Higgs boson pair production Status and prospects



Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis



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COMETA Colloquium July 22nd, 2024





The SM and the self-coupling

Searching for HH at the LHC

HH as a probe for new physics

Future prospects

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Higgs boson pair production : status and prospects

Outline





The BEH mechanism and the scalar potential

The self-coupling and its relevance

HH production at the LHC

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The scalar sector of the standard model



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The SM structure:

- Gauge sector: electroweak and strong interactions explained with local gauge symmetries
- Scalar sector: complex scalar doublet of fields and potential with VEV $\neq 0$
 - spontaneous electroweak symmetry breaking (Brout-Englert-Higgs mechanism)
- The scalar sector is a necessary element of the SM
 - W[±] and Z bosons masses
 - fermions masses via Yukawa interactions
 - regularises the theory at the TeV scale

The scalar sector properties are determined by the shape of the scalar potential

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EWSB and the self-coupling



$$\lambda_{
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m H}^2}{2 v^2} pprox 0.13$$
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ie self-coupling is directly connected to the ape of the scalar potential

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The Higgs boson and the self-coupling

- The Higgs boson mass is measured at the per-mille precision level $m_H = 125.38 \pm 0.14 \,\mathrm{GeV}$, CMS plb 805 (2020) 135425 $m_H = 125.22 \pm 0.14 \,\text{GeV}$, ATLAS PLB 847 (2023) 138315
- Most Higgs boson couplings are precisely known and compatible with the SM prediction
- The Higgs boson self-coupling is experimentally unknown!

Major experimental effort is ongoing to characterize the Higgs boson, with λ determination as the next key goal

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The shape of the scalar potential connects to many open questions of particle physics and cosmology



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Why is it important?





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HHHW HOW MEasure It?

\$ 0000 H Η \$ 0000 Figure 1: Some generic Feynman diagrams contributing to Higgs pair production at hadron Figure 9.1.1 Some generic Feynman diagrams contributing to Higgs pair production at hadron Extract the value of λ_{HHH} from precision single H cross section measurements indirect measurement: stronger theory Sassumptions needed to disentangle NLO λΗΗΗ $\mp \sqrt{\text{ffects from dther couplings / new physics/}}$ very rare process \Rightarrow experimentally $t^{t\pm} - 2 \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{2} \hat{s} = 0$ effects from other couplings / new physics with \hat{s} and t denoting the parton of Mandelstam variables. The triangular and box form benefit of the large single H cross section with factors tending the participance on the start water of the print of the second water based init, factors F_{Δ} , F_{\Box} and G_{\Box} approach constant values in the infinite top quark mass limit.

The combination of both strategies maximises our sensitivity to λ_{HHH}



HH production at the LHC



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- **Gluon fusion**: dominant production mode about 4300 HH events in the Run 2 datasets
- Tiny cross section : experimentally challenging! ~1000 times rarer than single H production







Extracting AHHH from HH measure and a HHH from HH measure and a HHHH from HH measure and a HHHHH from HH measure and a HHHHHH from HH measure and a HHHHH from HH measure and a HHHH from HH measure and a HHH from HH measure and a HHHH from HH measure and a HHH from HH measure and a HHH from HH measure and a HHH from HH measure and a HH measure and



and the differential production cross section

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Illustration of shape effects



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Interference effects have important consequences for the sensitivity of the searches

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Searching for HH at the LHC

Overview of decay channels Main experimental analyses : bbbb, $bb\tau\tau$, $bb\gamma\gamma$ LHC Run 2 combined results Looking back at the road done Combination with single H

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Outline



The Large Hadron Collider

- The CERN LHC is designed to deliver pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV and $\mathcal{L} = 10^{34}$ cm⁻² s⁻¹
- Broad program of H and HH measurements with the ATLAS and CMS experiments



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integrated luminosity

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HH : which decay channels?

- Phenomenologically rich set of final states
- Branching fraction and S/B largely vary across channels
- Common analysis techniques (e.g. H→bb reconstruction) and channel-specific challenges

Broad experimental programme by the ATLAS and CMS Collaborations

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High \mathcal{B} , low S/B : HH \rightarrow bbbb

Resolved searches

- Each b quark reconstructed as separate jets
- Largest fraction of signal, large QCD background
 - challenging trigger and identification



Partial overlap between the two types of searches, can be optimized in analyses Optimal exploration of the full phase space

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Boosted searches

- $H \rightarrow bb$ decay reconstructed as a single jet
- O(%) signal acceptance, supressed backgrounds
- Leading $m_X > 1$ TeV sensitivity

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Resolved High \mathcal{B} , low S/B : HH \rightarrow bbbb

A HH \rightarrow bbbb data event with high S/B selected in the 2016 dataset by CMS

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- Most aboundant final state : ~1400 events expected in the Run 2 dataset
- Four b-jet signature : large multijet background

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Resolved $HH \rightarrow bbbb : S$

Event selection

- Target fully resolved topology (4 jets)
- Events selected with online b triggers

Event categorization

- HH production mode
- kinematics (low/high m_{HH}, SM- and BSM-like): max sensitivity to anomalous couplings



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$HH \rightarrow bbbb : the multijet challenge$

Overwhelming multijet background



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Accurate data-driven estimates from control regions

5.3 (8.1) $\times \sigma_{HH}^{SM}$ [ATLAS]







Medium \mathcal{B} , medium S/B: HH $\rightarrow bb\tau\tau$



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• Three $\tau \tau$ final states

 $\tau_{\mu}\tau_{h}, \tau_{e}\tau_{h}, \tau_{h}\tau_{h}$: 88% of $\tau\tau$ decays

- Challenge of triggering for the fully hadronic final state
- Neutrinos in the $\tau\tau$ system decays \rightarrow partial energy reconstruction \rightarrow likelihood method to estimate $m_{\tau\tau}$

used to suppress backgrounds





Medium \mathcal{B} , medium S/B : HH $\rightarrow bb\tau\tau$



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prompt from $\mathbf{t} \rightarrow \mathbf{b} \mathbf{W} \rightarrow \mathbf{b} \boldsymbol{\ell} \boldsymbol{\nu}$

Irreducible backgrounds

- \Box tt \rightarrow bbWW \rightarrow bb $\tau\tau$
- $\Box \quad Z/\gamma^* \rightarrow \tau\tau + 2 \text{ b jets}$
- □ di-boson, ZH, H+b (minor)

Instrumental (reducible) backgrounds

- \Box tt, Z/ γ^* , multijet with misidentified jets as τ_h or b jet
 - single top, W+jets (minor)

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$HH \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$: classification and signal extraction

Complex topology with several final state objects

- Identify signal with a multivariate discriminant based on the event kinematics
- Sensitivity lead by fully hadronic categories

Observed (expected) 5.9 (3.3) $\times \sigma_{HH}^{SM}$ [ATLAS] $3.3 (5.2) \times \sigma_{HH}^{SM}$ [CMS]



Extensive even categorization by $\tau\tau$ decay mode ($\mu\tau_h/e\tau_h, \tau_h\tau_h$),

production mode, low/high m_{HH} (κ_{λ} sensitivity)

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Clean but rare decay channel

CMS 137 fb⁻¹ (13 TeV) Events / 0.01 10′ 📨 ggH 📄 VBF H Data SM ggF HH x 10^3 tīΗ VH 10⁶ JHEP 03 (2021) 257 10⁵ 10⁴ 10³ **10²** 10 10^{-1} 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 0.1 ggF MVA

- Main backgrounds: $\gamma/\gamma\gamma$ + jets continuum, single H
- - optimal acceptance and max sensitivity for anomalous κ_{λ}

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Low \mathcal{B} , high S/B : HH $\rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$

Maximisation of acceptance and purity in event selection



Dedicated MVAs for background suppression and event classification (MVA, low/high mhh)

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HH \rightarrow bb $\gamma\gamma$: signal extraction

And many more channels

More channels, albeit less sensitive, are studied to maximise the overall experimental sensitivity to HH

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HH decay mode

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Analysis channel

Summary of the full Run 2 results : SM HH

Obs (exp) : 2.9 (2.4) \times SM

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Obs (exp) : $3.4 (2.5) \times SM$

- Similar sensitivity from ATLAS and CMS
 - Results are limited by stat. uncertainties
 - leading theo syst : σ_{HH} cross section (m_{top} scheme), H + heavy flavour bkg normalisation
 - leading exp syst: bkg modelling (bbbb)
 - Ongoing effort for an ATLAS+CMS combination

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Summary of the full Run 2 results : λ

Observed : $-1.2 < \kappa_{\lambda} < 6.5$ (95% CL upper limits on σ)

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Observed : $-1.2 < \kappa_{\lambda} < 7.2$ Expected : $-1.6 < \kappa_{\lambda} < 6.5$ (95% CL from likelihood)

- Effect of interference in gg→HH clearly visible
- 1 ≤ λ ≤ 5 hardest region to probe (min xs, soft spectrum)
- Complementarity of channels to cover full
 κ_λ (m_{HH}) spectrum

Sensitivity maximised with combination

An impressive evolution over the Run 2

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Three main analysis iterations over the Run 2

- 2015 first Run 2 data set (2.3-3.2 fb⁻¹)
- 2016 data set (~ 36 fb⁻¹)
- full Run 2 data set (~ 140 fb⁻¹)
- ×2-3 analysis sensitivity improvement on top of the luminosity scaling at each iteration
 - equivalent impact to further $\times 4 \times 9$ dataset increase

Analysis improvement largely exceeded the simple luminosity scaling

Just a few years ago...

A few examples from papers from 10-20 years ago

HH→*bbbb was considered hopeless*

In total, inclusive dihiggs production with decay to four b quarks has a signal-over-background ratio S/Bwhich is too bad to be a suitable search channel, al-

As concerns the various decay channels, although the 4b final state is the dominant one, it suffers from huge QCD background. The most promising channel at the LHC is thought to be the rare decay

The decay with the highest branching ratio is the $b\bar{b}$ channel. However, the production of a Higgs boson pair decaying into four *b* quarks is overwhelmed at the LHC by a huge QCD background that results in a very small signal to background ratio. Main decay

The small signal cross section combined with the huge QCD 4b background make it essentially impossible to determine the Higgs boson self-coupling in $pp \rightarrow 4b$. We quantify

Today, bbbb is a leading channel in the HH study

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What enabled this improvement?

Improved analysis techniques

- More data \rightarrow better exploration of the phase space (categories, selection)
- Better usage of selected events (e.g. bkg estimates, S/B separation)

Improved object identification

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A few examples with a key role in Run 2

Modern ML methods are a key element in both areas

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Production xs and decay BR

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Differential distributions

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H + HH combination

Degeneracy with κ_t in HH lifted thanks to the independent κ_t measurement

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κ_{λ} effects in single H standalone cannot be disentangled from other couplings

Degeneracy with κ_V, κ_f in single H lifted thanks to combined κ_{λ} constraint

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Effective field theories in HH

Vector boson fusion production of HH

Resonant HH and YH production

HH as a probe for new physics

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Outline

Effective Field Theories in HH

New physics might be beyond the direct energy reach of the LHC Ctth g 7000 g 7000 Ctth Chhh , HHCtth g 7000 Modification of the strength of SM interactions $gg \rightarrow HP$ reserves SM SMEFT $\mathscr{L}_{SMEFT} = \mathscr{L}_{SM} + \underbrace{\sum_{i} \frac{c_i}{\Lambda^2}}_{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{O}_i^6 + \cdots$ symmetries "(Higgs "doubtet)" *dim-6 ggF HH studied so far* Correlation

Wilson Coefficient	Operator
c_H	$(H^{\dagger}H)^3$
$c_{H\Box}$	(H [†] 8 €)⊡ (H [†] HH)H
c_{tH}	$(H^{\dagger}H)(ar{Q} ilde{H}t)$
c_{HG}	$H^{\dagger}HG^{A}_{\mu u}G^{\mu u}_{A}$
c_{tG}	$(\bar{Q}\sigma^{\mu\nu}T^At)\tilde{H}G^A_{\mu\nu}$

between interaction strengths (ggH-ggHH, ttH-ttHH)

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Large EFT effects on total and differential cross section (LHCHWG-2022-004) modelled by analyses

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EFT results

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Searching for VBF HH

Run: 311402 Event: 2695204841 2016-10-25 19:04:17 CEST

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Leading κ_{2V} sensitivity from boosted bbbb (high BR, high p_T(H))

High Δη jet pair : VBF signature

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Boosted jet tagging

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VBF HH results

Observed : $0.7 < \kappa_{2V} < 1.4$ (95% CL upper limits on σ)

$\kappa_{2V} = 0$ excluded at 6.6 σ assuming other interactions at the SM

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Observed : $0.6 < \kappa_{2V} < 1.5$ *Expected* : $0.4 < \kappa_{2V} 1.6$ (95% CL from likelihood)

- Sensitivity driven by boosted bbbb
- Absence of κ_{2V} interaction excluded with Run 2 data set! in a simple k framework
- New physics implications on Higgs (e.g. compositeness) to be fully studied
- For EFT dim-8, competitive with VBS (JHEP 09 (2022) 038, see backup)
 - yet to be explored by experimental analyses

- Resonant HH/HY production predicted in a variety of models
- from extended scalar sectors to exotic new physics
- A broad mass range must be covered to ensure maximal sensitivity to new physics complementarity of the different decay channels

HH is an ideal place for direct searches for BSM physics Sensitive with current LHC data

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Run 2 results on $X \rightarrow HH$

- Both spin 0 and spin 2 resonances explored under narrow width approximation important effects from finite width shown in arXiv:2403.16926
- Excellent complementarity of decay channels to cover the full mx spectrum
- Interpretations in several BSM scenarios

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138 fb⁻¹ (13 TeV)

$X \rightarrow YH$ production : extended scalar sectors

arXiv:2403.16926 (sub to Physics Reports)

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- Searches scan over the X and Y new resonances masses
- Three decay channels are combined assuming the $Y \rightarrow bb$ decay and SM BR for the Higgs boson

A very broad phase space is explored in the search for extended scalar sectors

Short term : opportunities at the LHC Run 3 Medium term : HH at the HL-LHC Long term : HH at future colliders **Future prospects**

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HH at the LHC Run 3

- Maximise the analysis sensitivity
- Expand the interpretations and physics reach : new HH production modes, EFT, VBF HH / VBS interplay in new physics study

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@ Run 2 : \sim 2.4 × SM per experiment \rightarrow 1.4 \times SM / experiment (Run 2 + 3 lumi scaling) \rightarrow 1 × SM ATLAS+CMS (Run 2 + 3 lumi scaling) → analysis improvements : **HH evidence** @ **Run 3?**

Exciting opportunities for HH physics at Run 3

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The high-luminosity LHC

- Upgrade of the LHC planned to start after the LS3
 - expect first beams in 2029

- Increase of the instantaneous luminosity by ~5 w.r.t. design values
- 3 ab⁻¹ during a decade of operations

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Unique possibility for very high precision Higgs physics Ultimate LHC sensitivity on HH

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The high-luminosity challenge

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Current HH prospects at the HL-LHC...

- HH sensitivity projections in the context of the last European Strategy for Particle **Physics and Snowmass**
- Based on 2016 analyses extrapolation or simplified parametric analyses
- Expect 50% (100%) precision on κ_{λ} at 68% (95%) CL, and to exclude the no self-coupling hypothesis
 - with the current analysis techniques! Further improvements should come in the next 20 years

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Combination of channels and experiments is crucial to achieve sensitivity at the HL-LHC

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... are likely conservative

- Ongoing effort to update the projections for the next European Strategy

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ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-053

Recent projections for Snowmass already showed improved sensitivity on key channels

High energy pp machines

Precision e+e- mack

- $\sqrt{s} \gtrsim 400 \text{ GeV}$ needed for HH production
 - only achievable in ILC500/1000 and CLIC_{1500/3000}

g t, b

Small cross sections for for the full run

VBF production interesting for $\sqrt{s} > 1$ TeV

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HH beyond the LHC

 λ_{λ} ultimate precision on λ from direct determination

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Prospects for future sensitivities

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Conclusions

- The shape of the Higgs potential is so far largely unknown connects to deep question on the origin and destiny of our Universe
- HH is the key process to directly measure λ_{HHH} small cross section : experimentally challenging
 - crucial to explore and combine several decay channels
- HH is also an ideal place to look for new physics new resonances decaying to HH in extended scalar sectors high energy effects in EFT in ggF and VBF, interplay with VBS
- Impressive experimental effort by the ATLAS and CMS Collaborations
 - many decay channels analysed and combined with the LHC Run 2 data set
 - current sensitive to signals around 2.4 times the SM prediction
- Excellent prospects for future measurements
 - important experimental challenges to tackle with upgrades
 - might reach an evidence at Run 3, observation at reach for HL-LHC

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Measuring λ_{HHH} is a key goal in the short and long term programme of current and future accelerators

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Additional material

Categorising $bb\tau\tau$ events

 $\tau_{had} \tau_{had} SR$

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τ_{lep} τ_{had} SLT SR

 $\tau_{lep} \tau_{had} LTT SR$

	VBS $W^{\pm}V$ semileptonic		VBF HH $\rightarrow b\overline{b}b\overline{b}$	
Coeff.	no unitarity	w/ unitarity	no unitarity	w/ unitarity
$f_{ m M0}/\Lambda^4$	[-0.47, 0.47]	[-0.96, 1.02]	[-0.43, 0.43]	[-0.90, 0.87]
$f_{ m M1}/\Lambda^4$	[-1.5, 1.5]	[-2.3, 2.4]	[-1.7, 1.7]	[-3.5, 3.5]
$f_{ m M2}/\Lambda^4$	[-0.69, 0.68]	[-2.1, 2.1]	[-0.62, 0.61]	[-1.7, 1.7]
$f_{ m M3}/\Lambda^4$	[-2.5, 2.4]	[-6.8, 6.3]	[-2.4, 2.4]	[-6.5, 6.6]
$f_{ m M4}/\Lambda^4$	[-1.4, 1.4]	[-2.4, 2.5]	[-1.8, 1.8]	[-3.9, 4.0]
$f_{ m M5}/\Lambda^4$	[-2.0, 2.0]	[-3.0, 3.1]	[-3.2, 3.2]	[-6.9, 7.0]
$f_{ m M7}/\Lambda^4$	[-2.4, 2.4]	[-3.5, 3.5]	[-3.5, 3.5]	[-7.1, 7.1]
$f_{ m S0}/\Lambda^4$	[-1.8, 2.0]	[-2.6, 3.3]	[-14,13]	/
$f_{ m S1}/\Lambda^4$	[-2.4, 2.4]	[-5.8, 6.1]	[-5.1, 4.5]	/
$f_{ m S2}/\Lambda^4$	[-2.3, 2.4]	[-4.8, 5.2]	[-8.1, 7.1]	/

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Recast of CMS HH→bbbb measurement shows that VBF HH and VBS have competing constraints on dim-8 EFT operators

<u>JHEP 09 (2022) 038</u>

ATLAS combination - channel contributions

 κ_{λ}

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H+HH combination

- Phys. Lett. B 843 (2024) 137745
- arXiv:2407.13554 (sub. to PLB)

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Shape benchmarks

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- Shape benchmarks are specific combinations of couplings characterized by a given MHH distribution (event kinematics)
- Spread of sensitivity across benchmarks illustrates the change in sensitivity of the analyses to various EFT coupling hypotheses

2D contraints on HEFT from ATLAS combination

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Shape benchmark definition

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benchmark	c_{hhh}	c_t	c_{tt}	c_{ggh}	c_{gg}
SM	1	1	0	0	0
1	5.11	1.10	0	0	0
2	6.84	1.03	$\frac{1}{6}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	0
3	2.21	1.05	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
4	2.79	0.90	$-\frac{1}{6}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	
5	3.95	1.17	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	
6	-0.68	0.90	$-\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0.2
7	-0.10	0.94	1	$\frac{1}{6}$	

From LHCHWG-2022-004

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Old HH shape benchmarks

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Resonant searches X → HH

- Spin 0 and spin 2 resonances with narrow width approximation
- From CMS B2G Summary plots

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Interpretations of resonant analyses

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- Direct recast from ATLAS in extended scalar sector models (hMSSM, 2HDM, singlet)
- Ref : PRL 132 (2024) 231801

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Interpretations of resonant analyses

- Interpretations on extended scalar sector models
- HH sets some leading contraints on the parameters space
- Ref: arXiv:2403.16926

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Interpretations of resonant analyses

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- Interpretations on warped extra dimensions
- Ref: arXiv:2403.16926

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- Clear interference structures in the full prediction, including peak-dip features
- Model dependent!
- Ref: arXiv:2403.16926

Effect of finite width

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$$R_{\text{int}} = \frac{\sigma^{\text{full}} - (\sigma^{\text{resonant-only}} + \sigma^{\text{nonresonant}})}{\sigma^{\text{resonant-only}} + \sigma^{\text{nonresonant}}}$$

Effects from interference can be large even when the width of the resonance is below the detector resolution

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How about HHH?

Depends also on trilinear coupling

Both high energy and high luminosity needed

 $\Box \sqrt{s} = 100 \text{ TeV}, 30 \text{ ab}^{-1} (FCC)$

- Many possible final states!
 - Most interesting ones: bb bb bb (19.2%), bb bb $\tau\tau$ (6.3%), bb bb WW₂ (0.98%), bb $\tau\tau$ $\tau\tau$ (0.69%), bb bb $\gamma\gamma$ (0.23%), bb $\tau\tau$ WW_{2l} (0.21%)
- Performance crucially depends on detector performance! (many final state objects)
 - \square need also forward coverage up to $|\eta| \approx 3.5$
- Sensitivity: at FCC, O(100%) precision on σ_{HHH} , $\lambda_{HHHH} \in [-4, +16]$

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, h			
	$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$	$\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}$	$\sqrt{s} = 100 \text{ TeV}$
	$73.43^{+14.7\%}_{-13.7\%}\pm3.3\%$	$86.84^{+14.0\%}_{-13.2\%} \pm 3.2\%$	$4732^{+11.9\%}_{-11.6\%} \pm 1.8\%$
$15.14^{+18.4\%}_{-16.0\%} \pm 4.7\%$	$63.32^{+16.1\%}_{-14.1\%}\pm3.4\%$	$76.15^{+15.9\%}_{-14.0\%}\pm3.2\%$	$4306^{+14.0\%}_{-12.3\%} \pm 1.8\%$

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Higgs boson pair production : status and prospects

