

# Search for a low-mass Higgs boson-like resonance in diphotons with ATLAS and CMS

based on:



CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002



ATLAS-CONF-2023-035

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Seminar, Imperial College London IPPP (UK)

May 15, 2024

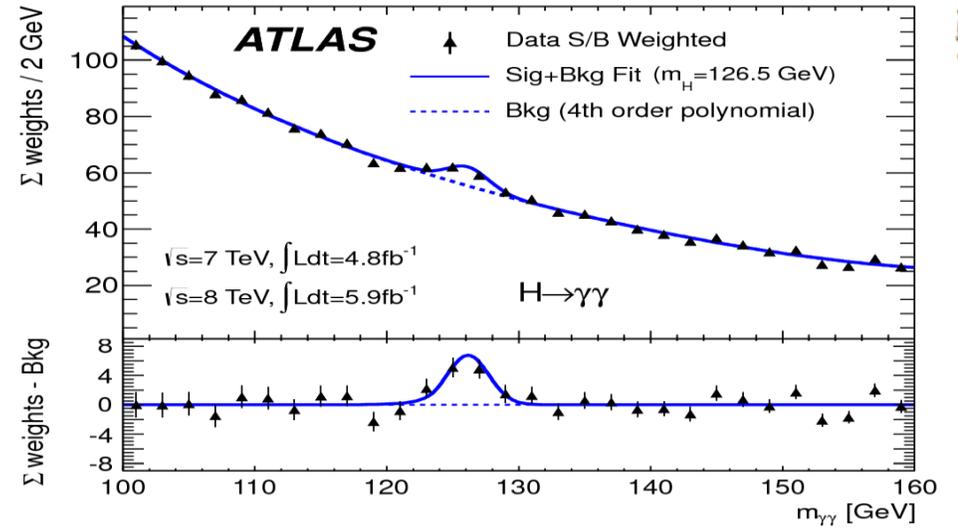


# Introduction

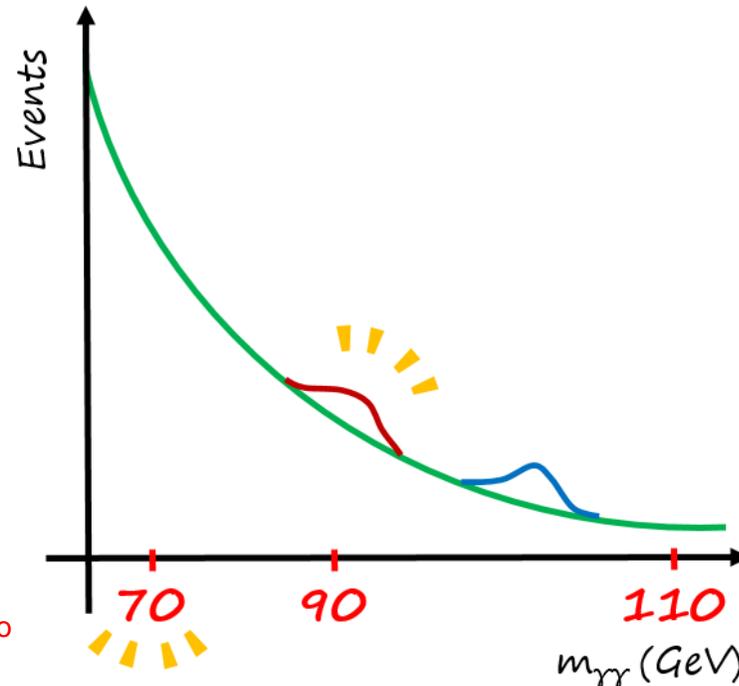


- We found one Higgs (-Englert-Brout) boson in 2012....
- For the moment, compatible, within uncertainties, with that of the Standard Model...
- Why should we look for others?
- A second Higgs boson →

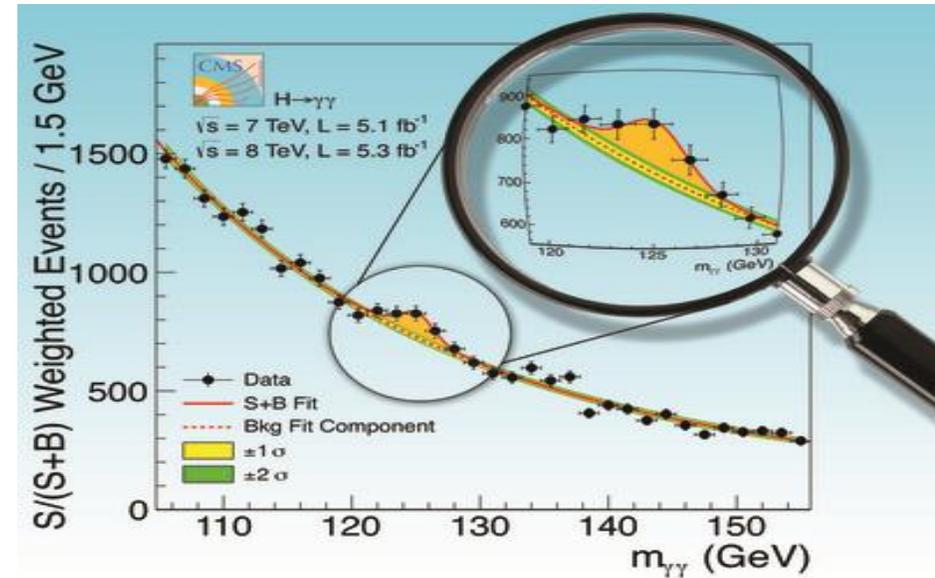
Evidence for physics beyond the Standard Model!



Phys. Lett. B 716 (2012)



Cartoon credit: L. Finco





# Outline



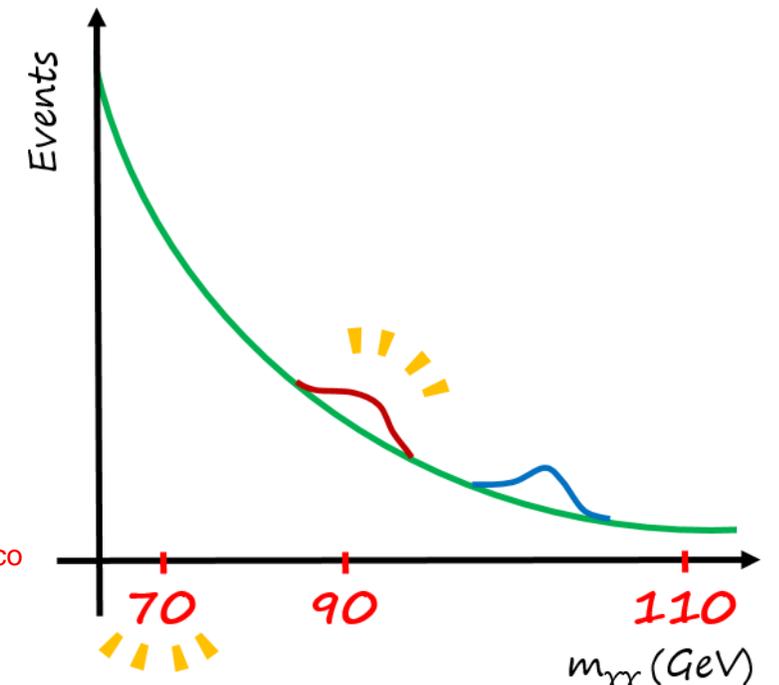
Based on recent searches for additional **low-mass ( $m < 125$  GeV)** Higgs boson-like resonances **in diphotons** from the ATLAS and CMS collaborations at the CERN LHC:

**CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002** <http://cms-results.web.cern.ch/cms-results/public-results/preliminary-results/HIG-20-002/> (March 2023)

**ATLAS-CONF-2023-035** <https://atlas.web.cern.ch/Atlas/GROUPS/PHYSICS/CONFNOTES/ATLAS-CONF-2023-035/> (June 2023)

- Motivations and detectors
- General analysis strategy
- Presentation of Results: ATLAS vs. CMS
- Triggering and search zone
- Photon Identification
- Event selection & Classification
- Signal modeling
- Background Modeling
- Systematic Uncertainties
- Results
- Summary/Conclusions
- Acknowledgements

Cartoon credit: L. Finco

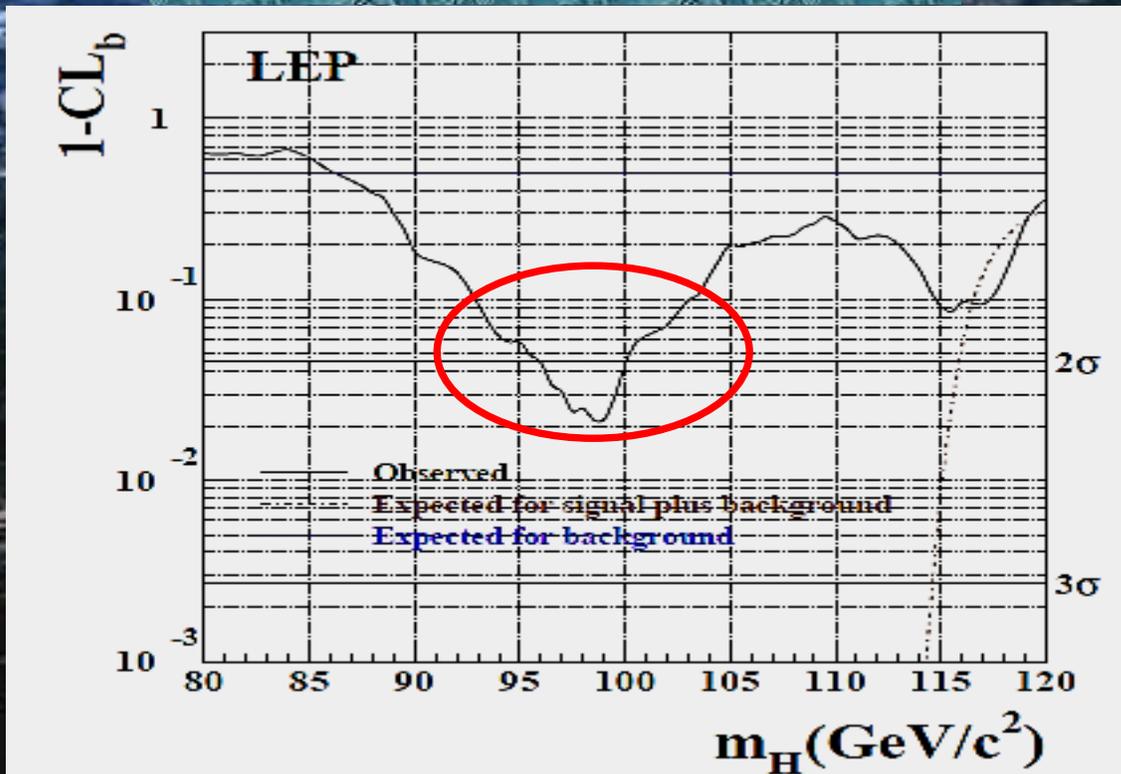


# Motivation for low-mass diphoton searches

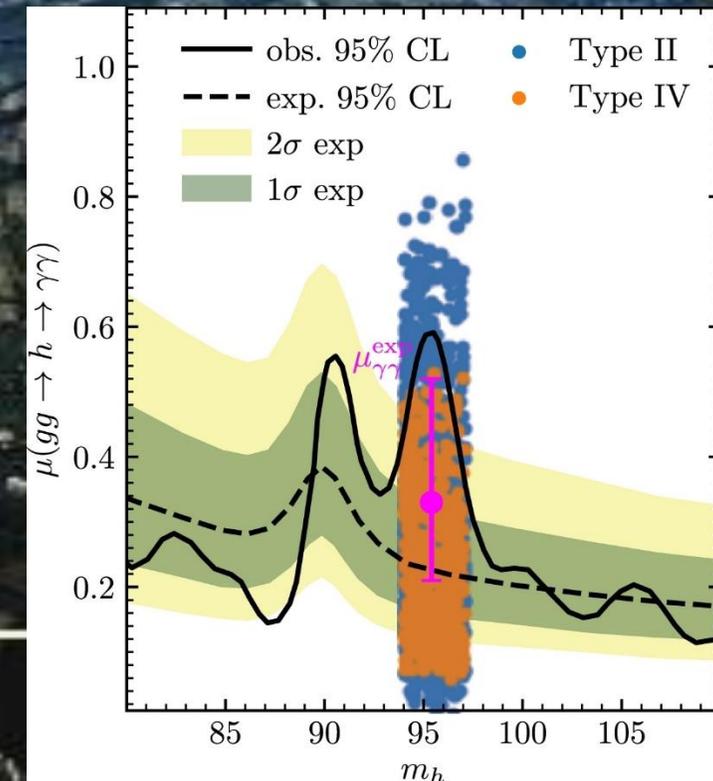
● Final LEP SM Higgs boson search results:  $>2\sigma$  excess at  $m_H = 98$  GeV. Has contributed to sustained interest by both theorists and experimentalists in the possibility of additional low-mass (pseudo-) scalars

● Many BSM models allow a resonance with  $m < 125$  GeV coexisting with the Higgs boson discovered in 2012 GeV (generalized 2HDM, NMSSM, 2HDM+S, Vector Dark Matter, Minimal Dilaton, Scotogenic ...)

LEPHWG, Phys. Lett. B565:61-75,2003

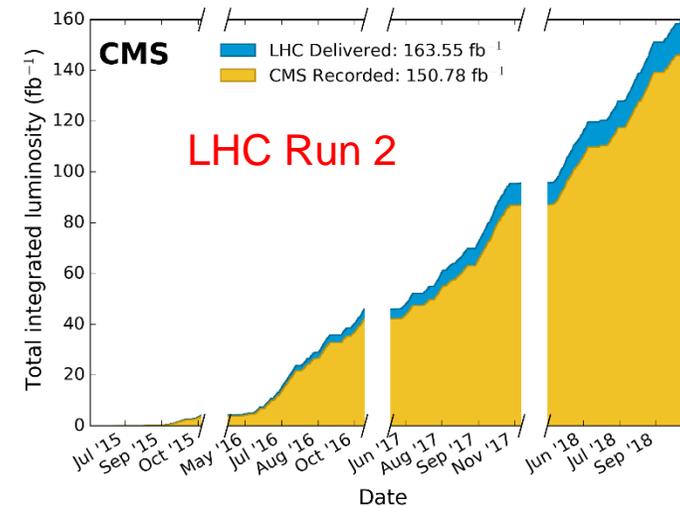
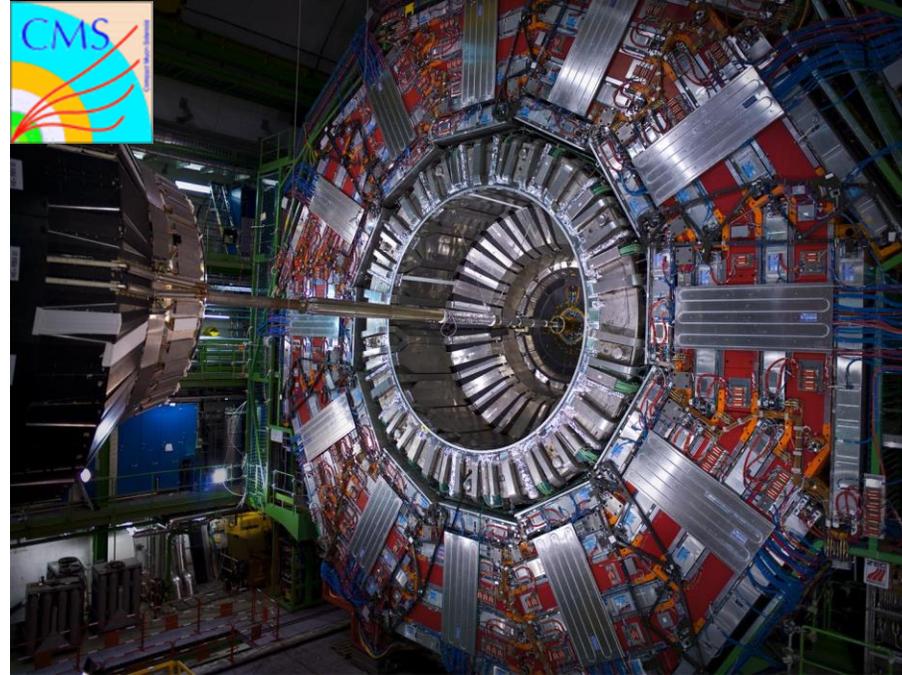
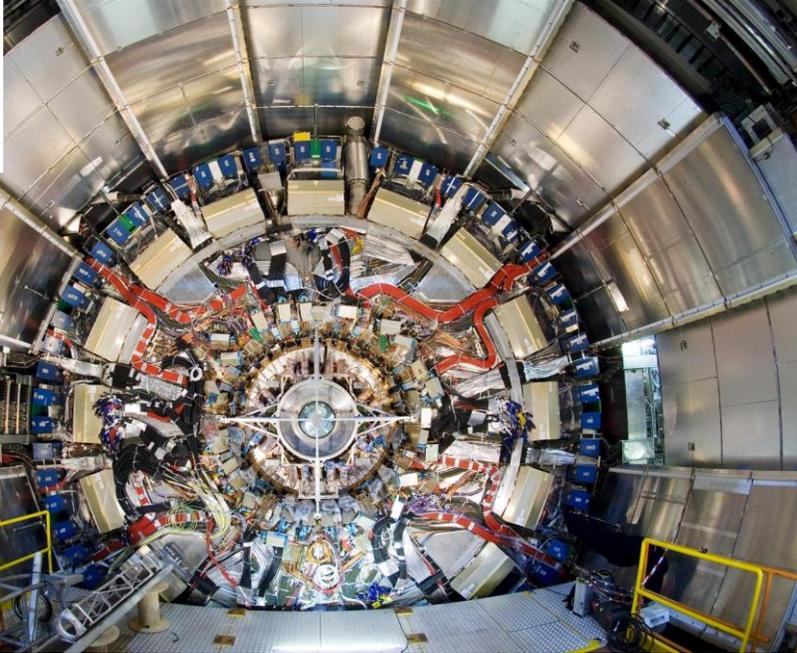


Biekoetter, Heinemeyer, Weiglein PLB 846 (2023) 138217





# Detectors and data....

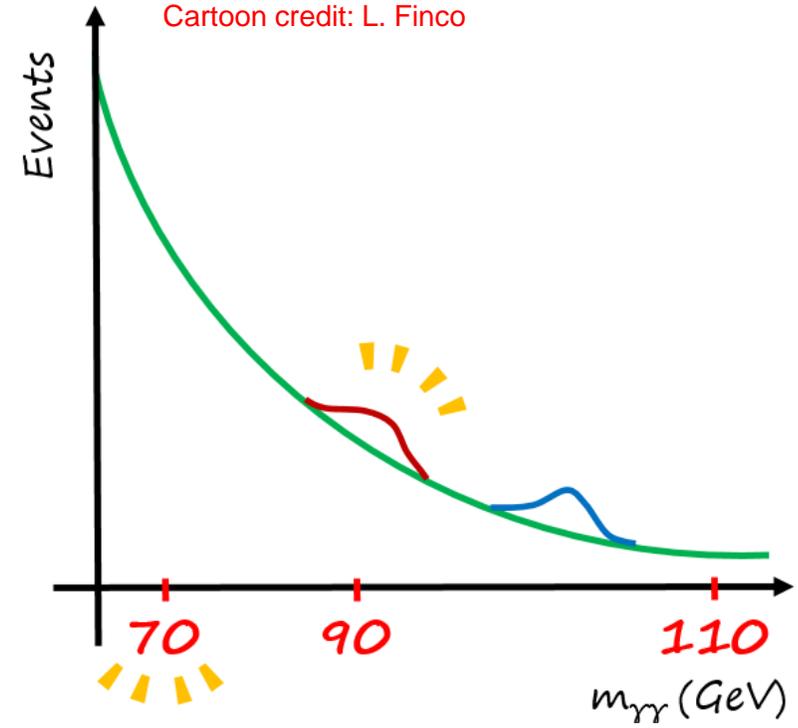
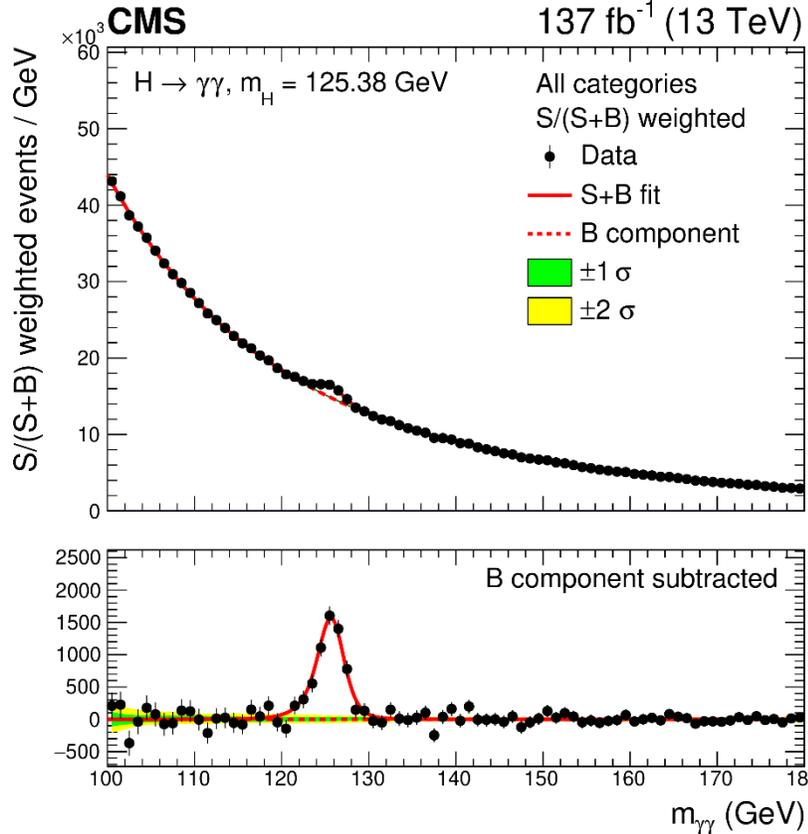




# General Analysis Strategy: Std. vs low-mass $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ analysis



JHEP 07 (2021) 027



- Search for a narrow signal peak over a smoothly-falling background
- Lower limit of search range limited by triggering capabilities
- Relic dielectron  $\rightarrow$  diphoton background from  $Z \rightarrow ee$ , decreased sensitivity around  $m_Z$
- Inherit many analysis elements from standard  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  analysis (photon and event reconstruction/selection, signal modeling and part of background modeling techniques..)

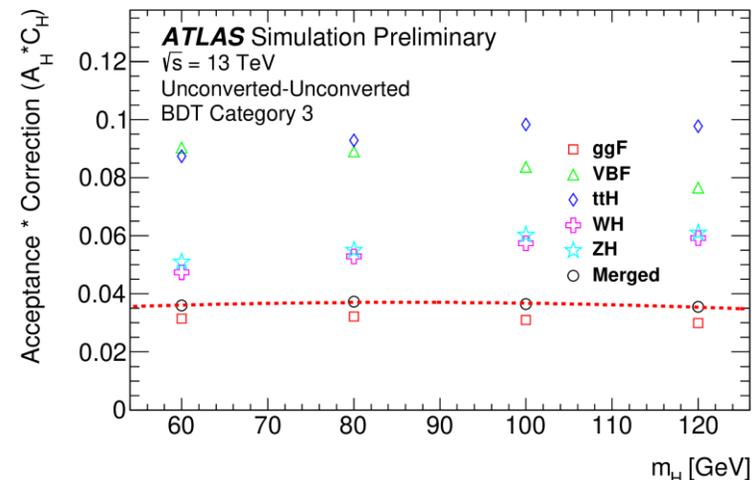
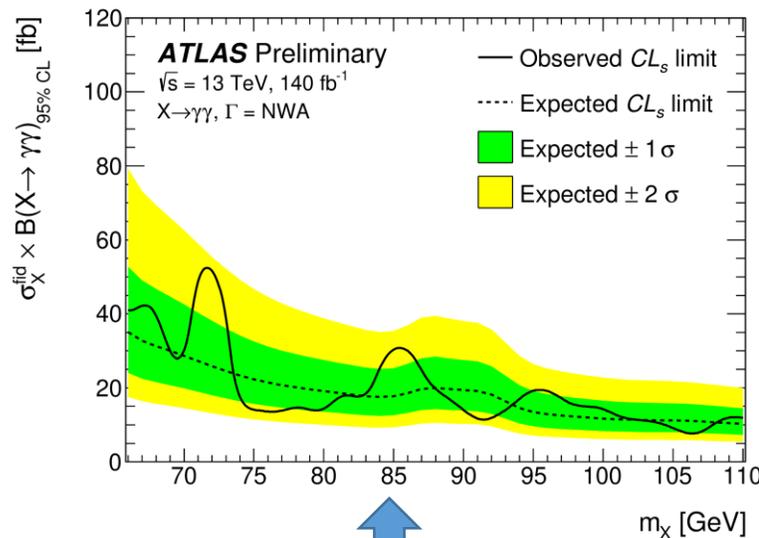
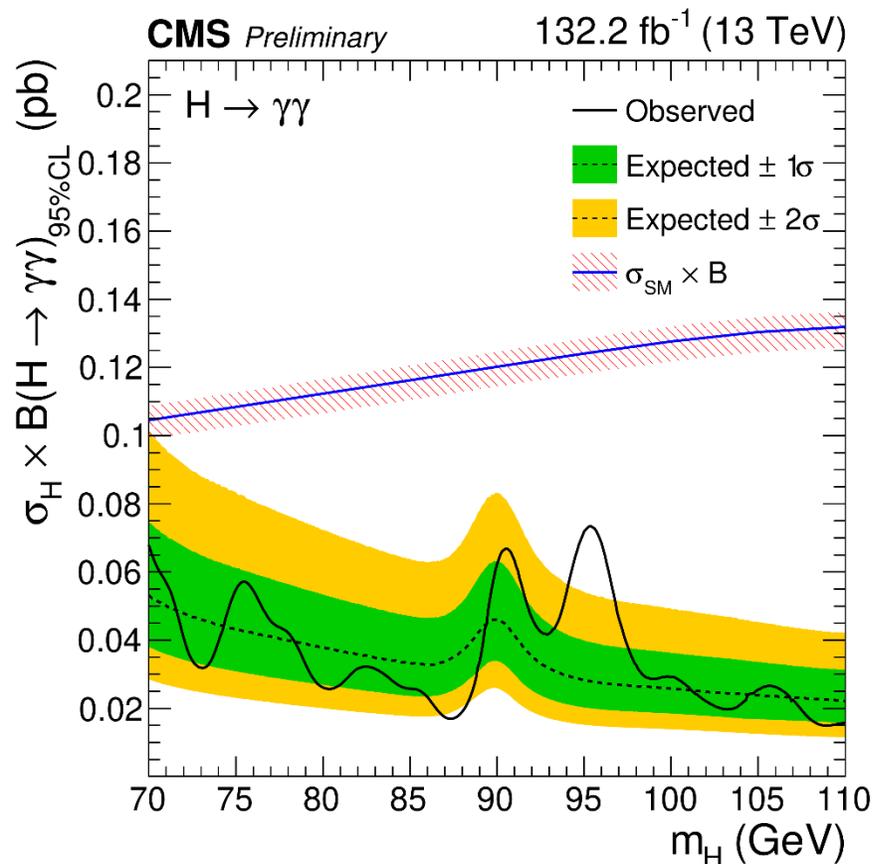


# Presentation of Results



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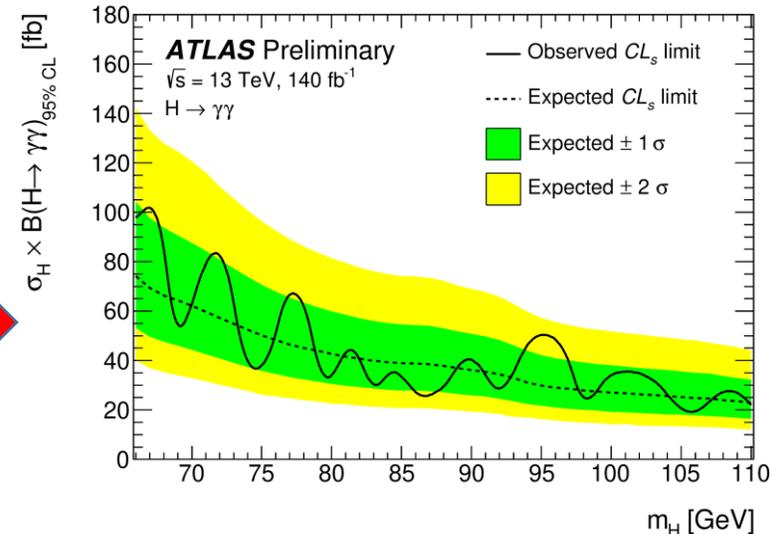
- “Model-independent”: Limits on  $\sigma_{\text{fid}} \times B$  with ggF nominal signal, uncertainty envelopes from other processes

$A_H C_H$  between 0.13 → 0.2

- CMS: Limits on **total**  $\sigma_H \times B$  with production modes combined as in SM

- “Model-dependent”: Limits on  $\sigma_H \times B$ , obtained from  $\sigma_{\text{fid}}$  via

$$\sigma_H \cdot B = \frac{N_s}{A_H C_H \mathcal{L}}$$



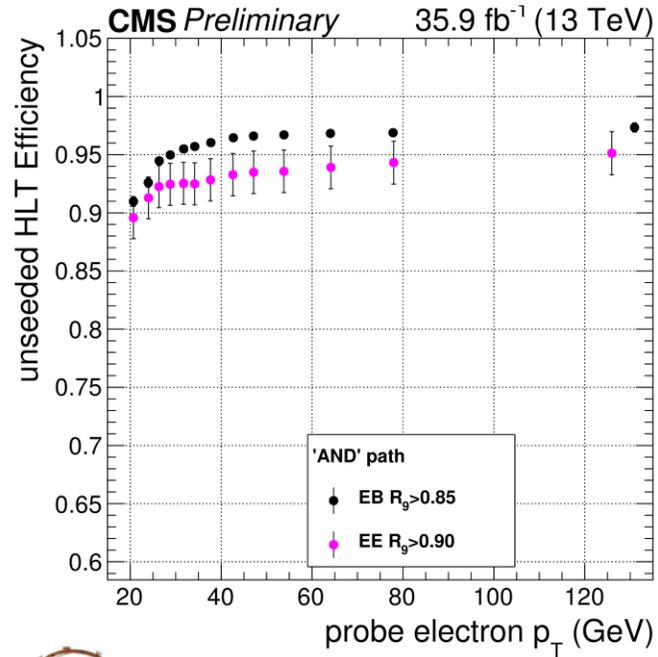
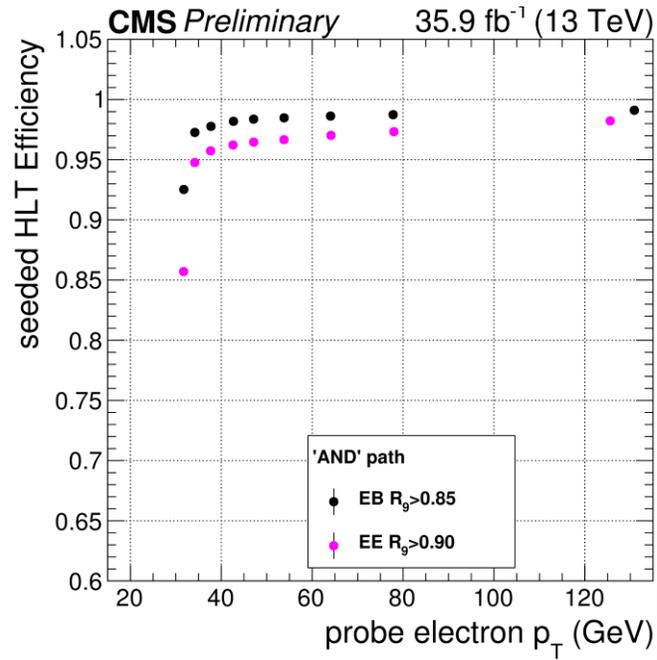
- Also assuming 100% production via certain (groups of) processes



# Triggering and search zone



CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002



$p_{T\gamma} > \{30, 18\}$  GeV, requirements on ratio of hadronic/electromagnetic energy, veto if hits in pixel detector (except 2018), EM shower shape and isolation energy requirements,  $m_{\gamma\gamma} > 55$  GeV (except 2018) → search zone:  $70 \text{ GeV} < m_h < 110 \text{ GeV}$



CMS PAS HIG-17-013



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- 2016-2017:  $p_{T\gamma} > \{20, 20\}$  then  $> \{22, 22\}$  then  $> \{20, 20\}$  GeV
- Requirements on EM shower shape, then isolation energy (2017)
- Search zone:  $66 \text{ GeV} < m_h < 110 \text{ GeV}$



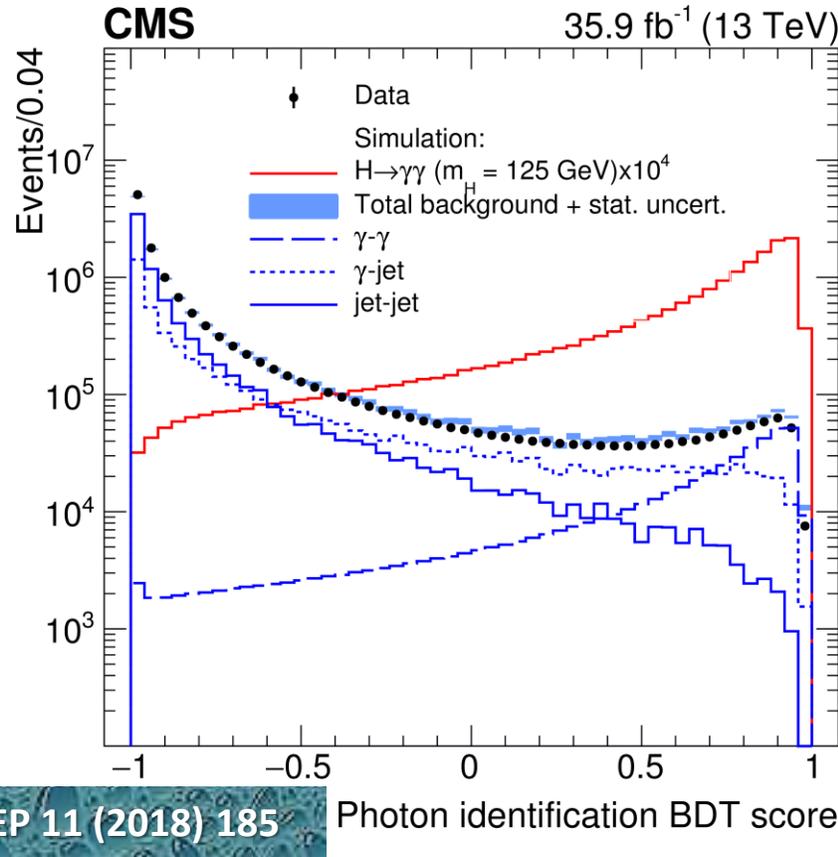
# Photon Identification



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- Fight reducible background, mostly from  $\pi^0$
- Photon ID BDT: shower shape, 'particle flow' isolation sums (photon, charged hadron), energy-density coeff.  $\rho$ ,  $\eta$
- Minimum score required, otherwise score input to diphoton BDT (next slide)
- Veto photon candidates associated with at least 2 pixel detector hits

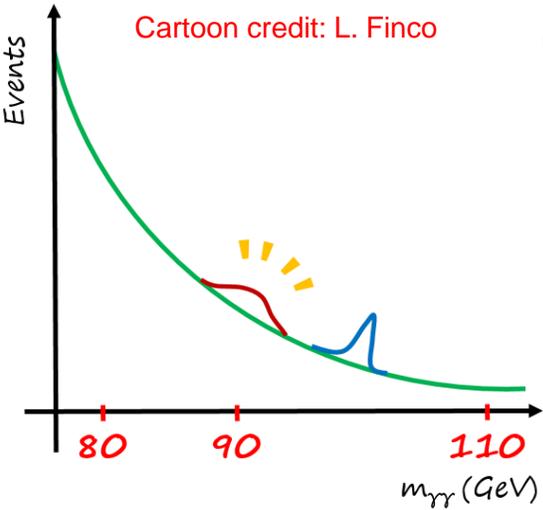


- Cut-based shower shape criteria
- Cut-based calorimeter and tracking isolation sum criteria
- Photon conversion identification: Association with 2 conversion-compatible tracks or 1 track with no hit in innermost layer of inner tracking detector

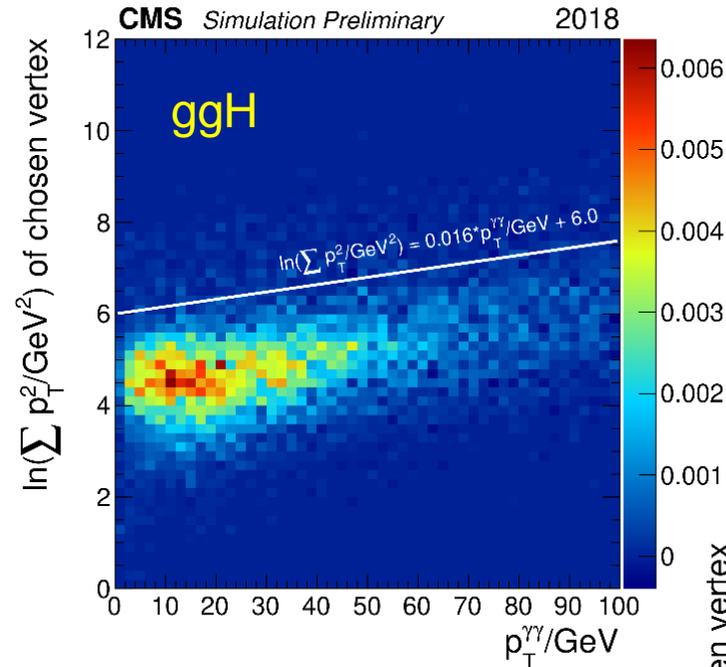
- Both experiments correct isolation sums for pileup and underlying-event contributions.



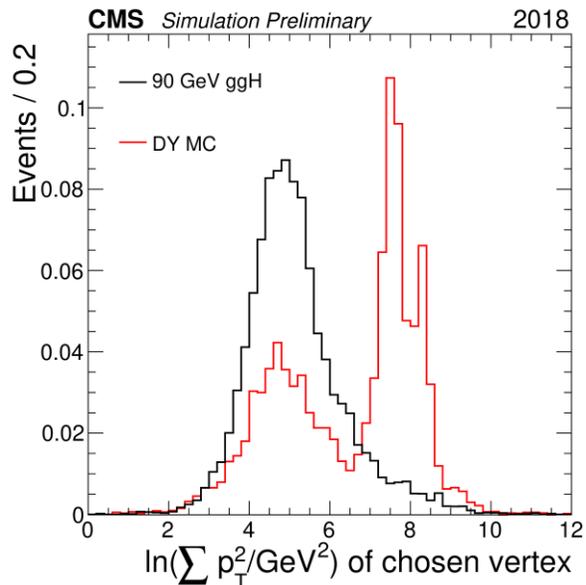
# Fighting the relic $Z \rightarrow ee$ background.....



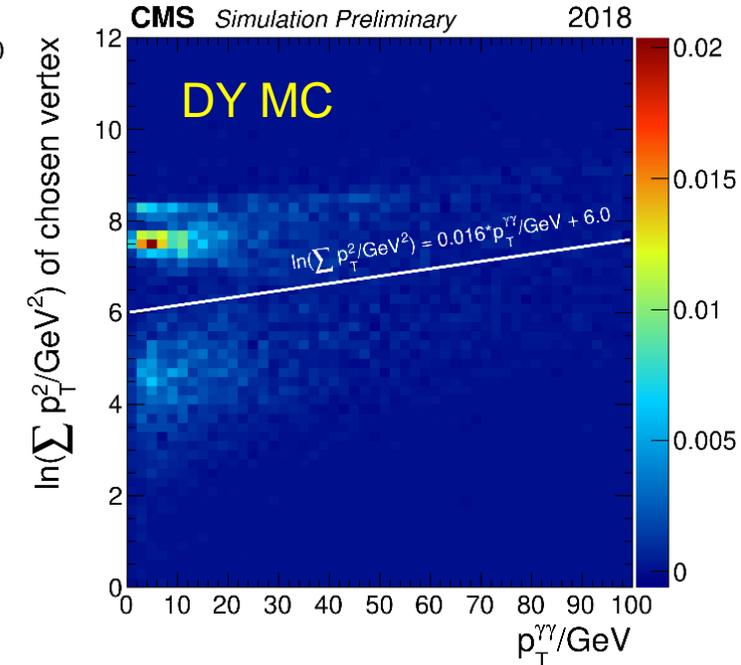
- Biggest challenge: misidentified  $Z \rightarrow ee$  pairs



$$\ln(\sum p_T^2 / \text{GeV}^2) < 0.016 p_T^{\gamma\gamma} / \text{GeV} + 6.0$$



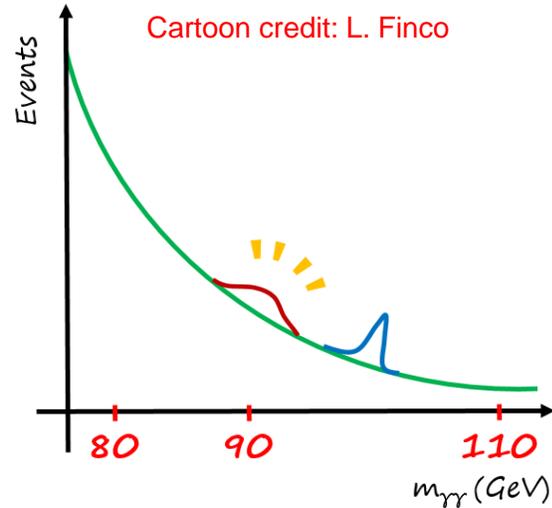
- Veto  $\gamma$  candidates also reconstructed as  $e$  (single hit in 1<sup>st</sup> pixel layer)
- Veto tracks late or missed by pixel detector, but spare boosted events





# Fighting the relic $Z \rightarrow ee$ background...

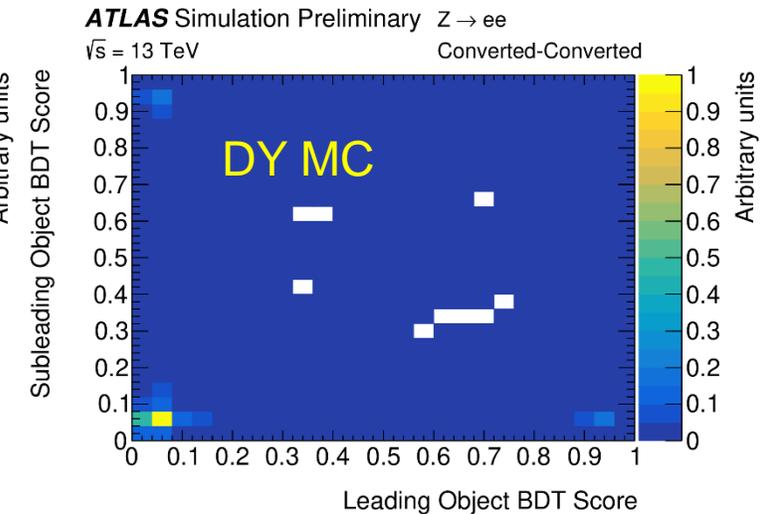
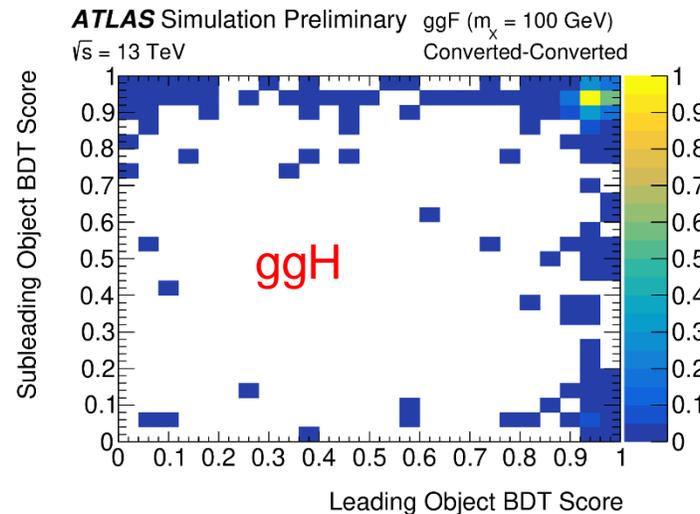
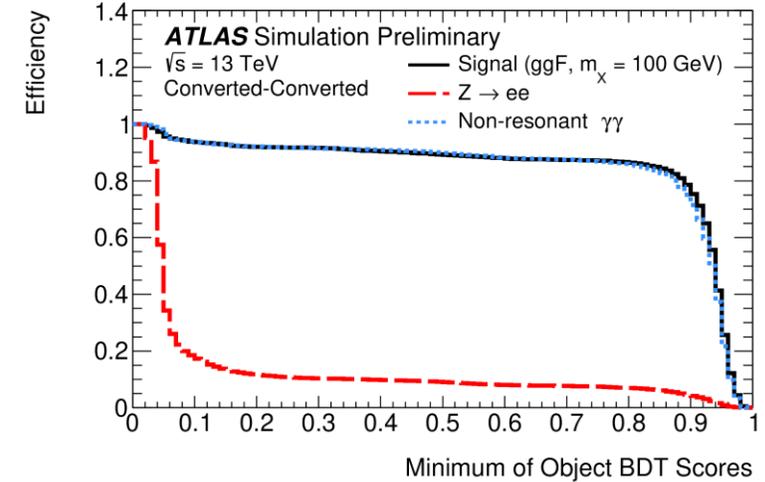
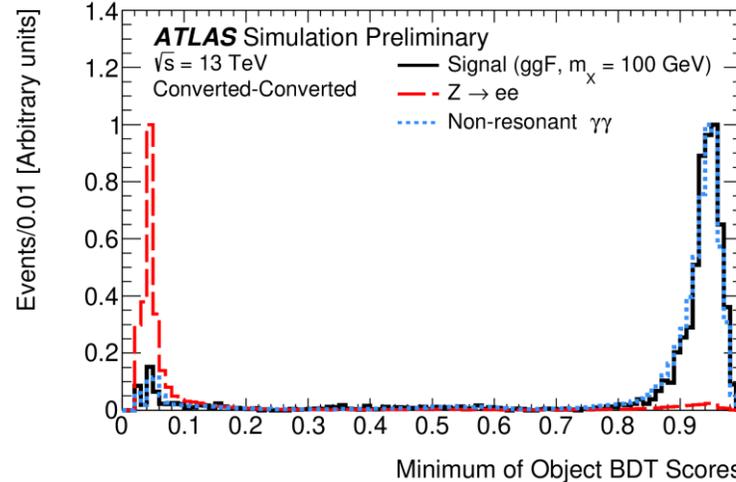
- Kinematical object BDT w/ track and conversion variables ( if also reconstructed as e )



- Biggest challenge: misidentified  $Z \rightarrow ee$  pairs

- Object BDT score  $> 0.2$  for both candidates, targets CC case in particular

- **Model-dependent case:**  
Also object BDT  $\rightarrow$  category BDT



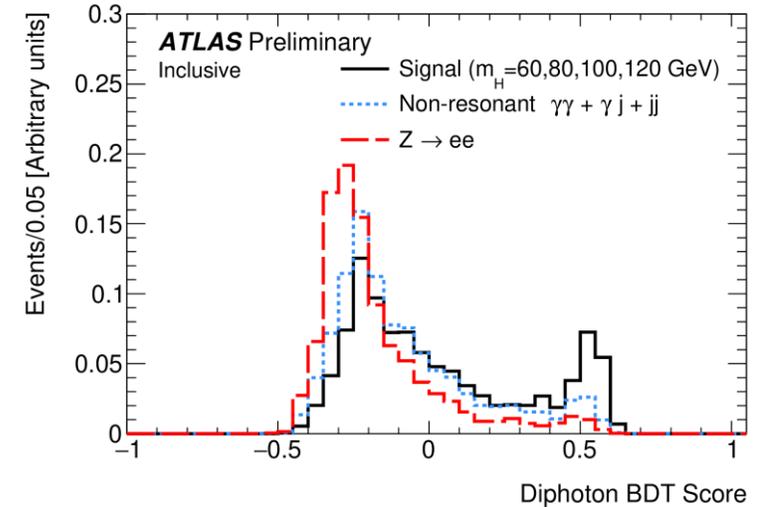
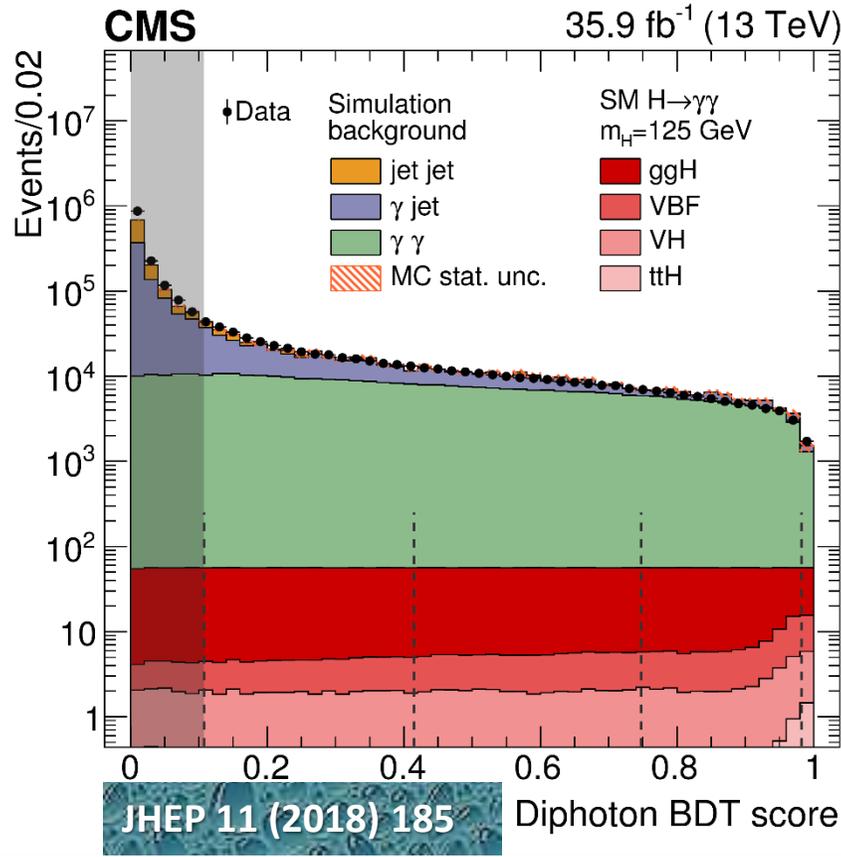


# Event selection & Classification



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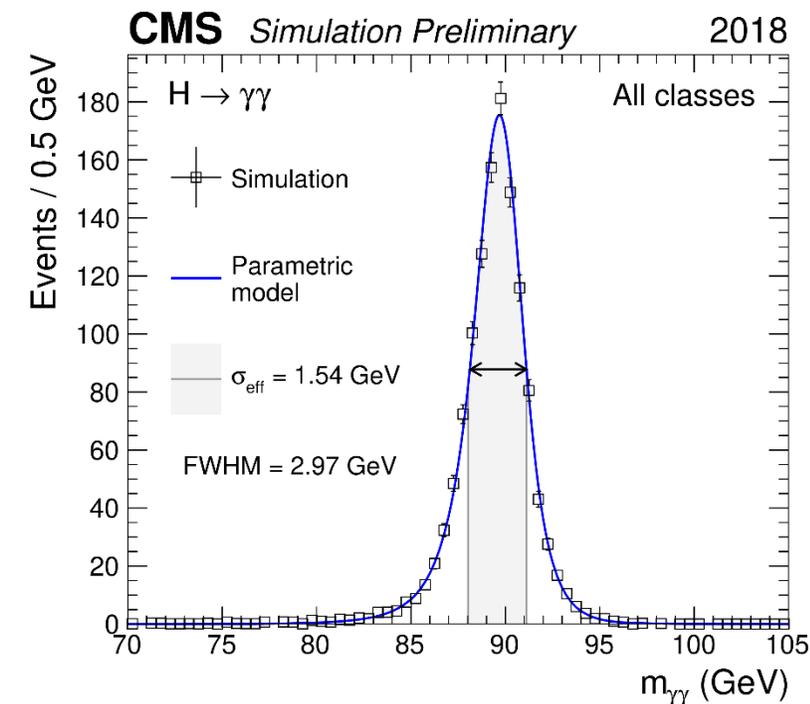
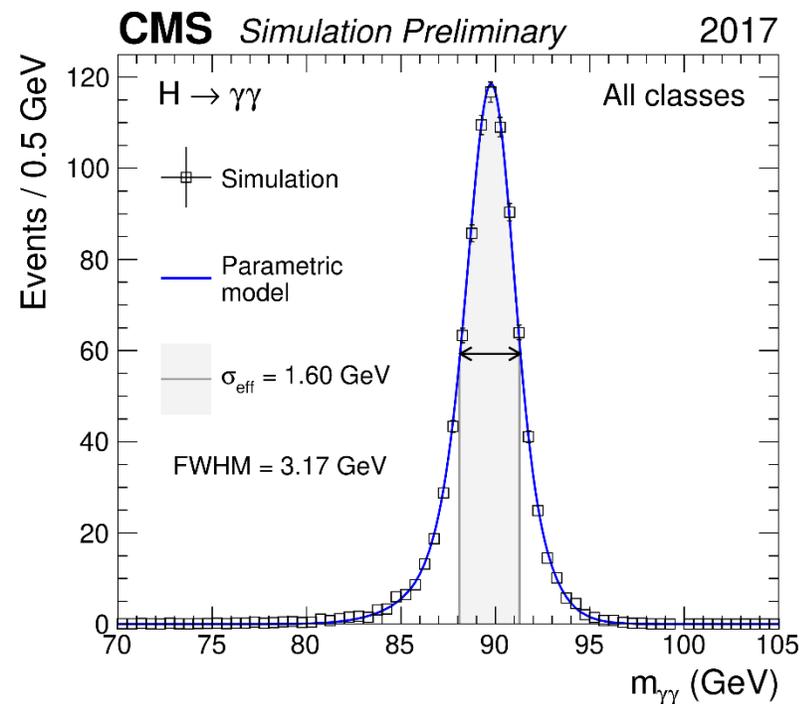
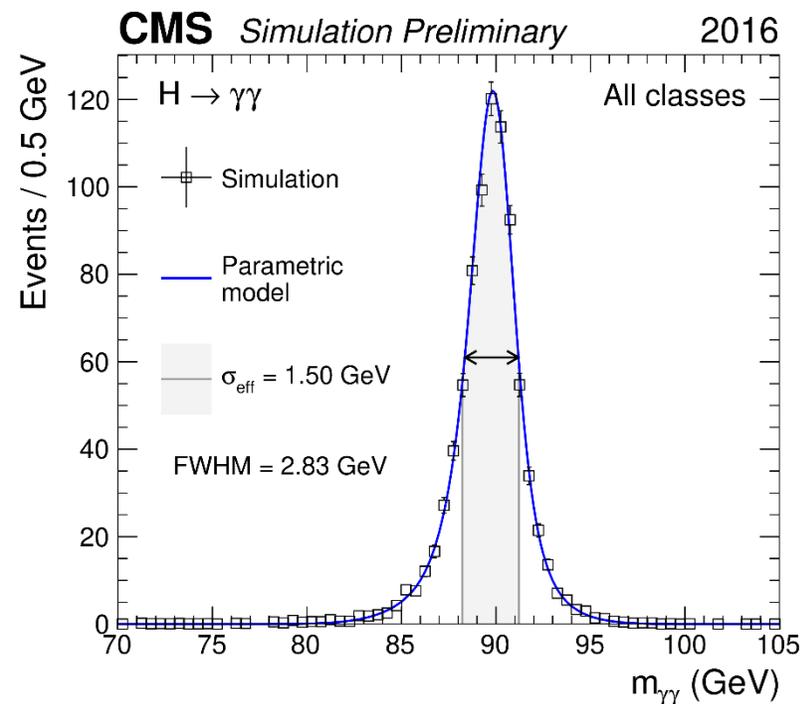
- Diphoton BDT:  $p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma}$ ,  $\eta$ ,  $\cos(\phi_1 - \phi_2)$ , both PhotonID BDT outputs, mass resolution wrt correct and incorrect vertices, vertex probability

- 3 inclusive classes in diphotonBDT + 1 'VBF' class (2017-2018) for events w/additional jets, via combinedBDT, inputs: "dijet" BDT, diphotonBDT,  $p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma}$

- **Model-independent case:** 3 classes, conversion status (UU,UC,CC)
- **Model-dependent case:** object BDT → category BDT, most 'CMS' variables + minimum and both objectBDT scores
- $\{UU,UC,CC\} \times \{\text{category BDT}\} \rightarrow 6$  classes



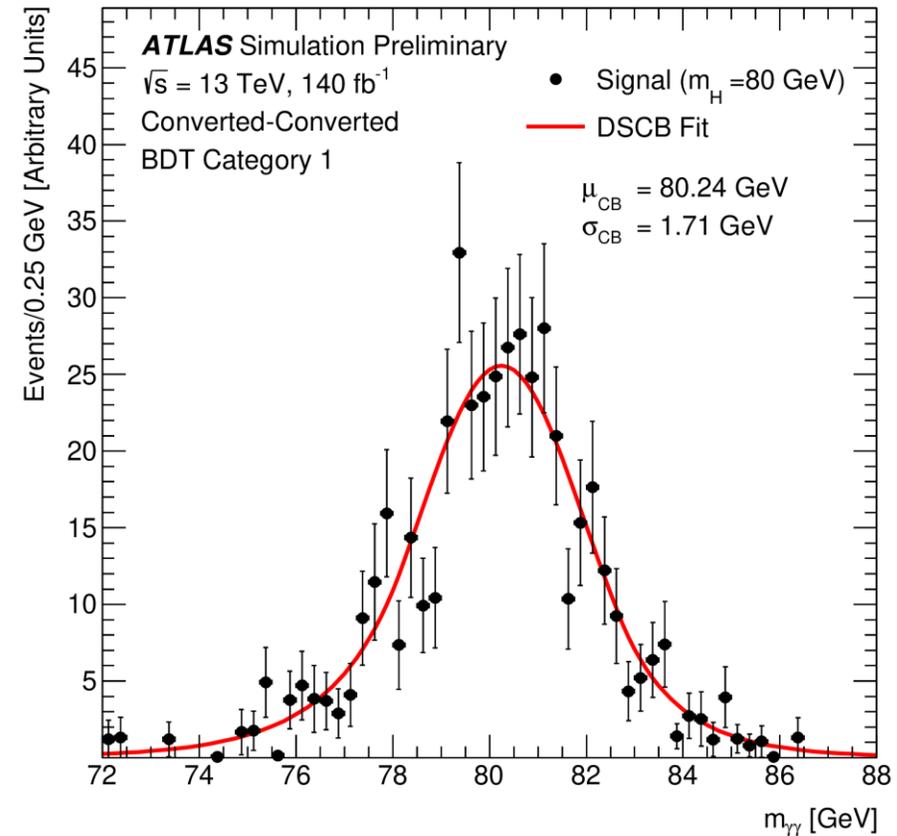
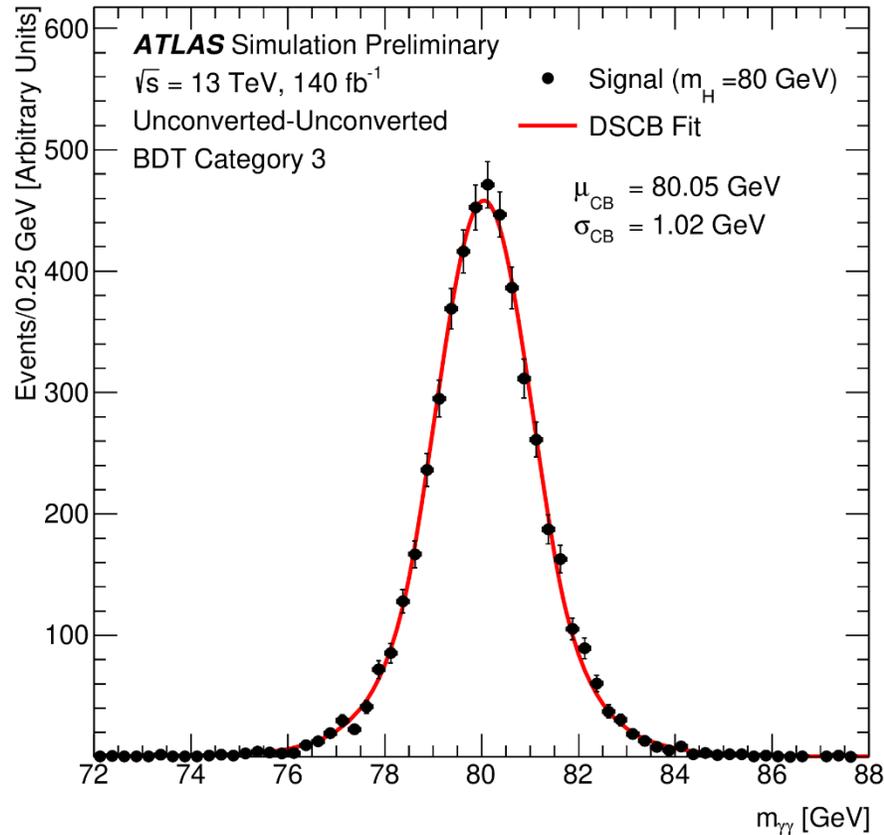
# Signal modeling



- Signal model: Sums of Gaussian functions
- MC ggH, ttbarH, VBF, VH production processes present in SM proportions, 'SM-like'  $\sigma$  from LHC Higgs WG

# Signal modeling

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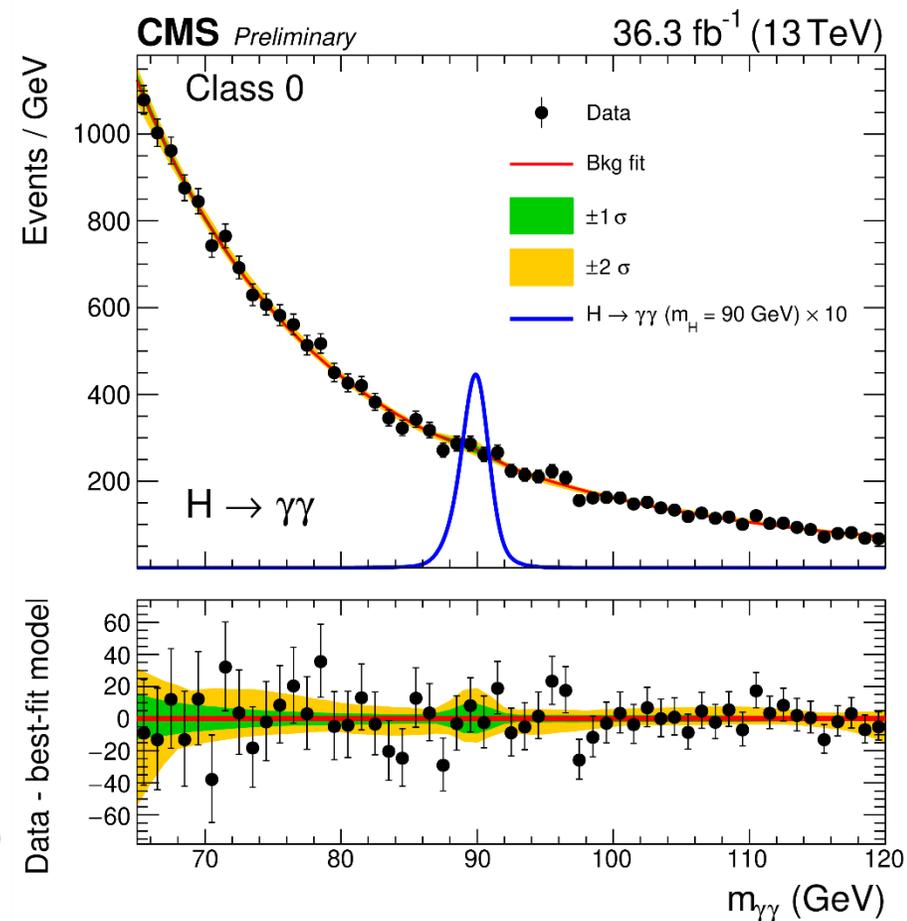
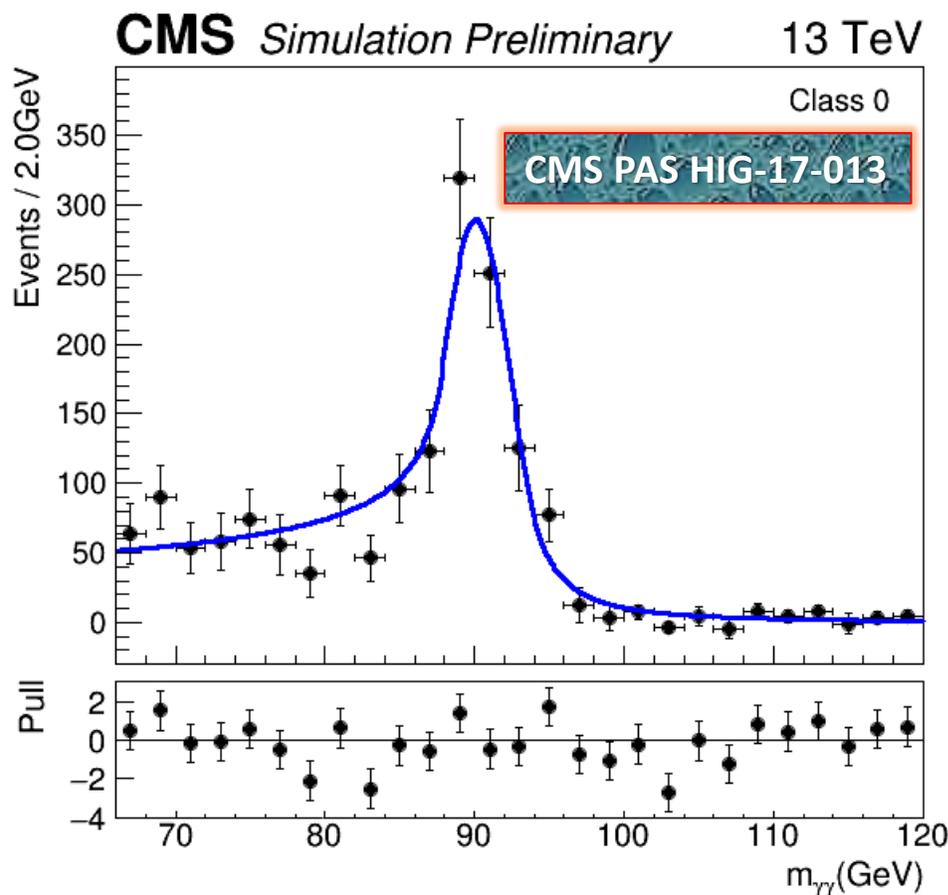


- Signal model: Double Crystal Ball (DCB) function (UU, CC shown)
- MC ggH production process nominal, ttbarH, VBF, VH processes used for systematic uncertainty estimation



# Background Modeling

- Background Model: Sum of polynomial (chosen from 4 families) + double Crystal Ball (DCB) + exponential function for relic  $Z \rightarrow ee$
- DCB: shape parameters from MC 'double-fake' events, syst. uncertainty from 'single-fake' events, normalization floating
- Chosen polynomials:

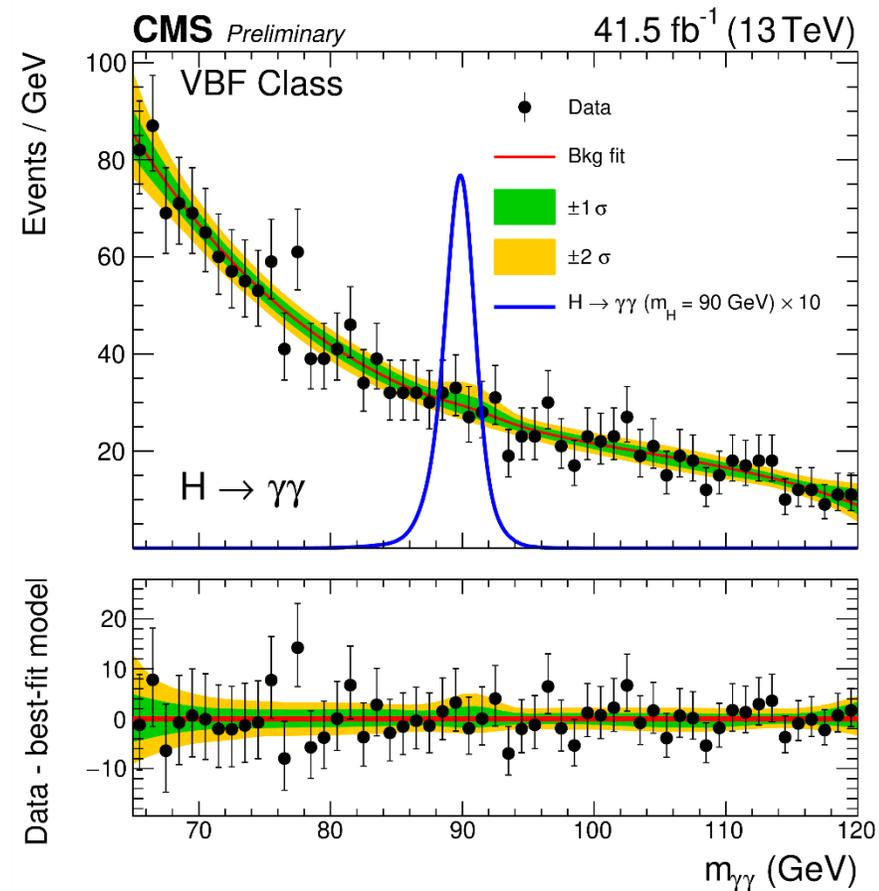
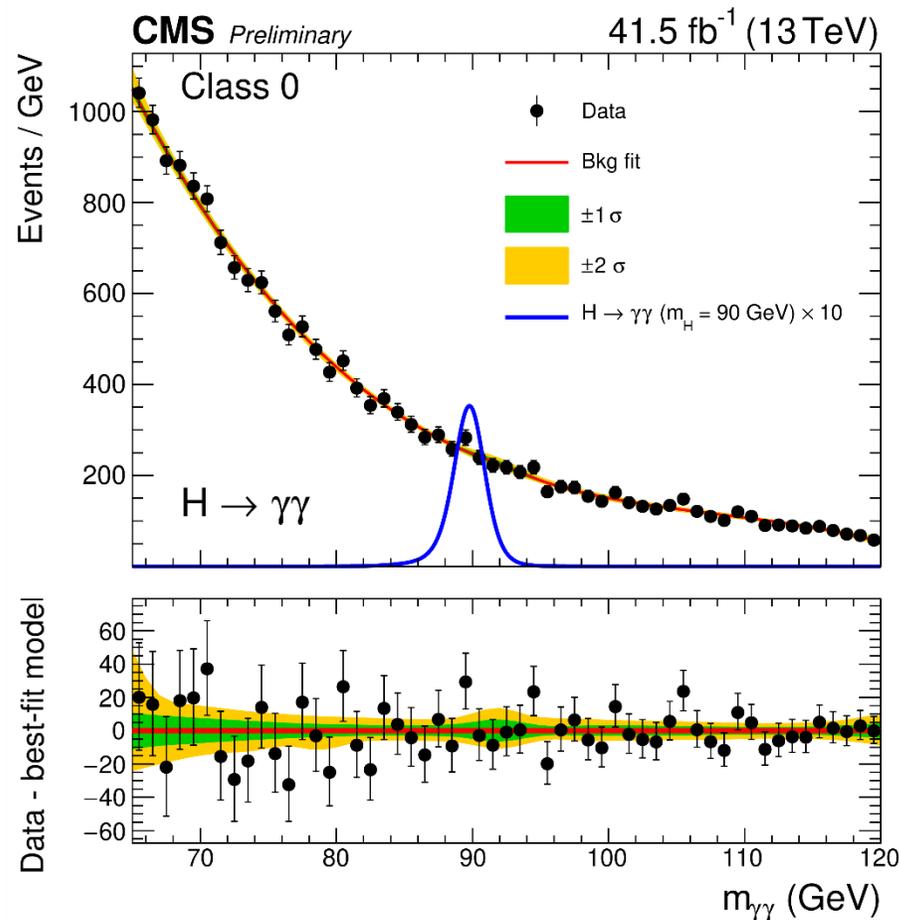


Event class		0	1	2	VBF
2016	Family/Order	Power Law 1	Bernstein 4	Exponential 3	
	DCB + Exp. Fraction (%)	3.0	3.1	3.3	
2017	Family/Order	Bernstein 3	Exponential 3	Bernstein 4	Bernstein 3
	DCB + Exp. Fraction (%)	2.7	1.4	1.9	2.6
2018	Family/Order	Laurent 1	Bernstein 4	Exponential 3	Bernstein 2
	DCB + Exp. Fraction (%)	0.5	4.1	4.8	0.8



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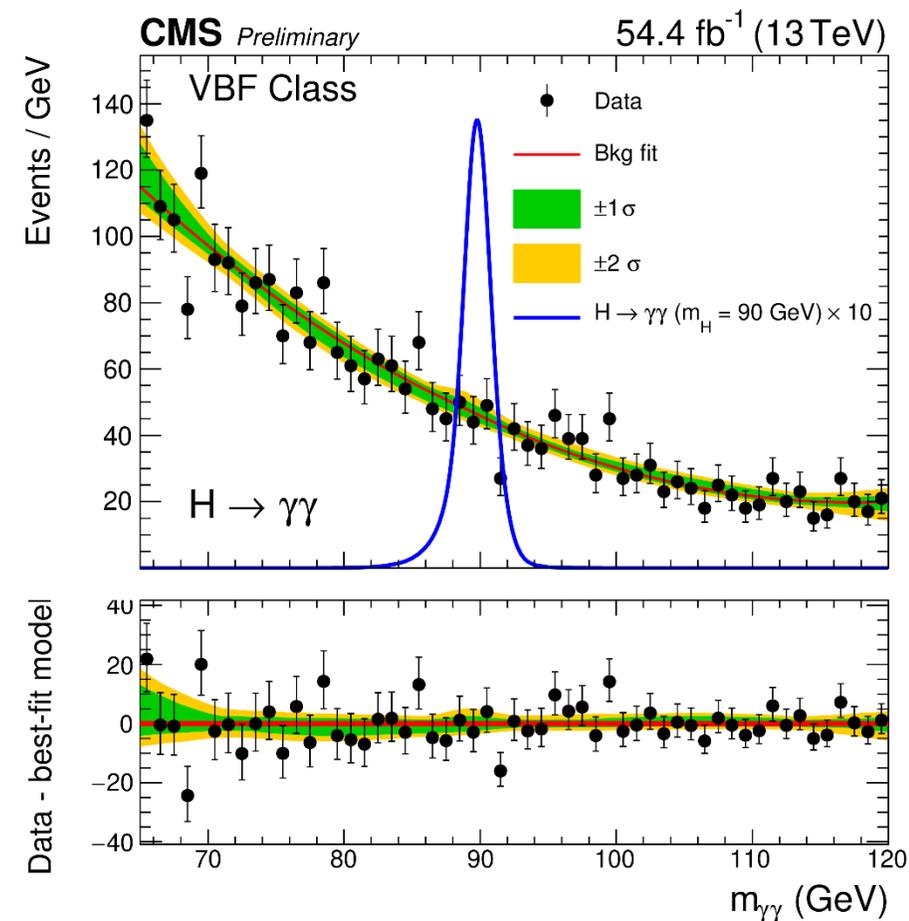
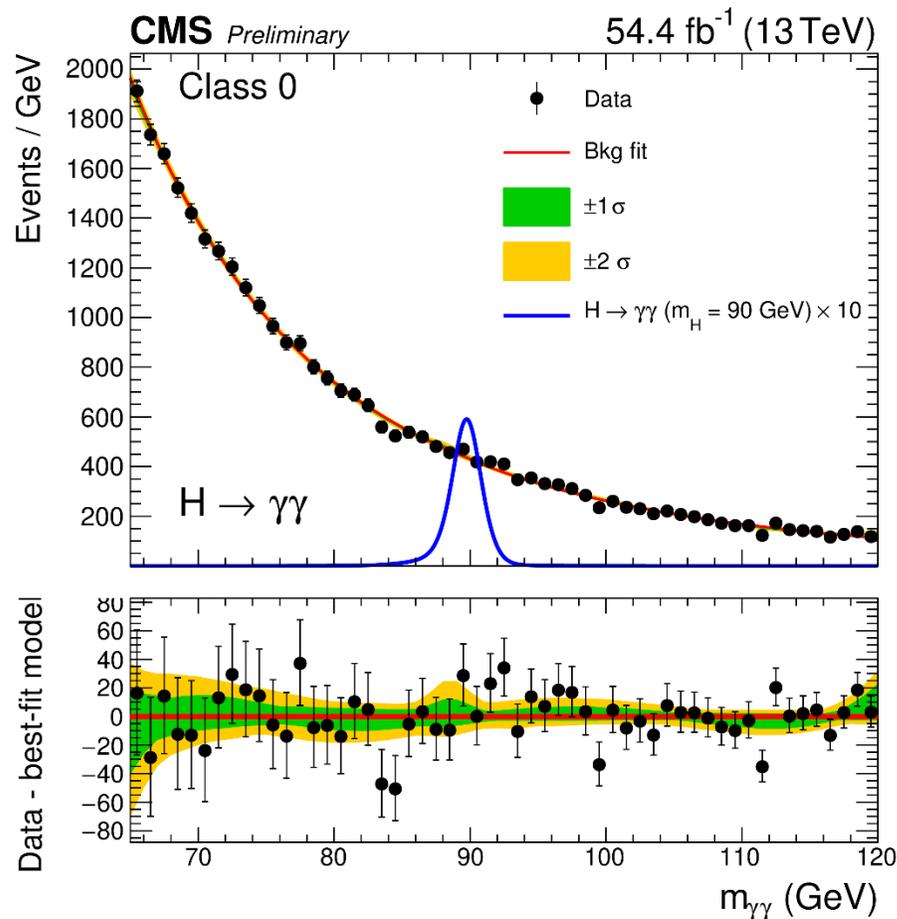


- Choice of background function is discrete parameter in lh fit to data, systematic error associated with each possible choice (discrete profiling or 'envelope' method)



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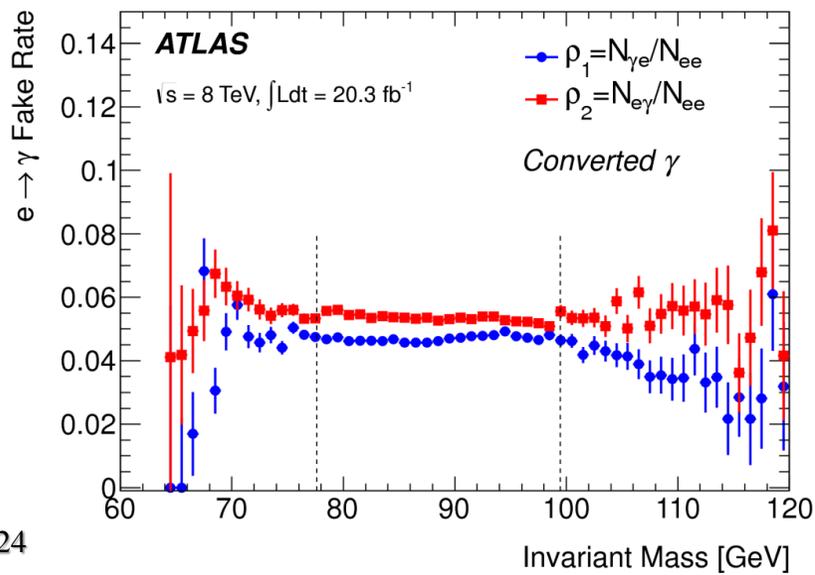
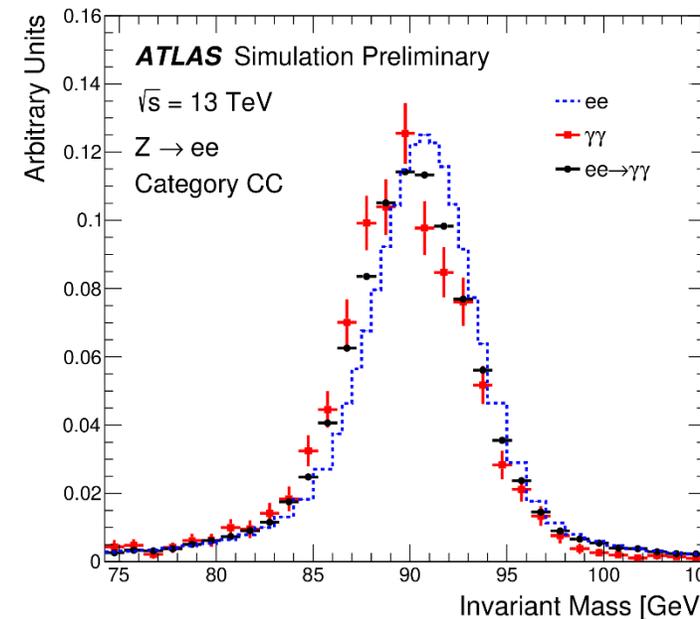
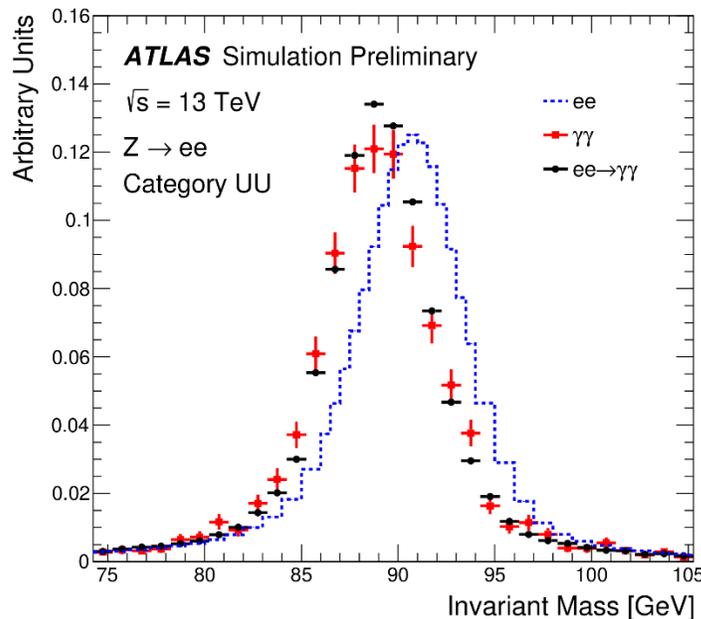


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# Background Modeling



- Background Model: polynomial (chosen from Bernstein and exponentials of polynomials) + double Crystal Ball (DCB) function for relic  $Z \rightarrow ee$  component
- DCB shape: Transformation (Smirnov on  $m_{ee}$ ) applied to generic Zee MC events  $\rightarrow$  match 'double-fake MC events, resulting template fit to Zee data to extract shape parameters
- DCB normalization fixed from fake rates ( $e\gamma/ee$  pairs) in Zee data for  $\gamma_{1,2}$  in each class, reactualized for Run 2



PRL 113 171801 (2014)

# Background Modeling

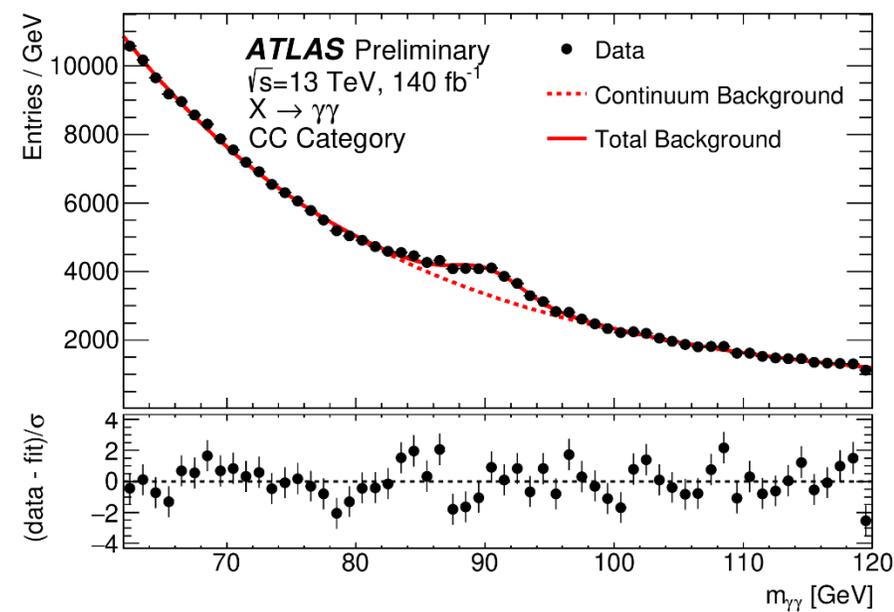
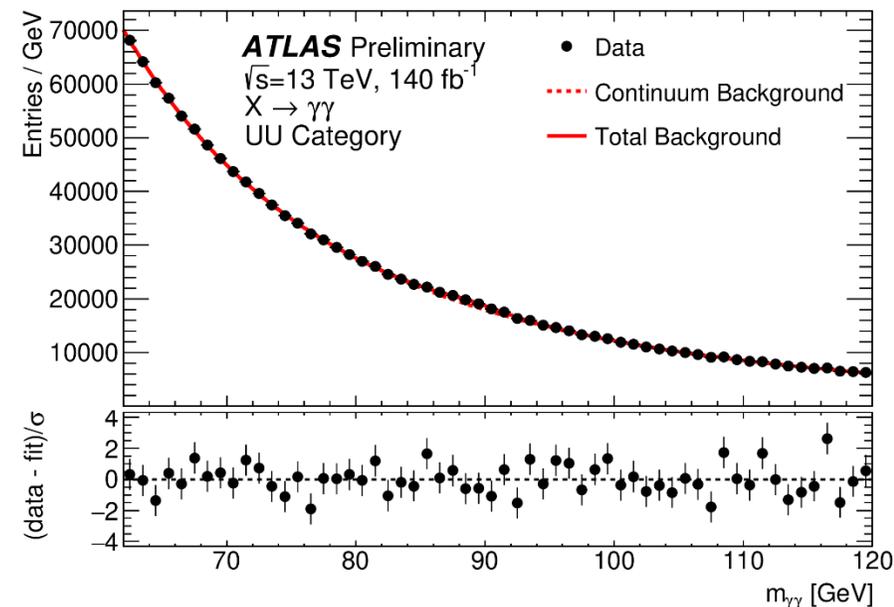


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BDT Category	Component	UU		UC		CC	
		Events	[%]	Events	[%]	Events	[%]
Bin 1	$\gamma\gamma$	423746	71.5	331118	67.0	64521	57.3
	$\gamma j$	124037	20.9	118863	24.1	33610	29.9
	jj	40357	6.8	35958	7.2	9217	8.2
	DY	4263	0.7	8289	1.7	5255	4.6
Bin 2	$\gamma\gamma$	379797	74.7	279785	69.7	55632	64.5
	$\gamma j$	102841	20.2	96895	24.1	23029	26.7
	jj	24437	4.8	22205	5.5	6037	7.0
	DY	1473	0.3	2761	0.7	1577	1.8
Bin 3	$\gamma\gamma$	205134	80.3	153411	73.5	30061	66.6
	$\gamma j$	42662	16.7	45750	21.9	11808	26.2
	jj	6897	2.7	8395	4.0	2479	5.5
	DY	486	0.2	1160	0.6	758	1.7

- Chosen polynomials: Exponential of 3d or 4<sup>th</sup>-order polynomial except for **model-independent** UC (6<sup>th</sup> order Bernstein), fitted on data with normalization and function parameters free

- Choose model with smallest spurious signal in signal+background fit to build background-only template with components from MC; fractions determined from a 2D sideband method (developed for diphoton xs measurements), **Gaussian process regression smoothing** to limit fluctuations



# Background Modeling

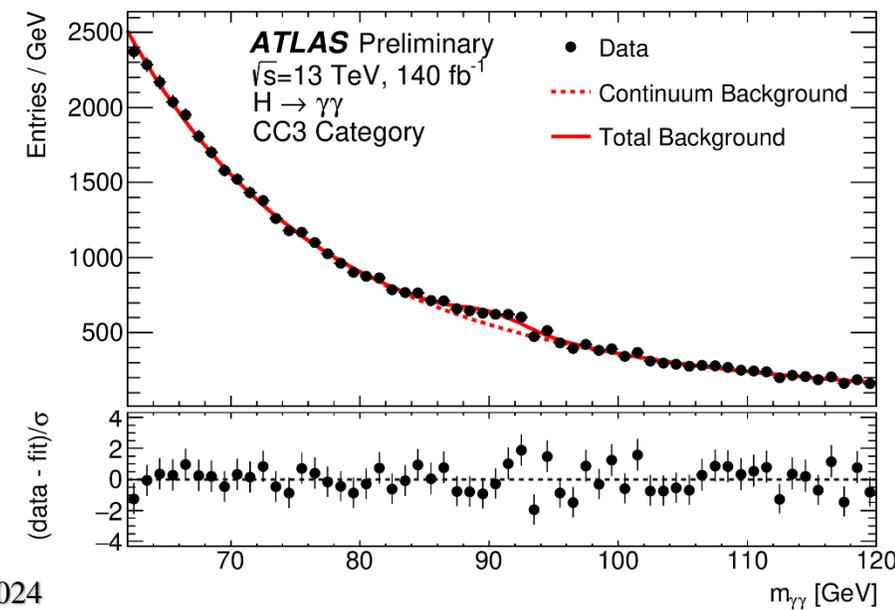
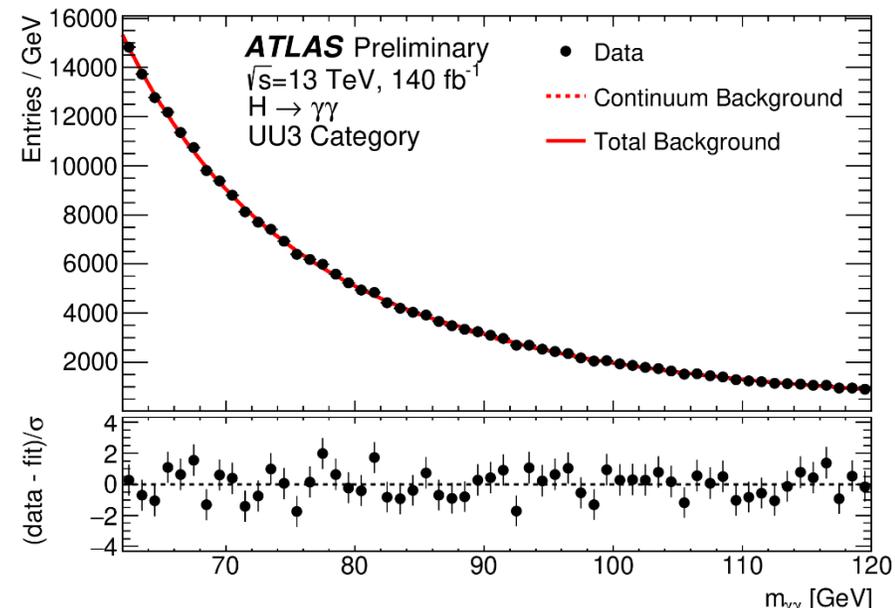


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# Systematic Uncertainties

ATLAS-CONF-2023-035



Source	Uncertainty [%]	Remarks
<i>Signal yield</i>		
Luminosity	±0.83	
Trigger efficiency	±1.0 – 1.5	$m_X$ -dependent
Photon identification efficiency	±1.8 – 3.0	$m_X$ -dependent
Photon isolation efficiency	±1.6 – 2.4	$m_X$ -dependent
Photon energy scale	±0.1 – 0.3	$m_X$ -dependent
Photon energy resolution	±0.1 – 0.15	$m_X$ -dependent
Pile-up	±1.6 – 5.0	$m_X$ -dependent
Production mode	±4.3 – 29	$m_X$ -dependent (model-independent only)
<i>Signal modeling</i>		
Photon energy scale	±0.3 – 0.5	$m_X$ - and category-dependent
Photon energy resolution	±3 – 10	$m_X$ - and category-dependent
<i>Migration between categories</i>		
Material	-2.0 / +1.0 / +4.1	category-dependent
<i>Non-resonant Background</i>		
Spurious Signal	20 – 50	category-dependent
<i>DY Background modeling</i>		
Peak position	±0.1 – 0.2	category-dependent
Peak width	±1.2 – 2.3	category-dependent
Normalization	±6.1 – 9.0	category-dependent



- DY systematics dominated by **normalization uncertainty** (6-9%), was **21%**, **big improvement** from better material modeling/calibration for  $m_H$  measurement
- Spurious signal systematic** dominant except in nbd of  $m_Z$ , (20-50%) **reduced by 50%** thanks to Gaussian smoothing+increased MC statistics
- Signal yield unc. from production mode: 4.3-29% (**model-independent only**)



CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002

- Major systematic uncertainties:** per-photon energy resolution <20%, renormalization and factorization scales <14%, UE modeling <27%, PS <16%, JES corrections (VBF class) <16%.



# Results: Expected numbers of events



ATLAS-CONF-2023-035  
(Model-dependent case)



BDT Category	SM-like Higgs boson ( $m_H = 90$ GeV)						Background	
	Total	ggF [%]	VBF [%]	WH [%]	ZH [%]	ttH [%]	Total [ $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ ]	DY [ $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ ]
1	741	97.1	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.1	18877	2179
2	942	93.4	2.9	2.1	1.2	0.4	14014	713
3	1187	72.4	13.5	6.7	4.0	3.4	6522	294
Total	2870	85.7	6.8	3.7	2.2	1.6	39413	3186

Event classes		Expected SM-like Higgs boson signal yield ( $m_H = 90$ GeV)								Bkg. ( $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ )	DY Bkg. ( $\text{GeV}^{-1}$ )
		Total	ggH (%)	VBF (%)	WH (%)	ZH (%)	t $\bar{t}$ H (%)	$\sigma_{\text{eff}}$ (GeV)	$\sigma_{\text{HM}}$ (GeV)		
2016 36.3 $\text{fb}^{-1}$	0	130	71.9	15.6	6.2	3.6	2.6	1.12	1.00	271	12
	1	304	87.4	6.6	3.6	2.1	0.3	1.25	1.07	3093	33
	2	407	94.7	2.5	1.7	1.0	0.1	1.87	1.51	9190	193
	Total	842	88.5	6.0	3.1	1.8	0.6	1.50	1.20	12 554	239
2017 41.5 $\text{fb}^{-1}$	0	104	73.4	11.6	7.5	4.3	3.2	1.27	1.13	248	7
	1	347	88.5	5.6	3.5	2.1	0.3	1.40	1.24	3625	83
	2	413	94.4	2.6	1.9	1.1	0.1	1.91	1.64	8169	244
	VBF	26	45.6	51.8	1.0	0.5	1.0	1.33	1.15	29	1
	Total	890	88.2	6.2	3.1	1.8	0.6	1.60	1.35	12 071	338
2018 54.4 $\text{fb}^{-1}$	0	162	75.1	10.2	7.3	4.3	3.0	1.21	1.05	430	3
	1	585	90.1	4.8	3.1	1.8	0.2	1.34	1.17	6445	378
	2	473	94.4	2.5	1.9	1.2	0.1	2.01	1.73	10 982	720
	VBF	38	45.4	51.9	1.1	0.6	1.0	1.21	1.03	46	1
	Total	1258	88.4	6.1	3.1	1.8	0.6	1.54	1.27	17 902	1104

- Signal and background events per category (most sensitive category: **0** for CMS, **3** for ATLAS !)



CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002



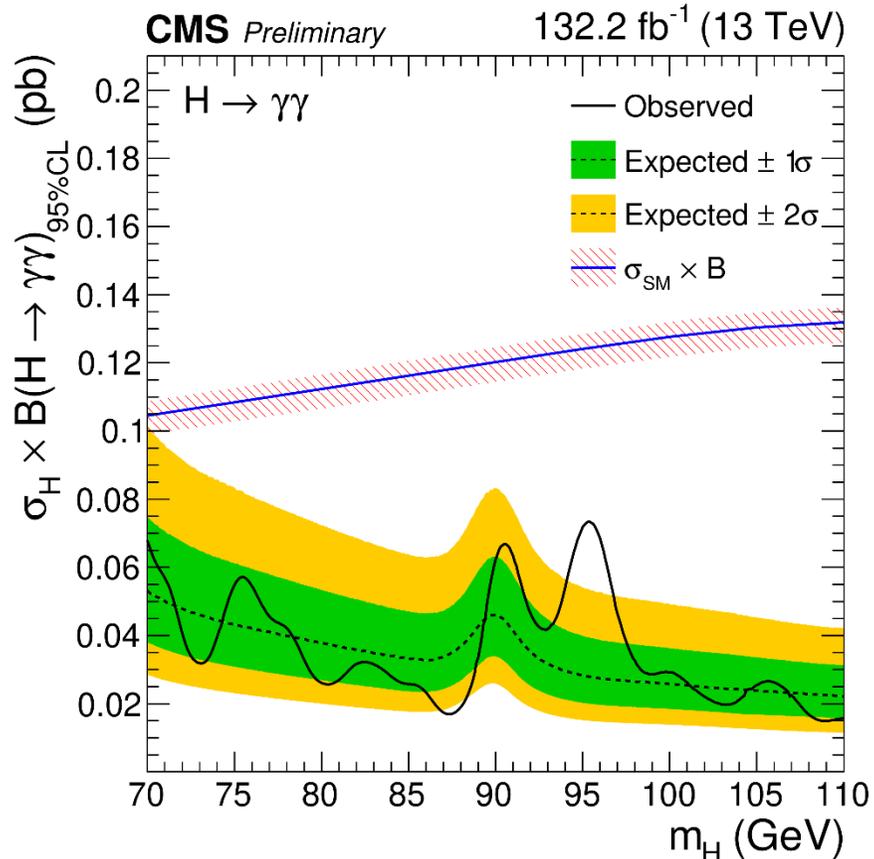
# Results: Limits on $\sigma \times B$

ATLAS-CONF-2023-035



CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002

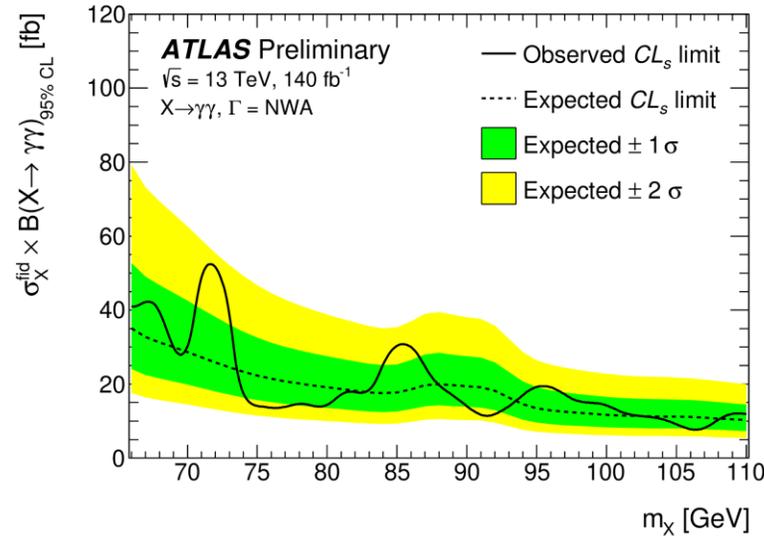
- Model-dependent ( $\sigma_H$ ):



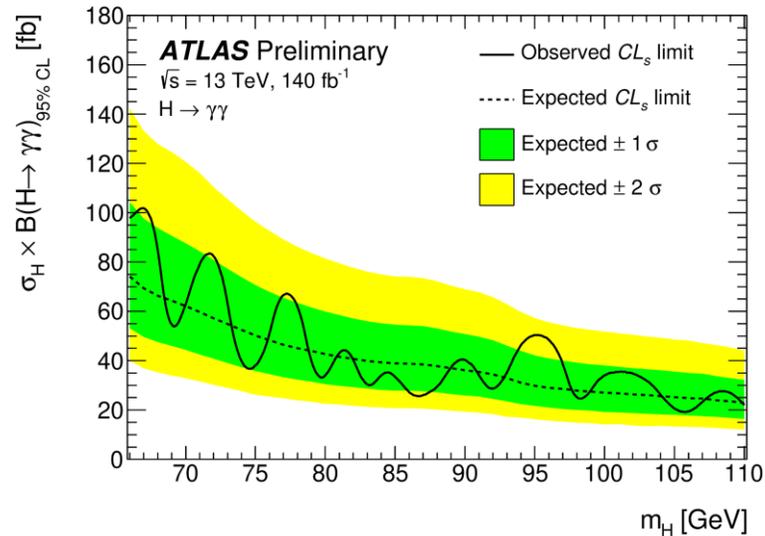
- 95% CL UL on  $\sigma \times B$  between 15-73 fb



- 95% CL UL on  $\sigma_H \times B$ : 8-53 fb



- Model-independent:  
95% CL UL on  $\sigma_{fid} \times B$ :  
8-53 fb

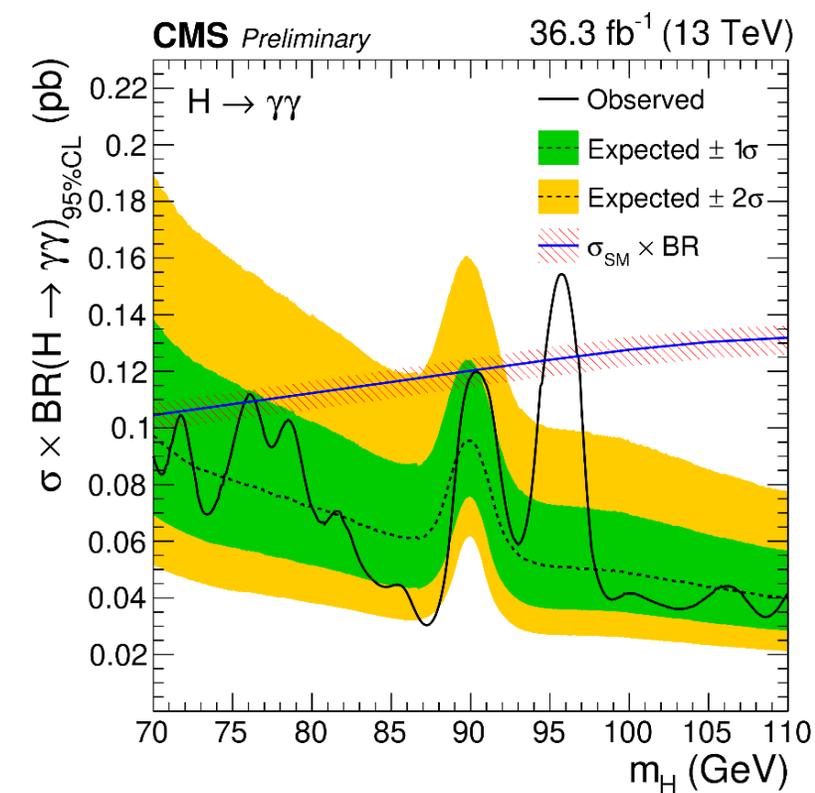


- Model-dependent

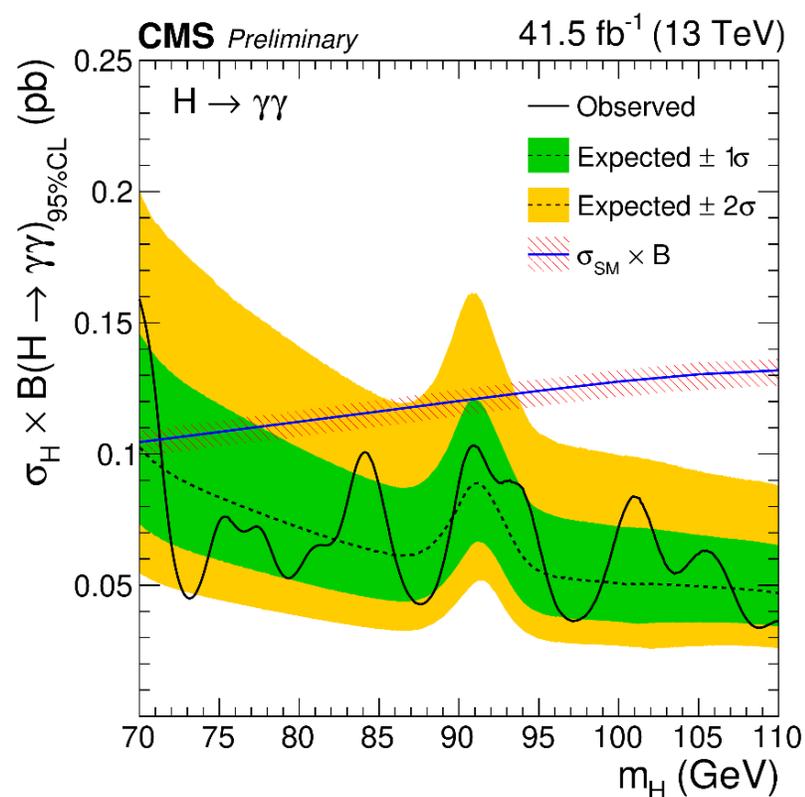


# Results: Limits on $\sigma \times B$ by year

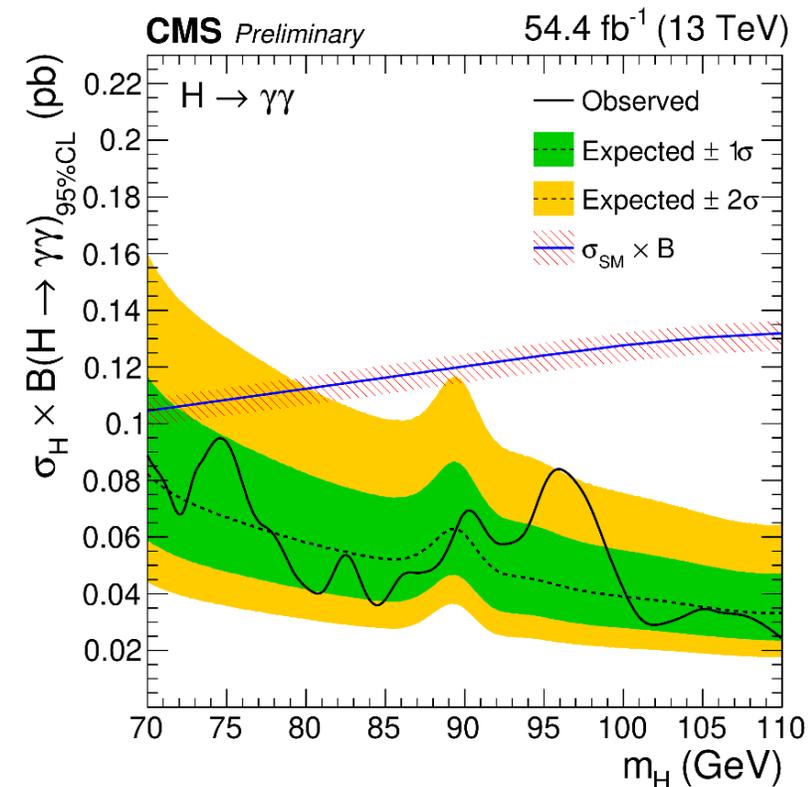
CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002



• 2016



• 2017



• 2018

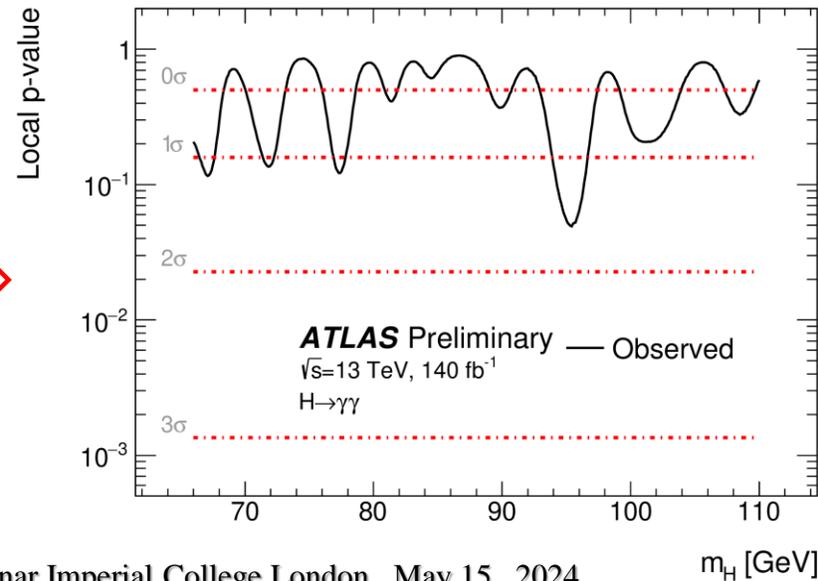
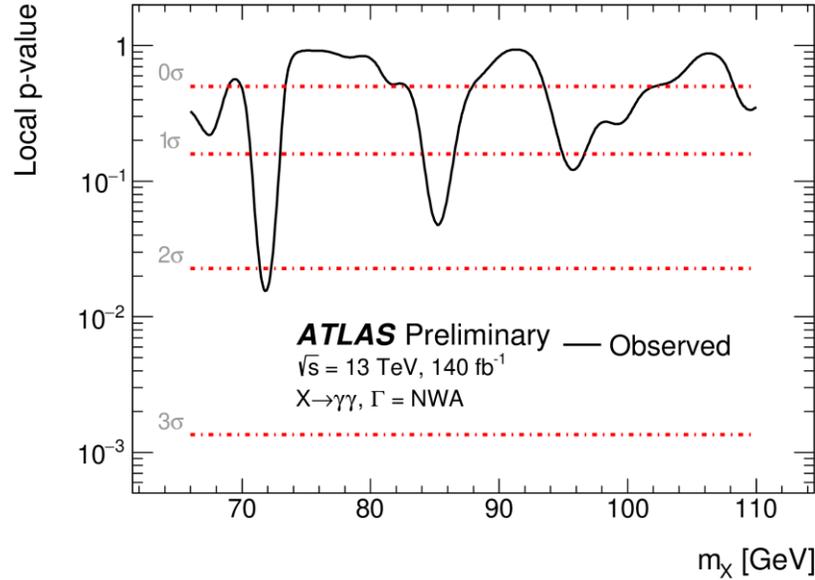
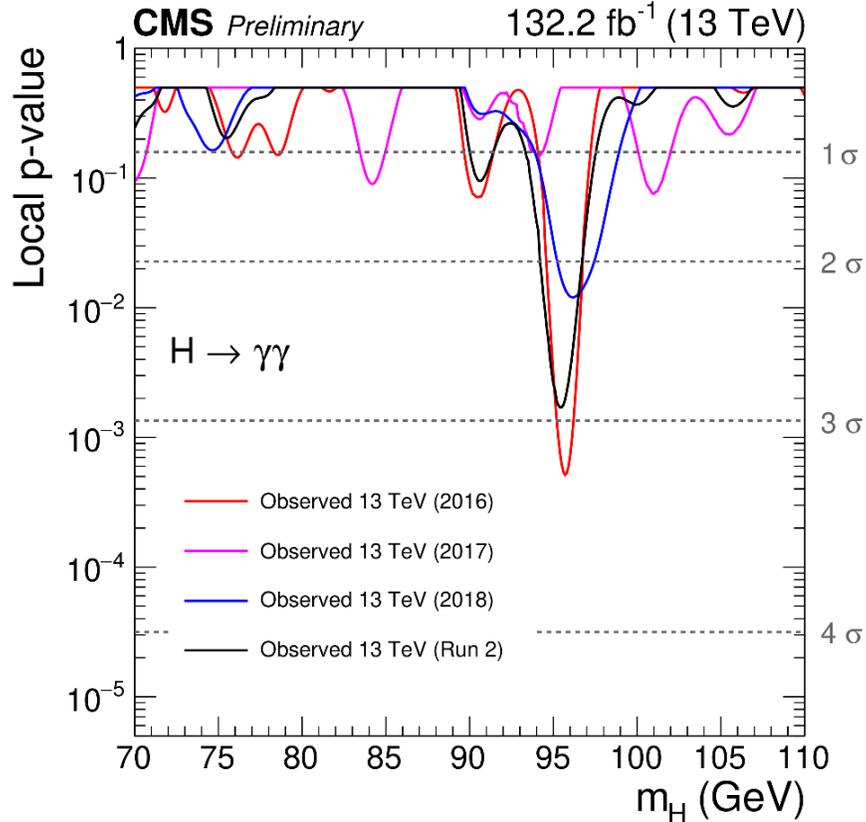


# Results: $p$ -values



ATLAS-CONF-2023-035

CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002



- **Model-independent:**  
Mild excess:  $\sim 2.2\sigma$   
local significance at  $m_{\gamma\gamma} = 71.8$  GeV

- **Model-dependent:**  
Largest deviation:  
 $\sim 1.7\sigma$  local  
significance at  $m_{\gamma\gamma} = 95.4$  GeV

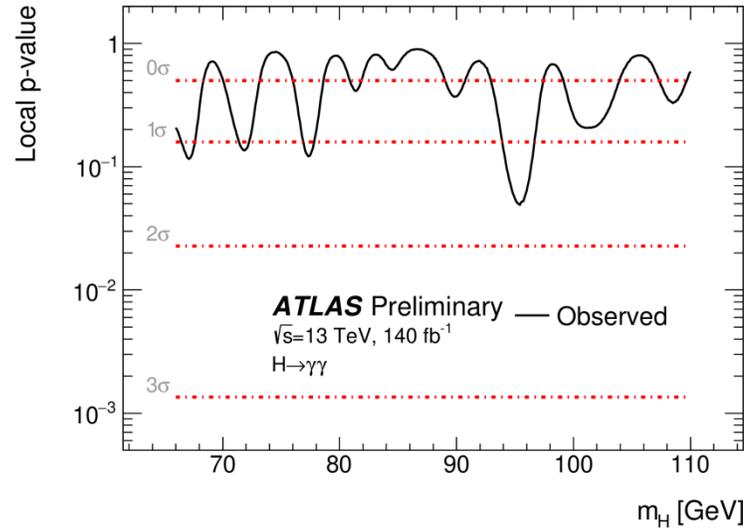
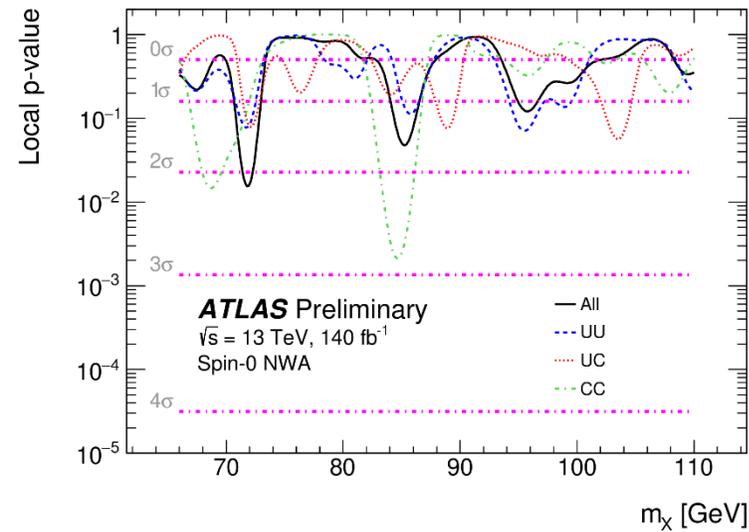
- Modest excess:  $\sim 2.9\sigma$  local ( $1.3\sigma$  global) significance at  $m_{\gamma\gamma} = 95.4$  GeV



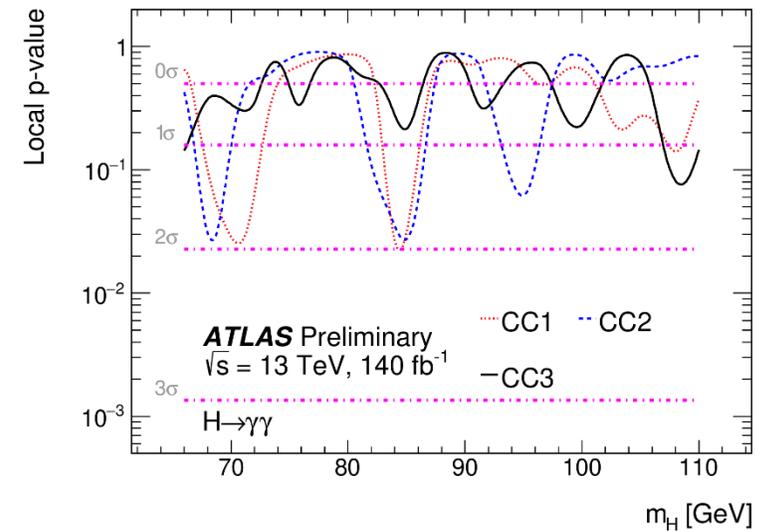
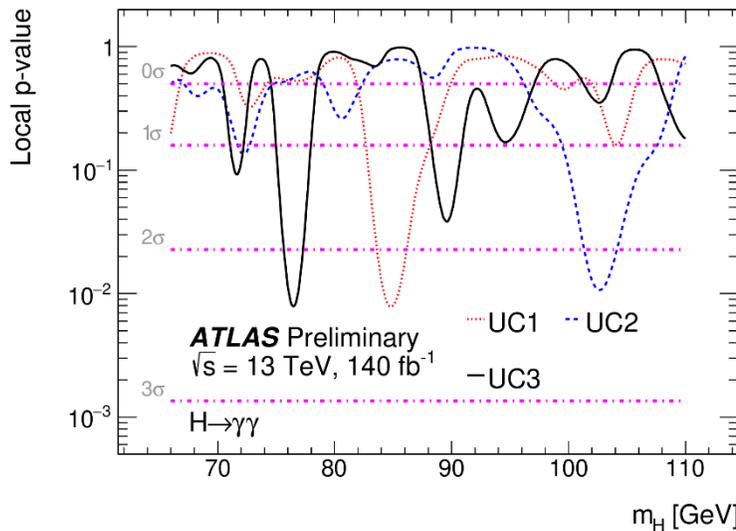
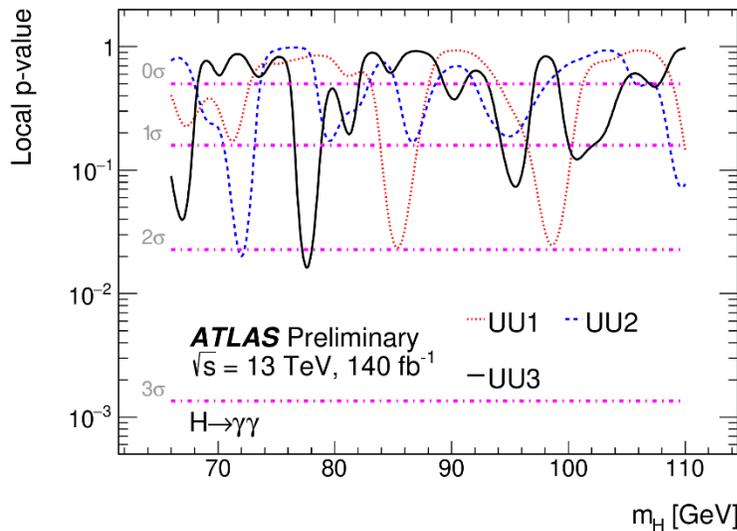


# Results: p-values by category

- Model-independent



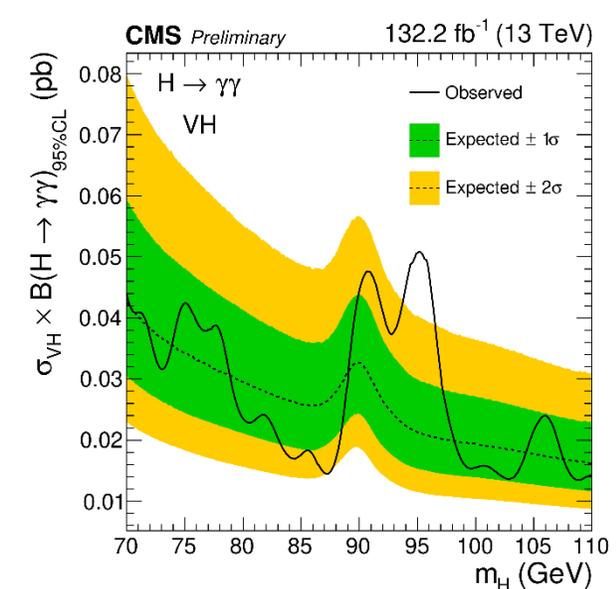
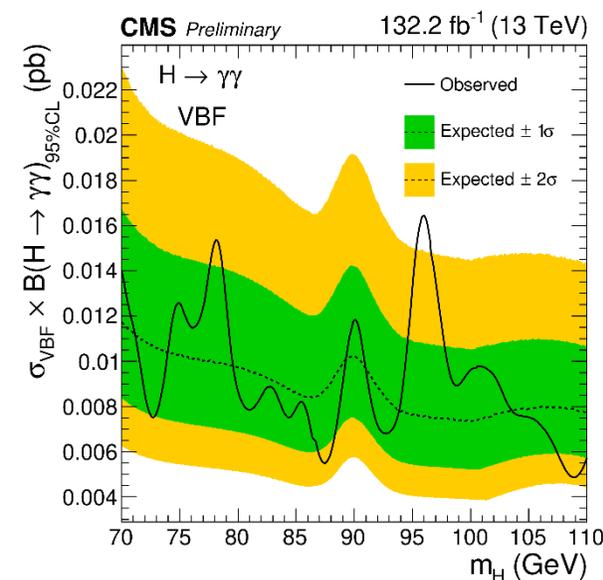
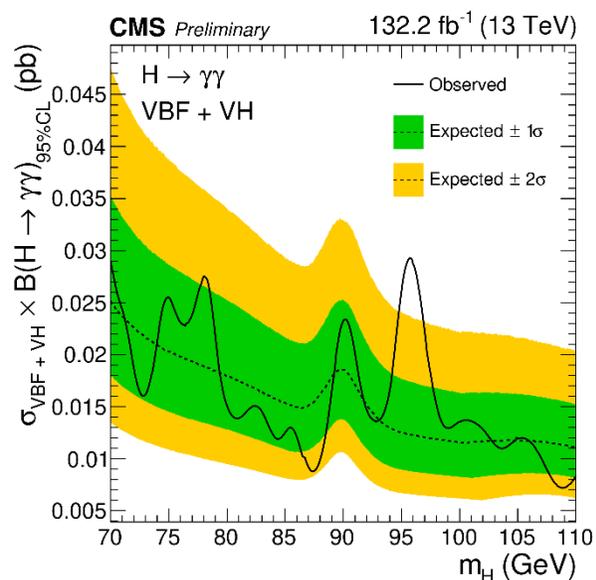
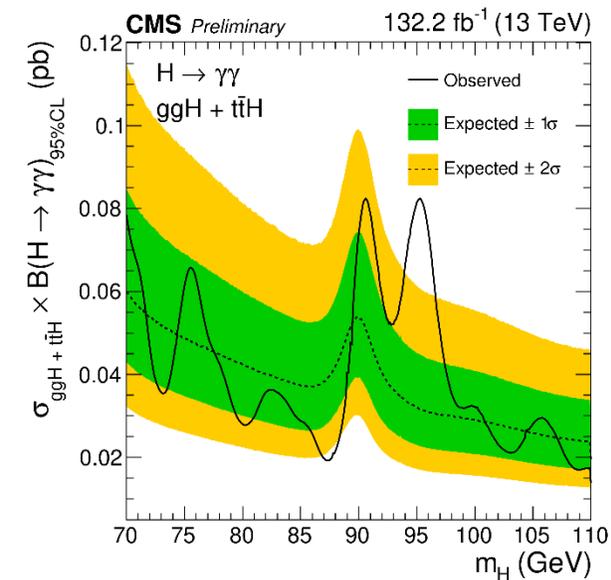
- Model-dependent:





# Results: Limits on $\sigma \times B$ by production process

- 95% CL limits on  $\sigma \times B$  by production process (integrated over all experimental event classes)



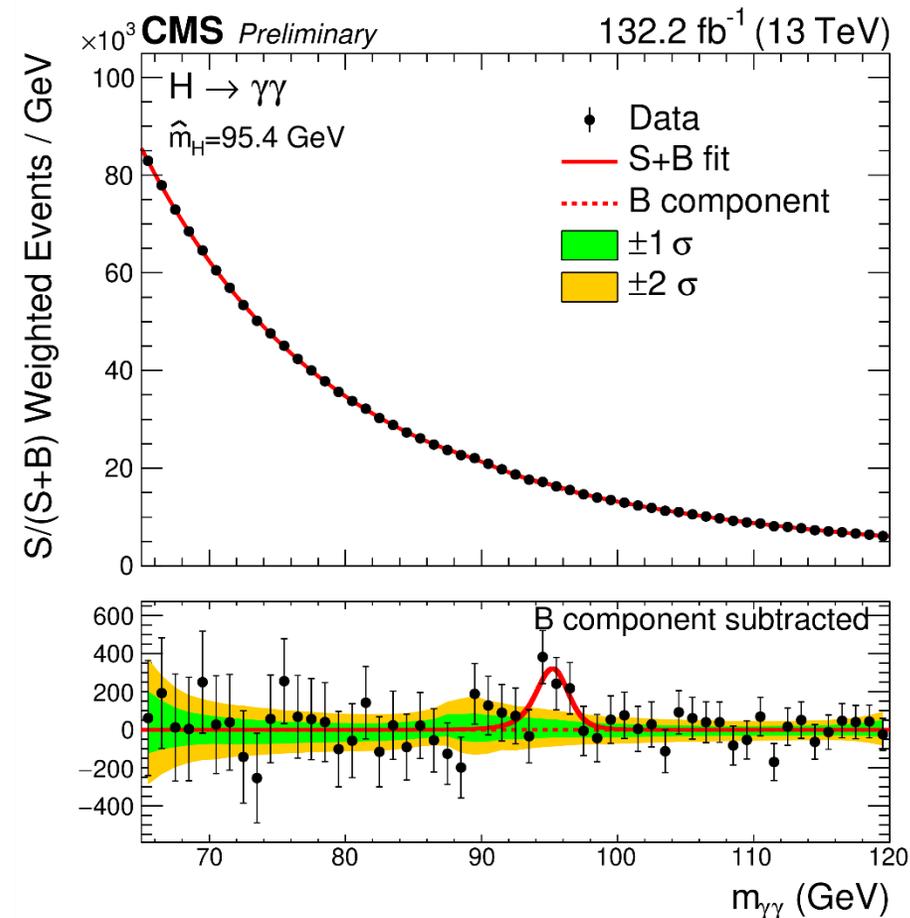
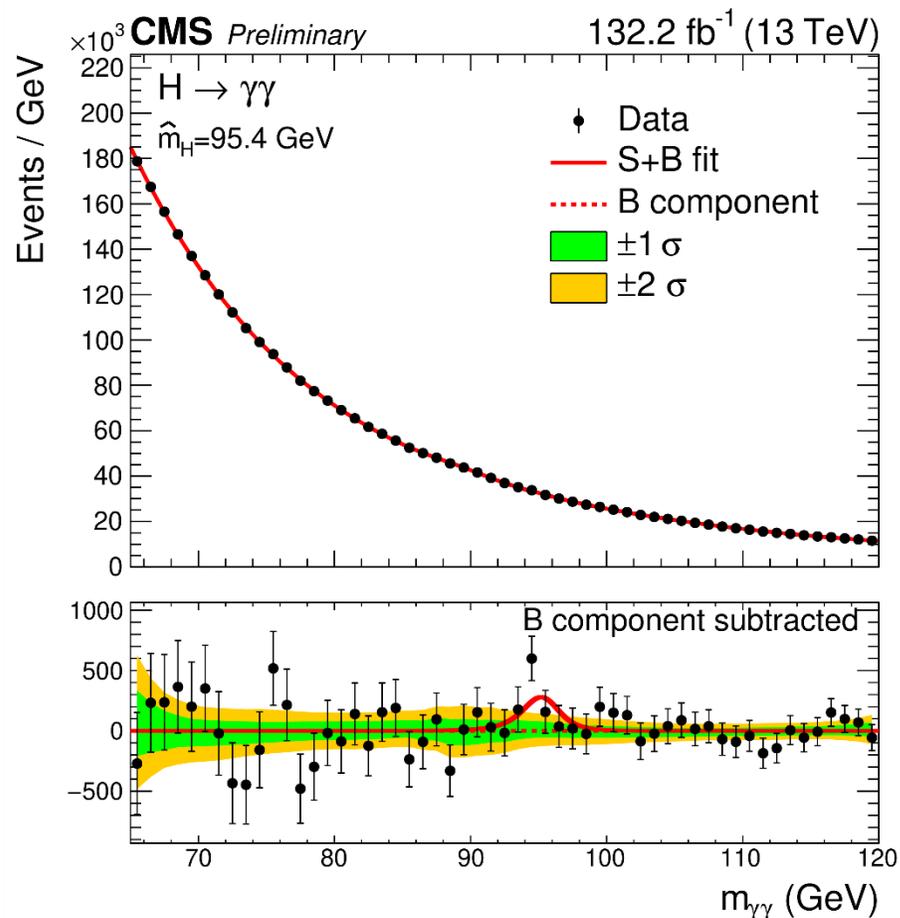
- 100% production via fermion-coupled processes (ggH, ttbarH in SM proportions)

- 100% production via vector boson-coupled processes (VBF, VH in SM proportions)

- 100% production via VBF
- 100% production via VH



# Results: Signal + Background Fits

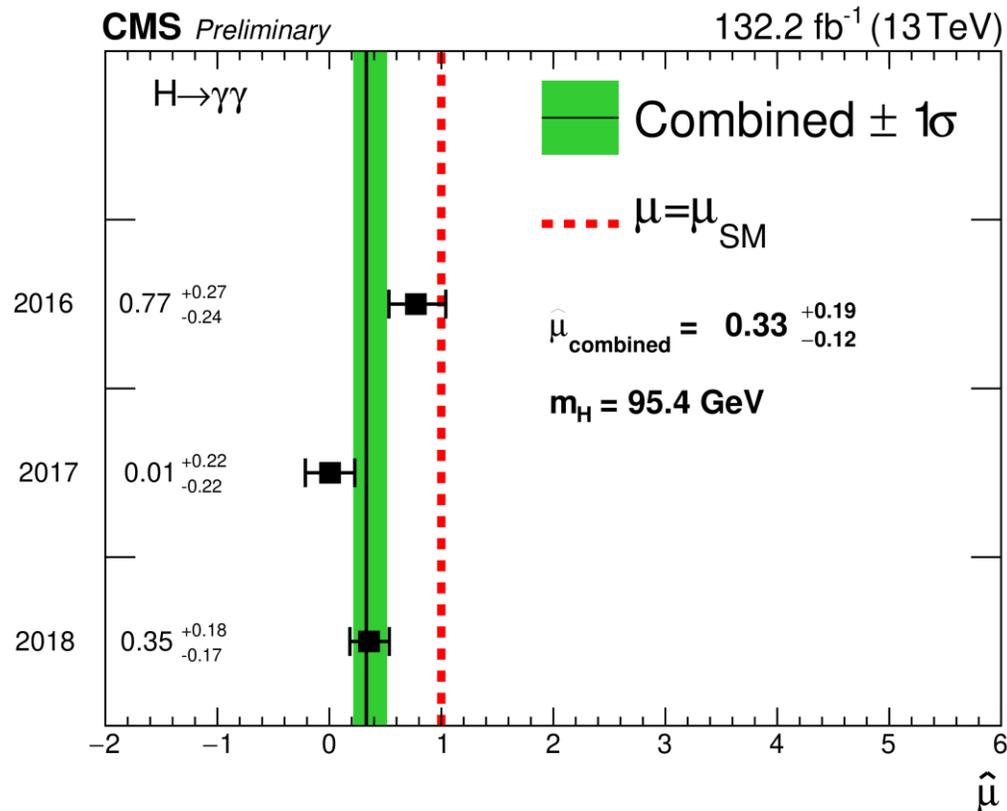
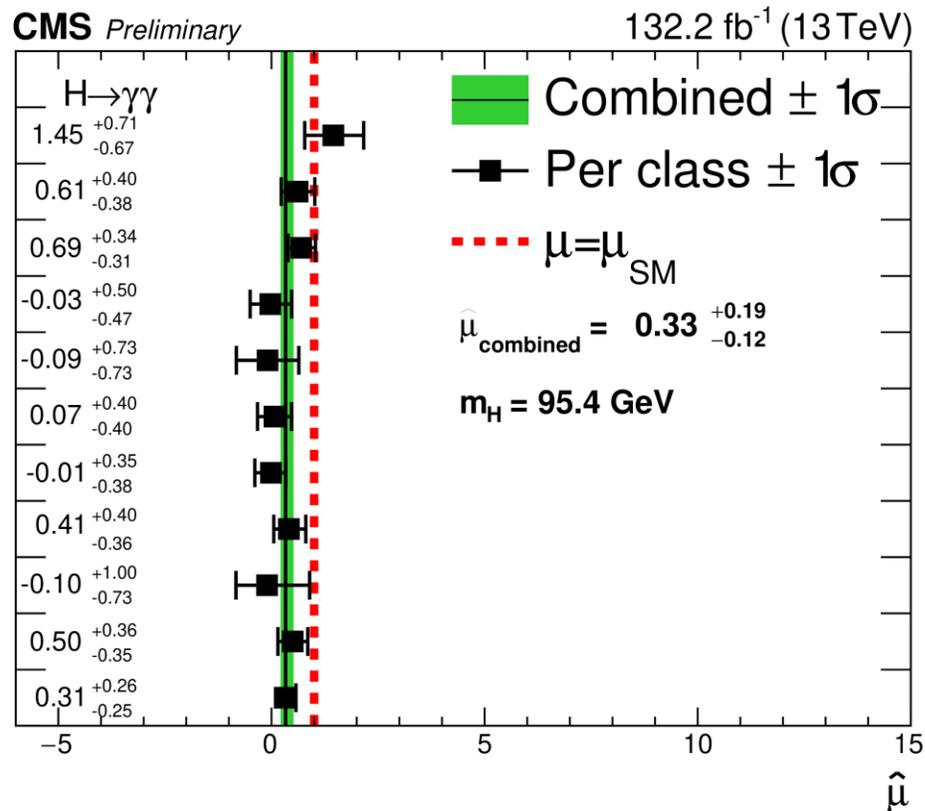


- Fits of S+B model over all event classes, for best-fit  $m=95.4$  GeV
- Bands include uncertainties on fit function choice/fitted parameters (from toys).
- Left: unweighted, Right: each event weighted by the ratio  $S/(S+B)$  for its event class



# Results: 'Signal' strengths $\mu$ fixing $m_H=95.4$ GeV

CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002



- for the 11 event classes  
 $\chi^2$  compatibility probability: 68%

- for the 3 years  
 $\chi^2$  compatibility probability: 6%

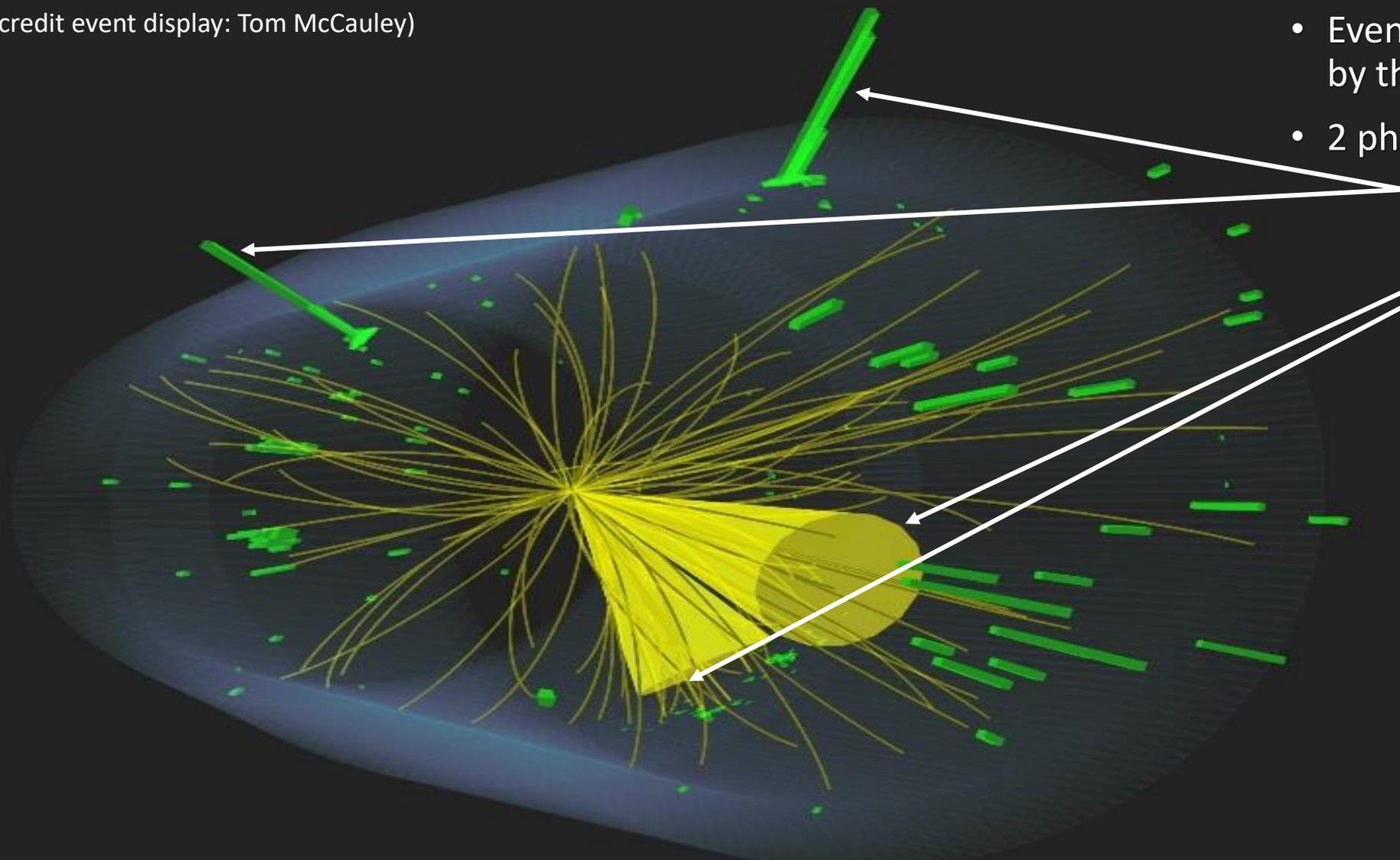


CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN

Data recorded: 2018-Oct-03 11:26:05.236800 GMT

Run / Event / LS: 323954 / 100651384 / 51

(credit event display: Tom McCauley)



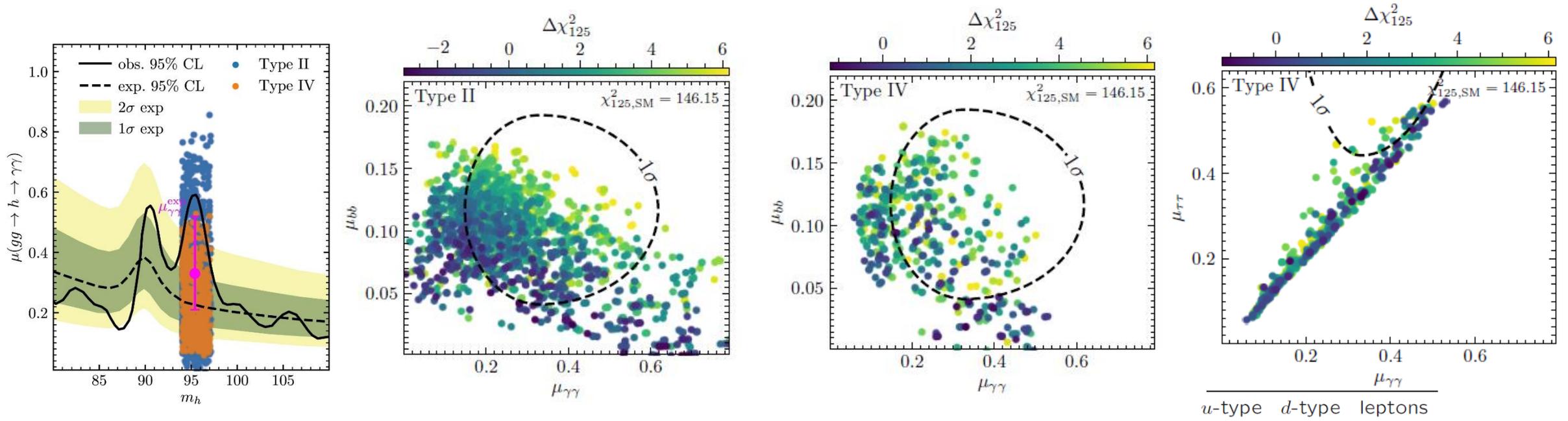
- Event recorded in 2018 selected by the analysis
- 2 photons and 2 jets



# Example of theoretical interpretation

Interpretation of CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002: Biekötter, Heinemeyer, Weiglein, Phys.Lett.B 846 (2023) 138217

- 2HDM + complex singlet model (S2HDM) compatible with excesses at  $\sim 95$  GeV for  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$  and  $m_{bb}$  (LEP) for Types II and IV, also with  $m_{\tau\tau}$  (CMS, JHEP 07 (2023) 073) for Type IV (points in agreement with all experimental and theoretical bounds)
- Model contains 3 CP-even ( $h_1, h_2, h_3$ ), 1 CP-odd ( $A$ ) neutral, 2 charged ( $H^\pm$ ) and 1 DM ( $\chi$ ) scalars



- Model types similar to those in 2HDM

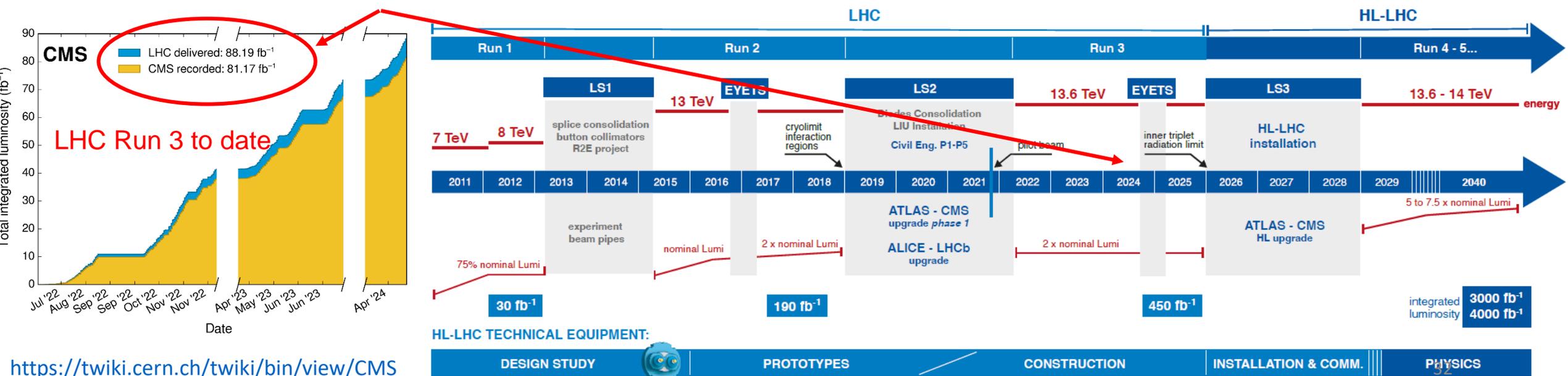
	$u$ -type	$d$ -type	leptons
type I	$\Phi_2$	$\Phi_2$	$\Phi_2$
type II	$\Phi_2$	$\Phi_1$	$\Phi_1$
type III (lepton-specific)	$\Phi_2$	$\Phi_2$	$\Phi_1$
type IV (flipped)	$\Phi_2$	$\Phi_1$	$\Phi_2$



# Conclusions and Perspectives



- Presented new CMS and ATLAS searches for additional low-mass SM-like  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  ( $70 \text{ GeV} < m_H < 110 \text{ GeV}$ ) using full LHC Run 2 data: No evidence for the existence of extra Higgs bosons found so far
- CMS: Modest excess at  $m_{\gamma\gamma} = 95.4 \text{ GeV}$  with  $2.9\sigma$  local ( $1.3\sigma$  global) significance.**
- ATLAS: Mild excess:  $\sim 2.2\sigma$  local significance at  $m_{\gamma\gamma} = 71.8 \text{ GeV}$  (model-independent) and  $1.7\sigma$  local significance deviation at  $m_{\gamma\gamma} = 95.4 \text{ GeV}$  (model-dependent)**
- More (Run 3) data is needed to conclude ...and it's on it's way! ( $\sim 250 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ ) **→ Double the discovery possibilities!**
- HL-LHC: Starts  $\sim 2029$ , expect  $3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$**



# Acknowledgements

- Thank you for the invitation and thank you for your attention!
- Special thanks to: L. Finco, N. Berger, L. Roos, R. Lafaye, M. Lethuillier, J. Tao, L. Finco, B. Courbon,, S. Zhang, K. Mondal, A. Purohit, P. K. Rout, S. Bhattacharya, C. Camen, A. Lesauvage

# Backup



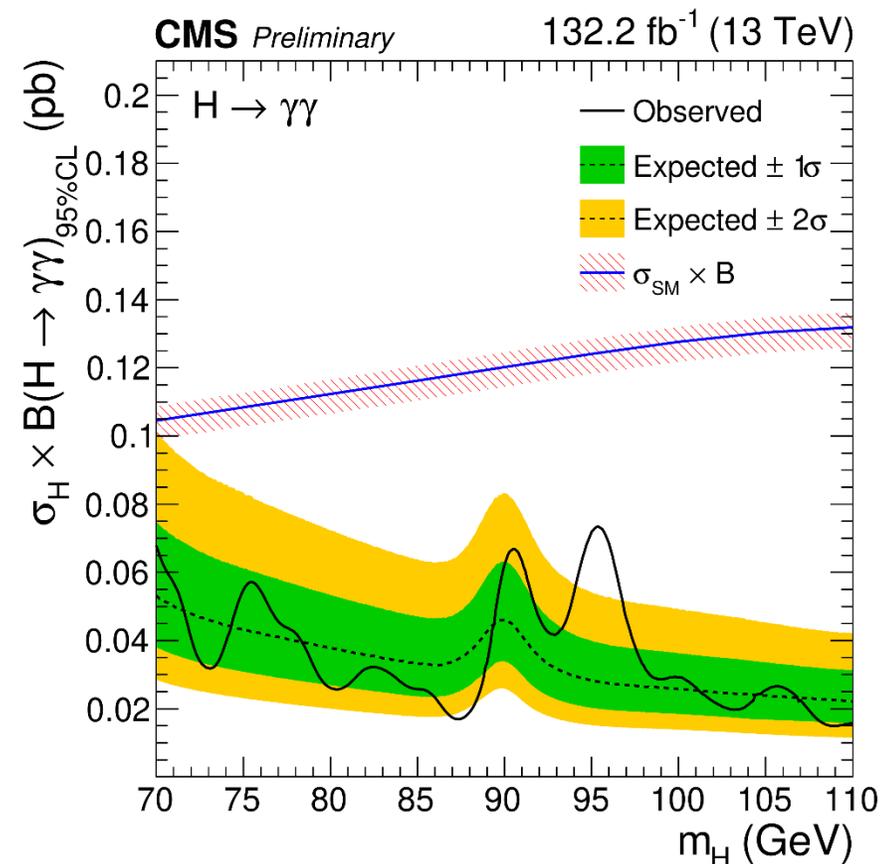
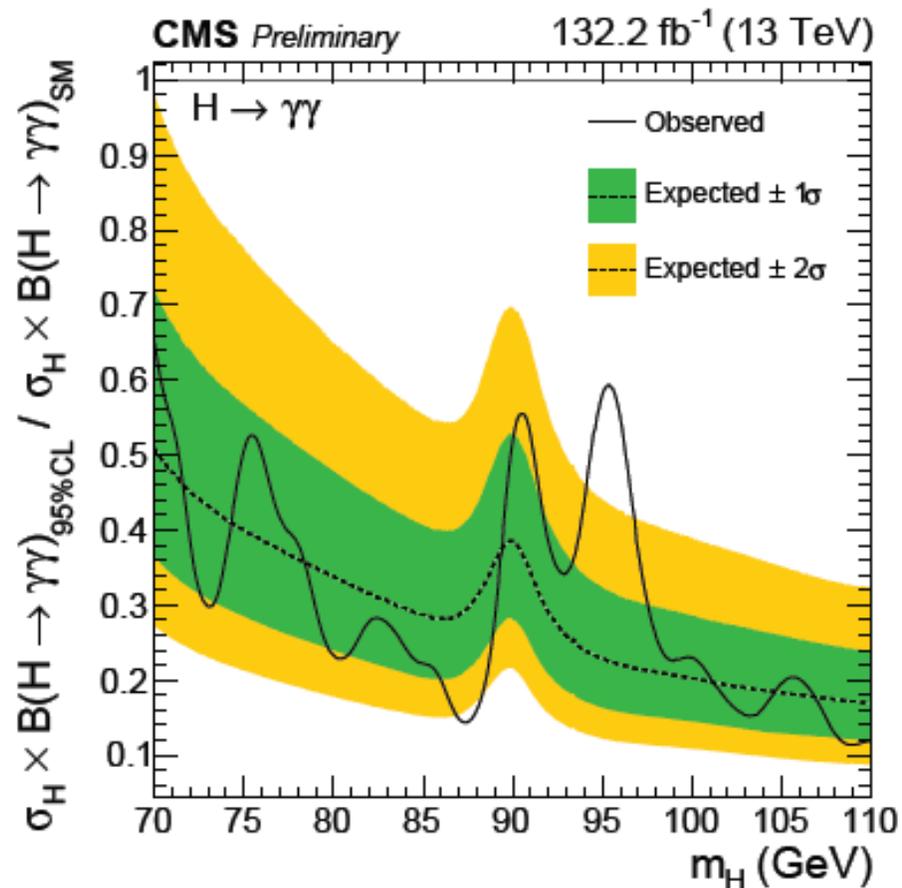
# SM-like $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ( $70 \text{ GeV} < m_H < 110 \text{ GeV}$ )

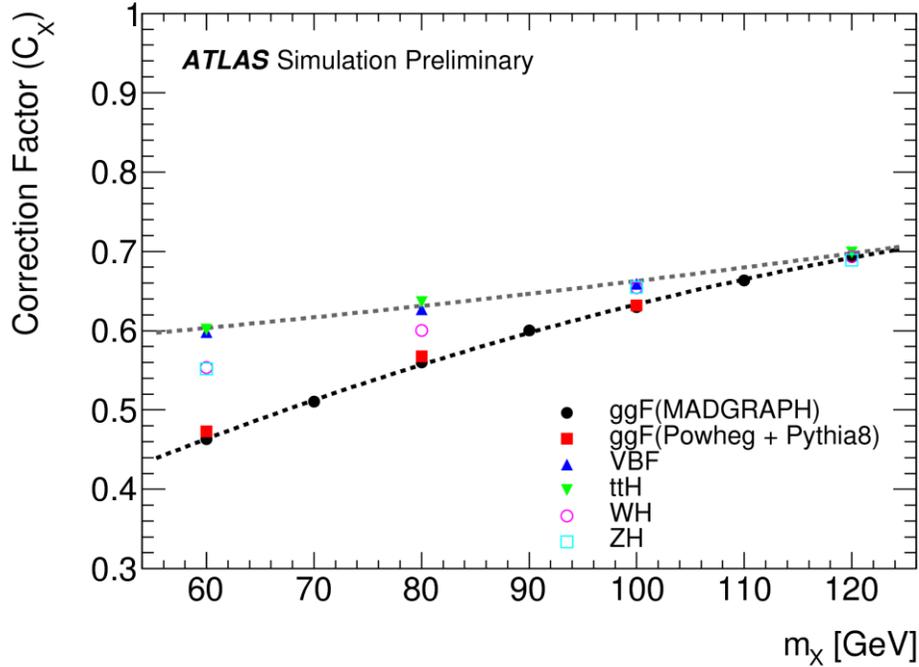
CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002

<http://cms-results.web.cern.ch/cms-results/public-results/preliminary-results/HIG-20-002/>

- Observed and expected 95% CL UL on  $\sigma \times B$  relative to SM-like expectation (production processes assumed in SM proportions)

- Observed absolute 95% CL UL on  $\sigma \times B$  between 15-73 fb





Source	Uncertainty [%]	Remarks
<i>Signal yield</i>		
Luminosity	$\pm 2$	
Trigger eff.	$\pm 1.4 - 1.7$	$m_X$ -dependent
Photon identification eff.	$\pm 1.5 - 2.3$	$m_X$ -dependent
Isolation eff.	$\pm 4$	
Photon energy scale	$\pm 0.13 - 0.49$	$m_X$ -dependent
Photon energy resolution	$\pm 0.053 - 0.28$	$m_X$ -dependent
Pile-up	$\pm 1.8 - 4.1$	$m_X$ -dependent
Production mode	$\pm 2.4 - 25$	$m_X$ -dependent
<i>Signal modeling</i>		
Photon energy scale	$\pm 0.3 - 0.5$	$m_X$ - and category-dependent
Photon energy resolution	$\pm 2 - 8$	$m_X$ - and category-dependent
<i>Migration between categories</i>		
Material	$-2.0 / +1.0 / +4.1$	category-dependent (UU/CU/CC)
<i>Non-resonant Background</i>		
Spurious Signal	128 / 104 / 79 (604 / 496 / 181 events)	ratio to the expected spurious signal uncertainty (category-dependent)
<i>DY Background modeling</i>		
Peak position	$\pm 0.1 - 0.2$	category-dependent
Peak width	$\pm 2 - 3$	category-dependent
Normalization	$\pm 9 - 21$	category-dependent