

# Supplementary Material

## Appendix A Description of input channels for the narrow resonance search

The selected input channels include all those motivated by the multi-lepton anomalies. Thus, in addition to inclusive searches, we focus on the production of  $S$  in association with leptons, ( $b$ -)jets, and/or missing energy, while excluding other channels from the ATLAS analysis in Ref. [1], such as the  $\gamma\gamma + \gamma$  channel, even if they show excesses. To conduct this study, we leverage CMS and ATLAS analyses of the Standard Model Higgs-boson, which inherently explore potential resonances in their side bands, covering a mass range up to 180 GeV. However, due to some analyses ending at 160 GeV and to avoid interference with the SM Higgs-boson resonance, we restrict our analysis to the mass range between 140 GeV and 155-160 GeV, as appropriate. This specific mass range is both suggested by and consistent with the observed multi-lepton anomalies.

The description of each input channel considered in this analysis is listed below.

**$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma, Z\gamma)$  (Phys.Rev.D 108, 115031):** The first combination, published in Ref. [2], includes data reported up until 2021, but with an update to the  $Z\gamma$  channel:

- $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + E_{\text{miss}}^T$ : In these channels,  $m_S$  is reconstructed from the invariant mass of  $\gamma\gamma$ , and  $S$  is produced in association with  $E_{\text{miss}}^T$ . The data is taken from Fig. 6 in Ref. [3] and Fig. 3 in Ref. [4].
- $S(\rightarrow b\bar{b}) + E_{\text{miss}}^T$ :  $m_S$  is reconstructed from the invariant mass of  $b\bar{b}$ , and  $S$  is produced in association with  $E_{\text{miss}}^T$  originating from the decay of  $S$  to the invisible final states. The data is taken from Fig. 5 in Ref. [5].
- $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + b\text{-jet}$ :  $m_S$  decays to two photons and is produced in association with  $b$  quarks (which, in the 2HDM+S model, could originate from  $S$  but also from  $h$  if  $H \rightarrow Sh$  is non-negligible). The data is obtained from Fig. 2 (top-right) in Ref. [6] and Fig. 2 in Ref. [7].
- $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + W, Z$ :  $S$  decays to two photons and is produced in association with a  $W$  or a  $Z$  boson. The corresponding data is taken from Ref. [8] and Fig. 9 c) and d) in Ref. [9].
- $S \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  (inclusive): Here  $m_S$  is reconstructed from the invariant mass of the photon pair while the search is quasi-inclusive. However, vector boson fusion,  $W$ , and  $Z$  as well as top quark-associated production are excluded. Note that there is no veto on missing energy, but that this channel covers only a very tiny phase space of the quasi-inclusive final search. (see Fig. 15 (top-left) in Ref. [8] and Fig. 9 a) of Ref. [9]).

- $S(\rightarrow Z(\rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-)\gamma) + 1\ell, jj$ : We use Fig. 3 top-left in Ref. [10]<sup>1</sup> and Fig. 3 Bottom-right in Ref. [10]. This supersedes the previously used input from Fig. 5 in Ref. [11].
- $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + 2b\text{-jets}$ : The mass of  $S$  is reconstructed from the invariant mass of di-photon where  $S$  is produced in association with two  $b$ -jets. We use Fig. 8(a) in Ref. [12].

In the second combination, we have considered the following channels which published after 2021, in addition to the previously mentioned channels:

- $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \geq 4j$ : Here  $m_S$  corresponds to the invariant mass of the di-photon pair which is produced in association with at least 4 jets (Fig. 2 a) in Ref. [1]).
- $S(\rightarrow WW^*) + E_{\text{miss}}^T$ : The CMS and ATLAS analyses of the SM Higgs-boson decaying to a pair of  $W$  bosons are recast and combined. Here we use the 0-jet category for which the dominant contribution from the simplified model described above arises from  $H \rightarrow S(\rightarrow WW^*)S^*(\rightarrow E_{\text{miss}}^T)$ . Other final states from associated production have very small jet veto survival probability. For ATLAS, we have used the data from Fig. 11 of Ref. [13] and for CMS the  $m_T$  distributions ( $p_{T2} < 20$  GeV and  $p_{T2} > 20$  GeV) of Fig. 1 of Ref. [14].
- $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \geq (1\ell + 1b\text{-jet})$ :  $S$  decays to two photons and is produced in association with at least one electron or muon ( $\ell$ ) and at least one tagged  $b$ -jet. The relevant experimental data are taken from Fig. 5 a) in Ref. [1].

Finally, in addition to these two combinations, we have considered a recent study from the ATLAS collaboration in this analysis:

- $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \ell, \tau, 2(\ell, \tau)$ : Here, the mass of  $S$  is reconstructed from the invariant mass of di-photons which is produced in association with one lepton ( $\mu$  or  $e$ ) or tauon or two leptons or tauons. The relevant experimental results are taken from Fig.7 in Ref. [15].

## Appendix B Object and Event Selection

The selection criteria, applied to each channel used in this analysis, are tabulated in Table B1. Here,  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  denote the leading and sub-leading photons ordered by  $p_T$  respectively. The  $\Delta E_T^{\text{miss}}$  is the difference between the  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  calculated from the vertex selected by the neural network and the  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  calculated from the hardest vertex. Lastly,  $\Delta R \equiv \sqrt{(\Delta\eta)^2 + (\Delta\phi)^2}$  where  $\phi$  is the azimuthal angle around z-axis and  $\eta$  is the pseudorapidity, and  $y$  is the rapidity.

## Appendix C Individual Fits for the input channels in search of the narrow resonance

In this section, we present the individual fits of the different channels considered in this analysis. We analyze the CMS and ATLAS studies to search for new scalars in the mass range between 140 GeV and 170 GeV. In each category, we model the background

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<sup>1</sup>Following the simplified model, we chose the two jet category that is inconsistent with the Vector Boson Fusion production mechanism.

Channel	Selection Criteria
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \tau$ [15]	$N_\tau = 1, N_\gamma = 2, N_{b\text{-jet}} = 0, E_T^{\text{miss}} > 35 \text{ GeV},$ $105 \text{ GeV} > m_{\gamma\gamma} > 160 \text{ GeV}$ $E_T(\gamma_1) > 35 \text{ GeV}, \gamma_1 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.35,$ $\gamma_2 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.25$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \ell$ [15]	$N_\tau = 0, N_\gamma = 2, N_{b\text{-jet}} = 0$ $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 35 \text{ GeV}, \gamma\gamma + eE_T(\gamma_1) > 35 \text{ GeV},$ $105 \text{ GeV} > m_{\gamma\gamma} > 160 \text{ GeV}, \gamma_1 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.35, \gamma_2 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.25$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + 2(\ell, \tau)$ [15]	$N_\ell + N_\tau = 2, N_\gamma = 2, N_{b\text{-jet}} = 0$ $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 35 \text{ GeV}, E_T(\gamma_1) > 35 \text{ GeV}, m_{2(\ell, \tau)} > 12 \text{ GeV},$ $105 \text{ GeV} > m_{\gamma\gamma} > 160 \text{ GeV}, \gamma_1 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.35, \gamma_2 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.25$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + b\bar{b}$ [12]	$N_\gamma = 2, N_{b\text{-jet}} = 2, N_{\ell=e, \mu} = 0,$ $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 35 \text{ GeV}, E_T(\gamma_1) > 35 \text{ GeV}, m_{2(\ell, \tau)} > 12 \text{ GeV},$ $105 \text{ GeV} > m_{\gamma\gamma} > 160 \text{ GeV}, \gamma_1 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.35, \gamma_2 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.25$ Fewer than six central ( $ \eta  < 2.5$ ) jets are present.
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \geq 1\ell + 1b\text{-jet}$ [1]	$N_{\ell=e, \mu} \geq 1, N_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 1,$ $\gamma : p_T > 22 \text{ GeV},  \eta  < 2.37, 1.37 <  \eta  < 1.52$ $e : p_T > 10 \text{ GeV},  \eta  < 2.47, 1.37 <  \eta  < 1.52$ $\mu : p_T > 10 \text{ GeV},  \eta  < 2.7, 105 \text{ GeV} > m_{\gamma\gamma} > 160 \text{ GeV},$ $\gamma_1 : p_T > 35 \text{ GeV}, p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.35, \gamma_2 : p_T > 25 \text{ GeV}, p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.25$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \geq 4 \text{ jet}$ [1]	$N_{\text{jet}} \geq 4,  N_{\text{jet}}  < 2.5,$ $\gamma : p_T > 22 \text{ GeV},  \eta  < 2.37, 1.37 <  \eta  < 1.52$ $105 \text{ GeV} > m_{\gamma\gamma} > 160 \text{ GeV}, \text{jet} : p_T > 25 \text{ GeV},$ $\gamma_1 : p_T > 35 \text{ GeV}, p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.35,$ $\gamma_2 : p_T > 25 \text{ GeV}, p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.25$
$S(\rightarrow Z(\rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-)\gamma) + 1\ell, jj$ [10]	$\gamma :  \eta  < 2.5, p_T > 15 \text{ GeV}, p_T/m_{\ell+\ell-\gamma} > 0.14,$ $e : p_T > 25 \text{ (15) GeV for leading (subleading)},  \eta  < 2.5,$ $\mu : p_T > 20 \text{ (10) GeV for leading (subleading)},  \eta  < 2.4,$ $\text{jet} : p_T > 30 \text{ GeV},  \eta  < 4.7$ $105 \text{ GeV} > m_{\ell+\ell-\gamma} > 170 \text{ GeV},$ $m_{\ell+\ell-\gamma} + m_{\ell+\ell-} > 185 \text{ GeV},$ $m_{\ell+\ell-} > 50 \text{ GeV}$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ (ATLAS) [3]	$\gamma :  \eta  < 2.37, 1.37 <  \eta  < 1.52,$ $\gamma_1 : E_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.35, \gamma_2 : E_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.25,$ $105 \text{ GeV} > m_{\gamma\gamma} > 160 \text{ GeV},$ $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 90 \text{ GeV}, \Delta E_T^{\text{miss}} < 30 \text{ GeV}$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ (CMS) [4]	$\gamma :  \eta  < 1.44 \text{ or } 1.57 <  \eta  < 2.50,$ $\gamma_1 : p_T > 30 \text{ GeV}, \gamma_2 : p_T > 20 \text{ GeV},$ $m_{\gamma\gamma} > 95 \text{ GeV}$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + W, Z$ (CMS) [8]	Photons, Electrons, or neutral hadrons with $p_T > 15 \text{ GeV},$ No more than two charged particles ( $p_T > 1.6 \text{ GeV}$ and $ \eta  < 2.2$ ), $\gamma_1 : p_T > 35 \text{ GeV}, \gamma_2 : p_T > 25 \text{ GeV},$ $\gamma :  \eta  < 2.5 \text{ GeV, except } 1.44 <  \eta  < 1.57,$ $\text{jets} : p_T > 25 \text{ GeV},  \eta  < 4.7,$ $\Delta R(\text{jet}, \gamma) > 0.4, 100 \text{ GeV} < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 180 \text{ GeV}$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + W, Z$ (ATLAS) [9]	$\gamma :  \eta  < 2.37 \text{ GeV, except } 1.37 <  \eta  < 1.52,$ $\gamma_1 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.35, \gamma_2 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.25,$ $\text{jets} : p_T > 25 \text{ GeV},  y  < 4.4, e : p_T > 10 \text{ GeV},  \eta  < 2.47$ $\mu : p_T > 10 \text{ GeV},  \eta  < 2.7$ Category 1: $p_T^{W, Z} < 75 \text{ GeV}$ Category 2: $75 \text{ GeV} \leq p_T^{W, Z} < 150 \text{ GeV}$ Category 3: $150 \text{ GeV} < p_T^{W, Z} < 250 \text{ GeV}$ with 0 -jet or $\geq 1$ -jet Category 4: $p_T^{W, Z} > 250 \text{ GeV}$ $105 \text{ GeV} > m_{\gamma\gamma} > 160 \text{ GeV},$ $\Delta R(e, \gamma\gamma) > 0.4, \Delta R(\text{jets}, \gamma\gamma) > 0.4,$ $\Delta R(\text{jets}, e) > 0.2, \Delta R(\mu, \gamma\gamma) > 0.4, \Delta R(\mu, \text{jets}) > 0.4$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \geq 1t$ (ATLAS) [6]	$\gamma_1 : p_T > 35 \text{ GeV}, p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.35,$ $\gamma_2 : p_T > 25 \text{ GeV}, p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 0.25$ $105 \text{ GeV} > m_{\gamma\gamma} > 160 \text{ GeV},$ $N_{\text{jet}} \geq 1, p_T^{\text{jet}} > 25 \text{ GeV, containing 1 } b\text{-jet}$ Region 1 (“Lep” region) : $N_{e, \mu} \geq 1, p_T^{e, \mu} > 15 \text{ GeV},$ Region 2 (“Had” region) : at least two additional jets with $p_T > 25 \text{ GeV}$ and no selected lepton
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \geq 1t$ (CMS) [7]	$\gamma_1 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 1/3, \gamma_2 : p_T/m_{\gamma\gamma} > 1/4$ $100 \text{ GeV} > m_{\gamma\gamma} > 180 \text{ GeV},$ Region 1 (“Lep” region) : $N_{\text{jet}} \geq 1, p_T^{\text{jet}} > 25 \text{ GeV},$ $ \eta  < 2.4, N_{e, \mu} \geq 1, p_T^e > 10 \text{ GeV}, p_T^\mu > 5 \text{ GeV},$ Region 2 (“Had” region) : at least 3 jets, at least 1 $b$ -jet and no selected lepton

**Table B1** Selection criteria applied to each channel to form the signal pre-selection regions.

using the background function:

$$f(m; b, \{a\}) = (1 - m)^b (m)^{a_0 + a_1 \log(m)}, \quad (\text{C1})$$

where  $a_{0,1}$  and  $b$  are free parameters (different for each category) and  $m$  is the invariant mass of the distribution, e.g. the di-photon mass. The choice of this particular functional form to model the background is not important for our study. [2]

We incorporate a double-sided Crystal Ball function to the background, parameterized by Equation C1, to model the signal contribution:

$$N \cdot \begin{cases} e^{-t^2/2} & \text{if } -\alpha_{\text{Low}} \leq t \leq \alpha_{\text{High}} \\ \frac{e^{-0.5\alpha_{\text{Low}}^2}}{\left[\frac{\alpha_{\text{Low}}}{n_{\text{Low}}} \left(\frac{n_{\text{Low}}}{\alpha_{\text{Low}}} - \alpha_{\text{Low}} - t\right)\right]^{n_{\text{Low}}}} & \text{if } t < -\alpha_{\text{Low}} \\ \frac{e^{-0.5\alpha_{\text{High}}^2}}{\left[\frac{\alpha_{\text{High}}}{n_{\text{High}}} \left(\frac{n_{\text{High}}}{\alpha_{\text{High}}} - \alpha_{\text{High}} + t\right)\right]^{n_{\text{High}}}} & \text{if } t > \alpha_{\text{High}}. \end{cases} \quad (\text{C2})$$

Here  $N$  is a normalization parameter,  $t = (m - m_S)/\sigma_{CB}$  where  $\sigma_{CB}$  is the width of the Gaussian part of the function,  $m$  is the invariant mass of the distribution and  $m_S$  the mass of the new scalar.

Now, we illustratively point towards a prominent narrow structure consistent with the detector resolution around 152 GeV.

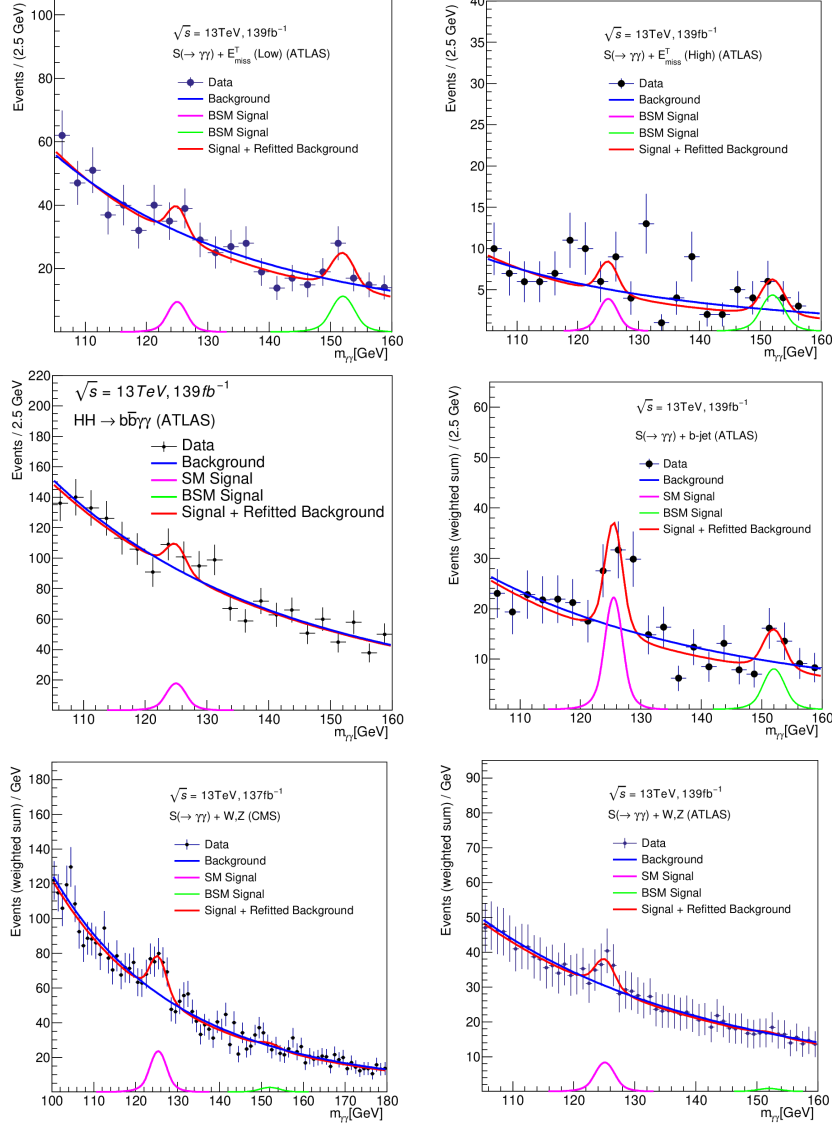
Each graph in Figure C6 combines the spectra from the LHC experiments for the same final states by re-weighting using signal-over-background yields ( $N_S/N_B$ ).

Here,  $N_S$  represents the signal yield within a mass window  $\pm 2\sigma_{\text{res}}$  at the peak;  $\sigma_{\text{res}}$  is the di-photon invariant mass resolution embedded into a Crystal Ball function used to model the resonance, and  $N_B$  represents the corresponding background events within this range.

The mass spectra are shown for the data sets before (upper left) and after (lower left) 2021. The graph on the right shows the weighted addition of the data sets considered here. A prominent narrow structure consistent with the detector resolution around 152 GeV can be appreciated. However, it is important to note that this graph is not applicable for the significance calculation around 152 GeV.

## Appendix D Fiducial Cross-sections of the 152 GeV Candidate

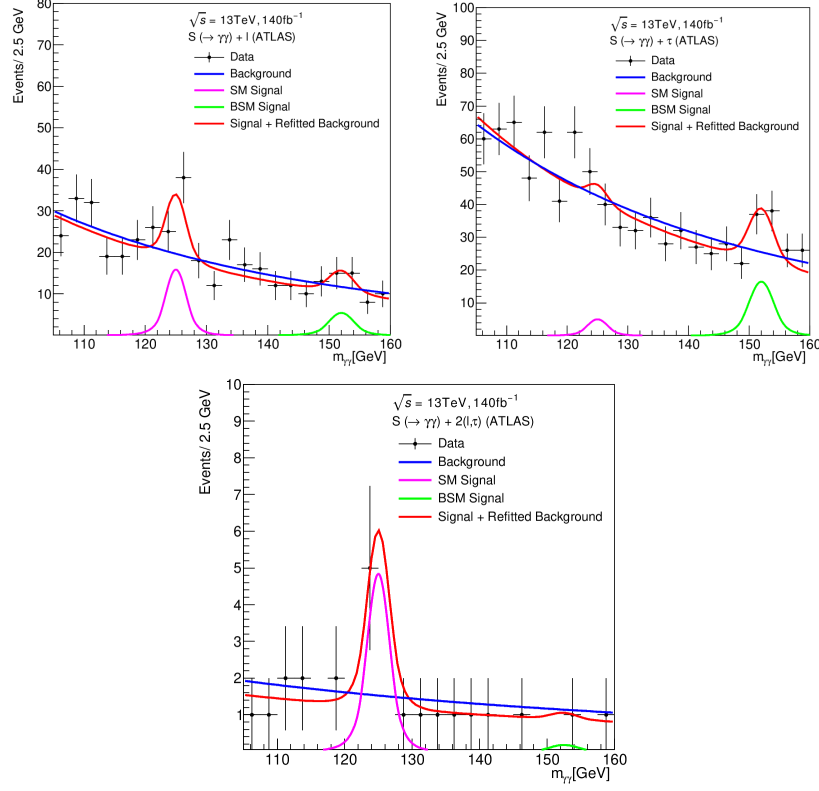
In this section, we tabulate the individual significance and the fiducial cross section ( $\sigma_F$ ) of each of the channels considered in this analysis. The cross-sections are measured in two ways: across the entire kinematic range and inside a fiducial phase space that is as near as possible to the experimental measurement range. The fiducial phase space is established using stable particles produced by Monte Carlo (MC) generators, which are then used to create reconstructed objects such as primary leptons, jets, and missing transverse momentum. The advantage of fiducial cross-section measurements is a significant reduction in the amount of the applied acceptance corrections, resulting



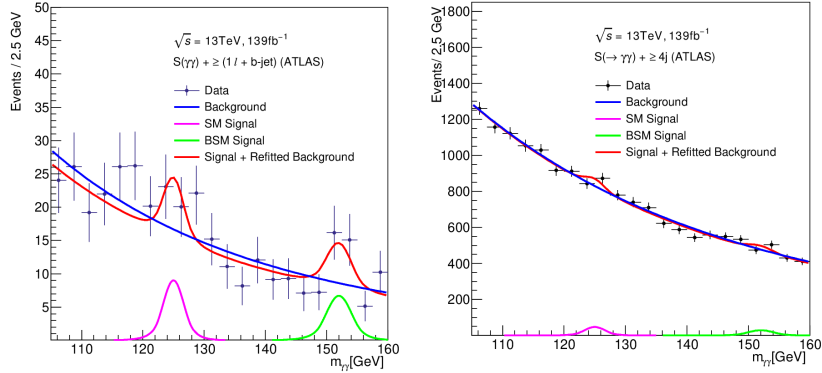
**Fig. C1** Diagrams showing the fit to background obtained within the SM, the SM Higgs signal, and the NP signal with the refitted background for five different categories. The data displayed in the last three plots corresponds to a weighted sum (see refs. [9, 16, 17] for further details).

in lower systematic errors. The fiducial cross-section is defined as follows:

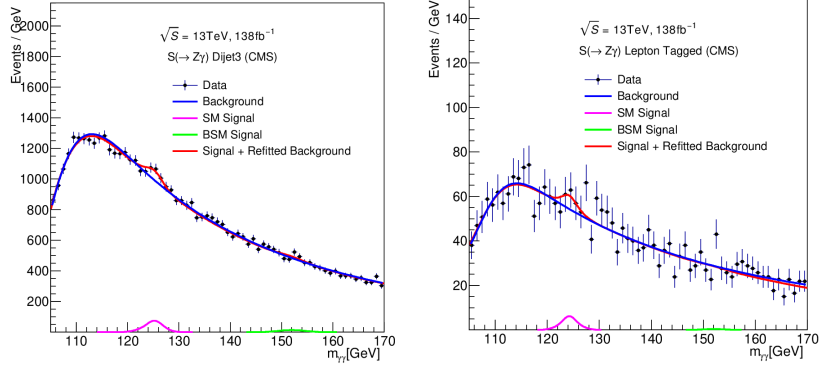
$$\sigma_F = \frac{\text{No. of Signal events } (N_{\text{Sig}})}{\text{Efficiency}(\epsilon) \times \text{Integrated Luminosity}(\mathcal{L})} \quad (\text{D3})$$



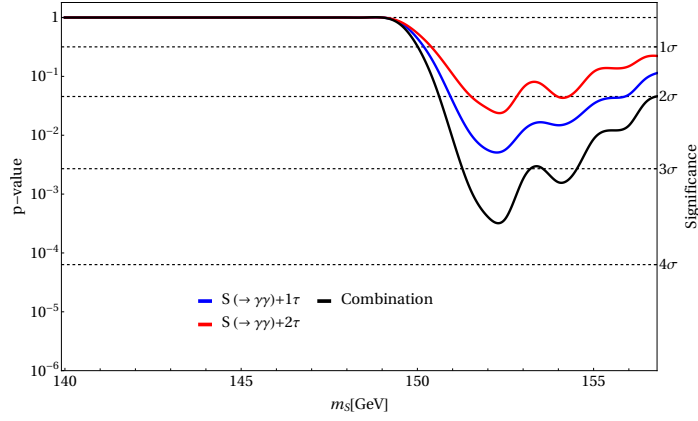
**Fig. C2** Diagrams showing the fit to background obtained within the SM, the SM Higgs signal, and the NP signal with the refitted background for  $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \ell$ ,  $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \tau$  and  $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + 2(\ell, \tau)$  categories from ref.[15].



**Fig. C3** Diagrams showing the fit to background obtained within the SM, the SM Higgs signal, and the NP signal with the refitted background for  $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \geq (1\ell + 1b\text{-jet})$  [1] and  $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \geq 4 \text{ jet}$  [1] categories.



**Fig. C4** Diagrams showing the fit to background obtained within the SM, the SM Higgs signal, and the NP signal with the refitted background for two different  $S(\rightarrow Z\gamma)$  categories from ref. [10]



**Fig. C5** The  $p$ -values of the  $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + 1\tau$  and  $S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + 2\tau$  channels with their combination and the corresponding local significance. The best fit is obtained around 152 GeV with a local significance of  $3.55\sigma$ .

Channel	Efficiency (%)
$\gamma\gamma$	60 [15]
$\tau$	80 [15]
$\ell(e, \mu)$	88 [18, 19]
$b$ -jet	40-70 [20]
$Z(\rightarrow \ell\ell)\gamma$	20-31 [11, 21]

**Table D2** The efficiency for different channels used in this analysis.

Where  $N_{sig}$  denotes the number of signal events,  $\epsilon$  defines the efficiency of different decay modes (mentioned in Table D2), and  $\mathcal{L}$  is the integrated Luminosity.

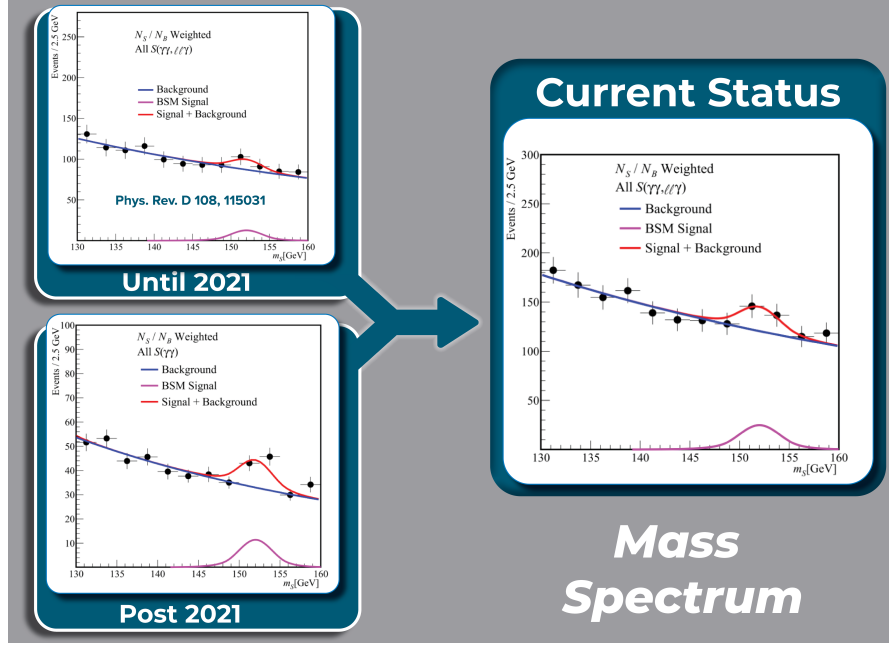


Fig. C6 The illustrative representation of the  $\gamma\gamma$  and  $Z\gamma$  mass spectra (see text).

Channel	$N_{\text{Sig}}$	Significance	$\sigma_F$ in fb
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \tau$	$32.67 \pm 11.49$	3.56	$0.49 \pm 0.17$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \ell$	$10.72 \pm 7.45$	1.76	$0.14 \pm 0.08$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + 2(\ell, \tau)$	$0.43 \pm 1.31$	0.24	$0.004 \pm 0.01$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \geq 1\ell + 1b\text{-jet}$	$13.30 \pm 6.16$	2.41	$0.24 \pm 0.11$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + \geq 4\text{ jet}$	$57.98 \pm 35.30$	1.46	$0.80 \pm 0.42$
$S(\rightarrow Z(\rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-)\gamma) + jj$	$88.61 \pm 58.75$	1.24	$2.16 \pm 1.37$
$S(\rightarrow Z(\rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-)\gamma) + 1\ell$	$2.49 \pm 15.48$	0.14	$0.12 \pm 0.41$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + b\text{-jet}$	$14.07 \pm 6.64$	2.49	$0.22 \pm 0.10$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + E_{\text{miss}}^T$ (Low)	$21.10 \pm 7.54$	2.82	$0.25 \pm 0.09$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + E_{\text{miss}}^T$ (High)	$8.19 \pm 3.68$	2.53	$0.10 \pm 0.04$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + W, Z$ (CMS)	$15.68 \pm 14.75$	0.96	$0.19 \pm 0.18$
$S(\rightarrow \gamma\gamma) + W, Z$ (ATLAS)	$4.12 \pm 12.55$	0.35	$0.06 \pm 0.17$

Table D3 Fiducial Cross section for different channels used in search of the narrow resonance.

## References

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