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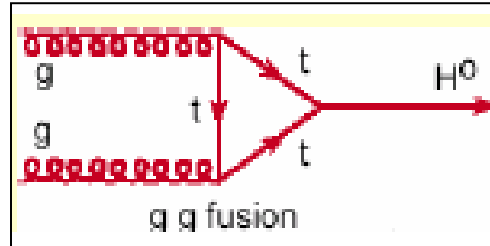
# Observation of the VBF production in the $h \rightarrow WW^* \rightarrow e\nu\mu\nu$ decay channel with the ATLAS experiment

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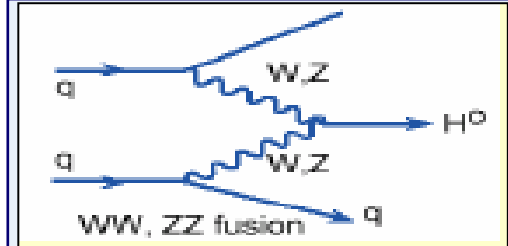
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# Standard Model (SM) Higgs Boson ( $h$ )

## The Higgs boson production modes (link)



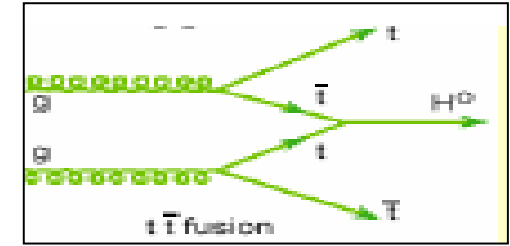
gluon fusion  
(ggF)



vector boson fusion  
(VBF)



associated WH/ZH  
(VH)



associated top quark  
(ttH)

- ✓ the only signal process in VBF analysis
- ✓ with two highly energetic jets going at small polar angles

- ✓ pure electroweak
- ✓ with no color flow between the Higgs system and the incoming protons
- ✓ the boson coupling constant

not included in VBF analysis  
(to be negligible)

## The Higgs boson decay channel (link)

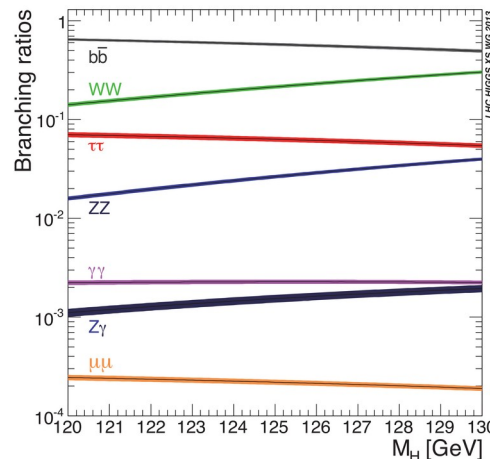
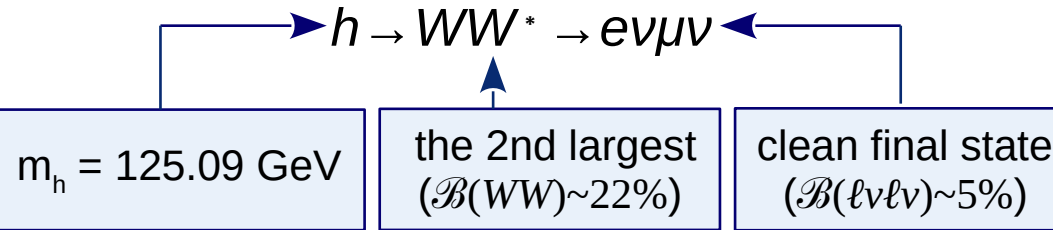


Fig. 1. SM Higgs boson decay branching ratios  $\mathcal{B}$



Background processes (the same final state  $l\bar{l}$ ):

- top quark production ( $tW$  and  $t\bar{t}$ )
- dibosons (non-resonant  $WW$ )
- other  $VV$  ( $WZ, ZZ, W\gamma, W\gamma^*$ )
- Drell-Yan ( $Z+jets$  or  $Z/\gamma^* \rightarrow \tau\tau$ )
- Mis-Id ( $W+jets$ ) and multi-jets (QCD)

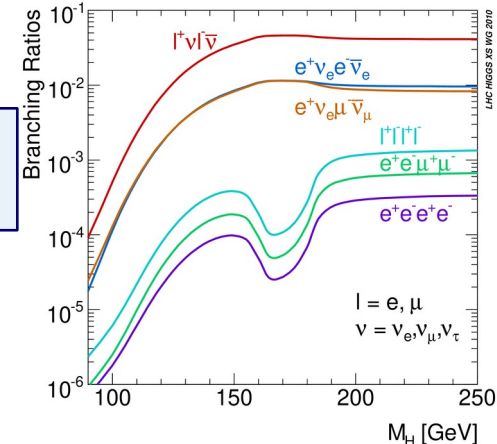


Fig. 2. SM Higgs boson decay branching ratios  $\mathcal{B}$  for 4-fermion final states

# VBF analysis

New: ATL-CONF-2020-045

Old: PL B789 (2019) 508

## What's new?

- increase in data statistics:  $36 \text{ fb}^{-1} \rightarrow 139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$
- a new multi-variate discriminant using a Deep Neural Network (DNN) instead of usual Boosted Decision Trees (BDT)

	BDT	DNN
Discriminant variable input variable	$\Delta\phi_{\ell\ell}, m_{\ell\ell}, m_T, \Delta y_{jj}, m_{jj}, \rho_T^{\text{tot}}, \sum_{\ell} C_{\ell}, \sum_{\ell,j} m_{\ell j}$	$\Delta\phi_{\ell\ell}, m_{\ell\ell}, m_T, \Delta y_{jj}, m_{jj}, \rho_T^{\text{tot}}, \sum_{\ell} C_{\ell}, m_{\ell 1 j 1}, m_{\ell 1 j 2}, m_{\ell 2 j 1}, m_{\ell 2 j 2}, \rho_T^{\text{jet1}}, \rho_T^{\text{jet2}}, \rho_T^{\text{jet3}}$ and $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ significance

- improved object reconstruction (leptons, jets,  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ )

## What are the results?

The signal strength parameter:

$$\mu_{VBF}^{BDT} = 0.62_{-0.36}^{+0.37}$$

$$\mu_{VBF}^{DNN} = 1.04_{-0.20}^{+0.24}$$

The observed (expected) signal

significance:  $Z^{BDT} = 1.9 (2.7)\sigma$

$$Z^{DNN} = 7.0 (6.2)\sigma$$

The cross-sections times branching

fractions:  $\sigma_{VBF} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{h \rightarrow WW^*}^{BDT} = 0.50_{-0.23}^{+0.24} \text{ pb}$

$$\sigma_{VBF} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{h \rightarrow WW^*}^{DNN} = 0.85_{-0.17}^{+0.20} \text{ pb}$$

$$\sigma_{VBF} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{h \rightarrow WW^*}^{SM} = 0.81_{-0.02}^{+0.02} \text{ pb}$$

## What are the results?

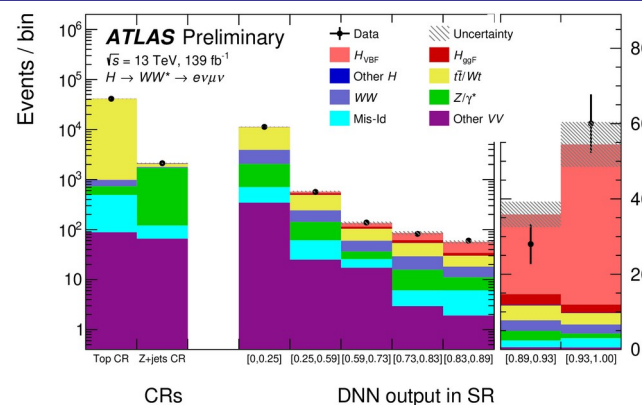


Fig.3. Post-fit distribution of the DNN output in the VBF signal region, together with the top and Z+jets control regions.

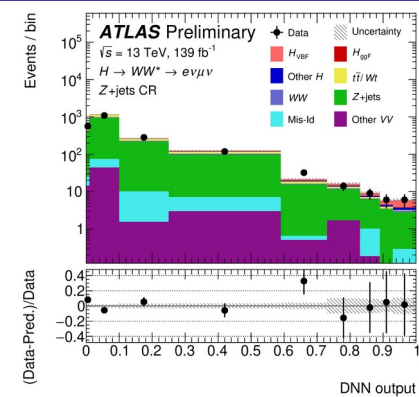
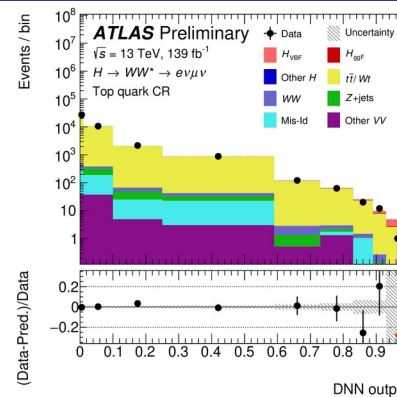


Fig.4. Post-fit distributions of the DNN output in the top quark CR (left) and Z+jets CR (right). The first 3 bins are concluded in the 1st bin.

# Observation of the VBF production in the $h \rightarrow WW^* \rightarrow e\nu\mu\nu$ decay channel with the ATLAS experiment

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## Introduction

New Run2 results for vector-boson-fusion (VBF) production of Higgs bosons in the  $h \rightarrow WW^* \rightarrow e\nu\mu\nu$  decay channel at 13 TeV with the ATLAS detector are presented.

New results with several improvements (w.r.t. [1]):

- increase in data statistics:  $36 \text{ fb}^{-1} \rightarrow 139 \text{ fb}^{-1}$
- a new multi-variate discriminant using a Deep Neural Network (DNN) instead of usual BDT
- improved object reconstruction (leptons, jets,  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ )

## The ATLAS detector

The ATLAS is a multipurpose detector with the main aims to test Standard Model (SM) in the new energy range, to study SM Higgs boson properties and to find new heavy particles.

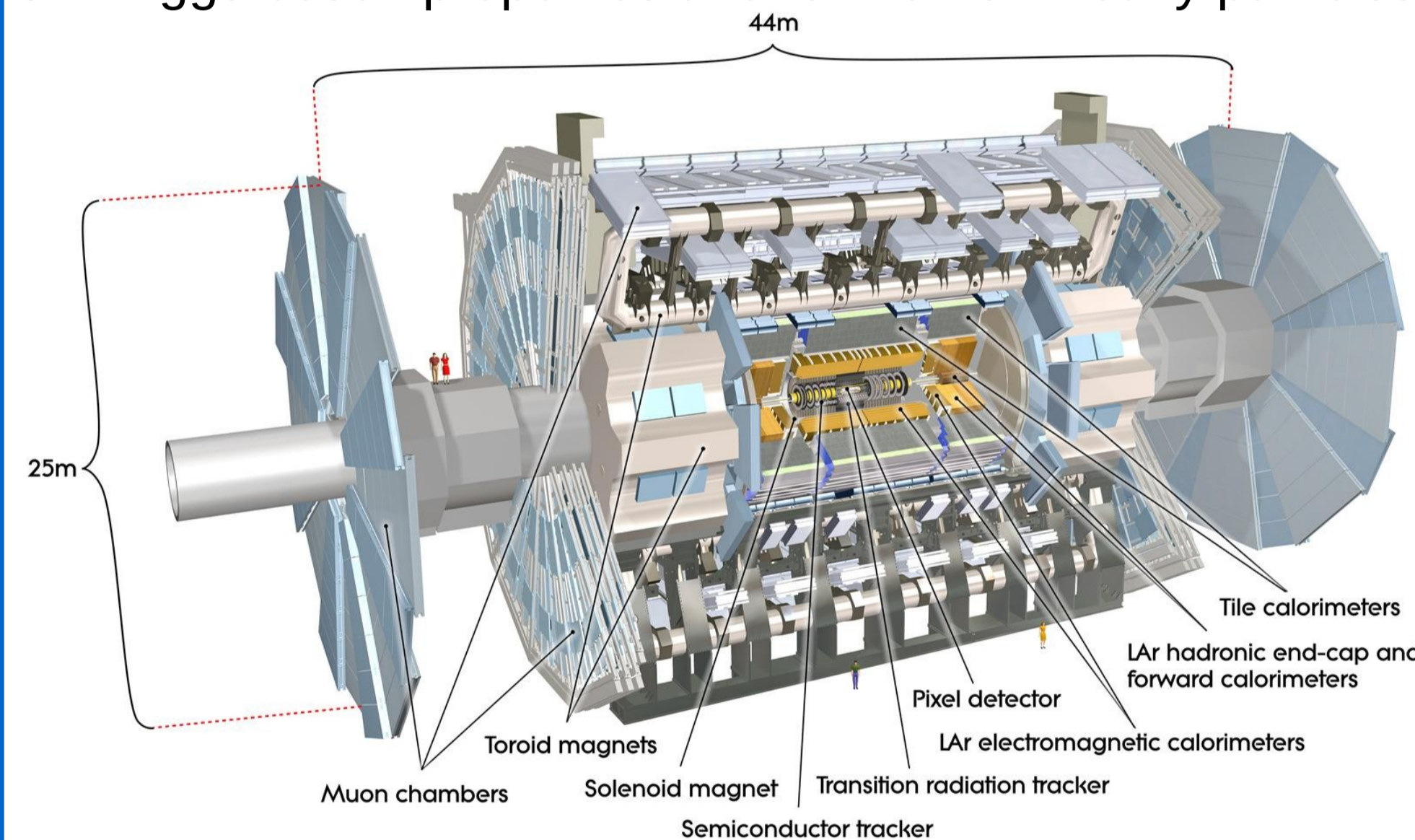


Fig.1. The ATLAS detector [2]

## Signal and background processes

The Higgs boson production modes (signal):

- gluon fusion (ggF)
- VBF
- associated WH/ZH (VH)

$$m_h = 125.09 \text{ GeV}$$

Background processes (the same final state  $\ell\ell$ ):

- top quark production
- dibosons (WW)
- other VV
- Drell-Yan ( $Z/\gamma^* \rightarrow \tau\tau$ )
- Mis-Id and multi-jets

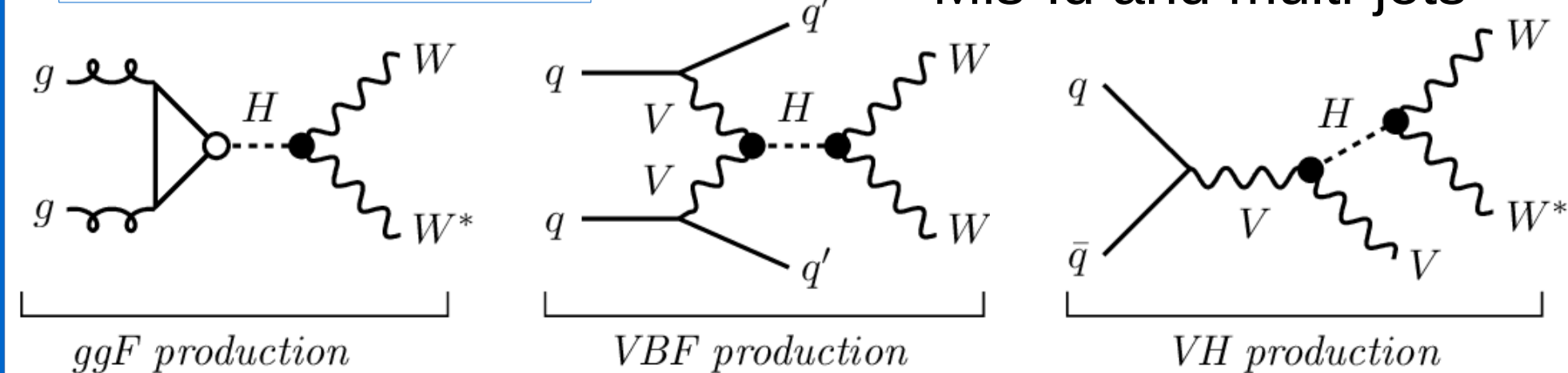


Fig.2. The main production modes [3]

## Event selection and multivariate analysis

	SR	Z+jets CR	Top quark CR
Pre-selection	Two isolated, different-flavour leptons ( $\ell=e,\mu$ ) with opposite charge $p_T^{\text{lead}} > 22 \text{ GeV}$ , $p_T^{\text{sublead}} > 15 \text{ GeV}$ $M_{\ell\ell} > 10 \text{ GeV}$ , $N_{\text{jet}(p_T>30 \text{ GeV};  \eta <4.5)} \geq 2$		
	$N_{b\text{-jet}(p_T>20 \text{ GeV})} = 0$	$N_{b\text{-jet}(p_T>20 \text{ GeV})} = 0$	$N_{b\text{-jet}(p_T>20 \text{ GeV})} = 1$
Selection	$m_{\tau\tau} < 66.2 \text{ GeV}$ $m_{jj} > 120 \text{ GeV}$	$ m_{\tau\tau} - m_Z  < 25 \text{ GeV}$ - $m_{\ell\ell} > 70 \text{ GeV}$	$m_{\tau\tau} < 66.2 \text{ GeV}$ - -
	central jet veto outside lepton veto		
	DNN is applied in the SR that uses 15 discriminant variables: $\Delta\phi_{\ell\ell}$ , $m_{\ell\ell}$ , $m_{\tau\tau}$ , $\Delta y_{jj}$ , $m_{jj}$ , $p_T^{\text{tot}}$ , $\Sigma C_\ell$ , $m_{\ell 1j 1'}$ , $m_{\ell 1j 2'}$ , $m_{\ell 2j 1'}$ , $m_{\ell 2j 2'}$ , $p_T^{\text{jet}1}$ , $p_T^{\text{jet}2}$ , $p_T^{\text{jet}3}$ and $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ significance		

Table 1. Event selection criteria used to define the signal and control regions in the analysis.

The VBF process:

- with two highly energetic jets going at small polar angles
- pure electroweak
- with no color flow between the Higgs system and the incoming protons

Control Regions (CRs):

- top-quark and Z+jets processes
- orthogonal to the Signal Region (SR)
- normalise the corresponding backgrounds in the SR

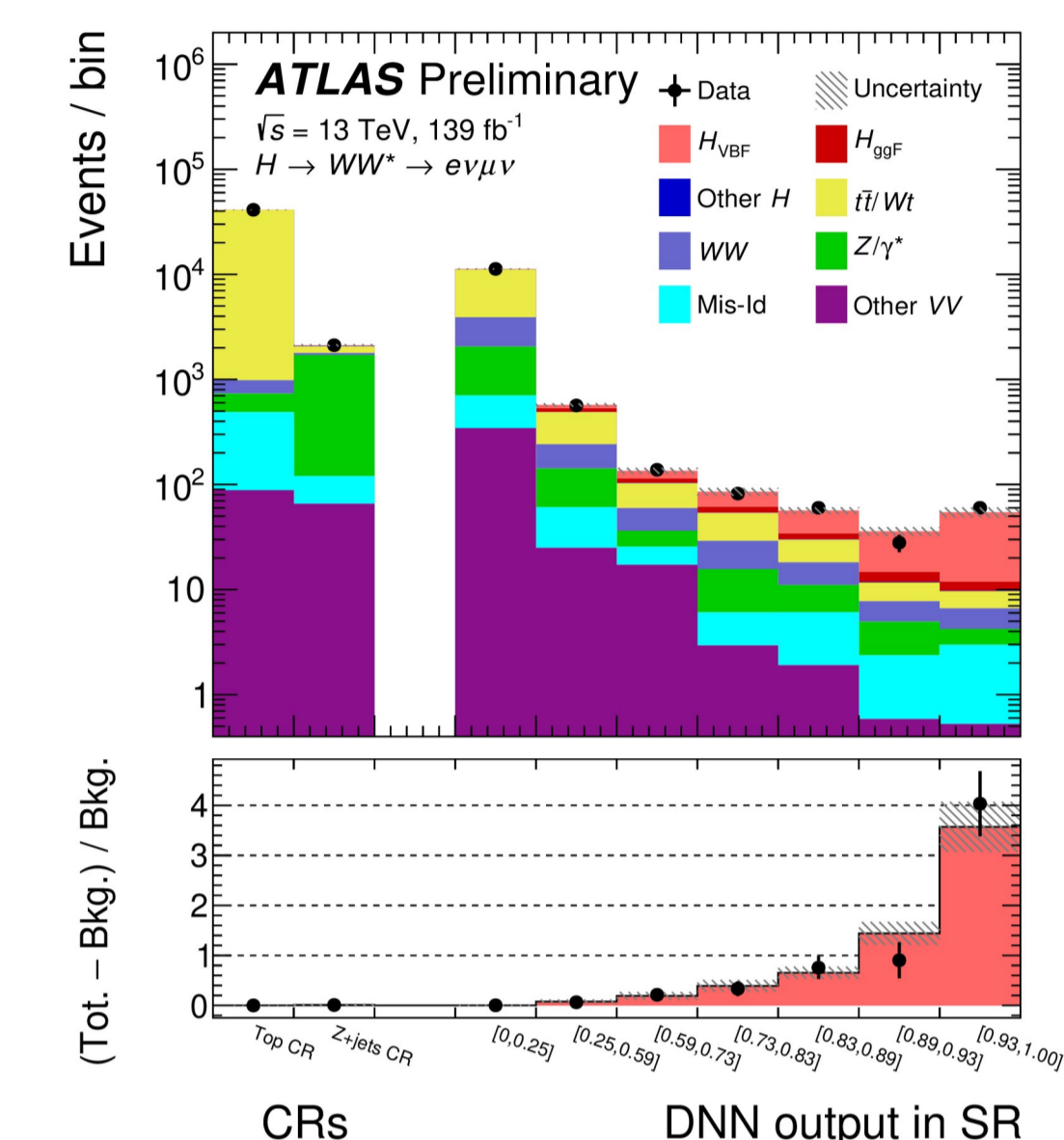


Fig.3. Post-fit distribution of the DNN output in VBF SR and CRs.

## Background estimation in SR and CRs

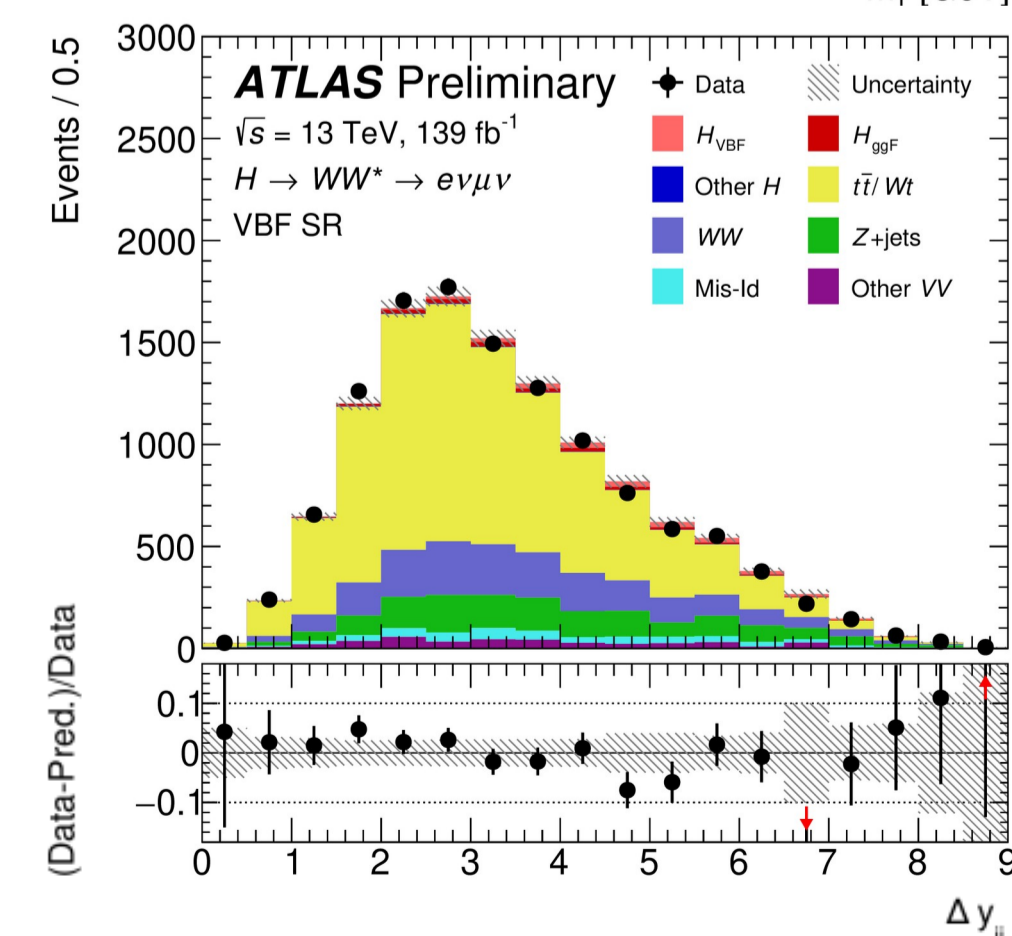
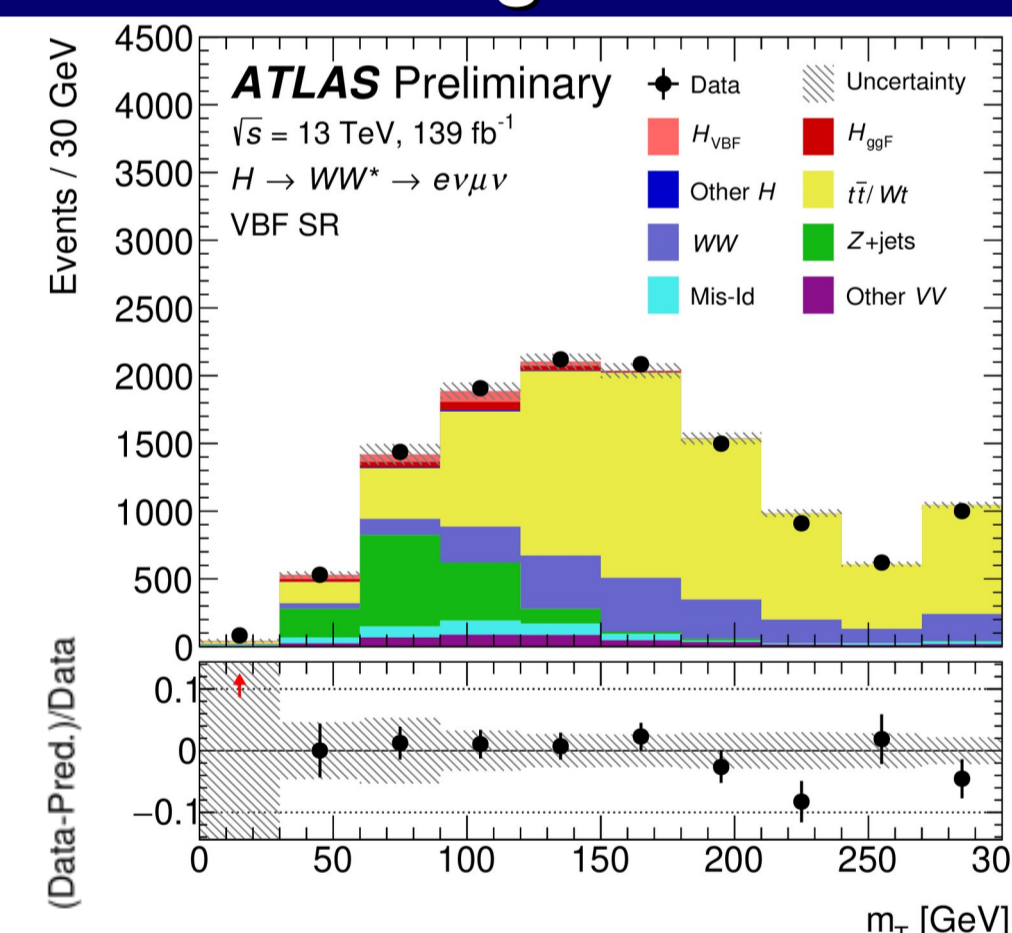


Fig.4. Post-fit  $m_T$  (top) and  $\Delta y_{jj}$  (bottom) distribution in the VBF SR.

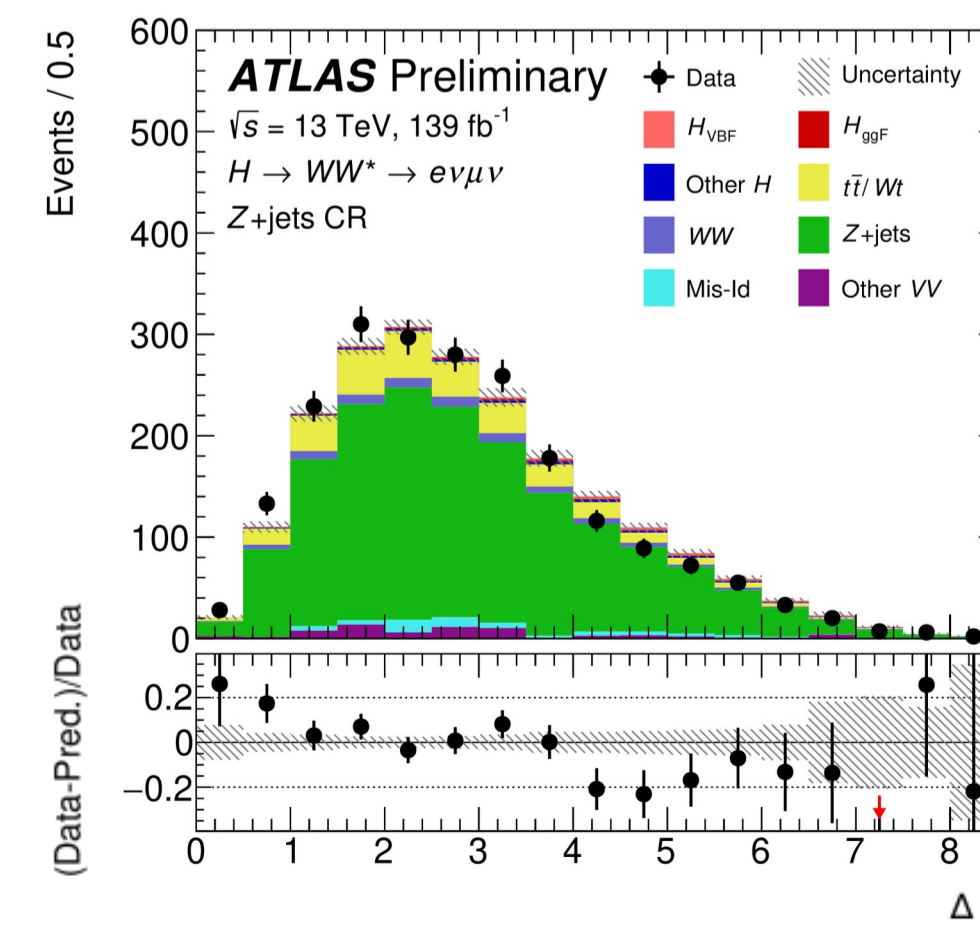
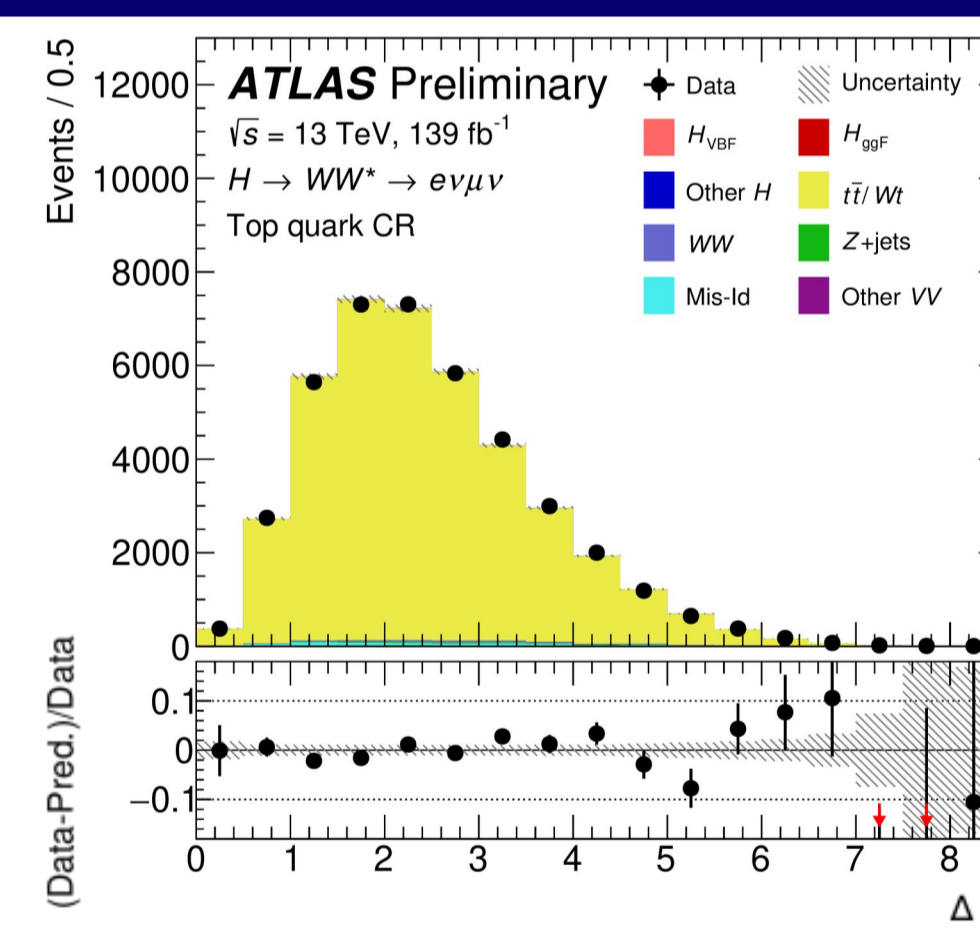


Fig.5. Post-fit  $\Delta y_{jj}$  distribution in the top quark (top) and Z+jets (bottom) CRs.

Statistical and systematic uncertainties are included.

## Results

Source	$\Delta\mu/\mu$ [%]
Total systematics	17.8
Data Statistics	12.5
Experimental	8.8
Missing ET	4.7
MC statistics	3.1
Jet energy scale	2.2
...	...
Signal theory	14.4
Bkg. theory	7.7
ggF	5.2
Top-quark	3.3
WW	2.5
Z+jets	1.9
TOTAL	22

Table 2. Breakdown of impacts on the signal strength  $\mu_{\text{VBF}}$ .

The **signal strength parameter** [4]:

$$\mu_{\text{VBF}} = 1.04^{+0.24}_{-0.20}$$

$$= 1.04^{+0.13}_{-0.12} (\text{stat.})^{+0.09}_{-0.08} (\text{exp syst.})^{+0.17}_{-0.12} (\text{sig. theo.})^{+0.08}_{-0.07} (\text{bkg. theo.})$$

The observed (expected) **significance** of 7.0 (6.2)  $\sigma$ .

Process	Total	Highest DNN bin
$H_{\text{VBF}}$	209±37	43±7
$H_{\text{ggF}}$	169±62	2±1
$tt/Wt$	7525±827	3±2
$Z/\gamma^*$	1460±372	1±1
WW	1997±347	2±1
Mis-Id	416±58	2±2
VV	392±64	1±1
Total	12196±122	54±6
Observed	12186	60

Table 3. Post-fit MC and data yields in the VBF SR and the highest DNN output bin.

## References

- [1] PL B789 (2019) 508 [2] JINST 3 (2008) S08003  
[3] PR D 92 (2015) 012006 [4] ATL-CONF-2020-045