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Evidence for vector-boson fusion production of $H \to WW^* \to \ell \nu \ell \nu$ PHILIP CHANG, Univ of Illinois - Urbana, ATLAS COLLABORATION — Evidence for the vector-boson fusion (VBF) production of the Higgs boson in its WW^* decay channel in the dilepton final state is reported. The analysis was performed on 7 and 8 TeV pp collisions recorded by the ATLAS detector with an integrated luminosity of 25 fb⁻¹. One of the main improvements over the previous result is the adoption of multivariate technique for an improved sensitivity to the VBF signal. For a Higgs boson mass of 125.36 GeV, the best-fit value for the ratio of the signal strength for gluon fusion (ggF) and VBF production, $\mu_{mathVBF}/\mu_{ggF}$, is measured to be $1.26 \substack{+0.61 \\ -0.45}$ (stat.) $\substack{+0.50 \\ -0.26}$ (syst.). The observed significance of the VBF production is 3.2 standard deviations; the expected is 2.7 standard deviations. This marks the final run 1 measurement in this channel; the inclusion of the upcoming run 2 data will improve the precision further and take us to the next step towards the Higgs boson precision era.

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