



Triple Higgs coupling as a probe of the twin-peak scenario



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ABSTRACT

In this letter, we investigate the case of a twin peak around the observed 125 GeV scalar resonance, using di-Higgs production processes at both LHC and e^+e^- Linear Colliders. We have shown that both at LHC and Linear Collider the triple Higgs couplings play an important role to identify this scenario; and also that this scenario can be distinguishable from any Standard Model extension by extra massive particles which might modify the triple Higgs coupling. We also introduce a criterion that can be used to rule out the twin peak scenario.

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In July 2012, ATLAS and CMS Collaborations [1,2] have shown the existence of a Higgs-like resonance around 125 GeV confirming the cornerstone of the Higgs mechanism that predicted such particle long time ago. All Higgs couplings measured so far seem to be consistent, to some extent, with the Standard Model (SM) predictions. Moreover, in order to establish the Higgs mechanism as responsible for the phenomena of electroweak symmetry breaking one still needs to measure the self couplings of the Higgs and therefore to reconstruct its scalar potential.

Recent measurements at the LHC show that there is still uncertainty on the Higgs mass; $m_h = 125.3 \pm 0.4(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.5(\text{syst.})$ GeV for CMS [3] and $m_h = 125.0 \pm 0.5$ GeV for ATLAS [4] from the diphoton channel and $m_h = 125.5 \pm 0.37(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.18(\text{syst.})$ GeV from combined channels. Despite this relatively large uncertainty, a scenario of two degenerate scalars around 125.5 GeV resonance is neither excluded nor confirmed [5].

In the twin peak scenario (TPS); it is assumed that there are two scalars $h_{1,2}$ with almost degenerate masses around 125 GeV. To our knowledge, there is no indication from experimental data which disfavor this scenario. The couplings of the twin peak Higgs to SM particles g_{h_iXX} are simply scaled with respect to SM rate by

$\cos\theta$ (for h_1) and $\sin\theta$ (for h_2), where θ is a mixing angle, such that we have the following approximate sum rule:

$$g_{h_1 f \bar{f}}^2 + g_{h_2 f \bar{f}}^2 \simeq g_{h_{SM} f \bar{f}}^2, \quad g_{h_1 V V}^2 + g_{h_2 V V}^2 \simeq g_{h_{SM} V V}^2, \quad (1)$$

where f can be any of the SM fermions and $V = W, Z$ vector boson. In fact, the branching ratios of the Higgs to SM particles are SM-like only if the Higgs invisible is very suppressed or kinematically forbidden as will be considered in our example. Consequently, the single Higgs production such as gluon–gluon fusion at LHC, Higgs-strahlung, Vector Boson Fusions, and $t\bar{t}H$ at LHC and e^+e^- Linear Colliders (LC) will obey the same sum rule. The summation of event numbers (both for production and decay) of the two possible cases will be identical to SM case since $\cos^2\theta + \sin^2\theta = 1$. However, for processes with di-Higgs final states ($pp(e^+e^-) \rightarrow hh + X$), the triple Higgs couplings may play an important role, and therefore these processes can be useful to distinguish between the cases of one scalar or two degenerate ones around the observed 125 GeV resonance.

It is well known that the triple Higgs couplings can be, in principle, measured directly at the LHC with high luminosity option through double Higgs production $pp \rightarrow gg \rightarrow hh$ [6]. Such measurement is rather challenging at the LHC, and for this purpose several parton level analysis have been devoted to this process. It turns out that $hh \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ [7], $hh \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ [7,8] and $hh \rightarrow b\bar{b}W^+W^-$ [8,9] final states are very promising for High luminosity.

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Recently, CMS reported a preliminary result on the search for resonant di-Higgs production in $b\bar{b}\gamma\gamma$ channel [10].

The LC has also the capability of measuring with better precision: the Higgs mass and some of the Higgs couplings together with the self coupling of the Higgs [11]. Using recoil technique for the Higgs-strahlung process, the Higgs mass can be measured with an accuracy of about 40 MeV [11]. We note that at LHC with high luminosity we can measure the Higgs mass with about 100 MeV uncertainty which is quite comparable to e^+e^- colliders. The triple Higgs coupling can be extracted from $e^+e^- \rightarrow Zh^* \rightarrow Zhh$ at 500 GeV and even better from $e^+e^- \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}h^* \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}hh$ at $\sqrt{s} > 800$ GeV. In this regard, the LHC and e^+e^- LC measurements are complementary [12].

In Ref. [13], the authors have provided a tool to distinguish the two-degenerate states scenario from the single Higgs one. The approach of [13] applies only to models which enjoy modifications of $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ rate with respect to the SM. However, according to the latest experimental results, both for ATLAS and CMS the di-photon channel seem to be rather consistent with the SM [3,4]. In this work we propose a new approach to distinguish the TPS. This approach is based on the di-Higgs production which is sensitive to the triple Higgs coupling, that is modified in the majority of SM extensions.

Here, as an example, we consider, the Two-Singlets Model proposed in [14], where the SM is extended with two real scalar fields S_0 and χ_1 ; each one is odd under a discrete symmetry $\mathbb{Z}_2^{(0)}$ and $\mathbb{Z}_2^{(1)}$ respectively. The field χ_1 has a non-vanishing vacuum expectation value, which breaks $\mathbb{Z}_2^{(1)}$ spontaneously, whereas, $\langle S_0 \rangle = 0$; and hence, S_0 is a dark matter candidate. Both fields are SM gauge singlets and hence can interact with the ‘visible’ particles only via the Higgs doublet H . The spontaneous breaking of the electroweak and the $\mathbb{Z}_2^{(1)}$ symmetries introduces the two vacuum expectation values v and v_1 respectively. The physical Higgs h_1 and h_2 , with masses m_1 and $m_2 \gtrsim m_1$, are related to the excitations of the neutral component of the SM Higgs doublet field, $\text{Re}(H^{(0)})$, and the field χ_1 through rotation with a mixing angle θ and, with a specific choice in the parameter space, could give rise to two degenerate scalars around 125 GeV. In what follows, we denote by $c = \cos\theta$ and $s = \sin\theta$. The quartic and triple couplings of the physical fields h_i are given in the appendices in [15].

In our analysis we require that¹: (i) all the dimensionless quartic couplings to be $\ll 4\pi$ for the theory to remain perturbative, (ii) the two scalar eigenmasses should be in agreement with recent measurements [3,4]: we have checked that for the Two-Singlets model, the splitting between m_1 and m_2 could be of the order of 40 MeV. (iii) the ground state stability to be ensured; and (iv) we allow the DM mass m_0 to be as large as 1 TeV.

In our work, we consider di-Higgs production processes at the LHC and e^+e^- LC, whose values of the cross section could be significant, namely, $\sigma^{LHC}(hh)$ and $\sigma^{LHC}(hh + t\bar{t})$ at 14 TeV; $\sigma^{LC}(hh + Z)$ at 500 GeV and $\sigma^{LC}(hh + E_{\text{miss}})$ at 1 TeV. All these processes include, at least, one Feynman diagram with triple Higgs coupling. For the TPS, the total cross section gets contributions from the final states h_1h_1 , h_1h_2 and h_2h_2 . Therefore the quantity to be compared with the standard scenario can be expressed as:

$$\sigma^{\text{TPS}}(hh + X) = \sigma(h_1h_1 + X) + 2\sigma(h_1h_2 + X) + \sigma(h_2h_2 + X), \quad (2)$$

which can be parameterized as:

$$\sigma^{\text{TPS}} = \sigma_{aa}r_1 + \sigma_{ab}r_2 + \sigma_{bb}, \quad (3)$$

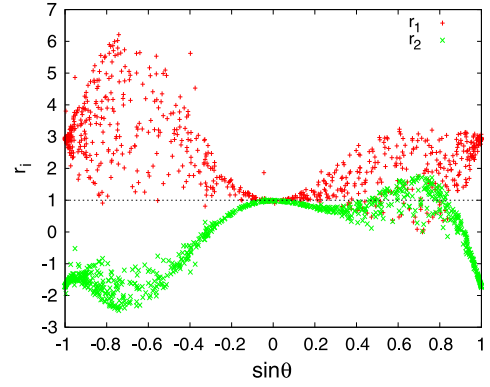


Fig. 1. Numerical values of the parameters r_i in (4) for 600 benchmarks that fulfill the above mentioned requirements.

with $\sigma_{aa} + \sigma_{ab} + \sigma_{bb} = \sigma^{\text{SM}}(hh + X)$ and σ_{aa} , σ_{bb} and σ_{ab} correspond to the cross section contributions coming from triple Higgs diagrams (a), non-triple Higgs diagrams (b) and the interference term in the amplitude, respectively. The coefficients r_i are dimensionless parameters, that receive contributions from the final states h_ih_j , which depend on the mixing angle θ and the Higgs triple couplings $\lambda_{ijk}^{(3)}$.

In the TPS, the amplitudes for di-Higgs production processes have SM Feynman diagrams where the Higgs field h is replaced by h_i . To compute the parameters r_i , we first estimate how does each amplitude get modified with respect to the corresponding SM one for each case h_ih_j . For example, in the case of h_1h_1 production, there are two types of diagrams: (1) The ones that involve triple scalar interactions $h_1h_1h_1$ and $h_2h_1h_1$, with couplings equal to the one of a SM times a factor of $c\lambda_{111}^{(3)}/\lambda_{hhh}^{\text{SM}}$ and $s\lambda_{112}^{(3)}/\lambda_{hhh}^{\text{SM}}$, respectively. We denote the total amplitude of these two contributions by $\mathcal{M}_{(a)}$. (2) The ones with no triple Higgs couplings. Their amplitude, denoted by $\mathcal{M}_{(b)}$, is given by the one of the SM scaled by a factor of c^2 . Therefore, the amplitudes $\mathcal{M}_{(a,b)}$ (where a (b) stand for triple Higgs (non-triple Higgs) Feynman diagrams) for the di-Higgs production can be written in terms of their corresponding SM values as:

$$\begin{aligned} h_1h_1: \quad & \mathcal{M}_{(a)} = [(c\lambda_{111}^{(3)} + s\lambda_{112}^{(3)})/\lambda_{hhh}^{\text{SM}}]\mathcal{M}_{(a)}^{\text{SM}}, \\ & \mathcal{M}_{(b)} = c^2\mathcal{M}_{(b)}^{\text{SM}}, \\ h_2h_2: \quad & \mathcal{M}_{(a)} = [(c\lambda_{122}^{(3)} + s\lambda_{222}^{(3)})/\lambda_{hhh}^{\text{SM}}]\mathcal{M}_{(a)}^{\text{SM}}, \\ & \mathcal{M}_{(b)} = s^2\mathcal{M}_{(b)}^{\text{SM}}, \\ h_1h_2: \quad & \mathcal{M}_{(a)} = [(c\lambda_{112}^{(3)} + s\lambda_{122}^{(3)})/\lambda_{hhh}^{\text{SM}}]\mathcal{M}_{(a)}^{\text{SM}}, \\ & \mathcal{M}_{(b)} = cs\mathcal{M}_{(b)}^{\text{SM}}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\lambda_{hhh}^{\text{SM}}$ is the SM triple Higgs coupling calculated at one-loop. Then the parameters r_i are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} r_1 &= \left\{ c^2[\lambda_{111}^{(3)2} + \lambda_{122}^{(3)2} + 2\lambda_{112}^{(3)2}] + s^2[\lambda_{112}^{(3)2} + \lambda_{222}^{(3)2} + 2\lambda_{122}^{(3)2}] \right. \\ & \quad \left. + 2cs[\lambda_{111}^{(3)}\lambda_{112}^{(3)} + 2\lambda_{112}^{(3)}\lambda_{122}^{(3)} + \lambda_{122}^{(3)}\lambda_{222}^{(3)}] \right\} / \left(\lambda_{hhh}^{\text{SM}} \right)^2, \\ r_2 &= [c^3\lambda_{111}^{(3)} + 3c^2s\lambda_{112}^{(3)} + 3cs^2\lambda_{122}^{(3)} + s^3\lambda_{222}^{(3)}] / \lambda_{hhh}^{\text{SM}}. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Thus, the values of r_i quantify by how much each di-Higgs process deviates from the SM case. In Fig. 1, we show the parameters r_i as a function of $\sin\theta$ for about 600 chosen sets of the model parameters within the condition (1). We see that for very small mixing angle r_i 's are approximately equal to unity, while for $\sin\theta > 0.8$ and $\sin\theta < -0.2$, the parameter r_1 becomes larger than unity and

¹ Actually, we considered that all quartic couplings to be of order unity; and the singlet vev $v_1 = \langle \chi_1 \rangle = 20 \sim 2000$ GeV.

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