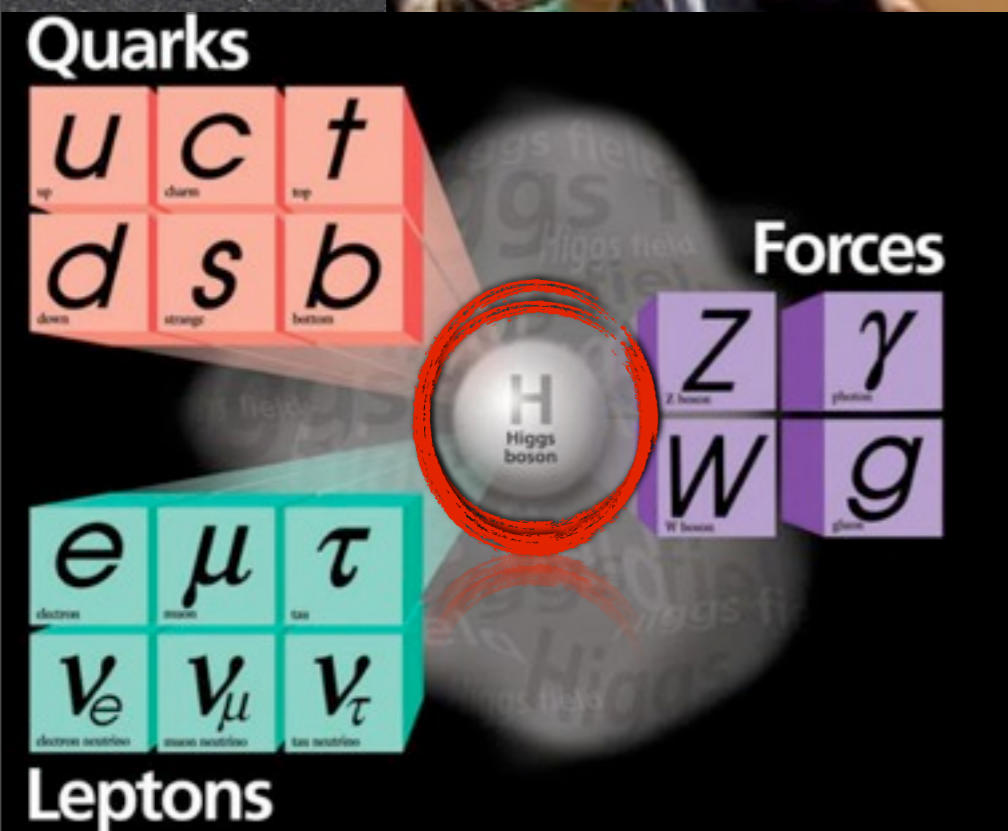


# Searching For New Physics via Exotic Higgs Decays

*HEFT Workshop  
CERN, 10 October 2013*

# Habemus Higgsam!



4th of July 2012

# Habemus Higgsam and Englertam!



4th of July 2012

# Habemus Noblam!



08.10.2013

# Habemus Noblam!

#!&\*



Time for party!

Beer borrowed from Carla Biggio

08.10.2013

# Habebamus Noblam!



...so this was yesterday, now this is today

10.10.2013

# Habemus Higgsam



“...this is this moment after a party when you wake up and see who are you in bed with...”

10.10.2013

# 7 parameter fit

Best fit and 68% CL range for 7 parameters of effective Higgs Lagrangian

$$c_V = 1.04^{+0.03}_{-0.04}$$

$$c_u \in (-1.3, 1.3)$$

$$c_d = 1.02^{+0.12}_{-0.17}$$

$$c_l = 0.98^{+0.21}_{-0.21}$$

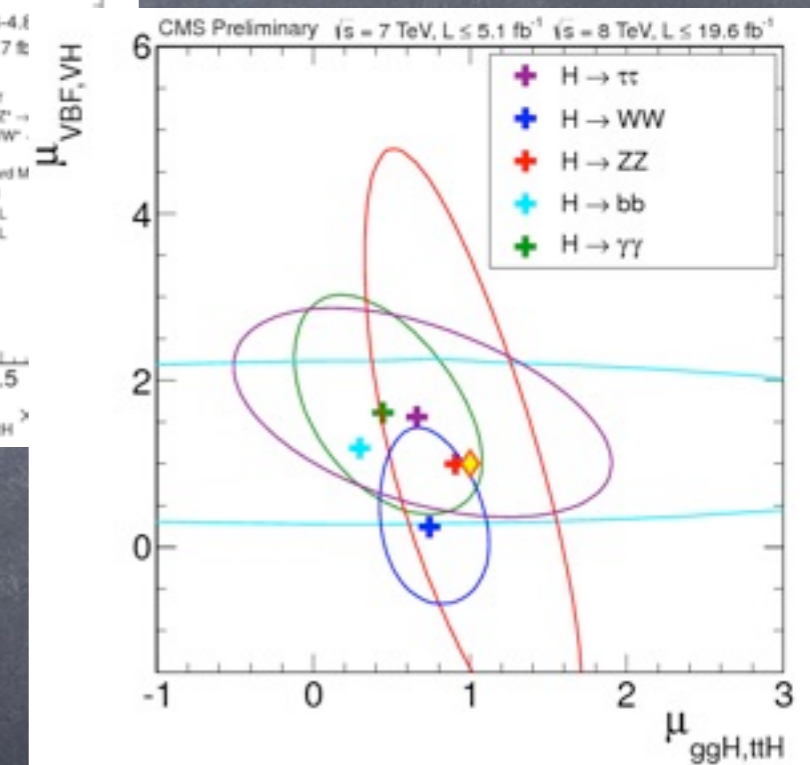
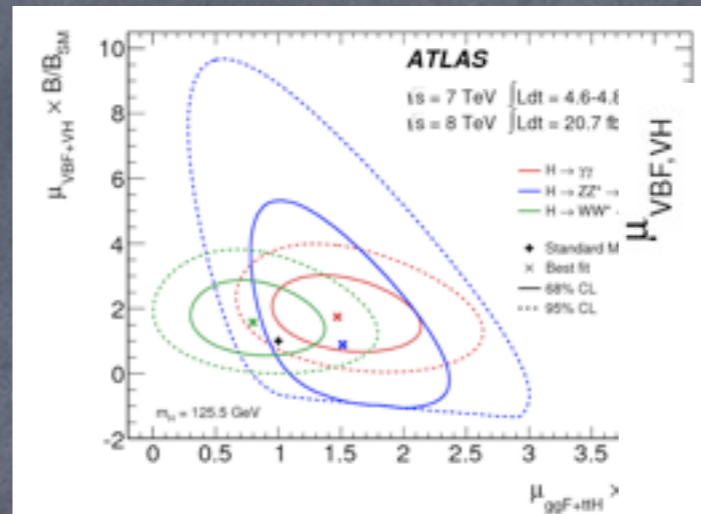
$$c_{gg} \in (-0.026, 0.026)$$

$$c_{\gamma\gamma} = 0.0001^{+0.0018}_{-0.0021}$$

$$c_{Z\gamma} = 0.006^{+0.015}_{-0.028}$$

Islands of good fit with negative  $c_u, c_d, c_l$  ignored here

$$\mathcal{L}_{h,\text{sim}} = \frac{h}{v} \left( 2c_V m_W^2 W_\mu^+ W_\mu^- + c_V m_Z^2 Z_\mu Z_\mu - c_u \sum_{q=u,c,t} m_q \bar{q}q - c_d \sum_{q=d,s,b} m_q \bar{q}q - c_l \sum_{l=e,\mu,\tau} m_l \bar{l}l + \frac{1}{4} c_{gg} G_{\mu\nu}^a G_{\mu\nu}^a - \frac{1}{4} c_{\gamma\gamma} \gamma_{\mu\nu} \gamma_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} c_{WW} W_{\mu\nu}^+ W_{\mu\nu}^- - \frac{1}{4} c_{ZZ} Z_{\mu\nu} Z_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} c_{Z\gamma} \gamma_{\mu\nu} Z_{\mu\nu} \right)$$



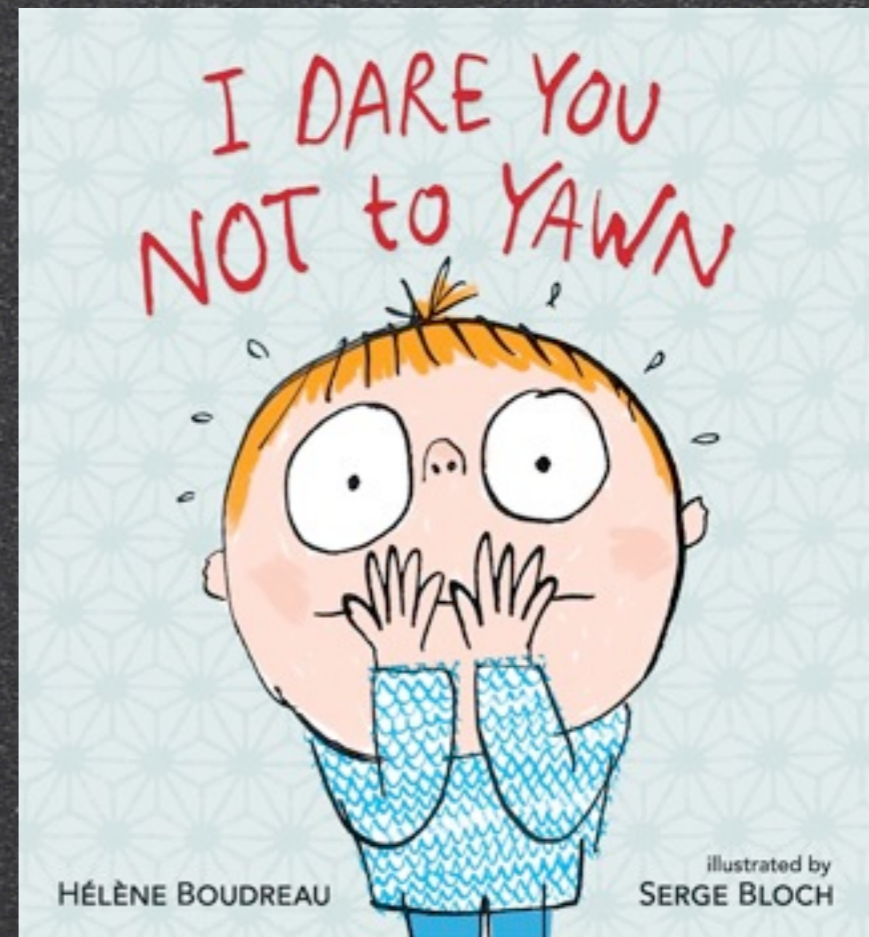
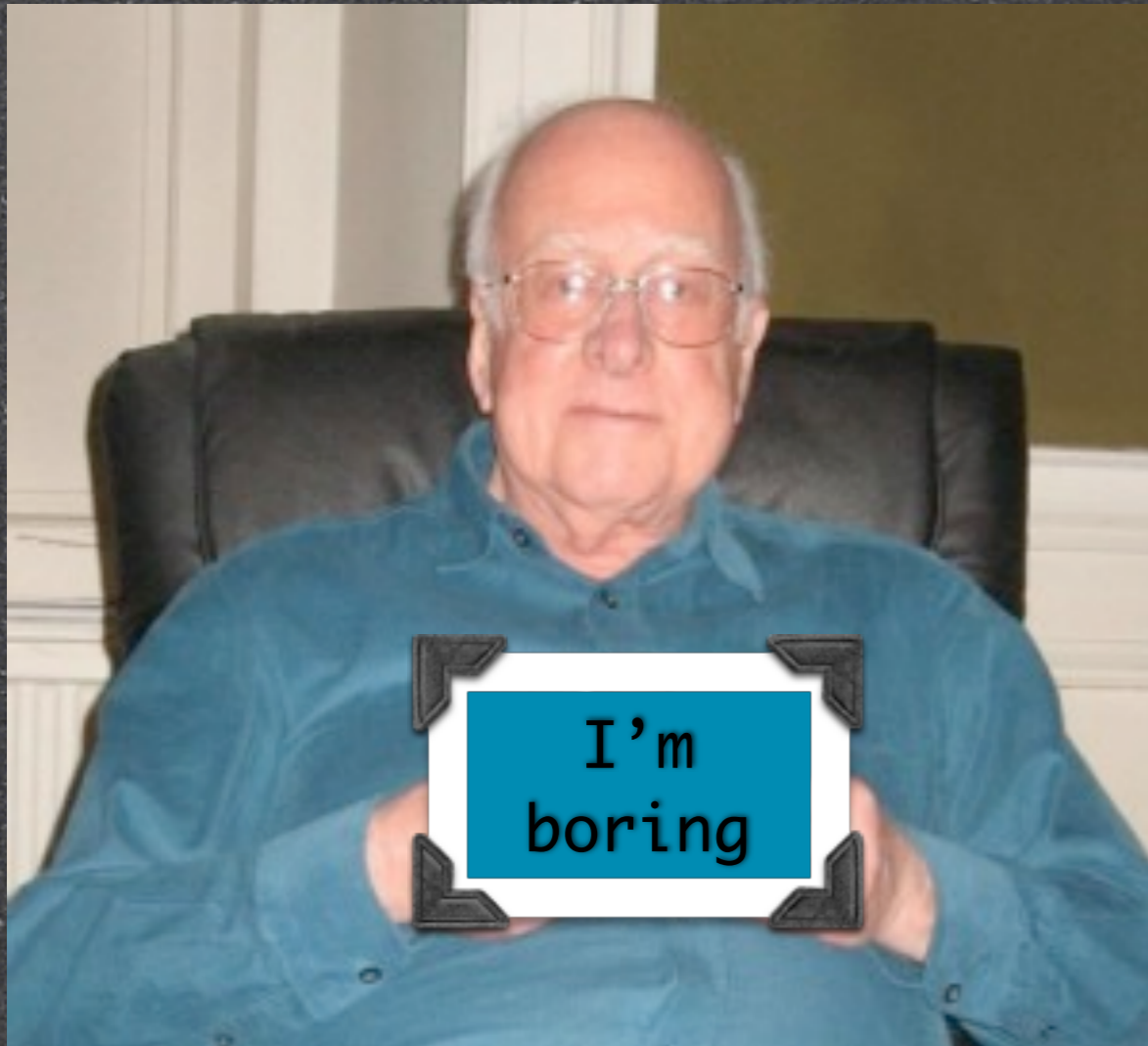
$\Delta\chi^2 = \chi^2_{SM} - \chi^2_{min} \approx 7$ , with 7 d.o.f.  
the SM hypothesis is a perfect fit

Fit as of 23/09/2013  
(thanks to Hermès Belusca)



# Habemus Higgsam

Are we stuck with  
precision Higgs  
physics?



# Habemus Higgsam



But maybe  
Higgs has a  
more  
interesting  
face?

THIS TALK: Discuss the possibility of exotic Higgs decay channels

(exotic==not predicted in the SM or predicted with a ridiculous branching fraction)

# Exotic Higgs Decays

Work in Progress



*All numbers very preliminary,  
take them with a grain of salt  
or outwardly ignore*

# Exotic Higgs Decays - Why?

- Indirect constraints (via visible decays) allow for up to ~25% branching fraction into exotic states (if the Higgs production rate is as in the SM), or even up to ~50% with some conspiracy (if the Higgs production rate is enhanced). That means the LHC cross section for exotic Higgs decays could easily be order picobarn
- The SM Higgs width is just 4 MeV, so even weakly coupled new physics can lead to a significant branching fraction for exotic decays. E.g., a new scalar  $X$  coupled as  $c|H|^2|X|^2$  corresponds to  $BR(h \rightarrow X^*X) = 10\% BR$  for  $c \sim 0.01$ .
- Thanks to the large Higgs cross section even tiny exotic branching fractions may possibly be probed. For spectacular enough signatures we can probe  $BR \sim O(10^{-5})$  now and  $BR \sim O(10^{-8})$  in the asymptotic future. [ Note that the Higgs was first discovered in the diphoton ( $BR \sim 10^{-3}$ ) and 4-lepton ( $BR \sim 10^{-4}$ ) channels ]

# Exotic Higgs Decays - How?

New light degrees of freedom affecting Higgs decays



SM+X

Multiple possibilities, large model dependence

No new light degrees of freedom beyond those of the SM



HEFT

Leading effects expected from dimension 6 operators beyond the SM

# Exotic Higgs Decays: SM+X

## Examples:

$h \rightarrow$  invisible

$h \rightarrow XX$ , possible e.g.  
Higgs portal DM models

$$X^2|H|^2$$

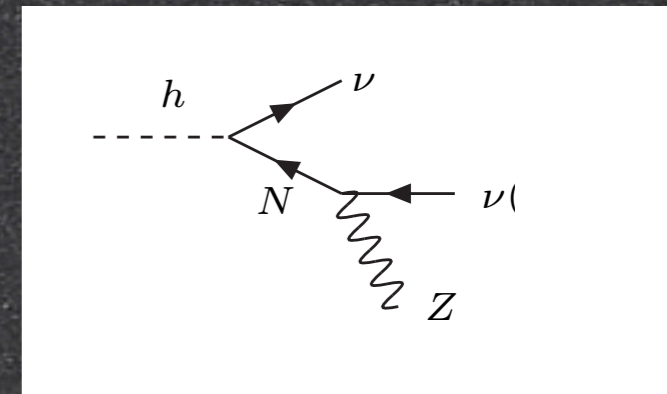
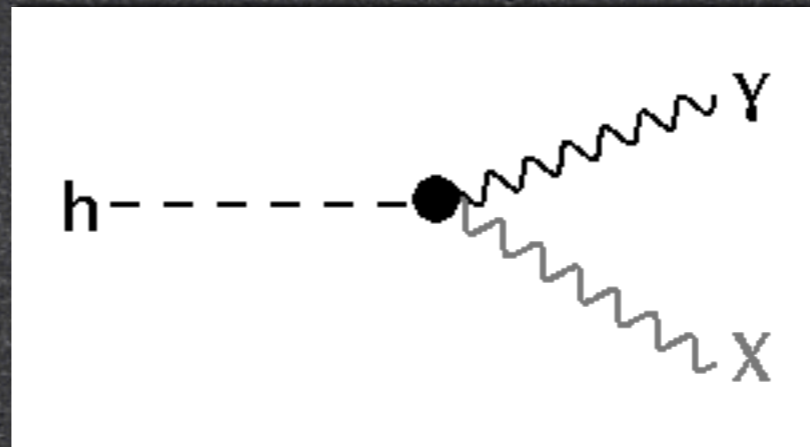
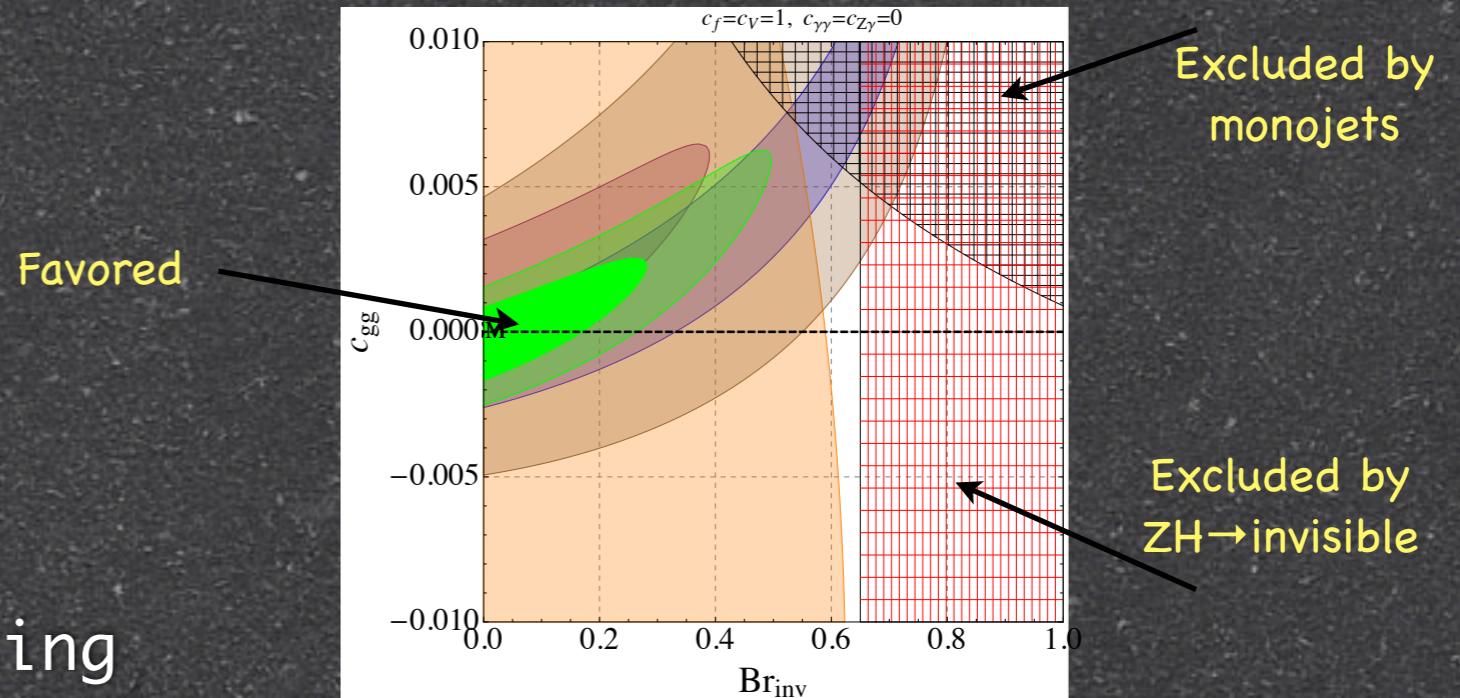
Searches ongoing, interesting  
experimental limits, but somewhat  
stronger indirect limits

$h \rightarrow$  monophoton/monoZ

$h \rightarrow XV$ , possible e.g.  
in hypercharge portal  
models or in inverse  
see-saw

$$|H|^2 X_{\mu\nu} B_{\mu\nu}$$

No experimental limits whatsoever, and I'm not  
aware of ongoing experimental searches....



# Exotic Higgs Decays: SM+X

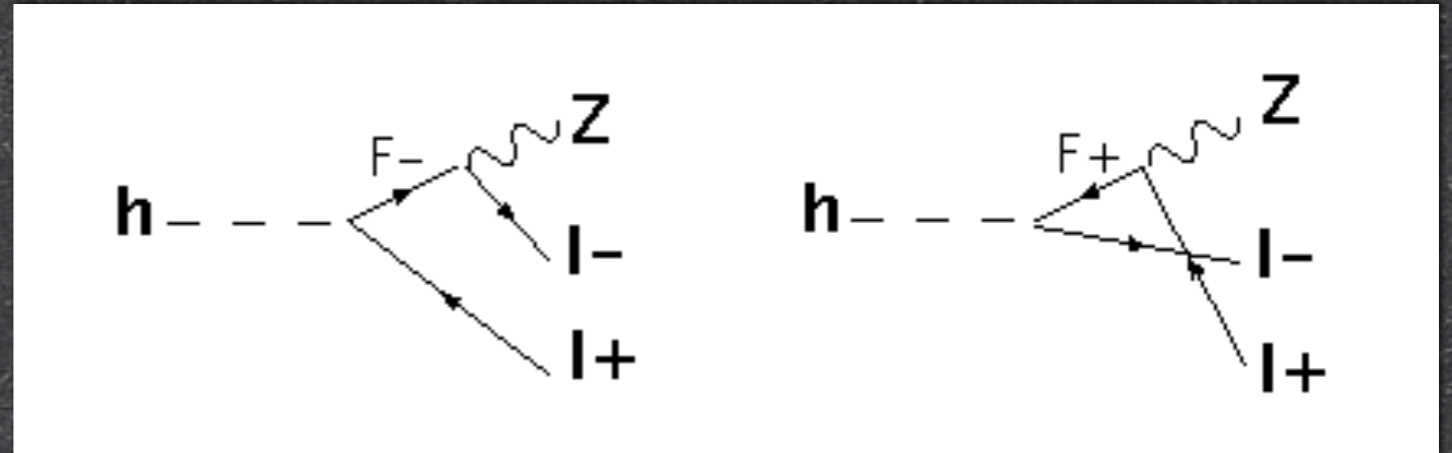
## Examples:

$h \rightarrow$  Four Fermions

e.g.  $h \rightarrow lX \rightarrow Zll \rightarrow 4l$

$$yh\bar{X}l + \text{h.c.}$$

$$gZ_\mu\bar{X}\gamma_\mu l + \text{h.c.}$$



*Not so fast: recent trilepton bounds exclude  $X \rightarrow Ze$  or  $X \rightarrow Z\mu$  with  $< 125$  GeV,*

*but  $X \rightarrow Z\tau$  is OK*

*AA, Straub, Vicente, in progress*

work in progress with R.Vega-Morales

- can arise e.g. in models of composite leptons

- F can be lighter than 125 GeV for all we know, so Higgs can decay to on-shell F

- Yukawa coupling as small as 0.01 leads to  $BR(h \rightarrow lX) \sim 0.01$

- Distinct kinematics from the golden channel (Z-l resonance,)

- If F couples to 2 different fermions then  $Z l l'$  signatures with no SM background

But, since this is  
a HEFT workshop...



# Exotic Higgs Decays: HEFT approach

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \mathcal{L}_{d=5} + \mathcal{L}_{d=6} + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{d=6} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SILH}} + \mathcal{L}_{2\text{FV}} + \mathcal{L}_{2\text{FD}} + \mathcal{L}_{4\text{F}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Gauge}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{CPB}}$$

Higgs interactions with itself, SM gauge bosons and Yukawa interactions with fermions

2-fermion vertex corrections

2-fermion dipole operators

4-fermion operators

Gauge boson self-interactions

CP Violating interactions

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\tilde{c}_H}{2v^2} \partial^\mu (H^\dagger H) \partial_\mu (H^\dagger H) + \frac{\tilde{c}_T}{2v^2} (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}^2 H) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}^2 H) - \frac{\tilde{c}_6 \lambda}{v^2} (H^\dagger H)^3 \\ & + \left( \frac{\tilde{c}_u}{v^2} y_u H^\dagger H \bar{q}_L H^c u_R + \frac{\tilde{c}_d}{v^2} y_d H^\dagger H \bar{q}_L H d_R + \frac{\tilde{c}_l}{v^2} y_l H^\dagger H \bar{l}_L H l_R \right) + \text{h.c.} \\ & + \frac{i\tilde{c}_W g}{2m_W^2} (H^\dagger \sigma^i \overleftrightarrow{D}^2 H) (D^\nu W_{\mu\nu})^i + \frac{i\tilde{c}_B g'}{2m_W^2} (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}^2 H) (\partial^\nu B_{\mu\nu}) \\ & + \frac{i\tilde{c}_{HW} g}{m_W^2} (D^\mu H)^\dagger \sigma^i (D^\nu H) W_{\mu\nu}^i + \frac{i\tilde{c}_{HB} g'}{m_W^2} (D^\mu H)^\dagger (D^\nu H) B_{\mu\nu} \\ & + \frac{\tilde{c}_\gamma g'^2}{m_W^2} H^\dagger H B_{\mu\nu} \tilde{B}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{\tilde{c}_2 g_S^2}{m_W^2} H^\dagger H G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{i\tilde{c}_{Hq}}{v^2} (\bar{q}_L \gamma^\mu q_L) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) + \frac{i\tilde{c}'_{Hq}}{v^2} (\bar{q}_L \gamma^\mu \sigma^i q_L) (H^\dagger \sigma^i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) \\ & + \frac{i\tilde{c}_{Hu}}{v^2} (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu u_R) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) + \frac{i\tilde{c}'_{Hu}}{v^2} (\bar{d}_R \gamma^\mu d_R) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) \\ & + \left( \frac{i\tilde{c}_{Hud}}{v^2} (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R) (H^c \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) + \text{h.c.} \right) \\ & + \frac{i\tilde{c}_{Hl}}{v^2} (\bar{l}_L \gamma^\mu l_L) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) + \frac{i\tilde{c}'_{Hl}}{v^2} (\bar{l}_L \gamma^\mu \sigma^i l_L) (H^\dagger \sigma^i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) \\ & + \frac{i\tilde{c}_{Hl}}{v^2} (\bar{l}_R \gamma^\mu l_R) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\tilde{c}_{uB} g'}{m_W^2} y_u \bar{q}_L H^c \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_R B_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\tilde{c}_{uW} g}{m_W^2} y_u \bar{q}_L \sigma^i H^c \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_R W_{\mu\nu}^i + \frac{\tilde{c}_{uG} g_S}{m_W^2} y_u \bar{q}_L H^c \sigma^{\mu\nu} \lambda^a u_R G_{\mu\nu}^a \\ & + \frac{\tilde{c}_{dB} g'}{m_W^2} y_d \bar{q}_L H \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R B_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\tilde{c}_{dW} g}{m_W^2} y_d \bar{q}_L \sigma^i H \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R W_{\mu\nu}^i + \frac{\tilde{c}_{dG} g_S}{m_W^2} y_d \bar{q}_L H \sigma^{\mu\nu} \lambda^a d_R G_{\mu\nu}^a \\ & + \frac{\tilde{c}_{lB} g'}{m_W^2} y_l \bar{l}_L H \sigma^{\mu\nu} l_R B_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\tilde{c}_{lW} g}{m_W^2} y_l \bar{l}_L \sigma^i H \sigma^{\mu\nu} l_R W_{\mu\nu}^i + \text{h.c.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{i\tilde{c}_{HW} g}{m_W^2} (D^\mu H)^\dagger \sigma^i (D^\nu H) \tilde{W}_{\mu\nu}^i + \frac{i\tilde{c}_{HB} g'}{m_W^2} (D^\mu H)^\dagger (D^\nu H) \tilde{B}_{\mu\nu} \\ & + \frac{\tilde{c}_\gamma g'^2}{m_W^2} H^\dagger H B_{\mu\nu} \tilde{B}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{\tilde{c}_g g_S^2}{m_W^2} H^\dagger H G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu} \\ & + \frac{\tilde{c}_{3W} g^3}{m_W^2} \epsilon^{ijk} W_\mu^{i\nu} W_\nu^{j\rho} \tilde{W}_\rho^{k\mu} + \frac{\tilde{c}_{3G} g_S^3}{m_W^2} f^{abc} G_\mu^{a\nu} G_\nu^{b\rho} \tilde{G}_\rho^{c\mu}, \end{aligned}$$

N >> 59 ways to leave your SM lover  
Some operators probed by precision Higgs physics,  
and some by exotic Higgs decays

# Exotic Higgs Decays: HEFT approach

## Questions:

work in progress with  
T. Volansky and R. Vega-Morales

- What kind of exotic Higgs signature can arise within the EFT framework of SM + dimension-6 operators ?
- What are the current constraints on the couplings mediating the exotic decays?
- For each decay channel, what is the maximum branching fraction allowed by current constraints?
- In case the branching fraction is observable, what scale of the operator is being probed?

c.f. with precision Higgs physics probing  $\Lambda \sim 1$  TeV, or EWPT probing  $\Lambda \sim 10$  TeV, or B physics probing  $\Lambda \sim 100$  TeV

*In this talk, I restrict to exotic decay channels with charged leptons*

# HEFT: 2-body LFV decays

SM

BSM

$$\mathcal{L} = -\bar{L}_L H Y l_R - \frac{|H|^2}{\Lambda^2} \bar{L}_L H \tilde{Y} l_R + \text{h.c.}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \rightarrow -y_{ij} \bar{l}_L^i l_R^j + \text{h.c.} \quad i \neq j \quad y \sim \tilde{Y} \frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2}$$

Harnik et al 1209.1397:

$$y_{\mu e} \lesssim 3.6 \times 10^{-6} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{Br}(h \rightarrow \mu e) \lesssim 10^{-8}$$

$$y_{\tau e} \lesssim 1.4 \times 10^{-2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{Br}(h \rightarrow \tau e) \lesssim 20\%$$

$$y_{\tau \mu} \lesssim 1.6 \times 10^{-2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{Br}(h \rightarrow \tau \mu) \lesssim 25\%$$

Probing Br of **1/0.1%** translates to  
probing  $\Lambda$  of **5/8 TeV**  
(!better than Higgs precision!)

# HEFT: 3-body LFV decays from vertex operator

- Consider vertex operators violating lepton flavor

- Higgs couplings come at cost of LFV Z-boson couplings

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{i\bar{c}_{Hq}}{v^2} (\bar{q}_L \gamma^\mu q_L) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) + \frac{i\bar{c}'_{Hq}}{v^2} (\bar{q}_L \gamma^\mu \sigma^i q_L) (H^\dagger \sigma^i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) \\
 & + \frac{i\bar{c}_{Hu}}{v^2} (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu u_R) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) + \frac{i\bar{c}_{Hd}}{v^2} (\bar{d}_R \gamma^\mu d_R) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) \\
 & + \left( \frac{i\bar{c}_{Hud}}{v^2} (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R) (H^{c\dagger} \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) + h.c. \right) \\
 & + \frac{i\bar{c}_{HL}}{v^2} (\bar{L}_L \gamma^\mu L_L) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) + \frac{i\bar{c}'_{HL}}{v^2} (\bar{L}_L \gamma^\mu \sigma^i L_L) (H^\dagger \sigma^i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H) \\
 & + \frac{i\bar{c}_{Hl}}{v^2} (\bar{l}_R \gamma^\mu l_R) (H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H),
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(1 + h/v)^2 Z_\mu \left( g_{Zl'_{L,R}} \bar{l}_L \gamma^\mu l'_L + g_{Zl'_{L,R}} \bar{l}_R \gamma^\mu l'_R \right) + h.c.$$

Old limits from OPAL and DELPHI

$$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow e^\pm \mu^\mp) < 1.7 \times 10^{-6} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta g_{Ze\mu}^2 < 1.8 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow e^\pm \tau^\mp) < 9.8 \times 10^{-6} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta g_{Ze\tau}^2 < 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \mu^\pm \tau^\mp) < 1.2 \times 10^{-5} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta g_{Z\mu\tau}^2 < 1.2 \times 10^{-5}$$

imply stringent limits on branching fractions:

$$\text{Br}(h \rightarrow Ze\mu) < 3.3 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$\text{Br}(h \rightarrow Ze\tau) < 1.9 \times 10^{-7}$$

$$\text{Br}(h \rightarrow Z\mu\tau) < 2.4 \times 10^{-7}$$

so that will never be observable

# HEFT: 3-body LFV decays from dipole operators

- Consider dipole operators violating lepton flavor

- Higgs couplings to  $\gamma ll'$  come at price of dipole operators contributing to  $l' \rightarrow l \gamma$  which are very strongly constrained

- Higgs couplings to Z come at cost of LFV Z-boson couplings

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\bar{c}_{uB} g'}{m_W^2} y_u \bar{q}_L H^c \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_R B_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\bar{c}_{uW} g}{m_W^2} y_u \bar{q}_L \sigma^i H^c \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_R W_{\mu\nu}^i + \frac{\bar{c}_{uG} g_S}{m_W^2} y_u \bar{q}_L H^c \sigma^{\mu\nu} \lambda^a u_R G_{\mu\nu}^a \\ & + \frac{\bar{c}_{dB} g'}{m_W^2} y_d \bar{q}_L H \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R B_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\bar{c}_{dW} g}{m_W^2} y_d \bar{q}_L \sigma^i H \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R W_{\mu\nu}^i + \frac{\bar{c}_{dG} g_S}{m_W^2} y_d \bar{q}_L H \sigma^{\mu\nu} \lambda^a d_R G_{\mu\nu}^a \\ & + \frac{\bar{c}_{lB} g'}{m_W^2} y_l \bar{L}_L H \sigma^{\mu\nu} l_R B_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\bar{c}_{lW} g}{m_W^2} y_l \bar{L}_L \sigma^i H \sigma^{\mu\nu} l_R W_{\mu\nu}^i + h.c. \end{aligned}$$

$$(1 + h/v) \left( \frac{d_{ll'Z}}{v} \bar{l}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} l'_R Z_{\mu\nu} + \frac{d_{ll'\gamma}}{v} \bar{l}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} l'_R \gamma_{\mu\nu} \right) + h.c.$$

$$d_{e\mu Z}^2 + d_{\mu e}^2 < 3.2 \times 10^{-6} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{Br}(h \rightarrow Z e \mu) < 1.9 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$d_{e\tau Z}^2 + d_{\tau e}^2 < 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{Br}(h \rightarrow Z e \tau) < 1.1 \times 10^{-7}$$

$$d_{\mu\tau Z}^2 + d_{\tau\mu}^2 < 2.2 \times 10^{-5} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{Br}(h \rightarrow Z \tau \mu) < 1.3 \times 10^{-7}$$

similar limits as for vertex mediated decays,  
never unobservable

# HEFT: 3-body LFC decays from dipole operators

- Consider dipole operators that conserve flavor
- Higgs couplings to  $Zll$  make a tiny shift to golden channel width
- Higgs couplings to  $\gamma ee$  and  $\gamma\mu\mu$  come at price of anomalous magnetic moment operators and are strongly constrained
- But  $\gamma\tau\tau$  only constrained by LEP-2 and larger Higgs coupling to  $\gamma\tau\tau$  is allowed

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\bar{c}_{uB} g'}{m_W^2} y_u \bar{q}_L H^c \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_R B_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\bar{c}_{uW} g}{m_W^2} y_u \bar{q}_L \sigma^i H^c \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_R W_{\mu\nu}^i + \frac{\bar{c}_{uG} g_S}{m_W^2} y_u \bar{q}_L H^c \sigma^{\mu\nu} \lambda^a u_R G_{\mu\nu}^a \\ & + \frac{\bar{c}_{dB} g'}{m_W^2} y_d \bar{q}_L H \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R B_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\bar{c}_{dW} g}{m_W^2} y_d \bar{q}_L \sigma^i H \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R W_{\mu\nu}^i + \frac{\bar{c}_{dG} g_S}{m_W^2} y_d \bar{q}_L H \sigma^{\mu\nu} \lambda^a d_R G_{\mu\nu}^a \\ & + \frac{\bar{c}_{lB} g'}{m_W^2} y_l \bar{l}_L H \sigma^{\mu\nu} l_R B_{\mu\nu} + \frac{\bar{c}_{lW} g}{m_W^2} y_l \bar{l}_L \sigma^i H \sigma^{\mu\nu} l_R W_{\mu\nu}^i + h.c. \end{aligned}$$

$$(1 + h/v) \left( \frac{d_{lZ}}{v} \bar{l}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} l_R Z_{\mu\nu} + \frac{d_{l\gamma}}{v} \bar{l}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} l_R \gamma_{\mu\nu} \right) + h.c.$$

$$d_{\tau\gamma} < 0.06$$

though needs some cancellation in  $d_{\tau Z}$

$$\text{Br}(h \rightarrow \gamma\tau^+\tau^-) < 6 \times 10^{-4}$$

observable?

# EFT for Exotic Higgs Decays

- Complete list of operators, including quark operators too (more difficult experimentally, but weaker limits from LEP)
- Effective theory approach for SM+X, for scalar, fermionic or vector X

work in progress with  
T.Volansky and R.Vega-Morales

# Summary

- Exotic Higgs decays may be the portal to new physics
- Large exotic decay rates readily possible if there exists a light BSM degree of freedom coupled to Higgs
- Stringent constraints within HEFT, but a few window of opportunities remain