



*Search for the associated production of a*  
**Top Quark Pair**

**& Higgs Boson**  
*at the LHC*

**Tamara Vázquez Schröder**  
**McGill University**



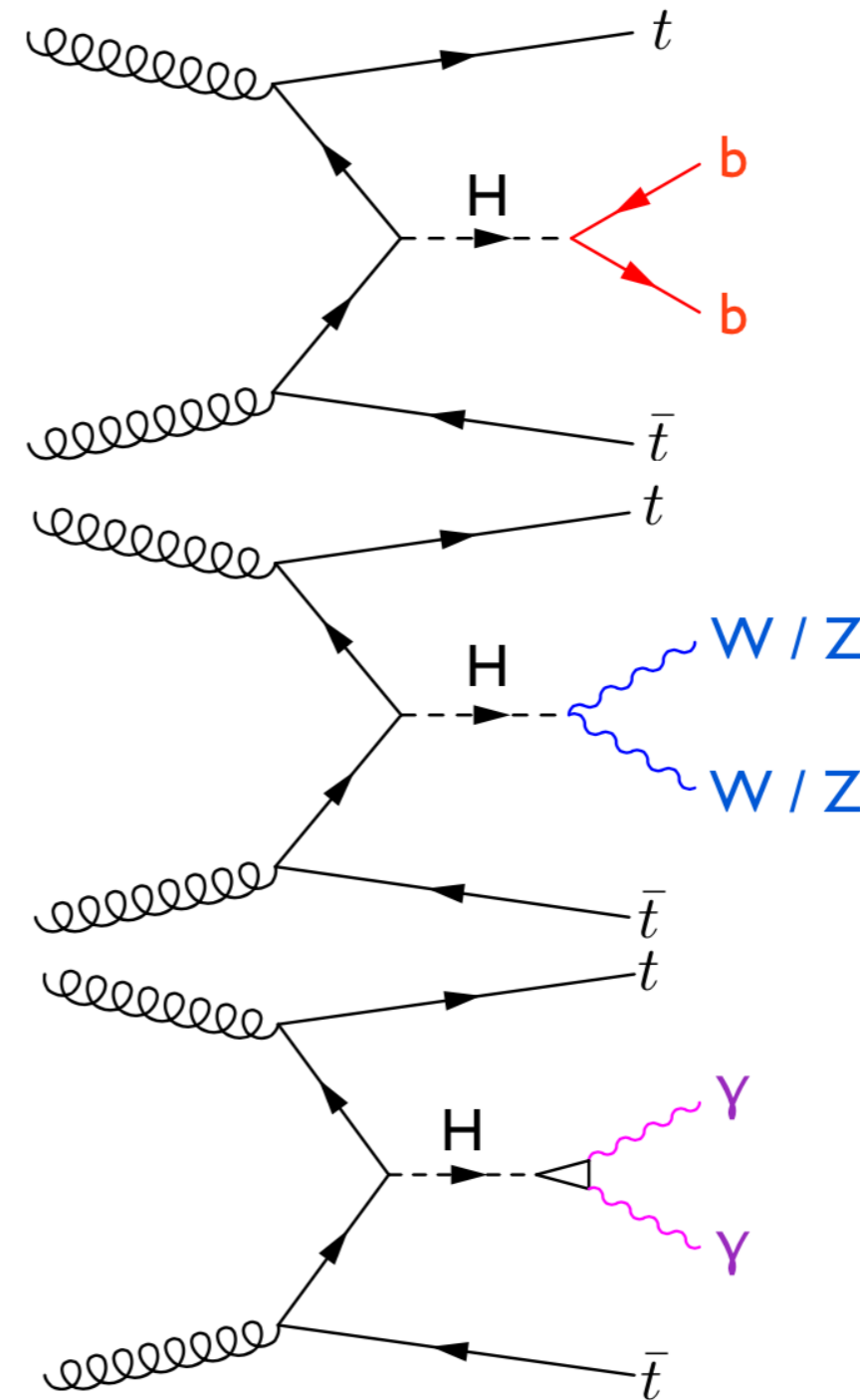
Particle Physics Highlight Seminar  
**University of Liverpool - 02/05/18**

Run: 300571  
Event: 905997537  
2016-05-31 12:01

# Outline



- \* The Standard Model
- \* The Giant: ATLAS
- \* The Heaviest: Top quark
- \* The Elusive: Higgs boson
- \* Top & H:  $t\bar{t}H$  production
  - $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$
  - $H \rightarrow WW, ZZ, \tau\tau$
  - $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- \* Conclusions



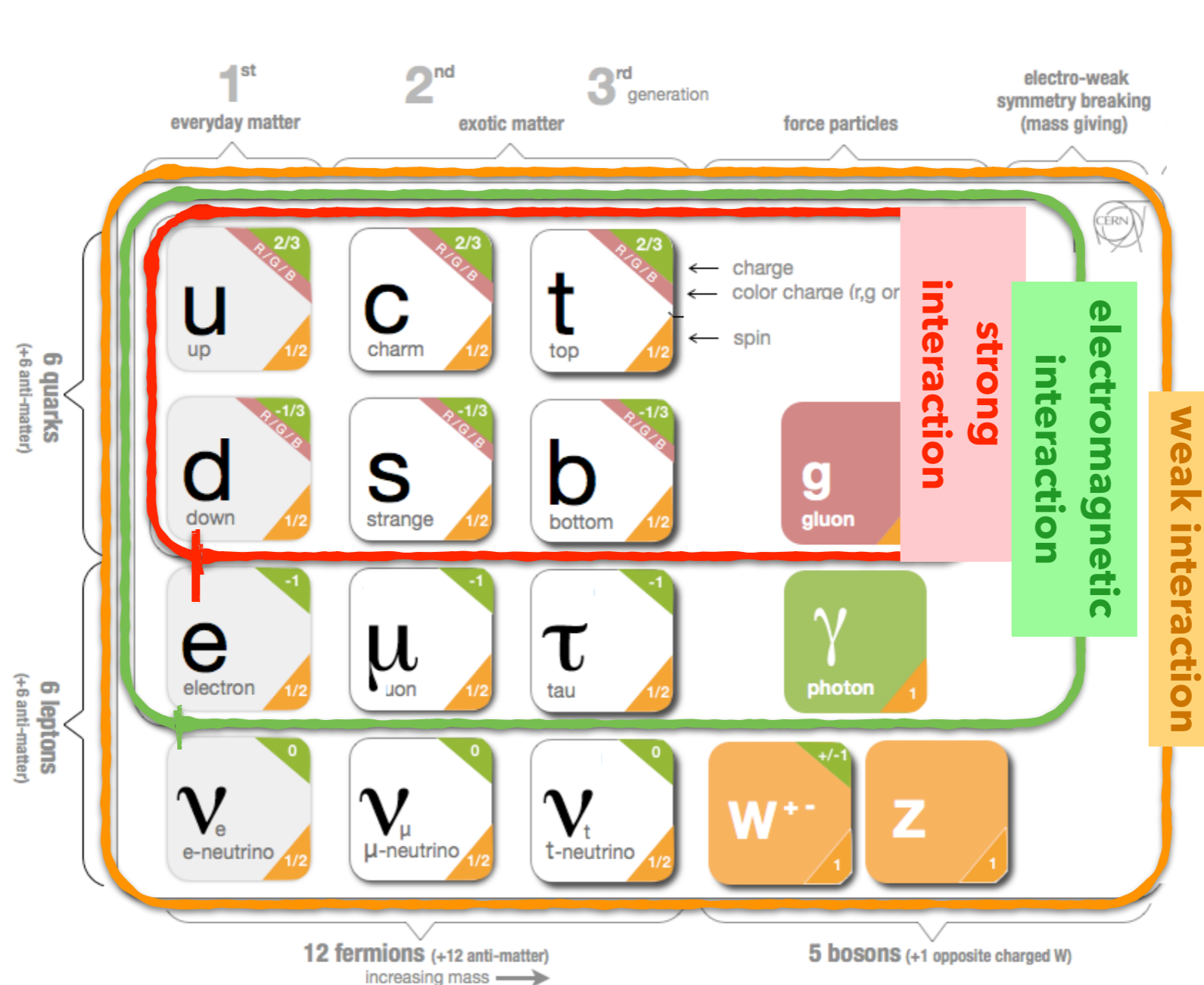
# The Standard Model of Particle Physics



The SM provides unified picture of the electroweak (EW) and strong interactions

building blocks of matter: fermions (leptons and quarks)

force carriers: bosons (gluon, photon,  $W^{+-}$ ,  $Z$ )



# The Standard Model of Particle Physics

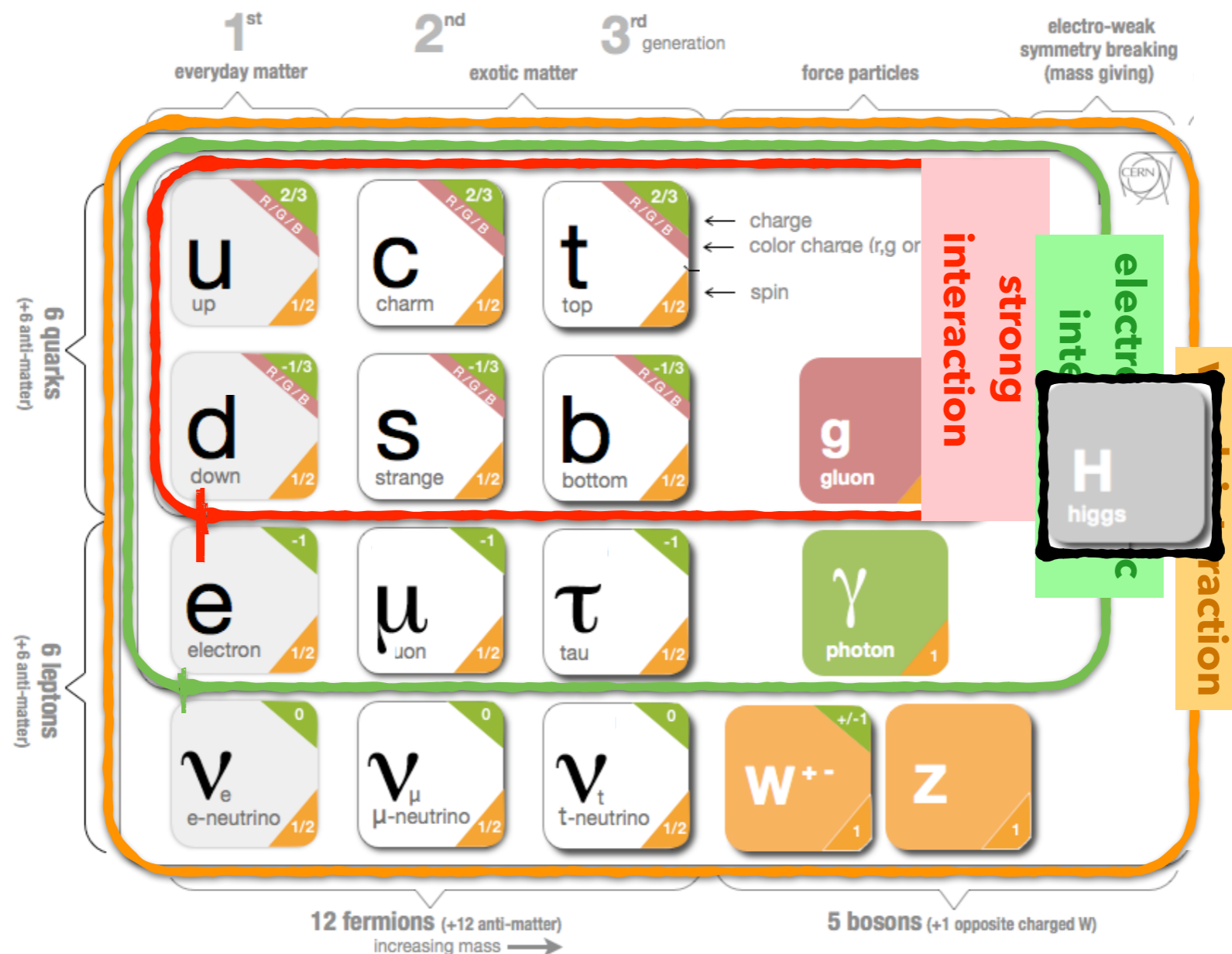


The SM provides unified picture of the electroweak (EW) and strong interactions

building blocks of matter: fermions (leptons and quarks)

force carriers: bosons (gluon, photon,  $W^{+-}$ ,  $Z$ )

**Higgs** field: added to the SM to generate the mass of EW bosons and fermions

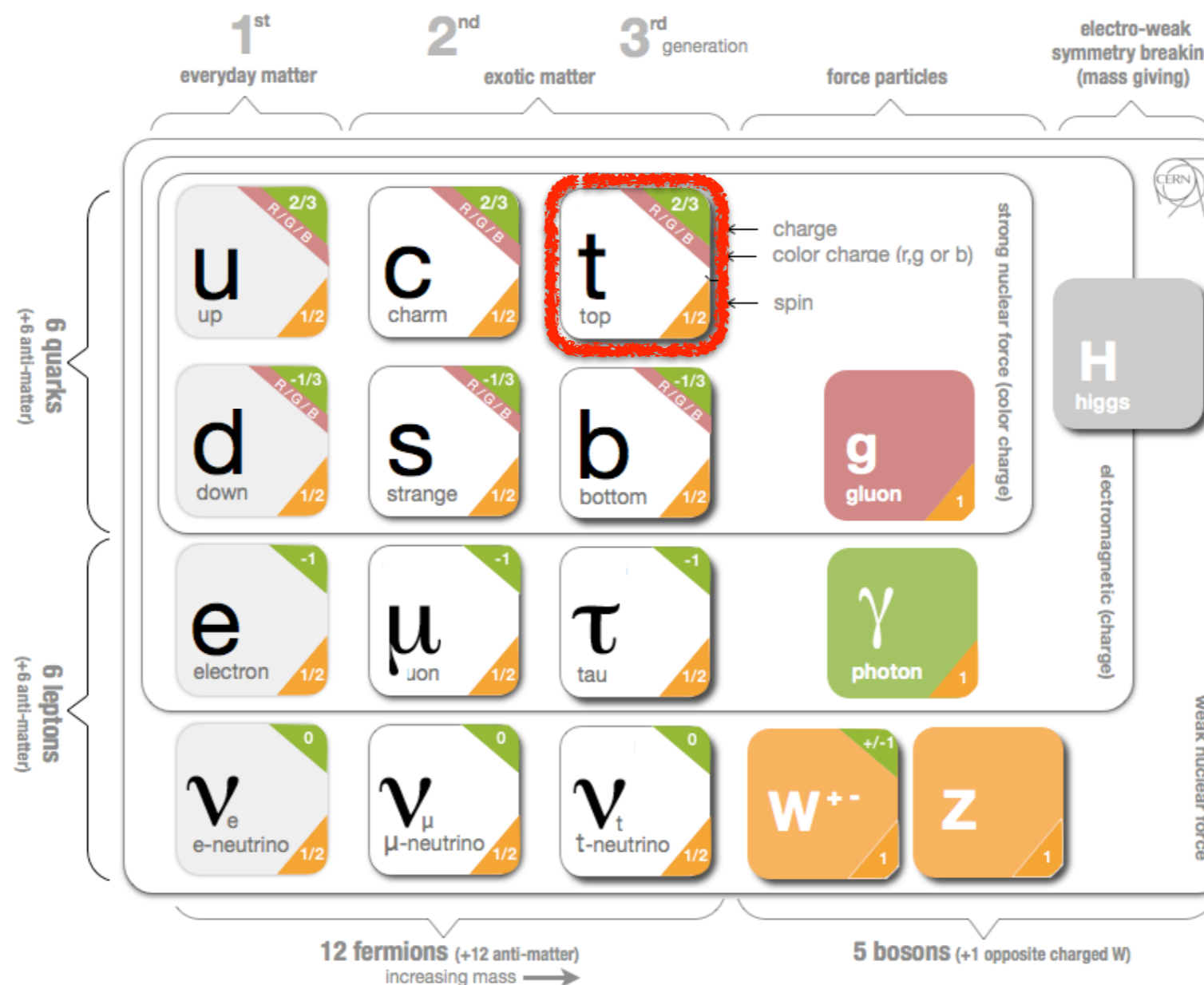


# The Standard Model of Particle Physics



## The Top Quark:

**heaviest** elementary particle in the SM: Yukawa coupling  $\approx 1$   
decays before it can hadronise: study properties of a **'bare' quark**



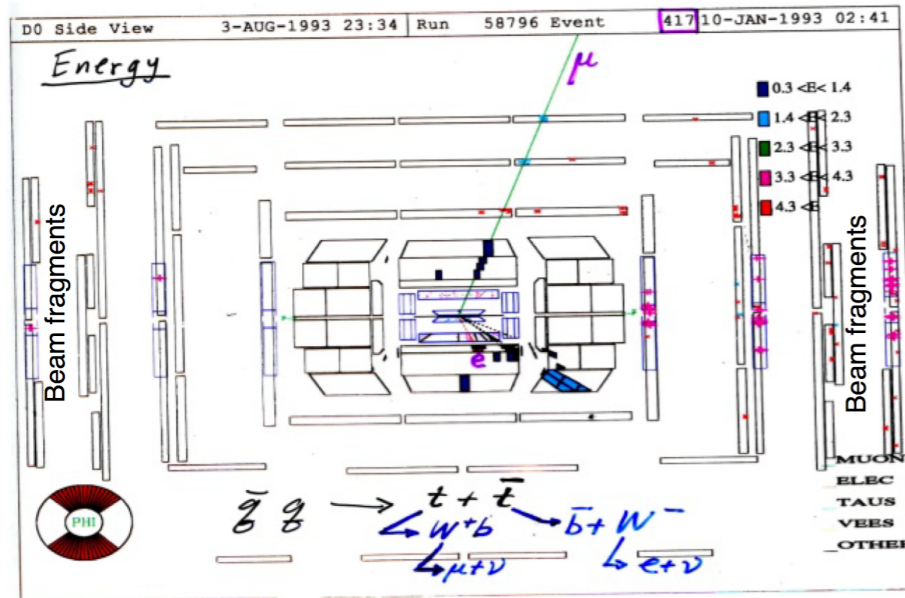
# The Top Quark: > 20 Years Celebration!



Discovered in 1995 by the CDF and D0 experiments (Tevatron), completing the list of 6 fermions



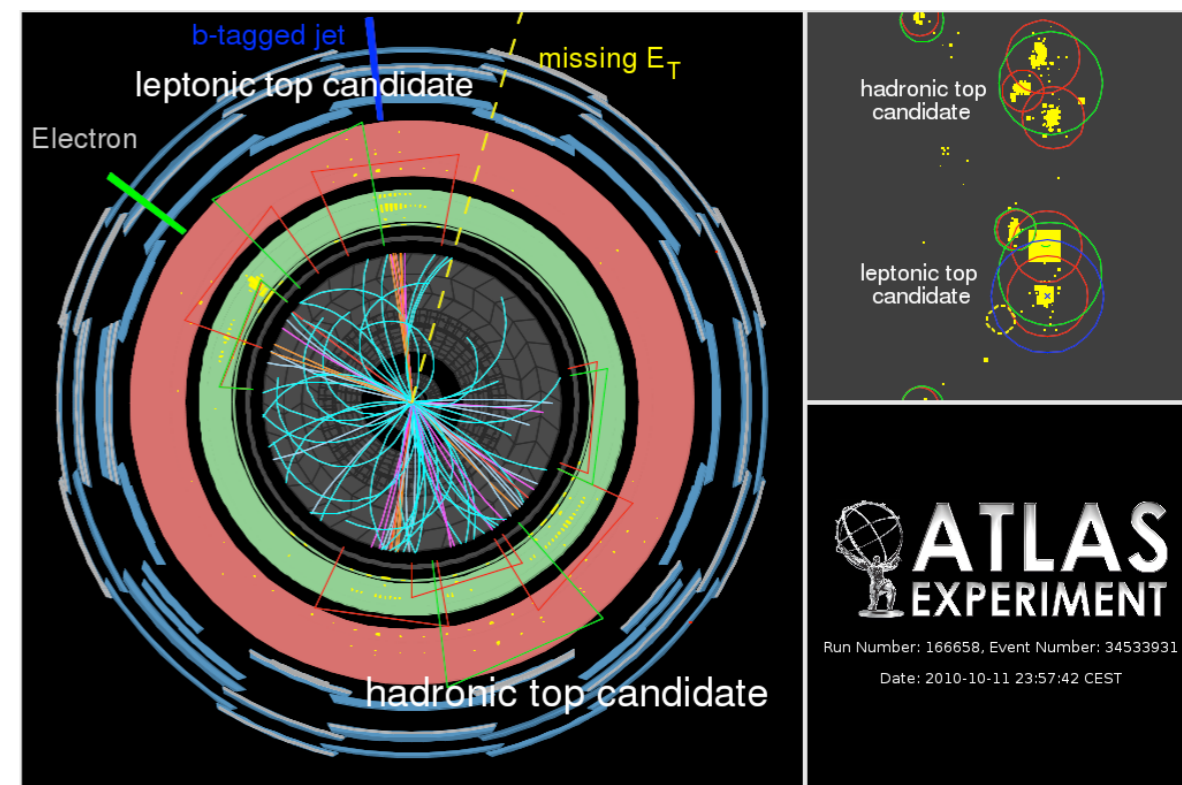
March 2, 1995: Joint CDF/D0 seminar announcing the top quark discovery



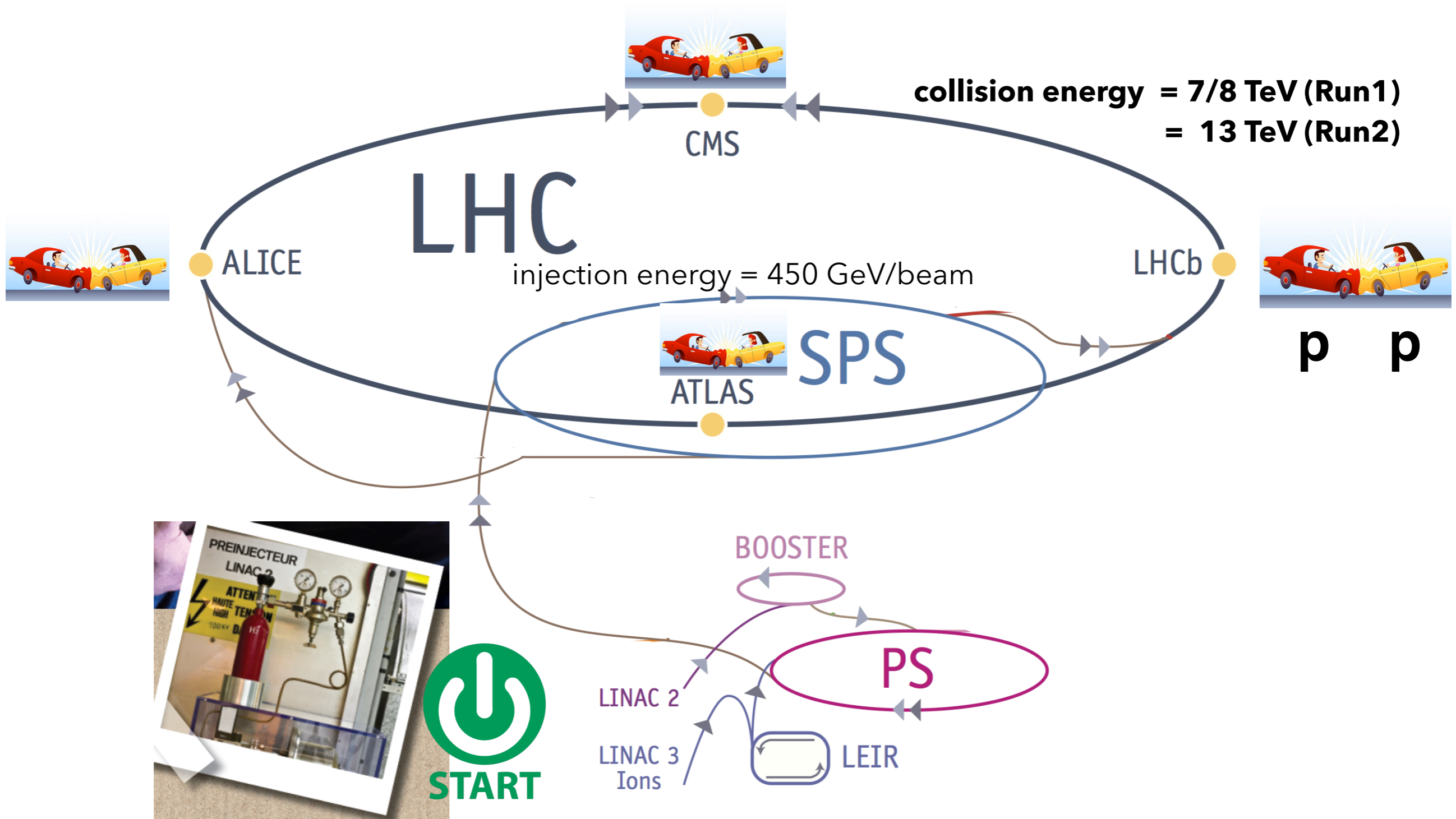
The famous Event #417:  $t\bar{t}$  Candidate (1993) - D0 experiment



Last year we were celebrating 20 years since the birth of the heaviest fundamental particle... and still a hot topic in particle physics!



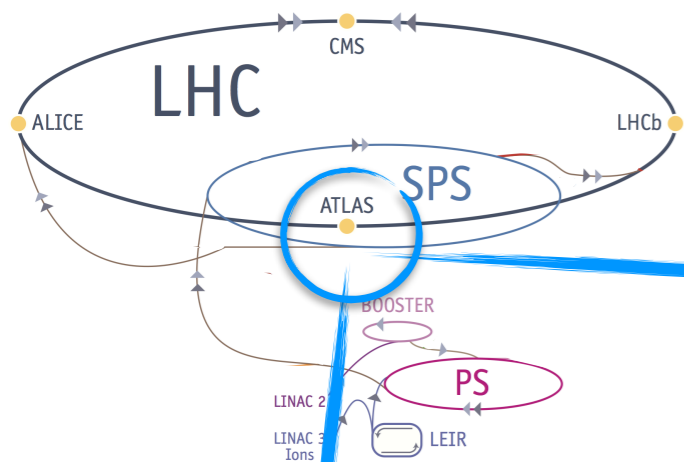
# The Large Hadron Collider (LHC)



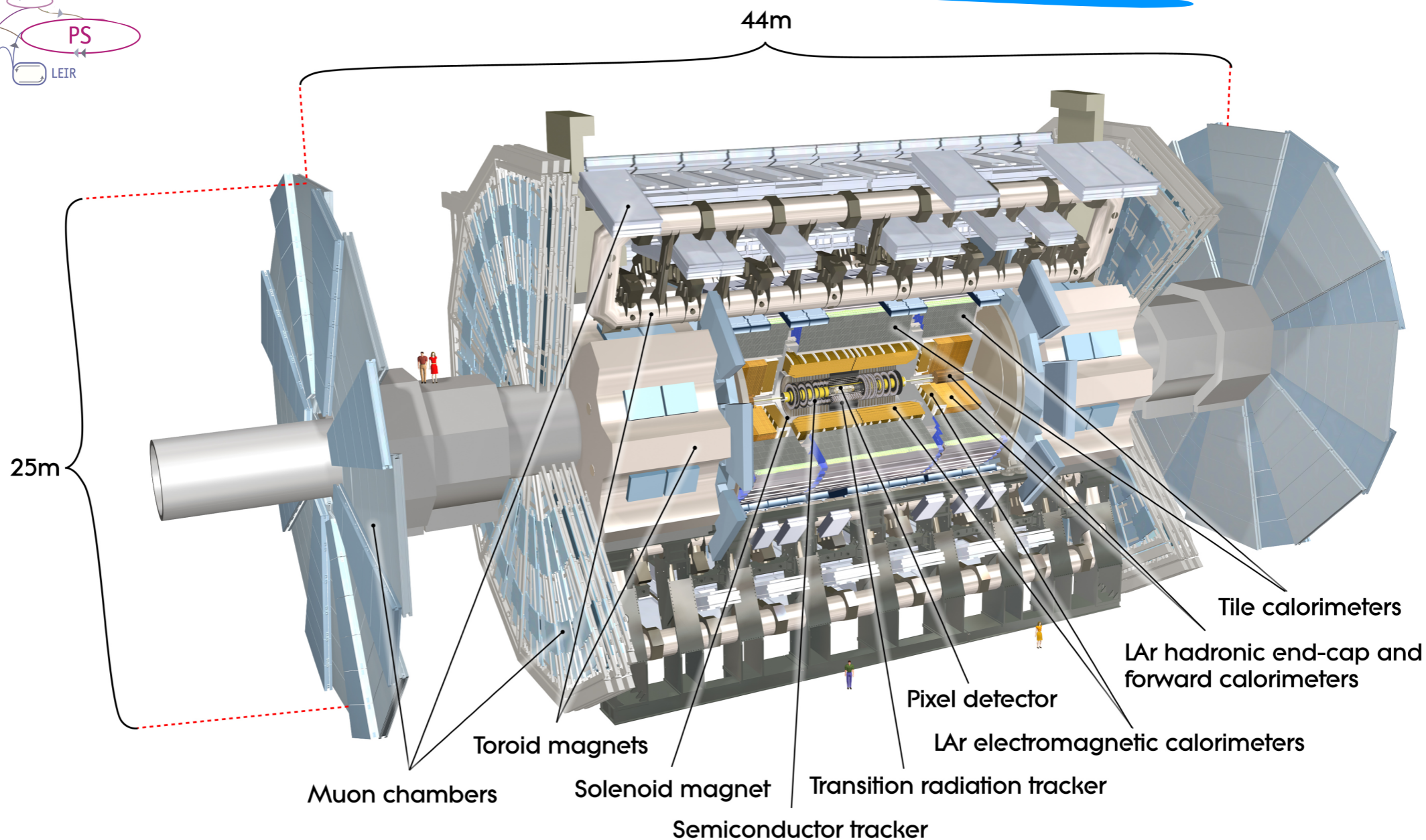
## The CERN accelerator complex & the collider



# The ATLAS experiment

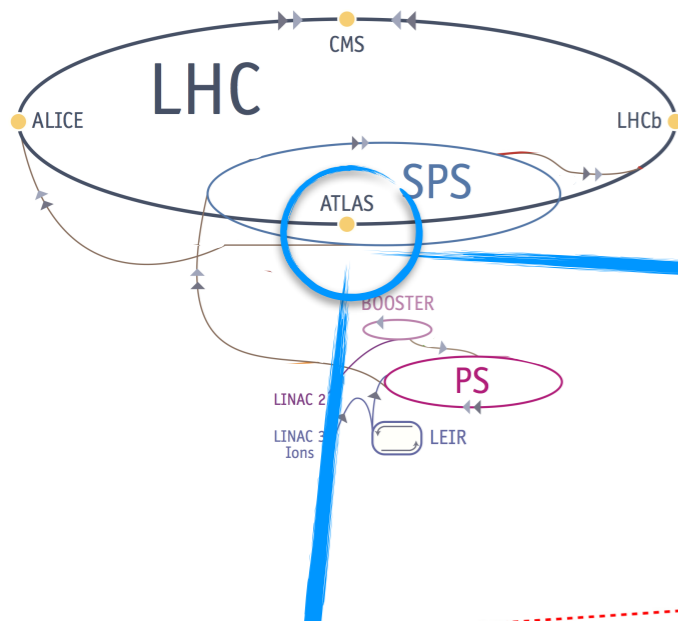


Multipurpose detector:  
tracking detector + calorimeter + muon spectrometer

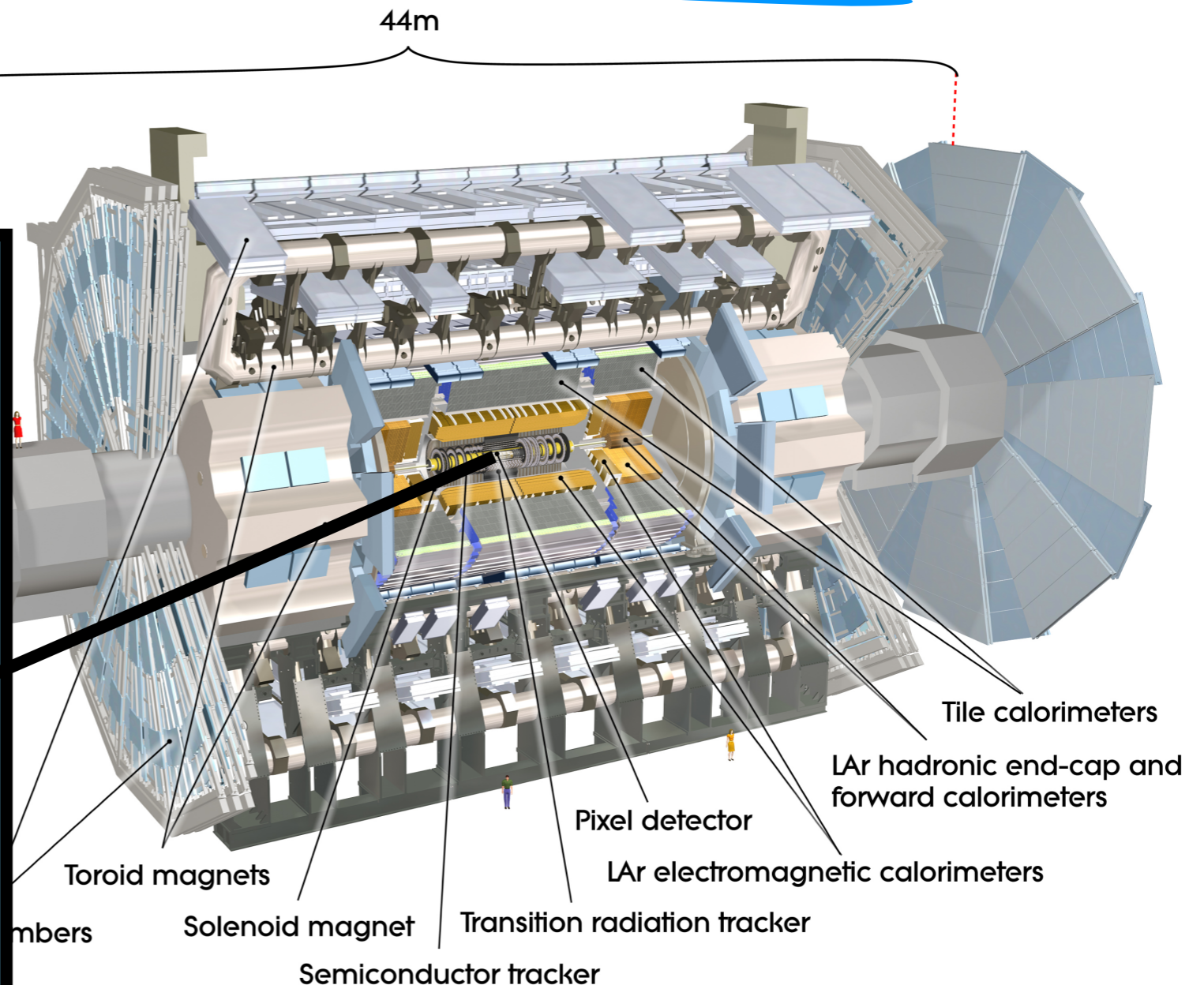




# The ATLAS experiment



Multipurpose detector:  
tracking detector + calorimeter + muon spectrometer

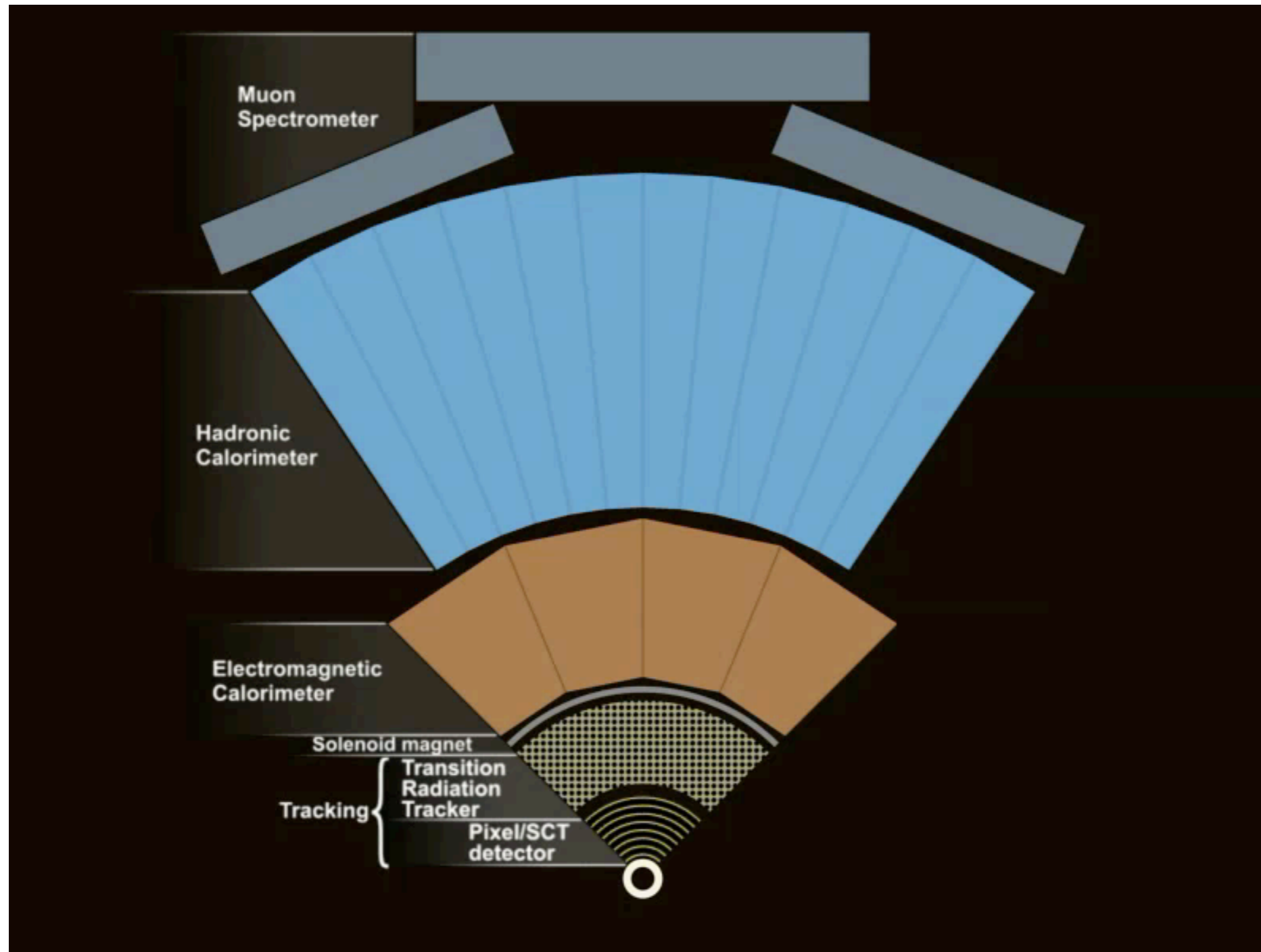


**In Run2:** new **Insertable B-Layer (IBL)** improved b-tagging performance!

- needed to shrink the diameter of the beam pipe and insert it into the gap between the Pixel Detector and the pipe

- faster read-out chips and new silicon sensor technologies developed to cope with higher radiation and high particle occupancy

# Particle identification



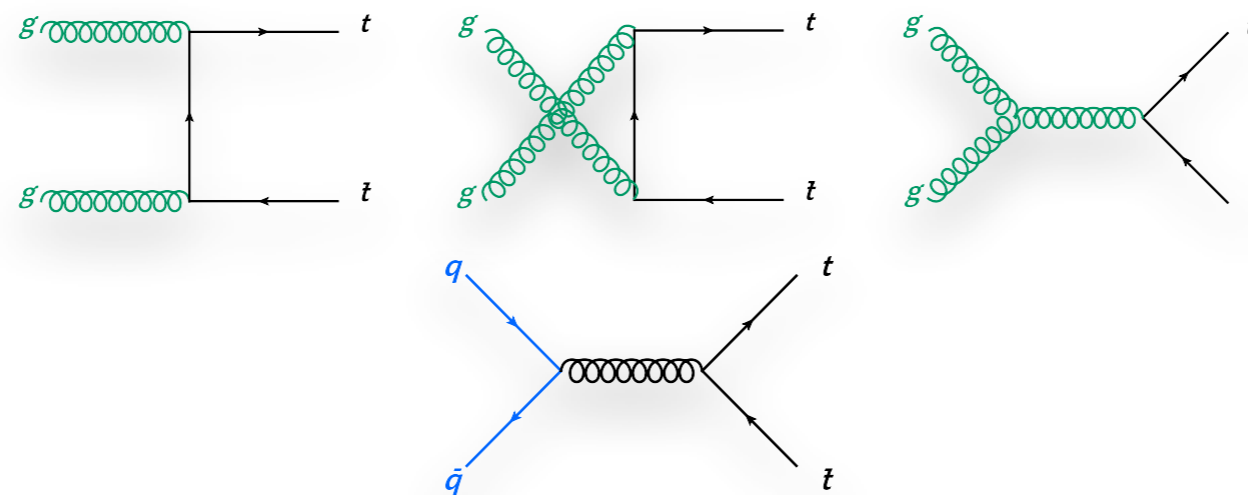
\* Each layer, different interaction with particles, different targets

\* Energy, momentum, measurements

# The Top Quark: Production



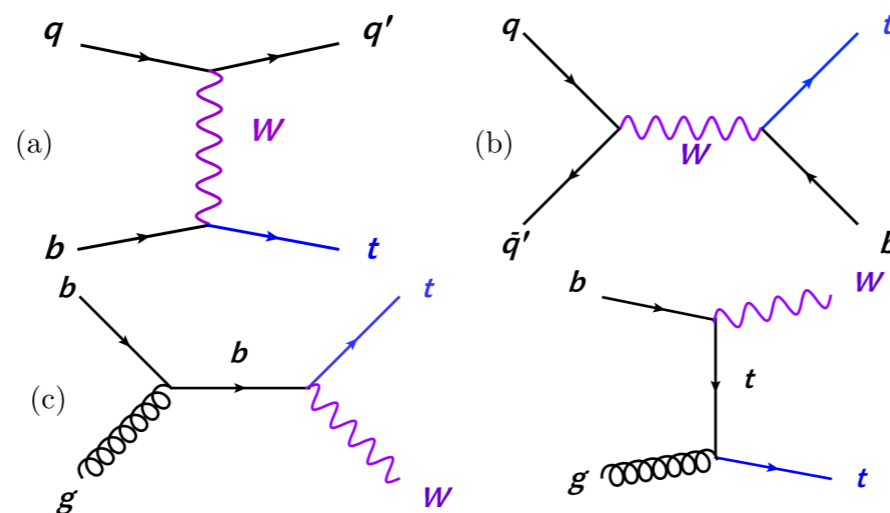
\* Main production mode: **top quark pair** via the strong interaction



$gg$  initiated  
(80% LHC 7 TeV)

$q\bar{q}$  initiated

\* Smaller branching ratio: produced as **single top quark** via EW interaction



(a) t-channel

(b) s-channel

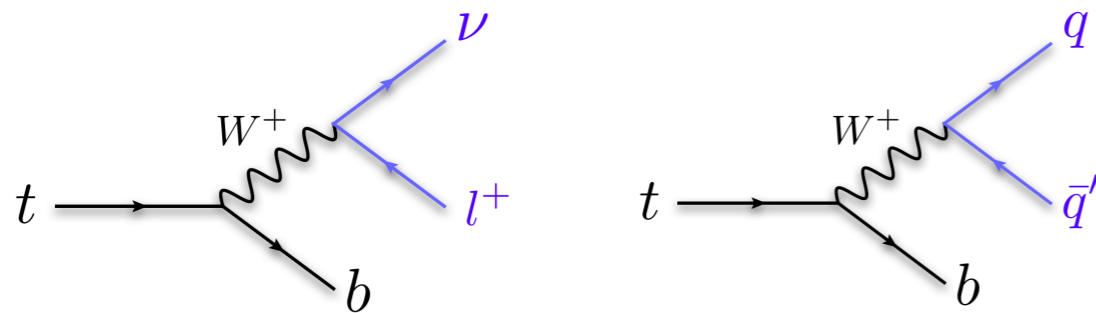
(c) Wt-channel

# The Top Quark: Decay

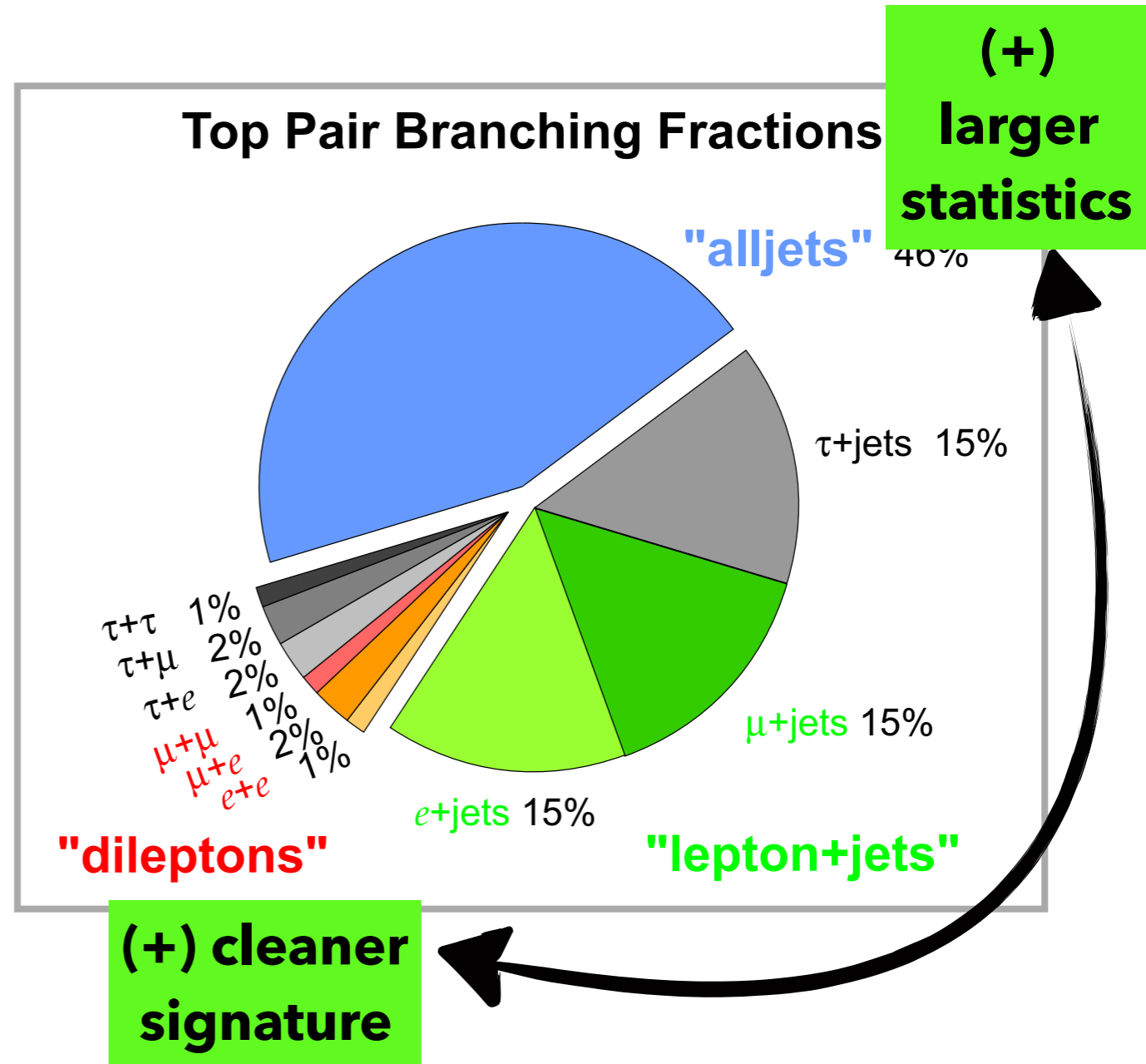
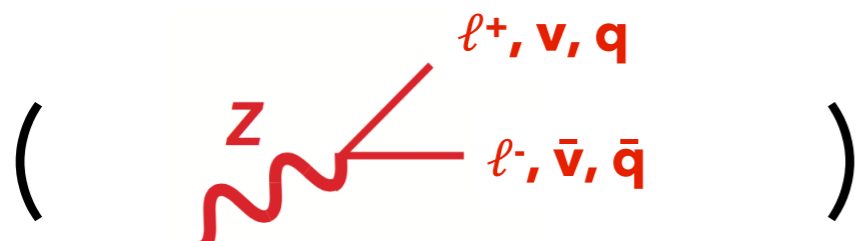


\* Decays into lighter particles via the EW interaction

- Almost exclusively as  $t \rightarrow Wb$
- W-boson decay modes: **(leptonic or hadronic)**



Z-boson decays for comparison



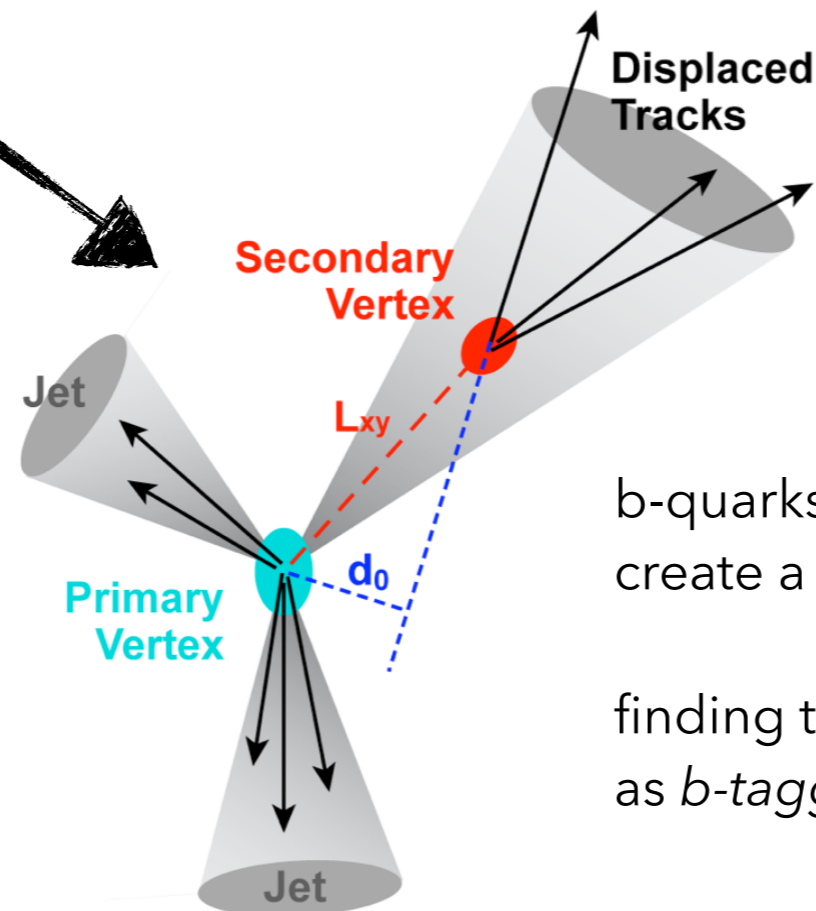
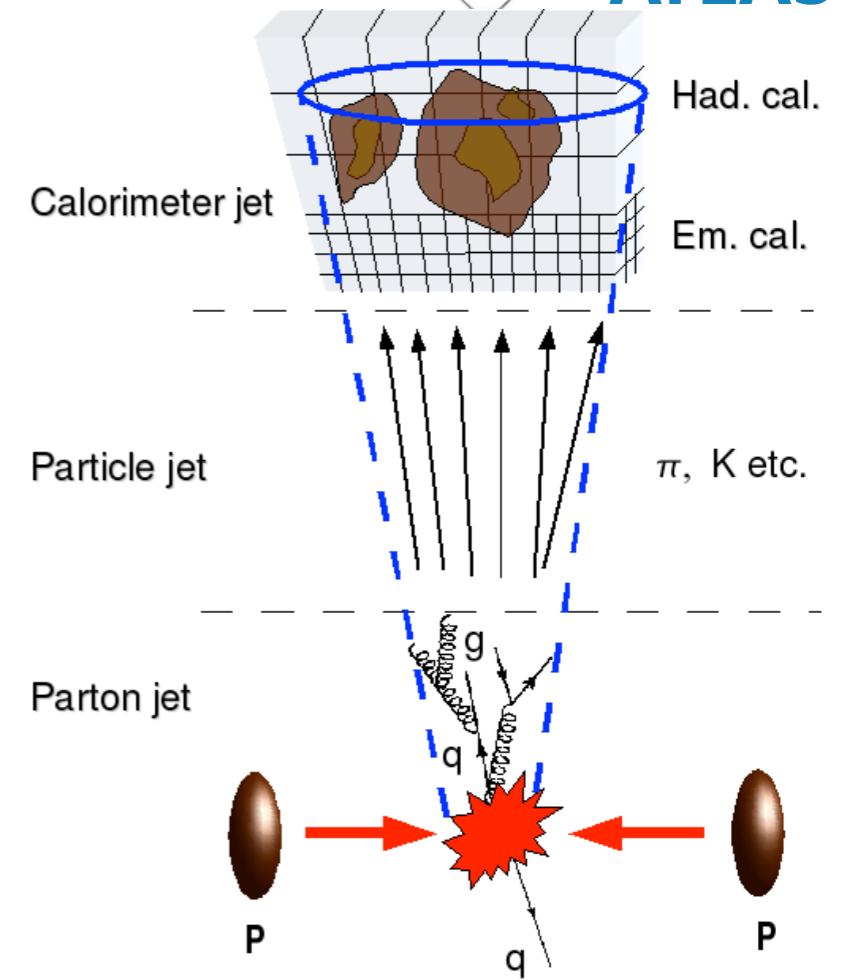
# Experimental signatures

## What to look for?

- ( $\geq 2, 4, 6$ ) **jets**!
- $\geq 2$  jets originating from b-quarks (**bjets**)
- **charged lepton**(s)
- **neutrino**(s) (missing transverse energy)

jets are a consequence of the strong force

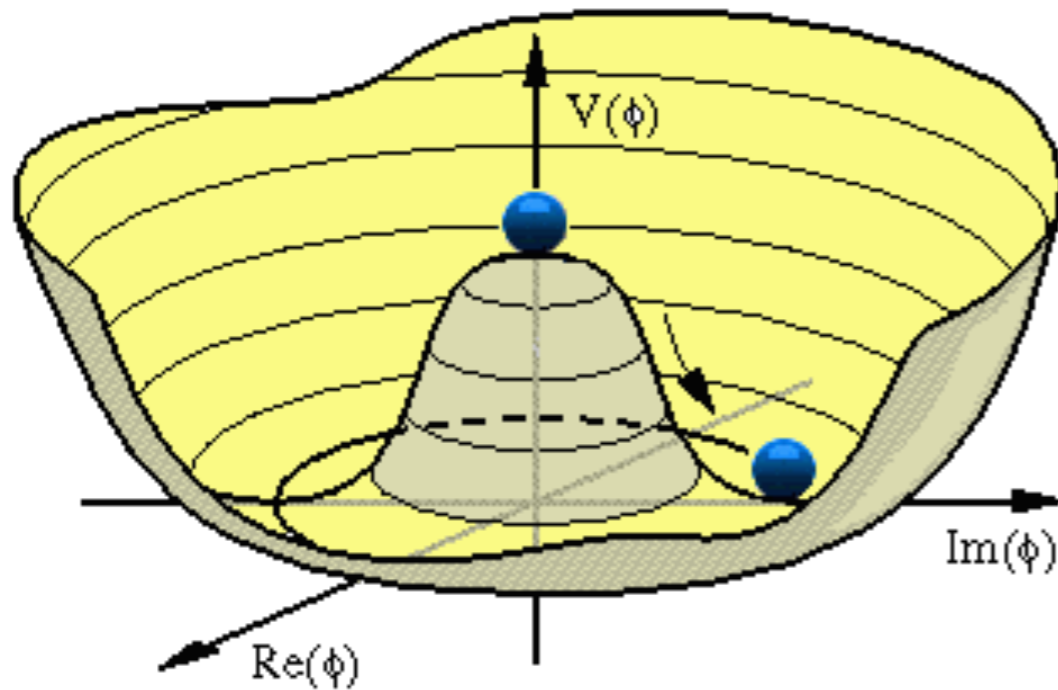
originate from b/c-quarks (heavy-flavour jets) or light quarks (light jets)



b-quarks live long enough ( $\sim$ ps) to create a secondary vertex at the decay

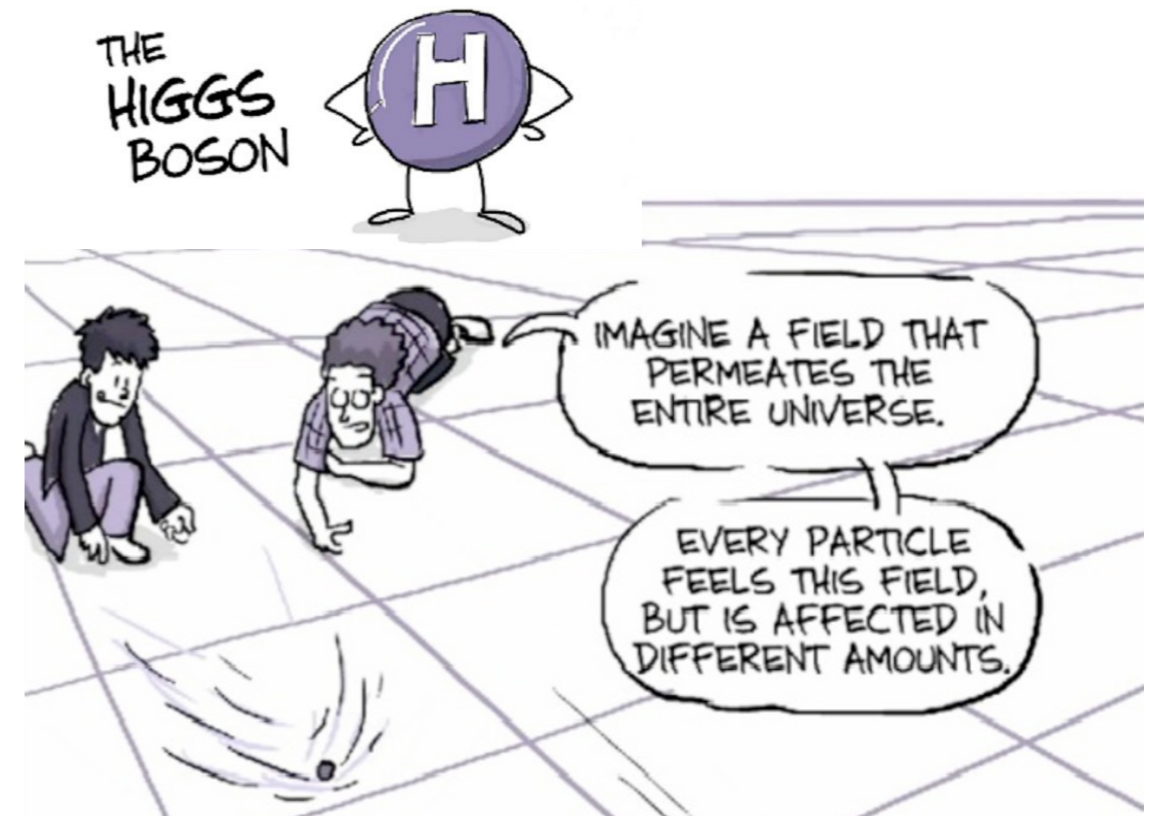
finding these jets from b-quarks is known as *b-tagging*

# The Higgs Mechanism



- \* In electroweak theory, W and Z Boson should not have mass - however we know they do!
- \* The Higgs Mechanism, explains the mass of the W and Z Boson, as well as the fermions, and the additional observation of a spin-0 boson

- \* The Higgs field couples to particles giving them mass
- \* The stronger the coupling, the heavier the particle (Yukawa coupling)



<http://www.phdcomics.com/comics.php?f=1489>

# 4th July 2012: Higgsdependence day!



The Nobel Prize in Physics 2013 was awarded jointly to François Englert and Peter W. Higgs *"for the theoretical discovery of a mechanism that contributes to our understanding of the origin of mass of subatomic particles, and which recently was confirmed through the discovery of the predicted fundamental particle, by the ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider"*

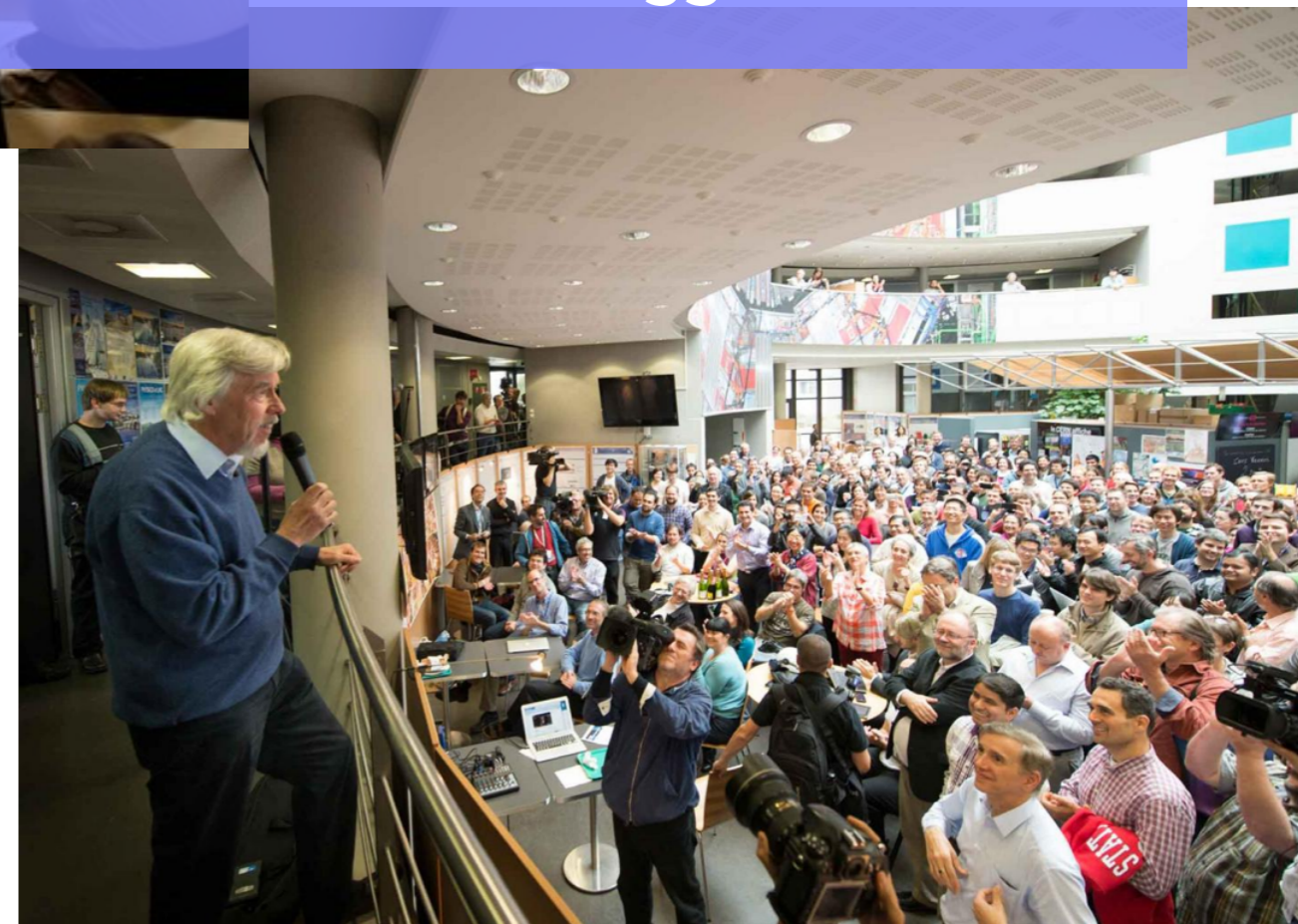


# 4th July 2012: Higgsdependence day!



Since its discovery in 2012, focus on **precision measurements of production and decay** of the Higgs boson, and the **search for additional BSM Higgs bosons**

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2013 was awarded jointly to François Englert and Peter W. Higgs *"for the theoretical discovery of a mechanism that contributes to our understanding of the origin of mass of subatomic particles, and which recently was confirmed through the discovery of the predicted fundamental particle, by the ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider"*

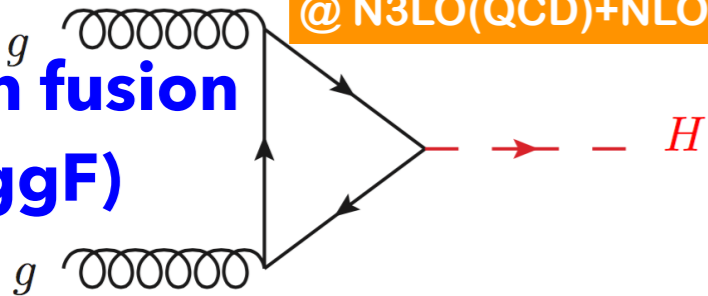




# Higgs production modes

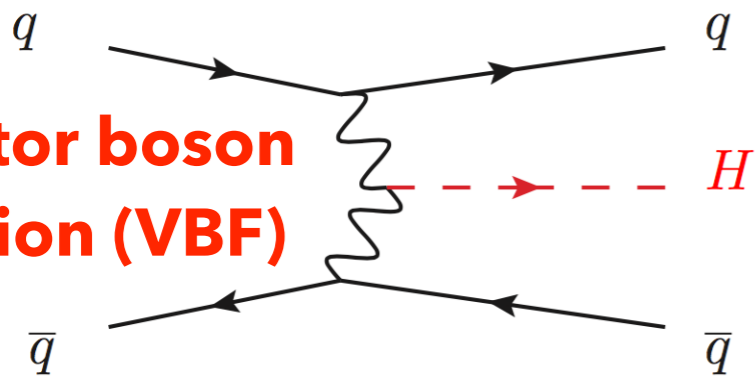
cross section calculation  
@ N3LO(QCD)+NLO(EW)

**gluon fusion (ggF)**

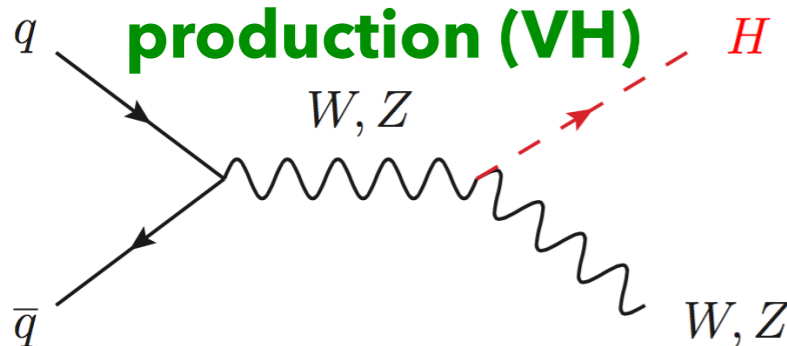


- \* Gluon fusion has the largest production rate, order of magnitude higher than VBF or VH
- \* Large cross section increase from 8 to 13 TeV, especially for  $t\bar{t}H$  and  $tH$

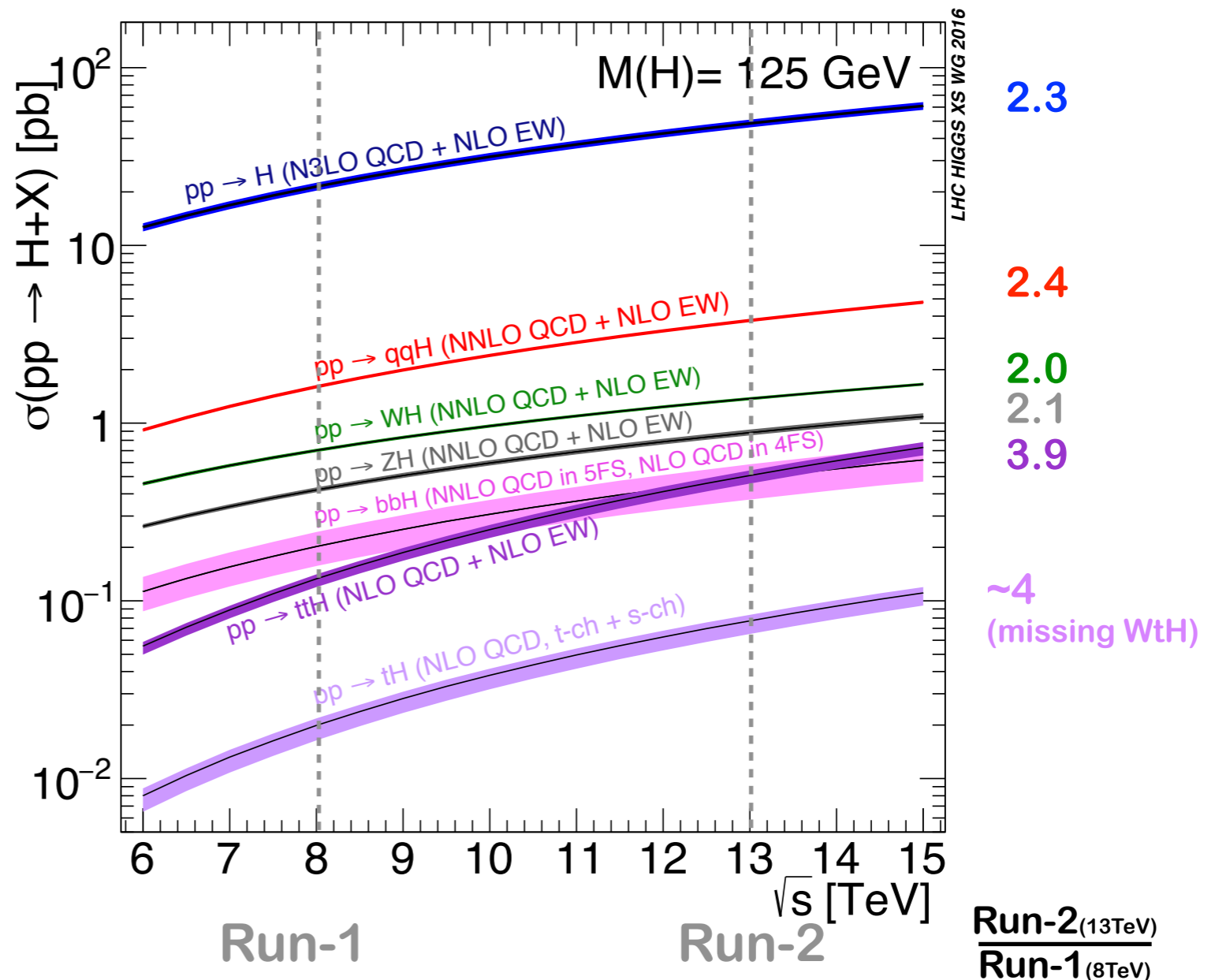
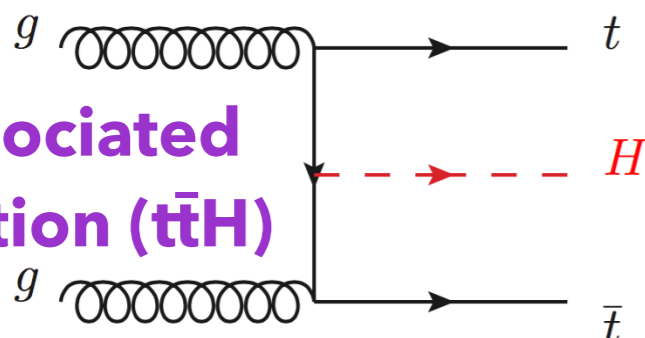
**vector boson fusion (VBF)**



**W, Z associated production (VH)**



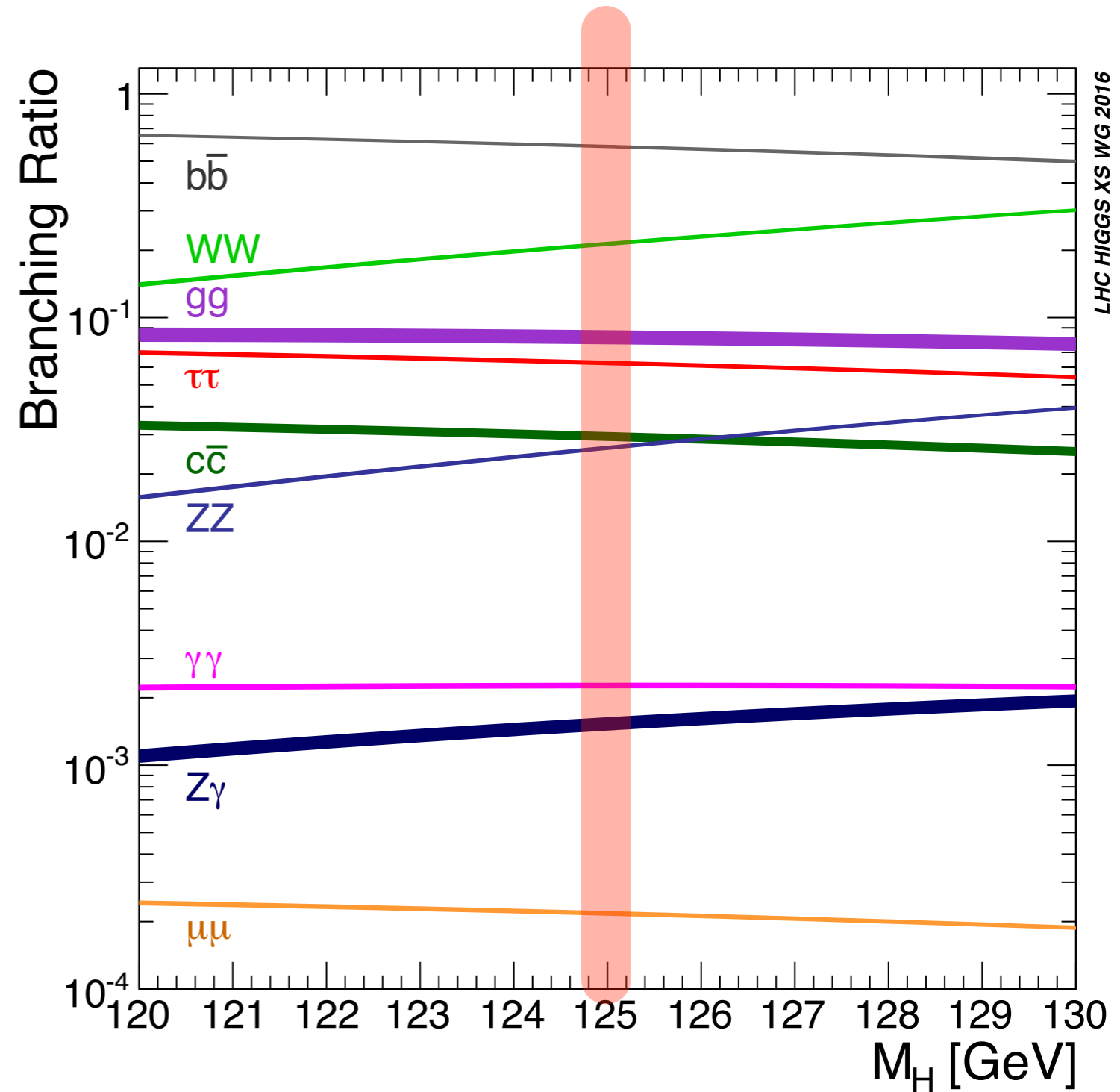
**top associated production ( $t\bar{t}H$ )**



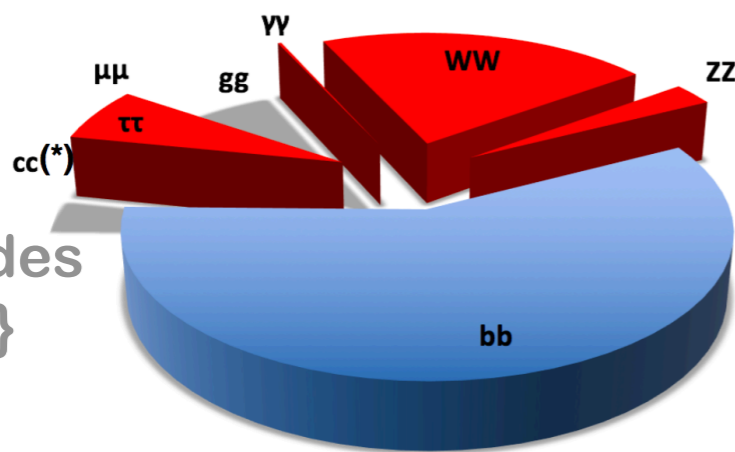
# Higgs Decay Modes



- \* At  $m_H = 125$  GeV, Higgs decays to  **$b\bar{b}$  is the most dominant** ( $\sim 57\%$ )
- \* The second largest decay mechanism is  $H \rightarrow WW$  ( $\sim 22\%$ )
- \* Though  $b\bar{b}$  decays are the most dominant, they are very **difficult to reconstruct**
- \* Also have broad mass resolution (contrary to  $\gamma\gamma$  and  $ZZ(\rightarrow 4\ell)$ )



observed decay modes (31%)

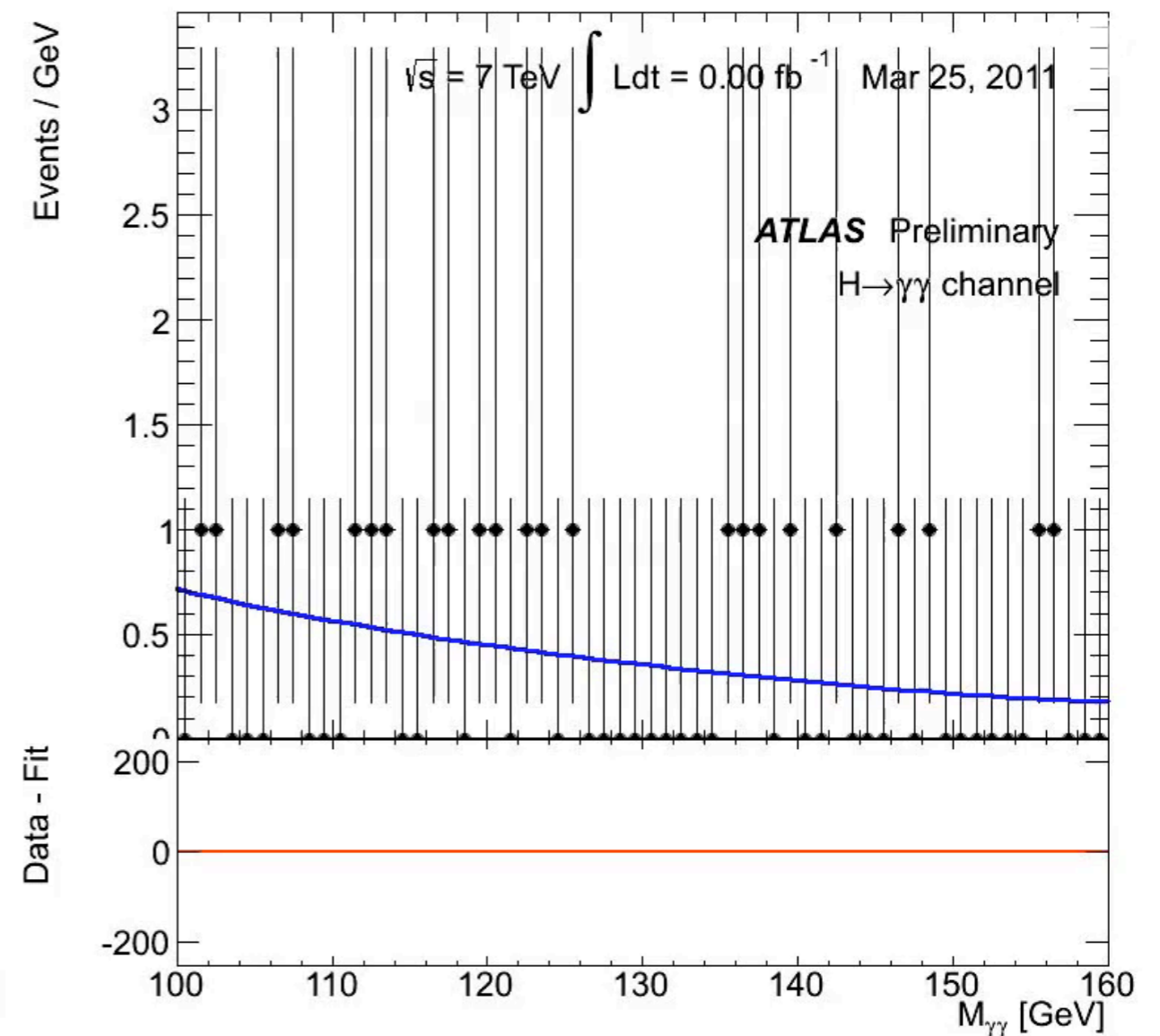
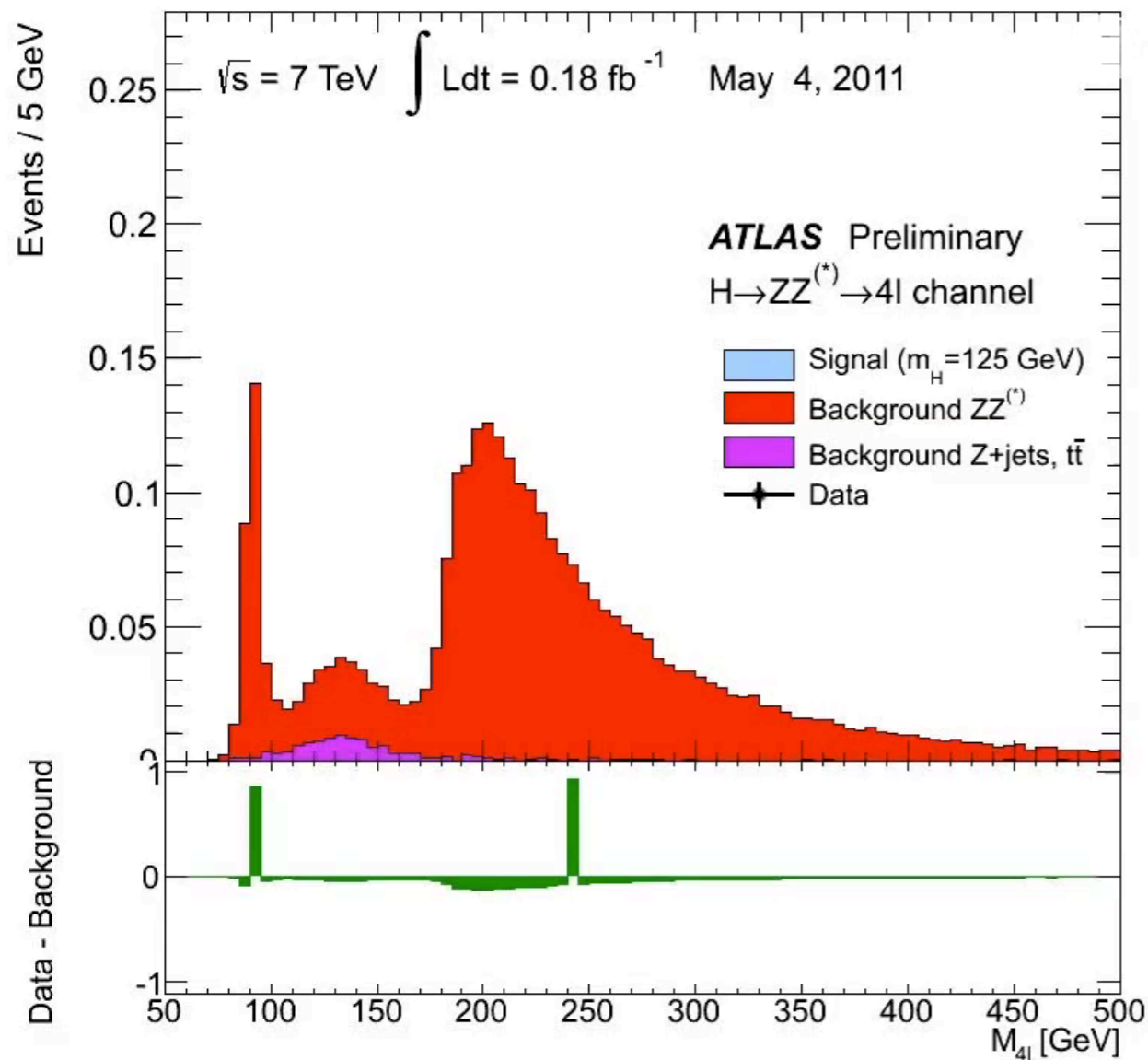


'difficult' modes  
 $\{cc, gg, \mu\mu\}$   
 (11%)  
 → long term

evidence (58%)

# Where did we find it?

## Evolution of the signal from both 7 and 8 TeV data



<https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/pub/AtlasPublic/HiggsPublicResults//4l-FloatingScale-NoMuProf2.gif>

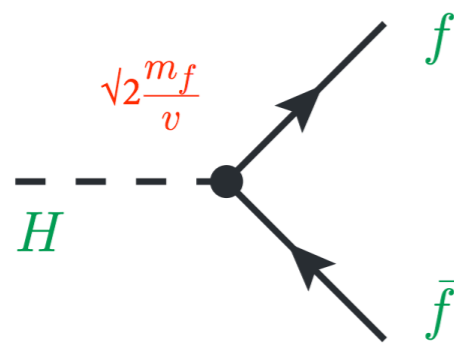
<https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/pub/AtlasPublic/HiggsPublicResults/Hgg-FloatingScale-Short2.gif>

**Higgs decay to  $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  (Golden Channel)**

**Higgs decay to  $\gamma\gamma$**

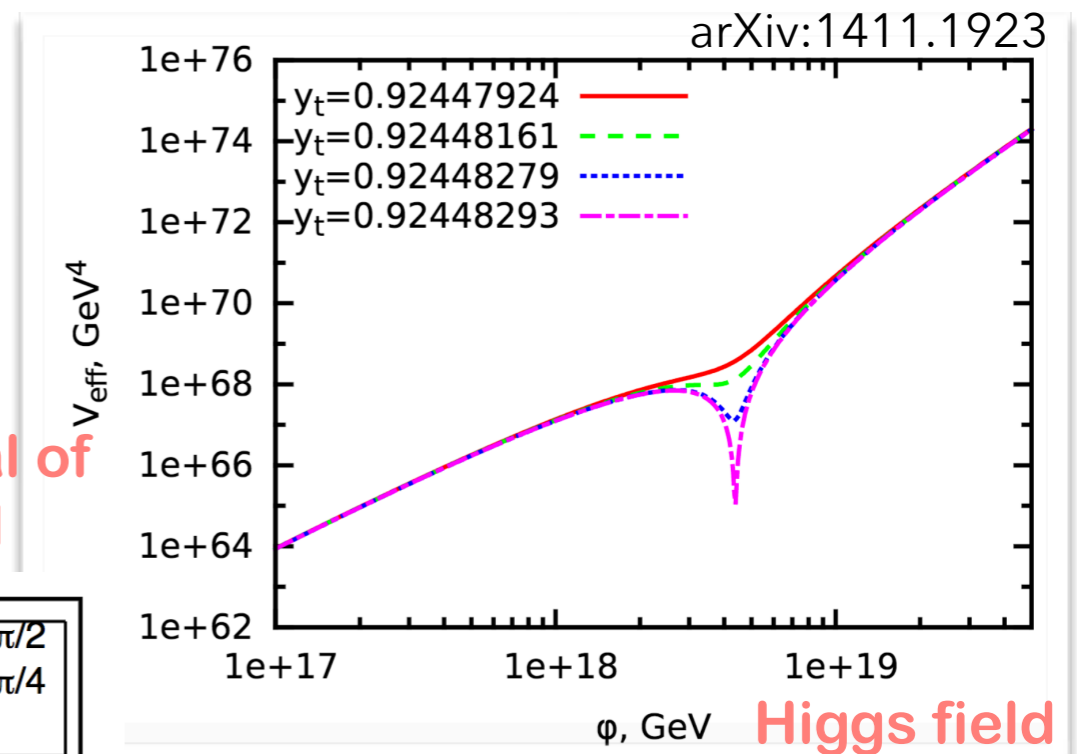
# Top Yukawa coupling... why should we care?

Top quark is the heaviest fermion in the SM → Largest Yukawa coupling

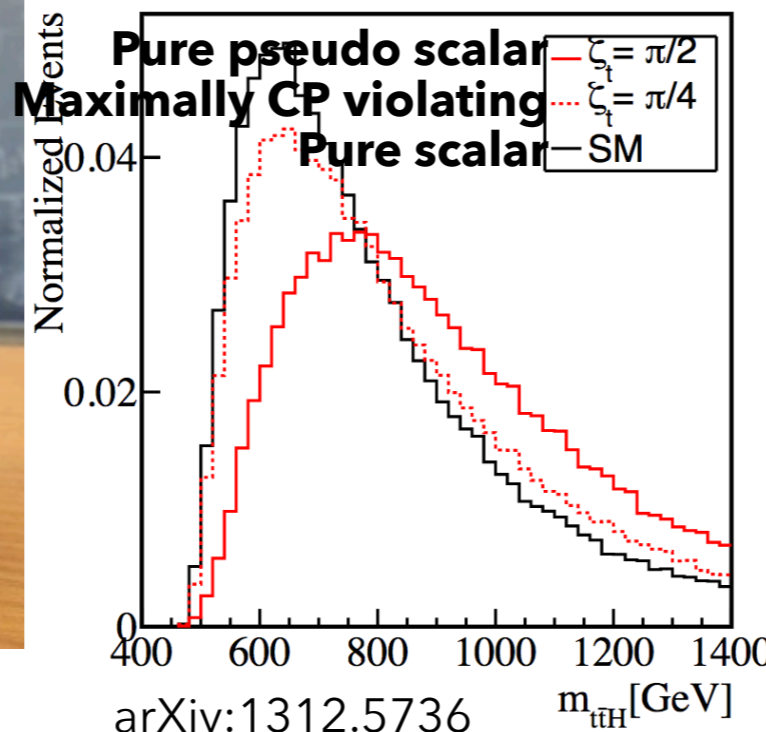
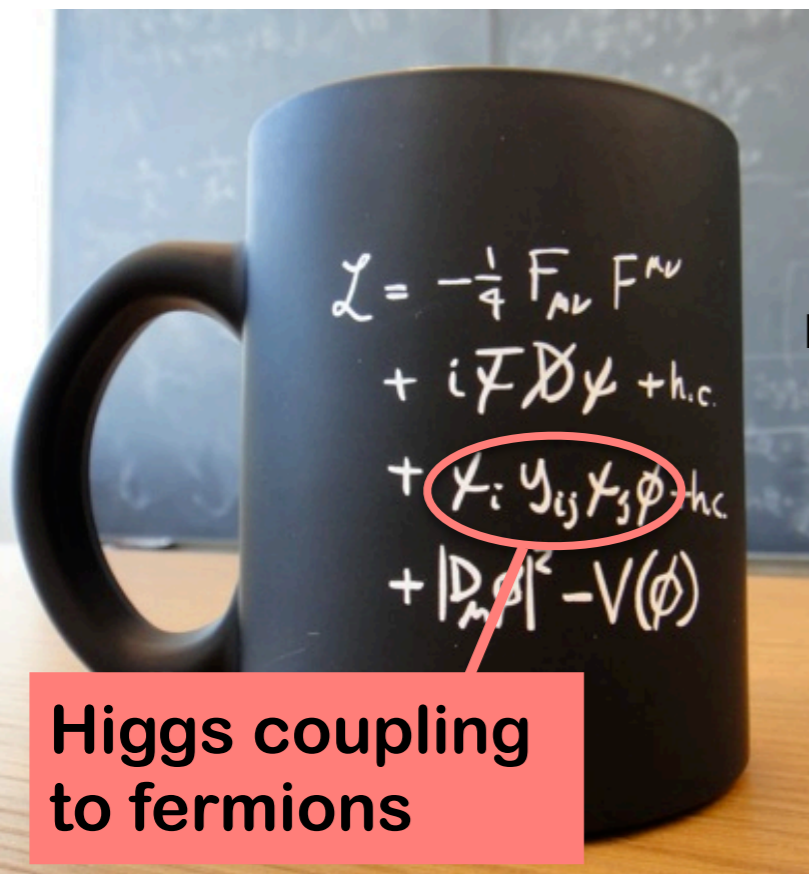


- \* The only fermion with such a natural coupling
- \* Does this point to a special role in electroweak symmetry breaking or beyond the SM physics?
- \* Top quark Yukawa coupling tells us about the stability of Universe and the required energy scale for new physics

Is the Universe stable or only metastable?

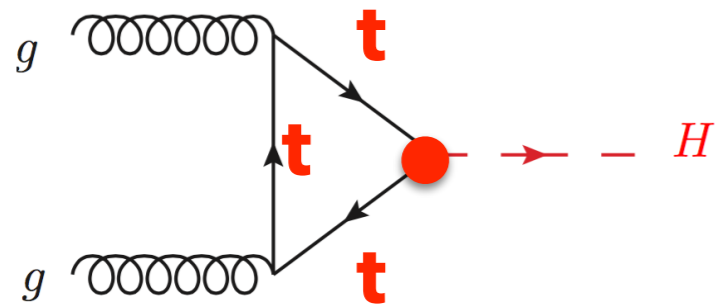


effective potential of the Higgs field

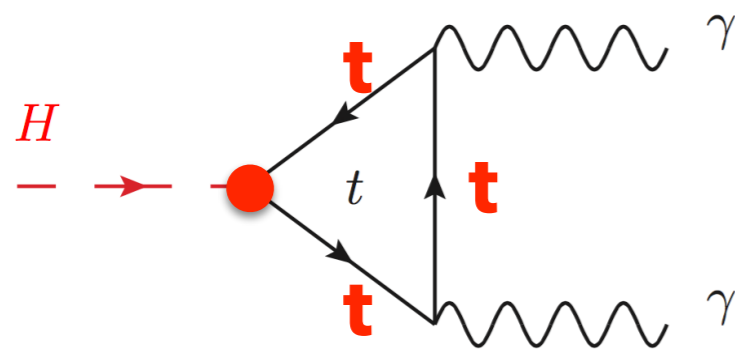


What is the CP nature of the Higgs boson?

- \* A CP admixture is still allowed
- \* Maybe  $t\bar{t}H$  production can help us disentangle the BSM component

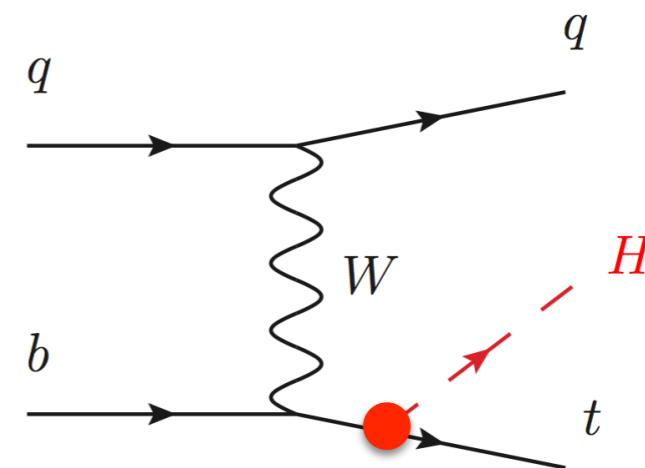
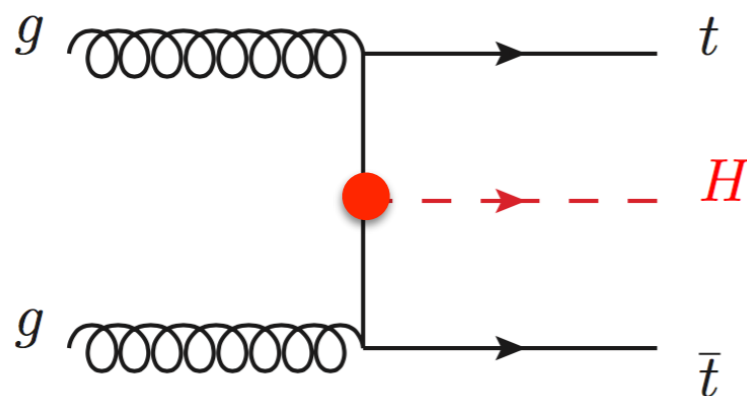


**indirect** top Yukawa coupling constraints from gluon fusion production and  $\gamma\gamma$  decay...



... assuming no additional heavy particles which could couple to the Higgs boson!

**direct** top Yukawa coupling measurement only possible at the LHC via  $t\bar{t}H$  and  $tH$



Similar signature is visible in SUSY searches, VLQ, black holes or heavy charged Higgs

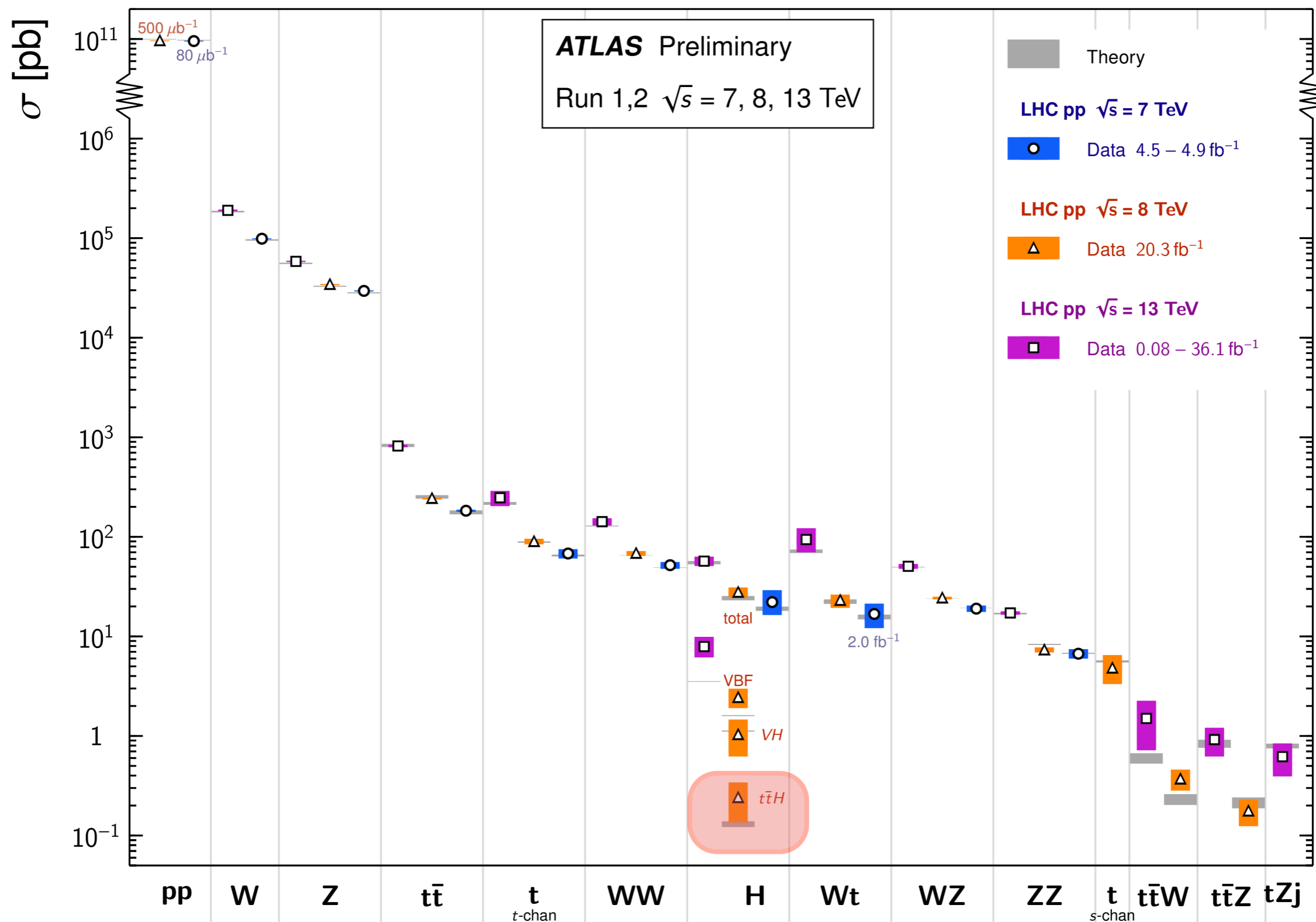
If such new physics scenarios exist, will see significant deviations from SM prediction

# Measure one of the tiniest!



## Standard Model Total Production Cross Section Measurements

Status: July 2017



# Where to look for $t\bar{t}H$ production?

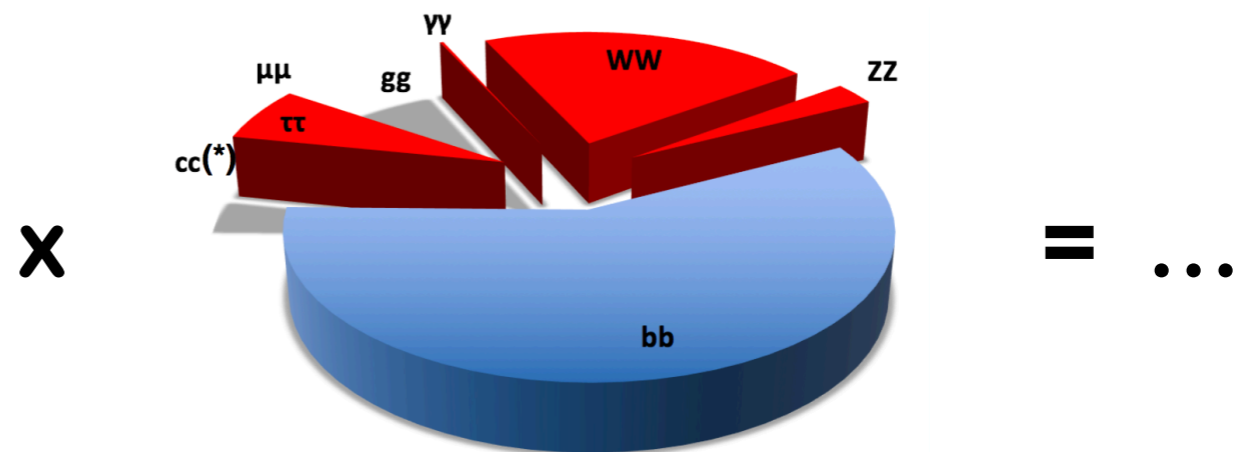
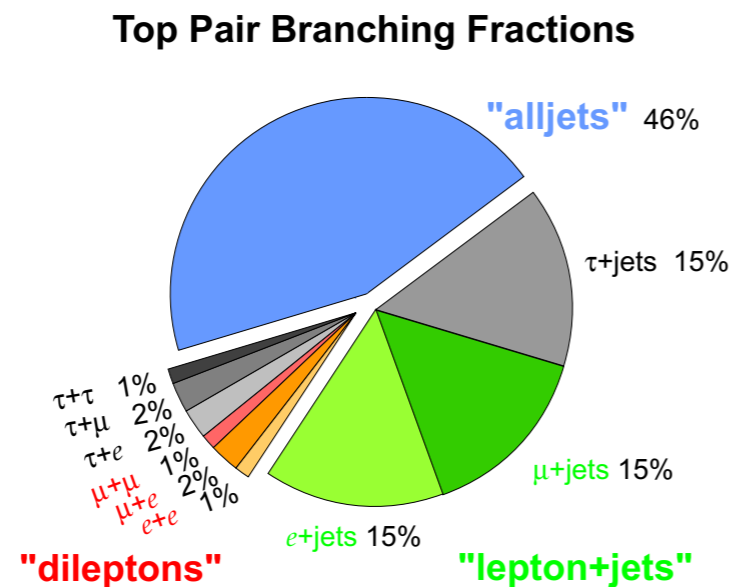


\*  $t\bar{t}H$  production ( $\sim 500$  fb @ 13TeV) is:

- **two orders** of magnitude smaller than ggF Higgs production
- **three orders** of magnitude smaller than  $t\bar{t}$  production

\* Look for  $t\bar{t}H$  in final states with distinctive signatures and features

- Combination of top quark x Higgs boson decay modes



X

= ...

# $t\bar{t}H$ analysis channels



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

$t\bar{t}H$   
( $H \rightarrow WW, \tau\tau, ZZ$ )  
'multilepton'

$t\bar{t}H$   
( $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, ZZ(\rightarrow 4\ell)$ )

Low signal/background (need MVA)

Clear peak (clean bump hunt)

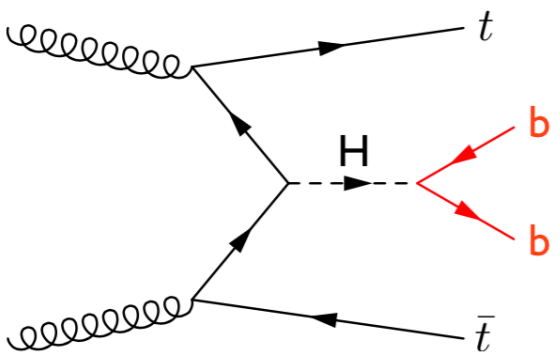
Large branching ratio (yields)

Small branching ratio

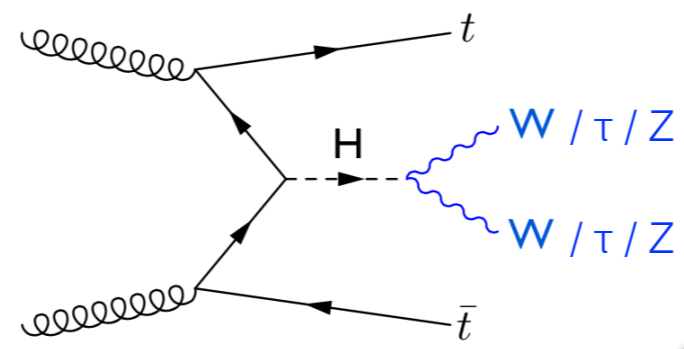
Difficult background modelling

Simple background

- large irreducible  $t\bar{t}$ +jets (HF) background
- final states with **multiple b-jets**

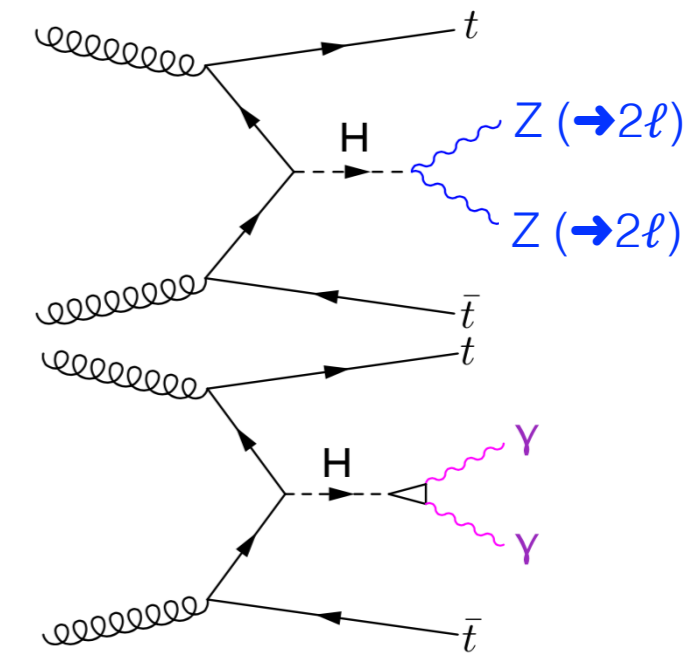


- leptonic decays of W / Z bosons and tau decays can give distinct **multilepton** signatures
- main background from  $t\bar{t}Z$ /W and non-prompt leptons



( $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  at  $m_H$  selection vetoed)

- **resonant** channels



motivation ← challenge

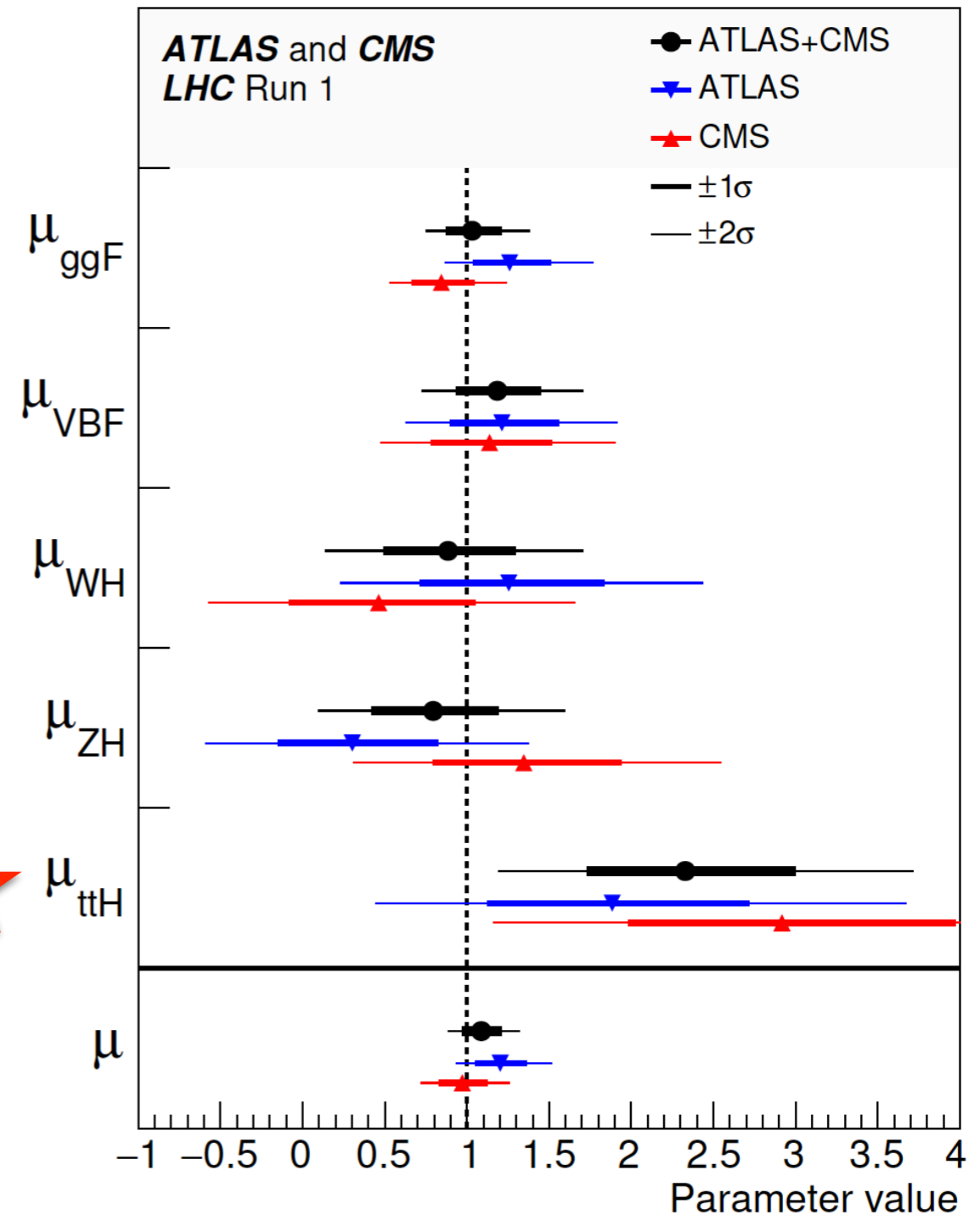


# $t\bar{t}H$ interest: from Run-1 to Run-2



JHEP08(2016)045

- \* Run-1 ATLAS+CMS Higgs combination:
  - $t\bar{t}H$  significance of  $4.4 \sigma$  ( $2.0 \sigma$  expected)
- \* Excess in both ATLAS and CMS  $\mu_{t\bar{t}H} = \sigma/\sigma_{SM}$ 
  - Originating from  $t\bar{t}H$  multilepton analyses
- \* Big leap (**x4**) for  $t\bar{t}H$  SM cross section from 8 to 13 TeV (\*) and **high statistics** of top quark samples collected by the LHC make this SM search **extremely interesting** to be studied in Run-2!

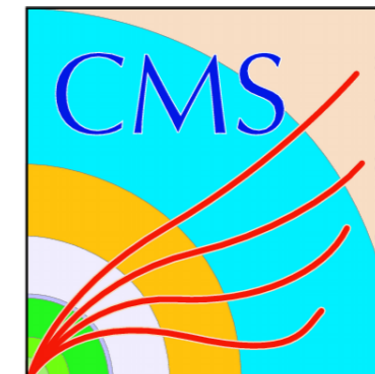


(\*) Other background contributions cross section do not increase as much, but different kinematics at higher energies!

# Most recent $t\bar{t}H$ results



2015+2016 data  
[~36 fb<sup>-1</sup>]



ttH multilepton (H → WW/ττ/ZZ)	★ arXiv: <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/1712.08891">1712.08891</a> submitted to PRD (including combination)	CMS-HIG-17-018 $\mu_{ttH} = 1.23^{+0.45}_{-0.43}$
ttH(bb)	★ arXiv: <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/1712.08895">1712.08895</a> submitted to PRD (leptonic)	CMS-HIG-17-026 (leptonic) $\mu_{ttH} = 0.72 \pm 0.45$ CMS-HIG-17-022 (all-hadronic) $\mu_{ttH} = 0.9 \pm 1.5$
ttH(ZZ → 4ℓ)	arXiv: <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/1712.02304">1712.02304</a> submitted to JHEP $\mu_{ttH} < 7.1$	arXiv: <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/1706.09936">1706.09936</a> $\mu_{ttH} < 1.18$
ttH(γγ)	ATLAS-CONF-2017-045 1.0σ (exp: 1.8σ) $\mu_{ttH} = 0.5 \pm 0.6$	CMS-PAS-HIG-16-040 3.3σ (exp: 1.5σ) $\mu_{ttH} = 2.2^{+0.9}_{-0.8}$
<b>ATLAS+CMS Run1 combination</b>	JHEP 1608 (2016) 045 4.4σ (exp: 2.0σ) $\mu_{ttH} = 2.3^{+0.7}_{-0.6}$	

# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): analysis strategy



\* **Target:**  $t\bar{t}H$  with

- $H \rightarrow WW/ZZ/\tau\tau \rightarrow \geq 1\ell$
- $t\bar{t} \rightarrow (\ell + \text{jets}, \text{dilepton})$

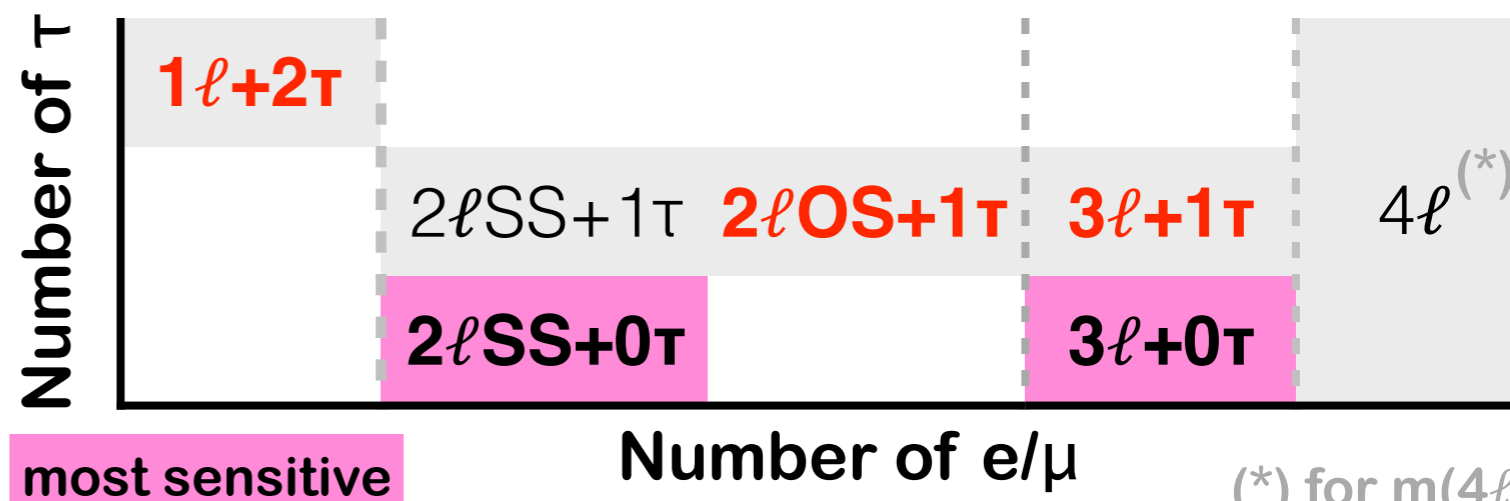
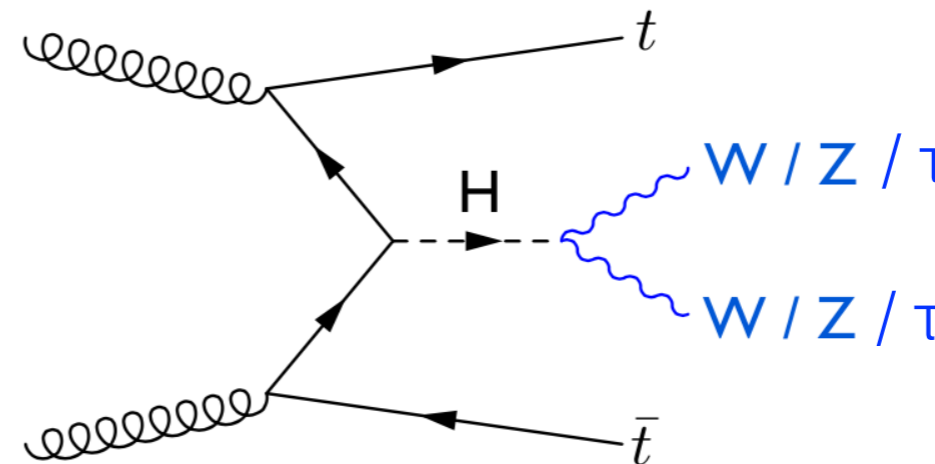
\* **High multiplicity** final state

\* **Rare in SM:** same-sign  $2\ell, 3\ell, 4\ell$

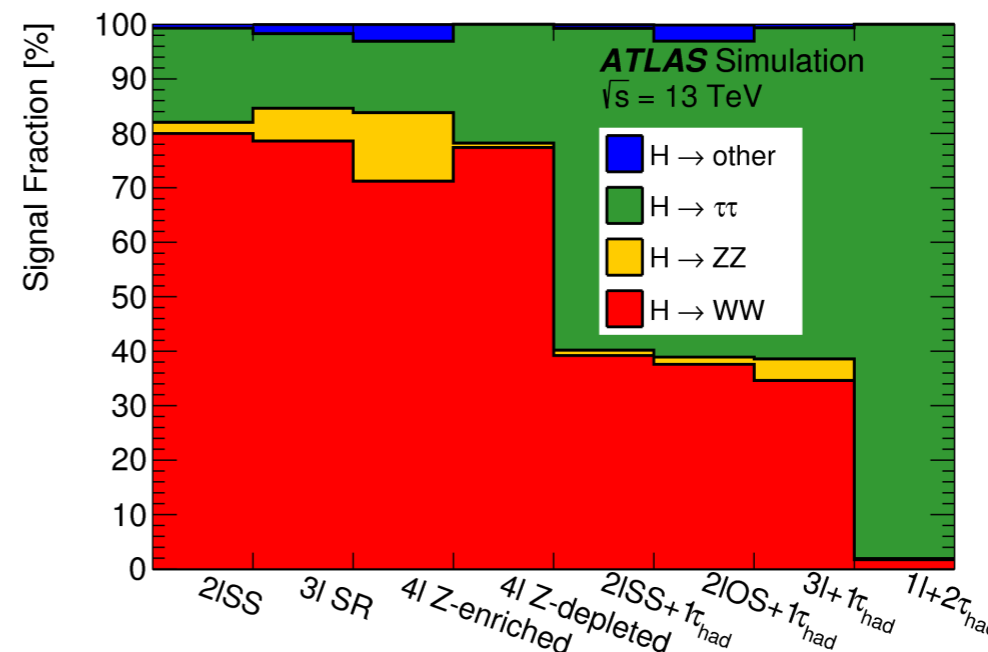
- Exploit presence of hadronically decaying  $\tau$

\* Split in categories based on **number of  $e/\mu$**  and **number of  $\tau$**

- **Loose** lepton definition (no isolation, loose ID)
- Dilepton and single lepton triggers



(\*) for  $m(4\ell)$   
!= Higgs mass window



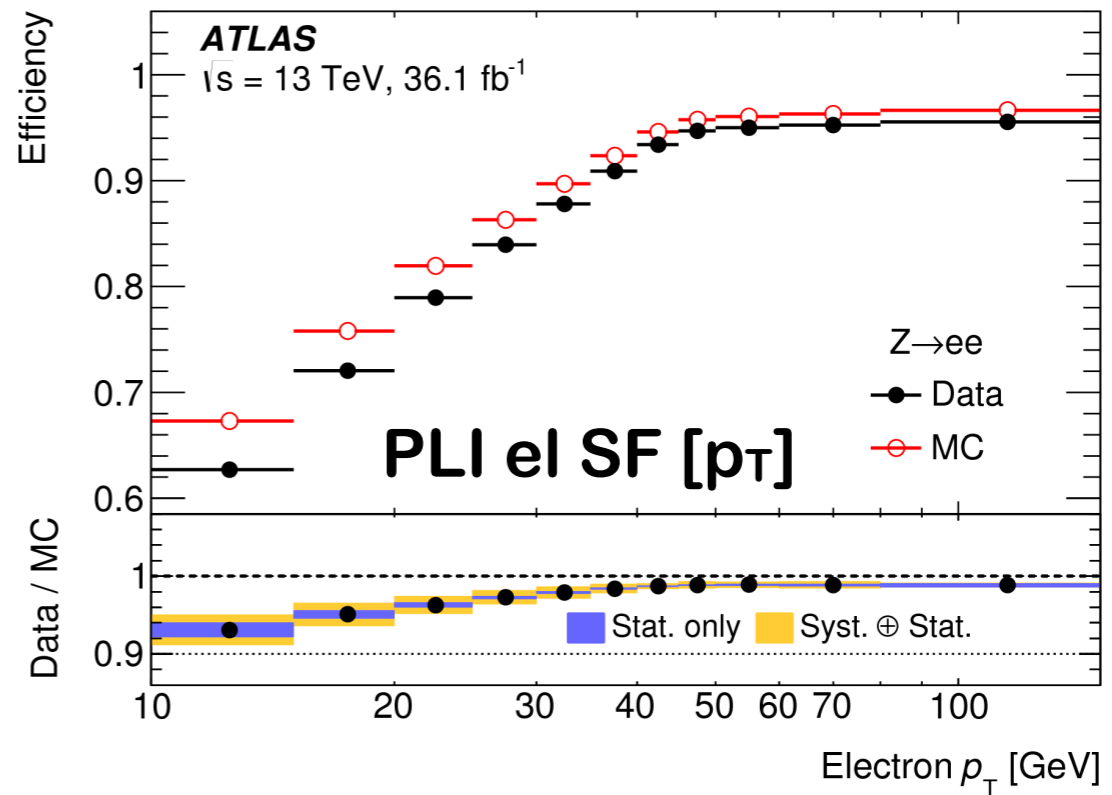
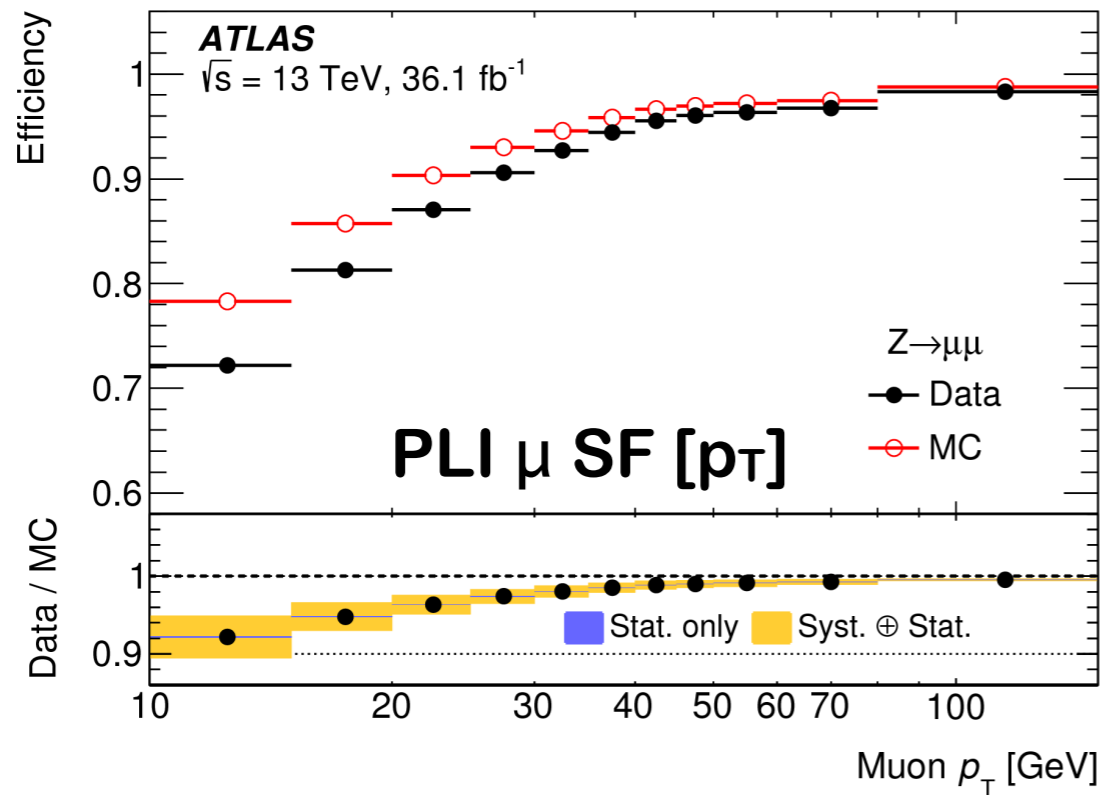
# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): tight lepton definition



\* **Common main/important background:** non-prompt leptons from semileptonic b-decay

\* **New MVA lepton isolation (PromptLeptonIso=PLI)** to reject non-prompt  $\ell$  based on:

- lepton and overlapping **track jets** properties
- lepton track/calorimeter **isolation** variables



- **SF values ~ 0.90 - 0.98**
- SF systematic uncertainties small (max ~3% @ low  $p_T$ ), w/ negligible impact in the analysis
- Factor  $\mathcal{O}(20)$  rejection for leptons originating from b-hadrons

\* **New MVA cut to reduce QMIsID** for  $2\ell SS$  and  $3\ell+0\tau$

- Factor  $\mathcal{O}(17)$  background rejection for a 95% signal efficiency

# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): object definition summary



\* Several "Loose" and "Tight" lepton definitions to optimise the event selection in each multilepton channel

	$e$					$\mu$			
	L	L <sup>†</sup>	L*	T	T*	L	L <sup>†</sup>	L*/T/T*	
Isolation	No	Yes				No	Yes		
Non-prompt lepton BDT	No		Yes			No		Yes	
Identification	Loose			Tight		Loose			
Charge misassignment veto BDT	No				Yes	No			
Transverse impact parameter significance, $ d_0 /\sigma_{d_0}$	$< 5$					$< 3$			
Longitudinal impact parameter, $ z_0 \sin \theta $	$< 0.5$ mm								

**L = Loose**

**L<sup>†</sup> = + Loose isolated**

**L\* = + PLI isolated**

**T = Tight (PLI isolated)**

**T\* = + QMisID MVA veto (el only)**

<b>T<sub>had</sub></b>
Medium BDT ID to reject jets (1M, 1T in 1 $\ell$ +2 $\tau$ )
$p_T > 25$ GeV
BDT to reject el faking $\tau$
$\tau$ - $\mu$ overlap removal
b-jet veto
T <sub>had</sub> vertex is PV

<b>Jets</b> $p_T > 25$ GeV
<b>BJets</b> MV2c10 70% WP

\* Minimum jet requirements:  $N_{\text{jets}} \geq 2$ ;  $N_{b\text{-jets}} \geq 1$

	2 $\ell$ SS	3 $\ell$	4 $\ell$	1 $\ell$ +2 $\tau_{\text{had}}$	2 $\ell$ SS+1 $\tau_{\text{had}}$	2 $\ell$ OS+1 $\tau_{\text{had}}$	3 $\ell$ +1 $\tau_{\text{had}}$
Light lepton	2T*	1L*, 2T*	2L, 2T	1T	2T*	2L <sup>†</sup>	1L <sup>†</sup> , 2T
$\tau_{\text{had}}$	0M	0M	–	1T, 1M	1M	1M	1M
$N_{\text{jets}}, N_{b\text{-jets}}$	$\geq 4, = 1, 2$	$\geq 2, \geq 1$	$\geq 2, \geq 1$	$\geq 3, \geq 1$	$\geq 4, \geq 1$	$\geq 3, \geq 1$	$\geq 2, \geq 1$

# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): multivariate analysis strategy



- \* **Signal extraction:** fit or cut on **BDTs (boosted decision tree)** to discriminate signal against the main background processes [except in  $3\ell+1\tau$ ]
- \* **Pre-MVA region:** loose selection per channel to train MVA
  - **Input variables:** system reconstruction, pseudo-continuous b-tagging, kinematics [full list in back-up]
- \* **Final selection** per channel:
  - Either pre-MVA selection (e.g.  $2\ell SS+0\tau$ ), tighter selection (e.g.  $2\ell SS+1\tau$ ), or split pre-MVA region in categories (e.g.  $3\ell+0\tau$ )
  - **$2\ell SS0\tau$ :** combination of two BDTs ( $t\bar{t}H$  vs.  $t\bar{t}$ ;  $t\bar{t}H$  vs.  $t\bar{t}V$ )
  - **$3\ell 0\tau$ :** 5-dimensional multinominal BDTs mapped to 5 categories ( $t\bar{t}H$ ,  $t\bar{t}W$ ,  $t\bar{t}Z$ ,  $t\bar{t}$ ,  $VV$ )
  - **$4\ell$  (Z-enriched):**  $t\bar{t}H$  vs.  $t\bar{t}Z$
  - **$2\ell SS+1\tau$ ,  $2\ell OS+1\tau$ ,  $1\ell+2\tau$ :**  $t\bar{t}H$  vs.  $t\bar{t}$  (with fake  $\tau$ )

	$2\ell SS$	$3\ell$	$4\ell$	$1\ell+2\tau_{had}$	$2\ell SS+1\tau_{had}$	$2\ell OS+1\tau_{had}$	$3\ell+1\tau_{had}$
BDT trained against	Fakes and $t\bar{t}V$	$t\bar{t}$ , $t\bar{t}W$ , $t\bar{t}Z$ , $VV$	$t\bar{t}Z$ / -	$t\bar{t}$	all	$t\bar{t}$	-
Discriminant	$2\times 1D$ BDT	$5D$ BDT	Event count	BDT	BDT	BDT	Event count
Number of bins	6	5	1 / 1	2	2	10	1
Control regions	-	4	-	-	-	-	-

# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): background composition



## \* Non-prompt lepton in $t\bar{t}$

- semileptonic b-decay
- $\gamma$  conversions

## \* Fake $\tau$ from light/b-jets

**DATA-DRIVEN (DD):  
MATRIX METHOD (MM), FAKE FACTOR (FF)**

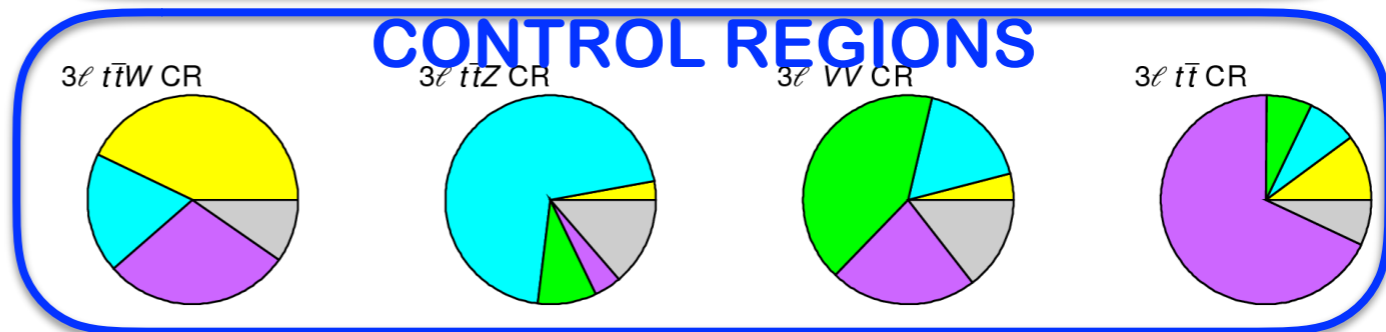
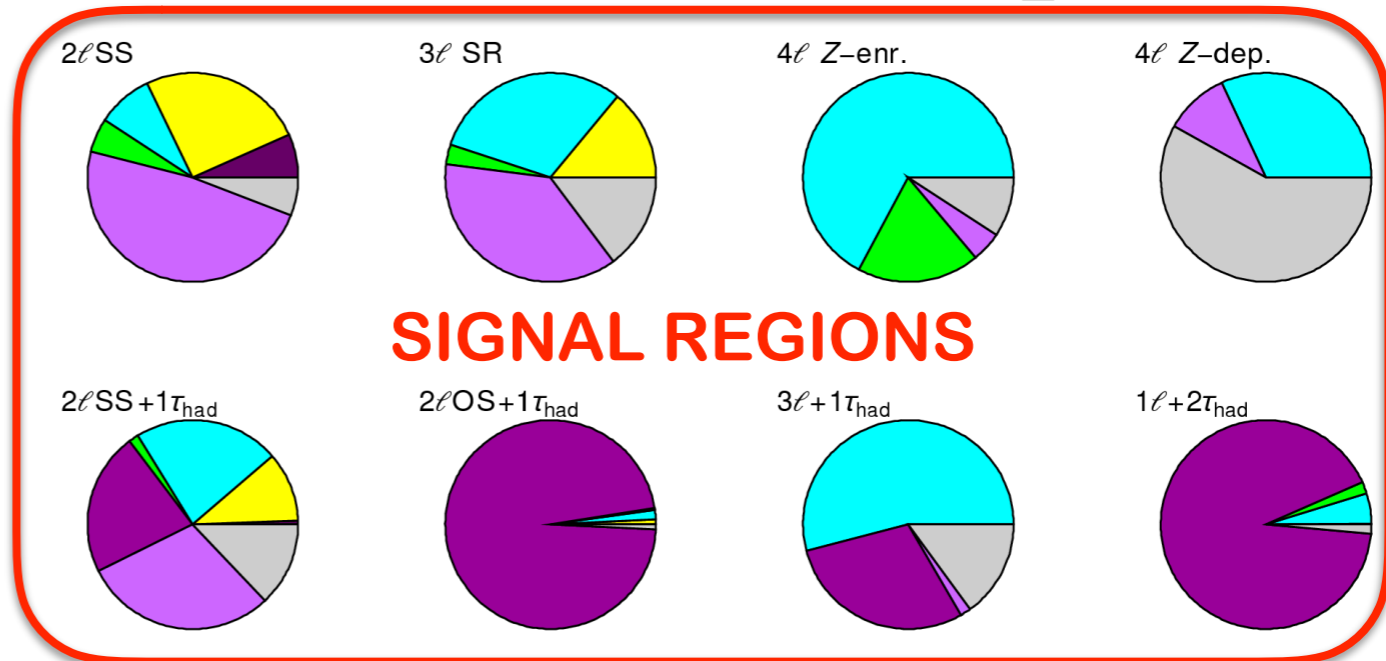
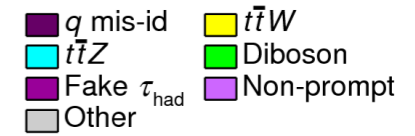
*FF ~ matrix method except prompt background is taken from MC*

## \* Misidentified charge lepton

- e.g. trident electrons (Bremsstrahlung)
- using **3D likelihood method** [ $p_T, \eta, \text{Tight/Loose}$ ]

**DATA-DRIVEN (DD):  
LIKELIHOOD FIT**

ATLAS  
 $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$



## \* Irreducible backgrounds with prompt-leptons ( $t\bar{t}Z, t\bar{t}W, VV$ )

**MC  
(cross check: fit to data)**

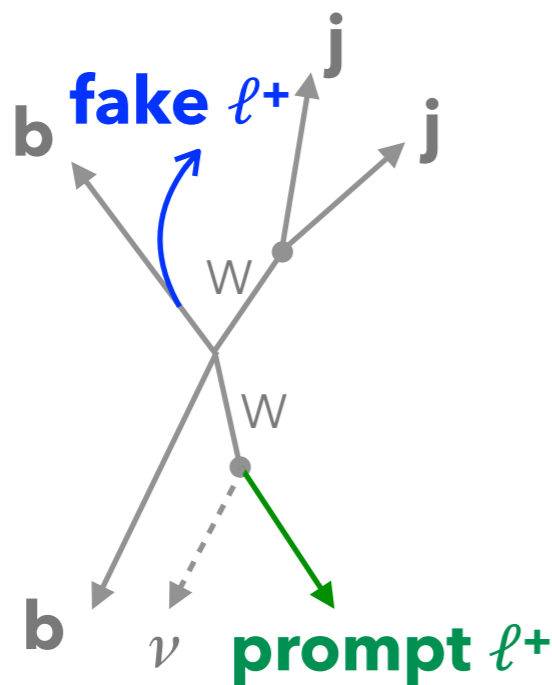
"Other":  $4t$ ops,  $t\bar{t}WW, tH, tZ$

# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): non-prompt light $\ell$



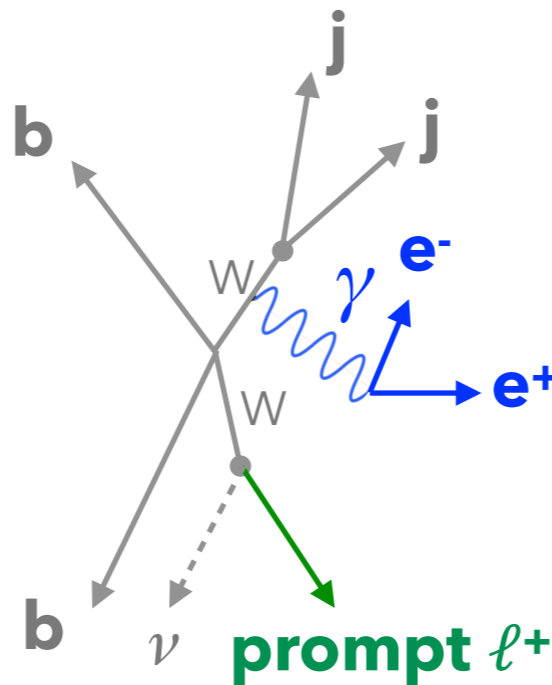
Method [parametr.]	$2\ell SS+0\tau$		$3\ell+0\tau$	$4\ell$	$2\ell SS+1\tau$	Other $\tau$ channels	
<b>Non-prompt lepton</b>	<b>DD (MM)</b> e $\ell$ : [ $p_T$ , NBjets] $\mu$ : [ $p_T$ , dR( $\mu$ ,j)]				<b>pseudo-DD (Fake SF)</b>	<b>DD (FF)</b> e $\ell/\mu$ : [ $p_T$ ]	<b>MC</b> (very small)
<b>DD/MC</b>	ee: $2.0 \pm 0.5$	e $\mu$ : $1.7 \pm 0.4$	$\mu\mu$ : $1.5 \pm 0.5$	SR: $1.8 \pm 0.8$			

Semileptonic b-decay



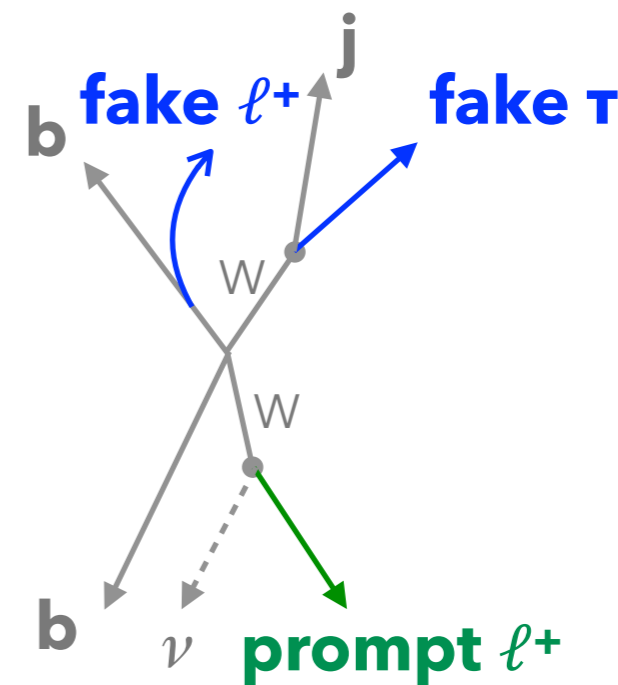
strongly reduced with PLI

Photon conversions



50% of the "fakes" in  $3\ell$ !

Non-prompt lepton & fake  $\tau$



70% from  $t\bar{t}$  in  $2\ell SS+1\tau$



# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): fake tau

Estimate method [parametrisation]	$1\ell+2\tau$	$2\ell OS+1\tau$	$2\ell SS+1\tau$	$3\ell+1\tau$
Fake tau	DD (SS data)	DD (FF) [ $p_T$ ]	pseudo-DD (MC correction with $2\ell OS+1\tau$ DD SF)	

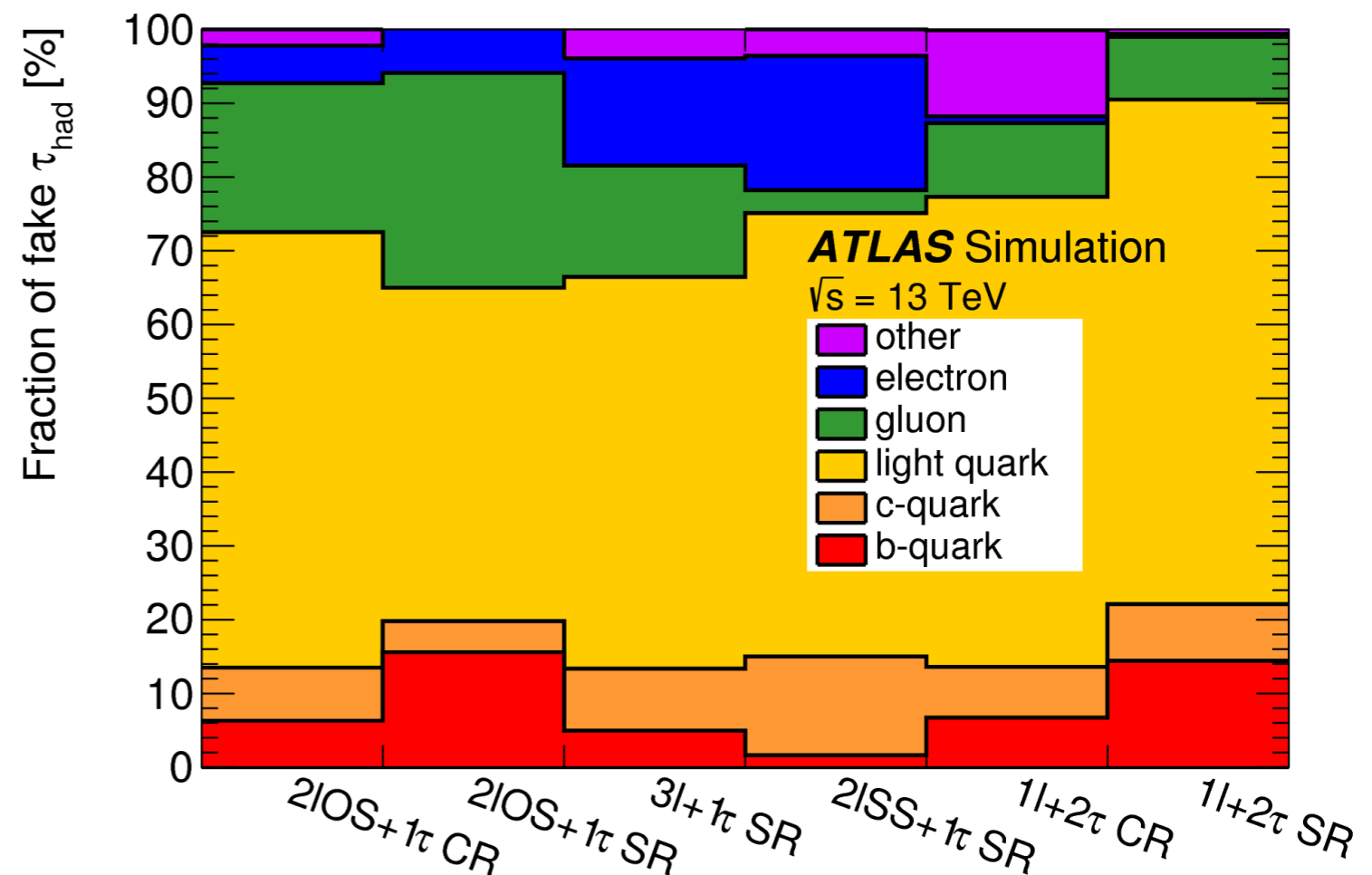
\*  $1\ell+2\tau$ : mostly  $t\bar{t}$  with 1 or 2 fake  $\tau$

\*  $2\ell OS+1\tau$ : fake factor

- Mainly  $t\bar{t}$  with jet faking  $\tau$
- Fake rates parametrised in  $\tau$   $p_T$

\*  $2\ell SS+1\tau$  and  $3\ell+1\tau$ : MC correction with SF derived from  $\{\text{DD}(2\ell OS+1\tau) / \text{MC}\}$

- Harmonised 1-fake- $\tau$  estimate for all channels, profit from large statistics from  $2\ell OS+1\tau$
- Final SF =  $1.36 \pm 0.16$



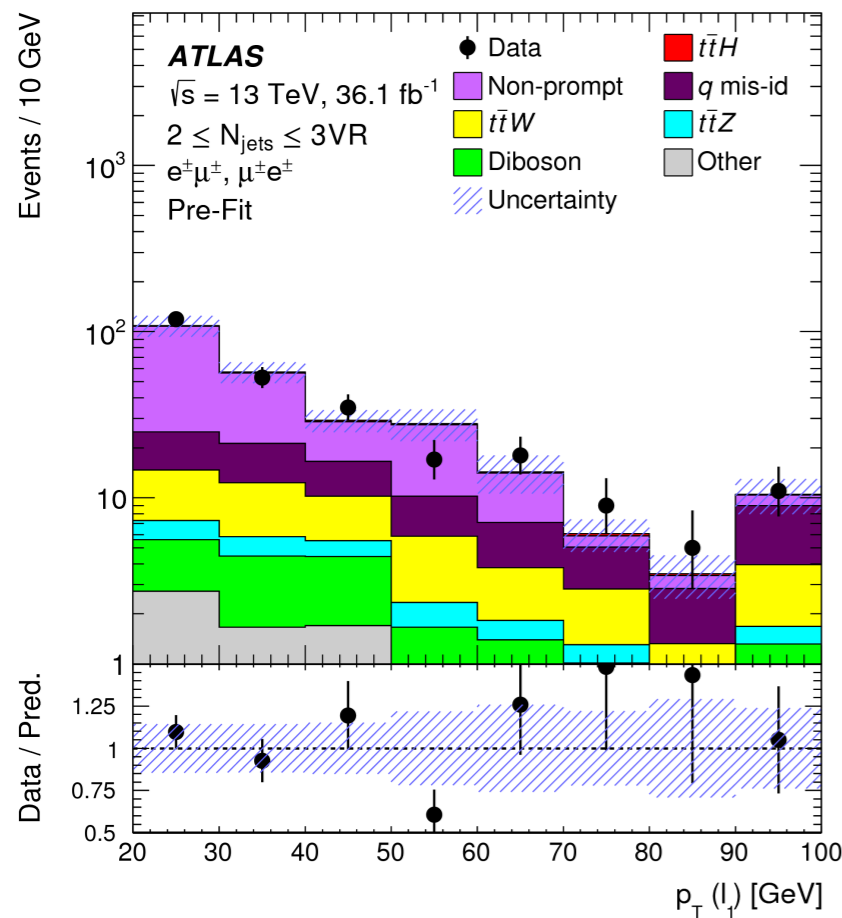
# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): fakes/non-prompt $\ell$ validation



\* Overall **reasonable data/prediction agreement** with estimates fakes in VRs

“Low  $N_{\text{jets}}$ ”

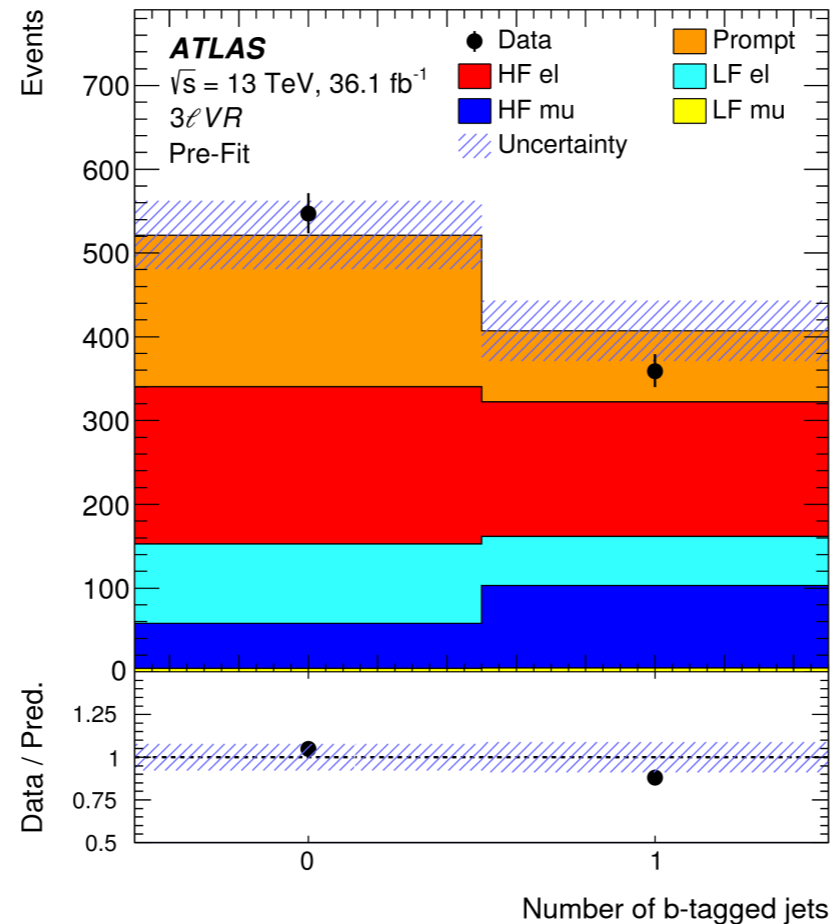
$2 \leq N_{\text{jets}} \leq 3, N_{\text{jets}} \geq 1$



**$2\ell\text{SS}+0\tau$   
fake  $\ell$**

“3 loose light  $\ell$ ”

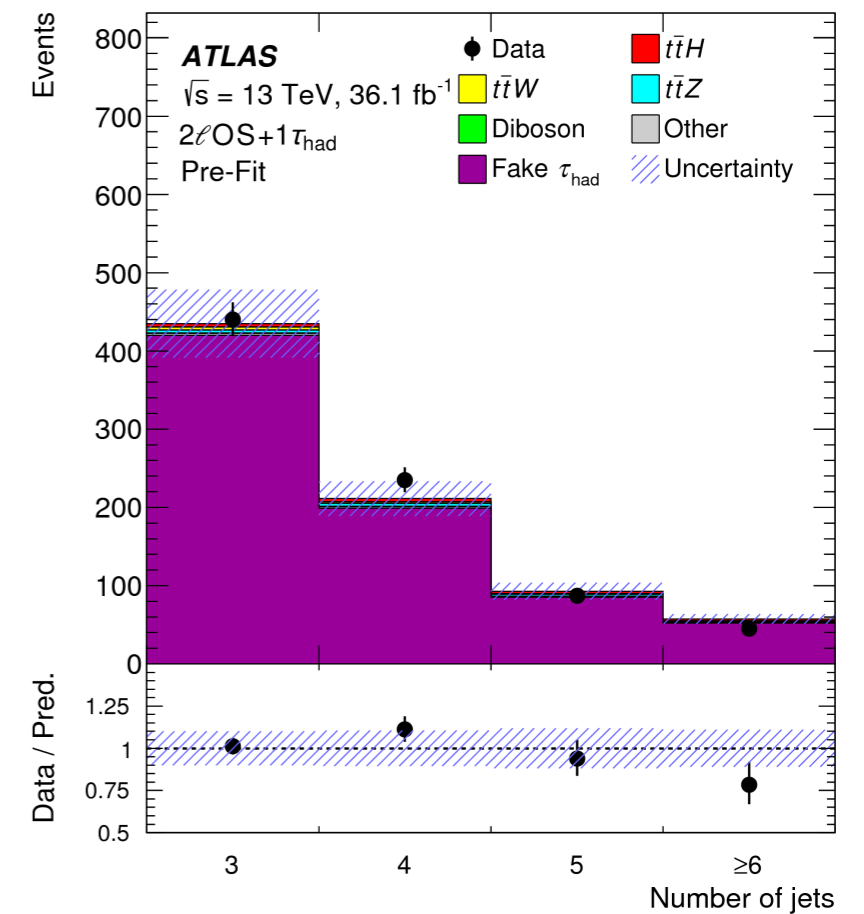
$N_{\text{jets}} \geq 3$



**$4\ell$   
fake  $\ell$**

“Pre-selection”

$N_{\text{jets}} \geq 3$

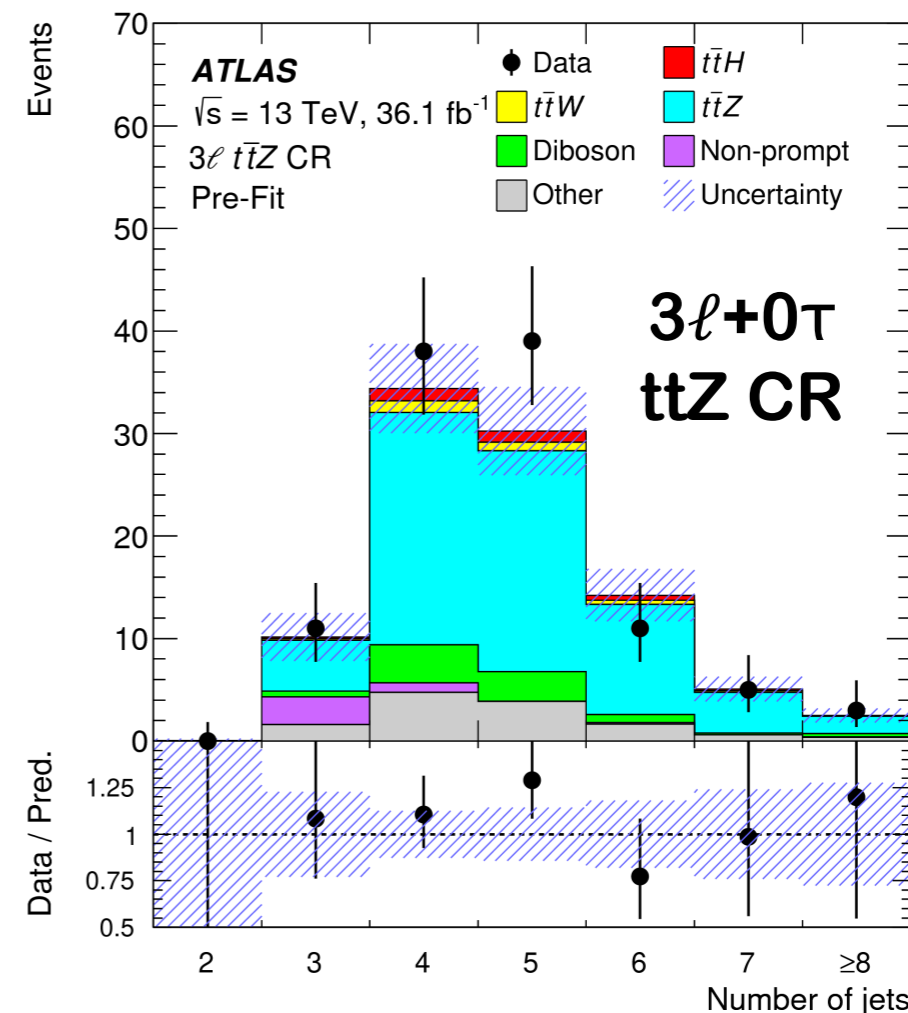
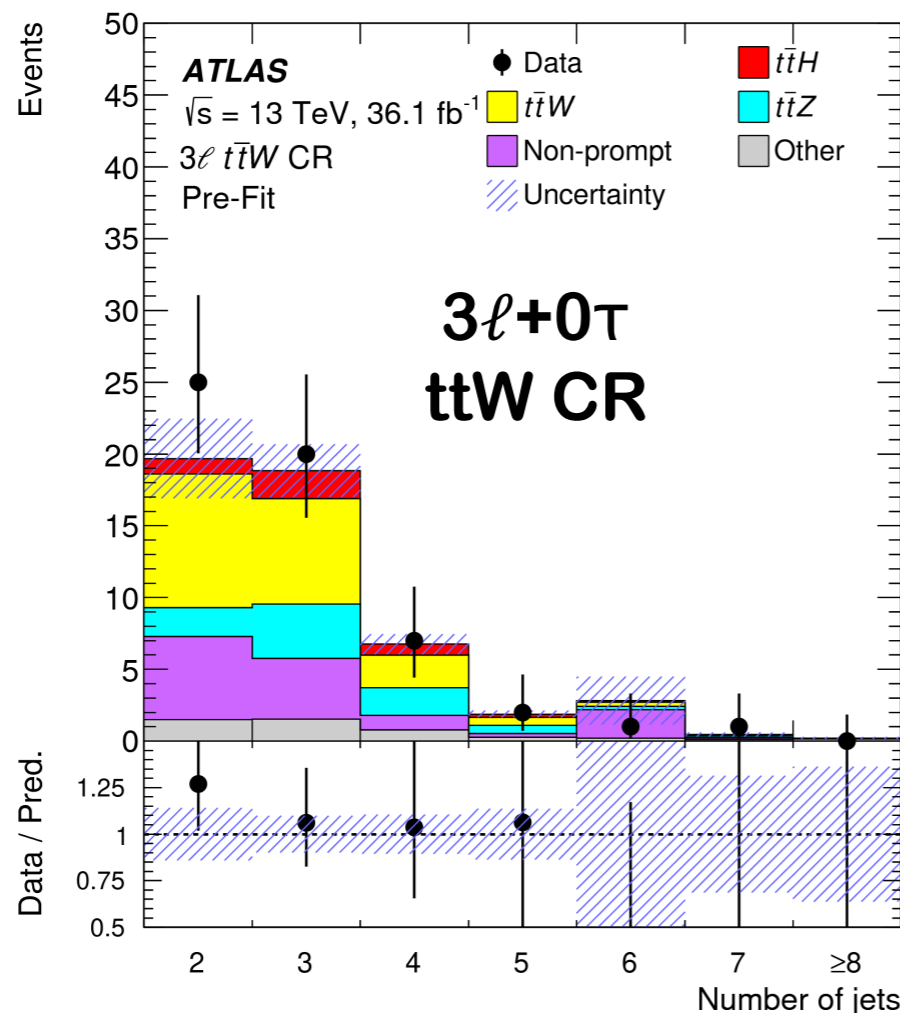


**$2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau$   
fake  $\tau$**

# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): prompt $\ell$ background validation



- \* Largest irreducible backgrounds:  $t\bar{t}W$ ,  $t\bar{t}Z$ , diboson
- \* Estimated using **NLO MC samples**, with theory/modelling uncertainties:
  - Cross-section uncertainties
  - Scale variations
  - Generator comparisons
- \* Validated in several regions, eg:  $3\ell$   $t\bar{t}W/Z$  CRs built using the multinomial BDT
- \* Overall **good data/prediction agreement** in  $t\bar{t}V$ -enriched CRs using MC simulation
  - Also good agreement in cut-based VRs



# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): profile likelihood fit



\* Binned profile likelihood fit

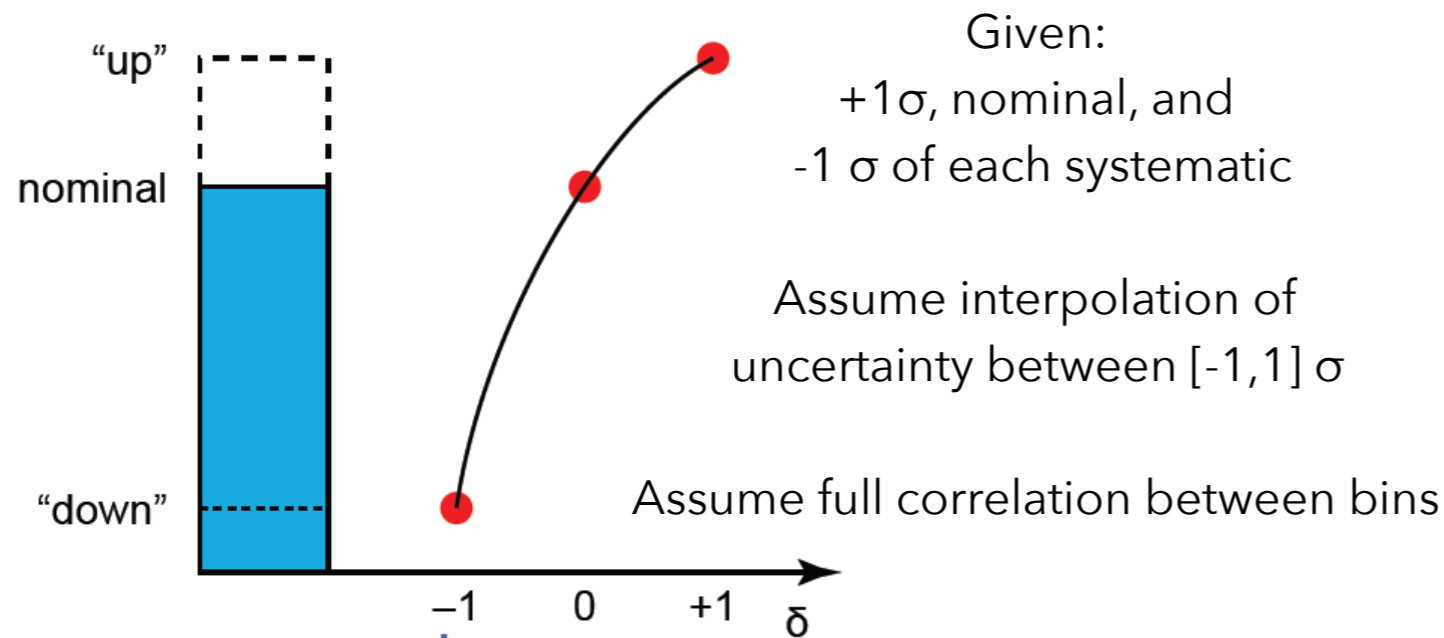
$$L(\mu, \theta) = L_{Pois}(\mu, \theta) \cdot \prod_p \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{\theta_p^2}{2}\right)$$

\* **Parameter of interest:** signal strength

$$\mu_{t\bar{t}H} = \frac{\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}}{\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}^{SM}}$$

\* **Systematic uncertainties** included in the fit as nuisance parameters  $\theta$

- Need sufficiently flexible model of signal and background!



**Constrain uncertainty in control region, propagate this knowledge to signal region**

\* Find best values for  $\mu$  and  $\theta$  from minimising the  $-\log L$

\* Calculate experimental sensitivity in terms of the significance

- Quantify level of disagreement between data and background-only hypothesis as Gaussian standard deviations ( $\sigma$ )

# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): systematic uncertainties



Systematic uncertainty	Type	Components
Luminosity	N	1
Pileup reweighting	SN	1
<b>Physics Objects</b>		
Electron	SN	6
Muon	SN	15
$\tau_{\text{had}}$	SN	10
Jet energy scale and resolution	SN	28
Jet vertex fraction	SN	1
Jet flavor tagging	SN	126
$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$	SN	3
Total (Experimental)	–	191
<b>Data-driven non-prompt/fake leptons and charge misassignment</b>		
Control region statistics	SN	38
Light-lepton efficiencies	SN	22
Non-prompt light-lepton estimates: non-closure	N	5
$\gamma$ -conversion fraction	N	5
Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ estimates	N/SN	12
Electron charge misassignment	SN	1
Total (Data-driven reducible background)	–	83
<b><math>t\bar{t}H</math> modeling</b>		
Cross section	N	2
Renormalization and factorization scales	S	3
Parton shower and hadronization model	SN	1
Higgs boson branching fraction	N	4
Shower tune	SN	1
<b><math>t\bar{t}W</math> modeling</b>		
Cross section	N	2
Renormalization and factorization scales	S	3
Matrix-element MC event generator	SN	1
Shower tune	SN	1
<b><math>t\bar{t}Z</math> modeling</b>		
Cross section	N	2
Renormalization and factorization scales	S	3
Matrix-element MC event generator	SN	1
Shower tune	SN	1
<b>Other background modeling</b>		
Cross section	N	15
Shower tune	SN	1
Total (Signal and background modeling)	–	41
Total (Overall)	–	315

\* **Instrumental/detector** uncertainties  
correlated across channels

- Exception: JES Flavour Composition

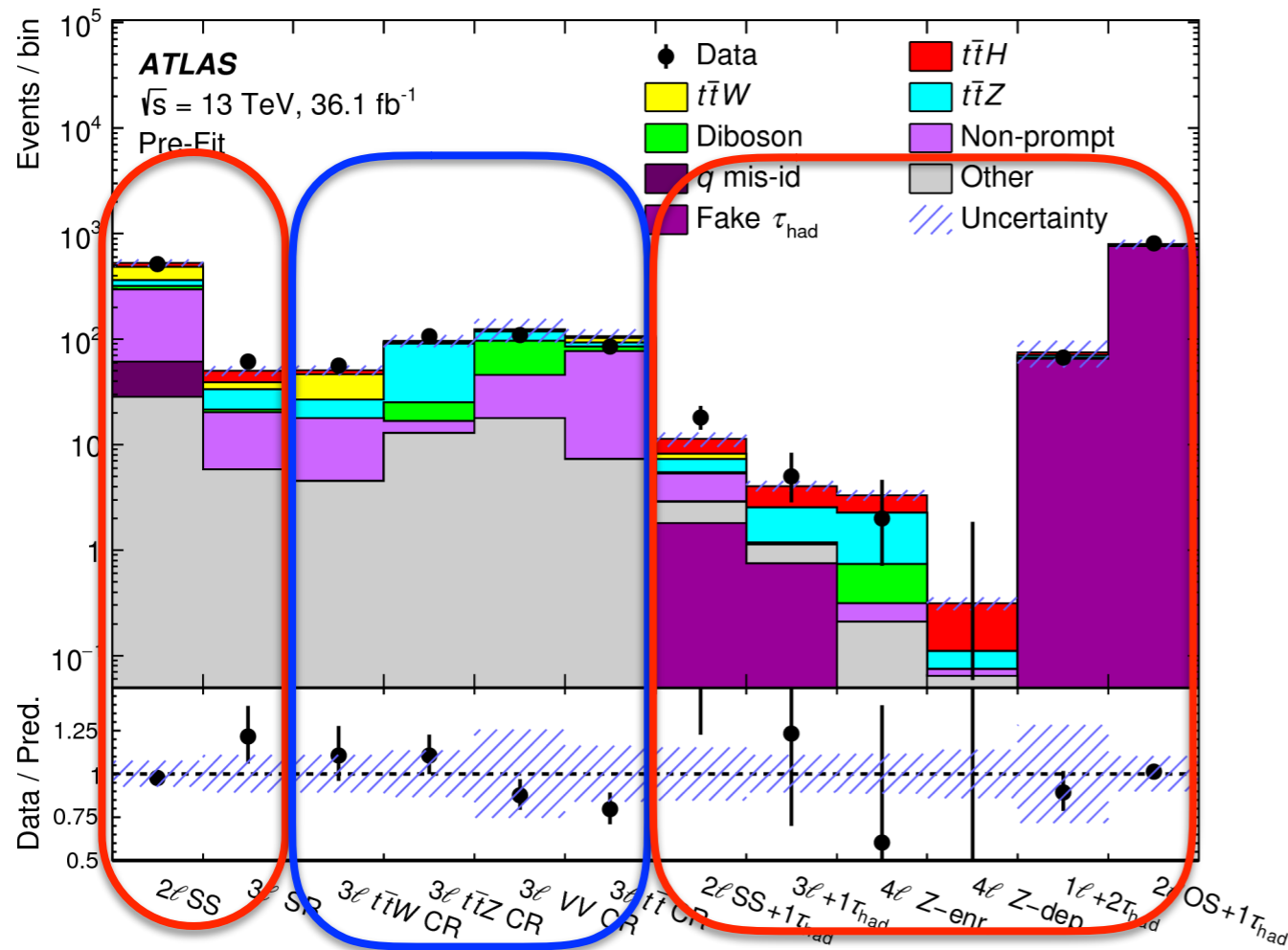
\* **DD fake estimate** uncertainties

\* **Prompt background modelling**  
uncertainties correlated across channels

**One parameter of interest:  $\mu(t\bar{t}H)$**   
**315 nuisance parameters**

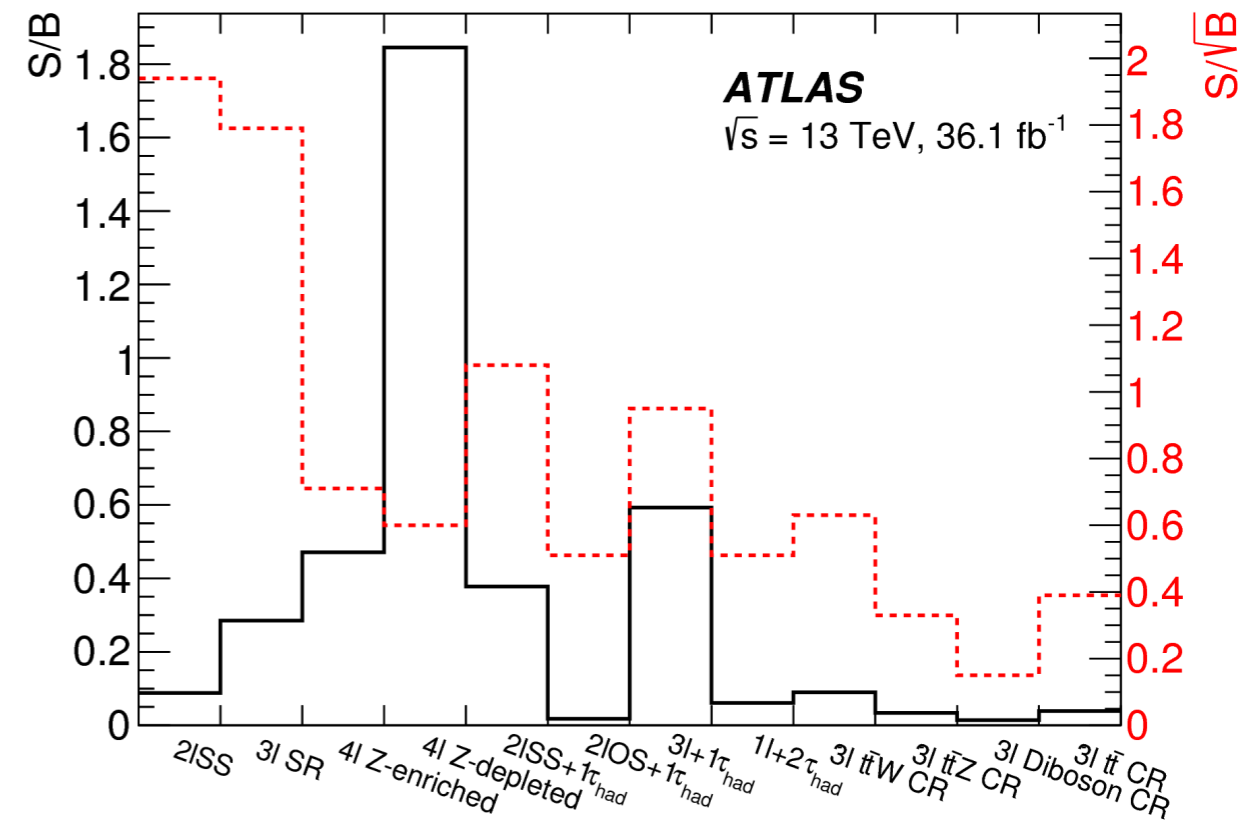
# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): pre-fit summary

- \* **Most statistically sensitive** to  $t\bar{t}H$ :  $2\ell SS+0\tau$  and  $3\ell+0\tau$
- \* **Purest** but lowest statistics:  $4\ell$
- \* **Largest pre-fit excess** per fit category:  $2\ell SS+1\tau$



**CONTROL  
REGIONS**

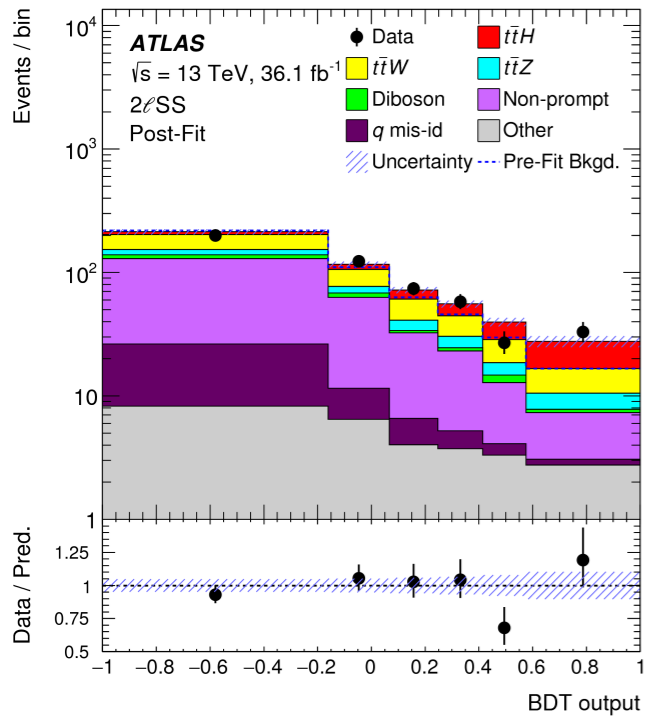
**SIGNAL  
REGIONS**



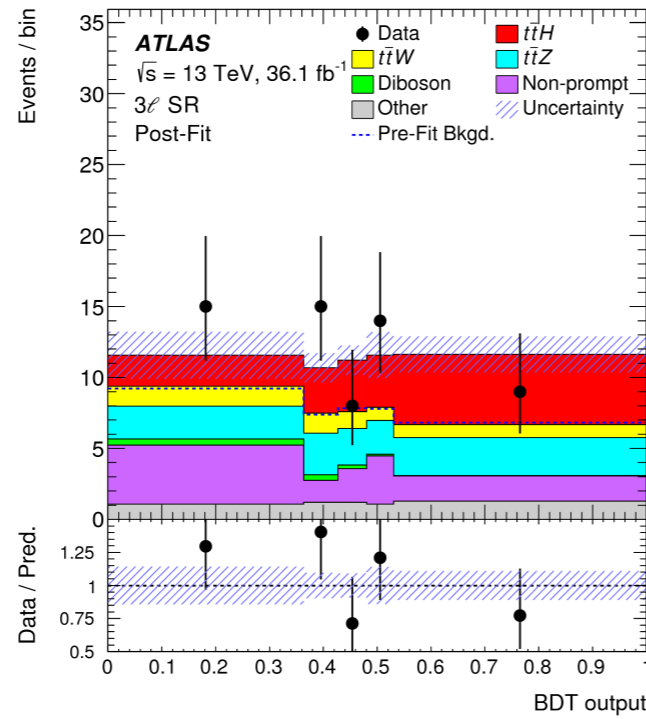
"Other":  $4t_{\text{ops}}$ ,  $t\bar{t}WW$ ,  $tH$ ,  $tZ$

# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): post-fit SRs

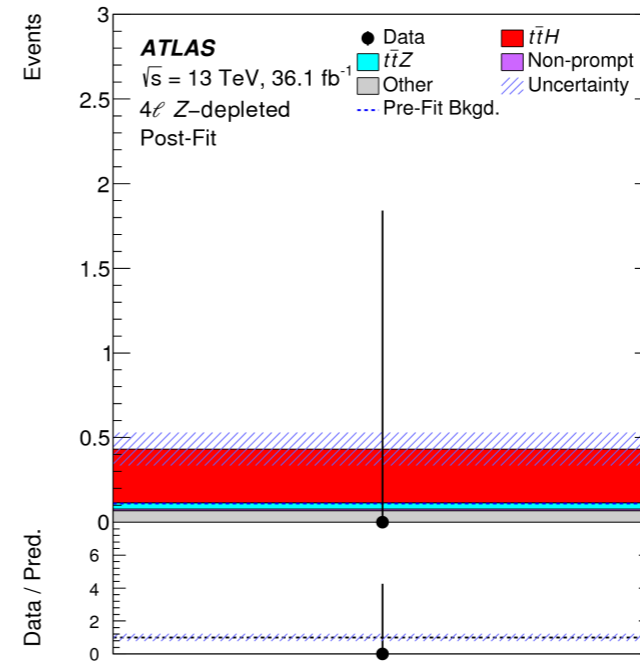
## 2 $\ell$ SS+0 $\tau$



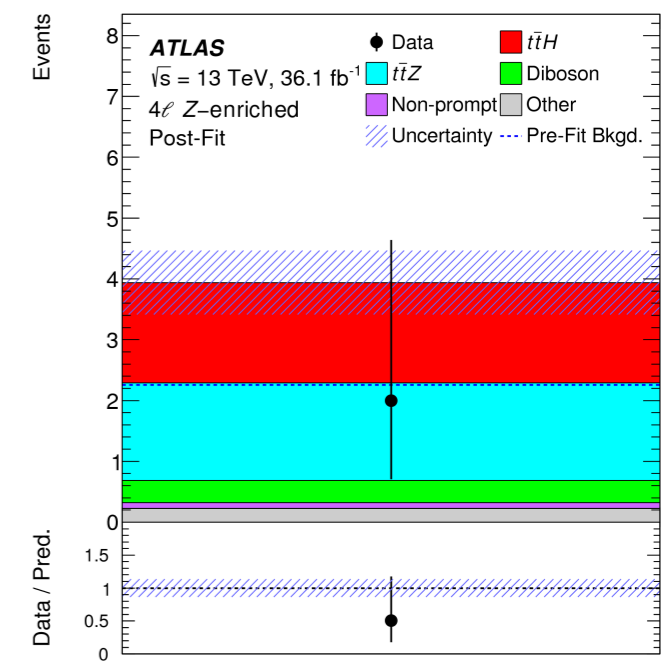
## 3 $\ell$ +0 $\tau$



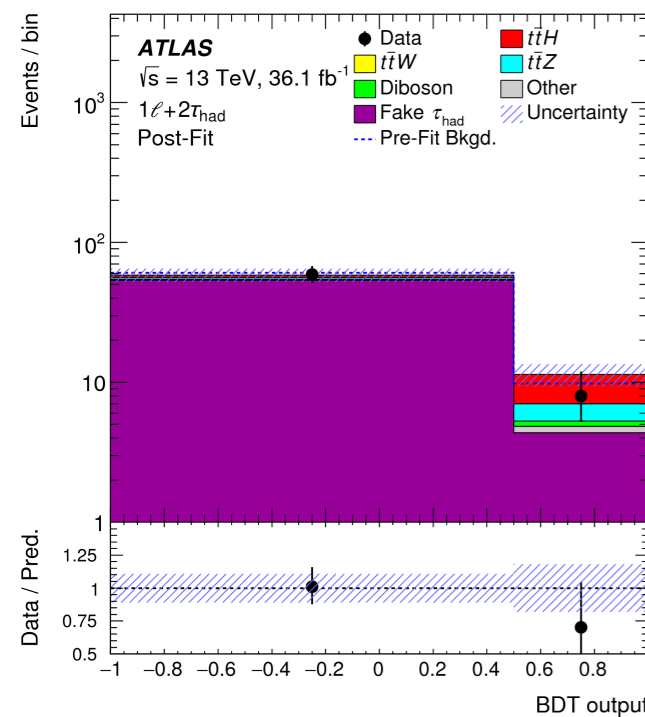
## 4 $\ell$ (Z-depleted)



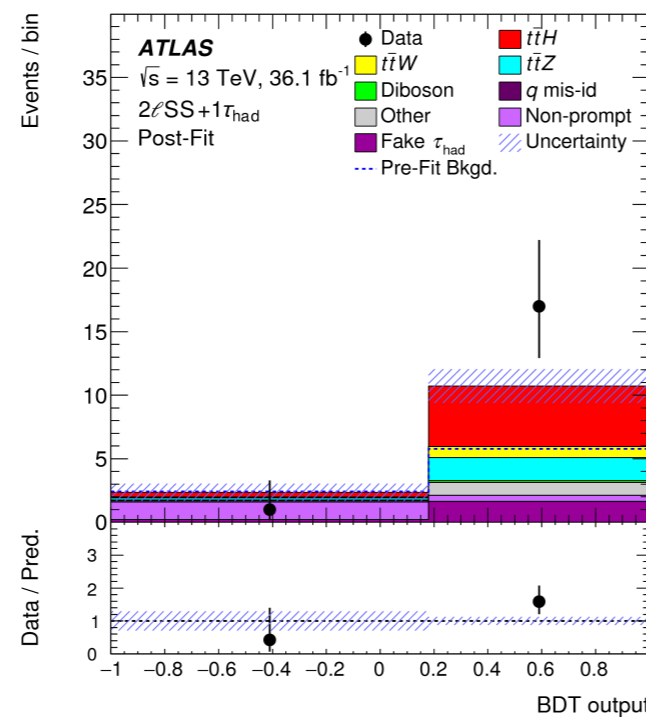
## 4 $\ell$ (Z-enriched)



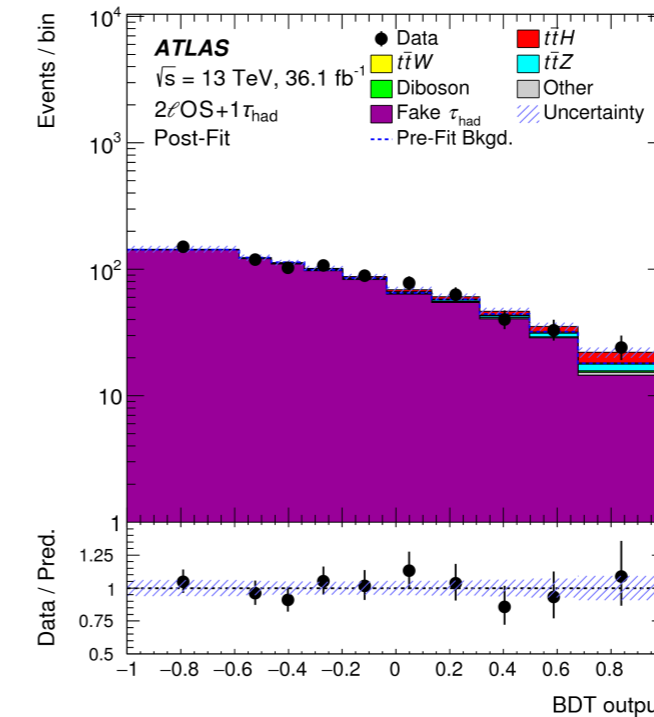
## 1 $\ell$ +2 $\tau$



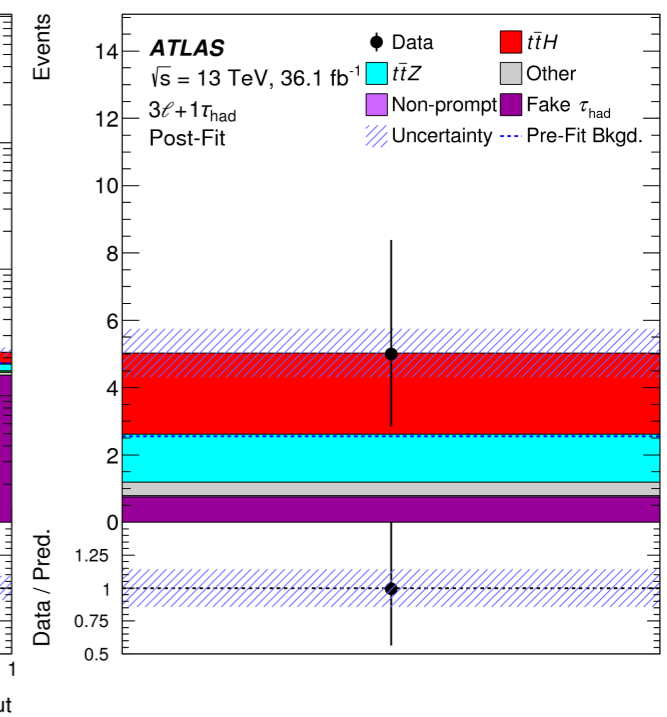
## 2 $\ell$ SS+1 $\tau$



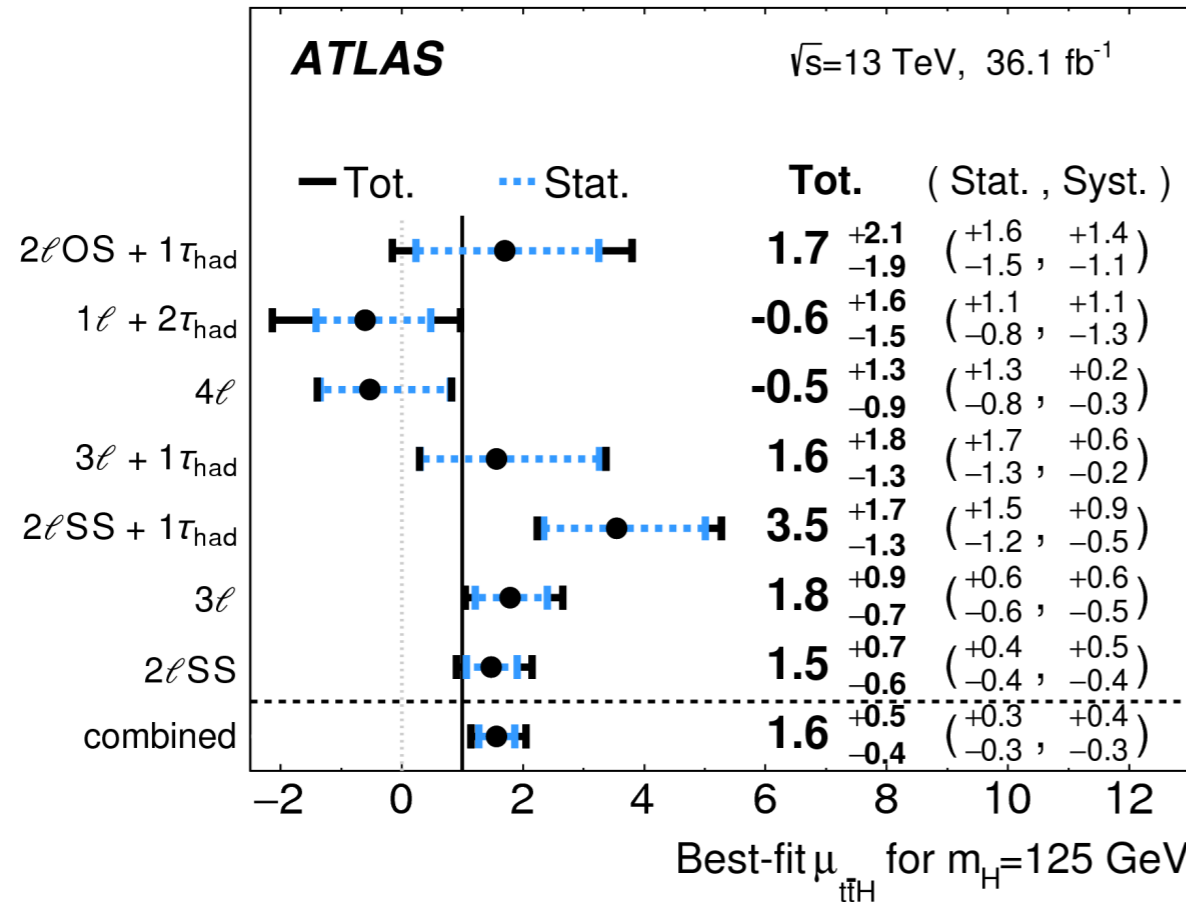
## 2 $\ell$ OS+1 $\tau$



## 3 $\ell$ +1 $\tau$



# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): fit results (II)



Channel	Significance	
	Observed	Expected
2 $\ell$ OS+1 $\tau_{\text{had}}$	0.9 $\sigma$	0.5 $\sigma$
1 $\ell$ +2 $\tau_{\text{had}}$	-	0.6 $\sigma$
4 $\ell$ (*)	-	0.8 $\sigma$
3 $\ell$ +1 $\tau_{\text{had}}$	1.3 $\sigma$	0.9 $\sigma$
2 $\ell$ SS+1 $\tau_{\text{had}}$	3.4 $\sigma$	1.1 $\sigma$
3 $\ell$	2.4 $\sigma$	1.5 $\sigma$
2 $\ell$ SS	2.7 $\sigma$	1.9 $\sigma$
Combined	4.1 $\sigma$	2.8 $\sigma$

\* Cross-section extrapolated to the inclusive phase space:

- $\sigma(t\bar{t}H) = 790 \pm 150$  (stat.)  $^{+170}_{-150}$  (syst.) fb

\* Significance with respect to background-only hypothesis = **4.1  $\sigma$  (2.8  $\sigma$ ) obs (exp)**

\* Compatible with SM (within 1.4 $\sigma$ )

\* Compatibility (7 chan.) = 34%

\* **Alternative fit:**  $t\bar{t}Z$  and  $t\bar{t}W$  normalisation free-floating

- 15% loss in sensitivity:  $\mu(t\bar{t}H) = 1.57^{+0.57}_{-0.50}$

- $\mu(t\bar{t}Z/W)$  in agreement with SM:  $\mu_{t\bar{t}W} = 0.92 \pm 0.32$ ;  $\mu_{t\bar{t}Z} = 1.17^{+0.25}_{-0.22}$

(\*) for  $m(4\ell)$   
!= Higgs  
mass  
window



# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): fit results (I)



## \* Largest (grouped) impact on $\mu(t\bar{t}H)$ :

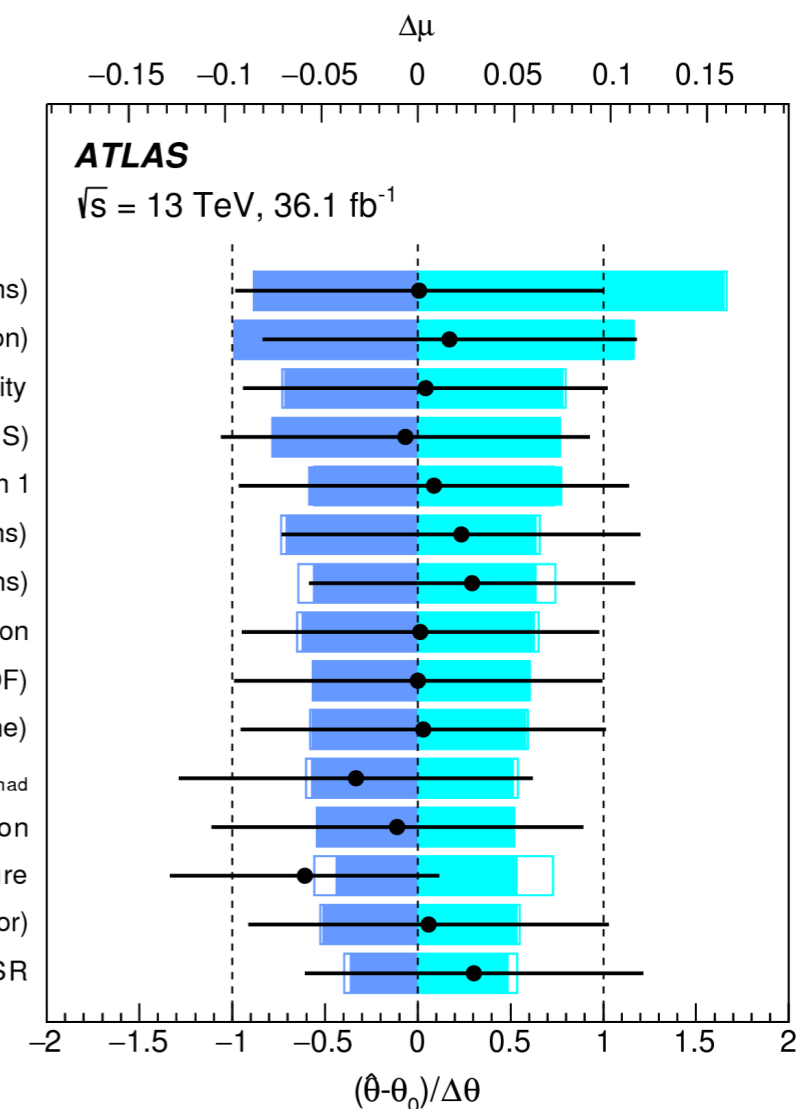
- signal modelling, JES and JER, and the non-prompt light  $\ell$  estimates

## \* No major constraints or pulls of nuisance parameters

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

Pre-fit impact on  $\mu$ :  
 $\square$   $\theta=\hat{\theta}+\Delta\theta$      $\square$   $\theta=\hat{\theta}-\Delta\theta$   
 Post-fit impact on  $\mu$ :  
 $\square$   $\theta=\hat{\theta}+\Delta\hat{\theta}$      $\square$   $\theta=\hat{\theta}-\Delta\hat{\theta}$   
 ● Nuis. Param. Pull

ttH cross section (scale variations)  
 Jet energy scale (pileup subtraction)  
 Luminosity  
 Jet energy scale (flavor comp. 2 $\ell$ SS)  
 Jet energy scale variation 1  
 ttW cross section (scale variations)  
 ttZ cross section (scale variations)  
 $\tau_{\text{had}}$  identification  
 ttH cross section (PDF)  
 ttH modeling (shower tune)  
 Flavor tagging c-jet/ $\tau_{\text{had}}$   
 $t\bar{t}\ell\ell$  cross section  
 3 $\ell$  Non-prompt closure  
 ttW modeling (generator)  
 Non-prompt stat. in 4th bin of 3 $\ell$  SR



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



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

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

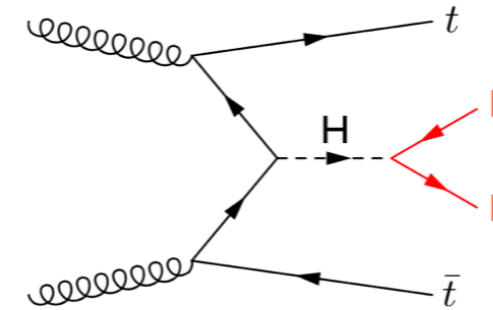
**\* Channel categorisation** based on

- Number of  $\ell$  (1 or 2 opposite-sign)
- Number of jets
- Requirements on the b-tagging discriminant (4 calibrated working points)
- Resolved or boosted, for single lepton channel

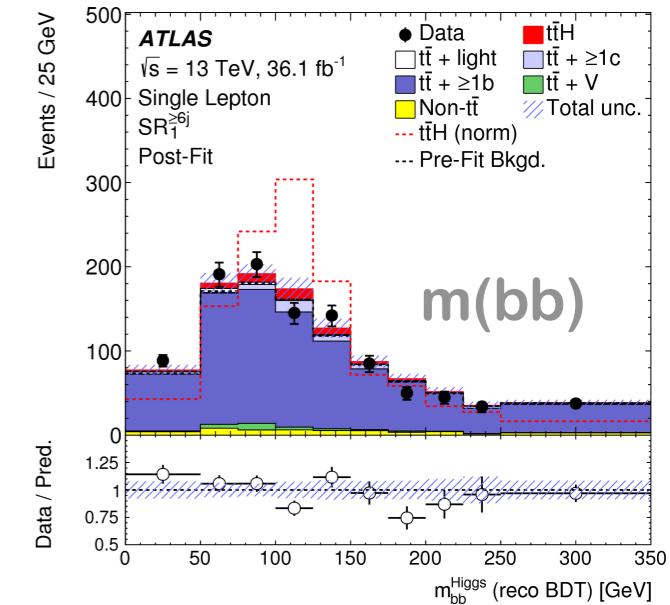
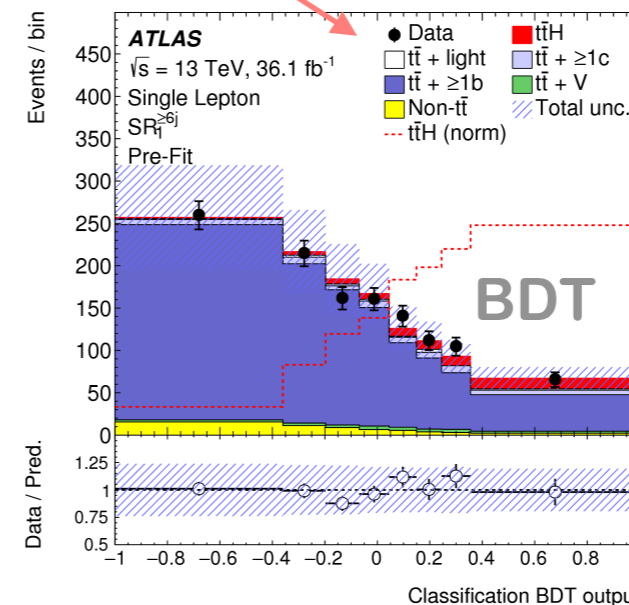
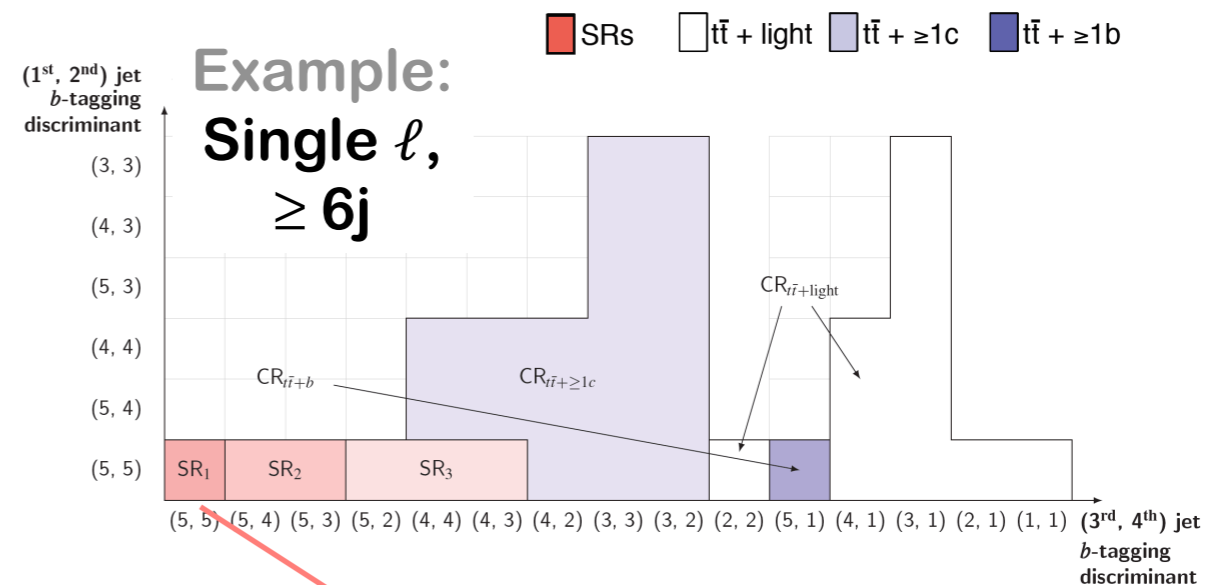
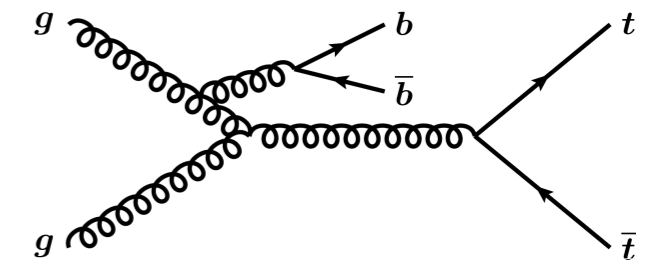
**\* MVA analysis** needed to discriminate signal from the overwhelming background

- The '**classification BDT**' includes as input variables: kinematic variables, reconstruction BDTs (resolved), likelihood and matrix element method discriminants (where available), discrete btagging discriminant

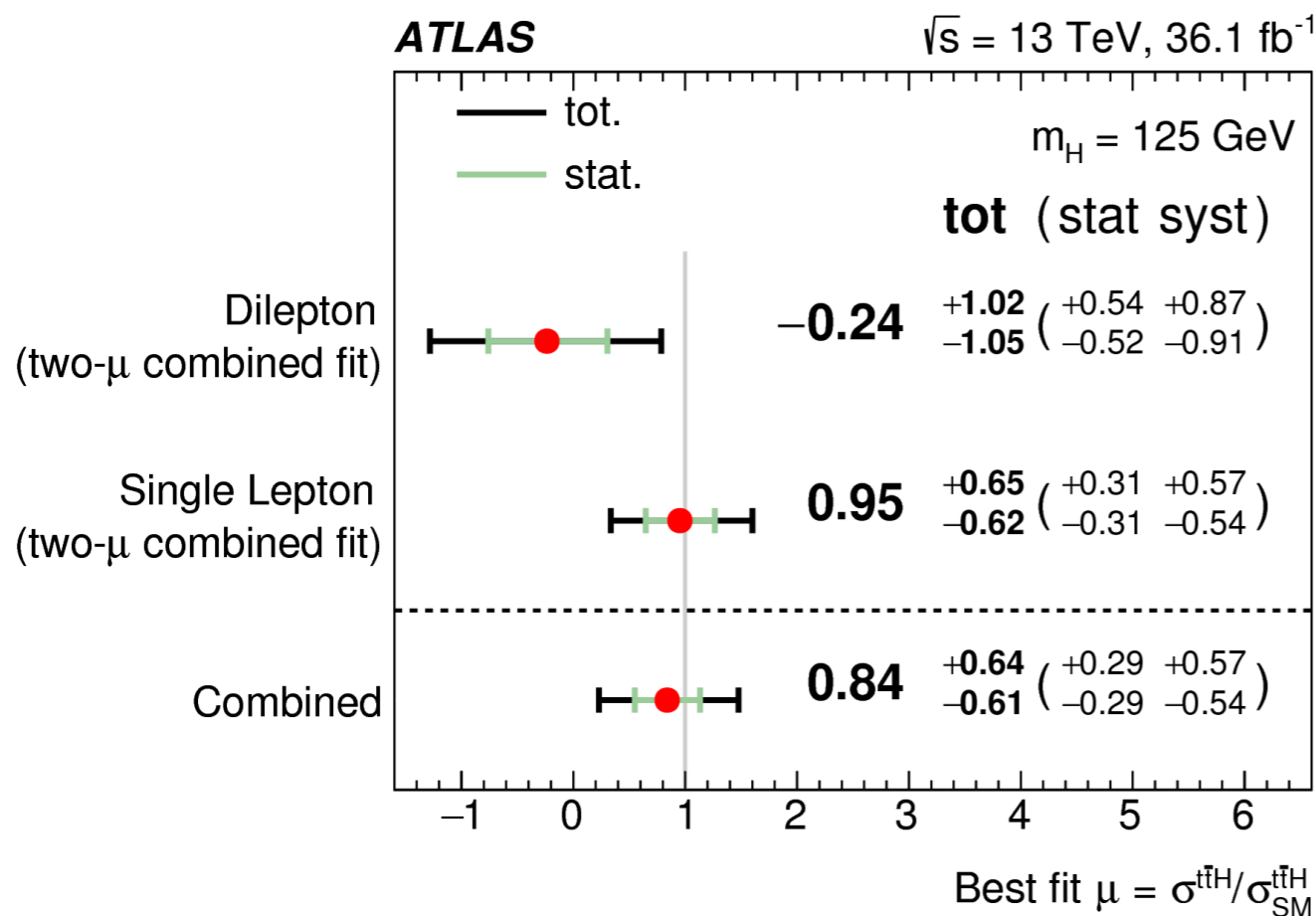
signal ( $t\bar{t}H$ )



$t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$



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



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

\* Normalisation factors for  $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$  and  $t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$  left free-floating in the fit:

- $NF(t\bar{t} + \geq 1b) = 1.24 \pm 0.10$
- $NF(t\bar{t} + \geq 1c) = 1.63 \pm 0.23$

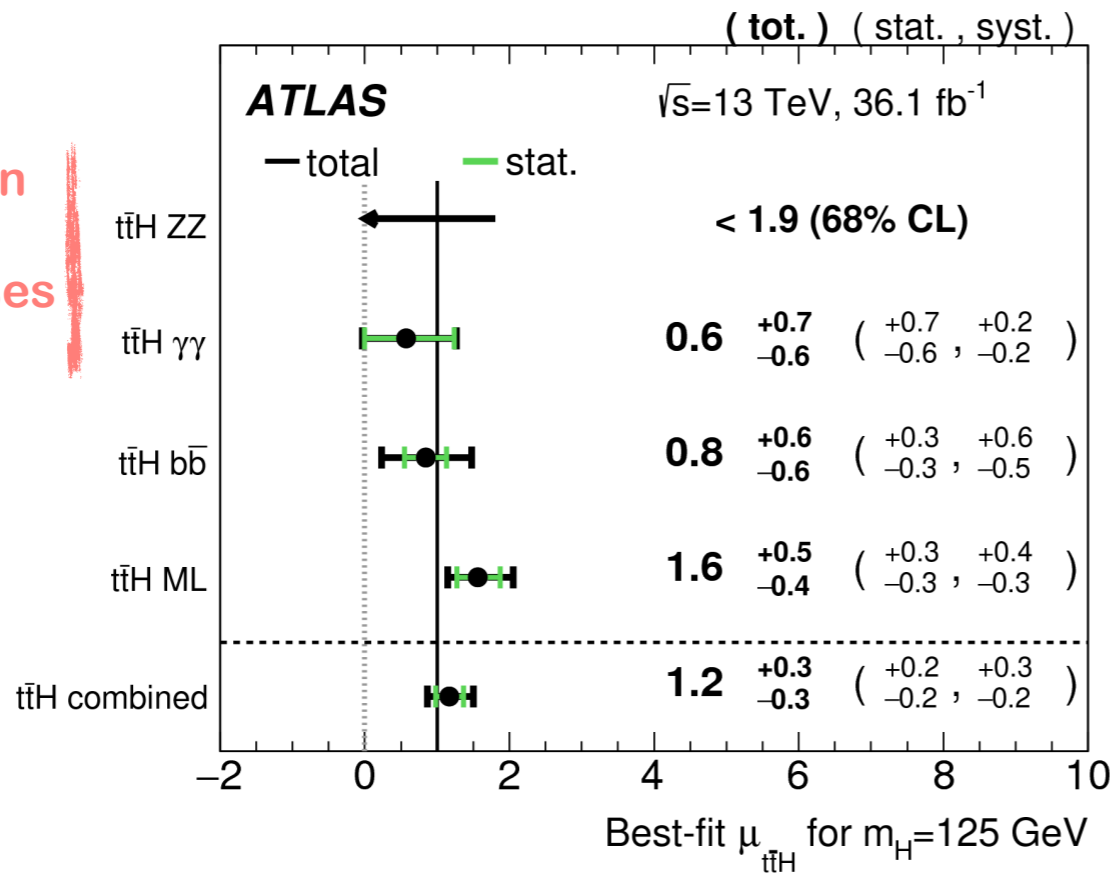
\* Most relevant uncertainties related to  $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$  background modelling

\* Analysis is **dominated by systematic** uncertainties

\* Significance w.r.t background-only hypothesis: **1.4 $\sigma$  (1.6 $\sigma$ ) obs (exp)**

# $t\bar{t}H$ combination

dedicated categories in  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  and  $H \rightarrow ZZ$  analyses (resonant channels)



Channel	Significance	
	Observed	Expected
Multilepton	$4.1\sigma$	$2.8\sigma$
$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	$1.4\sigma$	$1.6\sigma$
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	$0.9\sigma$	$1.7\sigma$
$H \rightarrow 4\ell$	—	$0.6\sigma$
Combined	$4.2\sigma$	$3.8\sigma$

Bonus: measure  $\mu_{t\bar{t}H}$  for different decay modes

\* Combination of multilepton,  $b\bar{b}$ ,  $\gamma\gamma$ , and  $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$   $t\bar{t}H$  analyses

\* Results in agreement with the SM predictions

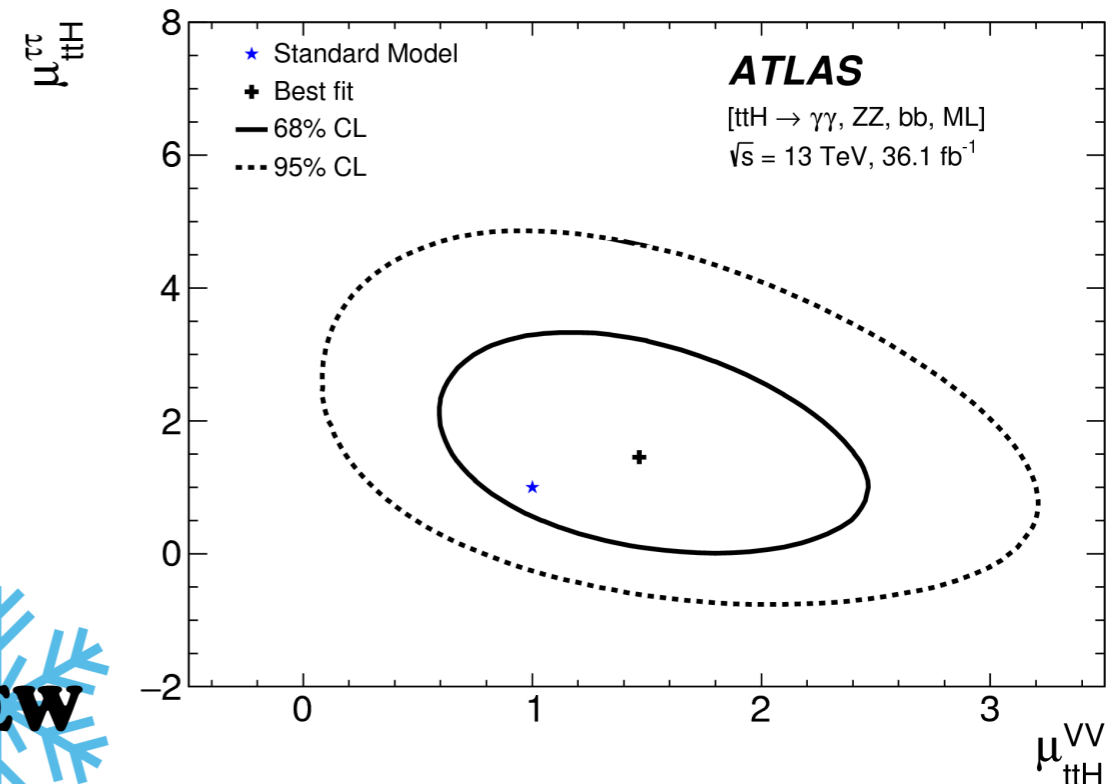
- $\sigma(t\bar{t}H) = 590^{+160}_{-150} \text{ fb}$

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

\* Significance w.r.t background-only hypothesis:

**$4.2\sigma$  ( $3.8\sigma$ ) obs (exp)**

**Evidence for  $t\bar{t}H$  production!**



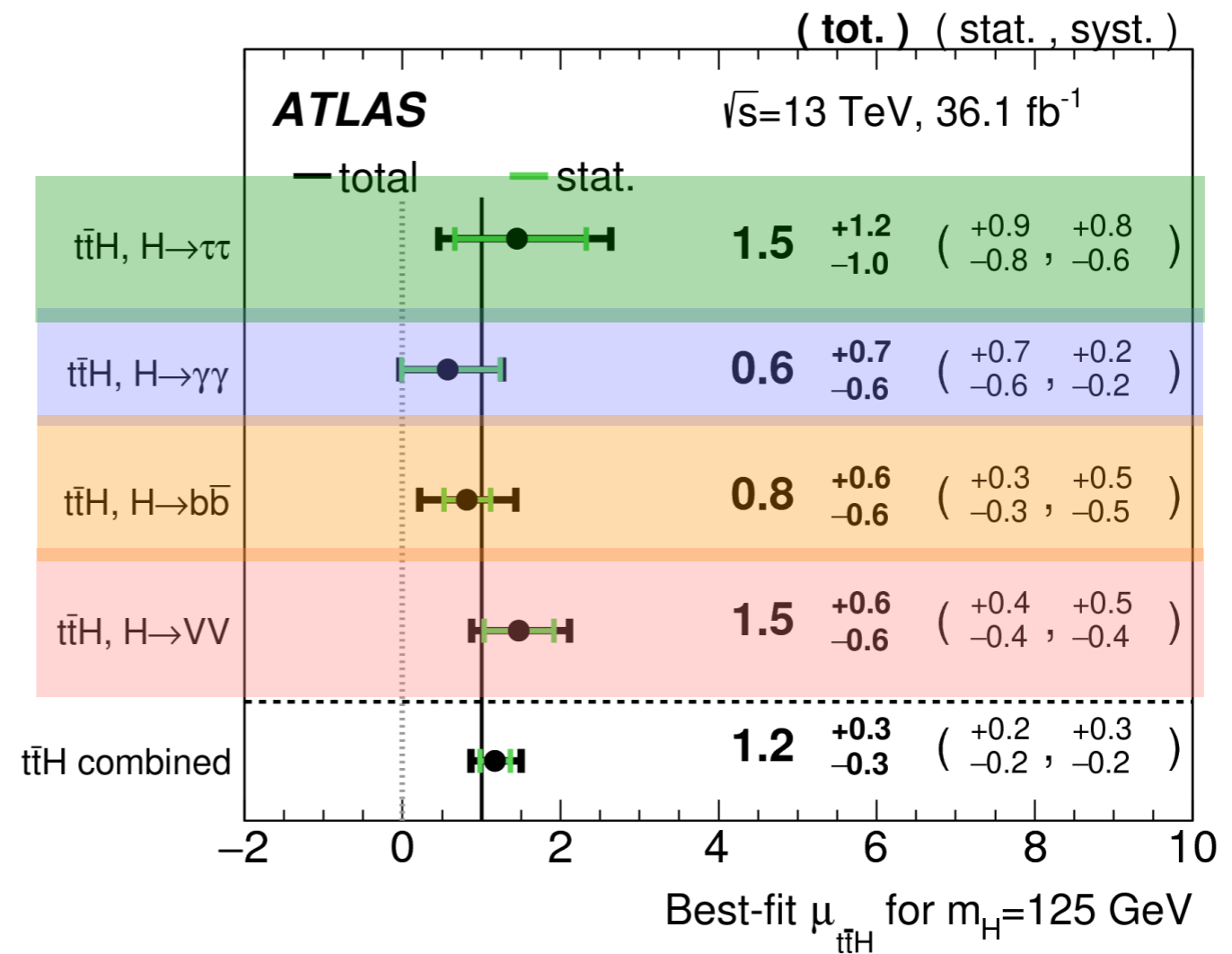
# Comparison with CMS (I)

\* CMS claimed observation of  $t\bar{t}H$  combining Run1+Run2 [2015+2016 dataset]

- Significance = 5.2 (**4.2**)  $\sigma$  observed (expected)

\* How different are the sensitivities?

Parameter	Best fit	Stat
$\mu_{t\bar{t}H}^{WW^*}$	$1.97^{+0.71}_{-0.64}$ (+0.57) (-0.54)	$+0.42$ (+0.39) (-0.38)
$\mu_{t\bar{t}H}^{ZZ^*}$	$0.00^{+1.30}_{-0.00}$ (+2.89) (-0.99)	$+1.28$ (+2.82) (-0.99)
$\mu_{t\bar{t}H}^{\gamma\gamma}$	$2.27^{+0.86}_{-0.74}$ (+0.73) (-0.64)	$+0.80$ (+0.71) (-0.64)
$\mu_{t\bar{t}H}^{\tau^+\tau^-}$	$0.28^{+1.09}_{-0.96}$ (+1.00) (-0.89)	$+0.86$ (+0.83) (-0.76)
$\mu_{t\bar{t}H}^{b\bar{b}}$	$0.82^{+0.44}_{-0.42}$ (+0.44) (-0.42)	$+0.23$ (+0.23) (-0.22)
$\mu_{t\bar{t}H}^{7+8\text{ TeV}}$	$2.59^{+1.01}_{-0.88}$ (+0.87) (-0.79)	$+0.54$ (+0.51) (-0.49)
$\mu_{t\bar{t}H}^{13\text{ TeV}}$	$1.14^{+0.31}_{-0.27}$ (+0.29) (-0.26)	$+0.17$ (+0.16) (-0.16)
$\mu_{t\bar{t}H}$	$1.26^{+0.31}_{-0.26}$ (+0.28) (-0.25)	$+0.16$ (+0.15) (-0.15)



\* All channels comparable

- Except  $t\bar{t}H (H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$ , CMS ~33% smaller uncertainty!

# Comparison with CMS (II)

\* Stat-only CMS uncertainty slightly better: use full b-tagging discriminant shape, deep neural networks in single  $\ell$  channel

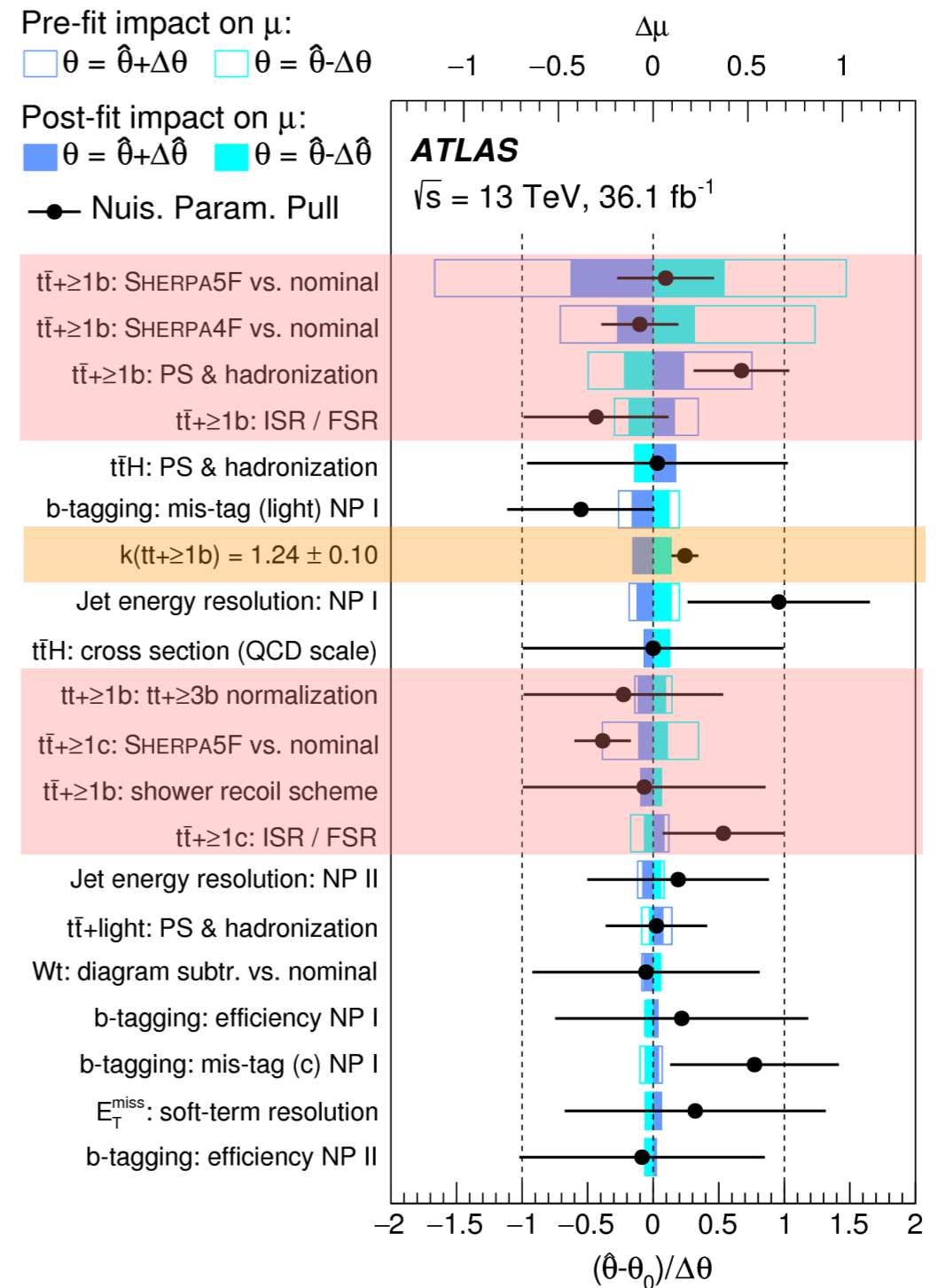
\* **Largest** difference coming from **systematic** uncertainties:

Modelling uncertainties on  $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$  from comparison of different generators, parton showers, ... **largest impact** on uncertainty on signal strength and **only present in ATLAS!**

CMS **only** includes renormalisation/factorisation scale and PDF variations **shape** uncertainties for  $t\bar{t}$

## Open questions to CMS...

- Which systematic increase (decrease) the  $t\bar{t} + \geq 1c/b$  ( $t\bar{t} + \text{light}$ ) yields?
- What are the pulls that decrease  $t\bar{t} + \text{light}$ ?
- Are  $t\bar{t} + \geq 1c/b$  yields used to correct the shapes?



# Conclusions



\* New results presented for  $t\bar{t}H$  production search in ATLAS with  $36.1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

\* Challenging and complex final states

- Sensitivity driven by usage of multivariate analysis techniques and precise background modelling

\* Four channels are better than one!

- **Evidence for  $t\bar{t}H$  production** when combining all available channels

- **$4.2\sigma$  ( $3.8\sigma$ ) obs (exp) significance**

- Results consistent with the SM predictions

- **$\sigma(t\bar{t}H) = 590^{+160}_{-150} \text{ fb}$**

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

\* 2017 pp collisions data on tape: more than what has been analysed so far!

- **Stay tuned for updated results!**



# Back-up slides

---





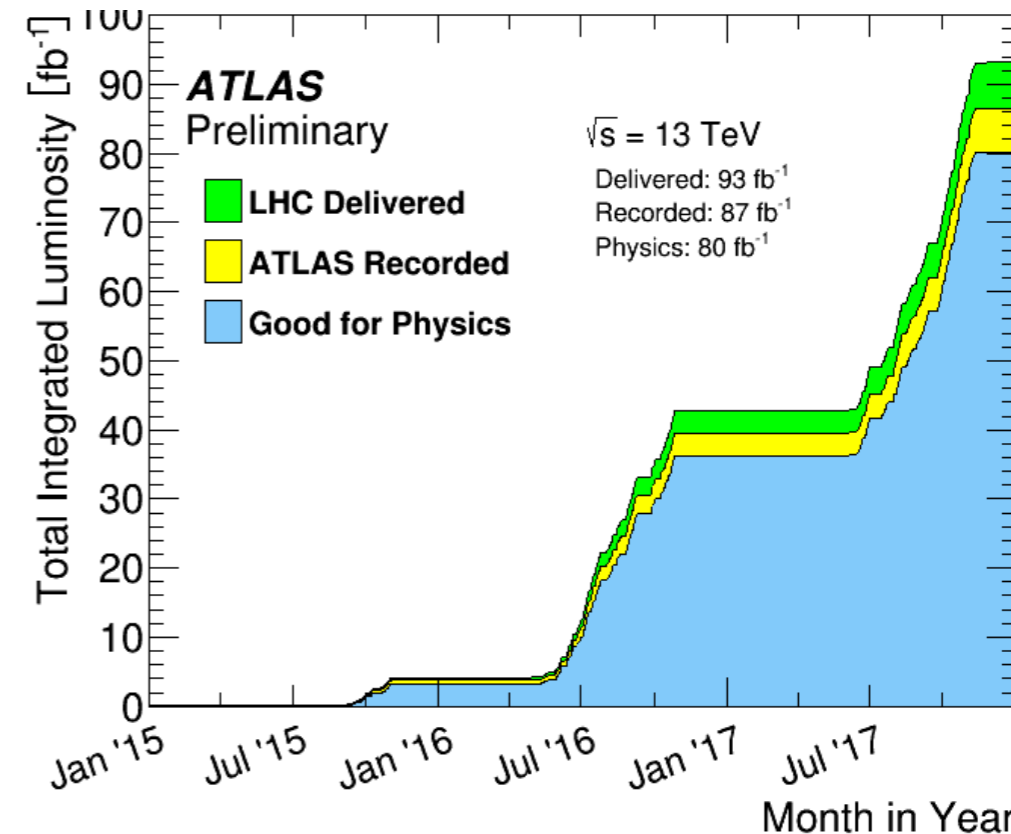
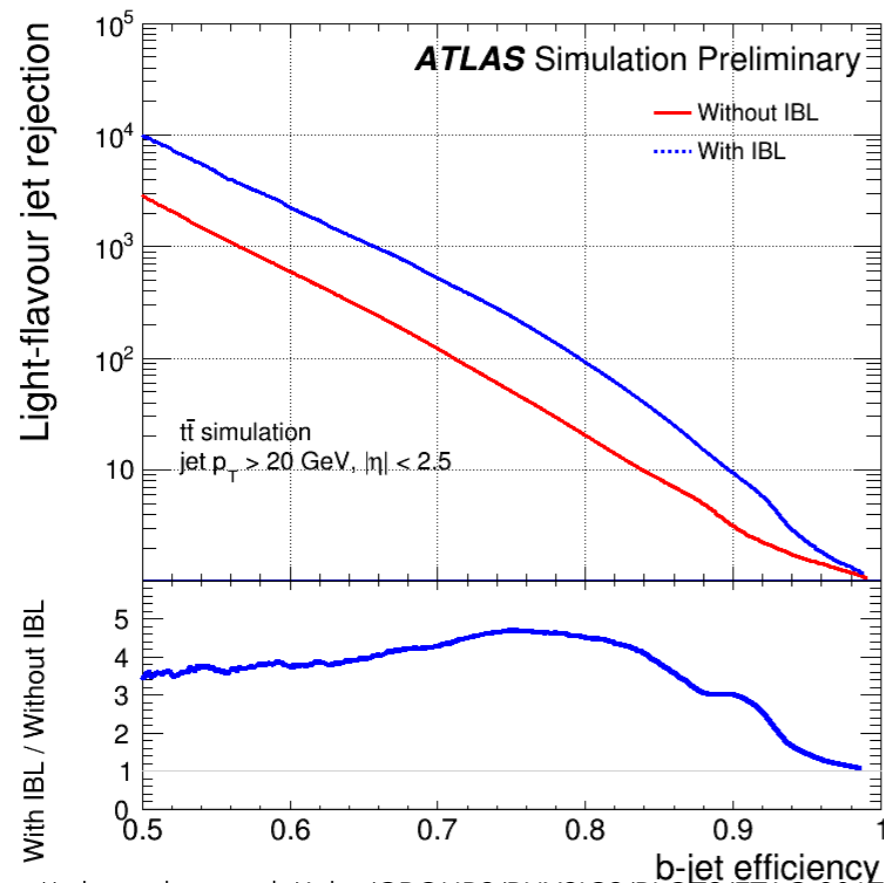
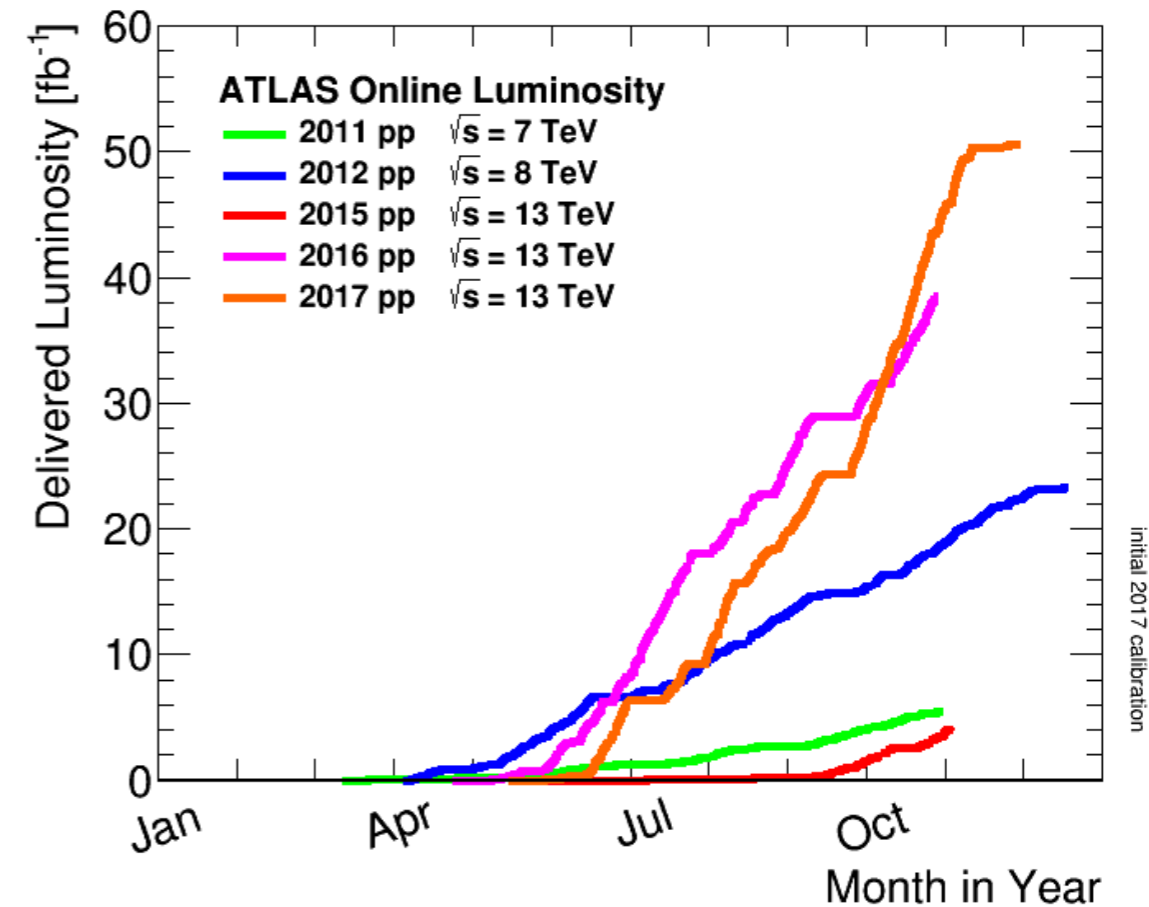
# Detector performance (I)



## \* Excellent performance of LHC and ATLAS in Run 2 so far:

- Record instantaneous luminosity for pp interactions in 2017:  $2.06 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ 
  - **double** the LHC design!
- 80  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  good for physics from 87  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  recorded by ATLAS

## \* Improved b-tagging performance with the inclusion of IBL (Insertable B-Layer) for Run 2



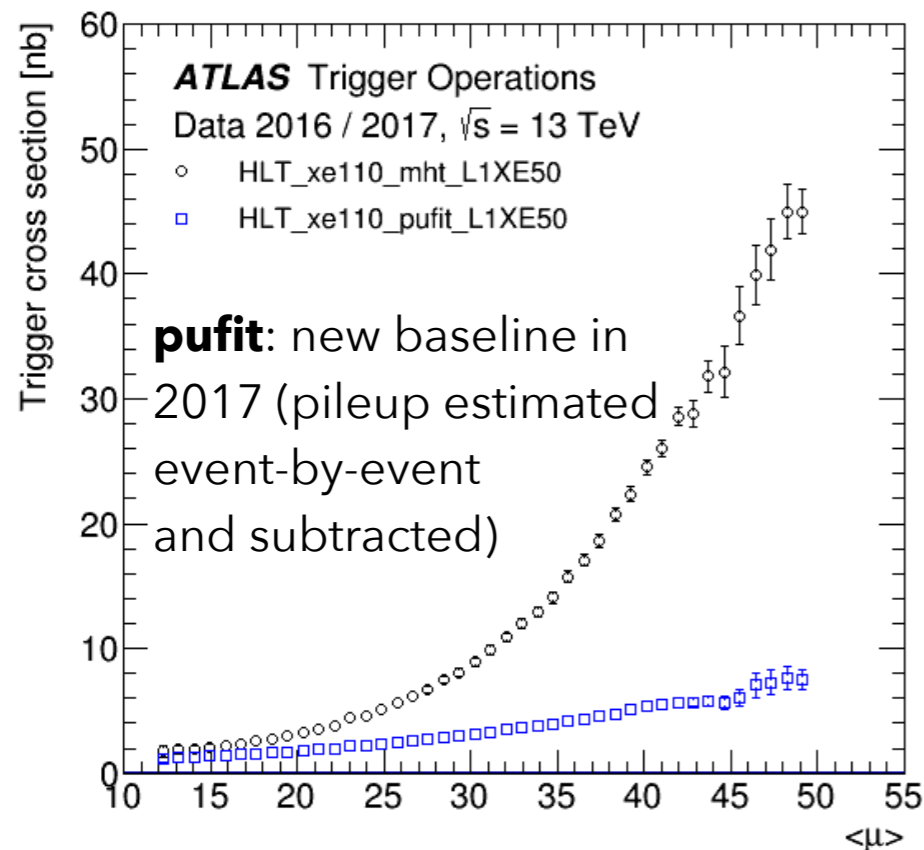
# Detector performance (II)



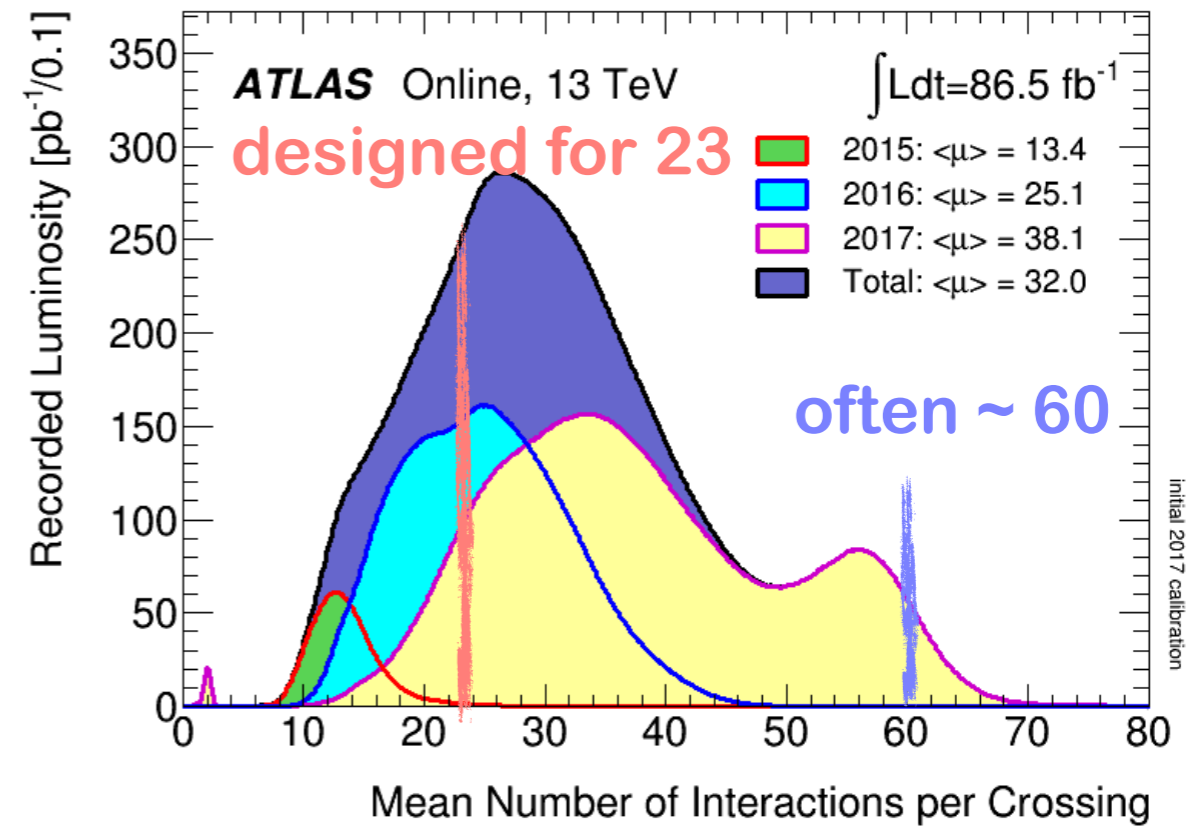
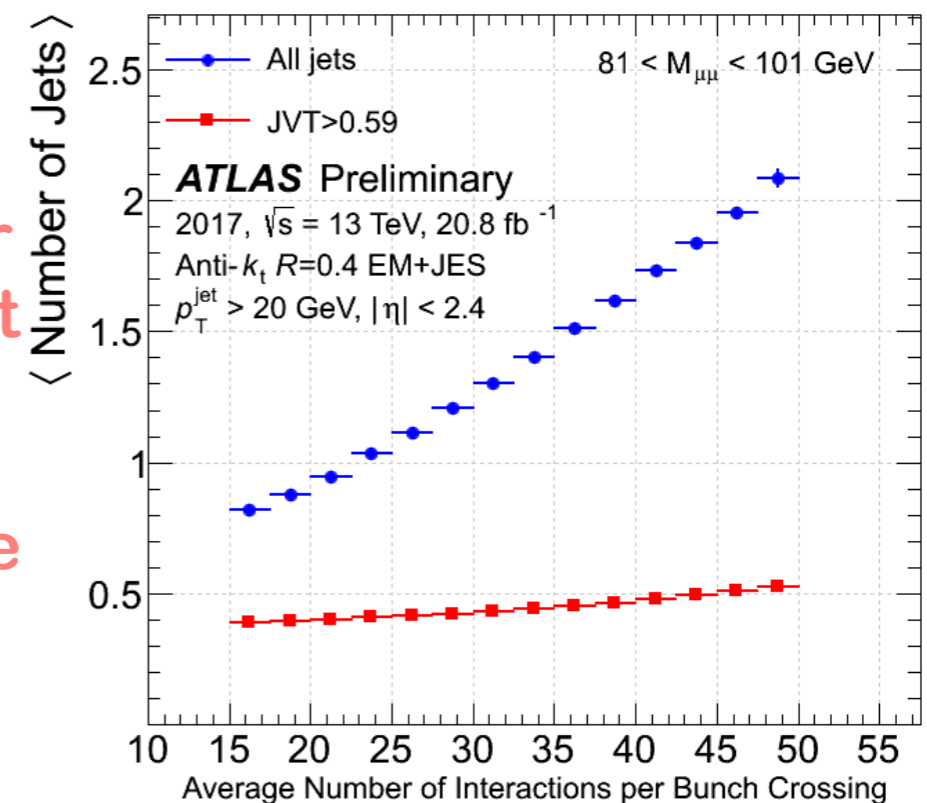
**\* Biggest challenge:** robustness against pile-up

- Controlling trigger rates at high interaction per bunch crossing
- Online and offline reconstruction performance maintained even at the highest pile-up

improved HLT algorithms to suppress dependence of  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  trigger rates on pile-up



**Jet Vertex Tagger (JVT) requirement applied to jets with  $20 < p_T < 60$  GeV to reduce the fake jet rate**



\* Several categories optimised for  $t\bar{t}H$ ,  $tHqb$  and  $tHW$ , with  $0 \geq 1 \ell$  from  $t\bar{t}$  decays

\* **Leptonic channel:**

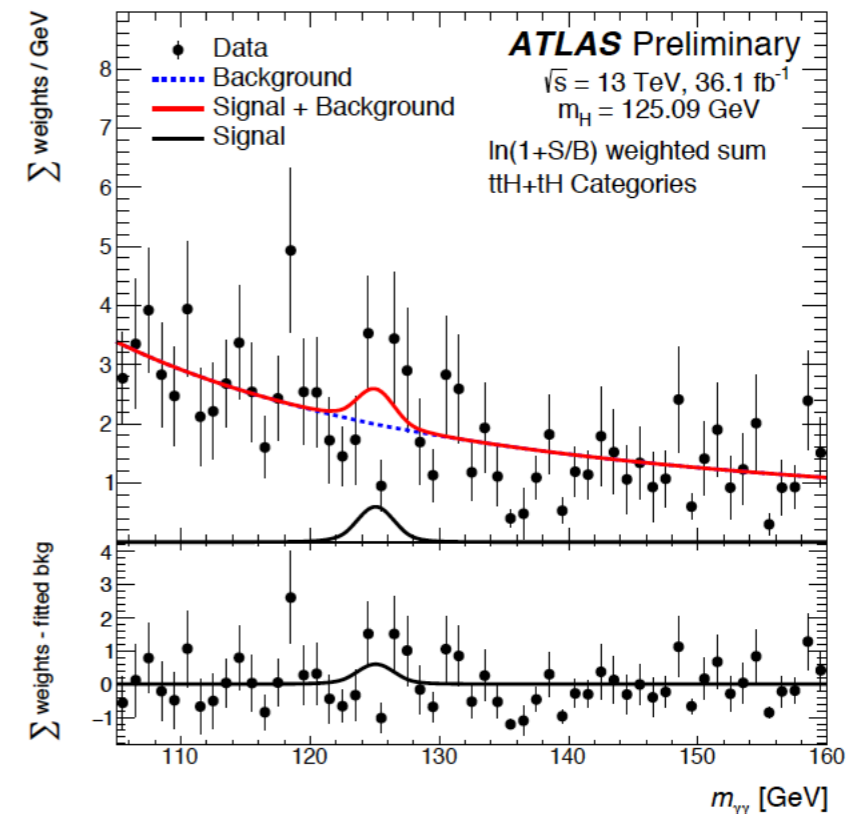
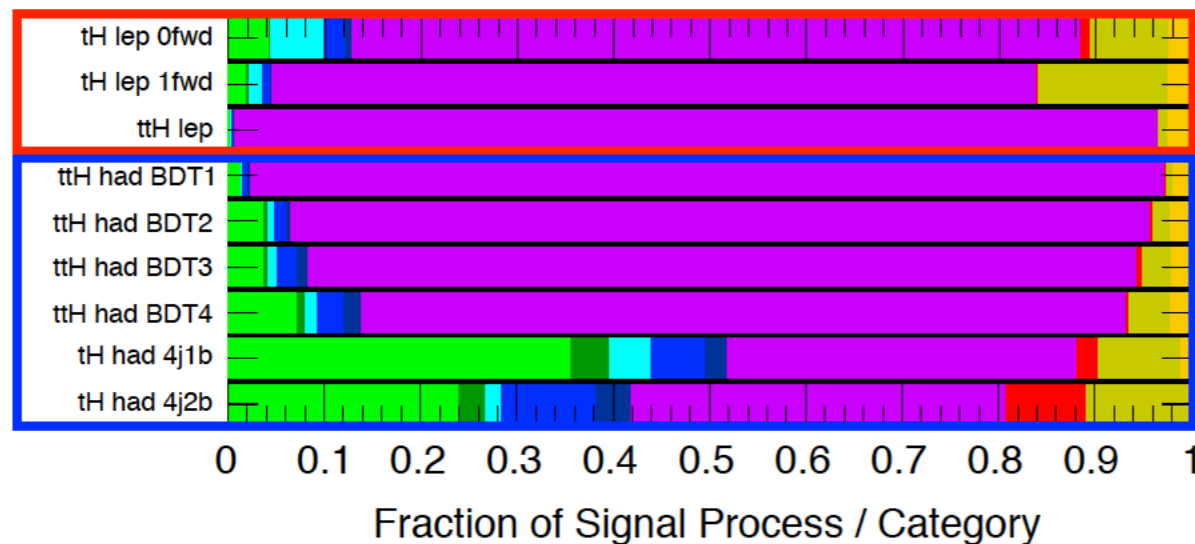
- One category for  $t\bar{t}H$
- Two categories for  $tH$  (with/without forward jets)

\* **Hadronic channel:**

- $\geq 3$  jets,  $\geq 1$  b-tagged jets: BDT to identify  $t\bar{t}H$  against  $ggH$  and multijet background
- 4 central jets,  $1/\geq 2$  b-tagged jets



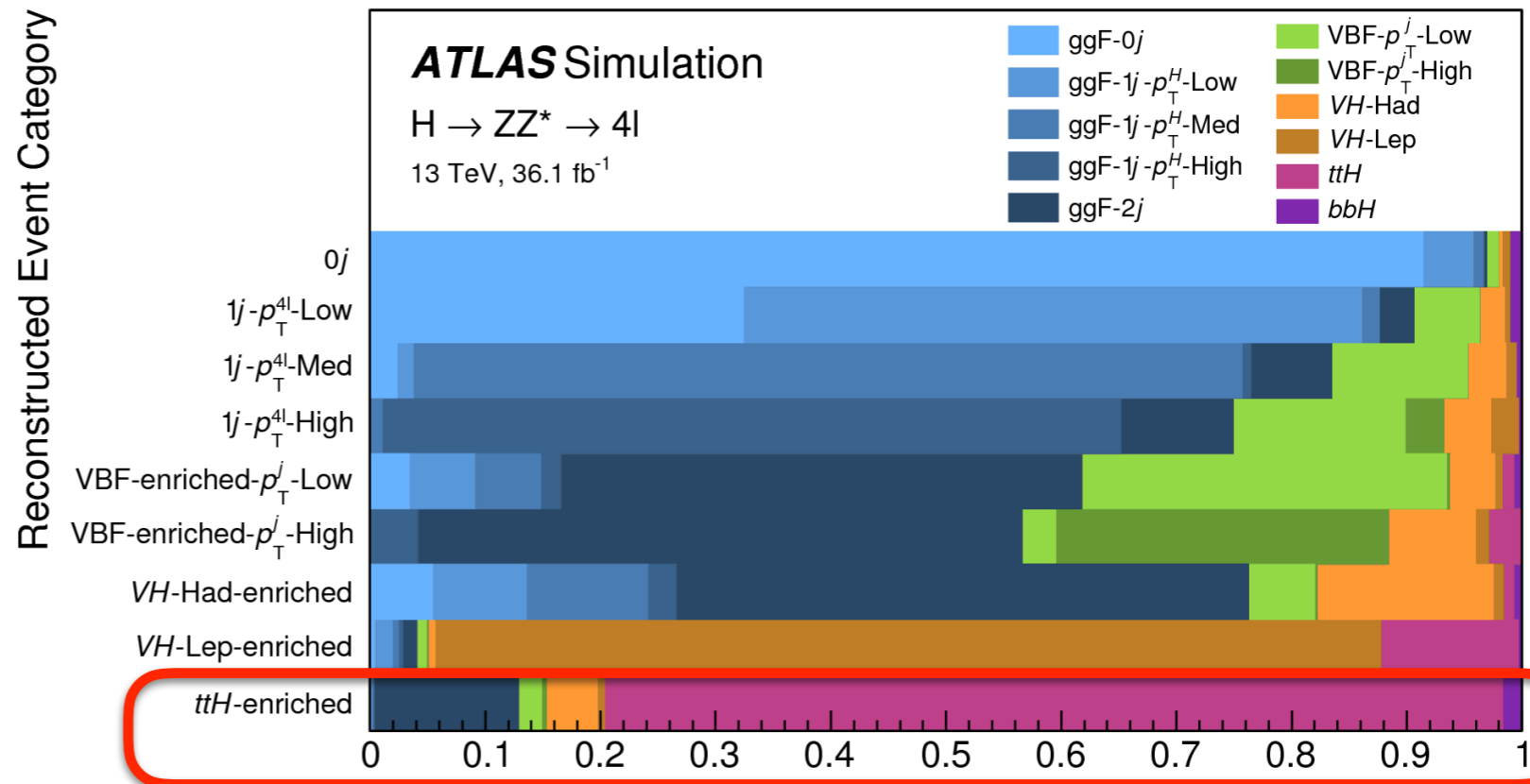
**ATLAS Simulation Preliminary**  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ,  $m_H = 125.09$  GeV



# $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell)$ resonant



- \* Higgs boson candidates with  $118 < m(4\ell) < 129$  GeV
- \*  $t\bar{t}H$  enriched category:
  - $\geq 1$  b-tagged jet
  - $\geq 4$  jets or  $1\ell + \geq 2$  jets
- \* No events observed  $\rightarrow$  Upper limits on  $t\bar{t}H$



Expected Composition

Reconstructed event category	Signal	$ZZ^*$ background	Other backgrounds	Total expected	Observed
$0j$	$26.8 \pm 2.5$	$13.7 \pm 1.0$	$2.23 \pm 0.31$	$42.7 \pm 2.7$	49
$1j-p_T^{4\ell}$ -Low	$8.8 \pm 1.1$	$3.1 \pm 0.4$	$0.53 \pm 0.07$	$12.5 \pm 1.2$	12
$1j-p_T^{4\ell}$ -Med	$5.4 \pm 0.7$	$0.88 \pm 0.12$	$0.38 \pm 0.05$	$6.7 \pm 0.7$	9
$1j-p_T^{4\ell}$ -High	$1.47 \pm 0.24$	$0.139 \pm 0.022$	$0.045 \pm 0.007$	$1.65 \pm 0.24$	3
VBF-enriched- $p_T^j$ -Low	$6.3 \pm 0.8$	$1.08 \pm 0.32$	$0.40 \pm 0.04$	$7.7 \pm 0.9$	16
VBF-enriched- $p_T^j$ -High	$0.58 \pm 0.10$	$0.093 \pm 0.032$	$0.054 \pm 0.006$	$0.72 \pm 0.10$	3
VH-Had-enriched- $p_T^{4\ell}$ -Low	$2.9 \pm 0.5$	$0.63 \pm 0.16$	$0.169 \pm 0.021$	$3.7 \pm 0.5$	3
VH-Had-enriched- $p_T^{4\ell}$ -High	$0.64 \pm 0.09$	$0.029 \pm 0.008$	$0.0182 \pm 0.0022$	$0.69 \pm 0.09$	0
VH-Lep-enriched	$0.318 \pm 0.019$	$0.049 \pm 0.008$	$0.0137 \pm 0.0019$	$0.380 \pm 0.020$	0
$t\bar{t}H$ -enriched	$0.39 \pm 0.04$	$0.014 \pm 0.006$	$0.07 \pm 0.04$	$0.47 \pm 0.05$	0
Total	$54 \pm 4$	$19.7 \pm 1.5$	$3.9 \pm 0.5$	$77 \pm 4$	95

# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): non-prompt light $\ell$ (II)



## \* $2\ell SS/3\ell+0\tau$ : Matrix Method

events in pre-MVA signal region with SS **loose** leptons  
(in  $3\ell$ , lep\_0 (OS to SS pair) is prompt in 98% of the times)

$$N_{TT}^f = w_{TT} N^{TT} + w_{T\bar{T}} N^{T\bar{T}} + w_{\bar{T}T} N^{\bar{T}T} + w_{\bar{T}\bar{T}} N^{\bar{T}\bar{T}}$$

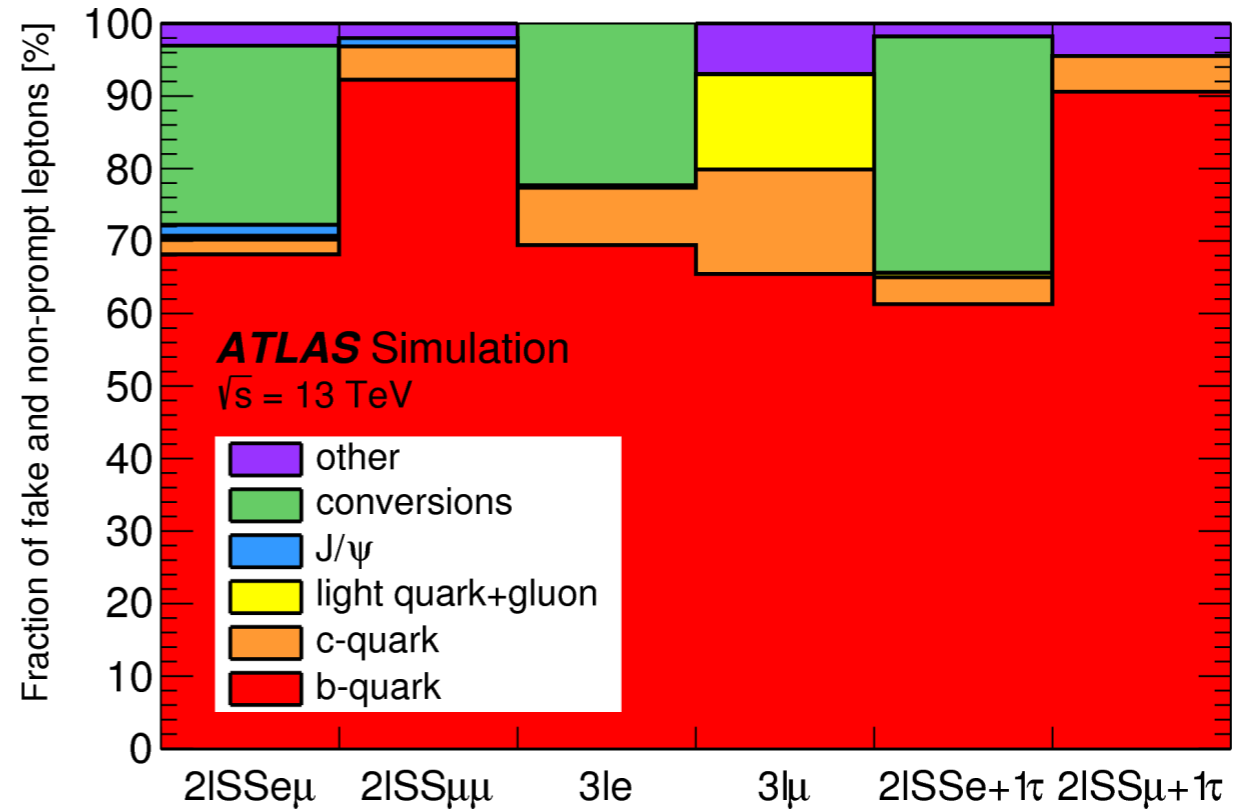
$f(\epsilon_r, \epsilon_f)$

via tag&probe method in  $t\bar{t}$  events

Channel	Region	Selection criteria
$2\ell SS$ ( $3\ell$ )		$2 \leq N_{\text{jets}} \leq 3$ and $N_{b\text{-jets}} \geq 1$
		One tight, one loose light lepton with $p_T > 20$ (15) GeV
		Zero $\tau_{\text{had}}$ candidates
	$\epsilon_{\text{real}}$	Opposite charge, opposite flavour
	$\epsilon_{\text{fake}}$	Same charge and $e\mu$ or $\mu\mu$

- **electrons  $\epsilon_f$** : 2D ( $N_{b\text{-tags}}, p_T$ ) parametrisation  
- more conversions in 2bj than 1bj
- **muons  $\epsilon_f$** : 2D ( $\min\Delta R(\mu, j), p_T$ ) parametrisation

- Fakes composition in the **CR** is ~ representative of the fakes in **pre-MVA SR**



\*  $4\ell$ : correct MC with **3 fake factors** ( $\lambda^{\text{el}}_{\text{heavy}}, \lambda^{\text{el}}_{\text{light}}, \lambda^{\mu}_{\text{all}}$ ) derived from fit to data in 4 CRs

\*  $2\ell SS+1\tau$ : fake factor [pT], estimates the fakes originating from  $t\bar{t}$

# $t\bar{t}H$ (multileptons): fake tau (II)



## \* $2\ell OS+1\tau$ : fake factor

FF method	$\tau$	anti- $\tau$
apply in B:	<b>A</b>	B
extract FF:	C	D

	nJets	nBJets	Z cut	Used for	
A, B	<b>2LOS+tau selection</b>	$\geq 3$	$\geq 1$	$ M_{ee/\mu\mu} - M_Z  > 10 \text{ GeV}$	to be estimated
C, D	ZVeto 3j0b	$\geq 3$	0	$ M_{ee/\mu\mu} - M_Z  > 10 \text{ GeV}$	nominal FF
	OnZ 3j0b	$\geq 3$	0	$ M_{ee/\mu\mu} - M_Z  < 10 \text{ GeV}$	systematics (Z+jets enriched)
	exc2j1b	2	$\geq 1$	$ M_{ee/\mu\mu} - M_Z  > 10 \text{ GeV}$	systematics (ttbar enriched)

- $\tau$ /anti- $\tau$  definition based on BDT score of jet-vs- $\tau$
- Reasonable agreement of yield and shape of DD estimate with data

## \* $2\ell SS+1\tau$ and $3\ell+1\tau$ : MC correction with SF derived from $\{\mathbf{DD}(2\ell OS+1\tau) / \mathbf{MC}\}$

- Harmonised 1-fake- $\tau$  estimate for all channels, profit from large statistics from  $2\ell OS+1\tau$ , composition uncertainties to cover wide range of b-faking- $\tau$  content
- Final SF =  $1.36 \pm 0.16$

# Fakes/Non-prompt $\ell$ : uncertainties



Systematic uncertainty	Values	Type	Comp
<b>Data-driven fake leptons and electron charge mis-assignment</b>			
Control region statistics		SN	21
Real lepton efficiencies		SN	1
Fake lepton rate		SN	6 ( $\mu$ ), 2 ( $e$ ), 3 (bkg sub.)
Non-prompt lepton estimate: non-closure	Tab. 15	N	4
$\gamma$ -conversion fraction	Tab. 14	N	4
Electron charge mis-assignment		SN	1
4l fake lepton rate		SN	1
<b>TOTAL (Data driven reducible background)</b>		–	<b>43</b>

Systematic uncertainty	Type	Comp
<b>Data-driven fake taus</b>		
$1\ell+2\tau_{\text{had}}$ SS data: CR statistics	SN	2
$1\ell+2\tau_{\text{had}}$ SS data: non-closure	N	1
$1\ell+2\tau_{\text{had}}$ SS data: shape	S	1
$2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ FF: CR statistics	SN	10
$2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ FF: statistics	SN	5
$2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ FF: real tau sub	SN	1
$2\ell\text{SS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ and $3\ell+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ SF correction: statistics	N	1
$2\ell\text{SS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ fake lepton rate	SN	10
$2\ell\text{SS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ QmisID: CR statistics	SN	2
$2\ell\text{SS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ bkg sub: statistics	SN	2
$2\ell\text{SS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ $\gamma$ -conversion fraction	N	1
<b>tau had fakes: composition</b>	SN	2
$3\ell+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ SF correction: MC statistics	N	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	–	<b>40</b>

## Correlation across channels:

- Correlated between  $2\ell\text{SS}+0\tau$  and  $3\ell+0\tau$
- Correlated between  $2\ell\text{SS}+1\tau$  and  $3\ell+1\tau$
- Correlated between  $2\ell\text{SS}+1\tau$ ,  $3\ell+1\tau$ , and  $2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau$

# MC samples



Process	Event generator	ME order	Parton Shower	PDF	Tune
$t\bar{t}H$	MG5_AMC (MG5_AMC)	NLO (NLO)	PYTHIA 8 (HERWIG++)	NNPDF 3.0 NLO [71] (CT10 [72])	A14 (UE-EE-5)
$tHqb$	MG5_AMC	LO	PYTHIA 8	CT10	A14
$tHW$	MG5_AMC	NLO	HERWIG++	CT10	UE-EE-5
$t\bar{t}W$	MG5_AMC (SHERPA 2.1.1)	NLO (LO multileg)	PYTHIA 8 (SHERPA)	NNPDF 3.0 NLO (NNPDF 3.0 NLO)	A14 (SHERPA default)
$t\bar{t}(Z/\gamma^* \rightarrow ll)$	MG5_AMC (SHERPA 2.1.1)	NLO (LO multileg)	PYTHIA 8 (SHERPA)	NNPDF 3.0 NLO (NNPDF 3.0 NLO)	A14 (SHERPA default)
$tZ$	MG5_AMC	LO	PYTHIA 6	CTEQ6L1	Perugia2012
$tWZ$	MG5_AMC	NLO	PYTHIA 8	NNPDF 2.3 LO	A14
$t\bar{t}t, t\bar{t}\bar{t}$	MG5_AMC	LO	PYTHIA 8	NNPDF 2.3 LO	A14
$t\bar{t}W^+W^-$	MG5_AMC	LO	PYTHIA 8	NNPDF 2.3 LO	A14
$t\bar{t}$	POWHEG-BOX v2 [73]	NLO	PYTHIA 8	NNPDF 3.0 NLO	A14
$t\bar{t}\gamma$	MG5_AMC	LO	PYTHIA 8	NNPDF 2.3 LO	A14
$s$ -, $t$ -channel, $Wt$ single top	POWHEG-BOX v1 [74,75,76]	NLO	PYTHIA 6	CT10	Perugia2012
$VV(\rightarrow llXX),$ $qqVV, VVV$	SHERPA 2.1.1	MEPS NLO	SHERPA	CT10	SHERPA default
$Z \rightarrow l^+l^-$	SHERPA 2.2.1	MEPS NLO	SHERPA	NNPDF 3.0 NLO	SHERPA default



# Input variables for MVA



Variable	2ℓSS	3ℓ	4ℓ	1ℓ+2τ <sub>had</sub>	2ℓSS+1τ <sub>had</sub>	2ℓOS+1τ <sub>had</sub>
<b>Lepton properties</b>						
Leading lepton $p_T$		×				
Second leading lepton $p_T$	×	×			×	
Third lepton $p_T$		×				
Dilepton invariant mass (all combinations)	×	×*				×
Three-lepton invariant mass		×				
Four-lepton invariant mass			×			
Best $Z$ -candidate dilepton invariant mass			×			
Other $Z$ -candidate dilepton invariant mass			×			
Scalar sum of all leptons $p_T$			×			×
Second leading lepton track isolation					×	
Maximum $ \eta $ (lepton 0, lepton 1)	×				×*	
Lepton flavor	×*	×*				
Lepton charge		×				
<b>Jet properties</b>						
Number of jets	×*	×*		×	×	×
Number of $b$ -tagged jets	×*	×*		×	×	×
Leading jet $p_T$						×
Second leading jet $p_T$		×			×*	
Leading $b$ -tagged jet $p_T$		×				
Scalar sum of all jets $p_T$		×		×	×	×
Scalar sum of all $b$ -tagged jets $p_T$						×
Has leading jet highest $b$ -tagging weight?		×				
$b$ -tagging weight of leading jet		×				
$b$ -tagging weight of second leading jet		×			×	
$b$ -tagging weight of third leading jet					×	
Pseudorapidity of fourth leading jet					×	
<b>τ<sub>had</sub></b>						
Leading τ <sub>had</sub> $p_T$				×		×
Second leading τ <sub>had</sub> $p_T$				×		
Di-τ <sub>had</sub> invariant mass				×		
Invariant mass τ <sub>had</sub> -furthest lepton					×	
<b>Angular distances</b>						
$\Delta R$ (lepton 0, lepton 1)		×				
$\Delta R$ (lepton 0, lepton 2)		×				
$\Delta R$ (lepton 0, closest jet)	×	×				
$\Delta R$ (lepton 0, leading jet)		×			×	
$\Delta R$ (lepton 0, closest $b$ -jet)		×				
$\Delta R$ (lepton 1, closest jet)	×	×				
$\Delta R$ (lepton 2, closest jet)		×				
Smallest $\Delta R$ (lepton, jet)		×				×
Smallest $\Delta R$ (lepton, $b$ -tagged jet)						×
Smallest $\Delta R$ (non-tagged jet, $b$ -tagged jet)						×
$\Delta R$ (lepton 0, τ <sub>had</sub> )						×
$\Delta R$ (lepton 1, τ <sub>had</sub> )						×
Minimum $\Delta R$ between all jets				×		
$\Delta R$ between two leading jets					×	
<b><math>\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}</math></b>						
Missing transverse momentum $E_T^{\text{miss}}$	×		×			
Azimuthal separation $\Delta\phi$ (leading jet, $\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}$ )		×				
Transverse mass leptons ( $H/Z$ decay) - $\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}$			×			
Pseudo-Matrix-Element			×			

The variables used in cross-check analyses are indicated by a \*

# Correlation NPs



ATLAS

$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}, 36.1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

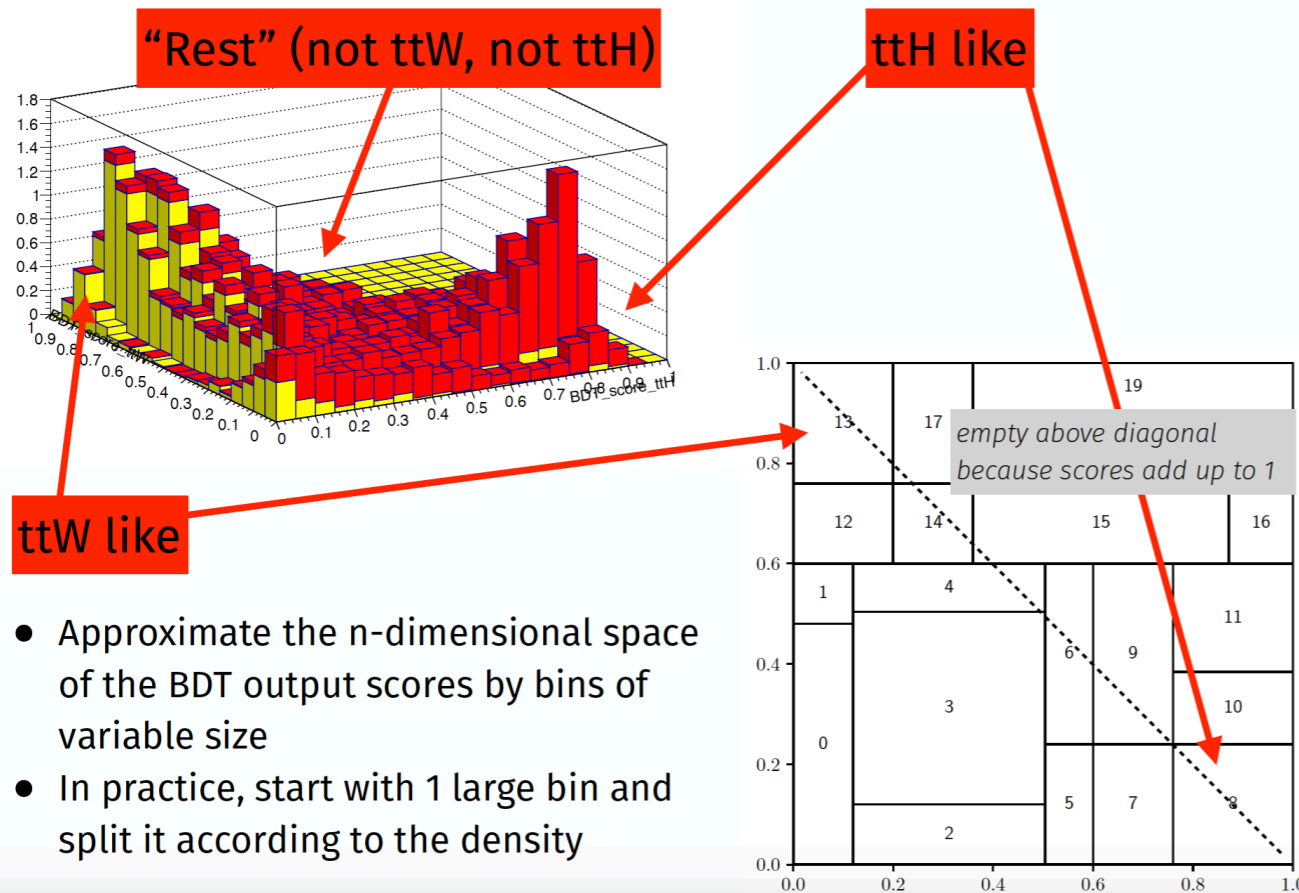
ttH signal strength	100.0	-26.3	-0.7	-11.0	2.8	1.6	-4.9	-2.0	-1.9	-1.3	1.7	4.0	-22.4	-1.9
ttH cross section (scale variations)	-26.3	100.0	0.0	0.0	-0.0	-0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.0	-0.0	0.0	0.0
tZ cross section	-0.7	0.0	100.0	-2.9	0.4	-0.1	-0.4	0.0	0.2	0.1	4.7	-21.1	1.1	-0.3
3 $\ell$ Non-prompt closure	-11.0	0.0	-2.9	100.0	-24.5	-0.2	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	3.7	-9.4	4.7	1.3
Non-prompt stat. in 3 $\ell$ $t\bar{t}$ CR	2.8	-0.0	0.4	-24.5	100.0	0.0	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	4.2	-0.8	0.1
Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ stat. in 1st bin of $1\ell+2\tau_{\text{had}}$	1.6	-0.0	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	100.0	-58.9	-0.1	-0.0	-0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.4	-0.1
Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ modeling ( $1\ell + 2\tau_{\text{had}}$ )	-4.9	0.0	-0.4	0.9	-0.3	-58.9	100.0	0.5	0.1	0.3	-1.7	-2.4	1.2	-0.5
Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ low $p_T$ ( $2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ )	-2.0	-0.2	0.0	0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.5	100.0	30.4	13.9	-0.3	-0.4	0.1	-0.1
Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ comp. tt ( $2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ )	-1.9	0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.0	0.1	30.4	100.0	-63.4	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3
Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ comp. Z ( $2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ )	-1.3	-0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.0	0.3	13.9	-63.4	100.0	-0.2	-0.4	0.3	0.1
VV modeling (shower tune)	1.7	-0.0	4.7	3.7	0.2	0.0	-1.7	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	100.0	61.4	1.2	-3.3
VV cross section	4.0	-0.0	-21.1	-9.4	4.2	0.1	-2.4	-0.4	0.0	-0.4	61.4	100.0	-1.3	24.9
Jet energy scale (pileup subtraction)	-22.4	0.0	1.1	4.7	-0.8	-0.4	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	1.2	-1.3	100.0	-6.1
Jet energy resolution	-1.9	0.0	-0.3	1.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.5	-0.1	0.3	0.1	-3.3	24.9	-6.1	100.0
	ttH signal strength	ttH cross section (scale variations)	tZ cross section	3 $\ell$ Non-prompt closure	Non-prompt stat. in 3 $\ell$ $t\bar{t}$ CR	Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ stat. in 1st bin of $1\ell+2\tau_{\text{had}}$	Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ modeling ( $1\ell + 2\tau_{\text{had}}$ )	Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ low $p_T$ ( $2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ )	Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ comp. tt ( $2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ )	Fake $\tau_{\text{had}}$ comp. Z ( $2\ell\text{OS}+1\tau_{\text{had}}$ )	VV modeling (shower tune)	VV cross section	Jet energy scale (pileup subtraction)	Jet energy resolution

Correlation min threshold = 20%

# Multinomial classification

\* Explore multinomial classifiers to simultaneously define signal and control regions

- Processes are separated in the space of a multiD observable
- Define CRs and VRs with a topology similar to the SR

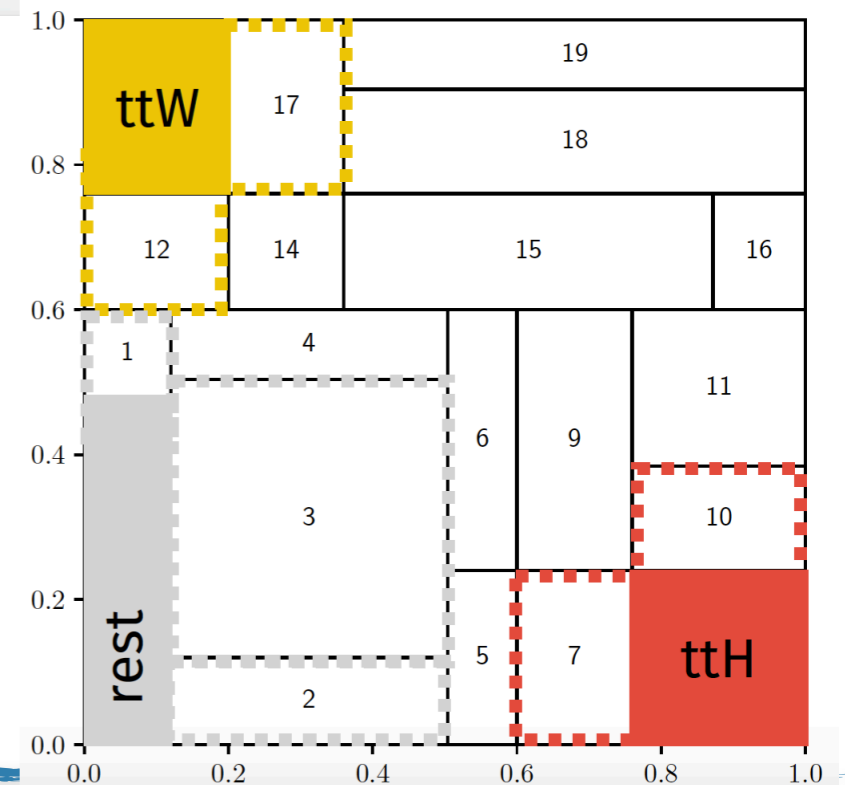
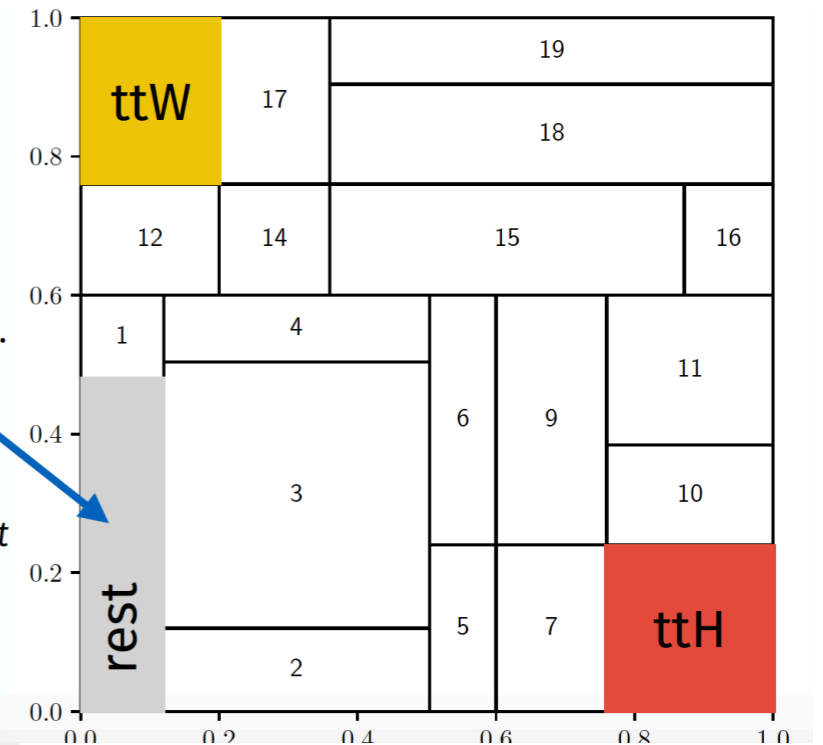


- Approximate the n-dimensional space of the BDT output scores by bins of variable size
- In practice, start with 1 large bin and split it according to the density

- Clustering: add a single neighbouring bin to the seed and compute analytically the significance again; add the cell giving the largest improvement

“rare” processes, etc.

Rest groups bins that do not contribute to ttH and ttW and speeds up the algorithm



# $t\bar{t}H$ : new ideas for Run-2 and beyond



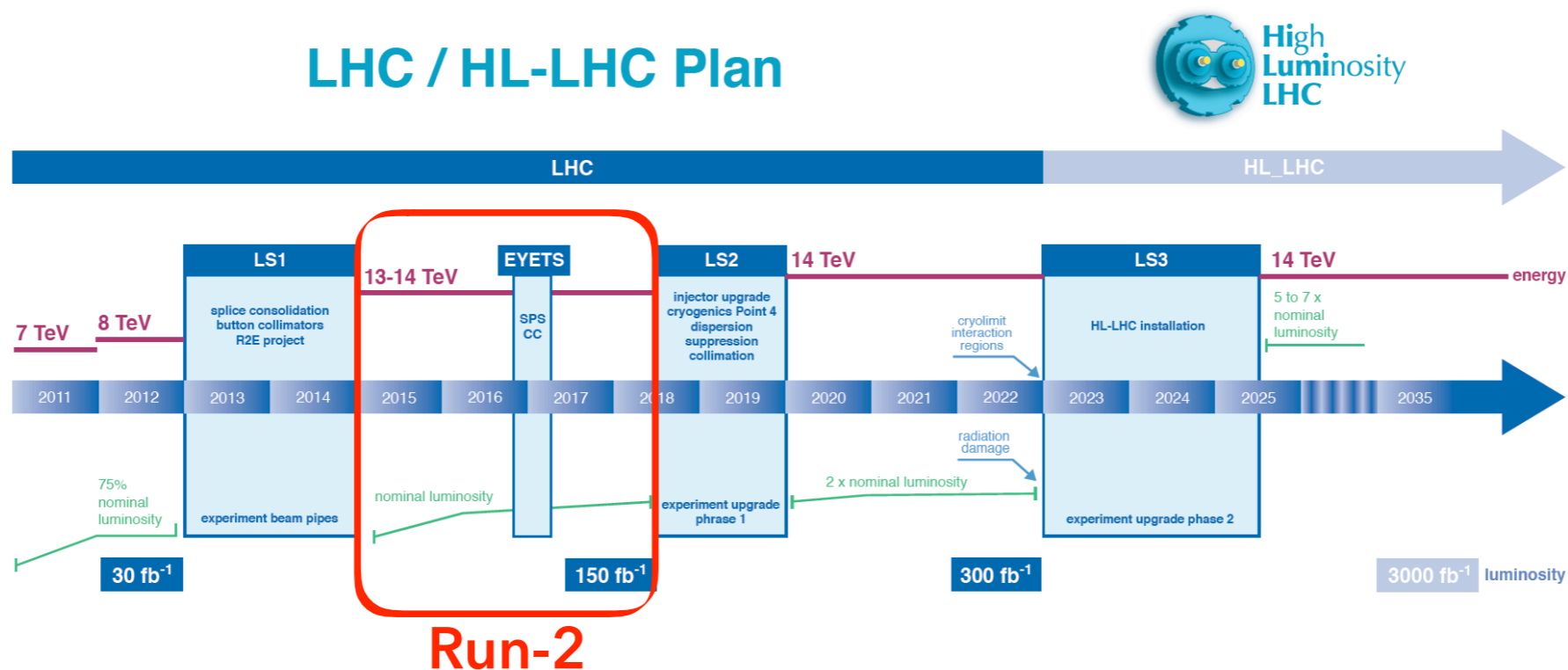
## \* $t\bar{t}H(H \rightarrow c\bar{c})$ :

- BR  $\sim 3\%$ ,  $t\bar{t}H$  is very difficult production search since also has 2 bjets from  $t\bar{t}$  (it would need both b- and c-taggers)

## \* $t\bar{t}H/t\bar{t}Z$ to measure top Yukawa coupling

- $t\bar{t}H$  theory systematics 3rd leading in  $t\bar{t}H(bb)$  and  $t\bar{t}H(ML)$ !
- $t\bar{t}H$  and  $t\bar{t}Z$ : **identical production mechanisms** +  $m_Z \sim m_H \rightarrow$  **correlated** QCD corrections, scale dependence,  $\alpha_S$  dependence, and PDF systematics
- For a given  $y_{top}$ ,  $\sigma(t\bar{t}H)/\sigma(t\bar{t}Z)$  can be predicted theoretically with a **much better precision**

## \* CP mixture states of the Higgs



# CP nature of ttH coupling



- \* Program to probe CP nature of the discovered Higgs already underway (e.g.  $H \rightarrow ZZ$ )
- \* However, Higgs-fermion couplings provide **more sensitive probe of a CP-mixed state** than Higgs-bosons
- \*  $t\bar{t}H$  production **most direct probe** of the **Higgs-top coupling** and the **Higgs CP nature**
- \* Parametrise Higgs coupling to fermions:

- **Scalar** ( $a_f=1, b_f=0$ )
- **Pseudo-scalar** ( $a_f=0, b_f=1$ )
- **Mixed** CP properties ( $a_f \neq 0, b_f \neq 0$ )

$$\mathcal{L}_{hf\bar{f}} = - \sum_f \frac{m_f}{v} h \bar{f} (a_f + i b_f \gamma_5) f$$

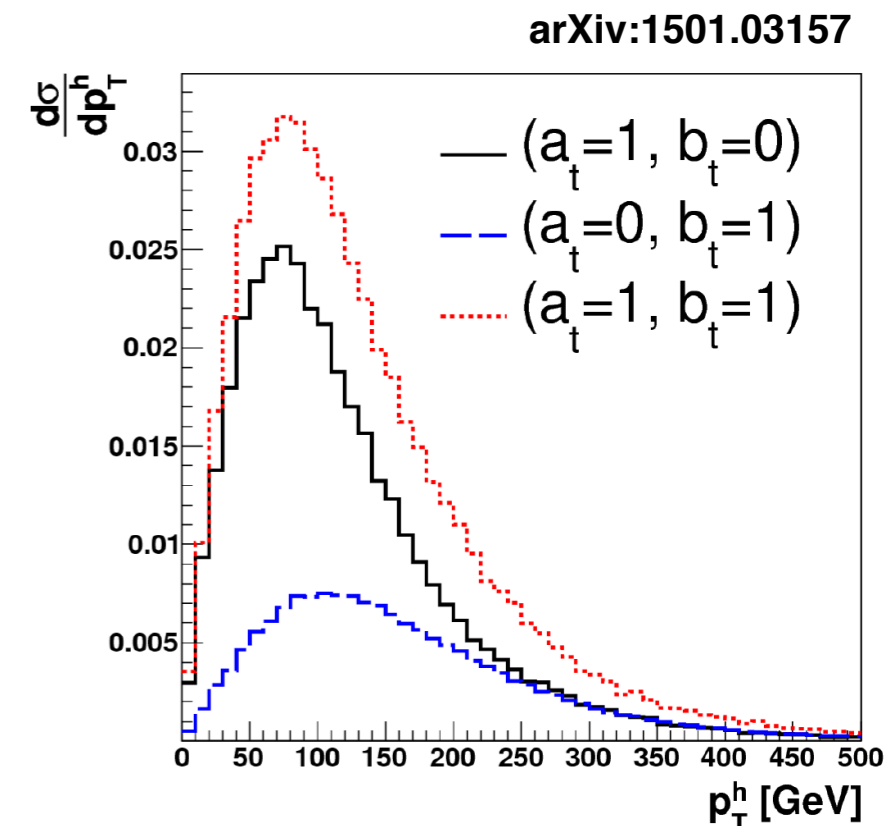
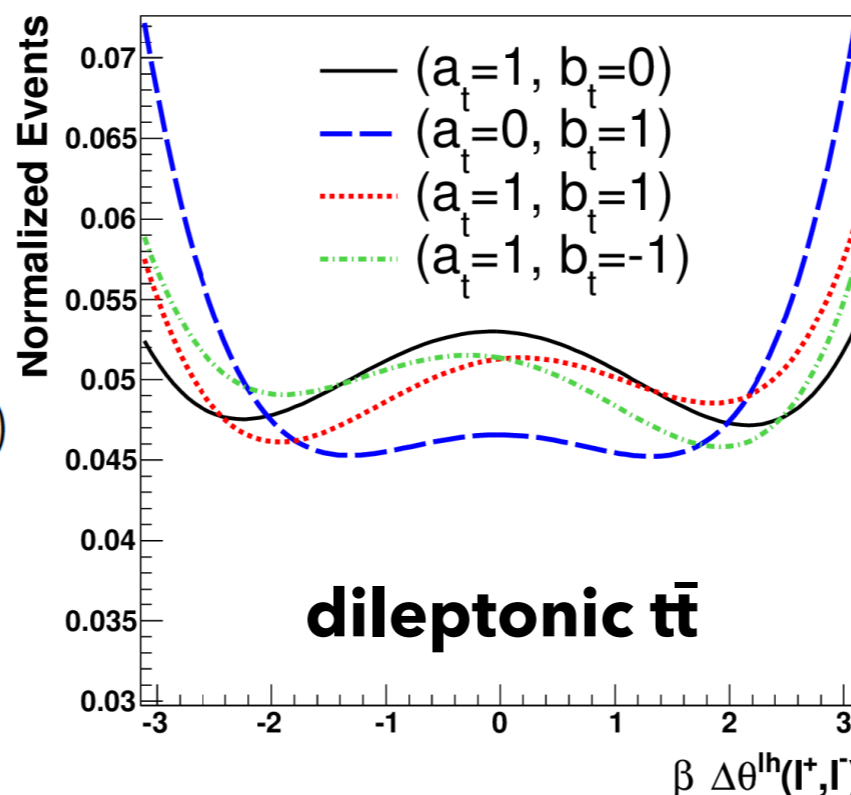
- \* A measurement of the  $t\bar{t}H$  production alone is not sufficient to determine the vertex (i.e. does not provide information about the **sign** of  $b_t$ )
- \* Discriminating observables based on the kinematics of the  $t\bar{t}H$  production to probe the nature of the Higgs-top coupling:  $M_{t\bar{t}H}$ ,  $p_T^H$ , and  $\Delta\Phi(t, \bar{t})$

- \* An observable sensitive to CP violation must be odd under CP transformations

- e.g.

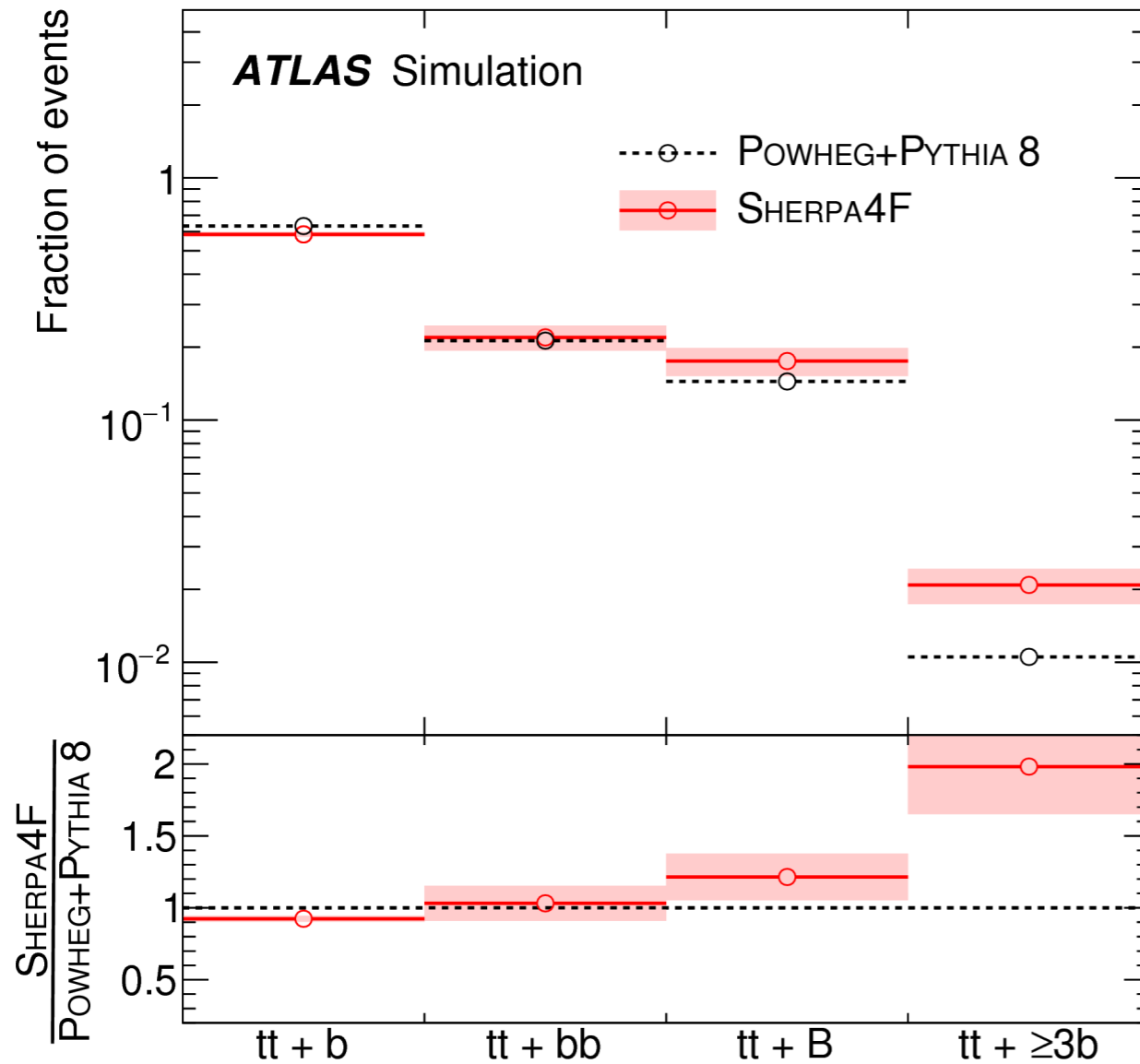
$$\beta \equiv \text{sgn}((\vec{p}_b - \vec{p}_{\bar{b}}) \cdot (\vec{p}_{\ell^-} \times \vec{p}_{\ell^+}))$$

Longer term projects,  
but we can start  
thinking about it!



$\Delta\theta^{lh}(\ell^+, \hat{\ell}^-)$  = the angle between the two lepton momenta projected onto the plane perpendicular to the h direction in the lab frame

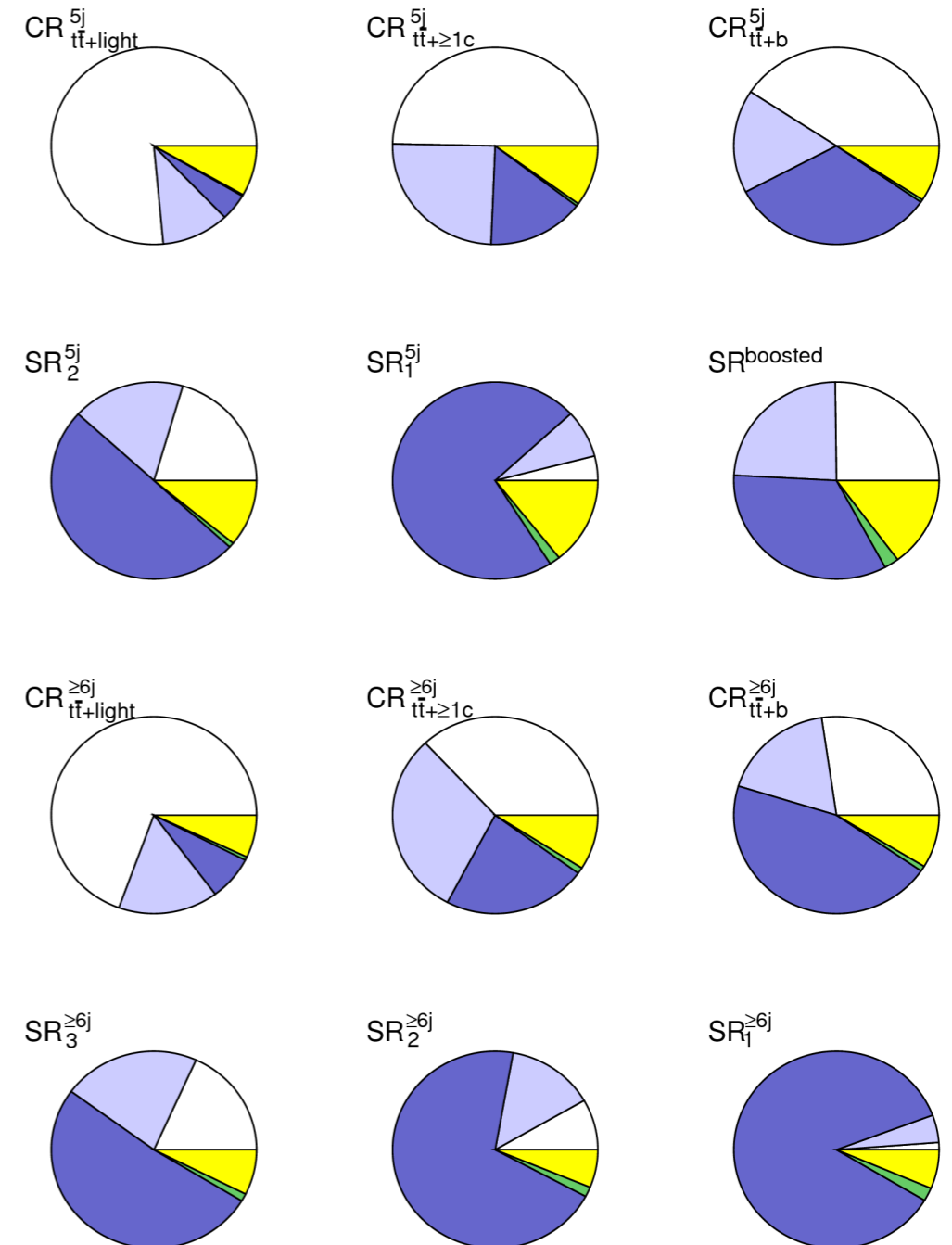
# $t\bar{t}H$ ( $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ): $t\bar{t}$ modelling



- MC sample split in number of HF jets at particle level
  - $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$ : jets matched to 1( $b$ ) or 2( $B$ )  $b$  hadrons
  - Extra  $b$ -jets from MPI or FSR
  - $t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$ : analogous to  $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$
  - $t\bar{t} + \text{light}$

**ATLAS**  
 $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV  
 Single Lepton

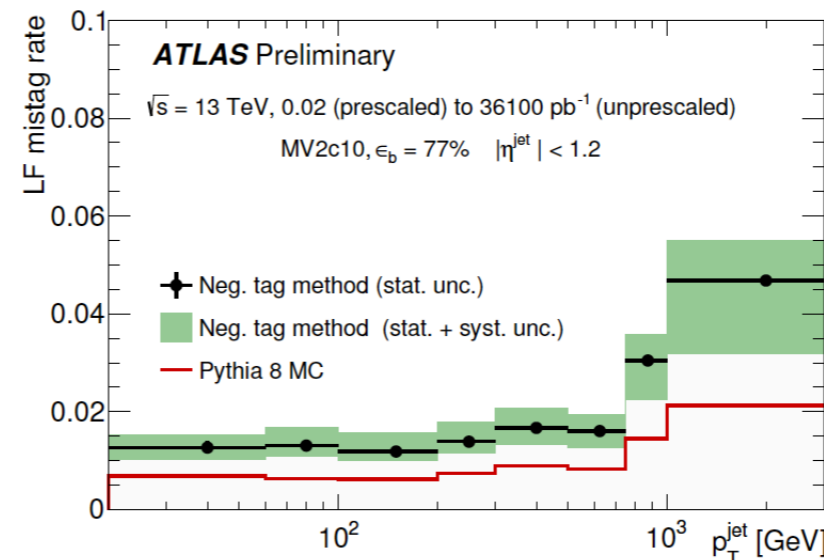
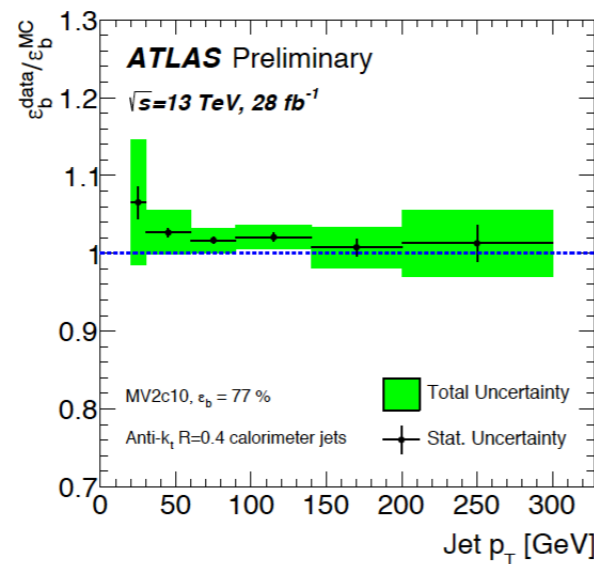
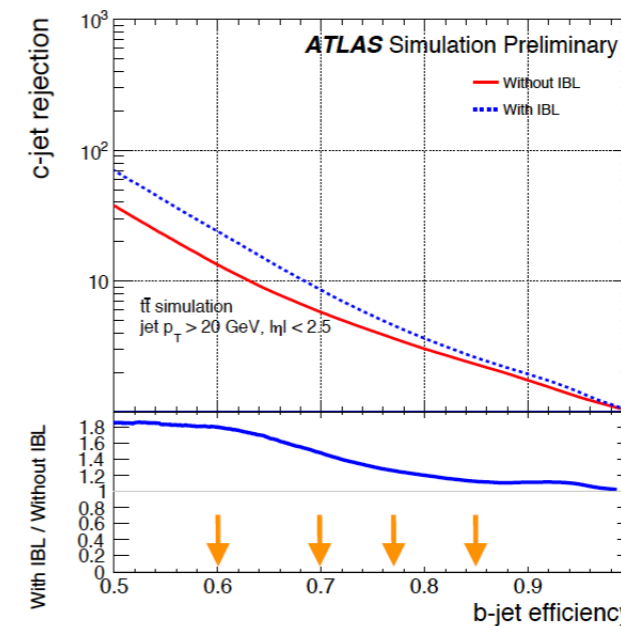
$t\bar{t} + \text{light}$      $t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$      $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$   
 $t\bar{t} + V$     Non- $t\bar{t}$



# b-tagging discriminant



- Large improvement in  $b$ -tagging performance in Run-2 due to the additional Insertable B-Layer (radius: 3.3 cm)
- Calibration derived from data:
  - $b$ -jet efficiency: dileptonic  $t\bar{t}$  (2-10% uncert.)
  - $c$ -jet mistag: semileptonic  $t\bar{t}$  ( $W \rightarrow cs$ ),  $W+c$  (5-20% uncert.)
  - Light-flavour mistag: dijet events (10-50% uncert.)
- **Four different working points**, also calibration for discrete  $b$ -tagging discriminant combining all working points used in  $t\bar{t}H(b\bar{b})$



- $b$ -tagging:
  - Considering 4 working points: *loose*, *medium*, *tight*, *very-tight*
  - Efficiency for  $b$ -jets: 85%  $\rightarrow$  60%
  - Rejection factor for  $c$ -jets [light jets]: 3  $\rightarrow$  35 [30  $\rightarrow$  1500]
  - $b$ -tagging discriminant built as:

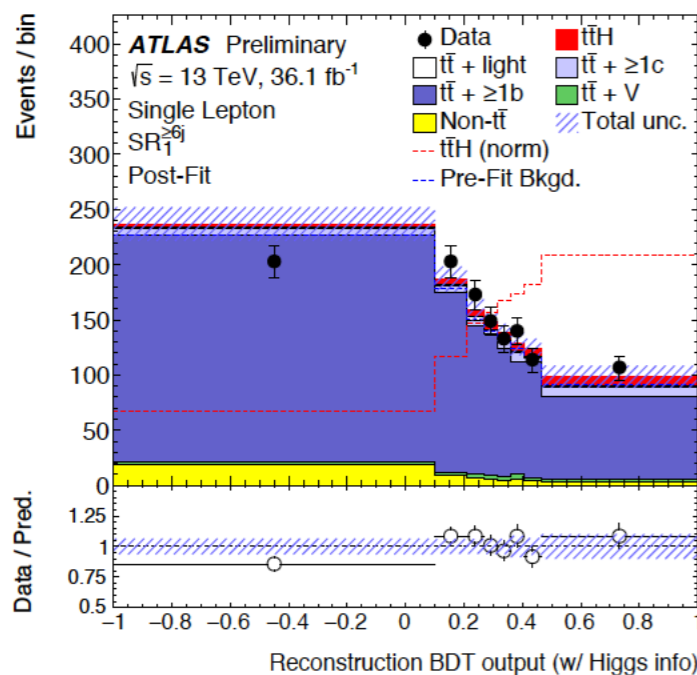
	none	<i>loose</i>	<i>medium</i>	<i>tight</i>	<i>very-tight</i>
Efficiency	-	85%	77%	70%	60%
Discriminant value	1	2	3	4	5

# $t\bar{t}H$ ( $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ): MVA analysis

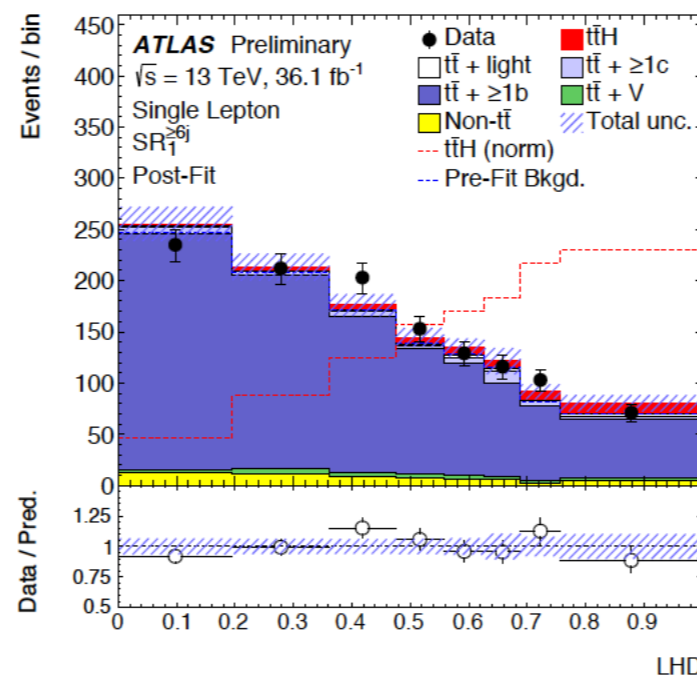


- Sensitivity enhanced using multivariate techniques to discriminate signal from backgrounds
- ‘Reconstruction’ BDT (all resolved SRs):
  - Combination of jets as originating from  $H$ /top decays to reconstruct the  $t\bar{t}H(b\bar{b})$  system
- Likelihood discriminator (LHD) (1 $\ell$  resolved SRs only):
  - Probability for signal/background ( $t\bar{t} + \geq 2b$ ,  $t\bar{t} + 1b$ ) hypotheses using 1D distributions of discriminating variables (invariant mass, angular distributions, etc.)
- Matrix Element Method (MEM) ( $SR_1^{\geq 6j}$  only):
  - Signal/background probability using matrix element calculations at parton level

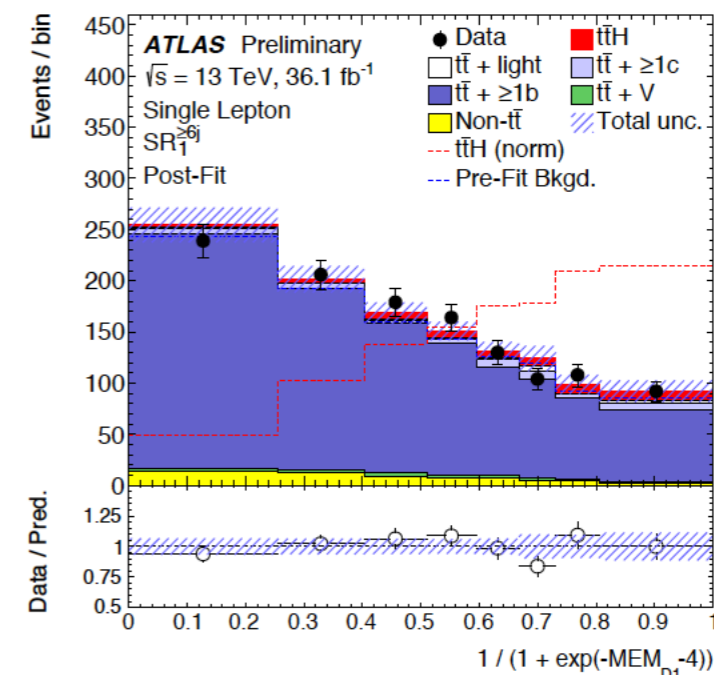
Reconstruction BDT



Likelihood discriminator



MEM discriminator

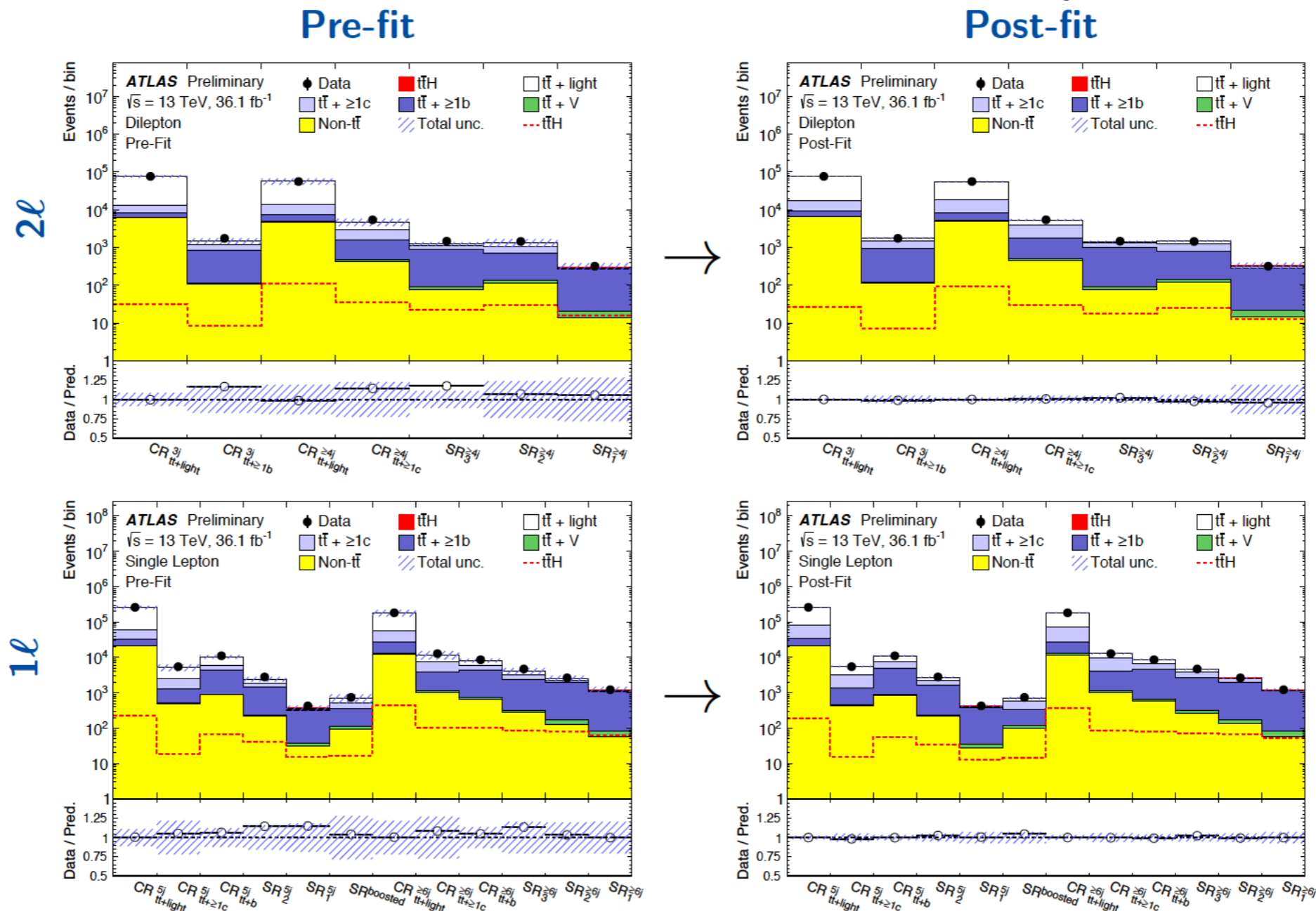




# $t\bar{t}H$ ( $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ): fit model



- Simultaneous profile likelihood fit to all SRs and CRs
  - SRs binned in 'classification BDT'
  - CRs: single bin, except  $t\bar{t} + \geq 1c$  1 $\ell$ -CRs (binned in  $H_T = \sum_{\text{jet}} p_T^{\text{jet}}$ )



# $t\bar{t}H$ ( $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ): $t\bar{t}$ modelling uncertainties



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

- Many sources of modelling uncertainty considered:
  - Generator: Powheg+Pythia8 vs. Sherpa (5F)
  - Parton shower: Powheg+Pythia8 vs. Powheg+Herwig7
  - 5F vs. 4F in Sherpa+OpenLoops
  - Scale variations in Sherpa+OpenLoops
- All  $t\bar{t}$ +jets modelling uncertainties uncorrelated between  $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b / \geq 1c / \text{light}$
- Scale variation uncertainties correlated across each  $t\bar{t} + \geq 1b$  sub-component