Measurements of cross-sections in Higgs boson decays to two W bosons with the ATLAS detector

Pamela Ferrari (Nikhef)

EPS-HEP2019





Higgs →WW* production

This talk will concentrate on the ggF, VBF and VH production modes, followed by the decays H→WW*

Gluon-fusion: ggF



Associated production VH



Vector boson fusion: VBF



ggF is the dominant production process VBF and VH production modes, are cleaner:

- VBF is characterized by 2 jets with large Δη_{jj} and m_{jj}
- VH by additional leptons, jets or larger MET

Higgs →WW* decay



The H->WW* \rightarrow lvlv decay accounts for 1.5% of the overall final states

- is more abundant than the $h \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4I$ or $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- is cleaner than h→bb which is affected by large backgrounds

Characterized by

- the presence of 2 leptons with small opening angle
- requiring different flavor leptons helps reducing further the backgrounds
- the presence of 2 neutrinos that prevent a full reconstruction of the Higgs mass, contrary to the ZZ and $\gamma\gamma$ final states

Phys. Lett. B 789 (2019) 508

ggF and VBF analysis

Selection close to the run I analysis. The ggf run I analysis gave most precise signal strength among all Higgs channels.

Analysis at 13 TeV on 36.1 fb⁻¹ (2015+2016):

• 1 e +1 μ opposite sign (p_T>22/15 GeV)

MET

ggF selection: 0, 1 jet required ($p_{Tj}>30$ GeV) VBF selection at least 2 jets ($p_{Tj}>30$ GeV)

The VBF analysis additionally uses BDT to disentangle signal and bkgs

BDT $m_{jj}, \Delta y_{jj}, m_{\ell\ell}, \Delta \phi_{\ell\ell}, m_{\mathrm{T}}, \sum_{\ell} C_{\ell}, \sum_{\ell,j} m_{\ell j}, p_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{tot}}$



3 Signal Regions further split by leading lepton flavor, m_{II}, and subleading lepton p_T

Main ggF Backgrounds		VBF	
Rejection	Oj	1j	
**	b-jet veto	b-jet veto	b-jet veto
u	(PTj>20 GeV)	(PTj>20 GeV)	CJV+OLV
ww	low m _{ll} , Δφ _{ll}	low m _{ll} , Δφ _{ll}	CJV+OLV ↑
Ζ/ γ* (D Y)	low Δφ _{ιι}	m _{ττ} <mz-25 GeV</mz-25 	m _{ττ} <mz-25 GeV</mz-25

Central Jet Veto (CJV)

4 leptons inside rapidity gap of jets: Outside Lep. Veto (OLV)



ggF and VBF backgrounds

The normalization of the main backgrounds is constrained via Control Regions: tt+Wt, WW and Z/γ^* : Good Data and MC agreement.



W+jets and multijet events (fake lepton bkgs) are estimated from data, selecting events with 1 lepton passing ID and the second failing it, but passing a looser ID. Extrapolating the yield to the SR with two fully identified leptons

ggF and VBF signal Post-fit



Simultaneous fit of the SRs & CRs:

- M_{TH} for ggF
- BDT output for VBF.



Uncertainties

Source	$\Delta \sigma_{\mathrm{ggF}} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{H \to WW^*} [\%]$	$\Delta \sigma_{\mathrm{VBF}} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{H \to WW^*} [\%]$	-
Data statistics	10	46 -	
CR statistics	7	9	*4
MC statistics	6	21	-
Theoretical uncertainties	10	19	
ggF signal	5	13 -	
VBF signal	<1	4	
WW	6	12 -	
Top-quark	5	5	
Experimental uncertainties	8	9	
<i>b</i> -tagging	4	6	
Modelling of pile-up	5	2	1
Jet	2	2	
Lepton	3	<1	
Misidentified leptons	6	9	
Luminosity	3	3	
TOTAL	18	57	-

ggF is systematics dominated: 30% better than in run I

Main experimental systematics: b-tag and jet energy scale, misidentified leptons.

Main theoretical uncertainties:

1) ggF: uncertainty on gg \rightarrow WW and qq \rightarrow WW bkg ratio (gg \rightarrow WW x-section limited NLO accuracy)

2) VBF: matching and UEPS & modeling of $qq \rightarrow WW$ and QCD scale uncertainty of ggF contamination

Results



arXiv:1903.10052 Submitted to Phys. Lett. B

Analysis at 13 TeV on 36.1 fb⁻¹ (2015+2016)

WH main selection cuts, 2 categories:

 3 leptons (e/μ) total charge±1 (p_T>15 GeV): 2 categories depending on the number of Same Flavor Opposite Sign (SFOS) lepton pairs.

Z dominated SFOS ≥ 1	Z depleted SFOS = 0
\leq 1 jets	-
0 b-jets	0 b-jets

- BDT against main bkgs: diboson & top quark (ttV or tt)
- CR for WZ/W γ^* norm and top CR for misidentified leptons
- Data Driven method for Z+jets/Z γ

ZH main selection cuts:

- 4 leptons (e/ μ) total charge 0 (p_T>10 GeV)

1-SFOS	2-SFOS categories
\leq 2 jets	≤1 jets
0 b-jet	0 b-jet

Main bkgs: ZZ*(normalisation from CR for 2SFOS SR), tt̄Z suppressed with b-tag veto and jet multiplicity Data Driven method for Z+jets/Z γ



 W^{\pm}

 H^0

 W^{\pm}

 \overline{q}

Control regions and event yields



yields in SR

Process	WH		ZH	
	Z-dominated	Z-depleted	1-SFOS	2-SFOS
WH	11 ±6	5.8 ± 2.8	_	_
ZH	1.1 ± 0.6	0.61 ± 0.34	3.3 ± 1.7	1.8 ± 0.9
Total background Observed	$\begin{array}{cc} 62 & \pm 5 \\ 76 \end{array}$	4.7 ± 1.0 10	$\begin{array}{c} 0.65 \pm 0.17\\ 5\end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} 1.8 \pm 0.3 \\ 2 \end{array} $

Signal regions





Significances

	Observed	Expected
WH	2.6	1.3
ZH	2.8	1.2
Combined	4.1	1.9

Signal strength and cross-sections

	signal strength	combined
WH	$2.3^{+1.1}_{-0.9}$ (stat.) $^{+0.41}_{-0.33}$ (theo syst.) $^{+0.49}_{-0.36}$ (exp syst.)	$2.5^{+0.8}$ (stat) ^{+0.37} (theo syst) ^{+0.30} (exp syst)
ZH	$2.9^{+1.7}_{-1.3}$ (stat.) $^{+0.66}_{-0.27}$ (theo syst.) $^{+0.54}_{-0.28}$ (exp syst.)	$2.5_{-0.7}(\text{stat.})_{-0.26}(\text{tneo syst.})_{-0.23}(\text{exp syst.})$

	x-section (pb)
WH	$0.67^{+0.31}_{-0.27}(\text{stat.})^{+0.11}_{-0.09}(\text{theo syst.})^{+0.14}_{-0.11}(\text{exp syst.})$
ZH	$0.54^{+0.31}_{-0.24}$ (stat.) $^{+0.11}_{-0.05}$ (theo syst.) $^{+0.10}_{-0.05}$ (exp syst.)

Statistically dominated!

- Main Theoretical syst
 - WZ+top-quark bkgs \rightarrow WH
 - ZH signal \rightarrow ZH
- Main Exp syst:
 - misidentified leptons



Conclusions

Let me conclude showing you one of these beautiful events the study of which has still a lot to tell, in particular in terms of Higgs properties Effective Field theories and to search deviations from the SM, as we are now entering an exciting precision era, during which we have a unique possibility to unravel NewPhysics





ggF+VBF SR selection

Category	$\parallel N_{\text{jet},(p_{\text{T}}>30 \text{ GeV})} = 0 \text{ ggF} \mid N_{\text{jet},(p_{\text{T}}>30 \text{ GeV})} = 1 \text{ ggF}$	$N_{\text{jet},(p_{\text{T}}>30 \text{ GeV})} \ge 2 \text{ VBF}$	
Preselection	Two isolated, different-flavour leptons ($\ell = e, \mu$) with opposite charge $p_{T}^{\text{lead}} > 22 \text{ GeV}$, $p_{T}^{\text{sublead}} > 15 \text{ GeV}$ $m_{\ell\ell} > 10 \text{ GeV}$ $p_{T}^{\text{miss}} > 20 \text{ GeV}$		
Background rejection	$\begin{array}{c c} & & N_{b\text{-jet},(p_{T}>20 \text{ GeV})} = 0\\ \Delta \phi(\ell \ell, E_{T}^{\text{miss}}) > \pi/2 & & \max(m_{T}^{\ell}) > 50 \text{ GeV} & \\ p_{T}^{\ell \ell} > 30 \text{ GeV} & & m_{\tau\tau} < m_{Z} - 25 \text{ GeV} \end{array}$		
$H \rightarrow WW^* \rightarrow e \nu \mu \nu$	$m_{\ell\ell} < 55 \text{ GeV}$	central jet veto	
topology	$\Delta \phi_{\ell\ell} < 1.8$	outside lepton veto	
Discriminant variable	$\parallel m_{\rm T}$	BDT	
BDT input variables		$m_{jj}, \Delta y_{jj}, m_{\ell\ell}, \Delta \phi_{\ell\ell}, m_{\mathrm{T}}, \sum_{\ell} C_{\ell}, \sum_{\ell,j} m_{\ell j}, p_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{tot}}$	

$$m_{\rm T} = \sqrt{\left(E_{\rm T}^{\ell\ell} + E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}\right)^2 - \left|\mathbf{p}_{\rm T}^{\ell\ell} + \mathbf{E}_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}\right|^2} \text{ where } E_{\rm T}^{\ell\ell} = \sqrt{|\mathbf{p}_{\rm T}^{\ell\ell}|^2 + m_{\ell\ell}^2}$$



CR	$ N_{\text{jet},(p_{\text{T}}>30 \text{ GeV})} = 0 \text{ ggF}$	$N_{\text{jet},(p_{\text{T}}>30 \text{ GeV})} = 1 \text{ ggF}$	$ N_{\text{jet},(p_{\text{T}}>30 \text{ GeV})} \ge 2 \text{ VBF}$
WW	$\begin{vmatrix} 55 < m_{\ell\ell} < 110 \text{ GeV} \\ \Delta \phi_{\ell\ell} < 2.6 \\ N_{b\text{-jet},(p_{T})} \end{vmatrix}$	$ \begin{array}{c} m_{\ell\ell} > 80 \text{ GeV} \\ m_{\tau\tau} - m_Z > 25 \text{ GeV} \\ _{20 \text{ GeV})} = 0 \\ \begin{array}{c} \max \left(m_{\text{T}}^{\ell} \right) > 50 \text{ GeV} \end{array} \right.$	
tī/Wt	$\begin{vmatrix} N_{b\text{-jet},(20 \text{ GeV} < p_{T} < 30 \text{ GeV}) > 0 \\ \Delta \phi(\ell \ell, E_{T}^{\text{miss}}) > \pi/2 \\ p_{T}^{\ell \ell} > 30 \text{ GeV} \\ \Delta \phi_{\ell \ell} < 2.8 \end{vmatrix}$	$\begin{vmatrix} N_{b\text{-jet},(p_{T}>30 \text{ GeV})} = 1\\ N_{b\text{-jet},(20 \text{ GeV} < p_{T}<30 \text{ GeV})} = 0\\ \max(m_{T}^{\ell}) > 50 \text{ GeV}\\ m_{\tau\tau} < m_{T}^{2} \end{vmatrix}$	$\begin{vmatrix} N_{b\text{-jet},(p_{T}>20 \text{ GeV})} = 1 \\ \text{central jet veto} \\ Z - 25 \text{ GeV} \\ \text{outside lepton veto} \end{vmatrix}$
Z/γ^*	no $p_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$ re $\Delta\phi_{\ell\ell}>2.8$	$N_{b-jet,(p_T>20 \text{ GeV})} = 0$ $m_{\ell\ell} < 80 \text{ GeV}$ equirement $\max(m_T^{\ell}) > 50 \text{ GeV}$ $m_{\tau\tau} > m_Z - 25 \text{ GeV}$	central jet veto outside lepton veto $ m_{\tau\tau} - m_Z \le 25 \text{ GeV}$

Table 4: Post-fit normalisation factors which scale the corresponding estimated yields in the signal region; the dash indicates where MC-based normalisation is used. The errors include the statistical and systematic uncertainties.

Category	WW	$t\bar{t}/Wt$	Z/γ^*
$N_{\text{jet},(p_{\text{T}}>30 \text{ GeV})} = 0 \text{ ggF}$	1.06 ± 0.09	0.99 ± 0.17	0.84 ± 0.04
$N_{\text{jet},(p_{\text{T}}>30 \text{ GeV})} = 1 \text{ ggF}$	0.97 ± 0.17	0.98 ± 0.08	0.90 ± 0.12
$N_{\text{jet},(p_{\text{T}}>30 \text{ GeV})} \ge 2 \text{ VBF}$	_	1.01 ± 0.01	0.93 ± 0.07

ggF+VBF MC samples

Process	Matrix element	PDF set	UEPS model	Prediction order
	(alternative)		(alternative model)	for total cross-section
ggF H	Роwнед-Вох v2 NNLOPS [8, 10, 16]	PDF4LHC15 NNLO [9]	Рутніа 8 [14]	N ³ LO QCD + NLO EW [24–28]
	(MG5_AMC@NLO [47, 48])		(Herwig 7 [49])	
VBF H	Powheg-Box v2	PDF4LHC15 NLO	Рутніа 8 (Herwig 7)	NNLO QCD + NLO EW [24, 29–31]
VH	Powheg-Box v2 [50]	PDF4LHC15 NLO	Pythia 8	NNLO QCD + NLO EW[51–53]
$qq \rightarrow WW$	Sherpa 2.2.2 [32, 33]	NNPDF3.0NNLO [34]	Sherpa 2.2.2 [35, 36]	NLO [37]
	(Powheg-Box v2, MG5_AMC@NLO)		(Herwig++ [49])	
$gg \rightarrow WW$	Sherpa 2.1.1 [37]	CT10 [54]	Sherpa 2.1	NLO [38]
$WZ/V\gamma^*/ZZ$	Sherpa 2.1	CT10	Sherpa 2.1	NLO [37]
$V\gamma$	Sherpa 2.2.2	NNPDF3.0NNLO	Sherpa 2.2.2	NLO [37]
	(MG5_AMC@NLO)		(CSS variation [35, 55])	
tī	Powheg-Box v2 [56]	NNPDF3.0NLO	Рутніа 8	NNLO+NNLL [57]
	(Sherpa 2.2.1)		(Herwig 7)	
Wt	Powheg-Box v1 [58]	CT10 [54]	Рутніа 6.428 [<mark>59</mark>]	NLO [58]
	(MG5_AMC@NLO)		(Herwig++)	
Z/γ^*	Sherpa 2.2.1	NNPDF3.0NNLO	Sherpa 2.2.1	NNLO [60, 61]

• ggF signal: generated at NNLO in QCD with Powheg-box v2 NNLOPS. The transverse momentum spectrum was found to be compatible with the resumed NNLO+NNLL HRes2.3 calculation.

- ggF x-section calculation is done at N3LO QCD and NLO EW
- VBF simulated at NLO in QCD with Powheg-box v2.
 - VBF the QCD &EW NLO cross-sections are corrected with approximate NNLO QCD corrections.

W+jet + multi-jet fakes

Estimated from data, selecting events with one lepton passing Identification (ID) and the second failing it, but passing a looser

- in pT and eta. The number of events in the signal region is
- The extrapolation factor model the ratio between

The extrapolation factors are obtained from Z+jet.

A sample composition correction factor is also added, which is obtained from the MC ratio among W+jets and Z+jets. For the VBF the multi-jet background is also

evaluated (negligible for other regions)



Figure 1:

Distributions of p_T in the Z+jets control sample used to determine the extrapolation factors for misidentified

leptons: (a) identified electron, (b) identified muon, (c) anti-identified electron, and (d) anti-identified muon. The black points represent the data sample (Observed); the histograms are the background MC estimates (Background) of the sum of electroweak processes other than the associated production of a Z boson and jets. The systematic band on the background prediction includes the MC statistic error and the uncertainties of the electroweak processes.

ggF & VBF systematics impact





VH selection

		WH		ZH	
Preselection	3 isolated	leptons ($p_{\rm T} > 15$ GeV)	4 isolated leptons ($p_{\rm T} > 10 \text{ GeV}$)		
	total	lepton charge ± 1	total lepton charge 0		
Category	Z-dominated	Z-depleted	2-SFOS	1-SFOS	
Number of SFOS	2 or 1	0	2	1	
Number of jets	≤ 1		≤ 1	≤ 2	
Number of <i>b</i> -jets	0	0	0	0	
$E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$ [GeV]	> 30		> 45		
$p_{\rm T}^{4\ell}$ [GeV]			> 45		
$m_{\ell\ell}$ [GeV]	> 12 (min. SFOS)		> 10	> 10	
$ m_{\ell\ell} - m_Z $ [GeV]	> 25 (SFOS)		$< 10 (m_{\ell_2 \ell_3})$	$< 10 \ (m_{\ell_2 \ell_3})$	
$m_{\ell_0\ell_1}$ [GeV]	_		< 55	< 60	
$\Delta \phi_{\ell_0 \ell_1}^{\text{boost}}$	_		< 2.3	< 1.9	
$m_{\tau\tau}$ [GeV]	_		_	< 50	
$\Delta \phi_{\ell_0 \ell_1, E_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{miss}}}$ [rad]	_			> 0.4	
$m_{4\ell}$ [GeV]	_		> 140	—	
BDT	$BDT_{Zdom} > 0.3$	$BDT_{t\bar{t}} > 0.2 \& BDT_{WZ} > 0.15$			

- Z veto is used in the Z dominated WH region
- b-tag efficiency point 85%, 33 rejection factor light jets, 3 for c
- I0,I1 are originating from Higgs decay
- in the ZH 1SFOS leptons the ZZ* bkg contributes through Z->tautau, therefore a cut on mtautau<50 is set
- a cut on m4l>140 GeV is used to make selection orthogonal to H->ZZ

VH CRs

Channel (Category)	WH (Z-dominated and Z-depleted)		ZH (2-SFOS)
CR	WZ	Top-quark	ZZ
Number of leptons	3	3	4
Total lepton charge	±1	±1	0
Number of SFOS	2 or 1	≤ 2	2
Number of jets	≤ 1	≥ 1	≤ 1
Number of <i>b</i> -jets	0	≥ 1	0
$E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$ [GeV]	> 50	> 50 (2 or 1 SFOS)	
$ m_{\ell\ell} - m_Z $ [GeV]	< 25	> 25 (2 or 1 SFOS)	$< 10 \ (m_{\ell_2 \ell_3})$
$m_{\ell_0\ell_1}$ [GeV]	_	—	> 55
$m_{\ell\ell}$ (min. SFOS) [GeV]	> 12	> 12 (2 or 1 SFOS)	
Normalisation factors	0.99±0.05	0.97±0.08	1.13±0.06

 The contributions from Z+jets/Zgamma are estimated both for WH and ZH with a data driven technique: 1 lepton fails ID (looser ID) and the other passes. Extrapolation factors are used to extrapolate to SR, which are obtained from the data in a Z+jet enriched phase space

VH samples

Process	Generator	UEPS model	Prediction order
	(alternative)	(alternative)	for total cross section
$q\bar{q} \rightarrow WH$	Powheg-Box v2 MiNLO	Ρυτηία8	NNLO QCD + NLO EW [16–18]
		(Herwig 7)	
$q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZH$	Powheg-Box v2 MiNLO	Ρυτηία8	NNLO QCD + NLO EW [16–18]
		(Herwig 7)	
$gg \rightarrow ZH$	Powheg-Box v2	Ρυτηία8	NLO + NLL [19]
		(Herwig 7)	
ggF H	Powheg-Box v2 NNLOPS	Ρυτηία8	NNNLO QCD + NLO EW [20]
VBF H	Powheg-Box v2	Ρυτηία8	NNLO QCD + NLO EW [21]
tī	Powheg-Box v2	Ρυτηία8	NNLO+NNLL [22]
		(Herwig 7)	
	(Sherpa 2.2.1)	(Sherpa 2.2.1)	
Wt	Powheg-Box v1	Рутніаб	NLO [23]
$t\bar{t}W/Z$	MG5_AMC@LO	Ρυτηία8	NLO [24, 25]
tΖ	MG5_AMC@LO	Рутніаб	LO [26]
$q\bar{q}/qg \rightarrow \ell \nu \ell \ell$	Sherpa 2.2.2	Sherpa 2.2.2	NLO [27]
	(Powheg-Box v2)	(Herwig++)	
$q\bar{q}/qg \rightarrow \ell\ell\ell\ell$	Sherpa 2.1/2.2.2	Sherpa 2.1/2.2.2	NLO [27]
	(Powheg-Box v2)	(Herwig++)	
$gg \rightarrow \ell\ell\ell\ell$	Sherpa 2.1.1	Sherpa 2.1.1	NLO [28]
VVV	Sherpa 2.2.2	Sherpa 2.2.2	NLO [29]
	(MG5_AMC@NLO)	(Pythia8)	

VH CR definitions

Channel (Category)	WH (Z-dominated and Z-depleted)		ZH (2-SFOS)
CR	WZ	Top-quark	ZZ
Number of leptons	3	3	4
Total lepton charge	±1	±1	0
Number of SFOS	2 or 1	≤ 2	2
Number of jets	≤ 1	≥ 1	≤ 1
Number of <i>b</i> -jets	0	≥ 1	0
$E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$ [GeV]	> 50	> 50 (2 or 1 SFOS)	—
$ m_{\ell\ell} - m_Z $ [GeV]	< 25	> 25 (2 or 1 SFOS)	$< 10 (m_{\ell_2 \ell_3})$
$m_{\ell_0\ell_1}$ [GeV]		—	> 55
$m_{\ell\ell}$ (min. SFOS) [GeV]	> 12	> 12 (2 or 1 SFOS)	
Normalisation factors	0.99 ± 0.05	0.97 ± 0.08	1.13 ± 0.06

VH systematics

Source	$\Delta \sigma_{WH} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{H \to WW^*} [\%]$	Source	$\Delta \sigma_{ZH} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{H \to WW^*}$ [%]
Data statistics in SR	43	Data statistics in SR	50
Data statistics in CR	6	Data statistics in CR	< 1
Theoretical uncertainties	16	Theoretical uncertainties	15
$WZ/W\gamma^*(*)$	12	ZH signal	14
Top-quark(*)	8	Top-quark	1
WH signal(*)	4	$WZ/W\gamma^*$	< 1
ZZ^*	2	ZZ^*	< 1
Experimental uncertainties	12	Experimental uncertainties	7
Impact parameter mismodelling	8	Misidentified leptons	3
Misidentified leptons	8	<i>b</i> -tagging	1
<i>b</i> -tagging	1		
MC statistics	9	MC statistics	11
Luminosity	3	Luminosity	2
TOTAL	49	TOTAL	54

- The ttbar scale uncertainty is dominating in the WH theory systematics: Scale and Radiation variations using 1 Powheg + Pythia 8 generated with variable shower radiation (A14 var3c eigentune), modified factorization and renormalization scale (x2 and x0.5) and the NLO radiation (hdamp = 1.5mtop and 3mtop)
- the WZ modeling in WH theory systematics: sherpa versus powheg box v2