

The Higgs boson self-interaction

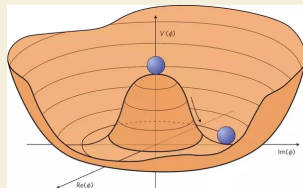
a.k.a: Twice the Higgs, twice the fun!

Arnaud Ferrari (Uppsala University, Sweden)
on behalf of the ATLAS and CMS Collaborations

Higgs10 Symposium, CERN, 04/07/2022

The ultimate probe of the scalar sector

- ▶ With the Higgs boson discovery, only a portion of the Higgs potential has been measured.
- ▶ Its shape completely determines the properties of the scalar sector.



$$\langle \phi_0 \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{pmatrix}, \quad v = \sqrt{\mu^2/\lambda}.$$

$$\text{SM: } V(\phi) = -\mu^2 \phi^2 + \lambda \phi^4 \supset \underbrace{\lambda v^2 H^2}_{\frac{1}{2} m_H^2 H^2} + \underbrace{\lambda v H^3}_{\text{self-interaction terms (never observed)}} + \dots$$

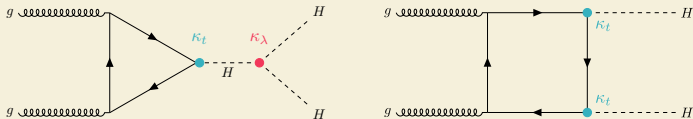


- ▶ Higgs boson pair (HH) production allows to probe *directly* the Higgs boson self-interaction and, ultimately, the shape of the Higgs potential.
- ▶ Any deviation from the self-interaction predicted by the SM would be a sign of new physics!

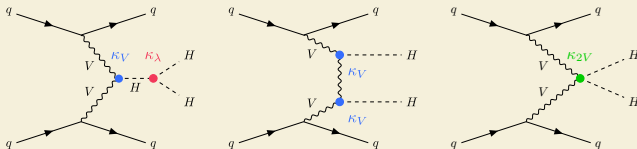
Higgs boson pair production

Non-resonant pairs of Higgs bosons (HH) arise from several diagrams, some of which interfere destructively. **Very small cross-sections!**

Gluon-gluon fusion: $\sigma_{\text{ggF}}^{\text{SM}} \simeq 31 \text{ fb [13 TeV]}.$



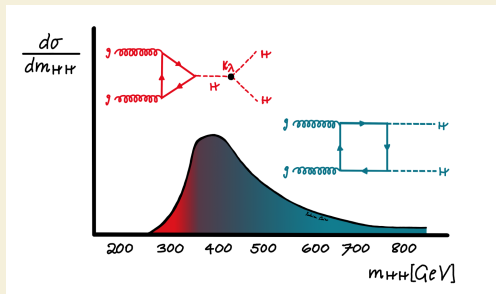
Vector-boson fusion: $\sigma_{\text{VBF}}^{\text{SM}} \simeq 1.7 \text{ fb [13 TeV]}.$



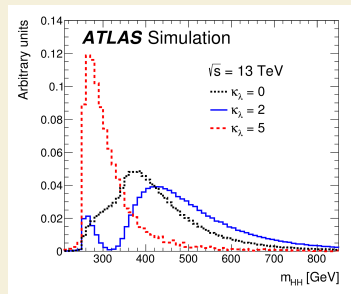
Other production modes (e.g. VHH, ttHH) have even smaller cross-sections.

Non-resonant HH mass distribution(s)

- HH events from the self-interaction diagrams are soft.
 \Rightarrow Challenging for triggers and detector object reconstruction/identification!
- $\kappa_\lambda \neq 1$ modifies the cross-section and kinematical properties of HH pairs.



ATLAS Physics Briefing: Twice the Higgs, twice the challenge

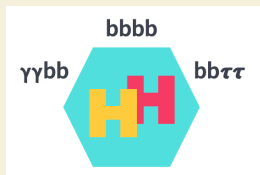


Phys. Lett. B 800 (2020) 135103

HH decays and search channels

Multitude of Higgs boson decay modes $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{multitude}^2)$ of HH search channels, each with specific experimental challenges and sensitivity reach.

- Not a single "golden" channel.
- But (at least) three silver bullets!

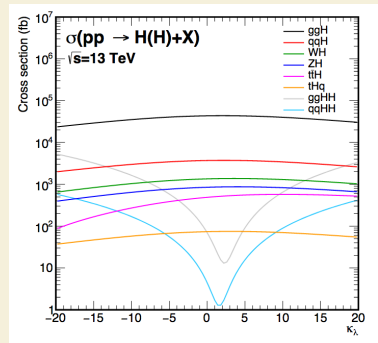
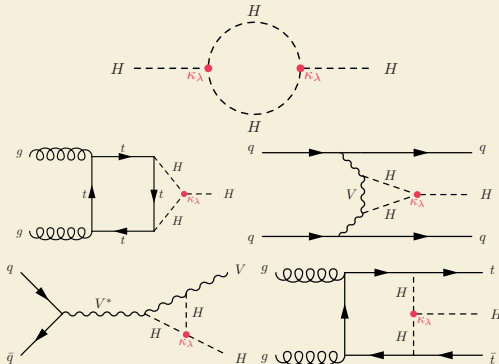


	bb	WW	$\tau\tau$	ZZ	$\gamma\gamma$
bb	34%				
WW	25%	4.6%			
$\tau\tau$	7.3%	2.7%	0.39%		
ZZ	3.1%	1.1%	0.33%	0.069%	
$\gamma\gamma$	0.26%	0.10%	0.028%	0.012%	0.0005%

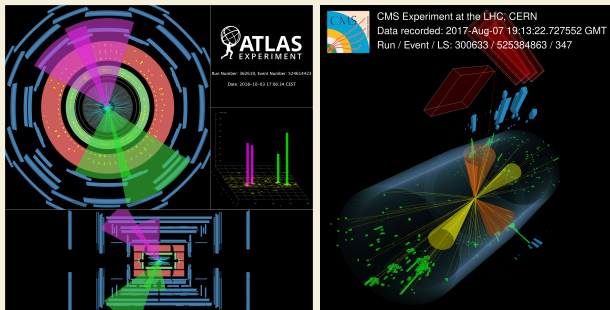
Image by Katharine Leney

Impact of the self-interaction on single-H

- ▶ Single Higgs boson processes do not depend on κ_λ at LO.
- ▶ However, NLO electroweak loops allow κ_λ to affect single Higgs boson production and decay modes.



HH \rightarrow bbbb



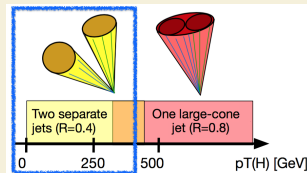
- ▶ Highest branching ratio... but large multi-jet background!
- ▶ Mostly probes large $m_{HH} \Rightarrow$ sensitivity to HH events with large p_T^H .

▶ **ATLAS:** ATLAS-CONF-2022-035

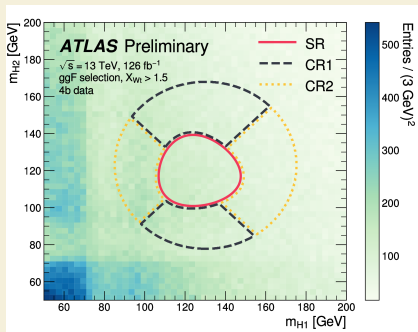
▶ **CMS:** arXiv:2202.09617 [hep-ex] & arXiv:2205.06667 [hep-ex]

HH \rightarrow bbbb – resolved topology

- ▶ Start from triggered events with ≥ 2 (ATLAS) or ≥ 3 (CMS) b-jets.
- ▶ SR = two b-jet pairs compatible with a Higgs boson.
- ▶ Data-driven background model based on SR event re-weighting:
 - $2b \rightarrow 4b$ (ATLAS);
 - $3b \rightarrow 4b$ (CMS);
 - Re-weighting function derived with machine-learning techniques in CRs around the SR.

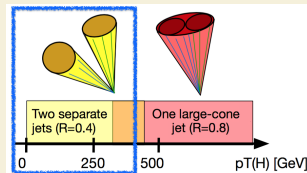


Sketch by Daniel Guerrero

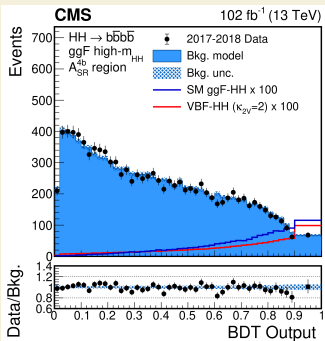
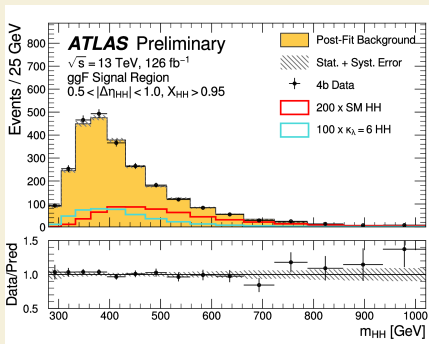


HH \rightarrow bbbb – resolved topology

- ggF- and VBF-like event categories based on forward jets and kinematic properties of HH.
- ATLAS: fit m_{HH} in all categories;
- CMS: fit an MVA classifier output or m_{HH} in different categories.

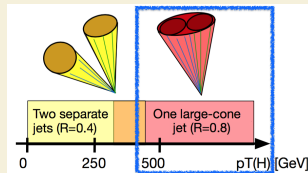


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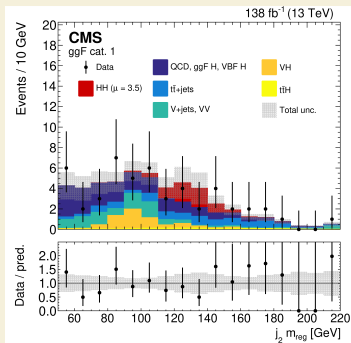


HH \rightarrow bbbb – boosted topology (CMS)

- ▶ Two large-radius jets as $H \rightarrow bb$ candidates.
- ▶ Sophisticated tagger to discriminate against QCD-induced jets.
- ▶ Multi-jet background based on transfer factors from CRs with looser $H \rightarrow bb$ tagging requirements.
- ▶ ggF-like SRs: jet mass as discriminant.
- ▶ VBF-like SRs \leftrightarrow 7 bins in $H \rightarrow bb$ tagger purity and m_{HH} .



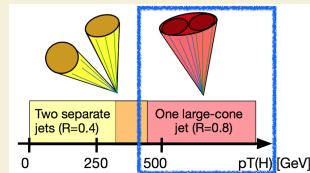
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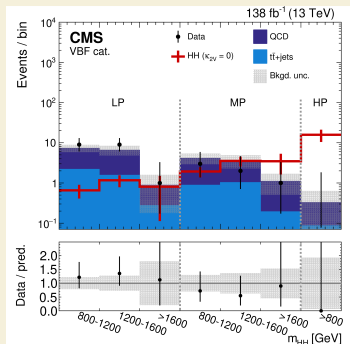
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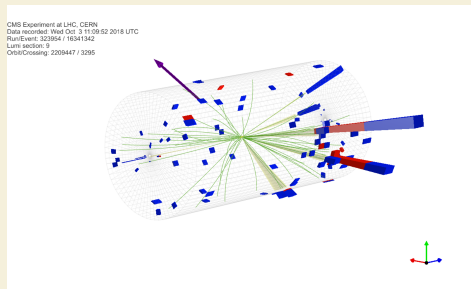
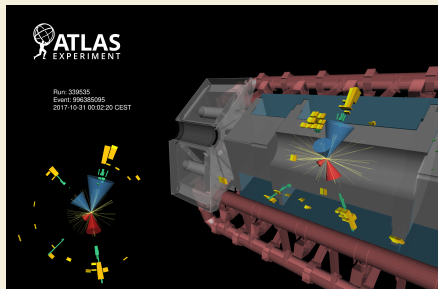
$\Rightarrow \kappa_{2V} = 0$ hypothesis excluded with $\gtrsim 6\sigma$ (other κ 's at 1)!



Sketch by Daniel Guerrero



$HH \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$



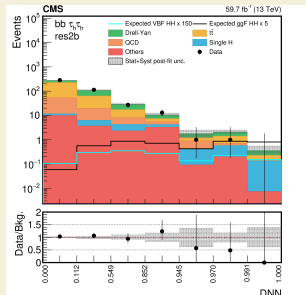
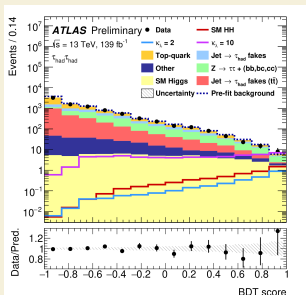
► Intermediate branching ratio... but clean final state with moderate backgrounds!

► **ATLAS:** ATLAS-CONF-2021-030

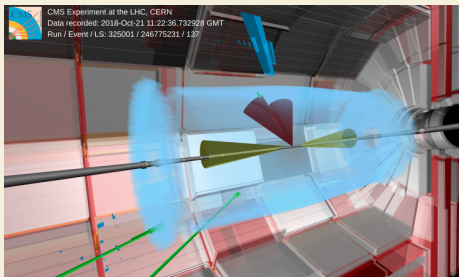
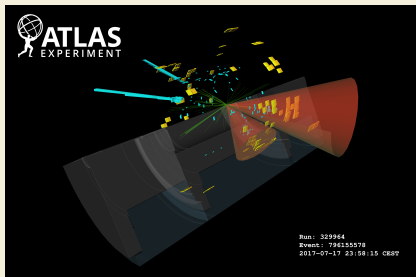
► **CMS:** arXiv:2206.09401 [hep-ex]

HH \rightarrow bb $\tau\tau$

- bb $\tau_h\tau_e$, bb $\tau_h\tau_\mu$ and bb $\tau_h\tau_h$ final states + further event categories:
 - CMS: 5 VBF-like regions + 3 ggF-like regions based on the H \rightarrow bb topology (resolved 2b, resolved 1b, boosted);
 - ATLAS: 3 inclusive regions based on the trigger strategy.
- Background modelling:
 - $t\bar{t}$ and Z+jets: simulation with data-driven corrections;
 - data-driven method if a gluon- or quark-initiated jet mimics τ_h .
- Signal extraction: MVA classifiers for both ATLAS and CMS.



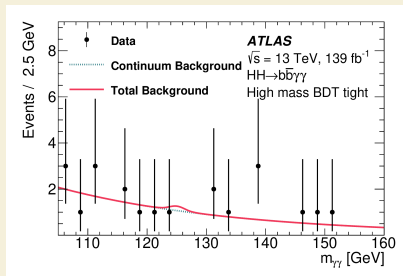
$HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$



- ▶ Tiny branching ratio... but very clean signature: excellent $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ resolution and small backgrounds!
- ▶ Enhanced sensitivity at low m_{HH} , hence to the Higgs boson self-interaction.
- ▶ **ATLAS:** arXiv:2112.11876 [hep-ex]
- ▶ **CMS:** JHEP03 (2021) 257

$HH \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$

- ▶ Di-photon trigger and event selection + 2 b-jets.
- ▶ Event categories based on:
 - $m_{bb\gamma\gamma}$;
 - various purity regions based on MVA outputs;
 - ggF- and VBF-like topologies (in CMS).
- ▶ Signal and backgrounds:
 - HH and single-H shapes from simulation;
 - continuum background shape from data;
- ▶ **ATLAS: parametric fit of $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ only.**
- ▶ CMS: parametric fit in the $(m_{\gamma\gamma}; m_{bb})$ plane.



HH \rightarrow bb $\gamma\gamma$

- Di-photon trigger and event selection + 2 b-jets.

- Event categories based on:

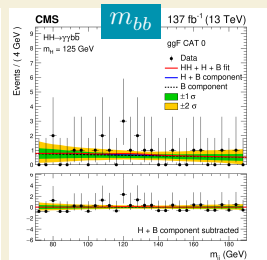
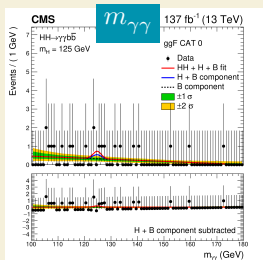
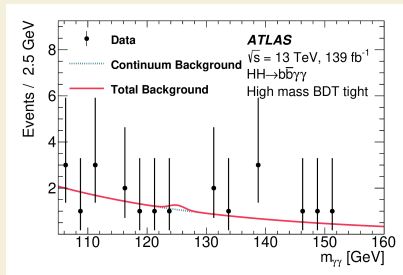
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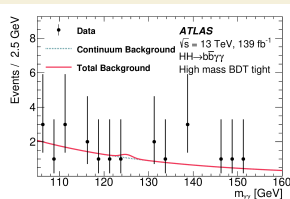
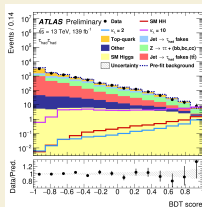
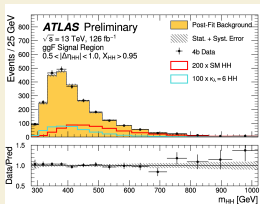
- HH and single-H shapes from simulation;
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- CMS: parametric fit in the $(m_{\gamma\gamma}; m_{bb})$ plane.

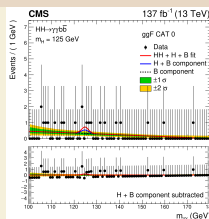
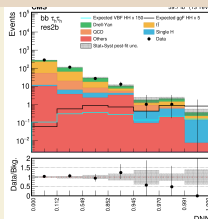
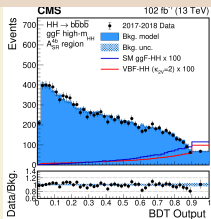


Putting it all together...

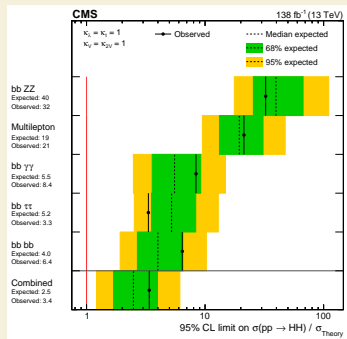
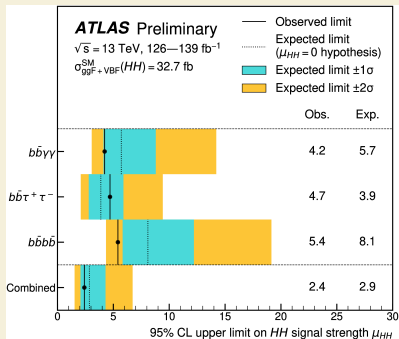


No golden HH search channel: combinations are key. [HOT OFF THE PRESS!]

- ATLAS: ATLAS-CONF-2022-050
- CMS: Nature 607, 60-68 (2022)



HH combined results: limits on $\sigma_{\text{ggF}+\text{VBF}}^{\text{HH}}$



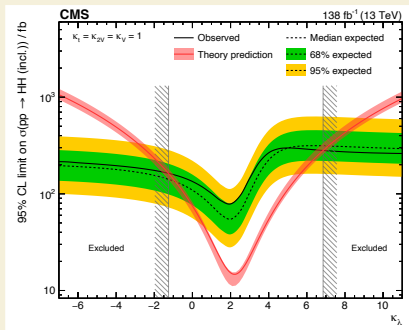
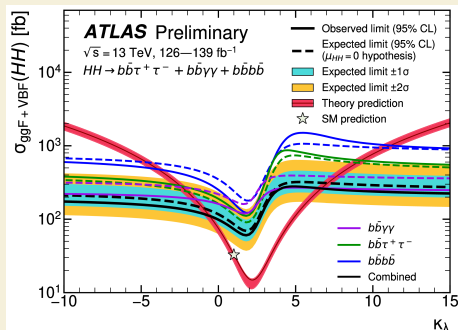
Obs. (exp.) 95% CL combined
 limit: 2.4 (2.9) \times SM prediction.

Obs. (exp.) 95% CL combined
 limit: 3.4 (2.5) \times SM prediction.

CMS: the individual $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ limit combines resolved and boosted topologies.

HH combined results: limits on κ_λ

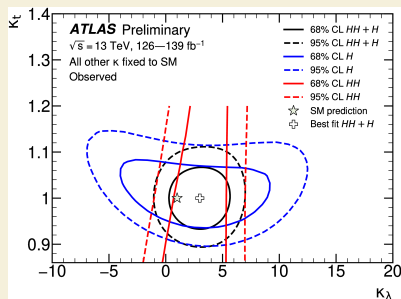
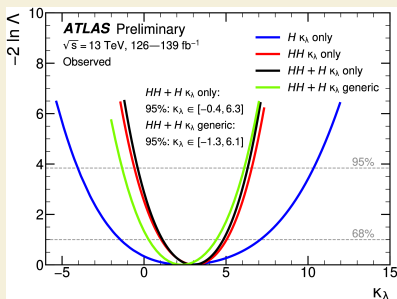
ATLAS and CMS 95% CL limits on $\sigma_{\text{ggF+VBF}}^{\text{HH}}$ vs κ_λ (all other κ 's at 1):



HH+H: constraints on κ_λ [ATLAS]

Constraints on κ_λ via a scan of the negative-logarithm of the profile likelihood, for various fit configurations:

- HH searches only, single-H measurements only, or their combinations.



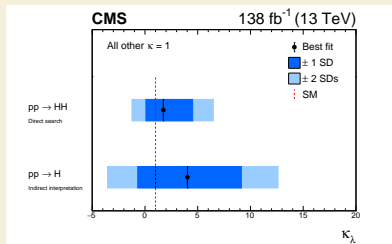
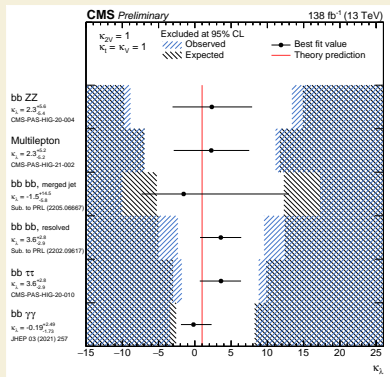
Summary of ATLAS HH+H combined results:

- ▶ Profile κ_λ only: $-0.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.3$ (95% CL).
- ▶ Profile $\kappa_\lambda, \kappa_t, \kappa_V, \kappa_b, \kappa_\tau$: $-1.3 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.1$ (95% CL).

HH+H: constraints on κ_λ [CMS]

Constraints on κ_λ via a scan of the negative-logarithm of the profile likelihood, for various fit configurations:

- HH searches only, single-H measurements only.



Summary of CMS single-H and HH results (profile κ_λ only):

- Single-H: $-3.6 < \kappa_\lambda < 12.6$ (95% CL).
- HH: $-1.3 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.4$ (95% CL).

Summary

- ▶ Elusive non-resonant pairs of Higgs bosons are the prime experimental signature of the Higgs boson self-interaction.
- ▶ Electroweak corrections in single-H processes provide additional sensitivity to the Higgs boson self-interaction.
- ▶ ATLAS+CMS have published impressive results with LHC Run 2 data:
 - ▶ σ_{HH} above 2.4–3.4 times the SM predictions is excluded at 95% CL;
 - ▶ $\kappa_\lambda \in [-0.4; +6.3]$ at 95% CL (ATLAS).
 - ▶ $\kappa_\lambda \in [-1.3; +6.4]$ at 95% CL (CMS).
- ▶ We are all eager to analyse Run 3 data to further probe HH events.
- ▶ The HL-LHC will provide the ultimate dataset to measure the Higgs boson self-interaction \Rightarrow more in E. Brost's talk!

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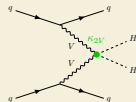
Many tHanks for your attention!!

To my Mum, in loving memory.

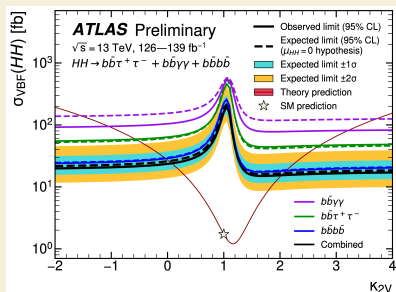
Back-up slides

Beyond the Higgs boson self-interaction

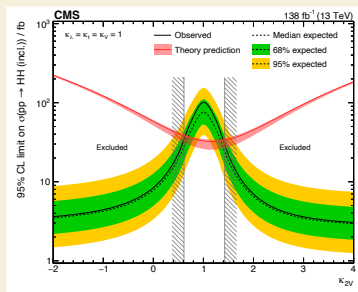
Searches for VBF Higgs boson pair production allow to uniquely probe the $VVHH$ quartic coupling.



ATLAS and CMS 95% CL limits on HH cross-sections as a function of κ_{2V} (all other κ 's at their SM values):



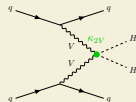
κ_{2V} values outside $[0.1; 2.0]$ are excluded at 95% CL.



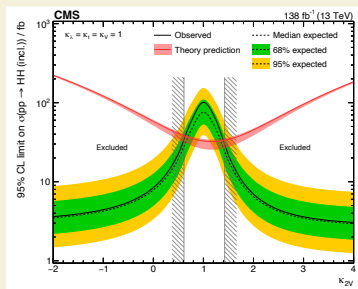
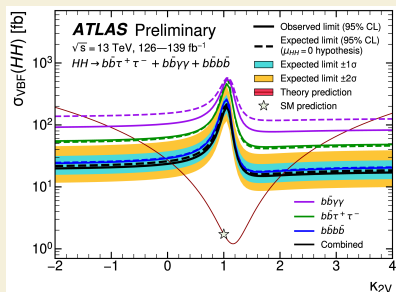
κ_{2V} values outside $[0.7; 1.4]$ are excluded at 95% CL.

Beyond the Higgs boson self-interaction

Searches for VBF Higgs boson pair production allow to uniquely probe the $VVHH$ quartic coupling.

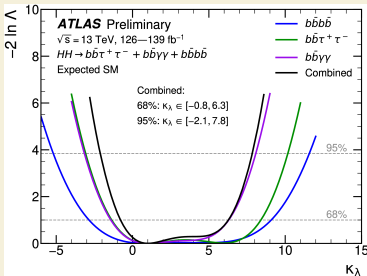
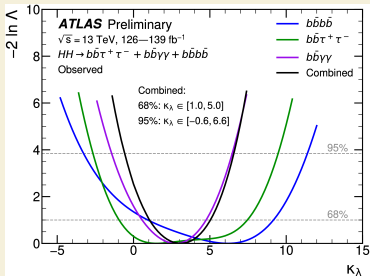


ATLAS and CMS 95% CL limits on HH cross-sections as a function of κ_{2V} (all other κ 's at their SM values):



CMS excludes the $\kappa_{2V} = 0$ hypothesis with a significance of 6.6σ !

Additional plots – ATLAS



Combination assumption	Obs. 95% CL	Exp. 95% CL	Obs. value $^{+1\sigma}_{-1\sigma}$
HH combination	$-0.6 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.6$	$-2.1 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.8$	$\kappa_\lambda = 3.1^{+1.9}_{-2.0}$
Single- H combination	$-4.0 < \kappa_\lambda < 10.3$	$-5.2 < \kappa_\lambda < 11.5$	$\kappa_\lambda = 2.5^{+4.6}_{-3.9}$
$HH+H$ combination	$-0.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.3$	$-1.9 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.5$	$\kappa_\lambda = 3.0^{+1.8}_{-1.9}$
$HH+H$ combination, κ_t floating	$-0.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.3$	$-1.9 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.6$	$\kappa_\lambda = 3.0^{+1.8}_{-1.9}$
$HH+H$ combination, $\kappa_t, \kappa_V, \kappa_b, \kappa_\tau$ floating	$-1.3 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.1$	$-2.1 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.6$	$\kappa_\lambda = 2.3^{+2.1}_{-2.0}$

Additional plot – CMS

