Searches for new physics in the Higgs sector with the ATLAS detector



Lailin Xu(徐来林) University of Sci. & Tech. of China On behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration WIN2023

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Introduction

- The SM Higgs boson opens a new window for new physics beyond the SM
- Possible connections between Higgs and major open questions of particle physics and cosmology
 - The hierarchy problem
 - Matter and antimatter asymmetry
 - Dark matter

Salam, G.P., Wang, LT. & Zanderighi, G. <u>Nature **607**, 41–47 (2022)</u>



 Does the Higgs boson decay into pairs of quarks or leptons with distinct flavours (for example, H → μ⁺ τ⁻)?

What is the origin of the early Universe inflation?

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Outline

- Recent searches for new physics in the Higgs sector with full LHC Run2 data
 - Search for additional Higgs bosons ($m_H \neq 125 \text{ GeV}$)
 - Search invisible Higgs decays
 - Search for HH production

Search for additional Higgs bosons $(m_H \neq 125 \text{ GeV})$

Additional Higgs boson

- Why there should be only one (h_{125}) ?
- Many extensions of the SM predict additional Higgs bosons
 - Electroweak singlets
 - Two-Higgs-Doublet-Models (2HDM)
 - Minimal Supersysmmetric Standard Model (MSSM)
 - Georgi-Machacek model (GM)

H (CP-even), A(CP-odd), H^{\pm} ,

Quintet $(H_5^{++}, H_5^{+}, H_5^{0}, H_5^{-}, H_5^{--})$, triplet $(H_3^{+}, H_4^{0}, H_3^{-})$, H

Н

Generic searches:

- New scalars
- New pseudo-scalars
 - Eg. Axions

Benchmark model searches:

- 2HDM
- GM

Additional Higgs boson

Searches	Ref.	Searches	Ref.
Boosted $a \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ (10 GeV < $m_X < 70$ GeV)	arXiv:2211.04172	$t ightarrow H^{\pm} b, H^{\pm} ightarrow c b$	arXiv:2302.11739
Low-mass resonance $X \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ (66 < m_X < 110 GeV)	ATLAS-CONF-2023-035	$H^{\pm\pm} ightarrow l^{\pm}l^{\pm}$	arXiv:2211.07505
tta, $a ightarrow \mu \mu$	arXiv:2304.14247	$ttH/A \rightarrow tttt$	arXiv:2211.01136
$X o Z\gamma$	ATLAS-CONF-2023-030	$A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow lltt + vvbb$	ATLAS-CONF-2023-034
X ightarrow WW	ATLAS-CONF-2022-066	FCNC $t \rightarrow qX, X \rightarrow bb$	arXiv:2301.03902

Not able to cover all of them or in very detail

Boosted $a \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$

- Search for narrow resonances (X) in $10 \text{ GeV} < m_X < 70 \text{ GeV}$
 - $p_T^{\gamma\gamma} > 50 \text{ GeV} \rightarrow$ motivated by the boosted signal and to reduce background
- Background shape parameterized with analytical functions
 - Background modelling uncertainties reduced with Gaussian Processes



Largest deviation observed at 19.4 GeV with **3.1** σ of local significance (Global **1.5** σ)



Boosted $a \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$

arXiv:2211.04172

Results

Limits interpreted into the KSVZ-ALP parameter space

Model-independent limits (fiducial cross-sections)



$$\frac{a}{4\pi f_a} \left[\alpha_3 c_3 G^a \tilde{G}^a + \alpha_2 c_2 W^i \tilde{W}^i + \alpha_1 c_1 B \tilde{B} \right] + \frac{1}{2} m_a^2 a^2$$



Covers a longstanding gap in diphoton resonance searches

Low-mass resonance $X \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$

- Search for light scalar $X \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ with $66 < m_X < 110 \text{ GeV}$
 - CMS sees a 2.9σ excess at 95 GeV CMS PAS HIG-20-002
- Model-independent search with 3 categories:
 - CC: two converted photons
 - **UU**: no conversion
 - UC: one converted photon
- Model-dependent search (to be compared with CMS):
 - Additional BDT used to separate the signal from background







Low-mass resonance $X \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$



$tta, a \rightarrow \mu\mu$

- Search for a light pseudoscalar produced with a top-quark pair, $15 < m_a < 72 \text{ GeV}$
- Two signal processes:
 - **tta**, $a \rightarrow \mu \mu$
 - $t \rightarrow H^+ b, H^+ \rightarrow W^+ a, a \rightarrow \mu \mu$: 120 < $m_{H^{\pm}}$ < 160 GeV
- Semileptonic *tt* decays with $e\mu\mu$ and $\mu\mu\mu$





Use dimuon mass $m_{\mu\mu}$ to search for signals

tta, $a \rightarrow \mu \mu$



 $-iy_tg_ta(\bar{t}\gamma_5 t)/\sqrt{2}$

Heavy resonances, $X \rightarrow Z\gamma$

ATLAS-CONF-2023-030

- Search for heavy narrow resonances in $X \rightarrow Z\gamma, Z \rightarrow ee/\mu\mu$, 220 GeV < $m_X < 3.4$ TeV
 - Spin-0: ggF
 - Spin-2: ggF and $qq \rightarrow X$



A dedicated electron identification is developed for boosted $Z \rightarrow ee$

Background shape parameterized using analytical functions





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$ttH/A \rightarrow tttt$



$A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow lltt + vvbb$

- In 2HDM, $m_A > m_H$ is favored by electroweak baryogenesis and strong first-order phase transition
 - $A \rightarrow ZH$ decay dominates
- *lltt* channel: sensitive to $m_H > 350 \text{ GeV}$
 - $3 \text{ lep}, \ge 4 \text{-jets}, 2 \text{ b-jets}$
 - Main bkg: *ttZ*
- *vvbb* channel: sensitive to $m_H < 350 \text{ GeV}$
 - $E_T^{miss} > 150 \text{ GeV}, \ge 2 \text{ b-jets}$
 - Main bkg: *tt* and Z+heavy flavor



These channels have not been previously explored at the LHC



 $A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow lltt + vvbb$

Exclusion limits in the $m_A - m_H$ plane in both type-I and type-II 2HDM (only type-I shown here)

 $gg \rightarrow A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow lltt$

 $gg \rightarrow A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow vvbb$



$t \rightarrow H^{\pm}b, H^{\pm} \rightarrow cb$

- Search for a charged Higgs boson produced in top-quark decays, $60 < m_{H^{\pm}} < 160 \text{ GeV}$
- Mass parametrized Neural Network discriminant



Largest excess: $3\sigma@m_{H^{\pm}} = 130$ GeV (Global significance: 2.5 σ)

A factor 5 improvement compared to previous CMS search (JHEP11(2018)115) and with extended mass range

Compared with predictions from the 3HDM

arXiv:2211.07505

$H^{\pm\pm}, H^{\pm\pm} \rightarrow l^{\pm}l^{\pm}$

- Search for pair production of doubly charged Higgs bosons H^{±±}, 300 < m_{H^{±±}} < 1300 GeV
 H^{±±} → l[±]l[±], l = e, μ, τ with electrons and muons in the final state
 Assuming the same Br of H^{±±} → ee, eµ, µµ, eτ, µτ, ττ final states
 - Benchmark signal model: left-right symmetric type-II seesaw and Zee–Babu
- Signal regions: $l^{\pm}l^{\pm}$, $l^{\pm}l^{\pm}l^{\mp}$, $l^{+}l^{+}l^{-}l^{-}$



 $m_{H^{\pm\pm}} < 1080 (900) \text{ GeV}$ excluded for the LRSM (Zee-Babu) model

Provides a first direct test of the Zee–Babu model $(k^{++}k^{--})$ at the LHC



Search invisible Higgs decays

Invisible Higgs decay

- In the SM, Br(H \rightarrow inv) = 0.1% ($H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4v$)
- Higgs portal is a benchmark Dark Matter model





Combination of invisible Higgs searches



Phys. Lett. B 842 (2023) 137963

Higgs portal Dark Matter





Search for HH production

DiHiggs production

- Non-resonant hh:
 - Direct probe of the trilinear Higgs self-coupling κ_{λ}
 - Main production processes: ggF and VBF

 $\sigma_{HH}^{GGF} = 31.05 \text{ fb} \pm 3\% (\text{PDF} + \alpha_S) \stackrel{+2.2\%}{_{-5\%}} (\text{scale}) \pm 2.6\% (m_t) @ 13 TeV$

 $\sigma_{HH}^{VBF} = 1.73 \text{ fb} \pm 2.1\% (\text{PDF} + \alpha_S) \stackrel{+0.03\%}{_{-0.04\%}} \text{(scale)} @ 13 \ TeV$

~2000 times smaller than that for the single Higgs production



hh combination





h + hh combination

Single-Higgs processes are indirectly sensitive to κ_{λ} via NLO EW corrections:



Linear correction $O(\kappa_{\lambda})$: both process and kinematics dependent



• Simplified template cross-section (STXS) results are parametrized as a function of $(\kappa_{\lambda}, \kappa_m)$ κ_m : the other couplings modifier $(\kappa_V, \kappa_t, \kappa_b, \kappa_\tau)$

$$n_{i,f}^{\text{signal}}(\kappa_{\lambda},\kappa_{m}) \propto \mu_{i}(\kappa_{\lambda},\kappa_{m}) \times \mu_{f}(\kappa_{\lambda},\kappa_{m}) \times \sigma_{\text{SM},i} \times \text{BR}_{\text{SM},f} \times (\epsilon \times A)_{if}$$
production
decay

h + hh combination



Provides the most stringent constraints on Higgs boson self-interactions to date

Combination assumption	Obs. 95% CL	Exp. 95% CL	Obs. value $^{+1\sigma}_{-1\sigma}$
HH combination	$-0.6 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.6$	$-2.1 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.8$	$\kappa_{\lambda} = 3.1^{+1.9}_{-2.0}$
Single- <i>H</i> combination	$-4.0 < \kappa_\lambda < 10.3$	$-5.2 < \kappa_\lambda < 11.5$	$\kappa_{\lambda} = 2.5^{+4.6}_{-3.9}$
HH+H combination	$-0.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.3$	$-1.9 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.6$	$\kappa_{\lambda} = 3.0^{+1.8}_{-1.9}$
<i>HH</i> + <i>H</i> combination, κ_t floating	$-0.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.3$	$-1.9 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.6$	$\kappa_{\lambda} = 3.0^{+1.8}_{-1.9}$
<i>HH</i> + <i>H</i> combination, κ_t , κ_V , κ_b , κ_τ floating	$-1.4 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.1$	$-2.2 < \kappa_{\lambda} < 7.7$	$\kappa_{\lambda} = 2.3^{+2.1}_{-2.0}$



Great advantage of combination

Summary

- Diverse program in the Higgs sector to probe BSM physics
 - Direct searches for Higgs-like new scalar or pseudo-scalars
 - Produced in pp collisions or exotic Higgs decays
 - Charged or doubly charged scalars
 - Invisible Higgs decays
 - DiHiggs production: resonance and non-resonance
- Covers many event topologies and BSM models
- No significant deviation from the SM yet, but Run3 data taking is on-going ... and the HL-LHC ...





Heavy resonances, $X \rightarrow WW$

ATLAS-CONF-2022-066

• Search for heavy narrow resonances in $X \rightarrow WW \rightarrow ev\mu v$



Results are interpreted in 5 signal models

FCNC $t \rightarrow qX, X \rightarrow bb$

arXiv:2301.03902

q = u/c

 W^{\cdot}

g

Lee-

- lepton+jets $tt \rightarrow (qX)(b\ell\nu)$ with scalar $X \rightarrow bb$ and q = u/c
 - Light scalar $m_X < m_t$ (uncovered search at the LHC)
- A mass-parameterized neural network to separate S/B
- Main bkg normalization from control regions



Axions



new vector-like quarks charged under PQ

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2HDM

• Two complex scalar SU(2) doublets

P. M. Ferreira et al. arXiv:1106.0034

$$V = m_{11}^{2} \Phi_{1}^{\dagger} \Phi_{1} + m_{22}^{2} \Phi_{2}^{\dagger} \Phi_{2} - m_{12}^{2} \left(\Phi_{1}^{\dagger} \Phi_{2} + \Phi_{2}^{\dagger} \Phi_{1} \right) + \frac{\lambda_{1}}{2} \left(\Phi_{1}^{\dagger} \Phi_{1} \right)^{2} + \frac{\lambda_{2}}{2} \left(\Phi_{2}^{\dagger} \Phi_{2} \right)^{2} + \lambda_{3} \Phi_{1}^{\dagger} \Phi_{1} \Phi_{2}^{\dagger} \Phi_{2} + \lambda_{4} \Phi_{1}^{\dagger} \Phi_{2} \Phi_{2}^{\dagger} \Phi_{1} + \frac{\lambda_{5}}{2} \left[\left(\Phi_{1}^{\dagger} \Phi_{2} \right)^{2} + \left(\Phi_{2}^{\dagger} \Phi_{1} \right)^{2} \right],$$

$$\Phi_a = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_a^+ \\ (v_a + \rho_a + i\eta_a) / \sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad a = 1, 2$$

$$\langle \Phi_1 \rangle_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{v_1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \langle \Phi_2 \rangle_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{v_2}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tan\beta \equiv \frac{v_2}{v_1}$$

	Type I	Type II	Lepton-specific	Flipped
ξ_h^u	$\cos lpha / \sin eta$	$\cos lpha / \sin eta$	$\cos lpha / \sin eta$	$\cos lpha / \sin eta$
ξ^d_h	$\cos lpha / \sin eta$	$-\sin lpha / \cos eta$	$\cos lpha / \sin eta$	$-\sin lpha / \cos eta$
ξ_h^ℓ	$\cos lpha / \sin eta$	$-\sinlpha/\coseta$	$-\sinlpha/\coseta$	$\cos lpha / \sin eta$
ξ^u_H	$\sin lpha / \sin eta$	$\sin lpha / \sin eta$	$\sin lpha / \sin eta$	$\sin lpha / \sin eta$
ξ^d_H	$\sin lpha / \sin eta$	$\cos lpha / \cos eta$	$\sin lpha / \sin eta$	$\cos lpha / \cos eta$
ξ^ℓ_H	$\sin lpha / \sin eta$	$\cos lpha / \cos eta$	$\cos lpha / \cos eta$	$\sin lpha / \sin eta$
ξ^u_A	\coteta	\coteta	\coteta	\coteta
ξ^d_A	$-\coteta$	aneta	$-\coteta$	aneta
ξ^ℓ_A	$-\coteta$	aneta	aneta	$-\coteta$

2HDM+a

- A simplified Dark Matter model for spin-0 mediators based on 2HDM
 - Gauge invariant and renormalisable
 - Pseudoscalar mediators: advantage of avoiding constraints from DM direct detection experiments
 - Recommended by the LHC DM WG (arXiv:1810.09420)
- Model parameters
 - 14 in total,
 - 2HDM parameters: m_h , m_H , $m_{H^{\pm}}$, m_A , λ_3 , VEV, $\tan\beta$, $\cos(\beta \alpha)$
 - Additional parameters on the pseudoscalar:
 - m_a : mass of the pseudoscalar
 - Quartic couplings with a: $\lambda P1$, $\lambda P2$
 - θ : mixing between a and A
 - Additional parameters on DM: m_{χ} , y_{χ} (the coupling between a and the DM)
 - reduced to 5 with some assumptions
 - $m_a, m_A, m_\chi, \tan\beta, \sin\theta$



U. Haisch et al JHEP05(2017)138

3HDM

• X, Y, and Z are coupling functions of four parameters of a unitary matrix U

$$\begin{pmatrix} G^+ \\ H_2^+ \\ H_3^+ \end{pmatrix} = U \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1^+ \\ \phi_2^+ \\ \phi_3^+ \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad X = \frac{U_{d2}^\dagger}{U_{d1}^\dagger}, \qquad Y = -\frac{U_{u2}^\dagger}{U_{u1}^\dagger}, \qquad Z = \frac{U_{\ell2}^\dagger}{U_{\ell1}^\dagger}$$

The values of d, u, and I in these matrix elements depend on which of the five distinct 3HDMs is under consideration

	11	d	P
911DM (Trans I)	0 0	a 0	2 0
3HDM (Type I)	Z	Z	Z
3HDM (Type II)		1	1
3HDM (Lepton-specific)		2	1
3HDM (Flipped)		1	2
3HDM (Democratic)		1	3

A.G. Akeroyd, Stefano Moretti, Muyuan Song, arXiv:1810.05403

Summary plots: generic (narrow width) neutral scalars

ATL-PHYS-PUB-2023-007



Summary plots: diboson resonances

<u>ATL-PHYS-PUB-2023-007</u>



Excluded mass range [TeV]

Summary plots: hMSSM and 2HDM ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-043



Summary plots: Georgi-Machacek



Summary plots: $X \rightarrow hh$

ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-031



Boosted $a \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$

- Shape parameterized with analytical functions
 - Background modelling uncertainties reduced with Gaussian Processes



Boosted $a \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$



Low-mass resonance $X \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$

A diphoton BDT is used to discriminate between diphoton events from Higgs boson decays and those from the diphoton continuum CMS PAS HIG-20-002



Low-mass resonance $X \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$

- Background-only fits to data
 - Background modelled with analytical functions
 - Modelling systematics reduced after smoothing with a Gaussian Process regression



ATLAS-CONF-2023-035

Heavy resonances, $X \rightarrow WW$

ATLAS-CONF-2022-066

- Results are interpreted in 5 signal models
 - a Higgs-like narrow width scalar
 - a Higgs boson in the Georgi–Machacek model
 - a radion particle arising in the bulk Randall-Sundrum model
 - a spin-1 heavy vector triplet







 $tta, a \rightarrow \mu\mu$

arXiv:2304.14247

• 2HDM+a Results



Expected and observed lower limits on $tan\beta$

 $t \rightarrow H^{\pm}b, H^{\pm} \rightarrow cb$



$H^{\pm\pm}, H^{\pm\pm} \to l^\pm l^\pm$

• Results

Assuming the same branching ratio of $H^{\pm\pm} \rightarrow ee, e\mu, \mu\mu, e\tau, \mu\tau, \tau\tau$ final states



Sensitivity driven by the 4l channel

$A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow lltt + vvbb$

$$gg \to A \to ZH \to lltt$$

 $\Delta m = m_A^{cand} - m_H^{cand} \cong m_A - m_H$

 $gg \rightarrow A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow vvbb$



$X \rightarrow hh, hh \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$ • $\tau_{had}\tau_{had}$ and $\tau_{lep}\tau_{had}$ di-tau final states + 2-b jets • pDNN to separate S/B





 $X \rightarrow hh, hh \rightarrow bb\tau\tau$

