



Recent developments in Higgs searches



Riunione nazionale CMS Italia, 7-9 Ottobre 2024, Roma

Angela Zaza on behalf of the Higgs group of CMS Italia

University of Bari & INFN

► Run-2 combinations

- Legacy HH
- Legacy H
- Full combination of differential cross sections

► $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

- mass measurement in Full Run-2 Legacy
- $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + c$ and Higgs boson coupling to charm quarks

Run-3 status

Run-2 Highlights

- Standard candles: $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$
- Trigger developments:
 - New taggers
 - VBF and HH parking
- Higgs coupling with 2nd generation quarks:
 - $VH \rightarrow cc$ merged and resolved
 - $VBF H \rightarrow cc$
- Double Higgs: $HH \rightarrow 4b$

Run-2 combinations

- Legacy H with all channels and SMEFT interpretations

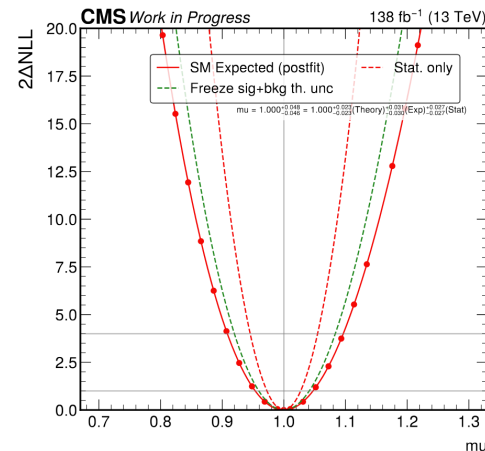
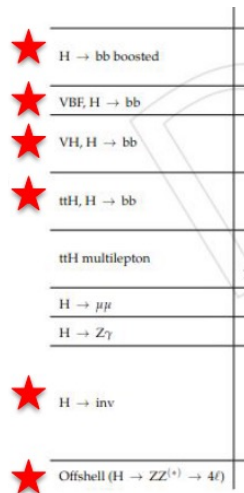
[HIG-21-018](#)

$$\pm 0.023(\text{theory})^{+0.031}_{-0.030}(\text{expt.}) \pm 0.027(\text{stat.})$$

Nature result ([HIG-22-001](#)):

$$\mu = 0.993^{+0.036}_{-0.034}(\text{theory})^{+0.033}_{-0.032}(\text{expt})^{+0.028}_{-0.028}(\text{stat})$$

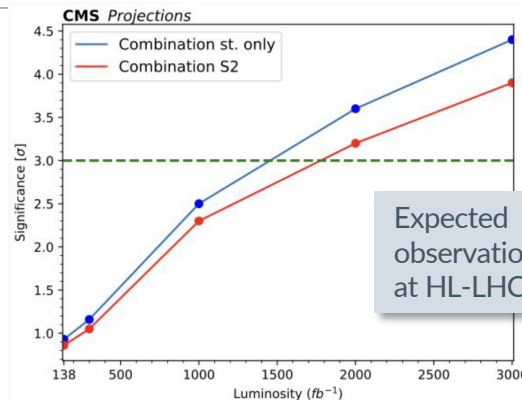
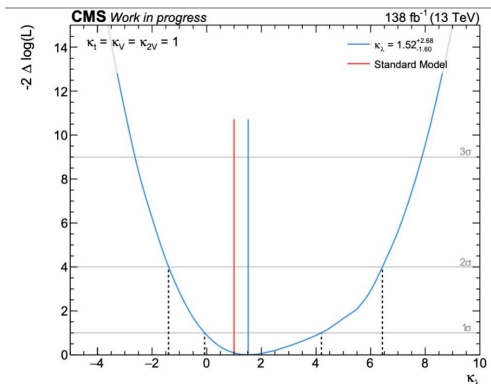
★ = new since
Nature combination



- Legacy HH with all channels

[HIG-20-011](#)

[preapproval talk June24](#)



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Run-2 combinations

- Full Run-2 combination of fiducial differential cross section ($H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, H \rightarrow ZZ, H \rightarrow WW, H \rightarrow \tau\tau$)

[CMS-PAS-HIG-23-013](#)

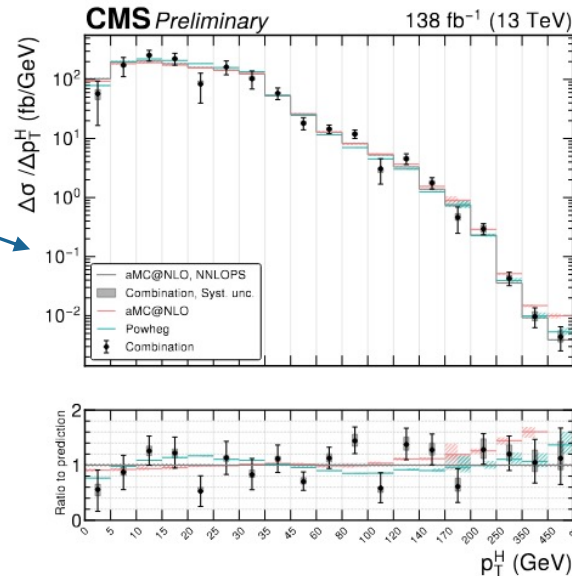
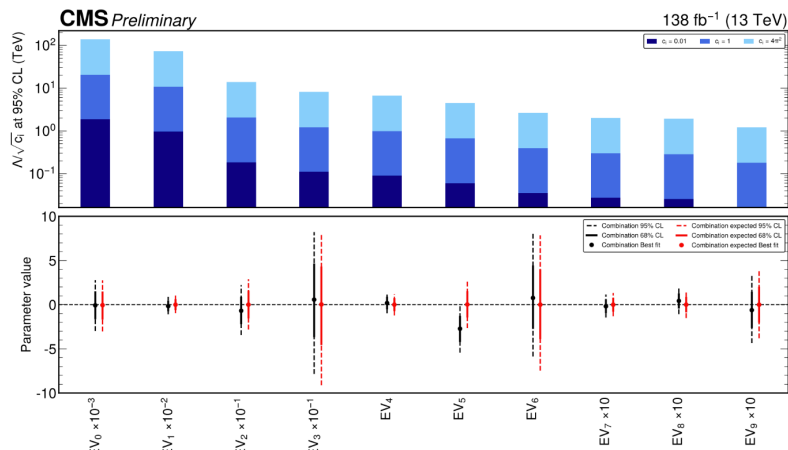
no deviations from SM observed

- SMEFT interpretation

Wilson coefficients

$$\mathcal{L}_{SMEFT} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \sum_i \frac{c_i}{\Lambda^2} O_i^{(6)}$$

$\rightarrow$ SMEFT dim-6 operators
 $\rightarrow$ energy scale for new physics



- Constrains on linear combinations of EFT coefficients $\rightarrow$ in agreement with SM expectations
- Energy scale of the new physics they can constrain

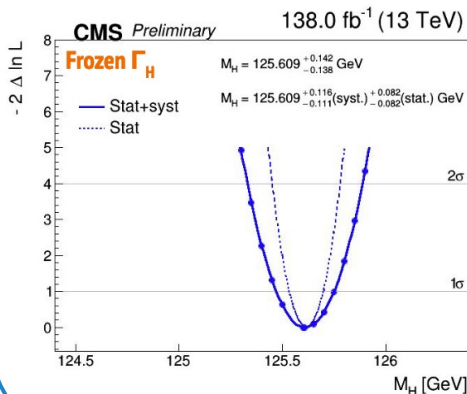
H → γγ measurements

Higgs mass

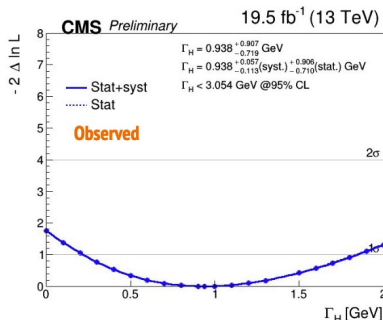
- ▷ Ultra Legacy full Run2
- ▷ [HIG-24-007](#)
- ▷ [Unblinding](#)

**NEW
Unblinding**

$$M(H) = 125.609 \pm 0.14 [0.08 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.12 (\text{sys})] \text{ GeV}$$



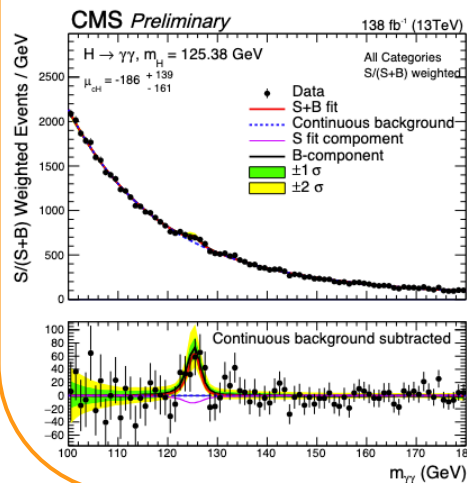
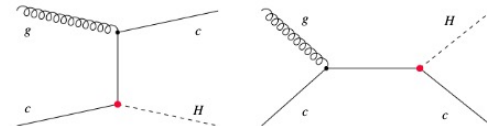
Under investigation
 2016_preVPF → $\Gamma_H = 0.94^{+0.91}_{-0.72}$



H → γγ + c

[CMS-HIG-PAS-23-010](#)

- ▷ Full Run-2 analysis
- ▷ Probe the Higgs boson coupling with charm quarks

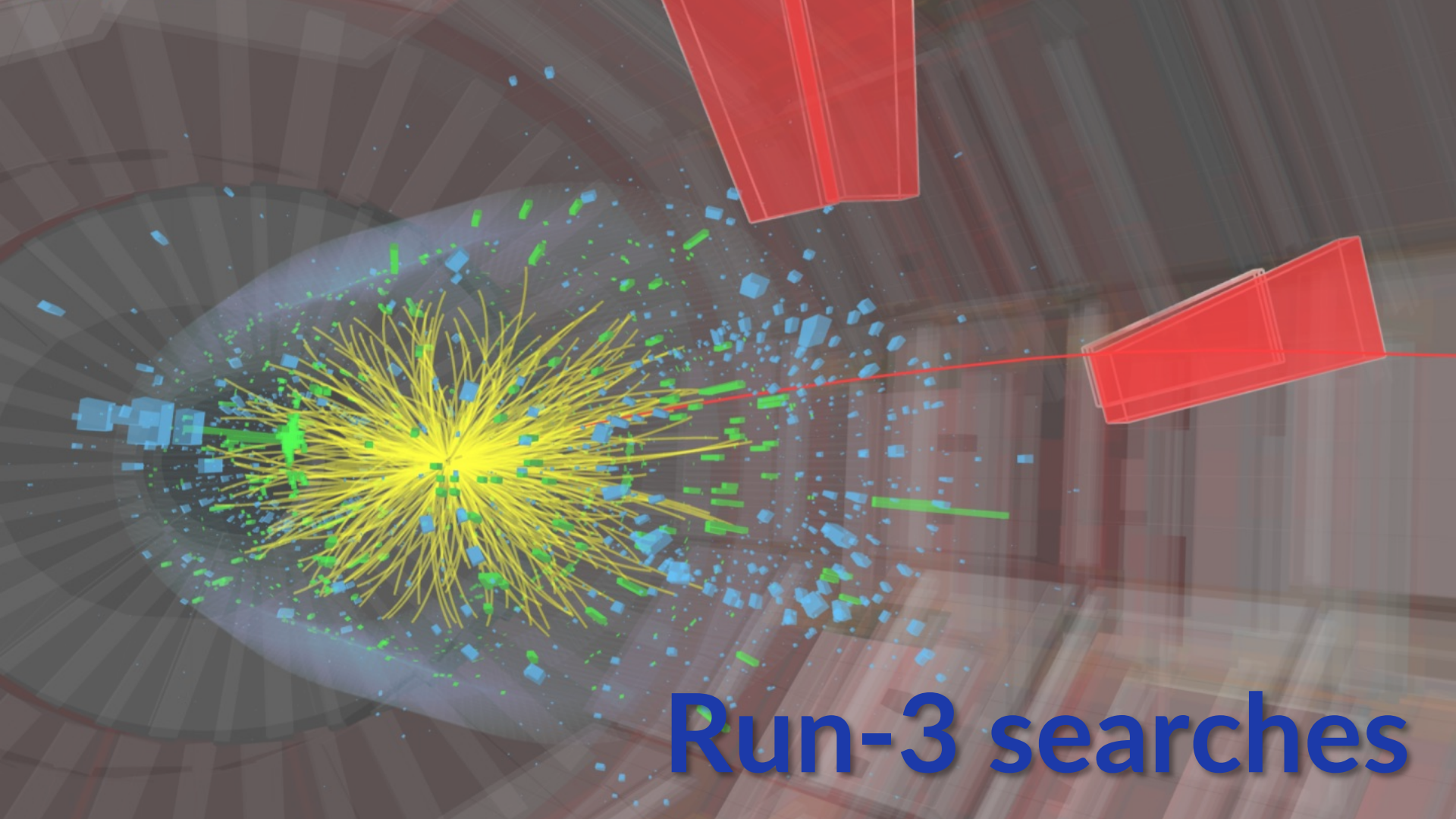


▷ UL on the signal strength
 @ 95% CL:

$$\mu_{H\gamma\gamma c} < 243(355)$$

▷ UL on the coupling modifier
 @ 95% CL:

$$|k_c| < 38.1 (72.5)$$



Run-3 searches

Higgs standard candles

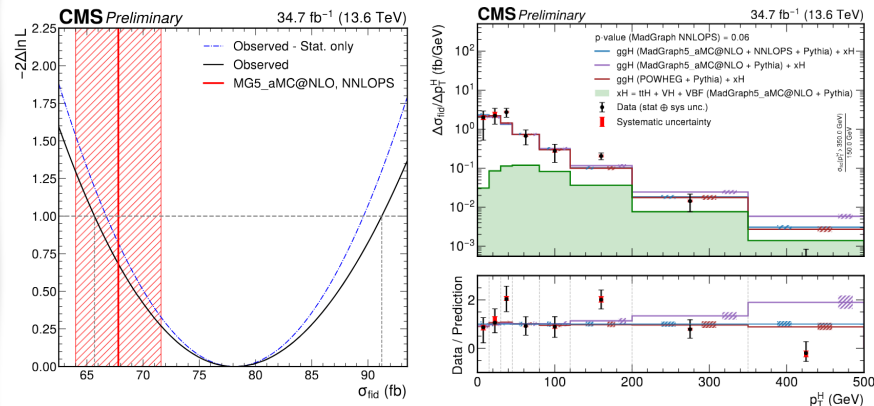
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$



[CMS-PAS-HIG-23-014](#)

- ▷ Inclusive and differential cross section measurement
- ▷ 2022 data (34.7 fb⁻¹)
- ▷ Inclusive cross section in the fiducial phase space

$$\sigma_{fid} = 78 \pm 11 (stat) {}^{+6}_{-5} (sys) fb^{-1}$$



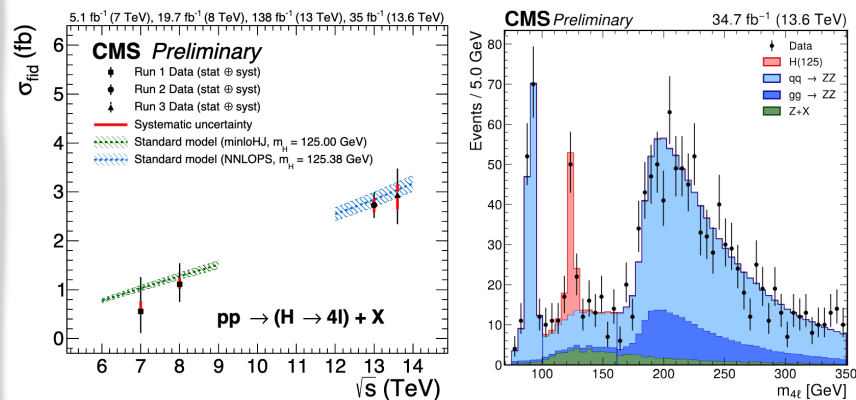
$H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$



[CMS-PAS-HIG-24-013](#)

- ▷ Inclusive and differential cross section measurement
- ▷ 2022 data (34.7 fb⁻¹)
- ▷ Inclusive cross section in the fiducial phase space

$$\sigma_{fid} = 2.94 {}^{+0.53}_{-0.49} (stat) {}^{+0.29}_{-0.22} (sys) fb^{-1}$$



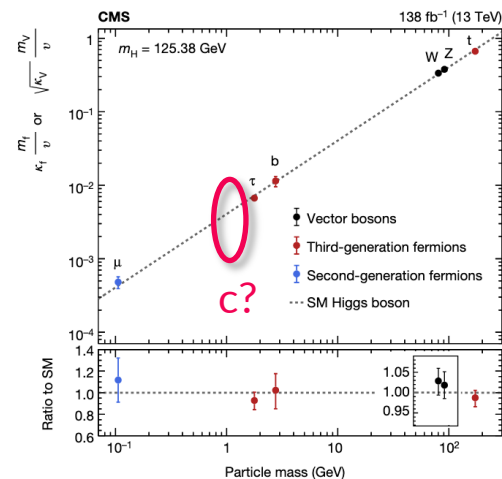
Run-3 Higgs physics program

Highest priority goals in Higgs searches: **Expected UL**

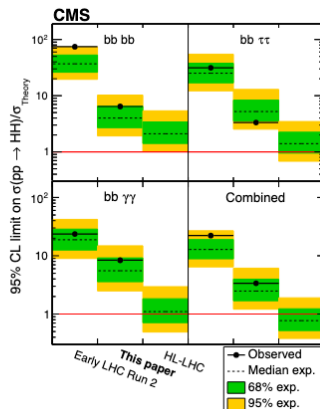
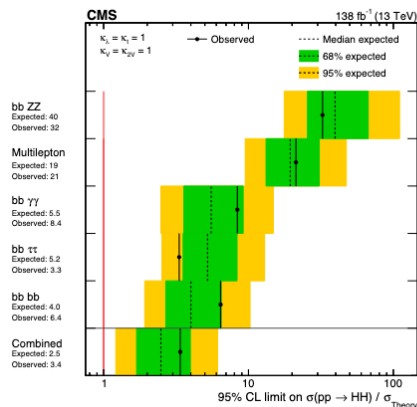
▷ Higgs **coupling to charm quarks**



	VHcc boosted	VHcc resolved	ttHcc (prelim.)	VBFHcc (prelim.)	ggF Hcc
Run2 results	8.8×SM	19.0×SM	7.8×SM	-	38×SM
Run2 + Run3 (500 fb ⁻¹)	4.7×SM	10×SM	4.1×SM	7.6×SM	20×SM



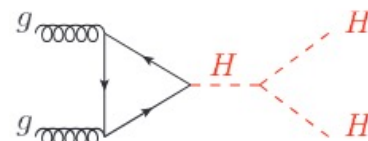
▷ Higgs **self coupling**



$$\text{Higgs potential: } V = V_0 + \frac{1}{2} m_H^2 H^2 + \lambda_3 v H^3 + \frac{1}{4} \lambda_4 H^4$$

(Run-2) Observed limit on k_λ :

$$-1.2 < k_\lambda < 6.5$$



Trigger developments (1/2)



FLAVOUR TAGGING

- DeepJet and ParticleNet trained with HLT features
→ **large gain** in performance
- Deployed online new triggers based on **ParticleNet** for

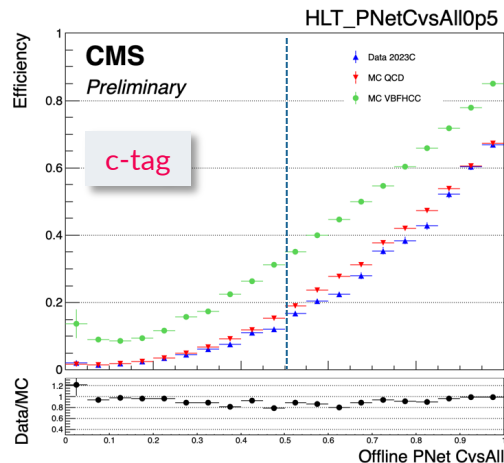
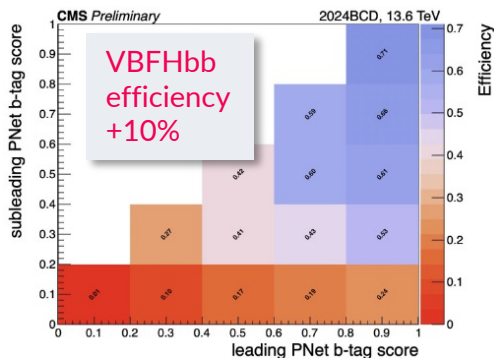
[CMS DP-2022/030](#)

[CMS DP-2023/021](#)

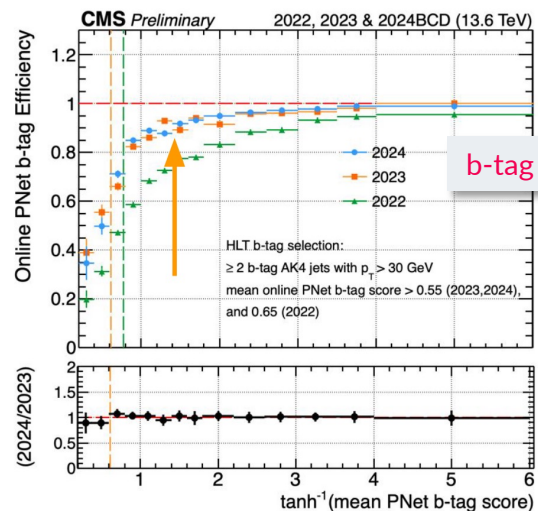
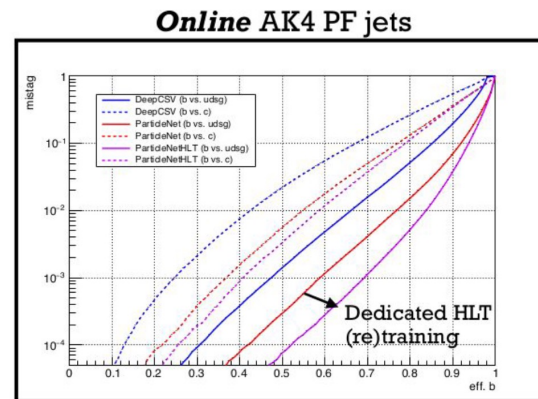
- $HH \rightarrow 4b$ and $HH \rightarrow bb\tau_h\tau_h$
- Boosted $H \rightarrow bb$ and $H \rightarrow \tau_h\tau_h$
- $VBF H \rightarrow cc$ (first c-tagging online)

Data-parking

- All paths with b/c-tagging migrated to ParticleNet (2024)



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[CMS DP-2023/089](#)

Trigger developments (2/2)

PARKING STRATEGY

▷ HH parking (330 Hz)

▷ 4j+2b

modified in 2024 to become more inclusive

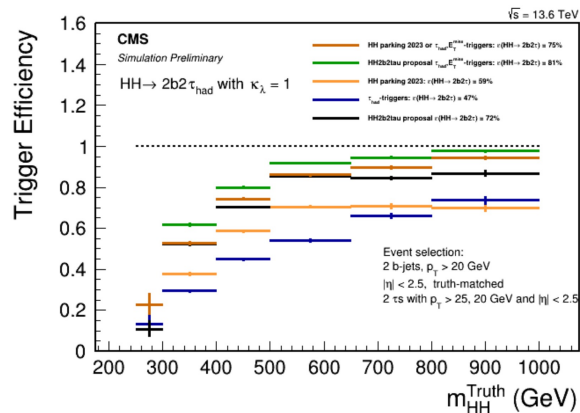
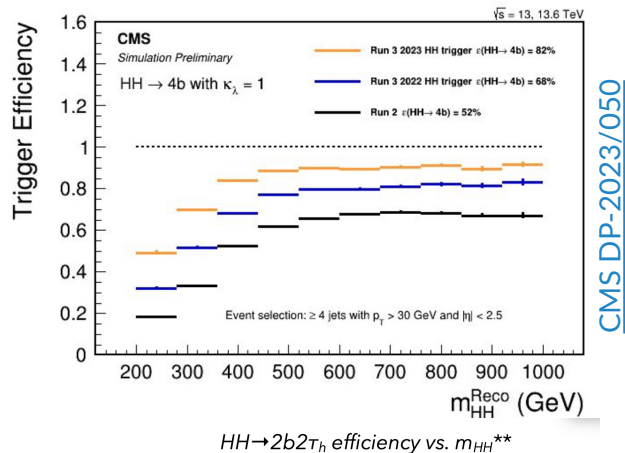
2023: HLT_PFHT280_QuadPFJet30_PNet2BTagMean0p55

2024: HLT_PFHT250_QuadPFJet25_PNet2BTagMean0p55

▷ 4jet+1b+1 τ (new 2024)

▷ VBF parking (1 kHz)

- ▷ Inclusive triggers with tight requirements on the VBF jets
- ▷ Specific triggers
 - VBF + 1 loose central object
 - Higgs specific VBF triggers (VBFHcc)

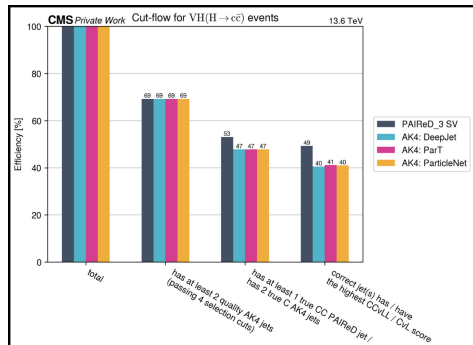


Search for charm decays

Resolved $VH \rightarrow cc$

▷ new strategy for resolved analyses: **PAIRed**

- ▷ New approach to reconstruct decays of heavy particles at a large
- ▷ Define an ellipse in the $\eta - \phi$ plane around the two AK4 jets
- ▷ Exploit correlation between the hadronization products of the two c-quarks



★ [Higgs/Charm workshop in 2024](#)

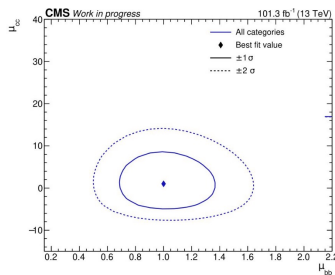
$VBF H \rightarrow cc$



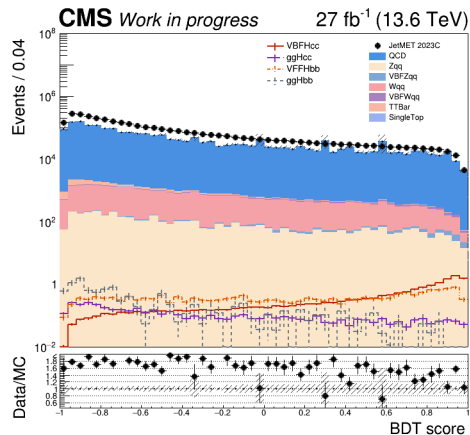
- ▷ New trigger with ParticleNet c-tagging
- ▷ Signal/bkg discrimination with BDT based on **ParticleNet** CvsL and CvsB scores of the two c-jets and QvsG scores of the VBF jets
- ▷ Preliminary expected upper limit on the signal strength:

Boosted $VH \rightarrow bb/cc$

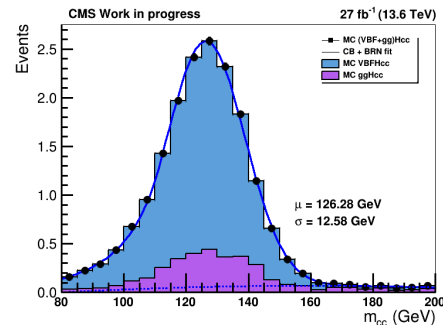
- ▷ Simultaneous measurement of $H \rightarrow bb$ and $H \rightarrow cc$
- ▷ H candidate reconstructed as a AK15 jet tagged with **ParT**
- ▷ Two cc and two bb orthogonal regions defined



Better sensitivity than ATLAS on μ_{cc}



$$\mu_{VBFHcc} < 30 \text{ @ } 95\% \text{ CL}$$



Search for double Higgs: $HH \rightarrow 4b$



HIG-24-010

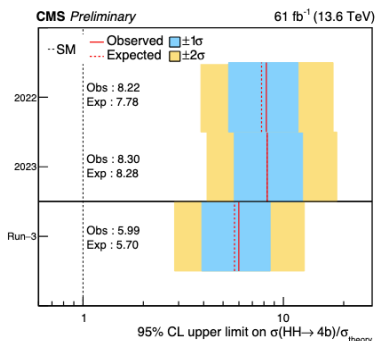
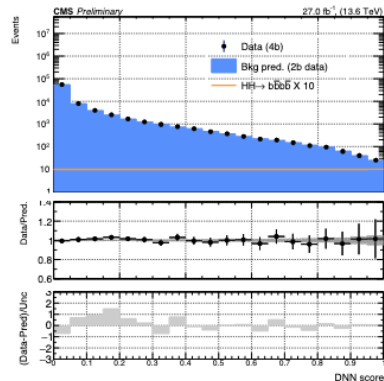
[Preapproval talk](#)

Resolved

- ▷ **4j2b trigger** with ParticleNet designed for this analysis
- ▷ 4 b-jets tagged with ParticleNet
- ▷ DNN for signal/bkg separation
- ▷ Expected upper Limit on the signal strength:

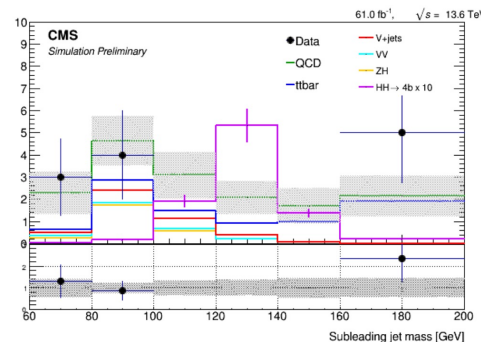
$$\mu_{HH4b} < 5.70$$

25-30% more sensitive than
Full Run-2
2 times better scaled to Full
Run-2 lumi



Boosted

- ▷ **Boosted Hbb trigger** with ParticleNet designed for this analysis
- ▷ 2 AK8 jets tagged with ParticleNet
- ▷ DNN multiclass for signal vs QCD and ttbar discrimination
- ▷ Simultaneous mass fit across 2022 (35 fb⁻¹) and 2023 (27 fb⁻¹)



- ▷ Expected upper Limit on the signal strength:

$$\mu_{HH4b} < 7.5$$

Conclusions

Run-2

- ▷ Great effort ongoing for Run-2 HH and H Legacy combinations
- ▷ Full Run-2 combination of fiducial differential cross section → No deviations from SM observed
- ▷ Ongoing Full Run-2 mass measurement in $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and recent publication $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + c$

Run-3

- ▷ Standard candles: $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$
 - ▷ Trigger developments: new **taggers** and **data-parking**
 - ▷ Great effort ongoing in $H \rightarrow cc$ searches: **VH** and **VBF** analyses
 - ▷ Great effort ongoing in $HH \rightarrow 4b$ resolved and boosted searches
- New triggers, taggers, analysis techniques
Better sensitivity than Run-2 expected

Thank you for listening!

angela.zaza@cern.ch

► Run-2 combinations

- Legacy HH
- Legacy H
- Full combination of differential cross sections

► $VH \rightarrow bb$ differential cross section

► $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

- mass measurement in Full Run-2 Legacy
- $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + c$ and Higgs boson coupling to charm quarks

Run-3 status

Run-2 Highlights

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Run-2

- ▷ Great effort ongoing for Run-2 HH and H Legacy combinations
 - ▷ Full Run-2 combination of fiducial differential cross section
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Run-3

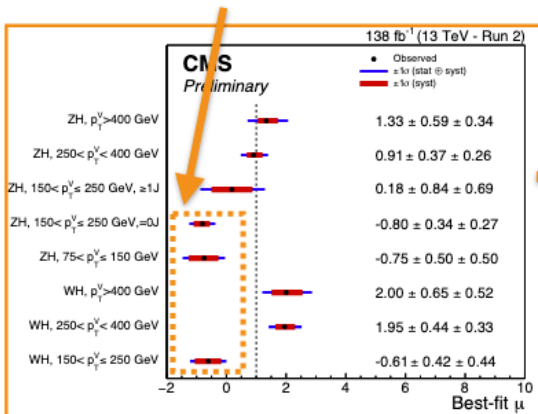
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Better sensitivity than Run-2 expected

VH(bb) differential cross section



CMS Italia 2023

- Deviation $> 3\sigma$ from SM prediction

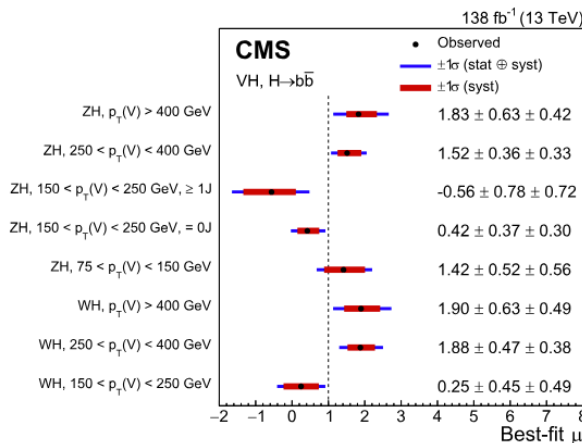


changes:

- Decorrelation of Vb and Vbb processes
- Removal of a soft activity counter with 5 GeV threshold
- Correction of additional jet counter with 30 GeV threshold

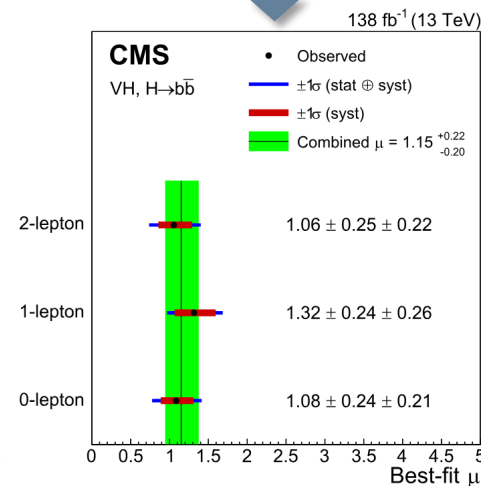
PhysRevD.109.092011

- STXS template
- Full Run-2 data
- Inclusive signal strength
 $\mu = 1.15^{+0.22}_{-0.20} \rightarrow Z = 6.3 (5.6) \sigma$



2024

Each channel overall compatible with the SM



► Run-2 combinations

- Legacy HH
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► $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

- mass measurement in Full Run-2 Legacy
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[HIG-21-018](#)

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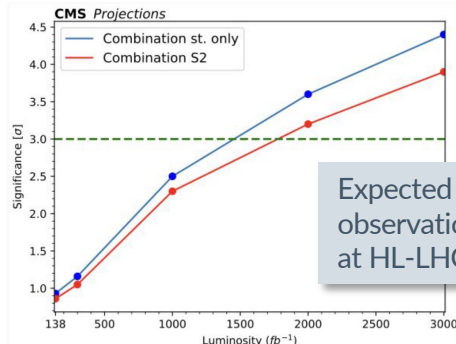
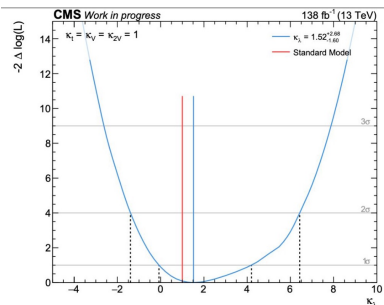
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Legacy HH with all channels
[HIG-20-011](#)
preapproval talk June24

- Legacy HH with all channels

[HIG-20-011](#)

preapproval talk June24

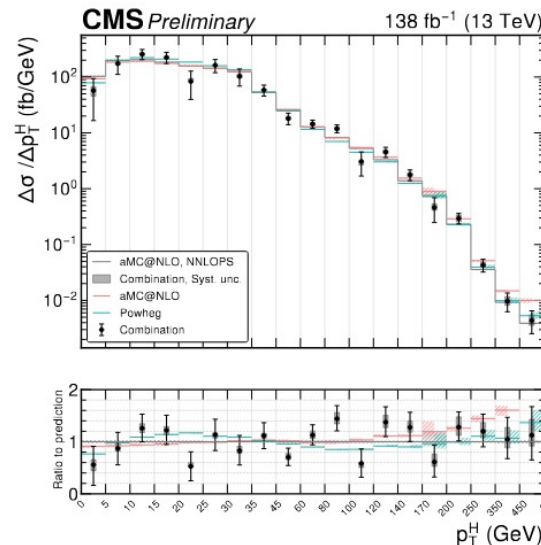


Expected
observation
at HL-LHC

- Full Run-2 combination of fiducial differential cross section ($H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, H \rightarrow ZZ, H \rightarrow WW, H \rightarrow \tau\tau$)

[CMS-PAS-HIG-23-013](#)

no deviations from SM observed



Higgs standard candles Run-2



$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

[CMS-PAS-HIG-23-014](#)

- ▷ Inclusive and differential cross section measurement
- ▷ 2022 data (34.7 fb^{-1})
- ▷ Inclusive cross section in the fiducial phase space

$$\sigma_{fid} = 73.4^{+5.4}_{-5.3} (stat)^{+2.4}_{-2.2} (sys) \text{ fb}$$

$H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$

- ▷ [doi:10.1007/JHEP08\(2023\)040](https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP08(2023)040)
- ▷ Inclusive and differential cross section measurement
- ▷ Full Run-2 data (138 fb^{-1})
- ▷ Inclusive cross section in the fiducial phase space

$$\sigma_{fid} = 2.73 \pm 0.22(stat) \pm 0.15(sys) \text{ fb}$$

- ▶ Higgs mass measurement in $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- ▶ Run-2 combinations
 - Full combination of differential cross sections
 - Legacy HH
 - Legacy H
- ▶ $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + c$ and Higgs boson coupling to charm quarks
- ▶ $VH \rightarrow bb$ differential cross section
- ▶ Double Higgs: $HH \rightarrow bbVV$

Run-3 status

Run-2 Highlights

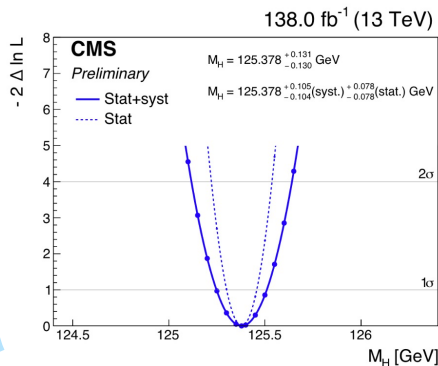
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- ▶ Double Higgs: $HH \rightarrow 4b$

Run-2 Highlights

$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

- Expected Full Run2 mass measurement recently obtained
- Preapproval talk June24

$$M(H) = 125.38 \pm 0.13 [0.08(\text{stat}) \pm 0.11(\text{syst})] \text{ GeV}$$



Unc. (GeV)	Syst.	Stat.	Total
CMS $H(\gamma\gamma)$ 2016	0.18	0.18	0.26
ATLAS $H(\gamma\gamma)$	0.09	0.11	0.14
CMS $H(\gamma\gamma)$	0.11	0.08	0.13

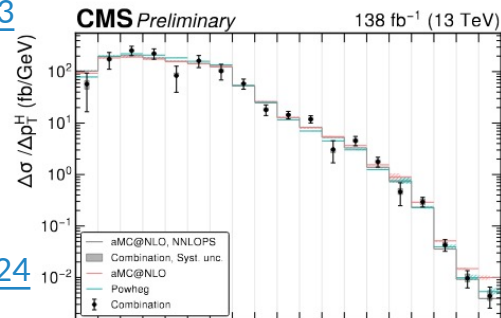
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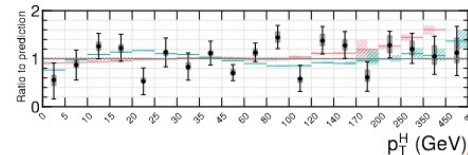
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HIG-21-018

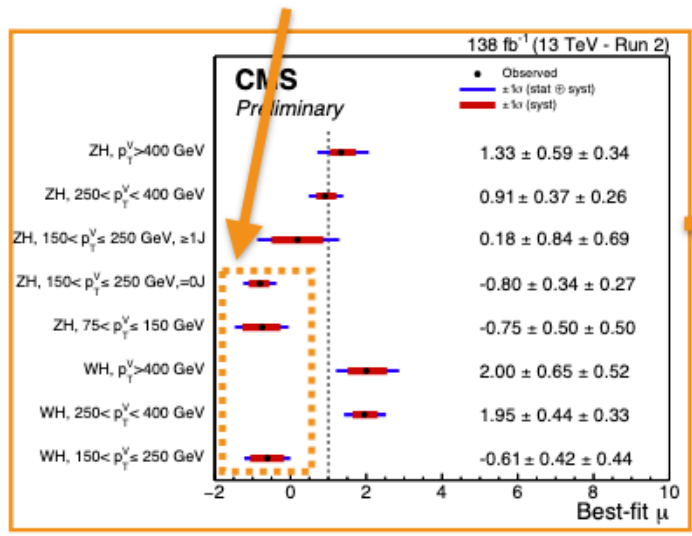


Run-2 Highlights

CMS Italia 2023

- Deviation $> 3\sigma$ from SM prediction

CMS-PAS-HIG-20-001



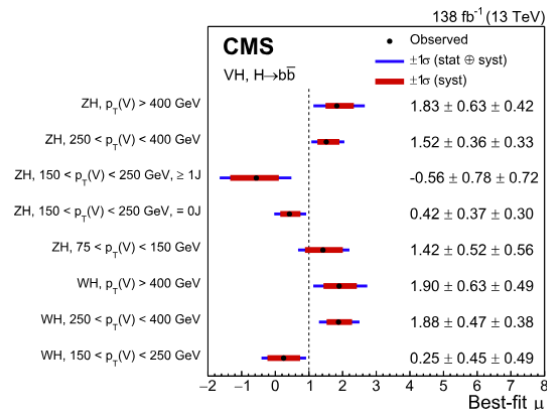
$$|k_c| < 38.1 \text{ (72.5)}$$

VH(bb) differential cross section

[PhysRevD.109.092011](https://arxiv.org/abs/PhysRevD.109.092011)

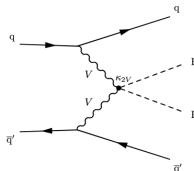
- ▷ STXS template
- ▷ Full Run-2 data
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$$\mu = 1.15^{+0.22}_{-0.20} \rightarrow Z = 6.3 \text{ (5.6)} \sigma$$



Run-2 Highlights

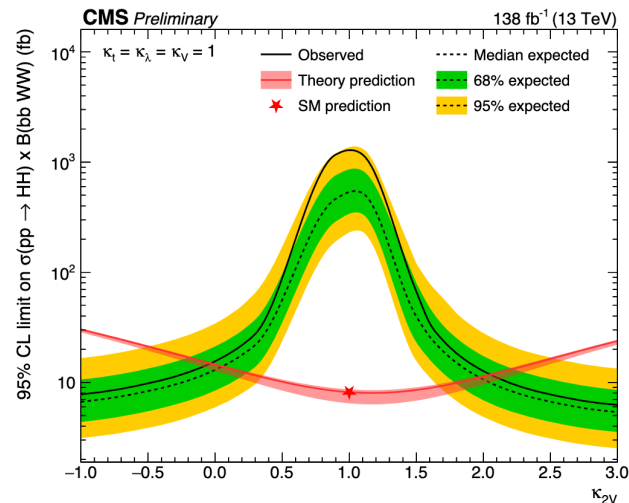
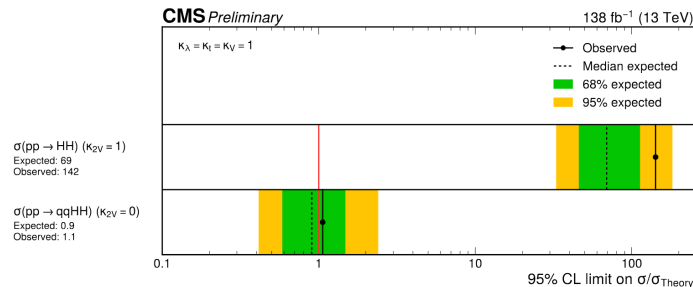
$$HH \rightarrow bbVV$$



[CMS-HIG-PAS-23-012](#)

- Aim to constrain k_{2V}
- Full Run-2 analysis in high- m_{HH} regime
- All hadronic final states considered
- Second largest BR behind $HH \rightarrow 4b$
- $H \rightarrow bb$ identification with **PNet-MD**
- $H \rightarrow VV$ identification with **GloParT**

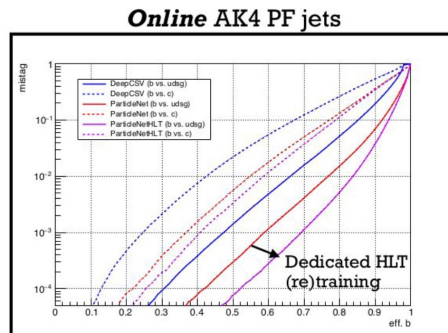
$$k_{2V} \in [-0.04, 2.05]([0.05, 1.98]) @ 95\% \text{ CL}$$



Trigger developments

FLAVOUR TAGGING

- ▷ DeepJet and ParticleNet trained with HLT features
→ large gain in performance
- ▷ Deployed online new triggers based on **ParticleNet** for
 - ▶ $HH \rightarrow 4b$ and $HH \rightarrow bb\tau_h\tau_h$
 - ▶ Boosted $H \rightarrow bb$ and $H \rightarrow \tau_h\tau_h$
 - ▶ $VBF H \rightarrow cc$ (first c-tagging online)
- ▷ All paths with b/c-tagging migrated to ParticleNet (2024)



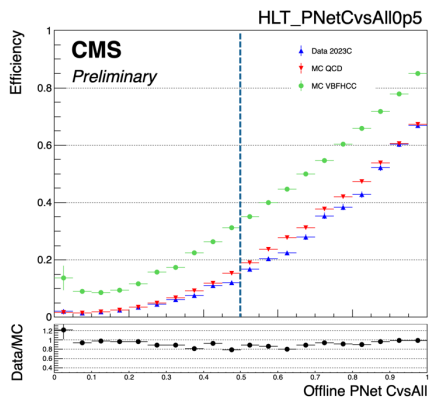
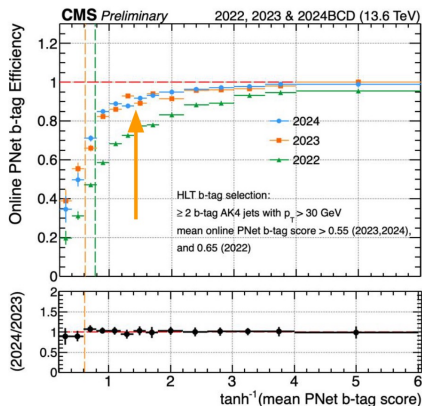
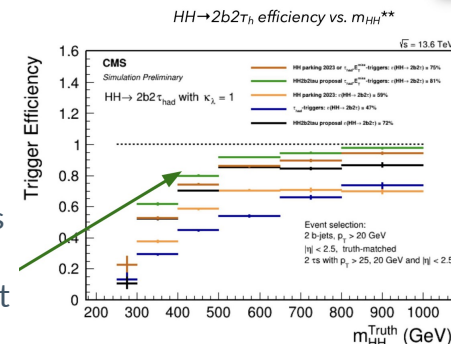
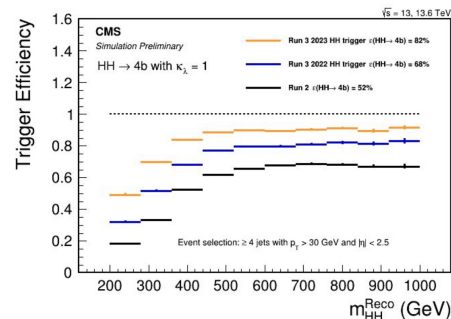
PARKING STRATEGY

▷ HH parking

- ▶ 4b+2jet
- ▶ 4jet+1b+1 τ

▷ VBF parking

- ▶ Inclusive triggers with tight requirements on the VBF jets
- ▶ Specific triggers
 - VBF + 1 loose central object
 - Higgs specific VBF triggers



Search for double Higgs: $HH \rightarrow 4b$



HIG-24-010

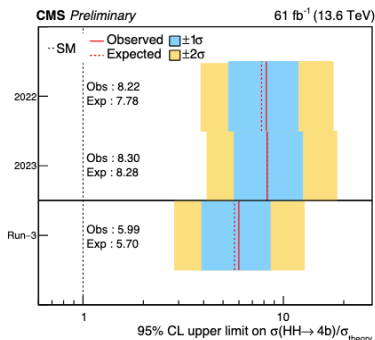
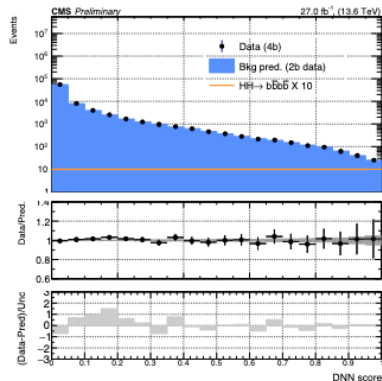
Preapproval talk

Resolved

- ▷ **4j2b trigger** with ParticleNet designed for this analysis
- ▷ 4 b-jets tagged with ParticleNet
- ▷ DNN for signal/bkg separation
- ▷ Expected upper Limit on the signal strength:

$$\mu_{HH4b} < 5.70$$

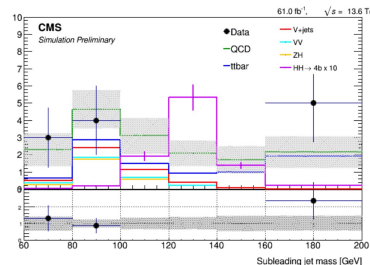
25-30% more sensitive than
Full Run-2
2 times better scaled to Full
Run-2



Boosted

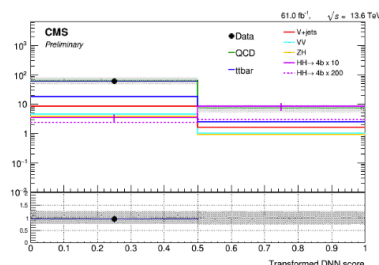
- ▷ **Boosted Hbb trigger** with ParticleNet designed for this analysis
- ▷ 2 AK8 jets tagged with ParticleNet
- ▷ DNN multiclass for signal vs QCD and ttbar discrimination
- ▷ Simultaneous fit across 2022 (35 fb⁻¹) and 2023 (27 fb⁻¹)

► Mass-fit analysis



$$\mu_{HH4b} < 7.56 \text{ @ } 95\% \text{ CL}$$

► DNN-fit analysis



$$\mu_{HH4b} < 7.96 \text{ @ } 95\% \text{ CL}$$