

# Measurement of four-top-quarks production with the ATLAS Detector

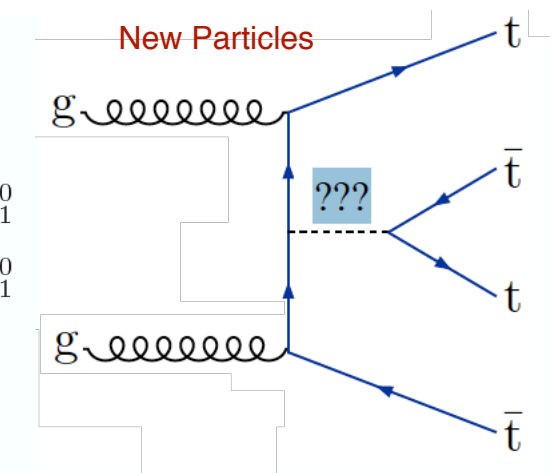
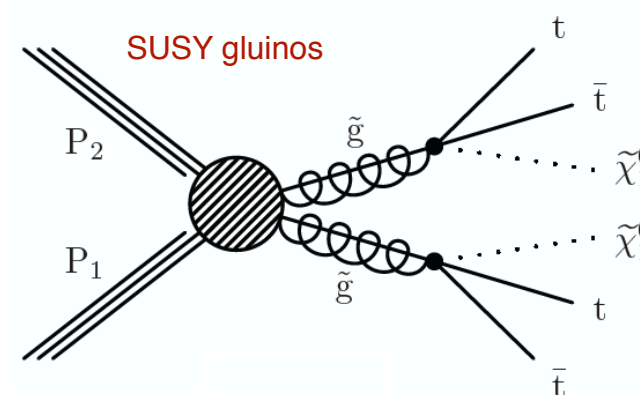
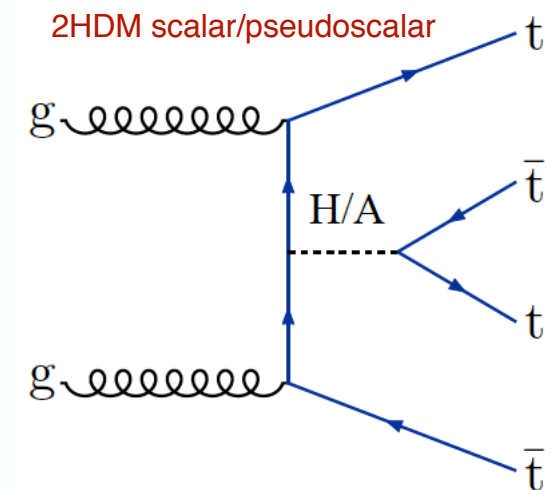
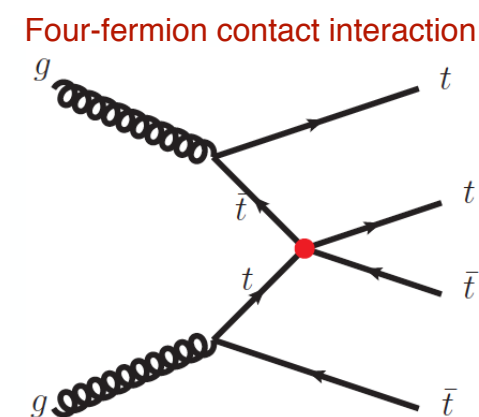
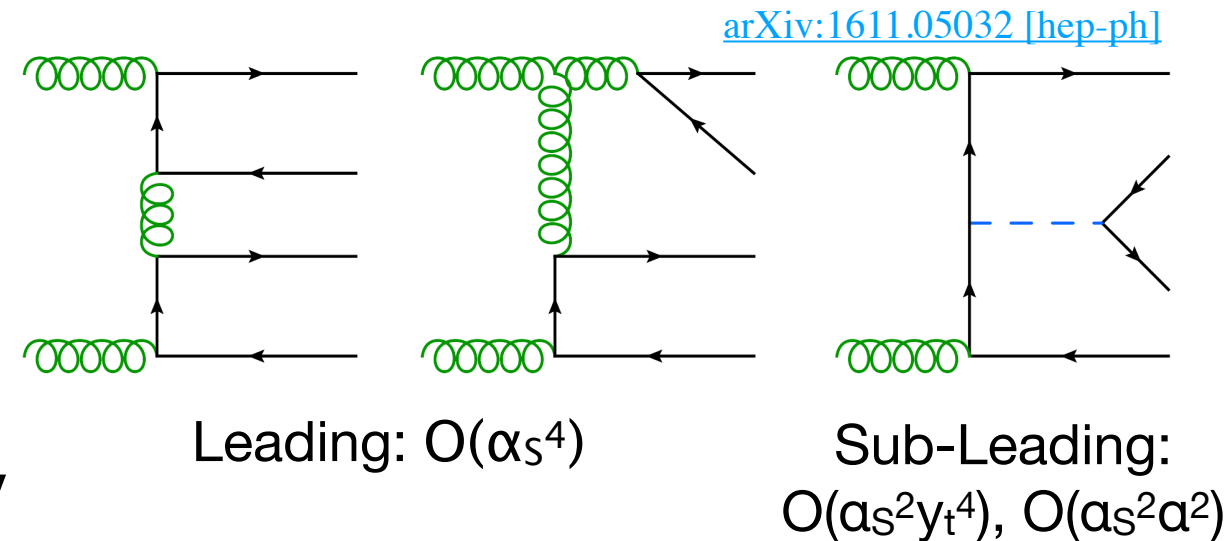


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on behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration

ICHEP  
30th of July 2020

# Predictions for 4tops

- **Very complicated process**
  - at LO 72 gg+12 qq' initiated diagrams
- **Sensitive to top-Yukawa coupling ( $y_t$ )**
  - non-SM value of  $y_t$  can change dramatically the production via an off-shell Higgs
- **Extremely high energy scale production makes it naturally sensitive to many BSM models**
  - EFTs, including four-fermion **contact interaction**
  - **Higgs physics**: 2HDM scalar/ pseudoscalar
  - **SUSY**: gluinos, sgluons
  - **New particles** coupling to top quark



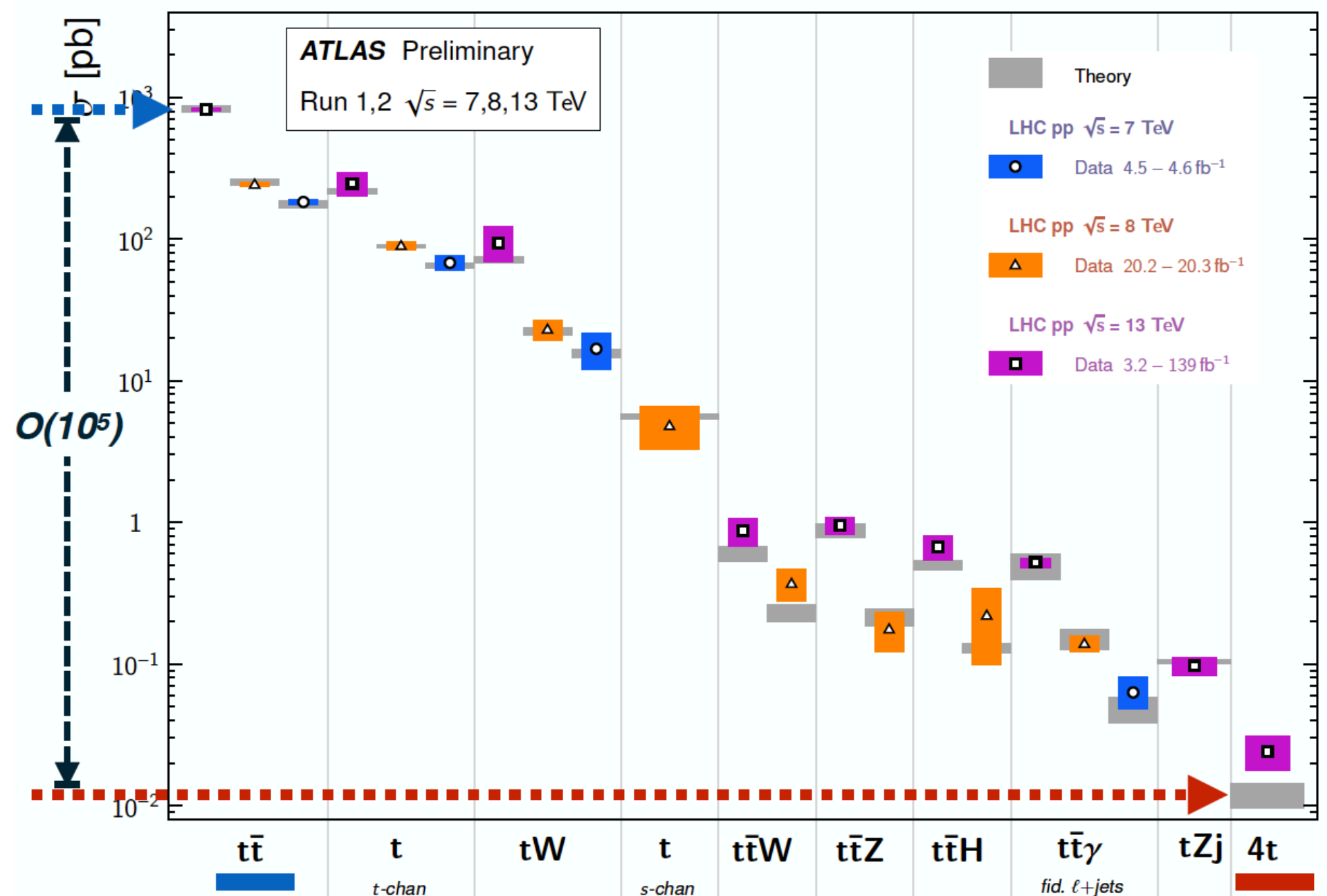
# Production of 4tops

- Very tiny cross section in the SM

- $\sigma^{\text{NLO}}(\text{tttt}) = 11.97 \text{ fb}$  at NLO QCD + NLO QED at 13 TeV [arXiv:1611.05032 \[hep-ph\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/1611.05032)

- O(100M)  $\text{t}\bar{\text{t}}$  events

- O(1k)  $\text{t}\bar{\text{t}} \text{t}\bar{\text{t}}$  events

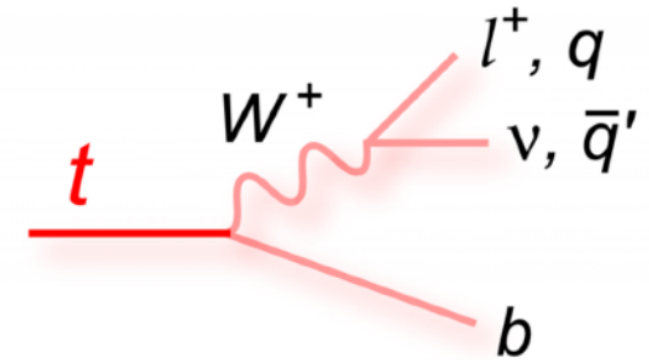
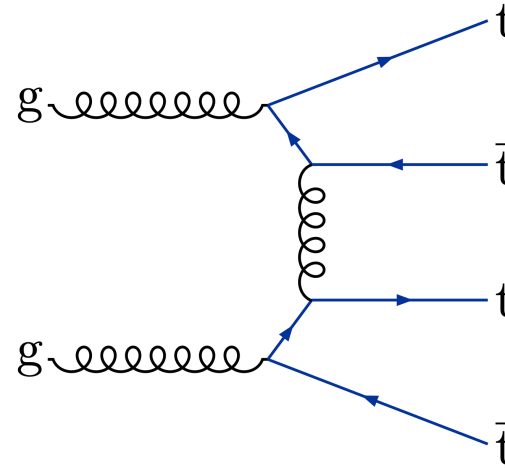




# Signatures

- The  $t \rightarrow Wb$  decay means the detector signature is defined by:

- The presence of several (up to 4) b-quarks,
- The decays of the W bosons.



- Channels are split according to:

- **1 $\ell$ /2 $\ell$ OS: 1 $\ell$**  (42%) / **2 $\ell$ OS** (14%) [Phys. Rev. D99 \(2019\) 052009](#)

- Dominant branching fraction, but large irreducible background from tt+jets, tt+heavy flavour jets

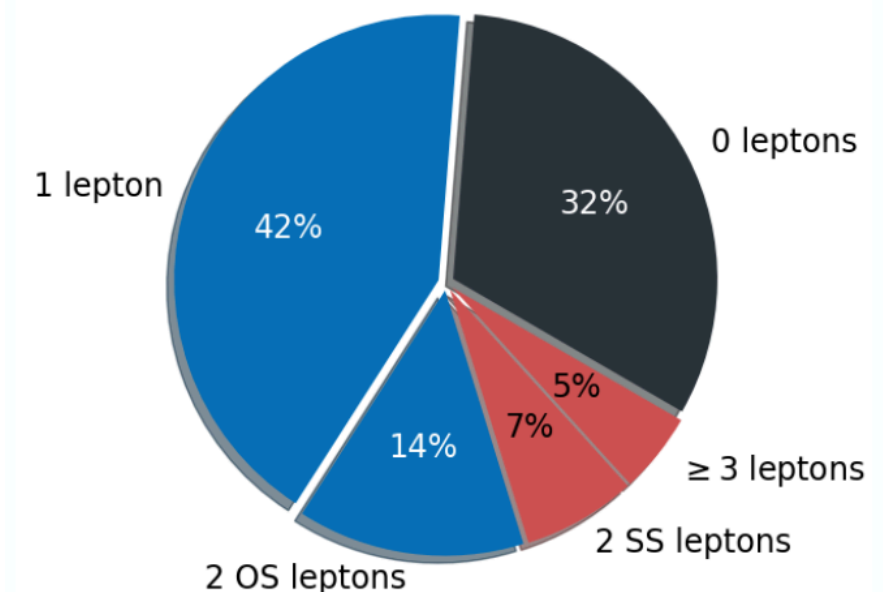
- Uses 36 fb<sup>-1</sup> of Run 2 dataset

- **2 $\ell$ SS/3 $\ell$ : 2 $\ell$ SS** (7%) / **3 $\ell$**  (5%) [ATLAS-CONF-2020-013](#)

- Low branching fraction, but small background (ttW, ttZ, non-prompt leptons, charge misidentification)

- Most sensitive channel

- Uses 139 fb<sup>-1</sup> of Run 2 dataset



**NEW!**

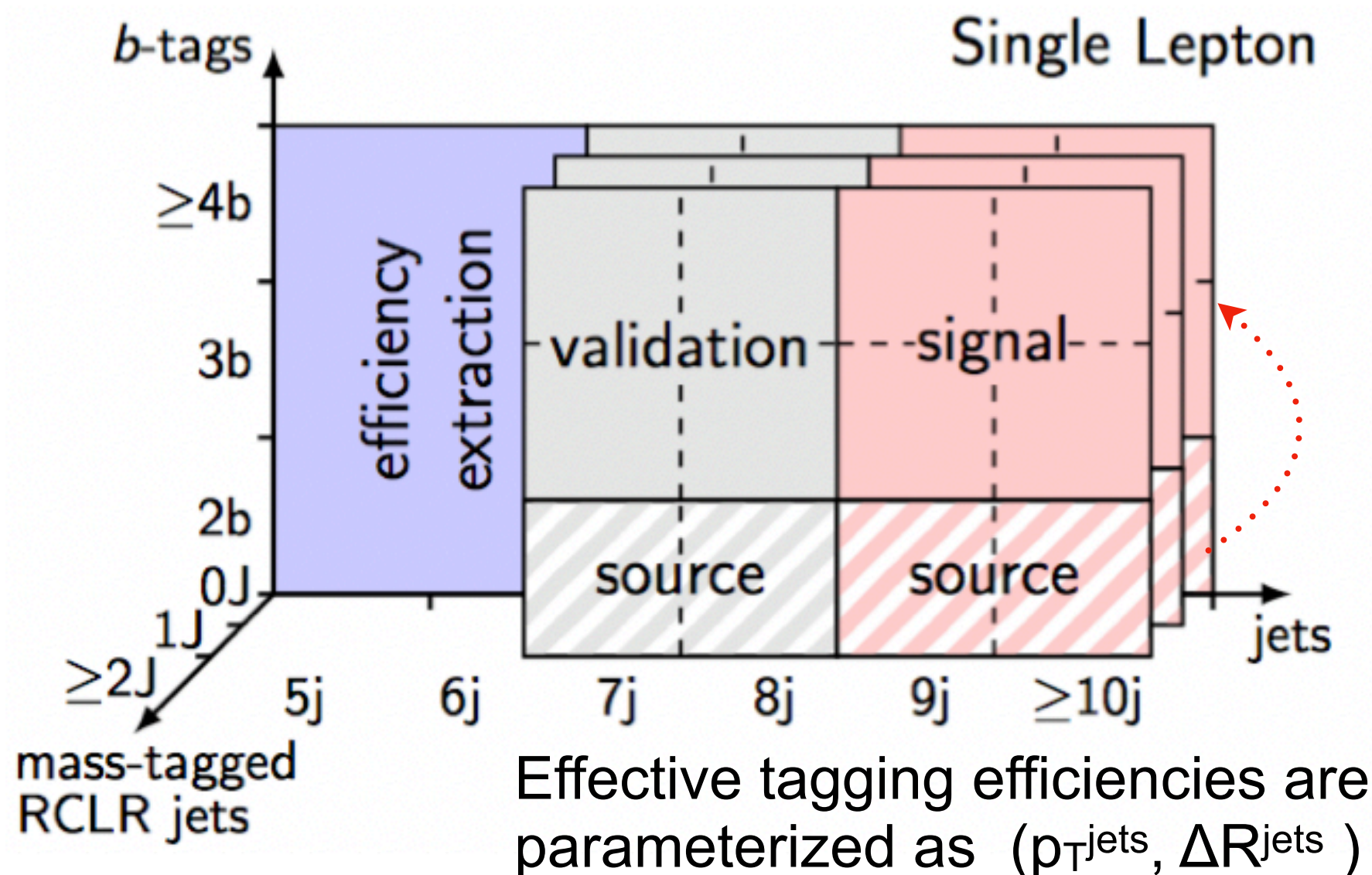
# 1e/2eOS Channel: Analysis Strategy

- ATLAS result : Phys. Rev. D99 (2019) 052009
- Uses **36 fb<sup>-1</sup>** of Run 2 dataset
- Event Selection:
  - 1 e/μ or 2 e/μ
  - $N_{\text{jets}} \geq 5$  (1L),  $N_{\text{jets}} \geq 4$  (2L)
  - $N_b \geq 2$

Channel	1L (expected 10 jets and 4 b-jets)	OS (expect 8 jets and 4 b-jets)
Pre-selection	$E^{\text{miss}} > 20 \text{ GeV}$ $E^{\text{miss}} + m^W > 60 \text{ GeV}$	$m_{ll} > 30 \text{ GeV}$ $ m_{ll} - 91  > 9 \text{ GeV}$

# 1 $\ell$ /2 $\ell$ OS Channel: Analysis Strategy

- Events are categorized according to **number of R=0.4 jets**, **b-tagged jets**, and **large radius jets** (R=1.0 reclustered)
- tt-bb- background in signal regions estimated using **data-driven method**
  - extract effective tagging efficiency from **low  $N_{\text{jets}}$** , apply to low  $N_{\text{tags}}$  **source regions** to promote events to higher  $N_{\text{tags}}$  **SRs**



# 1 $\ell$ /2 $\ell$ OS Channel: Signal Extraction

- Simultaneous fit to the  $H_T$  distribution in multiple signal regions (total of 20 regions: 12 regions in the single-lepton channel and 8 regions in the dilepton channel)

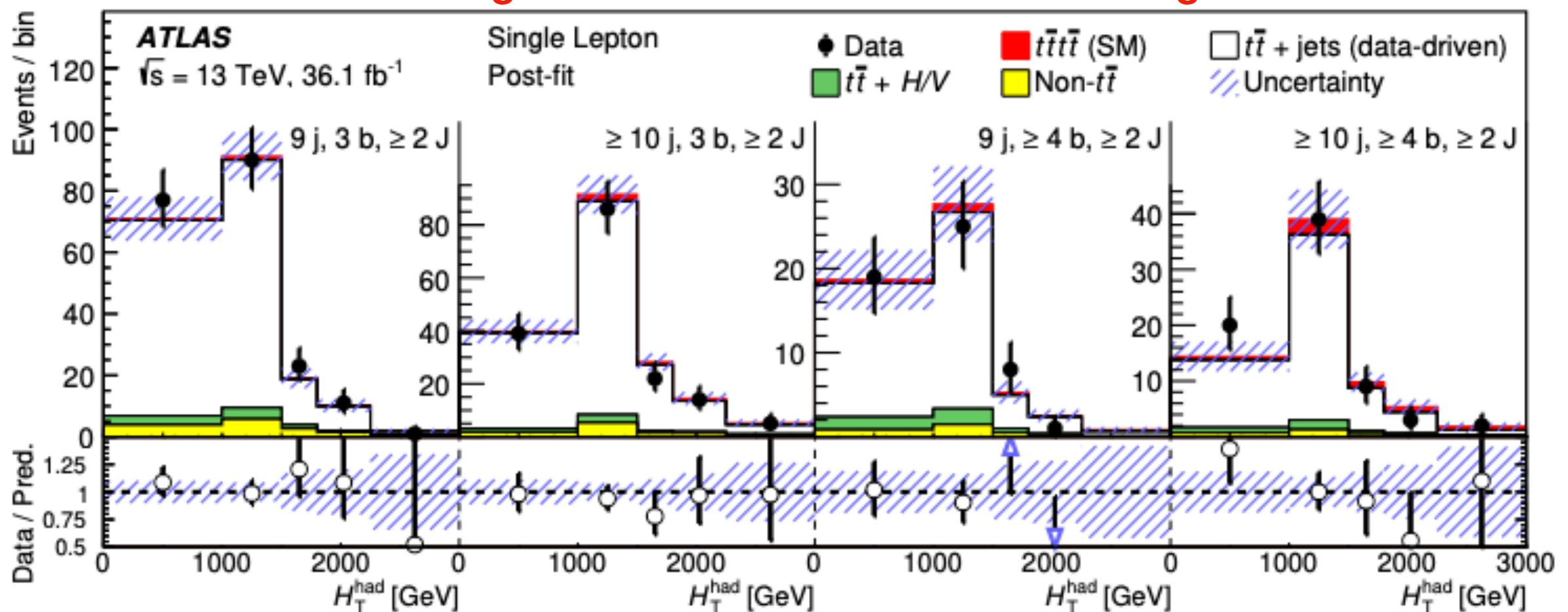
$$H_T^{had} = \sum^{jets} P_T$$



Example in the single lepton channel in 9 jets &  $\geq 10$  jets

3b regions

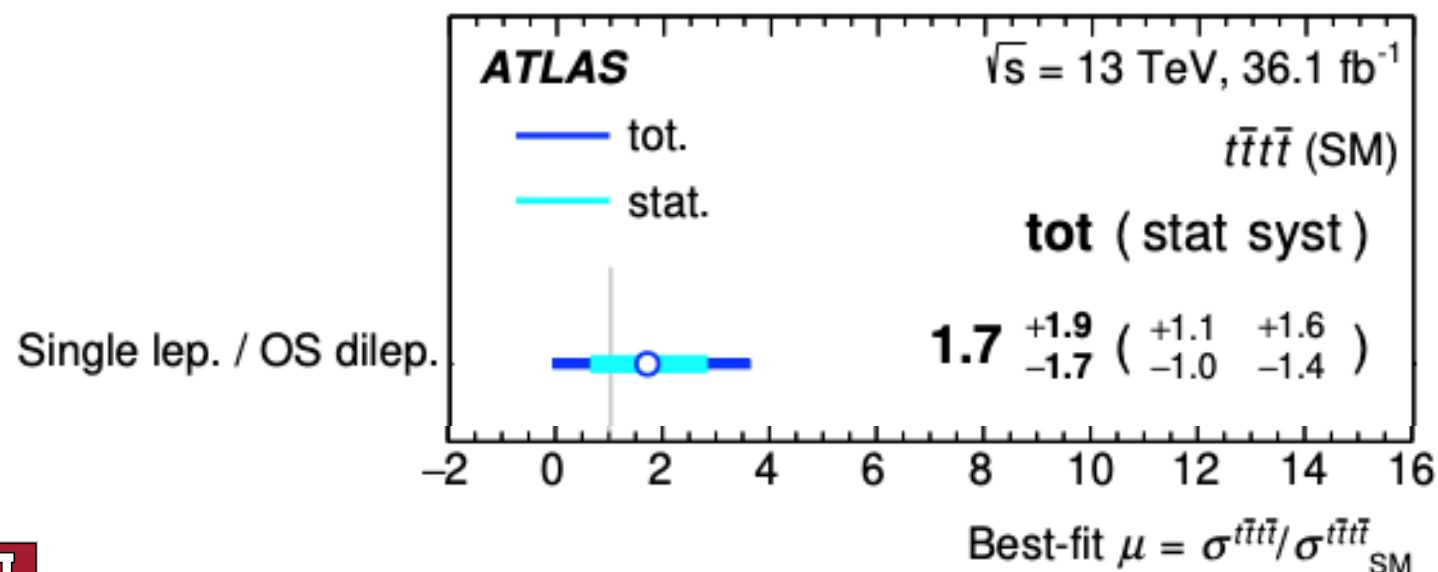
4b regions



Phys. Rev. D99 (2019) 052009

# 1 $\ell$ /2 $\ell$ OS Channel: Results

- No significant excess of events above the SM background prediction, excluding the SM  $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$  production is found
- In the case of  $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$  production with SM kinematics, an observed (expected) 95% C.L. upper limit on the production cross section of 47 fb (33 fb) is obtained, corresponding to an upper limit on  $\sigma(t\bar{t}t\bar{t})$  relative to the SM prediction of 5.1 (3.6).
- The SM fitted signal strength  $\mu$ , after combination of the single-lepton and dilepton channels, is measured to be  $1.7^{+1.9}_{-1.7}$
- The systematic uncertainties related to the  $t\bar{t}$  model are the dominant ones
- Stay tuned for the updated results using the full run 2 dataset



Phys. Rev. D99 (2019) 052009



# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Analysis Strategy



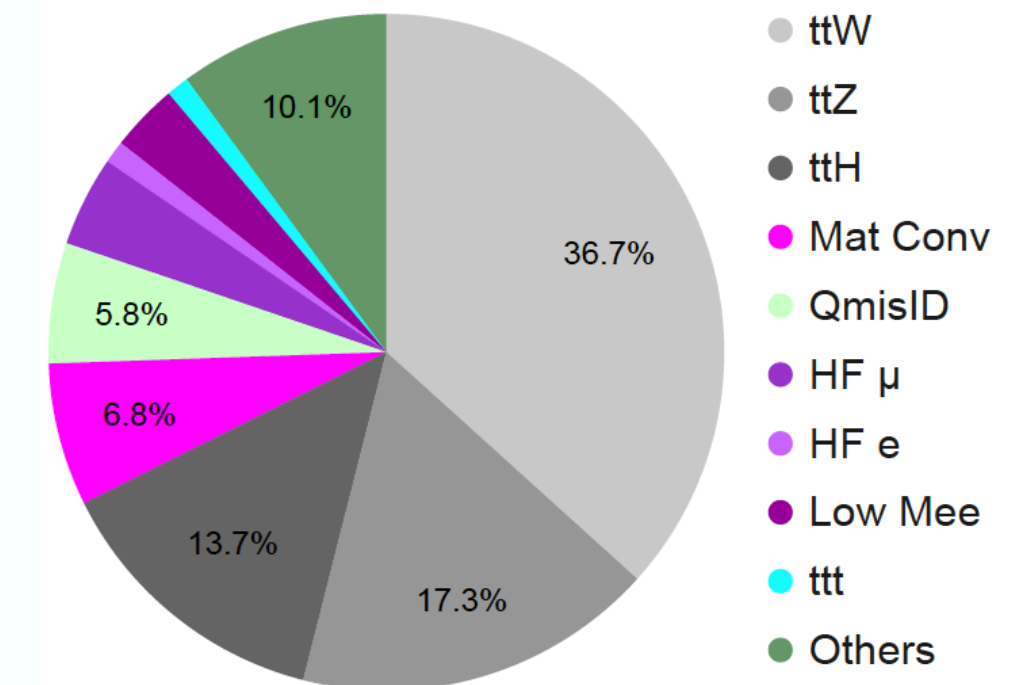
- **New ATLAS result:** ATLAS-CONF-2020-013
- Uses full Run 2 dataset: **139 fb<sup>-1</sup>**
- Targets clean leptonic signatures where at least two of the W bosons decay leptonically

- Selection requirements:

- **2 same-sign leptons or 3 leptons** ( $\ell=e,\mu$ )
- **$\geq 6$  jets** ( $p_T > 25$  GeV)
- **$\geq 2$  b-tagged jets** (77% efficiency working point)
- **$H_T > 500$  GeV ;**

$$H_T = \sum_{leptons} P_T + \sum_{jets} P_T$$

**Backgrounds:**



# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Backgrounds

- **Reducible backgrounds:**

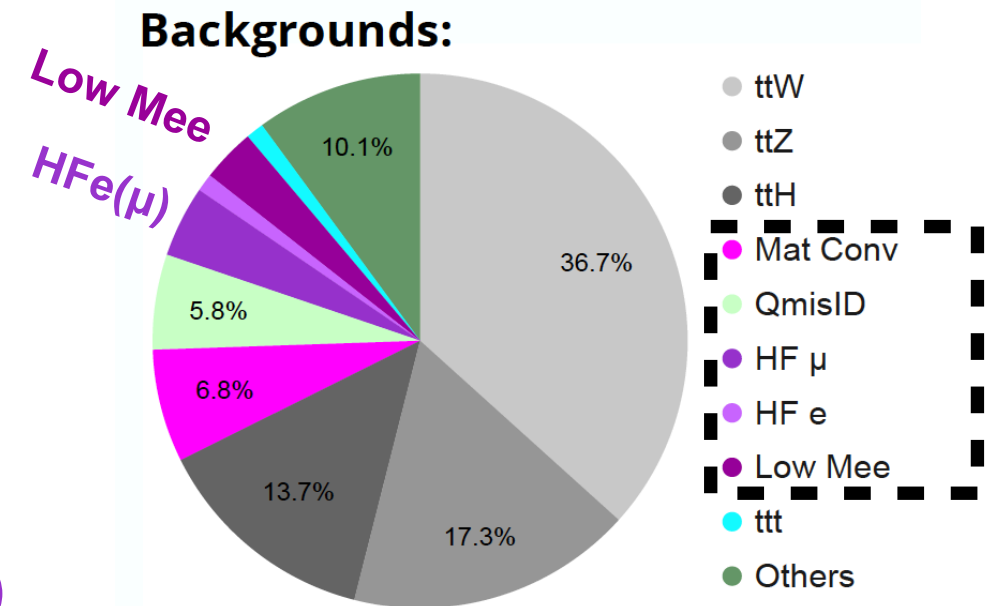
Fake/non-prompt leptons & charge misidentified leptons

- Main fake/non-prompt backgrounds are:

- electrons (muons) from heavy-flavour decay, **HFe(μ)**
- electrons from  $\gamma$  conversion in detector, **Mat. Conv. (6.8%)**
- a virtual photon leading to an  $e^+e^-$  pair, **Low Mee**

- Charge mis-assignment, **Q mis-ID (5.8%)**:

- Relevant for the 2ℓSS channel
- Charge of electron is mis-measured due to:
  - Bremsstrahlung photon emission followed by its conversion
  - Mis-measured track curvature



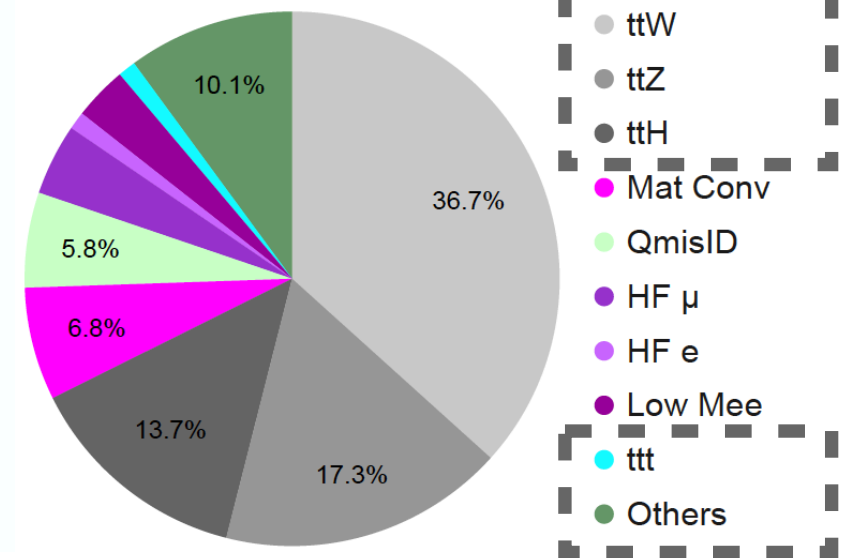
# 2 $\ell$ SS/3 $\ell$ Channel: Backgrounds

- **Irreducible backgrounds:** Leptons from W, Z or leptonic  $\tau$  decays

- **ttW (36.7%), ttZ (17.3%), and ttH (13.7%)**
  - Processes with SS and multi-lepton+jets signatures (with additional light and b-tagged jets)
- **Smaller backgrounds: (10% Others) + ttt**

Diboson, triboson, VH+jets, ttWW, tWZ, tZq

Backgrounds:

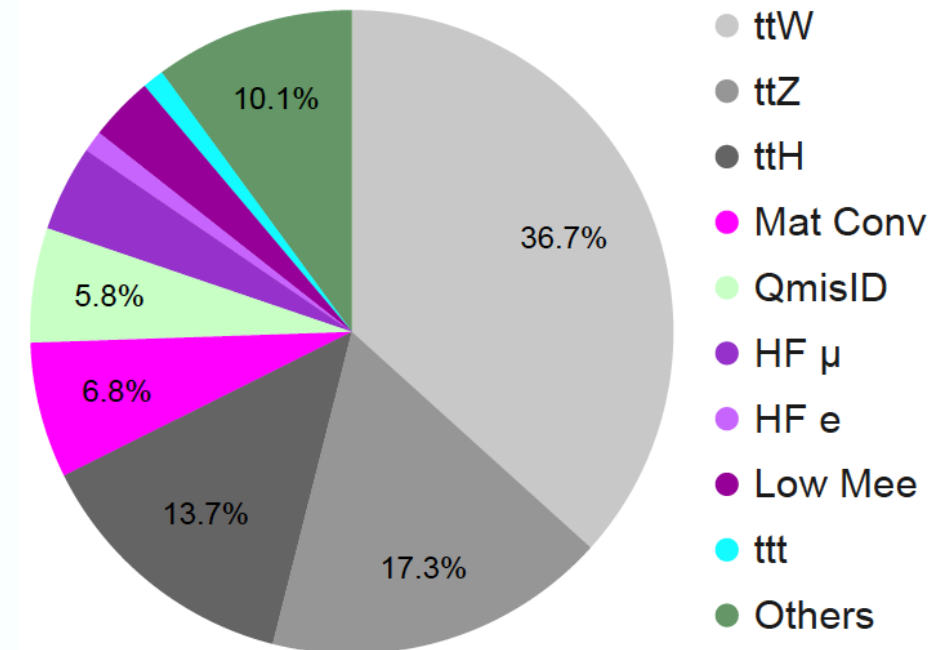


- Evaluated using MC normalised to SM cross sections, except **ttW** which is floating in the fit

# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Template fit

- **Template Method** is used to determine the major backgrounds
  - Background shapes are estimated from MC
  - Normalisation is obtained from the fit
  - Dedicated control regions are defined to constrain normalisation factors and the modeling is validated in the validation regions

**Backgrounds:**



- **Analysis Regions:**

- **1 Signal region**

- **4 Control regions**

- Each region has a dominating component or a variable with discriminating power between components (**ttW**, **HFe(μ)**, **Material Conversion** and **Low Mee** )

Region	Channel	$N_j$	$N_b$	Other requirements	Fitted variable
CRttbarCO2l	$e^\pm e^\pm    e^\pm \mu^\pm$	$4 \leq N_j < 6$	$\geq 1$	$M_{ee} @ CV \in [0, 0.1 \text{ GeV}]$ $200 < H_T < 500 \text{ GeV}$	$M_{ee} @ PV$
CR1b3Le	$eee    ee\mu$	-	$= 1$	$100 < H_T < 250 \text{ GeV}$	counting
CR1b3Lm	$e\mu\mu    \mu\mu\mu$	-	$= 1$	$100 < H_T < 250 \text{ GeV}$	counting
CRttW2l	$e^\pm \mu^\pm    \mu^\pm \mu^\pm$	$\geq 4$	$\geq 2$	$M_{ee} @ CV \notin [0, 0.1 \text{ GeV}],  \eta(e)  < 1.5$ for $N_b = 2, H_T < 500 \text{ GeV}$ or $N_j < 6$ for $N_b \geq 3, H_T < 500 \text{ GeV}$	$\Sigma p_T^\ell$



# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Template fit

- **Results of the Template Fit**

- Normalization factors obtained from the fit:

Parameter	$NF_{t\bar{t}W}$	$NF_{\text{Mat. Conv.}}$	$NF_{\text{Low } M_{ee}}$	$NF_{\text{HF } e}$	$NF_{\text{HF } \mu}$
Value	$1.6 \pm 0.3$	$1.6 \pm 0.5$	$0.9 \pm 0.4$	$0.8 \pm 0.4$	$1.0 \pm 0.4$

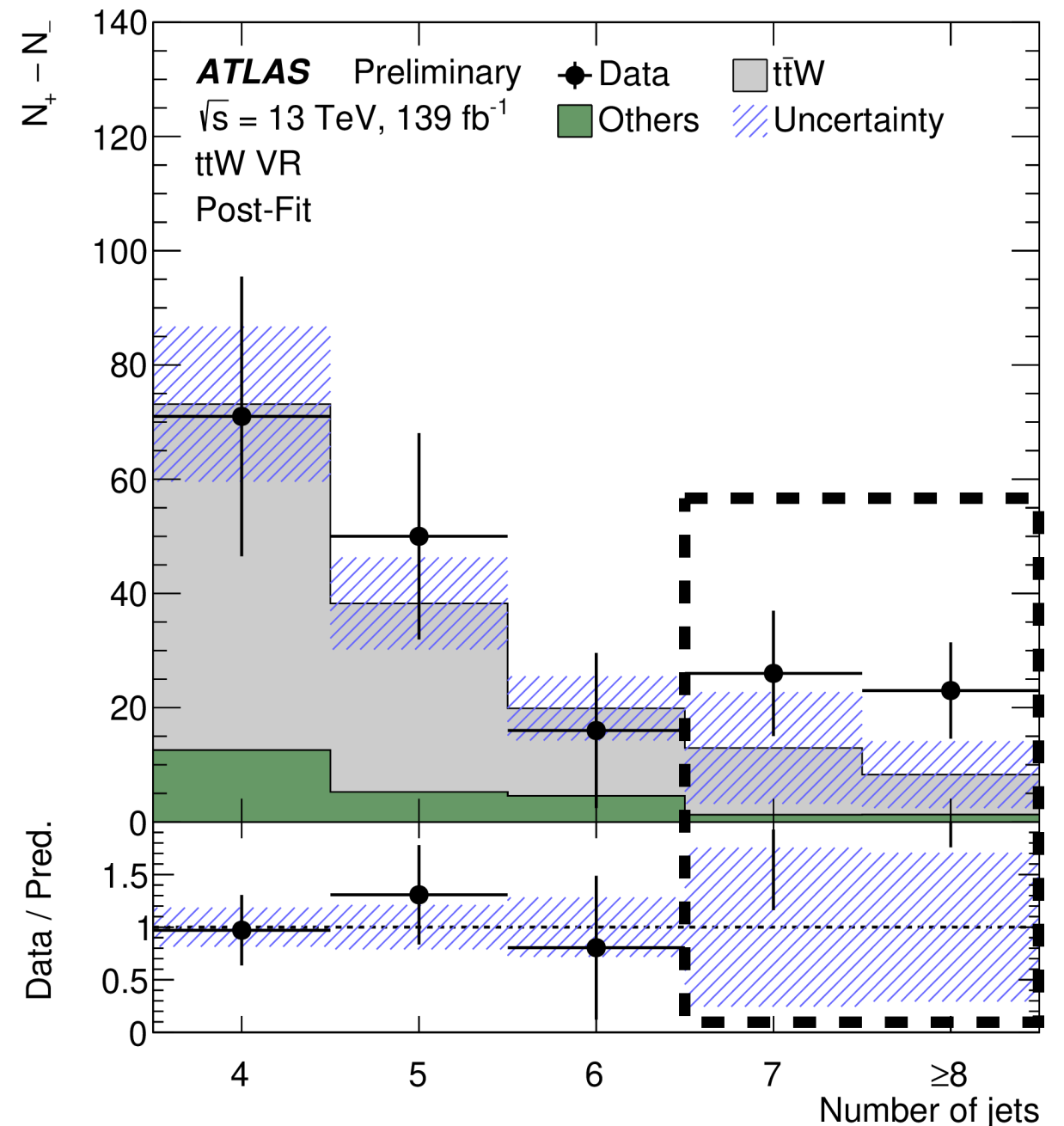
- The factors are compatible with unity except for  $NF_{t\bar{t}W}$  and  $NF_{\text{Mat. Conv.}}$ .
- The high  $NF_{t\bar{t}W}$  is compatible with previous ATLAS  $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow \text{multi-leptons})$  result [[ATLAS-CONF-2019-045](#)]
- More details in the next slides

# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Template fit

## ● ttW Validation Regions

- Use validation region to check ttW+jets normalisation and modeling
- Uncertainties:
  - **Additional jets:** Uncertainty of 125% (300%) is assigned to events with =7 (≥8) jets
  - Based on VR mismodeling
  - **Additional b-jets:** Uncertainty of 50% each is assigned to events with 3 or ≥4 truth b-jets
  - Based on tt+HF measurement and data/MC agreement in ttγ

## ttW Validation Region: ≥4jets ≥2b-tagged

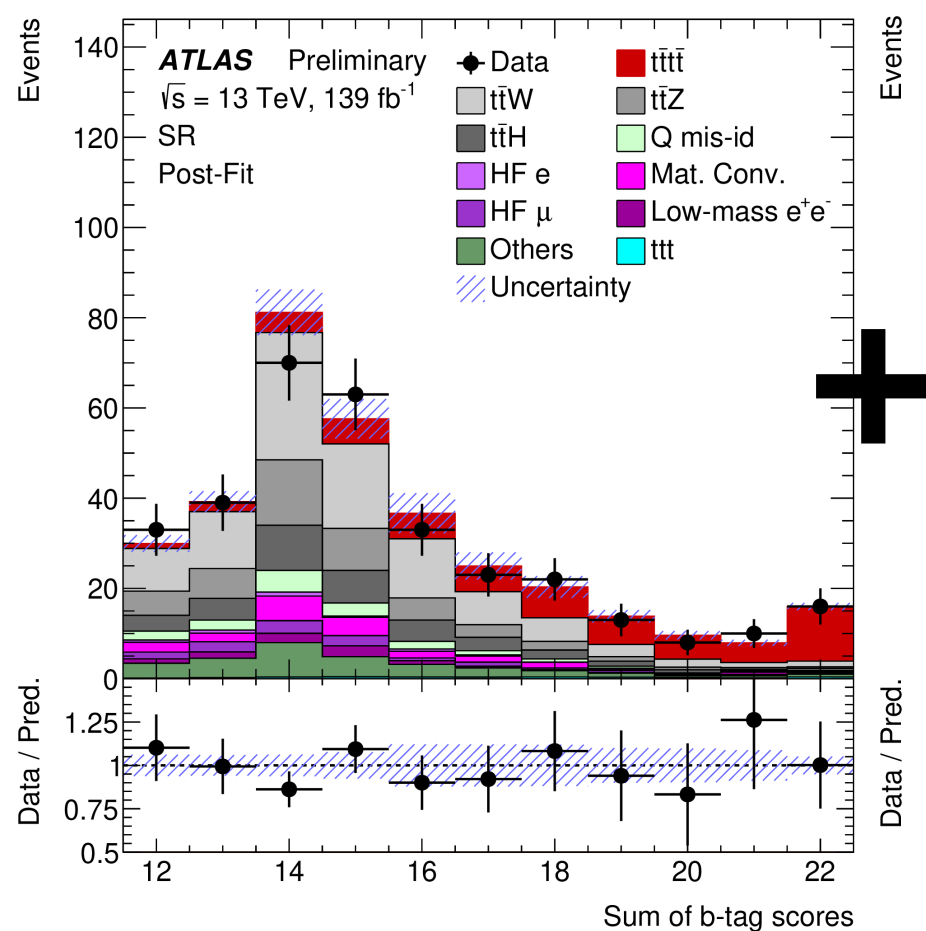


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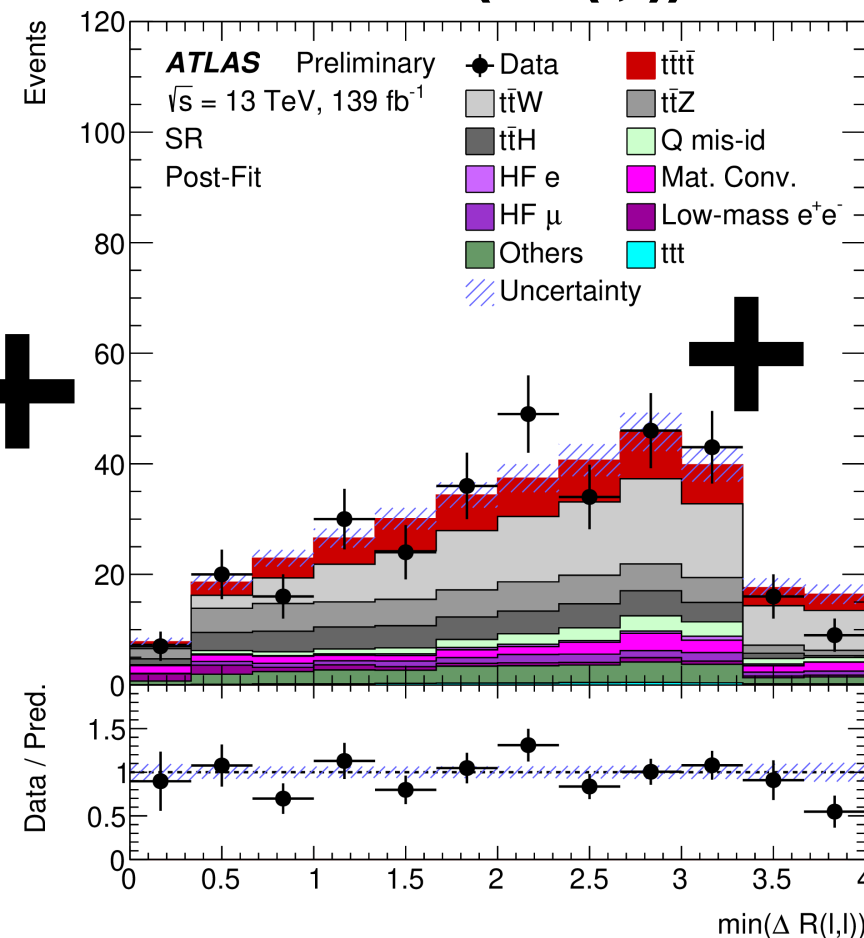
# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Signal Optimization

- Signal is separated from background based on a multivariate discriminant built in the signal region by combining input observables into a BDT:
- 12 observables are selected based on their discrimination power and the requirement of good modelling
  - b-tagging information: Sum of the pseudo-continuous b-tagging discriminant score
  - Lepton and jet kinematics
  - BDT training is performed inclusively in **lepton flavour and multiplicity** for events in the SR

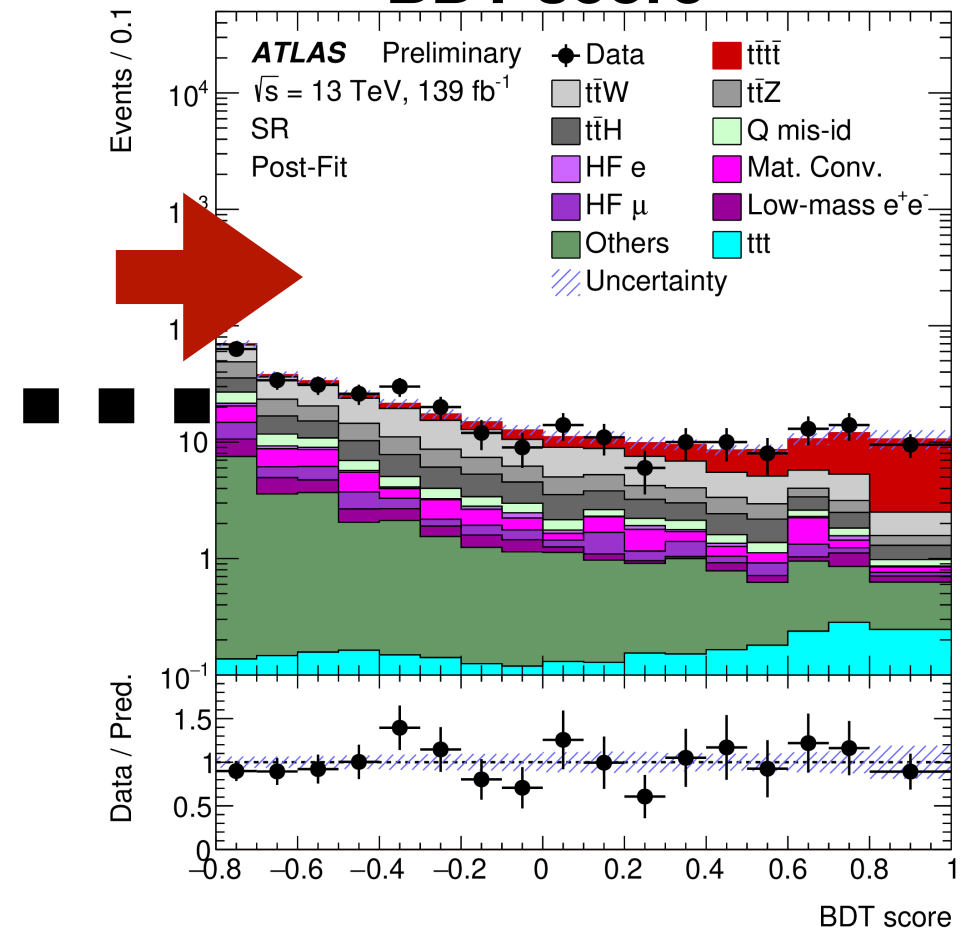
## Sum of b-tag scores



## min ( $\Delta R(l,l)$ )



## BDT score



# 2LSS/3L Channel: Systematics

- The dominant systematics uncertainties on the signal strength are:

- The theoretical uncertainty on signal

- Data statistics

- Modelling of  $t\bar{t}W$ +jets

- Uncertainty on  $t\bar{t}t$  production

- 10% of  $t\bar{t}t$  cross sections and estimated from MC, but similar BDT shape

- Instrumental

- B-tagging: Uncertainties on the b-tagging efficiencies, mainly the light mis-tagging rate

- Jet Energy Scale: Uncertainties related to pile-up subtraction and the modelling of additional jets in the di-jet balance analysis

- Non-prompt lepton normalisation and modelling

- Shape uncertainty derived from data/MC (dis)agreement in a fake-enriched region

Uncertainty source	$\Delta\mu$	
Signal modelling		
$t\bar{t}t$ cross section	+0.56	-0.31
$t\bar{t}t$ modelling	+0.15	-0.09
Background modelling		
$t\bar{t}W$ modelling	+0.26	-0.27
$t\bar{t}t$ modeling	+0.10	-0.07
Non-prompt leptons modeling	+0.05	-0.04
$t\bar{t}H$ modelling	+0.04	-0.01
$t\bar{t}Z$ modelling	+0.02	-0.04
Charge misassignment	+0.01	-0.02
Instrumental		
Jet uncertainties	+0.12	-0.08
Jet flavour tagging (light-jets)	+0.11	-0.06
Simulation sample size	+0.06	-0.06
Luminosity	+0.05	-0.03
Jet flavour tagging (b-jets)	+0.04	-0.02
Other experimental uncertainties	+0.03	-0.01
Jet flavour tagging (c-jets)	+0.03	-0.01
Total systematic uncertainty	+0.69	-0.46
Statistical	+0.42	-0.39
Non-prompt leptons normalisation(HF, material conversions)	+0.05	-0.04
$t\bar{t}W$ normalisation	+0.04	-0.04
Total uncertainty	+0.82	-0.62

ATLAS-CONF-2020-013





# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Results

- The  $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$  production cross section is measured via a binned likelihood fit of the BDT score distribution in the signal region and of the discriminating variables in the four control regions
- The measured  $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$  signal strength is found to be:

$$\mu = 2.0^{+0.4}_{-0.4}(stat) \quad ^{+0.7}_{-0.5}(syst) = 2.0^{+0.8}_{-0.6}$$

- Cross section:

$$\sigma(t\bar{t}t\bar{t}) = 24^{+5}_{-5}(stat) \quad ^{+5}_{-4}(syst) \text{ fb} = 24^{+7}_{-6} \text{ fb}$$

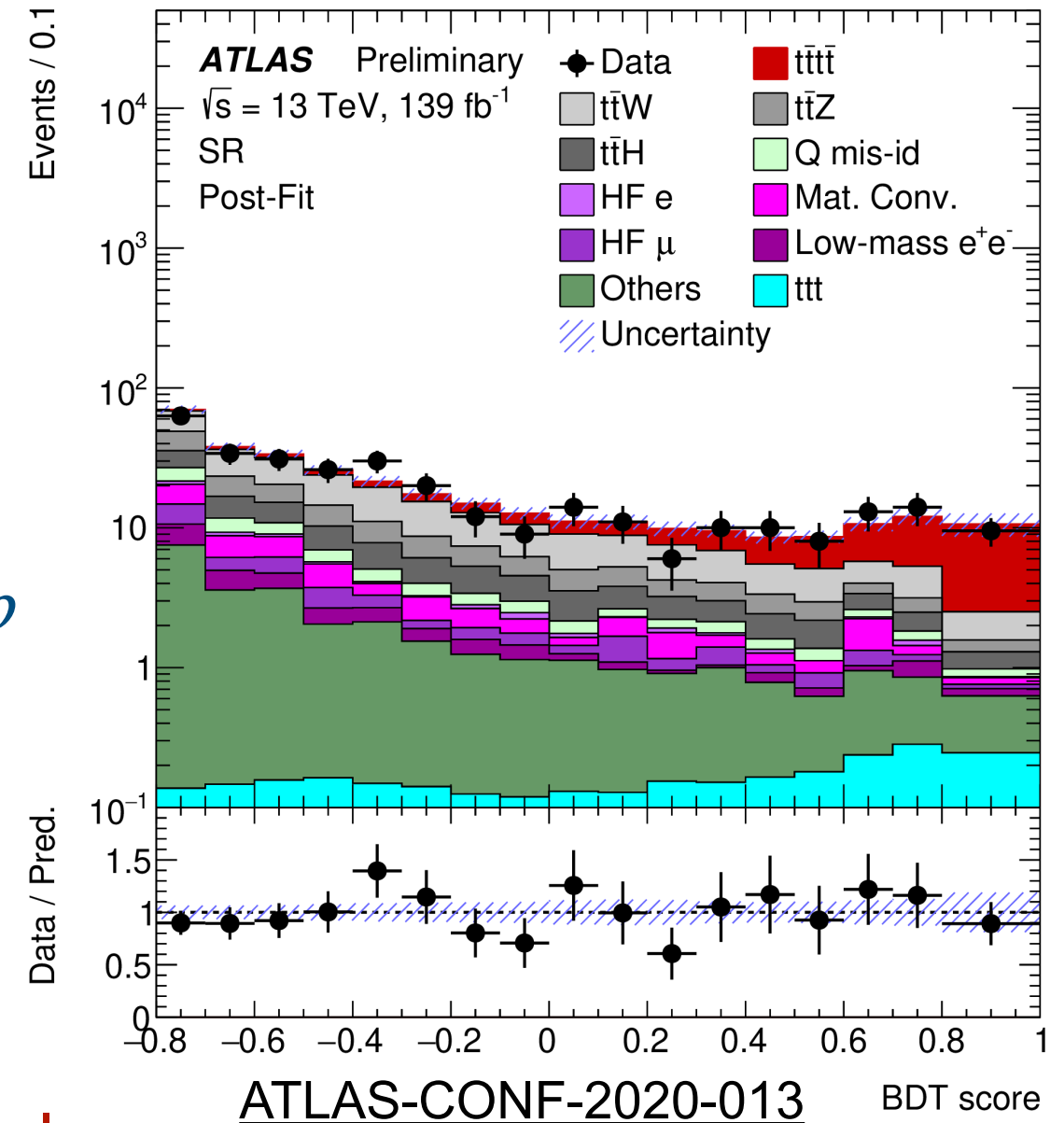
- Compared to the theoretical predication of

$$\sigma(t\bar{t}t\bar{t}) = 12 \pm 2 \text{ fb}$$

- **Strong  $4.3\sigma$  ( $2.4\sigma$  expected) evidence**

- Consistent to  $1.7\sigma$  with the Standard Model

- Several tests were done to check the stability & consistency of the result



# Stay tuned for the full run 2 combination

SS  $e\mu$   
7 jets  
4 b-jets  
 $H_T = 723$  GeV

## Thank you!

# BACKUP SLIDES







# 1e/2eOS Channel: Systematic Uncertainties

- The post-fit impact of the largest sources of systematic uncertainty on the signal strength  $\mu$  is shown
- The systematic uncertainties are the dominant ones:
  - The largest contributions are due to the uncertainty associated with the choice of  $t\bar{t}$ +jets parton shower and hadronization model and the NLO generators ( **$t\bar{t}$ +jets modeling**)
  - The second largest contribution is due to the large **statistical uncertainties** associated with the background prediction

## Breakdown of the contributions to the uncertainties on $\mu$

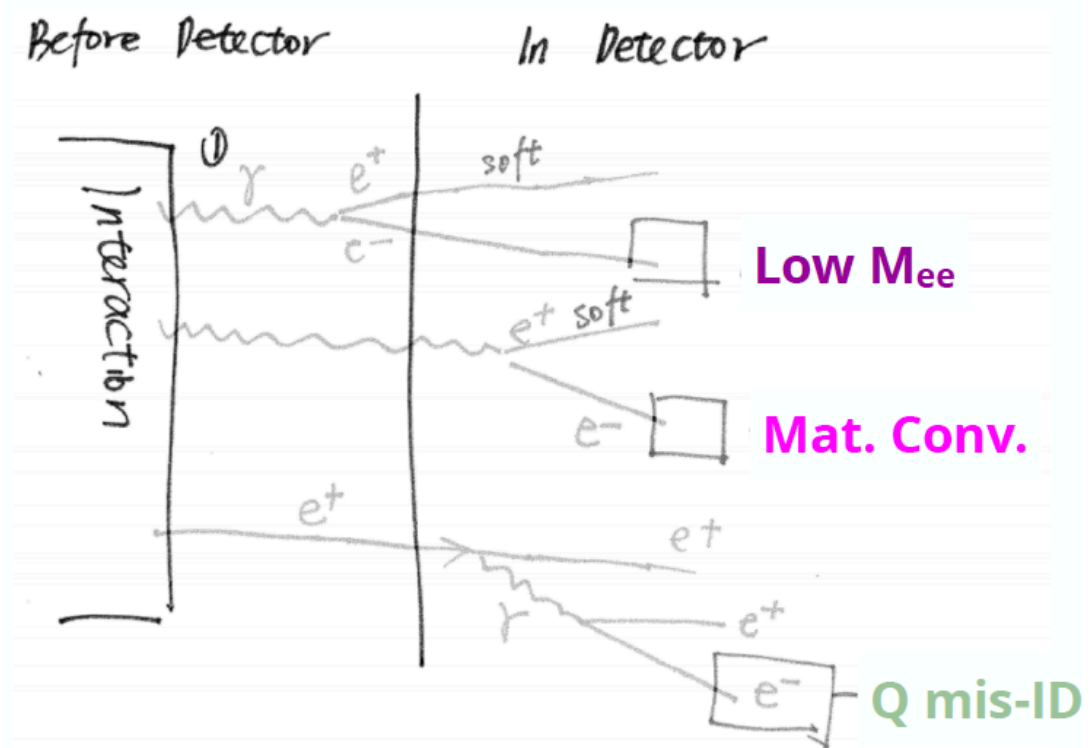
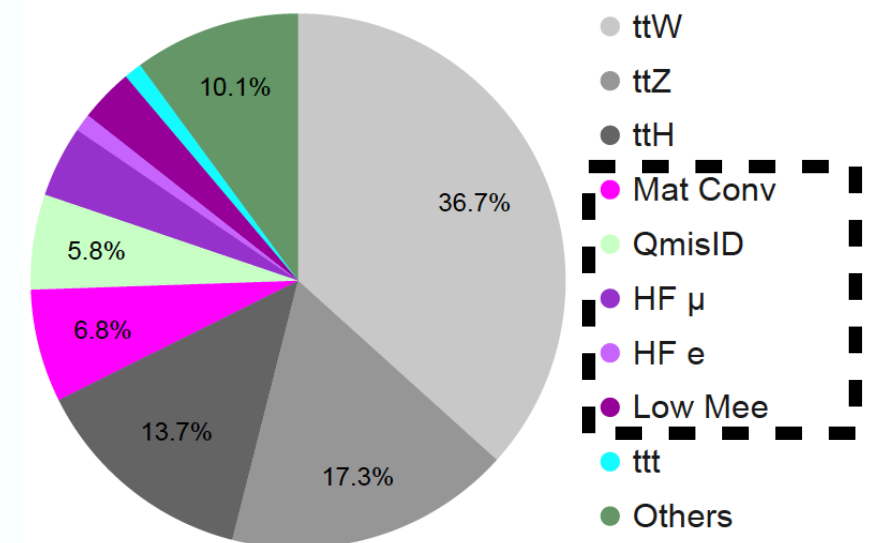
Uncertainty source	$\pm\Delta\mu$	
 $t\bar{t}$ +jets modeling	+1.2	−0.96
 Background-model statistical uncertainty	+0.91	−0.85
Jet energy scale and resolution, jet mass	+0.38	−0.16
Other background modeling	+0.26	−0.20
$b$ -tagging efficiency and mis-tag rates	+0.33	−0.10
JVT, pileup modeling	+0.18	−0.073
$t\bar{t} + H/V$ modeling	+0.053	−0.055
Luminosity	+0.050	−0.026
Total systematic uncertainty	+1.6	−1.4
Total statistical uncertainty	+1.1	−1.0
Total uncertainty	+1.9	−1.7



# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Backgrounds

- **Reducible backgrounds:** Fake/non-prompt leptons & charge misidentified leptons
- Main fake/non-prompt backgrounds are:
  - electrons (muons) from heavy-flavour decay, **HFe(μ)**
  - electrons from  $\gamma$  conversion in detector, **Mat. Conv.**
  - a virtual photon leading to an  $e^+e^-$  pair, **Low Mee**
- Charge mis-assignment, **Q mis-ID**:
  - Relevant for the 2ℓSS channel
  - Charge of electron is mis-measured due to:
    - Bremsstrahlung photon emission followed by its conversion
    - Mis-measured track curvature

Backgrounds:

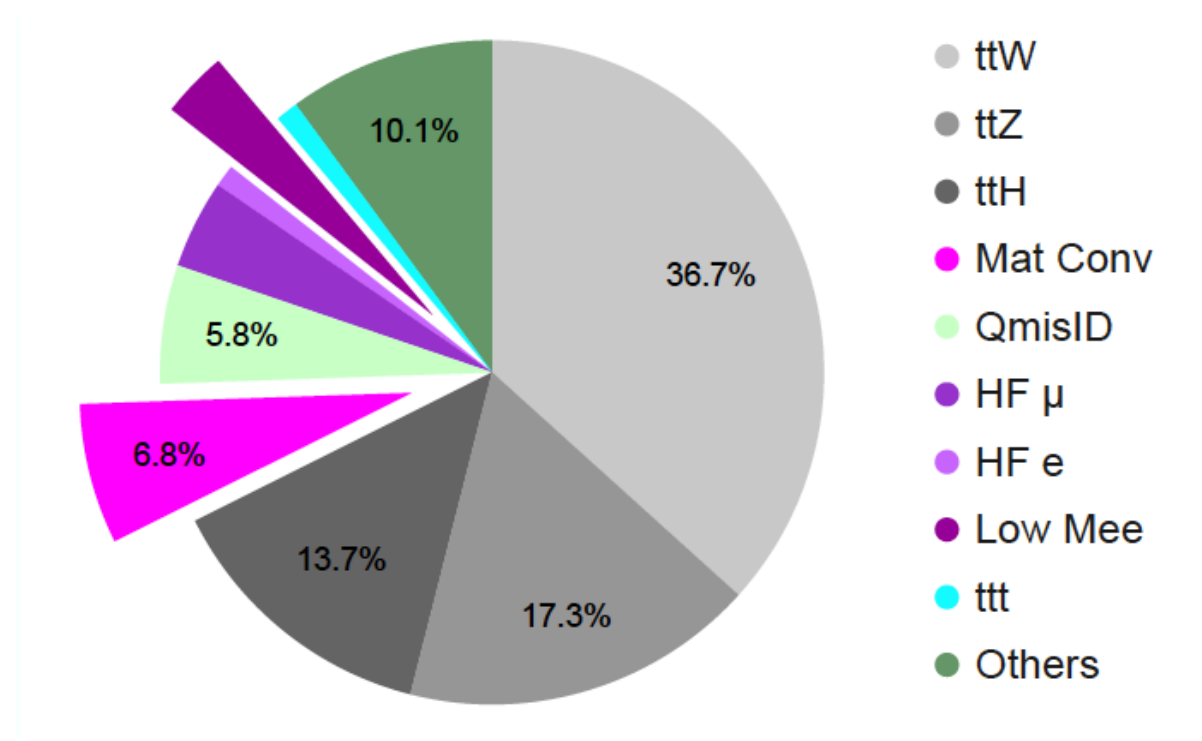
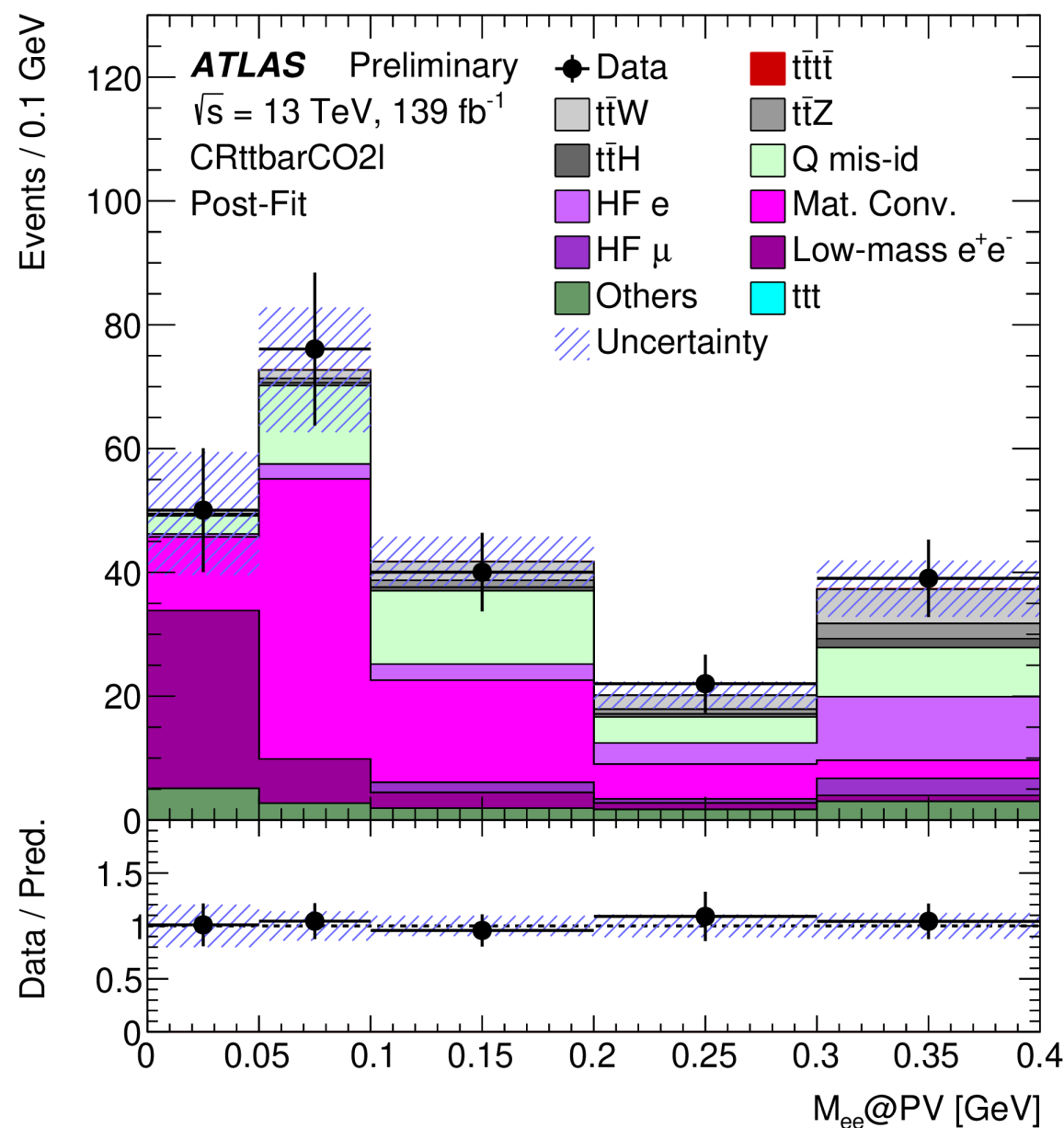


Sketch from Josh McFayden

# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Background

## ● Control Regions: CRttbarCO2I

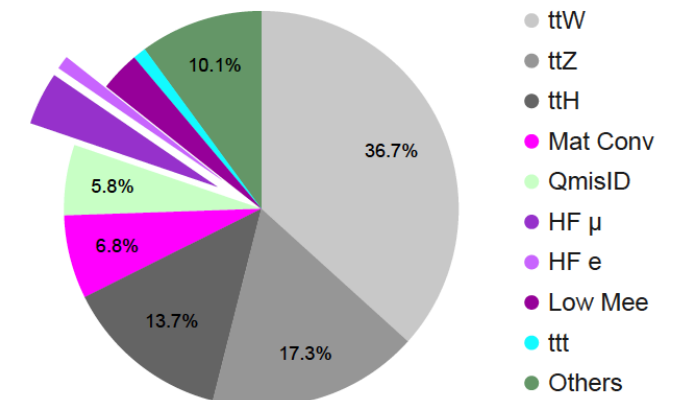
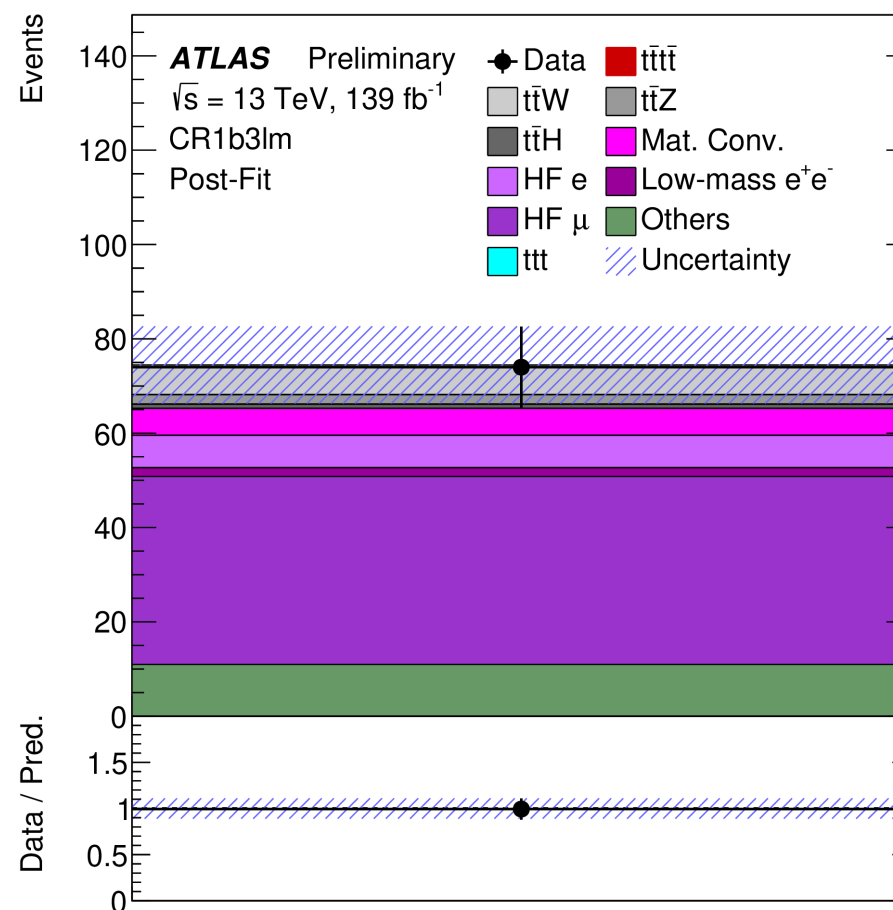
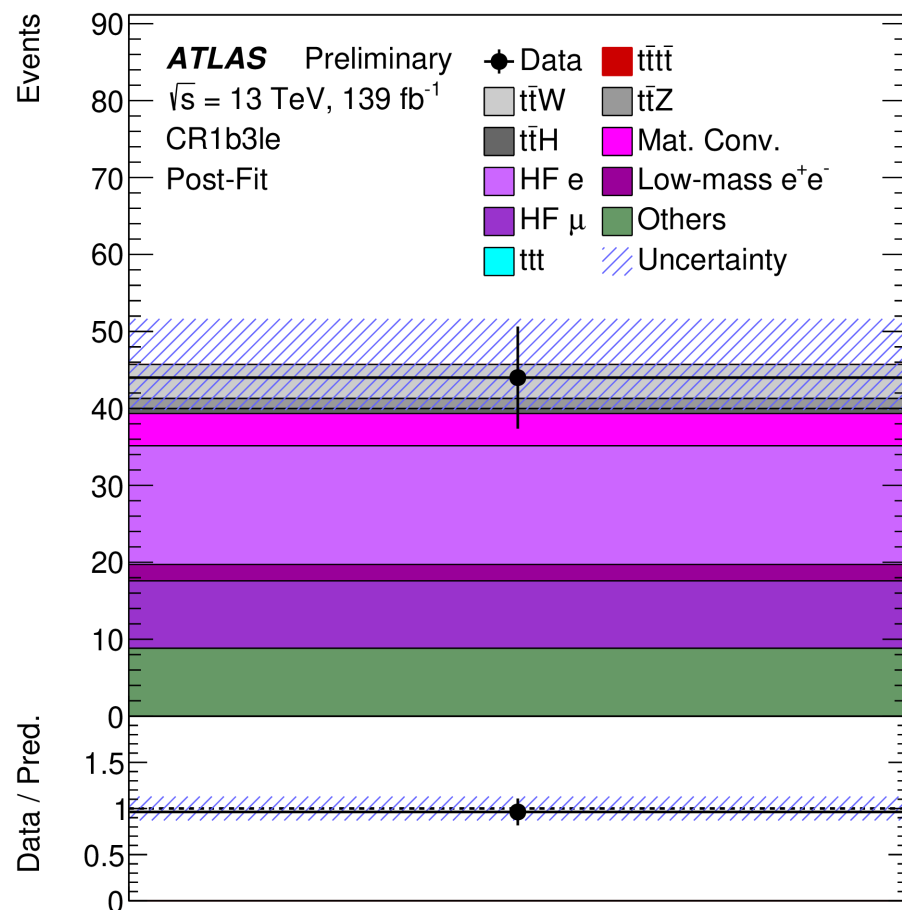
- Enriched in **Mat. Conv.** and **Low M<sub>ee</sub>** events.
- Look at the invariant mass between the electron track and its closest track



# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Background

## Control Regions: CR1b3ℓe & CR1b3ℓm

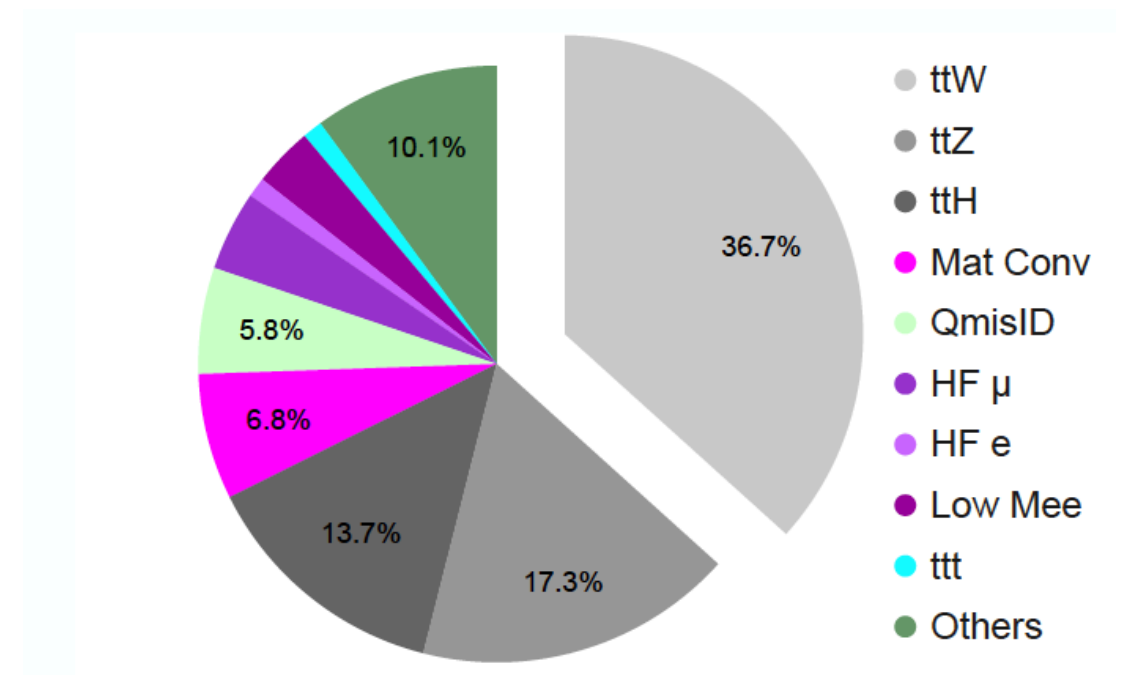
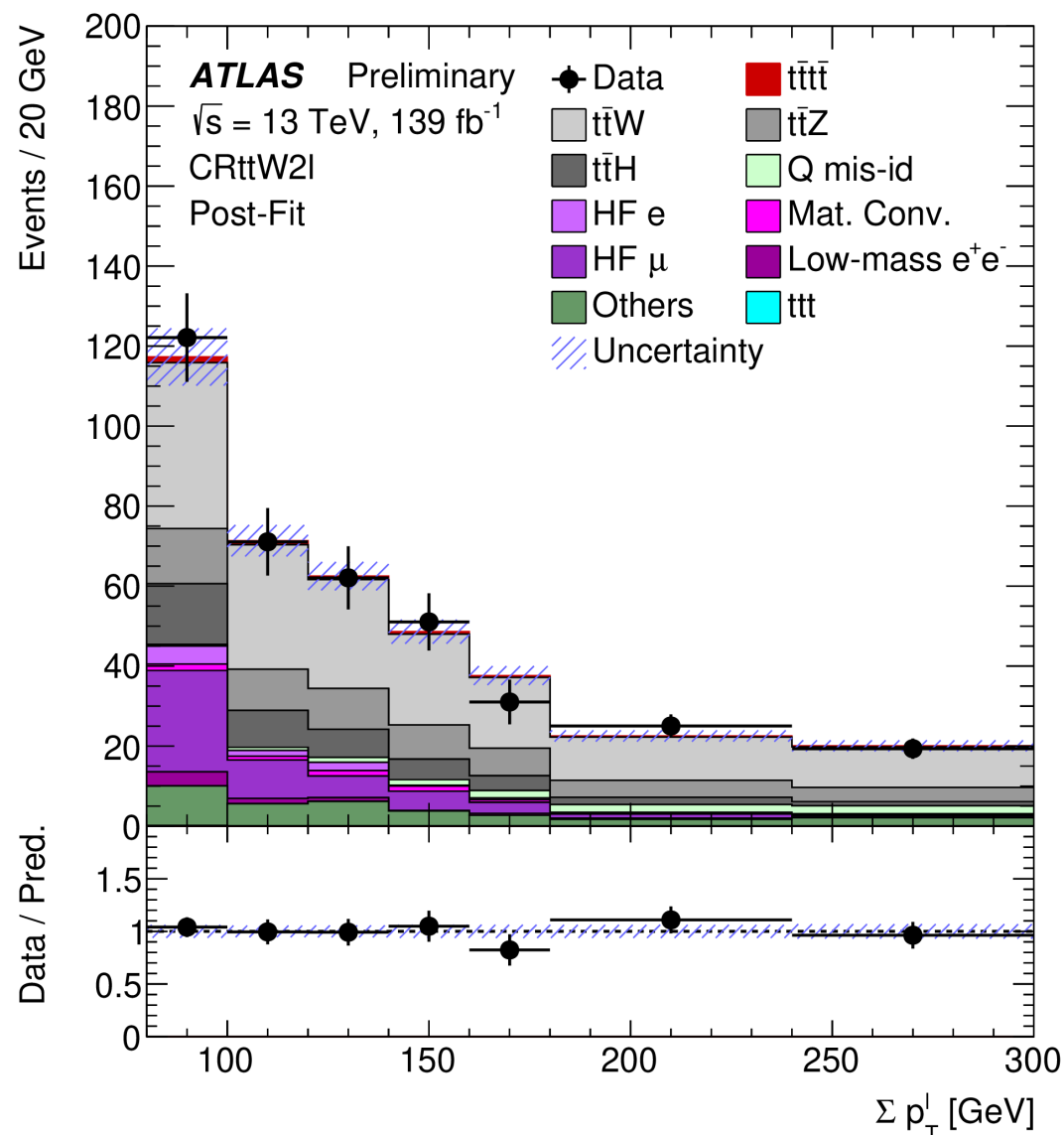
- Enriched in background events with **leptons from heavy-flavour**
- Requiring 3 leptons: eee and eeμ (μμμ and μμe) for CR1b3ℓe (CR1b3ℓm),
- Exactly one b-tagged jet &  $100 < H_T < 250$  GeV



# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Background

## Control Regions: CRttW2l

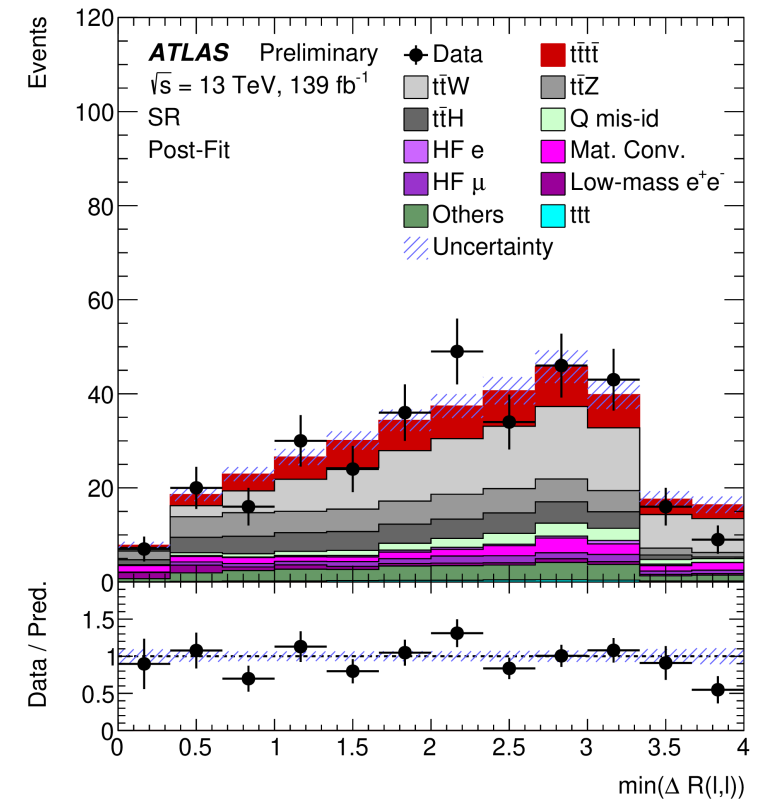
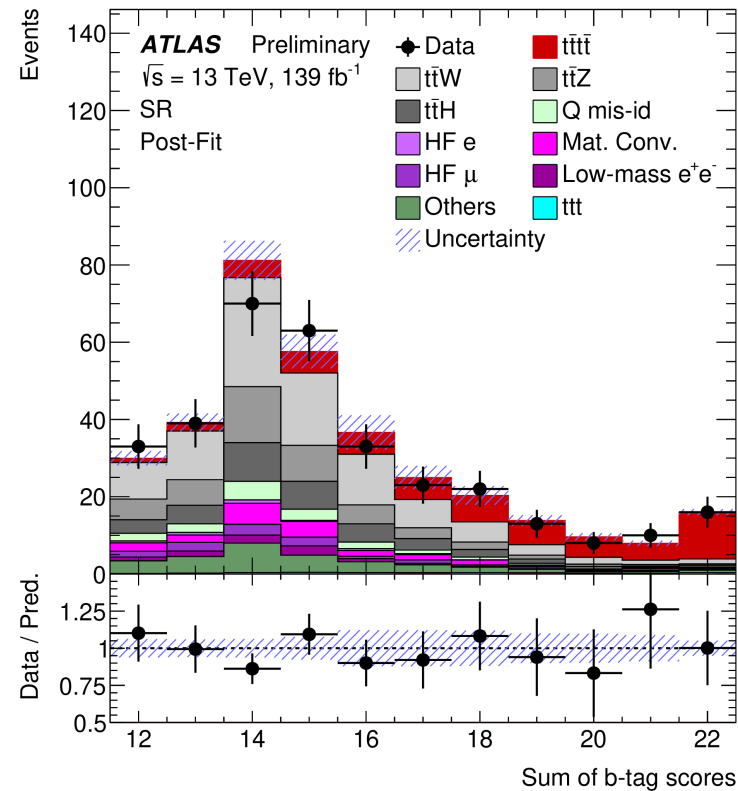
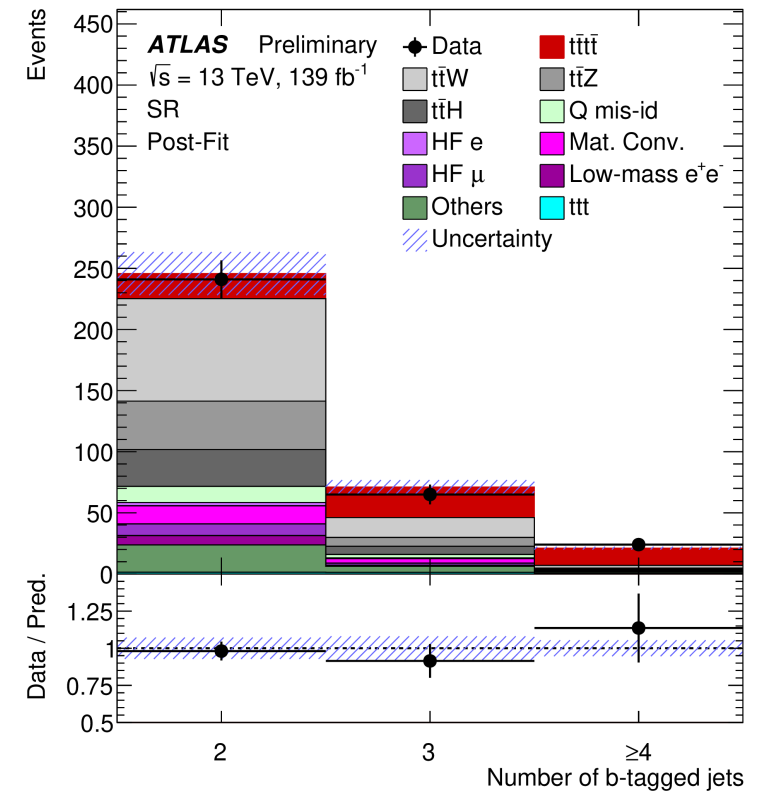
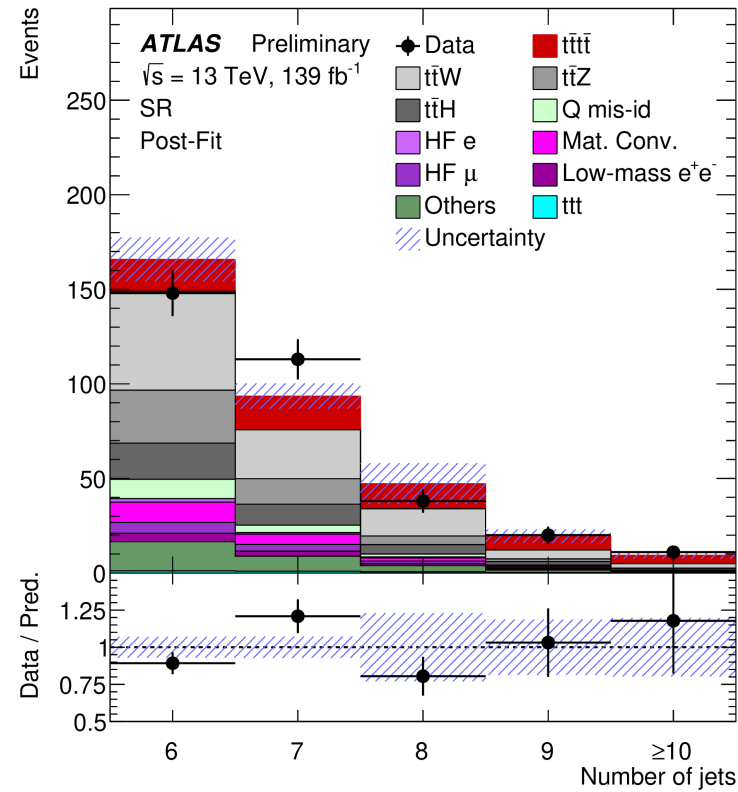
- Enriched in **ttW+jets** events
- Selecting eμ and μμ events with at least four jets and two b-jets which are neither in other CRs nor in the SR.
- Looked at the sum of the lepton  $p_T = \sum p_T^l$  which gives a good discrimination from the other backgrounds in the template fit





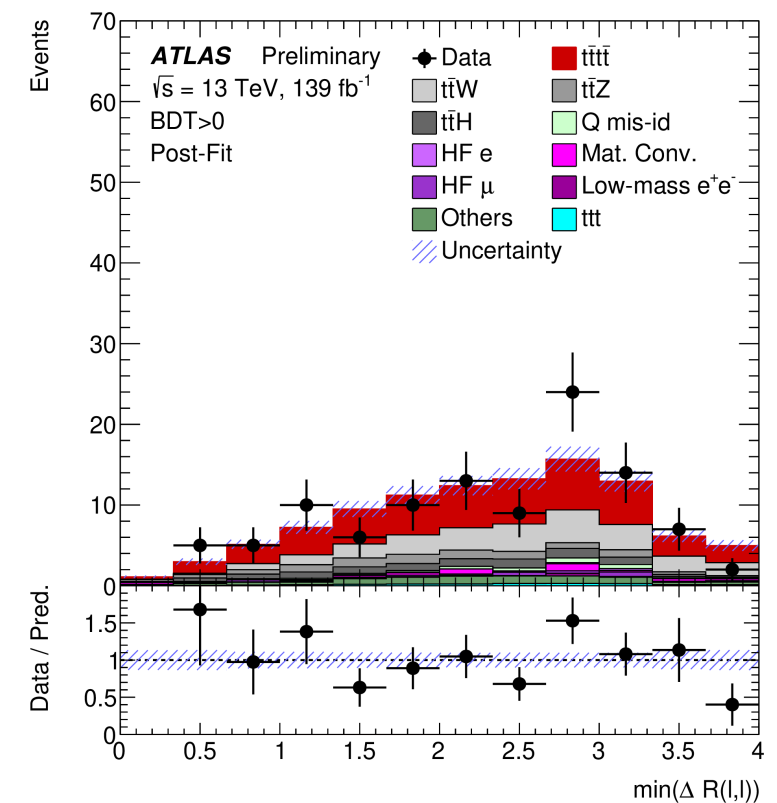
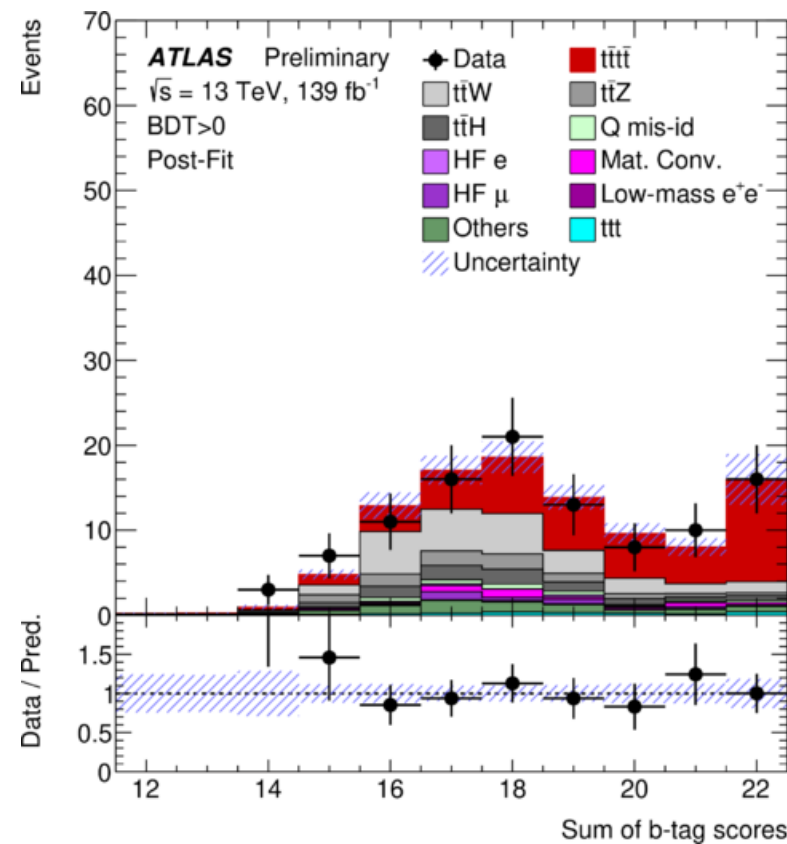
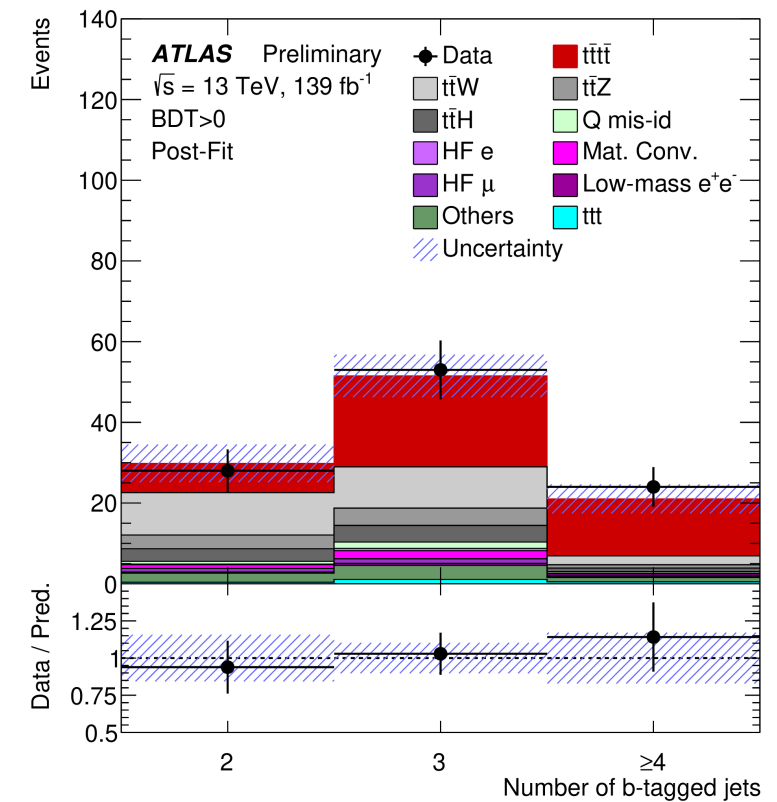
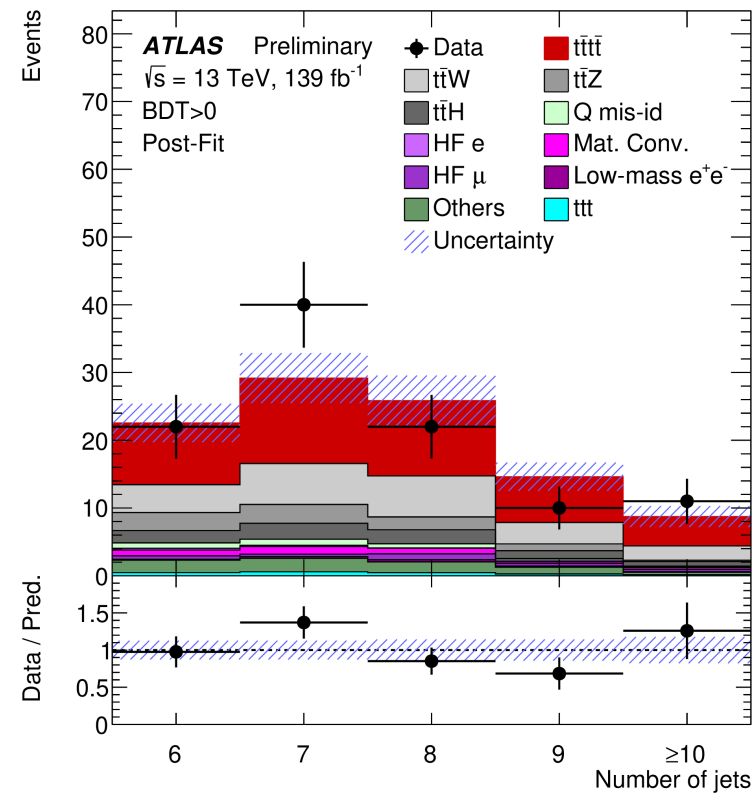
# 2 $\ell$ SS/3 $\ell$ Channel: Results

**Good Data/MC agreement seen in the input variables to the BDT**



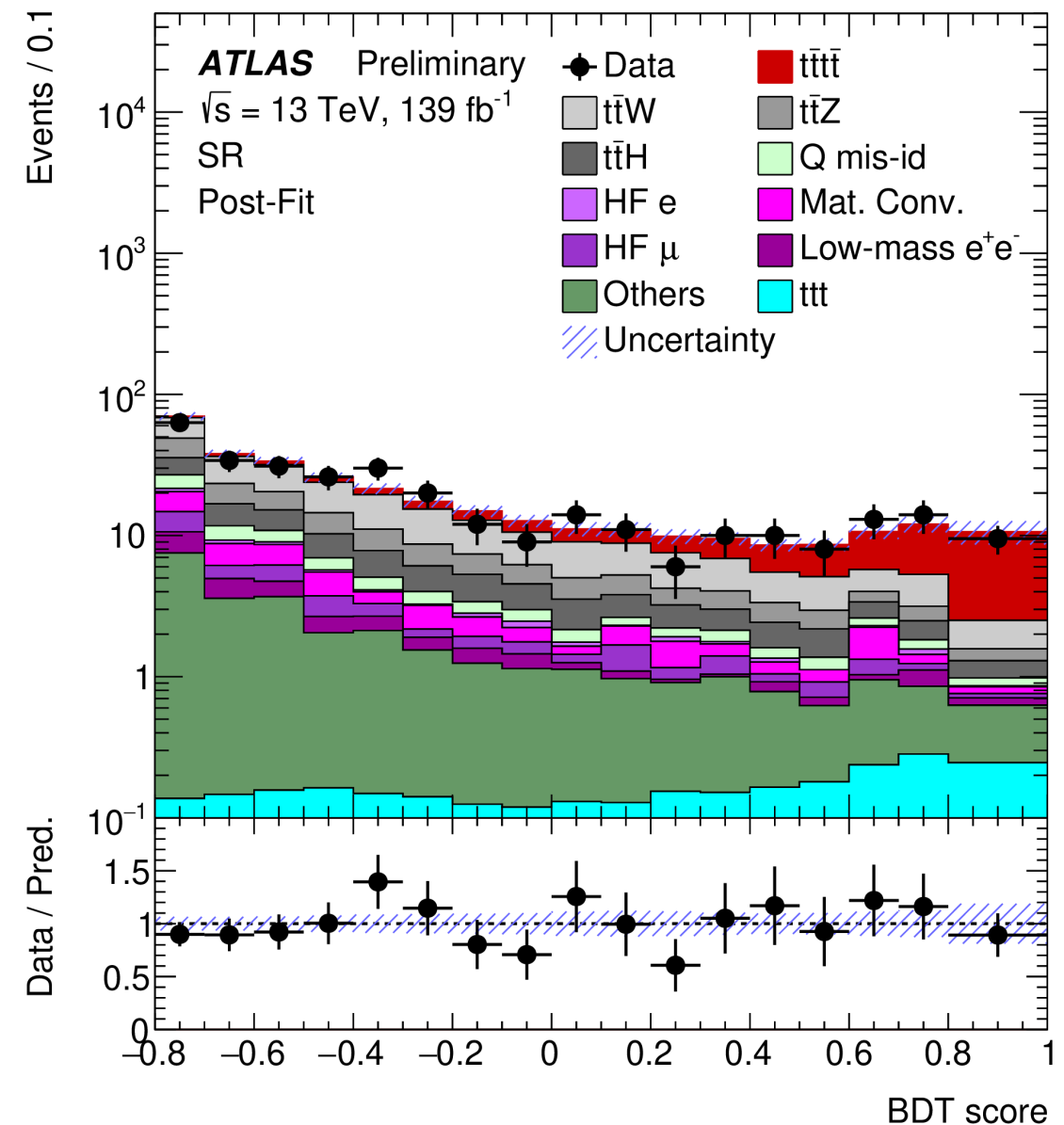
# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Results

**Good Data/MC agreement is also seen in the input variables to the BDT when requiring  $BDT > 0$**



# 2ℓSS/3ℓ Channel: Results

- The stability of the result is checked in several ways
- Using a  $H_T$ -based fit instead of the BDT
- Splitting the signal region in to 2ℓSS and 3ℓ events
- Using only positively/negatively charged SS lepton pairs
- Fitting different data-taking years
- All the above tests showed compatible results



ATLAS-CONF-2020-013

