

# Search for the SM Higgs Boson in VBF Production Mode (with ATLAS)

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On behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration

GEFÖRDERT VOM



Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung

FSP 101

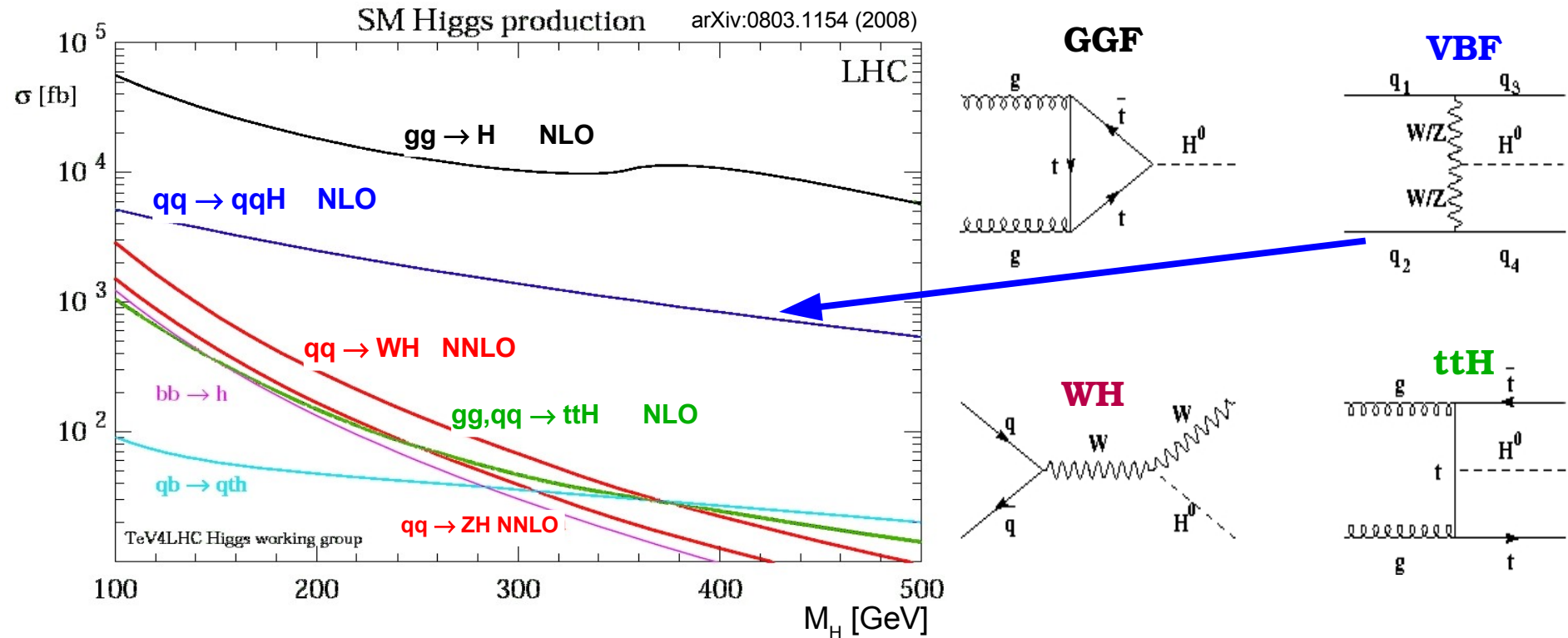
ATLAS

SUSY08

Seoul, 06.19.08

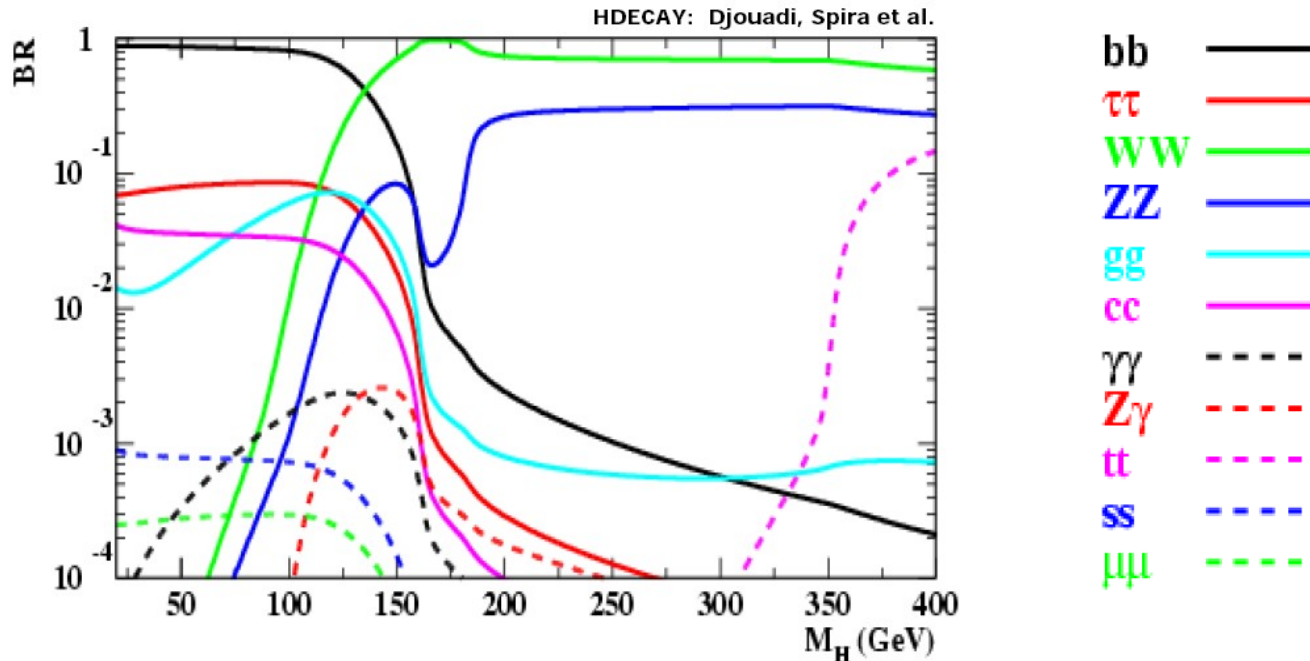


# SM Higgs Production at the LHC



- **gluon fusion:** dominant process
- **vector boson fusion (VBF):** factor  $\sim 10$  below gluon fusion  
**BUT:** clear signature in the detector
- **ttH:** important  $100 \text{ GeV} < M_H < 120 \text{ GeV}$
- **W(Z)H:** not for discovery due to huge background

# SM Higgs Final States



Dominant decays for  $M_H < 135$  GeV:  $H \rightarrow bb$  Dominant decay, difficult final state (large  $t\bar{t}$  background)

$H \rightarrow \tau\tau$  Attractive discovery channel

Dominant decays for  $M_H > 135$  GeV:  $H \rightarrow WW$  and  $H \rightarrow ZZ$

Tiny  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ : Also important ( $110 \text{ GeV} < M_H < 140 \text{ GeV}$ )

VBF Channels investigated in ATLAS:

VBF  $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$

VBF  $H \rightarrow WW$  (not discussed in this talk)

# ATLAS VBF Higgs Studies

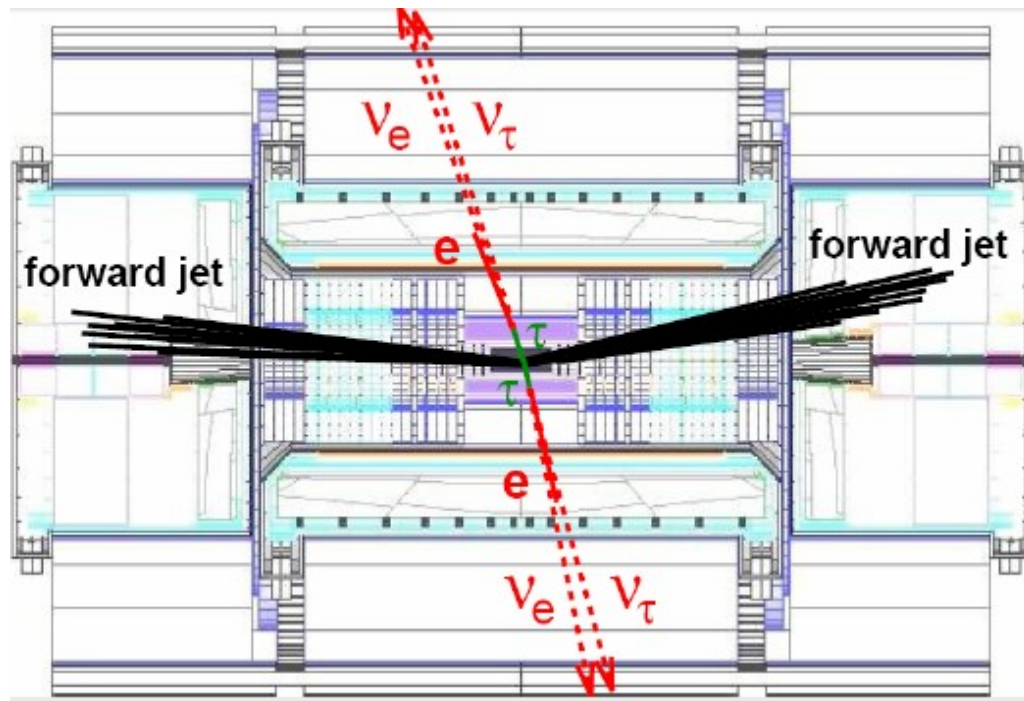
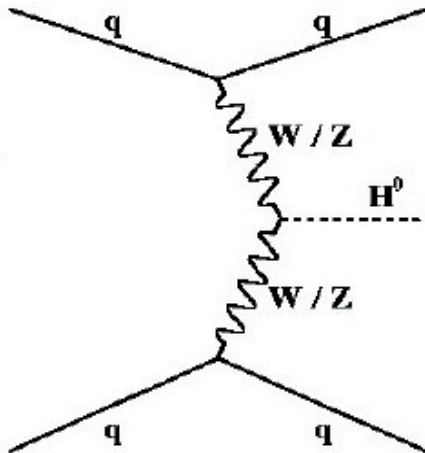
Optimize analysis assuming an integrated luminosity of  $30\text{fb}^{-1}$  using:

- State-of-the art Monte Carlo generators  
(MC@NLO, ALPGEN, HERWIG, PYTHIA, ...)
- Detailed GEANT4-based simulation of the ATLAS detector  
(including misalignments and distortions)

## The first five years

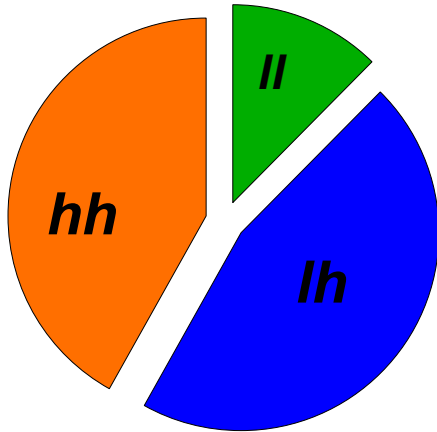
Year	$\int \mathcal{L} dt$	$\mathcal{L}$
2008	$\sim 40 \text{ pb}^{-1}$	$10^{31}\text{-}10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
2009	$2 - 3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$8 \times 10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
2010	$\sim 10 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$2 \times 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
2011	$\sim 30 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$2 \times 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
2012	$\sim 100 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	$10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

# VBF Higgs $\rightarrow \tau\tau$ Signature



- Two tagging jets in forward region
- Higgs boson decay products in the central region
- No color flow between quark lines:
  - No central jets
- Missing transverse momentum: associated to  $\nu$ 's from  $\tau$  decays

# $\tau$ Decays



$H \rightarrow \tau\tau \rightarrow hh$  (42%):

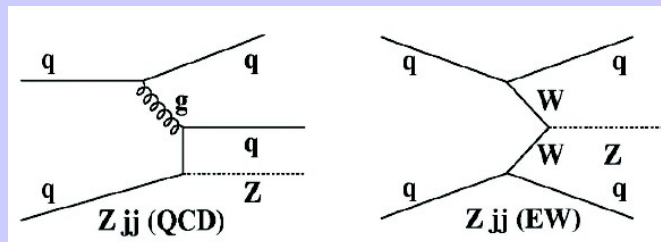
- Triggers for  $hh$  channel are under investigation
- Reliable estimate of the QCD jets background can only be provided with data
- Will not be discussed in this talk

$H \rightarrow \tau\tau \rightarrow lh+3\nu$  (46%)

AND

$H \rightarrow \tau\tau \rightarrow ll+4\nu$  (12%)

- Easy to trigger (high  $p_T$  leptons)
- Backgrounds to VBF  $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$ :  $Z + \text{jets}$ ,  $W + \text{jets}$ ,  $t\bar{t}$ , diboson,  $WW/ZZ/ZW$



# Leptonic $\tau$ Decays

## Decay leptons used for trigger:

- use simple robust trigger signatures (initially):
  - isolated electron with  $p_T > 22$  GeV
  - or isolated  $\mu$  with  $p_T > 20$  GeV

## Lepton selection:

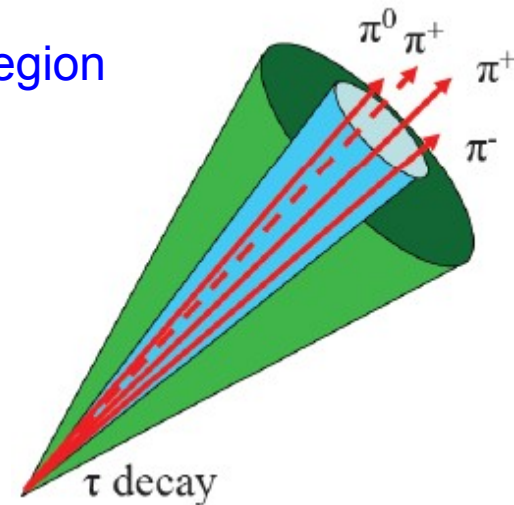
- thresholds for  $e/\mu$  identification optimised for identification efficiency and fake rejection
- electron:
  - $p_T > 25$  GeV for trigger electron
  - $p_T > 15$  GeV for the other electrons
- muon:
  - $p_T > 20$  GeV for trigger electron
  - $p_T > 10$  GeV for other muons
- energy isolation within a cone around the  $e/\mu$  (Isolation  $E_T/p_T \leq 0.1$ )

# Hadronic $\tau$ Decays

## Hadronic $\tau$ decay:

- $\Gamma \sim 50\%$  single prong (1 charged  $h$ )
- $\Gamma \sim 15\%$  three prongs (3 charged  $h$ )
- Decay products collimated into a narrow region

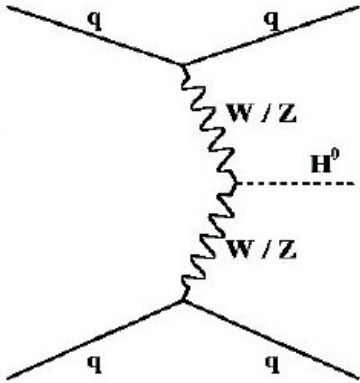
- collimated deposition in EM Calorimeter
- use shower shape variables
- reconstruct  $\pi^0$  sub-clusters
- isolation cone
- log-likelihood-based discrimination from QCD jets



- Log-likelihood and  $p_T$  cuts optimized with respect to  $s/(s+b)^{1/2}$
- $p_T > 30$  GeV



# Tagging Jets



- $|\eta| < 4.9$  (jets as close as  $1^\circ$  to the beam pipe!)

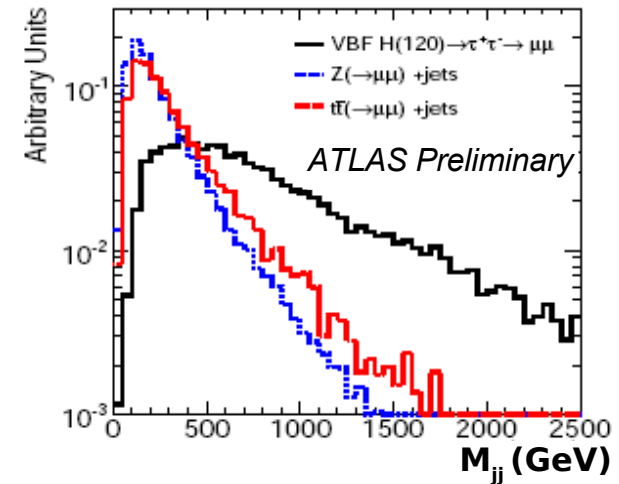
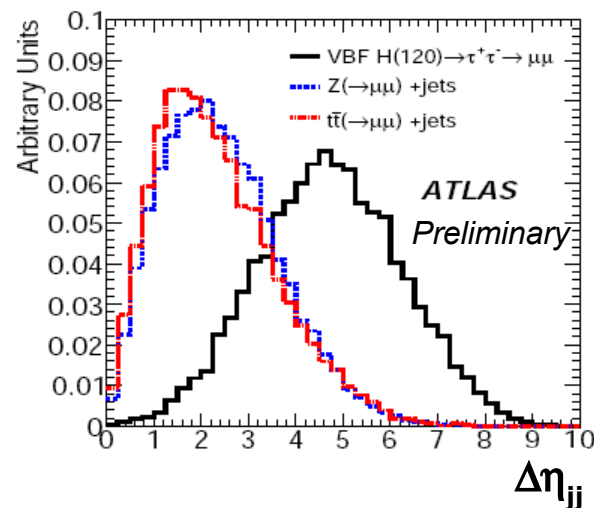
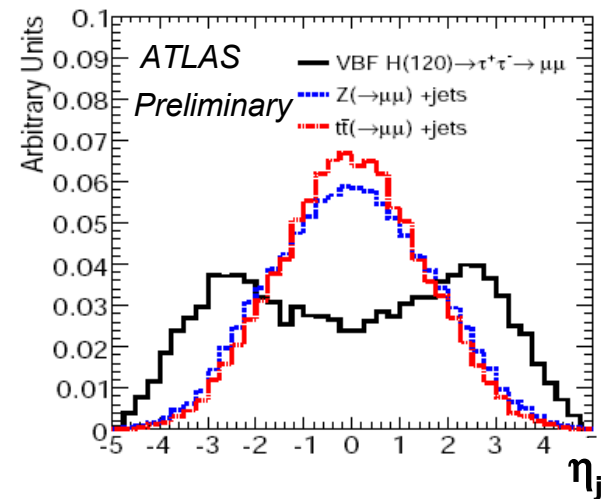
- **Tagging jets:** 2 highest  $p_T$  jets

(nearly 100% of the time correctly matches the quark-initiated tagging jets from the hard process)

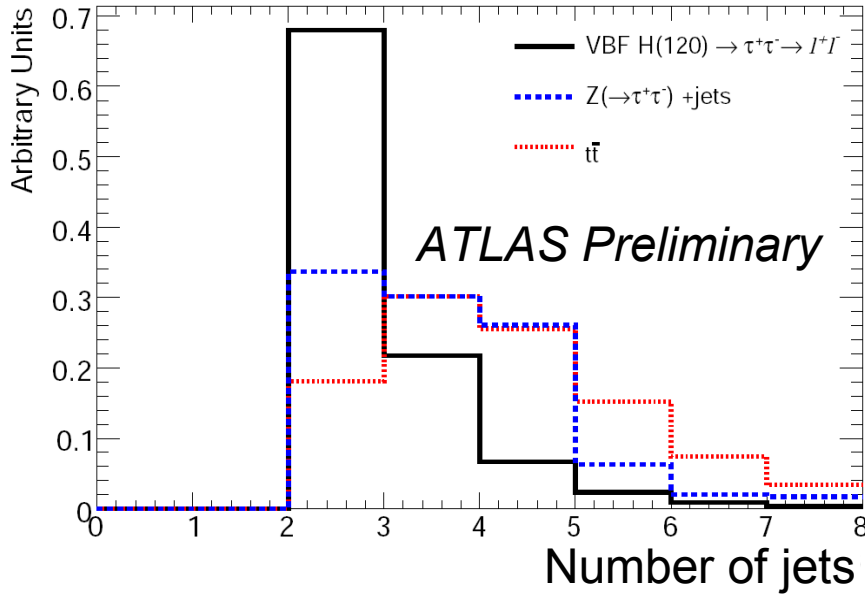
- **Reconstruction efficiency** for 2 tagging jets (VBF selection)  $\sim 95\%$

- **Cuts:**  $p_T > 40$  GeV and second jet  $p_T > 20$  GeV

$$\eta_j \times \eta_{jj} \leq 0, \Delta\eta_{jj} > 4.4, M_{jj} > 700 \text{ GeV}$$



# Central Jet Veto

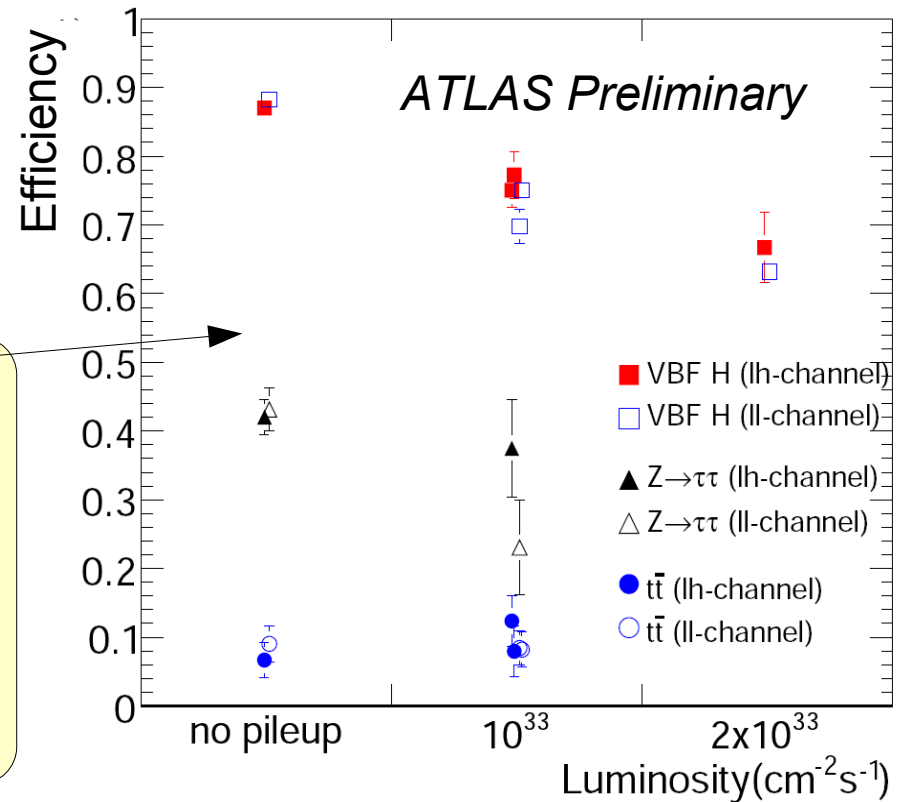


## Central Jet Veto:

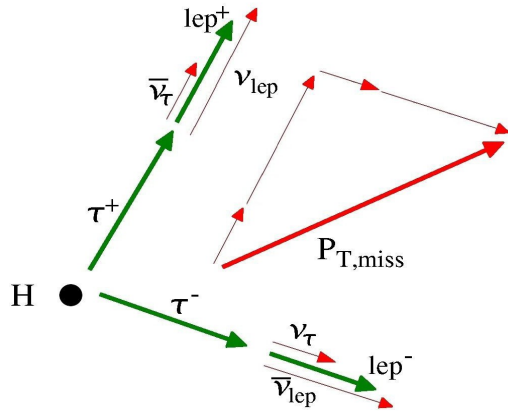
- No extra jet with  $p_{T>20}$  GeV within  $|\eta| < 3.2$

## Pileup?

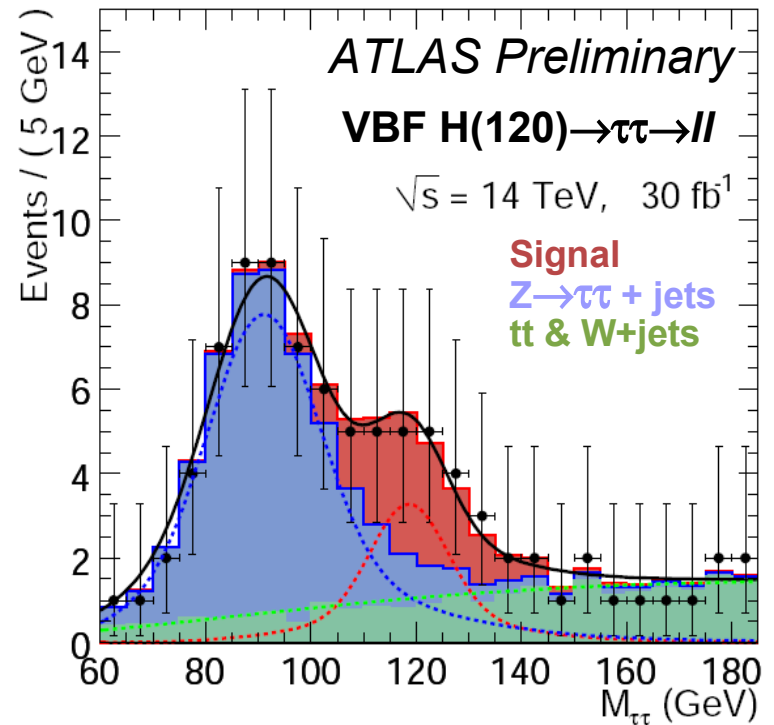
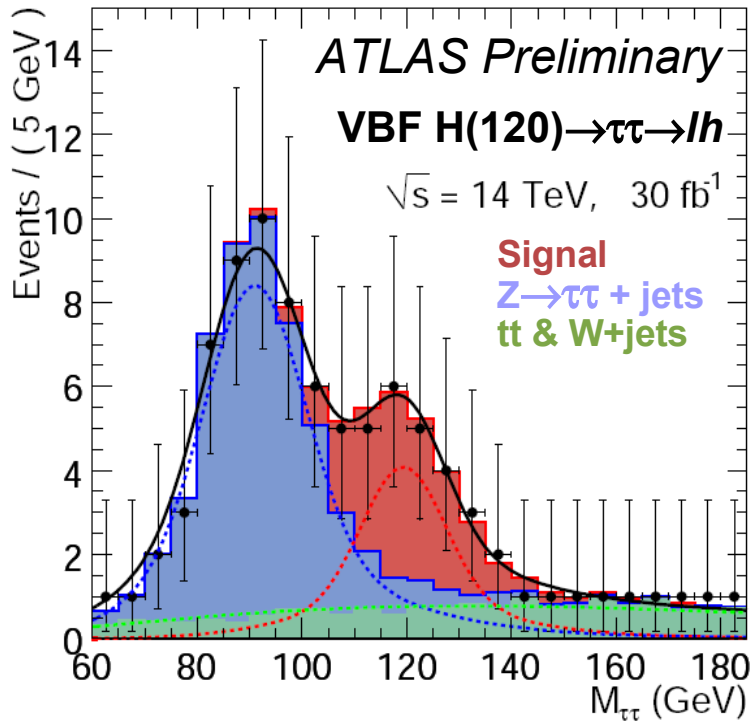
- Studies in progress to suppress these effects using:
  - vertexing information
  - timing information in the calorimeter



# Mass Reconstruction



- Use collinear approximation:
  - assume that the decay products of the  $\tau$  are collinear with the  $\tau$  in the laboratory frame
- Resolution limited by the missing transverse energy resolution



# Estimating Backgrounds from Real Data

## Data-driven Background Estimation

$Z \rightarrow \mu\mu + \text{jets}$  has identical jet activity as  $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau + \text{jets}$

→ Procedure:

⇒ select  $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu + \text{jets}$  events

⇒ replace the  $\mu$ 's by the  $\tau$ 's

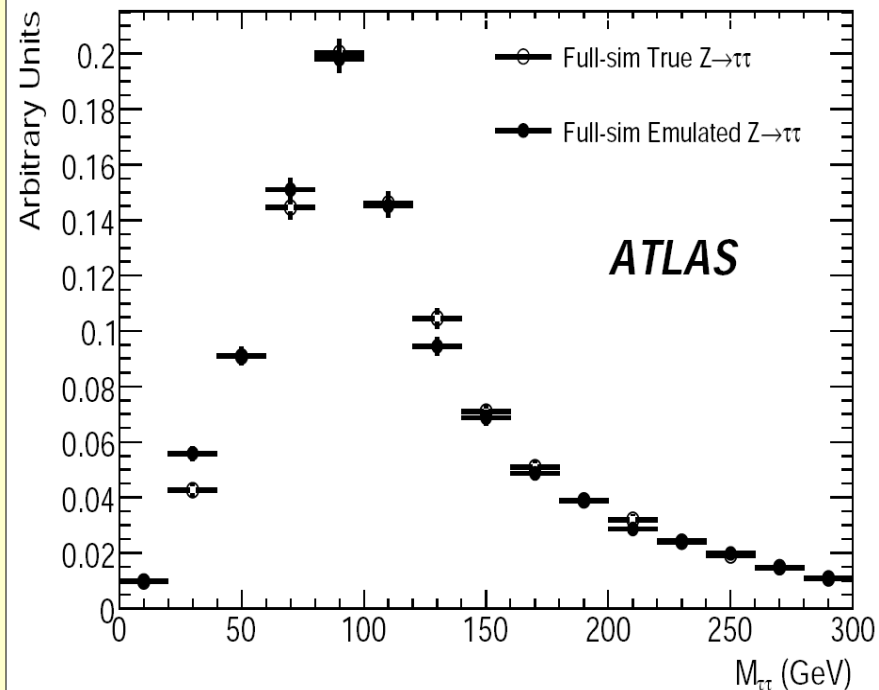
⇒ carefully treat the decay of the  $\tau$

→ Full event selection is then applied to the

emulated  $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau + \text{jets}$  control sample

→ Expected uncertainty  $\sim 10\%$

→ Normalization can be directly obtained from data



# Signal Significance

- Extracted from  $M_{\tau\tau}$  spectrum
- Simultaneous fit the signal candidates and the background control samples
  - constrain the shape and normalization of the background from the data-driven analysis
  - uncertainty of the background shape is directly incorporated
- The fit is performed twice:
  - 1) letting the signal and background parameters to float
  - 2) constrain signal normalization to be zero, floating background parameters
- Define the **profile likelihood ratio**  $\lambda$

$$\lambda(\mu = 0) = \frac{L(\text{data}|\mu = 0, \hat{b}(\mu = 0), \hat{v}(\mu = 0))}{L(\text{data}|\hat{\mu}, \hat{b}, \hat{v})}$$

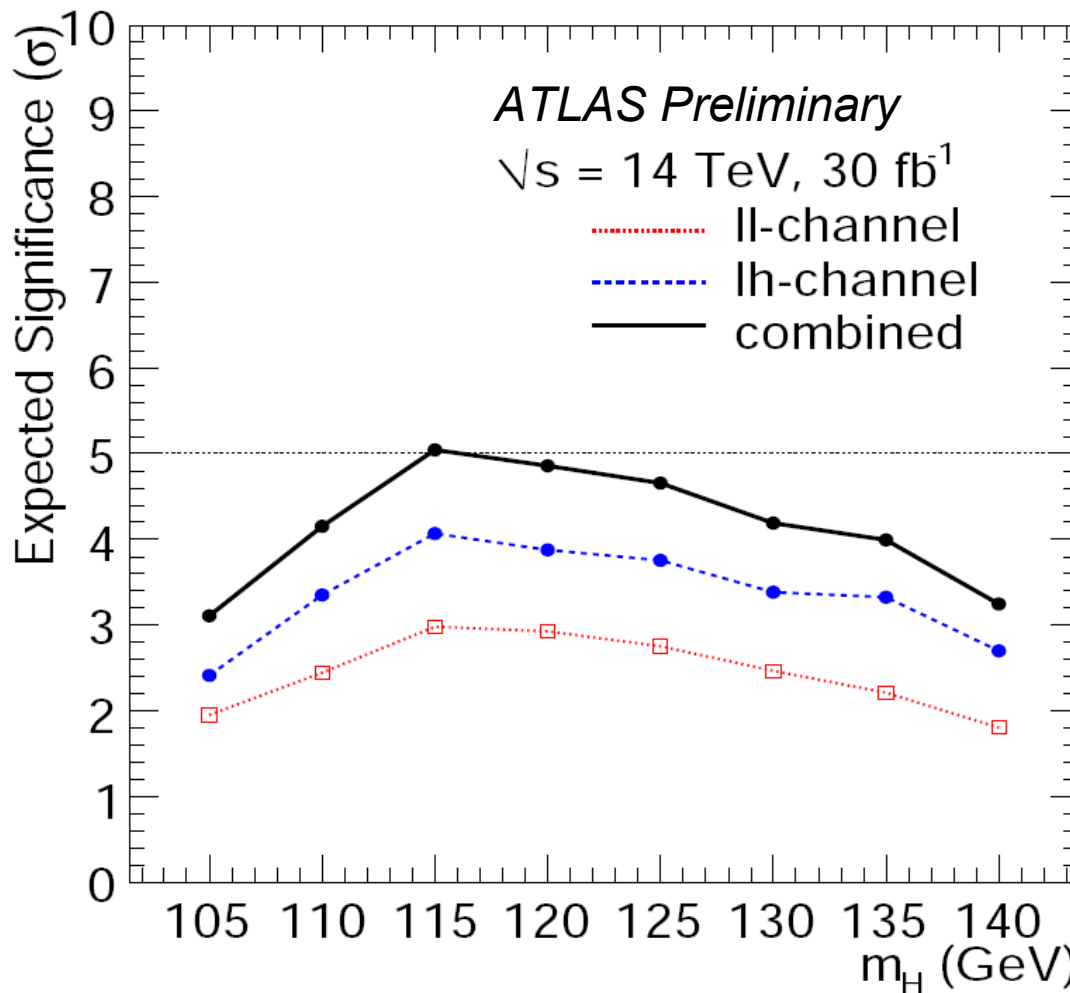
$\mu$  is the signal rate in units of SM expectation,  $b$  is the rate and  $v$  is the shape parameters

$\hat{v}$  and  $\hat{b}$  are best fit with  $\mu$  fixed to 0;  $\hat{v}$  and  $\hat{b}$  are best fit with  $\mu$  left floating

- Wilk's theorem states that under certain conditions the distribution of the profile likelihood ratio has an asymptotic form  $-2 \log \lambda(\mu = 0) \sim \chi_1^2$
- Thus, significance =  $\sqrt{-2 \log \lambda(\mu = 0)}$

Ann. Math. Statist. 9 (1938) 60-2  
NIM A 551 (2005) 493

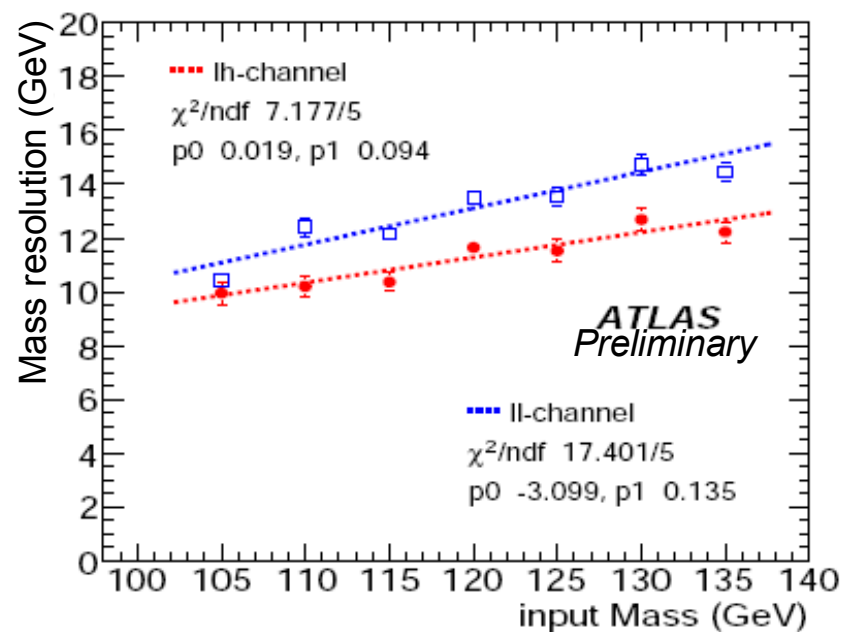
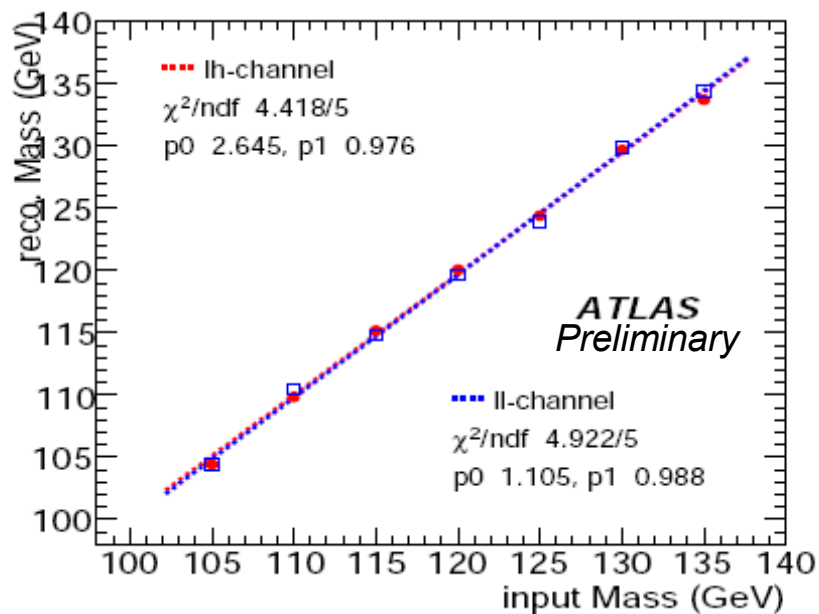
# Expected Signal Significance ( $30\text{fb}^{-1}$ )



NB: no pileup included in the signal significance estimation

# Expected Mass Resolution

- Limited by the missing transverse energy resolution  $\sim 10$  GeV
- 2000 pseudo-experiments per input mass point



# Systematic Errors

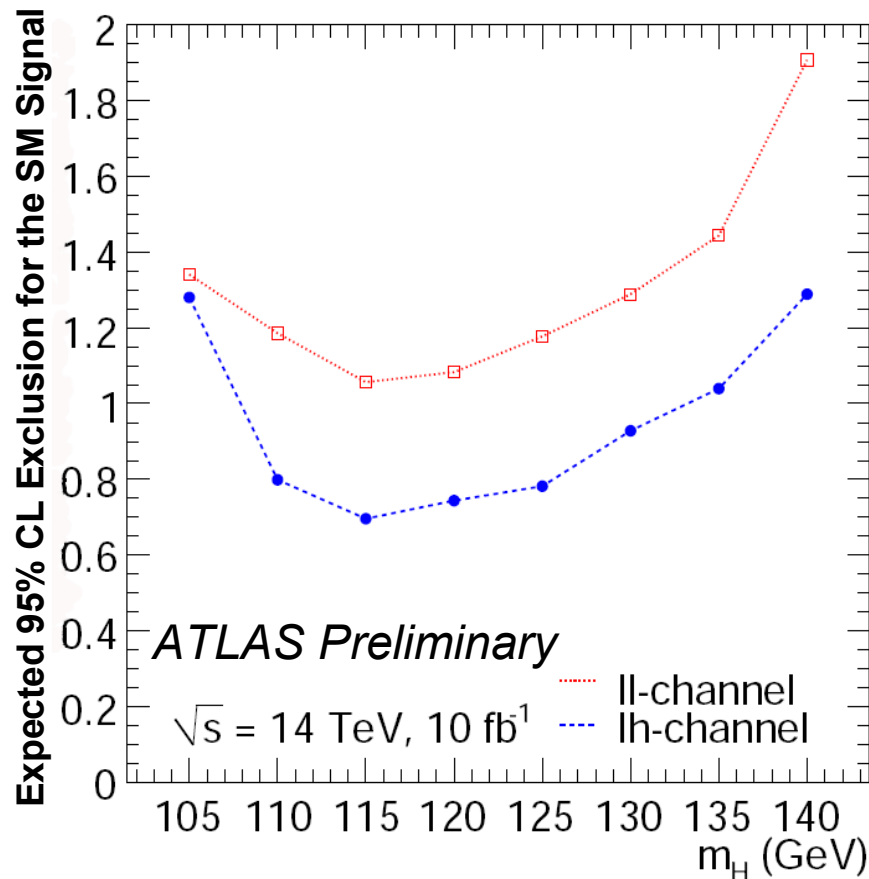
Source	Relative uncertainty	Effect on signal efficiency
luminosity	$\pm 3\%$	$\pm 3\%$
tau energy scale	$\pm 5\%$	$\pm 4.9\%$
tau ID efficiency	$\pm 5\%$	$\pm 5\%$
jet energy scale	$\pm 7\%$ ( $ \eta  < 3.2$ ) $\pm 15\%$ ( $ \eta  > 3.2$ ) $\pm 5\%$ (on $E_{\text{miss}}$ )	+16% / -20%
...	...	...
<b>total summed in quadrature</b>	-	$\pm 20\%$

**Jet energy/ $E_{\text{miss}}$  scale is the dominant source of systematics**



# What if there is no signal?

## Expected Exclusion Limits ( $10 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )



NB: no pileup included in the signal significance estimation

# Conclusions

## VBF $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$ :

- Important discovery channel for SM Higgs with  $105 \text{ GeV} < M_H < 140 \text{ GeV}$
- Rich experimental signature

## For $30 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ expect:

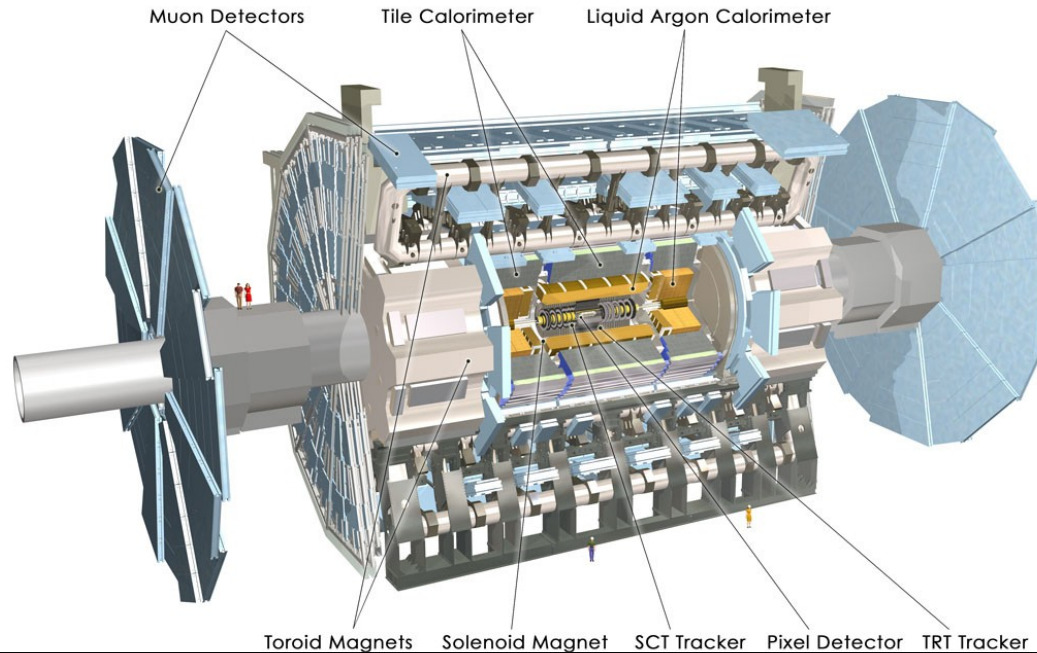
- $\sim 3 - 5 \sigma$  evidence for light SM Higgs
- Powerful exclusion limits

## Outlook:

- Include and limit the effect of pileup
- Continue to improve/optimize the analysis
- Use information from real data as soon as available

# Backup slides

# ATLAS



- **Particle identification:**

muons ( $|\eta| < 2.5$ ):

Efficiency  $\sim 97\%$

Jet Rejection  $\sim 10^4$

electrons ( $|\eta| < 2.5$ ):

Efficiency  $\sim 80\%$

Jet Rejection  $\sim 10^3$

hadronic tau ( $|\eta| < 2.5$ ):

Efficiency  $\sim 50\%$

Jet Rejection  $\sim 10^2$

b-Jet ID:

Efficiency  $\sim 60\%$

light-quark Jet Rejection  $\sim 10^2$

- **Missing transverse energy**

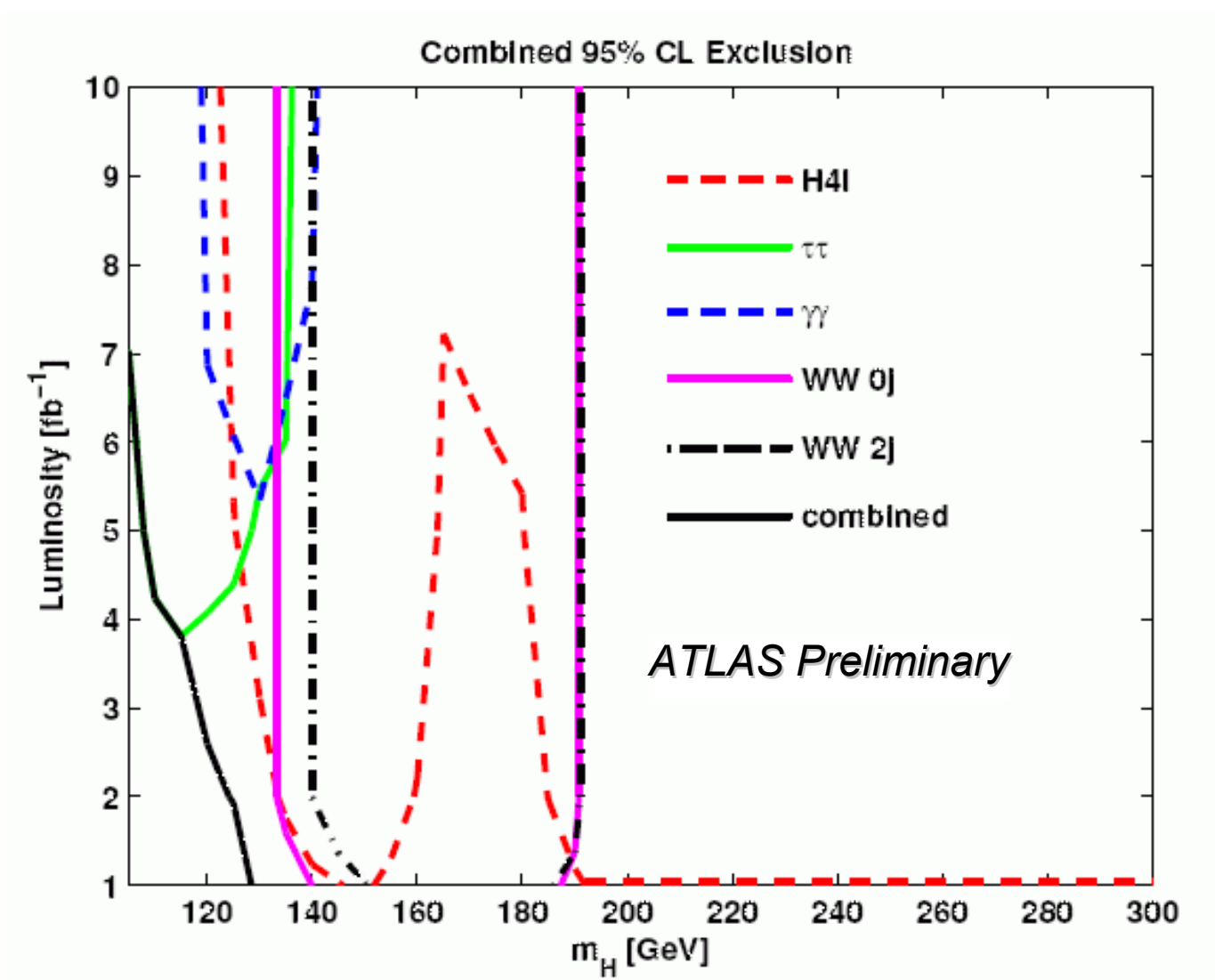
hermetic calorimeter

$$\sigma_{\text{E}_{\text{miss}}} \sim 0.55 (\sum E_T)^{0.5}$$

- **Jets ( $|\eta| < 4.9$ )**

reconstruction efficiency  $\sim 95\%$

# Expected Combined 95% CL Exclusion



# Influence of pileup

*ATLAS Preliminary*

- $e/\mu$  quite robust against pile-up
- jet and  $E_{\text{miss}}$  performance are affected by pileup
- hadronic  $\tau$ : efficiency can be maintained with pile-up  
but jet rejection drop  $\sim 50\%$
- mass resolution is degraded from  $\sim 9.5$  to  $\sim 11.5$  GeV for  $M_H = 120$  GeV
- central jet veto drops from  $\sim 88\%$  to  $75\%$  at  $10^{33}\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$  and  $\sim 65\%$  at  $2 \times 10^{33}\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
- Reconstruction and analysis are being re-optimized with pileup. No signal significance is reported under this condition.

# Central Jet Veto

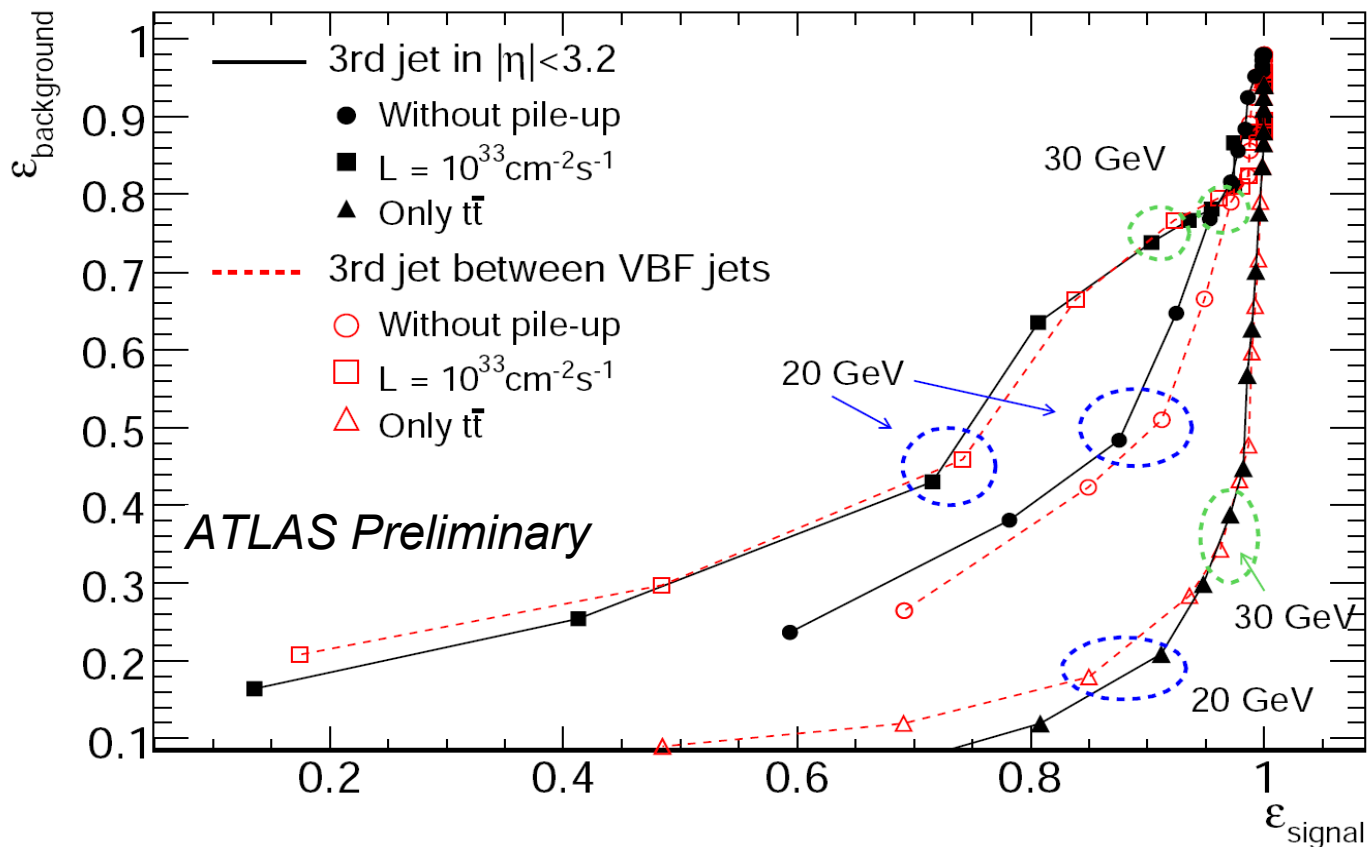


Figure 6: Background rejection versus signal sensitivity for the central jet veto with and without pileup. Also shown is the case for  $t\bar{t}$ -only background.

# Cutflow VBF $H \rightarrow \tau\tau \rightarrow lh$

*ATLAS Preliminary*

Table 5: Signal cross-sections for the  $lh$ -channel for various Higgs boson masses.

Mass (GeV)	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140
Cross section (fb)	394.7	372.0	341.8	309.1	266.8	225.4	180.1	135.8
Trigger	65.6(3)	65.1(2)	61.1(2)	57.2(1)	51.5(2)	44.7(1)	36.5(1)	28.3(1)
Trigger lepton	56.4(3)	56.2(2)	53.2(2)	49.5(1)	44.7(2)	38.9(1)	31.8(1)	24.7(1)
Di-lepton veto	50.0(3)	49.6(2)	46.7(2)	43.4(1)	38.9(2)	34.0(1)	27.6(1)	21.3(1)
Hadronic $\tau$	7.7(1)	8.1(1)	8.1(1)	8.02(7)	7.4(1)	6.68(8)	5.72(7)	4.53(9)
Missing $E_T \geq 30$ GeV	4.8(1)	5.1(1)	5.08(9)	4.96(5)	4.63(8)	4.16(7)	3.51(6)	2.82(8)
Collinear Approx.	3.19(9)	3.50(8)	3.51(8)	3.34(5)	3.14(7)	2.77(6)	2.37(5)	1.91(6)
Transverse mass	2.53(8)	2.70(7)	2.67(7)	2.46(4)	2.26(6)	1.98(5)	1.64(4)	1.29(5)
N jets $\geq 2$	2.12(7)	2.22(7)	2.21(6)	2.02(4)	1.80(5)	1.60(4)	1.32(4)	1.00(5)
Forward jet	1.61(7)	1.66(6)	1.73(5)	1.52(3)	1.41(5)	1.20(4)	1.03(3)	0.78(4)
Jet kinematics	0.88(5)	0.86(4)	0.92(4)	0.82(2)	0.73(3)	0.65(3)	0.56(2)	0.42(3)
Central jet veto	0.77(5)	0.77(4)	0.81(4)	0.72(2)	0.63(3)	0.55(2)	0.50(2)	0.38(3)
Mass window	0.68(4)	0.68(4)	0.70(3)	0.61(2)	0.52(3)	0.44(2)	0.40(2)	0.30(3)



# Cutflow VBF $H \rightarrow \tau\tau \rightarrow //$

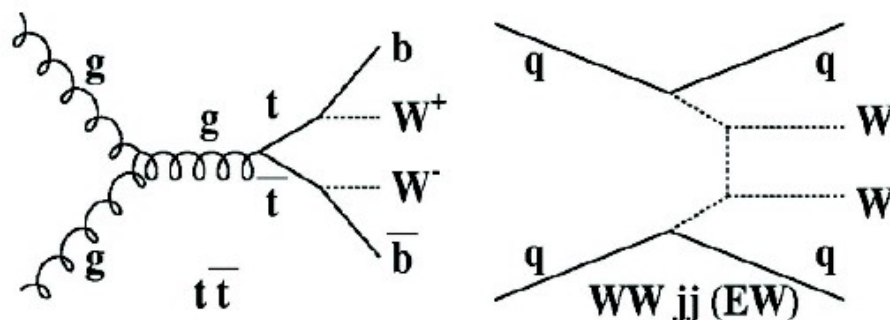
*ATLAS Preliminary*

Table 4: Signal cross-section for the  $//$ -channel for various Higgs boson masses.

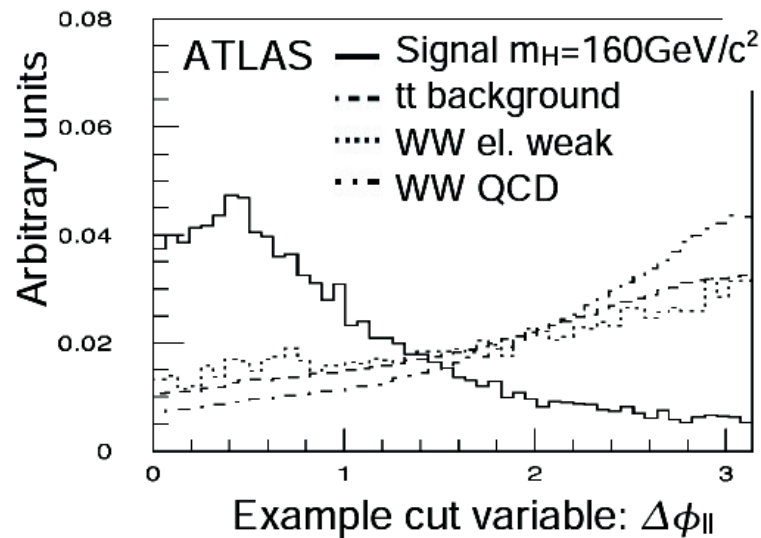
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Trigger lepton	56.4(3)	56.2(2)	53.2(2)	49.5(1)	44.7(2)	38.9(1)	31.8(1)	24.7(1)
Di-lepton	5.73(7)	5.86(6)	5.80(6)	5.46(3)	4.94(5)	4.30(4)	3.61(4)	2.88(4)
Missing $E_T \geq 40$ GeV	3.41(5)	3.49(5)	3.45(5)	3.17(3)	2.94(4)	2.56(4)	2.17(3)	1.78(4)
Collinear Approx.	2.34(5)	2.38(4)	2.33(4)	2.15(2)	1.95(4)	1.69(3)	1.46(2)	1.16(3)
N jets $\geq 2$	1.96(4)	1.97(4)	1.95(4)	1.77(2)	1.61(3)	1.41(3)	1.20(2)	0.95(3)
Forward jet	1.48(4)	1.49(4)	1.48(3)	1.34(2)	1.21(3)	1.08(3)	0.91(2)	0.73(3)
B-jet veto	1.26(3)	1.30(3)	1.25(3)	1.16(2)	1.04(3)	0.94(2)	0.77(2)	0.64(2)
Jet kinematics	0.70(3)	0.69(2)	0.70(2)	0.63(1)	0.58(2)	0.52(2)	0.43(1)	0.37(2)
Central jet veto	0.61(2)	0.60(2)	0.62(2)	0.56(1)	0.50(2)	0.45(2)	0.38(1)	0.32(2)
Mass window	0.52(2)	0.50(2)	0.51(2)	0.45(1)	0.39(2)	0.34(1)	0.29(1)	0.23(1)

# VBF $H \rightarrow WW$

- Many and large background processes
  - ( $tt$  + jets,  $W$  + jets,  $Z$  + jets,  $WW$  + jets,  $ZZ$  + jets, ...)
- Clean access to Higgs- $W$ - $W$ -coupling



Example of background processes



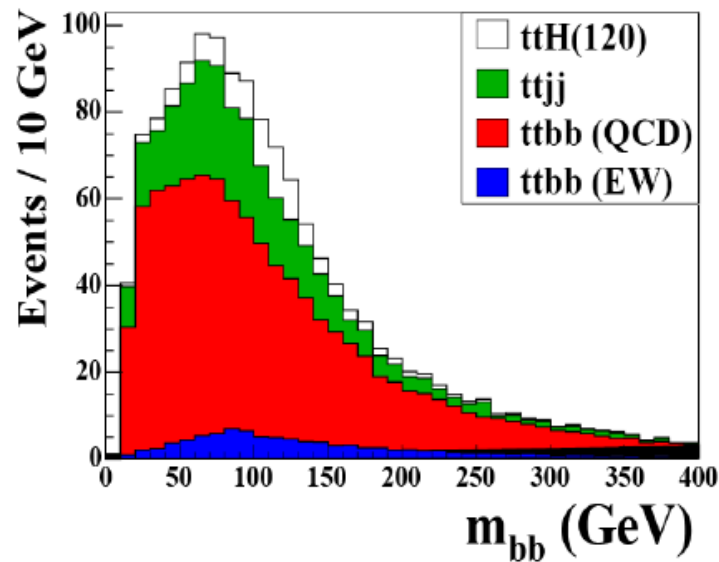
# $tt H \rightarrow bb$

A very complex final state

- Dominant background:  $tt + \text{jets}$  production

Experimental issues:

- b-tagging (efficiency  $\sim \epsilon^4$ )
- Good understanding of background shape



J. Cammin and M. Schumacher,  
ATL-PHYS-2003-024

# SM Higgs production at LHC

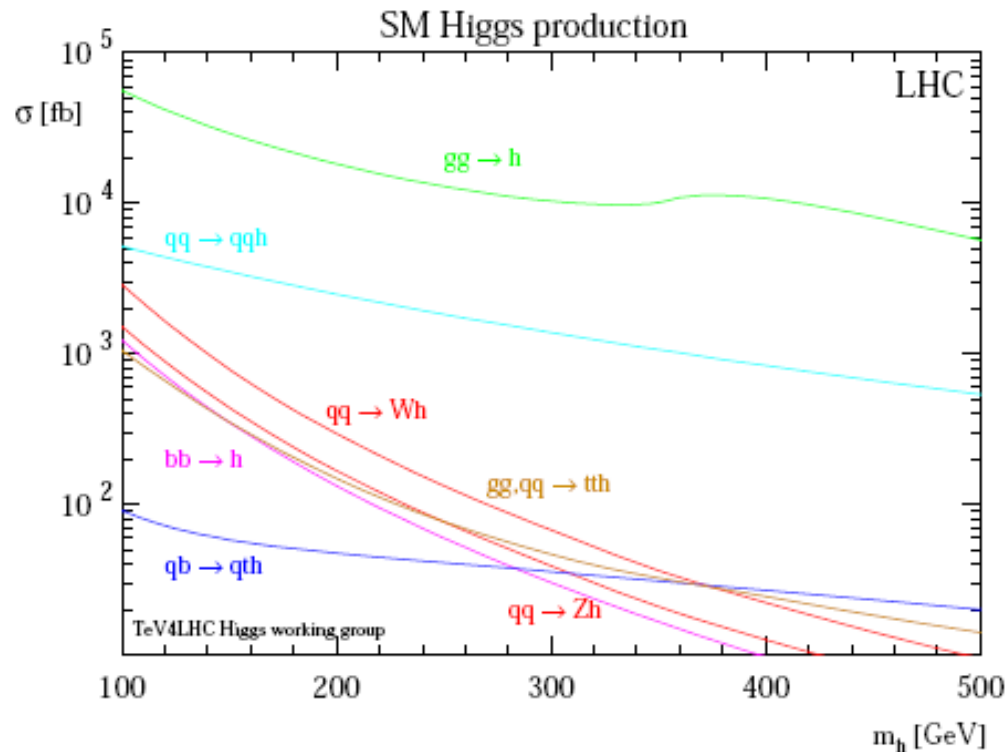


Fig. 1: Total cross sections for Higgs production at the LHC. The gluon fusion result is NNLO QCD with soft gluon resummation effects included at NNLL and uses MRST2002 PDFs with renormalization/factorization scales equal to  $m_h$ . The vector boson fusion curve is shown at NLO QCD with CTEQ6M PDFs and renormalization/factorization scales equal to  $m_h$ . The  $Vh$  results ( $V = W, Z$ ) include NNLO QCD corrections and NLO EW corrections and use MRST2002 PDFs with the renormalization /factorization scales equal to the  $m_h - M_V$  invariant mass. The  $b\bar{b} \rightarrow h$  result is NNLO QCD, with MRST2002 PDFs, renormalization scale equal to  $m_h$  and factorization scale equal to  $m_h/4$ . The results for  $t\bar{t}h$  production are NLO QCD, use CTEQ6M PDFs and set the renormalization/factorization scale to  $m_t + m_h/2$  [100].

# VBF $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$

PRELIMINARY

