

Overview of HH searches at ATLAS

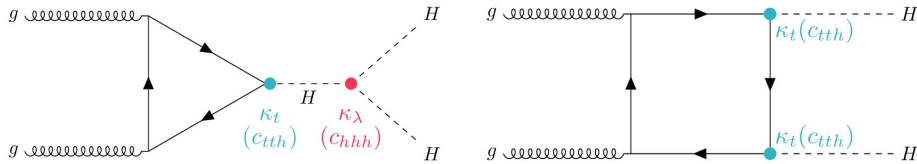
Arantxa Ruiz Martínez (IFIC, CSIC-UV) obo the ATLAS Collaboration

The 21st Workshop of the LHC Higgs Working Group, 4-6 Dec 2024

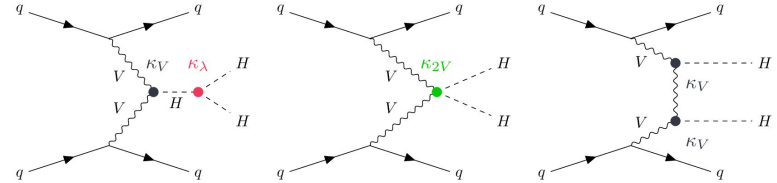


Run 2 HH combination

$$\sigma_{\text{ggF}}^{\text{SM}}(HH) = 31.1^{+1.9}_{-7.1} \text{ (scale + } m_{\text{top}}) \pm 0.9 \text{ (PDF + } \alpha_s) \text{ fb at NNLO in QCD}$$

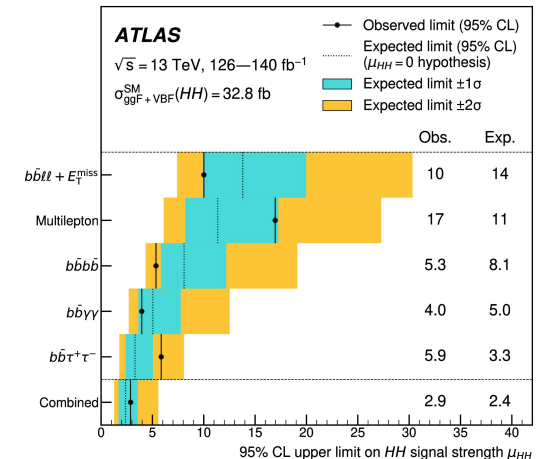


$$\sigma_{\text{VBF}}^{\text{SM}}(HH) = 1.73 \pm 0.04 \text{ fb at N}^3\text{LO in QCD}$$



Expected limit improved from 2.9 to 2.4 from previous ATLAS HH combination [[Phys. Lett. B 843 \(2023\) 137745](#)]

Channel	Production mode	Lumi	Journal reference
$HH \rightarrow bbll + E_{T,\text{miss}}$	ggF + VBF	140 fb ⁻¹	JHEP 02 (2024) 037
$HH \rightarrow \text{Multilepton}$	ggF + VBF	140 fb ⁻¹	JHEP 08 (2024) 164
$HH \rightarrow bbbb$	ggF + VBF VBF	126 fb ⁻¹ 140 fb ⁻¹	PRD 108 (2023) 052003 PLB 858 (2024) 139007
$HH \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$	ggF + VBF	140 fb ⁻¹	JHEP 01 (2024) 066
$HH \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$	ggF + VBF	140 fb ⁻¹	PRD 110 (2024) 032012
Combination	ggF + VBF	126-140 fb ⁻¹	PRL 133 (2024) 101801



Run 2 HH combination

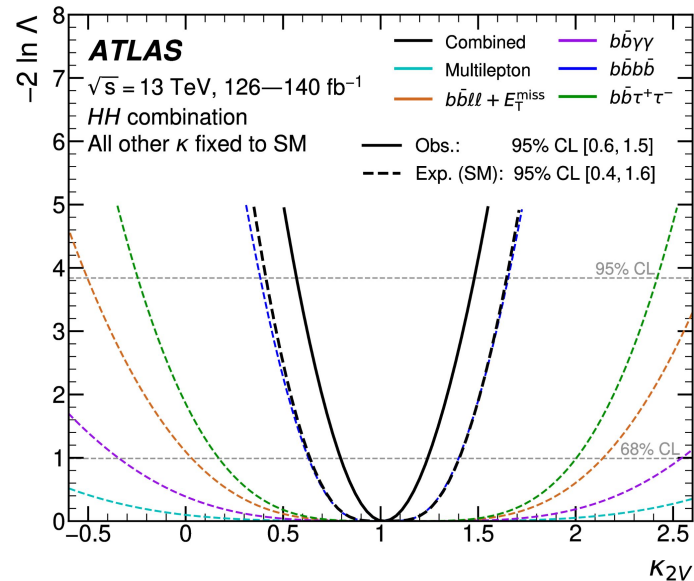
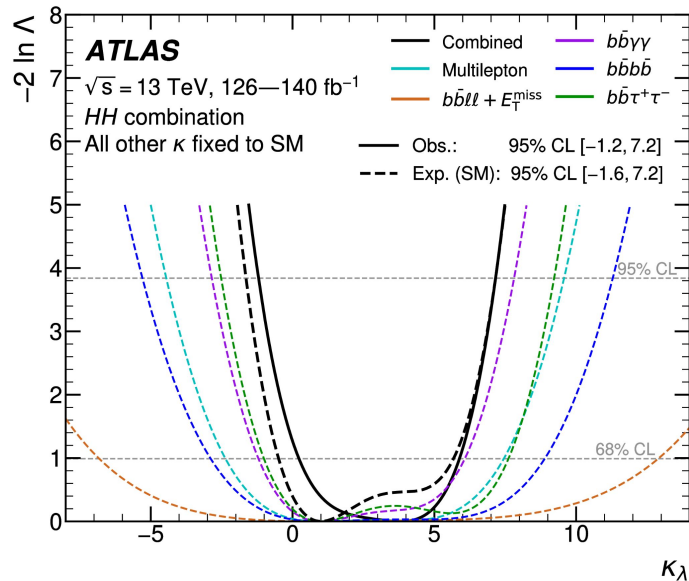
- Higgs boson self-coupling modifier κ_λ and quartic $HHVV$ coupling modifier κ_{2V} 95% CL intervals constrained
- Best constraint on κ_λ provided by $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ and on κ_{2V} by $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$

$$-1.2 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.2 \text{ (observed)}$$

$$-1.6 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.2 \text{ (expected)}$$

$$0.6 < \kappa_{2V} < 1.5 \text{ (observed)}$$

$$0.4 < \kappa_{2V} < 1.6 \text{ (expected)}$$



Run 2 HH combination

- Most sensitive channels updated, re-analyse Run 2 data to enhance the sensitivity:

- $HH \rightarrow bbbb$ with BR of 34%
- $HH \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$ with BR of 7.3%
- $HH \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$ with BR of 0.26%

- New channels included:

- $HH \rightarrow bbZZ^* / VV^*VV^* / VV^*\tau^+\tau^- / \tau^+\tau^-\tau^+\tau^- / \gamma\gamma VV^* / \gamma\gamma\tau^+\tau^-$ where $V = W$ or Z with BR of 6.5%
- $HH \rightarrow bb + WW^* / ZZ^* / \tau^+\tau^- \rightarrow bb + \ell\ell + \text{neutrinos}$ where $\ell = e, \mu$ with BR of 2.9%

- Final discriminating variable can be the HH invariant mass, the diphoton invariant mass, or the multivariate classifiers used to separate signal from background

- These results bring a 17% improvement with respect to the previous publication:

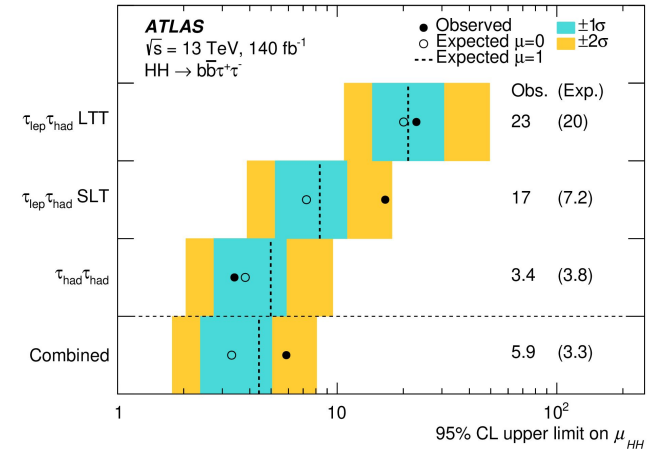
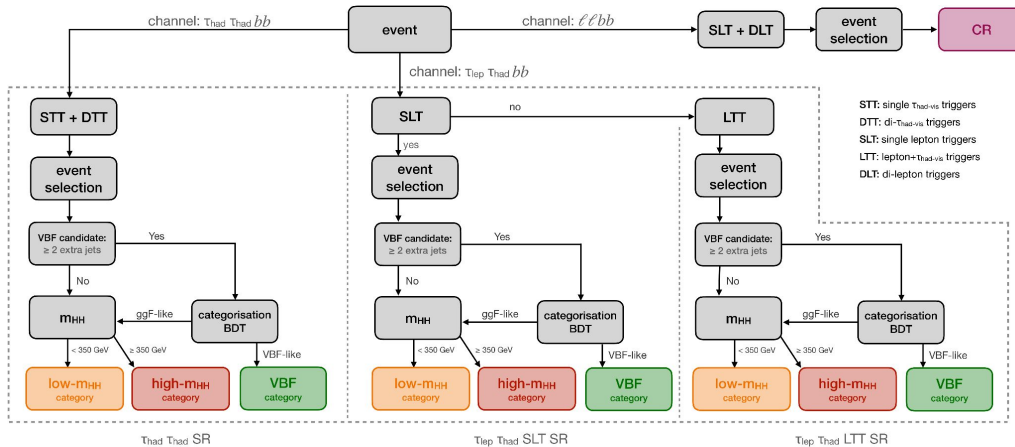
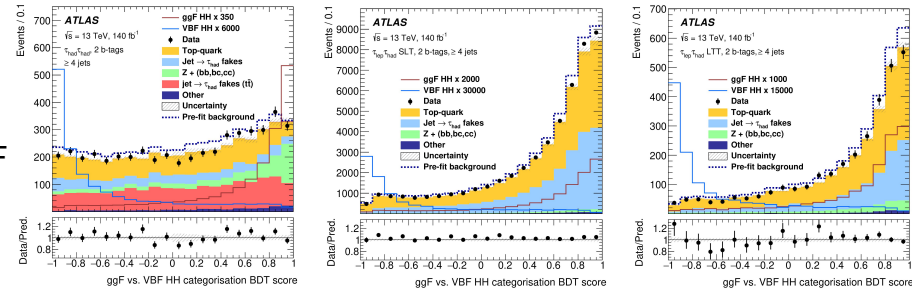
- 13% from the improvements in the $bbbb$, $bb\tau\tau$ and $bb\gamma\gamma$ final states
- 4% from the inclusion of the multilepton and $bb\ell\ell + E_{T,\text{miss}}$ final states

	bb	WW	$\tau\tau$	ZZ	$\gamma\gamma$
bb	34 %				
WW	25 %	4.6 %			
$\tau\tau$	7.3 %	2.7 %	0.39 %		
ZZ	3.1 %	1.1 %	0.33 %	0.069 %	
$\gamma\gamma$	0.26 %	0.10 %	0.028 %	0.012 %	0.0005 %

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

Old: JHEP 07 (2023) 040	< 4.7 (obs)	< 3.9 (exp)
New: PRD 110 (2024) 032012	< 5.9 (obs)	< 3.3 (exp)

- Three SRs: $\tau_{\text{had}}\tau_{\text{had}}$, $\tau_{\text{lep}}\tau_{\text{had}}$ SLT and $\tau_{\text{lep}}\tau_{\text{had}}$ LTT
- Three categories: ggF low m_{HH} , ggF high m_{HH} and VBF
 - BDTs to separate ggF from VBF production
 - m_{HH} cut in 350 GeV to increase sensitivity in κ_λ in ggF
- Main backgrounds ($t\bar{t}$ and Z + hf jets) estimated from MC
- Fake τ_{had} contribution from $t\bar{t}$ and multijet backgrounds extracted using data driven techniques
- **15% reduction** in signal strength μ_{HH} wrt previous results



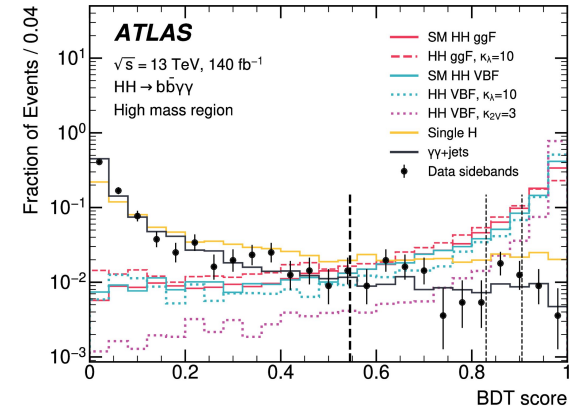
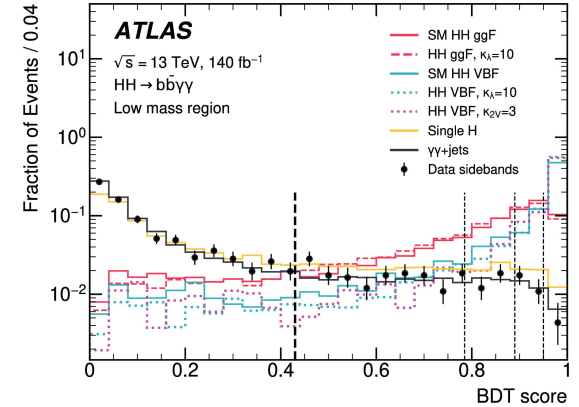
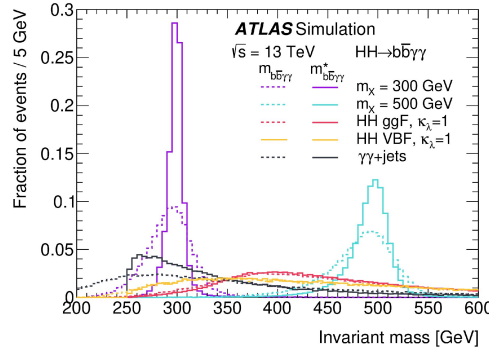
Updates in $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$

Old: PRD 106 (2022) 052001	< 4.2 (obs)	< 5.7 (exp)
New: JHEP 01 (2024) 066	< 4.0 (obs)	< 5.0 (exp)

- HH VBF process considered for the first time in the analysis
- **Seven categories** defined based on BDT score and the four-body inv mass:

$$m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma}^* = m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma} - (m_{b\bar{b}} - 125 \text{ GeV}) - (m_{\gamma\gamma} - 125 \text{ GeV})$$

Category	Selection criteria
High Mass 1	$m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma}^* \geq 350 \text{ GeV}$, BDT score $\in [0.545, 0.830]$
High Mass 2	$m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma}^* \geq 350 \text{ GeV}$, BDT score $\in [0.830, 0.905]$
High Mass 3	$m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma}^* \geq 350 \text{ GeV}$, BDT score $\in [0.905, 1.000]$
Low Mass 1	$m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma}^* < 350 \text{ GeV}$, BDT score $\in [0.430, 0.785]$
Low Mass 2	$m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma}^* < 350 \text{ GeV}$, BDT score $\in [0.785, 0.890]$
Low Mass 3	$m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma}^* < 350 \text{ GeV}$, BDT score $\in [0.890, 0.950]$
Low Mass 4	$m_{b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma}^* < 350 \text{ GeV}$, BDT score $\in [0.950, 1.000]$

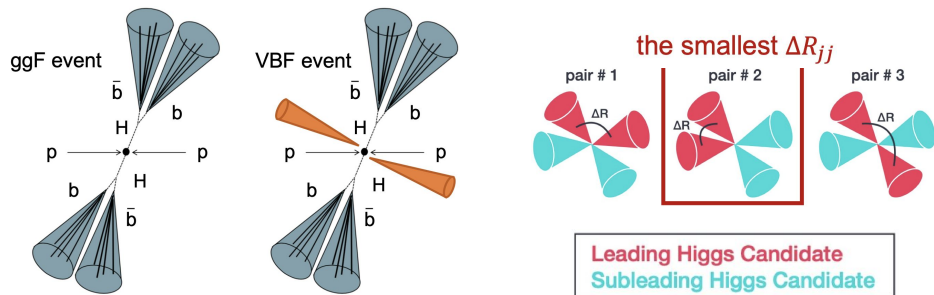


- Main backgrounds: $\gamma\gamma$ + jets and $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- SR: $120 < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 130 \text{ GeV}$, SBs: $105 < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 120 \text{ GeV}$, $130 < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 160 \text{ GeV}$
- Parametrization of $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ discriminant:
 - Double-sided Crystal Ball function for HH signal and single H background
 - Exponential for background (normalized to SBs)
- **12% reduction** in signal strength μ_{HH} with respect to previous results

Updates in $HH \rightarrow bbbb$

ggF (36.1 fb ⁻¹): JHEP 01 (2019) 030	< 12.9 (obs)	< 20.7 (exp)
VBF (126 fb ⁻¹): JHEP 07 (2020) 108	< 840 (obs)	< 550 (exp)
New: PRD 108 (2023) 052003	< 5.4 (obs)	< 8.1 (exp)

- Two orthogonal selections targeting ggF and VBF



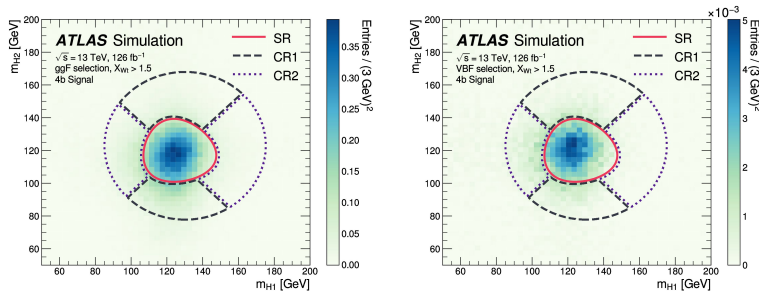
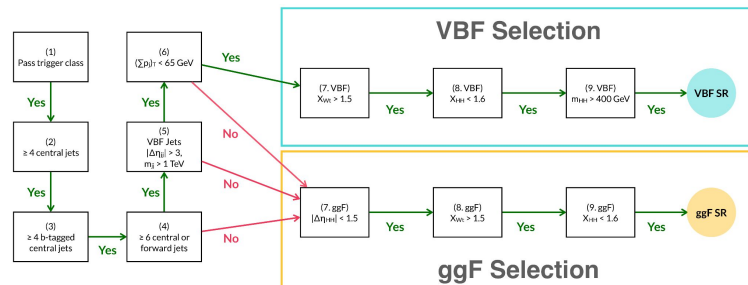
- Analysis categorizations to improve sensitivity
- Main backgrounds: multijet (~90%) and $t\bar{t}$ (~10%)
- Suppress multijet and $t\bar{t}$ using $|\Delta\eta_{HH}| < 1.5$ and $\chi_{Wt} > 1.5$

$$X_{Wt} = \min \left[\sqrt{\left(\frac{m_W - 80.4 \text{ GeV}}{0.1 m_W} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_t - 172.5 \text{ GeV}}{0.1 m_t} \right)^2} \right]$$

- Signal region $X_{HH} < 1.6$:

$$X_{HH} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{m_{H1} - 124 \text{ GeV}}{0.1 m_{H1}} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_{H2} - 117 \text{ GeV}}{0.1 m_{H2}} \right)^2}$$

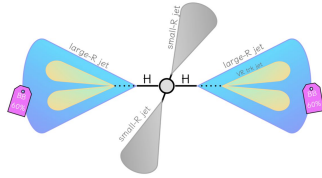
- Fully data-driven background estimation using a neural network to estimate multijet background



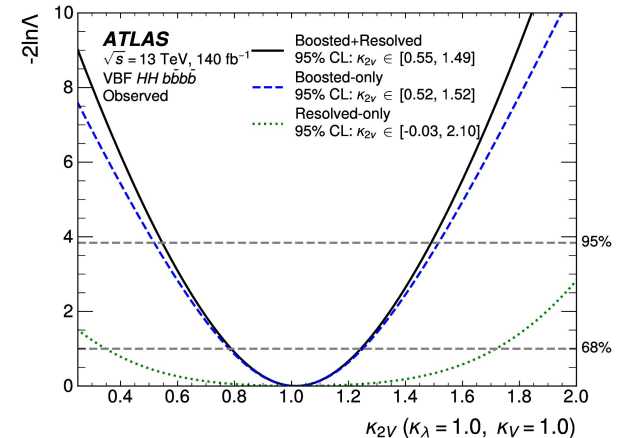
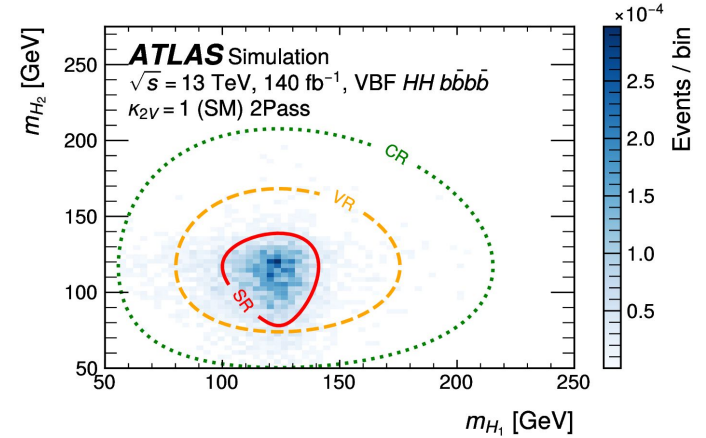
	Observed Limit	-2σ	-1σ	Expected Limit	+1σ	+2σ
μ_{ggF}	5.5	4.4	5.9	8.2	12.4	19.6
μ_{VBF}	130	70	100	130	190	280
$\mu_{\text{ggF+VBF}}$	5.4	4.3	5.8	8.1	12.2	19.1

$HH \rightarrow bbbb$ VBF boosted regime

- Search for non-resonant and resonant VBF $HH \rightarrow bbbb$ production using the full Run 2 data (140 fb^{-1})
- Boosted regime reconstruction:
 - HH system reconstructed with 2 large- R ($R = 1.0$) jets
 - VBF signature from 2 resolved small- R ($R = 0.4$) jets

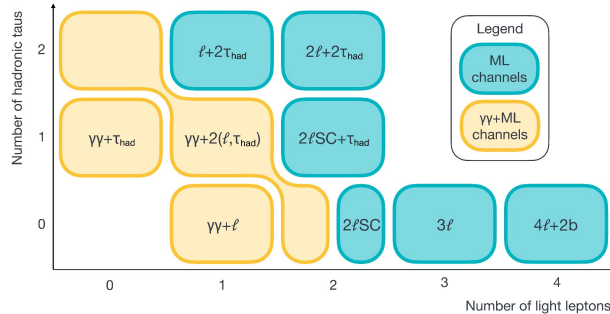


- SR/VR/CR defined using the mass-plane
- VR and CR used for the data-driven background estimation
- BDT selection for further discrimination power between signal and background in the SR
- To maximise the sensitivity to the κ_{2V} parameter, the non-resonant VBF $HH \rightarrow bbbb$ searches are combined:
 - Resolved analysis [[PRD 108 \(2023\) 052003](#)]
 - Boosted analysis [[PLB 858 \(2024\) 139007](#)]

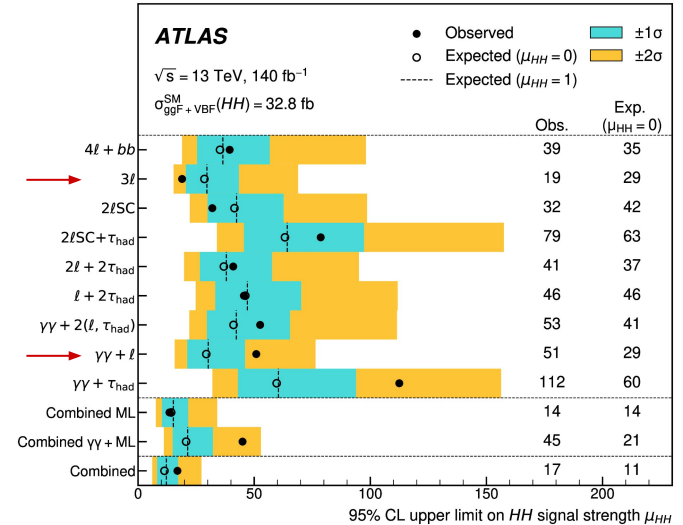
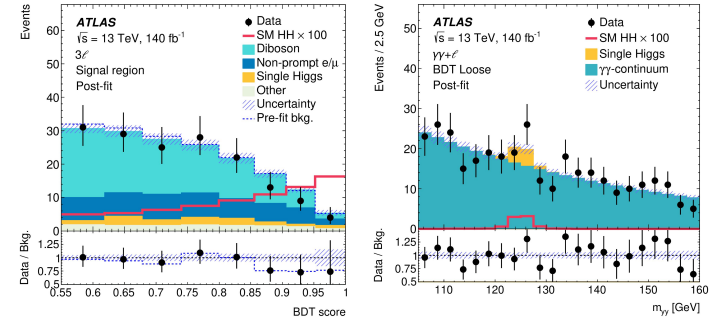


HH → Multilepton

- Final states from different HH decay channels [JHEP 08 (2024) 164]: $HH \rightarrow bbZZ^* / VV^*VV^* / VV^*\tau^+\tau^- / \tau^+\tau^-\tau^+\tau^- / \gamma\gamma VV^* / \gamma\gamma\tau^+\tau^-$ (6.5% BR)
- Two main categories:
 - $\gamma\gamma$ + ML channel (Diphoton plus multilepton): 3 sub-channels
 - ML channel (light leptons and hadronic taus): 6 sub-channels

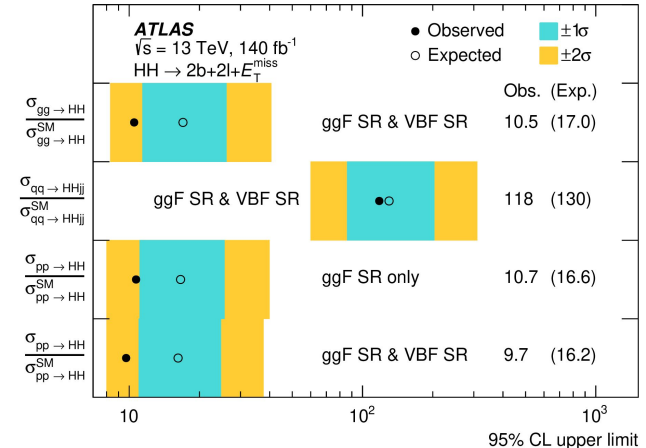
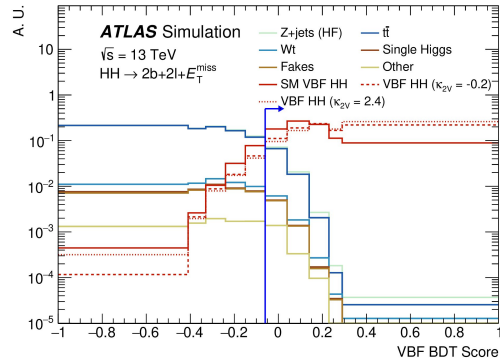
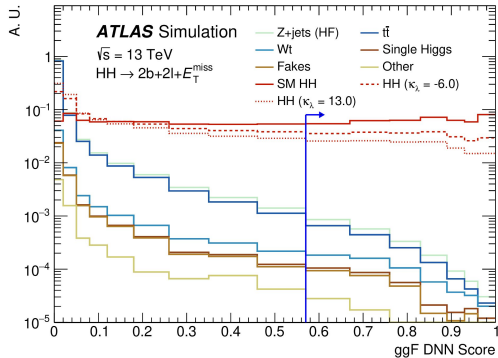
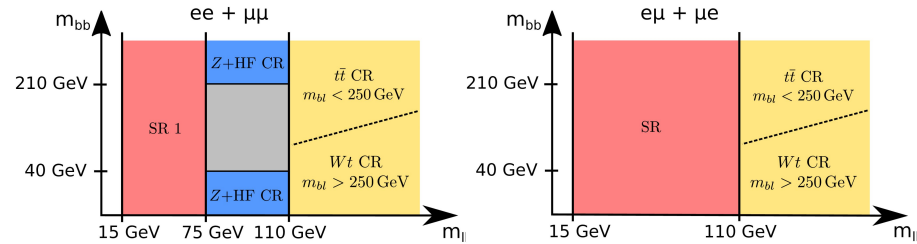


- Dominant backgrounds:
 - For the $\gamma\gamma$ + ML channel is non-resonant $\gamma\gamma$ production
 - For the ML channel is diboson production
- BDT output score distribution used as final discriminant in each ML SR
- $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ distribution used as final discriminant in each $\gamma\gamma$ + ML SR



$HH \rightarrow bb\ell\ell + E_{T,miss}$

- Final states from different HH decay channels [JHEP 02 (2024) 037]:
 $HH \rightarrow bb + WW^* / ZZ^* / \tau^+\tau^- \rightarrow bb + \ell\ell + \text{neutrinos}$ (2.9% BR)
- Dominant background: $t\bar{t}$, single top (Wt), $Z/\gamma^* + \text{hf jets}$
- MVA to separate signal from background:
 - DNN to classify events in ggF
 - BDT to classify events in VBF (due to low stat)



EFT interpretations: HEFT and SMEFT

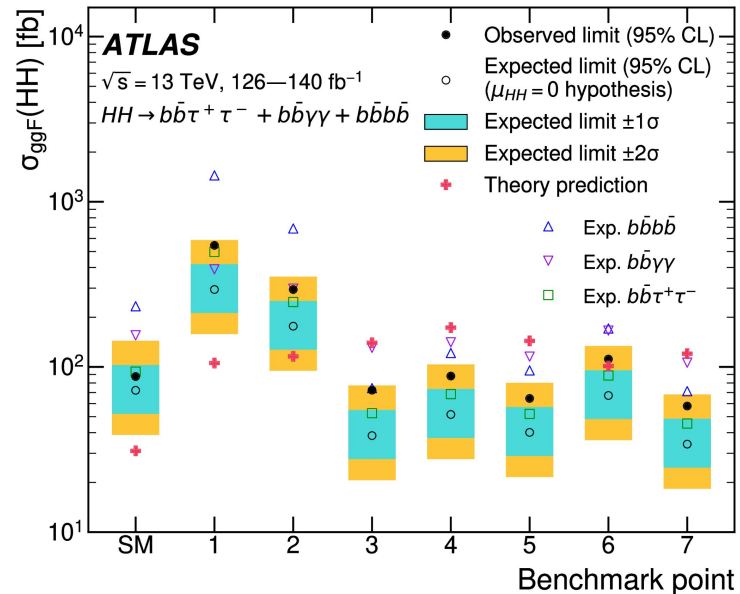
- Interpretation of the results in two effective field theory (EFT) extensions to the SM, the **Higgs effective field theory (HEFT)** and the **SM effective field theory (SMEFT)**
- Benchmark definition in the latest ATLAS HH combination ([arXiv:2304.01968](https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.01968) [hep-ph])
- The VBF HH process is neglected for these results
- Constrain 7 m_{HH} shape benchmarks within the HEFT framework, upper limits on the $\sigma_{ggF HH}$ for 7 HEFT shape benchmarks

$HH \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$ [[JHEP 01 \(2024\) 066](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.066)]

$HH \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$ [[PRD 110 \(2024\) 032012](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.2012)]

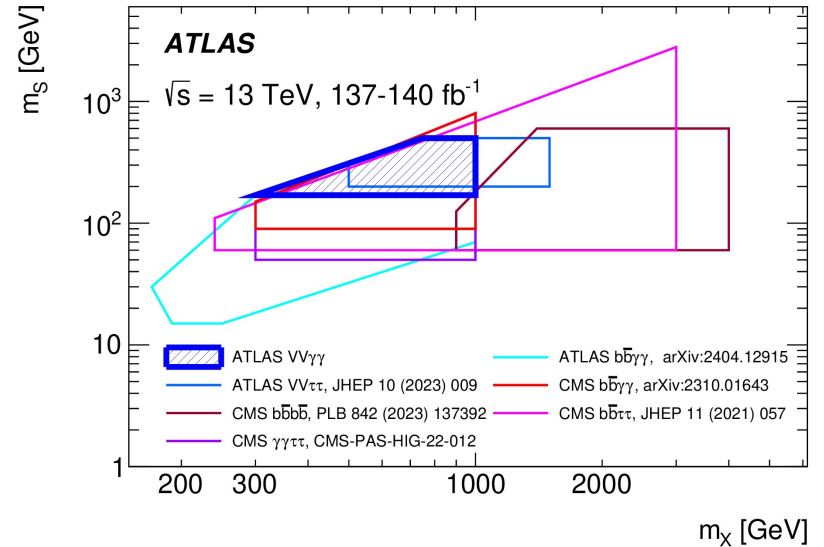
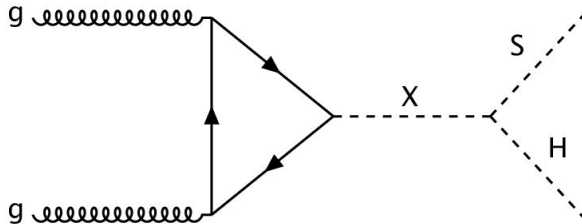
$HH \rightarrow bbbb$ [[PRD 108 \(2023\) 052003](https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.2003)]

Combination [[PRL 133 \(2024\) 101801](https://arxiv.org/abs/2410.1801)]



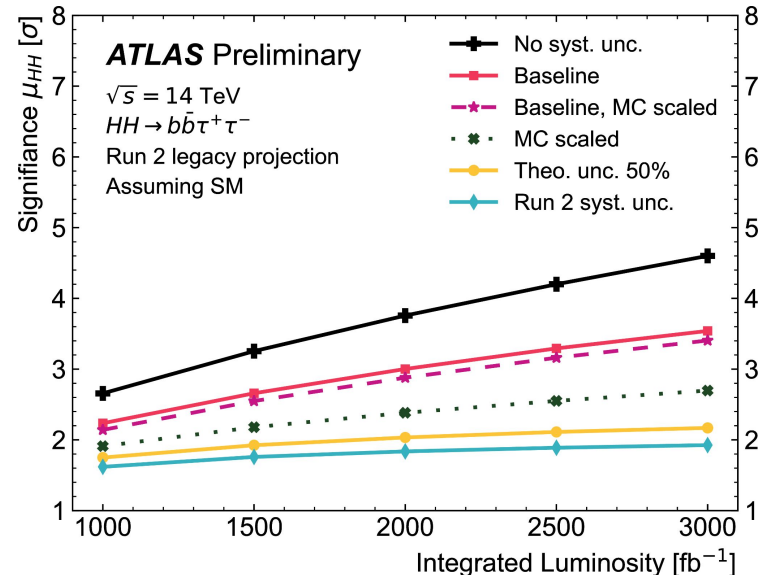
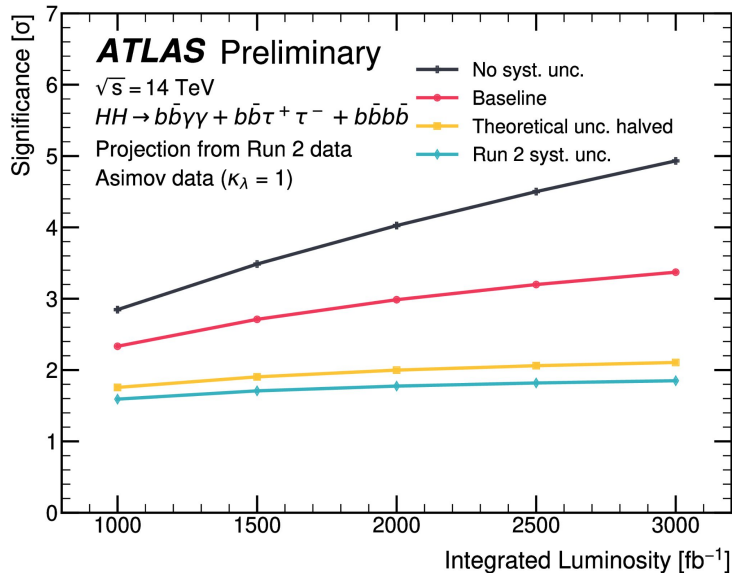
Run 2 BSM HH searches

- The current experimental precision does not exclude that H may have a small mixing with additional scalar bosons, and may be part of an extended Higgs sector
- Many BSM theories predict such an extended Higgs sector (e.g. 2HDM)
- Search for two additional scalar bosons X and S under the condition $m_X > m_S + m_H$, the decay $X \rightarrow SH$ is kinematically allowed
- Brand new ATLAS searches using the full Run 2 data:
 - $X \rightarrow S(\rightarrow VV) H(\rightarrow \tau\tau)$ [[JHEP 10 \(2023\) 009](#)]
 - $X \rightarrow S(\rightarrow VV) H(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ [[JHEP 10 \(2024\) 104](#)]
 - $X \rightarrow S(\rightarrow bb) H(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ [[JHEP 11 \(2024\) 047](#)]



HL-LHC Prospects

- ATLAS and CMS combination in the Yellow report [[CERN-2019-007](#)] and Snowmass White paper [[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-018](#)]
- Latest ATLAS combination results using the three most sensitive channels $HH \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$, $HH \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$ and $HH \rightarrow bbbb$ [[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-053](#)]
- Updated ATLAS projection of the $HH \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$ channel [[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2024-016](#)]



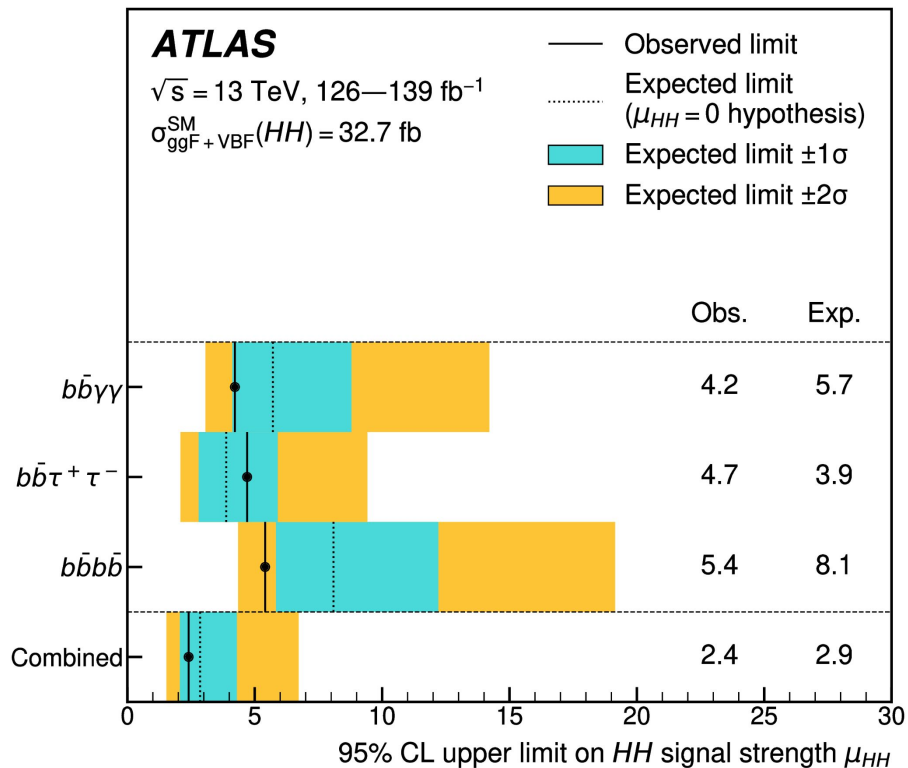
Final remarks

- Wealth of legacy Run 2 results from ATLAS
- Updated ATLAS HH combination with full Run 2 data published this year:
 - Double-Higgs production cross-section normalised to its SM prediction μ_{HH} constrained with observed (expected) 95% CL upper limit of $\mu_{HH} < 2.9$ (2.4)
 - Higgs boson self-coupling modifier κ_λ constrained with observed (expected) 95% CL intervals of $-1.2 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.2$ ($-1.6 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.2$)
 - Quartic $HHVV$ coupling modifier κ_{2V} constrained with observed (expected) 95% CL intervals of $0.6 < \kappa_{2V} < 1.5$ ($0.4 < \kappa_{2V} < 1.6$)
- Interpretation of the results in the HEFT and the SMEFT
- Many $X \rightarrow SH$ searches performed in ATLAS with the Run 2 dataset
- New ATLAS projections for the HL-LHC at 3000 fb^{-1} obtained
- ATLAS public results: <https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AtlasPublic/HiggsPublicResults>

BACKUP

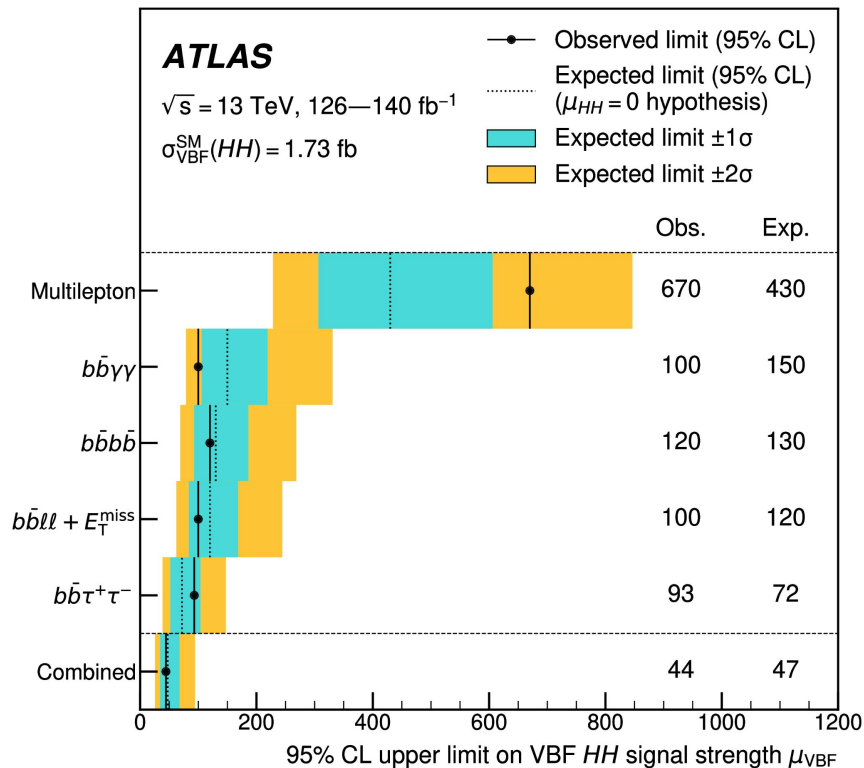
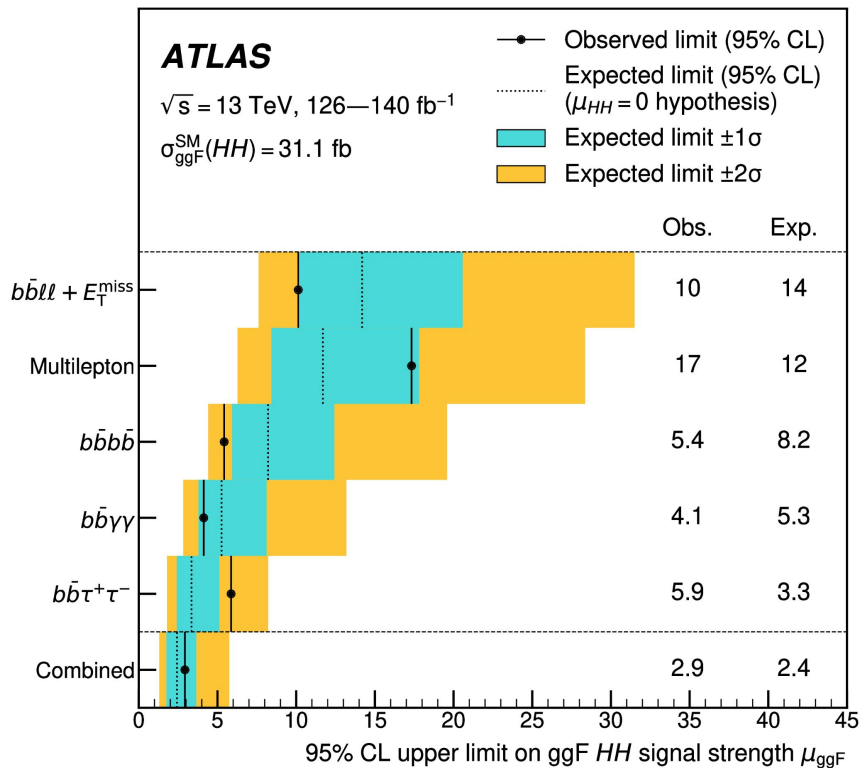
Previous Run 2 HH combination

[Phys. Lett. B 843 \(2023\) 137745](#)



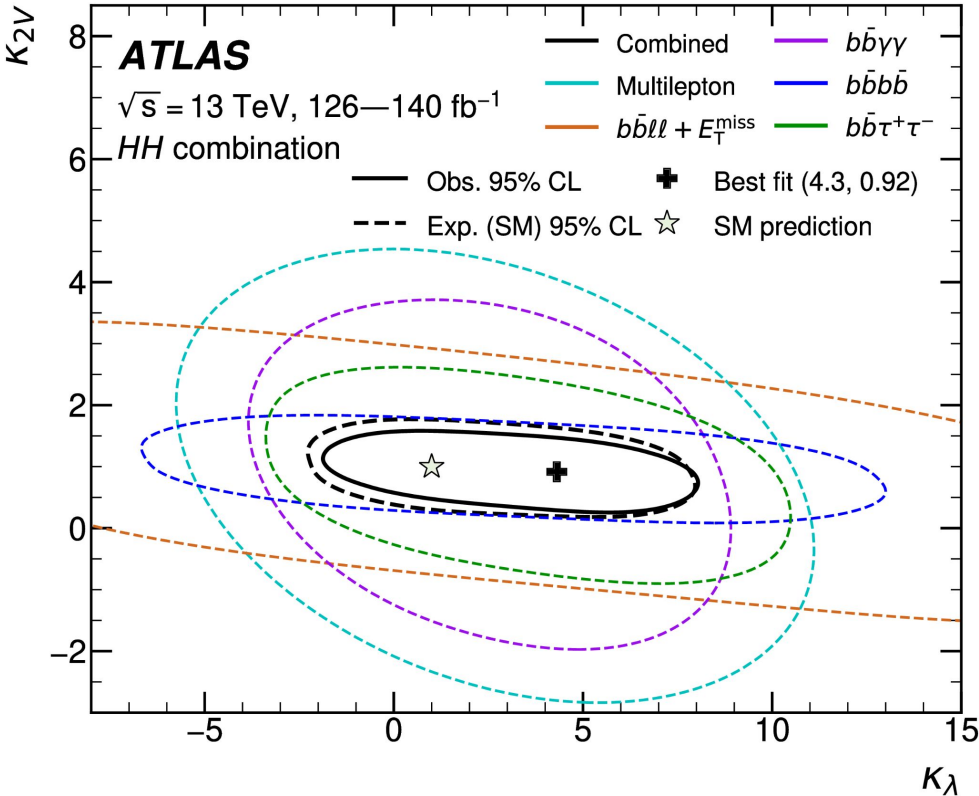
Run 2 HH combination

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 133 \(2024\) 101801](#)



Run 2 HH combination

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 133 \(2024\) 101801](#)



Run 2 HH combination

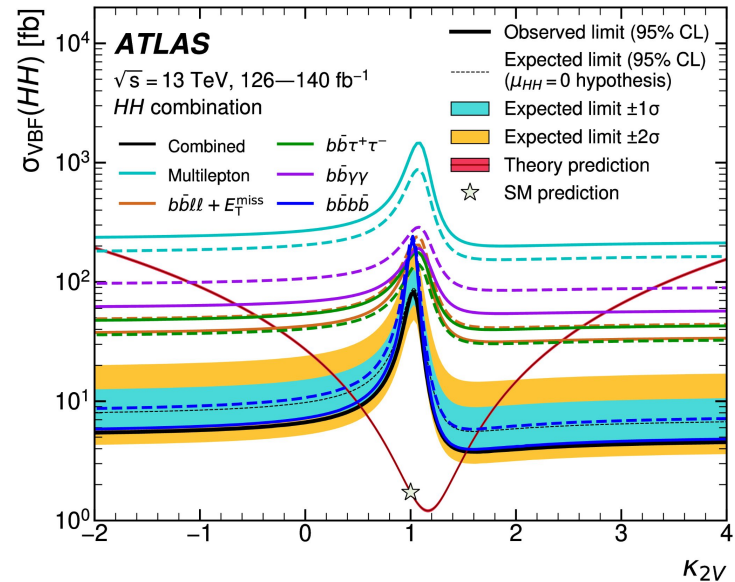
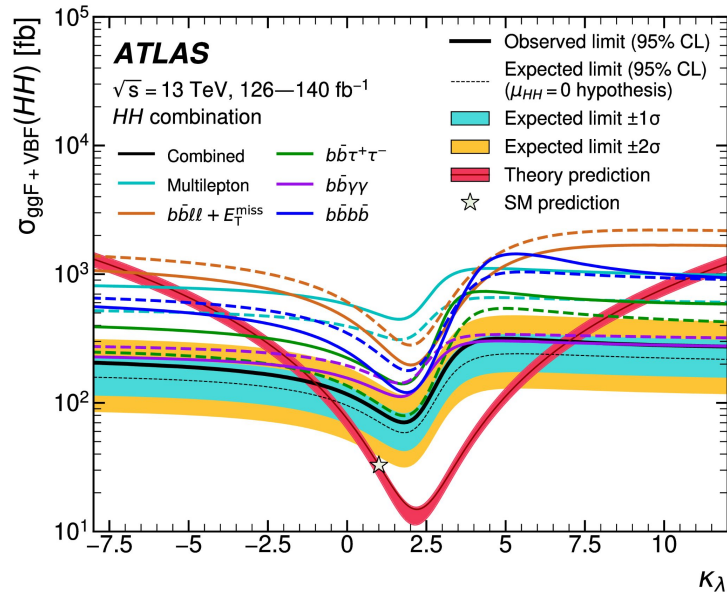
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$$0.4 < \kappa_{2V} < 1.6 \text{ (expected)}$$

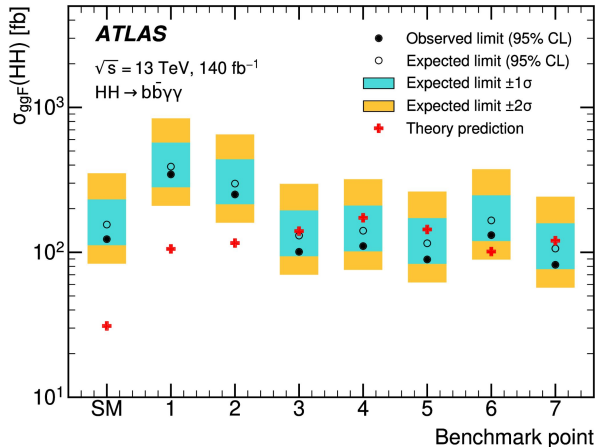


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- Constrain 7 m_{HH} shape benchmarks within the HEFT framework, upper limits on the $\sigma_{\text{ggF } HH}$ for 7 HEFT shape benchmarks

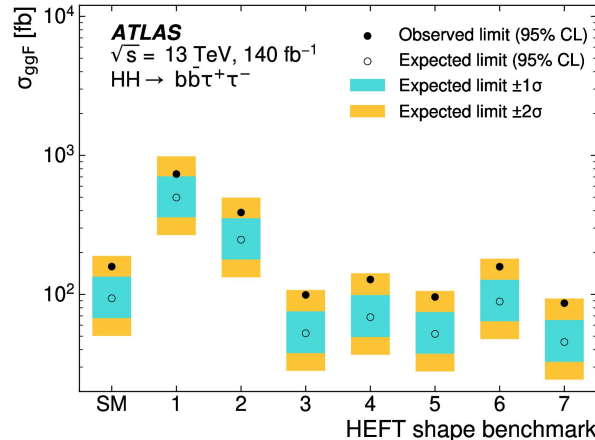
$$HH \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$$

[[JHEP 01 \(2024\) 066](#)]



$$HH \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$$

[[PRD 110 \(2024\) 032012](#)]



$$HH \rightarrow bbbb$$

[[PRD 108 \(2023\) 052003](#)]

