



ATLAS Exotic Heavy Resonance Searches

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*On behalf of the **ATLAS Collaboration***



Northern Illinois
University



What to expect today

ATLAS has an extensive program of resonant searches, with a large variety of target models and final states.

In this talk you will see :

- A brief overview of 4 recent searches published by ATLAS
 - The 4 of them deal with final states with third generation fermions
- All of them correspond to the run 2 dataset
 - 140 fb⁻¹ of data taken between 2015-2018

OTHER BSM talks from ATLAS @ICHEP

[supersymmetry \(non-minimal\)](#)

[VLQ and LQ](#)

[Long-lived particles](#)

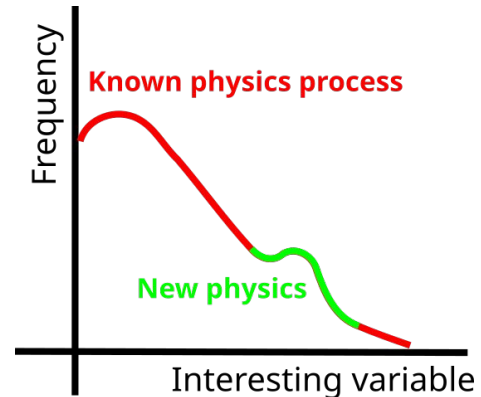
[supersymmetry \(EW\)](#)

[Hadronic final states](#)

[Dark matter searches](#)

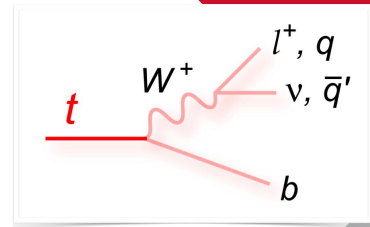
[supersymmetry \(strong\)](#)

[Dijet searches](#)



Searches with top quarks

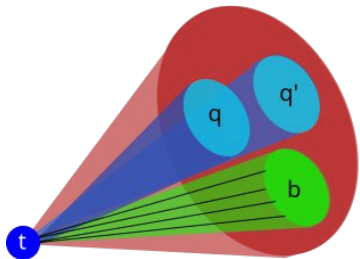
Large yukawa couplings → Importance in electroweak symmetry breaking mechanism → Special role in many BSM theories



Top reconstruction is the main experimental challenge

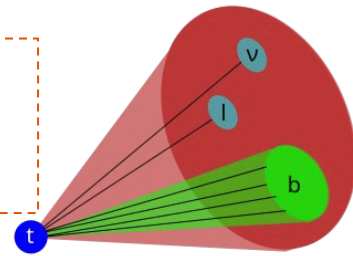
Top-tagging: technique used to identify large- R jets coming from top-quarks: **Deep Neural network (DNN) using substructure information**

B-tagging: technique used to identify jets originated from b-quarks: **DNN using tracking and vertexing information**



Hadronic
1 b-tagged jet, 2 additional jets or 1 top-tagged large- R jet

leptonic
1 b-tagged jet, 1 charged lepton and missing transverse energy

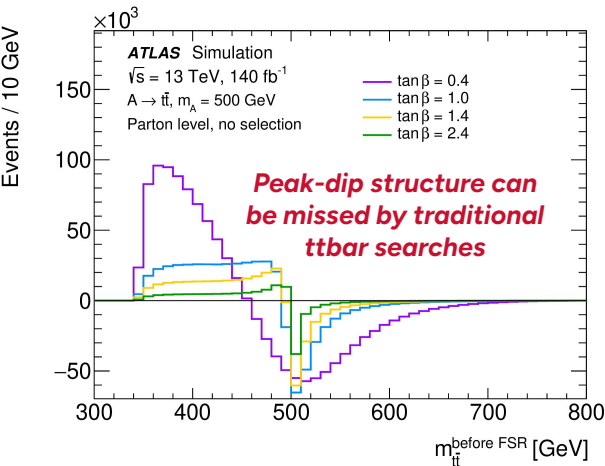
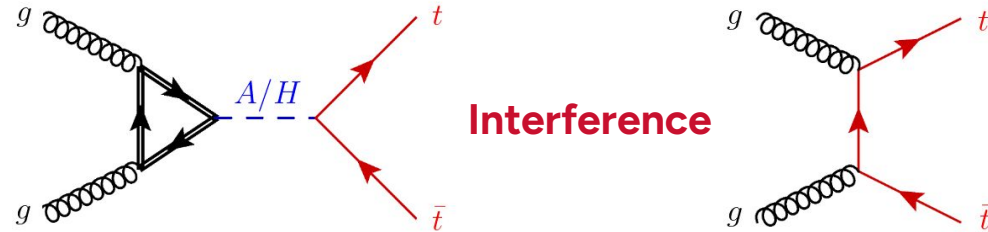


A/H- \rightarrow ttbar search

2404.18986

Look for the resonant decay of a pair of top quarks characteristic of 2HDM models.

Why is a dedicated search needed here?



1-lepton (electron or muon)

- 1 isolated lepton **and** additional jets
- MET related cuts to reject Multijet
- **Merged selection** top reconstruction
 - Based on a large-R jet top-tagged jet
- **Resolved selection** top reconstruction
 - Based on 4 jets chosen using a χ^2 method

2-leptons (electron or muon)

- 2 opposite sign leptons and additional jets
- Additional cuts on MET and the dilepton system

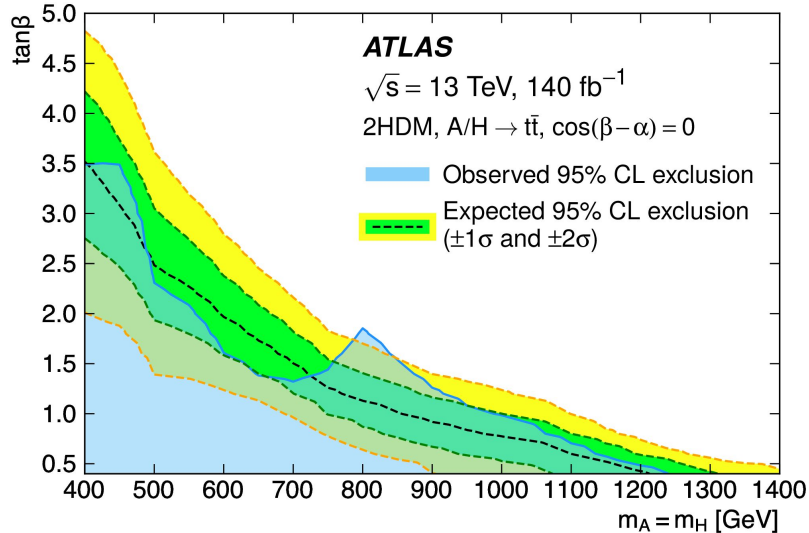


Priority given to the merged selection

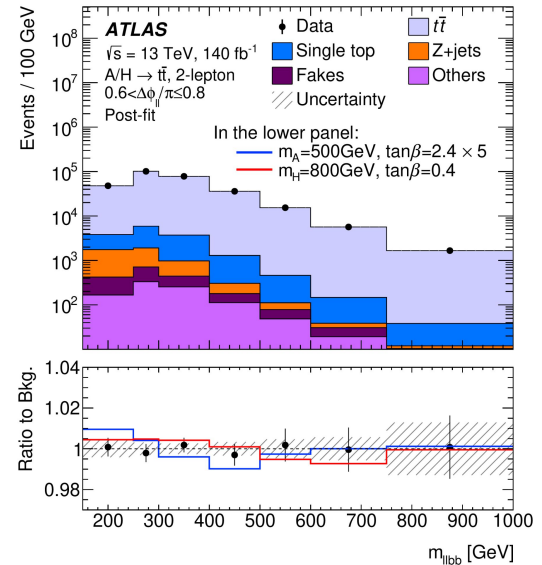
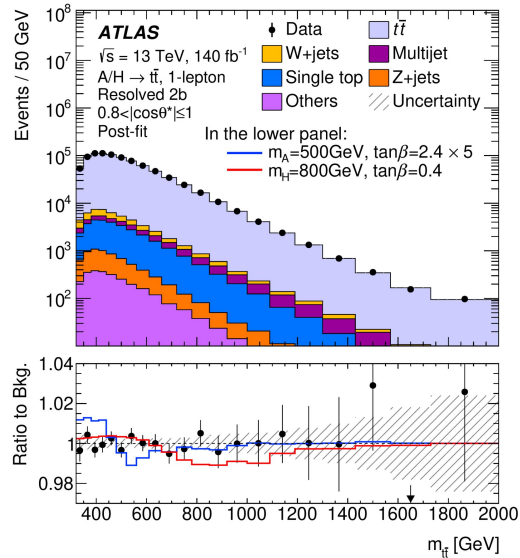
A/H- \rightarrow tt \bar{b} search

2404.18986

16 SR built by using angular variables $\cos\theta^*$ and $\Delta\phi_{j\parallel}$ and the number of b-jets



Other models in backup



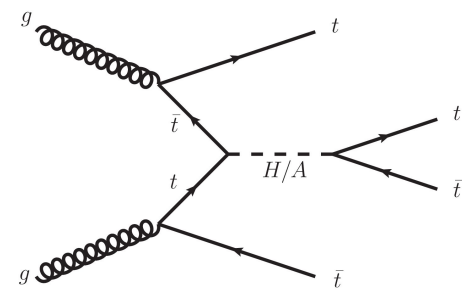
Good agreement in general, with small excess (2.3σ for a 10% width resonance) around 800 GeV

Limits are set for different models, with most stringent 2HDM constraints for high m_A and low $\tan\beta$ to date!

Interference contribution taken into account within the statistical analysis.

4 top search

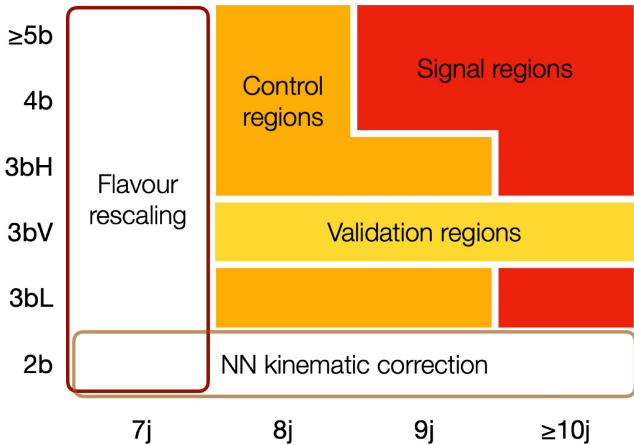
[ATLAS-CONF-2024-002](#)



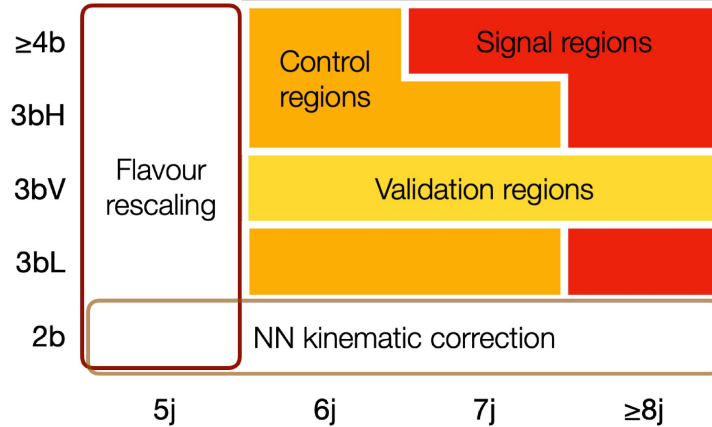
Associated production: Interesting in scenarios with preferred or exclusive coupling to top quarks

Selection and signal definition based on the number of isolated leptons, number of jets and b-jets

1L channel.



2LOS channel.

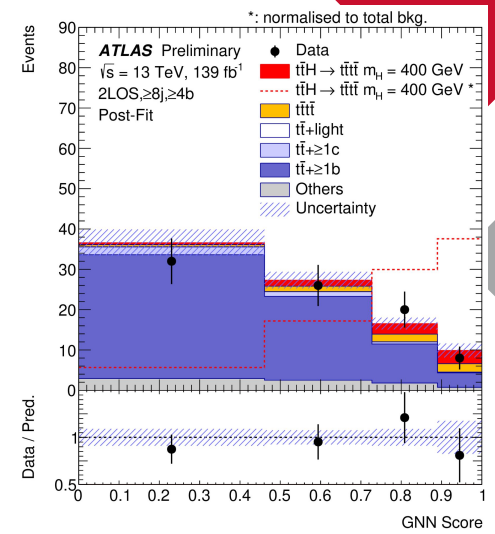
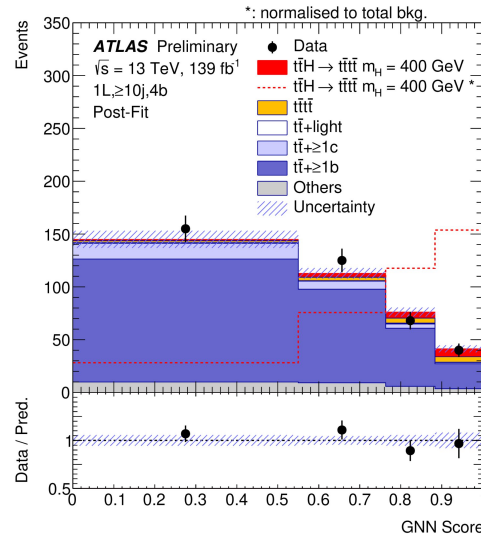
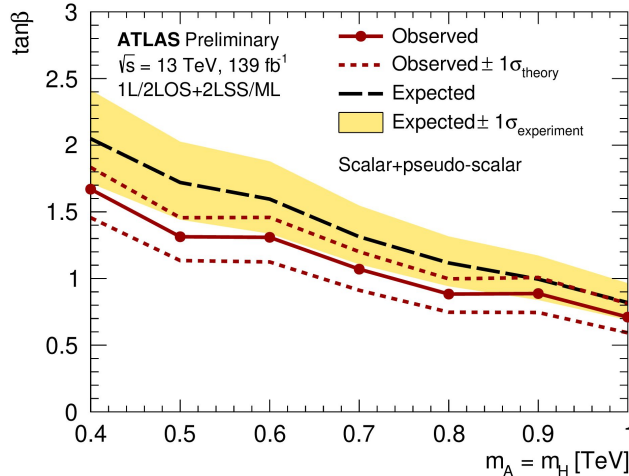


10 signal regions with large number of jet and b-jet multiplicity. Other regions used to obtain or control background estimation

4 top search

ATLAS-CONF-2024-002

Two graph neural networks (GNN), trained in each channel, used to separate signal and the dominant $t\bar{t}b$ + jets background.



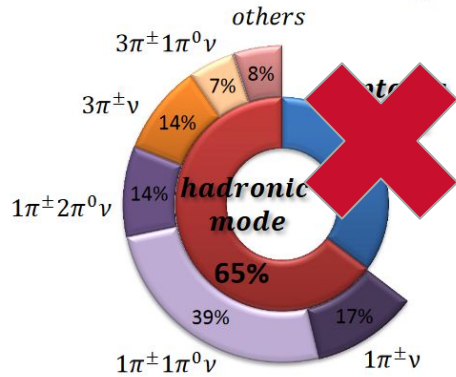
Reasonable agreement between data and MC in the GNN score. With a small excess of $\sim 1.7/2.1$ sigma depending on the mass

Limits in the context of the 2HDM models are set independently and in combination with the 2LSS/ML analysis.

Colour octet scalar limits in backup

Searches with τ -leptons

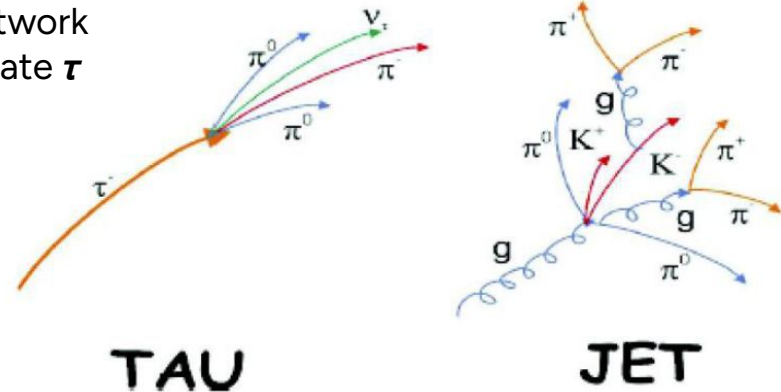
τ -lepton final states appear in many BSM models. Models with preferential couplings to third generation, Leptoquark models, supersymmetry, etc...



In ATLAS τ -lepton analysis typically refer to hadronically decaying τ . Leptonically decaying τ are implicitly included in light-lepton focused analyses

A Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) is used to separate τ from QCD jets

A set of BDTs is used to choose the tracks associated to calorimeter jets corresponding to the charged pions. Together they define the visible tau component $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$

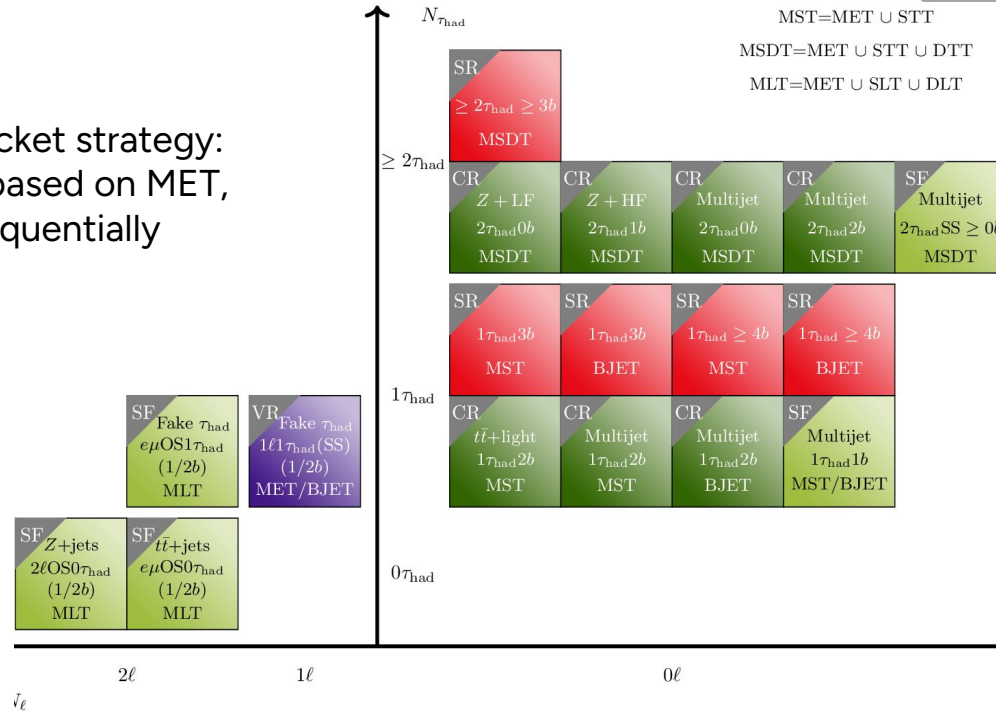
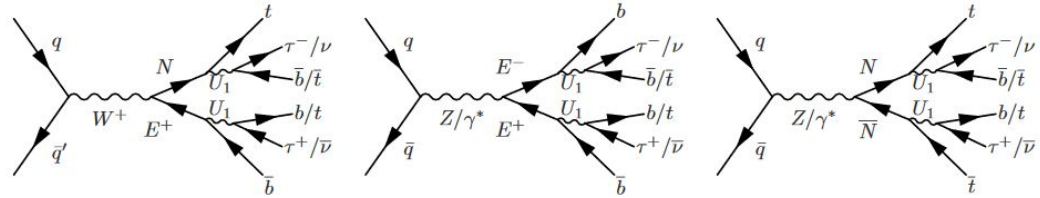
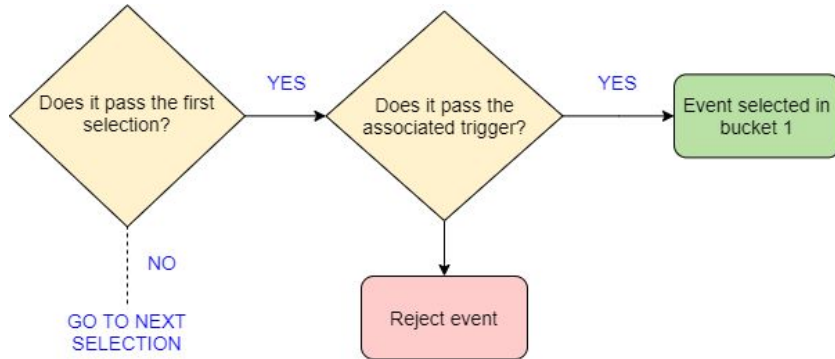


Vector like lepton (VLL) search

ATLAS-CONF-2024-008

Vector-like (non-chiral) charged and neutral leptons search focused on the 4321 model

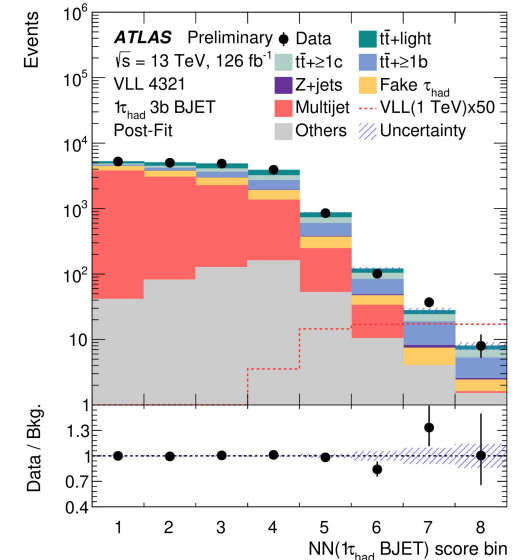
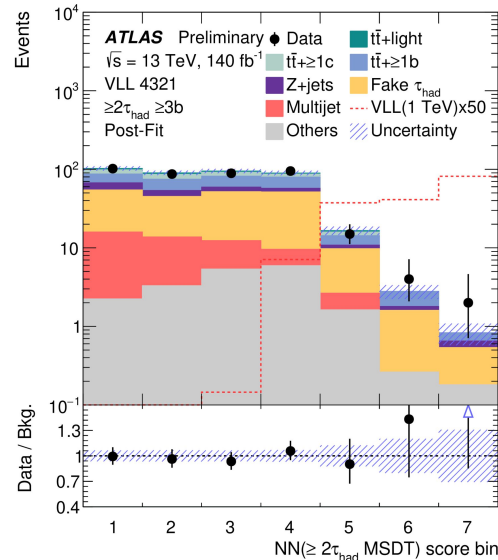
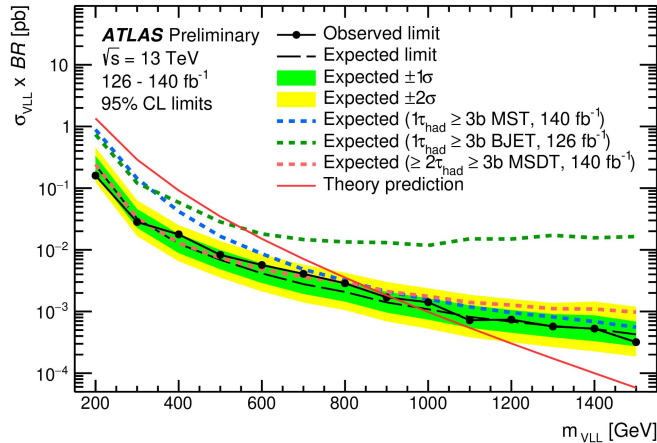
Selection optimized using a trigger bucket strategy: Orthogonal offline+trigger selections based on MET, single- τ , di- τ and b-jet checked sequentially



Vector like lepton (VLL) search

ATLAS-CONF-2024-008

Statistical analysis is done in the output of three parametrized (as a function of the mass) NN trained in different selections against the relevant background combination



Good agreement is found in all regions. Limits are set in the context of the 4321 model. Masses up to 970 GeV are excluded. Results disfavor the 2.8σ excess reported by the CMS Collaboration in 2022

See the excellent poster by Gabriel Olivera for more details

Resonant search with τ and missing transverse momentum

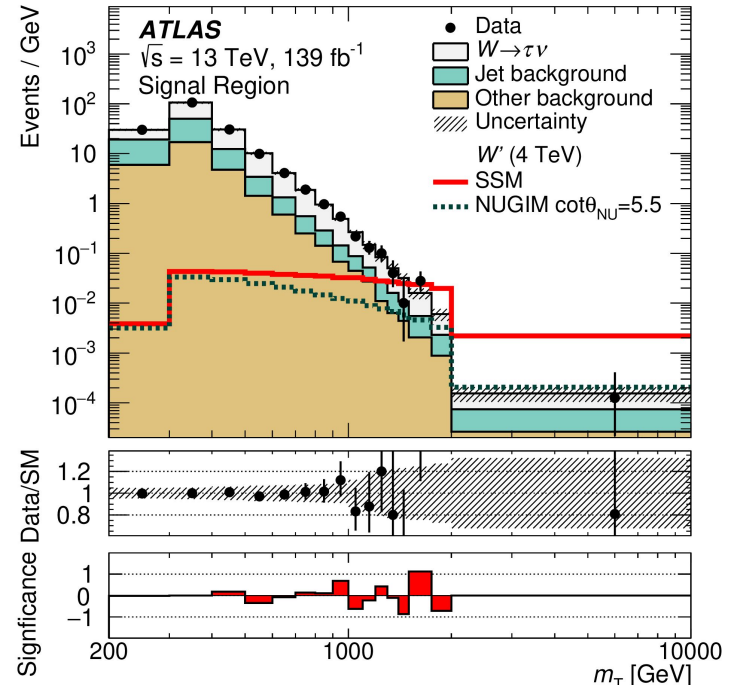
[2402.16576](#)

Search for the direct decay of a new gauge boson W' into a tau-lepton and a neutrino

Selection based on the presence of significant MET and a back-to-back hadronic tau.

Multijet background is the main challenge and is estimated using a data driven method that relies on three orthogonal control regions with looser tau ID or MET selections

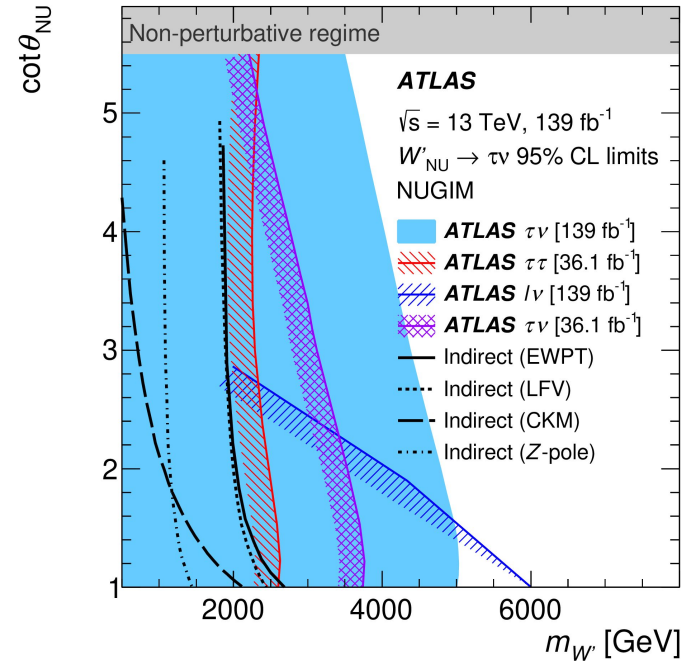
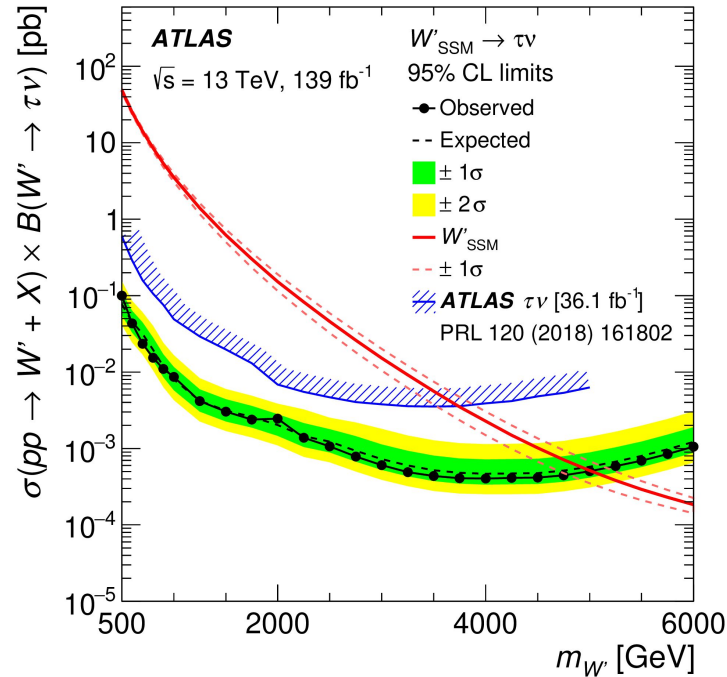
Good agreement between background estimation and data up to a large M_T value !



Resonant search with τ and missing transverse momentum

[2402.16576](#)

Limits are set on the SSM model and in models with non-SM 3rd generation couplings. Masses below 5 TeV are excluded.



Model independent limits in backup

Summary

- Showed few recent BSM searches highlights from the ATLAS Collaboration
 - [A/H- \$\rightarrow\$ ttbar search](#) [2402.10607](#)
 - [4-top resonant search](#) [ATLAS-CONF-2024-002](#)
 - [VLL search \(4321 model\)](#) [ATLAS-CONF-2024-008](#)
 - [\$\tau\$ -lepton + MET final state](#) [2402.16576](#)
- Lots of analyses performed during Run 2, with sadly, no hints of new physics
 - Many ideas being explored to extract as much as possible from the ongoing Run 3 and leave **no stone unturned** !

OTHER BSM talks from ATLAS @ICHEP

[supersymmetry \(non-minimal\)](#)

[VLQ and LQ](#)

[Long-lived particles](#)

[supersymmetry \(EW\)](#)

[Hadronic final states](#)

[Dark matter searches](#)

[supersymmetry \(strong\)](#)

[Dijet searches](#)

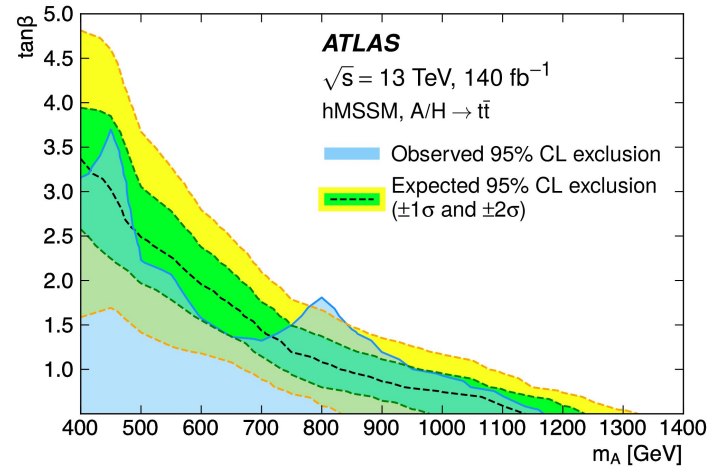
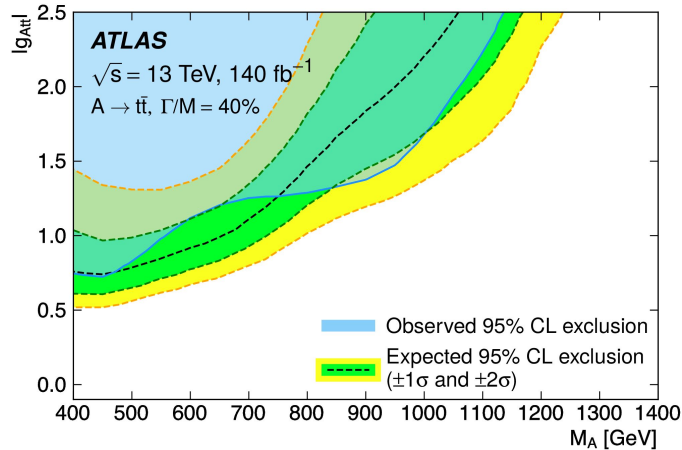
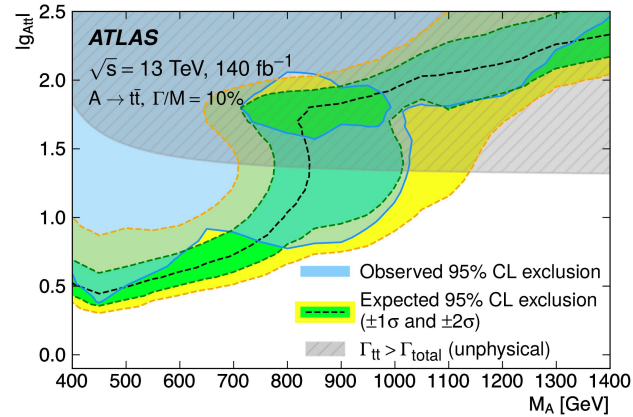
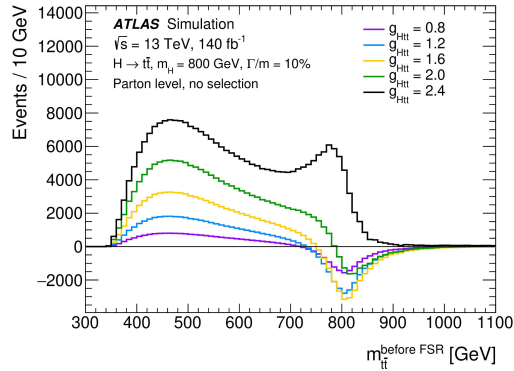




BACKUP

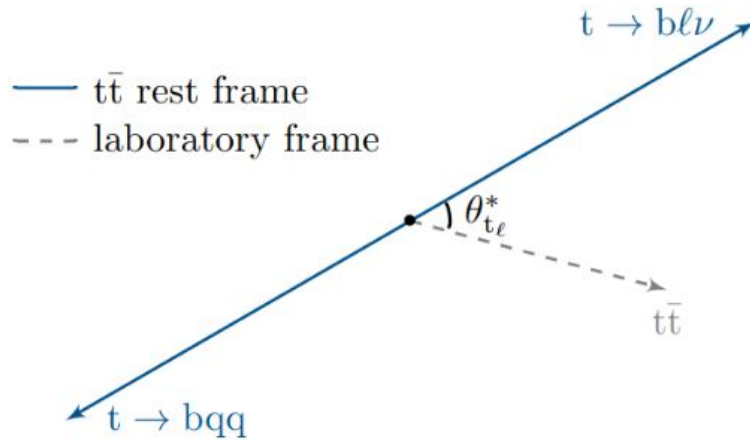
A/H- \rightarrow tt \bar{b} search

2404.18986



A/H- \rightarrow ttbar search

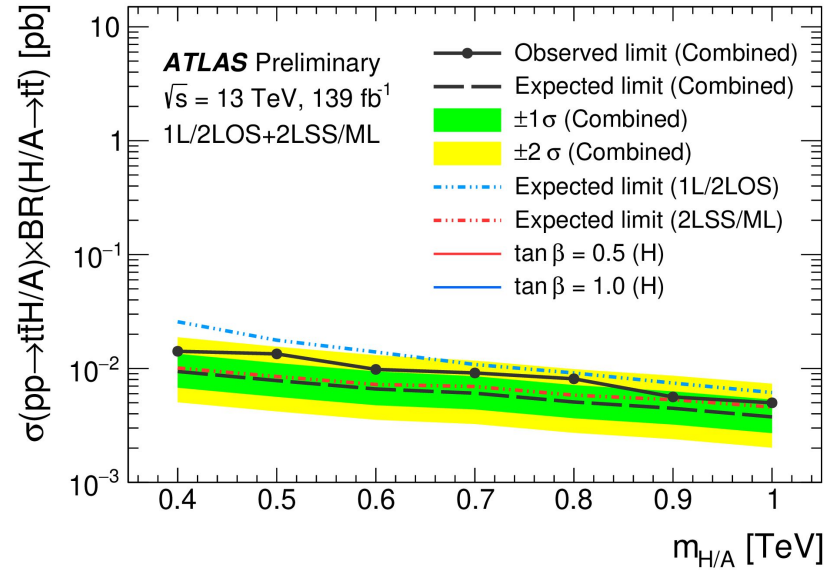
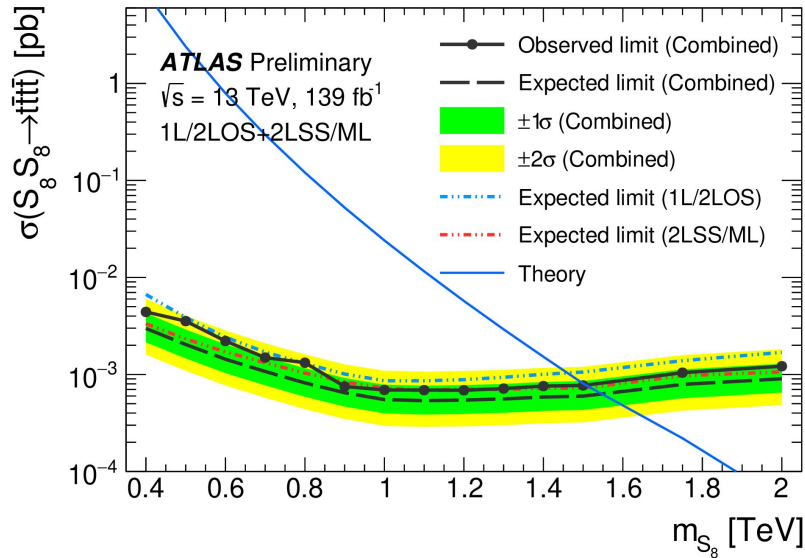
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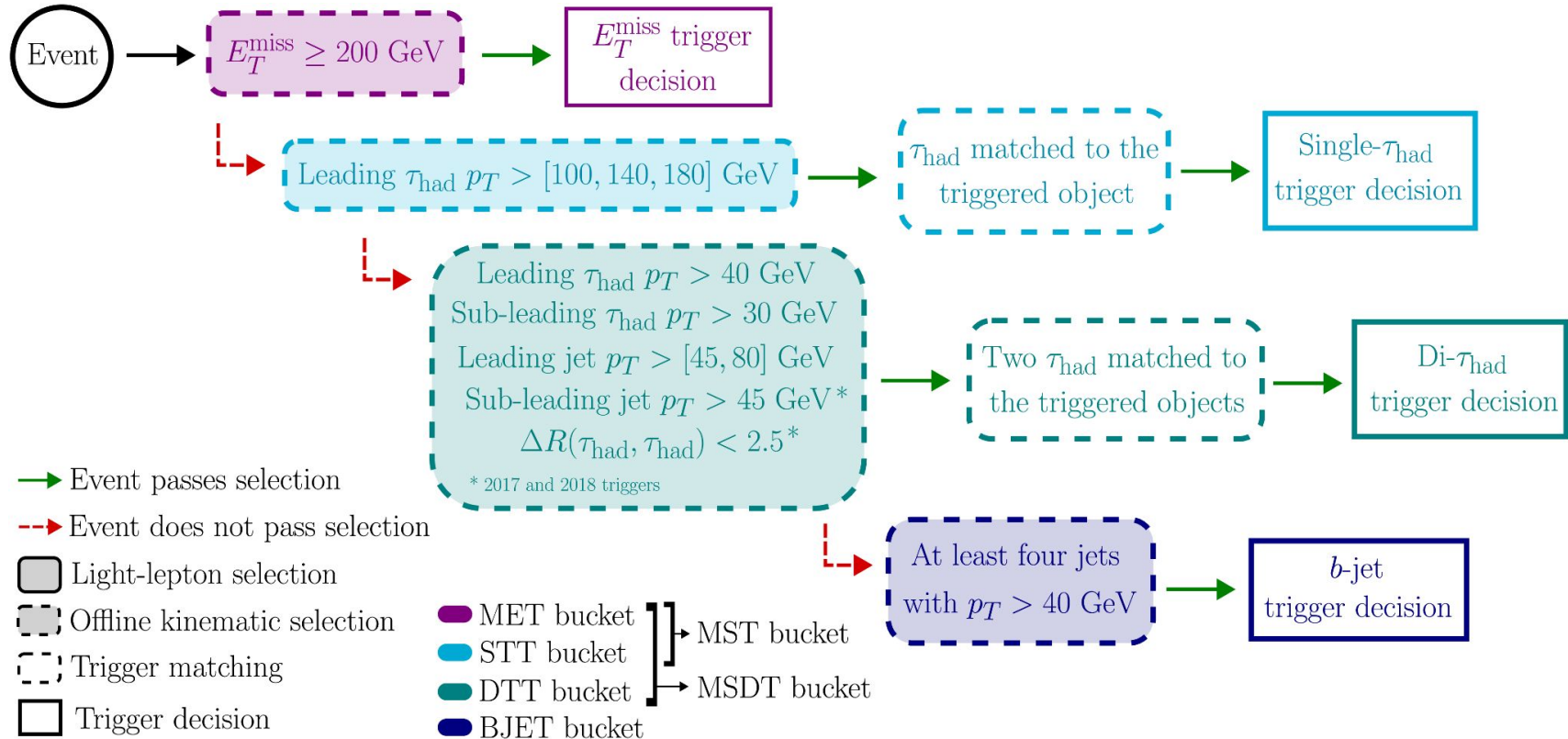
Distribution sensitive to the nature of the exchanged particle. SM $t\bar{t}$ production peaks at $\cos |\cos \theta^*| = 1$

4-top search

ATLAS-CONF-2024-002

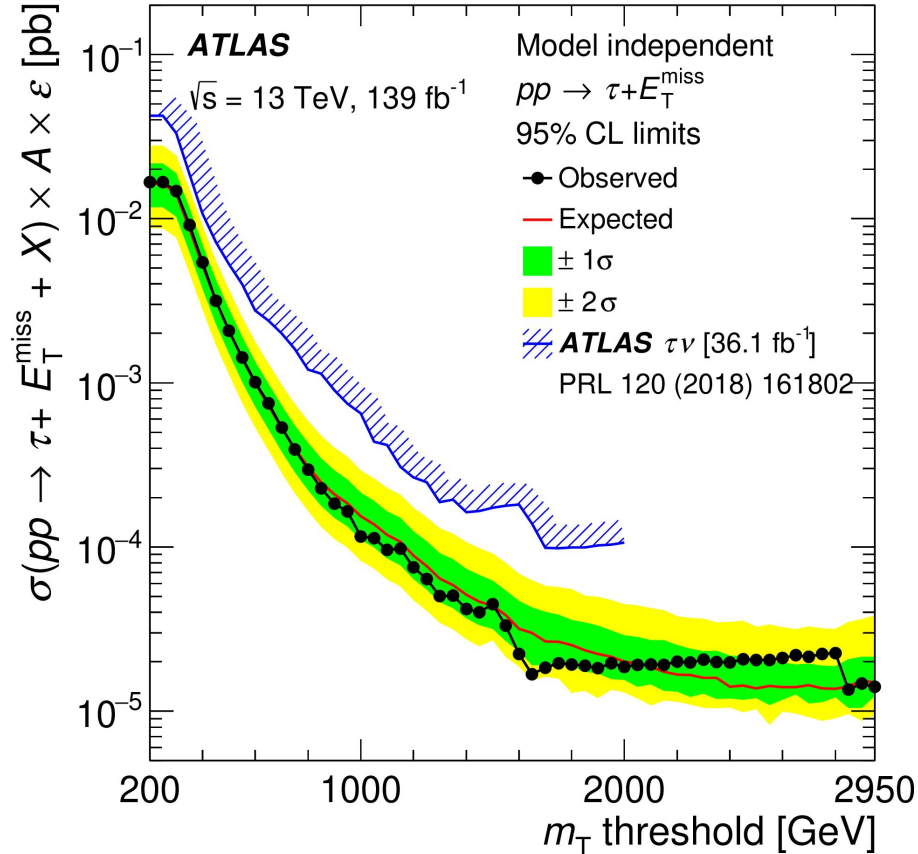


Vector like lepton (VLL) search



High-mass resonances with τ and missing transverse momentum

[2402.16576](#)



Using different M_τ thresholds to set model independent limits

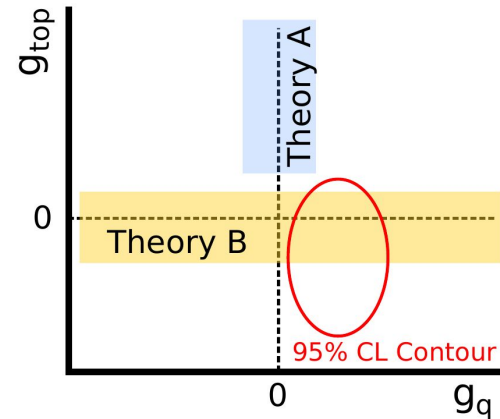
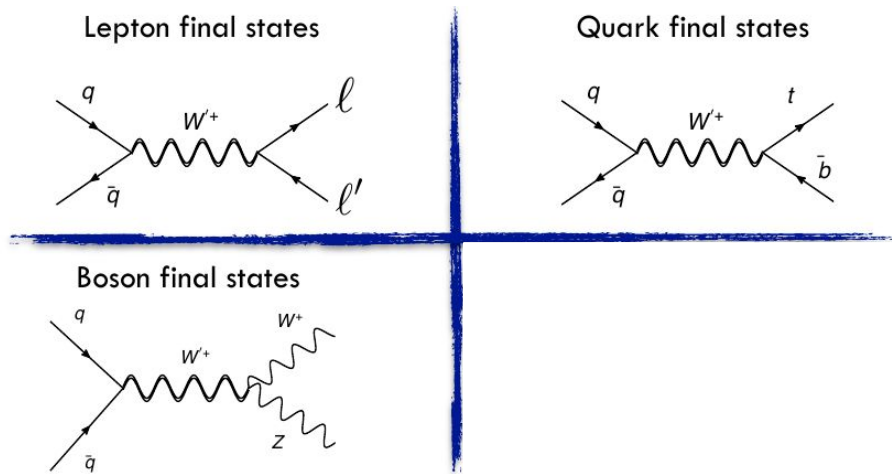
Combinations: the 1 slide version

What do I mean by combination?

Statistical combination of **several analyses with a common underlying model** or production mechanism

Realistic models have a varied phenomenology

- Access to discovery via **small compatible excesses**
- Additional axes in **N-dimensional parameter space**

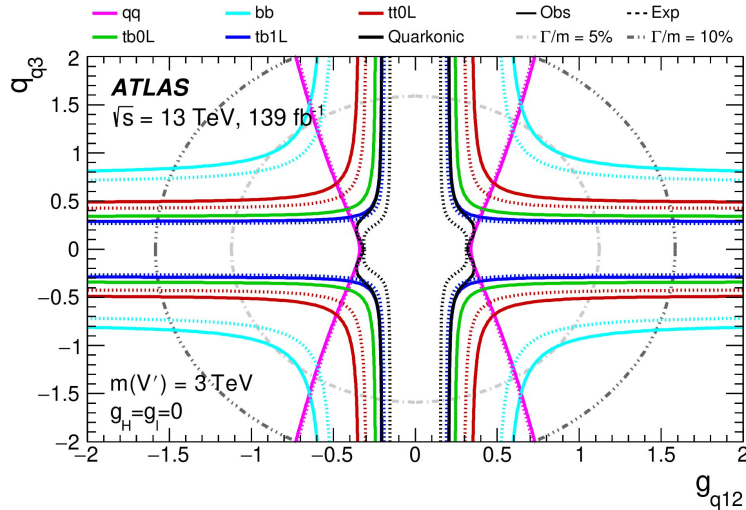


Next slide: 18 different searches combined in a single framework ! Interpreted in the context of the Heavy Vector Triplet (HVT) model, using the multidimensional coupling space to different fermions/bosons to obtain contours in several 2D planes

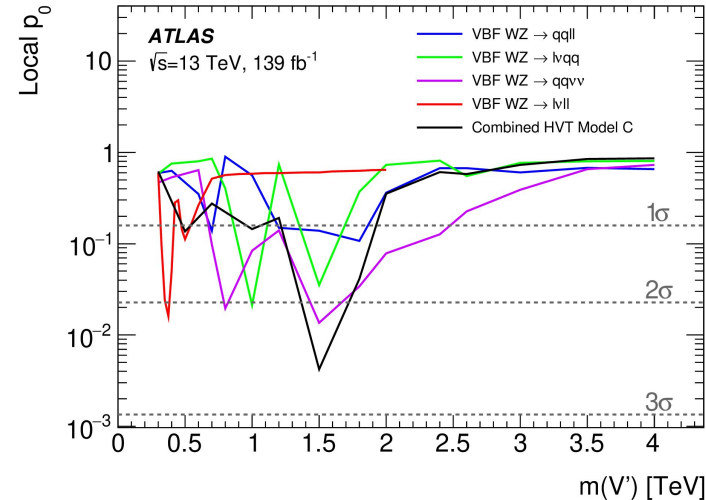
ATLAS Spin 1 resonance combination

2402.10607

Couplings to quarks, lepton and the Higgs boson (possible to also separate the third generation quark coupling) used to build several 2D planes. Also interpreted for few interesting HVT benchmarks (Specific coupling values)



Only one example, more can be found in backup.
 Improvement with respect to individual channels
 across the board



Combination of small excesses around 1.5 for VBF searches increased significance when combined. HVT model C corresponds to $g_H = 1.0$ and $g_f = 0.0$. No fermion couplings !

ATLAS Spin 1 resonance combination

2402.10607

Most analyses are orthogonal by construction, but some additional requirements were implemented to ensure it when necessary

Bosonic decays

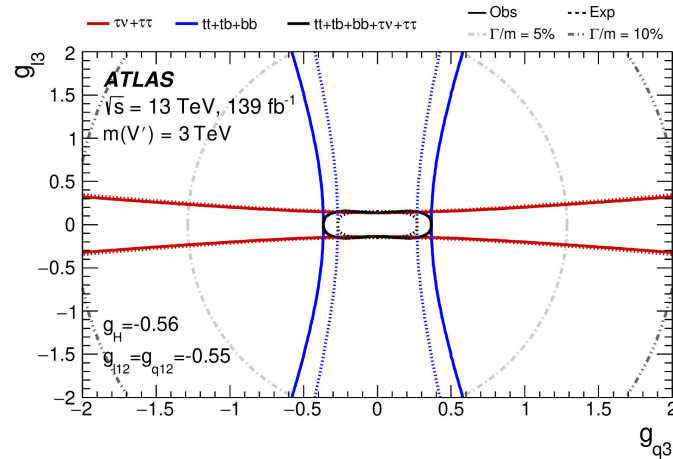
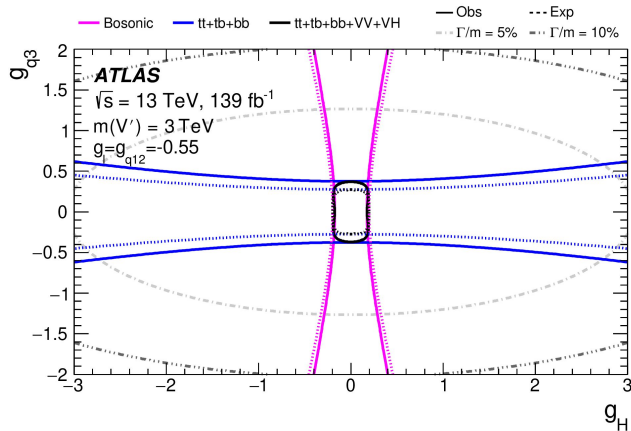
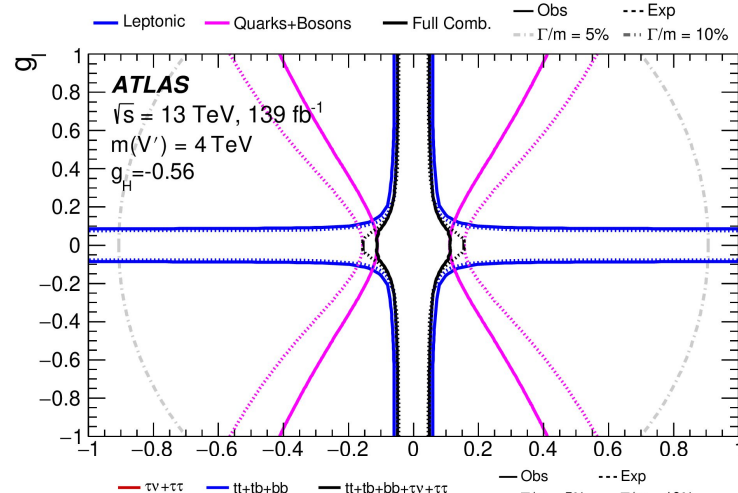
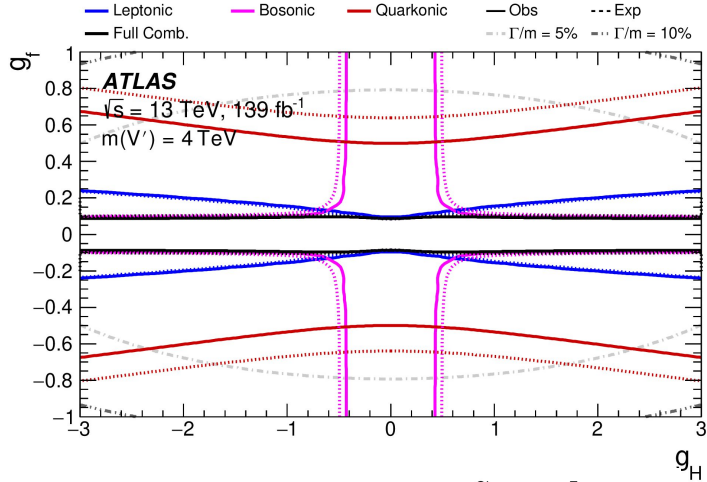
Leptonic decays

Quarks decays

Analysis	Leptons	E_T^{miss}	Jets	b -tags	Top-tags	VBF
$WW/WZ \rightarrow qq\bar{q}\bar{q}$	0	Veto	$\geq 2J$	-	-	-
$WW/WZ \rightarrow \ell\nu qq$	1e, 1 μ	Yes	$\geq 2j, \geq 1J$	0, 1, 2	-	Yes
$WZ \rightarrow qq\nu\nu$	0	Yes	$\geq 1J$	0	-	Yes
$WZ \rightarrow qq\ell\ell$	2e, 2 μ	-	$\geq 2j, \geq 1J$	0	-	Yes
$WZ \rightarrow \ell\nu\ell\ell$	3 \subset (e, μ)	Yes	-	0	-	Yes
$WH/ZH \rightarrow qq\bar{b}\bar{b}$	0	Veto	$\geq 2J$	1, 2	-	-
$ZH \rightarrow \nu\nu\bar{b}\bar{b}$	0	Yes	$\geq 2j, \geq 1J$	1, 2	-	-
$WH \rightarrow \ell\nu\bar{b}\bar{b}$	1e, 1 μ	Yes	$\geq 2j, \geq 1J$	1, 2	-	-
$ZH \rightarrow \ell\ell\bar{b}\bar{b}$	2e, 2 μ	Veto	$\geq 2j, \geq 1J$	1, 2	-	-
$\ell\nu$	1e, 1 μ	Yes	-	-	-	-
$\tau\nu$	1 τ	Yes	-	-	-	-
$\ell\ell$	$\geq 2e, \geq 2\mu$	-	-	-	-	-
$\tau\tau$	0, 1e, 1 μ	Yes	-	0, ≥ 1	-	-
tt0L	0	-	2J	1, 2	2	-
tb0L	0	-	$\geq (1j+1J)$	≥ 1	1	-
tb1L	1e, 1 μ	Yes	2j, 3j	1, 2	-	-
qq	0	-	2j	0	-	-
bb	0	-	2j	1, 2	-	-

ATLAS Spin 1 resonance combination

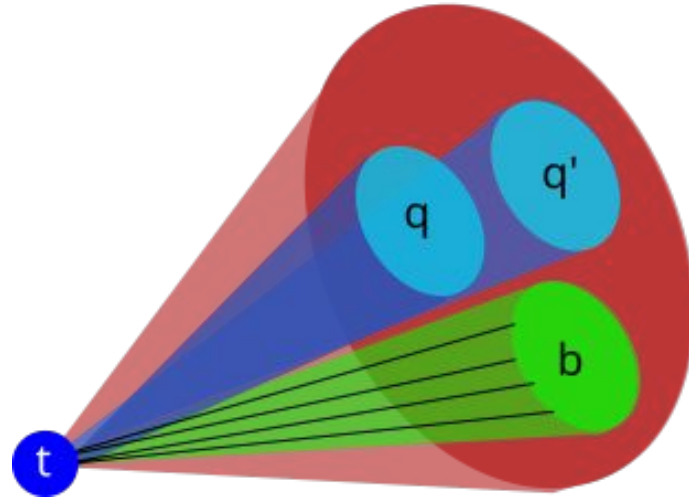
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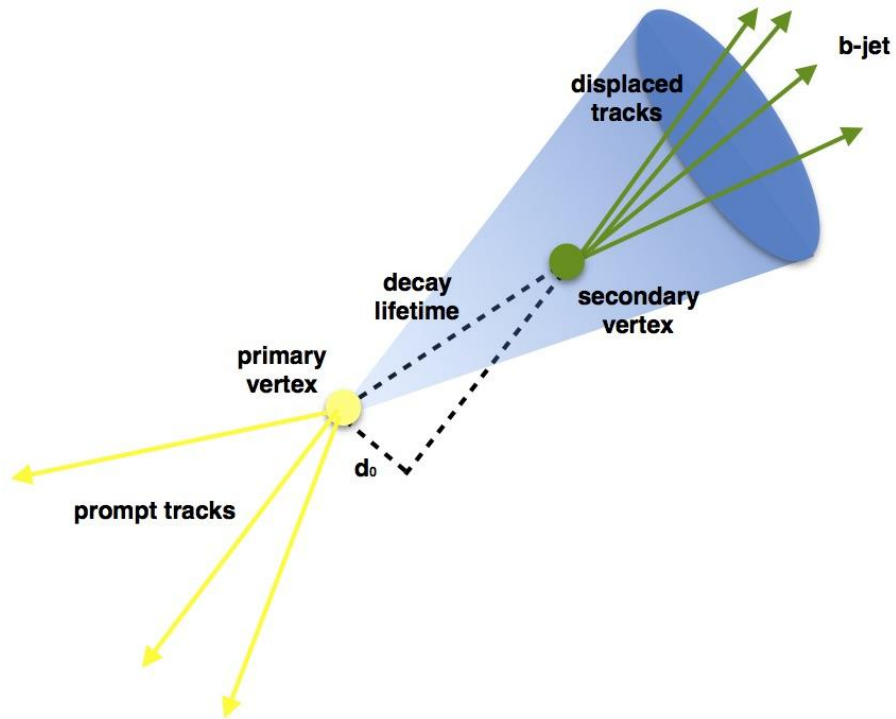
More on top tagging

Substructure variables [1808.07858](#)

Observable	Variable	Used for
Calibrated jet kinematics	p_T, m^{comb}	top, W
Energy correlation ratios	e_3, C_2, D_2	top, W
N -subjettiness	$\tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_{21}$ τ_3, τ_{32}	top, W top
Fox–Wolfram moment	R_2^{FW}	W
Splitting measures	z_{cut}	W
	$\sqrt{d_{12}}$	top, W
	$\sqrt{d_{23}}$	top
Planar flow	\mathcal{P}	W
Angularity	a_3	W
Aplanarity	A	W
KtDR	$KtDR$	W
Qw	Q_w	top



Flavor tagging



Combination of different ML methods to identify jets originating from b-quarks using variables and objects related to displaced tracks and displaced vertices

[2211.16345](#)