

12 SEP 2023

Higgs Hunting 2023

BSM and rare $H(125)$ decays in the ATLAS experiment



MICHAEL CHU



Introduction

Since the discovery in 2012, all experimental observation matches with the SM prediction

A portal to BSM physics:

- Composite Higgs, Additional BSM Higgs bosons
- “SM-like” Higgs boson coupling to B_{BSM} ←this talk

Present today:

- $H \rightarrow \omega\gamma / K^*\gamma$ ([arXiv:2301.09938](#))
- $H \rightarrow \mathcal{M}\gamma$ ([ATL-PHYS-PUB-2023-004](#))
- $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + X$ ([arXiv:2301.10486](#))
- $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$ ([JHEP07\(2023\)133](#))
- $H \rightarrow \text{invisible}$ ([arXiv:2301.10731](#))
- $H \rightarrow \text{LFV}$ ([JHEP07\(2023\)166](#))

$$H \rightarrow \omega\gamma / K^*\gamma$$

➤ Measurement of Higgs boson coupling to the **first and the second generation of fermions**

➤ To probe the:

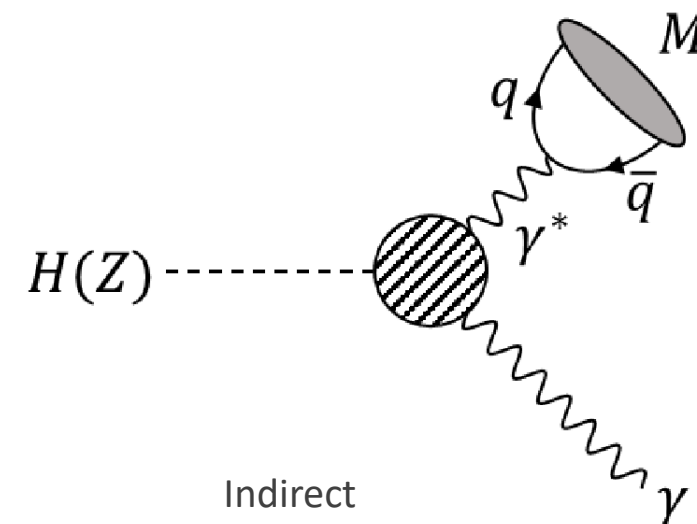
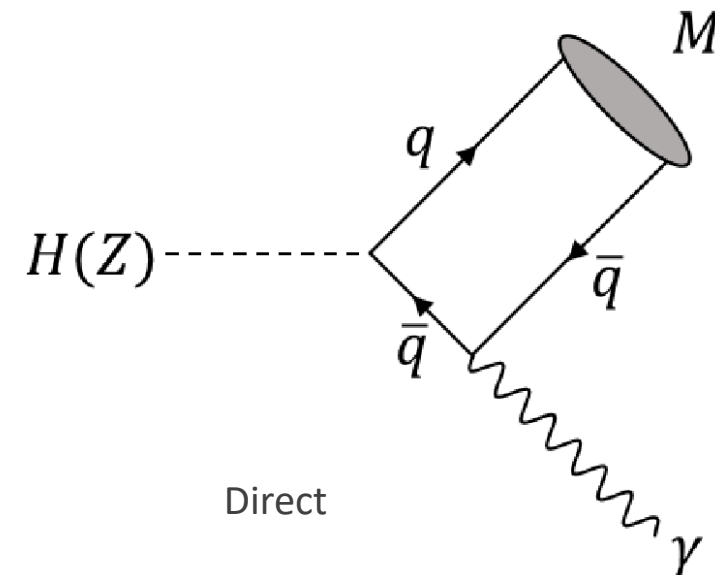
- **Flavour-conserving coupling** to u and d quarks ($H \rightarrow \omega\gamma$)
- **Flavour-violating coupling** to d and s quarks ($H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$)

➤ SM prediction of such decays are driven by two contributions:

- ‘**direct**’: scales with Yukawa coupling
- ‘**indirect**’: $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{M}\gamma$ (\mathcal{M} being a meson)
- The two contributions are typically **destructive interfering**
- The SM expected branching ratio is of order $< 10^{-6}$

➤ Major background from **mis-identified meson** from ID tracks originated from a **jet**

- Estimated by a **non-parametric data-driven model**
([arXiv:2112.00650](https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.00650))

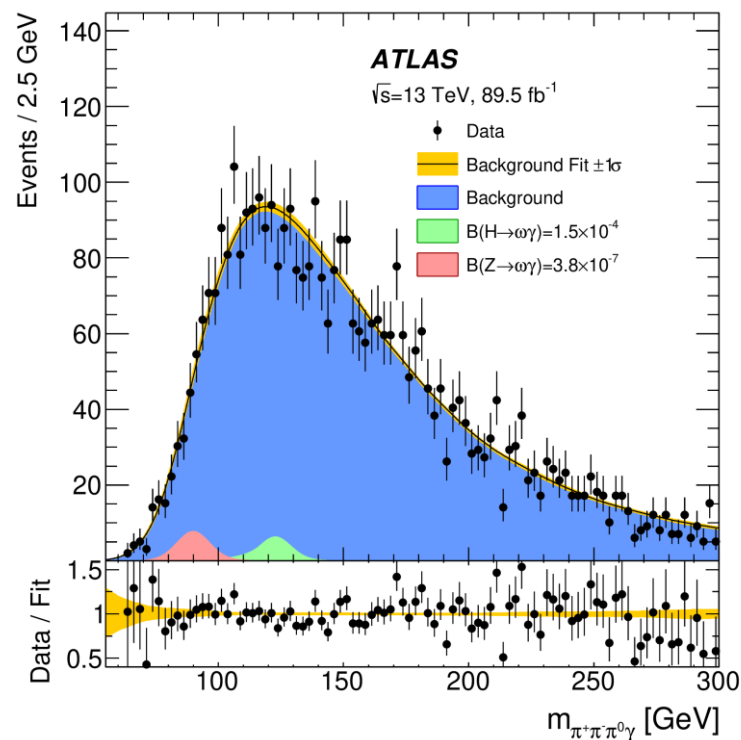
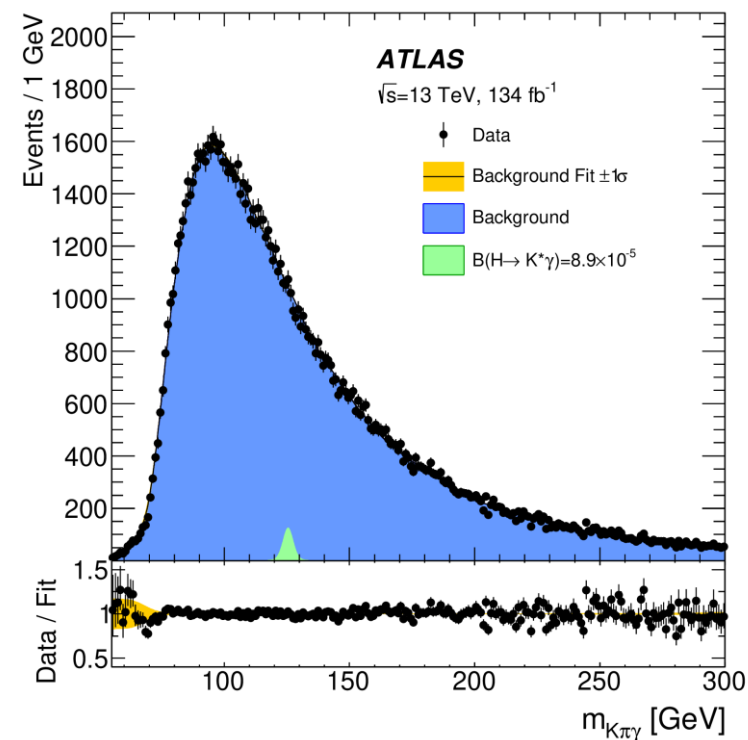


$H \rightarrow \omega\gamma / K^*\gamma$

Channel	Mass range [GeV]	Observed (Expected) background	H signal $\mathcal{B} = 10^{-4}$
$H \rightarrow \omega\gamma$	115–135	681 (724 \pm 16)	33 \pm 4
$H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$	120–130	10474 (10550 \pm 60)	163 \pm 15

Channel	95% CL upper limit	
	Expected	Observed
$H \rightarrow \omega\gamma$ [10^{-4}]	3.0 ^{+1.2} _{-0.8}	1.5
$H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ [10^{-5}]	12.2 ^{+4.9} _{-3.4}	8.9

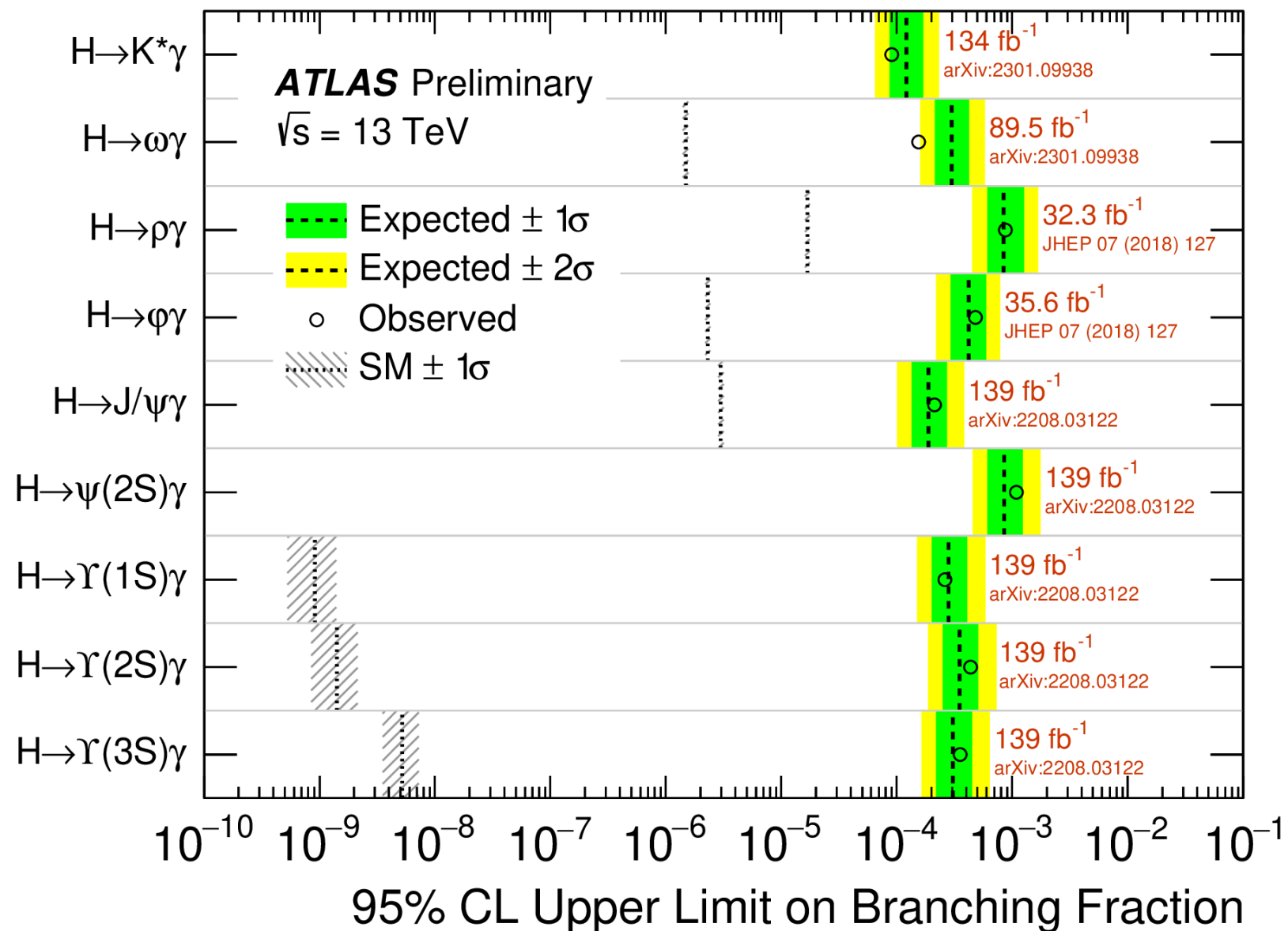
➤ No significant excess of events above the SM background expectation is observed


 $H \rightarrow \omega\gamma$

 $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$

$$H \rightarrow \mathcal{M}\gamma$$

➤ Summary of various decays of the Higgs boson to a meson and a photon

➤ No significant excess of events is observed



Model-independent search of with $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

➤ Search for **BSM Higgs + X production**, with $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ final state

➤ Relatively **clean background**, less systematic uncertainty

➤ Consider **SRs not covered** by the Higgs coupling analysis (STXS)

[[arXiv:1610.07922](https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.07922)]

- **Heavy flavour / High jet activity:** Multi-b jet (3 or 4), multijet (4, 6 or 8)

- **High E_T^{miss} :** >100, >200, >300 GeV

- **Top:** $\ell + b$, t_{lep} , t_{had}

- **Lepton:** $1\ell / 2\ell / 3\ell /$ multi-lepton, same sign dilepton

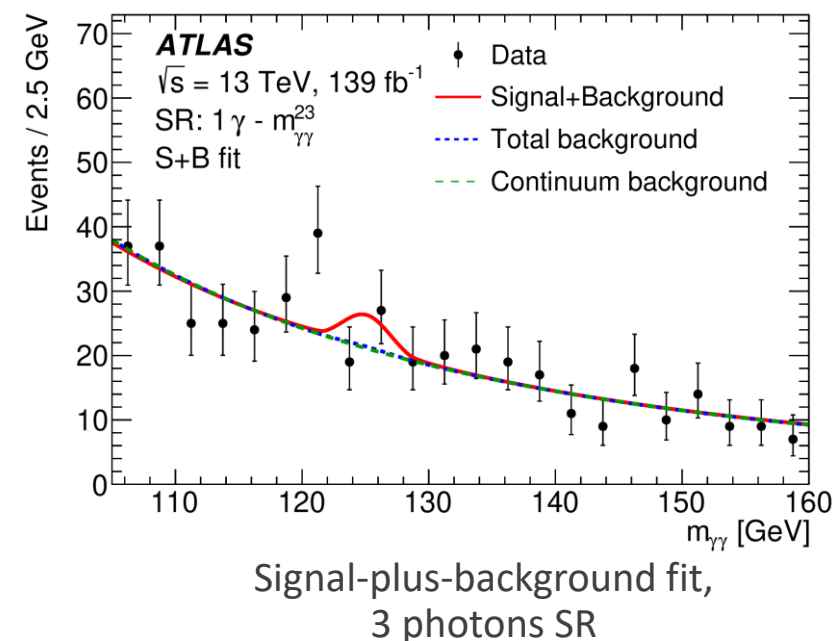
- **Three photons**

➤ Background modelling

- **Resonant background:** modelled using a double-sided crystal function

- **Continuum background:** fit with data into analytic functions using the spurious signal test [[arXiv:1802.04146](https://arxiv.org/abs/1802.04146)], **except** for the

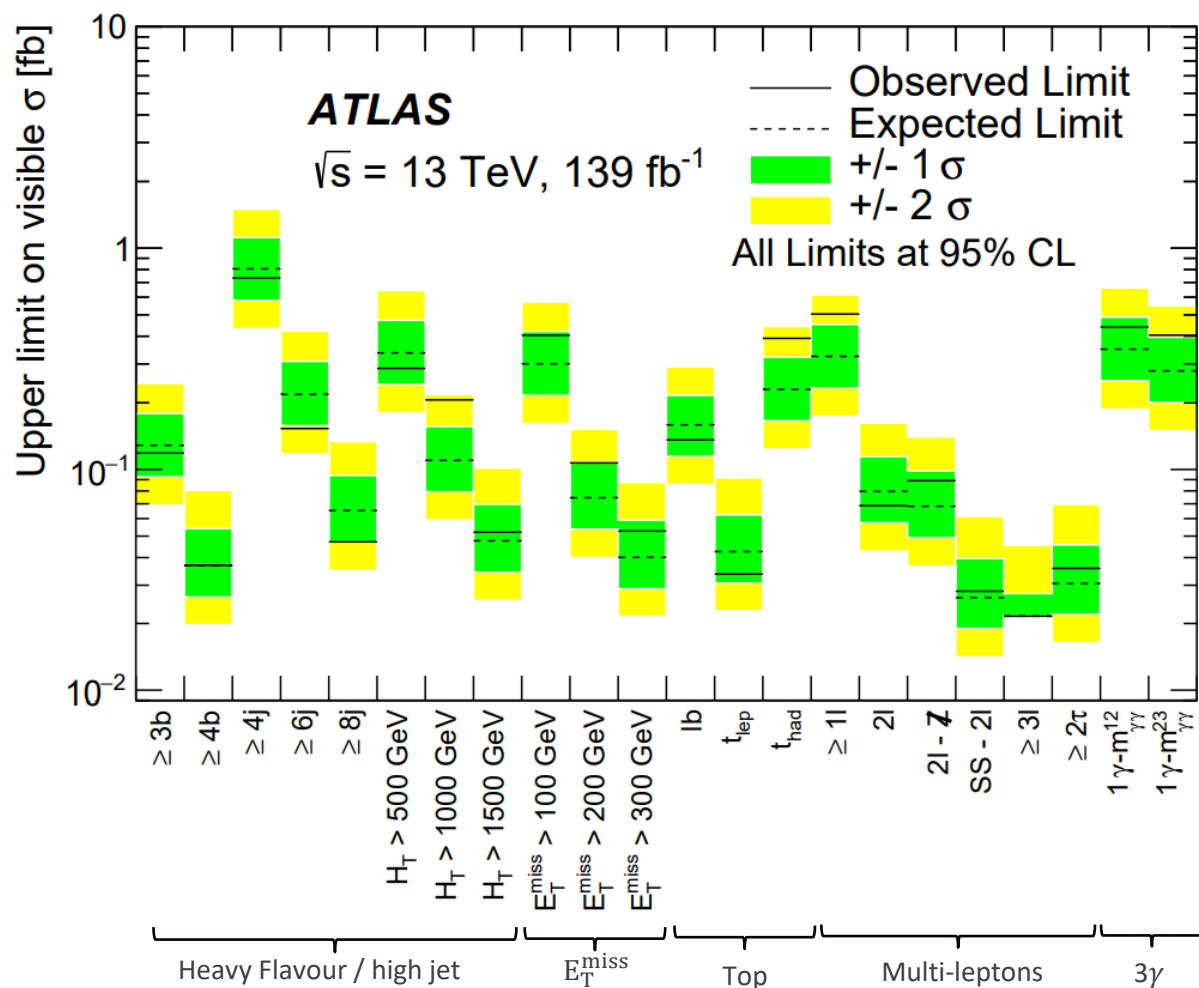
- **Multi-lepton regions:** extrapolated from CRs



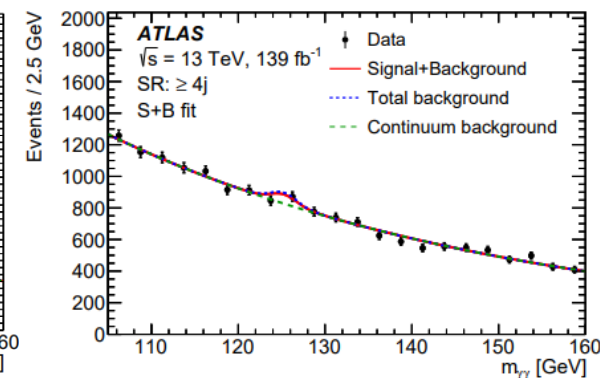
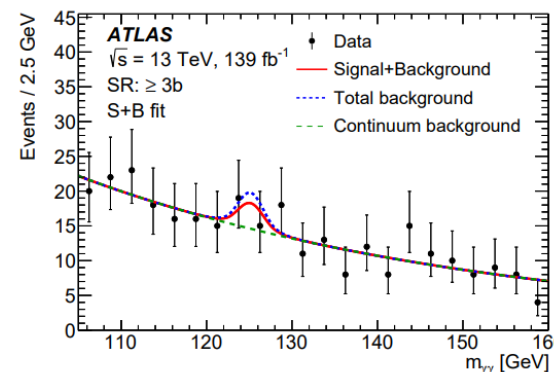
Model-independent search of with $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

➤ **No significant excess** seen in any SR

➤ Multi-lepton region, which had data-driven estimate, has 0 observed data

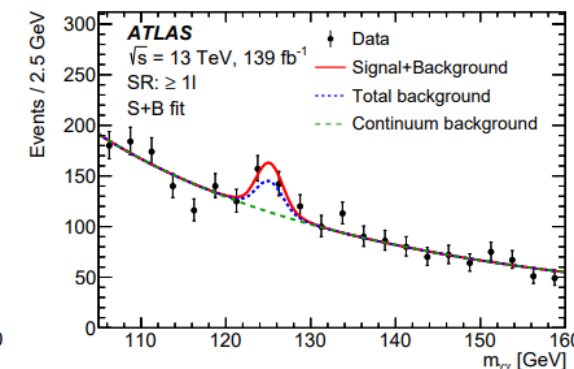
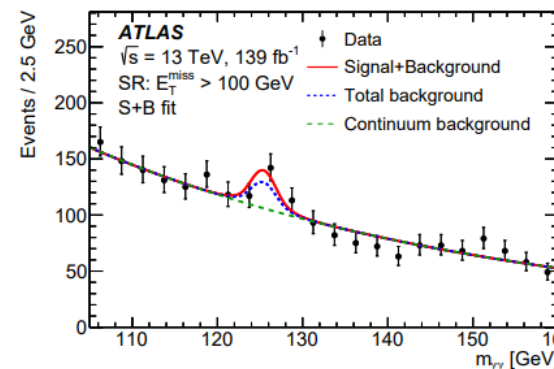


Background-only fit plots



$\geq 3b$ -jet SR

≥ 4 multi-jet SR



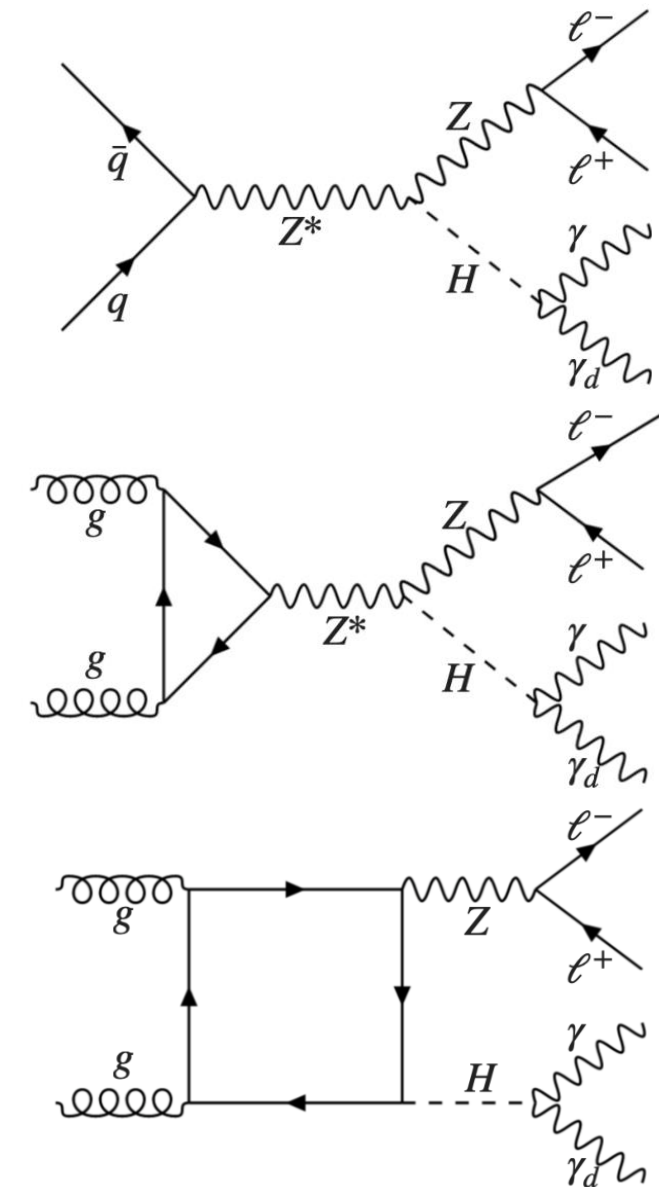
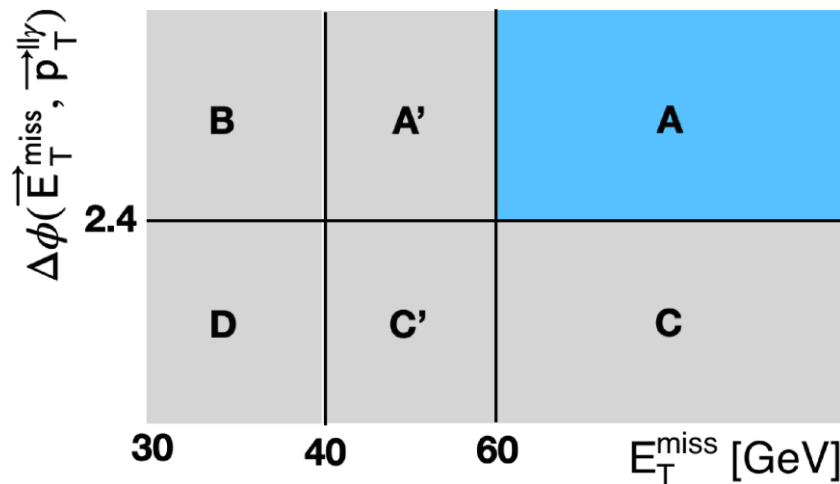
$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 100 \text{ GeV}$ SR

$\geq 1\ell$ SR

$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$

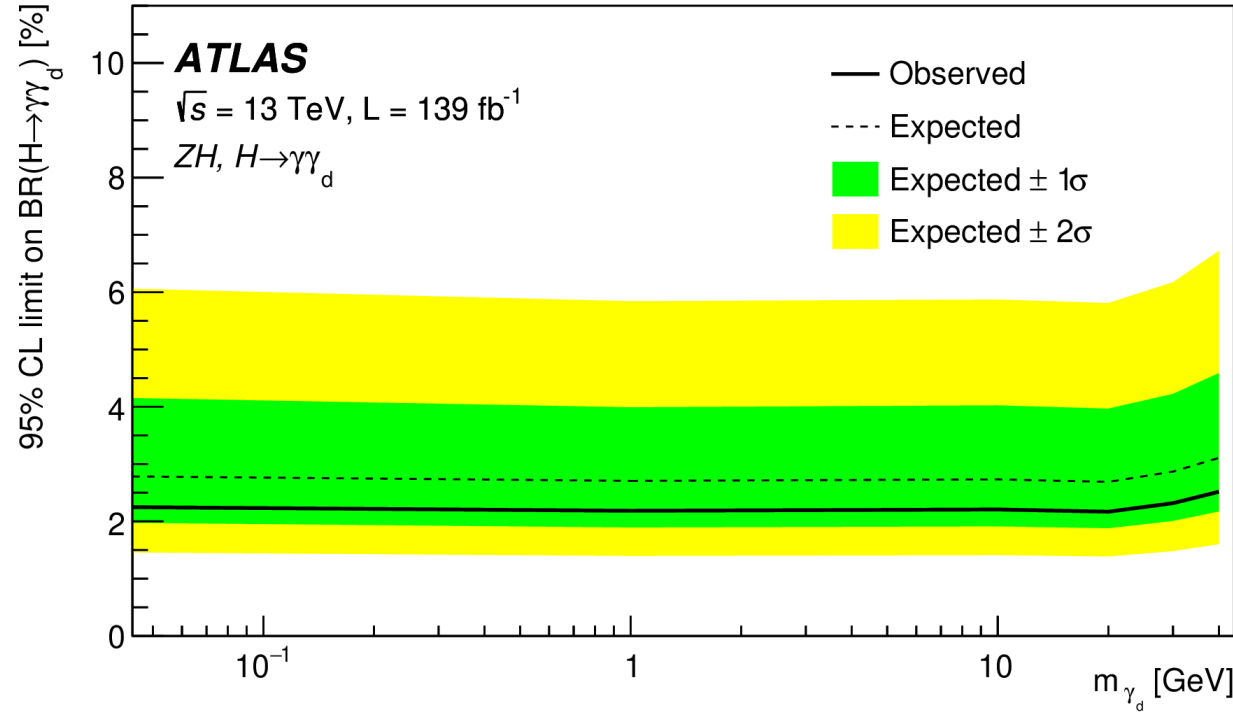
- Search for Higgs boson decaying into a (SM) photon and a **dark photon** (γ_d)
- Exploit the **ZH production mode**
 - $Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$
 - $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$
- Optimized for dark photon searches in the **[0 – 40] GeV mass range**
- Major Backgrounds:
 - Fake E_T^{miss} :
 - “ABCD method”
 - Validation Region (A’)
 - $e \rightarrow \gamma$ fakes:
 - fake factors of e^+e^- and $e^\pm\gamma$ final states
 - apply to a probe electron CR

The search for **Higgs invisible decays** (to be discussed in **slide 10 - 11**) would share the same signature as dark photon from the **VBF production mode** ([arXiv:2109.00925](https://arxiv.org/abs/2109.00925)).



$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$

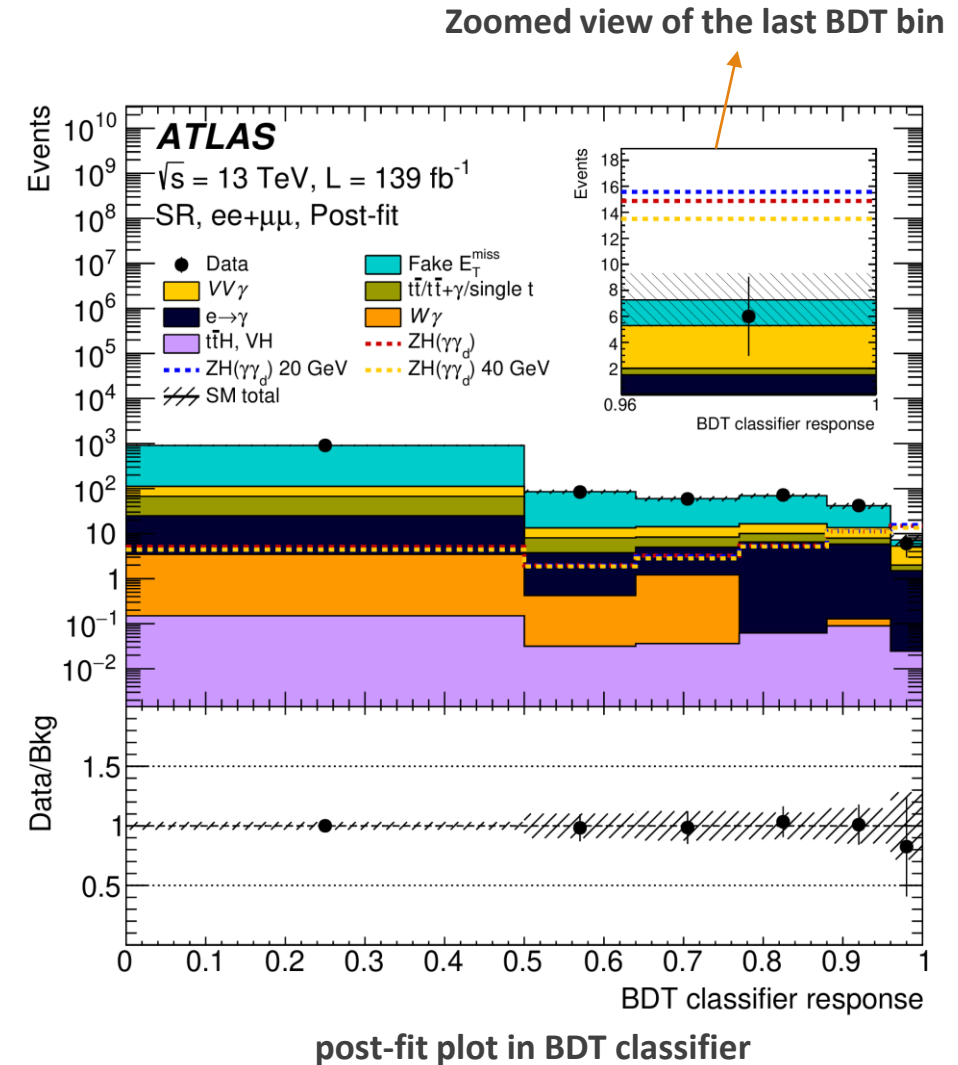
➤ Discriminant variable: **BDT score** to enhance the analysis sensitivity



➤ No excess of events above the SM expectation is found

➤ **Observed (expected) upper limit of $BR(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d)$ at 95% CL:**

- massless γ_d : 2.28% (2.82%)
- massive γ_d : [2.19%, 2.52%] ([2.71%, 3.11%])
 *mass range from 1 to 40 GeV



Higgs invisible decays

➤ Search for **invisible (dark matter)** decay of Higgs boson

➤ This paper presents a **statistical combination** from the following channels

- VBF Topology ([arXiv:2202.07953](https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.07953))
- ZH Topology ([arXiv:2111.08372](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.08372))
- ttH Topology ([arXiv:2211.05426](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.05426))
- ggH + jet Topology ([arXiv:2102.10874](https://arxiv.org/abs/2102.10874))
- VBF + γ Topology ([arXiv:2109.00925](https://arxiv.org/abs/2109.00925))

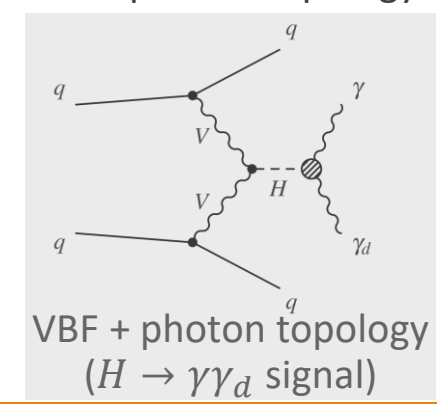
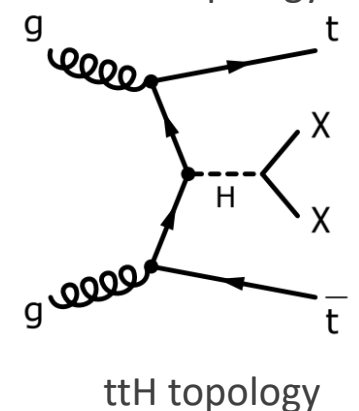
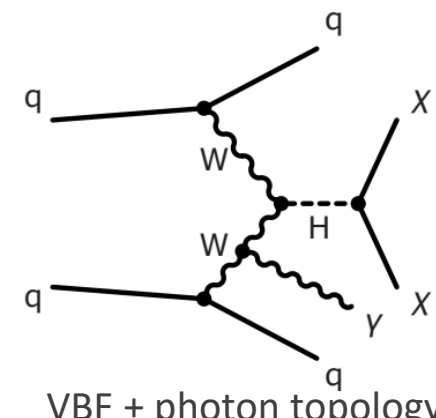
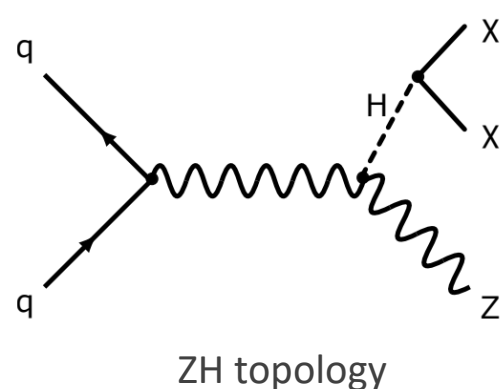
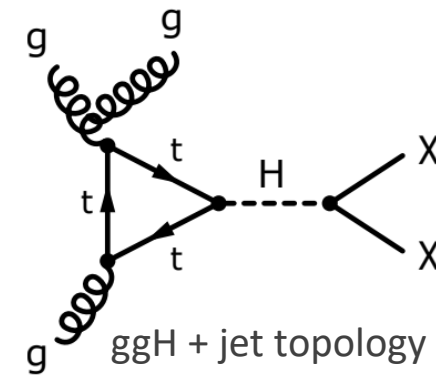
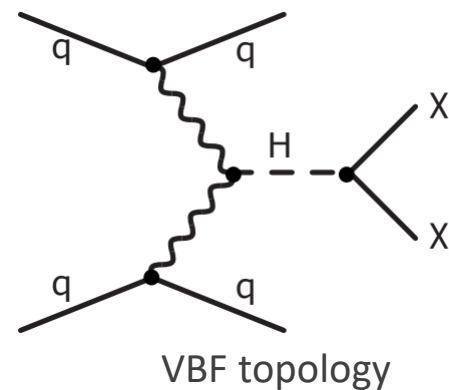
(This also shares the same signature as $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$ signal)

➤ **Run 2 combination**

- Most experimental systematic uncertainties are **correlated** across all channels
- Background prediction uncertainties are **uncorrelated** due to the different nature of the leading backgrounds

➤ **Run 1 + Run 2 combination**

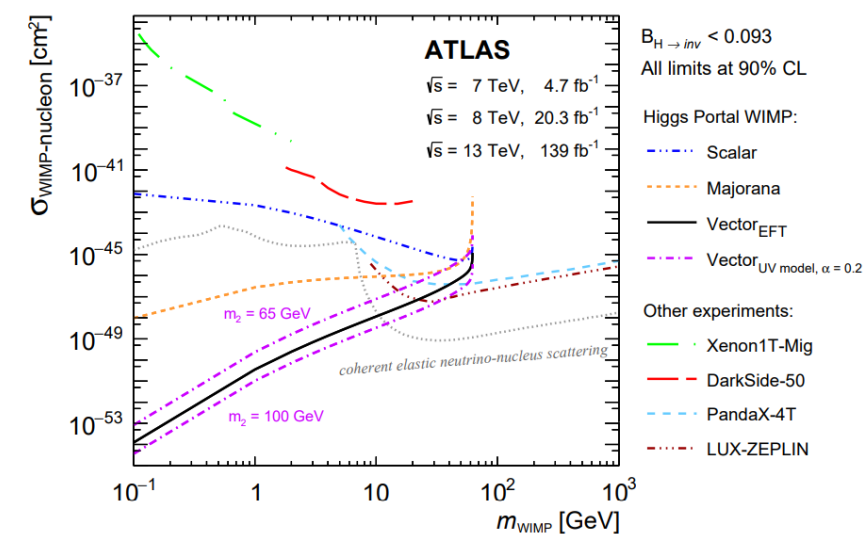
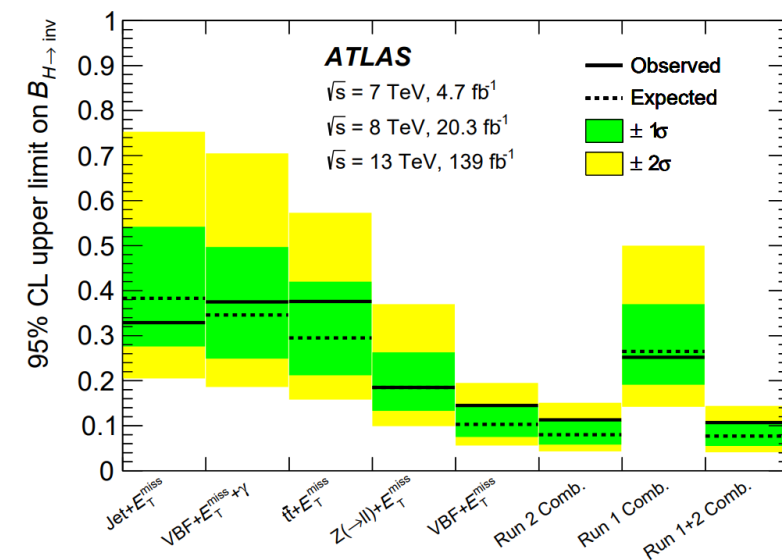
- Most of the uncertainties are **not correlated** between Run 1 and Run 2, due to the different algorithm calibration using data



Higgs invisible decays

Analysis	Best fit $\mathcal{B}_{H \rightarrow inv}$	Observed 95% U.L.	Expected 95% U.L.
Jet + E_T^{miss}	$-0.09^{+0.19}_{-0.20}$	0.329	$0.383^{+0.157}_{-0.107}$
VBF + $E_T^{miss} + \gamma$	$0.04^{+0.17}_{-0.15}$	0.375	$0.346^{+0.151}_{-0.097}$
$t\bar{t} + E_T^{miss}$	0.08 ± 0.15	0.376	$0.295^{+0.125}_{-0.083}$
$Z(\rightarrow \ell\ell) + E_T^{miss}$	0.00 ± 0.09	0.185	$0.185^{+0.078}_{-0.052}$
VBF + E_T^{miss}	0.05 ± 0.05	0.145	$0.103^{+0.041}_{-0.028}$
Run 2 Comb.	0.04 ± 0.04	0.113	$0.080^{+0.031}_{-0.022}$
Run 1 Comb.	$-0.02^{+0.14}_{-0.13}$	0.252	$0.265^{+0.105}_{-0.074}$
Run 1+2 Comb.	0.04 ± 0.04	0.107	$0.077^{+0.030}_{-0.022}$
VBF ($H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$)	-	0.018	$0.017^{+0.007}_{-0.005}$

- Leading systematic uncertainty comes from the **modelling of the W / Z + jets prediction**
- Sub-dominant uncertainties are related to the statistical precision of the data sample
- The 90% CL Run 1 + Run 2 limit of $\mathcal{B}_{H \rightarrow inv} < 0.093$ is complemented to the WIMP direct detection experiments



Higgs LFV decays

➤ Search for **Lepton Flavour Violating (LFV)** decay of Higgs boson, with independent signals of

- $H \rightarrow e\tau$
- $H \rightarrow \mu\tau$

The search for $H \rightarrow e\mu$ signal is presented in a separated paper [arXiv:1909.10235]

➤ **Two τ decay modes** are considered:

- **Leptonically** decaying tau ($\tau_\ell \rightarrow \ell\nu\nu$)
- **Hadronically** decaying tau ($\tau_{had} \rightarrow \text{hadrons} + \nu$)

➤ **Two independent background estimation methods**

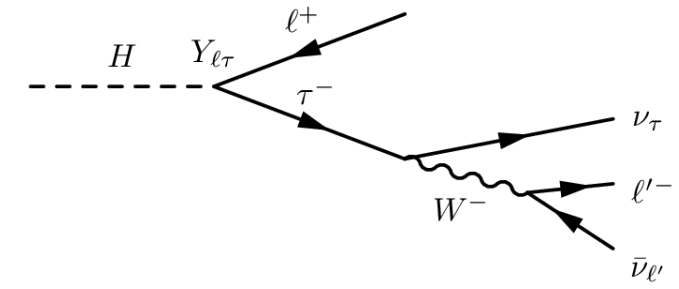
Symmetry-Based Method leplep channels

➤ Main background estimated mainly via **data-driven symmetry method**

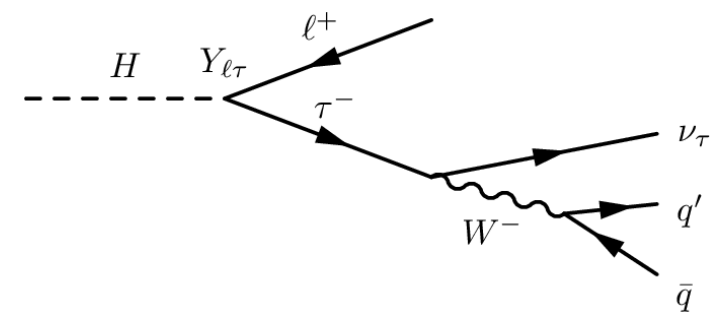
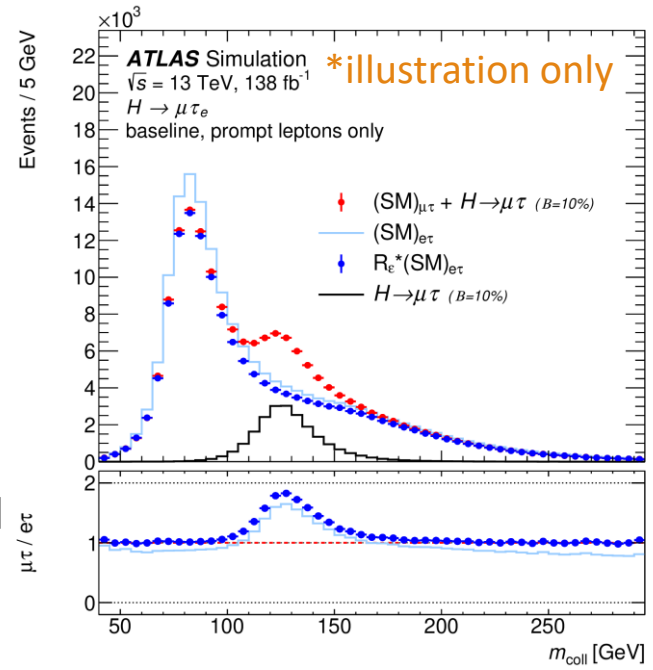
MC-Based Method leplep channels
lephad channels

➤ Main background estimated with **MC templates** and normalisation from CRs

➤ Fake background data-driven



leplep channels

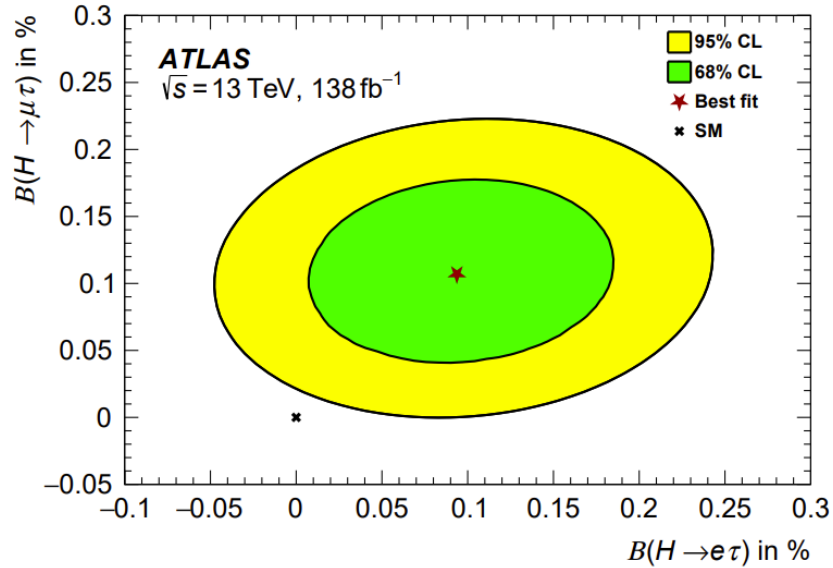


lephad channels

Higgs LFV decays

- Signal enhanced by **Boosted Decision Trees** (MC-based) and **Neural Network** (Symmetry-based)

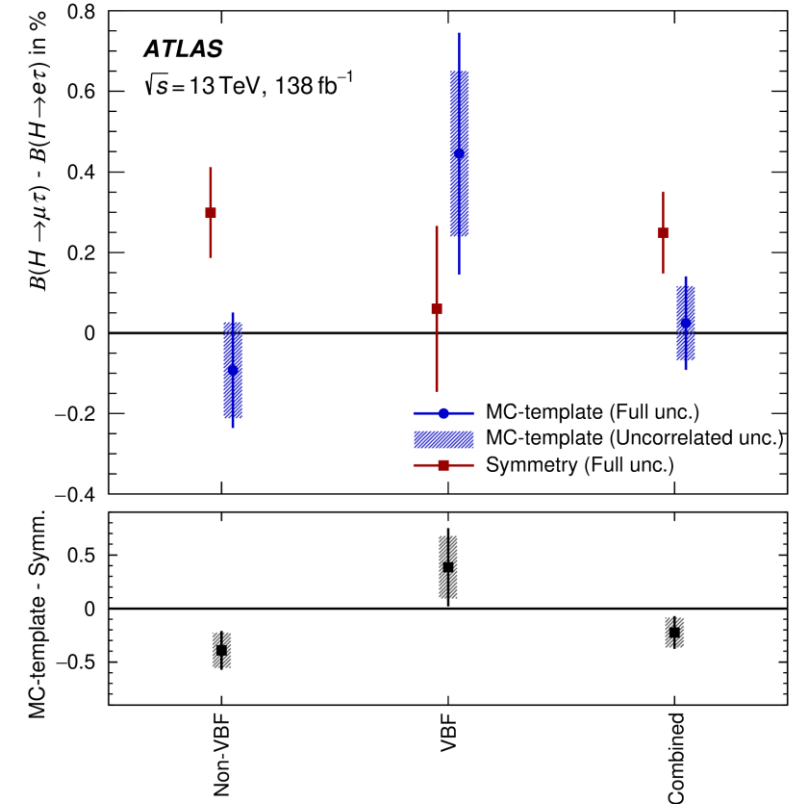
Simultaneous measurement of $H \rightarrow e\tau$ and $H \rightarrow \mu\tau$



	Obs. (Exp.) 95% Upper Limit
$e\tau$	0.193% (0.114%)
$\mu\tau$	0.183% (0.087%)

- **No significant excess** of signal is observed
- The simultaneous measurement is found to be **compatible with the SM within 2.1σ**
- The symmetry method favours a **larger branching ratio for $H \rightarrow \mu\tau$** than $H \rightarrow e\tau$ signal, with a significance of **2.5σ**

Branching Ratio difference (lelep channels only)



Summary

- Analysis in ATLAS covers many BSM, LFV and rare Higgs decays
- Most results with full Run-2 data has been already published
- No significant excess observed
- Run-3 is now ongoing, and we expect an improvement with more data incoming!

Backup

$$H \rightarrow \omega\gamma / K^*\gamma$$

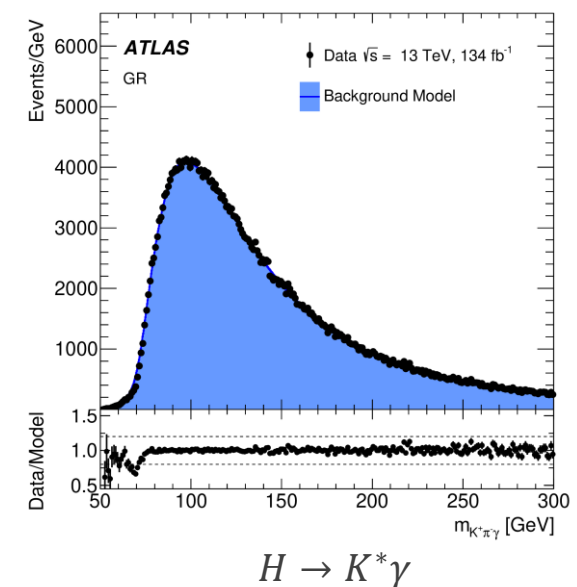
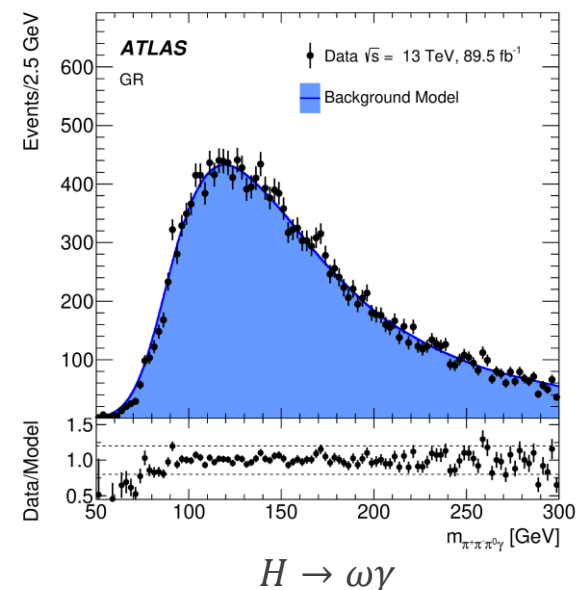
➤ **Final states of the experiment:**

- $H \rightarrow \omega\gamma$: $\omega \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$
- $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$: $K^* \rightarrow K^+\pi^-$

➤ Major background from **mis-identified meson** from ID tracks originated from a **jet**

➤ Estimated by a **non-parametric data-driven model** ([arXiv:2112.00650](https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.00650))

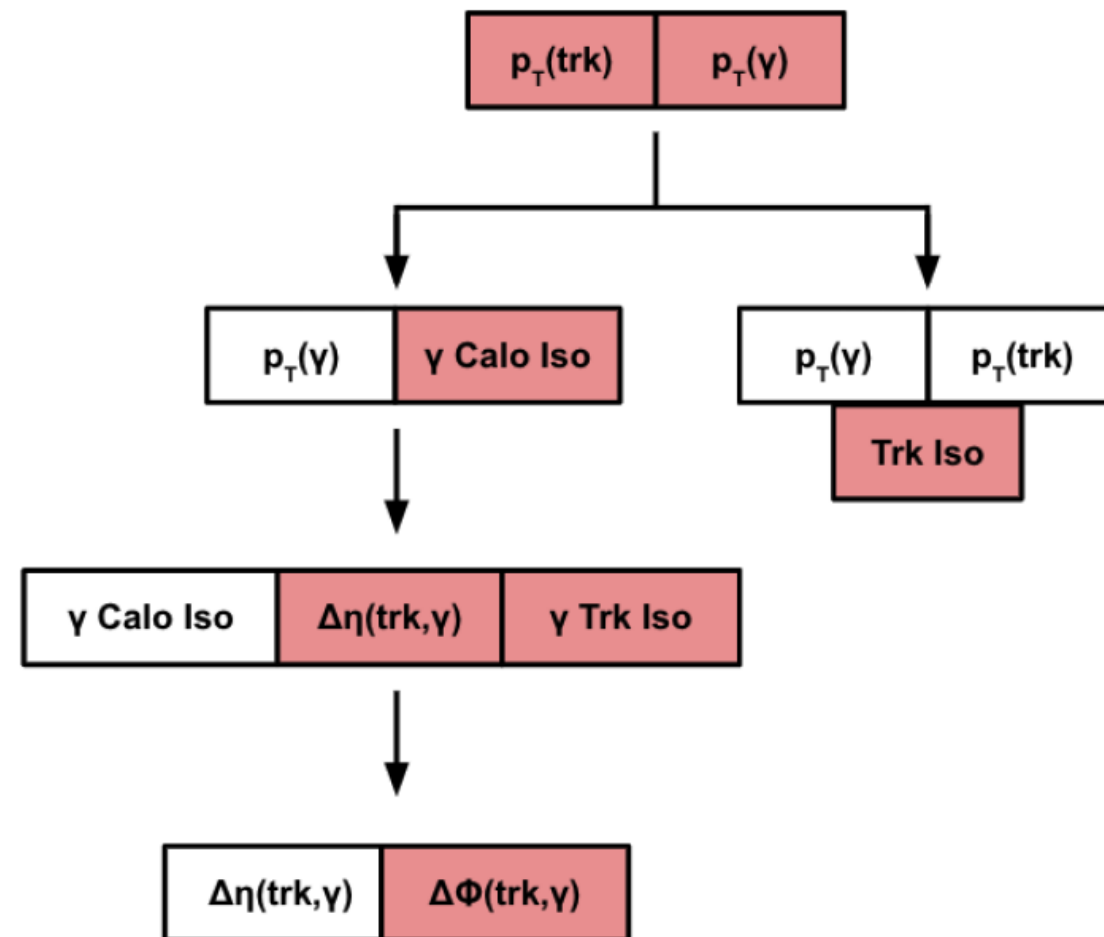
- Model the background in a background-dominated “**Generation Region**”
- Apply a sampling scheme to extract the most important correlation among the kinematic variables of the estimated background



H to $\omega\gamma$ / $K^*\gamma$

➤ Non-parametric data-driven model

- Define a **background-dominated “Generation Region”** (GR), by releasing the nominal isolation requirement
- **Model kinematic distributions** of these events, including correlations between important variables
- **Draw from distributions** (millions of times) with random numbers + combine together = **pseudo-candidates**
- Correlations should then be retained in the pseudo-candidates, as well as **behavior after selection**
- Resulting distribution is **smoothed** with **Gaussian Kernel Density Estimation**



Model-independent search of with $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

Target	Region	Detector level	Particle level
Heavy flavour	$\geq 3b$	$n_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 3$, 85% WP	$n_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 3$
	$\geq 4b$	$n_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 4$, 85% WP	$n_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 4$
High jet activity	$\geq 4j$	$n_{\text{jet}} \geq 4$, $ \eta_{\text{jet}} < 2.5$	$n_{\text{jet}} \geq 4$, $ \eta_{\text{jet}} < 2.5$
	$\geq 6j$	$n_{\text{jet}} \geq 6$, $ \eta_{\text{jet}} < 2.5$	$n_{\text{jet}} \geq 6$, $ \eta_{\text{jet}} < 2.5$
	$\geq 8j$	$n_{\text{jet}} \geq 8$, $ \eta_{\text{jet}} < 2.5$	$n_{\text{jet}} \geq 8$, $ \eta_{\text{jet}} < 2.5$
	$H_T > 500$ GeV	$H_T > 500$ GeV	$H_T > 500$ GeV
	$H_T > 1000$ GeV	$H_T > 1000$ GeV	$H_T > 1000$ GeV
	$H_T > 1500$ GeV	$H_T > 1500$ GeV	$H_T > 1500$ GeV
E_T^{miss}	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 100$ GeV	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 100$ GeV	$E_T^{\text{miss,tru}} > 100$ GeV
	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 200$ GeV	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 200$ GeV	$E_T^{\text{miss,tru}} > 200$ GeV
	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 300$ GeV	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 300$ GeV	$E_T^{\text{miss,tru}} > 300$ GeV
Top	ℓb	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} \geq 1$, $n_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 1$, 70% WP	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} \geq 1$, $n_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 1$
	t_{lep}	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} = 1$, $n_{\text{jet}} = n_{b\text{-jet}} = 1$, 70% WP	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} = 1$, $n_{\text{jet}} = n_{b\text{-jet}} = 1$
	t_{had}	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} = 0$, $n_{\text{jet}} = 3$, $n_{b\text{-jet}} = 1$, 70% WP, $\text{BDT}_{\text{top}} > 0.9$	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} = 0$, $n_{\text{jet}} = 3$, $n_{b\text{-jet}} = 1$
Lepton	$\geq 1\ell$	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} \geq 1$	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} \geq 1$
	2ℓ	$ee, \mu\mu$, or $e\mu$	$ee, \mu\mu$, or $e\mu$
	$2\ell\text{-}Z$	$ee, \mu\mu, e\mu$; $ m_{\ell\ell} - m_Z > 10$ GeV for same-flavour leptons	$ee, \mu\mu, e\mu$; $ m_{\ell\ell} - m_Z > 10$ GeV for same-flavour leptons
	$SS\text{-}2\ell$	$ee, \mu\mu$, or $e\mu$ with same charge	$ee, \mu\mu$, or $e\mu$ with same charge
	$\geq 3\ell$	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} \geq 3$	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} \geq 3$
	$\geq 2\tau$	$n_{\tau,\text{had}} \geq 2$	$n_{\tau} \geq 2$
Photon	$1\gamma\text{-}m_{\gamma\gamma}^{12}$	$n_{\gamma} \geq 3$, $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ defined with γ_1, γ_2	$n_{\gamma} \geq 3$, $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ defined with γ_1, γ_2
	$1\gamma\text{-}m_{\gamma\gamma}^{23}$	$n_{\gamma} \geq 3$, $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ defined with γ_2, γ_3	$n_{\gamma} \geq 3$, $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ defined with γ_2, γ_3

Model-independent search of with $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

SR	Expected Background			Observed	
	Resonant Higgs	Continuum	Total Background	Observed Yield	Excess Significance [σ]
Heavy flavour					
$\geq 3b$	6.47	23.4	29.9	30	-0.3
$\geq 4b$	0.69	1.22	1.91	1	-0.2
High jet activity					
$\geq 4j$	85.2	1330	1420	1404	-0.3
$\geq 6j$	16.4	104	121	105	-1.3
$\geq 8j$	2.44	6.37	8.81	6	-0.9
$H_T > 500$ GeV	23.9	297	321	310	-0.6
$H_T > 1000$ GeV	1.85	27	28.8	39	1.8
$H_T > 1500$ GeV	0.264	3.9	4.17	4	0.1
E_T^{miss}					
$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 100$ GeV	29	171	200	212	0.8
$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 200$ GeV	4.51	8.06	12.6	16	0.9
$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 300$ GeV	1.15	1.85	3	5	0.8
Top quark					
ℓb	14.9	27	41.9	34	-0.6
t_{lep}	0.281	2.58	2.86	1	-0.7
t_{had}	4.44	96.3	101	111	1.7
Lepton					
$\geq 1\ell$	38.8	183	222	237	1.4
2ℓ	4.24	9.42	13.7	10	-0.5
$2\ell - Z$	1.95	7.35	9.3	10	0.7
$SS-2\ell$	0.431	0.224	0.655	1	0.2
$\geq 3\ell$	0.02	0.25	0.27	0	-
$\geq 2\tau$	0.256	0.875	1.13	2	0.6
Photon					
$1\gamma - m_{\gamma\gamma}^{12}$	2.33	119	121	132	0.7
$1\gamma - m_{\gamma\gamma}^{23}$	0.436	32.8	33.2	42	1.1

$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$

➤ Search for Higgs boson decaying into a (SM) photon and a **dark photon** (γ_d)

➤ Exploit the **ZH production mode**

- $Z \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$
- $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$

The search for **Higgs invisible decays** (to be discussed in **slide 10 - 11**) would share the same signature as dark photon from the **VBF production mode** ([arXiv:2109.00925](https://arxiv.org/abs/2109.00925)).

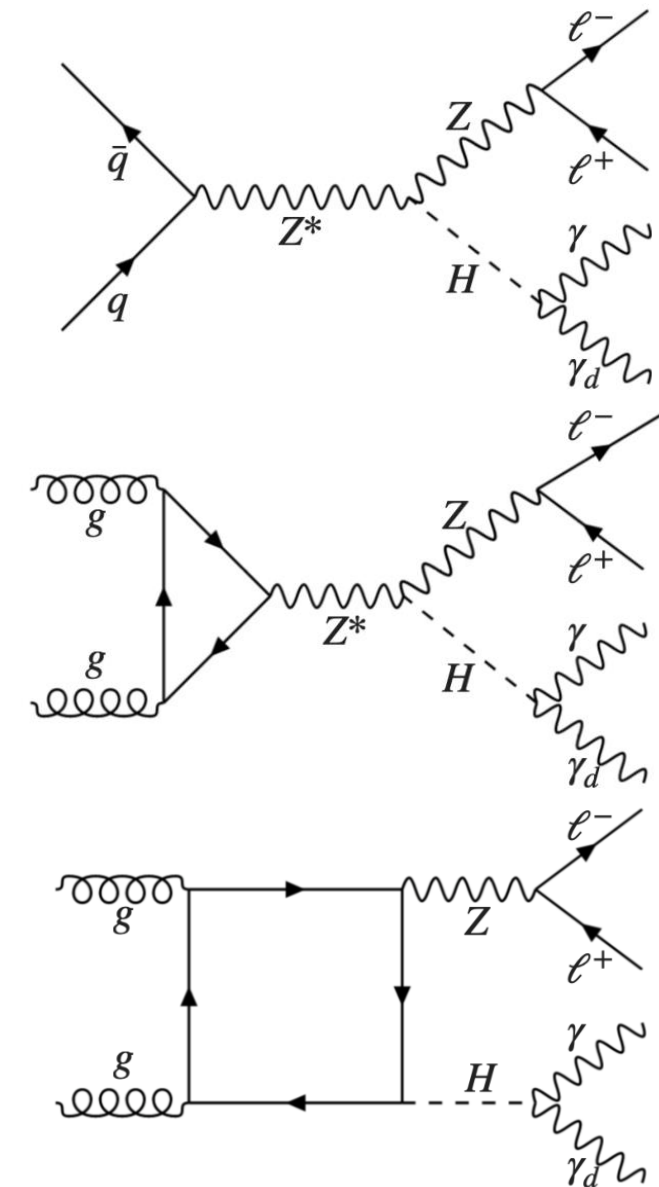
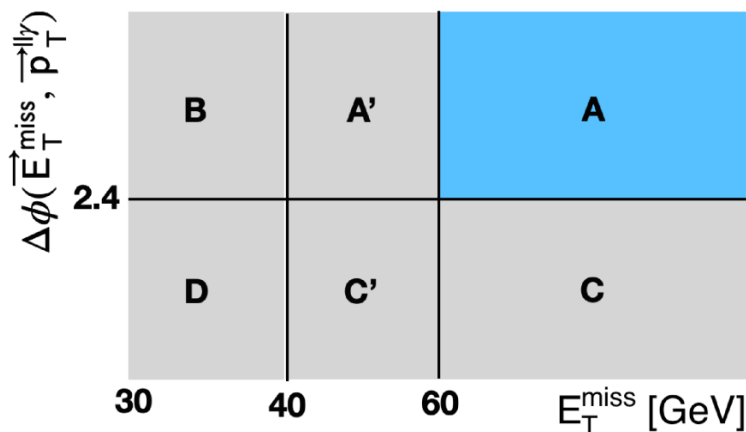
➤ The **final state** consist of

- Two same-flavour, opposite-charge electrons or muons,
- An isolated photon, and
- Missing transverse momentum

➤ Optimized for dark photon searches in the **[0 – 40] GeV mass range**

➤ Major Backgrounds:

- Fake E_T^{miss} :
 - “ABCD method”
 - Validation Region (A')
- $e \rightarrow \gamma$ fakes:
 - fake factors of e^+e^- and $e^\pm\gamma$ final states
 - apply to a probe electron CR



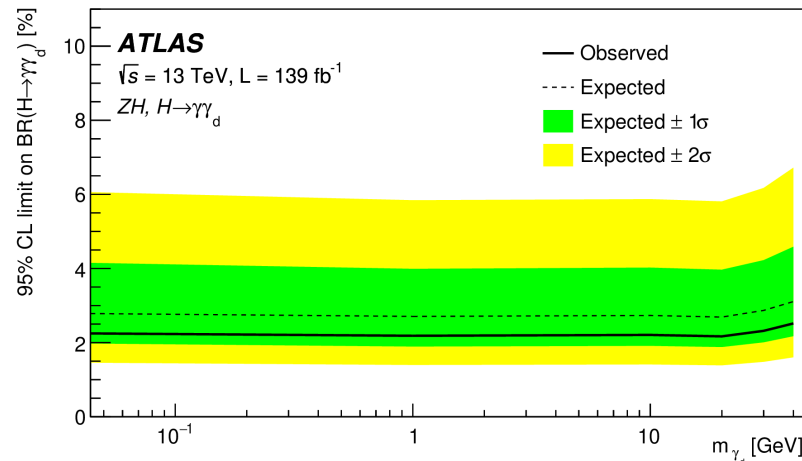
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$

➤ Discriminant variable: **BDT score** to enhance the analysis sensitivity

➤ Input variables: $\sigma_{E_T^{miss}}, m_T(p_T^\gamma, E_T^{miss}), m_{\ell\ell}, m_{\ell\ell\gamma}, p_T^\gamma, \frac{|E_T^{miss} + p_T^\gamma| - p_T^{\ell\ell}}{p_T^{\ell\ell}}$

➤ **Binning optimized** to obtain the best expected sensitivity, while keeping low statistical uncertainties in each bin

➤ Results consistent among different dark photon mass

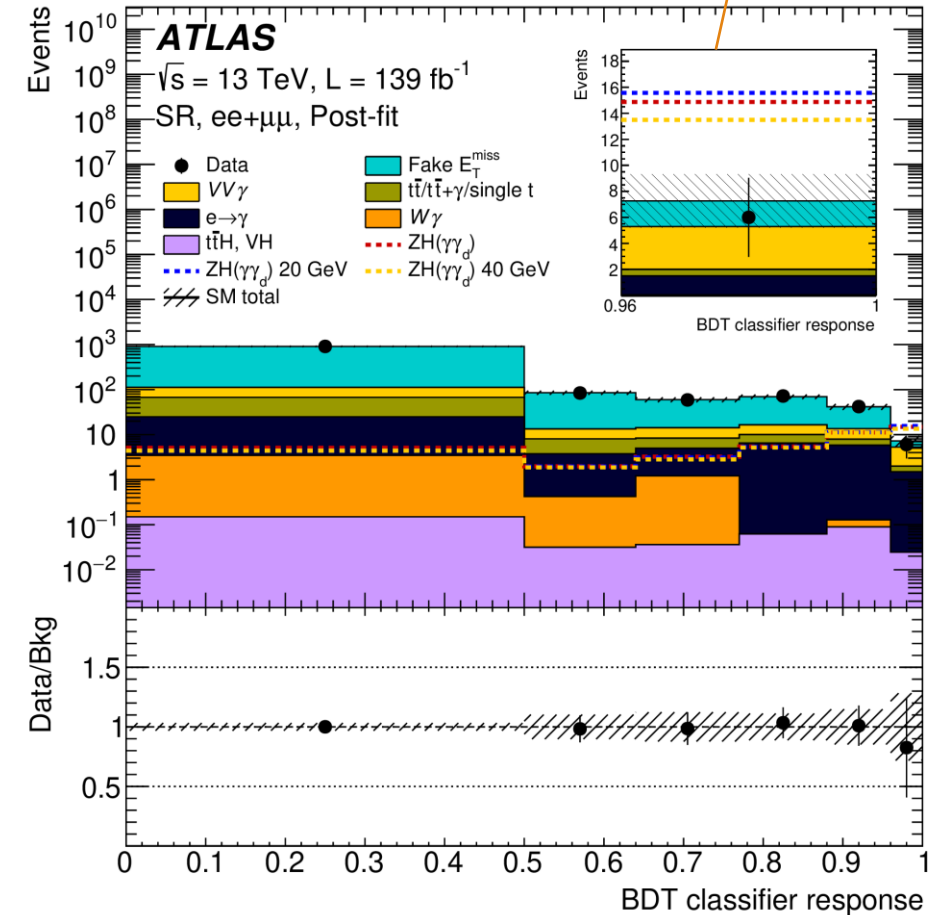


➤ **No excess of events** above the SM expectation is found

➤ **Observed (expected) upper limit** of $BR(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d)$ at 95% CL:

- massless γ_d : 2.28% (2.82%)
- massive γ_d : [2.19%, 2.52%] ([2.71%, 3.11%])
 *mass range from 1 to 40 GeV

Zoomed view of the last BDT bin



post-fit plot in BDT classifier

Higgs LFV decays

➤ Choice of analysis methods when combining the channels and categories

