



Search for BSM/Rare Higgs at the LHC

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On behalf of ATLAS and CMS

CLHCP 2023, November 16-20, Shanghai



Higgs Discovery on July 4th 2012



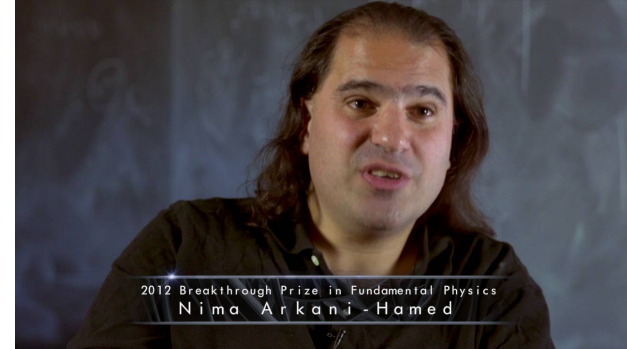


It Is Not the End...

Higgs is Really New Physics!

- * We've never seen anything like it
- * Harbinger of profound New Principles at work in quantum vacuum

PUT IT UNDER MICROSCOPE
STUDY IT TO DEATH



From Nima Arkani-Hamed



Many Open Questions about the Higgs

- Are the properties and couplings of the Higgs consistent with the SM prediction?
 - What are its mass, width, rate, etc?
 - How to access the structure of the Higgs potential?
 - Can we probe the rare Higgs boson decay? Does it decay to any final states not predicted by the SM ?
 - Does additional low/high-mass BSM Higgs boson (namely additional scale field) exist?
 - ...
- Xiaohu's talk
- Nan's talk
- What I will cover today



Analysis Topics Covered Today

- Rare Higgs boson decays: $H \rightarrow \mu\mu$, $H \rightarrow cc$, $H \rightarrow ee$, $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$
- Search for exotic decay of the SM Higgs boson: $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4\gamma$,
 $H \rightarrow Za \rightarrow ll\gamma\gamma$, $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow bb\mu\mu$
- Search for additional neutral/charged Higgs bosons: low mass
 $X \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, heavy mass $X \rightarrow HH/\Upsilon H$, $H^+ \rightarrow WZ$

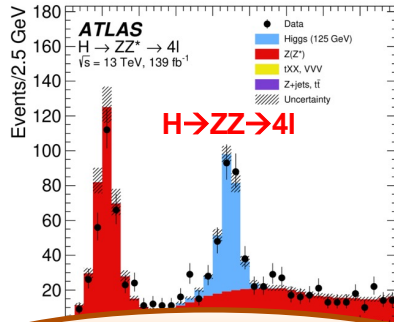
Disclaimer: it is likely the selected topics are towards my personal taste, apologize for this!



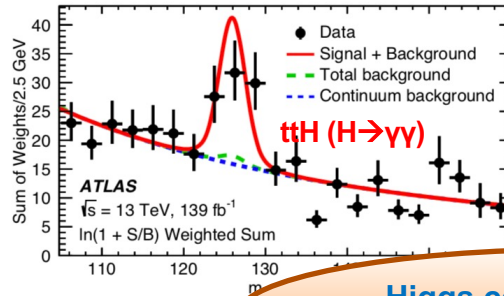
Search for Rare Higgs Boson Decays



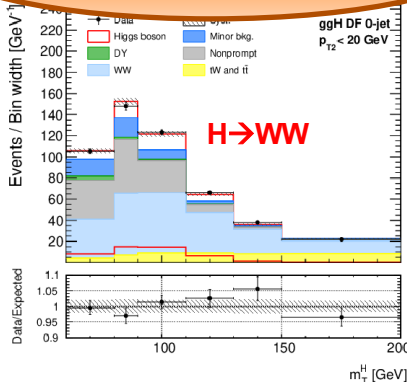
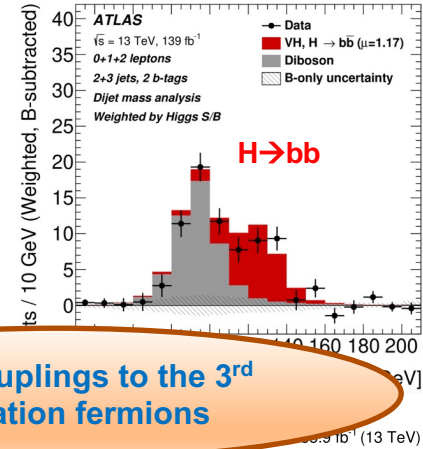
H → μμ: Why It's Important?



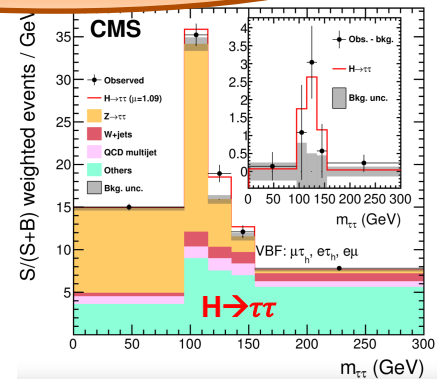
Higgs coupling to massive gauge bosons



Higgs couplings to the 3rd generation fermions



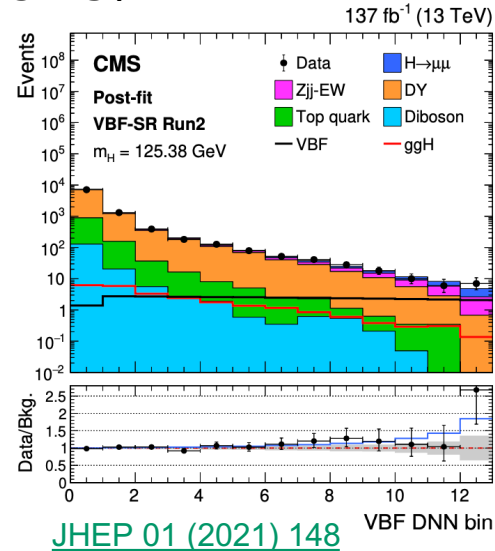
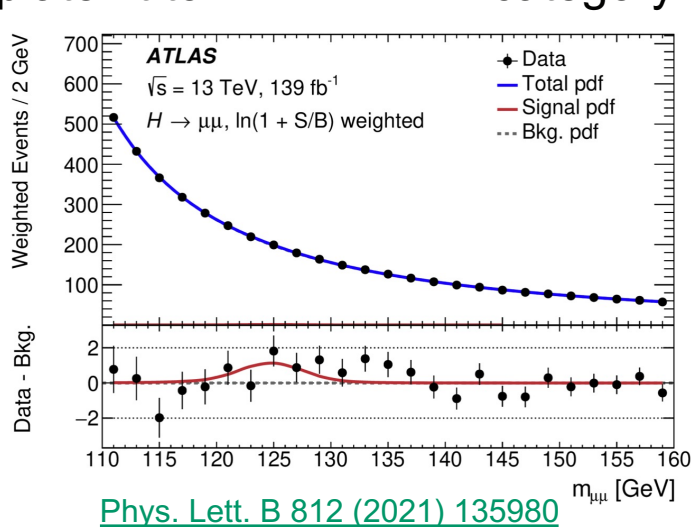
One of the next big milestones:
 Higgs couplings to the 2nd generation fermions
H → μμ is the most promising channel to export this





$H \rightarrow \mu\mu$: Analysis Strategy

- Signatures: 2 isolated muons with opposite charge
- Major challenge: low BR and large irreducible background from Drell-Yan
- MVA-based categorization driven by four major Higgs production modes
- Signal extraction: generally analytic function fit to $m_{\mu\mu}$ spectra (N.B.: template fit to MVA in VBF category in CMS)





H $\rightarrow\mu\mu$: Run 2 Results

- ATLAS: measured $\mu = 1.17 \pm 0.58(stat)_{-0.13}^{+0.18}(sys)$, obs. (exp.)
significance is **2.0 (1.7) σ**
- CMS: measured $\mu = 1.19_{-0.39}^{+0.40}(stat)_{-0.14}^{+0.15}(sys)$, obs. (exp.)
significance is **3.0 (2.5) σ**
- Both analyses are statistical uncertainty dominated currently

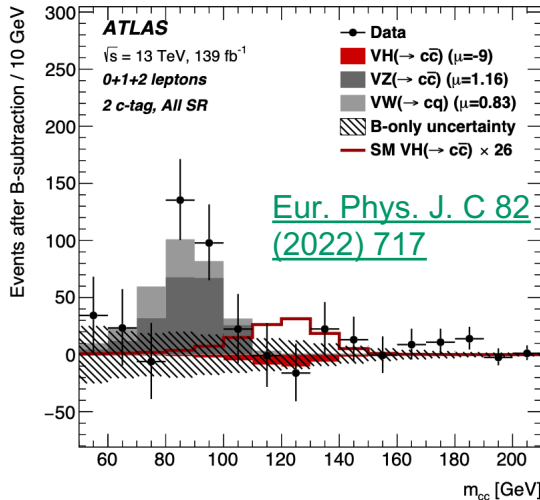
CERN experiments announce first indications of a rare Higgs boson process

The ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN have announced new results which show that the Higgs boson decays into two muons

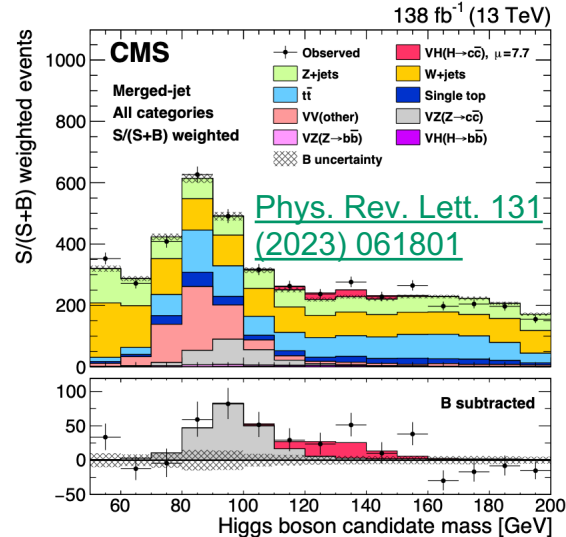


H → cc: VH Analyses

- Direct probe of Higgs coupling to the charm quark
- Target leptonic decay of W/Z bosons, major bkg.: W/Z+HF, ttbar
- Both ATLAS and CMS used novel c-tagging techniques



Obs.(exp.) limit on μ : 26 (31)
 $|\kappa_c| < 8.5$ (12.4)

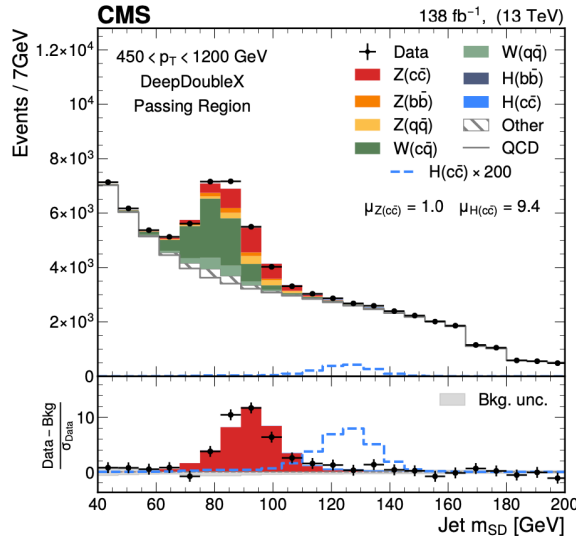
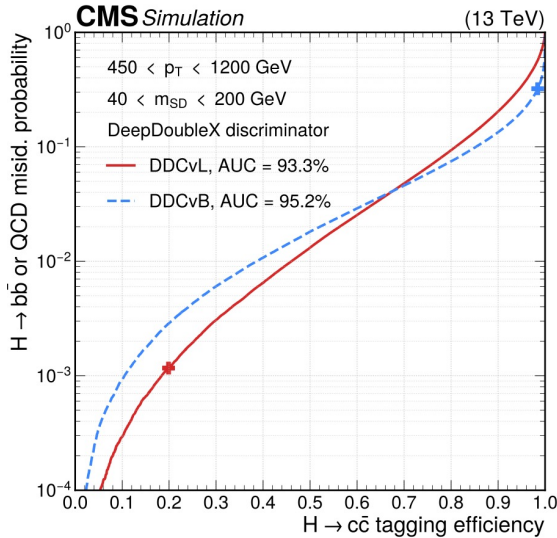


Obs.(exp.) limit on μ : 14 (7.6)
 $1.1 < |\kappa_c| < 5.5$ ($|\kappa_c| < 3.4$)



H → cc: Boosted Analysis

- Probe of $p_{T,H} > 450$ GeV phase space (enriched in ggF production) in H → cc channel by CMS
- Higgs reconstructed as a large-R jet with DNN-based algorithm
- Major bkg. coming from multi-jet



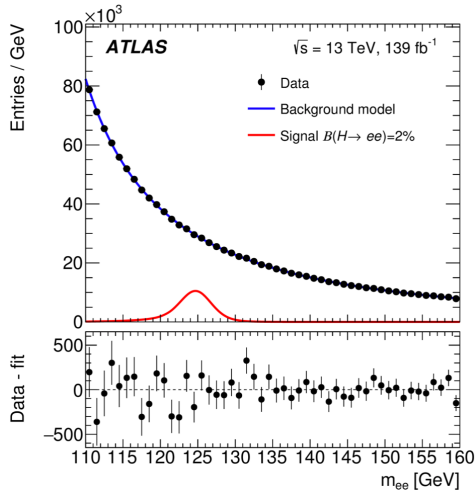
Obs.(exp.) limit on μ : 47
(39)

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 131 \(2023\) 041801](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.09597)



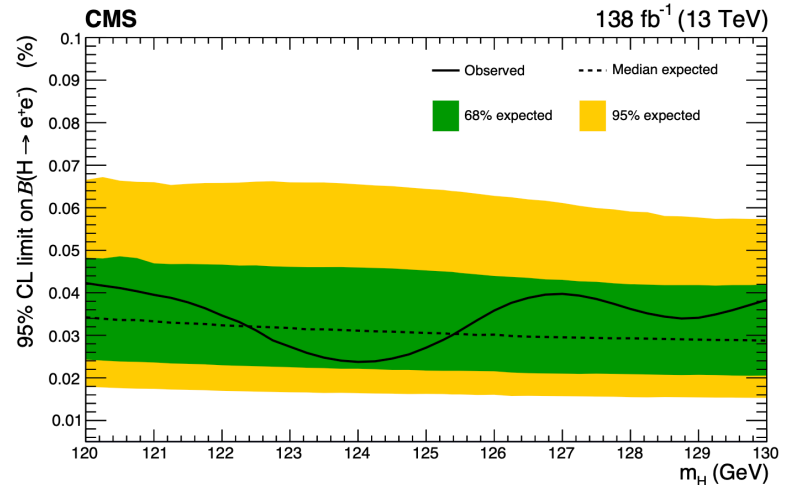
H → ee

- Yukawa coupling to the 1st generation fermions, very low BR: $\sim 5 \times 10^{-9}$
- Categorization optimized for ggF and VBF production modes
- A simultaneous fit to m_{ee} spectra across the categories with analytic functions



Obs.(exp.) limit on BR: 3.6×10^{-4} (3.5×10^{-4})

[Phys. Lett. B 801 \(2020\) 135148](#)

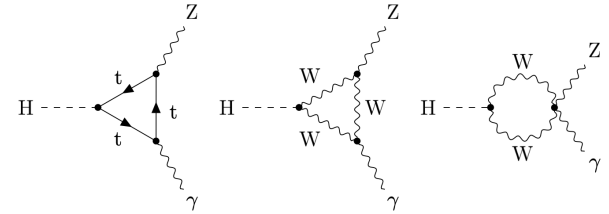


Obs.(exp.) limit on BR: 3.0×10^{-4}

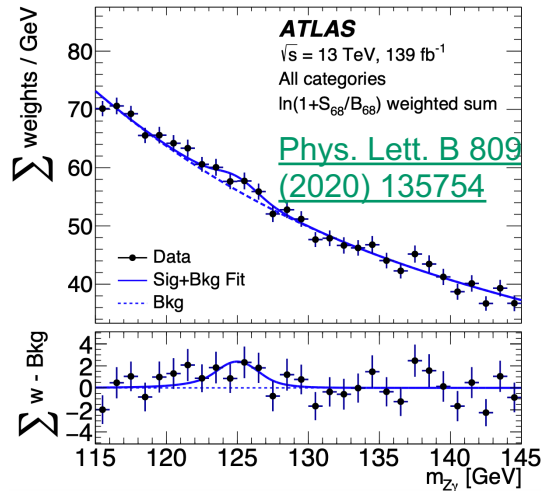
[Phys. Lett. B 846 \(2023\) 137783](#)



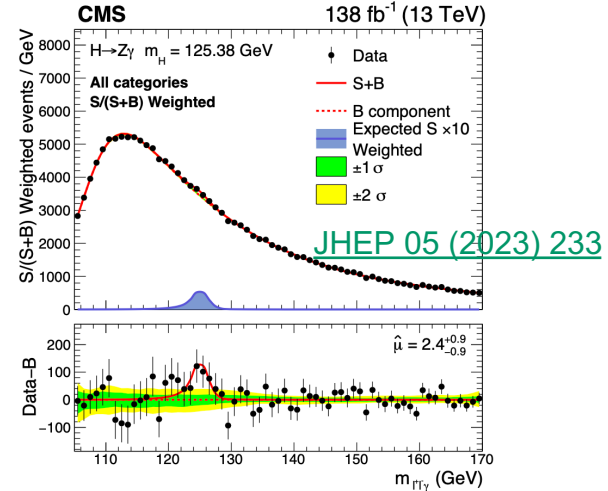
H → Zγ



- In SM, BR is 1.54×10^{-3} , sensitive to BSM physics entering loop corrections; signal signature: $Z \rightarrow ee/\mu\mu + 1$ photon
- Selected events categorized to exploit four major production modes
- Simultaneous fit to $m_{\parallel\gamma}$ spectra across the categories to extract signal



Obs.(exp.) significance: 2.2 (1.2) σ

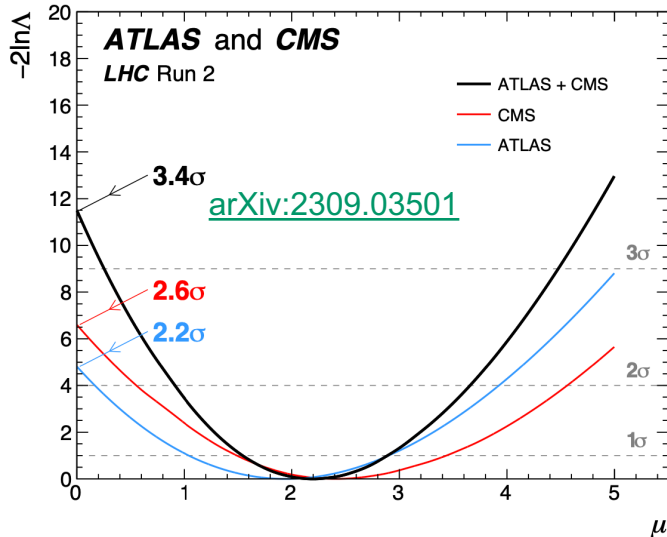


Obs.(exp.) significance: 2.7 (1.2) σ



H \rightarrow Z γ : ATLAS+CMS Combination

- Performed statistical combination between the two experiments
- Uncertainties are treated uncorrelated except for sys. associated with the missing high order of ggF XS and H \rightarrow Z γ BR predictions



Obs.(exp.) significance: 3.4 (1.6) σ ,
evidence for this process
The results agree with the SM
prediction within 1.9 σ

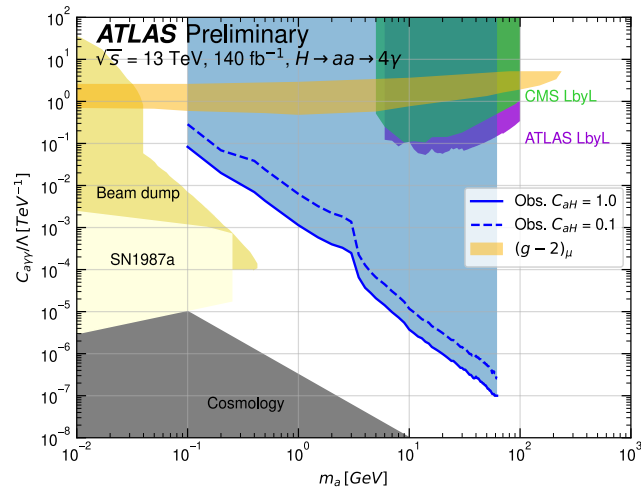
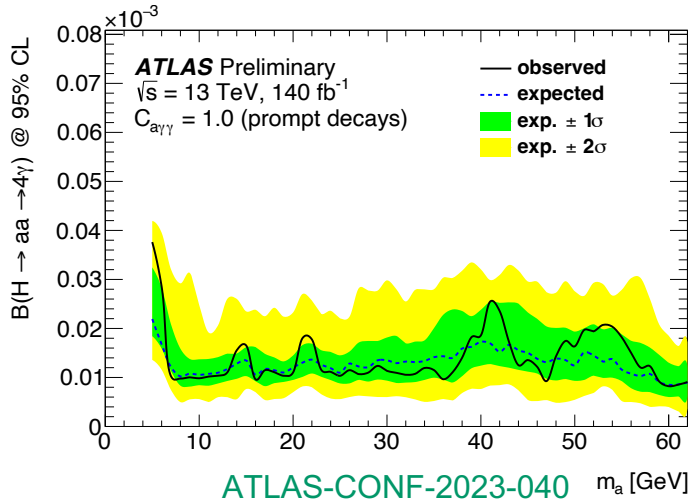


Search for Exotic Decay of the SM Higgs Boson



Search for $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4\gamma$ at ATLAS

- Axion-like particles (ALPs) decaying into $\gamma\gamma$ is sensitive to various models that could explain $(g-2)_\mu$ discrepancy
- Signal signature depending on the axion mass (collimated/resolved photons) and $C_{a\gamma\gamma}$ (long-lived/promptly decaying)
- m_{inv}^{reco} (invariant mass of all photon candidates) used for final fitting

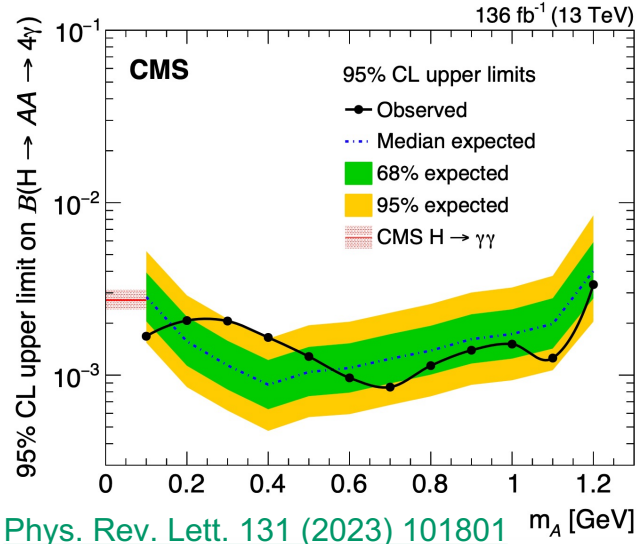
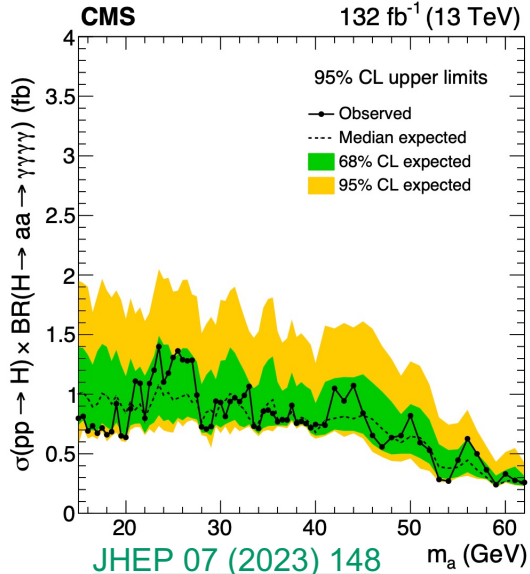




Search for $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4\gamma$ at CMS

- Target a with mass > 15 GeV
- Signature: 4 isolated photons
- BDT trained to separate sig. and bkg.

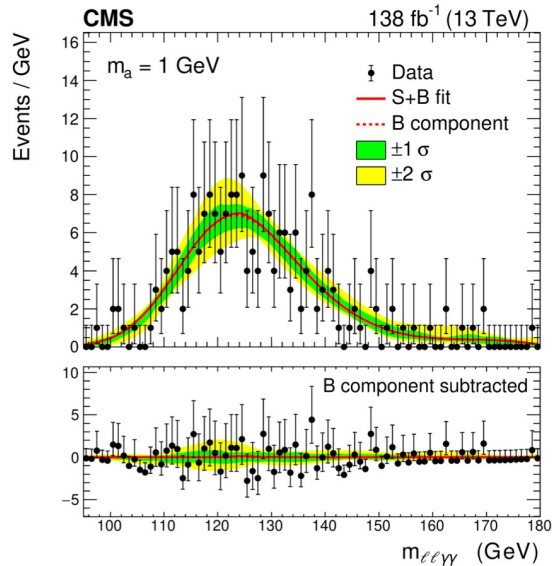
- Target A with mass 0.1-1.2 GeV
- DNN-based algorithm used to reconstruct two boosted γ as a single photon-like object



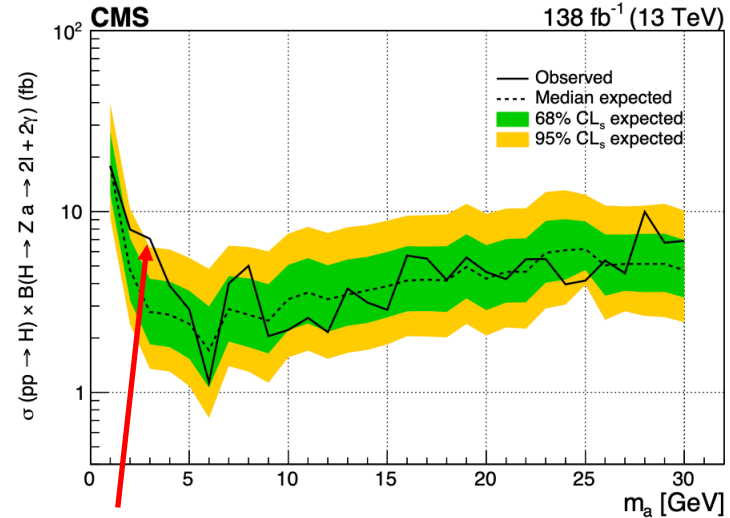


$H \rightarrow Za \rightarrow ll\gamma\gamma$

- Target m_a range from 1 to 30 GeV, Z is on-shell
- Dominant background coming from Z+jets (where jets \rightarrow fake photons)
- BDT trained to separate sig. from bkg., used to categorize events



[arXiv:2311.00130](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.00130)

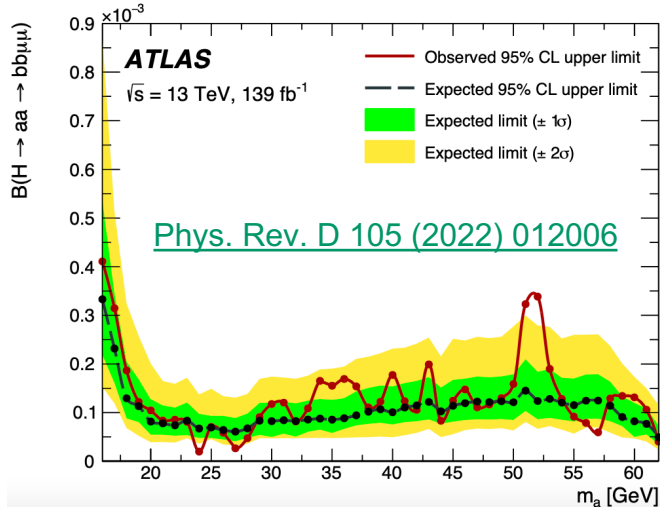


Local (global) significance for 3 GeV is 2.6 (1.3) σ

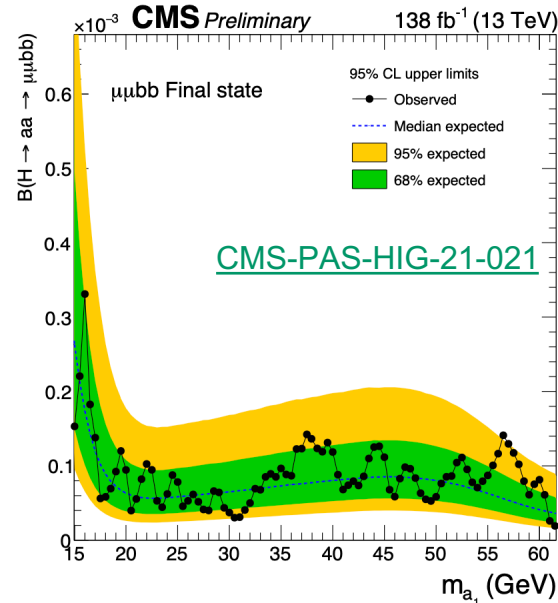


Search for $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow bb\mu\mu$

- Events selected with single/di-muon triggers, $m_{\mu\mu}$ in 15 – 65 GeV
- Performed kinematic likelihood fit exploiting equal m_{bb} and $m_{\mu\mu}$ to improve mass resolution and reduce bkg.
- BDT trained to separate sig. from SM bkg. (DY+jets, ttbar)



Local (global) significance for 52 GeV is 3.3 (1.7) σ



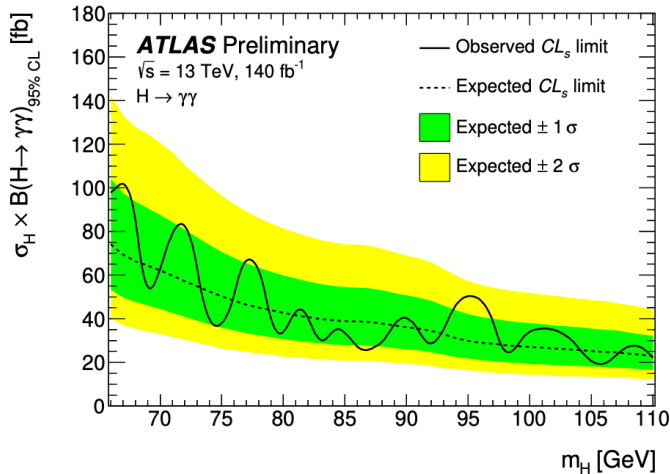


Search for Additional Neutral/Charged Higgs Boson

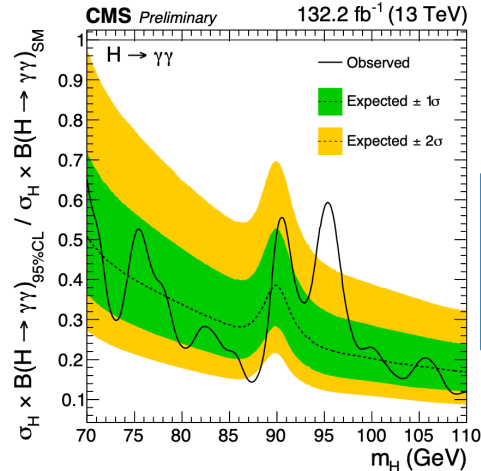


Search for Low-mass $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

- Searching for mass range within $\sim 70 - 110$ GeV
- Signature: two isolated γ ; $Z \rightarrow ee$ bkg. largely reduced via object BDT
- Events categorized based on photon conversion and BDTs
- Analytic function fit to the observed $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ spectra ($\sim 65 - 120$ GeV)
 - Allow data on either side of hypothetical signal peak to constrain bkg.



[ATLAS-CONF-2023-035](#)



[CMS-PAS-HIG-20-002](#)

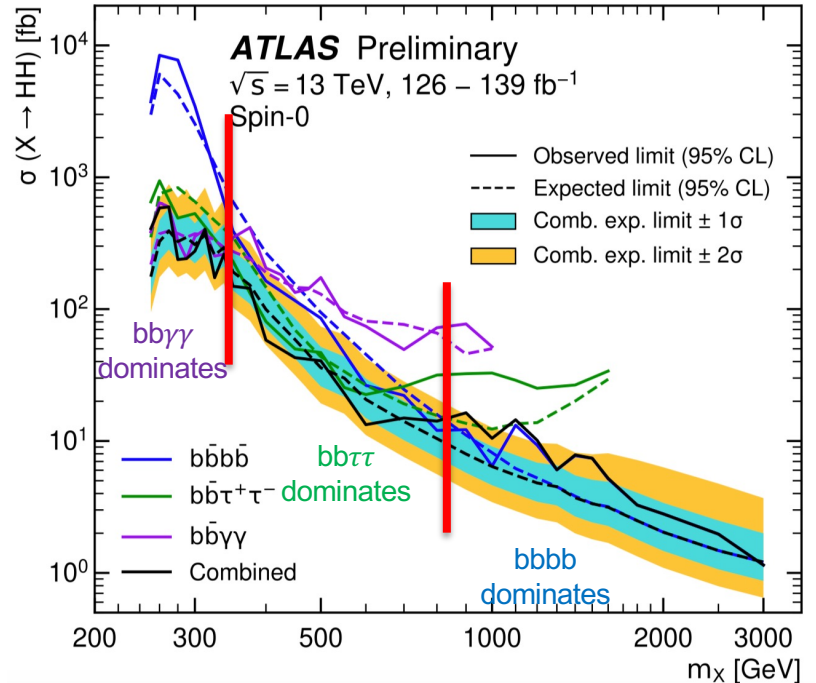
Local (global)
significance for 95.4
GeV is 2.9 (1.3) σ



Search for $X \rightarrow HH$ at ATLAS

- Many BSM theories predicted a heavy scalar (X) decaying into two SM Higgs bosons
- Three major sensitive channels for HH : $bb\tau\tau$, $4b$ and $bb\gamma\gamma$
- Performed statistical combination for the three channels to maximize the sensitivity

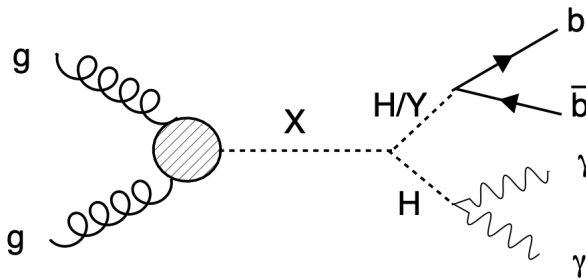
[ATLAS-CONF-2021-052](#)



Largest excess at 1.1 TeV: local (global) significance is 3.2σ (2.1σ)

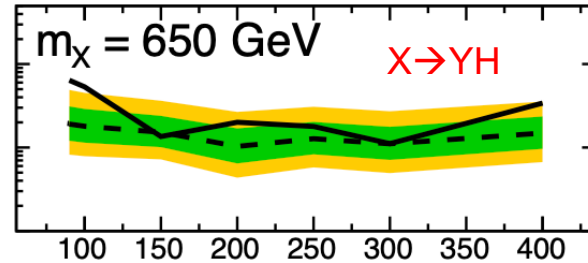
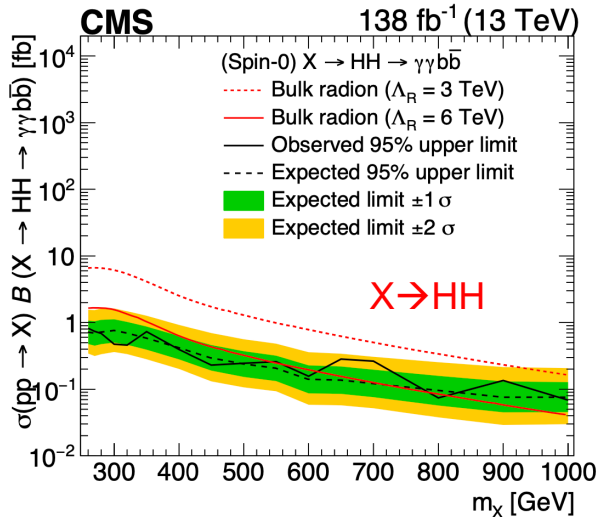


Search for $X \rightarrow HH/YH \rightarrow bb\gamma\gamma$



- Signature: 2 isolated γ , 2 b-jet
- \tilde{M}_X used to improve the the resolution

$$\tilde{M}_X \equiv m_{\gamma\gamma jj} - (m_{\gamma\gamma} - m_H) - (m_{jj} - m_{H \text{ or } Y})$$
- BDT trained to separate sig. from $\gamma\gamma/\gamma$ +jets bkg.
- Event categorized based on BDT and \tilde{M}_X

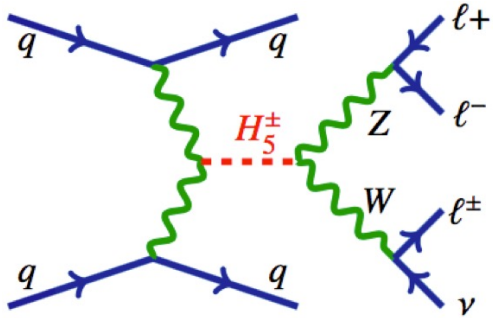


[arXiv:2310.01643](https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.01643)

Local (global) significance for $m_X = 650$ GeV, $m_\gamma = 90$ GeV is 3.8 (2.8) σ

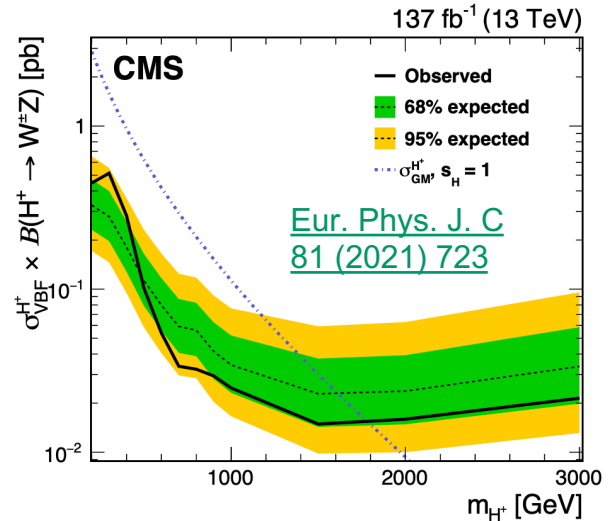
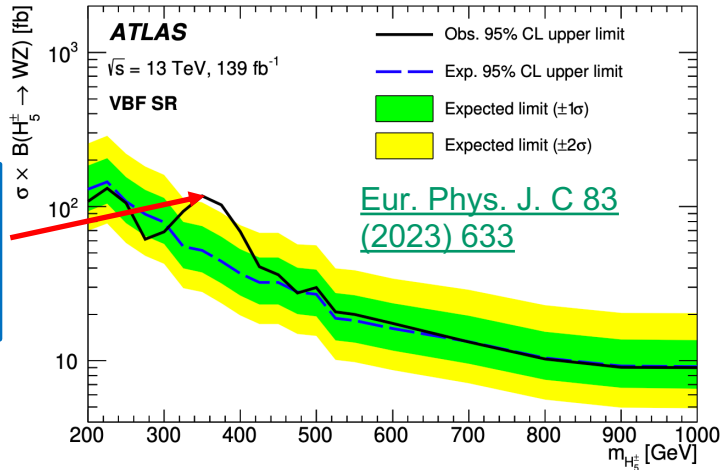


Search for Charged Higgs Decaying into WZ



- Predicted by Georgi–Machacek (GM) model, VBF mode
- Events selected with 3 leptons and 2 forward jets
- ATLAS: MVA used for sig. and bkg. (WZ, ZZ, etc) classification; m_{WZ} used for final fitting
- CMS: 2-D fit with m_T^{WZ} and m_{jj}

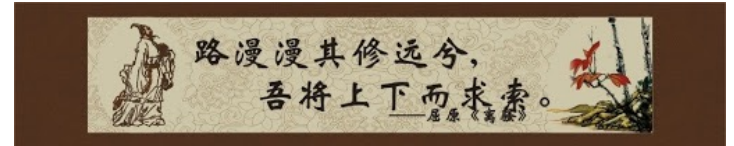
Local (global) significance for 375 GeV is 2.8 (1.6) σ





Summary

- Presented the latest searches for Higgs boson rare decay at ATLAS and CMS: first evidence for $H \rightarrow \mu\mu$ and $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$
- Searches for exotic decay of SM Higgs, as well as additional neutral/charged Higgs are also presented: no sign of new physics in the Higgs sector, stringent limits have been set according to relevant models
- Large amount for Run 3/HL-LHC data can provide us room for more precise probe, stay tuned!

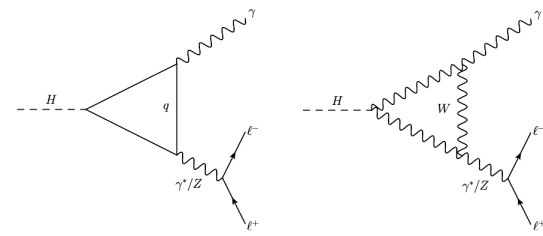




Backup

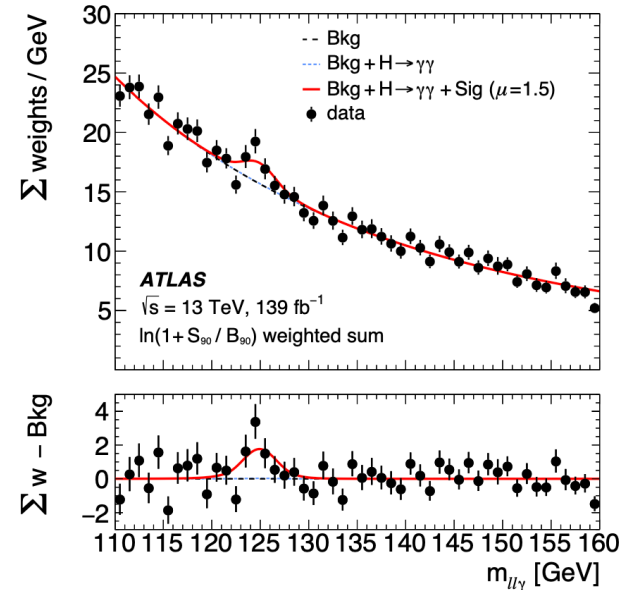


$H \rightarrow \gamma^* \gamma \rightarrow ll\gamma$



- Sensitive to new physics as well as CP-violation effect in the Higgs sector
- $m_{ll\gamma} < 30$ GeV, orthogonal to $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ phase space
- Dedicated electron ID for collimated signatures
- Three channel: $\mu\mu\gamma$, $ee\gamma$ merged, $ee\gamma$ resolved
- Categories based on lepton flavor and topologies
- Analytic function fit to the $m_{ll\gamma}$ spectra

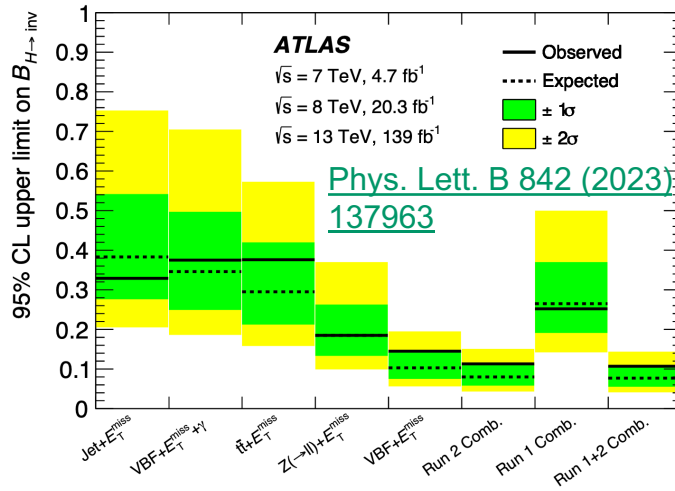
The measured $\mu = 1.5 \pm 0.5$
 Obs.(exp.) significance: 3.2 (2.1) σ ,
 evidence of this rare decay



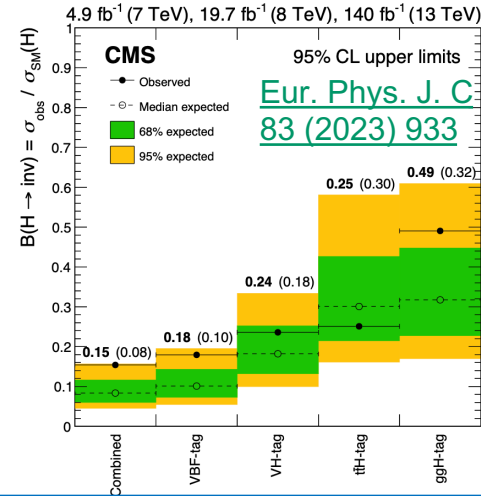


H → Invisible

- In SM, $H \rightarrow \text{inv}$ is only possible via $H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\nu$ with BR of 0.1%
- BR is sensitive to Higgs decaying dark matter particles in BSM scenarios
- Signature: Higgs decay products manifest as large MET
- Exploited four major production modes (VBF dominate the sensitivity)



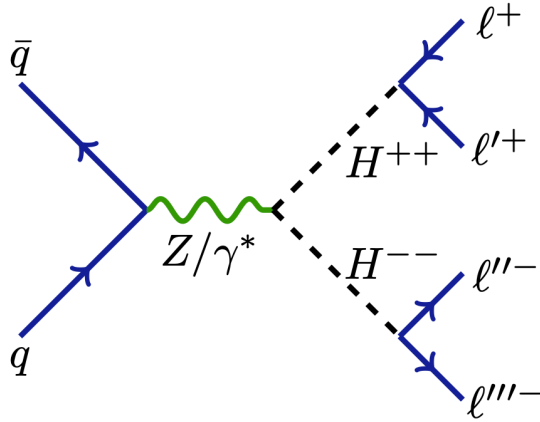
Obs.(exp.) limit on BR: 0.107 (0.077)



Obs.(exp.) limit on BR: 0.15 (0.08)

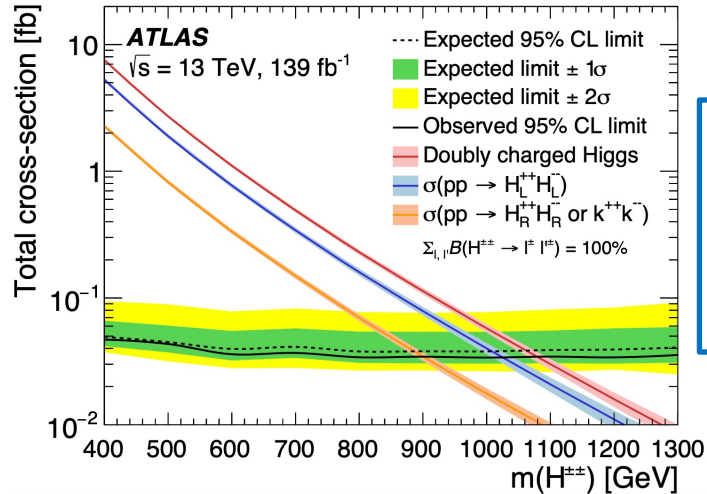


Search for Doubly Charged Higgs



- ≥ 2 tight leptons (e/ μ , leptonic τ decays)
- Lepton-flavor-violating decays allowed
- 3 SRs: $|^{\pm}|^{\pm}$, $|^{\pm}|^{\pm}|^{\mp}$, $|^{\pm}|^{\pm}|^{\pm}|^{\mp}$, $m(l^{\pm}, l^{\pm})_{\text{lead}} > 300$ GeV

Predicted by various BSM models such as LRSMs, type-II seesaw models, Zee-Babu neutrino mass model, etc

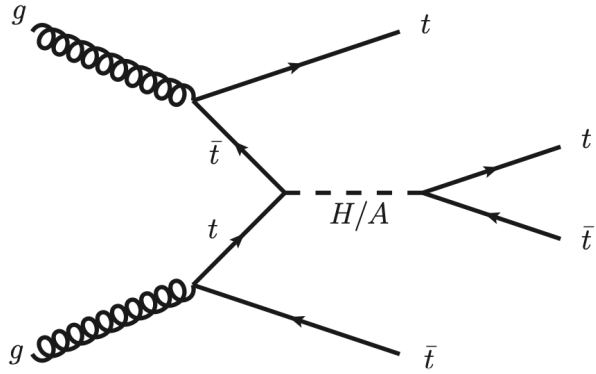


Mass below 1080 (900) GeV excluded for LRSMs (Zee-Babu model)

[arXiv:2211.07505](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.07505)

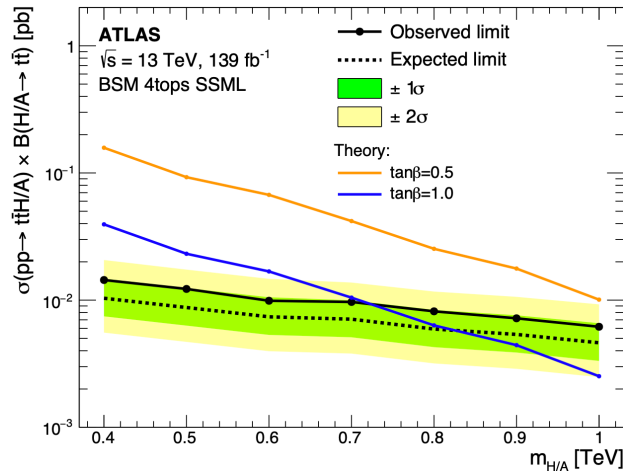


Search for Heavy Higgs in 4 Top Events



Predicted by 2HDM, heavy Higgs mass assumed to be 400 – 1000 GeV

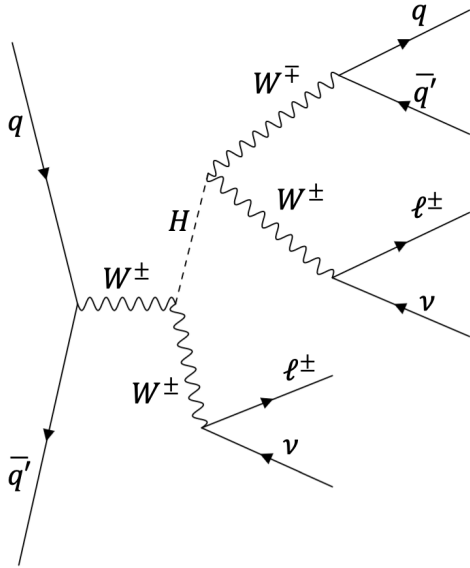
- Events selected with 2 same-sign leptons or ≥ 3 leptons; ≥ 6 jets (≥ 2 of which are b-jets)
- Major bkg. coming from SM 4-top, $ttW/Z/H$
- BDT trained to separate sig. and bkg., used for final fitting



[JHEP 07 \(2023\) 203](#)

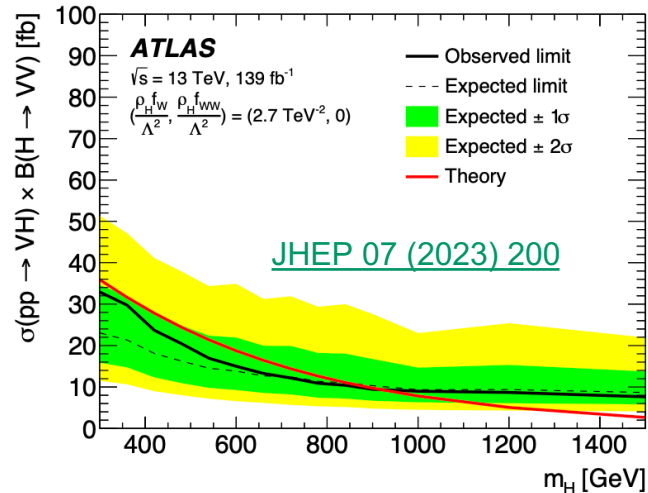


Search for Heavy Higgs via WH Mode



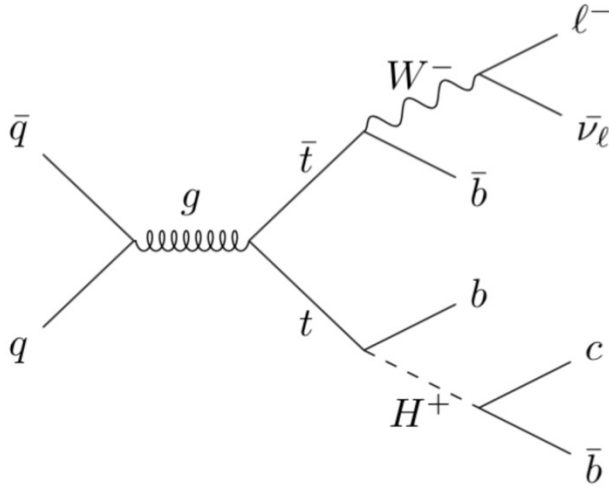
A generic search for heavy $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\nu qq$ in the model where H is fermiophobic

- Single lepton un-prescaled trigger used
- Selected two same-sign leptons plus MET together with 2 small-R jets (resolved SR) or 1 large-R jet (boosted SR)
- No deviation from SM seen



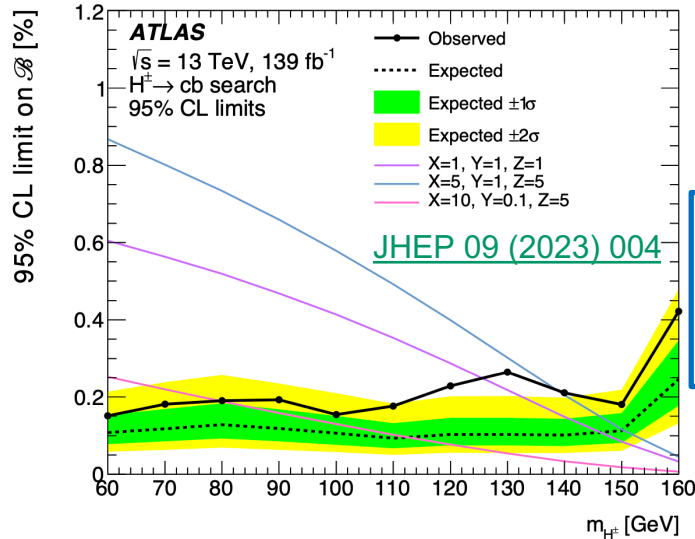


Search for Charged Higgs in Top Decays

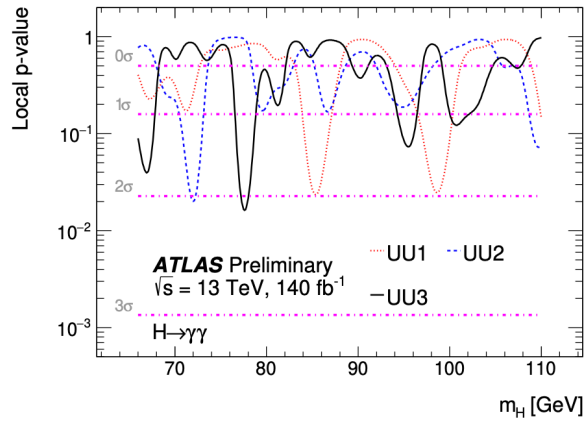


Predicted by 3HDM, where the lightest charged Higgs can be lighter than top quark

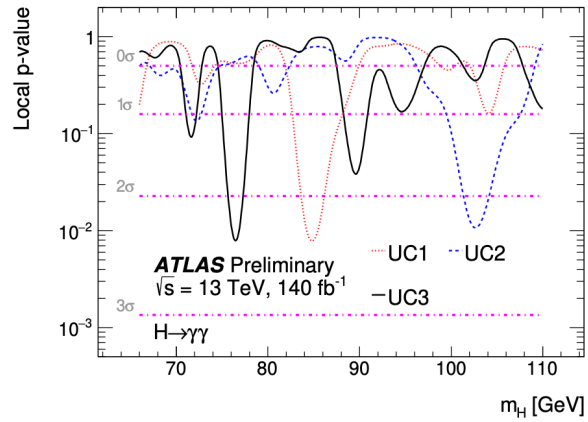
- Events selected with 1 e/μ and ≥4 jets
- NN trained to separate sig. vs bkg. (mainly from ttbar+jets) and used for fitting
- No significant data excess seen



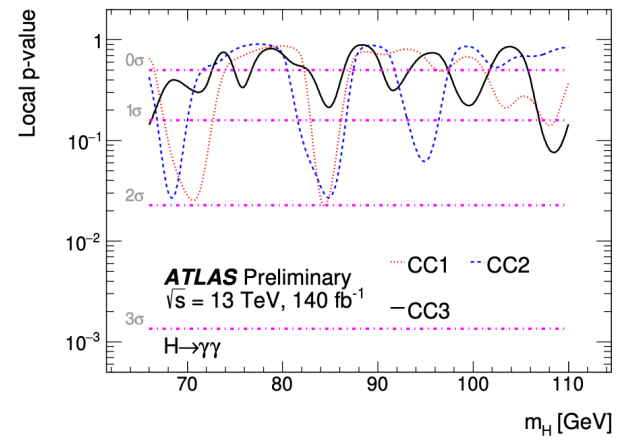
Local (global) significance for 130 GeV is 3.0 (2.5)σ



(a)

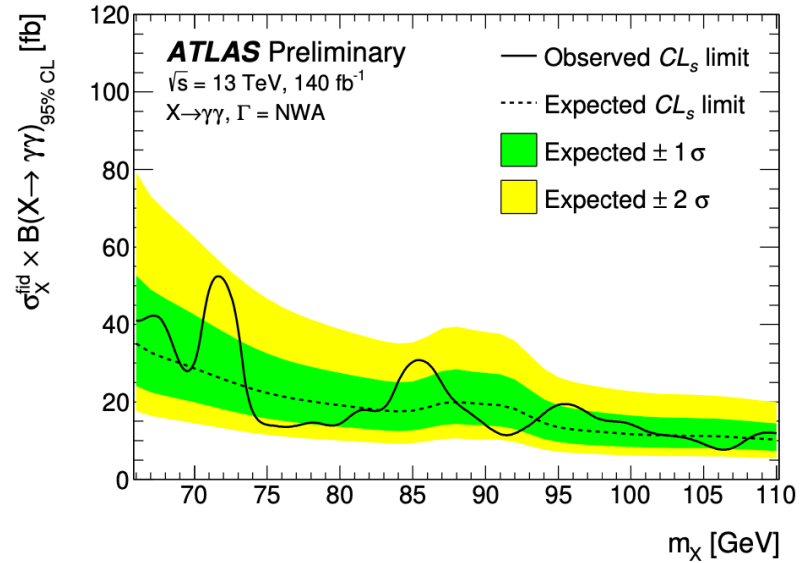
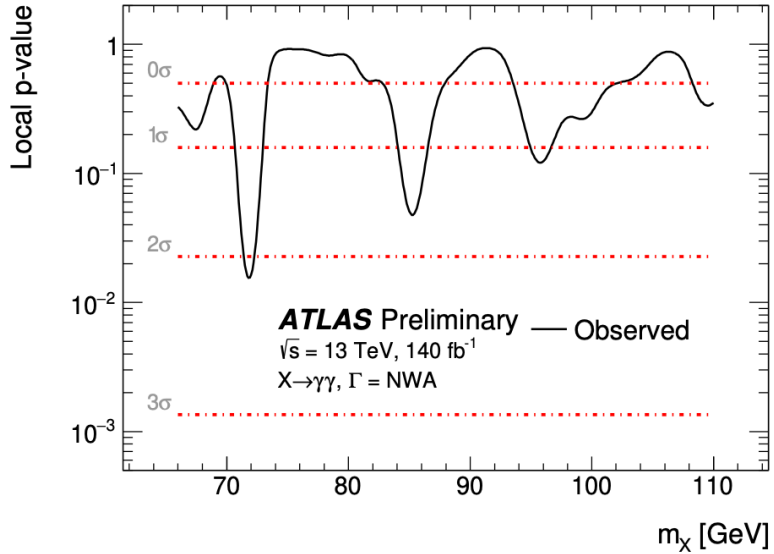


(b)



(c)

Model-dependent



Model-independent

