



Search for exclusive and charged Higgs bosons with ATLAS at the LHC

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Ph.D Thesis Defense

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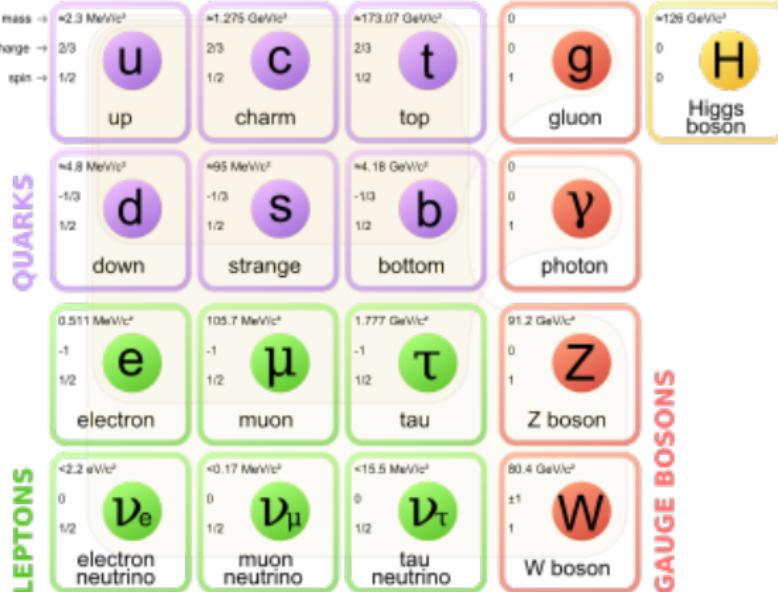
University of Texas at Arlington

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Introduction

The Standard Model (SM)

SM summarizes current understanding of matter and forces

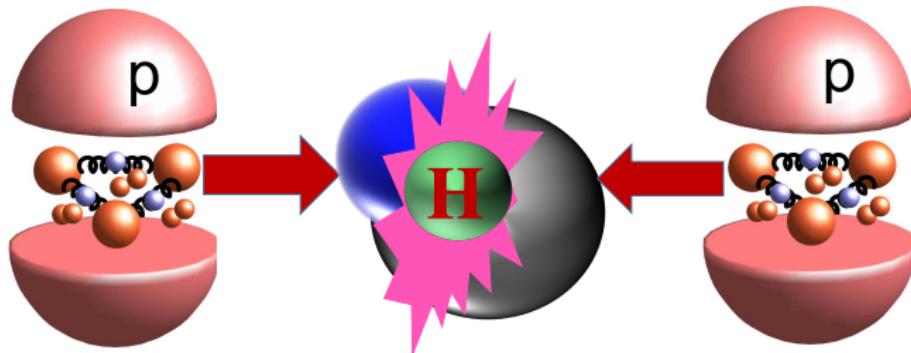


Also successful in making predictions

SM – experiments

Tested through scattering experiments – e.g proton scattering

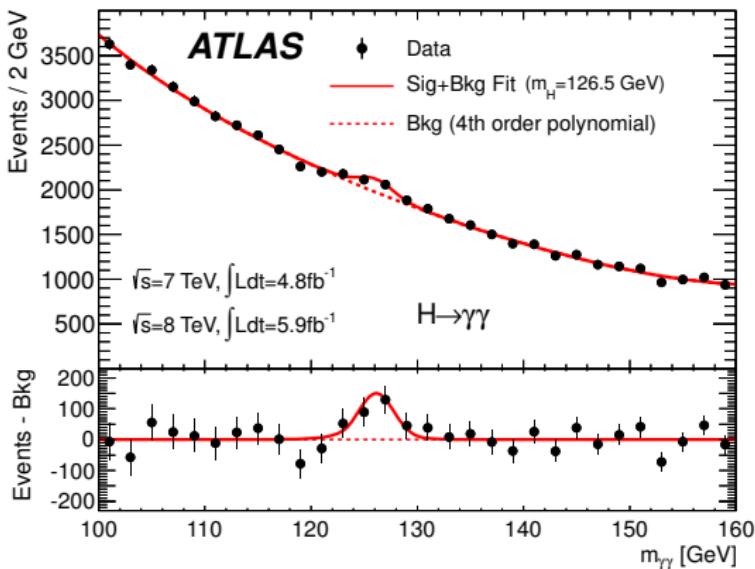
- Protons made up of quarks and gluons (partons)
 - Proton collision → parton collision
- Primary parton hard scatter expected to produce interesting physics
 - Proton remnant activity referred to as **underlying events (UE)**



- Bunches of protons collided to maximize probability of collision
- Multiple proton collisions per bunch
 - One primary and multiple **pile-up** collisions

SM Higgs boson – discovery and future prospects

Higgs boson discovered in 2012 – updated $m_H = 125.09 \pm 0.24$ GeV



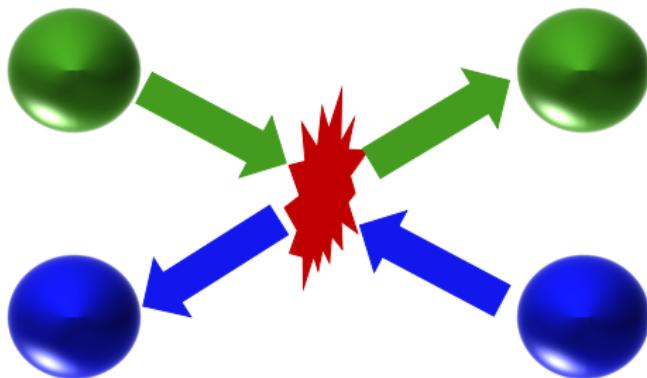
Efforts towards precision studies on its properties:

- Coupling constants, quantum numbers, invisible decays

Analysis channels with minimal backgrounds necessary

Exclusive Production – Candidate for precision studies

Exclusive processes have very little background contamination



- Scattering protons effectively do not exchange quantum numbers
- Only share momentum during collision
 - Shared momentum could create the SM Higgs boson
- No underlying event → cleanliness

Thesis Project I

Search for evidence of exclusive Higgs boson

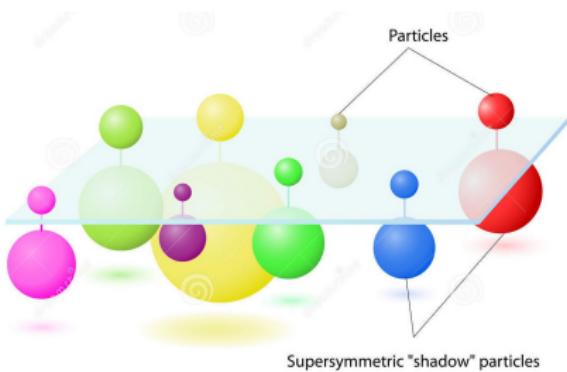
Shortfalls of the SM

“Failure is not fatal, but failure to change might be.”

– John Wooden

- Absence of gravity
- Massless neutrinos
- Dark matter candidates
- CP violation in cosmology
- **Hierarchy problem – large differences in coupling constants at low energy scales**

Hierarchy problem could be addressed by SUperSYmmetric (SUSY) theories



Minimal Supersymmetric extension to Standard Model (MSSM)

Higgs sector now comprises 5 Higgs bosons:

- light Higgs, h^0 – scalar
 - if h^0 is taken as the SM Higgs, MSSM is known as **hMSSM**
- heavy Higgs, H^0 – scalar
- neutral Higgs, A^0 – pseudo-scalar, CP-odd
- **charged Higgs**, H^\pm – scalar

Built on two Higgs doublet fields, rather than one Higgs field

- Entire parameter space of Higgs sector can be parametrized by:
 - $\tan \beta$ – ratio of vacuum expectation values of the two Higgs doublets
 - m_{H^\pm} – mass of H^\pm

Thesis Project II

Search for evidence of charged Higgs boson

The Experiment

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC)

27 km-long accelerator colliding bunches of protons



Parameter	Run I Value	Run II Value	Design Value
Beam Energy [TeV]	4	6.5	7
Bunch spacing [ns]	50	25	25
Protons per bunch	1.7×10^{11}	1.18×10^{11}	1.15×10^{11}
Average pile-up	20.7	22.9	20

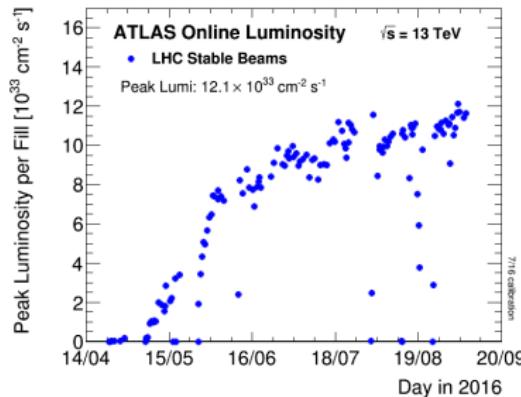
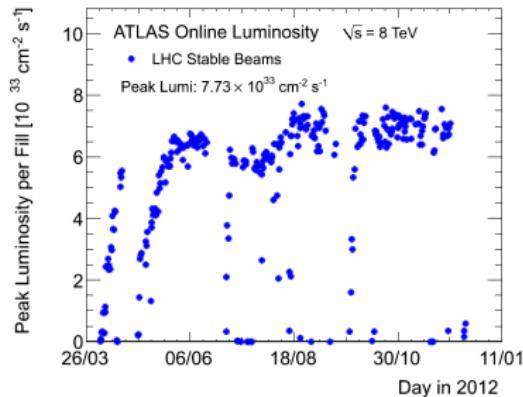
Has had 2 long runs : Run I (2011→2012) and Run II (2015→2016)

The LHC – Deliverables

Goal is to optimally produce rare processes

- Performance quantified by instantaneous luminosity,

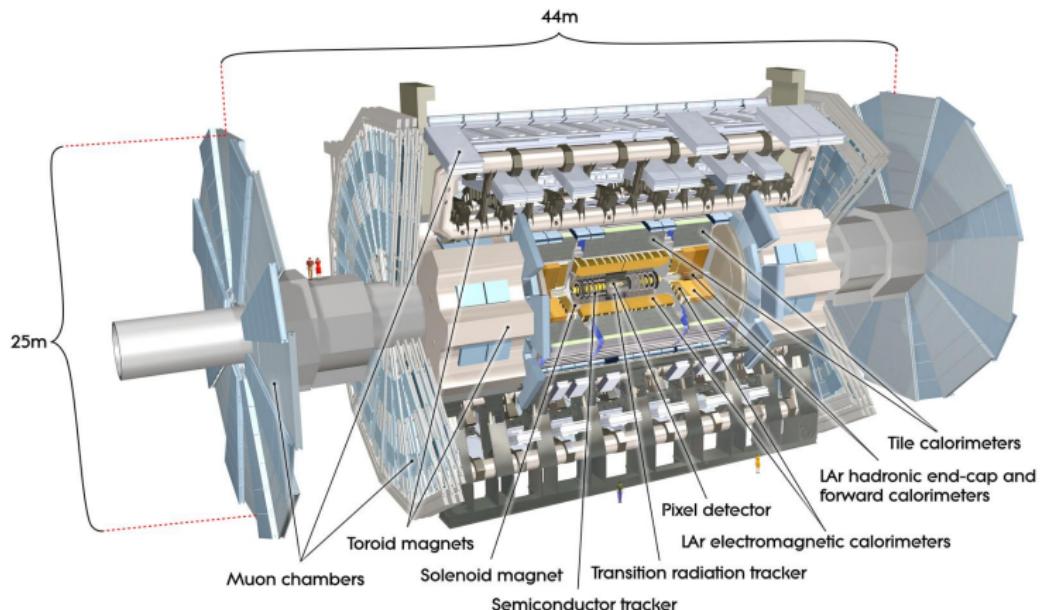
$$L = N_{\text{process}} / \sigma_{\text{process}}$$



- Integrated luminosity $\mathcal{L} = \int_0^T L dt$ over time T quoted to correspond data collected

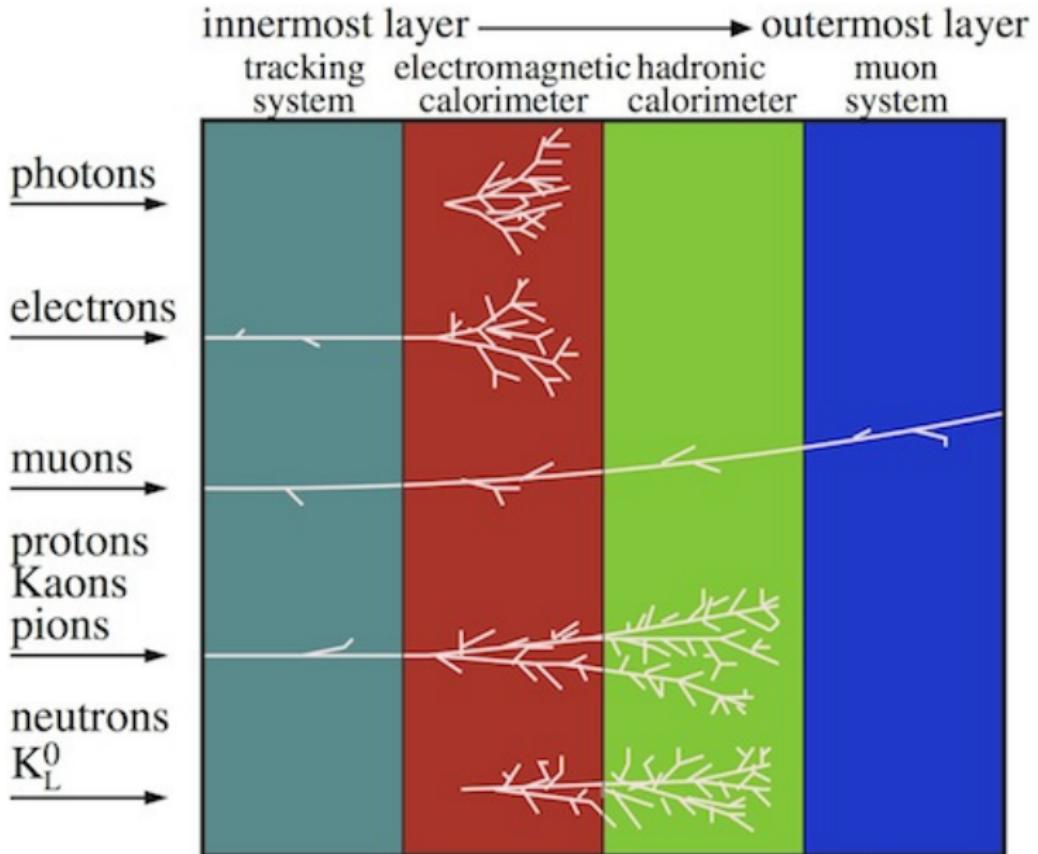
A Toroidal LHC ApparatuS (ATLAS)

Large all-purpose detector built around LHC collision point



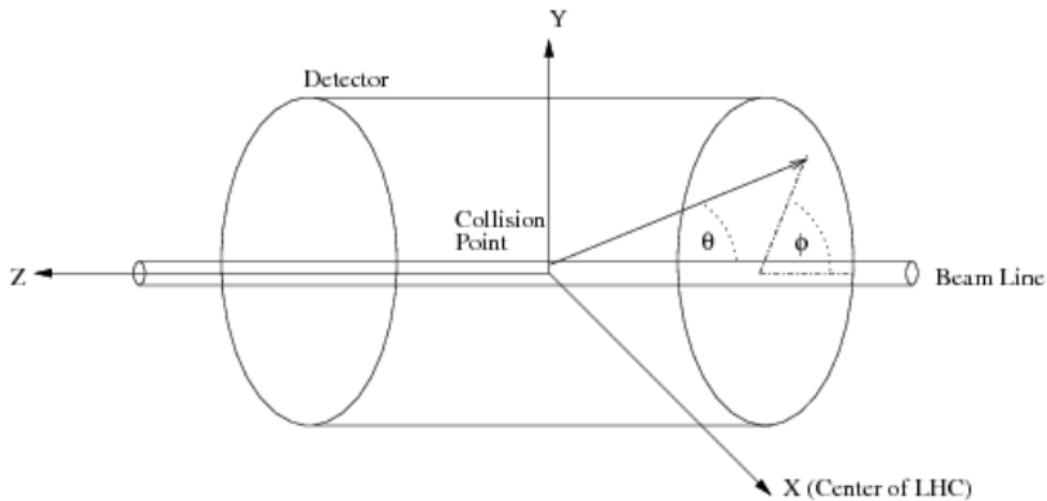
- Precision charged particle tracking
- Momentum and energy reconstruction

ATLAS – particle detection



ATLAS – coordinate system

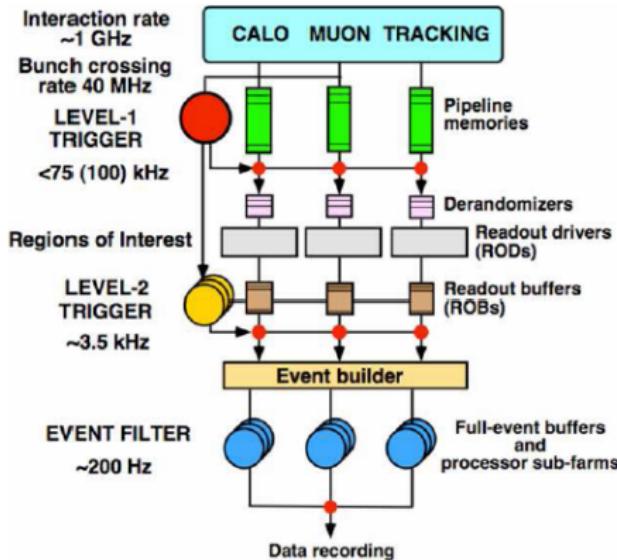
Cylindrical coordinate system



- Transverse plane $\rightarrow (r, \phi)$
- Longitudinal plane \rightarrow pseudo-rapidity $\eta = -\ln \tan(\theta/2)$
- Metric \rightarrow angular distance $\Delta R = \sqrt{(\Delta\eta)^2 + (\Delta\phi)^2}$

ATLAS – trigger system

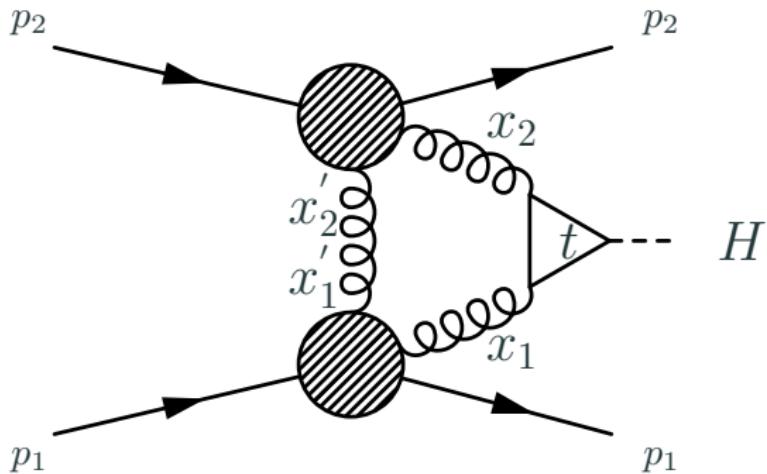
Not all data can be collected and saved to disk; available space has limits



- Bunch crossing rate reduced from $\sim 40 \text{ MHz}$ to about $\sim 200 \text{ Hz}$
- L2 and Event Filter combined into Higher Level Trigger (HLT) in Run II

Search for exclusive Higgs boson

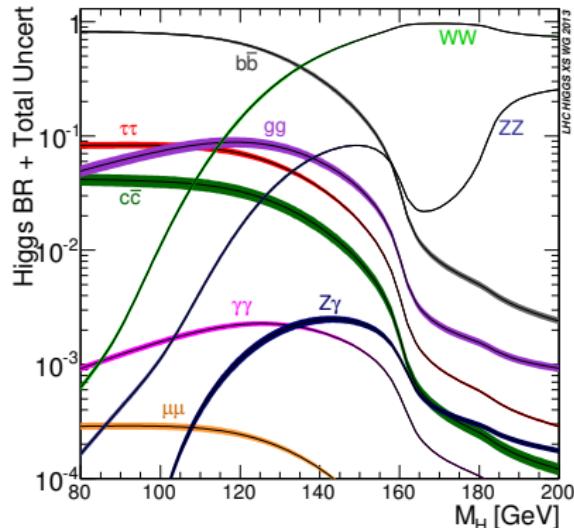
Protons remain intact after collision



- Higgs dominantly produced through standard gluon fusion
- Extra gluon exchanged maintains color in original protons
- Predicted 3 fb total production cross section at 8 TeV LHC

Decay channels

- Largest branching ratios:
 - $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$
 - $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$
- Too much QCD multi-jets bkg. in $b\bar{b}$
 - Multi-jets too complex to model correctly
- W^+W^- is the optimal choice
- W^\pm decay to leptons of different flavor, and charge



Complete decay channel : $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \ell^+\nu\ell^-\bar{\nu}$

Major background processes

Backgrounds separated into inclusive and exclusive

Inclusive Backgrounds

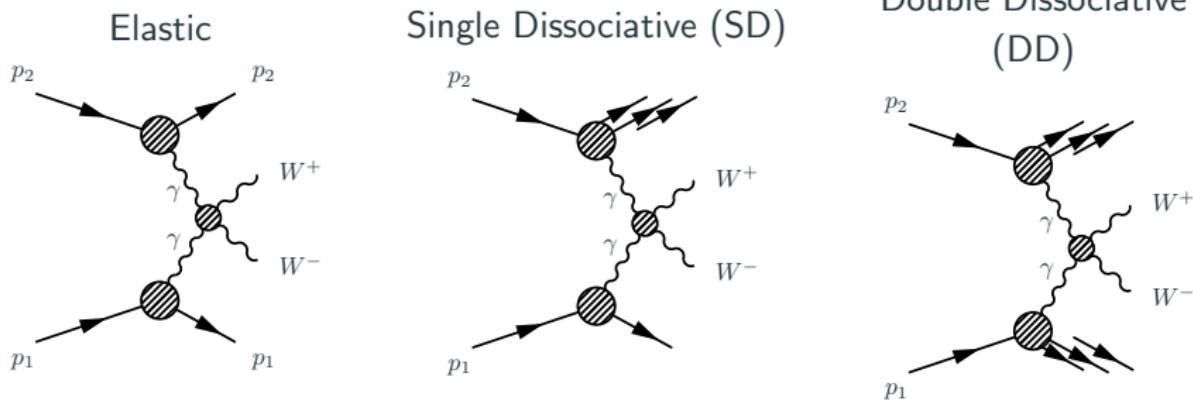
- **Inc. WW :** Non-diffractive direct production of $W^+ W^-$
- **Top:** $t\bar{t}$ and single top
- **VV:** Non-diffractive direct production of $WZ, ZZ, W\gamma, Z\gamma$
- **V+jets:** Non-diffractive direct production of $W/Z + \text{jets}$

Exclusive Backgrounds

- **Excl. WW :** Exclusive production of $W^+ W^-$
 - E.g. $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow W^+ W^-$
- **Excl. ll :** Exclusive and direct production of ll
 - E.g. $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$

Major exclusive backgrounds

Exclusive backgrounds come in many forms!



- In all cases, proton remnants outside detector fiducial space
- Excl. $/l\!/$ production identical to excl. WW
- SD and DD difficult to model with MC
 - Estimated with data-driven methods

Event Selection [Signal region (SR) definition]

$$gg \rightarrow [H] \rightarrow [W^+][W^-] \rightarrow [l][\bar{l}][E_T^{\text{miss}}]$$

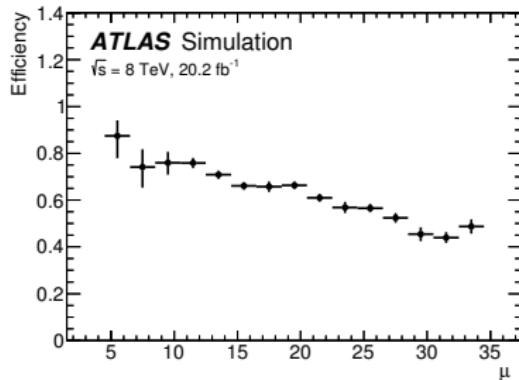
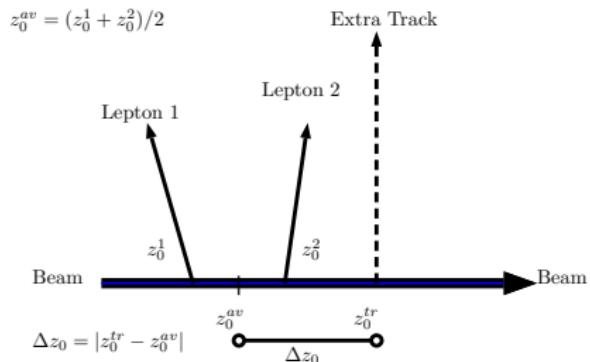
- Lower bound on lepton p_T suppresses QCD and $W + \text{jets}$
- Lower bound on $m_{e\mu}$ suppresses QCD and Drell-Yan
- Upper bound on $m_{e\mu}$ exploits Higgs spin-0
 - Same as $\Delta\phi_{e\mu}$
- $p_T^{e\mu}$, suppresses QCD multijets, $V + \text{jets}$ and

Signal Selection

1. Oppositely charged $e\mu$
2. $p_T^{\ell 1} > 25, p_T^{\ell 2} > 15$ GeV
3. $10 < m_{e\mu} < 55$ GeV
4. $p_T^{e\mu} > 30$ GeV
5. $\Delta\phi_{e\mu} < 1.8$
6. $m_T < 140$ GeV
7. Exclusivity selection, Δz_0^{iso}

Exclusivity Selection, Δz_0^{iso}

Exploit large gaps btwn protons and dilepton system
Expect no tracks in the large gaps



- For inclusive processes, expect extra tracks
 - Extra tracks from underlying event
- Optimal $\Delta z_0^{\text{iso}} = 1 \text{ mm}$, $\epsilon = 58 \pm 6\%$, rejection = $\mathcal{O}(10^3)$

Δz_0^{iso} , validation

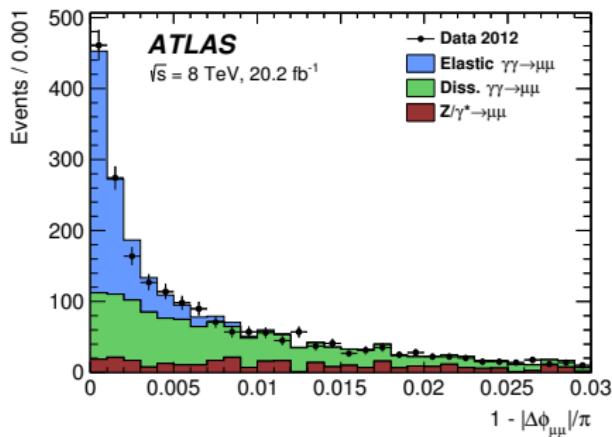
MC known to overestimate elastic $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow X$ (arxiv 1410.2983)

- **Strategy** : Derive scale factor f_{EL} from $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ data
 - f_{EL} is ratio of observed elastic $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ to MC prediction

$\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ Selection

1. 2 μ with $p_T^\mu > 20$ GeV
2. $45 < m_{\mu\mu} < 75$ GeV or $m_{\mu\mu} > 105$ GeV
3. $p_T^{\mu\mu} < 3$ GeV and $\Delta z_0^{\text{iso}} = 1.0$ mm

Drell-Yan only significant bkg



- Vary $p_T^{\mu\mu}$ and Δz_0^{iso} to evaluate systematic uncertainties

$$f_{\text{EL}} = 0.76 \pm 0.04(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.10(\text{sys.})$$

Previous measurements cover between 0.73 and 0.75

Δz_0^{iso} , Pileup robustness

Effect of pile-up on exclusivity selection must be quantified

- **Strategy :** Evaluate $f = \text{Data}/(\text{Elastic}+\text{SD}+\text{DD})$ in two data regions
 - Nominal exclusivity vs. pile-up prone exclusivity

Nominal [$f = 0.73$]

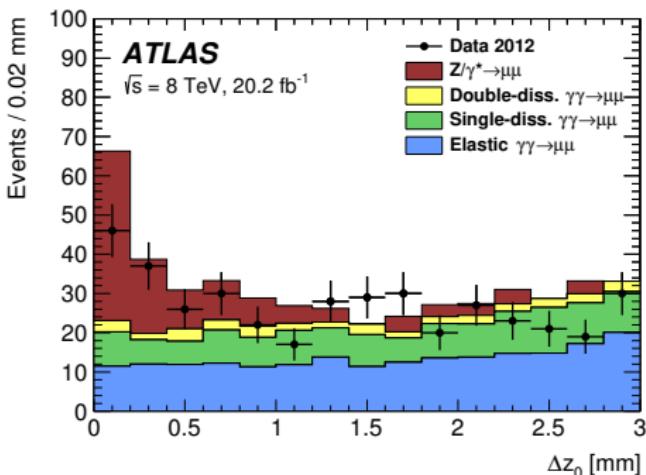
Excl. $\mu\mu$ sel. except :

1. acoplanarity < 0.0015
2. $\Delta z_0^{\text{iso}} = 1.0 \text{ mm}$

Pileup-prone [$f = 0.70$]

Similar to Nominal except :

1. 1 extra track with
 $\Delta z_0^{\text{iso}} = 3.0 \text{ mm}$



- 2 scale factors compatible at 10% \Rightarrow syst. error due to pile-up is 10%

Track Multiplicity in MC

Underlying event may not be modelled correctly in simulation

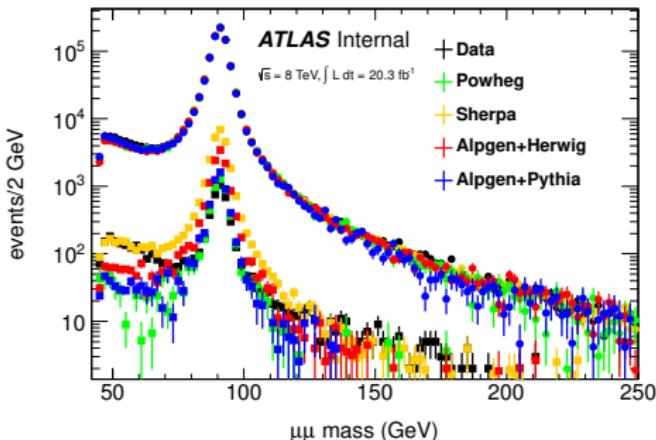
- Strategy : Extract scale factors ($\epsilon_{\text{Data}}/\epsilon_{\text{MC}}$) from Drell-Yan data

Selection

$\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ selection except :

1. $80 < m_{\mu\mu} < 100$ GeV
2. No $p_T^{\mu\mu}$ selection

Exclusivity $\Delta z_0^{\text{iso}} = 1.0$ mm



- Rejection more in $Z/\gamma \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ data than MC
- Systematics evaluated by varying MC generator across $m_{\mu\mu}$ (20%)

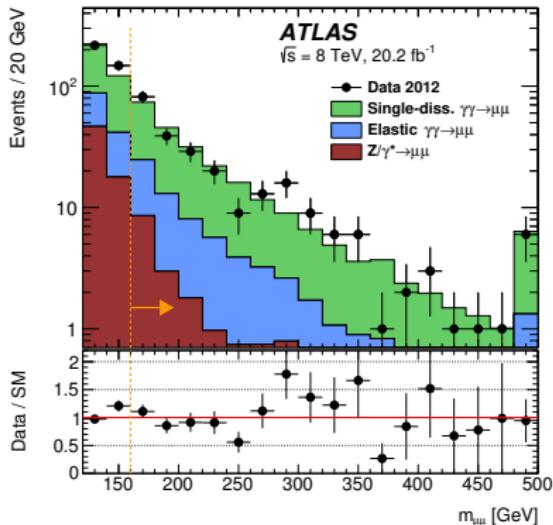
Estimation of SD and DD components

No simulation for SD and DD $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow W^+W^-$

- Strategy : Extract correction factor f_γ from excl. $\mu\mu$ data

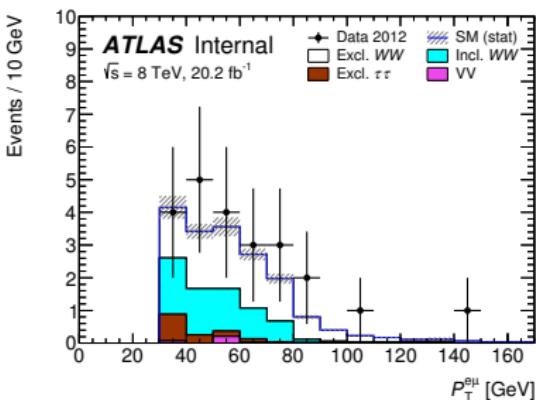
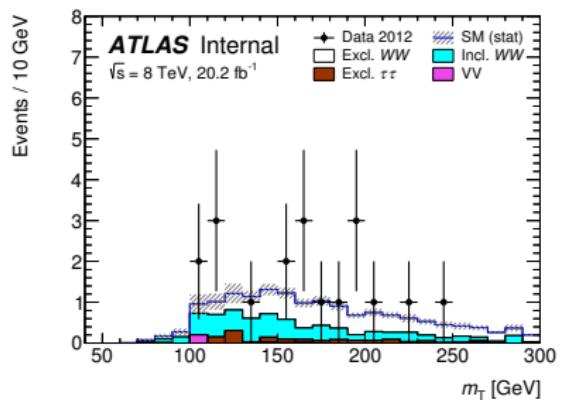
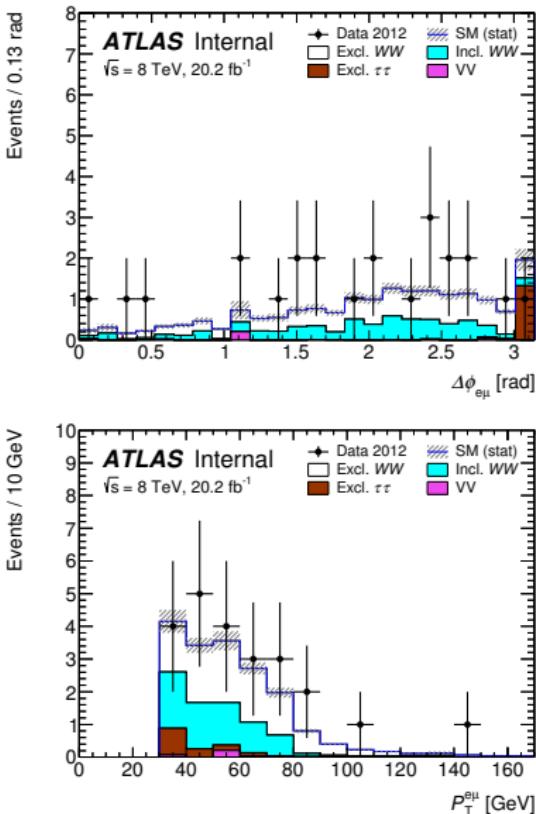
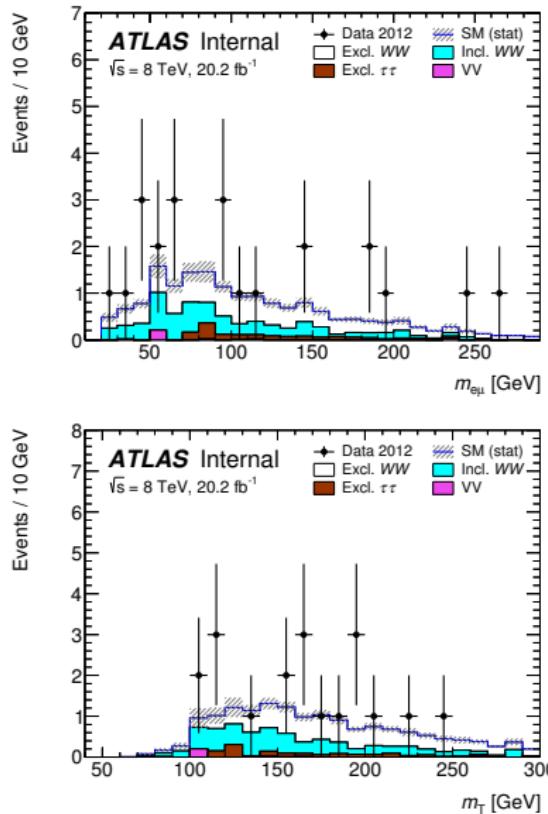
$$f_\gamma = \frac{N_{\text{Data}} - N_{\text{Background}}^{\text{POWHEG}}}{N_{\text{Elastic}}^{\text{HERWIG++}}} = 3.30$$

- Excl. // similar to excl. WW

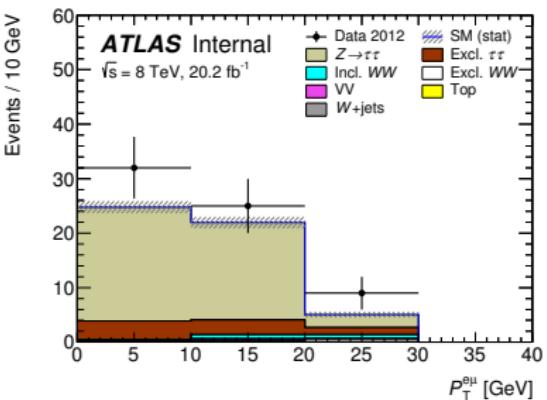
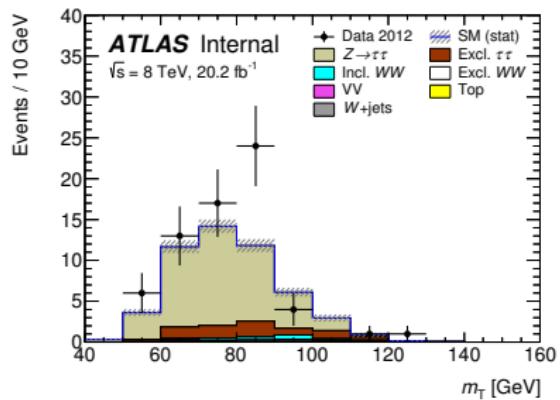
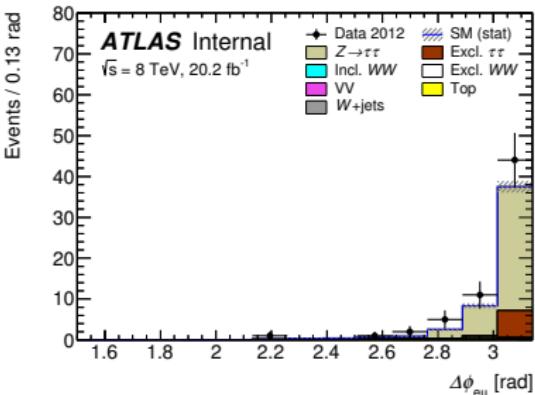
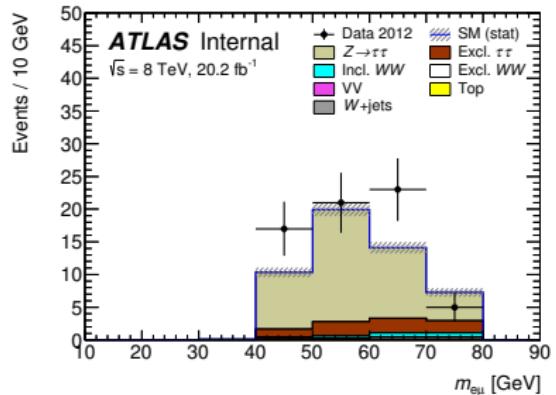


- Systematic uncertainty obtained by varying Drell-Yan by $\pm 20\%$
- Uncertainties mostly statistical, total being 7%

Validation regions – Excl. $W^+ W^-$



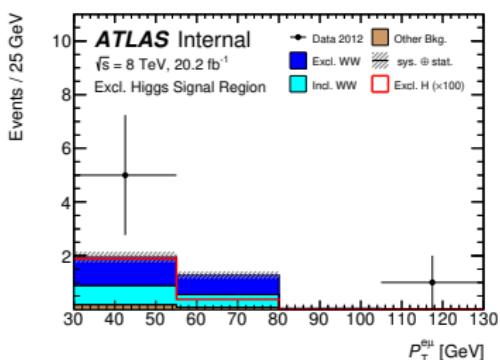
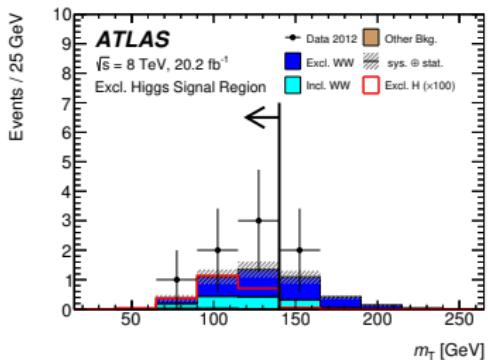
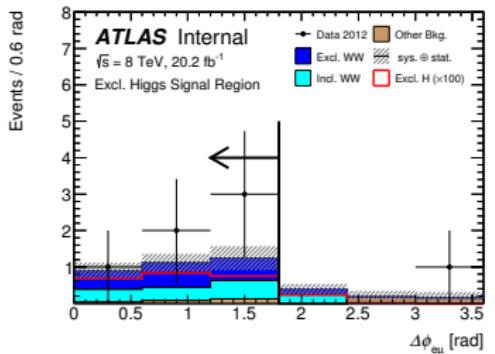
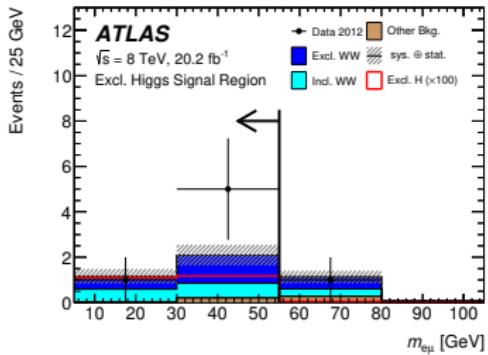
Validation regions – Incl. $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$



Results – Observed Event Yields

Excl. Higgs event yields

Data : 6 , Bkg : 3.0 ± 0.8 , Signal : 0.023 ± 0.003



Results statistical interpretation – Observed Limits

- Null hypothesis: 6 events are compatible with the predicted 3 events
 - p-value of 0.13 – cannot reject null hypothesis
- Using interval estimation, limits can be set on σ_H
- Observed limit use real data
- Expected limit approximate data with expected sum of backgrounds

Upper Lim. σ_H (125 GeV) [pb] @ 95% CL

Observed : 1.2 pb , Expected : 0.7 pb

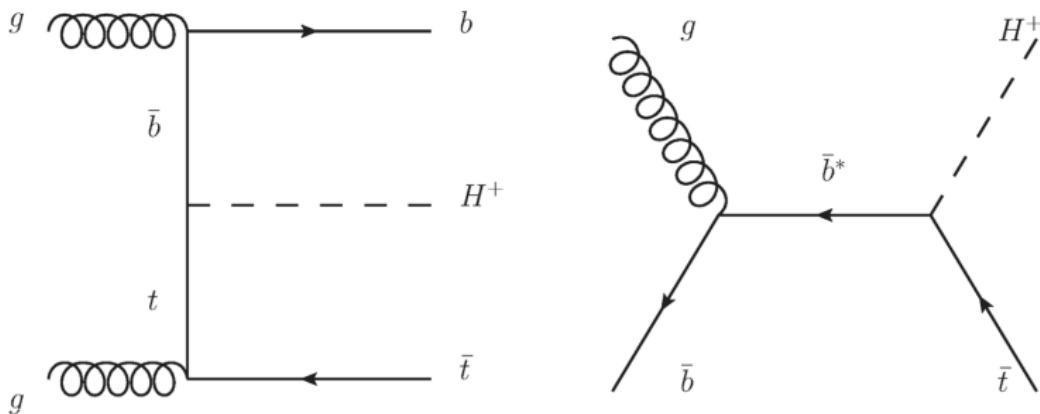
- Observed upper limit 1.1σ higher than expected.
- $400 \times \sigma_H^{\text{predicted}}$, where $\sigma_H^{\text{predicted}} = 3.0 \text{ fb}$

First ever upper limit on the exclusive Higgs

Search for charged Higgs boson

H^+ – Production Modes

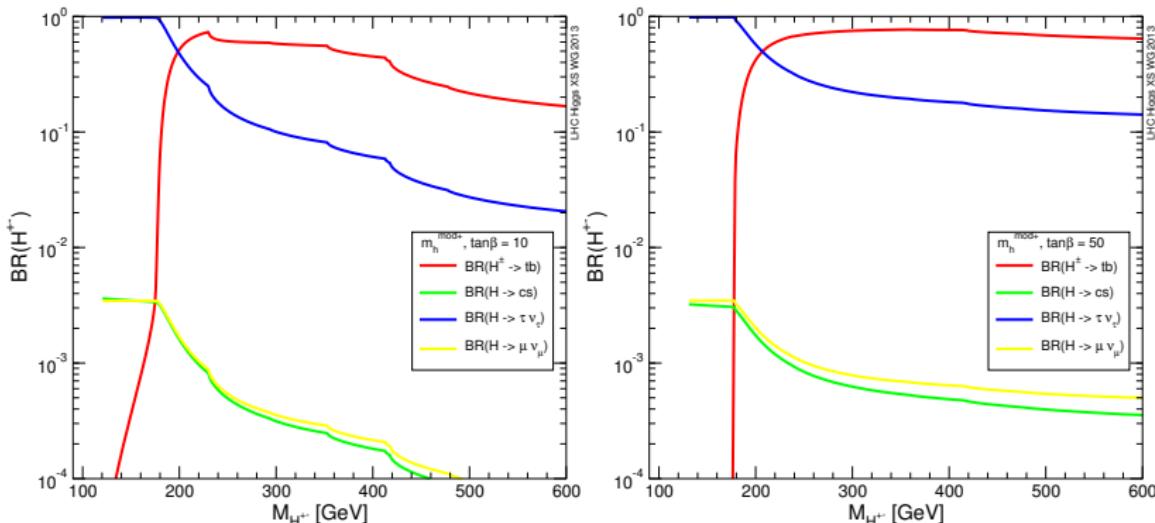
For high m_{H^+} , H^+ produced in association with t quark



- 4-flavor scheme (left) also associated with a b quark
- Search scanned through m_{H^+} from 200→2000 GeV

H^+ – Decay channels

For high m_{H^+} , $H^+ \rightarrow tb$ and $H^+ \rightarrow \tau\nu$ dominant decays



- $H^+ \rightarrow tb$ unfavorable – $t\bar{t} + X$ background, m_T unclear
- Chose $H^+ \rightarrow \tau\nu$ – backgrounds relatively easier to manage

$H^+ \rightarrow \tau\nu$ – Major backgrounds

τ lepton to decay hadronically – reconstructed as $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$

$$gb \rightarrow [t][H^+] \rightarrow [(jj)b][(\tau_{\text{had-vis}} + E_T^{\text{miss}})]$$

$$gg \rightarrow [tb][H^+] \rightarrow [(jj)bb][(\tau_{\text{had-vis}} + E_T^{\text{miss}})]$$

- Backgrounds classified by type of $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$
 - true τ , q/g faking τ , or e/μ faking τ

Background processes

1. **Top:** Sum of $t\bar{t}$ and single top
2. **$W + \text{jets}$:** W^\pm produced in association with a jet
3. **$Z + \text{jets}$:** Z produced in association with a jet
4. **VV :** $WZ, ZZ, W\gamma$, or $Z\gamma$

$H^+ \rightarrow \tau\nu$ – Signal region (SR)

Looking for jets, b-jets, a $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$, and E_T^{miss}

Signal Selection

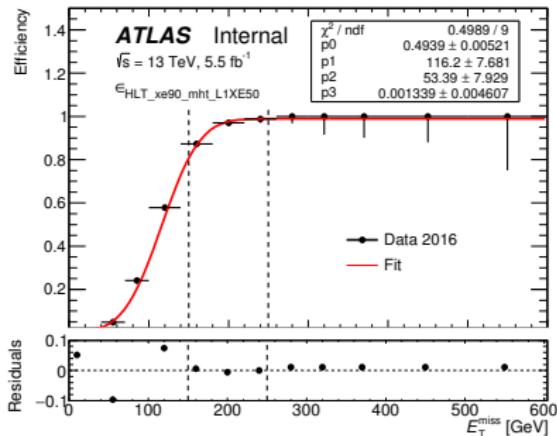
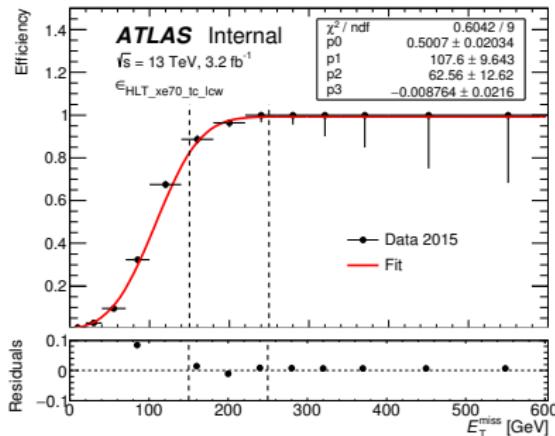
1. HLT_xe70_tc_lcw(HLT_xe90_mht)
2. At least one $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ with $p_T > 40$ GeV
3. At least 3 jets with $p_T > 25$ GeV
4. No μ or e
5. At least one b -tagged jet
6. $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 150$ GeV
7. $m_T > 50$ GeV

- Lower bound on $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ p_T suppresses most backgrounds
- Large E_T^{miss} – a construct of trigger efficiencies
- Large m_T expected since probing high m_{H^+}

Trigger Efficiency Studies

MC weighted according to trigger efficiency measured in data

- Orthogonal but similar control region in data used to measure trigger efficiency

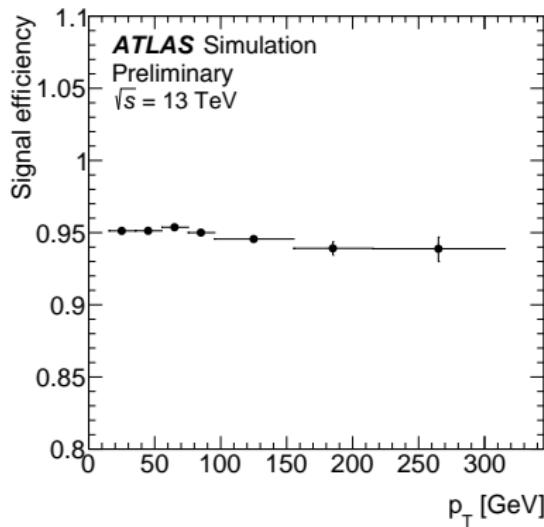
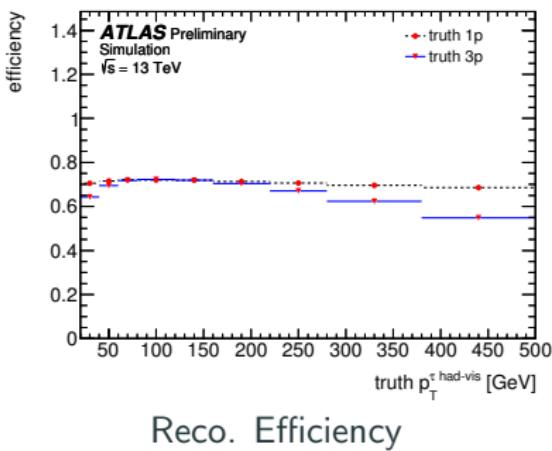


At 150 GeV E_T^{miss} , trigger efficiency above 80%

True τ background

Backgrounds from true τ events estimated using MC

- MC simulation corrected by scale factors to match data:
 - Reconstruction efficiency
 - QCD jet rejection
 - e/μ rejection
 - ...



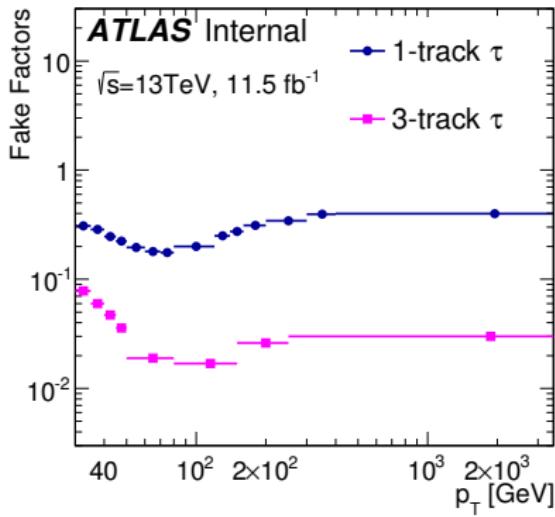
Jet to τ background

q/g ($N_{\text{fakes}}^{\text{anti-}\tau}$) extrapolated to $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ (N_{fakes}^{τ}) by Fake Factors

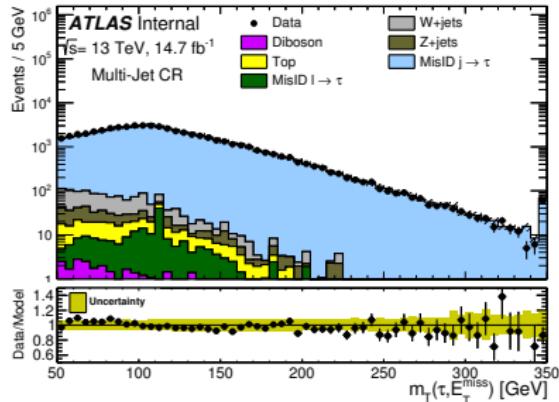
- FF measured in two sub-regions : $\tau_{\text{had-vis-ID}}$ and $\text{anti-}\tau_{\text{had-vis-ID}}$

$$N_{\text{fakes}}^{\tau} = N_{\text{fakes}}^{\text{anti-}\tau} \times \text{FF}$$

$$\text{FF} = N_{\tau-\text{id}} / N_{\text{anti-}\tau-\text{id}}$$



- FF validated in region rich in QCD multi-jets



Major systematic uncertainties

Experimental and theoretical, depending on source

Theoretical

- QCD renormalization and factorization scales (μ_R, μ_F),
- choice of parton distribution functions (PDF)
- choice of parton shower and underlying event (PS and UE) tunes

Experimental

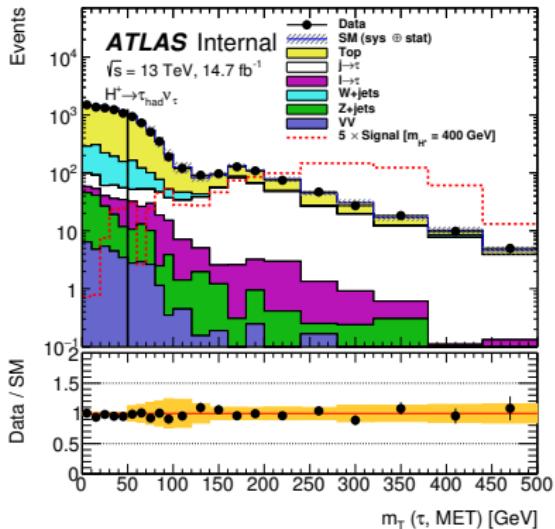
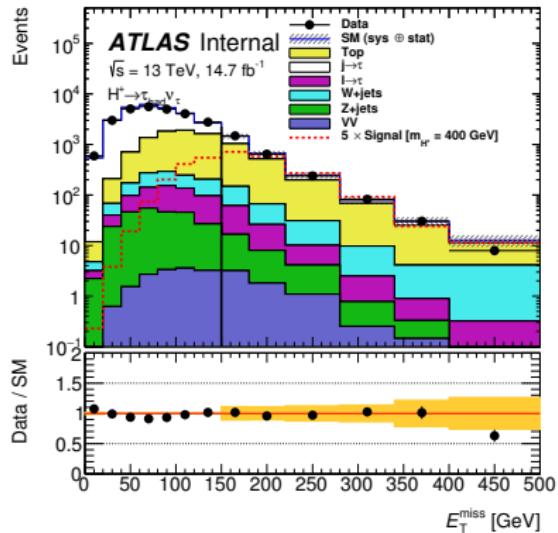
- Dominated by uncertainties on object reco. and ID
- Energy scales propagated to E_T^{miss}

Variation	$t\bar{t}$ (%)	Signal (%)
PS and UE	16	10
μ_R, μ_F	5	5
PDF choice	5	1

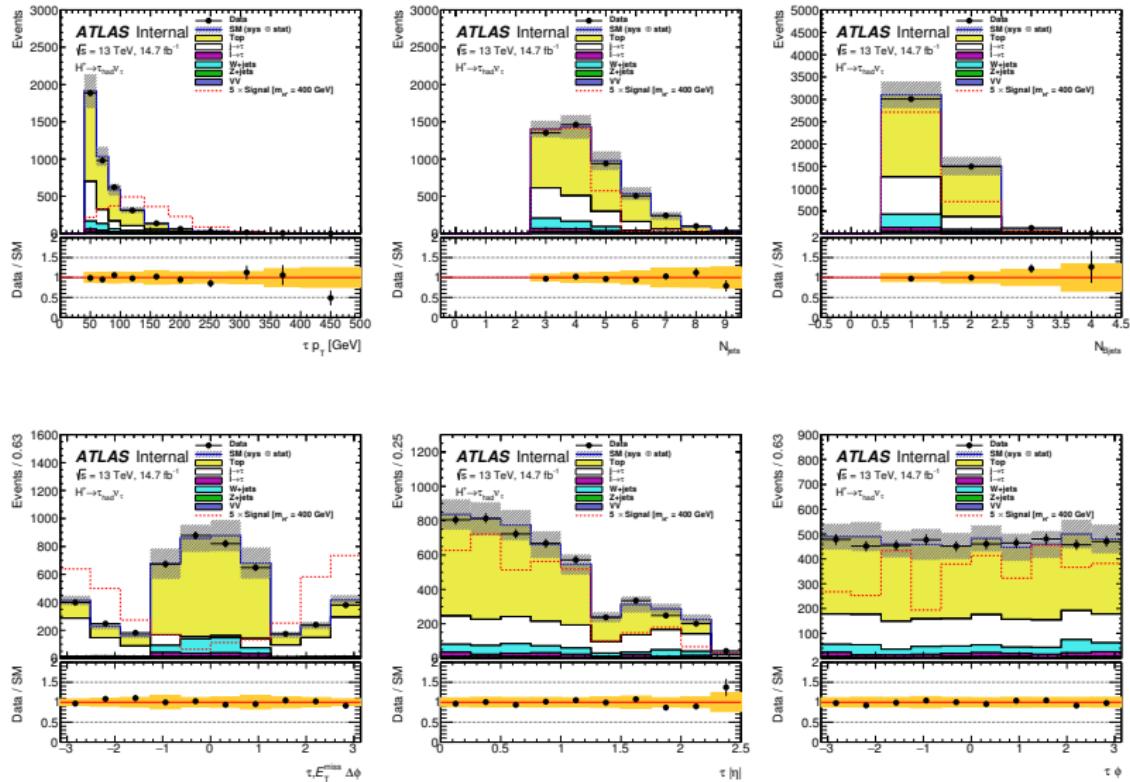
Variation	$t\bar{t}$ (%)	Signal (%)
$\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ ID efficiency	11	8
Jet energy scale	11	5
$\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ energy scale	6	4

Results – Event yields in the SR

Observed events in the SR well within predictions

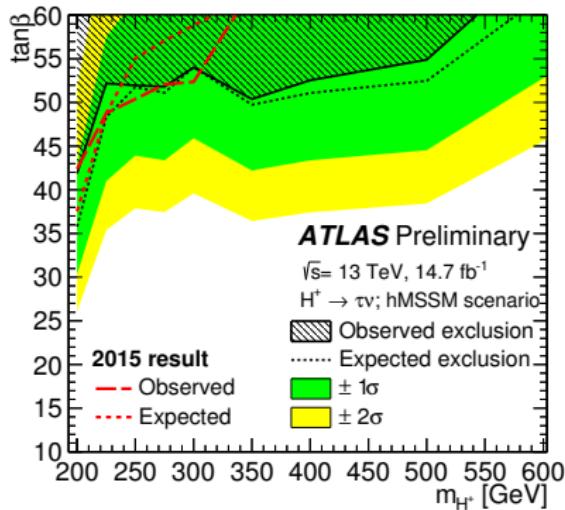
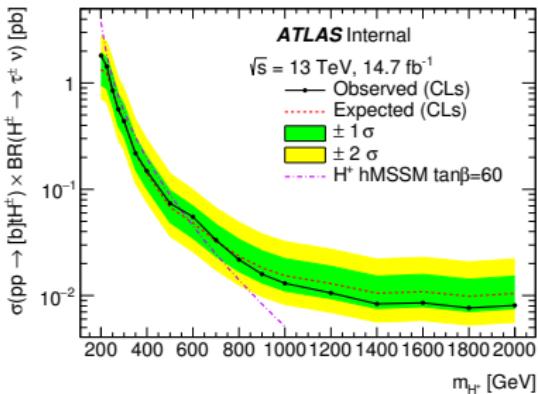


Results – Event yields in the SR



Results – Statistical interpretation, Limits

- Evaluation of observed yields (and m_T shape) against bkg-only hypothesis performed
 - Could not reject bkg-only hypothesis
- Limits on $\sigma_{H^+}^{true}$ set for m_{H^+} in $200 \rightarrow 2000$ GeV



In the hMSSM context, $\tan\beta = 60$ values are excluded for m_{H^+} in $200 \rightarrow 540$ GeV

Summary

Summary

- Undertook two major projects
 - Search for exclusive Higgs boson
 - Search for charged Higgs boson
 - Contributed to detector development
 - Feasibility studies on ATLAS level 1 trigger
 - Optimization of RoIB for level 2 ATLAS trigger
-
-
- Found no evidence for the exclusive Higgs boson in LHC Run I data
 - Set the first ever limits on the production cross section
 - Found no evidence for the charged Higgs boson in LHC Run II data
 - Set limits on the production cross section (\times branching ratio to $\tau\nu$) in the $200 \rightarrow 200$ GeV m_{H^+} range
 - In the hMSSM context, $\tan\beta = 60$ values excluded for m_{H^+} in $200 \rightarrow 540$ GeV

Summary

Thank you

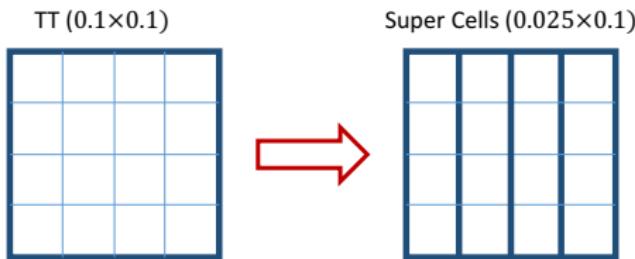
Level 1 (L1) trigger – the calorimeter

- L1 trigger decision based on multiplicity of physics objects and size of E_T^{miss}
 - e, μ, τ and jets
- Calorimeters made up of cells
 - however, full granularity not accessible at L1
- Reconstruction of physics objects performed using groups of cells
 - Trigger Towers – TT
- Objects distinguished based on shower shapes in the calorimeters
 - e.g, a τ shower is deeper than an e shower
- Maximum latency, $2.5 \mu\text{s}$

Bunch crossing rate reduced from **40 MHz** to about **100 kHz**

L1 upgrade – feasibility studies (Summer 2012)

By how much would upgrading L1 calorimeter granularity improve L1?



Using supercells can we distinguish π^0 and e at L1?

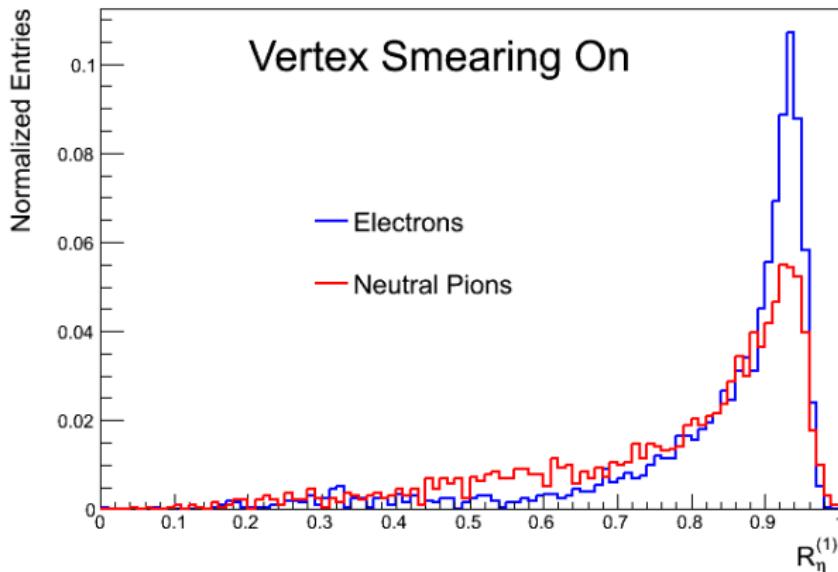
- **Strategy :** Come up with variables to describe shower shapes
 - e.g, ratio of energy of hottest supercell to sum of itself and two neighbors

$$R_{\eta}^{(1)} = \frac{E_0}{E_{+1} + E_0 + E_{-1}} \quad (1)$$

e shower narrower than π^0 → expect $R_{\eta}^{(1)}$ to be larger for e than for π^0

L1 upgrade – feasibility studies (Summer 2012)

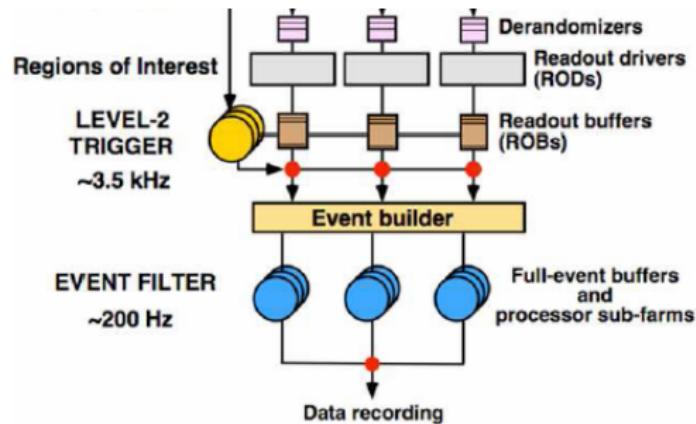
- Generated Monte Carlo (MC) samples of either single e or π^0
- Simulated passage of e/π^0 through ATLAS calorimeters
- Studied shower shapes of each using variables like $R_\eta^{(1)}$
 - More results at UTA hep web page



Cannot separate π^0 and e showers at L1 using supercells

L2 (HLT) upgrade – 2013→2014

Accepts/rejects events through a Regions of Interest (RoI) builder at 100 kHz



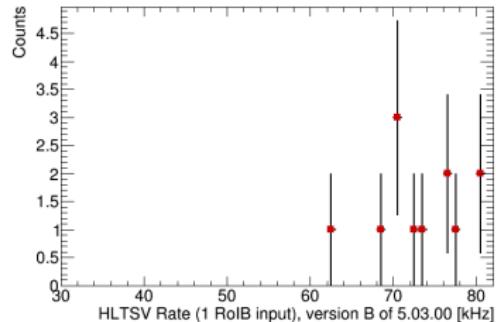
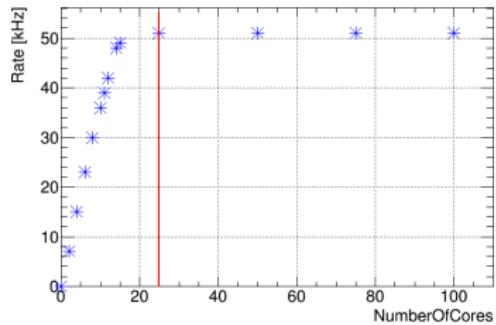
L2 and EF algorithms merged in Run II

– can this setup achieve a rate of 100 kHz?

- **Project:** Optimize RoI Builder (RoIB) rate with Run II setup

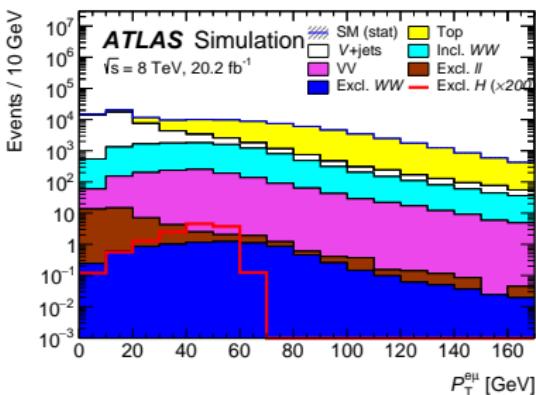
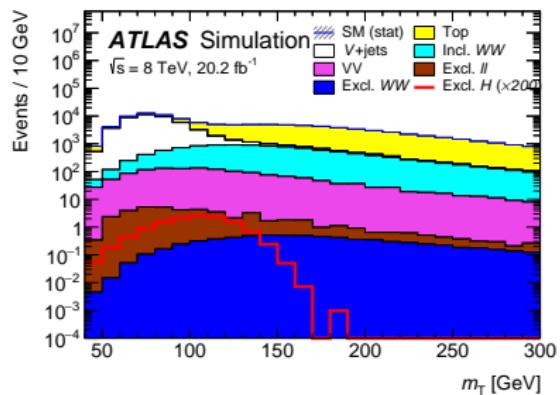
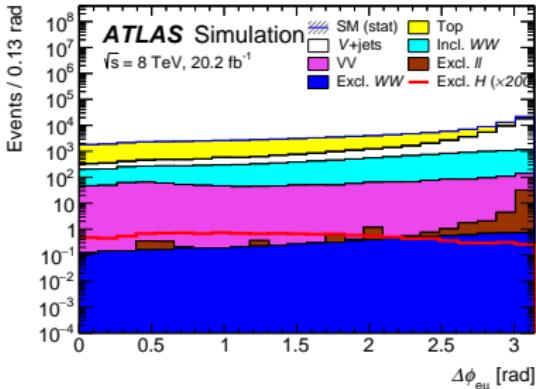
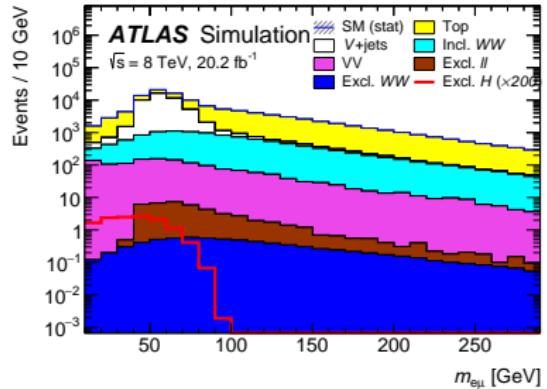
HLT – Configuration optimization

Argonne National Laboratory has a test stand for HLT



Achieved a rate of ~ 80 kHz – dependent on PC hardware

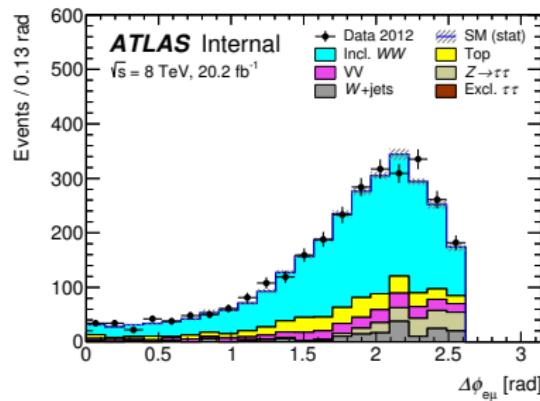
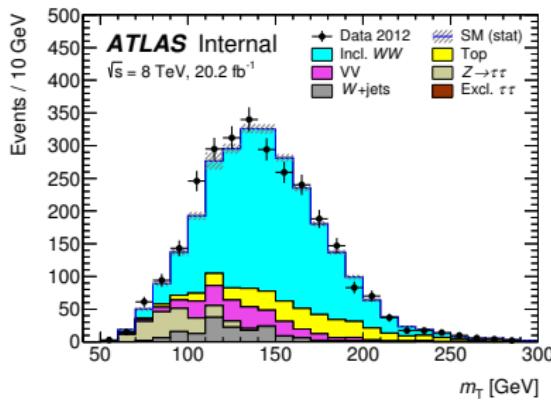
Kinematic Dists. after pre-selection



Inc. WW normalization

MC known to underestimate $q\bar{q} \rightarrow W^+W^-$ prediction

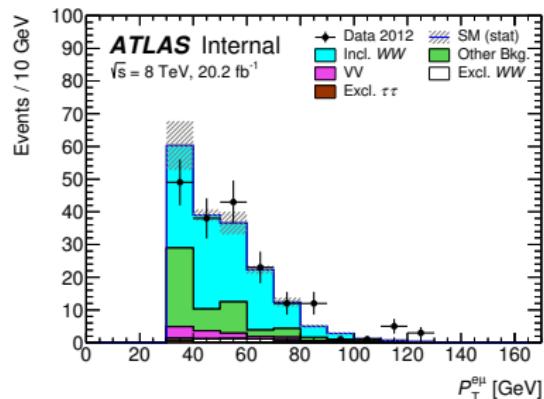
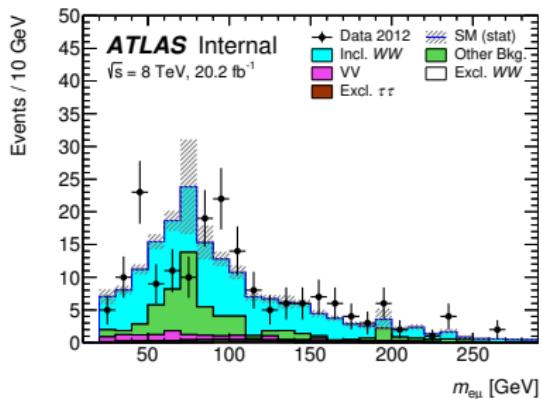
- Control region similar to signal region except:
 - $55 < m_{e\mu} < 110$ GeV and $\Delta\phi_{e\mu} < 2.6$



- $(20 \pm 5)\%$ more data was observed than is predicted
 - $1.20 \pm 0.05(\text{stat.})$ applied across the board as a scale factor

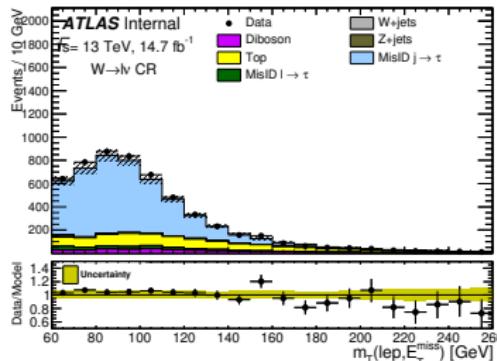
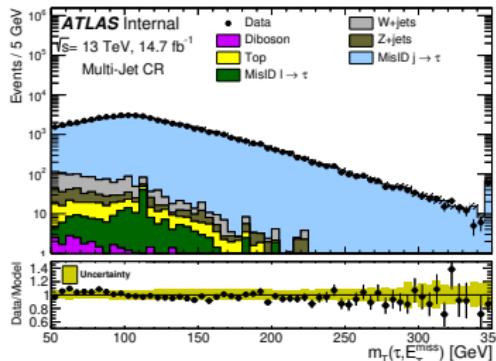
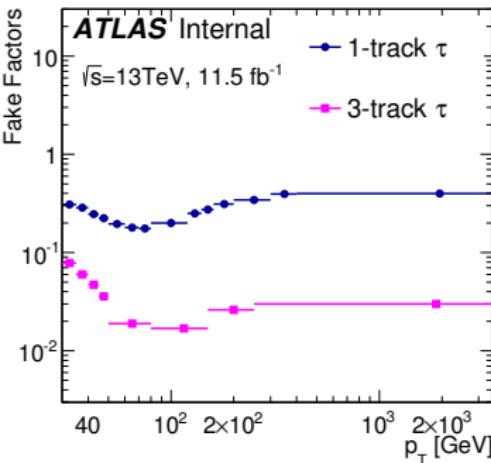
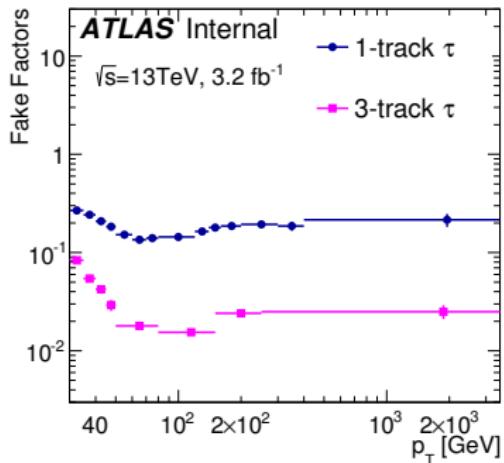
How much inclusive WW after exclusivity?

- Dedicated control region with incl. WW – loosen exclusivity to allow only 1 to 4 extra tracks
 - Other bkg such as $W + \text{jets}$, Drell-Yan, and Top irreducible
 - Exclusive processes well calibrated, so easy to subtract
- Extrapolate predictions to the 0-extra track exclusivity region



Extrapolation equivalent to applying a normalization factor of 0.79 to inclusive $W^+ W^-$ background

Jet to τ background – measured FF, validation



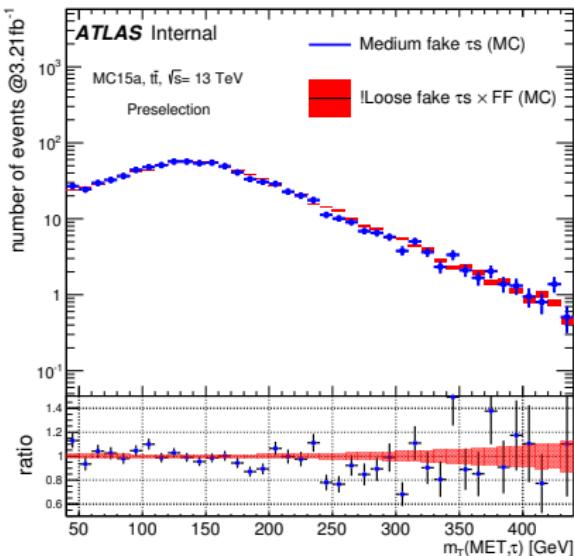
Jet to τ background – Fake Factors definition

From CR dominated by events with q/g -initiated jets ($N_{\text{fakes}}^{\text{anti-}\tau}$), extrapolate to SR events in which the jets pass $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ ID (N_{fakes}^{τ})

- Extrapolation factors known as *fake factors* (FF), where

$$N_{\text{fakes}}^{\tau} = N_{\text{fakes}}^{\text{anti-}\tau} \times \text{FF}$$

- FF measured in data (next slide)
- Pre-test FF by measuring them in $t\bar{t}$ MC and assessing performance on $t\bar{t}$ MC events that pass pre-selection



Jet to τ background – Fake Factors measurement

Region in which FF are **measured** must be different from the CR in which they are **applied**

- Measurement region comprises of τ -id and anti- τ -id sub-regions
 - In former jets pass τ ID and in latter they are not required to

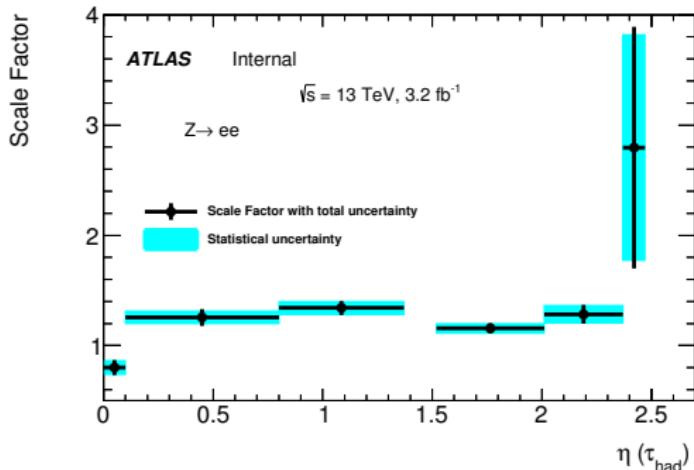
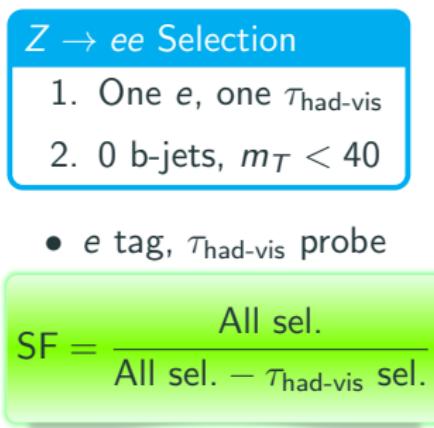
$$\text{FF} = \frac{N_{\tau-\text{id}}}{N_{\text{anti-}\tau\text{-id}}}$$

- Here, FF measured in two regions:
 - **Multi-jet:** Dominated by events with QCD multi-jets
 - **$W + \text{jets}$:** Dominated by events with jets from $W + \text{jets}$
- Fraction of q -initiated jets in multi-jets roughly the same as g -initiated jets
- Jets in $W + \text{jets}$ dominated by jets from light-flavored quarks
- Take measurements from multi-jets as nominal and use $W + \text{jets}$ measurements to evaluate impact of jet substructure

e/μ to τ background

Scale factors (SF) applied to simulated events with e/μ -matched $\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$

- SF dependent on and η and measured in $Z \rightarrow ee$ events in data



- Non- $Z \rightarrow ee$ events subtracted from data before calculation of SF
- Measured SF range from 0.5% to 2.5%, depending on η

Major systematic uncertainties

Classified into experimental and theoretical, depending on source

Theoretical

- Dominated by uncertainties on:
 - QCD renormalization and factorization scales (μ_R, μ_F),
 - choice of parton distribution functions (PDF)
 - choice of parton shower and underlying event (PS and UE) tunes

Variation	$t\bar{t}$	Signal 400 GeV
PS and UE	16	10
μ_R, μ_F	5	5
PDF choice	5	1

Experimental

- Dominated by uncertainties on object reco. and ID
 - Propagated to E_T^{miss} ;
propagated to trigger efficiency

Variation	$t\bar{t}$	Signal 400 GeV
$\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ ID efficiency	11	8
$\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ energy scale	6	4
$\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ reconstruction efficiency	3	2
$\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$ -lepton OLR	1	2
Jet energy scale	11	5
b -tagging efficiency	2	2
E_T^{miss} soft term scale/resolution	2	2
Trigger efficiency	3	1

Uncertainties impact on limits

Impact of various sources of uncertainty on the expected 95% CL exclusion limit

Category	Source of systematic uncertainty	Impact on the expected limit (in %)	
		$m_{H^+} = 200$ GeV	$m_{H^+} = 1000$ GeV
Experimental	luminosity	1.5	0.9
	trigger	< 0.1	< 0.1
	$\tau_{\text{had-vis}}$	1.0	1.4
	jet	3.0	0.2
	E_T^{miss}	< 0.1	< 0.1
Fake factors	FF	0.8	4.7
Signal and background models	$t\bar{t}$ modelling	13.2	3.5
	H^+ signal modelling	1.4	1.4

Largest impact was from modelling $t\bar{t}$ background processes