Heavy neutral scalar searches at the I HC





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Introduction

- Is the Higgs boson *solely* responsible for the EWSB?
- Many BSM theories predict new particles that decay into SM particles
- Search for resonances is one of the most straightforward ways to probe BSM
- Overview of heavy neutral (pseudo)scalar searches
 - Experimental signatures
 - Dilepton
 - Dijet
 - Multiboson
 - Benchmark models
 - Heavy Higgs: CP-even (h), CP-odd (A)
 - Radions
 - Dark sector: dark Higgs (*not covered*)
 - Axion-like particles

For light scalar or charged scalar searches, see talks by Hanlin Xu, Jin Wang

For DiHiggs resonance searches, see talks in Sunday (Zihang Jia, Bowen Zhang, Bruce Mellado, ...)

Heavy Higgs-like scalars

- Quite generic (less model-dependent) resonance searches
 - Properties similar to the SM Higgs with couplings to SM particles
- Width assumption: ٠
 - Narrow width: intrinsic width \ll detector resolution \rightarrow interference with the SM can be safely ignored



Extended Higgs sector

- Electroweak singlet: simplest extension
 - Either a real or complex scalar singlet
 - Can provide a strong first order electroweak phase transition \rightarrow electroweak baryogenesis
- Extension of the SM Higgs sector to 2 Higgs doublets: 2HDM
 - Lead to 5 Higgs bosons: CP-even h, H, CP-odd: A, charged: H^{\pm}
 - Benchmark coupling structures: type-I/II/III/IV

	Ι	п	Lepton Specific	Flipped
g_{hVV}	$\sin(eta-lpha)$	$\sin(eta-lpha)$	$\sin(eta-lpha)$	$\sin(eta-lpha)$
$g_{htar{t}}$	$rac{\cos lpha}{\sin eta}$	$rac{\cos lpha}{\sin eta}$	$rac{\coslpha}{\sineta}$	$rac{\coslpha}{\sineta}$
$g_{hb\overline{b}}$	$rac{\cos lpha}{\sin eta}$	$-\frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \beta}$	$rac{\coslpha}{\sineta}$	$-\frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \beta}$
$g_{h\tau^{+}\tau^{-}}$	$rac{\cos lpha}{\sin eta}$	$-\frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \beta}$	$-\frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \beta}$	$rac{\cos lpha}{\sin eta}$

See theory talks by Wei Liu, Mengchao Zhang

- MSSM: the same structure of the Higgs sector as for 2HDM-II
 - Only two basic inputs for the Higgs sector at tree level: m_A, tanβ
 - Some variants:
 - hMSSM, M_h^{125} scenarios, etc

Radion

- A scalar predicted by the bulk Randall-Sundrum model
 - can address both the hierarchy problem and fermion mass hierarchies
- LHC phenomenology: similar to heavy Higgs
 - Radions can be produced via both ggF and VBF processes
 - Decay to WW/ZZ/ $\gamma\gamma$ /hh/tt

Decay branching ratios



V. Barger, M. Ishida, <u>PLB 709 (2012) 185-191</u>

Axion-like particles

- The QCD axion: a pseudo-scalar and originally proposed to solve the strong-CP problem
 - Couplings to SM particles proportional to its mass
- ALPs: an extension to QCD axions with two free parameters (m_a, f_a)
 - f_{a} the scale of symmetry breaking of the new field (couplings $\sim \frac{1}{f_a}$)
- Constraints from ALPs are mainly from astrophysical observations
 - Through $a\gamma\gamma$ interactions for very low m_a (~ 10⁻¹⁰eV)
- ALPs can also be probed at the LHC
 - eg. as an off-shell mediator in the s-channel 2 \rightarrow 2 scattering processes

Gives non-resonant diboson production

M.B. Gavela et al,

PRL 124, 051802 (2020)

Dilepton searches

 $A/H \rightarrow \mu\mu$ $A/H \rightarrow \tau\tau$: see Hanfei's talk

8

Search of MSSM A/H

- Has small branching ration but excellent mass resolution •
 - $-\lambda_f = \sqrt{2} \frac{m_f}{n}, \ \Gamma(\mathrm{H} \to \mathrm{ff}) \propto \lambda_f^2$
- **Overview:**
 - Events split into b-tag and no-b-tag categories to target for gg- and bb-initiated productions

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 $A/H \rightarrow \mu\mu$

- Dominant background: Drell-Yan
- Discriminant: m_{uu}
 - Background shape parametrized as a functional form
- Signal modelling considered all dimuon events from h/H/A decays

 $F_{\rm sig} = w_{\rm h}F_{\rm h} + w_{\rm H}F_{\rm H} + w_{\rm A}F_{\rm A}$

For each m_A , tan β pair







A/H→μμ



• Dimuon mass



Signal + bkg fit with signal mass of **400** GeV

Signal + bkg fit with signal mass of **980** GeV

A/H→μμ



• Exclusion limits



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10

Dijet searches

$A/H \rightarrow bb$

Top-quark final states: see Nicola's talk

H/A→bb



- Search for H/A \rightarrow bb in association with b-quarks
 - Targeted for several MSSM and 2HDM scenarios
- Overview
 - Events are selected with >= 3 b-jets
 - Benefited from dedicated b-jet triggers
 - Two leading b-jets (M₁₂) to reconstruct H/A
 - Dominant background: QCD jets
 - Discriminant: M₁₂
 - Parametrized with functional forms
 - Divided into the three overlapping subranges, to avoid bias
 - − [200, 650] GeV \rightarrow for signal mass points m_{A/H} in [300, 500] GeV
 - − [350, 1190] GeV \rightarrow for m_{A/H} in [500, 1100] GeV
 - − [500, 1700] GeV \rightarrow for m_{A/H} in [1100, 1500] GeV
 - Validated in a b-tag veto CR



H/A→bb





H/A→bb



• Exclusion limits





Diboson searches

$X^0 \rightarrow ZZ$, WW, ZH, $Z\gamma$, $\gamma\gamma$ $X^0 \rightarrow HH$, see talks from the DiHiggs session



- Combination of 4I and 2I2v channels
 - benefit from mass resolution of 4l and larger branching ratio of 2l2v
- Overview:
 - Events are split into ggF-like and VBF-like categories to search for different signal productions
 - Discriminant: m_{4I} , $m_T(II + E_T^{miss})$
 - Dominant SM background: ZZ, WZ (for 2l2v)
 - Normalization constrained from data
 - Interpretations: consider different signal width assumptions
 - narrow-width
 - large-width: $\frac{\Gamma_H}{m_H}$ = 1%, 5%, 10%, 15%, interference with the SM background considered











• Exclusion limits: narrow width scalars





• Exclusion limits: large width scalars





• 2HDM interpretations



- Systematically search for resonances in VV semileptonic final states
 - Leptonic V: $W \rightarrow Iv, Z \rightarrow II, Z \rightarrow vv$
 - Hadronic V: W \rightarrow qq, Z \rightarrow qq
- Overview
 - 3 lepton channels: 0-lep, 1-lep, 2-lep
 - Both resolved $(V \rightarrow jj)$ and boosted $(V \rightarrow J)$
 - Events split into ggF and VBF categories
 - Based on a recurrent neural network (RNN) discriminant
 - Dominant backgrounds: V+jets, ttbar
 - Constrained with dedicated data control regions





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• Exclusion limits: bulk RS Radion, $R \rightarrow WW$, ZZ



ZZ/Zh→llqq



- First LHC search for ALPs, using $ZZ/Zh \rightarrow IIqq$ final states
- Overview
 - Select a leptonic $Z(\rightarrow ee/mm)$ candidate and a hadronic Z/H candidate
 - Boosted: one large-R jet
 - Resolved: two small-R jets
 - Two signal regions based on the hadronic boson mass
 - SR1: for Z→jj/J
 - SR2: for H→jj/J
 - Dominant background: Z+jets
 - Normalization constrained from data side-band regions
 - Discriminant: m_{IIjj}, m_{IIJ}
 - Look for deviations in the high mass tail



ZZ/Zh→llqq



Mass spectrum



ZZ/Zh→llqq



• Exclusion limits





ALP-ZH

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$Z\gamma$ hadronic

- Very clean final states: an energetic photon + a large-R jet
- Overview:
 - Objects:
 - E_T^{γ} > 200 GeV and $|\eta_{\gamma}| < 1.37$
 - p_T^J > 200 GeV and $|\eta_J|$ < 2.0
 - Discriminant: $m_{J\gamma}$ (1.0, 6.8) TeV
 - Background: γ +jets, Z γ
 - Shape parametrized with a function
 - Normalization constrained from data



ATLAS-CONF-2021-041

$Z\gamma$ hadronic

• $m_{J\gamma}$ in 3 categories

 $\mathcal{B}(m_{J\gamma}; \boldsymbol{p}) = (1-x)^{p_1} x^{p_2 + p_3 \log(x)}$

ATLAS-CONF-2021-041

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• Exclusion limits: narrow width scalars



γγ



- Very clean final states and excellent mass resolution
- Overview
 - Background: $\gamma\gamma$, γ +jets
 - Analytical function built from simulated $\gamma\gamma$ events, and from a data control region for γ +jet events
 - Smoothed using the functional decomposition (FD) method to suppress statistical fluctuation



arXiv:2102.13405



• Results: scalars



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arXiv:2102.13405

Triboson searches

$A \rightarrow ZH(\rightarrow WW)$ $W_{kk} \rightarrow R(\rightarrow WW)W$ searches, see Qiang Li's talk

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g aga

- Search for heavy pseudo-scalar (A) and heavy scalar (H) in 2HDM
 - $Z \rightarrow II$, with two decay channels for H
 - H \rightarrow bb: high branching ratio in the weak decoupling limit (cos($\beta \alpha$) = 0)
 - $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow qqqq$: dominant when **away** the weak decoupling limit
- Overview
 - Select at least 4 small-R jets
 - Both m_A and m_H are unknown: sliding m_{4q} window cuts
 - eg: $m_H 53 \text{ GeV} < m_{4q} < 0.97 m_H + 54 \text{ GeV}$.
 - Discriminants: m_{2l4q}
 - Backgrounds: Z+jets, top-quarks
 - Normalizations constrained with data CRs

$A \rightarrow ZH, H \rightarrow WW$

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EPJC. 81 (2021) 396

$A \rightarrow ZH(\rightarrow WW \rightarrow 4q) \underbrace{\qquad }_{\text{experiment}} \underbrace{\qquad }_{\text{epjc. 81 (2021) 396}}$

Mass spectrum



$H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 4q$



$A \rightarrow ZH(\rightarrow WW \rightarrow 4q) \underbrace{\text{SATLAS}}_{\text{EXPERIMENT}} \underline{\text{EPJC. 81 (2021) 396}}$

Exclusion limits: 2D scan (m_A, m_H)



Model-independent limits

2HDM-I contours

Summary

Generic scalar summary: ggF $X \rightarrow VV$

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Generic scalar summary: VBF $X \rightarrow VV$

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Generic scalar summary: $X \rightarrow HH$



hMSSM summary

• Overlay of direct searches and indirect Higgs measurements



Summary

- Search for heavy neutral scalars is well motivated by several benchmark BSM models
 - Bulk RS radion, heavy Higgs (H/A) in 2HDM, MSSM, Axion-like particles, etc
- Very dynamic experimental program at the LHC
 - Exploit various experimental signatures
 - Dileptons, dijets, dibosons, multibosons, etc
 - Interpretated in a few BSM models
- Novel experimental techniques being explored
 - Deep neutral network based discriminants
 - Jet substructure and boosted boson tagging
 - Cascade decays
 - Functional forms for signal/background parametrization (eg. functional decomposition methods)
- Looking forward for new results with full Run-2 LHC data and beyond
 - More data, new experimental methods
 - New motivated models from the theory community



Search strategies

- Resonant search strategy
 - Bump hunting:
 - Search for new resonances in the smoothly falling SM background
 - The SM background is usually taken from SM predictions or empirical functions/fits
 - Experimental signatures
 - · Leptonic final states have lower backgrounds that can be triggered on efficiently
 - Hadronic decays can have larger branching ratios but with higher backgrounds
- Non-resonant search strategy
 - Look for deviations from precision measurements
 - not covered





 MSSM Higgs Boson Searches at the LHC: Benchmark Scenarios for Run 2 and Beyond
 arXiv:1808.07542

LHC Higgs WG, MSSM

- ▶ M_h^{125} scenario → all SUSY particles at the TeV scale
- ▶ $M_h^{125}(\tilde{\tau})$ scenario → light Stau, Bino and Winos
- ► $M_h^{125}(\tilde{\chi})$ scenario \rightarrow light Bino, Winos and Higgsinos
- ▶ M_h^{125} (alignment) scenario → alignment without decoupling
- ▶ M_H^{125} scenario → heavy \mathcal{CP} -even Higgs is SM-like
- ▶ $M_{h_1}^{125}(\text{CPV})$ scenario $\rightarrow C\mathcal{P}$ -violation in the Higgs sector

Typical resonances

Table 1: List of benchmark signal models. Predictions of cross-section σ , branching ratio \mathcal{B} into WW, WZ, or ZZ, and intrinsic width divided by the resonance mass Γ/m , for the given hypothetical new particle at m = 800 GeV and 3 TeV are summarised.

Model			Snin	$m = 800 \mathrm{GeV}$			m = 3 TeV		
			Spin	σ [pb]	${\mathcal B}$	Γ/m	σ [fb]	${\mathcal B}$	Γ/m
RS radion $(k \pi r_c = 35, R \rightarrow WW)$		$R \rightarrow WW$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0.54 (ggF)	0.43	2.6×10^{-3}	1.38 (ggF)	0.44	0.032
$\Lambda_R = 3 \text{ TeV})$		$R \rightarrow ZZ$		1.1×10^{-3} (VBF)	0.21		5.5×10^{-3} (VBF)	0.22	
HVT	Model A	$W' \rightarrow WZ$	1	53	0.024	0.026	79	0.020	0.025
		$Z' \to WW$		26	0.023		36	0.020	
	Model B	$W' \rightarrow WZ$		1.6	0.43	0.040	5.5	0.47	0.031
		$Z' \to WW$		0.86	0.41		2.5		
	Model C	$W' \rightarrow WZ$		4.0×10^{-3}	0.50	3.5×10^{-3}	1.6×10^{-3}	0.50	3.3×10^{-3}
	(VBF)	$Z' \to WW$		2.7×10^{-3}	0.49		1.0×10^{-3}		
Bulk RS G _{KK}		$G_{\rm KK} \rightarrow WW$	2	1.9 (ggF)	0.28	0.051	0.47 (ggF)	0.20	0.062
$(k/\overline{M}_{\rm Pl} = 1.0)$		$G_{\rm KK} \rightarrow ZZ$		0.050 (VBF)	0.14		1.6×10^{-2} (VBF)	0.10	



RNN discriminant

Boosted boson tagging

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Interference



 $A \rightarrow ZH(\rightarrow bb)$



Mass spectrum

H→bb



A→ZH



 $A \rightarrow ZH(\rightarrow bb)$



• Exclusion limits: 2D scan (m_A, m_H)



2HDM-I contours (alignment limit)

Model-independent limits



- Search for heavy resonances decaying in a cascade into three W bosons
 - − W_{KK} → WR and R → WW
 - Wkk: Kaluza–Klein excited gauge boson; R: scalar radion
- Overview
 - Select one isolated lepton, large E_T^{miss} , one or two large-R jets
 - Boosted R: 1 large-R jet $R \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 4q$ or $R \rightarrow WW \rightarrow lvqq$
 - Resolved R: 2 large-R jets
 - Generative adversarial neural networks based W-tagger (deep-W) and R-tagger (deep-WH)
 - To remove mass dependence
 - Dominant background: QCD jets
 - Estimated with data control regions
 - 6 signal regions defined
 - Based on N_j, m_j window and tagger scores
 - Discriminants: m_{Ivjj} , m_{Ivj}







- Deep-WH discriminant
 - To discriminate W and H bosons from SM QCD jets (quarks or gluons)







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WWW: 1-lepton



• Exclusion limits





- Similar search to the 1-lep WWW search, but with 0-lep final states
- Overview
 - Select two or three large-R jets
 - Boosted R: $R \rightarrow WW \rightarrow Ivqq$ or $R \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 4q$
 - Resolved R: $R \rightarrow WW$, $W \rightarrow qq$
 - Generative adversarial neural networks based W-tagger (deep-W) and R-tagger (deep-WH)
 - Dominant background: QCD jets
 - Estimated with data control regions
 - 6 signal regions defined
 - Discriminants: m_{jj} , m_{jjj}





Mass spectrum







• Exclusion limits



WWW: DNN

CMS-PAS-B2G-21-002



Table 1: Summary of the selection requirements for each of the signal regions.

Region	$N_{\rm j}$	m _j ^{max} [GeV]	m _j ^{mid} [GeV]	m _j ^{min} [GeV]	Tags required
SR1	2	70–100	_	70–100	Both with deep-W > 0.8
SR2	2	100-200	_	70–100	Higher with deep-WH > 0.8 , lower with deep-W > 0.8
SR3	2	>200	_	70–100	Higher with deep-WH > 0.8 , lower with deep-W > 0.8
SR4	3	70–100	70–100	60–100	All three with deep-W > 0.6
SR5	3	70-100	70-100	60-100	Exactly two with deep-W > 0.6
SR6	3	70–100	70–100	0–60	Two highest with deep-W > 0.8



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WWW: DNN

- CMS uses the DEEPAK8 algorithm for boosted boson tagging
 - using PF candidates, secondary vertices, and other inputs to classify the AK8 jets into 17 categories
 - jets arising from W \rightarrow qq, Z \rightarrow qq, t \rightarrow bqq, H \rightarrow 4q, and gluon or light quark decay
- Deep-W and deep-R discriminants
 - deep-W = raw score(W → qq)/(raw score(W → qq) + raw score(QCD)), used for W boson tagging for all jet candidates with mass m_j in the range 60–100 GeV.
 - deep-WH = (raw score(W → qq) + raw score(H → 4q))/(raw score(W → qq) + raw score(H → 4q) + raw score(QCD)), used for radion tagging for all jet candidates with mass *m*_j > 100 GeV.
- Dedicated calibrations performed for the deep-W, deep-R tagger