

# Searches for light CP-odd Higgs bosons and dark photons at *BABAR*

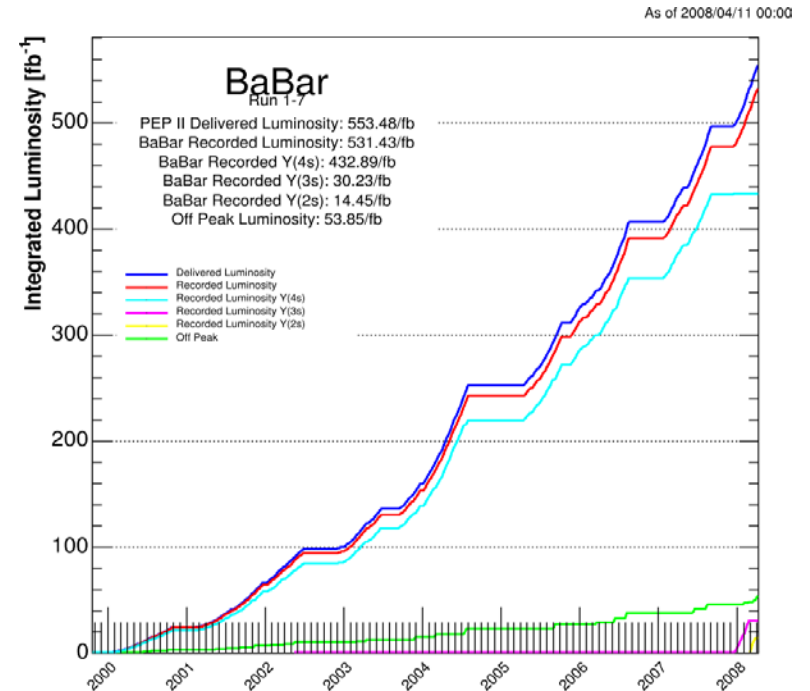
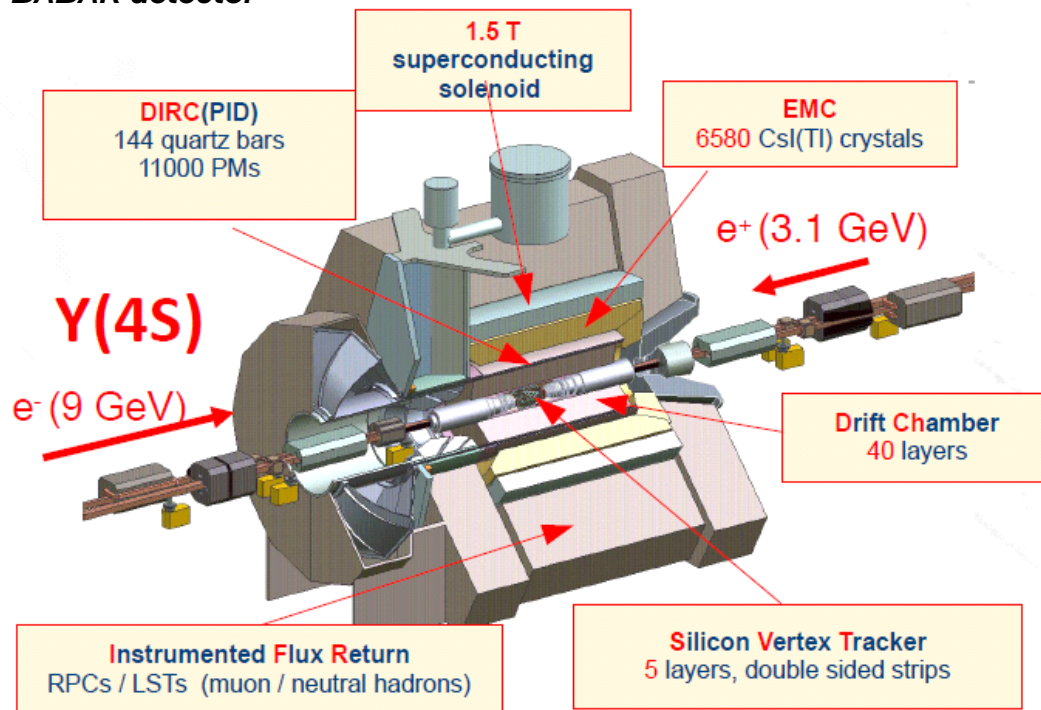
**Bertrand Echenard**  
California Institute of Technology  
on behalf of the *BABAR* Collaboration

**Benasque Workshop 2014**



# The BABAR experiment

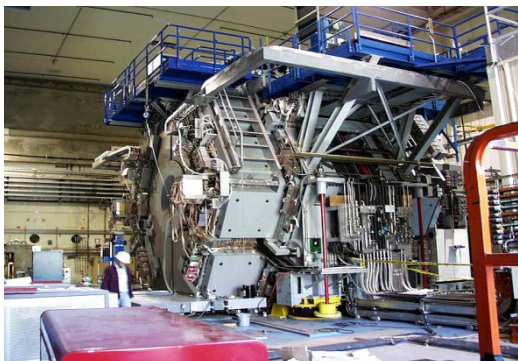
## The BABAR detector



## BABAR data sample contains

- $\sim 470 \times 10^6$  Y(4S)
- $\sim 120 \times 10^6$  Y(3S) (10x Belle)
- $\sim 100 \times 10^6$  Y(2S) (10x CLEO)
- $\sim 23 \times 10^6$  Y(2S,3S)  $\rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-Y(1S)$

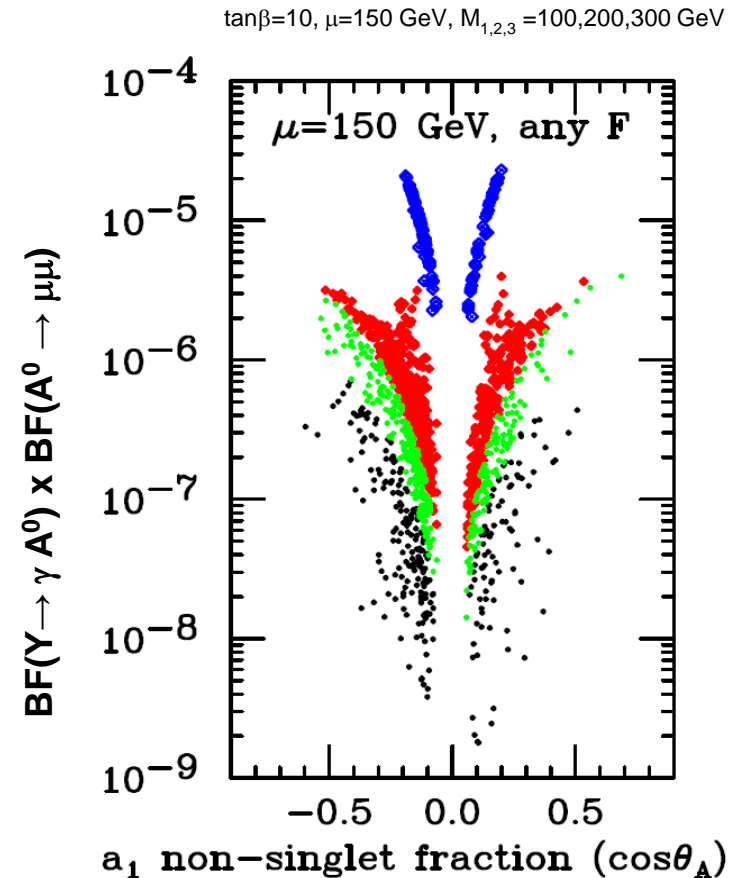
**Better sensitivity to direct production of light degrees of freedom at narrow resonances**



## A light CP-odd Higgs

- Many SM extensions (NMSSM, 2HDM Type-II,...) include the possibility of additional Higgs boson, which could be light.
- NMSSM proposed to solve the “ $\mu$  problem”, adding one CP-odd Higgs, one CP-even Higgs and one neutralino to the MSSM content
- A light CP-odd Higgs  $A^0$  with mass lower than  $2m_b$  is not excluded by LEP constraints.
- Radiative decays  $Y(nS) \rightarrow \gamma A^0$  ( $n=1,2,3$ ) offer an ideal environment to search for light CP-odd Higgs, and more generally a light scalar.
- Possible connection with dark matter connection in  $A^0 \rightarrow \chi\chi$  decays if  $m_\chi < m_A / 2$ .
- Branching fractions can be quite large!

Very active program at *BABAR* to search for these possibilities!



$$A^0 = \cos\theta_A A_{\text{MSSM}} + \sin\theta_A A_S$$

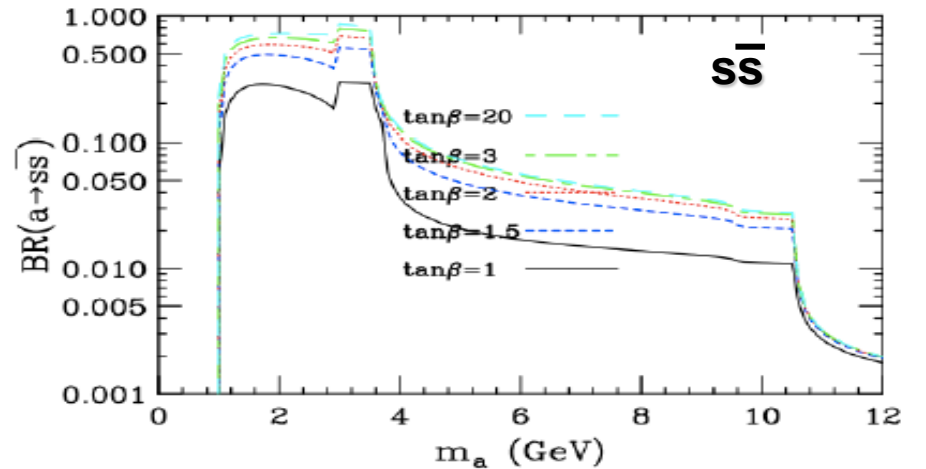
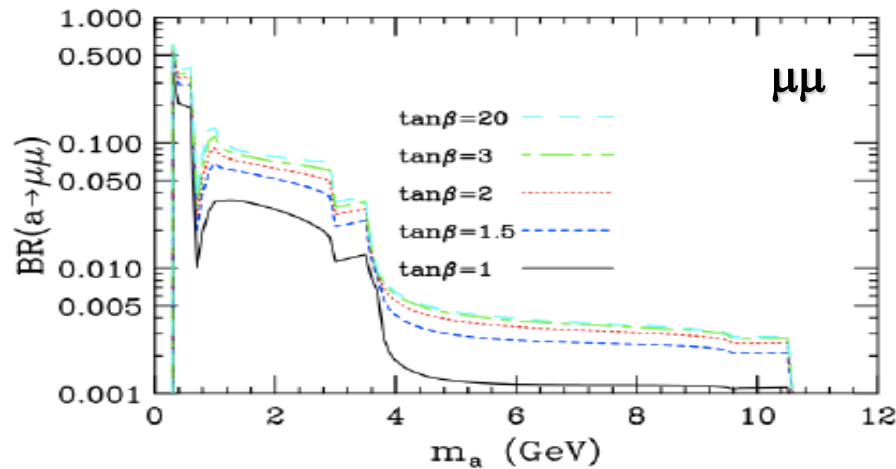
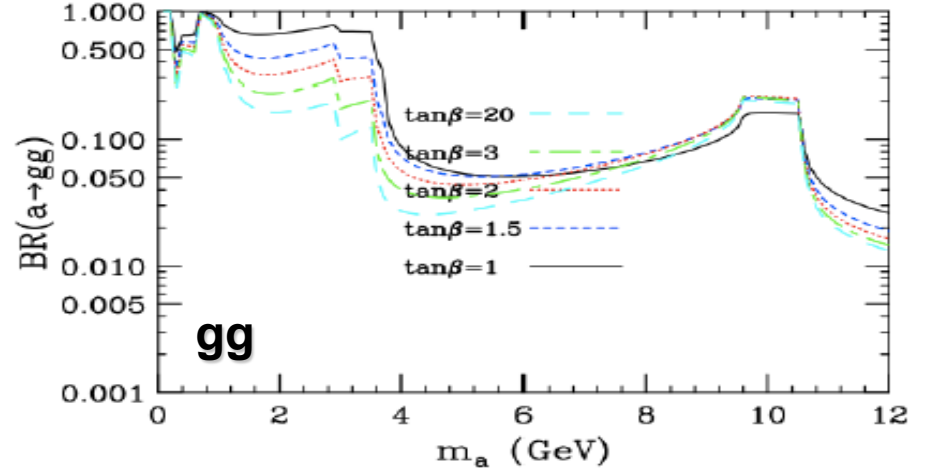
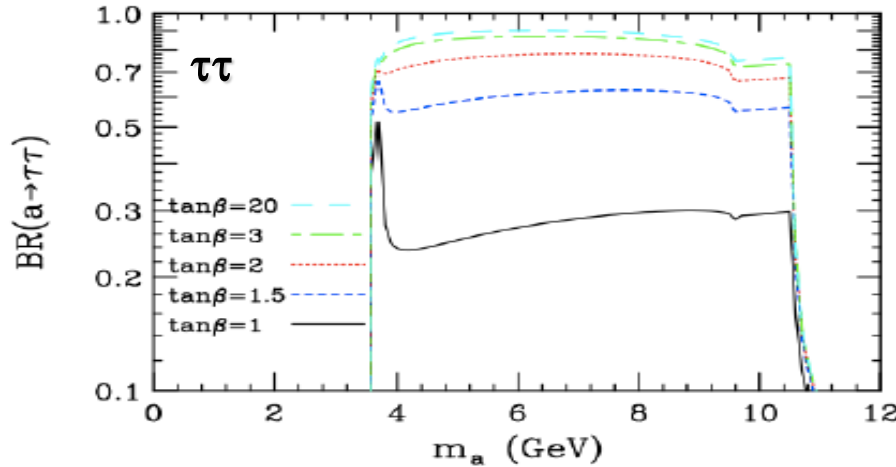
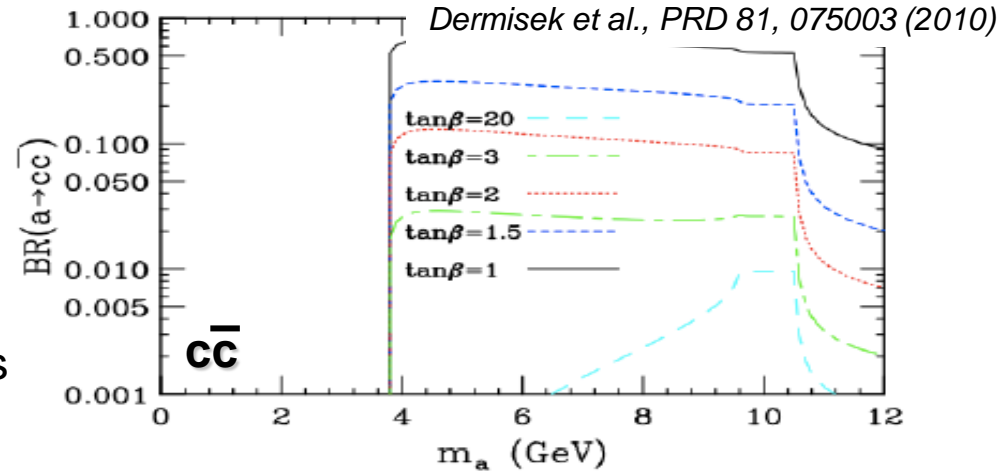
$$\begin{aligned}
 &0 < m_{A^0} < 2m_\tau \\
 &2m_\tau < m_{A^0} < 7.5 \text{ GeV} \\
 &7.5 < m_{A^0} < 8.8 \text{ GeV} \\
 &8.8 < m_{A^0} < 9.2 \text{ GeV}
 \end{aligned}$$



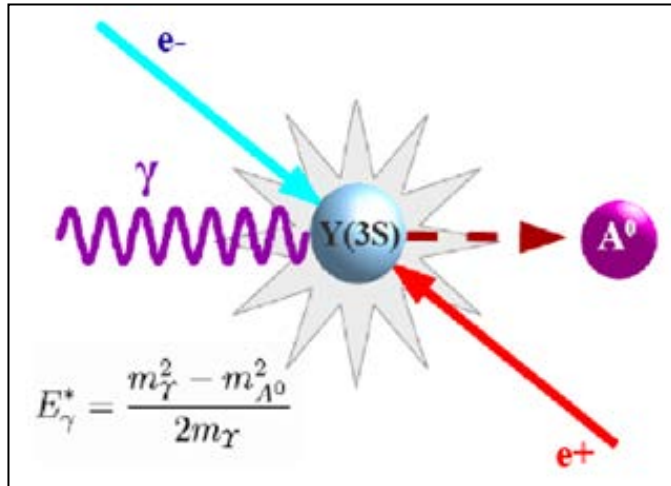
## Branching fractions depend on final state and the model parameters

$$BR(A^0 \rightarrow f \bar{f}) \propto \cos \theta_A m_f^2 / \tan^2 \beta \quad \text{up-type fermions}$$

$$BR(A^0 \rightarrow f \bar{f}) \propto \cos \theta_A m_f^2 \tan^2 \beta \quad \text{down-type fermions}$$



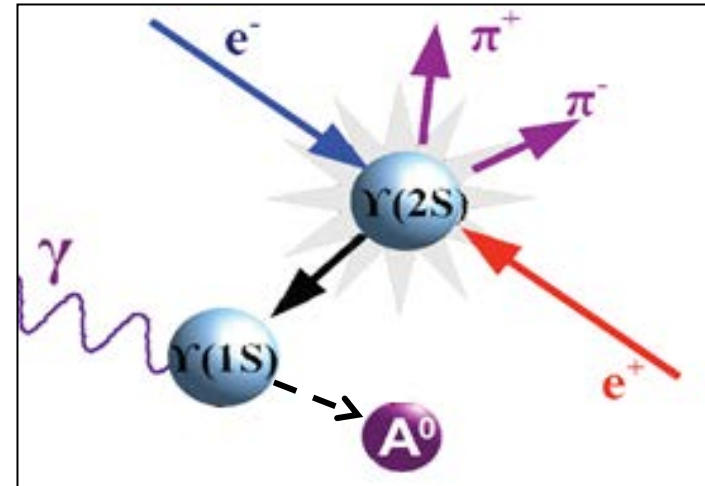
## Radiative $\Upsilon(2S,3S)$ decays



- $\Upsilon(2S,3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$   
PRL103 (2009) 081803
- $\Upsilon(3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$   
PRL103 (2009) 181801
- $\Upsilon(2S,3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$   
PRL107 (2011) 221803
- $\Upsilon(2S,3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \text{invisible}$   
arXiv: 0808.0017 + new analysis in progress

This talk

## Radiative $\Upsilon(1S)$ decays



- $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \text{invisible}$   
PRL107 (2011) 021804
- $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$   
PRD 87 (2013) 031102
- $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$   
PRD 88 (2013) 071102
- $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow gg \text{ or } s\bar{s}$   
PRD 88 (2013) 031701
- $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma \text{ and } A^0 \rightarrow c\bar{c}$   
in preparation

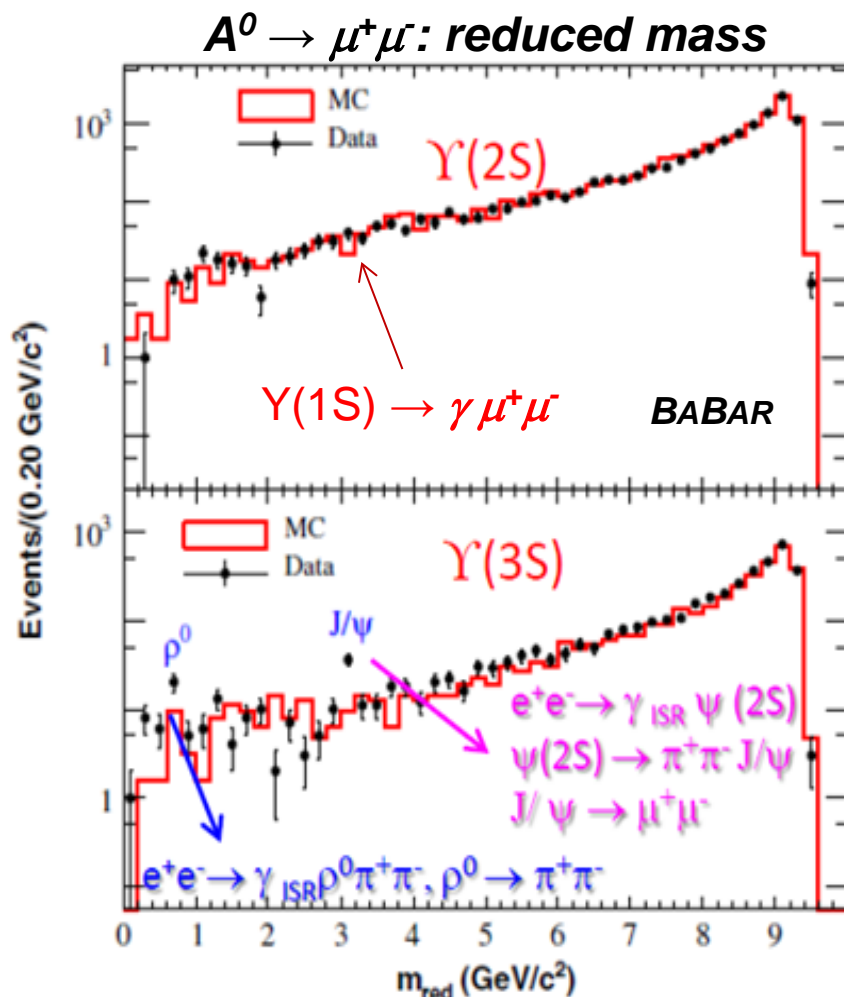
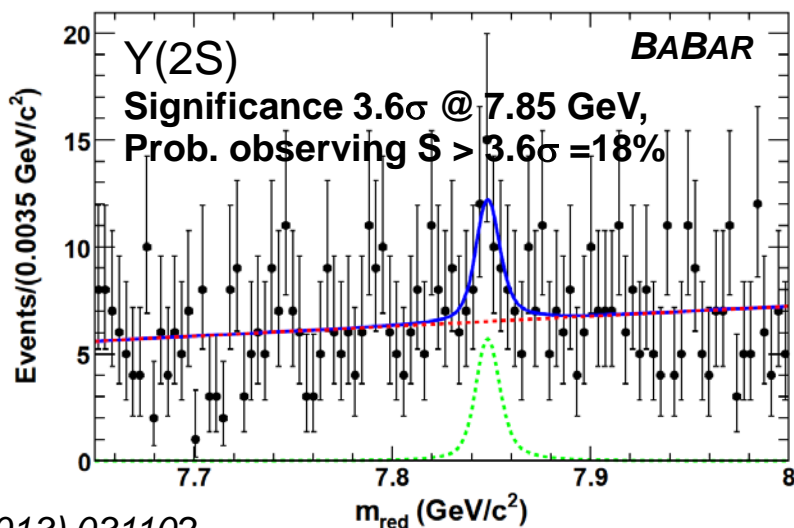
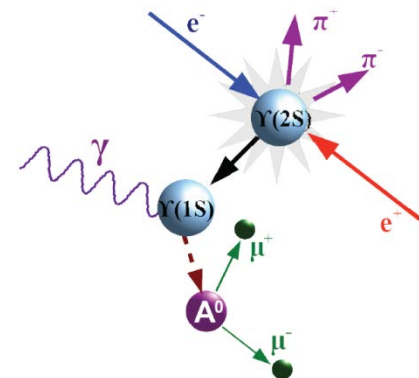
# Search for $A^0$ in $Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$

## Search for

$$Y(2S,3S) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- Y(1S), Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$$

## Analysis highlights

- Tag the  $Y(1S)$  from the dipion transition:  
one photon with  $E_{\gamma^*} > 200$  MeV + 4 tracks with at least one identified as muon
- Require the  $\gamma\mu\mu$  system to be compatible with a  $Y(1S)$  meson, apply kinematic constraints to improve resolution
- Scan reduced mass  $m_r = (m_{A^0}^2 - 4m_{\mu}^2)^{1/2}$



**Bayesian upper limits (90% CL) in the range**  
 **$0.212 \leq m_{A^0} \leq 9.20$  GeV**

$$B(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) < (0.1 - 9.7) \times 10^{-6}$$

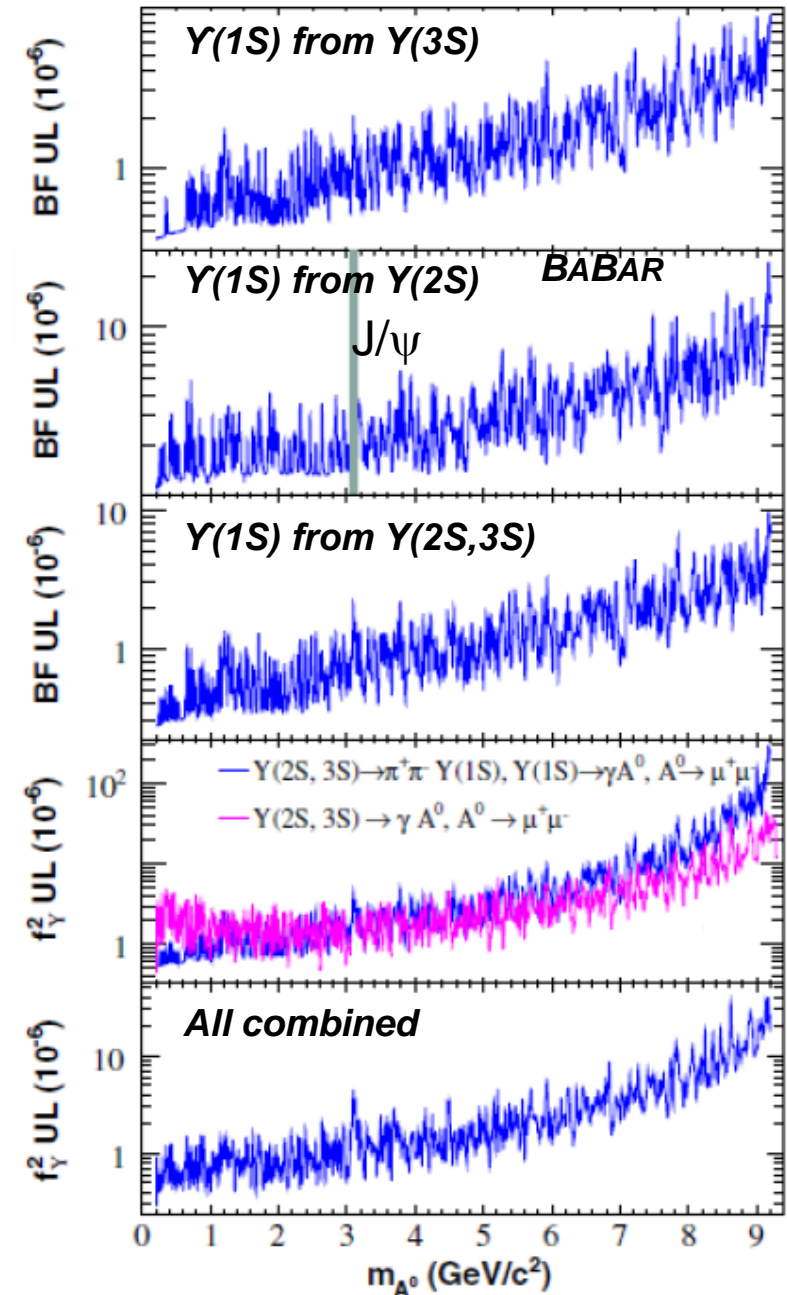
Limits comparable with results from  $Y(2S,3S)$  decays with a slight improvement in the region  $m_{A^0} < 1.2$  GeV

Combination with the results from  $Y(2S,3S)$  decays to extract a limit on the effective Yukawa coupling ( $f_Y$ ) between  $A^0$  – b-quark\*:

$$\frac{B(Y(nS) \rightarrow \gamma A^0)}{B(Y(nS) \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-)} = \frac{f_Y^2}{2\pi\alpha} \left( 1 - \frac{m_{A^0}^2}{m_{Y(nS)}^2} \right)$$

**For  $m_{A^0} < 9.2$  GeV (90% CL)**

$$f_Y^2 \times B(A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) = (0.3 - 40) \times 10^{-6}$$



\* F. Wilczek, Phys. Rev. Lett. 39, 1304 (1977).

M. L. Mangano and P. Nason, Mod. Phys. Lett. A22, 1373 (2007).

P. Nason, Phys. Lett. B175, 223 (1986).

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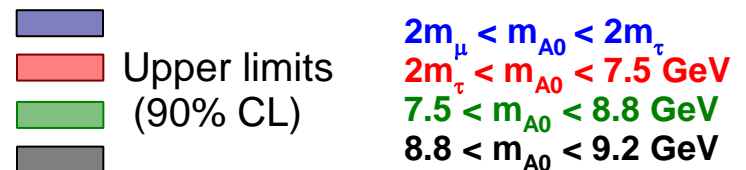
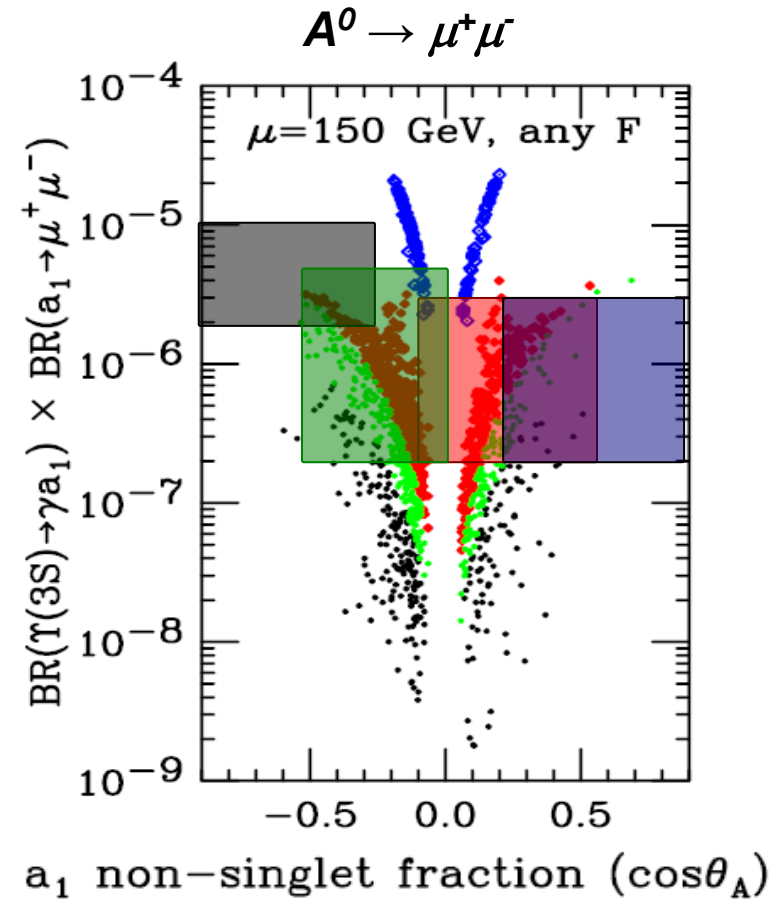
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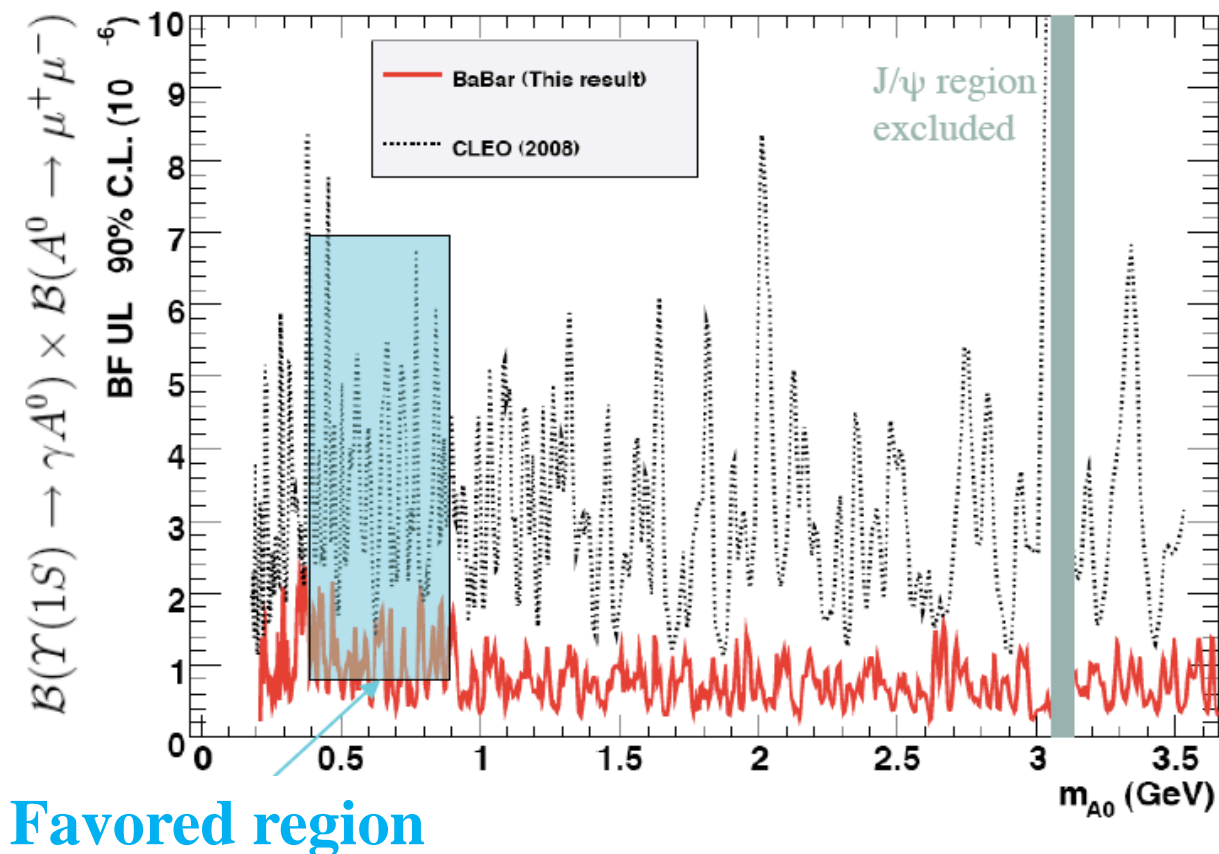
\* F. Wilczek, Phys. Rev. Lett. 39, 1304 (1977).

M. L. Mangano and P. Nason, Mod. Phys. Lett. A22, 1373 (2007).

P. Nason, Phys. Lett. B175, 223 (1986).



Dark matter model with axion-like particles predicting an axion mass 360 – 800 MeV decaying mainly into a muon pair<sup>1)</sup>



Severe constraints on this type of models

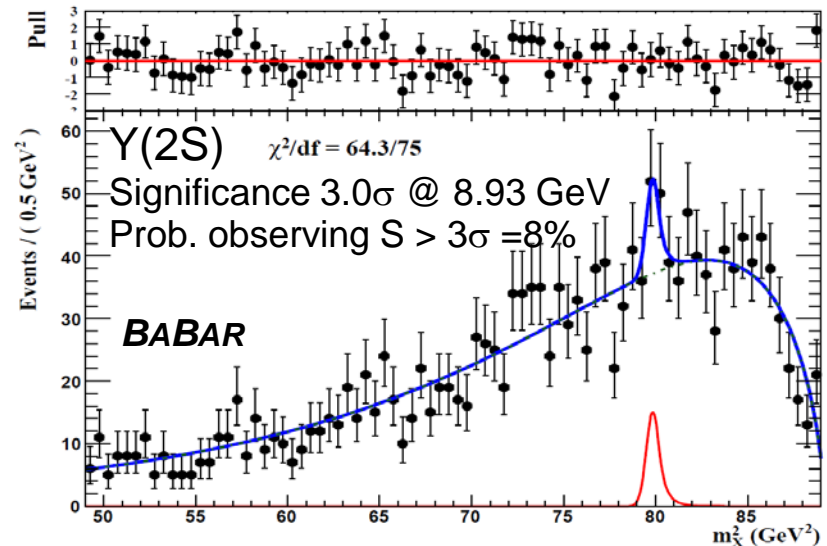
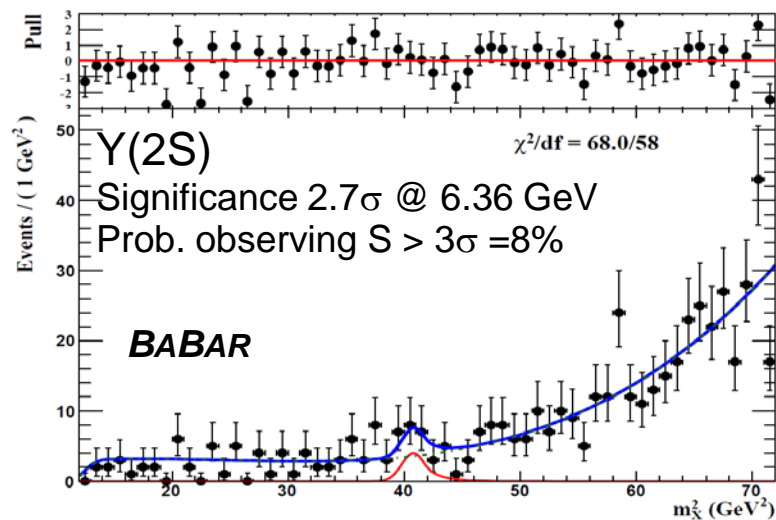
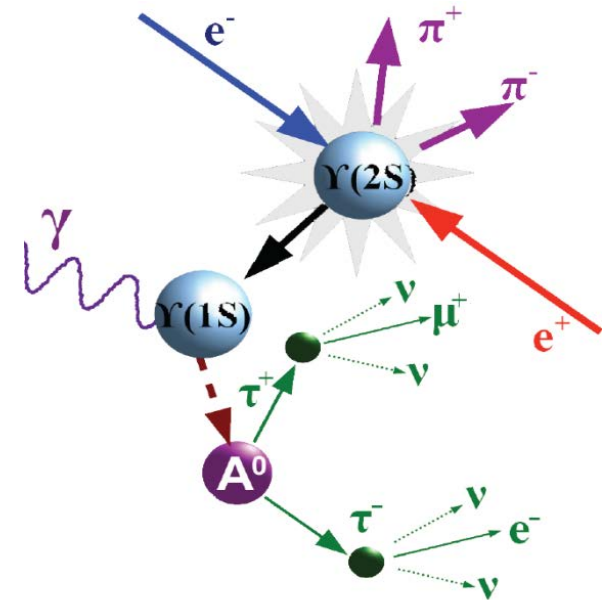
1) Nomura & Thaler PRD 79, 075008 (2007)

Search for

$$Y(2S) \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- Y(1S), Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$$

Analysis highlights

- Tag the Y(1S) from the dipion transition
- Tag 1-prong decay of tau ( $\tau \rightarrow \mu \nu \nu, \tau \rightarrow e \nu \nu, \tau \rightarrow \pi \nu \nu$ )
- Optimize analysis in low mass ( $3.6 < m_A < 8.0$  GeV) / high mass ( $8.0 < m_A < 9.2$  GeV) regions
- Fit for a narrow peak to the photon recoil mass in the Y(1S) system



Upper limits (90% CL) in the range  
 $3.6 \leq m_{A^0} \leq 9.20$  GeV

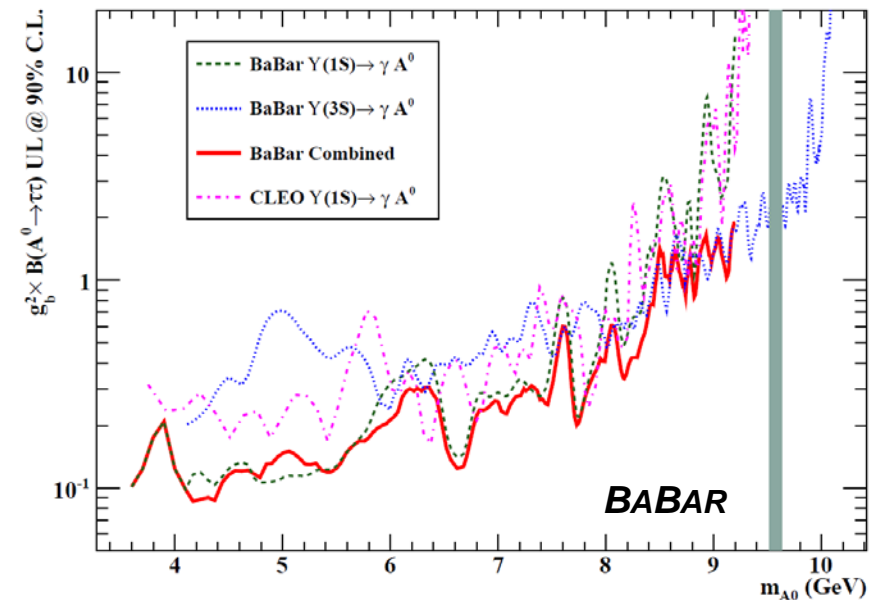
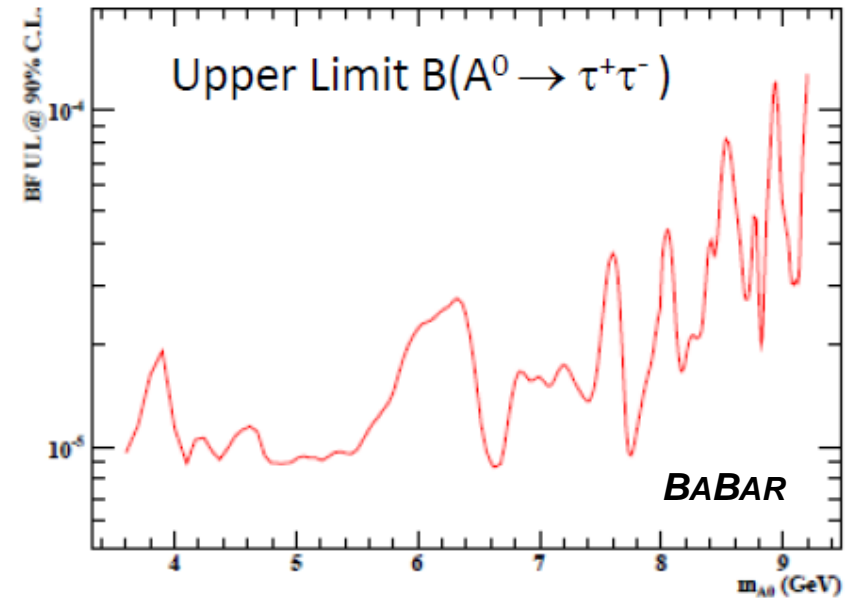
$$B(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-) < (0.9 - 13) \times 10^{-5}$$

Factor 2-3 improvement in the low mass range  
with respect to measurement in  $Y(3S)$

Combination with the results from  $Y(2S,3S)$   
decays to extract a limit on the Yukawa  
coupling ( $g_b$ ) between  $A^0$  – b-quark\*:

$$\frac{B(Y(nS) \rightarrow \gamma A^0)}{B(Y(nS) \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-)} = \frac{g_b^2 G_F m_b^2}{\sqrt{2\pi\alpha}} \mathcal{F}_{QCD} \left( 1 - \frac{m_{A^0}^2}{m_{Y(ns)}^2} \right)$$

$$g_b^2 \times B(A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-) = 0.1 - 1.9 \text{ @ 90\% CL}$$



\* F. Wilczek, Phys. Rev. Lett. 39, 1304 (1977).

M. L. Mangano and P. Nason, Mod. Phys. Lett. A22, 1373 (2007).

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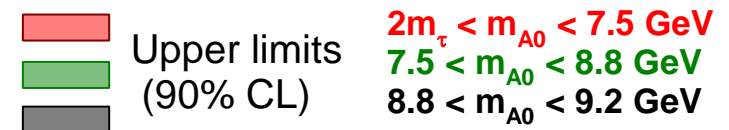
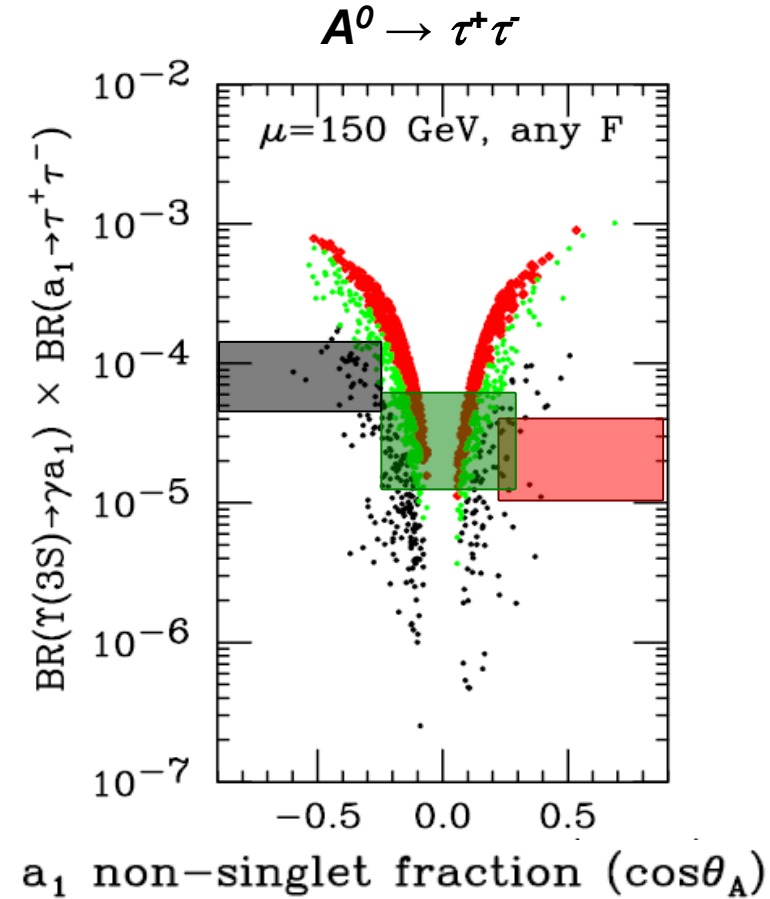
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\* F. Wilczek, Phys. Rev. Lett. 39, 1304 (1977).

M. L. Mangano and P. Nason, Mod. Phys. Lett. A22, 1373 (2007).

P. Nason, Phys. Lett. B175, 223 (1986).



## Selection

- Exclusive reconstruction of  $A^0$  in 26 / 14 different channels for  $gg/s\bar{s}$  final state. Two body decays excluded as CP-odd Higgs can not decay into two pseudo-scalars
- Beam-energy constraints to improve  $A^0$  mass resolution

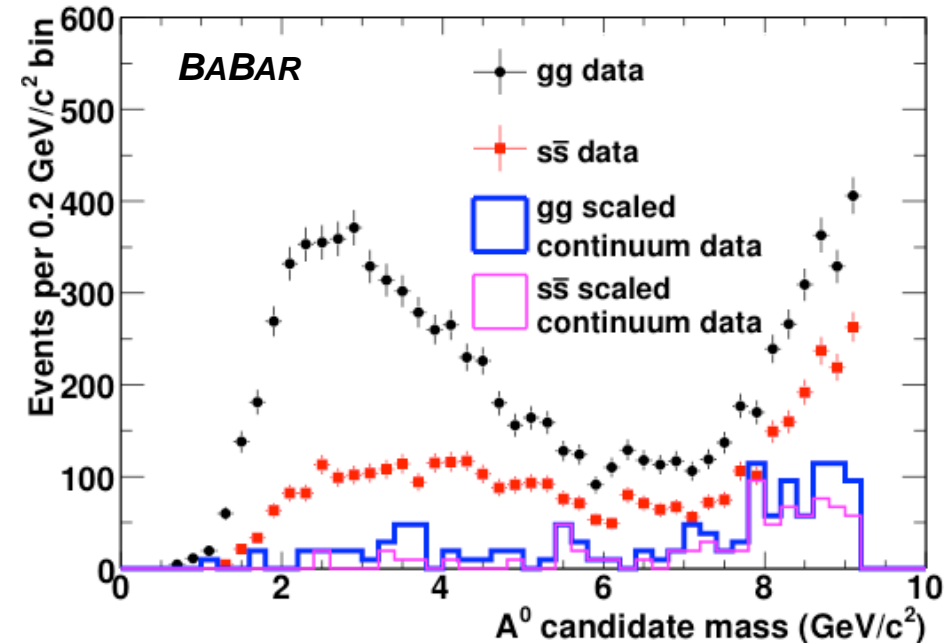
## Main background

- $Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma gg$  (low masses)
- $Y(1S) \rightarrow ggg$  (high masses)

**Extract yield** from mass spectrum in the range  $0.5 < m_A < 9$  GeV, use cut and count method with background estimated from sidebands.

Large systematic uncertainty from hadronization (~50%)

#	Channel	#	Channel
1	$\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$	14	$K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$
2	$\pi^+\pi^-2\pi^0$	15	$K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$
3	$2\pi^+2\pi^-$	16	$K^\pm K_S^0 \pi^\mp \pi^+ \pi^-$
4	$2\pi^+2\pi^-\pi^0$	17	$K^+K^-\eta$
5	$\pi^+\pi^-\eta$	18	$K^+K^-2\pi^+2\pi^-$
6	$2\pi^+2\pi^-2\pi^0$	19	$K^\pm K_S^0 \pi^\mp \pi^+ \pi^- 2\pi^0$
7	$3\pi^+3\pi^-$	20	$K^+K^-2\pi^+2\pi^-\pi^0$
8	$2\pi^+2\pi^-\eta$	21	$K^+K^-2\pi^+2\pi^-2\pi^0$
9	$3\pi^+3\pi^-2\pi^0$	22	$K^\pm K_S^0 \pi^\mp 2\pi^+2\pi^-\pi^0$
10	$4\pi^+4\pi^-$	23	$K^+K^-3\pi^+3\pi^-$
11	$K^+K^-\pi^0$	24	$2K^+2K^-$
12	$K^\pm K_S^0 \pi^\mp$	25	$p\bar{p}\pi^0$
13	$K^+K^-2\pi^0$	26	$p\bar{p}\pi^+\pi^-$



Most significant signals

- $gg$ :  $2.7\sigma$  @ 8.1 GeV
- $s\bar{s}$ :  $2.9\sigma$  @ 8.6 GeV

Toy Monte Carlo studies shows that the probability to see a significance as large as the observed one is

- $gg$ : 86%
- $s\bar{s}$ : 59%

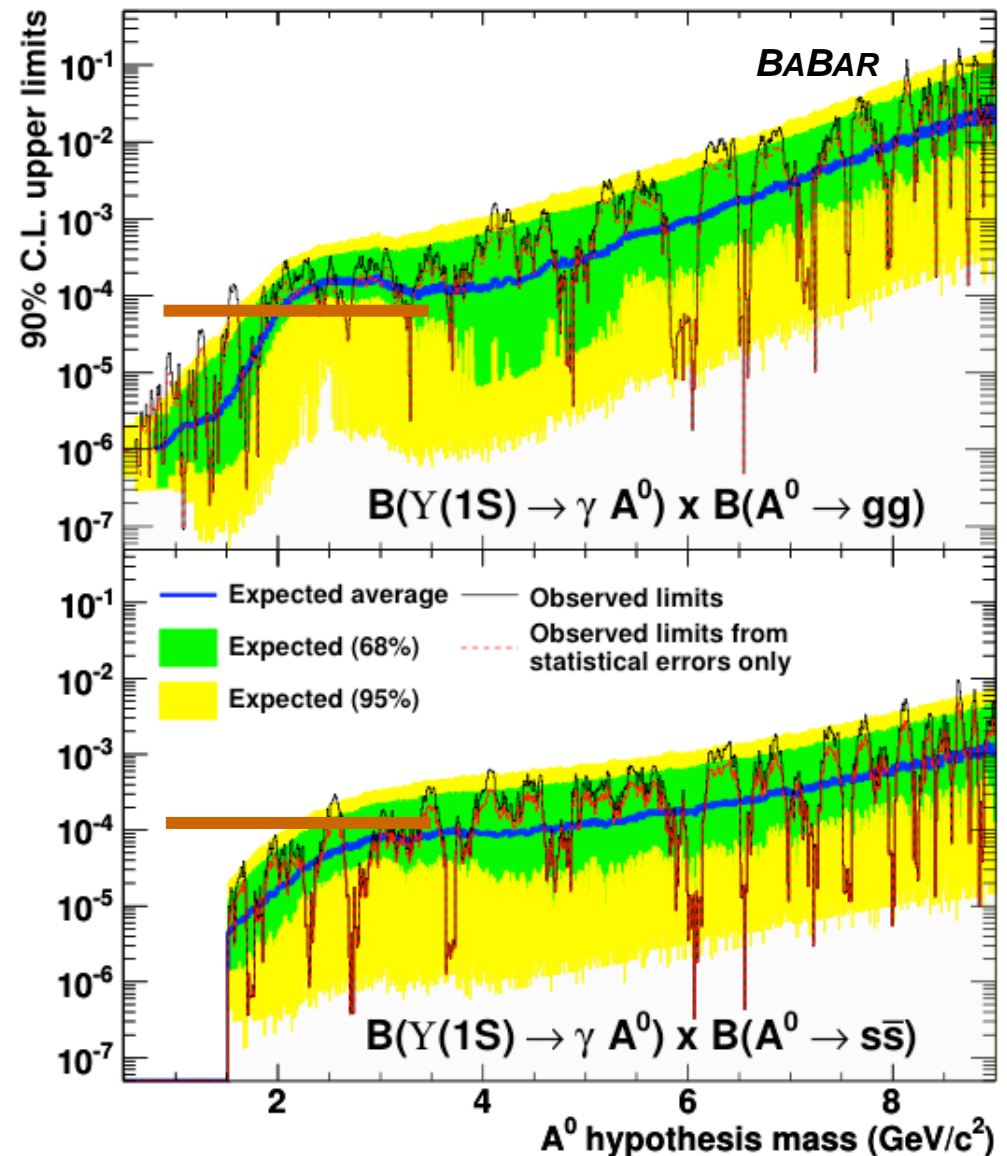
No significant signal is observed

Bayesian upper limits (90% CL) in the range  $0.5 \leq m_{A^0} \leq 9.0$  GeV

$$B(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow gg) < 10^{-6} - 10^{-2}$$

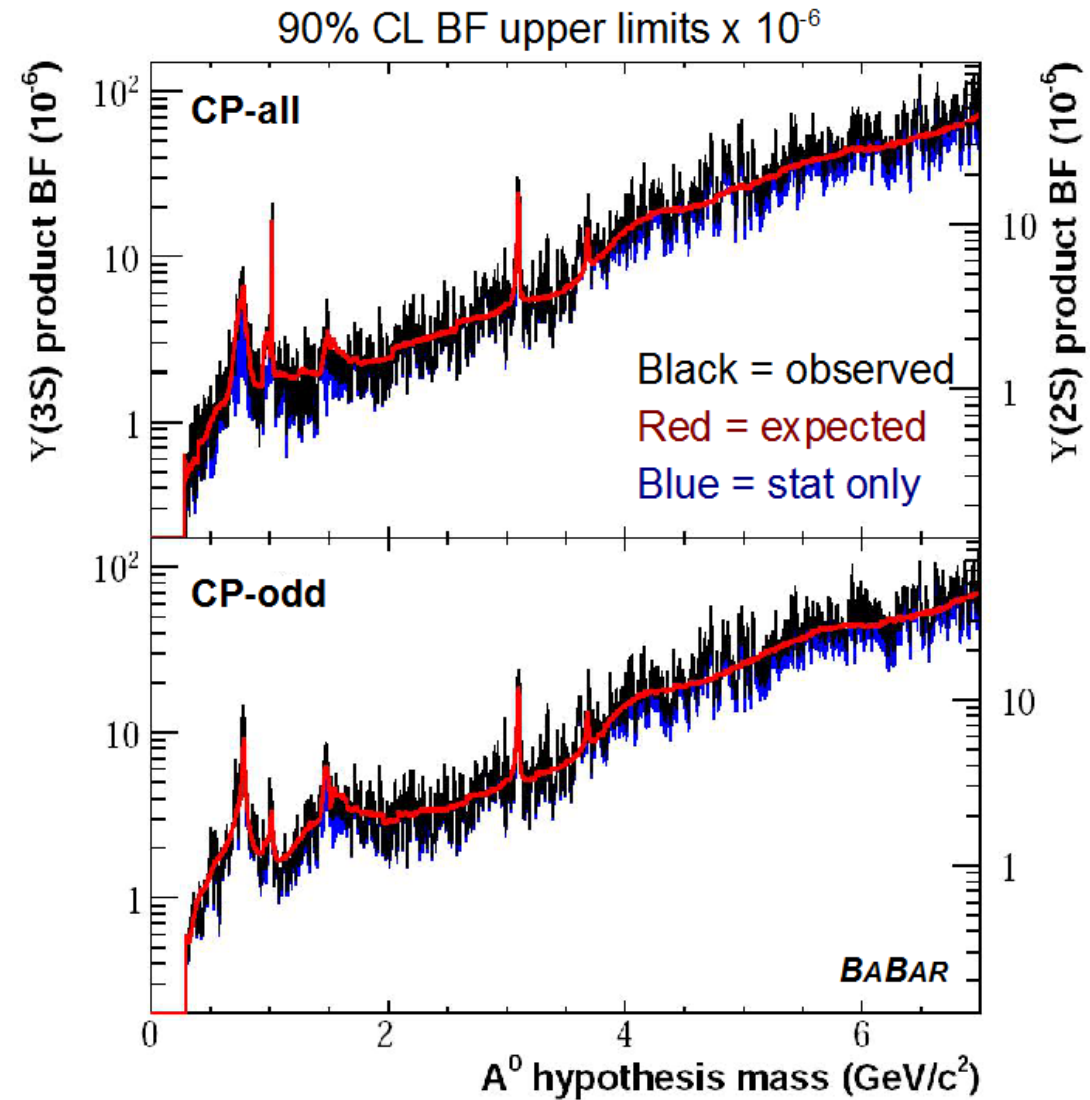
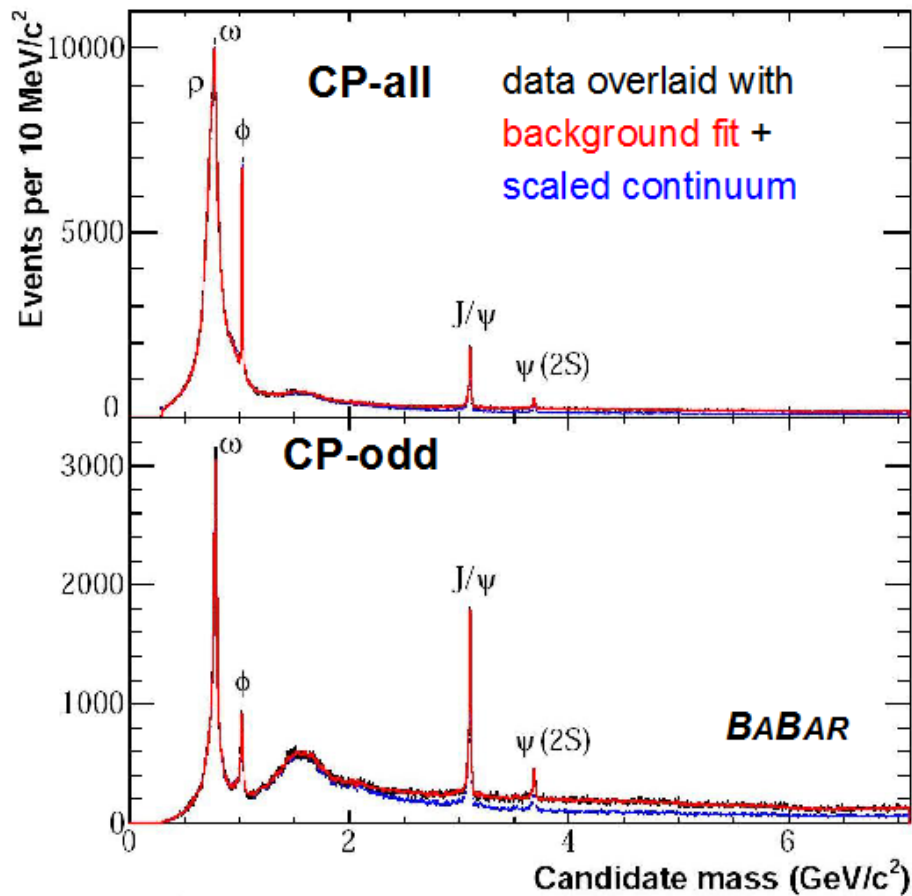
$$B(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow s\bar{s}) < 10^{-5} - 10^{-3}$$

Low mass region excluded



Brown line = approximate predictions

- Reconstructed the full  $A^0 \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$  candidate
- Consider both CP-all and CP-odd (no  $\pi\pi/\text{KK}$ ) hypotheses



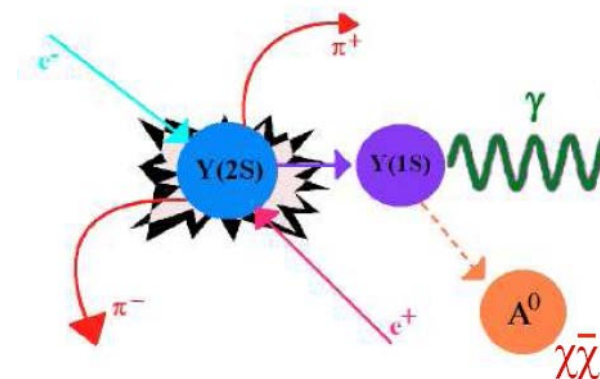
**No evidence of light CP-odd Higgs in hadronic decays**

## Search for

$$Y(2S) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- Y(1S), Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \text{invisible}$$

## Analysis highlights

- Tag the  $Y(1S)$  from the dipion transition
- Require two tracks + one high-energy photon and no additional activity
- Missing energy and momentum



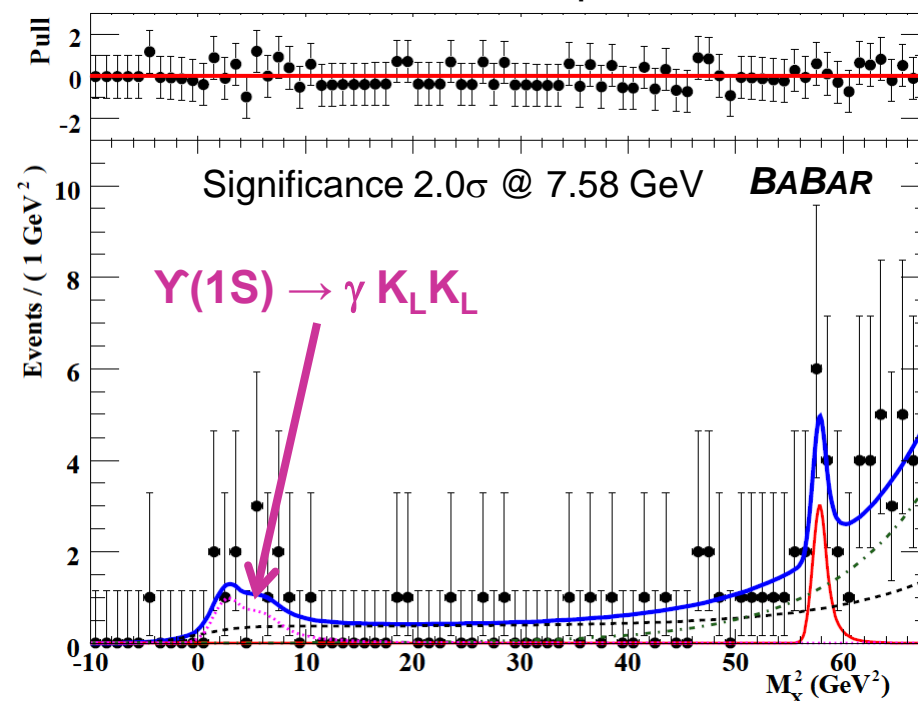
## Search strategy

- Consider both  $Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0$  (two-body) and  $Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma\chi\chi$  (multi-body) decays
- 2D fit the the recoil mass squared ( $M_{\text{recoil}}^2$ ) and missing mass ( $M_X^2$ ) squared

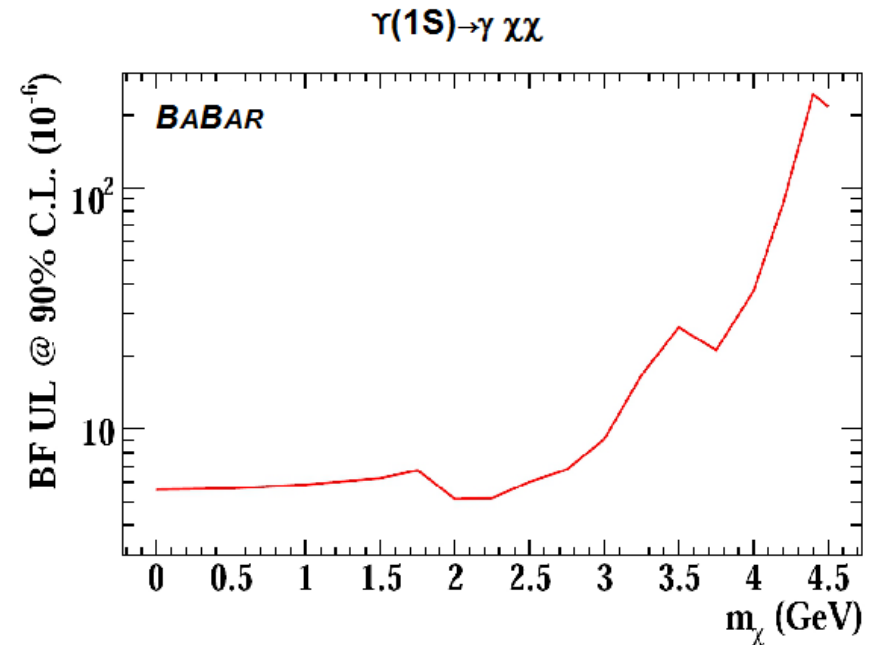
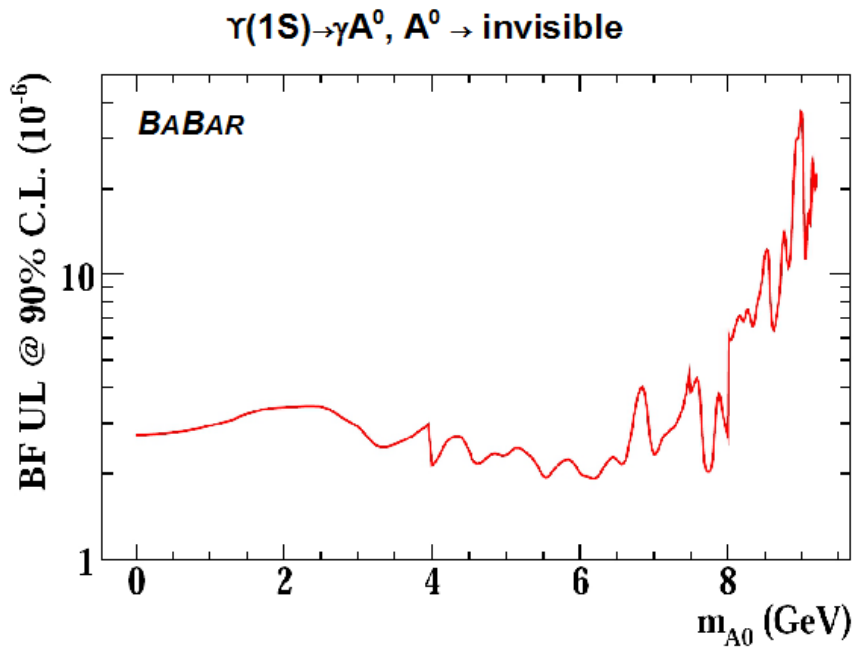
$$M_{\text{recoil}}^2 = M_{Y(2S)}^2 + m_{\pi\pi}^2 - 2M_{Y(2S)}E_{\pi\pi}^*$$

$$M_X^2 = (\mathcal{P}_{e^-e^-} - \mathcal{P}_{\pi\pi} - \mathcal{P}_{\gamma})^2$$

Recoil mass squared







## Upper limits (90% CL)

$$\text{BF}(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \text{invisible}) < (1.9 - 37) \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\text{BF}(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma \chi\chi) < (0.5 - 25) \times 10^{-5}$$

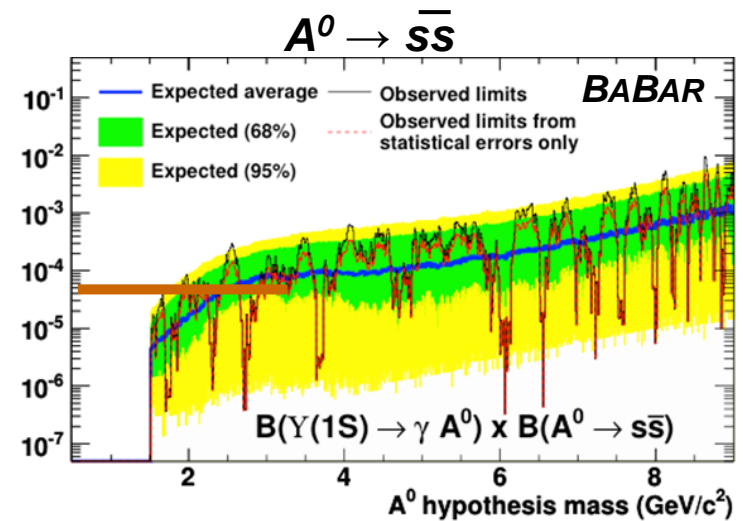
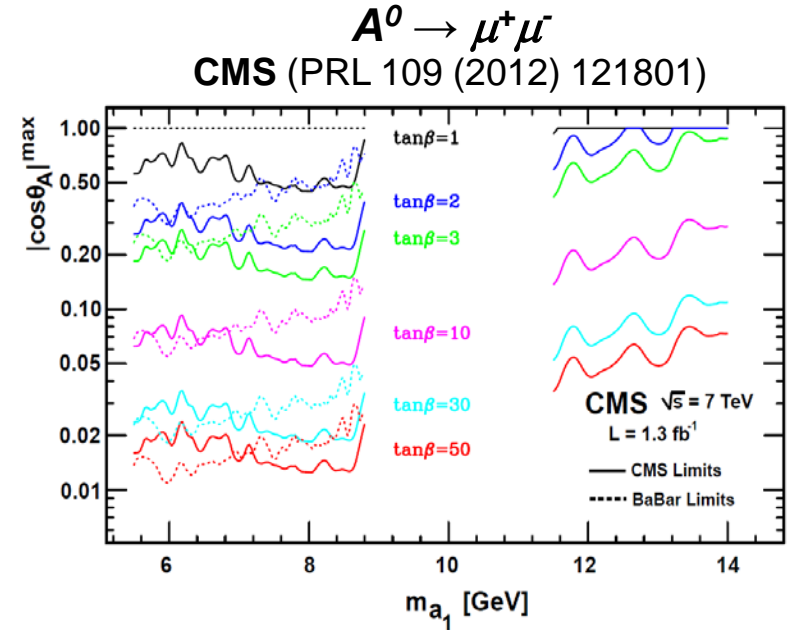
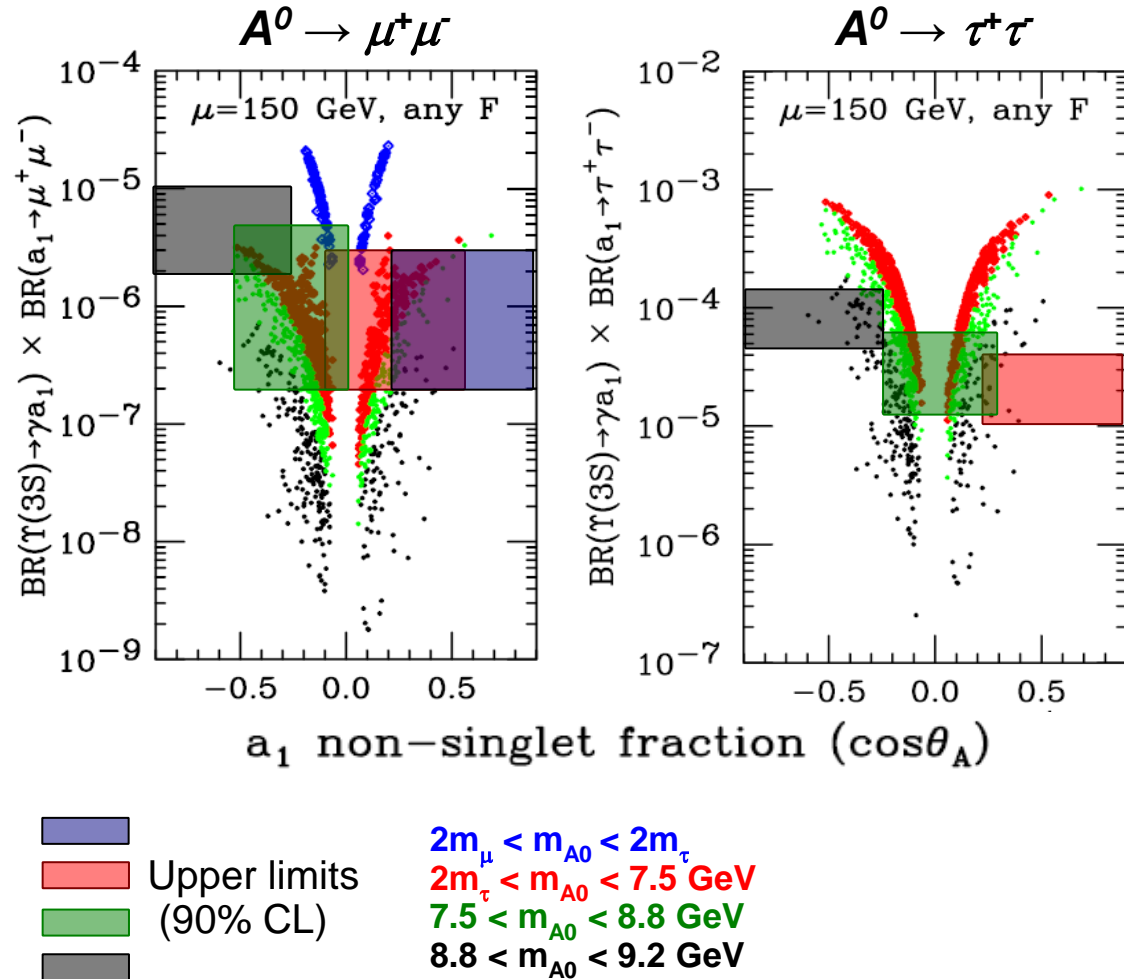
## Predictions<sup>1,2)</sup>

$$\text{BF}(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \text{invisible}) \sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-4}$$

$$\text{BF}(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma \chi\chi) \sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-4}$$

**Significant constraints on these models**

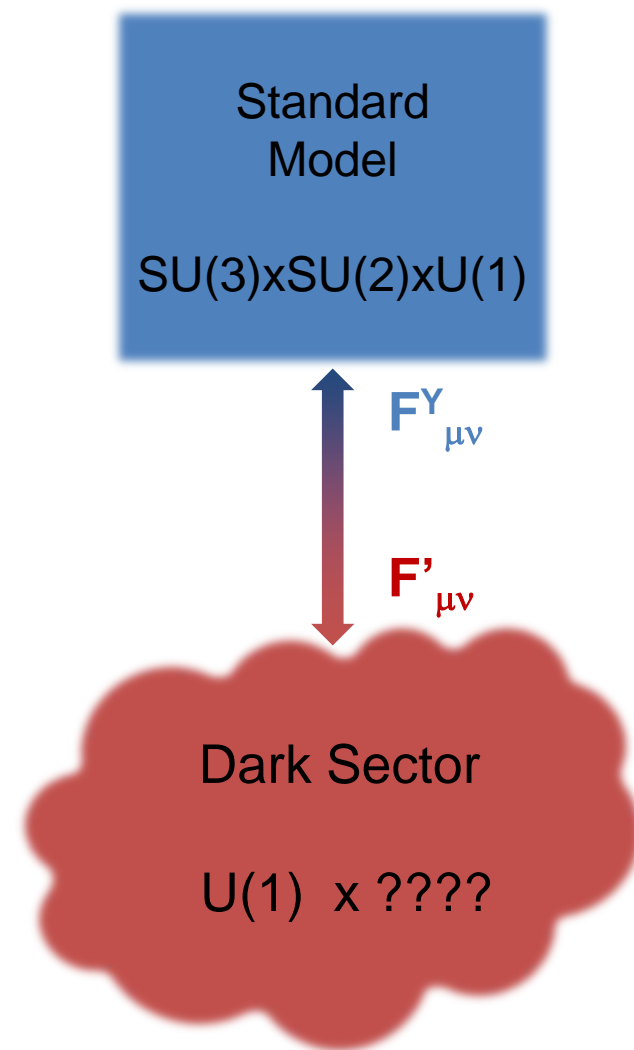
1) PRD 76, 051105 (2007)    2) PRD 80,115019 (2009)



**Substantial fraction of the parameter space up to 7-8 GeV is excluded**

# Dark Sector

- Recent dark matter model introducing a new dark sector with a new  $U(1)'$ .
- The corresponding gauge boson, the so-called dark photon ( $A'$ ), is light (MeV – GeV mass) in these models.
- Dark sector particles do not couple directly to the SM content. Interaction dark sector - SM via kinetic mixing between the dark photon and photon/Z with a mixing strength  $\varepsilon$  among other “portals”.
- In other words, there is a dark photon – SM fermion coupling  $\alpha' = \varepsilon^2 \alpha$ .
- Mixing strength typically  $\varepsilon \sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-2}$ , but could be smaller.
- Dark photon width  $\Gamma_{A'} \sim m_{A'} \varepsilon$  and can be very small or very large. Dark photon can be short or long lived.

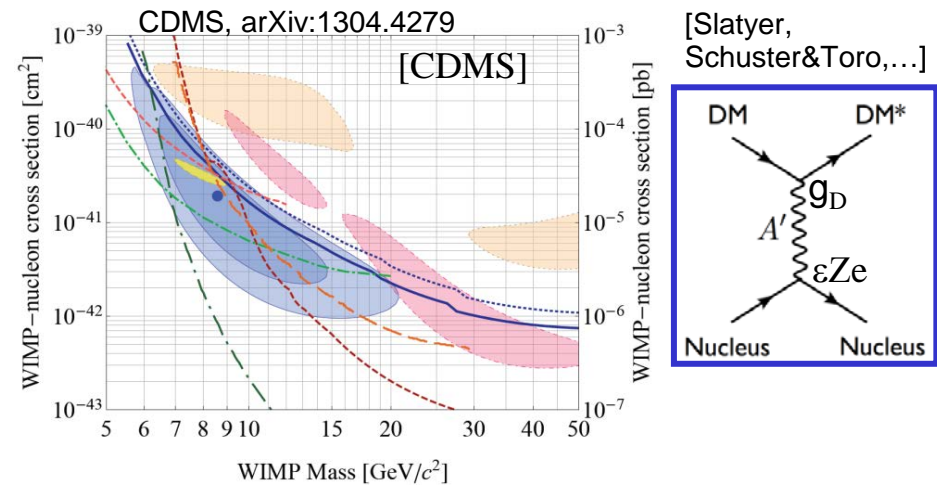
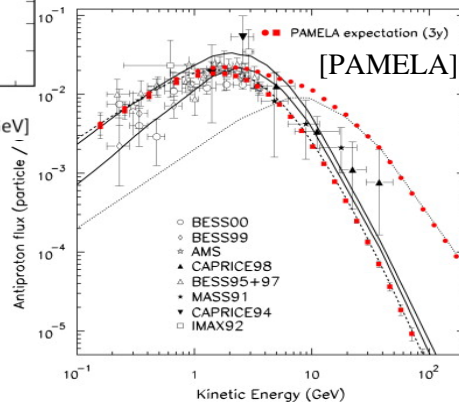
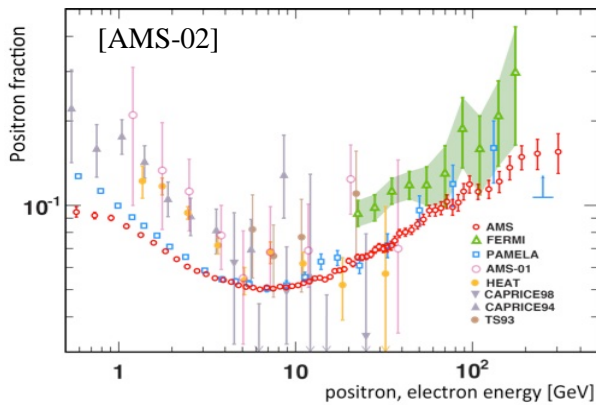


$$\Delta\mathcal{L} = \frac{\varepsilon}{2} F^{Y,\mu\nu} F'_{\mu\nu}$$



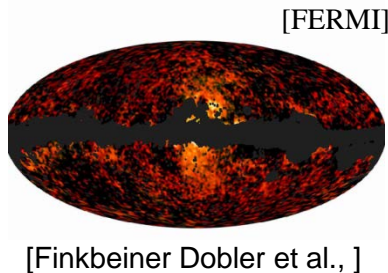
# Dark sector in a nutshell

- In this framework, **wimp-like TeV-scale dark matter particles can annihilate into pairs of dark photons**, which subsequently decay to SM fermions.
- If dark photon is light  $\rightarrow$  can only decay to light states. Could explain the recent observations in cosmic rays (electron excess but no antiprotons) and by ground experiments.
- Other explanations of these anomalies have been proposed, but the possibility of a **hidden MeV/GeV-scale sector is poorly constrained and really worth exploring.**



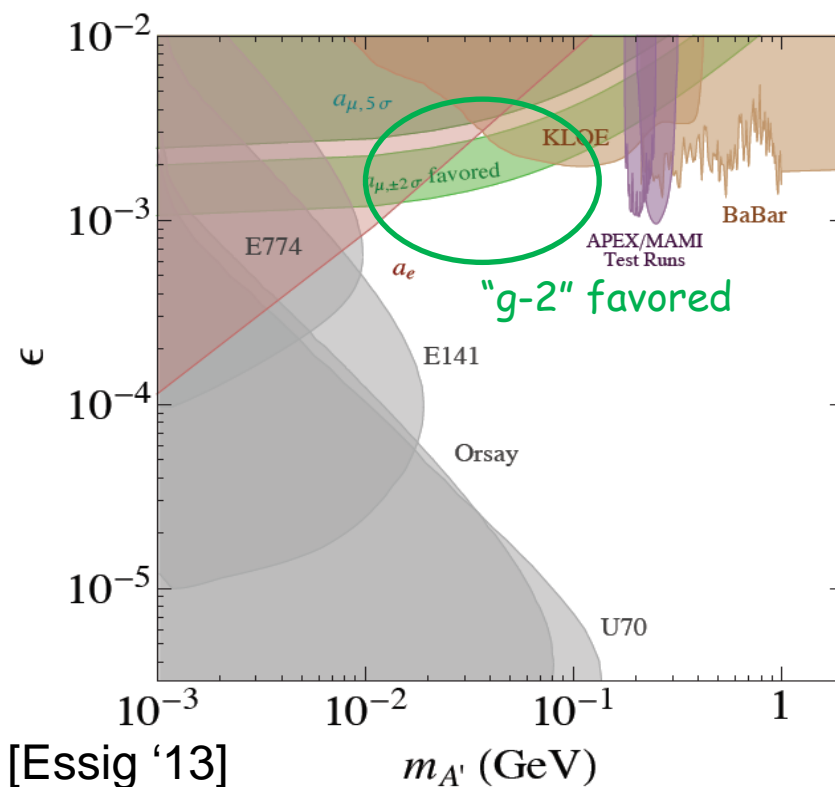
And many others....

Would require another talk to discuss them all...



## Particle physics implications

- Can produce dark photons. In fact, photons in any process can be replaced by a dark photon (with an extra factor of  $\varepsilon$ ).
- Decays back to lepton/quark pairs  $\rightarrow$  search for resonances
- Dark photon decay can be prompt or displaced (long-lived)
- Current bounds on the mixing parameter  $\varepsilon$  are shown as a function of the dark photon mass.
- Constraints from electron/muon  $g-2$ , beam dump and fixed target experiments and  $e^+e^-$  colliders (some constraints reinterpreted from limits of other measurements by theorists, e.g. *BABAR*)



Pospelov;  
Bjorken, Essig, Schuster, Toro  
Andreas, Niebuhr, Ringwald  
Batell, Pospelov, Ritz;  
Essig, Harnik, Kaplan, Toro  
Blumlein, Brunner;

Dent, Ferrer, Krauss  
Essig Schuster, Toro, Wojtsekhowski  
KLOE, APEX, MAMI/A1 Collab.  
Davoudiasl, Lee, Marciano;  
Endo, Hamaguchi, Mishima

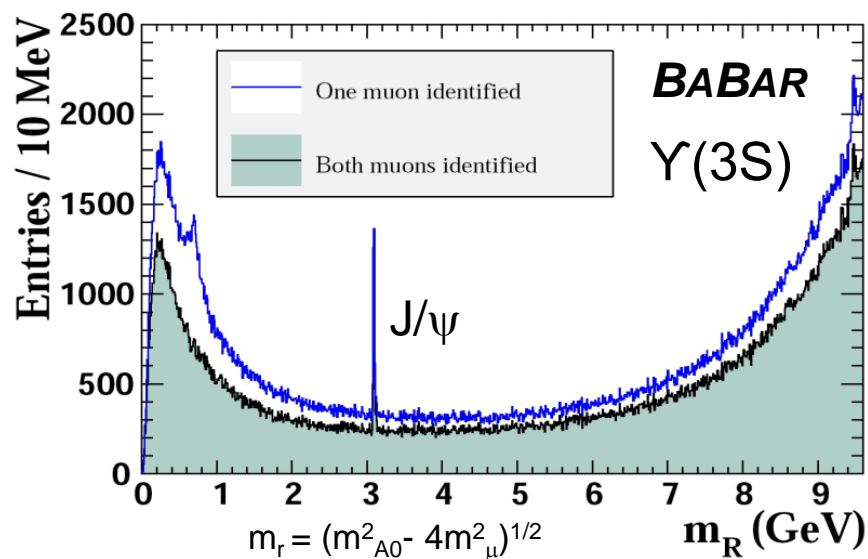
Low-energy high-luminosity  $e^+e^-$  colliders offer a low-background environment to search for MeV/GeV-scale hidden sector (in particular GeV masses) and probe their structure

A dark photon can be produced in

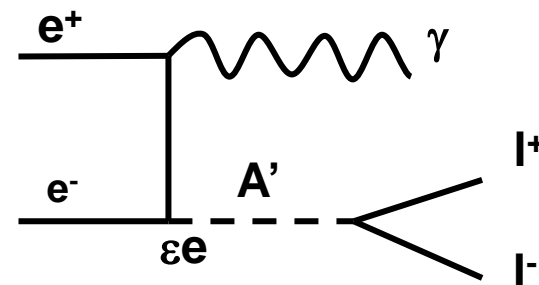
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma A', A' \rightarrow e^+e^-, \mu^+\mu^-$$

So far, only one measurement of this final state at *BABAR* from light CP-odd Higgs search in  $\Upsilon(2S,3S)$  decays

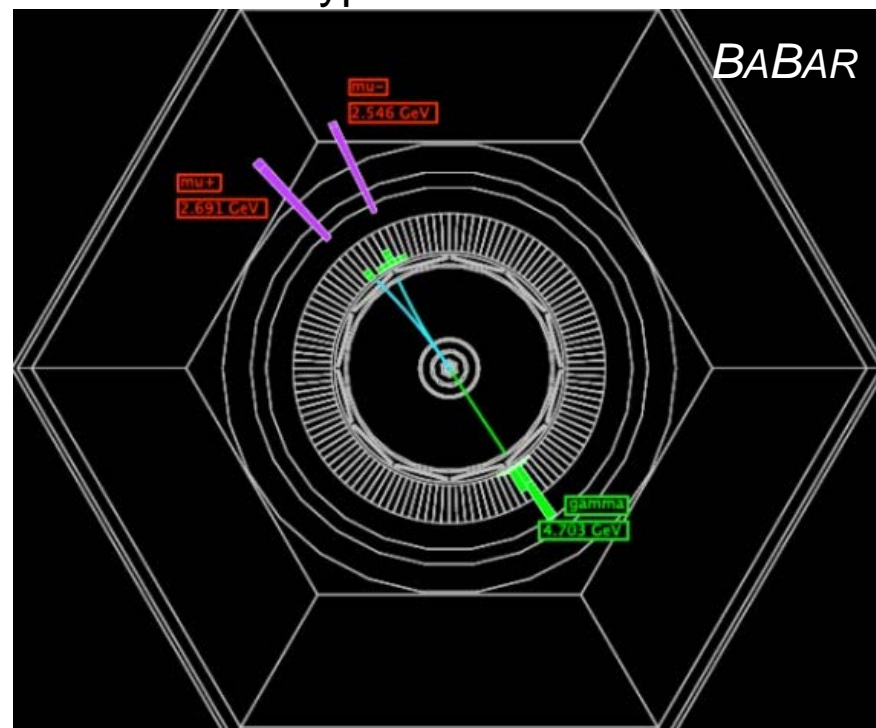
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$$



No significant signal !

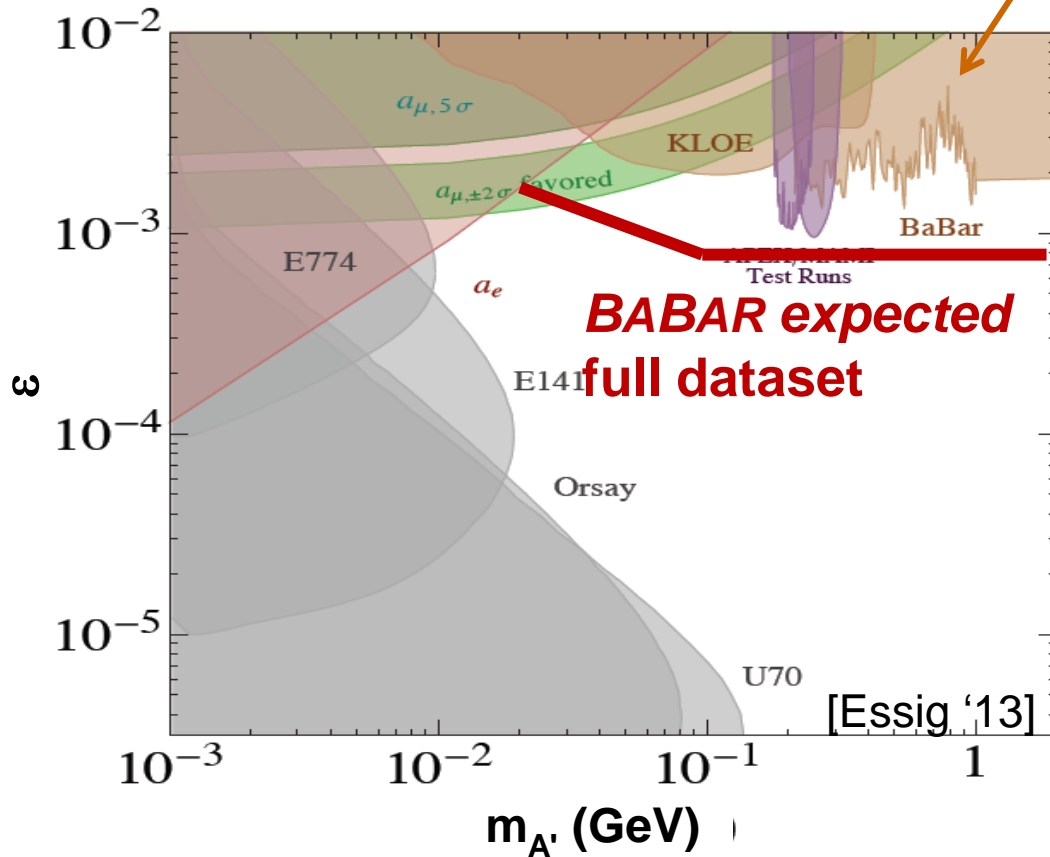


Typical event

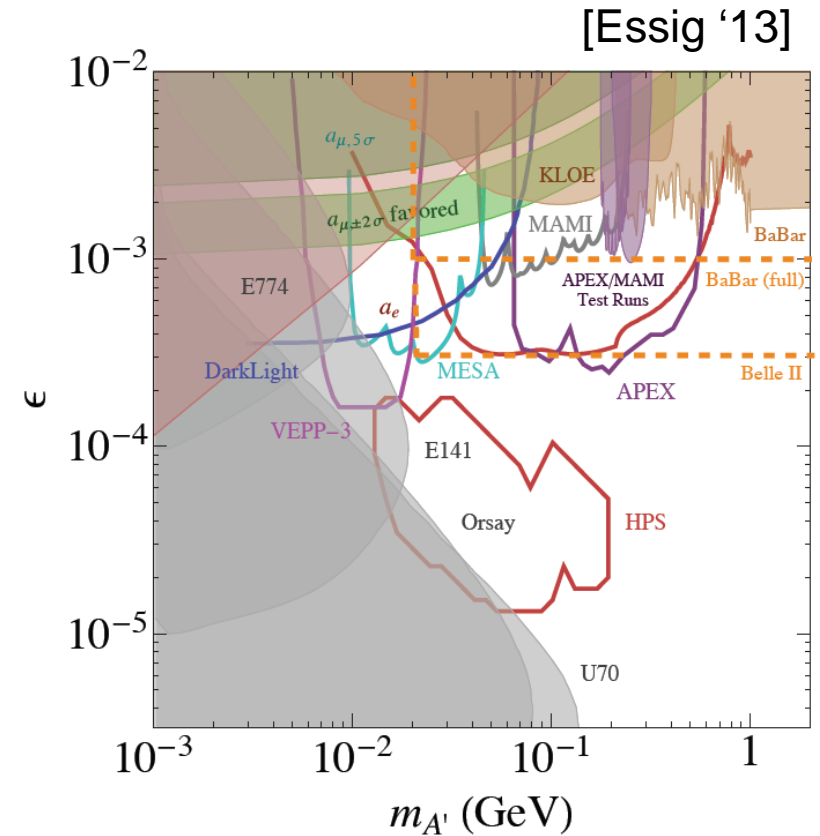


- Tracks
- Photon
- Signal in muon/hadron detector

## Current limits on dark photon



Light Higgs limits reinterpreted by theorists

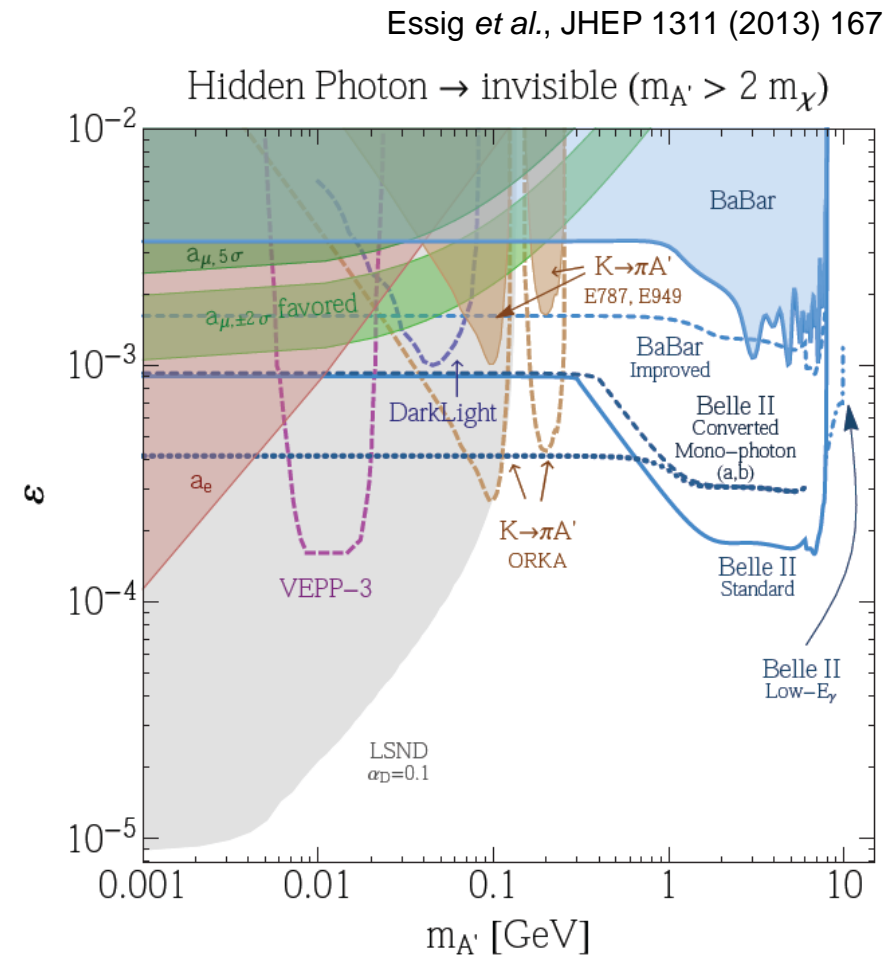


- On-going analysis on the full dataset, should probe almost all “g-2” preferred region and improve bounds down to  $\sim 10^{-3}$  from 20 MeV to 10.2 GeV. **Should come soon, stay tuned !**
- Planned experiments will further probe the parameter space.



## Invisible dark sector

- Several scenarios where dark photons decay to **invisible final states**, e.g lighter dark sector particles (sub-GeV),...
- At  $e^+e^-$  colliders, we can search for
 
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma A' , A' \rightarrow \text{invisible}$$
 by tagging the recoil photon in “single photon” events.
- Currently only a measurement of
 
$$Y(2S,3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0 , A^0 \rightarrow \text{invisible}$$
 at *BABAR* with  $A^0$  a light CP-odd Higgs
- Analysis extended to full single photon dataset and the dark photon case, expect limits on  $\varepsilon$  at the level of  $10^{-3}$ .
- Also constraints from  $(g-2)_e$ ,  $(g-2)_\mu$ ,  $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \nu$  decays



Major improvement possible with future experiments (e.g. Belle II)

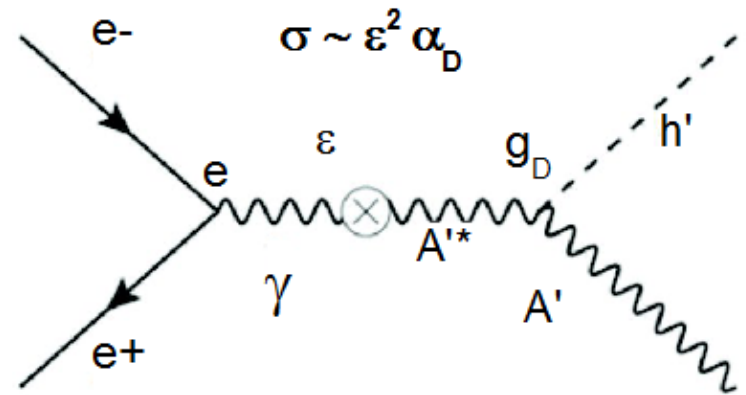
# Dark Higgs boson

- Dark photon mass is generated via the Higgs mechanism, adding a **dark Higgs boson ( $h'$ )**
- A minimal scenario has a single dark photon and a single dark Higgs boson.
- Theoretical prejudice for dark **Higgs mass at the MeV-GeV scale.**
- The Higgsstrahlung process

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow A'^* \rightarrow h' A'$$

is only suppressed by  $\epsilon^2$  and should have low background

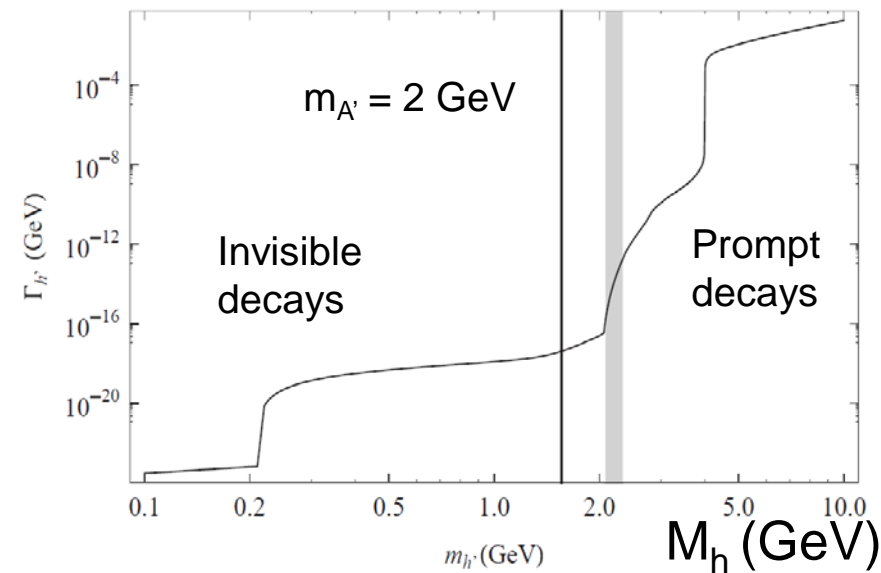
- Also sensitive to the dark sector coupling constant  $\alpha_D = g_D^2 / 4\pi$



Dark Higgs decay topology

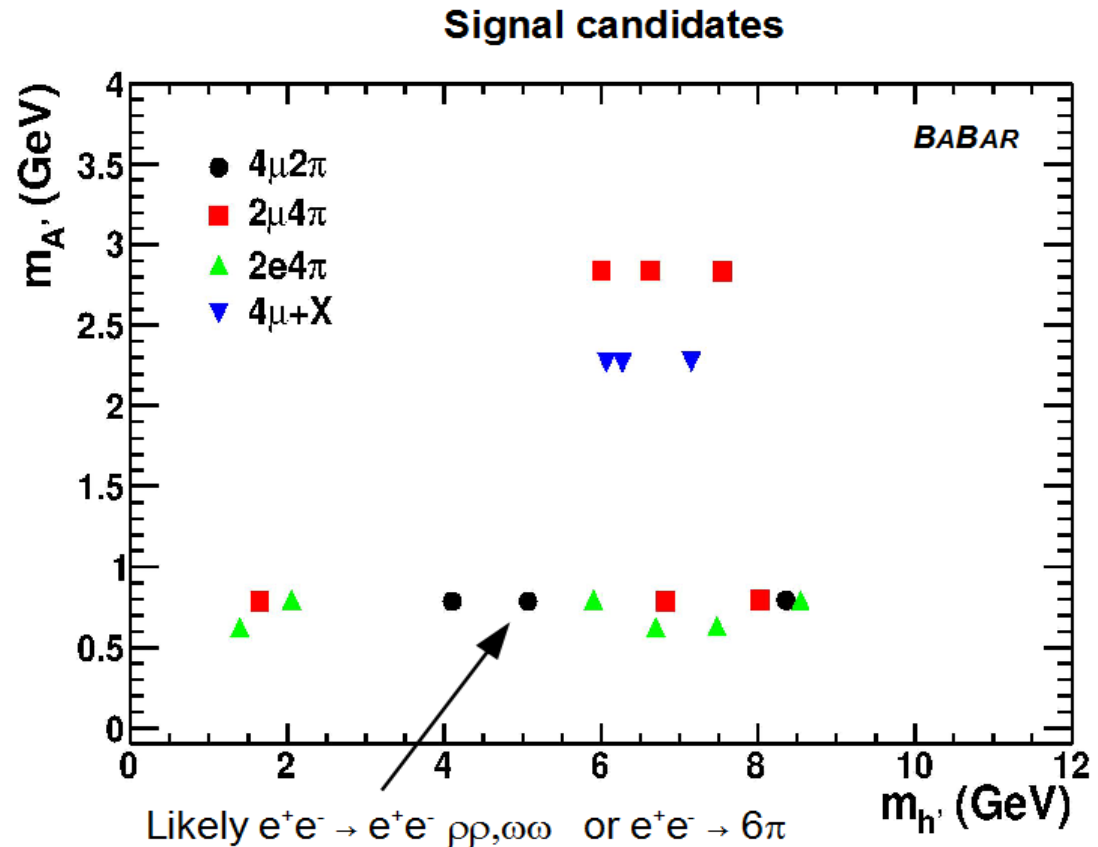
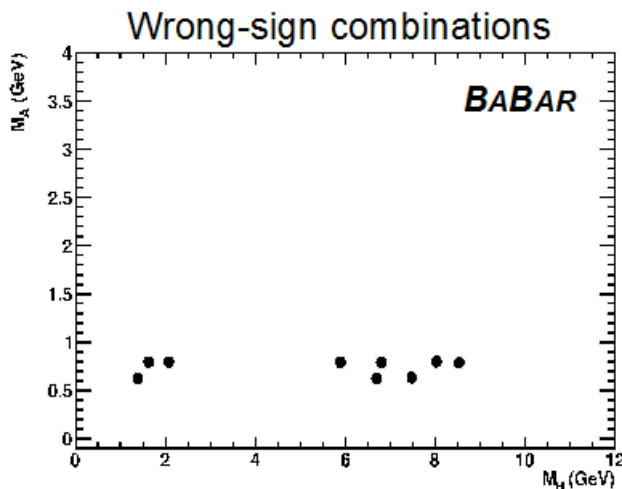
$$m_h < m_{A'}$$

$$m_h > 2m_{A'}$$



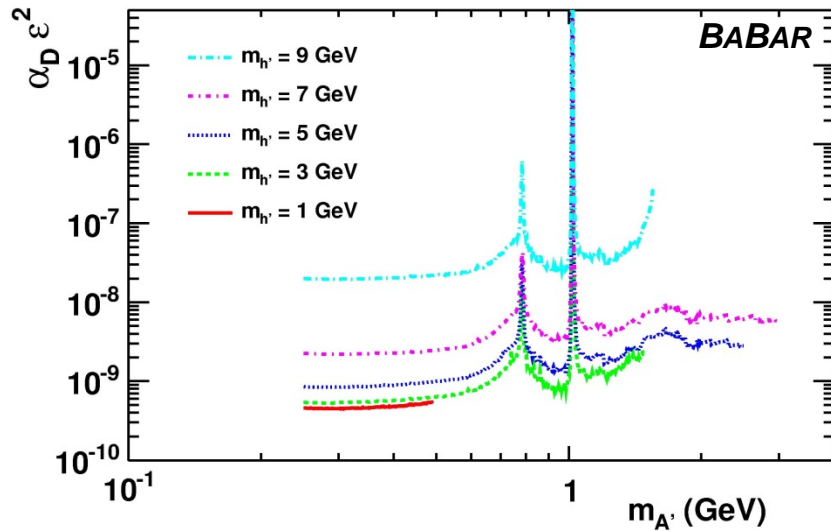
Search for prompt  $h'$  decays at *BABAR*:  
 $e^+e^- \rightarrow A'^* \rightarrow h' A', h' \rightarrow A' A', A' \rightarrow l^+l^-, \pi^+\pi^-$

- Six candidates are selected from the full *BABAR* dataset ( $\sim 500 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )
- Three entries for each event, corresponding to the three possible assignments of the  $h' \rightarrow A'A'$  decay
- Estimate background from
  - wrong-sign combinations, e.g.  $e^+e^- \rightarrow (e^+e^+) (e^-e^-) (\mu^+\mu^-)$
  - sidebands from final sample
  - rate for 6 leptons  $\sim 100x$  rate for  $4\pi+2l$  above 1.5 GeV

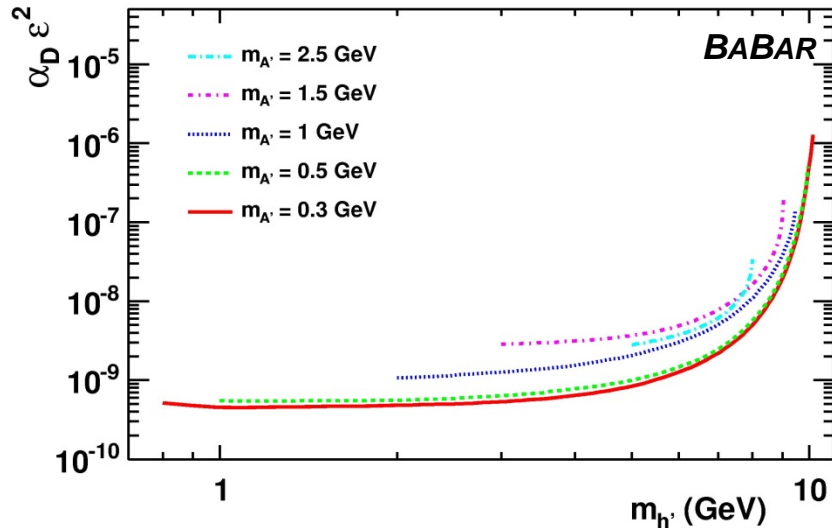


No events with 6 leptons, consistent with the pure background hypothesis

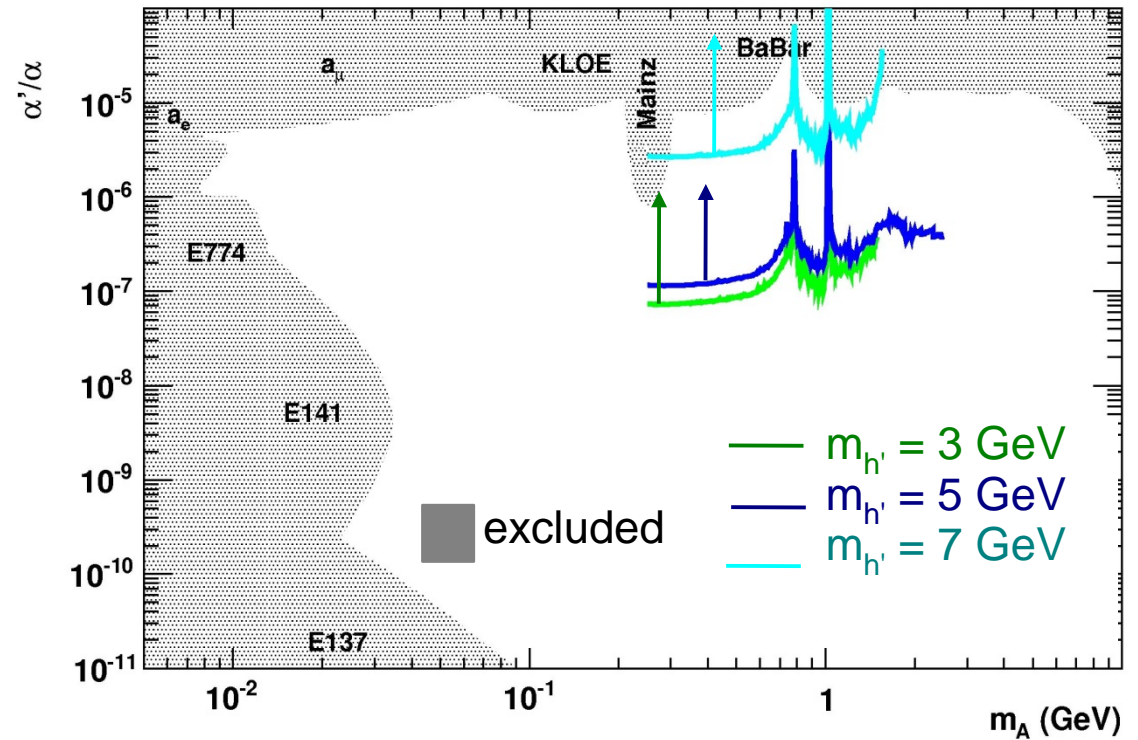
### 90% CL upper limit on $\alpha_D \epsilon^2$



### 90% CL upper limit on $\alpha_D \epsilon^2$

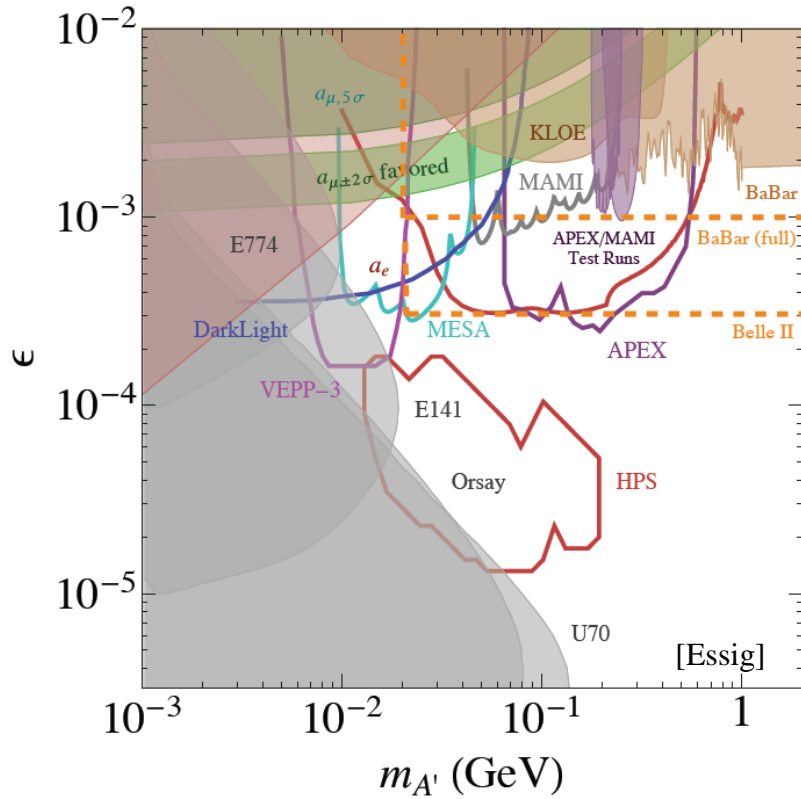


### Limit on $\epsilon^2 = \alpha' / \alpha$ assuming $\alpha_D = \alpha_{em}$ for various Higgs mass

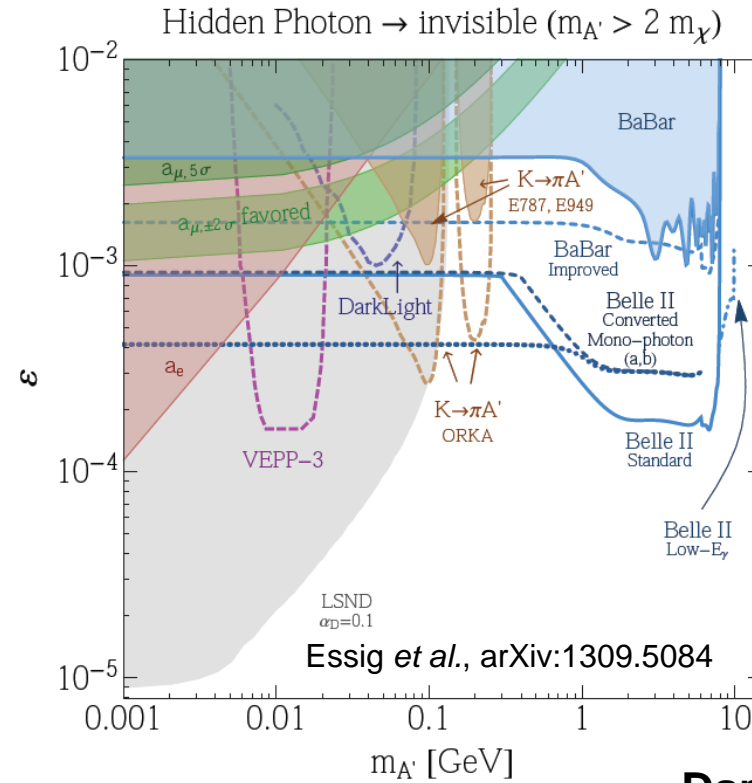


**Substantial improvement over existing limits for  $m_{h'} < 5 - 7$  GeV if light dark Higgs boson exists**

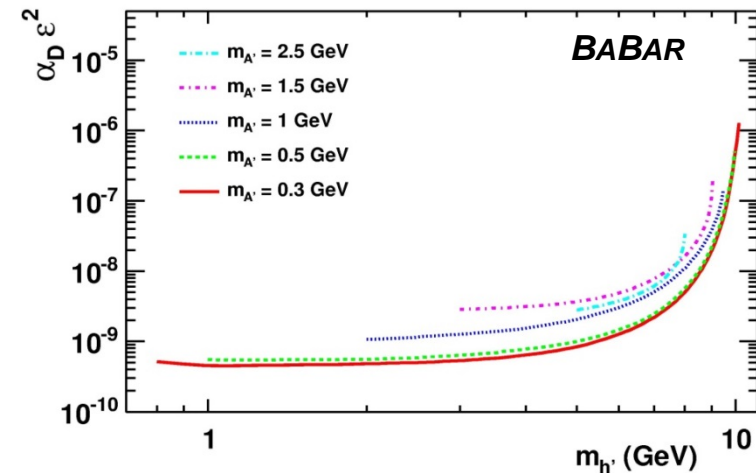
## $A' \rightarrow \text{visible}$



## $A' \rightarrow \text{invisible}$



## Dark Higgs



Start excluding some parameter space, but still a large fraction of uncovered territory!

Several new initiatives will further probe this region.



- No significant evidence for light CP-odd Higgs has been found and upper limits have been set with a sizeable improvement over previous measurements.
- Limits are competitive with the LHC at low masses, especially below  $2m_\tau$ . Low-energy colliders can also probe partially reconstructed / invisible final states.
- Excluded a large fraction of parameters space, exclude almost everything below  $2m_\tau$ , and a large fraction below 7.5 GeV.
- On-going searches for  $A^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  and  $A^0 \rightarrow c\bar{c}$ , expect results for the summer
- No sign of dark photon or dark Higgs so far, set stringent constraints on these models. Expect new results soon, stay tuned!

**Better luck at the LHC...**

