# Probing the nature of electroweak symmetry breaking with Higgs boson pairs in ATLAS

#### Shahzad Ali, Cal State University East Bay, US On behalf of ATLAS collaboration 31st International Workshop on Deep Inelastic Scattering

8-12 April 2024



### Higgs self-coupling (Physis Motivation)

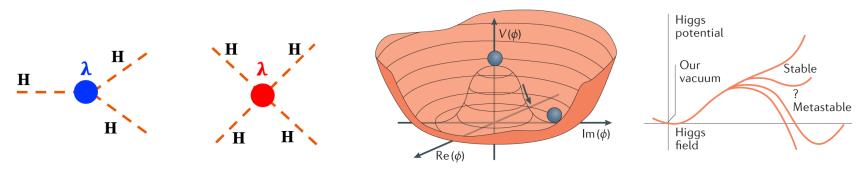
• The full expression of the Higgs potential is encoded with parameters  $\mu$  and  $\lambda$  as:

$$V(\phi) = \mu^2 (\phi^{\dagger} \phi) + \lambda (\phi^{\dagger} \phi)^2$$

• When linearising the Higgs field after the EWSB around the vacuum expected value  $\nu$  one gets:

$$V(H) = \frac{1}{2}m_H^2 H^2 + \lambda \nu H^3 + \frac{\lambda}{4}H^4 - \frac{\lambda}{4}\nu^4 \quad \lambda_{HHH} = \lambda_{HHHH} = \frac{m_H^2}{2\nu} \approx 0.13 \rightarrow \text{SM prediction}$$

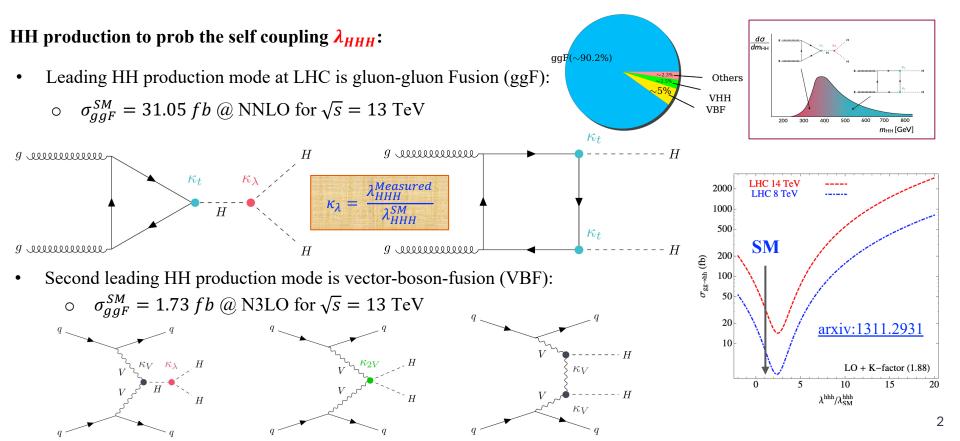




• Investigating the HH production allows for direct probing of the Higgs self-coupling

- One of the unknown property after the Higgs discovery still to be measure
- Prob the shape of the Higgs potential

#### Higgs self coupling measurments at the LHC



### Higgs self-coupling measurment in ATLAS

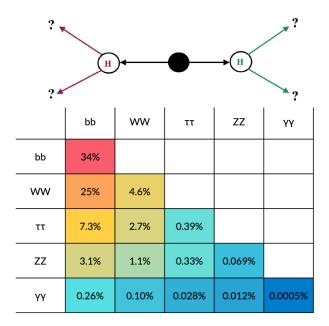
#### Full run2 140 fb<sup>-1</sup>

Given that  $H \rightarrow bb$  has the highest B.R is mostly exploited by the searches

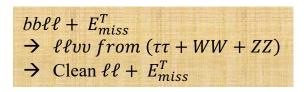
## bbbb → B.R of 34 % the Largest B.R → Challenging background

bb**ττ** 

- $\rightarrow$  B.R of 7.3 % moderate
- $\rightarrow$  Depends on  $\tau$  decay modes
  - Mixed leptonic/hadronic state



bb <b>γγ</b>	
$\rightarrow$ Clean m <sub>yy</sub> peak	1000
→ Small B.R of $(0.26\%)$	

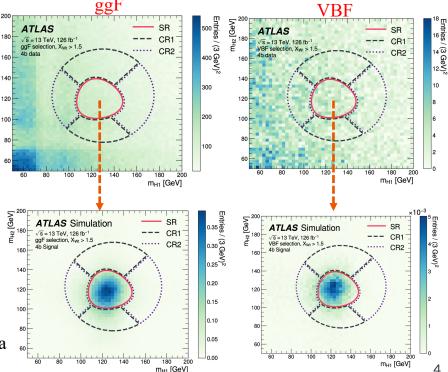


### Run2 non-resonant HH $\rightarrow$ bbbb Analysis strategy

#### Phys. Rev. D 108 (2023) 052003

- Due to large QCD the multi-jet background make it challenging to distinguish signal from the background
- Targeting ggF and VBF production modes with dedicated categories based on the presence of additional jets
- Signal regions are defined by the selections in the  $2D m_{H1}:m_{H2}$  plane
- Major backgrounds
  - → QCD multi-jets (~95 %)
  - $\rightarrow$  ttbar (~5%)

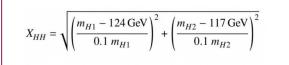
• Total background estimated from data using a neural network trained in control regions to re-weight 2b data to look like 4b data

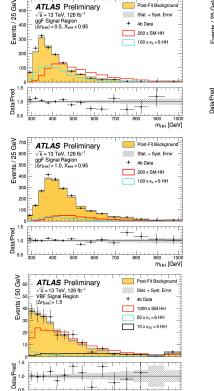


#### Run2 non-resonant HH $\rightarrow$ bbbb Analysis strategy

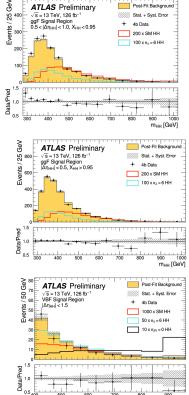
#### Phys. Rev. D 108 (2023) 052003

- Further splitting is performed for ggF and VBF categories to enhance sensitivity to SM signal and to the signals with BSM couplings
- ggF category splitting:
  - $\circ$  3 × 2 categories in bins of
    - $|\Delta \eta_{HH}| \times X_{HH}$
- VBF category splitting:
   2 categories in bins of
  - $|\Delta\eta_{HH}|$
- Final discriminant variable:
  - mHH is used as final discriminant variable in 8 signal regions





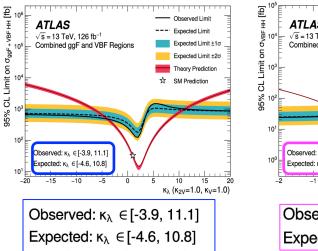
mнн [GeV

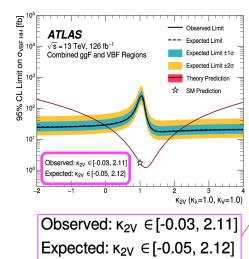


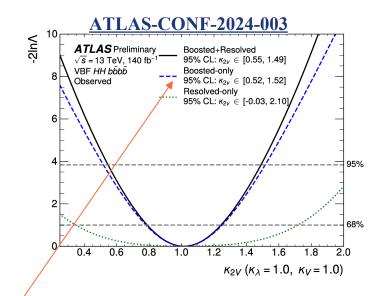
m<sub>HH</sub> [GeV]

#### Run2 results non-resonant HH $\rightarrow$ bbbb Analysis

	<b>Observed</b> Limit	$-2\sigma$	$-1\sigma$	Expected Limit	+1 $\sigma$	+2 $\sigma$
$\mu_{ m ggF}$	5.5	4.4	5.9	8.2	12.4	19.6
$\mu_{ m VBF}$	130	70	100	130	190	280
$\mu_{\rm ggF+VBF}$	5.4	4.3	5.8	8.1	12.2	19.1







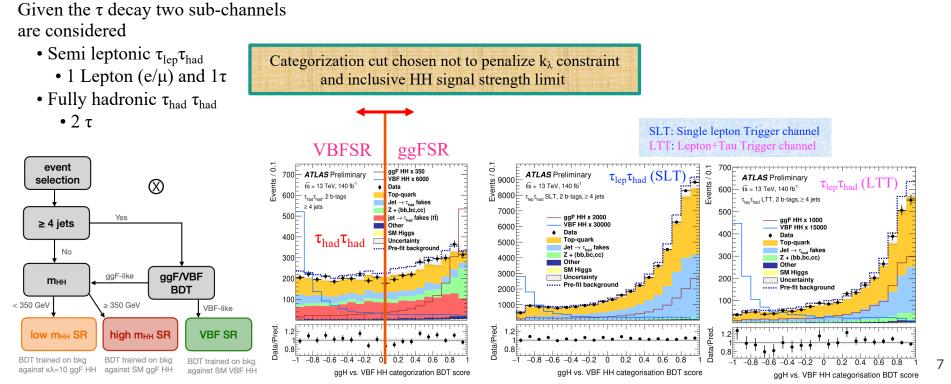
Dedicated boosted *HH VBF* analysis is performed  $\rightarrow$  To enhance K<sub>2V</sub> sensitivity

#### Cross-sectional limits

#### Run2 non-resonant HH $\rightarrow$ bb $\tau\tau$ Analysis strategy

Extended categorization to improve constraints on HHH and HHVV coupling

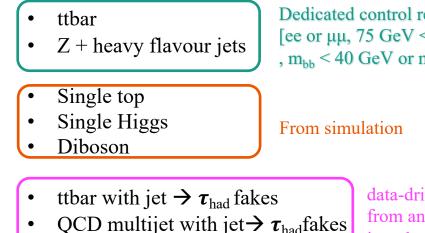
#### ATLAS-CONF-2023-071/



### Run2 non-resonant HH $\rightarrow$ bb $\tau\tau$ Analysis strategy

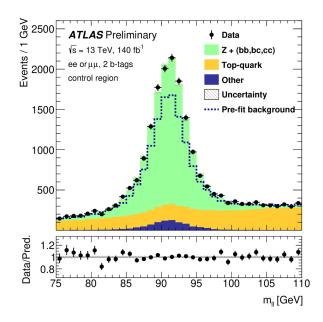
#### Main backgrounds:

#### ATLAS-CONF-2023-071/



Dedicated control region [ee or  $\mu\mu$ , 75 GeV <  $m\ell\ell$  < 110 GeV  $m_{\rm hb} < 40 \,\,{\rm GeV} \,\,{\rm or} \,\, m_{\rm hb} > 210 \,\,{\rm GeV}$ 

> data-driven from anti-ID CR extrapolated into the SR with fake factors



Signal is extracted through a joint fit to all SRs and the CR

#### Run2 non-resonant HH $\rightarrow$ bb $\tau\tau$ Analysis strategy

Events / bin

10

10

10<sup>3</sup>

10<sup>2</sup>

10

05

 $10^{6}$ 

 $10^{5}$ 

10

10<sup>3</sup>

10<sup>2</sup>

10

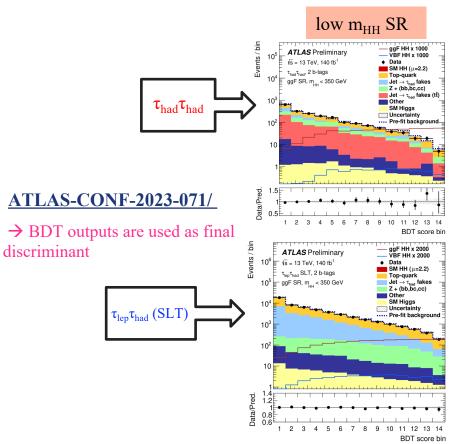
2

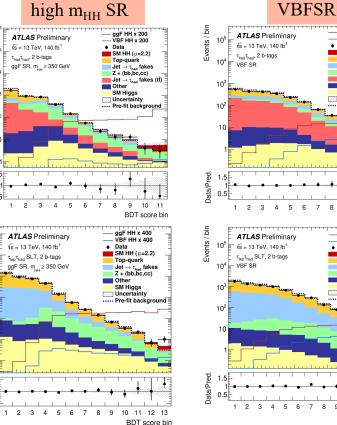
Data/Pred

2

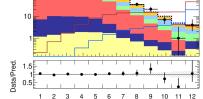
Data/Pred.

Events / bin



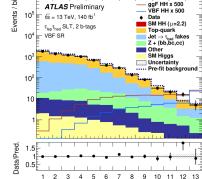


#### aaF HH x 400 ATLAS Preliminary - VBF HH x 400 Data SM HH (u=2.2) Top-quark Jet $\rightarrow \tau_{had}$ fakes Z + (bb,bc,cc) Jet $\rightarrow \tau_{had}$ fakes (tī) Other SM Higgs Uncertainty Pre-fit background-



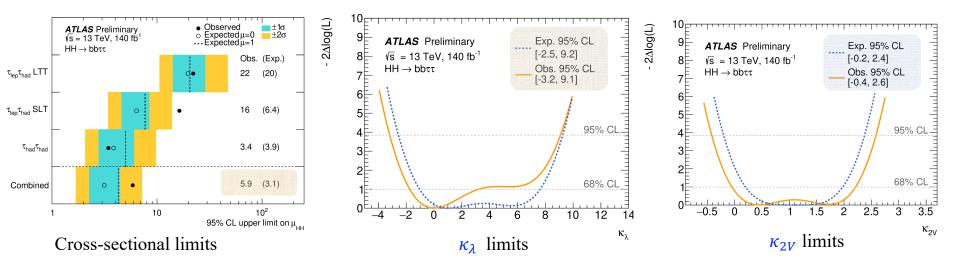
BDT score bin

BDT score bin



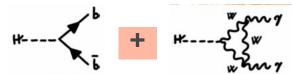
#### Run2 results non-resonant HH $\rightarrow$ bb $\tau\tau$ Analysis

#### ATLAS-CONF-2023-071

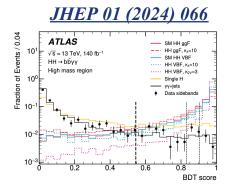


#### Run2 non-resonant HH $\rightarrow$ bbyy Analysis strategy

**Interesting events** are selected if they fulfil the selection requirements **targeting** the *bbyy* **signature** 



Events in the signal region are then categorized, relying on the reduced 4-object invariant mass  $m_{bbyy}^* = m_{bbyy} - (m_{bb} - 125 \text{ GeV}) - (m_{vv} - 125)$  and BDT output

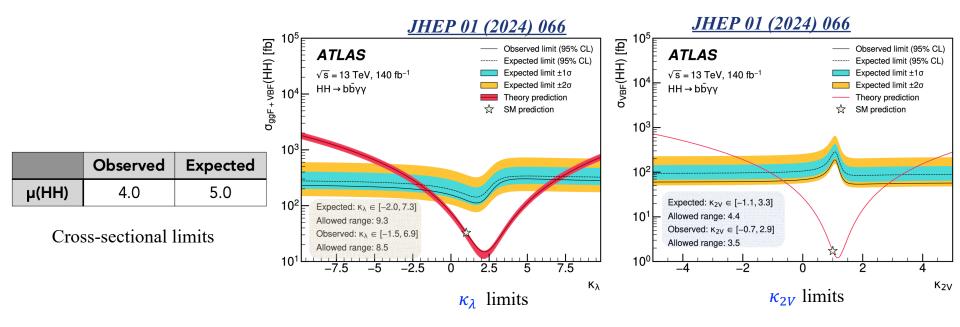


20 GeV ATLAS Simulation Final Fit discrimenant Two bins defined in  $\mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{bbyy}}^*$ √s = 13 TeV 0.2 HH→b̄bγγ ααF - Low mass region  $\mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{bbvv}}^* < 350 \text{ GeV}$ ATLAS 0.15 s = 13 TeV, 140 fb Data Cont. background Total background - High mass region  $\mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{bbyy}}^* > 350 \text{ GeV}$ 0.05 250 300 350 400 450 500 550 600 650 700 m<sup>\*</sup><sub>bbγγ</sub> [GeV] 140 130

In events with more than 4 jets, the candidate VBF-jets tagged via a dedicated are **BDT-based classifier** 

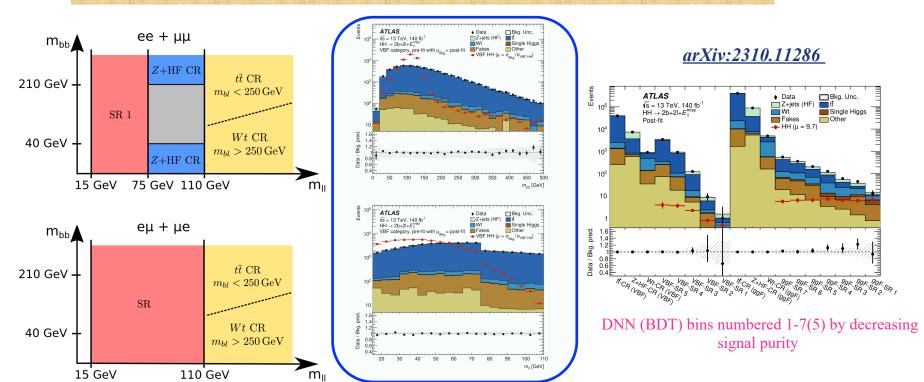
m,, [GeV]

#### Run2 results non-resonant HH $\rightarrow$ bbyy Analysis



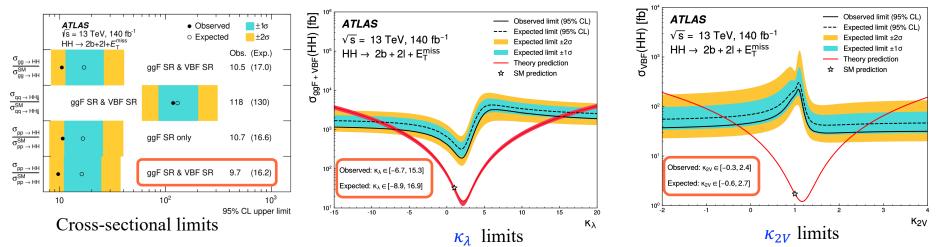
### Run2 non-resonant $bb\ell\ell + E_{miss}^T$

The analysis focuses on the  $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b} + WW^*/ZZ^*/\tau^+\tau^- \rightarrow b\bar{b} + \ell^+\ell^- + neutrinos$ 



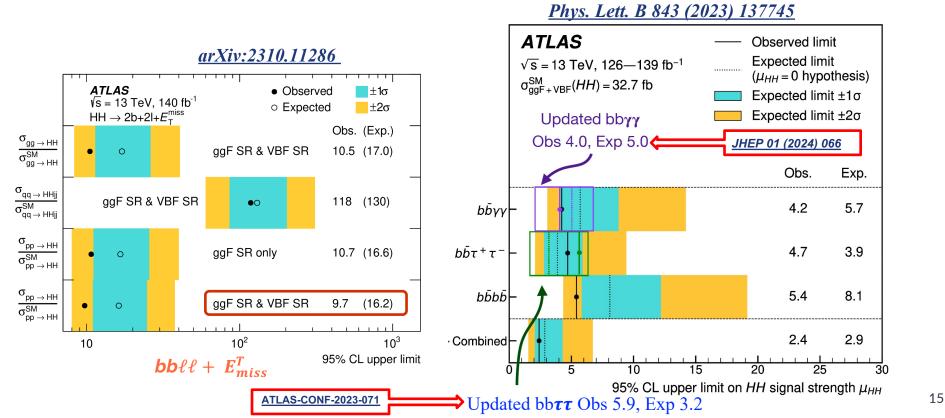
13

### Run2 results non-resonant $bb\ell\ell + E_{miss}^T$

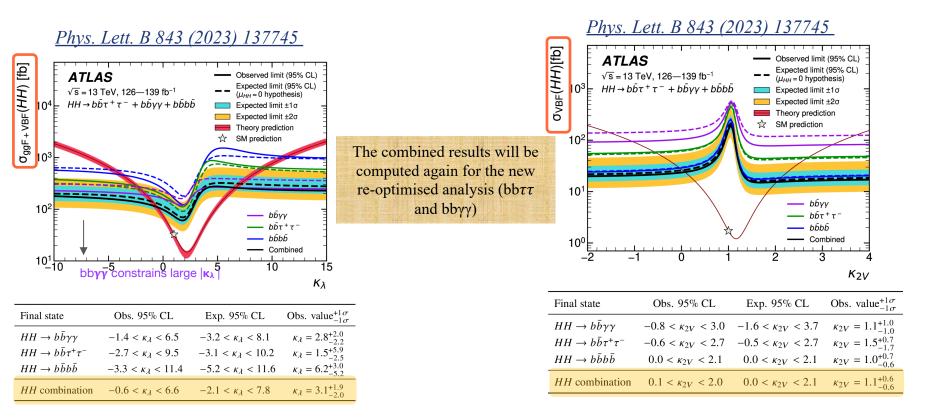


#### arXiv:2310.11286

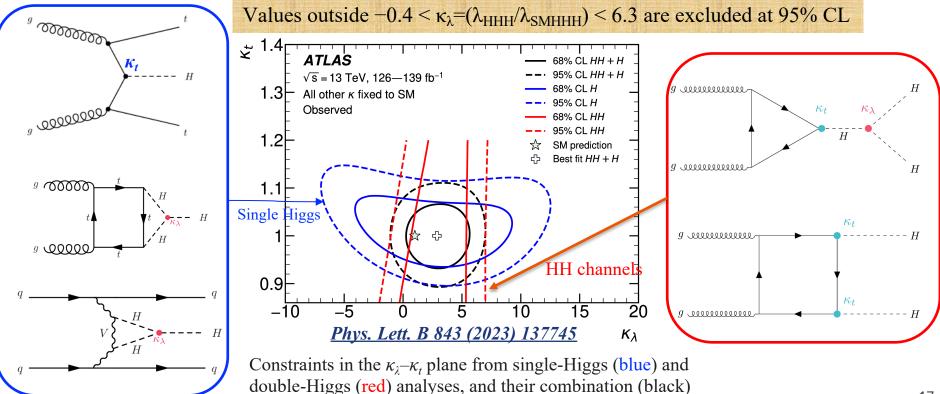
#### **Combine Cross-section limits**



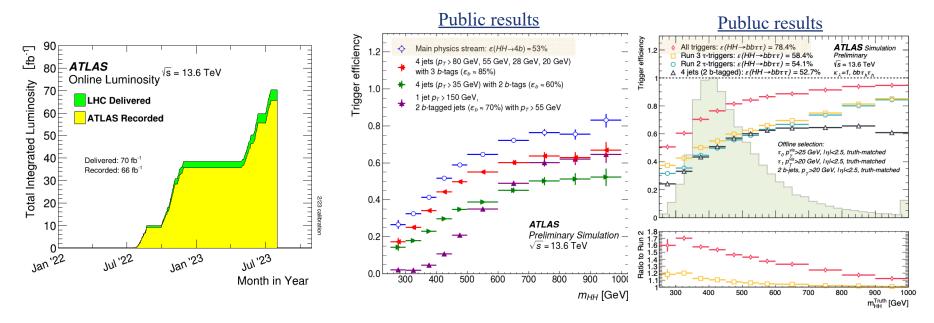
### Combine Coupling limits



### **Cross-section limits H and HH combination**



#### **Towards Run3**

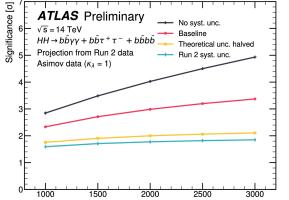


- Trigger improvements in bbbb,  $bb\tau\tau$ : 50% more efficient than Run 2
- Tracking for hadronic signatures  $\rightarrow$  Particle Flow jets
- Deep/Graph Neural Net b-taggers
- Optimised event selections, increased bandwidth

### Prospects High Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC)

Extrapolations of new ATLAS full run2 non-resonant HH searches in the bbtt and bbyy channels to HL-LHC with 3000 fb<sup>-1</sup>

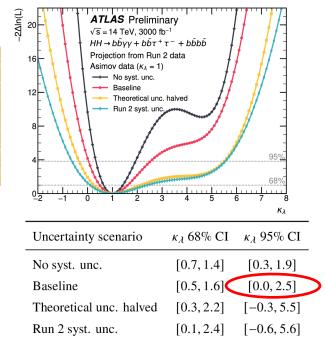
#### ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-053



Baseline: The systematic uncertainties are adjusted following the latest recommendations from HL-LHC [Link]

	Significance $[\sigma]$				Combined signal
Uncertainty scenario	$b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$	$b\bar{b}\tau^{+}\tau^{-}$	bbbb	Combination	strength precision [%]
No syst. unc.	2.3	4.0	1.8	4.9	-21/+22
Baseline	2.2	2.8	0.99	3.4	-30/+33
Theoretical unc. halved	1.1	1.7	0.65	2.1	-47/+48
Run 2 syst. unc.	1.1	1.5	0.65	1.9	-53/+65

#### ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-005



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### Conclusion

- HH searches allows to probe directly the Higgs self-coupling
- Active ATLAS searches are ongoing covering most of the channels
  - Measures many possible decay channels of the HH
- In combination of the HH decay channels ATLAS has achieved most stringent limits on non-resonant HH production and most stringent constraints on  $\kappa_{\lambda}$  until now

The Observed upper limit 2.4 at 95 % CL -0.6 <  $\kappa_{\lambda}$  < 6.6 at 95% CL

- New HL-LHC extrapolations based on latest results improved compared to the ones based on the 36 fb<sup>-1</sup> analysis
  - Expected more than 3.0  $\sigma$  evidence and 50 % uncertainty on  $\kappa_{\lambda}$  for SM HH from ATLAS

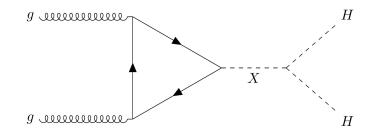
Potential for major gains with a large Run 3 dataset — keep pushing!

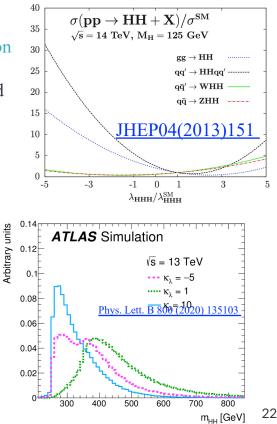


### **Backup slides**

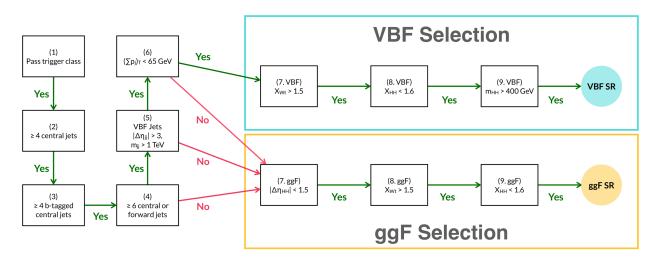
### **BSM** Physics in Higgs pair production

- Higgs pair production in SM is a rare process
  - The production cross-section is 1000 smaller than the single Higgs production
- But still very interesting to study beyond the SM physics (BSM)
- Large variations of non-resonant cross section with modifications of  $\kappa_{\lambda}$  for ggF and VBF
  - More than a factor of 2 increase at  $\kappa_{\lambda} = 0$
  - More than a factor of 4 increase at  $\kappa_{\lambda} = -1$
- Modifications of the kinematics of the process with variations of
  - due to different contributions and interference of the Feynman diagrams
- Production of BSM resonances  $X \rightarrow HH$ 
  - Enhances the production rate





#### 4b analysis selections



The values of 124 GeV and 117 GeV in the  $X_{HH}$  definition are chosen in accord with the centers of the  $m_{H1}$  and  $m_{H2}$ distributions for correctly paired signal events from simulation.

*CR1*, are used to derive the reweighting function for the nominal background estimate *CR2* is used to define a systematic uncertainty related to the reweighting function interpolation into the SR

$$x_{Wt} = \min\left[\sqrt{\left(\frac{m_{jj} - m_W}{0.1m_{jj}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_{jjb} - m_t}{0.1m_{jjb}}\right)^2}\right] \qquad X_{HH} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{m_{H1} - 124 \,\text{GeV}}{0.1m_{H1}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_{H2} - 117 \,\text{GeV}}{0.1m_{H2}}\right)^2}$$

#### 4b analysis background estimations

The background estimation makes use of an alternative set of events, which pass the same *b*-jet triggers and satisfy all the same selection criteria as the 4*b* events, with one difference: they are required to contain exactly two *b*-tagged jets. This sample, referred to hereafter as "2*b*", has about two orders of magnitude more events than the 4*b* sample, hence the presence in it of any  $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$  signal is negligible, making it suitable for the background estimation. The jets selected to form the two Higgs boson candidates in the 2*b* events are the two *b*-tagged jets and the two untagged jets with the highest  $p_{\rm T}$  (excluding the VBF jets in the VBF categories).

The kinematic properties of the 2*b* and 4*b* events are not expected to be identical, partly due to different processes contributing to the two samples, but also due to differences in the trigger acceptance and because the performance of *b*-tagging varies as a function of jet  $p_T$  and  $\eta$ . Therefore, a reweighting function is required, which, when applied to the 2*b* events, maps their kinematic distributions onto the corresponding 4*b* distributions. This function is derived using the 2*b* and 4*b* events in a *control region* (CR) surrounding the SR in the reconstructed ( $m_{H1}$ ,  $m_{H2}$ ) plane and then applied to the 2*b* events in the SR to produce the background estimate. The "inner edge" of the CR is defined by  $X_{HH} = 1.6$  and the "outer edge" by:

$$\sqrt{\left(m_{H1} - 1.05 \cdot 124 \,\text{GeV}\right)^2 + \left(m_{H2} - 1.05 \cdot 117 \,\text{GeV}\right)^2} = 45 \,\text{GeV}\,.$$
 (3)

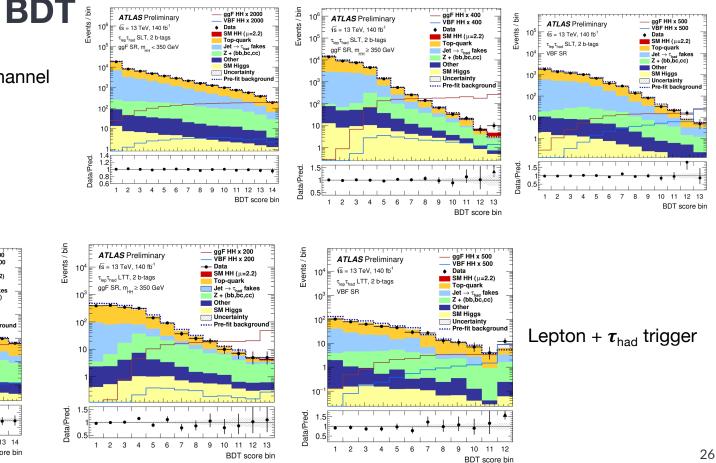
#### $bb\tau\tau$ kinematic variables

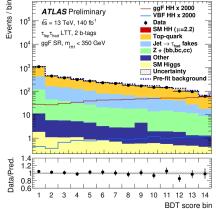
Table 2: Input variables for the categorisation BDTs in each of the three SRs. The superscripts *a* and *c* specify the selection of jets that are taken into account for the calculation in addition to the two  $\tau$ -lepton candidates and  $\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}$ . For variables with a *c*, only the four-momenta of central jets, i.e. jets with  $|\eta| < 2.5$ , are included, while an *a* indicates that all available jets are included.

Variable	$ au_{ m had} au_{ m had}$	$ au_{\mathrm{lep}}  au_{\mathrm{had}} \mathrm{SLT}$	$ au_{ m lep} au_{ m had}$ LTT
$m_{jj}^{ m VBF}$	1	1	1
$\Delta \eta_{jj}^{ m VBF}$	1	1	1
VBF $\eta_0 \times \eta_1$	1	1	
$\Delta \phi_{jj}^{ m VBF}$	1		
$\Delta R_{jj}^{ m VBF}$		1	1
$\Delta R_{\tau\tau}$	1		
$m_{HH}$	1		
$f_2^a$	1		
$C^{a}$		1	1
$m^a_{ m Eff}$		1	1
$f_0^c$		1	
$f_0^a$			1
$h_3^a$			1

#### $bb\tau\tau BDT$

Single lepton trigger Channel





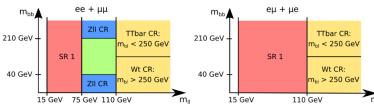
### **bb** $\ell \ell$ + $E_{miss}^T$ pre-selections

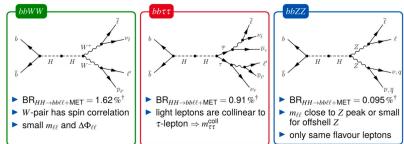
Preselection:

- Single and dilepton triggers
- Exactly two light opposite charge  $p_{\rm T} > 9$  GeV leptons
- Exactly two  $p_{\rm T}$  > 20 GeV DL1r (77 % WP) *b*-tagged jets

Gluon-gluon fusion:

- Veto VBF selection in SR1
- Use NN score as final discriminant





Vector boson fusion:

- $\geq$  2 additional  $p_{\rm T}$  > 30 GeV jets with
  - $\max(\Delta \eta_{jj}) > 4$ •  $\max(m_{jj}) > 600 \,\text{GeV}$
- Use BDT score as final discriminant
- Separate control regions for ggF and VBF signal regions
- Non-prompt lepton fakes estimated with data-driven method

### **bb** $\ell \ell$ + $E_{miss}^T$ **MVA** inputs

Input feature	Description
Input feature same flavour $p_{T}^{\ell}, p_{T}^{b}$ $m_{\ell\ell}, p_{T}^{\ell\ell}$ $m_{bb}, p_{T}^{bb}$ $m_{T2}^{bb}$ $\Delta R_{\ell\ell}, \Delta R_{bb}$ $m_{b\ell}$ min $\Delta R_{b\ell}$	Description unity if final state leptons are <i>ee</i> or $\mu\mu$ , zero otherwise transverse momenta of the leptons, <i>b</i> -tagged jets invariant mass and the transverse momentum of the di-lepton system invariant mass and the transverse momentum of the <i>b</i> -tagged jet pair system stransverse mass of the two <i>b</i> -tagged jets $\Delta R$ between the two leptons and two <i>b</i> -tagged jets min{max( $m_{b_0\ell_0}, m_{b_1\ell_1}$ ), max( $m_{b_0\ell_1}, m_{b_1\ell_0}$ )} minimum $\Delta R$ of all <i>b</i> -tagged jet and lepton combinations
$ \begin{array}{l} m_{bb\ell\ell} \\ E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}, E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss} \text{-sig} \\ m_{\rm T}(\ell_0, E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}) \\ \min m_{\rm T,\ell} \\ H_{\rm T2}^{\rm R} \end{array} $	invariant mass of the $bb\ell\ell$ system missing transverse energy and its significance transverse mass of the $p_{\rm T}$ -leading lepton with respect to $E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$ minimum value of $m_{\rm T}(\ell_0, E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss})$ and $m_{\rm T}(\ell_1, E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss})$ measure for boostedness <sup>1</sup> of the two Higgs bosons

Input feature	Description
$\eta_{\ell_0}$ , $\eta_{\ell_1}$ , $\phi_{\ell_0}$ , $\phi_{\ell_1}$ , $p_{\mathrm{T}}^{\ell_0}$ , $p_{\mathrm{T}}^{\ell_1}$ , $p_{\mathrm{T}}^{\ell_1}$ $\eta_{b_0}$ , $\eta_{b_1}$ , $\phi_{b_0}$ , $\phi_{b_1}$ , $p_{\mathrm{T}}^{b_0}$ , $p_{\mathrm{T}}^{b_1}$	$\eta$ , $\phi$ , $p_{\rm T}$ of the $p_{\rm T}$ -(sub)leading lepton
$\eta_{b_0}, \eta_{b_1}, \phi_{b_0}, \phi_{b_1}, p_{\mathrm{T}}^{b_0}, p_{\mathrm{T}}^{b_1}$	$\eta$ , $\phi$ , $p_{\rm T}$ of the $p_{\rm T}$ -(sub)leading <i>b</i> -tagged jet
$\eta_{j_0}, \eta_{j_1}, \phi_{j_0}, \phi_{j_1}, p_{\mathrm{T}}^{j_0}, p_{\mathrm{T}}^{j_1}$	$\phi$ , $\eta$ , $p_{\rm T}$ of the $p_{\rm T}$ -(sub)leading non <i>b</i> -tagged jet
$E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}, \phi^{E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}}, E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$ -sig	missing transverse energy, its $\phi$ and significance
$p_{\rm T}^{bb}, \Delta R_{bb}, \Delta \phi_{bb}, m_{bb}$	$p_{\rm T}$ , $\Delta R$ , $\Delta \phi$ and invariant mass of di- <i>b</i> -jet system
$p_{\mathrm{T}}^{bb}, \Delta R_{bb}, \Delta \phi_{bb}, m_{bb}$ $p_{\mathrm{T}}^{\ell\ell}, \Delta R_{\ell\ell}, \Delta \phi_{\ell\ell}, m_{\ell\ell}, \phi_{\mathrm{centrality}}^{\ell\ell}$	$p_{\rm T}$ , $\Delta R$ , $\Delta \phi$ , $p_{\rm T}$ and centrality <sup>1</sup> of di-leptons system
$p_{\pi}^{bb\ell\ell}, m_{bb\ell\ell}$	$p_{\rm T}$ and invariant mass of the $bb\ell\ell$ system
$p_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{T}}$ , $m_{bb\ell\ell+E_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{miss}}}$	$p_{\rm T}$ and invariant mass of $bb\ell\ell + E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$ system
$m_{\ell\ell+E_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{miss}}}$	invariant mass of di-lepton + $E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$ system
$p_{\mathrm{T}}^{E_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{miss}}+\ell\ell}, \Delta\phi_{E_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{miss}},\ell\ell}$	$p_{\rm T}$ of and $\Delta \phi$ between $E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$ and di-lepton system
$p_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{tot}}$	$p_{\rm T}$ of $bb\ell\ell + E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss} + p_{\rm T}$ -leading and -sub-leading jet
m <sub>tot</sub>	invariant mass of $bb\ell\ell + E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss} + p_{\rm T}$ -leading and -sub-leading jet
$m_t^{\text{KLF}}$	Kalman fitter top-quark mass
$\min \Delta R_{\ell_0 j}, \min \Delta R_{\ell_1 j}$	minimum $\Delta R$ between $p_{T}$ -(sub)leading $\ell$ -j couples
$\sum m_{\ell j}$	sum of the invariant masses of all $\ell$ +jet combinations
$\max p_T^{jj}$ , $\max m_{ij}$	maximum $p_{\rm T}$ and invariant mass of any two non <i>b</i> -tagged jets
$\max \Delta \eta_{ii}, \max \Delta \phi_{ii}$	maximum $\Delta \eta$ and $\Delta \phi$ between any two non <i>b</i> -tagged jets
$\min \Delta R_{b\ell}$	minimum $\Delta R$ of all <i>b</i> -tagged jet and lepton combinations
$N_{\text{forward jets}}, N_j$	number of forward jets, number of non b-tagged jets
$m_{T2}^{bb}$	stransverse mass of the two b-tagged jets
m <sub>coll</sub>	collinear mass (reconstruction of $m_{\tau\tau}$ )
m <sub>MMC</sub>	value of the MMC algorithm (reconstruction of $m_{\tau\tau}$ )

BDT (VBF)

#### Resonant HH combination with full Run 2 data

- Searches are performed for BSM resonant HH production: resonance mass point ∈ [0.25, 5] TeV
- $X \rightarrow HH \rightarrow bbbb, bbtt, bbyg$
- Similar baseline event selections and background estimations to the non-resonant searches in the same final states
- Optimised signal region selections and discriminants specifically for the resonant signals

#### Complementarity of searches in different decay channels:

- bbγγ [Phys. Rev. D 106 (2022) 052001]
- bbττ [<u>JHEP 07 (2023) 040</u>]
- bbbb [<u>Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 092002</u>]

