

Measurement of the Higgs boson couplings and their interpretations in fermionic final states at the ATLAS experiment

Giulia Di Gregorio
on behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration

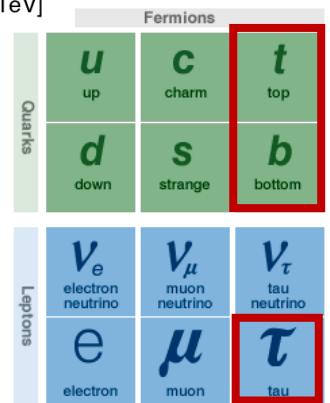
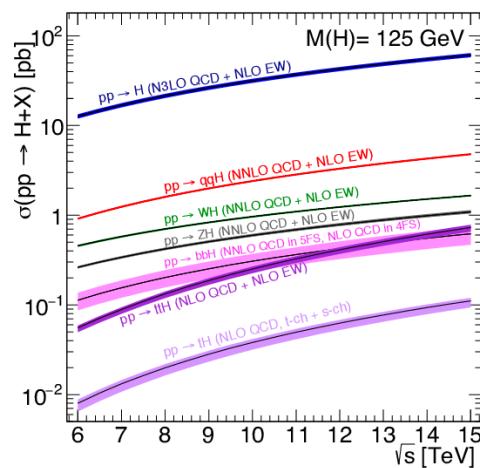
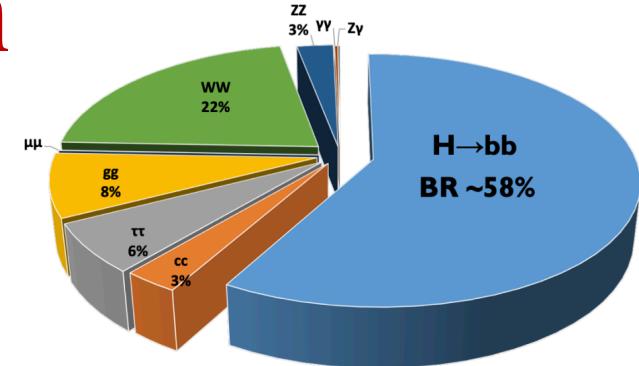
ICHEP 2022

7th July 2022



Introduction

- Higgs to fermionic final states represent $\sim 70\%$ of the Higgs decays.
- Measurement of the Higgs coupling to fermions can provide stringent tests of validity of SM.
- All Higgs to third generation fermion couplings have been observed
- Higgs to fermionic final states studied looking to different production modes
- Outline - only latest results using full Run 2 dataset:
 - Coupling to third generation fermions:
 - $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$
 - $t\bar{t}H$
 - $H \rightarrow \tau\bar{\tau}$
 - Simplified template cross-section (STXS) and coupling interpretations
 - More info on Higgs to second generation fermions in Robert's [talk](#)



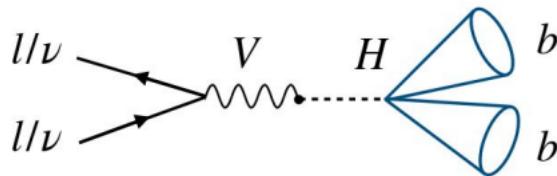
I II III

VH($b\bar{b}$) combination

- Best sensitivity for dominant $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decay in VH production due to high trigger efficiency and background suppression when targeting $V \rightarrow$ lepton decays.
- VH($b\bar{b}$) final states studied by two analyses and significant overlap between the two analyses

Resolved analysis

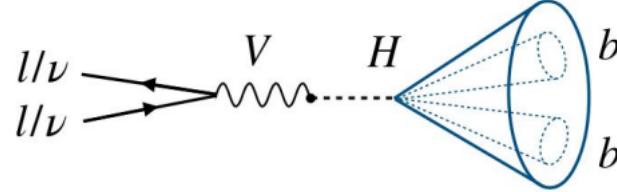
[Eur. Phys. J. C 81 \(2021\) 178](#)



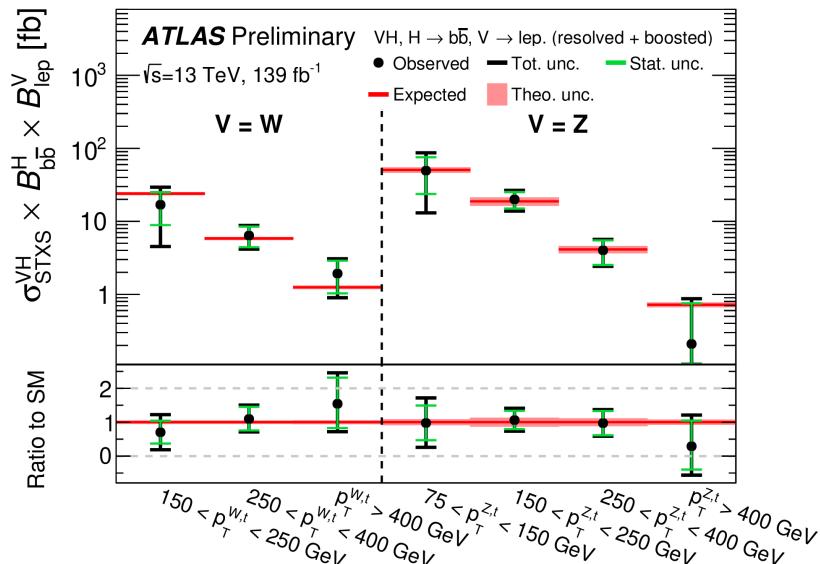
High precision (~30%) measurement

Boosted analysis

[Phys. Lett. B 816 \(2021\) 13204](#)



Probes high- p_T^V regime



- In the combination **drop resolved events with $p_T^V > 400$ GeV** and **use boosted only in $p_T^V > 400$ GeV**
- STXS measurements in 7 STXS bins
 - Good agreement with SM predictions.
 - **Most precise measurement of the VH production**

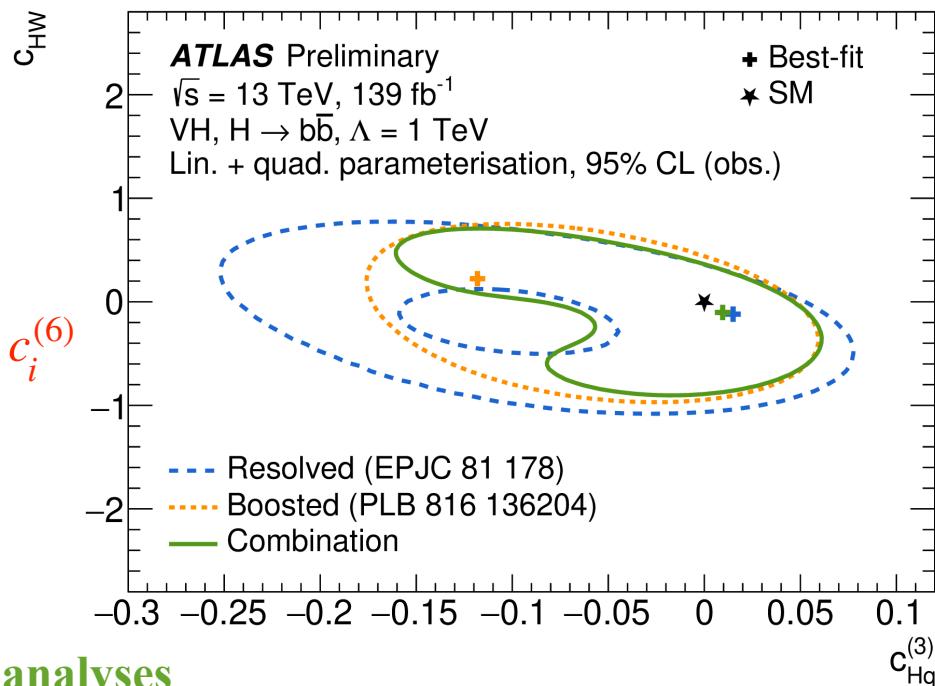
VH($b\bar{b}$) combination: EFT interpretation

- Parameterization of BSM effects using **effective Lagrangian with dimension-6 operators** in the Warsaw basis: $\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i c_i^{(6)} \cdot \mathcal{O}_i^{(6)}/\Lambda^2$
 - $c_i^{(6)}$ = Wilson coefficient
 - $\mathcal{O}_i^{(6)}$ = dimension-6 operator
 - Λ = BSM scale
- EFT cross-section parametrisation

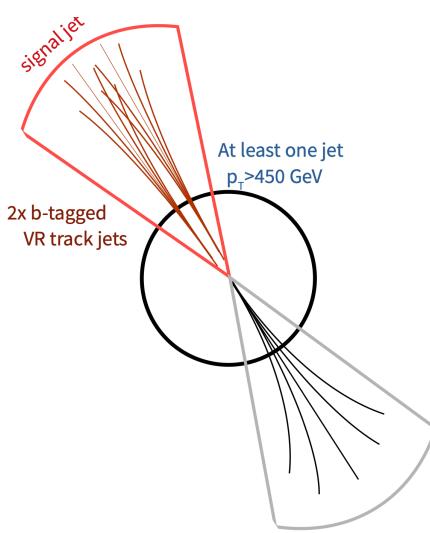
$$\sigma_{EFT} = \sigma_{SM} + \sigma_{int} + \sigma_{BSM}$$

Linear dependence on $c_i^{(6)}$

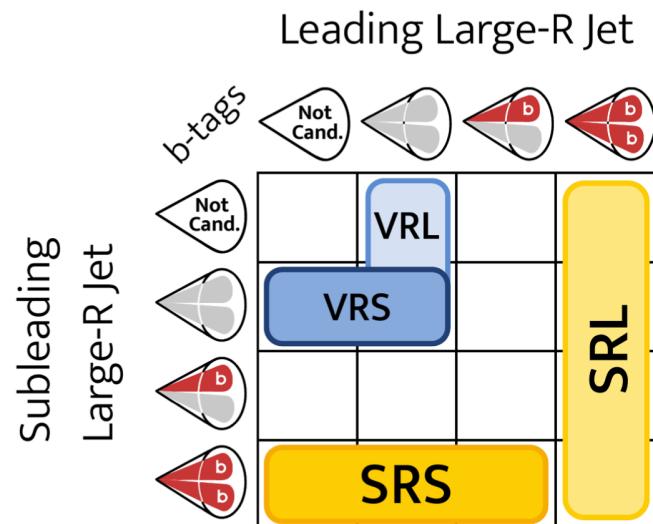
Quadratic dependence on $c_i^{(6)}$
- More stringent limits combining the two analyses



All-had H $\rightarrow b\bar{b}$ analysis



- Analysis targeting boosted Higgs recoiling against a jet
- Final state with **two large-R jets**:
 - Higgs candidate:
 - $p_T > 450 \text{ GeV}, m_J > 60 \text{ GeV};$
 - **2 b-tagged VR track jets**



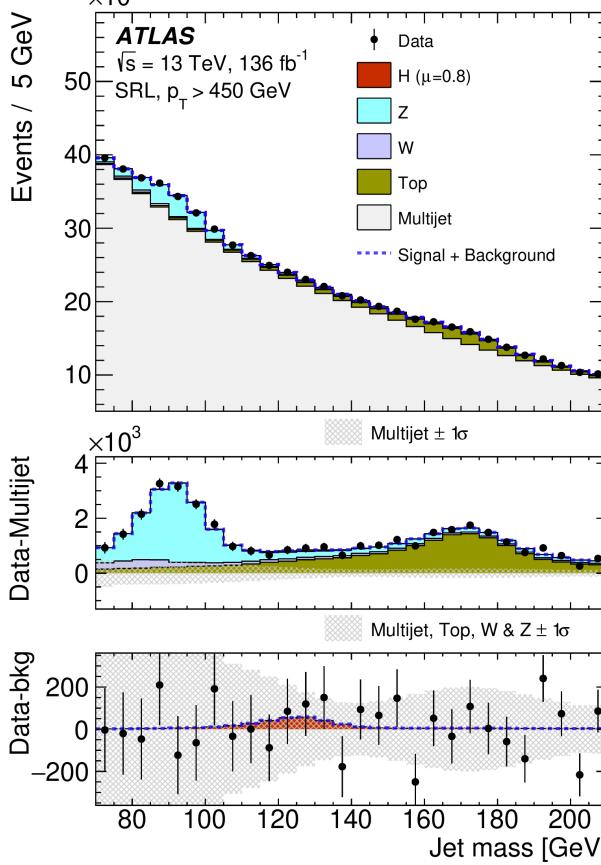
Fractional contribution for each signal production mode

Process	Jet p_T range [GeV]			
	250–450	450–650	650–1000	> 1000
SRL				
ggF	—	0.56	0.50	0.39
VBF	—	0.17	0.16	0.17
VH	—	0.14	0.18	0.25
$t\bar{t}H$	—	0.13	0.16	0.19
SRS				
ggF	0.28	0.46	0.43	—
VBF	0.07	0.19	0.21	—
VH	0.26	0.24	0.26	—
$t\bar{t}H$	0.39	0.11	0.10	—

Event categorization

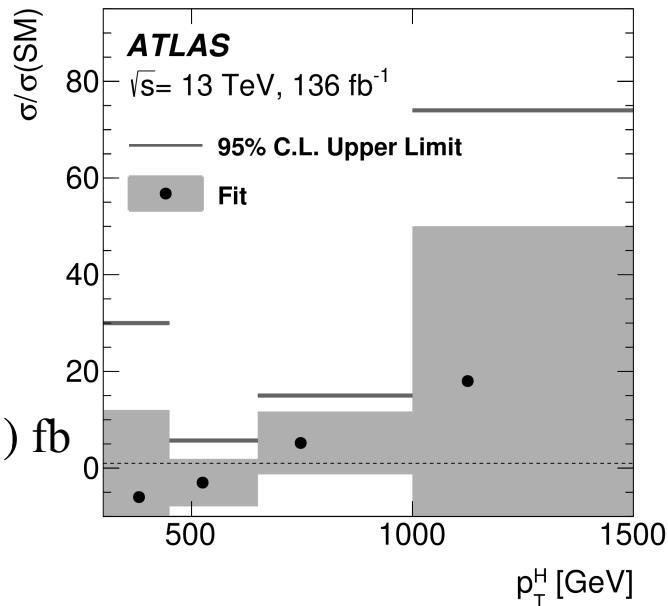
- **SR**: SRL(SRS) in which the (sub-) lead. large-R jet is double b-tagged
- **VR**: to study multi-jet and V+jet model
 - Multi-jet production modelled using parametric function
- **CR $t\bar{t}$** : to study top events;
 - Requiring one hadronic top decay and one muonic top decay

All-had H $\rightarrow b\bar{b}$ analysis- results



- Higgs candidate jet mass m_J is the **final discriminant**
 - **Z($b\bar{b}$) + jets** production process used to **validate the analysis method**
- **Profile likelihood fit** to extract signal strength μ_H

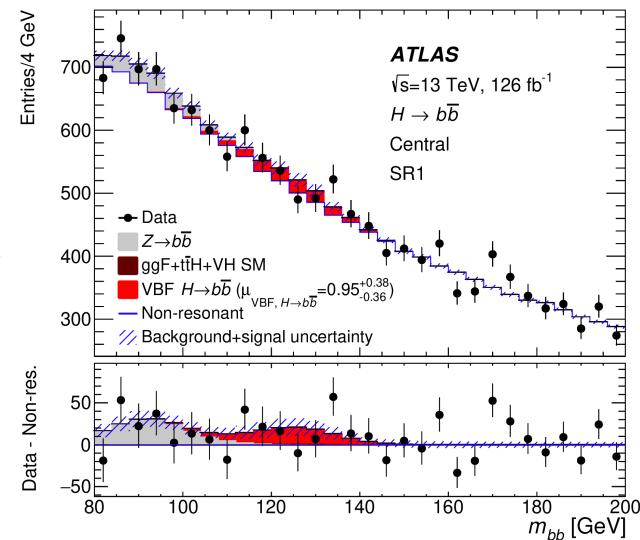
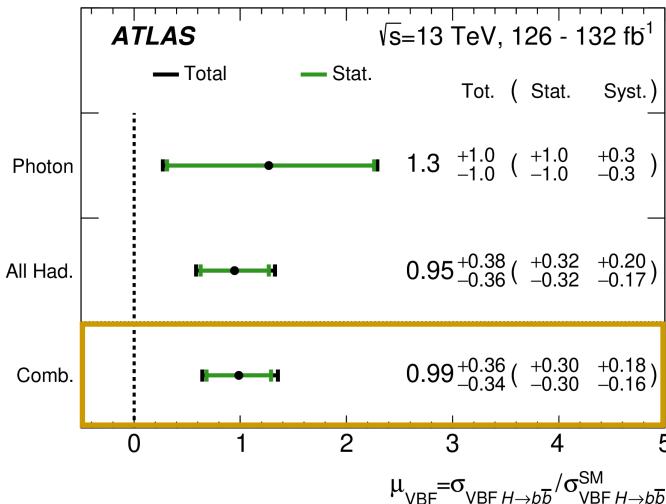
Result	μ_H	μ_Z	$\mu_{t\bar{t}}$
Expected	1.0 ± 3.2	1.00 ± 0.17	1.00 ± 0.07
Observed	0.8 ± 3.2	1.29 ± 0.22	0.80 ± 0.06



- **Cross-section measurement** performed in 4 STXS bins
 - **First cross-section measurement in high p_T^H region**
 $\sigma_H (p_T^H > 1 \text{ TeV}) = 2.3 \pm 3.9(\text{stat}) \pm 1.3(\text{syst}) \pm 0.5(\text{th.}) \text{ fb}$
 - 95% CL limits are set on the cross-sections

VBF, H \rightarrow b \bar{b} analysis

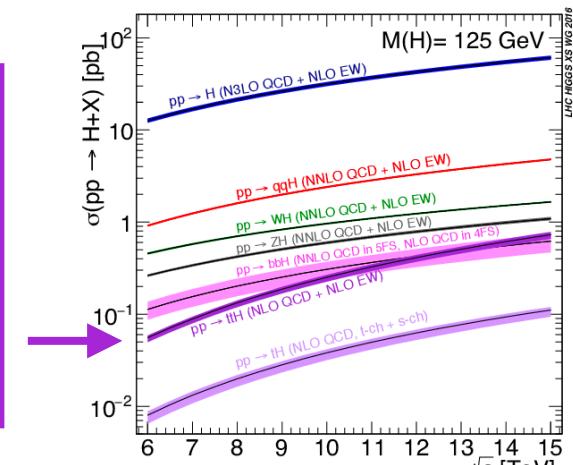
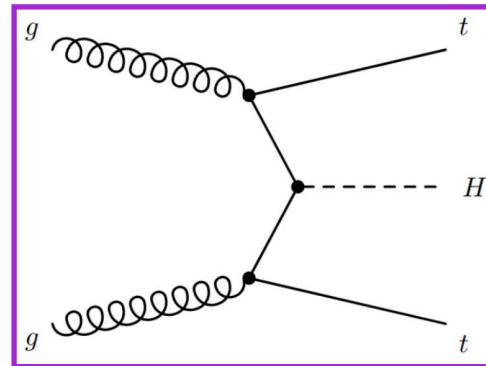
- VBF, H \rightarrow b \bar{b} all-had - [Eur. Phys. J. C 81 \(2021\) 537](#)
 - Select events with 2 central b-tagged and 2 VBF-like jets
- VBF, H \rightarrow b \bar{b} + photon - [JHEP 03 \(2021\) 268](#)
 - Similar to the inclusive analysis but with an additional photon
 - Multi-jet bkg is suppressed and VBF purity is enriched
- Main bkgs: QCD multi-jet and Z(b \bar{b})+jets
 - Z(b \bar{b})+jets constrained directly from data
- **Machine learning** (BDTs and ANNs) used to **distinguish signal from bkg** and to **define analysis categories**.



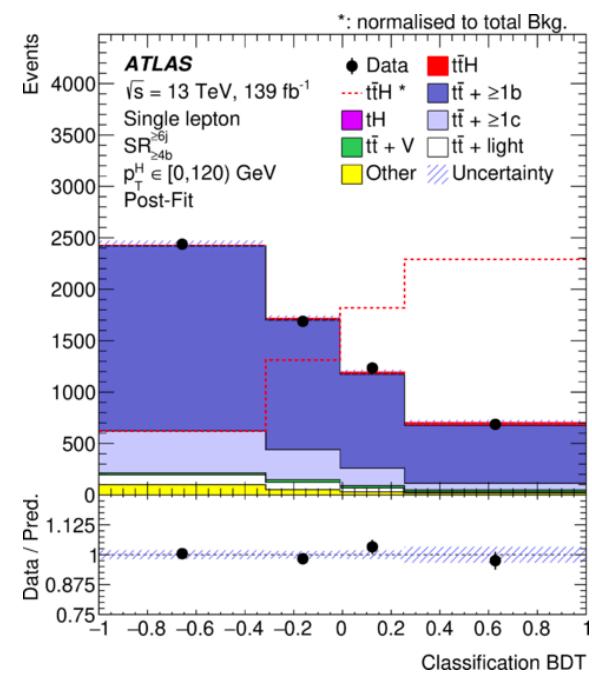
Obs. (exp) significance = 2.9 (2.9) σ

$t\bar{t}H(b\bar{b})$ analysis

- **Top-Yukawa coupling** can be probed directly with the $t\bar{t}H$ production
 - Strongest Yukawa coupling

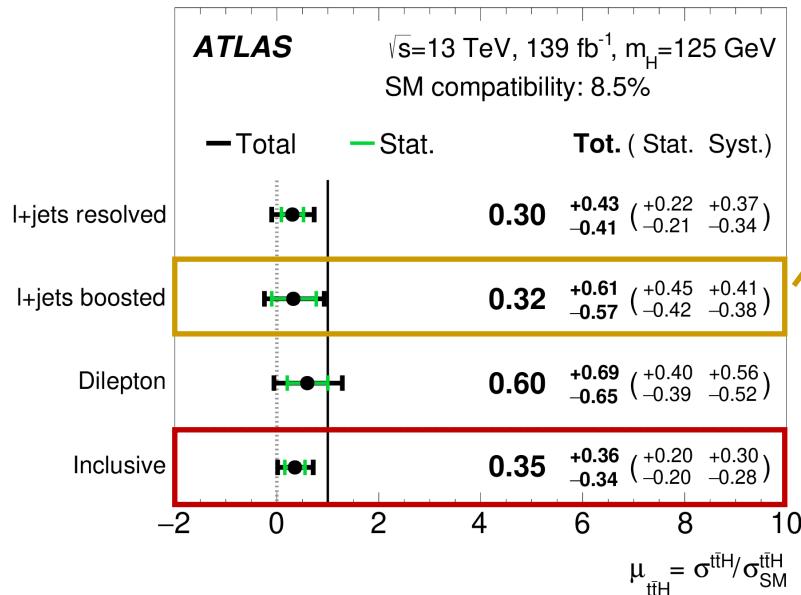


- Target events with **one** (single-lep) or **two** (dilepton) leptonically decaying tops
- Events classified according to the number of leptons*, number of jets and number of b-jets
- Machine learning techniques used to classify the events and distinguish $t\bar{t}H$ and bkg
- $t\bar{t} + \text{jets}$ is the **dominant bkg** → constrained using CRs



*lepton = electron or muon

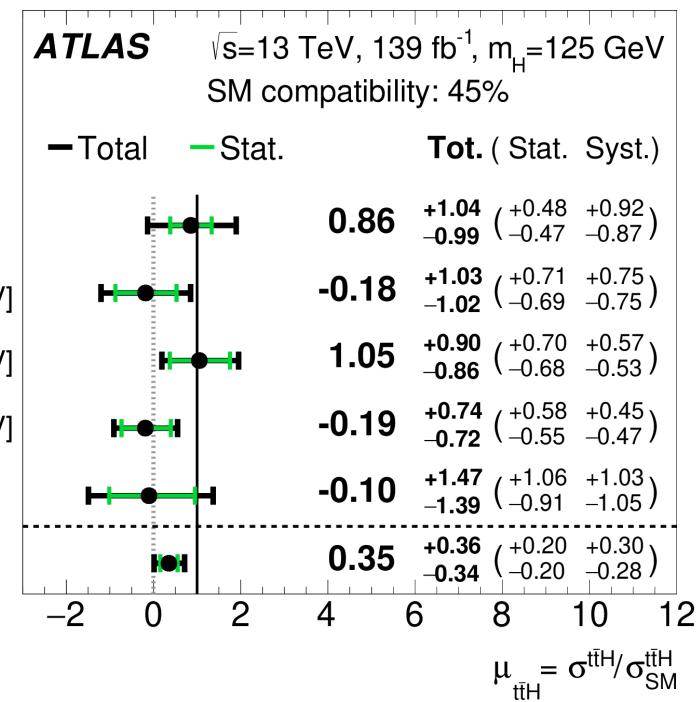
$t\bar{t}H(b\bar{b})$ analysis: results



- Cross-section measurement in **5 STXS bins**
 - STXS bins defined on **transverse momentum of the Higgs p_T^H**
- First $t\bar{t}H(b\bar{b})$ STXS cross-section measurements
- First cross-section measurement in $p_T^H > 300 \text{ GeV}$

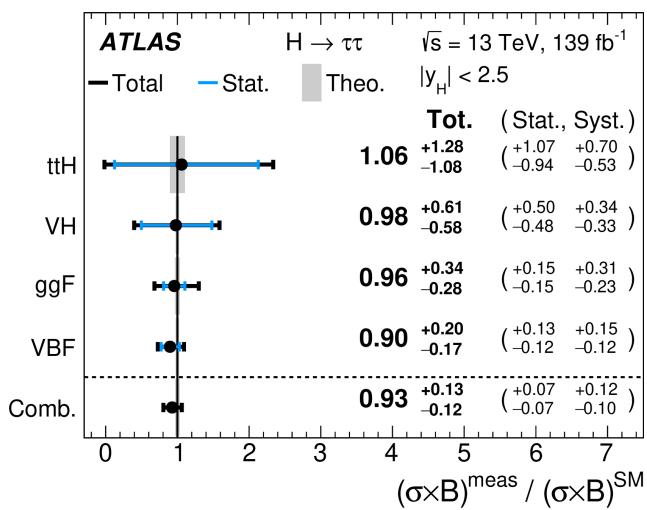
Boosted category in $p_T^H > 300 \text{ GeV}$ single-lep chan.

- Profile likelihood fit to extract μ_{ttH}
- Measurement **dominated by syst unc.**
 - $t\bar{t}$ modelling is the dominant contribution



$H \rightarrow \tau\tau$ analysis

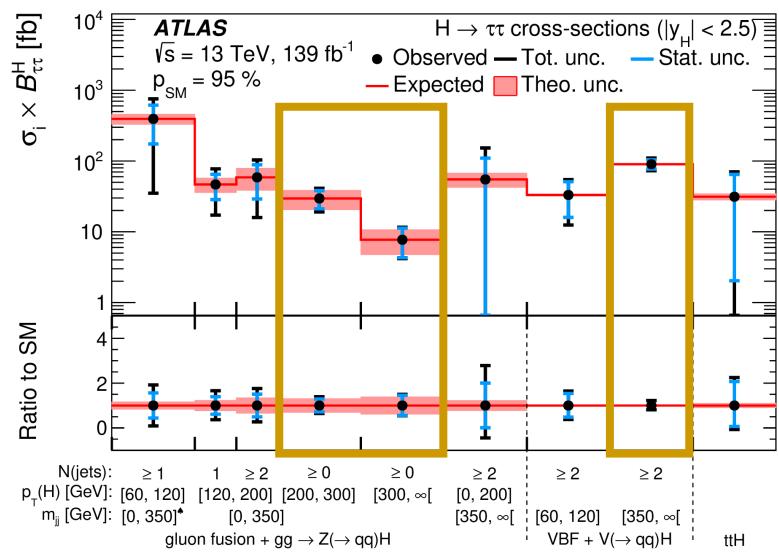
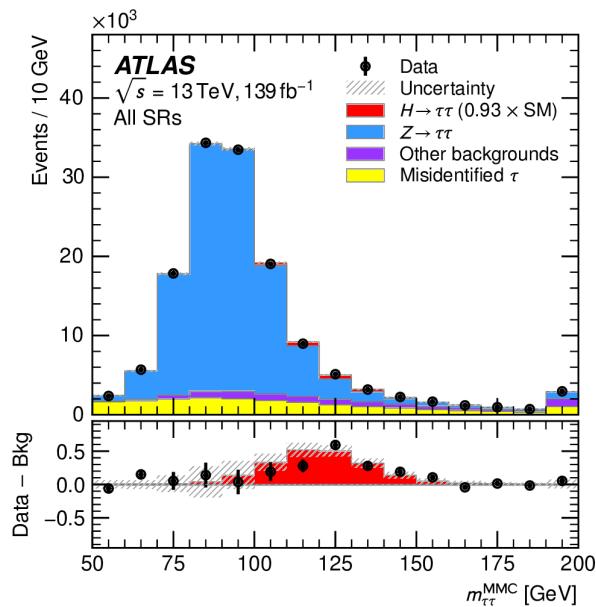
- Most sensitive probe of Higgs boson coupling to leptons
 - Second most copious fermionic decay ($\text{BR} \sim 6.3\%$)
- Analysis targets all dominant production modes
- Events classified by τ decay channels.
- **Binned maximum-likelihood fit to $m_{\tau\tau}$**



$\rightarrow 3.9\sigma$
 $\rightarrow 5.3\sigma$ **First VBF**
H $\rightarrow \tau\tau$ observation

- STXS measurement in 9 STXS bins:
 - Good agreement with SM prediction;
 - O(40%) accuracy in some **ggF and VBF bins**

$Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ is dominant irreducible bkg
 $\Rightarrow Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ CRs used to extract the normalisation



Conclusion

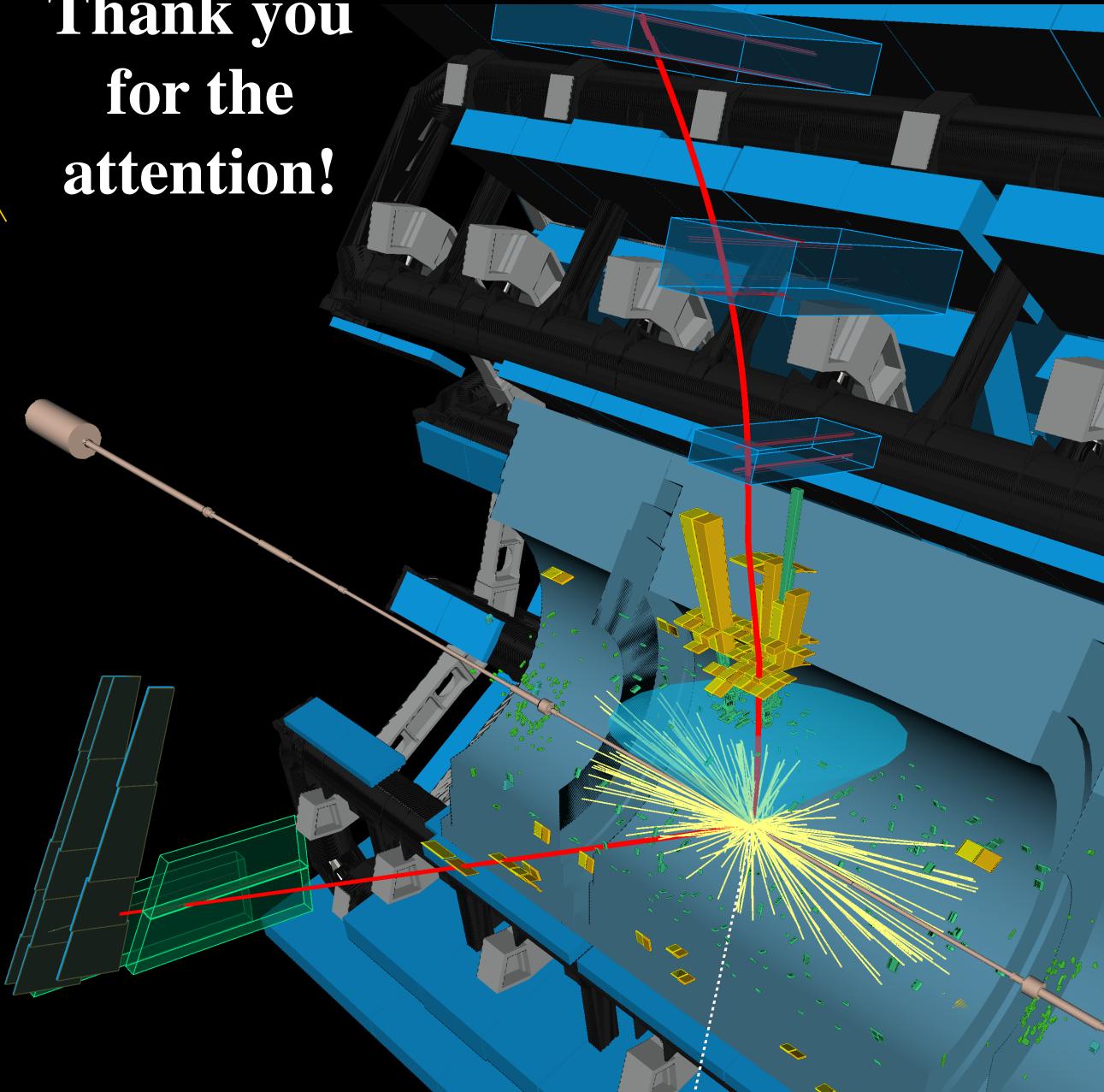
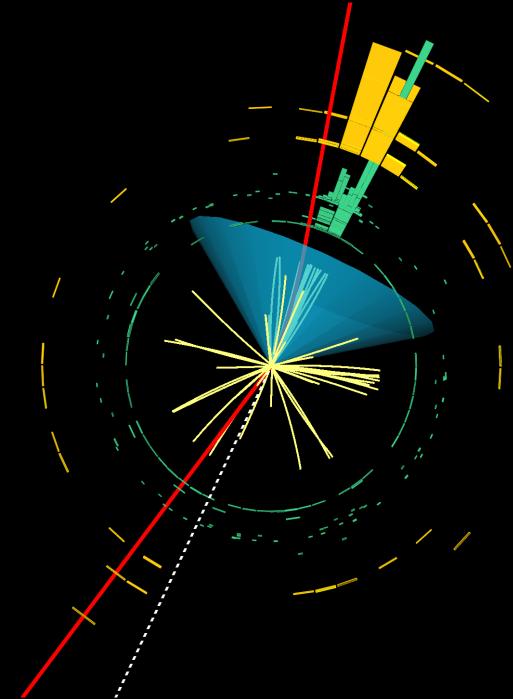
- Higgs decays into fermions extensively studied using Run 2 analyses
 - Higgs decay into **third generation fermions** offers a **unique opportunity** to study the **Yukawa coupling with fermions**
 - **Couplings to third generation fermions** are very **well established**
 - **Good agreement with the SM predictions**
- **Cross-section measurements** using the Simplified Template Cross-Section framework.
- **Run 3** will offer **exciting opportunity** to further study **fermion couplings** → **stay tuned!**



Thank you
for the
attention!



Run: 338349
Event: 616525246
2017-10-16 20:24:46 CEST

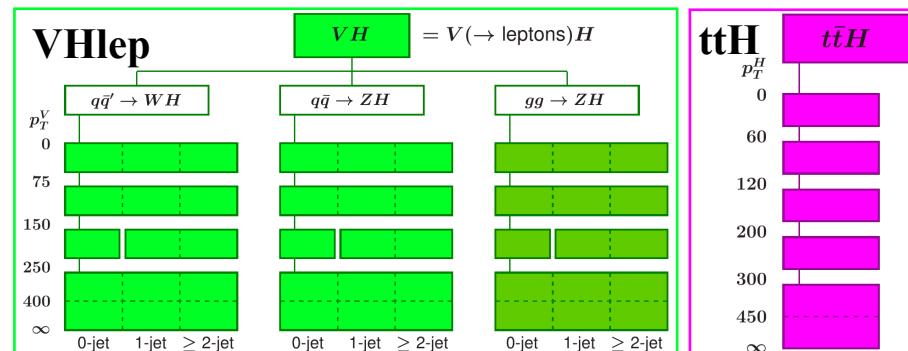
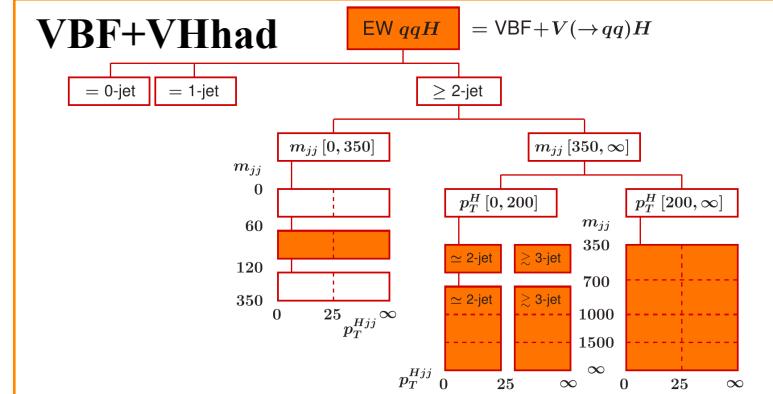
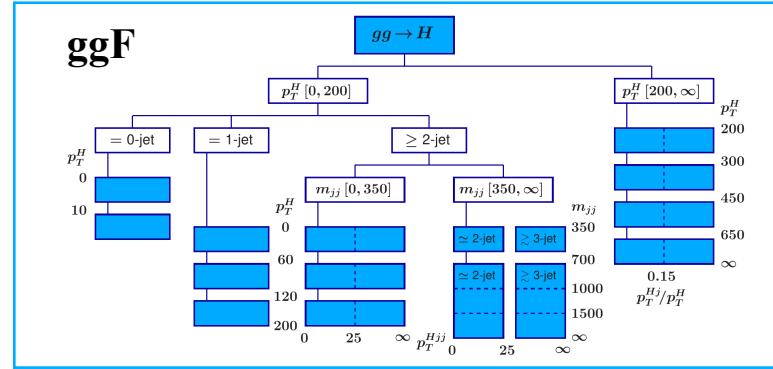


Back-up slides

STXS framework

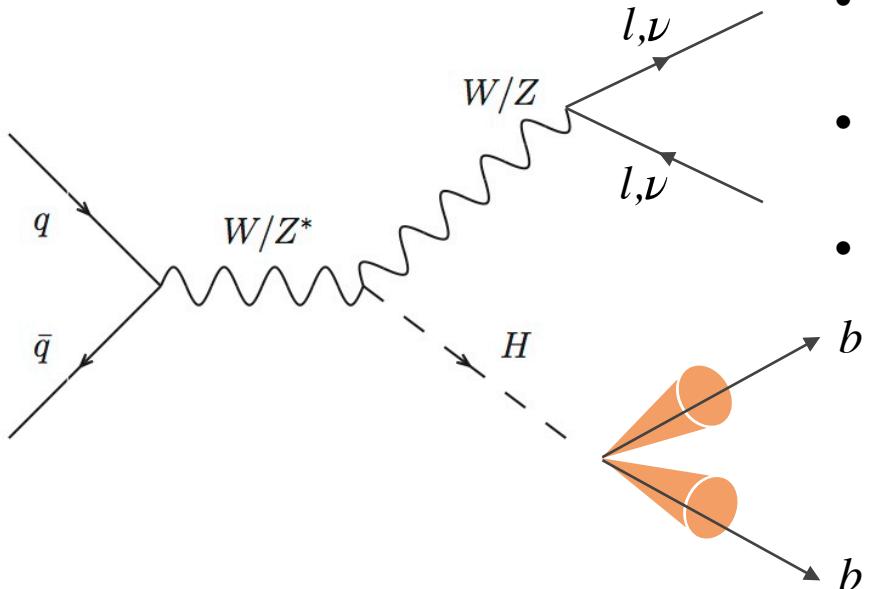
- Framework for subdividing Higgs Boson measurements into orthogonal regions - *STXS bins* [defined using generator level information]
 - $(\sigma \times B)$ measurement** for each bin
- STXS bins chosen such that they:
 - are **defined by Higgs production modes**;
 - reduce theory uncertainties
 - isolate regions potentially sensitive to BSM;
- STXS stage 1.2 Higgs boson signal split according to
 - production modes,
 - number of jets
 - p_T^H/p_T^V ;
 - invariant mass of the leading jets m_{jj} .
- Advantage:** easy to combine different analyses.

tH



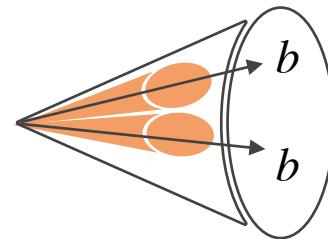
VH($b\bar{b}$) channel

Vector boson candidate reconstruction



- $Z \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$: Missing transverse momentum E_T^{miss}
↪ **0-lepton channel (0L)**
- $W \rightarrow l\nu$: 1 charged lepton (e, μ)
↪ **1-lepton channel (1L)**
- $Z \rightarrow l\bar{l}$: 2 charged leptons ($ee, \mu\mu$)
↪ **2-lepton channel (2L)**

Increase p_T^H
→



Higgs candidate reconstruction:

Resolved analysis

- Exactly **2 small-R jets**
($R=0.4$) **b -tagged** [70% efficiency for b -jets]

Boosted analysis

- **1 large-R jet ($R=1$)**
- **2 leading track jets b -tagged** [70% efficiency for b -jets]

EFT cross-section parametrization

- Parameterization of BSM effects using **effective Lagrangian with dimension-6 operators** in the Warsaw basis: $\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i c_i^{(6)} \cdot \mathcal{O}_i^{(6)} / \Lambda^2$
 - $c_i^{(6)}$ = Wilson coefficient
 - $\mathcal{O}_i^{(6)}$ = dimension-6 operator
 - Λ = BSM scale
- EFT cross-section parametrisation

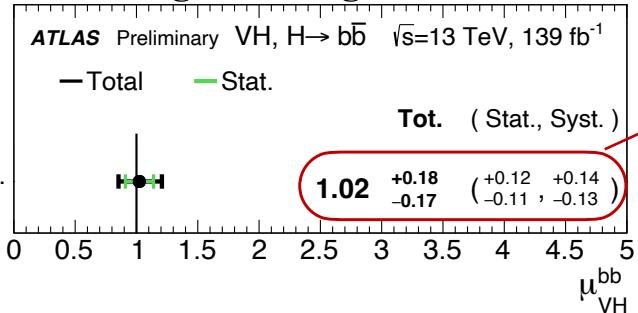
$$\sigma_{EFT} = \sigma_{SM} + \sigma_{int} + \sigma_{BSM}$$

$$\frac{\sigma_{EFT}}{\sigma_{SM}} = 1 + \sum_i A_i c_i + \sum_{ij} B_{ij} c_i c_j$$

Linear term Quadratic term

VH($b\bar{b}$) results

Resolved signal strength measurement

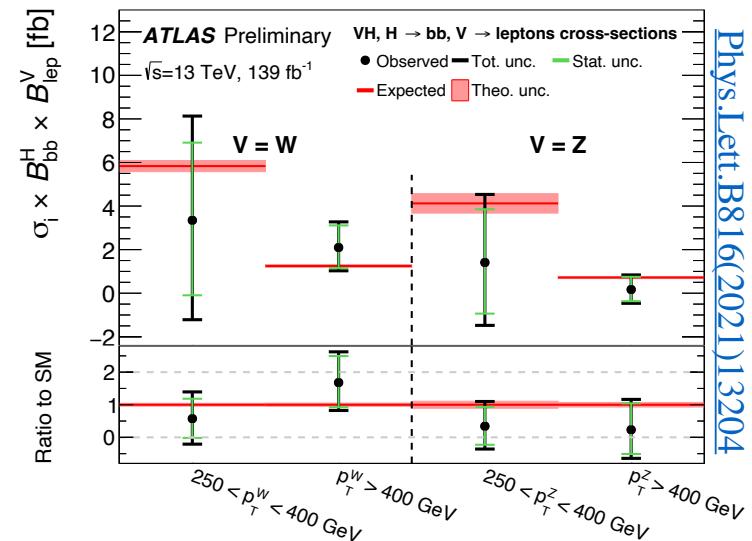


Good agreement
with SM prediction

Observed (expected) significance:

- VH: 6.7 (6.7) σ
- WH: 4.0 (4.1) $\sigma \rightarrow$ strong evidence of WH($b\bar{b}$) production
- ZH: 5.3 (5.1) $\sigma \rightarrow$ observation of ZH($b\bar{b}$) production

Boosted VH(bb) differential XS measurement

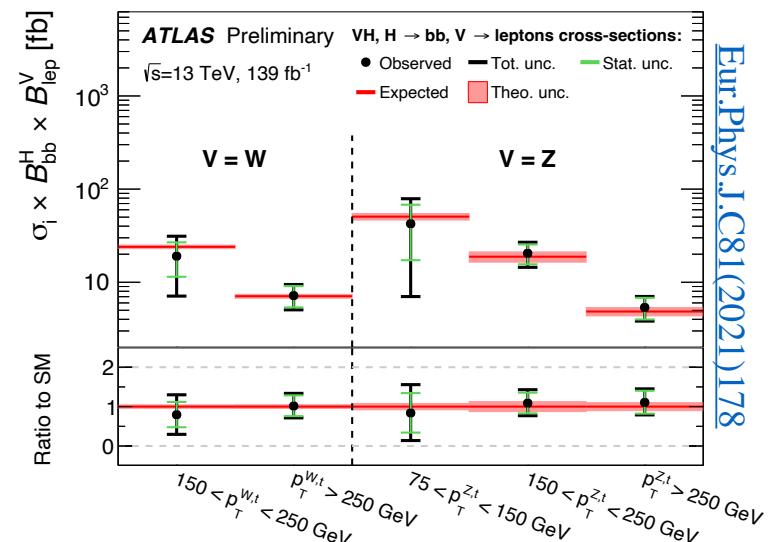


[Phys.Lett.B816\(2021\)13204](https://Phys.Lett.B816(2021)13204)
Simultaneous
extraction of the
VZ($b\bar{b}$) and VH($b\bar{b}$)
signal strengths:

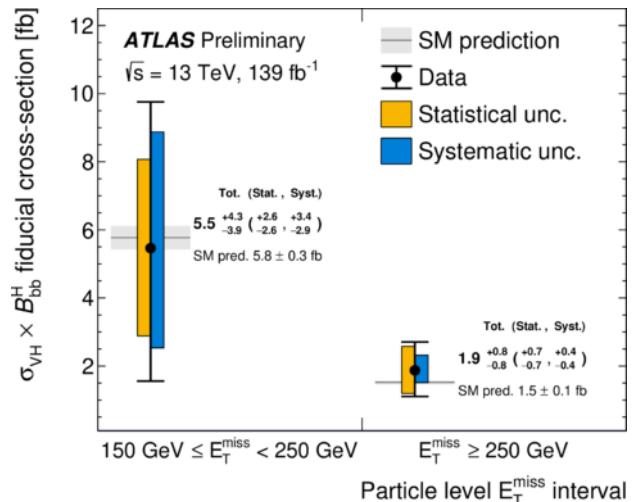
$$\mu_{VZ} = 0.91^{+0.29}_{-0.23}$$

$$\mu_{VH} = 0.72^{+0.39}_{-0.36}$$

Resolved VH(bb) differential XS measurement

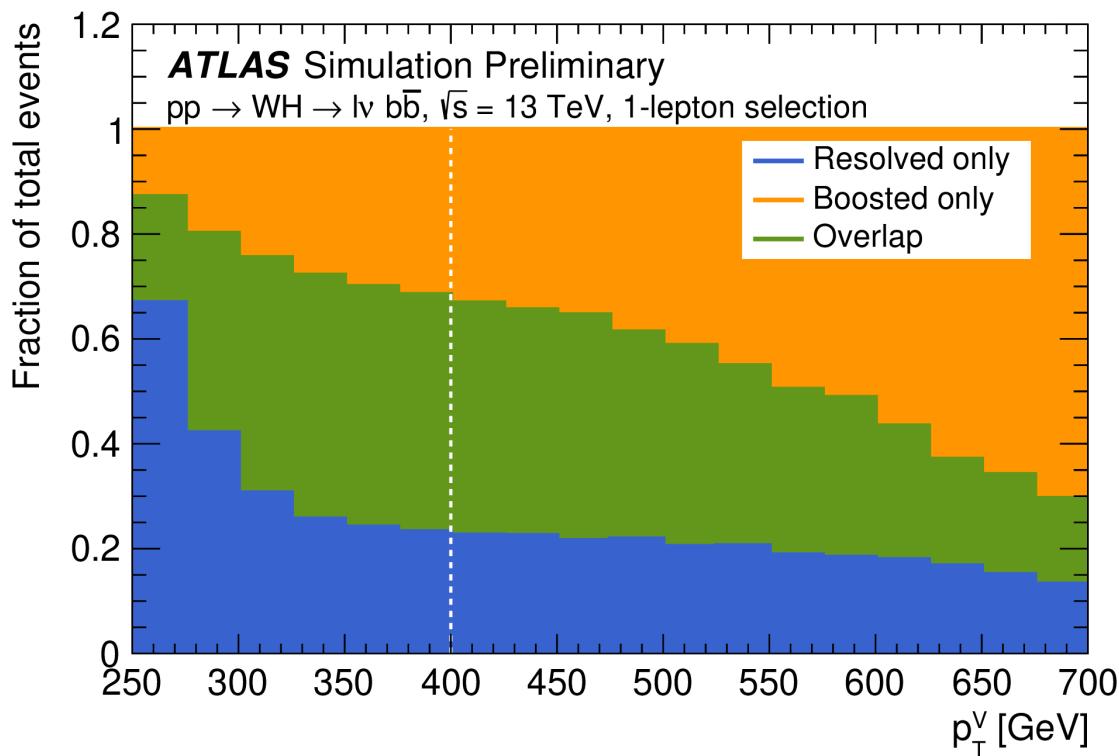


Resolved VH(bb) fiducial XS measurement



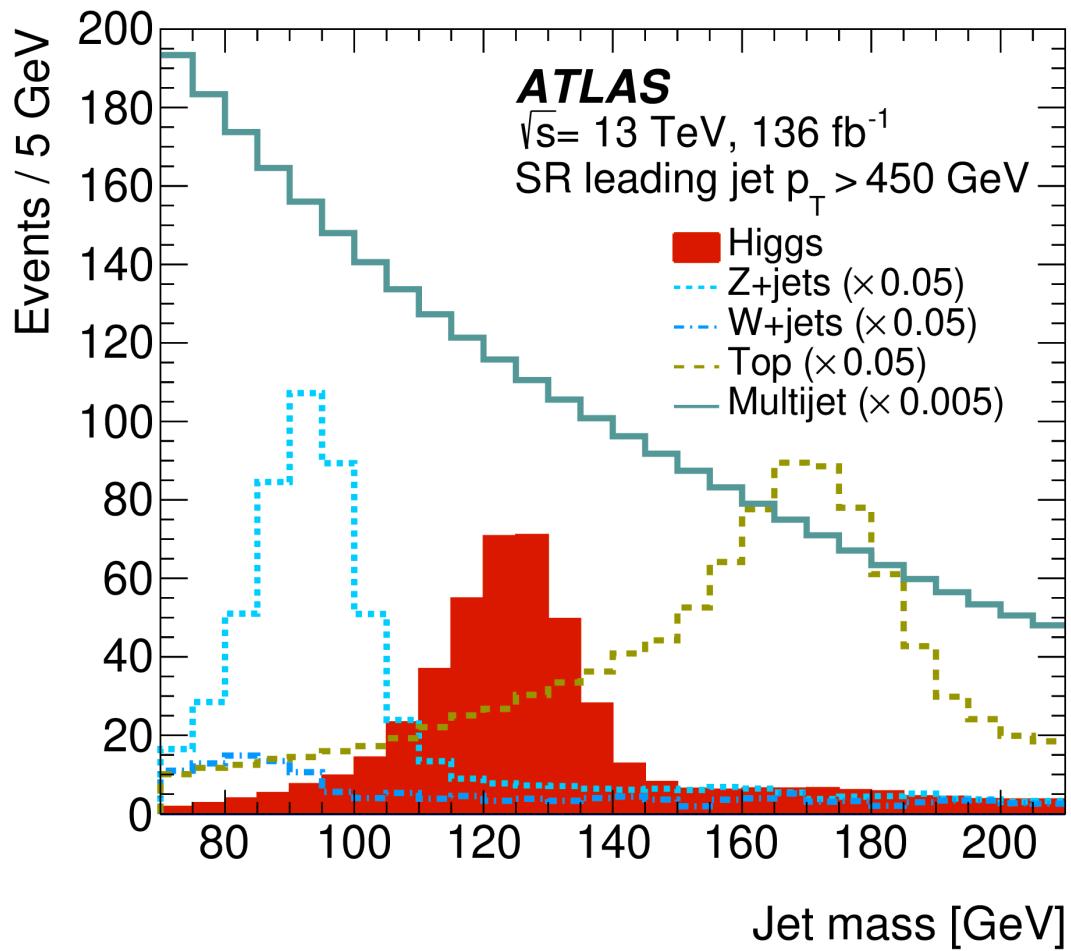
$VH, H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ combination

[ATLAS-CONF-2021-051](#)



- Significant **overlap** between the **$VH(b\bar{b})$ resolved** and **$VH(b\bar{b})$ boosted analyses**
- In the combination **drop resolved events with $p_T^V > 400$ GeV** and **use boosted only in $p_T^V > 400$ GeV**

All-had H \rightarrow b \bar{b} analysis: bkg contributions



Ttbar

- Modelled by Powheg+Pythia8
- Normalization constrained from CR_{t \bar{t}}

Single-top

- Modelled using Powheg+Pythia 8

Q/Z+jets

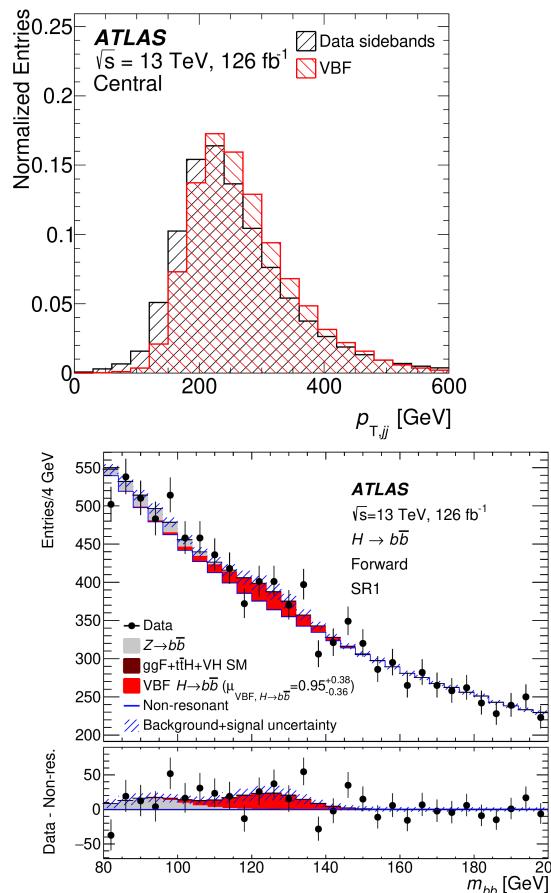
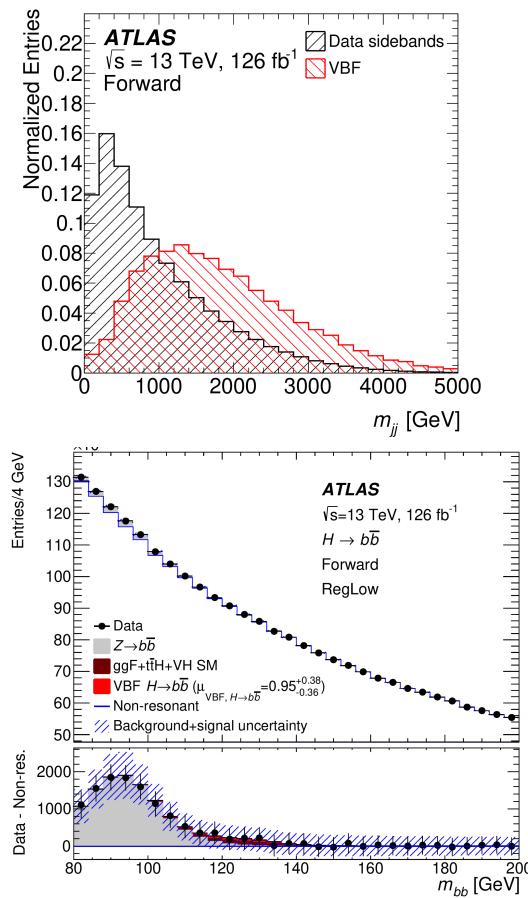
- Shape from Sherpa 2.2.8
- Fully floating during fit (standard candle)

QCD

- Fit with a smooth function

VBF, $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ analysis: event categorisation

- Adversarial Neural Network (ANN) for event categorization
 - Training performed between MC signal and data sidebands*
 - **Loss function** to penalise m_{bb} and score correlation
 - Each channel is divided into **5 regions**



Input variables:

- m_{jj}
- $p_{T,jj}$
- p_T^{balance}
- $(p_T^{j_1} - p_T^{j_2})/(p_T^{j_1} + p_T^{j_2})$
- $\Delta\eta(bb, jj)$
- $\Delta\phi(bb, jj)$
- $\tan^{-1}(\tan(\Delta\phi(bb)/2) / \tanh(\Delta\eta(bb)/2))$
- n_{jets}
- $\min(\Delta R(j_{1(2)}))$
- $N_{\text{trk}}^{j_{1(2)}}$

* $70 \text{ GeV} < m_{bb} < 100 \text{ GeV}$ and
 $140 \text{ GeV} < m_{bb} < 200 \text{ GeV}$

$t\bar{t}H(b\bar{b})$ analysis: analysis regions

Region	Dilepton				Single-lepton			
	$SR_{\geq 4b}^{\geq 4j}$	$CR_{3b \text{ hi}}^{\geq 4j}$	$CR_{3b \text{ lo}}^{\geq 4j}$	$CR_{3b \text{ hi}}^{3j}$	$SR_{\geq 4b}^{\geq 6j}$	$CR_{\geq 4b \text{ hi}}^{5j}$	$CR_{\geq 4b \text{ lo}}^{5j}$	SR_{boosted}
#leptons	$= 2$				$= 1$			
#jets	≥ 4		$= 3$		≥ 6	$= 5$	≥ 4	
@85%	–				≥ 4			
@77%	–				–		$\geq 2^\dagger$	
# b -tag	≥ 4	$= 3$				≥ 4	–	
@70%	≥ 4	$= 3$				≥ 4	–	
@60%	–	$= 3$	< 3	$= 3$	–	≥ 4	< 4	–
#boosted cand.	–				0		≥ 1	
Fit input	BDT	Yield		BDT/Yield	$\Delta R_{bb}^{\text{avg}}$	BDT		

H → $\tau\tau$ analysis: STXS uncertainty

STXS bin				SM prediction			Result		Stat. unc.	Syst. unc. [fb]		
Process	m_{jj} [GeV]	$p_T(H)$ [GeV]	N _{jets}	[fb]			[fb]	[fb]	Th. sig.	Th. bkg.	Exp.	
$H \rightarrow Z(\rightarrow qq)H$	[0, 350] [♦]	[60, 120]	≥ 1	394	± 60	189	± 390	± 220	± 59	± 152	± 240	
		[120, 200]	= 1	47	± 11	17	± 30	± 18	± 4	± 4	± 16	
	ggF + gg →	[0, 350]	[120, 200]	≥ 2	59	± 20	33	± 39	± 27	± 10	± 10	± 23
		[200, 300]	≥ 0	30	± 9	30.3	± 11.0	± 8.6	± 2.9	± 0.8	± 5.6	
		[300, ∞[	≥ 0	7.7	± 3.0	9.35	± 3.80	± 3.50	± 1.00	± 0.22	± 1.20
ggF	[350, ∞[	[0, 200]	≥ 2	55	± 13	143	± 110	± 54	± 58	± 6	± 71
EW	[60, 120]			≥ 2	33.1	± 1.1	32	± 20	± 17	± 4	± 2	± 6
	[350, ∞[≥ 2	90.1	± 2.2	71	± 17	± 13	± 10	± 2	± 4
$t\bar{t}H$				31.3	± 3.2	34	± 37	± 32	± 7	± 10	± 8	