

# Search for the Higgs in $t\bar{t}H (H \rightarrow b\bar{b})$



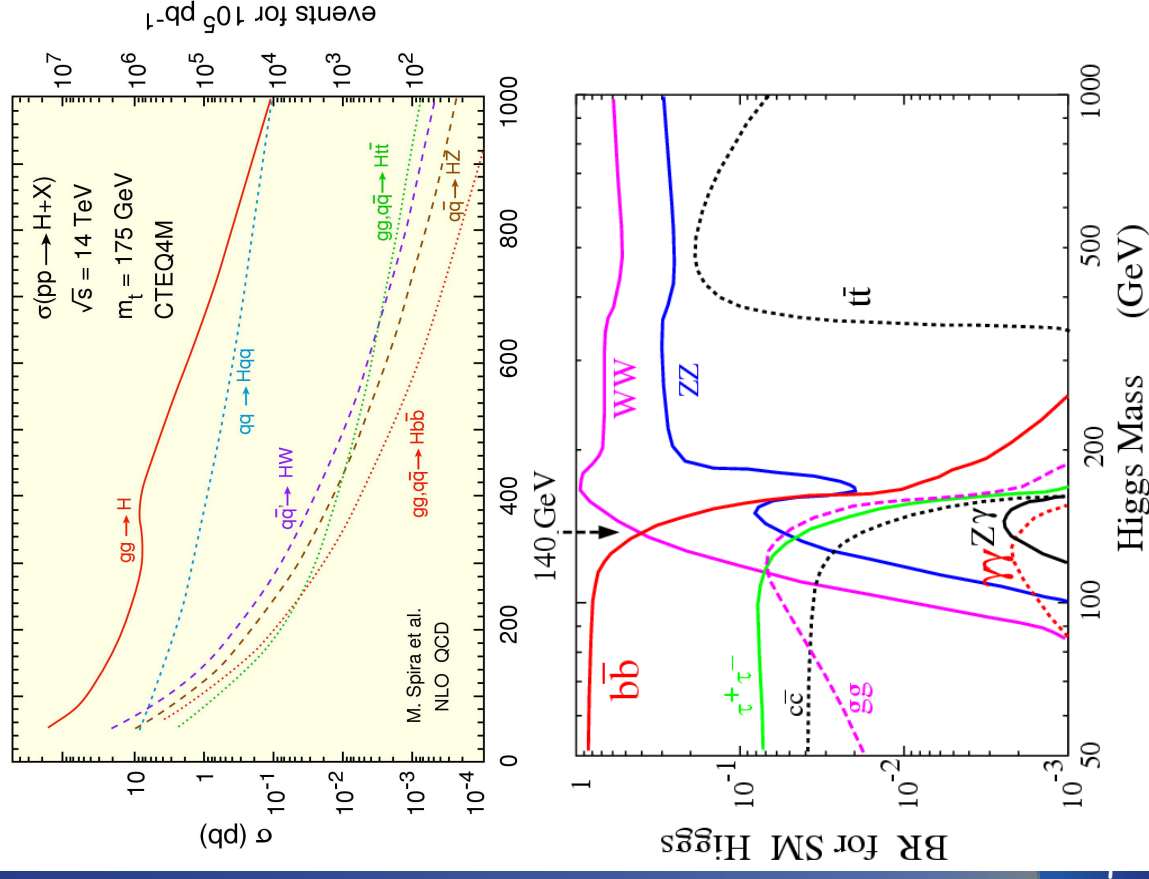
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*of*  
GLASGOW

Chris Collins-Tooth



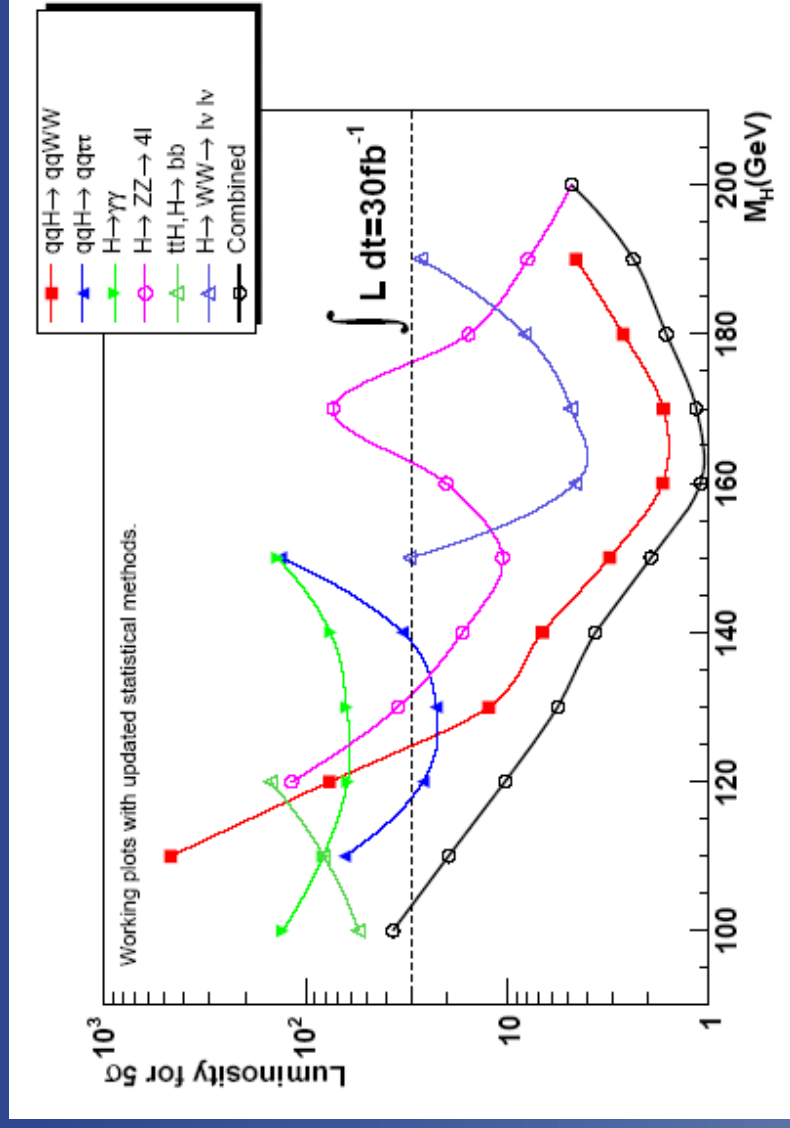
# Higgs production and decay at the LHC

- gluon-gluon dominates production.
- Higgs decays predominantly ( $\sim 80\%$ ) to b-quarks at low mass, dropping rapidly as  $M_H$  increases.
- $t\bar{t}H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  most viable only in a small mass window.



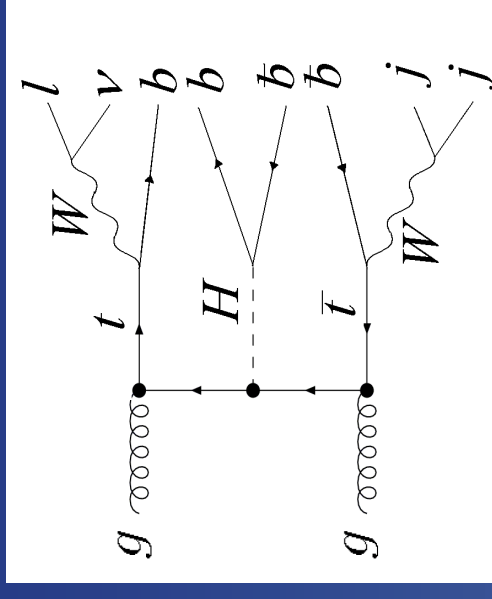
# Higgs detection with ATLAS

- Clearly challenging if  $M_H < 120 \text{ GeV}$ 
  - For  $L=30 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ , multiple channels will probably be needed!



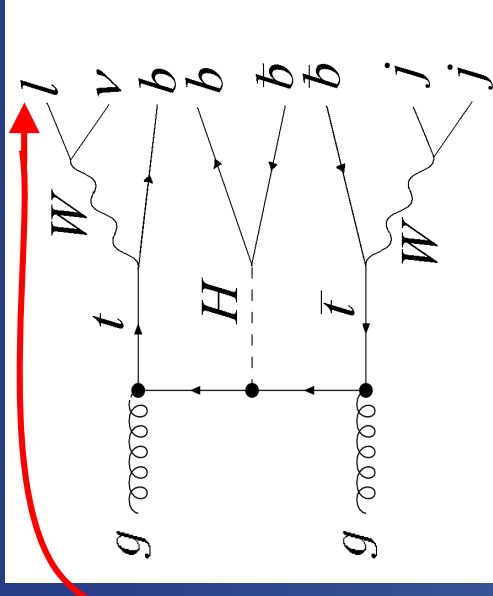
# Higgs with associated top

- Thus far, most study done on the channel when one  $W$  decays leptonically.



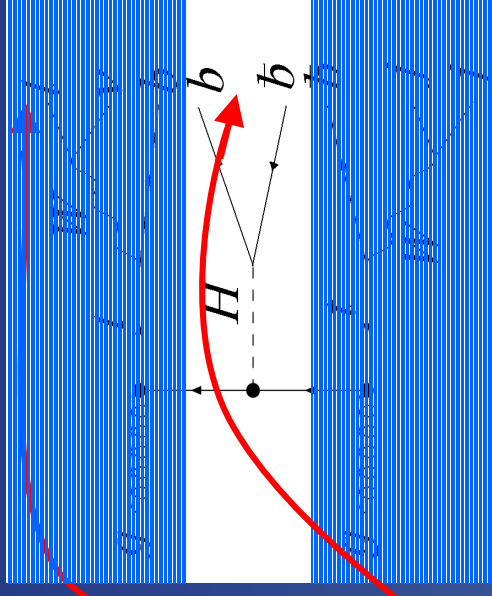
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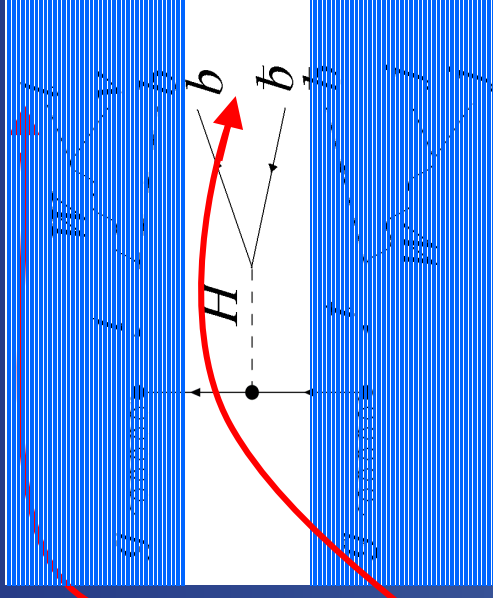
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- Aim: throw away most of the event leaving the correct two  $b$ -jets, allowing  $M_h$  reconstruction.
- Final state complex - many combinatorics.
- Likelihood or cuts-based approaches can be used to identify the best two  $b$ jets.



# Reconstructing the final state for $t\bar{t}H \rightarrow \nu j j b b b b$

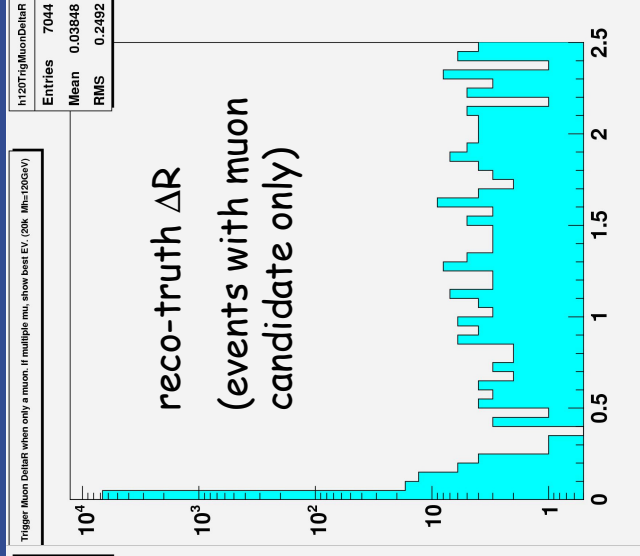
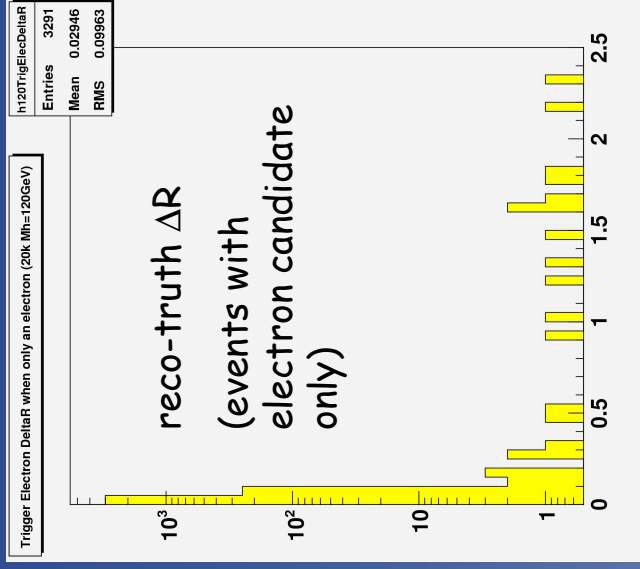
- High- $P_t$  lepton from  $W$  (electron or muon) identified accurately..

## Electrons:

$P_t > 25 \text{ GeV}$

$isEM=0xFF$

$Isol: < 15 \text{ GeV}$   
in cone  
 $0.45$



## Muons:

$P_t > 20 \text{ GeV}$

$Chi2NdfCut < 20$

$Isol: < 50 \text{ GeV}$  in  
cone  $0.4$

$P_t / (P_t + E_{C0.4}) > 0.6$



# Jets

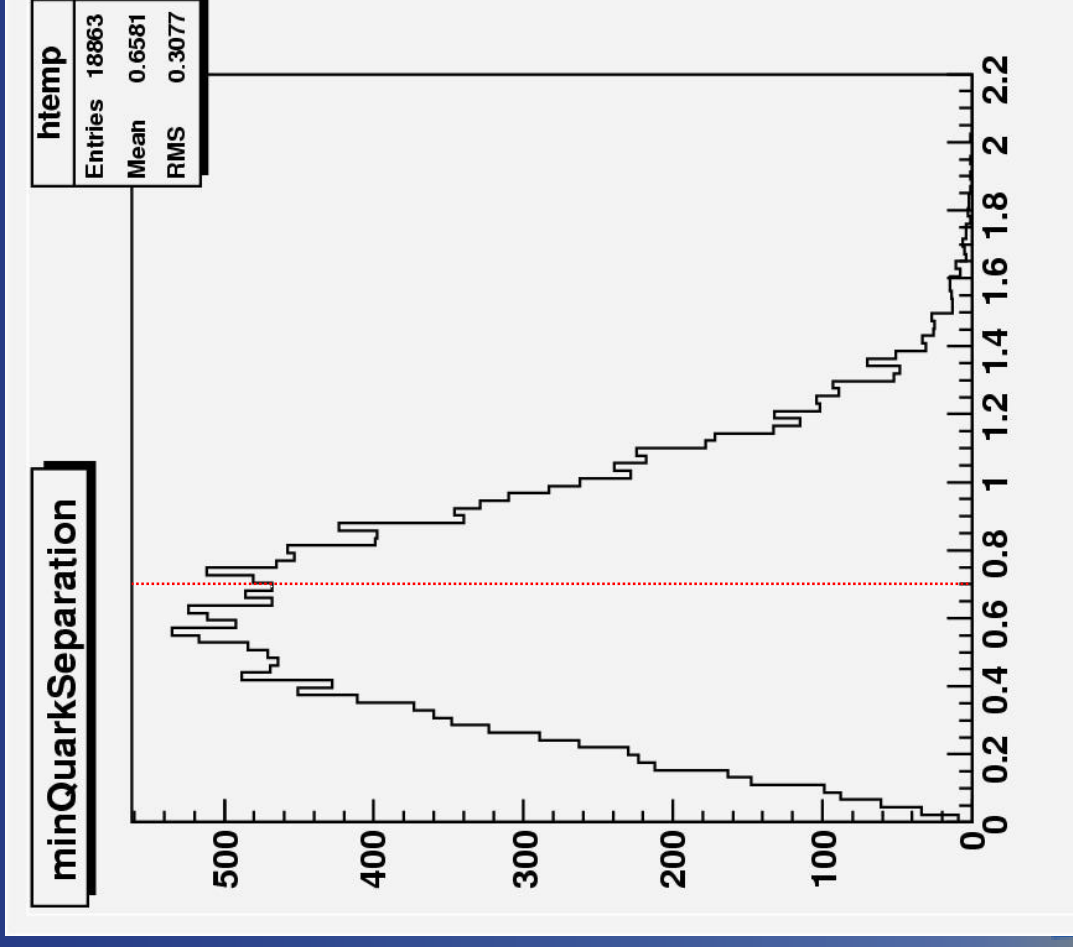
- Cone 0.7 is just no good for this channel
  - lose many events because there aren't enough b-tags.

- Looked at:

Cone 0.7, 0.4, Kt 0.4

- $E_{\text{RecoJet}}/E_{\text{TruthJet}}$ 
  - **Detector mismeasurement**
- $E_{\text{TruthJet}}/E_{\text{Quark}}$ 
  - **Energy lost in "soft"  $\mu, \gamma$**
  - **Out of cone effects etc.**

- For the Kt jets,  $E_{\text{RecoJet}}/E_{\text{TruthJet}}$  is very close to 1 (0.9994).



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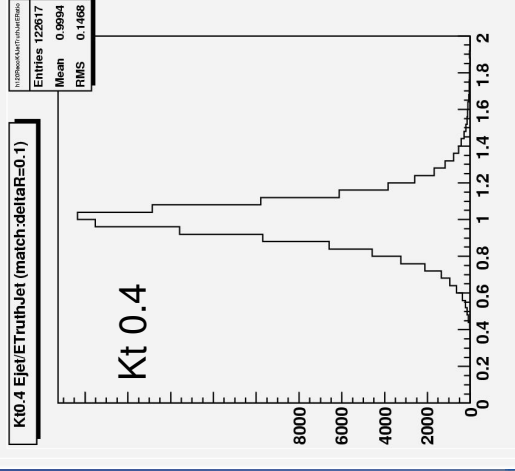
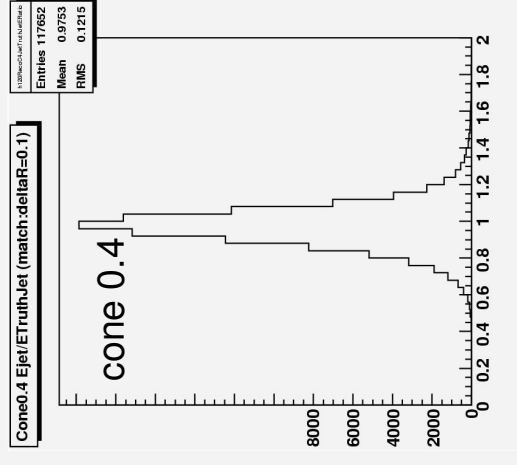
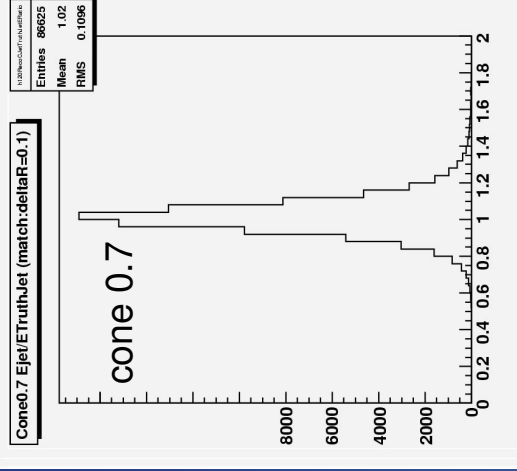
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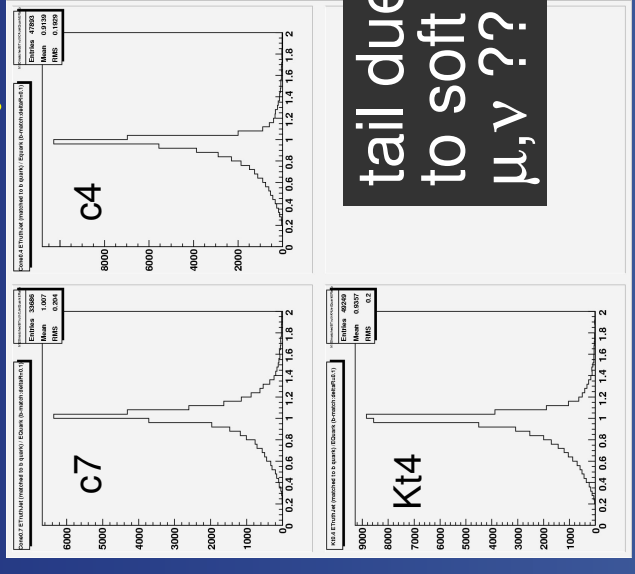
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- cone 0.7 gathers too much energy
- cone 0.4 doesn't gather enough
- Kt 0.4 very close to 1, but broader.

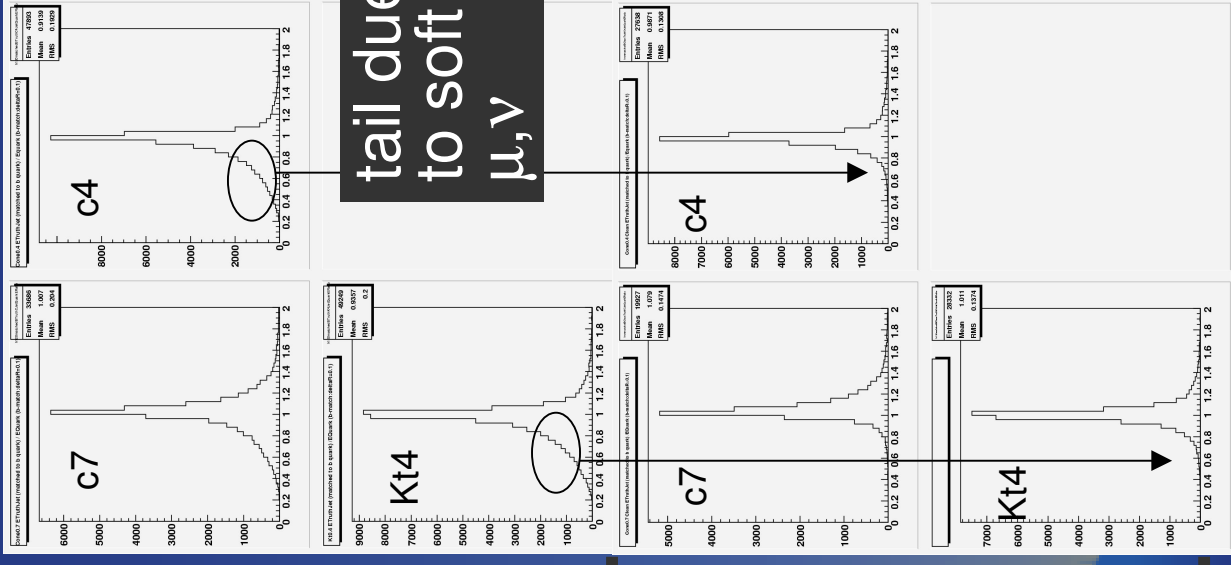
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- $E_{\text{TruthJet}}/E_{\text{Quark}}$  tails seen in all Jet Algs.



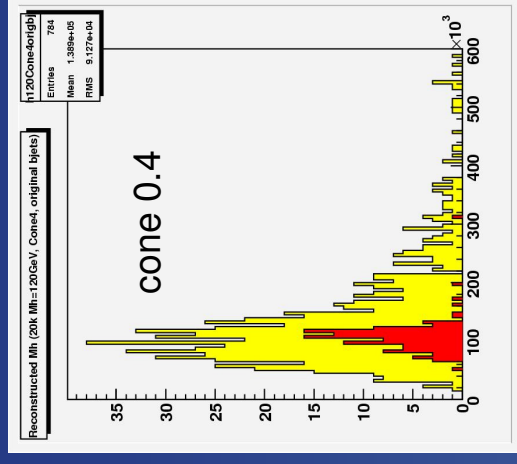
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- $E_{\text{TruthJet}}/E_{\text{Quark}}$  tails seen in all Jet Algs.
- For bjets where no muon near the jet, tail goes and remainder is sharp peak.
- Investigated adding any reconstructed  $\mu$ 's back into the jet.
- Obviously, the neutrino is missing too...
- NB: we already have missing Pt in the event from the trigger neutrino.



# Higgs mass 'peak'

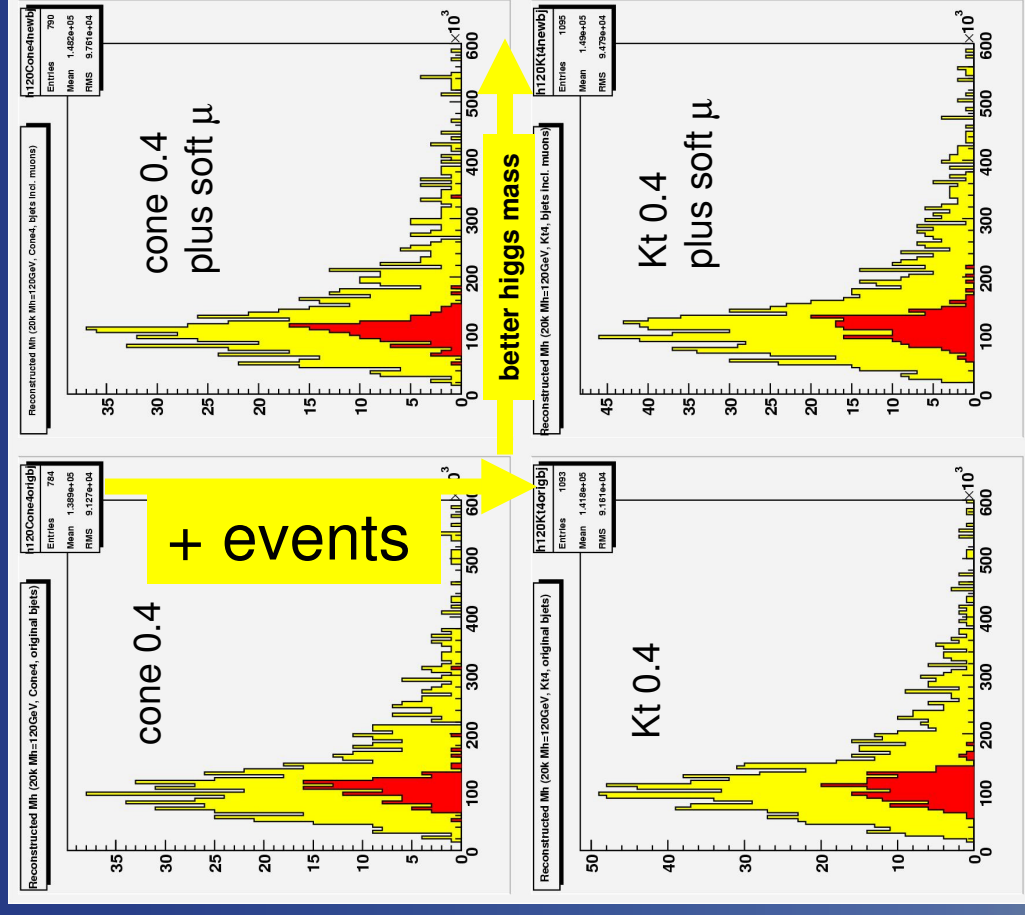
- Whether likelihood or cuts-based analysis is used, reconstructed  $M_H$  is very broad.
- Yellow plot shows reconstructed masses for all signal events passing cuts.
- Red plot shows events where correct jet combinations were used to reconstruct Higgs.



$M_H = 120 \text{ GeV}$

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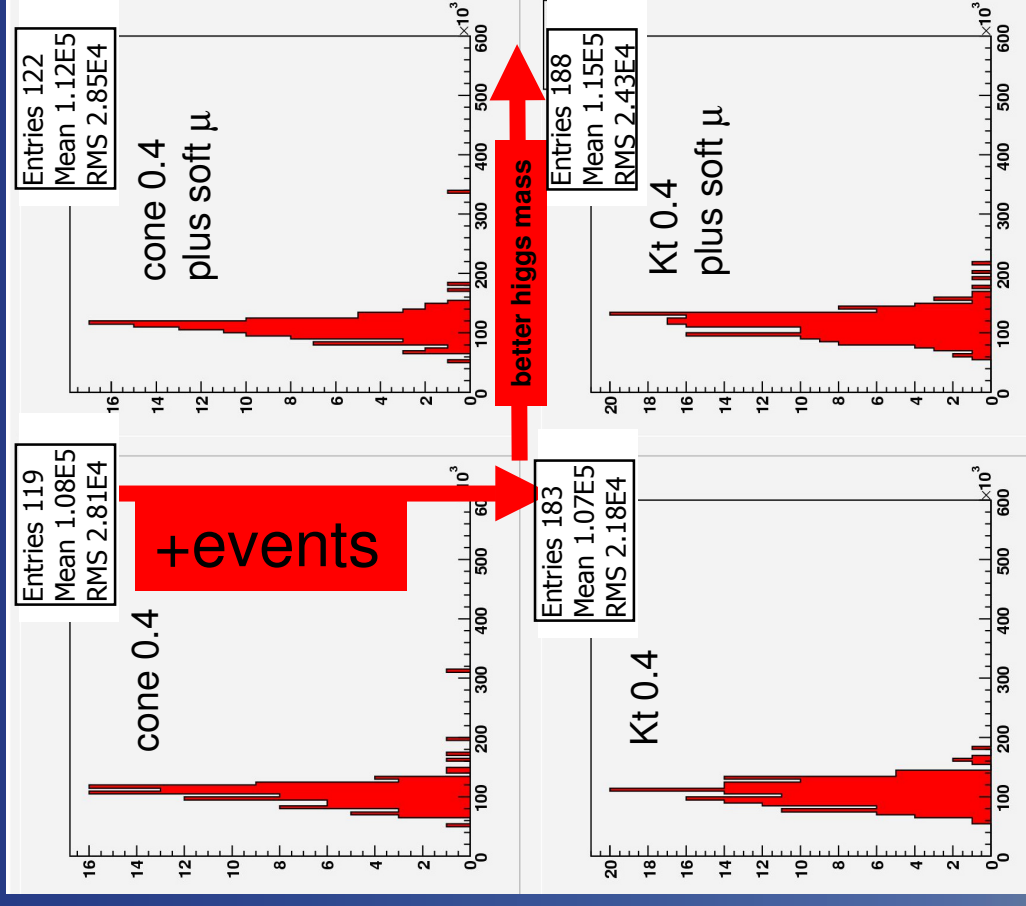
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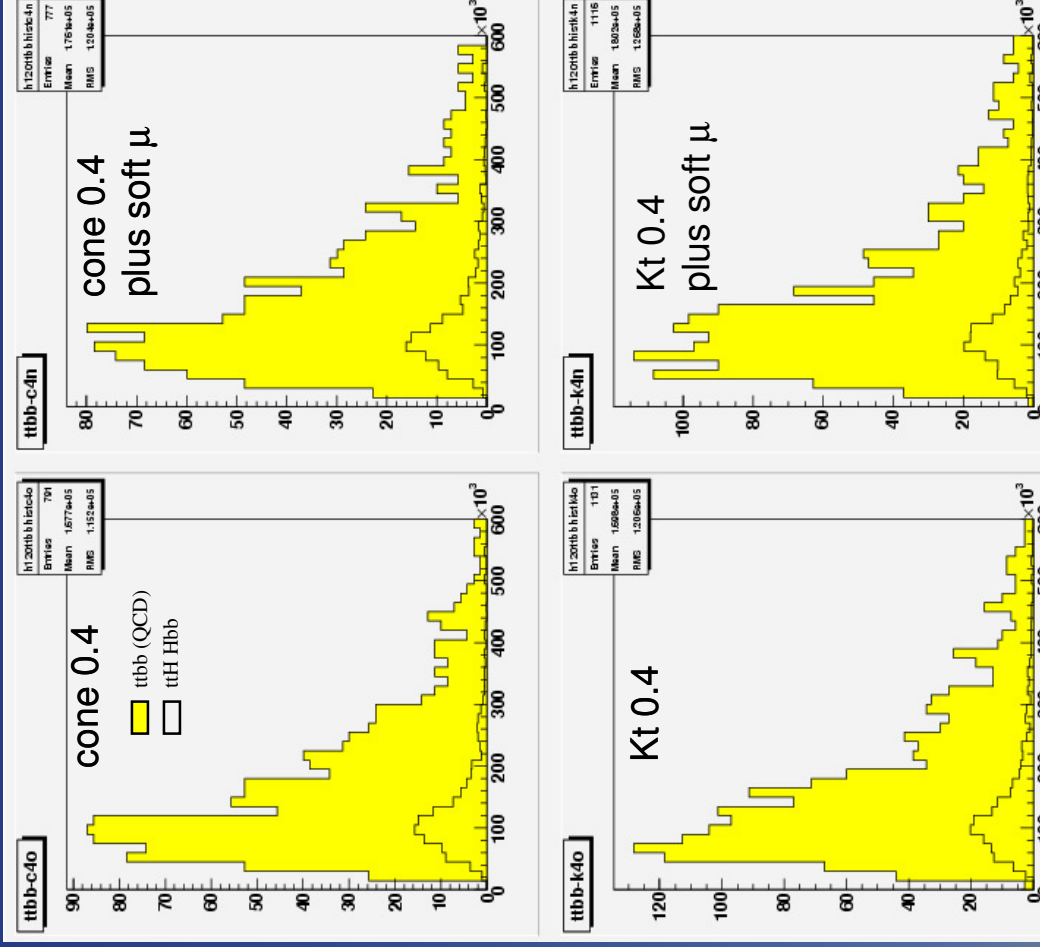
# Backgrounds

- We have seen already the effect of combinatoric background.
- The main processes able to “masquerade” as  $t\bar{t}H$   $Hbb$  are:
  - $t\bar{t}jj$  where  $jj$  are either  $bb$  or are mistagged as  $bb$
  - $gg$  and  $qq \rightarrow t\bar{t}bb$
  - $gg \rightarrow Z/W/\gamma \rightarrow t\bar{t}bb$
  - $W$  or  $Z$  plus jets
- The overlap between  $t\bar{t}jj$  ( $jj=bb$ ) and  $t\bar{t}bb$ .. will have to be removed, we are working on this.



# Bad news..

- Signal shown along with the fully simulated  $gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$  background normalised for  $30\text{fb}^{-1}$ , it is clear we must improve the combinatorics.
- Otherwise, we are almost reduced to a 'counting experiment'.
- Systematic uncertainties on the bg normalisation will be a tough challenge.



$M_H = 120 \text{ GeV}$

# Things to take forward:

- Using  $K_t$  and soft muon re-addition is complimentary to Likelihood Analysis.
- Small changes in measured b-jet energy can have a large effect on  $M_H$ .
  - i.e. which b-jets are absorbed into the top-quarks.
- Many possibilities for improvement in the channel exist:
  - Jet algorithm  $K_t$ , Mid-Point...
  - b-tagging improved since Rome
  - "Soft muon" energies added back into jets.
  - Corresponding neutrinos not done yet!
  - Using  $>2$  light jets to reconstruct the hadronic W
  - Likelihood analysis improvements

# Shameless promotion...

- ATLAS "CSC" Notes
- Work just commencing on  $t\bar{t}H$  Hbb note
- Not too late to join!
- See ATLAS TWiki page:

<https://uimon.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/Atlas/TthhbbAnalysis>

