

CSN4: theoretical physics

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Input INFN
per la Strategia
della Fisica
delle Particelle
2025-2026

Dedicated events during 2024-2025

- **L'INFN e la Strategia Europea per la Fisica delle Particelle**, Rome, 6-7 May, 2024
<https://agenda.infn.it/event/39747/>
- **LFC24: Fundamental Interactions at Future Colliders**, SISSA, 16-20 September, 2024
<https://agenda.infn.it/event/41113/>
- **Workshop on HighLumi-LHC and Hadron Colliders**, 1-4 October 2024, LNF
<https://agenda.infn.it/event/42594/>
- **Workshop on FCC-ee and Lepton Colliders**, 22-24 January 2025, LNF
<https://agenda.infn.it/event/43779/>

and also many inspiring discussions with two Workshops celebrating the 50 years from J/Ψ discovery

- **The Rise of Particle Physics**, Roma Sapienza, 23-24 September, 2024
<https://agenda.infn.it/event/41258/>

- **The November J/ψ Fifty Years Later with a Look to the Future**, 18 November 2024, LNF
<https://agenda.infn.it/event/42751/>

- **Draft document in preparation together with**
 - the present CSN4 Chair Giuseppe Degrassi
 - the CSN4 Referees
 - Domenico Orlando, Dimitri Sorokin
 - Dario Buttazzo, Francesco Sanfilippo
 - Umberto D'Alesio, Isaac Vidana
 - Francesco Bigazzi, Roberto Casadio
 - Martina Gerbino, Daniele Montanino
 - Domenico Giuliano, Mario Nicodemi

present knowledge of fundamental interactions based on two pillars

- **Standard Model of particle physics**
(microscopic world, strong/electroweak forces)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{4} \sum_a F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{a,\mu\nu} + \sum_f i\bar{\psi}_f D_\mu \gamma^\mu \psi_f \\ & + (D_\mu H^\dagger D^\mu H) - V(H) - (\bar{\psi}_f^i y_f^{ij} \psi_f H + h.c.)\end{aligned}$$

- **General Relativity and Standard Cosmological Model**
(macroscopic world, gravity)

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} - \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = -\kappa T_{\mu\nu}$$

The SM of particle physics in brief

- gauge symmetry $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$
- spontaneously broken to $U(1)_{em}$ through the Higgs mechanism
- fermion masses through Yukawa interactions
- Higgs boson is (the only one) pointlike scalar

Accidental properties/symmetries of the SM

Symmetries & conservation laws: conservation of B , L_e , L_μ , L_τ

Custodial symmetry: An approximate global $SU(2)_C$ symmetry in the Higgs sector.
Protects the ratio $m_W / (\cos \theta_W m_Z) \approx 1$.

Absence of FCNC at tree-level: Z boson, photon and gluon couple in a flavour-conserving way +
Higgs Yukawa couplings are small.

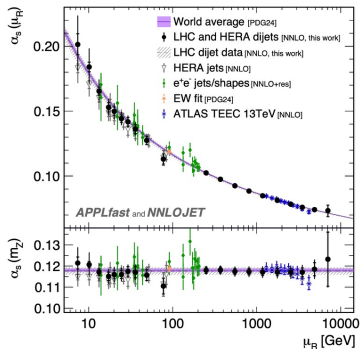
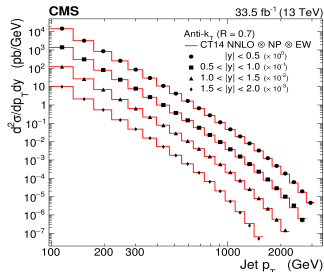
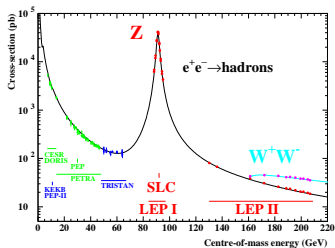
Small CP-violation effects, even though the CP-phase is large: small quark masses and mixing angles.

Lepton-Flavour Universality: SM gauge couplings are generation-independent +
Yukawa couplings are small and hierarchical (e.g. $m_{e,\mu} \ll m_b$)

Massless neutrinos: a neutrino mass term is forbidden by gauge symmetries.

D. Marzocca, LNF Workshop, October 2024

Tests of the SM from LEP to LHC: the gauge structure

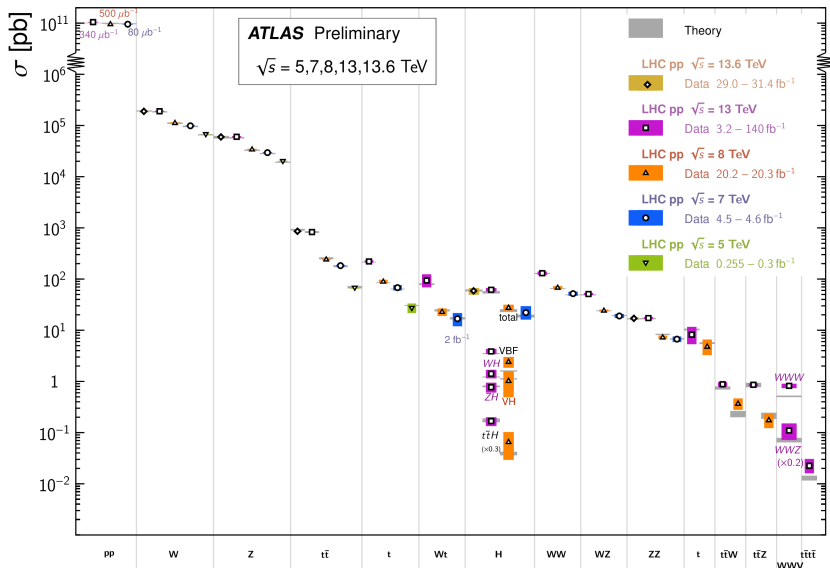


plots from G. Dissertori @ Stefano Catani Memorial Symposium, GGI, 09/01/2025

Tests of the SM @ LHC: adding the Higgs

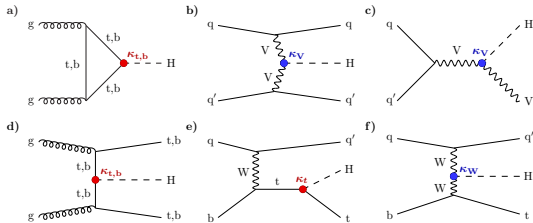
Standard Model Total Production Cross Section Measurements

Status: June 2024

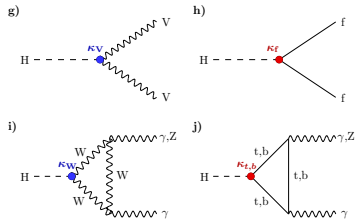


Higgs production and decay in hadronic collisions

Higgs boson production modes



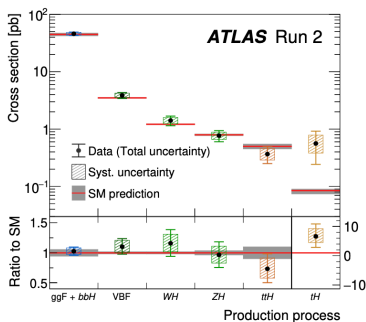
Higgs boson decay channels



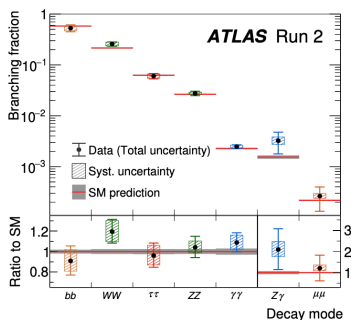
Higgs boson @LHC after a decade from discovery

- **production (and decay) measured in several channels**
- **for some channel th. uncertainties of same order of exp systematics**

Production



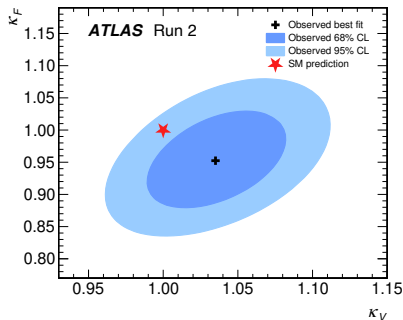
Decay



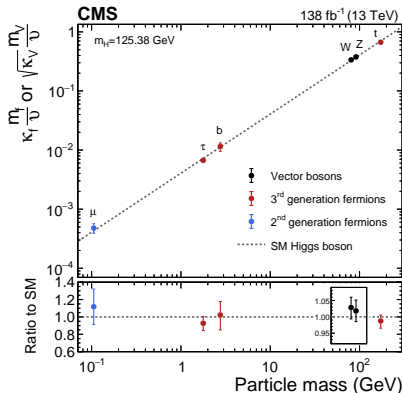
ATLAS Coll., Nature 607 (2022) 7917, 52

- **agreement with th. predictions**

Higgs boson after a decade from discovery



ATLAS Coll., Nature 607 (2022) 7917, 52



CMS Coll., Nature 607 (2022) 7917, 60

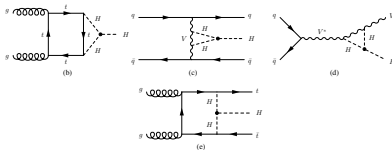
- $m_H = 125.20 \pm 0.11$ GeV (PDG); $\Gamma_H \sim 4$ MeV

Higgs self-coupling: sensitivity through

- **double Higgs production** (at NLO or LO in associated production)

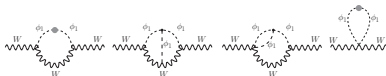


- **single Higgs production** (at NNLO or NLO in associated production) and decay (at NLO or NNLO for $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$)



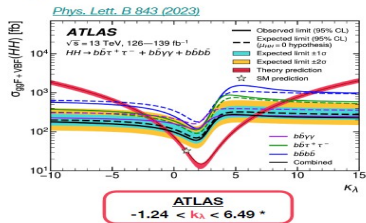
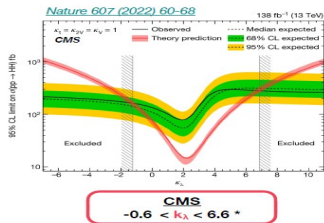
- **EW precision observables at two loops can help**

Degrassi et al., arXiv:1702.01737; Kribs et al., arXiv:1702.07678



Present sensitivity to k_λ

- $k_\lambda = \lambda_{HHH} / \lambda_{HHH}^{SM}$



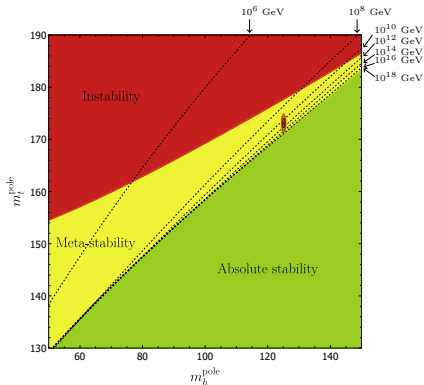
* Assuming other couplings to SM value
Di-Higgs production (ATLAS–CMS) – SM@LHC 2024

- important correlations of k_λ with k_V , k_{2V} and k_t

Summarizing the present status

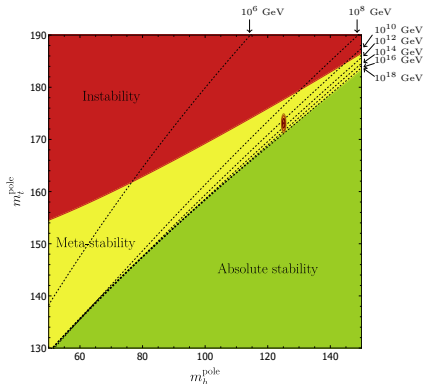
- SM gauge sector tested with $\mathcal{O}(0.1\%)$ precision
- SM Higgs interaction with 3rd-generation fermions tested with $\mathcal{O}(10\%)$ level
- SM Higgs interaction with W - Z gauge boson tested at the $\mathcal{O}(10\%)$ level
- hardly constrained SM Higgs self-coupling
- negative searches of New Physics at high energy

- Even if technically the SM could be valid up to very high scales



Andreassen, Frost, Schwartz, arXiv:1707.08124; Buttazzo et al., arXiv:1307.3536

- Even if technically the SM could be valid up to very high scales



Andreassen, Frost, Schwartz, arXiv:1707.08124; Buttazzo et al., arXiv:1307.3536

- several hints suggest that the limiting scale of validity of the SM could be much lower

Old unanswered questions, e.g.

- Unnaturally light Higgs
- Unnaturally suppressed strong CP violation
- Fermion mass hierarchy
- Nature and origin of neutrino masses
- Dark Matter
- Baryon asymmetry in the Universe
- Gravity
- ...

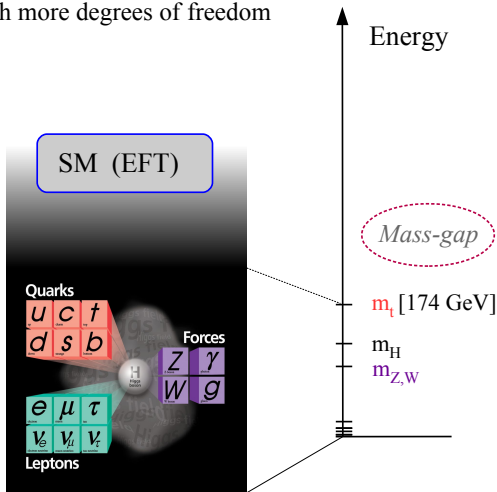
Despite all its phenomenological successes, as for any QFT, it is natural to consider the SM as an Effective Field Theory, i.e. the low energy limit of a more complete theory with more degrees of freedom

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM-EFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Higgs}} + \dots$$

We identified the *long-range* properties of this EFT

The key message following from run-II LHC results is that there is a mass-gap above the Fermi scale

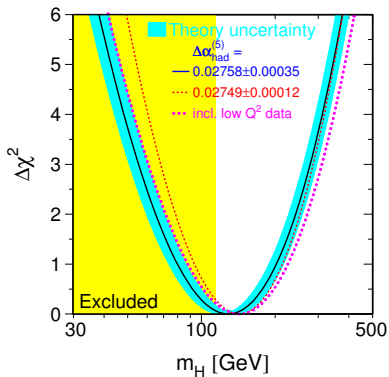
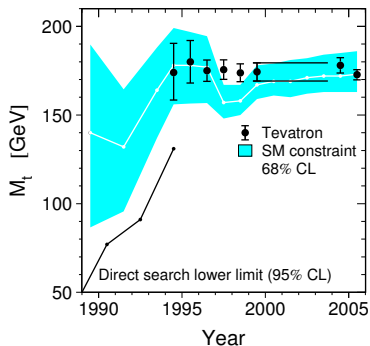
N.B.: *the existence of a mass gap, albeit not as large, was quite clear even before the LHC started, via EW and flavor physics*



from talk by G. Isidori at LFC24

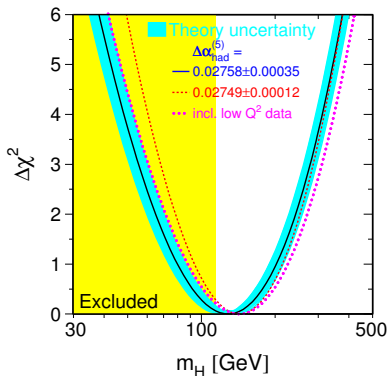
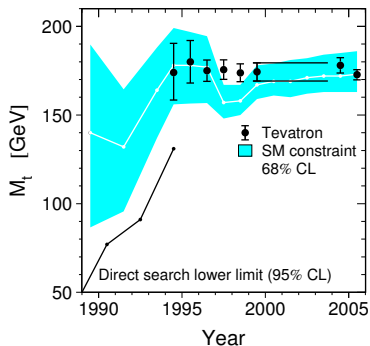
New threshold scale from lower energy?

- “easy” if you have a well defined model, as for instance for m_t and m_h in the SM through LEP data at $\sqrt{s} = M_Z$



New threshold scale from lower energy?

- “easy” if you have a well defined model, as for instance for m_t and m_h in the SM through LEP data at $\sqrt{s} = M_Z$



- more difficult if we don't have a definite model

- consider the SM as an effective theory valid up to the NP scale Λ
- the effects of decoupling heavy NP can be described by higher dimensional gauge-invariant operators built with SM fields and suppressed by inverse powers of Λ

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i \frac{c_i \mathcal{O}_i}{\Lambda^i}$$

- higher dim operators violate accidental symmetries of the SM
- \implies flavour physics observables are very sensitive to higher dim contributions

The next 15 years: Flavor

- ◆ Significant improvement in flavor measurements in the next (few) years!

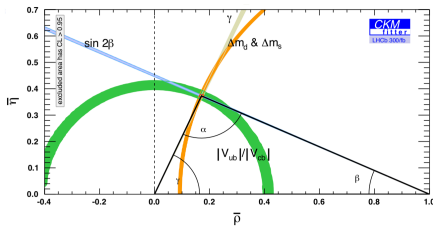


(upgrade 2)

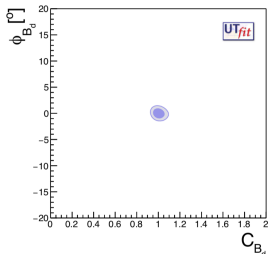
- ▶ $O(10^{14})$ b and c hadrons
- ▶ $O(10^{11})$ τ leptons



- ▶ $O(10^{10})$ B mesons
- ▶ $O(10^{10})$ τ 's in clean environment



- ▶ Precision on CKM matrix elements $< 1\%$ (tree-level and loop)
 - ▶ Needed as input of SM predictions in all other observables!
- ▶ CPV in Bs system. CPV in charm with extreme precision.



$O(15 \text{ y})$ timescale!

11

by D. Buttazzo, Rome, 6-7 May 2024

The next 15 years: Flavor

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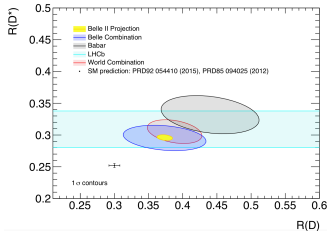


(upgrade 2)

- $O(10^{14})$ b and c hadrons
- $O(10^{11})$ τ leptons



- $O(10^{10})$ B mesons
- $O(10^{10})$ τ 's
in clean environment



$O(15 \text{ y})$ timescale!

- Semi-leptonic decays $b \rightarrow q\ell\nu$
- Semi-tauonic decays @ few %
 → $M_{\text{NP}} > 5 \text{ TeV} \times g_{\star}$
 (today below 1 TeV)
- Rare leptonic & semi-leptonic B decays
 - Access to $b \rightarrow dll$ transitions
 - LFU below 1% precision
- Rare tau decays and LFU

For the first time precise measurements of rare processes for different flavors:
 $b \rightarrow s$ vs $b \rightarrow d$; τ vs μ, e ; ℓ^{\pm} vs ν_{ℓ}

Ultimate precision on all 'visible' B and D decay modes

12

by D. Buttazzo, Rome, 6-7 May 2024

The next 15 years: Flavor

- Access to FCNC decays with neutrinos and taus for the first time!
crucial to determine up vs. down alignment of NP: can suppress only one!

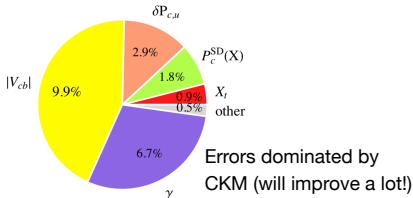
- Belle II will measure $B \rightarrow K^{(*)}\nu\nu$ to 10%

O(10 y) timescale!

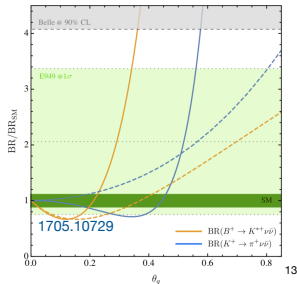


Observables	Belle II 50 ab ⁻¹
$\text{Br}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\nu\bar{\nu})$	11%
$\text{Br}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\nu\bar{\nu})$	9.6%
$\text{Br}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\nu\bar{\nu})$	9.3%

- $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+\nu\nu$ to 10% from NA62 and below 5% from HIKE



- $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0\nu\nu$ one of the few very clean modes (like $B_s \rightarrow \mu\mu$, or CP asymmetry in $B \rightarrow \psi K_S$).

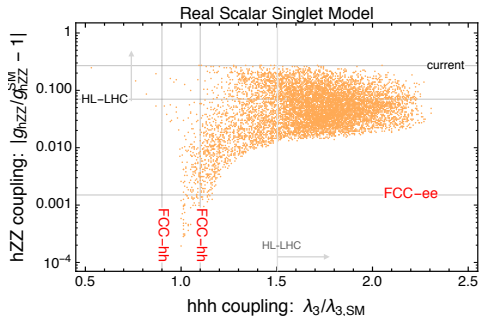


by D. Buttazzo, Rome, 6-7 May 2024

Impact of extended Higgs sectors on nature of the EW phase transition

Extra-singlet models with potential strong 1st order phase transition

$$V(H, S) = -\mu^2 (H^\dagger H) + \lambda (H^\dagger H)^2 + \frac{a_1}{2} (H^\dagger H) S + \frac{a_2}{2} (H^\dagger H) S^2 + \frac{b_2}{2} S^2 + \frac{b_3}{3} S^3 + \frac{b_4}{4} S^4.$$



Experimental signature:
deviation in the Higgs coupling to the Z (g_{hZZ})
and in the Higgs self-coupling λ_3

Scan of model parameters a_i and b_i ,
and impact on g_{hZZ} and λ_3 for
parameter points with strong FOPT

from talk by M.L. Mangano, LFC24, September 2024

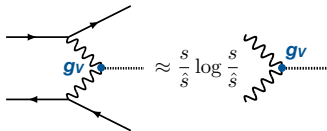
Higgs factories

- Low-energy e+e- factories: $e^+e^- \rightarrow Zh @ 240 \text{ GeV}$



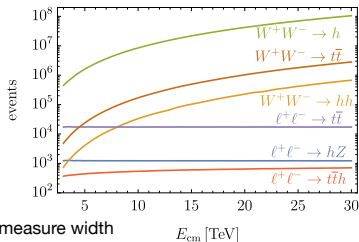
- measure the recoil (missing mass) of h against Z
- direct measurement of $g_V \rightarrow$ other couplings + width

- A high-energy lepton collider is a “vector boson collider”



- potentially huge single H production (10^7 - 10^8 at 10-30 TeV)
- hard neutrinos from W-fusion not seen
- ZZ fusion (forward lepton tagging) could still measure width

For “soft” SM final state $\hat{s} \sim m_{EW}^2$
cross-section is enhanced

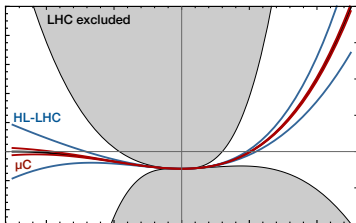


18

by D. Buttazzo, Rome, 6-7 May 2024

Double Higgs production

- Measurement of trilinear coupling: access to the Higgs potential



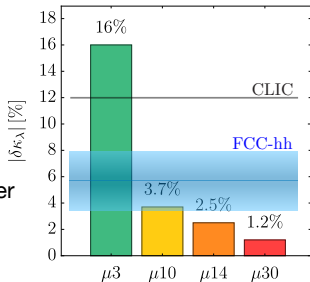
credits: Craig, Petrossian-Byrne

- very poorly known today!
- HL-LHC will only reach 50% precision on SM value

- Precise determination *only* possible at high-energy machines: 100 TeV FCC-hh or multi-TeV Muon collider

Mangano et al. 2004.03505
B, Franceschini, Wulzer 2012.11555
Costantini et al. 2005.10289

Han et al. 2008.12204
CLIC 1901.05897



21

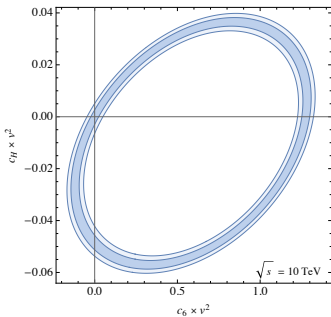
by D. Buttazzo, Rome, 6-7 May 2024

Double Higgs production

- Double Higgs production depends on trilinear coupling κ_3 but also on W-boson couplings κ_W, κ_{WW} that enter the production cross-section

- Two dim. 6 operators: $\mathcal{O}_6 = -\lambda|H|^6$ $\mathcal{O}_H = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu|H|^2)^2$

$$\kappa_3 = 1 + v^2 \left(C_6 - \frac{3}{2} C_H \right) \quad \kappa_W = 1 - v^2 C_H / 2 \quad \kappa_{WW} = 1 - 2v^2 C_H$$

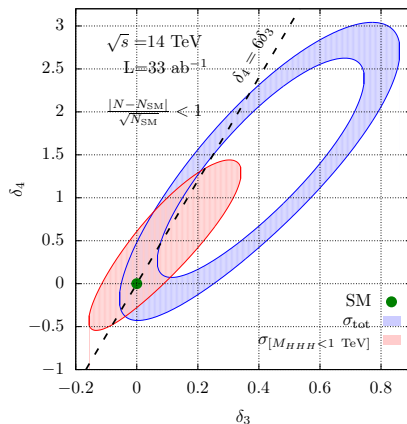


large degeneracy in total cross-section:
coefficients not determined in general

23

by D. Buttazzo, Rome, 6-7 May 2024

Quartic Higgs self-coupling



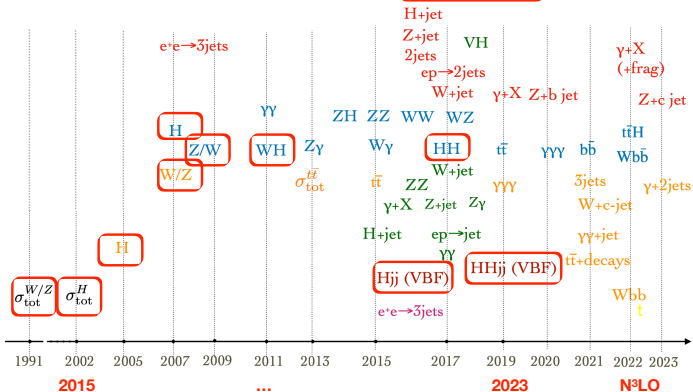
M. Chiesa et al., arXiv:2003.13628

- difficult, first explorations at μ -collider

The need for precision SM calculations

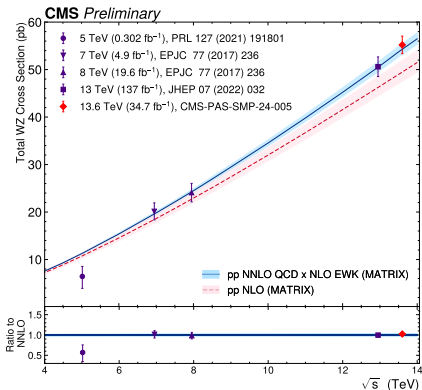
- **Impressive development during LHC era**
 - automatic codes for event generation at NLO (QCD and EW) precision matched to all order resummation of logarithmic enhanced corrections
 - $2 \rightarrow 2$ @NNLO QCD perturbative accuracy for many processes
 - $2 \rightarrow 3$ @NNLO QCD accuracy becoming available for selected processes
 - first complete mixed QCD-EW NNLO corrections
 - N3LO QCD calculations for Higgs and DY production
 - different approaches for matching NNLO calculation and resummation of logs
- recent work started to prepare for precise event generation in e^+e^- collisions

NNLO → N³LO



14

Improved agreement with experiments



$$55.2 \pm 1.2(\text{stat}) \pm 1.2(\text{syst}) \pm 0.8(\text{lumi}) \pm 0.1(\text{Theo})$$

$$54.7 + 1.2 - 1.1(\text{scale}) \text{ NNLO QCD} \times \text{NLO EW (MATRIX)}$$

What are EW Sudakov logarithms?

QCD: virtual and real terms are separately IR divergent ($1/\epsilon$ poles). In physical cross sections the contributions are combined and poles cancel.

QED: same story, but I can also regularise IR divergencies via a photon-mass λ . So $1/\epsilon$ poles $\rightarrow \log(Q^2/\lambda^2)$, where Q is a generic scale.

EW: with weak interactions $\lambda \rightarrow m_W, m_Z$ and W and Z radiation are typically not taken into account, which is anyway IR-safe.

Therefore, at high energies EW loops induce corrections of order

$$-\alpha^k \log^n(s/m_W^2)$$

where k is the number of loops and $n \leq 2k$. These logs are physical. Even including the real radiation of W and Z, there is not the full cancellation of this kind of logarithms.

8

from talk by D. Pagani at LFC24, September 2024

Summary

- Strategic will be a wide future program of physics at accelerators, both at the **intensity** and the **energy** frontiers, with the aim of exploring with unprecedented precision the **electroweak scale** and the **highest possible energies** with conceivable technologies
- In the future increasing complementarities and synergies between intensity/energy and cosmological frontiers
- In various aspects of precision physics, **non-perturbative** contributions play an important role. Their quantitative estimate needs **HPC** resources and developments (see e.g. the ongoing effort on the muon $g - 2$ theoretical prediction)
- Continuous commitment for the development of challenging precision calculations and simulation tools, both for hadronic as well as leptonic collisions (**theory systematics will be relevant**)