



Observation of $H \rightarrow bb$ decays and VH production with the ATLAS detector

LIU Kun (LPNHE-Paris)
on behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration

LHC Higgs WG1 VH subgroup meeting
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Outline

Introduction and analysis strategy

- ◆ physics motivation
- ◆ analysis strategy
- ◆ event selection and observables

Signal and background modelling

- ◆ MC configurations
- ◆ signal modelling
- ◆ background modelling

Results

- ◆ VH, $H \rightarrow bb$ result
- ◆ $H \rightarrow bb$ combination result
- ◆ VH production combination result

Summary

Introduction

$H \rightarrow bb$ decays has the largest Higgs BR $\sim 58\%$, which has been observed until recently (6 years after Higgs discovery).

$H \rightarrow bb$ decays allows a direct access to Higgs coupling to bottom-quark at tree level.

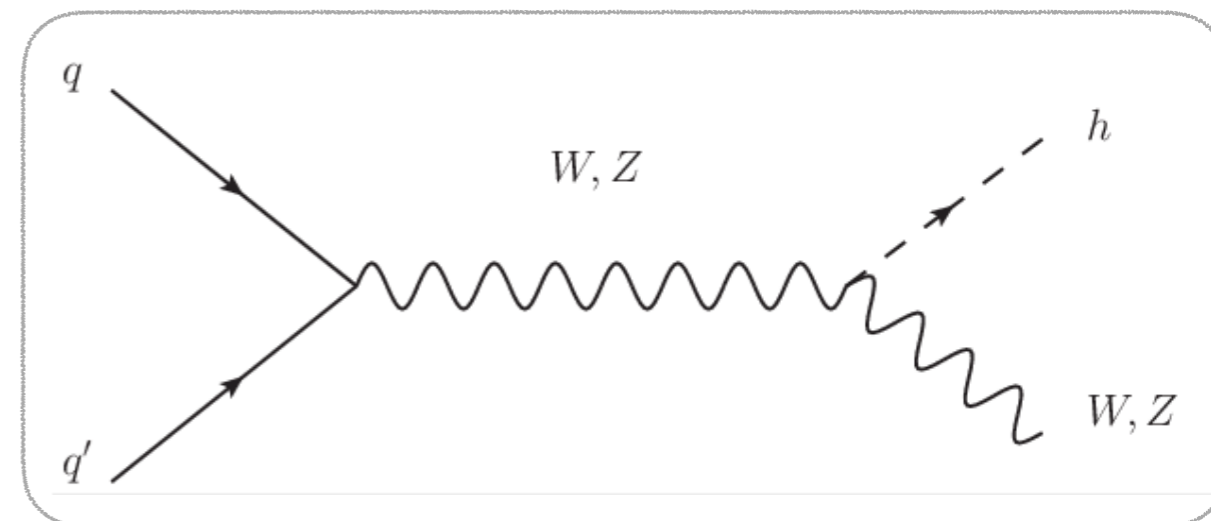
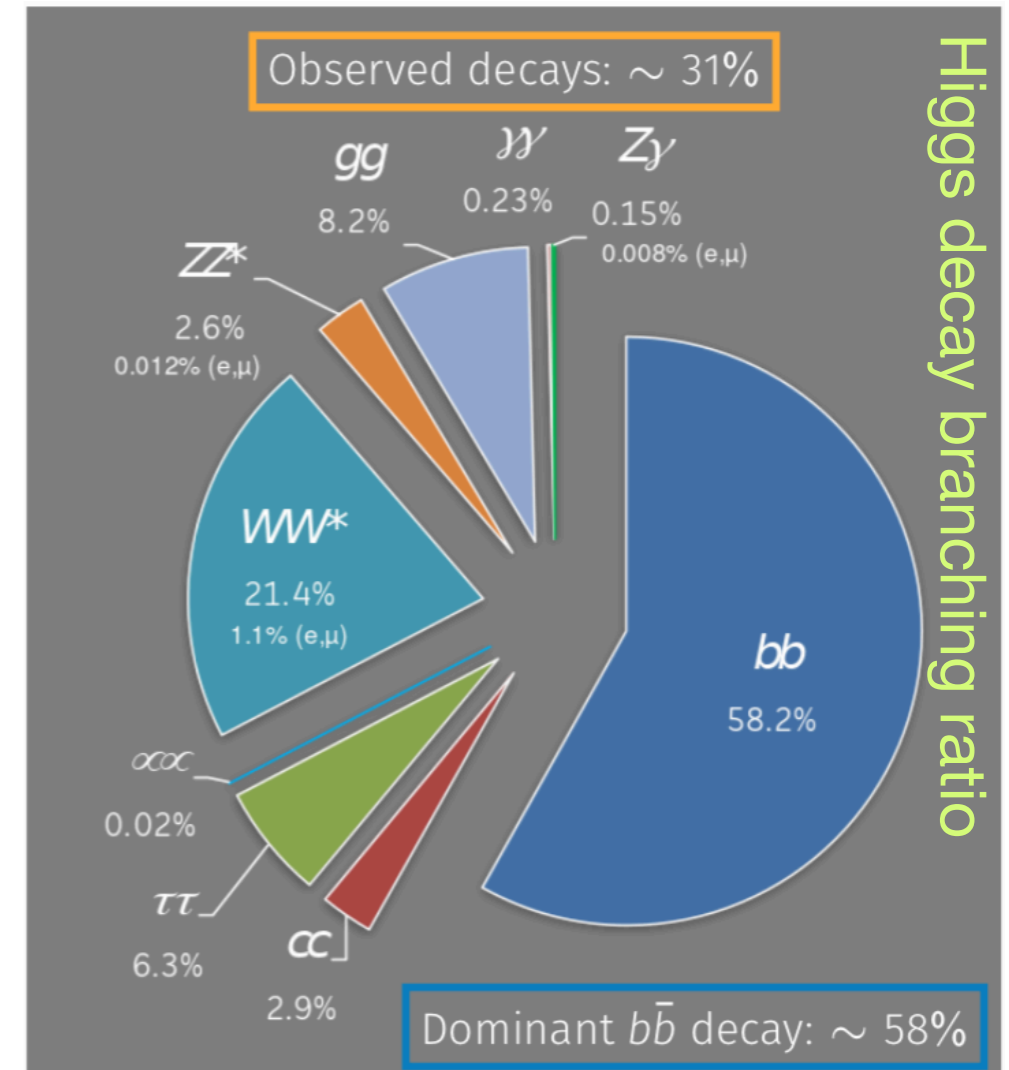
VH, $H \rightarrow bb$ channel has the biggest discovery potential for both $H \rightarrow bb$ decays and VH production.

Leptonic decay of the vector boson enables

- ✓ efficient triggering
- ✓ a significant reduction of multi-jet background.

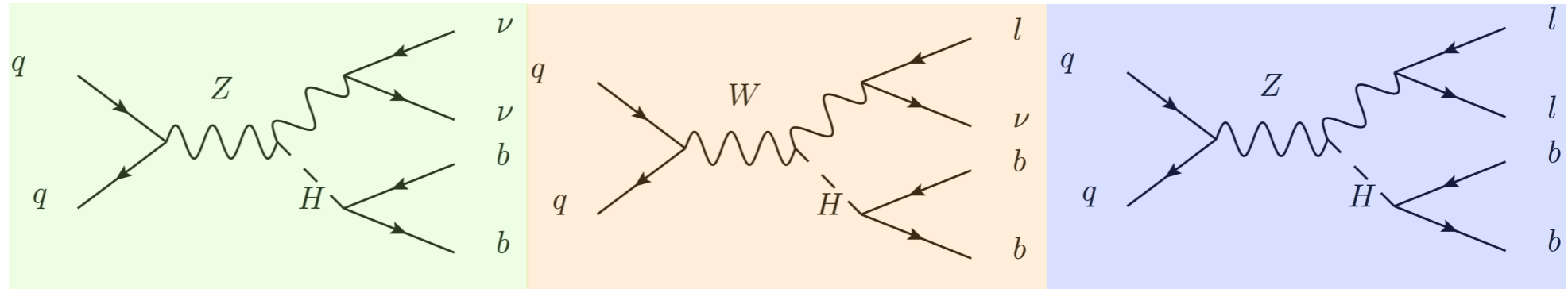
Analysis strategy :

- VH($H \rightarrow bb$) MVA(BDT) analysis as default
- cross check 1: VZ($Z \rightarrow bb$) MVA analysis
- cross check 2: VH m_{bb} fit analysis (cut-based selection).



Event selection and categorisation

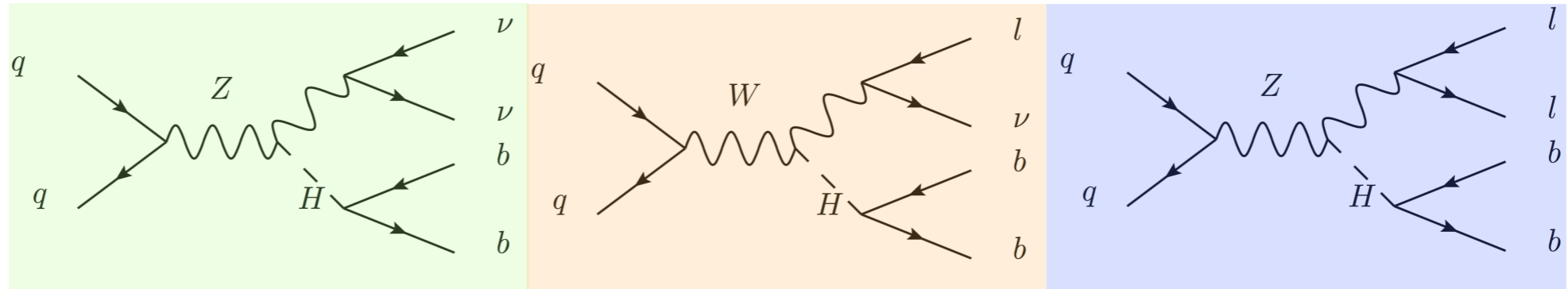
There are three analysis channels according to number of charged leptons:



| Selection | 0-lepton | 1-lepton | | 2-lepton |
|--|--|-------------------------|---|---|
| | | <i>e</i> sub-channel | μ sub-channel | |
| Trigger | E_T^{miss} | Single lepton | E_T^{miss} | Single lepton |
| Leptons | 0 <i>loose</i> leptons with $p_T > 7$ GeV | 1 <i>tight</i> electron | 1 <i>tight</i> muon | 2 <i>loose</i> leptons with $p_T > 7$ GeV |
| E_T^{miss} | > 150 GeV | > 30 GeV | > 25 GeV | – |
| $m_{\ell\ell}$ | – | – | – | $81 \text{ GeV} < m_{\ell\ell} < 101 \text{ GeV}$ |
| Jets | Exactly 2 / Exactly 3 jets | | Exactly 2 / ≥ 3 jets | |
| Jet p_T | | | > 20 GeV for $ \eta < 2.5$ | |
| <i>b</i> -jets | | | > 30 GeV for $2.5 < \eta < 4.5$ | |
| Leading <i>b</i> -tagged jet p_T | | | Exactly 2 <i>b</i> -tagged jets | |
| | > 45 GeV | | | |
| H_T | > 120 GeV (2 jets), > 150 GeV (3 jets) | | – | |
| $\min[\Delta\phi(\vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}}, \vec{jets})]$ | $> 20^\circ$ (2 jets), $> 30^\circ$ (3 jets) | | – | |
| $\Delta\phi(\vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}}, \vec{bb})$ | $> 120^\circ$ | | – | |
| $\Delta\phi(\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2)$ | $< 140^\circ$ | | – | |
| $\Delta\phi(\vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}}, \vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}})$ | $< 90^\circ$ | | – | |
| p_T^V regions | > 150 GeV | | $75 \text{ GeV} < p_T^V < 150 \text{ GeV}, > 150 \text{ GeV}$ | |
| Signal regions | – | | $m_{bb} \geq 75 \text{ GeV}$ or $m_{\text{top}} \leq 225 \text{ GeV}$ | |
| Control regions | – | | $m_{bb} < 75 \text{ GeV}$ and $m_{\text{top}} > 225 \text{ GeV}$ | |
| | | | Same-flavour leptons Opposite-sign charges ($\mu\mu$ sub-channel) | |
| | | | Different-flavour leptons Opposite-sign charges | |

Event selection and categorisation

There are three analysis channels according to number of charged leptons:

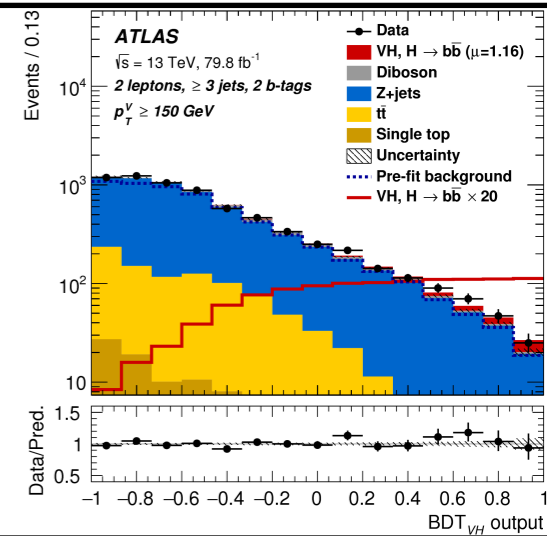
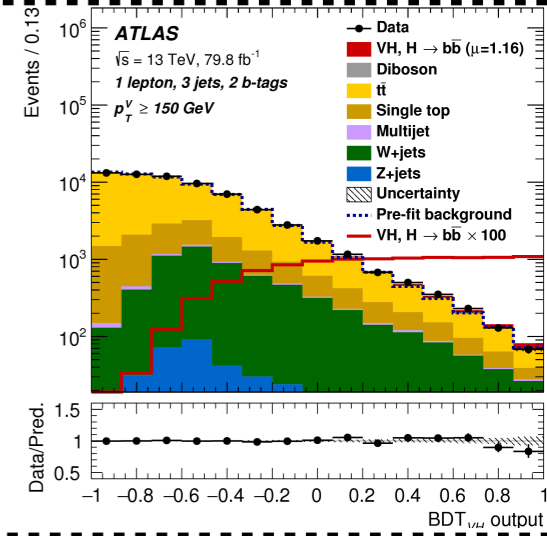
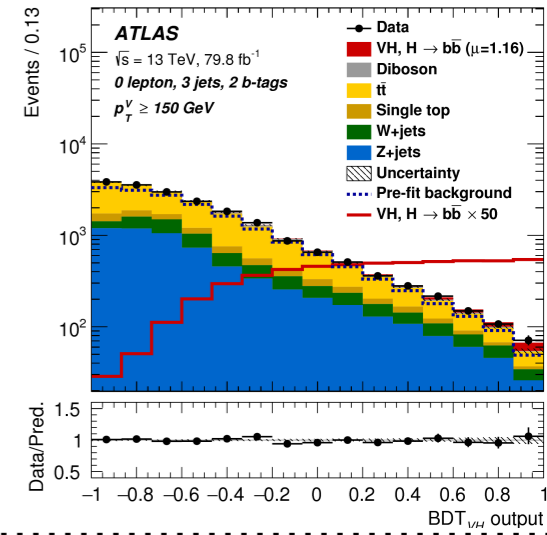
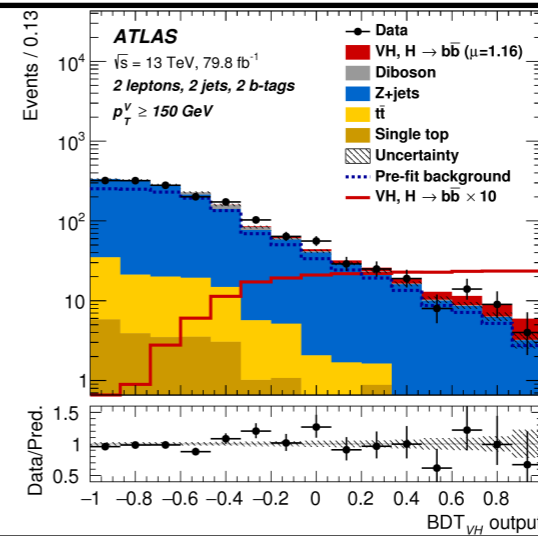
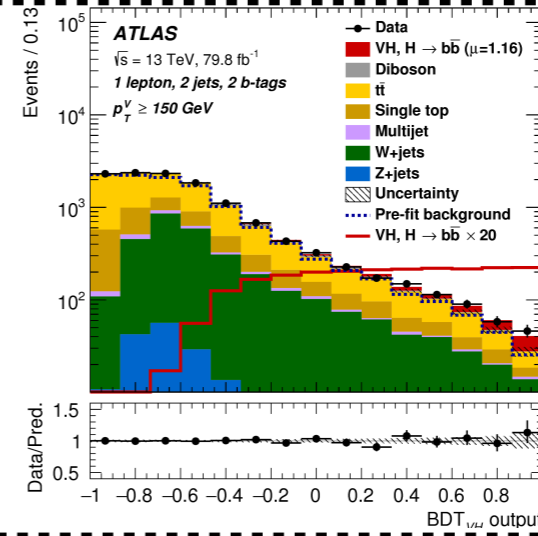
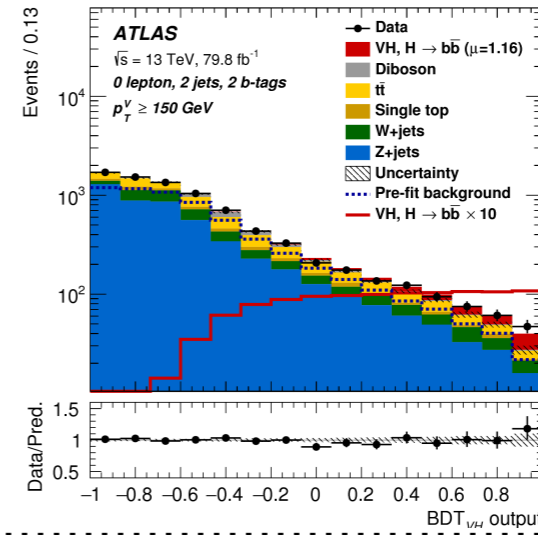
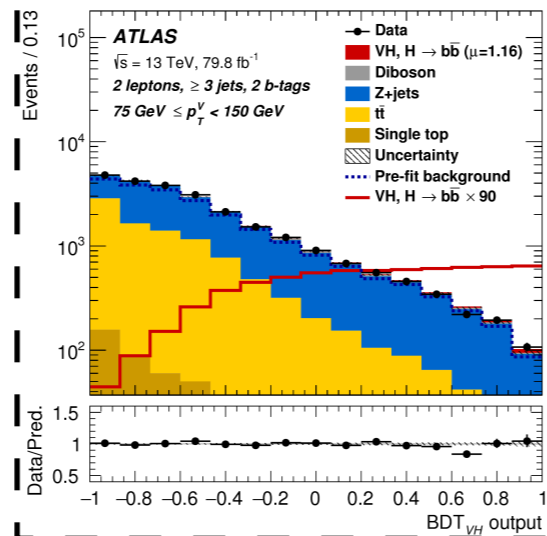
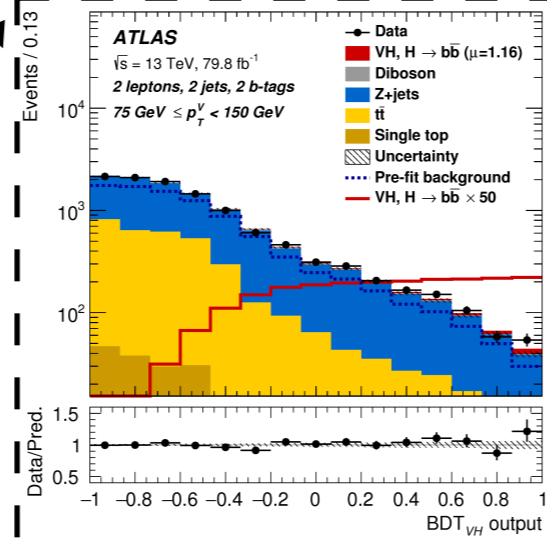
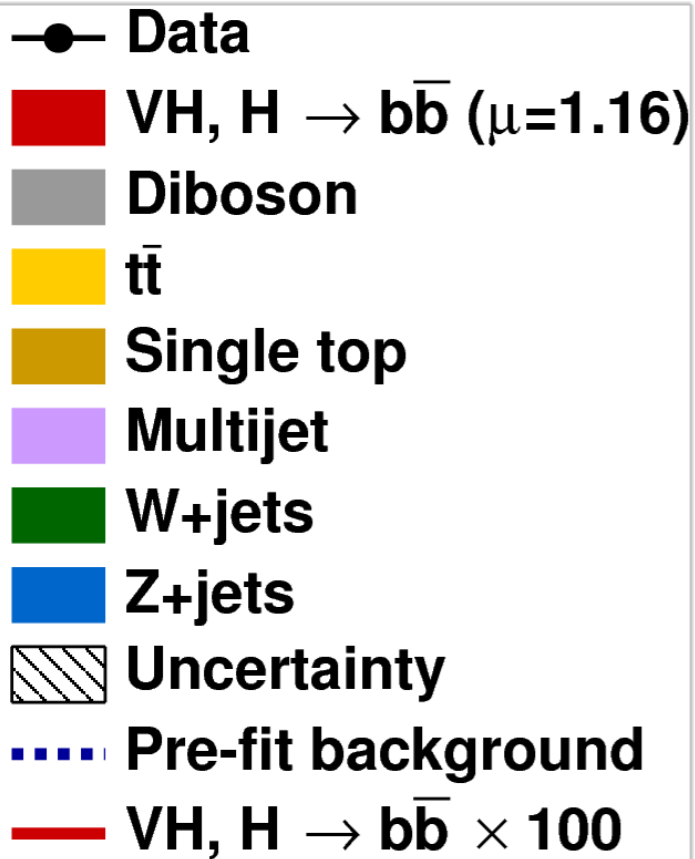


| Selection | 0-lepton | 1-lepton e sub-channel μ sub-channel | 2-lepton |
|--|--|---|---|
| Trigger | E_T^{miss} | Single lepton E_T^{miss} | Single lepton |
| Leptons | | | |
| E_T^{miss} | | | |
| $m_{\ell\ell}$ | | | |
| Jets | | | |
| Jet p_T | | | |
| b -jets | | | |
| Leading b -tagged jet p_T | | | |
| H_T | | | |
| $\min[\Delta\phi(\vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}}, \vec{jets})]$ | $> 20^\circ$ (2 jets), $> 30^\circ$ (3 jets) | – | – |
| $\Delta\phi(\vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}}, \vec{bb})$ | $> 120^\circ$ | – | – |
| $\Delta\phi(\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2)$ | $< 140^\circ$ | – | – |
| $\Delta\phi(\vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}}, \vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}})$ | $< 90^\circ$ | – | – |
| p_T^V regions | > 150 GeV | | $75 \text{ GeV} < p_T^V < 150 \text{ GeV}, > 150 \text{ GeV}$ |
| Signal regions | – | $m_{bb} \geq 75 \text{ GeV}$ or $m_{\text{top}} \leq 225 \text{ GeV}$ | Same-flavour leptons Opposite-sign charges ($\mu\mu$ sub-channel) |
| Control regions | – | $m_{bb} < 75 \text{ GeV}$ and $m_{\text{top}} > 225 \text{ GeV}$ | Different-flavour leptons Opposite-sign charges |

→ harmonising as much as possible the selection among channels.
 → Requiring two b -tagged jets with 70% b -tagging WP (0.3% efficiency for light-jet and 12.5% efficiency for c -jet) ensures non $V+bx$ background to be negligible.

Analysis regions and discriminants

| Channel | SR/CR | Categories | | | |
|----------|--------------------|--|----------|---------------------------|----------|
| | | $75 \text{ GeV} < p_T^V < 150 \text{ GeV}$ | | $p_T^V > 150 \text{ GeV}$ | |
| | | 2 jets | 3 jets | 2 jets | 3 jets |
| 0-lepton | SR | - | - | BDT | BDT |
| 1-lepton | SR | - | - | BDT | BDT |
| 2-lepton | SR | BDT | BDT | BDT | BDT |
| 1-lepton | $W + \text{HF CR}$ | - | - | Yield | Yield |
| 2-lepton | $e\mu \text{ CR}$ | m_{bb} | m_{bb} | Yield | m_{bb} |



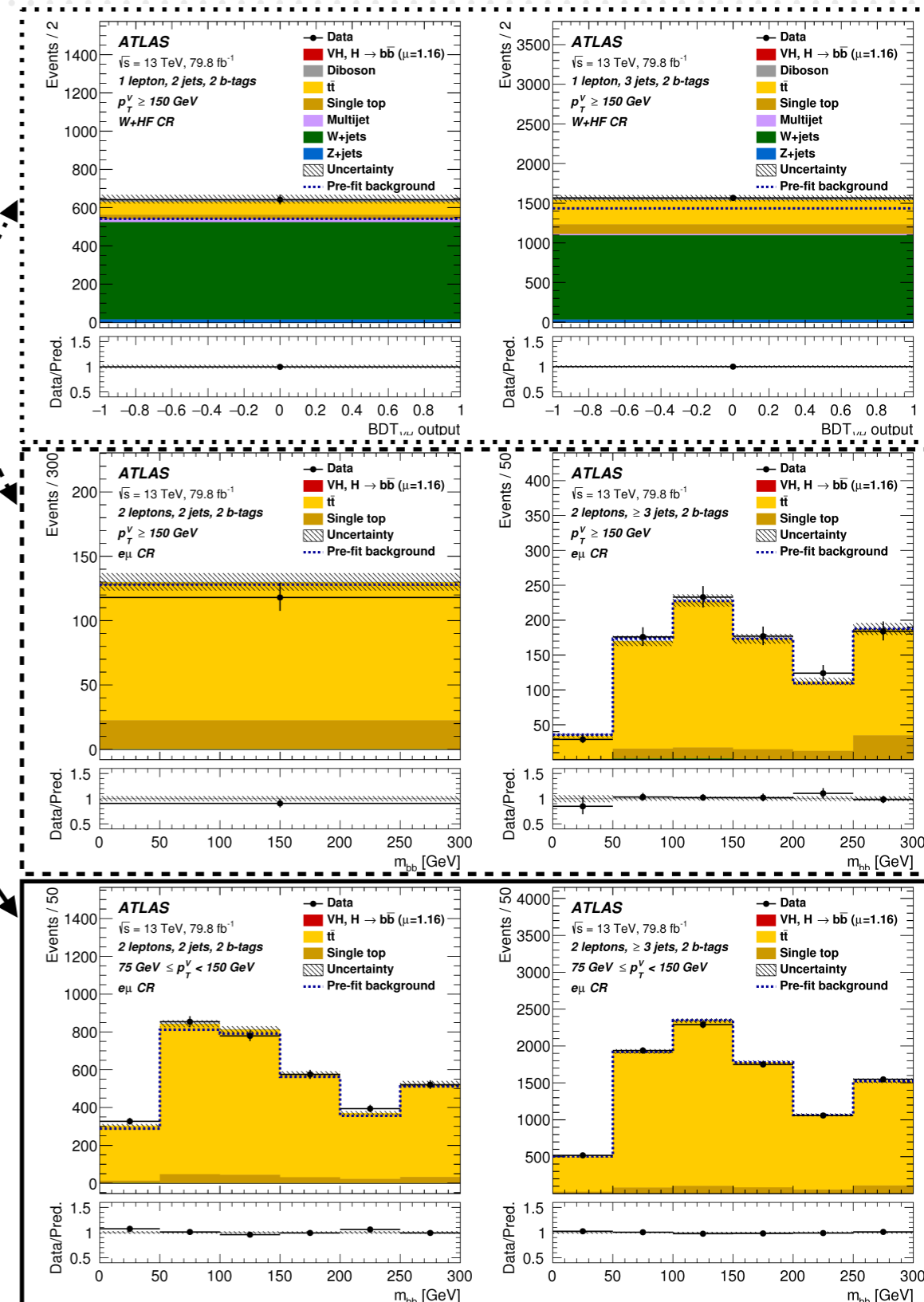
Analysis regions and discriminants

| Channel | SR/CR | Categories | | | |
|----------|--------------------|--|----------|---------------------------|----------|
| | | $75 \text{ GeV} < p_T^V < 150 \text{ GeV}$ | | $p_T^V > 150 \text{ GeV}$ | |
| | | 2 jets | 3 jets | 2 jets | 3 jets |
| 0-lepton | SR | - | - | BDT | BDT |
| 1-lepton | SR | - | - | BDT | BDT |
| 2-lepton | SR | BDT | BDT | BDT | BDT |
| 1-lepton | $W + \text{HF CR}$ | - | - | Yield | Yield |
| 2-lepton | $e\mu \text{ CR}$ | m_{bb} | m_{bb} | Yield | m_{bb} |

Choice of Control Regions:

- ♦ **in 2L:** close to 0 normalisation and shape extrapolation uncertainties between SR and CR
- ♦ **in 1L:** m_{top} is reconstructed as the invariant mass of the lepton, the reconstructed neutrino and the b-tagged jet yields the lowest mass value.

All regions are fitted simultaneously to extract parameters of interest.



Signal and background MC configurations

| Process | ME generator | ME PDF | PS and Hadronisation | UE model tune | Cross-section order |
|--|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| Signal, mass set to 125 GeV and $b\bar{b}$ branching fraction to 58% | | | | | |
| $qq \rightarrow WH$ $\rightarrow \ell\nu b\bar{b}$ | POWHEG-Box v2 [76] + GoSAM [79] + MINLO [80,81] | NNPDF3.0NLO ^(*) [77] | PYTHIA 8.212 [68] | AZNLO [78] | NNLO(QCD)+ NLO(EW) [82–88] |
| $qq \rightarrow ZH$ $\rightarrow \nu\nu b\bar{b}/\ell\ell b\bar{b}$ | POWHEG-Box v2 + GoSAM + MINLO | NNPDF3.0NLO ^(*) | PYTHIA 8.212 | AZNLO | NNLO(QCD) ^(†) + NLO(EW) |
| $gg \rightarrow ZH$ $\rightarrow \nu\nu b\bar{b}/\ell\ell b\bar{b}$ | POWHEG-Box v2 | NNPDF3.0NLO ^(*) | PYTHIA 8.212 | AZNLO | NLO+ NLL [89–93] |
| Top quark, mass set to 172.5 GeV | | | | | |
| $t\bar{t}$ | POWHEG-Box v2 [94] | NNPDF3.0NLO | PYTHIA 8.230 | A14 [95] | NNLO+NNLL [96] |
| s -channel | POWHEG-Box v2 [97] | NNPDF3.0NLO | PYTHIA 8.230 | A14 | NLO [98] |
| t -channel | POWHEG-Box v2 [97] | NNPDF3.0NLO | PYTHIA 8.230 | A14 | NLO [99] |
| Wt | POWHEG-Box v2 [100] | NNPDF3.0NLO | PYTHIA 8.230 | A14 | Approximate NNLO [101] |
| Vector boson + jets | | | | | |
| $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$ | SHERPA 2.2.1 [71, 102, 103] | NNPDF3.0NNLO | SHERPA 2.2.1 [104, 105] | Default | NNLO [106] |
| $Z/\gamma^* \rightarrow \ell\ell$ | SHERPA 2.2.1 | NNPDF3.0NNLO | SHERPA 2.2.1 | Default | NNLO |
| $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ | SHERPA 2.2.1 | NNPDF3.0NNLO | SHERPA 2.2.1 | Default | NNLO |
| Diboson | | | | | |
| $qq \rightarrow WW$ | SHERPA 2.2.1 | NNPDF3.0NNLO | SHERPA 2.2.1 | Default | NLO |
| $qq \rightarrow WZ$ | SHERPA 2.2.1 | NNPDF3.0NNLO | SHERPA 2.2.1 | Default | NLO |
| $qq \rightarrow ZZ$ | SHERPA 2.2.1 | NNPDF3.0NNLO | SHERPA 2.2.1 | Default | NLO |
| $gg \rightarrow VV$ | SHERPA 2.2.2 | NNPDF3.0NNLO | SHERPA 2.2.2 | Default | NLO |

MC simulated events are used to model the SM backgrounds and VH, H→bb signal processes

- all processes are normalised using most accurate theoretical cross-section predictions
- ttbar is generated at NLO accuracy; V+ 0/1/2 (3/4) jets are generated at NLO (LO) accuracy.

Alternative samples for systematics are listed in backup slides.

Signal and background modelling systematics

Three areas of modelling systematics for the simulated samples

- ◆ [overall normalisation and associated uncertainty](#): currently most accurate calculations [\[table\]](#)
- ◆ [acceptance/extrapolation between SR and CR](#): changing generator or altering generator parameters
- ◆ [shape systematics parametrised independently as a function of \$m_{bb}\$ and pTV](#): leading variables in BDT.

Data provides constraint on the normalisation of main backgrounds via the global likelihood fit.

| Process | Normalisation factor | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| $t\bar{t}$ 0- and 1-lepton | 0.98 ± 0.08 | → constrain in 0/1-lep SR |
| $t\bar{t}$ 2-lepton 2-jet | 1.06 ± 0.09 | → constrain in $t\bar{t}$ CR |
| $t\bar{t}$ 2-lepton 3-jet | 0.95 ± 0.06 | |
| $W + \text{HF}$ 2-jet | 1.19 ± 0.12 | → constrain in $W + \text{HF}$ CR |
| $W + \text{HF}$ 3-jet | 1.05 ± 0.12 | |
| $Z + \text{HF}$ 2-jet | 1.37 ± 0.11 | → constrain in 0/2-lep SR |
| $Z + \text{HF}$ 3-jet | 1.09 ± 0.09 | |

HF: heavy-flavour includes bb , bc , bl and cc components.

Signal modelling uncertainties

| | Signal | From HXSWG YR4 |
|---|--------|---|
| Cross-section (scale) | | 0.7% (qq), 27% (gg) |
| Cross-section (PDF) | | 1.9% ($qq \rightarrow WH$), 1.6% ($qq \rightarrow ZH$), 5% (gg) |
| $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ branching fraction | | 1.7% |
| Acceptance from scale variations | | 2.5 – 8.8% |
| Acceptance from PS/UE variations for 2 or more jets | | 2.9 – 6.2% (depending on lepton channel) |
| Acceptance from PS/UE variations for 3 jets | | 1.8 – 11% |
| Acceptance from PDF+ α_S variations | | 0.5 – 1.3% |
| m_{bb}, p_T^V , from scale variations | | S |
| m_{bb}, p_T^V , from PS/UE variations | | S |
| m_{bb}, p_T^V , from PDF+ α_S variations | | S |
| p_T^V from NLO EW correction | | S |

Updates w.r.t VHbb-Evidence analysis with 36.1 fb⁻¹

- ❖ larger number of events from alternative samples
- ❖ more recent parton shower uncertainty
- ➔ reduce the parton shower and underlying event uncertainties.

To account for higher order EW effects on overall VH XS, we use as NLO EW uncertainty as function of p_T^V :
 $\max\{\text{NLOEW}^2, 1\%, \Delta_{\gamma}\}$.

Background modelling uncertainties - Z+jets

| | Z + jets | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Z + ll normalisation | 18% | All numbers are completely dominated by the comparison between Sherpa and MadGraph ! |
| Z + cl normalisation | 23% | |
| Z + HF normalisation | Floating (2-jet, 3-jet) | |
| Z + bc-to-Z + bb ratio | 30 – 40% | MadGraph V+0/1/2/3 jets are at LO. |
| Z + cc-to-Z + bb ratio | 13 – 15% | |
| Z + bl-to-Z + bb ratio | 20 – 25% | |
| 0-to-2 lepton ratio | 7% | |
| m_{bb}, p_T^V | S | |

V+ll and V+cl components constitute < 1% of total background → only normalisation uncertainty.

Acceptance uncertainties for the relative normalisations sharing a common floating parameter:

- ♦ V+HF: bc/cc/bl to bb yield ratio → little impact on the final sensitivity
- ♦ 0-lepton to 2-lepton channel yield ratio.

mbb, pTV shapes are extracted from data/mc in sidebands.

| Process | Normalisation factor |
|--------------|----------------------|
| Z + HF 2-jet | 1.37 ± 0.11 |
| Z + HF 3-jet | 1.09 ± 0.09 |

Background modelling uncertainties - W+jets

| | $W + \text{jets}$ | All numbers are completely dominated by the comparison between Sherpa and MadGraph ! |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| $W + ll$ normalisation | 32% | MadGraph V+0/1/2/3 jets are at LO. |
| $W + cl$ normalisation | 37% | |
| $W + \text{HF}$ normalisation | Floating (2-jet, 3-jet) | |
| $W + bl$ -to- $W + bb$ ratio | 26% (0-lepton) and 23% (1-lepton) | |
| $W + bc$ -to- $W + bb$ ratio | 15% (0-lepton) and 30% (1-lepton) | |
| $W + cc$ -to- $W + bb$ ratio | 10% (0-lepton) and 30% (1-lepton) | |
| 0-to-1 lepton ratio | 5% | |
| $W + \text{HF}$ CR to SR ratio | 10% (1-lepton) | |
| m_{bb}^V, p_T^V | S | |

V+ll and V+cl components constitute < 1% of total background → only normalisation uncertainty.

Acceptance uncertainties for the relative normalisations sharing a common floating parameter:

- ◆ V+HF: bc/cc/bl to bb yield ratio → little impact on the final sensitivity
- ◆ 0-lepton to 1-lepton channel yield ratio
- ◆ W+HF CR to SR yield ratio.

| Process | Normalisation factor |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| $W + \text{HF}$ 2-jet | 1.19 ± 0.12 |
| $W + \text{HF}$ 3-jet | 1.05 ± 0.12 |

Background modelling uncertainties - Diboson

| <i>ZZ</i> | |
|---|---|
| Normalisation | 20% |
| 0-to-2 lepton ratio | 6% |
| Acceptance from scale variations | 10 – 18% |
| Acceptance from PS/UE variations for 2 or more jets | 6% |
| Acceptance from PS/UE variations for 3 jets | 7% (0-lepton), 3% (2-lepton) |
| m_{bb}, p_T^V , from scale variations | S (correlated with <i>WZ</i> uncertainties) |
| m_{bb}, p_T^V , from PS/UE variations | S (correlated with <i>WZ</i> uncertainties) |
| m_{bb} , from matrix-element variations | S (correlated with <i>WZ</i> uncertainties) |
| <i>WZ</i> | |
| Normalisation | 26% |
| 0-to-1 lepton ratio | 11% |
| Acceptance from scale variations | 13 – 21% |
| Acceptance from PS/UE variations for 2 or more jets | 4% |
| Acceptance from PS/UE variations for 3 jets | 11% |
| m_{bb}, p_T^V , from scale variations | S (correlated with <i>ZZ</i> uncertainties) |
| m_{bb}, p_T^V , from PS/UE variations | S (correlated with <i>ZZ</i> uncertainties) |
| m_{bb} , from matrix-element variations | S (correlated with <i>ZZ</i> uncertainties) |
| <i>WW</i> (<0.1% of the total background) | |
| Normalisation | 25% |

Background modelling uncertainties - $t\bar{t}$

$t\bar{t}$ (all are uncorrelated between the 0+1- and 2-lepton channels)

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| $t\bar{t}$ normalisation | Floating (0+1-lepton, 2-lepton 2-jet, 2-lepton 3-jet) |
| 0-to-1 lepton ratio | 8% |
| 2-to-3-jet ratio | 9% (0+1-lepton only) |
| $W + \text{HF CR to SR ratio}$ | 25% |
| m_{bb}, p_T^V | S |

Independent normalisation factors are considered for 0+1-lepton, 2-lepton 2jet and 2-lepton 3-jet.

0+1-lepton channel acceptance uncertainties:

- ◆ 0-lepton to 1-lepton yield ratio
- ◆ 2-jet to 3-jet yield ratio
- ◆ $W+\text{HF CR to SR}$ yield ratio

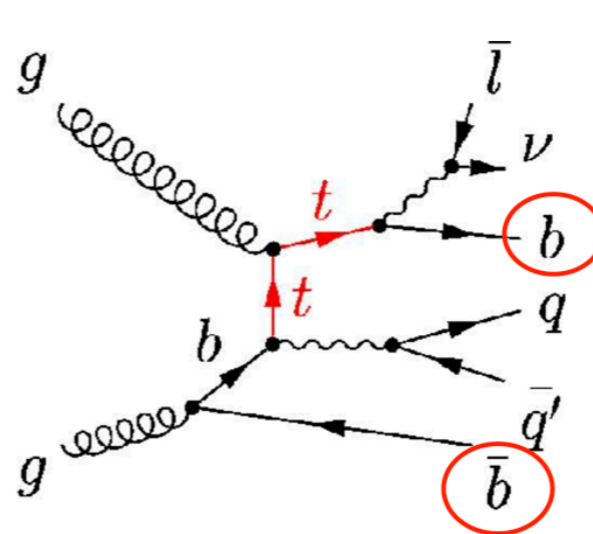
| Process | Normalisation factor |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| $t\bar{t}$ 0- and 1-lepton | 0.98 ± 0.08 |
| $t\bar{t}$ 2-lepton 2-jet | 1.06 ± 0.09 |
| $t\bar{t}$ 2-lepton 3-jet | 0.95 ± 0.06 |

Background modelling uncertainties - single top

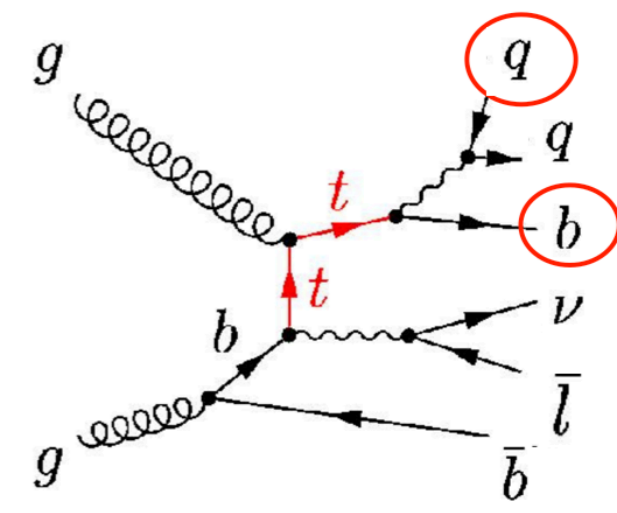
| Single top-quark | |
|------------------|--|
| Cross-section | 4.6% (<i>s</i> -channel), 4.4% (<i>t</i> -channel), 6.2% (<i>Wt</i>) |
| Acceptance 2-jet | 17% (<i>t</i> -channel), 55% (<i>Wt</i> (<i>bb</i>)), 24% (<i>Wt</i> (other)) |
| Acceptance 3-jet | 20% (<i>t</i> -channel), 51% (<i>Wt</i> (<i>bb</i>)), 21% (<i>Wt</i> (other)) |
| m_{bb}, p_T^V | S (<i>t</i> -channel, <i>Wt</i> (<i>bb</i>), <i>Wt</i> (other)) |

Due to negligible contribution of **s-channel** only normalisation uncertainty is considered.

Wt channel: acceptance and shape systematics are considered in separated in *bb* or other components due to the different flavour composition/origin of *b*-jets being probed.



Wt (*bb*)



Wt (other)

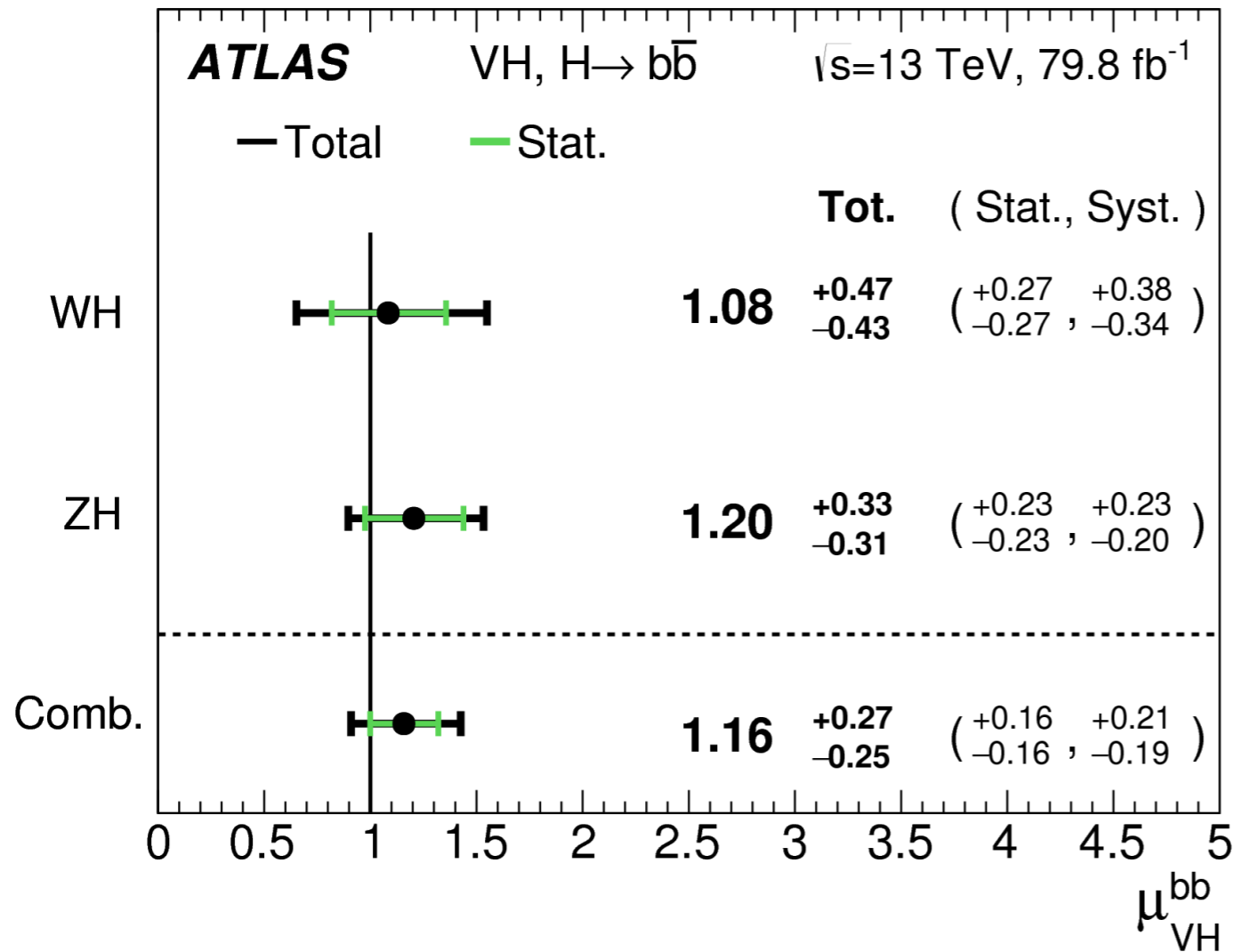
VH, $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ analysis results (79.8fb^{-1})

Observed (Expected) significance: 4.9σ (4.3σ).

The measured signal strength is

$$\mu_{VH}^{bb} = 1.16_{-0.25}^{+0.27} = 1.16 \pm 0.16(\text{stat.})_{-0.19}^{+0.21}(\text{syst.})$$

which is in good agreement with the SM prediction.



| Source of uncertainty | σ_μ | |
|---|--------------------|-------|
| Total | 0.259 | |
| Statistical | 0.161 | |
| Systematic | 0.203 | |
| Experimental uncertainties | | |
| Jets | 0.035 | |
| E_T^{miss} | 0.014 | |
| Leptons | 0.009 | |
| b -tagging | b -jets | 0.061 |
| | c -jets | 0.042 |
| | light-flavour jets | 0.009 |
| | extrapolation | 0.008 |
| Pile-up | 0.007 | |
| Luminosity | 0.023 | |
| Theoretical and modelling uncertainties | | |
| Signal | 0.094 | |
| Floating normalisations | 0.035 | |
| Z + jets | 0.055 | |
| W + jets | 0.060 | |
| $t\bar{t}$ | 0.050 | |
| Single top quark | 0.028 | |
| Diboson | 0.054 | |
| Multi-jet | 0.005 | |
| MC statistical | 0.070 | |

VH, $H \rightarrow bb$ analysis results (79.8fb^{-1})

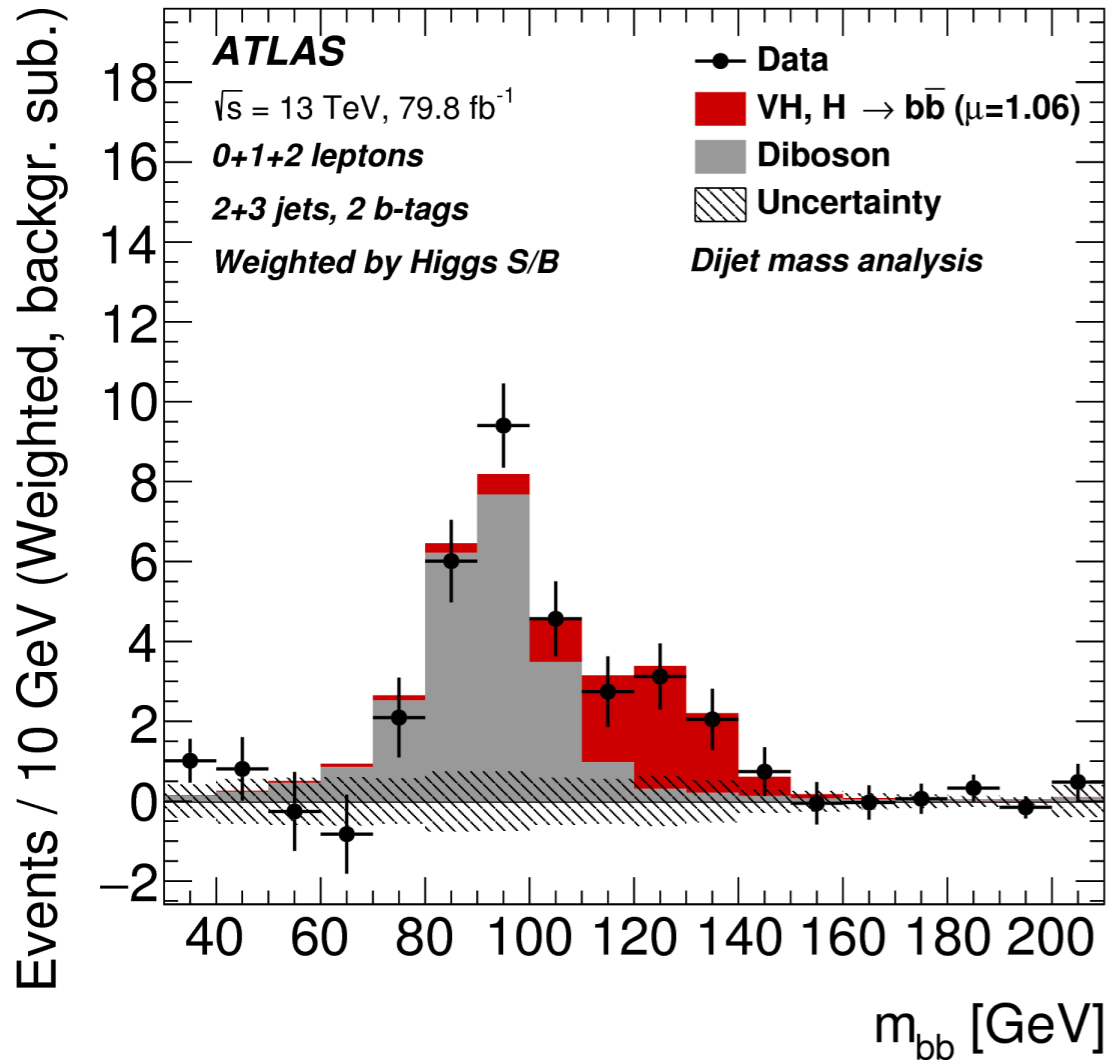
c-jets: from 0/1-lepton channels $t\bar{t}b\bar{c}$ contamination.

W+jets: the leading uncertainty is $Wp\bar{t}$ from MadGraph vs Sherpa \rightarrow need more consistent generators comparison and/or more direct data constrain.

We are constantly trying to improve it with filters.

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|---|--------------------|-------|
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| Statistical | 0.161 | |
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| Experimental uncertainties | | |
| Jets | 0.035 | |
| E_T^{miss} | 0.014 | |
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| <i>b</i> -tagging | <i>b</i> -jets | 0.061 |
| | <i>c</i> -jets | 0.042 |
| | light-flavour jets | 0.009 |
| | extrapolation | 0.008 |
| Pile-up | 0.007 | |
| Luminosity | 0.023 | |
| Theoretical and modelling uncertainties | | |
| Signal | 0.094 | |
| Floating normalisations | 0.035 | |
| <i>Z</i> + jets | 0.055 | |
| <i>W</i> + jets | 0.060 | |
| $t\bar{t}$ | 0.050 | |
| Single top quark | 0.028 | |
| Diboson | 0.054 | |
| Multi-jet | 0.005 | |
| MC statistical | 0.070 | |

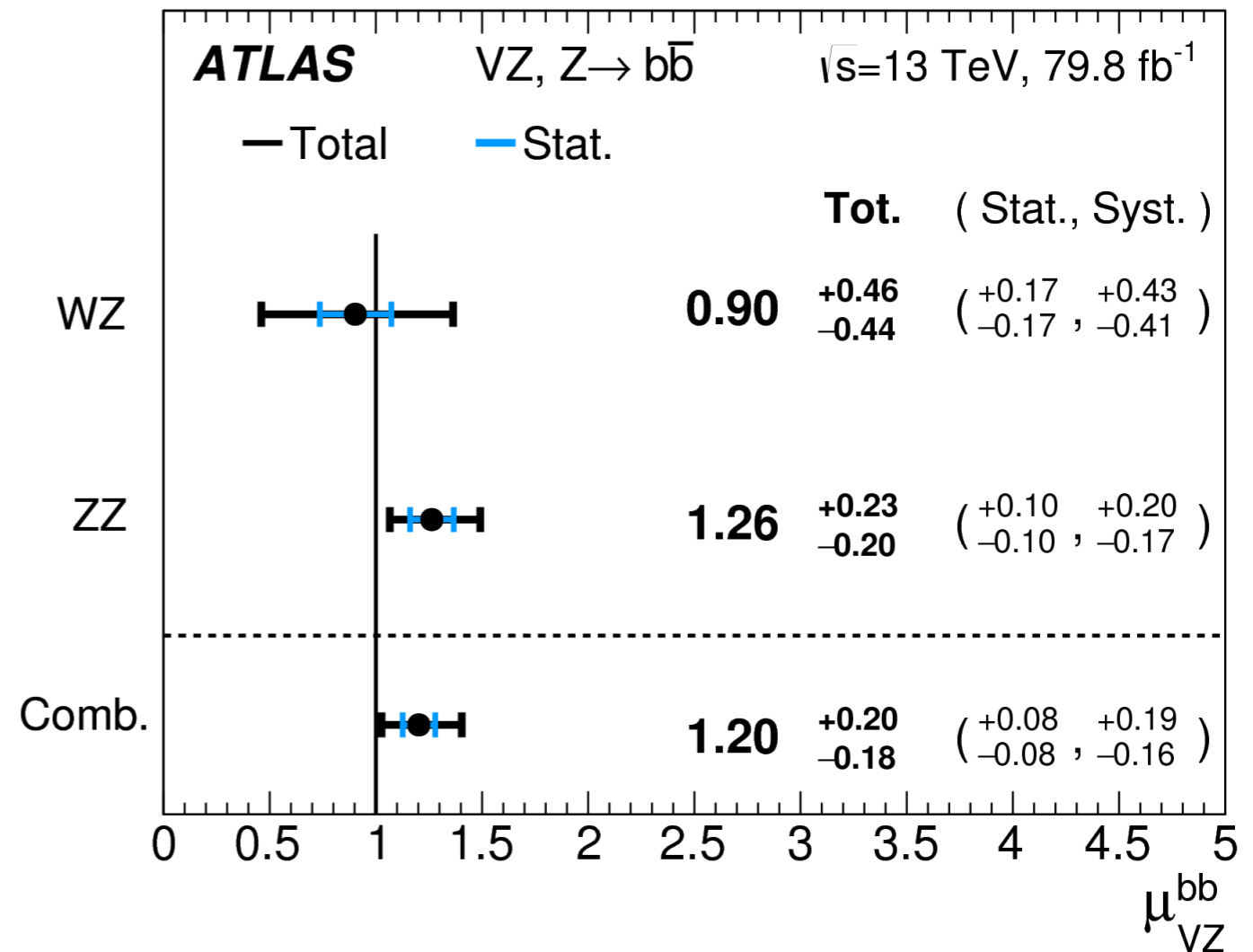
Results from the two cross check analyses (79.8fb⁻¹)



Dijet-mass analysis:

- ◆ Observed (Expected) significance: 3.6 σ (3.5 σ)
- ◆ The measured signal strength is:

$$\mu_{VH}^{bb} = 1.06_{-0.33}^{+0.36} = 1.06 \pm 0.20(\text{stat.})_{-0.26}^{+0.30}(\text{syst.})$$



Diboson analysis:

The measured VZ(Z \rightarrow bb) signal strength is in good agreement with the SM prediction:

$$\mu_{VZ}^{bb} = 1.20_{-0.18}^{+0.20} = 1.20 \pm 0.08(\text{stat.})_{-0.16}^{+0.19}(\text{syst.})$$

Observation of $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decay mode

$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ discovery is achieved in the combination of

- ◆ VH, ttH, VBF+ggF production channels
- ◆ Run 1 and Run 2 combination

Observed (Expected) significance is 5.4σ (5.5σ).

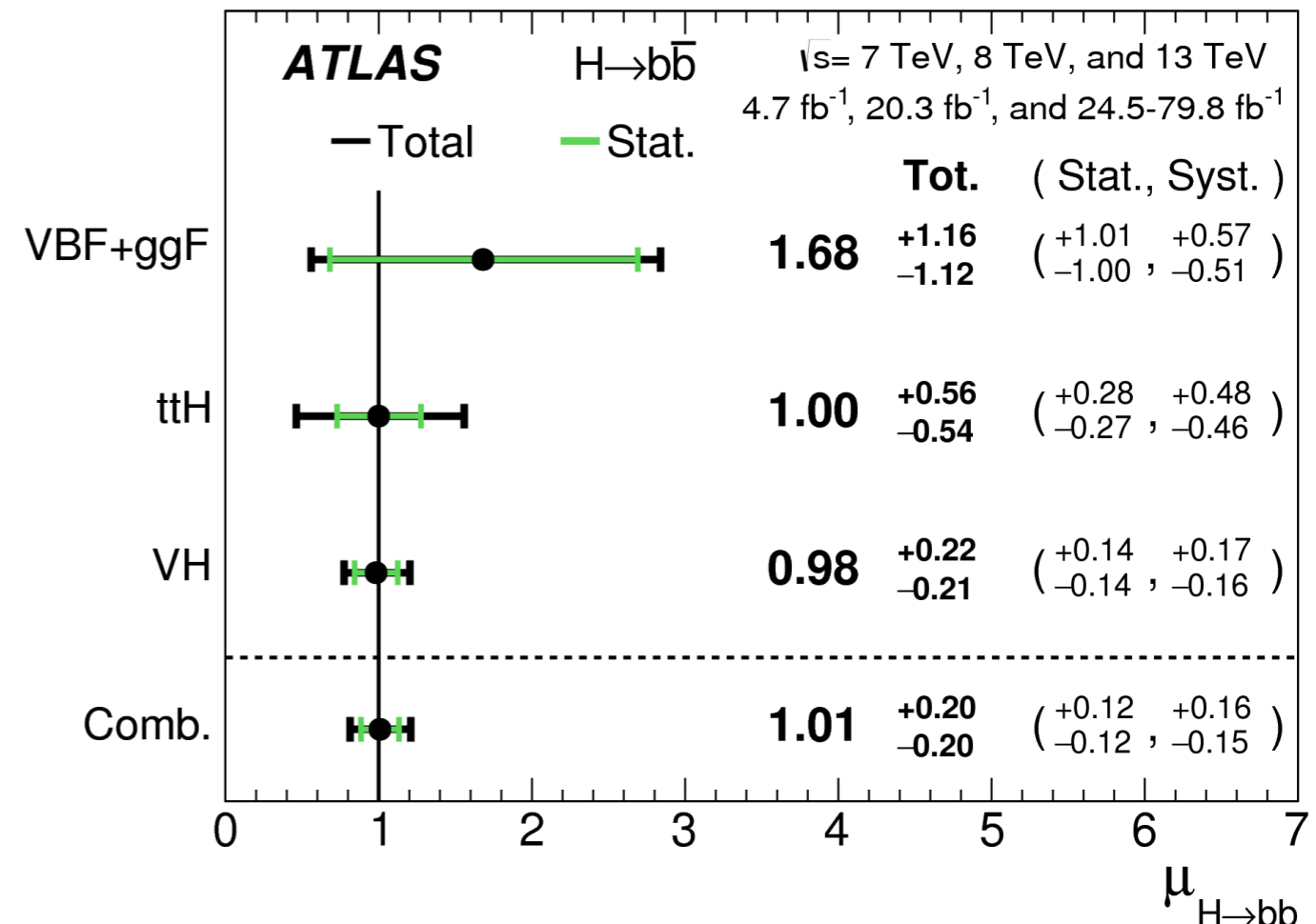
The measured signal strength of $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ is

$$\mu_{H \rightarrow b\bar{b}} = 1.01 \pm 0.20 = 1.01 \pm 0.12(\text{stat.})_{-0.15}^{+0.16}(\text{syst.})$$

which is in good agreement with the SM prediction.

The probability of compatibility of signal strength of the three production channels is 83%.

| Channel | Significance | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|------|
| | Exp. | Obs. |
| VBF+ggF | 0.9 | 1.5 |
| $t\bar{t}H$ | 1.9 | 1.9 |
| VH | 5.1 | 4.9 |
| $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ combination | 5.5 | 5.4 |



Observation of VH production channel

VH discovery is achieved in the combination of Higgs to $ZZ/\gamma\gamma/b\bar{b}$ decay modes.

Observed (Expected) significance is 5.3σ (4.8σ).

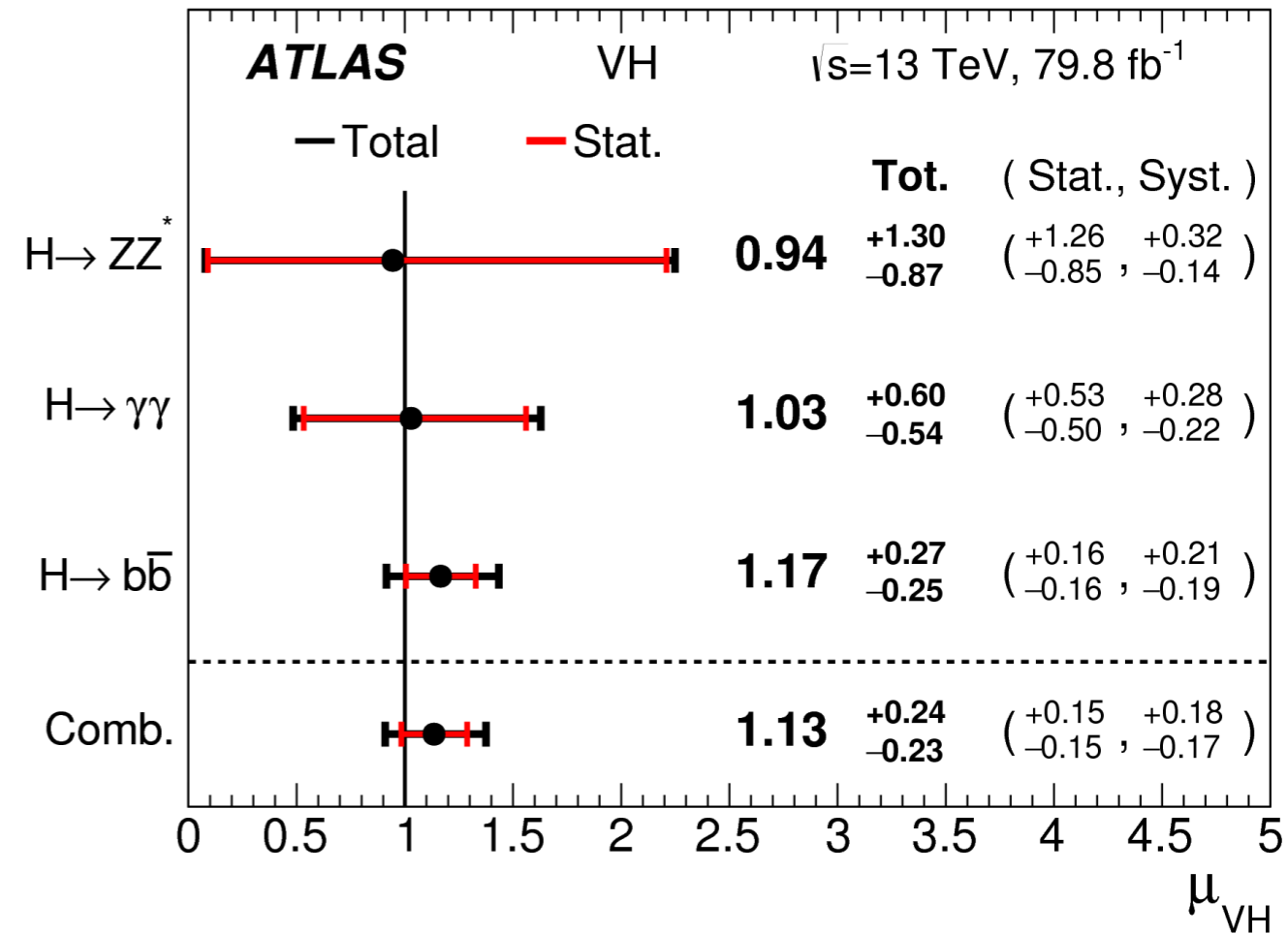
The measured signal strength of VH production is

$$\mu_{VH} = 1.13^{+0.24}_{-0.23} = 1.13 \pm 0.15(\text{stat.})^{+0.18}_{-0.17}(\text{syst.})$$

which is in good agreement with the SM prediction.

The probability of compatibility of signal strength of the three decay modes is 96%.

| Channel | Significance | |
|--|--------------|------|
| | Exp. | Obs. |
| $H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\ell$ | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ | 1.9 | 1.9 |
| $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ | 4.3 | 4.9 |
| VH combined | 4.8 | 5.3 |



Summary

VH, H→bb search has been performed in ATLAS experiment using 79.8 fb⁻¹ Run 2 dataset

- ♦ observed (expected) significance is 4.9 σ (4.3 σ)
- ♦ the measured signal strength is

$$\mu_{VH}^{bb} = 1.16_{-0.25}^{+0.27} = 1.16 \pm 0.16(\text{stat.})_{-0.19}^{+0.21}(\text{syst.})$$

H→bb observation in the combination of VH, ttH, VBF and ggF production channels

- ♦ observed (expected) significance is 5.4 σ (5.5 σ)
- ♦ the measured signal strength is

$$\mu_{H \rightarrow bb} = 1.01 \pm 0.20 = 1.01 \pm 0.12(\text{stat.})_{-0.15}^{+0.16}(\text{syst.})$$

VH production observation in the combination of H→bb, H→ZZ→4l and H→ $\gamma\gamma$ decay modes

- ♦ observed (expected) significance is 5.3 σ (4.8 σ)
- ♦ the measured signal strength is

$$\mu_{VH} = 1.13_{-0.23}^{+0.24} = 1.13 \pm 0.15(\text{stat.})_{-0.17}^{+0.18}(\text{syst.})$$

The measures are in good agreement with the SM predictions.

Backup

Alternative samples for modelling systematics - Z+jets

| DS ID | Process | Generator | $\sigma \times \text{BR}$ [pb] | k -factor | ϵ_{filter} | Events |
|--------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|----------|
| 361500 | $Z \rightarrow ee$ Np=0 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 1401.6 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 6871800 |
| 361501 | $Z \rightarrow ee$ Np=1 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 211.99 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 3597000 |
| 361502 | $Z \rightarrow ee$ Np=2 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 67.305 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 2540800 |
| 361503 | $Z \rightarrow ee$ Np=3 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 18.679 | 1.232 | 0.99 | 634200 |
| 361504 | $Z \rightarrow ee$ Np=4 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 7.291 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 222500 |
| 361505 | $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ Np=0 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 1402 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 6878400 |
| 361506 | $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ Np=1 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 211.95 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 3599000 |
| 361507 | $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ Np=2 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 67.353 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 2542600 |
| 361508 | $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ Np=3 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 18.633 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 633200 |
| 361509 | $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ Np=4 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 7.3013 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 220500 |
| 361510 | $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ Np=0 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 1397.8 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 6840000 |
| 361511 | $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ Np=1 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 211.4 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 3391000 |
| 361512 | $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ Np=2 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 67.176 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 2542000 |
| 361513 | $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ Np=3 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 18.609 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 634200 |
| 361514 | $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ Np=4 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 7.2749 | 1.232 | 1.0 | 224500 |
| 361515 | $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ Np=0 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 7518.4 | 1.2283 | 1.0 | 1645600 |
| 361516 | $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ Np=1 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 1200.1 | 1.2283 | 1.0 | 10767600 |
| 361517 | $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ Np=2 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 387.16 | 1.2283 | 1.0 | 6096200 |
| 361518 | $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ Np=3 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 110.08 | 1.2283 | 1.0 | 3801800 |
| 361519 | $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ Np=4 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 43.389 | 1.2283 | 1.0 | 2835100 |

Alternative samples for modelling systematics - W+jets

| DS ID | Process | Generator | $\sigma \times \text{BR}$ [pb] | k -factor | ϵ_{filter} | Events |
|--------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|----------|
| 361520 | $W \rightarrow e\nu$ Np=0 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 13939.0 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 13936475 |
| 361521 | $W \rightarrow e\nu$ Np=1 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 1894.0 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 9432600 |
| 361522 | $W \rightarrow e\nu$ Np=2 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 642.66 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 6490000 |
| 361523 | $W \rightarrow e\nu$ Np=3 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 179.18 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 3499000 |
| 361524 | $W \rightarrow e\nu$ Np=4 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 70.785 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 4456600 |
| 361525 | $W \rightarrow \mu\nu$ Np=0 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 13935.0 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 13922800 |
| 361526 | $W \rightarrow \mu\nu$ Np=1 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 1893.3 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 9456750 |
| 361527 | $W \rightarrow \mu\nu$ Np=2 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 642.7 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 6488600 |
| 361528 | $W \rightarrow \mu\nu$ Np=3 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 179.19 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 3483000 |
| 361529 | $W \rightarrow \mu\nu$ Np=4 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 70.761 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 4487400 |
| 361530 | $W \rightarrow \tau\nu$ Np=0 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 13920.0 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 13982400 |
| 361531 | $W \rightarrow \tau\nu$ Np=1 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 1891.9 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 9455400 |
| 361532 | $W \rightarrow \tau\nu$ Np=2 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 641.87 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 6492400 |
| 361533 | $W \rightarrow \tau\nu$ Np=3 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 179.21 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 3533000 |
| 361534 | $W \rightarrow \tau\nu$ Np=4 | MADGRAPH +PYTHIA 8 | 71.012 | 1.2019 | 1.0 | 4473600 |

Alternative samples for modelling systematics - ttbar

| Generator | Setup Details | Systematic Effect |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| POWHEG +PYTHIA 8 | A14 tune NNPDF30NLO & NNPDF23LO hdamp = $1.5 \cdot m_{top}$ nonallhad filter | nominal sample |
| POWHEG +PYTHIA 8 | nominal setup scale variations low ($\mu_R = \mu_F = 2$) hdamp = $1.5 \cdot m_{top}$ Up variation of A14 tune (Var3c) nonallhad filter | <i>low variation</i> for additional radiation |
| POWHEG +PYTHIA 8 | nominal setup scale variations high ($\mu_R = \mu_F = 0.5$) hdamp = $3.0 \cdot m_{top}$ Down variation of A14 tune (Var3c) nonallhad filter | <i>high variation</i> for additional radiation |
| POWHEG +HERWIG 7 | H7UE tune CT10 & MMHT2014lo68cl hdamp=175.2GeV nonallhad filter | fragmentation/hadronisation model |
| MADGRAPH 5_aMC@NLO+PYTHIA 8 | A14 tune NNPDF30NLO & NNPDF23LO nonallhad filter | hard scatter generation and matching |

Alternative samples for modelling systematics - single-top

| Generator | Setup Details | Systematic Effect |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| POWHEG +PYTHIA 6 | nominal setup scale variations low ($\mu_R = \mu_F = 2$) low radiation PERUGIA2012 tune variation | <i>low variation</i> for additional radiation |
| POWHEG +PYTHIA 6 | nominal setup scale variations high ($\mu_R = \mu_F = 0.5$) high radiation PERUGIA2012 tune variation | <i>high variation</i> for additional radiation |
| POWHEG +PYTHIA 6 | Wt -channel nominal setup 'diagram subtraction' scheme setup in the POWHEG ME calculation | alternative ME calculation scheme |
| POWHEG +HERWIG ++ | nominal setup parton showering with HERWIG ++ CTEQ6L1-UE-EE-5 tune for PS | alternative PS |
| MADGRAPH 5_aMC@NLO+HERWIG ++ | alternative setup ME with MADGRAPH 5_aMC@NLO CT10f4 PDF in ME | alternative ME |

Alternative samples for modelling systematics - di-boson

| DS ID | Process | Generator | $\sigma \times \text{BR}$ [pb] | k -factor | ϵ_{filter} | Events |
|--------|---------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|---------|
| 361606 | WlvWqq | POWHEG +PYTHIA | 44.18 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 4343000 |
| 361607 | WqqZll | POWHEG +PYTHIA | 3.2777 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1469000 |
| 361608 | WqqZvv | POWHEG +PYTHIA | 5.7576 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2921000 |
| 361609 | WlvZqq | POWHEG +PYTHIA | 10.086 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 9693000 |
| 361610 | ZqqZll | POWHEG +PYTHIA | 2.2699 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 3933000 |
| 361611 | ZqqZvv | POWHEG +PYTHIA | 3.9422 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 9591000 |
| 361592 | WlvWqq | POWHEG +HERWIG ++ | 44.166 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 4271000 |
| 361593 | WqqZll | POWHEG +HERWIG ++ | 3.2774 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1446000 |
| 361594 | WqqZvv | POWHEG +HERWIG ++ | 5.7571 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2888000 |
| 361595 | WlvZqq | POWHEG +HERWIG ++ | 10.085 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 9580000 |
| 361596 | ZqqZll | POWHEG +HERWIG ++ | 2.2699 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 3051000 |
| 361597 | ZqqZvv | POWHEG +HERWIG ++ | 3.9421 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 9556000 |

Multi-jets background estimate and uncertainty

Multi-jet backgrounds are negligible in the 2-lep channel as well as the 0-lep channel after anti-QCD cut.

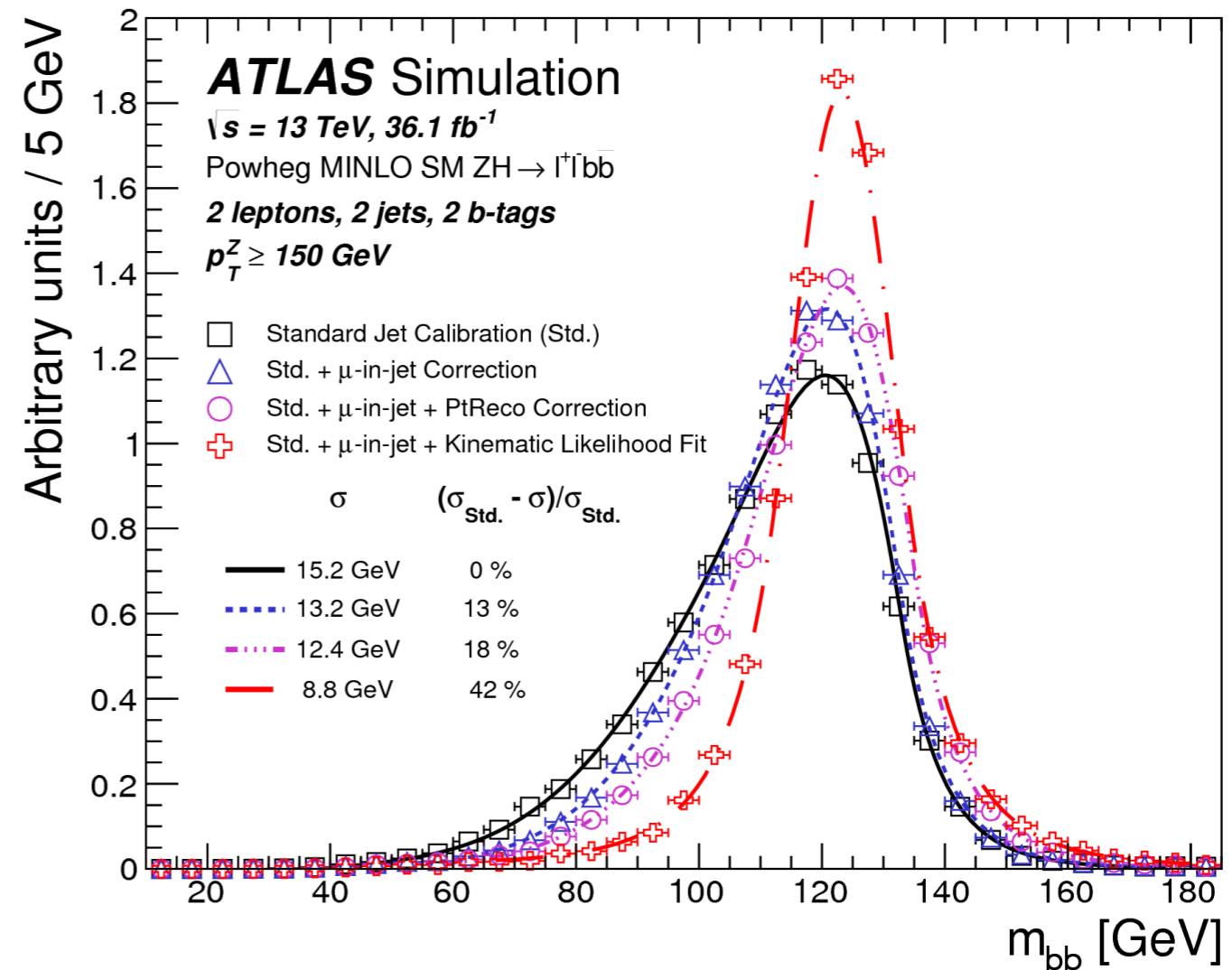
Multi-jet background in the 1-lepton channel

- ◆ constitutes 2-3% of the total in 2-jet and $<0.5\%$ in 3-jet categories
- ◆ Estimation:
 - ❖ **multi-jet enriched control region**: nominal selection, but exactly 1 b-tagged jet and inverting lepton isolation cut, in separated in electron/muon and 2-jet/3-jet categories.
 - ❖ **BDT shape** distribution is extracted from this control region
 - ❖ **overall normalisation**: fit in 1-lepton SR using mTW as template
 - ❖ multi-jet template is derived in this control region
 - ❖ other SM processes from MC estimates
- ◆ **systematic uncertainties**
 - ❖ verifying control region selection on isolation and trigger
 - ❖ verifying SM processes normalisation during the subtraction
 - ❖ only effect on normalisation
 - ❖ using $\Delta\phi(\text{lepton}, bb)$ instead of mTW in the template fit
 - ❖ for electron channel only, inclusive of $E_T\text{-miss} < 30$ GeV events in the template fit.

Signal mass resolution and corrections

For b-tagged jets, in addition to the standard jet energy calibration, corrections to improve energy scale and resolution:

- ✓ four-momentum of the closer muon ($\Delta R < 0.4$) is added to that of the jet
- ✓ a residual correction on jet pt is applied to equalise the response to jets with leptonic or hadronic decays of heavy-flavour hadrons
- ✓ for 2-lepton channel only, full reconstruction of the event kinematics using likelihood fit to improve b-jet energy estimates.



The corrections improve the resolution of the di-jet mass by up to 40% !

Breakdown of the contributions to the uncertainty in μ

Evidence paper (36.1 fb⁻¹)

| Source of uncertainty | σ_μ | |
|---|---------------|------|
| Total | 0.39 | |
| Statistical | 0.24 | |
| Systematic | 0.31 | |
| Experimental uncertainties | | |
| Jets | 0.03 | |
| E_T^{miss} | 0.03 | |
| Leptons | 0.01 | |
| b -tagging | b -jets | 0.09 |
| | c -jets | 0.04 |
| | light jets | 0.04 |
| | extrapolation | 0.01 |
| Pile-up | 0.01 | |
| Luminosity | 0.04 | |
| Theoretical and modelling uncertainties | | |
| Signal | 0.17 | |
| Floating normalisations | 0.07 | |
| Z + jets | 0.07 | |
| W + jets | 0.07 | |
| $t\bar{t}$ | 0.07 | |
| Single top quark | 0.08 | |
| Diboson | 0.02 | |
| Multijet | 0.02 | |
| MC statistical | 0.13 | |

Observation paper (79.8 fb⁻¹)

| Source of uncertainty | σ_μ | |
|---|--------------------|-------|
| Total | 0.259 | |
| Statistical | 0.161 | |
| Systematic | 0.203 | |
| Experimental uncertainties | | |
| Jets | 0.035 | |
| E_T^{miss} | 0.014 | |
| Leptons | 0.009 | |
| b -tagging | b -jets | 0.061 |
| | c -jets | 0.042 |
| | light-flavour jets | 0.009 |
| | extrapolation | 0.008 |
| Pile-up | 0.007 | |
| Luminosity | 0.023 | |
| Theoretical and modelling uncertainties | | |
| Signal | 0.094 | |
| Floating normalisations | 0.035 | |
| Z + jets | 0.055 | |
| W + jets | 0.060 | |
| $t\bar{t}$ | 0.050 | |
| Single top quark | 0.028 | |
| Diboson | 0.054 | |
| Multi-jet | 0.005 | |
| MC statistical | 0.070 | |

Ingredient 1: tune variations AZNLO

AZNLO: designed for the Powheg+Pythia8 NLO+PS generator, and provide a very good description of ISR in the low and medium p_T region

Measurements of the Z/γ^* boson transverse momentum distribution
(and ϕ_η^* angular correlation) in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV

JHEP, 09:145, 2014

1211.6899

Strategy for the Powheg+Pythia8 tune → tunes performed for $p_T(Z) < 26$ GeV and $\phi_\eta^* < 0.29$
(best description of the tuning parameters)

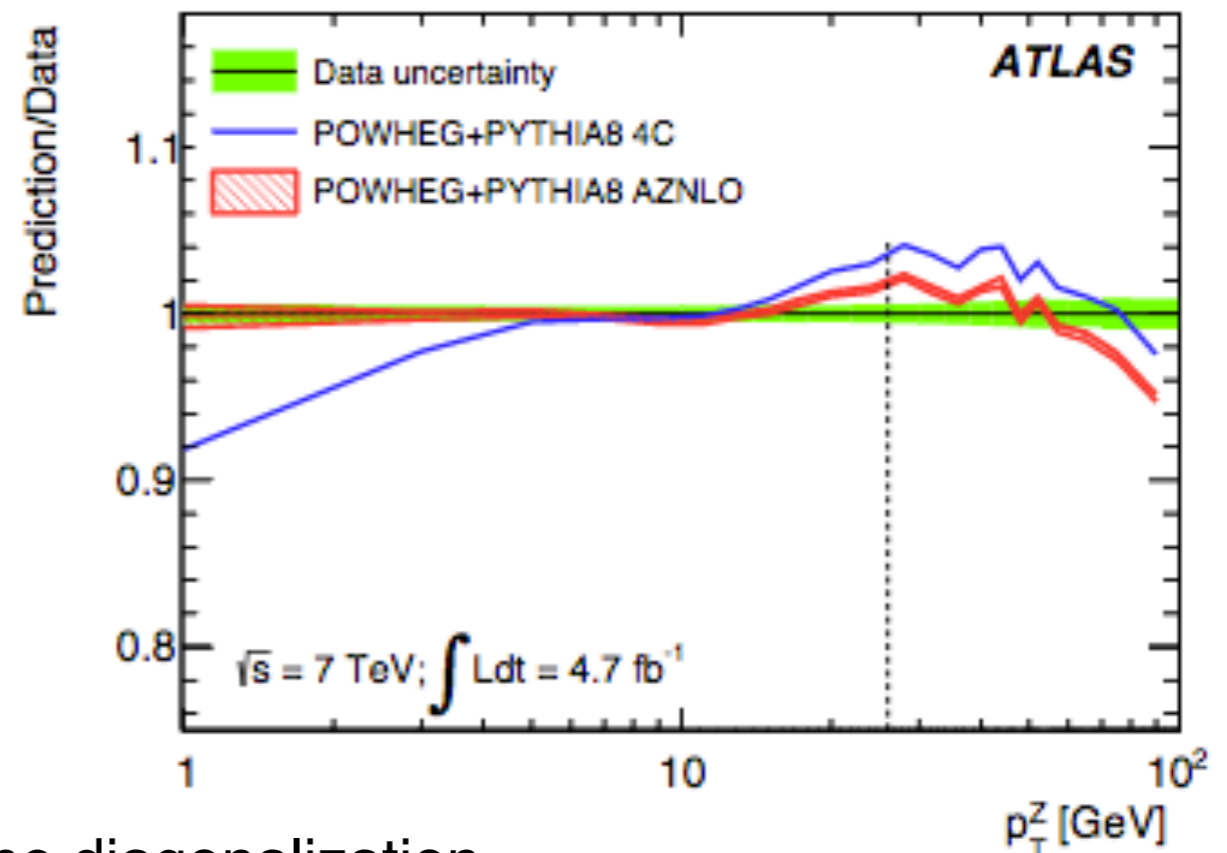
The tuning only varies the ISR shower cut-off
and the primordial k_T in Pythia8:
essentially constrained by data $p_T(Z) < 12$ GeV
- not affected by tuning upper bound
(plus MPI parameters)

Tuned predictions agree with the measured
XS within 2% for $p_T(Z) < 50$ GeV

“Eigentune variations”:

only covering ISR/primordial- k_T variations;
ren. scale variations for FSR, and MPI cut-off
parameters are recommended to cover the full range of
UE/PS/MPI uncertainties

- ▶ VAR1, VAR2: eigentune diagonalization
- ▶ MPIUp, MPIDown
- ▶ FSRUp, FSRDown



Ingredient 1: tune variations AZNLO

AZNLO:
provide a v

ator, and
n p_T region

Strategy for the

The tuning only
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Tuned predict
XS with

“Eigentune va

only covering ISR/p
ren. scale variations
paramaters are rec
UE/PS/MPI uncerta

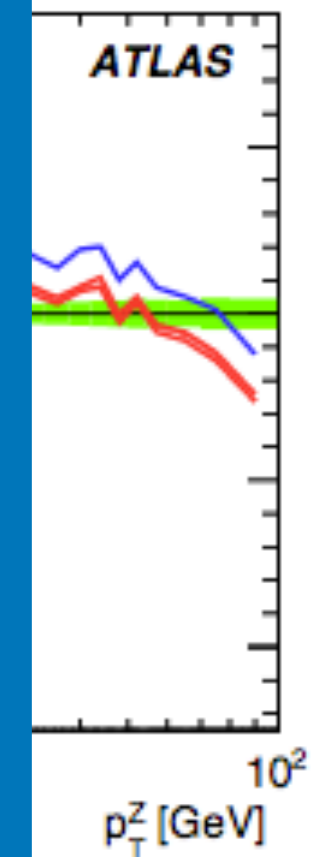
| AZNLO tune | primordial k_T | ISR cut-off |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| central | 1.749 | 1.924 |
| eigentune 1+ | 1.719 | 1.919 |
| eigentune 1- | 1.780 | 1.928 |
| eigentune 2+ | 1.762 | 1.844 |
| eigentune 2- | 1.737 | 2.004 |

- *UE uncertainty:* Variation of the MPI Cut-off : between 1.91 to 2.05
- *FSR uncertainty:* Variation of the renormalization scale: 0.5 to 2

EP, 09:145, 2014

1211.6899

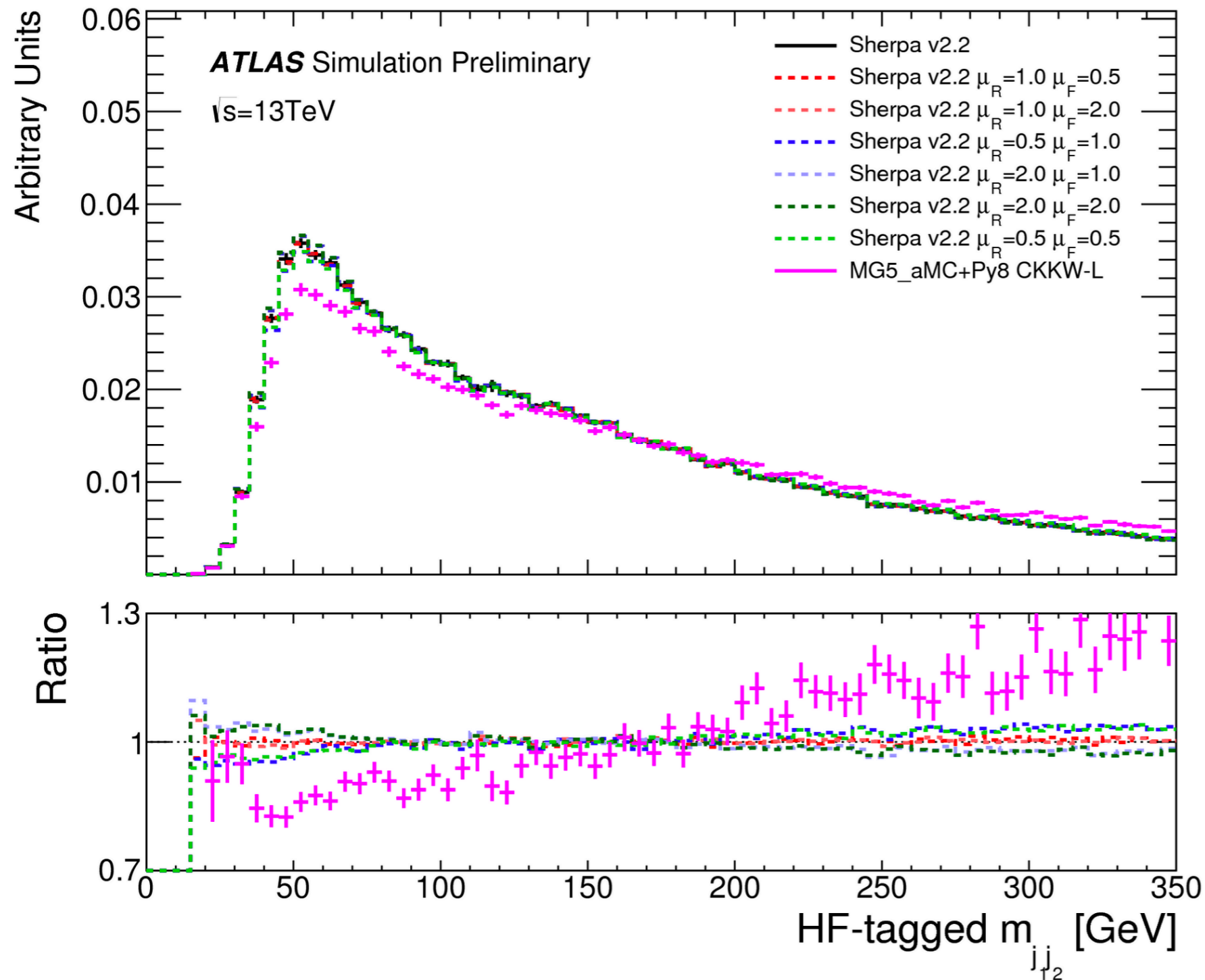
$\phi^*_{\eta} < 0.29$
(ters)



V+jets background modeling

<https://atlas.web.cern.ch/Atlas/GROUPS/PHYSICS/PUBNOTES/ATL-PHYS-PUB-2017-006/>

ATLAS PUB not on V+jets modeling and MC simulation

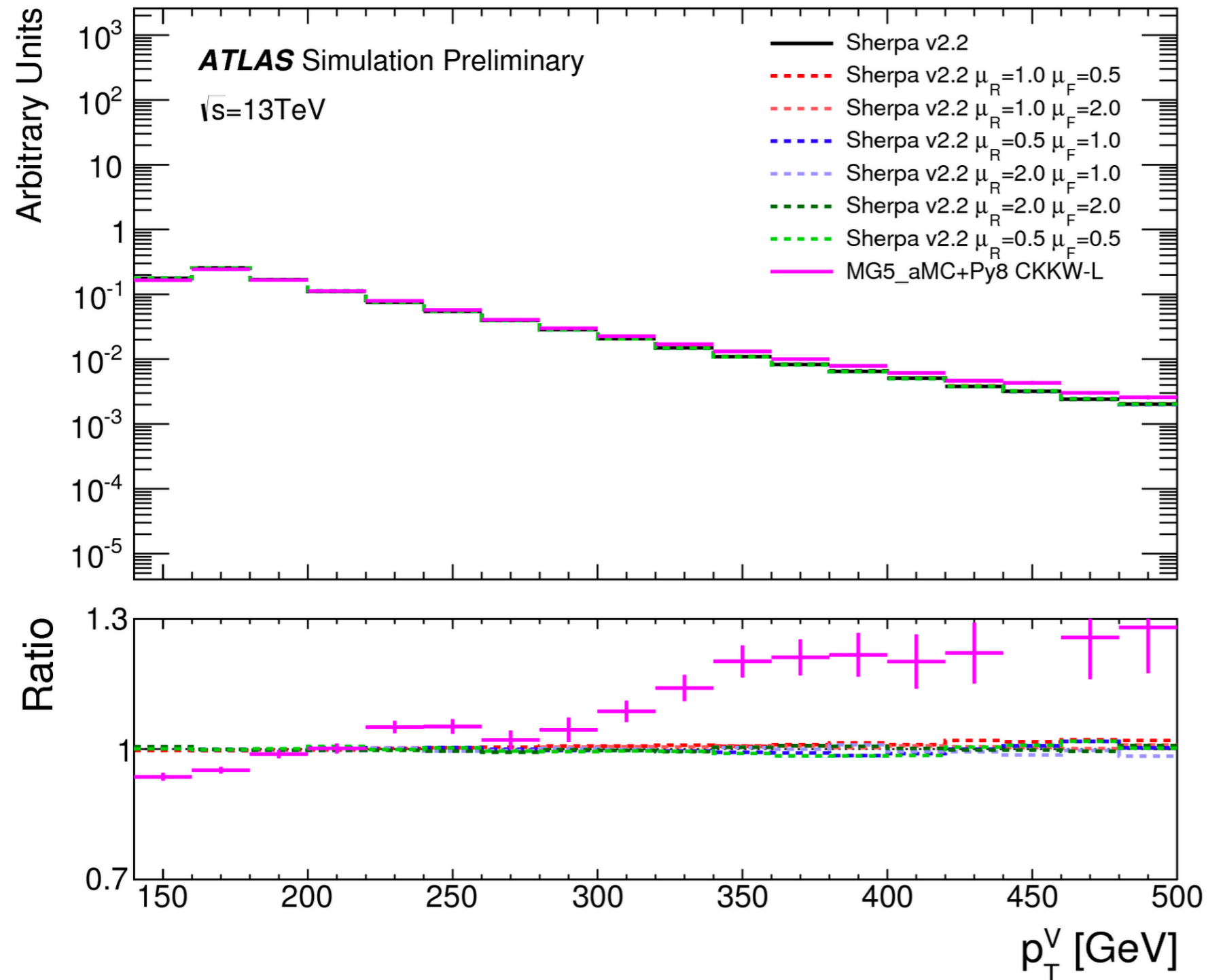


- **selection close to nominal VH(bb) analysis regions**
- no cut on $\#jets \leq 3$
- no W+hf CR/SR separation

V+jets background modeling

<https://atlas.web.cern.ch/Atlas/GROUPS/PHYSICS/PUBNOTES/ATL-PHYS-PUB-2017-006/>

ATLAS PUB not on V+jets modeling and MC simulation



- **selection close to nominal VH(bb) analysis regions**

- no cut on $\#jets \leq 3$

- no W+hf CR/SR separation

Event selection for the dijet-mass analysis addition to MVA analysis

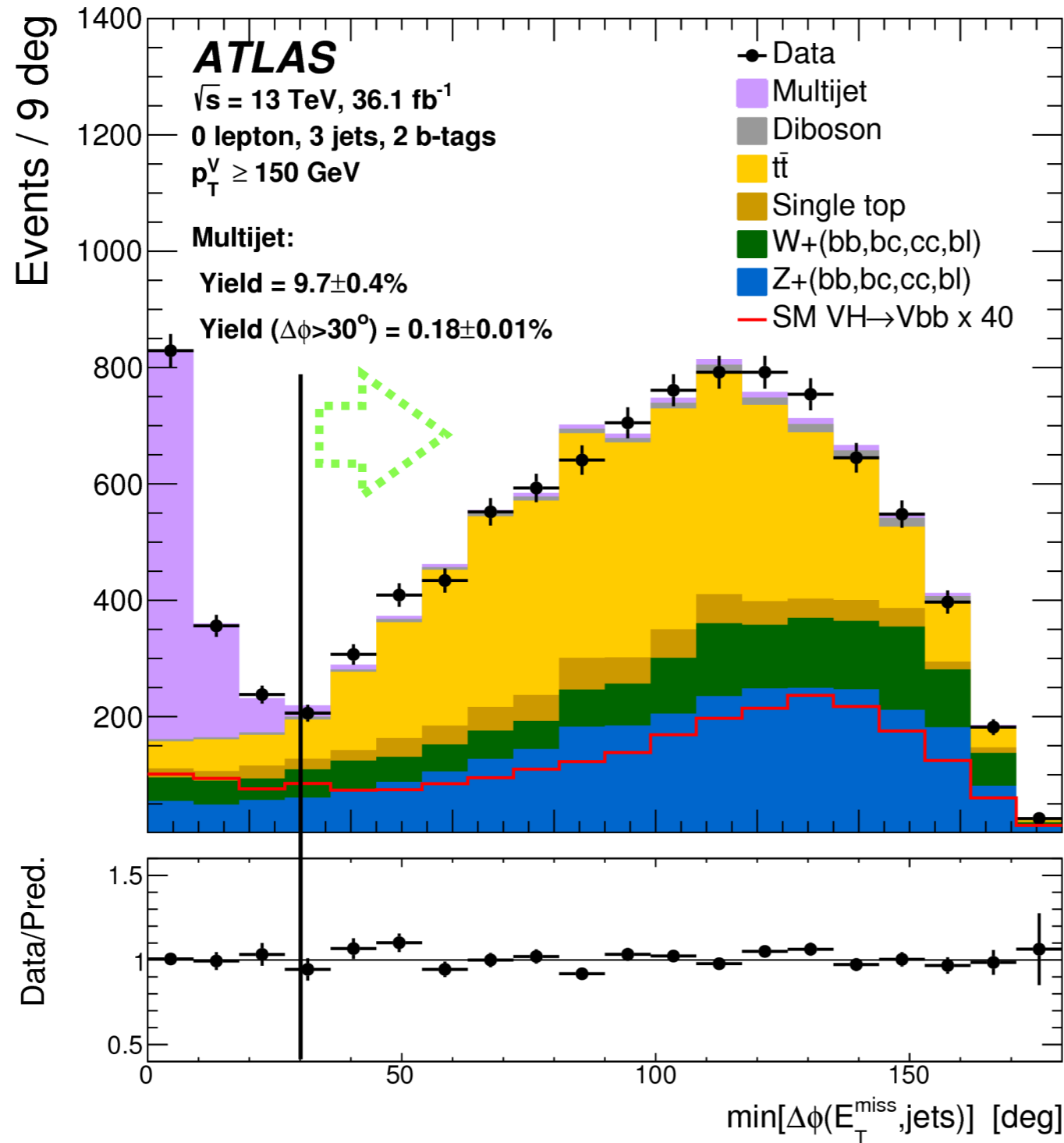
| Selection | Channel | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| | 0-lepton | 1-lepton | 2-lepton |
| m_T^W | - | < 120 GeV | - |
| $E_T^{\text{miss}} / \sqrt{S_T}$ | - | - | < $3.5\sqrt{\text{GeV}}$ |
| p_T^V regions | | | |
| p_T^V | 75 – 150 GeV (2-lepton only) | 150 – 200 GeV | > 200 GeV |
| $\Delta R(\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2)$ | < 3.0 | < 1.8 | < 1.2 |

Variables used for the multivariate discriminants

| Variable | 0-lepton | 1-lepton | 2-lepton |
|---|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| p_T^V | $\equiv E_T^{\text{miss}}$ | × | × |
| E_T^{miss} | × | × | |
| $p_T^{b_1}$ | × | × | × |
| $p_T^{b_2}$ | × | × | × |
| m_{bb} | × | × | × |
| $\Delta R(\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2)$ | × | × | × |
| $ \Delta\eta(\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2) $ | × | | |
| $\Delta\phi(\vec{V}, \vec{bb})$ | × | × | × |
| $ \Delta\eta(\vec{V}, \vec{bb}) $ | | | × |
| m_{eff} | × | | |
| $\min[\Delta\phi(\vec{\ell}, \vec{b})]$ | | × | |
| m_T^W | | × | |
| $m_{\ell\ell}$ | | | × |
| $E_T^{\text{miss}} / \sqrt{S_T}$ | | | × |
| m_{top} | | × | |
| $ \Delta Y(\vec{V}, \vec{bb}) $ | | × | |

| | Only in 3-jet events | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| $p_T^{\text{jet}_3}$ | × | × | × |
| m_{bbj} | × | × | × |

Multi-jet estimate in 0-lepton channel



$$\min[\Delta\phi(\vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}}, \vec{\text{jets}})] > 20^\circ \text{ (2 jets), } > 30^\circ \text{ (3 jets)}$$

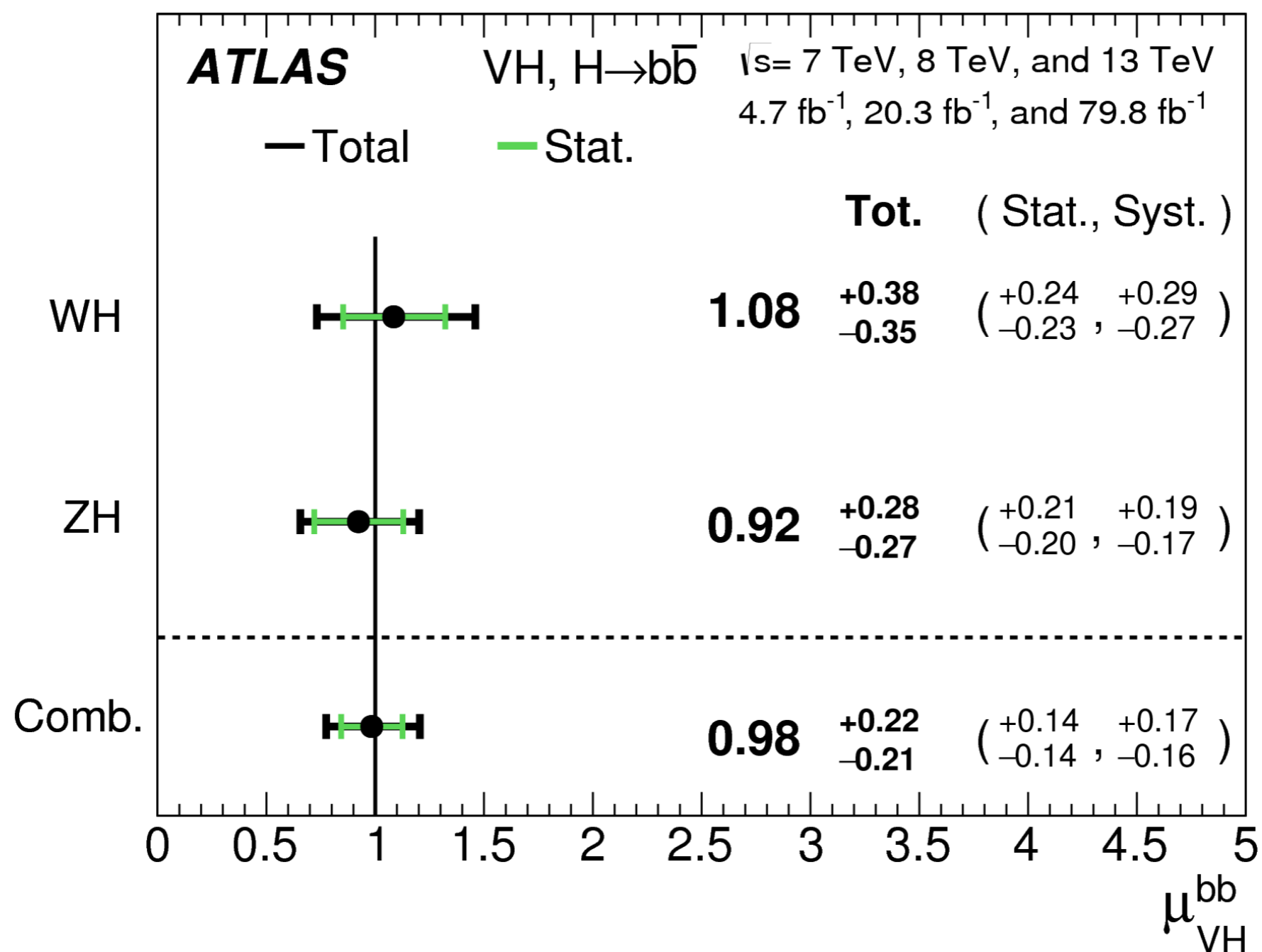
$$\Delta\phi(\vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}}, b\bar{b}) > 120^\circ$$

$$\Delta\phi(b_1, b_2) < 140^\circ$$

$$\Delta\phi(\vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}}, \vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}) < 90^\circ$$

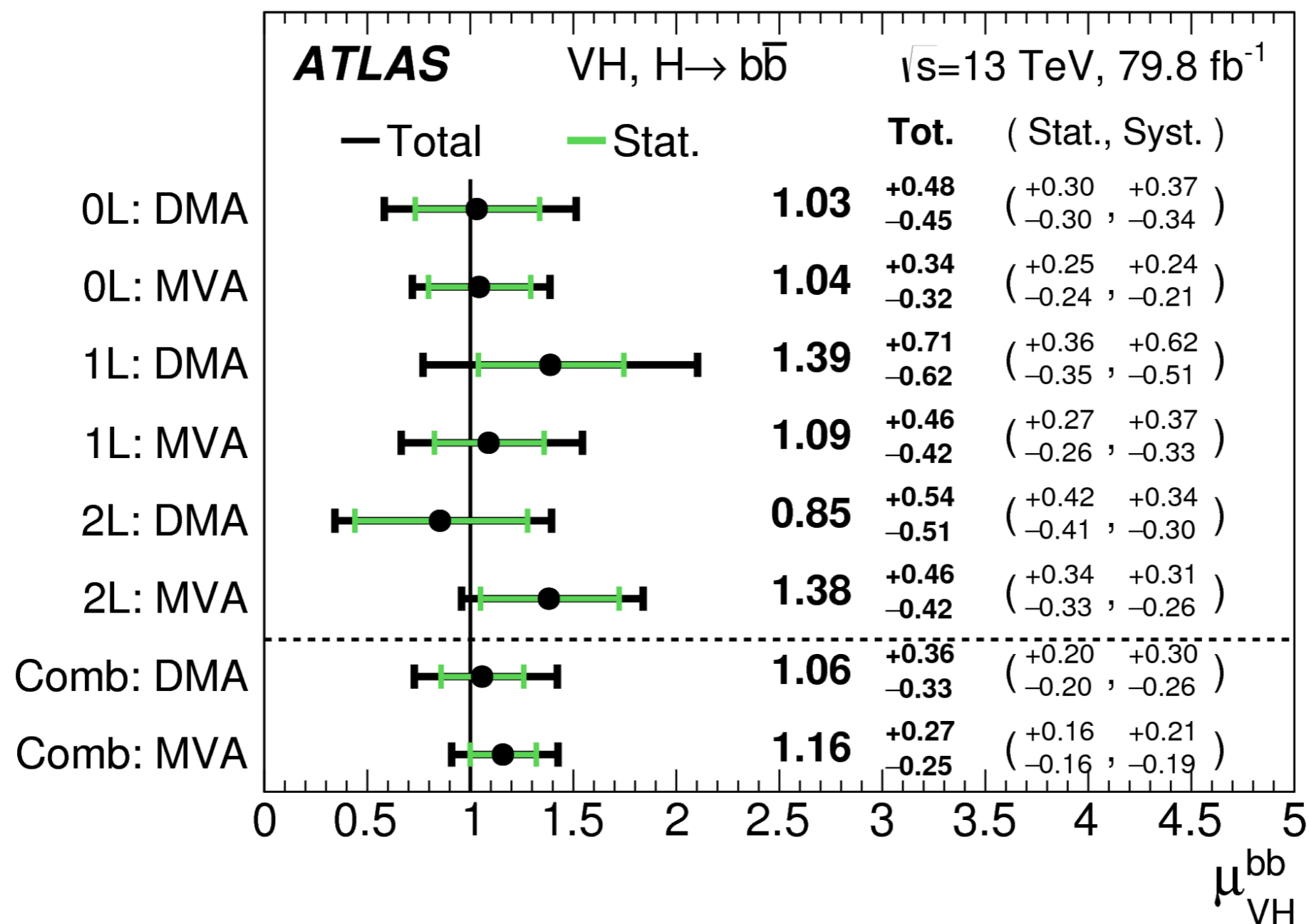
VH, $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ Run 1 and Run 2 combination

The measured signal strength of the Higgs boson for mass at 125 GeV for the WH and ZH processes and their combination.



The measured signal strength in individual channels

MVA analysis: the compatibility probability of the signal strengths measured in the three lepton channels is 80%.



H → bb combination in Run 1 and Run 2

The compatibility of the individual signal strengths is 54%.

