

# Exotic Higgs Decays at Future Colliders

FCC Higgs/EWSB WG meeting  
@  
CERN

25 February 2015

David Curtin  
University of Maryland

# Exotic Higgs Decays

## Motivation

- The couplings of the SM-like higgs will be determined by **coupling fits** with  $\sim 10\%$  precision by the end of the LHC program.

$\text{Br}(h \rightarrow \text{invisible})$  can be constrained to only  $\sim 10\%$  with 3000/fb

1310.8361 Dawson et al

- Imagine an exotic higgs decay with 10% Br.

Run 1 data could contain  $O(50,000)$  exotic higgs decays per experiment.

Run 2:  $O(1 \text{ million})$

HL-LHC:  $O(10 \text{ million})$

**If we do not look, we will not find!**

- Important theoretical motivations to consider exotic higgs decays:

1. The higgs width is extremely narrow ( $\sim 4 \text{ MeV}$ ).

Tiny couplings  $\sim 0.01$  can give  $\text{Br} \sim 10\%$ .

2. New physics can easily couple to SM via Higgs Portal  $\Delta\mathcal{L} = \frac{\mu}{\Lambda^2}|H|^2\bar{\psi}\psi$   $\Delta\mathcal{L} = \frac{\zeta}{2}s^2|H|^2$

3. Vast theory literature on models with light BSM sectors coupling to the Higgs.

For survey, see DC, Essig, Gori, Jaiswal, Katz, Liu, Liu, McKeen, Shelton, Strassler, Surujon, Tweedie, Zhong, arXiv:1312.4992

# Naive Reach Estimates

e.g.  
 $h \rightarrow Z_D Z_D \rightarrow 4l$

e.g.  
 $h \rightarrow 2a \rightarrow 4b$   
 or even  $h \rightarrow \text{jets}$

	E (TeV)	lumi (/fb)	$N_{\text{higgs}}$ (all)	$N_{\text{higgs}}$ (clean)	Br sensitivity for very <b>conspicuous</b> decays	Br sensitivity for very <b>difficult</b> decays
LHC run 1	7,8	25	500k	0	$10^{-4}$	$O(1)$ or worse
LHC run 2	14	300	10 million	0	$10^{-5}$	$O(0.1) - O(1)$
HL-LHC	14	3000	100 million	0	$10^{-6}$	?
ILC	0.25 - 1	7000	1 million	40k	$10^{-4} - 10^{-5}$	$10^{-2}$
TLEP	0.25ish	10000	3 million	300k	$10^{-5}$	$10^{-3}$
100 TeV	100	3000	few billion	0	$10^{-7} - 10^{-8}$	$10^{-2} \text{ ???}$

**100 TeV collider is an intensity frontier experiment to study the Higgs!**

# Good example: Dark Photons

## Simplified Model Lagrangian

- Many motivations for considering this: arises as part of UV complete models, hidden valleys, can help with anomalies, etc...
- Add a new *higgsed*  $U(1)_D$  gauge group. Get SM singlet scalar (mix with Higgs) and dark photon (mix with hypercharge)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} = -\frac{1}{4}\hat{B}_{\mu\nu}\hat{B}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}\hat{Z}_{D\mu\nu}Z_D^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\epsilon}{\cos\theta_W}\hat{B}_{\mu\nu}\hat{Z}_D^{\mu\nu}$$

Hypercharge Portal

$$V_0 = -\mu^2|H|^2 + \lambda|H|^4 - \mu_D^2|S|^2 + \lambda_D|S|^4 + \zeta|S|^2|H|^2$$

Higgs Portal

- Recently studied prospects of probing these two portals at future colliders. DC, Rouven Essig, Stefania Gori, Jessie Shelton, 1412.0018

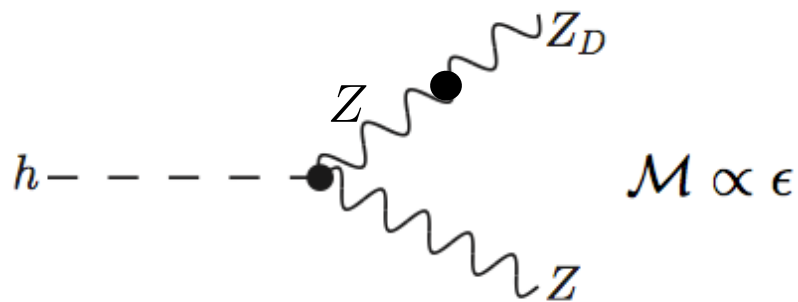
# Higgs $\rightarrow$ Dark Vector

Two kinds of exotic higgs decays to dark photons

via kinetic mixing

$$\epsilon \gg \zeta$$

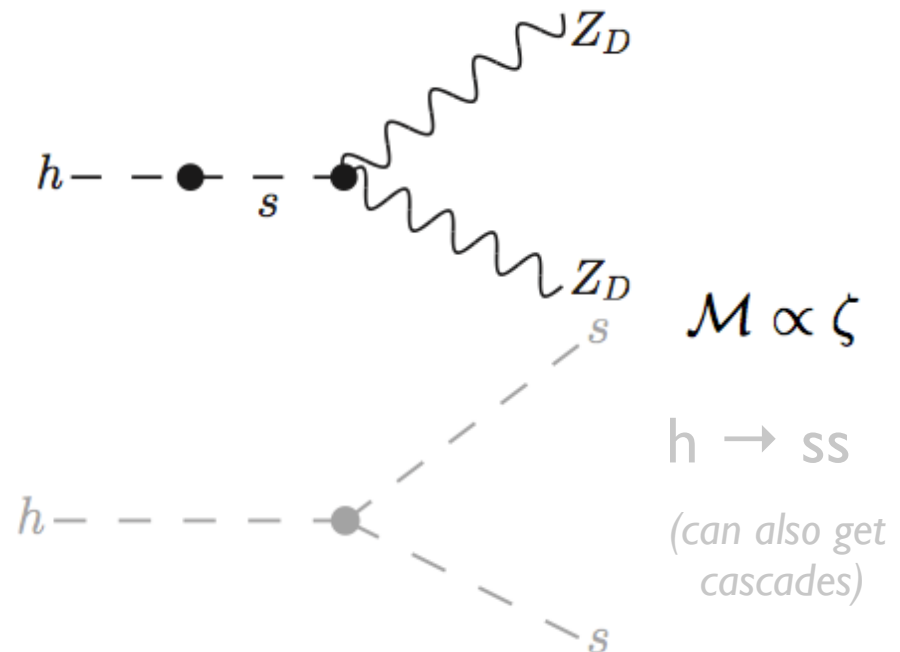
$$\text{Br}(h \rightarrow Z Z_D) \propto \epsilon^2$$



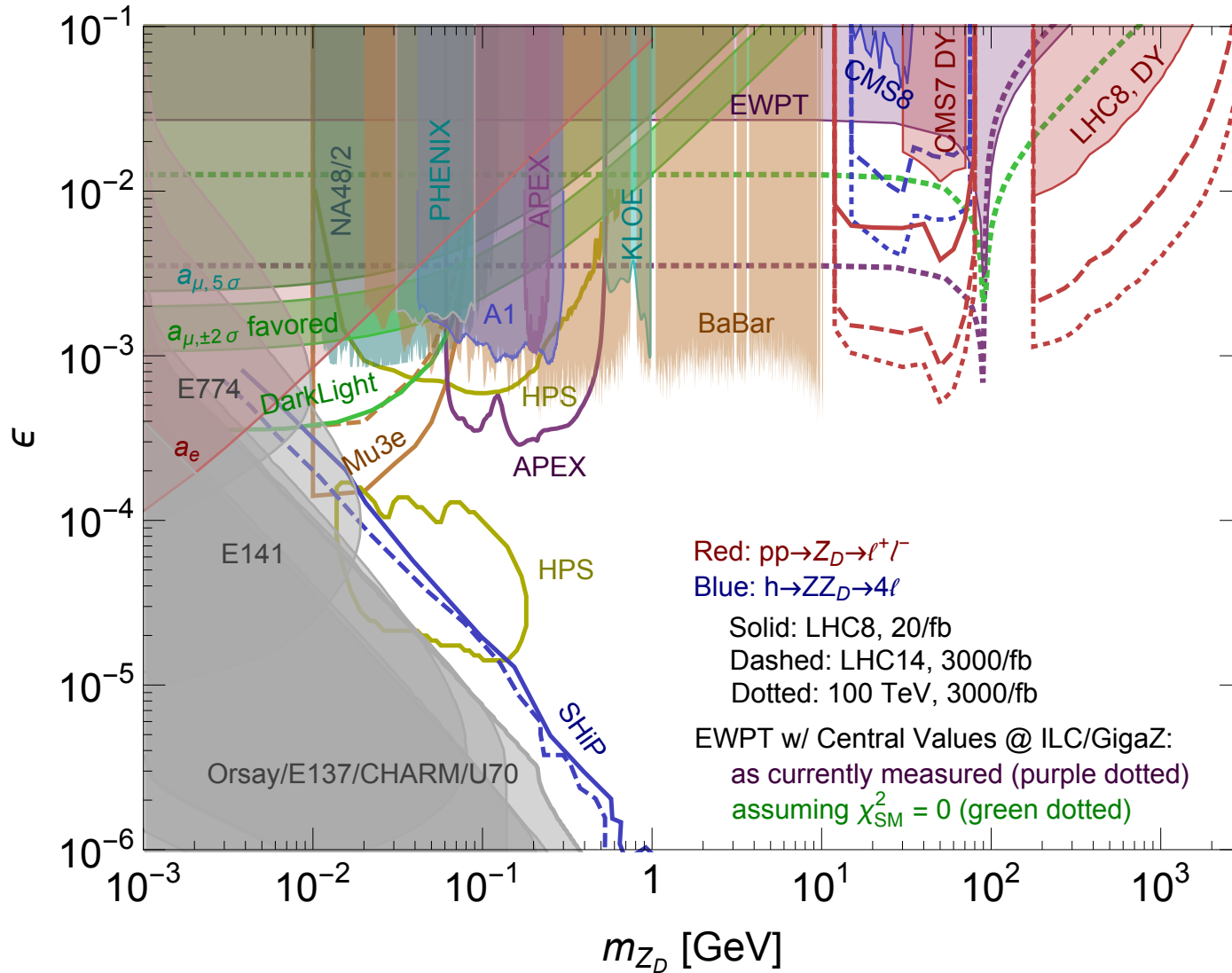
via higgs mixing

$$\zeta \gg \epsilon \neq 0 \text{ (to let } Z_D \text{ decay)}$$

$$\text{Br}(h \rightarrow Z_D Z_D) \propto \zeta' \equiv \zeta \left| \frac{m_h^2}{m_h^2 - m_s^2} \right|$$



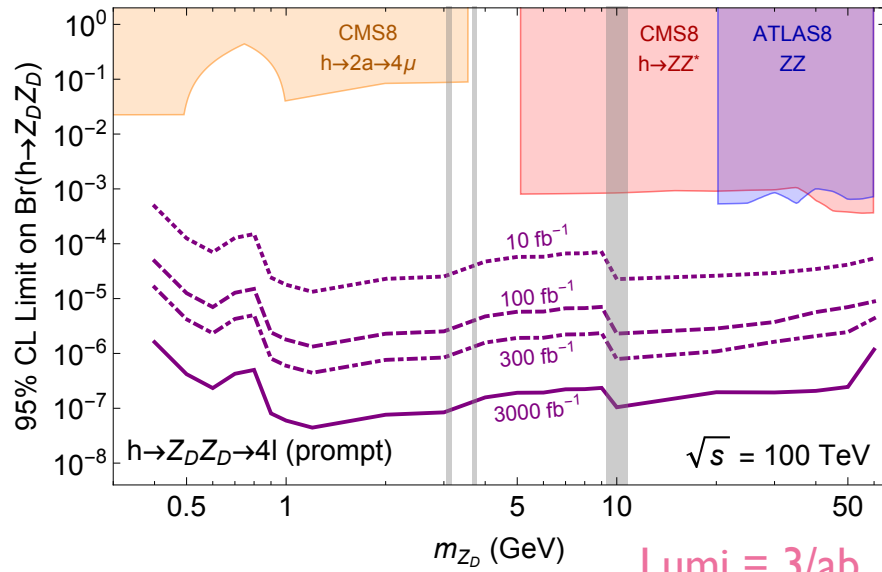
# Probing Kinetic Mixing



DY production  
 $pp \rightarrow Z_D$   
 and exotic Higgs  
 decay  
 $h \rightarrow Z^{(*)} Z_D$   
 are both needed to  
 characterize the  
 dark photon and can  
 probe  $\epsilon \sim 10^{-3}$ .

Direct searches beat  
 EWPT.

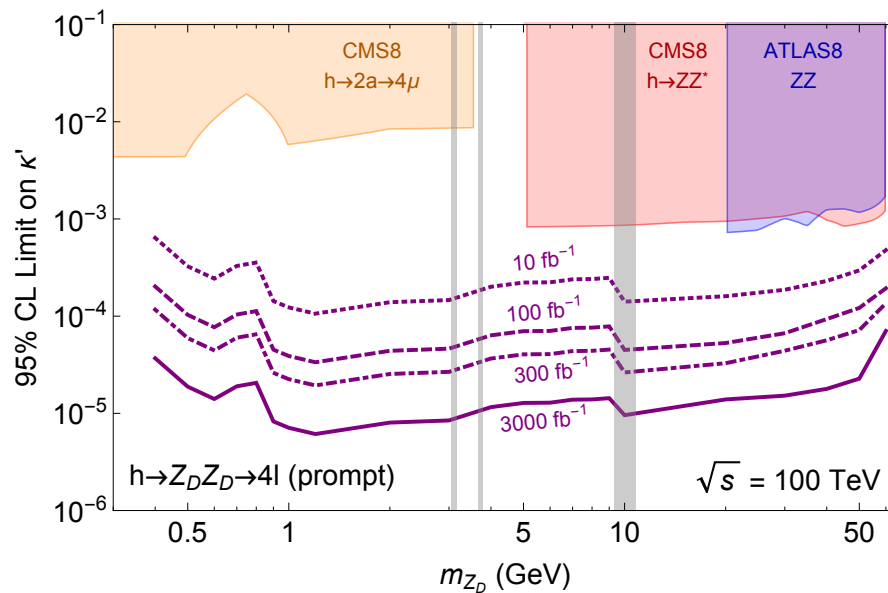
# Probing Higgs Mixing



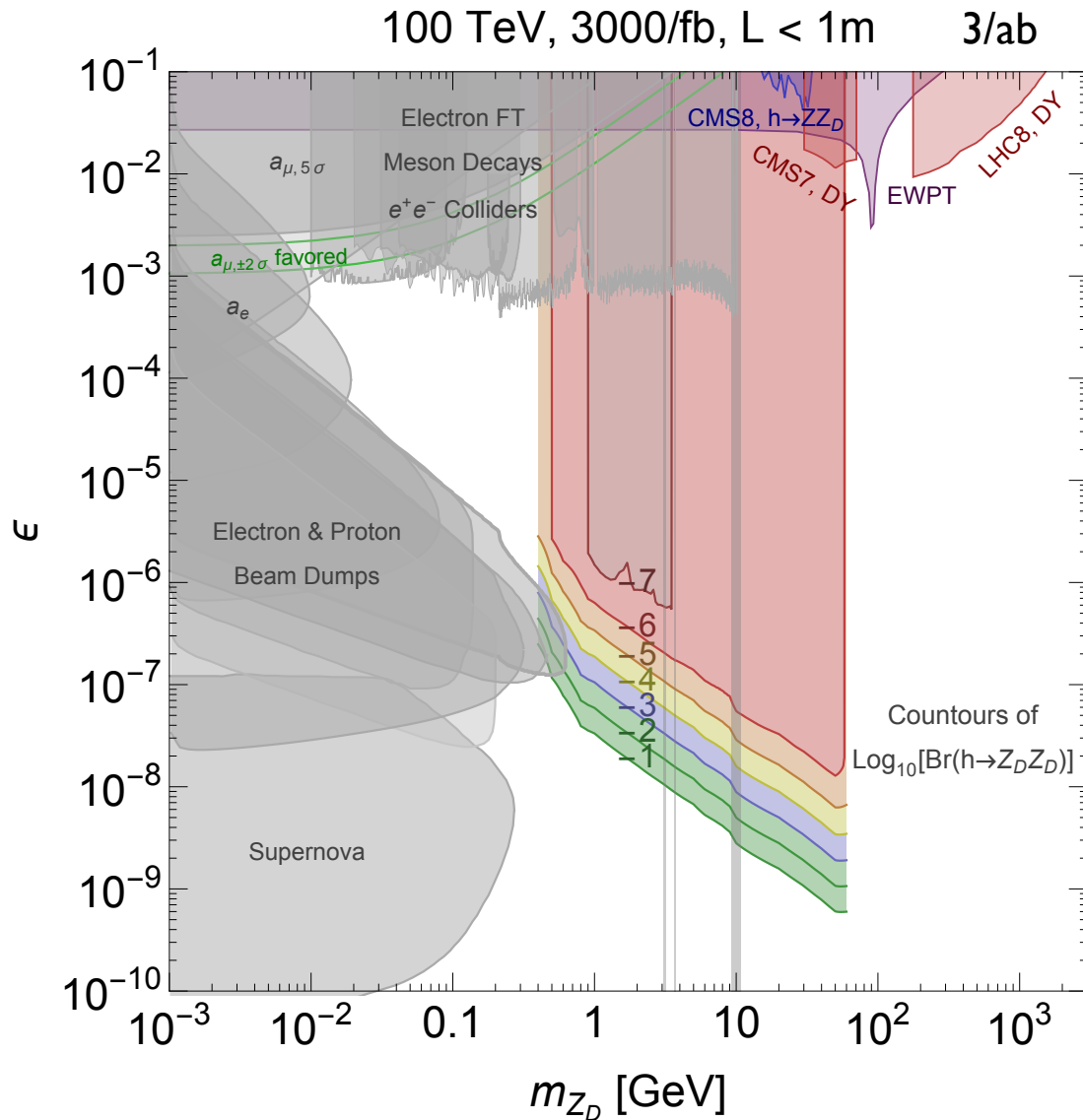
The only\* way to probe higgs mixing is via the exotic Higgs decay  $h \rightarrow Z_D Z_D$ .

At 100 TeV, get expected  $\sim 10^{-8}$  Br sensitivity for a conspicuous decay.

Probe couplings smaller than  $10^{-5}$ .



# Probing Kinetic Mixing *via* Higgs Mixing



If there is Higgs mixing, have exotic Higgs decay  $h \rightarrow Z_D Z_D$ .

However, kinetic mixing  $\epsilon$  has to be nonzero to allow decay of  $Z_D$ .

If we detect  $h \rightarrow Z_D Z_D$  via prompt decay, then we have detected  $\epsilon > 10^{-6}$

(much better than direct probe of  $\epsilon$ )

Enormous signal rates at pp colliders allow detection of extremely long-lived particles.

Can probe  $\epsilon \sim 10^{-10}$  if Higgs mixing is sizable!



# Conclusions

- Exotic Higgs decays are well-motivated theoretically and experimentally and may be the only window into new physics.
- A 100 TeV collider is uniquely well suited to look for rare Higgs decays due to the enormous number of produced Higgs particles.
- The large rates can probe extremely small couplings, and/or extremely long life-times of produced particles.
- Underlines importance of triggering on and reconstructing low- $p_T$  objects at 100 TeV.
- For exotic Higgs decays with difficult final states (hadronic, MET, ...), future lepton colliders provide best discovery avenue.