

# HXSWG-WG1: Off-shell task force (Theory)

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thanks to K. Melnikov, A. Gritsan and G. Passarino for informative discussions

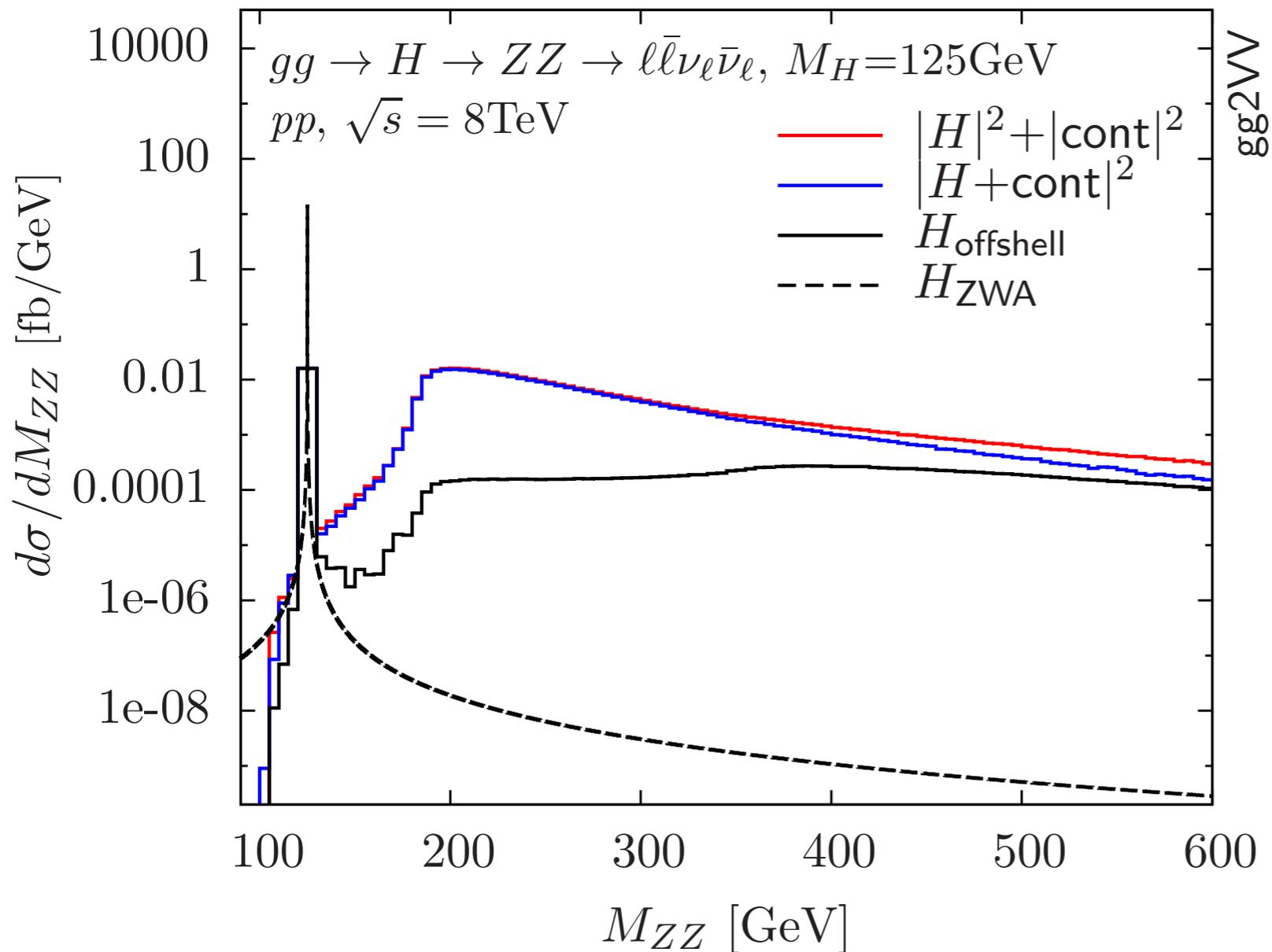
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# Higgs width measurement in a nutshell

- Total Higgs width  $\Gamma_H$  is not a fundamental parameter of the theory, but of great phenomenological interest (Higgs mechanism  $\rightarrow$  overall coupling strength)
- Direct Higgs width measurement via resonance shape is limited at LHC by **experimental mass resolution of  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  GeV** (CMS:  $\Gamma_H < 3$  GeV in  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ , but note that  $\Gamma_{H,SM} \approx 4$  MeV)
- All resonant Higgs cross sections depend on  $\Gamma_H$ , therefore  $\Gamma_H$  and couplings cannot be determined at the LHC (on-peak) without theoretical assumptions [M. Duhrssen et al. \(2004\)](#), [LHC Higgs Cross Section WG \(2012\)](#)
- For broad class of models, assuming upper limit for  $HW$  or  $HZZ$  coupling (e.g. SM)  $\rightarrow$  upper bound for  $\Gamma_H$  ( $\Gamma_H = \mathcal{O}(\Gamma_{H,SM})$ ) [M. Peskin \(2012\)](#); [B. Dobrescu, J. Lykken \(2013\)](#)
- Assuming no BSM Higgs decays, and Higgs coupling parameterisations, can fit Higgs width to data and agreement with SM Higgs width is found [J. Ellis, You \(2013\)](#)
- $e^+e^- \rightarrow Z(H \rightarrow \text{all})$ : construct recoil mass and measure  $HZZ$  coupling  $\rightarrow \Gamma_H$  can be determined indirectly, ILC: 6%–11% accuracy [T. Han et al. \(2013\)](#), [M. Peskin \(2013\)](#)
- Direct threshold scan at muon collider:  $\Gamma_H$  accuracy 4%–9% [T. Han, Z. Liu \(2013\)](#)
- **Model-independent  $\Gamma_H$  determination** (at LHC?) could confirm SM or **could provide evidence for BSM Higgs interactions**

# H->VV: large off-shell tail of the cross-section

[Kauer, Passarino (2012)]

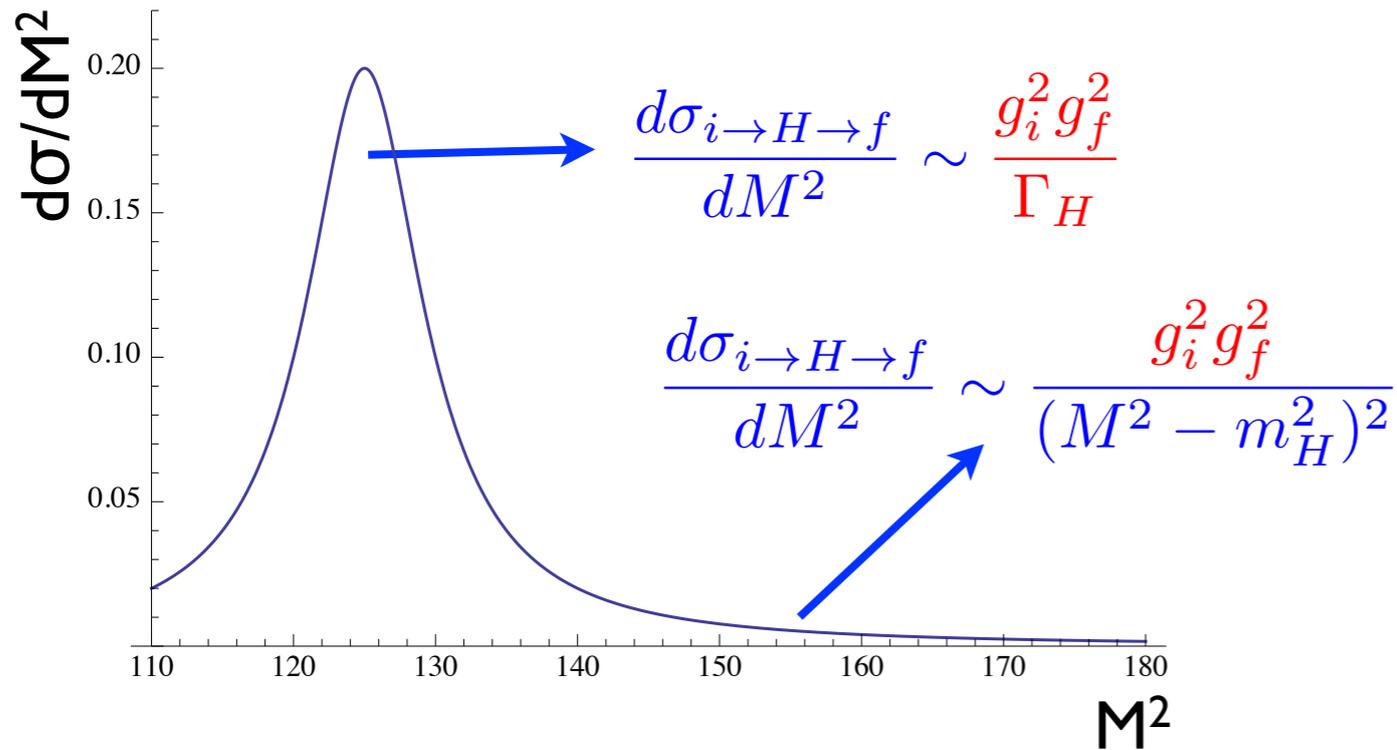


- Past the VV threshold, enhanced decay into longitudinal vector bosons compensate the rapidly falling Higgs propagator
- Small but persisting effect -> O(10%) of the peak cross-section
- Width-independent effect

- Irrelevant for traditional searches if proper selection cuts are applied
- If looked for, can give complementary information wrt traditional searches

# Example: bounds on the Higgs width

[Caola, Melnikov (2013)]



- On the peak, only access to coupling x BR
- Off the peak,  $\Gamma_H$  independent
- Because of this, constraints on  $\Gamma_H$

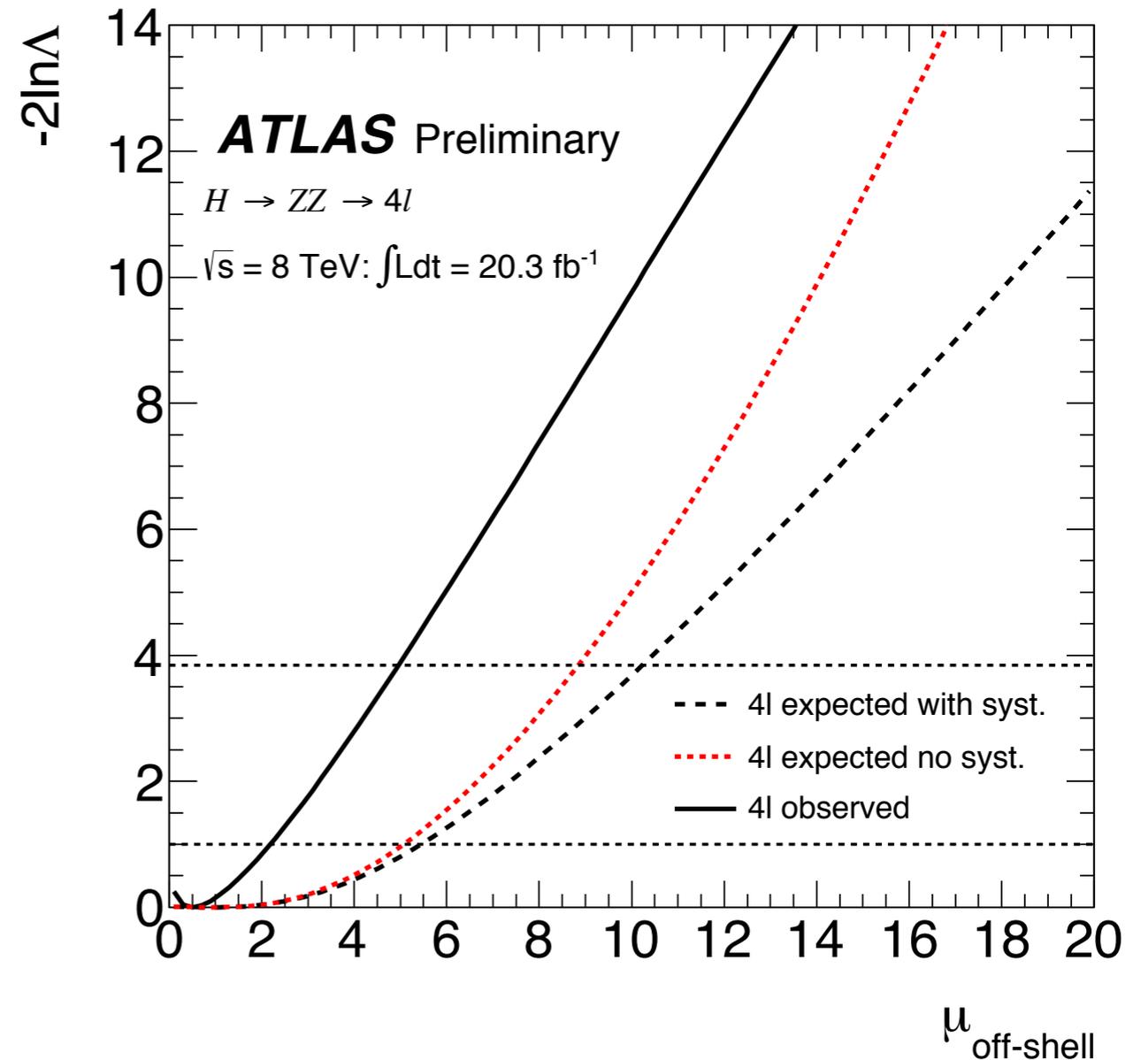
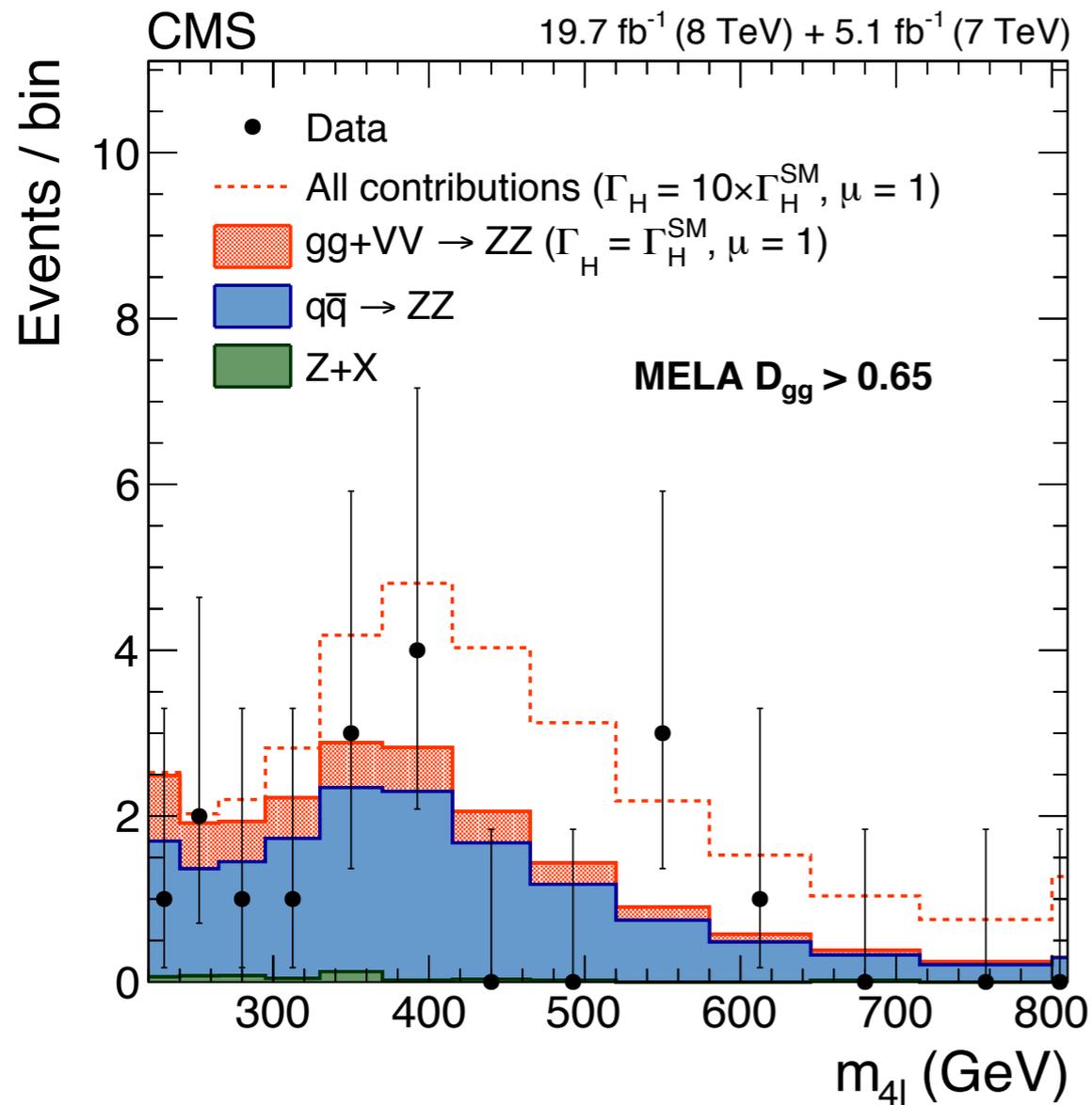
- Peak looks SM-like  $\rightarrow \frac{g_i^2 g_f^2}{\Gamma_H} = \frac{g_{i,SM}^2 g_{f,SM}^2}{\Gamma_{H,SM}} \rightarrow g = \xi g_{SM}, \Gamma_H = \xi^4 \Gamma_{H,SM}$
- Off the peak  $\rightarrow N_{obs}^{off} \propto g_i^2 g_f^2 = \xi^4 g_{i,SM}^2 g_{f,SM}^2 \propto \xi^4 N_{SM}^{off} = \frac{\Gamma_H}{\Gamma_{H,SM}} N_{SM}^{off}$

Bounds of the order  $\sim 10-20 \Gamma_{H,SM}$  can be achieved

Refined tools available [Kauer (2008,2012); Ellis, Campbell, Williams (2013)]

Thorough phenomenological studies [Ellis, Campbell, Williams (2013)]

# Analysis is doable (and actually done)



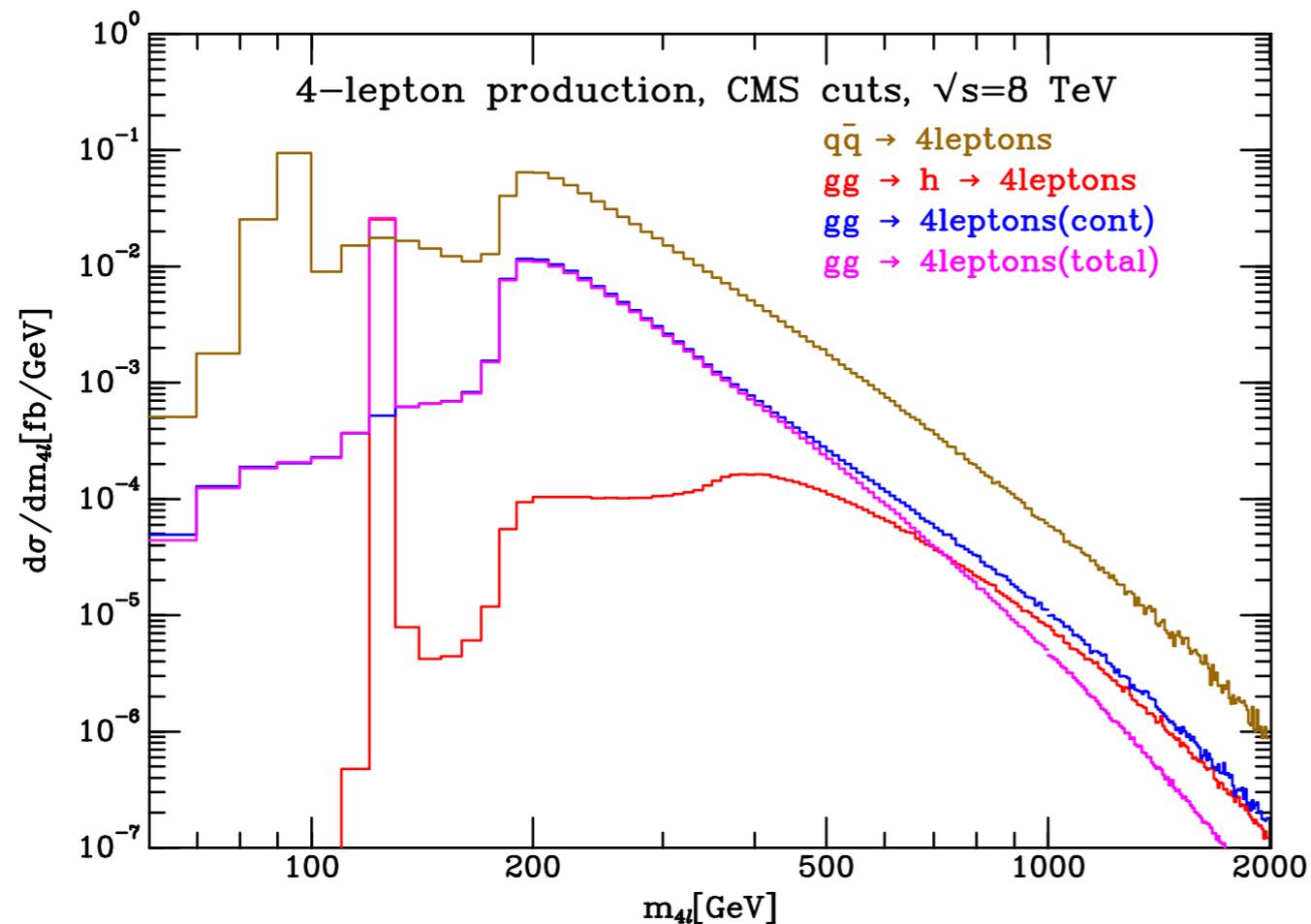
CMS:  $\Gamma_H < 5.4 \Gamma_{H,\text{SM}} = 22 \text{ MeV @ 95CL}$

ATLAS:  $\Gamma_H < 4.8\text{-}7.7 \Gamma_{H,\text{SM}} = 20\text{-}32 \text{ MeV @ 95CL}$

With well-defined assumptions (see later)

# Off-shell cross-section: work needs to be done

Method based on counting VV events in the high invariant-mass tail -> **good prediction for 4l final state required**



[Campbell, Ellis, Williams (2013)]

$$N_{qq \rightarrow ZZ} \approx N_{\text{tot}}$$

$$N_{gg} \sim 10^{-1} \times N_{\text{tot}}$$

$$N_H \sim 5 \times 10^{-2} \times N_{\text{tot}}$$

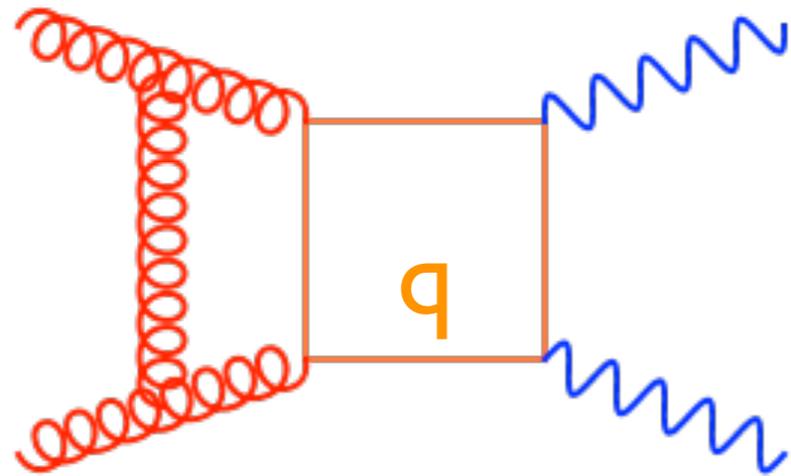
$$N_{\text{off}} \sim 10^{-2} N_{\text{tot}}$$

$$N_{\text{int}} \sim -2 \times 10^{-2} N_{\text{tot}}$$

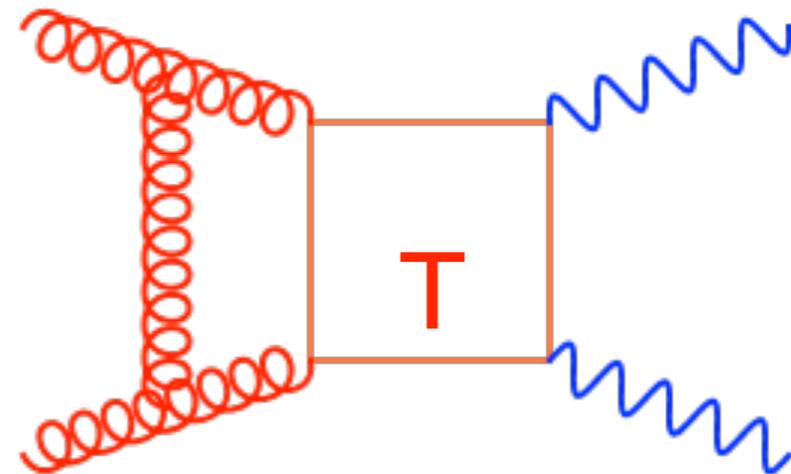
Large (~uninteresting) qq contamination  
Delicate signal/background interference effects

# Off-shell cross-section: **work needs to be done**

- qq/gg disentanglement (matrix element method very promising)
- First results for NNLO VV background are appearing-> thorough analysis achievable in the near future
- gg->VV background only known at **LO** (major drawback, large K-factor expected). Delicate S/B interference patterns



All ingredients recently computed



**Complicated**  
Non-negligible / dominant  
in the off-shell tail

- until we know the exact result, estimates based on soft resummation  
-> thorough analysis for a 125 GeV Higgs should be performed

# Off-shell cross-section: the interpretation issue

- Bounds on the width from off-shell cross-section based on relating couplings on and off-peak, **assuming they do not change**
- in QFT, **couplings run**
- for small (ie logarithmic) modification, the effect is negligible
- big effects can occur if **strong modifications** of the couplings occur, like for instance:
  - higher dimensional HVV operators
  - light d.o.f. running in the loops

**In principle, such modifications are problematic for the interpretation of off-shell measurements.**

- To what extent can be constrained by other measurements?
- What is the impact on off-shell measurements?
- How to parametrize / quantify these effects?

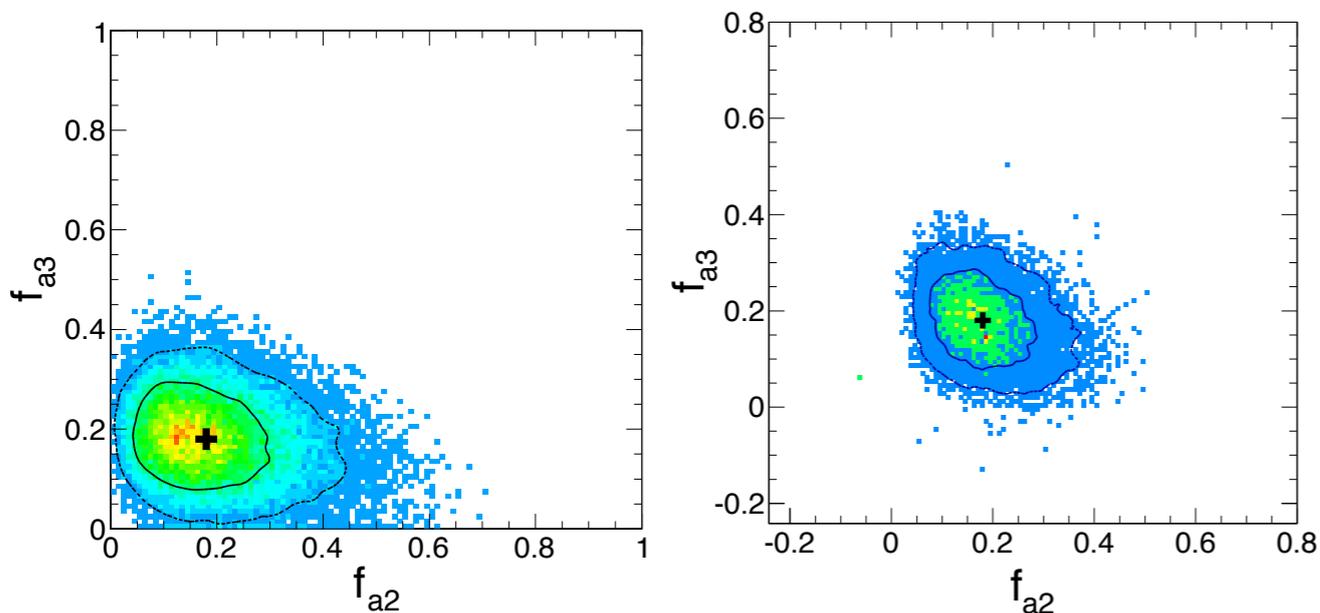
# Example: anomalous HZZ coupling

Basis of HZZ operators [Gainer, Lykken et al (2013)]

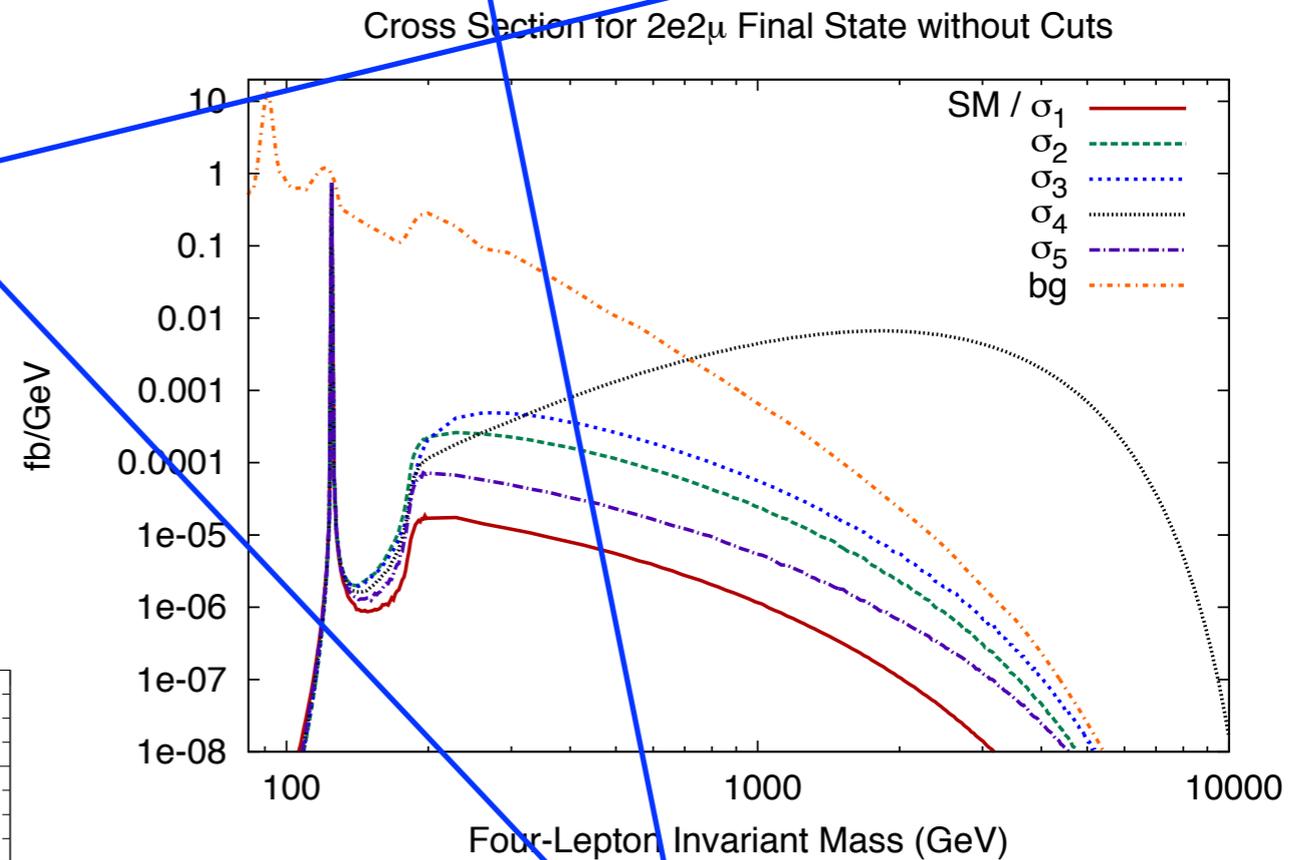
$$\mathcal{O}_1 = -\frac{M_Z^2}{v} H Z_\mu Z^\mu, \quad \mathcal{O}_2 = -\frac{1}{2v} H Z_{\mu\nu} Z^{\mu\nu} \quad \mathcal{O}_3 = -\frac{1}{2v} H Z_{\mu\nu} Z^{\mu\nu}, \quad \mathcal{O}_4 = \frac{2}{v} H Z_\mu \partial^2 Z^\mu$$

$$\mathcal{O}_6 = -\frac{M_Z^2}{M_H^2 v} Z_\mu Z^\mu \partial^2 H$$

Modifications  
of the  $m_{4l}$  shape



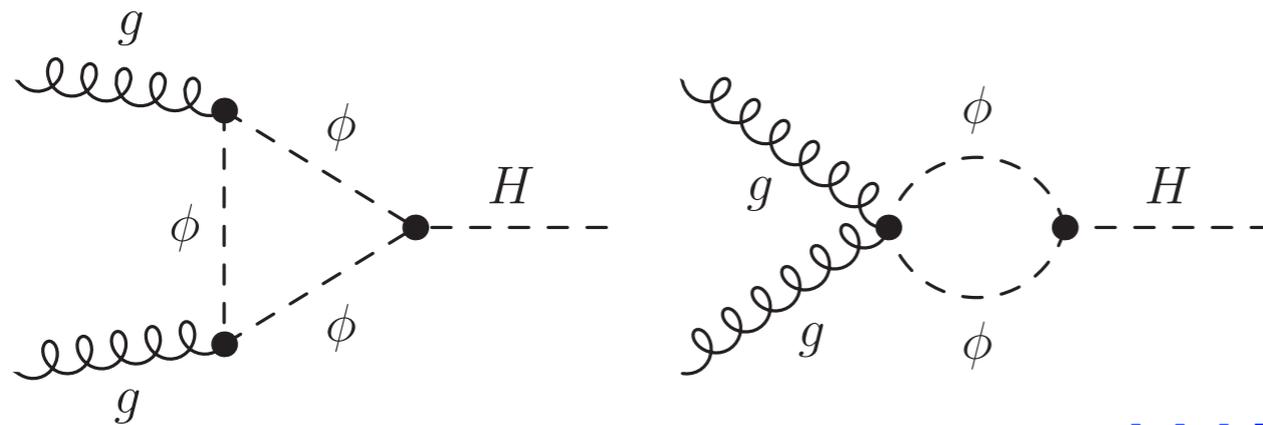
[Anderson et al. (2013)]



Modification of lepton  
angular distributions

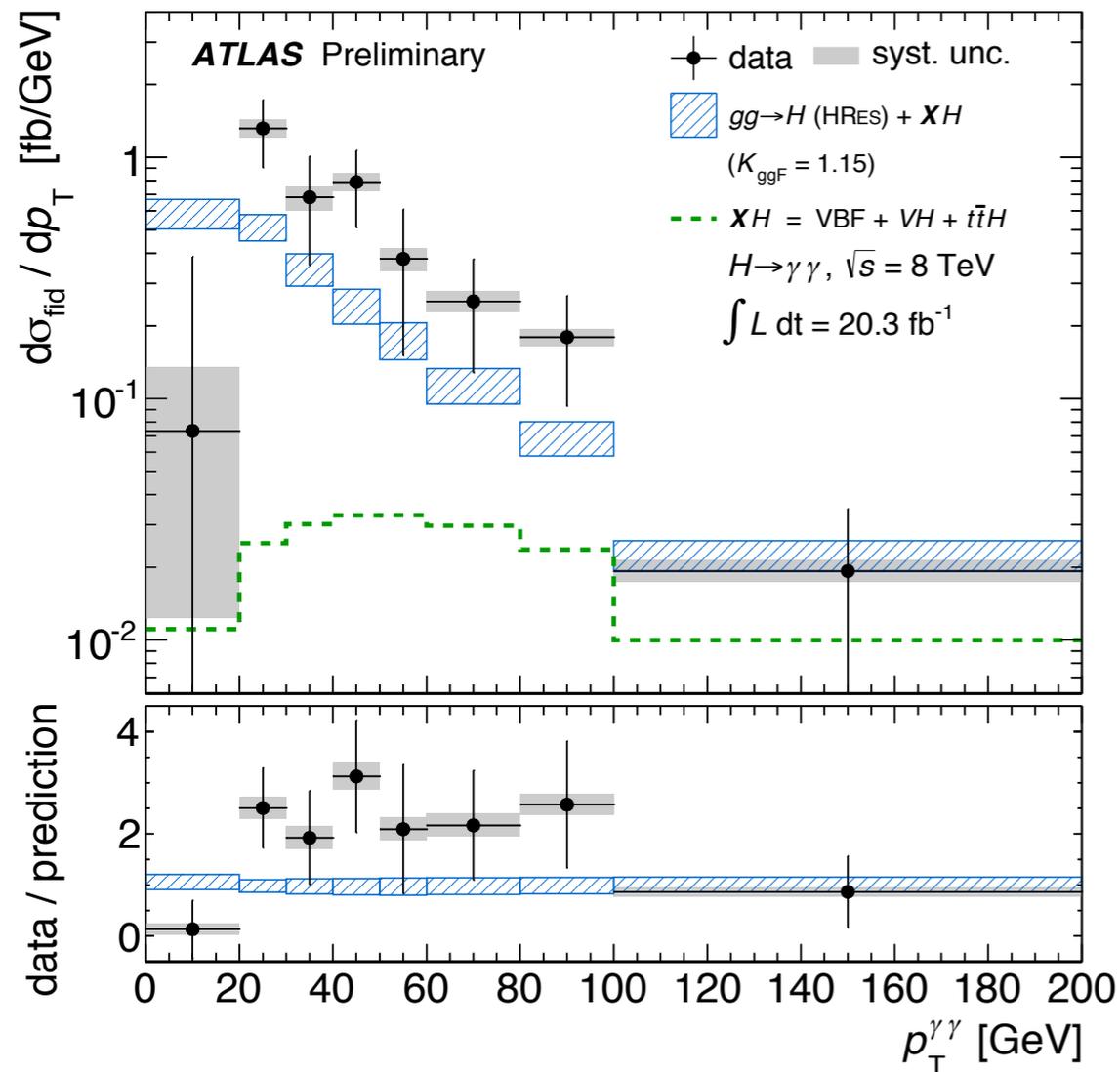
What is the constraining power  
for off-shell analysis?

# Example: light particles in the loop



[Englert, Spannowsky (2014)]  
 Light d.o.f. can qualitatively  
 change the analysis

Will also affect other observables,  
 e.g. **Higgs  $p_T$  distributions**  
 [Arnesen, Rothstein and Zupan (2008)]

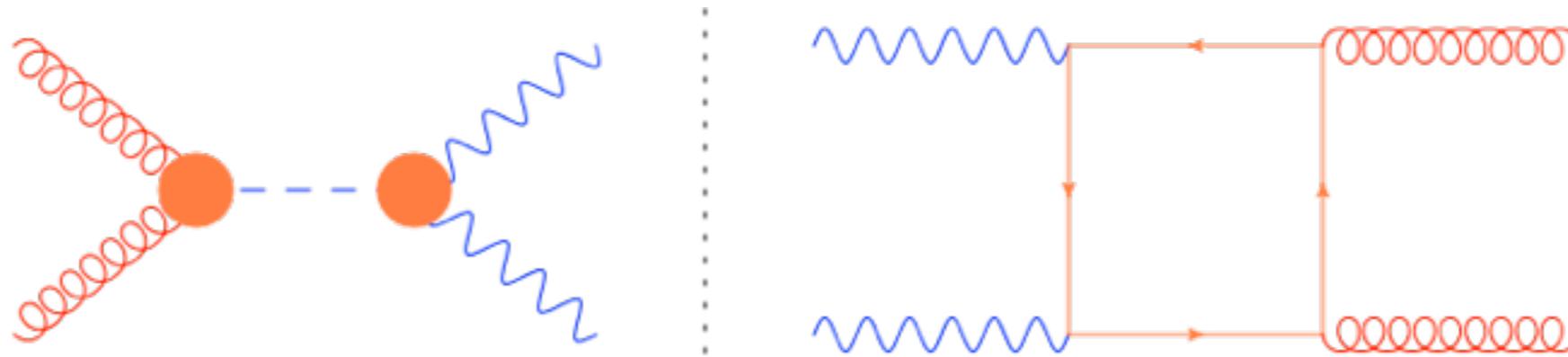


- What is the constraining power of the Higgs  $p_T$  distribution on these kind of models? (need theoretical improvement, full  $m_t$  dependence)
- Can S/B interference enhancement give other constraints? (along the lines of [Dixon, Siu (2003)])

Other very interesting  
'non-traditional' Higgs analysis:  
Higgs properties from  
interference effects

# H → γγ interference and the Higgs width

[Martin; Dixon, Li (2013)]



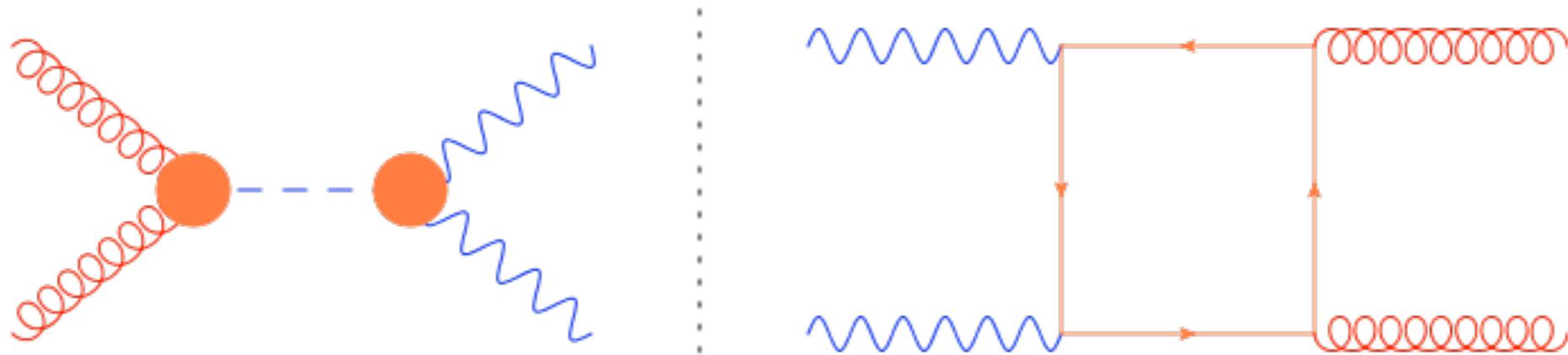
$$A_{i \rightarrow f} = \frac{S m_h^2 \overset{g_i g_f}{\longrightarrow}}{s - m_h^2 + i m_h \Gamma_h} + B \quad \longrightarrow$$

$$|A_{i \rightarrow f}|^2 = \frac{|S|^2 m_h^2}{(s - m_h^2)^2 + \Gamma_h^2 m_h^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{2(s - m_h^2)}{m_h^2} \text{Re} \left( \frac{B^*}{S} \right) + \frac{2\Gamma_h}{m_h} \text{Im} \left( \frac{B^*}{S} \right) \right] + |B|^2$$

$\frac{g_i^2 g_f^2}{\Gamma_H}$        $g_i g_f$

Knowledge of both on-peak and interference cross-section can disentangle coupling and BR → independent extraction

# Interference: the imaginary part and loop-enhancement



$$|A_{i \rightarrow f}|^2 = \frac{|S|^2 m_h^2}{(s - m_h^2)^2 + \Gamma_h^2 m_h^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{2(s - m_h^2)}{m_h^2} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{B^*}{S} \right) + \frac{2\Gamma_h}{m_h} \operatorname{Im} \left( \frac{B^*}{S} \right) \right] + |B|^2$$

- **Interference loop enhanced** (Signal  $\rightarrow$  2 loop, Background  $\rightarrow$  1 loop)

$$S \sim \frac{\alpha_s \alpha m_h^2}{(4\pi v)^2}, \quad B \sim \frac{g_s^2 e^2}{(4\pi)^2} \quad [\sigma_{\text{int}}/\sigma_H]_{\text{naive}} \approx \frac{2\Gamma_h}{m_h} \frac{(4\pi v)^2}{m_h^2} \approx 0.1$$

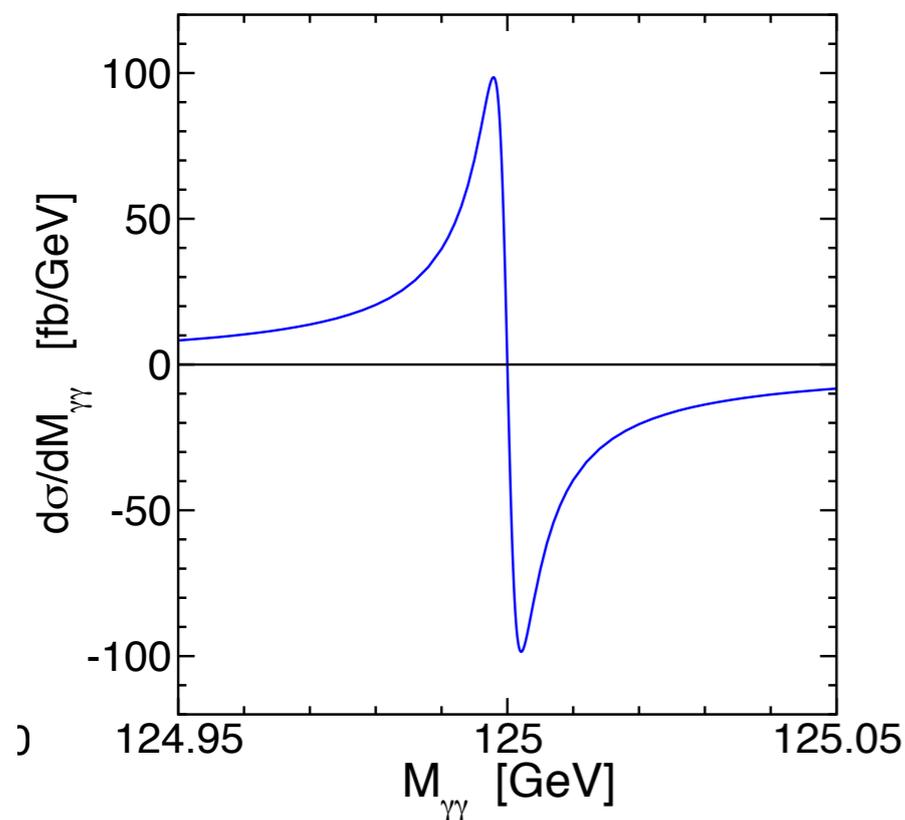
- Loop-enhancement not present in the SM (no  $\pm\pm$  cut in the massless background amplitude, no cut in the top loop for  $m_H = 125$  GeV)
- Can be used to **constrain light d.o.f.** ( $\rightarrow$  non vanishing cut) **in the Hgg coupling?**

# Interference: the real part and mass-shift

[Martin (2012); Dixon and Li; de Florian et al (2013)]

$$|A_{i \rightarrow f}|^2 = \frac{|S|^2 m_h^2}{(s - m_h^2)^2 + \Gamma_h^2 m_h^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{2(s - m_h^2)}{m_h^2} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{B^*}{S} \right) + \frac{2\Gamma_h}{m_h} \operatorname{Im} \left( \frac{B^*}{S} \right) \right] + |B|^2$$

$$\sigma_{of f} \sim \frac{2\operatorname{Re}(SB^*)}{s - m_h^2}, \quad (s - m_h^2) \gg m_h \Gamma_h$$



Create asymmetry in the  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$  distribution

- asymmetric  $\rightarrow$  irrelevant for  $\sigma$
- however, it leads to **mass-shift** in the  $\gamma\gamma$  channel

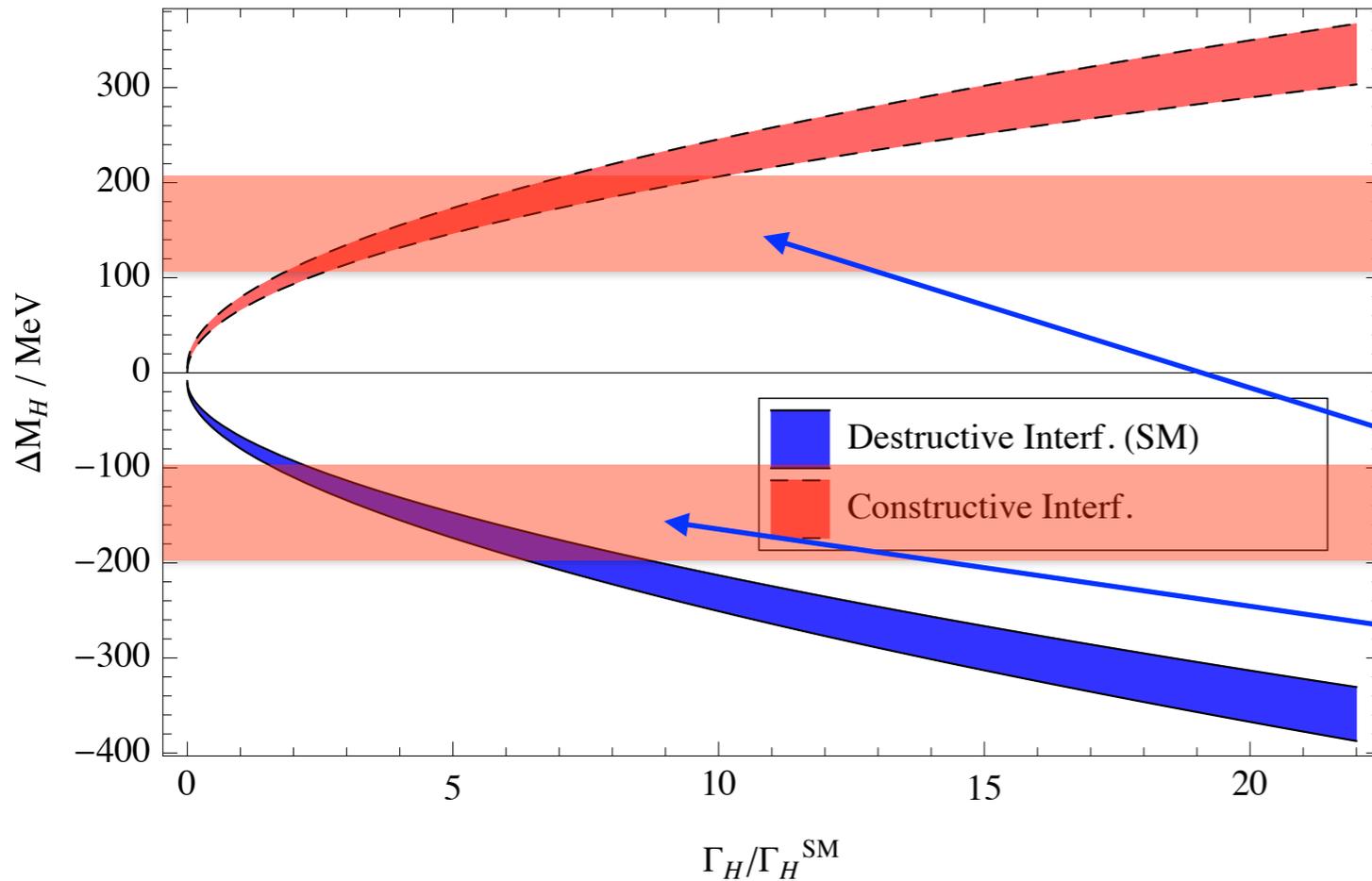
Independent on  $\Gamma_H \rightarrow$  in combination with on-shell measurements, allows for **independent width / coupling extraction**

# $\Delta M_{ZZ,\gamma\gamma}$ : model-independent determination of $\Gamma_H$

[Dixon and Li (2013)]

Comparing mass determination in the  $\gamma\gamma$  with control mass (e.g. ZZ)

$$\longrightarrow \delta m_H \approx -100 \text{ MeV} \times \sqrt{\Gamma_H / \Gamma_{H,SM}}$$



Theory in pretty good shape  
[Dixon and Li; de Florian et al (2013)]

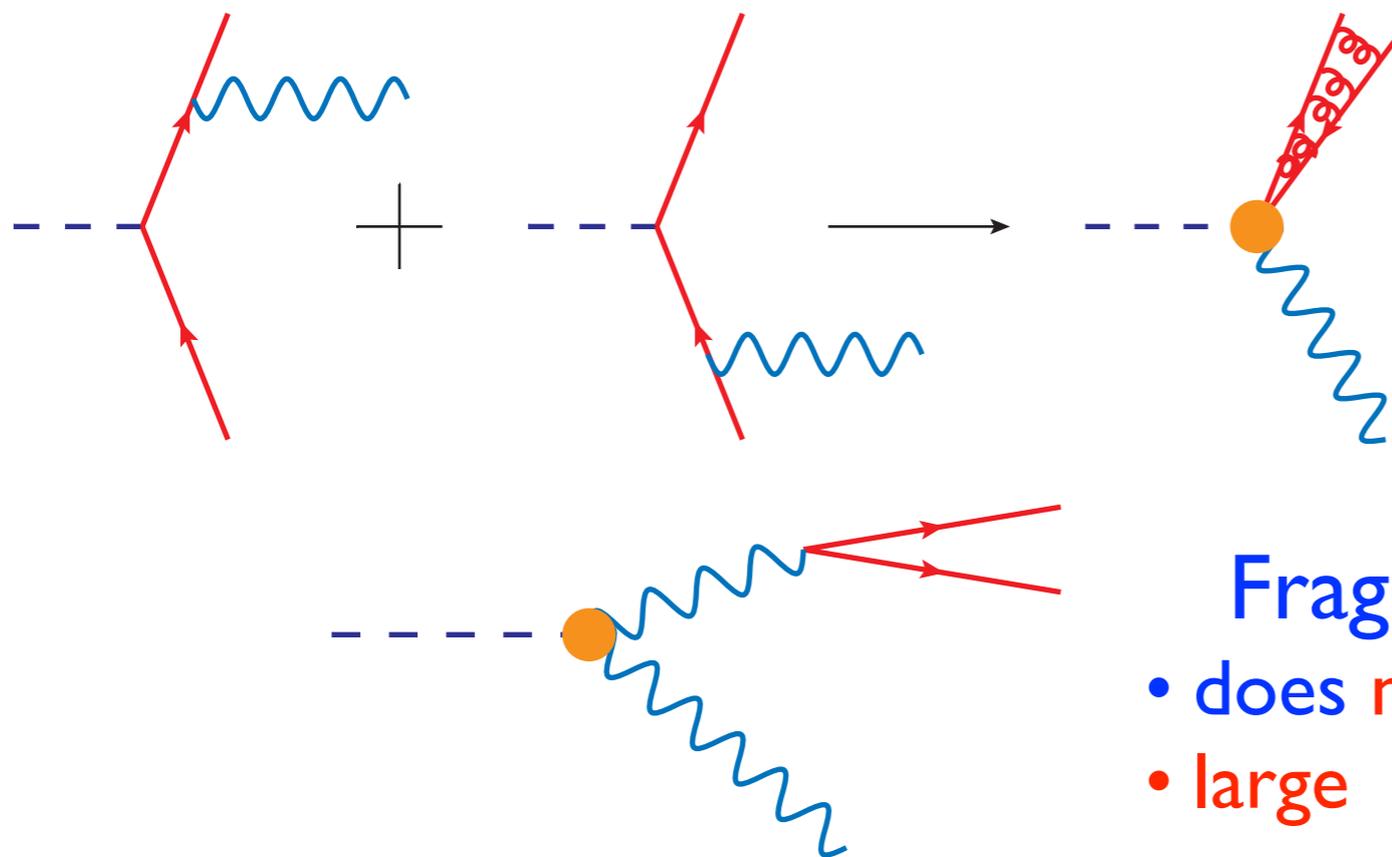
ultimate LHC reach?

- How well can ATLAS/CMS measure the mass-shift? (both in the near future and in the long term)
- What can we say about non-standard Higgs? [Dixon et al]

# H $\rightarrow$ J/ $\Psi$ interference and the Hcc coupling

[Bodwin, Petriello et al (2013)]

Interference of two 'signal' amplitudes for  
H  $\rightarrow$  quarkonium and photon can constrain the Hcc coupling



Direct component

- depends on Hcc coupling
- small

Fragmentation component

- does not depend on Hcc coupling
- large

Large (negative) interference leads to enhancement of the small  
direct amplitude  $\rightarrow$  access to Hcc

Which kind of constraints on Hcc at the (high-lumi) LHC?

## Matrix element method (MEM)

(kinematic discriminant used by MCFM authors)

$$D = \log \left( \frac{P_H}{P_{gg} + P_{q\bar{q}}} \right)$$

$P_{q\bar{q}}$ :  $q\bar{q}$  induced continuum background

$P_{gg}$ :  $gg$  induced contributions  
(incl. Higgs signal, cont. bkg. & interf.)

$P_H$ :  $gg$  induced Higgs amplitude squared

## CMS analysis

improvements on phenomenological studies:

- include  $2\ell 2\nu$  final states
- include VBF channel (contributes  $\sim 7\%$  on peak, and  $\mathcal{O}(10\%)$  above  $2M_Z$ )
- **include known QCD and EW corrections** F. Caola, T. Kasprzik, G. Passarino, M. Zaro et al.
- **slightly different kinematic discriminant** ( $P_H \rightarrow P_{gg}$ ), backgrounds fully considered

## ATLAS analysis

improvements:

- similar to CMS, thorough consideration of systematic uncertainties
- **provide results as function of the unknown  $gg \rightarrow ZZ$  background  $K$ -factor**, variation:  $[0.5, 2] \times$  signal  $K$ -factor
- off-shell signal strength in  $[5.6, 9.0]$  ( $[6.6, 10.7]$  expected)

# Model builder's considerations, BSM searches

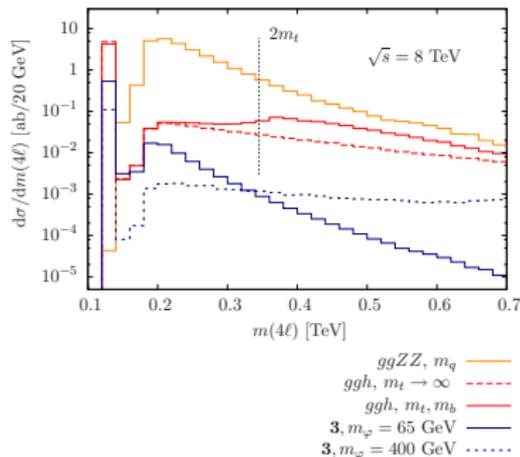
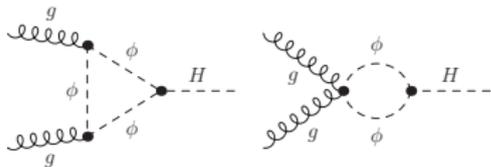
Constraining higher dimensional operators with the off-shell Higgs

Limitations of model-independence

Disentangling New Physics with the off-shell Higgs boson

EFT studies including the off-shell Higgs boson

J. Gainer, J. Lykken, K. Matchev, S. Mrenna, M. Park (2014); C. Englert, M. Spannowsky (2014); M. Ghezzi, G. Passarino, S. Uccirati (2014); G. Cacciapaglia, A. Deandrea, G. Drieu La Rochelle, J. Flament (2014); A. Azatov, C. Grojean, A. Paul, E. Salvioni (2014); A. Biekötter, A. Knochel, M. Kraemer, D. Liu, F. Riva (2014)

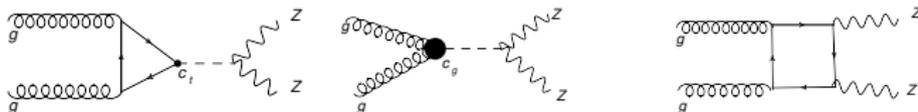


C. Englert, M. Spannowsky (2014)

# EFT analysis of on- and off-shell $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ data

A. Azatov, C. Grojean, A. Paul, E. Salvioni (2014)

(see also G. Cacciapaglia, A. Deandrea, G. Drieu La Rochelle, J. Flament (2014))

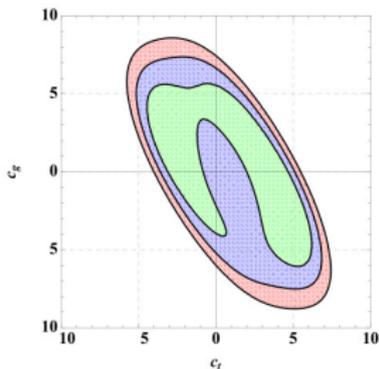


$$\mathcal{L} = -c_t \frac{m_t}{v} \bar{t} t h + \frac{g_s^2}{48\pi^2} c_g \frac{h}{v} G_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}$$

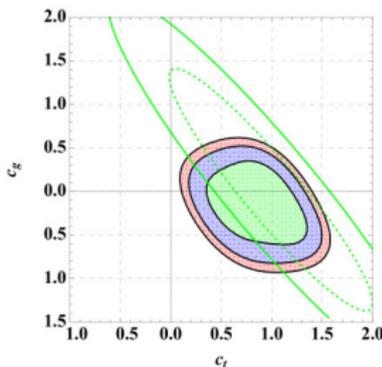
$$\mathcal{M}_{gg \rightarrow ZZ} = \mathcal{M}_h + \mathcal{M}_{bkg} = c_t \mathcal{M}_{c_t} + c_g \mathcal{M}_{c_g} + \mathcal{M}_{bkg}$$

$\sigma \sim |c_t + c_g|^2$ : on-shell degeneracy  $c_t + c_g = \text{const}$  is broken by **far-off-shell data**

Constraints in  $(c_t, c_g)$  plane (68%, 95% and 99% probability contours): (not MEM improved!)



LHC 8 TeV CMS data



LHC 14 TeV  $3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$  data

# Summary

- ggF and VBF off-shell  $H \rightarrow ZZ, WW$  data at (HL-)LHC and (I)LC ( $\rightarrow$  S. Liebler) facilitates novel, complementary approach to constrain Higgs properties (width, coupling strength and structure)
- complementary method (by S.P. Martin):  $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  signal background interferometry (Higgs mass peak shift depending on  $\Gamma_H$ )
- also:  $Hc\bar{c}$  constraint via signal-signal interferometry after HL-LHC (G.T. Bodwin, F. Petriello, S. Stoynev, M. Velasco)
- Higgs width constraints: limited model independence in ggF (but  $\sim\mathcal{O}(1)\Gamma_{H,SM}$  bounds after LHC Run 1); largely model independent in VBF as well as  $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  interferometry (but needs HL-LHC, (I)LC for  $\sim\mathcal{O}(1)\Gamma_{H,SM}$  bounds)
- further exploration of feasible off-shell/interference-enabled constraints in SM, via EFT or specific BSM at LHC Run1,2,3, HL and ILC; further discussion of model dependence issues and value added compared to on-shell Higgs measurements
- theoretical tools: full NLO calculation for  $gg \rightarrow (H \rightarrow) \gamma\gamma$  (L. Dixon, Y. Li); but **only LO calculations** (with finite  $t, b$  mass effects) for  $gg \rightarrow (H \rightarrow) 4$  leptons interference and continuum background contributions plus event generators (also for  $qg?$ ), large  $K$ -factor expected (soft-collinear approx.), but full NLO calculation is pushing current technology (bottleneck: heavy quark loop), easier: soft-resummation-improved predictions; further discussion of available tools, included higher order corrections, estimation of residual uncertainties and future calculational progress
- analysis techniques: improvements via MEM, optimal kinematic discriminants (sensitivity?)