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Off-shell Higgs boson production

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with inputs from Raoul Röntschi, Ennio Salvioni, and Savvas Kiriacoou
(WG1 off-shell conveners)

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The Higgs is a very narrow resonance, but several kinematical thresholds can increase the differential cross section in some decay channels [Kauer and Passarino, [JHEP 08 \(2012\) 116](#)]

Figure from J. M. Campbell, R. K. Ellis, and C. Williams, [JHEP 04 \(2014\) 060](#)

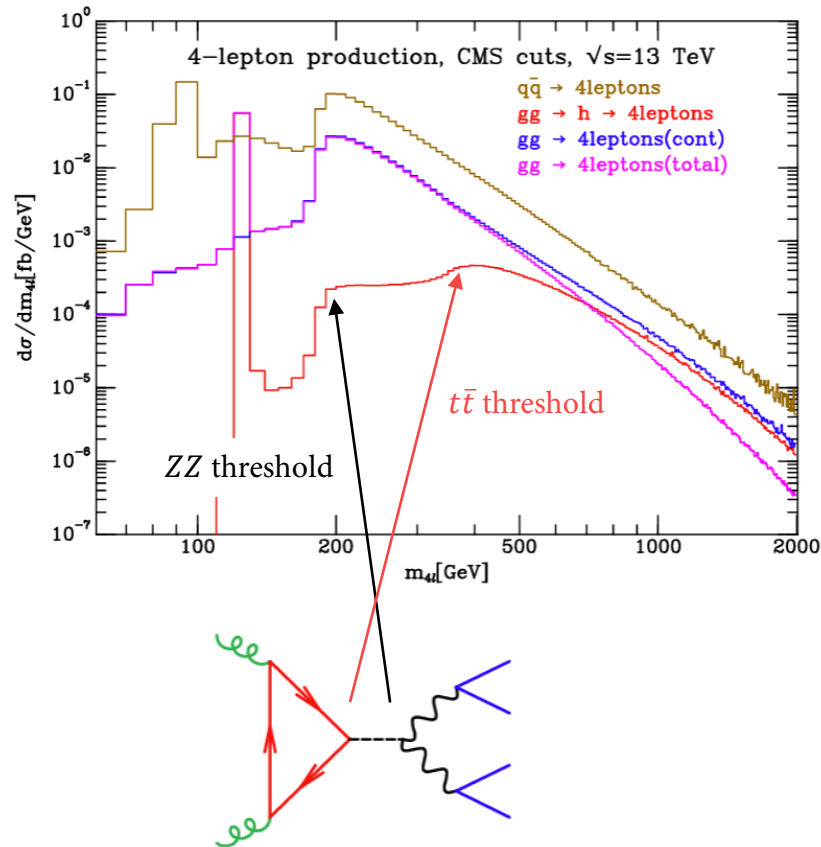


Table 1: Total cross-section in $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ$ and in $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow \text{all}$; the part of the cross-section for $M_{ZZ} > 2M_Z$ is explicitly shown.

	Tot [pb]	$M_{ZZ} > 2M_Z$ [pb]	R [%]
$gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow \text{all}$	19.146	0.1525	0.8
$gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ$	0.5462	0.0416	7.6

Table from G. Passarino, [Eur. Phys. J. C 74 \(2014\) 2866](#) (for $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$)

Since this initial observation, ATLAS and CMS have performed several measurements in the off-shell region. This talk reviews the most recent measurements and phenomenological studies of this region.

CMS: off-shell $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ with full Run 2 dataset

CMS has recently published a preliminary result with a measurement of the off-shell Higgs boson production in the $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ using with the full Run 2 dataset ([PAS HIG-21-019](#))

It follows a similar strategy for **observables** and **event categorization** as previous CMS analyses

$$\mathcal{P}_{jk}(\vec{x}; \vec{\zeta}_{jk}, \vec{\zeta}) = \frac{\mu_j \Gamma_H}{\Gamma_0} \mathcal{P}_{jk}^{\text{sig}}(\vec{x}; \vec{\zeta}_{jk}) + \sqrt{\frac{\mu_j \Gamma_H}{\Gamma_0}} \mathcal{P}_{jk}^{\text{int}}(\vec{x}; \vec{\zeta}_{jk}) + \mu_j \mathcal{P}_{jk}^{\text{cross}}(\vec{x}; \vec{\zeta}_{jk}) + \mathcal{P}_{jk}^{\text{bkg}}(\vec{x}; \vec{\zeta}_{jk}),$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{\text{alt}}(\Omega) = \frac{\mathcal{P}_{\text{sig}}(\Omega)}{\mathcal{P}_{\text{sig}}(\Omega) + \mathcal{P}_{\text{alt}}(\Omega)}$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{\text{int}}(\Omega) = \frac{\mathcal{P}_{\text{int}}(\Omega)}{2 \sqrt{\mathcal{P}_{\text{sig}}(\Omega) \mathcal{P}_{\text{alt}}(\Omega)}}$$

Discriminant calculated using LO matrix element squared from JHUGen and up to 13 reconstructed variables.

$$m_{4\ell} > 220 \text{ GeV}$$

$$D_{2\text{jet}}^{\text{VBF}} = \frac{\mathcal{P}_{\text{VBF}}(H, 2\text{jet})}{\mathcal{P}_{\text{VBF}}(H, 2\text{jet}) + \mathcal{P}_{\text{ggF}}(H, 2\text{jet})} > 0.5$$

VBF-tagged

$$D_{2\text{jet}}^{\text{VH}} = \frac{\mathcal{P}_{\text{VH}}(H, 2\text{jet})}{\mathcal{P}_{\text{VH}}(H, 2\text{jet}) + \mathcal{P}_{\text{ggF}}(H, 2\text{jet})}$$

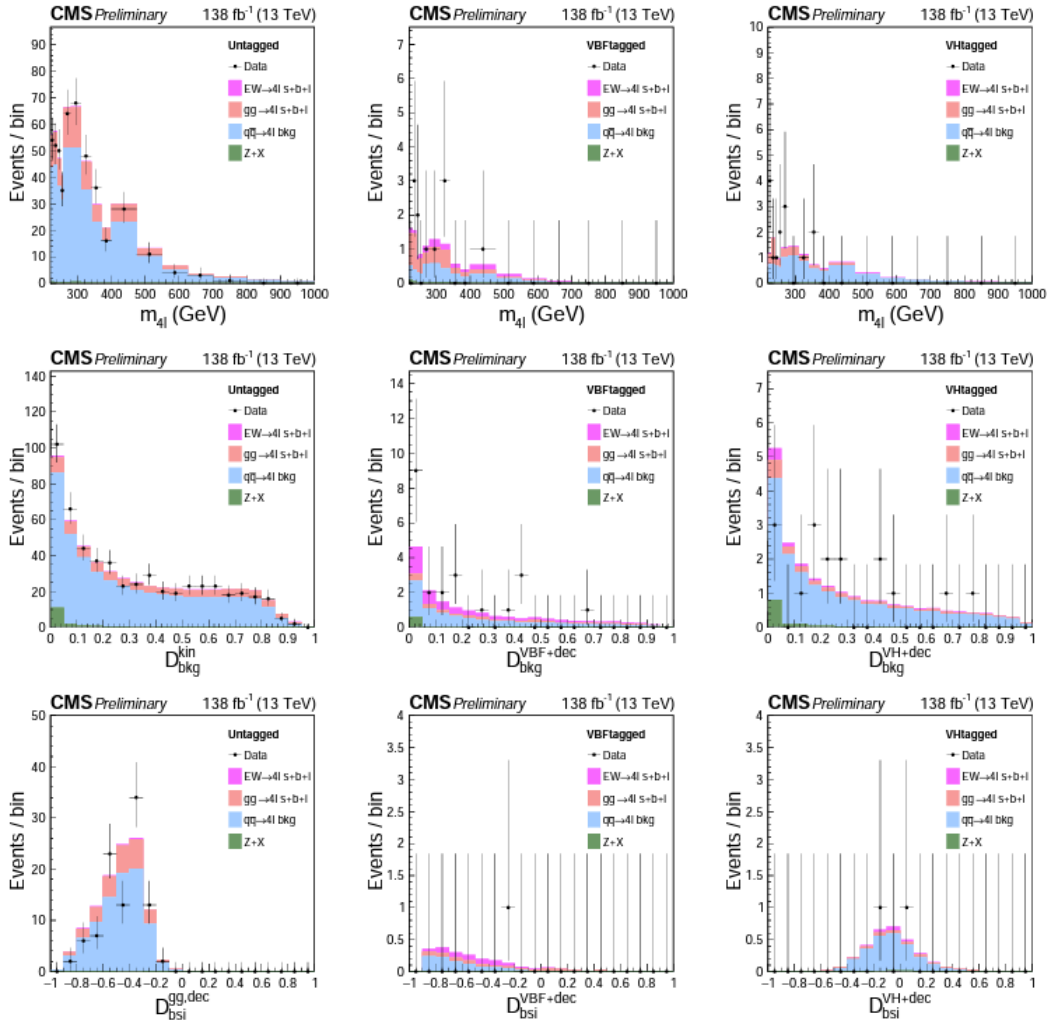
VH-tagged

$$\max(D_{2\text{jet}}^{\text{ZH}}, D_{2\text{jet}}^{\text{WH}}) > 0.5$$

untagged

Rest of the events

CMS: off-shell $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ with full Run 2 dataset

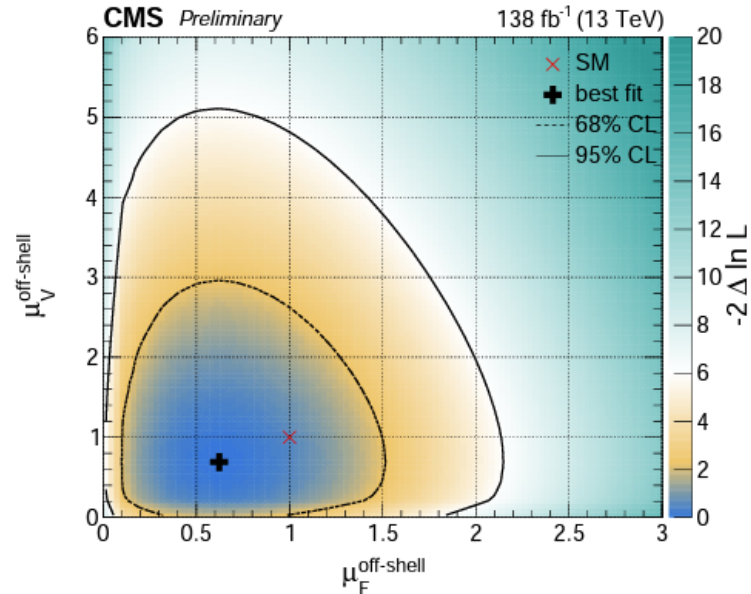


Analysis performed with 3D histograms in

$$\left\{ m_{4\ell}, \frac{\mathcal{P}_{\text{sig}}}{\mathcal{P}_{\text{sig}} + \mathcal{P}_{q\bar{q}ZZ}}, \frac{\mathcal{P}_{\text{int}}}{2\sqrt{\mathcal{P}_{\text{sig}}\mathcal{P}_{\text{bsi}}}} \right\}$$

Run 2 $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ results

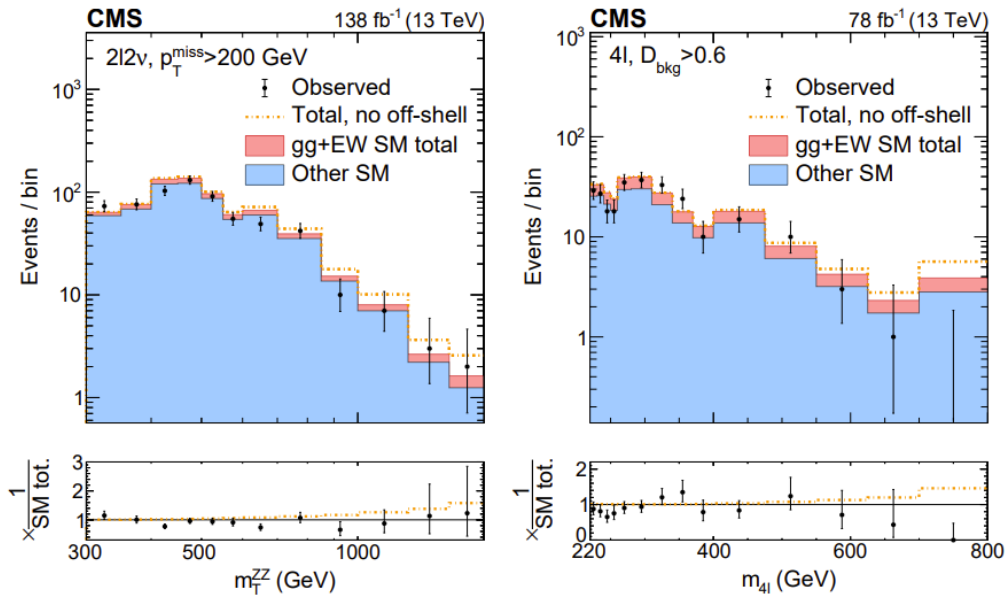
Parameter	Observed	Expected
$\mu^{\text{off-shell}}$	$0.64^{+0.50}_{-0.37}$ [0.06, 1.69]	$1.00^{+0.99}_{-0.97}$ [0.00, 2.80]
$\mu_F^{\text{off-shell}}$	$0.62^{+0.57}_{-0.41}$ [0.03, 1.81]	$1.00^{+1.05}_{-1.00}$ [0.00, 2.93]
$\mu_V^{\text{off-shell}}$	$0.69^{+1.32}_{-0.63}$ [0.00, 3.91]	$1.00^{+3.34}_{-1.00}$ [0.00, 7.65]



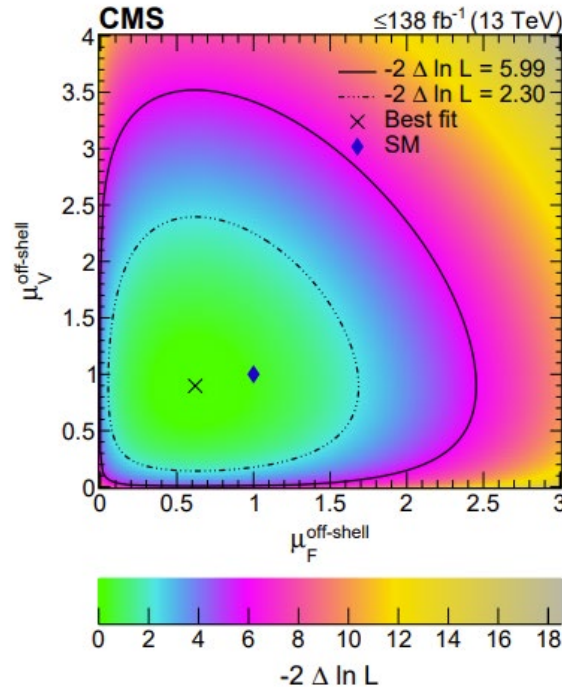
CMS: $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell + H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$

CMS combined result of full Run 2 dataset for $ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ and partial Run 2 dataset for $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$

[[Nat. Phys. 18 \(2022\) 1329](#)]



Param.	Cond.	Observed		Expected	
		68% CL	95% CL	68% CL	95% CL
$\mu_F^{\text{off-shell}}$	$\mu_V^{\text{off-shell}} (u)$	$0.62^{+0.68}_{-0.45}$	$+1.38$ -0.614	$+1.1$ -0.99998	< 3.0
$\mu_V^{\text{off-shell}}$	$\mu_F^{\text{off-shell}} (u)$	$0.90^{+0.9}_{-0.59}$	$+2.0$ -0.849	$+2.0$ -0.89	< 4.5
$\mu^{\text{off-shell}}$	$R_{V,F}^{\text{off-shell}} = 1$	$0.74^{+0.56}_{-0.38}$	$+1.06$ -0.61	$+1.0$ -0.84	$+1.7$ -0.9914
	$R_{V,F}^{\text{off-shell}} (u)$	$0.62^{+0.68}_{-0.45}$	$+1.38$ -0.6139	$+1.1$ -0.99996	$+2.0$ -0.99999



The “no off-shell production scenario” is excluded with 3.6σ significance.

More details in [Savvas' talk](#).

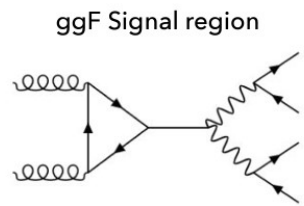
Analysis in the $ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ channel uses a similar categorization as the $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ analysis using $\mathcal{D}_{2\text{jet}}^{\text{VBF}}$ for events with $m_T^{ZZ} > 300$ GeV

$$\left(m_T^{ZZ}\right)^2 = \left[\sqrt{p_T^{\ell\ell^2} + m_{\ell\ell}^2} + \sqrt{p_T^{\text{miss}^2} + m_Z^2}\right]^2 - \left|\vec{p}_T^{\ell\ell} + \vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}\right|^2$$

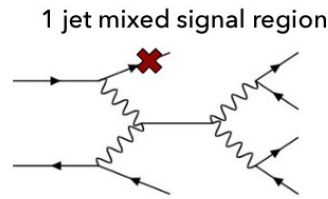
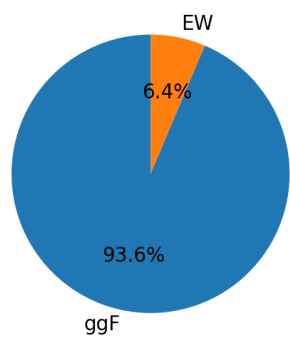
ATLAS: off-shell $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell + ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$

ATLAS has recently published their full Run 2 dataset analysis in the $ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ and $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ decay channels [[Phys.Lett.B 846 \(2023\) 138223](#)]

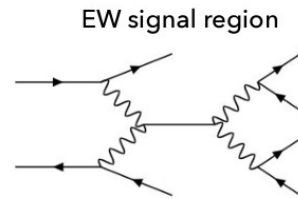
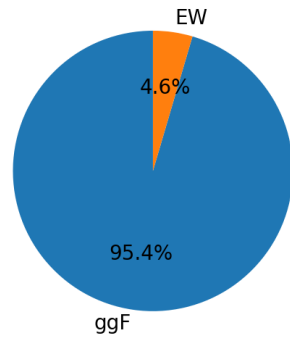
For the first time in ATLAS, this measurement uses an event categorization to be sensitive to gluon-fusion and electroweak off-shell Higgs boson production separately.



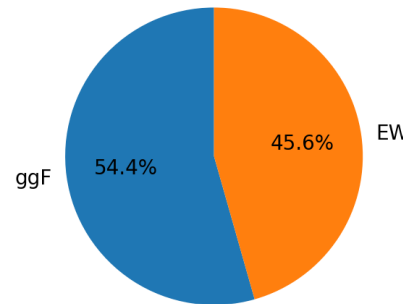
ggF Signal region
 $n_{\text{jets}} = 0$
 $n_{\text{jets}} = 1$ and $\eta_j < 2.2$
 $n_{\text{jets}} \geq 2$ and $|\Delta\eta_{jj}| < 4.0$



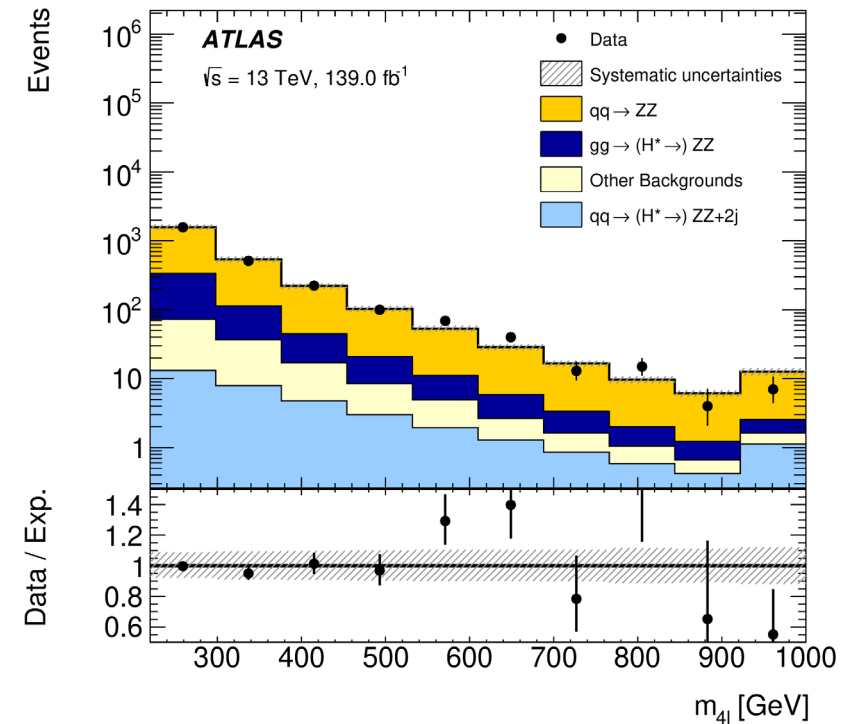
1 jet mixed signal region
 $n_{\text{jets}} = 1$ and $|\eta_j| \geq 2.2$



EW signal region
 $n_{\text{jets}} \geq 2$ and $|\Delta\eta_{jj}| \geq 4.0$

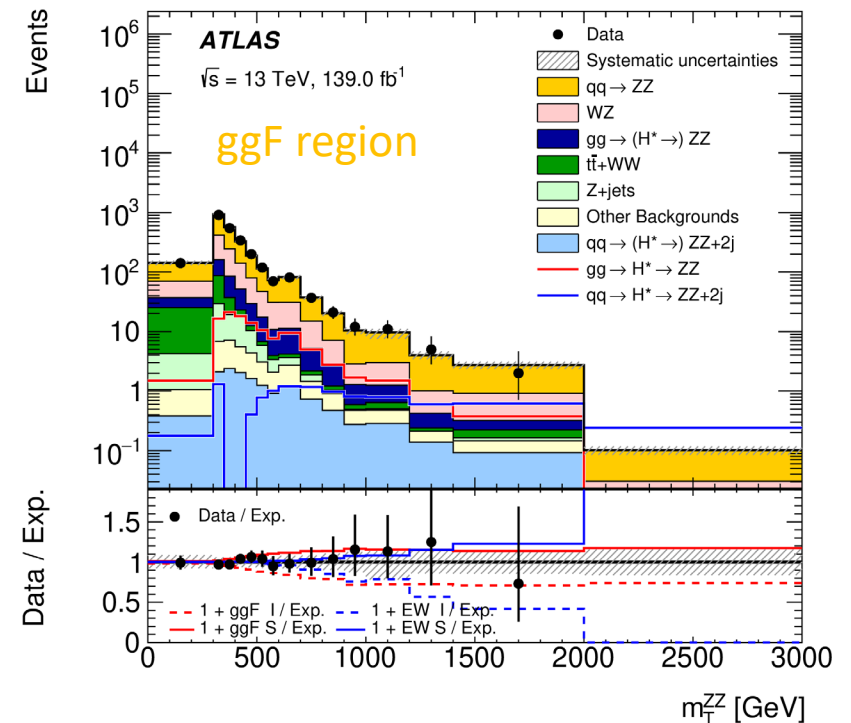
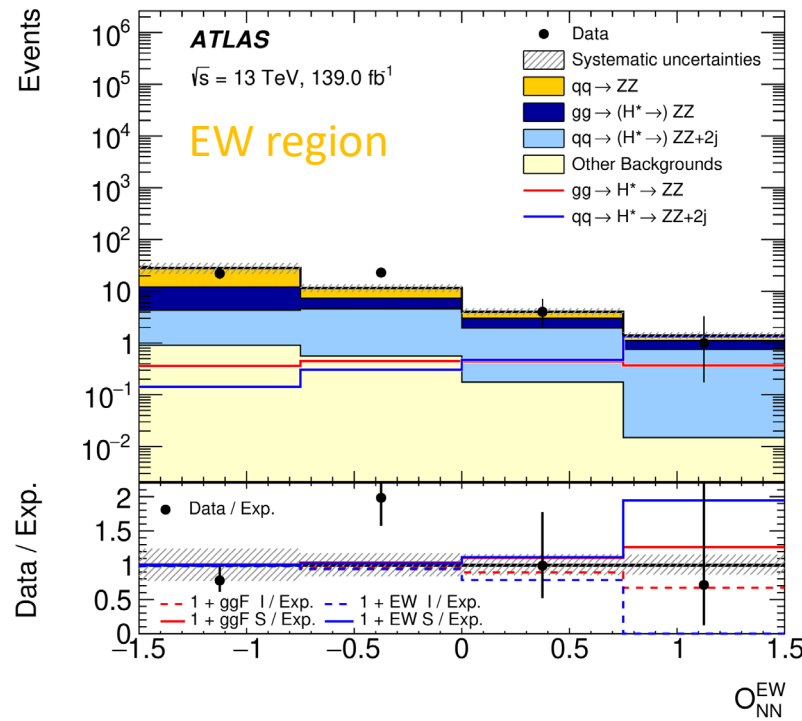
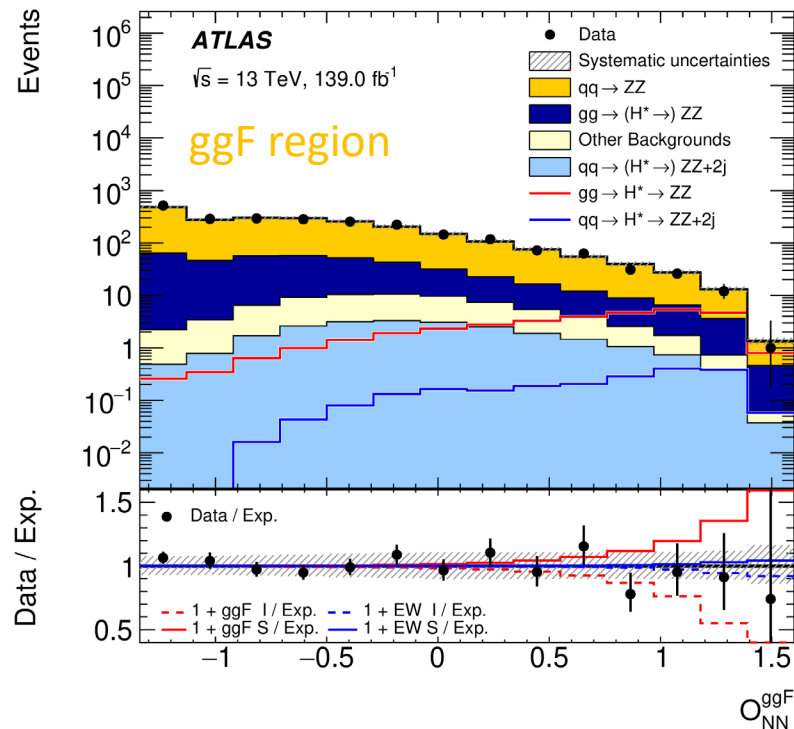


Fractions in 4ℓ channel

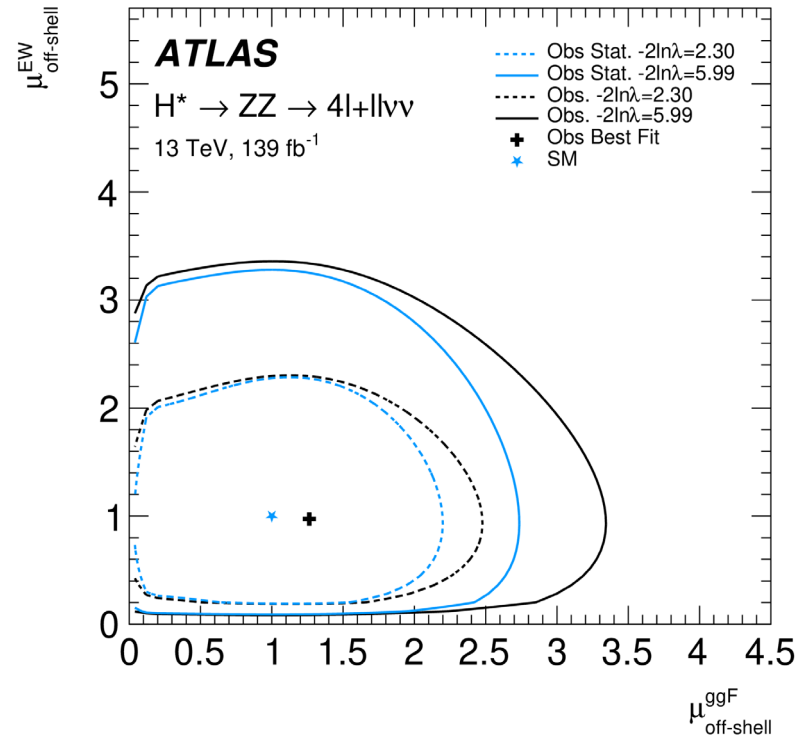
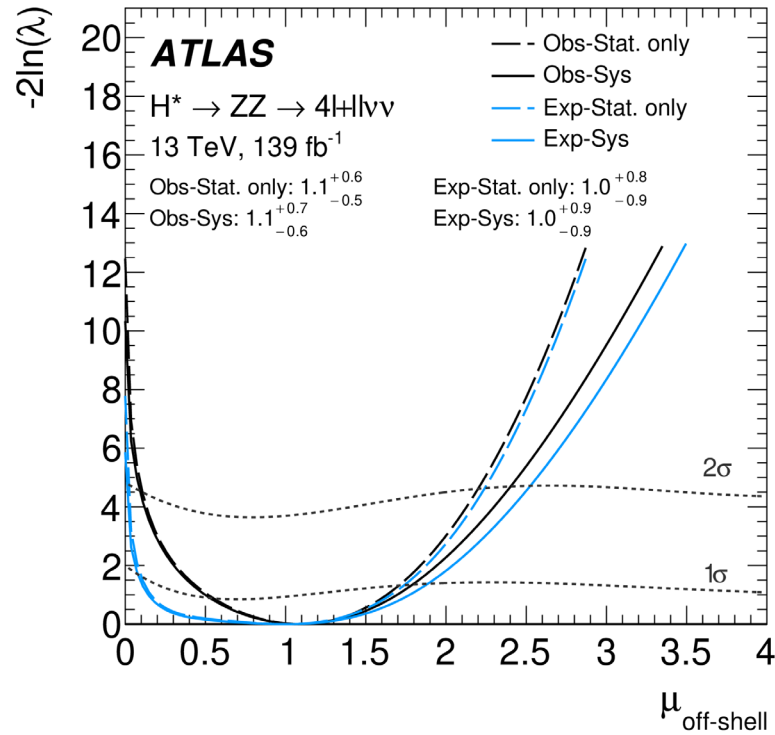


ATLAS: off-shell $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell + ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$

- NN-based probability ratios for the 4ℓ channel: $O_{NN}^{ggF} = \log\left(\frac{\mathcal{P}_S^{ggF}}{\mathcal{P}_B^{ggF} + \mathcal{P}_{q\bar{q}ZZ}}\right)$. Probability ratios estimated for $m_{4\ell} > 220$ GeV as a function of production and decay kinematics.
- Region with $180 < m_{4\ell} < 220$ GeV used as control region for $q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZZ$ normalization.
- m_T^{ZZ} variable used for $ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ channel



ATLAS: off-shell $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell + ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$



The background-only hypothesis is rejected at an observed **significance of 3.3σ** (2.2σ expected).

The observed value is $\mu_{\text{off-shell}} = 1.1^{+0.7}_{-0.6}$ @ 68% CL.
 The observed (expected) **upper limit at 95% CL. is 2.2 (2.3).**

More details in [Michiel's talk](#).

Higgs width interpretation

Interpretation of the off-shell Higgs production measurement as an indirect probe for Higgs width

[J. M. Campbell, R. K. Ellis, and C. Williams, [JHEP 04 \(2014\) 060](#); F. Caola and K. Melnikov, [Phys. Rev. D 88 \(2013\) 054024](#)]

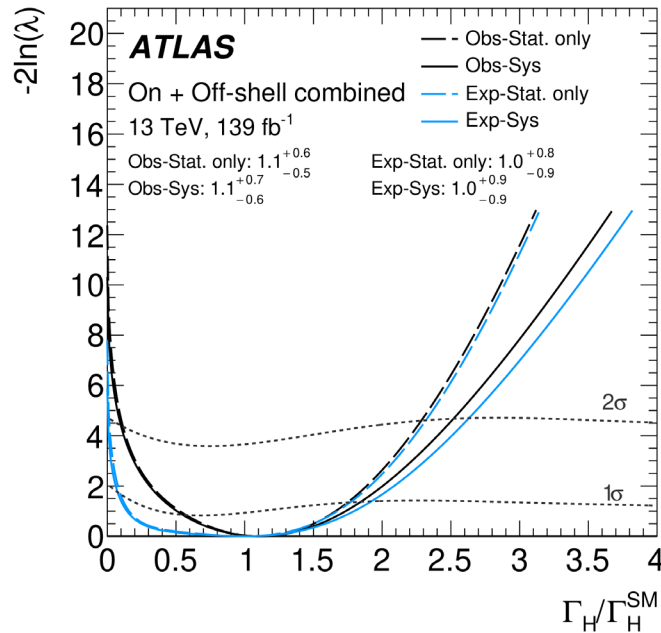
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{on-shell} & \frac{d\sigma^{pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ}}{dm_{ZZ}} \propto \frac{g_{Hgg}^2 g_{HZZ}^2}{(m_{ZZ}^2 - m_H^2)^2 + m_H^2 \Gamma_H^2} & \text{off-shell} \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \sigma_{\text{on-shell}}^{pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ} \propto \frac{g_{Hgg}^2 g_{HZZ}^2}{m_H \Gamma_H} & & \frac{d\sigma_{\text{off-shell}}^{pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ}}{dm_{ZZ}} \propto \frac{g_{Hgg}^2 g_{HZZ}^2}{(m_{ZZ}^2 - m_H^2)^2}
 \end{array}$$

Interpretation assumes no new physics between on-shell and off-shell scales

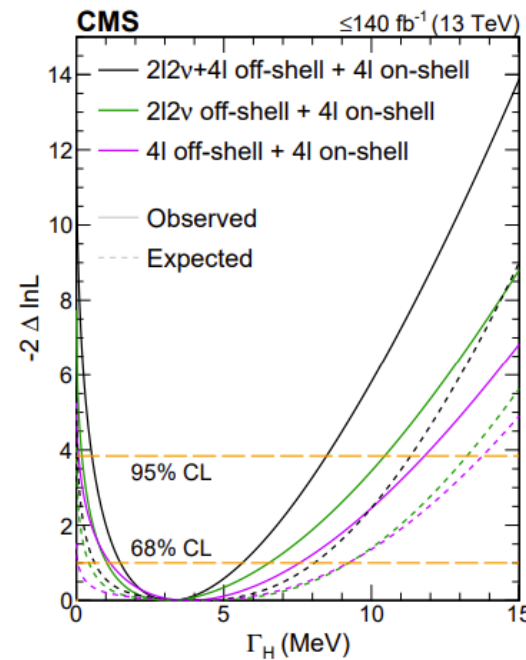
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mu_{\text{on-shell}} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{on-shell}}^{pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ}}{\sigma_{\text{on-shell,SM}}^{pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ}} = \frac{\kappa_{g,\text{on-shell}}^2 \kappa_{V,\text{on-shell}}^2}{\Gamma_H / \Gamma_H^{\text{SM}}} & \longrightarrow & \frac{\mu_{\text{off-shell}}}{\mu_{\text{on-shell}}} = \frac{\Gamma_H}{\Gamma_H^{\text{SM}}} \\
 \mu_{\text{off-shell}} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{off-shell}}^{pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ}}{\sigma_{\text{off-shell,SM}}^{pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ}} = \kappa_{g,\text{off-shell}}^2 \kappa_{V,\text{off-shell}}^2 & &
 \end{array}$$

Higgs width: experimental results

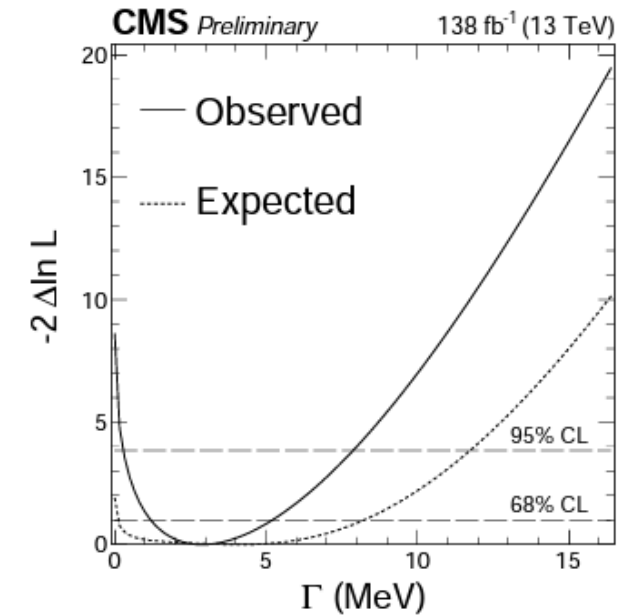
Both CMS and ATLAS combine their off-shell Higgs production measurement in the $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ and $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ channels with on-shell $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ to provide indirect determinations of the Higgs total width



ATLAS: $\Gamma_H = 4.5^{+3.3}_{-2.5} \text{ MeV} @ 68\% \text{ CL}$.
 [based on full Run 2 $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ and $ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$]



CMS: $\Gamma_H = 3.2^{+2.4}_{-1.7} \text{ MeV} @ 68\% \text{ CL}$.
 [based on partial Run 2 $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ (78 fb⁻¹) and full Run 2 $ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$]



CMS: $\Gamma_H = 2.9^{+2.3}_{-1.7} \text{ MeV} @ 68\% \text{ CL}$.
 [based on full Run 2 $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$]

More details in [Filippo's talk](#),
 see also [Federico's talk](#).

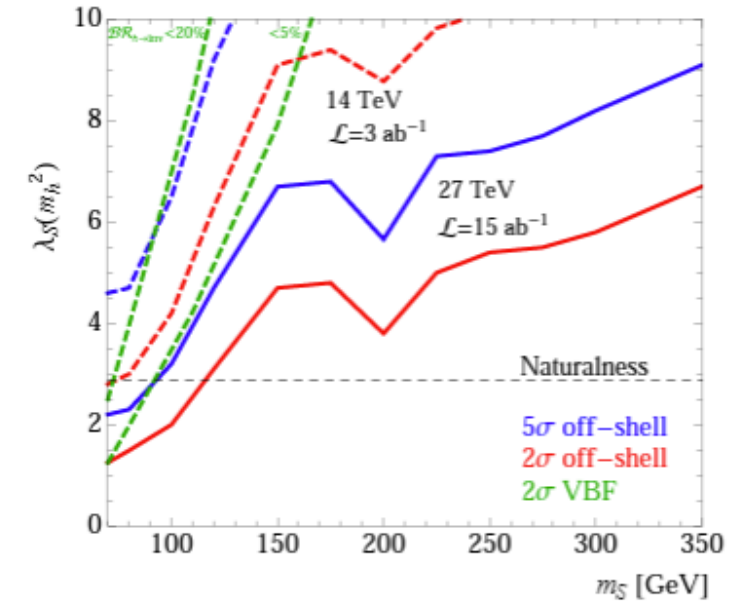
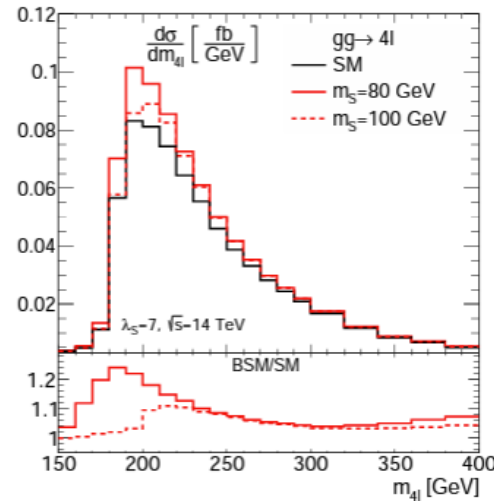
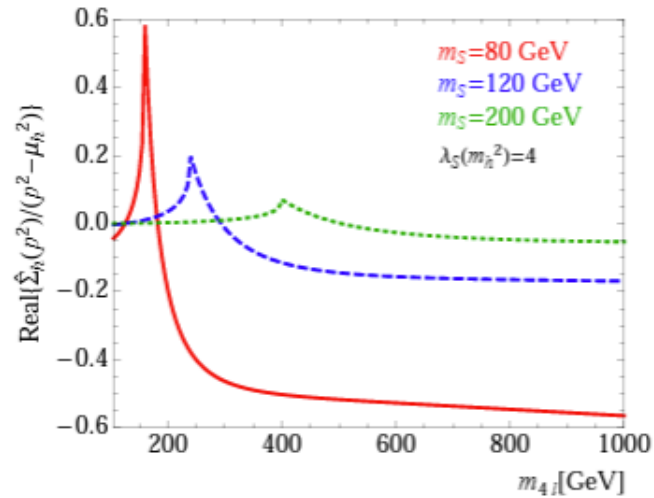
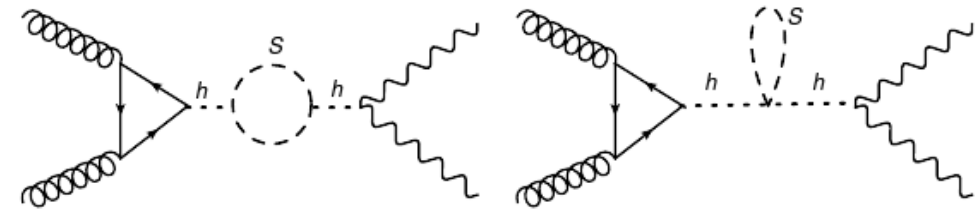
New low-mass states

The presence of new light particles would break the assumptions used to perform the Higgs width interpretation.

But the measurement of off-shell production could then be used as an indirect probe of these new states via new kinematic thresholds introduced at 1-loop.

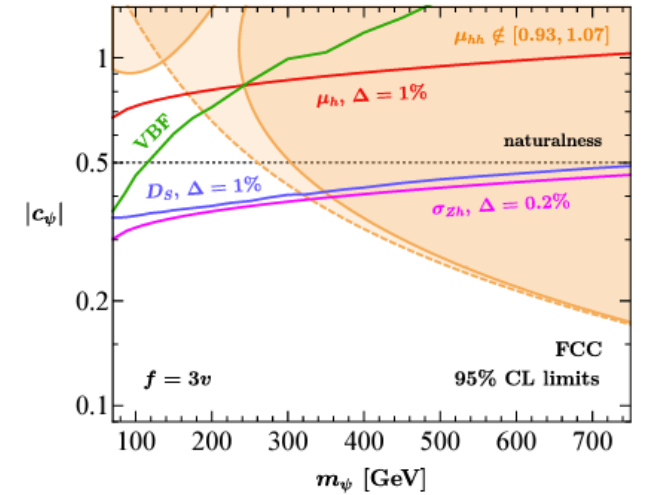
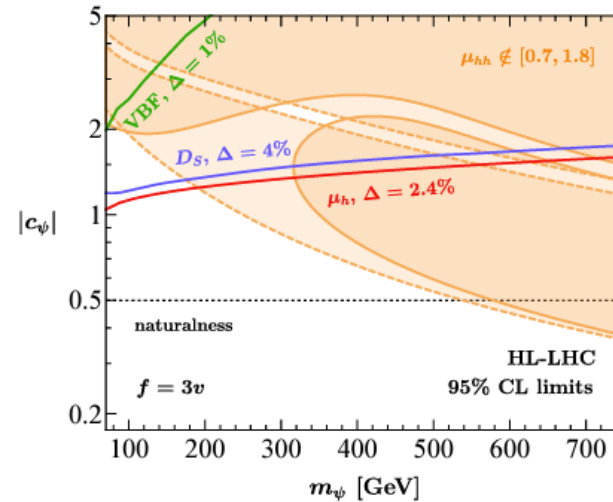
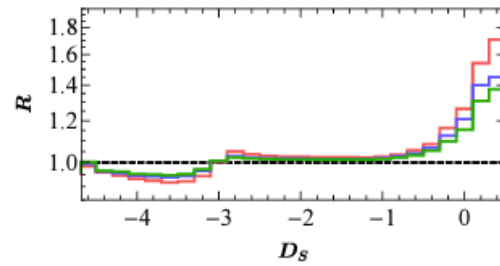
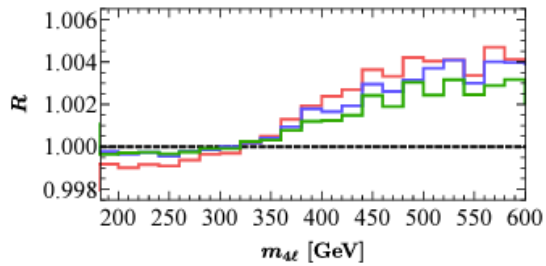
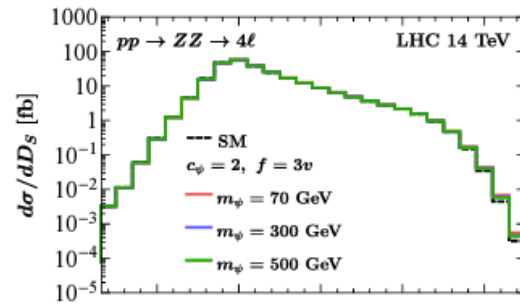
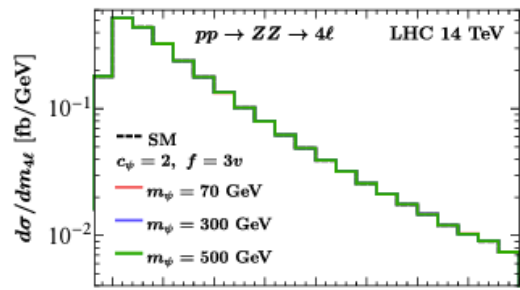
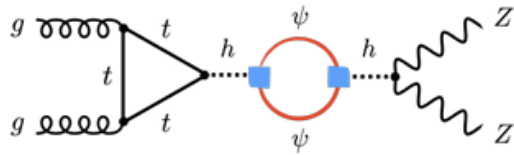
This method hasn't been explored experimentally yet, but is promising as more data is collected.

More details in D. Goncalves, T. Han, and S. Mukhopadhyay, Off-Shell Higgs Probe of Naturalness, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 120 \(2018\) 111801](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.07311)



Fermionic Higgs portal

Recent application of the idea for fermionic Higgs portal by U. Haisch, M. Ruhdorfer, K. Schmid, A. Weiler
[\[arXiv:2311.03995\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.03995)



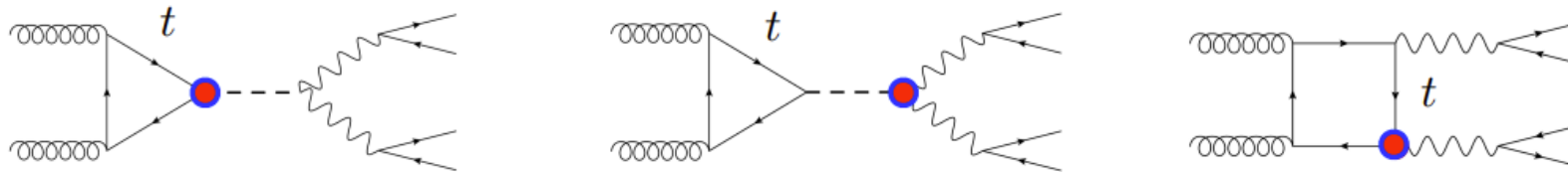
Loop effects in $gg \rightarrow ZZ$ can surpass direct production

Interesting ideas for HL-LHC and future colliders

Off-shell Higgs and EFT

Subset of SMEFT operators relevant for $gg \rightarrow ZZ$ (CP-even, CP-odd)

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\mathcal{L} = & \frac{h}{v} \left(c_{gg} \frac{g_s^2}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu a} - m_t \underline{[\delta y_u]_{33}} \bar{t}_L t_R + \text{h.c.} + \delta c_z \frac{g_Z^2 v^2}{4} Z_\mu Z^\mu + c_{zz} \frac{g_Z^2}{4} Z_{\mu\nu} Z^{\mu\nu} + c_{z\Box} g_L^2 Z_\mu \partial_\nu Z^{\mu\nu} \right. \\ & + \tilde{c}_{gg} \frac{g_s^2}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^a + \tilde{c}_{zz} \frac{g_Z^2}{4} Z_{\mu\nu} \tilde{Z}_{\mu\nu} \left. \right) - g_Z (\delta g_L^{Zu})_{33} Z_\mu \bar{t}_L \gamma^\mu t_L - g_Z (\delta g_R^{Zu})_{33} Z_\mu \bar{t}_R \gamma^\mu t_R \\ & - \frac{m_t}{4v^2} \left(1 + \frac{h}{v} \right) \left(g_s \bar{t}_R \sigma^{\mu\nu} T^a \underline{[d_{Gu}]_{33}} t_L G_{\mu\nu}^a + g_Z \bar{t}_R \sigma^{\mu\nu} T^a \underline{[d_{Zu}]_{33}} t_L Z_{\mu\nu} \right) + \text{h.c.} \end{aligned}$$



No real “signal” vs “background” distinction:

motivated new physics can appear in Higgs diagrams, box diagrams, or both

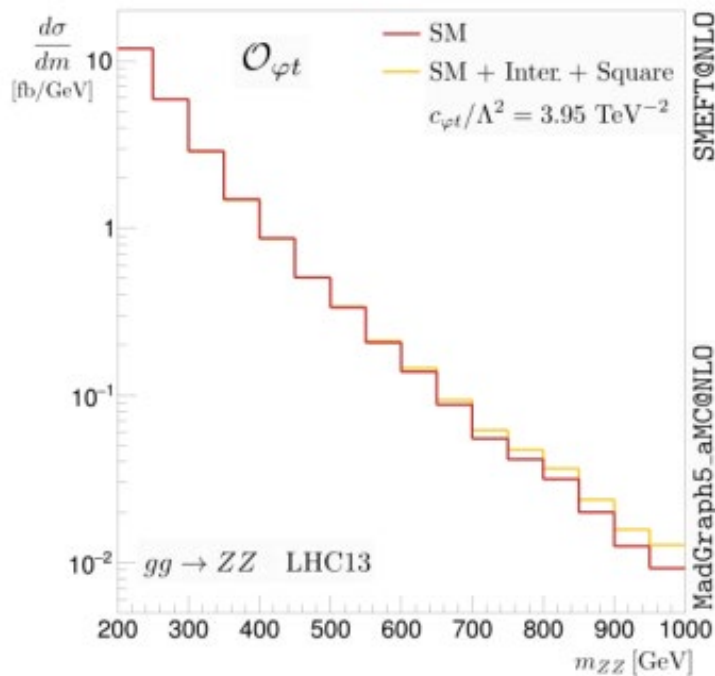
Goal: for each SMEFT operator that can in principle contribute to off-shell region, assess impact after accounting for constraints from other measurements systematically

Identify EFT directions where off-shell has most competitive sensitivity

EFT interpretation: a work in progress



Strategy: first step at **simplified level** [ongoing for CP-even operators]



O_i
single operator



determine max size of coefficient
allowed by global fit to current data



generate $d\sigma/dm_{ZZ}$
(SMEFT@NLO / JHUGen+MCFM)
and evaluate max deviation from SM



“Drop” operators falling below sensitivity threshold

Second step: detailed analysis for remaining subset of operators

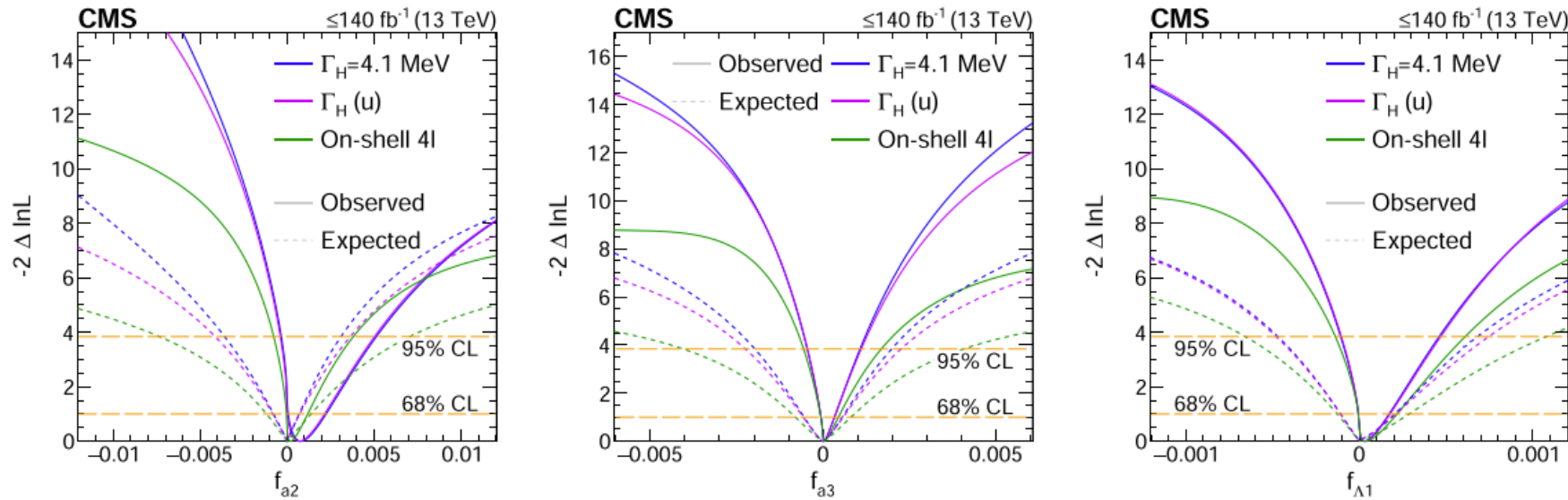
More details in Off-shell Interpretations Task Force report [[arXiv:2203.02418](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.02418)]

CMS: off-shell EFT interpretation

Example: complementary between EFT limits using off-shell and on-shell $H \rightarrow ZZ$ measurements [[Nat. Phys. 18 \(2022\) 1329](#)].

Mesurément of EFT modifications of the $H \rightarrow VV$ decay. Analysis sses dedicated MELA discriminants.

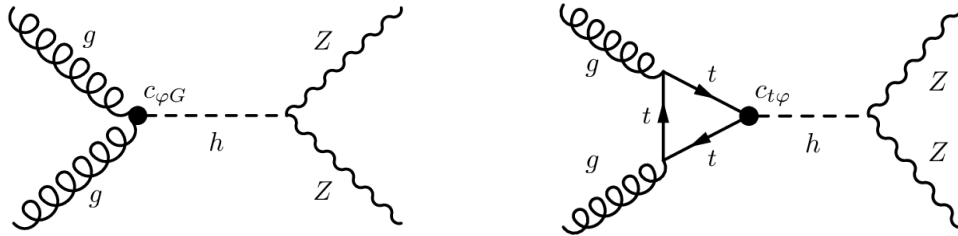
$$A \sim \left[a_1^{VV} - \frac{\kappa_1^{VV} q_1^2 + \kappa_2^{VV} q_2^2}{(\Lambda_1^{VV})^2} - \frac{\kappa_3^{VV} (q_1 + q_2)^2}{(\Lambda_Q^{VV})^2} \right] m_{V1}^2 \epsilon_{V1}^* \epsilon_{V2}^* + a_2^{VV} f_{\mu\nu}^{*(1)} f^{*(2)\mu\nu} + a_3^{VV} f_{\mu\nu}^{*(1)} \tilde{f}^{*(2)\mu\nu}.$$



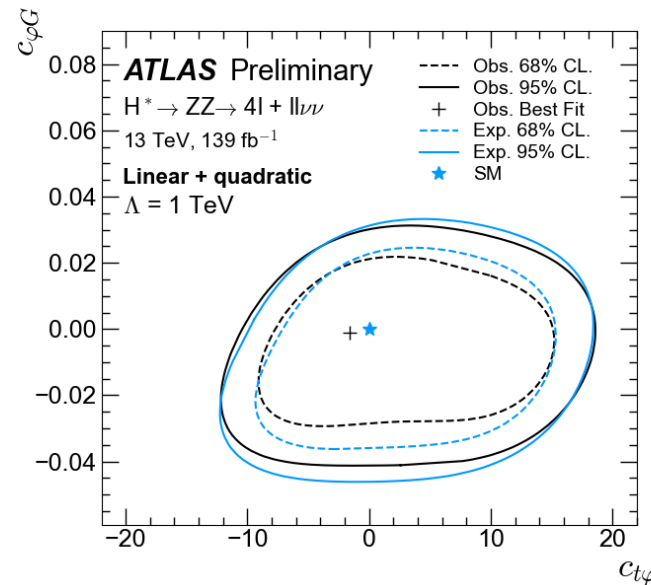
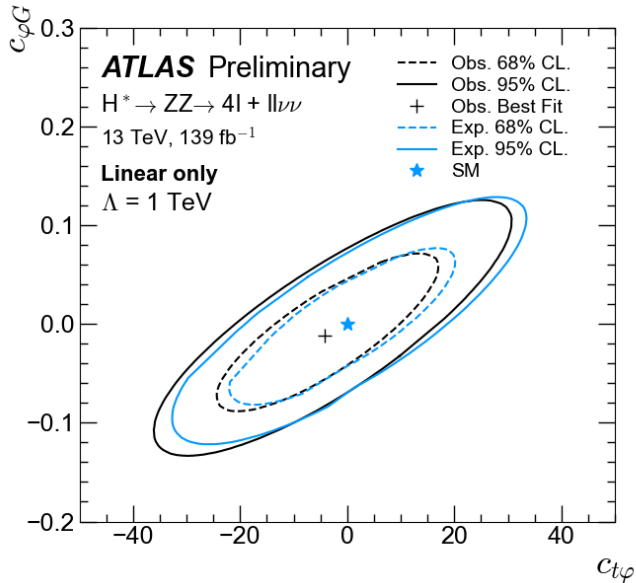
Some results stronger than on-shell analysis.

ATLAS: off-shell EFT interpretation

Example: off-shell breaks degeneracy between the top Yukawa and Higgs-gluon interaction which exists for on-shell Higgs production [[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2023-012](#)].



Operator	Coefficient (Λ^{-2})	Definition
$\mathcal{O}_{\varphi G}$	$c_{\varphi G}$	$(\varphi^\dagger \varphi - \frac{v^2}{2}) G_A^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu}^A$
$\mathcal{O}_{t\varphi}$	$c_{t\varphi}$	$(\varphi^\dagger \varphi - \frac{v^2}{2}) \bar{Q}_L \tilde{\varphi} t_R + \text{h.c.}$



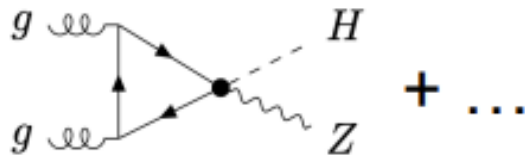
Large differences between linear and linear+quadratic limits.

May indicate that expansion is not within EFT validity regime.

More data is required! Run 3 will be essential.

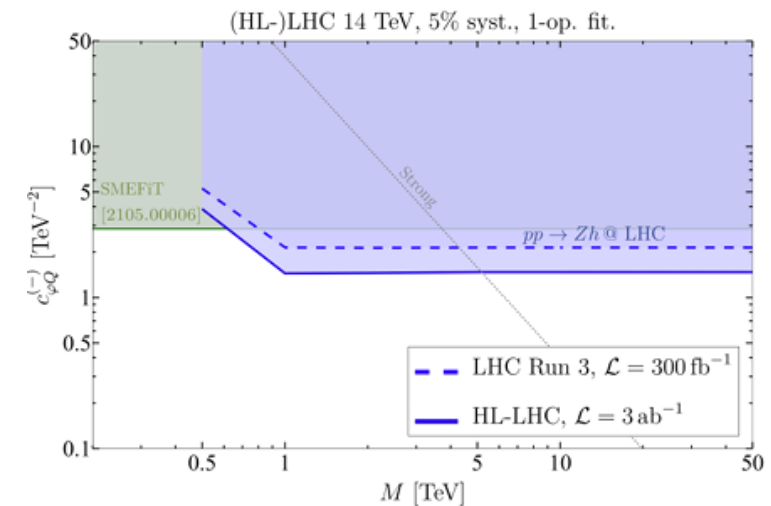
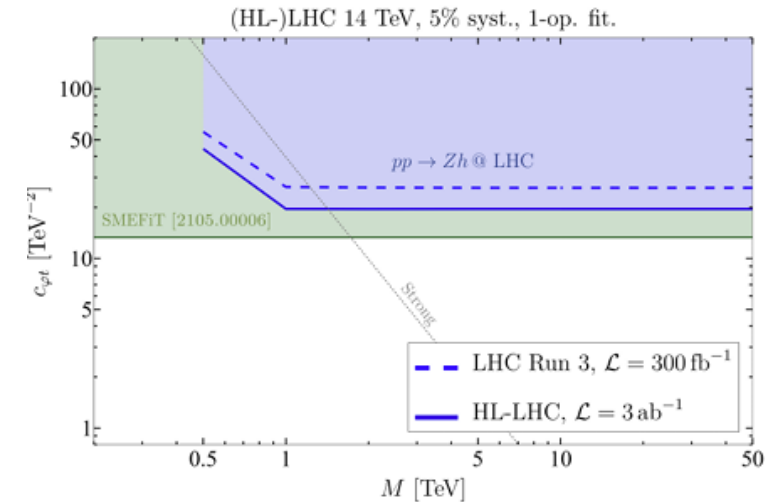
Scrutinizing EFT contribution

- For EFT studies it is important to understand contributions from different channels
- Recent extended analysis of $gg \rightarrow$ diboson in SMEFT (ZZ, ZH, WW, HH)
[Rossia, Thomas, Vryonidou. [arXiv:2306.09963](https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.09963)]
- Scrutinizes connection between Higgs & top sectors



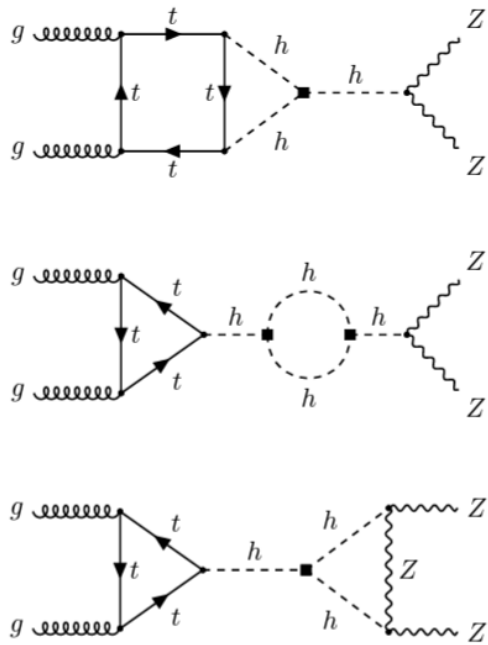
- In some cases, $gg \rightarrow$ diboson can provide competitive limits to precision measurements (such as $t\bar{t}X$ in this case).

More details in [Marion's talk](#)



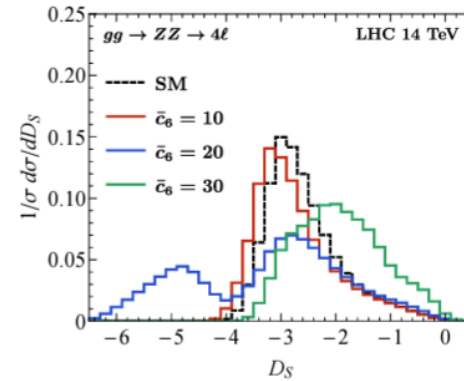
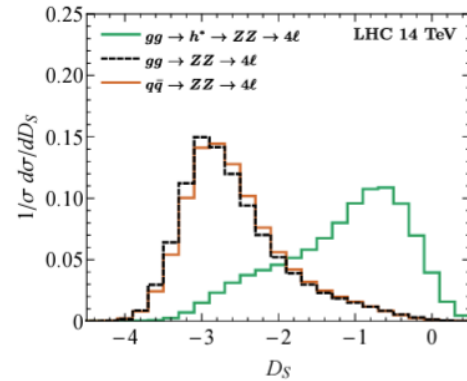
Higgs trilinear coupling

New off-shell effects can also be induced by modifications in the Higgs trilinear coupling
 (from Ulrich Haisch, Gabriël Koole. [JHEP 02 \(2022\) 030](#))

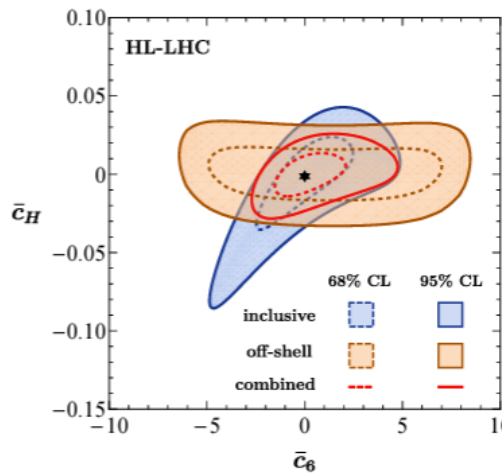
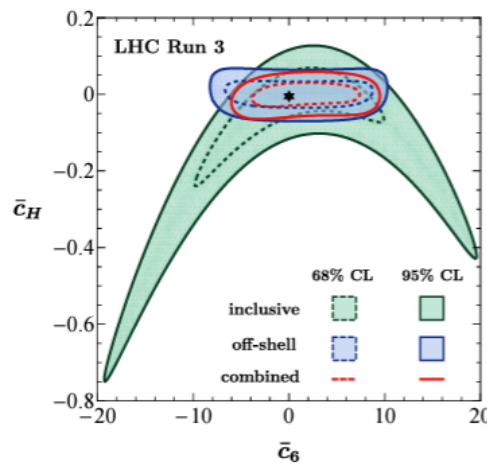


$$\mathcal{O}_6 = -\lambda |H|^6, \quad \mathcal{O}_H = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu |H|^2)^2$$

$$c_3 = 1 + \bar{c}_6 - \frac{3}{2} \bar{c}_H$$



$$D_S = \log_{10} \left(\frac{P_h}{P_{gg} + c \cdot P_{q\bar{q}}} \right)$$



Study performed with methods similar to the ATLAS and CMS off-shell analyses.

Provides complementary information to single-Higgs inclusive constraints.

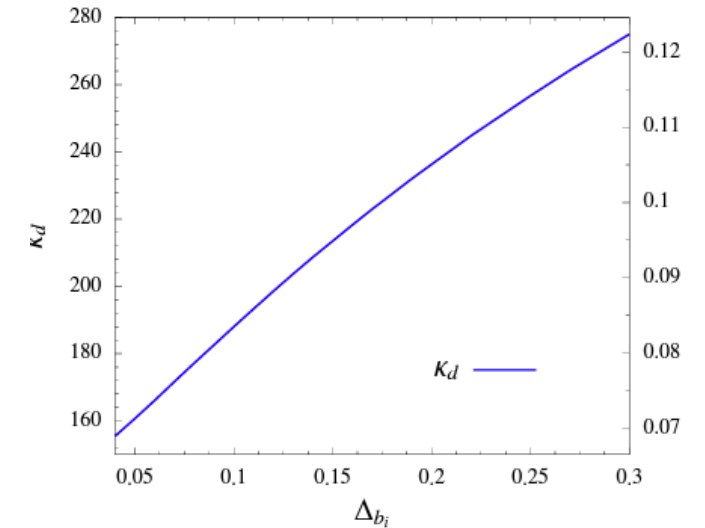
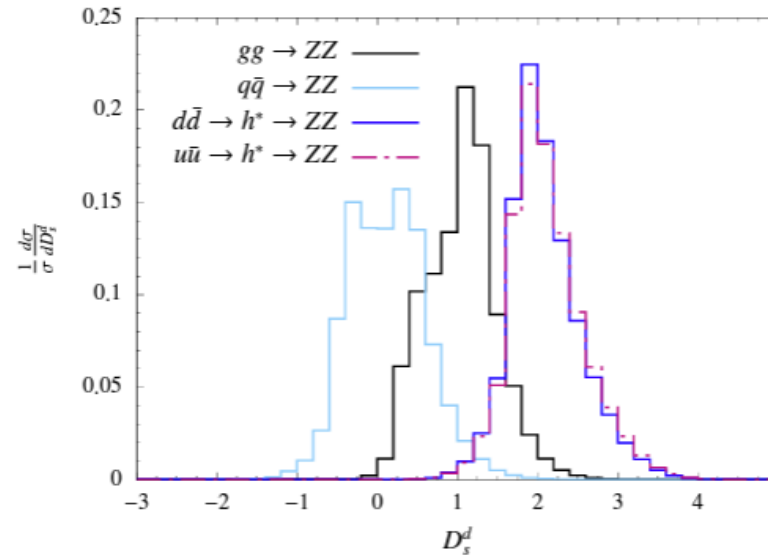
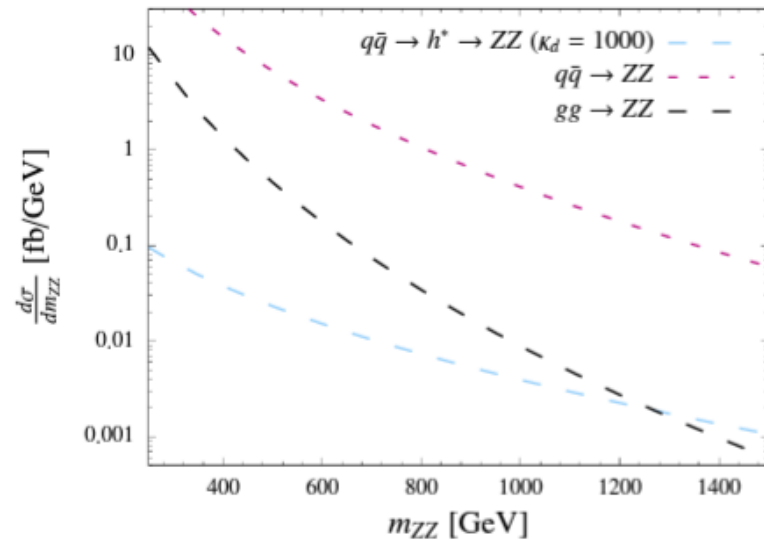
Not explored by experimental collaborations yet, but attractive analysis with Run 3 data!

BSM Yukawa couplings to light quarks

Off-shell Higgs production can be used to probe BSM Yukawa couplings to light quarks [[arXiv:2304.09772](https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.09772)].

$q\bar{q} \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ$ starts to win over $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ$ due to the different behavior of the quark and gluon PDF.

More details in [Ramona's talk](#)



$$\Delta\mathcal{L}_y = \frac{\phi^\dagger\phi}{\Lambda^2} \left((C_{u\phi})_{ij} \bar{Q}_L^i \tilde{\phi} u_R^j + (C_{d\phi})_{ij} \bar{Q}_L^i \phi d_R^j + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

$$g_{hq_i\bar{q}_j} = \frac{m_q}{v} \delta_{ij} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} (\tilde{C}_{q\phi})_{ij} \quad g_{hq\bar{q}} = \kappa_q \frac{m_q}{v}$$

$$D_s^d = \log_{10} \left(\frac{P_{d\bar{d}}^{sig}}{P_{q\bar{q}}^{back} + P_{gg}^{back}} \right)$$

Sensitivity studies using similar methods as the ATLAS and CMS analyses show constraints $O(200)$ with HL-LHC dataset.

Theoretical modeling in experimental analyses



Both CMS and ATLAS analyses are dominated by theoretical modeling uncertainties.

ATLAS uses LO SHERPA with 0+1 jets merged

m_{ZZ} -dependent NLO/LO k-factor applied based on fixed-order calculations [F. Caola, K. Melnikov, R. Röntsch, and L. Tancredi. [Phys. Rev. D 92 \(2015\) 18,377](#)]

Additional NNLO and approximate N3LO correction based on signal-only calculation

Large uncertainties due to jet merging and soft-gluon resummation

CMS generates signal samples at NLO with POWHEG at different masses

Samples are reweighted using the MELA matrix element package, which interfaces with JHUGEN and MCFM.

m_{ZZ} -dependent NNLO correction based on signal-only calculation applied to all components

Approximate N3LO correction based on signal-only calculation.

NNLO calculation currently out of reach for interference.
NNLO corrections are important for experimental results.
How good is the signal-only extrapolation?

NLO calculation matched to parton shower

NLO simulation matched to parton shower has recently become available in POWHEG

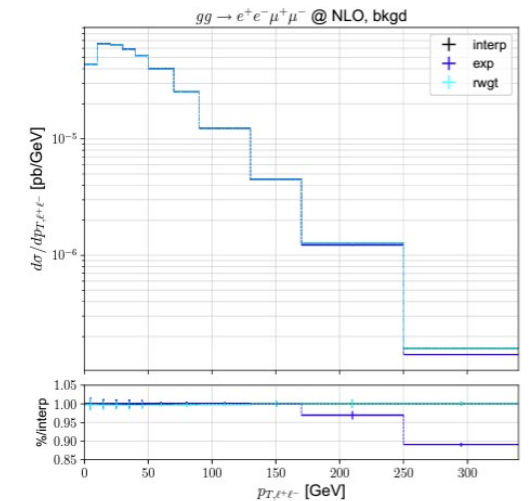
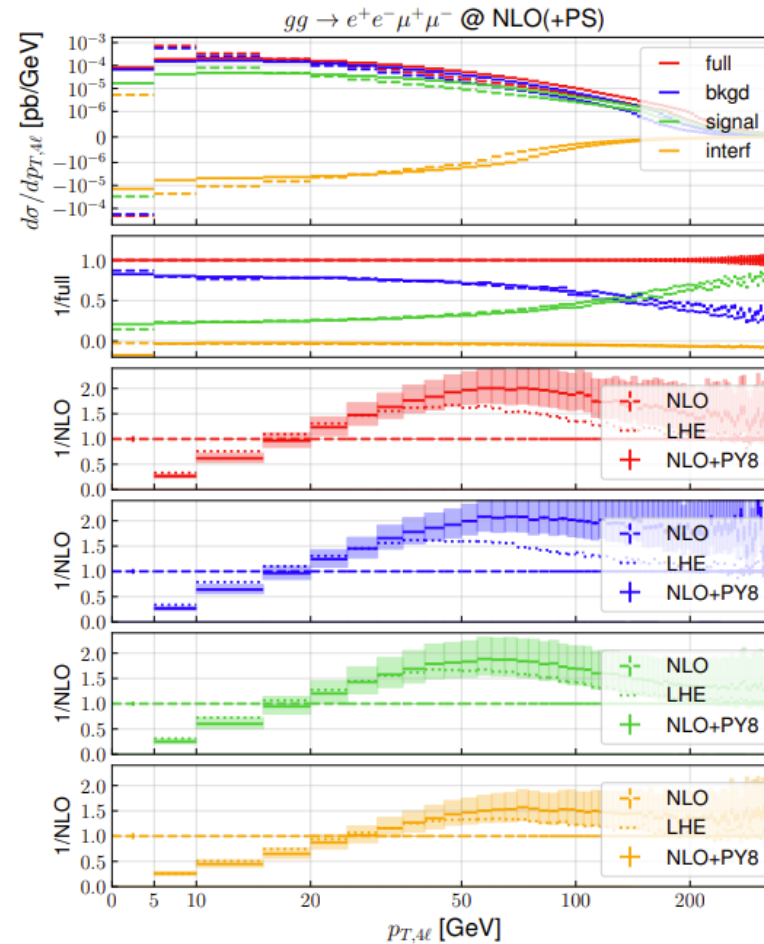
[Simone Alioli, Silvia Ferrario Ravasio, Jonas M. Lindert, Raoul Röntsch. [Eur.Phys.J.C 81 \(2021\) 8, 687](#)]

Provides simulation at NLO without need of reweighting and can make the $gg \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ description more uniform across experiments.

The simulation was recently used by the ATLAS experiment for the on-shell $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ fiducial cross section measurement at $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$ TeV.

Different methods to estimate heavy-quark contribution to 2-loop calculation: m_t expansion (expected to be accurate until $m_{ZZ} \approx 2m_t$), and via ad-hoc reweighting

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{bkgd}}^{(2),ZZ} \approx \mathcal{A}_{\text{bkgd}}^{(2),ZZ}(d, u, s, c, b) \times \frac{\mathcal{A}_{\text{bkgd}}^{(1),ZZ}(d, u, s, c, b, \mathbf{t})}{\mathcal{A}_{\text{bkgd}}^{(1),ZZ}(d, u, s, c, b)}$$



Ongoing work: full theory uncertainty model needs to be built for use in future off-shell measurements.

New ways to explore the off-shell region

The off-shell Higgs phase space can be explored by different observables, complementary to the off-shell Higgs signal strength.

Polarization has been proposed as a powerful observable for SMEFT effects in the off-shell region

[Brian Henning, Davide Lombardo, Marc Rimbau, Francesco Riva. [Phys.Rev.Lett. 123 \(2019\) 18, 181801](https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.08113)].

Ongoing work: polarization fractions at high mass can provide an observable to determine SMEFT limits without having to rely on dedicated analyses

		HC	HwH	Growth
κ_t	\mathcal{O}_{y_t}			$\sim \frac{E^2}{\Lambda^2}$
κ_λ	\mathcal{O}_6			$\sim \frac{vE}{\Lambda^2}$
$\kappa_{Z\gamma}$ $\kappa_{\gamma\gamma}$ κ_V	\mathcal{O}_{WW} \mathcal{O}_{BB} \mathcal{O}_r			$\sim \frac{E^2}{\Lambda^2}$
κ_g	\mathcal{O}_{gg}			$\sim \frac{E^2}{\Lambda^2}$

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_t : pp &\rightarrow jt + V_L V'_L \\ &(e^+ e^- \rightarrow ll + \{tbW_L, tbZ_L, ttW_L, ttZ_L\}) \\ \kappa_\lambda : pp &\rightarrow jjh + V_L V'_L, (e^+ e^- \rightarrow llhV_L V'_L) \\ &pp \rightarrow jj + 4V_L, (e^+ e^- \rightarrow ll4V_L) \\ \kappa_{\gamma\gamma, Z\gamma} : pp &\rightarrow jj + V'V, (e^+ e^- \rightarrow llV'V) \\ \kappa_V : pp &\rightarrow jj + V_L V'_L, (e^+ e^- \rightarrow llV_L V'_L) \\ \kappa_g : pp &\rightarrow W_L^+ W_L^-, Z_L Z_L, (e^+ e^- \rightarrow lljj) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_r &= |H|^2 \partial_\mu H^\dagger \partial^\mu H & \mathcal{O}_{y_\psi} &= Y_\psi |H|^2 \psi_L H \psi_R \\ \mathcal{O}_{BB} &= g'^2 |H|^2 B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} & \mathcal{O}_{WW} &= g^2 |H|^2 W_{\mu\nu}^a W^{a\mu\nu} \\ \mathcal{O}_{GG} &= g_s^2 |H|^2 G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu} & \mathcal{O}_6 &= |H|^6 \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$



- The evidence-level measurement of the off-shell Higgs boson production achieved by ATLAS and CMS in the $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ and $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ channels has been an important milestone.
- But this is only the beginning of the exploration of the off-shell Higgs phase-space.
- Experimental collaborations should measure off-shell production in all accessible decay channels. These measurements will provide complimentary information. One example is the $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ which was done in Run 1.
- New machine learning techniques are starting to become more popular and showing their power for the off-shell Higgs production measurement.
- A more comprehensive exploration of new physics searches using off-shell Higgs production (EFT, new light states, Higgs trilinear coupling, Higgs coupling to light quarks, ...) is already possible and will become more interesting with the Run 3 dataset.
- New observables can be explored to provide a complementary perspective of the off-shell Higgs boson phase-space.
- NLO simulation of off-shell Higgs processes matched to parton shower can provide a unified description of the processes and their uncertainties.