

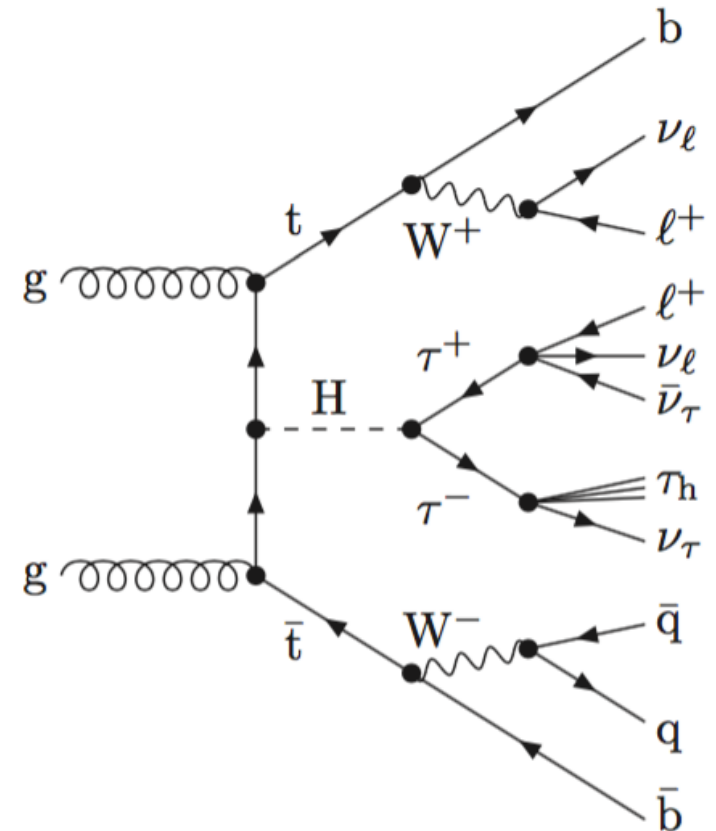
Search for $t\bar{t}H$ in final states with a τ lepton at $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV in CMS



Thomas Strebler

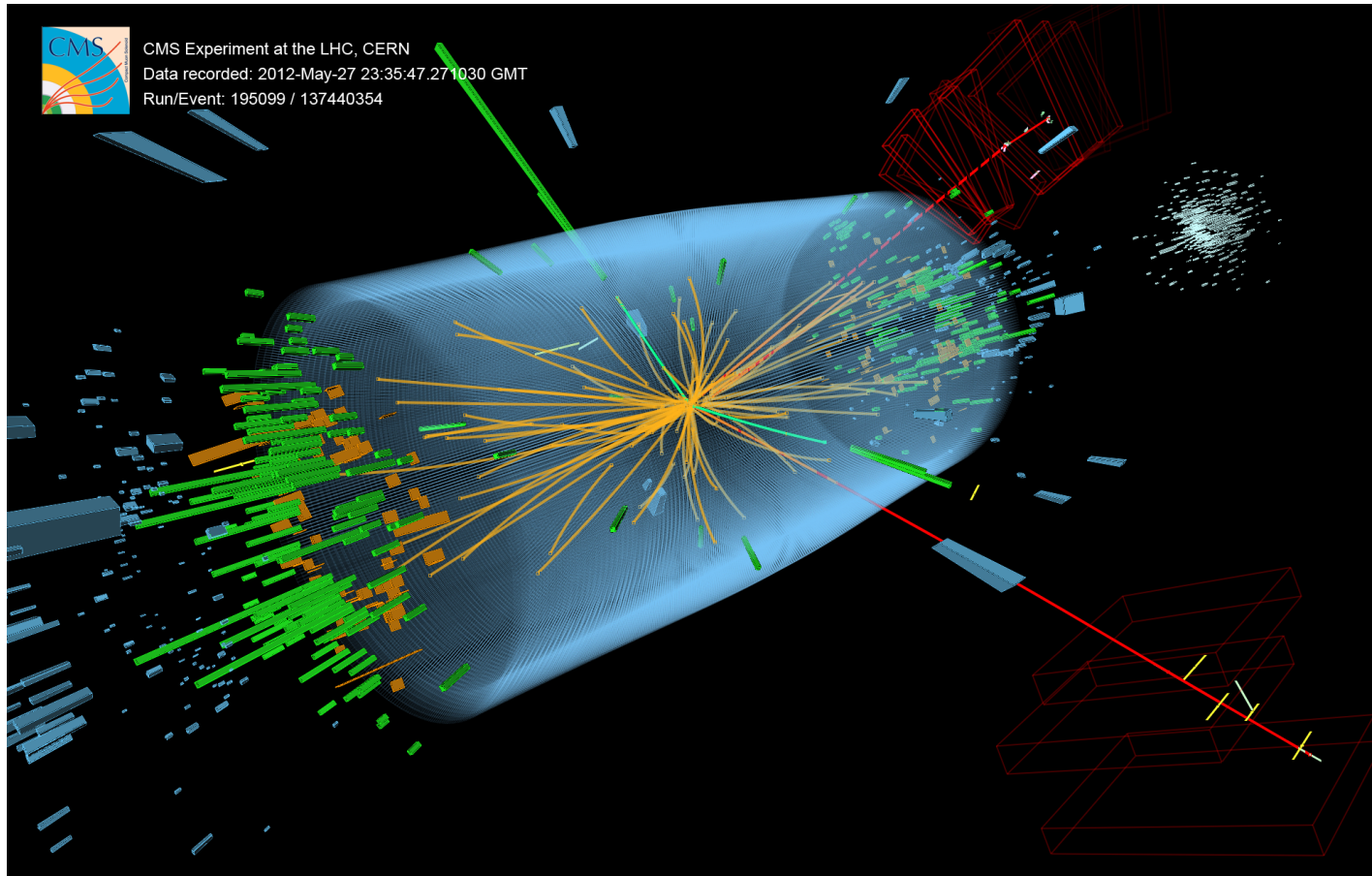
Laboratoire Leprince-Ringuet
Ecole Polytechnique / CNRS-IN2P3

on behalf of the CMS collaboration



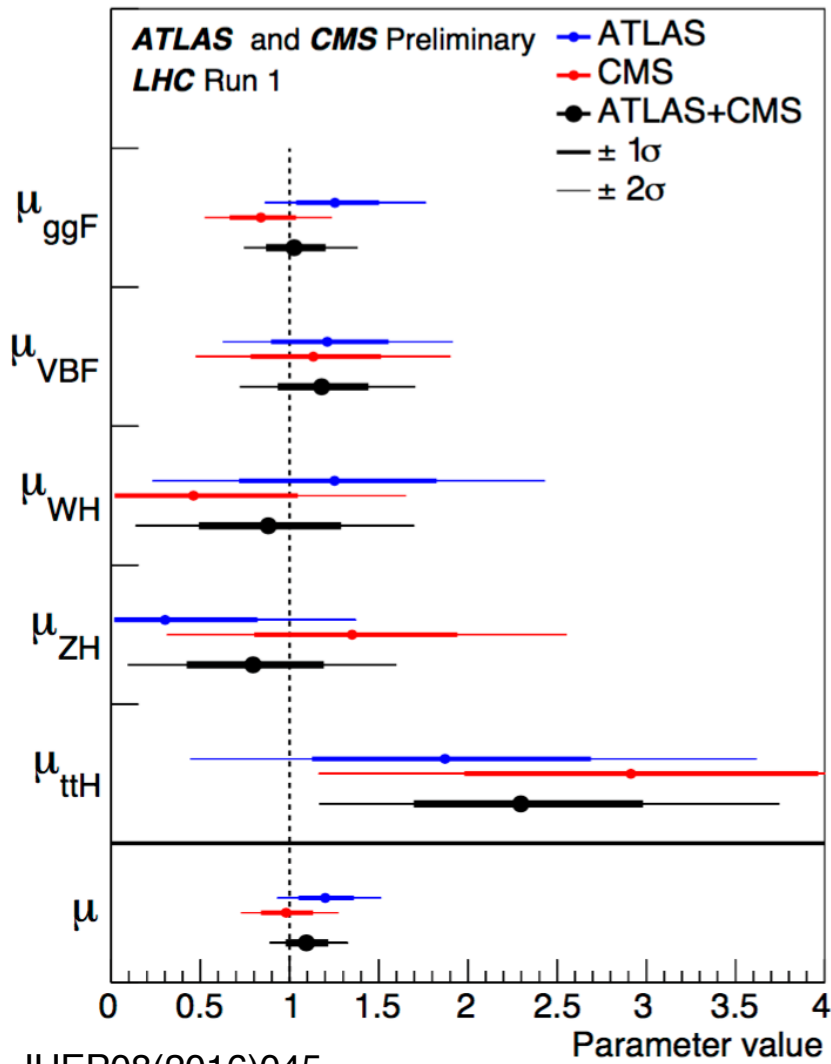
Introduction

- Run I of the LHC brought evidence for the last missing piece of the Standard Model:
the Higgs boson!



- **Almost all accessible decay modes have been observed** by both ATLAS and CMS collaborations during Run 1

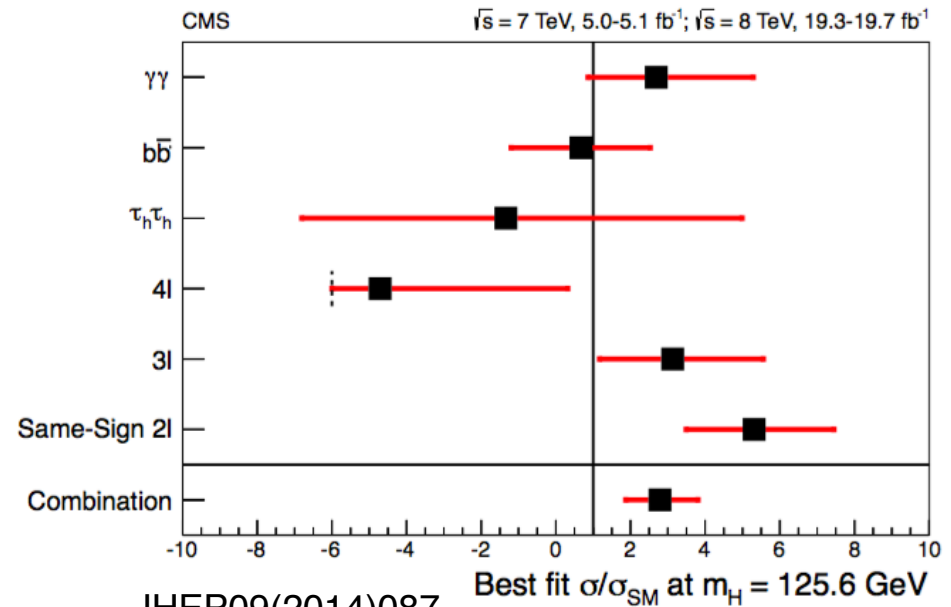
ttH in Run 1



JHEP08(2016)045

[arXiv:1606.02266](https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.02266) [hep-ex]

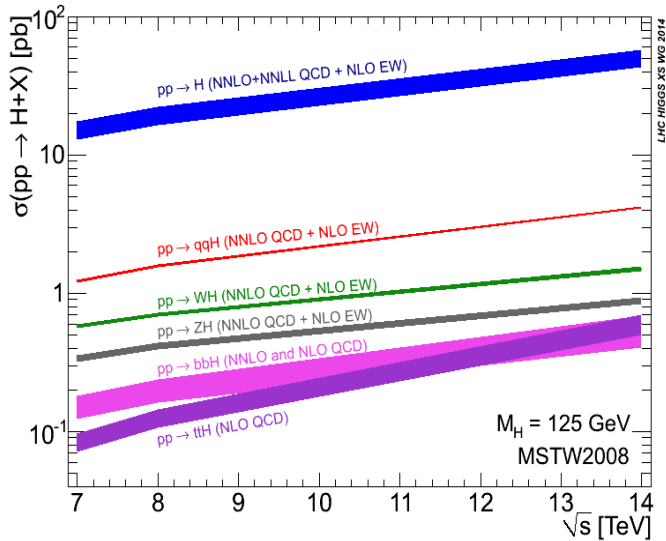
- **Associated production modes** started to be scrutinized in Run 1 already
- ATLAS+CMS combination gave **strong evidence for ttH production**: 4.4σ (2σ) observed (expected) significance
- 2σ excess over the SM prediction



JHEP09(2014)087

[arXiv:1408.1682](https://arxiv.org/abs/1408.1682) [hep-ex]

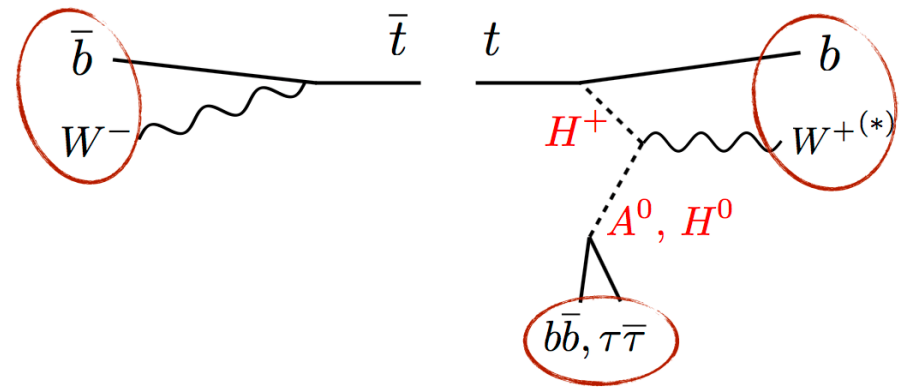
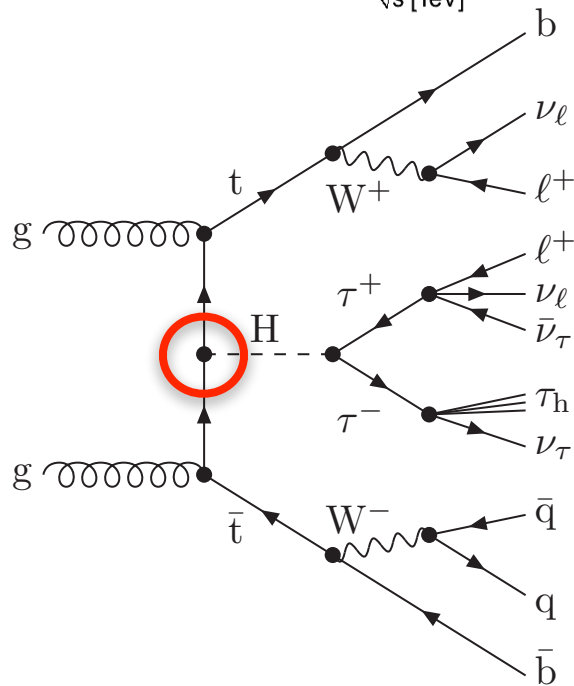
Motivations to study ttH



- **ttH => direct probe to study Y_t**
- Large cross-section boost from 8 to 13 TeV (x4): 0.51pb @ 13 TeV
- **Expected to be observed by the end of LHC Run 2** but important to cover as much decay modes as possible
- Final states also sensitive to BSM physics, in particular 2HDM models

[arXiv: 1602.06198](https://arxiv.org/abs/1602.06198) [hep-ph]

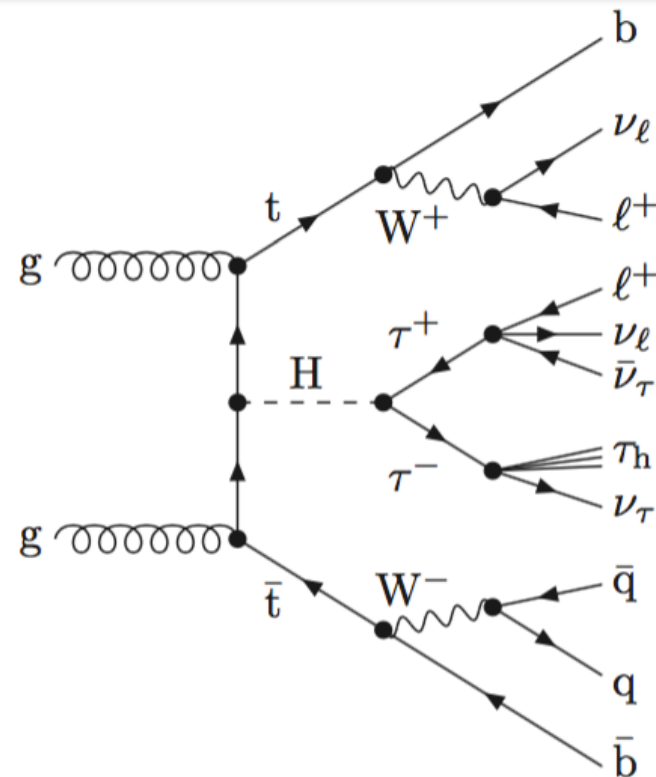
[arXiv: 1703.06834](https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.06834) [hep-ph]



Complex final states

- Look for 2 tops + 1 Higgs
- **Top decays:**
 - $t \rightarrow b \nu$: 1 b-jet + 1 lepton + MET
 - $t \rightarrow b q q$: 1 b-jet + 2 light jets
- **Higgs decay:**
 - $H \rightarrow b b$: 2 b-jets
 - $H \rightarrow \tau \tau$: 1-2 τ_h (+ lepton + MET)
 - $H \rightarrow W W / Z Z$: leptons (+ jets + MET)
 - $H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$: 2 photons
 - $H \rightarrow Z Z \rightarrow 4 l$: 4 leptons

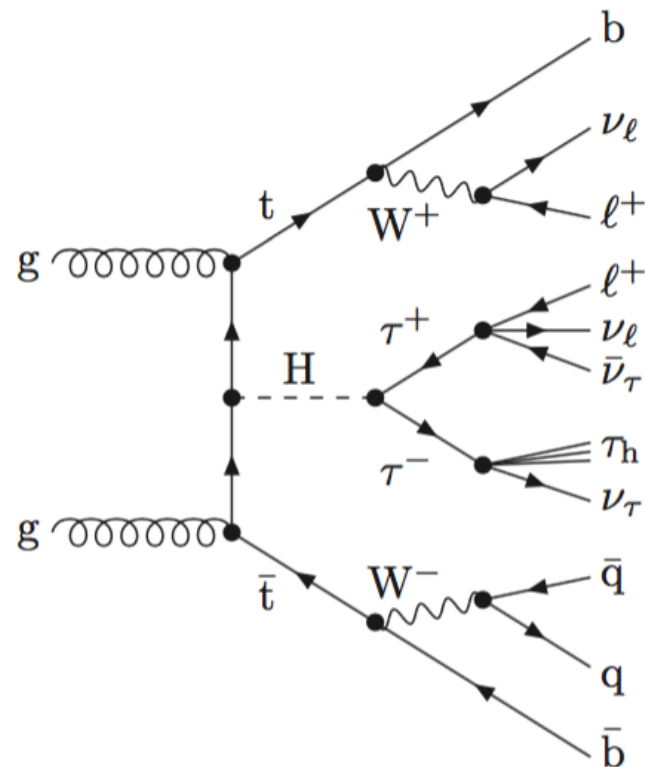
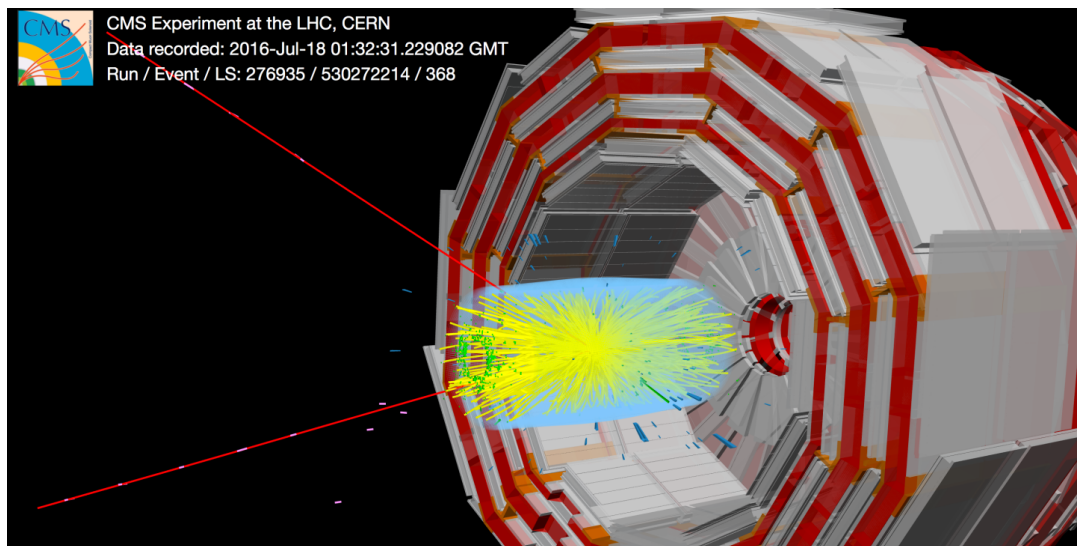
Higher yield
Higher purity



- Example: ttH , $t \rightarrow b \nu$, $t \rightarrow b q q$, $H \rightarrow \tau \tau \rightarrow l \tau_h$
Signature with 2 b-jets + 2 light jets + 2 leptons + 1 $\tau_h \Rightarrow$ almost every SM particle
- Signal extraction can be challenging: **extensive use of MVA discriminants**

Matrix Element Method

- Combines observables from reconstructed objects \mathbf{y} (leptons, τ_h , jets, MET)...



...with theoretical description in terms of particles, described by phase-space point \mathbf{x} (τ before decay, quarks, neutrinos)

- Used to define event weights

$$w_\Omega(\mathbf{y}) \propto \sum_p \int d\mathbf{x} dx_a dx_b \frac{f(x_a, Q) f(x_b, Q)}{x_a x_b S} \delta^2(x_a P_a + x_b P_b - \sum p_k) |\mathcal{M}_\Omega(\mathbf{x})|^2 W(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})$$

Matrix Element Method

- **Event weight computed for hypothesis Ω** ($\Omega=ttH, ttV\dots$), using observables \mathbf{y} as inputs and **integrating** over unmeasured or poorly measured quantities \mathbf{x}

Parton density functions

Hard-scattering matrix element:
computed at LO with MadGraph,
OpenLoops...

$$w_{\Omega}(\mathbf{y}) \propto \sum_p \int d\mathbf{x} dx_a dx_b \frac{f(x_a, Q) f(x_b, Q)}{x_a x_b S} \delta^2(x_a P_a + x_b P_b - \sum p_k) |\mathcal{M}_{\Omega}(\mathbf{x})|^2 W(\mathbf{y}||\mathbf{x})$$

Numerical integration:
performed with VEGAS,
Markov chain integrator...

Momentum conservation
(+ on-shell conditions): used
to reduce dimensionality

Transfer functions:
probability to measure \mathbf{y} given
a parton configuration \mathbf{x}

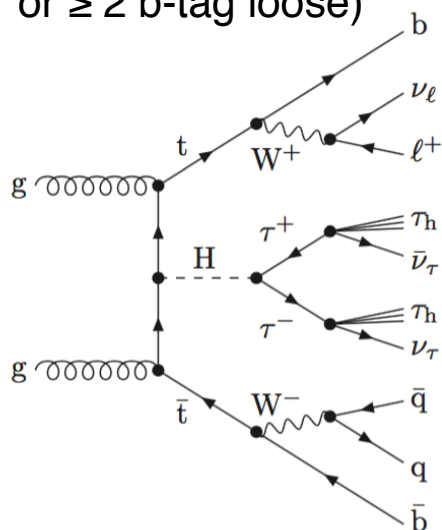
- The **final discriminant** used is in principle $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}) = \frac{w_S(\mathbf{y})}{w_S(\mathbf{y}) + w_B(\mathbf{y})}$

- Complements ttH multilepton analysis ([CMS PAS HIG-17-004](#)) with **final states with $\geq 1 \tau_h$**
- Benefits from **dedicated TauID with smaller isolation cone size ($\Delta R=0.3$)** wrt default TauID ($\Delta R=0.5$)

Three main channels:

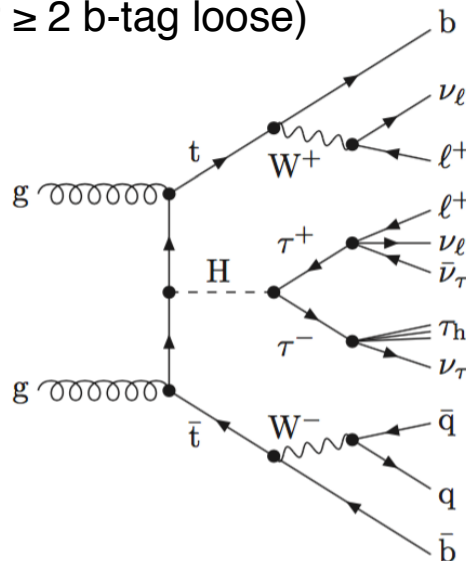
- 1l+2 τ_h

+ ≥ 3 jets (≥ 1 b-tag medium or ≥ 2 b-tag loose)



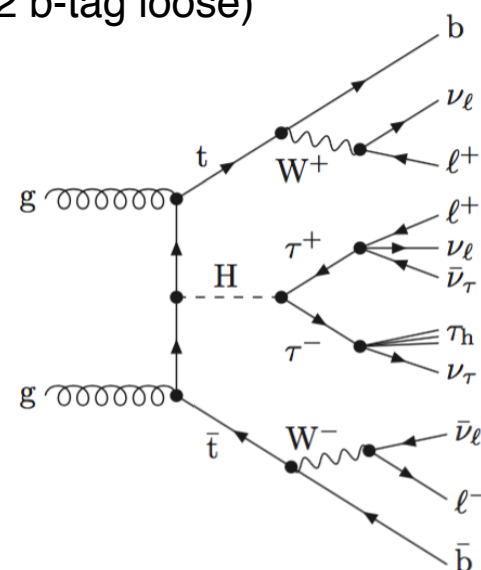
- 2ISS+1 τ_h

+ ≥ 3 jets (≥ 1 b-tag medium or ≥ 2 b-tag loose)



- 3l+1 τ_h (with Z-veto)

+ ≥ 2 jets (≥ 1 b-tag medium or ≥ 2 b-tag loose)

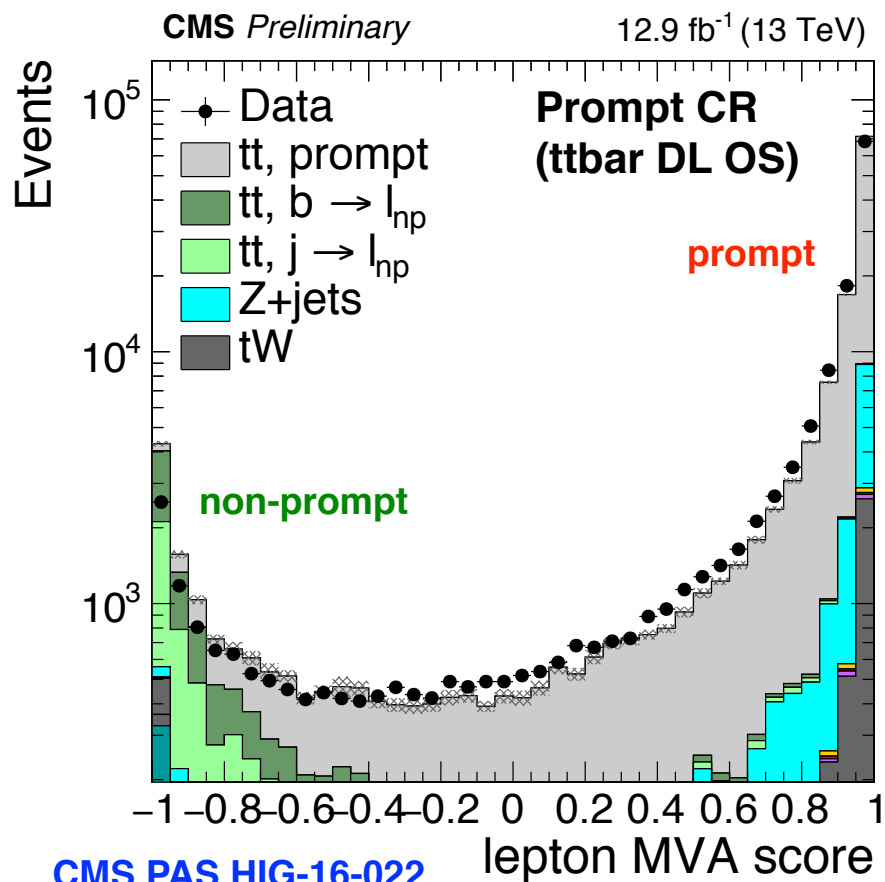


- Large tt + fake τ_h background** (data-driven)

Main sources of background:

- irreducible:** ttV, di-boson (from MC)
- reducible:** non-prompt leptons and charge mis-ID (data-driven)

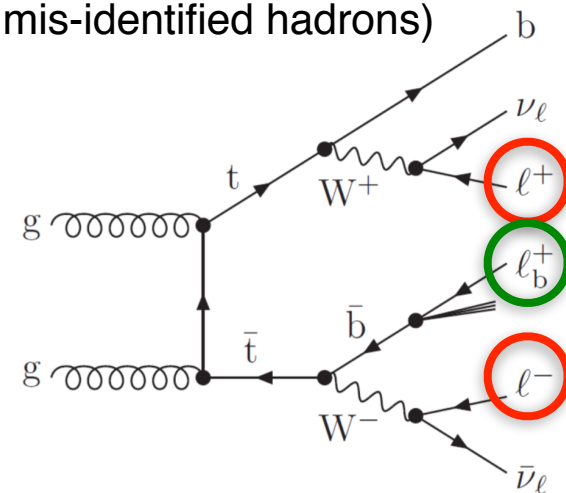
Non-prompt leptons background



- Leptons selected with **MVA** trained to discriminate **prompt leptons** (from W, Z or τ decays) from **non-prompt leptons** (from b-jets and mis-identified hadrons)

- Inputs:**

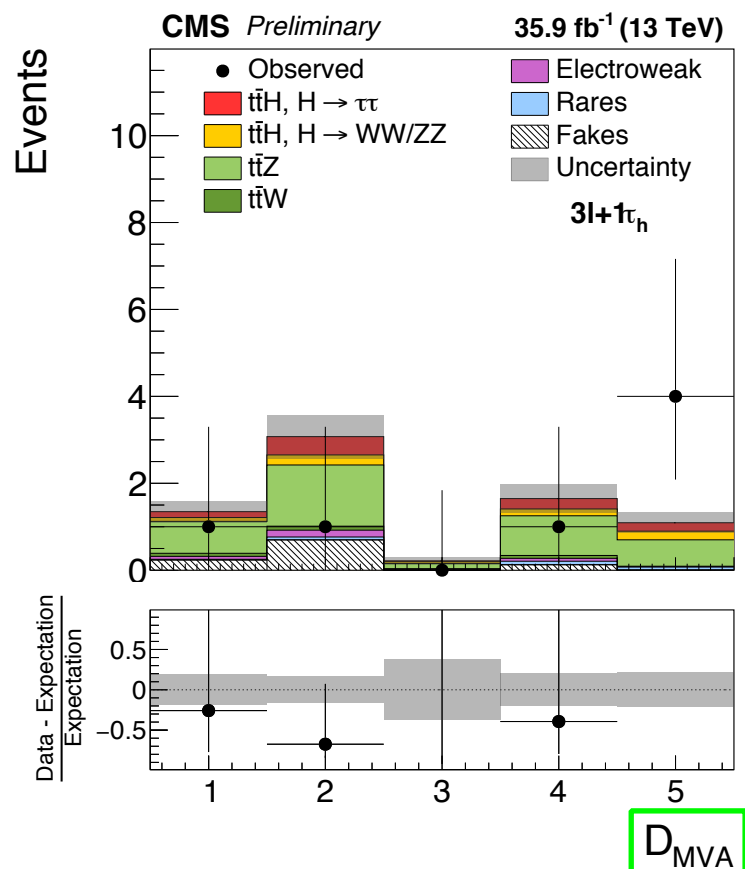
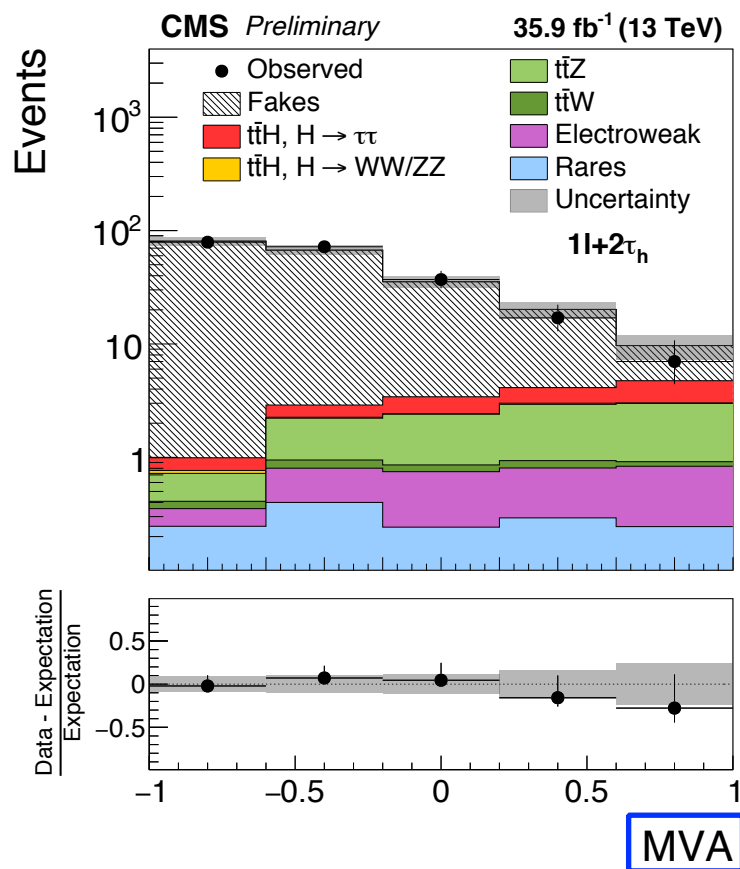
- isolation
- vertex
- lepton ID
- jet variables



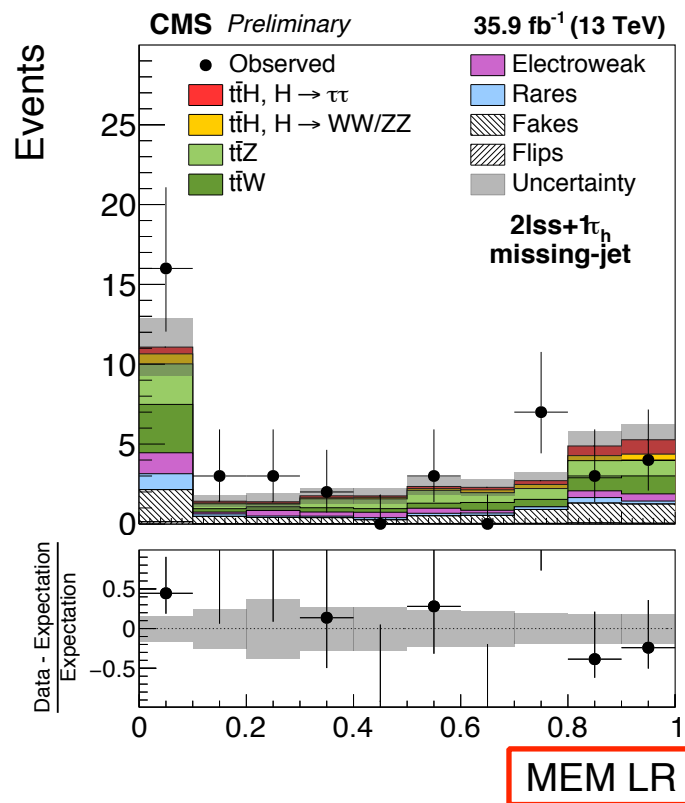
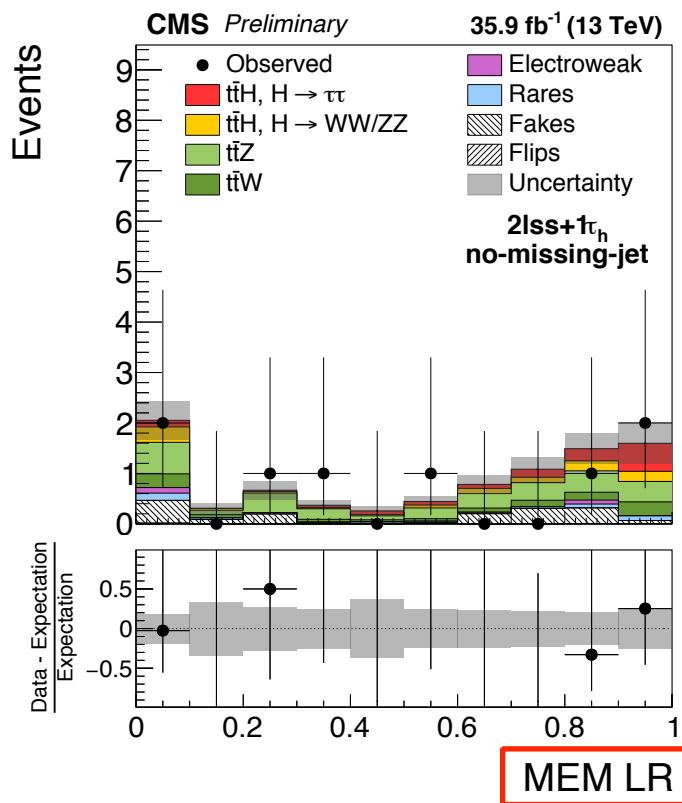
- Performance validated in data control regions (CR)

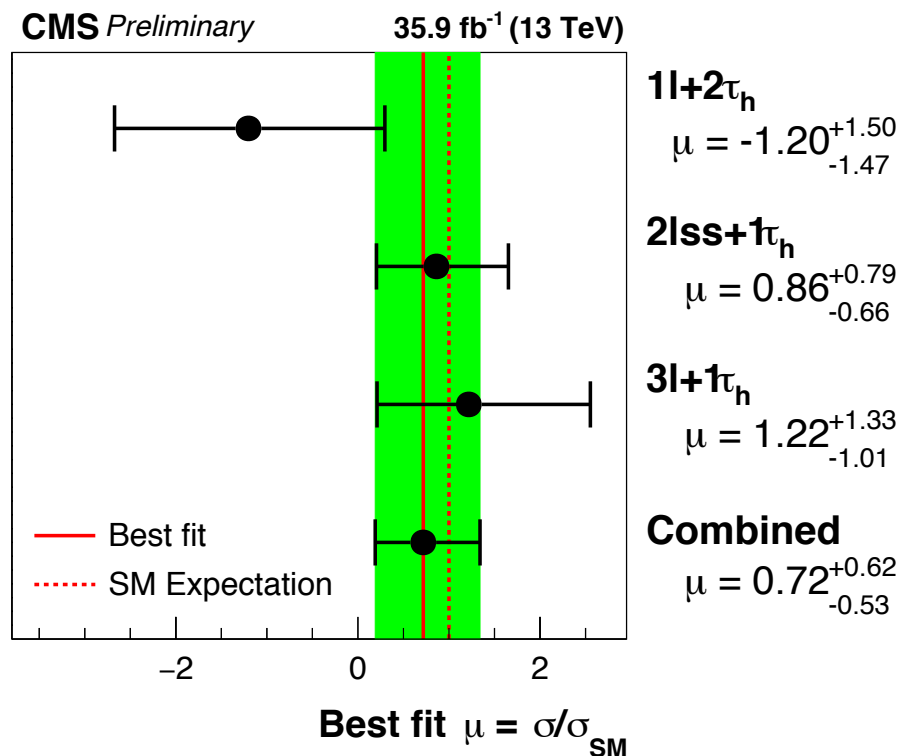
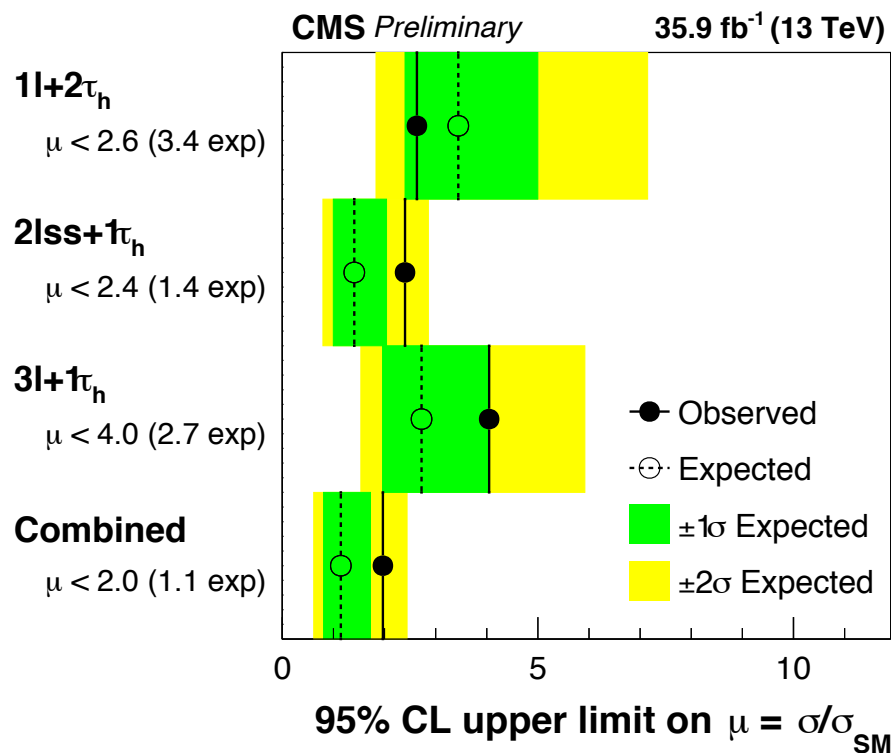
- Residual background with non-prompt leptons evaluated using **tight-to-loose fake rate method**
- In **1l+2 τ_h** channel, extended to cover also **jets faking τ_h**

- **1l+2 τ_h channel:** BDT trained to discriminate ttH signal from tt background
- **3l+1 τ_h channel:** 2 BDTs trained separately to discriminate ttH / ttV and ttH / tt
2D distribution remapped into a **1D discriminant** according to S/B



- **2ISS+1 τ_h channel: MEM discriminant** optimized to discriminate $ttH\ H\rightarrow\tau\tau$ signal from $ttZ\ Z\rightarrow\tau\tau + ttZ\ Z\rightarrow ll + tt$ w/ non-prompt lepton
- Events split between two subcategories based on presence of **jets compatible with $W\rightarrow qq$ decay**: MEM integration performed on direction of missing jet if needed

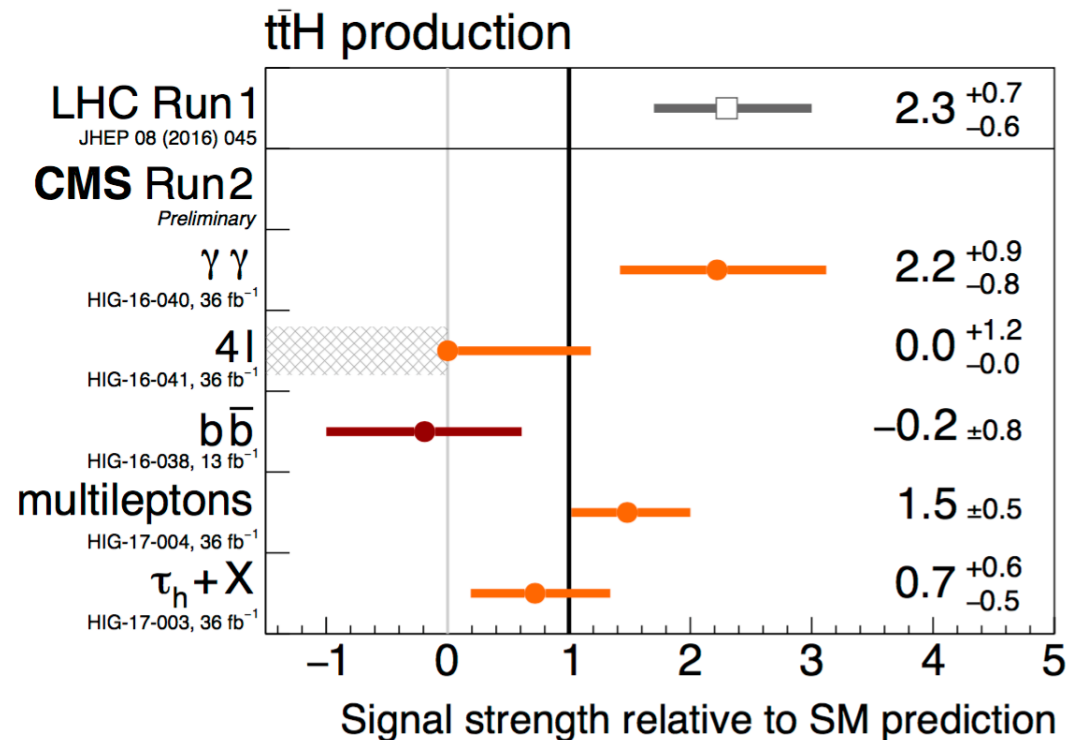




- Slight excess observed over the background-only hypothesis:
1.4 σ observed significance (1.8 σ expected)
- Combined results compatible with the Standard Model expectation

Conclusion

- **ttH search in final states with τ** complements coverage of ttH phase space in CMS
- Benefits from **dedicated signal extraction methods** optimized for final states with τ
- Not unambiguous evidence by itself but **consistent with other ttH searches**
- **Combination with other ttH searches** will help to get closer to 5σ discovery
- **With 2017 dataset, statistics expected to increase by a factor 2:** improvement in signal extraction + systematics evaluation under study to get optimal result



Back-up

Matrix Element Method

- **Advantages**

- In principle, optimal combination of **theoretical information** (matrix element) with **detector resolution** (transfer function)
- **Can treat complex final states** with several relevant observables (jets, τ , top quarks...), including polarization + non-reconstructed objects
- **No training required**

- **Drawback**

- Demanding in terms of computing resources for MC integration
=> **implementations on GPU's** currently under development: **~30 times faster** from preliminary results
see <http://www.roma1.infn.it/conference/GPU2016/pdf/talks/Grasseau.pdf>

- **Complex ttH final states ideal playground for MEM:** already used in several ttH analyses ($H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$, multilepton, $\tau+X$)

• **BDT inputs 1l+2 τ**

- The invariant mass and ΔR separation of the two reconstructed τ_h .
- The transverse momenta of the two reconstructed τ_h .
- The observable H_T^{miss} , computed according to Eq. (1).
- The average ΔR separation between any pair of jets.
- The multiplicity of jets, with and without b-tagging criteria applied.

• **BDT inputs 3l+1 τ**

- The transverse momenta of the leading lepton and of the trailing lepton.
- The maximum $|\eta|$ of the two leading leptons.
- The multiplicity of jets.
- The ΔR separation of the leading and of the subleading lepton with respect to the nearest jet.
- The transverse mass of the leading lepton and the missing transverse energy vector.
- The observable H_T^{miss} .
- The average ΔR separation between any pair of jets.

- Multilepton final states from $H \rightarrow WW/ZZ + \tau_h$ -veto

- Three main channels:

- 2 same-sign leptons

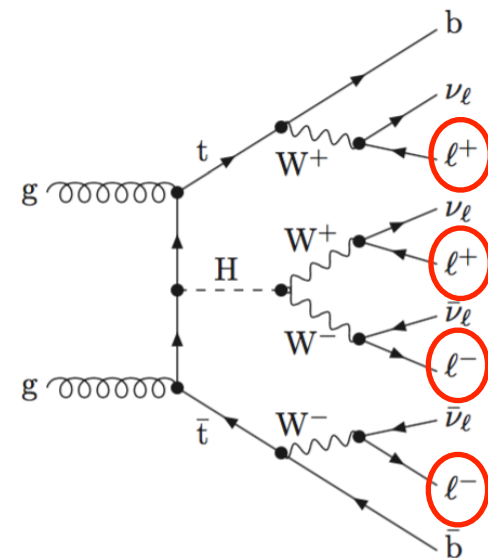
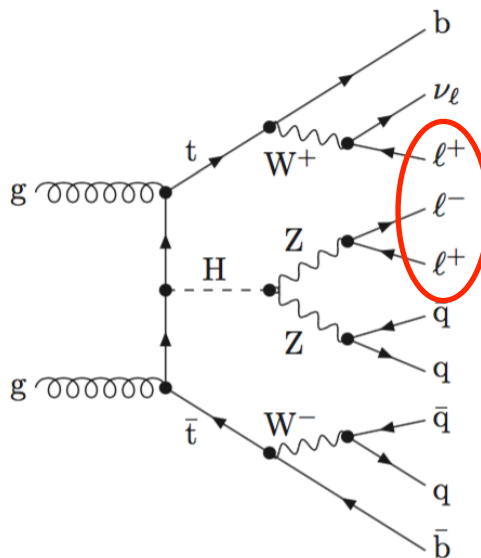
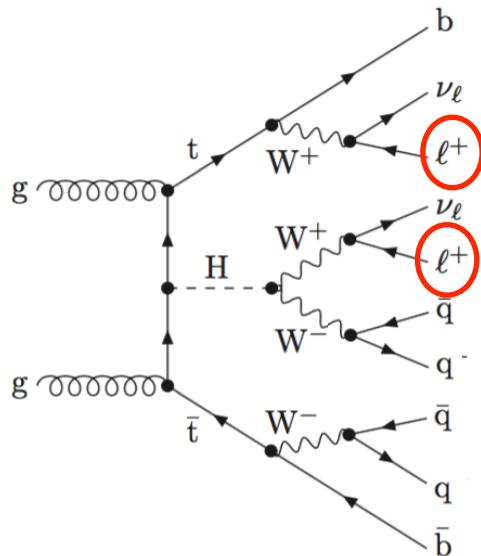
+ ≥ 4 jets (≥ 1 b-tag medium or ≥ 2 b-tag loose)

- 3 leptons (with Z-veto)

+ ≥ 2 jets (≥ 1 b-tag medium or ≥ 2 b-tag loose)

- 4 leptons (with Z-+ $H \rightarrow 4l$ -veto)

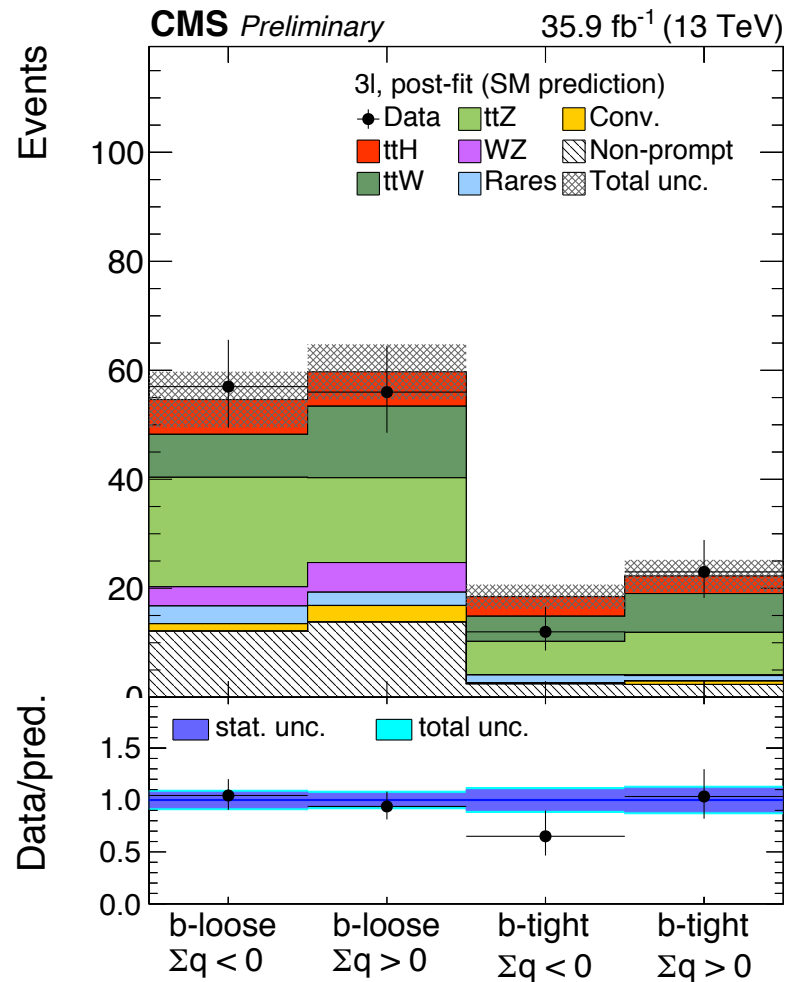
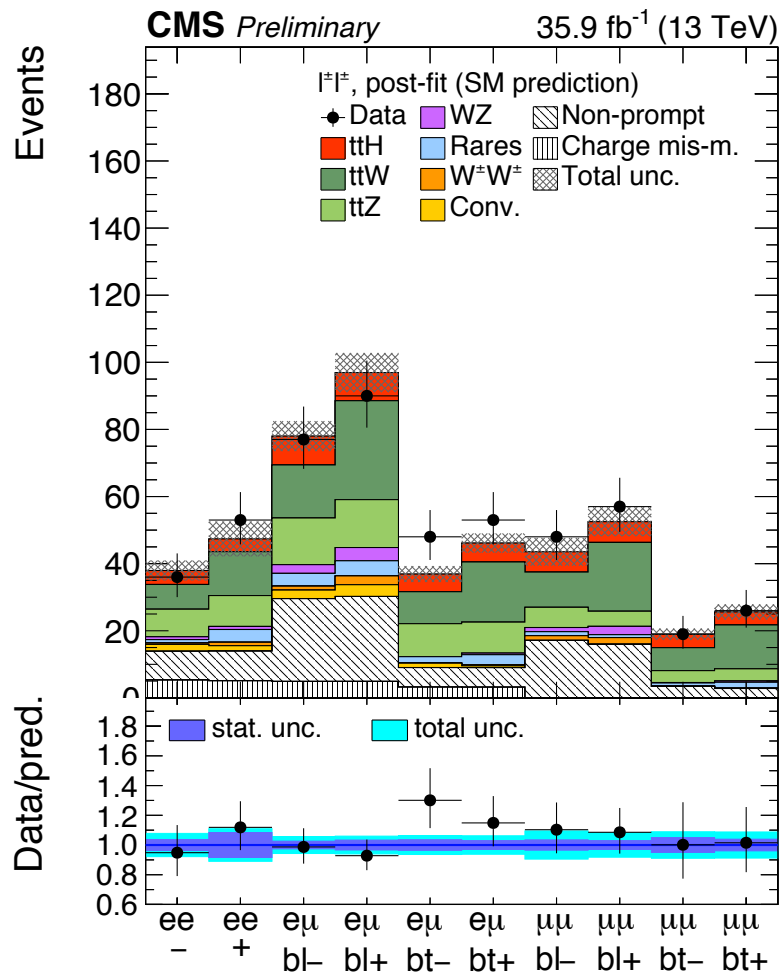
+ ≥ 2 jets (≥ 1 b-tag medium or ≥ 2 b-tag loose)

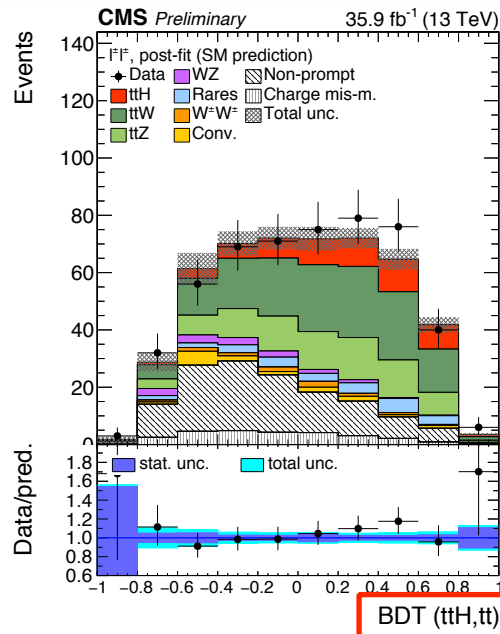
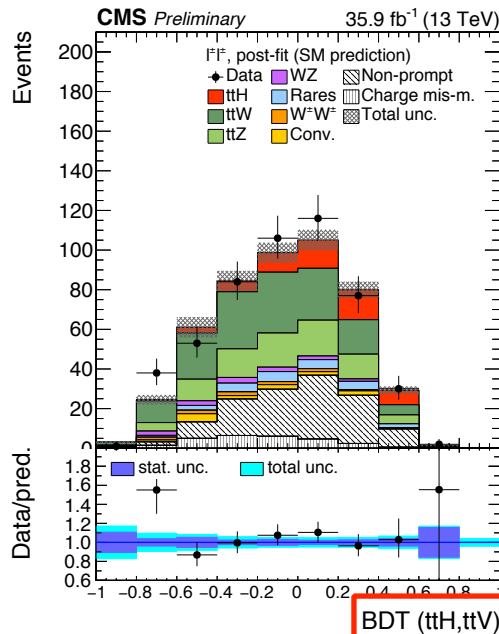


- Main sources of background:

- irreducible: ttV (from MC), di-boson (normalization from data)
- reducible: non-prompt leptons and charge mis-ID (data-driven)

- Subcategorization based on **lepton flavor, lepton charge, b-tagging**





- **Signal extraction in 2ISS + 3I categories based on 2 BDTs** trained to discriminate ttH / ttV and ttH / tt

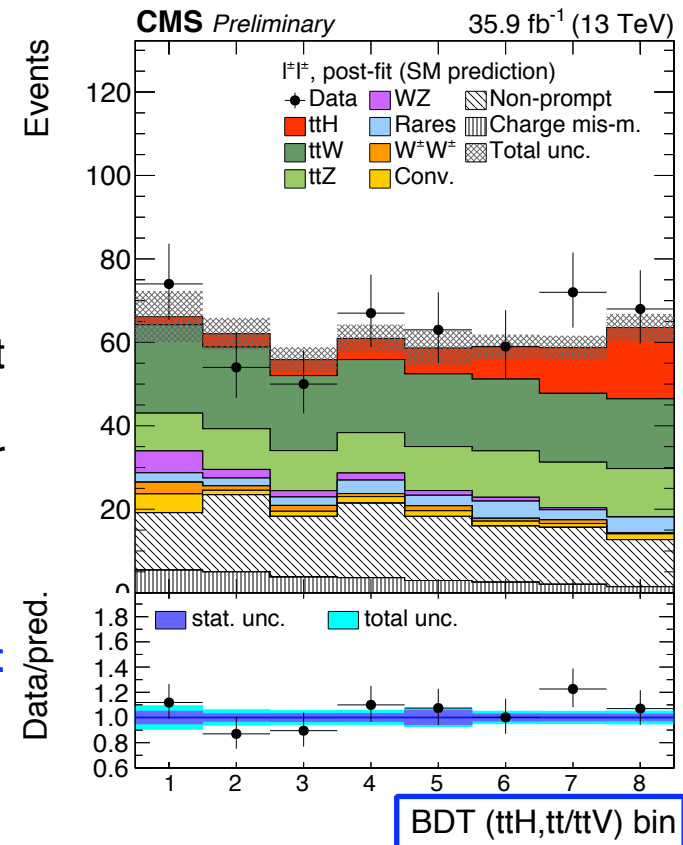
Inputs: jet multiplicity, lepton/jet angular separation, MET, lepton p_T

- **New for analysis on full 2016 dataset:**

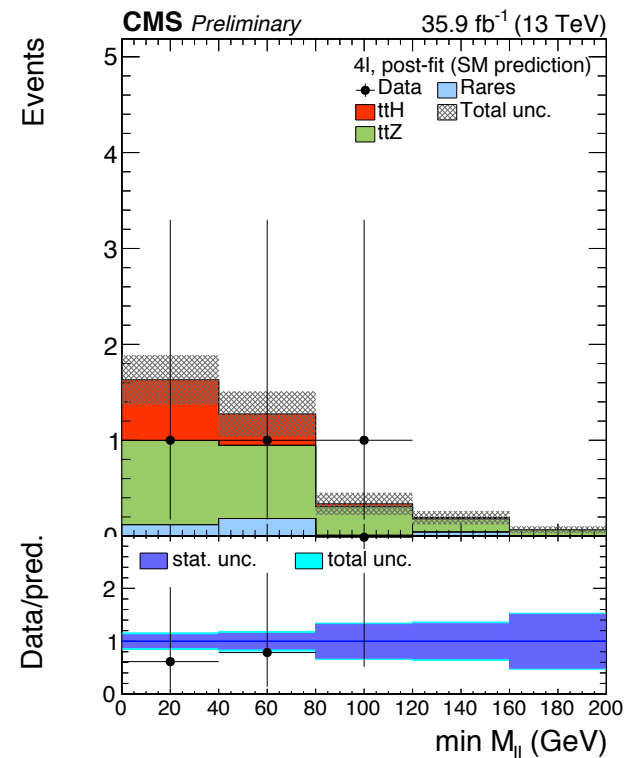
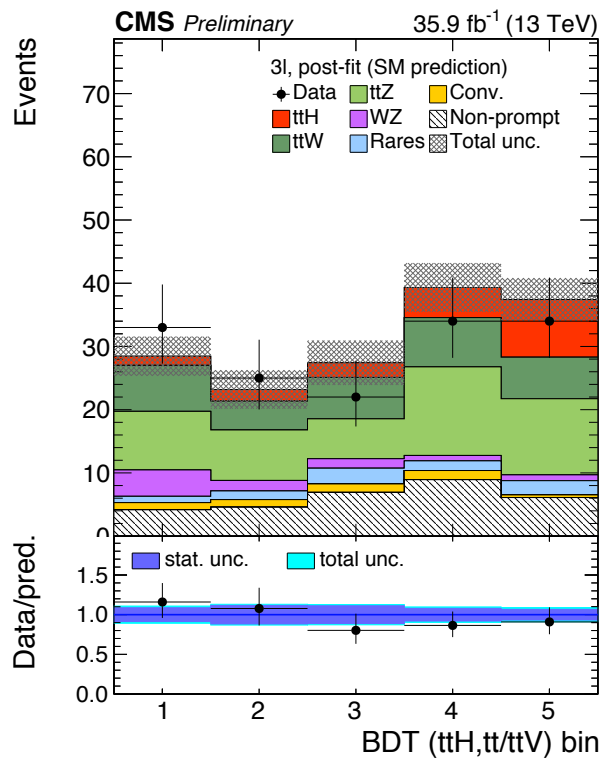
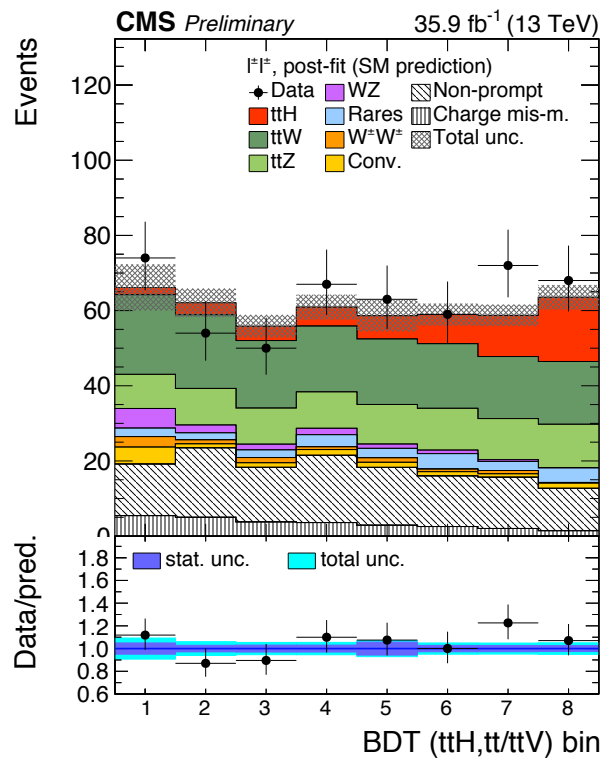
- hadronic top MVA-tagger used as input for ttH / tt 2ISS BDT
- Hj MVA-tagger (jets from H decay) used as input for ttH / ttV 2ISS BDT
- MEM LR ttH / ttV used as input for ttH / ttV 3I BDT

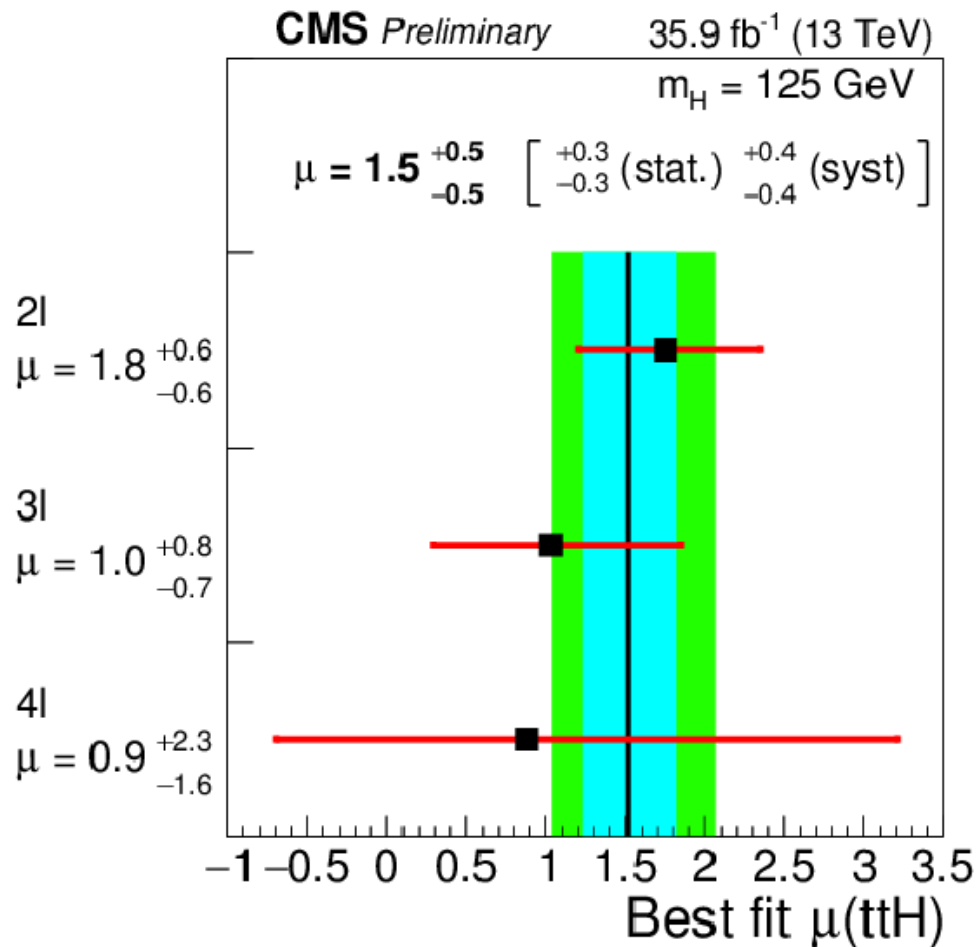
- **2D BDT** distributions remapped into a **1D discriminant** with increasing S/B

- Counting experiment in 4I category



Final discriminants





- **3.3 σ observed significance**
(2.5 σ expected)

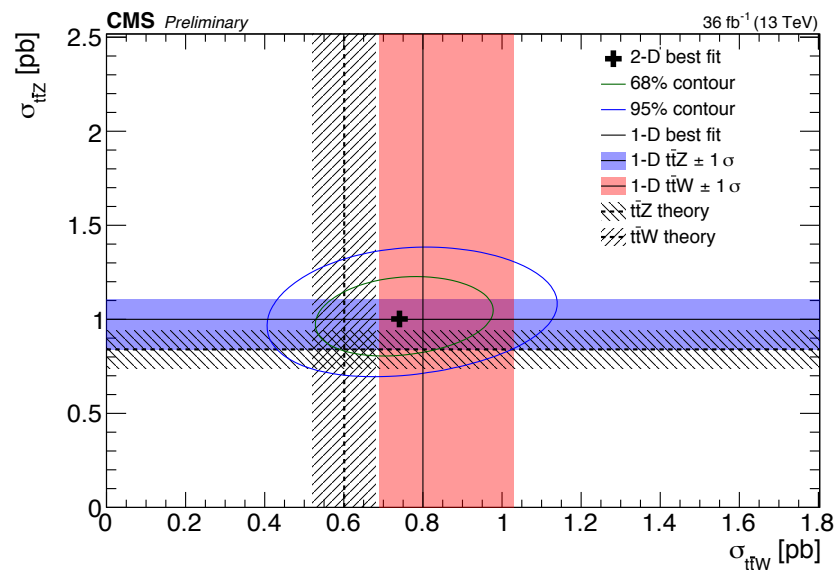
$\mu(\text{ttW}) > 1$?

- **Consistent pattern of $\mu(\text{ttW}) > 1$ across ATLAS & CMS, Run 1 & Run 2:**
 - for several analyses (ttH search vs ttV measurement, cut-based vs MVA...)
 - not the case for $\mu(\text{ttZ})$ nor other searches in 2ISS (e.g. SUSY or WW same-sign)
- **ttW measurement (assuming $\mu(\text{ttH})=1$)**

$\mu(\text{ttV}) = 1.3 \pm 0.6$	CMS	5 fb ⁻¹	7 TeV	PRL 110 (2013) 172002
$\mu(\text{ttW}) = 1.7 \pm 0.5$	ATLAS	20 fb ⁻¹	8 TeV	JHEP 11 (2015) 172
$\mu(\text{ttW}) = 1.9 \pm 0.6$	CMS	20 fb ⁻¹	8 TeV	JHEP 01 (2016) 096
$\mu(\text{ttW}) = 2.5 \pm 1.4$	ATLAS	3 fb ⁻¹	13 TeV	EPJC77 (2017) 40
$\mu(\text{ttW}) = 1.3 \pm 0.3$	CMS	36 fb ⁻¹	13 TeV	CMS PAS TOP-17-005

CMS PAS TOP-17-005

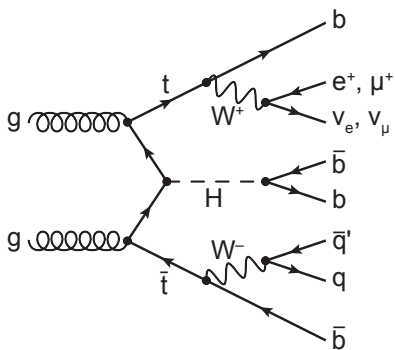
- **ttH multilepton cross-check with free floating ttW & ttZ**
 - including in fit CRs with 2l+3jets and 3l on-Z
 - fitted $\mu(\text{ttW})$ and $\mu(\text{ttZ})$ compatible at 1 σ with SM
 - $\mu(\text{ttH}) = 1.3 \pm 0.5$



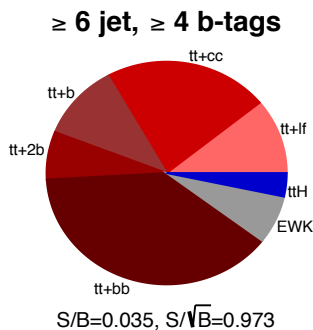
• Two channels considered:

- lepton+jets: 1 lepton + ≥ 4 jets
- dilepton: 2 OS leptons + ≥ 2 jets

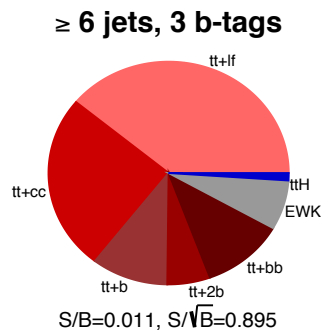
• Categories based on jet multiplicity + b-tagging



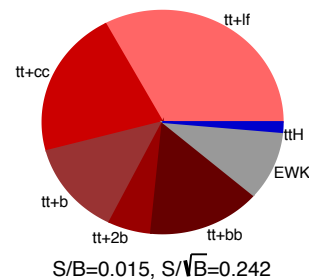
CMS Simulation



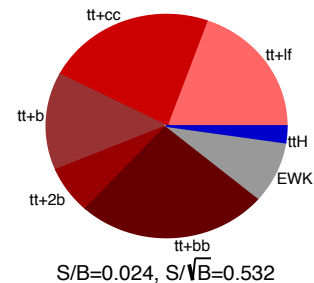
Lepton+Jets Channel



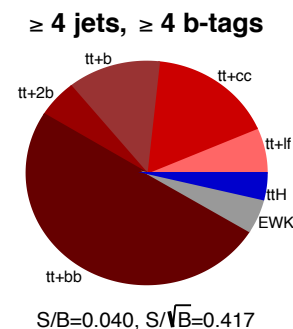
4 jets, 4 b-tags



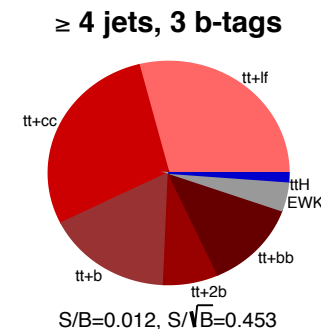
5 jets, ≥ 4 b-tags



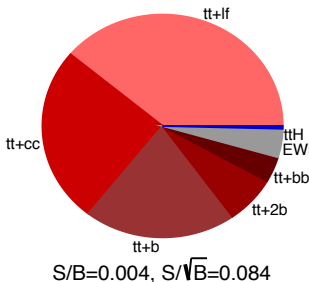
CMS Simulation



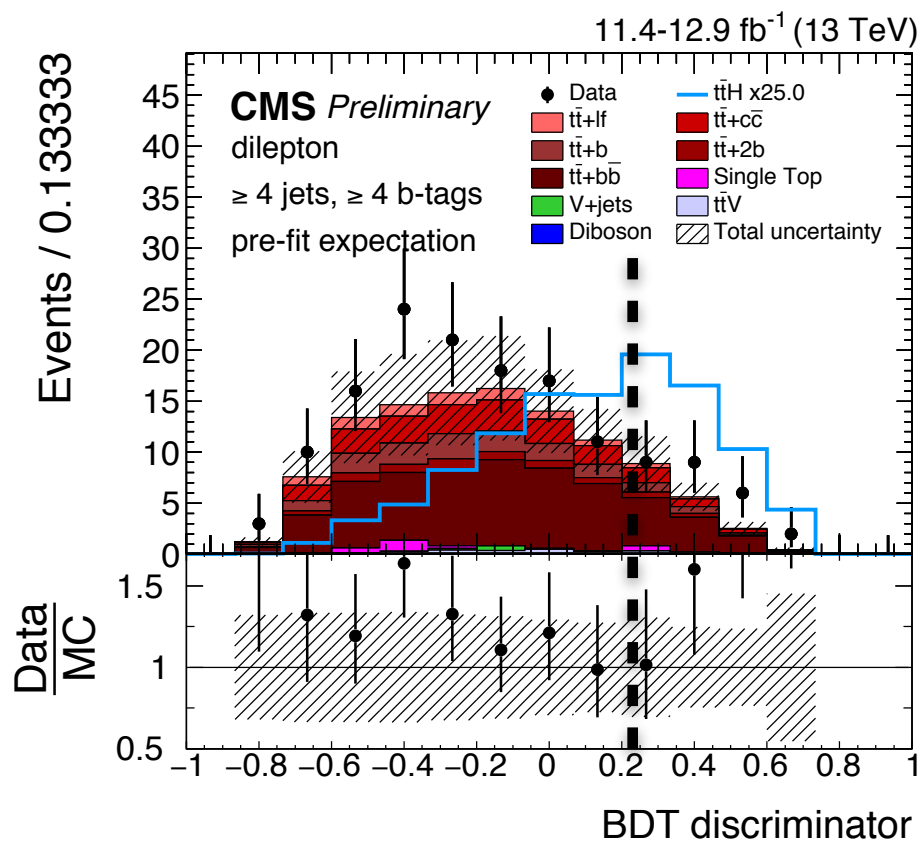
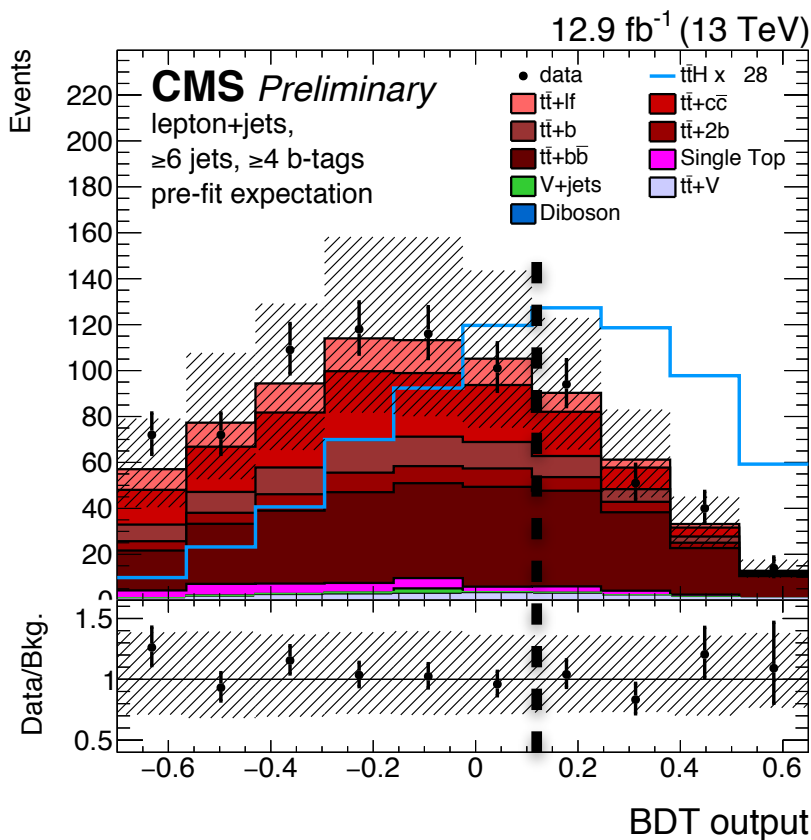
Dilepton Channel



3 jets, 3 b-tags

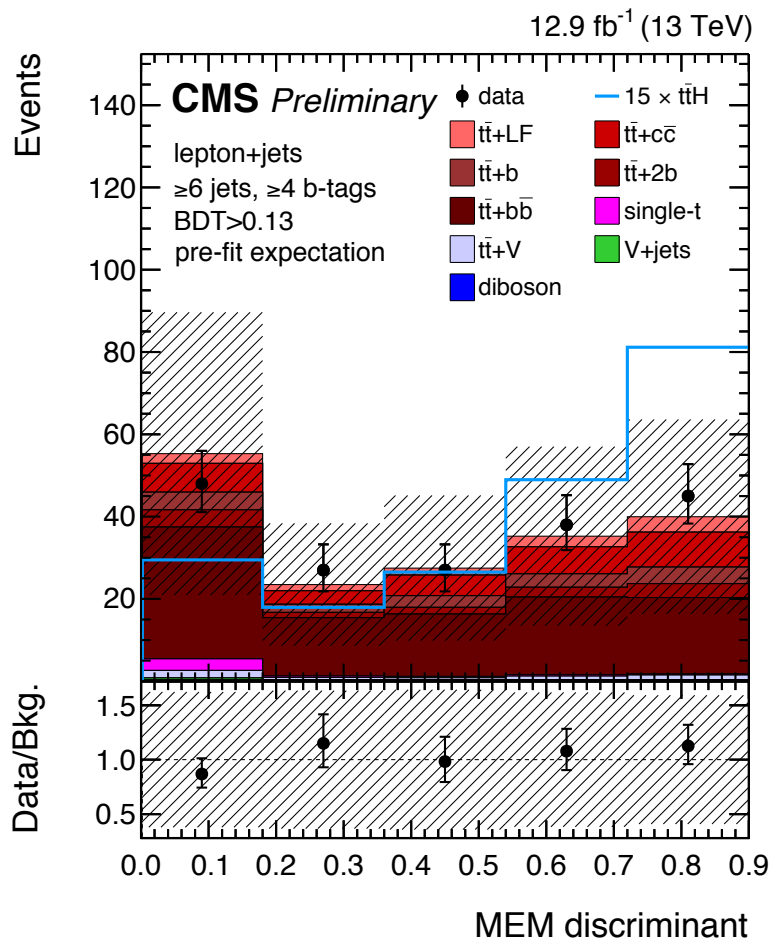


- **Further categorization based on BDT outputs (except in dilepton 3 jet, 3 b-tag):**
low/high BDT regions

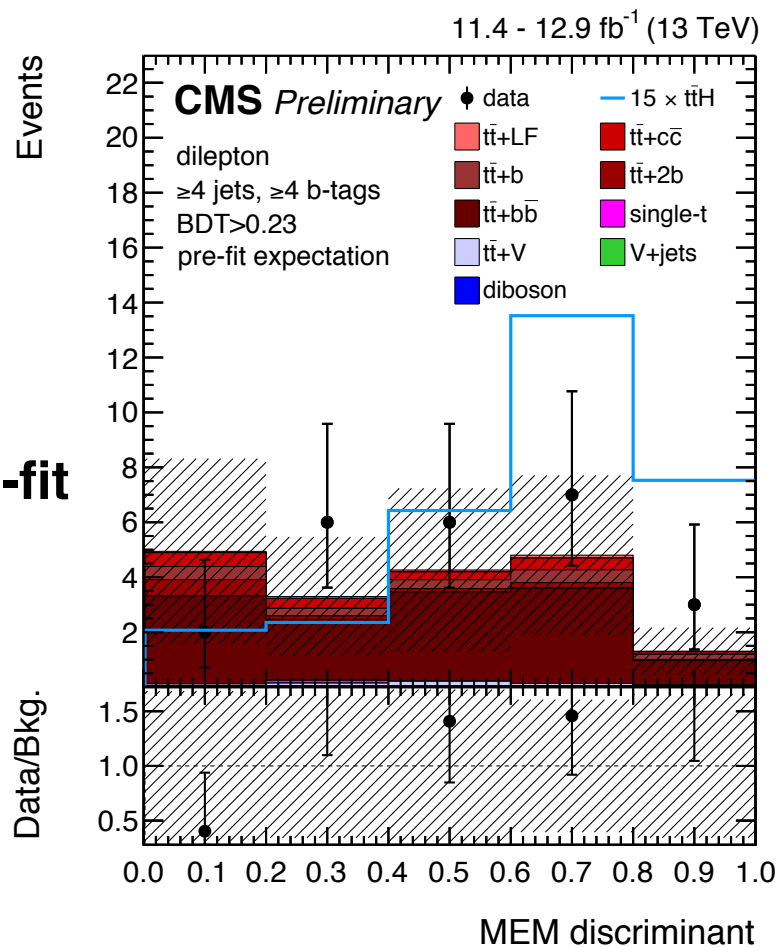


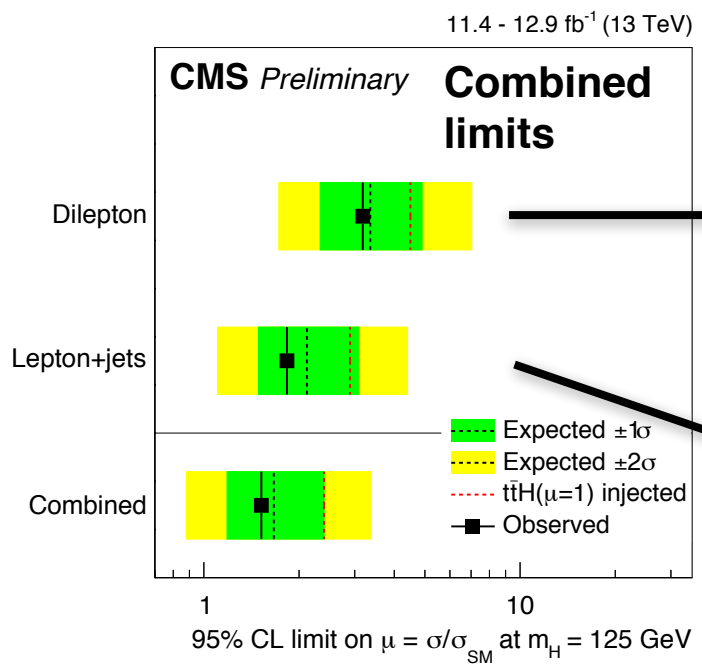
- Fit MEM discriminant for signal extraction in each BDT subcategories (except in dilepton 3 jet, 3 b-tag)

$$P_{s/b} = \frac{w(\vec{y}|\bar{t}\bar{t}H)}{w(\vec{y}|\bar{t}\bar{t}H) + k_{s/b}w(\vec{y}|\bar{t}\bar{t}+b\bar{b})}$$

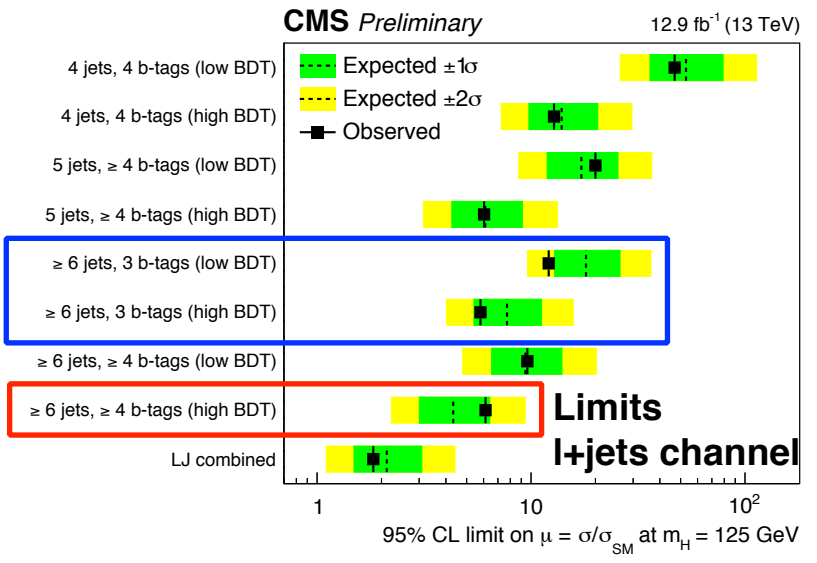
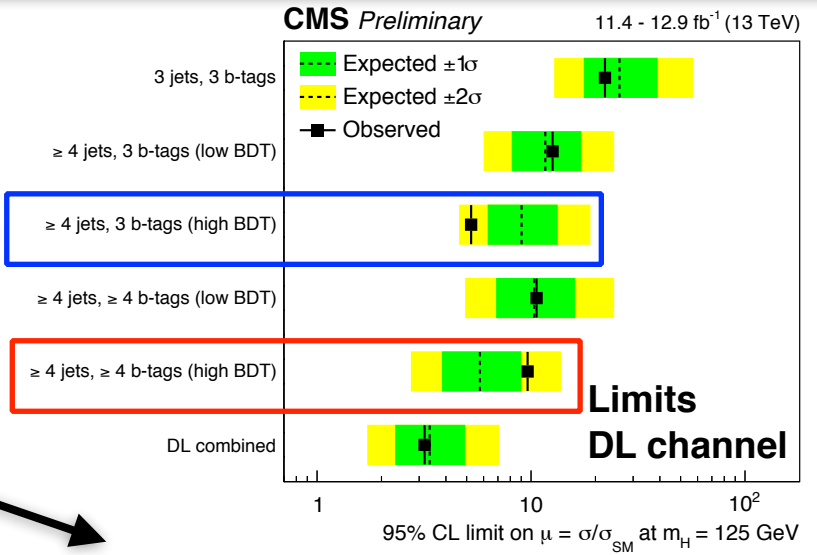


Pre-fit

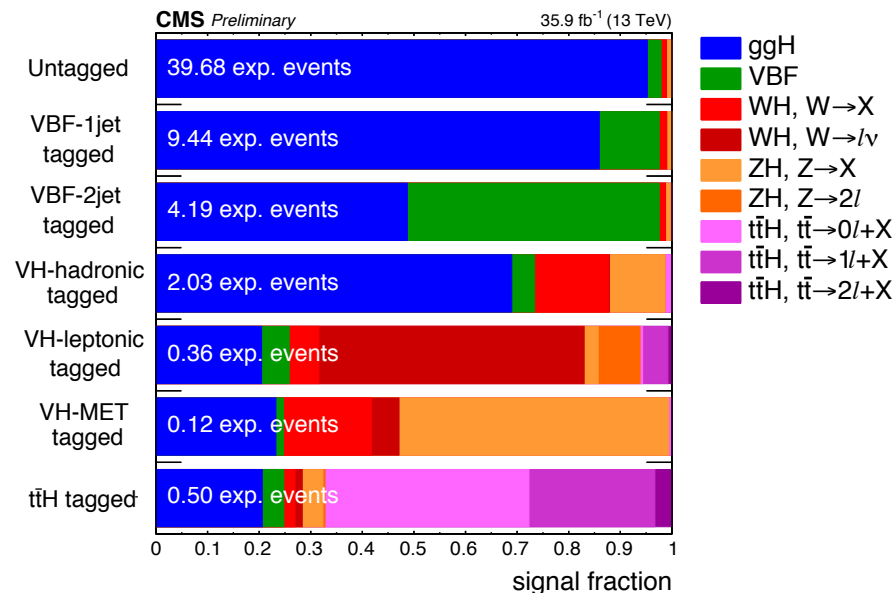
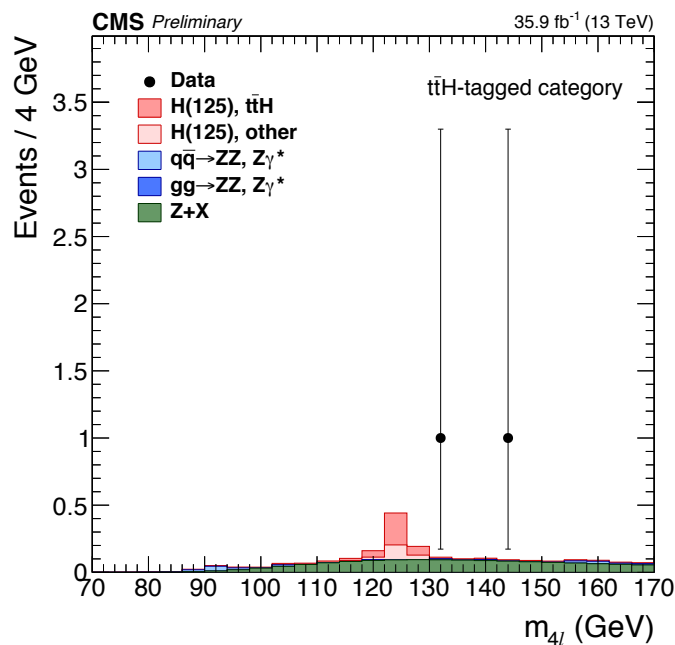




- **Upward fluctuations** in most sensitive subcategories
- **Downwards fluctuations** in higher stat subcategories
- **Best fit value** $\hat{\mu}_{obs}(ttH) = -0.19^{+0.80}_{-0.81}$



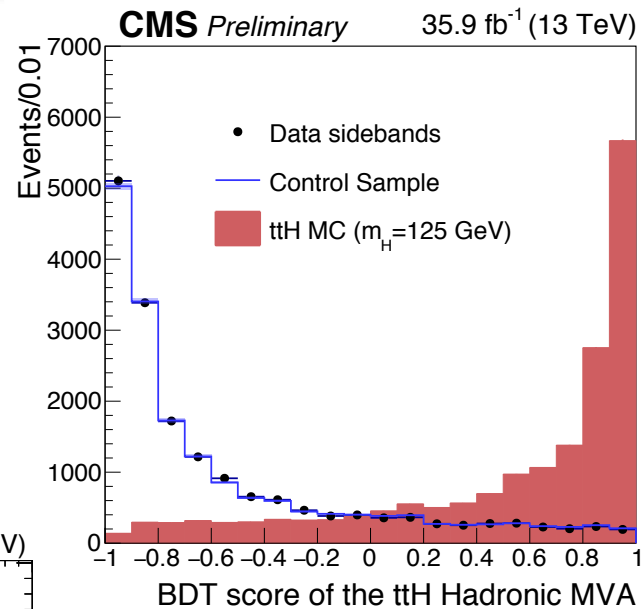
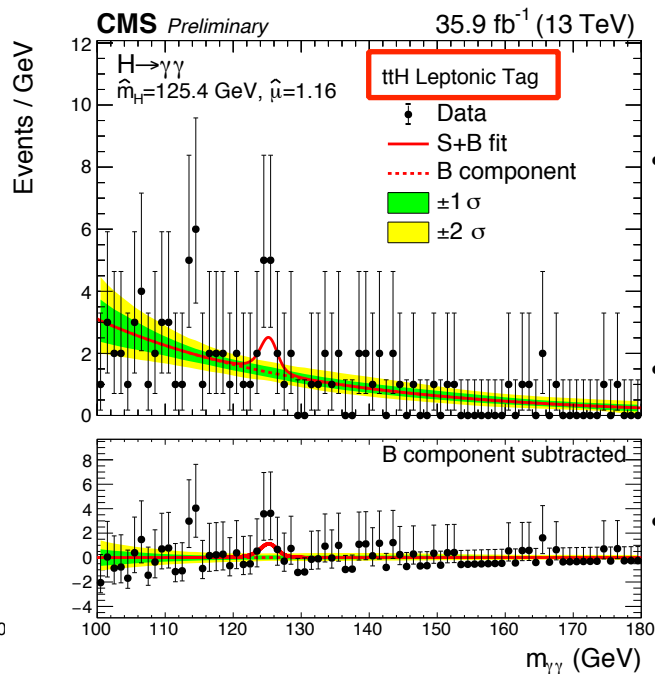
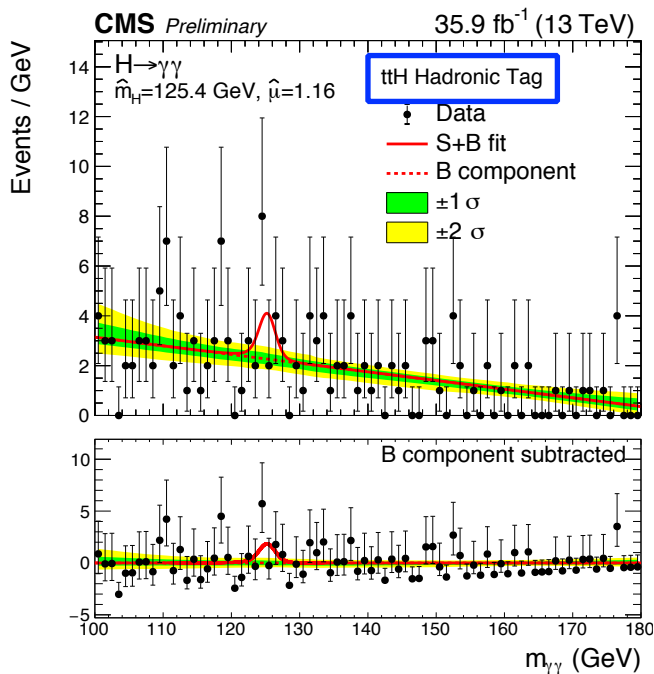
- Higgs decay modes with high mass resolution are "cleaner":
 - events can be selected with **high purity**
 - **tt** and **H** part of the event can be **cleanly separated**
- Main challenge: signal yield** ($\sigma(ttH) \times BR \sim 1\text{fb}$ for $\gamma\gamma$, $\sim 0.1\text{fb}$ for $4l$)



- Acceptance maximized by considering all tt decay modes:
 ttH category = $4l + \geq 1l$ (not VH tagged) OR ≥ 4 jets, ≥ 1 b-jet
- No event observed in $118 < m(4l) < 130$ GeV range**

$$\hat{\mu}_{obs}(ttH) = 0.0^{+1.2}_{-0.0}$$

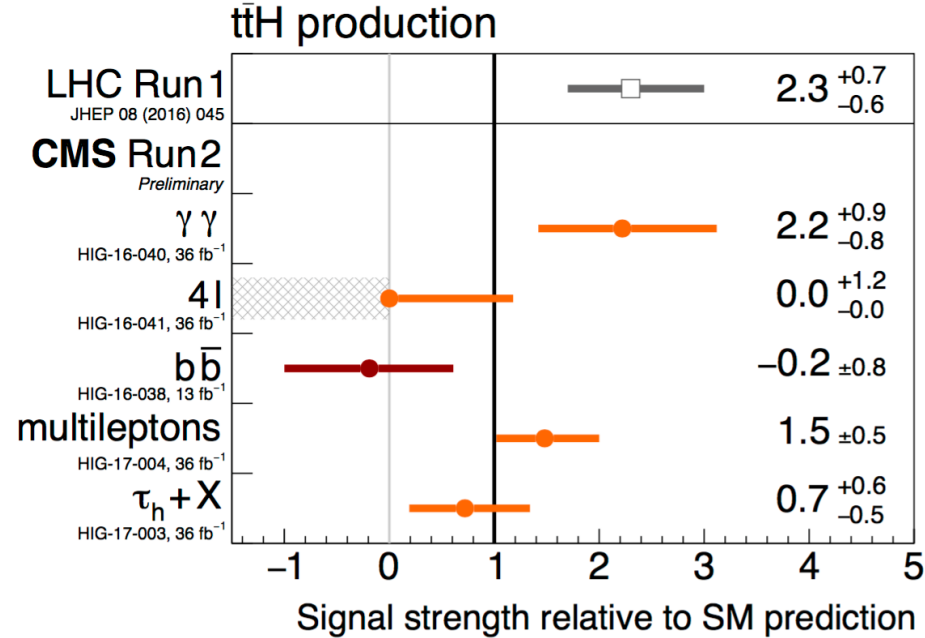
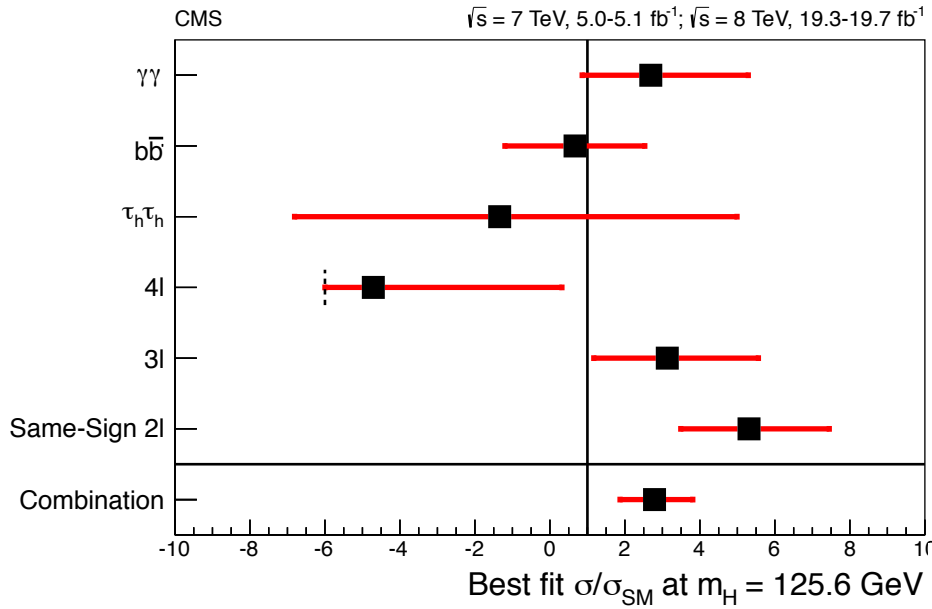
- **New for analysis on full 2016 dataset:**
BDT trained to discriminate ttH hadr. / diphoton bkg
- **Two ttH sensitive channels**
 - **ttH hadronic:** $2\gamma + \geq 3$ jets (≥ 1 b-tag) + BDT > 0.75
 - **ttH leptonic:** $2\gamma + \geq 1$ lepton + ≥ 2 jets (≥ 1 b-tag)
- **Main background tt+genuine/fakes γ :** estimated from fit of $m(\gamma\gamma)$ distribution



- **Diphoton mass $m(\gamma\gamma)$ used for signal extraction**

$$\hat{\mu}_{obs}(ttH) = 2.2^{+0.9}_{-0.8}$$

- **3.3 σ observed significance (1.8 σ expected)**



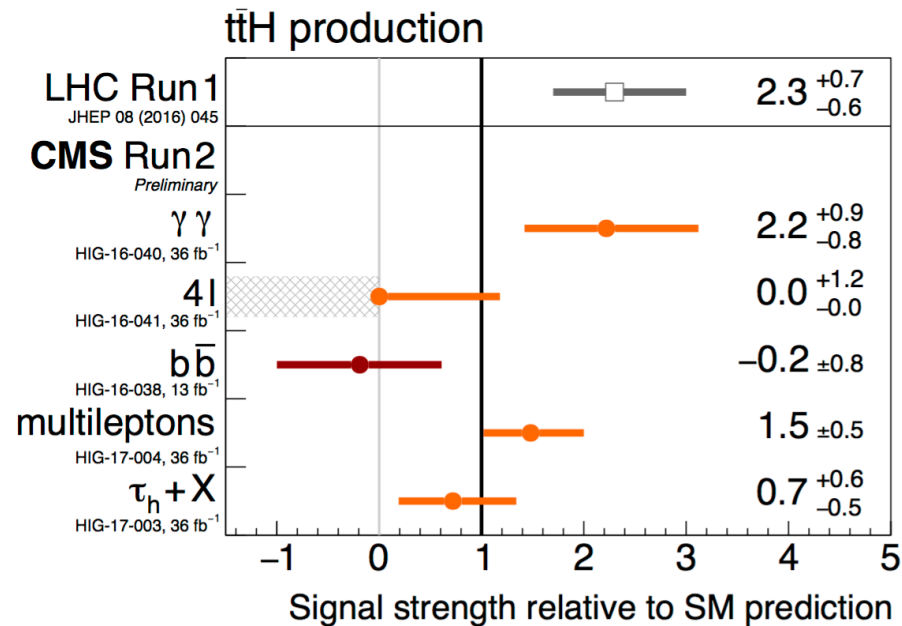
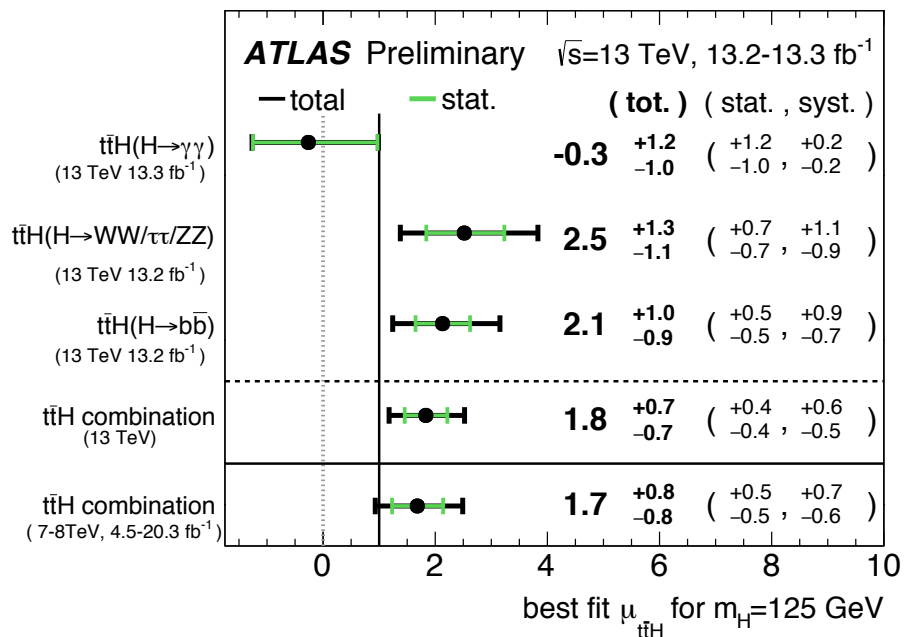
Run 2

1l+2 τ : $\mu = -1.2 \pm 1.5$

2ISS: $\mu = 1.8 \pm 0.6$

3l: $\mu = 1.0^{+0.8}_{-0.7}$

4l: $\mu = 0.9^{+2.3}_{-1.6}$



- **2.8 σ observed significance**
(1.8 σ expected)

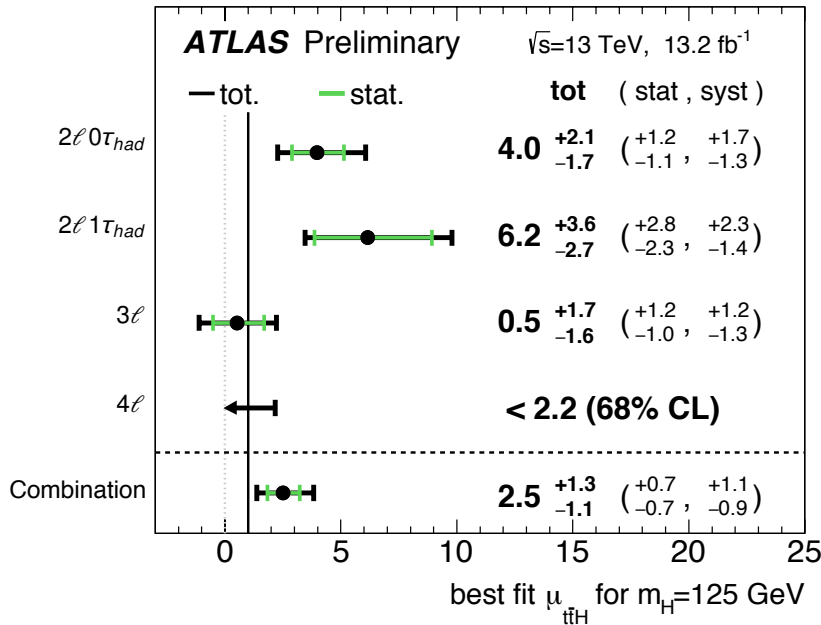
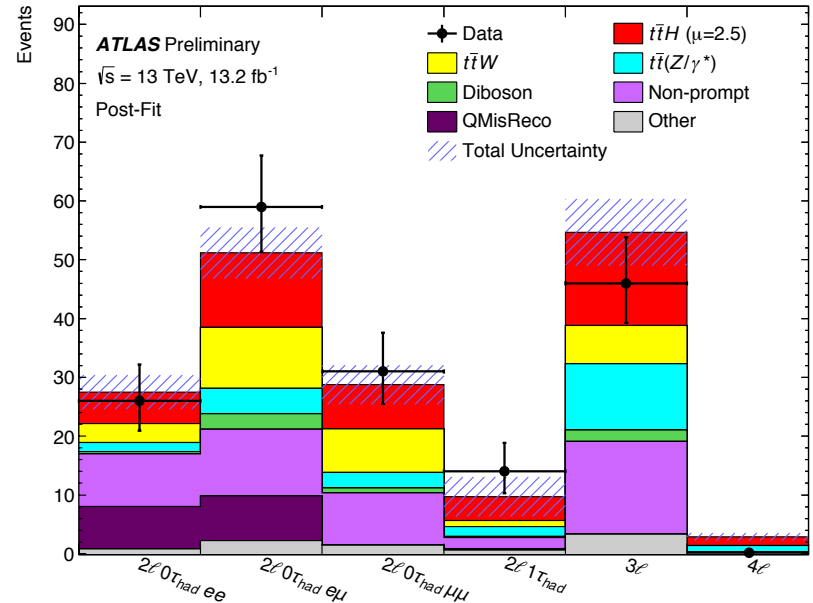
- **2ISS+1 τ_h** category included in ATLAS $t\bar{t}H$ multilepton result based on first 13.2 fb⁻¹ of 2016 data:

Tighter jet selection $n(\text{jet}) \geq 4$ ($n(\text{jet}) \geq 3$ in CMS analysis)

- **Similar background estimation techniques:**

Irreducible backgrounds from MC

Reducible w/ non-prompt leptons and charge misreconstruction data-driven



- **Cut-and-count analysis**

- **Post-fit yields in 2ISS+1 τ_h :**

SM backgrounds 5.7 exp. events

$t\bar{t}H$ 1.6 exp. events

14 observed events

- **Consistent with 2ISS+0 τ_h categories**