The Higgs boson at the LHC: standard model Higgs properties and beyond standard model searches

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After the discovery of a new particle in 2012 by the ATLAS and CMS collaborations, since then identified to be the standard model Higgs boson, a brief review is made of recent results using LHC data taken at a centre-of-mass energy of 13 TeV in 2016. The SM Higgs boson properties continue to be studied with greater precision, and all production modes and decay channels are probed, including the production in association with top quark, whose 5σ observation is made possible by the data accumulated so far. New searches for rare and exotic decays of the Higgs boson are presented, as well as searches for additional neutral and charged Higgs bosons. Recent di-Higgs boson production results are also briefly described.

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1. Introduction

These proceedings are dedicated to reviewing the most recent results on the Higgs boson at the Large Hadron Collider, from the ATLAS and CMS collaborations, using the data recorded in 2016. The ATLAS and CMS detectors are described in detail in [1] and [2], respectively.

The luminosities recorded by ATLAS and CMS over the past years are shown in Figure 1. The run-I data-taking period refers to datasets taken in 2010 to 2012 at 7 and 8 TeV of centre-of-mass energies, whereas run-II refers to data taken in 2015 and 2016 at 13 TeV of centre-of-mass energy.



Figure 1: Integrated luminosities recorded in the ATLAS (left) and CMS (right) experiments. From [3] and [4] respectively.

The review is organised in several sections, and concerns both Standard Model (SM) Higgs boson properties and Beyond Standard Model (BSM) searches. In BSM searches, results from exotic decay channels as well as additional neutral and charged Higgs bosons are considered. The reader is referred to the references for more details about the way the analyses are performed and their complete sets of results.

2. SM Higgs boson properties

The Higgs boson was discovered in July 2012, using $\gamma\gamma$ and diboson (VV) final states, with data recorded at centre-of-mass energies of 7 and 8 TeV [5, 6]. The new particle was further characterised by the measurement of its coupling to tau leptons, with the 5- σ observation on the run-I dataset with the combination of ATLAS and CMS data [7], and by a single experiment in July 2017 with 7+8+13 (2016) TeV datasets [8]. The evidence of the coupling to b quarks happened in the summer 2017 also with the combination of the 7+8+13 (2016) TeV datasets by both ATLAS and CMS separately [9, 10]. The 3- σ evidence of the coupling to top quark was released by ATLAS in December 2017 with the 2016 13 TeV dataset [11] followed by the 5- σ observation by CMS the week before the ALPS 2018 conference with 7+8+13 (2016) TeV datasets [12].

The Higgs boson mass has been measured using the golden decay channels to ZZ to 4 leptons and $\gamma\gamma$: these give the best resolutions and narrow mass distributions. The run-I legacy results for the mass measurements are in [13], and run-II updates have been released by ATLAS [14] and CMS [15], as summarised in Table 1.

LHC Run I	$125.09 \pm 0.21(stat) \pm 0.11(sys)$ GeV
ATLAS 2016	$124.98 \pm 0.19(stat) \pm 0.21(sys)$ GeV
CMS 2016	$125.26 \pm 0.20(stat) \pm 0.08(sys)$ GeV

Table 1: Summary of the Higgs boson mass measurements and their statistical (stat) and systematic (sys) accuracies, from [13, 14, 15].

The spin and parity measurements were studied extensively using the same golden channels with run-I data, with the quantum numbers $J^P = 0^+$ confirmed by data. The measurements are used to set severe constraints on anomalous couplings, see [16],[17].

In order to confirm further that the particle found is the SM Higgs boson, its couplings to the different particles are measured more and more precisely. The channels considered are shown in Figure 2 for ATLAS (left) and CMS (right), both in terms of production and decay modes. The red squares highlight the combinations that have been performed already with the run-II data.

	ggF	VBF	VH	ttH
H→ZZ→4I	•	•	•	•
Н→үү	•	•	•	•
H→WW	•	•		•
H→bb		•	•	•
Η→ττ				•
Η→μμ	•	•		
H→inv			•	

Figure 2: Decay channels and production modes considered for the measurements of the Higgs boson couplings to SM particles. Left: ATLAS. Right: CMS. The red squares highlight the combinations that have been performed already with the 2016 data. Courtesy of Andrew Gilbert [18].

The run-I results from ATLAS and CMS data combined are described in details in [7], and shown in Figure 3, left. The full combination of 2016 data from CMS is shown in Figure 3, right, from [22]. Several new channels have been added compared to the run-I combination, namely ZZ decay for associated production modes, the search for a boosted $b\bar{b}$ pair targeting gluon-fusion production and decay to b quarks [19]. The best accuracy to date is obtained for ggH (11%), ttH (26%), and the full combination (9%). ATLAS results using ZZ to 4 ℓ and $\gamma\gamma$ decays are described in [20], and using WW decay in [21].

Differential measurements have also been done, to characterise further the kinematic properties of the Higgs boson in comparison with several theoretical calculations. The golden $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow 4\ell$ decays are used by ATLAS [23] and the data are compared with Monte Carlo (MC) predictions for gluon fusion (ggH), vector-boson fusion (VBFH), and vector-boson associated (VH) production from Powheg-box v2, and for ttH and bbH production from Madgraph5_aMC@NLO. All predictions are normalised to the latest calculations (e.g. ggH N3LO). Statistical uncertainties are still dominant at the level of 20-30%. A good agreement is obtained between both decay channels $\gamma\gamma$ and 4ℓ , and with predictions.

The first evidence of ttH production was released by ATLAS in [11], from multileptons analy-



Figure 3: Observed signal strengths, relative to SM expectations, classified by decay channels and production modes. Left: run-I combined ATLAS and CMS results, from [7]. Right: CMS run-II combination, from [22].

ses, with a signal strength of 1.2 ± 0.2 (stat) ±0.2 (sys). The 2016 13 TeV data were used targeting WW, ZZ, and $\tau\tau$ decay modes. In the CMS paper [12] showing the first observation of ttH production, 88 categories have been combined using the full statistics of 7, 8 and 13 TeV data, and targeting WW, ZZ, $\tau\tau$, bb and $\gamma\gamma$ decays. The signals strength measured by CMS is:

$$\mu_{ttH} = 1.26^{+0.31}_{-0.26} = 1.26^{+0.16}_{-0.16} (\text{stat})^{+0.17}_{-0.15} (\text{expt})^{+0.14}_{-0.13} (\text{bkg th})^{+0.15}_{-0.07} (\text{sig th})^{+0.15}_{-0.15} (\text{sig th})^{+0.15}_{-0.15} (\text{stat})^{+0.17}_{-0.15} (\text{stat}$$

The observed and expected significances from both experiments are summarised in Table 2.

Significance	ATLAS	CMS
Observed	4.2 σ	5.2 σ
Expected	3.8 σ	4.2 σ

Table 2: Observed and expected significances for the measurement of ttH production in ATLAS and CMS.From [11, 12].

The combined CMS coupling measurements allow to put new constraints on the branching ratio of the Higgs boson to invisible decay products, set at BR(inv)<0.22@95%CL, and on various two-Higgs-doublet models (2HDM), see [22].

3. Rare decays

Having studied already in details the decay of the Higgs boson to b quarks, the next step is to look at the decay to c quarks. This channel, in addition to having a more than 10 times smaller branching ratio than the $b\bar{b}$ channel, is also extremely challenging for the experiments. Using the VH production, ATLAS gives an observed (expected) upper limit on the cross section times branching ratio of $\sigma < 2.7(3.9^{+2.1}_{-1.1})$ pb [24]. The corresponding observed (expected) signal strength is $\mu < 110(150^{+80}_{-40})$.

Concerning the decay to two muons, the expected branching ratio is another two order of magnitudes smaller but the signal is extremely clean experimentally and benefiting from excellent performances of the detector in reconstructing the dimuon invariant mass. The upper limits are approaching the SM prediction with the ATLAS observed (expected) upper limit at 2.8 (2.9) times the SM prediction [25], and the CMS observed (expected) upper limit at 2.64 (1.89) times the SM prediction [26].

With a similar branching ratio than the Higgs boson to $\gamma\gamma$ decay, ATLAS and CMS have also studied the decay to a dilepton pair (from a Z boson) and a photon. Interpretations are made also for high mass spin-0 or spin-2 resonances. ATLAS sets an observed (expected) 95%CL upper limit at 6.6 (5.2) times SM [27]. CMS sets an observed (expected) 95%CL upper limit at 3.9 (2.0) times SM [28]. CMS gained in sensitivity by also considering offshell lepton pair production.

Finally decay channels involving mesons have been studied: $H \rightarrow \phi \gamma$, $\rho \gamma$. These channels allow to test the coupling of the Higgs boson to light quarks [29], with diagrams as shown Figure 4, left. The upper limits on the branching ratios are shown in Figure 4, right. These recent ATLAS results complement the run-I $H \rightarrow J/\Psi + \gamma$ searches presented in [30] and [31].



Figure 4: Left: representative diagrams for the decay of the Higgs boson to a photon and a meson. Right: observed and expected 95%CL upper limits on the branching fractions of the Higgs and Z bosons to $\phi\gamma$ and $\rho\gamma$. From [29].

4. Exotic decays

Having studied already almost all possible expected SM decay channels, signs of new physics can also be looked for in exotic modes. With the run-I data, a 2.4 σ excess was observed by CMS in [32] for the lepton-flavour violating decay in the $\mu\tau$ final state. Unfortunately this is now ruled out by the 2016 data, see [33].

In many BSM models, the Higgs boson can decay to invisible particles. Complementing the indirect limits from visible decays, the direct search targets VH, ggH and VBFH production modes [34]. The 95% CL upper limit on the branching fraction to invisible assuming SM Higgs boson production is shown in Figure 5, left. The VBFH channel is the most sensitive.

The Higgs boson could also decay to new particles like dark photons, through different portals (Hypercharge portal or Higgs portal), or light pseudoscalars. This is looked for in a final state with 4 leptons in [35], from either a Z boson and new vector Z_D (or pseudoscalar a) or two new Z_D . The interpretation is given in several models, including $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4\ell$.



Figure 5: Left: 95% CL upper limit on the branching fraction to invisible assuming SM Higgs boson production for different production modes and the combination, from [34]. Right: 95% CL upper limit on the branching fraction to two a boson as a function of the a boson mass, in a type-III 2HDM+S model with $\tan \beta = 5$, from [38].

5. Decays to lighter (pseudo)scalar particles

In extended Higgs sector models like 2HDM with an additional singlet (2HDM+S), extra light scalars / pseudoscalars (a) are predicted. For a masses below half the mass of the SM Higgs boson, the decay channel to aa opens. The a-boson will in turn decay to SM fermion pairs, with different branching ratios in different types of models and depending also on tan β . Typically the decay to b quarks dominates above 10 GeV followed by the decay to tau leptons, except in type-III models where it is reversed. The decay to muons is several order of magnitudes smaller but leading to a clean experimental signature.

With the run-I data, several decay modes were considered, covering different mass ranges, see for example [36]. With the run-II data, a new CMS analysis has been released studying $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$ [37], exploiting the larger branching ratio to b quarks. The channel $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow \mu\mu\tau\tau$ [38] has also been studied with the 2016 dataset. An example summary plot comparing the new results with the run-I results from [36] is shown in Figure 5, right.

ATLAS also released a novel analysis targeting the VBF production mode, and decay to gluon jets: $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow gg \gamma\gamma$ [39]. Similarly to the 4γ decay mode, this channel targets models with fermionic decays suppressed, but with a much higher predicted branching ratio. The VBF production is selected by asking for 2 jets with an invariant mass $M_{jj} > 500$ GeV. The 95%CL upper limit on the branching ratio to $gg\gamma\gamma$ is shown in Figure 6, left.

6. BSM Searches: neutral

Additional neutral Higgs bosons are looked for with similar decay modes as the SM Higgs boson, in the high mass regions. A summary of the high-mass searches is given in Table 3.



Figure 6: Left: 95%CL upper limit on the branching ratio to $gg\gamma\gamma$ as a function of the a boson mass, from [39]. Right: Observed significance in the search for heavy A bosons decaying to VH, as a function of the mass of the A boson, from [42].

Channel	ATLAS	CMS
$H {\rightarrow} ZZ$	arXiv:1712.06386	arXiv:1804.01939
$H \rightarrow WW \ (\ell \ell \nu \nu)$	Eur. Phys. J. C 78 (2018) 24	JHEP 10 (2015) 144 (RunI)
$H \rightarrow WW, WZ (l \nu qq)$	JHEP 03 (2018) 042	JHEP 10 (2015) 144 (RunI)
$ m H{ ightarrow} au au$	JHEP 01 (2018) 055	arXiv:1803.06553

Table 3: References for the ATLAS and CMS searches of high-mass neutral Higgs bosons.

Low mass Higgs boson decaying to $\gamma\gamma$ are searched for in the mass range $70 < m_H < 110$ GeV in [40]. A local (global) combined significance of 2.8 (1.3) σ is seen for a mass of 95.4 GeV, not enough to conclude to an observation, but it is to be noted that an excess is seen separately in different production modes and datasets (8 and 13 TeV datasets) in this same mass region. More data need to be analysed before a conclusion can be reached.

In addition to the standard decays to two SM bosons or two fermions, also cascade decays involving several Higgs bosons are possible depending on the scenarios. ATLAS has studied A bosons decaying to ZH in [41], targeting both gluon fusion and b-associated productions. Also decays of A bosons to a vector boson (W or Z) and SM Higgs bosons are studied by ATLAS in [42], with $W \rightarrow \ell v$, $Z \rightarrow \ell \ell$, vv, and $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$, and with resolved and merged topologies. Interpretations are given in heavy-vector-triplet and 2HDM models. A local excess is seen with a local (global) significance of 3.6 (2.4) σ , shown in Figure 6, right.

7. Di-Higgs boson production

Di-Higgs boson production in the SM is a non-resonant process with small cross sections $O \simeq 30$ fb at 13 TeV. The cross section can be significantly enhanced in diverse BSM scenarios if resonant production becomes possible via new particles. Non-resonant enhancements are also considered, using description from Effective Field Theories (EFT). The run-I results are summarised in [43] and [44], for ATLAS and CMS respectively.

The branching ratios for di-Higgs boson production to different final states are shown in Figure 7, with the channels analysed already shown explicitly with red boxes. The run-II results references are summarised in the table in Figure 7. For non-resonant HH searches, the sensitivity reached is of the order of $20 \times SM$. The EFT parametrisation is taken from [45].



Figure 7: Branching ratios of di-Higgs boson production to different final states, and list of references for the run-II results.

8. BSM Searches: charged

Finding a charged Higgs boson would be an unequivoqual sign of physics beyond the SM. Many searches have been performed with unfortunately no signs of a charged Higgs boson yet in the data. References are summarised in Table 4 for ATLAS and CMS searches.

Search	ATLAS	CMS
$\mathrm{H}^{\pm} ightarrow c \bar{s} \ 8 \ \mathrm{TeV}$	Eur. Phys. J. C, 73 6 (2013) 2465	JHEP 12 (2015) 1
${ m H}^{\pm} ightarrow car{b}$ 8 TeV	-	CMS-PAS-HIG-16-030
$\mathrm{H}^{\pm} ightarrow t ar{b}$ 8 TeV	JHEP 03 (2016) 127	JHEP 11 (2015) 018
$\mathrm{H}^\pm ightarrow au v$ 13 TeV	Phys. Lett. B 759 (2016) 555-574	CMS-PAS-HIG-16-031
$\mathrm{H}^{\pm} \rightarrow t \bar{b} \ 13 \ \mathrm{TeV}$	ATLAS-CONF-2016-089	-
${ m H}^{\pm} ightarrow WZ$	Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 231801 (2015)	PRL 119 (2017) 141802
$\mathrm{H}^{\pm\pm} ightarrow \ell\ell\ell(\ell)$ 13 TeV	Eur. Phys. J. C 78 (2018) 199	CMS-PAS-HIG-16-036
${\rm H}^{\pm\pm} \to W^\pm W^\pm$	-	arXiv:1709.05822

Table 4: References for all charged Higgs boson analyses in ATLAS and CMS.

9. Conclusion

With the analysis of the data taken in 2016 at a centre-of-mass energy of 13 TeV, the SM Higgs boson has now been observed in all production modes, including ttH, and in the five main decay channels, with 5σ discoveries in dibosons, $\gamma\gamma$ and $\tau\tau$, and 3σ evidence for bb. Coupling measurements are being completed in all production modes and decay channels. Concerning rare decays, the experiments are reaching $2.6 \times SM$ in the $\mu\mu$ channel, and $4 \times SM$ in rare decay to $Z\gamma$. They are exploring decays to charm quarks and meson+ γ and also many exotic decay modes, e.g. to invisible particles or dark photons.

The constraints from the visible decay channels and increasingly precise measurements achieved by both experiments are strong, but many different searches are developed to look for signs of new physics. In the objective of leaving no stone unturned, a good complementarity is seen between AT-LAS and CMS. No significant-enough excess has been found yet leading to stronger and stronger constraints put on theoretical models.

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