



# Searches for Axion-Like Particles at CMS

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on behalf of CMS

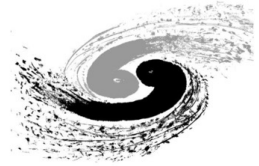
TeVPA2021: TeV Particle Astrophysics 2021.24-29 Oct 2021. Chengdu (China)



中國科學院高能物理研究所  
*Institute of High Energy Physics*  
*Chinese Academy of Sciences*



# Axion Like Particles



- Gauge-singlets pseudoscalar particles.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{D \leq 5} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu a)(\partial^\mu a) - \frac{m_{a,0}^2}{2} a^2 + \frac{\partial^\mu a}{\Lambda} \sum_F \bar{\psi}_F C_F \gamma_\mu \psi_F + g_s^2 C_{GG} \frac{a}{\Lambda} G_{\mu\nu}^A \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu,A} + g^2 C_{WW} \frac{a}{\Lambda} W_{\mu\nu}^A \tilde{W}^{\mu\nu,A} + g'^2 C_{BB} \frac{a}{\Lambda} B_{\mu\nu} \tilde{B}^{\mu\nu},$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{D \geq 6} = \frac{C_{ah}}{\Lambda^2} (\partial_\mu a)(\partial^\mu a) \phi^\dagger \phi + \frac{C'_{ah}}{\Lambda^2} m_{a,0}^2 a^2 \phi^\dagger \phi + \frac{C_{Zh}^{(7)}}{\Lambda^3} (\partial^\mu a) (\phi^\dagger i D_\mu \phi + \text{h.c.}) \phi^\dagger \phi + \dots$$

- (Approximate) shift Symmetry  $a \rightarrow a + c$
- Appear in many well-motivated extensions of the SM
- Decay widths to photons and leptons:

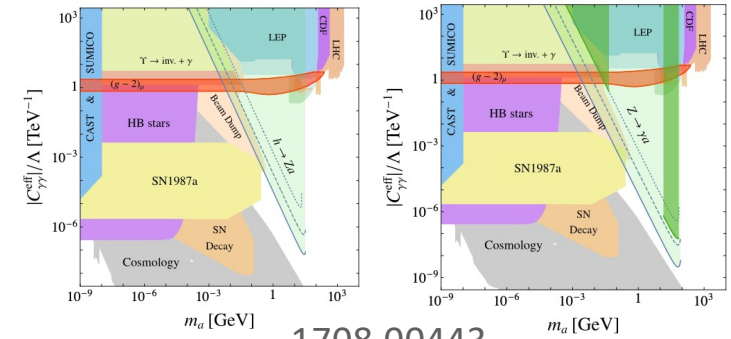
$$\Gamma(a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \equiv \frac{4\pi\alpha^2 m_a^3}{\Lambda^2} |C_{\gamma\gamma}^{\text{eff}}|^2, \quad \Gamma(a \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) = \frac{m_a m_\ell^2}{8\pi\Lambda^2} |c_{\ell\ell}^{\text{eff}}|^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_\ell^2}{m_a^2}}$$

- Higgs Exotic decays:

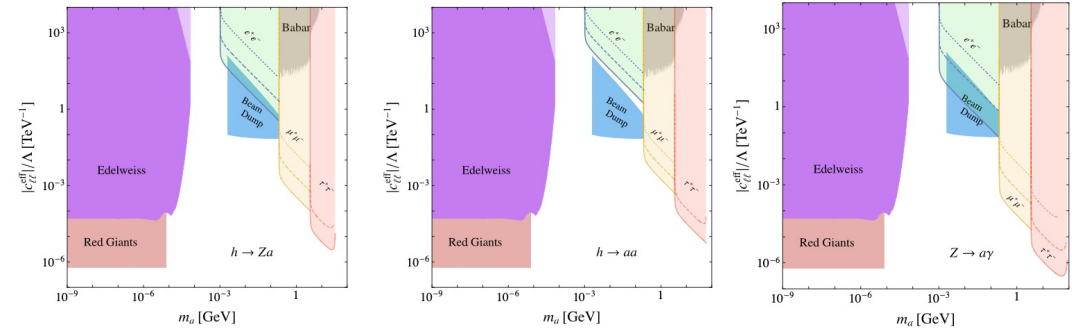
$$\Gamma(h \rightarrow Za) = \frac{m_h^3}{16\pi\Lambda^2} |C_{Zh}^{\text{eff}}|^2 \lambda^{3/2} \left( \frac{m_Z^2}{m_h^2}, \frac{m_a^2}{m_h^2} \right)$$

$$\Gamma(h \rightarrow aa) = \frac{v^2 m_h^3}{32\pi\Lambda^4} |C_{ah}^{\text{eff}}|^2 \left( 1 - \frac{2m_a^2}{m_h^2} \right)^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_a^2}{m_h^2}}$$

- Colliders allow searches in a wide range of ALP masses and couplings. We can explore ALP masses beyond astrophysical constraints, and even there, provide important crosschecks. At the LHC, natural sensitivity is to  $\Lambda$  scales in the TeV region.



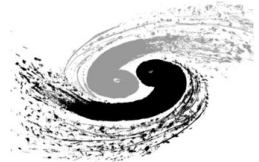
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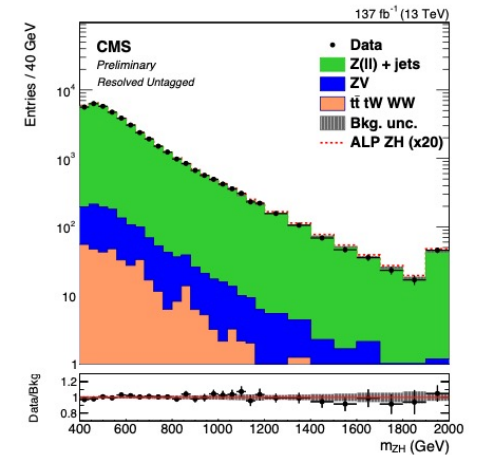
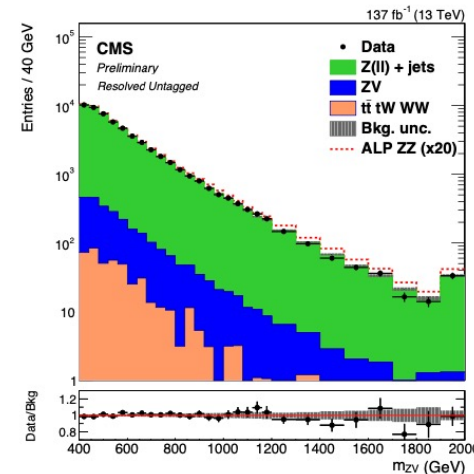
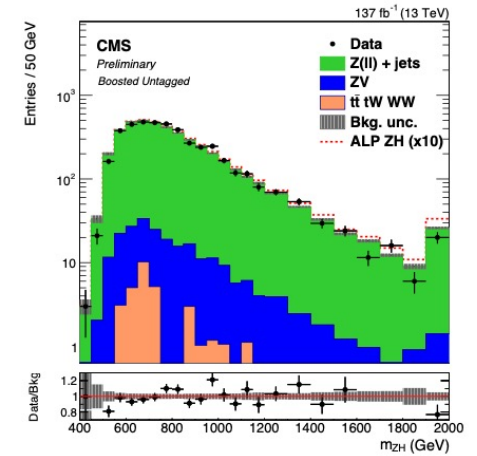
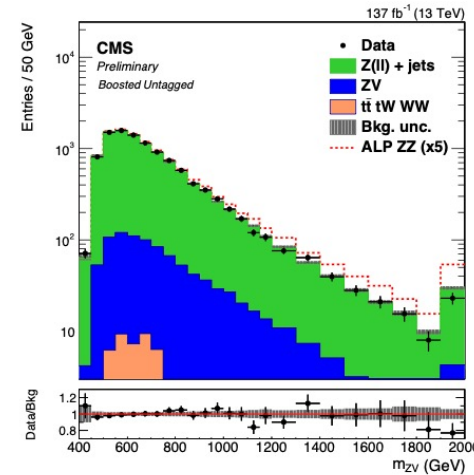


# Non resonant $pp \rightarrow a^* \rightarrow ZH, ZV$

CMS-B2G-20-013



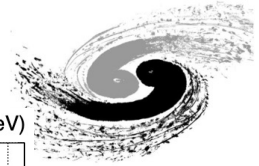
- Dataset:
  - Full-run2 dataset: 2016 - 2018 ( $137 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )
  - $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$
- Signature:
  - $Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$
  - Merged J or resolved jj di-jet
- Search for ALP mediated production of
  - Z boson + Higgs (chiral model)
  - Z boson + Z boson (linear model)
- Main background:
  - Z + jets
- Details about the signal modes  
[\[Phys.Rev.Lett. 124 \(2020\) 5, 051802\]](#)



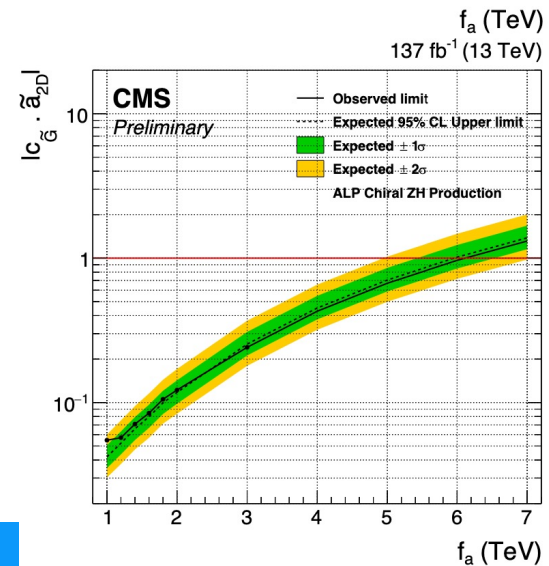
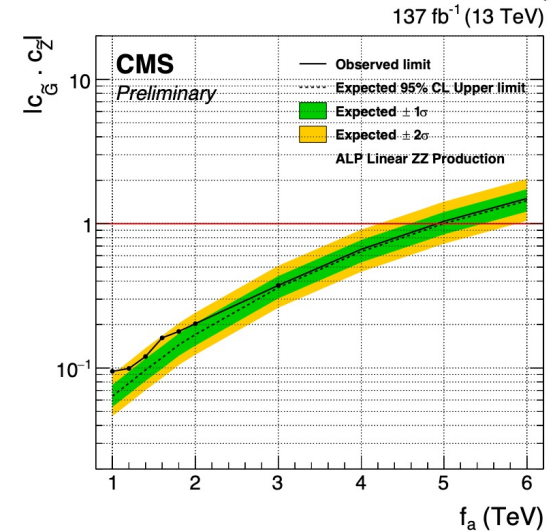


# Non resonant $pp \rightarrow a^* \rightarrow ZH, ZV$

CMS-B2G-20-013



- Combined maximum likelihood fit to the mass distribution
- Exclusion region on the  $c_i c_j - f_a$  plane for the chiral and linear models
  - 95 % CL limits obtained using CLs method
  - $f_a > 3$  TeV excluded extrapolating  $f_a = 3$  TeV point linearly
- Limits on  $c_i/f_a$ :
  - $\frac{|c_{\tilde{G}} c_{\tilde{Z}}|}{f_a^2} < 0.0415(0.0400) TeV^{-2}$
  - $\frac{|c_{\tilde{G}} c_{\tilde{2D}}|}{f_a^2} < 0.0269(0.0281) TeV^{-2}$

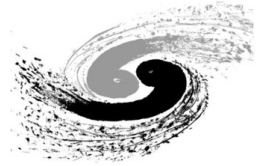






# Light-by-Light Scattering

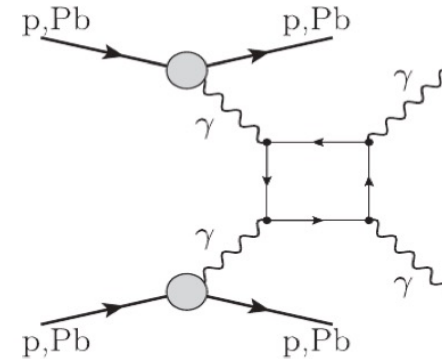
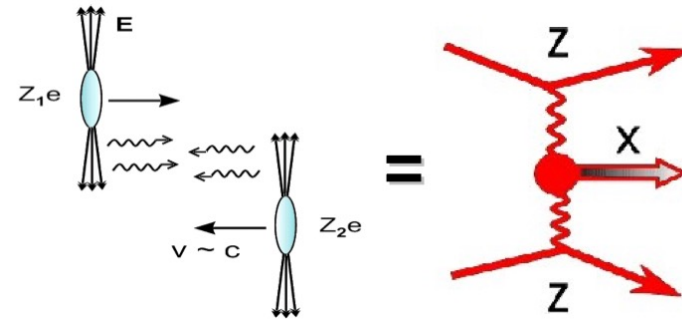
[Phys.Lett.B 797 (2019) 134826]



- PbPb collisions:
  - Electromagnetic ultra-peripheral collisions (UPC)
  - HE ions generate huge EM fields ( $10^{14} T$ ) from coherent action of  $Z=82 p$
  - Huge photon fluxes:
    - $\sigma(\gamma - \gamma) \sim 5 \times 10^7$  for PbPb, larger than  $p, e^\pm$
  - Beam-energy dependence:
    - Photon luminosities increase as  $\propto \log^3(\sqrt{s})$
  - LbyL x-sections:

System	$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV)	$\mathcal{L}_{AB} \cdot \Delta t$ (per year)	$\sigma_{\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma}^{\text{excl}}$ [ $m_{\gamma\gamma} > 5 \text{ GeV}$ ]	$N_{\gamma\gamma}^{\text{excl}}$ (per year) [after cuts]
$p-p$	14	1 fb $^{-1}$	$105 \pm 10 \text{ fb}$	12
$p\text{-Pb}$	8.8	200 nb $^{-1}$	$260 \pm 26 \text{ pb}$	6
<b>Pb-Pb</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>1 nb<math>^{-1}</math></b>	<b><math>370 \pm 70 \text{ nb}</math></b>	<b>70</b>

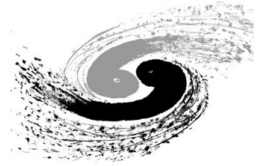
- Large visible LbyL x-sections in PbPb UPCs at the LHC



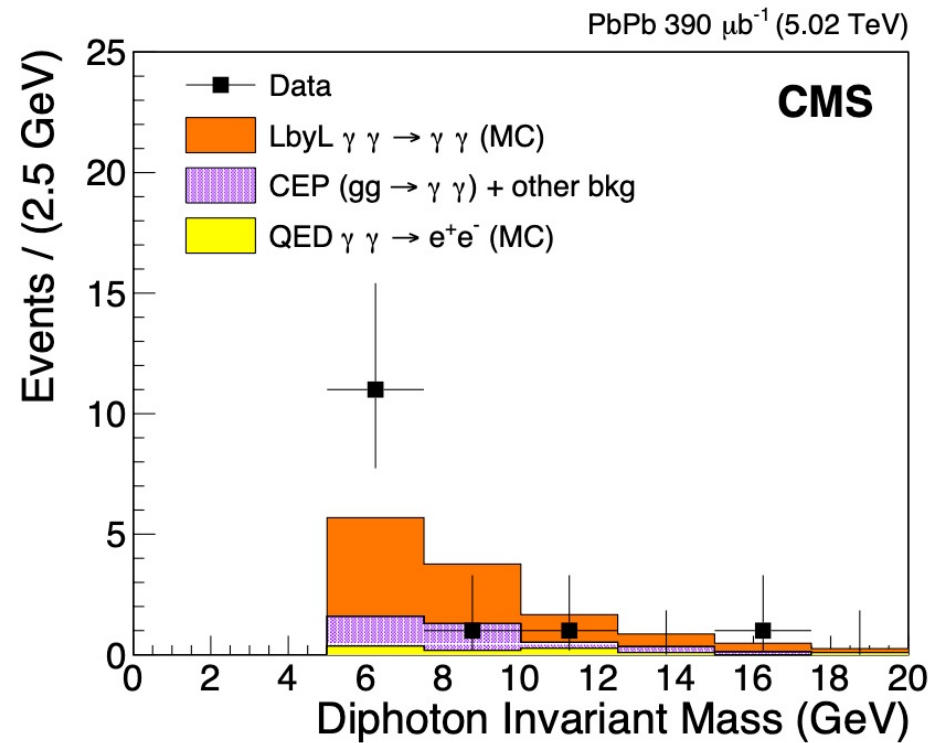
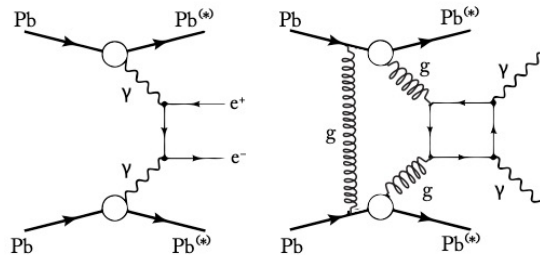


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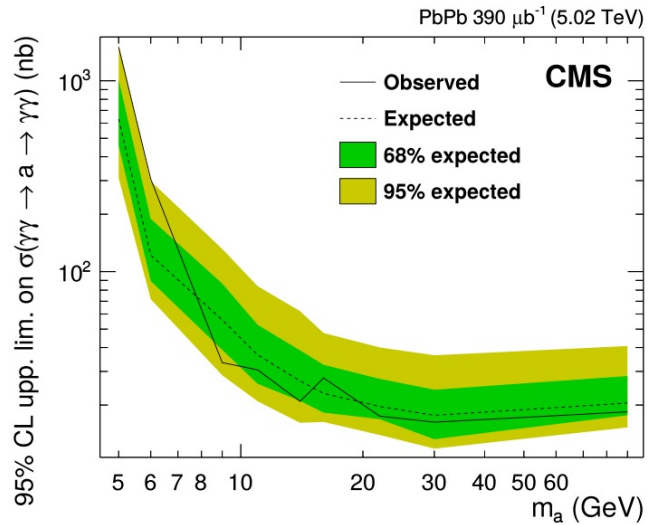
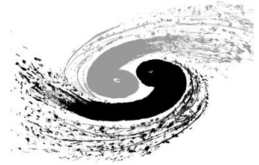
- Dataset:
  - $390 \mu b^{-1}$
  - $\sqrt{s} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$
- Signature:
  - $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- Selection of  $a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ :
  - $E_T^{\gamma} > 2 \text{ GeV}$
  - $|\eta| \leq 2.4$
  - $m_{\gamma\gamma} > 5 \text{ GeV}$  (reduce  $e^+e^-$ )
  - $P_T^{\gamma\gamma} \leq 1 \text{ GeV}$  (ensure exclusive production)
- Background:
  - QED  $e^+e^-$  production
  - CEP  $\gamma\gamma$



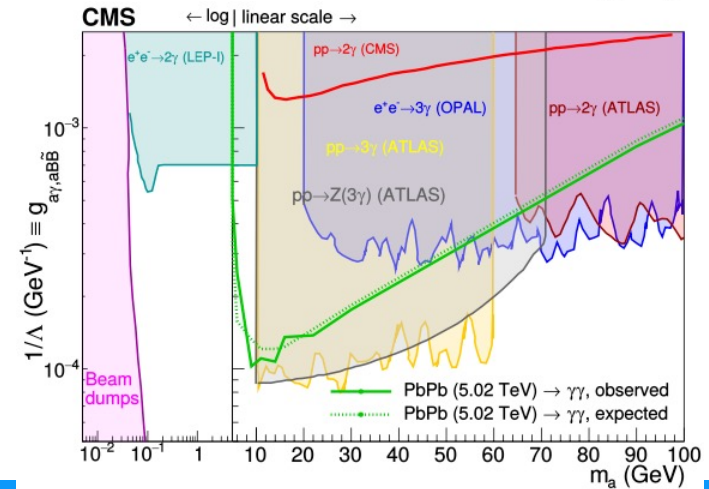
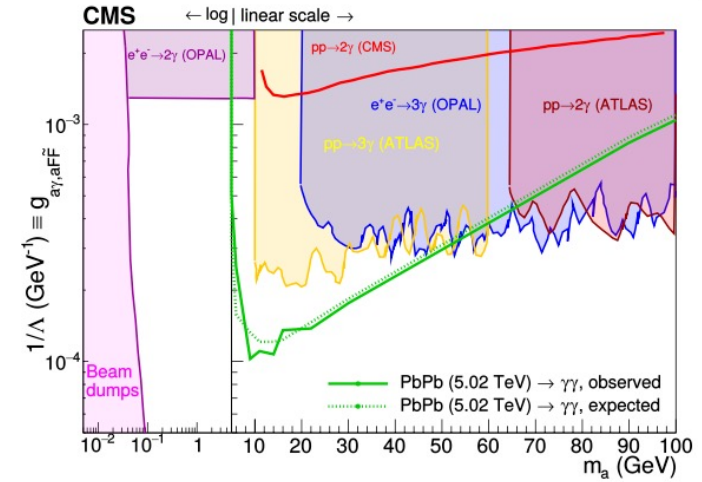


# Light-by-Light Scattering

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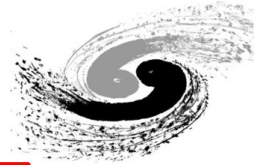
- Cross section upper limits:
  - CLs prescription with profile likelihood ratio at 95% CL
- Cross section limits interpreted as limits on the ALP couplings:
  - ALP only coupling to photons:  $g_{a\gamma,aF\tilde{F}}$
  - ALP coupling also to Z:  $g_{a\gamma,aB\tilde{B}}$



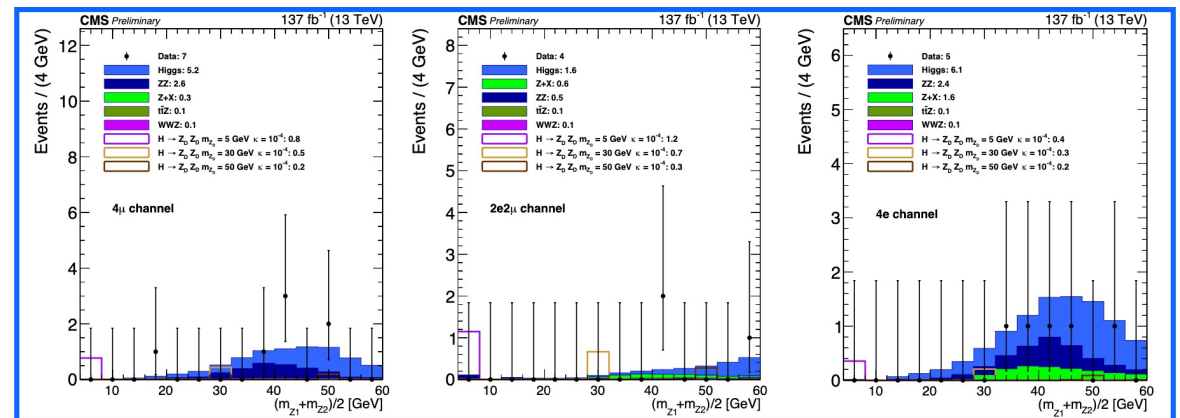
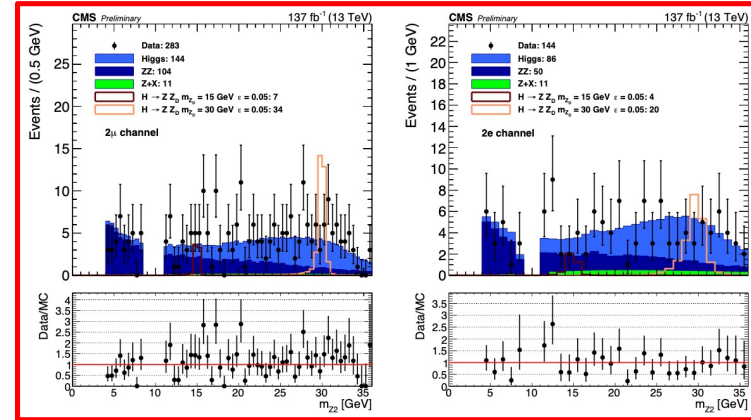


# Low Mass Dilepton Resonance

CMS-HIG-19-007



- Dataset:
  - Full-run2 dataset: 2016 - 2018 ( $136 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )
  - $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$
- Signature:
  - $Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$
  - $a \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$
- Search for Higgs Exotic decay
  - $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4l$
  - $H \rightarrow Za \rightarrow 4l$
- Main background:
  - SM ZZ
  - Z + X
- Exclude narrow mass window around Y

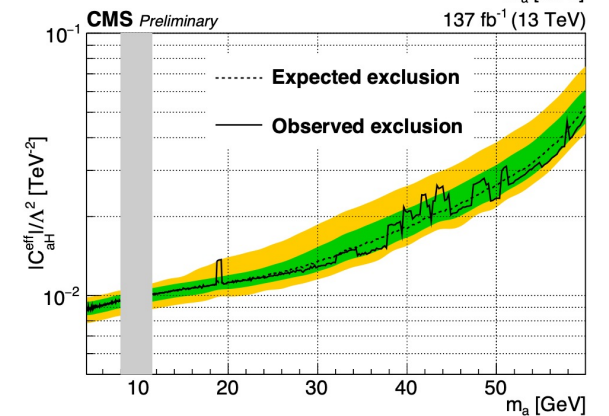
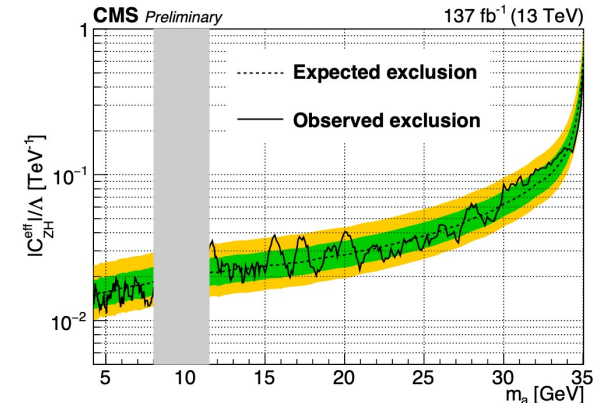
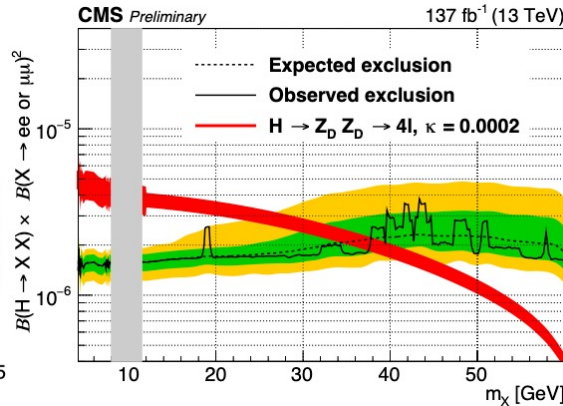
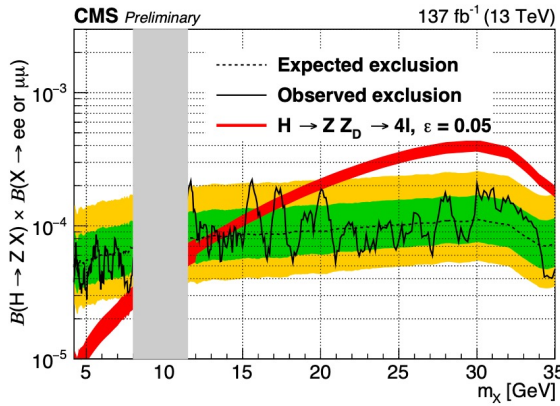
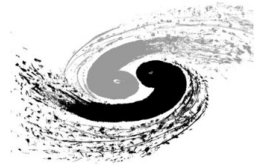






# Low Mass Dilepton Resonance

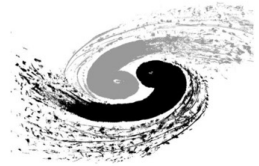
CMS-HIG-19-007



- Model independent cross section upper limits:
  - CLs prescription with profile likelihood ratio at 95% CL
- Cross section limits interpreted as limits on the ALP couplings:
  - Assume  $Br(a \rightarrow ll) = 100\%$
  - ALP coupling to Higgs and Z:  $C_{ZH}^{eff} / \Lambda^2$
  - ALP only coupling to Higgs:  $C_{aH}^{eff} / \Lambda^2$



# Summary



- ALPs are pseudo Nambu-Goldstone bosons associated to Spontaneous Symmetry Breaking
- ALPs couple to different sectors of the SM
  - Higgs, Z/W, photon, lepton
- Different signatures probing various couplings covered in this talk:
  - Photons, Vector gauge bosons, Higgs...
- Further model independent search can also interpret ALPs model:
  - $h \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 2\mu 2b$
  - $h \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4b$
  - $h \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4\gamma$
  - $h \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4\mu \dots$
- Bright future ahead with new prospects coming from different experiments

