Measurement of the Higgs boson properties with the ATLAS detector

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Summary. — In this paper, a brief overview of the results, based on proton-proton collision data recorded at a centre-of-mass energy of 7 TeV in 2011 and 8 TeV in 2012, for the properties of a new Higgs-like particle at 125.5 GeV are presented.


1. – Mass and signal strength

The mass of the newly discovered boson can be measured precisely in the high mass resolution channels \( H \to \gamma\gamma \) and \( H \to ZZ^{(*)} \to 4l \). Figure 1 shows the profile likelihood ratio as a function of \( m_H \) for \( H \to \gamma\gamma \) and \( H \to ZZ^{(*)} \to 4l \) channels and their combination. The combined mass is measured to be \( m_H = 125.5 \pm 0.2 \text{ (stat)}^{+0.5}_{-0.6} \text{ (sys)} \) GeV [1].

2. – Couplings

The signal strength scale factors \( \mu_{i,f} \) for either the Higgs production or decay modes were determined. However, for a consistent measurement of Higgs boson couplings, production and decay modes cannot be treated independently. The framework and benchmarks as recommended in ref. [2], measurements of coupling scale factors are implemented using a LO tree level motivated framework ref. [3]. For these measurements the following channels are used: \( \gamma\gamma, ZZ^{*}, WW^{*}, bb \) and \( \tau\tau \).

Fermion versus vector (gauge) couplings. – This benchmark is an extension of the single parameter fit, where different strengths for the fermion and vector couplings are probed. It assumes that only SM particles contribute to the \( H \to \gamma\gamma \) and \( gg \to H \) vertex loops, but any modification of the coupling strength factors for fermions and vector bosons are propagated through the loop calculations. In fig. 2 (left) there is a plot with the best-fit of \( \kappa_V \) and \( \kappa_F \) with 68% CL contours.
Fig. 1. – The profile likelihood ratio $-2 \ln \Lambda(m_H)$ as a function of $m_H$ for the $H \to \gamma\gamma$ and $H \to ZZ^{(*)} \to 4l$ channels and their combination, obtained by allowing the signal strengths $\mu_{\gamma\gamma}$ and $\mu_{4l}$ to vary independently.

Loop structure. – Many BSM physics scenarios predict the existence of new heavy particles, which can contribute to loop induced processes such as $gg \to H$ production and $H \to \gamma\gamma$ decay. Effective scale factors $\kappa_g$ and $\kappa_\gamma$ are introduced to parameterise the $gg \to H$ and $H \to \gamma\gamma$ loops to probe for contributions from non-SM particles in these processes. In fig. 2 (right) there is a plot with the best-fit of $\kappa_g$ and $\kappa_\gamma$ with 68% CL contours.

3. – Conclusions

Using data taken in 2011 and 2012, at centre-of-mass energies of respectively 7 TeV and 8 TeV, the ATLAS collaboration has reported the observation of a new particle with a mass of $m_H = 125.5$ GeV, in the search for the Standard Model Higgs boson. Within the current statistical uncertainties and assumptions, no significant deviations from the Standard Model couplings are observed.

REFERENCES

