

# Higgs Self-Coupling Measurements

*SM@LHC@FNAL*

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On behalf of ATLAS

TRIUMF



# (Organizational Note)



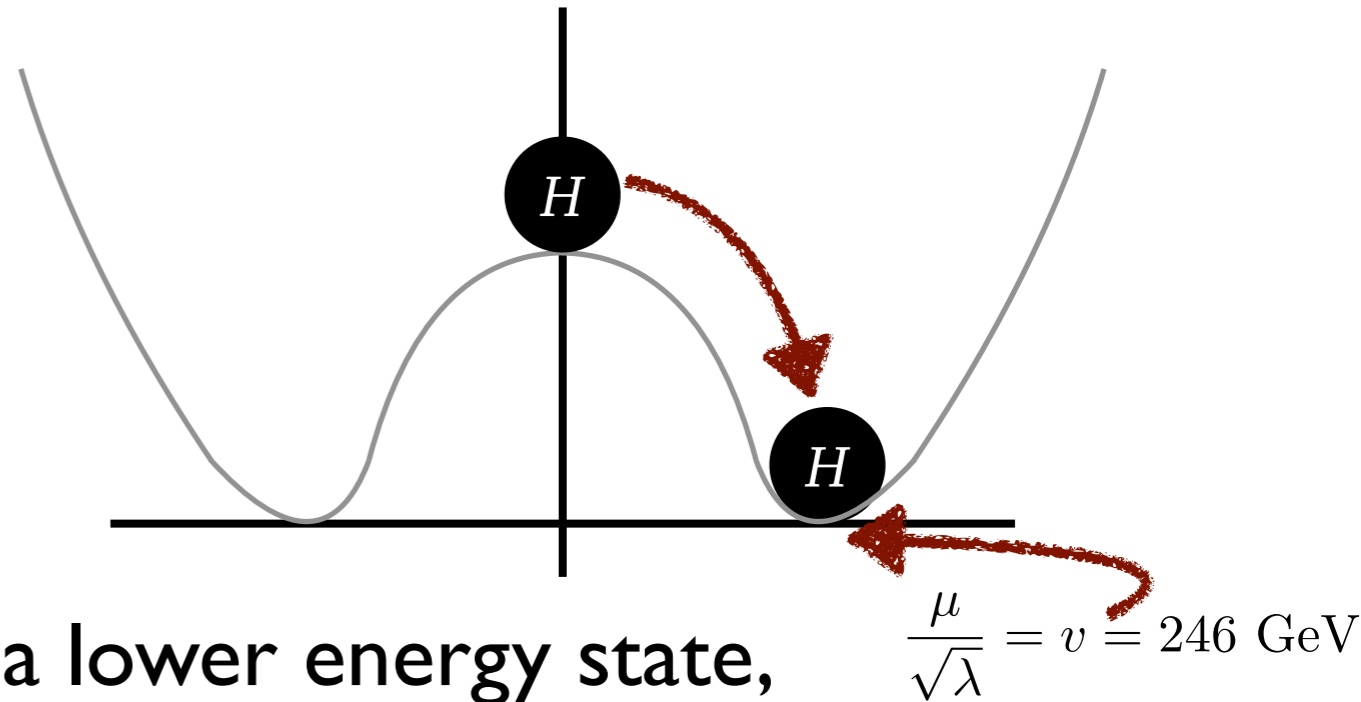
- First, my apologies
- This talk was intended to also include CMS results, but due to organizational complications the speaker invitation went out extremely late
- I was not able to include the excellent CMS results on this topic (or attend the conference): my apologies
- Please check these great results at your leisure!
  - Thankfully, Daniel provided a great overview already yesterday!
    - Especially check out the great boosted 4b result he highlights
    - See also Ana's talk on EFT's: many relevant results in that talk
- And many thanks to Pier Paolo for the introduction!

# The Higgs Potential



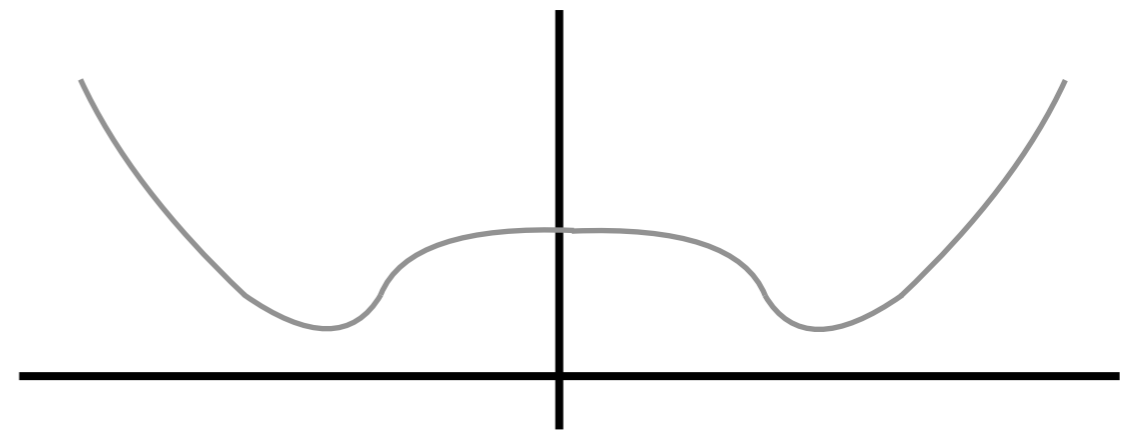
The *SM* Higgs potential is:

$$V(\phi) = -\mu^2 \phi^2 + \lambda \phi^4$$



The field “rolls” into a lower energy state, the initial symmetry is broken, the field acquires a non-zero vacuum expectation value

But many other shapes could have caused the same physics



We have no knowledge of the actual shape: just some of its properties

**Why does this matter?**

# Why Measure the Potential?



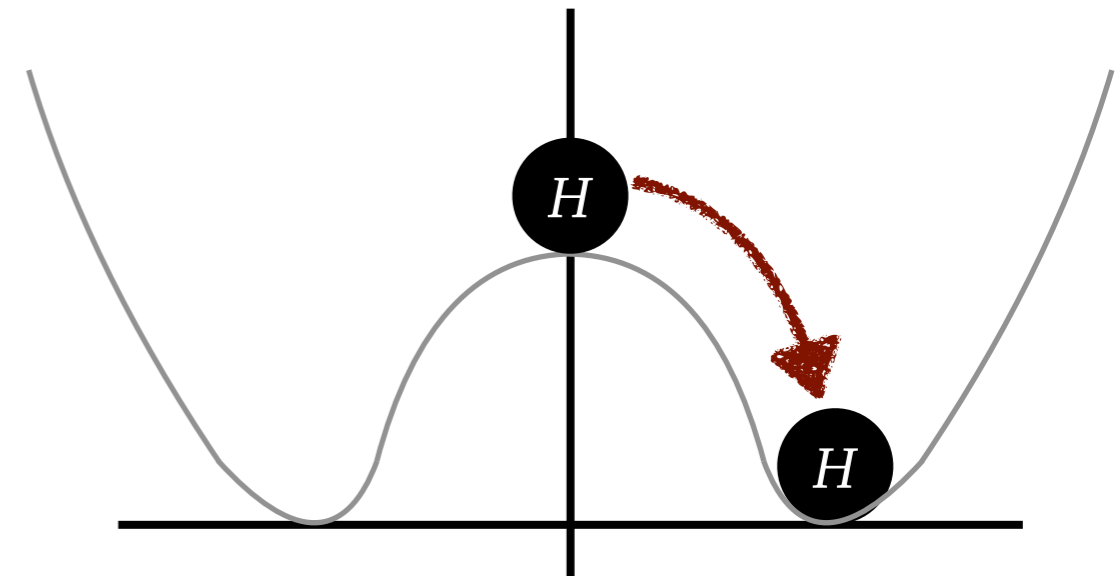
Many models alter the Higgs potential

Models of “electroweak baryogenesis”  
have the Higgs potential  
undergo a phase transition, which  
could explain matter-antimatter asymmetry

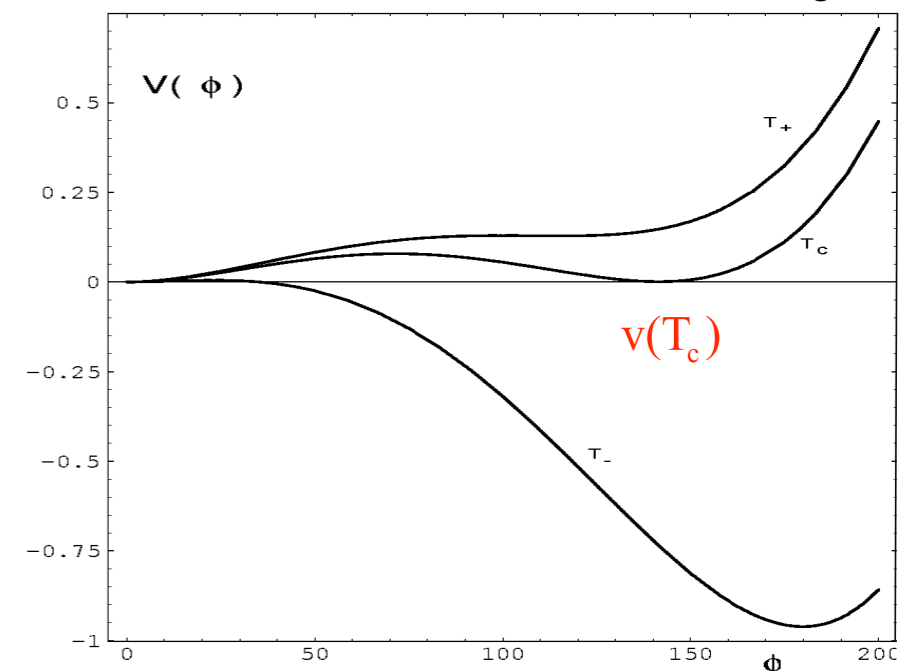
This phase transition requires  
modifications to the SM potential!

*And generically: it's hard to alter only the potential,  
and not change any other Higgs couplings!*

If we can measure the shape of the potential,  
we can find hints of  
fundamental, critical new physics!



C. Wagner



# How to Measure the Potential



The SM Higgs potential is:

$$V(\phi) = -\mu^2 \phi^2 + \lambda \phi^4$$

Expand around the minimum, get:

$$V = V_0 + \lambda v^2 h^2 + \lambda v h^3 + \dots$$

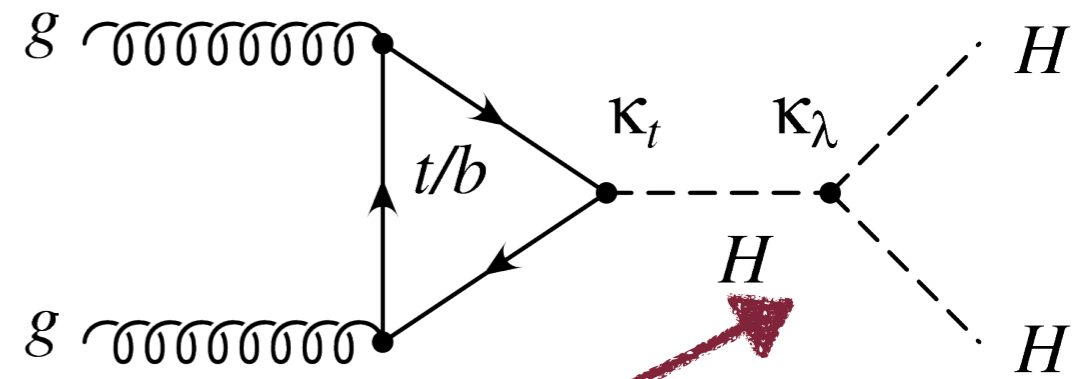
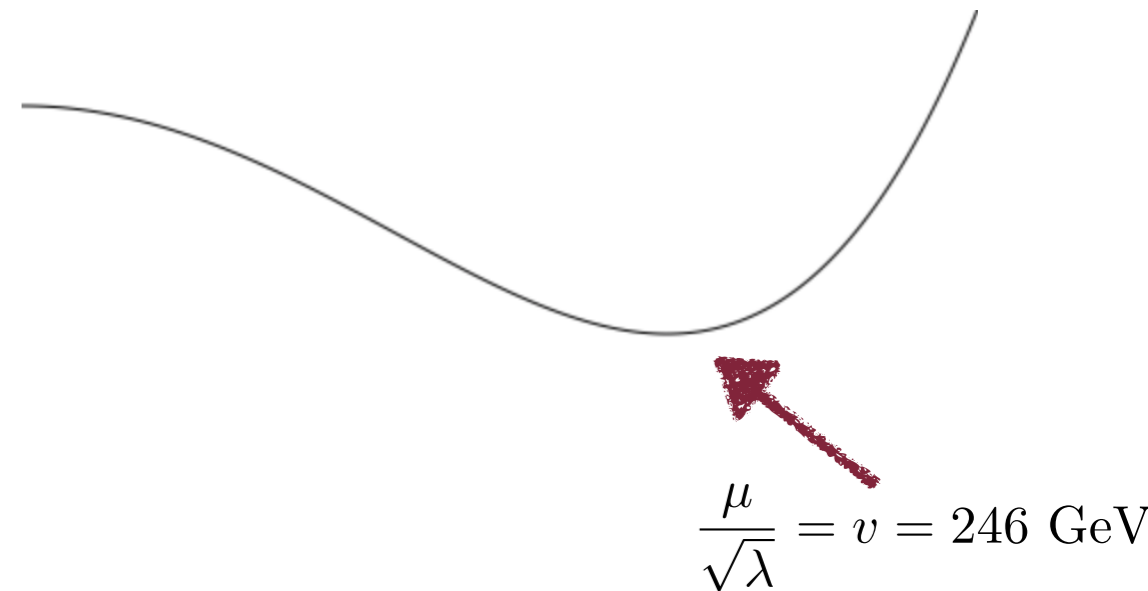
$$= V_0 + \frac{1}{2} m_H^2 h^2 + \frac{m_h^2}{2v^2} v h^3 + \dots$$

This is the mass:  
well measured

This term is the Higgs self-coupling

The SM predicts di-Higgs production

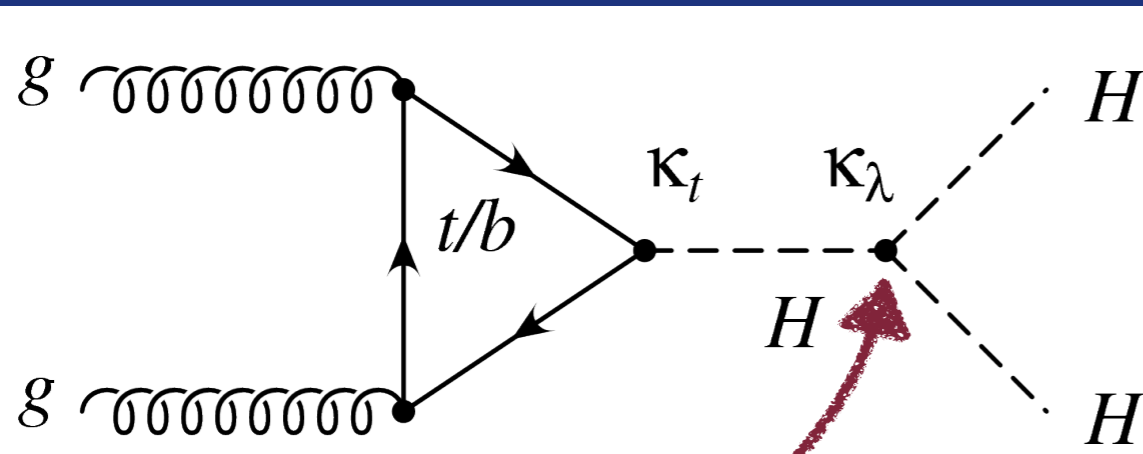
**This higher-order term tells us more about the shape of the potential!**



$$\lambda_{HHH}^{SM} = \frac{m_h^2}{2v^2}$$

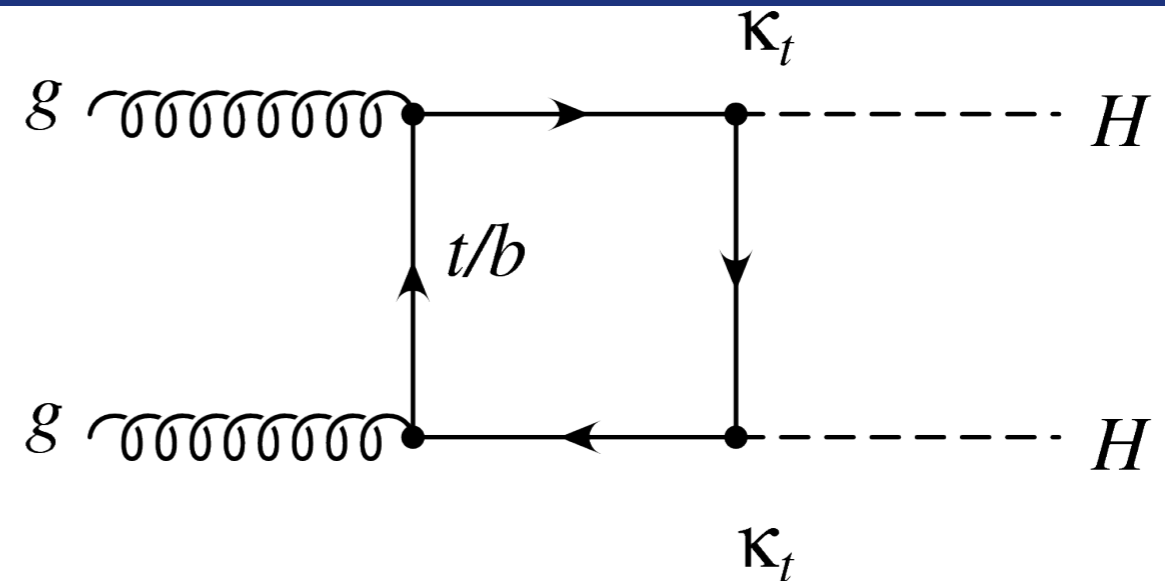
$$\kappa_\lambda = \frac{\lambda_{HHH}}{\lambda_{HHH}^{SM}}$$

# Self-Coupling with Di-Higgs



This coupling is what we want to measure

This tells us about the shape of the Higgs potential



This process has the same final state, but  $\kappa_\lambda$  doesn't appear: no information about the Higgs potential

These two processes destructively interfere in the SM, leading to **very low cross section**

Also important:  $\kappa_\lambda$  always appears with  $\kappa_t$ : sensitivity can change if  $\kappa_t$  allowed to float

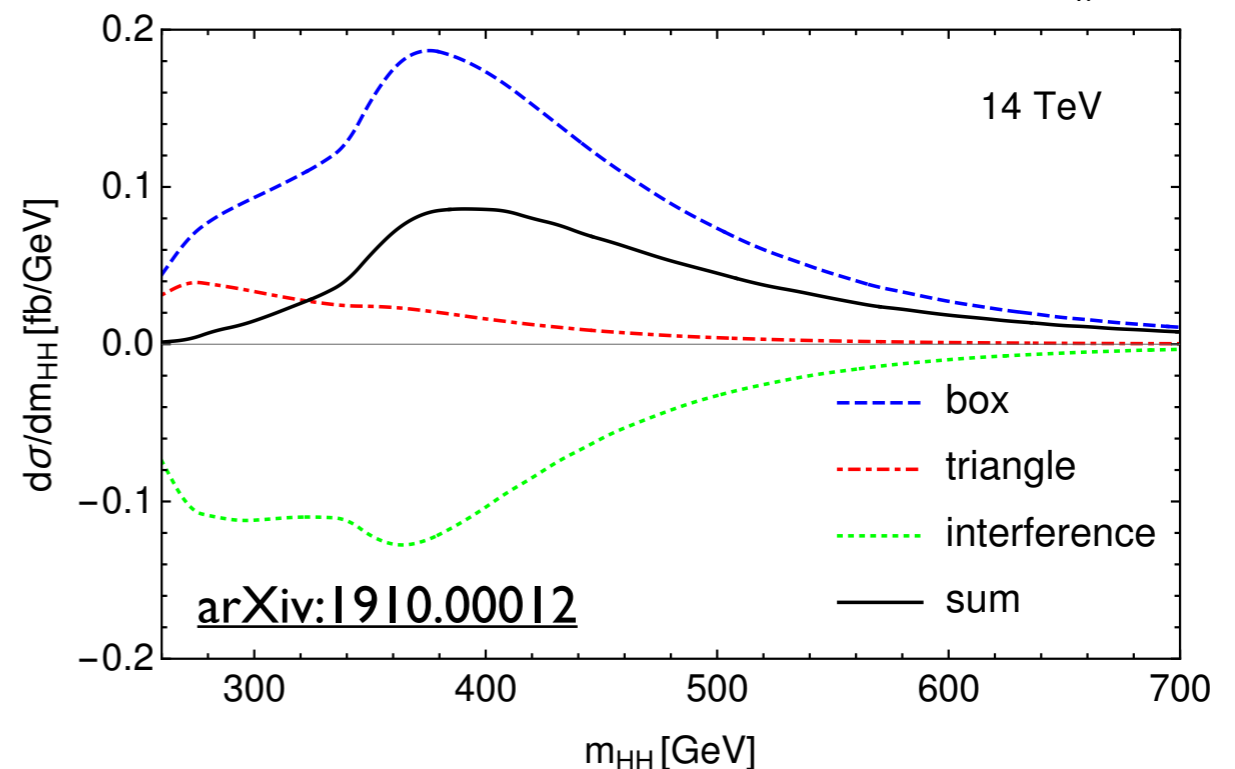
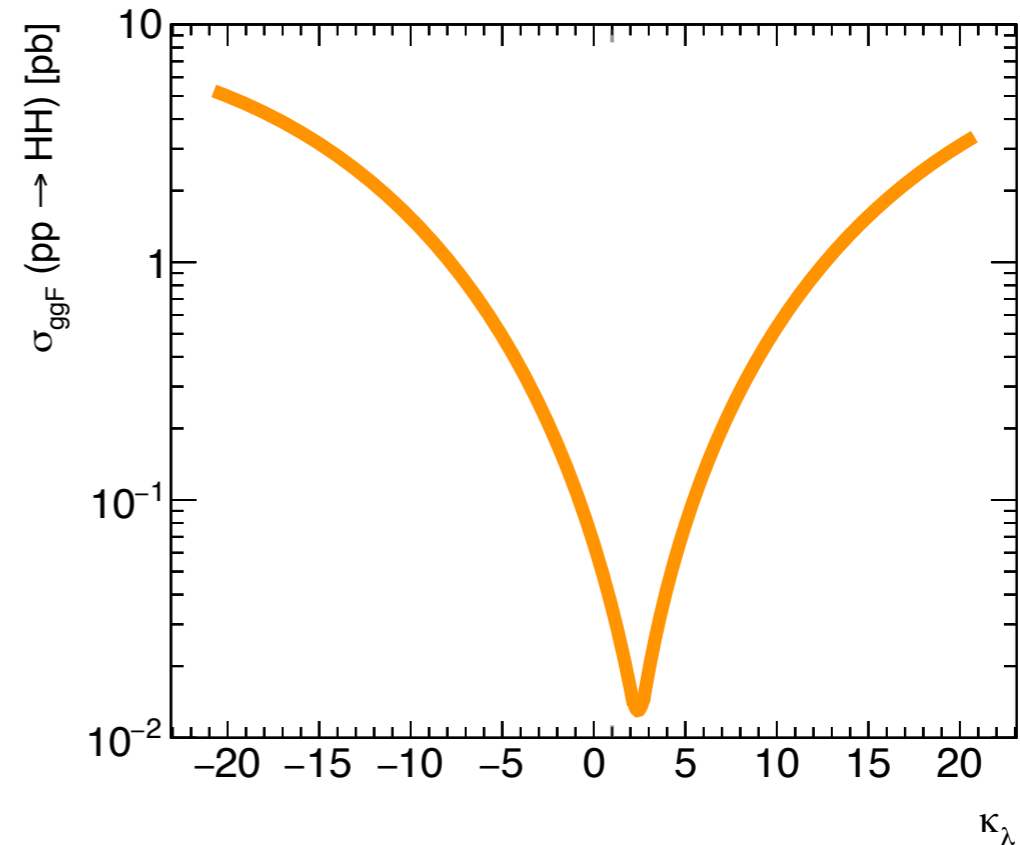
# Measuring with Di-Higgs



If  $\kappa_\lambda$  isn't the SM value  
interference diminishes:  
larger cross section!

But while the cross section  
can increase, the **lowest**  
 $m_{HH}$  **component** is what  
is most enhanced

Measuring  $\kappa_\lambda$  is challenging:  
need both rate and shape  
information for best  
constraints



$$HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$$

Trigger on diphotons  
( $E_T > 35,25$  GeV)

Require two photons  
(Leading (subleading)  $p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.35$  (0.25))

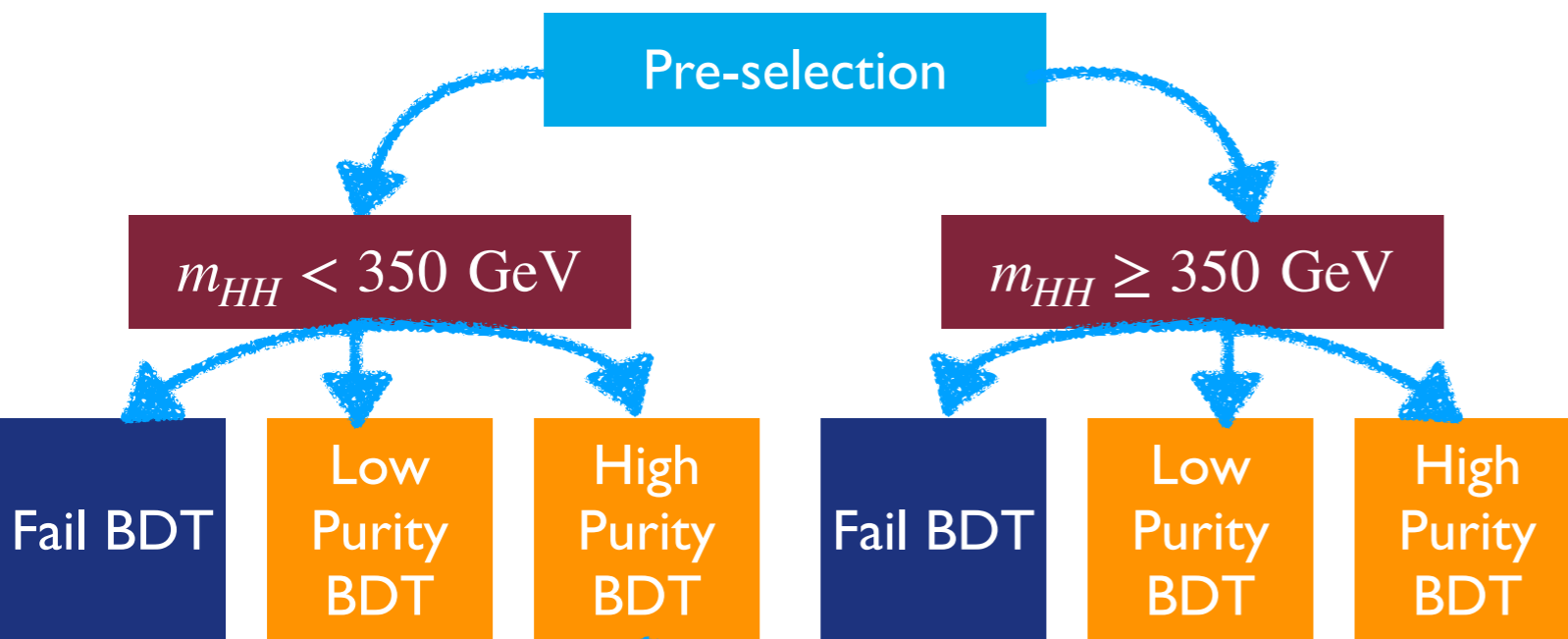
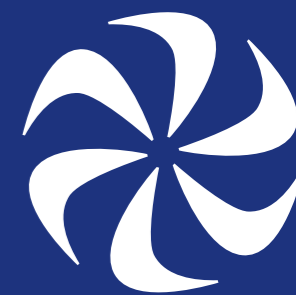
Cleanest signature possible:  
low signal rate, but low bkgds too!

Select  $< 6$  jets  
( $p_T > 25$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 2.5$ )

Require 2 b-tagged jets  
( $\epsilon = 77\%$ )

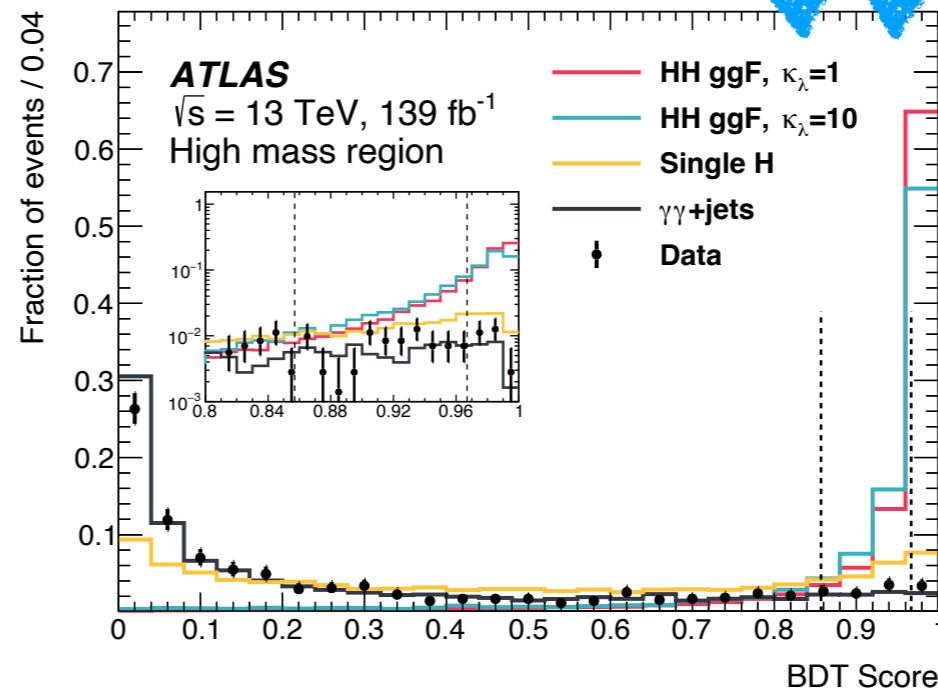
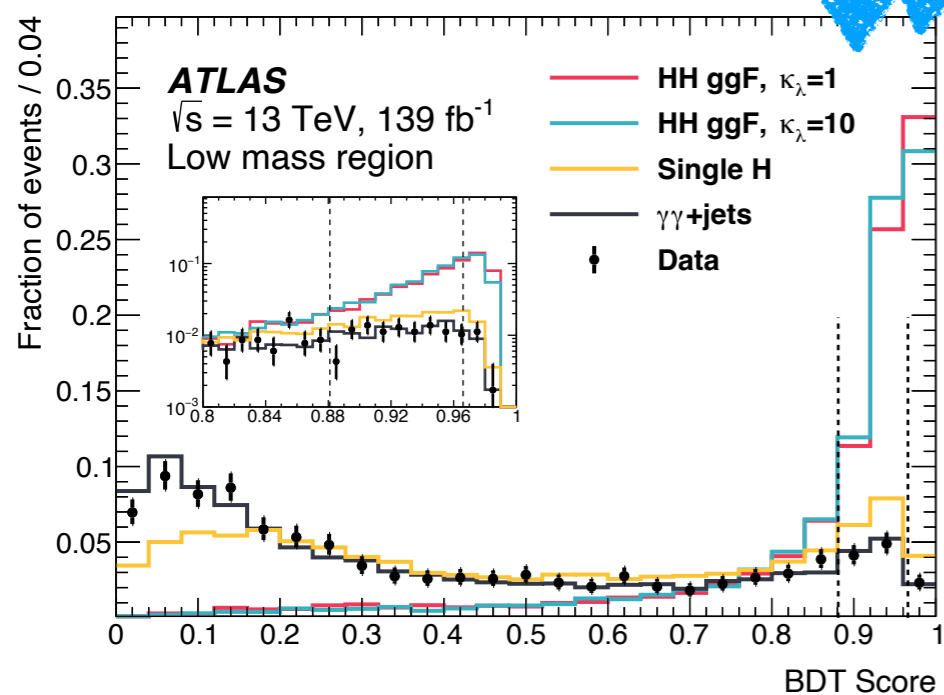


# $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ Analysis Strategy



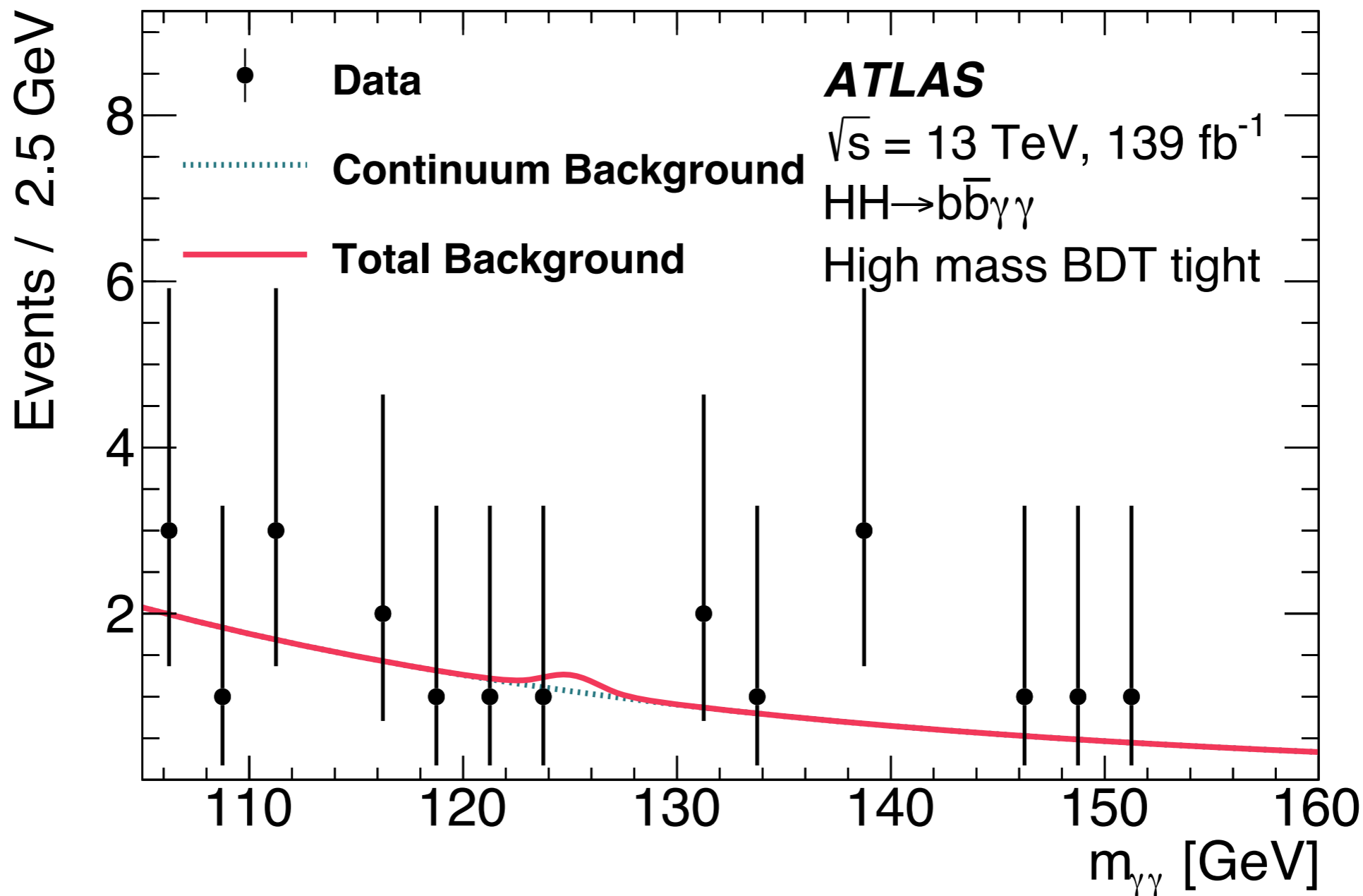
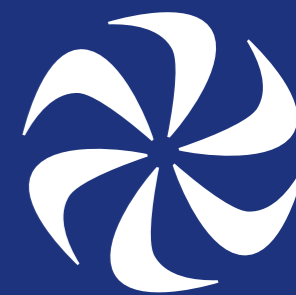
After **pre-selection**, split into **high-mass** and **low-mass** selections

BDT trained in each region: select low- and high-purity **signal regions** with BDT



Fit  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$  in 4 SR's simultaneously to extract signal

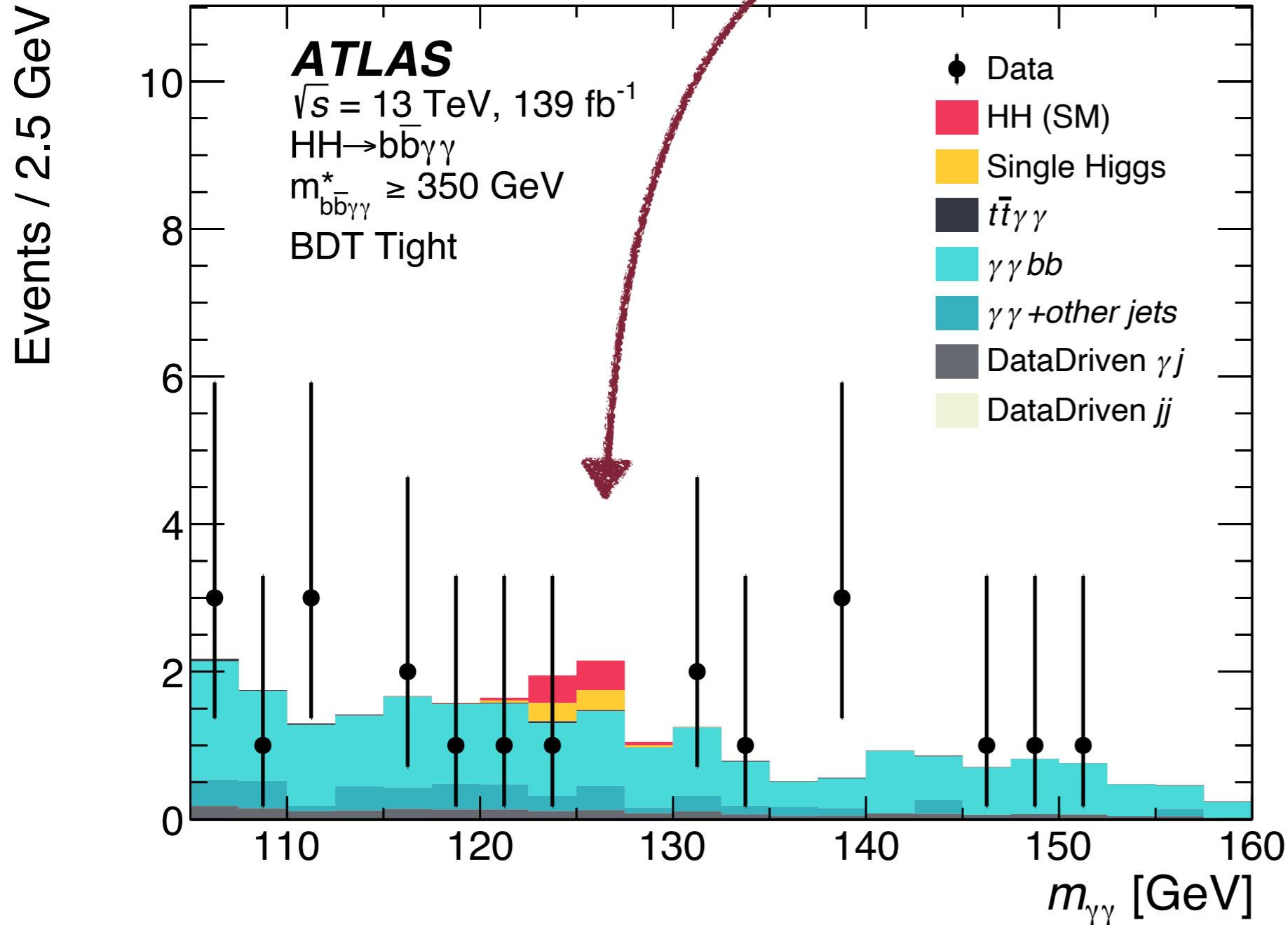
# $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ Background Estimate



Background estimate formed on fit to  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$  in different signal regions

Shape of background from MC, normalization determined from data

# $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ Results



Look for a peak  
in the  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$  spectrum  
near the Higgs

No obvious signs  
of new physics

Similar results for  
other signal  
categories

$$HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tau\bar{\tau}$$

Separate into  $\tau_h\tau_h$  and  $\tau_\ell\tau_h$  channels

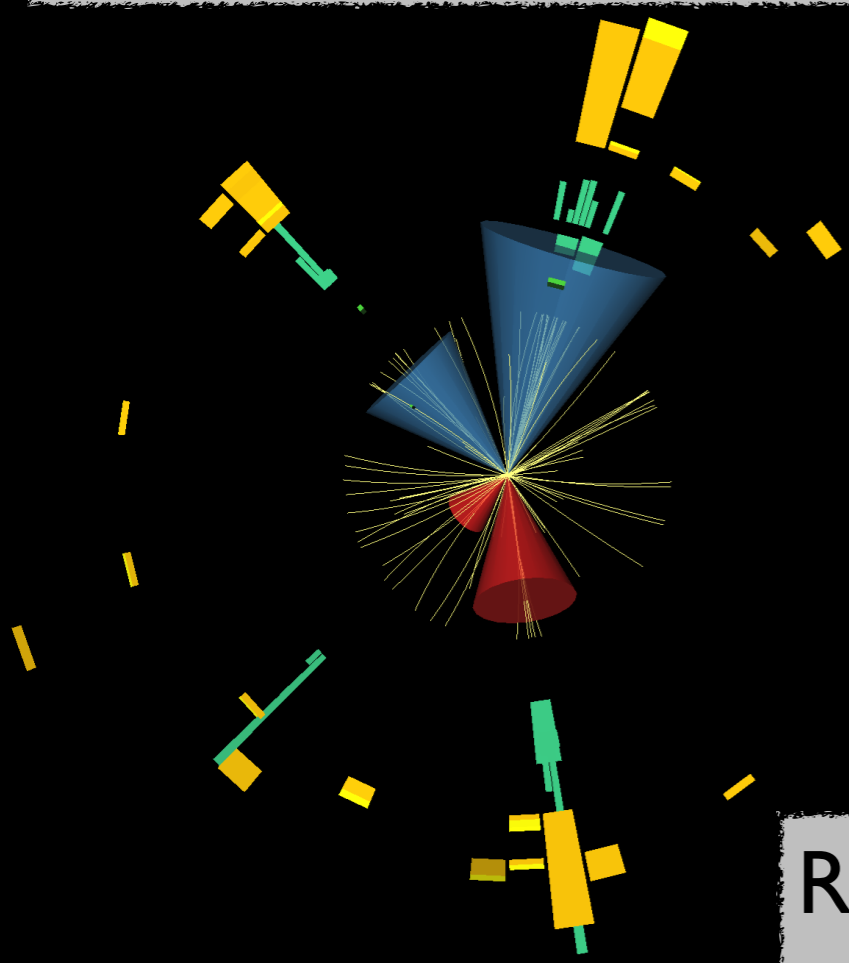
Trigger on di- $\tau$ ,  $\ell + \tau$ ,  
or single  $\ell$

Require 1 or 2 'loose'  $\tau$ :  
 $m_{\tau\tau} > 60$  GeV

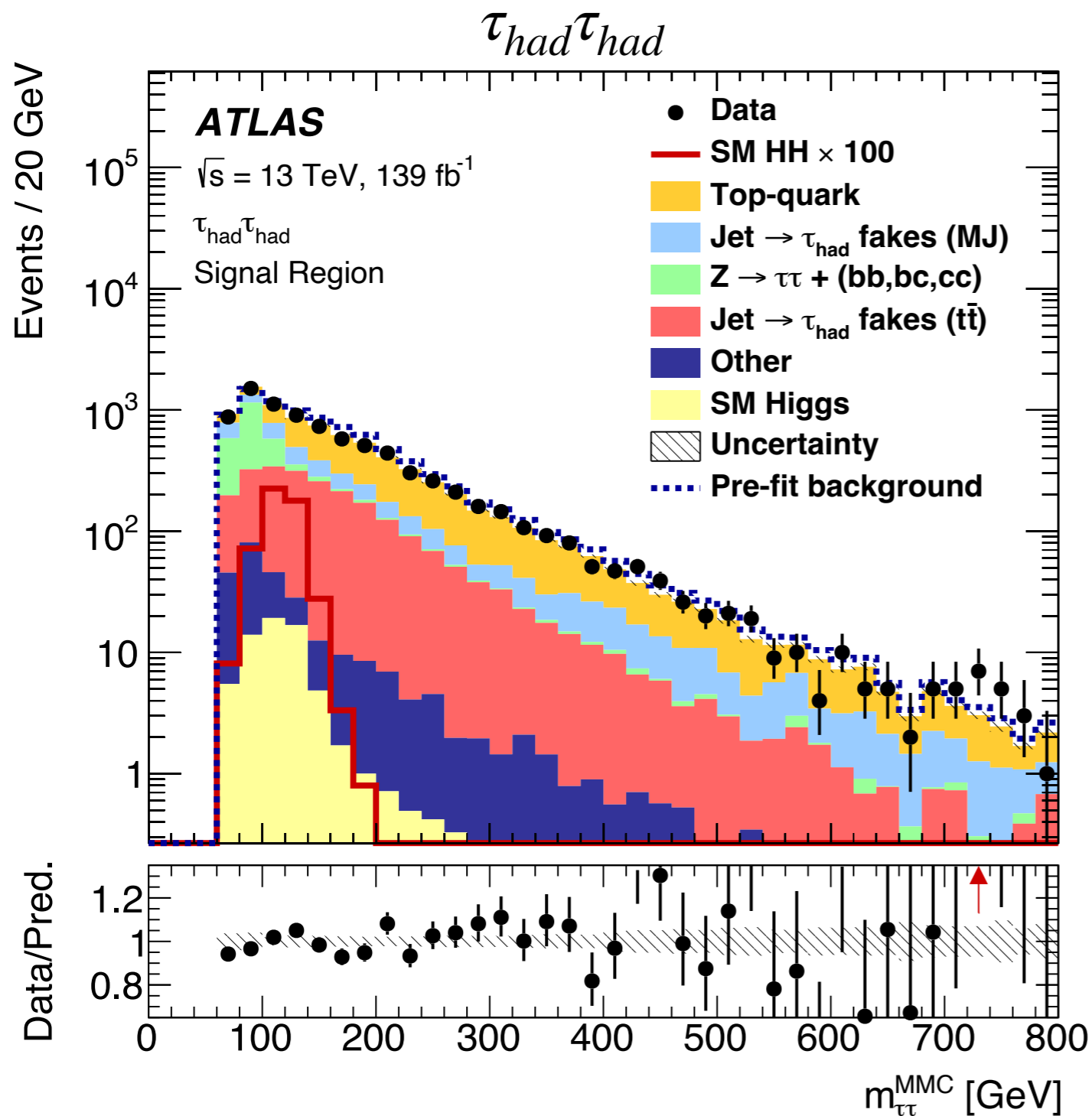
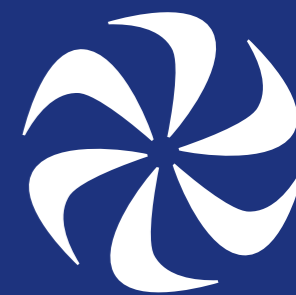
Balanced signature:  $\tau_h$  allows for  
good bkgd suppression

Require 2 b-tagged jets  
( $\epsilon = 77\%$ )

JHEP 07 (2023) 040



# $b\bar{b}\tau\tau$ Background Estimate

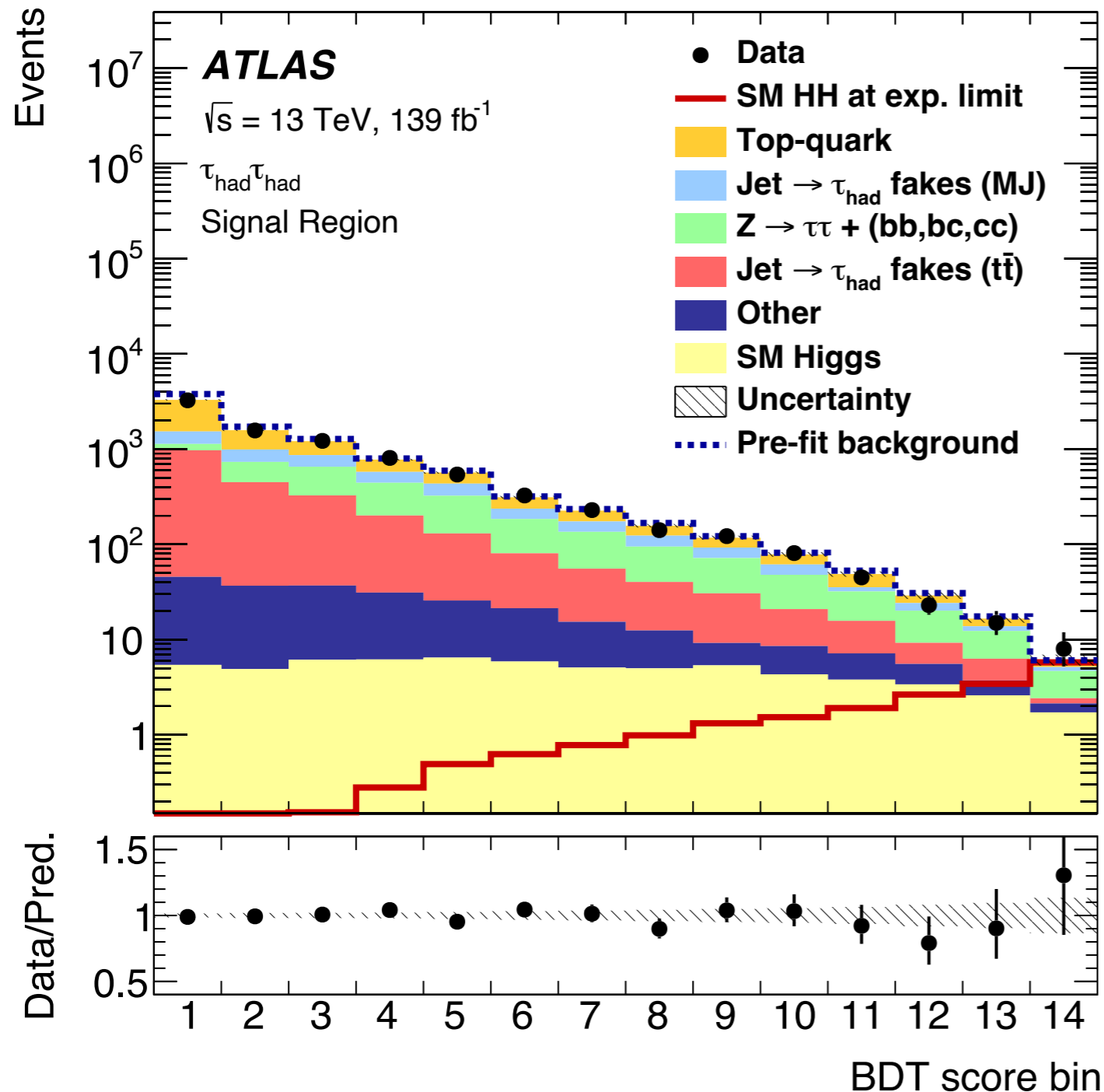


Top-quark background from MC, normalization floating in final fit

Z+jets background from MC, normalization from leptonic CR

Fake  $\tau$  estimated from data using “fake factor” method

# $b\bar{b}\tau\tau$ Strategy and Results



Fits to BDT/NN  
distribution used for  
final analysis

Data agrees well with  
background prediction

$\tau_{had}\tau_{had}$  has strongest  
sensitivity, but  $\tau_{lep}$   
channels also contribute

$$HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$$

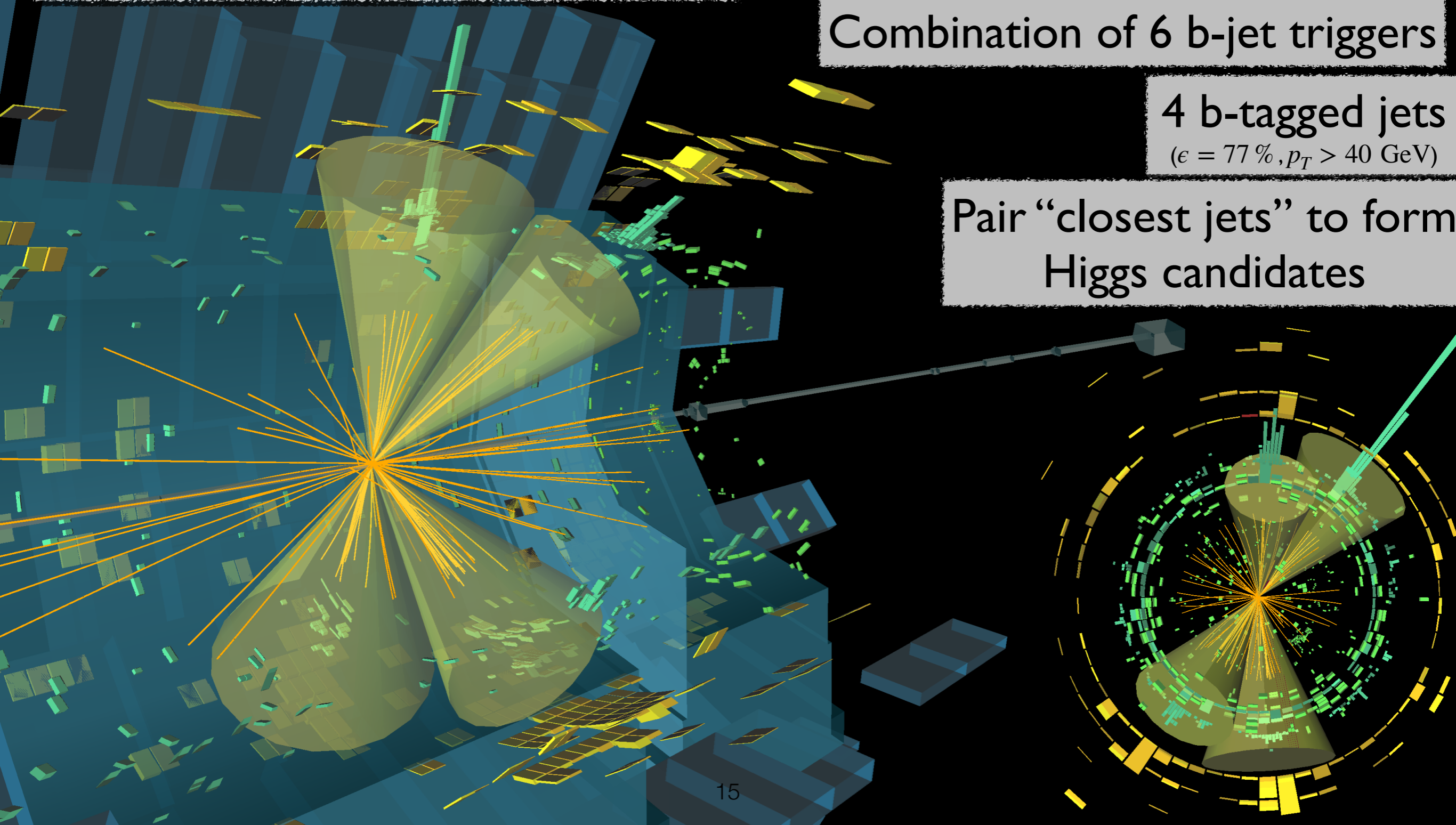
Extremely challenging signature:  
Large signal, but large backgrounds,  
And difficult to simulate!

[arXiv:2301.03212](https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.03212)

Combination of 6 b-jet triggers

4 b-tagged jets  
( $\epsilon = 77\%$ ,  $p_T > 40$  GeV)

Pair “closest jets” to form  
Higgs candidates



# Triggering on $b$ -jets

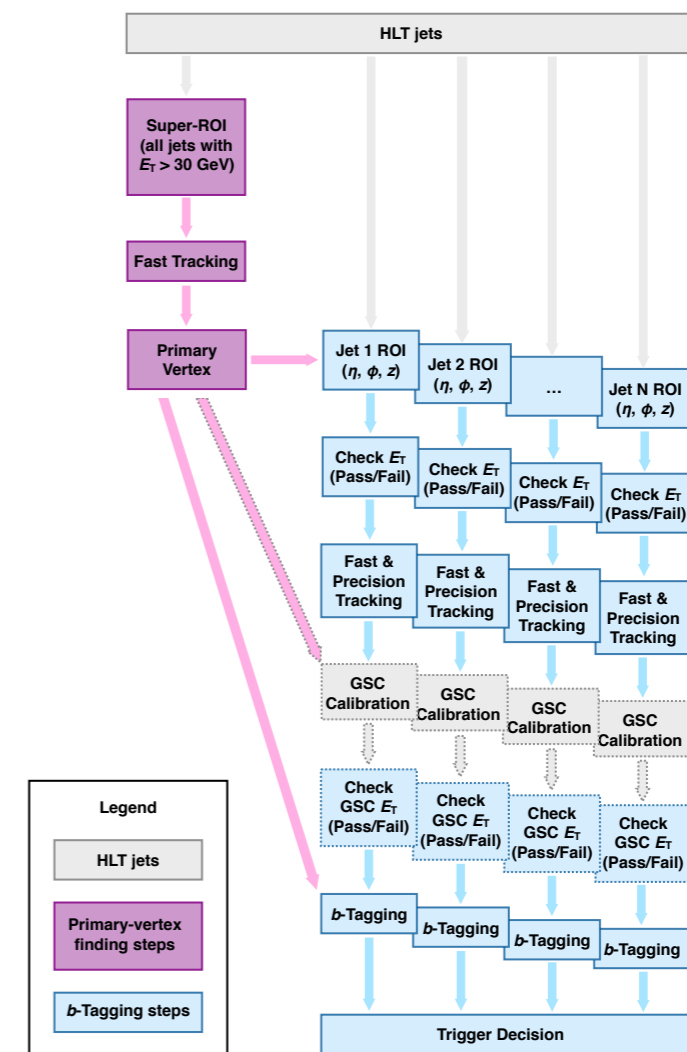
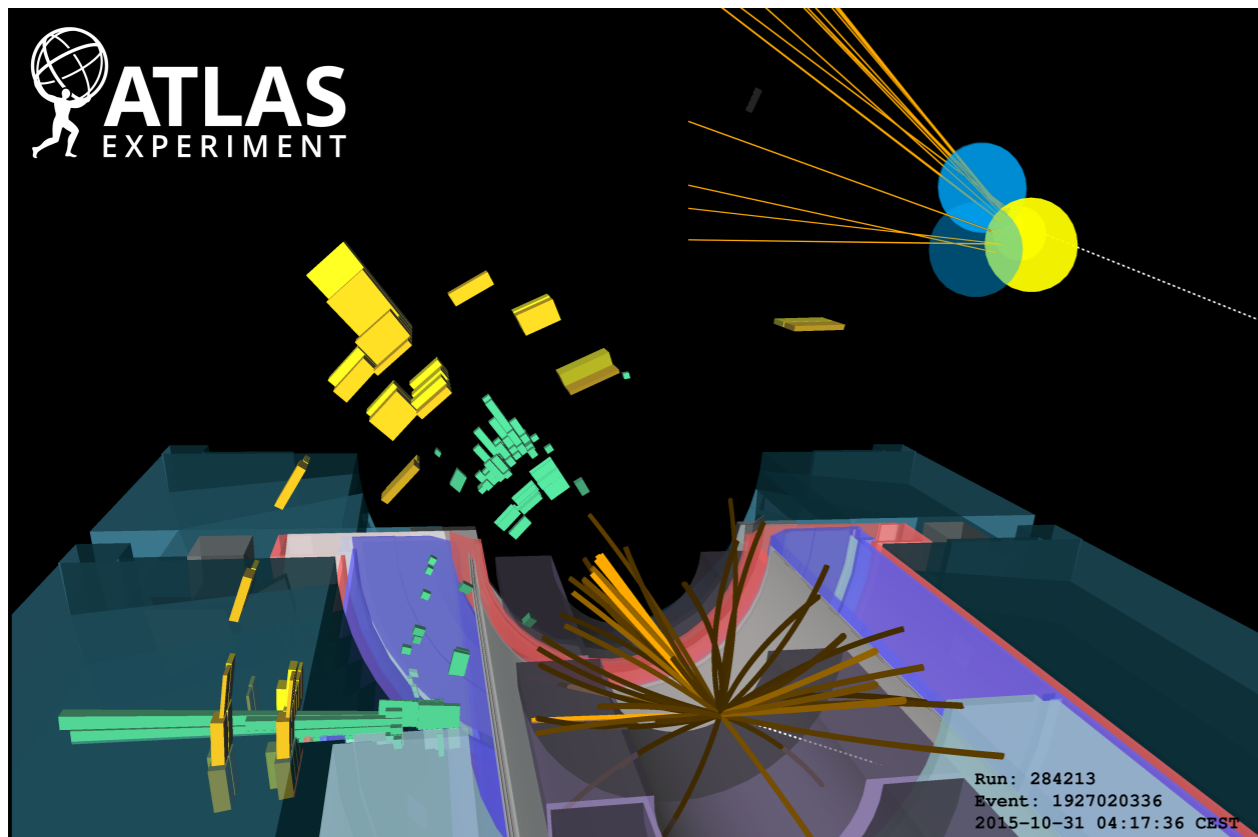
Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 1087



Multi-jet background rates are **huge**:

Utilize  $b$ -tagging in the trigger to manage the rates!

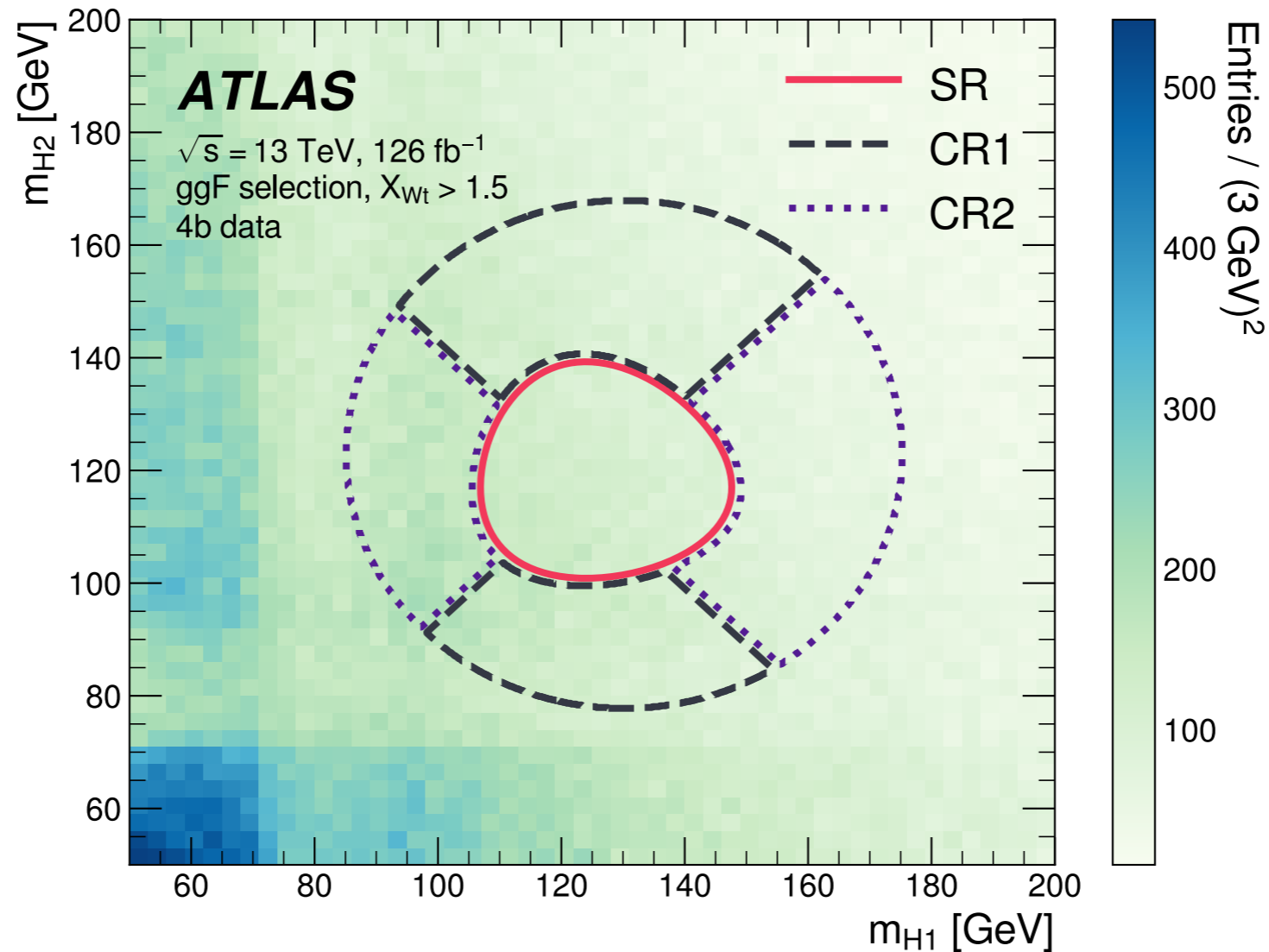
Fast  $b$ -tagging is enormously complicated: huge optimization game for speed and performance



Enables efficient recording of 4 jets with  $p_T > 45$  GeV,  
and only 2  $b$ -tags online



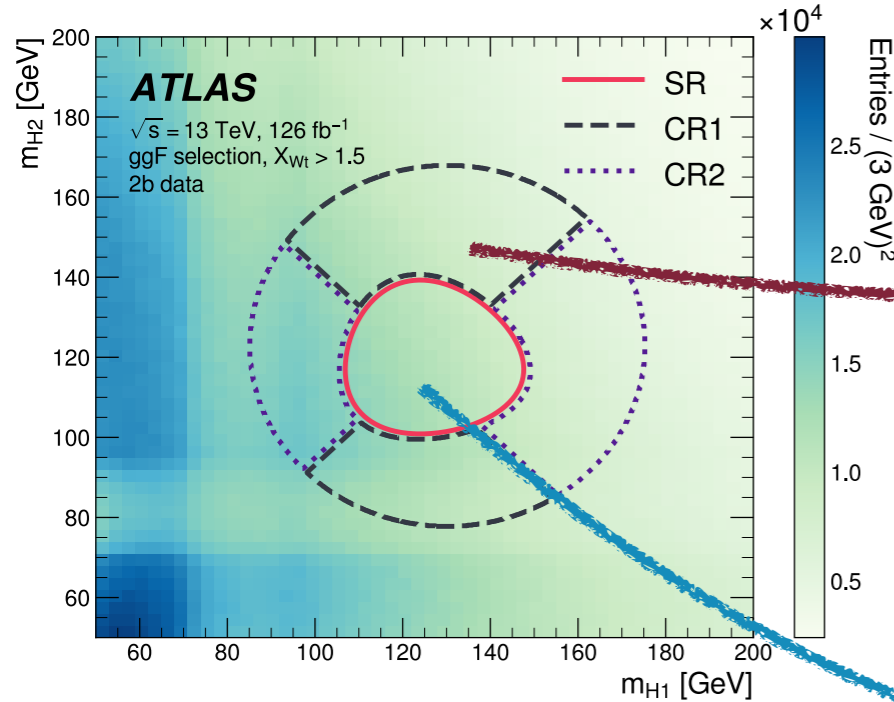
# $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ Analysis Strategy



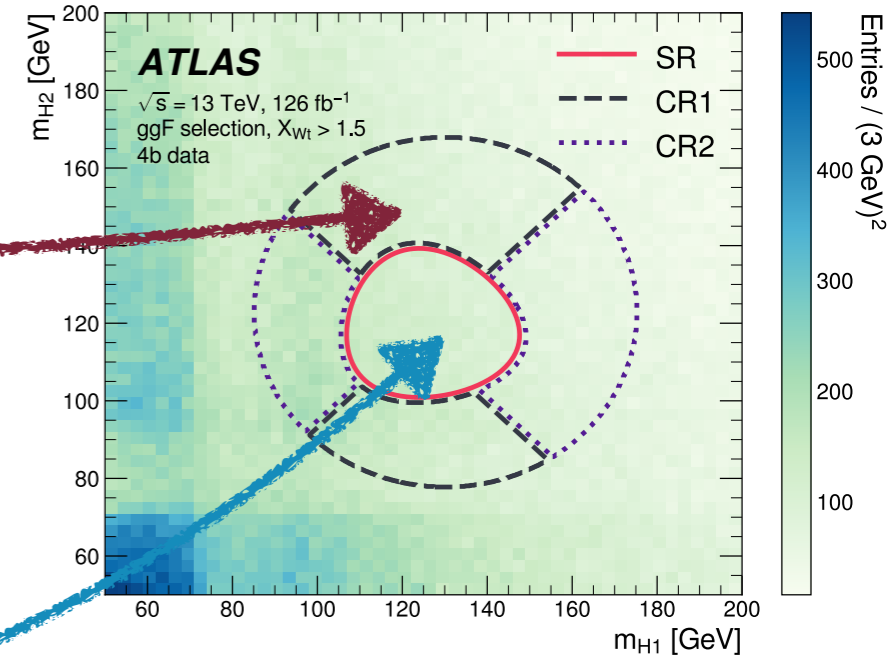
Reconstruct Higgs candidates, form “mass plane”

Center is signal-like; outer regions used for background and background validation

# $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ Background

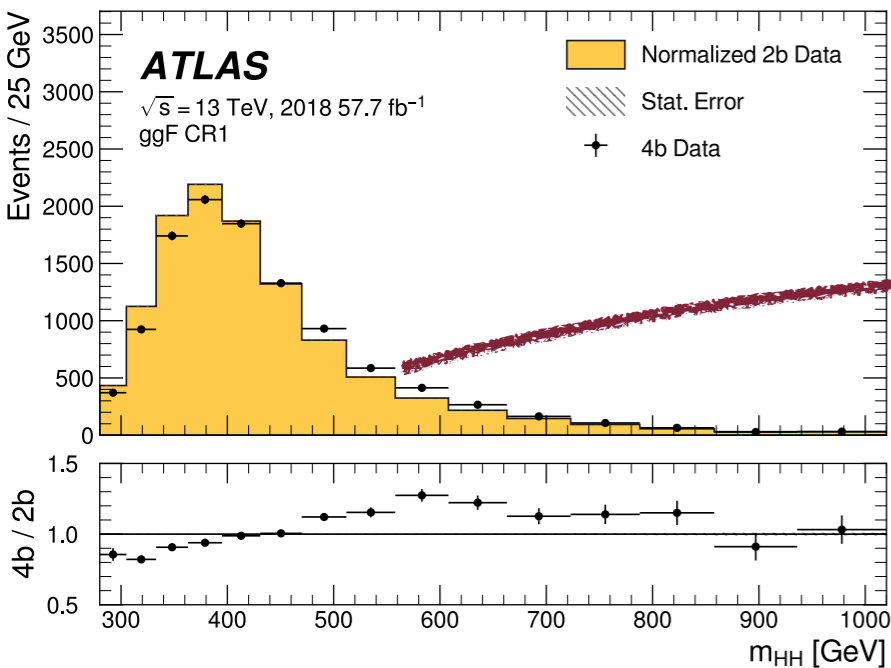


Step 0: form “mass planes” with leading/subleading Higgs, for 2b and 4b events



Step 1: use CR to train neural network to reweight data from 2b to 4b

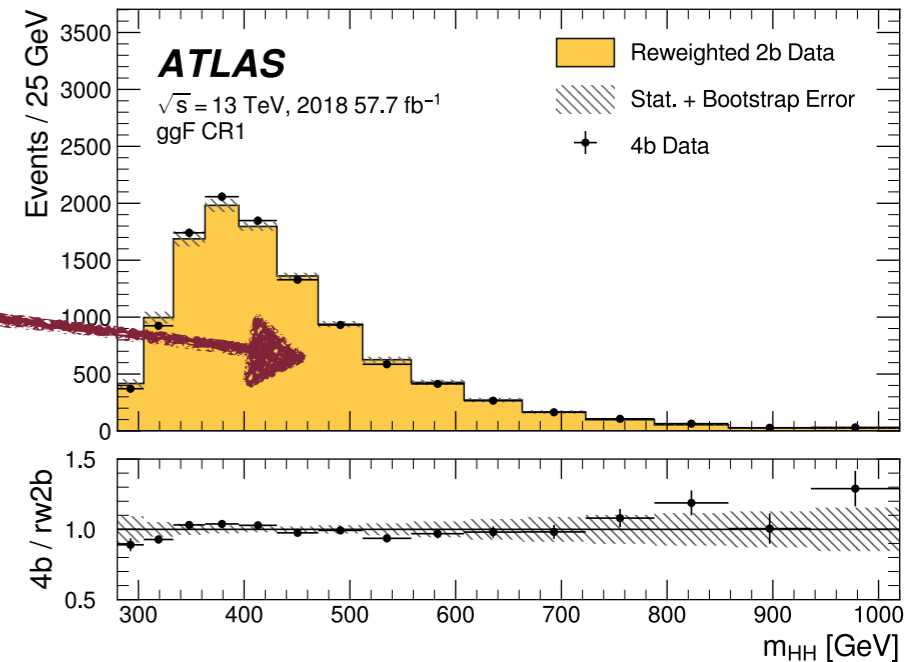
Step 2: Apply this NN to 2b center: prediction for 4b SR



Orange histogram comes from 2b, black points from 4b

Neural network training

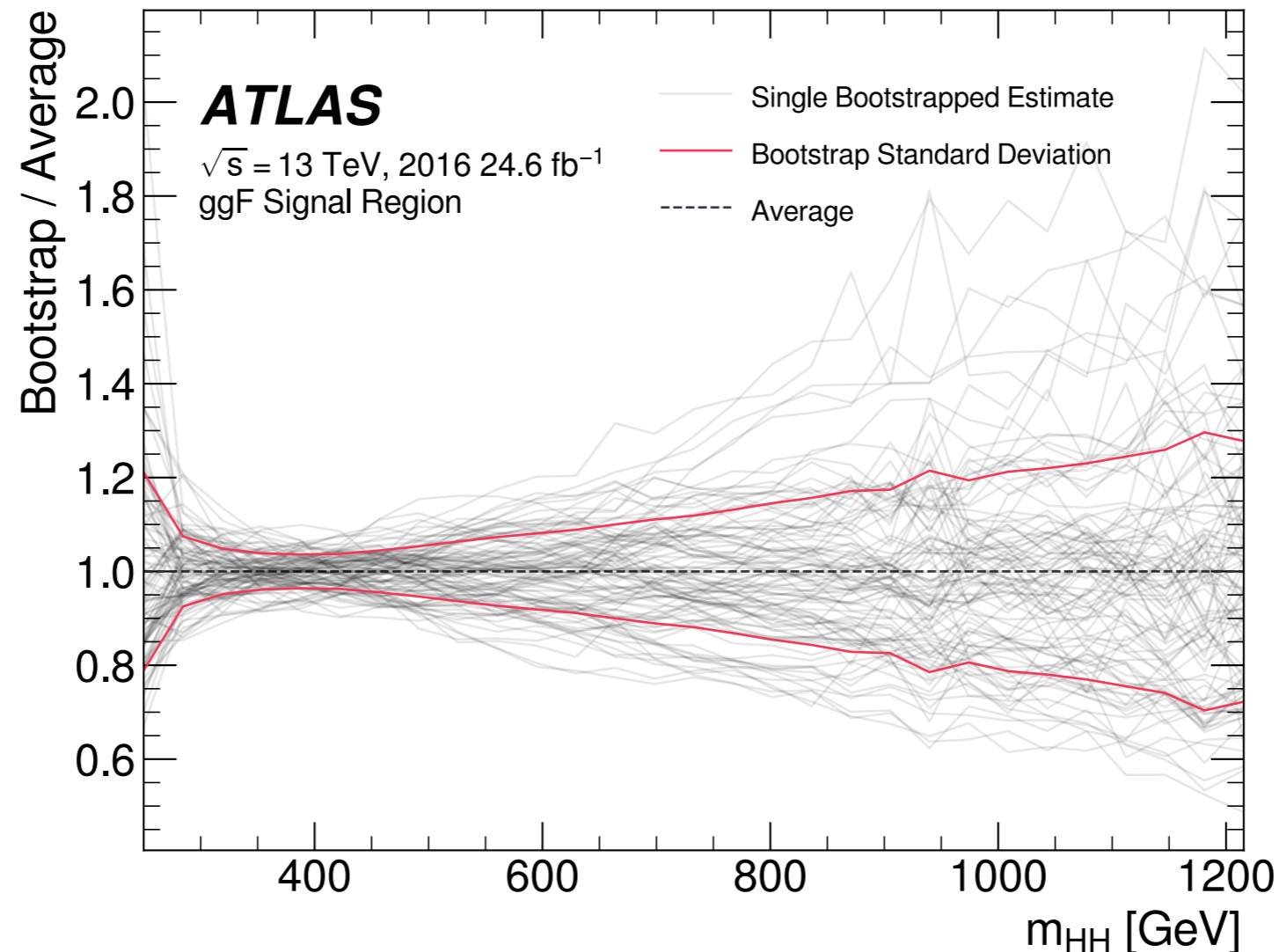
Systematics from alternate regions



# Systematic Uncertainties

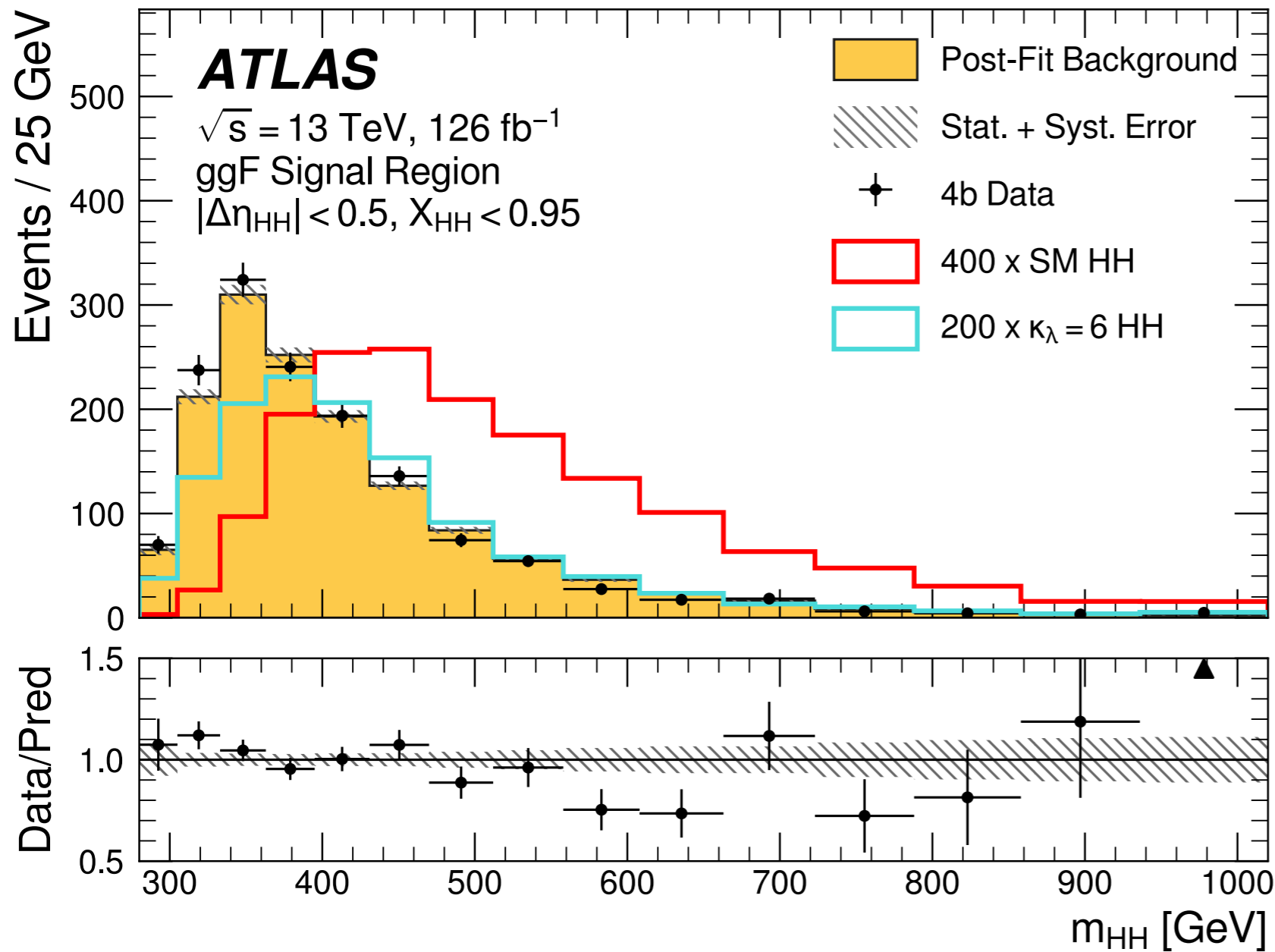


Many usual types of uncertainties (alternate regions, etc.)



But *statistical* uncertainties play an important role as well:  
bkgd estimate NN very sensitive to fluctuations in training

# $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ Results

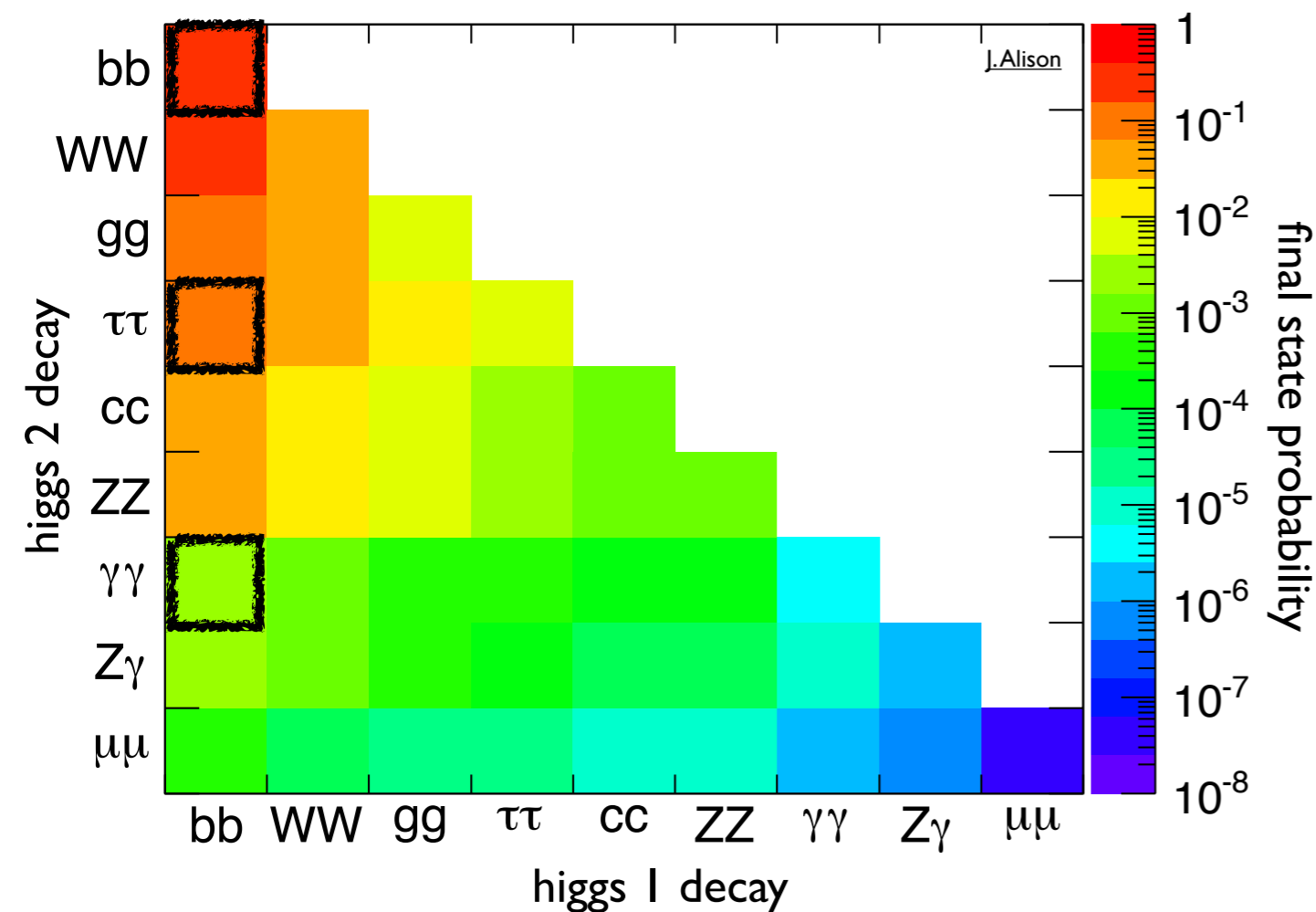


Large range of  
signal regions defined

Cover various kinematic,  
production regions

No excess observed

# Combination

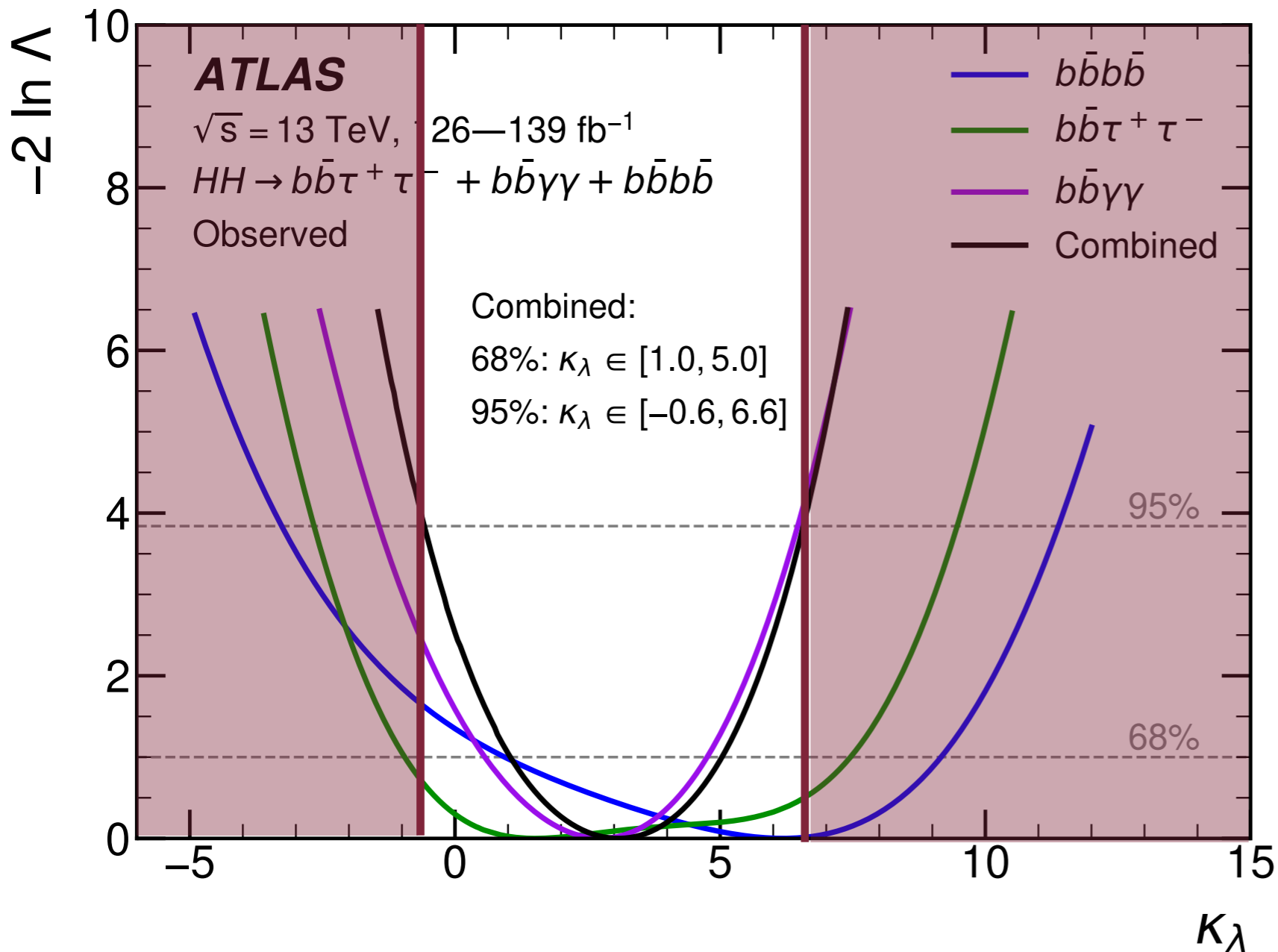


For optimal sensitivity:  
combine all three analyses  
into a single statistical  
interpretation

No single analysis powerful  
enough to measure these  
processes on its own!

Phys. Lett. B 843 (2023) 137745

# Measuring the Potential



Here, show *likelihood* vs  $\kappa_\lambda$

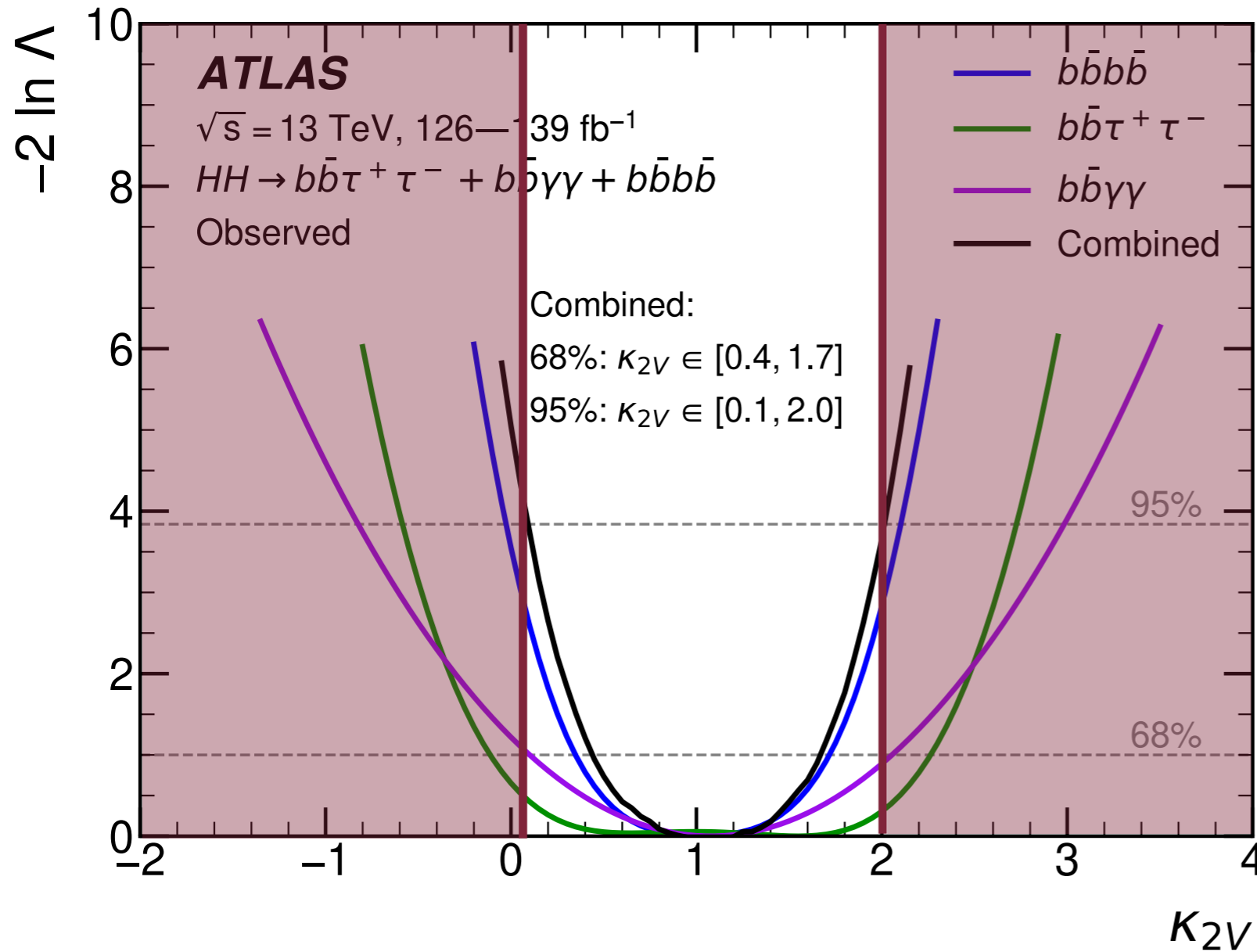
Minimum here is the  
“best fit”

95% C.L. range  
is the “limit”

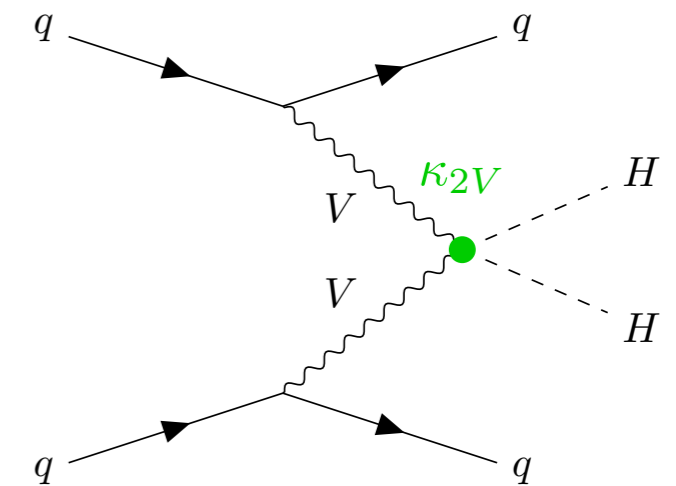
Each of the three  
analyses contributes  
to the combination

$-0.6 \leq \kappa_\lambda < 6.6$  is  
the allowed range:  
starting to probe EWBG!

# Other Couplings

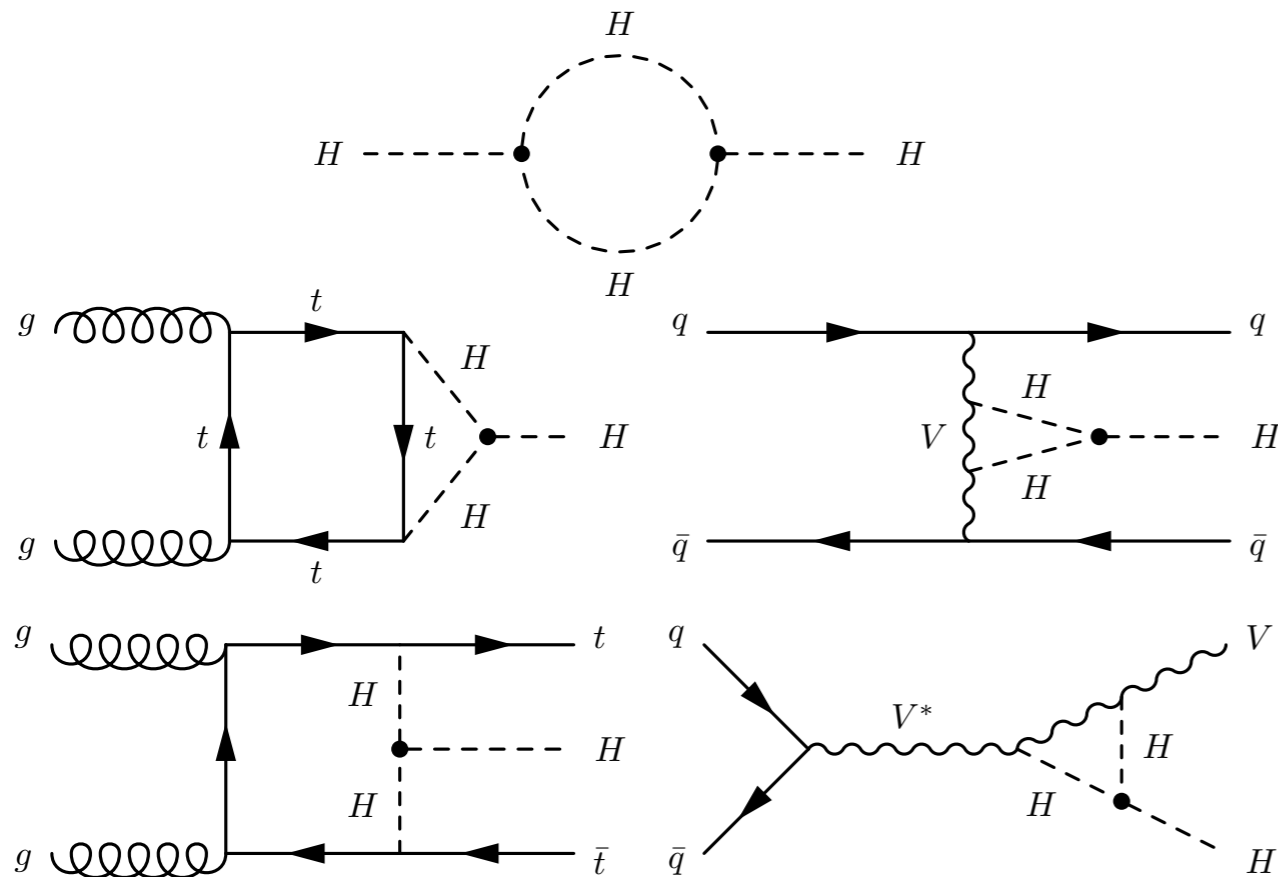
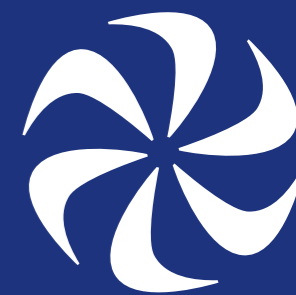


Via dedicated vector-boson fusion channels, can also measure the  $VVHH$  coupling



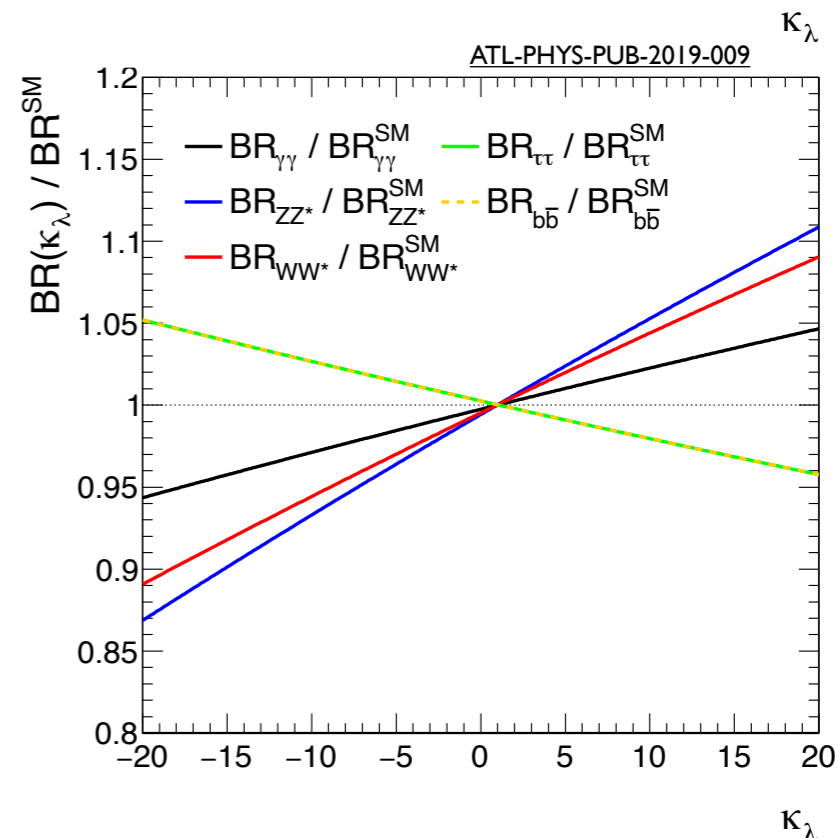
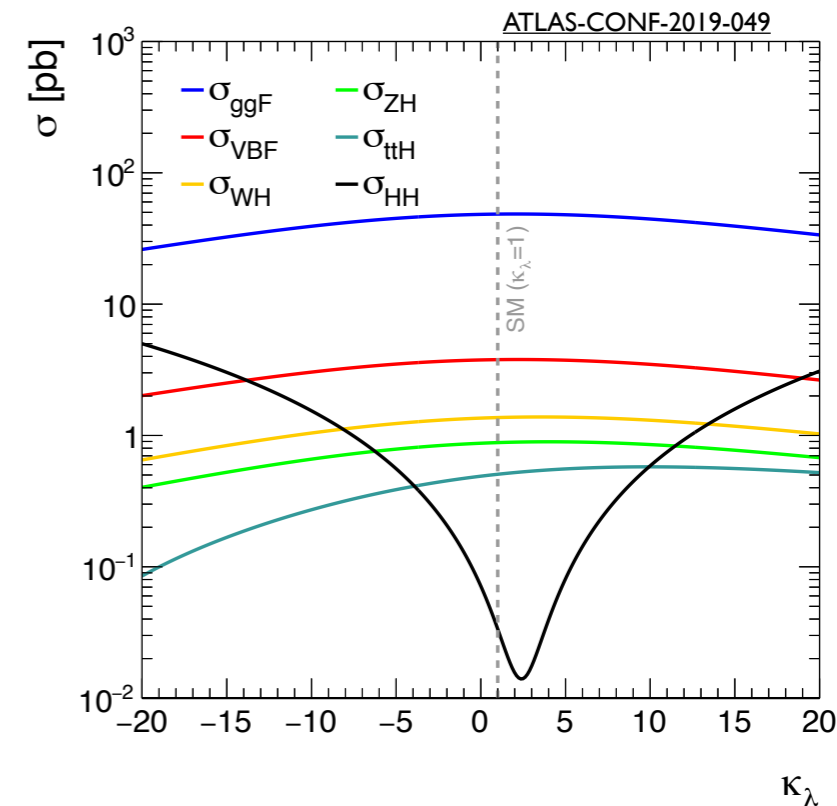
Limits set at  $0.1 < \kappa_{2V} < 2.0$

# Measuring with Single Higgs



Single Higgs final states can also be sensitive to  $\kappa_\lambda$

NLO EW corrections give Higgs cross-section, branching ratios, and kinematics dependence on  $\kappa_\lambda$





# Combining Single and Double



Channel	Integrated luminosity [ $\text{fb}^{-1}$ ]	Ref.
$HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$	139	[17]
$HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$	139	[18]
$HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$	126	[19]
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	139	[58]
$H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\ell$	139	[59]
$H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$	139	[60]
$H \rightarrow WW^* \rightarrow e\nu\mu\nu$ (ggF,VBF)	139	[61]
$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ (VH)	139	[62]
$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ (VBF)	126	[63]
$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ( $t\bar{t}H$ )	139	[64]

Can perform a combined analysis, using single and double Higgs!

Single Higgs analysis use STXS template fits  
for VBF and VH measurements

Explicit checks for overlap: remove  $t\bar{t}H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  due to  $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$  overlap

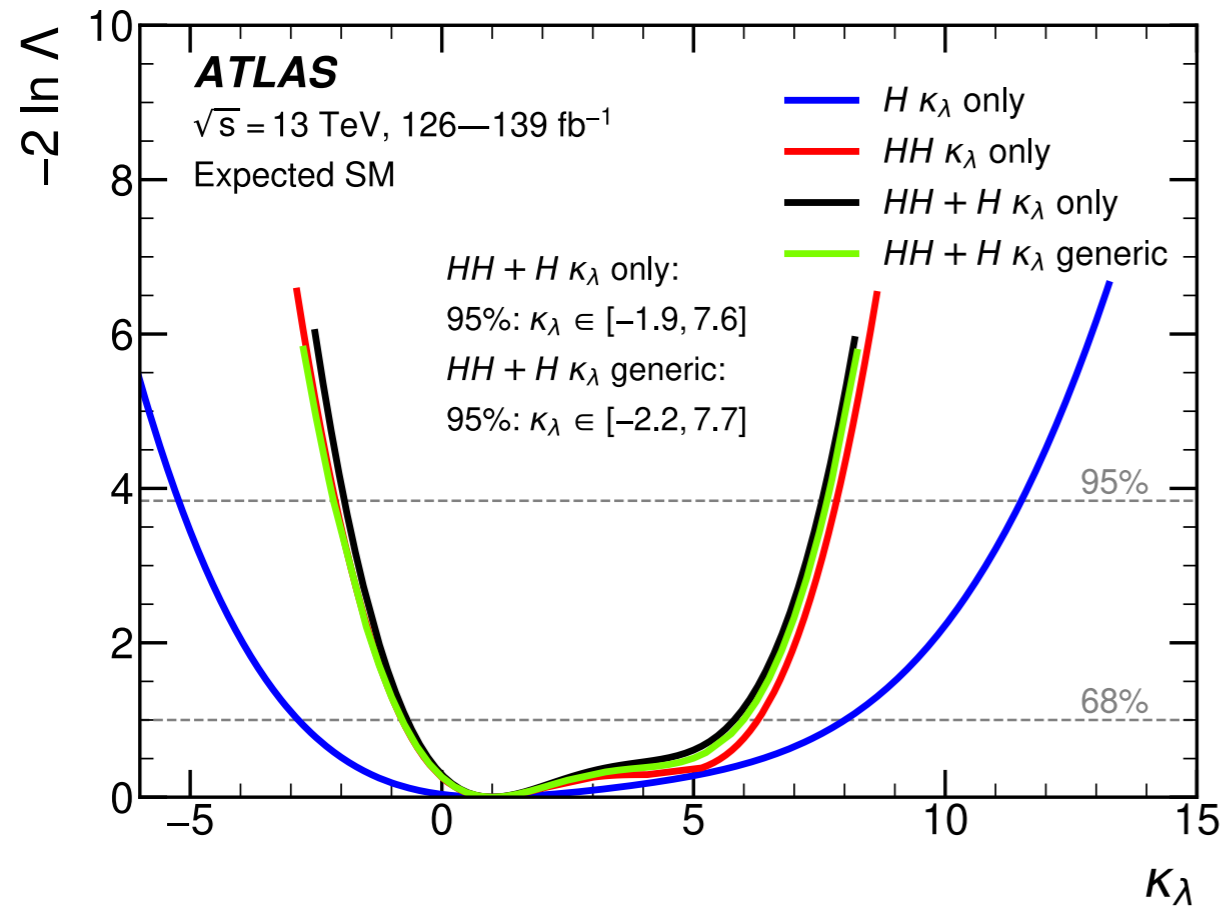
Perform two types of interpretations:

1. New physics only in  $\kappa_\lambda$
2. New physics in any  $\kappa$  coupling

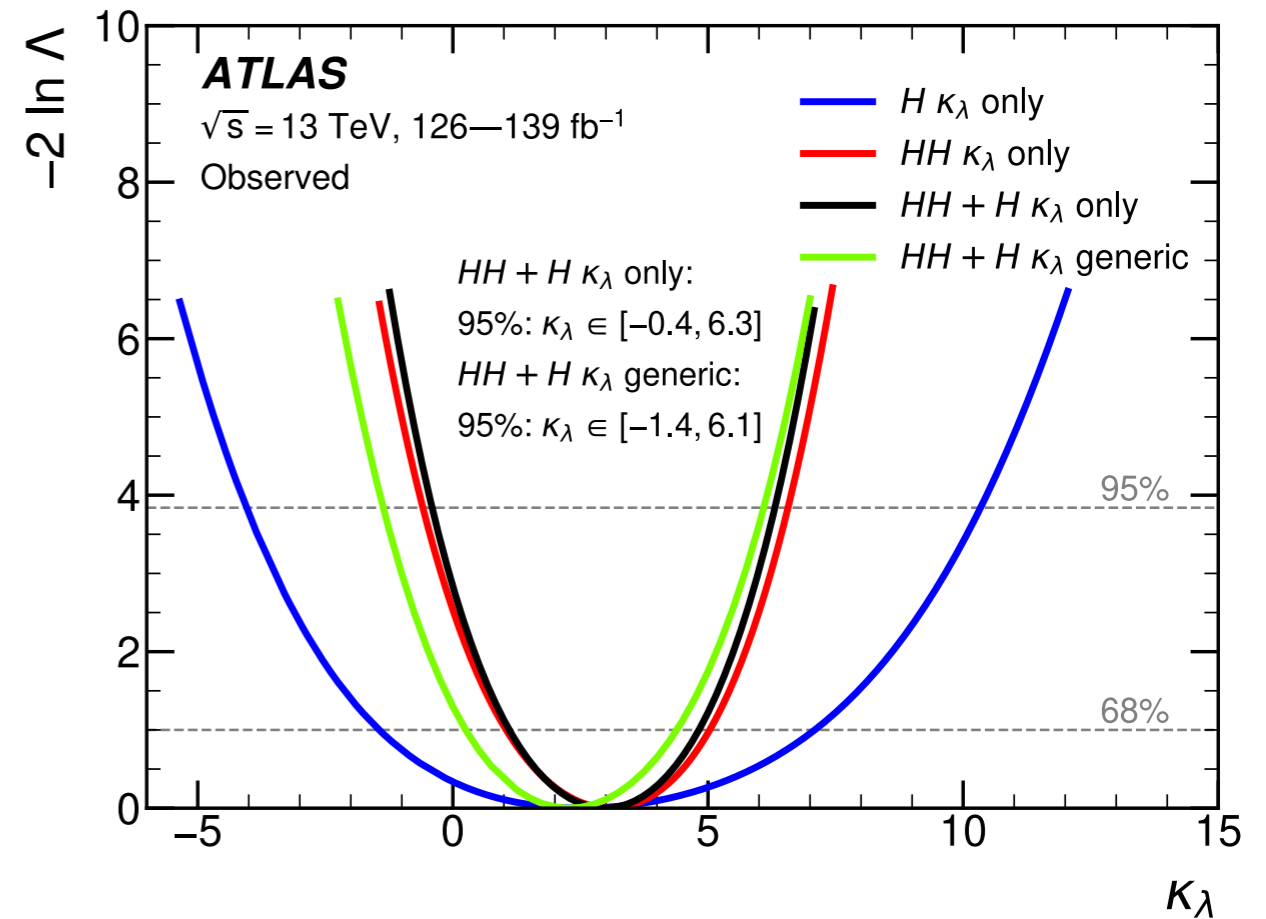
# Results: $\kappa_\lambda$



Expected



Observed

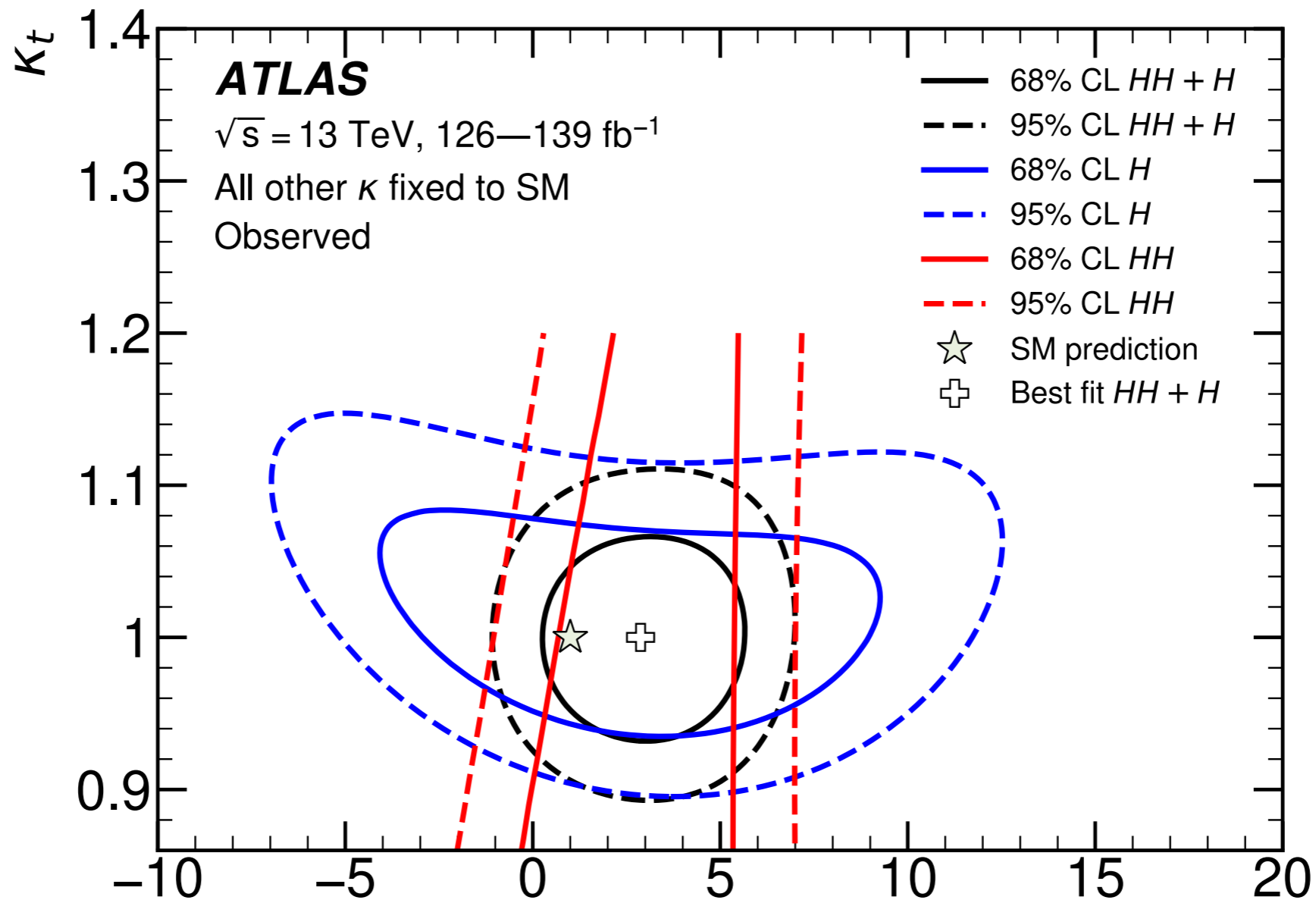


**Di-Higgs** provides stronger limits, but **Single-Higgs** helps!

**Combination** provides strongest limits

**Generic** interpretation allows other  $\kappa$  values to float:  
Would be dramatically worse without Single Higgs!

# Relaxing Constraints



**Di-Higgs** measurements cannot simultaneously constrain  $\kappa_\lambda$  and  $\kappa_t$   
**Single Higgs** allows the **Combinations** to be sensitive to variations in both parameters

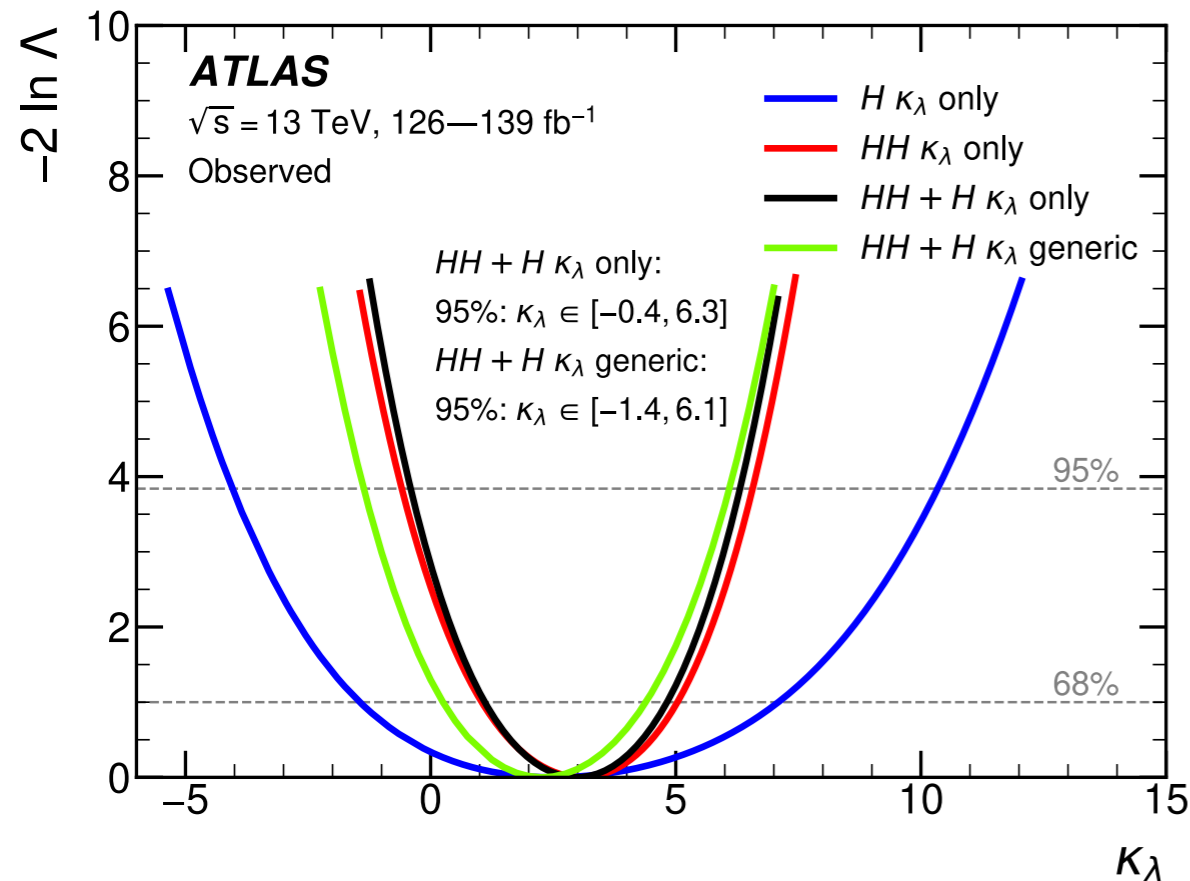
# Conclusions



ATLAS has performed a unique, new measurement combining single and di-Higgs final states to measure the Higgs self-coupling

With more physics constraints, we can relax the model assumptions and test more 'realistic' deviations from the SM

This combination provides the **most precise**, and **most general**, constraints on the Higgs self-coupling

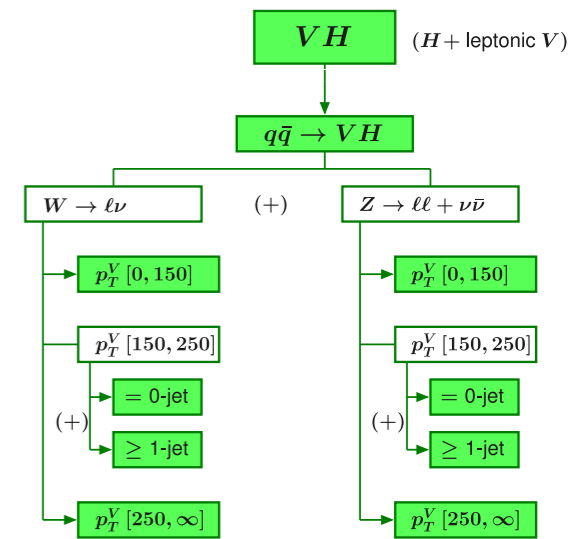
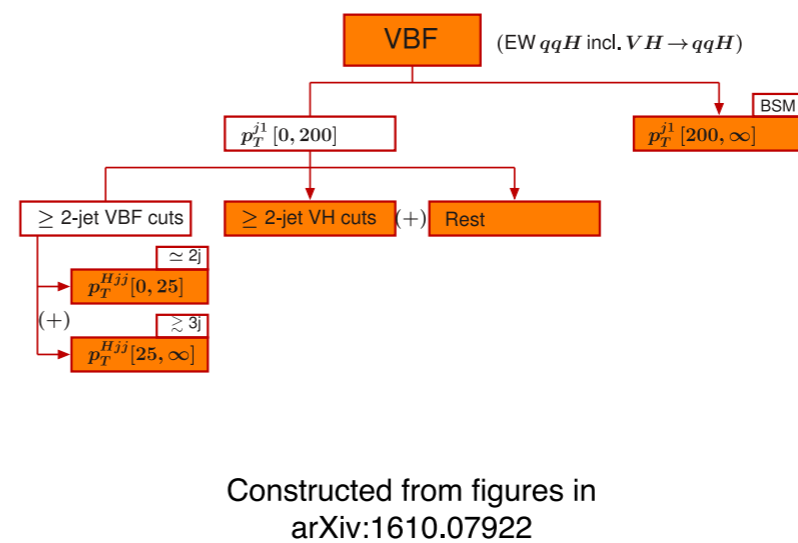
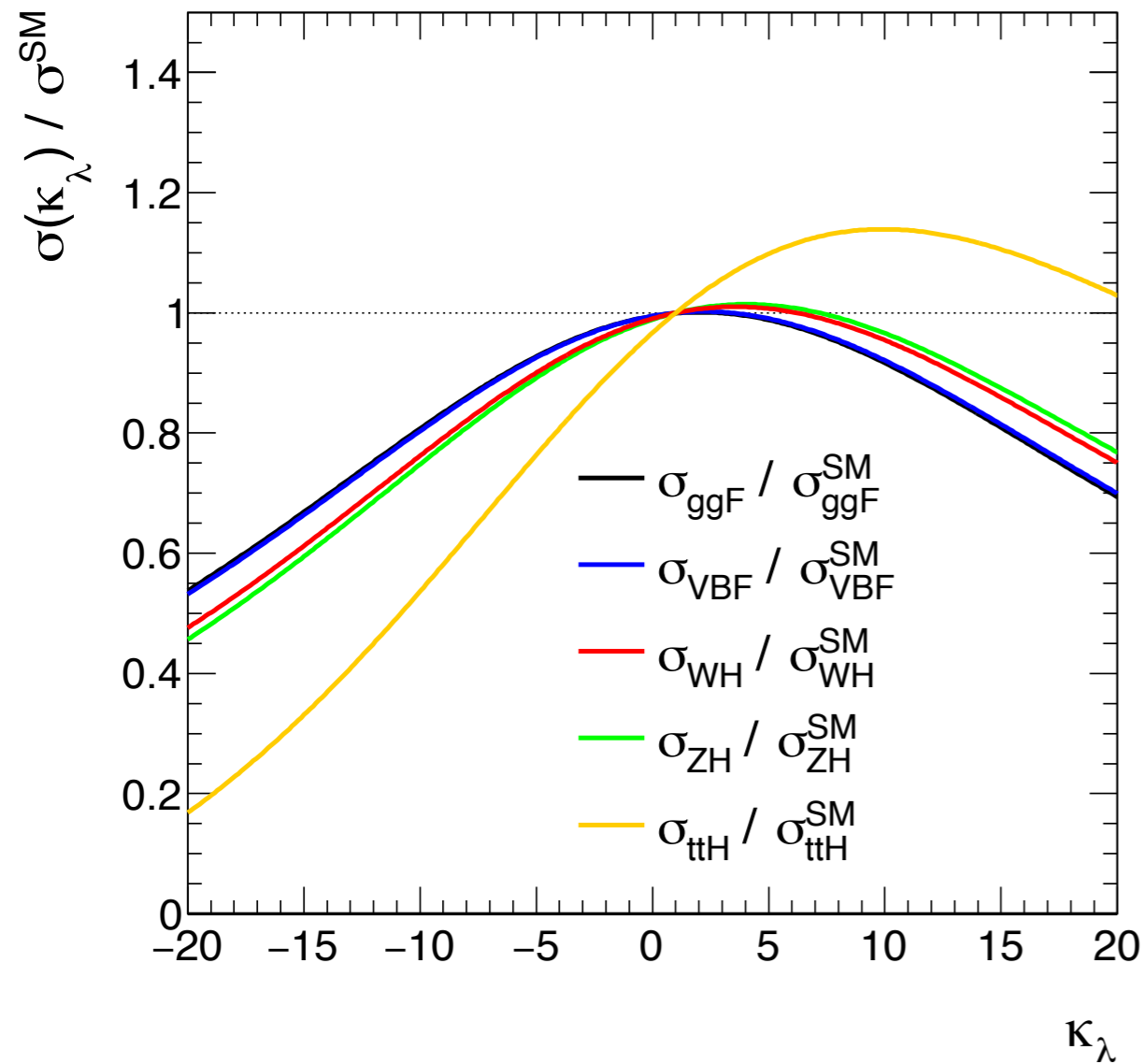


$$-0.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.3$$

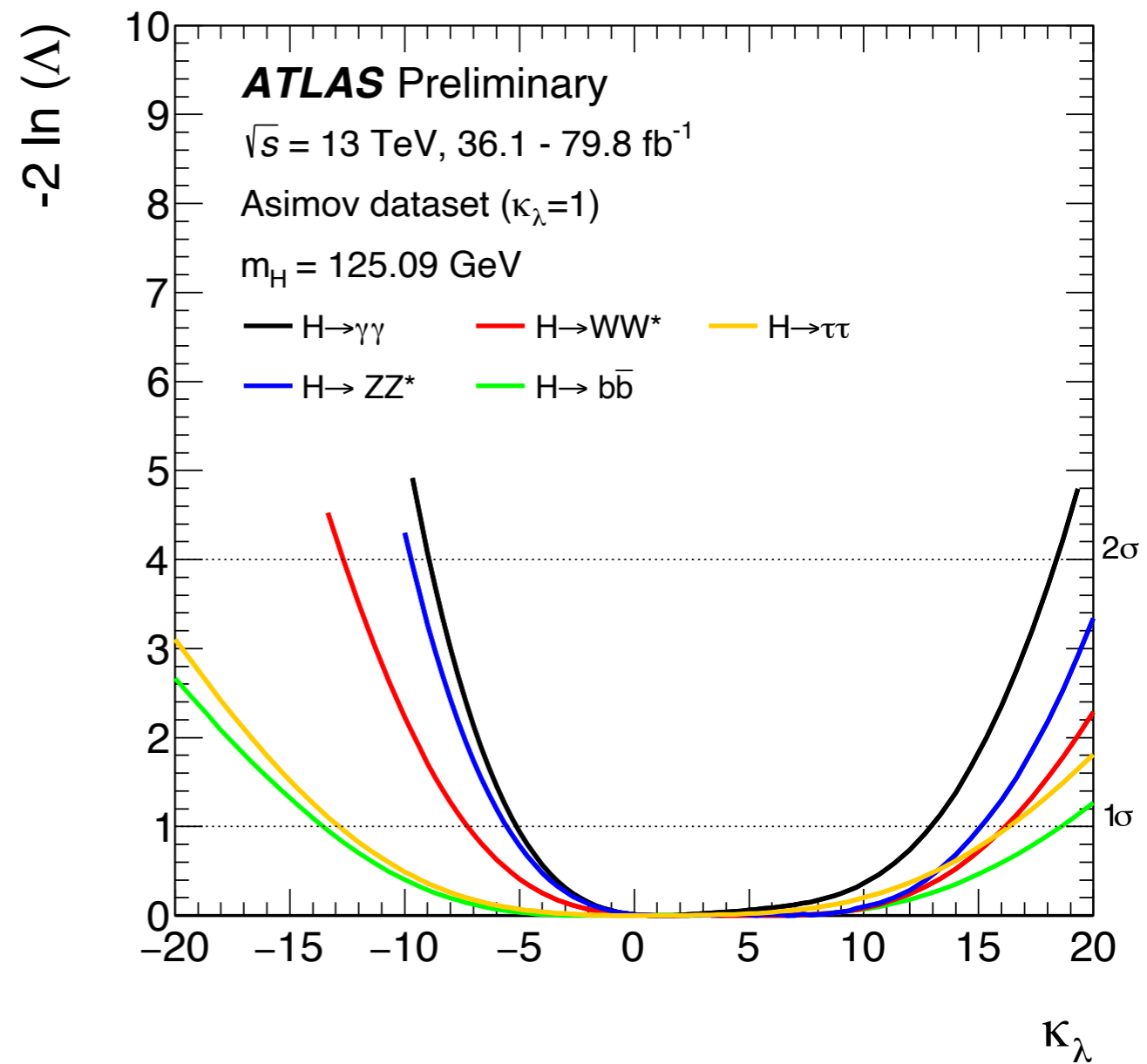
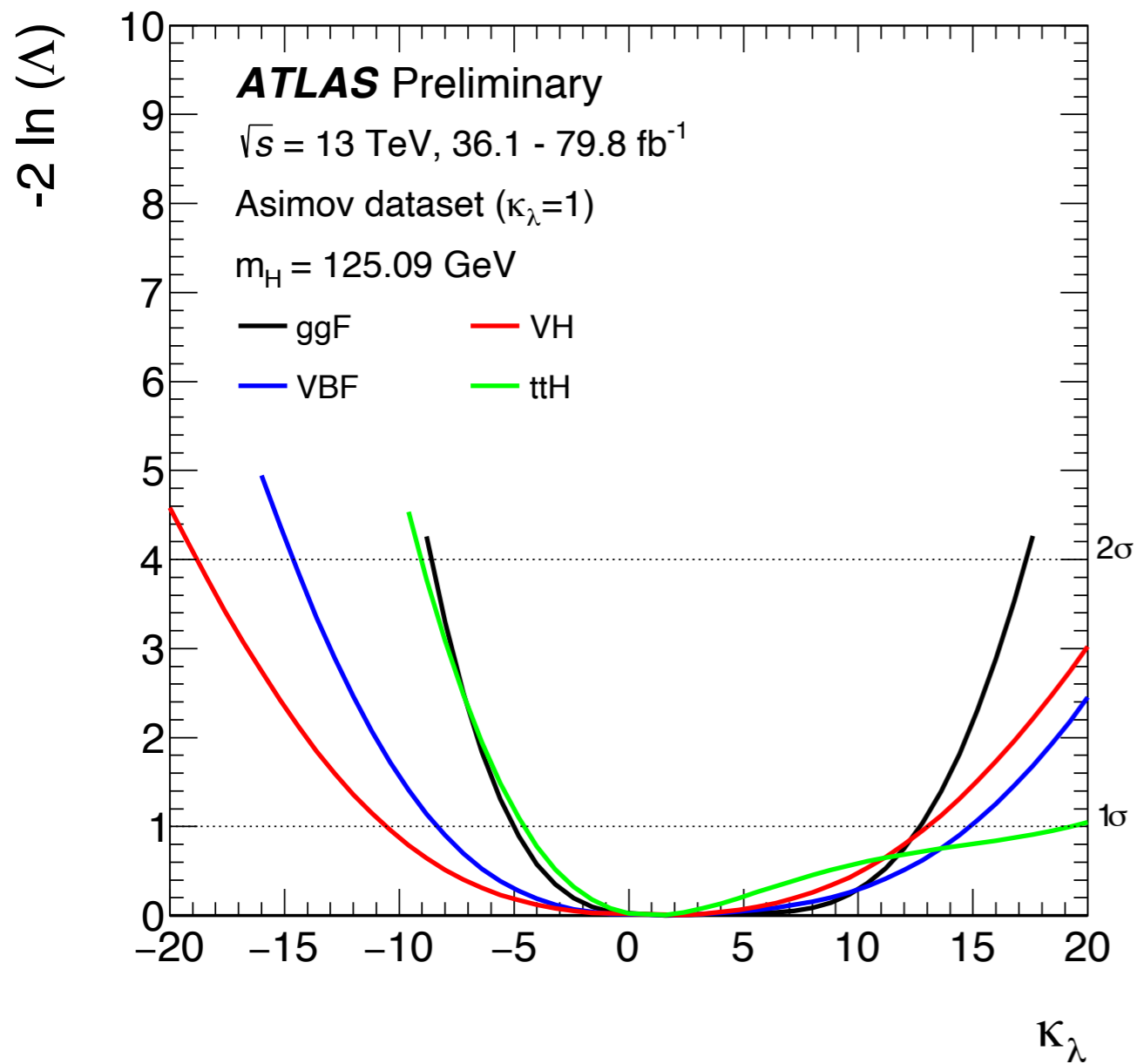
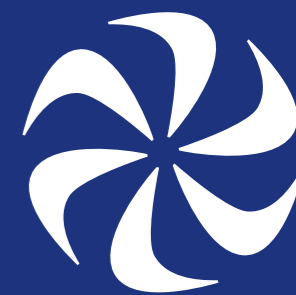
$$-1.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.1$$

**Thank You!**

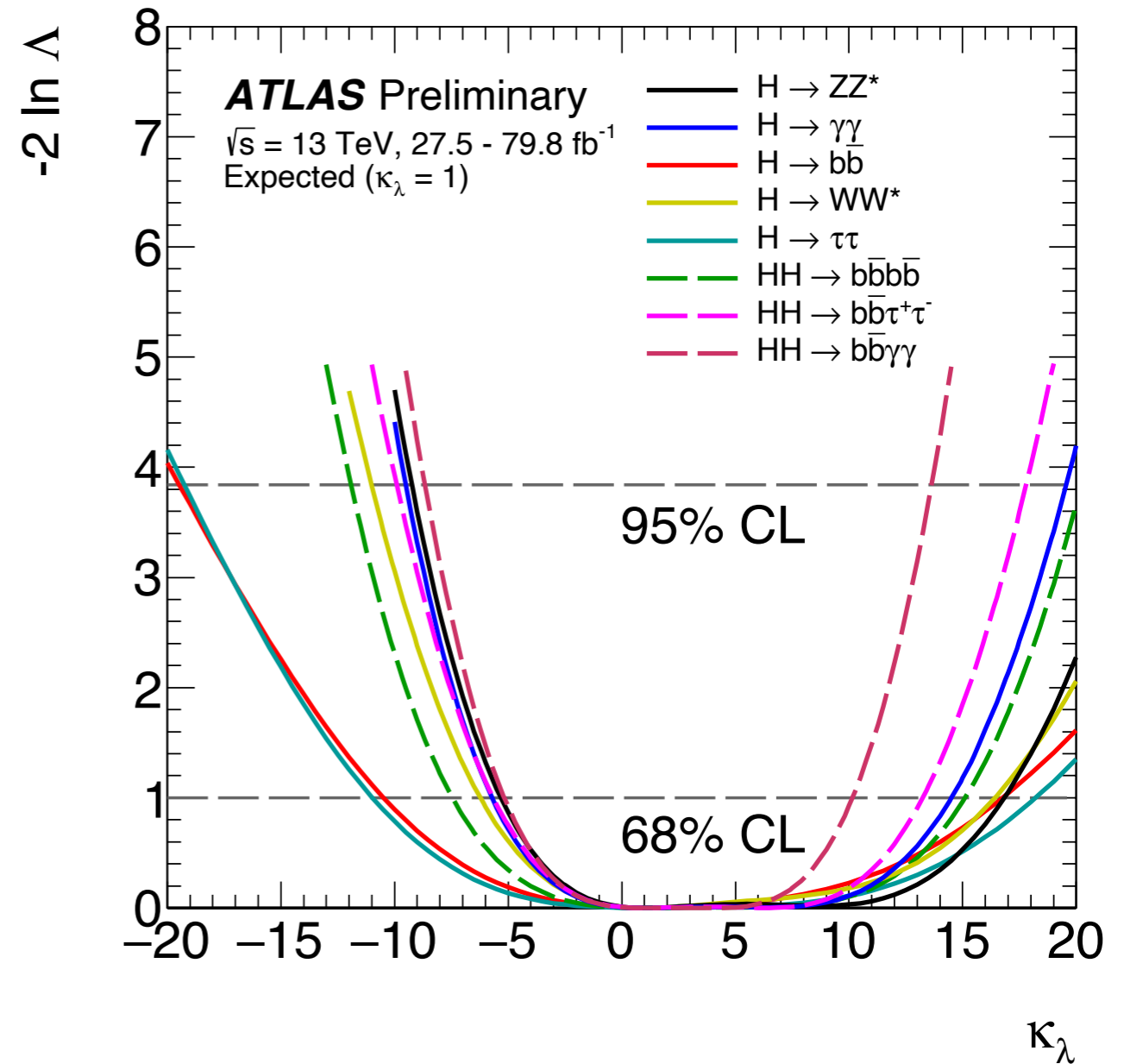
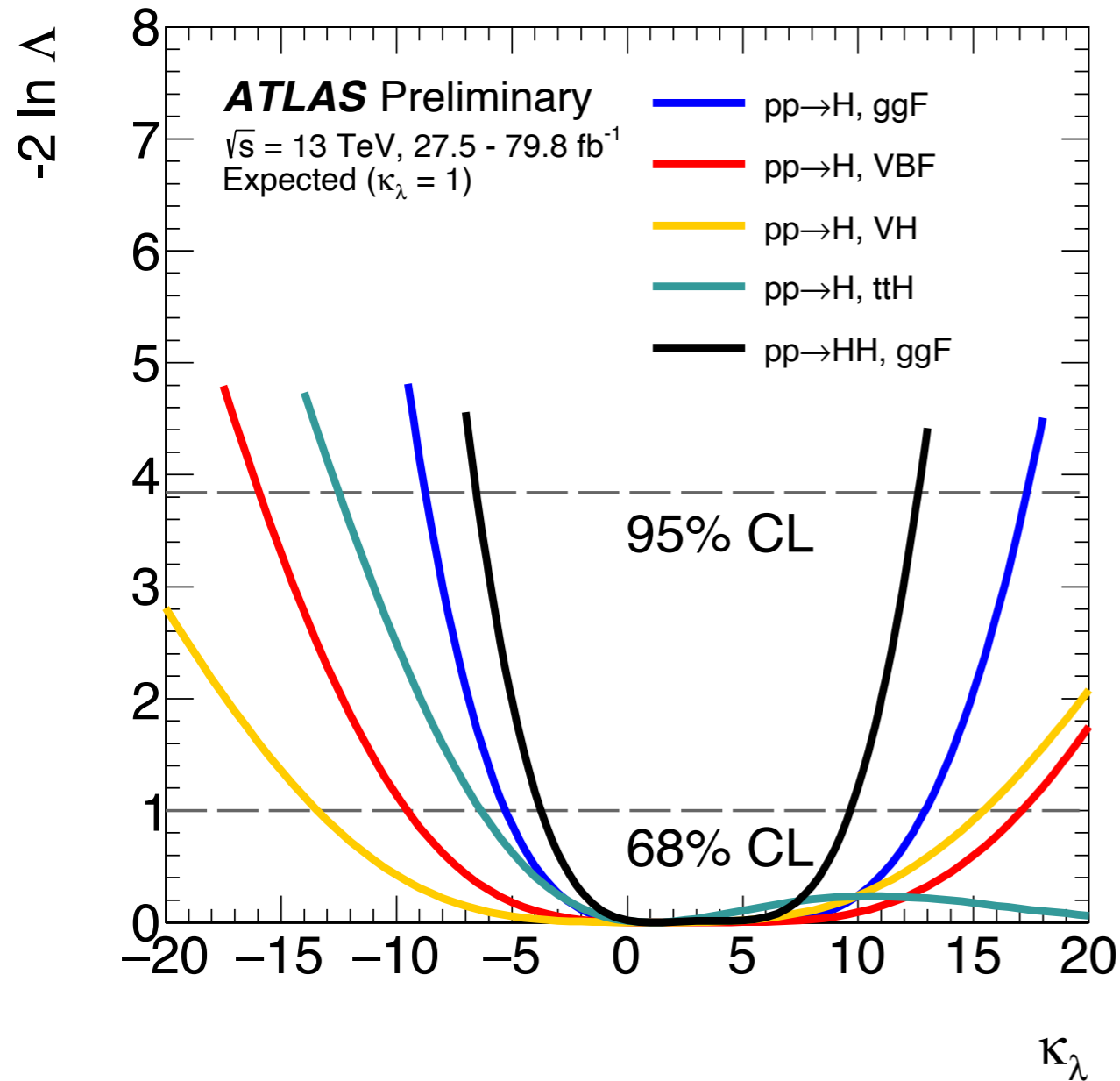
# More on Single Higgs



# More on Single Higgs



# More on Combination





# Generalized Limits on $\kappa_\lambda$



Combination assumption	Obs. 95% CL	Exp. 95% CL	Obs. value $^{+1\sigma}_{-1\sigma}$
<i>HH</i> combination	$-0.6 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.6$	$-2.1 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.8$	$\kappa_\lambda = 3.1^{+1.9}_{-2.0}$
Single- <i>H</i> combination	$-4.0 < \kappa_\lambda < 10.3$	$-5.2 < \kappa_\lambda < 11.5$	$\kappa_\lambda = 2.5^{+4.6}_{-3.9}$
<i>HH+H</i> combination	$-0.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.3$	$-1.9 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.6$	$\kappa_\lambda = 3.0^{+1.8}_{-1.9}$
<i>HH+H</i> combination, $\kappa_t$ floating	$-0.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.3$	$-1.9 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.6$	$\kappa_\lambda = 3.0^{+1.8}_{-1.9}$
<i>HH+H</i> combination, $\kappa_t, \kappa_V, \kappa_b, \kappa_\tau$ floating	$-1.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.1$	$-2.2 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.7$	$\kappa_\lambda = 2.3^{+2.1}_{-2.0}$