



# Top routes to the Higgs sector: A journey from the begin to the end of the Universe

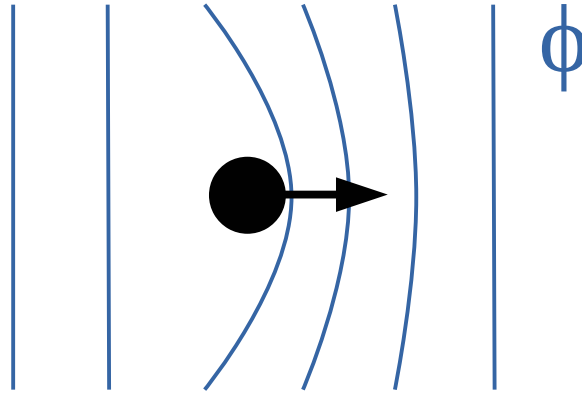
**Matthias Schröder (Universität Hamburg)**  
Universiteit Gent seminar | April 30, 2024

# How do particles get mass?

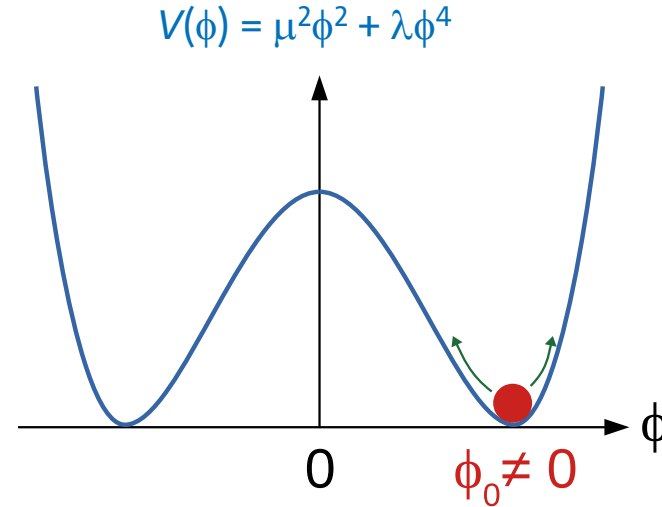
**Fundamental question:**

If the electron was massless, there would be no stable atoms!

# How do particles get mass?



Interaction with Higgs field  $\phi \rightarrow$  particle mass



Universe at minimum of  $V(\phi)$

Excitation of  $\phi$  around minimum  $\rightarrow$  **Higgs boson H** (necessary consequence!)

# The Higgs boson



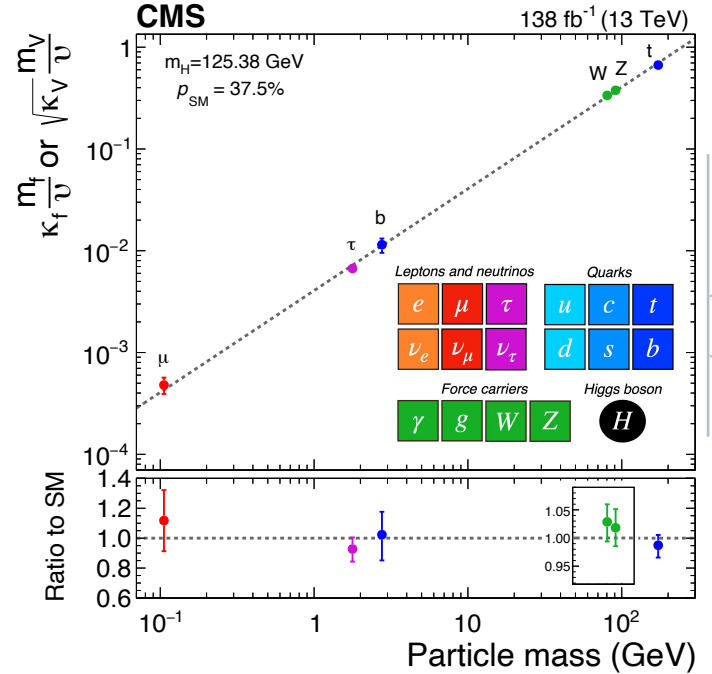
Scalar particle (spin 0, CP even)

Couples in a unique way to other particles

- to bosons  $\propto m_V^2$
- to fermions  $\propto m_f$

Once Higgs-boson mass is known:

All other properties and couplings precisely defined



Nature 607 (2022) 60-68

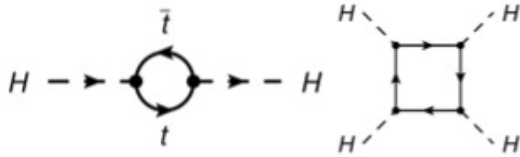
# The top-Higgs coupling is special!

**Special:**  $y_t \approx 1$  (only „natural“ quark mass)

**By far the largest Higgs-fermion coupling**

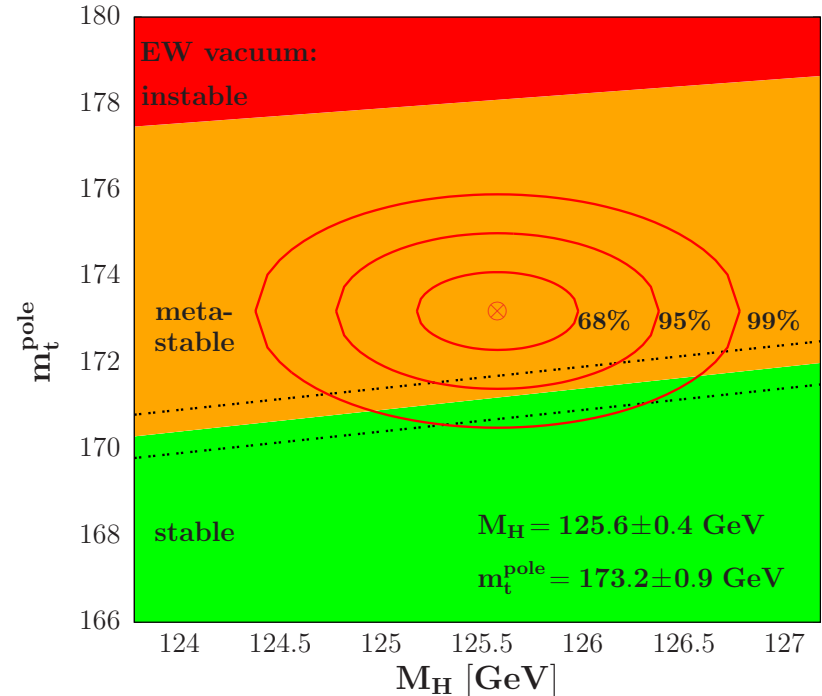
**Strong impact on SM physics**

e.g. dominant contributions to quantum corrections to the Higgs-boson mass and self-coupling



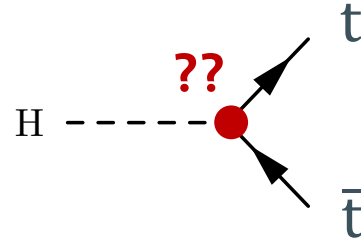
**Decides (in part) if the vacuum is stable!**

*The end of the Universe as we know it?*



# How to measure the top-Higgs coupling?

## Indirect

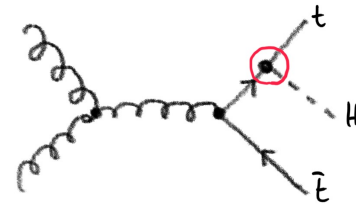


## Direct

Loop-induced single Higgs processes  
 $ggF$  production and  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  decays

Virtual corrections to top quark production  
 $4t$  and  $t\bar{t}$  production

Top quark associated production  
 $t\bar{t}H$  and  $tH$  production



# Heavy partners of the Higgs bosons?

Several phenomena not explained by SM, e.g. Dark Matter, matter-antimatter asymmetry

There has to be new physics!

Many models of new physics require extended Higgs sector

- Supersymmetry
- Electroweak baryogenesis

Two Higgs Doublet Model (2HDM) → 5 Higgs bosons:  $h, H, A, H^{+/-}$

Generic model introducing additional Higgs doublet to SM

Important parameters:

- $m_h, m_A, m_H, m_{H^{+/-}}$
- $\tan\beta = v_2/v_1$
- “Alignment limit”  $\cos(\beta-\alpha) = 0 \rightarrow h$  is SM-like



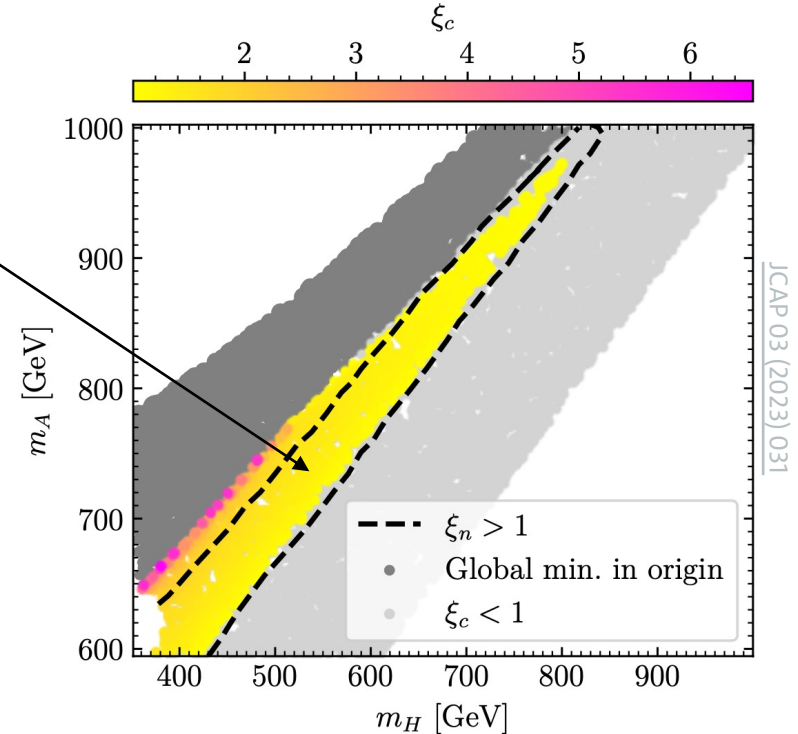


# The 2HDM and the begin of the Universe

Matter-antimatter asymmetry of the Universe can be generated in 2HDM (electroweak baryogenesis)

Possible in particular region in 2HDM parameter space

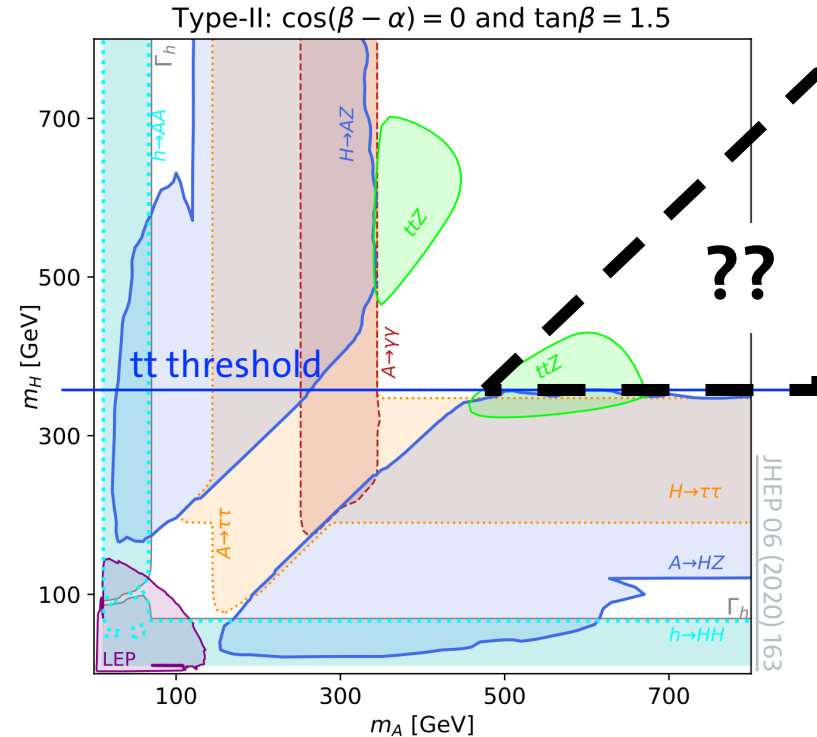
[JCAP 03 (2023) 031]



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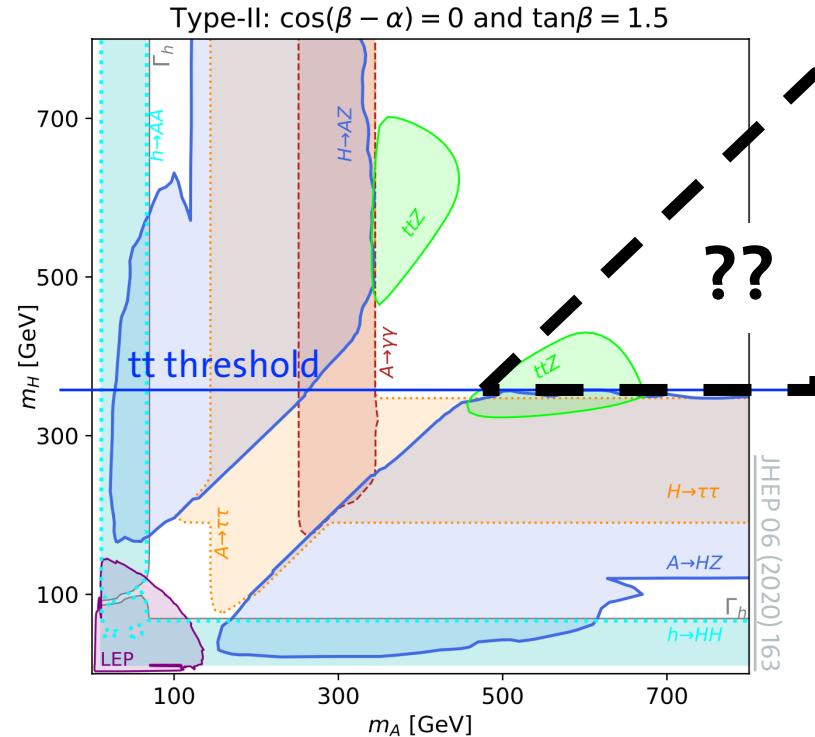
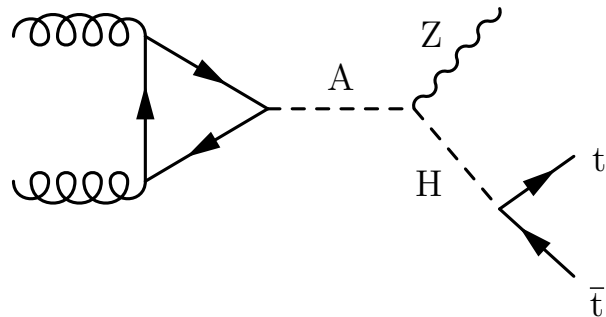
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**Direct access via  $A \rightarrow ZH$  with  $H \rightarrow tt$**

Probes region with large  $m_A$  and small  $\tan\beta$



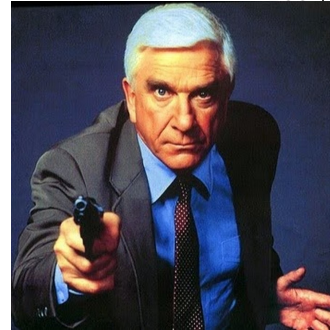
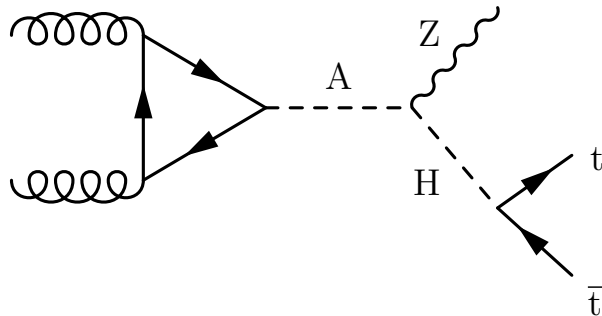
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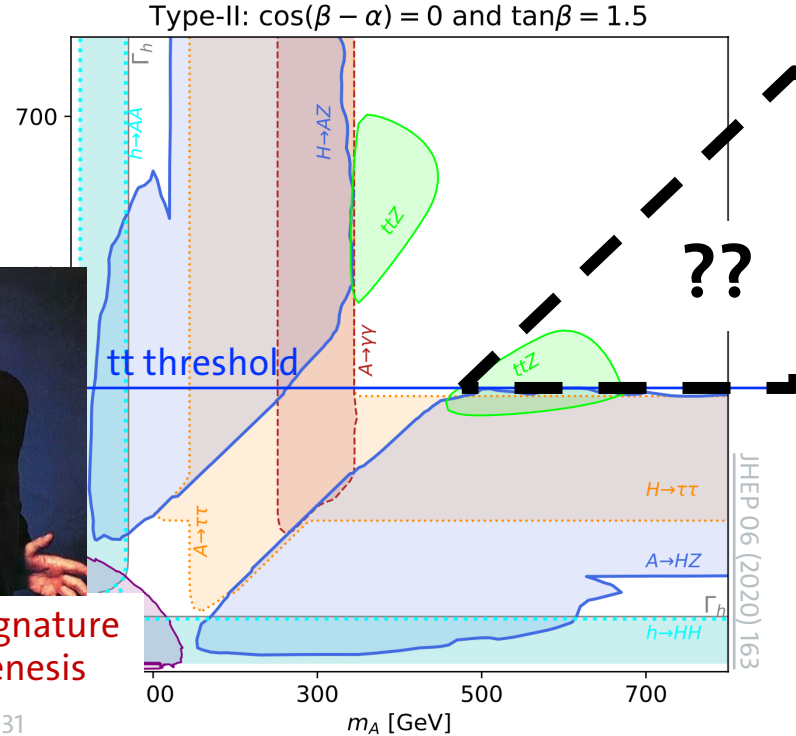
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“smoking gun” signature of EWK baryogenesis

JCAP 03 (2023) 031



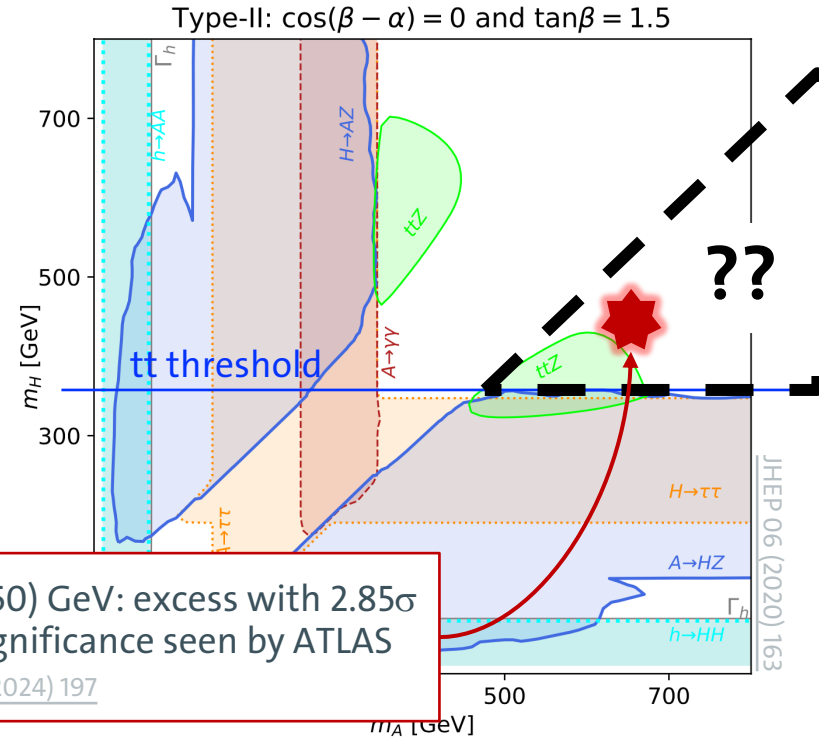
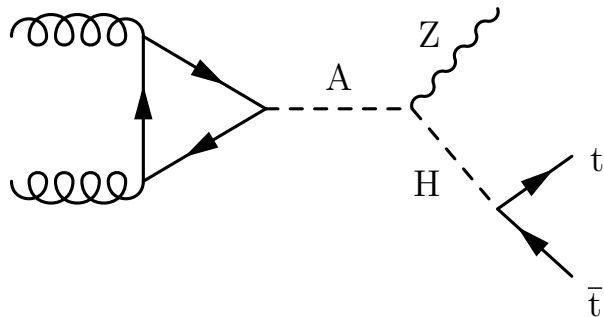
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## Top quarks are an excellent tool to probe the Higgs sector



**Coupling measurement**  
Deviations from SM?



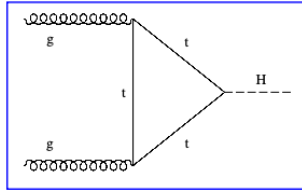
**Direct search for  
heavy Higgs bosons**

Examples:

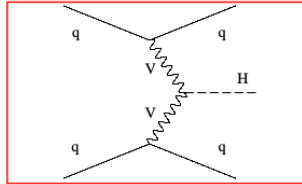
- Measurement of  $t\bar{t}H$  and  $tH$  with  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$
- **Brand-new** search for heavy Higgs bosons  $A \rightarrow ZH$  with  $H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$

\* Will focus here on CMS, but similar results by ATLAS

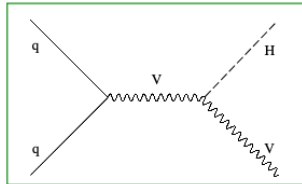
# Higgs-boson production at the LHC



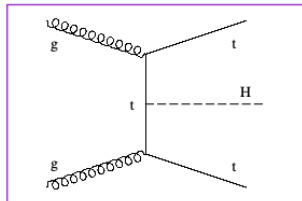
ggF: 43.9 pb (87%)



VBF: 3.8 pb (7%)

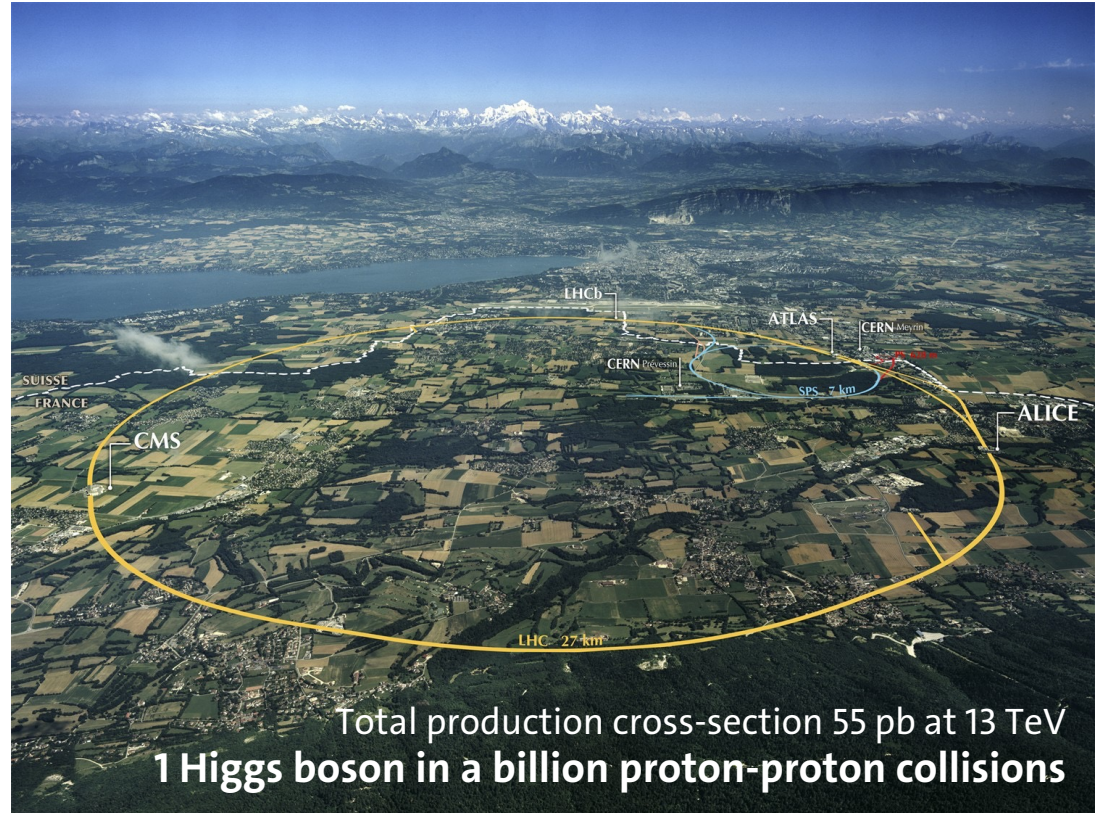


VH: 2.3 pb (4%)



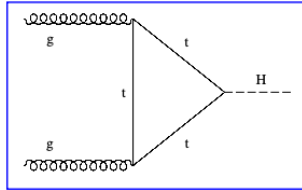
ttH: 0.5 pb (1%)

\* for  $m_H=125$  GeV at 13 TeV  
[\[arXiv: 1610.07922\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.07922)

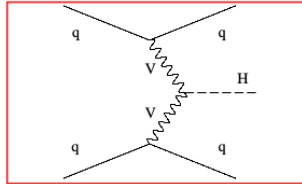


Total production cross-section 55 pb at 13 TeV  
**1 Higgs boson in a billion proton-proton collisions**

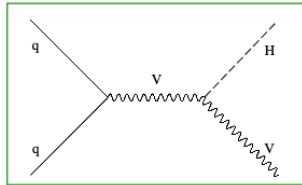
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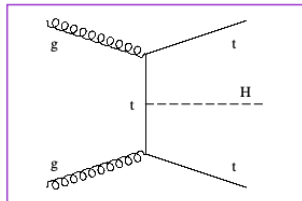
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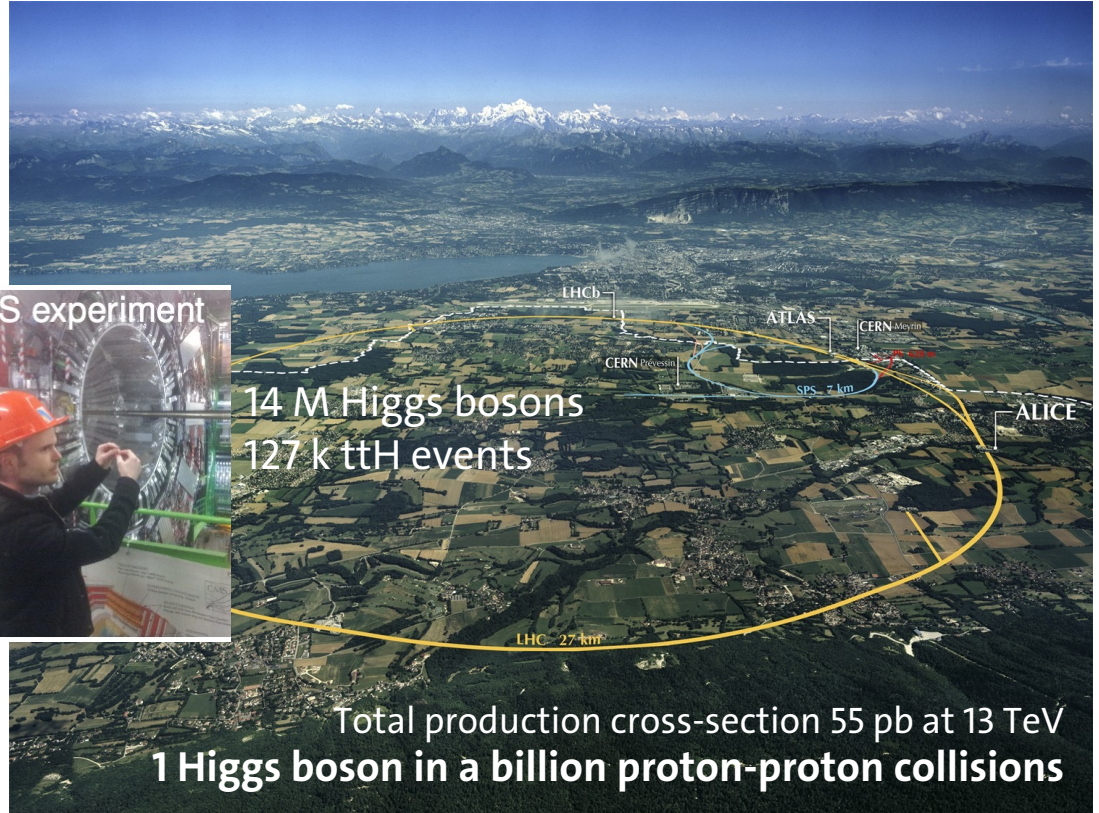


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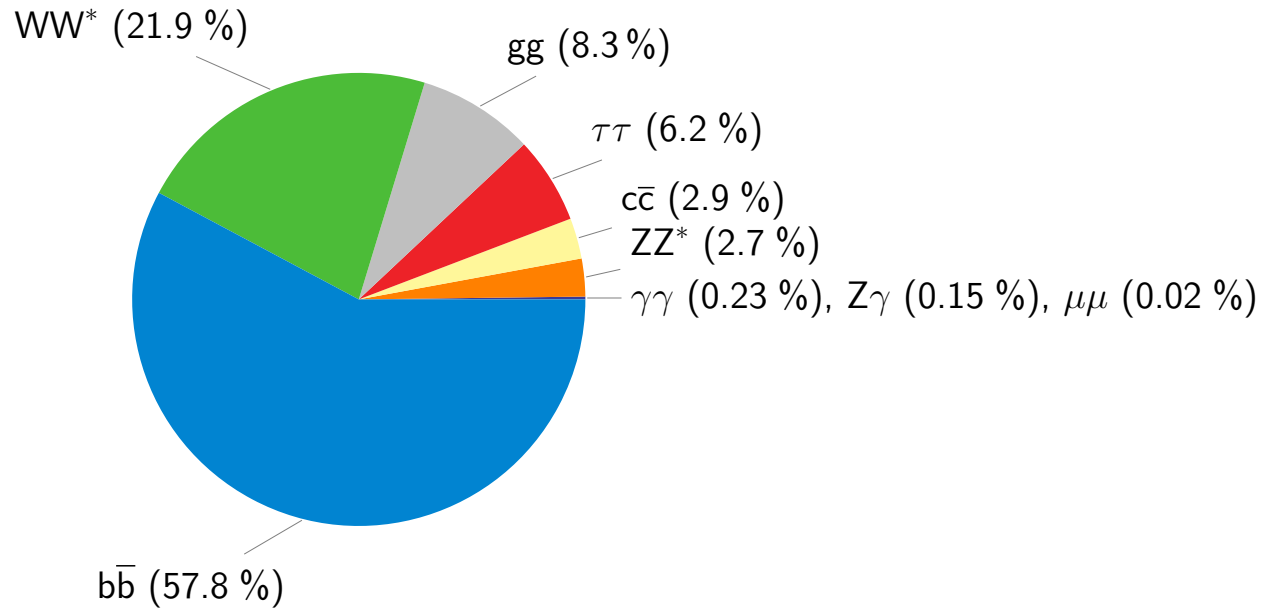
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# Higgs-boson decay channels

Branching ratios for  $m_H = 125$  GeV in the Standard Model [[arXiv: 1610.07922](https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.07922)]

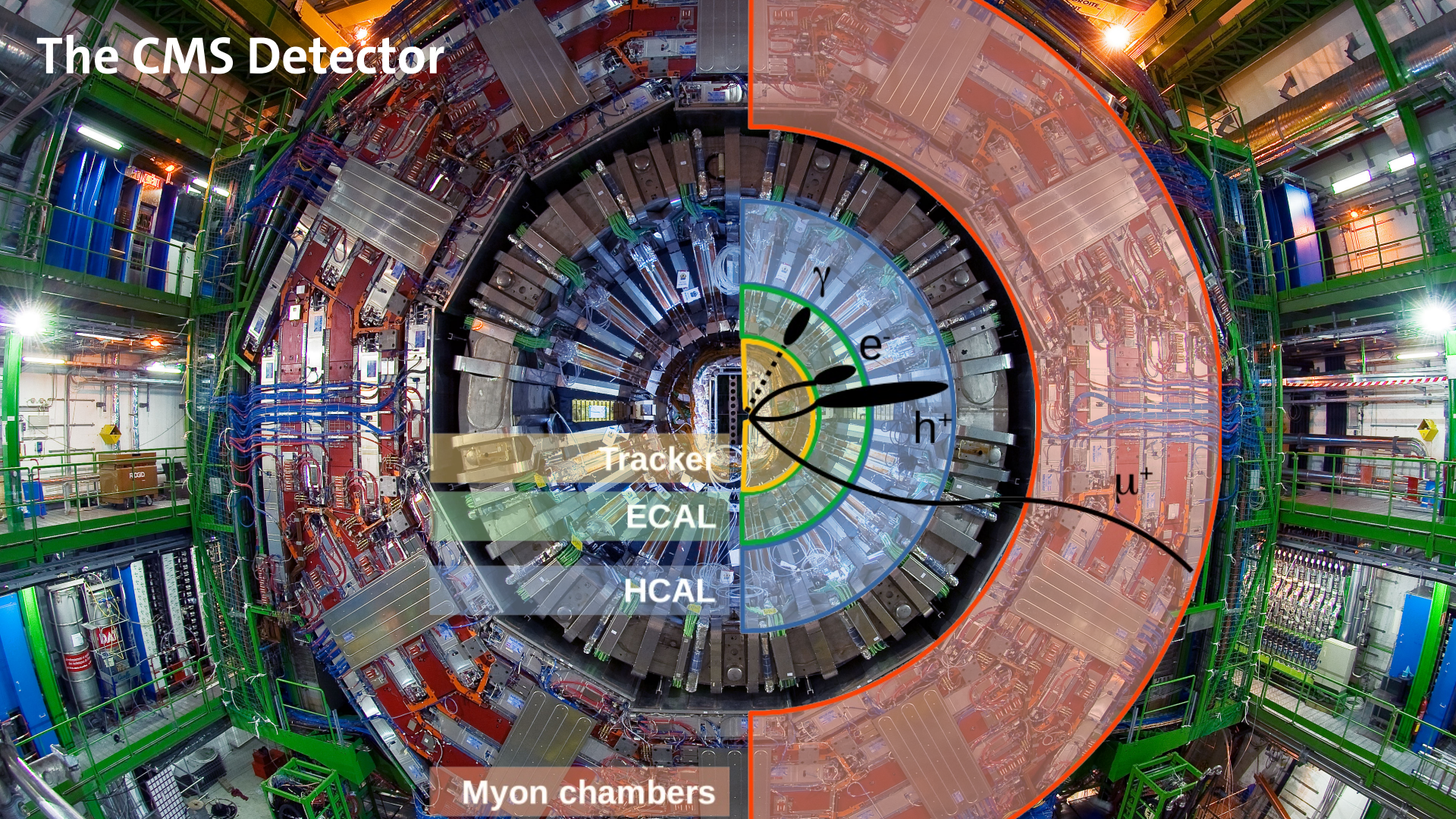


# The CMS Detector



**All detector components needed in Higgs analyses**  
Very different signatures depending on the production and decay modes

# The CMS Detector



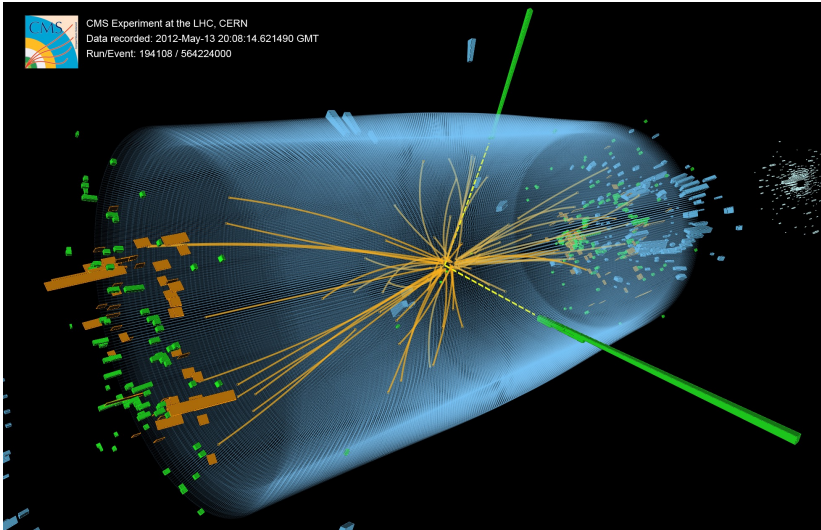
Tracker

ECAL

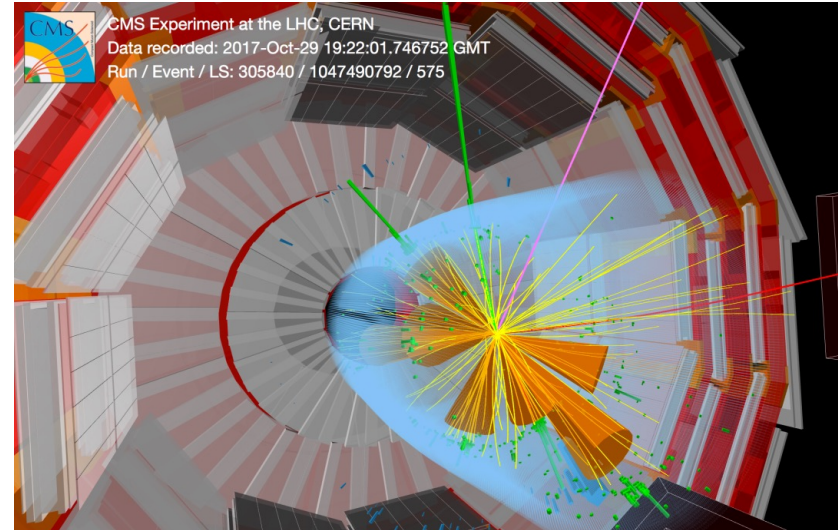
HCAL

Myon chambers

$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  candidate



$t\bar{t}H$  with  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  candidate



**All detector components needed in Higgs analyses**  
Very different signatures depending on the production and decay modes



**Coupling measurement**  
Deviations from SM?

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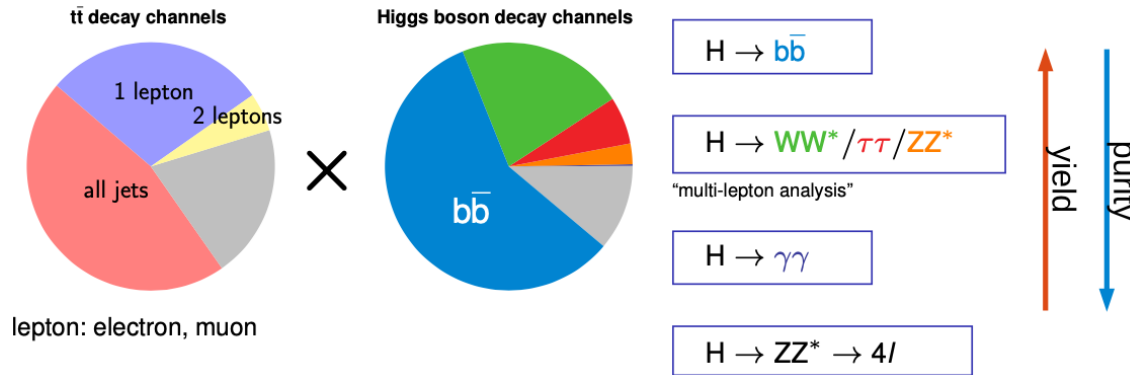
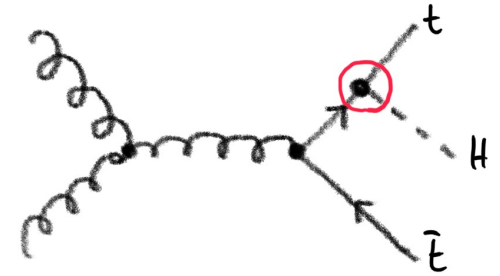
**Measurement of  $t\bar{t}H$  and  $tH$  production with  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$**

# ttH measurements at the LHC

ttH production: direct probe of top-Higgs coupling

Small production cross section: 0.5 pb at 13 TeV [\[arXiv: 1610.07922\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.07922)

Multitude of possible final states with many and different objects



Independent observation by ATLAS and CMS in 2018, combining several channels

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 120 \(2018\) 231801](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.07445)

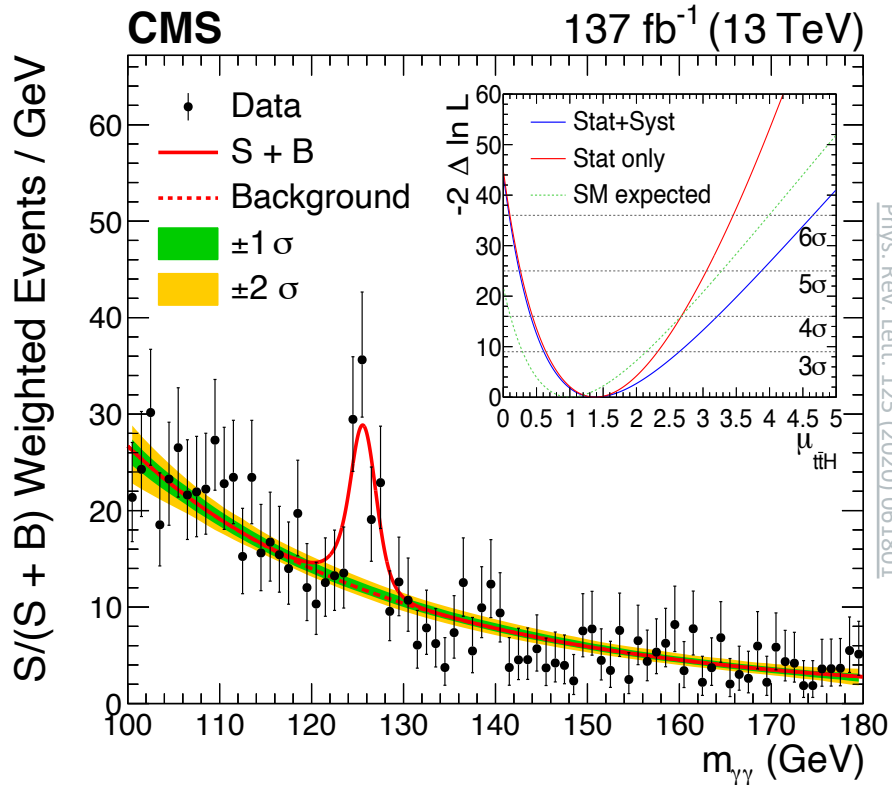
[Phys. Lett. B 784 \(2018\) 173](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.07445)

# ttH measurements at the LHC: status today

channel		dataset	$\mu = \frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{SM}}$	significance	add. results	
$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	ATLAS	$139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$0.35^{+0.36}_{-0.34}$	$1.0 \sigma$ (2.7 exp.)	STXS, CP	[JHEP 06 (2022) 097] [arXiv:2303.05974, subm. to PLB]
	CMS	$138 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$0.33^{+0.26}_{-0.26}$	$1.3 \sigma$ (4.1 exp.)	STXS, CP	[CMS-PAS-HIG-19-011]
$H \rightarrow VV^*/\tau\tau$	ATLAS	$80 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$0.58^{+0.26}_{-0.25}$	$1.8 \sigma$ (3.1 exp.)		[ATLAS-CONF-2019-045]
	CMS	$137 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$0.92^{+0.25}_{-0.23}$	$4.7 \sigma$ (5.2 exp.)	CP	[Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 378] [JHEP 07 (2023) 092]
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	ATLAS	$139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$1.43^{+0.39}_{-0.34}$	$5.2 \sigma$ (4.4 exp.)	STXS, CP	[Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 (2020) 061802] [JHEP 07 (2023) 088]
	CMS	$137 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$1.38^{+0.36}_{-0.29}$	$6.6 \sigma$ (4.7 exp.)	STXS, CP	[Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 (2020) 061801] [JHEP 07 (2021) 027]
$H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4l$	ATLAS	$139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$1.7^{+1.7}_{-1.1}$	—	STXS	[Eur. Phys. J. C 80 (2020) 957]
	CMS	$137 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$0.17^{+0.98}_{-0.17}$	—	STXS	[Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 488]

ttH results with **full Run-2 dataset** in (almost) all channels  
**Major improvements in analysis methods & extended interpretations**

# ttH with $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$



Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 (2020) 061801

**Very clean channel:**

clear signature + excellent mass resolution (1%)

→ reconstruct Higgs boson from photons

**But tiny rate:** limited by statistical uncertainties

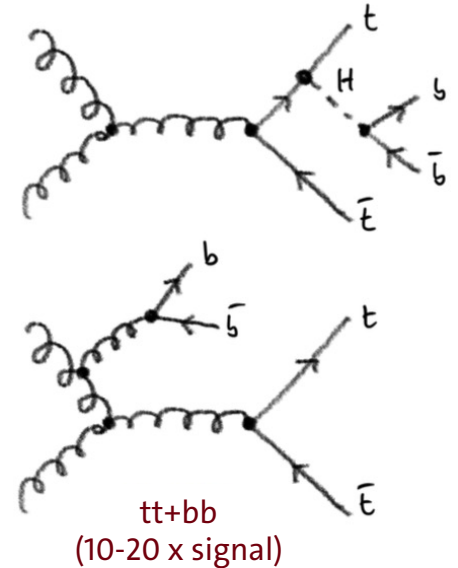
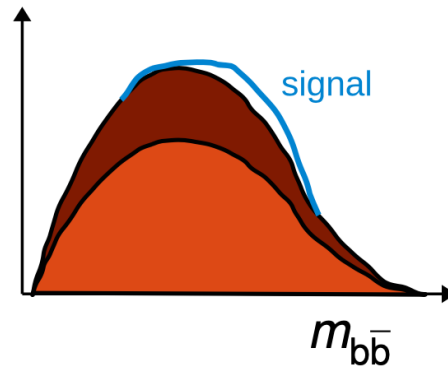
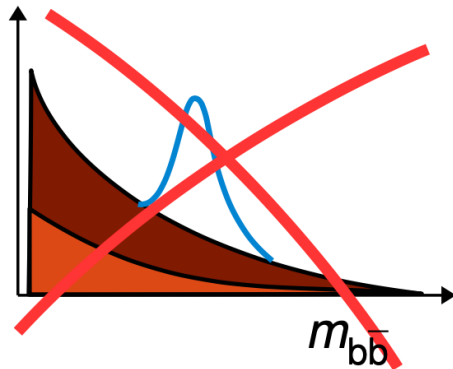


# ttH with $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

Benefit from large  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  branching ratio of 58 %

But **challenging final state:**

- Many jets: **no unambiguous event reconstruction**
- Large (irreducible) **background due to  $t\bar{t}$ +jets production** with large uncertainties



signal

background

tt+bb  
(10-20 x signal)

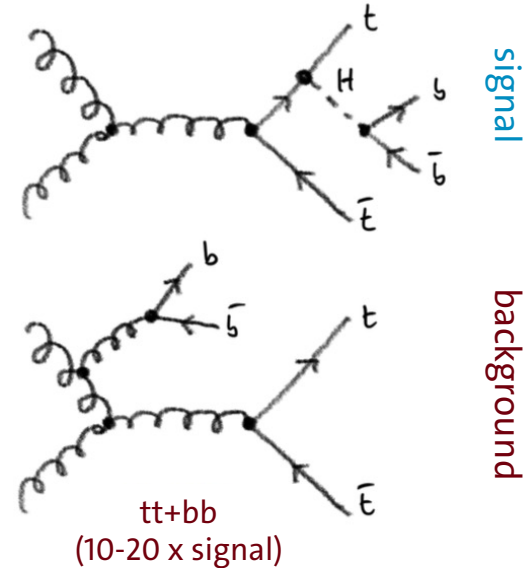
# ttH with H $\rightarrow$ bb

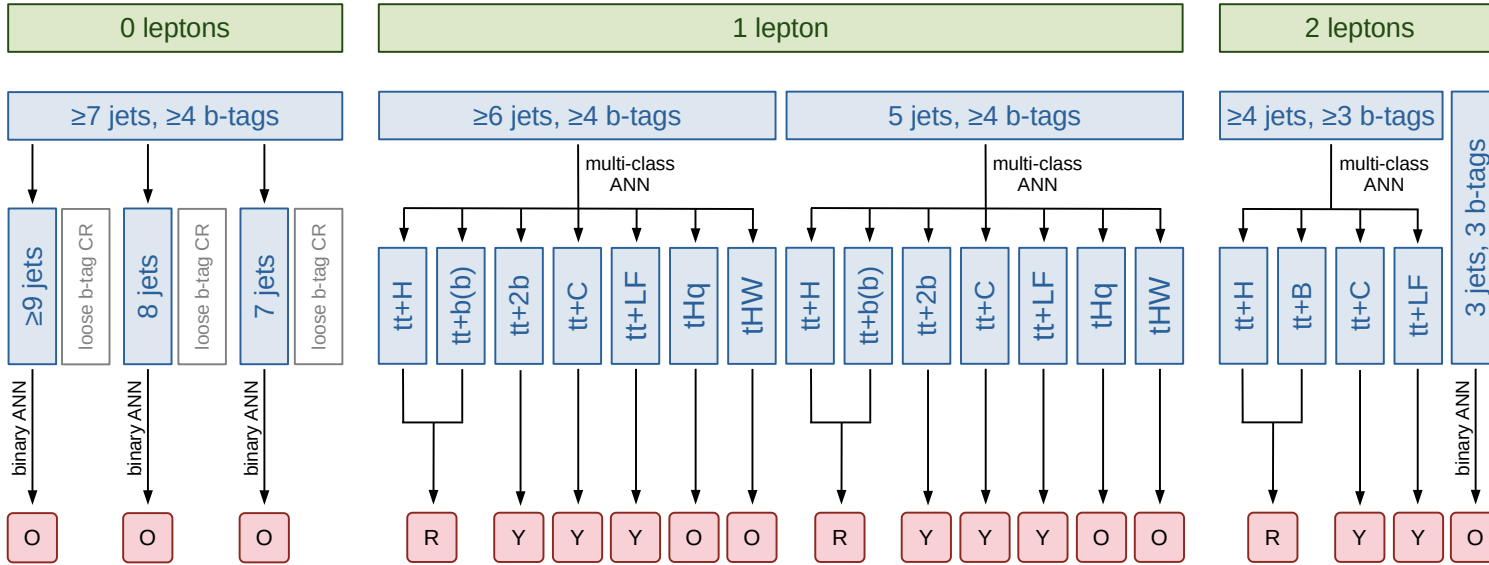
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Here: latest CMS result with 138 fb<sup>-1</sup> of data at 13 TeV [\[CMS-PAS-HIG-19-011\]](#)

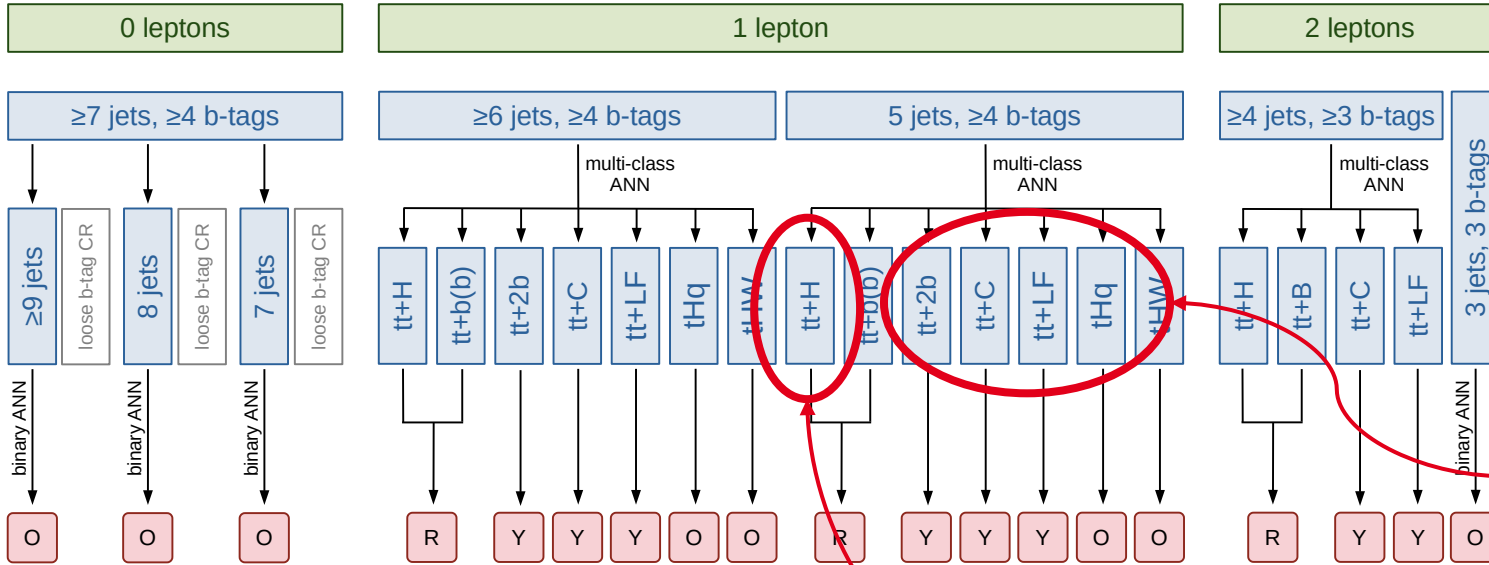
Channel	BR	Background
Fully hadronic (FH)	45%	QCD, tt+jets
Single lepton (SL)	30%	tt+jets
Dilepton (DL)	5%	tt+jets

Leptons: e or  $\mu$  (no explicit  $\tau$  reconstruction or veto)





 Distribution in template fit, event yield (Y), ANN output (O), likelihood ratio of ANN outputs (R)

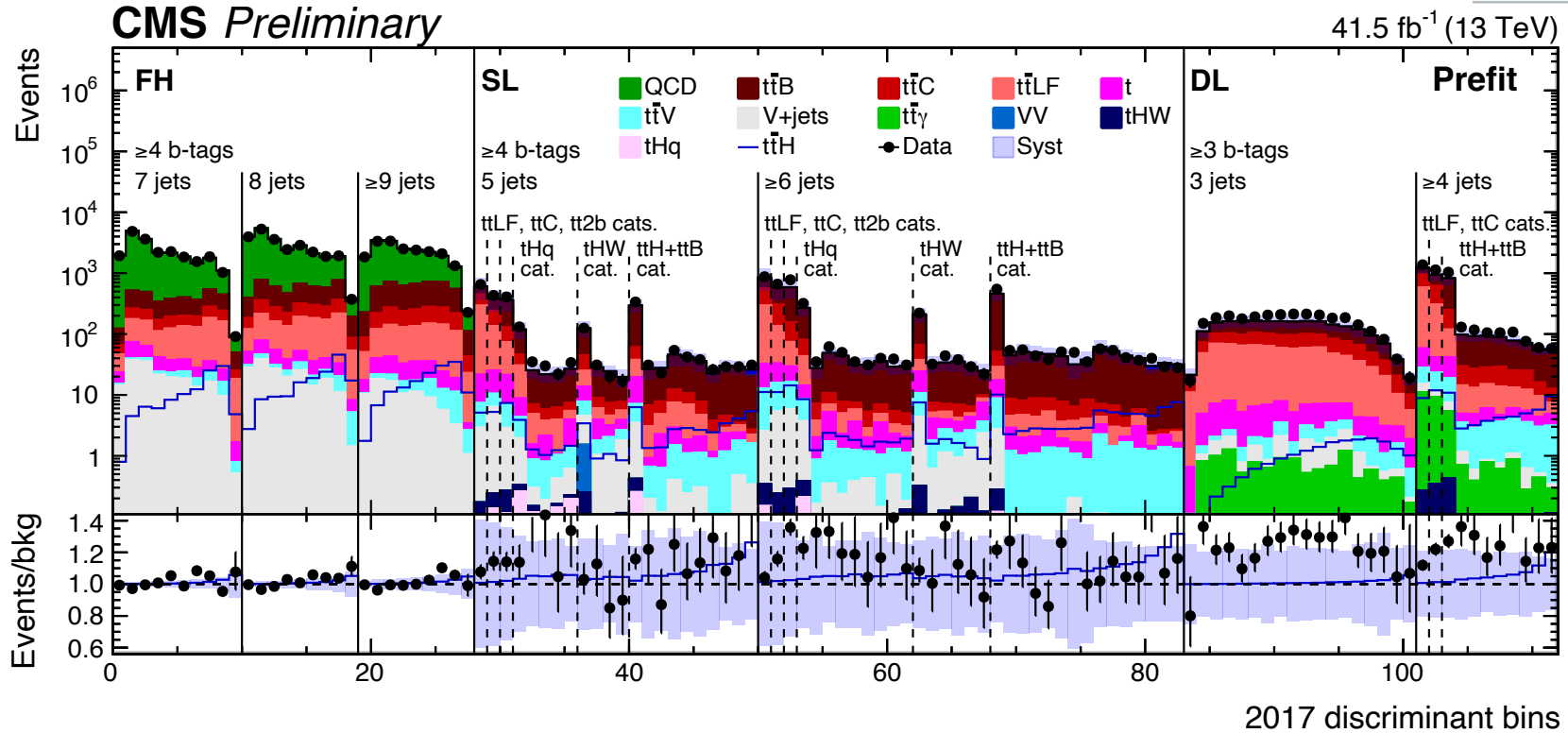


Legend: O Distribution in template fit, event yield (Y), ANN output (O), likelihood ratio of ANN outputs (R)

1. Control regions to constrain background

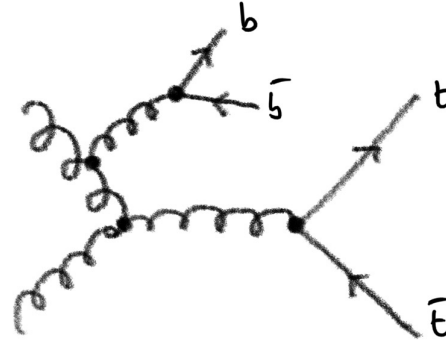
2. Signal regions to separate signal from background

# Final discriminant observable



## tt+bb difficult to model and to measure

- Complex multi-parton final state
- Multiple, very different scales (bb, tt)
- Simulations typically underpredict cross section by  $\approx 20\text{--}30\%$  [[arXiv:2309.14442](https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.14442), acc. by JHEP]



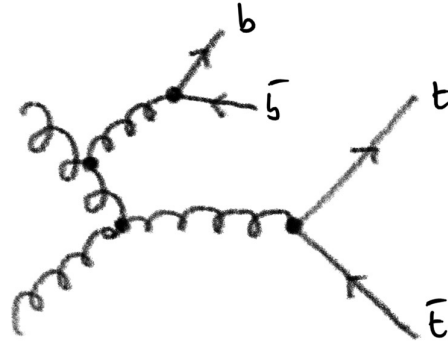
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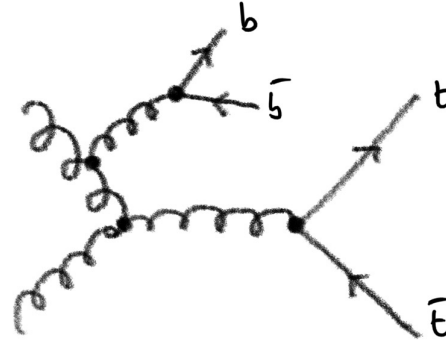
- tt ME at NLO + PS  $g \rightarrow bb$  splitting (5FS)
- ttbb ME at NLO (4FS)

ME: matrix element, PS: parton shower, FS: flavour scheme



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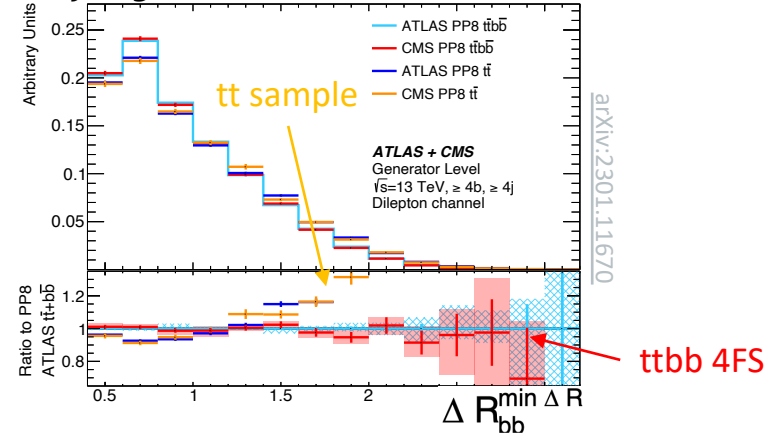
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## Study together with ATLAS ttH(bb) team



# tt+bb background

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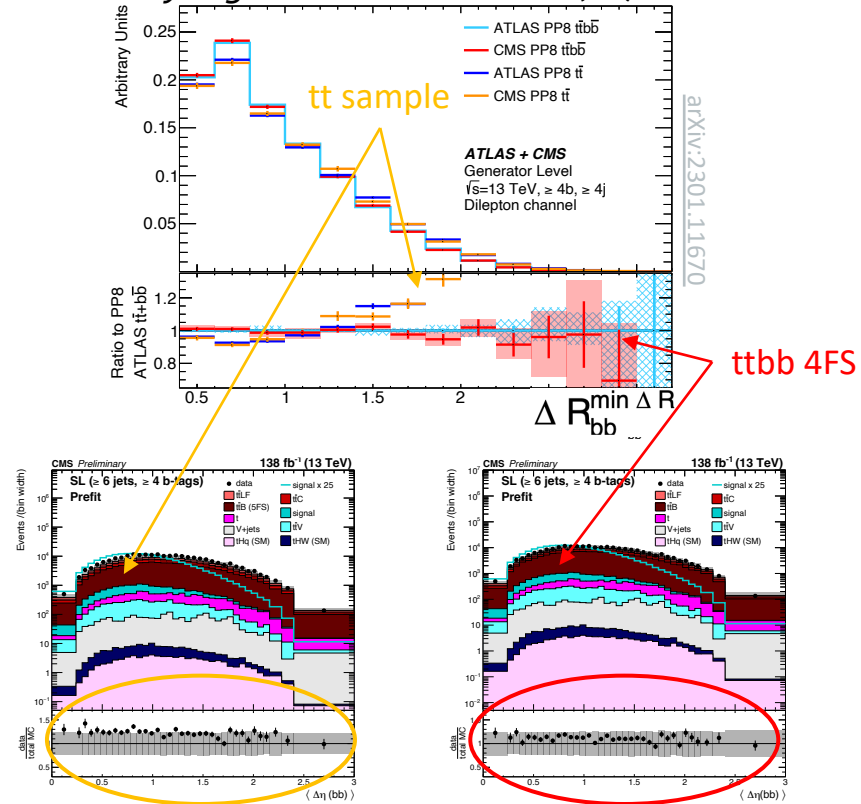
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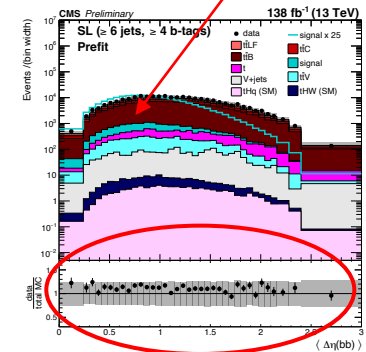
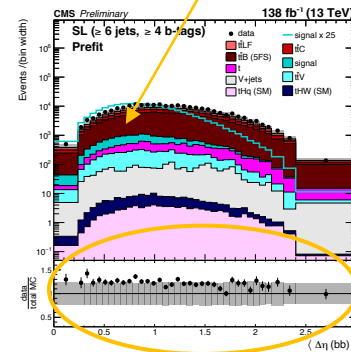
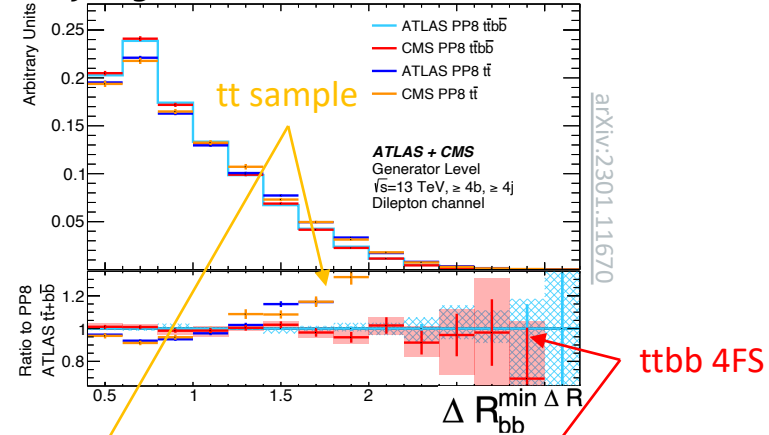
## Major improvement in background model:

### tt+bb background from new state-of-the-art

#### Powheg ttbb 4FS simulation [Eur. Phys. J. C78 (2018) 502]

- Improved description of jet kinematics
- Embedded into Powheg tt 5FS sample to cover full phase space
- Overall tt+bb normalisation freely-floating

## Study together with ATLAS ttH(bb) team



Careful scrutiny of NN input variables, incl. GoF tests

Model flexibility extensively **validated with pseudo experiments**

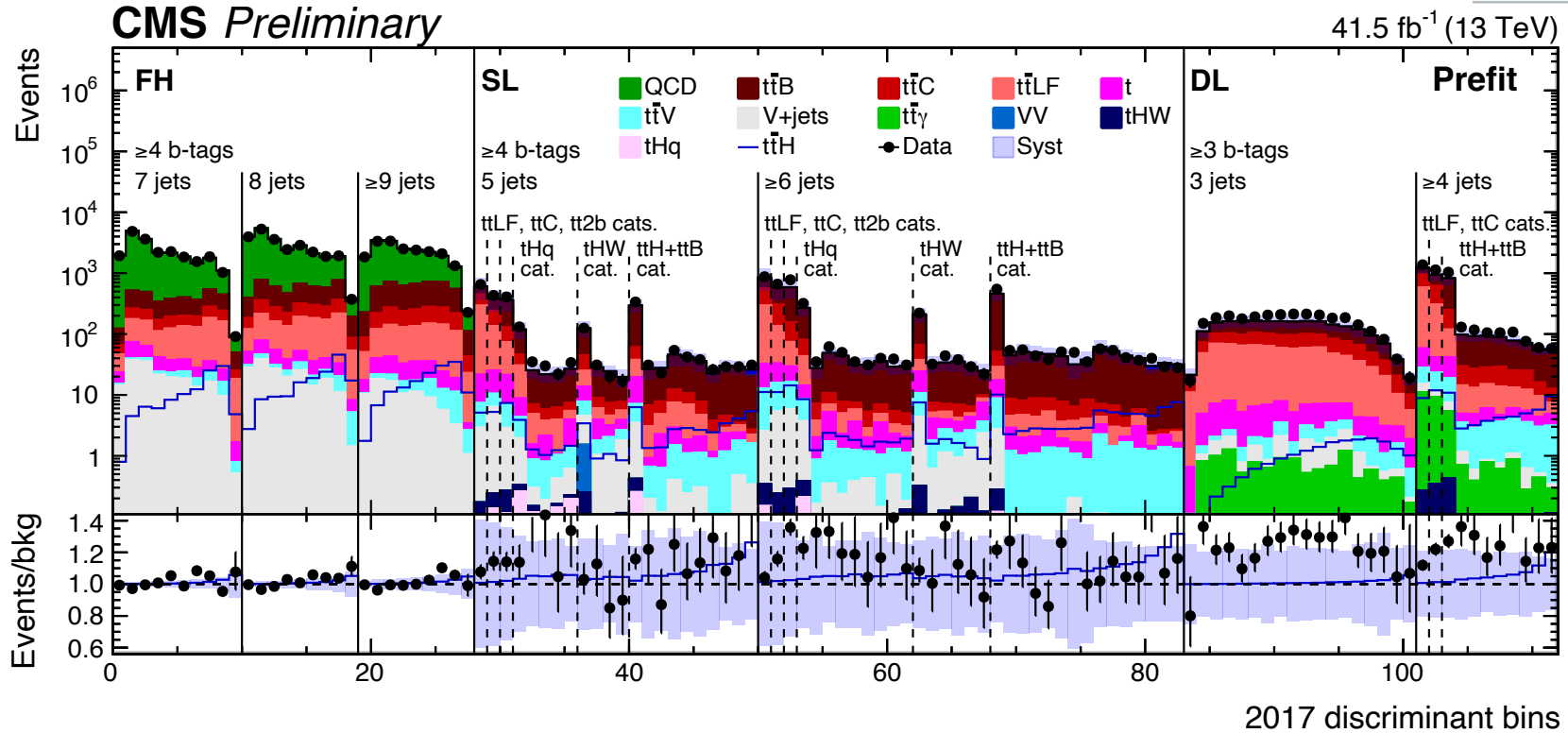
tt̄B component in pseudo data	mean value ± RMS		
	$\mu_{\text{tt}\bar{H}}$	tt̄B norm	tt̄C norm
<b>tt+bb cross section in toy data increased by 20%</b>		1.01 ± 0.09	1.01 ± 0.18
<b>ttbb sample, ttB × 1.2</b>	1.03 ± 0.32	1.21 ± 0.15	1.01 ± 0.18
<b>tt+bb in toy data from different generator</b>	0.30	1.03 ± 0.11	0.77 ± 0.18
<b>tt sample, ttB × 1.2</b>	1.06 ± 0.32	1.18 ± 0.12	0.85 ± 0.20

Injected signal strength (1.0) and background normalisation (1.2) recovered

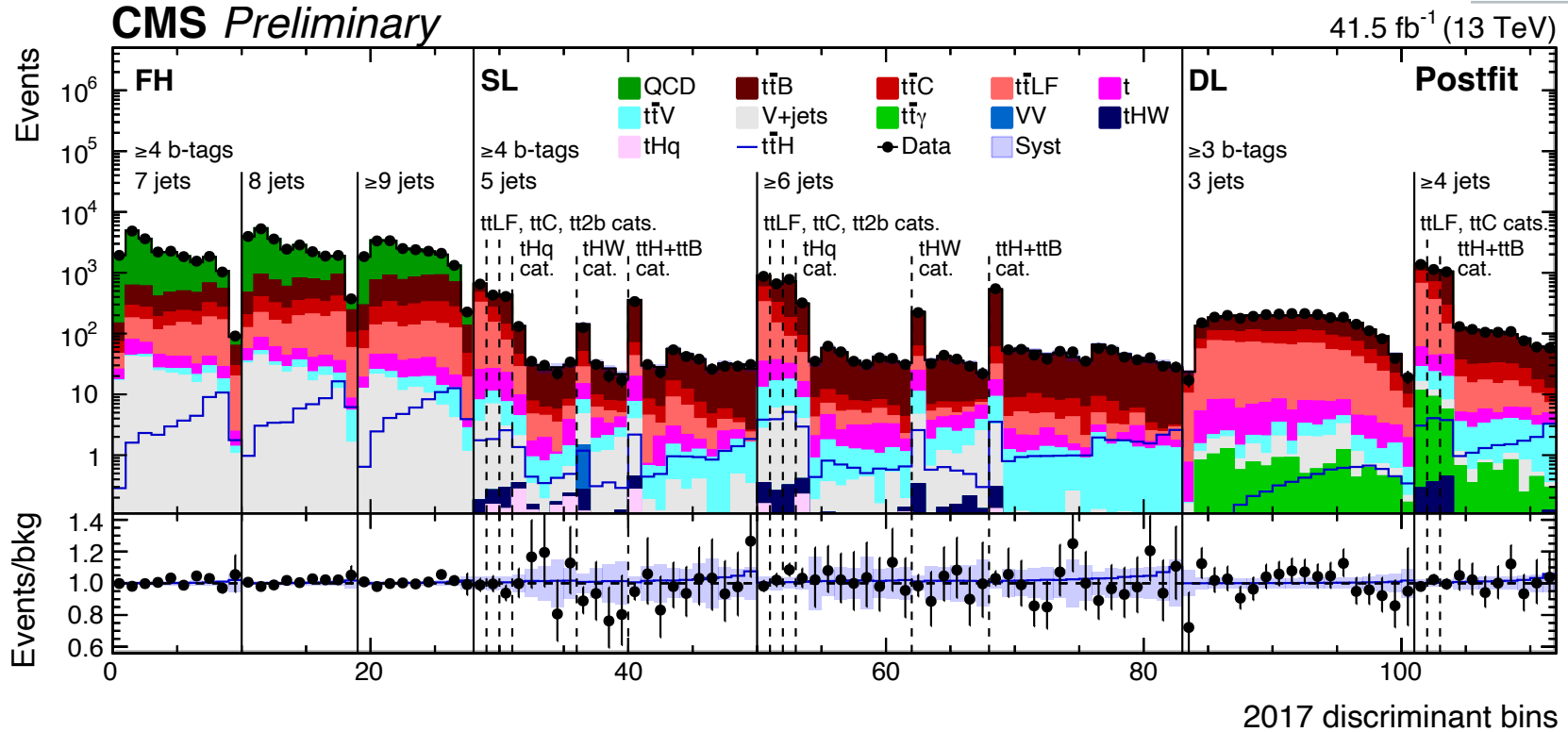
## Modelling uncertainties

- Freely-floating norm.
- $\mu_{R/F}$  scale
- PS scale (ISR/FSR)
- Collinear gluon-splitting
- ME-PS matching
- PDF

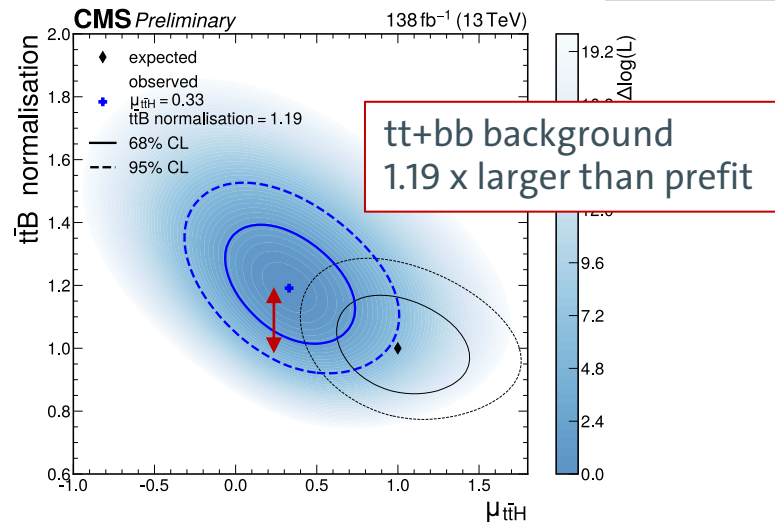
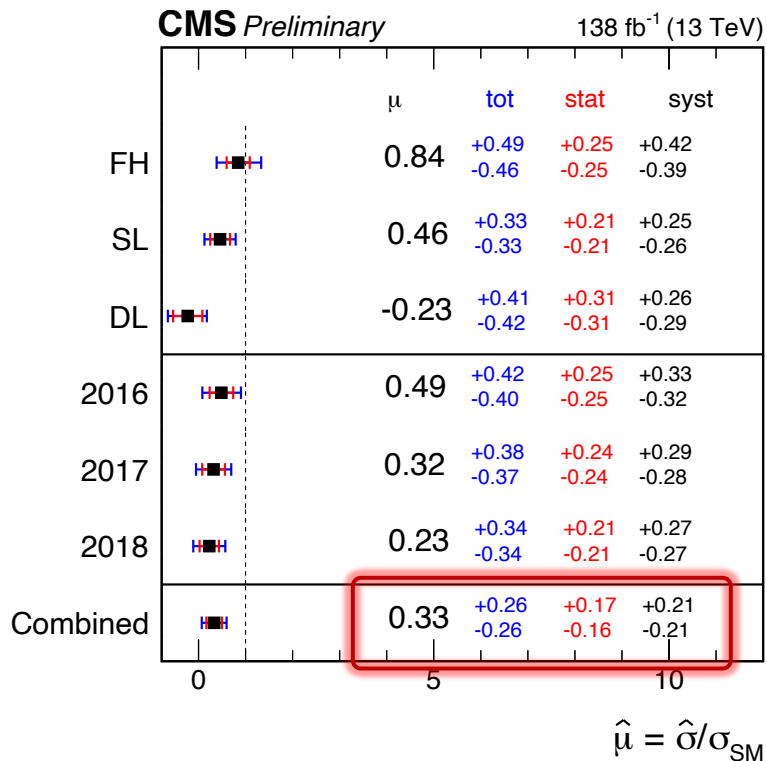
# Final discriminant



# Final discriminant



# Results: ttH production with H → bb



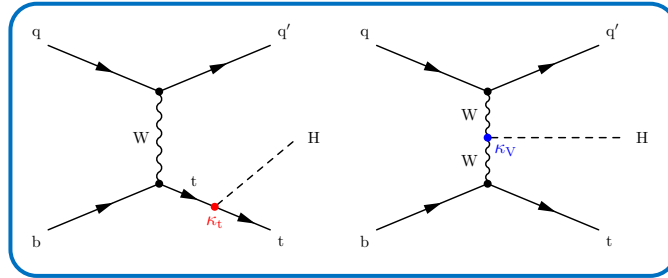
**ttH signal strength  $\mu_{\text{ttH}} = 0.33 \pm 0.26$**

SM compatibility p-value: 2%

Agreement with ATLAS result:  $0.35^{+0.36}_{-0.34}$  [JHEP 06 (2022) 97]

# Results: $t\bar{H}$ production with $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

Dedicated analysis categories targeting  $t\bar{H}$  events



$t\bar{H}$  production:  $\sigma_{SM} = 90\text{fb}$

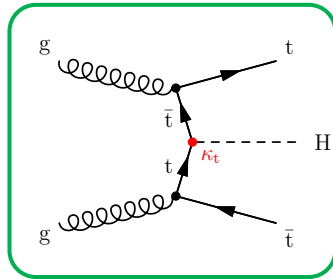
[arXiv: 1610.07922]

Upper limit of 14.6 obs. ( $19.3^{+9.2}_{-6.0}$  exp.) x SM  
 $t\bar{H}$  production at 95% CL

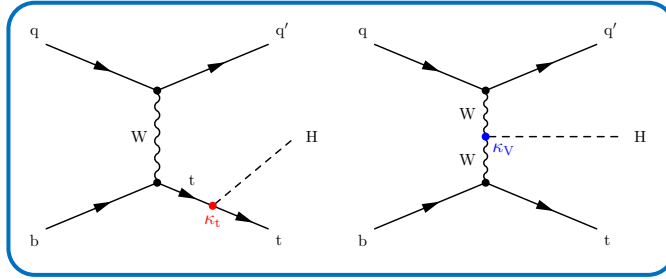


# Coupling interpretation

ttH and tH cross-sections depend differently on top-Higgs coupling  $\kappa_t$

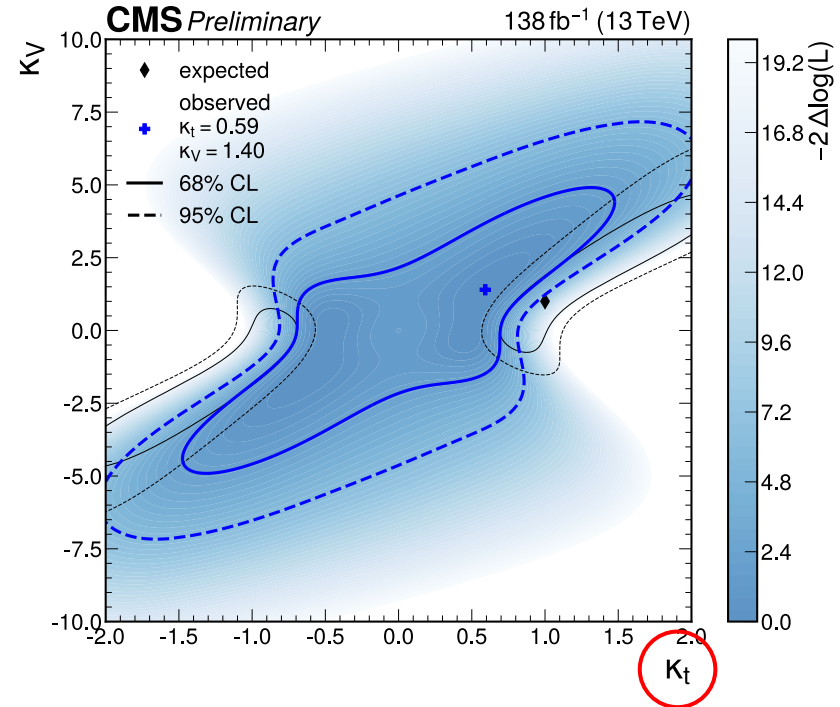


ttH:  $\kappa_t^2$



tH:  $3.40 \kappa_t^2 + 3.56 \kappa_V^2 - 5.96 \kappa_t \kappa_V$   
(diagrams interfere)

Simultaneously floating ttH and tH contributions  
 → constraints on  $\kappa_t$  and  $\kappa_V$  (including relative sign!)



## CP-odd component in top-Higgs interaction?

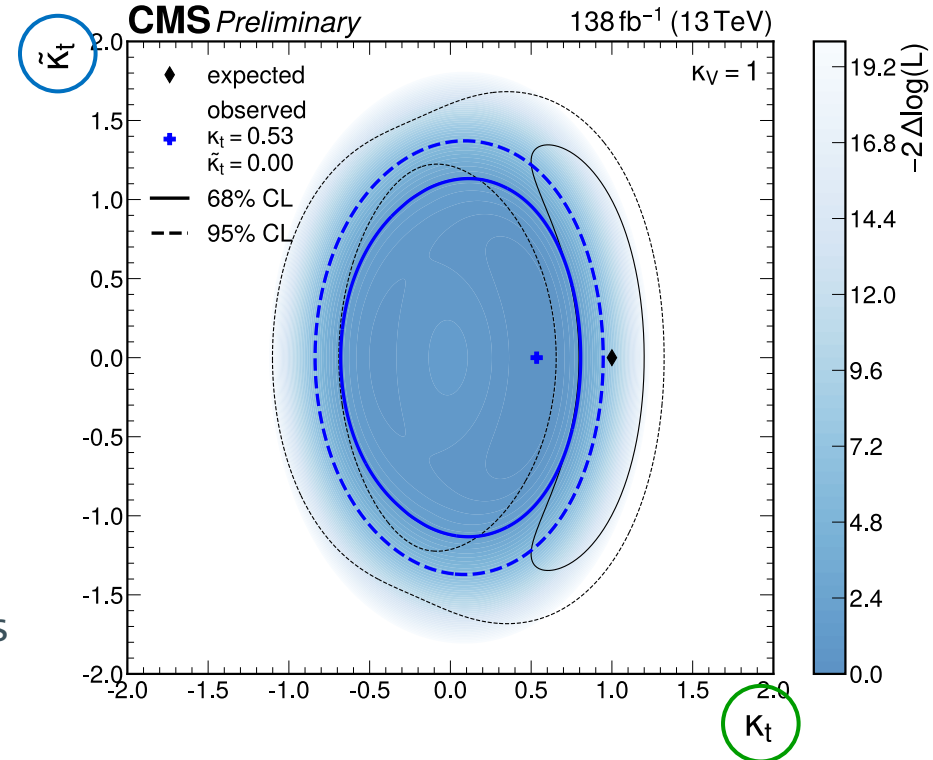
In principle allowed at tree level!

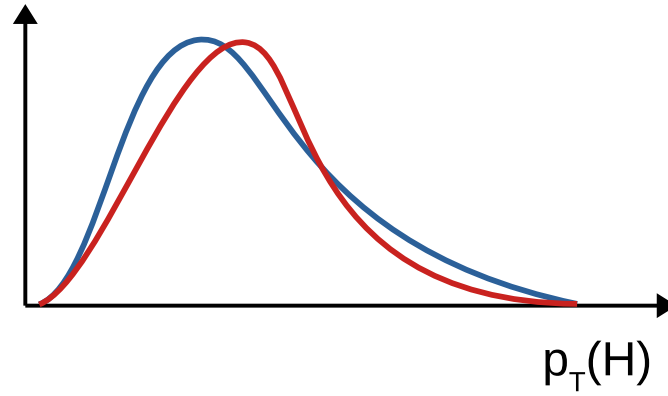
$$\mathcal{A}(\text{H}t\bar{t}) = -\frac{m_t}{v} \bar{\psi}_t \left( \kappa_t + i\tilde{\kappa}_t \gamma_5 \right) \psi_t$$

CP-even/CP-odd Yukawa coupling  
(SM:  $\kappa_t = 1$ ,  $\tilde{\kappa}_t = 0$ )

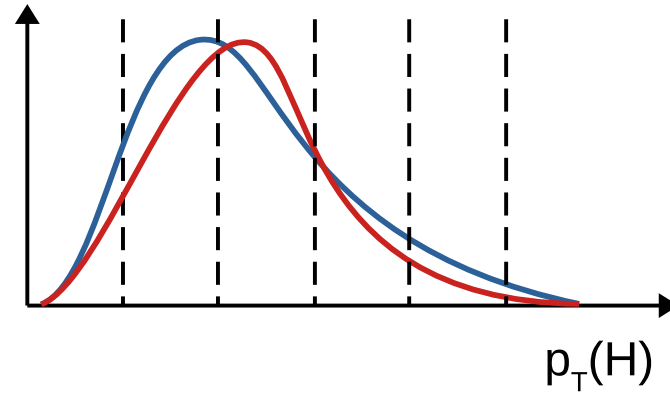
→ can modify  $t\bar{t}H$  and  $tH$  rates and kinematics differently

Simultaneously floating  $t\bar{t}H$  and  $tH$  contributions  
→ constraints on CP-odd top-Higgs coupling  $\tilde{\kappa}_t$



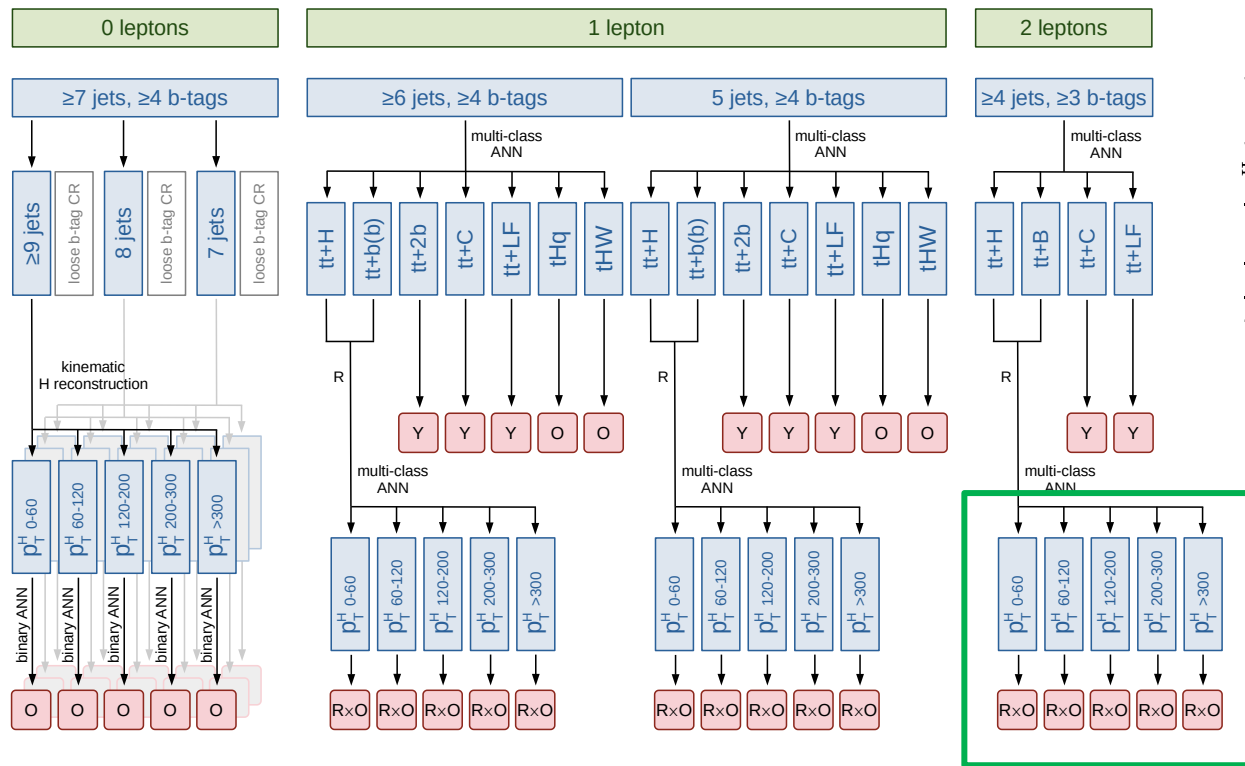


**New physics** might modify kinematics → **measure differentially!**  
("Simplified Template Cross Section", STXS)

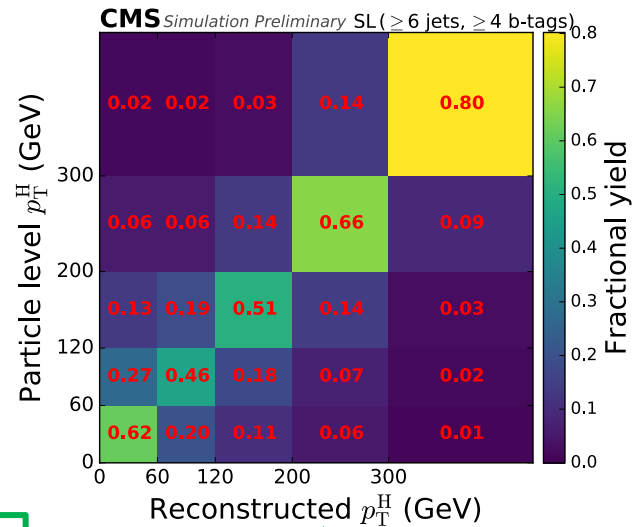


**New physics** might modify kinematics → **measure differentially!**  
("Simplified Template Cross Section", STXS)

# ttH production in bins of $p_T(H)$

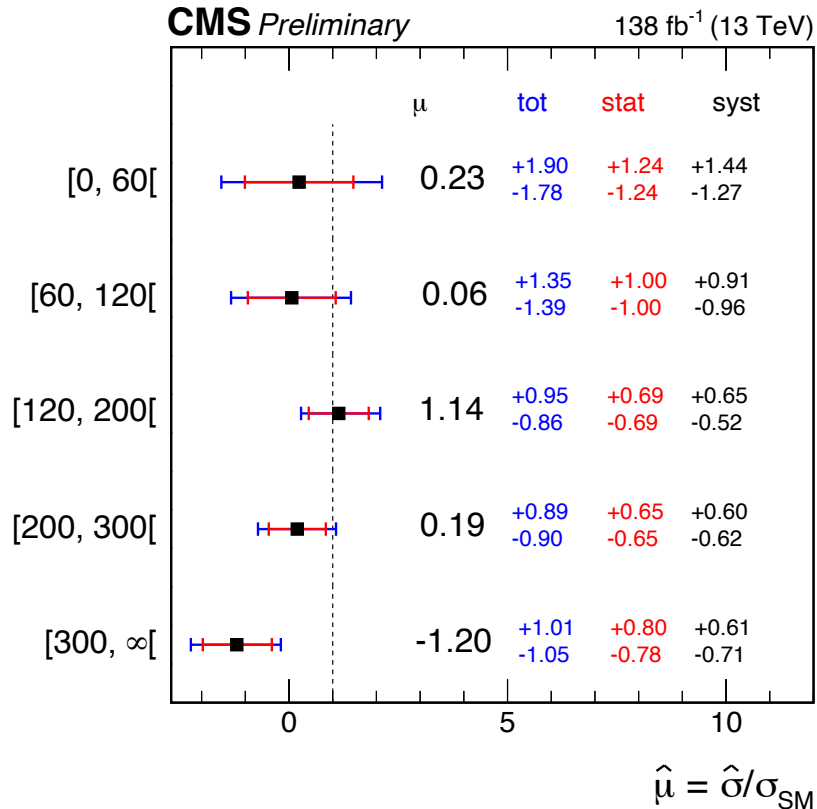


Legend: ■ Distribution in template fit, event yield (Y), ANN output (O), likelihood ratio of ANN outputs (R)



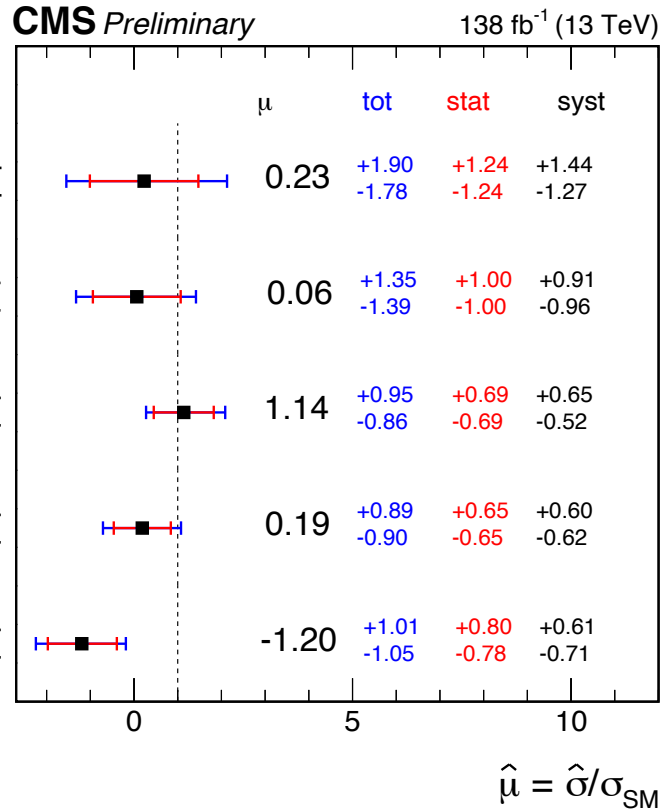
Sort signal events into 5 bins in  $p_T(H)$  using second ANN

# ttH production in bins of $p_T(H)$

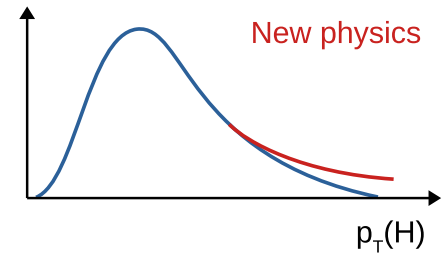


Sensitivity still limited but **interesting for future measurements and combination with other channels**

# ttH production in bins of $p_T(H)$



Sensitivity still limited but **interesting for future measurements and combination with other channels**



Effects from heavy particles could show up here  
 Interesting for EFT interpretations

[\[CMS-PAS-HIG-19-005\]](#)  
[\[Nature 607 \(2022\) 7917, 52-59\]](#)



Direct search for  
heavy Higgs bosons

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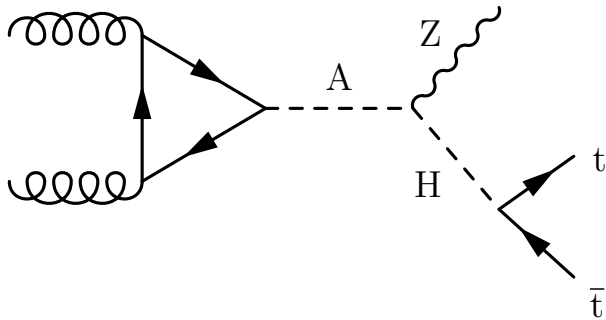
Search for heavy Higgs bosons  $A \rightarrow ZH$  with  $H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$



# Search for $A \rightarrow ZH$ with $H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$

Model-independent search for narrow resonances  $A$  and  $H$  in  $t\bar{t}Z$  final state

Inspired by 2HDM “smoking gun” signature



**Brand new**

analysis of  $138 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of 13 TeV data

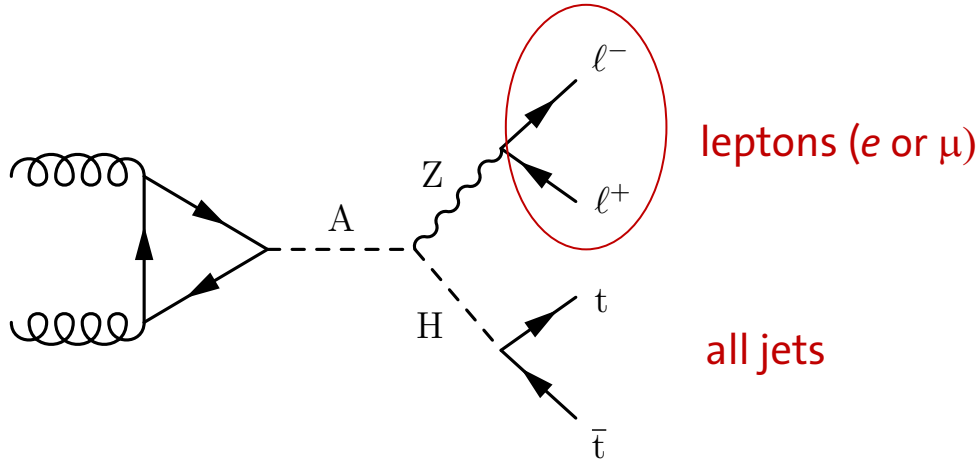
**First CMS result in this final state**

[[CMS-PAS-B2G-23-006](#)]

# Search for $A \rightarrow ZH$ with $H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$

Model-independent search for narrow resonances  $A$  and  $H$  in  $ttZ$  final state

Inspired by 2HDM “smoking gun” signature



**Brand new**

analysis of  $138 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of 13 TeV data

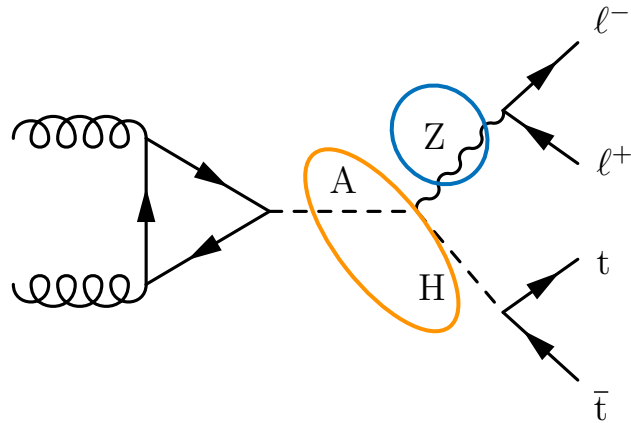
**First CMS result in this final state**

[[CMS-PAS-B2G-23-006](#)]

# Search for $A \rightarrow ZH$ with $H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$

## Model-independent search for narrow resonances $A$ and $H$ in $t\bar{t}Z$ final state

Inspired by 2HDM “smoking gun” signature

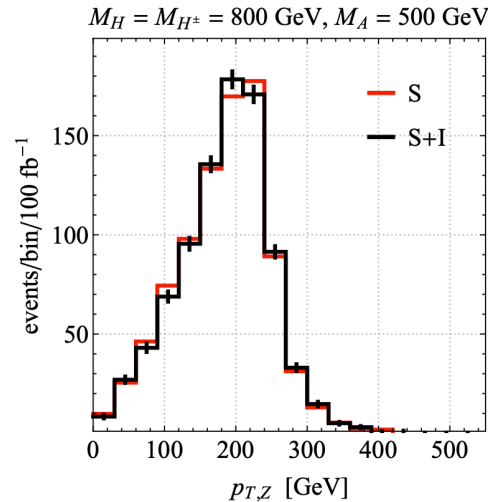


$p_{T,Z}$ : from lepton 4-momenta

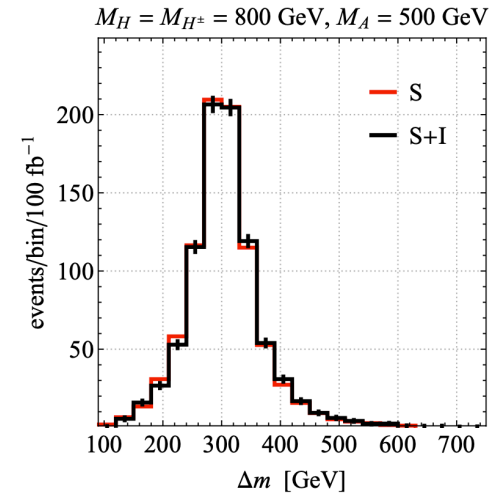
$$\Delta m = M_{t\bar{t}Z} - M_{t\bar{t}} = m_A - m_H$$

( $t\bar{t}$  system from jet 4-momenta)

## Sensitive observables [\[JHEP 09 \(2018\) 151\]](#)



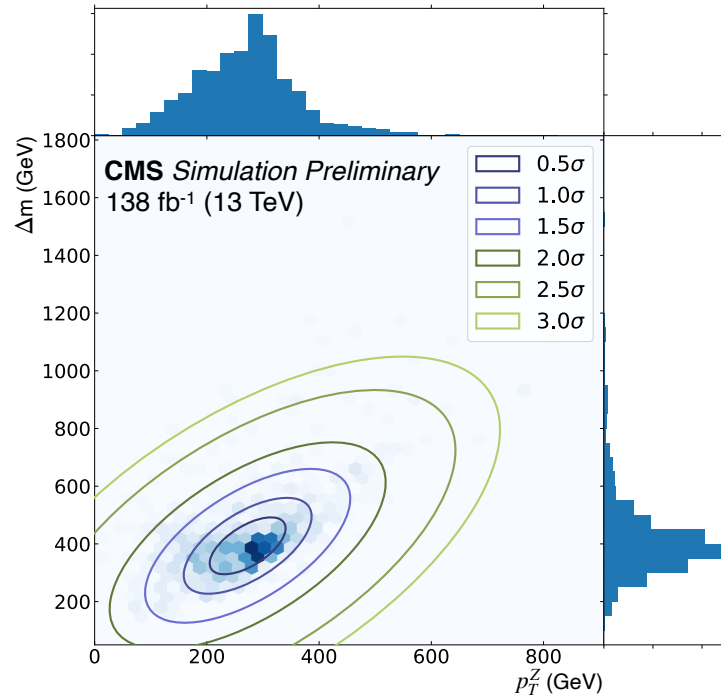
$p_{T,Z}$ : kinematic edge



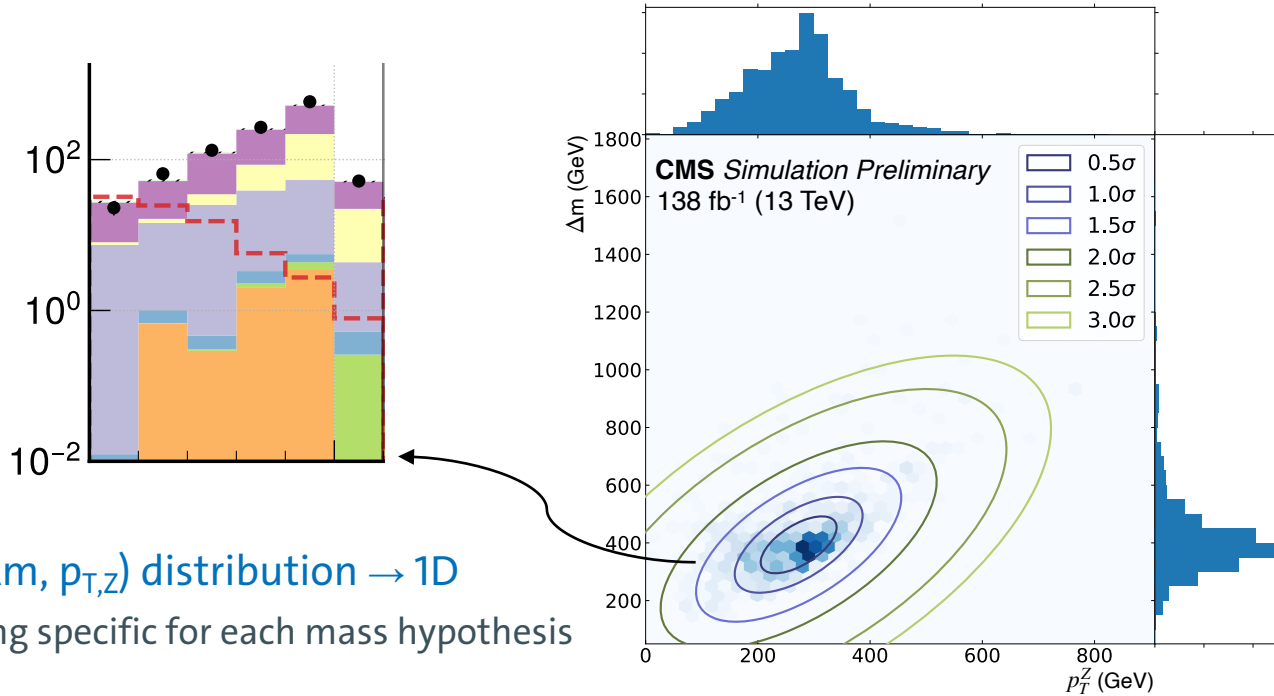
$\Delta m$ : peak

Example **signal distribution** for  $(m_A, m_H) = (1000, 600)$  GeV

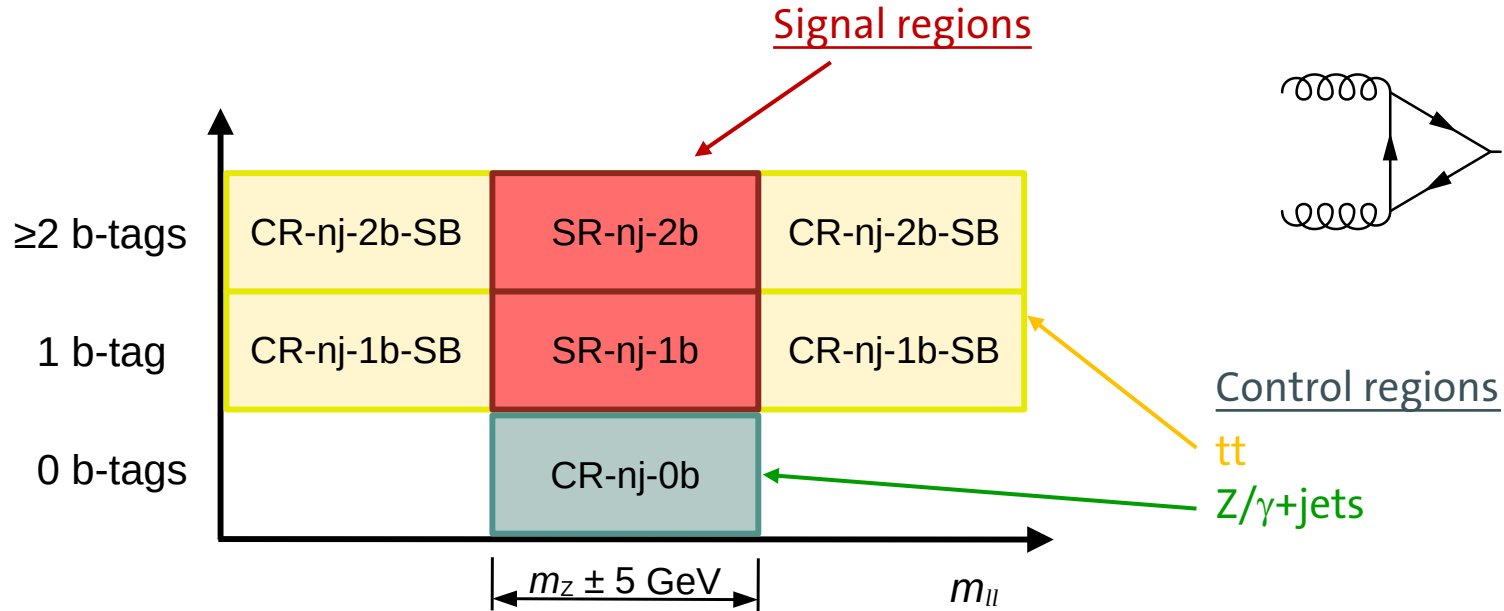
CMS-PAS-B2G-23-006



Example **signal distribution** for  $(m_A, m_H) = (1000, 600)$  GeV



2D  $(\Delta m, p_{T,Z})$  distribution  $\rightarrow$  1D  
Binning specific for each mass hypothesis



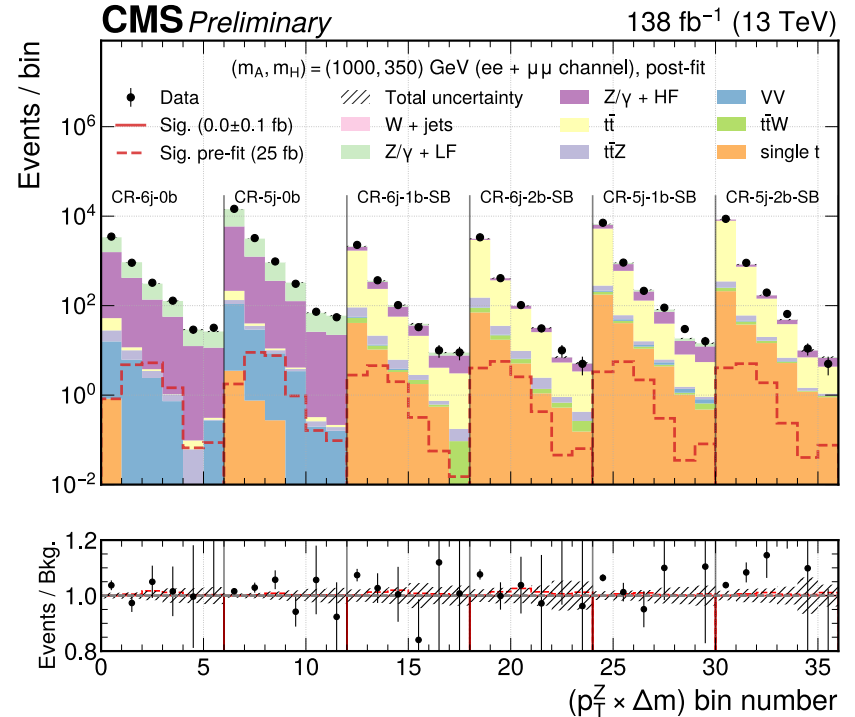
with  $n = 5$  or  $\geq 6$  jets

# tt and Z/ $\gamma$ +jets background modelling

Shape from simulation + normalisation from fit to data

tt background

Z/ $\gamma$ +jets background



# tt and Z/ $\gamma$ +jets background modelling

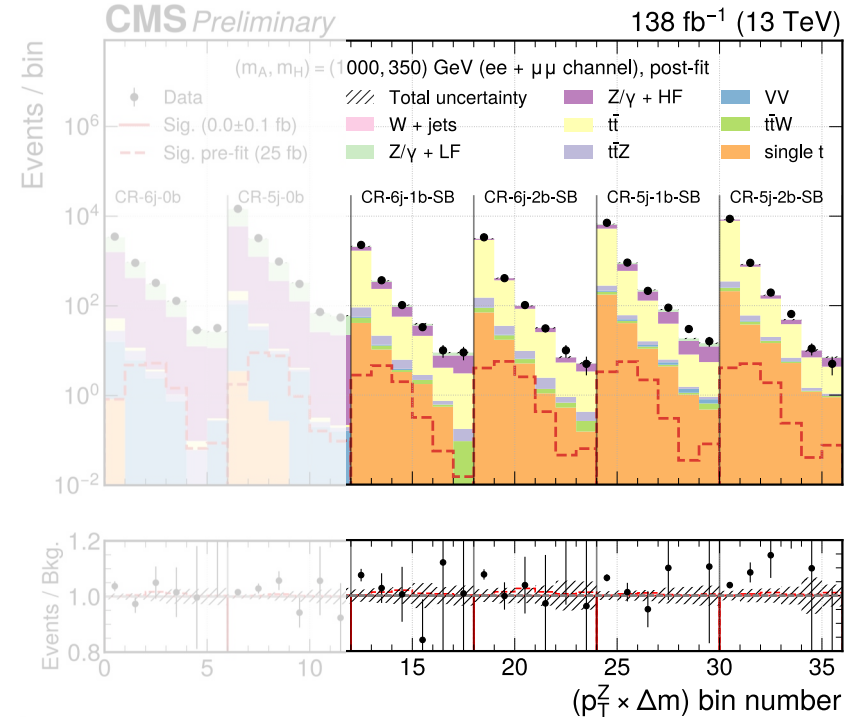
Shape from simulation + normalisation from fit to data

## tt background

- Powheg tt NLO simulation
- Post-fit normalisation  $0.82 - 0.94 \pm 0.1$  \*  
(relative to NNLO+NNLL prediction)

## Z/ $\gamma$ +jets background

\* Exact value depending on signal mass hypothesis





# tt and Z/ $\gamma$ +jets background modelling

Shape from simulation + normalisation from fit to data

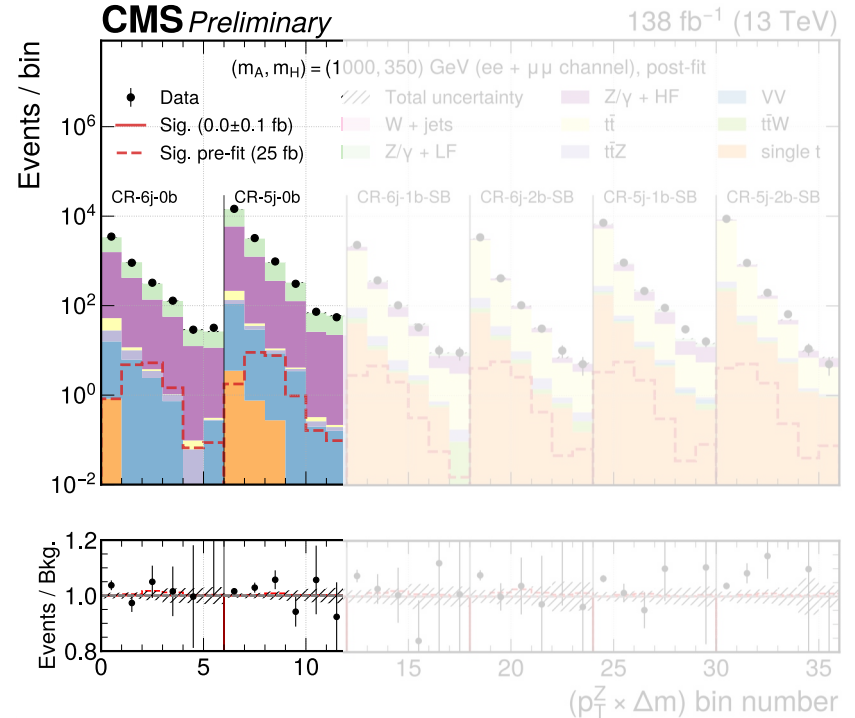
## tt background

- Powheg tt NLO simulation
- Post-fit normalisation  $0.82 - 0.94 \pm 0.1$  \*  
(relative to NNLO+NNLL prediction)

## Z/ $\gamma$ +jets background

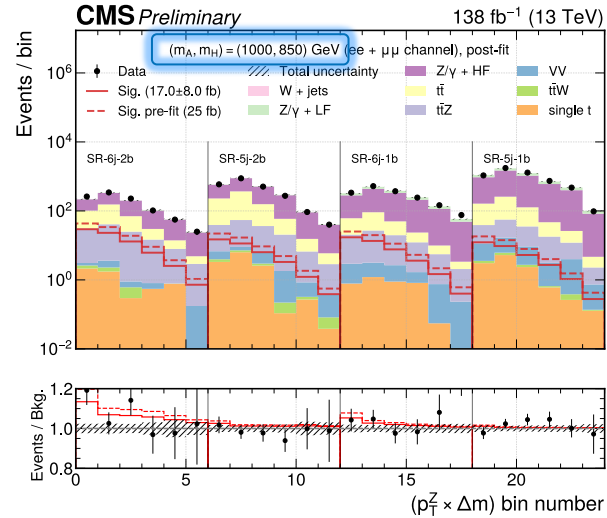
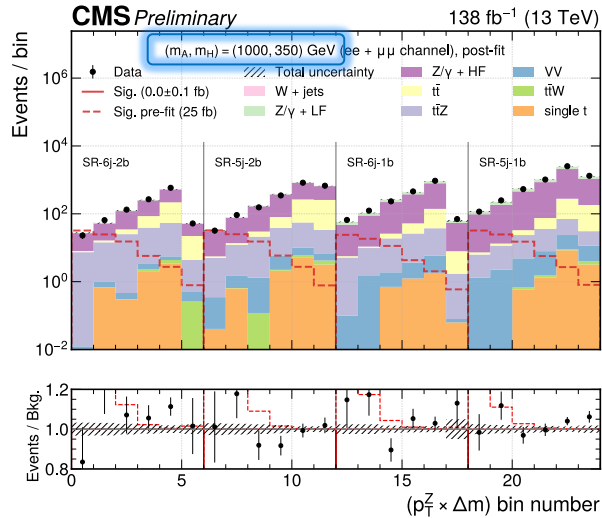
- MadGraph Z/ $\gamma$  +  $\leq 4$  jets LO simulation + NLO EWK+QCD corrections in  $p_T(Z/\gamma)$
- 40% norm. uncert. on Z/ $\gamma$  + b/c jets component
- Z/ $\gamma$  + b/c post-fit normalisation  $\approx 1.4 \pm 0.1$  \*

\* Exact value depending on signal mass hypothesis



# Results: $A \rightarrow ZH$ with $H \rightarrow t\bar{t}$

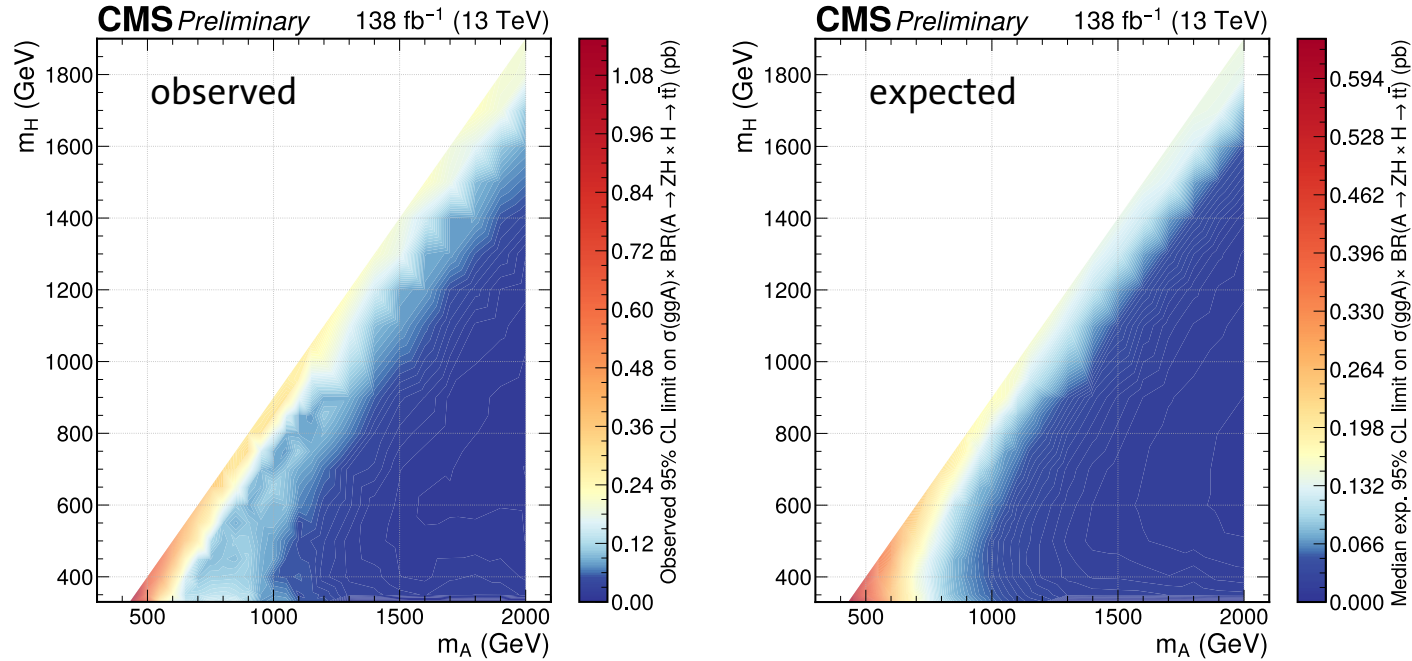
Various  $(m_A, m_H)$  hypotheses tested: for each, fit across all signal + control regions

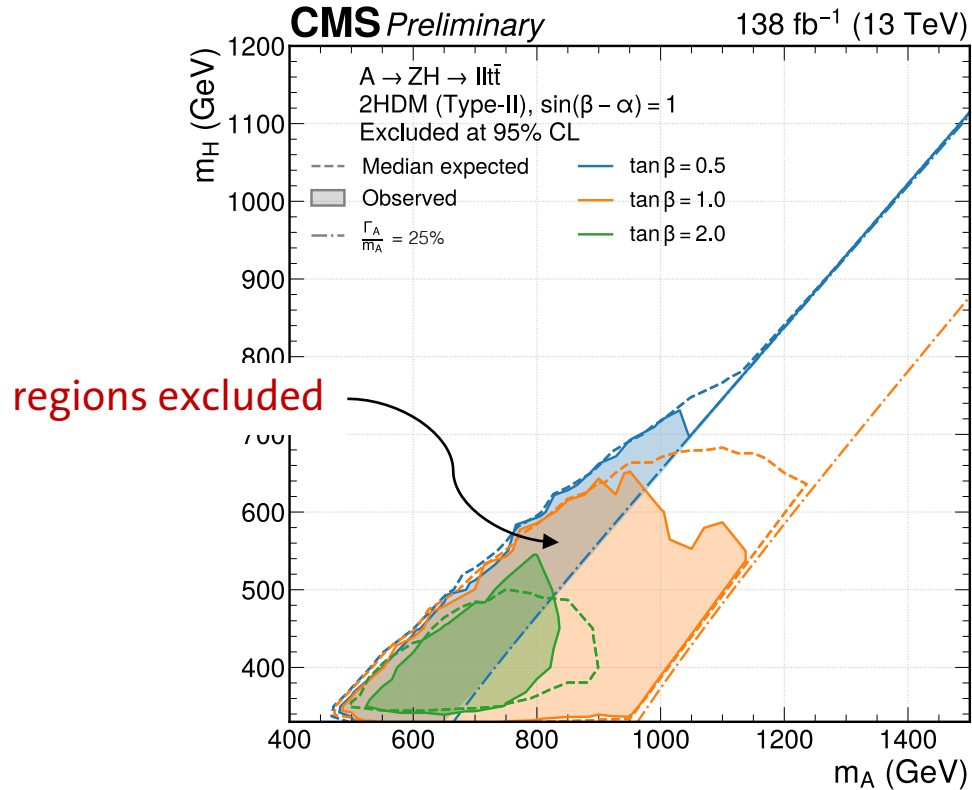


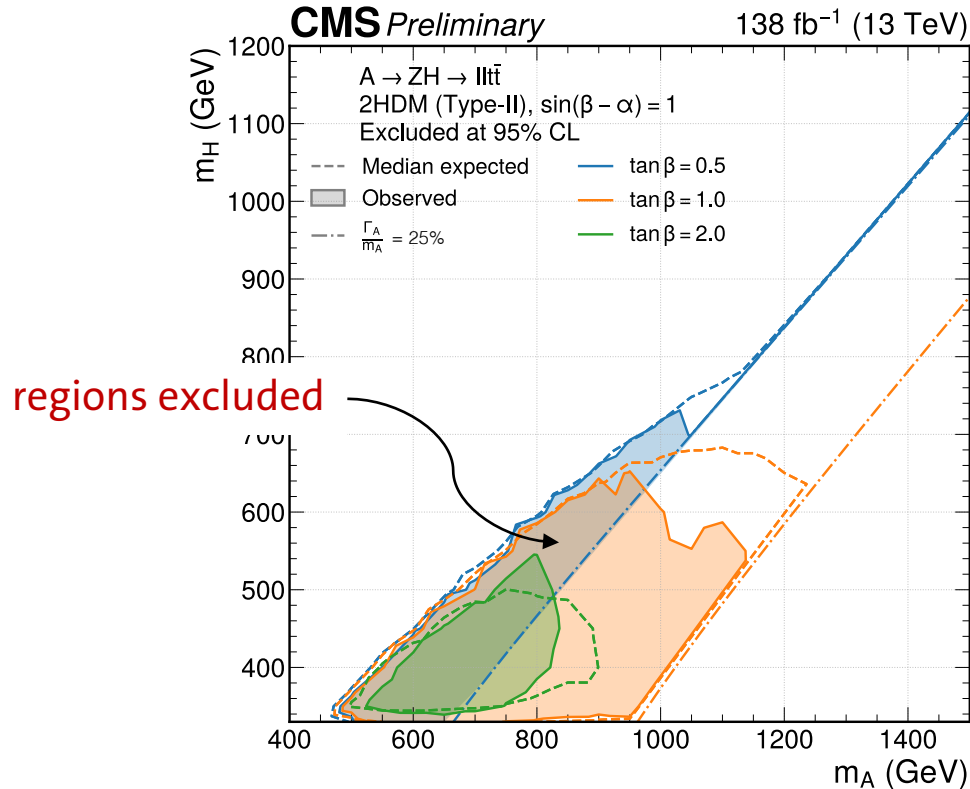
No significant excess above the background observed

Largest fluctuation:  $2.1\sigma$  local significance for  $(m_A, m_H) = (1000, 850)$  GeV

## Model-independent limits on narrow resonance $A \rightarrow ZH$ production in $t\bar{t}Z$ final state



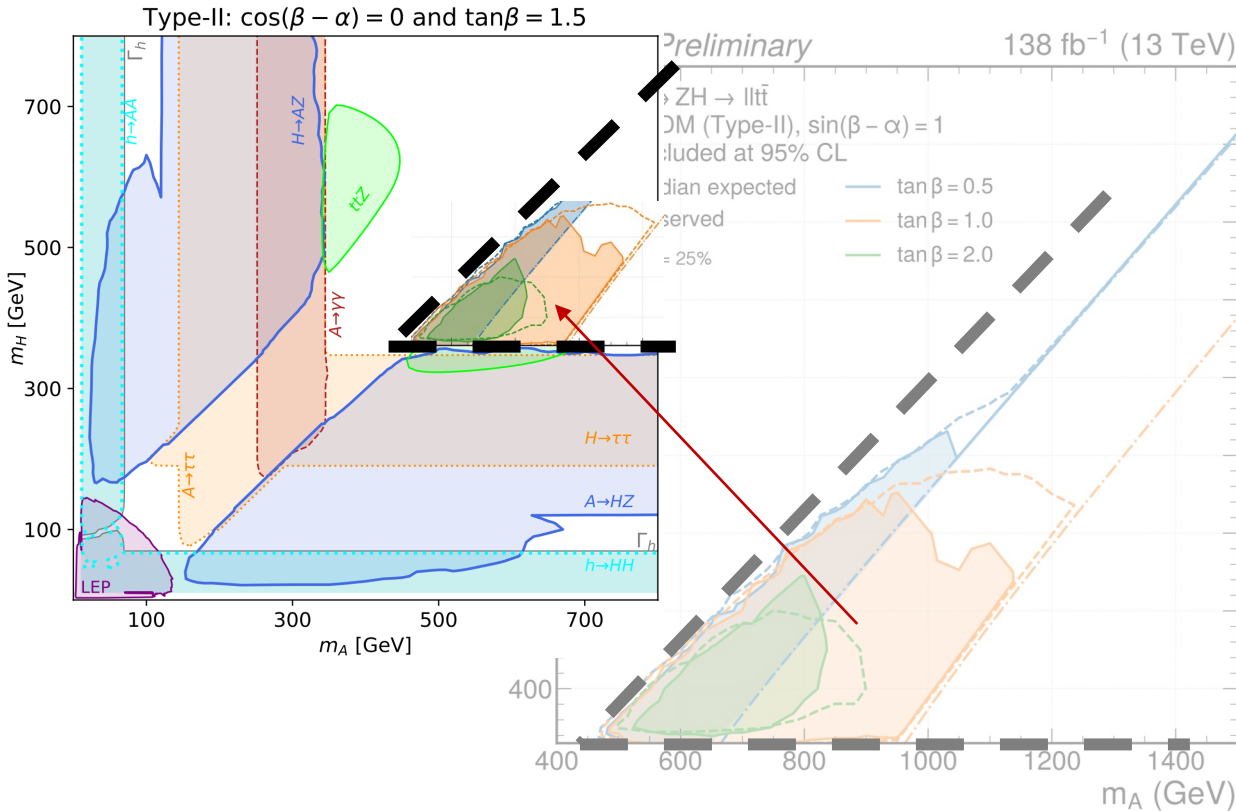




Excess at (650,450) seen  
by ATLAS not confirmed

[JHEP 02 \(2024\) 197](#)

# 2HDM interpretation



Constraints on models of electroweak baryogenesis

## Higgs sector plays a key role in the Universe

- Mass generation of fundamental particles
- Origin of matter-antimatter asymmetry?

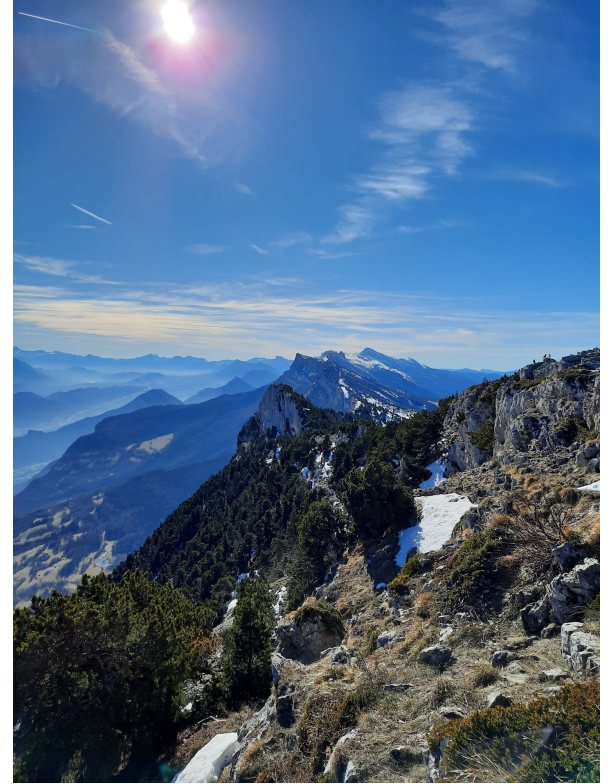
Still unknown territory for large parts

## Top quarks are an excellent tool to explore the Higgs sector!

- Measurement of the top-Higgs coupling
- Direct search for additional Higgs bosons

So far, the Higgs sector looks SM-like...  
but LHC Run 3 at full swing + **more than 90% of all (HL-)LHC data yet to come**

**Our top route into the Higgs sector has just started!**



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# Additional material



A journey from the begin to the end of the Universe

In the standard model (SM) of particle physics, the Higgs boson is deeply related to the mechanism that creates the masses of elementary particles and, as such, has very characteristic properties, which are different from any other known particle. While the experimental results so far are consistent with a SM nature of the Higgs boson, it might well be part of an extended Higgs sector, which is predicted in many beyond-the-SM (BSM) scenarios that address mysteries the SM cannot explain. The large data samples collected at the CERN Large Hadron Collider (LHC), together with new analysis techniques, allow measurements of the Higgs boson properties at unprecedented precision as well as direct searches for additional Higgs bosons with highest reach. The results play a crucial role in probing the SM and provide a unique window to potential BSM effects.

The coupling of the Higgs boson to the heaviest known quark, the top quark, is particularly exciting because it is large and, therefore, it plays a special role in the SM or possible BSM physics. In the presentation, I will discuss different techniques to explore the Higgs sector using top quarks, and I will highlight two recent results: a measurement of Higgs boson production in association with top quarks (ttH and tH production), which provide direct probes of the top-Higgs coupling, in the bb decay channel of the Higgs boson; and a brand-new search for heavy additional Higgs bosons decaying to a Z boson and a top quark-antiquark pair (ttZ final state). The search accesses a mostly unexplored part of the Two Higgs Double Model (2HDM) parameter space that is relevant in models of baryogenesis and could explain the matter-antimatter asymmetry in the Universe.

Gauge interaction  
W/Z boson masses

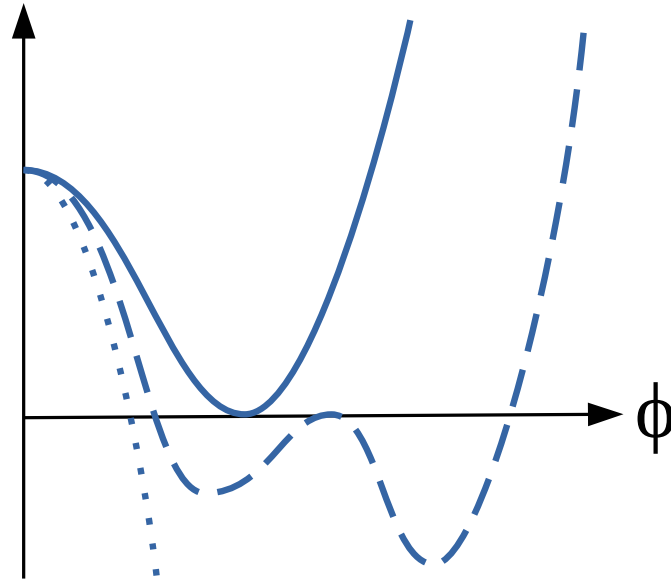
$$\mathcal{L} = |D_\mu \phi|^2 - V(\phi) + y_f \bar{\psi} \phi \psi$$

Higgs potential  
symmetry breaking

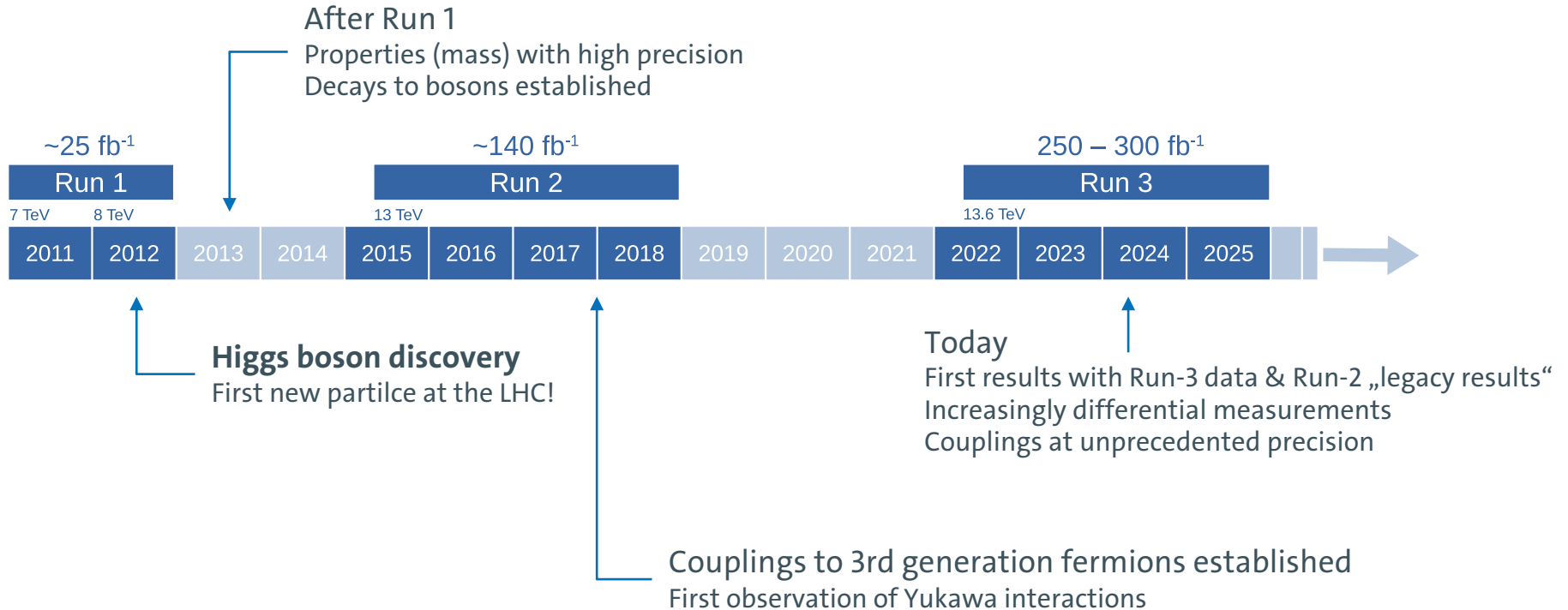
Yukawa interaction  
fermion masses

**Special, unlike anything we have seen before!**

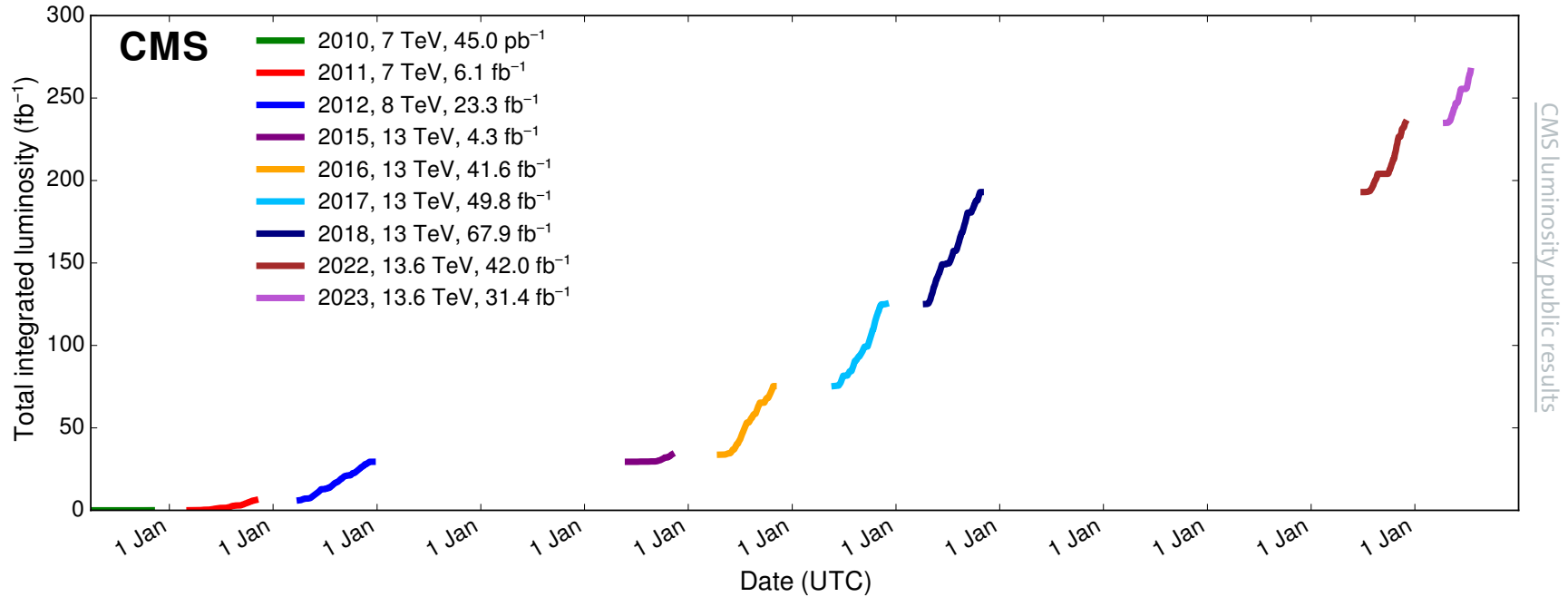
# Is the vacuum stable?



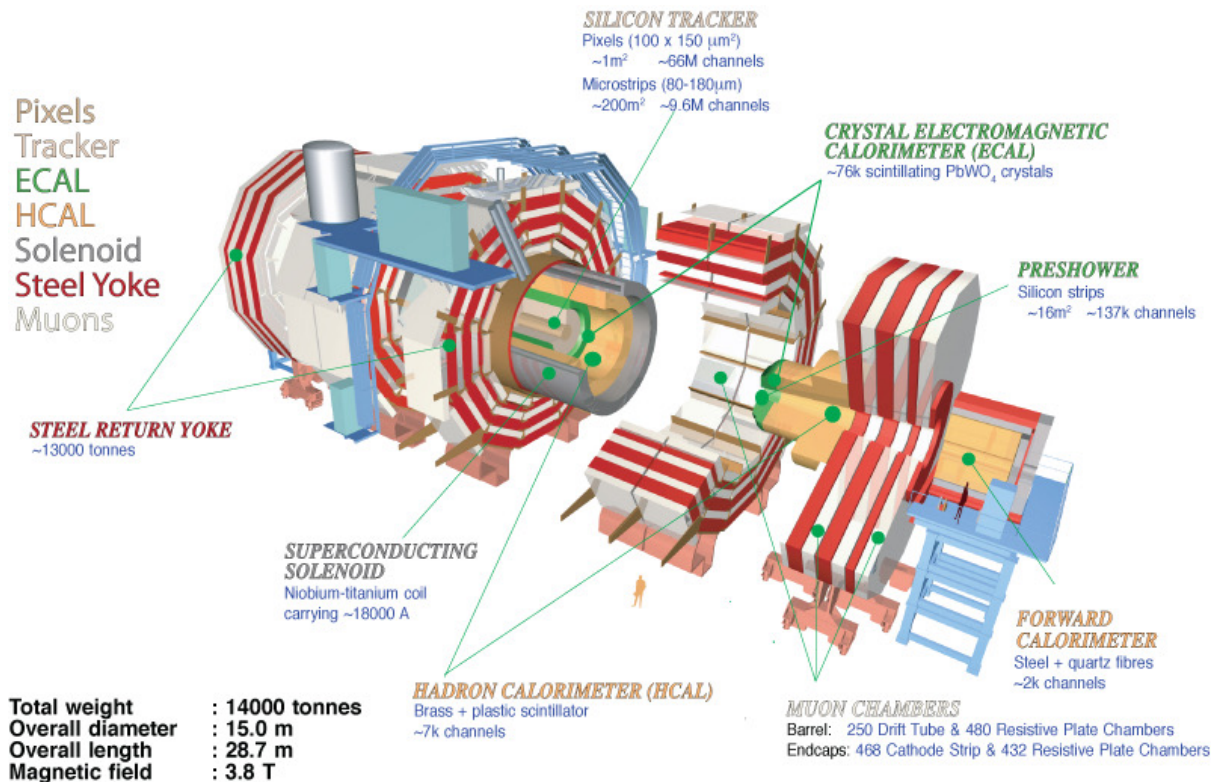
# Where do we stand?



# Delivered luminosity



# The CMS detector



# tt and ttbb samples

	t $\bar{t}$ sample	t $\bar{t}$ b $\bar{b}$ sample
POWHEG version	Powheg v2	Powheg-Box-Res
PYTHIA version	8.230	8.230
Flavour scheme	5	4
PDF set	NNPDF3.1	NNPDF3.1
$m_t$	172.5 GeV	172.5 GeV
$m_b$	0	4.75 GeV
$\mu_R$	$\sqrt{\frac{1}{2} (m_{T,t}^2 + m_{T,\bar{t}}^2)}$	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt[4]{m_{T,t} \cdot m_{T,\bar{t}} \cdot m_{T,b} \cdot m_{T,\bar{b}}}$
$\mu_F$	$\mu_R$	$\frac{1}{4} [m_{T,t} + m_{T,\bar{t}} + m_{T,b} + m_{T,\bar{b}} + m_{T,g}]$
$h_{\text{damp}}$	$1.379 \cdot m_t$	$1.379 \cdot m_t$
Tune	CP5	CP5

# Analysis strategy in FH channel

## Training region

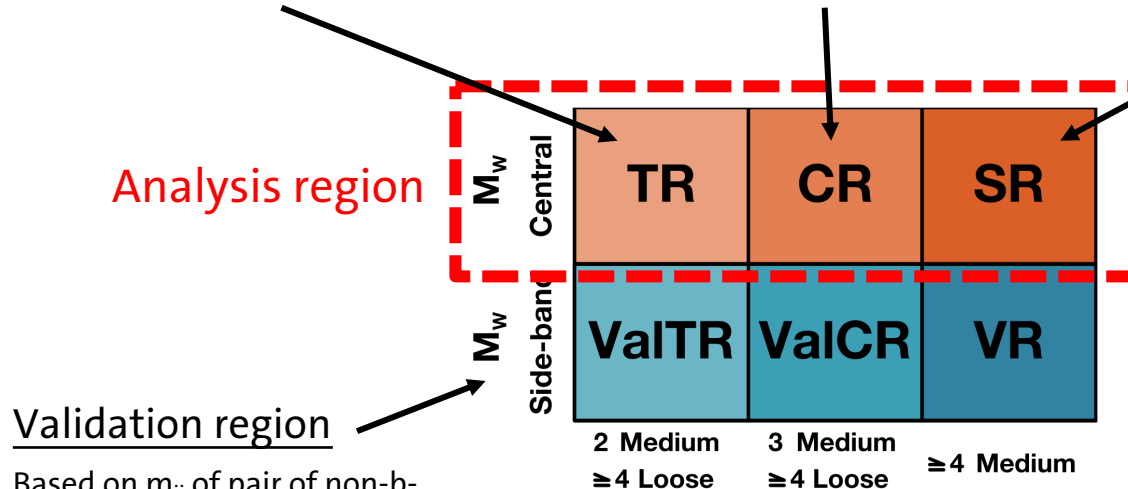
>80% QCD: use data as QCD bkg. events in ANN training

## Control region

Derive expected shape of ANN output distribution for QCD

## Signal region

Apply QCD ANN shape from CR and fit normalisation



## Validation region

Based on  $m_{jj}$  of pair of non-b-tagged jets with  $m_{jj}$  closest to W-boson mass

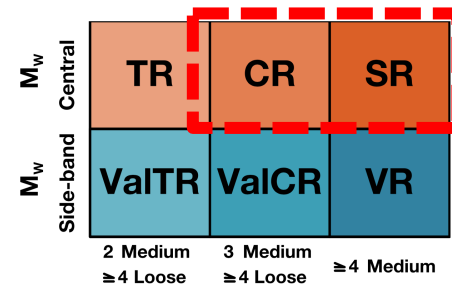
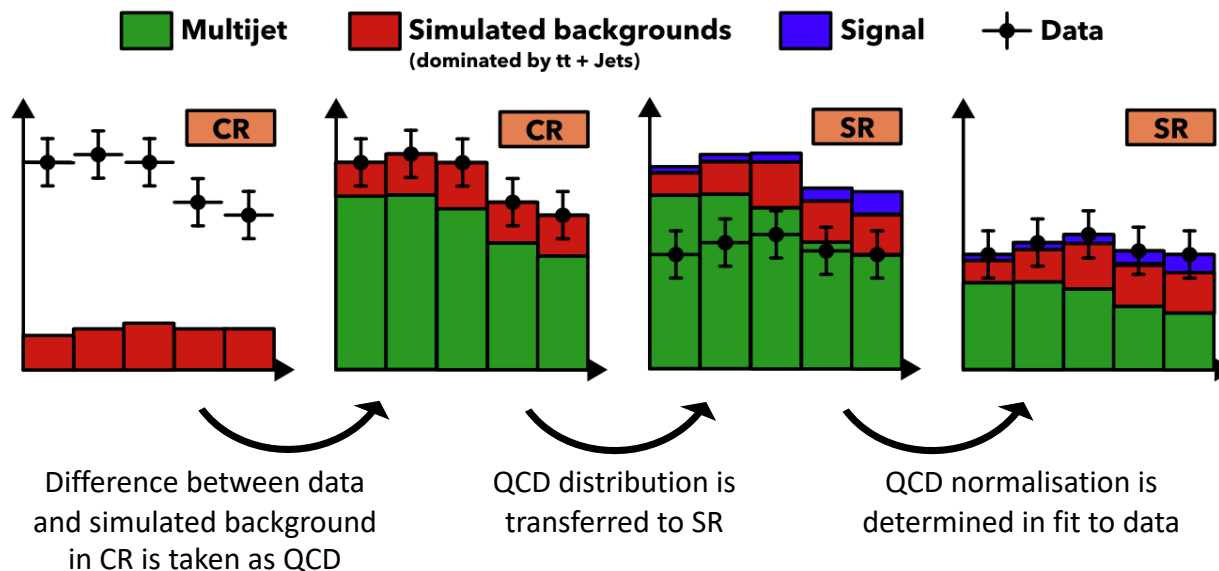
## QCD-bkg estimation as before

- Discriminant (ANN) shape from CR
- Transferred to SR via  $TF_{\text{loose}}$
- Closure test in data in VR



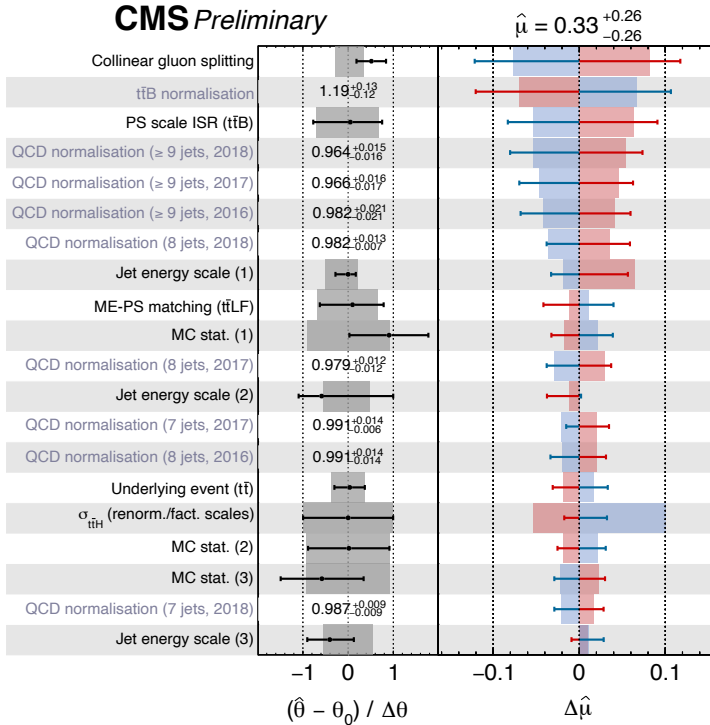
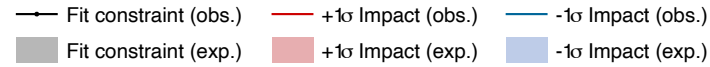
# QCD-background estimation

- In CR:  $ANN_{QCD} = ANN_{data} - ANN_{non-QCD\ bkg. (from\ MC)}$  → **shape of ANN distribution**
- Normalisation in SR freely-floating** in final fit
  - Independently per  $N_{jets}$  category and year: 9 QCD normalisation parameters



# Systematic uncertainties

Source	Type	Correlation	Remarks				
Renorm./fact. scales	R	correlated	Scale uncertainty of (N)NLO prediction, independent for $t\bar{t}H$ , $tHq$ , $tHW$ , $t\bar{t}$ , $t$ , $V$ +jets, $VV$				
PDF+ $\alpha_S$ (gg)	R	correlated	PDF uncertainty for gg initiated processes, independent for $t\bar{t}H$ , $tHq$ , $tHW$ , and others				
PDF+ $\alpha_S$ ( $q\bar{q}$ )	R	correlated	PDF uncertainty of $q\bar{q}$ initiated processes ( $t\bar{t}W, W, Z$ ) except $tHq$	PS scale FSR <sup>†</sup>	S	correlated	Final state radiation uncertainty of the PS (PYTHIA), independent for $t\bar{t}H$ , $t\bar{t}B$ ( $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ sample), other $t\bar{t}$ ( $t\bar{t}$ sample)
PDF+ $\alpha_S$ (qg)	R	correlated	PDF uncertainty of qg initiated processes (single t) except $tHW$				
Collinear gluon splitting <sup>†</sup>	S	correlated	Additional 100% rate uncertainty on $t\bar{t} + 2b$ component of $t\bar{t}B$ background	ME-PS matching ( $t\bar{t}$ ) <sup>†</sup>	R	correlated	NLO ME-PS matching (for $t\bar{t} +$ jets events), independent for $t\bar{t}B$ , $t\bar{t}C$ , $t\bar{t}LF$
$\mu_R$ scale	S	correlated	Renormalisation scale uncertainty of the ME generator, independent for $t\bar{t}H$ , $tHq$ , $tHW$ , $t\bar{t}B$ ( $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ sample), other $t\bar{t}$ ( $t\bar{t}$ sample)	Underlying event ( $t\bar{t}$ )	R	correlated	Underlying event (for all $t\bar{t} +$ jets events)
$\mu_F$ scale	S	correlated	Factorisation scale uncertainty of the ME generator, independent for $t\bar{t}H$ , $tHq$ , $tHW$ , $t\bar{t}B$ ( $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ sample), other $t\bar{t}$ ( $t\bar{t}$ sample)	STXS migration	R	correlated	Signal, only in STXS measurement
PDF shape	S	correlated	From NNPDF variations, independent for $tHq$ , $tHW$ , $t\bar{t}B$ ( $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ sample), other $t\bar{t}$ ( $t\bar{t}$ sample) and $t\bar{t}H$	STXS acceptance	S	correlated	Signal, only in STXS measurement
PS scale ISR <sup>†</sup>	S	correlated	Initial state radiation uncertainty of the PS (PYTHIA), independent for $t\bar{t}H$ , $t\bar{t}B$ ( $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$ sample), other $t\bar{t}$ ( $t\bar{t}$ sample)	Integrated luminosity	R	partially	Signal and all backgrounds
				Lepton ID/Iso (2 sources)	S	uncorrelated	Signal and all backgrounds
				Trigger efficiency (4 sources)	S	uncorrelated	Signal and all backgrounds
				L1 prefire correction	S	uncorrelated	Signal and all backgrounds
				Pileup	S	correlated	Signal and all backgrounds
				Jet energy scale (11 sources)	S	partially	Signal, $t\bar{t} +$ jets and single t
				Jet energy resolution	S	uncorrelated	Signal, $t\bar{t} +$ jets and single t
				b tag bkg. contam. (2 sources)	S	partially	Signal and all backgrounds
				b tag bkg. contam. stat. (4 sources)	S	uncorrelated	Signal and all backgrounds
				b tag charm (2 sources)	S	partially	Signal and all backgrounds
				$TF_{\text{loose}}$ correction	S	uncorrelated	QCD background estimate
				Size of the MC samples	S	uncorrelated	Statistical uncertainty of signal and background prediction due to limited sample size



Uncertainty source	$\Delta\mu_{t\bar{t}H}$ (observed)	$\Delta\mu_{t\bar{t}H}$ (expected)
Total experimental	+0.10/ - 0.10	+0.11/ - 0.10
jet energy scale and resolution	+0.08/ - 0.07	+0.09/ - 0.09
b tagging	+0.07/ - 0.06	+0.06/ - 0.02
luminosity	+0.02/ - 0.02	+0.01/ - 0.01
Total theory	+0.16/ - 0.16	+0.18/ - 0.14
$t\bar{t}$ + jets background	+0.15/ - 0.16	+0.12/ - 0.11
signal modelling	+0.06/ - 0.01	+0.13/ - 0.06
Size of the simulated event samples	+0.13/ - 0.12	+0.10/ - 0.10
Total systematic	+0.20/ - 0.21	+0.23/ - 0.19
Statistical	+0.17/ - 0.16	+0.17/ - 0.17
background normalisation	+0.13/ - 0.13	+0.13/ - 0.13
$t\bar{t}B$ and $t\bar{t}C$ normalisation	+0.12/ - 0.12	+0.12/ - 0.12
QCD normalisation	+0.01/ - 0.01	+0.01/ - 0.01
Total	+0.26/ - 0.26	+0.28/ - 0.25

## Sensitivity limited by systematic uncertainties

Jet energy calibration & b-tagging

$t\bar{t}+bb$  modelling uncertainties

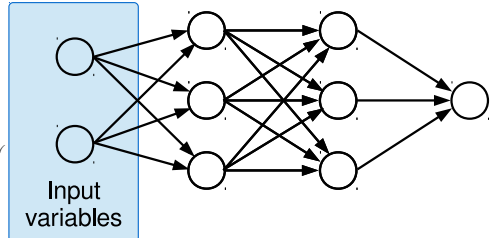
Size of simulated event samples

# Are the ANN inputs well-modelled?

Observable	( $\geq 9$ jets, $\geq 4$ b tags)	FH (8 jets, $\geq 4$ b tags)	SL (7 jets, $\geq 4$ b tags)	DL ( $\geq 6$ jets, $\geq 4$ b tags)	DL ( $\geq 4$ jets, $\geq 3$ b tags)
MEM	matrix element method discriminant	✓	✓	✓	✓
BLR	b tagging likelihood ratio discriminant	✓	✓	✓	✓
$\ln\left(\frac{BLR}{1-BLR}\right)$	transformed b tagging likelihood ratio discriminant			✓	✓
$p_T(\tilde{l}^2)$	$p_T$ of second leading jet, ranked in $p_T$				✓
$p_T(\tilde{l}^3)$	$p_T$ of third leading jet, ranked in $p_T$				✓
$p_T(\tilde{l}^7)$	$p_T$ of seventh leading jet, ranked in $p_T$	✓			
$p_T(\tilde{l}^i)$	$p_T$ of $i^{\text{th}}$ , $i=1-4$ , leading b-tagged jet, ranked in $p_T$				✓
$\eta(\tilde{l}^i)$	$\eta$ of $i^{\text{th}}$ , $i=1-2$ , leading jet, ranked in b tagging discriminant value	✓	✓		
$d_b(j)$	average b tagging discriminant value of all jets	✓	✓		
$d_b(b)$	average b tagging discriminant value of all b-tagged jets			✓	✓
$d_b^3(j)$	third highest b tagging discriminant value of all jets			✓	✓
$\text{Var}(d_b(j))$	variance of b tagging discriminant values of all jets			✓	✓
$\langle \Delta R(\text{bb}) \rangle$	average of $\Delta R$ between two b-tagged jets				✓
$\langle \Delta R(\text{jj}) \rangle$	average of $\Delta R$ between two jets	✓	✓		
$\min \Delta R(\text{jj})$	minimum of $\Delta R$ between two jets	✓	✓		✓
$\max \Delta R(\text{jj})$	maximum of $\Delta R$ between two jets	✓	✓		✓
$\langle \Delta \eta(\text{bb}) \rangle$	average of $\Delta \eta$ between two b-tagged jets			✓	✓
$\langle \Delta \eta(\text{jj}) \rangle$	average of $\Delta \eta$ between two jets	✓	✓	✓	✓
$\langle m(b) \rangle$	average invariant mass of all b-tagged jets	✓	✓	✓	✓
$\langle m(j) \rangle$	average invariant mass of all jets			✓	✓
$m(\text{bb}_{\min \Delta R})$	invariant mass of pair of b-tagged jets closest in $\Delta R$			✓	✓
$m(\text{jb}_{\min \Delta R})$	invariant mass of pair of jet and b-tagged jet closest in $\Delta R$				✓
$m(\text{jj}_{125 \text{ GeV}})$	invariant mass of pair of jets with mass closest to 125 GeV	✓			
$m(\text{bb}_{\max m})$	maximum invariant mass of pairs of b-tagged jets	✓	✓		✓
$m(\text{jb}_{\max p_T})$	invariant mass of jet and pair of b-tagged jets with highest $p_T$			✓	✓
$\langle p_T(j) \rangle$	average $p_T$ of all jets			✓	✓
$\langle p_T(b) \rangle$	average $p_T$ of all b-tagged jets			✓	✓
$p_T(\text{bb}_{\min \Delta R})$	$p_T$ of pair of b-tagged jets closest in $\Delta R$			✓	✓
$p_T(\text{jb}_{\min \Delta R})$	$p_T$ of pair of jets closest in $\Delta R$				✓
$p_T(\text{jb}_{\min \Delta R})$	$p_T$ of pair of jet and b-tagged jet closest in $\Delta R$				✓
$H_T(j)$	scalar sum of $p_T$ of all jets	✓	✓	✓	✓
$H_T(b)$	scalar sum of $p_T$ of all b-tagged jets	✓	✓	✓	✓
$N(j)$	number of jets	✓			
$N(b^{\text{loose}})$	number of jets with loose b tag				✓
$d_b(b^{\text{HW}})^{\dagger}$	b tagging discriminant value of b jet from t quark decay from tHW reconstruction	✓	✓		
$ \eta(q^{\text{tHq}}) ^{\dagger}$	$ \eta $ of light-quark jet from tHq reconstruction	✓	✓		
$m_{\text{lep}}^{\text{tH}})^{\dagger}$	inv. mass of leptonically decaying t quark from tH reconstruction	✓	✓		
BDT <sup>tH</sup>	reconstruction BDT output for tHq, tH, tt hypotheses	✓	✓		✓
A, S	event aplanarity and sphericity [76]	✓	✓	✓	
$H_{i=0-5}^{\text{FW}}$	$i^{\text{th}}$ , $i=0-5$ , Fox-Wolfram moment [77]	✓	✓	✓	
$H_{i=1-4}^{\text{FW}}/H_0^{\text{FW}}$	ratio of Fox-Wolfram moments, $i=1-4$	✓	✓	✓	

Supervised learning with simulated data:  
rely on MC simulation of observables and their correlations

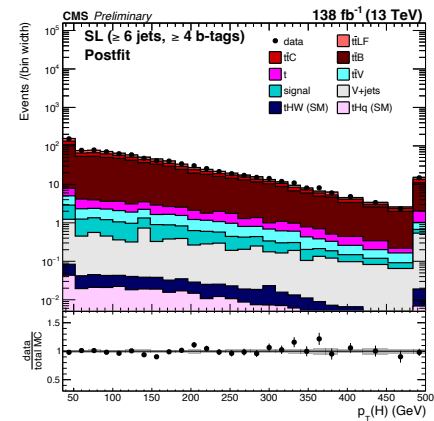
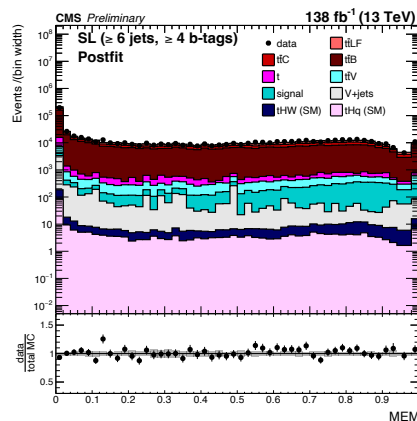
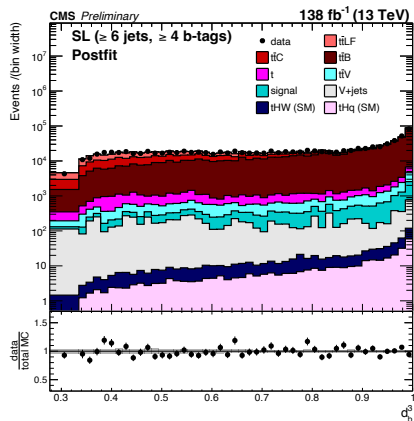
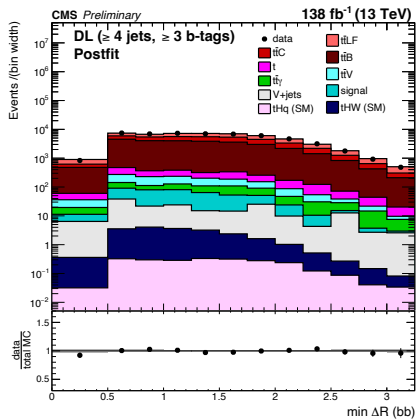
## Are the ANN input variables well modelled?



Strategy in ttH:  
Goodness-of-fit test for all variables and pairs of variables

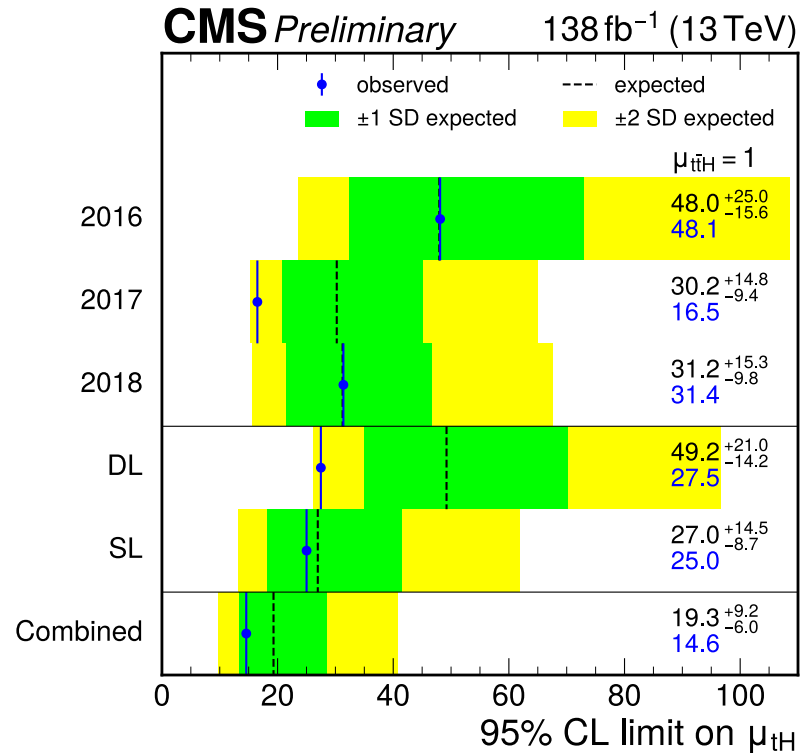
Key aspect in many machine-learning applications at the LHC!  
Different to many industry applications where labelled data is available

# Background validation

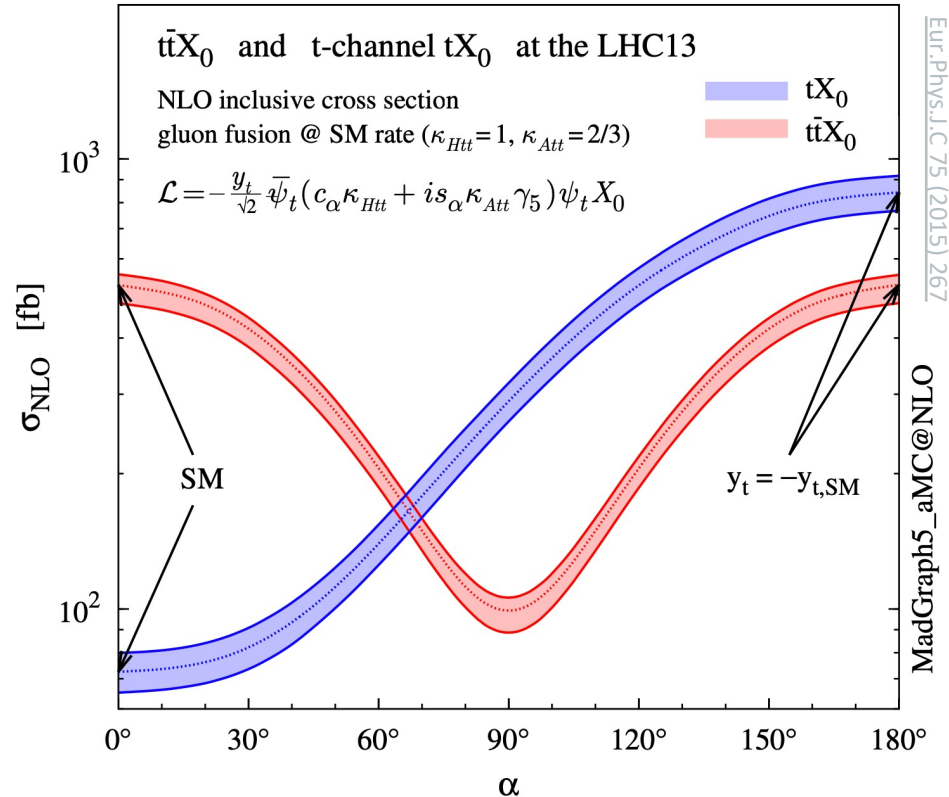


Post-fit background model obtained from main analysis fit to data

# Limits on tH production



# ttH and tH cross sections vs. CP mixing angle





## CP-odd component in top-Higgs interaction?

In principle allowed at tree level!

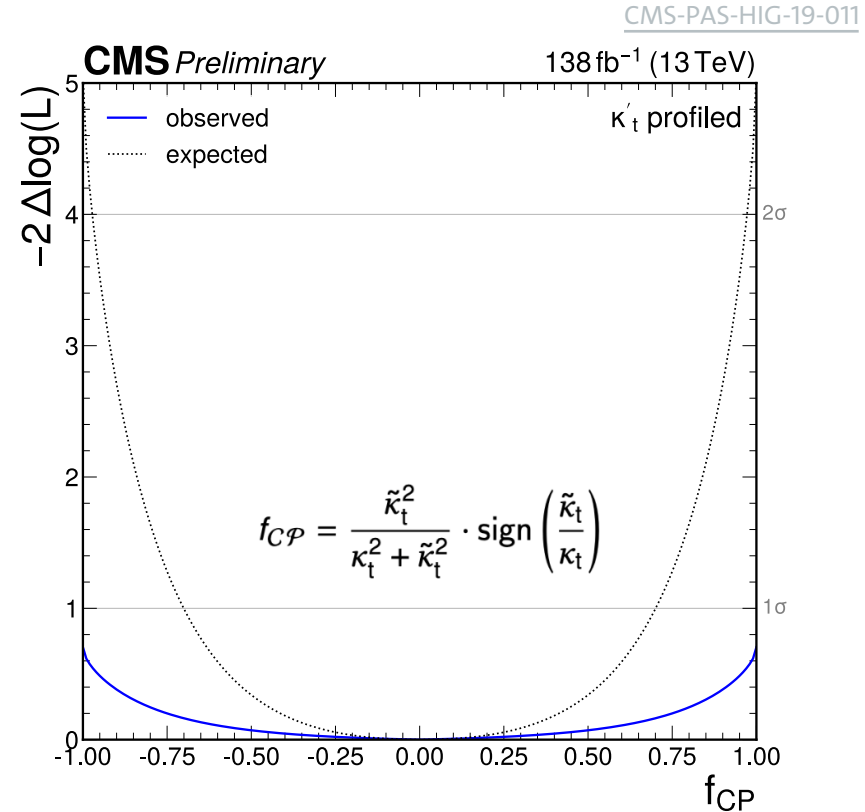
$$\mathcal{A}(Htt) = -\frac{m_t}{v} \bar{\psi}_t \left( \kappa_t + i\tilde{\kappa}_t \gamma_5 \right) \psi_t$$

CP-even/CP-odd Yukawa coupling  
 (SM:  $\kappa_t = 1$ ,  $\tilde{\kappa}_t = 0$ )

→ can modify ttH and tH rates and kinematics differently

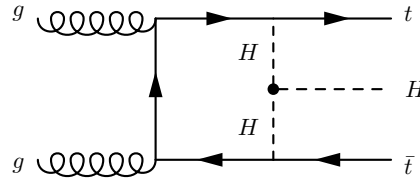
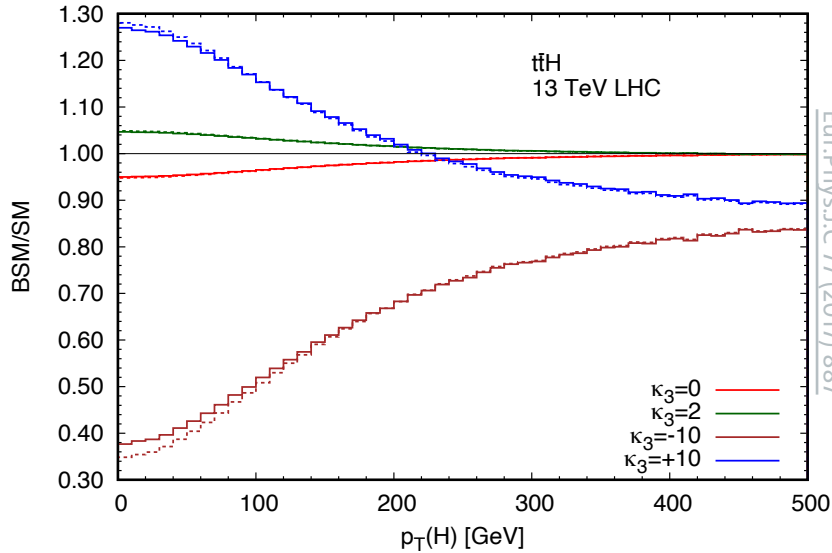
Simultaneously floating ttH and tH contributions

→ **constraints on CP-odd top-Higgs coupling  $\tilde{\kappa}_t$**

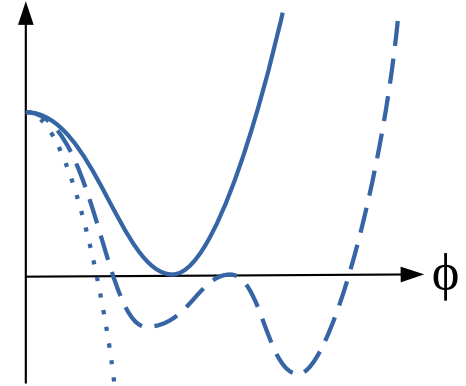


# Higgs-boson self-coupling

ttH production sensitive to Higgs-boson self-coupling  
→ related to shape of Higgs potential



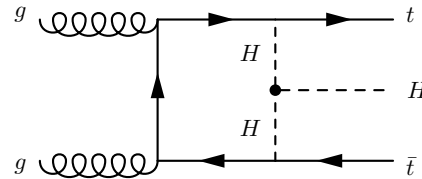
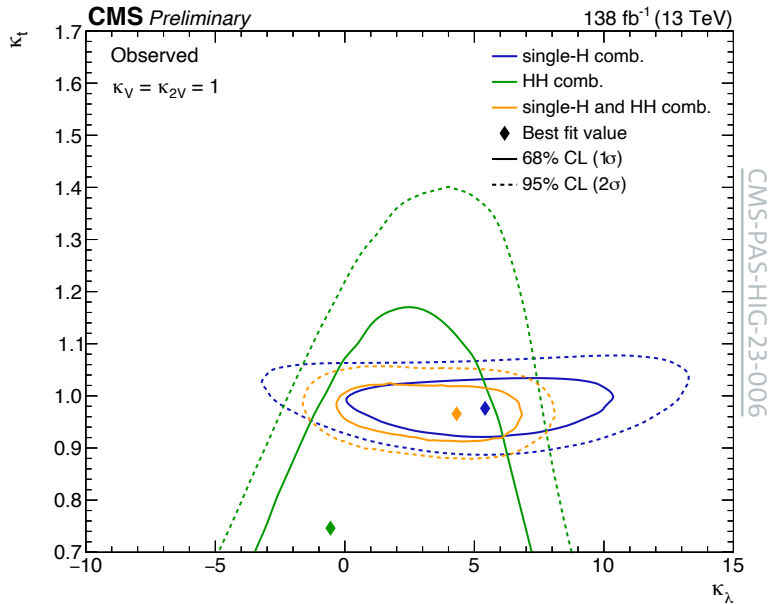
Is the vacuum stable?



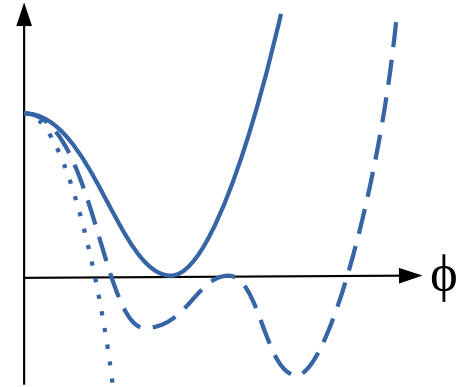
Differential measurements even more stringent test of Standard Model!  
STXS measurement first step in this direction

ttH production sensitive to **Higgs-boson self-coupling** [Eur.Phys.J.C 77 (2017) 12, 887]

→ related to **shape of Higgs potential**



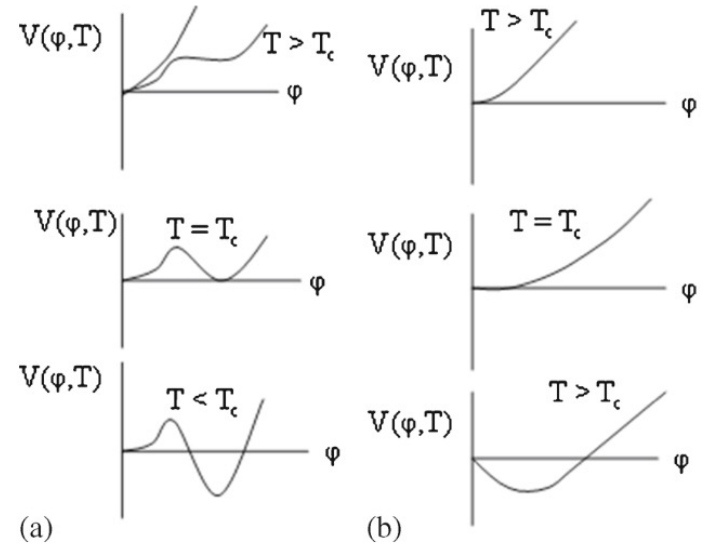
**Is the vacuum stable?**



Run-2 combination of **single-H** measurements  
(some inclusive, some STXS)

Less sensitive than **HH** but powerful constraints on  $\kappa_t$

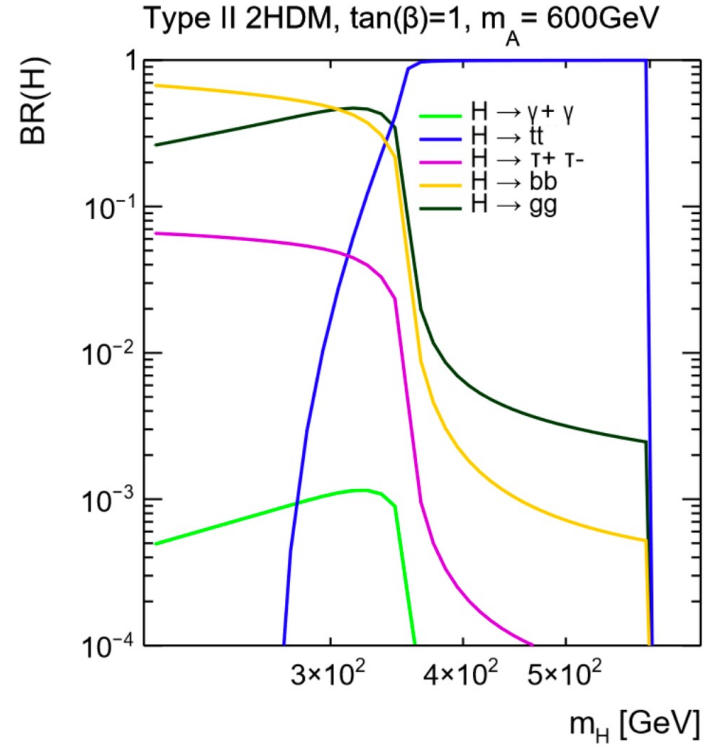
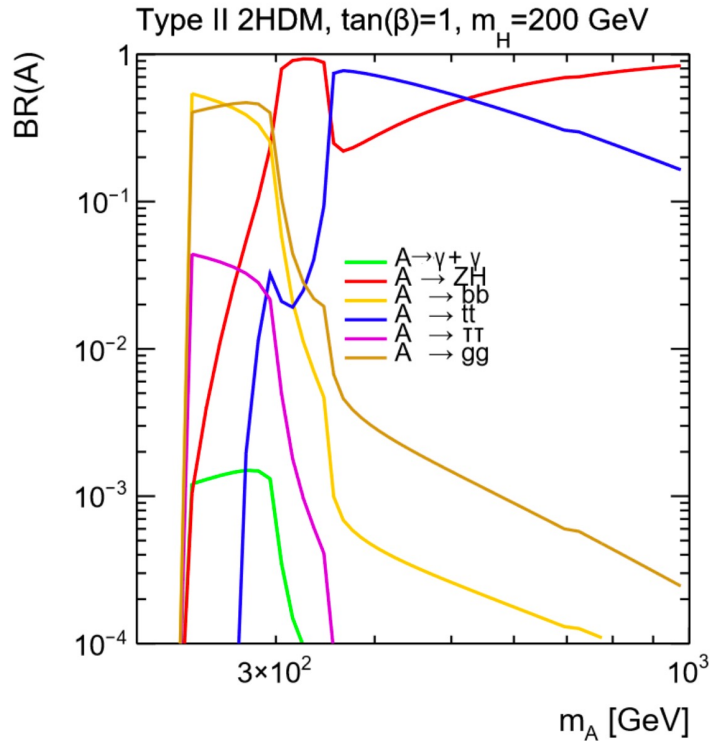
- First order EWK phase transition required to generate the observed matter-antimatter asymmetry



**Figure 2.** Variations of the effective potential with temperature in the case of (a) first- and (b) second-order phase transitions.

# $A \rightarrow ZH$ with $H \rightarrow tt$ production

MSc thesis Y. Fischer, Universität Hamburg (2021)



# A $\rightarrow$ ZH with H $\rightarrow$ tt production

MSc thesis Y. Fischer, Universität Hamburg (2021)

## ○ A boson production

- Possible via ggA and t $\bar$ tA
  - $\sigma = \sigma_{\text{SM}} \times \text{factor approx. } \propto \frac{1}{\tan^2 \beta}$
- $\rightarrow$  **ggA only relevant channel**

[Phys.Rept. 516 (2012) 1]

## ○ Approximation in alignment limit for small tan $\beta$

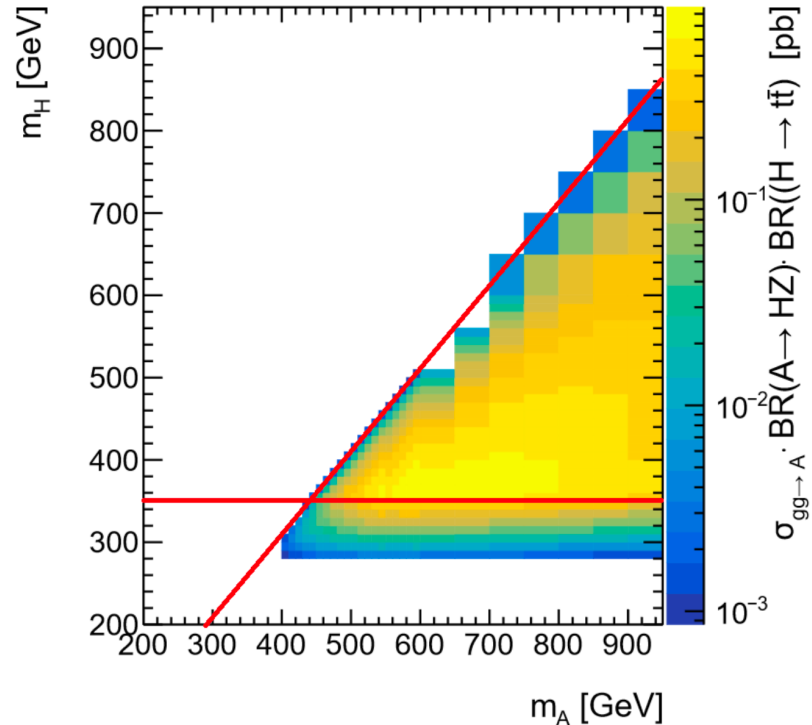
$$\sigma(\text{pp} \rightarrow A) \approx \frac{1.7}{\tan^2 \beta} \left( \frac{570 \text{ GeV}}{m_A} \right)^{5.2} \text{ pb}$$

[JHEP09 (2018) 151]

## ○ SM t $\bar$ t + Z production: $\sigma = 0.86 \text{ pb}$

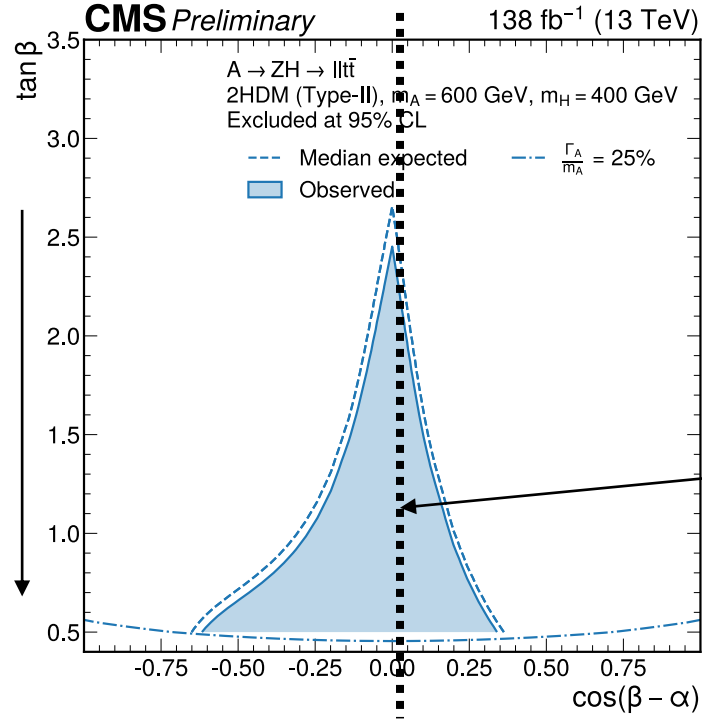
[Eur.Phys.J.C 79 (2019) 3]

Type II 2HDM, tan( $\beta$ )=1



# A $\rightarrow$ ZH, H $\rightarrow$ tt in the 2HDM

Valid in all 2HDM types



Att coupling  $\propto \cos(\alpha)/\sin(\beta)$

**Sensitive in alignment limit**  
AZH coupling  $\propto \sin(\beta - \alpha)$   
AZh, HVV (Hhh)  $\propto \cos(\beta - \alpha)$