

SEARCH FOR RESONANT DOUBLE HIGGS PRODUCTION WITH BBZZ
DECAYS IN THE $b\bar{b}\ell\ell\nu\bar{\nu}$ FINAL STATE IN pp COLLISIONS AT $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV

by

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Since the discovery of the Higgs boson in 2012 by the ATLAS and CMS experiments, most of the quantum mechanical properties that describe the long-awaited Higgs boson have been measured. Due to an impeccable work of the LHC, dozens of fb^{-1} of data have been delivered to both experiments. Finally, it became possible for analyses that have a very low cross section to observe rare decay modes of the Higgs boson, as was done successfully recently in $t\bar{t}H$ and $VHbb$ channels. The only untouched territory is a double Higgs boson production. Data will not help us much either at the HL-LHC, the process will remain unseen even in the most optimistic scenarios, so one has to rely solely on new reconstruction methods as well as new analysis techniques. This thesis is addressing both goals. I have been blessed by an opportunity to work in the CMS electron identification group, where we have developed new electron identification algorithms. The majority of this thesis, however, will be devoted to the second goal of HL-LHC. We establish the techniques for the first ever analysis at the LHC that searches for the double Higgs production mediated by a heavy narrow-width resonance in the $b\bar{b}ZZ$ channel: $X \rightarrow HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}ZZ^* \rightarrow b\bar{b}\ell\ell\nu\bar{\nu}$. The analysis searches for a resonant production of a Higgs boson pair in the range of masses of the resonant parent particle from 250 to 1000 GeV . Both spin scenarios of the resonance are considered: spin 0 (later called "graviton") and spin 2 (later called "radion"). In the absence of the

evidence of the resonant double Higgs boson production from the previous searches, we set upper confidence limits. When combined with other search channels, this analysis will contribute to the discovery of the double Higgs production and we would be able to finally probe the Higgs boson potential using its self-coupling.

“... a place for a smart quote!”

Lenin, 1922.

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This will be a longgggg list!

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CHAPTER 1

Theoretical approach

1.1 The Standard Model

The SM uses the Lagrangian formalism to describe the interactions of elementary particles and fields. The SM Lagrangian can be split into four main terms [1]:

- Gauge bosons and their interactions
- Fermions and their interactions with the gauge bosons
- Higgs boson, its self-interaction, and interaction with the gauge bosons to give them mass, which is not possible solely by the \mathcal{L}_{YM}
- Fermions and their interactions with the Higgs boson, which through the Yukawa mechanism gives mass to fermions

or equivalently:

$$\mathcal{L}_{SM} = \mathcal{L}_{YM} + \mathcal{L}_{ferm} + \mathcal{L}_H + \mathcal{L}_{Yuk} \quad (1.1)$$

The first term in the SM Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{YM} = -\frac{1}{4}W_{\mu\nu}^i(x)W_i^{\mu\nu}(x) - \frac{1}{4}B_{\mu\nu}(x)B^{\mu\nu}(x) - \frac{1}{4}G_{\mu\nu}^a(x)G_a^{\mu\nu}(x) \quad (1.2)$$

where

$$B_{\mu\nu}(x) \equiv \partial_\mu B_\nu - \partial_\nu B_\mu \quad (1.3)$$

$$W_{\mu\nu}^i(x) \equiv \partial_\mu W_\nu^i(x) - \partial_\nu W_\mu^i(x) - g\varepsilon^{ijk}W_\mu^jW_\nu^k \quad (1.4)$$

$$G_{\mu\nu}^a(x) \equiv \partial_\mu G_\nu^a(x) - \partial_\nu G_\mu^a(x) - g_sf^{abc}G_\mu^bG_\nu^c \quad (1.5)$$

$$(1.6)$$

with $i, j, k = 1, 2, 3$ and $a, b, c = 1, \dots, 8$. The fields have the following connections to their underlying symmetries: $B_{\mu\nu}$ corresponds to $U(1)$ symmetry of the weak hypercharge Y_k and "B" term is simply a kinematic term while "W" and "G" terms describe interactions among the corresponding bosons, where $W_{\mu\nu}^i$ corresponds to $SU(2)_I$ symmetry of the weak isospin I_w^i , and $G_{\mu\nu}^a$ corresponds to $SU(3)_c$ symmetry of the QCD color charge. g and ε are $SU(2)$ coupling and structure constants, while g_s and f are coupling and structure constants for $SU(3)$.

The next term in the SM Lagrangian shows how fermions interact with the gauge bosons. Notice, that the mass terms are still absent:

$$\mathcal{L}_{ferm} = i\bar{\Psi}_L \not{D}\Psi_L + i\bar{\psi}_{lR} \not{D}\psi_{lR} + i\bar{\Psi}_Q \not{D}\Psi_Q + i\bar{\psi}_{uR} \not{D}\psi_{uR} + i\bar{\psi}_{dR} \not{D}\psi_{dR} \quad (1.7)$$

Above Ψ represents a doublet of a charged lepton and a corresponding neutral lepton within the same lepton family of $SU(2)_L$, a letter Q is reserved for a family of quarks, and ψ_R describes a right-handed leptonic singlet.

Gauge bosons interactions are present due to the derivative term:

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu + igI_w^i W_\mu^i + ig'Y_w B_\mu + ig_s T_c^a G_\mu^a \quad (1.8)$$

$$(1.9)$$

Physical fields in this notation are represented by a linear combination of W and B fields:

$$\begin{aligned} A_\mu &= B_\mu \cos \theta_W + W_\mu^3 \sin \theta_W \\ Z_\mu &= -B_\mu \sin \theta_W + W_\mu^3 \cos \theta_W \end{aligned} \quad (1.10)$$

where θ_W is known as the *Weinberg angle* [2].

These two first terms of the SM Lagrangian is enough to have a theory of fermions and bosons, but they have no mass [3]. As discussed before, to ensure that weak bosons are massive, we need a Higgs term. Higgs mechanism enters the SM Lagrangian through the corresponding Higgs Lagrangian term given by

$$\mathcal{L}_H = (D_\mu \Phi)^\dagger (D^\mu \Phi) - V(\Phi), \quad V(\Phi) = -\mu^2 (\Phi^\dagger \Phi) + \frac{\lambda}{4} (\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2 \quad (1.11)$$

where

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 = (v + H + i\chi)/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad v = 2\sqrt{\frac{\mu^2}{\lambda}} \quad (1.12)$$

Here μ and λ are parameters of the Higgs potential. The discovery of the Higgs boson and the measurement of its mass studies the μ parameter, double Higgs boson non-resonant searches target λ parameter to know more precisely what is the shape of Higgs potential. After the SSB, the value of the Higgs field vacuum expectation value can be expressed in term of μ and λ and is usually denoted by v [4].

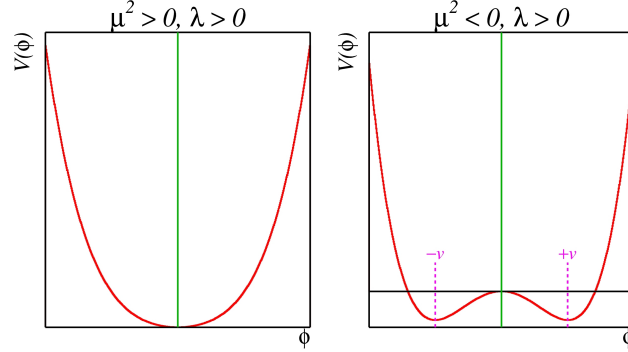


Figure 1.1: Shape of the Higgs potential before and after SSB that is determined at the leading orders by μ and λ parameters.

I After adding \mathcal{L}_H and rearranging term, bosons have masses given by:

$$M_W = \frac{gv}{2}, \quad M_Z = \frac{M_W}{\cos \theta_W}, \quad M_H = \sqrt{2\mu^2} \quad (1.13)$$

The final piece of the SM Lagrangian is the Yukawa term, which Lagrangian is given by:

$$\mathcal{L}_{Yuk} = -i\bar{\Psi}_L G_l \psi_{l_R} \Phi - i\bar{\Psi}_Q G_u \psi_{u_R} \tilde{\Phi} - i\bar{\Psi}_Q G_d \psi_{d_R} \Phi + h.c. \quad (1.14)$$

where $\tilde{\Phi} = i\sigma^2 \Phi^*$

The masses of fermions enter the equation through the 3×3 matrices G , which are not known from the theory and are the parameters of the SM. The mass of the fermion is proportional to the Yukawa coupling of the corresponding fermion to the Higgs boson, which has already been mentioned when we discussed the Fig. ??.

1.2 Beyond the Standard Model

Several BSM theories [5–7] predict a resonant production of the double Higgs boson events through a heavy narrow width resonance ($\sim O(1 - 10)$ GeV), which could be

spin 0 or spin 2 particle [8]. In this particular analysis data is compared with respect to predictions from the Warped Extra Dimensions theory (WED) [9]. WED theory addressing the hierarchy problem adds additional fifth dimension to the 4-dimensional (4D) space-time. In the framework that Randall and Sundrum (RS) [10] followed 4D space then is nothing but an EFT approximation, where the radion or graviton may exist as Kaluza-Klein (KK) [11] excitation modes at the TeV scale. Since LHC had provided us with no evidence of the SM particles interacting with the additional RS dimensions, it is postulated that they are confined to 3-brane, or a wall. At the same time, gravity, which is not in the SM, can propagate freely in the full higher-dimensional space, so-called bulk. If/when the bulk is compactified, it may produce KK modes of the gravitons. In this analysis RS model with parameter k of the order of Planck scale and \bar{M}_{Pl} , a reduced 4D M_{Pl} which is a function of the 5D Planck scale M and a parameter k with $k < M$, are assumed to satisfy the constraint $0.01 \leq k/\bar{M}_{Pl} \leq 1$, because values outside of this range are not applicable/or complicate the theory [12]. Considered in this search graviton and radion are thus RS KK graviton and RS radion particles that emerge in RS scenario with a mass of KK state of the order of TeV.

Lagrangian energy stress tensor over fields i [13]

$$\lambda_W \sim O(\text{TeV})$$

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