# Putting the dip in diphoton

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Based on "Exploring Peaks and Valleys in the Diphoton Spectrum" (1607.06074) with Nathaniel Craig and Dave Sutherland

## Outline

- There was a bump in diphotons
- Fits were done to find the preferred "mass", "width" and "cross-section" of a possible resonance
- But how might resonance-continuum interference affect these numbers?
- And can we use interference effects to deduce the most likely "spin"?
- Obviously we now know that the bump was just a statistical fluctuation of the background
- Can we learn anything for if and when it happens again (and for real)?
- Can we dip-hunt as well as bump hunt?

#### The diphoton bump: ATLAS and CMS fits to 2015 data



CMS:

- Best fit with 13 TeV data  $\sim$  760 GeV
- Preference for a narrow width
- 2.85 $\sigma$  local significance (< 1 $\sigma$  global)

ATLAS:

- Best fit with 13 TeV data  $\sim$  750 GeV
- Preference for a  $\sim$  45 GeV width
- 3.6 $\sigma$  local significance (2 $\sigma$  global)

#### Particle explanations

- Spin 0 (scalar or pseudoscalar) or spin 2
- qq initiated or gg initiated
- wide or narrow

Effective Lagrangians:

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{L}_{0^{++}} &\supset -\frac{1}{\Lambda_{g}} \phi G^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{\Lambda_{\gamma}} \phi F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} - c_{q} \phi \overline{q} q; \\ \mathcal{L}_{0^{-+}} &\supset -\frac{1}{\Lambda_{g}} \phi G^{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{\Lambda_{\gamma}} \phi F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} - i c_{q} \phi \overline{q} \gamma^{5} q; \\ \mathcal{L}_{2^{++}} &\supset -\frac{1}{\Lambda_{\tau}} \phi_{\mu\nu} \left[ -F^{\mu\lambda} F^{\nu}_{\lambda} + \frac{1}{4} g^{\mu\nu} F^{2} - G^{\mu\lambda} G^{\nu}_{\lambda} + \frac{1}{4} g^{\mu\nu} G^{2} \right. \\ &\left. + \frac{1}{2} i \overline{q} (\gamma^{\mu} \partial^{\nu} + \gamma^{\nu} \partial^{\mu}) q - i g^{\mu\nu} \overline{q} \partial \hspace{-0.5mm} q q \right]. \end{split}$$

#### Signal-background interference

$$P = \frac{A}{\hat{s} - M^2 + i\Gamma\sqrt{\hat{s}}}$$

- Calculate interference for each scenario using helicity amplitudes
- A, M, Γ all free parameters

At  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV and  $\sqrt{\hat{s}} = 750$  GeV, the background is mostly  $q\bar{q}$  initiated contributions  $\implies$  interference effects will be largest in  $q\bar{q}$  initiated signals

Lots of previous work on interference effects in Higgs to gamma gamma (eg. hep-ph/0302233, 1208.1533), but the very narrow width of the Higgs means effects are small



Other papers focus on effects of interference in the interpretation of the 750GeV excess, using benchmark models (eg 1601.00006, 1605.00542)

#### Bumps with interference

No phase:







In the EFT no phases are possible in couplings due to hermiticity of effective lagrangian

#### Fits with interference: spin 2 qq-initiated





With interference

Without interference

Big change: due to

Dominance of *qq* initiated background (large interfering background ⇒ large interference effects)

## Fits with interference: spin 2 gg-initiated



With interference

Without interference

#### Some change: due to

Relative suppression of gg- initiated background

#### Fits with interference: spin 0 qq - initiated





#### No change: due to

• No interference at LO



Without interference

#### Fits with interference: spin 0 gg - initiated:



With interference

Without interference

V little change change: due to

• PDF suppression of gg background compared to qq

#### Best fits for each scenario



## Peak-dip hunting? Dip hunting?

We have found that in diphotons, spin 2 qq-initiated resonances can look very different d o/dm [fb/GeV] 0.16 0.14 No int. • φ = 0 0.12 φ = 90° 0.10  $\phi = 180^{\circ}$ NB This can be the case in from a bump: 0.08 0.06 0.04 900 m<sub>yy</sub>[GeV] 700 800

other final states and for different quantum numbers too, mostly dependent on size of interfering background (eg. in  $gg \rightarrow S \rightarrow tt$ , see eg 1608.07282 and many other refs)  $\implies$  for WIDE resonances, other shapes are possible, which could be missed by simple bump hunting

# Peak-dip hunting

Slight peak-dip structure in ATLAS and CMS diphoton spectrum (pre-2016, 13TeV) at 550GeV - what happens when you try to fit a spin 2 resonance?



Can produce a slightly improved fit to the data  $\Delta\chi^2\sim 6$  compared to BG only

# Dip hunting



Can produce a slightly improved fit to data  $\Delta \chi^2 \sim 5$  compared to BG only

## Summary

- In some cases, interference matters
- This depends on: spin, width, initial state, values of the PDFs at the resonance, whether there is interference at LO...
- Seems to be especially important in the diphoton channel for high mass spin 2 particles produced from  $q\bar{q}$
- Lessons for resonance searching in diphotons at the LHC:
  - · Best fits of mass, width, amplitude can be affected
  - Possible to get some info on likely spin by looking at shape
  - Consider looking for other shapes in the data