

# FYST17 Lecture 10

## The Higgs discovery

Thanks to A. Hoecker, F. Gianotti, J.  
Incandela

Suggested reading: chapter 12 in G. Barr et al.

# Outline

- The Higgs boson and the Standard Model
- Production and decay modes at the LHC
- Elements in the analysis
- The 2012 "discovery"
- Latest status

# The Standard Model in one slide

## Quarks

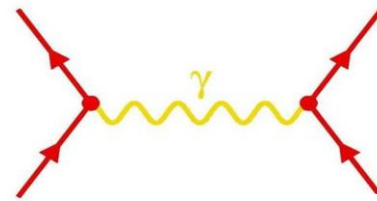


## Forces



## Leptons

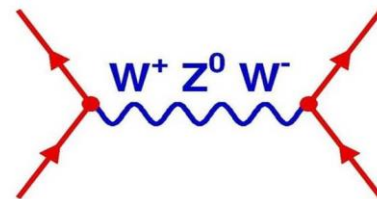
+ anti-particles!



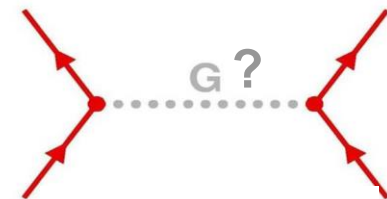
Electromagn. Int.



Strong int .



Weak int.



Gravitational int.?

The **Higgs boson** gives mass to the other particles

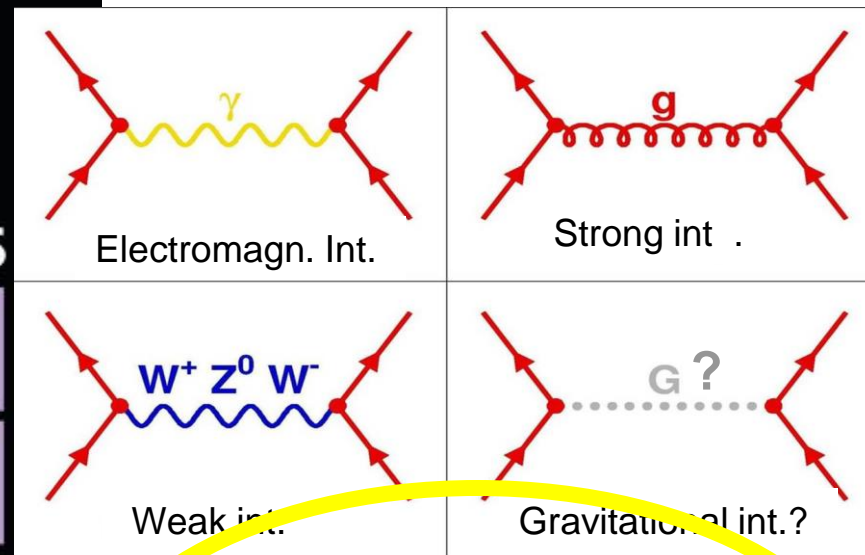
2. and 3. generation unstable  
Decay via weak interaction

# The Standard Model in one slide

## Quarks



## Forces



## Leptons

+ anti-particles!

The **Higgs boson** gives mass to the other particles

2. and 3. generation unstable  
Decay via weak interaction

# The Standard Model

Elementary particle physics is successfully described by **local gauge theories**

*A problem:* local gauge symmetry requires **massless spin-1 “gauge” (=force) boson**

This has been well verified for QED, with a massless photon (= infinite range)

However, the **W, Z bosons are massive** (= finite range  $\sim 10^{-18}$  m)

Only way to break gauge symmetry consistently is to **spontaneously break the symmetry of the vacuum:**

$$M_{Z,W} \neq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \langle 0 | \phi | 0 \rangle = v \neq 0 \quad [ \text{non-zero vacuum expectation value} ]$$

$\phi$  is a complex doublet field with non-zero vacuum expectation value.

3 d.o.fs become Z,  $W^\pm$  masses, remaining d.o.f is **massive scalar Higgs boson**

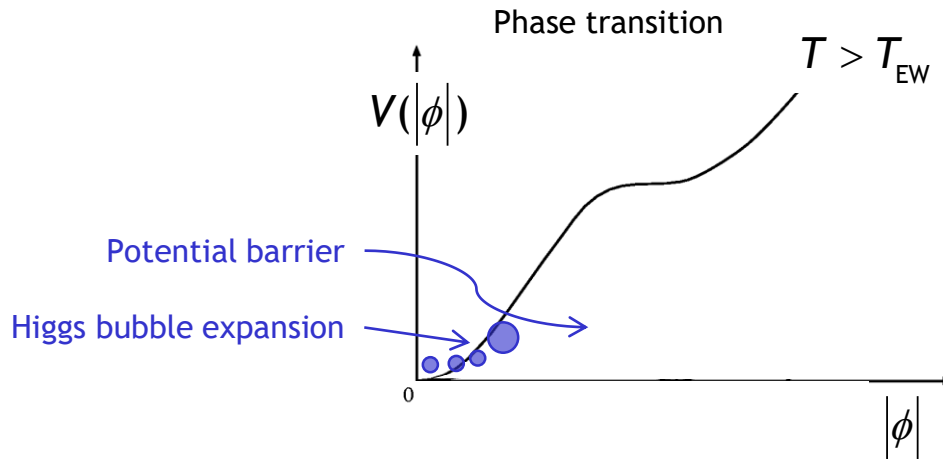
This is known as the **“Englert-Brout-Higgs-Guralnik-Hagen-Kibble Mechanism”**

or simply **the Higgs mechanism**

# The Standard Model

## Englert-Brout-Higgs-Guralnik-Hagen-Kibble mechanism

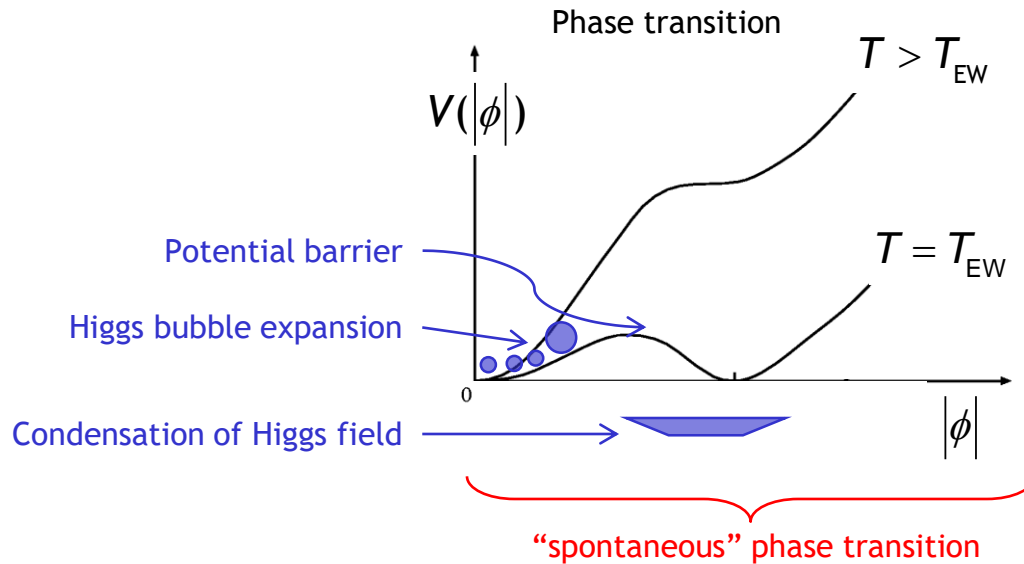
The early universe, at  $T > T_{EW}$ , was in a symmetric phase ( $|\phi_{min}| = 0$ )  
A phase transition at  $\sim T_{EW}$  ( $10^{-10}$  s after big bang) led to  $|\phi_{min}| > 0$



# The Standard Model

## Englert-Brout-Higgs-Guralnik-Hagen-Kibble mechanism

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Higgs potential:  $V(\phi) = \mu_{<0}^2 |\phi|^2 + \lambda |\phi|^4 + Y^{ij} \psi_L^i \psi_R^j \phi$

Yukawa coupling

Simplest scalar potential that breaks ground state symmetry. Does what we need, but bears fundamental problems.

Carries the seeds for new physics ...

# The Standard Model

## Englert-Brout-Higgs-Guralnik-Hagen-Kibble mechanism

Early universe: symmetric phase, fundamental particles are massless  
⇒ gauge symmetry is respected

A **Higgs field** displaces ground state breaking gauge symmetry

It fills all space time (but w/o orientation as spin=0)

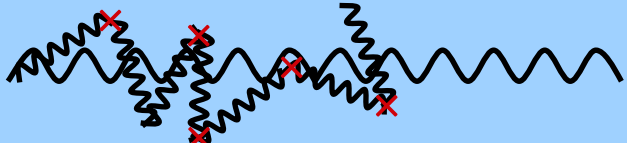
Particles interact with the Higgs field and reduce their velocity.  
They acquire a mass proportional to interaction strength

⇒ Action of the Higgs field creates a **vacuum viscosity**

*Symmetric phase - early universe*  
*Higgs quantum liquid in broken phase*

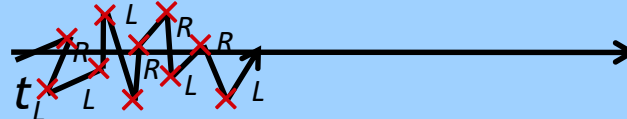
Gravity 

Photon 

Weak boson 

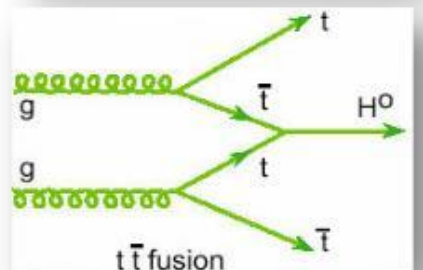
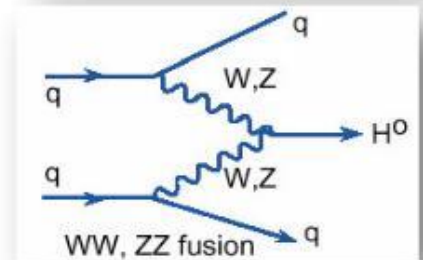
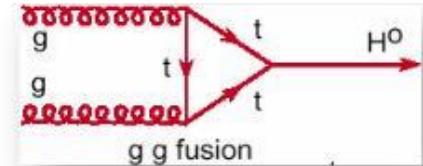
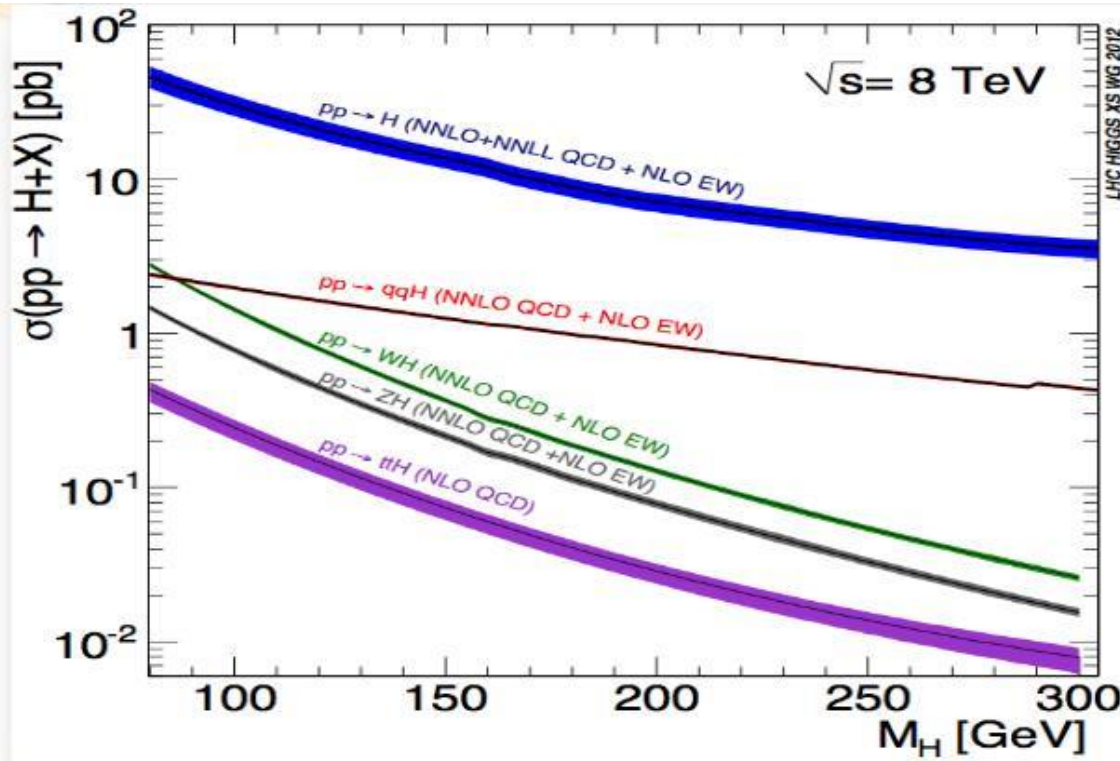
Neutrinos 

Electrons 

Top quark 



# Higgs production at the LHC

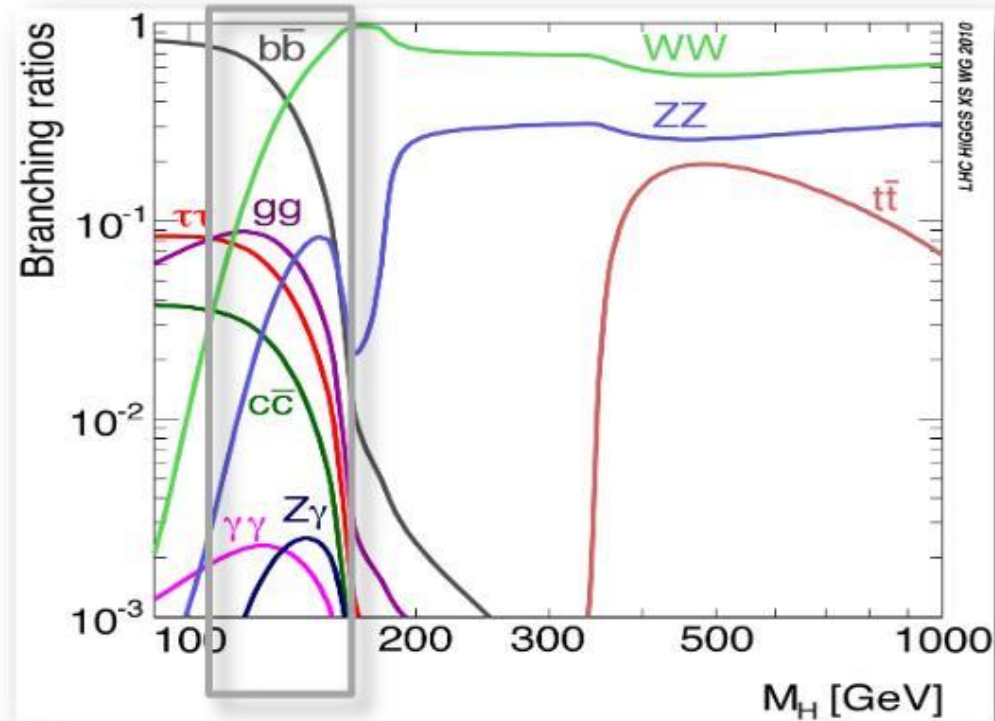


- $\sqrt{s}=8 \text{ TeV}$ : 25-30% higher  $\sigma$  than  $\sqrt{s}=7 \text{ TeV}$  at low  $m_H$
- All production modes to be exploited
  - gg VBF VH ttH
  - Latter 3 have smaller cross sections but better S/B in many cases

# Most important decay modes

5 decay modes exploited

- High mass:  $WW, ZZ$
- Low mass:  $b\bar{b}, \tau\tau, WW, ZZ, \gamma\gamma$
- Low mass region is very rich but also very challenging:  
main decay modes ( $b\bar{b}, \tau\tau$ ) are hard to identify in the huge background
- Very good mass resolution  
(1%):  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  and  $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$





# 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 2012 – Higgs-day at CERN

Global Effort → Global Success

Results today only possible due to  
extraordinary performance of  
accelerators – experiments – Grid computing

Observation of a new particle consistent with  
a Higgs Boson (but which one...?)

Historic Milestone but only the beginning

Global Implications for the future



R-D Heuser



# Trigger on Higgs bosons?

Several triggers in use:

**Main triggers: lepton/photon triggers**

but even tau (had) triggers

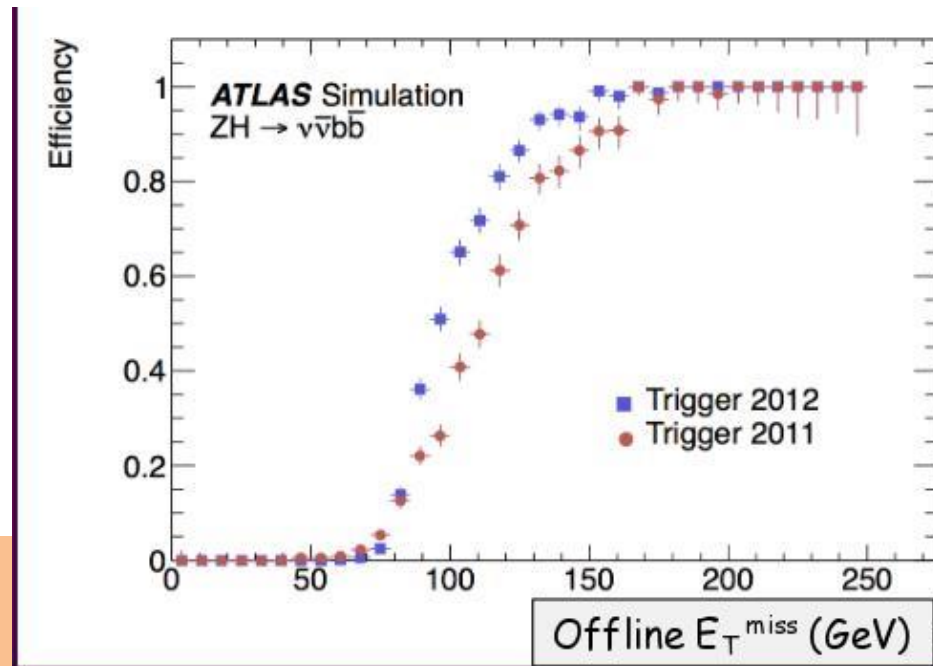
jet triggers and a trigger

on "missing  $E_T$ " (for the

$ZH \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu} b\bar{b}$

Final analysis uses a

combination of several triggers, several "channels" for maximal sensitivity

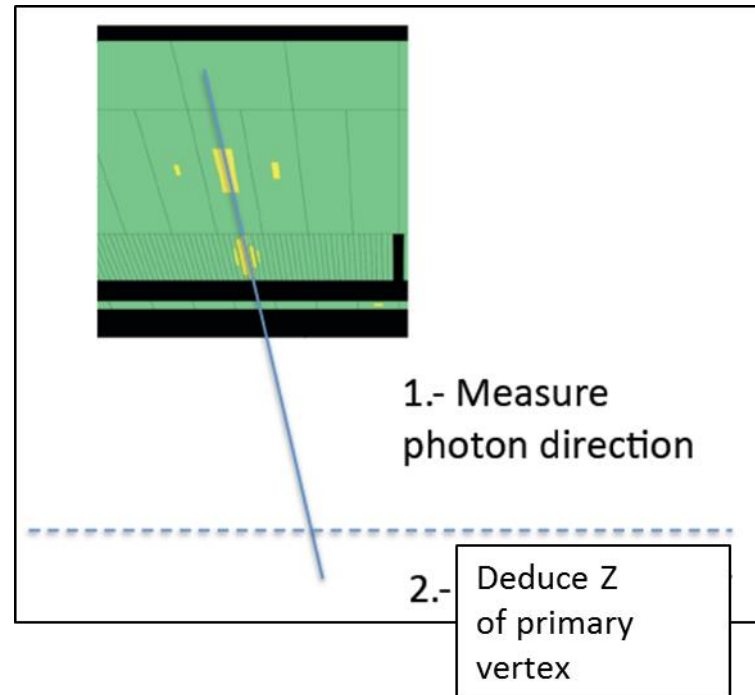
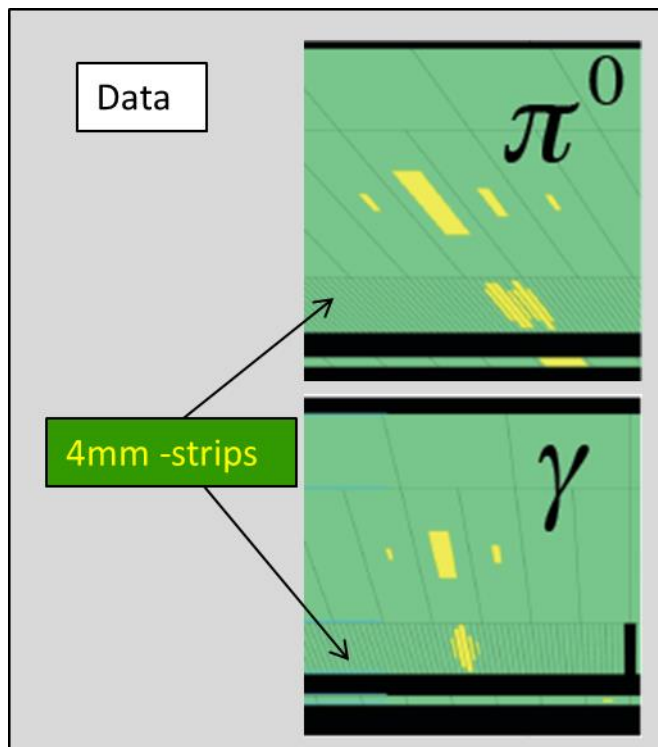


# Reconstructing photons

Without a track, can we tell the difference between  $\gamma$  and  $\pi^0$ ?

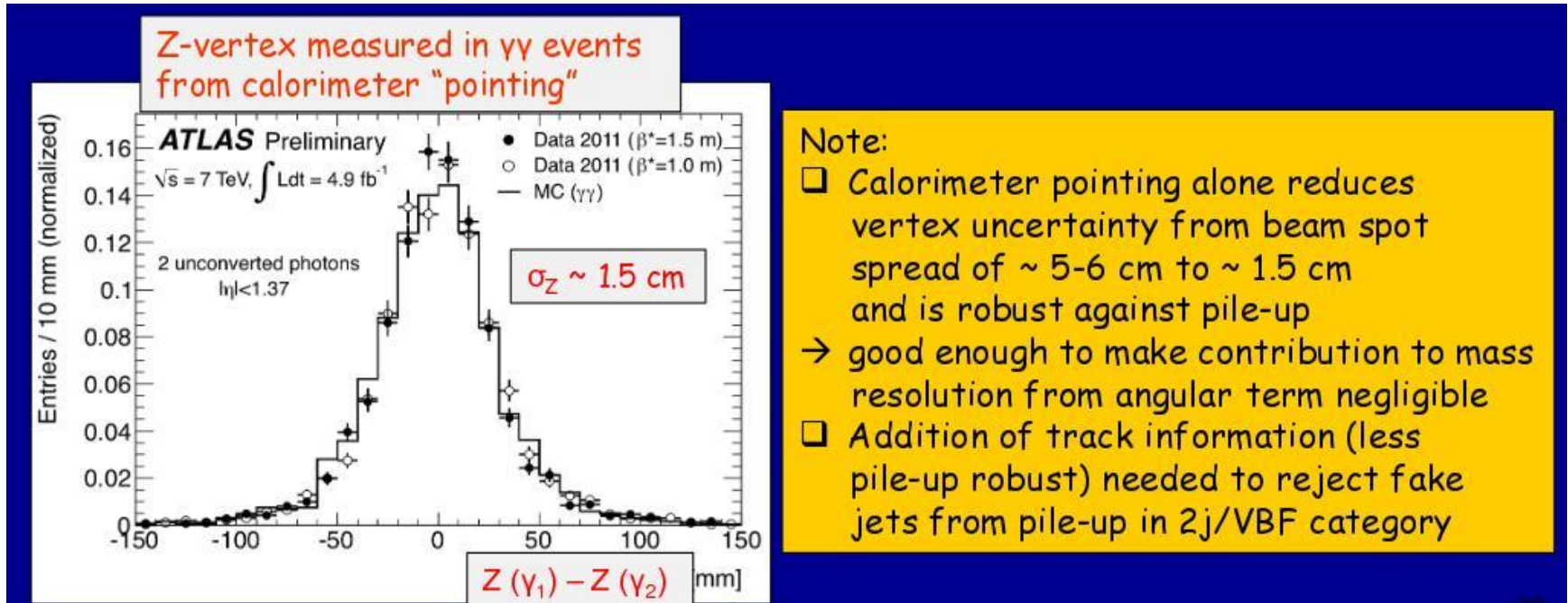
*Crucial for  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  search!*

ATLAS uses the fine segmentation of the EM calorimeter to measure  $\gamma$  direction





# Reconstructing photons



In addition of course also mass resolution is crucial

$$m_{\gamma\gamma}^2 = 2 E_1 E_2 (1 - \cos \alpha)$$

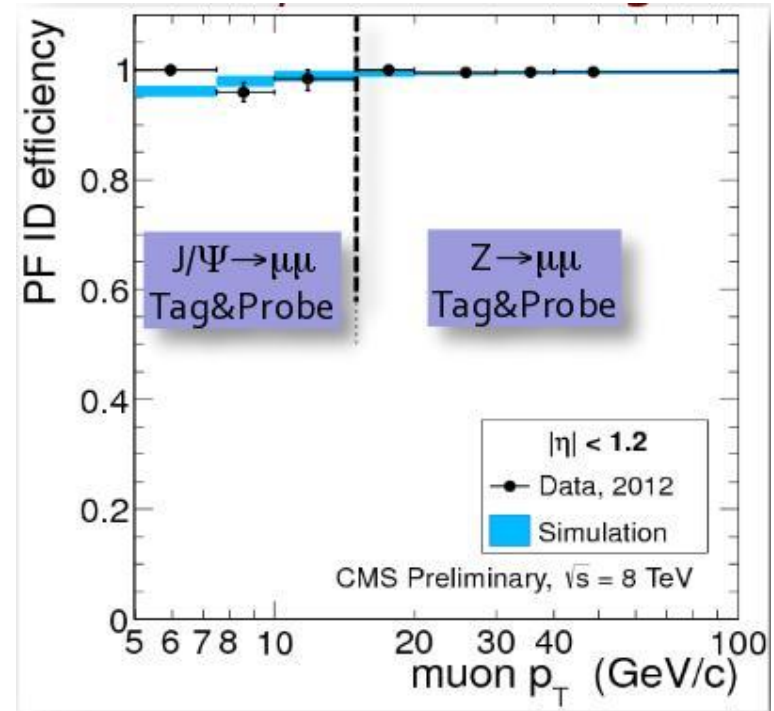
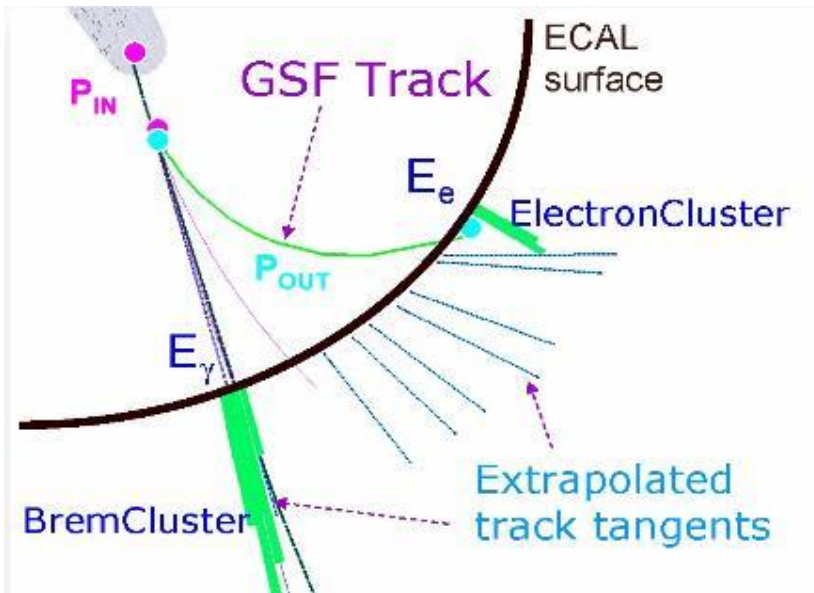
Resolution 1.6 GeV (linearity + uniformity terms  $\sim 1\%$ )

# Reconstructing leptons ( $e, \mu$ )

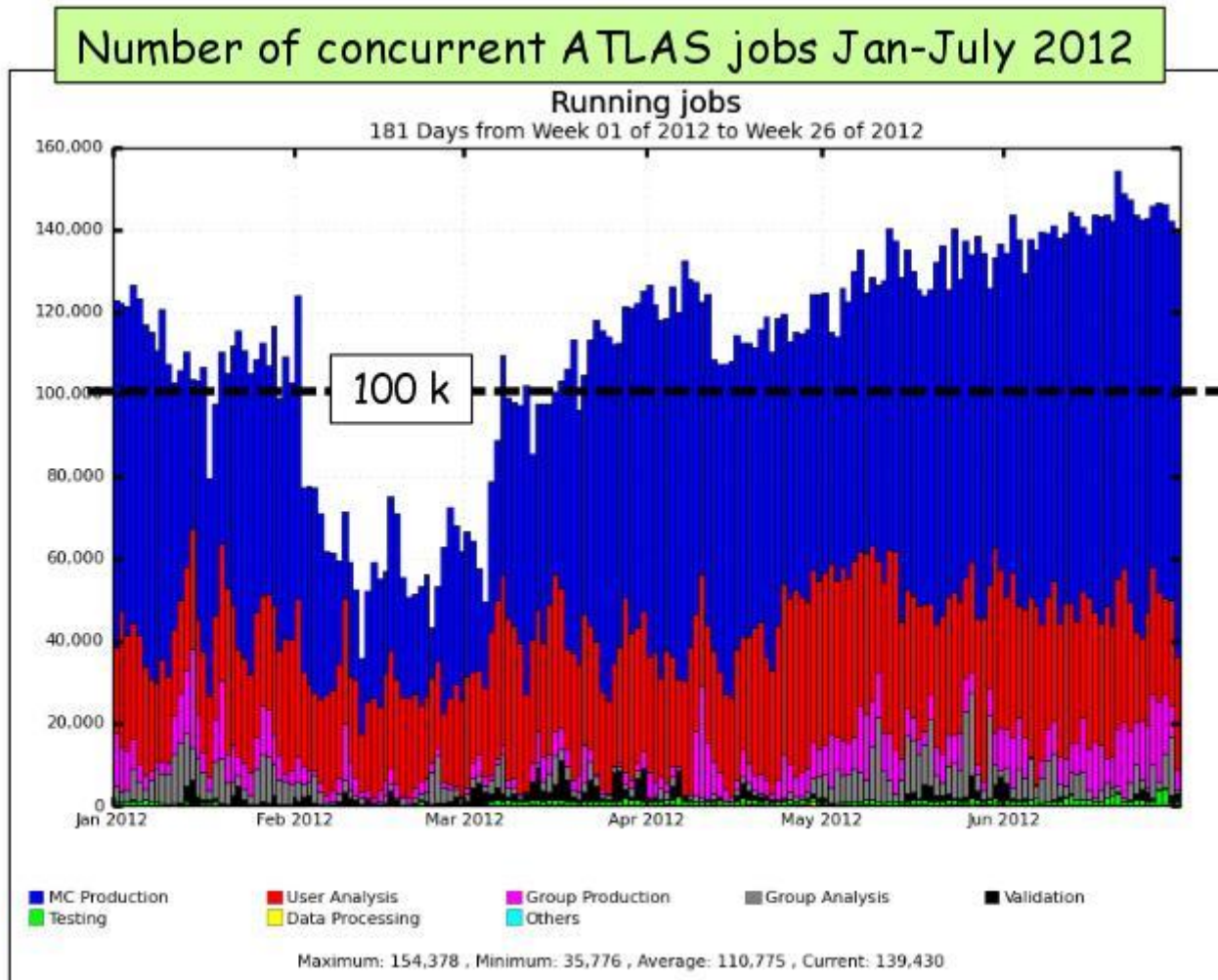
Typically reconstructed with high efficiency

- electron selection based on likelihoods and multivariate techniques to reduce backgrounds

Gaussian Sum Filter allows for reconstruction of  $e$  tracks with large bremsstrahlung



# Computing

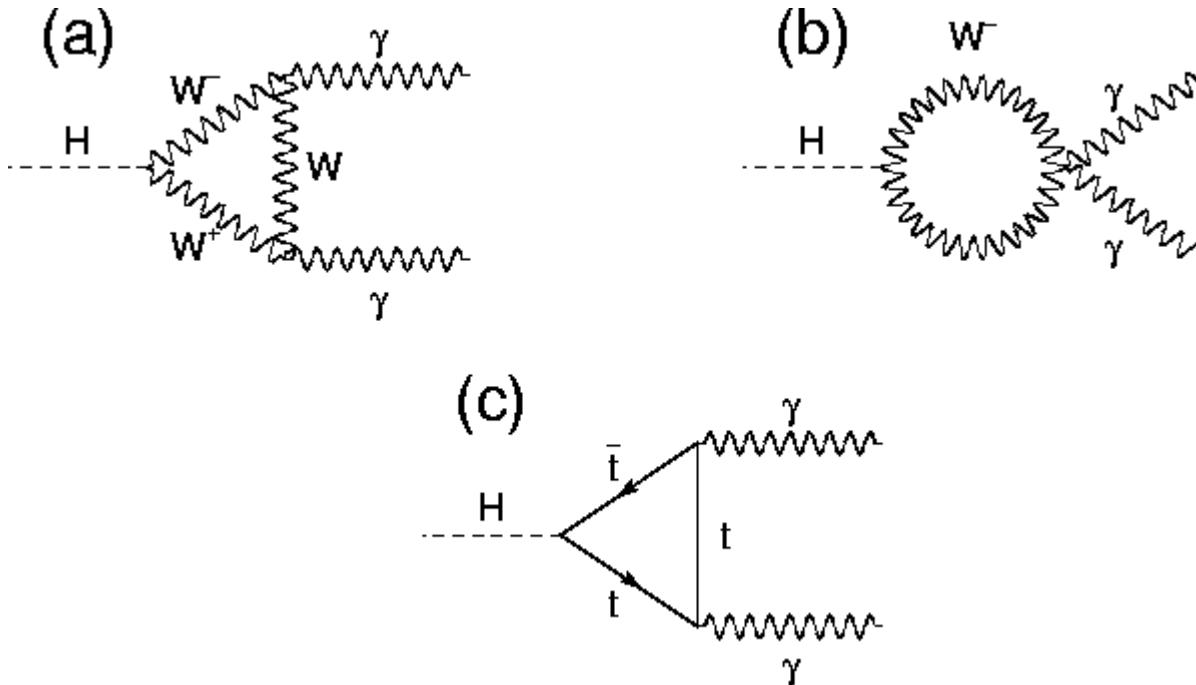




$$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

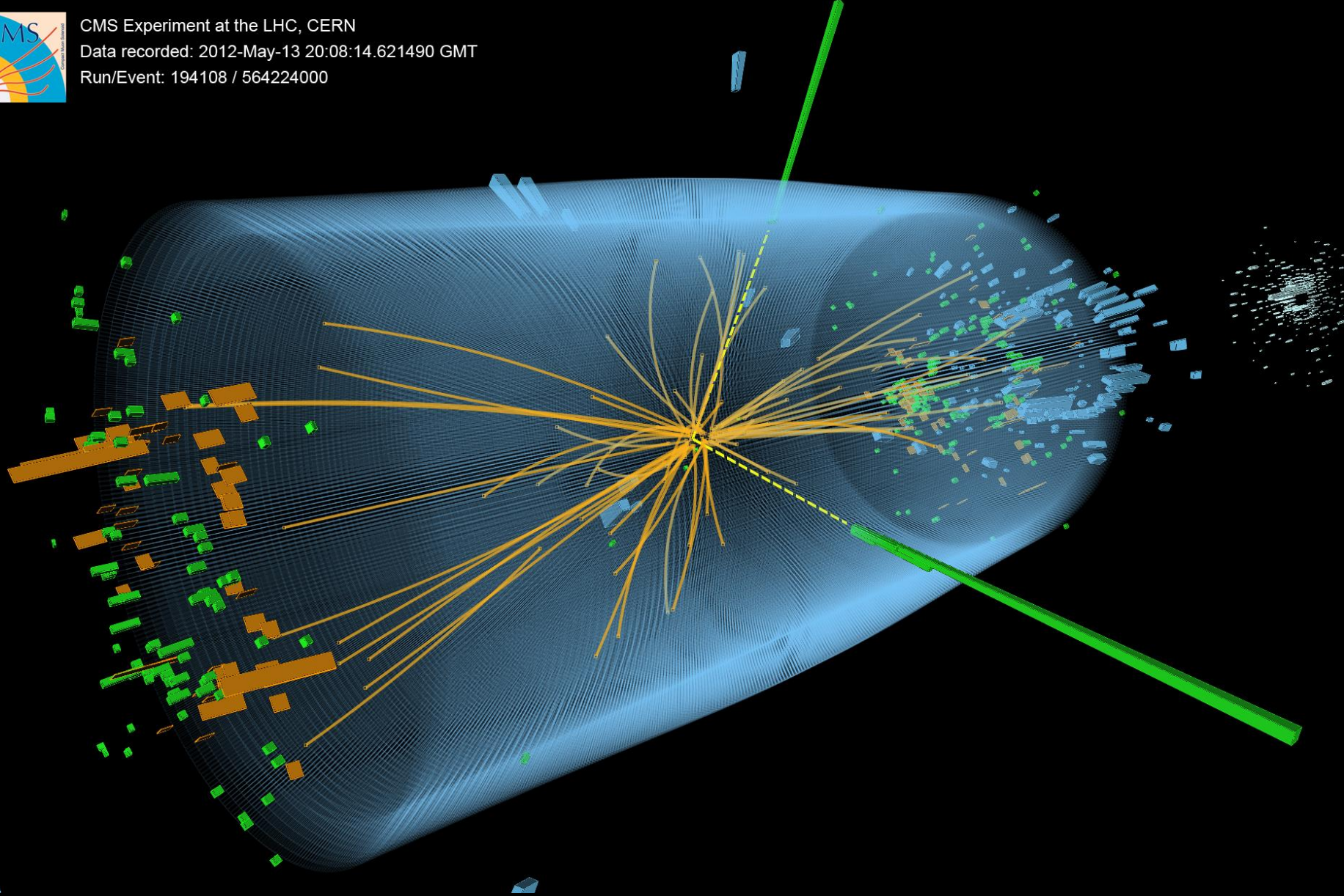
Most important channel for Higgs masses below  
150 GeV!

Simple topology but large backgrounds  $\Rightarrow$   
requires excellent energy resolution





CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN  
Data recorded: 2012-May-13 20:08:14.621490 GMT  
Run/Event: 194108 / 564224000



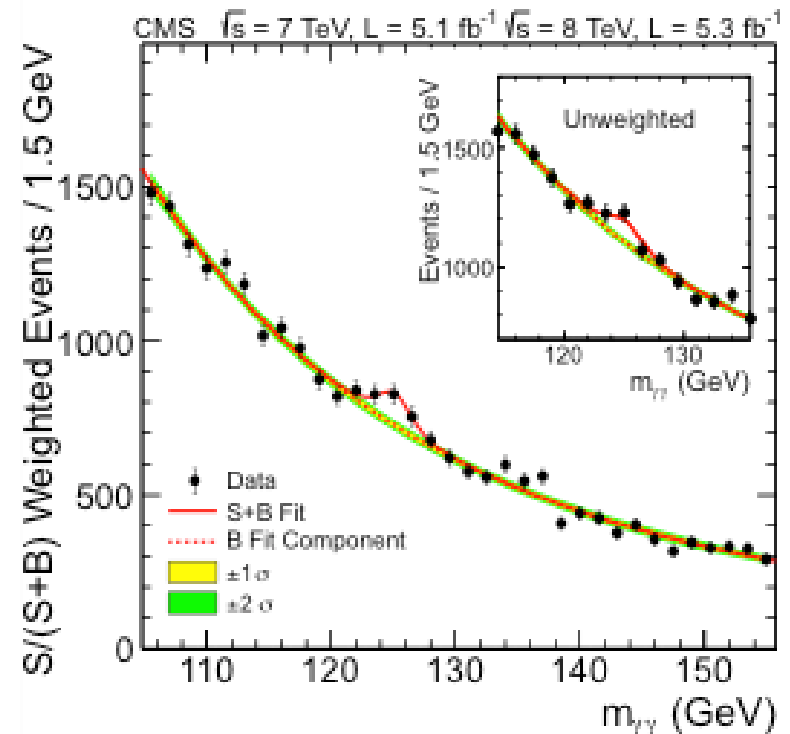
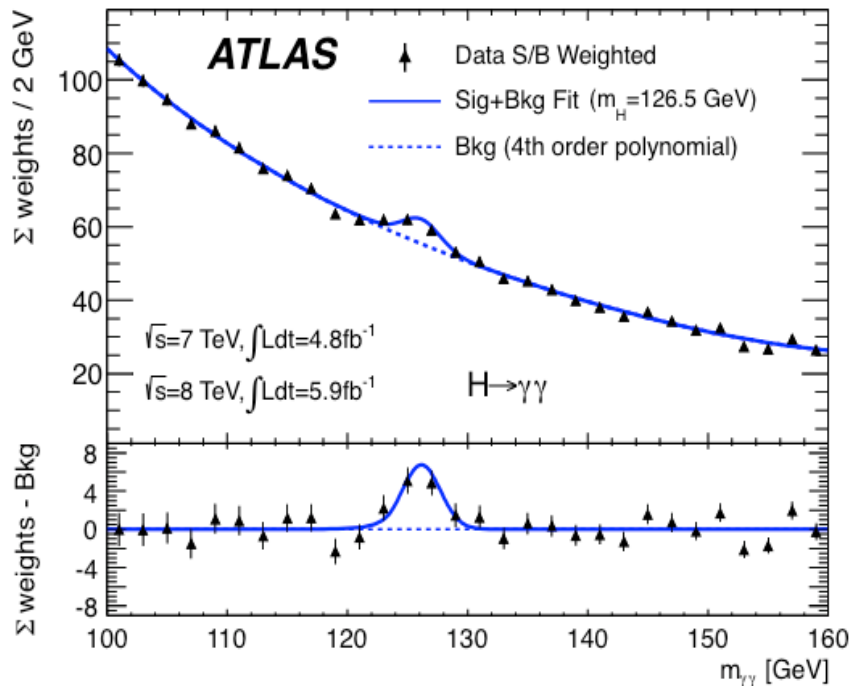
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  candidate event (CMS)

# $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

Clean discovery channels for Higgs, allowing precise mass determination

ATLAS arXiv:1207.7214, CMS arXiv:1207.7235, both submitted on Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 to PLB

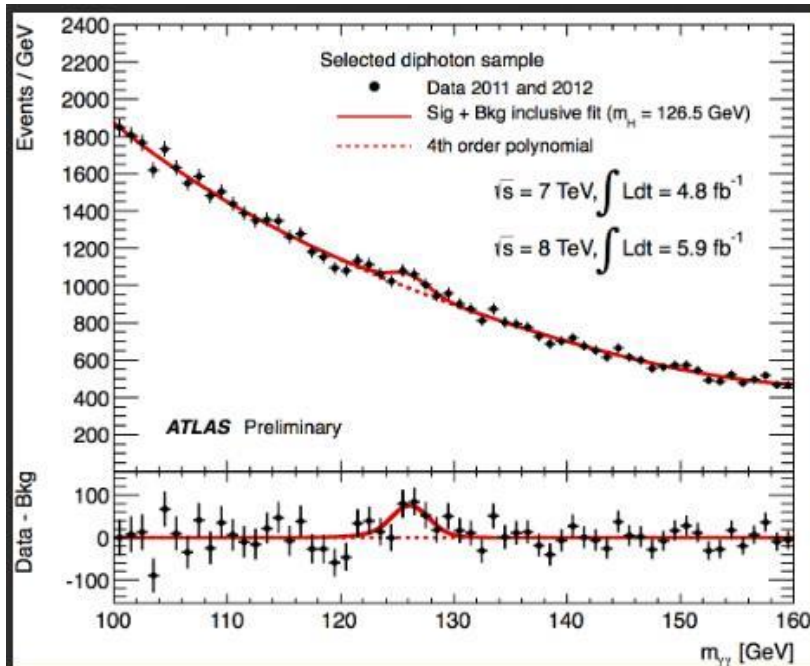
Benefit from excellent energy resolution and photon identification capabilities of ATLAS/CMS



Both experiments classify events according to resolution and topology in ML fit

Maximum excess of  $4.5\sigma$  ( $4.1\sigma$ ) seen by ATLAS (CMS) at 126.5 (125) GeV

# A look at the details



Total after selections: 59059 events

$m_{\gamma\gamma}$  spectrum fit, for each category, with Crystal Ball + Gaussian for signal plus background model optimised (with MC) to minimize biases  
Max deviation of background model from expected background distribution taken as systematic uncertainty

## Main systematic uncertainties

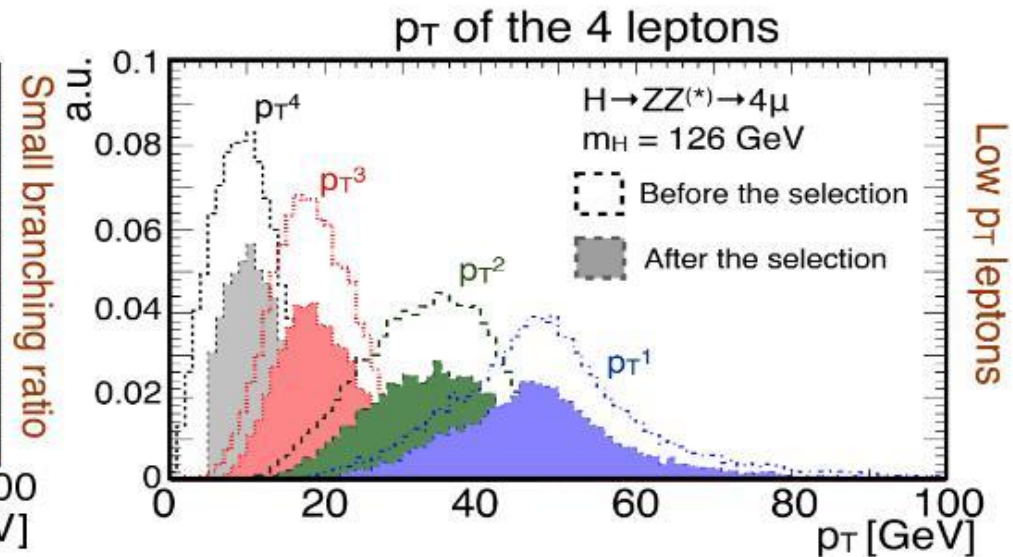
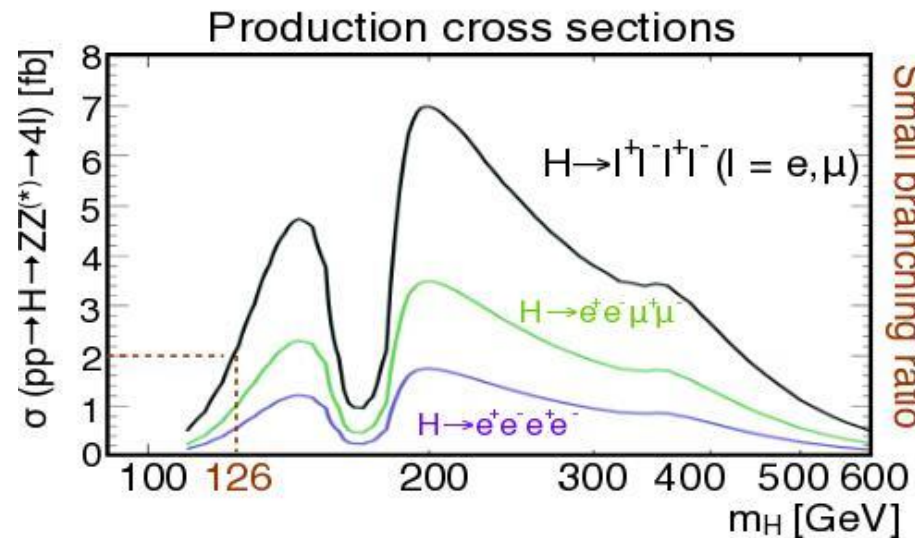
Signal yield	
Theory	~ 20%
Photon efficiency	~ 10%
Background model	~ 10%
Categories migration	
Higgs $p_T$ modeling	up to ~ 10%
Conv/unconv $\gamma$	up to ~ 6%
Jet E-scale	up to 20% (2j/VBF)
Underlying event	up to 30% (2j/VBF)
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ mass resolution	~ 14%
Photon E-scale	~ 0.6%



$$H \rightarrow ZZ^*$$

One of the best performing channels  
in the whole mass range ...

... but extremely demanding channel for  
selection, requiring the highest possible  
efficiencies (lepton Reco/ID/Isolation).

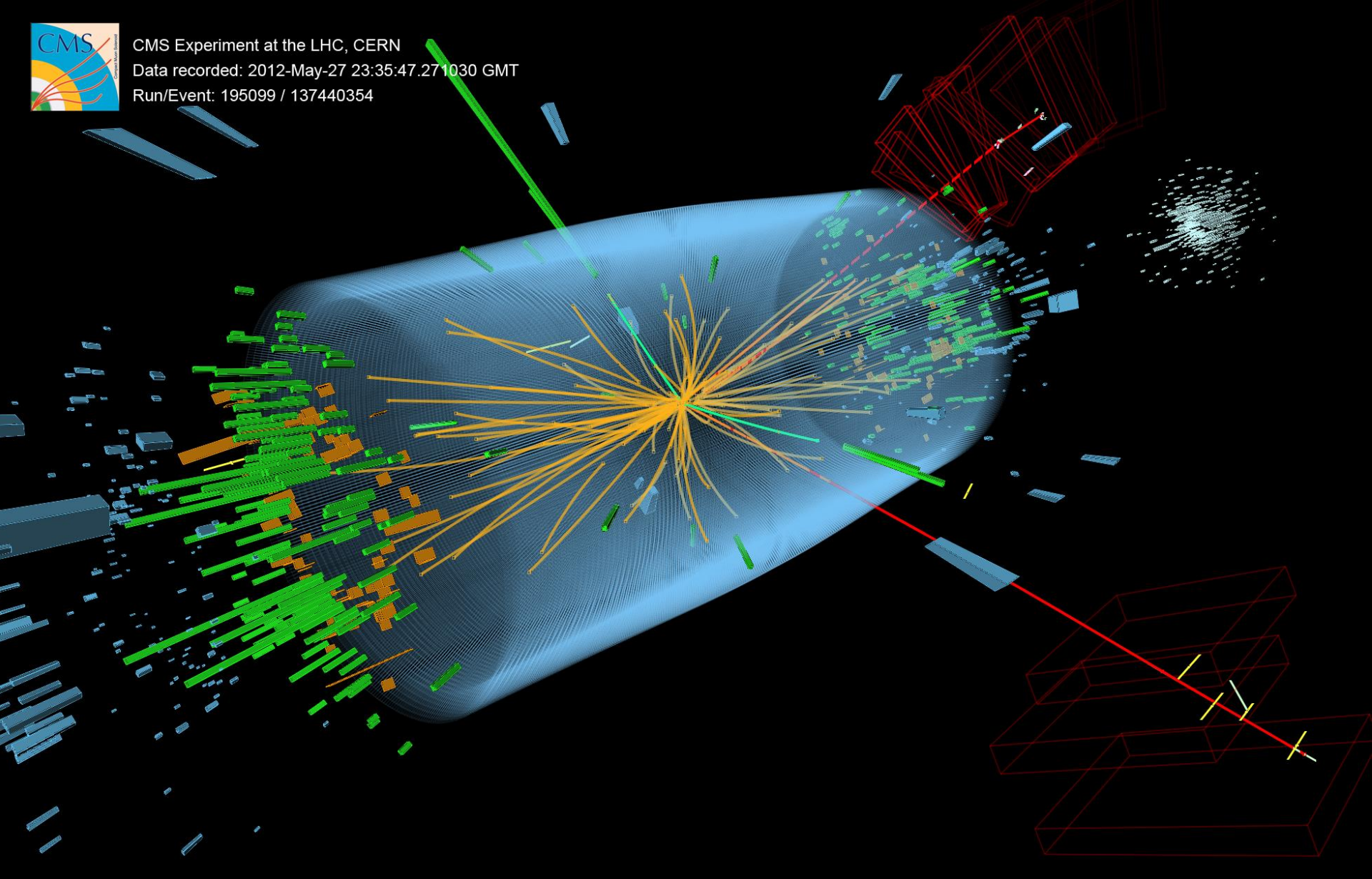




CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN

Data recorded: 2012-May-27 23:35:47.271030 GMT

Run/Event: 195099 / 137440354



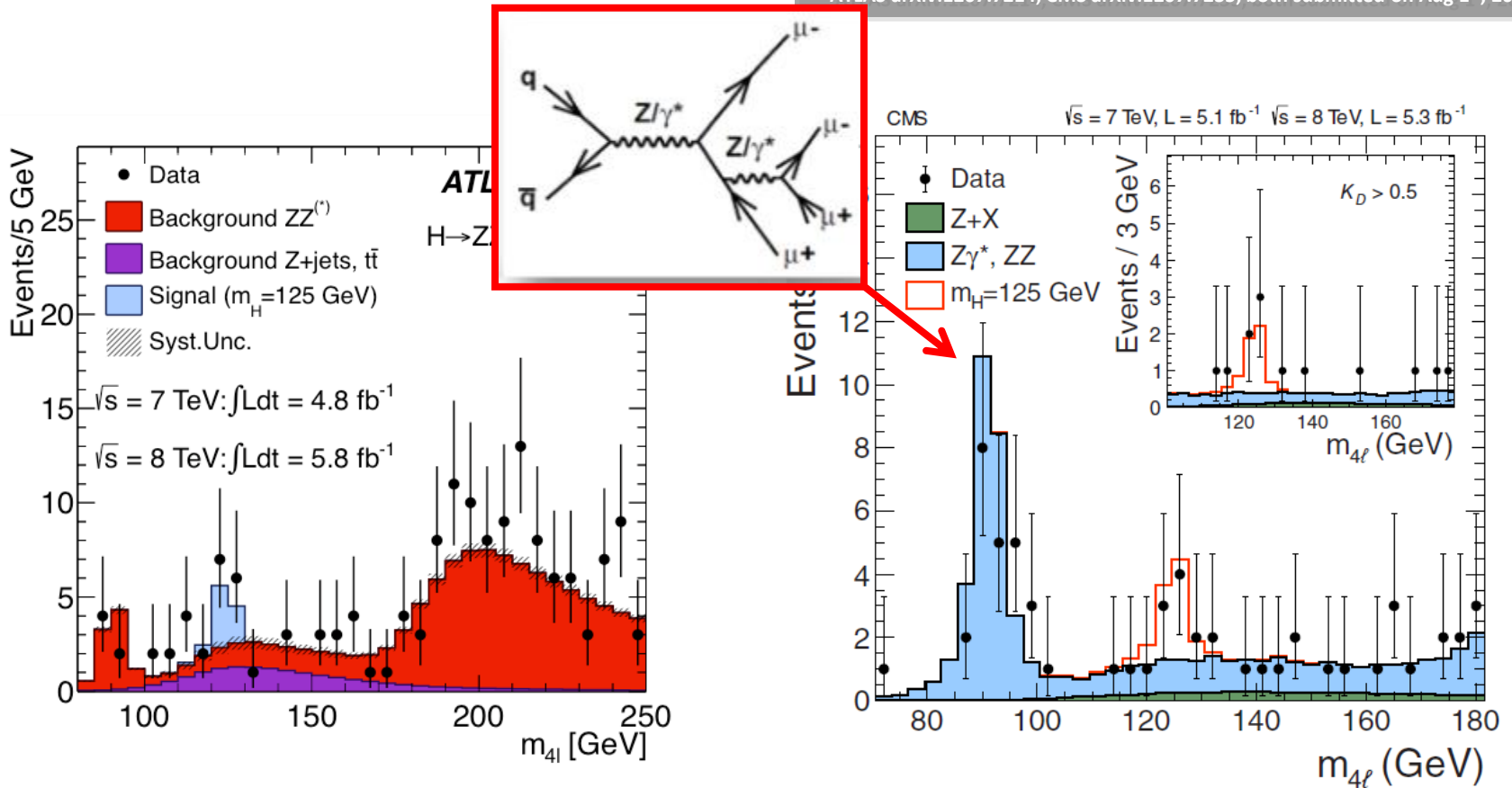
$H \rightarrow 2e2\mu$  candidate event (CMS)

$$H \rightarrow ZZ^{(*)} \rightarrow 2(e, \mu) + 2(e, \mu)$$

Clean discovery channels for Higgs, allowing precise mass determination

Benefit from excellent energy/momentum resolution and identification capabilities at ATLAS/CMS

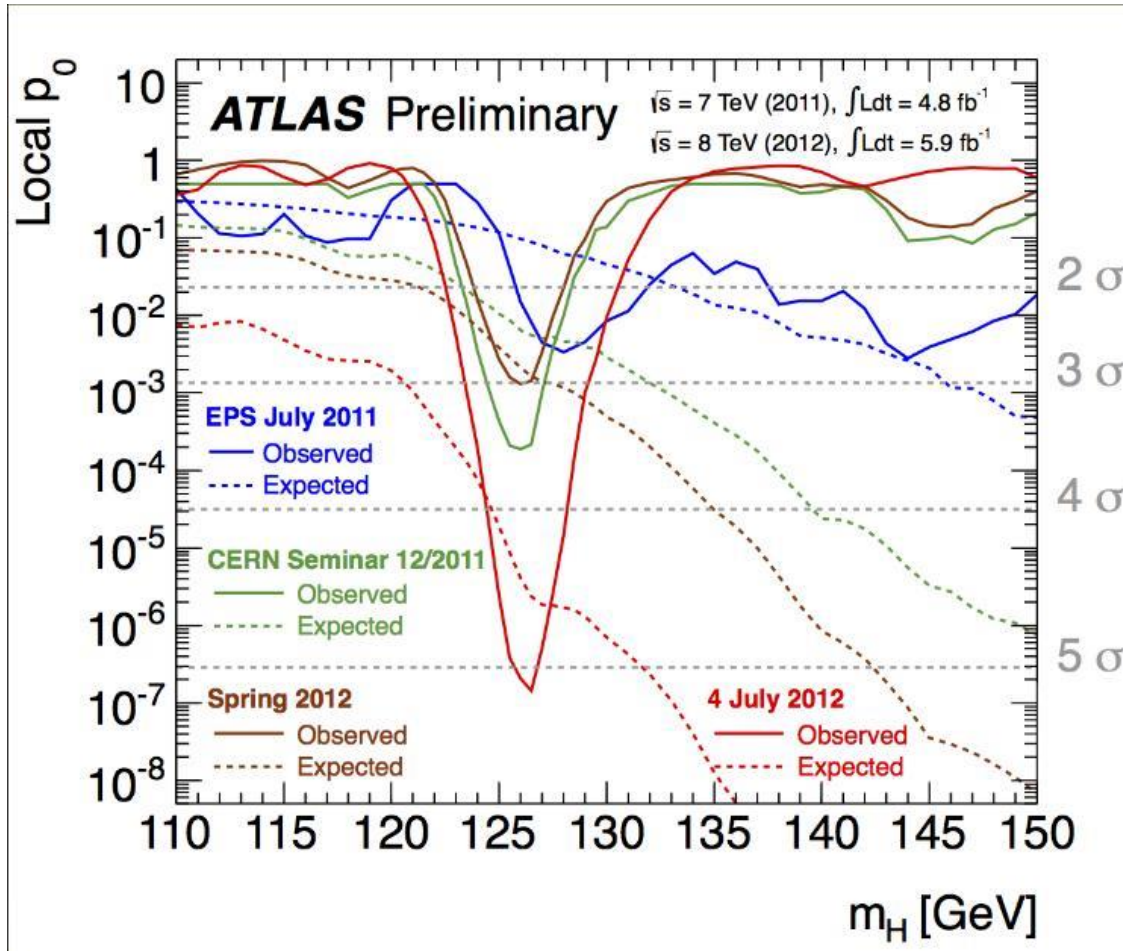
ATLAS arXiv:1207.7214, CMS arXiv:1207.7235, both submitted on Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 to PLB



Order one  $S/B$  ratio. Maximum excess of  $3.6\sigma$  ( $3.2\sigma$ ) seen by ATLAS (CMS) at 125 (125.6) GeV



# ATLAS combined July 2012



Max excess

@ 126.5 GeV

Local significance:

5 sigma

p-value:  $3 \times 10^{-7}$

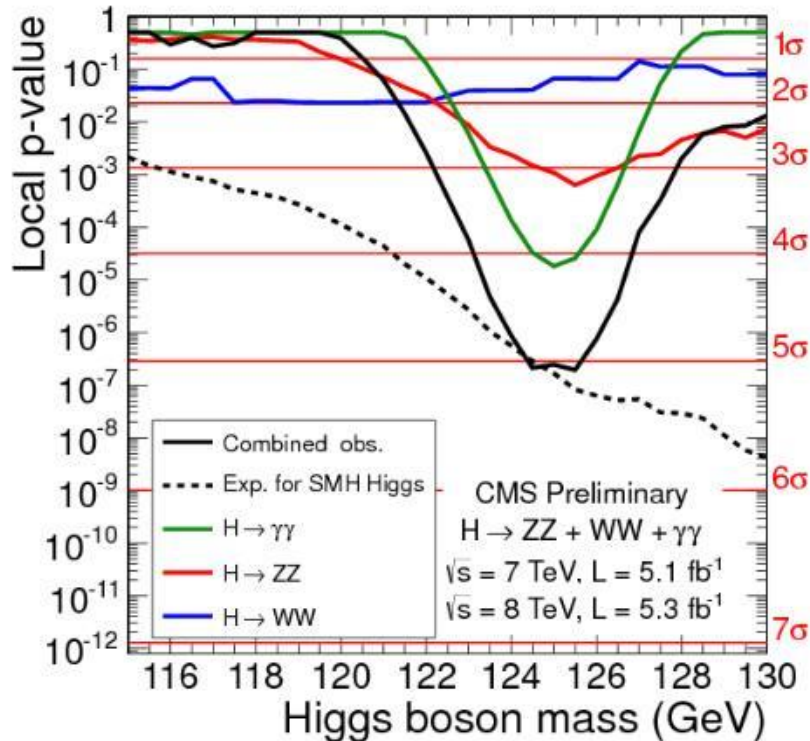
Global significance:

4.1-4.3 sigma

I.e. an "observation"  
not discovery



# CMS combined July 2012



adding high sensitivity, but  
low mass resolution WW

comb. significance: **5.1  $\sigma$**

expected significance  
for SM Higgs: **5.2  $\sigma$**

Global significance similar to ATLAS's, i.e. observation only

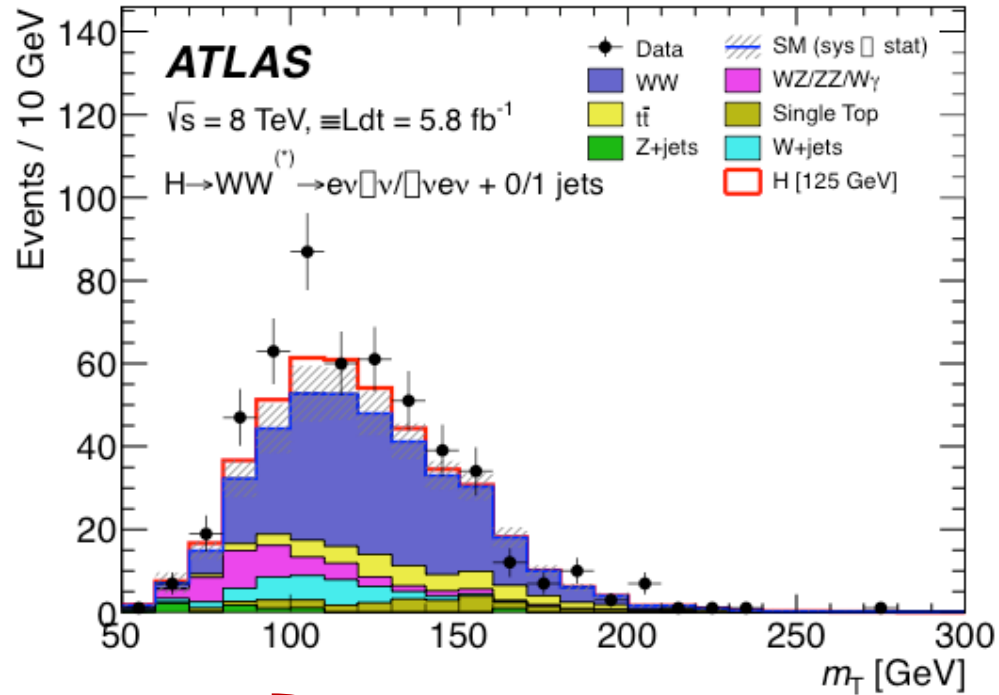
# Other channels

- $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$

Less clean, little mass sensitivity but abundant

Result:

roughly  $2\sigma$ /experiment

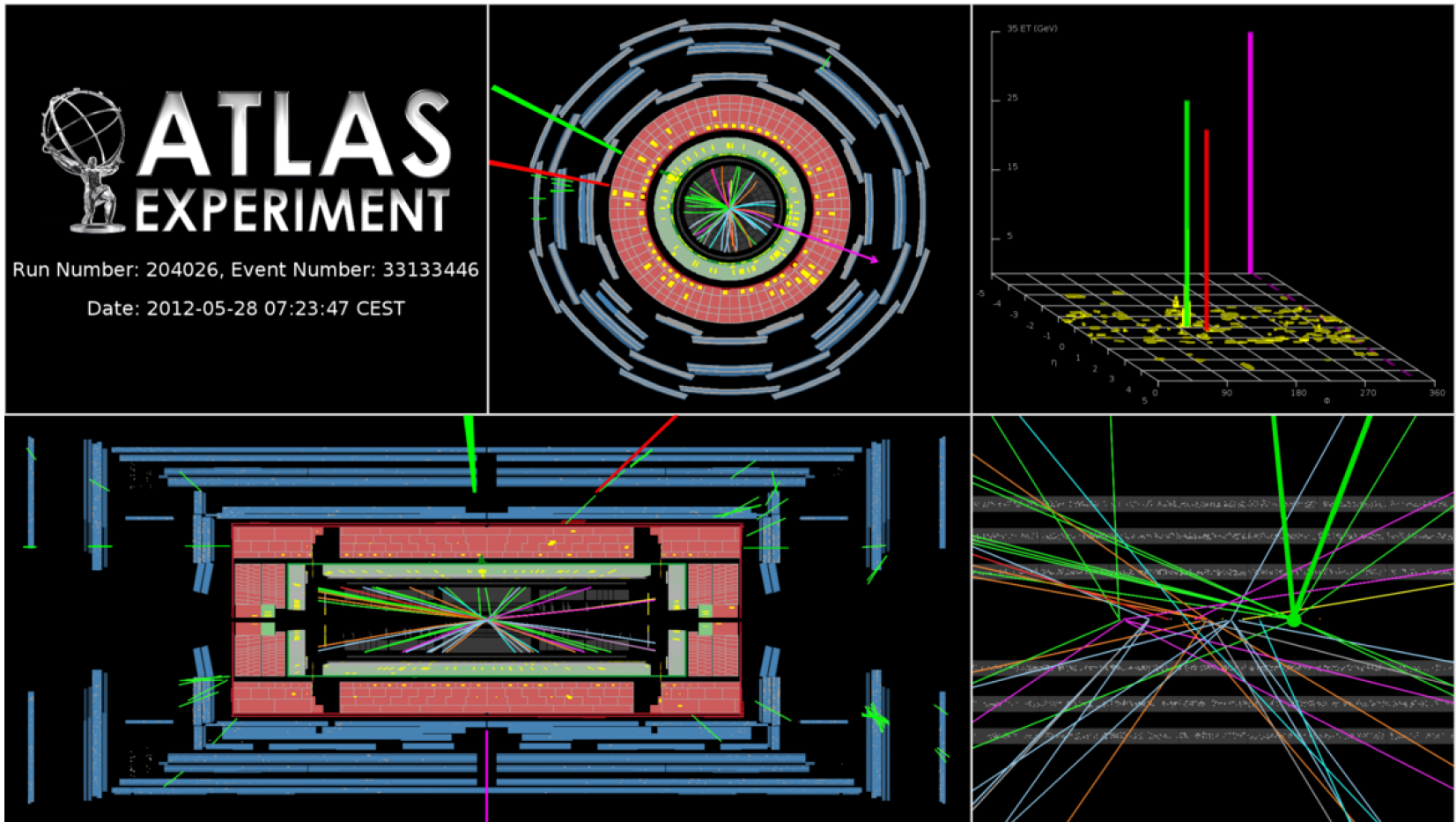


- Associated production WH, ZH

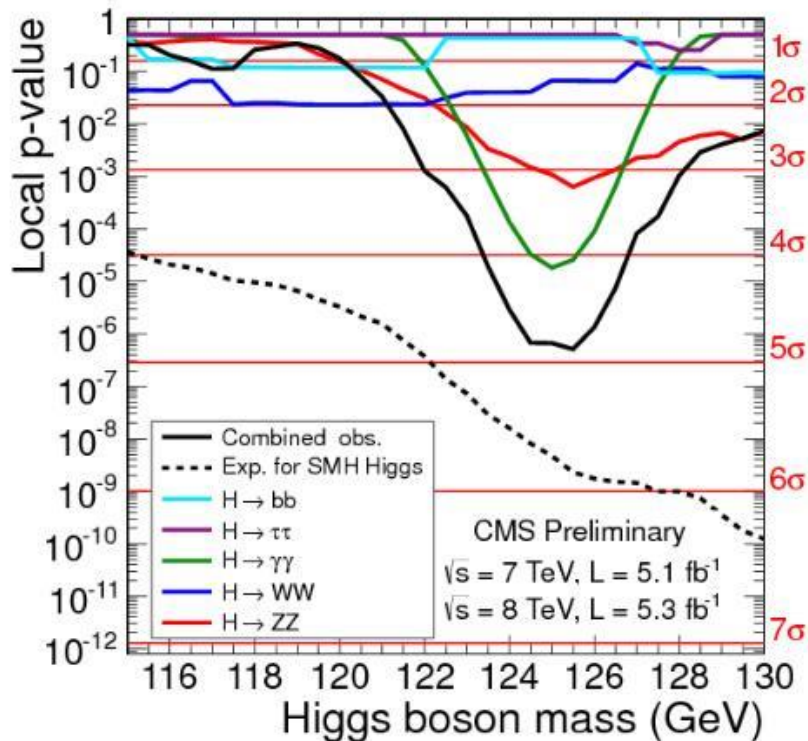
- $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$

} Little sensitivity in first analysis

# H $\rightarrow$ WW candidate



# CMS combined July 2012



- all channels together:

comb. significance: **4.9  $\sigma$**

- expected significance

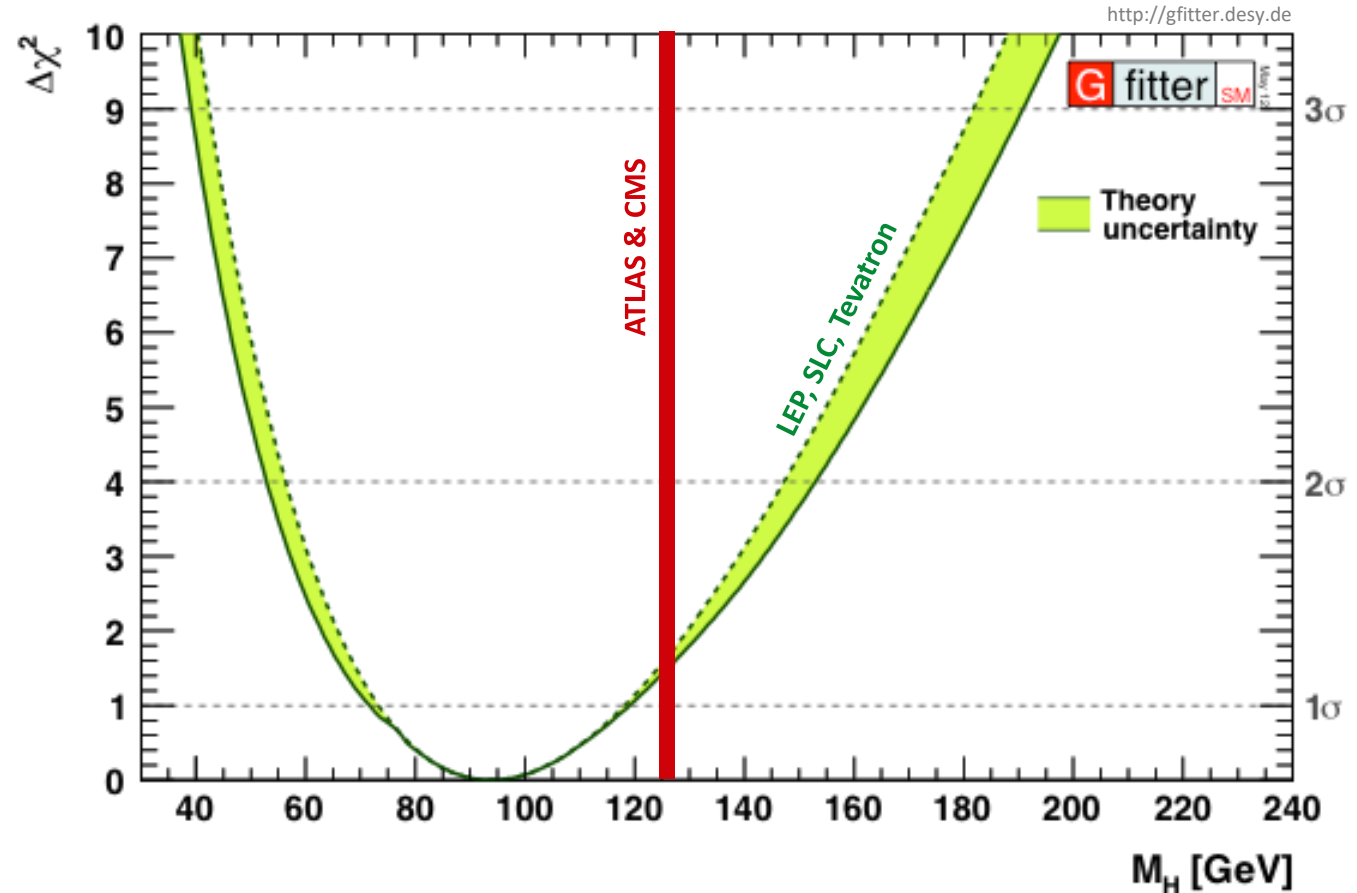
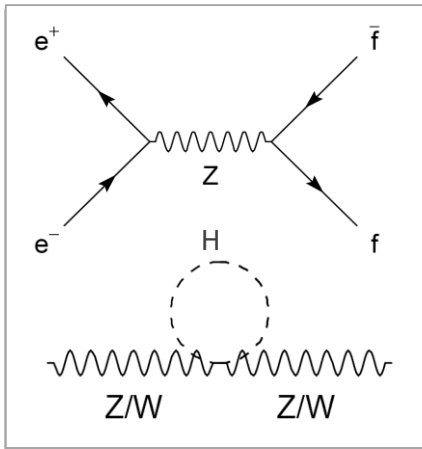
for SM Higgs: **5.9  $\sigma$**

Some times adding more channels means a smaller observation!

# What can we conclude from this discovery

Recall: light Higgs was predicted from SM fit to precision measurements

Discovery of light Higgs boson is a *huge success* of the Standard Model



# What can we conclude from this discovery

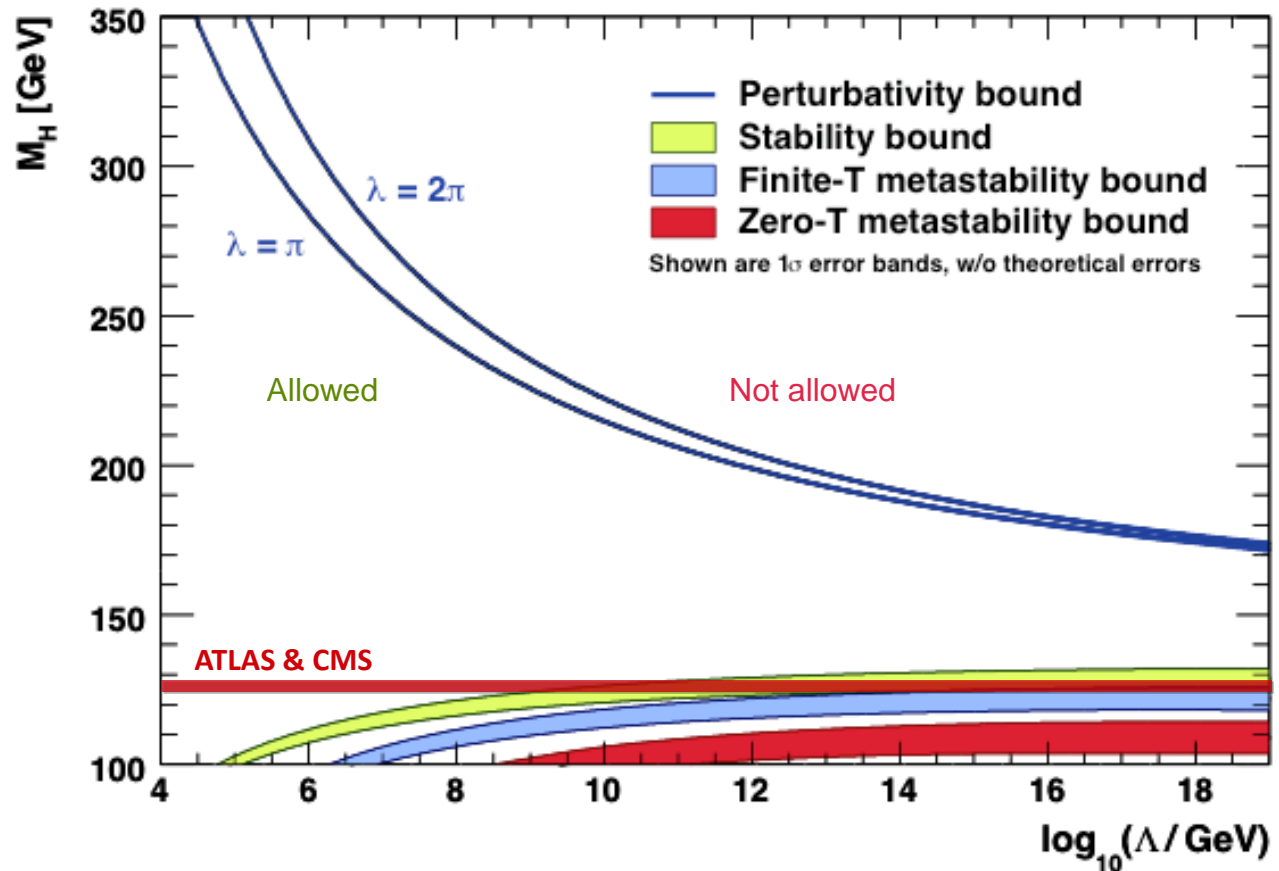
Is the electroweak vacuum stable or metastable (if SM holds) ?

## Barely stable ?

But: prediction of the stability bound suffers from theoretical uncertainties ...

Newest full NNLO result moves up stability bound at Planck mass by +0.8 GeV and reduces uncertainty

→ **barely stable or metastable, but certainly the Higgs self coupling would become very weak at  $M_{Pl}$**

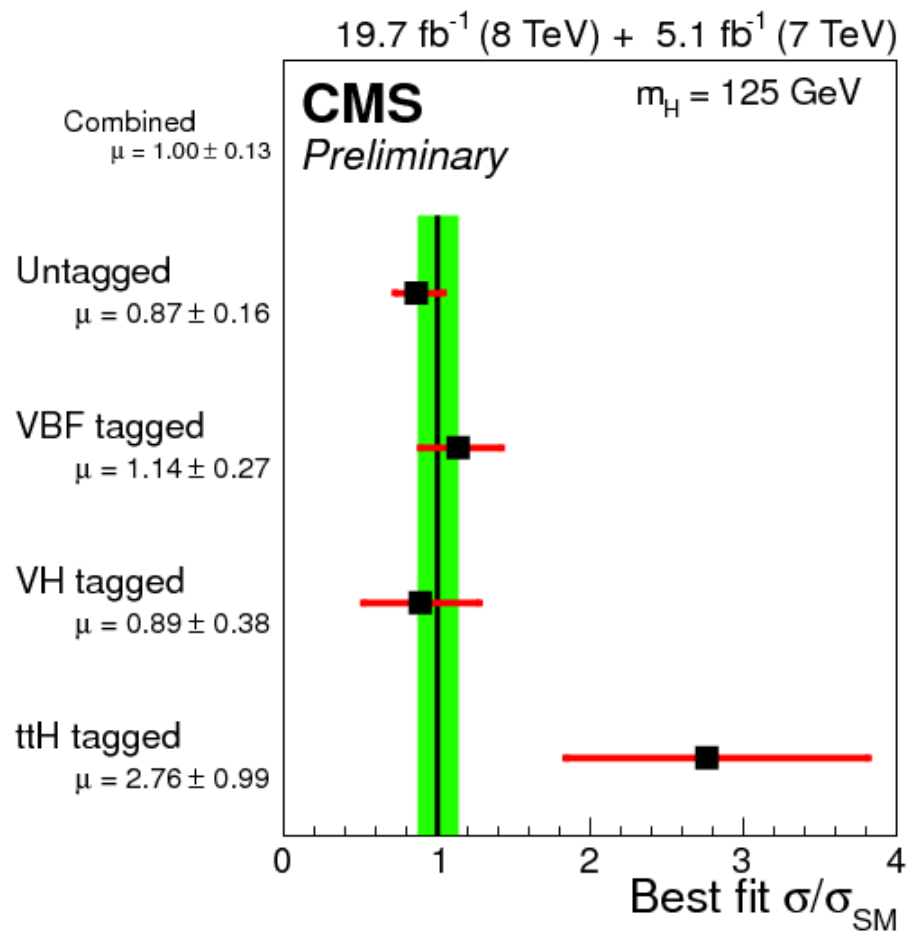
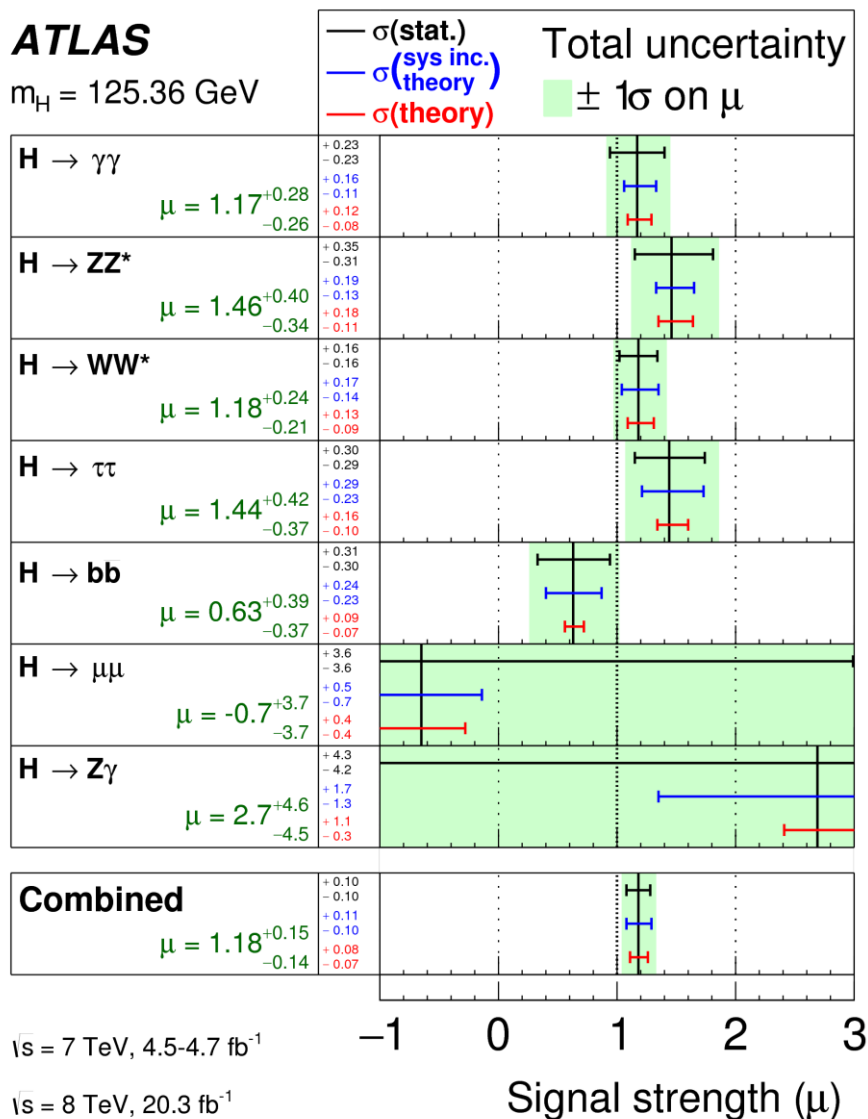


Ellis et al, arXiv:0906.0954

# Current status

What have we learned about the Higgs boson and the Higgs mechanism since then?

# Lots of measurements in more channels



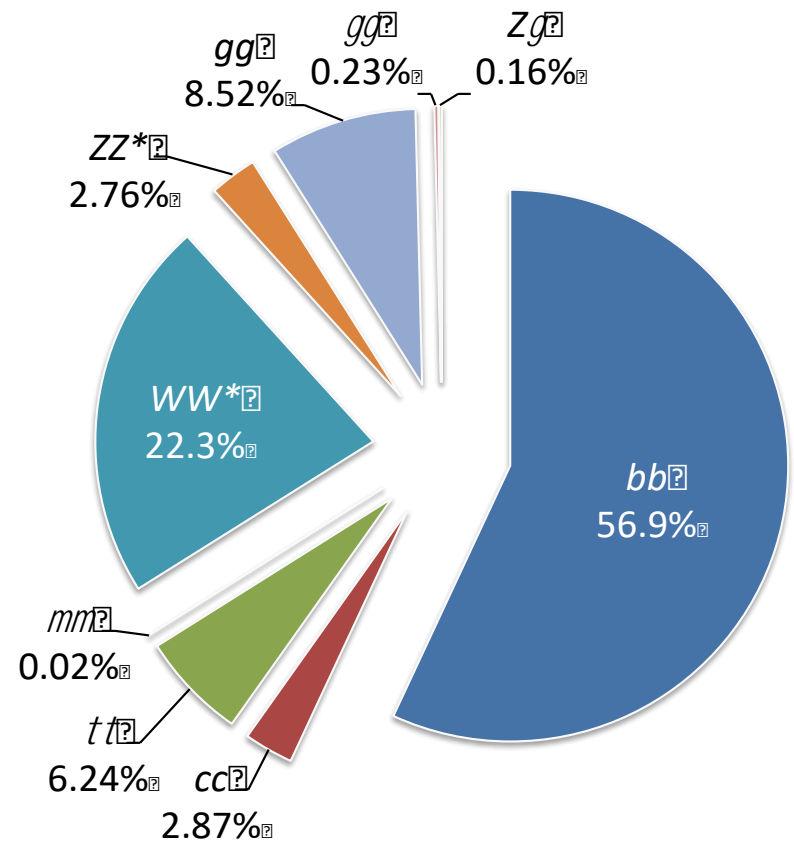
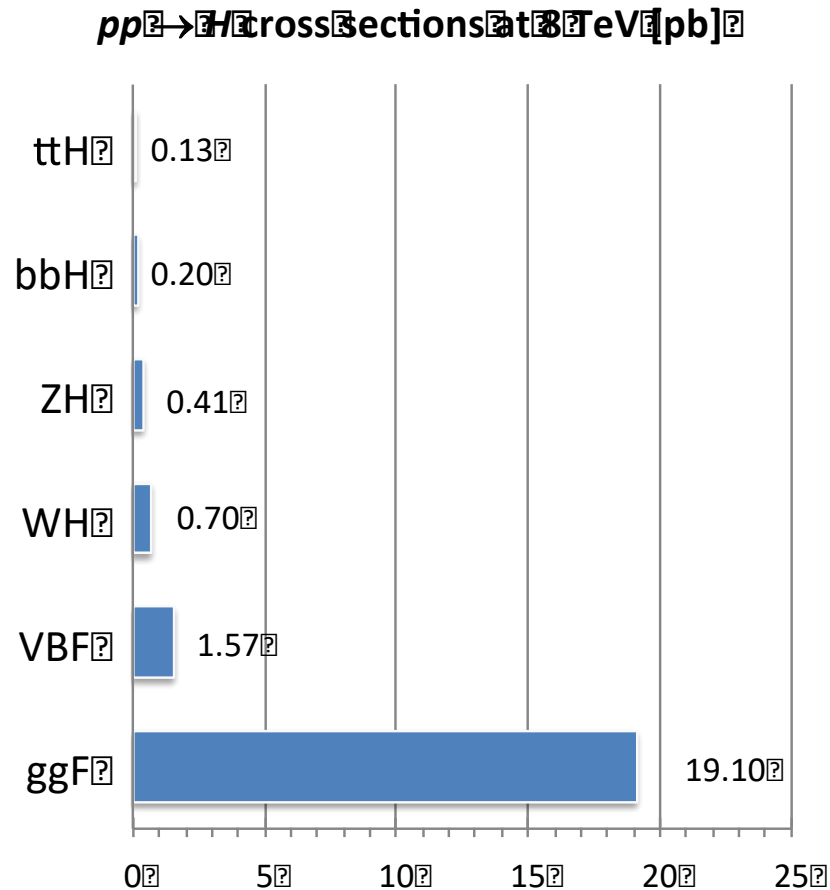


# Higgs and Flavour Physics

125.5 GeV Higgs boson – SM properties

[ LHCPhysics/CrossSections ]

Cross sections and branching fractions precisely predicted ( $m_H = 125.5$  GeV)



Uncertainties 3~12%

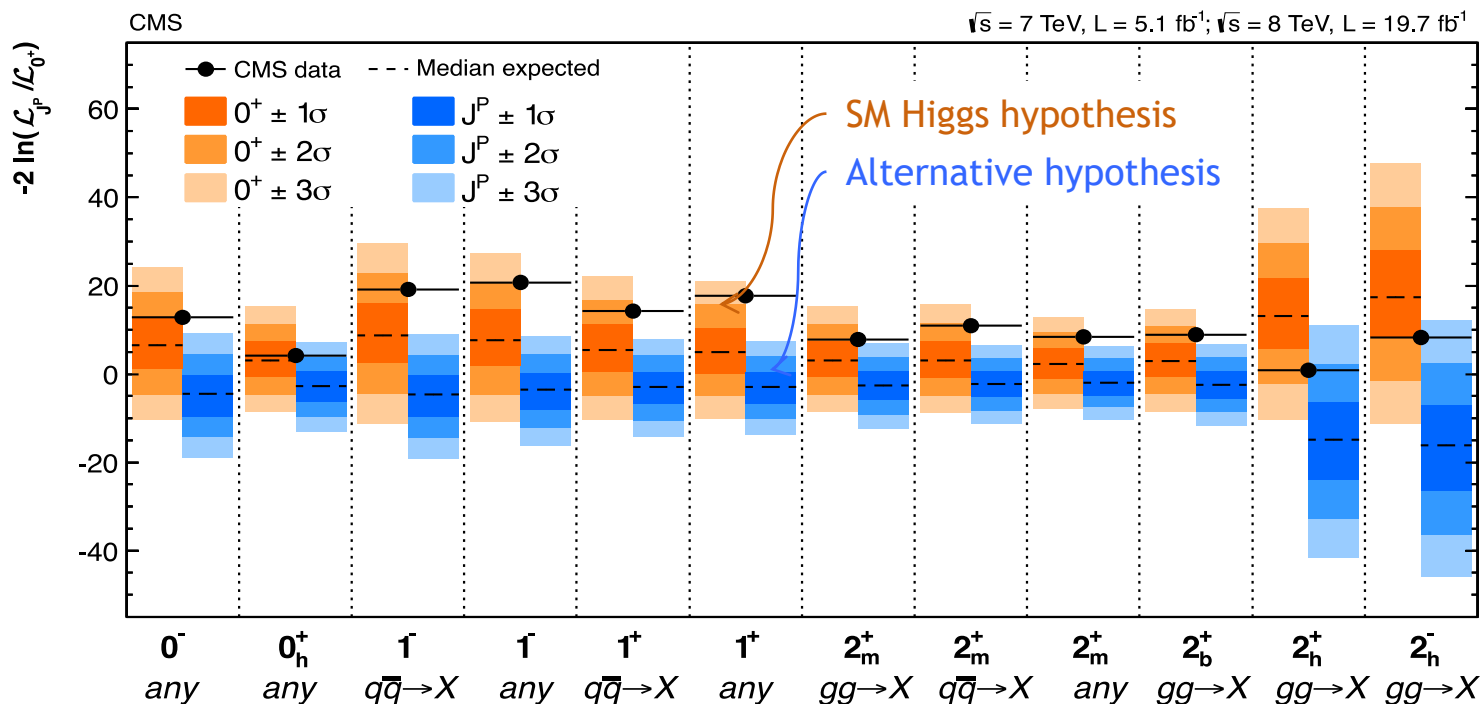
# Higgs spin and CP

Higgs boson appears to be SM-like:  $J^P = 0^+$

[ CMS: 1312.5353  
See also PDG ]

From most powerful spin/CP analyser:  $H \rightarrow 4\text{-lepton}$

- $0^-$  excluded at  $3.6\sigma$ ; CP-odd fraction in decay amplitude:  $f_{a3} < 0.51$  (95% CL)
- Spin-1, 2 hypotheses excluded  $\gg 95\%$  CL



Discrimination is based on 2D PDFs ( $D_{\text{bkg}}, D_{JP}$ )

$J_x^P$  : x represents different coupling scenarios

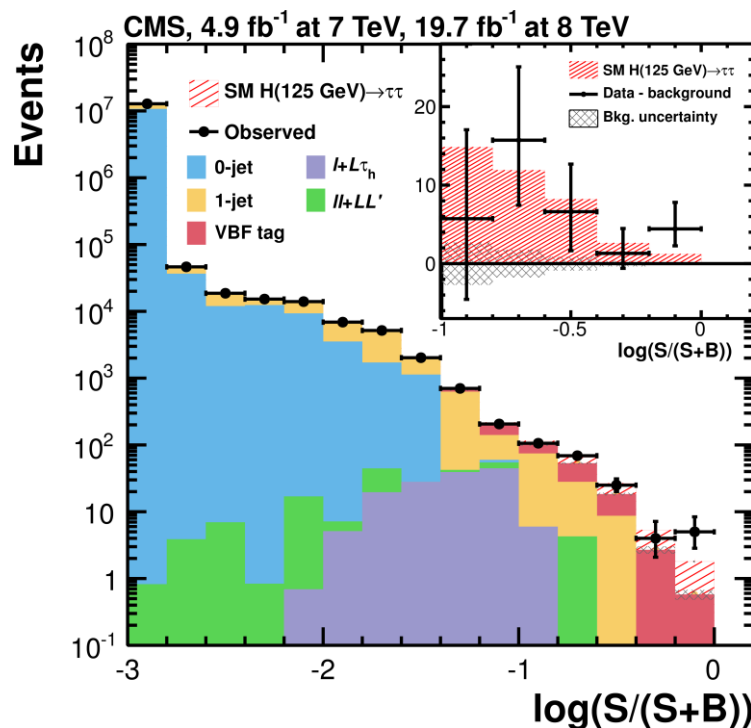
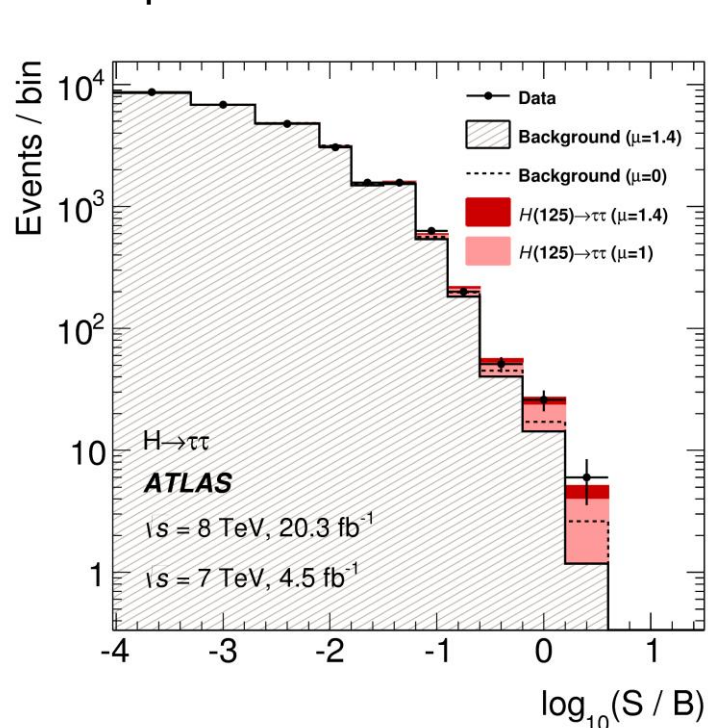
# Higgs and Flavour Physics

SM Higgs to fermions —  $\tau\tau$

[ ATLAS-CONF-2013-108, CMS: 1401.5041 ]

## Higgs to fermion analyses all very challenging (or too low BR)

- Di-tau reconstructed in all lep/had topologies and jets: 0, 1 (boosted or not), 2 (VBF, VH)
- BDT-based tau identification, Higgs discrimination based on  $m_{\tau\tau}$
- Likelihood-based calculator to estimate  $m_{\tau\tau}$ ,  $\sigma(m_{\tau\tau}) = 13\% \sim 20\%$ , best for boosted  $\tau$
- Background dominated by  $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$  (use “ $\tau$  embedded”  $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ ), also top and fakes important



**At 125 GeV:**

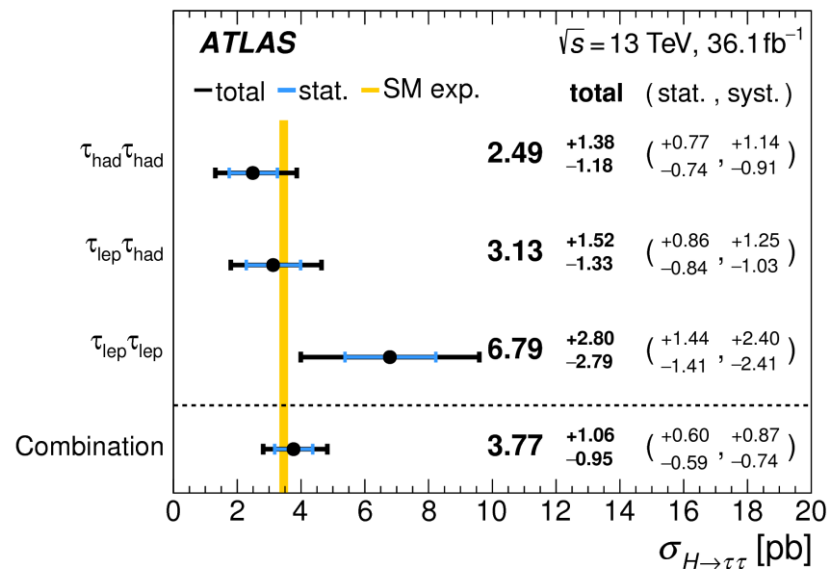
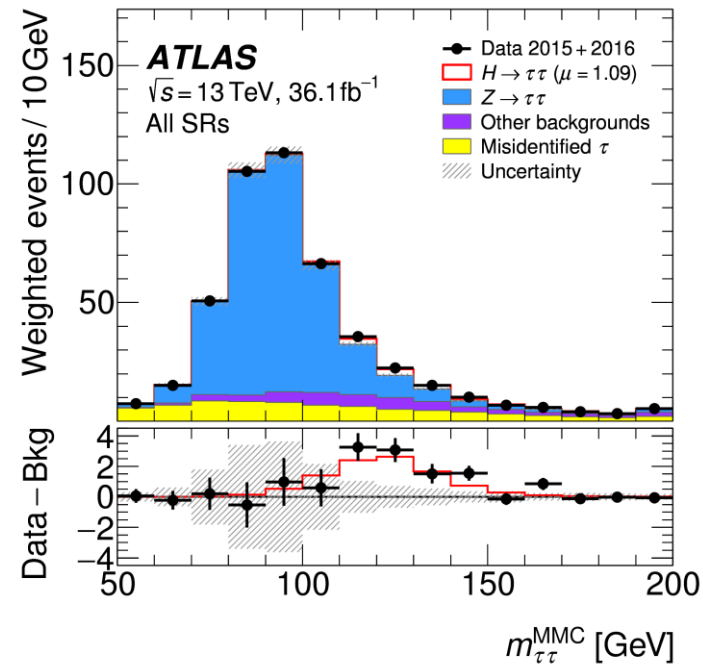
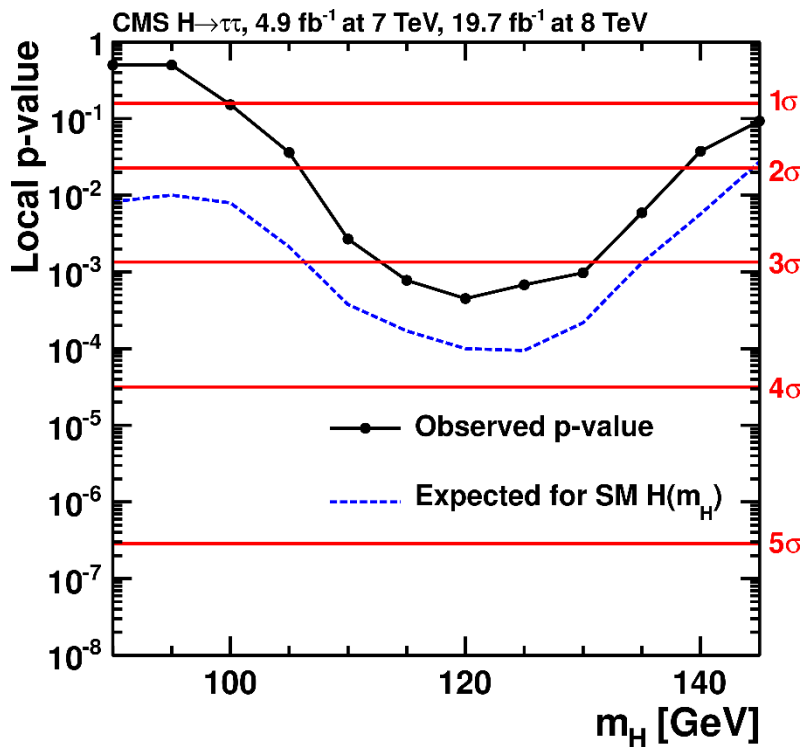
**ATLAS (8 TeV):**  
 $\mu = 1.4^{+0.5}_{-0.4}$   
 (4.1  $\sigma$ )

**CMS (7+8 TeV):**  
 $\mu = 0.78 \pm 0.27$   
 (3.4  $\sigma$ )

# Higgs and Flavour Physics

SM Higgs to fermions –  $\tau\tau$

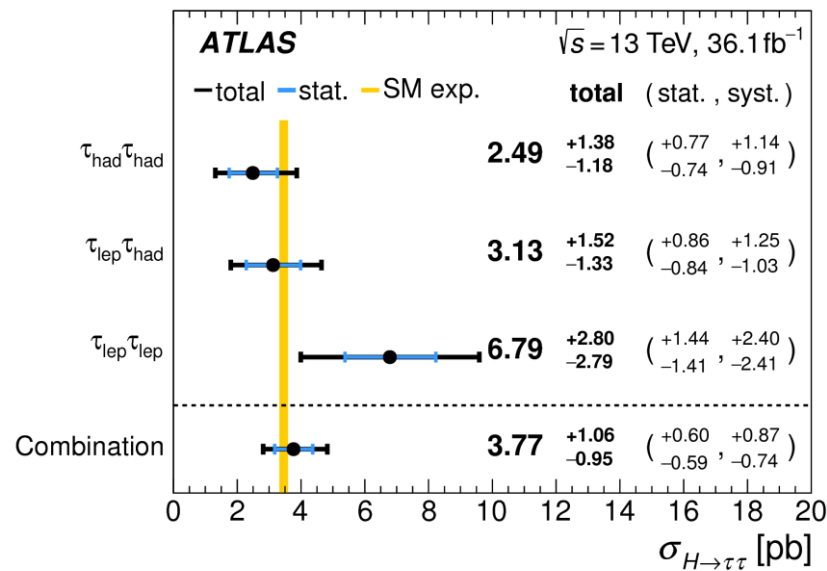
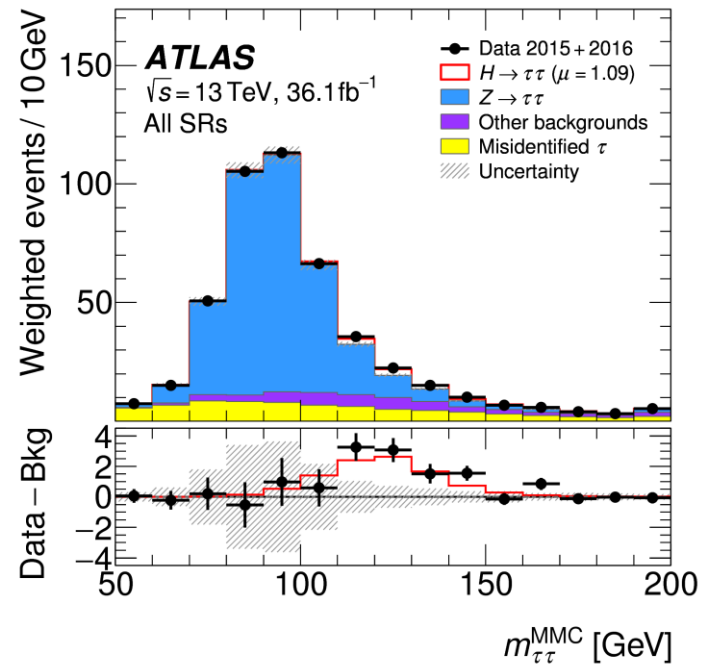
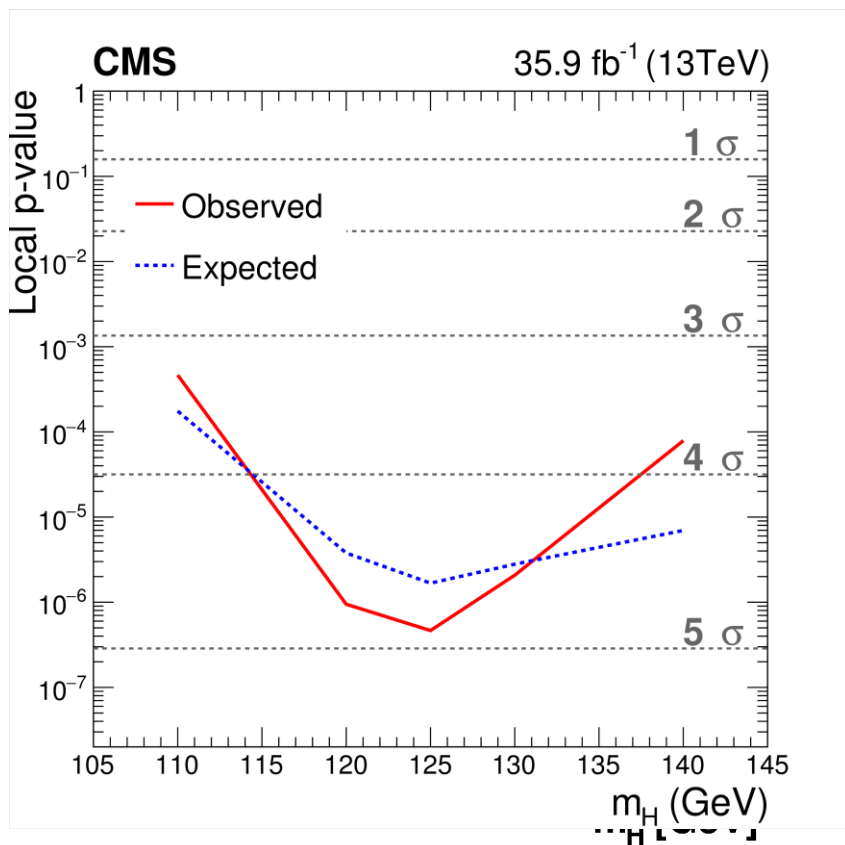
A closer look at the evidence with more data and higher energies:



# Higgs and Flavour Physics

SM Higgs to fermions –  $\tau\tau$

A closer look at the evidence with more data and higher energies:



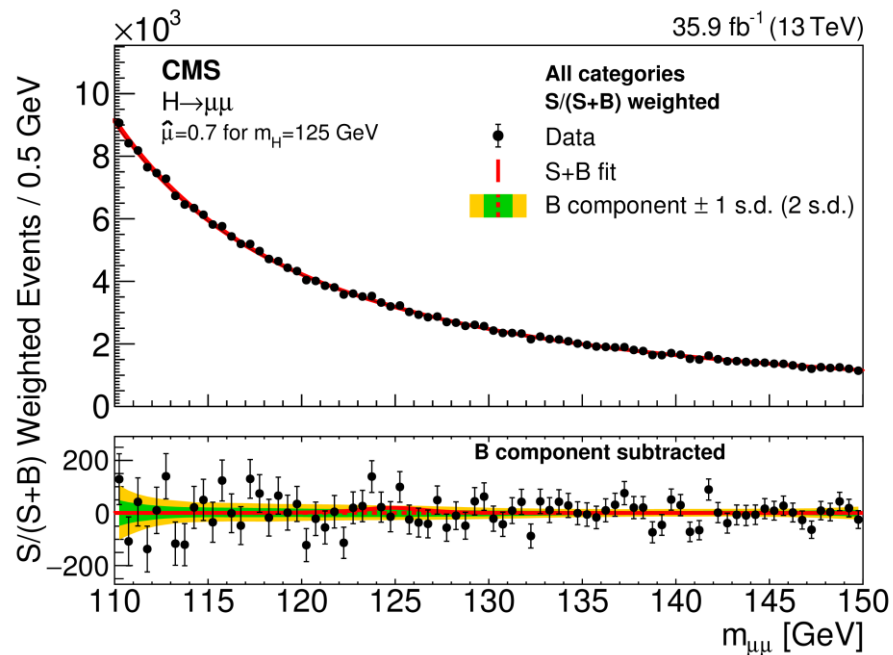
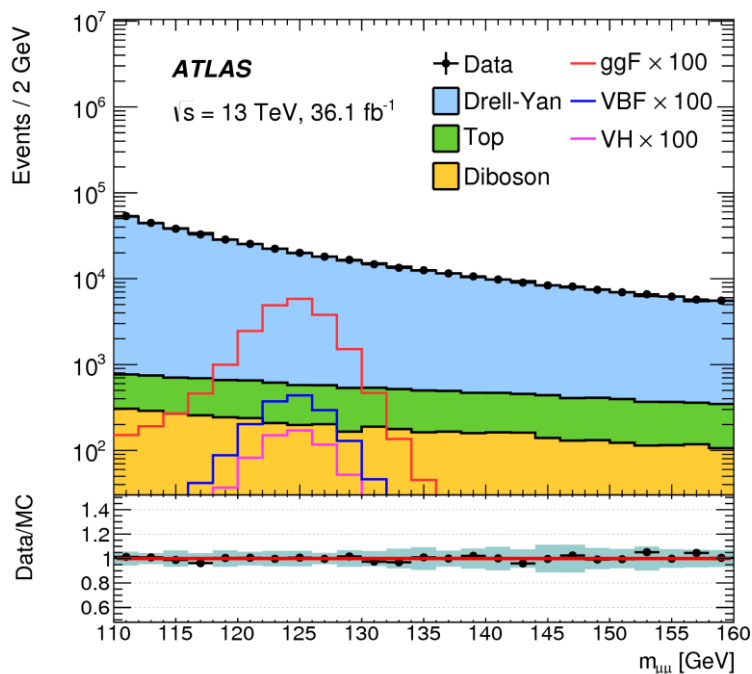
# Higgs and Flavour Physics

## SM Higgs to fermions – $\mu\mu$

[ ATLAS Phys. Rev. Lett. 119 (2017) 051802, CMS-PAS-HIG-17-019 ]

Low branching fraction (ten times smaller than  $\gamma\gamma$ ), mainly data-driven fit akin to  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

- Slight complication due to sum of dominant DY and sub-dominant  $tt$ ,  $WW$  backgrounds
- Separation of jet (gluon fusion, VBF), and  $S/B$  (central, non-central) categories



At 125 GeV:

**ATLAS** (7+8+13 TeV):

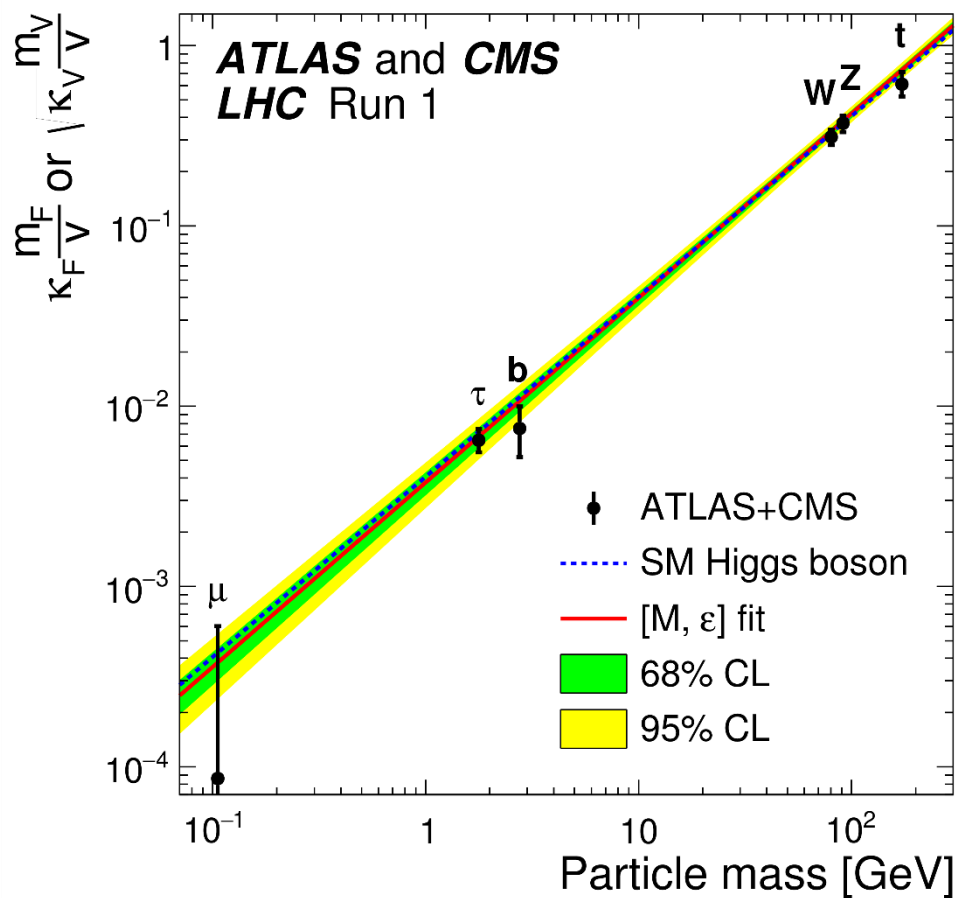
$\mu < 2.8$  (2.9 exp.)  $\times$  SM value (95% CL)

**CMS** (7+8+13 TeV):

$\mu < 2.92$  (2.16 exp.)  $\times$  SM value (95% CL)

# Higgs bottom line for Run I (7 + 8 TeV)

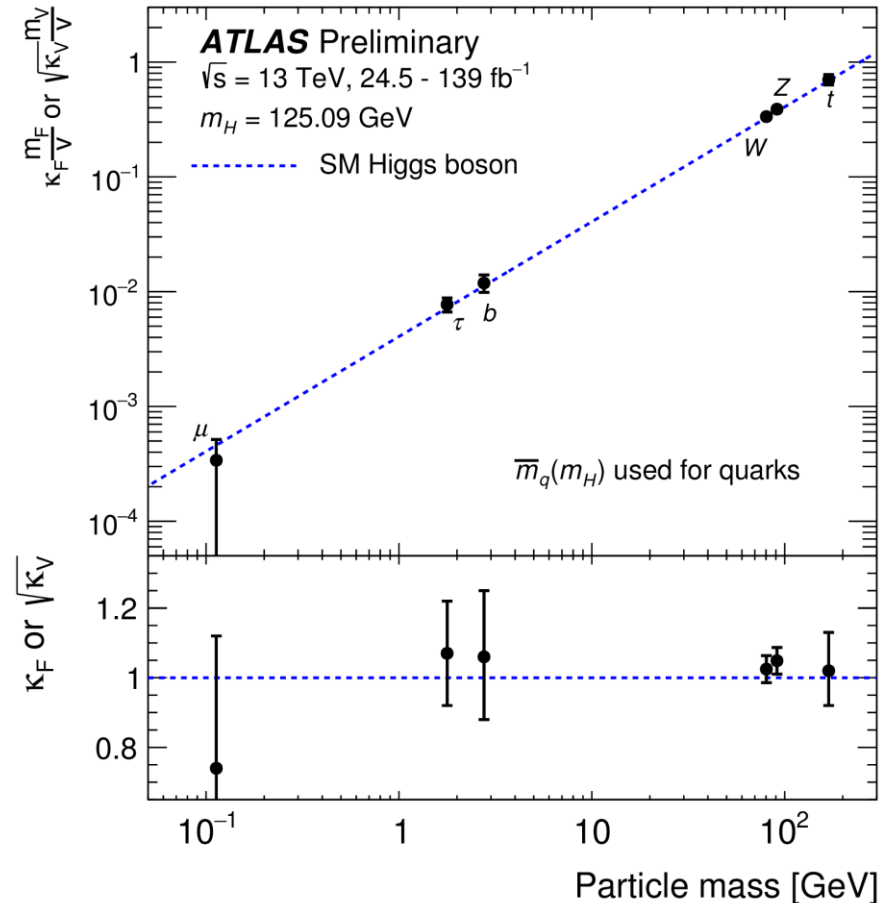
Great measurements —  
the overall picture is as  
expected in the SM



*Particle mass proportional to coupling to Higgs field*

# Higgs bottom line for Run 2 (13 TeV)

Great measurements —  
the overall picture is as  
expected in the SM

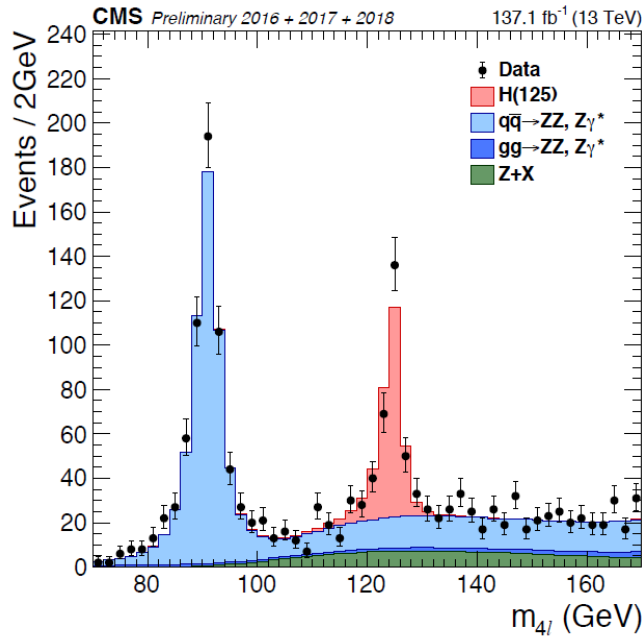


***Particle mass proportional to coupling to Higgs field***

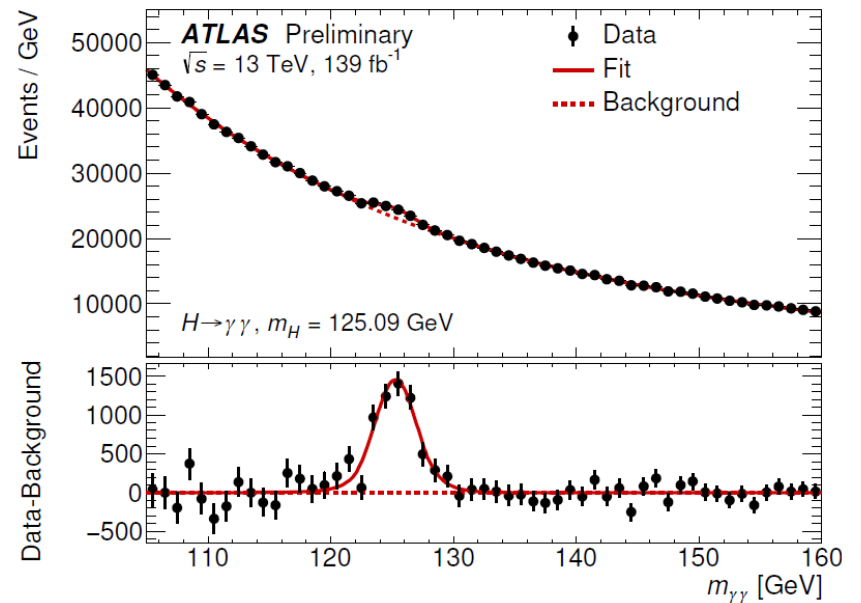


# Full Run 2 results on the "easy" channels

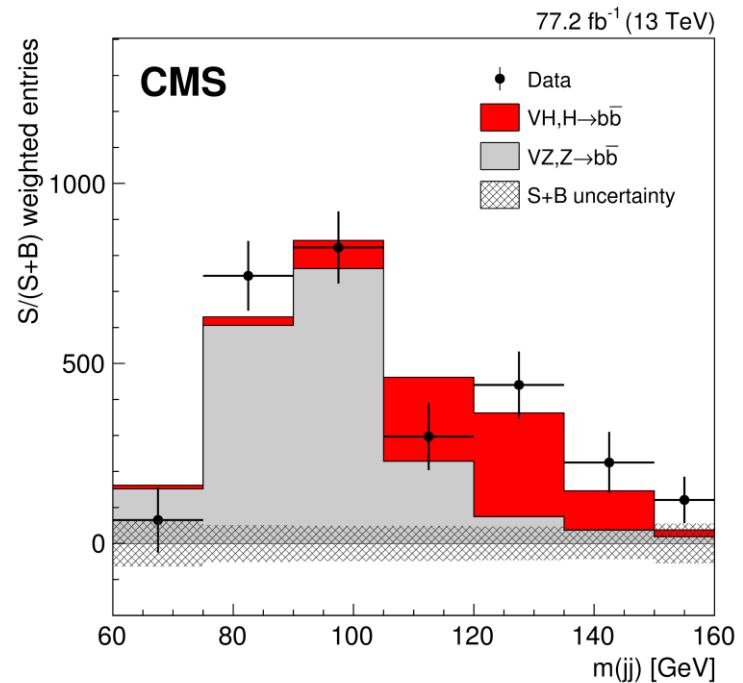
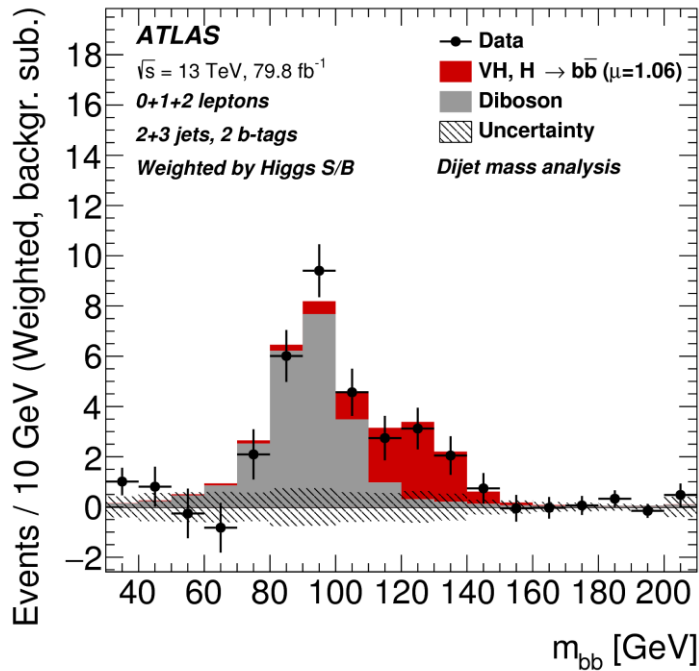
$H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\text{lep}$



$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$



# The most likely decay channel: $b\bar{b}$

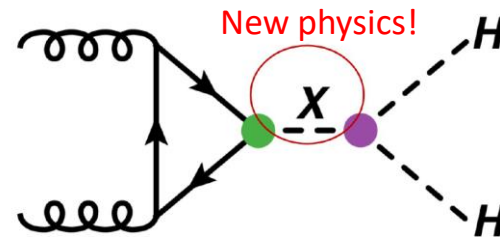
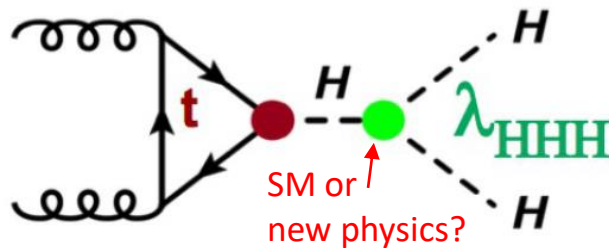


This is only half the Run 2 dataset, so more to come. But it really looks like a SM Higgs ...

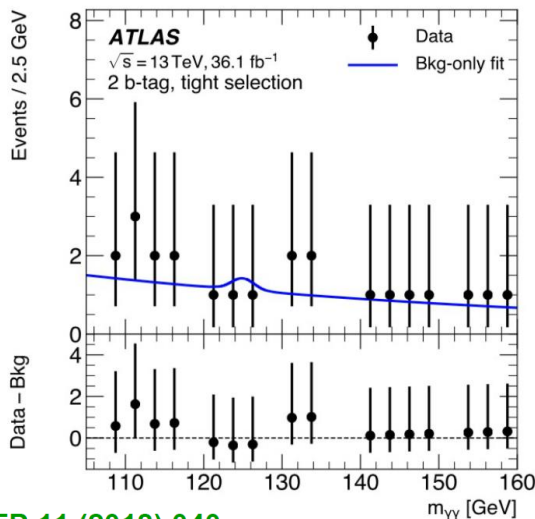
# The Higgs potential: di-higgs

What is the origin of the potential and what does it really look like?

Expand lambda close to origin and get terms depending on Higgs self-couplings (3 or 4 higgs interactions).

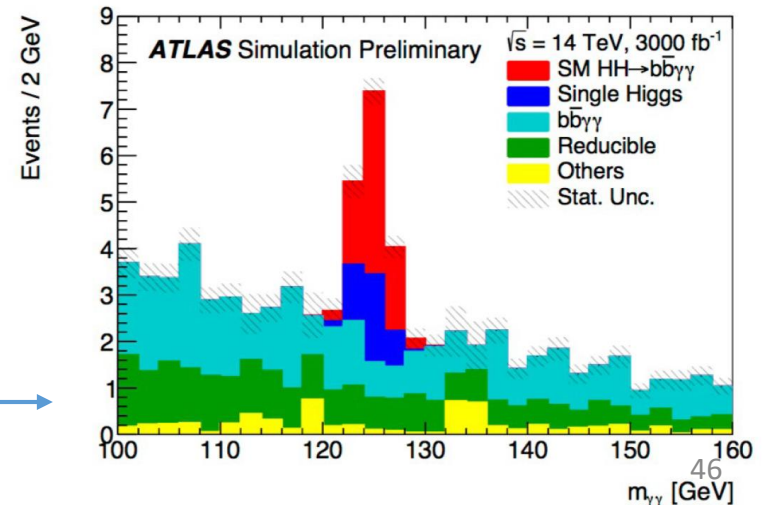


Unfortunately RARE, destructive interference. Showing  $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$  as example:



Current sensitivity

Prospects for high luminosity LHC



# Summary/outlook

- The Higgs field is fundamental for the Standard model
  - *And our Universe!*
- Discovery of the boson took a lot of effort
  - *Needed all parts of the detector, all the “usual” objects, and with high precision*
  - *It looks like a Standard Model Higgs boson*
- Studying the Higgs boson is another window to find physics beyond the Standard Model
  - *It “saves” the SM but introduces new problems*
  - *Need to talk about beyond the SM*