



Light-by-light scattering with intact protons at the LHC: from Standard Model to New Physics

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S. Fichet *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D **89** (2014) 114004

S. Fichet *et al.* JHEP **1502** (2015) 165

S. Fichet *et al.*, in preparation

July, 23rd 2015

Summary of the presentation



- 1 Description and motivations of the proposed measurement
- 2 The $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ process in the Standard Model (SM)
- 3 Sensitivity of the $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings to New Physics
- 4 Conclusion and plans



1 Description and motivations of the proposed measurement

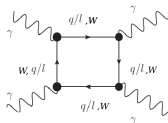
What do we want to measure? Why?

2 The $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ process in the Standard Model (SM)

3 Sensitivity of the $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings to New Physics

4 Conclusion and plans

SM and anomalous $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings



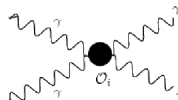
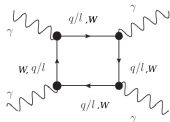
- **Direct coupling absent from the Standard Model (SM)**

Loop-induced production strongly suppressed in the SM (see slide 8)

- **Light-by-light scattering ($\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$) never measured**

And no limits on anomalous $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings claimed from collider experiments

SM and anomalous $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings



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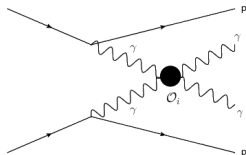
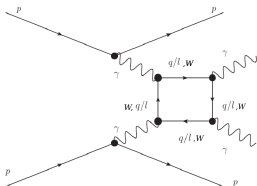
- **In the context of New Physics searches at the LHC**, high integrated luminosity required \rightarrow high pile-up runs

base case scenario:

300 fb⁻¹ of data at the LHC at $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV at $\langle \mu \rangle = 50$

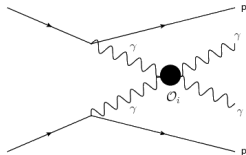
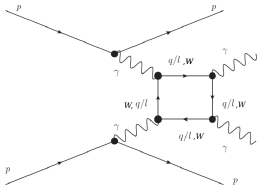
- **Large background** if only 2 high energy γ required at the analysis level
(Standard Model QCD $\gamma\gamma$ production + fakes from electrons and jets)

SM and anomalous $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings



- At the LHC, possibility to take benefit from **the photon coherent fluxes emitted by the protons**. In this case, the protons have high chances to stay intact after interaction.
- **Possibility to detect in addition of the two photons in the central detector an intact proton in each dedicated forward detector.**
(to be located left and right from the interaction point, see next slide)

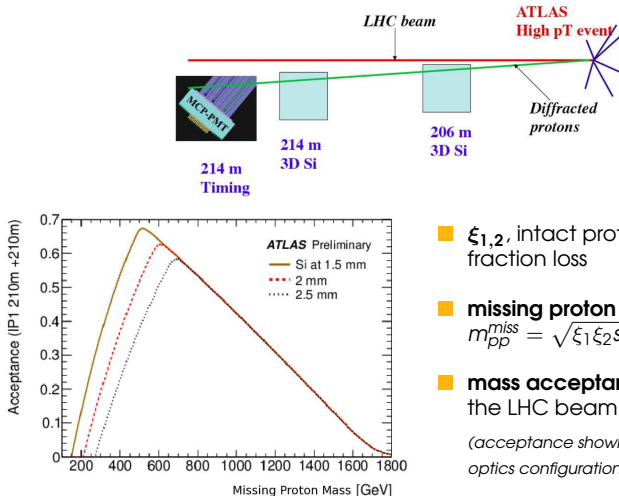
SM and anomalous $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings



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- **Possibility to detect in addition of the two photons in the central detector an intact proton in each dedicated forward detector.**
(to be located left and right from the interaction point, see next slide)
- **Cleaner signature, background much reduced and better controlled.**
(no PDF uncertainties and all the particles at the final state are detected)
- **Smaller cross-sections.**
(the protons must be intact and within the acceptance of the forward detectors, see next slide)

(Forward proton detectors at the LHC)

- The ATLAS Forward Physics (AFP) and the CMS-TOTEM Precision Proton Spectrometer (CT-PPS) upgrade projects aim to **detect intact protons emitted at low angle during the high luminosity LHC runs.**
→ Installation foreseen in 2016-2017



- $\xi_{1,2}$, intact proton momentum fraction loss

- **missing proton mass,**
 $m_{pp}^{miss} = \sqrt{\xi_1 \xi_2 s}$

- **mass acceptance** limited by the LHC beam and optics

(acceptance shown for the nominal LHC optics configuration)

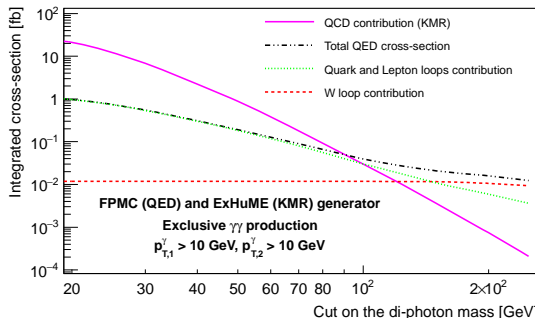
Summary of the presentation



- 1 Description and motivations of the proposed measurement
- 2 **The $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ process in the Standard Model (SM)**
What are the exclusive di-photon production subprocesses in the SM?
What are their contributions to the total cross section?
- 3 The sensitivity of the $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings to New Physics
- 4 Conclusion and plans

SM exclusive $\gamma\gamma$ production at 14 TeV

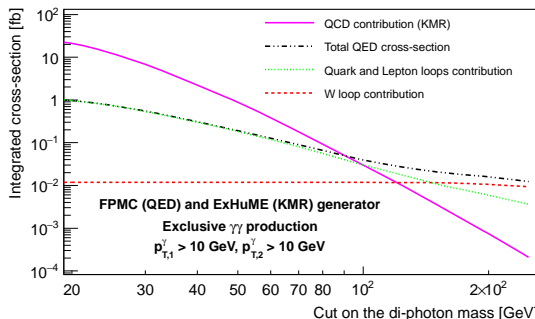
S. Fichtel, G. von Gersdorff, B. Lenzi, C. Royon, M. Saimpert, JHEP **1502** (2015) 165



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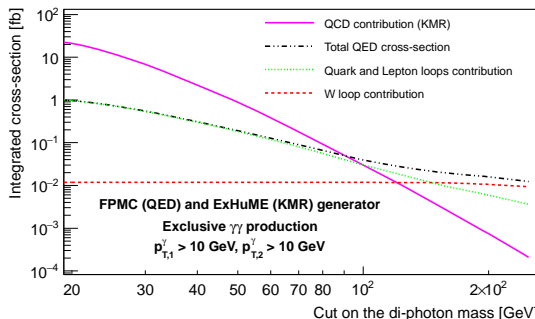
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gluon induced process ($gg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$) dominant at low di-photon mass.
V. Khoze, A. Martin, and M. Ryskin, Eur. Phys. J. **C23** (2002) 311-327

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- **QED contribution**, implemented in our own MC generator (FPMC).
Include all fermion and W loop contributions with interference at LO (NLO corrections available but negligible)
→ **very small irreducible background for New Physics searches!**

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- 1 Description and motivations of the proposed measurement
- 2 The $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ process in the Standard Model (SM)
- 3 **The sensitivity of the $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings to New Physics**
To which new physics process the $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ are the most sensitive?
How to estimate accurately the cross sections of the exotic signals?
- 4 Conclusion and plans

Operators of the anomalous 4γ couplings

R.S. Gupta, *Phys. Rev. D* **85** (2012) 014006

S. Fichtel and G. von Gersdorff, *JHEP* **1403** (2014) 102

- $\sqrt{\hat{s}_{\gamma\gamma}} \ll \Lambda$, Effective Field Theory assumption (EFT)

$$L_{4\gamma} = \zeta_1^\gamma F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\sigma} F^{\rho\sigma} + \zeta_2^\gamma F_{\mu\nu} F^{\nu\rho} F_{\rho\sigma} F^{\sigma\mu} \text{ (dimension 8)}$$

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- For low new physics masses, threshold effect must be taken into account \rightarrow **use of a form factor (f.f.) at the amplitude level**

$$\text{We use } f.f. = \frac{1}{1 + (\frac{\hat{s}_{\gamma\gamma}}{\Lambda'^2})^2} \text{ with } \Lambda' = 1 \text{ TeV} \simeq \sqrt{\hat{s}_{\gamma\gamma, \text{max}}}/2$$

(unitarity requires $\zeta_i < 10^{-10} \text{ GeV}^{-4}$, $\simeq 10^4$ higher than our sensitivity limit, so we are safe on this side)

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(unitarity requires $\zeta_i < 10^{-10} \text{ GeV}^{-4}$, $\simeq 10^4$ higher than our sensitivity limit, so we are safe on this side)

- The EFT signal shown in the plots of this presentation are always for a signal with $\zeta_1 \geq 0$ and $\zeta_2 = 0$ and with f.f.

ζ_1 and ζ_2 have a very similar angular behaviour

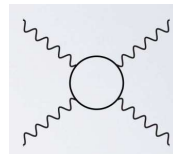
- A table of final sensitivities for both ζ_1 and ζ_2 , **with and without f.f.** is given at the end of the presentation

New physics contributions to 4γ couplings



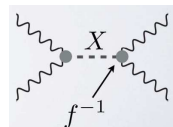
1 New charged particles via loops

- Effective coupling only depends on the spin, charge and mass : $\zeta_i^\gamma \propto c_i^s Q^4 m^{-4}$
- Example: top partners
- **EFT (for high masses) + full amplitude calculations implemented in FPMC**

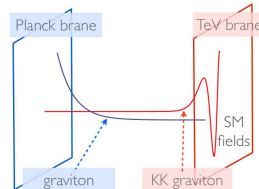


2 New neutral particles at tree level

- Effective coupling depends on spin, non-renormalizable $\gamma\gamma X$ coupling and mass : $\zeta_i^\gamma \propto b_i^s f^{-2} m^{-2}$
- Example: KK gravitons
- **full amplitude calculation for spin-0 and 2 resonances in progress, EFT valid for high masses if not too strongly coupled**



if coupling $\simeq \text{TeV}$ and $m_{KK} \simeq \text{few TeV}$, $\zeta_i^\gamma \simeq 10^{-14}-10^{-13} \text{ GeV}^{-4}$ achievable, which we are sensitive



Generation and modeling of the detector effects



- **Signal generation:** EFT and full amplitudes for generic new charged particles implemented in FPMC. (*amplitudes for spin-0 and 2 resonances in progress*)
- **Background generation:** irreducible, from fakes, due to pile up, ... (*see next slide*).
 - **Integrated luminosity normalized to 300 fb^{-1} and $\mu > 50$**

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→ **Integrated luminosity normalized to 300 fb^{-1} and $\mu > 50$**

- **Analysis performed at particle level** but taking into account dominant detector effects to get realistic predictions
 - Estimation of γ conversion rates, fake photon rates, reconstruction efficiency from ECFA ATLAS studies
 - Smearing in γ energies, in η and ϕ , and in ξ
 - Requirement of at least one converted photon → constraint on the γ vertex, to combine with forward proton timing information
 - Very efficient signal event selection (see slide 16)

Generation and modeling of the detector effects



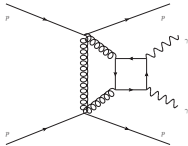
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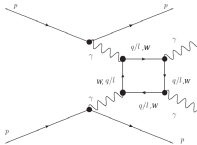
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 - Very efficient signal event selection (see slide 16)
- **Final outputs**
 - 5σ and 95% C.L sensitivities on the $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings using $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
EFT, valid for $m > 2(1) \text{ TeV}$ for tree-level (loop-induced) production
 - M-Q sensitivity plane for generic new fermions/vectors ($\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$)
full amplitude calculation, valid for all masses
 - New tree-level production sensitivities - full amplitude calculation
in progress

Backgrounds (FPMC, ExHuME, HERWIG 6.4 + Pythia8)

Irreducible: exclusive $\gamma\gamma$



(ExHuME, 0 at high mass)



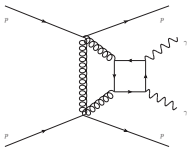
(FPMC, very small at high mass)

Other (reducible): exclusive ee
with misidentification (FPMC)

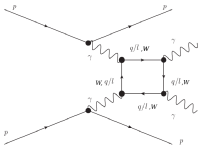
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Irreducible: exclusive $\gamma\gamma$



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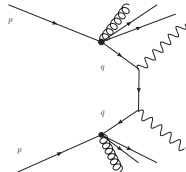


(FPMC, very small at high mass)

Other (reducible): exclusive ee with misidentification (FPMC)

Reducible (with fwd detectors!)

$\gamma\gamma$ + intact protons from pile up



(HERWIG 6.4 + Pythia8 minimum bias)

Others : di-jet, Drell-Yan + intact protons from pile up

Intact protons transported to the forward detectors through the LHC magnets with FPTracker/MADX

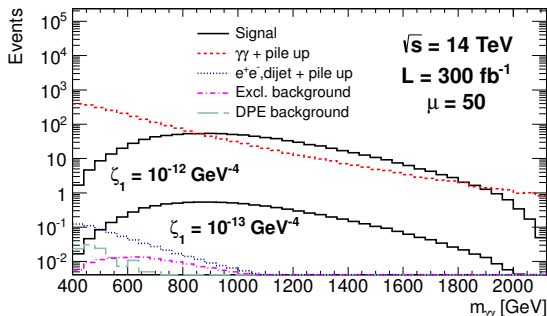
Others : Double Pomeron Exchange backgrounds (intact protons, but not exclusive due to Pomeron remnants) (FPMC)

Distribution of signal and backgrounds

smearing, fake, reconstruction factors applied, (≥ 1 converted γ) required

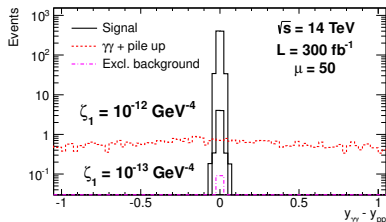
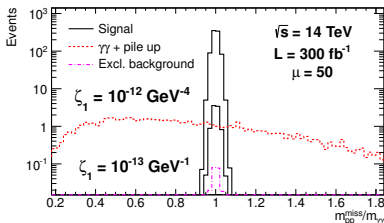
$0.015 < \xi < 0.15$ (forward proton detector acceptance),

$|\eta^\gamma| < 2.37$ (central EM calorimeter acceptance), $p_{T1,(2)}^\gamma > 200$ (100) GeV



- By requesting $p_{T1,(2)} > 200$ (100) GeV and $m_{\gamma\gamma} > 600$ GeV, **practically only the signal and the $\gamma\gamma$ + pile up background remain.**
- p_T ratio distribution provides another efficient cut (**exclusive process**)
- $\Delta\phi_{\gamma\gamma} > \pi - 0.01$ also applied in the final selection (**exclusive process**)

Use of the forward detector ξ measurement



- Missing proton mass $\sqrt{\xi_1 \xi_2 s}$ matches $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ for the signal

A mass window of 3% (\simeq resolution) is required in the event selection

- Same feature of the signal with rapidity variables

*$|y_{\gamma\gamma} - y_{pp}| < 0.03$ is applied with $y_{pp} = (0.5 * \ln(\frac{\xi_1}{\xi_2}))$*

- The small widths of the signal distributions are due to the smearing applied to $\xi_{1,2}$ to simulate detector effects

Very efficient cuts due to very good ξ resolution, **absolutely needed in order to suppress the background from pile up.**

Expected events for a charged boson with $Q_{eff}=4$, $m=340$ GeV

$$(\zeta_1^\gamma = 2.10^{-13} \text{ GeV}^{-4})$$

- $\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}$, $L = 300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$, (at least one converted γ)

Cut / Process	Signal (full)	Signal with (without) f.f (EFT)	Excl.	DPE	DY, di-jet + pile up	$\gamma\gamma$ + pile up
$[0.015 < \xi_{1,2} < 0.15,$	130.8	36.9 (373.9)	0.25	0.2	1.6	2968
$p_{T1,(2)} > 200, (100) \text{ GeV}]$						
$m_{\gamma\gamma} > 600 \text{ GeV}$	128.3	34.9 (371.6)	0.20	0	0.2	1023
$(p_{T2}/p_{T1} > 0.95,$	128.3	34.9 (371.4)	0.19	0	0	80.2
$ \Delta\phi > \pi - 0.01)$						
$\sqrt{\xi_1 \xi_2 s} = m_{\gamma\gamma} \pm 3\%$	122.0	32.9 (350.2)	0.18	0	0	2.8
$ y_{\gamma\gamma} - y_{pp} < 0.03$	119.1	31.8 (338.5)	0.18	0	0	0

- Full amplitude numbers in between EFT with/without f.f. numbers
- Very high signal selection efficiency
 - Signal increased by a factor 3-4 if no conversion requirement
(the di-photon vertex not identified accurately anymore from the central detector)
- Background completely suppressed thanks to the forward detectors (ξ)
 - Very high significance per observed event
 - < 5 background events expected at $< \mu > = 200$
Robust analysis, good background control
 - proton time-of-flight not used
Possible additional rejection factor of 40 at $\mu = 50$

Final discovery (5σ) and exclusion (95% CL) sensitivities on ζ_1 and ζ_2

EFT approach: S. Fichtel, G. von Gersdorff, O. Kepka, B. Lenzi, C. Royon, M. Saimpert, Phys. Rev. D **89** (2014) 114004.

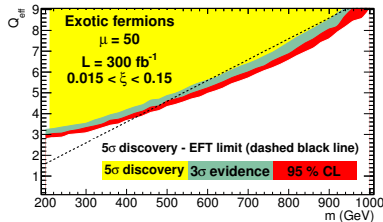
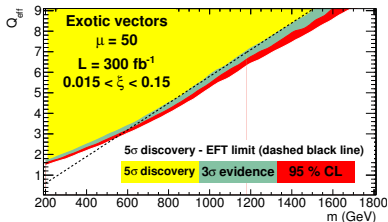
Update of the EFT + full amplitude calculation: S. Fichtel, G. von Gersdorff, B. Lenzi, C. Royon, M. Saimpert, JHEP **1502** (2015) 165.

Luminosity	300 fb ⁻¹	300 fb ⁻¹	300 fb ⁻¹	3000 fb ⁻¹
pile-up < μ >	50	50	50	200
coupling (GeV ⁻⁴)	≥ 1 conv. γ 5 σ	≥ 1 conv. γ 95% CL	all γ 95% CL	all γ 95% CL
ζ_1 f.f.	$8 \cdot 10^{-14}$	$5 \cdot 10^{-14}$	$3 \cdot 10^{-14}$	$2.5 \cdot 10^{-14}$
ζ_1 no f.f.	$2.5 \cdot 10^{-14}$	$1.5 \cdot 10^{-14}$	$9 \cdot 10^{-15}$	$7 \cdot 10^{-15}$
ζ_2 f.f.	$2 \cdot 10^{-13}$	$1 \cdot 10^{-13}$	$6 \cdot 10^{-14}$	$4.5 \cdot 10^{-14}$
ζ_2 no f.f.	$5 \cdot 10^{-14}$	$4 \cdot 10^{-14}$	$2 \cdot 10^{-14}$	$1.5 \cdot 10^{-14}$

- A large panel of extra-dimension models can be probed in **the multi-TeV range**
- The form factor is not needed for any new physics scale **beyond $\simeq 2$ (1) TeV for new tree-level (pair) production**
(due the forward detector acceptance, see slide 6 and 10)

Full amplitude computation for generic heavy charged fermions/vectors contributions

- **The existence of new heavy charged particles** will enhance the $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ coupling at high mass **via loops**
- This enhancement can be parametrized by **only the spin, mass and effective charge** $Q_{\text{eff}} = Q \cdot N^{1/4}$,
(N = multiplicity of the new particles with respect to electromagnetism)
- **Interesting model-independent constraints, complementary to direct searches** (usually much more model-dependent)
- Good agreement between the EFT and the full amplitude calculations
- **Full amplitude calculation for new tree-level productions in progress**



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Conclusion and plans



- The measurement of the exclusive $\gamma\gamma$ (WW, ZZ) production with proton tagging at the LHC allows a very high background rejection at the cost of a reduced cross-section
 - A single observation has a high significance
 - **Ideal to probe small deviations from the Standard Model**
ex: broad resonances, some gravity effects, virtual loops, ...
 - Interesting model-independent constraints on many models

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 - Interesting model-independent constraints on many models
- Sensitivities allowing to probe directly a large class of new models are reached with the LHC run 2 statistics
 - **$\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings** : reach of 10^{-14} - 10^{-15} GeV^{-4} (EFT).
A large panel of extra-dimension models can be tested.
aQGC never searched before in a collider experiment.
 - **$WW\gamma\gamma$ and $ZZ\gamma\gamma$ couplings** sensitivity improvement by a factor up to 100 compared to the latest the CMS measurement.
*C. Royon, O. Kepka, Phys. Rev. D **78** (2008)*
*E. Chapon, C. Royon, O. Kepka, Phys. Rev. D **81** (2010)*

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- Full amplitude calculation done for any new charged particle contribution (spin 1/2 and 1). Higher spins in progress.
- Full amplitude calculation for new tree-level contributions in progress.

Light-by-light scattering with intact protons at the LHC: from Standard Model to New Physics

Back-up

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July, 23rd 2015

SM exclusive $\gamma\gamma$ production at 14 TeV : a possible measurement at the LHC?



Cut / Process	QCD Exclusive (KMR)	QED Fermion loop	W loop
$m_{\gamma\gamma} > 10 \text{ GeV}, p_{T1,2} > 5 \text{ GeV}$	372 fb	5.5 fb	0.01 fb
$m_{\gamma\gamma} > 20 \text{ GeV}, p_{T1,2} > 10 \text{ GeV}$	21 fb	1.0 fb	0.012 fb
$m_{\gamma\gamma} > 50 \text{ GeV}, p_{T1,2} > 10 \text{ GeV}$	0.9 fb	0.18 fb	0.012 fb
$m_{\gamma\gamma} > 100 \text{ GeV}, p_{T1,2} > 10 \text{ GeV}$	0.03 fb	0.03 fb	0.012 fb
$m_{\gamma\gamma} > 200 \text{ GeV}, p_{T1,2} > 10 \text{ GeV}$	0.0007 fb	0.005 fb	0.010 fb
$m_{\gamma\gamma} > 500 \text{ GeV}, p_{T1,2} > 10 \text{ GeV}$	$3 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ fb}$	0.0003 fb	0.004 fb

Table: Integrated cross sections of the different SM exclusive di-photon production processes at the LHC at $\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}$ for various requirements on the di-photon mass ($m_{\gamma\gamma}$) and photon transverse momenta ($p_{T1,2}$).

- Cross section too small at high mass/ p_T to perform a measurement with nominal high luminosity LHC runs (trigger prescales, pile up effects, ...)
- **Dedicated LHC pp collisions at low luminosity** with different optics configurations are planned. Estimated integrated luminosity $\simeq 0.1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$.
- **Measurement of KMR production might be possible** if the di-photon trigger can go down to $p_T^\gamma > 5 \text{ GeV}$ for those dedicated runs
- **Measurement of QED production seems out of reach in pp collisions.** Might be possible in lead-lead (*d'Enterria et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 111 (2013) 080405*)

Effective Field Theory of the 4γ couplings (G. Von Gersdorff)



EFT OF 4 PHOTON INTERACTIONS

- ▶ Focus on **AAAA** (**AAZZ** and **AAWW** see [Chapon et al '12])
- ▶ EFT for 4-photon interaction contains two dim-8 structures

$$\mathcal{L}_{4\gamma} = \zeta_1 (F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu})^2 + \zeta_2 F_{\mu\nu} F^{\nu\rho} F_{\rho\sigma} F^{\sigma\mu}$$

- ▶ Cross section has a simple form

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{16\pi^2 s} (s^2 + t^2 + st)^2 [48\zeta_1^2 + 40\zeta_1\zeta_2 + 11\zeta_2^2]$$

- ▶ Unitarity breaks down for $\zeta_i s^2 \gtrsim 2\pi$
- ▶ Demanding unitarity for **LHC energies** $\Rightarrow \zeta_i \lesssim 10^{-10} \text{GeV}^{-4}$
- ▶ In explicit models EFT breaks down before that!
- ▶ LHC sensitivities to ζ_i are $\sim 10^{4-5}$ **better** than unitarity bound

Conversion, fake and efficiency reconstruction rates



- Inputs from the **ECFA ATLAS studies**
- **Photon conversion factors:** 15% in the barrel, 30% in the end-caps
- **Photon and electron reconstruction efficiency:**
$$Eff(p_T) = 0.76 - 1.98 \exp^{\frac{-p_T}{16.1(\text{GeV})}}$$
- **Photon fake factors:** 1% for electron
European Strategy studies
- **Fake photon p_T for jets:** gaussian draw (Mean=75%, $\sigma=13\%$) on the jet p_T and use of
$$Eff_{fake}(p_T) = 0.0093 \exp^{\frac{-\min(p_T, 200\text{GeV})}{17.5(\text{GeV})}}$$

almost no fake γ from jets at very high p_T

Event selection: summary

Kinematic cuts

1 $p_{T1}^{\gamma} > 200 \text{ GeV}, p_{T2}^{\gamma} > 100 \text{ GeV}$

2 $m_{\gamma\gamma} > 600 \text{ GeV}$

Selection of exclusive events

1 $\frac{p_{T2}^{\gamma}}{p_{T1}^{\gamma}} > 0.95$

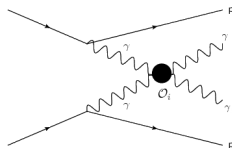
2 $\Delta\phi_{\gamma\gamma} > \pi - 0.01$

Forward detectors cuts

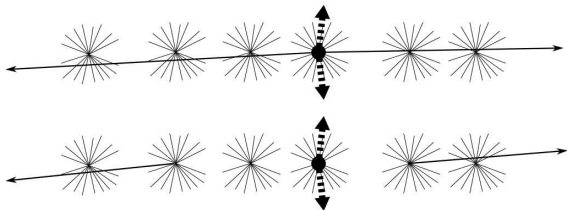
1 $m_{pp}^{miss} = m_{\gamma\gamma} \pm 3\%$

2 $|y_{\gamma\gamma} - y_{pp}| < 0.03$
with $y_{pp} = (0.5 * \ln(\frac{\xi_1}{\xi_2}))$

3 Possible proton timing
measurement with forward
detectors **(Not used)**

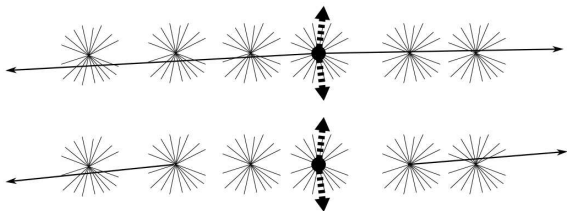


Possible extra-cut: proton timing requirement



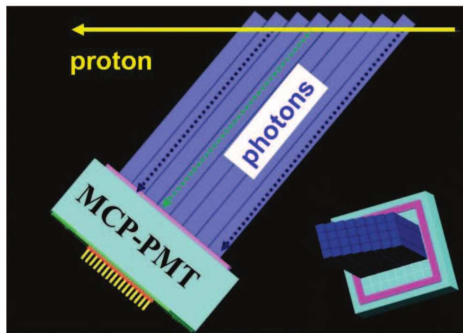
- **Proton timing will be measured by forward detectors**
 - 10 ps resolution assumed \rightarrow proton vertex constrained within 2.1 millimeters
 - Requirement of 1 converted $\gamma \rightarrow < 1$ mm resolution on the γ vertex
 - **Resolution on the vertex position driven by forward timing detectors**
- Matching the two proton and photon vertices provide an additional background rejection factor of $\simeq 40$ at $\mu = 50$
- No need to use for this study, **robustness of the $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ analysis**
 \rightarrow *proton timing required for $WW\gamma\gamma$ (and $ZZ\gamma\gamma$)!*
- **can also be used for unknown forward backgrounds (beam-induced)**

Forward detectors measurements



- **Proton missing mass** measurement with 3% resolution in case of double tag
- **It matches the central $\gamma\gamma$ mass for signal.** Can match as well for pile-up backgrounds as a statistical fluctuation
- **Double tag probability** from pile-up protons on the forward detectors (no missing mass requirement) :
32% ($\mu = 50$) 66% ($\mu = 100$) 93% ($\mu = 200$)

Forward timing detectors : inefficiencies due to pile-up protons



Inefficiencies - 2mm bar detector										
Bar	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$\mu = 50$	0.129	0.085	0.067	0.057	0.049	0.046	0.043	0.040	0.036	0.011
$\mu = 100$	0.185	0.122	0.097	0.082	0.071	0.066	0.062	0.057	0.051	0.016

M. Saimpert. Search for new states of matter with the ATLAS experiment at the LHC, Master Thesis MINES ParisTech (2013).



The BSM amplitudes



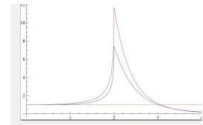
- Loops of spin 0, 1/2, 1 new **electric** particles contribute to 4γ . Because all vertices are fixed by gauge invariance, the NP contributions depend **only** on spin, mass and electric charge! \Rightarrow Very **model-independent**

- For example in the effective theory limit : $\zeta_i^\gamma = \alpha_{\text{em}}^2 Q^4 m^{-4} N c_{i,s}$

$$c_{1,s} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{288} & s = 0 \\ -\frac{1}{36} & s = \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{5}{32} & s = 1 \end{cases}, \quad c_{2,s} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{360} & s = 0 \\ \frac{7}{90} & s = \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{27}{40} & s = 1 \end{cases}$$

Scalar loops are smaller !

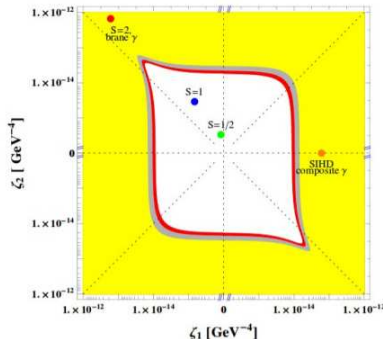
- Full amplitudes** for fermions and vectors are now implemented in FPMC.
- Amplitudes get **enhanced** near the threshold



EFT sensitivities applied to actual models (S. Fichet)



Discovery potential for heavy new physics



- KK graviton (IR brane photon): $m_{KK} < 5670 \text{ GeV}$ (5σ)
Strongly-interacting heavy dilaton: $m_\varphi < 4260 \text{ GeV}$ (5σ)

[SF/Gersdorff '13]



Actual models can be discovered

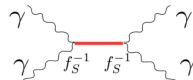
Discovery potential for new neutral particles

- The effects of generic neutral particles can also be classified using simplified models. Only $S=0$ (CP even or odd) and $S=2$ are possible at tree-level. The generic Lagrangian is therefore

$$\mathcal{L}_{\gamma\gamma} = f_{0+}^{-1} \varphi (F_{\mu\nu})^2 + f_{0-}^{-1} \tilde{\varphi} F_{\mu\nu} F_{\rho\lambda} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\lambda} + f_2^{-1} h^{\mu\nu} (-F_{\mu\rho} F_{\nu}^{\rho} + \eta_{\mu\nu} (F_{\rho\lambda})^2/4),$$

Unlike charged particles, neutral particles can be **strongly-coupled**.

- There are only 2 parameters (coupling and mass). However this is a tree-level parametrisation. Not sufficient because neutral particles can resonate, and because these tree-level diagrams **violate unitarity**.



- Both issues are solved at one-loop.

The exact generic propagator (with no NWA) reads

$$\frac{i}{s - m^2 + i(a_2 s^2 / (4\pi f_0^2) + m\Gamma_{\text{const}})}$$

with $a_2 \geq 1$ because the scalar always decays into photons by assumption.

- Only consistency constraint is $E/4\pi f_0 \ll 1$



Low-energy effect of higher-spin objects


- Any strongly-interacting extension of the SM potentially features **higher-spin composites** in its spectrum. In low-energy strings scenarios, strings feature higher-spin excited modes. Assuming the size of the high-spin object is small, it appears to be **pointlike** at low-energy.

⇒ EFT Lagrangian for **higher-spin particles**

- HS couplings to the SM have to be bilinear, ie $\mathcal{L} \supset \mathcal{O} \phi_{(s)} \phi_{(s)}^*$

⇒ HS particles could be spotted in **loops**.

- A naive generalization of the background field computation gives


$$\propto S^5$$

⇒ Light-by-light scattering might be a good place to look for HS particles

- HS QFT computations: never done and **challenging**... **STAY TUNED !**