

Recent results in Higgs physics

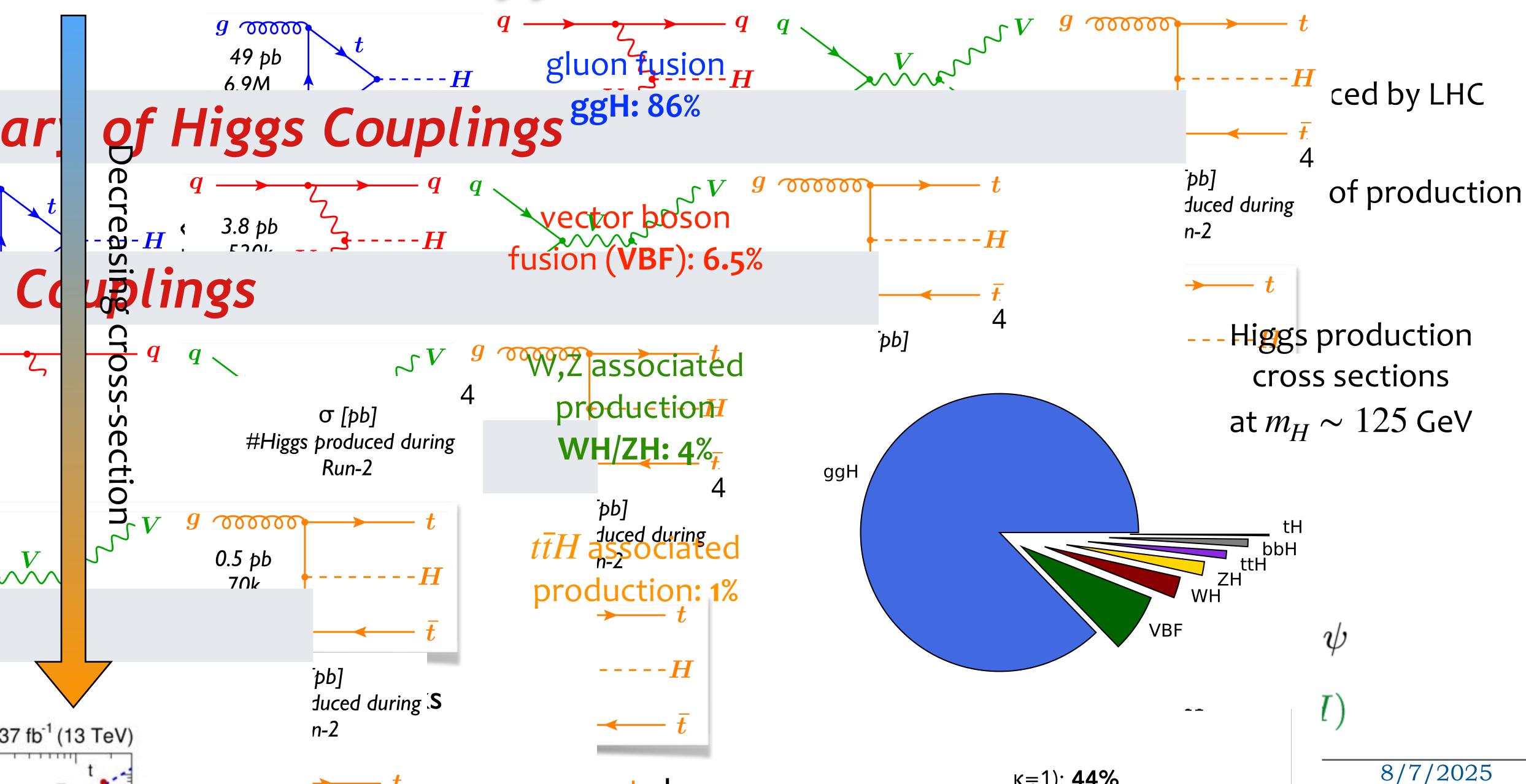
E. Di Marco (INFN Roma) on behalf of ATLAS & CMS Collaborations EPS HEP 2025, 8/7/2025











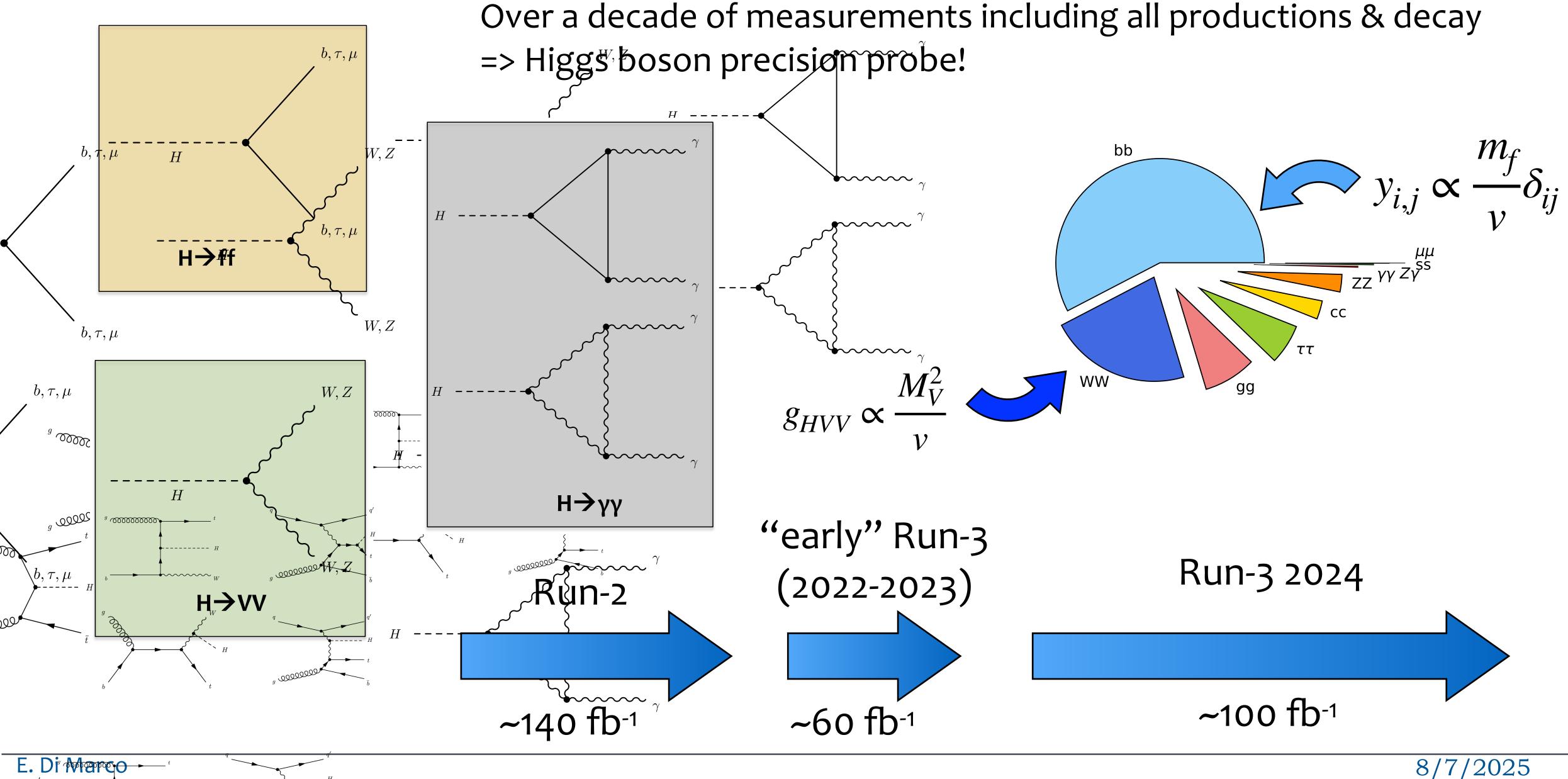
Higgs production at the LHC















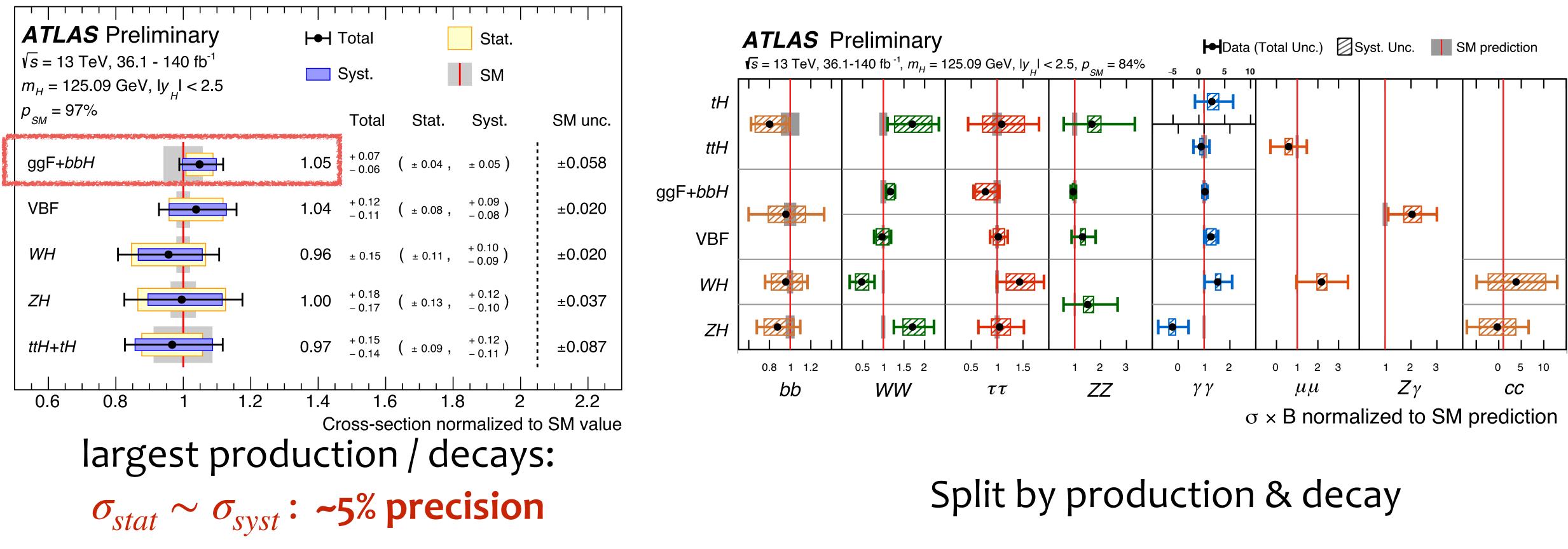
Higgs boson cross sections and couplings





Precision era for Higgs physics:

New combination of inclusive / per-production / per Higgs decay σ 's



E. Di Marco

ATLAS-CONF-2025-006



$\mu = 1.023 \pm 0.056 = 1.023 \pm 0.028 \text{ (stat.)}^{+0.026}_{-0.25} \text{ (exp.)}^{+0.039}_{-0.036} \text{ (sig. theo.)} \pm 0.012 \text{ (bkg. theo.)}$



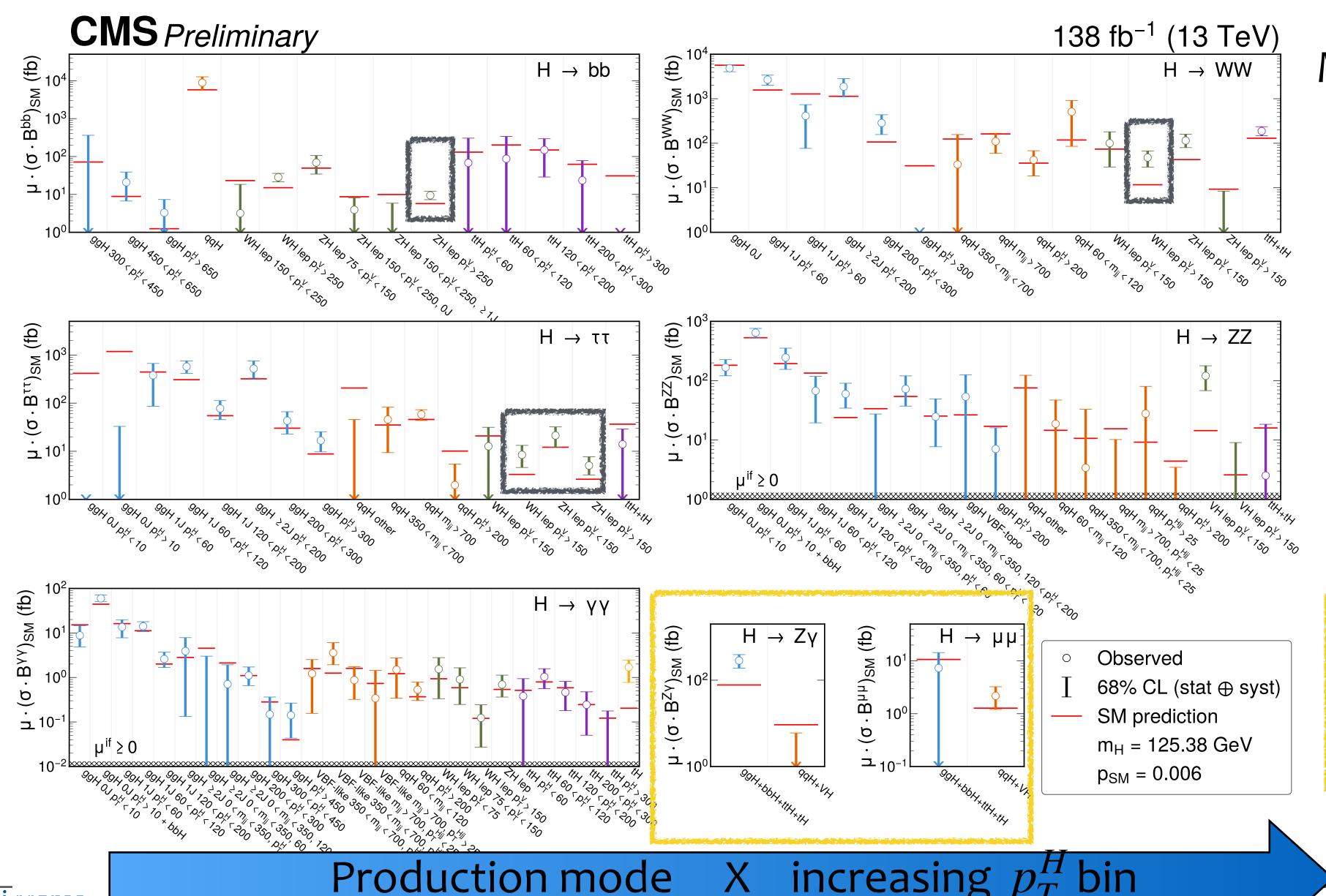






E. Di *I*viarco







CMS-PAS-HIG-21-018

Measured **97** $\sigma^i \times BR^f$:

 $[\sigma^i \times BR^f]_{\text{obs}}$ $[\sigma^i \times BR^f]_{\rm SM}$

Higgs cross sections measured over 4 orders of magnitude

Evidence for **rare** decays: $H \rightarrow \mu \mu$, $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$

increasing p bin

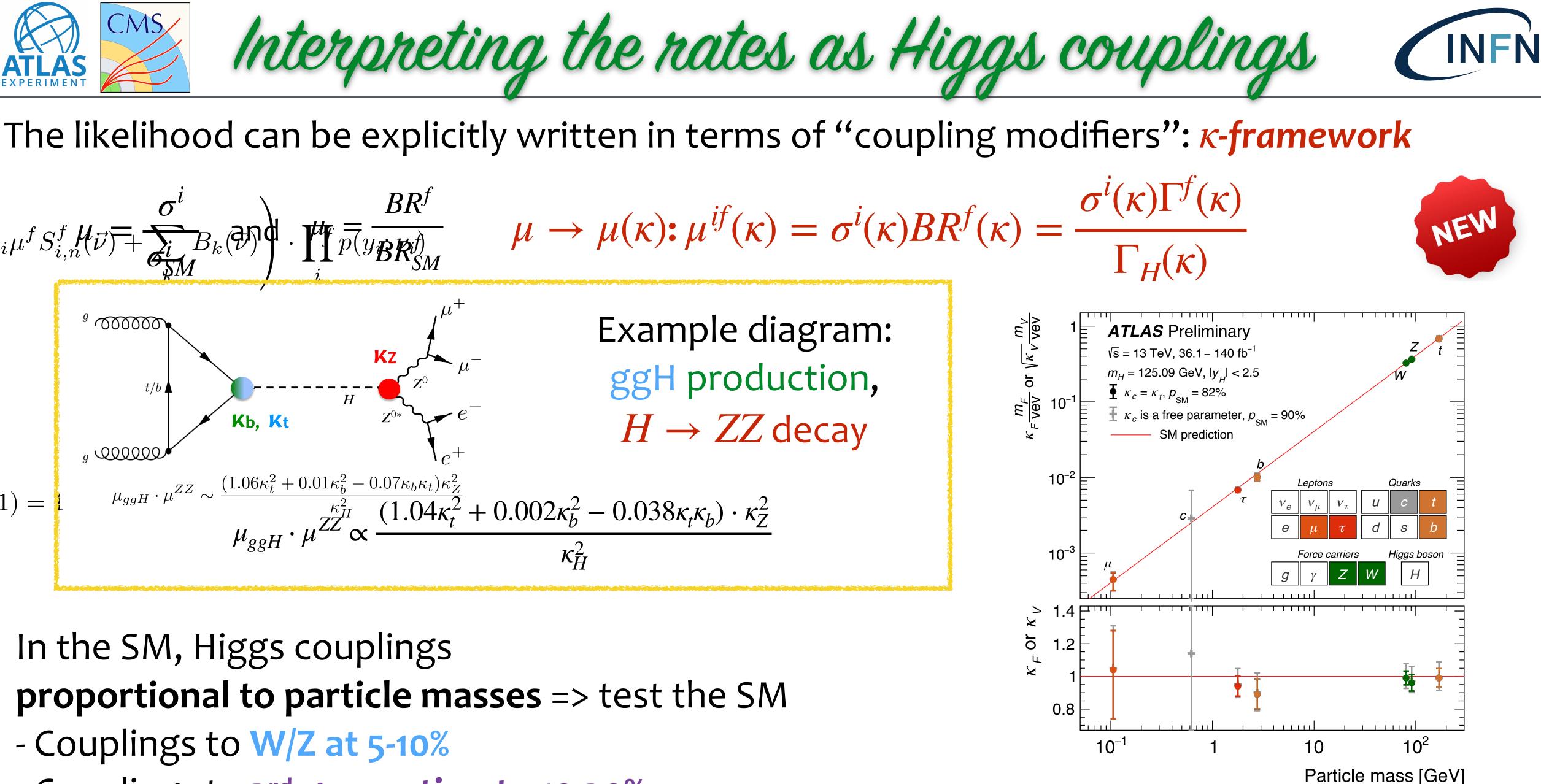


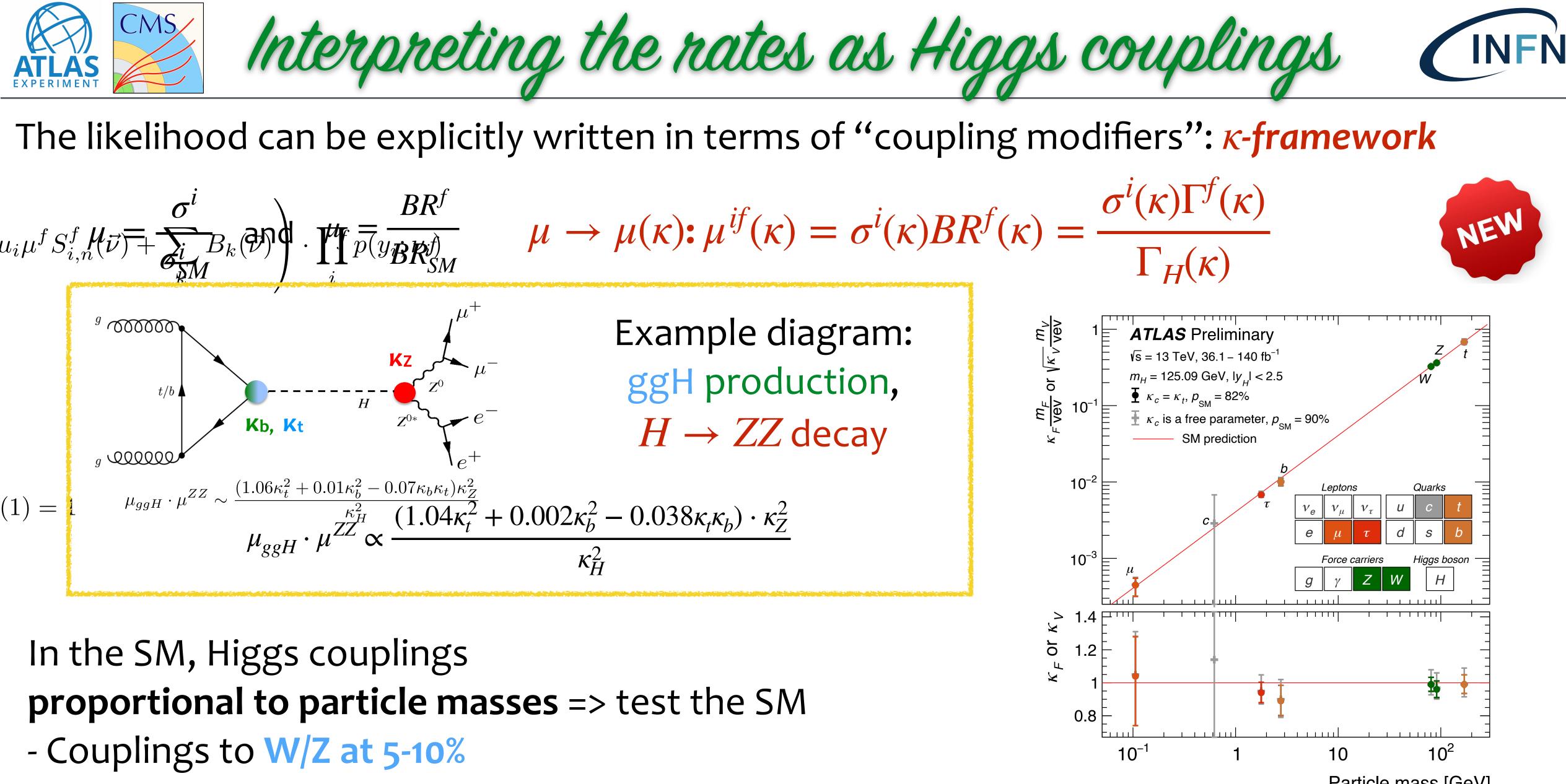










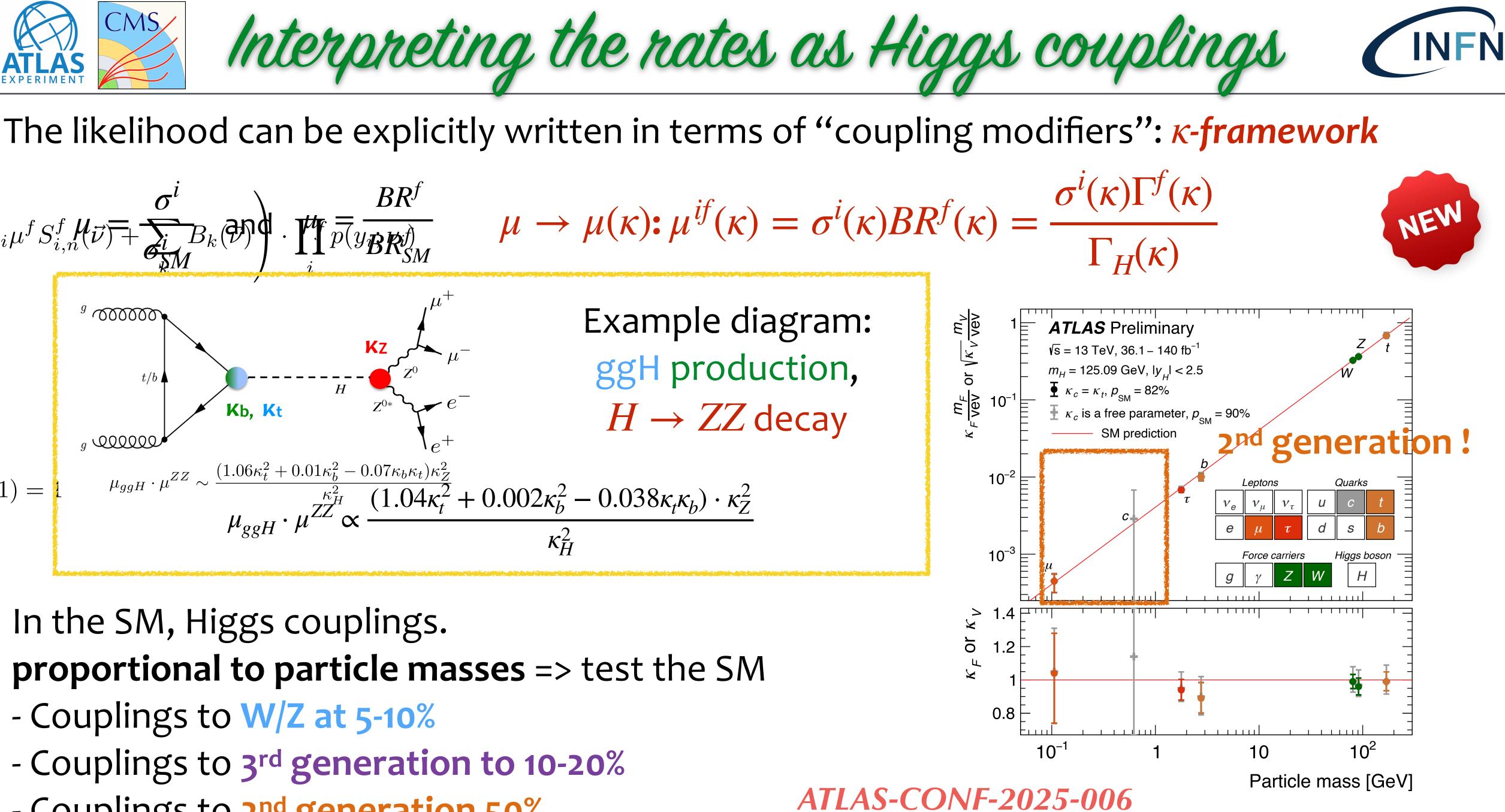


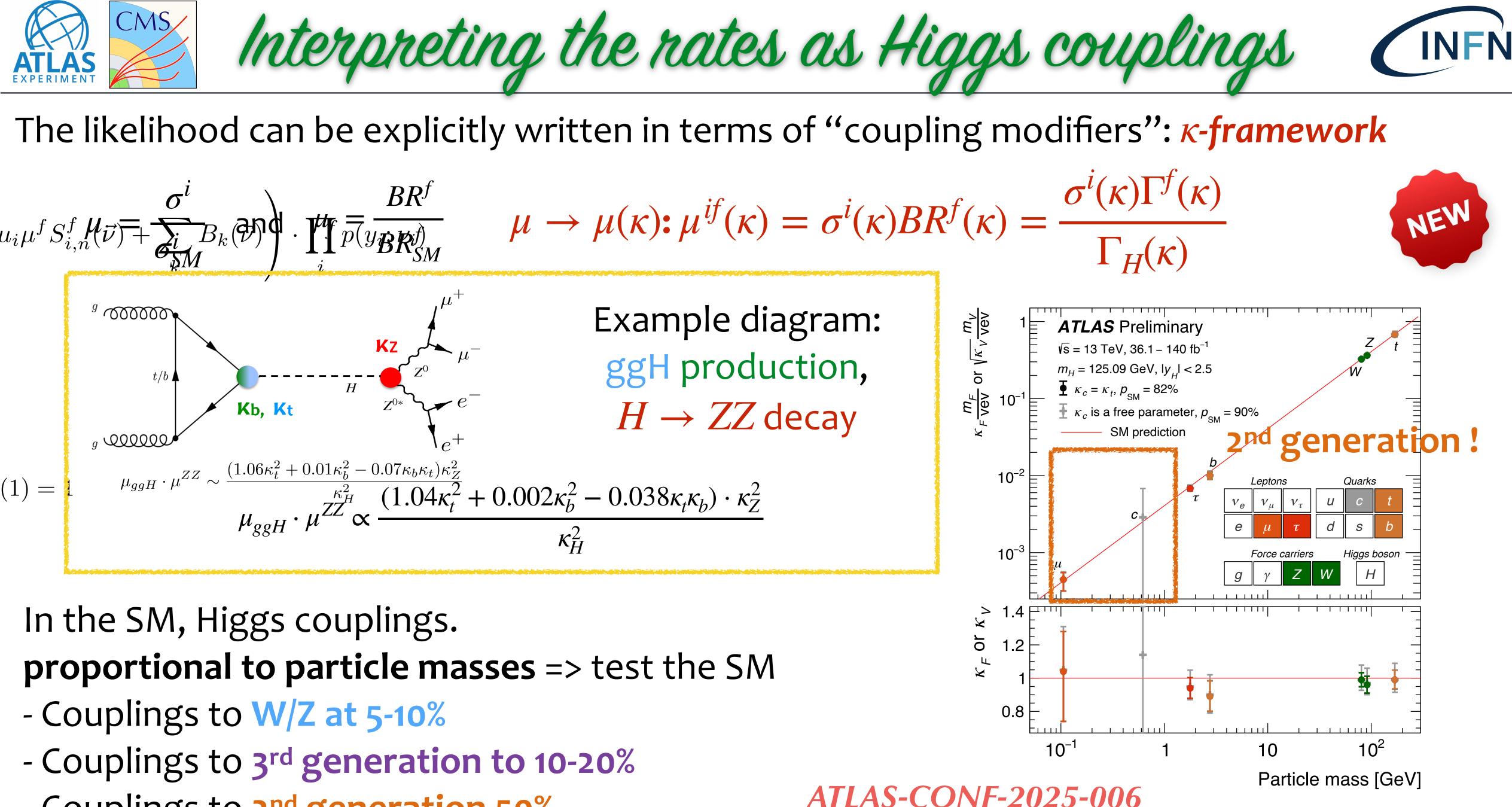
- Couplings to 3rd generation to 10-20%

ATLAS-CONF-2025-006





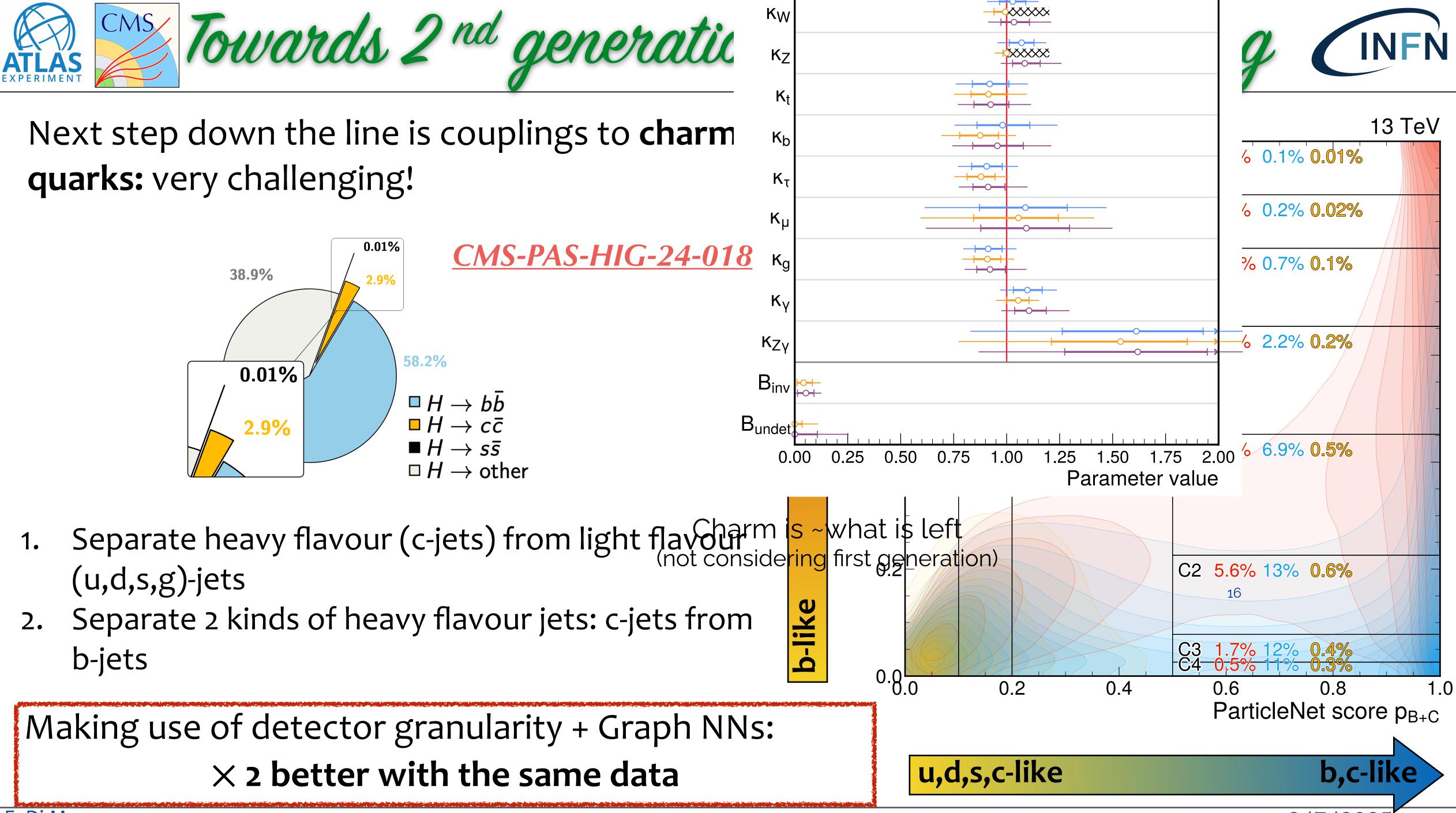


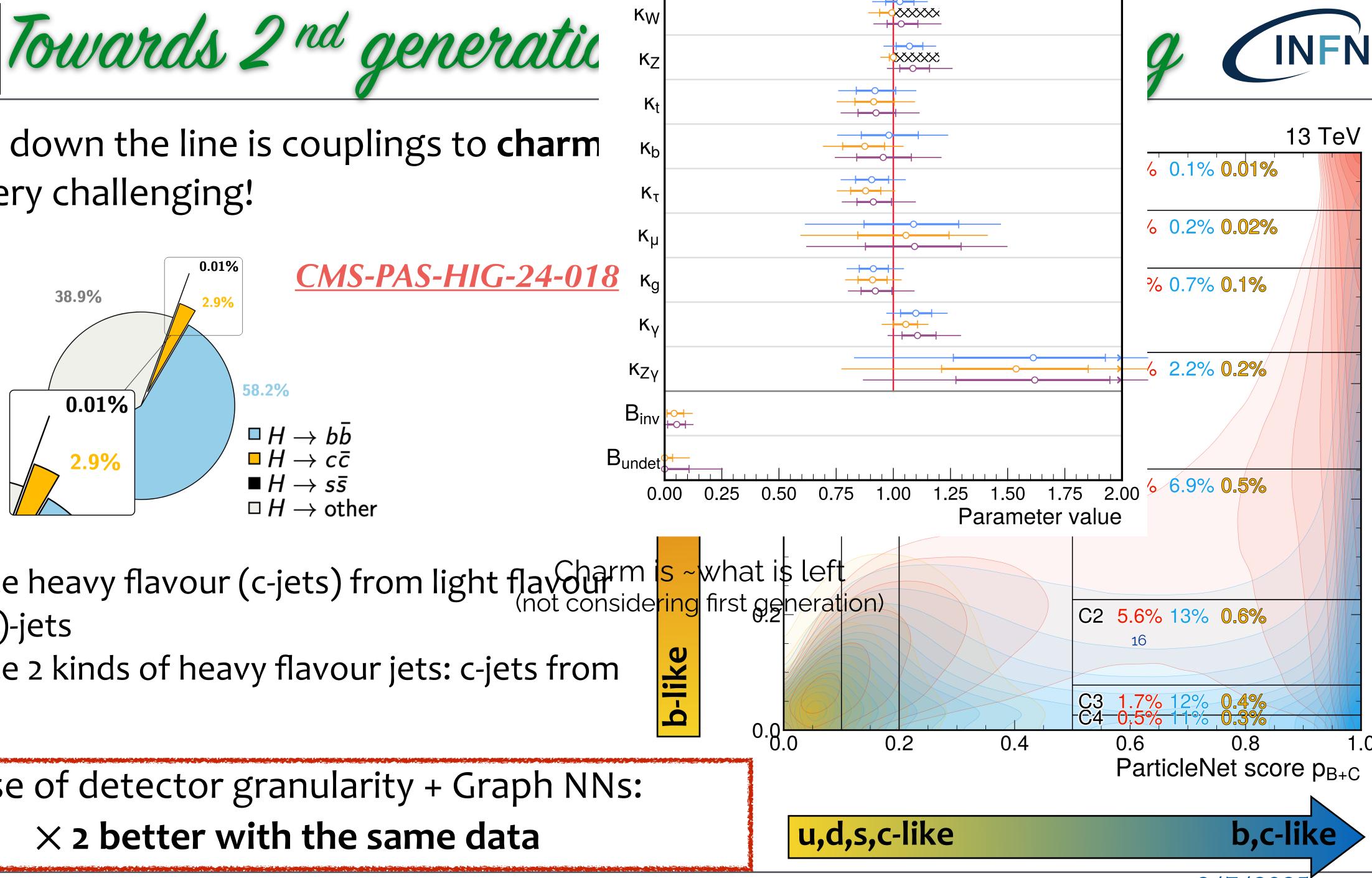


- Couplings to 2nd generation 50%

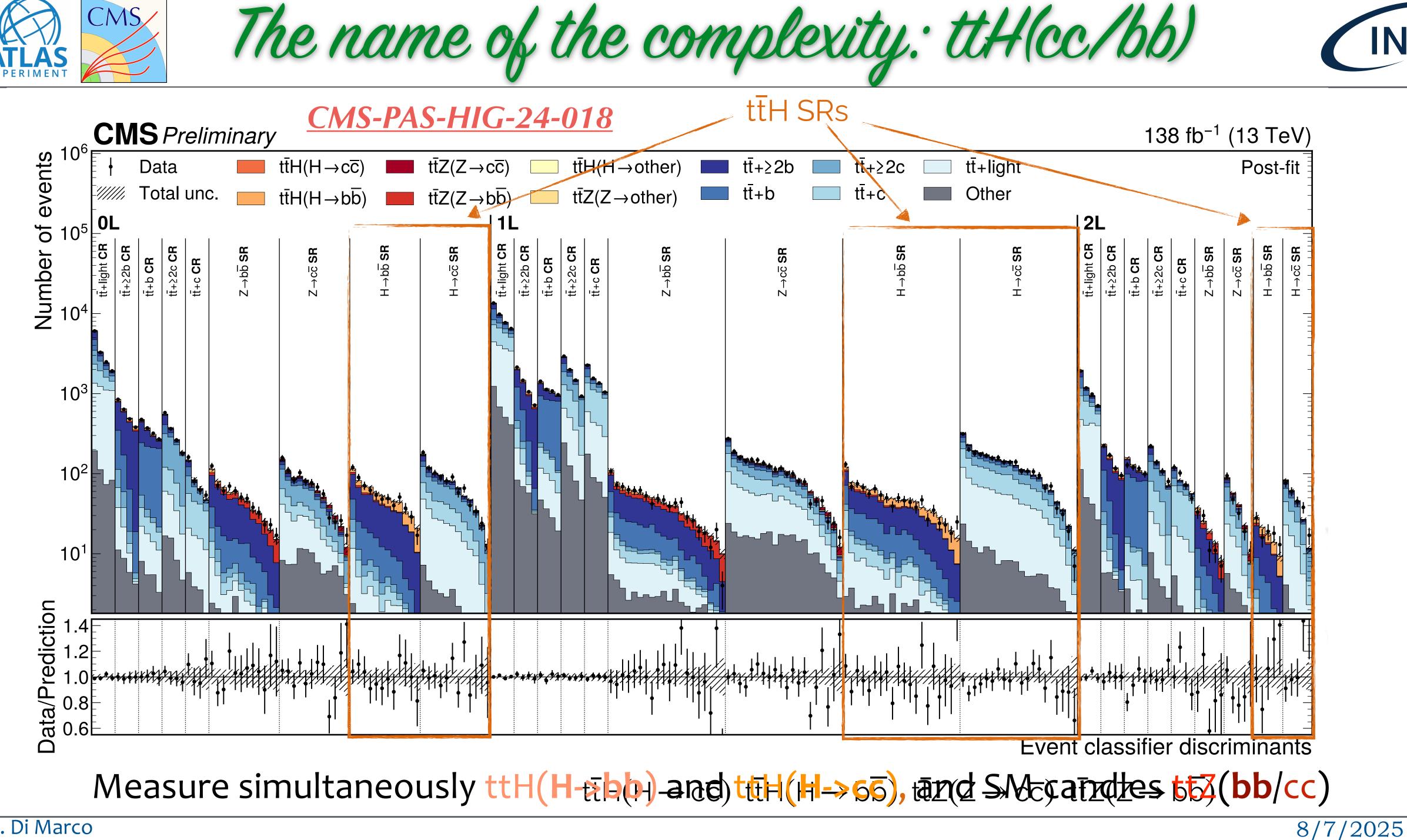








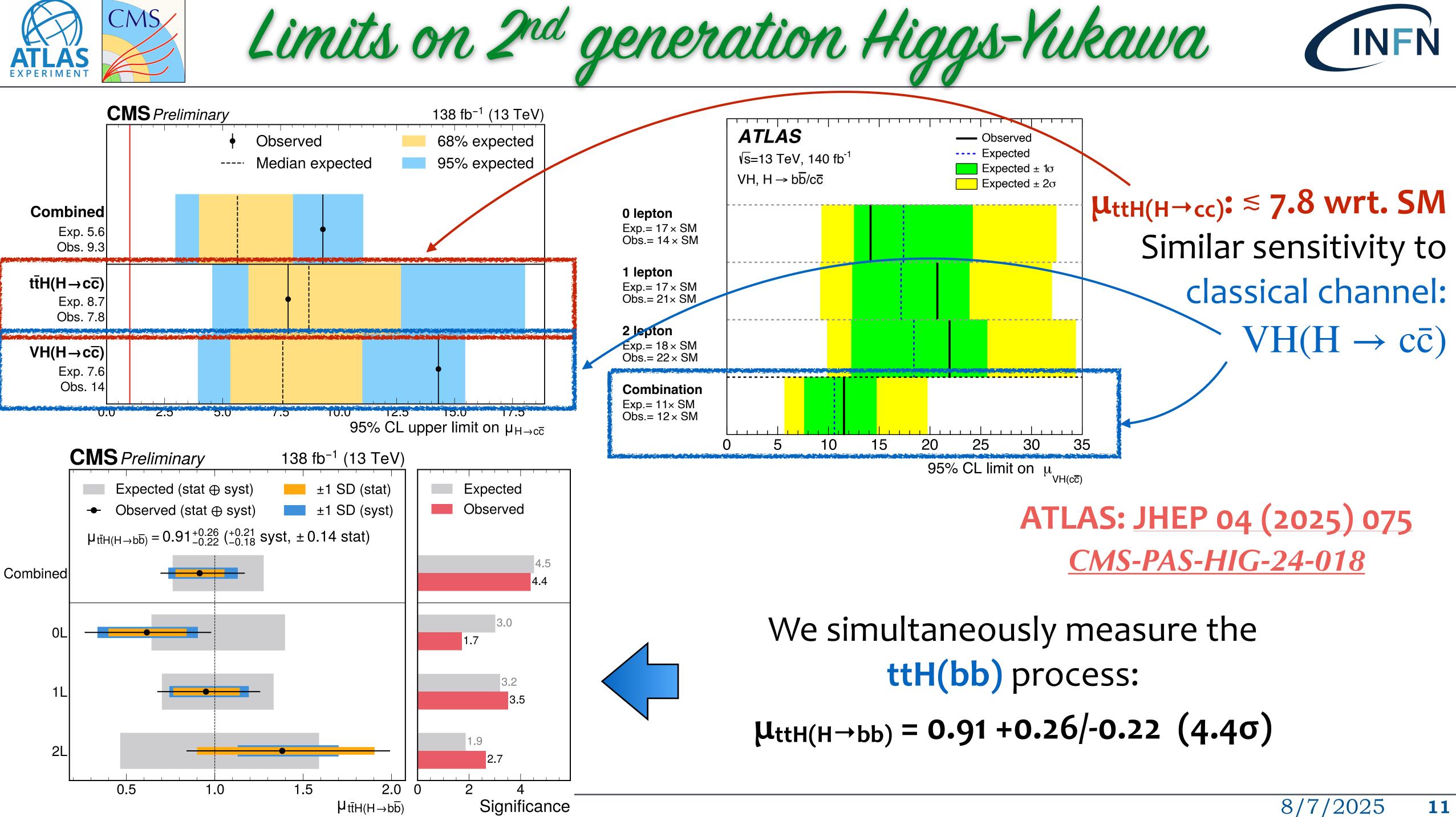






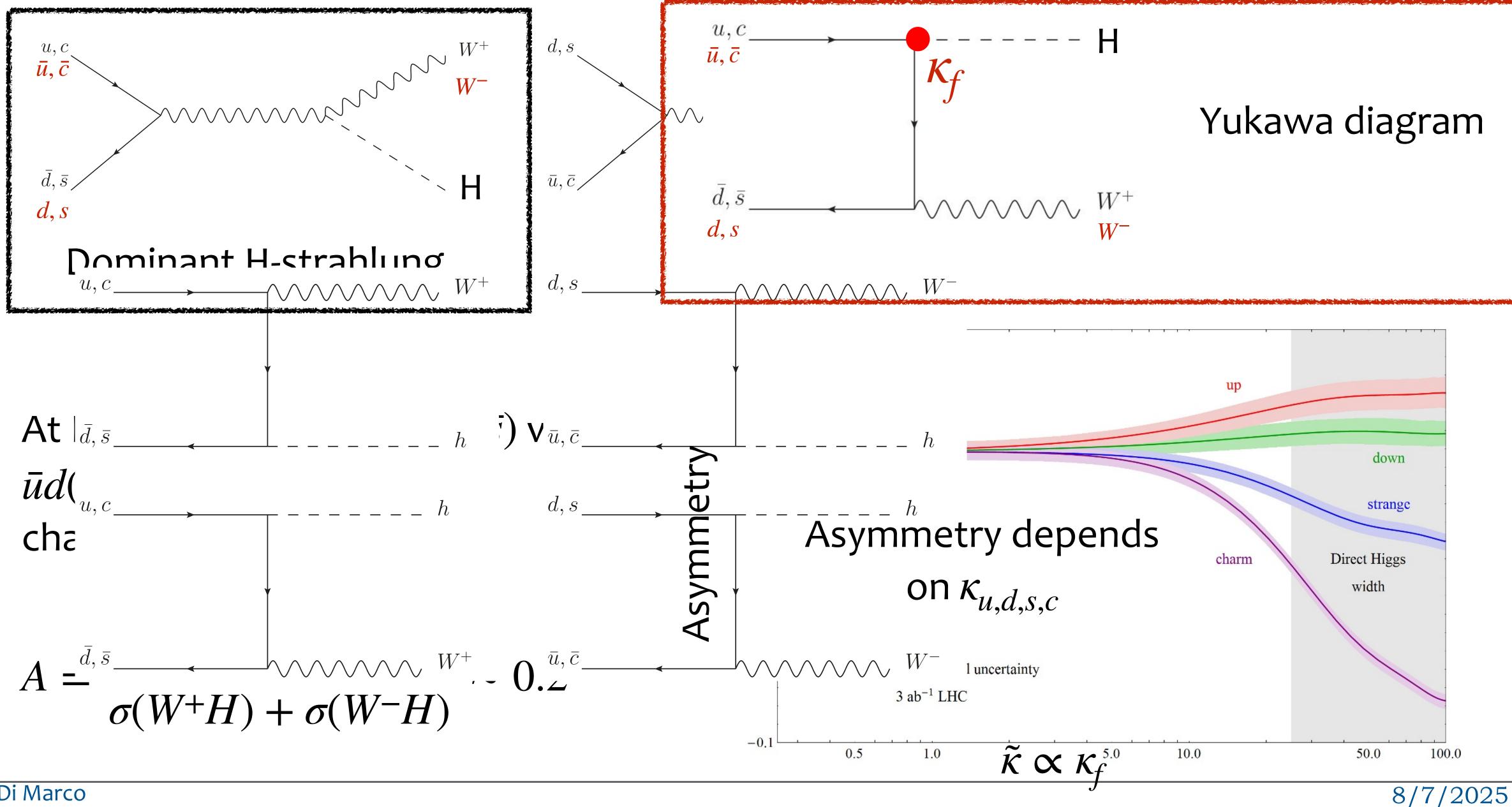












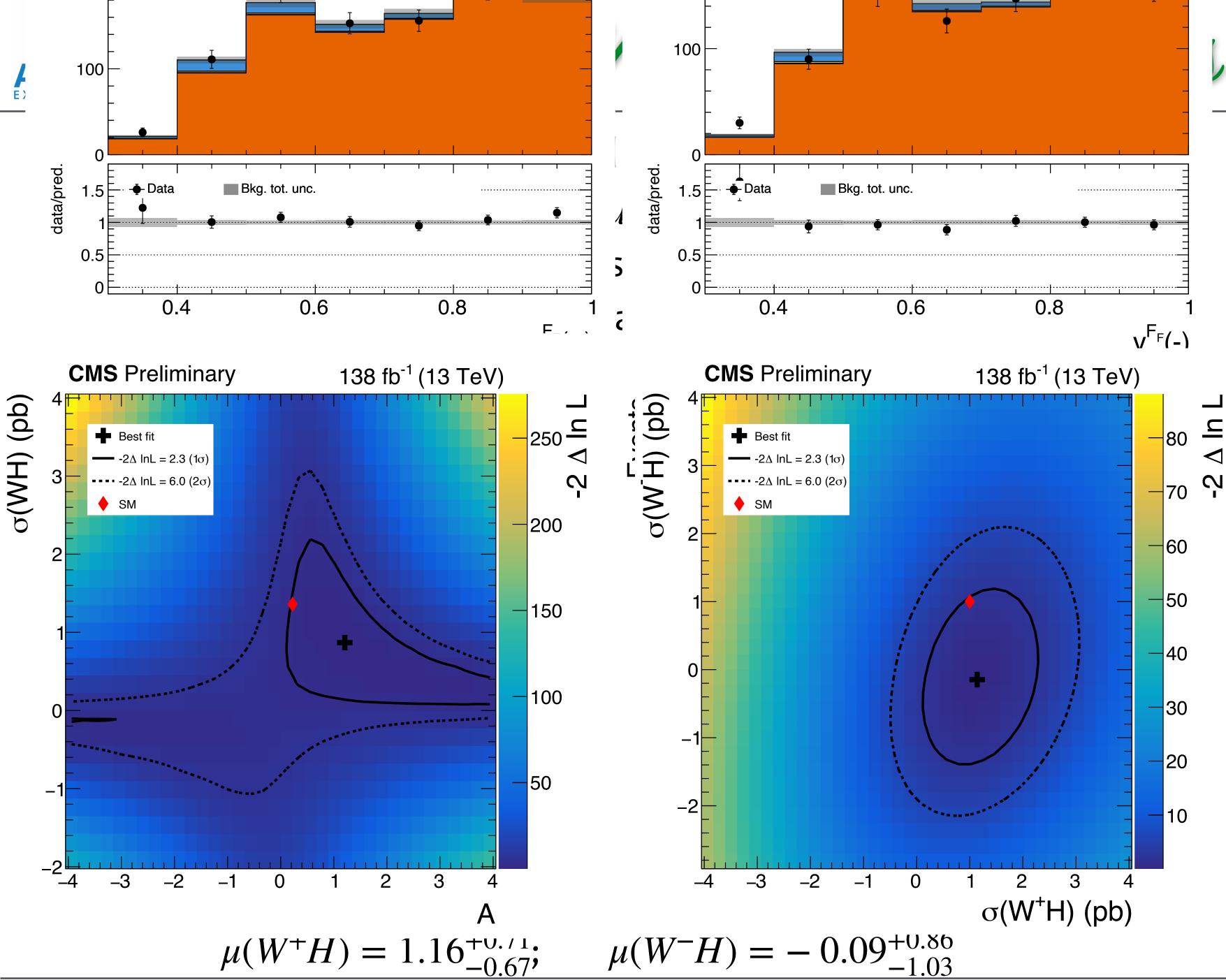
Indirect probes of Higgs Yukawa's



Yukawa diagram









Charge asymmetry:

 $A_{obs} = 1.18^{+0.00}_{-0.75}$ $(0.22^{+0.66}_{-0.56} \text{ exp.})$

Consistent with SM expectation



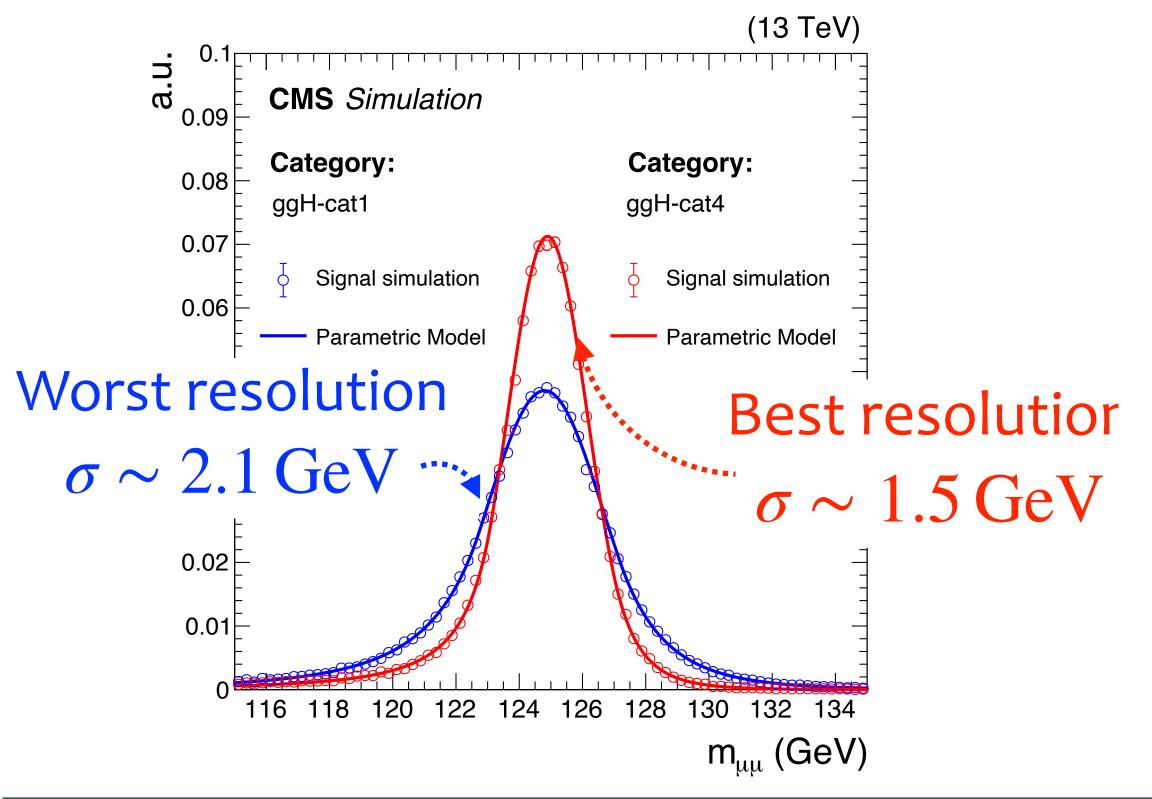




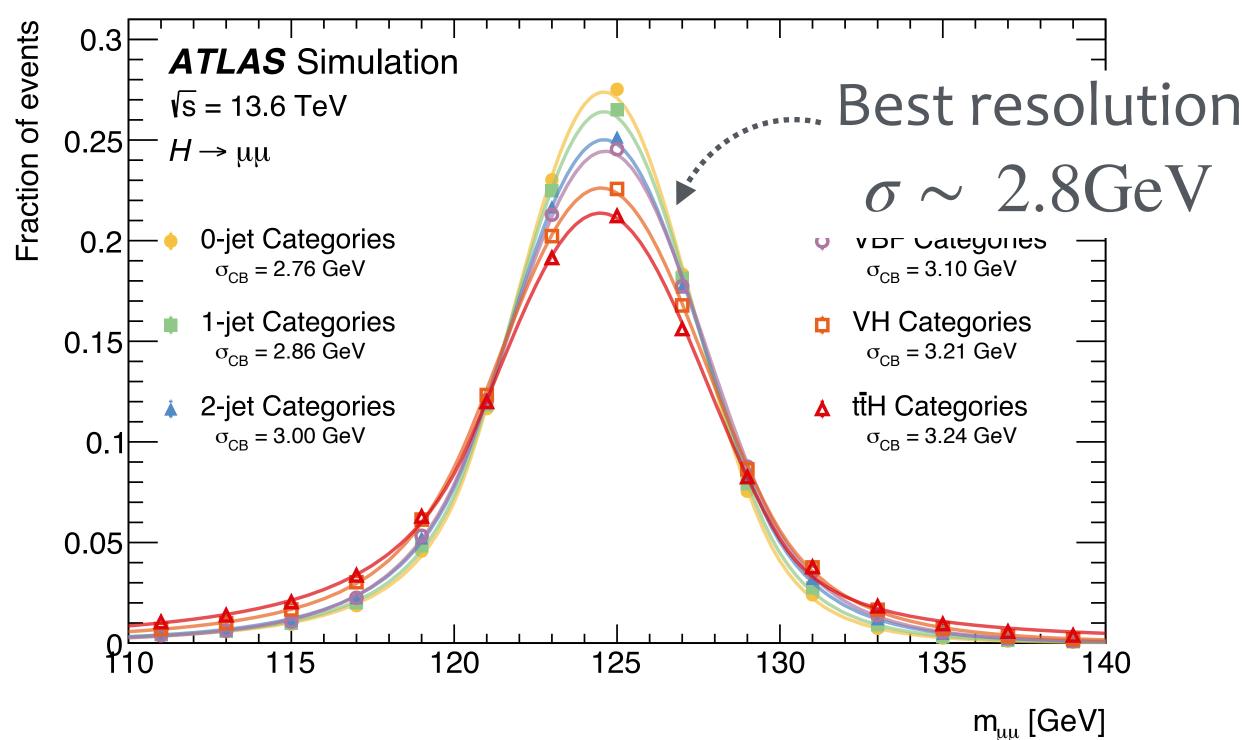




- Rare decay: $BR(H \to \mu\mu) \approx 2 \times 10^{-4}$, with large non-resonant background from $DY \to \mu\mu$
- S/B ~ 0.1% for inclusive events at 125 GeV
- Strategies to boost the sensitivity common to ATLAS and CMS:
 - use all production modes: ggF, VBF, VH, ttH
 - improve $\sigma(m_{\mu\mu})$: detector alignment, FSR recovery, constrain tracks to beam line, etc



Direct 2nd generation Yukawa: H->µµ











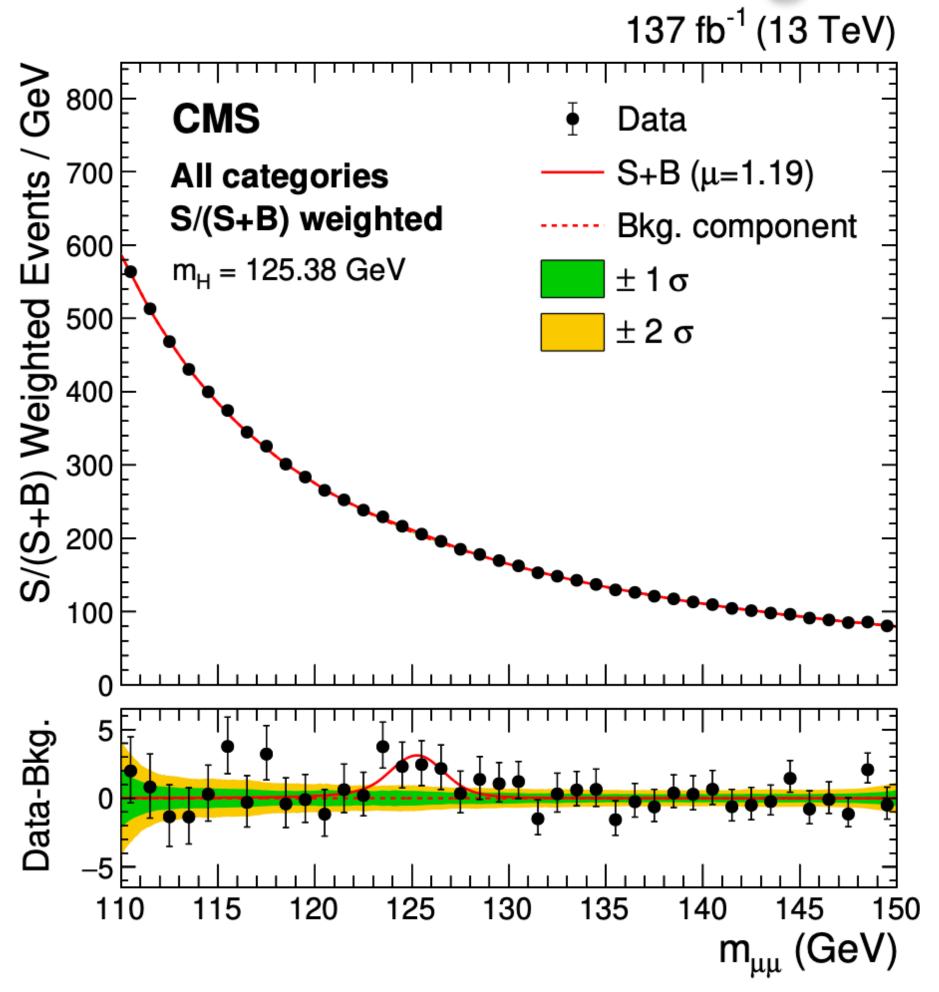




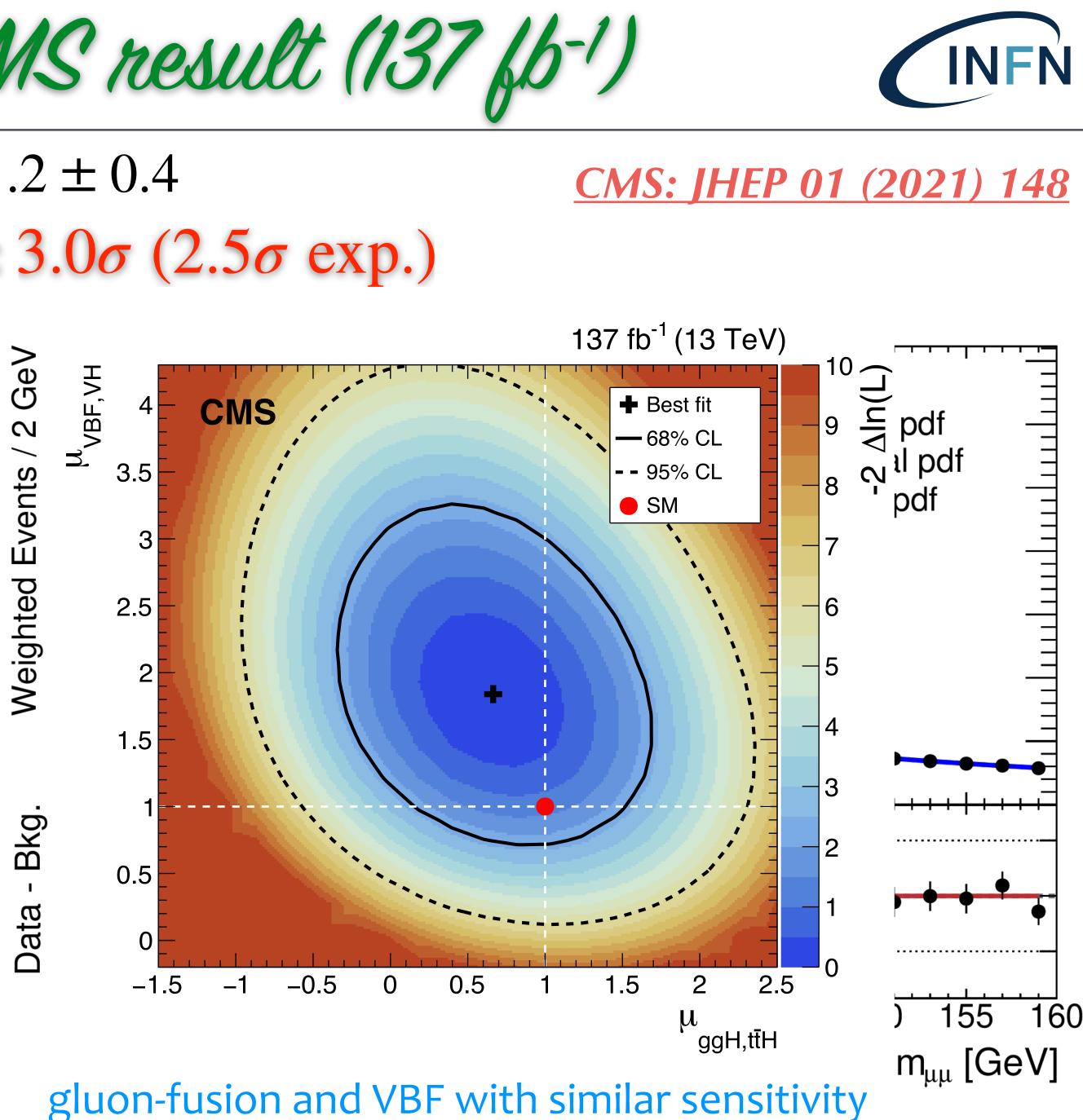




$\mu = 1.2 \pm 0.4$ significance: 3.0σ (2.5σ exp.)

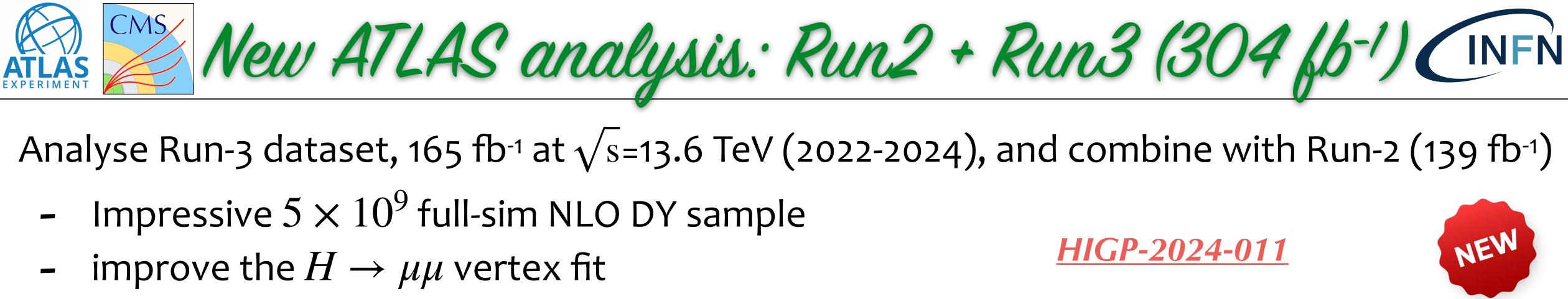




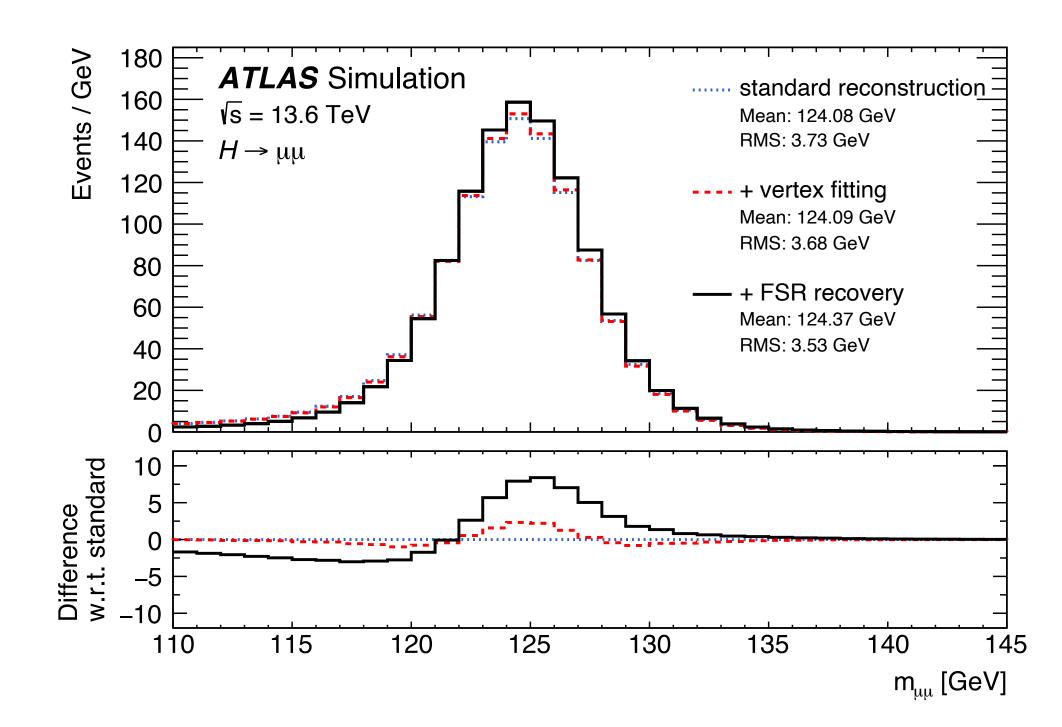








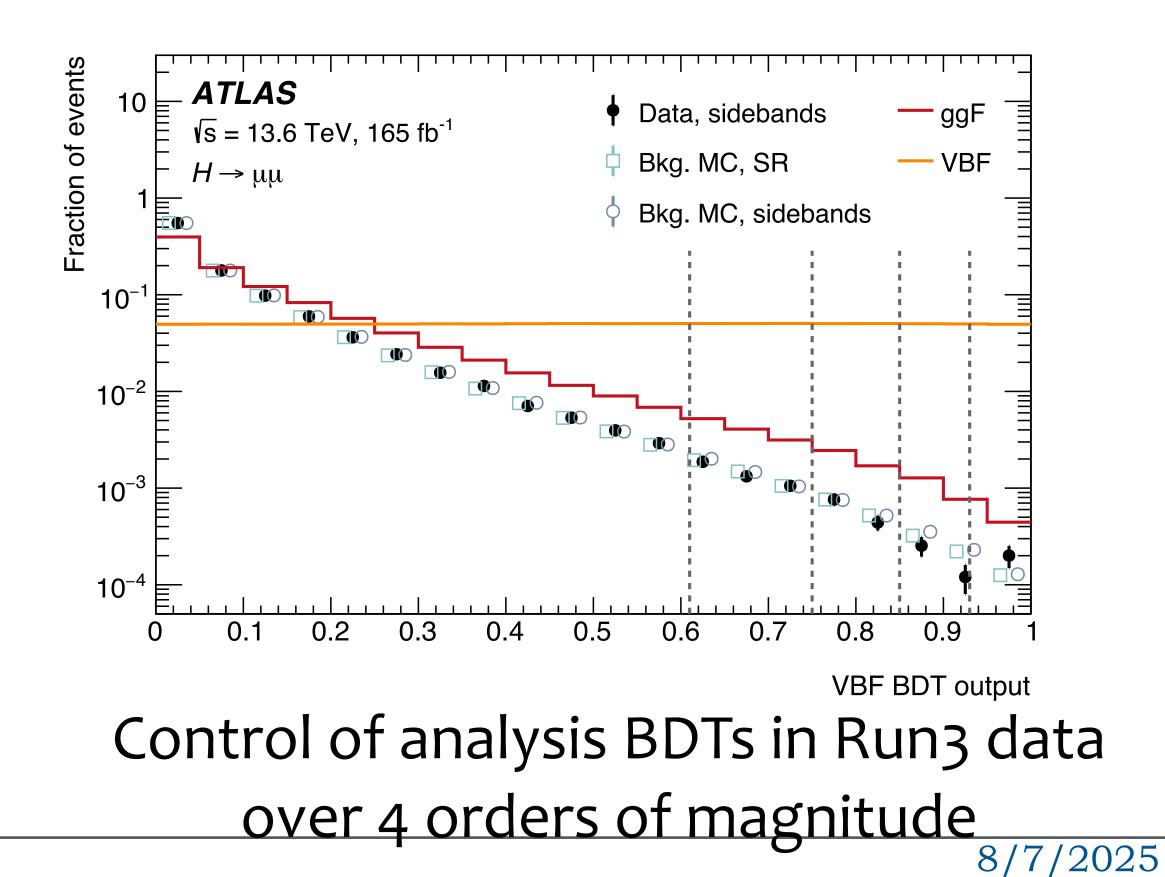
- Improve the categorisations, add 2leptons VH, ttH fully hadronic channels



5% better resolution from detector studies

E. Di Marco





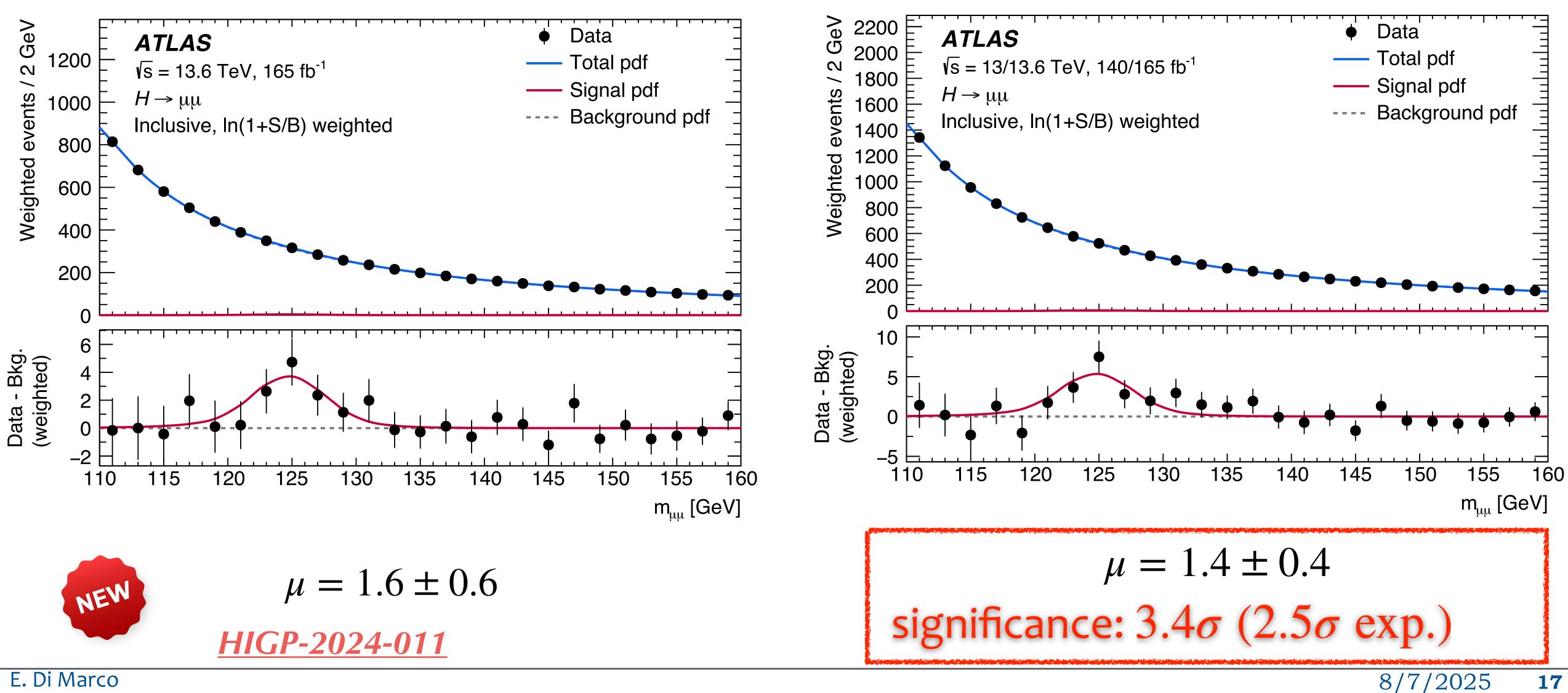








Run3 (165 fb-1) only



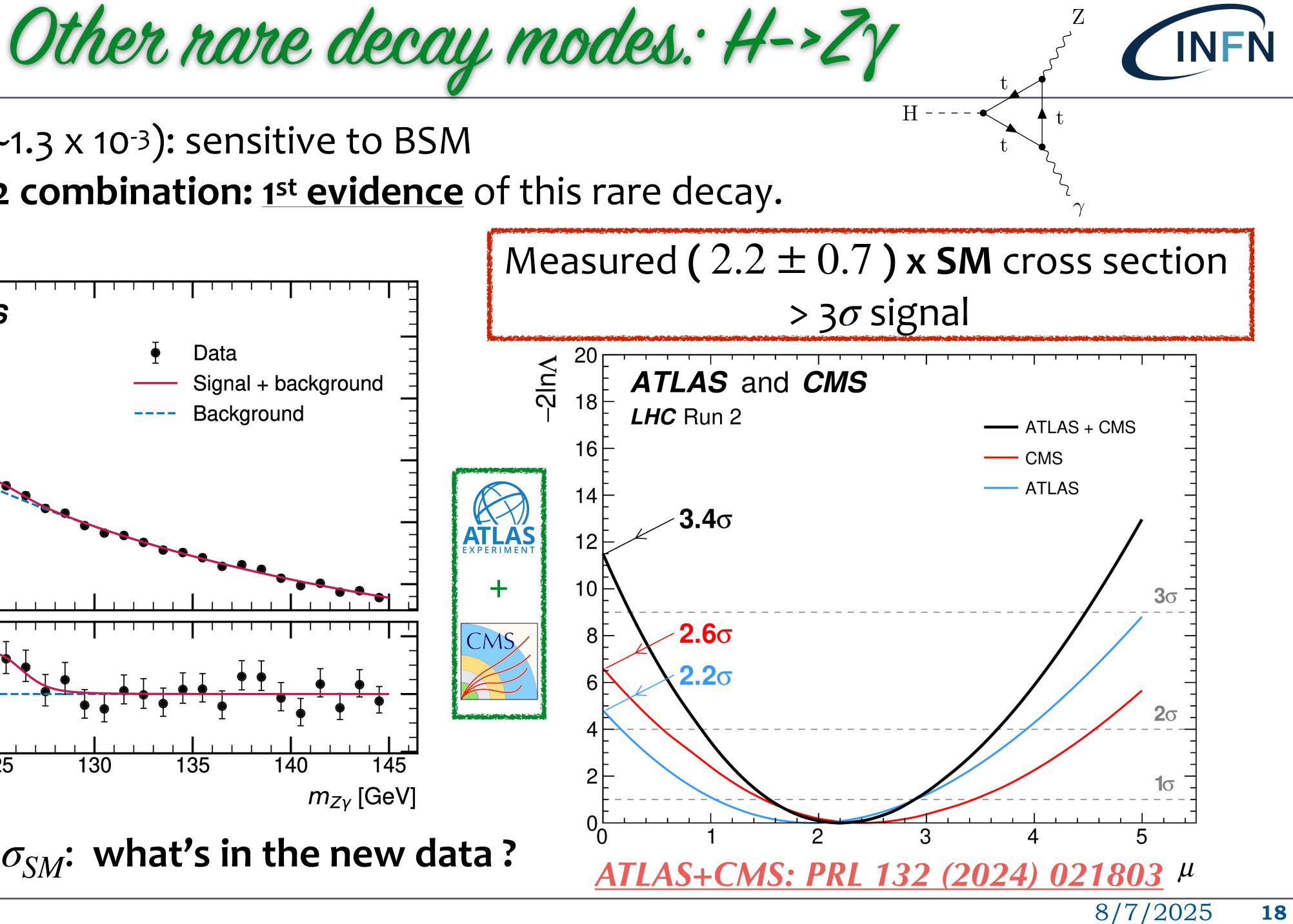


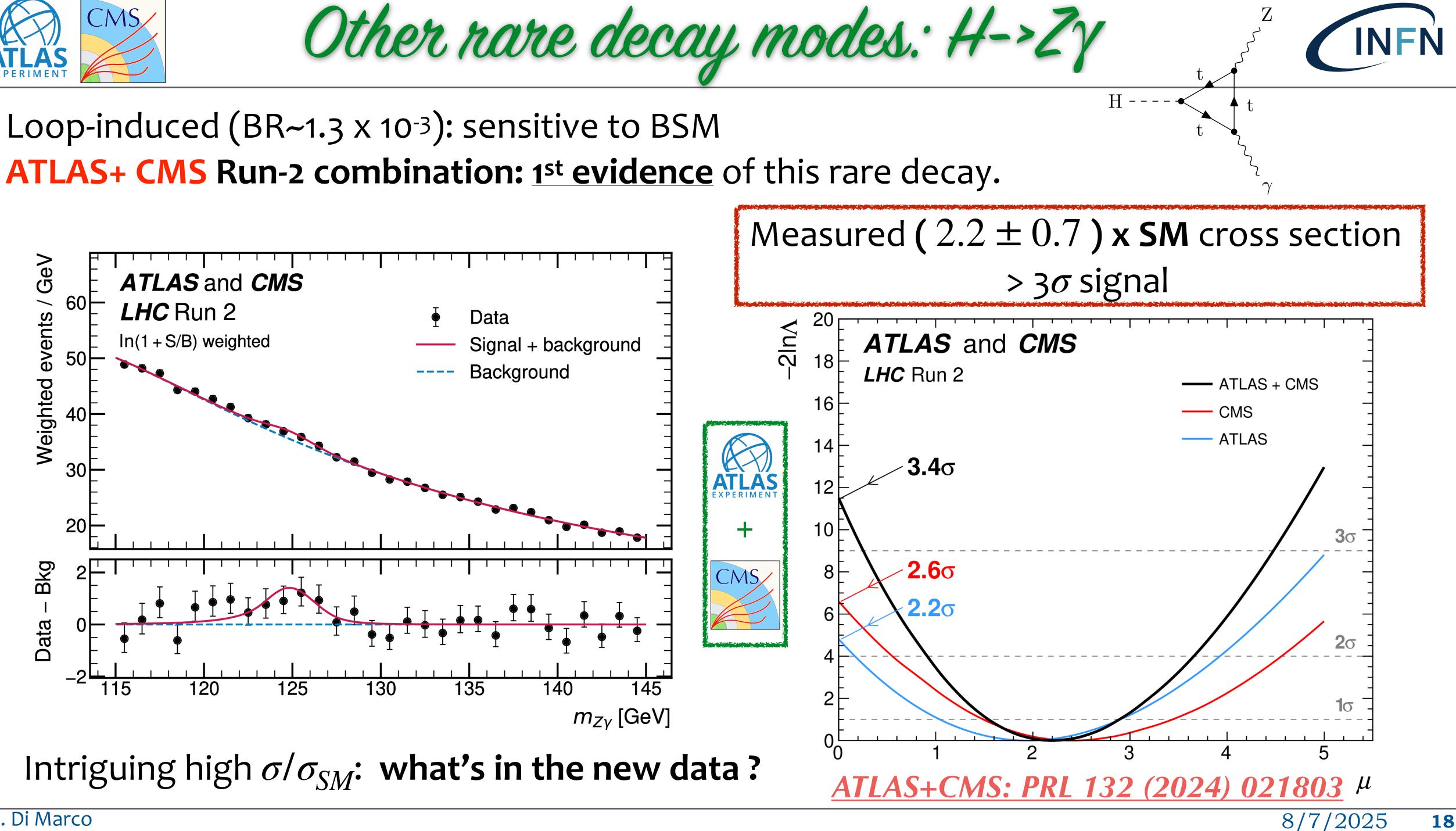
ATLAS evidence for H->µµ



Run2 + Run3 (304 fb-1)





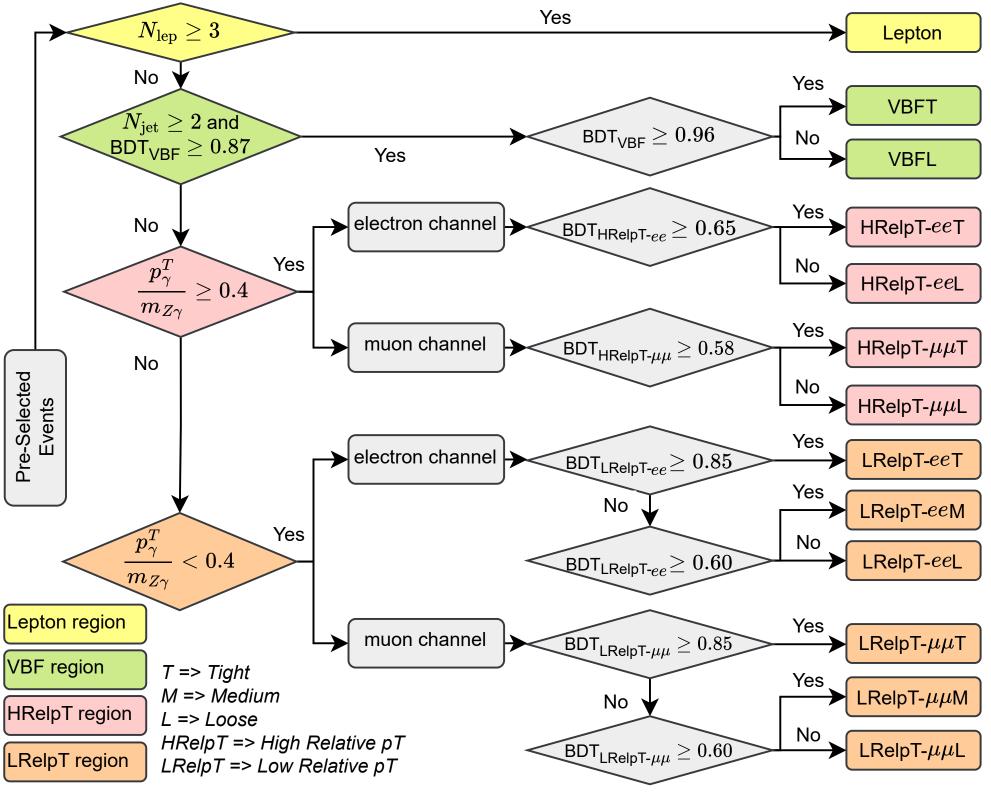






Based on 165 fb⁻¹ Run-3 data (2022-2024), with strategy improvements:

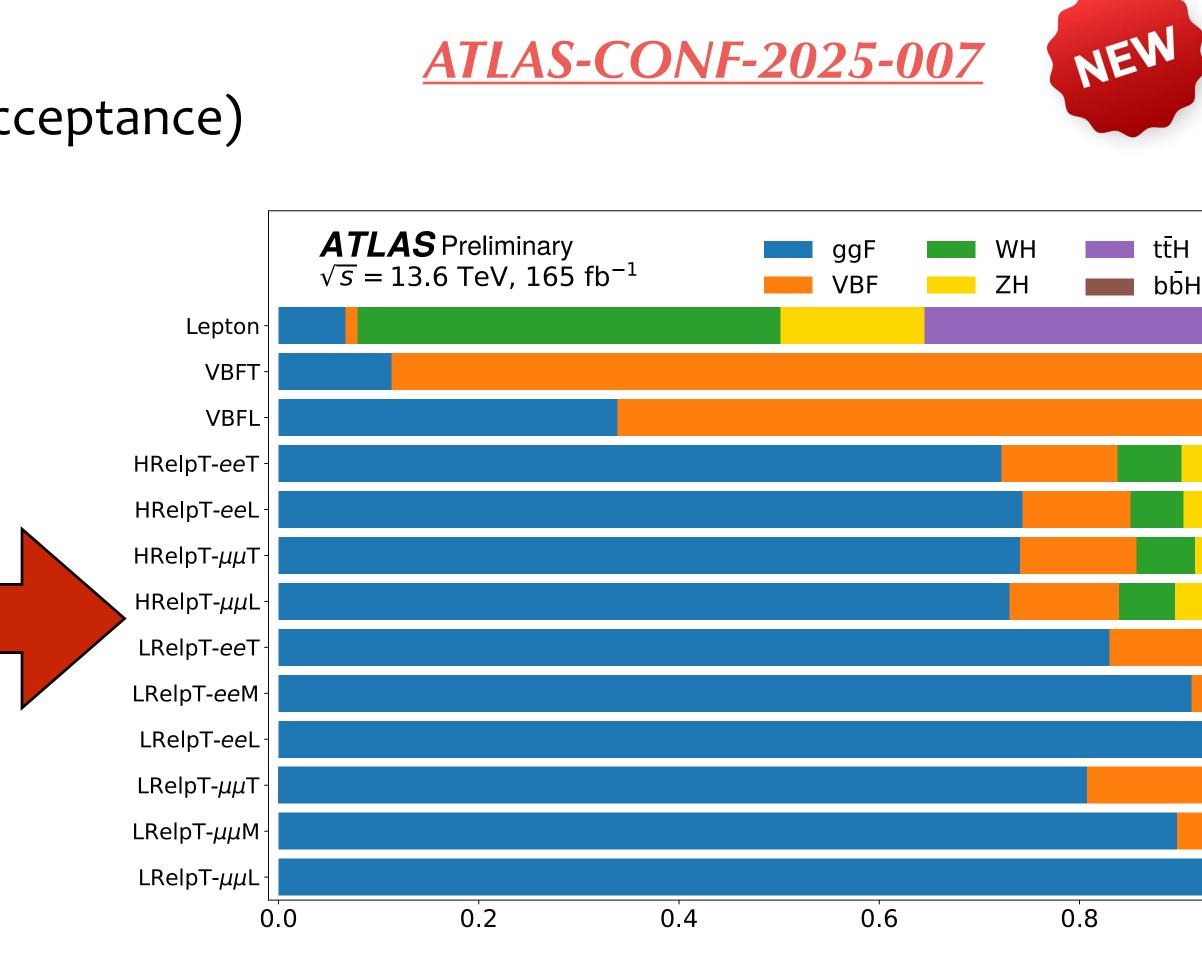
- 1. Relaxed e/μ pT thresholds (higher efficiency)
- 2. Improved categorization with MVAs
- 3. Added tt(multi-leptons)+H production (higher acceptance)



Novel Run-3 categorisation

Run-3 ATLAS H->Zy analysis





Signal production breakdown

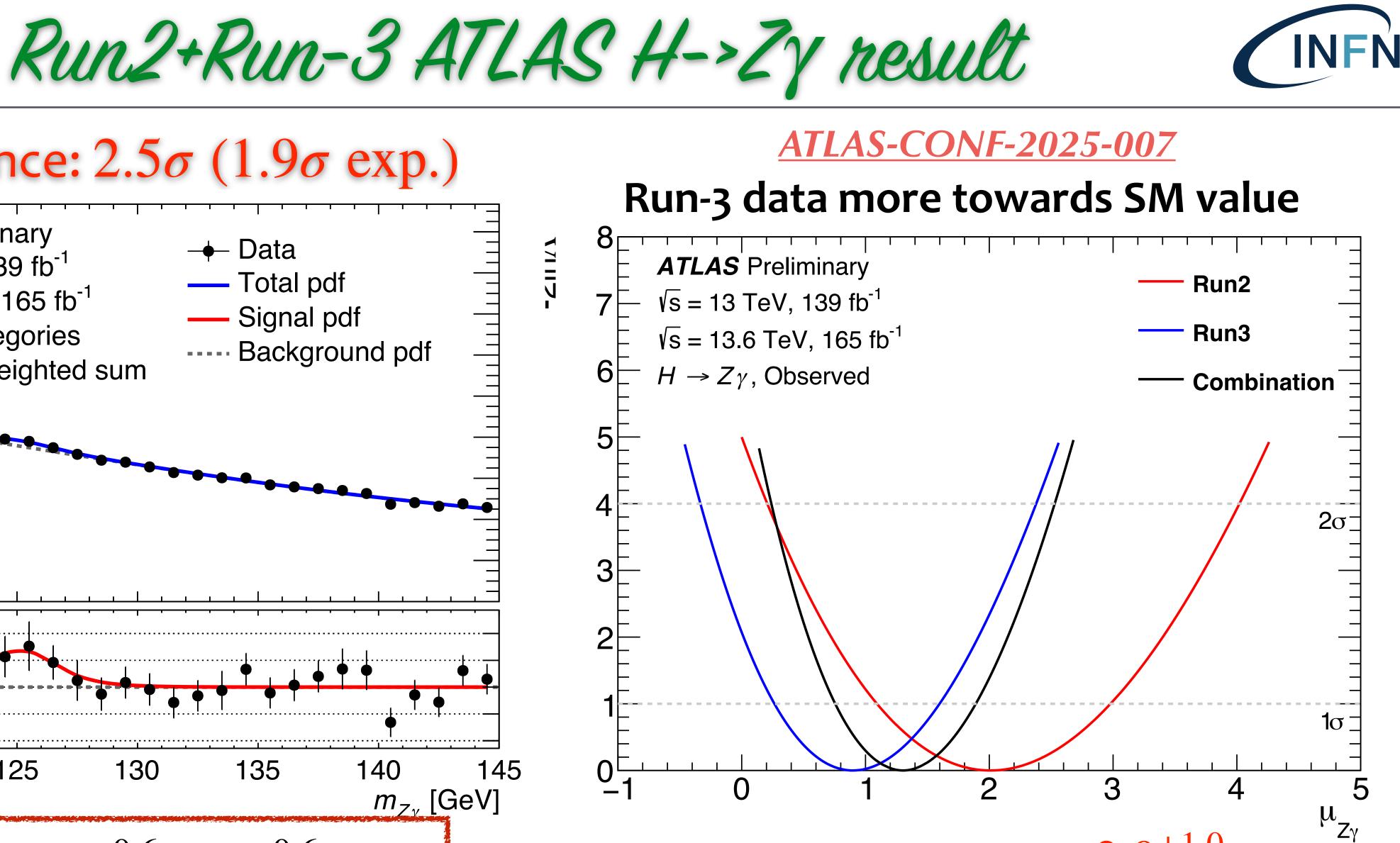
	 	7
l Ll		
H		
	ļ	
	1.	0

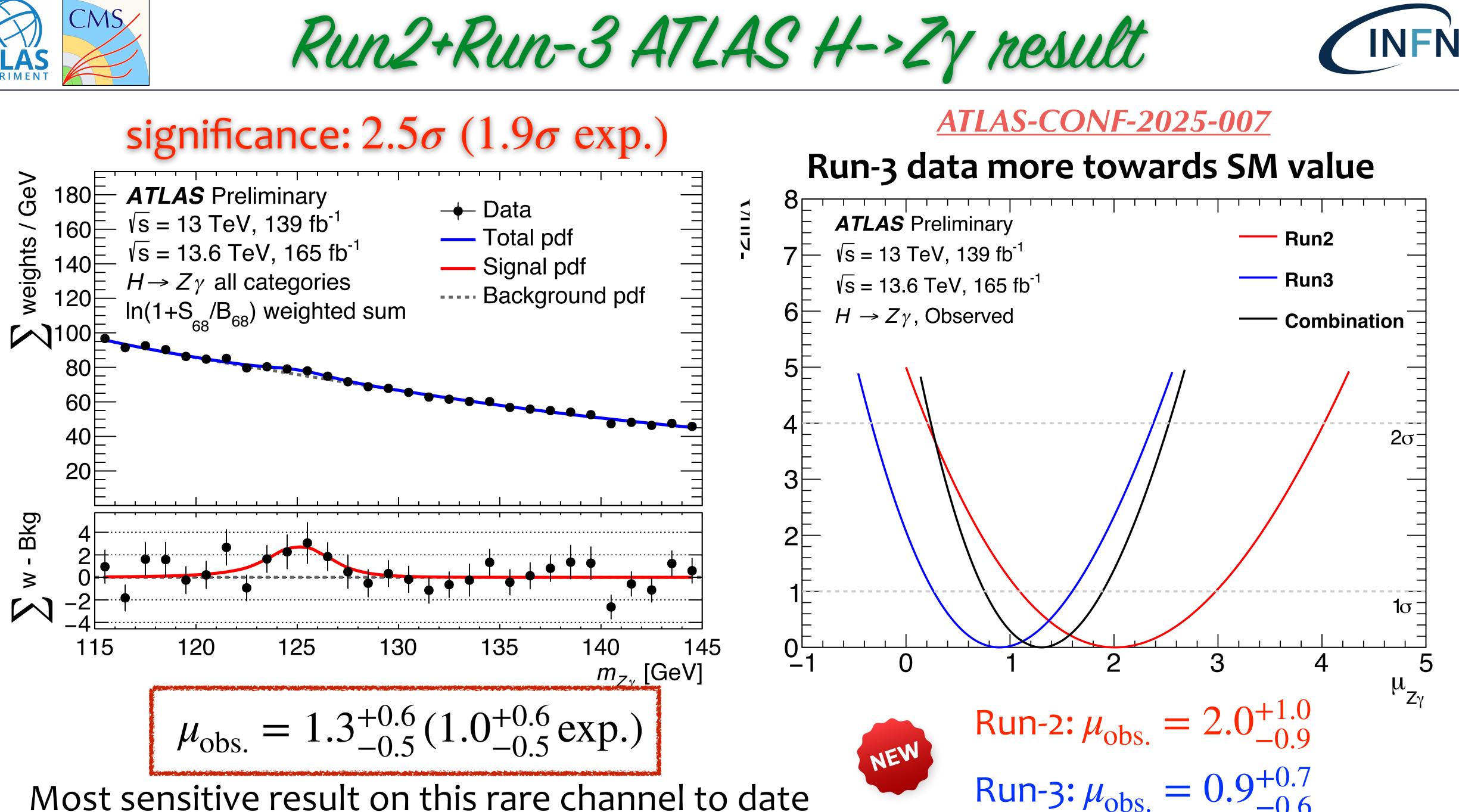












Run-3: $\mu_{obs.} = 0.9^{+0.7}_{-0.6}$

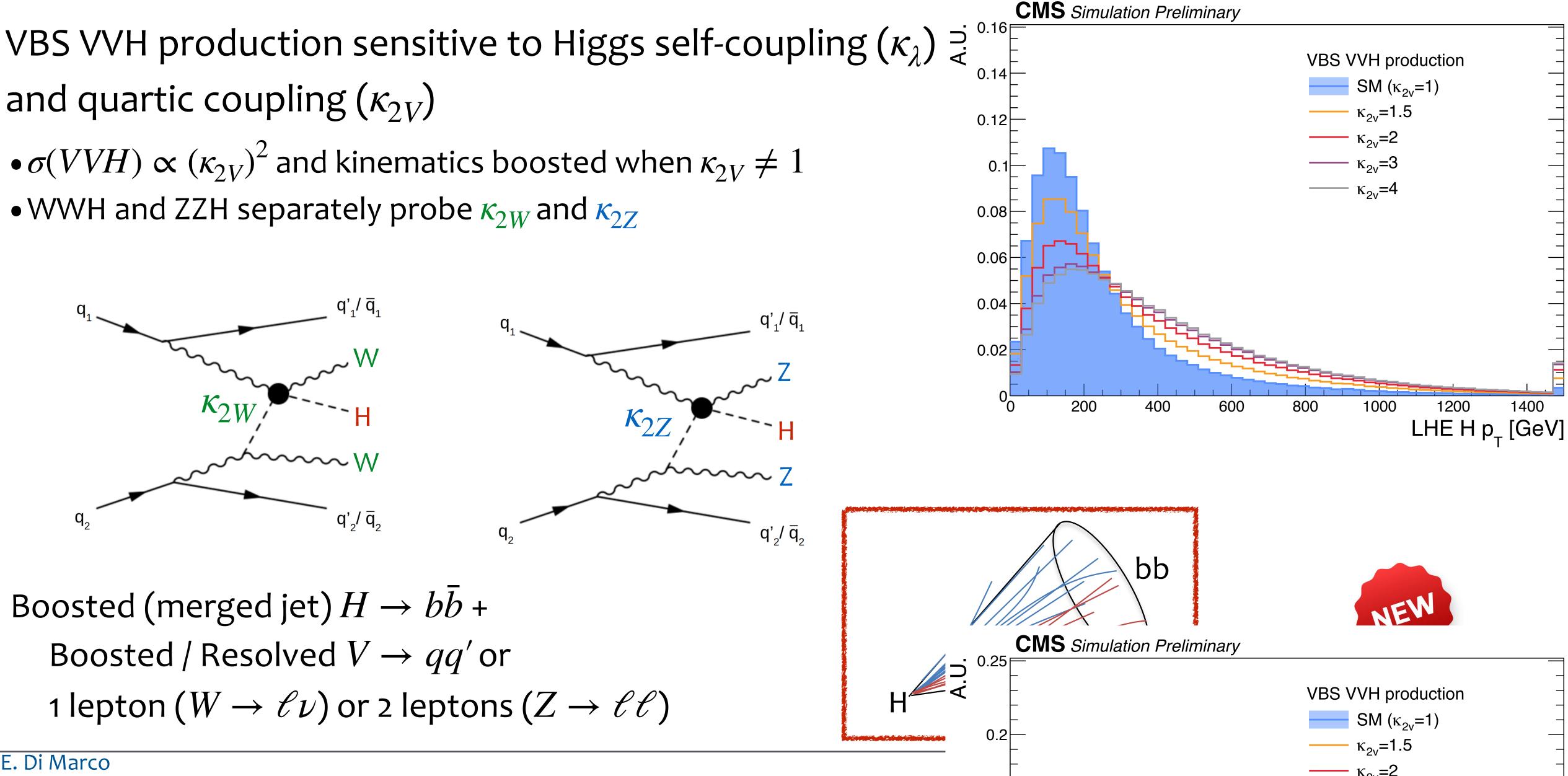






and quartic coupling (κ_{2V})

- WWH and ZZH separately probe κ_{2W} and κ_{2Z}



Boosted (merged jet) $H \rightarrow bb$ + Boosted / Resolved $V \rightarrow qq'$ or 1 lepton ($W \to \ell \nu$) or 2 leptons ($Z \to \ell \ell$)

E. Di Marco

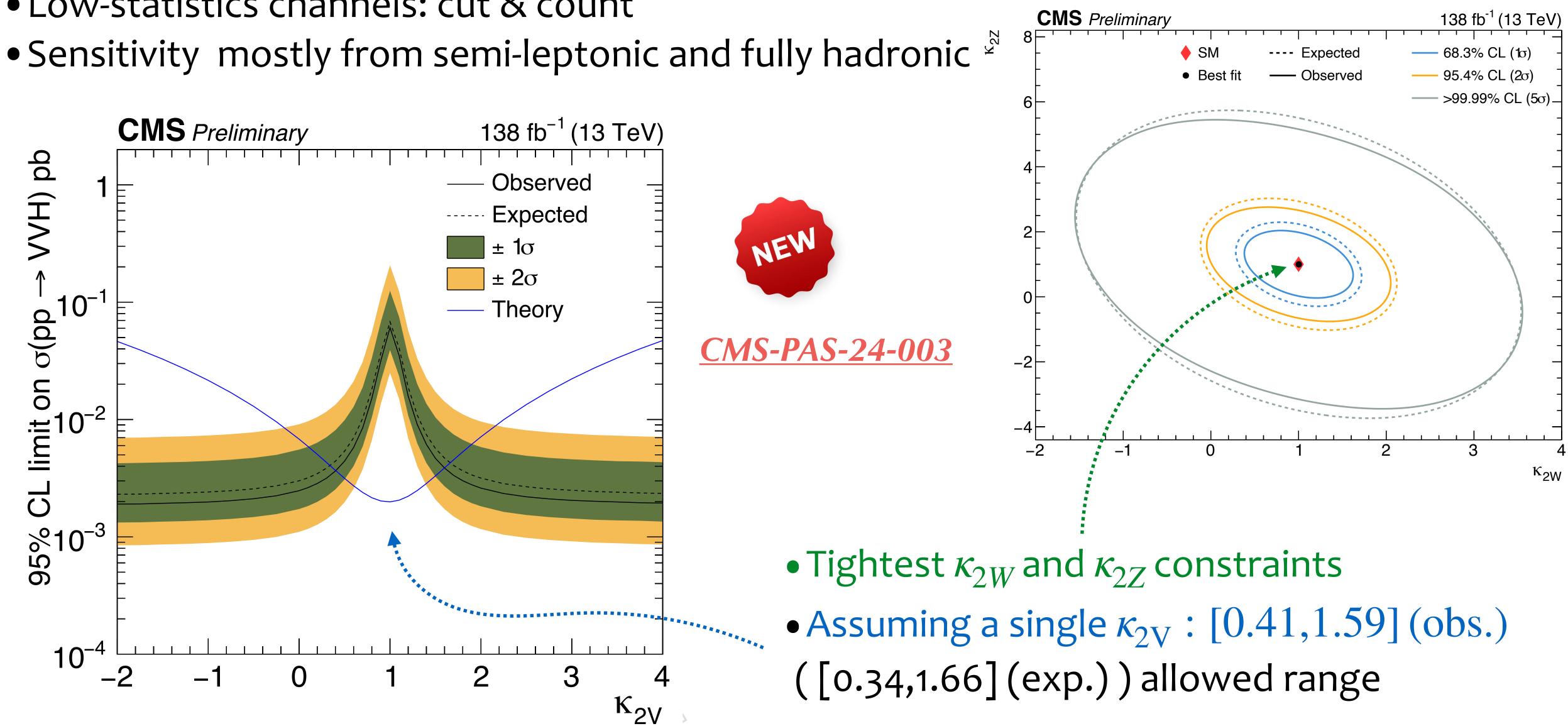








• Low-statistics channels: cut & count



Electroweak CMS VV H(bb) results





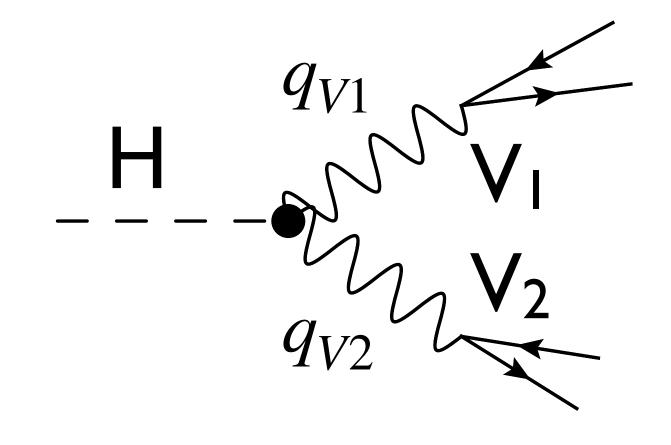


Higgs boson anomalous couplings and CP violation

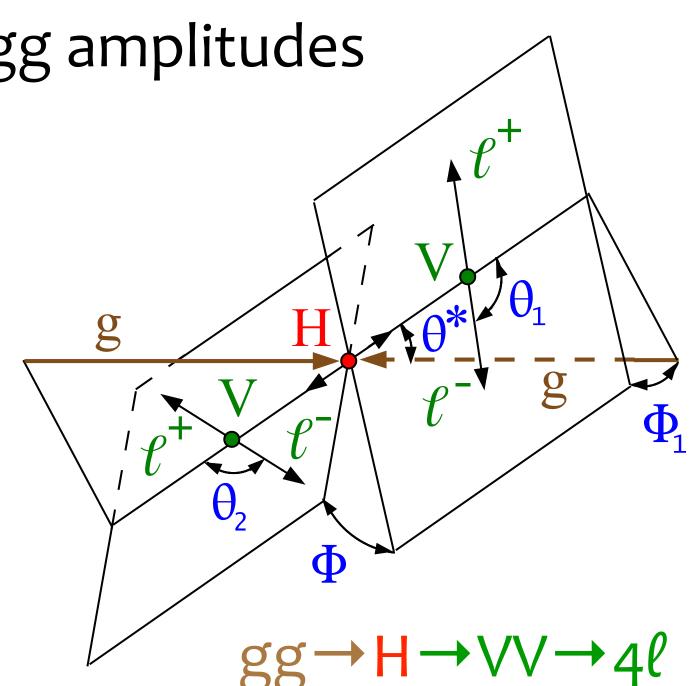




- Higgs boson confirmed to be spin-0, and consistent with CP++ since Run 1 • Pure CP-odd state excluded ≠ CP-even state
- Look for BSM contributions in the HVV, Hgg amplitudes



 $V_i = W, Z, \gamma, g$



e.g. $H \to 4\ell$ golden channel







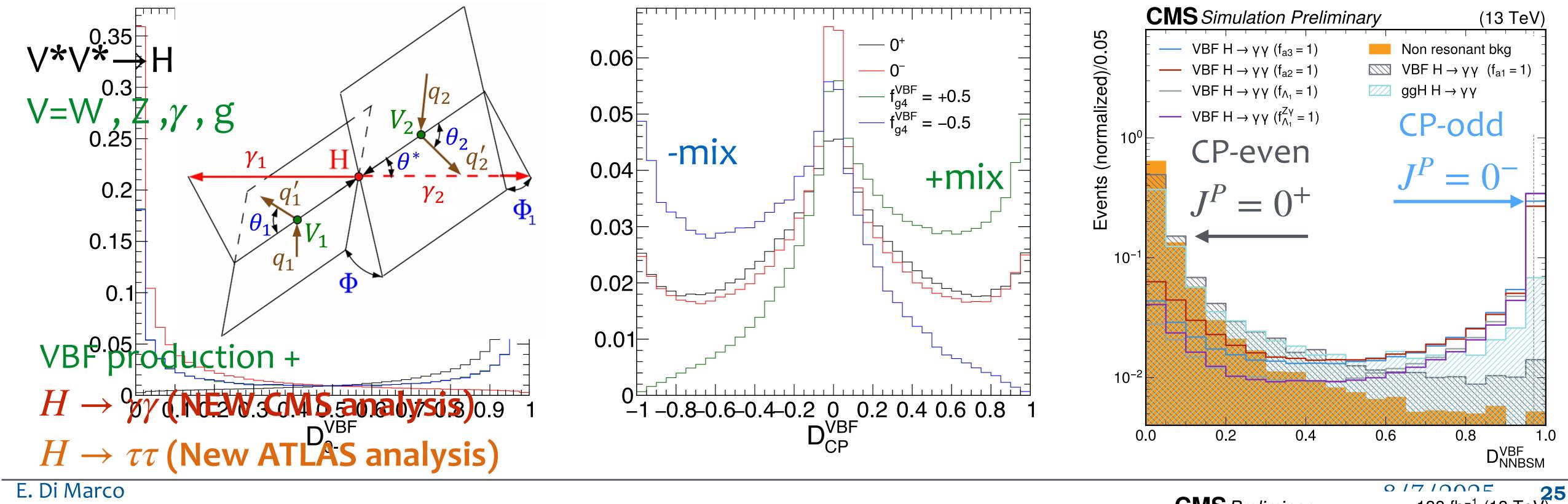






If Higgs is an admixture of CP-even ($A_{CP even}$) and CP-odd ($A_{CP odd}$) states, build two dedicated discriminants:





Dedicated observables to CP

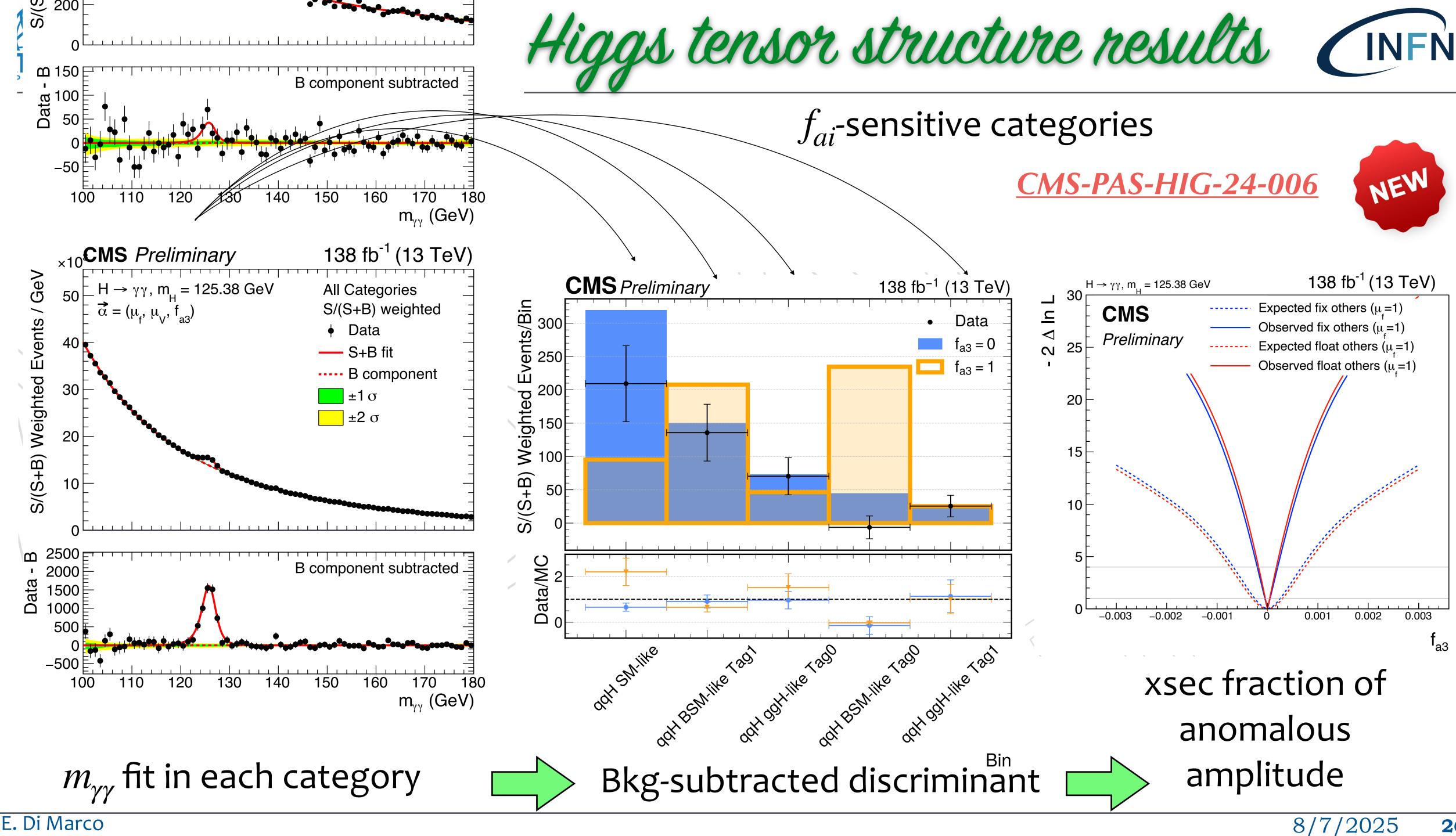
+

$$\left(A_{\rm CP\,even}A_{\rm CP\,odd}^*\right)$$

CP-sensitive











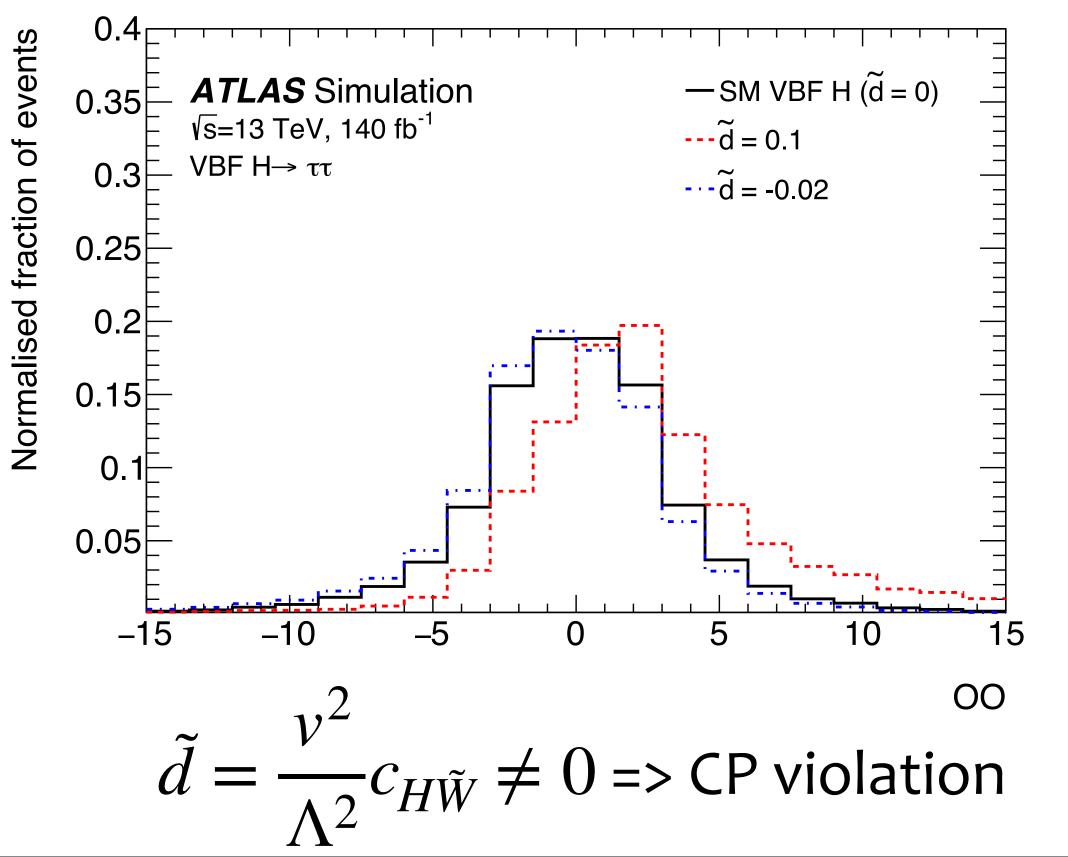




Exploit $H \rightarrow \tau \tau$ in VBF production to test HVV interaction in production

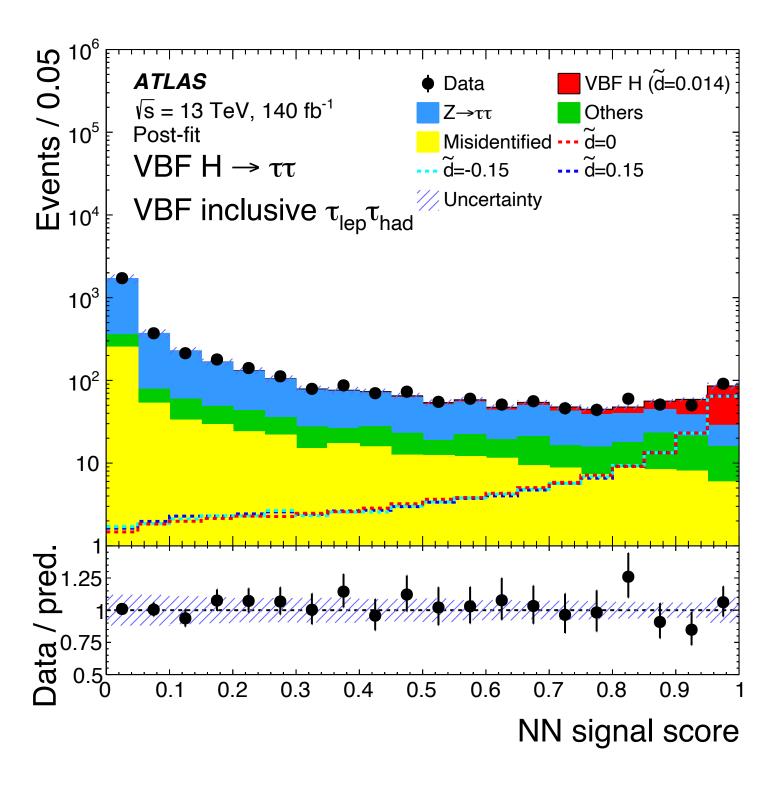
Use the matrix element CP-sensitive "Optimal Observable" (OO) $\propto Re\left(A_{\text{CP even}}A_{\text{CP odd}}^*\right)$

- alternative variables use the angular correlation of VBF jets $\Delta \phi_{ii}$



ATLAS CP violation with $H \rightarrow \tau \tau$

Three final states: $\ell \ell$, $\ell \tau_h$, $\tau_h \tau_h$



Dedicated NN to define signal and validation regions based on NN output



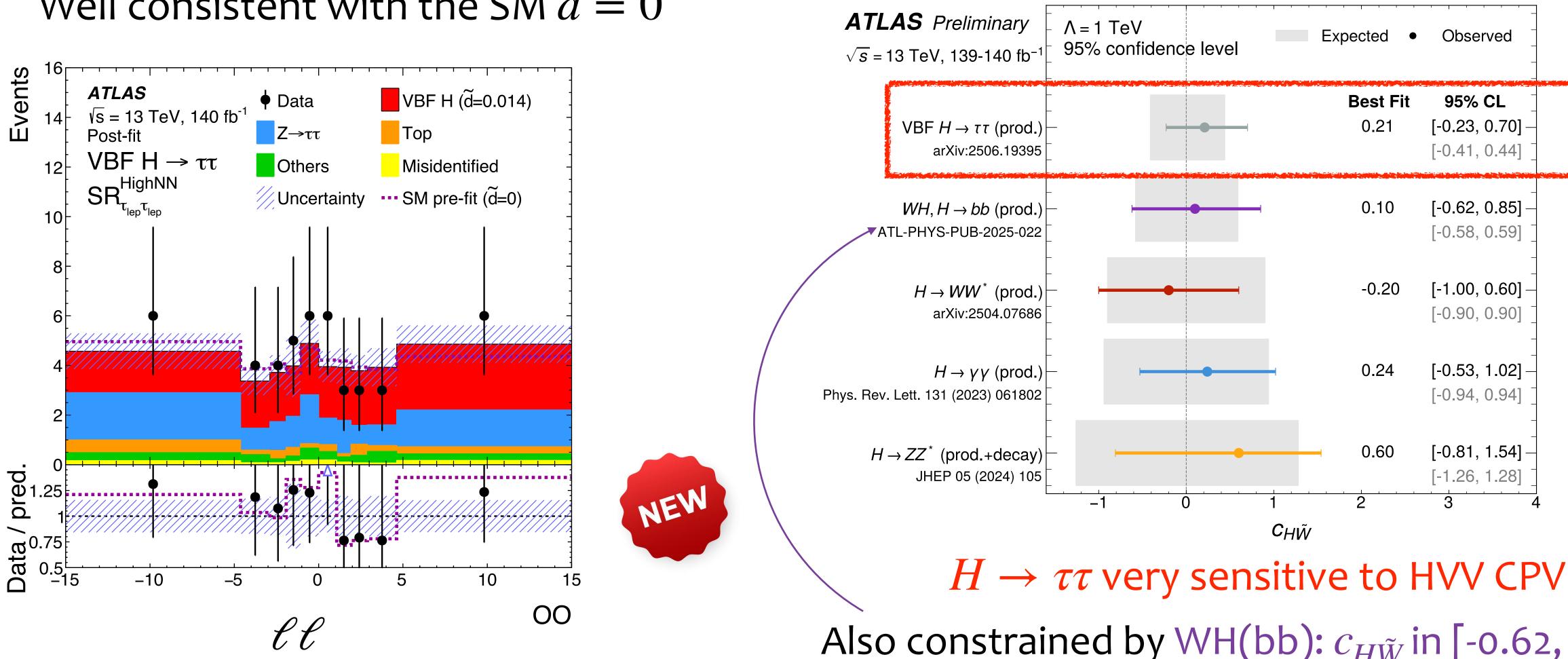








Best fit OO distribution $\tilde{d} = 0.014$, [-0.012; 0.044] allowed range @95% CL Well consistent with the SM $\tilde{d} = 0$



HIGP-2024-009



Also constrained by WH(bb): $c_{H\tilde{W}}$ in [-0.62, 0.85] ATLAS-PHYS-PUB-2025-022



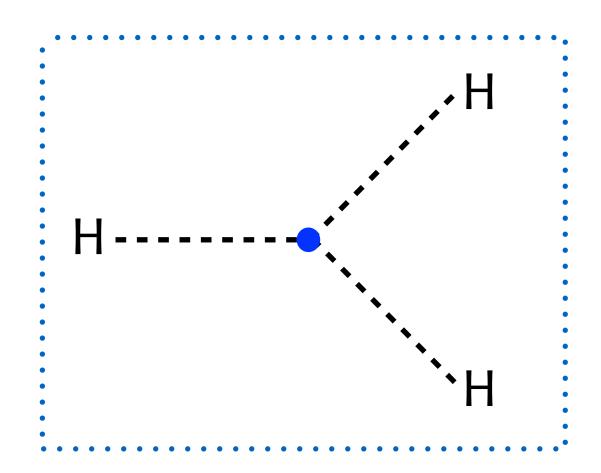




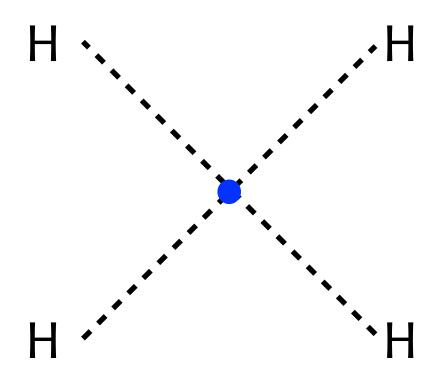


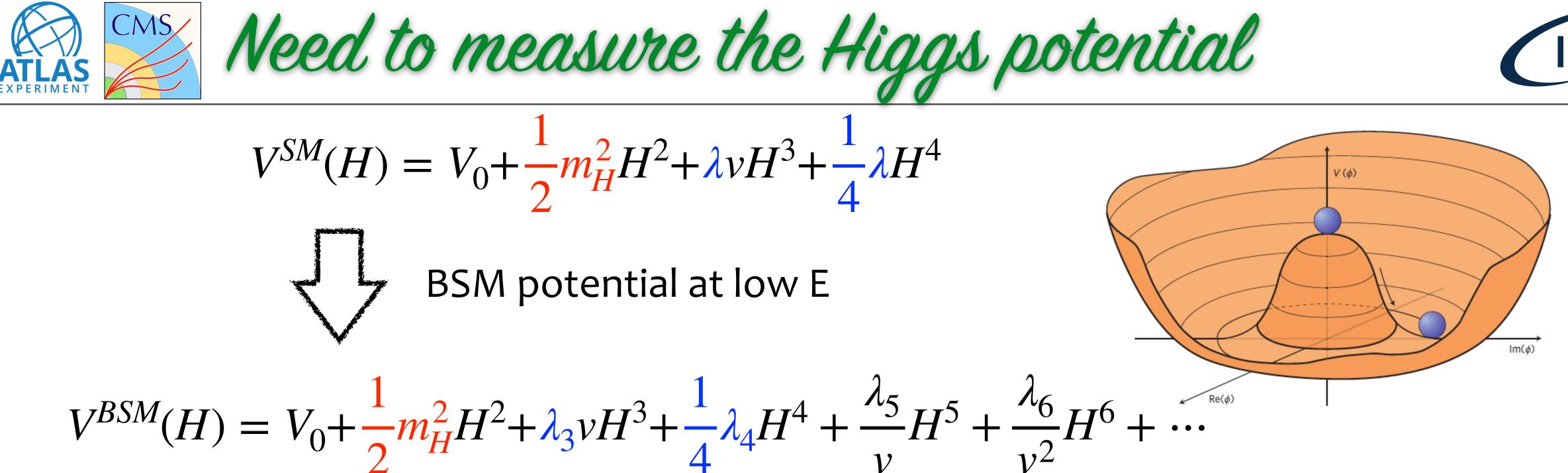
Higgs boson self coupling

H^3 (" λ_3 " or simply " λ ")



*H*⁴ ("λ₄")





$$V^{SM}(H) = V_0 + \frac{1}{2}m_H^2 H^2 + \lambda v H$$

$$V^{BSM}(H) = V_0 + \frac{1}{2}m_H^2 H^2 + \lambda_3 v H^3 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda_4 H$$

In EFTs, adding dimension-6 (BSM at scale E> Λ), the λ_i are not independent:

$$\lambda_3 = \lambda \left(1 + c_6 \frac{2v^4}{m_H^2 \Lambda^2} \right) \equiv \lambda (1 + \bar{c}_6)$$

A measure of $\bar{c}_6 \neq 0$ (e.g. via HH rate) hint of 1st phase transition (Sakharov condition for $n_{\rm R} \gg n_{\bar{\rm R}}$)

But: HH is an <u>extremely rare</u> process at LHC: $\sigma_{ggHH} < \frac{\sigma_{ggH}}{1000}$ (34 fb @ $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$ TeV)





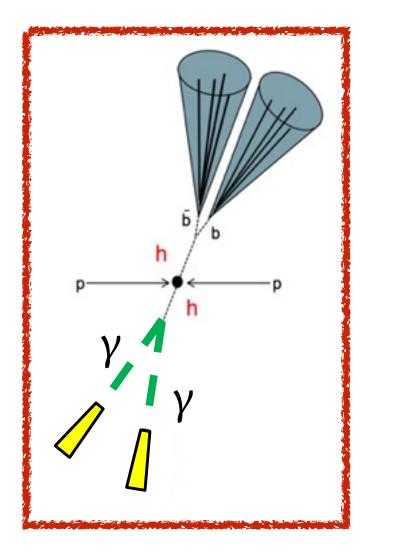


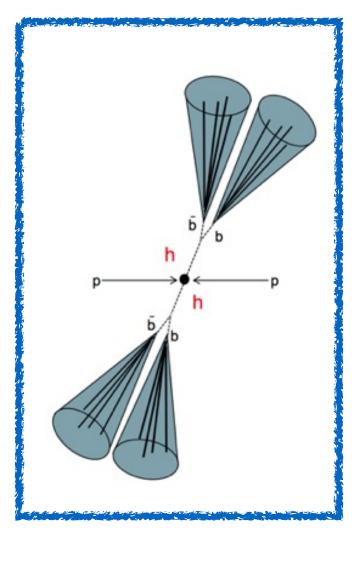


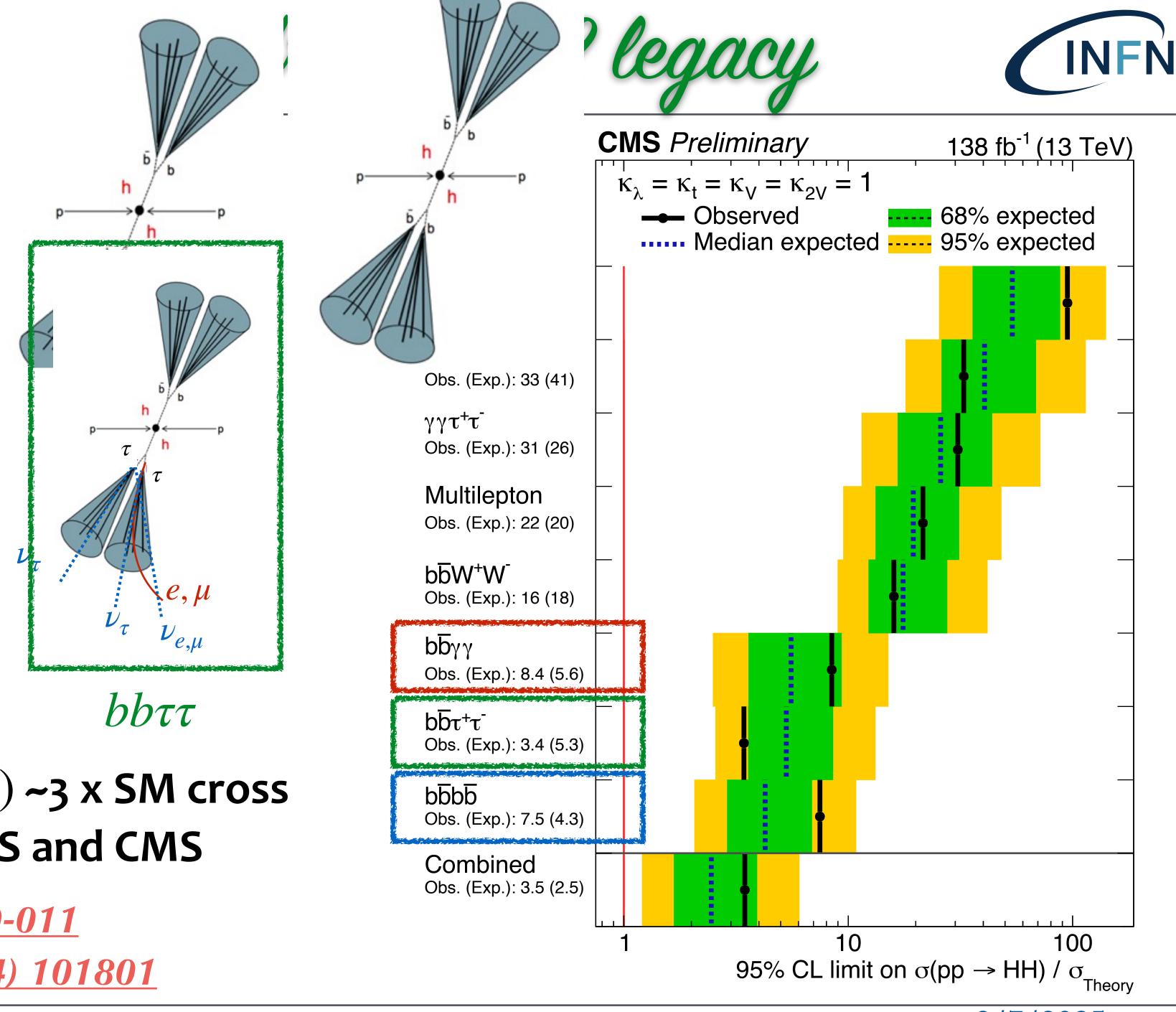




Three "silver" channels: *bbyy*, ⁴







bbyy

bbbb

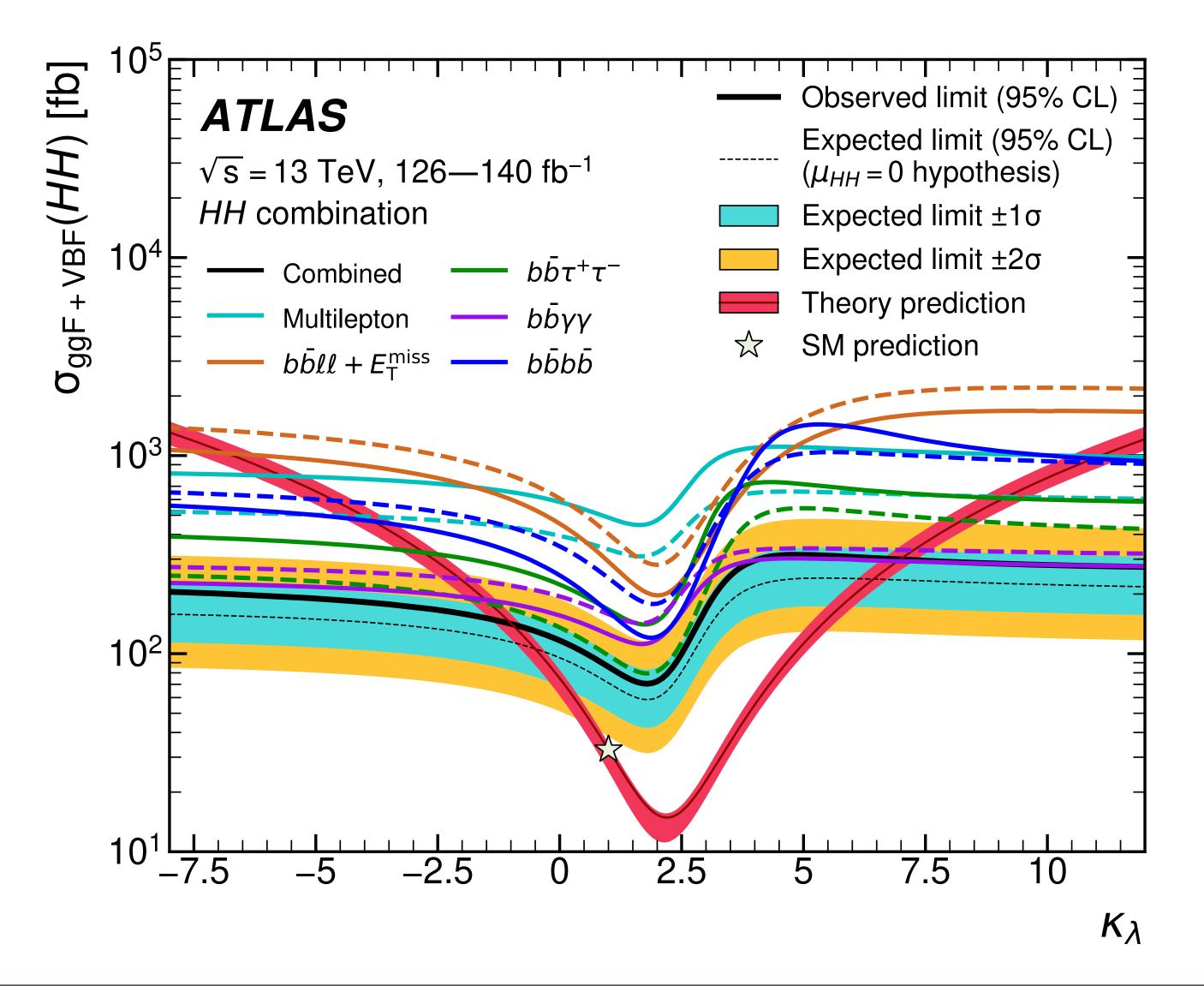
Current upper limit on $\sigma(HH)$ ~3 x SM cross section from both ATLAS and CMS

CMS-PAS-HIG-20-011

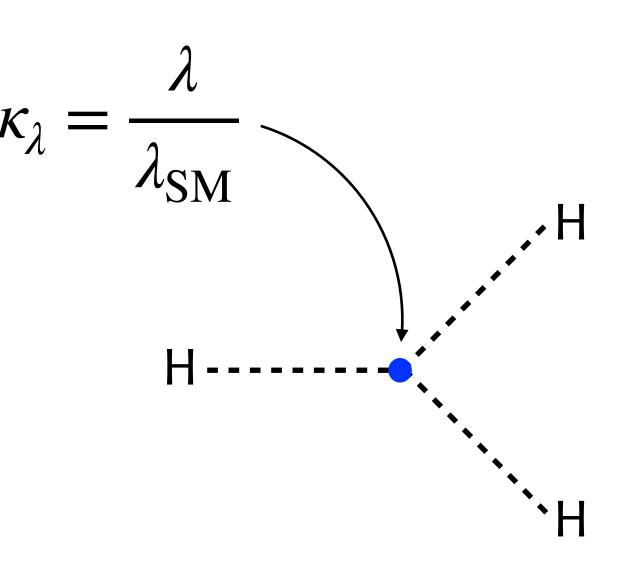
ATLAS: <u>PRL 133 (2024) 101801</u>











most stringent 95% CLs on Higgs boson self-coupling from HH:

> $-1.2 < \kappa_{\lambda} < 7.2$ (ATLAS) $-1.39 < \kappa_{\lambda} < 7.02$ (CMS)

CMS-PAS-HIG-20-011 ATLAS: PRL 133 (2024) 101801



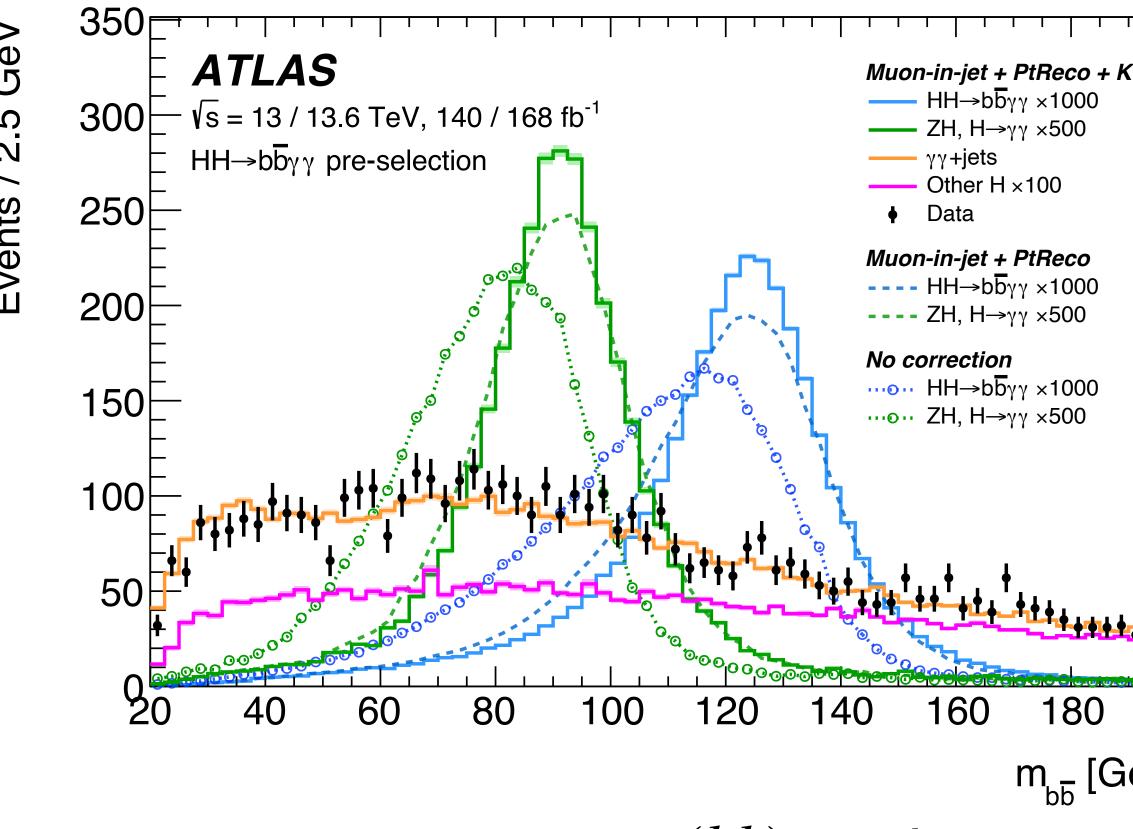






Re-analysis of Run2-[15-18] (140 fb⁻¹) and Run3-[22-24] (168 fb⁻¹) with several improvements:

- Use new ML (transformers) b-tagging
- Kinematic fits (KF) to improve m(bb) and $m(bb\gamma\gamma)$ resolution
- Improved categorisation m_{HH}-dependent



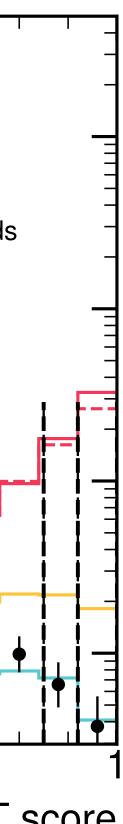
ATLAS Ö HH (SM) HH (BSM) GeV $\sqrt{s} = 13 / 13.6 \text{ TeV}, 140 / 168 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ 10⊨ events Single H Muon-in-jet + PtReco + KF $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ pre-selection $\gamma\gamma$ + jets 2.5 Data sidebands High-mass region -raction of Events / 10^{-1} 10^{-2} 0.2 0.4 8.0 0.6 180 200 1 BDTs for each bin of: BDT score m_{bb} [GeV] $m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma}^* = m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma} - (m_{b\bar{b}} - m_H) - (m_{\gamma\gamma} - m_H)$ Up to 17% improvement in m(bb) resolution with the KF

E. Di Marco

Pioneering Run3 data: ATLAS HH $\rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ (INFN

HIGP-2025-010



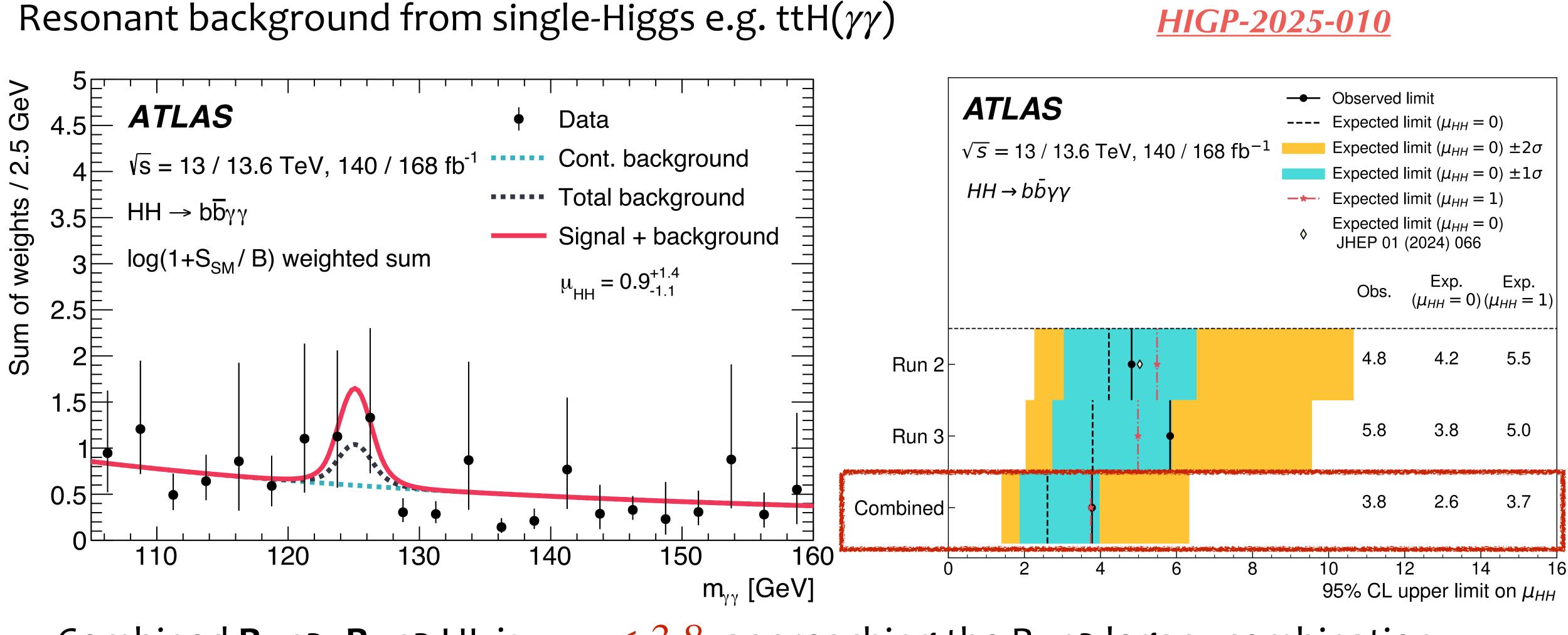












Combined **Run2+Run3** UL is $\mu_{HH} < 3.8$, approaching the Run2 legacy combination Limits on H self coupling: $-1.7 < \kappa_{\lambda} < 6.6$ @ 95% CL





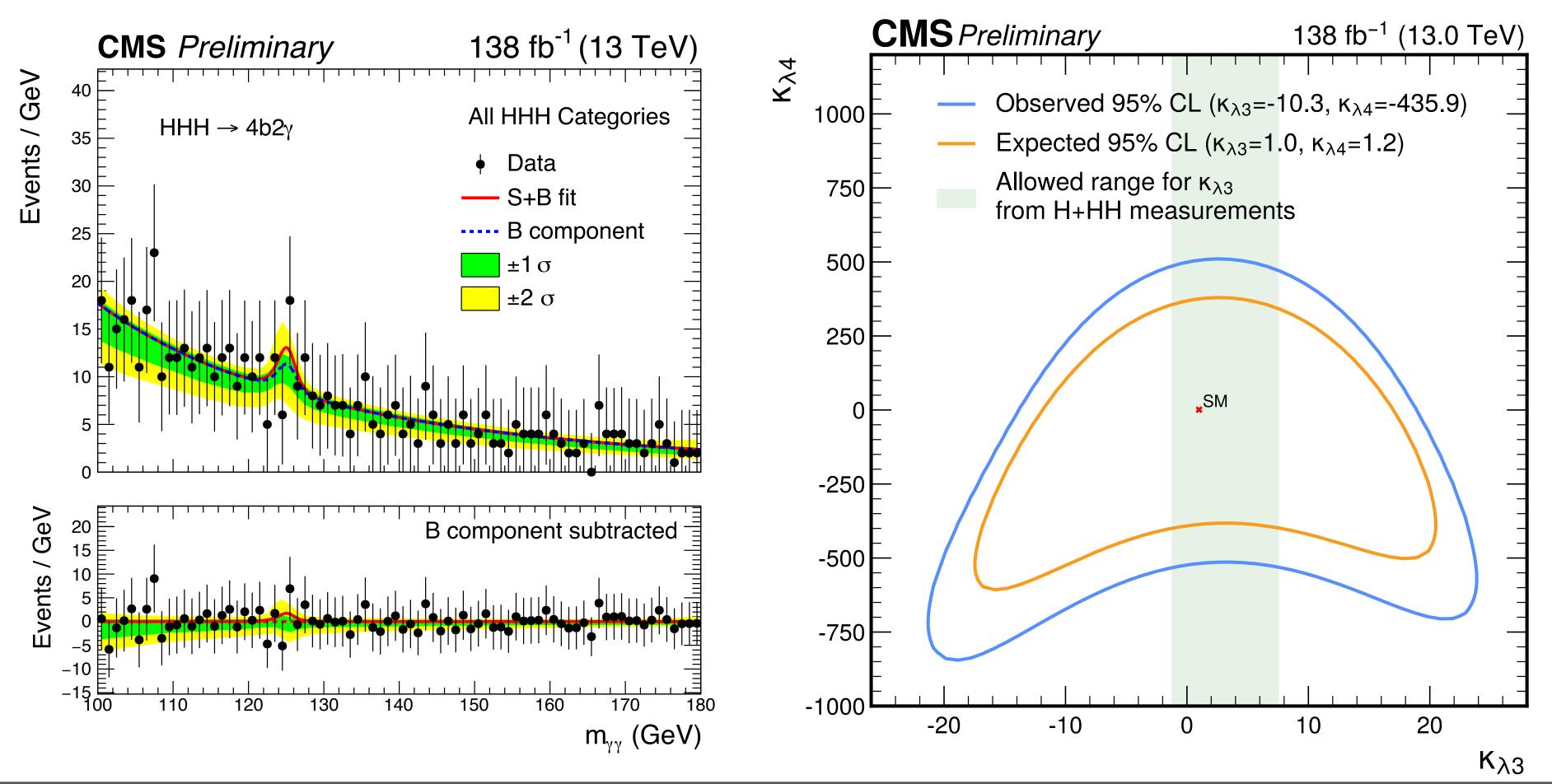








Tri-Higgs (HHH) production sensitive to both λ_3 and λ_4 Recent ATLAS measurements: HHH \rightarrow 6b (PhysRevD.111.032006) CMS new Run-2 analysis of HHH $\rightarrow 4b2\gamma$ ultra-rare: $\sigma \times \mathscr{B} \sim 0.2$ ab



E. Di Marco



CMS-PAS-HIG-24-015



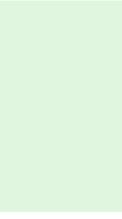
μ_{HHH} < 3400 (2086 exp.)

- Stronger dependence of HHH cross section from λ_3 than λ_4
- Green area: constraints from H+HH

















- The LHC Run2 and Run3 data used to fully characterize the Higgs boson
 - mass measured with 0.1% precision, and width with 50% precision
 - production cross sections measured differentially in many decay bins, in all production modes
 - fiducial cross sections and coupling modifiers measured at 5-10% level inclusively
 - couplings to 2nd generation evidence with $H \to \mu^+ \mu^-$, next challenge is $H \to c\bar{c}$
 - CP violation studied in many channels
 - H self-coupling constrained from direct searches for HH production and single-H and HHH













- The LHC Run2 and Run3 data used to fully characterize the Higgs boson
 - mass measured with 0.1% precision, and width with 50% precision
 - production cross sections measured differentially in many decay bins, in all production modes
 - fiducial cross sections and coupling modifiers measured at 5-10% level inclusively
 - couplings to 2nd generation evidence with $H \to \mu^+ \mu^-$, next challenge is $H \to c\bar{c}$
 - CP violation studied in many channels
 - H self-coupling constrained from direct searches for HH production and single-H and HHH

• LHC Phase-1 dataset at the end of data taking will be ~0.5 ab⁻¹ per experiment

- a unique opportunity to precisely characterise the Higgs potential













- The LHC Run2 and Run3 data used to fully characterize the Higgs boson
 - mass measured with 0.1% precision, and width with 50% precision
 - production cross sections measured differentially in many decay bins, in all production modes
 - fiducial cross sections and coupling modifiers measured at 5-10% level inclusively
 - couplings to 2nd generation evidence with $H \to \mu^+ \mu^-$, next challenge is $H \to c\bar{c}$
 - CP violation studied in many channels
 - H self-coupling constrained from direct searches for HH production and single-H and HHH
- LHC Phase-1 dataset at the end of data taking will be ~0.5 ab⁻¹ per experiment
 - a unique opportunity to precisely characterise the Higgs potential

• After the end of Run3:

- Expect **20x more data** by the end of HL-LHC
- Expect improvements from analysis techniques to boost new physics search in the Higgs sector

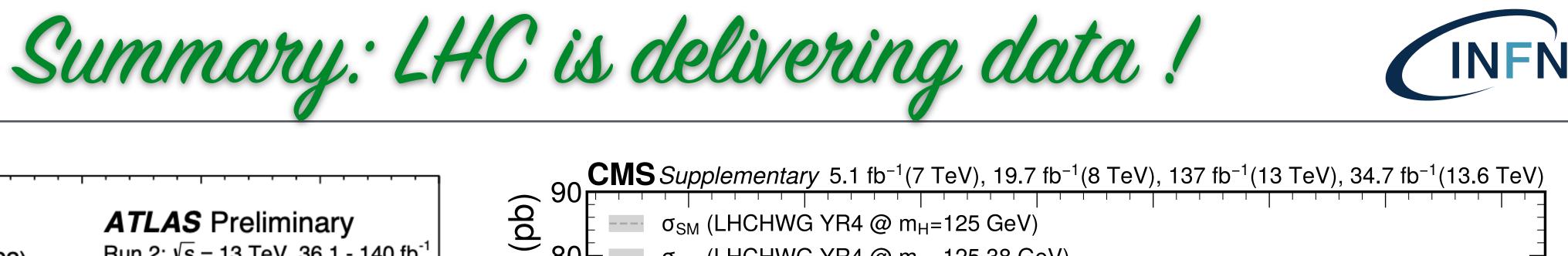


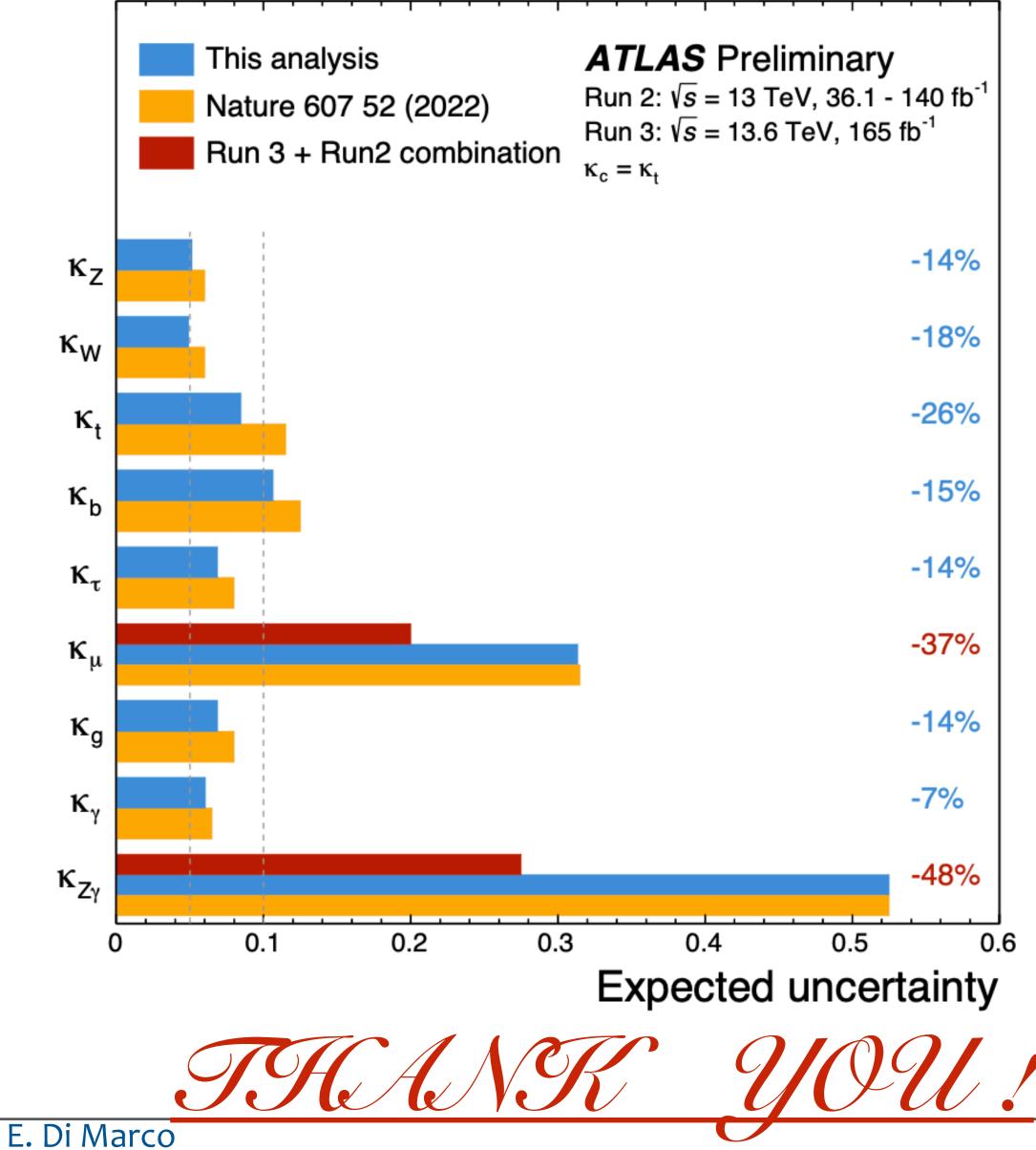




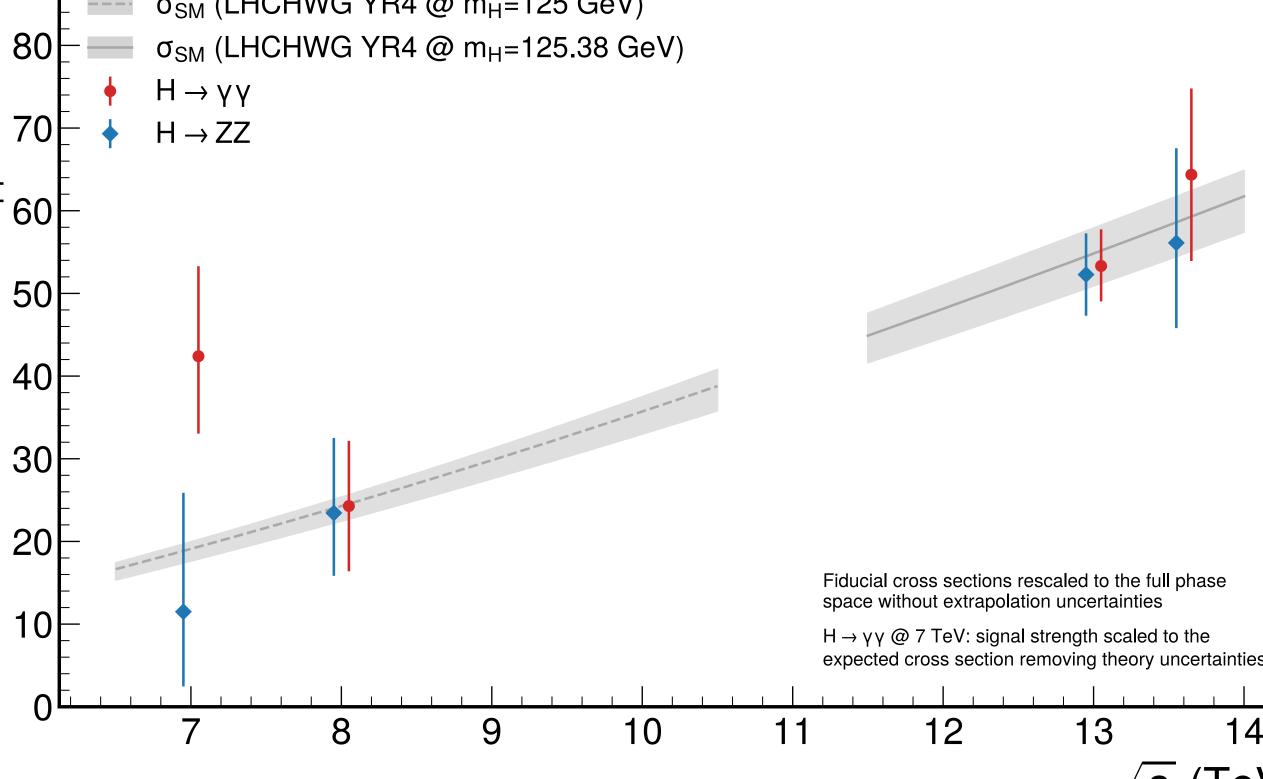






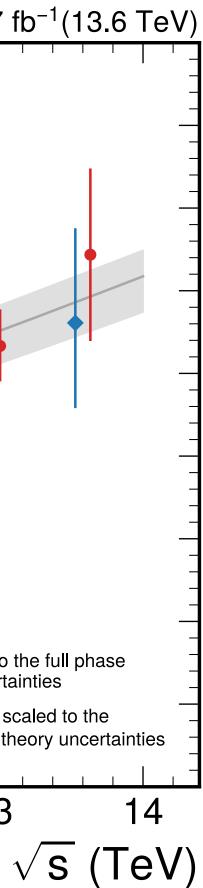


 \times_{+} ⊥ ↑ σ_{pp}



LHC Run3 boosts all Higgs results!

Current run is key for precision and discovery !

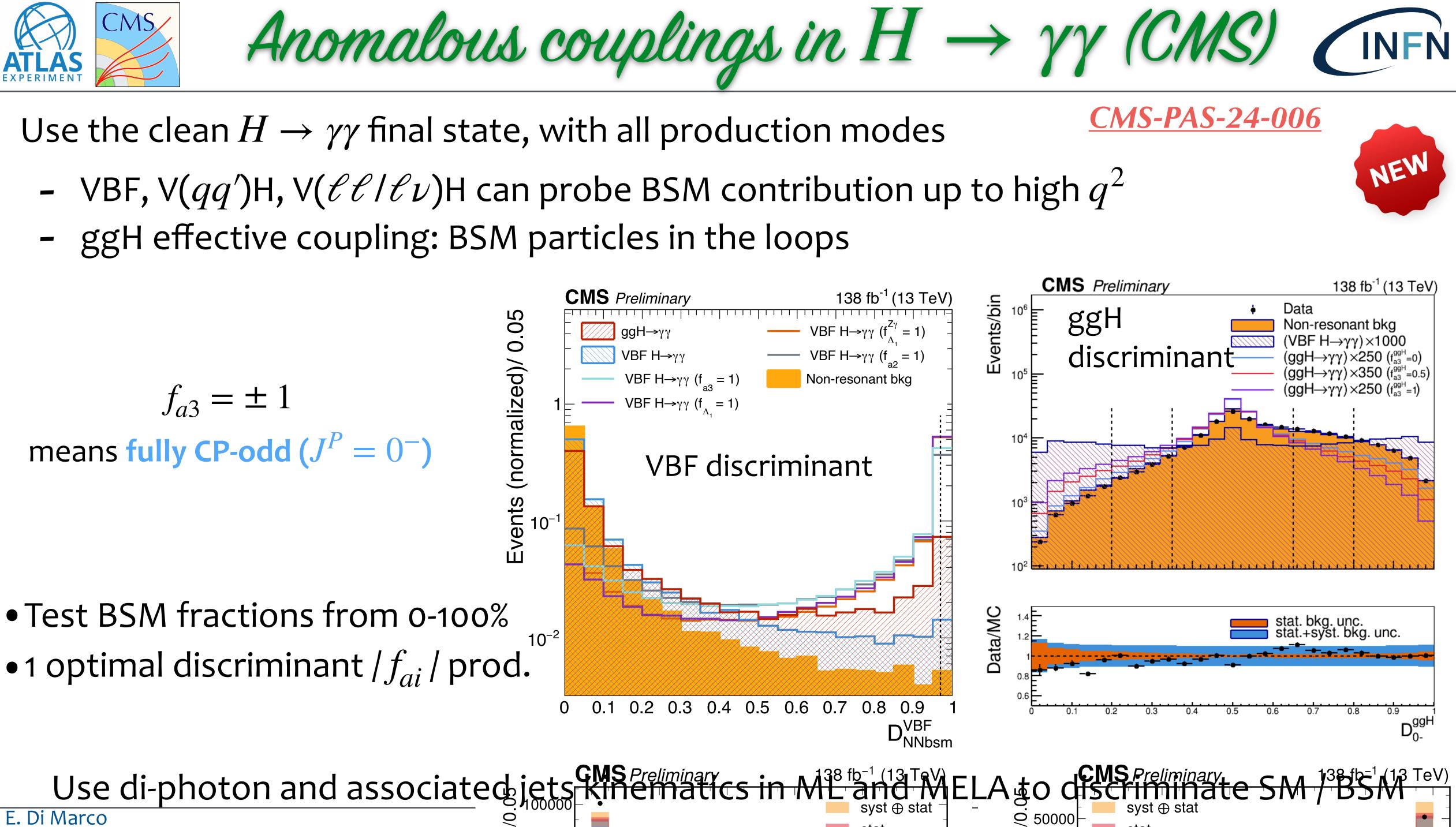








Backup

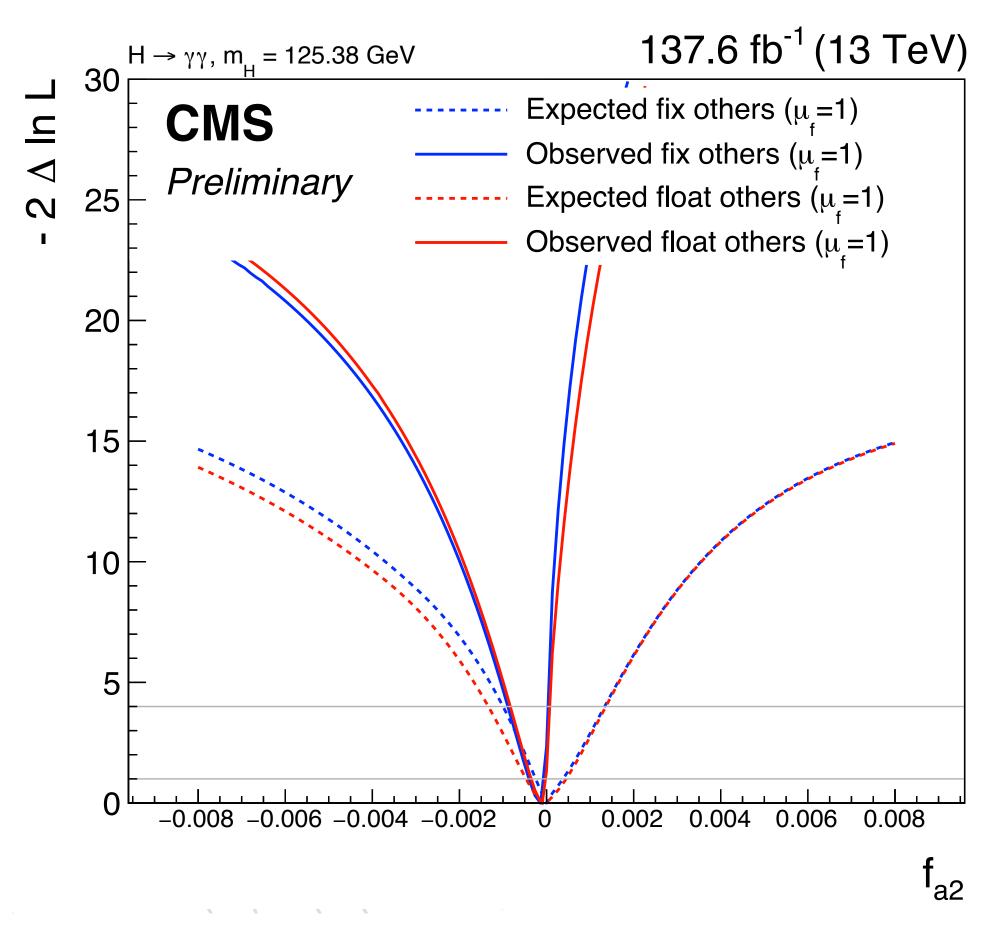


$$f_{a3} = \pm 1$$





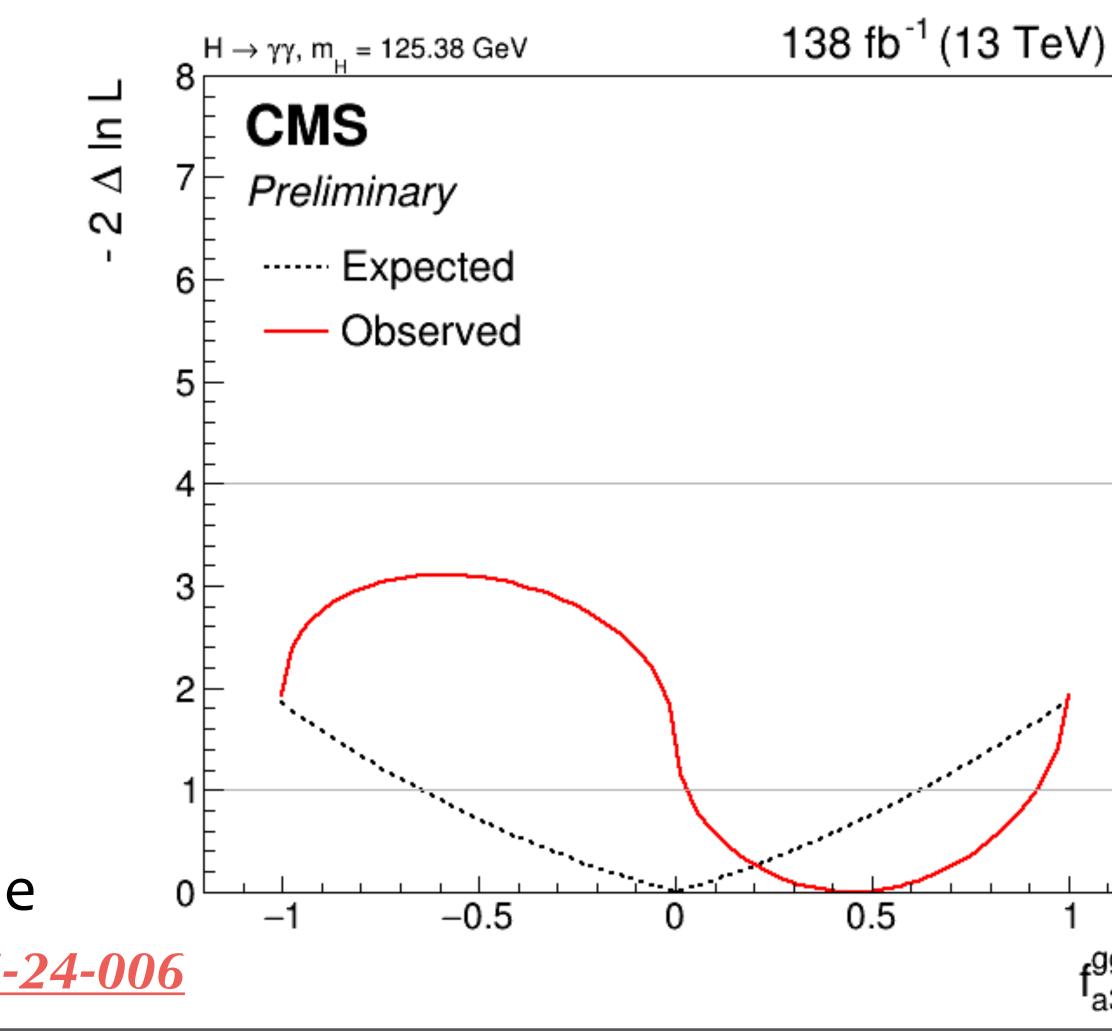
HVV CP-even BSM fraction

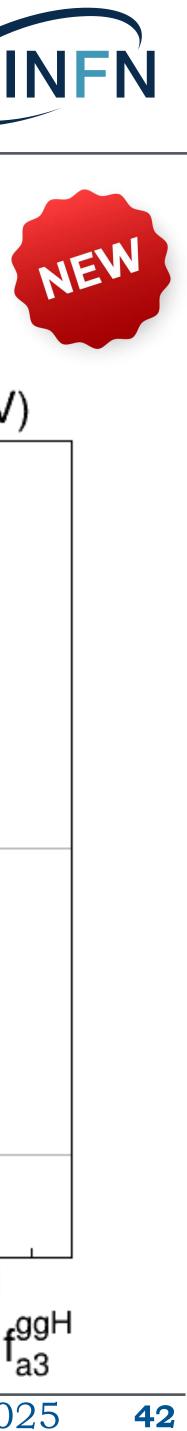


Stronger constraints when allowing 1 BSM/time 0 Competitive with $H \rightarrow 4\ell$, $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$ <u>CMS-PAS-24-006</u>

E. Di Marco

Hgg CP-odd BSM fraction (weaker constraint than HVV)

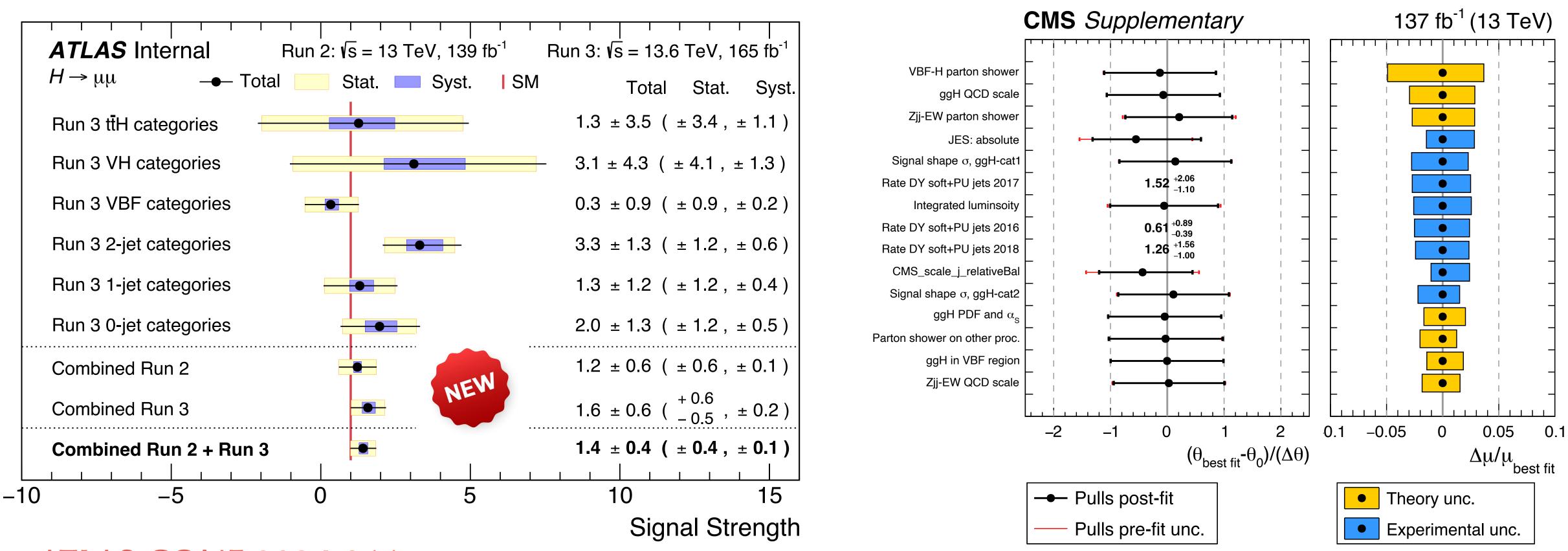








All categories still statistically dominated (by far) VBF $H \rightarrow \mu\mu$ the most sensitive category for both experiments Main systematic uncertainties from theory and signal extraction biases



ATLAS-CONF-2024-011

E. Di Marco

Impact of uncertainties on H->µµ



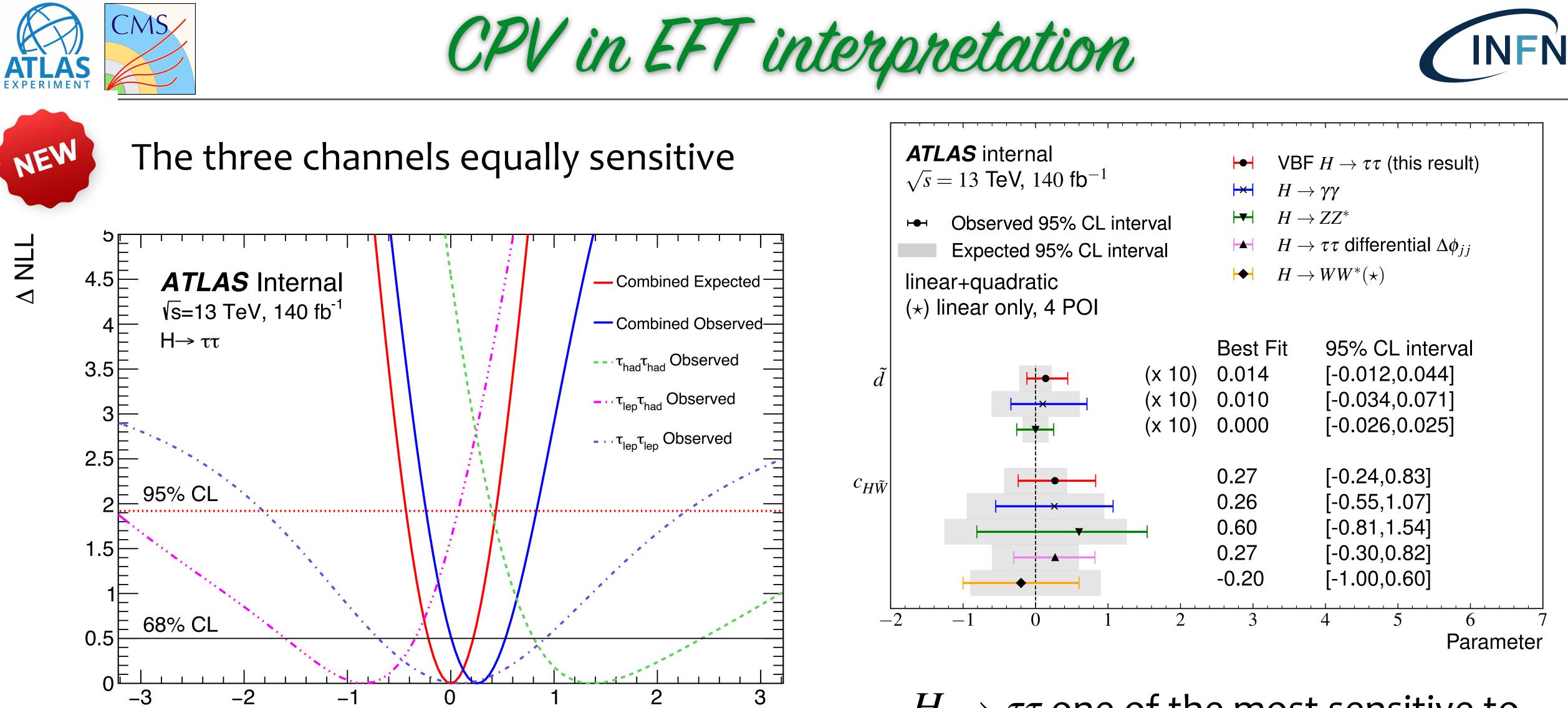






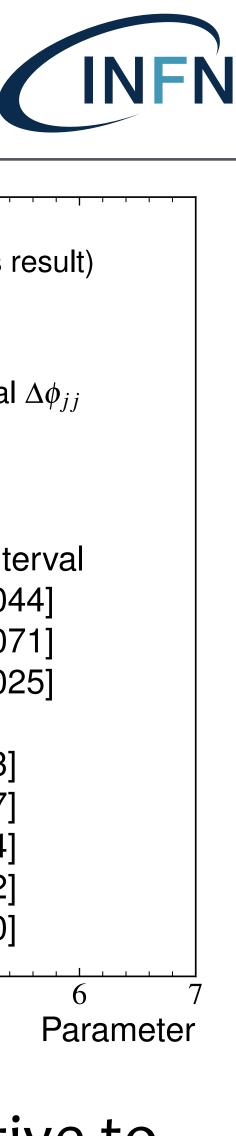






 $\mathbf{C}_{\mathsf{H}\widetilde{\mathsf{W}}}$

CP-violating Wilson coefficient $C_{H\tilde{W}}$ consistent with o (SM) ATLAS-CONF-2024-009

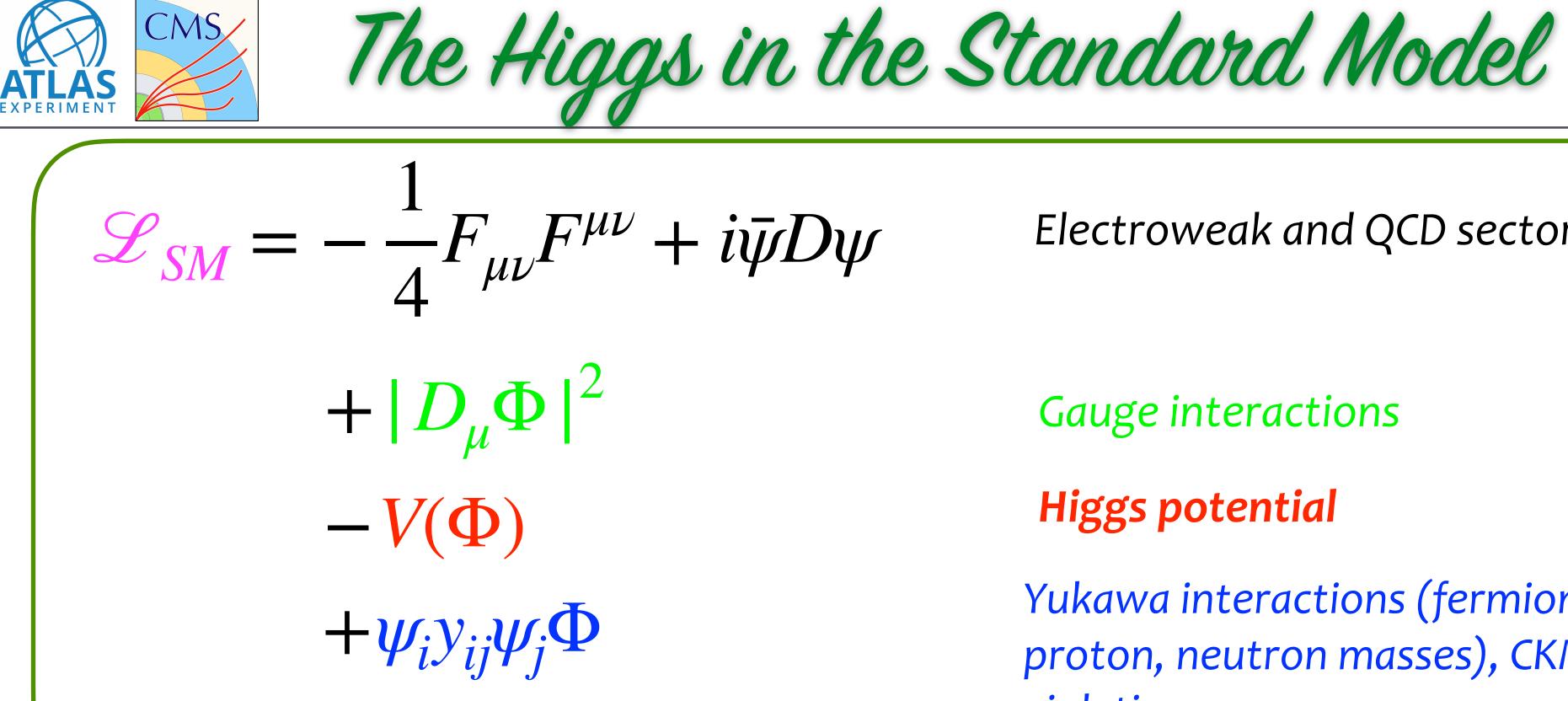


 $H \rightarrow \tau \tau$ one of the most sensitive to the HVV CP-odd contribution (All others CP-odd coefficients fixed to SM)









Out of 19 free parameters in the Standard Model Lagrangian, 15 are in the scalar sector



Electroweak and QCD sector

- Gauge interactions
- **Higgs potential**
- Yukawa interactions (fermion masses => proton, neutron masses), CKM matrix and CP violation
- Higgs mass, Higgs self-couplings, fermion masses, CKM parameters
- 1/2 of the SM Lagrangian is about Higgs!



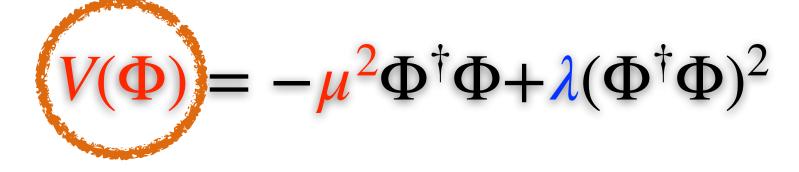










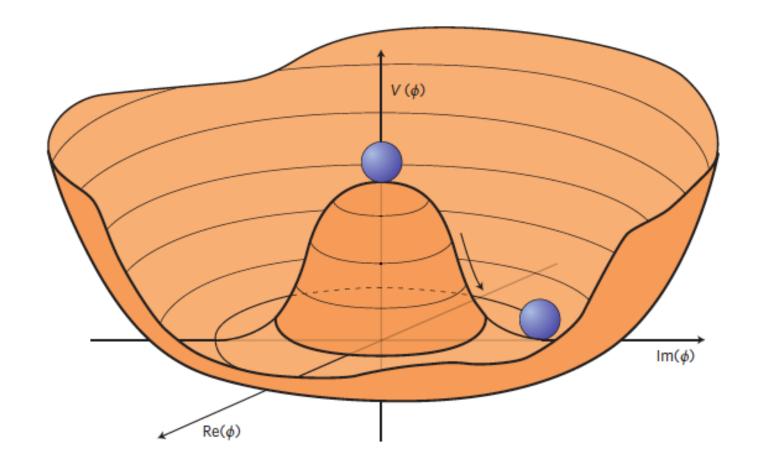


Expanding around **potential minimum**:

$$V(H) = V_0 + \frac{1}{2}m_H^2 H^2 + \lambda v H^3 + \frac{1}{4}$$

- **3 parameters:** v, m_H, λ
- Relationships between them are fixed in the
- Characterizing the Higgs potential means measuring the H boson mass (μ) and the strength of its self coupling (λ)







SM:
$$\lambda = \frac{m_H^2}{2v^2}$$

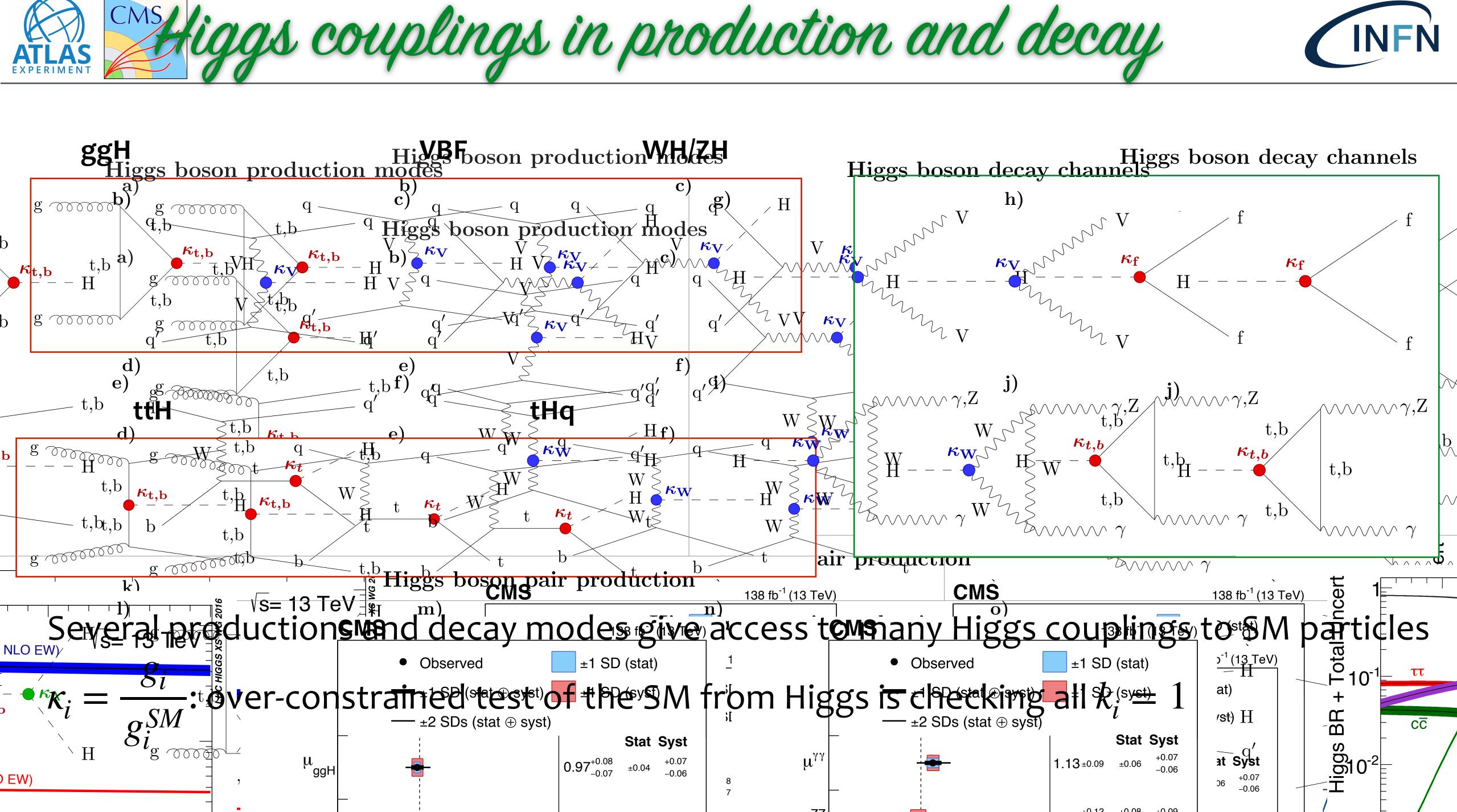
Test of the SM!

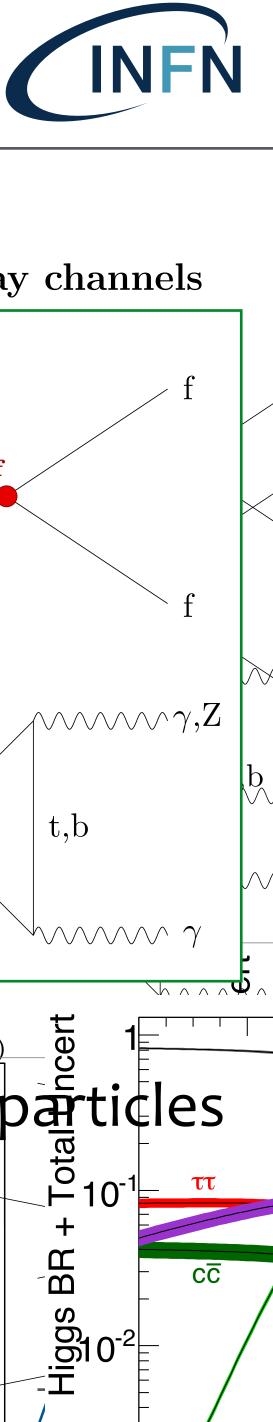








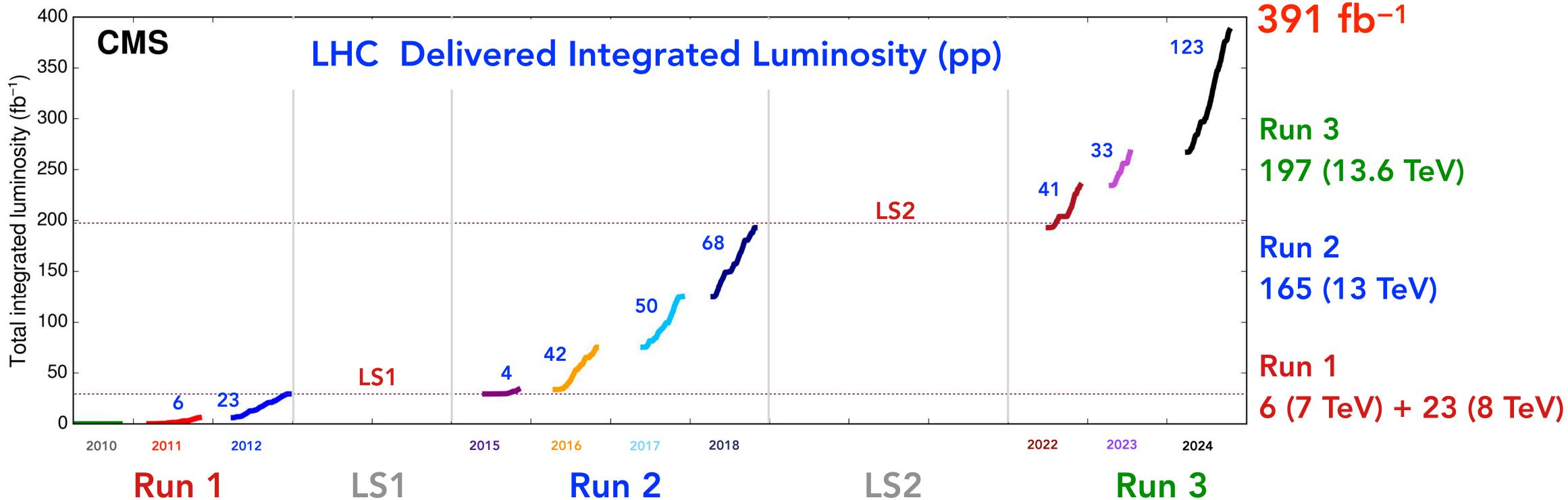






E.

LHC from Run 1 to Run 3



Integrated luminosity of 391 fb⁻¹ by now, means ~22 millions of Higgs bosons recorded by CMS (and the same quantity by ATLAS) 100 80 With this huge dataset, we can try to observe even rare processes ! 60 408/7/2025













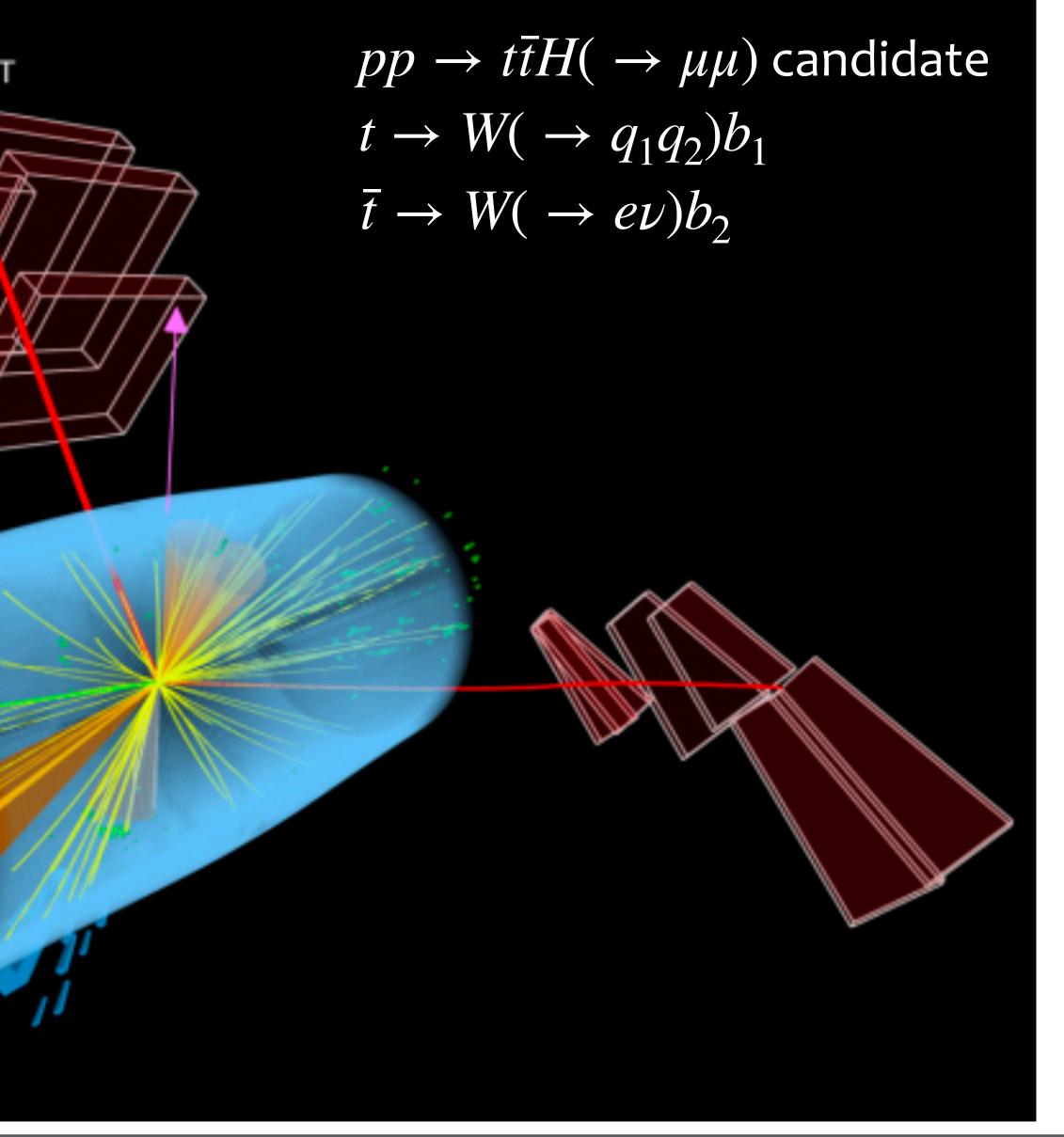




CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN Data recorded: 2018-Jul-14 22:42:55.530432 GMT Run / Event / LS: 319639 / 961085861 / 624













electron (W)

jet (W)

Run: 311402 Event: 2978391823 2016-10-25 20:22:18 CEST Higgs mass = 124.5 GeV Higgs pT = 301.6 GeV

E. Di Marco

b-jet (top)

iet

b-jet





b-jet (Higgs)

b-jet (Higgs)



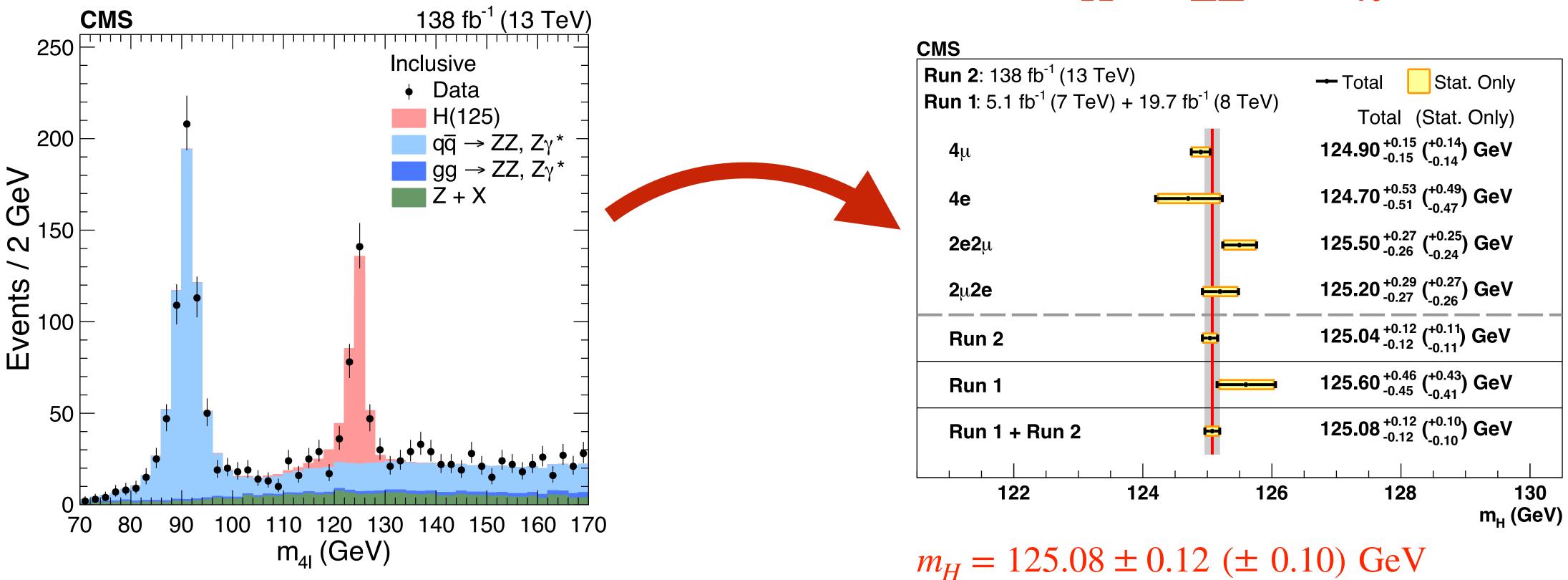








- Measurement done in $H \rightarrow 4\ell$ and $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ only
- response, muon momentum scale)



precision on m_{H} : 120 MeV \approx 0.1% from a single measurement

precision dominated by statistics and experimental systematics (e.g. small non-linearities in photon energy

 $H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\ell$



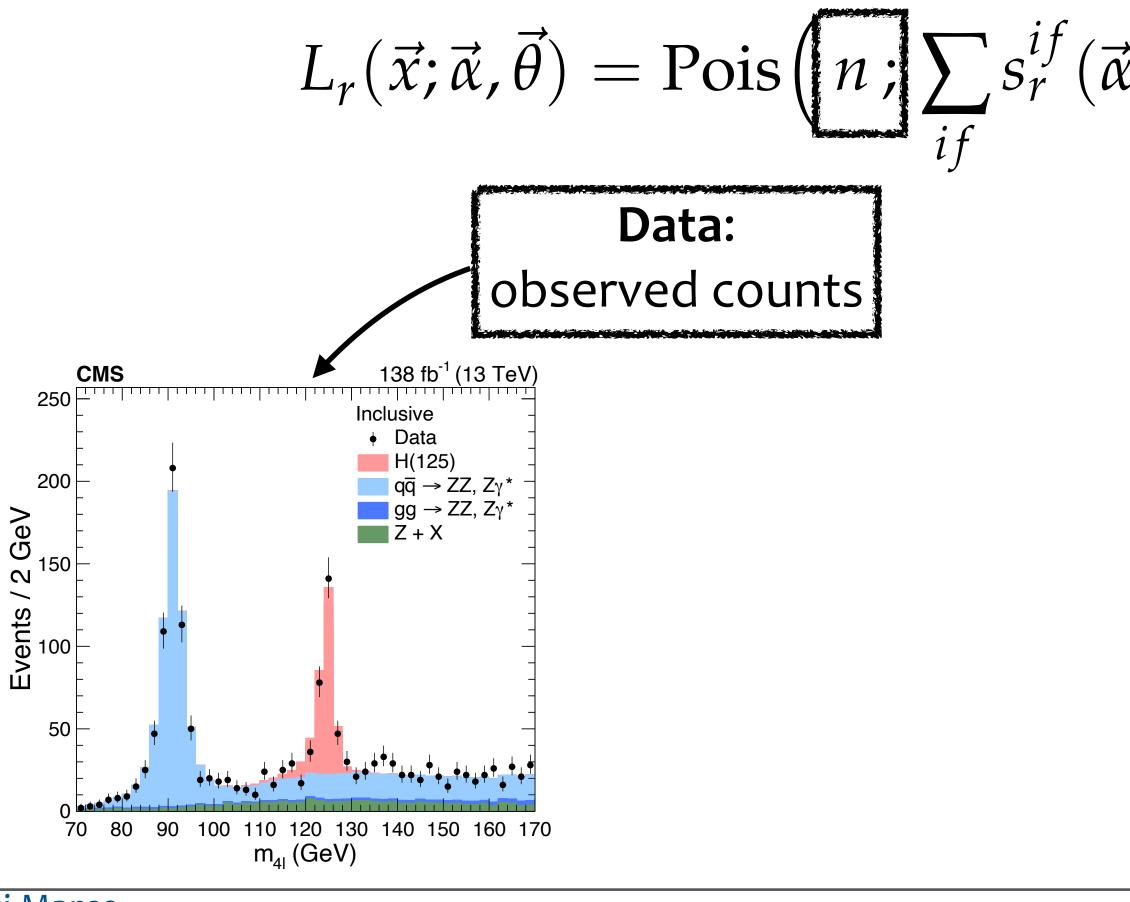








- The experimental likelihood is constructed in each channel "r" to extract the Higgs signal rate (s_r^{ij}) on top of (usually) a much larger background b_r
- Simultaneously in many production modes "i" and several decays "f"



$$\vec{x}, \vec{\theta}) + b_r(\vec{\theta}) \cdot \prod_d p(\vec{x}_d; \vec{\alpha}, \vec{\theta}).$$





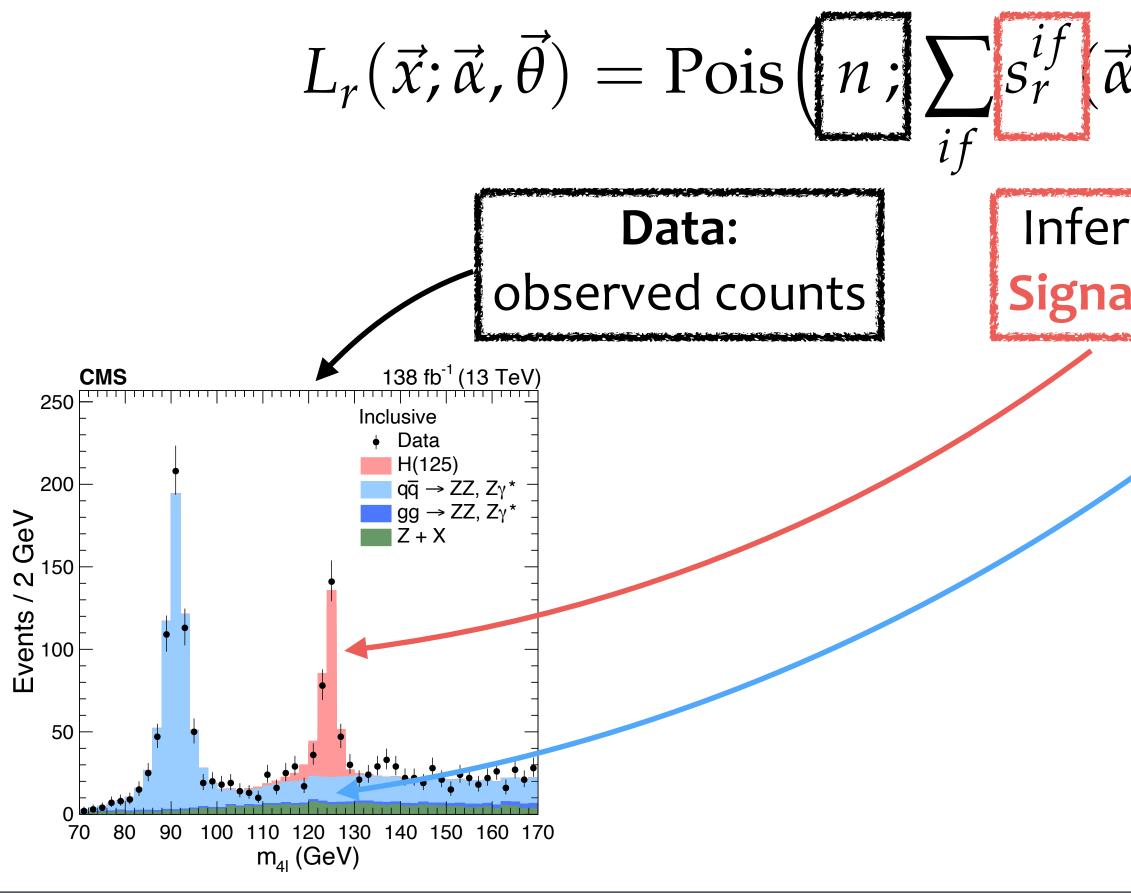








- The experimental likelihood is constructed in each channel "r" to extract the Higgs signal rate (s_r^{if}) on top of (usually) a much larger background b_r
- Simultaneously in many production modes "i" and several decays "f"



$$(\vec{x}, \vec{\theta}) + b_r(\vec{\theta}) \cdot \prod_d p(\vec{x}_d; \vec{\alpha}, \vec{\theta})$$

rence: Inference:
al yield Background(s) yield





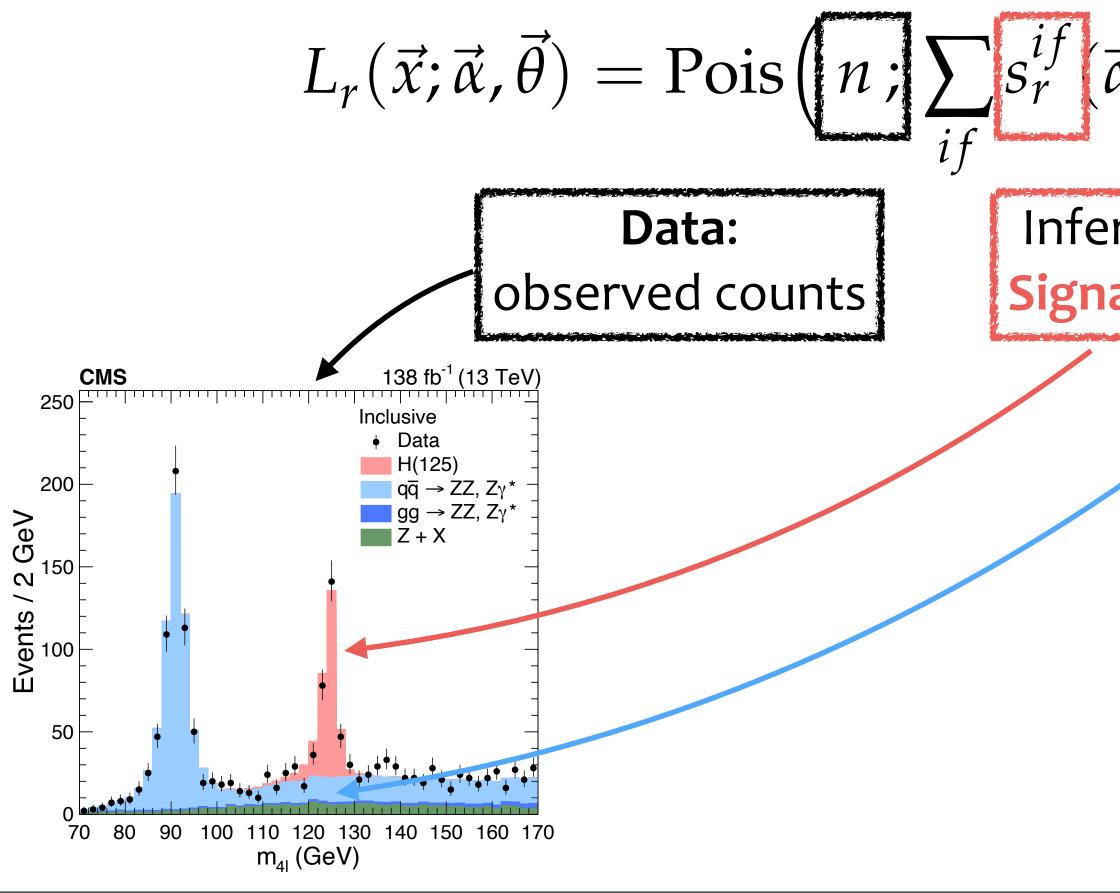








- The experimental likelihood is constructed in each channel "r" to extract the Higgs signal rate (s_r^{if}) on top of (usually) a much larger background b_r
- Simultaneously in many production modes "i" and several decays "f"



$$(\vec{x}, \vec{\theta}) + b_r(\vec{\theta})) \cdot \prod_d p(\vec{x}_d; \vec{\alpha}, \vec{\theta}).$$

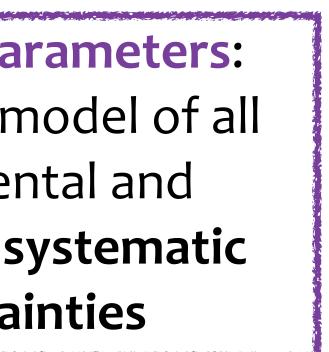
rence: Inference:
al yield Background(s) yield encode the mean of the oretical structure theoretical structure theoret



uncertainties





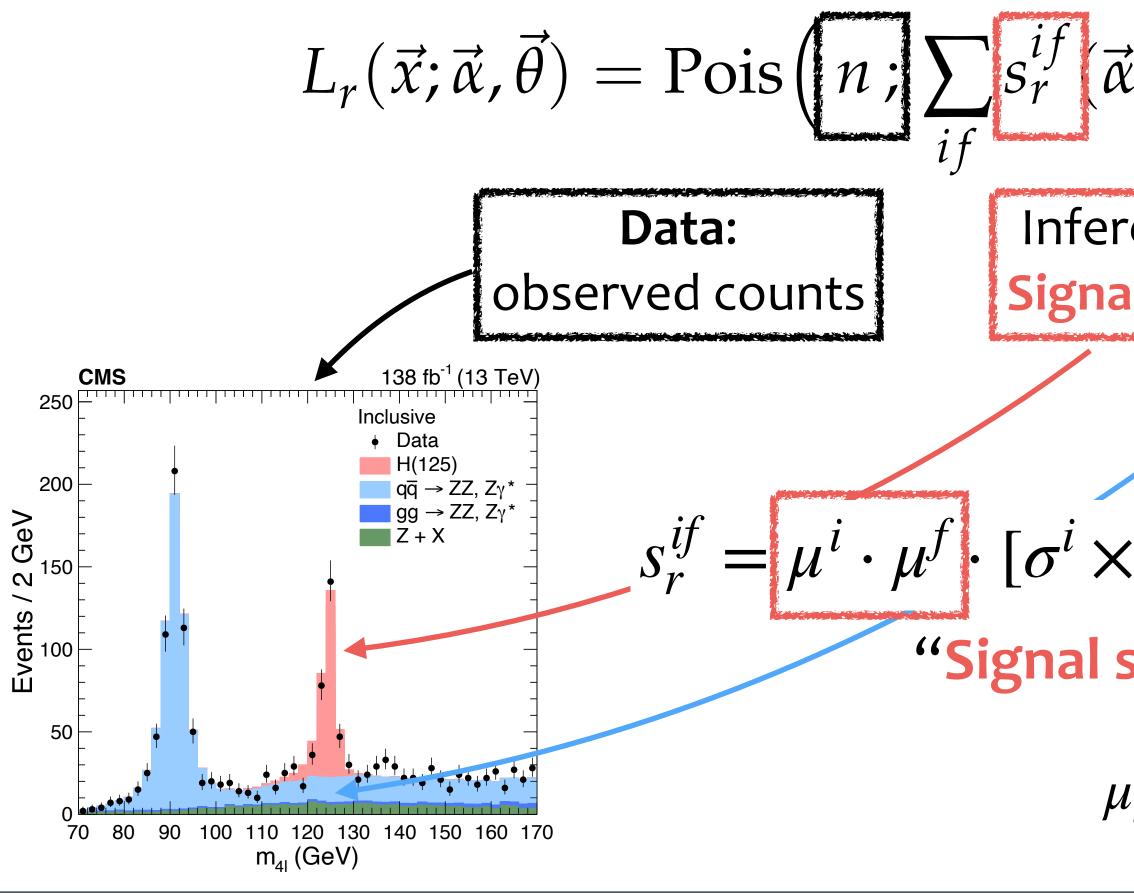








- rate (s_r^{if}) on top of (usually) a much larger background b_r
- Simultaneously in many production modes "i" and several decays "f"



The experimental likelihood is constructed in each channel "r" to extract the Higgs signal

$$\vec{x}, \vec{\theta}) + b_r(\vec{\theta}) \cdot \prod_d p(\vec{x}_d; \vec{\alpha}, \vec{\theta}).$$

rence: Inference:
Background(s) yield
$$\vec{x} BR^f]_{SM} \cdot \vec{e}^{if} \cdot \mathscr{L}_{int}$$

Nuisance parameter
encode the model of
experimental and
theoretical systematic
uncertainties

"Signal strengths" approach: rates relative to SM:

$$u_i = \frac{\sigma^i}{\sigma^i_{SM}} \quad \text{and} \quad \mu_f = \frac{BR^f}{BR^f_{SM}}$$







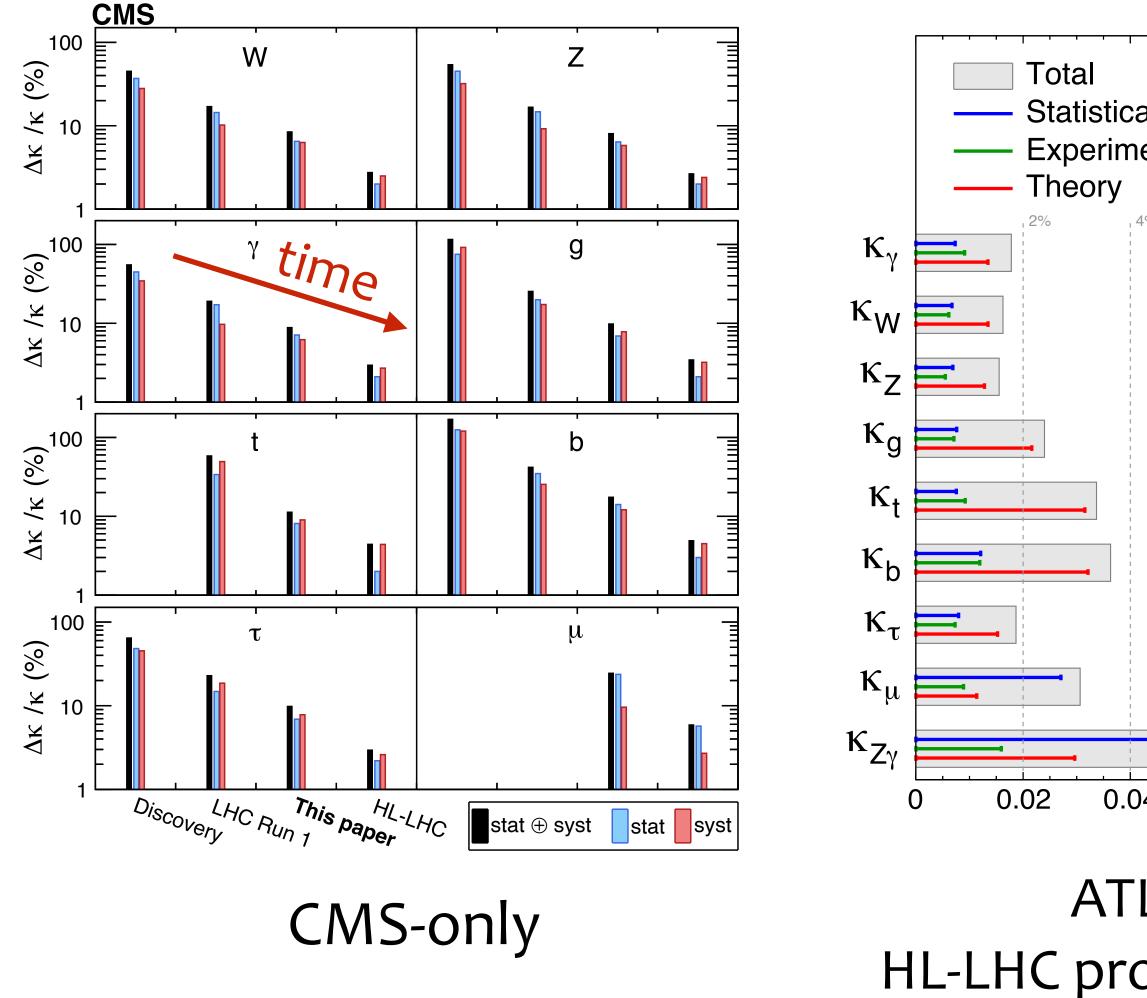








In the SM, all $\kappa_i = 1$. In BSM, $\kappa = 1 + \Delta \kappa$ $\Delta \kappa \propto v^2 / \Lambda_{BSM}^2$, so precision on $\Delta \kappa \Leftrightarrow$ reach in new physics scale, Λ_{BSM} , to the TeV range



E. Di Marco

Why improving precision on K?

$\sqrt{s} = 1$	14 TeV, S2, 3 ab ¹ per experimen	t $\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}, S2, 3 \text{ ab}^1 \text{ period}$
cal nental	ATLAS+CMS Projections ESPPU 2026 Uncertainty [%] Tot Stat Exp Th 1.8 0.7 0.9 1.3	Total AKIKStatistica (V Projecti
	1.6 0.7 0.6 1.3	$\frac{\lambda}{4}e$ viations $\Delta \kappa/\kappa \sim 6^{-6}$
	1.6 0.70.51.3 2.4 0.80.72.2	λ_{tg} 3.3 λ_{WZ} 1.5
	3.4 0.8 0.9 3.2 3.6 1.2 1.2 3.2	$\lambda_{\gamma Z} = 1.5$ $\lambda_{-Z} = 1.7$
	1.9 0.8 0.7 1.5	λ_{bZ} 3.0
	3.0 2.70.91.0 6.8 5.91.63.0	$\lambda_{(Z\gamma)Z}$
04 0.06	5 0.08 0.1 0.12	impraye together with
	Expected uncertainty	experimental precision
LAS+CMS,		
ojections 3000 fb-1		



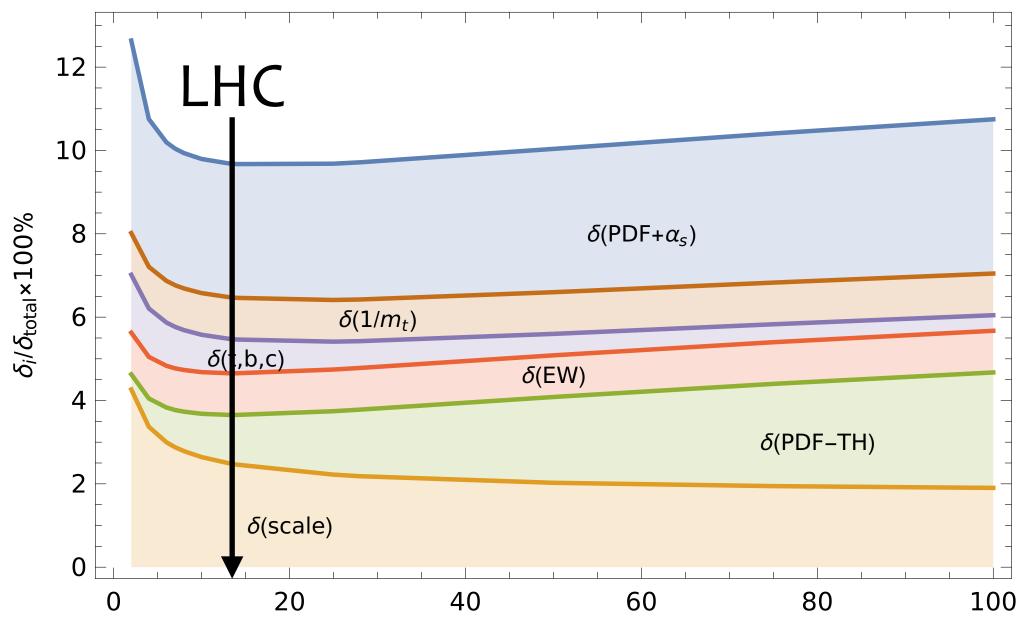








Largest contributions from **QCD uncertainties** and **PDFs**:



Collider Energy / TeV

Gluon fusion: the main production mode provides crucial tests of QCD, and QCD+EW. Next challenges:

- N3LO PDF sets => reduce $\delta(PDF TH)$)
- More EW corrections (NLO calculations of QCD+EW)
- Large logs resummation

E. Di Marco



 $\delta\sigma_{PP\to H+X} = \delta(\text{PDF}+\alpha_S) + \delta(\text{theory}) = \frac{+3.63pb}{-4.72pb} \begin{pmatrix} +7.46\%\\ -9.7\% \end{pmatrix}$

$$\delta(\text{theory}) = \begin{array}{c} +0.13pb \\ -1.20pb \\ + \pm 0.56pb \\ + \pm 0.56pb \\ + \pm 0.49pb \\ + \pm 0.49pb \\ + \pm 0.41pb \\ + \pm 0.41pb \\ + \pm 0.41pb \\ + \pm 0.49pb \\ + \pm 0.85\% \\ + \pm 0.49pb \\ + \pm 0.85\% \\ + \pm 0.89pb \\ + \pm 0.89pb \\ + 4.28\% \\ -6.5\% \\ + 5\% \\ + 5\% \\ -6.5\% \\ + 5\% \\ + 2.59\% \\ -1.26pb \\ + 2.59\% \\ -2.62\% \\ + 5\% \\ + 2.59\% \\ -2.62\% \\ + 5\% \\ + 2.59\% \\ + 2.59\% \\ + 2.59\% \\ + 2.59\% \\ - 2.62\% \\ + 5\% \\ + 2.59\% \\ + 2.5\%$$



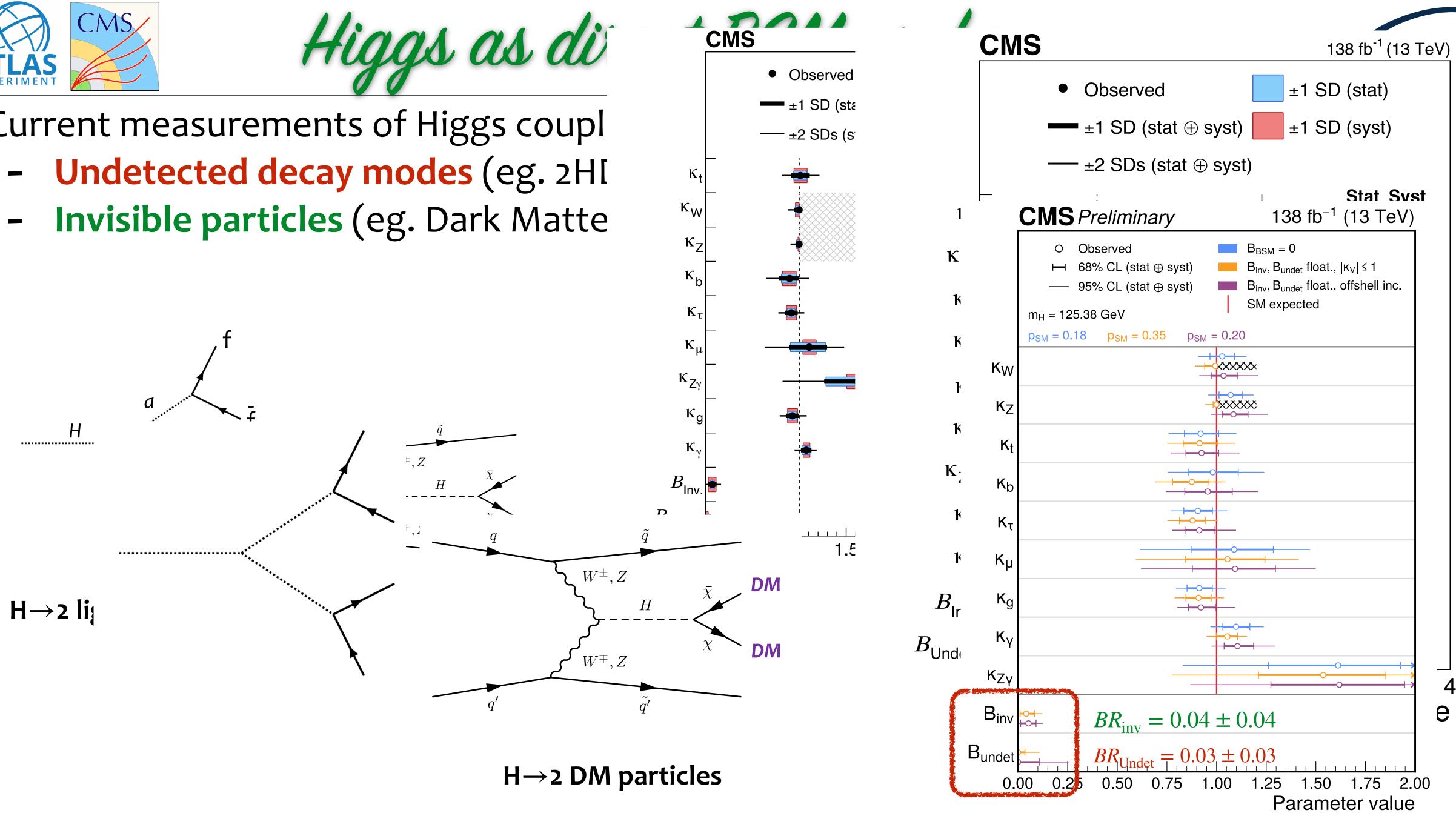








Current measurements of Higgs coupl



E. Di Marco









EFT framework

generic BSM scenarios ...

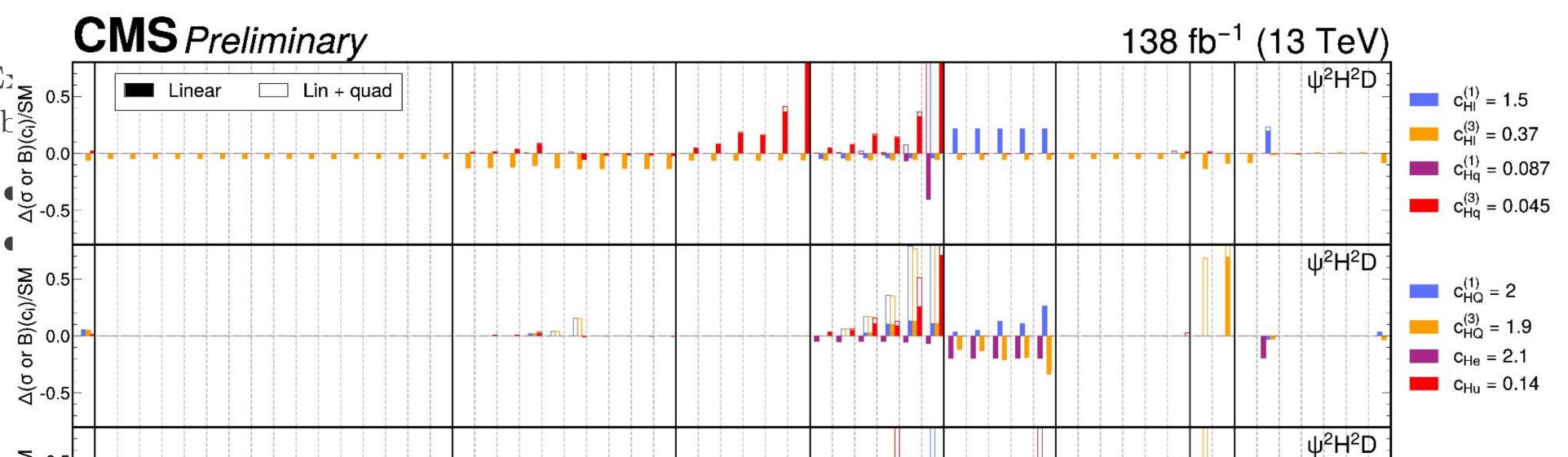
tension of the SM Lagrangian by d > 4 effective field theory (EFT) operators:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm SM}^{\rm eff} = \mathcal{L}_{\rm SM} + \sum_{d>4} \frac{1}{\Lambda^{d-4}} \mathcal{L}_d = \mathcal{L}_{\rm SM} + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \mathcal{L}_5$$

lere

$$\mathcal{L}_{d} = \sum_{i} \left[\mathcal{L}_{ ext{SMEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{ ext{SM}} + \sum_{d}^{N} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{O}^{(d)}} rac{c_{j}^{(d)}}{\Lambda^{d-4}} \mathcal{O}_{j}^{(d)}
ight]$$

der the assumption that new physics lives at a scale



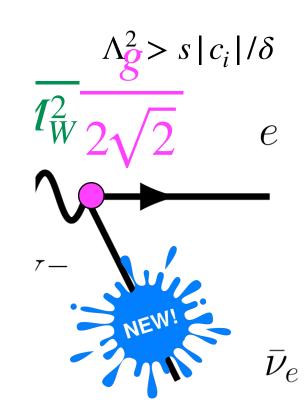


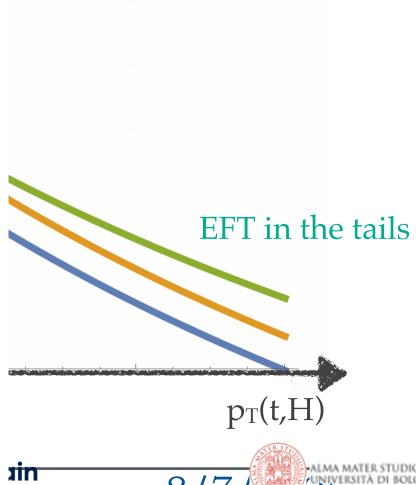


rd rt low energy

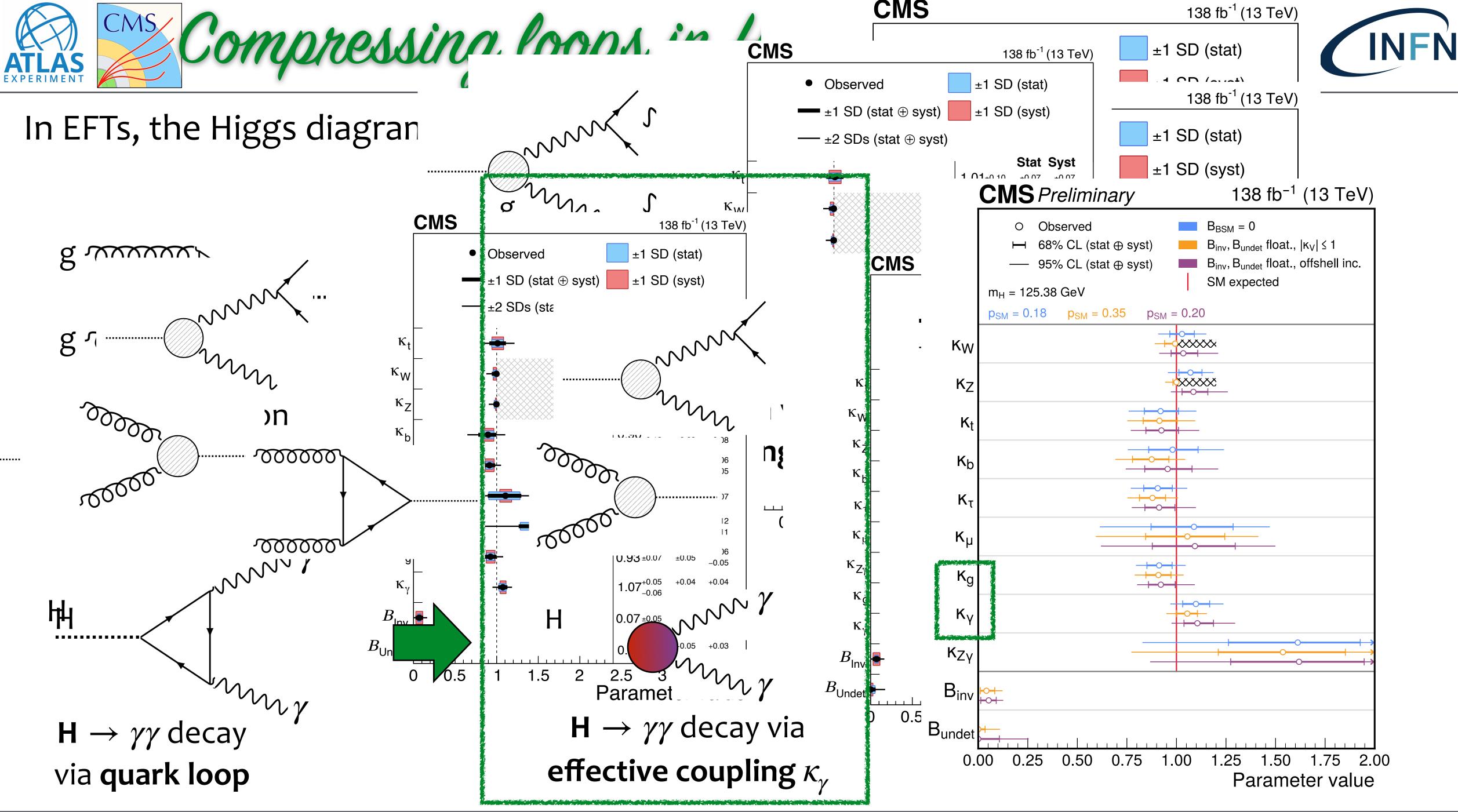
$$+\frac{1}{\Lambda^2}\mathcal{L}_6+\cdots$$

$$A > \sqrt{s}.$$







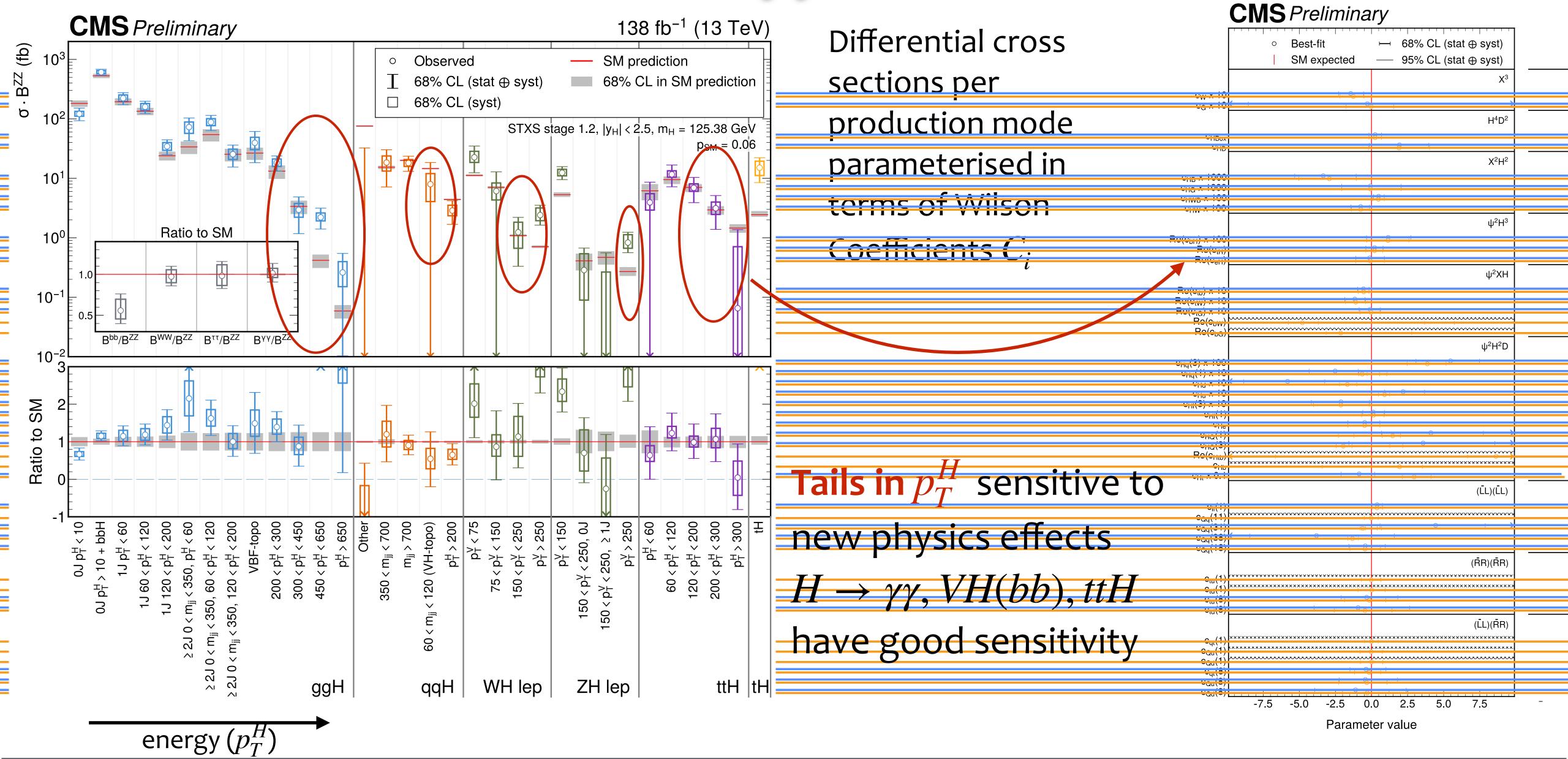










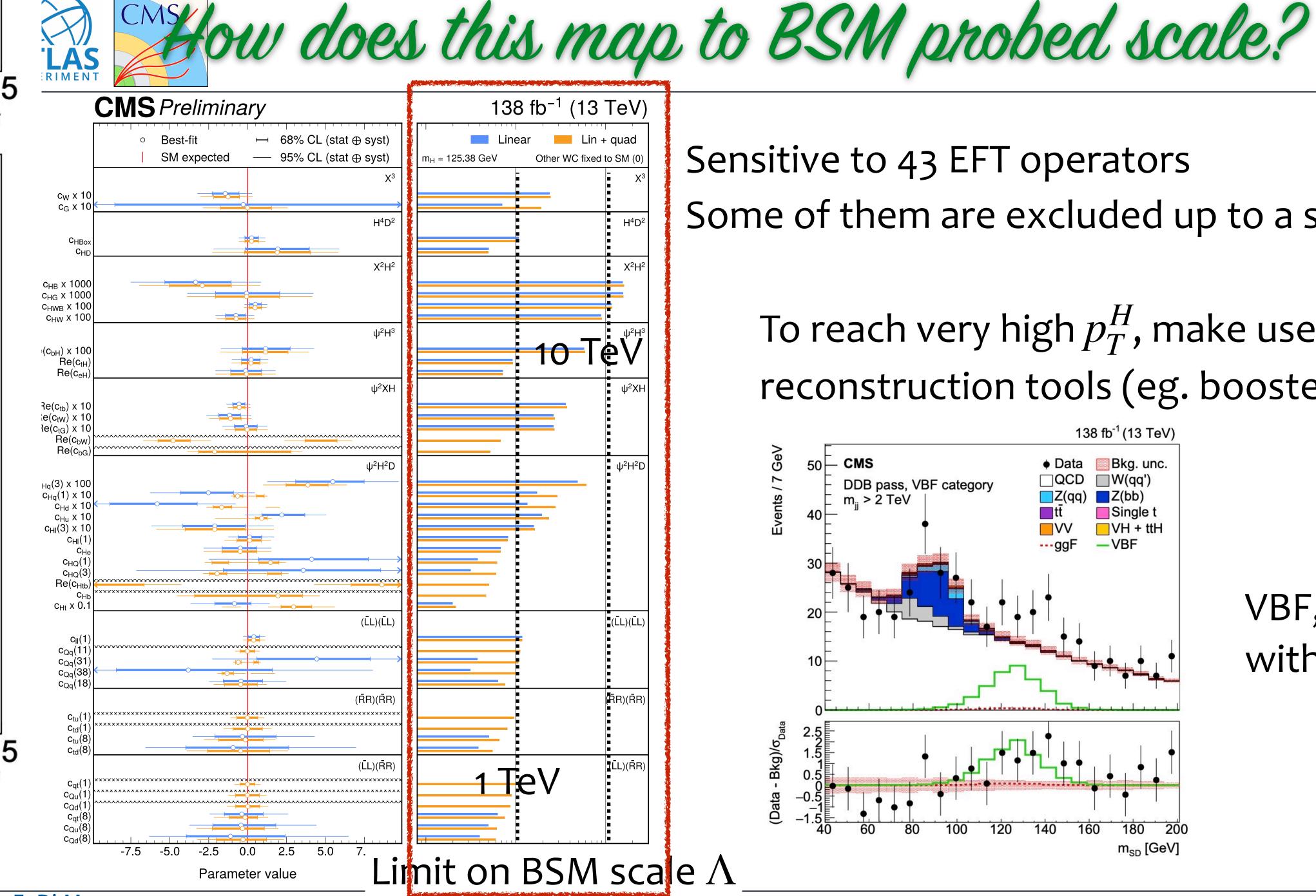














Some of them are excluded up to a scale $\Lambda \sim 10 \,\mathrm{TeV}$

To reach very high p_T^H , make use of dedicated reconstruction tools (eg. boosted jets)

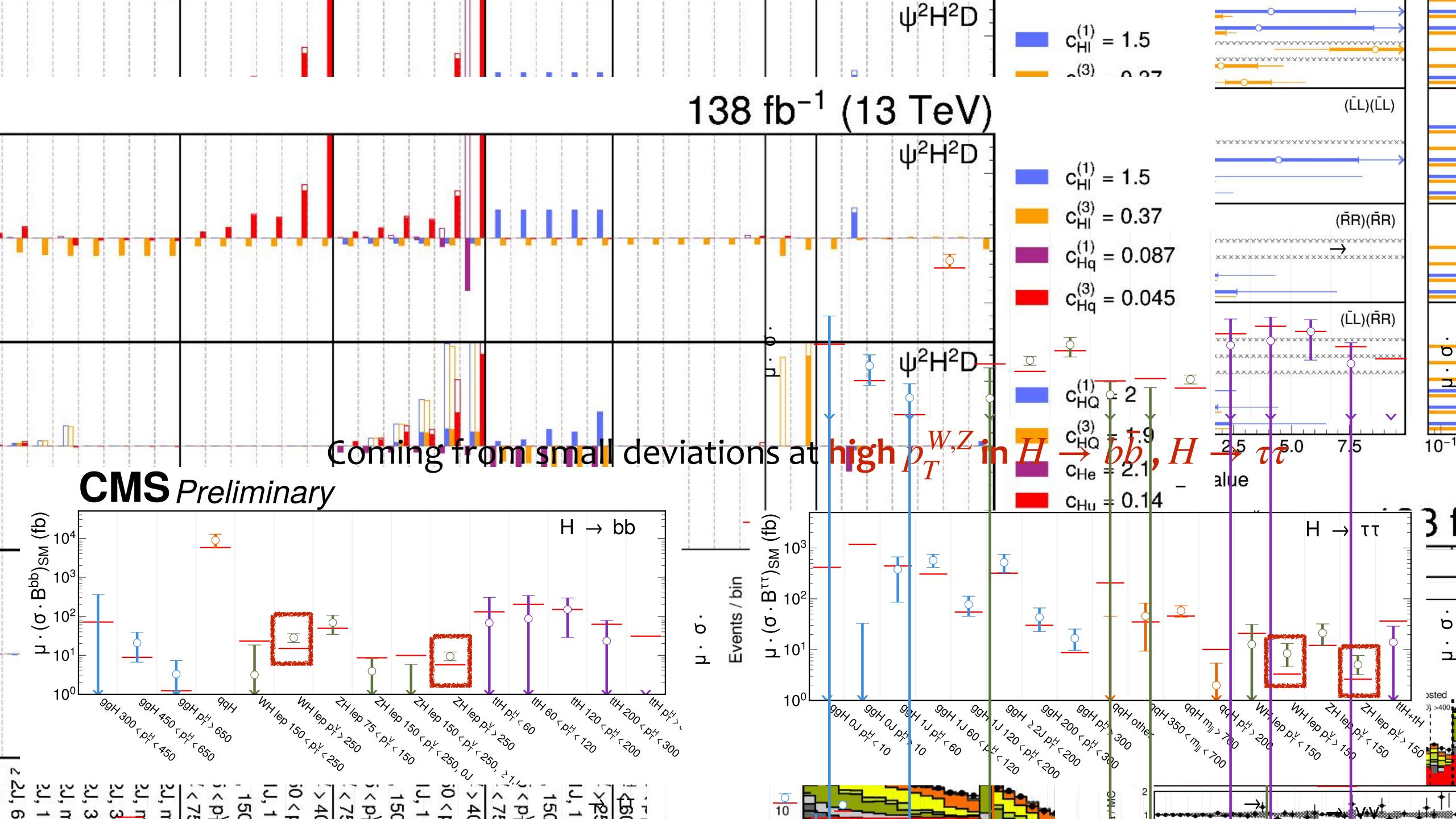
> VBF, $H \rightarrow bb$ with boosted b-jets





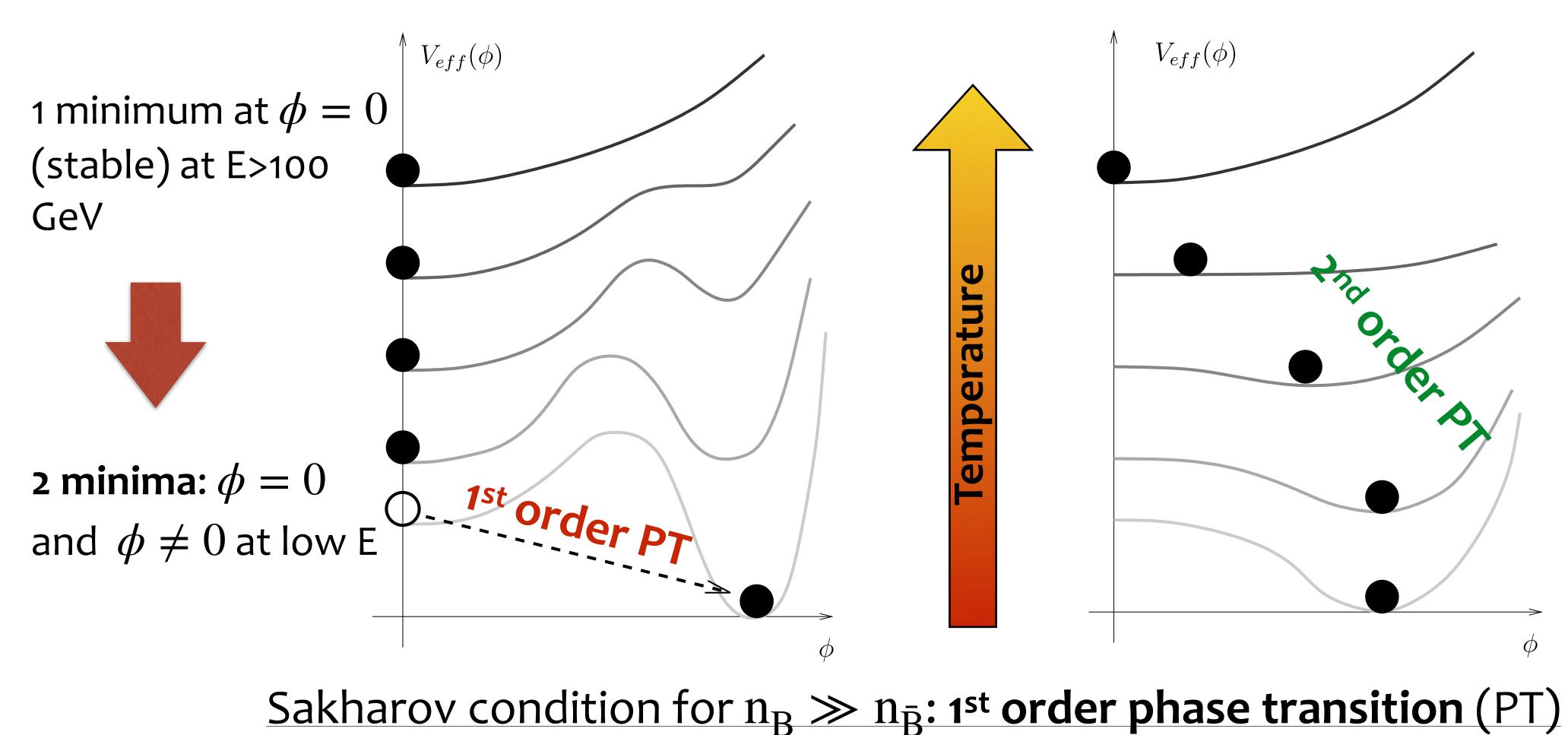




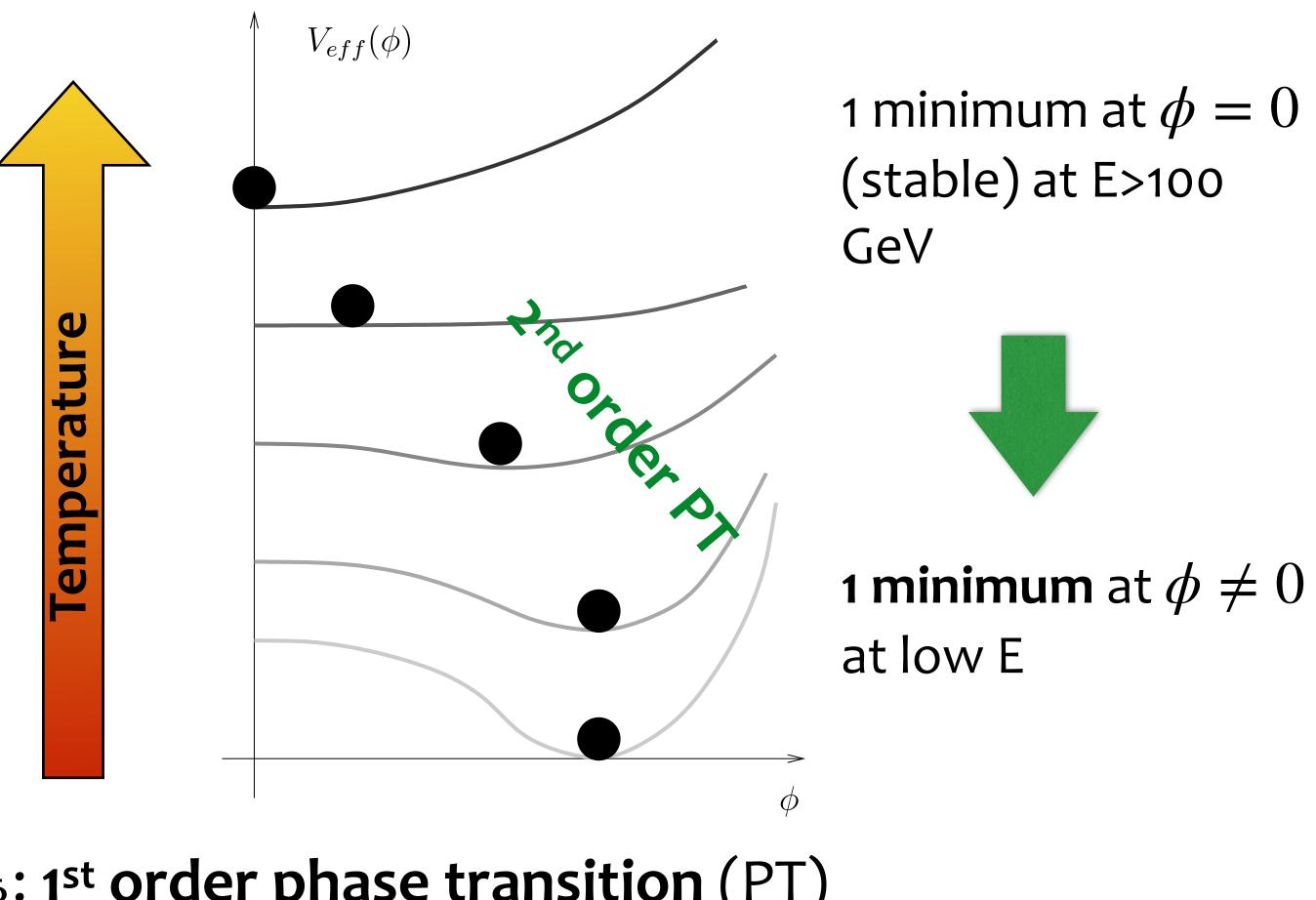




Why matter >> anti-matter in the universe? CP-violation (CKM matrix) is too weak to explain why $n_{\rm R} \gg n_{\rm R}$













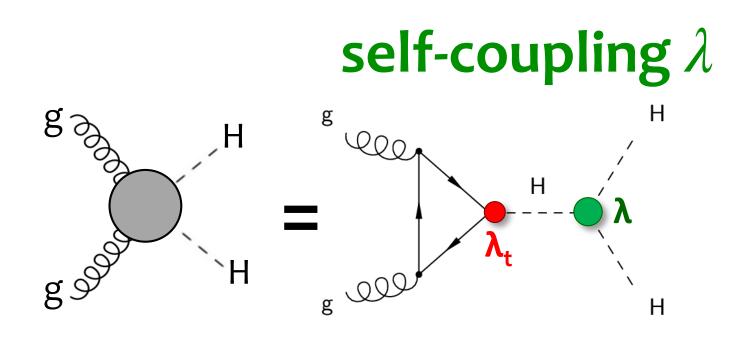






smaller:

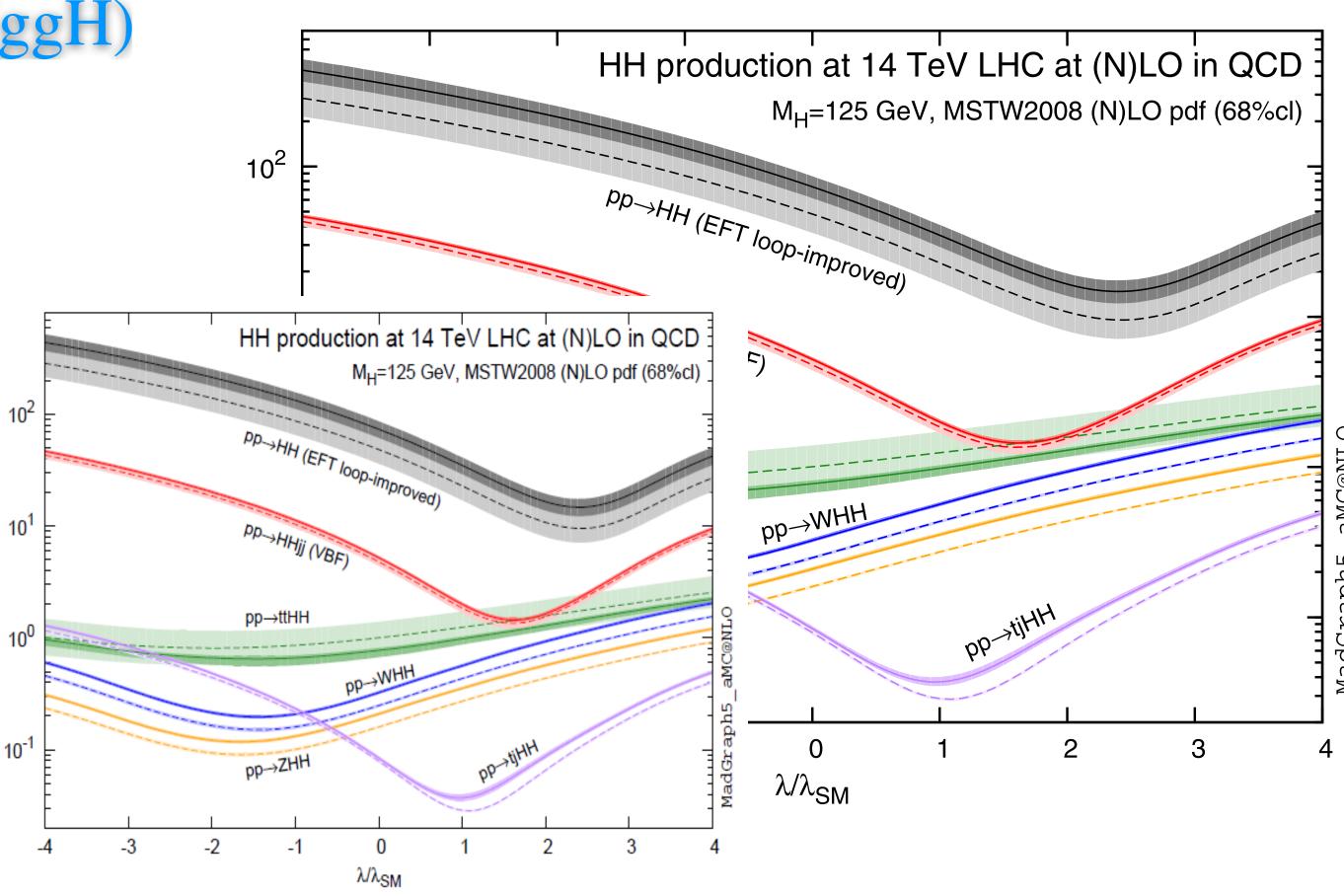
ggF: $\sigma(ggHH) = 31 \text{ fb} \approx 1/1500 \times \sigma(ggH)$





Di-Higgs production at the LHC is dominated by the gluon-fusion process, as single-H, but extremely

PLB 732 (2014) 142-149







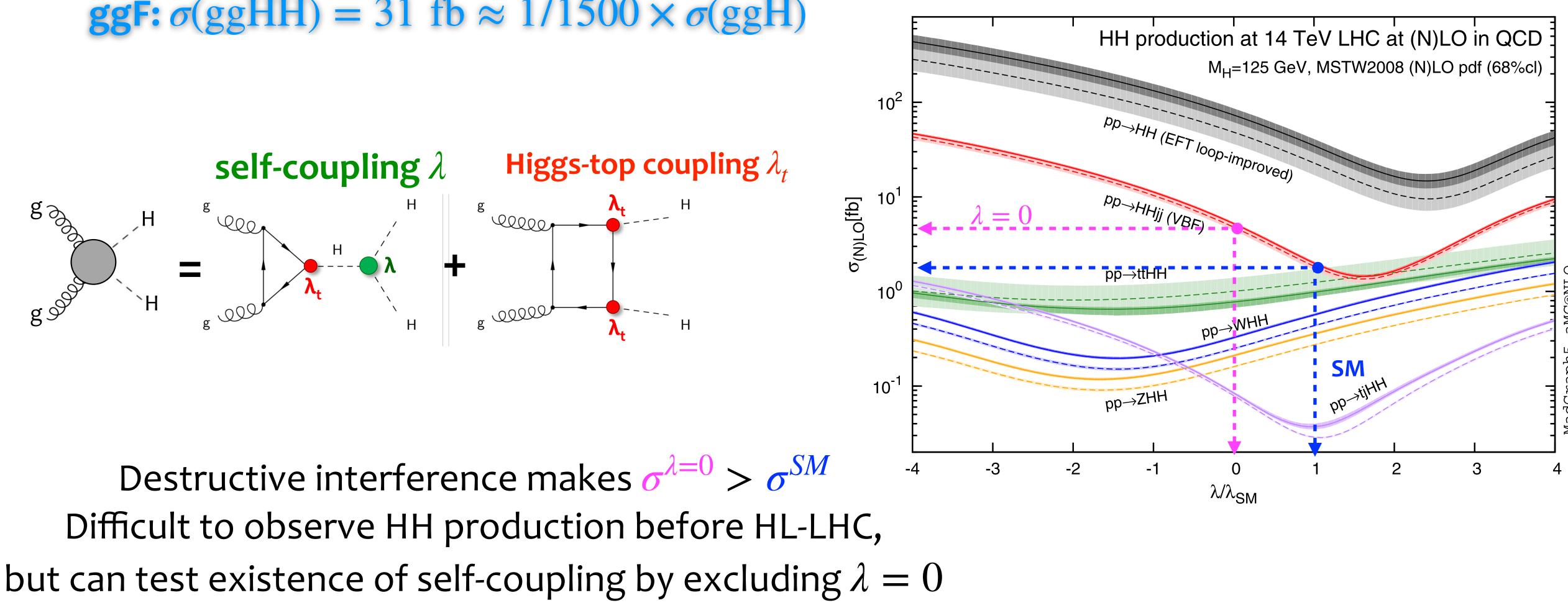






smaller:

ggF: $\sigma(ggHH) = 31 \text{ fb} \approx 1/1500 \times \sigma(ggH)$





Di-Higgs production at the LHC is dominated by the gluon-fusion process, as single-H, but extremely

PLB 732 (2014) 142-149

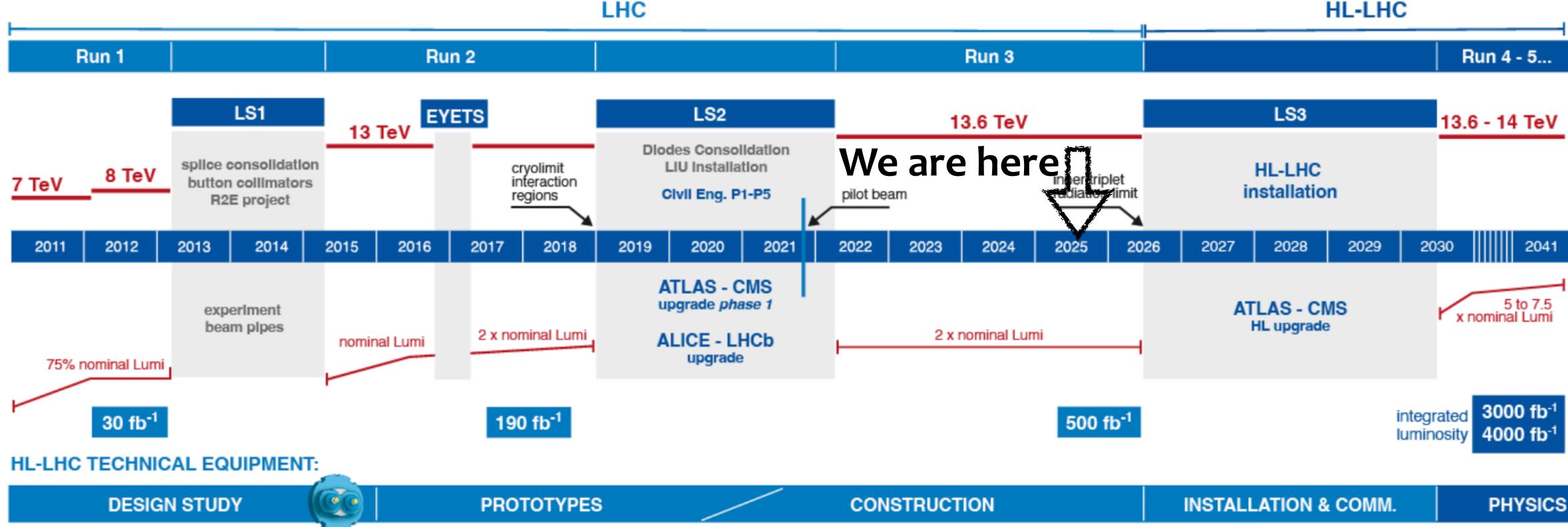








Beyond the end of Run-3, the upgrade of LHC at High-Luminosity (HL-LHC) will deliver x20 data collected so far



What can we do in terms of determining the Higgs potential? Both single-H precision measurement and observation of HH production will do

E. Di Marco









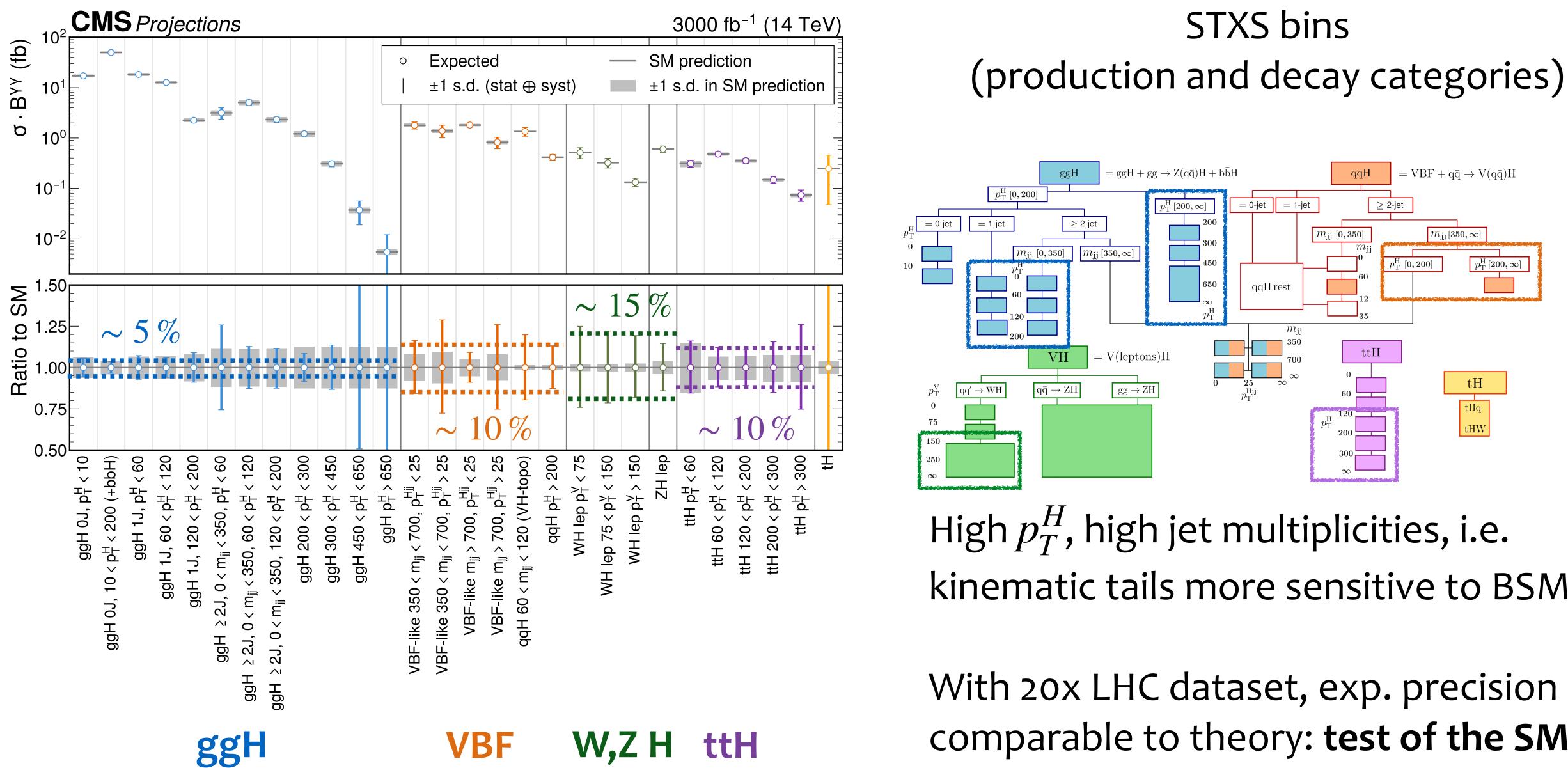














kinematic tails more sensitive to BSM.

With 20x LHC dataset, exp. precision comparable to theory: test of the SM





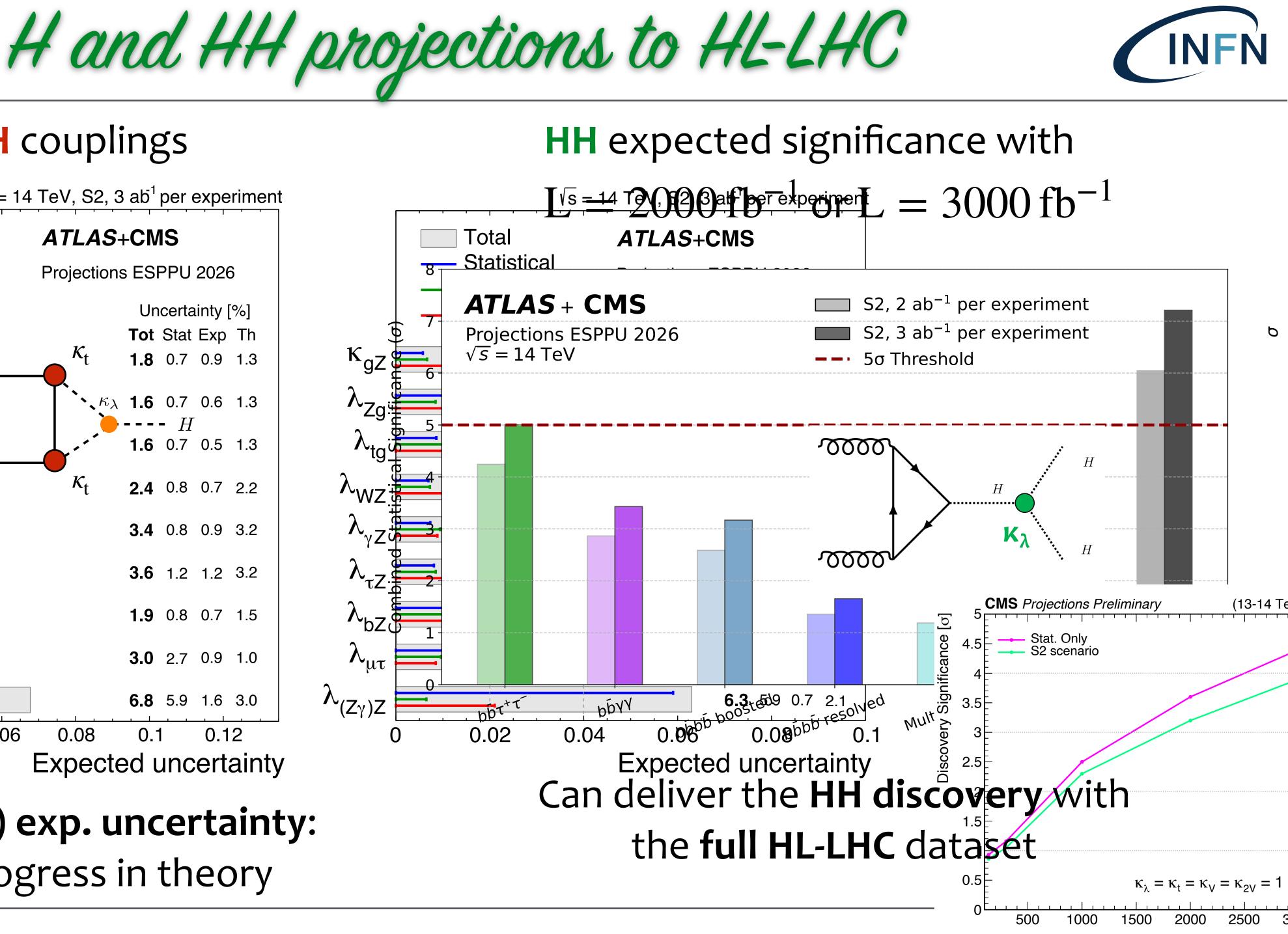


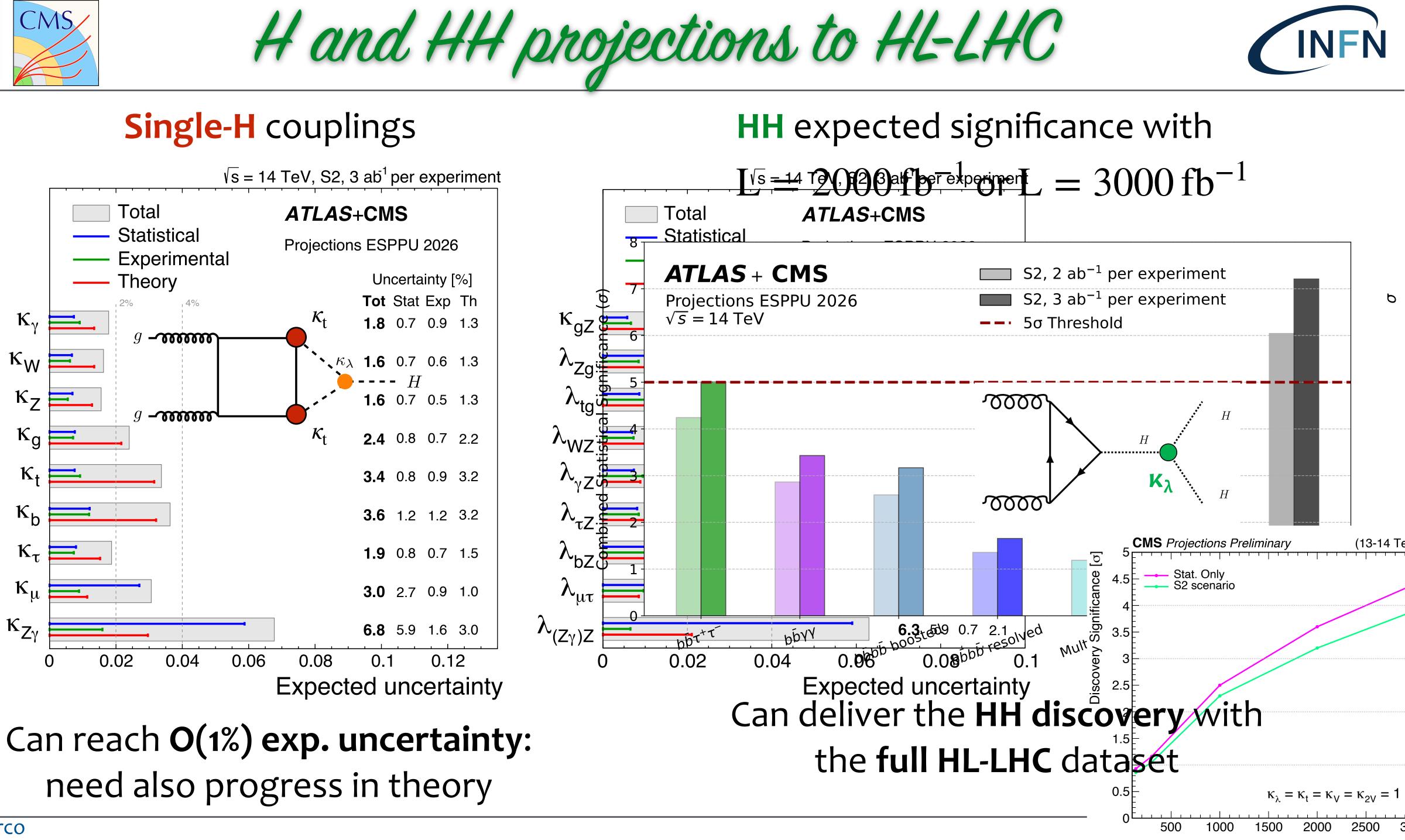








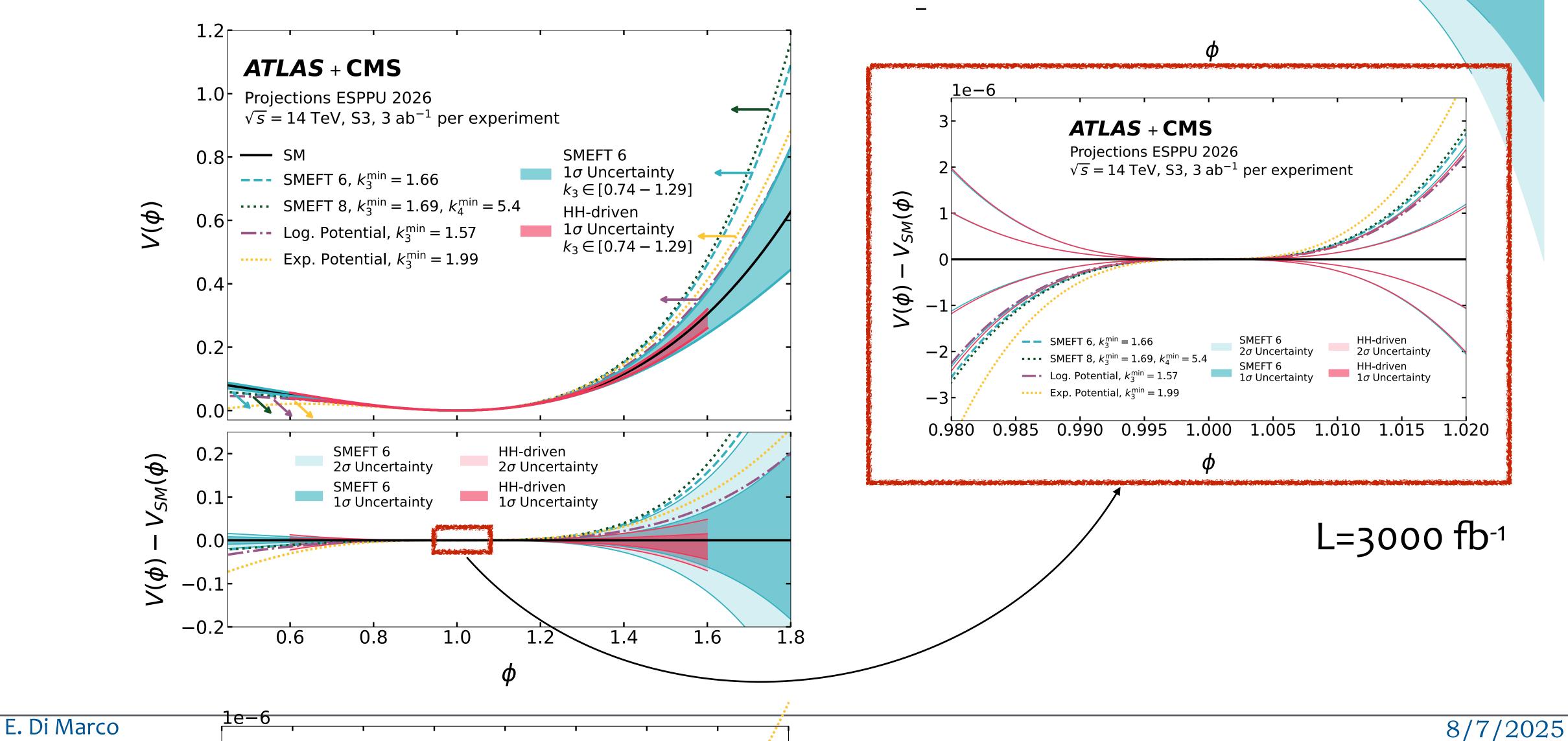








With > 10x of the current LHC luminosity possible to exclude strong 1st order FI



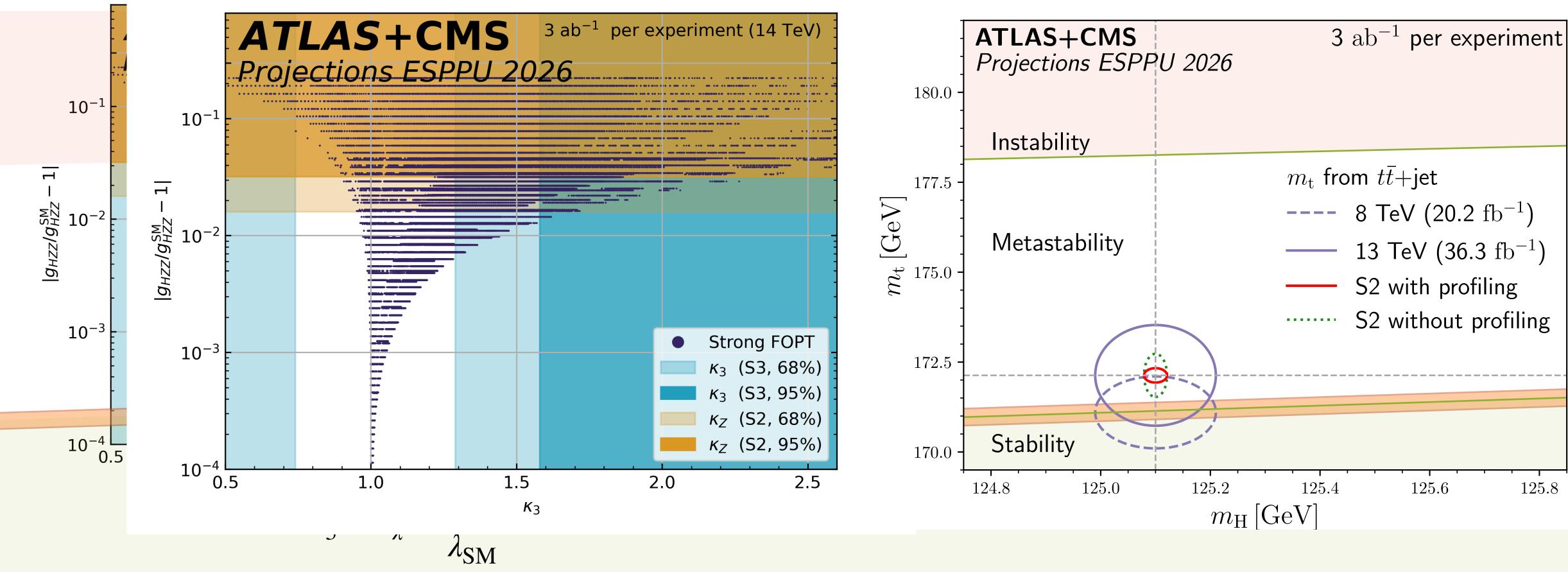






precisic 1st order

-0.25-0.20-0.15-0.10-0.05 0.00 0.05 0.10 0.15 0.20 0.25



E. Di Marco

