

Searches for dark matter with the ATLAS detector

DIS 2022

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Danika MacDonell, on behalf of the ATLAS
Collaboration

Summary of Talk

Introduction to dark matter detection

Searches for invisible Higgs decays

Constraints on new spin-0 dark matter mediators

Constraints on 2HDM+a model from $X+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ searches

Summary of Talk

Introduction to dark matter detection

Searches for invisible Higgs decays

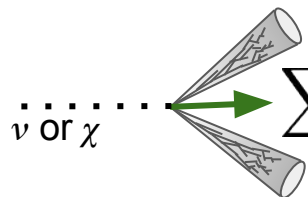
Constraints on new spin-0 dark matter mediators

Constraints on 2HDM+a model from $X+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ searches

DM generically represented as χ

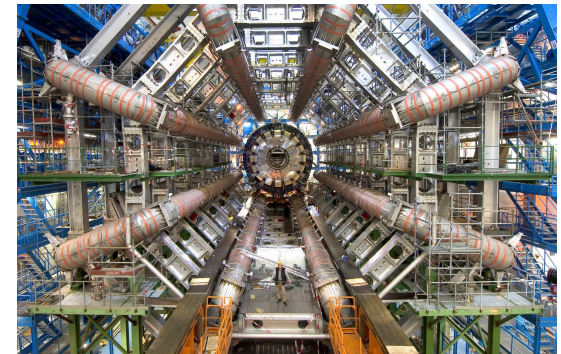
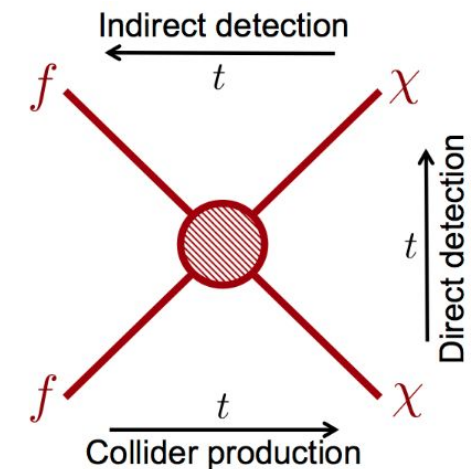
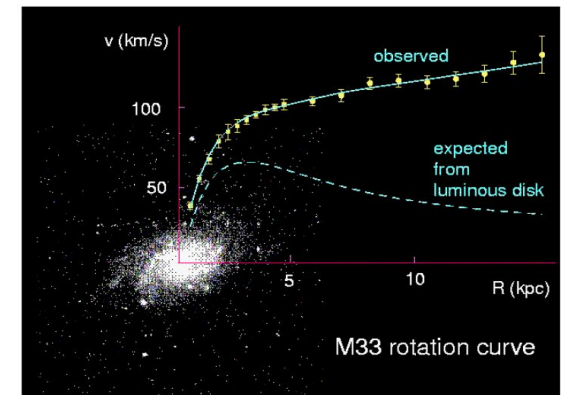
Dark Matter Detection

- Longstanding evidence for dark matter (DM) from observations of its gravitational interactions.
- Many complementary methods aim to detect DM via non-gravitational interactions.
- DM production probed at the energy frontier at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC).
 - Assume DM is a WIMP, which passes invisibly through the detector \Rightarrow detectable as E_T^{miss} due to \mathbf{p}_T conservation.
 - Search for signature of $X + E_T^{\text{miss}}$, where “X” represents visible SM particle(s).



$$E_T^{\text{miss}} \equiv \left| - \sum \vec{p}_T \right|$$

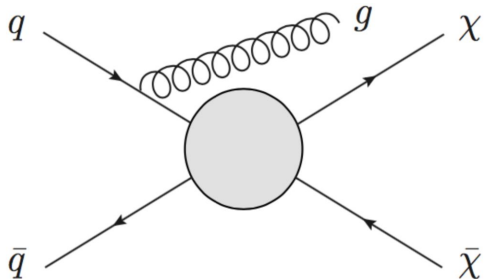
- Focus on recent DM search results using the ATLAS detector at the LHC.



Models of DM Production

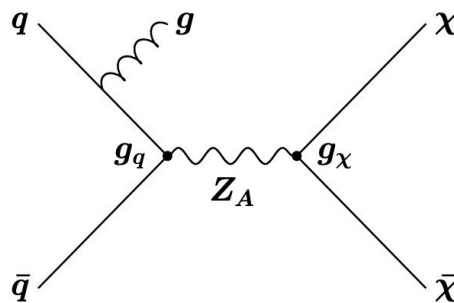
Effective Field Theories (EFT)

Dark matter production mechanism unspecified.



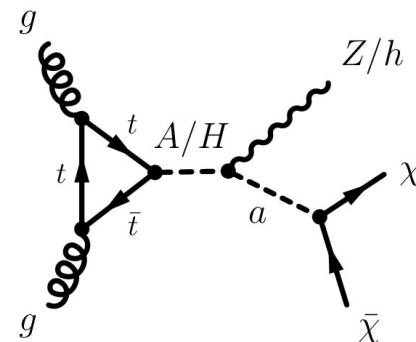
Simplified Models

- Signature-driven first-order description of new physics.
- Bridge gap between EFT and complete models.



Complete Models

- Dark matter predicted as part of a complete theory.
- Eg. 2HDM+a

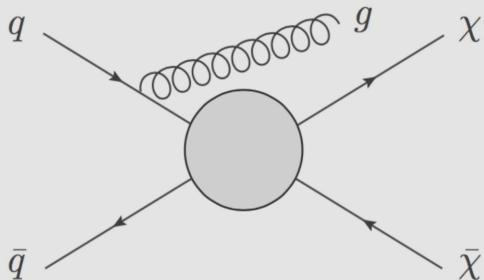


Models of DM Production

EFTs were focus of Run-1 searches (2009-2013 LHC data).
⇒ limited range of signatures.

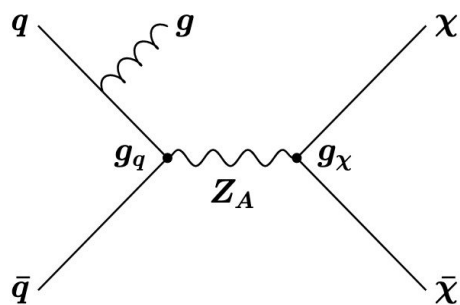
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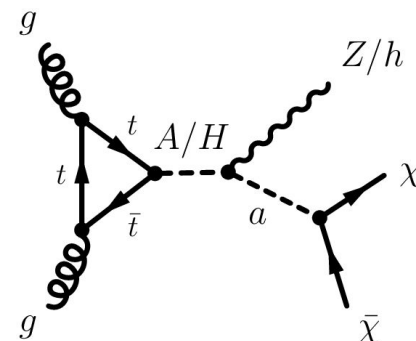
Simplified Models

- Signature-driven first-order description of new physics.
- Bridge gap between EFT and complete models.



Complete Models

- Dark matter predicted as part of a complete theory.
- Eg. 2HDM+a



Talk covers interpretations using **simplified models**, and complete **2HDM+a model**.

⇒ Primary focus of *Run-2* searches (2015-2018 LHC data).

Simplified Models

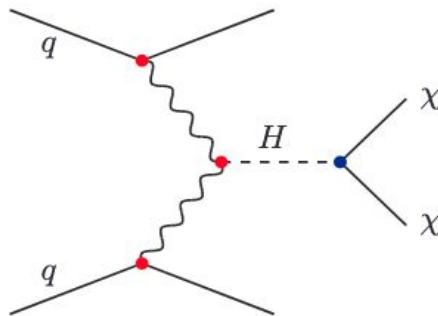
Hypothesize one or more *mediators* of interactions between DM and Standard Model (SM) particles.

⇒ Probed by $E_T^{\text{miss}} + X$ searches, and direct resonance searches for the mediators.

Higgs portal

Free parameters:

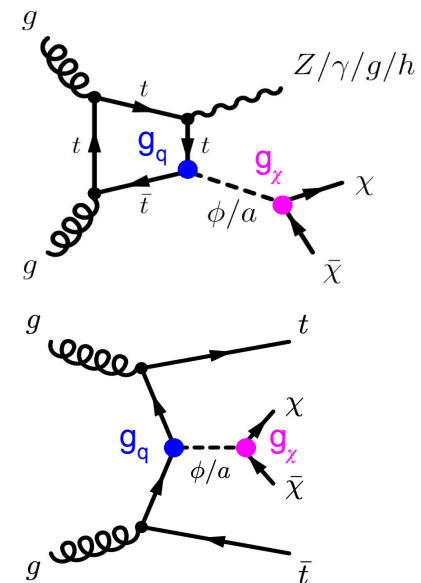
- m_χ
- χ spin



New spin-0 mediator

Free parameters:

- m_χ
- $m_{\phi/a}$
- g_q
- g_χ



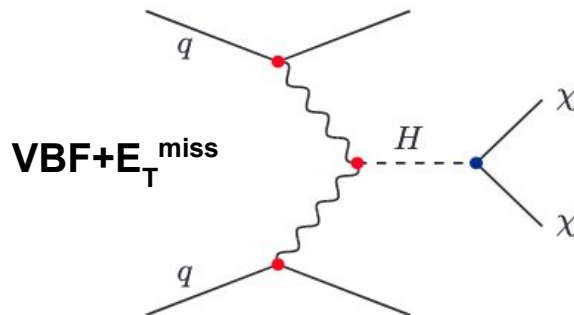
Simplified Models

Can be probed with a rich range of final-state signatures.

- **Higgs portal** constrained by searches for Higgs→invisible decays.
- **Spin-0 mediator model** probed in $X+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and $t\bar{t}+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ final states.

Higgs portal

Most sensitive signature:

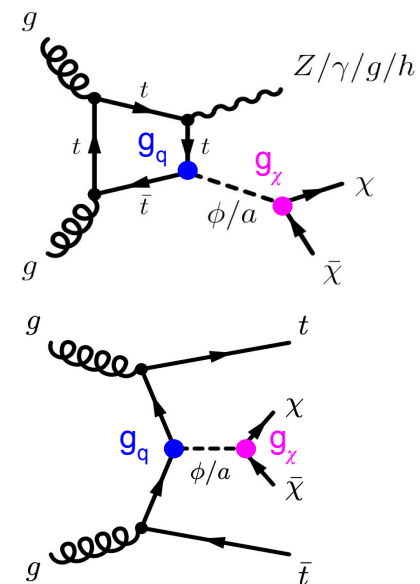


New spin-0 mediator

Signatures:

$X+E_T^{\text{miss}}$

$t\bar{t}+E_T^{\text{miss}}$



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Constraints on 2HDM+a model from $X+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ searches

VBF+E_T^{miss}

Higgs Portal: If the SM Higgs mediates SM-DM interactions, BF (B_{inv}) for $h \rightarrow \text{inv}$ decays could be much higher than $\sim 0.1\%$ predicted by SM.

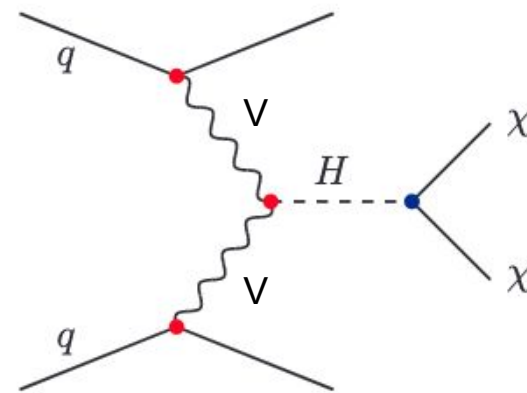
VBF+E_T^{miss} signature: Highest expected global sensitivity to B_{inv} .

- VBF+E_T^{miss}+ γ ([EPJC 82, 105 \(2022\)](#)) and $Z(\ell\ell)+E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ ([Phys. Lett. B 829 \(2022\)](#)) final states also set limits on B_{inv} .

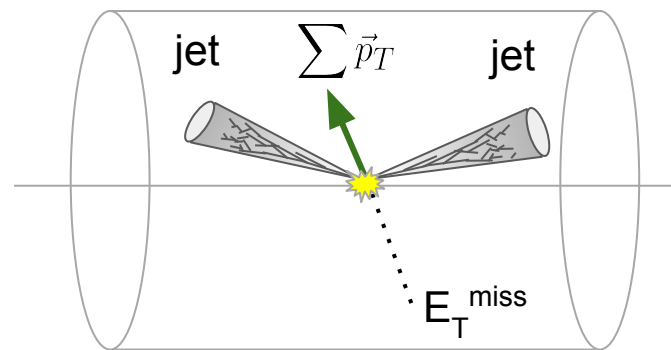
Event selection: Select for **expected signal topology** in signal region (SR):

- Two energetic jets in opposite hemispheres: large m_{jj} and $\Delta\eta_{jj}$.
- High $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ to select for $\chi\chi$ in final state.
- Up to 4 final-state jets (allows for ISR/FSR).
- No leptons: $n_{\ell}=0$.

VBF+E_T^{miss} signature



Signal Topology in Detector

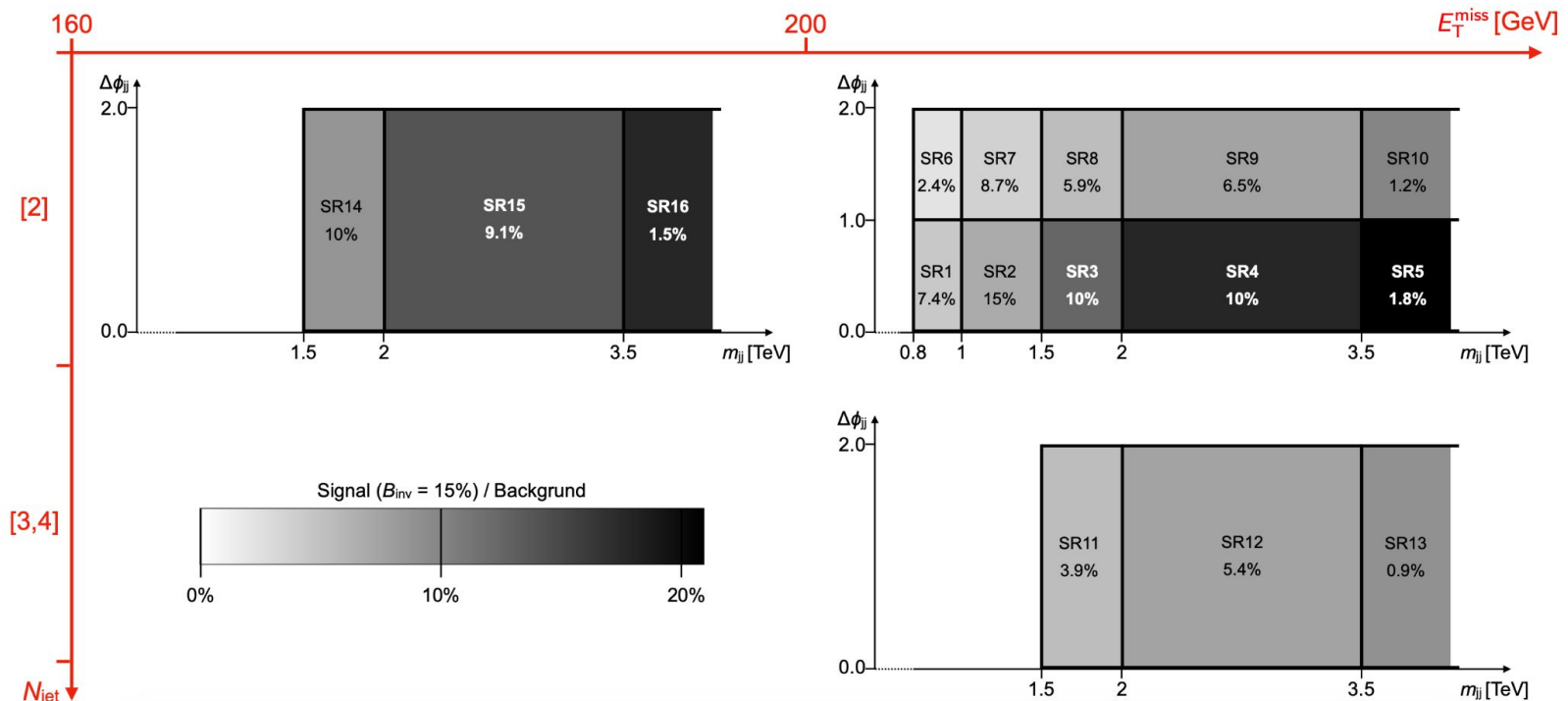


VBF+E_T^{miss}: Binning Strategy

Divide selected events into 16 bins \Rightarrow Improves sensitivity by adding shape info.

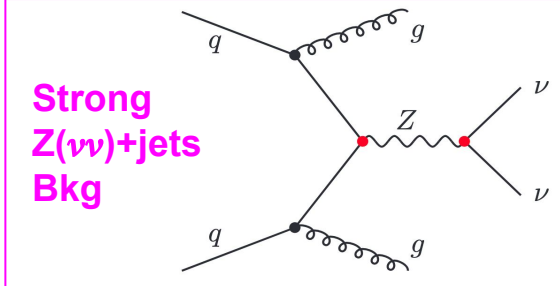
Binning variables:

- E_T^{miss} (2 bins)
- Final-state jet multiplicity N_{jet} (2 bins)
- m_{jj}
- $\Delta\phi_{jj}$



VBF+E_T^{miss}

V+jets Bkg Estimation:



SM $Z(\nu\nu)$ +jets and $W(\ell\nu)$ +jets (V+jets) are dominant bkg → simulated with MC.

- Using full *Run-2* dataset ⇒ important to minimize V+jets modelling uncertainties.
- **Control regions (CRs)** used for data-driven constraints on V+jets yields.
- Due to relatively low stats in $Z_{\ell\ell}$ CR, all V+jets bkg constrained simultaneously in all CRs.
- Requires **precise NLO calculation** of ratio $\mathcal{R}_{\text{TH}}^{Z/W}$ of Z to W cross sections.
- Reweight all Z+jets events (depending on their m_{jj}) by:

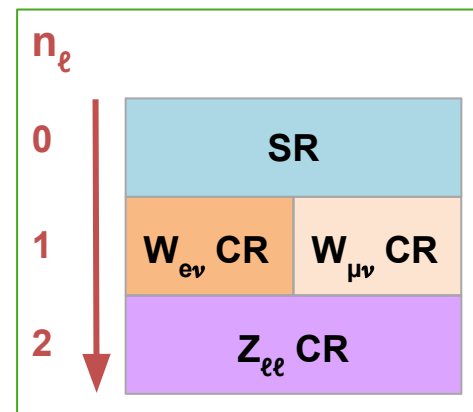
$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{TH}}^{Z/W}(m_{jj})/\mathcal{R}_{\text{MC}}^{Z/W}(m_{jj}) \text{ where } \mathcal{R}_{\text{MC}}^{Z/W} \text{ is the ratio for the nominal MC.}$$

Multijet Bkg Estimation: also important due to large uncertainty.

- Estimated with two independent methods (simulation and dedicated CR)
- Use combination of both methods to get multijet estimate with minimal uncertainties.

Statistical Analysis:

- Apply same binning used in SR to all CRs.
- $h \rightarrow \text{inv}$ signal model simulated, assuming 100% B_{inv} .
- Simultaneous profiled likelihood fit of signal and SM backgrounds to data in all bins of SR and CRs.
- Floating fit parameters:
 - $h \rightarrow \text{inv}$ BF
 - V+jets normalization factor β_i in each bin i .



Dedicated NLO calculation of $\mathcal{R}_{\text{TH}}^{Z/W}$ in VBF-like phase space provided by collaborating theorists Jonas Lindert, Marek Schönherr and Stefano Pozzorini.

VBF+E_T^{miss}

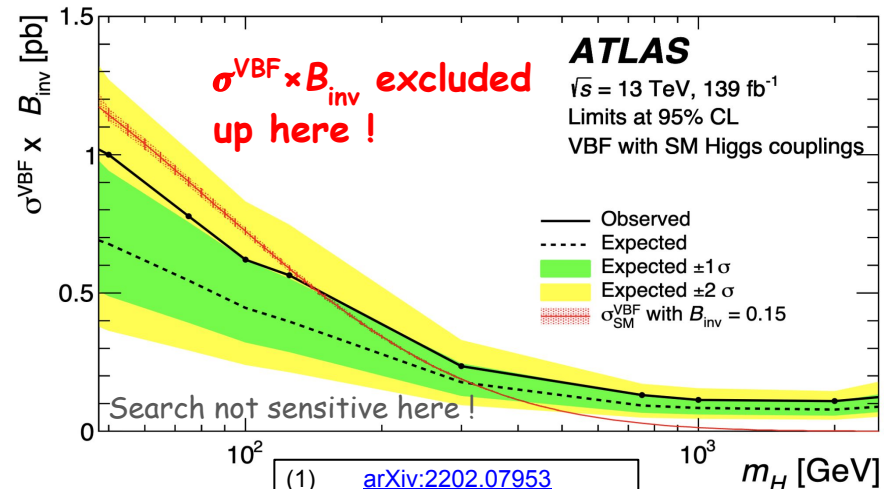
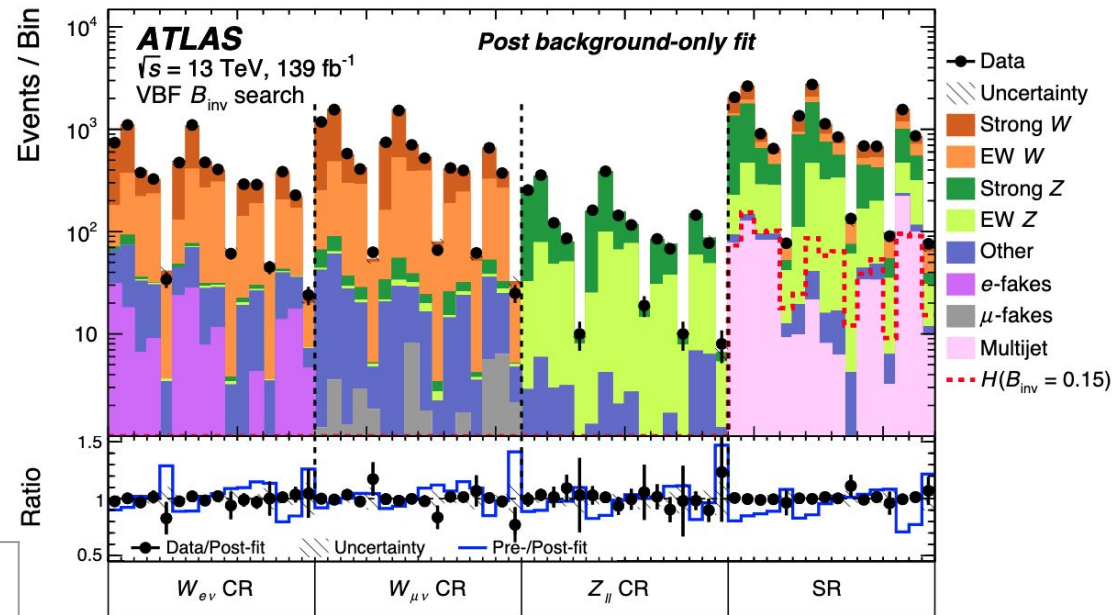
VBF+E_T^{miss} Result: Data consistent with SM bkg \Rightarrow upper limit placed on B_{inv} using CL_s method.

Combo: Recent combo of $h \rightarrow \text{inv}$ searches ([ATLAS-CONF-2020-052](https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.052), see backup)

\Rightarrow sensitivity dominated by VBF+E_T^{miss}

Publication	Expected $B_{\text{inv}}^{\text{upper}}$	Observed $B_{\text{inv}}^{\text{upper}}$
(1) VBF+E _T ^{miss}	10.3%	14.5%
(2) $h \rightarrow \text{inv}$ combo	11%	11%
(3) $Z(\ell\ell)+E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$	19%	19%
(4) VBF+E _T ^{miss} + γ	34%	37%

Constraints on $\sigma_{\text{VBF}} \times B_{\text{inv}}$ for new scalar mediator: Latest VBF+E_T^{miss} search also places upper bounds on $\sigma_{\text{VBF}} \times B_{\text{inv}}$ for new scalar mediator of variable mass (assume couplings otherwise follow SM Higgs).



- (1) [arXiv:2202.07953](https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.07953)
- (2) [ATLAS-CONF-2020-052](https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.052)
- (3) [Phys. Lett. B 829 \(2022\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.07953)
- (4) [EPJC 82, 105 \(2022\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.07953)

Summary of Talk

Introduction to dark matter detection

Searches for invisible Higgs decays

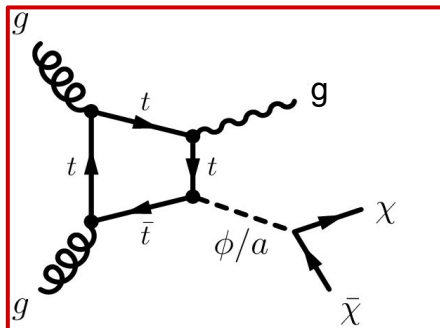
Constraints on new spin-0 dark matter mediators

Constraints on 2HDM+a model from $X+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ searches

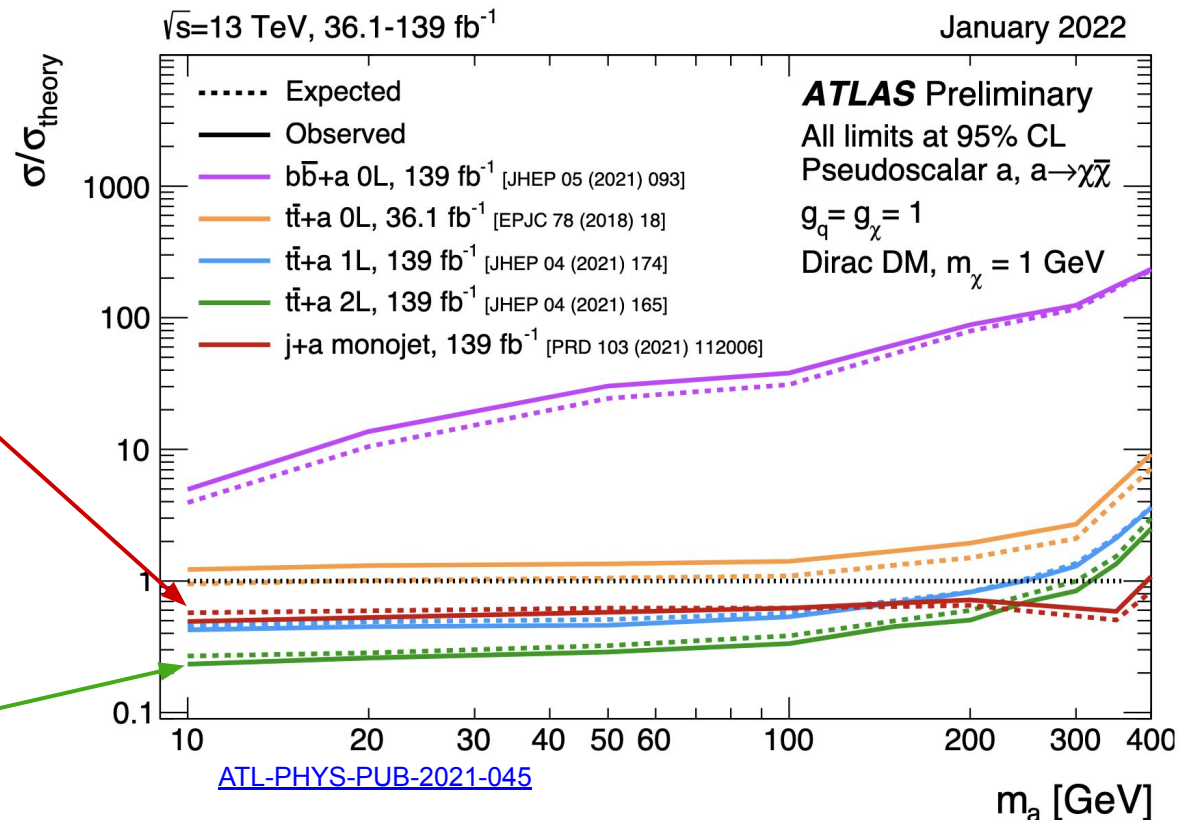
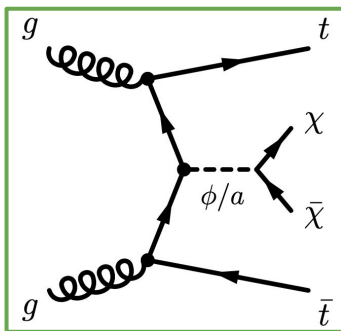
$X+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ Bounds on New Spin-0 Mediators

Tightest bounds^(*) on simplified spin-0 mediator model come from searches in the $t\bar{t}+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and $\text{jet}+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ ([PRD 103, 112006 \(2021\)](#)) final states.

$\text{jet}+E_T^{\text{miss}}$
signature



$t\bar{t}+E_T^{\text{miss}}$
signature



^(*)Comparison of bounds depends on choice of couplings.

$tt+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ Combination

Recently performed statistical combination of $tt+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ searches ([ATLAS-CONF-2022-007](#)).

General selections for $tt+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ final state:

- ≥ 1 b-tagged jet ($t \rightarrow bW$ decay dominant)
- High E_T^{miss}

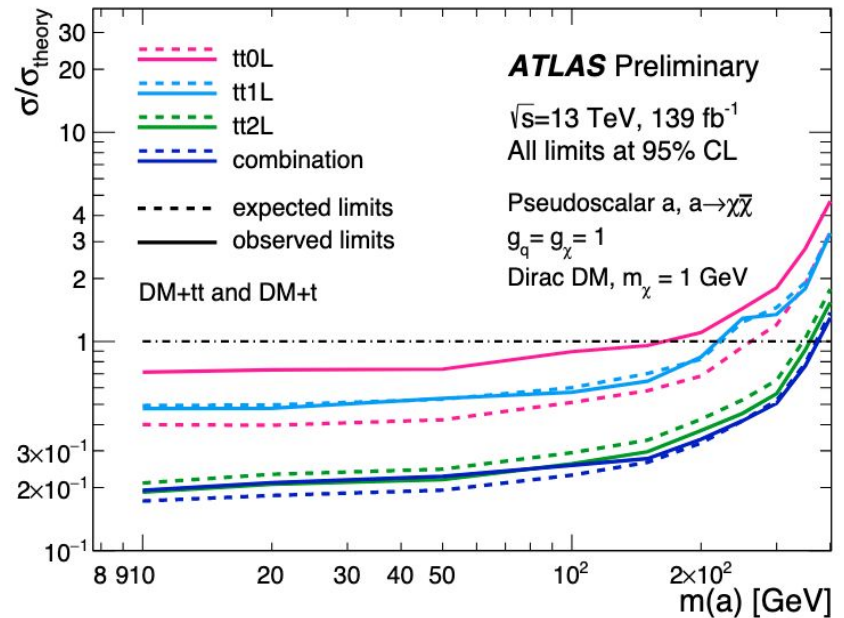
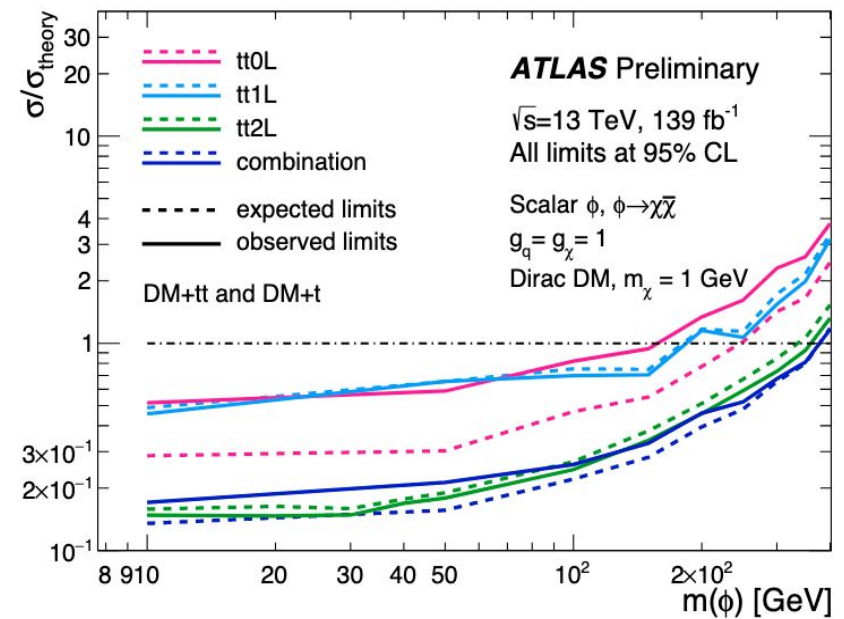
Combination:

- **tt0L** ([EPJC 80, 737 \(2020\)](#)): fully hadronic
 - Newly-added “tt0l-low” selection optimized at low E_T^{miss} to target low mediator masses,
- **tt1L** ([JHEP 04, \(2021\) 174](#)): semileptonic
- **tt2L** ([JHEP 04, \(2021\) 165](#)): fully leptonic
 - Fully-leptonic (tt2L) most sensitive to simplified spin-0 mediator model.

Results:

- Excluded mass range^(*) of scalar (pseudoscalar) spin-0 mediator extended by 100 (30) GeV relative to tt2L alone.

^(*)Mediator masses for which $\sigma/\sigma_{\text{theory}} > 1$ are excluded.



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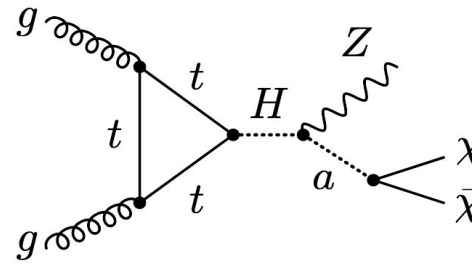
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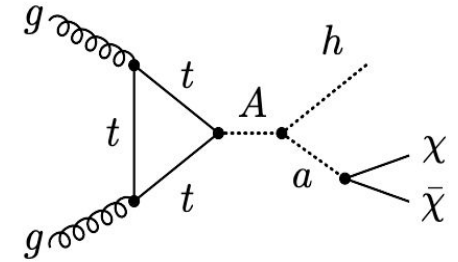
2HDM+a Model

- Extend the SM by postulating:
 - Two** Higgs doublets
 - New pseudoscalar DM mediator “a”
- Predicts 5 Higgs bosons:
 - 2 scalars: h (SM Higgs), H (new particle)
 - 1 heavy pseudoscalar A
 - 2 charged Higgs H^\pm
- Adds several free parameters, incl.:
 - m_A, m_H, m_a
 - $\tan\beta$: ratio of VEVs of the two Higgs doublets
 - $\sin\theta$: Mixing angle between a and A
- Simplest gauge-invariant and renormalizable extension of simplified pseudoscalar DM mediator model.
- Wide variety of complementary signatures.
- Visible SM particle(s) produced by hard scatter rather than ISR.
- Run-2 ATLAS data can probe 2HDM+a parameters consistent with observed DM relic density.

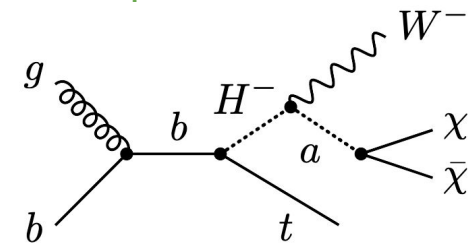
$Z+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ Signature



$h+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ Signature



$tW+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ Signature



Benchmark Parameter Choices

$$M_H = M_A = M_{H^\pm}$$

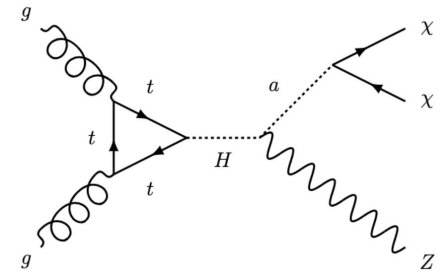
$$\tan\beta = 1$$

$$m_\chi = 10 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\sin\theta = 0.35$$

$Z(\ell\ell)+E_T^{\text{miss}}$

2HDM+a signature
(s-channel)



Strong constraints on 2HDM+a model.

⇒ Most recent search targets $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ decay.

Event selection:

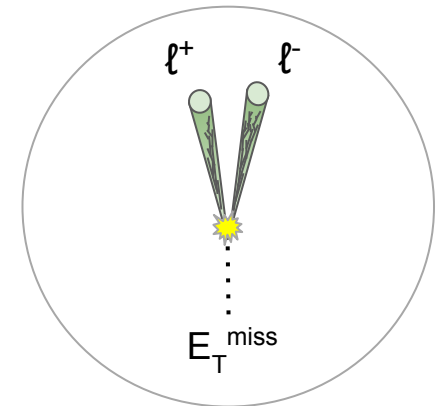
- Signal topology:** collimated $\ell^+\ell^-$ pair, recoiling against E_T^{miss} .

⇒ Require:

- Small $\Delta R_{\ell\ell}$
- $m_{\ell\ell}$ near m_Z
- large E_T^{miss}

n_ℓ	Same-flavour $\ell\ell$	Opposite-flavour $\ell\ell$
2	SR	$e\mu$ CR
3	3 ℓ CR	
4	4 ℓ CR	

Signal Topology in Detector



Background Estimation:

- Dominant SM background from $ZZ(\ell\ell\nu\nu)$, followed by WZ and Z+jets and non-resonant (WW, tt, single top, $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$).
- All background processes modelled with MC simulation.
- CRs** additionally defined for data-driven constraints.

CR	Constrains
$e\mu$	$\Sigma(\text{non-resonant bkg})$
3 ℓ	WZ bkg
4 ℓ	ZZ bkg

$Z(\ell\ell)+E_T^{\text{miss}}$

Fit strategy:

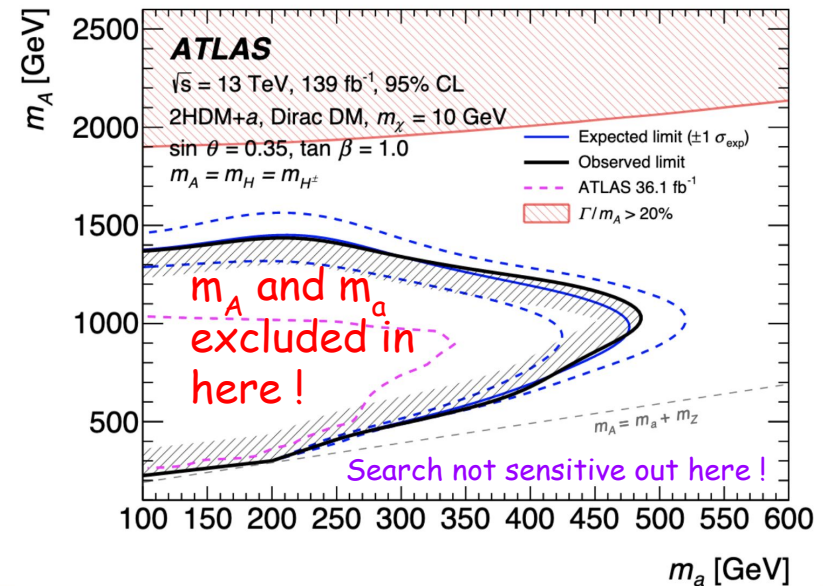
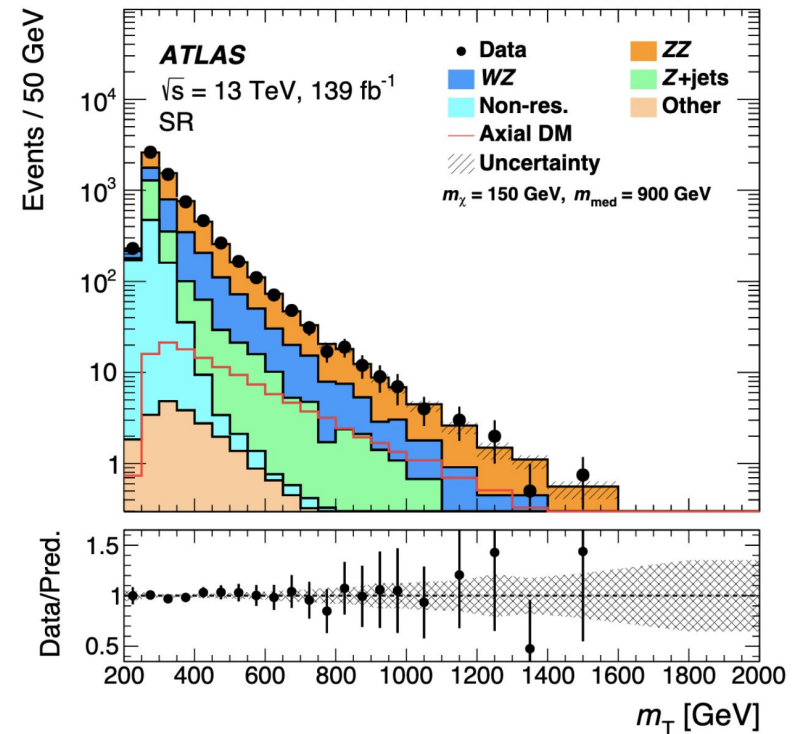
- Bin SR and eμ CR in ZZ m_T to improve shape discrimination:

$$m_T = \sqrt{\left[\sqrt{m_Z^2 + (p_T^{\ell\ell})^2} + \sqrt{m_Z^2 + (E_T^{\text{miss}})^2} \right]^2 - \left[\vec{p}_T^{\ell\ell} + \vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}} \right]^2}$$

- Bin 3ℓ CR and 4ℓ CR in E_T^{miss} .
- Simulate 2HDM+a signal model over range of m_a , m_A , $\tan\beta$, $\sin\theta$.
- For each parameter choice, simultaneous likelihood fit in SR and all CRs, fit for:
 - signal strength μ ,
 - normalizations of WZ and $\Sigma(\text{non-resonant bkg})$.

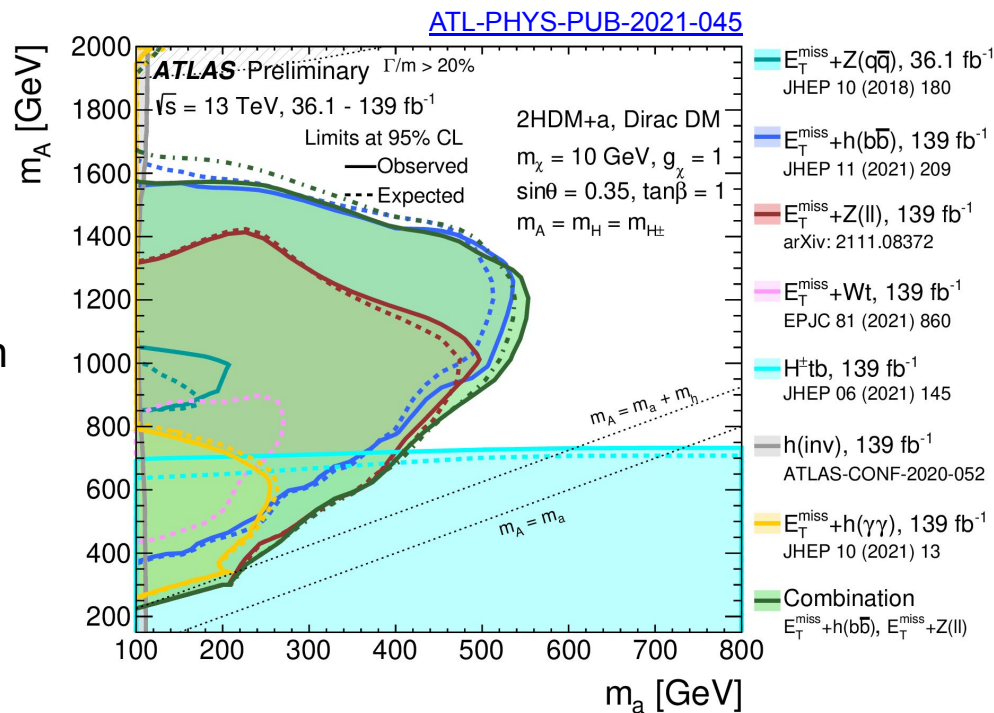
Results: Good agreement between data and SM background prediction.

⇒ Limits set on 2HDM+a model.



Summary of Constraints on 2HDM+a Model

- Tightest constraints with respect to m_a and m_A from **statistical combination** ([ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-045](#)) of $Z(\ell\ell)+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and $h(bb)+E_T^{\text{miss}}$.
- Parameter space also ruled out by direct searches for charged Higgs in $H^\pm \rightarrow tb$ channel.
- Search in the $tW+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ final state ([EPJC 81, 860 \(2021\)](#)) additionally provides constraints with respect to $m(H^\pm)$
→ more recent result ([ATLAS-CONF-2022-012](#)) in backup.



Conclusions

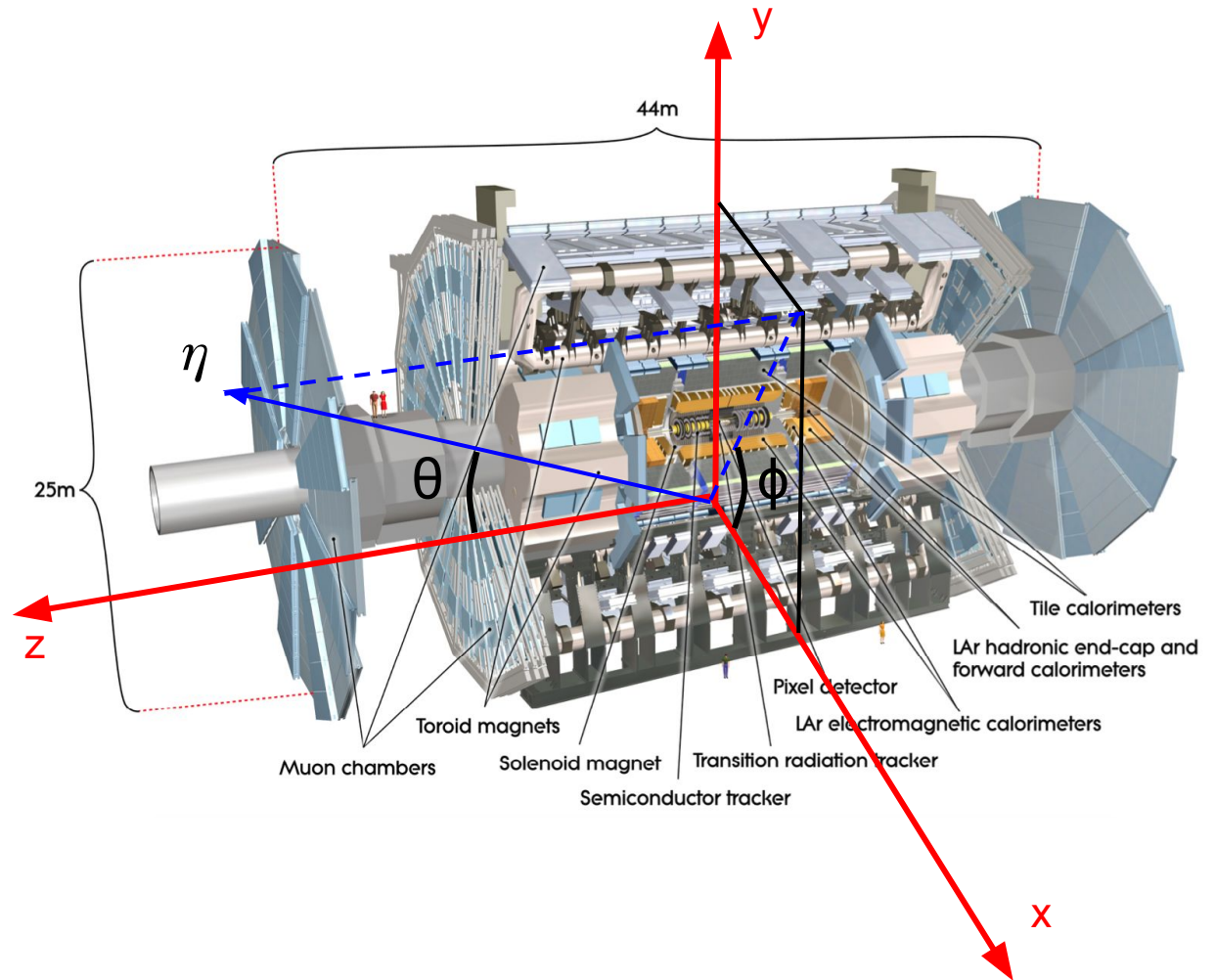
Presented recent results from the broad ATLAS dark matter search programme.

- Signature-driven approach → dedicated analyses probe specific final states.
- Large variety of final states probed → leave no stone unturned!
- Many DM search results with *Run-2* ATLAS data still to come.
 - Will both add new channels, and improve upon previously studied channels.

Backup

The ATLAS Detector

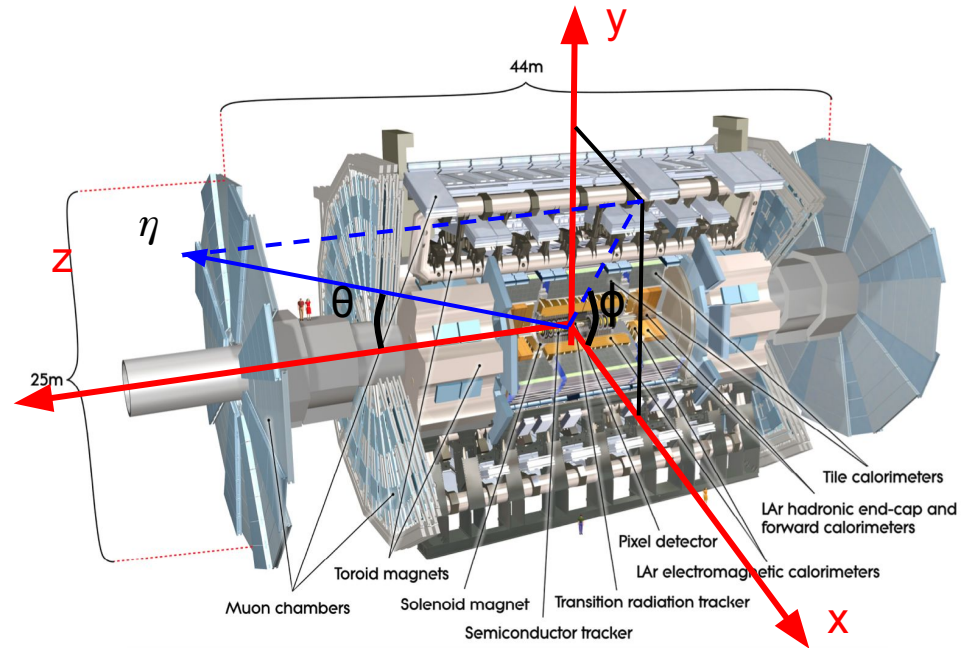
- General-purpose detector for studying particles produced by high-energy beam collisions at the LHC.
- Used both for precision standard model measurements and to search for new physics.



Pseudorapidity

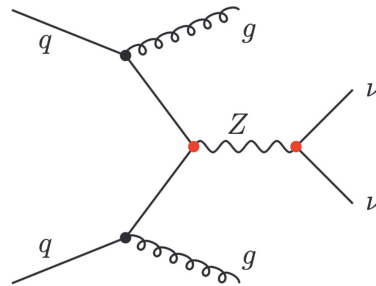
- Describes angle of particle relative to beam axis (z-axis).
- Changes Δ in pseudorapidity are Lorentz invariant under boosts along the longitudinal axis.

$$\eta = -\ln \left[\tan \left(\frac{\theta}{2} \right) \right]$$

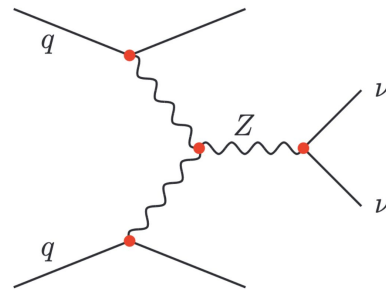


VBF+E_T^{miss}: Strong vs. EW W and Z Backgrounds

- **Strong:** Two electroweak (EW) vertices and two strong vertices in the hard scatter process.

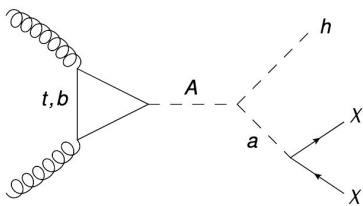


- **Weak:** Four electroweak (EW) vertices in the hard scatter process.

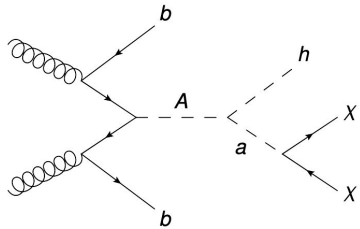


h(bb)+E_T^{miss}

2HDM+a ggF signature



2HDM+a bbA signature



- Can also probe the 2HDM+a model with h+E_T^{miss} final state.
- Most sensitivity from **h→bb** decay mode ([JHEP 11 \(2021\) 209](#)) ⇒ focus of next two slides.
- h→γγ also studied ([JHEP 10 \(2021\) 013](#)), with complementary sensitivity.

Event selection:

- At least two b-tagged jets recoiling against large E_T^{miss} with no leptons.
 - Δφ(jet_{1,2,3}, E_T^{miss}) > 20° reduces SM backgrounds with E_T^{miss} arising from jet mismeasurement.
- Divide events into two regions depending on N(b-tagged jets):
 - **2 b-tagged jets**: targets gluon-gluon fusion (ggF) signature
 - **≥3 b-tagged jets**: targets b-associated production (bbA) signature.
- Further divide into resolved and merged regions depending on final-state topology.

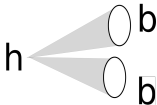
Background Estimation:

- Dominant SM background processes are tt and W/Z + heavy flavour quarks (W/Z+HF) ⇒ simulated with MC.
- 1μ and 2ℓ CRs for data-driven constraints of dominant bkg.

2 b SR	2 b 1μ CR	2 b 2ℓ CR
3 b SR	3 b 1μ CR	3 b 2ℓ CR

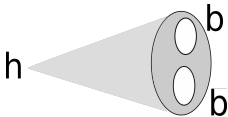
Resolved Region

- Less-boosted Higgs
- Reconstruct h as 2 small-radius b-tagged jets



Merged Region

- More-boosted Higgs
- Reconstruct h as 1 large-radius jet with 2 variable-radius track jets associated to Higgs.



CR	Constrains
1μ	tt and W+HF bkg
2ℓ	Z+HF bkg

$h(bb)+E_T^{\text{miss}}$

Binning Strategy:

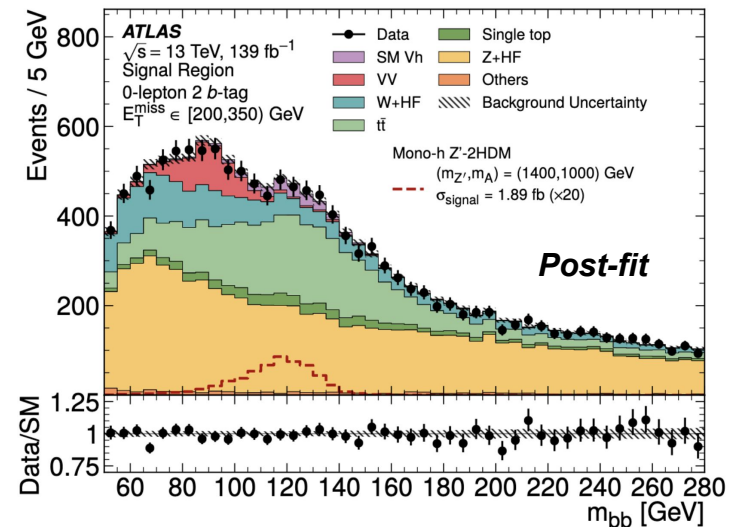
- Bin all SRs and CRs in E_T^{miss} (same binning across all regions) to improve shape discrimination.
- Additionally bin all SRs (but not CRs) in reconstructed Higgs mass m_{bb} .

Statistical Analysis:

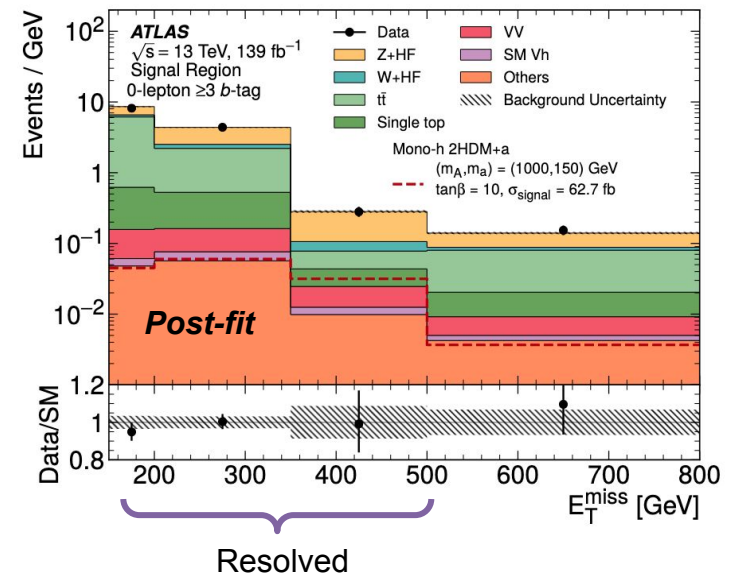
- 2HDM+a signal model simulated over range of m_a and m_A (ggF and bbA production modelled separately).
- At each modelled signal point, perform simultaneous likelihood fit in all bins of SRs and CRs.
- Floating parameters:
 - Signal strength μ
 - Four background normalization factors, which scale:
 - Z+HF with 2 b-tagged jets
 - Z+HF with ≥ 3 b-tagged jets
 - W+HF with ≥ 2 b-tagged jets
 - $t\bar{t}$ with ≥ 2 b-tagged jets

Result: No significant deviation from SM background expectations.

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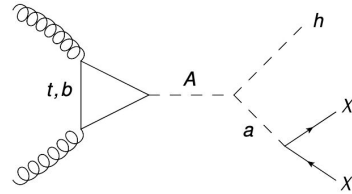


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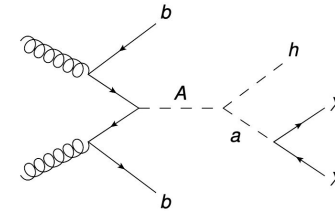
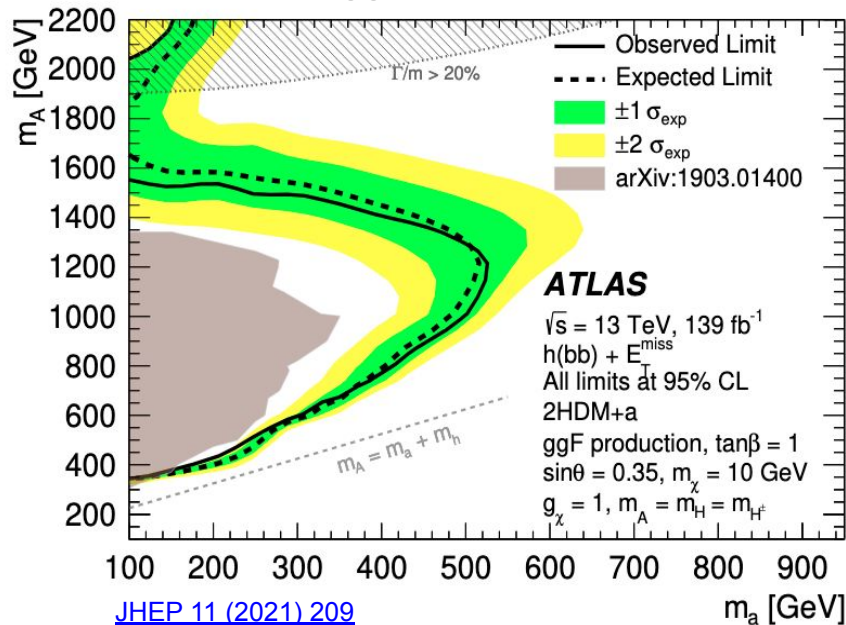


$h(bb)+E_T^{\text{miss}}$: Constraints on 2HDM+a Model

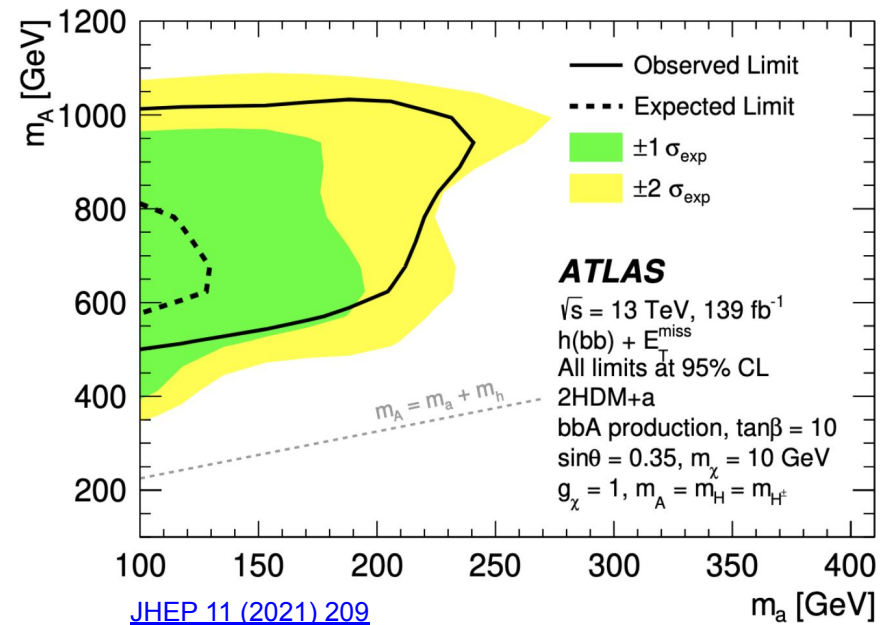
Exclusion limits placed in m_A vs. m_a plane for ggF and bbA production separately.



ggF Production

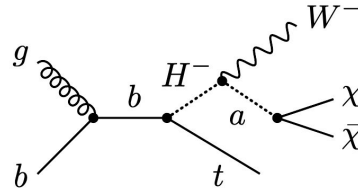


bbA Production



2HDM+a signature with H^\pm mediator

$tW + E_T^{\text{miss}}$



A search performed in the $tW + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ channel ([ATLAS-CONF-2022-012](#)) provides a probe of $m(H^\pm)$ in the 2HDM+a model.

⇒ Complements previous search ([EPJC 81, 860 \(2021\)](#)) by additionally considering fully-hadronic final state (tW_{0L}).

⇒ Performs statistical combination with tW_{2L} in previous search.

Event Selection:

- $t \rightarrow Wb$ decay proceeds with $>99\%$ BR \Rightarrow expect $Wb + W + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ final state.
- Require ≥ 1 high- p_T b-jet recoiling against large E_T^{miss} (≥ 250 GeV)
- Further divided into 1- and 2-lepton channels:
 - SR_{tW0L} : both final-state Ws decays hadronically
 - SR_{tW1L} : one final-state W decays leptonically \Rightarrow divide 1L SR into $t \rightarrow W(\ell\nu)b$ ($SR_{tW1L}^{\text{lep.top}}$) and $t \rightarrow W(jj)b$ ($SR_{tW1L}^{\text{had.top}}$)
- Previous search ([EPJC 81, 860 \(2021\)](#)) also considered:
 - SR_{tW2L} : both Ws decay leptonically.

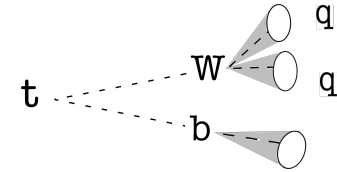
Event Reconstruction:

- **New for this search:** high- p_T hadronically-decaying W_{had} can be reconstructed with a single large-radius jet (previously could only reconstruct W_{had} with two small-radius jets).
 ⇒ Event selection requires ≥ 1 large-radius jet consistent with W_{had} (“W-tagged”).

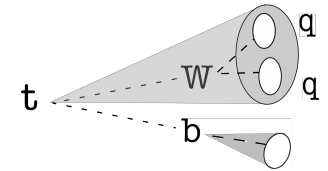
Background estimation:

- 6 control regions defined for data-driven constraints of dominant SM bkg:
 - Z+jets, W+jets, tt, ttZ, single top

W_{had} reco with 2 small-radius jets



W_{had} reco with 1 large-radius jet



$tW+E_T^{\text{miss}}$: Statistical Analysis

Binning Strategy:

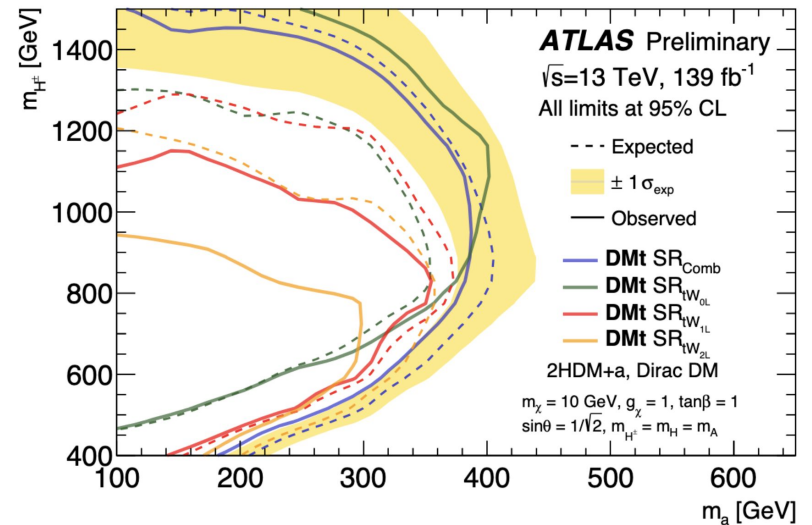
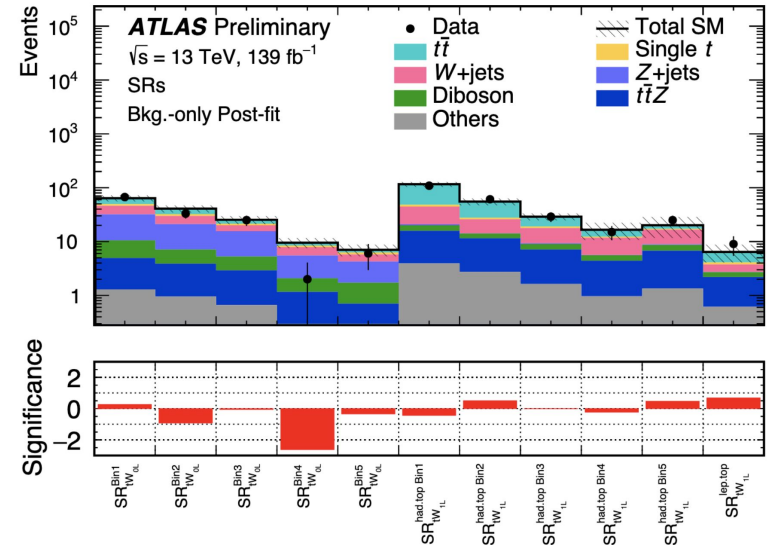
- Bin SR_{tW0L} and $SR_{tW1L}^{\text{had.top}}$ into 5 E_T^{miss} bins (no binning in $SR_{tW1L}^{\text{lep.top}}$ due to limited stats).
- No binning in CRs.

Background-only Fit:

- First, perform simultaneous likelihood fit in all CRs with bkg normalization parameters left floating.
 - Bkg norm factors: $\mu_{t\bar{t}}^{tW0L}$, $\mu_{t\bar{t}}^{tW1L}$, $\mu_{Z+\text{jets}}$, $\mu_{W+\text{jets}}$, $\mu_{\text{single top}}$, $\mu_{t\bar{t}Z}$.
 - Extrapolate fitted norm factors to SRs and compare with data \Rightarrow no significant deviations between data and SM bkg expectation.

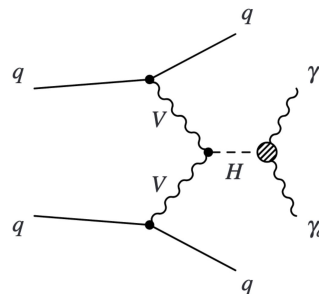
Exclusion Fit and Hypothesis Testing:

- Simulate 2HDM+a signal over range of m_a , $m(H^\pm)$ and $\tan\beta$.
- Incorporate SR_{tW2L} from previous search.
- For each parameter choice, perform simultaneous **exclusion** likelihood fit in all SR bins and CRs with both 2HDM+a signal and SM bkg.
 - Fit for 2HDM+a signal strength μ and all 5 bkg norm factors.
 - Use CLs method to test signal+SM bkg hypothesis against SM bkg-only to derive constraints on 2HDM+a model.

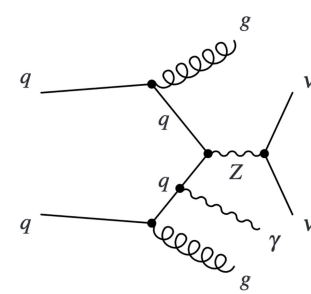


VBF+E_T^{miss}+γ

VBF+E_T^{miss}+γ
dark photon
signature



Z(νν)γ+jets
SM process



Newly-studied VBF+E_T^{miss}+γ final state probes semi-invisible decays of Higgs (or a new scalar mediator) to γ+(invisible particle).

Event Selection:

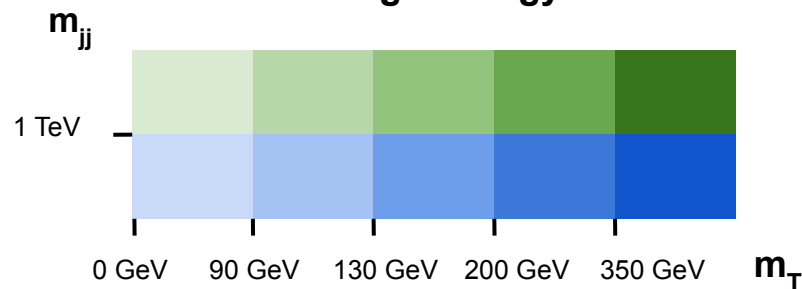
- Event selection similar to VBF+E_T^{miss}, additionally require 1 energetic final-state γ.
- Photon central in η relative to leading jets: C_γ > 0.4:

Binning $C_\gamma = \exp\left[-\frac{4}{(\eta_1 - \eta_2)^2}\left(\eta_\gamma - \frac{\eta_1 + \eta_2}{2}\right)^2\right]$ where η_1, η_2 refer to leading two jets.

- Bin selected events in 10 bins according to:
 - m_{jj} (2 bins)
 - $m_T(\gamma, E_T^{\text{miss}})$ (5 bins):

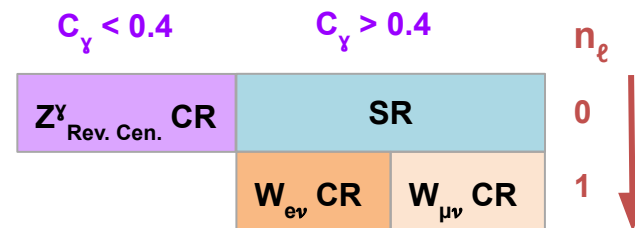
$$m_T(\gamma, E_T^{\text{miss}}) = \sqrt{2p_T^\gamma E_T^{\text{miss}} [1 - \cos(\phi_\gamma - \phi_{E_T^{\text{miss}}})]}$$

Binning Strategy



Background Estimation:

- Dominant SM background processes are W(ℓν)γ+jets and Z(νν)γ+jets.
 - Modelled using Sherpa, Herwig and MadGraph+Pythia8.
 - 1-lepton W_{eν}^γ and W_{μν}^γ CRs used for data-driven constraint of W(ℓν)γ+jets.
 - Z(νν)γ+jets modelling checked with C_γ-reversed Z_{Rev. Cen.}^γ CR (insufficient stats for data-driven constraint).
 - Fake-e CR with 1 lepton and low E_T^{miss} used to estimate rate of jets faking electrons in W_{eν}^γ CR.



VBF+E_T^{miss}+γ

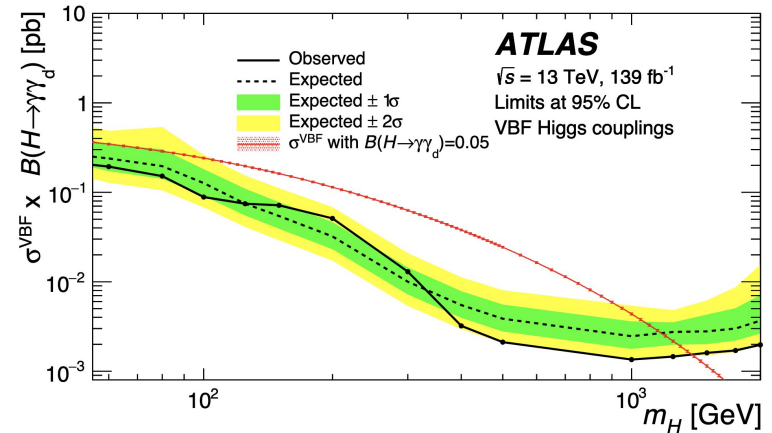
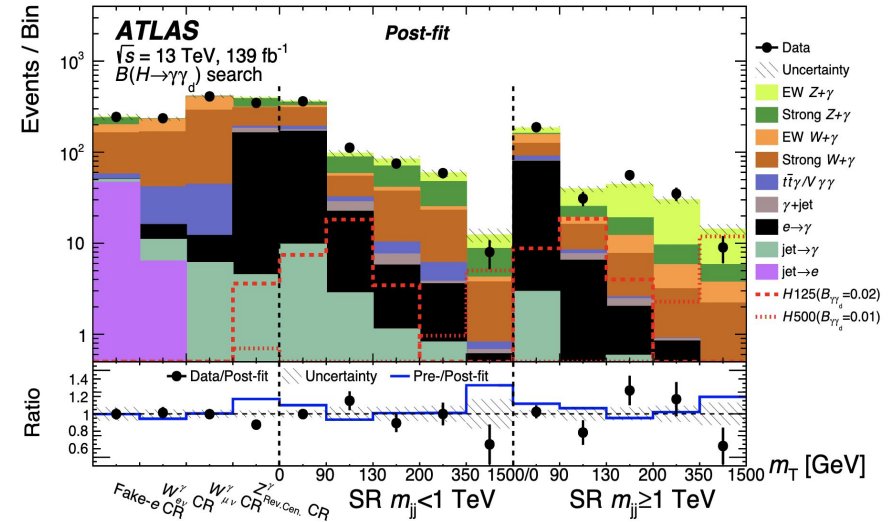
Fit strategy:

- Apply same binning in SR and all CRs.
- Simultaneous profiled likelihood fit in SR and CRs.
- Results interpreted in terms of Higgs (or new scalar mediator) decay to photon + inv. dark photon ($\gamma\gamma_d$).
- For signal process simulated at H masses from 60 GeV to 2 TeV, fit for:
 - Signal strength μ for $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$ process (100% BR).
 - Overall normalization $\beta_{W\gamma}$ of the $W\gamma$ +jets bkg.
- Statistical and systematic uncertainties incorporated as nuisance parameters.

Results: Good agreement between data and SM background predictions.

⇒ Set observed (expected) upper limit of 0.018 (0.017) on $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$ for $m_h = 125$ GeV at 95% CL.

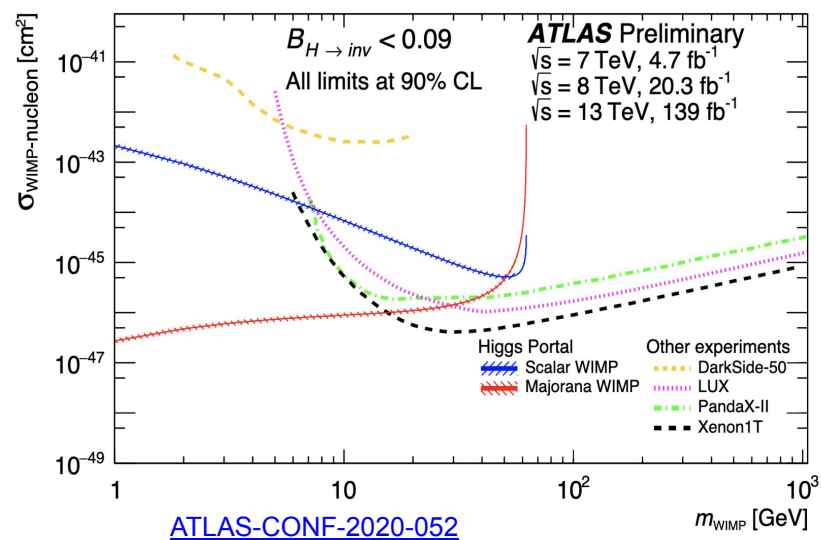
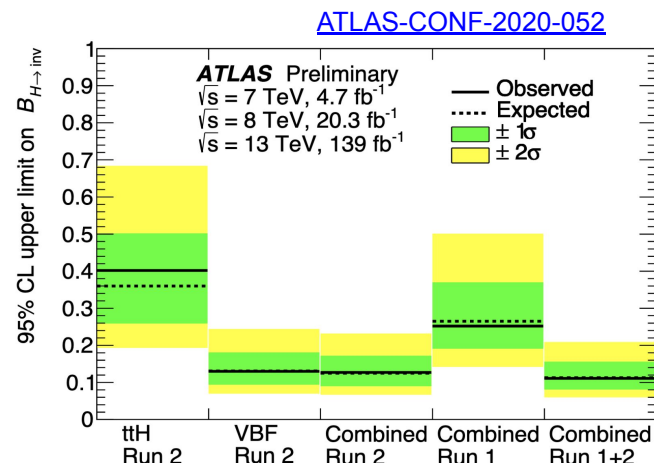
⇒ Also set 95% CL upper limit on $\sigma_{\text{VBF}} \times B(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d)$ for VBF-produced Higgs with masses ranging from 60 GeV to 2 TeV.



h→Invisible Combination

Combined all searches by ATLAS for $h \rightarrow \text{inv}$ in VBF+E_T^{miss} and tt $\bar{t}h$ final states ([ATLAS-CONF-2020-052](#)).

- Reinterpreted search for new phenomena in [tth-0l](#) and [tth-2l](#) final states.
- Combined limit: $B_{\text{inv}} < 11\%$ (95% CL) and $B_{\text{inv}} < 9\%$ (90% CL).
- Sensitivity dominated by VBF+E_T^{miss} final state.
- Translated into limits on spin-independent $\sigma_{\text{WIMP-nucleon}}$ vs. m_{WIMP} for comparison with direct detection searches.



Inclusive Dijet Search

Idea: Search for a new candidate spin-1 DM mediator via its resonant production and decay back to SM particles.

- Reconstruct the m_{jj} spectrum above ~ 1 TeV, and search for a resonant peak.
- Most recent search reported in [JHEP 04 \(2020\) 145](#).

Event Selection:

- ≥ 2 energetic final-state jets (jet $p_T > 150$ GeV).
- Require jets to be recoiling against one another ($|\Delta\phi_{jj}| > 1.0$).

Background Estimation:

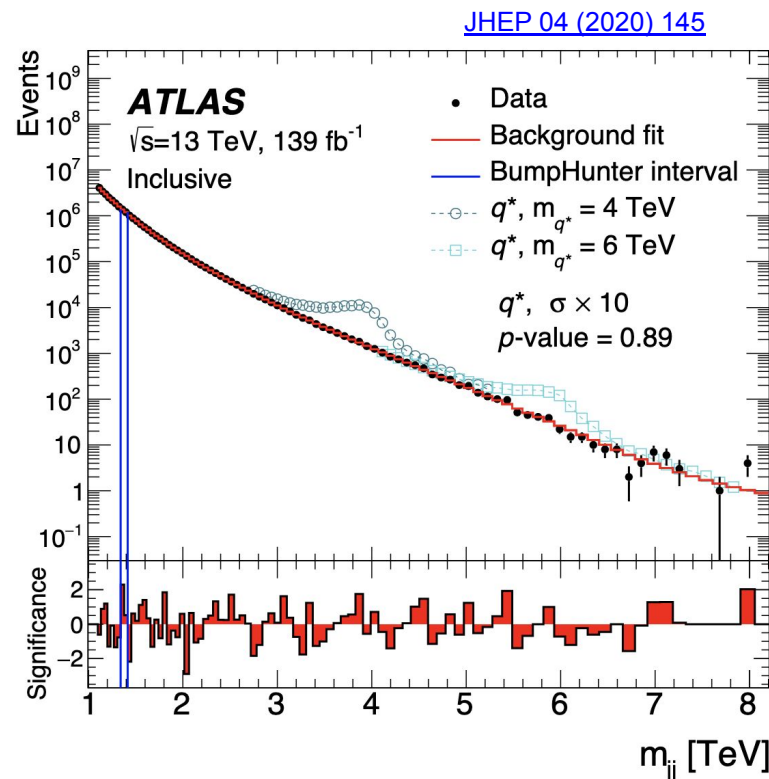
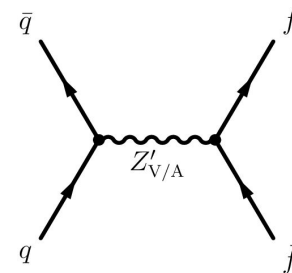
- SM Background dominated by multijet production.
 - Sliding-window fit applied to data to estimate SM contribution, using:

$$f(x) = p_1(1-x)^{p_2} x^{p_3+p_4 \ln x} \quad \text{where } x = m_{jj}/\sqrt{s}$$

- Method validated using 37 fb⁻¹ dataset (already published with no evidence of new physics).

Analysis and Interpretation:

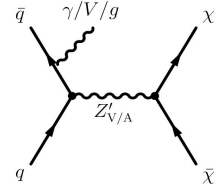
- Use BumpHunter to calculate significance of any localized excess.
 - No significant excesses found \rightarrow place bounds on spin-1 mediator model using CL_s method.



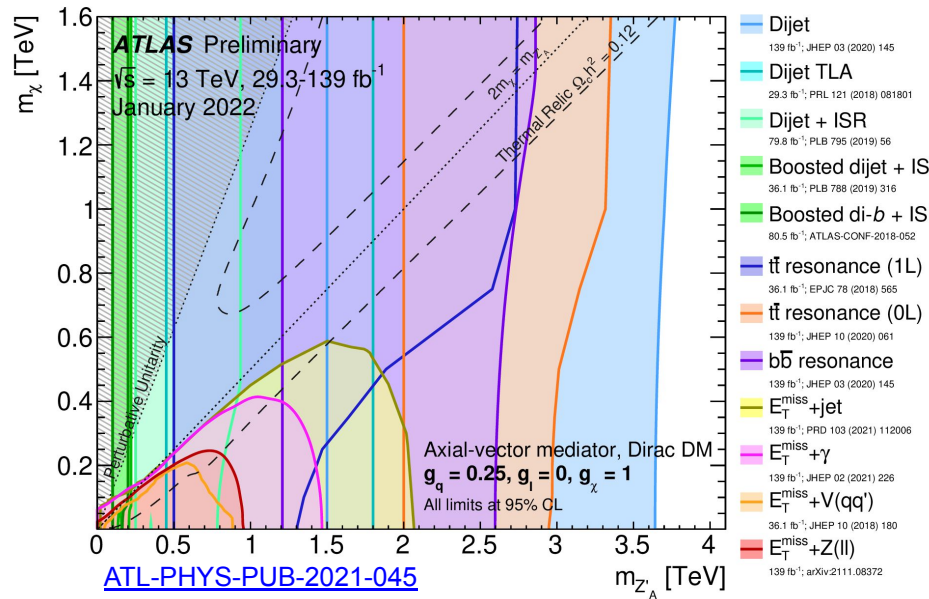
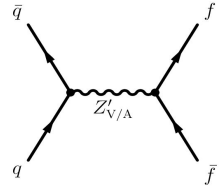
Bounds on New Spin-1 Mediators

Tightest bounds^(*) on basic spin-1 Z' V/A mediator model set by inclusive dijet resonance searches ([JHEP 04 \(2020\) 145](#)) and jet+E_T^{miss} ([PRD 103, 112006 \(2021\)](#)).

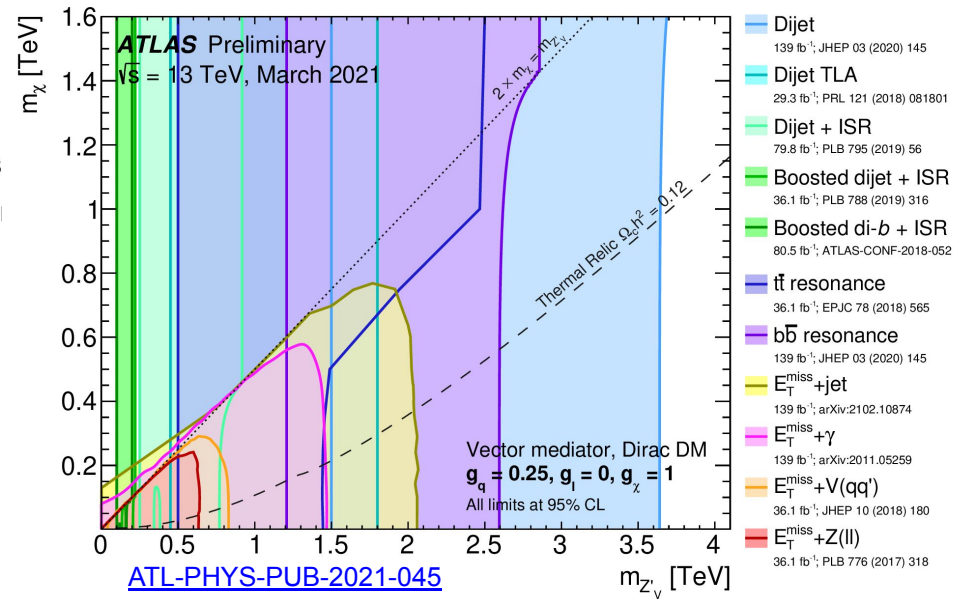
**X+E_T^{miss}
signature**



**Resonance
signature**



Axial Vector Z'_A



Vector Z'_V

^(*)Comparison of bounds depends on choice of couplings.

2HDM+a Model

Constraints on simplified models dominated by $\text{jet}+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and $\text{tt}+E_T^{\text{miss}}$, but other $X+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ final states can provide tighter constraints on more complex models such as 2HDM+a.

- Visible SM particle(s) produced by hard scattering process rather than ISR.

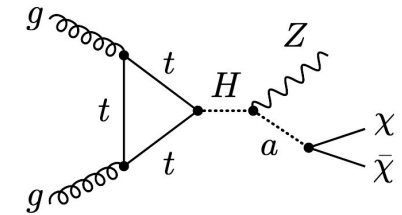
2HDM:

- Extend the SM by postulating **two** Higgs doublets.
- Predicts 5 Higgs bosons:
 - 2 scalars: h (SM Higgs), H (new particle)
 - 1 heavy pseudoscalar A
 - 2 charged Higgs H^\pm
- Adds several free parameters, incl.:
 - m_A, m_H
 - $\tan\beta$: ratio of VEVs of the two Higgs doublets

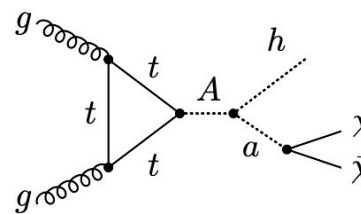
2HDM+a ([arXiv:1810.09420](https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.09420)):

- Adds a pseudoscalar DM mediator a to the 2HDM model.
- Simplest gauge-invariant and renormalizable extension of the simplified pseudoscalar DM mediator model.
- Additional free parameters, incl.:
 - m_a
 - $\sin\theta$: Mixing angle between a and A
- Wide variety of complementary signatures.

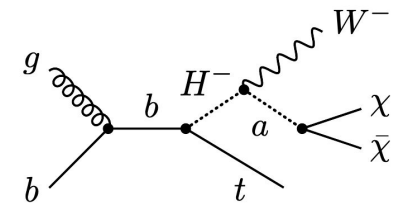
$Z+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ Signature



$h+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ Signature



$tW+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ Signature



Benchmark Parameter Choices

$$M_H = M_A = M_{H^\pm}$$

$$\tan\beta = 1$$

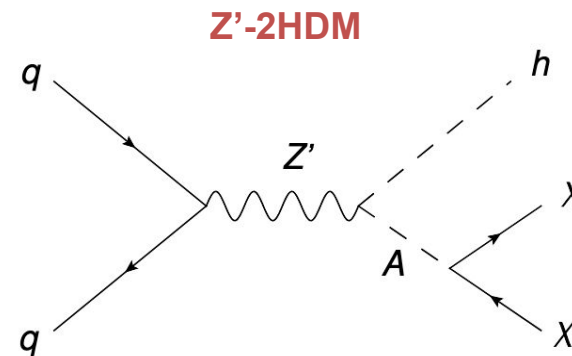
$$m_\chi = 10 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\sin\theta = 0.35$$

Z'-2HDM Model

Idea: Rather than adding a pseudoscalar DM mediator to the 2HDM model (i.e. 2HDM+a), instead add a vector DM mediator Z' .

- Note that, unlike 2HDM+a, Z'-2HDM is not a complete model.
- Used mainly as a benchmark for high-mass resonances.
- The mono-h(bb) search ([JHEP 11 \(2021\) 209](#)) places constraints on the Z'-2HDM model in addition to 2HDM+a.



Constraints on the Z'-2HDM Model by the mono-h(bb) Search

