





# Accessing λ at the LHC through HH production via VBS

#### Claudia García-García

Instituto de Física Teórica, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid/CSIC

claudia.garcia@uam.es

October 8th, 2018

**VBSCan WG1 meeting** 

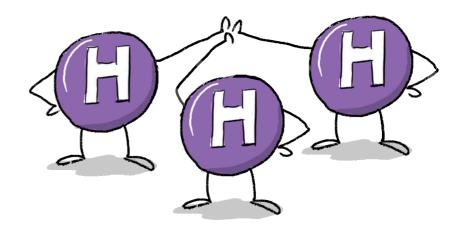
Based on [arXiv:1807.09736]

E. Arganda, CGG, M.J. Herrero

### Introduction to the topic

#### Aim

- Measure accurately the Higgs self-coupling λ
- Understand the BEH mechanism
- Check BSM alternatives of \(\lambda\)



#### Current status and sensitivity at the LHC

Studies focus on gluon gluon fusion (dominant) HH production

See references [11-39] for theoretical studies and [40-46] for experimental searches in [arXiv:1807.09736]

- lacktriangle Different ggF channels considered (th. and exp.):  $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ ,  $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ ,  $b\bar{b}\tau\bar{\tau}$ ...
- igoplus Current sensitivity: exp. global analysis constrains  $\lambda \in [-5.0, 12.1] \ \lambda_{SM}$  at 95% C.L.

[ATLAS-CONF-2018-043]

#### Future prospects at linear colliders

 $\bigcirc$  e+e- linear colliders (ILC, CLIC) will allow for most precise  $\lambda_{SM}$  measurements

[Abramowicz et al, Eur. Phys. J. C77 (2017) 475]

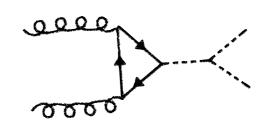
O Still far (and/or unknown) in the future!!

$$\Delta \lambda / \lambda = 40\%$$
 at  $\sqrt{s} = 1.4 \text{ TeV}$ ,  $\Delta \lambda / \lambda = 22\%$  at  $\sqrt{s} = 3 \text{ TeV}$ .

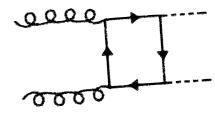
#### **Motivation**

#### Is there an alternative to gluon gluon fusion to test $\lambda$ ?

Until today studies focus on gluon gluon fusion (ggF)

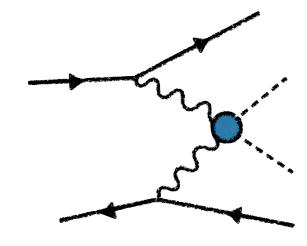


- High rates
- 1-loop, top mass involved, big uncertainties



- Our proposal: focus on Vector Boson Scattering potential (VBS)
  - Tree level, no top physics involved, small uncertainties, heart of scalar interactions very characteristic kinematics





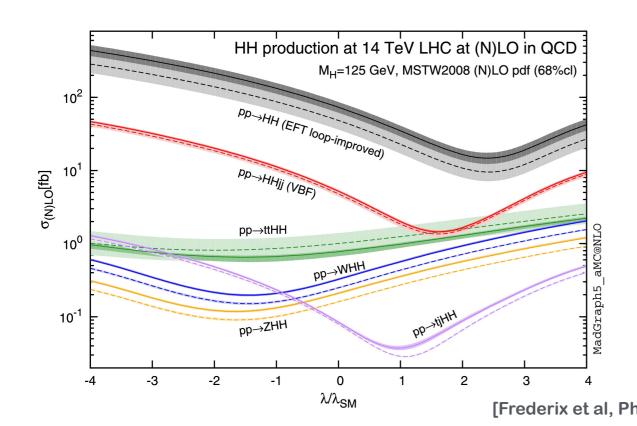
WARNING! All our LHC numerical results are provided at the parton level

### Introduction - More on why VBS at the LHC

ggF:  $gg \rightarrow HH$ 

$$\sigma_{\rm ggF}(14 {\rm ~TeV}, \kappa = \lambda/\lambda_{\rm SM} = 1) \sim 32 {\rm ~fb}$$

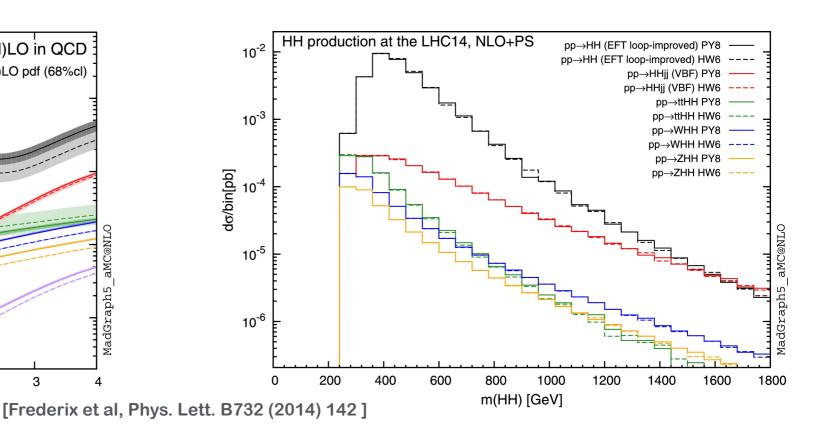
- 1-loop + Top mass uncertainties
- Big scale choice uncertainties
- Sizable NLO corrections
- Less specific kinematics
- Only sensitive to HHH coupling



VBS:  $q_1q_2 \rightarrow HHq_3q_4$ 

$$\sigma_{\text{VBS}}(14 \text{ TeV}, \kappa = \lambda/\lambda_{\text{SM}} = 1) \sim 2 \text{ fb}$$

- Tree level + No top physics involved
- Small scale choice uncertainties
- Small NLO corrections
- Very characteristic kinematics
- Probes EWSB sector directly through V<sub>L</sub>V<sub>L</sub>→HH sub-scattering



# Introduction - More on why VBS at the LHC

ggF: 
$$gg \rightarrow HH$$

$$\sigma_{\rm ggF}(14 {\rm ~TeV}, \kappa = \lambda/\lambda_{\rm SM} = 1) \sim 32 {\rm ~fb}$$

- 1-loop + Top mass uncertainties
- Big scale choice uncertainties
- Sizable NLO corrections
- Less specific kinematics
- Only sensitive to HHH coupling

ggF: 
$$gg \rightarrow HHjj$$
?

$$\sigma_{\rm ggF}^{\rm HHjj}(14~{
m TeV},\kappa=\lambda/\lambda_{
m SM}=1)\sim 5.5~{
m fb}$$

- ullet Contributes to our signal: "same" final state & sensitive to  $\lambda$
- Larger above-commented uncertainties than VBS
- VBS selection cuts reduce cross section below pure VBS one
- More optimized VBS cuts suppose bigger reduction
- Not taken into account in the present work

VBS:  $q_1q_2 \rightarrow HHq_3q_4$ 

$$\sigma_{\text{VBS}}(14 \text{ TeV}, \kappa = \lambda/\lambda_{\text{SM}} = 1) \sim 2 \text{ fb}$$

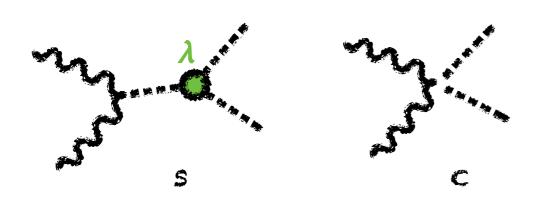
- Tree level + No top physics involved
- Small scale choice uncertainties
- Small NLO corrections
- Very characteristic kinematics
- Probes EWSB sector directly through V<sub>L</sub>V<sub>L</sub>→HH sub-scattering

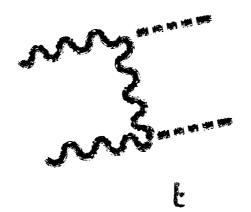
[Dolan et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 112 (2014) 101802]

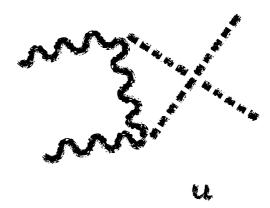
[Dolan et al, Eur. Phys. J. C75 (2015) 387]

### Learning from SM subprocess VV→HH

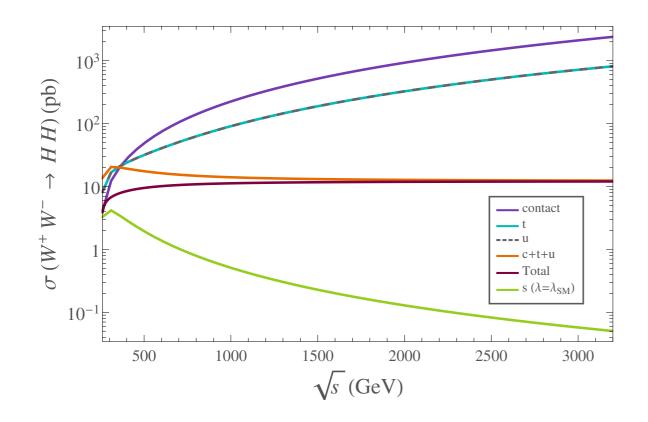
#### Diagrams that contribute:







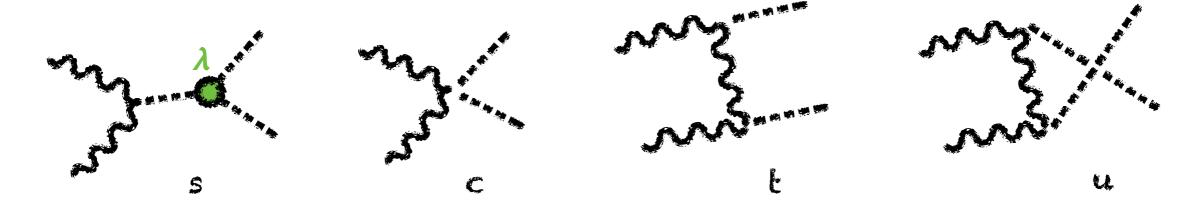
#### Reminder of main facts in the SM



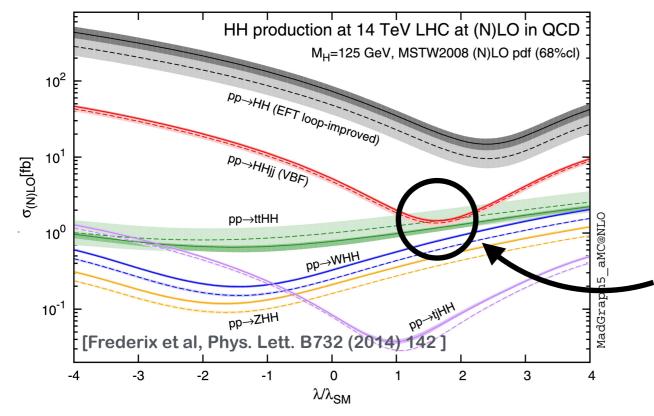
- λ present only in s-channel
- Cross section dominated by V<sub>L</sub>V<sub>L</sub> → HH
- λ contribution subleading in SM
- Main c+t+u cancellations lead to σ flatness at high √s
- Negative interference between
   λ diagram and the rest only relevant near HH threshold

### Learning from SM subprocess VV→HH

#### Diagrams that contribute:



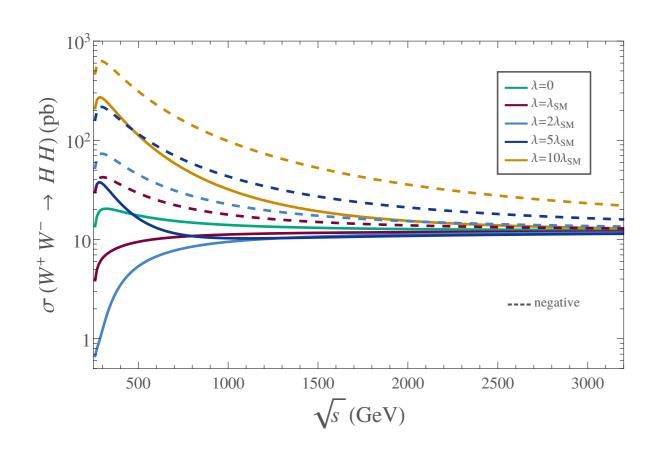
#### Reminder of main facts in the SM

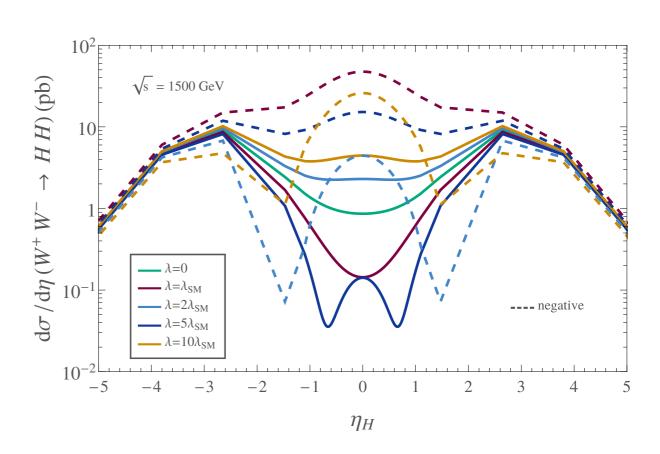


- λ present only in s-channel
- $\circ$  Cross section dominated by  $V_LV_L \rightarrow HH$
- λ contribution subleading in SM
- Main c+t+u cancellations lead to σ flatness at high √s
- Negative interference between
   λ diagram and the rest only relevant
   near HH threshold

# **BSM** distortions varying $\kappa = \lambda l \lambda_{SM}$

- We study  $\lambda \in [-10,10] \lambda_{SM}$
- Energy and angular behavior change when varying  $\lambda$

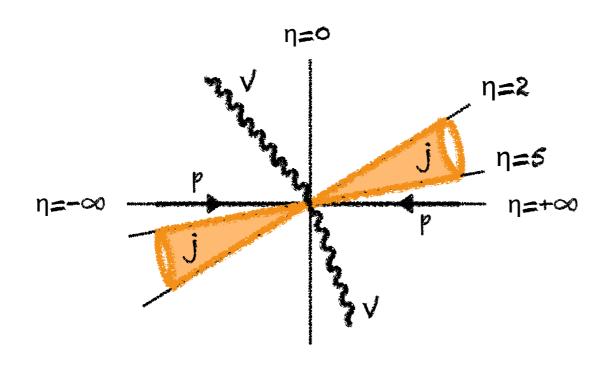




- $\bigcirc$   $\lambda \neq \lambda_{SM}$  leads to sizable (exp. observable) deviations from the SM
- Largest deviations near HH production threshold

# Moving on to the LHC: pp → HHjj

Signal: prediction of  $q_1q_2 \rightarrow HHq_3q_4$  events for given  $\lambda$  VBS characterization of our signal



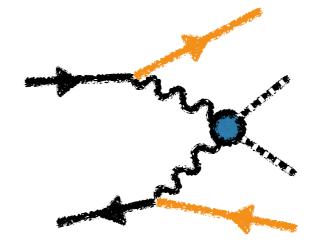
# Extra jets identify VBS configurations among all contributing diagrams

Two opposite-side forward/backward jets with large pseudorapidity gap required

$$|\Delta\eta_{jj}| \equiv |\eta_{j_1} - \eta_{j_2}|$$

with large invariant masses

$$M_{jj}$$



#### **Defining VBS selection cuts**

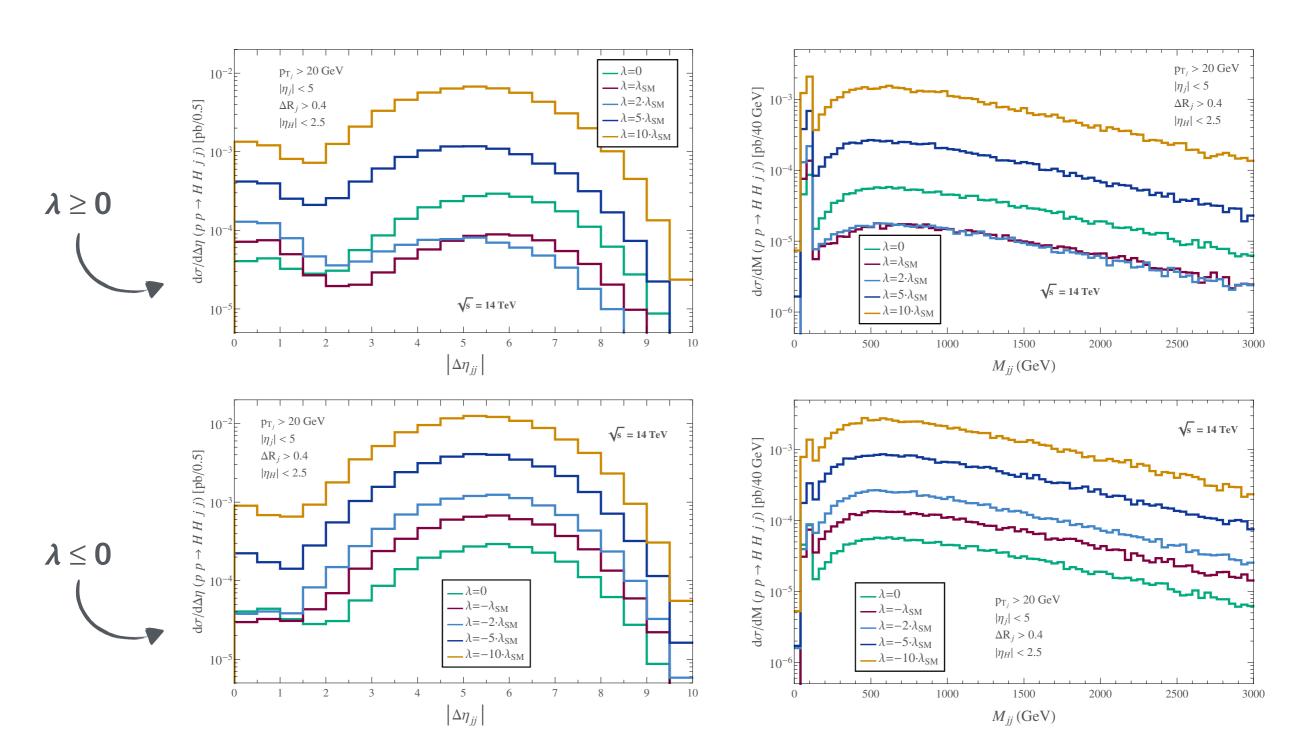
Spoiler: more on this later

$$|\Delta \eta_{jj}| > 4$$

$$M_{ii} > 500 \text{ GeV}$$

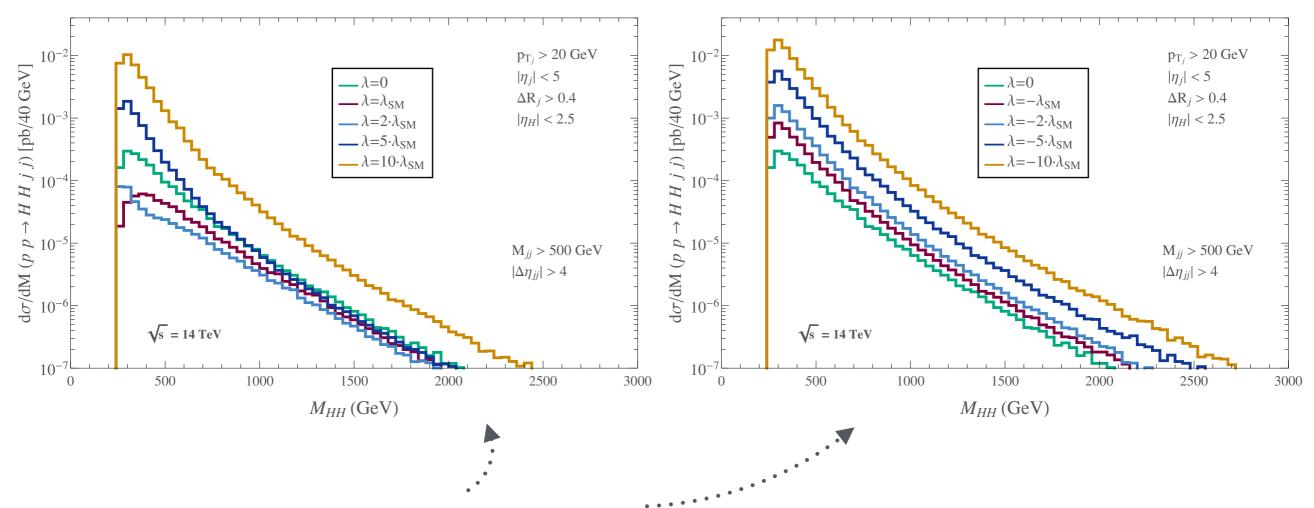
#### How VBS-dominated is our signal?

VERY!!! 55-75% of q₁q₂→ HHq₃q₄ events occur through VBS



# Varying κ at the LHC in pp → HHjj

- pp → HHjj VBS-dominated direct translation form subprocess results
- Visible deviations respect to the SM!!!



- Different sensitivity to  $\lambda > 0$  and to  $\lambda < 0$  remains
- Largest sensitivity still near HH production threshold

# Our signal after Higgs decays

- HH production observed through Higgs decay products
- lacktriangle Two decays considered:  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  and  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

- Highest rates due to large BR(H → bb̄) ~ 60 %
- Large backgrounds

$$pp \rightarrow HHjj \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma jj (q_1q_2 \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma q_3q_4)$$

- Much cleaner channel. Small and controlable backgrounds
- Lower statistics due to small BR(H  $\rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ) ~ 0.2 %

## Our signal after Higgs decays

- HH production observed through Higgs decay products
- Two decays considered: H → b̄b and H → γγ

Let us explore this one first!!

- Highest rates due to large BR(H → bb̄) ~ 60 %
- Large backgrounds

$$pp \rightarrow HHjj \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma jj (q_1q_2 \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma q_3q_4)$$

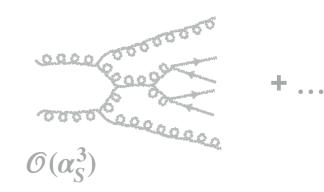
- Much cleaner channel. Small and controlable backgrounds
- Lower statistics due to small BR(H  $\rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ) ~ 0.2 %

# Identifying backgrounds in pp → bbbbjj

#### multijet QCD pp→ bbbbjj

Estimated with MG5 Checked with AlpGen

- Dominant background by many orders of magnitude
- Additional selection cuts apart from VBS required?



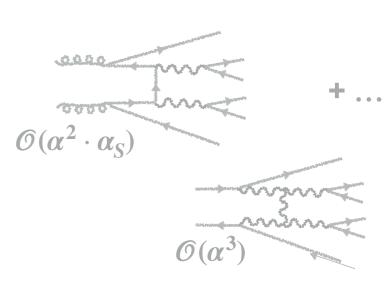
#### tt → bW+bW-→ bbbbjj

- O CKM suppressed
- Radically different kinematics respect to VBS
- O Under control

$$\mathcal{O}(lpha^2 \cdot lpha_S) \cdot |V_{qb}|^2$$

#### pp → ZZjj → bbbbjj & pp → ZHjj → bbbbjj

- Take place in part through VBS configurations
- Additional selection cuts apart from VBS required?



# Study of VBS cuts in pp → bbbbjj

- We analyze the fraction of events that satisfy different sets of VBS cuts
- Signal dominated by VBS topologies
- QCD background reduced in 1-1.5 orders of magnitude ...

<i>√</i> –	$\sigma(pp \rightarrow$	$b\bar{b}b\bar{b}jj) _{\mathrm{VBS}}$
$\mathcal{A}_{\mathrm{VBS}} \equiv$	$\sigma(pp)$	$\rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}ii$ )

Set of VBS cuts	$\mathcal{A}_{\mathrm{VBS}}^{\mathrm{QCD}}$	$\mathcal{A}_{\mathrm{VBS}}^{\mathrm{Signal};\kappa=1}$
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 4, \ M_{jj} > 500 \text{ GeV}$	0.086	0.631
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 4$ , $M_{jj} > 600 \text{ GeV}$	0.066	0.597
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 4, \ M_{jj} > 700 \text{ GeV}$	0.054	0.558
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 3, \ M_{jj} > 500 \text{ GeV}$	0.098	0.669
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 3, \ M_{jj} > 600 \text{ GeV}$	0.071	0.626
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 3, \ M_{jj} > 700 \text{ GeV}$	0.057	0.580

Different sets give similar results

We stick to:

 $|\Delta \eta_{jj}| > 4$   $M_{ii} > 500 \text{ GeV}$ 

# Study of VBS cuts in pp → bbbbjj

- We analyze the fraction of events that satisfy different sets of VBS cuts
- Signal dominated by VBS topologies
- QCD background reduced in 1-1.5 orders of magnitude

<i>✓</i> =	$\sigma(pp \rightarrow$	$ b\bar{b}b\bar{b}jj\rangle _{\mathrm{VBS}}$
$\mathcal{A}_{\mathrm{VBS}} \equiv$	$\sigma(pp)$	$\rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}jj)$

Set of VBS cuts	$\mathcal{A}_{ ext{VBS}}^{ ext{QCD}}$	$\mathcal{A}_{\mathrm{VBS}}^{\mathrm{Signal};\kappa=1}$
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 4$ , $M_{jj} > 500 \text{ GeV}$	0.086	0.631
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 4$ , $M_{jj} > 600 \text{ GeV}$	0.066	0.597
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 4, \ M_{jj} > 700 \text{ GeV}$	0.054	0.558
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 3, \ M_{jj} > 500 \text{ GeV}$	0.098	0.669
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 3, \ M_{jj} > 600 \text{ GeV}$	0.071	0.626
$ \Delta \eta_{jj}  > 3$ , $M_{jj} > 700 \text{ GeV}$	0.057	0.580

Different sets give similar results

We stick to:

 $|\Delta \eta_{jj}| > 4$   $M_{jj} > 500 \; \mathrm{GeV}$ 

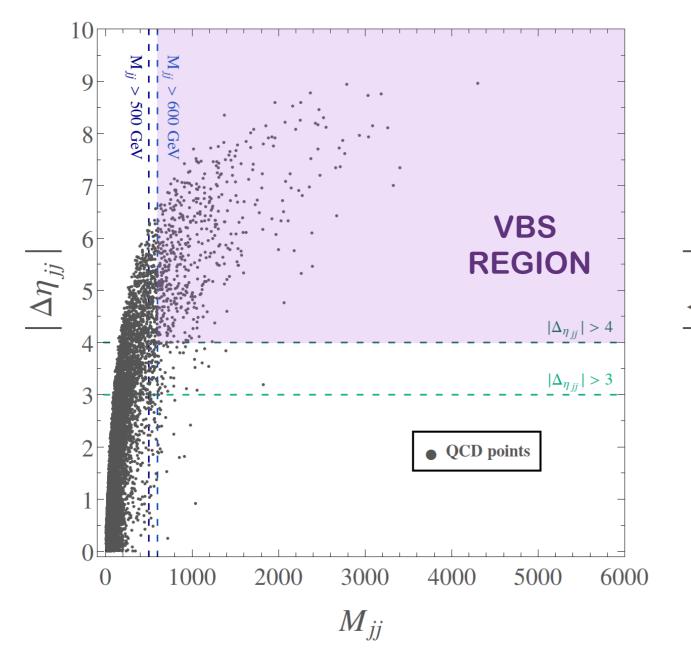
**Basic detection cuts:**  $p_{T_{i,b}} > 20 \text{ GeV}$ ;  $|\eta_j| < 5$ ;  $|\eta_b| < 2.5$ ;  $\Delta R_{jj,jb} > 0.4$ ;  $\Delta R_{bb} > 0.2$ 

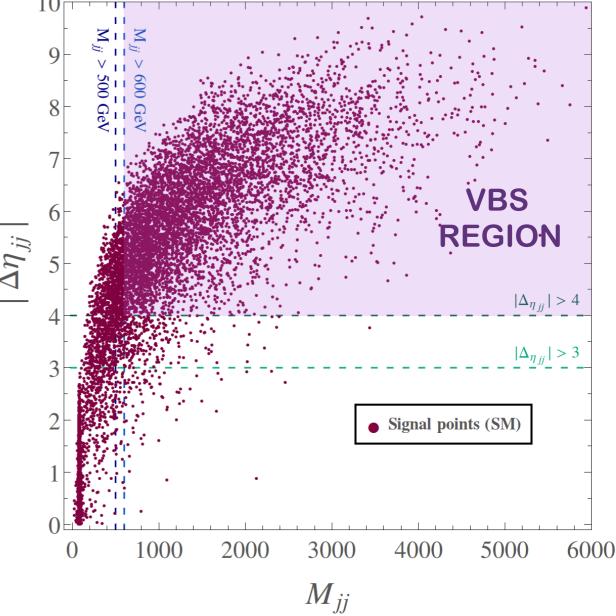
# Signal and QCD background kinematics

#### Signal & QCD bkg populate different kinematical regions





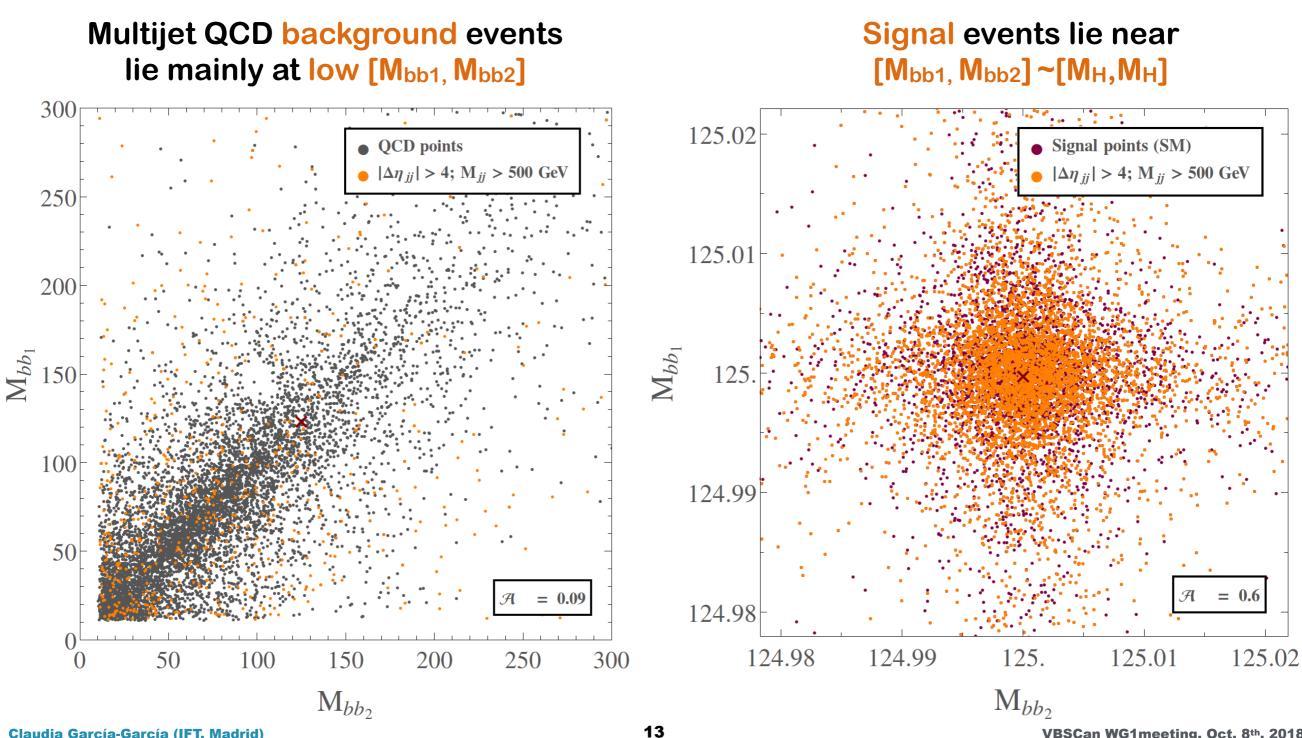




### New cuts apart from VBS?

#### Profit from Higgs decays info

b-quarks paired as HH candidates: pairing minimizing | Mbb1 - Mbb2 |

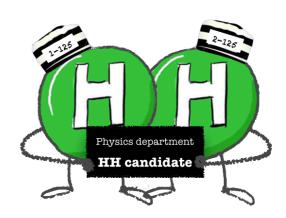


#### HH candidate identification

#### b-quark pairs identified as HH decays



We follow recent cuts proposed by ATLAS [arXiv: 1804.06174] and CMS [CMS-PAS-HIG-16-026]



$$p_{T_b} > 35 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\hat{\Delta}R_{bb} \equiv \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0.2 < \Delta R_{bb^l} < \frac{653}{M_{4b}\,\mathrm{GeV}} + 0.475 \,;\; 0.2 < \Delta R_{bb^s} < \frac{875}{M_{4b}\,\mathrm{GeV}} + 0.35 \,,\, M_{4b} < 1250 \,\,\mathrm{GeV} \\ 0.2 < \Delta R_{bb^l} < 1 \,;\; 0.2 < \Delta R_{bb^s} < 1 \,,\, M_{4b} > 1250 \,\,\mathrm{GeV} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\hat{p}_{T_{bb}} \equiv p_{T_{bb}l} > M_{4b}/2 - 103 \,\text{GeV}; \ p_{T_{bb}s} > M_{4b}/3 - 73 \,\text{GeV}$$

$$\chi_{HH} \equiv \sqrt{\left(\frac{M_{bb^l} - m_H}{0.05 \, m_H}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{M_{bb^s} - m_H}{0.05 \, m_H}\right)^2} < 1$$

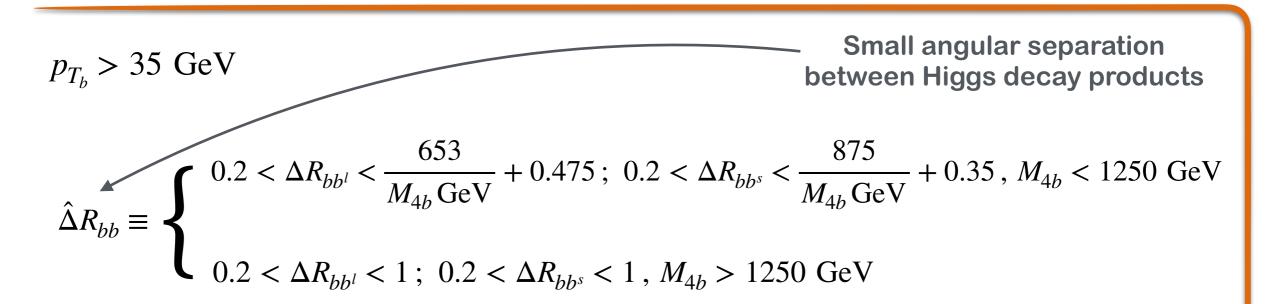
#### HH candidate identification

#### b-quark pairs identified as HH decays



O HH candidate cuts:

We follow recent cuts proposed by ATLAS [arXiv: 1804.06174] and CMS [CMS-PAS-HIG-16-026]



$$\hat{p}_{T_{bb}} \equiv p_{T_{bb^l}} > M_{4b}/2 - 103 \,\text{GeV}; \ p_{T_{bb^s}} > M_{4b}/3 - 73 \,\text{GeV}$$

$$\chi_{HH} \equiv \sqrt{\left(\frac{M_{bb^l} - m_H}{0.05 \, m_H}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{M_{bb^s} - m_H}{0.05 \, m_H}\right)^2} < 1$$

 $[M_{bb1}, M_{bb2}] \sim [M_H, M_H]$ 

### Efficiency of the selection cuts

#### Combined HH candidate and VBS cuts

#### Signal mildly reduced

Cut	$\sigma_{\rm QCD}$ [pb]	$\sigma_{ZHjj,ZZjj}$ [pb]	$\sigma_{\text{Signal};\kappa=1}$ [pb]
Basic detection cuts	602.72	0.028	$5.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$
$p_{T_b} > 35 \text{ GeV}$	98.31	0.01	$3.0 \cdot 10^{-4}$
$\hat{\Delta}R_{bb}$	33.80	$6.3 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$
$\hat{p}_{T_{bb}}$	29.77	$5.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$9.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$
$\chi_{HH} < 1$ ,	$7.9 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$8.6 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$9.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$
VBS cuts in	$6.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$5.5 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$4.1 \cdot 10^{-5}$

**Cuts subsequently applied** 

O Very reduced backgrounds!!!

### Efficiency of the selection cuts

#### Combined HH candidate and VBS cuts

#### Signal mildly reduced

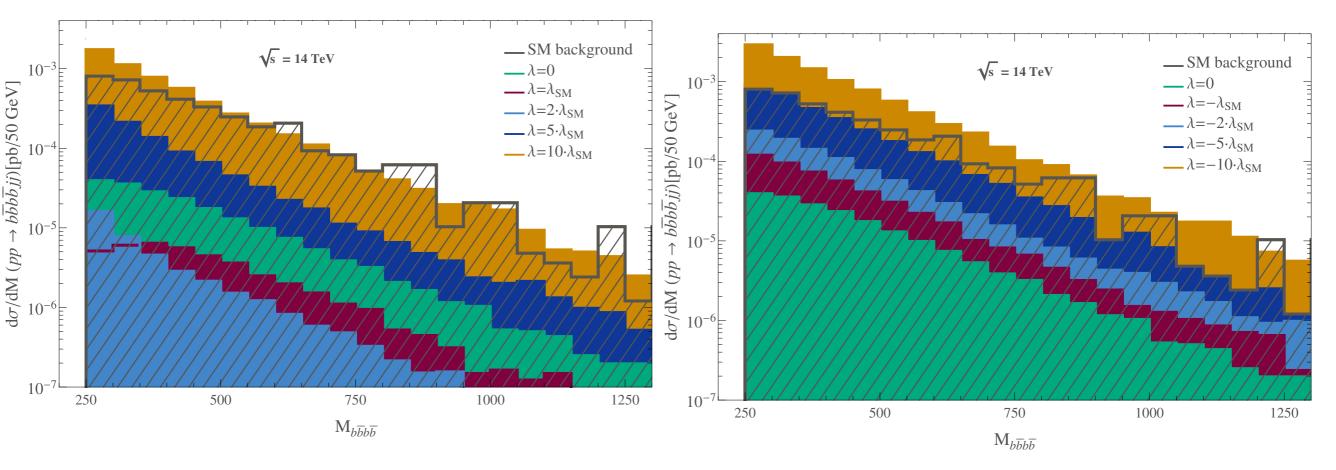
Cut	$\sigma_{ m QCD}$ [pb]	$\sigma_{ZHjj,ZZjj}$ [pb]	$\sigma_{\text{Signal};\kappa=1}$ [pb]
Basic detection cuts	602.72	0.028	$5.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$
$p_{T_b} > 35 \text{ GeV}$	98.31	0.01	$3.0 \cdot 10^{-4}$
$\hat{\Delta}R_{bb}$	33.80	$6.3 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$
$\hat{p}_{T_{bb}}$	29.77	$5.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$9.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$
$\chi_{HH} < 1$ ,	$7.9 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$8.6 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$9.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$
VBS cuts in	$6.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$5.5 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$4.1 \cdot 10^{-5}$

**Cuts subsequently applied** 

- O Very reduced backgrounds!!!
- Total SM background: multijet QCD + ZZjj + ZHjj events leading to bbbbjj

# 4b inv. mass distributions of pp → bbbbjj

- **Similar** results as in pp → HHjj varying κ
- Clear deviations respect the background and the  $\lambda_{SM}$  prediction



 $\circ$  Some predictions ( $\kappa$  = -10) even above backgrounds!

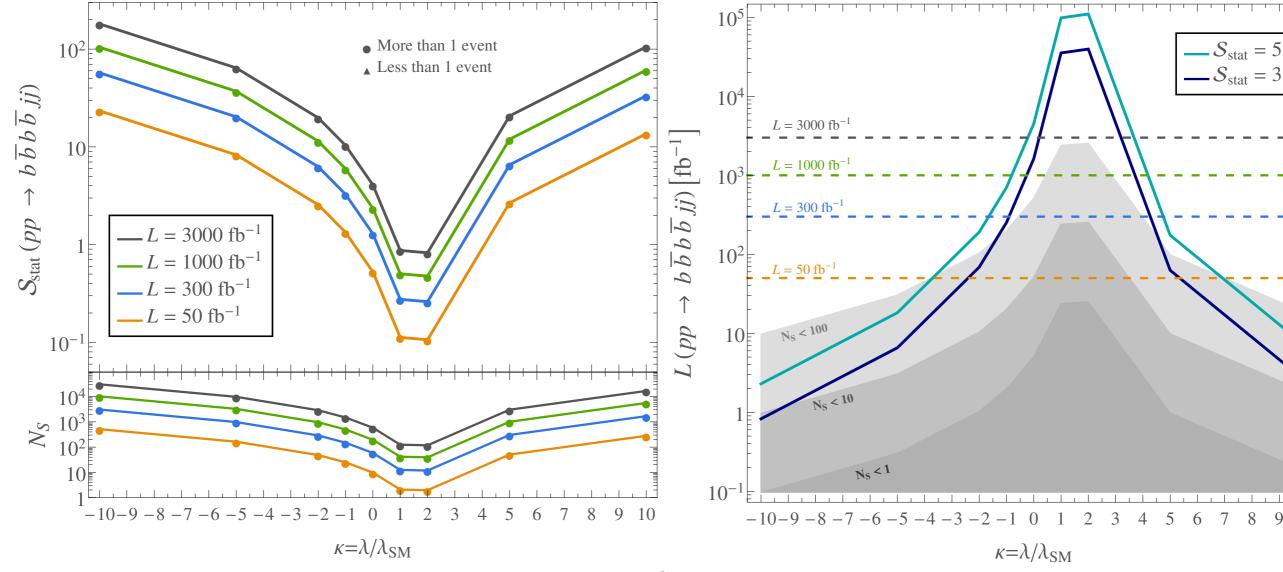
# Sensitivity to $\lambda$ in pp $\rightarrow$ bbbbjj

#### High sensitivity to BSM $\lambda$ even for the lowest luminosities!!!

$$S_{\text{stat}} = \sqrt{-2\left((N_S + N_B)\log\left(\frac{N_B}{N_S + N_B}\right) + N_S\right)}$$

#### Statistical significance for different $\lambda$ values and different luminosities

#### Luminosity required to observe a $\lambda$ value at $3\sigma$ and $5\sigma$



# Accesible values of λ in pp → bbbbjj

#### Which λ intervals can we probe through VBS?

- We explore different luminosities
- Different sensitivities to  $\lambda$  < 0 and  $\lambda$  > 0 at 3σ (5σ)

L [fb <sup>-1</sup> ]	50	300	1000	3000
	$\kappa > 5.4 (7.0)$ $\kappa < -2.4 (-3.8)$	,	,	` '

- Very broad intervals probed even for low luminosities!
- For L = 50 fb<sup>-1</sup> similar results than current 95% C.L. sensitivity: κ ∈ [-5.0,12.1] \*
- HL-LHC: able to test small deviations and be sensitive to all  $\lambda$  < 0 values

\*WARNING!: Naive results. Hadronization and detector not taken into account

## Our signal after Higgs decays

- HH production observed through Higgs decay products
- Two decays considered:  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  and  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

- Highest rates due to large BR(H → bb̄) ~ 60 %
- Large backgrounds

Time to explore this one!!

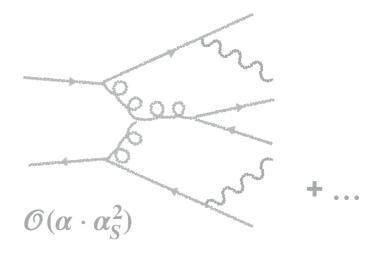
$$pp \rightarrow HHjj \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma jj (q_1q_2 \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma q_3q_4)$$

- Much cleaner channel. Small and controlable backgrounds
- Lower statistics due to small BR(H  $\rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ) ~ 0.2 %

### pp → bbγγjj backgrounds and selection cuts

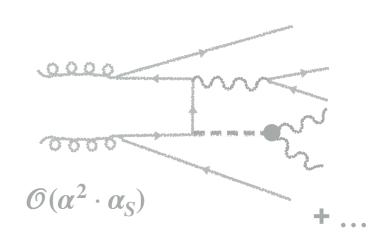
#### mixed QCDEW pp→ bbyyjj

- Dominant background but easy to control
- Additional selection cuts apart from VBS required?



#### pp → ZHjj → bbyyjj

- Take place in part through VBS configurations
- Additional selection cuts apart from VBS required?



#### **Selection cuts**

**VBS cuts + HH candidate**  $p_{T_{\gamma l}}/M_{\gamma \gamma} > 1/3; \quad p_{T_{\gamma s}}/M_{\gamma \gamma} > 1/4; \quad \chi_{HH} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{M_{bb} - m_H}{0.05 \, m_H}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{M_{\gamma \gamma} - m_H}{0.05 \, m_H}\right)^2} < 1$ 

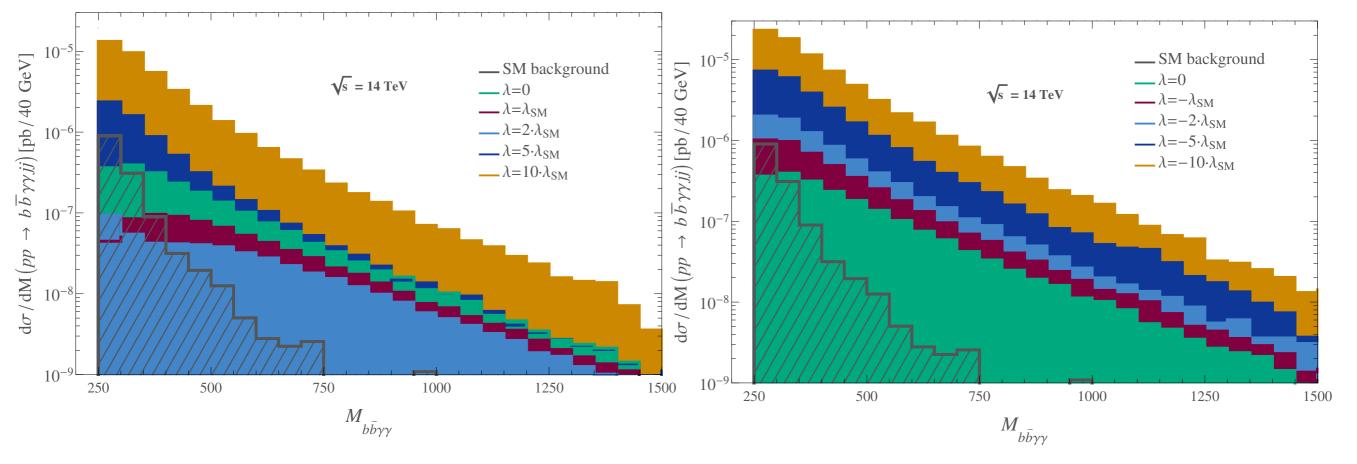
**VERY REDUCED BACKGROUNDS!** 

**Basic detection cuts:**  $p_{T_{j,b}} > 20 \text{ GeV}$ ;  $p_{T_{\gamma}} > 18 \text{ GeV}$ ;  $|\eta_j| < 5$ ;  $|\eta_{b,\gamma}| < 2.5$ ;  $\Delta R_{jj,jb,\gamma\gamma,\gamma b,\gamma j} > 0.4$ ;  $\Delta R_{bb} > 0.2, p_{T_{\gamma l}} > 0.4$ 

# 2b2γ inv. mass distributions of pp → bbγγjj

Signal =  $q_1q_2 \rightarrow HHq_3q_4 \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma q_3q_4$  (sensitive to  $\lambda$ ) SM Background = mixed QCDEW + ZHjj events leading to  $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma jj$ 

- Similar results as in pp → HHjj and pp → bbbbjj varying κ with smaller rates
- Again clear deviations respect the background and the  $\lambda_{SM}$  prediction



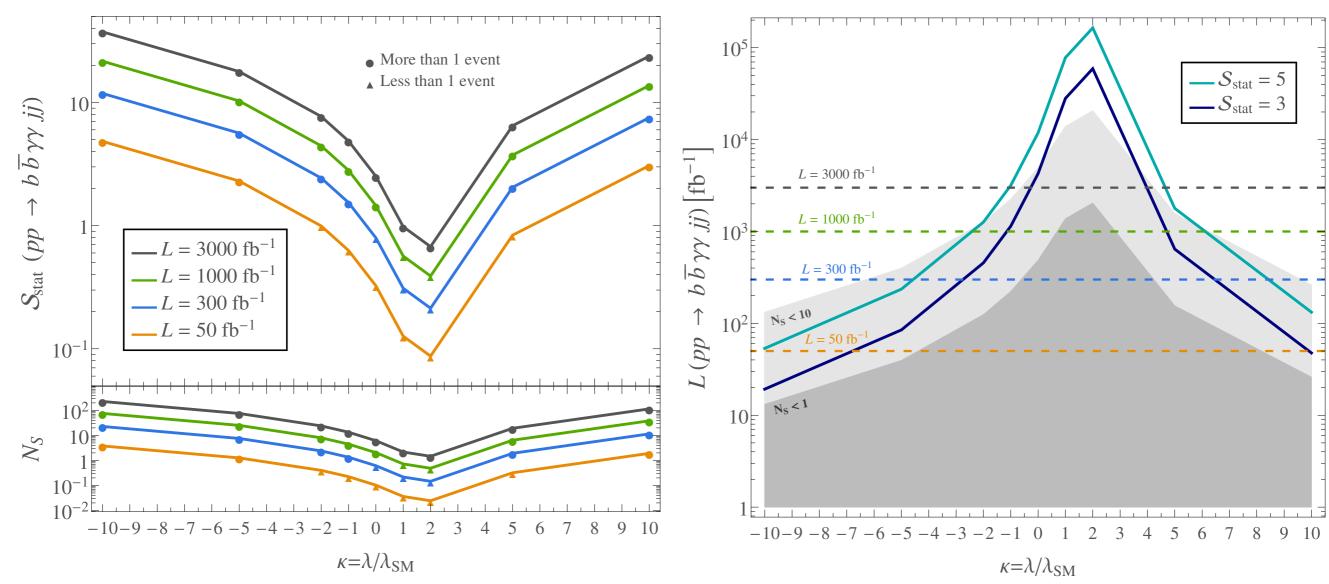
- Very reduced and steeper backgrounds
- All tested values of λ above background!

# Sensitivity in pp → bbyyjj

# Modest but interesting channel to probe the H self-coupling

# Statistical significance for different $\lambda$ values and different luminosities

# Luminosity required to observe a $\lambda$ value at $3\sigma$ and $5\sigma$



# Accesible values of $\lambda$ in pp $\rightarrow$ bbyyjj

#### Which λ intervals can we probe through VBS?

- We explore different luminosities
- Different sensitivities to  $\lambda$  < 0 and  $\lambda$  > 0 at 3σ (5σ)

$L [fb^{-1}]$	50	300	1000	3000
	$\kappa > 9.9 (14.2)$	\ /	/	\ /
$\kappa < 0$	$\kappa < -6.7 (-10.0)$	$\kappa < -2.7 (-4.6)$	$\kappa < -1.1 (-2.3)$	$\kappa < -0.2 (-1.0)$

- Very broad intervals probed except for low luminosities (not enough signal events)
- For L  $\geq$  300 fb<sup>-1</sup> similar results than current 95% C.L. sensitivity:  $\kappa \in$  [-5.0,12.1] \*
- HL-LHC: Probe small deviations very efficiently in this channel

\*WARNING!: Naive results. Hadronization and detector not taken into account

### Conclusions

- Clear motivation: measure the H self-coupling through HH production
- Until now done via ggF VBS has many advantages (although lower rates)
- We perform a devoted study of HH production via VBS at the LHC
- We give predictions for sensitivity in two decay channels after VBS and HH candidate selection
  - pp  $\rightarrow$  bbbbjj: large rates but large backgrounds

    High and promising sensitivities already for  $L=50~{
    m fb}^{-1}$ HL-LHC could probe small deviations:  $\begin{cases} {
    m Up \ to \ \kappa \sim 3 \ for \ \lambda > 0 \ at \ 3\sigma} \\ {
    m All \ studied \ values \ for \ \lambda < 0 \ at \ 3\sigma} \end{cases}$
  - pp  $\rightarrow$  bbyyjj: small rates but very controlled backgrounds

    Modest but interesting sensitivities. Need to go to  $L \geq 300~{\rm fb}^{-1}$ HL-LHC could probe small deviations very efficiently
- Promising results deserve further study including hadronization and detector!!!

### Take home message

VBS very optimal to probe the H self-coupling at the LHC!!!

**Vector Boson Fusion** 





#### sensitivity



### Conclusions



- Clear motivation: measure the H self-coupling through HH production
- Until now done via ggF VBS has many advantages (although lower rates)
- We perform a devoted study of HH production via VBS at the LHC
- We give predictions for sensitivity in two decay channels after VBS and HH candidate selection
  - pp  $\rightarrow$  bbbbjj: large rates but large backgrounds

    High and promising sensitivities already for  $L=50~{
    m fb}^{-1}$ HL-LHC could probe small deviations:  $\begin{cases} {
    m Up \ to \ \kappa \sim 3 \ for \ \lambda > 0 \ at \ 3\sigma} \\ {
    m All \ studied \ values \ for \ \lambda < 0 \ at \ 3\sigma} \end{cases}$
  - pp  $\rightarrow$  bbyyjj: small rates but very controlled backgrounds

    Modest but interesting sensitivities. Need to go to  $L \geq 300~{\rm fb}^{-1}$ HL-LHC could probe small deviations very efficiently
- Promising results deserve further study including hadronization and detector!!!

# Back up slides

# Features of sensitivity to λ at different √s

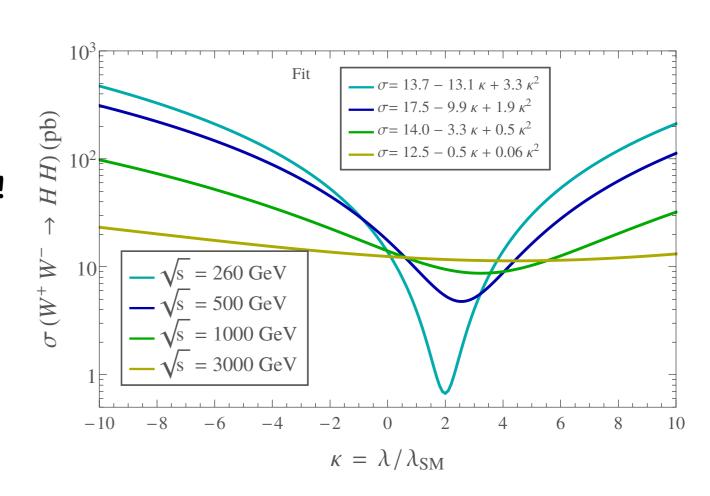
#### Interplay between diagrams

- $\bigcirc$   $\lambda > 0$ : negative interference
- $\circ$   $\lambda$  < 0: positive interference

Sensitivity to  $\lambda > 0$  and to  $\lambda < 0$  different!

Better sensitivity for  $\lambda < 0$  for same  $|\lambda|$ 

Cancellations and analytical sensitivity to  $\lambda$  depend on energy and  $\lambda$  value



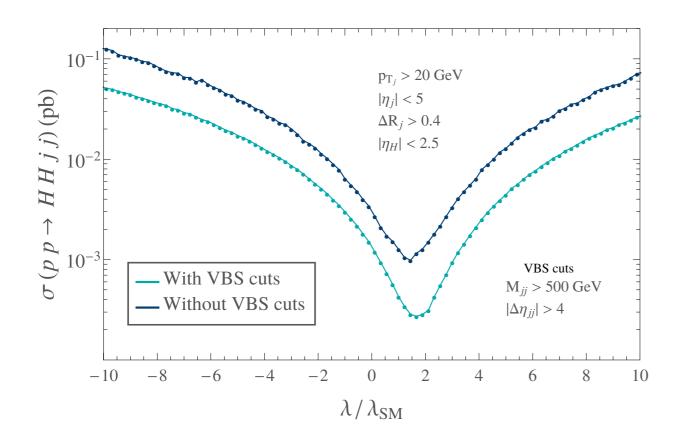
Highest sensitivity outside the interval around minimum

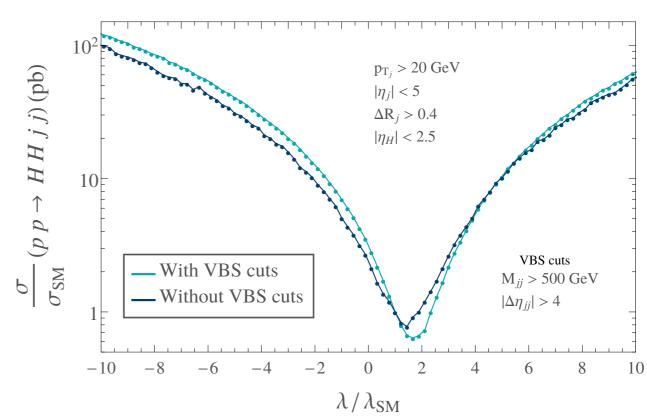
Largest cross section and sensitivity near the HH threshold

### Sensitivity at the LHC vs subprocess

#### Does interference play the same role in pp → HHjj?

- Minimum appears in different place?
  - LHC cross section dominated by region close to HH threshold
  - Applying VBS cuts moves minimum
  - VBS selection improves sensitivity away from minimum



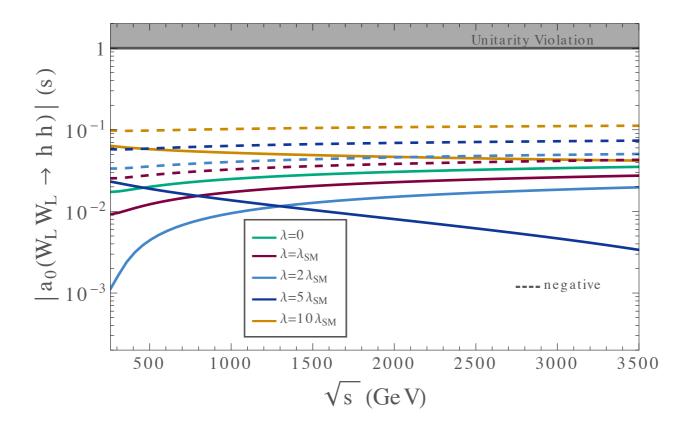


# (No) Unitarity violation problems

 Definition of unitarity violation: absolute value of J<sup>th</sup> (angular momentum) partial wave of VV → HH becomes 1

$$|a_J| = \left| \frac{1}{64\pi} \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta \, A(VV \to HH) P_J(\cos\theta) \right| > 1$$

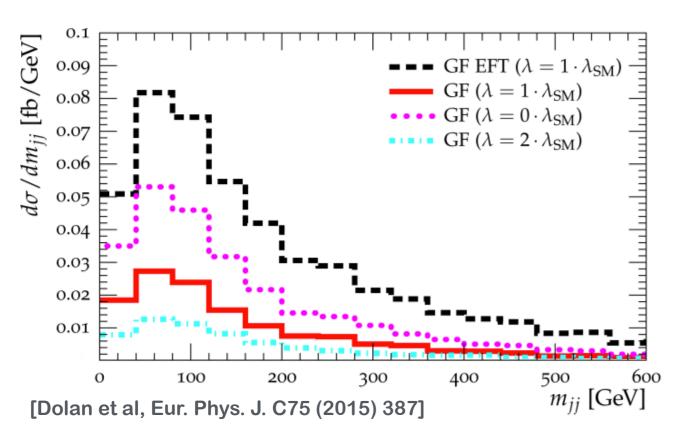
- We have checked that all our partial waves for  $\lambda \in [-10,10] \lambda_{SM}$  are below 0.1
- No unitarity violation in this channel

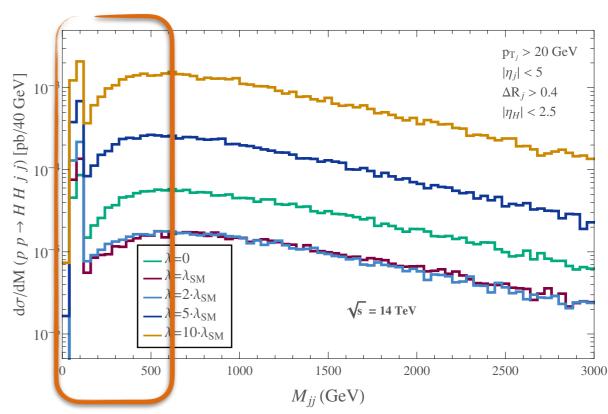


Other channels such as HH HH might violate unitarity for κ ~7 values at low energies

# "Pollution" from ggF HHjj production?

- Initial cross section twice as big as pure VBS
- After [Dolan et al, Eur. Phys. J. C75 (2015) 387] selection cuts based on Δηί ggF amounts to 1/3 of VBS
- They also impose cuts on low M<sub>HH</sub> masses near threshold where most of VBS signal lies
- More sophisticated VBS cuts, such as our M<sub>jj</sub>, will improve this rate favoring VBS!!





# Comment on tagging efficiencies effects

Results modified taking into account b and γ tagging efficiencies

**Current values:** 

b-tagging eff. ~ 70%

γ-tagging eff. ~ 95%

	Number of events reduction	Significance reduction
bbbbjj	N <sub>eff</sub> /N ~ 0.25	S <sub>eff</sub> /S ~ 0.5
bbyyjj	$N_{eff}/N \sim 0.5$	S <sub>eff</sub> /S ~ 0.7

• Examples of accesible values of  $\lambda$  for L = 3000 fb<sup>-1</sup> with and without efficiencies

	κ > 0	κ > 0 (eff)	κ < 0	κ < 0 (eff)
bbbbjj	κ > 3.2 (3.7)	κ > 3.8 (8.7)	κ < 0 (-0.2)	κ < -0.6 (-1.0)
bbyyjj	κ > 3.8 (4.7)	к > 4.7 (5.4)	κ < -0.2 (-1.0)	κ < -0.9 (-2.3)

These efficiencies might improve! Easy way to apply the new ones!