

New results on Higgs properties

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ABSTRACT

We present the latest ATLAS and CMS measurements of several Higgs properties, such as signal-strength modifiers for the main production modes, fiducial and differential cross sections, and the Higgs mass. We have analyzed the 13 TeV proton-proton LHC collision data recorded in 2016, corresponding to integrated luminosities up to 36.1 fb^{-1} . Results for the $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ ($\ell = e\mu$), $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, and $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$ decay channels are presented. In addition, searches for new phenomena in the $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ and $H \rightarrow b\bar{b} + E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ decay channels are presented.

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1 Introduction

The discovery of the Higgs boson was announced in 2012 by the ATLAS and CMS collaborations [1, 2] based on proton-proton collisions collected at the CERN LHC at the centre of mass energies of 7 and 8 TeV. Since then a huge effort has been made in the determination of the properties of this newly found particle. The dataset already collected at 13 TeV allows inclusive Higgs boson measurements to be repeated. Furthermore, the increased centre-of-mass energy results in much larger cross sections for events at high partonic centre-of-mass energy. This implies improved sensitivity to a variety of interesting physics processes, such as Higgs bosons produced at high transverse momentum.

In this document we present the latest ATLAS and CMS measurements of several Higgs properties in different decay channels, such as $H \rightarrow ZZ$, $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$. In addition, we also present results on searches for phenomena beyond the Standard Model, in Higgs decays to $\gamma\gamma$ or $b\bar{b}$, with E_T^{miss} in the final state.

2 $H \rightarrow ZZ$

The $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ decay channel ($\ell = e, \mu$) has a large signal-to-background ratio due to the complete reconstruction of the final state decay products and excellent lepton momentum resolution, making it one of the most important channels for studies of the Higgs boson’s properties. Here we present measurements of properties of the Higgs boson in this channel at 13 TeV, for both the ATLAS and CMS collaborations [3, 4].

In [4] the full kinematic information from each event using either the Higgs boson decay products or associated particles in its production is extracted using matrix element calculations and used to form several kinematic discriminants. Both H boson decay kinematics and kinematics of associated production of H+jet, H+2 jets, VBF, ZH and WH are explored. In order to improve the sensitivity to the Higgs boson production mechanisms, the selected events are classified into mutually exclusive categories, based on jet multiplicity, b-tagged jets, the existence of additional leptons and the aforementioned kinematic discriminants. The reconstructed four-lepton invariant mass distribution is shown in Figure 1 (Bottom left) for the sum of the $4e$, 4μ and $2e2\mu$ subchannels. To extract the signal strength for the excess of events observed in the Higgs boson peak region a multi-dimensional fit is performed, on the four-lepton invariant mass and one of the kinematic discriminants. The fit is performed for several signal-strength modifiers controlling the contribution of the main SM Higgs boson production modes: ggH, VBF, WH, ZH and $t\bar{t}H$, getting for all of them values consistent with the SM expectation, as can be seen in Figure 2 (Center). The inclusive observed (expected) signal-strength modifiers is $1.05^{+0.15}_{-0.14}(\text{stat.})^{+0.11}_{-0.09}(\text{syst.})$ ($1.00^{+0.15}_{-0.14}(\text{stat.})^{+0.10}_{-0.09}(\text{syst.})$). Two signal-strength modifiers $\mu_{\text{ggH}, t\bar{t}H}$ and $\mu_{\text{VBF}, \text{VH}}$ are introduced as scale factors for the fermion and vector-boson induced contribution to the expected SM cross section. A two-dimensional fit is performed assuming a mass of $m_H = 125.09$ GeV leading to the measurements of $\mu_{\text{ggH}, t\bar{t}H} = 1.20^{+0.35}_{-0.31}$ and $\mu_{\text{VBF}, \text{VH}} = 0.00^{+1.37}_{-0.00}$. The 68% and 95% CL contours are shown in Figure 2 (Left). We have also measured the cross section for the production and decay $pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow 4\ell$ within a fiducial volume defined to match closely the reconstruction selection. The integrated fiducial cross section is measured to be $\sigma_{\text{fid}} = 2.90^{+0.48}_{-0.44}(\text{stat.})^{+0.27}_{-0.22}(\text{syst.})$ fb. This can be compared to the SM expectation 2.72 ± 0.14 fb. The measured differential cross section results for $p_T(H)$ and N_{jets} can also be seen in Figure 1 (Bottom center and Bottom right). The dominant sources of systematic uncertainty are the experimental uncertainties in the lepton identification efficiencies and luminosity measurement. In order to improve the four-lepton invariant mass resolution a 3D kinematic fit is performed using a mass constraint on the intermediate Z resonance. The simultaneous fit on the four-lepton invariant mass, the mass resolution and one of the kinematic discriminants gives $m_H = 125.26 \pm 0.20(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.08(\text{syst.})$ GeV. The Higgs width is also measured in the range $rm105 < m_{4\ell} < 140$ GeV. No assumptions need to be made about the presence of BSM particles or interactions which could affect the Higgs boson couplings either in production or in decay. We obtain a width that is constrained to be $\Gamma_H < 1.10$ GeV at 95% CL.

The ATLAS [3] four-lepton invariant mass can be seen in Figure 1 (Top left). Similarly to the CMS analysis, fiducial cross sections are defined at particle-level, with a selection chosen to closely match the detector-level analysis. The inclusive fiducial cross sections of Higgs-boson production at 13 TeV measured using $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ decays are presented in Figure 2 (Right). The fiducial cross section is measured to be

$3.62^{+0.53}_{-0.50}(\text{stat.})^{+0.25}_{-0.20}(\text{syst.})$ fb, in agreement with the SM prediction of 2.91 ± 0.13 fb. The measured total cross section is $69^{+10}_{-9}(\text{stat.})^{+5}_{-4}(\text{syst.})$ pb, to be compared with the SM prediction of 55.6 ± 2.5 pb. The measured differential cross sections for $p_T(\text{H})$ and N_{jets} , together with their comparisons to SM predictions, are presented in Figure 1 (Top center and Top right).

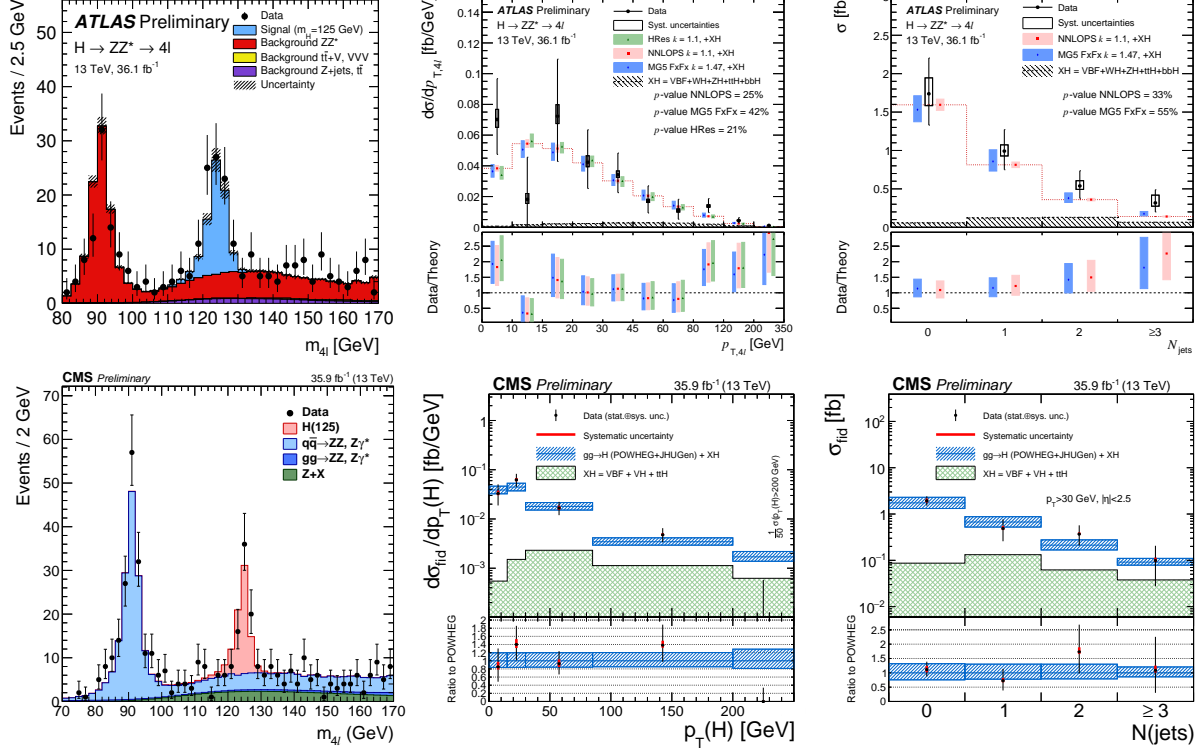


Figure 1: (Top left) ATLAS four-lepton invariant mass distribution of the selected events. The systematic uncertainty on the prediction is shown by the dashed band. (Top center and right) ATLAS differential fiducial cross sections, for the transverse momentum of the Higgs boson (center) and the number of jets (right). The measured cross sections are compared to different ggH predictions, and predictions for all other Higgs production modes XH are added. (Bottom left) CMS four-lepton invariant mass distribution of the selected events. (Bottom center and right) CMS differential fiducial cross sections, for the transverse momentum of the Higgs boson (center) and the number of jets (right). The sub-dominant component of the signal (VBF + VH + ttH) is denoted as XH.

3 $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

See Figure 3.

4 $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$

To establish the mass generation mechanism for fermions, it is necessary to demonstrate the direct coupling of the scalar boson to fermions, and the proportionality of its strength to the fermion mass. The most promising decay channel is $\tau\tau$, because of the large event rate expected in the SM compared to the other leptonic decay modes, and of the smaller contribution from background events with respect to the $b\bar{b}$ channel. Here we report the results of a search for the SM scalar boson using 35.9 fb^{-1} at 13 TeV, when it decays to

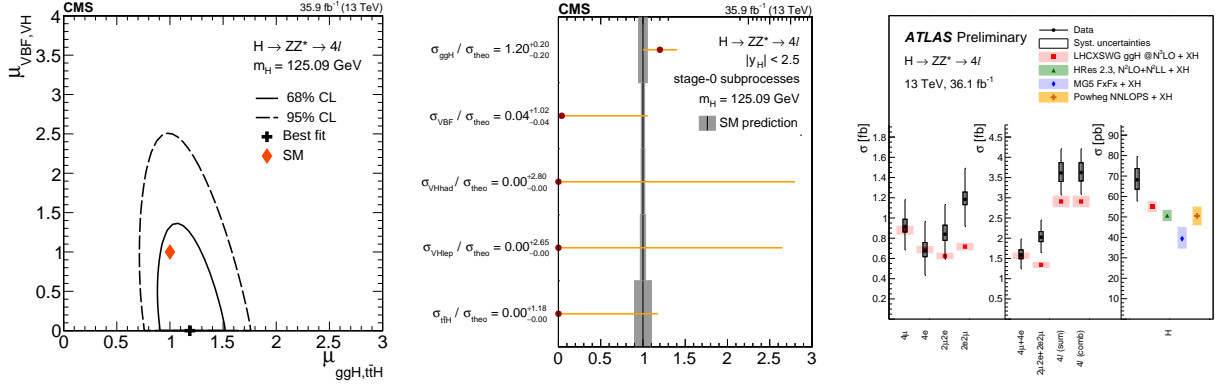


Figure 2: (Left). Result of the 2D likelihood scan for the $\mu_{\text{ggH,ttH}}$ and $\mu_{\text{VBF,VH}}$ signal-strength modifiers. The solid and dashed contours show the 68% and 95% CL regions, respectively. The cross indicates the best-fit values, and the diamond represents the expected values for the SM Higgs boson. (Center). Results of the fit for simplified template cross sections for the stage 0 sub-processes, normalized to the SM prediction. (Right). The fiducial cross sections (left two panels) and total cross section (right panel) of Higgs-boson production measured in the 4ℓ final state. The SM prediction includes the N3LO calculation for ggH production.

a pair of τ leptons [5]. The four τ -pair final states with the largest branching fractions, $\mu\tau_h$, $e\tau_h$, $\tau_h\tau_h$, and $e\mu$, are studied.

The search for an excess of SM scalar boson events over the expected background involves a global maximum likelihood fit based on two-dimensional distributions in all channels, together with control regions for the $t\bar{t}$, QCD multijet and W+jets backgrounds. Figure 4 shows the distribution observed, together with the expected background and signal distributions, in the $\tau_h\tau_h$ channel and VBF category. The signal prediction for a scalar boson with $m_H = 125$ GeV is normalized to its best-fit cross section times branching fraction. The background distributions are adjusted to the results of the global maximum likelihood fit.

5 Searches for new phenomena

Many searches for dark matter (DM) at the LHC involve missing transverse momentum produced in association to detectable particles. Here we present an updated search by the ATLAS experiment [6] for DM associated with the SM Higgs boson decaying to a pair of photons using 36.1 fb^{-1} of pp collision data collected at 13 TeV. Three theoretical benchmark models are considered in this analysis. In the Z'_B model a massive vector mediator Z' emits a Higgs boson and subsequently decays to a pair of Dirac fermionic DM candidates. The Z' -2HDM model involves the Z' boson decaying to the Higgs boson and an intermediate heavy pseudoscalar boson A^0 , which then decays to a pair of Dirac fermionic DM particles. The third model, referred to as the heavy scalar model, introduces a heavy scalar boson H produced primarily via gluon-gluon fusion. Here an effective quartic coupling between the SM Higgs h , H and two DM particles is considered, with the DM particle assumed to be scalar. The events that pass a common selection requiring at least two photon candidates are divided into five categories based on the event kinematics. These categories have been optimized based either on the Z'_B and Z' -2HDM signal samples, or using simulated heavy scalar boson samples, to cover the different kinematic regimes of the heavy scalar model. The results of the analysis are derived from a likelihood fit of the $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ distribution in the range of $105 \text{ GeV} < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 160 \text{ GeV}$. No significant excess over the background expectation is observed and 95% confidence level limits are set on the production cross section times branching fraction of the SM Higgs boson decaying into two photons in association with missing transverse energy in the three different theoretical benchmark models. 95% confidence level limits are also set on the observed signal strength in a two-dimensional $m_{\chi}-m_{Z'_B}$ plane for the Z'_B model, and the $m_{A^0}-m_{Z'}$ plane for the Z' -2HDM model. In the model involving heavy scalar production, 95% confidence level upper limits are set on the production cross section times the branching fraction of

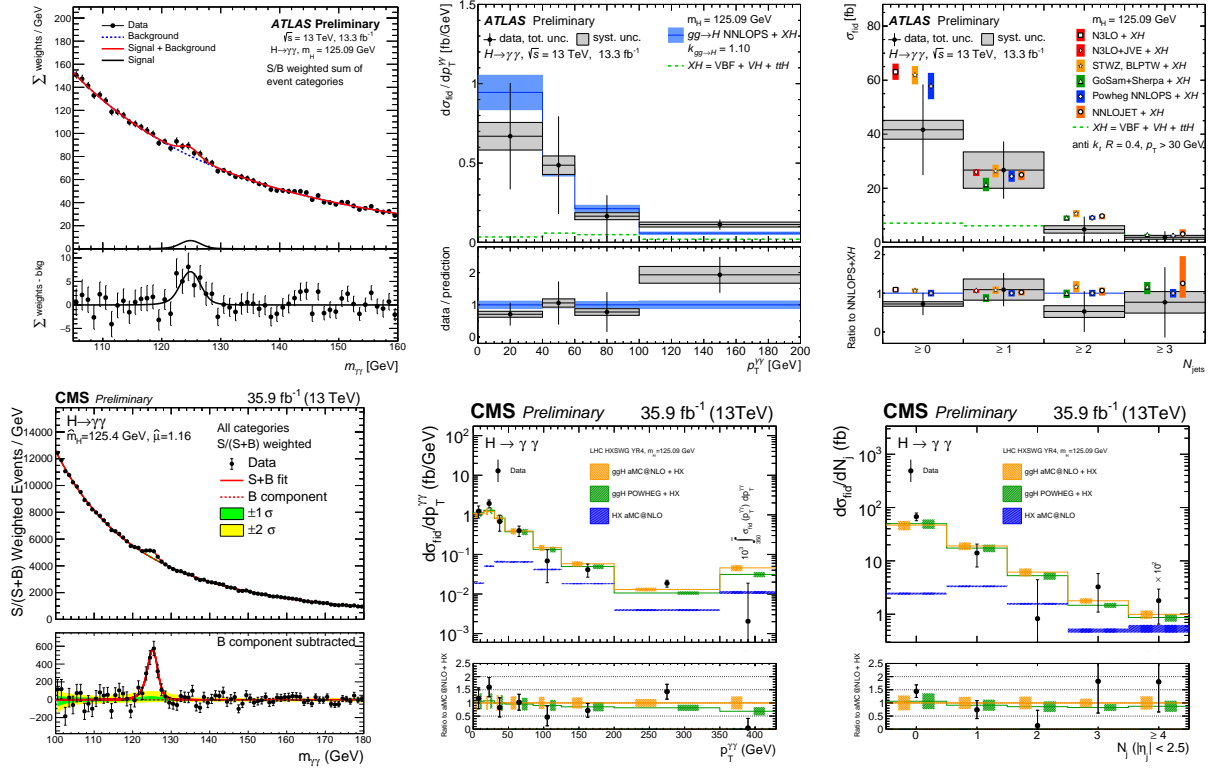


Figure 3: (Top left) ATLAS diphoton invariant mass spectrum. (Top center and right) ATLAS differential fiducial cross sections, for the transverse momentum of the Higgs boson (center) and the number of jets (right). (Bottom left) CMS diphoton invariant mass spectrum. (Bottom center and right) CMS differential fiducial cross sections, for the transverse momentum of the Higgs boson (center) and the number of jets (right).

$H \rightarrow h\chi\chi$, for a dark matter particle with mass of 60 GeV. The heavy scalar model is excluded for all the benchmark points investigated.

Another search for DM has been carried out in [7]. In this case DM is searched for in association with a SM-like Higgs boson decaying to a pair of b-quarks, using 36.1 fb^{-1} of pp collisions at 13 TeV recorded with the ATLAS detector. The Z' -2HDM model has been used for the optimization of the search and its interpretation. Multivariate algorithms are used to identify jets containing b-hadrons that are expected in $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decays.

6 Conclusions

References

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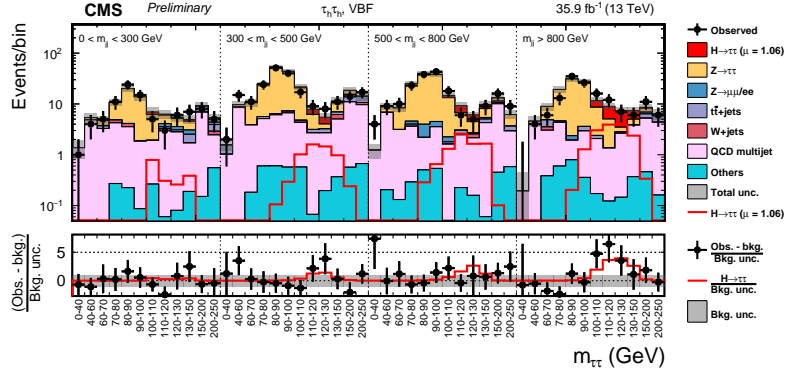


Figure 4: Observed and predicted 2D distributions in the VBF category of the $\tau_h \tau_h$ final state. The normalization of the predicted background distributions corresponds to the result of the global fit. The signal distribution is normalized to its best-fit signal strength.

[6] G. Aad *et al.* [ATLAS Collaboration], ATLAS-CONF-2017-024.

[7] G. Aad *et al.* [ATLAS Collaboration], ATLAS-CONF-2017-028.