Updated Global Analysis of Higgs Couplings

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Abstract

There are many indirect and direct experimental indications that the new particle $H$ discovered by the ATLAS and CMS Collaborations has spin zero and (mostly) positive parity, and that its couplings to other particles are correlated with their masses. Beyond any reasonable doubt, it is a Higgs boson, and here we examine the extent to which its couplings resemble those of the single Higgs boson of the Standard Model. Our global analysis of its couplings to fermions and massive bosons determines that they have the same relative sign as in the Standard Model. We also show directly that these couplings are highly consistent with a dependence on particle masses that is linear to within a few %, and scaled by the conventional electroweak symmetry-breaking scale to within 10%. We also give constraints on loop-induced couplings, on the total Higgs decay width, and on possible invisible decays of the Higgs boson under various assumptions.

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\section{Introduction and Summary}

It has now been established with a high degree of confidence that the new particle $H$ with mass $\sim 126$ GeV discovered by the ATLAS \cite{1} and CMS \cite{2} has spin zero and (mainly) positive-parity couplings, as expected for a Higgs boson \cite{3}. Minimal spin-two alternatives with graviton-like couplings have been disfavoured by measurements of the $H$ couplings to vector bosons \cite{4}, and quite strongly excluded by constraints on the energy dependence of $H$ production \cite{5}. The graviton-like spin-two hypothesis has also been disfavoured strongly by analyses of $H$ decays into $\gamma\gamma$ \cite{6}, $ZZ^*$ and $WW^*$ final states \cite{7}\cite{8}, and the positive-parity assignment is favoured by decays into $ZZ^*$, in particular \cite{7}. Beyond any reasonable doubt, the $H$ particle is a Higgs boson.

In this paper we make updated global fits to the $H$ couplings to other particles with the aim of characterizing the extent to which they resemble those of the Higgs boson of the Standard Model. There has been considerable progress since our previous analysis of $H$ couplings \cite{17}, including updates at the Hadron Collider Physics conference in November 2012 \cite{11}, the CERN Council in December 2013 \cite{12}, the Moriond Electroweak Conference \cite{13} and the Aspen ‘Quo Vadis Higgs’ Meeting in March 2013 \cite{14}, and most recently an update of the CMS $H \to \gamma\gamma$ data at the Moriond QCD session \cite{15}.

There have been many analyses of the $H$ couplings \cite{16,17}, some also including the Moriond 2013 data \cite{18}. Many of these analyses, including those made by the different experimental Collaborations, assume simple parameterizations in which the couplings of the Standard Model Higgs boson to bosons and fermions are rescaled by factors $a_V$ and $c_f$, respectively (or equivalently by factors $\kappa_{V,f}$) \cite{19}. Fits with non-minimal couplings to massive vector bosons have also been considered, as have fits in which the loop-induced couplings to gluons and photons deviate by factors $c_{g,\gamma}$ from the values predicted in the Standard Model. The latter have been of interest in view of the possible excess of $H \to \gamma\gamma$ decays relative to the Standard Model prediction, particularly as reported by the ATLAS Collaboration \cite{6}. Since the $H\gamma\gamma$ coupling could in principle receive contributions from new massive charged particles, and the $Hgg$ coupling from new massive coloured particles, these are particularly sensitive to new physics beyond the Standard Model. In this paper we make updated global fits to the $H$ couplings within such common phenomenological frameworks.

We also revisit parameterizations of the $H$ couplings to fermions and bosons that were first considered in \cite{17}, which are designed specifically to probe the dependence of the $H$...
couplings on particle masses. Namely, we consider parameterizations of the $H$ couplings to fermions $\lambda_f$ and massive bosons $g_V$ of the form

$$
\lambda_f = \sqrt{2} \left( \frac{m_f}{M} \right)^{1+\epsilon}, \quad g_V = 2 \left( \frac{m_V^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{M^{1+2\epsilon}} \right),
$$

which reduce to the couplings of the Standard Model Higgs boson in the double limit $\epsilon \to 0, M \to v = 246$ GeV. This parameterization addresses explicitly the question the extent to which the $H$ particle resembles a quantum excitation [3] of the Englert-Brout-Higgs field that is thought to give masses to the particles of the Standard Model [3,20–22].

We find that, in the absence of contributions from any particles beyond the Standard Model, a combination of the Higgs signal strengths measured in different channels is now very close to the Standard Model value, within 13% at the 68% CL. We also find, for the first time, a strong preference for the couplings to bosons and fermions to have the same sign, also as expected in the Standard Model, driven largely by the new CMS result on $H \to \gamma\gamma$ decay. This also means that there is no significant evidence of additional loop contributions to the $H\gamma\gamma$ beyond those due to the top quark and the $W$ boson. Using the parameterization (1), we find that the dependence of the Higgs couplings to different particle species is within a few % of a linear dependence of their masses. Within the parameterization (1), or marginalizing over the $H$ couplings to Standard Model bosons and fermions, we find that the total Higgs decay rate lies within 20% of the Standard Model value at the 68% CL. If the couplings of the Higgs Boson to Standard Model particles have their Standard Model values and there are no non-standard contributions to the $Hgg$ and $H\gamma\gamma$ amplitudes, the upper limit on invisible Higgs decays is 10% of the total Higgs decay rate.

2 Summary of the Data

The analysis of this paper is based mainly on the material presented by the LHC and TeVatron experimental Collaborations at the March 2013 Moriond Conferences in La Thuile [13,15]. The following are some of the main features of interest among the new results:

- The $H \to \bar{b}b$ signal strength reported by the TeVatron experiments has reduced from $2.0 \pm 0.7$ to $1.6 \pm 0.75$ times the Standard Model value.
- A new $H \to \tau^+\tau^-$ result of $1.1 \pm 0.4$ has been reported by CMS, improving on the previous value of $0.7 \pm 0.5$. 
• The $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ signal strength reported by ATLAS has reduced somewhat from $1.80^{+0.4}_{-0.36}$ to $1.65^{+0.34}_{-0.30}$ times the Standard Model value. Most importantly, CMS has reported a new result of $0.78^{+0.28}_{-0.26}$ for the signal strength using an MVA approach.

• The $H \rightarrow WW^*$ signal strength reported by ATLAS has reduced from $1.5 \pm 0.6$ to $1.01 \pm 0.31$ times the Standard Model value.

All the latest available results from ATLAS, CMS and TeVatron are incorporated into our global fit. The experimental data are used to reconstruct the likelihood in a combination of three possible ways according to the available information: 1) using the official best-fit central value of $\mu$ with its 1-\(\sigma\) error bars, 2) using the given number of signal, background and observed events with their respective errors, or 3) reconstructing the central value of $\mu$ from the 95\% CL expected and observed $\mu$. Specifically, the data inputs are as follows:

• The TeVatron $H \rightarrow \bar{b}b, \tau^+\tau^-, WW^*, \gamma\gamma$ combined best-fit $\mu$ and 1-\(\sigma\) error bars from [23].

• The likelihood for the CMS 8 TeV $WW^*$ 0,1-jet analysis is reconstructed from the numbers of events given in Table 4 of [24]. The $WW^*$ 2-jet event numbers are instead taken from Table 3 of [25]. In addition, we use the fit values from [26] for the 7-TeV CMS $WW^*$ data. The ATLAS Collaboration provides 0,1-jet and 2-jet $\mu$ central values and 1-\(\sigma\) ranges for a combination of 7- and 8-TeV, which we treat effectively as 8 TeV. The percentages of the vector-boson fusion (VBF) production mode contributions to the signals in the 0,1 and 2-jet channels are taken to be 2\%, 12\% and 81\%, respectively [27].

• For $H \rightarrow \bar{b}b$ in CMS we used the 7- and 8-TeV best-fit values from [26] and [28], while for ATLAS the likelihood was reconstructed from the 95\% CL expected and observed values of $\mu$ at 7 and 8 TeV given in [29].

• The CMS $H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ and $ZZ^*$ and $ZZ^*$ dijet rates were taken from the central values given in [7]. Since no separate 7- and 8-TeV numbers are given for these, we treat them effectively as 8 TeV. Numbers of events for the ATLAS $H \rightarrow ZZ^*$ 7- and 8-TeV analyses are provided separately in [7], while the ATLAS $H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ likelihood is reconstructed using the 95\% expected and observed values of $\mu$ given in [30]. The VBF $\tau^+\tau^-$ efficiencies are taken from [31].

• The CMS $\gamma\gamma$ central values are given for six (five) different subchannels at 8 (7) TeV in [7], along with the percentage contributions from all production mechanisms in Table ...
The same information can be found for ATLAS at 7 TeV in [1] and at 8 TeV in [7], broken down into eleven subchannels including two VBF-dominated ones. The CMS update is reported for a cut-based and MVA analysis; we use the MVA result, which has the greater sensitivity.

For each individual experiment we have checked that our combinations of the likelihoods for the various subchannels agree with official combinations with only slight exceptions, for example the CMS 7-TeV $\gamma\gamma$ analysis ($\mu = 1.58_{-0.61}^{+0.60}$ instead of the official value of $1.60_{-0.59}^{+0.65}$). When combined with the CMS 8-TeV data (for which we reproduce the official central value) we calculate for the combined CMS $\gamma\gamma$ data a value of $\mu = 0.72_{-0.26}^{+0.24}$ (to be compared with the official value of $0.78_{-0.26}^{+0.28}$). This difference of a fraction of the quoted error does not impact significantly our overall results.

As a preliminary to our analysis, we compile in Fig. 1 the overall signal strengths in the principal channels, as calculated by combining the data from the different experiments. Thus, for example, in the first line we report the $V+(H\to b\bar{b})$ signal strength found by combining the data on associated $V+H$ production from the TeVatron and LHC. As can be seen in the second line, so far there is no significant indication of associated $t\bar{t}+H$ production. The third line in Fig. 1 combines the experimental information on the $H\to b\bar{b}$ signal strengths in these two channels. Signals for $H\to \tau^+\tau^-$ decay have now been reported in various production channels, as reported in the next three lines of Fig. 1, and the combined signal strength is given in the following line. As we have discussed, data are available on $H\to \gamma\gamma$ final states following production in gluon-gluon collisions and via vector-boson fusion. The central values of the corresponding signal strengths are now only slightly larger than the Standard Model predictions, and we return later to a discussion of the significance of these measurements. The signal strengths in the $H\to WW^*$ and $ZZ^*$ final states are very much in line with the predictions of the Standard Model. These dominate the determination of the combined signal strength reported in the last line of Fig. 1 together with the $\gamma\gamma$ final state. It is striking that the available data already constrain the combined Higgs signal strength to be very close to the Standard Model value:

$$\mu = 1.02_{-0.12}^{+0.11}. \quad (2)$$

We present separately the combined signal strength in the VBF and VH channels without the loop-induced $\gamma\gamma$ final state, which lies slightly (but not significantly) above the Standard Model value. To the extent that a signal with direct Higgs couplings in both the initial and final state is established, this combination disfavours models that predict a universal
Figure 1: A compilation of the Higgs signal strengths measured by the ATLAS, CDF, D0 and CMS Collaborations in the \( bb \), \( \tau^+\tau^- \), \( \gamma\gamma \), \( WW^* \) and \( ZZ^* \) final states. We display the combinations of the different channels for each final state, and also the combination of all these measurements, with the result for the VBF and VH channels (excluding the \( \gamma\gamma \) final state) shown separately in the bottom line.

3 Higgs Couplings to Bosons and Fermions

Our first step in analyzing the implications of these data uses the following effective low-energy nonlinear Lagrangian for the electroweak symmetry-breaking sector \[33\]:

\[
L_{\text{eff}} = \frac{v^2}{4} \text{Tr} \left( D_\mu U D^\mu U^\dagger \right) \times \left[ 1 + 2a \frac{H}{v} + \ldots \right] - \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_f \bar{f}_L \lambda_f f_R \left[ 1 + c_f \frac{H}{v} + \ldots \right] + \text{h.c.}, \tag{3}
\]

where \( U \) is a unitary \( 2 \times 2 \) matrix parametrizing the three Nambu-Goldstone fields that give masses to the \( W^\pm \) and \( Z^0 \) bosons, \( H \) is the physical Higgs boson field and \( v \sim 246 \) GeV is the conventional electroweak symmetry-breaking scale. The coefficients \( \lambda_f \) are the Standard Model Yukawa couplings of the fermion flavours \( f \), and the factors \( a \) and \( c_f \) characterize the

\[2\]We address later in a full fit of the effective couplings of the Higgs to photons and gluons the question whether an enhancement of the loop-induced gluon fusion production could compensate for this by contaminating the VBF cut selection.
deviations from the Standard Model Higgs boson couplings of the $H$ couplings to massive vector bosons and the fermions $f$, respectively. The couplings of the Higgs boson to massless boson pairs $gg$ and $\gamma\gamma$ are described by the following dimension-5 loop-induced couplings:

$$\mathcal{L}_\Delta = -\left[\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi}c_g b_g G_{a\mu\nu}G_{a}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{\alpha_{em}}{8\pi}c_{\gamma} b_{\gamma} F_{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu}\right] \left(\frac{H}{V}\right),$$

(4)

where the coefficients $b_{g,\gamma}$ are those found in the Standard Model, and the factors $c_{g,\gamma}$ characterize the deviations from the Standard Model predictions for the $H$ couplings to massless vector bosons.

One specific model for a common rescaling factor of all fermion and vector boson Higgs couplings is a minimal composite Higgs scenario [33], the MCHM4, in which the compositeness scale $f$ is related to $(a, c)$ by

$$a = c = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{f}\right)^2}.$$  

A similar universal suppression is found in pseudo-dilaton models. A variant of this minimal model with a different embedding of the Standard Model fermions in SO(5) representations of the new strong sector, the MCHM5, has separate vector and fermion rescalings:

$$a = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{f}\right)^2}, \quad c = \frac{1 - 2\left(\frac{v}{f}\right)^2}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{f}\right)^2}}.$$  

In the following we confront the data with these specific models, as well as an ‘anti-dilaton’ scenario in which $c = -a$.

Fig. 2 compiles the constraints imposed by the data summarized in Fig. 1 on the factors $(a, c)$ in the effective Lagrangian [3], assuming universality in the fermion factors $c_f \equiv c$, and assuming that no non-Standard-Model particles contribute to the anomaly factors $c_{g,\gamma}$, which therefore are determined by a combination of the factors $c_t = c$ and $a_W = a$. In each panel of Fig. 2 and similar subsequent figures, the more likely regions of parameter space have lighter shading, and the 68, 95 and 99% CL contours are indicated by dotted, dashed and solid lines, respectively.

We see again in the top row of panels of Fig. 2 that the data on $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decays (left) and $\tau^+\tau^-$ decays (right) are entirely consistent with the Standard Model predictions $(a, c) = (1, 1)$. The region of the $(a, c)$ plane favoured by the $b\bar{b}$ data manifests a correlation between $a$ and $c$ that arises because the dominant production mechanism is associated $V + X$ production, which is $\propto a^2$. On the other hand, the region of the $(a, c)$ plane favoured by the
Figure 2: The constraints in the \((a,c)\) plane imposed by the measurements in Fig. 1 in the \(\bar{b}b\) final state (top left), in the \(\tau^+\tau^-\) final state (top right), in the \(\gamma\gamma\) final state (middle left), in the \(WW^*\) final state (middle right) and in the \(ZZ^*\) final state (bottom left). The combination of all these constraints is shown in the bottom right panel.
\( \tau^+ \tau^- \) data exhibits a weaker correlation between \( a \) and \( c \), reflecting the importance of data on production via gluon fusion in this case. As was to be expected from the compilation in Fig. 1, the \( \gamma \gamma \) data displayed in the middle left panel of Fig. 2 are now compatible with the Standard Model prediction \((a, c) = (1, 1)\), following inclusion of the latest CMS result. The data on \( H \to WW^* \) (middle right panel of Fig. 2) and \( ZZ^* \) decays (bottom left panel) are also entirely consistent with \((a, c) = (1, 1)\).

We draw attention to the importance of the 2-jet analyses, which select a VBF-enriched sample, in disfavouring bands of the plots around \( c \sim 0 \). This effect is very visible in the \( \gamma \gamma \) and \( WW^* \) results displayed in the middle plots. On the other hand, in the \( ZZ^* \) case the CMS dijet analysis is less powerful, so there is a weaker suppression of the likelihood around \( c \sim 0 \).

All the above information is combined in the bottom right panel of Fig. 2, assuming that there are no virtual non-Standard-Model particles contributing to \( H \to \gamma \gamma \) decay or the \( Hgg \) coupling. We note that the global fit is not symmetric between the two possibilities for the sign of \( c \) relative to \( a \), a feature visible in the middle left panel of Fig. 2 and traceable to the interference between the \( t \) quark and \( W \) boson loops contributing to the \( H \to \gamma \gamma \) decay amplitude. In the past it has been a common feature of such global fits that they have exhibited two local minima of the likelihood function with opposite signs of \( c \) that, because of this asymmetry, were not equivalent but had similar likelihoods [34]. We see in the bottom right panel of Fig. 2 for the first time a clear preference for the minimum with \( c > 0 \), i.e., the same sign as in the Standard Model.

This feature is also seen clearly in Fig. 3 where we display in the left panel the one-dimensional likelihood function \( \chi^2 \) for the boson coupling parameter \( a \) obtained by marginalizing over the fermion coupling parameter \( c \), and in the right panel the one-dimensional likelihood function for \( c \) obtained by marginalizing over \( a \). We see that the fit with \( c > 0 \) is strongly favoured over that with \( c < 0 \), with \( \Delta \chi^2 \sim 9 \). The parameters of the global minimum of the \( \chi^2 \) function and their 68% CL ranges are as follows:

\[
a = 1.03 \pm 0.06, \quad c = 0.84 \pm 0.15.
\]  

This preference for \( c > 0 \) is largely driven by the recently-released CMS \( \gamma \gamma \) data.

The yellow lines in the bottom right panel of Fig. 2 correspond to various alternatives to the Standard Model, as discussed above. We see that fermiophobic models (the horizontal line) are very strongly excluded, as are anti-dilaton models in which \( c = -a \). On the other hand, dilaton/MCHM4 models with \( a = c \) are compatible with the data as long as their common value is close to unity. Likewise, MCHM5 models lying along the curved line are...
also compatible with the data if their parameters are chosen to give predictions close to the Standard Model.

The fact that, whereas all the direct measurements of $H$ couplings to fermions and massive vector bosons are very compatible with the Standard Model, the coupling to $\gamma\gamma$ was formerly less compatible, has given rise to much speculation that additional virtual particles may be contributing to the factor $c_\gamma$ in (4). However, the motivation for this speculation has been largely removed by the recent re-evaluation of the $H \to \gamma\gamma$ decay rate by the CMS Collaboration, which is quite compatible with the Standard Model prediction. The left panel of Fig. 4 shows the results of a global fit to the anomaly factors $(c_\gamma, c_g)$, assuming the Standard Model values $(a, c) = (1, 1)$ for the tree-level couplings to massive bosons and fermions. Under this hypothesis, any deviation from $(c_\gamma, c_g) = (1, 1)$ would be due to new particles beyond the Standard Model. We see explicitly in Fig. 4 that, while there may still be a hint that $c_\gamma > 1$, the value of $c_g$ is completely compatible with the Standard Model. Thus, any set of new particles contributing to $c_\gamma$ should be constructed so as not to contribute significantly to $c_g$.

The right panel of Fig. 4 is complementary, showing the constraints in the $(a, c)$ plane after marginalizing over $(c_\gamma, c_g)$. Thus it represents the constraints on $a$ and $c$ if no assumption is made about the absence of new particle contributions to the loop amplitudes. In this case, the symmetry between the solutions with $c > 0$ and $< 0$ is restored, as the $H \to \gamma\gamma$ decay rate no longer discriminates between them. In this case, the Standard Model values $a = c = 1$ are well inside the most favoured region of the $(a, c)$ plane.
4 Probing the Mass Dependence of Higgs Couplings

We now turn to the results of a global fit using the \((M, \epsilon)\) parameterization that probes directly the extent to which the current measurements constrain the Higgs couplings to other particles to be approximately linear: \(\epsilon \sim 0\), and the extent to which the mass scaling parameter \(M \sim v\). The left panel of Fig. 6 shows the result of combining the measurements shown in Fig. 5 in the \((M, \epsilon)\) plane. The horizontal and vertical yellow lines correspond to \(\epsilon = 0\) and \(M = v\), respectively, and the data are quite compatible with these values. The central values and the 68% CL ranges of \(M\) and \(\epsilon\) are as follows:

\[
M = 244^{+20}_{-10} \text{ GeV} , \quad \epsilon = -0.022^{+0.042}_{-0.021} ,
\]

and the likelihood price for \(M = 246\) GeV and \(\epsilon = 0\) is \(\Delta \chi^2 = 0.12\). It is remarkable that the data already constrain the mass dependence of the Higgs couplings to other particles to be
The one-dimensional likelihood functions for $c_\gamma$ (left panel) and $c_g$ (right panel), as obtained by marginalizing over the other variable in the bottom right panel of Fig. 4, assuming the Standard Model values for the tree-level couplings to massive bosons and fermions.

linear in their masses to within a few %, and that the mass scaling parameter $M$ is within 10% of the Standard Model value $v = 246$ GeV. We display in the left panel of Fig. 7 the one-dimensional likelihood function $\chi^2$ for the factor $\epsilon$ obtained by marginalizing over $M$, and in the right panel the one-dimensional likelihood function for $M$ obtained by marginalizing over $\epsilon$.

The right panel of Fig. 6 displays the mass dependence of the $H$ couplings in a different way, exhibiting explicitly the constraints on the couplings of $H$ to other particles within the parameterization (1). The solid red line is the prediction of the Standard Model, $\epsilon = 0$ and $M = v$, the black dashed line corresponds to the best-fit values in (7), and the dotted lines correspond to their 68% CL ranges. The black points and vertical error bars are the predictions of the $(M, \epsilon)$ fit for the couplings of $H$ to each of the other particle species: the points lie on the best-fit dashed line and the error bars end on the upper and lower dotted lines. Also shown (in blue) for each particle species is the prediction for its coupling to $H$ if the data on that particular species are omitted from the global fit. In other words, the blue points and error bars represent the predictions for the $H$ coupling to that particle, as derived from the couplings to other particles.

5 The Total Higgs Decay Rate

We now discuss the total Higgs decay rate in the two classes of global fit discussed above, assuming that the Higgs has no other decays beyond those in the Standard Model (35).
Figure 6: The constraints in the \((M, \epsilon)\) plane imposed by the measurements in Fig. 1 (left panel) and the strengths of the couplings to different fermion flavours and massive bosons predicted by this two-parameter \((M, \epsilon)\) fit (right panel). In the latter, the red line is the Standard Model prediction, the black dashed line is the best fit, and the dotted lines are the 68\% CL ranges. For each particle species, the black error bar shows the range predicted by the global fit, and the blue error bar shows the range predicted for that coupling if its measurement is omitted from the global fit.

Figure 7: The one-dimensional likelihood functions for \(\epsilon\) (left panel) and \(M\) (right panel), as obtained by marginalizing over the other variable in the left panel of Fig. 6.

The left panel of Fig. 8 displays contours of the Higgs decay rate relative to the Standard Model prediction in the \((a, c)\) plane discussed in Section 3. The local \(\chi^2\) minimum with \(c > 0\) corresponds to a Higgs decay rate very close to the Standard Model value, whereas the disfavoured ‘echo’ solution with \(c < 0\) has a somewhat smaller decay rate. The right panel of Fig. 8 displays contours of the Higgs decay rate in the \((M, \epsilon)\) plane, where we again see...
that the best fit has a total decay rate very close to the Standard Model value. We display in Fig. 9 the one-dimensional likelihood function for the total Higgs decay width relative to its Standard Model value assuming no contributions from non-Standard-Model particles. The solid line is obtained assuming that \( a = c \) (or, equivalently, that \( \epsilon = 0 \) but \( M \) is free), the dashed line is obtained marginalizing over \((a, c)\), and the dot-dashed line is obtained by marginalizing over \((M, \epsilon)\).

Figure 8: Contours of the total Higgs decay rate relative to the Standard Model prediction in the \((a, c)\) plane shown in the bottom right panel of Fig. 2 (left) and the \((M, \epsilon)\) plane shown in the left panel of Fig. 6 (right).

One may also use the current Higgs measurements to constrain the branching ratio for Higgs decays into invisible particles, \( BR_{\text{inv}} \). This invisible branching ratio factors out of the total decay width as

\[
\Gamma_{\text{Tot}} = \Gamma_{\text{Vis}} + \Gamma_{\text{Inv}} = \left( \frac{R_{\text{Vis}}}{1 - BR_{\text{Inv}}} \right) \Gamma_{\text{SM}}^{\text{Tot}},
\]

where \( R_{\text{Vis}} = \Gamma_{\text{Vis}}/\Gamma_{\text{SM}}^{\text{Tot}} \) is the rescaling factor of the total decay width in the absence of an invisible contribution. Thus we see that an invisible branching ratio acts as a general suppression of all other branching ratios, which could be compensated by non-standard visible Higgs decays.

The left panel of Fig. 10 displays the \( \chi^2 \) function for \( BR_{\text{inv}} \) under various assumptions. The solid line was obtained assuming the Standard Model couplings for visible particles, i.e., \((a, c) = (1, 1)\) or equivalently \((M, \epsilon) = (v, 0)\). We see that the best fit has \( BR_{\text{inv}} = 0 \), and that the 68 and 95% CL limits are 0.04 and 0.13, respectively. The dot-dashed line was obtained by marginalizing over \((a, c)\), where the shallow minimum at \( BR_{\text{inv}} \sim 0.4 \) would...
Figure 9: The one-dimensional likelihood function for the total Higgs decay width relative to its value in the Standard Model, $R \equiv \Gamma / \Gamma_{SM}$, assuming decays into Standard Model particles alone and assuming $a = c$ or equivalently $\epsilon = 0$ (solid line), marginalizing over $(a, c)$ (dashed line) and marginalizing over $(M, \epsilon)$ (dot-dashed line).

require $a > 1$. Finally, the dashed line was obtained fixing $(a, c) = (1, 1)$ (or equivalently $(M, \epsilon) = (v, 0)$), but marginalizing over the loop factors $(c_\gamma, c_g)$. Conversely, the right panel of Fig. 10 displays the constraint in the $(c_\gamma, c_g)$ plane obtained by marginalizing over $BR_{inv}$.

Figure 10: Left: The branching ratio for Higgs decay into invisible particles obtained assuming the Standard Model decay rates for all the visible Higgs decays (solid), marginalizing over $(c_\gamma, c_g)$ (dashed) and $(a, c)$ (dot-dashed). Right: The constraints in the $(c_\gamma, c_g)$ plane when marginalizing over the invisible branching ration $BR_{inv}$. 
6 Conclusions

The recent installments of data from the LHC experiments announced in March 2013 impose strong new constraints on the properties and couplings of the $H$ particle, which is beyond doubt a Higgs boson. The data now constrain this particle to have couplings that differ by only some % from those of the Higgs boson of the Standard Model. In particular, the relative sign of its couplings to bosons and fermions is fixed for the first time, its couplings to other particles are very close to being linear in their masses, and strong upper limits on invisible Higgs decays can be derived.

The data now impose severe constraints on composite alternatives to the elementary Higgs boson of the Standard Model. However, they do not yet challenge the predictions of supersymmetric models, which typically make predictions much closer to the Standard Model values. We therefore infer that the Higgs coupling measurements, as well as its mass, provide circumstantial support to supersymmetry as opposed to these minimal composite alternatives, though this inference is not conclusive.

It is likely that the first LHC run at 7 and 8 TeV has now yielded most of its Higgs secrets, and we look forward to the next LHC run at higher energy, and its later runs at significantly higher luminosity. These will provide significant new information about the $H$ particle and constrain further its couplings, as well as providing opportunities to probe directly for other new physics. The LHC will be a hard act to follow.

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