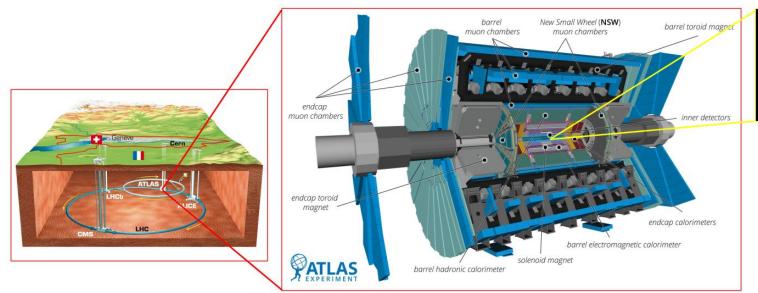
# Recent results and future prospects of ATLAS experiment

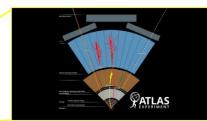
Hernan Wahlberg





### The ATLAS Experiment



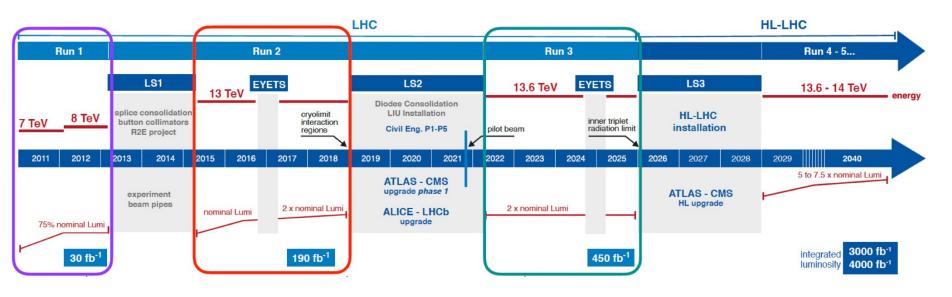


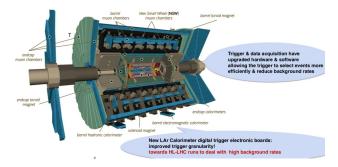
The ATLAS experiment is designed to shed light on elementary particle interactions: **test the SM and search for phenomena beyond it.** 

ATLAS is a general-purpose detector running at the LHC collider with excellent reconstruction, identification and energy-momentum measurement of electrons, photons, muons, taus, jets and flavor-tag covering a wide energy range (sub-GeV to TeV).

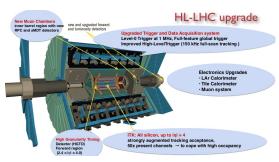
Collecting **proton-proton collisions at ECM = 13.6 TeV** (world record collider energy) at instantaneous luminosity  $\sim 2 \times 10^{34} \text{s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}$  with  $\sim 60$  minimum bias interactions per bunch crossing (well above the design value of 20).

#### The road map

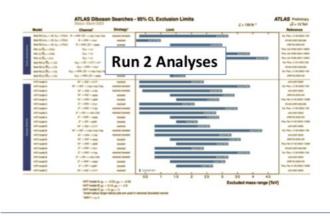


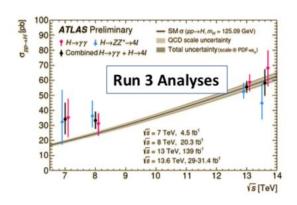




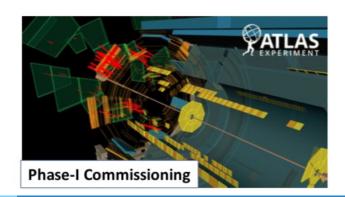


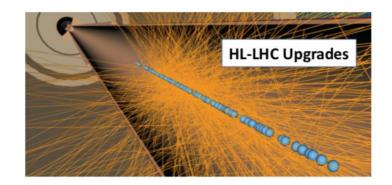
#### **ATLAS Collaboration Activities**





## There are many ongoing activities at ATLAS...

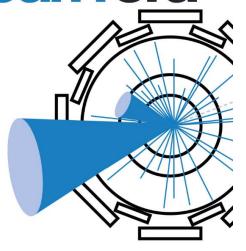


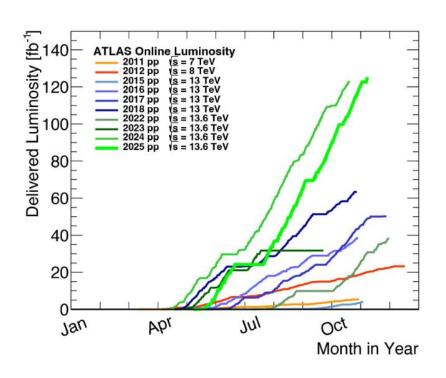


# Data Taking and Performance

#### Energy-frontier physics relies on the LHC

# entering the attobamera



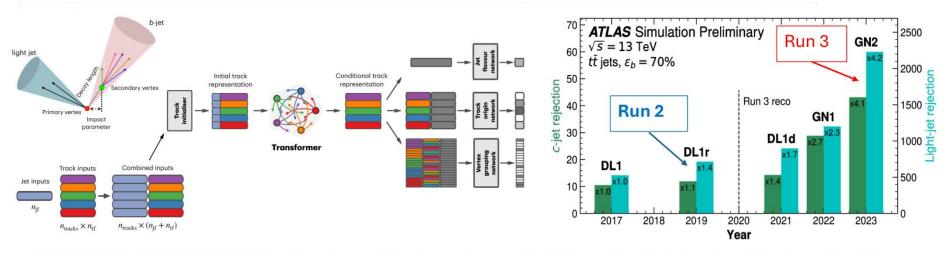


Since the LHC began operations in 2010, it has delivered over 0.5 attobarns (500 fb<sup>-1</sup>) of proton–proton collisions to ATLAS. This extraordinary achievement was made possible thanks to the dedication of the ATLAS Collaboration and the CERN accelerator teams.

6

### Transforming jet flavour tagging

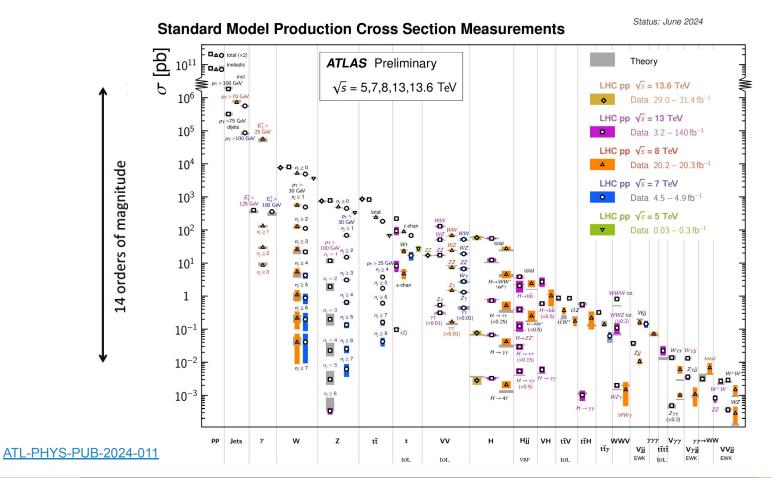
#### **Submitted to Nature Communication**



- > Traditional approach (DL1r): low-level quantities based on tracks followed by high-level multivariate classifier
- New approach (GN2): directly process track and jet information. In addition to the primary training target (jet flavor prediction) auxiliary training objectives are introduced to reconstruct the internal structure of a jet by grouping tracks originating from a common vertex
- GN2 used in Run 3 analyses and reprocessed Run 2

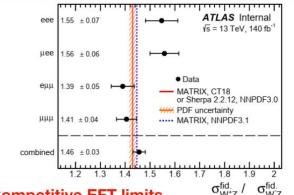
# SM and Top

#### The Standard Model at LHC

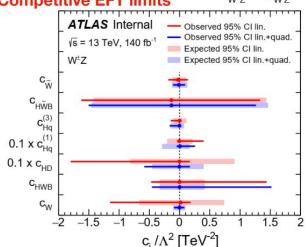


#### Di-Bosons: W/Z cross sections

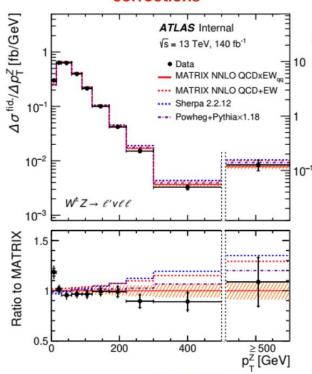
#### Most precise charge ratio in WZ diboson



#### **Competitive EFT limits**

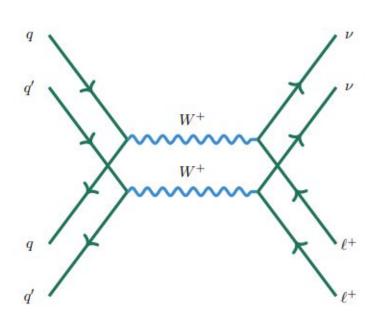


#### Great precision reveals: The need of precision modelling for high-order resummation, NNLO QCD + NLO EW corrections



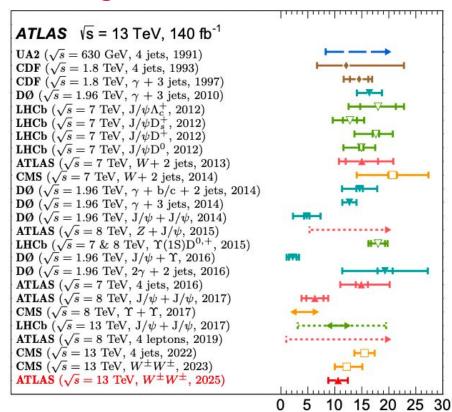
JHEP11(2025)006

### Observation of double parton scattering



Submitted to Phys. Lett. B. (arXiv:2505.08313)

final (energy, **Experiment** 



First same-sign WW DPI observation for ATLAS. Providing precision into global  $\sigma_{\text{eff}}$ 

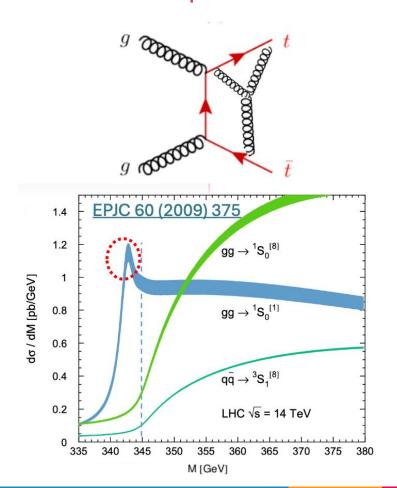
 $\sigma_{\rm eff}$  [mb]

#### Observation of a cross-section enhancement near the tt production threshold

- SM predicts a quasi-bound toponium state just below the tt<sup>-</sup> threshold
  - Unlike charmonium or bottomonium, it cannot self-annihilate — one of the top quarks decays before binding
  - The pseudoscalar nature of the state is reflected in the angular distributions of the top decay products
- CMS observes a cross-section enhancement consistent with a  $^1S_0$  toponium state:

$$\sigma$$
 = 8.8 ± 1.3 pb [CMS-TOP-24-007]

Use dileptonic tt̄ events at M(tt̄) ≤ 500
 GeV to fit various models



#### Observation of a cross-section enhancement near the tt production threshold

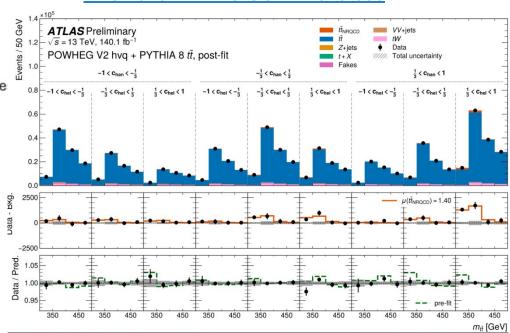
- ▶ Use tt→tvb tvb leptonic decay:
  - ➤ Reconstruction of m<sub>tt</sub> → mass resolution ~20% at threshold
  - Enhance sensitivity using lepton angular variables sensitive to tt spin correlation (c<sub>hel</sub> and c<sub>han</sub>) signal behave as "pseudo-scalar"
- Fit to the data in 9 SR with m<sub>tt</sub> bins (300-500 GeV)
  - Background Model: baseline pQCD
  - Signal Model: NRQCD (from Fuks et al.)
- Bkg.-only hypothesis rejected at 7.7σ

$$\sigma(\text{tt}_{\text{NRQCD}}) = 9.0 \pm 1.3 \,\text{pb}$$
 (expected 6.4pb, 5.7 $\sigma$ )

ATLAS observed this elusive NRQCD phenomena

more work is needed on theory side (off-shell effects, matching pQCD and NRQCD, other NRQCD effects, ...) to better establish the properties of the observed signal

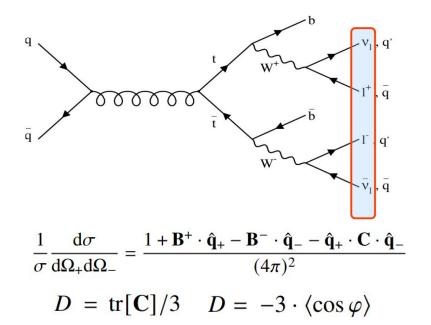
#### EPS 2025 - ATLAS-CONF-2025-008



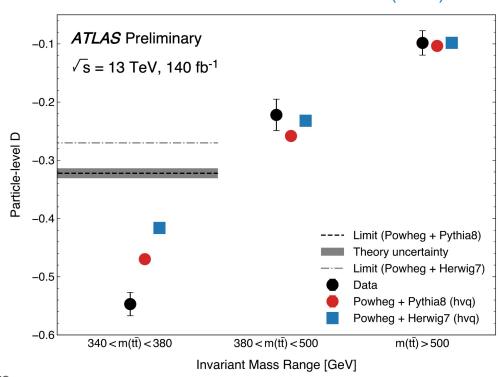
Physics Briefing 13

#### Highest-energy detection of quantum entanglement

#### Nature 633 (2024) 542



The vectors  $B^{\pm}$  determine the top-quark and antitop-quark polarizations, whereas the **matrix C contains their spin correlations**. The **degree of entanglement (D)** is related to the angular distribution ( $\cos \varphi$ ) of the particles the top quarks decay into.



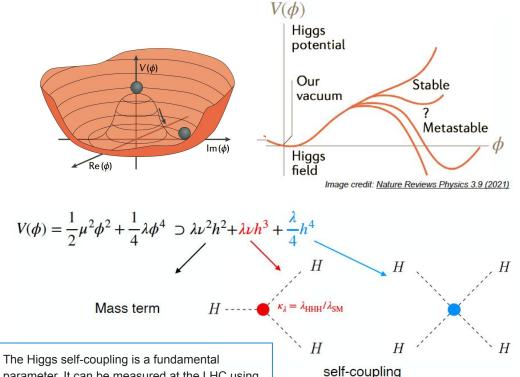
Physics Briefing 14

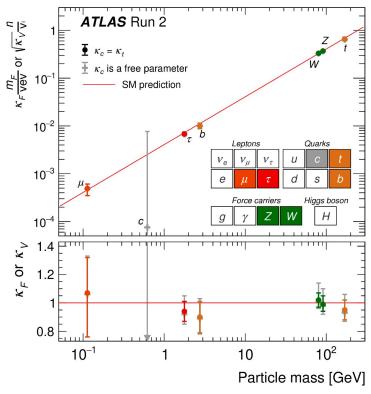
# Higgs

## Higgs properties and beyond

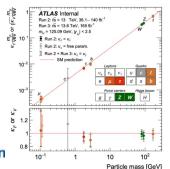
parameter. It can be measured at the LHC using Di-Higgs production, but it is 1000 times smaller than the production of a single Higgs boson.

# Coupling to the different particles → proportional to the masses





#### Rare Higgs Decays: H → μμ



1800

1600

1200

1000 800

> 600 400 200

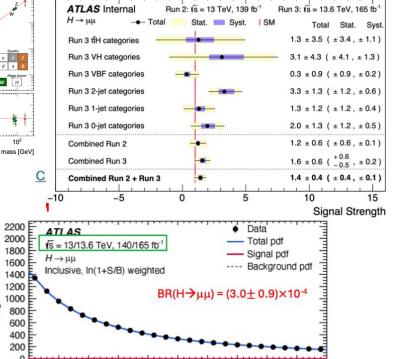
> > 10

Data - Bkg. (weighted)

- Test SM Yukawa sector on 2<sup>nd</sup> Fermion generation
- Rare decay BR~2x10-4 with huge DY background: S/B inclusive ~0.2%
- > 23 Categories based on Higgs production mode and kinematic (BDT/NN) to enhance S/B
- Use Run 3 up to 2024!
- > Run 3:  $\mu(\sigma/\sigma_{SM})=1.6 \pm 0.6 \rightarrow 2.8 \sigma$  (Exp. 1.8  $\sigma$ )
- ► Combined Run 2+Run 3:  $\mu(\sigma/\sigma_{SM})=1.4\pm0.4\rightarrow3.4$   $\sigma(2.5 \sigma)$

STRONG evidence for H > µµ decay in agreement with SM

Sensitivity improved by ~50% relative to Run 2 analysis





130

135

140

145

150

155 m<sub>μμ</sub> [GeV]

120

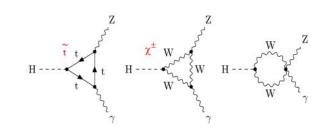
125

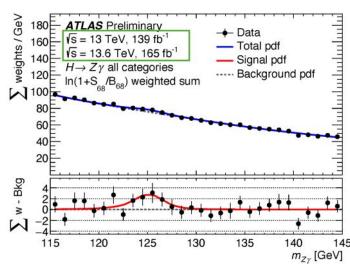
### Rare Higgs Decay: $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$

- ➤ Rare decay loop-suppressed in the SM with BR=1.5x10<sup>-3</sup> → Sensitive to BSM effects
- ► Intriguing ATLAS+CMS in Run 2:  $\mu(\sigma/\sigma_{SM})$ =2.2±0.7 (Obs./Exp. Significance 3.4/1.6 $\sigma$  about 2 $\sigma$  above SM prediction) Phys. Rev. Lett. 132 (2024) 021803
- Use Run 3 up to 2024!
- ightharpoonup Fit to  $m_{Z_{\gamma}}$  2 leptons  $Z \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(e,\mu)$  + isolated photon in 13 Categories
- > Run 3:  $\mu(\sigma/\sigma_{SM}) = 0.9^{+0.7}_{-0.6}$  significance 1.4 $\sigma$  (exp. SM 1.5 $\sigma$ )
- > Combined Run2+Run3:  $\mu$ =1.3<sup>+0.6</sup><sub>-0.5</sub> significance 2.5 $\sigma$  (exp. SM 1.9 $\sigma$ )

Sensitivity improved by 60% relative to Run 2 and by 20% relative to

ATLAS+CMS combination



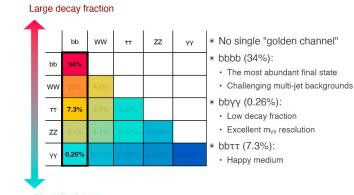


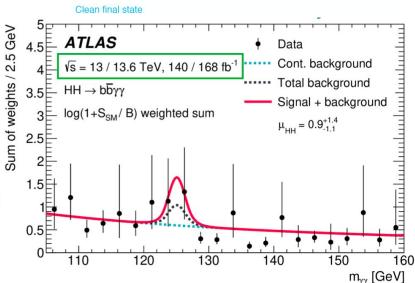
Rarest visible Higgs decay seen so far: 0.010%

#### Search for HH → bbγγ

- New measurement using reprocessed Run 2 + Run 3 (2022-2024!) → Total 308 fb<sup>-1</sup>
- Timely calibration of physics objects for Run 3 (up to 2024!)
- Improvements on HH sensitivity relative to Run 2 legacy analysis:
  - > Additional data: 50%
  - New flavor tag algorithm GN2: 20%
  - Analysis preoptimization: 10%
  - m<sub>bb</sub> kinematic fit : 5%
- $\triangleright$  Signal extracted by a fit to  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$  in 7 BDT categories
  - > Observed  $\mu(\sigma/\sigma_{SM})_{HH} = 0.9^{+1.4}_{-1.1}$
  - > 0.8 σ significance (1.0 expected)
  - Similar sensitivity of Legacy Run 2 combination (5 chan.)
- ► Higgs boson self-coupling modifier (coupling normalized to its SM prediction)  $\kappa_{\lambda} \in [-1.7,6.6]$  @95% CL

#### HH decay channels





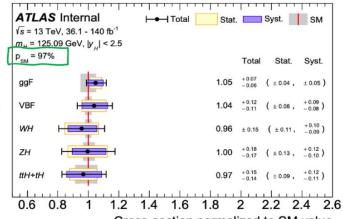
**Briefing** 

## Run 2 Higgs coupling combination

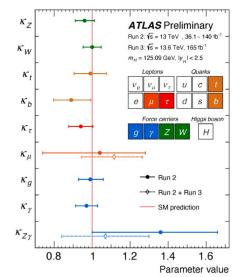
#### ATLAS-CONF-2025-006

- Added new Run 2 measurements relative to Nature 607 (2022) 52 ttH→bb, VH→bb,cc, H→ττ, H→WW\*
- $\mu(\sigma_{\rm obs}/\sigma_{\rm SM}) = 1.023^{+0.056}_{-0.053} (0.028({\rm stat}) \pm 0.026({\rm exp}) \pm 0.039({\rm th}))$
- Main improvements on σ (BR fixed to SM)
  - > WH/ZH reduced by 30/20% new V(H→bb)
  - > ttH+tH reduced by 25% new tt(H→bb)
- ► Test SM with coupling modifiers κ (coupling normalized to its SM prediction)  $\sigma_i \times B(H \to f) = \frac{\sigma_i \times \Gamma_f}{\Gamma_H} = \frac{\kappa_i^2 \kappa_f^2}{\kappa_*^2} \sigma_i^{SM} \times B^{SM}(H \to f)$

Achieved precision\* ranging from 5-10% (psm 89%)



Cross-section normalized to SM value



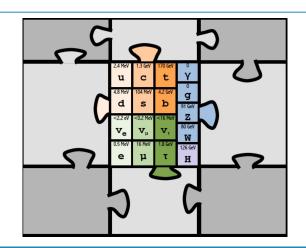
\*No BSM contributions to Higgs boson width

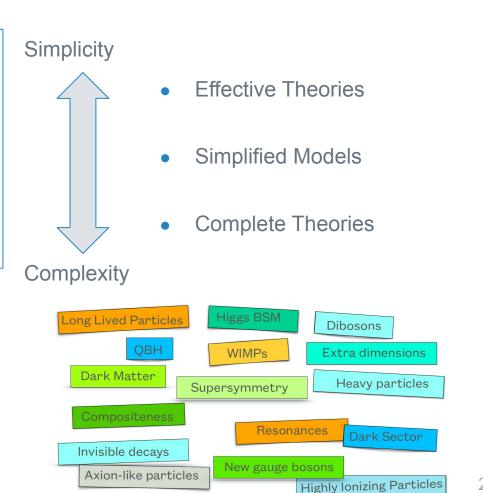
# Beyond Standard Model (BSM)

## Guide for New Physics

Extraordinary predictions of the Standard Model, but...

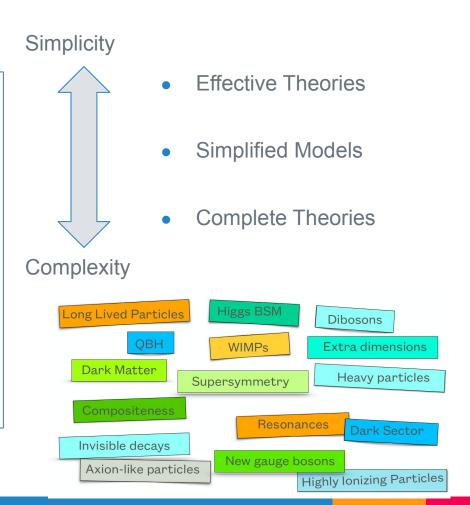
- It does not include gravity
- It does not include dark matter
- It does not consider baryonic asymmetry
- Non-massive neutrinos



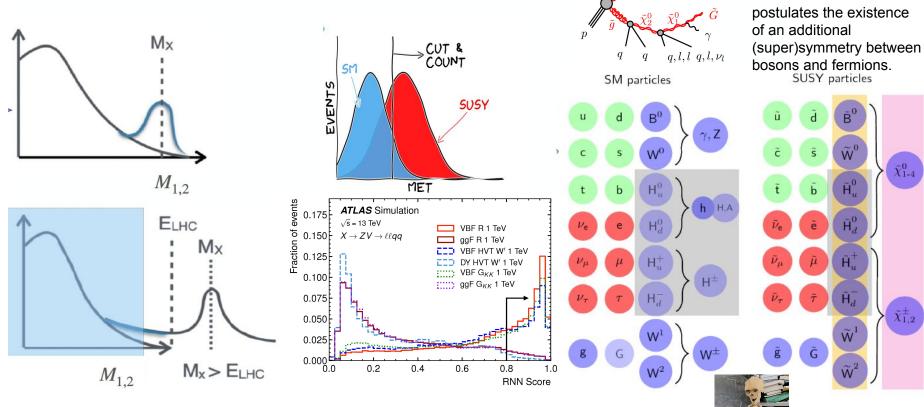


## Guide for New Physics

- For the last ~50 years, we've known what to look for at each step: Z boson, W boson, top quark, Higgs boson.
- Many expected SUSY particles to follow shortly after the Higgs, but now increasingly pushed to extreme regions of parameter space.
- Today, we no longer have a single guiding theory to motivate discoveries, but we do have largest HEP dataset ever collected
  - BSM not around the corner → Make
    sure we leave no stone unturned!



## Search for New Physics



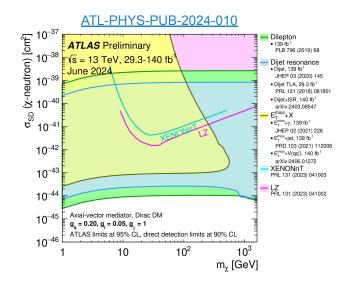
Who spoke bad about SUSY?

 $q, \nu_l \quad q, l$ 

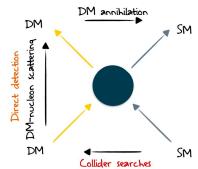
Supersymmetry: an

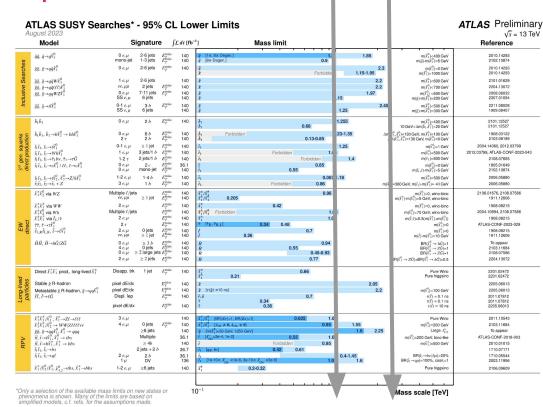
extension of the SM which

#### Results on the search for new particles









Exclusion of new particles up to a few TeV in different possible scenarios

25

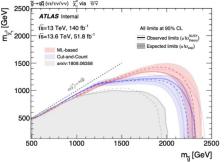
#### Search for squarks and gluinos with $\tau$ leptons

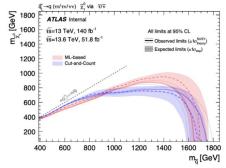
SUSY partner of the gluon and quarks have large σ at the LHC, and are usually searched in jets + MET but for some region of SUSY parameter space decay chains involving final states with τ's are dominant

- $\gt$  Select events with 1 or  $2\tau$ , at least 2 jets and large MET (>200 GeV)
- > 2 new analyses dividing events into  $(1\tau,0l)$ ,  $(1\tau,1l)$   $(2\tau)$ :
  - ML-learning based (more sensitive)
  - > cut-based (less model depended and optimized for mass-compressed scenario)
- No excess found in Run 2 + Run 3 (2022-2023) data, 95% CL limits in gluino-LSP and squark-LSP planes largely improving on previous results

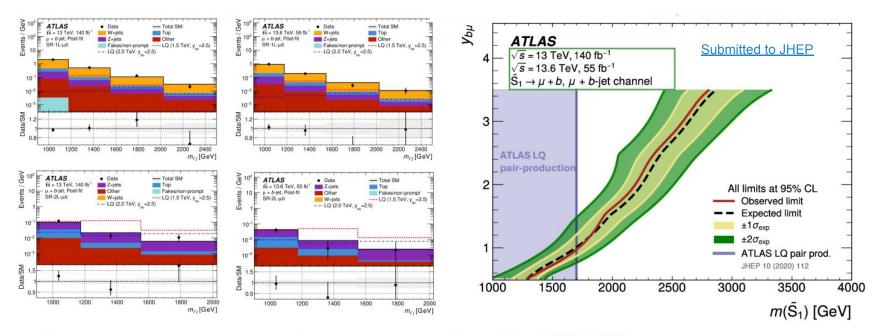
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
$p \qquad \tilde{g} \qquad \tilde{\chi}_{2}^{0}  \tilde{\tau}/\tilde{\nu} \qquad \tilde{\chi}_{1}^{0} \qquad \tau/\nu \qquad q \qquad q \qquad \tau/\nu$	$p \qquad \tilde{q} \qquad \tilde{\chi}_{2}^{0} \qquad \tilde{\tau}/\tilde{\nu} \qquad \tilde{\chi}_{1}^{0} \qquad \tau/\nu \qquad q \qquad \tau/\nu$

	Compressed SR		High Mass SR		TwoTau SR
Channel	1TAUOLEP	1TAU1LEP	1TAUOLEP	1TAU1LEP	2таи
$N_e + N_\mu$	= 0	≥ 1	= 0	≥ 1	_
$N_{\tau}$	= 1				2
$E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$ [GeV]	> 400				> 200
$H_{\rm T}$ [GeV]		-	> 1000		> 800
$N_{\rm jets}$	≥	2	≥ 3		≥ 3
$p_{\mathrm{T}}^{\tau_1}$ [GeV]	< 45		> 45		_
$m_{\rm T}^{\tau_1}$ [GeV]	> 80	_	> 250	> 120	_
$m_{\mathrm{T}}^{\tau_1} + m_{\mathrm{T}}^{\ell_1} [\text{GeV}]$	-	> 350	_	> 350	_
$m_{\rm T}^{\tau_1} + m_{\rm T}^{\tau_2} [{\rm GeV}]$	_	_	_	_	> 150

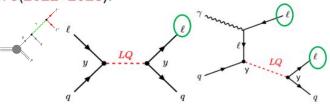




#### Search for resonant leptoquark production via lepton-jet signatures



- LQ s-channel production via <u>lepton PDF of the proton</u> using Run 2+Run 3(2022+2023):
  - > lepton+jet resonances in m₀, untagged-jet and b-tagged categories
  - 1- and 2-lepton channels
  - No significant excesses: limits on LQ mass vs y coupling derived



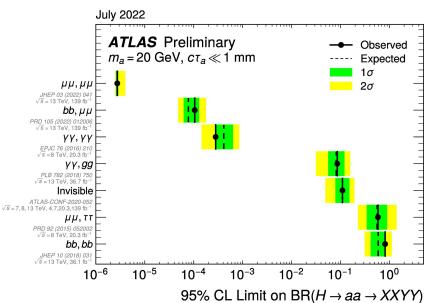
### Searches for low-mass BSM physics

#### So far:

- No discovery of EW/TeV scale BSM physics
- Many models well-constrained at high mass
- Weaker constraints on low-mass BSM scenarios
- Many models allow for low-mass new physics:
  - Additional Higgs-like particles, a-la 2HDM(+s)
  - Axion-like particles (ALPs) in SM extensions with  $\mu\mu$ , broken shift symmetry
  - Heavy neutral leptons (HNLs), e.g. in seesaw mechanism models

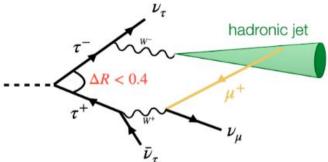
#### Low-mass BSM searches often quite challenging:

- Collimated decay products → dedicated tagging methods
- Long-lived, weakly coupled → displaced tracking/vertexing
- Background-rich → innovative analysis strategies (+clever ML)

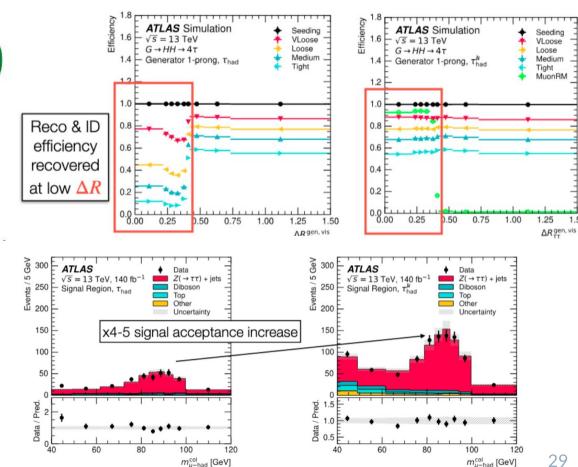




## Improved reconstruction of highly boosted τ-lepton pairs



- In boosted topologies, overlapping objects degrade tau reconstruction and ID efficiency
- Subtracting muon/electron tracks and clusters in overlap cases recovers tau performance
- Validated in Z→ττ, yielding a 4– 5× acceptance gain over standard reconstruction



# Heavy Ions

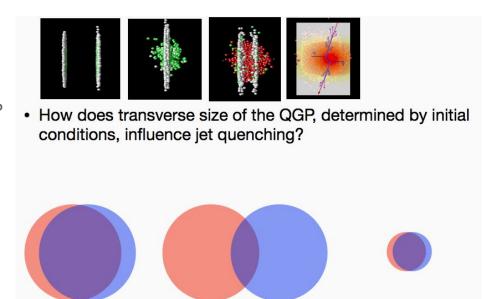
# New window onto the study of quark-gluon plasma (QGP): Dijet transverse momentum balance in O+O

Central Pb+Pb

This extreme state of matter mimics the conditions of the early Universe during the first microseconds after the Big Bang.

Traditionally, researchers have focused on studying QGP formed in the collisions of heavy ions (like lead or xenon), which maximize the size of the plasma droplet created. But in recent years, interest has grown in exploring the QGP using smaller ions (such as oxygen) to better understand the QGP across different system sizes.

Studying jet quenching in collisions of oxygen ions (O+O) provides a unique opportunity to investigate the path-length dependence of energy loss using a system with a smaller transverse extent than Pb+Pb



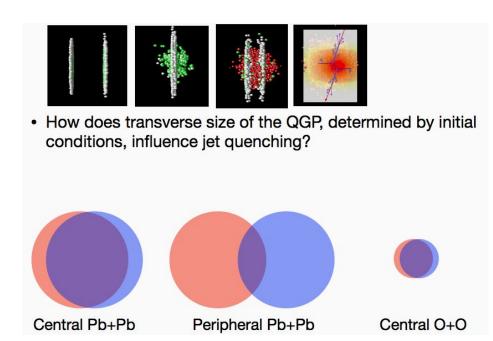
Peripheral Pb+Pb

Central O+O

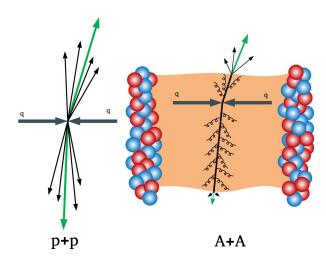
#### Dijet transverse momentum balance in O+O

Thanks to the LHC preparation and performance, the <u>oxygen special run in July 2025</u> was exceptionally successful

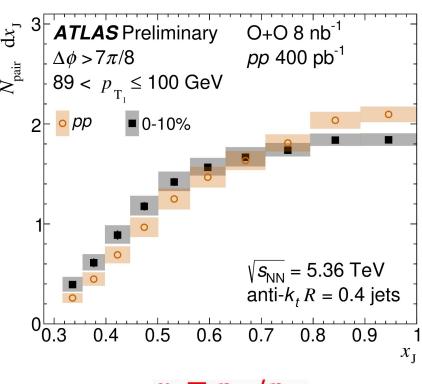
- Due to the short run, ATLAS was able to increase DAQ (SFO) output rate by 40-50%
- Sampled luminosity after applying ATLAS DQ requirements:
- p-O: 7.76 nb<sup>-1</sup> (Pierre Auger request!)
- O+O: 8.08 nb<sup>-1</sup>
- Ne+Ne: 1.03 nb<sup>-1</sup>



#### Dijet transverse momentum balance in O+O



- The smallest percentiles indicate the most centra events
- Effect ~1/2 of that observed in PbPb for central collisions
- An increase in the relative contribution of lower x dijets in 0–10% central O+O collisions

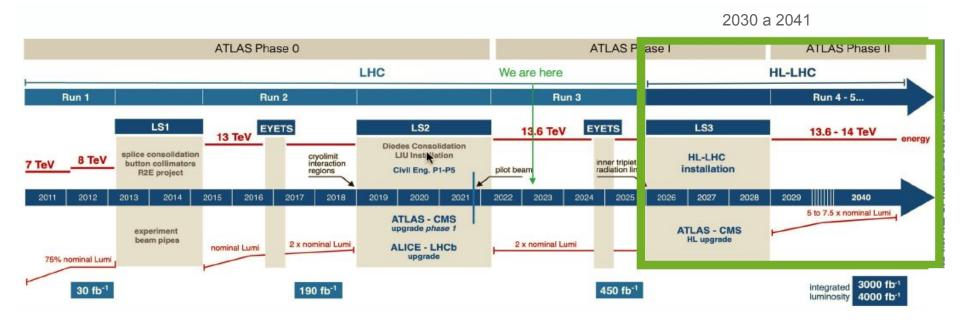


$$x_J \equiv p_{T_2}/p_{T_1}$$

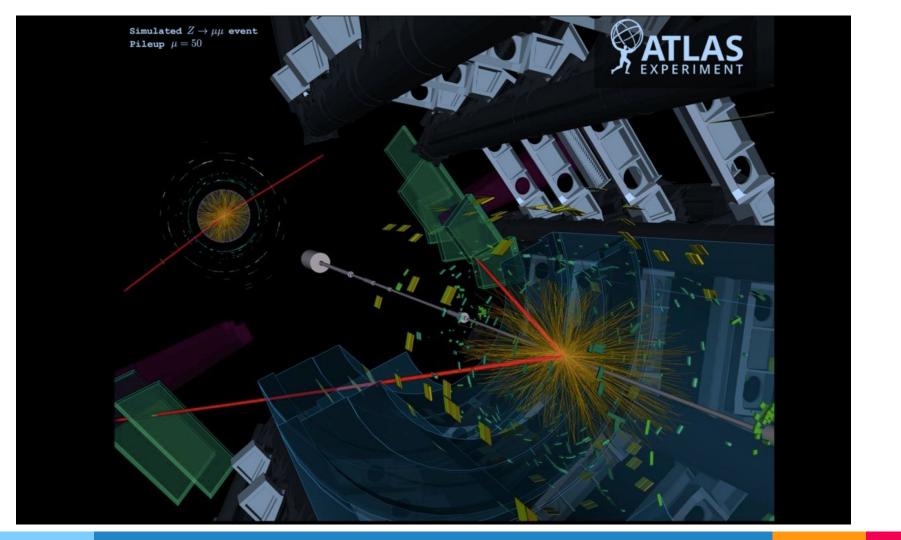
<u>ATLAS-CONF-2025-010</u>

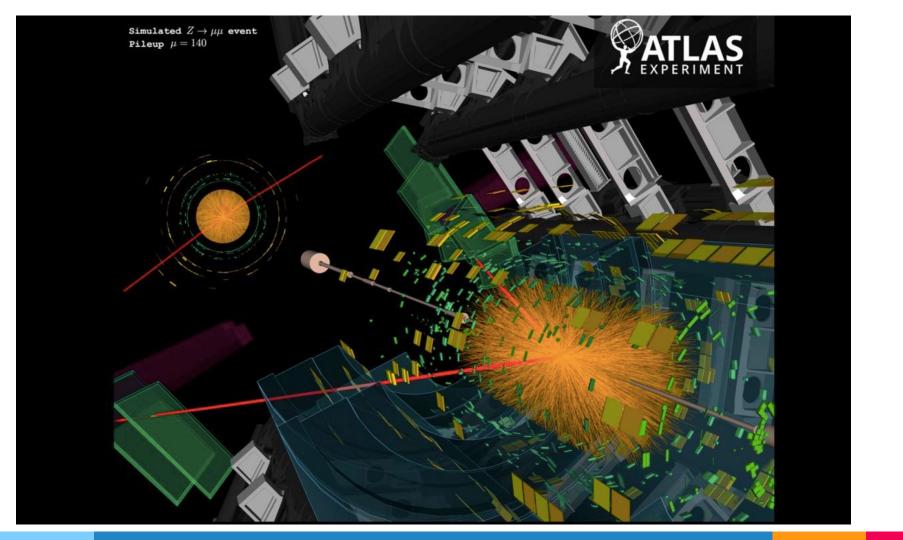
# HL-LCH

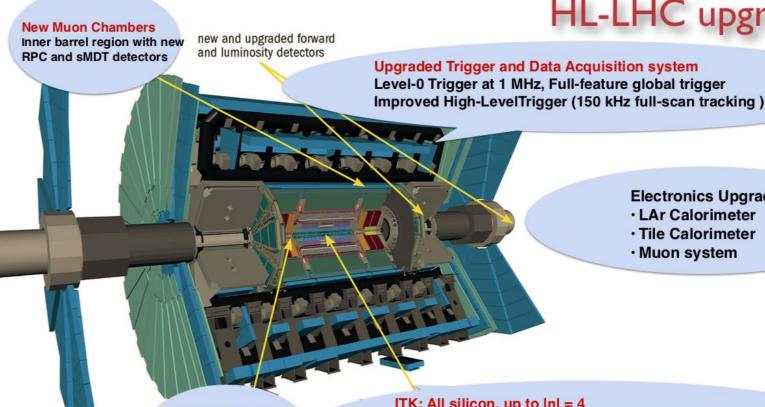
## High Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC)



Collect more than 3000 fb<sup>-1</sup> of data (or 180 million Higgs bosons in ATLAS)







**High Granularity Timing** 

Detector (HGTD)

Forward region  $(2.4 < |\eta| < 4.0)$ 

## HL-LHC upgrade

**Electronics Upgrades** 

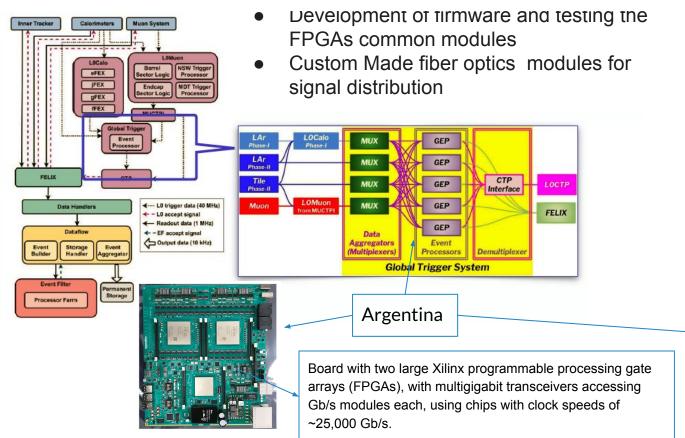
- LAr Calorimeter
- Tile Calorimeter
- Muon system

ITK: All silicon, up to  $l\eta l = 4$ 

strongly augmented tracking acceptance, 50x present channels → to cope with high occupancy

#### **Next Generation of Trigger System**

Real time complex analysis at Hardware level



The main challenge in this project is the large number of individual fibers needed to connect the MUXs to the GEPs; the number is on the order of 4700 fibers. First small scale prototype has been recently tested at CERN.



#### Projections for HL-LHC at ATLAS and CMS

The HL-LHC dataset will be unprecedentedly versatile and rich.

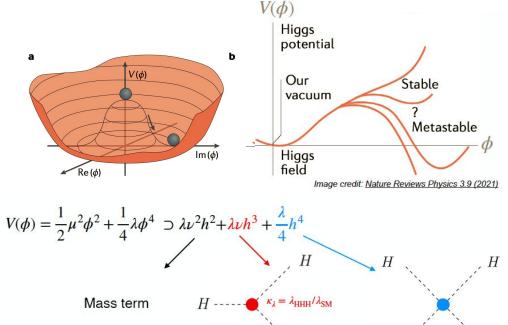
Recent developments for the **2026 European Strategy Particle Physics Update:** "Highlights of the HL-LHC physics projections by ATLAS and CMS", The ATLAS and CMS Collaborations, arXiv:2504.00672

- All projections based on published results
- Scenario S2: Run 2 method with √L for experimental systematic uncertainties, halved theory uncertainties, and negligible uncertainties due to MC statistics
- Scenario S3: object reconstruction improvements on top of S2 for analyses that have already documented advancements from publications

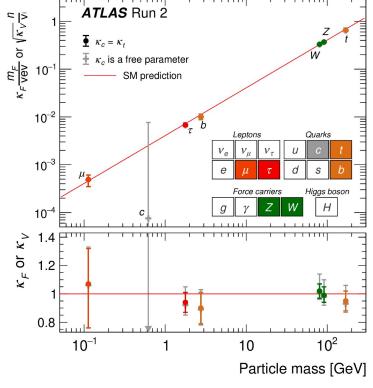
https://arxiv.org/abs/2504.00672

### Higgs properties and beyond

# Coupling to the different particles → proportional to the masses



self-coupling



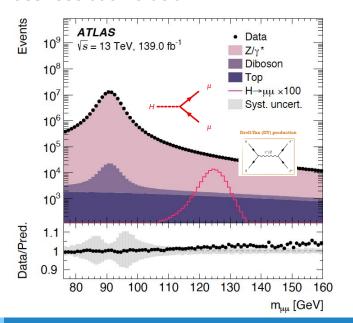
 $\dot{H}$ 

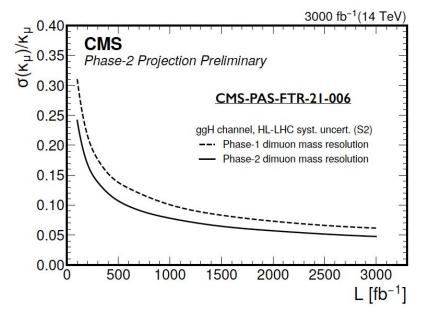
The Higgs self-coupling is a fundamental parameter. It can be measured at the LHC using Di-Higgs production, but it is 1000 times smaller than the production of a single Higgs boson.

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#### Rare Higgs Decays: H→µµ

- Probe of the Higgs coupling to muon: a second-generation fermion
- SM predicts BR( $H\rightarrow \mu\mu$ ) = 2 x 10<sup>-4</sup>
- Evidence reported at Run 2.
- Irreducible background from Z→μμ.
- Statistics of the data sample and the dimuon mass resolution crucial

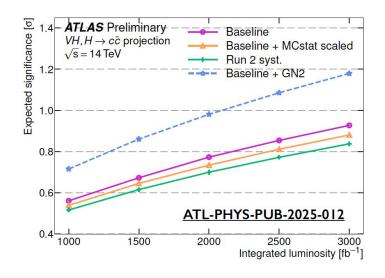


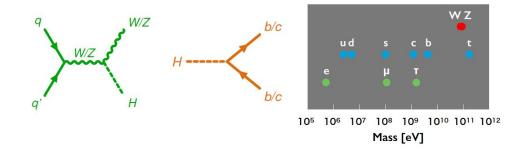


- An improved dimuon mass resolution by the upgraded tracker
- Relative uncertainty on the coupling improved by larger statistics
- Observation of H → μμ (and H → Zγ) and determination of their couplings with a precision of 3 (and 7%), respectively.

#### Rare Higgs Decays: H→cc

- Probe of the Higgs coupling to charm quark
- The most sensitive channel: WH/ZH, H→cc
- The b- and c-jet tagging crucial, recent improvements in ATLAS and CMS





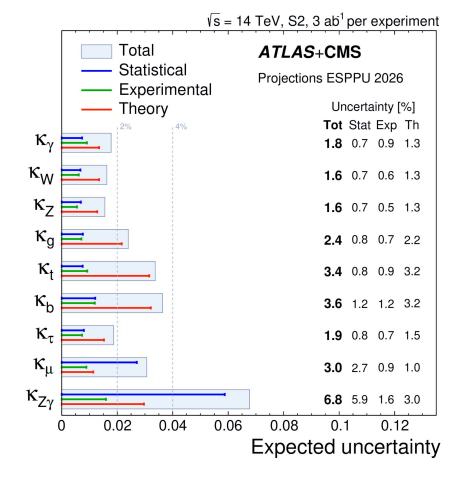
- A significance level of 1.6σ is expected for ATLAS+CMS at 3000 fb<sup>-1</sup>.
- The quark coupling modifier,  $\kappa_c$ , can be restricted to  $|\kappa_c| < 1.5$  at 95% confidence.
- tH, H→cc is also important; further improvements to κ<sub>c</sub> are possible.

### **Higgs Coupling Summary**

A few % for various couplings!

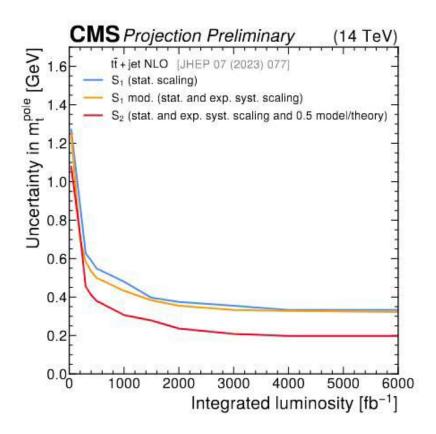
- Deviation from the SM
  - indication of BSM
- Consistency with the SM
  - stringent constraint on BSM

 Observation of H → μμ and H → Zγ and determination of their couplings with a precision of 3 and 7%, respectively.



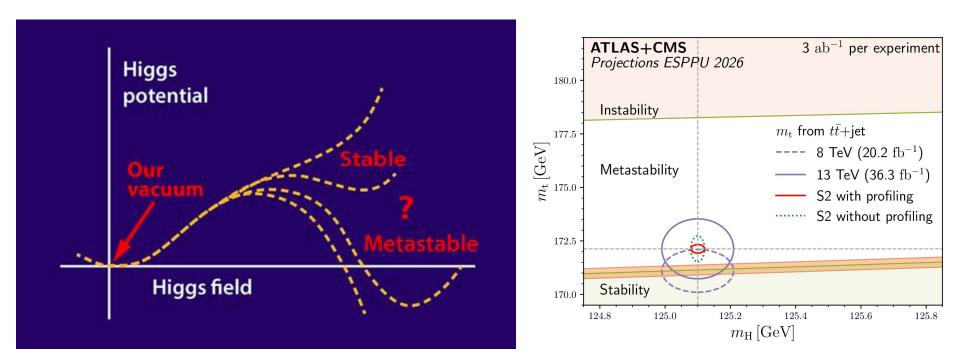
#### **Quark Top Mass**

- The HL-LHC will improve the precision of the top quark mass measurement.
- Numerous measurements employing different techniques at ATLAS and CMS, varying sensitivities to theoretical uncertainties
- Recent projection study using the differential cross section of the tt+jet production, from the dependence of the gluon radiation on the pole mass



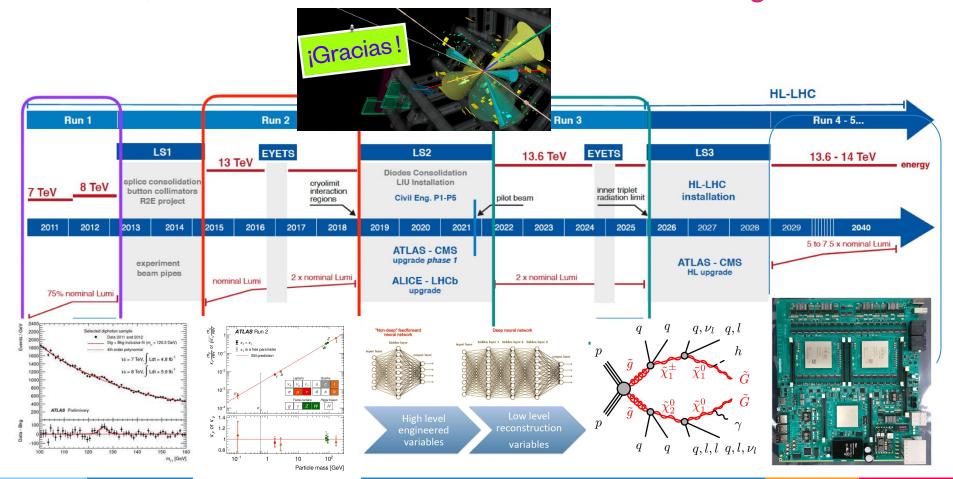
#### **Electroweak Vacuum Stability**

In the hypothesis that the SM is valid up to the Planck scale, the values of  $m_H$  and  $m_t$  provide information on the stability or metastability of our universe.



Depending on the central value of m<sub>+</sub>, we may make a conclusive statement on the stability.

## Searches, Discoveries, Precision and New Technologies!



# **Backup slides**

#### References

- EPS-HEP 2025: <u>ATLAS Highlights</u> (Fabio Cerutti)
- EPS-HEP 2025: <u>Conference Highlights</u> (Andreas Hoecker)
- HPNP 2025: <u>HL-LHC Prospect</u> (Yasuyuki Horii)