

**Stefan Liebler**

**Off-shell effects in Higgs decays  
to gauge bosons**



Manchester - 24 July 2014

University of Hamburg



Aim of this talk: Discuss LHC inspired effects for linear collider:

▷ 1. Off-shell contributions in  $H \rightarrow VV^{(*)}$

[1206.4803; Kauer Passarino:

Inadequacy of zero-width approximation  
for a light H boson signal]

Further elaboration: [1305.2092, 1310.7011; Kauer]

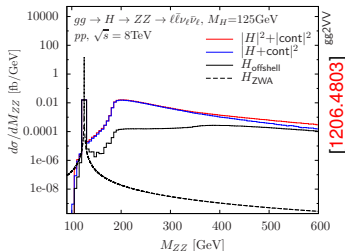
[1307.4935; Caola Melnikov: Constraining the Higgs  
boson width with  $ZZ$  production at the LHC]

Further elaboration: [1311.3589, 1312.1628; Campbell Ellis Williams]

Application: CMS [CMS-PAS-HIG-14-002, 1405.3455], ATLAS [ATLAS-CONF-2014-042]

⇒ Obtained bound  $\Gamma_H < (5 - 7)\Gamma_H^{SM}$

Further comments: [1310.1397, 1405.0285, 1405.1925, 1406.1757, 1406.6338]



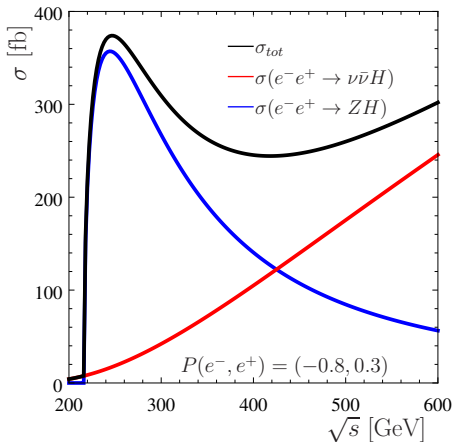
▷ 2. Interferometry with background in  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

[1208.1533, 1303.3342; Martin: Shift in the  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  mass peak from interference with background]

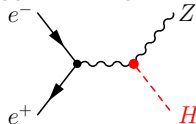
Further elaboration: [1303.1397; de Florian et al., 1305.3854; Dixon Li]

→ Can also be investigated at the (I)LC!

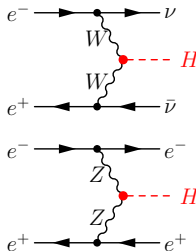
## Main production mechanisms of the SM Higgs at the (I)LC:



### Higgsstrahlung



### Vector boson fusion

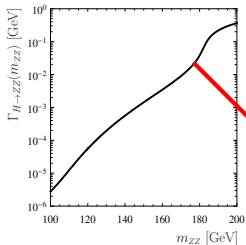


Discussion of off-shell contributions  $m_{ZZ} > 2m_Z$  in  $H \rightarrow ZZ$ :

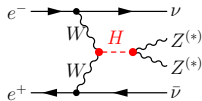
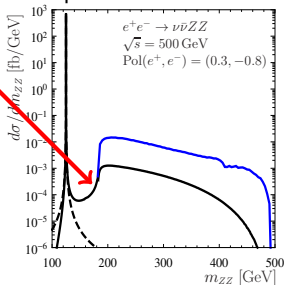
$$\left( \frac{d\sigma_{\text{ZWA}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}ZZ}}{dm_{ZZ}} \right) = \sigma^{\nu\bar{\nu}H}(m_H) \frac{2m_{ZZ}}{(m_{ZZ}^2 - m_H^2)^2 + (m_H\Gamma_H)^2} \frac{m_H\Gamma_{H\rightarrow ZZ}(m_H)}{\pi}$$

$$\left( \frac{d\sigma_{\text{off}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}ZZ}}{dm_{ZZ}} \right) = \sigma^{\nu\bar{\nu}H}(m_{ZZ}) \frac{2m_{ZZ}}{(m_{ZZ}^2 - m_H^2)^2 + (m_H\Gamma_H)^2} \frac{m_{ZZ}\Gamma_{H\rightarrow ZZ}(m_{ZZ})}{\pi}$$

Second equation describes the proper calculation of  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}ZZ$  at LO!



Consequences:



On-shell:

$$\sigma \propto g_{HVV}^{\text{on},4} / \Gamma_H$$

Off-shell:

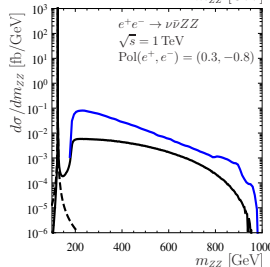
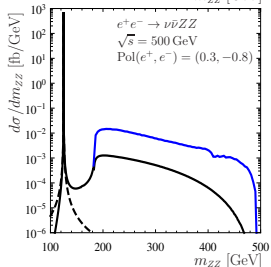
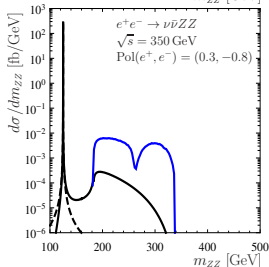
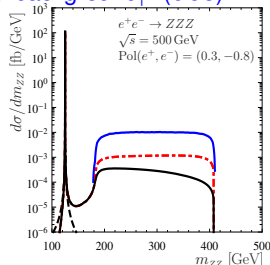
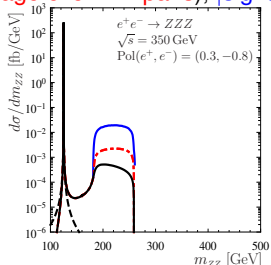
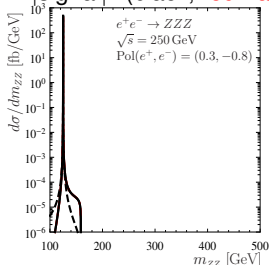
$$\sigma \propto g_{HVV}^{\text{off},4}$$

Access width  $\Gamma_H$

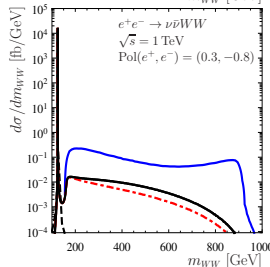
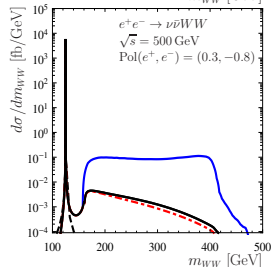
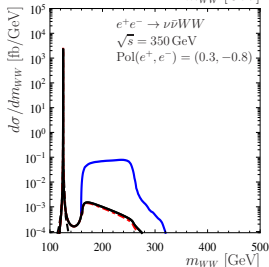
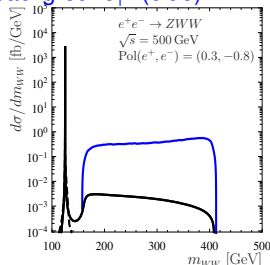
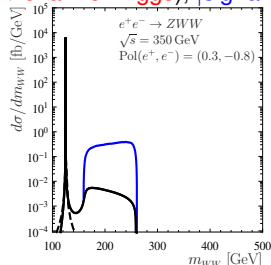
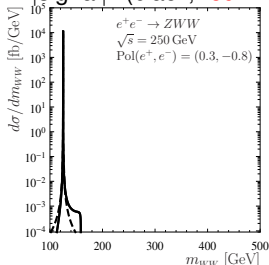
if  $g_{HVV}^{\text{on}}$  and  $g_{HVV}^{\text{off}}$

scale identically

Quantification for  $H \rightarrow ZZ^{(*)}$  as function of  $\sqrt{s}$ :

 $|\text{signal}|^2$  (black, red - average over  $ZZ$  pairs),  $|\text{signal} + \text{background}|^2$  (blue)


Quantification for  $H \rightarrow WW^{(*)}$  as function of  $\sqrt{s}$ :

 $|\text{signal}|^2$  (black, red - with  $t$ -channel Higgs),  $|\text{signal} + \text{background}|^2$  (blue)


Relative contribution to the total signal cross section:  $\text{Pol}(e^+, e^-) = (0.3, -0.8)$

With  $\sigma_X(m_{VV}^d, m_{VV}^u) = \int_{m_{VV}^d}^{m_{VV}^u} dm_{VV} \left( \frac{d\sigma_X}{dm_{VV}} \right)$  we define

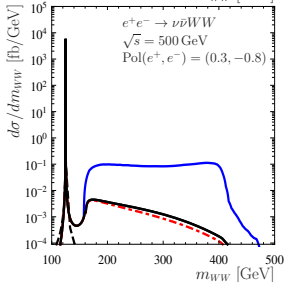
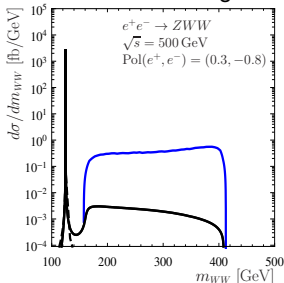
$$\Delta_{\text{off}}^{ZVV} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{off}}^{ZVV}(130\text{GeV}, \sqrt{s} - m_Z)}{\sigma_{\text{off}}^{ZVV}(0, \sqrt{s} - m_Z)} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_{\text{off}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}VV} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{off}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}VV}(130\text{GeV}, \sqrt{s})}{\sigma_{\text{off}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}VV}(0, \sqrt{s})}$$

| $\sqrt{s}$ | $\sigma_{\text{off}}^{ZZZ}$ | $\Delta_{\text{off}}^{ZZZ}$ | $\sigma_{\text{off}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}ZZ}$ | $\Delta_{\text{off}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}ZZ}$ |
|------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| 250 GeV    | 3.12(3.12) fb               | 0.03(0.03) %                | 0.490 fb                               | 0.12 %                                 |
| 350 GeV    | 1.71(1.82) fb               | 1.82(7.77) %                | 1.91 fb                                | 0.88 %                                 |
| 500 GeV    | 0.802(0.981) fb             | 7.20(24.1) %                | 4.78 fb                                | 2.96 %                                 |
| 1 TeV      | 0.242(0.341) fb             | 30.9(50.9) %                | 15.0 fb                                | 13.0 %                                 |
| $\sqrt{s}$ | $\sigma_{\text{off}}^{ZWW}$ | $\Delta_{\text{off}}^{ZWW}$ | $\sigma_{\text{off}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}WW}$ | $\Delta_{\text{off}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}WW}$ |
| 250 GeV    | 76.3 fb                     | 0.03 %                      | 3.98(3.99) fb                          | 0.13(0.12) %                           |
| 350 GeV    | 41.4 fb                     | 0.92 %                      | 15.5(15.5) fb                          | 0.49(0.43) %                           |
| 500 GeV    | 18.6 fb                     | 2.61 %                      | 38.1(38.1) fb                          | 1.21(0.96) %                           |
| 1 TeV      | 4.58 fb                     | 11.0 %                      | 110.8(108.9) fb                        | 4.45(2.78) %                           |

Comments:

- ▷  $\Delta_{\text{off}}$  independent of the polarisation.
- ▷ For  $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$  off-shell contributions accessible by  $m_{4l}$ .
- ↔ For  $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2l2\nu$  not directly accessible! ↔ Coupling extraction!
- ▷ Important: On-shell XS strongly dependent on Higgs mass, off-shell not!

Comment on the background:


 Inclusive cross sections for  $m_{VV} > 130 \text{ GeV}$   
 for  $\text{Pol}(e^+, e^-) = (0.3, -0.8)$ :

| $\sqrt{s}$ | $\sigma_{\text{all}}^{ZZZ}$ | $\Delta_{\text{SB}}^{ZZZ}$ | $\sigma_{\text{all}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}ZZ}$ | $\Delta_{\text{SB}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}ZZ}$ |
|------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 250 GeV    | ---                         | ---                        | 1.51 fb                                | 0.04 %                                |
| 350 GeV    | 1.19 fb                     | 2.62(11.9) %               | 1.66 fb                                | 1.01 %                                |
| 500 GeV    | 2.06 fb                     | 2.83(11.6) %               | 2.85 fb                                | 4.96 %                                |
| 1 TeV      | 1.71 fb                     | 4.40(10.2) %               | 16.7 fb                                | 11.6 %                                |
| $\sqrt{s}$ | $\sigma_{\text{all}}^{ZWW}$ | $\Delta_{\text{SB}}^{ZWW}$ | $\sigma_{\text{all}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}WW}$ | $\Delta_{\text{SB}}^{\nu\bar{\nu}WW}$ |
| 250 GeV    | ---                         | ---                        | 0.05 fb                                | 9.87(9.87) %                          |
| 350 GeV    | 29.2 fb                     | 1.30 %                     | 6.44 fb                                | 1.18(1.03) %                          |
| 500 GeV    | 91.8 fb                     | 0.53 %                     | 22.4 fb                                | 2.05(1.63) %                          |
| 1 TeV      | 136.7 fb                    | 0.37 %                     | 67.3 fb                                | 7.31(4.49) %                          |

 $\Delta_{\text{SB}} \leftrightarrow$  Signal/Background in off-shell region.

 Naturally: Very large interference term  
 guarantees unitarity in  $WW \rightarrow WW$ !



What can be done with the (basically  $m_H$  independent) off-shell contributions?

- ▷ They are needed for and allow to test unitarity in  $WW \rightarrow WW$ !
- ▷ They allow to test the influence of higher dimensional operators and thus can probe composite Higgs scenarios!

see e.g. [[hep-ph/0301097](#), Barger Han et al.]

Current study with e.g.  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu} + 4\text{jets}$ : [[1309.7038](#), Contino Grojean et al.]

- ▷ They can test extended Higgs sectors!
- ▷ In the pure SM (without NLO effects) they allow to set a bound on  $\Gamma_H$ !  
 Note: Precise Higgs width determination from  $Z$  recoil method is safe from off-shell effects for low  $\sqrt{s}$ !

In SUSY/2HDM with  $\tan\beta = v_2/v_1$  two Higgs doublets  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  form:

- ▷ light and heavy Higgs  $h$  and  $H$  (with Higgs mixing angle  $\alpha$ )
- ▷ pseudoscalar  $A$ .

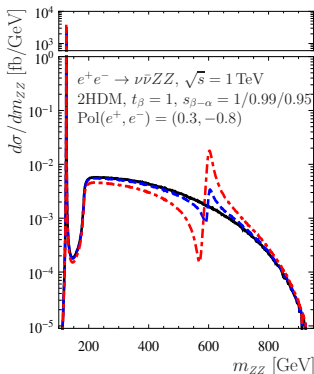
It yields:  $g_{hVV} = \sin(\beta - \alpha) \quad \leftrightarrow \quad g_{HVV} = \cos(\beta - \alpha)$

For  $\sin(\beta - \alpha) \lesssim 1$  on-shell  $H$  interferes with the off-shell contributions of  $h$ .

For large  $m_{VV}$  combination of  $h$  and  $H$  guarantees unitarity.

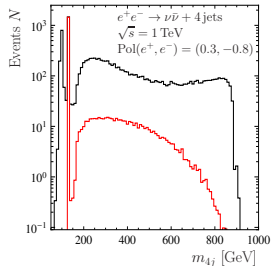
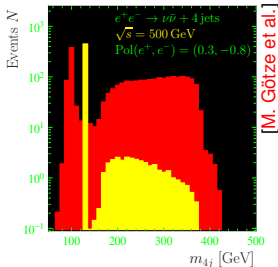
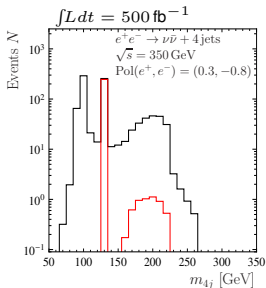
Example: 2HDM

with  $m_h = 125$  GeV,  $m_H = 600$  GeV



Bounding the Higgs width using e.g.  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu} + 4\text{jets}$ :

MadGraph with  $\Delta_{R,j} > 0.4$ ,  $|y_j| < 5$ ,  $p_{T,j} > 20$  GeV,  $p_{T,4j} > 75$  GeV



Rescaling couplings and the width (assuming pure SM!!!):

$$N(r) = N_0(1 + R_1\sqrt{r} + R_2r) + N_B \quad \text{with} \quad r = \Gamma_H/\Gamma_H^{SM}$$

| $\sqrt{s}$   | 350 GeV | 500 GeV | 1 TeV  |
|--|---------|---------|--------|
| $N_0$ ( $\int L dt = 500 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )        | 263     | 1775    | 8420   |
| $R_1$  | -0.017  | -0.010  | -0.098 |
| $R_2$  | 0.026   | 0.019   | 0.048  |
| Limit on $r$ ( $\int L dt = 500 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ ) | 4.1     | 2.5     | 2.3    |
| Limit on $r$ ( $\int L dt = 1 \text{ ab}^{-1}$ )   | 3.2     | 2.1     | 2.0    |

Main limitation:

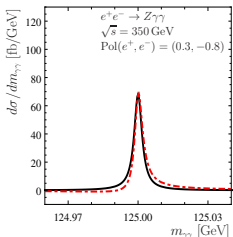
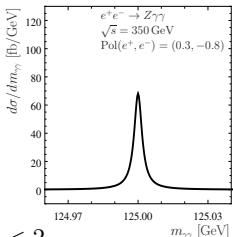
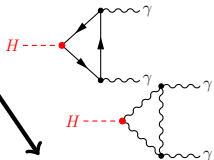
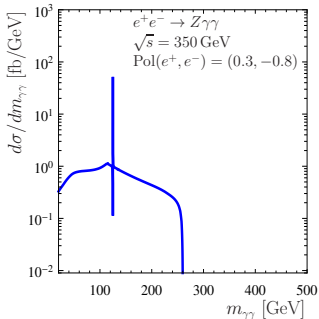
Negative interference!

In contrast to LHC:

Pure tree-level processes!

2. Interferometry with the background in  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ 

$$\left| e^- \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \gamma \\ \text{---} \gamma \\ \text{---} Z \end{array} \right|^2 + \left| e^- \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \gamma \\ \text{---} \gamma \\ \text{---} Z \end{array} \right|^2 + 2\text{Re} \left( e^- \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \gamma \\ \text{---} \gamma \\ \text{---} Z \end{array} \begin{array}{c} e^- \rightarrow \text{---} \gamma \\ \text{---} \gamma \\ \text{---} Z \end{array} \right)$$


 Applied cuts:  $E_\gamma > 20 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $|\eta_\gamma| < 2$

Interferometry with the background in  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ 

$$\frac{d\sigma^{sig}}{dm_{\gamma\gamma}} = \frac{S}{(m_{\gamma\gamma}^2 - m_H^2)^2 + m_H^2 \Gamma_H^2} \rightarrow \sigma^{sig} = \frac{\pi S}{2m_H^2 \Gamma_H}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma^{int}}{dm_{\gamma\gamma}} = \frac{(m_{\gamma\gamma}^2 - m_H^2)R + m_H \Gamma_H I}{(m_{\gamma\gamma}^2 - m_H^2)^2 + m_H^2 \Gamma_H^2} \rightarrow \sigma^{int} = \frac{\pi I}{2m_H}$$

Relevant part:  $R$  induces shift of the peak without changing the incl. XS!

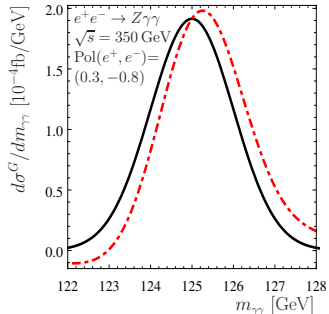
Smearing due to detector resolution:

Gaussian  $G$  with e.g.  $\hat{\sigma}^G = 1$  GeV

$$\frac{d\sigma^G}{dm_{\gamma\gamma}} = \int_0^\infty dm'_{\gamma\gamma} G(m_{\gamma\gamma} - m'_{\gamma\gamma}, \hat{\sigma}^G) \frac{d\sigma}{dm'_{\gamma\gamma}}$$

→ Visible shift  $\Delta m_H$  of the mass peak!

Depending on  $\hat{\sigma}^G$ ,  $E_\gamma$ ,  $\eta_\gamma$ ,  $\sqrt{s}$ ,  $\delta_\gamma$ , (Pol).

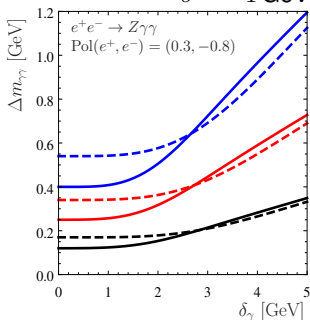


Mimic the method of peak extraction:

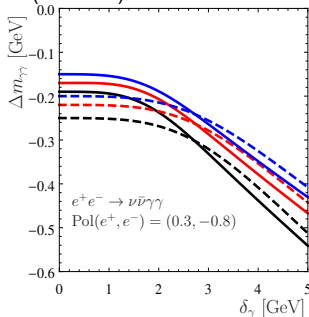
$$\langle m_{\gamma\gamma} \rangle_{\delta, X} = \frac{1}{N} \int_{m_p - \delta}^{m_p + \delta} dm_{\gamma\gamma} m_{\gamma\gamma} \frac{d\sigma_X^G}{dm_{\gamma\gamma}} \quad \rightarrow \Delta m_{\gamma\gamma} = \langle m_{\gamma\gamma} \rangle_{\delta_{\gamma, S+I}} - \langle m_{\gamma\gamma} \rangle_{\delta_{\gamma, S}}$$

Obtain  $\langle m_{\gamma\gamma} \rangle_{\delta_{\gamma, S}}$  from different cuts or other final states.

$\hat{\sigma}^G = 1 \text{ GeV}$  (solid),  $1.5 \text{ GeV}$  (dashed)



$\sqrt{s} = 250 \text{ GeV}, 350 \text{ GeV}, 500 \text{ GeV}$



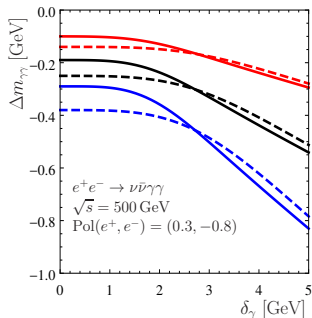
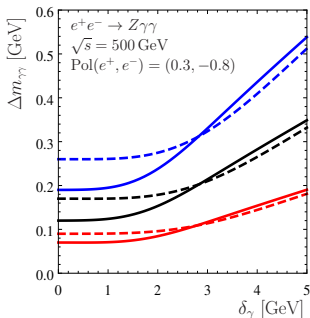
$\sqrt{s} = 350 \text{ GeV}, 500 \text{ GeV}, 1 \text{ TeV}$

## Higgs width dependence?

Perform similar rescaling of the couplings  $g_{HZZ}$ ,  $g_{HWW}$ ,  $g_{HAA}$  and the width  $\Gamma_H$  to keep  $\sigma_{ZWA}$  constant.

$$\hat{\sigma}^G = 1 \text{ GeV (solid), } 1.5 \text{ GeV (dashed)}$$

$$\Gamma_H = 1 \text{ MeV, } 4.07 \text{ MeV, } 15 \text{ MeV}$$



Further studies: Perform analysis with detector simulation?!

## Conclusions:

- ▶ Off-shell contributions in  $H \rightarrow VV^{(*)}$  are naturally large at a linear collider (except  $\sqrt{s}$  is below 300 GeV). Dependent on the assumptions, they can be used to test unitarity, higher dimensional operators, extended Higgs sectors or to set a bound on  $\Gamma_H$ .
- ▶ Lepton collider offers unique possibility to measure Higgs width through  $Z$  recoil method in  $e^+e^- \rightarrow ZH$  at 250 GeV, which is safe from off-shell contributions.
- ▶ Signal-background interference in  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  shifts the mass peak by a few 100 MeV! The shift also allows to access  $\Gamma_H$ .
- ▶ For all purposes a well determined Higgs mass is necessary.

Conclusions II: Precision machine LC now or never!

Thank you for your attention!

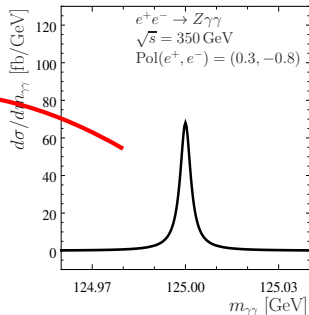
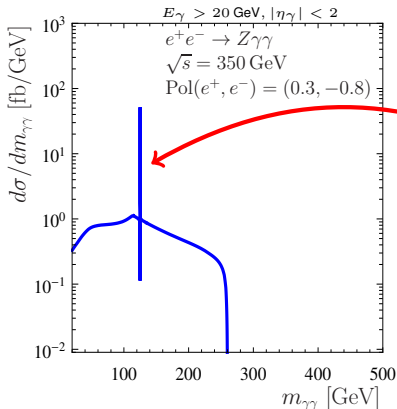


How to obtain information about the total Higgs width  $\Gamma_H$ ?

→ Measure the Breit-Wigner peak e.g. in  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ?

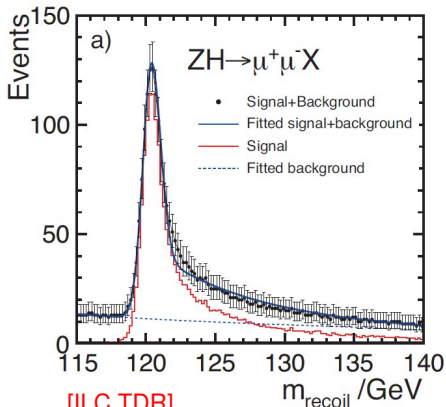
$$\frac{d\sigma_{\text{ZWA}}^{Z\gamma\gamma}}{dm_{\gamma\gamma}} = \sigma^{ZH}(m_H) \frac{2m_{\gamma\gamma}}{(m_{\gamma\gamma}^2 - m_H^2)^2 + m_H^2 \Gamma_H^2} \frac{m_H \Gamma_{H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma}(m_H)}{\pi}$$

Problem:  $m_H = 125 \text{ GeV} \leftrightarrow \Gamma_H = 4.07 \text{ MeV}$       →  $\sigma_{\text{ZWA}}^{Z\gamma\gamma} = \sigma^{ZH} \frac{\Gamma_{H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma}}{\Gamma_H}$



→ Detector resolution smears out the Breit-Wigner peak!

→ LC unique method: Higgs width  $\Gamma_H$  through the Z recoil at  $\sqrt{s} = 250$  GeV



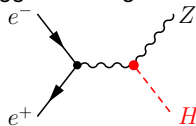
[ILC TDR]

$250 \text{ fb}^{-1} @ 250 \text{ GeV}$

$\Delta\sigma_P / \sigma_P = 2.5\%$

$\Delta m_H = 30 \text{ MeV}$

Higgsstrahlung



Observe:  $Z \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

Reconstruct:

$$\sigma_P = \sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow HZ) \propto g_{HZZ}^2$$

(needs defined initial state)

Obtain absolute BR:

$$\text{BR}(H \rightarrow X) = (\sigma_P \text{BR}_X) / \sigma_P$$

Reconstruct (example):

$$\Gamma_H \propto \Gamma(H \rightarrow ZZ) / \text{BR}(H \rightarrow ZZ)$$

$$\propto g_{HZZ}^2 / \text{BR}(H \rightarrow Z)$$

Details: [1311.7155: Han, Liu, Sayre]

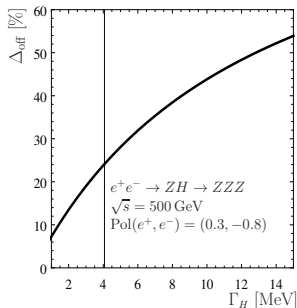
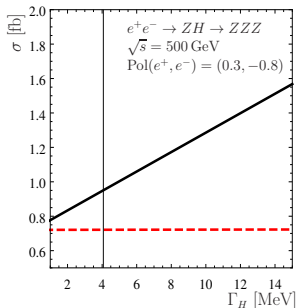
How can the width be determined from off-shell contributions?

$$\sigma_{\text{ZWA}}^{\text{ZZZ}} = \sigma^{\text{ZH}}(m_H) \frac{\Gamma_{H \rightarrow \text{ZZ}}(m_H)}{\Gamma_H} \propto \frac{g_{\text{HZZ}}^4}{\Gamma_H}$$

Rescaling  $g'_{\text{HZZ}} = \xi g_{\text{HZZ}}$ ,  $\Gamma'_H = \xi^4 \Gamma_H$  does not change  $\sigma_{\text{ZWA}}^{\text{ZZZ}}$ !

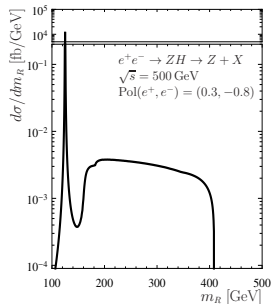
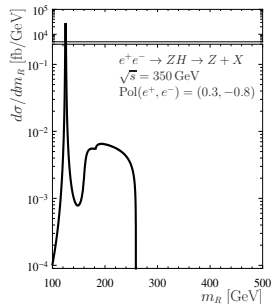
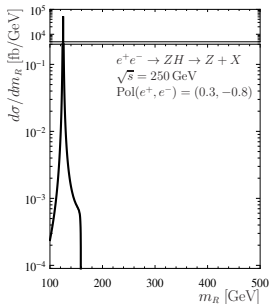
→ Vary  $\Gamma_H$  (in reasonable interval!) and leave  $\sigma_{\text{ZWA}}$  constant!

→ Off-shell contributions  $\propto g_{\text{HZZ}}^4 \rightarrow \Delta_{\text{off}}$  changes!.



Can the off-shell cont. be discriminated from the background?

### Off-shell contributions in the $Z$ recoil method:



### Recoil mass:

$$m_R^2 = s + \hat{m}_Z^2 - 2E_Z\sqrt{s}$$

| $\sqrt{s}$            | 250 GeV | 300 GeV | 350 GeV | 500 GeV | 1 TeV |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| $\Delta_{\text{off}}$ | 0.02%   | 0.12%   | 0.30%   | 0.91%   | 1.84% |