3.1 Title of Representative Academic Achievements

Search for resonant and non-resonant Higgs boson pair production in the $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ decay channel using 13 TeV pp collision data from the ATLAS detector

3.2 Abstract of Representative Academic Achievement

I have worked on a search for Higgs boson pair production in events with two b-jets and two τ -leptons is presented, using a proton–proton collision data set with an integrated luminosity of 139 fb⁻¹ collected at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV by the ATLAS experiment at the LHC. Higgs boson pairs produced non-resonantly or in the decay of a narrow-width scalar resonance in the mass range 251 to 1600 GeV are targeted. Events in which at least one τ -lepton decays hadronically are considered, and multivariate discriminants are used to extract the signals. No significant excess of events above the expected background is observed in the non-resonant search. Observed (expected) upper limits are set at the 95% confidence-level on the non-resonant Higgs boson pair production cross-section of 4.7 (3.9) times the Standard Model prediction, which sets the **current world-best observed limit**. Upper limits are also set on the resonant signal of Higgs boson pair production cross-section between 23 and 920 fb (12 and 840 fb), depending on the heavy resonance mass. The largest excess in the resonant search is observed at a resonance mass of 1 TeV, with a local (global) significance of 3.0 σ (2.0 $^{+0.4}_{-0.2}$ σ). The excess of 2 σ is already statistically significant, and could possibly provide **hint for new physics**, and may guide future search for beyond Standard Model physics (BSM) for years to come, as the more data one has, the stronger one can prove or disprove the anomaly.

3.3 Main Content of the Representative Academic Achievements

The discovery of a Higgs boson (*H*) of mass around 125 GeV has inspired a vast number of measurements and searches by the ATLAS and CMS collaborations at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). To date, all measurements of Higgs boson properties are consistent to the Standard Model (SM) predictions, and no unexpected particles or Higgs boson decay modes have been observed. One of the most important properties of Higgs boson is that Higgs boson interacts with itself, as determined by the Higgs potential, makes the Higgs boson pair production (di-Higgs production) possible. In the non-resonant production of di-Higgs, the gluon–gluon fusion (ggF) process contributes approximately 90% of the total cross-section. The leading-order (LO) contributions to the ggF *HH* production are the 'triangle diagram', which occurs via the Higgs boson self-coupling, and the heavy quark 'box diagram', which occurs via two fermion–fermion–Higgs vertices. These two diagrams are shown in Figure 1.

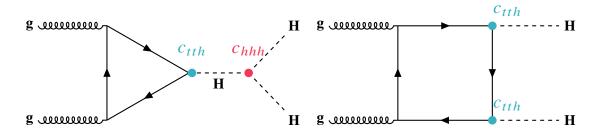


Figure 1: SM leading-order Feynman diagrams for Higgs boson pair production through gluon-gluon fusion.

These diagrams interfere destructively, leading to a small SM ggF HH cross-section, which is predicted to be 31.1 fb at next-to-next-to-leading (NNLO) order in α_s and including an approximation of finite top-quark-mass effects, for $m_H = 125$ GeV and $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV. The vector boson fusion (VBF) process provides a sub-leading source of HH production in the SM, and has a cross-section of 1.73 fb. Due to this small cross-section and provided the current LHC data set, the observation of SM non-resonant HH production is an extremely difficult and ambitious task, and has become one of the **main goals of LHC analysis**, and one of the steer and motivation for the future upgrade of the LHC.

Nevertheless the small cross-section, the *HH* production cross-section can be enhanced by many BSM theories. Due to the destructive interference between the triangle diagram and the box diagram, non-resonant *HH* production provides a **sensitive probe** of the Higgs boson trilinear self-coupling and the shape of the Higgs field potential, which have **crucial implications** for the stability of the electroweak vacuum, baryogenesis, and inflation. Modifications to the non-resonant *HH* cross-section occur in BSM scenarios with new, light, coloured scalars, composite Higgs models, theoretical scenarios with couplings between pairs of top-quarks and pairs of Higgs bosons, as well as models with a modified coupling of the Higgs boson to the top-quark. Various BSM scenarios predict heavy resonances that can decay to pairs of Higgs bosons. These BSM resonances include heavy Higgs bosons from extended Higgs sectors such as two Higgs doublet models (2HDMs), the minimal supersymmetric extension of the SM and composite Higgs models. Heavy resonances that decay to pairs of Higgs bosons also include spin-0 radions and spin-2 gravitons from the Randall–Sundrum model, and stoponium states in supersymmetric models.

The search for non-resonant and resonant HH production is conducted in the final state with two jets containing b-hadrons (b-jets) and two τ -leptons, as referred to the $bb\tau\tau$ channel. The $bb\tau\tau$ channel has a sizeable branching ratio of 7.3% as predicted by the SM, and has relatively low backgrounds. These advantages make the $bb\tau\tau$ one of the most sensitive HH search channels. In the search for non-resonant HH production, the signal is assumed to have SM-like kinematics, and the search is optimised for maximum sensitivity to the cross-section rather than the Higgs boson self-coupling. A narrow-width CP-even scalar particle with a mass between 251 and 1600 GeV is used as the benchmark model for the resonant signal. Decay modes in which both τ -leptons decay hadronically, and in which one decays hadronically and the other leptonically, are both considered. The presence of a hadronically-decaying τ is determined by its visible decay products. Events are categorised based on the type of trigger that accepted the event, and are required to contain two oppositely charged hadronically-decaying τ and two b-tagged jets in the hadhad final state, or an electron or muon and an oppositely charged hadronically-decaying τ and two b-tagged jets in the lephad final state. Backgrounds in this search include top-quark pairs, single top-quarks, W and Z bosons in association with jets, diboson processes, single Higgs bosons, and multi-jet production. In some background events, quark- or gluon-initiated jets are misidentified as the τ -lepton. The selected events are tested for the presence of the signal by performing profile-likelihood fits to multivariate discriminant distributions. The search is performed using the full Run 2 pp collision data set, delivered between 2015 and 2018 at a centre-of-mass energy $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV by the LHC. The data were collected by the ATLAS detector and correspond to an integrated luminosity of 139 fb⁻¹. No significant excess of signal has been observed in the non-resonant HH production, therefore upper limits are set on the cross section. Observed (expected) upper limits are set at the 95% confidence-level on the non-resonant Higgs boson pair production cross-section of 4.7 (3.9) times the Standard Model prediction, as shown in Table 1.

Upper limits are also set on the resonant signal of Higgs boson pair production cross-section between 23 and 920 fb (12 and 840 fb), as shown in Figure 2.

	Observed	-2σ	-1σ	Median	+1 σ	+2\sigma
$\sigma_{ m ggF+VBF}$ [fb]	135.27	61.35	82.36	114.31	159.08	213.26
$\sigma_{\rm ggF+VBF}$ StatOnly [fb]	85.58	48.45	65.04	90.27	125.63	168.41
$\mu_{ m ggF+VBF}$	4.65	2.08	2.79	3.87	5.39	7.22
μ _{ggF+VBF} StatOnly	2.61	1.48	1.98	2.75	3.83	5.14

Table 1: 95% C.L. expected and observed limit on the non-resonant HH production cross-section assuming SM kinematics using $\tau_{\text{lep}}\tau_{\text{had}}$ and $\tau_{\text{had}}\tau_{\text{had}}$ combined fit. The signal strength is with respect to the SM cross-section, i.e. $\mu_{\text{ggF+VBF}} = \sigma_{\text{ggF+VBF}}/\sigma_{\text{ggF+VBF}}^{\text{SM}}$. The 'StatOnly' indicates the limits are calculated with only statistical uncertainty, and if not specified, the limits are obtained with full systematics.

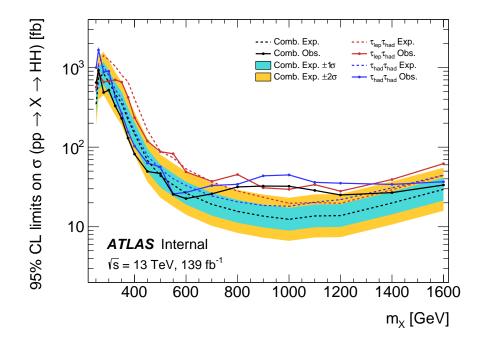


Figure 2: 95% C.L. expected and observed limits on the resonant HH production cross-section as a function of the resonance mass. The dashed lines show the expected limits, while the solid lines show the observed limits. Black, red and blue represents the upper limit from combination, $\tau_{lep}\tau_{had}$ channel and $\tau_{had}\tau_{had}$ channel, respectively.

3.4 Title of Representative Academic Achievements

Measurement of the c-jet mistagging efficiency in $t\bar{t}$ events using pp collision data at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV collected with the ATLAS detector

3.5 Abstract of Representative Academic Achievement

I have investigated a technique to measure the efficiency with which c-jets are mistagged as b-jets (mistagging efficiency) using $t\bar{t}$ events, where one of the W bosons decays into an electron or muon and a neutrino and the other decays into a quark-antiquark pair. The measurement utilises the relatively large and known $W \to cs$ branching ratio, which allows a measurement to be made in an inclusive c-jet sample. The data sample used was collected by the ATLAS detector at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV and corresponds to an integrated luminosity of 139 fb⁻¹. Events are reconstructed using a kinematic likelihood technique which selects the mapping between jets and $t\bar{t}$ decay products that yields the highest likelihood value. The distribution of the b-tagging discriminant for jets from the hadronic W decays in data is compared with that in simulation to extract the mistagging efficiency as a function of jet transverse momentum. The total uncertainties are in the range 3%–17%. The measurements generally agree with those in simulation but there are some differences in the region corresponding to the most stringent b-jet tagging requirement. The calibration results on the b-tagging algorithm have become the **official recommendation for all ATLAS users** who apply b-tagging in their analyses.

3.6 Main Content of the Representative Academic Achievements

The algorithms for the identification of jets containing *b*-hadrons, also known as *b*-tagging algorithms, constitute an important tool for the analysis of the data collected by the ATLAS experiment at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). Such algorithms play a **crucial role** in a large number of Standard Model (SM) precision measurements, Higgs boson measurements, and searches for supersymmetry and other exotic phenomena. Jets that contain a *b*-hadron are distinguished from other jets that contain a *c*-hadron or only light-flavour hadrons mainly by the larger mass and longer lifetime of the *b*-hadron. The *b*-tagging algorithm studied is called DL1r, and is an updated version of the DL1 tagger, which combines the output of the low-level taggers into a single discriminant by using a deep neural network. DL1r adds the result of the RNNIP algorithm, which is based on a recurrent neural network exploiting the correlation between the tracks' impact parameters.

The performance of the b-tagging algorithms depends crucially on whether the jets that are identified contain b-hadrons (b-jets), c-hadrons (c-jets), or neither of them (light-flavour jets). The Monte Carlo (MC) simulation provides an estimate of the probabity that a jet fulfils the requirements of the b-tagging algorithm i.e. the tagging efficiency for b-jets and the mistagging efficiency for c-jets and light-flavour jets. However, since the simulation is not perfect, the (mis)tagging efficiency must be measured in data. Simulation to data scale factors (SFs), which are defined as the ratio of the efficiency measured in data to that in simulation, are used as a correction to the simulation, assuming that the SFs are independent of the physics process. Analyses that use b-tagging apply a weight to each simulated event, derived as the product of the SFs for all jets for which a tagging requirement is made.

A technique is used to measure the inclusive c-jet mistagging efficiency by means of a c-jet sample that is derived from $t\bar{t}$ events. The measurement uses a pp collision dataset which was collected with the ATLAS detector during 2015–2018 and corresponds to an integrated luminosity of 139 fb⁻¹. A likelihood-based method is used to select a high-purity $t\bar{t}$ sample in which one of the W bosons originating from the top-quark decay $t \to Wb$ decays leptonically into an electron or

a muon plus the corresponding neutrino and the other decays hadronically. The branching ratio of a W boson to final states containing a charm-quark, which is approximately 33%, allows the c-jet mistagging efficiency of the data to be determined as a function of jet transverse momentum by fitting simulated event samples to the data sample. The technique has the advantage that it does not depend on a specific hadron decay chain topology.

The scale factors are shown in Figure 4 for the PFlow jets with the DL1r tagger. The tighter working points (60%, 70%) show larger uncertainties and bigger deviation from 1, while the looser working points (77%, 85%) have much smaller uncertainty and the simulation is able to recover the data well due to more abundant events statistics. In most of the working points the systematic uncertainties dominate in the low- p_T bins ($p_T < 150$) and the statistical error, represented by the error bars on the markers, become more important in the last bin.

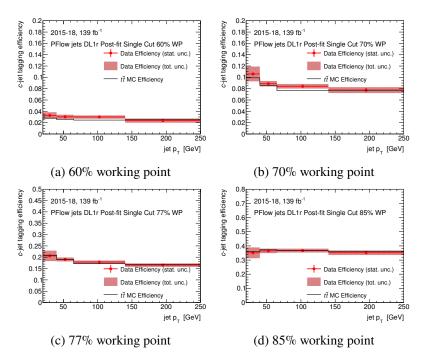


Figure 3: Charm-jet efficiencies for the PFlow jets collection with the DL1r tagger.

3.7 Title of Representative Academic Achievements

Combination of searches for non-resonant and resonant Higgs boson pair production in the $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$, $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$, $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ decay channels using pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV with the ATLAS detector

3.8 Abstract of Representative Academic Achievement

I have contributed to a combination of searches conducted for Higgs boson pair production using $126-139 {\rm fb^{-1}of}$ proton-proton collision data recorded with the ATLAS detector at a center-of-mass energy of $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV at the LHC. Three searches for pairs of Higgs bosons, in the $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$, $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$, and $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ final states, are included in this combination. The non-resonant interpretation uses results from the $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ and $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ searches, while the resonant interpretation uses results from all three searches. No statistically significant excess above the Standard Model expectation has been found. Upper limits are set on the production rate of non-resonant Higgs boson pairs, at the

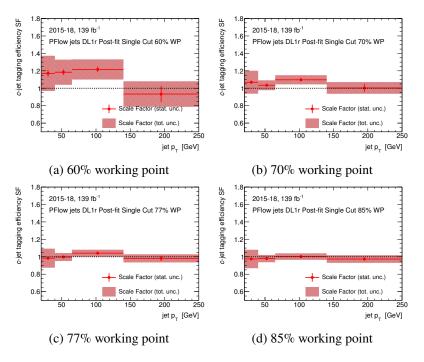


Figure 4: Charm-jet scale factors for the PFlow jets collection with the DL1r tagger.

95% confidence level, assuming Standard Model kinematics. The combined limit sets the **most stringent** upper limits on the non-resonant *HH* production cross-section to date, representing the current **best sensitivity** in searches for *HH* production.

3.9 Main Content of the Representative Academic Achievements

The observed (expected) combined upper limit is found to be 3.1 (3.1) times the Standard Model prediction. The limits set by individual channels and combined are shown in Table 2.

	Obs.	-2.0σ	-1.0σ	Exp.	1.0σ	2.0σ
$bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ $bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$	4.3	3.1	4.1	5.7	8.8	14.3
$bar{b} au^+ au^-$	4.6	2.1	2.8	3.9	5.9	9.4
Combined	3.1	1.7	2.2	3.1	4.7	7.3

Table 2: Observed and expected 95 % C.L. upper limits on the signal strength for SM HH production derived from the $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ and $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ searches, and their statistical combination.

Upper limits on the production cross-section of a heavy scalar resonance decaying to two Standard Model Higgs bosons are set at 95% confidence level between 1.1 and 595 fb (1.2 and 392 fb) in observation (expectation), depending on the resonance mass, m_X , within the studied mass range 251 GeV $\leq m_X \leq$ 3 TeV. The limits set on the resonance is shown in Figure 5

The Higgs boson self-coupling, λ_{HHH} , provides direct access to the shape of the Higgs potential, and its measurement is a **primary physics goal** of the LHC and its forthcoming upgrade, the High Luminosity LHC. Modifications to the Higgs boson self-coupling can occur through BSM, which can lead to an enhancement of the rate of Higgs boson pair-production and modifications of the

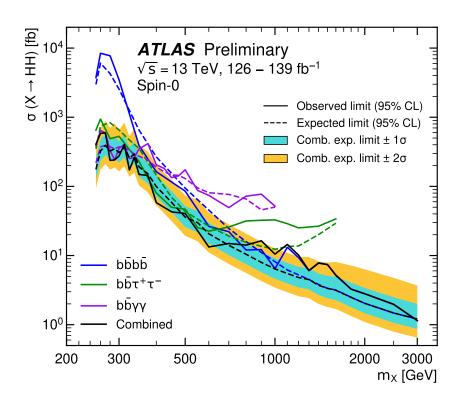


Figure 5: Expected and observed 95% C.L. upper limits on $\sigma(X \to HH)$ for a spin-0 resonance as a function of its mass m_X in the $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$, $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ and $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$ searches, and their statistical combination.

kinematics of the process. For example, changing the sign of the Higgs boson trilinear self-coupling with respect to the Standard Model expectation would quadruple the *HH* production rate. It is estimated that the Higgs boson trilinear self-coupling can be measured to a precision of 50% at the HL-LHC by combining results from both ATLAS and CMS.

The value of the Higgs boson trilinear self-coupling modifier $\kappa_{\lambda} \equiv \lambda_{HHH}/\lambda_{SM}$ is excluded outside the observed (expected) range $-1.0 \le \kappa_{\lambda} \le 6.6$ ($-1.2 \le \kappa_{\lambda} \le 7.2$) at 95% confidence level. The limit result is shown in Figure 6.

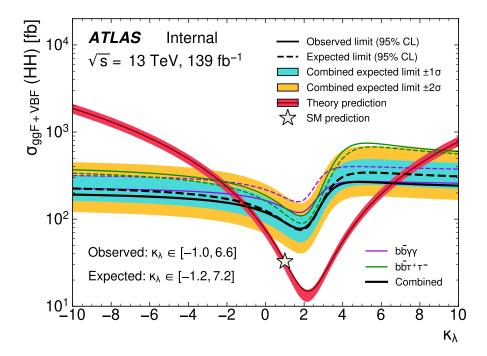


Figure 6: Observed and expected 95% CL exclusion limits on non-resonant $\sigma(pp \to HH)$ as a function of κ_{λ} for the individual channels and the combination of $b\bar{b}\tau^{+}\tau^{-}$ and $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$.

3.10 Title of Representative Academic Achievements

HEFT interpretation of Higgs boson pair searches in $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$, $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ final states and their combination in ATLAS

3.11 Abstract of Representative Academic Achievement

I have worked on setting limits on Higgs Effective Field Theory (HEFT) benchmark models and couplings based on the searches for HH production in the $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ and $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ final states, and their combination. The searches make use of 139 fb⁻¹ of proton-proton collision data recorded with the ATLAS detector at a centre-of-mass energy of $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV at the LHC. Upper limits on the HH production cross-section are set on seven HEFT benchmark models at the 95% confidence level, with observed (expected) limits ranging from 50.2 (45.5) fb to 133.6 (133.5) fb. Exclusion limits are also set on two BSM coupling parameters, c_{gghh} and c_{tthh} , described in HEFT, excluding values outside the observed (expected) ranges of [-0.3, 0.4] ([-0.3, 0.3]) and [-0.2, 0.6] ([-0.2, 0.6]), respectively, at the 95% confidence level. This is the **first ever** dedicated search for these two BSM couplings, and represents the **leading edge** of exploration for new physics.

3.12 Main Content of the Representative Academic Achievements

Effective Field Theories (EFT) provide a model-independent approach to parametrise the effects of candidate BSM theories that reduce to the SM at low energies. This study focuses on the HEFT framework, where the Lagrangian is organised following the guidance of chiral perturbation theory and where the low-energy dynamics of electroweak symmetry breaking are described using a nonlinear realization of $SU(2) \times U(1)$. In this formalism, anomalous Higgs boson couplings are expected to be the dominant effects on new physics in the electroweak sector. Deviations from SM predictions can potentially be observed via HH production using the HEFT framework.

In the HEFT Lagrangian, ggF HH production is described at LO with 5 operators and their corresponding Wilson coefficients: c_{hhh} , c_{tth} , c_{tthh} , c_{ggh} and c_{gghh} . The $c_{hhh} = \lambda_{HHH}/\lambda_{HHH}^{SM}$ and $c_{tth} = \lambda_{ttH}/\lambda_{ttH}^{SM}$ coefficients represent the coupling modifiers for the Higgs boson self-coupling and top-quark Yukawa coupling (λ_{ttH}). The remaining Wilson coefficients affect respectively the ttHH, gHH and ggHH vertex interactions and introduce three non-SM LO Feynman diagrams for ggF HH production shown in Figure 7. The HEFT Lagrangian reduces to the SM Lagrangian for $c_{hhh} = c_{tth} = 1$ and $c_{tthh} = c_{ggh} = c_{gghh} = 0$, when the Higgs boson self-coupling and top-quark Yukawa coupling have SM values and none of the BSM production modes are present. Higgs boson pair production is the **most promising process** to measure the Higgs boson self-coupling because it gives access to c_{hhh} at tree level. Furthermore the HH process gives **unique access** to the two other Wilson coefficients, c_{tthh} and c_{gghh} . The HEFT formalism allows us to interpret general searches in different BSM scenarios by simultaneously varying multiple Wilson coefficients.

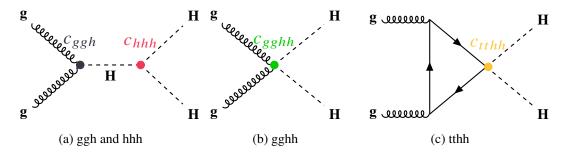


Figure 7: BSM HEFT leading order Feynman diagrams for Higgs boson pair production through gluon-gluon fusion.

The 95% CL upper limits on the ggF HH cross-section for the combination of the $HH \to b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ and $HH \to b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ searches for the HEFT shape benchmarks are shown on Figure 8. The most stringent limits are set for benchmark 7 with an observed (expected) limit of 50.2 fb (45.5 fb) while the least are for benchmark 2 with an observed (expected) limit of 133.6 fb (133.5 fb). The expected limits assume no HH production. The 95% CL combined upper limits on the ggF HH cross-section as a function of c_{gghh} and c_{tthh} are shown in Figure 9. The observed (expected) 95% CL intervals on c_{gghh} and c_{tthh} are $-0.3 < c_{gghh} < 0.4$ ($-0.3 < c_{gghh} < 0.3$) and $-0.2 < c_{tthh} < 0.6$ ($-0.2 < c_{tthh} < 0.6$).

4.Postdoctoral Research Project

4.1 Title of Postdoctoral Research Project

Searching for double Higgs with the CMS detector

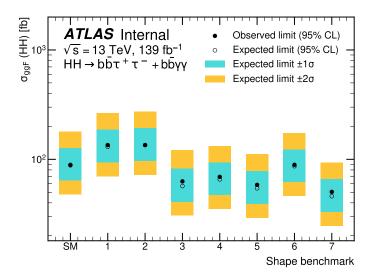


Figure 8: Observed and expected 95% CL upper limit on σ_{ggF} for the seven HEFT shape benchmarks and SM obtained from $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ and $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ analyses, and their combination. The expected limits assume no HH production.

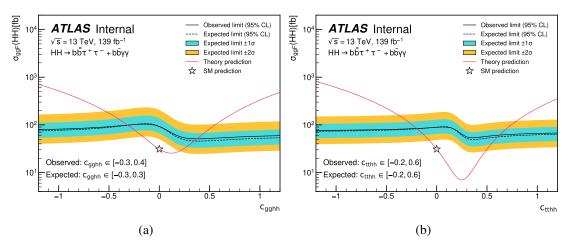


Figure 9: 95% CL upper limits on the ggF HH cross-section as a function of the c_{gghh} (a) and c_{tthh} (b) HEFT Wilson coefficients obtained for the $HH \to b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ and $HH \to b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ combination. The expected limits assume no HH production. The theory prediction curve in red presents the situation where all Wilson coefficients are set to their SM values except for the one under study.

4.2 Abstract of Postdoctoral Research Project

In my postdoctoral research, I will play a prominent role in the areas of physics related to the Higgs boson (Higgs decays to muon pairs, double Higgs production, precision measurements of Higgs properties) and Dark Matter using machine learning techniques. I will also participate the efforts of the MTD detector or/and the GEM detector as a part of the CMS Phase II upgrade.

4.3 Content of Postdoctoral Research Project(max. 10 pages in total, including time plan, all tables/figures and references, etc.)

Currently, there is no public result available using the full Run2 CMS data to search for di-Higgs production in the $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ channel, nor combination of results with sensitivity close to ATLAS result. Searches for di-Higgs production using $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ final states have great potential and once combined with the ALTAS results, the constrain on the di-Higgs production cross-section will approximately be around two times the SM expectation, and if we are lucky enough, the observed limit could go even lower, approaching the SM expectation. This will be a very strong constrain on new phsics and will guide us in future analysis. In particular, the sensitivity of ATLAS di-Higgs searches in $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ channel is limited by large background systematics. During the research project, I will take the leading role in di-Higgs searches using CMS data in various final states, not limited to the $b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ channel. I will be improving the analysis by minimising the systematic errors, and developing better techniques for background estimation, such as using data-driven or more advanced machine learning techniques. I will also utilise my expertise in multivariate techniques in other areas of Higgs boson research, such as measurement of Higgs boson decaying to muon pairs, and precision measurements of Higgs properties. If time allows, I will also join the effort in searches for dark matter.

In the HL-LHC, the integrated luminosity will increases by a factor of 5 leading to much quicker data taking but also severe pileup that challenges the measurement precision. To deal with this dense environment, CMS planned and is building a new timing detector. This device will bring a completely new capability to CMS — the ability to measure precisely the production time of minimum ionizing particles (MIP) for use in disentangling the approximately 200 nearly-simultaneous "pileup" interactions that will occur in each bunch crossing of the LHC. It also provides new capabilities for charged hadron identification and the search for long-lived particles. In 2021, CMS China officially joined MTD efforts where Peking University has joined MTD barrel project. I will join the CMS Peking U. group and contribute to development of technicalities of sensors and procurement, and the assemble of sensor modules, detector modules and trays as well as the installation of MTD barrel in the tracker chamber at CERN.

Gas electron multiplier (GEM) detectors represent a new muon system in CMS, in order to complement the existing systems in the endcaps. The forward region is the part of CMS most affected by large radiation doses and high event rates, and we foresee these parameters to be again enhanced during phase II of the LHC. The GEM chambers will provide additional redundancy and measurement points, allowing a better muon track identification and also wider coverage in the very forward region. The production of detector modules are distributed of production among several sites outside CERN, one of which will be at CMS Peking group. I will join the effort of the production of the detector modules, supervised by Doc. Qiang Li, contribute to the R&D projects, including DAQ, cosmic-ray tests, beam tests, assembling, software, etc.