

Search for Low-Mass Scalar Bosons at the LHC

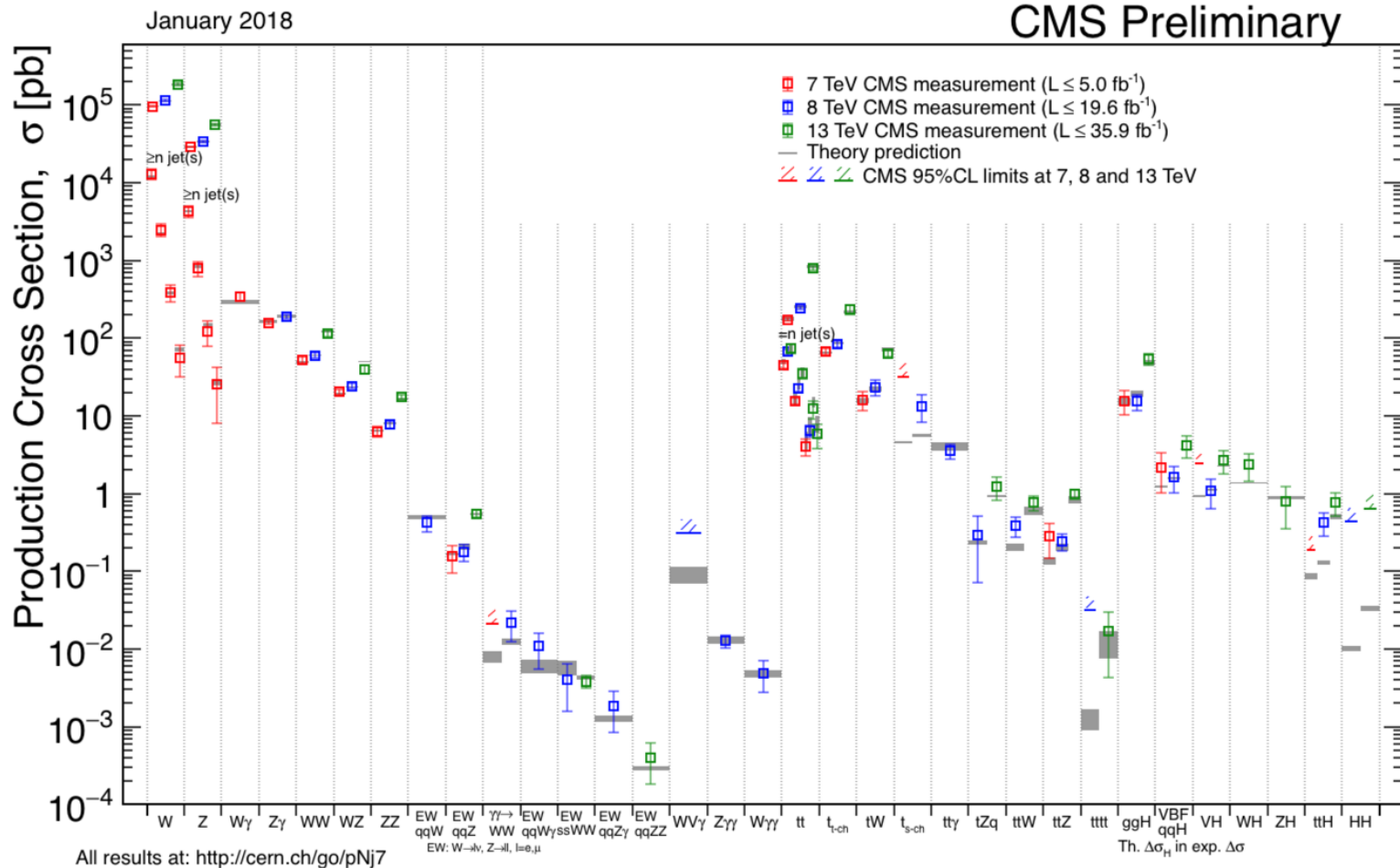
Linda Finco

IPN Lyon (IN2P3-CNRS)/UCB Lyon 1, France

Strasbourg (France)

March 23rd 2018

Standard Model of Particle Physics

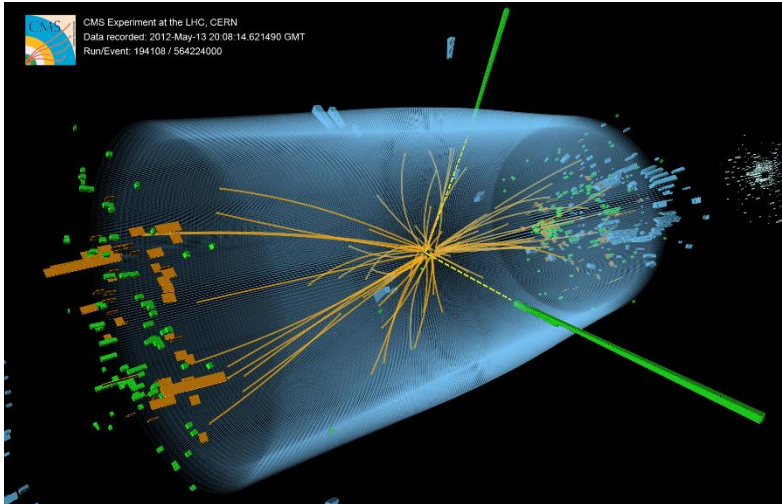


- The SM describes the **elementary particles** and their **interactions**
- **Experimental results** have shown up to now an amazing **agreement** with its predictions
- Thanks to the **good understanding of detectors** and the **accurate theory predictions**, SM processes are known with an **incredible precision**

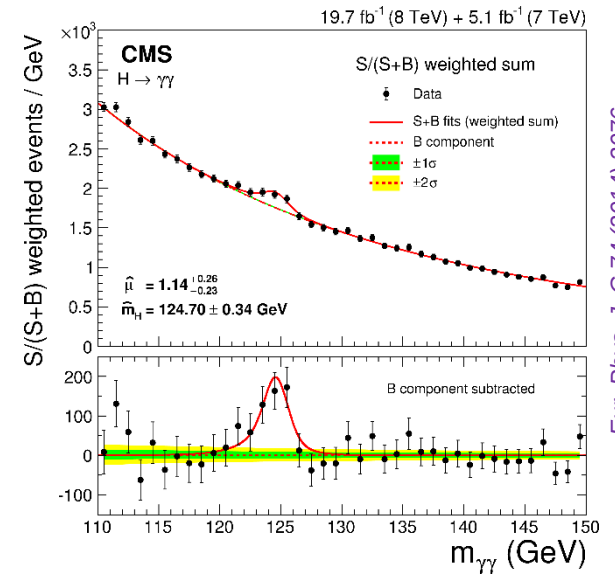
Higgs Discovery Seminar



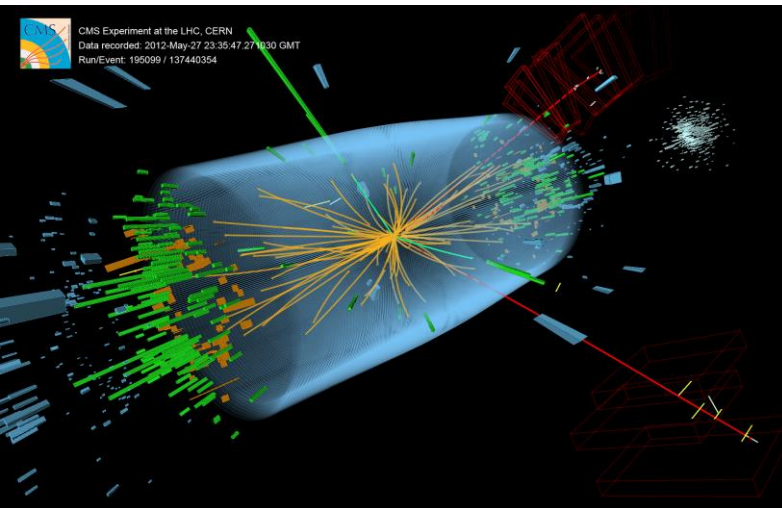
A Higgs Boson



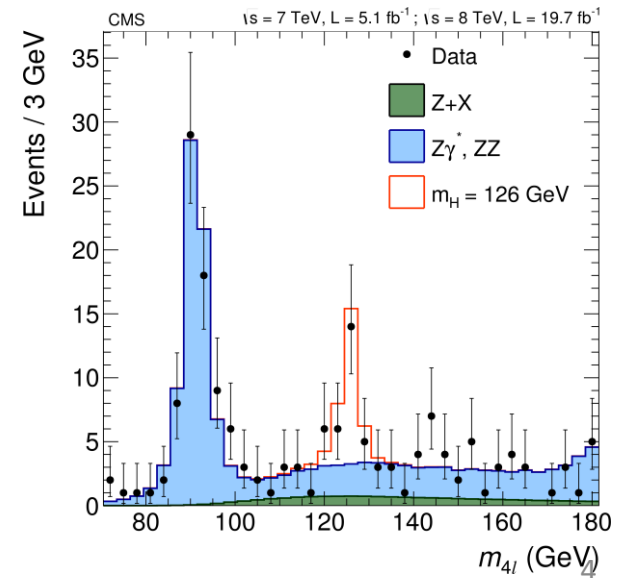
$$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$



Eur. Phys. J. C 74 (2014) 3076



$$H \rightarrow 4\ell$$



Phys. Rev. D 89 (2014) 112001

Still, a lot to be discovered...

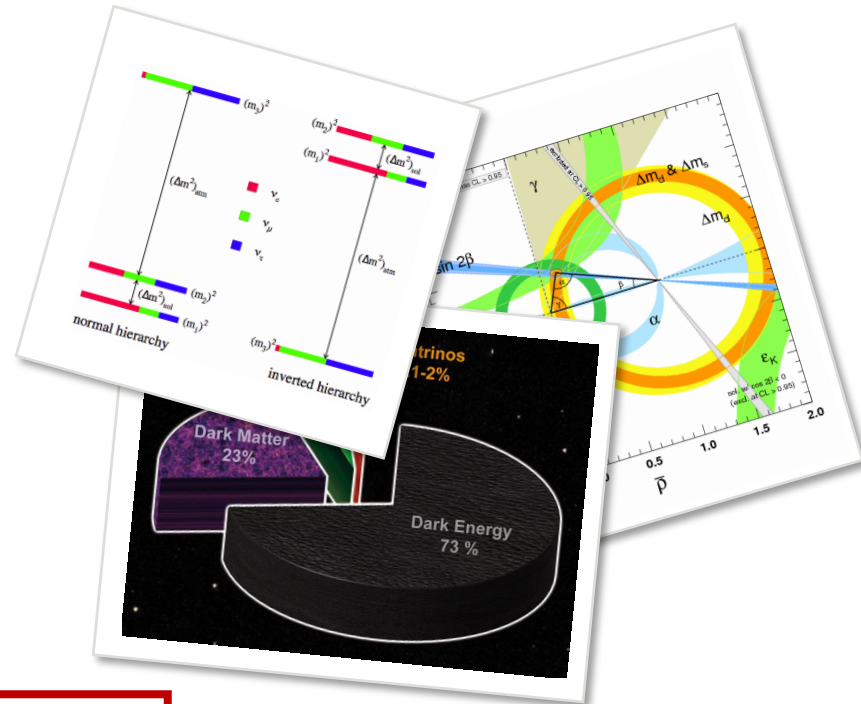
- The **discovery of a new boson** consistent with the SM Higgs boson has **completed the theory**
- Nevertheless, the **SM cannot address** several **crucial issues**

Direct evidence from observation:

- existence of neutrino masses
- existence of dark matter and dark energy
- matter-antimatter asymmetry

Conceptual problems in the SM:

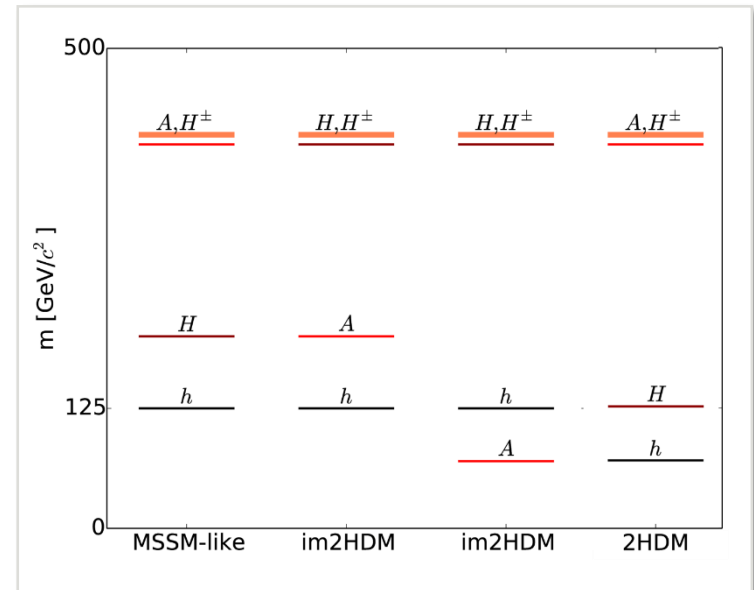
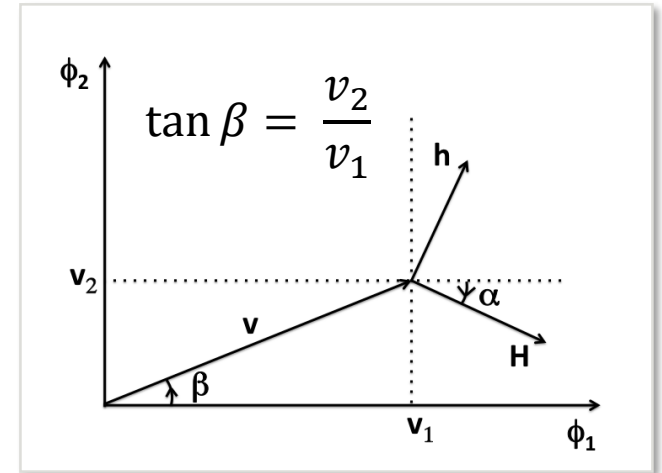
- the large number of free parameters
- the "hierarchy problem"
- the coupling unification



Strong indications that the SM is only a low-energy expression of a more global theory

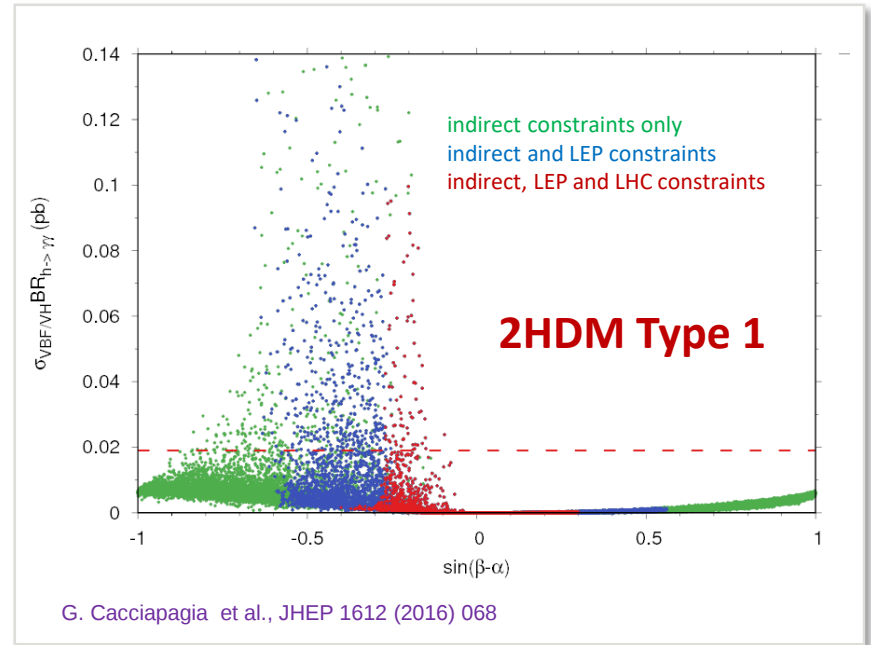
Two Higgs Double Models (+ Singlet)

- Two-Higgs-doublet models are simple **extensions of the SM**
- They introduce **two doublets** of scalar fields, ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 , in the SM Lagrangian of the scalar sector
- After symmetry breaking, **five physical states are left**: two CP-even (h and H), one CP-odd (A), and two charged ($H^\pm$) bosons
- Four types**, according to different patterns of **quark and lepton couplings** (most commonly considered are Type 1 and Type 2)
- Different possibilities** of **mass hierarchy**
- In **2HDM+S** a **complex scalar singlet** is added, leading to a pseudoscalar a and a scalar s (NMSSM)



Search for BSM Physics at the LHC

LHC data are **sensitive** to the presence for some combinations of the **2HDM parameters**

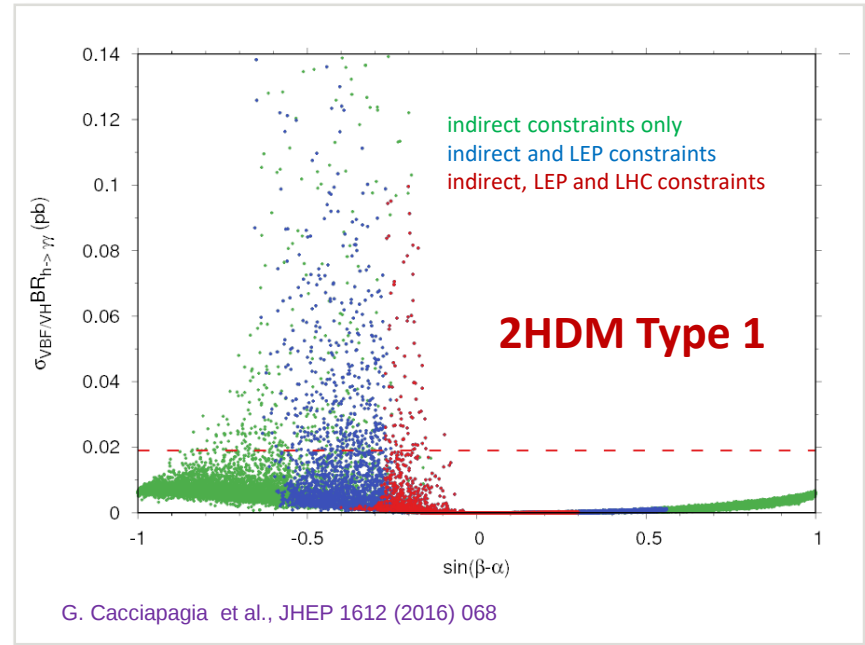


How new Physics can be discovered?

- **Precision measurements** of the properties of the $h(125 \text{ GeV})$ scalar boson
- Observation of BSM physics in **indirect searches** involving **scalar bosons**
- Discovery of **BSM decays** of the $h(125 \text{ GeV})$ scalar boson
- Direct **discovery** of new **scalar particles**

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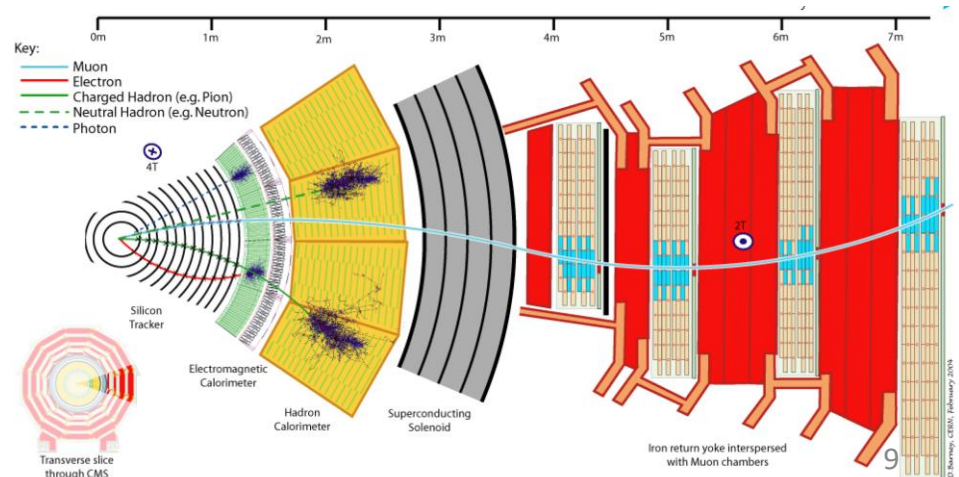
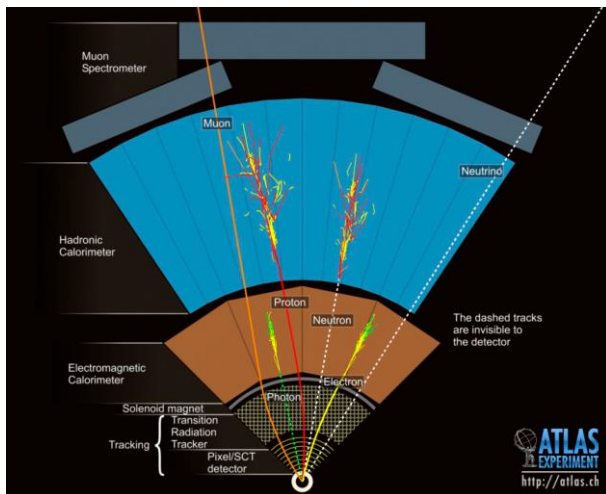
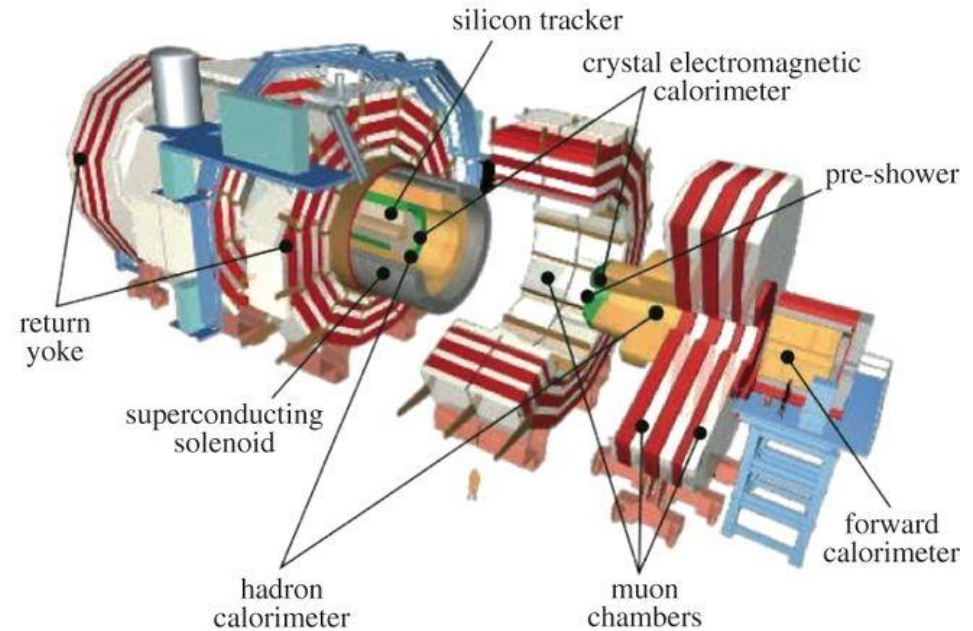
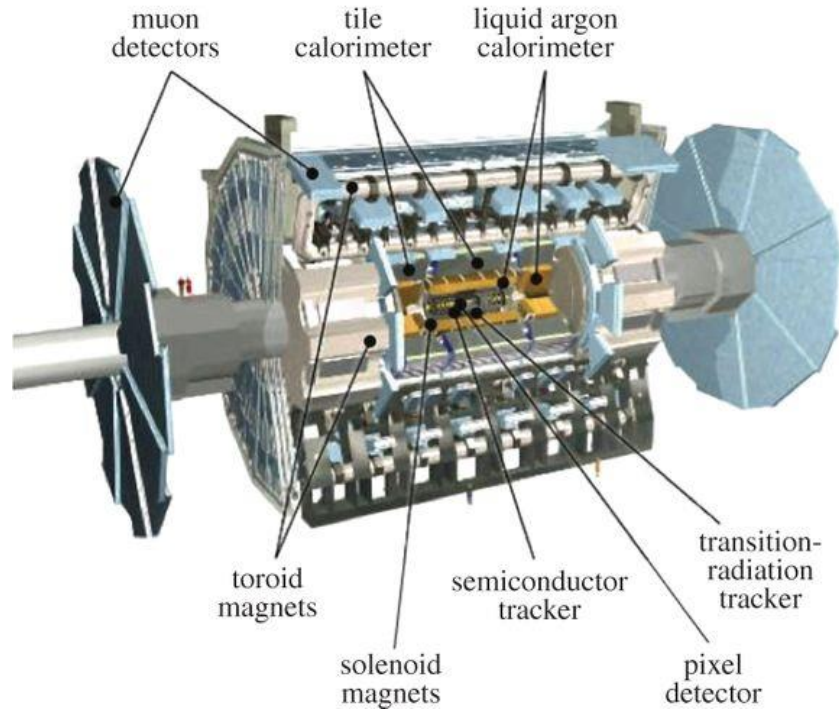


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**AT LOW-MASS
VALUES**

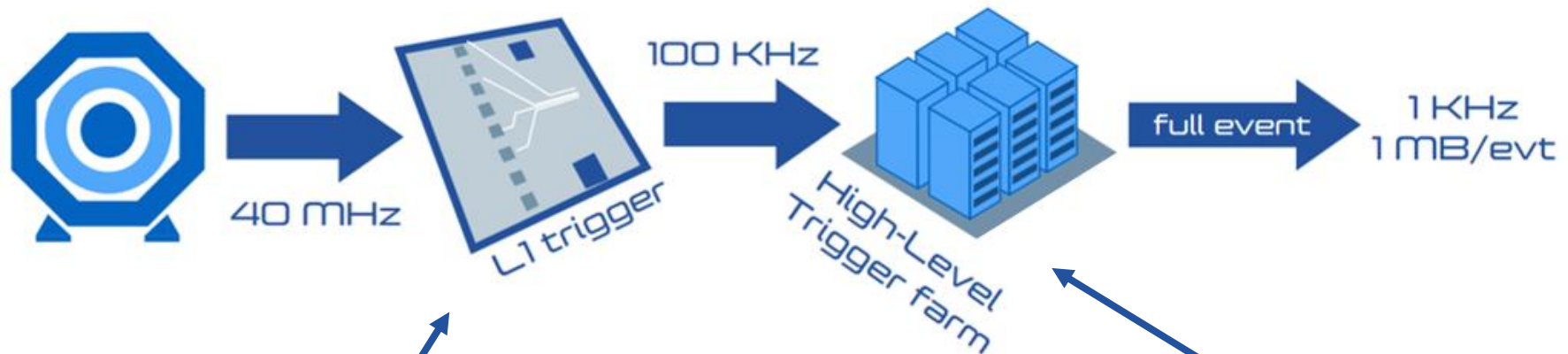
ATLAS and CMS Detectors



Challenges at Low-Mass

Low-mass searches are among the most **difficult** analyses at LHC:

- **Theoretical guidance** sometimes **limited**
- **Special tuning** of selection tools
- **Trigger** issues: because of the **limited bandwidth**, low energy events are generally discarded (high thresholds for single and double objects)



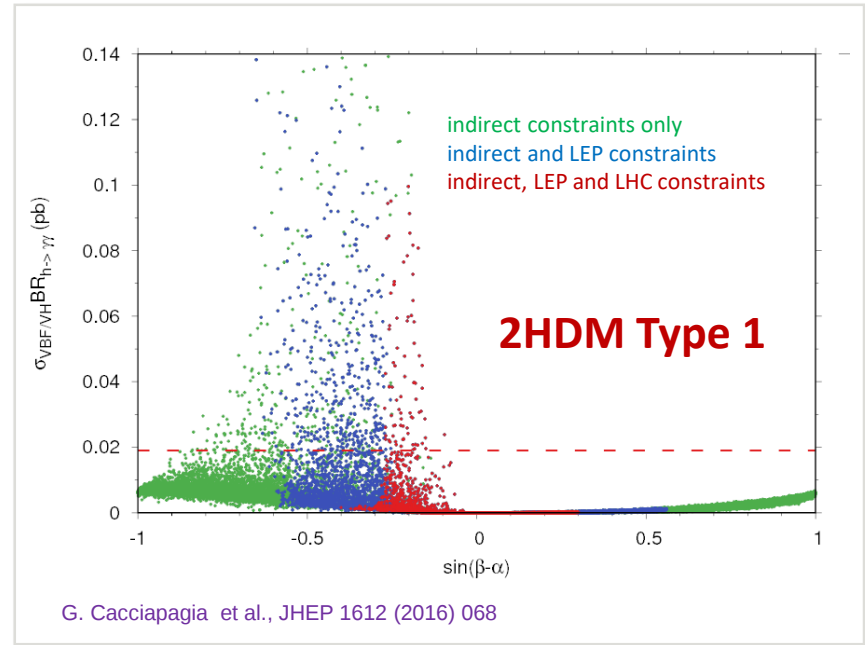
Courtesy of M. Pierini

- Only calorimeters and muons
- High thresholds for one and two objects

- Can use the tracker
- Need to develop dedicated algorithms

Search for BSM Physics at the LHC

LHC data are **sensitive** to the presence for some combinations of the **2HDM parameters**

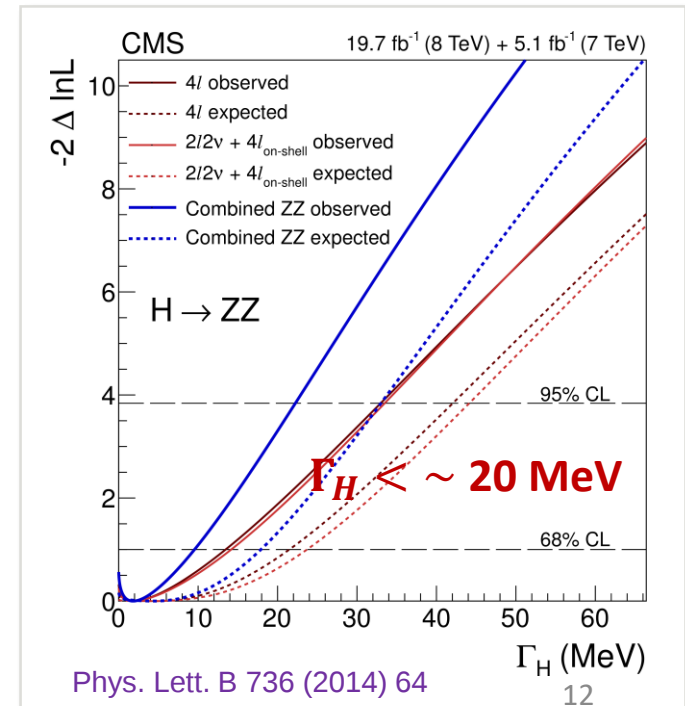
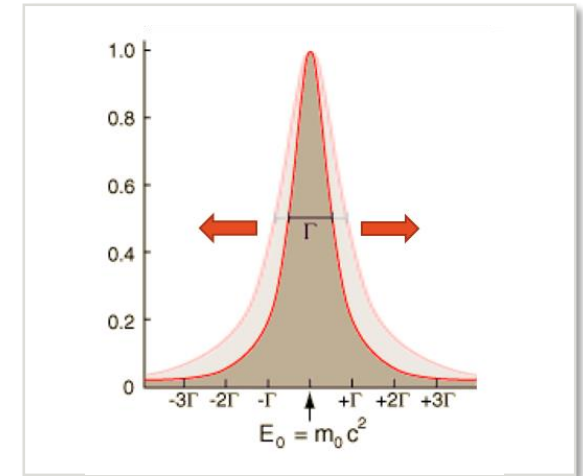


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Exotic Decays of the h(125)

- The **Scalar Sector** of the SM is **not** very well known
- The **SM Higgs** boson has a **very narrow width** (~ 4 MeV): small **coupling to a light state** could lead to $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow BSM)$ of the order of **several percent**
- The scalar sector could be a **portal to New Physics**
- Exotic decays are allowed in **many models**
- Still **consistent** with all the **LHC measurements** so far
- One possibility is to search for **$h(125) \rightarrow aa$** (a pseudoscalar of 2HDM+S)



Final States of $h(125) \rightarrow aa$ Decays

$a \rightarrow bb$

- ✓ **Large BR** if couplings proportional to fermion mass
- ✗ Hard to trigger
- ✗ Low identification efficiency
- ✗ High p_T thresholds
- ✗ Large jet-backgrounds

$a \rightarrow \tau\tau$

- ✓ **Large BR** if mass-proportional couplings
- ✓ Possible to **trigger** on leptonic τ decays
- ✗ Low τ_h identification efficiency, with high p_T thresholds (> 20 GeV)

$a \rightarrow \mu\mu$

- ✓ Excellent **mass resolution**
- ✓ Easy to trigger
- ✓ Easy identification, with low p_T
- ✓ Open for any $m_a > 2m_\mu$
- ✗ Low BR if couplings proportional to fermion mass

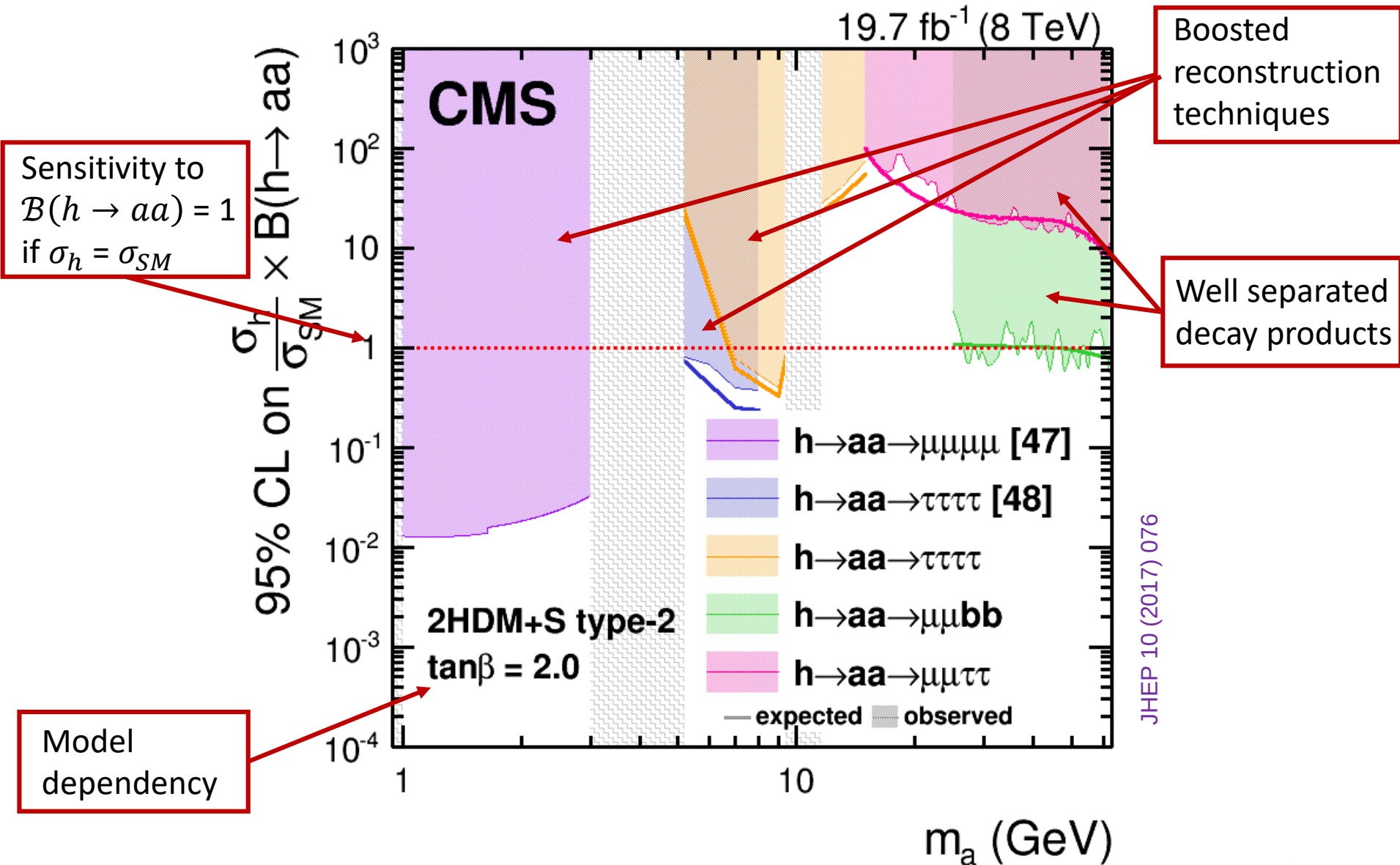
With **SM-like couplings**:

$$\mathcal{B}(a \rightarrow bb)$$

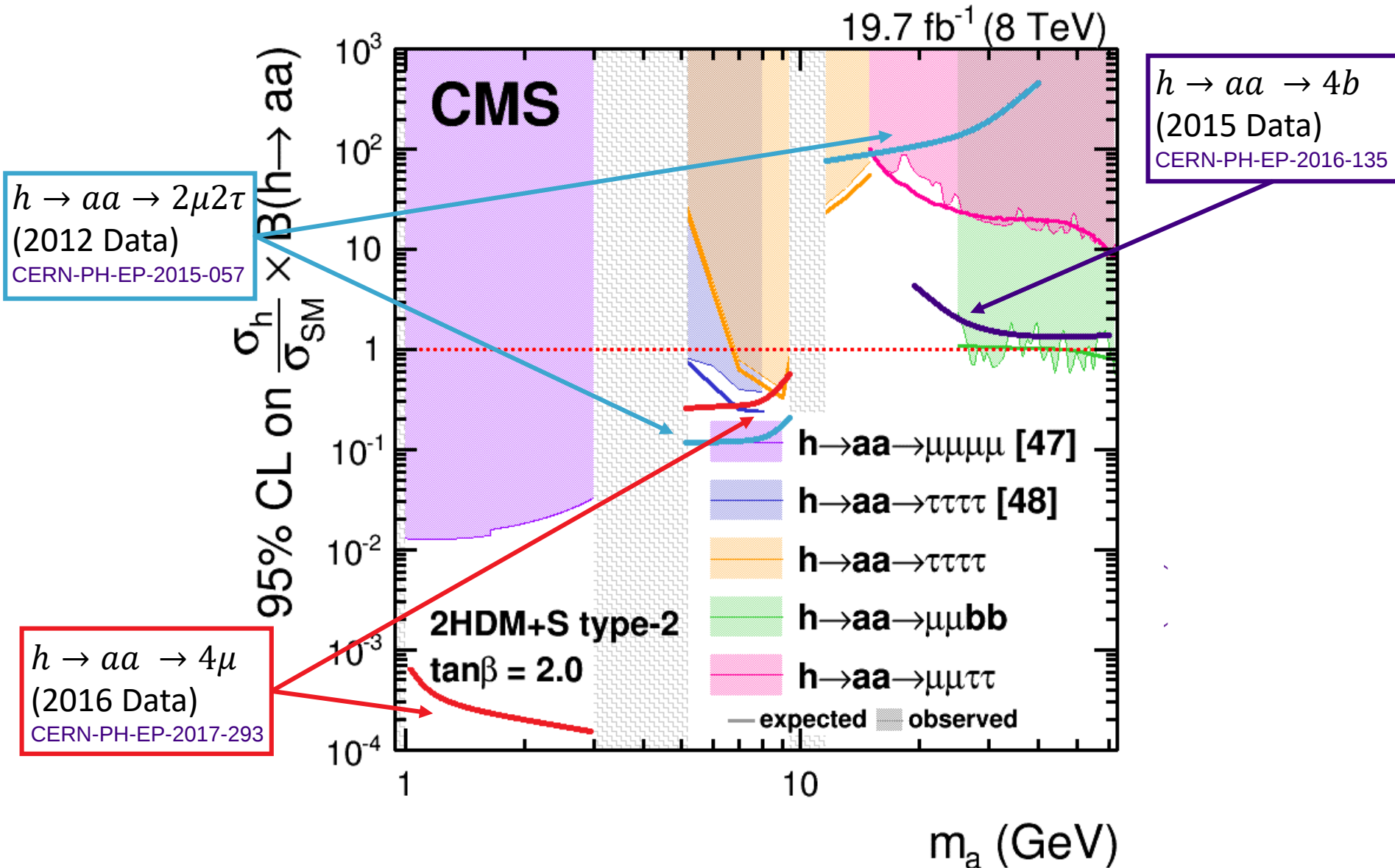
$$\sim 9 \times \mathcal{B}(a \rightarrow \tau\tau)$$

$$\sim 1700 \times \mathcal{B}(a \rightarrow \mu\mu)$$

Exotic Decays of the $h(125)$ – Run I

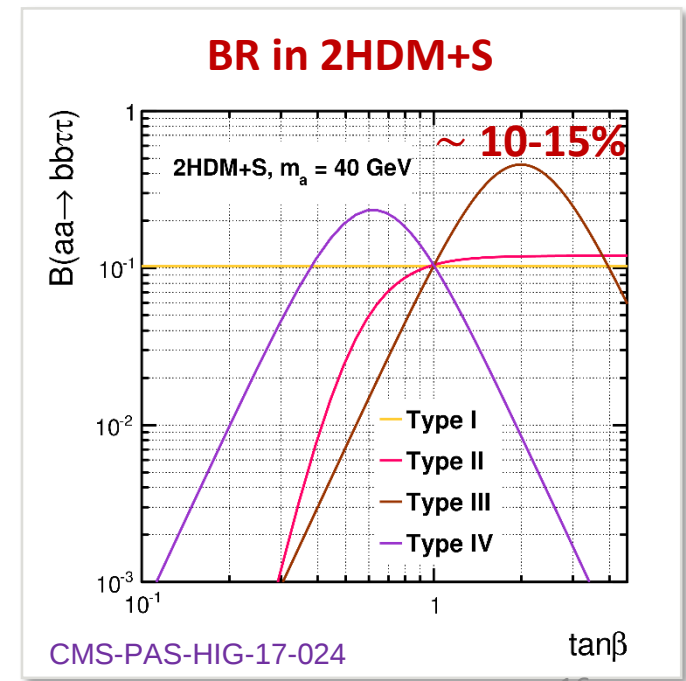
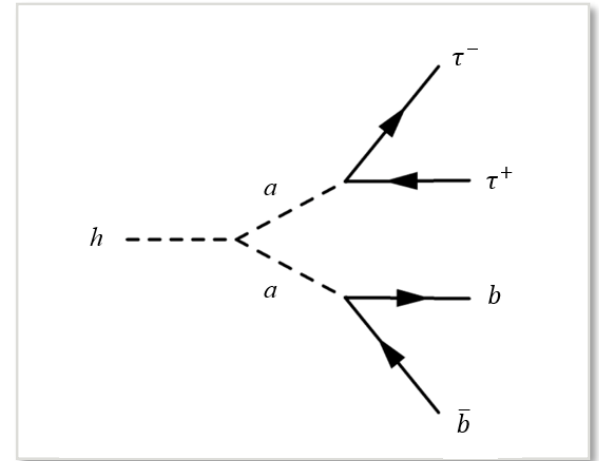


Exotic Decays of the $h(125)$ – ATLAS



Exotic Decays $h(125) \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 2b2\tau$

- New **Run II result** (presented at Moriond EW 2018)
- If $\mathcal{B}(a \rightarrow ff) \propto m_{ff}^2$
→ $a \rightarrow bb$ and $a \rightarrow \tau\tau$ are the dominant and subdominant decays
- $h \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4b$ is **difficult to trigger** (4 soft b -jets)
- $h \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 2b2\tau$ easier to **trigger**, thanks to the **leptons** originating from τ decays
- 3 di- τ final states: **$e\tau_h$, $\mu\tau_h$ and $e\mu$**
- At least **1 b -tagged jet** with $p_T > 20$ GeV



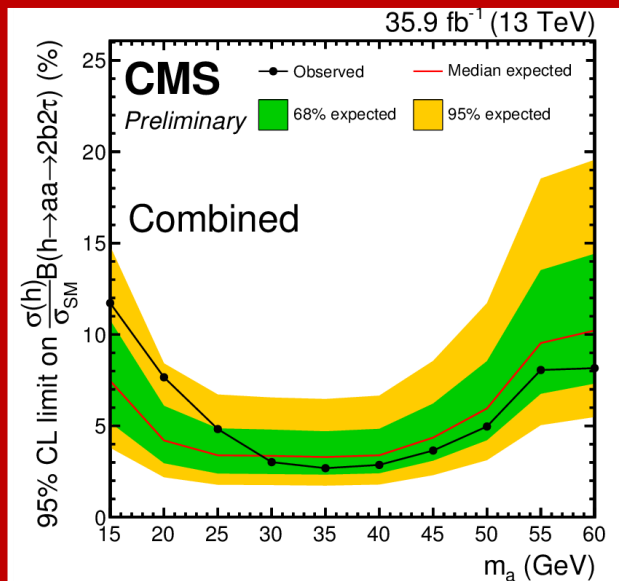
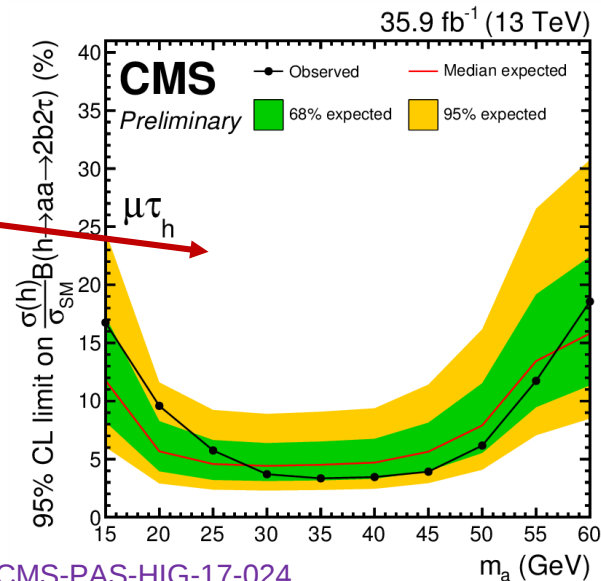
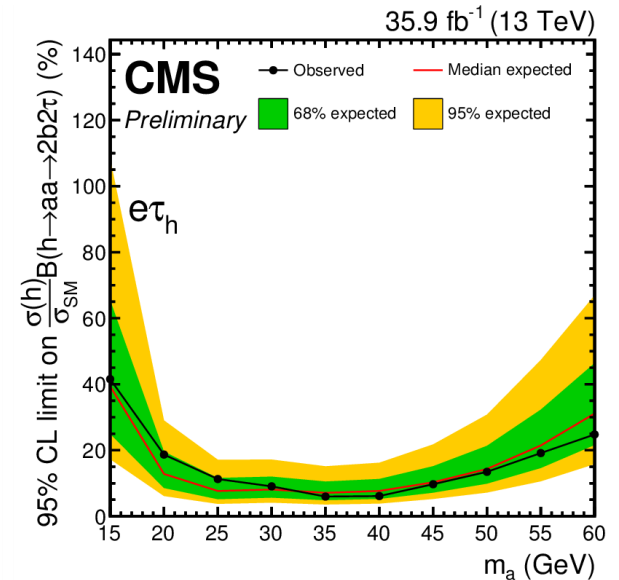
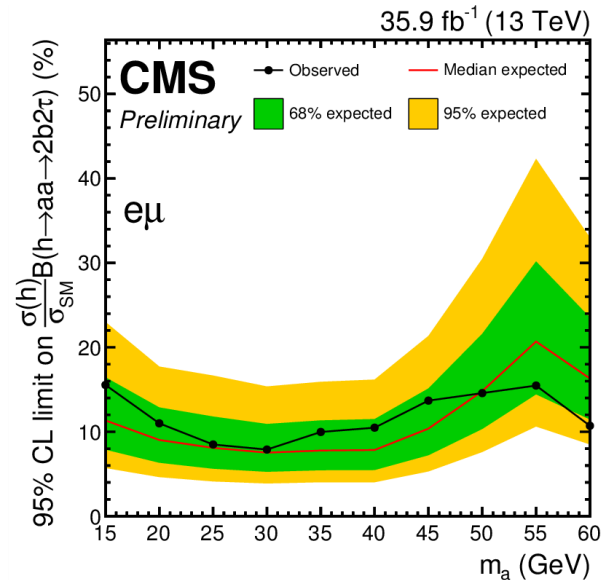
CMS-PAS-HIG-17-024

Exotic Decays $h(125) \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 2b2\tau$

No excess is observed

$\mu\tau_h$ is the **most sensitive** channel:

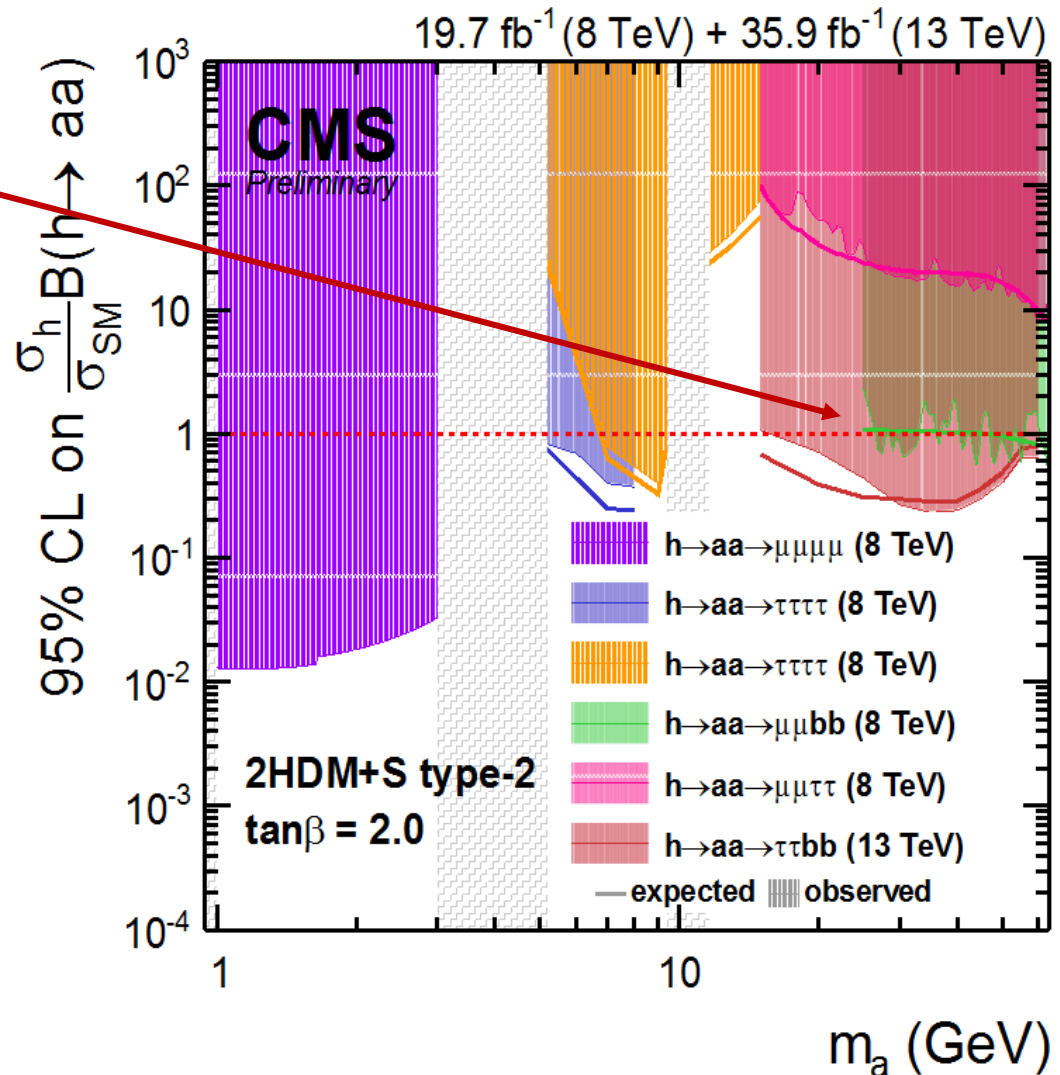
- Larger BR wrt $e\mu$
- Lower trigger thresholds wrt $e\tau_h$



Exotic Decays $h(125) \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 2b2\tau$

Results of
 $h \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 2b2\tau$

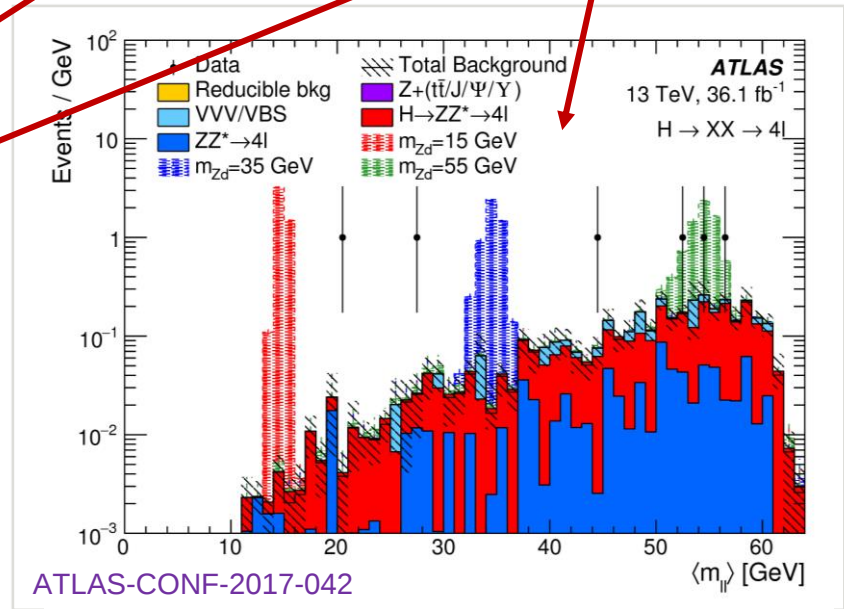
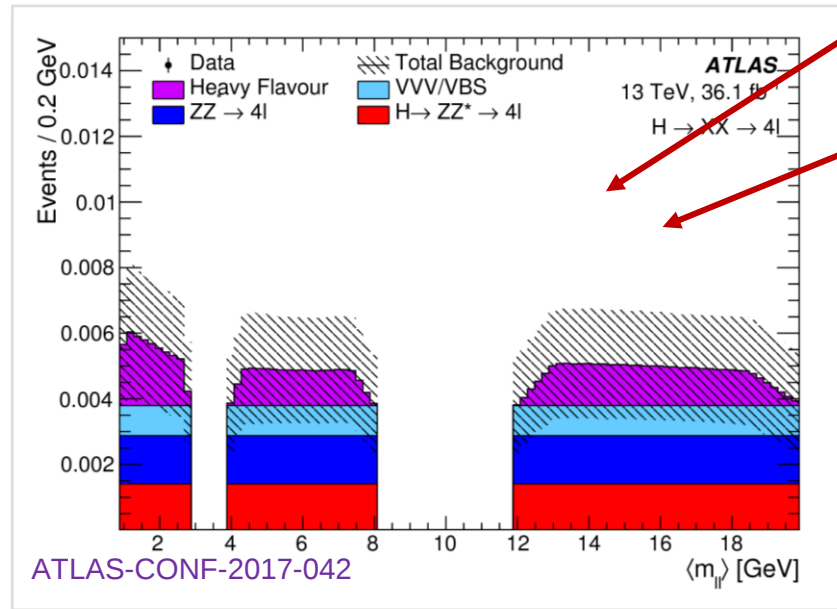
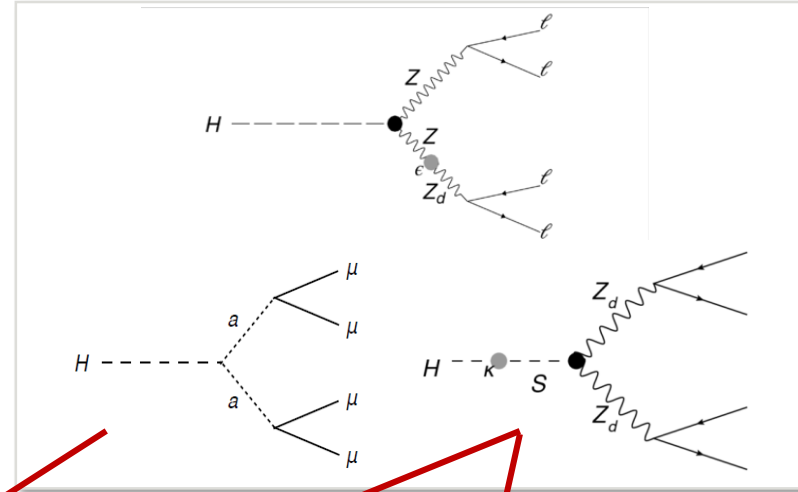
- In the 2HDM+S type-2, $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow aa) > 23\%$ excluded at 95% CL for $m_a \sim 35$ GeV
→ most sensitive results so far at the LHC
- Limits improved** by several factors in $25 < m_a < 62.5$ GeV, and by more than 1 order of magnitude in $15 < m_a < 25$ GeV



Exotic Decays $h(125) \rightarrow aa/Z_d Z_d \rightarrow 4\ell$

- Three different interpretations:
Hypercharge portal, Higgs portal, 2HDM+S
- Dedicated selections are defined for each of the three decay channels
- Observable $\langle m_{\ell\ell} \rangle = \frac{1}{2}(m_{12} + m_{34})$

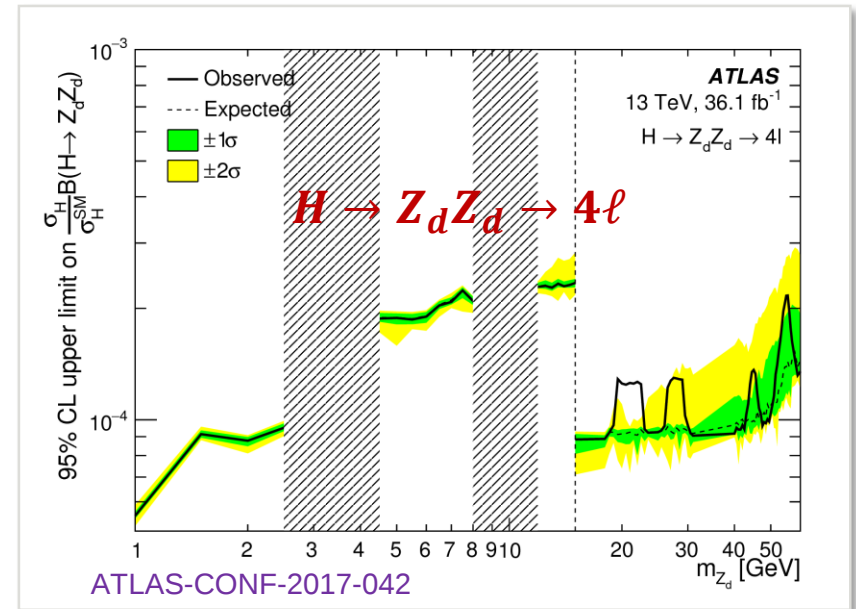
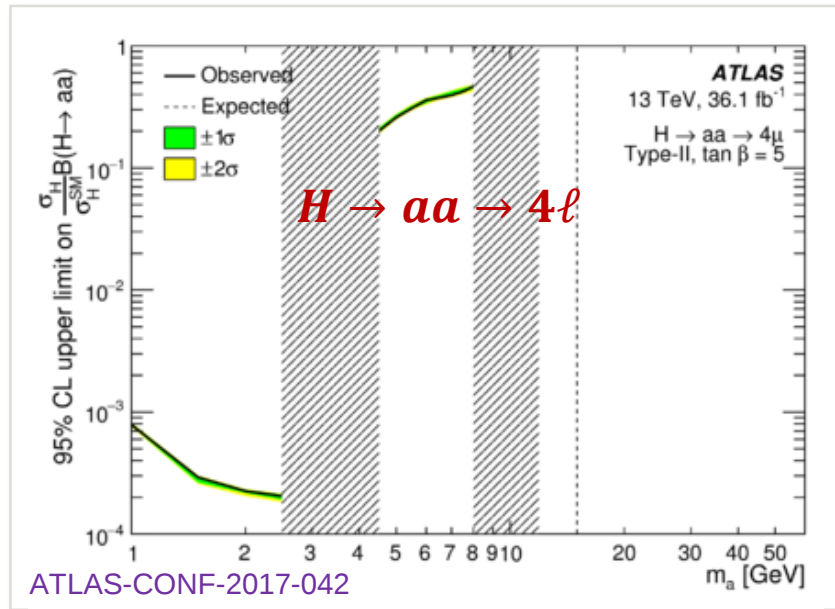
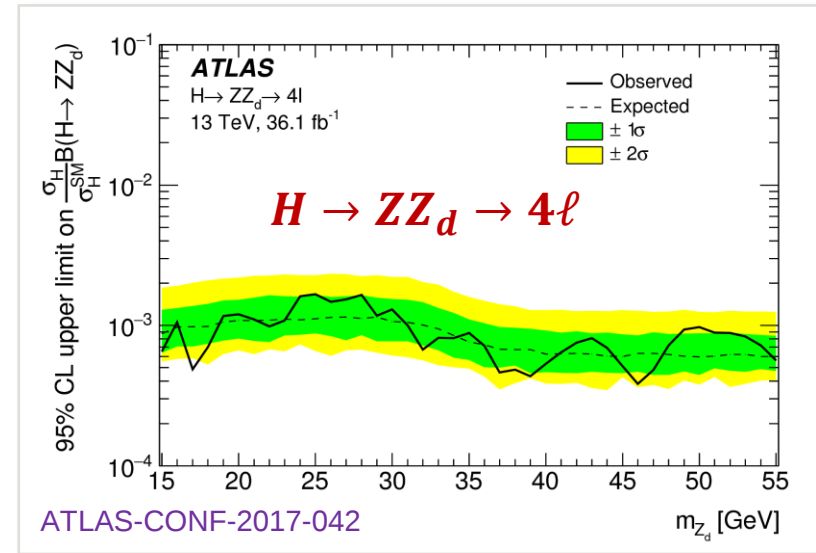
ATLAS-CONF-2017-042 (Sub. to JHEP)



Exotic Decays $h(125) \rightarrow aa/Z_d Z_d \rightarrow 4\ell$

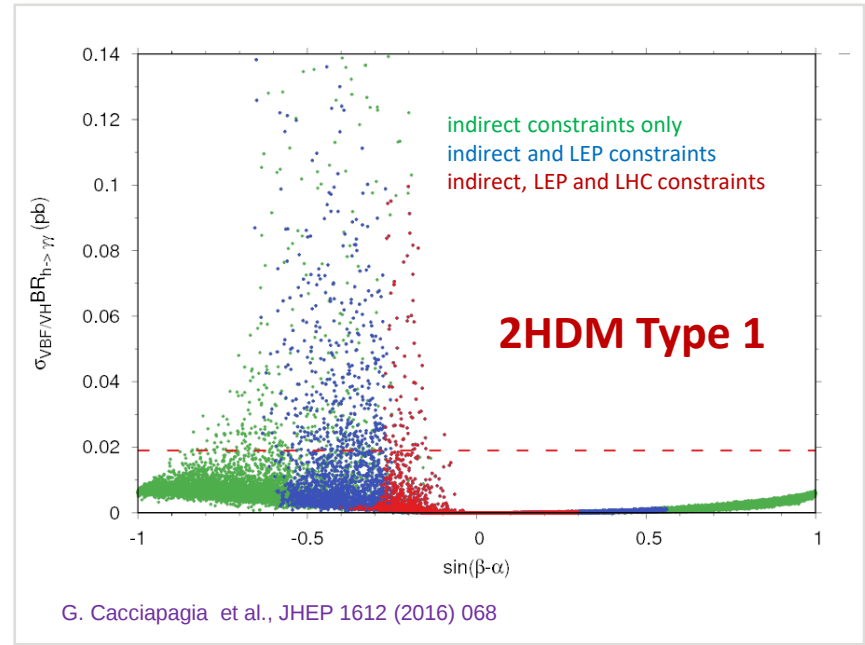
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Search for Low Mass A

- The 2HDM includes a **CP-odd Higgs boson**, A , that could be lighter than $h(125)$
- At the LHC A could be produced in **association with bottom quarks**

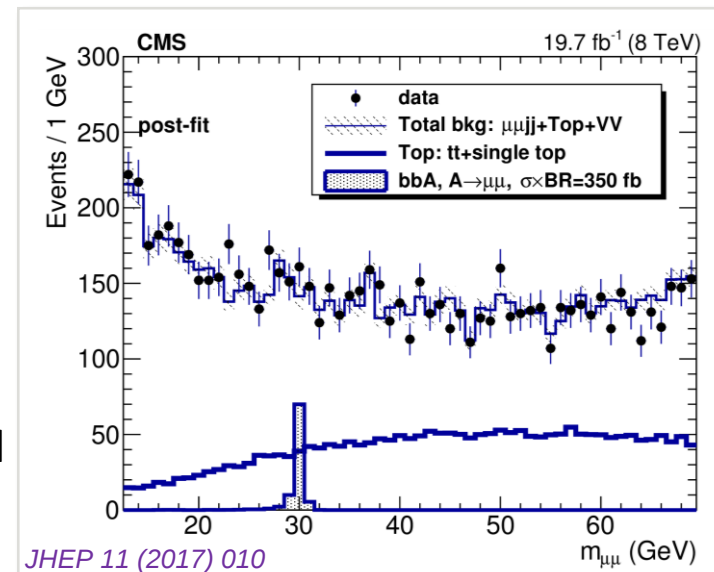
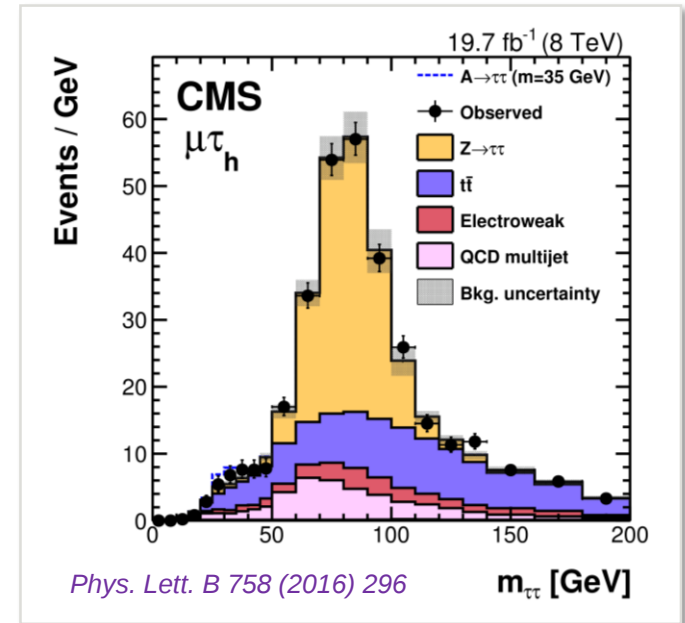
➔ In some schemes, $\sigma(pp \rightarrow bbA) \times \mathcal{B}(A \rightarrow \ell\ell)$ could be very large for $m_A < 60$ GeV

$bbA \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$ *Phys. Lett. B 758 (2016) 296*

- $e\tau_h$, $\mu\tau_h$ and $e\mu$ final states
- Trigger seeded by single muon or electron
- At least **1 b -tagged jet** with $p_T > 20$ GeV
- Simultaneous fit to the $m_{\tau\tau}$ distributions of the 3 final states

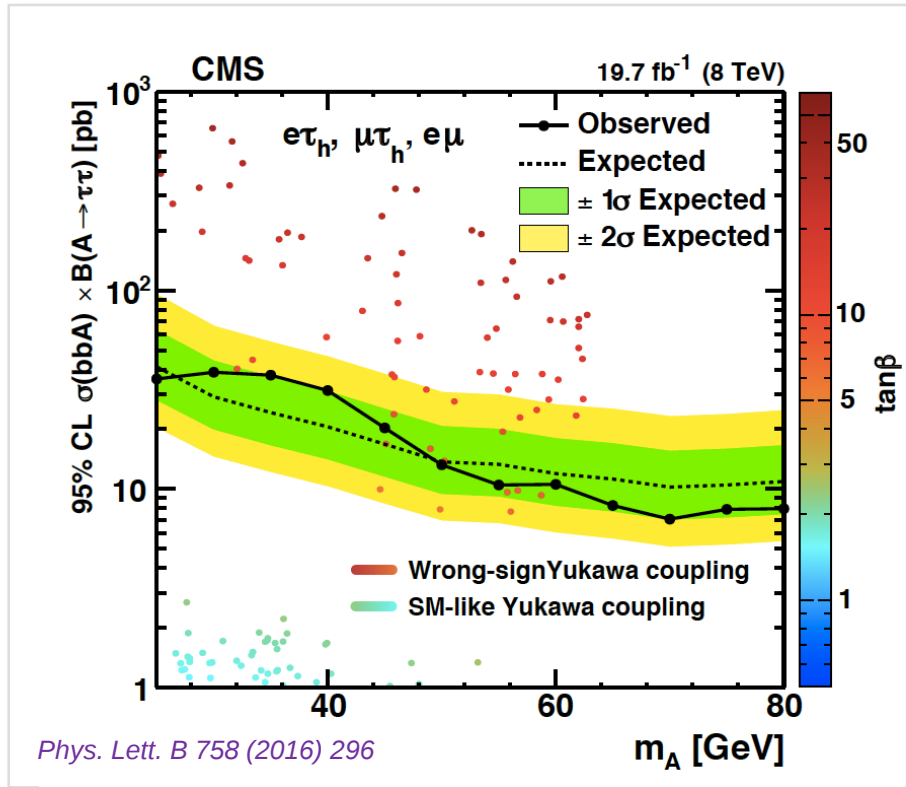
$bbA \rightarrow bb\mu\mu$ *JHEP 11 (2017) 010*

- Trigger seeded by single muon
- At least **1 b -tagged jet** with $p_T > 20$ GeV
- Fit to the $m_{\mu\mu}$ distribution with signal and background template from simulation



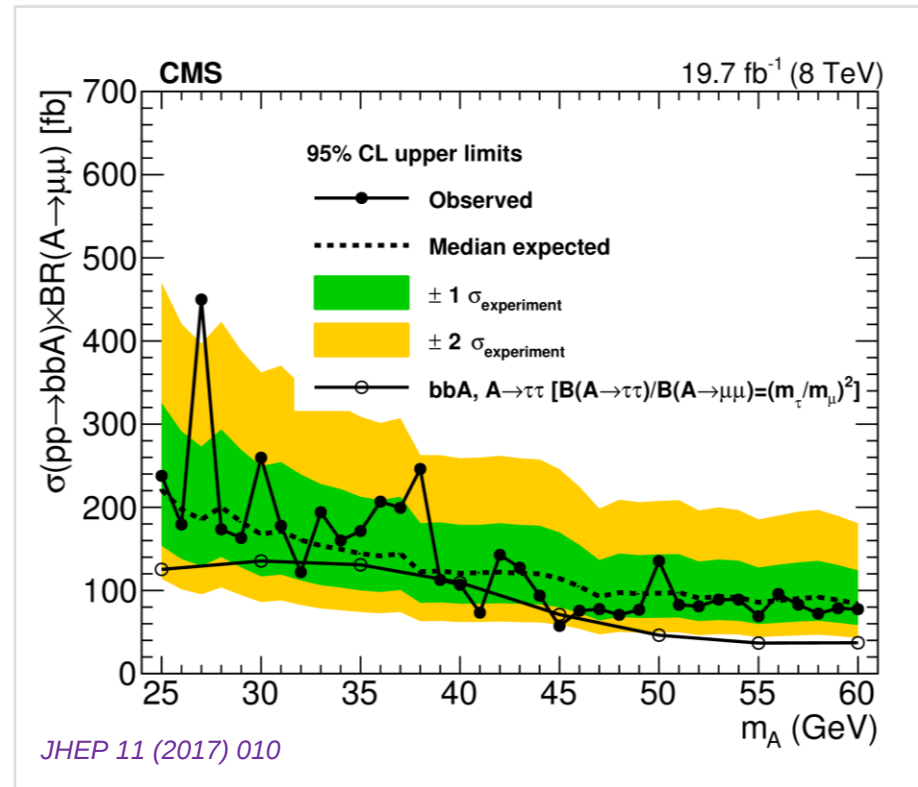
Search for Low Mass A

$bbA \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$



A 2HDM, type II, with SM-like Higgs boson negative couplings to down-type fermions is excluded

$bbA \rightarrow bb\mu\mu$

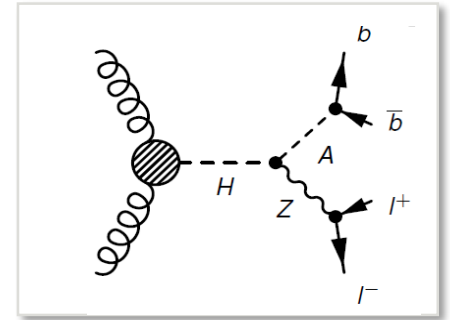


limits comparable to $A \rightarrow \tau\tau$ can be translated to $A \rightarrow \mu\mu$

$$\frac{B(A \rightarrow \tau\tau)}{B(A \rightarrow \mu\mu)} = \left(\frac{m_\tau}{m_\mu}\right)^2$$

Search for H and A in $pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZA$

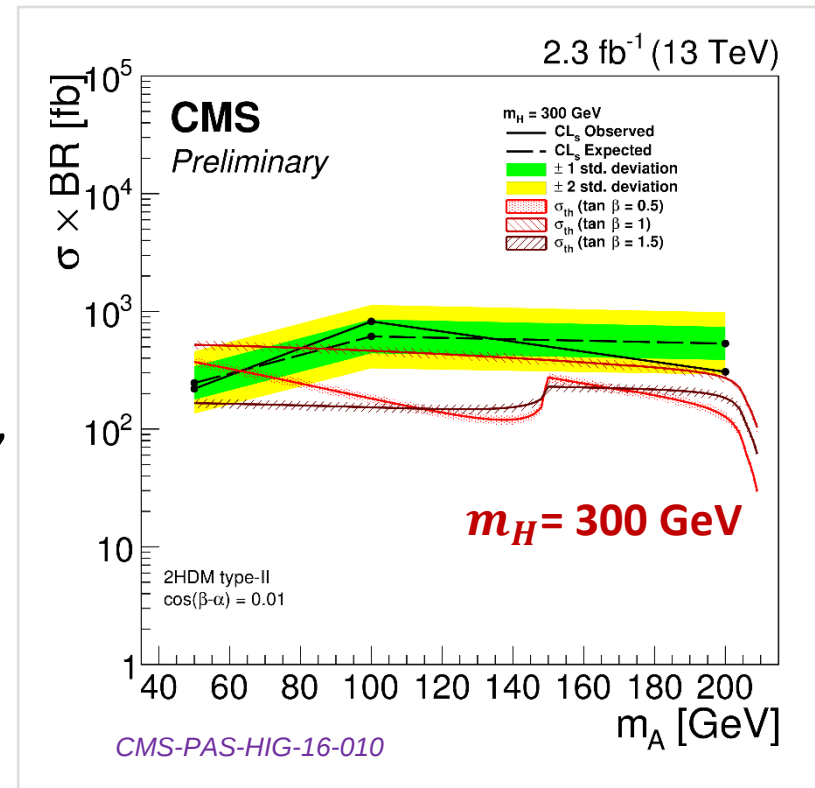
- In 2HDMs **several mass hierarchies** of the 5 Higgs bosons are possible
- Inverted mass hierarchy with a **heavy H** and a **light pseudoscalar A** is well motivated
- If **$\tan \beta$** ranges between **0.5 and 1.5**, the decay mode **$H \rightarrow ZA$** is **dominant** and the decay mode **$A \rightarrow bb$** is **large**



$H \rightarrow ZA \rightarrow \ell\ell bb$

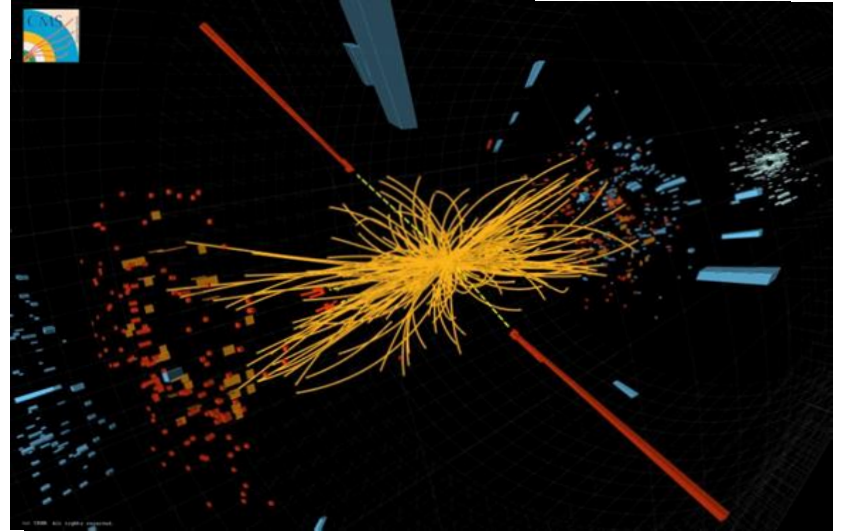
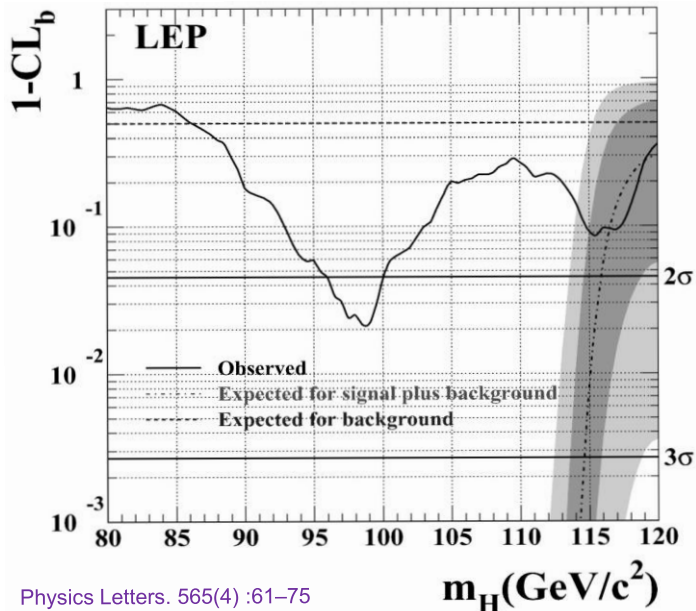
- Use of **dilepton trigger**
- Three **choices of m_H** and for each of them, between three and five **hypotheses of m_A**
- Search for excess in **$(m_{bb}, m_{\ell\ell bb})$ plane**

CMS-PAS-HIG-16-010



Search for $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ at Low Mass

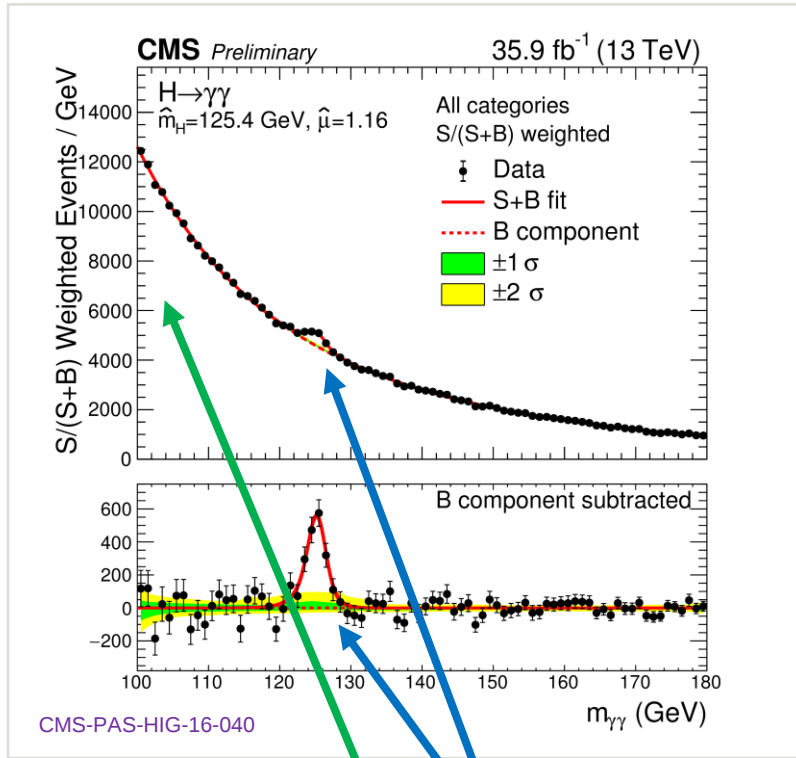
- The **Higgs boson at 125 GeV** can be identified as the **heavier scalar H** , allowing to envisage a possible **lighter particle h**
- **Small excess** of events ($\sim 2\sigma$) at **LEP** observed by 3 of the 4 experiments in $bb/\tau\tau$ channels



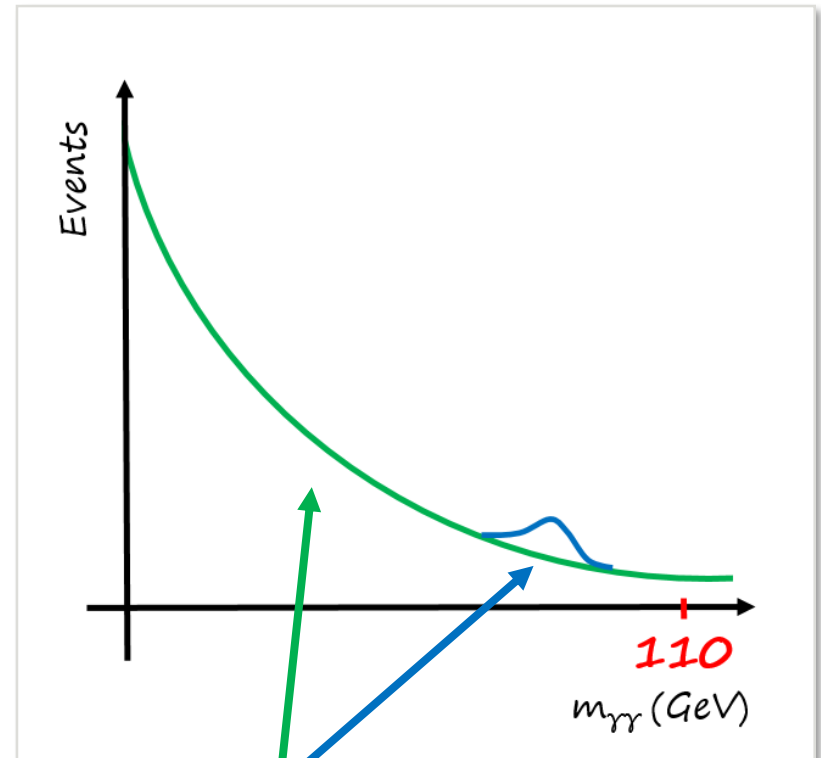
- During LHC Run I, the standard $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ **search range** was **[110,150] GeV**
- Clean signature with two **isolated and highly energetic photons**
- Final state fully reconstructed with **excellent mass resolution**
- **Background** from QCD ($\gamma\gamma - \gamma j - jj$) large enough to be **evaluated directly on data**

The $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ Decay Channel at Low Mass

STANDARD MODEL $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ANALYSIS



LOW-MASS $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ANALYSIS

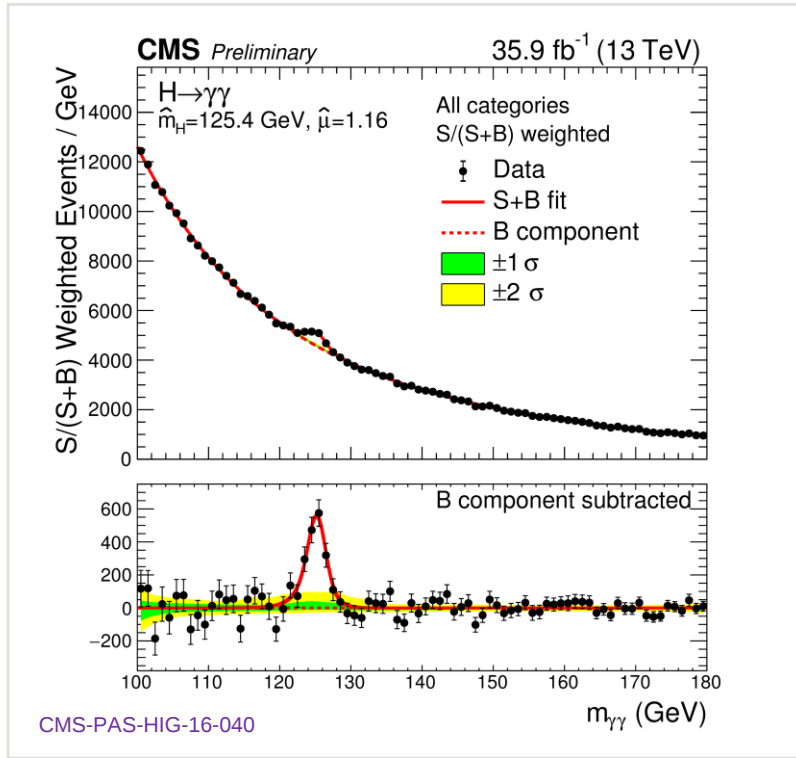


NARROW SIGNAL PEAK

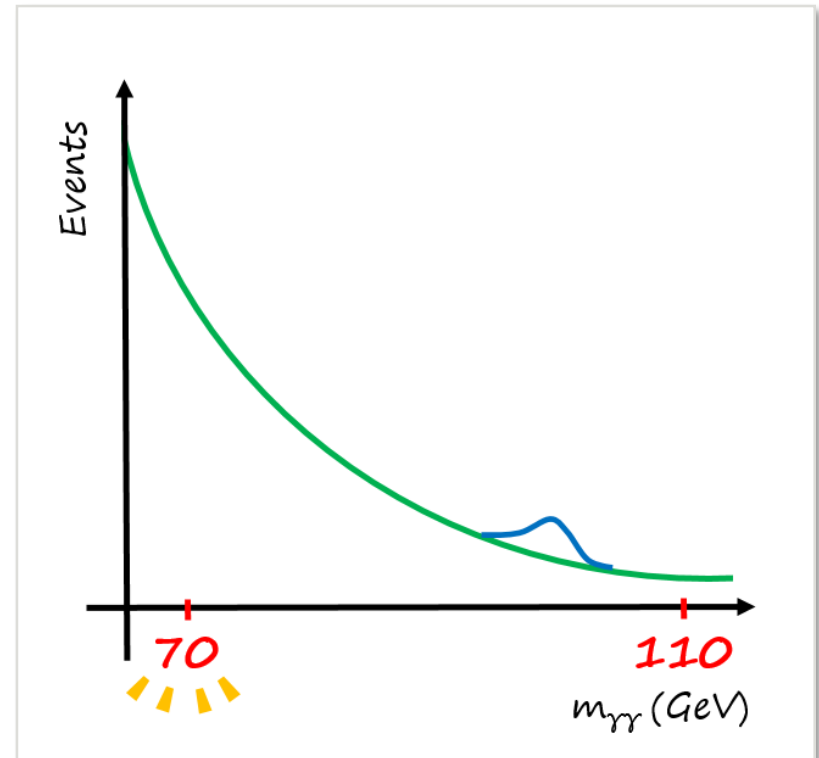
LARGE FALLING BACKGROUND

The $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ Decay Channel at Low Mass

STANDARD MODEL $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ANALYSIS



LOW-MASS $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ANALYSIS

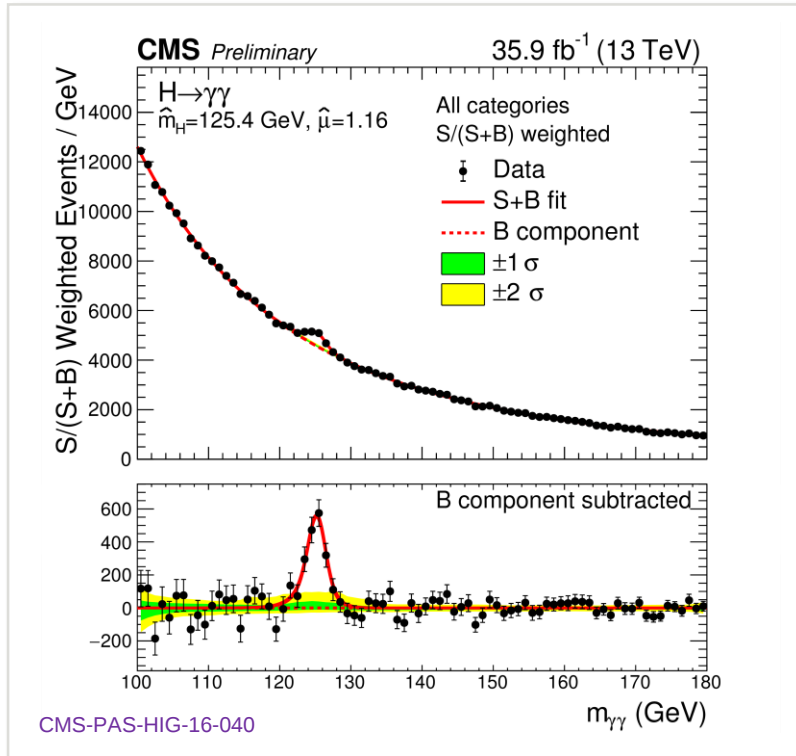


MAIN CHALLENGES:

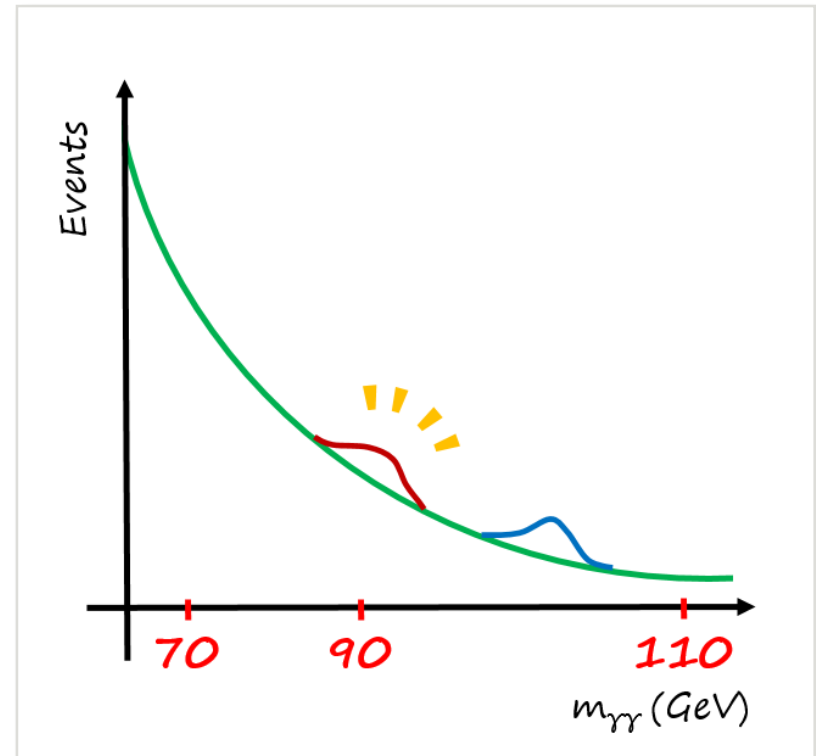
- Difficulty to **extend the range** to very low mass values (mainly for the trigger)
➡ Lower limit at $> 65 \text{ GeV}$

The $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ Decay Channel at Low Mass

STANDARD MODEL $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ANALYSIS



LOW-MASS $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ANALYSIS



MAIN CHALLENGES:

- Additional Drell-Yan **background** $Z \rightarrow ee$, with electrons misidentified as photons
➡ Decrease in sensitivity around 90 GeV

Signal and Background Model

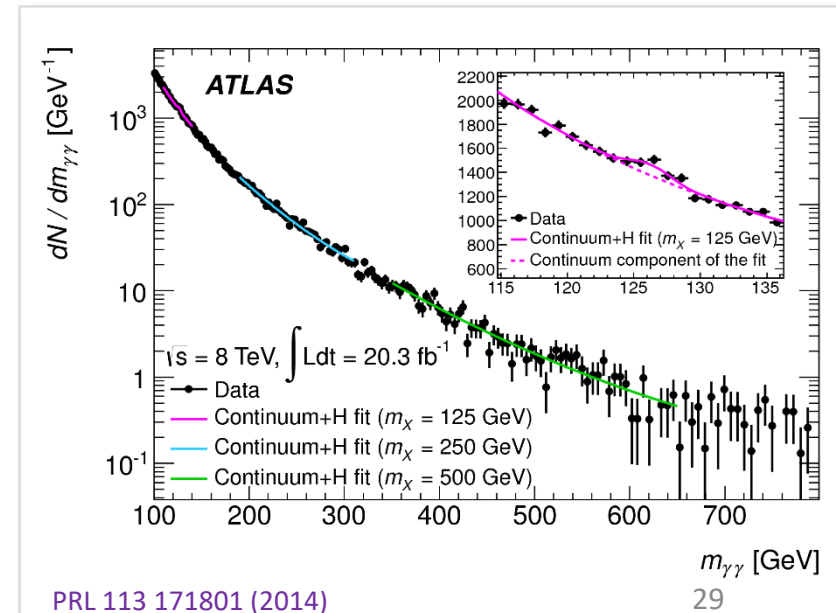
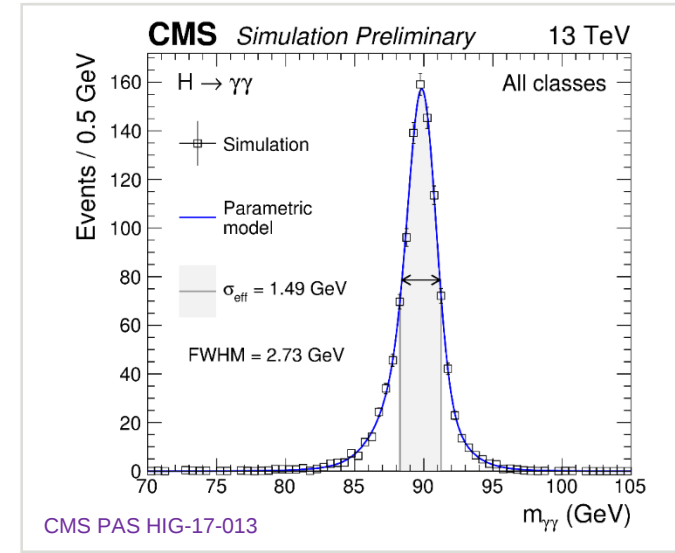
- **Event categorization** defined to maximize S/B
- Signal extracted from background by **fitting the observed diphoton mass distributions** in each category

SIGNAL

- The **signal shape** corresponds to a **standard Higgs boson** in both **CMS** and **ATLAS** analyses
- The signal is fitted by a **sum of Gaussian distributions/Double-sided Crystal Ball** in each event class (then combined together)

BACKGROUND

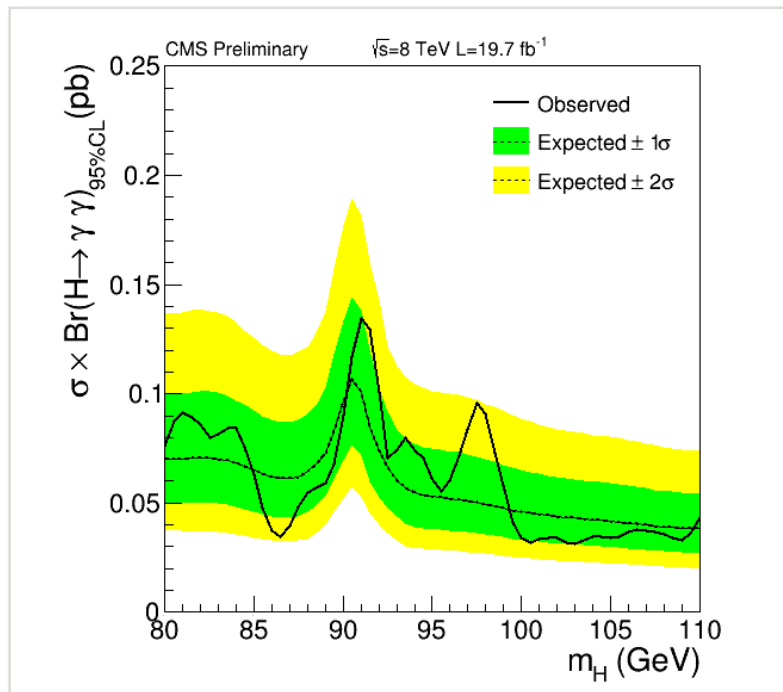
- **Continuum background** modeled with a **sum of polynomials/Landau and exponential** distribution
- **Drell-Yan contribution** modeled with a double-sided Crystal Ball distribution
- **Final background model** is fitted to data



Run I Results

CMS RESULTS

CMS-PAS-HIG-14-037

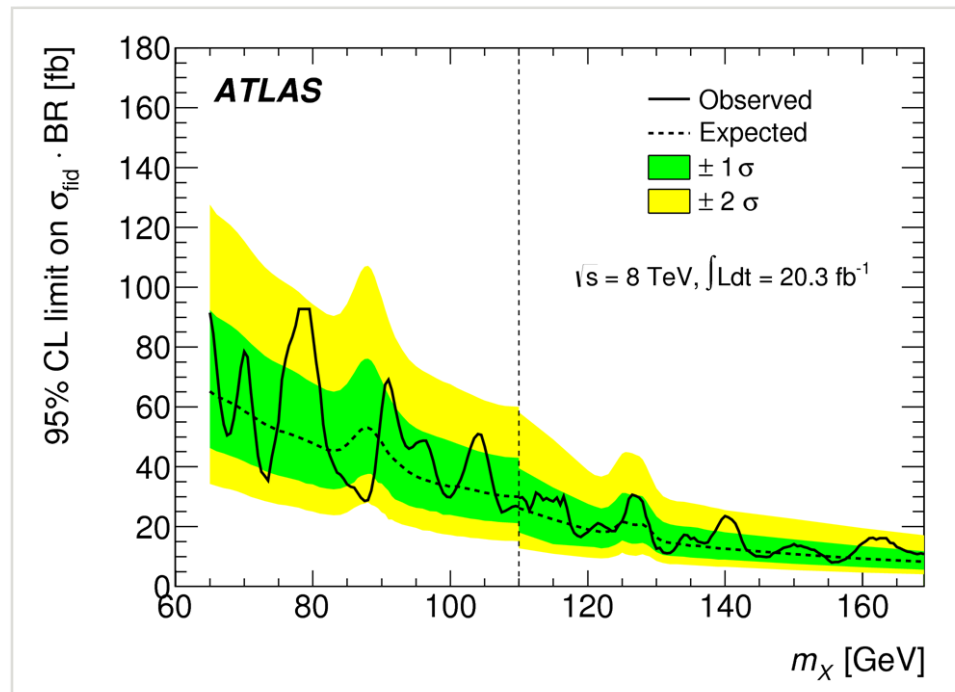


- $80\text{ GeV} < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 110\text{ GeV}$
- 4 inclusive classes
- Floating normalization of relic $Z \rightarrow ee$
- Total cross section

$\sim 2\sigma$ excursion at $\sim 97.5\text{ GeV}$

ATLAS RESULTS

PRL 113 171801 (2014)



- $65\text{ GeV} < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 110\text{ GeV}$
- 3 classes: conversion status (0, 1, 2)
- Fixed normalization of relic $Z \rightarrow ee$
- Fiducial cross section

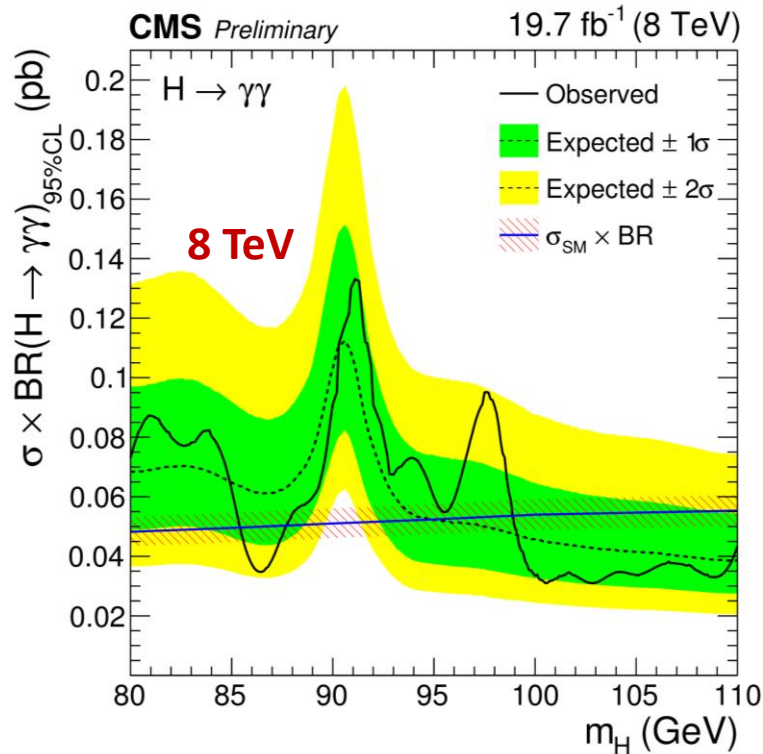
$\sim 2\sigma$ excursion at $\sim 80\text{ GeV}$

Results (Runs I and II)

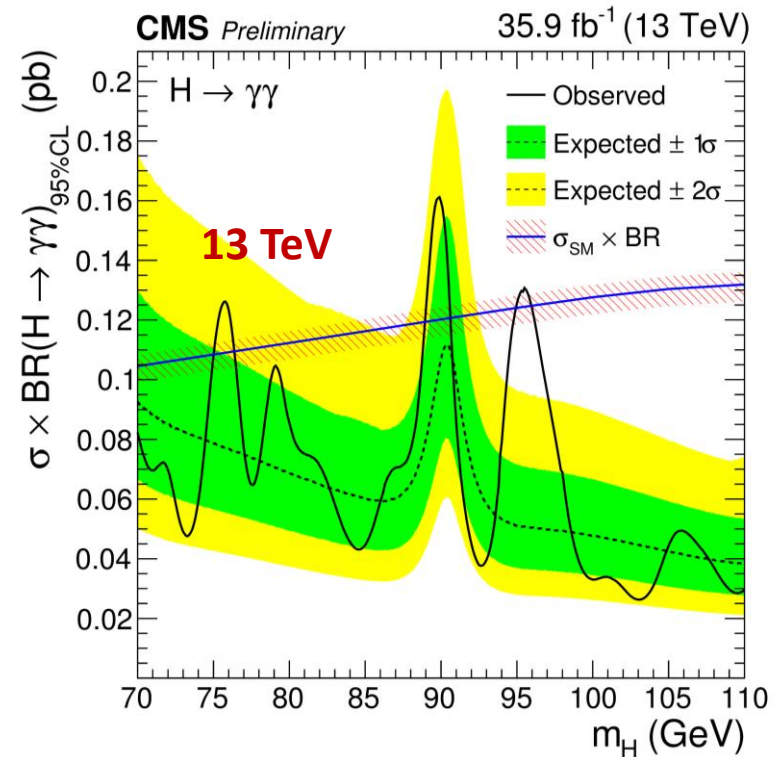
CMS-PAS-HIG-17-013

- **8 TeV limits** on $\sigma \times \text{BR}$ **redone** with 0.1 GeV step
- **No significant excess** with respect to background expectations

Production processes assumed in SM proportions



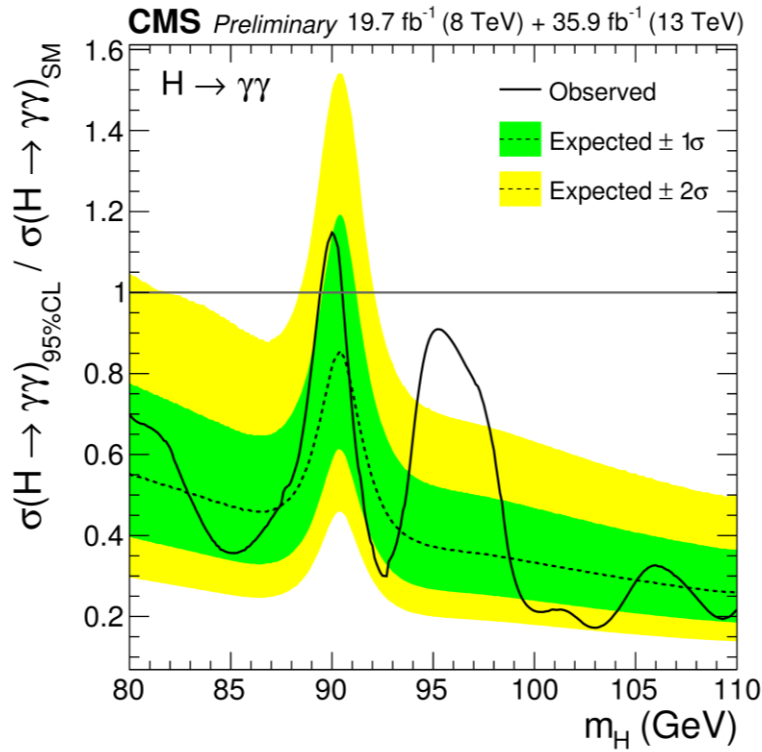
CMS PAS HIG-17-013



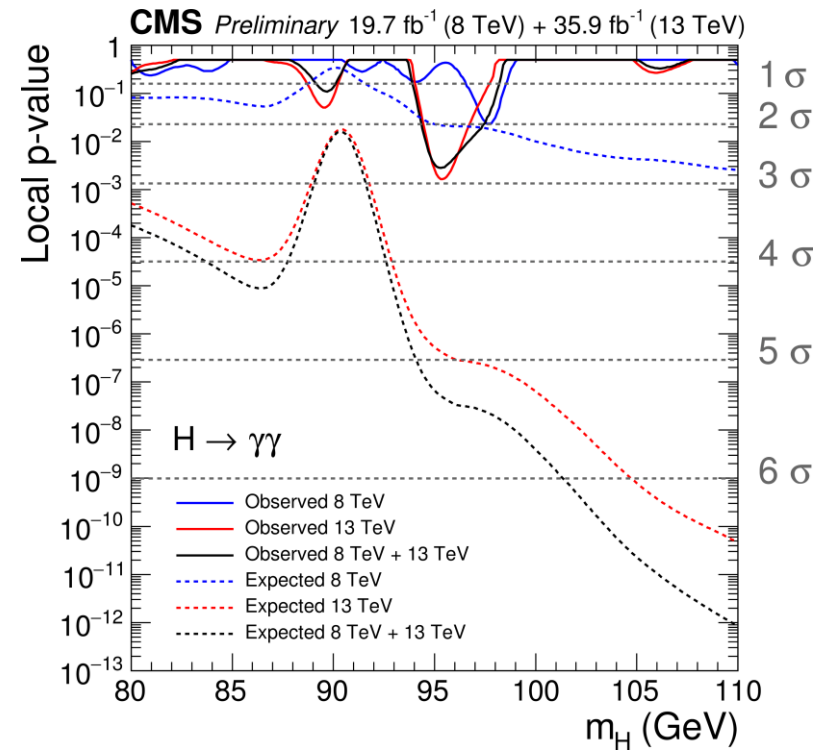
CMS PAS HIG-17-013

Results – Combination of Run I and II

- **Combined 8 TeV + 13 TeV** $\sigma \times \text{BR}$ limit normalized to SM expectation:
 - Production processes assumed in SM proportions
 - **No significant excess** with respect to background expectations
- Expected and observed local p-values for **8 TeV**, **13 TeV** and their **combination**



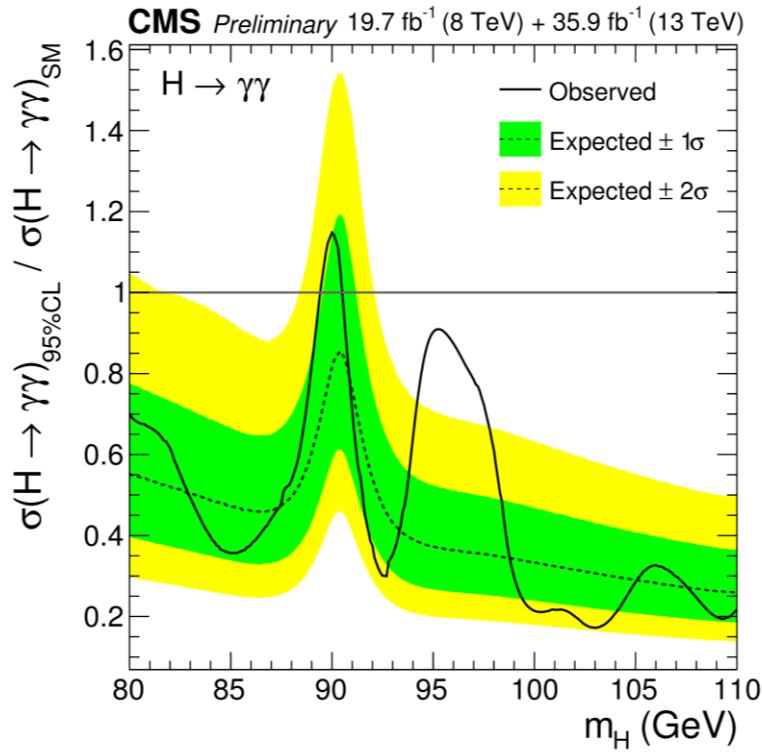
CMS PAS HIG-17-013



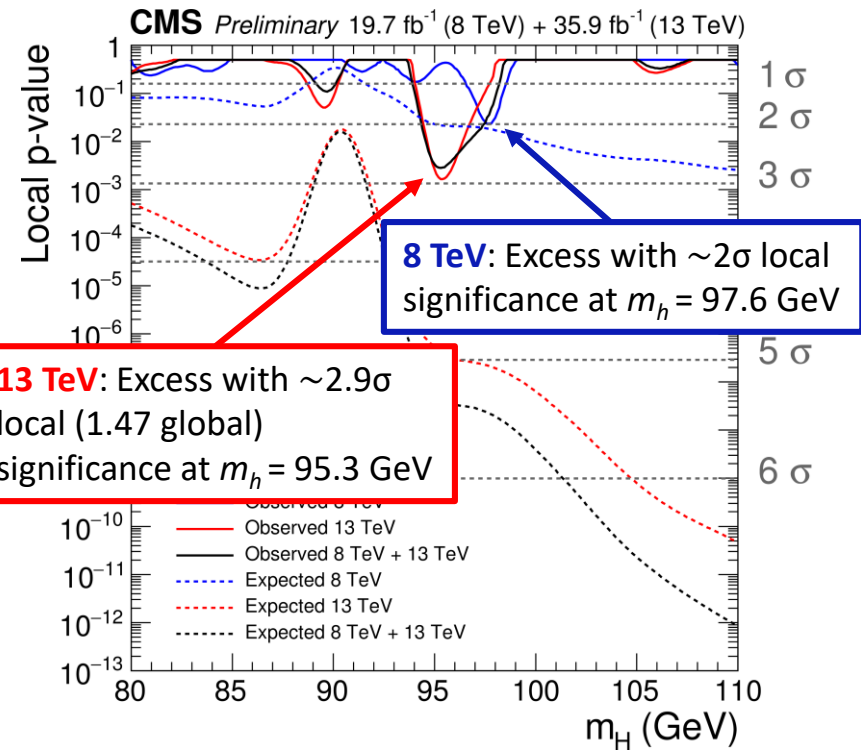
CMS PAS HIG-17-013

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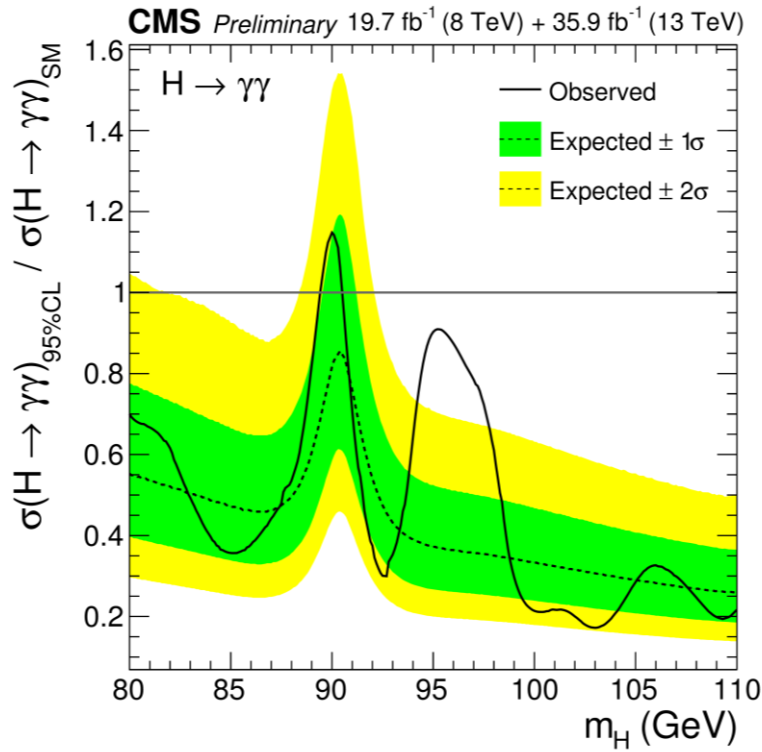
CMS PAS HIG-17-013



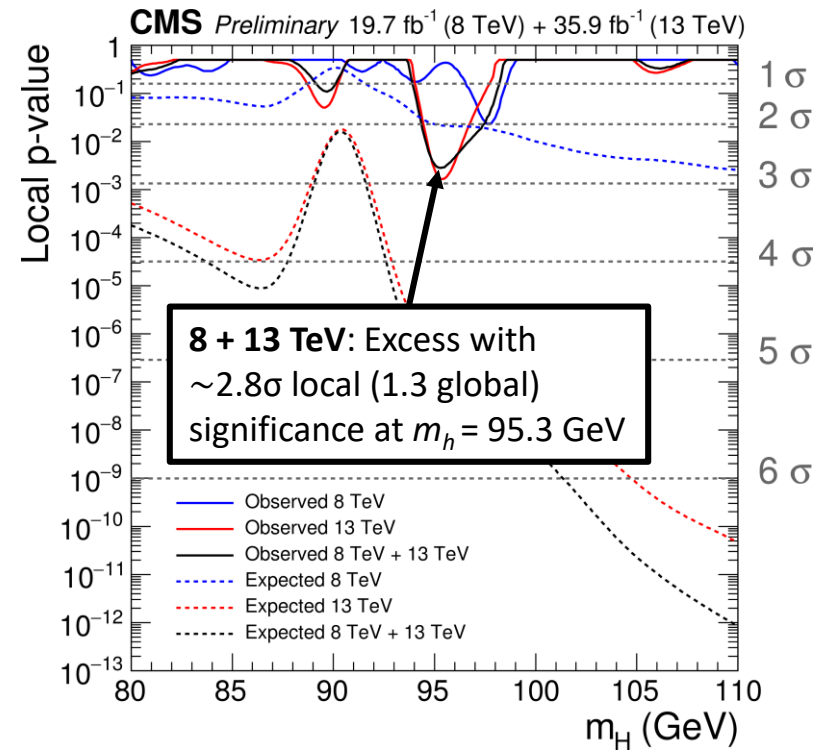
CMS PAS HIG-17-013

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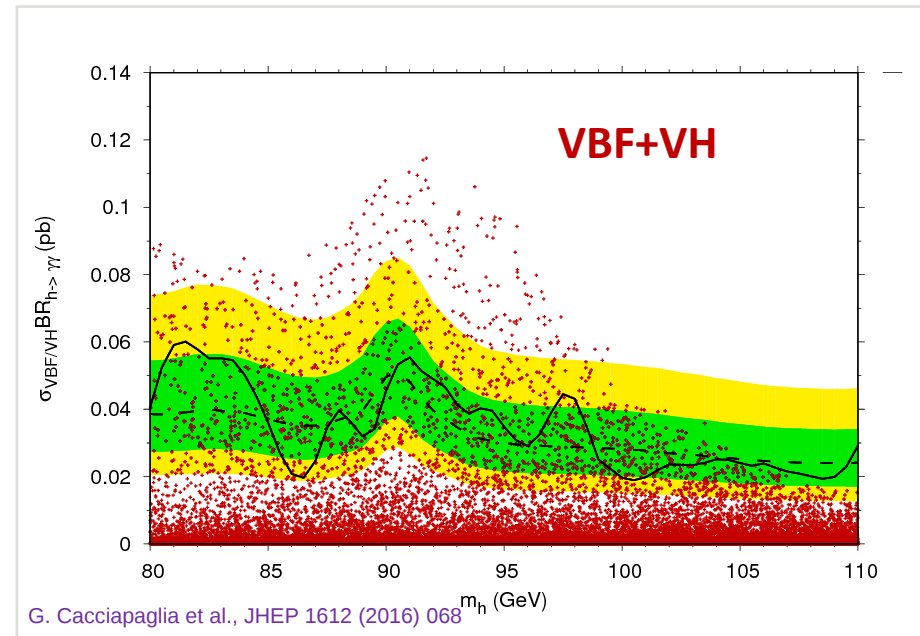
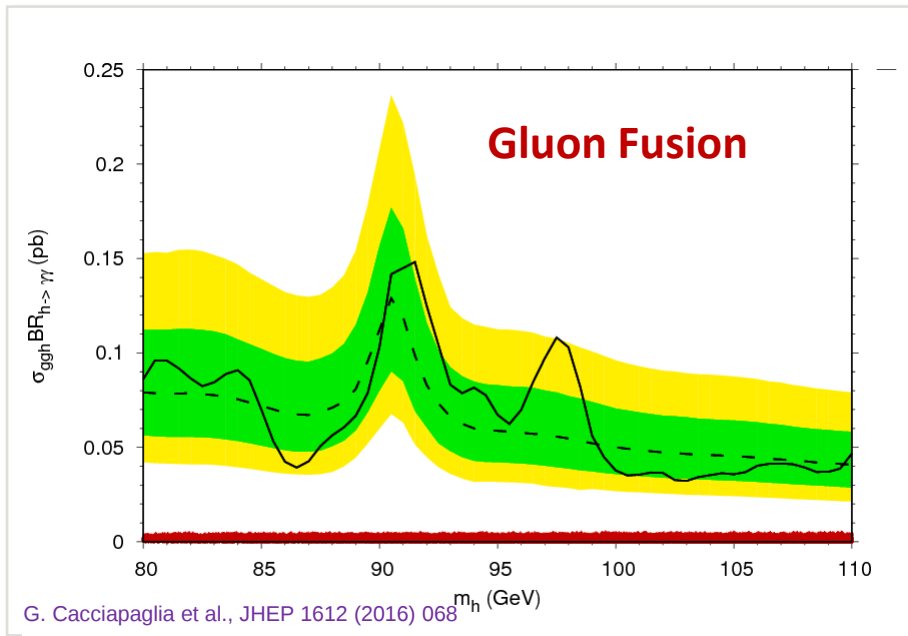
CMS PAS HIG-17-013



CMS PAS HIG-17-013

Phenomenological Interpretations

- CMS **Run I results interpreted** in the context of **2HDM**
- Points generated in the **2HDM Type I** passing **indirect, LEP** and **LHC constraints**
- Some **exclusion** possible with **VBF + VH**, $m_h \sim < 105$ GeV

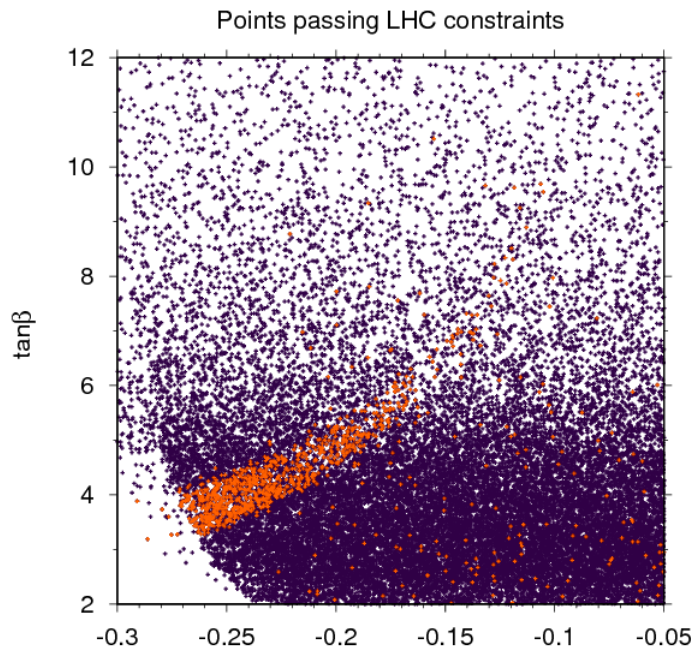


m_h (GeV)	m_H (GeV)	m_A (GeV)	$m_{H^\pm}$ (GeV)	$\sin(\beta - \alpha)$	$\tan \beta$	m_{12}^2
[80;110]	125	[60;650]	[80;630]	[-0.3;-0.05]	[2;12]	$[-(100)^2; +(100)^2]$

Phenomenological Interpretations

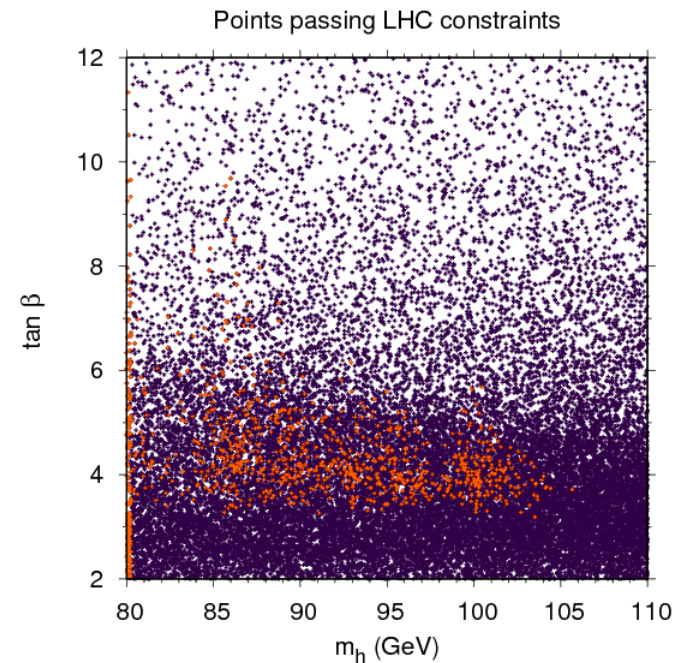
- Projections of **red** points on previous slide:
 - **orange** if $\sigma \times \mathcal{B} > \text{CMS observed limit}$ (excluded)
 - **violet** if $\sigma \times \mathcal{B} < \text{CMS observed limit}$ (still permitted)

$\tan \beta$ vs $\sin(\beta - \alpha)$



G. Cacciapaglia et al., JHEP 1612 (2016) 068

$\tan \beta$ vs m_h



G. Cacciapaglia et al., JHEP 1612 (2016) 068

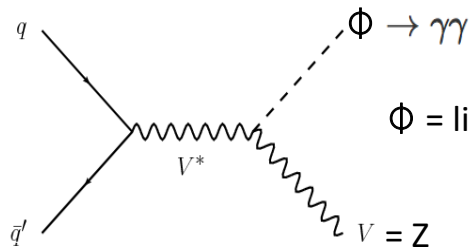
Future Perspectives

For (pseudo-) scalars below $m_\phi \sim 70 - 80$ GeV:

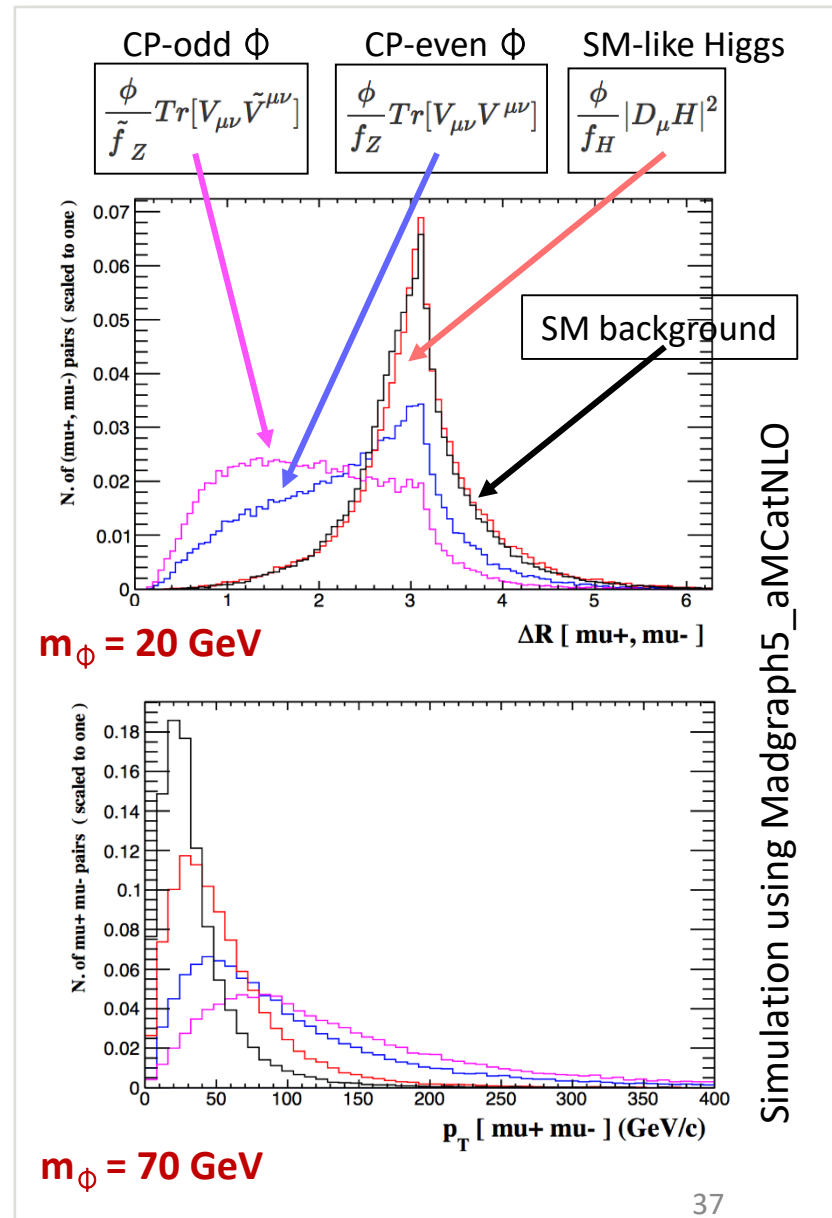
- Decay $\phi \rightarrow ZZ^*$ kinematically closed
- Gluon fusion mechanism not promising
- Take advantage of the $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ from $pp \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}\phi$ (triggering on lepton instead of on photons)

Using **generic** (EFT) **parameters** so that any BSM model can be constrained

Very preliminary results from Les Houches 2017
(A. Angelescu, G. Moreau, S. Fichet, S. Gascon, L. Finco, S. Zhang)



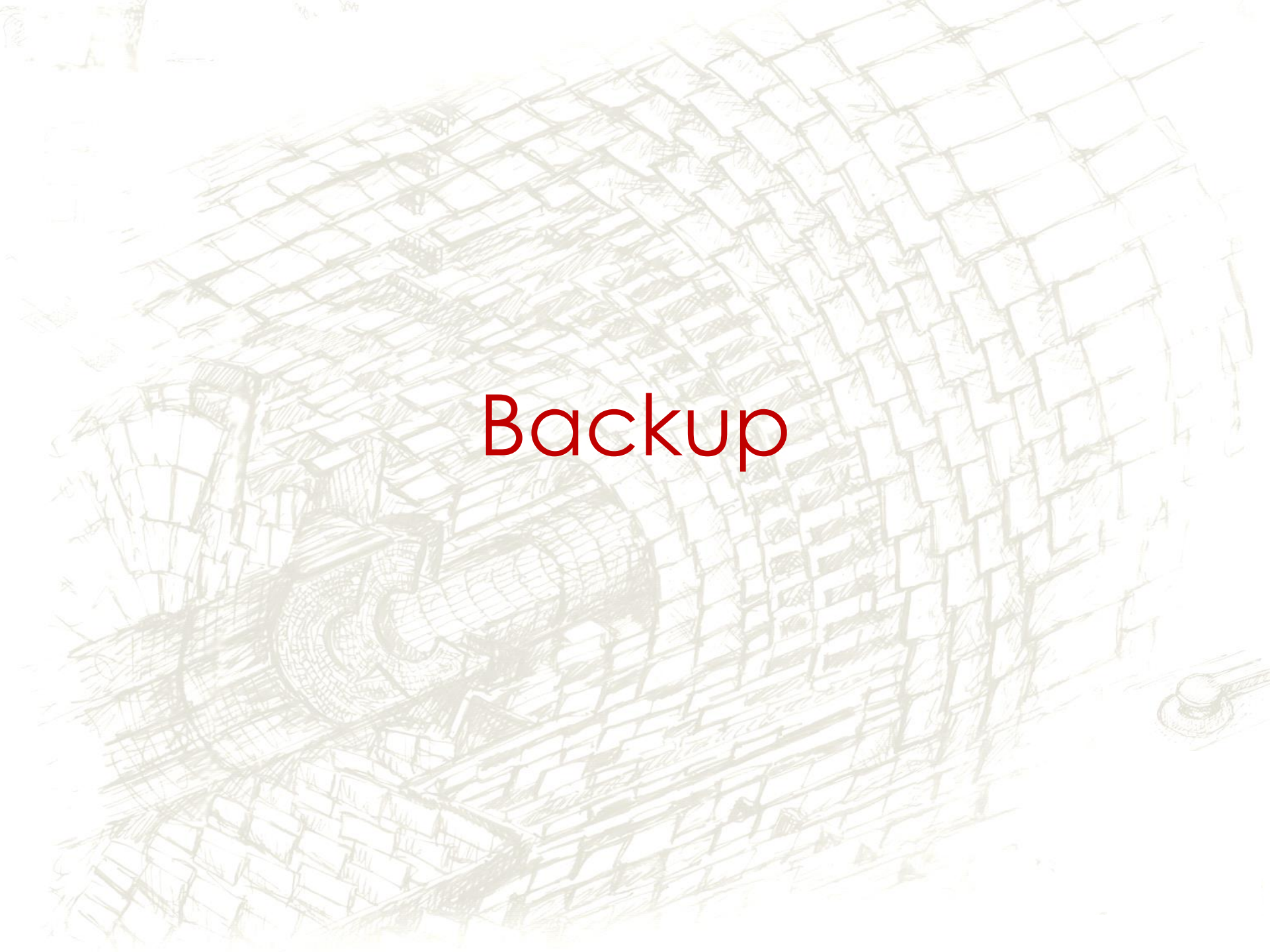
$$\Delta R = \sqrt{\Delta\phi^2 + \Delta\eta^2}$$



Conclusions

- The **Scalar Sector of the SM** is a favored place to look for **new physics effects**
- **LHC data** are **sensitive** to some theoretical models (2HDM, NMSSM...)
- We have **just started** to extract the physics **potential of the 13 TeV** dataset
- We have a **comprehensive view** of the potential of the main channels from the **Run1 experience**
- Necessary to develop **dedicated triggers, tools** and studies for **low p_T searches**
- **Feedback** with **theory community** fundamental to keep interest in exploring these signatures





Backup

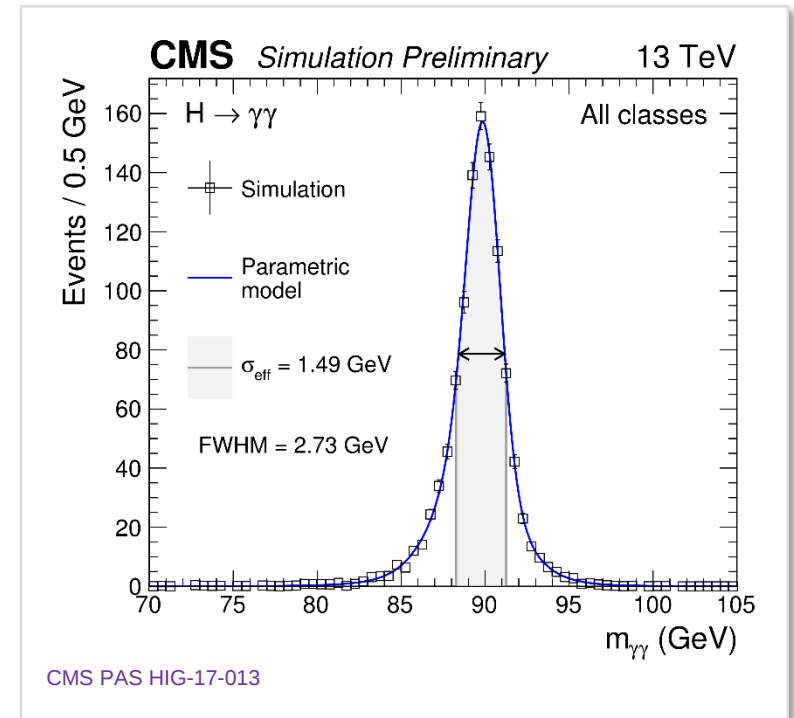
2HDM Types

	Type I	Type II	Flipped (Type Y)	Lepton Specific (Type X)
Up-type quark	ϕ_2	ϕ_2	ϕ_2	ϕ_2
Down-type quark	ϕ_2	ϕ_1	ϕ_1	ϕ_2
Leptons	ϕ_2	ϕ_1	ϕ_2	ϕ_1

Photon Energy

$$m_{\gamma\gamma} = \sqrt{2E_1E_2(1 - \cos \theta)}$$

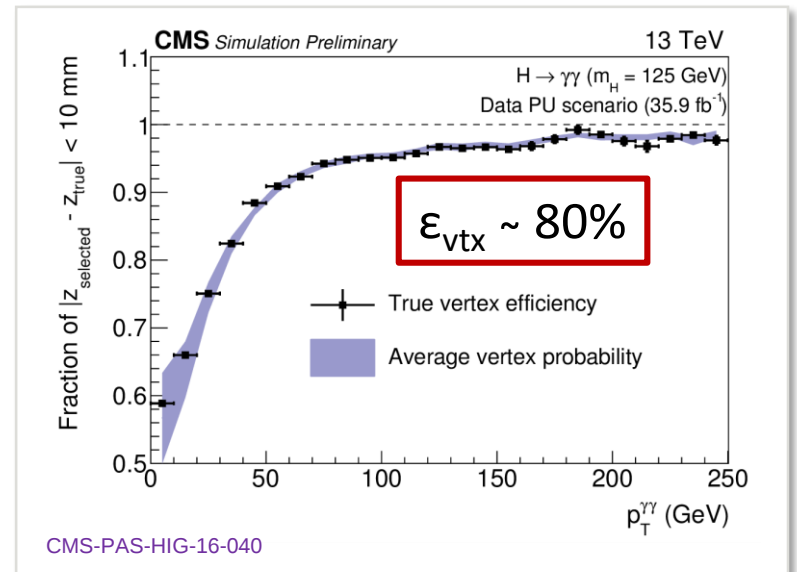
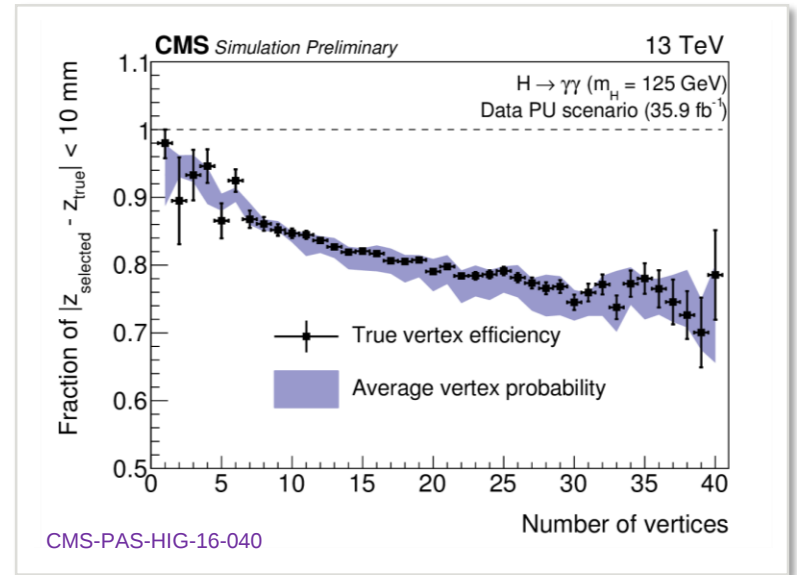
- Photon energy reconstructed by building **clusters of energy deposits** in the **electromagnetic calorimeter**.
- **Energy** and **its uncertainty** corrected for local and global shower containment
 - ➡ **regression technique**:
 - corrects photons' energies
 - provides an estimate of energy resolution
- **Energy scale** in data **corrected** as a function of data taking epochs, pseudorapidity and EM shower width
- **Smearing** to the reconstructed photon energy in **MC** to match the resolution in data
 - ➡ **$Z \rightarrow ee$ peak** used as reference



Vertex Identification

$$m_{\gamma\gamma} = \sqrt{2E_1E_2(1 - \cos \theta)}$$

- **Vertex assignment** considered as correct within **1 cm** of the diphoton interaction point
 ➡ **negligible impact** on mass resolution
- **Multi-variate approach:**
 - Observables related **to tracks recoiling** against the diphoton system
 - direction of **conversion tracks**
- **Second MVA discriminant** to estimate the probability for the vertex assignment to be within 1 cm
 ➡ used later for diphoton classification
- Method validated on **$Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ events**, by refitting vertices ignoring the muon tracks



Photon Selection

- **Trigger selection:**

Trigger paths based on transverse energy, H/E, electromagnetic shower shapes and isolation variables, $m_{\gamma\gamma}$

➡ Dedicated paths for low-mass analysis

➡ Search range extended at lower values

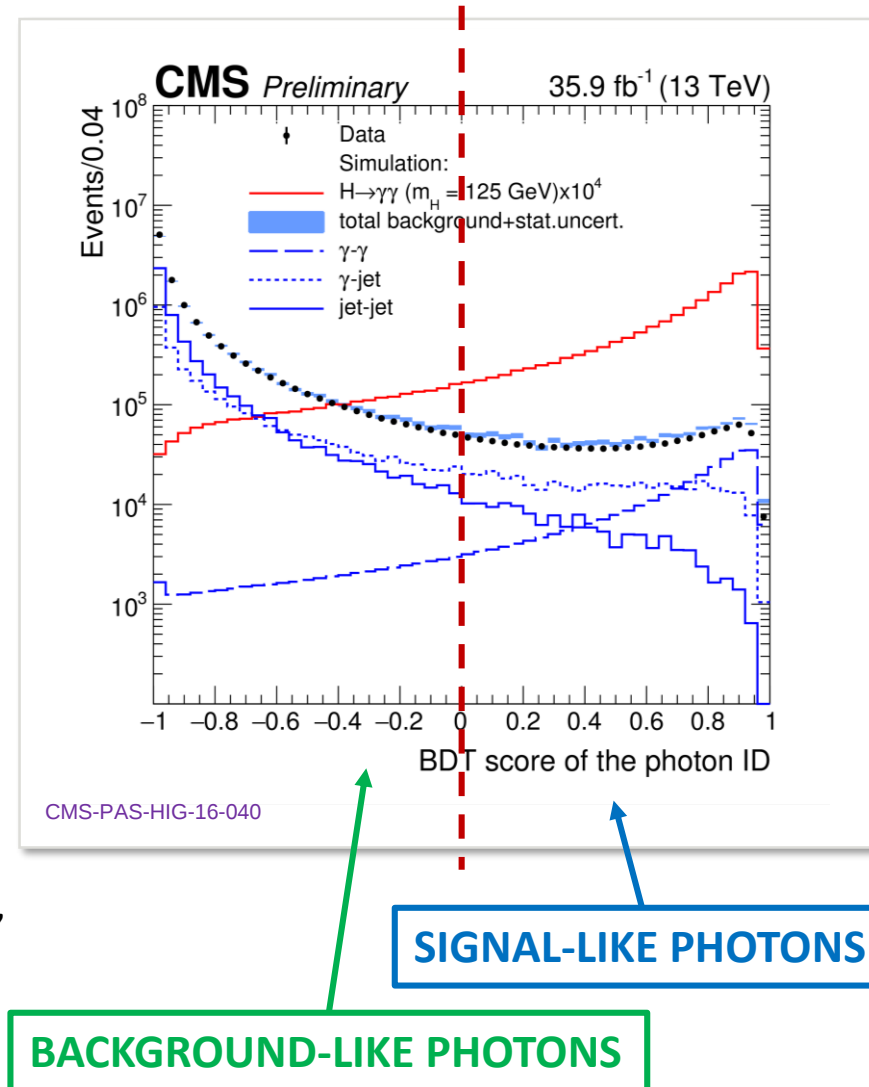
- **Preselection:**

- Similar to trigger requirements, but more stringent
- Specific cuts for the low-mass analysis
- Electron veto based on pixel detector

- **Photon Identification:**

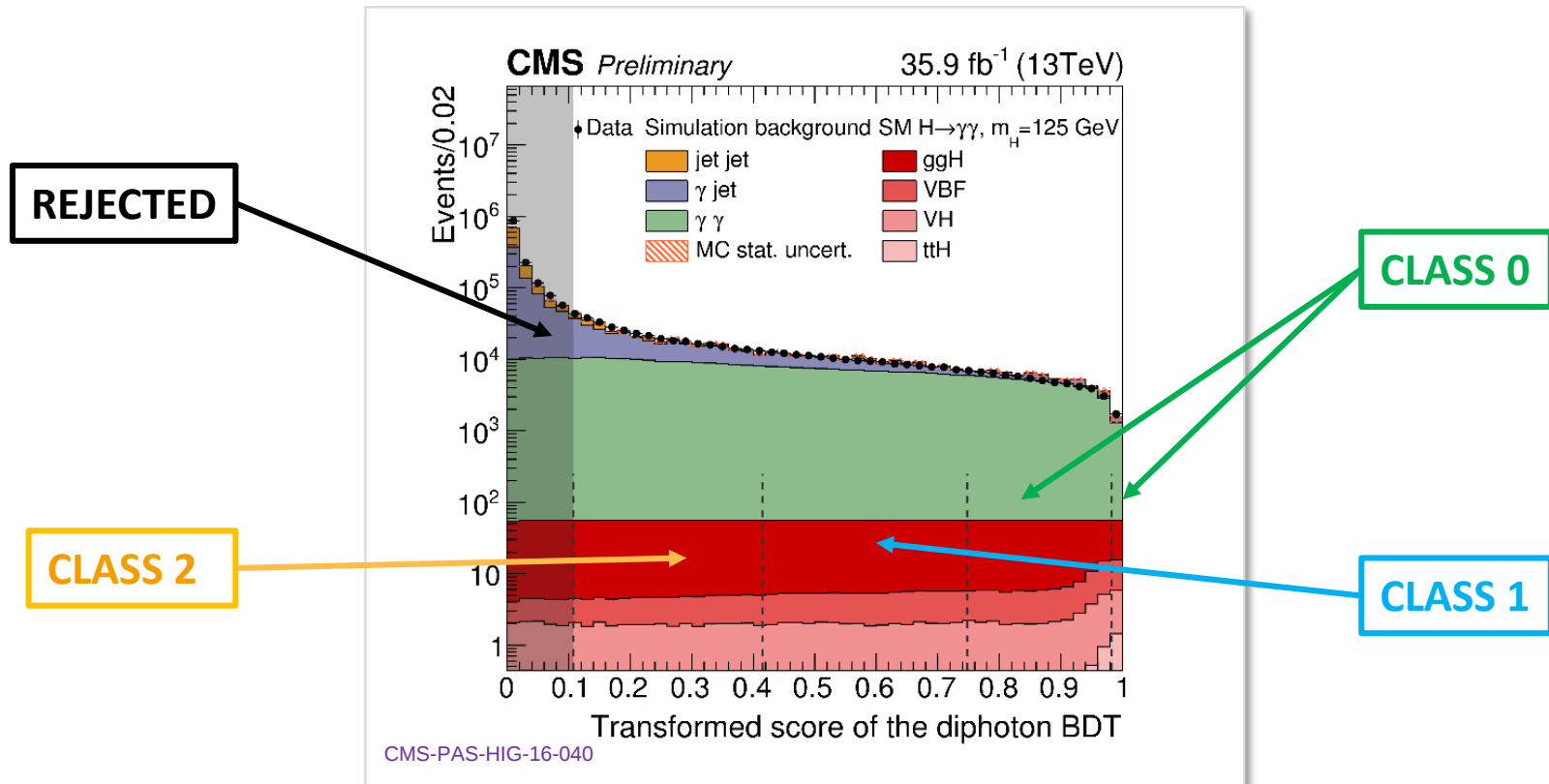
- Multi-Variate approach (BDT) to reject fake photon candidates (mainly from π^0 mesons produced in jets)
- Shower shape and isolation observables, median energy density (ρ)
- BDT output provides an estimate of the per-photon quality

BDT OUTPUT



Event Categorization

- To gain sensitivity, events are **split into classes** according to their expected signal/background ratio
- Events are categorized according to the **photon kinematics**, per-event **mass resolution**, **photon ID** and **good vertex probability** by a **multivariate classifier** (same as the standard $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ analysis)
- **Number of classes** limited by **MC Drell-Yan statistics** (one class less than the standard analysis, no exclusive classes tagging production modes like in standard analysis)



Background Model

CONTINUUM BACKGROUND

- Modeled with a sum of polynomials (from 4 families, order chosen with a p-value test)

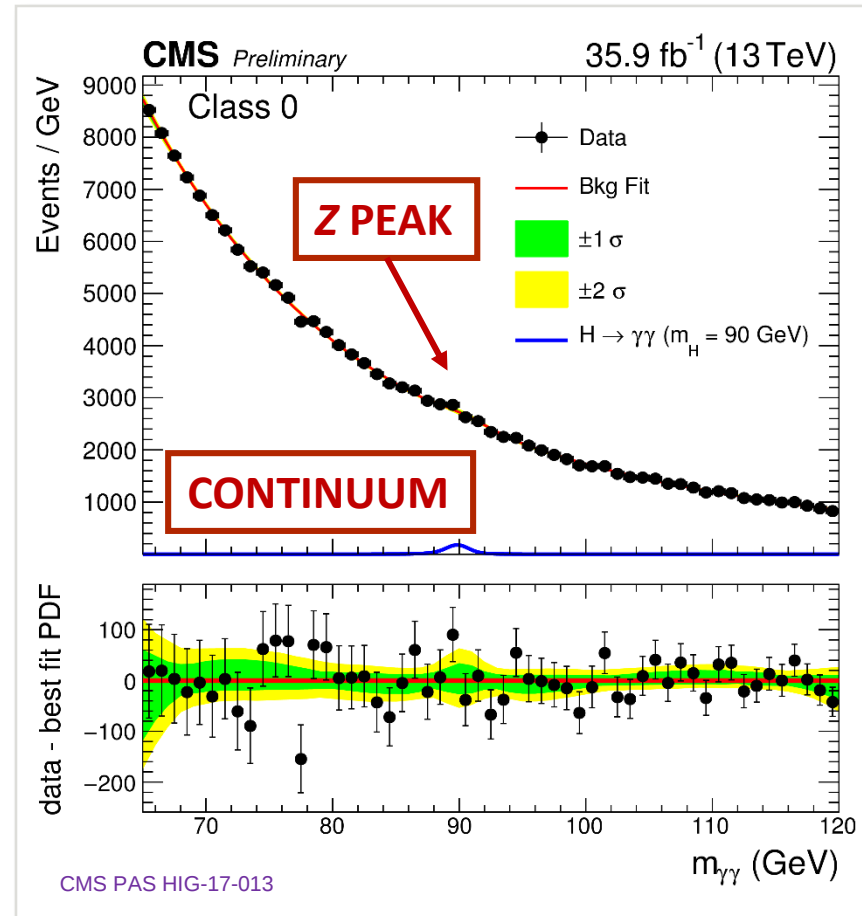
DRELL-YAN CONTRIBUTION

- Modeled with a double-sided Crystal Ball (DCB) distribution
- Shape parameters extracted by fitting MC $Z \rightarrow ee$ events passing the whole analysis selection (double-fake events)
- Data/MC systematic uncertainty estimated from single-fake $Z \rightarrow ee$ events

FINAL BACKGROUND MODEL

Polynomial + double-sided Crystal Ball

- Fitted to the data
- DCB fraction let floating



Background Model

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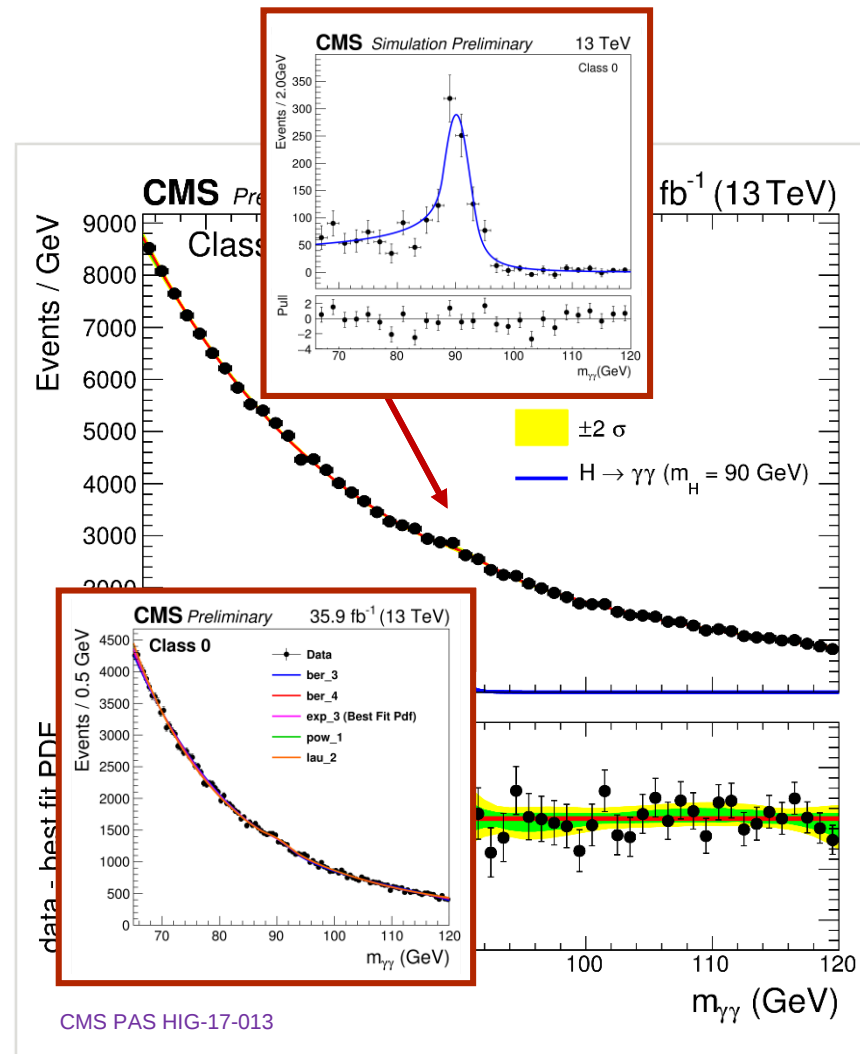
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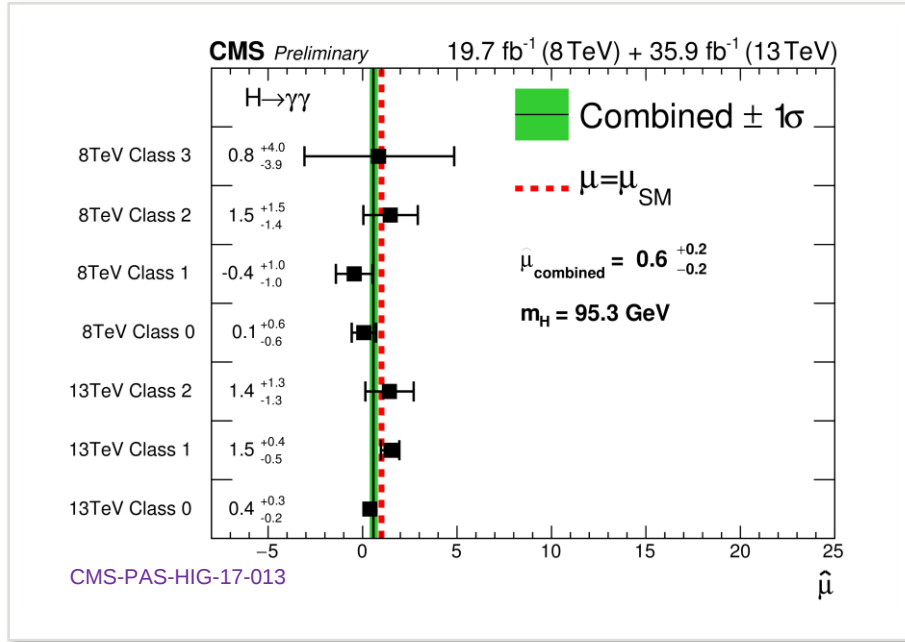
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Recherche de $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ à Basse Masse

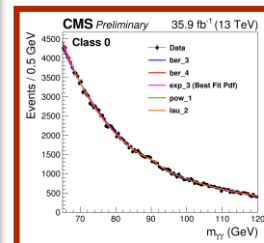
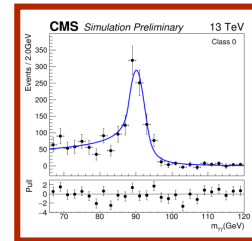
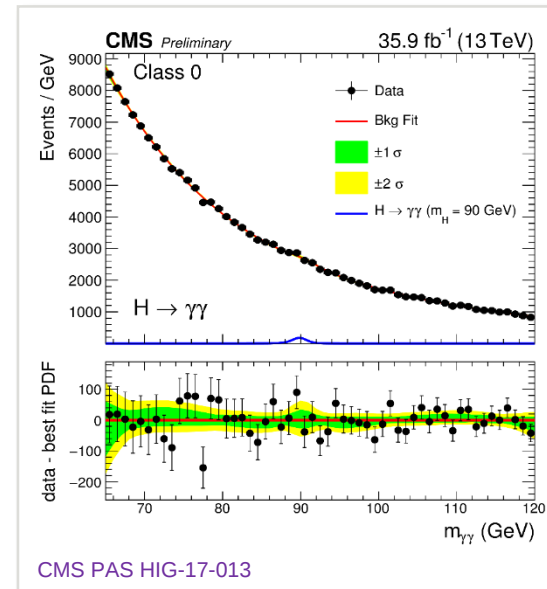
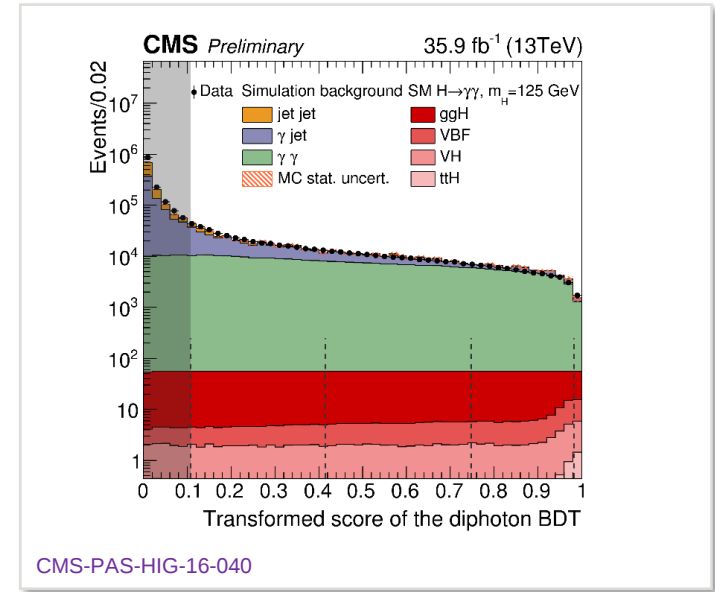


CMS-PAS-HIG-17-013

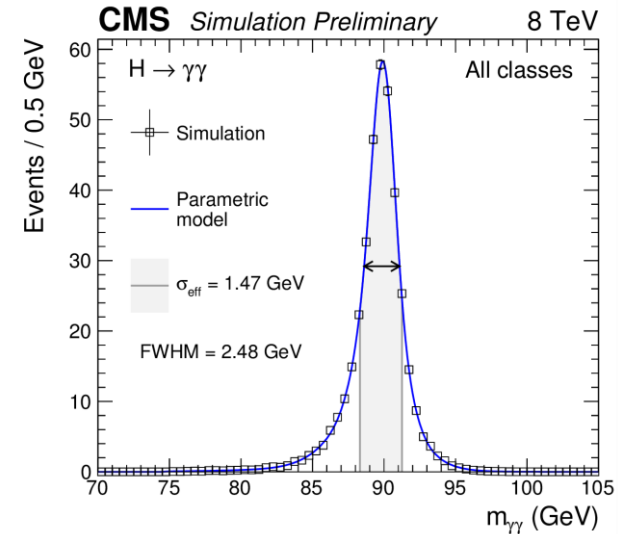
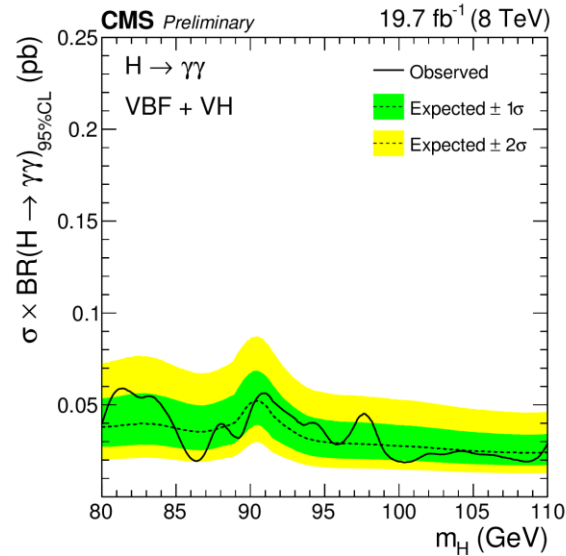
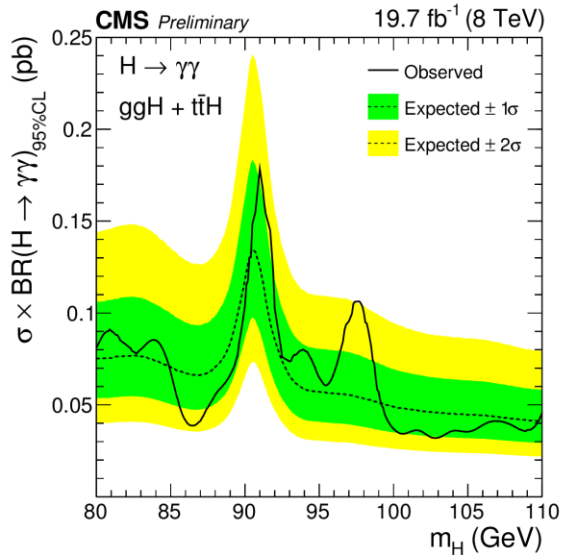
Event Class	Expected SM-like Higgs boson signal $m_H = 90 \text{ GeV}$, $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$								Bkg (GeV ⁻¹)
	Total	ggH	VBF	WH	ZH	ttH	σ_{eff}	σ_{HM}	
0	64.0	68.9 %	15.0 %	8.8 %	4.8 %	2.5 %	0.94	0.78	262.8
1	99.5	87.5 %	5.2 %	4.3 %	2.3 %	0.7 %	1.20	0.96	922.6
2	121.1	89.9 %	3.9 %	3.7 %	2.0 %	0.5 %	1.61	1.26	1844.4
3	88.9	92.2 %	2.8 %	3.1 %	1.6 %	0.3 %	2.11	1.68	3098.6
Total	373.5	86.2 %	5.9 %	4.6 %	2.5 %	0.8 %	1.47	1.05	6128.4

CMS-PAS-HIG-17-013

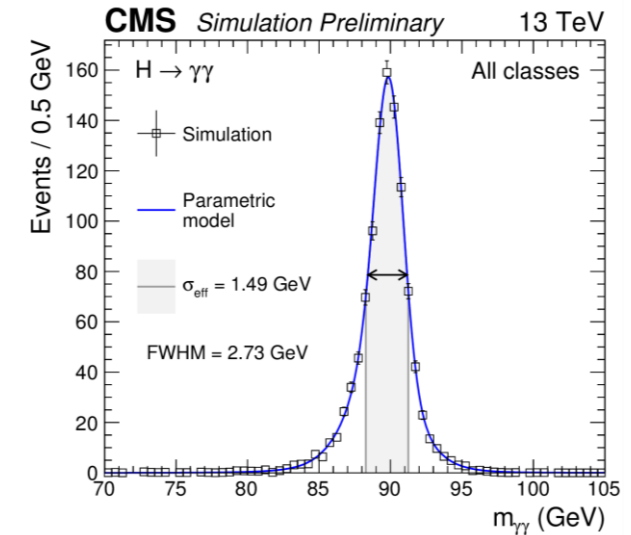
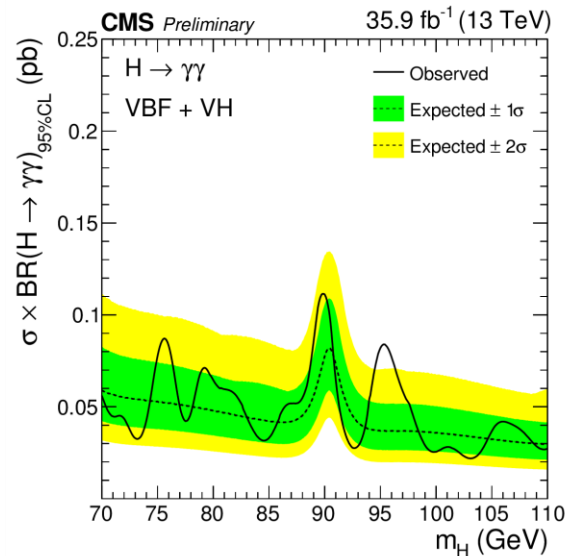
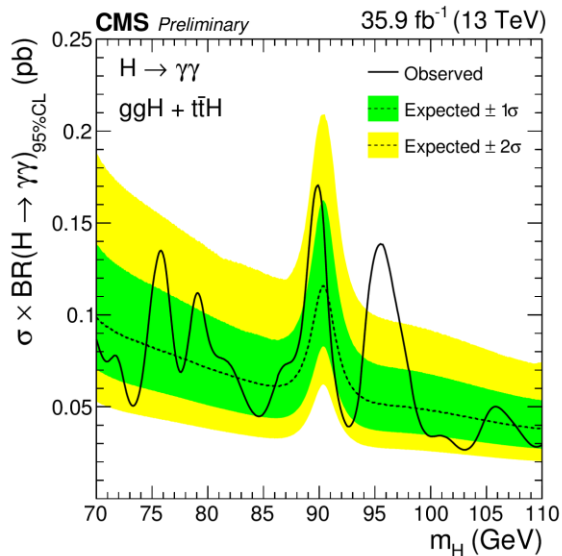
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1	394.9	90.1 %	4.1 %	3.2 %	1.7 %	0.9 %	1.69	1.45	3876.1
2	214.1	92.0 %	3.3 %	2.6 %	1.4 %	0.7 %	2.18	1.73	4301.0
Total	1065.8	86.2 %	6.3 %	3.8 %	2.1 %	1.6 %	1.49	1.16	10047.7



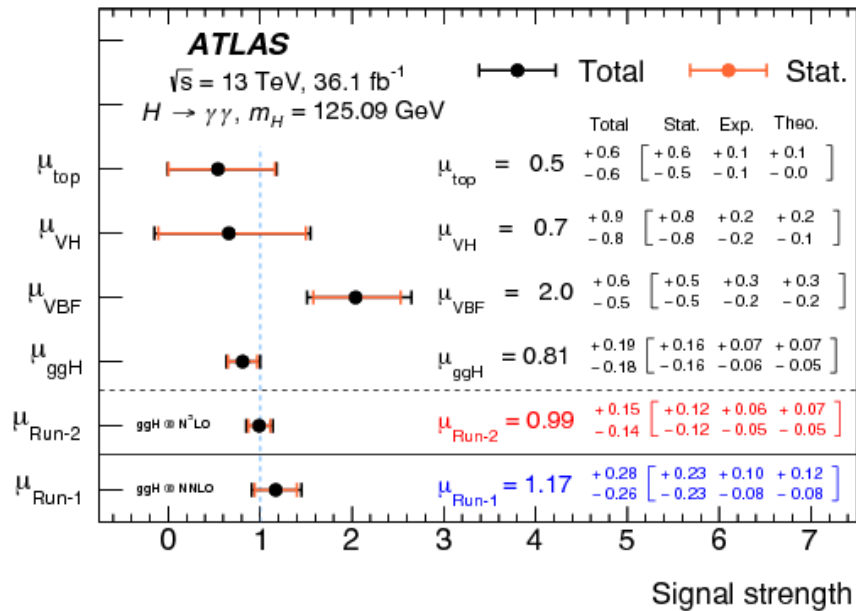
Recherche de $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ à Basse Masse



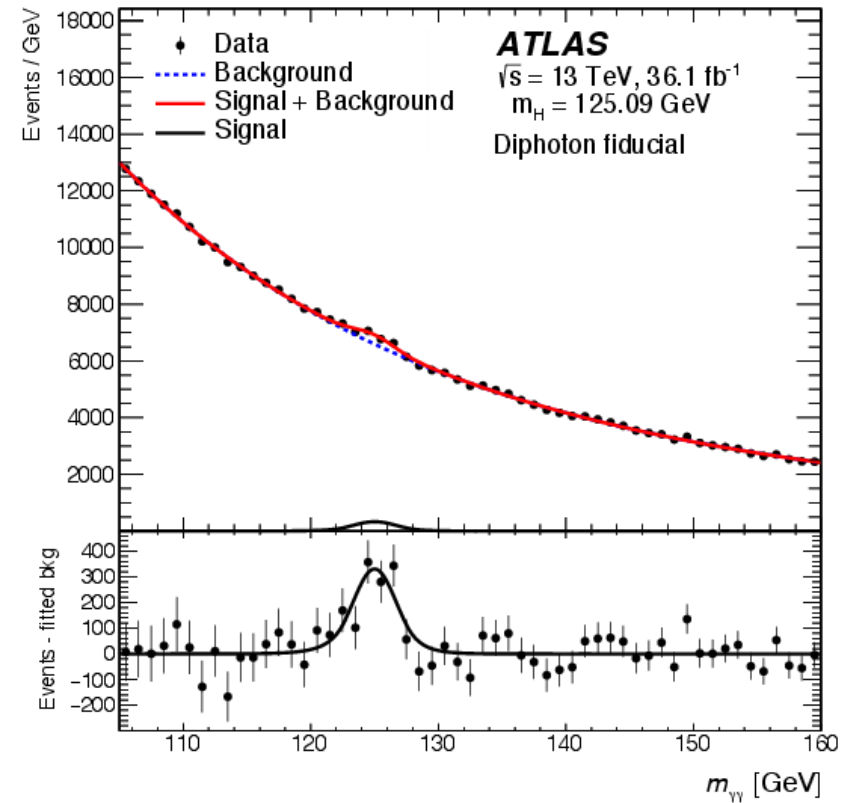
CMS-PAS-HIG-17-013



H → γγ à ATLAS



arXiv:1802.04146



Signal and Background Events

Event Class	Expected SM-like Higgs boson signal $m_H = 90 \text{ GeV}, \sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$								Bkg (GeV^{-1})
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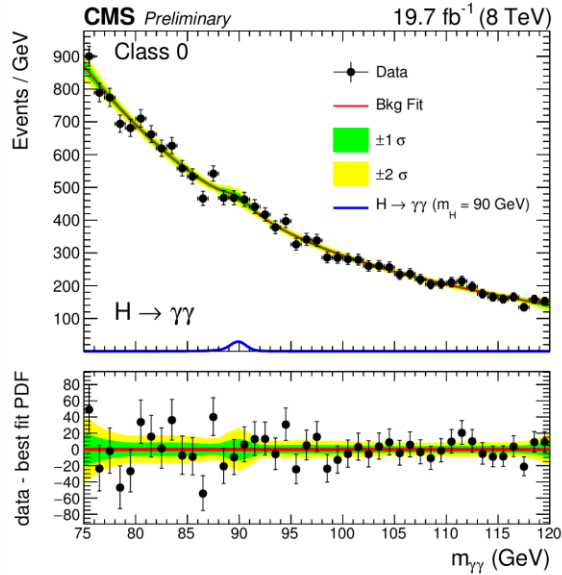
CMS-HIG-17-013

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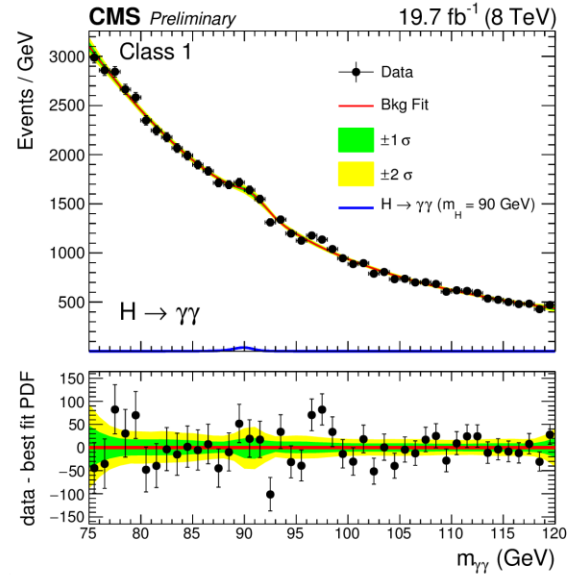
CMS-HIG-17-013

Mass Spectra (8 TeV)

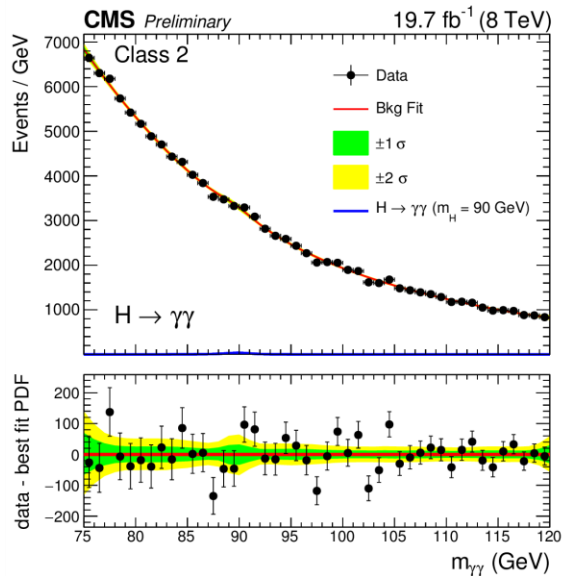
CLASS 0



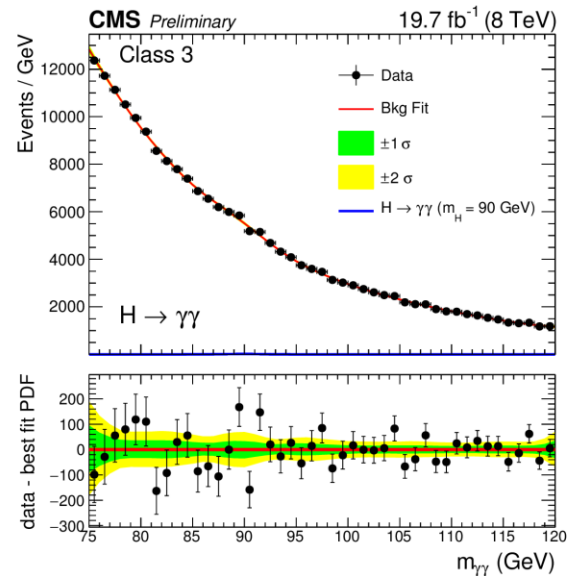
CLASS 1



CLASS 2

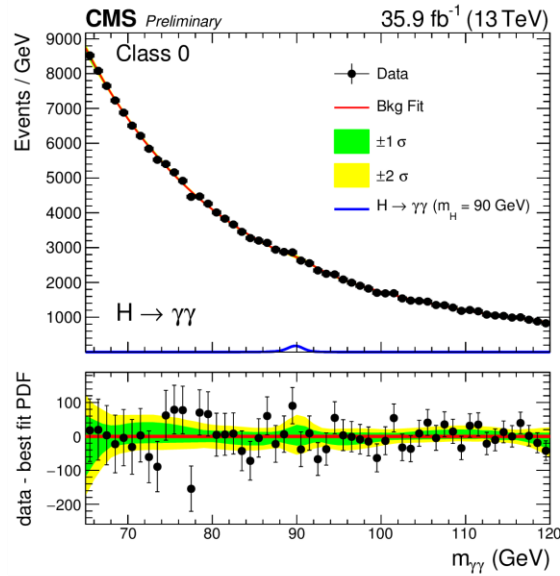


CLASS 3

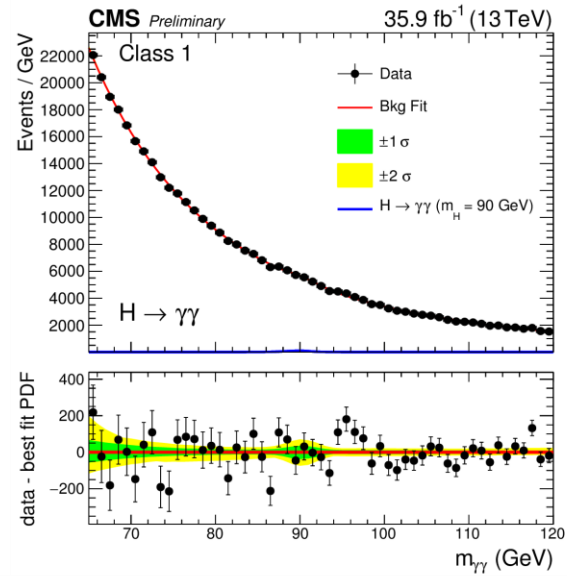


Mass Spectra (13 TeV)

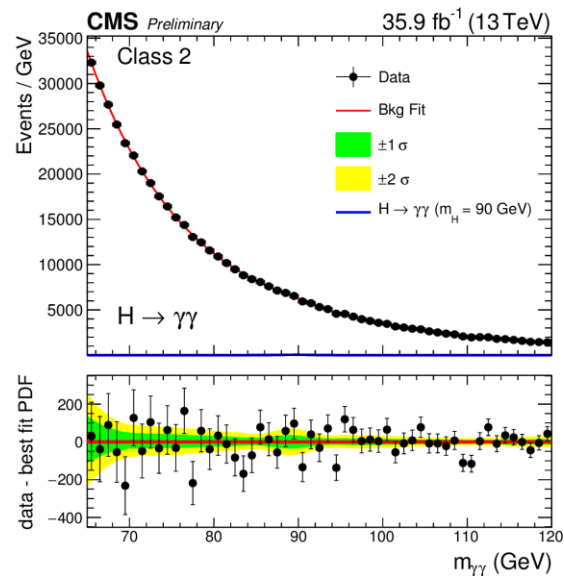
CLASS 0



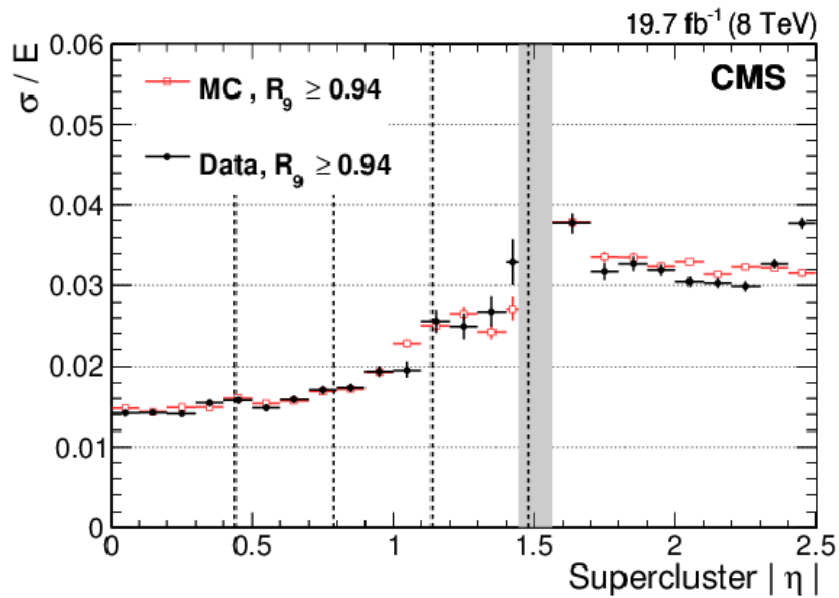
CLASS 1



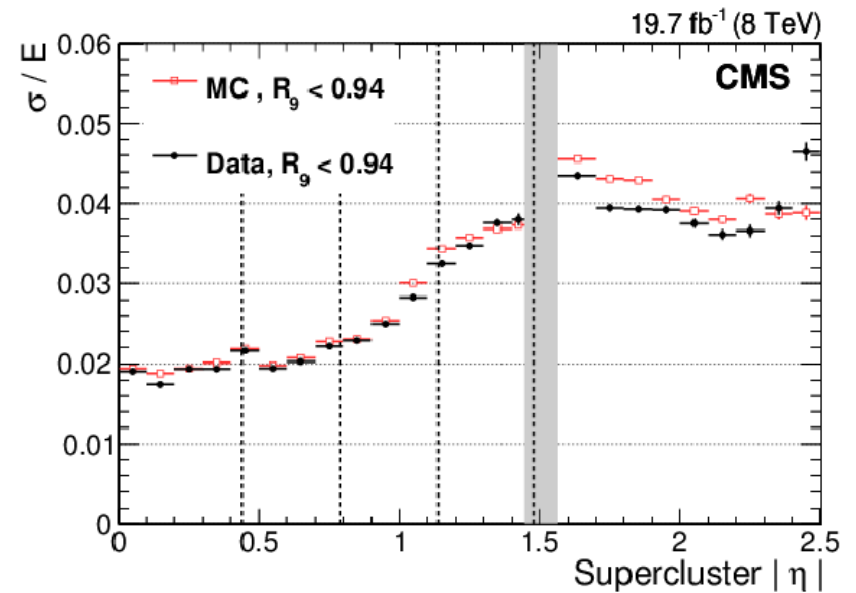
CLASS 2



Mass Resolution



CMS-EGM-14-001



CMS-EGM-14-001