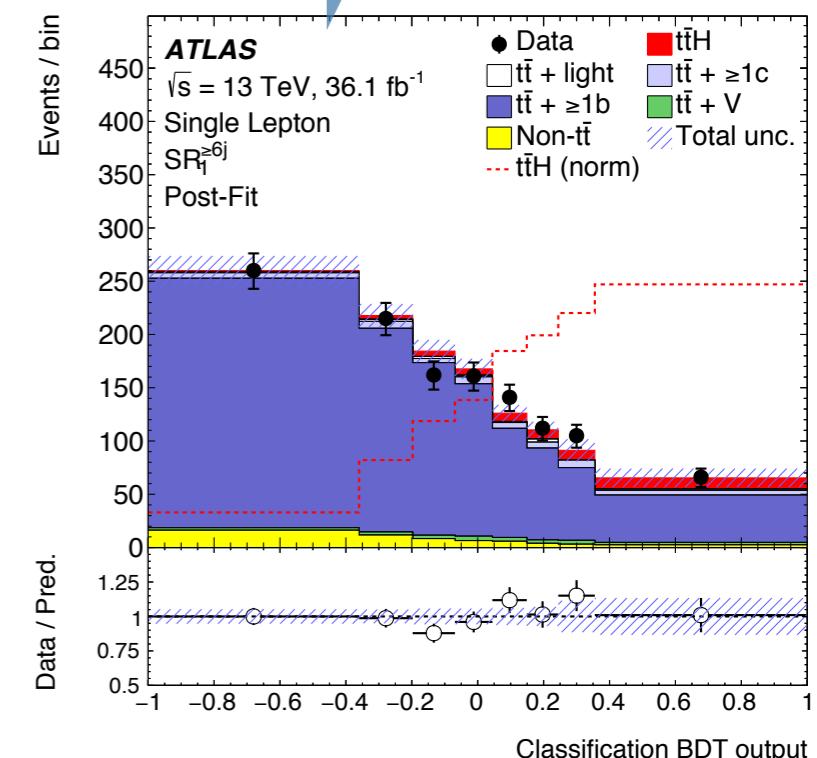
Intermediate:

Reco BDT, matrix element & likelihood discriminants (1ℓ).



Final:

+event kinematics,
 b -tag info



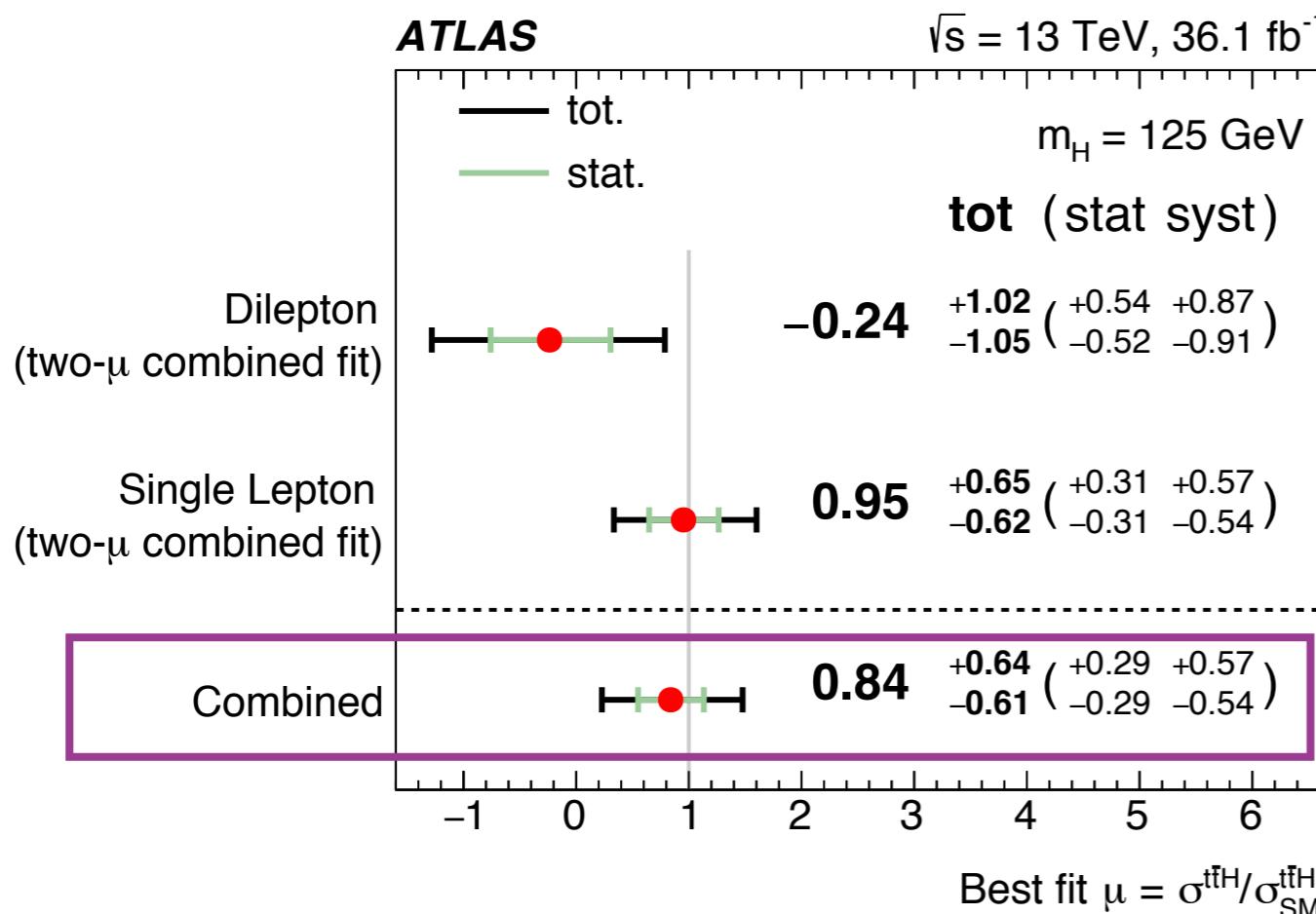
$t\bar{t}H(bb)$ results



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Signal extraction: Binned profile likelihood fit to all signal and control regions.
Normalisation of $t\bar{t}+ \geq 1b$ and $t\bar{t}+ \geq 1c$ left free-floating in the fit.

Signal strength: $\mu = \sigma/\sigma_{SM}$



Significance:
1.4 σ (expected 1.6 σ)

Dominant systematics

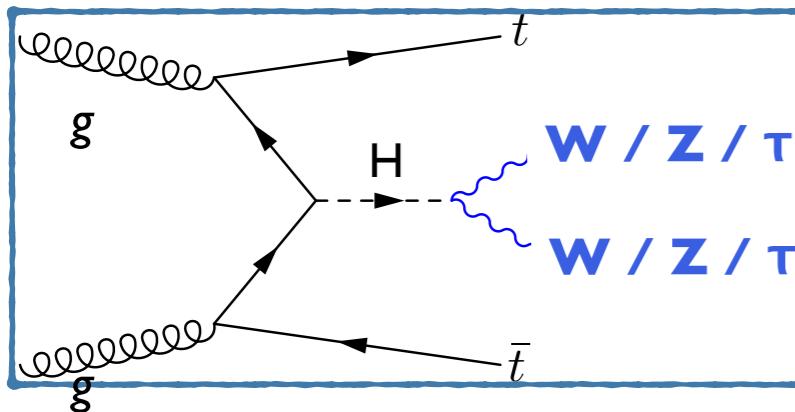
- **Modelling of $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$ (± 0.46);**
- Limited MC statistics (± 0.30);
- Jet flavour tagging (± 0.16);
- Jet energy scale & resolution (± 0.16);

Systematically limited:
Requires improvements from
both TH and EX communities!

$t\bar{t}H$ (multi-leptons)



TRIUMF

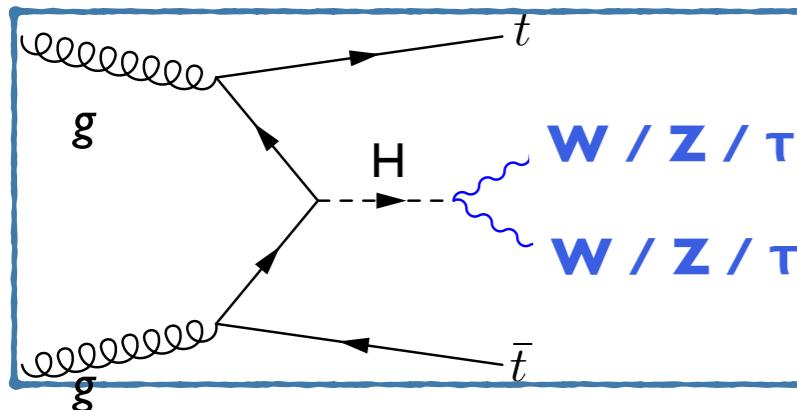


- Targeting: **ZZ***, **WW*** and **TT** decays combined with leptonic $t\bar{t}$ decays - distinct multi-lepton signatures* 
- Higgs reconstruction is difficult. 

tt>H(multi-leptons)

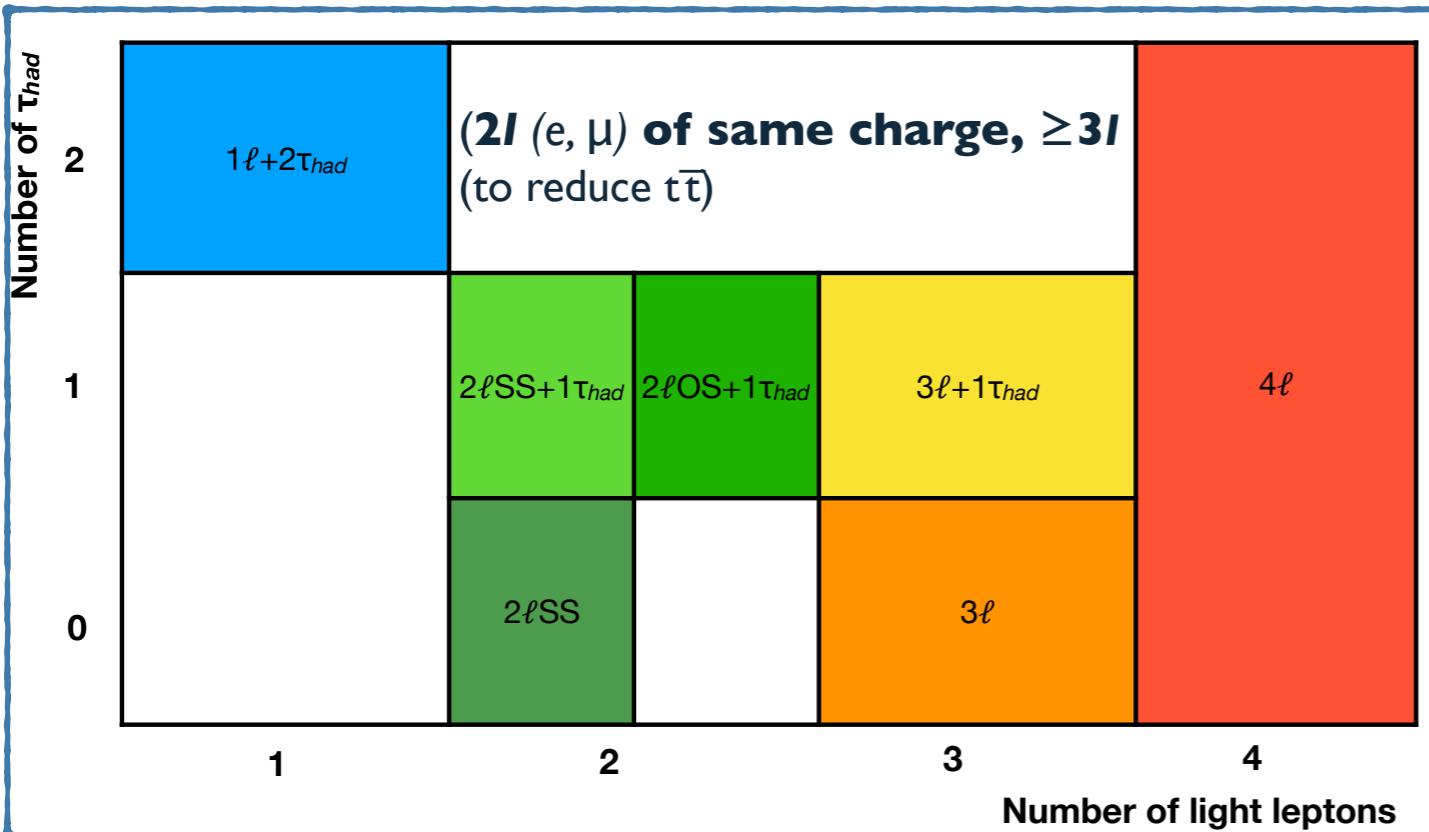


TRIUMF



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Categorisation:



Main backgrounds:

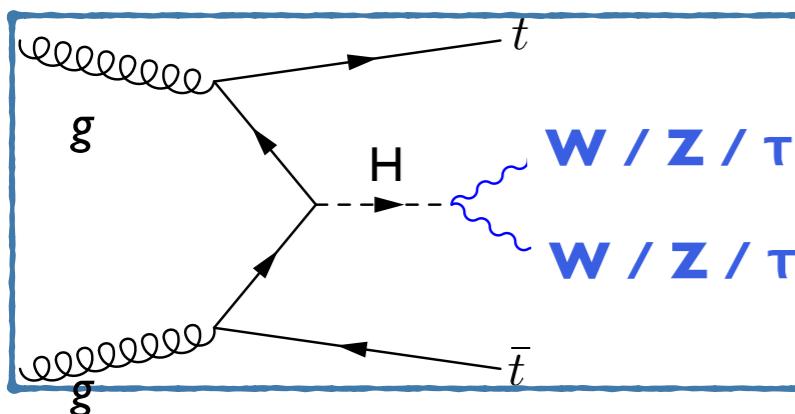
- Irreducible: tt>+V and VV - estimated from NLO MC & validated in data.
- Reducible: Non-prompt e, μ and hadronic τ : primarily from decays in tt>, and prompt light leptons with misidentified charge - estimated from data;

*Events originating from ttH(ZZ → 4 ℓ) are analysed within H → ZZ → 4 ℓ coupling analysis.

$t\bar{t}H$ (multi-leptons)



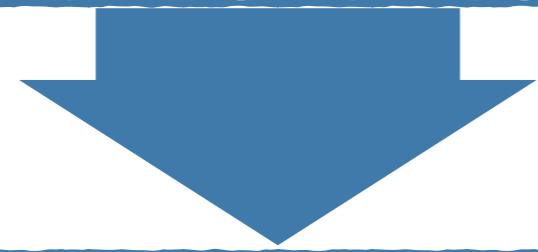
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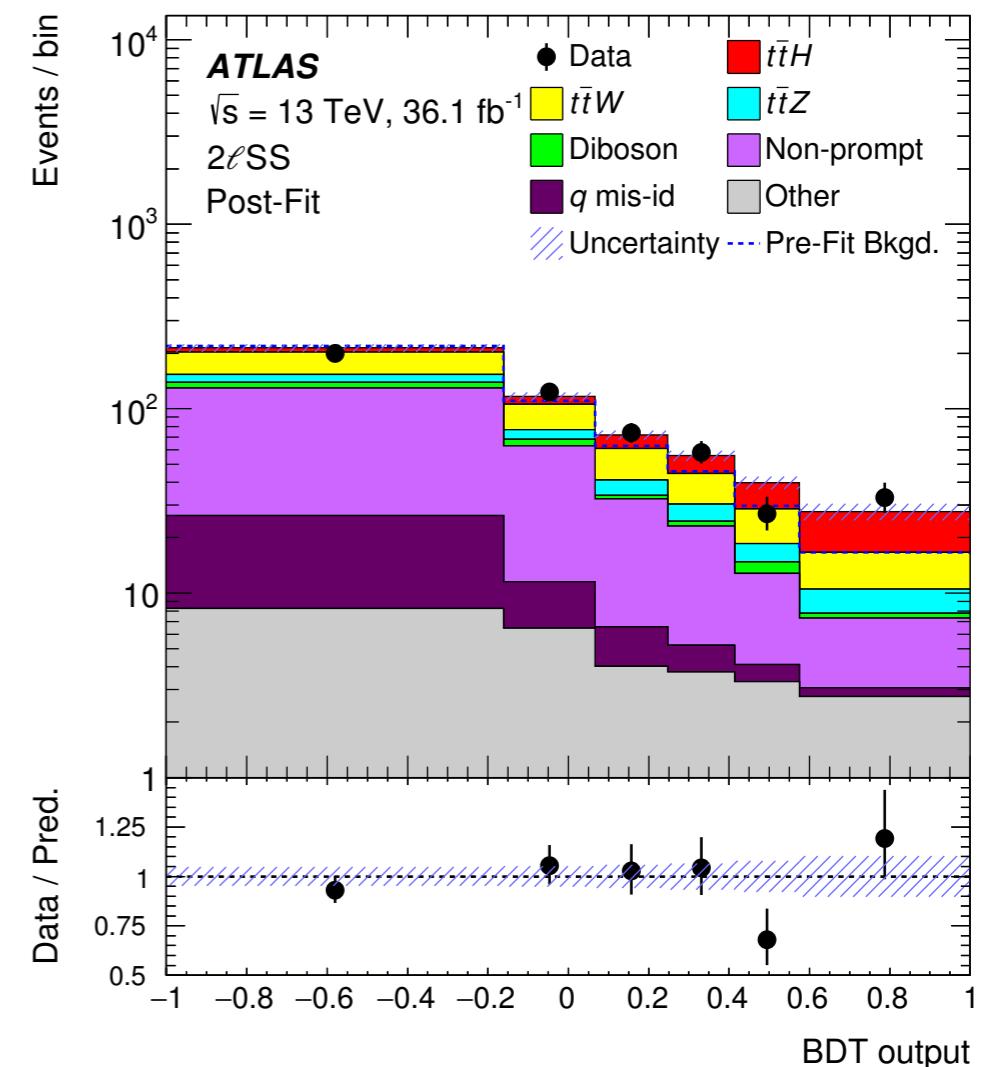
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Signal extraction strategy

Object level discrimination: Isolation BDT to reduce non-prompt bkg, Charge misID BDT;



Event level discrimination: Fit or cut on BDT output in all categories [except $3\ell+1\tau$ & 4ℓ].

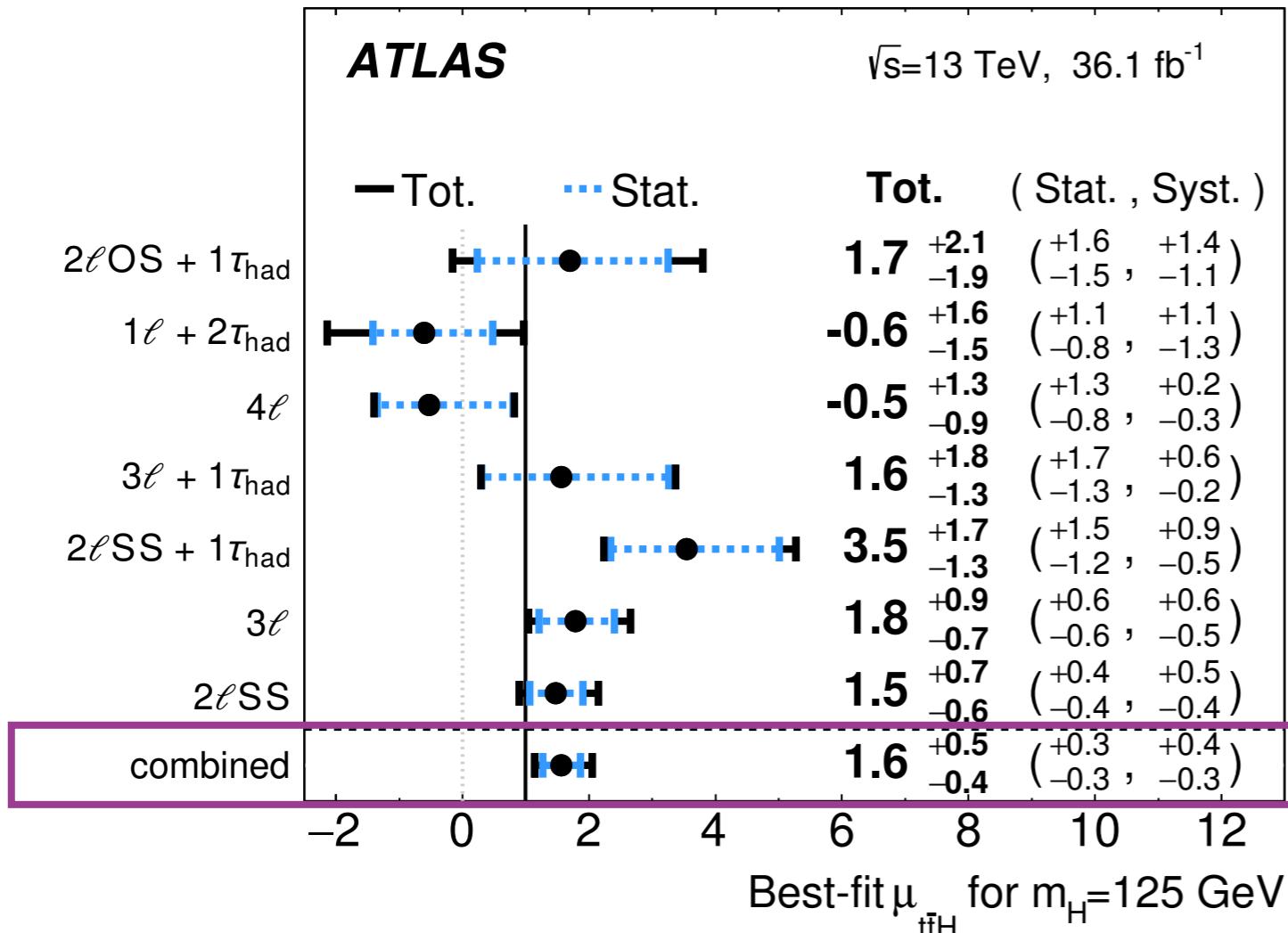


$t\bar{t}H$ (multi-leptons) results



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Signal extraction: Binned profile likelihood fit across all categories including main background control regions.

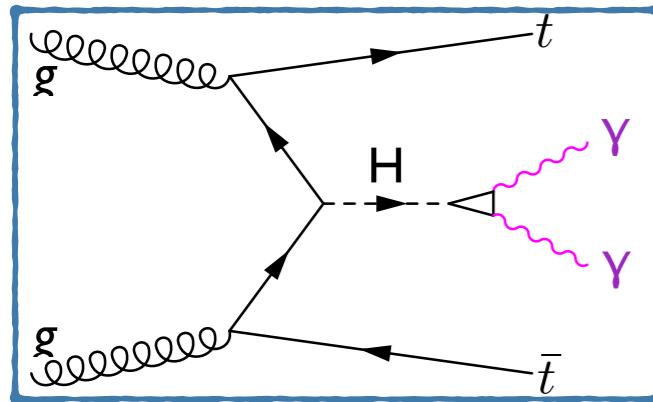


Significance:
4.1 σ (expected 2.8 σ)

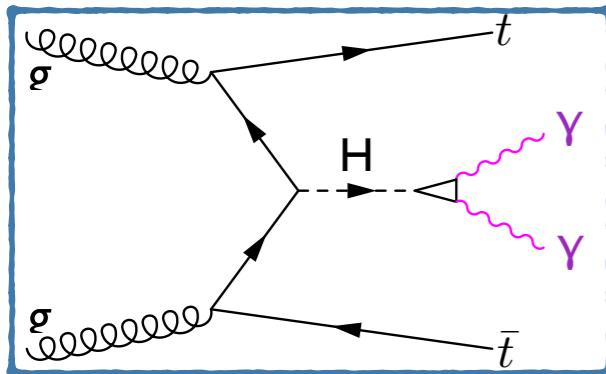
Dominant systematics

- $t\bar{t}H$ modelling (+0.20,-0.10);
- Jet energy scale/resolution (± 0.17);
- Non-prompt e/ μ (± 0.14) - large contribution from limited CR stat .

New data will improve the precision on channels that are still stats. limited and help constraining $t\bar{t}Z$ & $t\bar{t}W$ background.



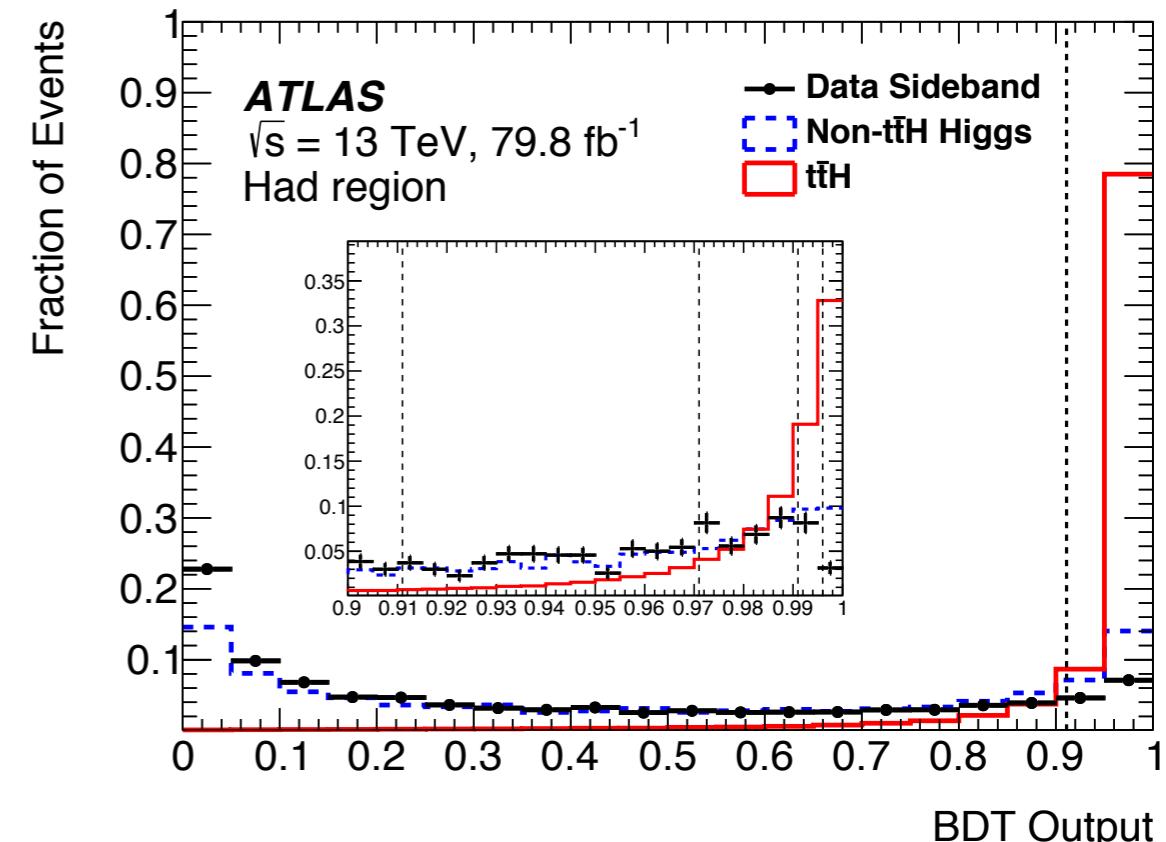
- Small rate; 
- Higgs boson can be reconstructed as a “narrow” peak;
Side-bands can be used to estimate the background. 

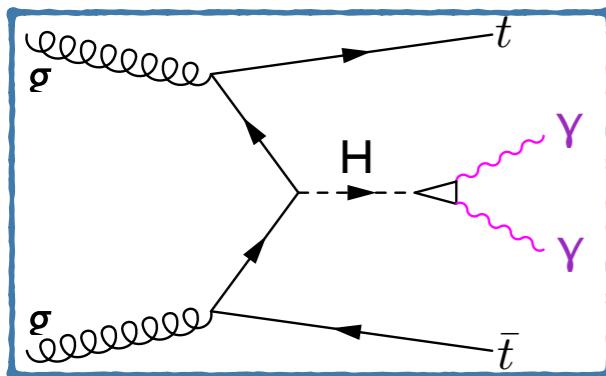


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(New) Analysis strategy:

- Categorisation based on t \bar{t} decay - **leptonic** ($\geq 1\ell$) and **hadronic** (0ℓ) category;
- Further categorisation based on **XGBoost BDT** discriminant value - **4 hadronic** and **3 leptonic** categories (events w/ low BDT scores rejected).
- Input vars to XGBoost BDT:
4-vector information of photons ($p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma}$), jets, E_T^{miss} (both cat), lepton(s) (lep cat), and b-tag (had cat);
- Training t \bar{t} H (from simulation) vs. main background - γγ, ttγγ (from data CRs), other H (from simulation).

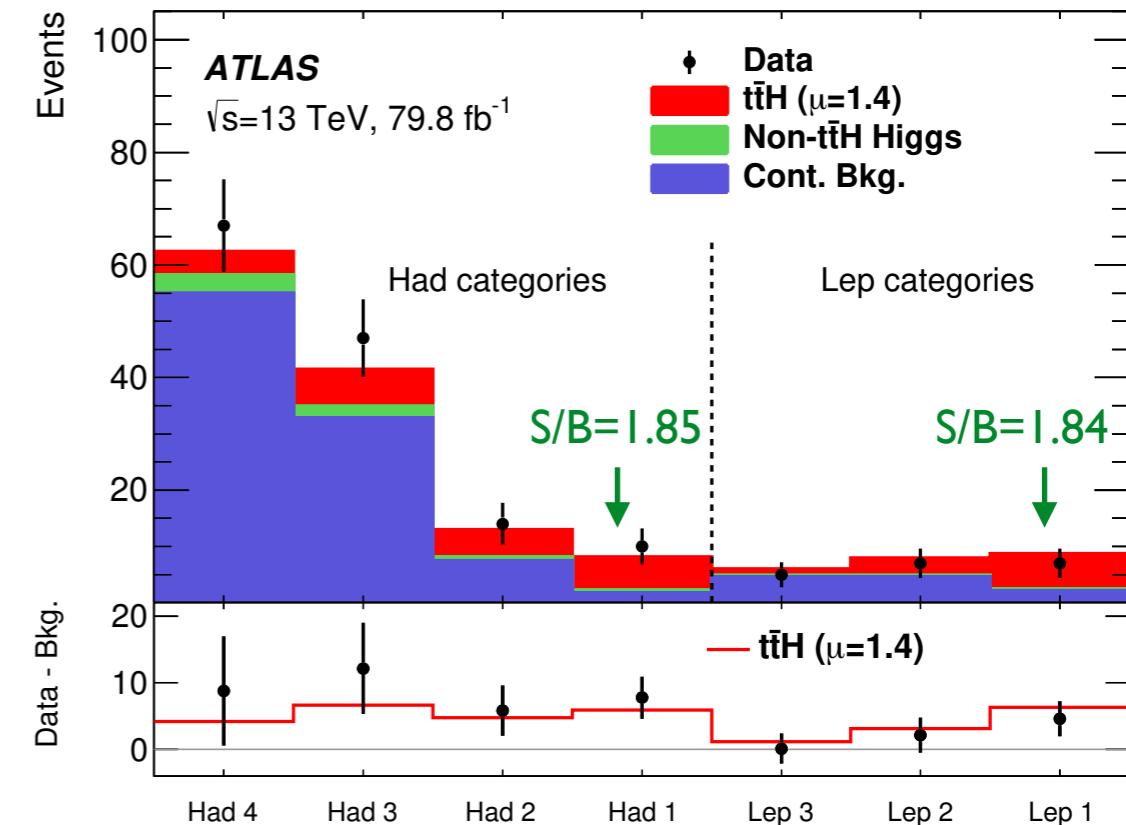


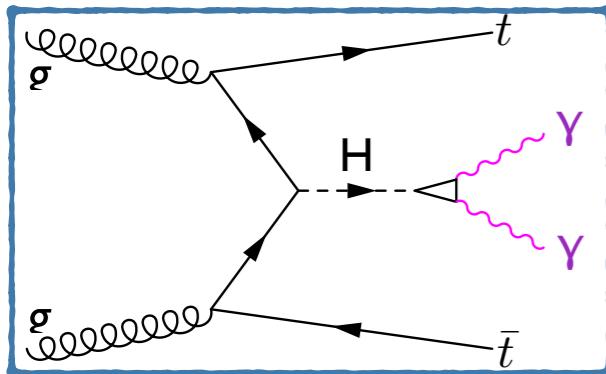


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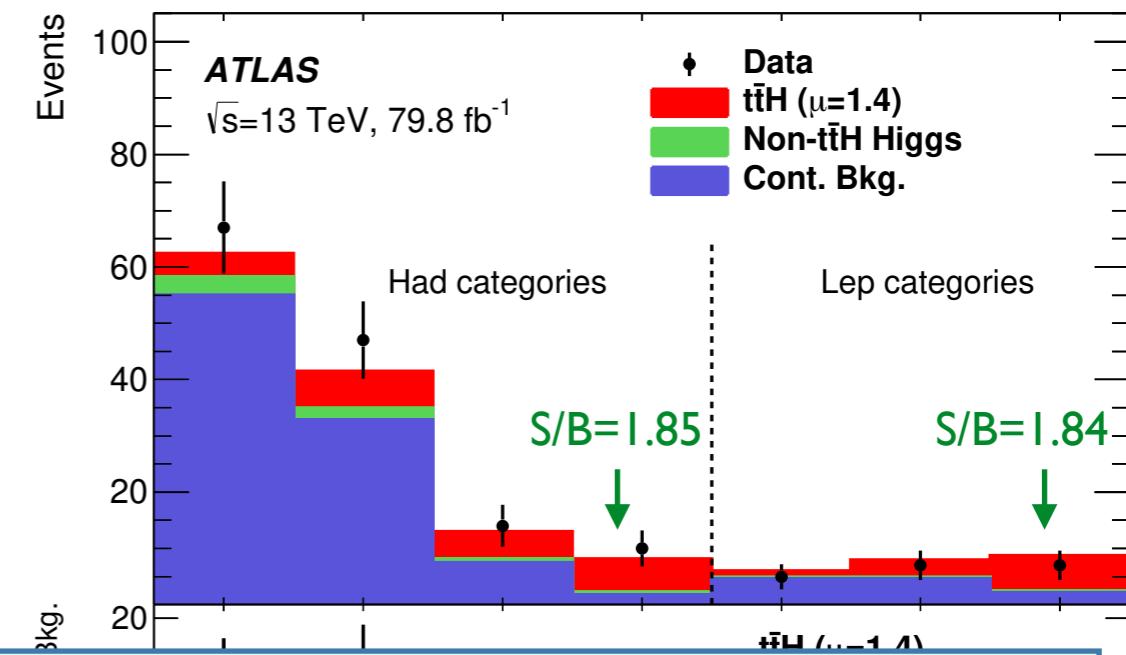




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50% improvement in sensitivity:

Changes in analysis strategy + update to the new ATLAS reconstruction software

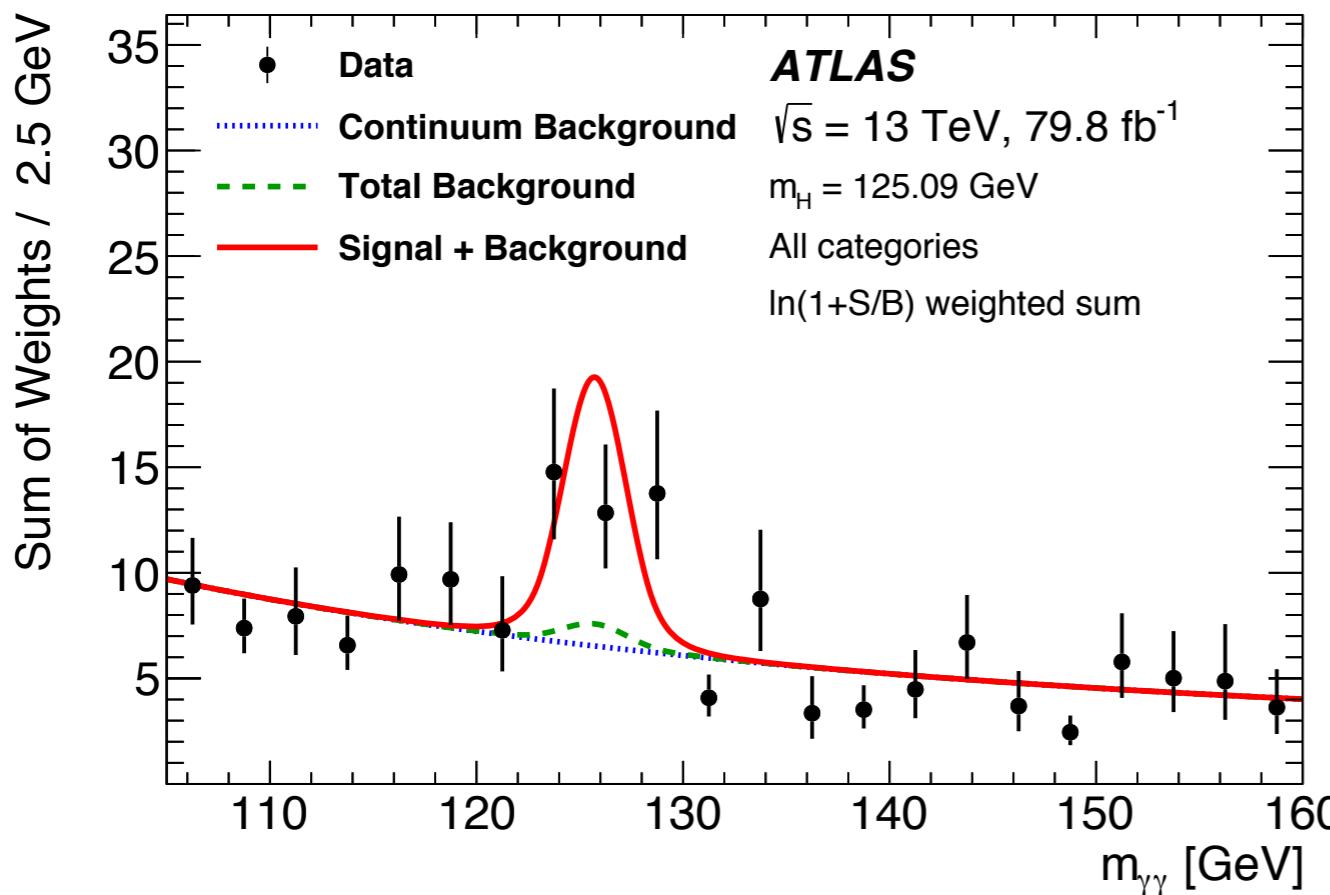
$t\bar{t}H(\gamma\gamma)$ results



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Background estimation and **signal extraction** performed by simultaneous **unbinned fit** of $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ spectra (105-160 GeV) in all **7 categories**.

- Higgs signal parametrisation: double-sided Crystal Ball function;
- Continuous background parametrisation: smooth function (power-law or exponential)



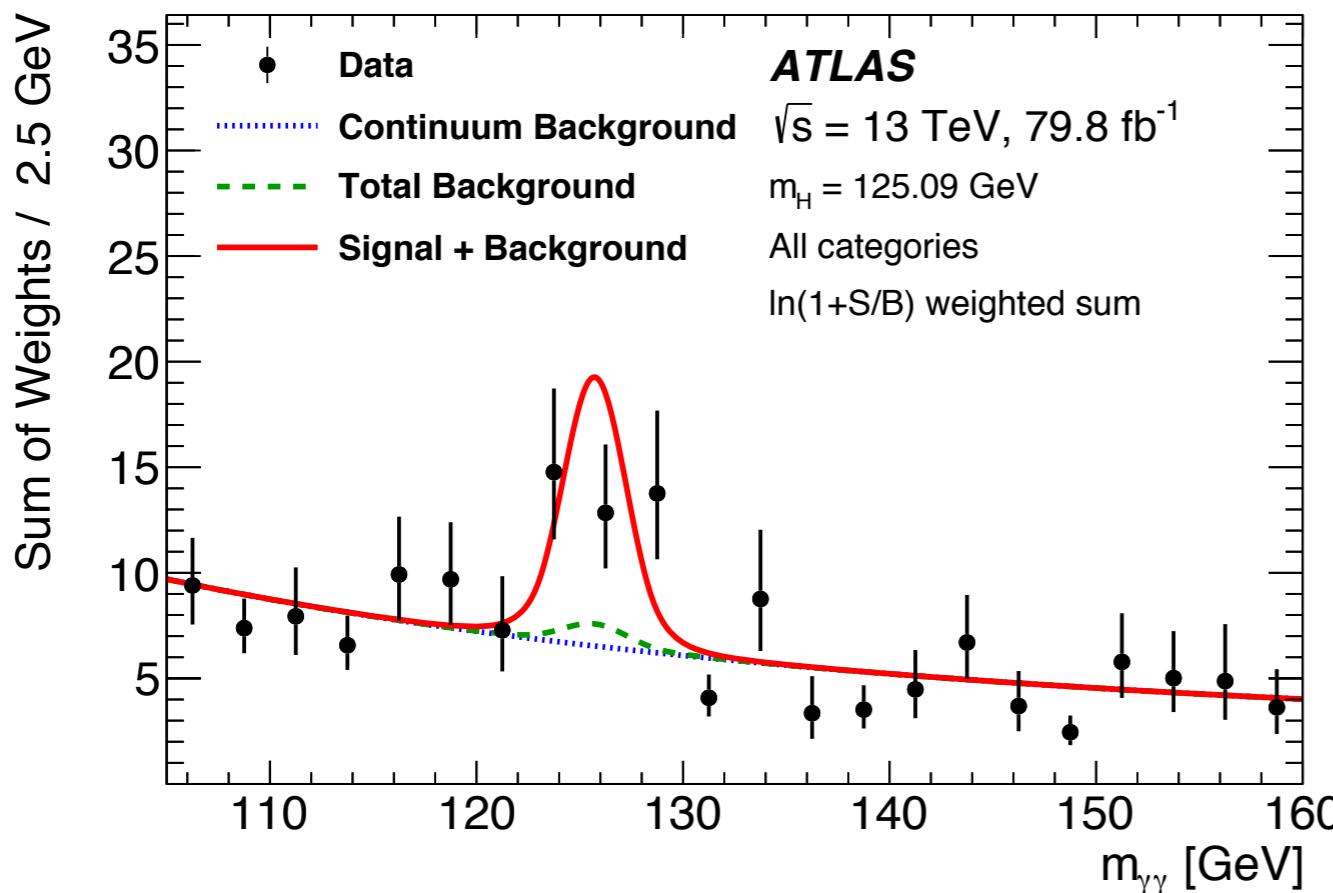
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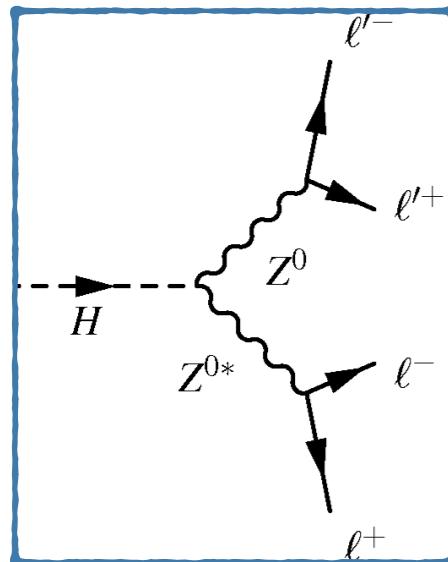
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Dominant uncertainties

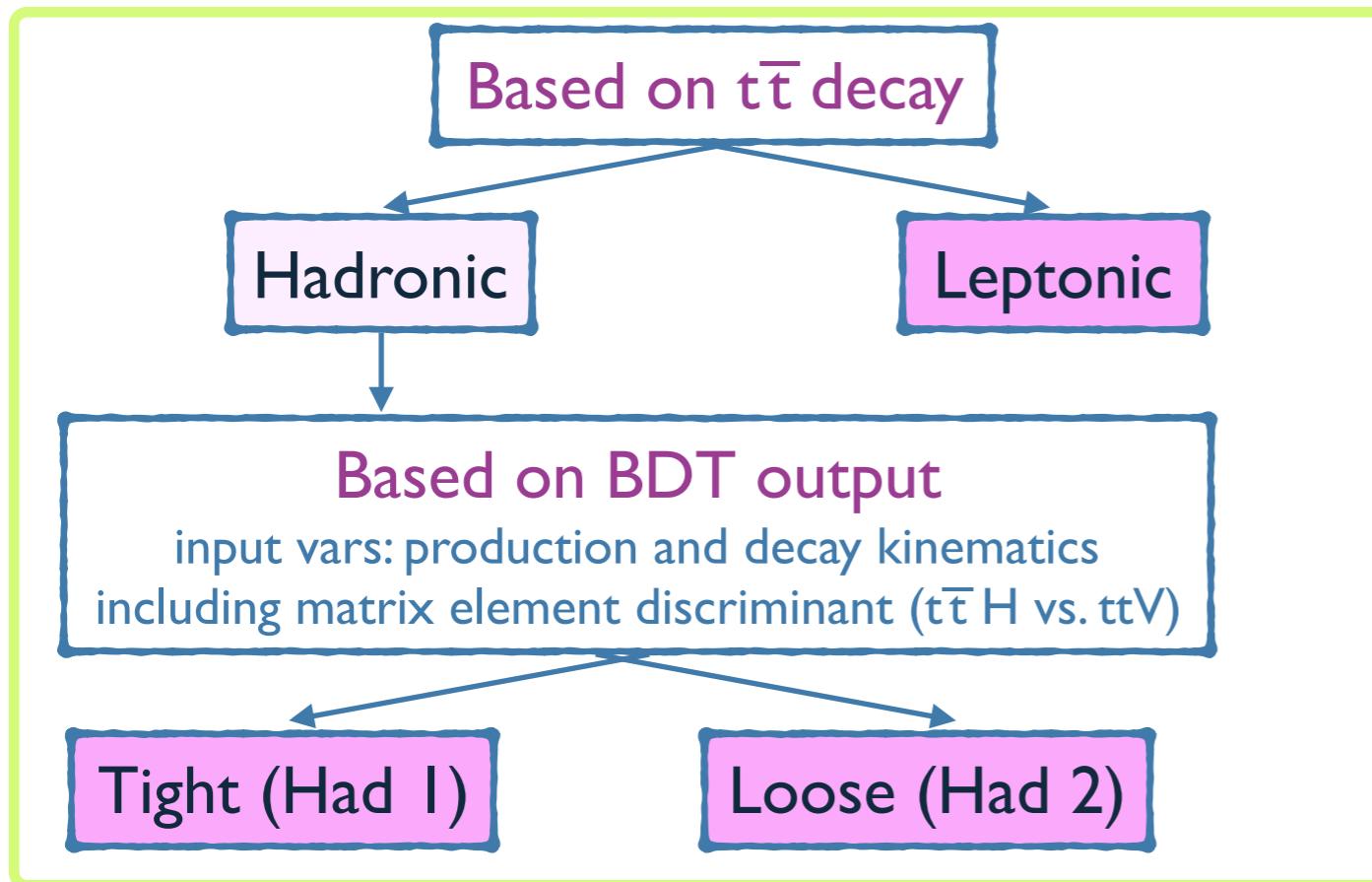
- Statistical ($\sim 29\%$);
- $t\bar{t}H$ parton shower model (8%);
- photon isolation, energy resolution & scale (8%);
- Jet energy scale & resolution (6%);

Significance: 4.1σ (expected 3.7σ)

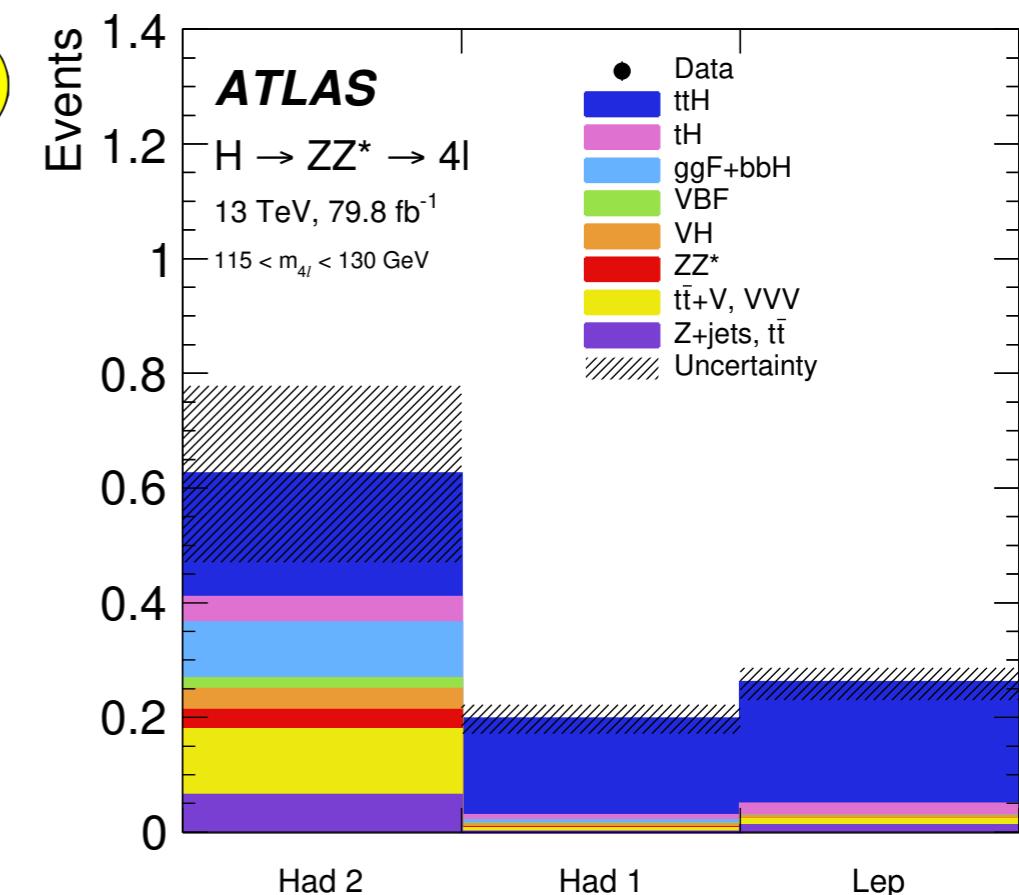


- Extremely low rate. ☹️
- Clean final state w/ high S/B. ☺️

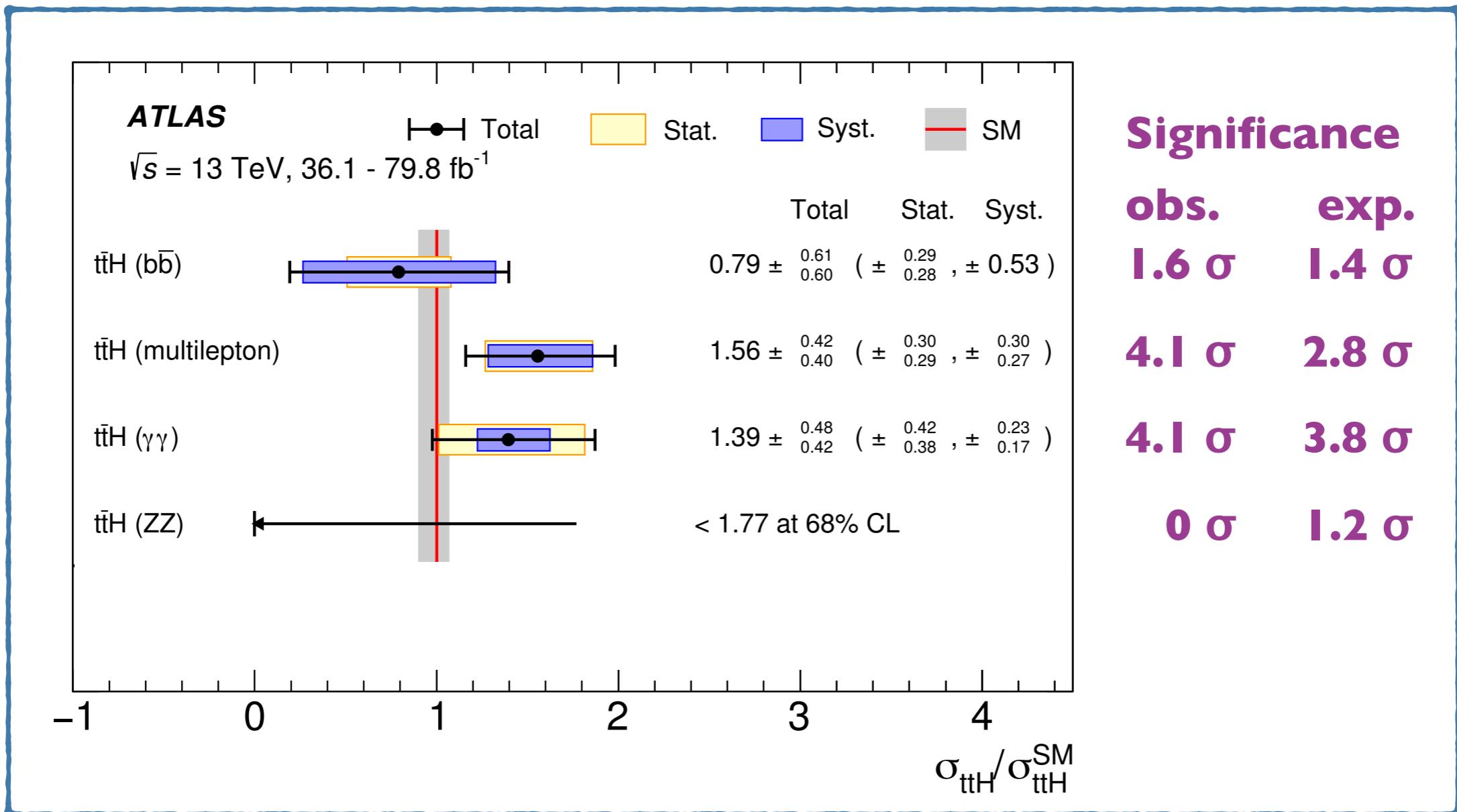
Categorisation:



- Simultaneous fit to all categories;



No events observed.
(exp. significance 1.2σ)
Very statistically limited!



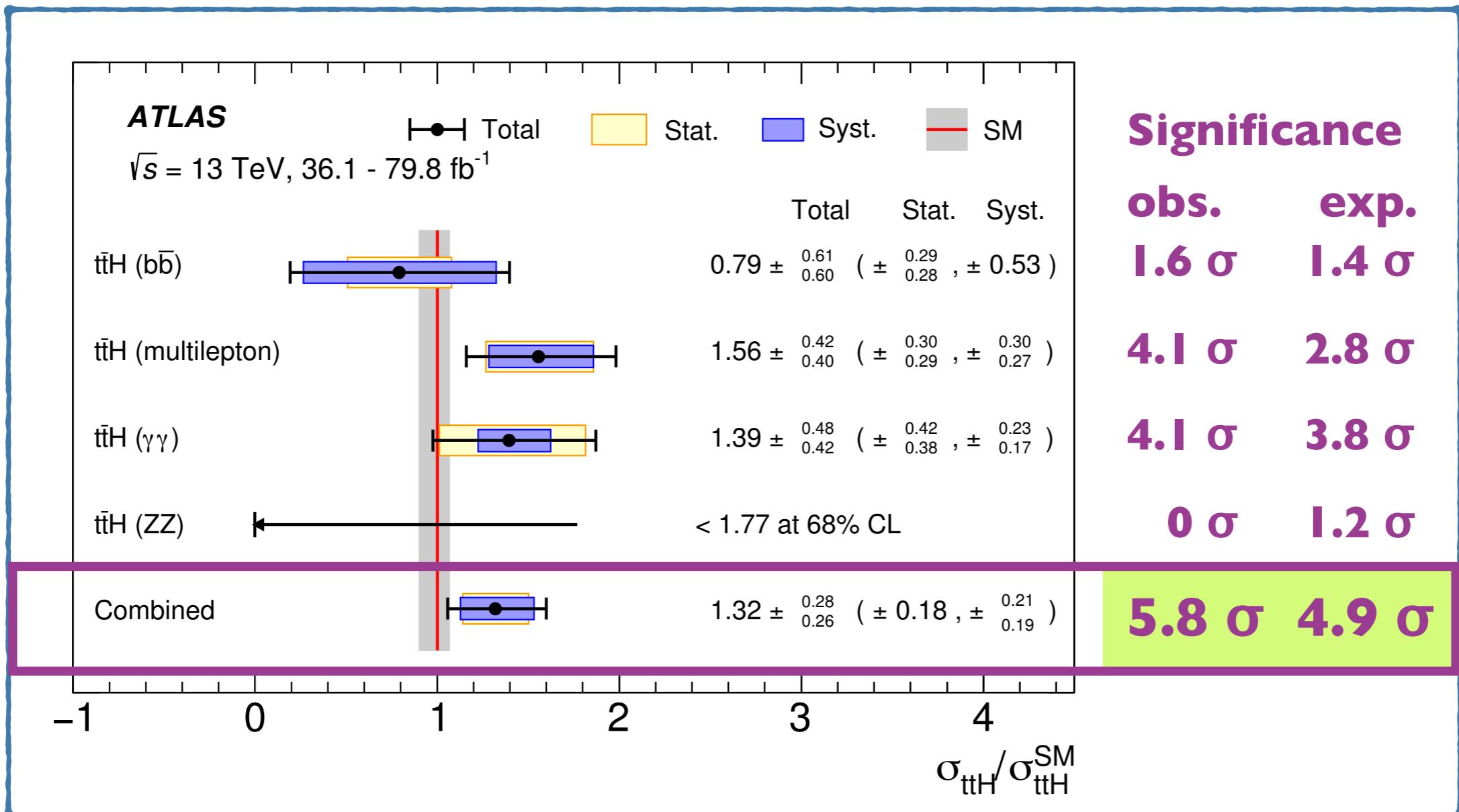
Combination

- Contribution from non-t \bar{t} H Higgs production modes fixed to SM prediction;
- Correlation scheme studied in detail.

t \bar{t} H combination



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Combination

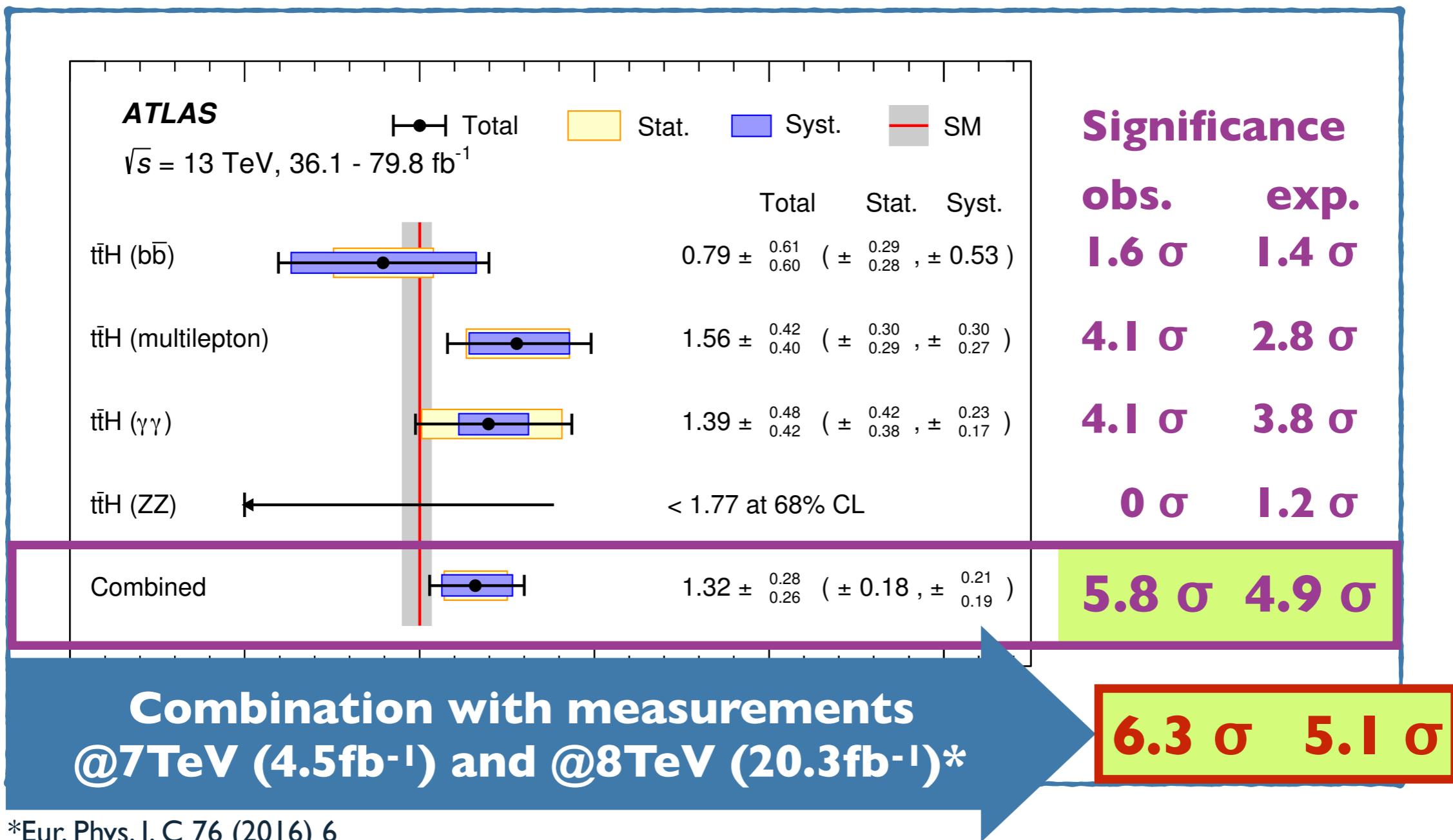
Observation of t \bar{t} H production at 13TeV alone!

- Correlation scheme studied in detail.

tt>H combination



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*Eur. Phys. J. C 76 (2016) 6

**Including Run I data improves the sensitivity!
Observation of ttH production!**

t \bar{t} H cross-section



TRIUMF

Analysis	Integrated luminosity [fb $^{-1}$]	t \bar{t} H cross section [fb]
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	79.8	710^{+210}_{-190} (stat.) $^{+120}_{-90}$ (syst.)
$H \rightarrow \text{multilepton}$	36.1	790 ± 150 (stat.) $^{+150}_{-140}$ (syst.)
$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	36.1	400^{+150}_{-140} (stat.) ± 270 (syst.)
$H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\ell$	79.8	< 900 (68% CL)

combined

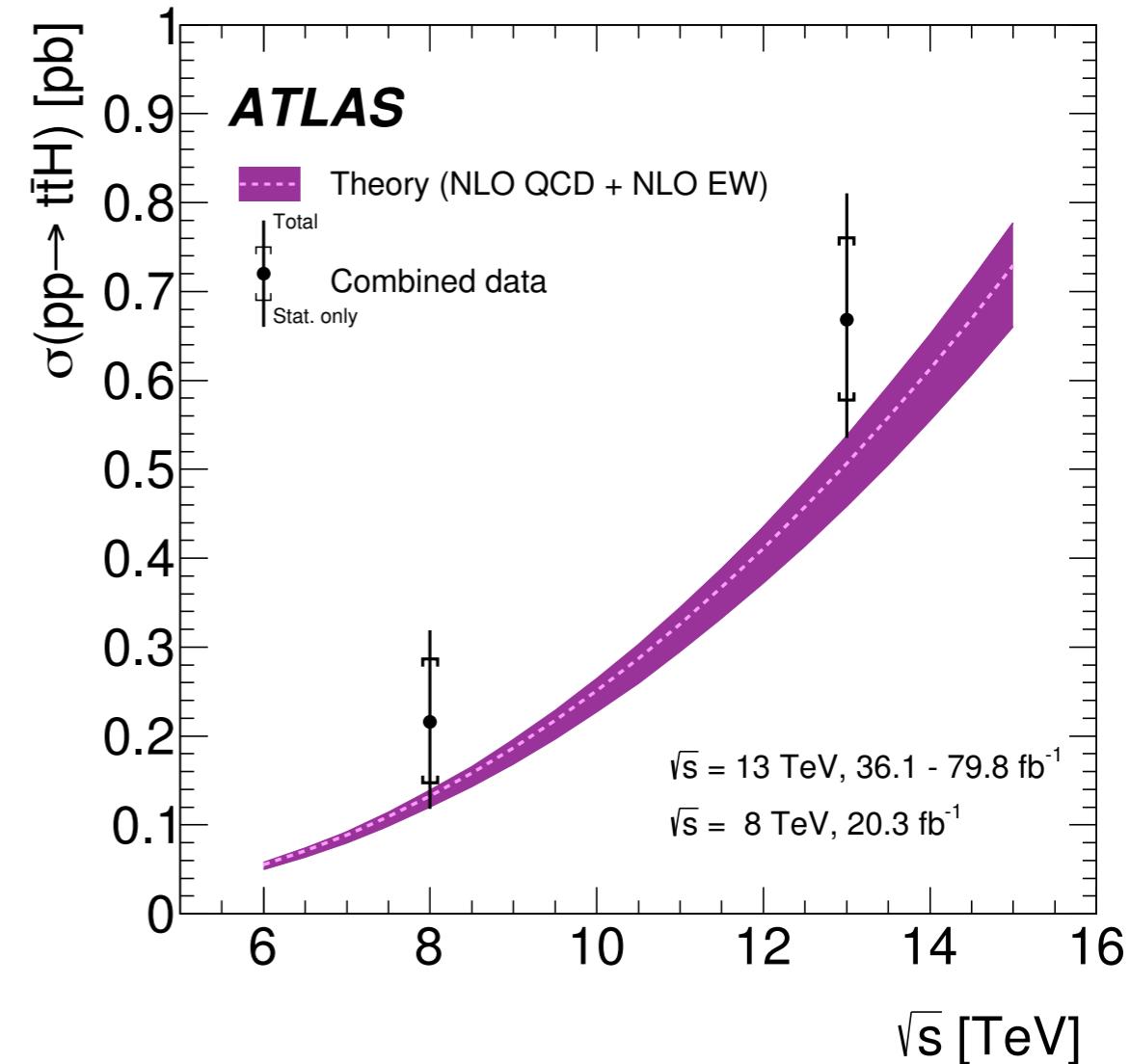
$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}(13\text{TeV}) = 670 \pm 90(\text{stat})^{+110}_{-100}(\text{sys})\text{fb}$$

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}H,SM}(13\text{TeV}) = 507^{+35}_{-50}\text{fb}$$

Compatible with the SM prediction

Dominant systematics

- t \bar{t} +heavy flavour modelling (9.9%);
- t \bar{t} H modelling (6%);
- Non-prompt leptons (5.2%).



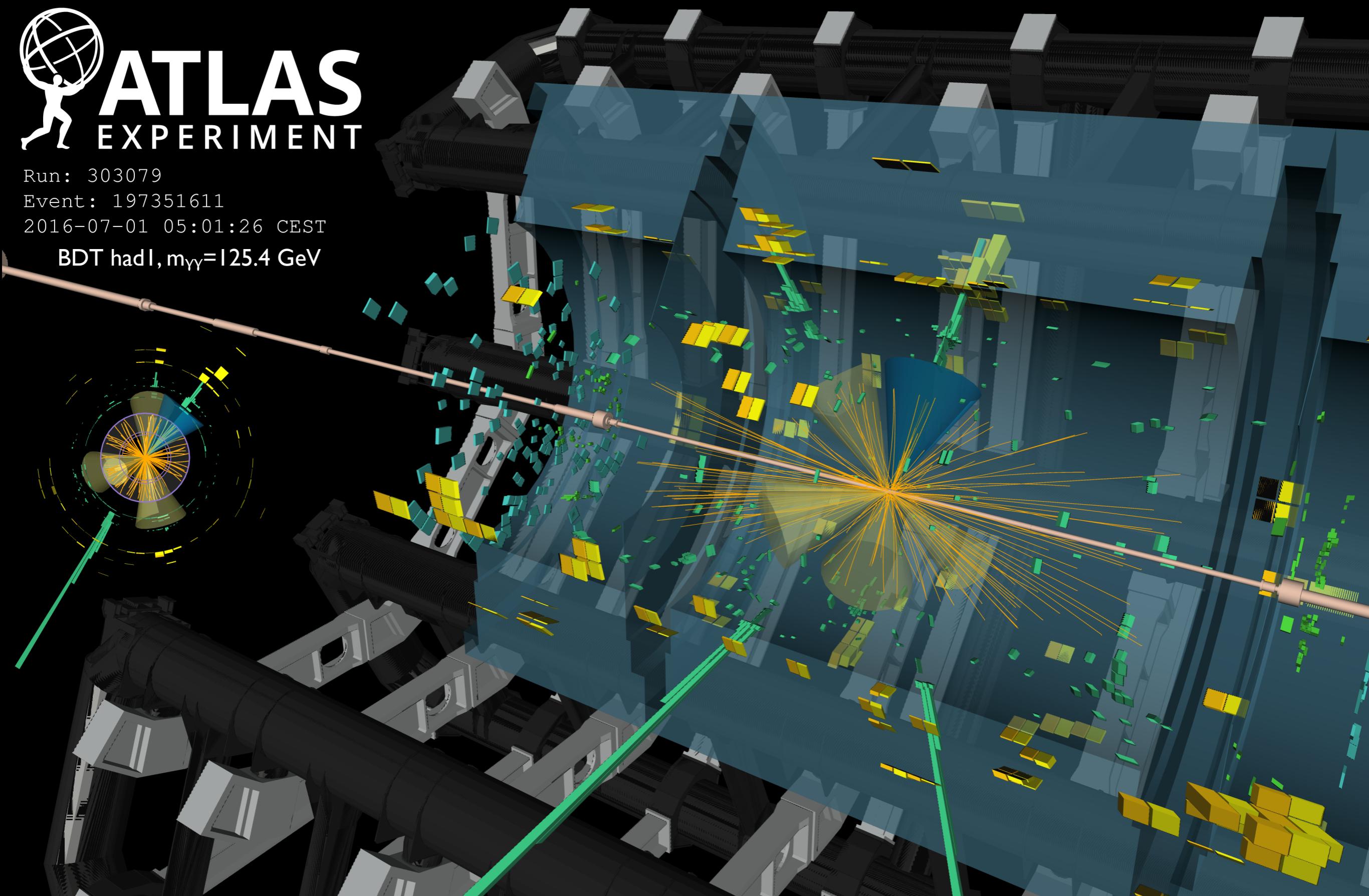


Run: 303079

Event: 197351611

2016-07-01 05:01:26 CEST

BDT hadI, $m_{\gamma\gamma}=125.4$ GeV



Summary

**Observation of $t\bar{t}H$ production with a significance of
6.3 σ (expected 5.1 σ)**

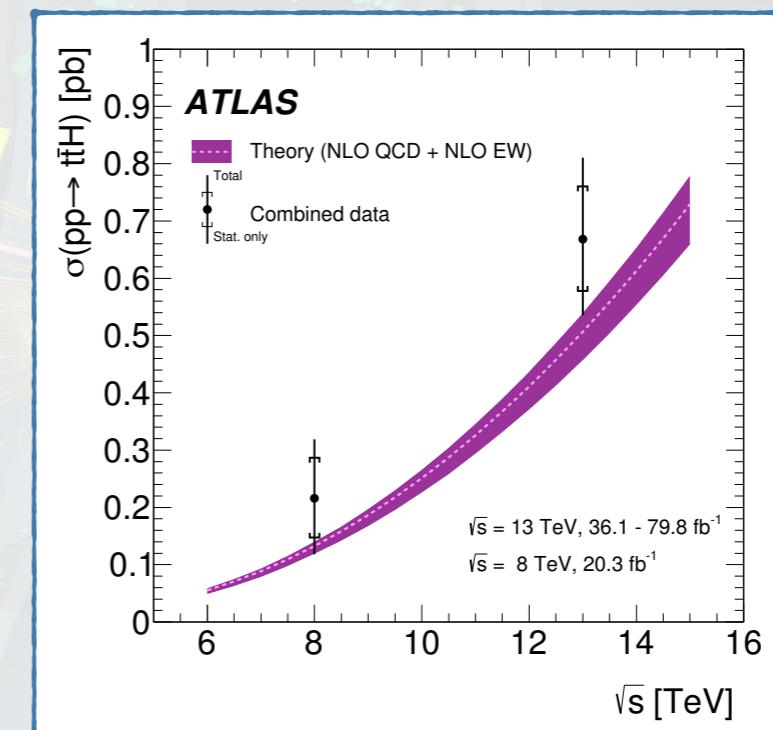
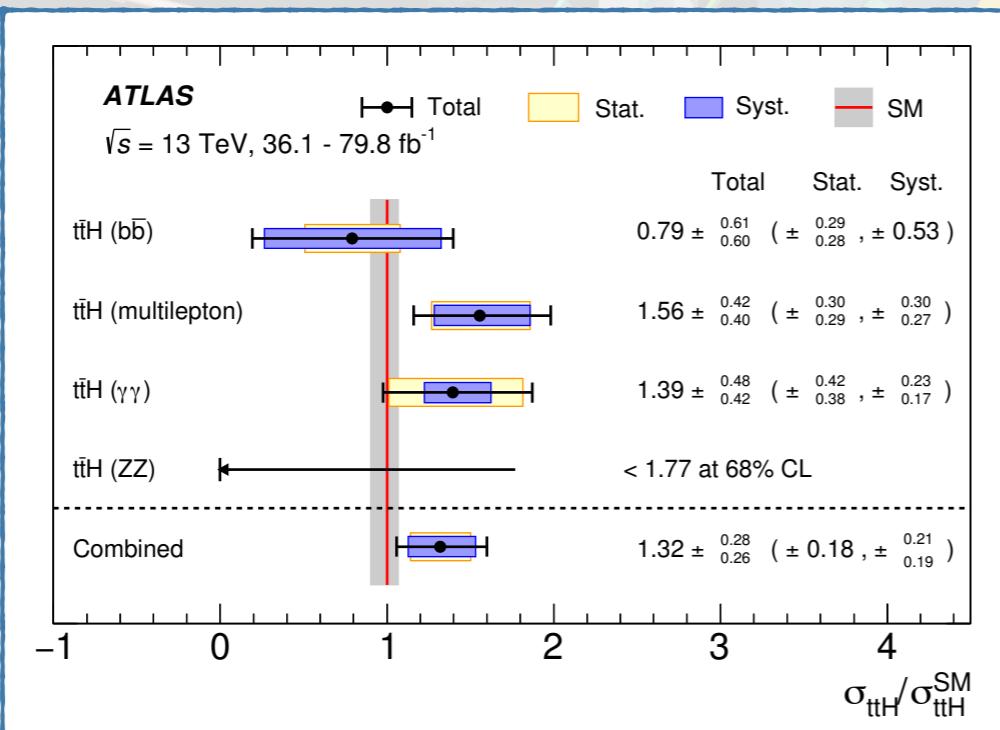
Run: 303079

Event: 197351611

2016-07-01 05:02:36 CEST

BDT hadI, $m_{YY}=125.4$ GeV

Compatible with the SM prediction.



Thank you!



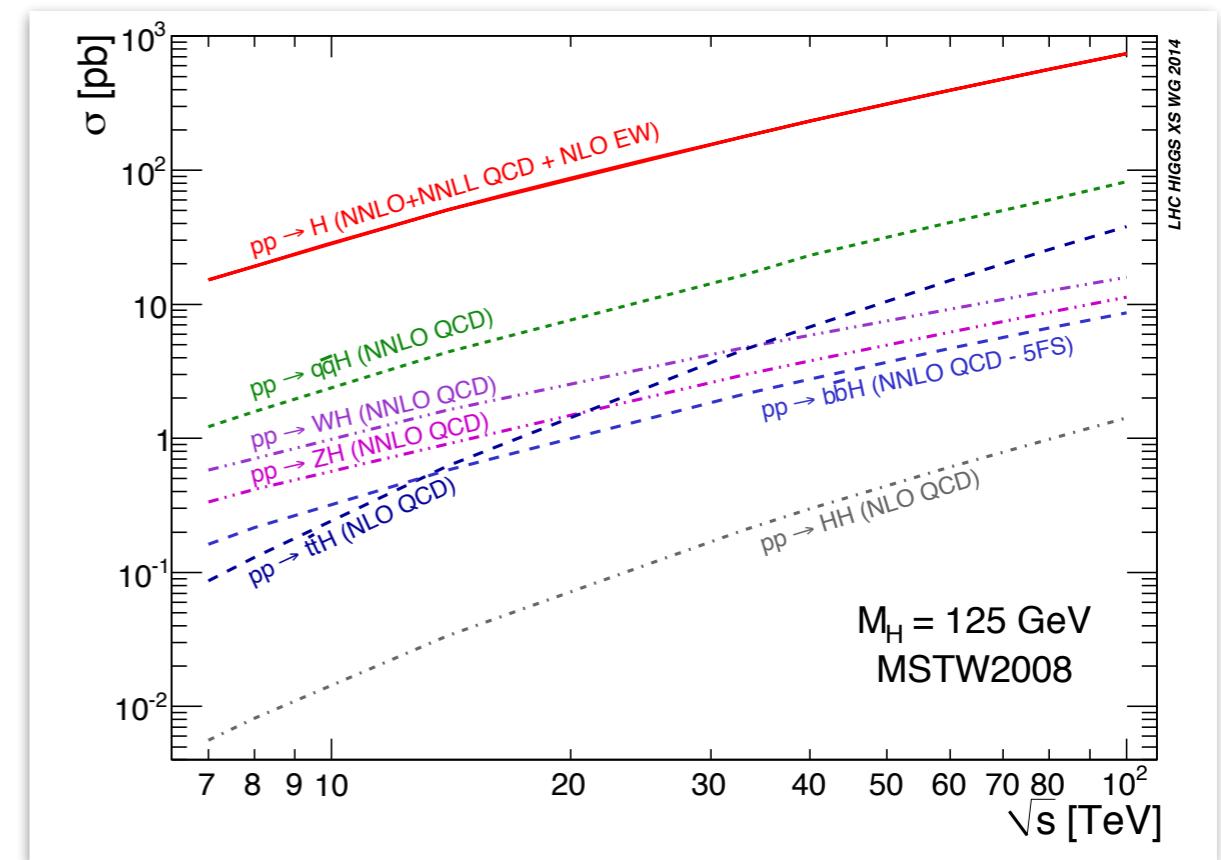
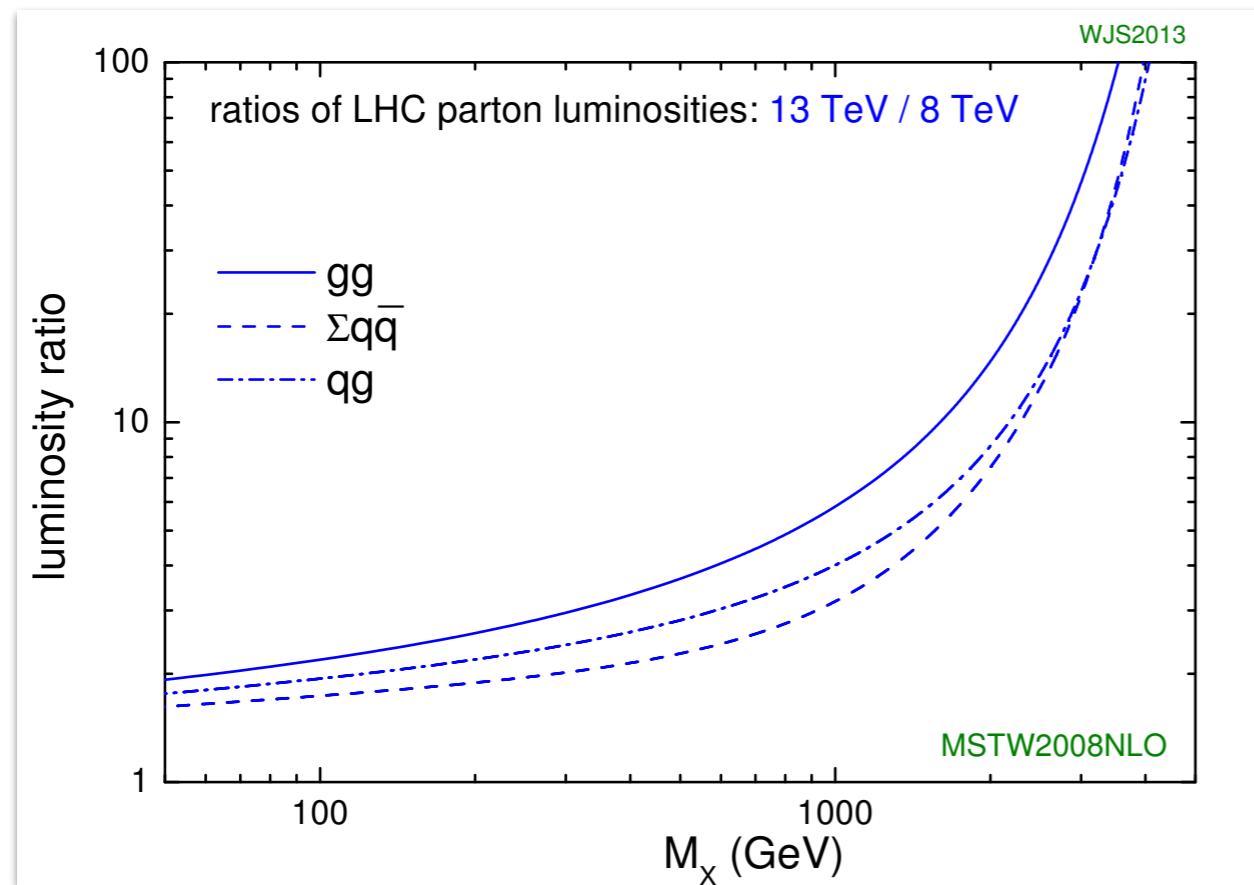
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Backup

ttH production

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}(13TeV) \sim 4 \times \sigma_{t\bar{t}H}(8TeV)$$

Phase space opening
+
 $M_x = 2M_t + M_H$ in gg



	$\sigma(13 \text{ TeV}) / \sigma(8 \text{ TeV})$
$gg \rightarrow H$	~ 2.3 ($M_x = M_H$)
$qq \rightarrow H$	~ 2.4 (probes high M_x)
$qq \rightarrow VH$	~ 2.0 ($M_x = M_V + M_H$)
$qq \rightarrow ttH$	~ 3.9 (phase space + M_x)
tt	~ 3.3 ($gg \rightarrow tt$ dominates)

Hunting the Higgs-top Yukawa coupling

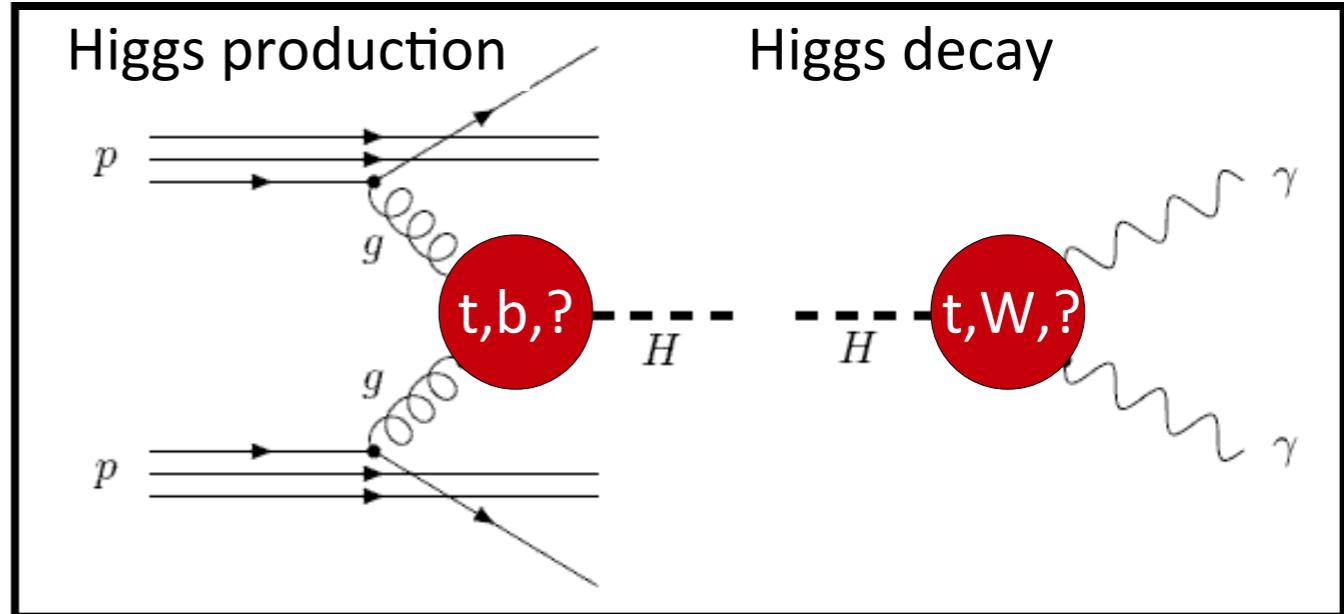
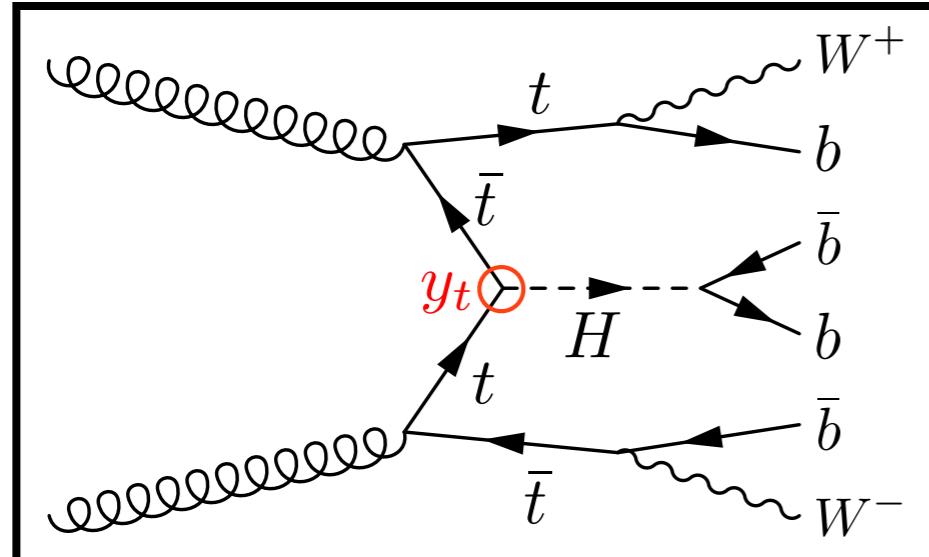


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Direct measurement

- Direct measurement in $t\bar{t}H$ production

Sensitive to y_t^2



- **tH production:** interference between top-mediated and W-mediated diagrams;

Sensitive to y_t

Indirect constraints:

- loops in ggF and $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ vertices;
 - assuming only SM particles contributing to the loops.

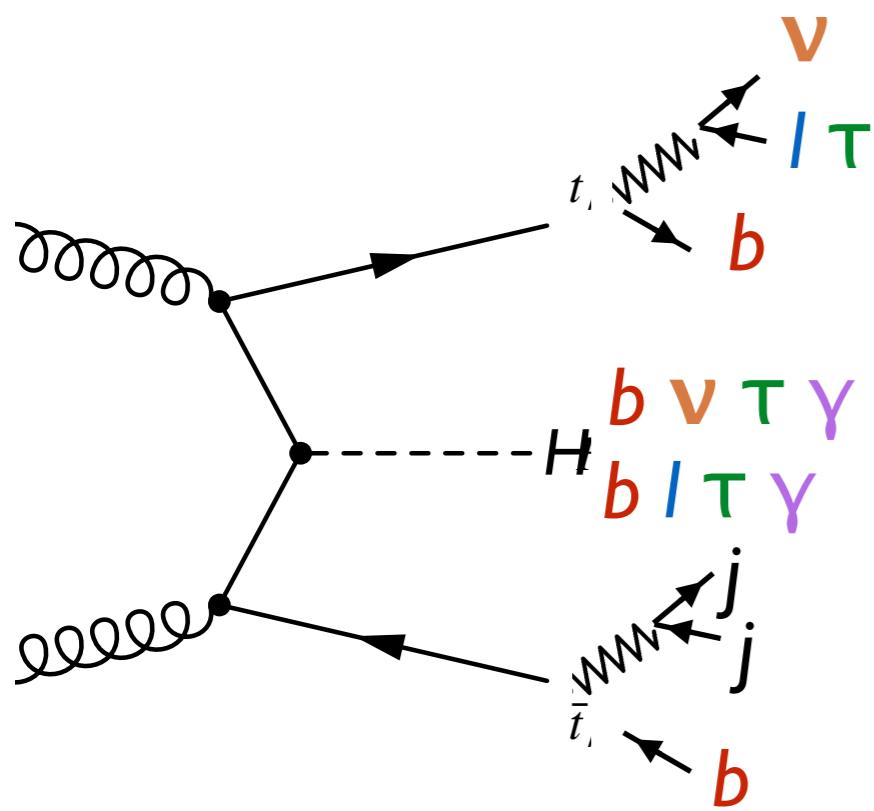
- **$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$:** interference between top quark and W boson in the loop;
- **ZH production and $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$:** interference between top quark and W-boson contribution in the loop.

Experimental challenges



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Large variety of final states - **good understanding of all reconstructed objects**



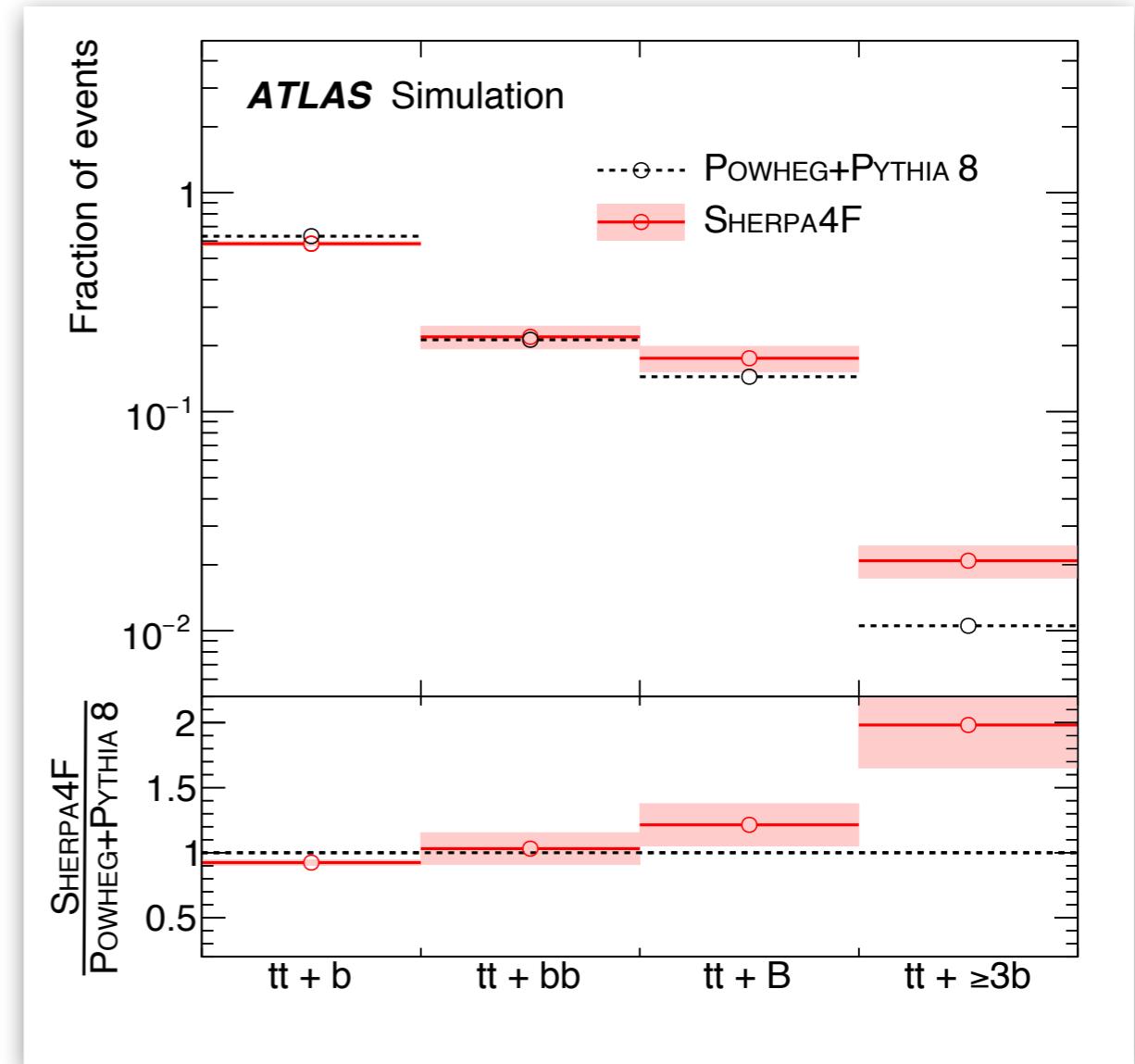
- **electrons / muons:** precise (sub % level) energy / momentum calibration, understanding of identification efficiency, trigger rate;
- **hadronically decaying taus:** energy calibration, controlling rate from misidentified jets and electrons.
- **photons:** energy calibration, precise identification, direction determination (pointing).
- **jets:** precise calibration (% level), stability in presence of large pile-up.
- **missing transverse energy:** stability in presence of large pile-up
- **b-jets** Good understanding of signal efficiency and misidentification rate.

$t\bar{t}+jets$ background in $t\bar{t}H(bb)$



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- Powheg+Pythia8 normalised to NNLO prediction;
- $t\bar{t} + b$, $t\bar{t} + bb$, $t\bar{t} + \geq 3b$ and $t\bar{t} + B$ corrected to Sherpa+OpenLoops NLO calculation 4FS (massive b -quarks, $g \rightarrow bb$ from ME);
- normalisation for $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$ and $t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$ free floating in the fit.



CMS 13 TeV $t\bar{t} + bb$ measurement [CMS-PAS-TOP-16-010](#):
ATLAS 8 TeV $t\bar{t} + bb$ measurement: [Eur. Phys. J. C \(2016\) 76:11](#)

t \bar{t} H(bb) uncertainties



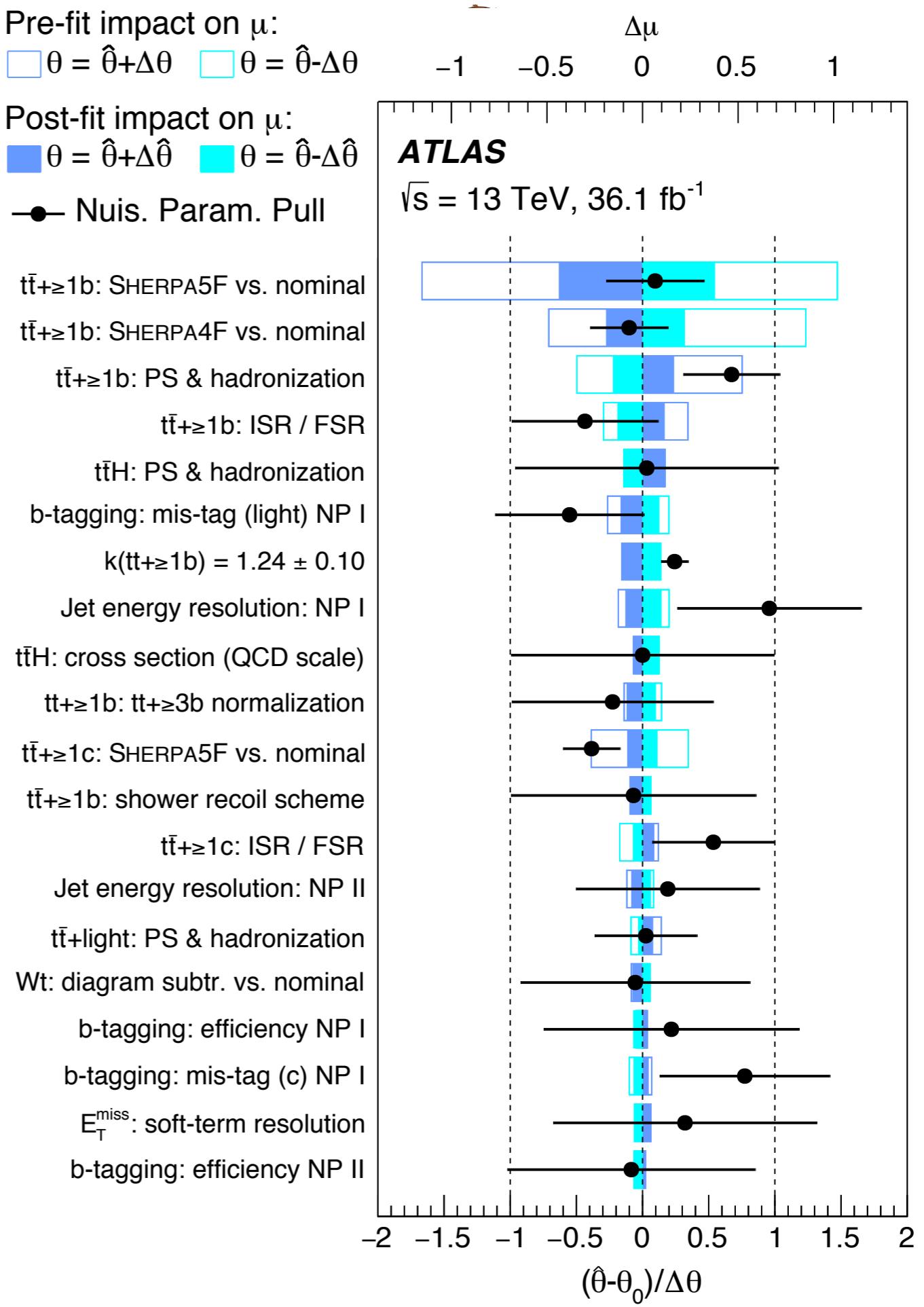
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Uncertainty source	$\Delta\mu$	
$t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$ modeling	+0.46	-0.46
Background-model stat. unc.	+0.29	-0.31
b -tagging efficiency and mis-tag rates	+0.16	-0.16
Jet energy scale and resolution	+0.14	-0.14
$t\bar{t}H$ modeling	+0.22	-0.05
$t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$ modeling	+0.09	-0.11
JVT, pileup modeling	+0.03	-0.05
Other background modeling	+0.08	-0.08
$t\bar{t} + \text{light}$ modeling	+0.06	-0.03
Luminosity	+0.03	-0.02
Light lepton (e, μ) id., isolation, trigger	+0.03	-0.04
Total systematic uncertainty	+0.57	-0.54
$t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$ normalization	+0.09	-0.10
$t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$ normalization	+0.02	-0.03
Intrinsic statistical uncertainty	+0.21	-0.20
Total statistical uncertainty	+0.29	-0.29
Total uncertainty	+0.64	-0.61

tt>H(bb) systematics

$$NF(t\bar{t}+\geq 1b) = 1.24 \pm 0.10$$

$$NF(t\bar{t}+\geq 1c) = 1.63 \pm 0.23$$



t \bar{t} H(bb) theory modelling



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Systematic source	Description	t \bar{t} categories
t \bar{t} cross-section	Up or down by 6%	All, correlated
$k(t\bar{t} + \geq 1c)$	Free-floating t \bar{t} + $\geq 1c$ normalization	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1c$
$k(t\bar{t} + \geq 1b)$	Free-floating t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$ normalization	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$
SHERPA5F vs. nominal	Related to the choice of NLO event generator	All, uncorrelated
PS & hadronization	POWHEG+HERWIG 7 vs. POWHEG+PYTHIA 8	All, uncorrelated
ISR / FSR	Variations of μ_R , μ_F , h_{damp} and A14 Var3c parameters	All, uncorrelated
t \bar{t} + $\geq 1c$ ME vs. inclusive	MG5_aMC@NLO+HERWIG++: ME prediction (3F) vs. incl. (5F)	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1c$
t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$ SHERPA4F vs. nominal	Comparison of t \bar{t} + bb NLO (4F) vs. POWHEG+PYTHIA 8 (5F)	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$
t t + $\geq 1b$ renorm. scale	Up or down by a factor of two	t t + $\geq 1b$
t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$ resumm. scale	Vary μ_Q from $H_T/2$ to μ_{CMMPS}	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$
t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$ global scales	Set μ_Q , μ_R , and μ_F to μ_{CMMPS}	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$
t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$ shower recoil scheme	Alternative model scheme	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$
t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$ PDF (MSTW)	MSTW vs. CT10	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$
t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$ PDF (NNPDF)	NNPDF vs. CT10	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$
t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$ UE	Alternative set of tuned parameters for the underlying event	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$
t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$ MPI	Up or down by 50%	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$
t \bar{t} + $\geq 3b$ normalization	Up or down by 50%	t \bar{t} + $\geq 1b$

- Four leading systematics from theory modeling of t \bar{t} + bb background; - very little guidance how to model additional g \rightarrow bb.
- Tested various models with different predictions: g \rightarrow bb from PS, ME, mix - all give compatible results within uncertainties → confidence in signal extraction.

Uncertainty Source	$\Delta\mu$	
$t\bar{t}H$ modeling (cross section)	+0.20	-0.09
Jet energy scale and resolution	+0.18	-0.15
Non-prompt light-lepton estimates	+0.15	-0.13
Jet flavor tagging and τ_{had} identification	+0.11	-0.09
$t\bar{t}W$ modeling	+0.10	-0.09
$t\bar{t}Z$ modeling	+0.08	-0.07
Other background modeling	+0.08	-0.07
Luminosity	+0.08	-0.06
$t\bar{t}H$ modeling (acceptance)	+0.08	-0.04
Fake τ_{had} estimates	+0.07	-0.07
Other experimental uncertainties	+0.05	-0.04
Simulation sample size	+0.04	-0.04
Charge misassignment	+0.01	-0.01
Total systematic uncertainty	+0.39	-0.30

$t\bar{t}H$ (multi-leptons) systematics



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Pre-fit impact on μ :

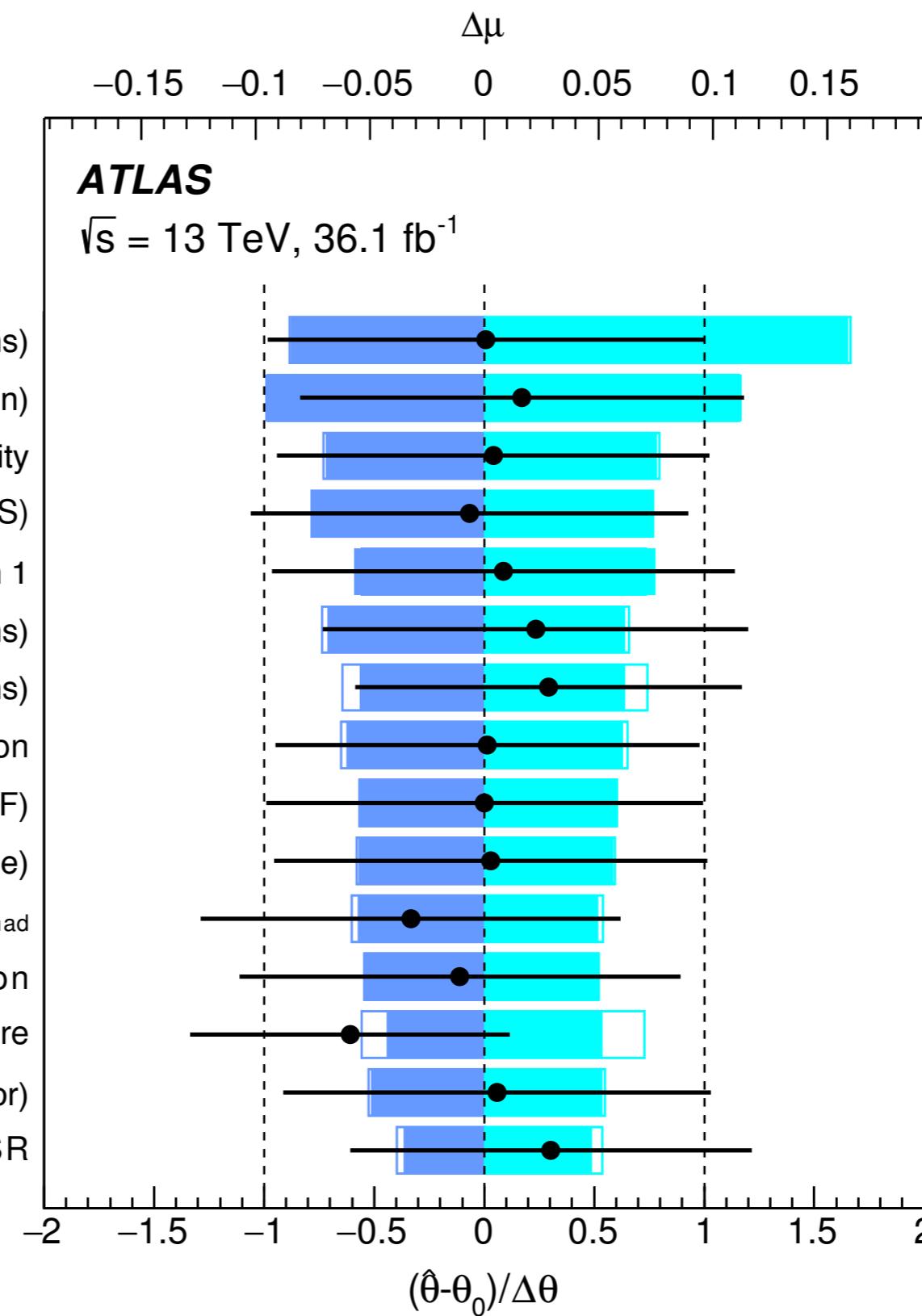
□ $\theta = \hat{\theta} + \Delta\theta$ □ $\theta = \hat{\theta} - \Delta\theta$

Post-fit impact on μ :

■ $\theta = \hat{\theta} + \Delta\hat{\theta}$ ■ $\theta = \hat{\theta} - \Delta\hat{\theta}$

—●— Nuis. Param. Pull

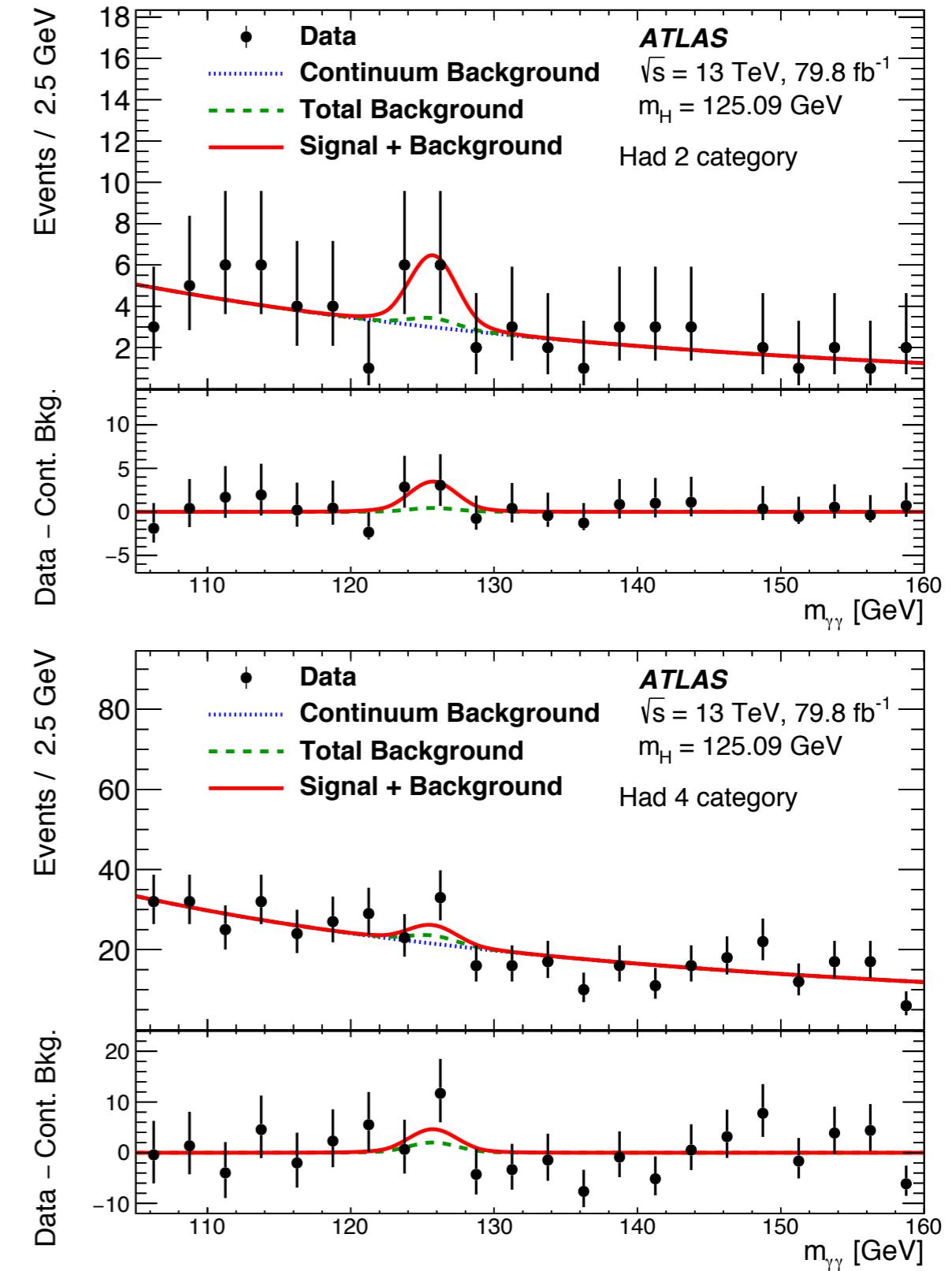
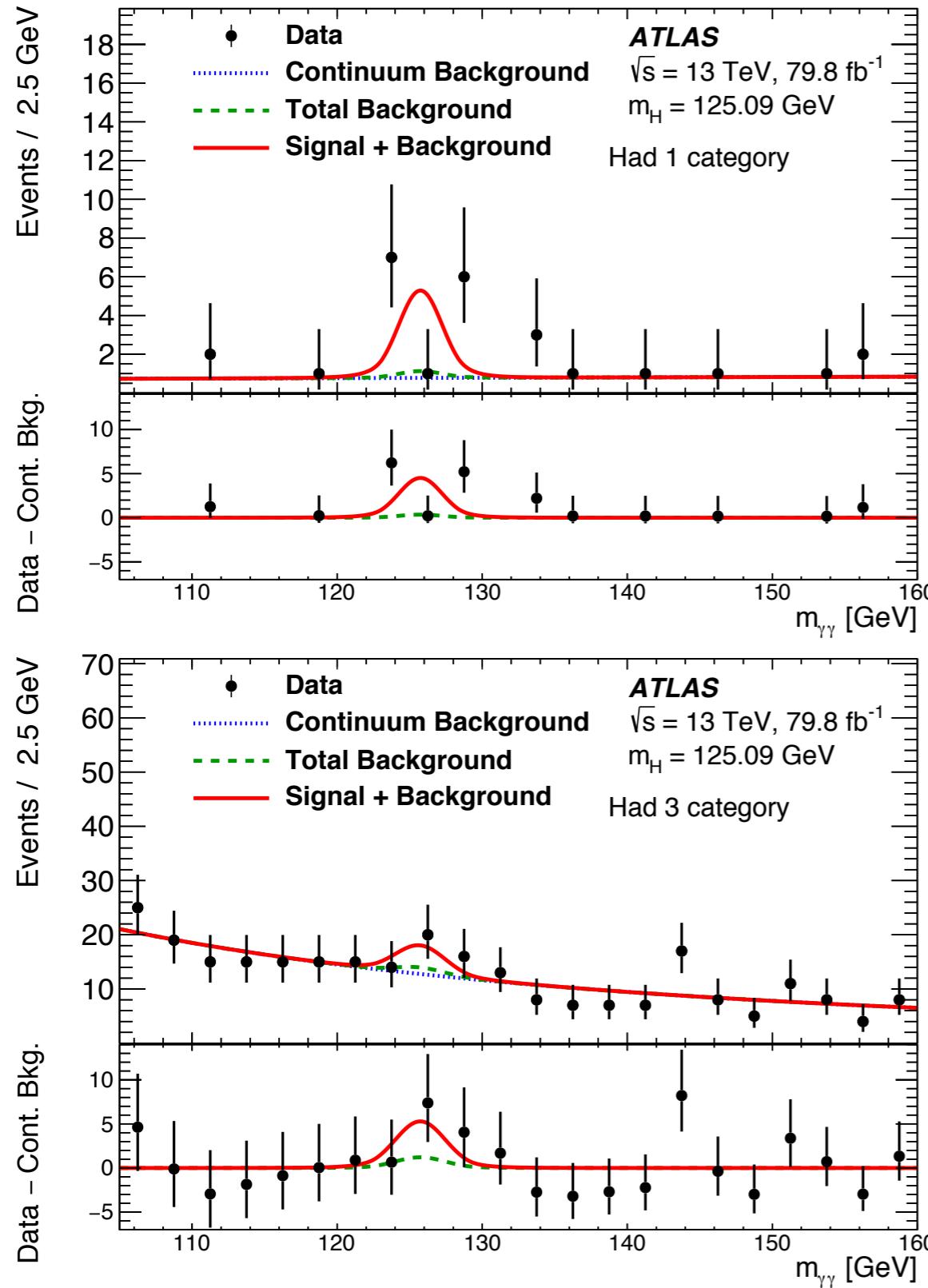
- ttH cross section (scale variations)
- Jet energy scale (pileup subtraction)
- Luminosity
- Jet energy scale (flavor comp. 2 ℓ SS)
- Jet energy scale variation 1
- ttW cross section (scale variations)
- ttZ cross section (scale variations)
- τ_{had} identification
- ttH cross section (PDF)
- ttH modeling (shower tune)
- Flavor tagging c-jet/ τ_{had}
- rare top decay cross section
- 3 ℓ Non-prompt closure
- ttW modeling (generator)
- Non-prompt stat. in 4th bin of 3 ℓ SR



$m_{(\gamma\gamma)}$ - Had categories



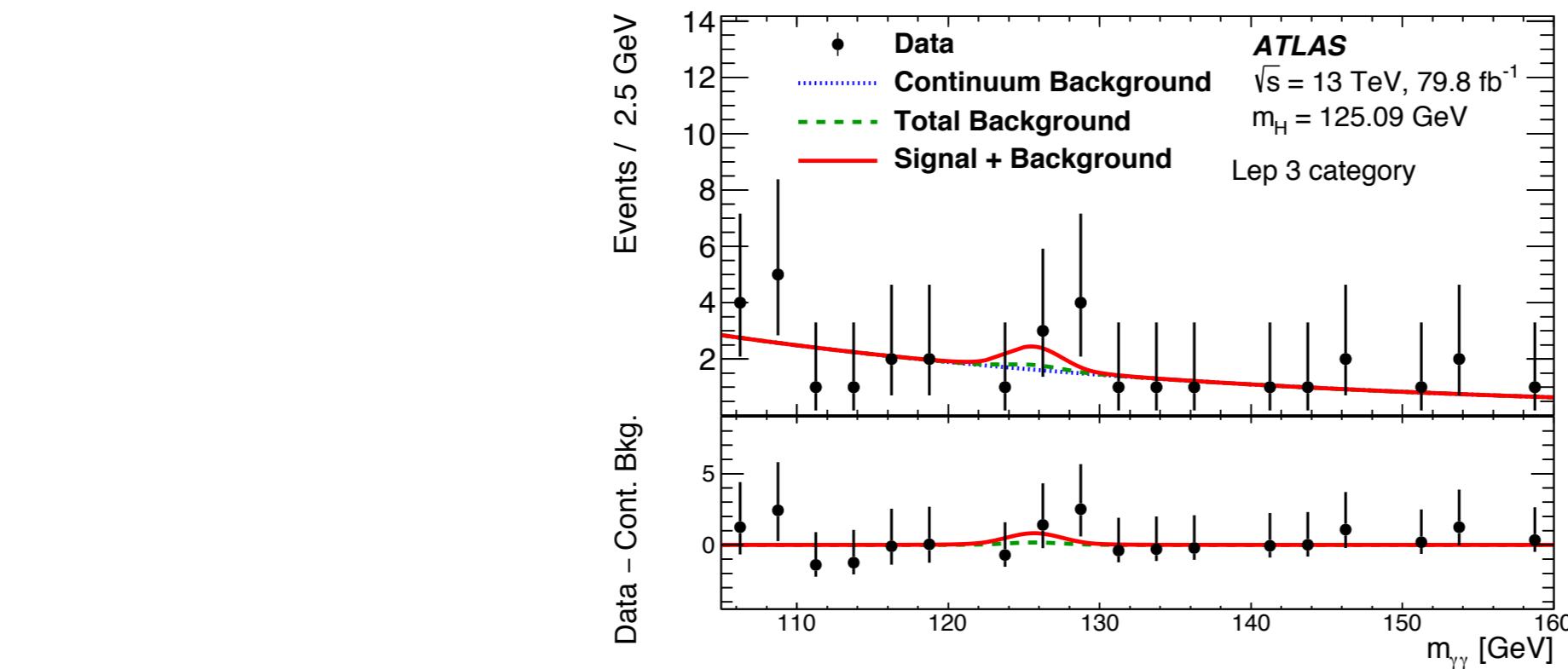
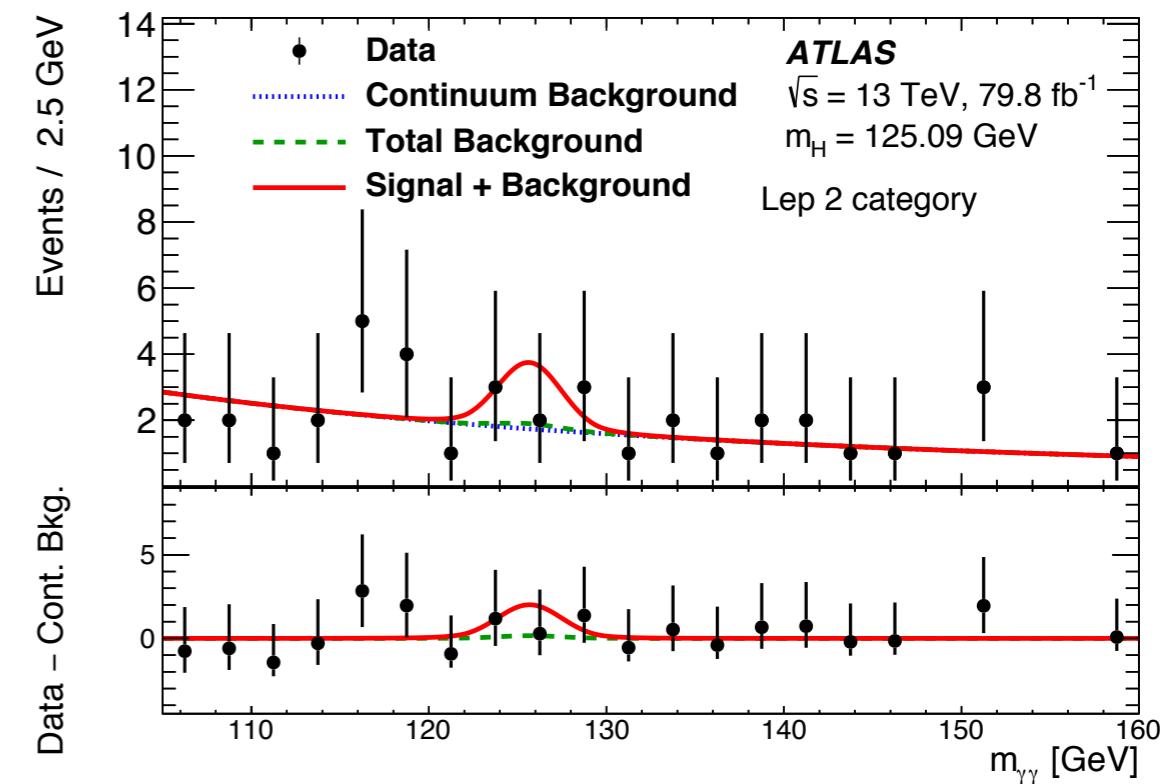
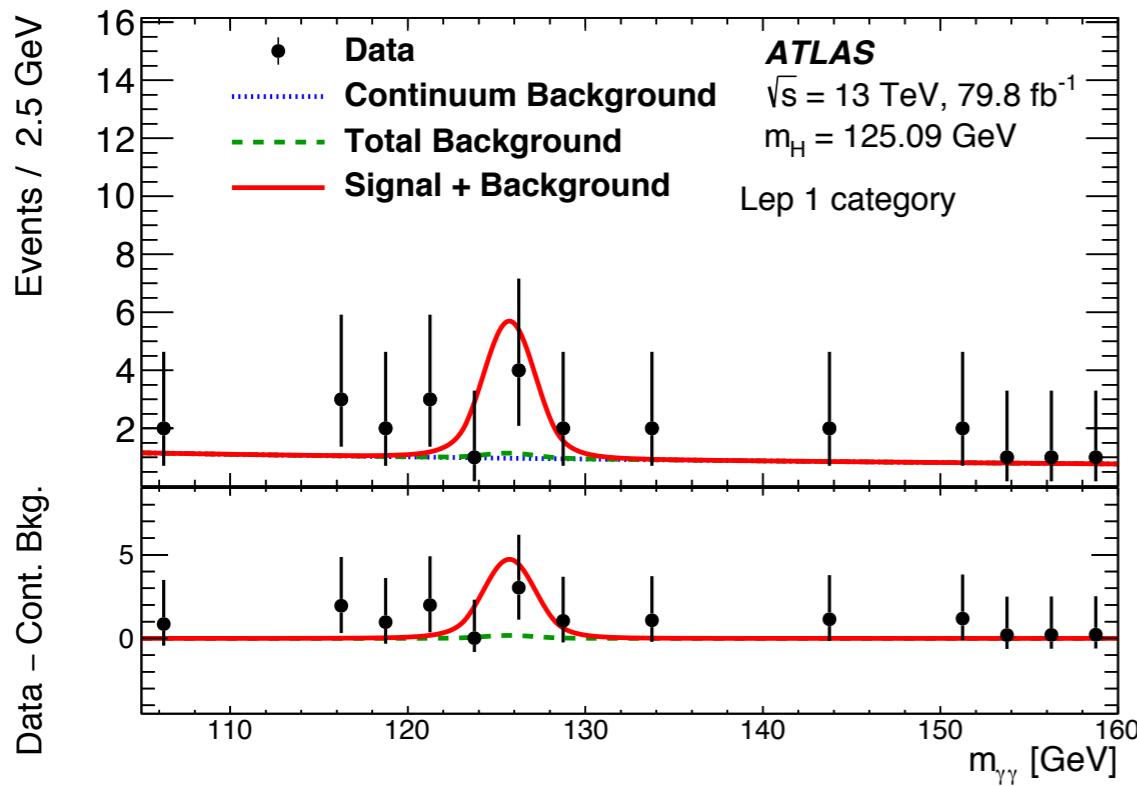
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$m_{\gamma\gamma}$ - Lep categories



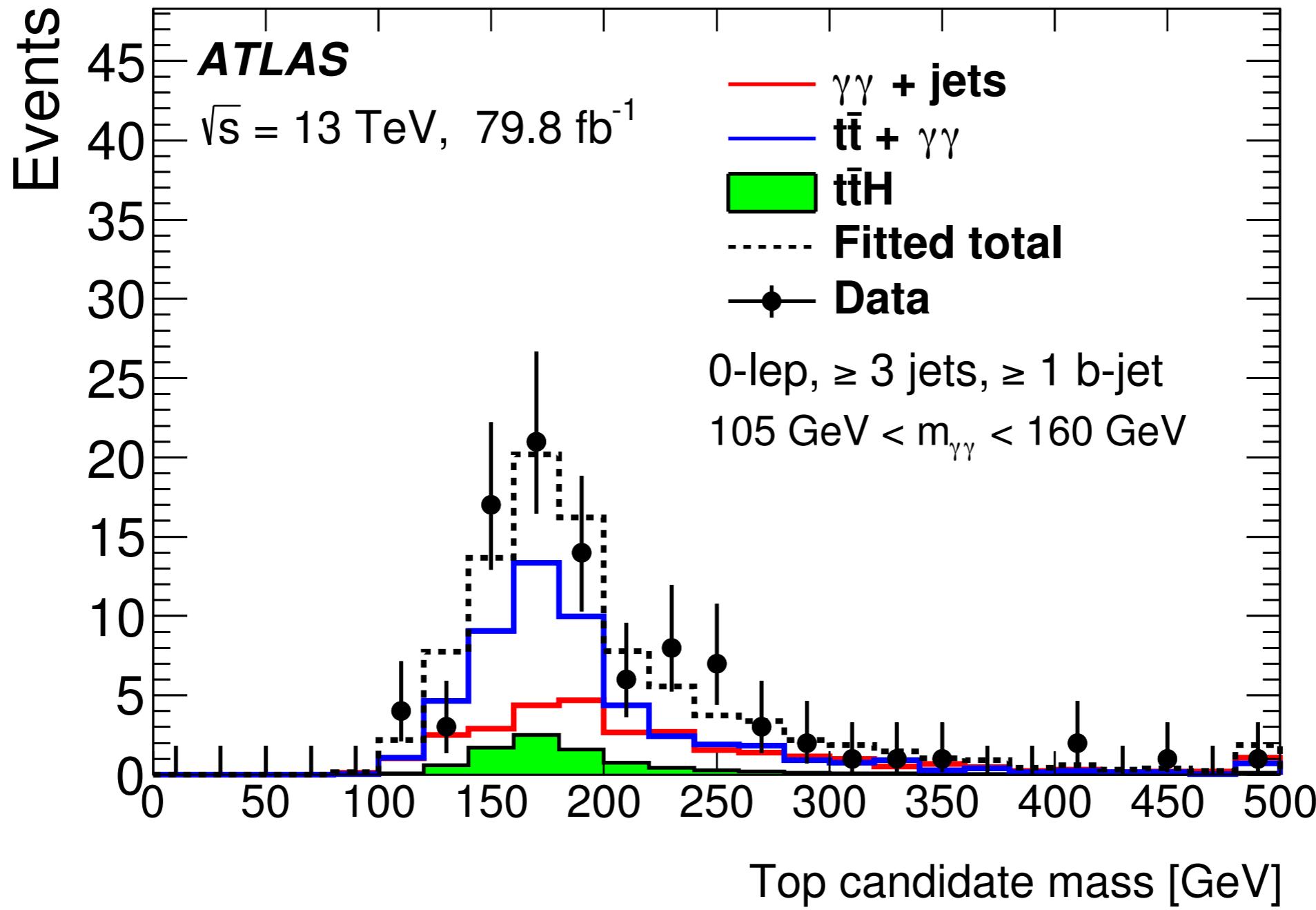
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$t\bar{t}H(\gamma\gamma)$ top candidate



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Dedicated BDT trained to find jets originating from the same top decay.

Event yields in $\gamma\gamma$ and ZZ channels



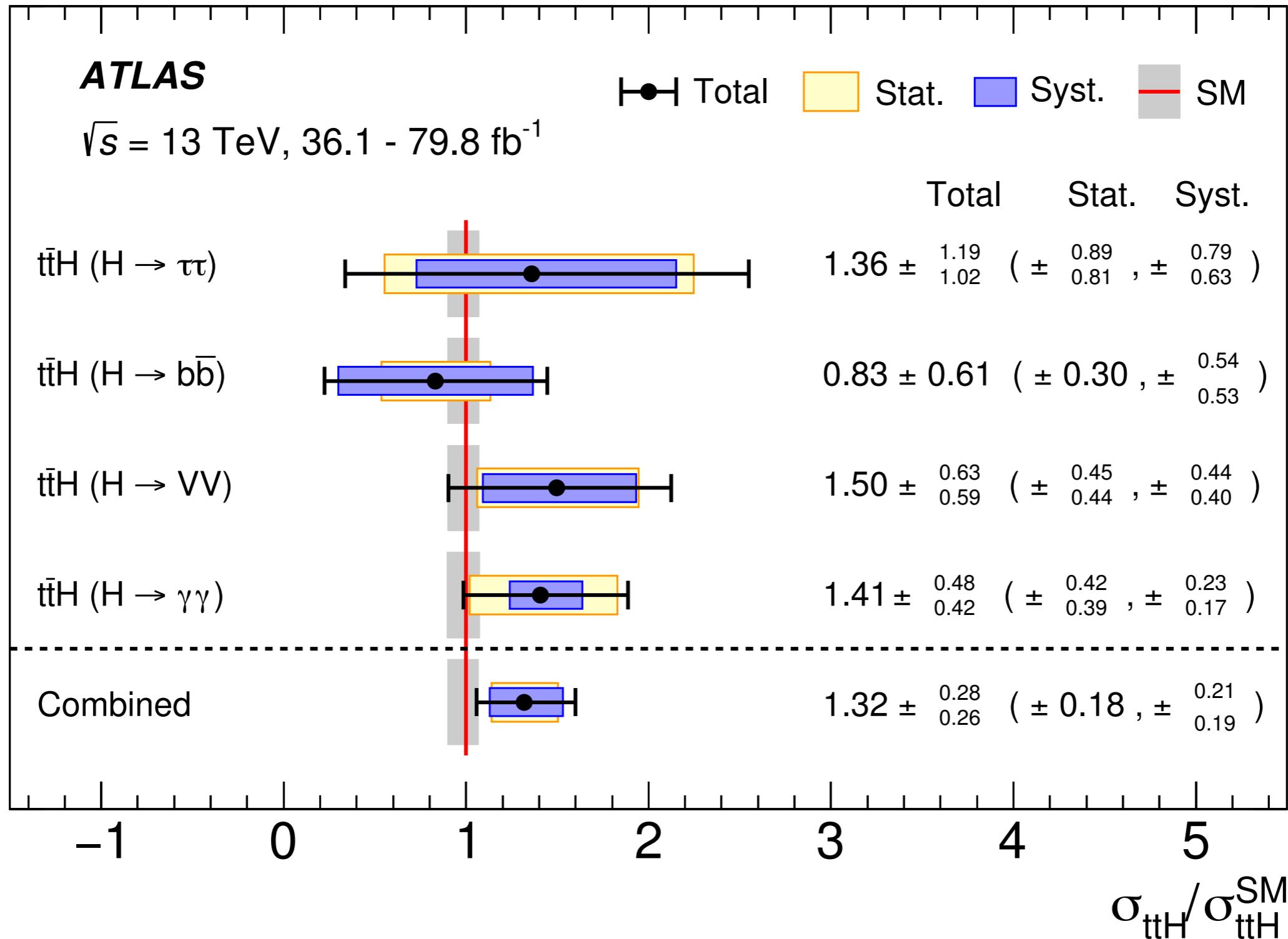
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Bin	Expected				Observed Total
	$t\bar{t}H$ (signal)	Non- $t\bar{t}H$	Higgs	Non-Higgs	
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$					
Had 1	4.2(11)	0.49(33)		1.76(55)	6.4(13)
Had 2	3.41(74)	0.69(56)		7.5(11)	11.6(15)
Had 3	4.70(88)	2.0(17)		32.9(22)	39.6(32)
Had 4	3.00(55)	3.2(31)		55.0(28)	61.3(47)
Lep 1	4.5(10)	0.25(9)		2.19(59)	6.9(12)
Lep 2	2.23(39)	0.27(10)		4.59(91)	7.1(10)
Lep 3	0.82(18)	0.30(13)		4.58(91)	5.70(88)
$H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\ell$					
Had 1	0.169(31)	0.021(7)		0.008(8)	0.198(33)
Had 2	0.216(32)	0.20(9)		0.22(12)	0.63(16)
Lep	0.212(31)	0.0256(23)		0.015(13)	0.253(34)

tt>H signal strength per decay



TRIUMF

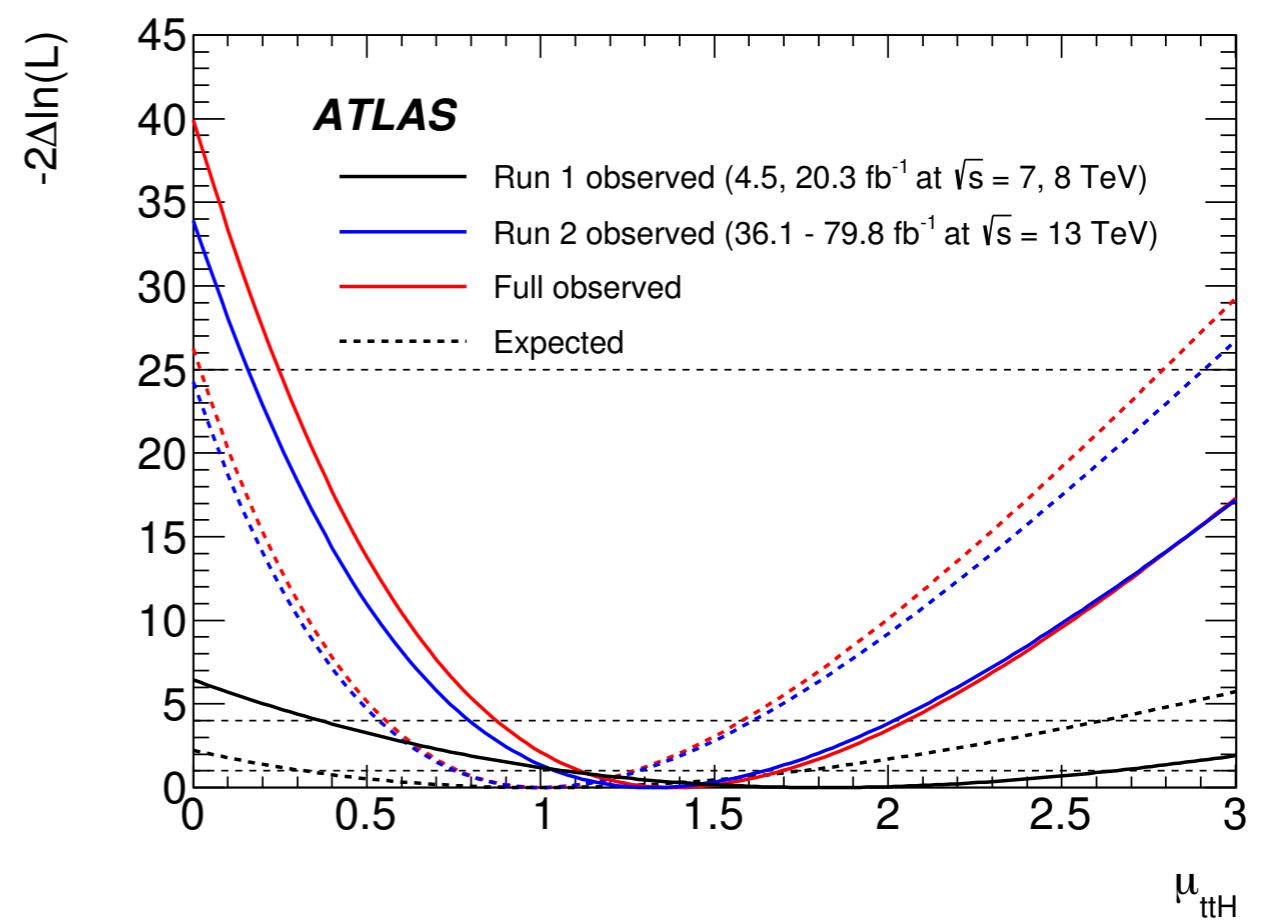
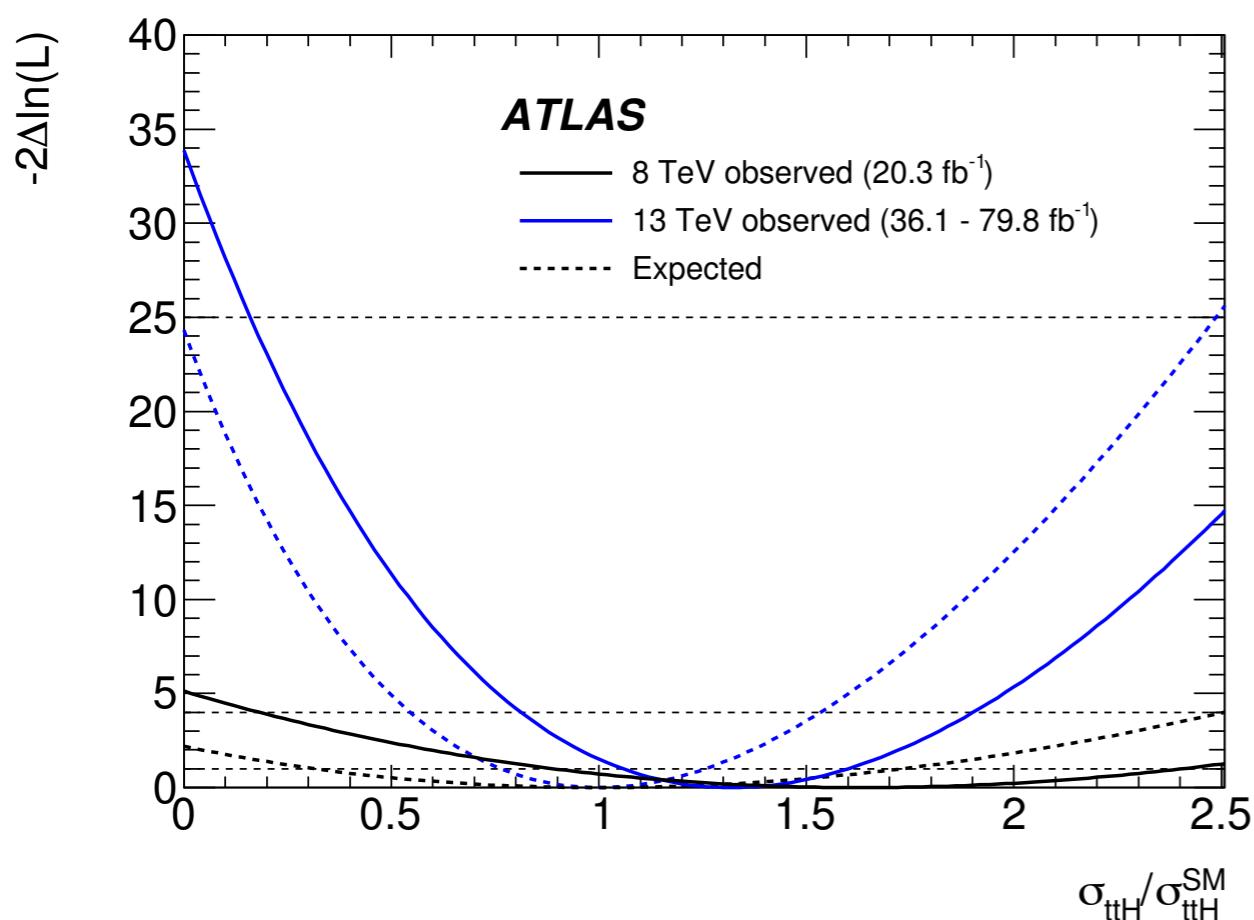


$t\bar{t}H$ cross-section uncertainties



Uncertainty source	$\Delta\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}/\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}$ [%]
Theory uncertainties (modelling)	11.9
$t\bar{t}$ + heavy flavour	9.9
$t\bar{t}H$	6.0
Non- $t\bar{t}H$ Higgs boson production modes	1.5
Other background processes	2.2
Experimental uncertainties	9.3
Fake leptons	5.2
Jets, E_T^{miss}	4.9
Electrons, photons	3.2
Luminosity	3.0
τ -lepton	2.5
Flavour tagging	1.8
MC statistical uncertainties	4.4

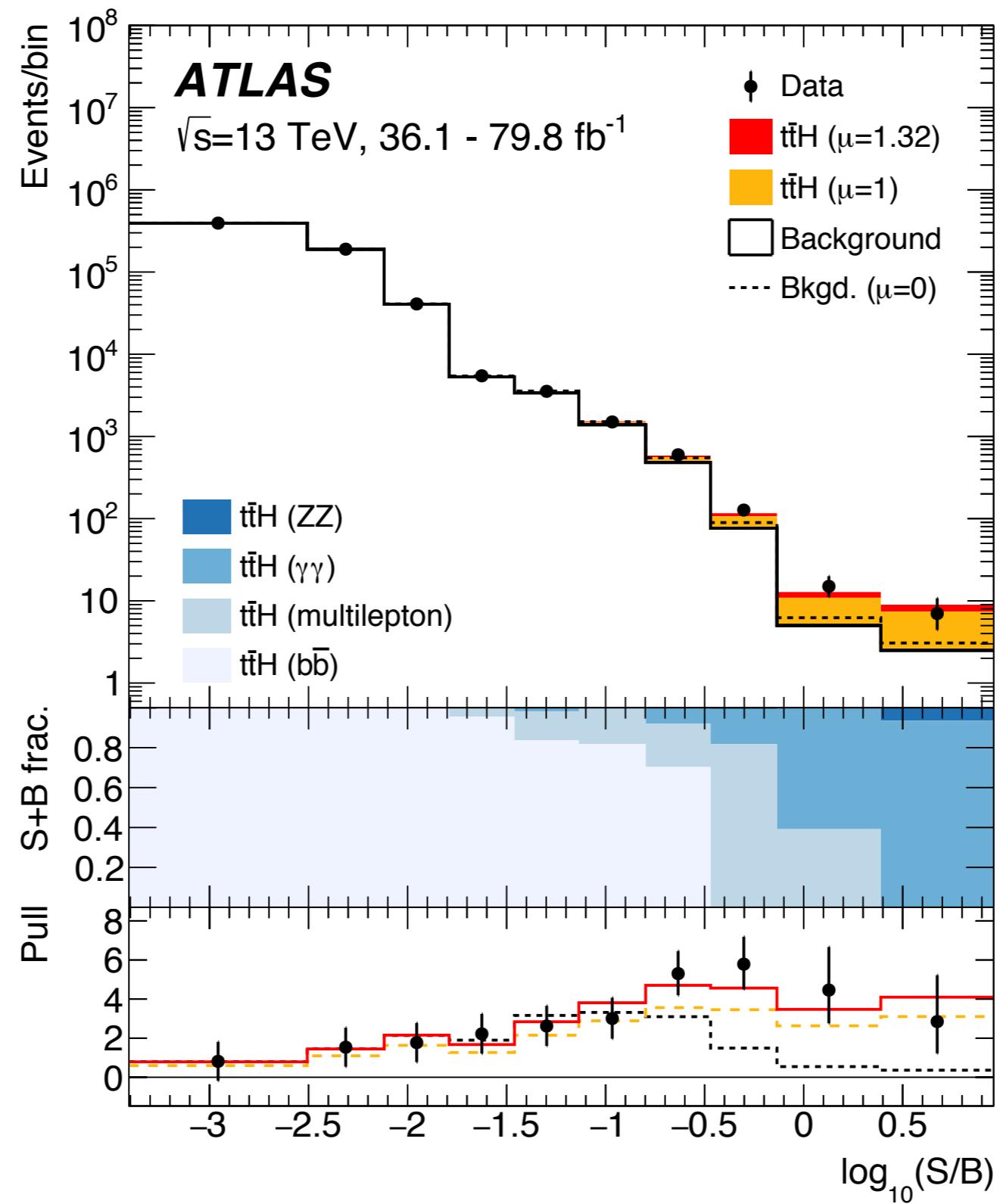
$t\bar{t}H$ likelihood curves



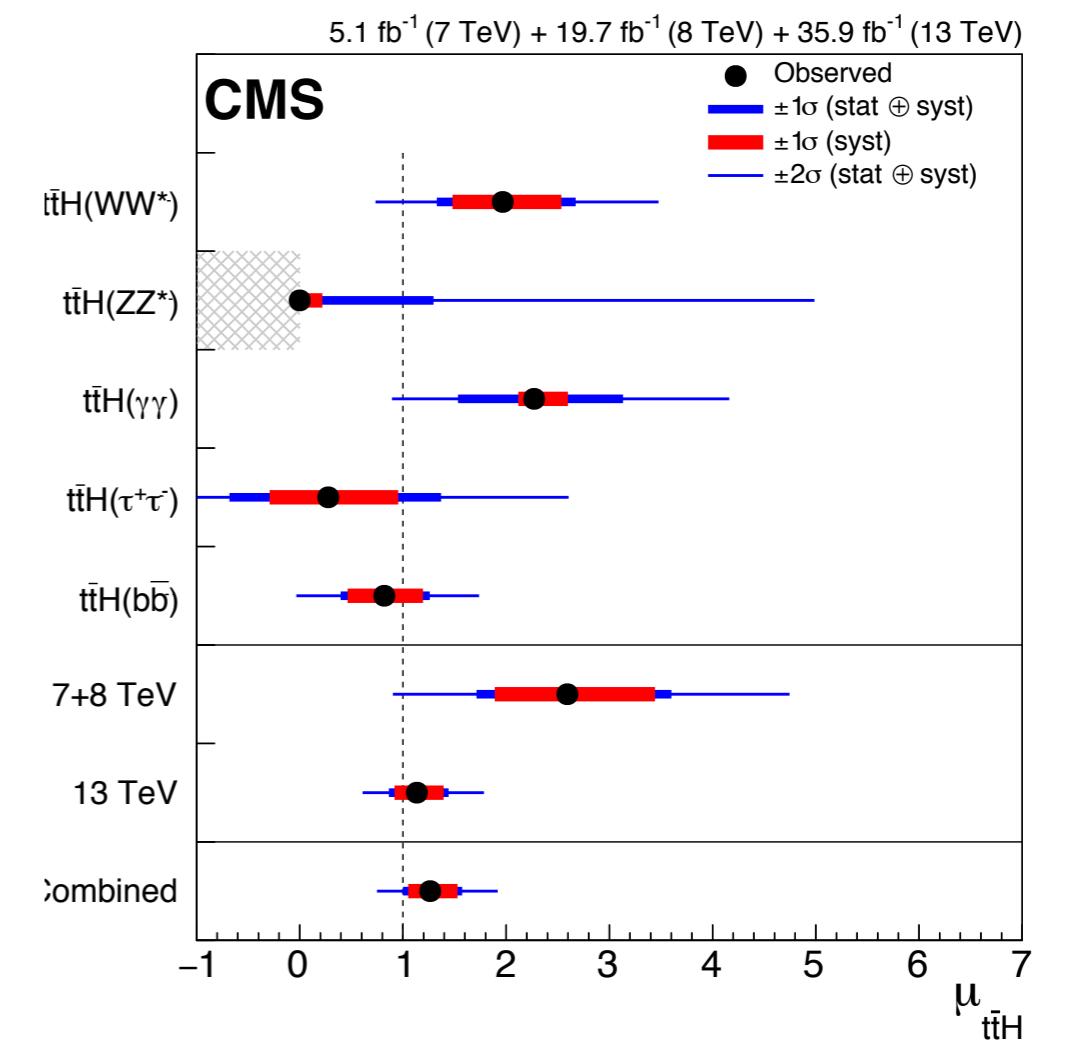
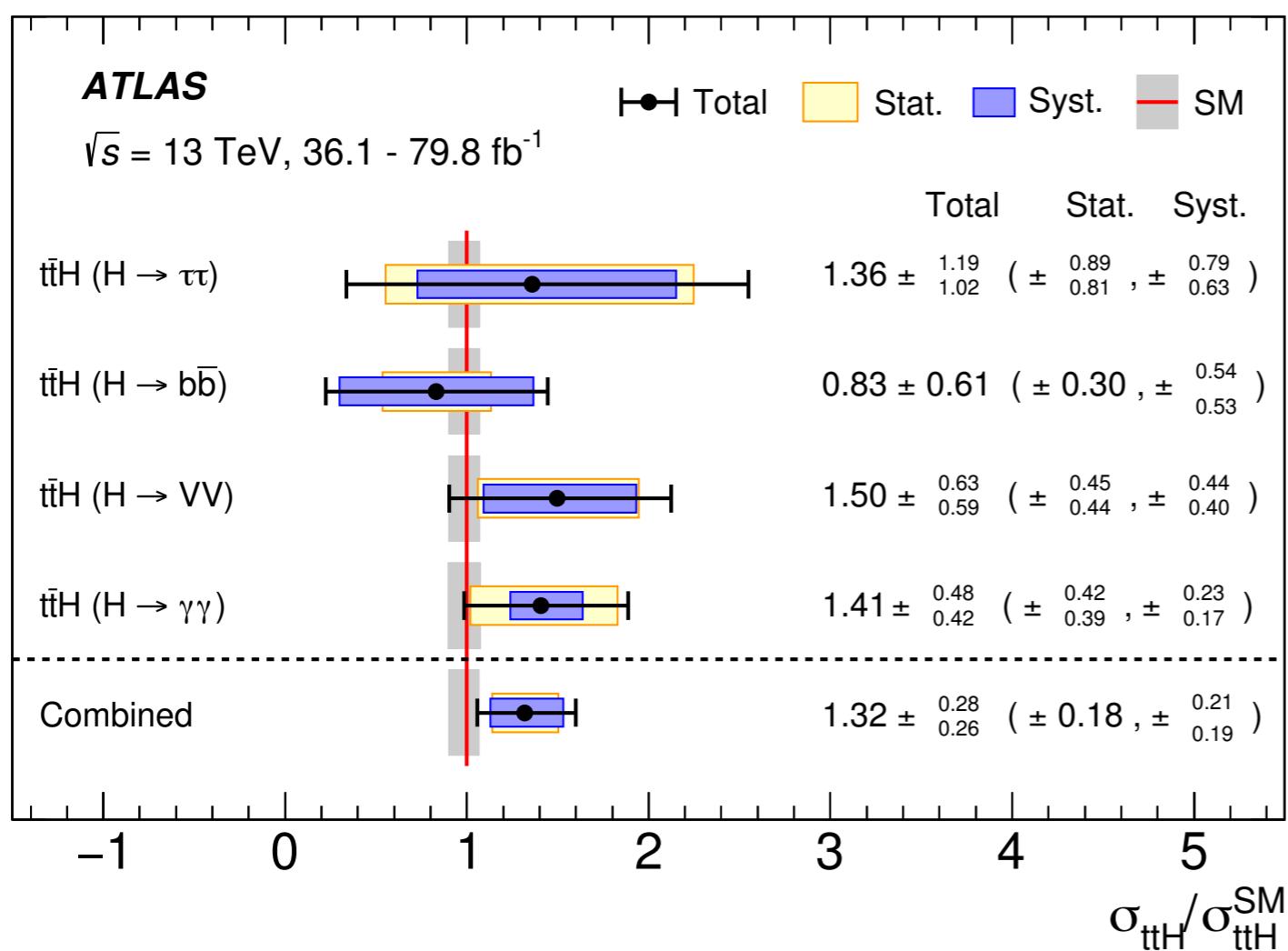
$t\bar{t}H$ SR yields



TRIUMF

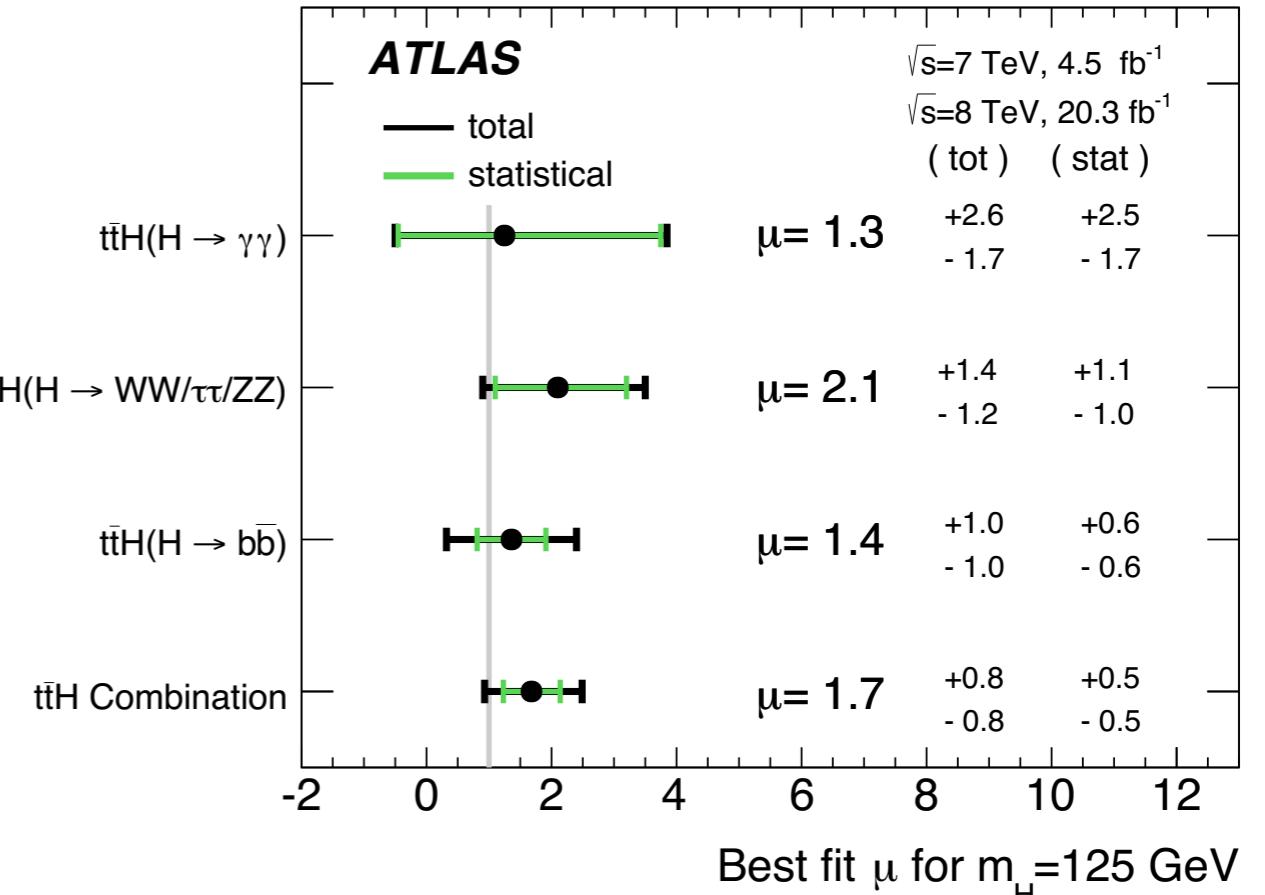
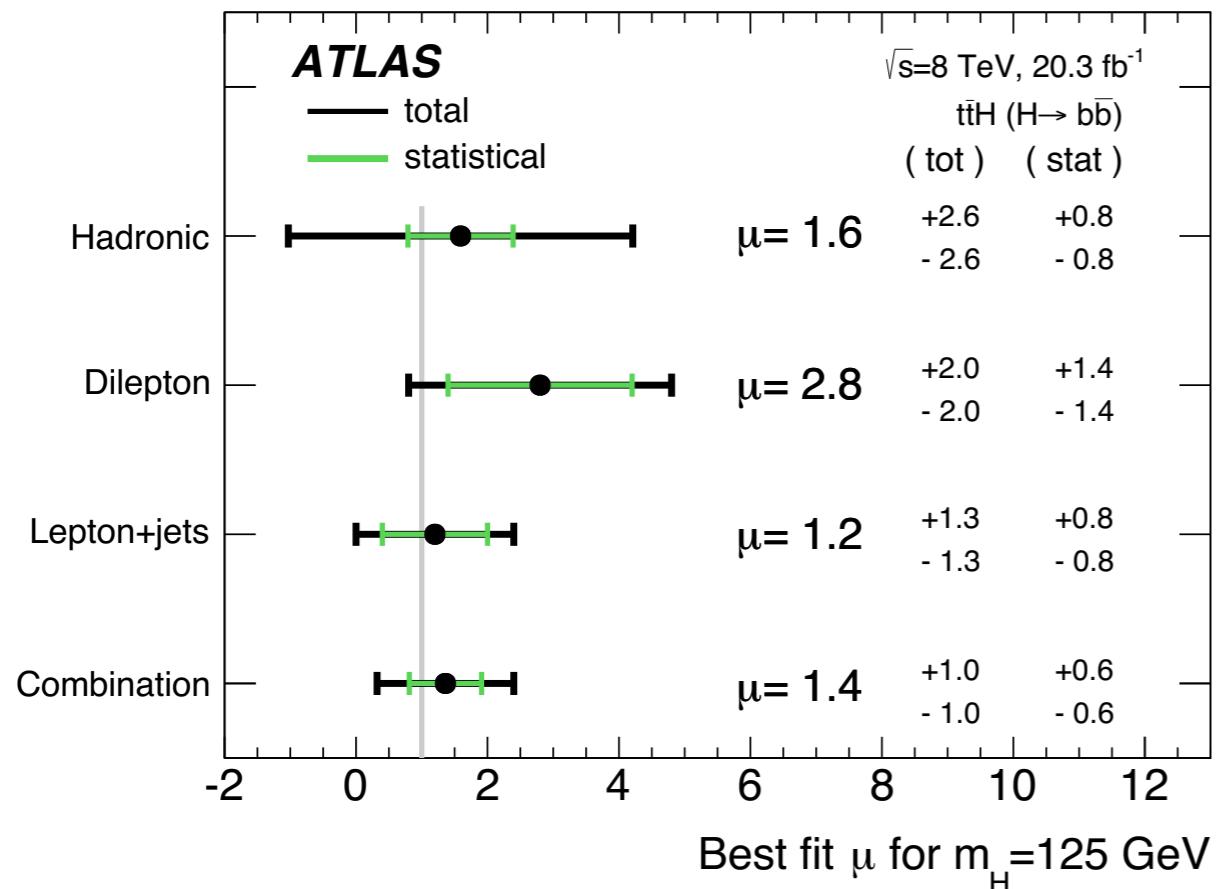


ATLAS vs CMS



arXiv:1804.02610

JHEP 05 (2016) 160



Combined significance:
 2.33σ (1.53σ)