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Searches for  
Higgs boson pair  
production with  
ATLAS

Arnaud Ferrari

Introduction

$hh \rightarrow bbbb$

$hh \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$

$hh \rightarrow WW\gamma\gamma$

Conclusion

# Searches for Higgs boson pair production with ATLAS

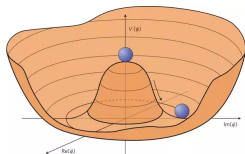
**Arnaud Ferrari (Uppsala University)  
on behalf of the ATLAS collaboration**

**CIPANP, Palm Springs (USA), 29 May - 3 June 2018**



# The Higgs potential

After discovering the Higgs boson, the ultimate probe of the Standard Model is to fully measure the Higgs potential.



$$V(\Phi) = -\frac{1}{2}\mu^2\Phi^2 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda\Phi^4 \quad \Phi \rightarrow v+h \quad \lambda v^2 h^2 + \lambda v h^3 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda h^4$$

mass term

self-interaction terms

$$\frac{1}{2}m_h^2 h^2$$



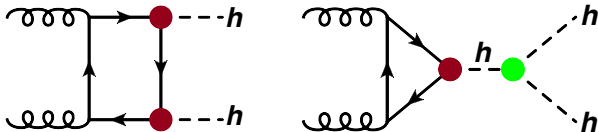
$\rightarrow v = \mu/\sqrt{\lambda} = 246 \text{ GeV}$  and  $\lambda = m_h^2/(2v^2) = 0.13$  fully determine the shape of the Higgs potential.

$\rightarrow$  In order to really complete the Standard Model, one must observe  $h \rightarrow hh$  (and eventually  $h \rightarrow hhh$  too).



# SM Higgs boson pair production

## Gluon-gluon fusion:



Due to the destructive interference between the box and Higgs self-coupling diagrams, the SM Higgs boson pair production cross-section is very small (33.4 fb at 13 TeV).

**Other production modes:** even smaller cross-sections...

$\sqrt{s}$	8 TeV	13 TeV	14 TeV
ggF $hh$	10.2	33.4	39.6
VBF $hh$	0.46	1.62	1.95
$W/Z + hh$	0.36	0.86	0.98
$tt + hh$	0.17	0.77	0.95

$\sigma_{\text{NLO}}^{hh}$  in fb (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.07922>)



# BSM Higgs boson pair production

Enhancements of the  $hh$  production cross-section and modified kinematics (e.g.  $m_{hh}$ ,  $p_T^h$ ) may occur through variations of the Yukawa- or self-coupling, as well as new vertices.

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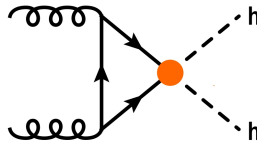
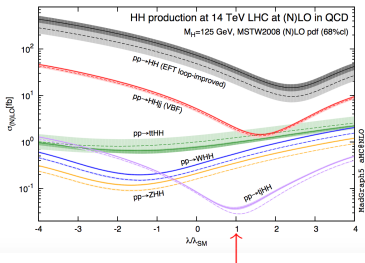
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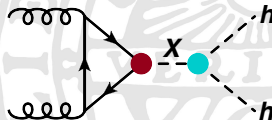
Conclusion



← Phys. Lett. B732 (2014) 142  
( $\lambda$  = Higgs self-coupling)

## Resonant Higgs boson pair production:

- Randall-Sundrum graviton (spin-2):  $G \rightarrow hh$
- 2HDM heavy Higgs boson (spin-0):  $H \rightarrow hh$





# Higgs boson pair decays

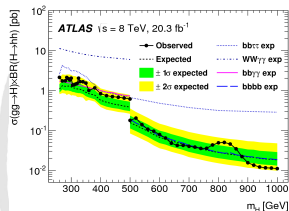
	bb	WW	$\tau\tau$	ZZ	$\gamma\gamma$
bb	33%				
WW	25%	4.6%			
$\tau\tau$	7.4%	2.5%	0.39%		
ZZ	3.1%	1.2%	0.34%	0.076%	
$\gamma\gamma$	0.26%	0.10%	0.029%	0.013%	0.0053%

## Run-1 legacy:

Analysis	$\gamma\gamma bb$	$\gamma\gamma WW^*$	$bb\tau\tau$	$bbbb$	Combined
Upper limit on the cross section [pb]					
Expected	1.0	6.7	1.3	0.62	0.47
Observed	2.2	11	1.6	0.62	0.69
Upper limit on the cross section relative to the SM prediction					
Expected	100	680	130	63	48
Observed	220	1150	160	63	70

Many final states to explore... In this talk:

- **bbbb:**  
largest branching fraction
- **$bb\gamma\gamma$  &  $WW\gamma\gamma$ :**  
clean diphoton signature





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*hh* → *bbγγ*

*hh* → *WWγγ*

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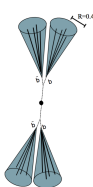
*hh* → *bbbb*



# $hh \rightarrow bbbb$ – event categories

Two event topologies depending on the probed mass range:

- Non-resonant and resonant production of  $hh \rightarrow bbbb$  with mass up to  $\simeq 1$  TeV: resolved topology.
- Resonant production of  $hh \rightarrow bbbb$  with mass  $\gtrsim 1$  TeV: boosted topology.



Topology/ Objects	Resolved (260-1400 GeV)	Boosted (800-3000 GeV)
Triggers and corresponding $\int Ldt$ ( $\text{fb}^{-1}$ )	Combination of <i>b</i> -jet triggers 3.2+24.3	Single large- <i>R</i> jet trigger 36.1
$N_{\text{jets}}$	$\geq 4$ jets, $R = 0.4$	$\geq 2$ jets, $R = 1.0$
$p_T$ cut	40 GeV	450 / 250 GeV
<i>b</i> -tagging	70% for all jets	70% on track-jets with $R = 0.2$
$N_{b\text{-jets}}$	4	2, 3, 4





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# $hh \rightarrow bbbb$ – event displays

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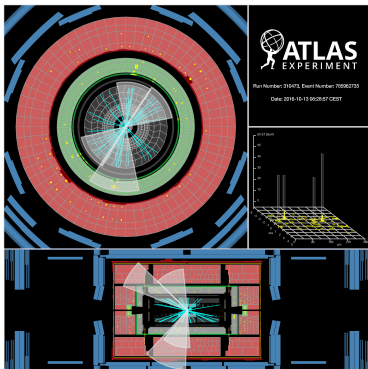
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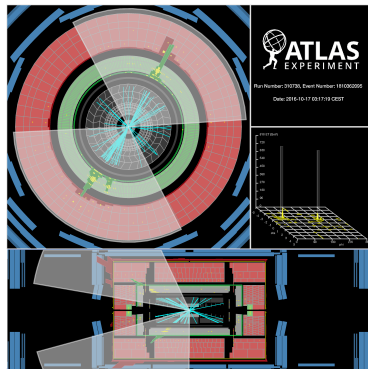
$hh \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$

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Conclusion



Resolved,  $m_{4j} = 272$  GeV



Boosted,  $m_{2j} = 3.89$  TeV

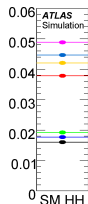
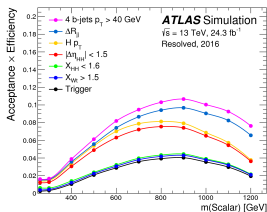
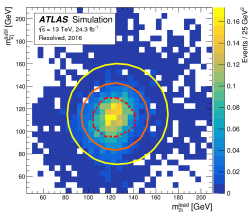
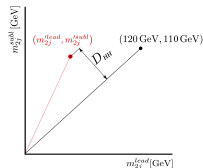




# $hh \rightarrow bbbb$ – resolved topology

## Event selection:

- The four jets with highest  $b$ -tagging scores are used.
- A selection and pairing of jets into Higgs boson candidates is performed using  $\Delta R_{jj}$ ,  $m_{4j}$  and differences in  $m_{2j}$ .
- $m_{4j}$ - and  $m_{2j}$ -dependent requirements on the  $p_T$  and mass of the Higgs boson candidates are applied  $\Rightarrow$  SR centered at (120 GeV; 110 GeV).
- Events where a three-jet-combination is compatible with a top-quark decay are vetoed to reduce the  $t\bar{t}$  background contamination.





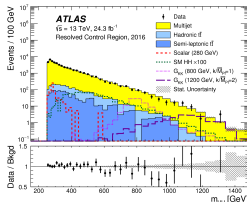
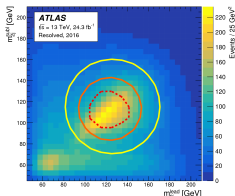
# $hh \rightarrow bbbb$ – resolved topology

## Multi-jet background (95% in the SR):

- Multi-jet sample: built with the nominal event selection, but  $N_b = 2$ : one  $h$  candidate from the two  $b$ -tagged jets, one from two non- $b$ -tagged jets;
- Weights are applied to the  $2b+2j$  sample of the SR. They are derived by comparing  $2b+2j$  and  $4b$  samples in a sideband (SB) region:
  - per-non- $b$ -tagged-jet factor by comparing jet multiplicities;
  - fitted ratio of  $4b$  and  $2b+2j$  templates (after subtracting  $t\bar{t}$ ) for five variables sensitive to differences in  $b$ -tagging [iterative].

## $t\bar{t}$ background (5% in the SR):

- Simulation  $\rightarrow m_{4j}$  shape for fully-hadronic and semi-leptonic  $t\bar{t}$ ;
- Normalizations of multi-jet events, fully-hadronic and semi-leptonic  $t\bar{t}$  by a simultaneous fit of three background-enriched regions of the SB.



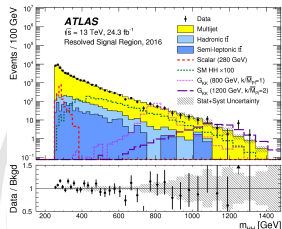
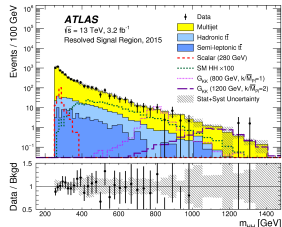


# $hh \rightarrow bbbb$ – resolved topology

After the validation of backgrounds in control regions, no significant excess of events is found in the SR:

Sample	2015 SR	2016 SR	2015 CR	2016 CR
Multijet	866 $\pm$ 70	6750 $\pm$ 170	880 $\pm$ 71	7110 $\pm$ 180
$t\bar{t}$ , hadronic	52 $\pm$ 35	259 $\pm$ 57	56 $\pm$ 37	276 $\pm$ 61
$t\bar{t}$ , semileptonic	13.9 $\pm$ 6.5	123 $\pm$ 30	20 $\pm$ 9	168 $\pm$ 40
Total	930 $\pm$ 70	7130 $\pm$ 130	956 $\pm$ 50	7550 $\pm$ 130
Data	928	7430	969	7656
$G_{KK}$ (800 GeV)	12.5 $\pm$ 1.9	89 $\pm$ 14		
Scalar (280 GeV)	24 $\pm$ 7.5	180 $\pm$ 57		
SM $HH$	0.607 $\pm$ 0.091	4.43 $\pm$ 0.66		

Largest local deviation at 280 GeV:  
it is  $3.6\sigma$  for a narrow-width scalar  
resonance (global significance of  $2.3\sigma$ ).

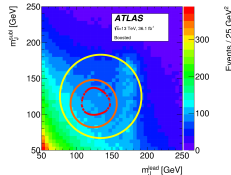




# $hh \rightarrow bbbb$ – boosted topology

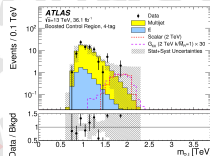
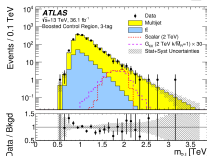
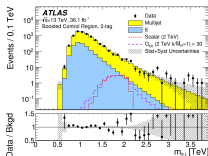
## Event selection:

- The two large- $R$  jets with highest  $p_T$  are used, with  $|\Delta\eta_{JJ}| < 1.7$ ;
- $\geq 1$   $b$ -tagged track-jet per  $J \Rightarrow 2, 3, 4$   $b$ -tags;
- Requirements on the jet masses  $\Rightarrow$  SR centered at (124 GeV; 115 GeV).



## Background estimation:

- Multi-jet template from "lower-tagged" event selections (i.e. one of the large- $R$  jet has no  $b$ -tagged track-jet and at least one failing  $b$ -tagging) + re-weight the kinematics of the non- $b$ -tagged  $J$  to mimic a  $h$  candidate;
- Shape of the  $t\bar{t}$  background from simulation;
- Normalization of the backgrounds from binned likelihood fits of the leading large- $R$  jet mass distribution in the sideband region.



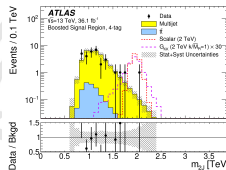
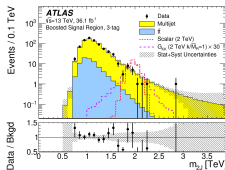
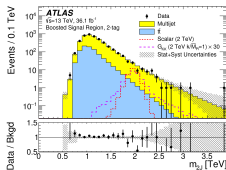


# $hh \rightarrow bbbb$ – boosted topology

After the validation of  
backgrounds in control  
regions, no significant  
excess of events is  
found in the SR:

	Two-tag	Three-tag	Four-tag
Multijet	3390 $\pm$ 150	702 $\pm$ 63	32.9 $\pm$ 6.9
$t\bar{t}$	860 $\pm$ 110	80 $\pm$ 33	1.7 $\pm$ 1.4
Total	4250 $\pm$ 130	782 $\pm$ 51	34.6 $\pm$ 6.1
$G_{KK}$ (2 TeV)	0.97 $\pm$ 0.29	1.23 $\pm$ 0.16	0.40 $\pm$ 0.13
Scalar (2 TeV)	28.2 $\pm$ 9.0	35.0 $\pm$ 4.6	10.9 $\pm$ 3.5
Data	4376	801	31

Discriminant =  $m_{2J}$  after correction of the large- $R$  jet momenta by  $m_h/m_J$ .





# *hh* → *bbbb* – results

## Statistical analysis:

- Combination of the resolved and boosted topologies in the range 800-1400 GeV, where they overlap.
- Simultaneous fit of  $m_{4j}$  in the 2015 and 2016 dataset for resolved topologies, and of  $m_{2J}$  in the 2, 3 and 4 *b*-tag regions for boosted topologies.

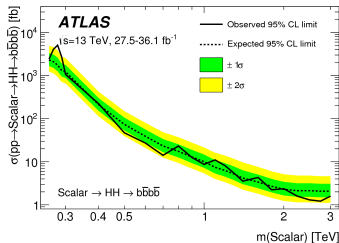
## Non-resonant *hh* production:

Observed 95% CL upper limit on  $\sigma_{hh} \times \text{BR}(bbbb)$  at 147 fb.

In units of the SM prediction:

Observed	$-2\sigma$	$-1\sigma$	Expected	$+1\sigma$	$+2\sigma$
13.0	11.1	14.9	20.7	30.0	43.5

## Resonant *hh* production (2HDM interpretation):





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# $hh \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$ – event selections

## Two photons

- Di-photon trigger with thresholds at 35 and 25 GeV;
- 2 photons with  $E_T/m_{\gamma\gamma}$  above 0.35/0.25 &  $m_{\gamma\gamma} \subset [105; 160]$  GeV.

## Jet selection

- $\geq 2$  central jets with  $p_T > 25$  GeV, reject events with  $>2$   $b$ -tags (70%);
- 2-tag: exactly 2  $b$ -jets (70%);
- 1-tag: fails 2-tag but has 1  $b$ -jet (60%) + BDT to choose the second jet;
- 0-tag  $\rightarrow$  data-driven estimates of the background shape.

## Additional loose (tight) selection

- Optimised for 260–500 GeV & varied  $\lambda$  ( $\geq 500$  GeV & non-resonant);
- Leading jet  $p_T > 40$  (100) GeV, sub-leading jet  $p_T > 25$  (30) GeV;
- $m_{jj}$  between 80 (90) and 140 GeV;
- $m_{\gamma\gamma}$  within 4.7 (4.3) GeV of  $m_h$  [resonant].





# $hh \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$ – signal and background models

## Non-resonant $hh$ production

- **Analysis strategy:** fit the  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$  distribution.
- Signal modelling: double-sided Crystal Ball function.
- Single Higgs boson production: simulation, double-sided Crystal Ball function.
- Continuum background modelling: fit to the data with a first-order exponential, which minimises the spurious signal\*.

## Resonant $hh$ production

- **Analysis strategy:** rescale the dijet four-momentum by  $m_h/m_{jj}$  and fit the  $m_{\gamma\gamma jj}$  distribution around  $m_X$ .
- Signal modelling: Gaussian core with exponential tails.
- Background modelling: fit to the data, with a functional form chosen to minimise the spurious signal  $\rightarrow$  Novosibirsk (exponential) function for the loose (tight) event selection.

(\*) **Spurious signal:** bias measured by fitting a signal+background model to a background-only sample.



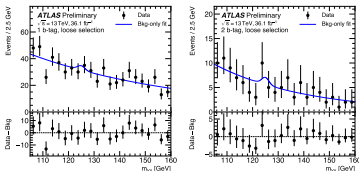
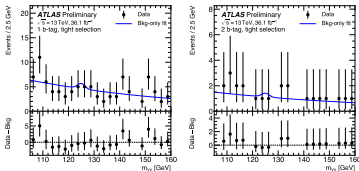
# $hh \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$ – results

## Non-resonant $hh$ production:

No significant excess.

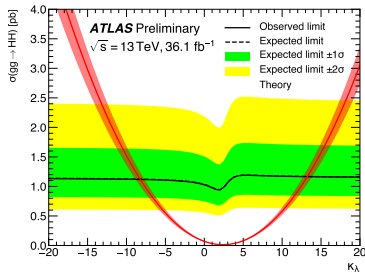
Tight selection used to set 95% CL limits on the cross section for non-resonant production:

Observed	$-\sigma$	Expected	$+\sigma$
22	20	28	40



Loose selection used to set 95% CL limits on the Higgs self-coupling  $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow -8.2 < \kappa_\lambda < 13.2 @ 95\% \text{ CL!}$



$$(\kappa_\lambda = \lambda/\lambda_{\text{SM}})$$



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## Resonant $hh$ production:

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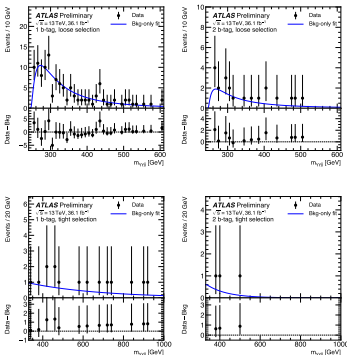
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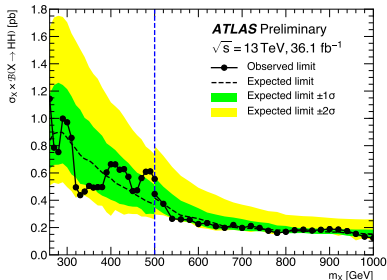
$hh \rightarrow WW\gamma\gamma$

Conclusion



Loose (tight) selection used  
up to (above) 500 GeV.

Observed 95% upper limits  
ranging from 1.14 to 0.12 pb.





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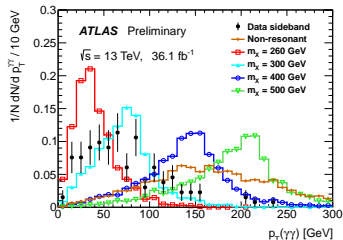
$$hh \rightarrow WW\gamma\gamma$$



# $hh \rightarrow WW\gamma\gamma$ – event selections

## Signal region (SR):

- di-photon trigger with thresholds at 35 and 25 GeV;
- 2 photons with  $E_T/m_{\gamma\gamma}$  above 0.35/0.25;
- $|m_{\gamma\gamma} - 125.1 \text{ GeV}| < 3.4 \text{ GeV}$ ;
- $p_T^{\gamma\gamma} > 100 \text{ GeV}$  for the high-mass resonant (400–500 GeV) and the non-resonant production modes.
- $W(\ell\nu)W(jj)$ :  $\geq 1$  electron/muon of  $p_T > 10 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $\geq 2$  central jets,  $b$ -veto.



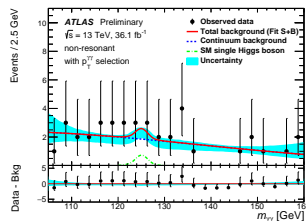
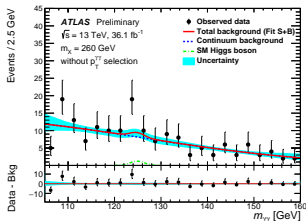
**Sideband (SB):**  $105 \text{ GeV} < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 160 \text{ GeV}$  & inverted SR cut.

## Background modelling:

- Continuum background from a SB-fit: exponential of a 2nd-degree polynomial, with free-floating shape parameters and normalisation.
- SM single-Higgs events from simulation (double-sided Crystal Ball).
- SM  $hh$  events from simulation (double-sided Crystal Ball) → background in searches for resonant production.



# $hh \rightarrow WW\gamma\gamma$ – results



## Statistical analysis based on a fit to $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ in the SR:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mu, \theta) = \prod G(\theta|0, 1) \prod_i [(n_{\text{signal}}(\mu, \theta) + n_{\text{SS}}) \times f_{\text{dscb}}^1(m_{\gamma\gamma}^i, \theta) + n_{\text{cont.}} \times f_{\text{cont.}}(m_{\gamma\gamma}^i, \theta) + n_h^{\text{SM}}(\theta) \times f_{\text{dscb}}^2(m_{\gamma\gamma}^i, \theta) + n_{hh}^{\text{SM}} \times f_{\text{dscb}}^3(m_{\gamma\gamma}^i, \theta)]$$

$n_{\text{SS}}$ : spurious signal obtained by fitting a signal+background model to a background-only sample.



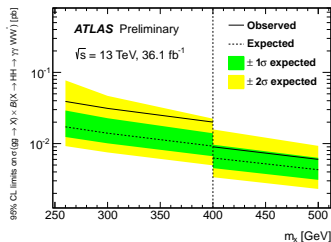
# $hh \rightarrow WW\gamma\gamma$ – results

## Limits on non-resonant $hh$ production:

Observed	$-2\sigma$	$-1\sigma$	Expected	$+1\sigma$	$+2\sigma$
230	90	120	160	240	340

## Limits on resonant $hh$ production (260–500 GeV):

Observed: 40 to 6.1 pb  
Expected: 17.6 to 4.4 pb

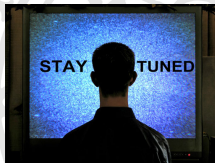




# Conclusion

- The ATLAS collaboration has recently released three results on searches for Higgs boson pair production, based on 36/fb of 13 TeV data:
  - $hh \rightarrow bbbb$ : arXiv:1804.06174, submitted to JHEP.
  - $hh \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$ : off the press!
  - $hh \rightarrow WW\gamma\gamma$ : off the press!
- Non-resonant  $hh$  production down to 13 times the SM prediction is now excluded ( $bbbb$ ).
- Higgs self-coupling constrained to  $-8.2 < \kappa_\lambda < 13.2$  ( $bb\gamma\gamma$ ).

Searches for  $hh$  production will eventually allow to fully validate the electroweak symmetry breaking in the SM and they already probe BSM physics... Such analyses will be a major highlight of the LHC Run-2, with soon 3 to 4 times more data than presented here!







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**Arnaud Ferrari**

Introduction

$hh \rightarrow bbbb$

$hh \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$

$hh \rightarrow WW\gamma\gamma$

**Conclusion**

Back-up



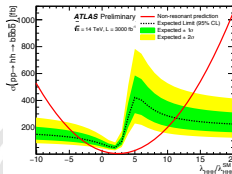
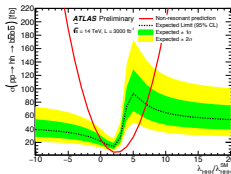
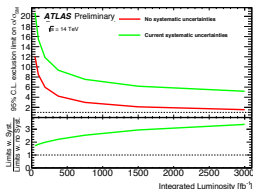
# HL-LHC projections: $hh \rightarrow bbbb$

Extrapolation of results in ATLAS-CONF-2016-049. All distributions are corrected to account for the increase **13→14 TeV and 10.1→3000/fb.**

Assuming a **jet  $p_T$  threshold at 30 GeV**, and either no or the same systematic uncertainties as in 2016:

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Projections versus the jet  $p_T$  threshold:

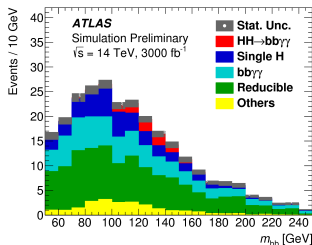
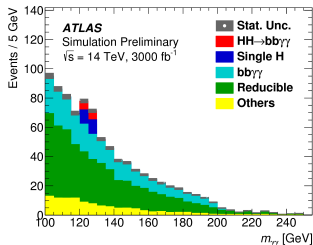
Assume that systematic uncertainties  $\propto 1/\sqrt{L}$ :  
 $\Rightarrow$  exclude  $\sigma_{hh} > 2.2 \times SM$   
 @ 95% CL with 3000/fb.

Jet Threshold [GeV]	Background Systematics	$\sigma/\sigma_{SM}$ 95% Exclusion	$\lambda_{HHH}/\lambda_{HHH}^{SM}$ Lower Limit	$\lambda_{HHH}/\lambda_{HHH}^{SM}$ Upper Limit
30 GeV	Negligible	1.5	0.2	7
30 GeV	Current	5.2	-3.5	11
75 GeV	Negligible	2.0	-3.4	12
75 GeV	Current	11.5	-7.4	14



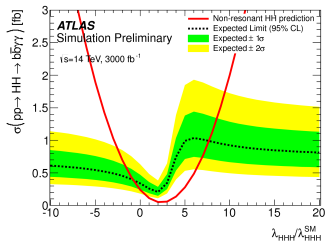
# HL-LHC projections: $hh \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$

Study based on 14 TeV simulations with 200  $pp$  collisions per bunch-crossing and an upgraded ATLAS detector, including the expected photon and  $b$ -tagging performance.



$\Rightarrow$  Expected significance of  $1.05\sigma$  for SM  $hh$  production.

$-0.8 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.7$  @ 95% CL  
with 3000/fb at 14 TeV.



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