

# Exotic Decays of the 125 GeV Higgs Boson

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based on 1312.4992

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[exotichiggs.physics.sunysb.edu](http://exotichiggs.physics.sunysb.edu)

US ATLAS Workshop on LHC Searches at LBNL, 1/27/2014

# Post discovery

- 125 GeV state is a new particle discovered at LHC

$\Rightarrow$  must study everything about it

- Important to e.g.
  - measure SM decays
  - look for non-SM production
  - look for Higgs partners
  - look for non-standard decays

e.g.  $h \rightarrow \text{invisible}$

Suzuki, Shrock

$$h \rightarrow 4\gamma, 4b, \gamma + \cancel{E}_T, \dots$$

Is there any room for exotic decays?

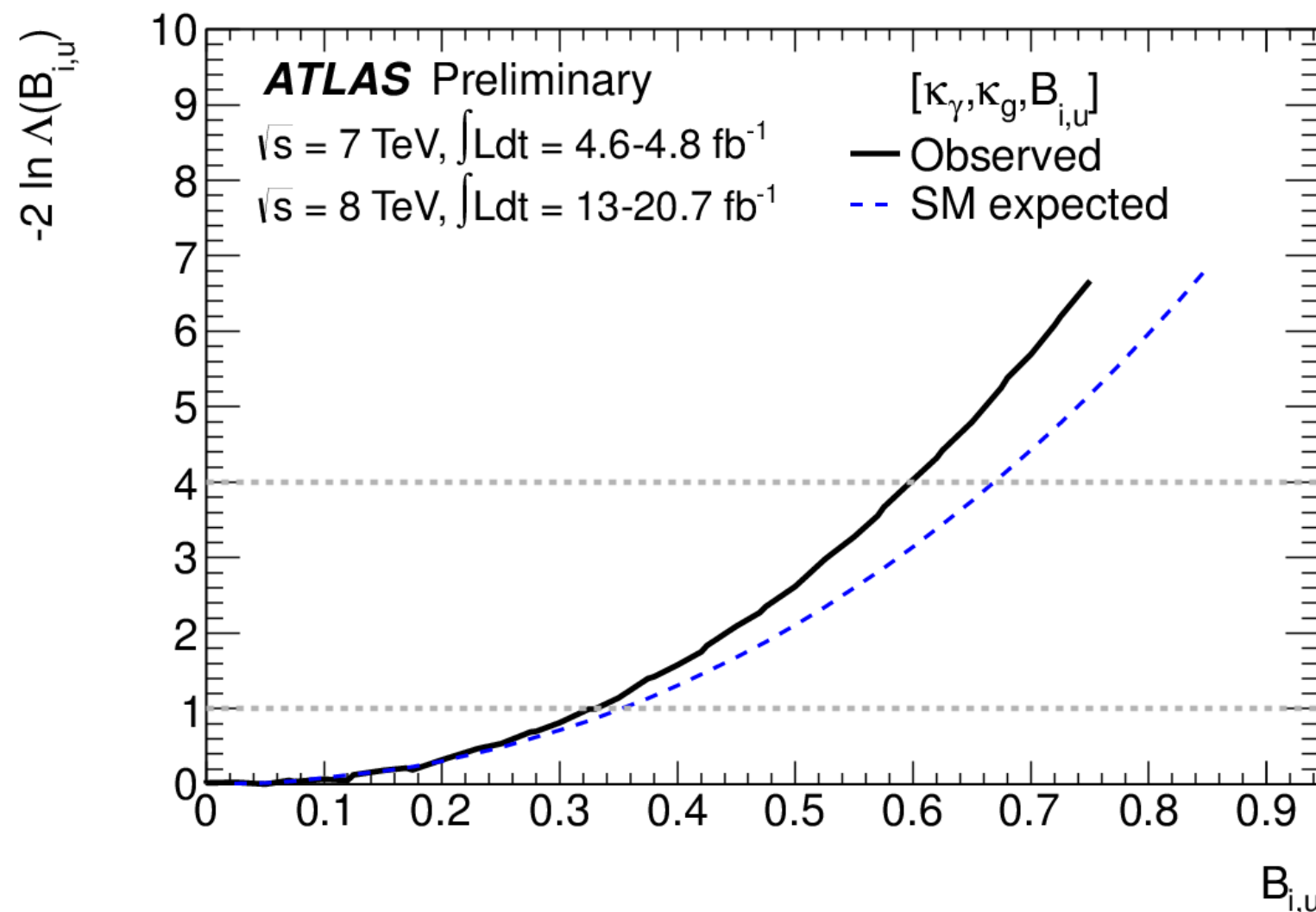
Even though Higgs is SM-like,  
the answer is a resounding:

**Yes!**

# invisible/undetected Higgs decay modes

$$\text{BR}_{\text{inv,undet}} < 0.6 \text{ at } 95\% \text{ C.L.}$$

(no constraint on total width; result different under other assumptions)



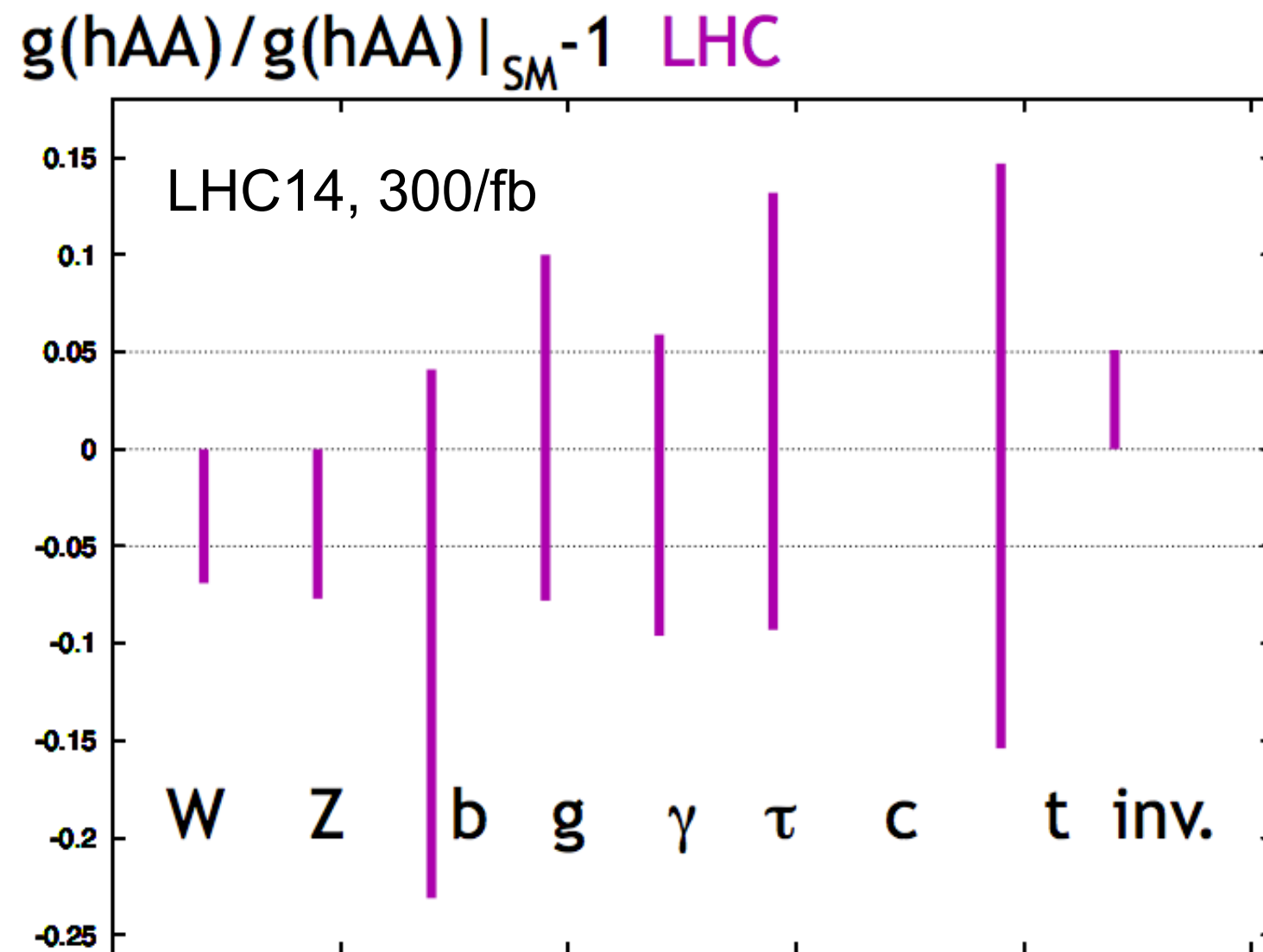
ATLAS-CONF-2013-034

plenty of room for  
exotic decays

could be much more  
common than  
 $h \rightarrow \gamma \gamma, h \rightarrow ZZ^*$

Even after LHC there will be room

LHC measurements will never determine Higgs couplings to SM particle better than 5-10%, e.g.



# How many exotic decay events possible right now?

assume  $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow \text{new}) = 10\%$ , **LHC7+8**, 25/fb

| channel         | # events (raw) | } Associated<br>Production<br>(AP) |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| ggF             | 46,000         |                                    |
| VBF             | 3,800          |                                    |
| $W(\ell\nu)+h$  | 360            |                                    |
| $Z(\ell\ell)+h$ | 70             |                                    |
| $t\bar{t}H$     | 300            |                                    |

Many events in ggF/VBF, but suitability depends on  $h$  decays

Can always trigger w/ AP... but not many events

# How many exotic decay events possible in future?

assume  $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow \text{new}) = 10\%$ , **LHC14**, 300/fb

| channel         | # events (raw) |
|-----------------|----------------|
| ggF             | 1.5 million    |
| VBF             | 125,000        |
| $W(\ell\nu)+h$  | 9,600          |
| $Z(\ell\ell)+h$ | 1,800          |
| $t\bar{t}H$     | 18,300         |

} Associated  
Production  
(AP)

lots of events possible!

Why study exotic Higgs decays?



# SM Higgs width is tiny

- SM Higgs decays suppressed by small Yukawa couplings, loops, or multi-body phase space:

$$\Gamma_h \sim 4.07 \text{ MeV} \qquad \frac{\Gamma_h}{m_h} \sim 3.3 \times 10^{-5}$$

- dominant decay to b-quarks suppressed by tiny coupling

$$y_b \sim 0.017$$

⇒ even a small coupling to another light state  
can open up additional sizable decay modes

# The Higgs as a “portal” to dark sectors

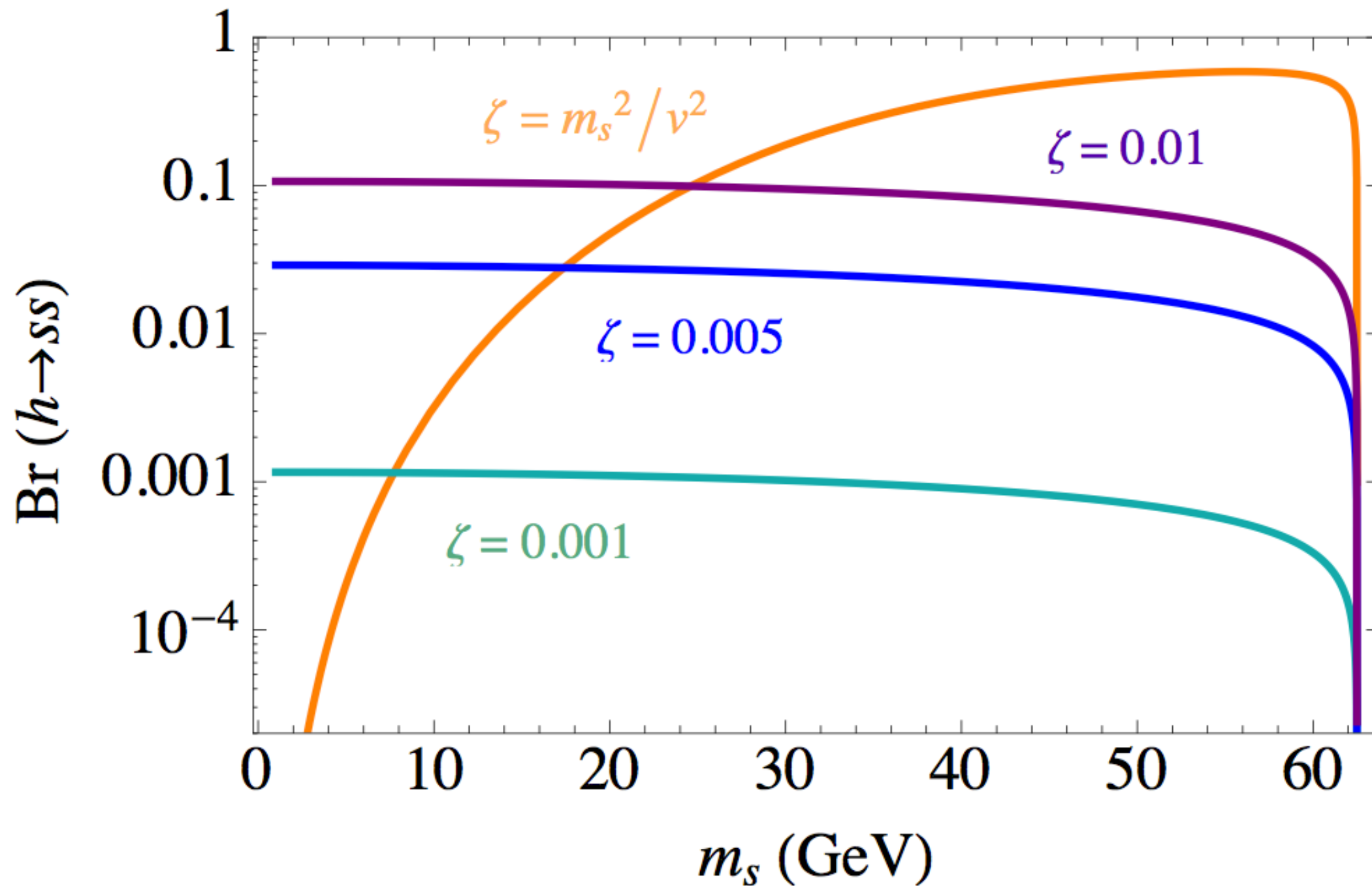
- Higgs is one of only a few SM fields that can have renormalizable couplings to  $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$  singlet fields

- $\implies$
- Higgs may be leading window into BSM physics
  - trivial to have allowed, exotic decays

$$\text{e.g. } \Delta\mathcal{L} = \frac{\zeta}{2} s^2 |H|^2 \quad (\text{common building block in extended Higgs sectors})$$

can give  $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow ss) \sim \mathcal{O}(10\%)$  for  $\zeta$  as small as 0.01 !

# The Higgs as a “portal” to dark sectors



(orange curve is when interaction on previous slide generates mass of s)

# exotic Higgs decays...

- could easily be missed by *all* other searches  
e.g.,  $p_T$  of h-decay products is often softer than other new-physics searches
- require dedicated analyses
- deserve study *now* as there is discovery potential w/ *existing* data

# Aim of our work

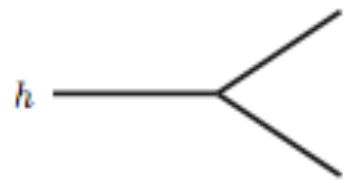
- survey, systematize, prioritize exotic decays
- extensive literature exists, but models need reassessment:  
what BR can be probed? how maximize sensitivity?
- to some extent, develop search strategies, provide viable benchmark models/points, inform LHC14 trigger selection
- provide website that will be updated regularly  
([exotichiggs.physics.sunysb.edu](http://exotichiggs.physics.sunysb.edu))

# Overview of possible exotic Higgs decays

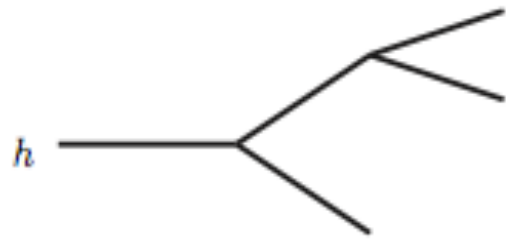
# We make 3 assumptions:

- observed 125 GeV state is primarily responsible for EWSB
  - usually requires “decoupling” limit
  - h production close to SM
  - other scenarios possible, but this is generic and minimal
- 125 GeV state decays to new BSM particles
  - these BSM particles could primarily/only be produced through h decays
  - do not consider rare or nonstandard decays directly to SM particles
- initial decay is 2-body
  - >3-body is possible, but requires new light states w/ substantial coupling to h to overcome phase space suppression

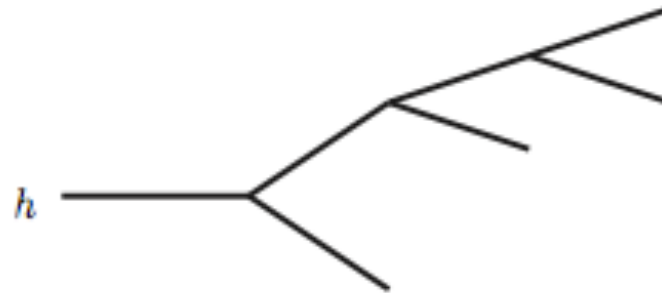
# Decay Topologies



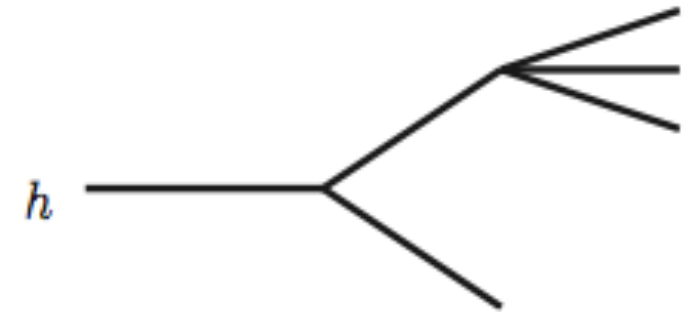
$$h \rightarrow 2$$



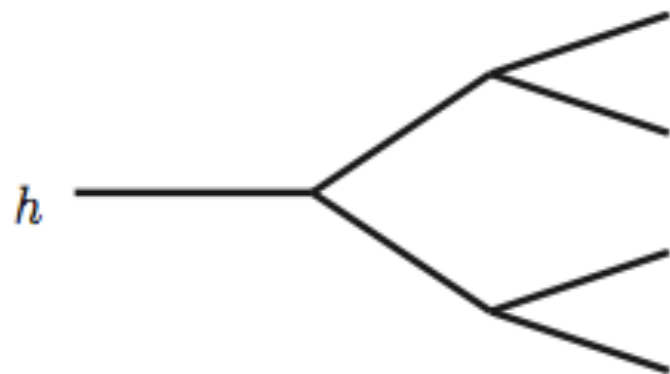
$$h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3$$



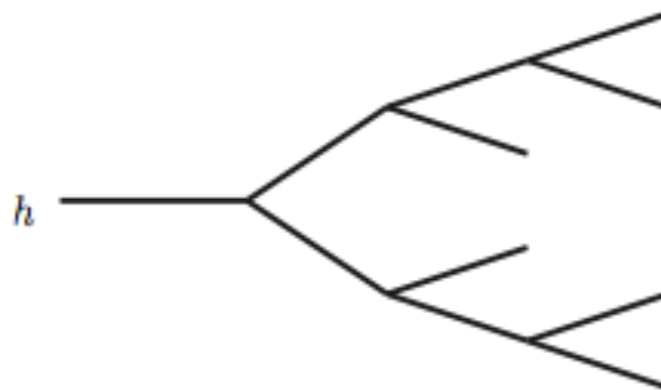
$$h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4$$



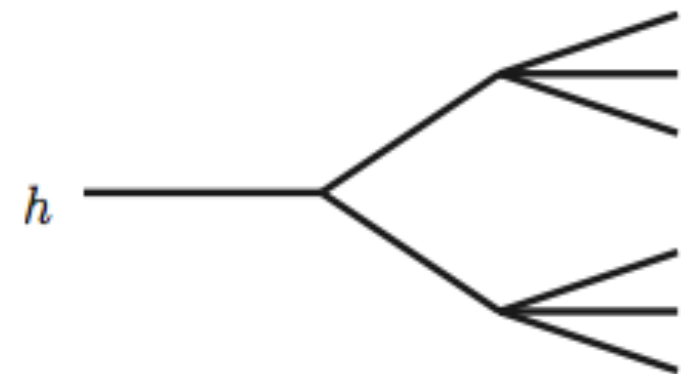
$$h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow (1 + 3)$$



$$h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4$$



$$h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 6$$



$$h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 6$$



# Many exotic decays are possible

## 1. $h \rightarrow 2$

e.g.  $h$  decays to detector-stable particles:  $h \rightarrow \text{invisible}$

## 2. $h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3$

e.g.  $h$  decays to one detector stable particle and another particle that decays promptly or w/ displaced vertex

$$h \rightarrow X_1 X_2 \quad X_1 \rightarrow \cancel{E}_T, X_2 \rightarrow \bar{f} f + \cancel{E}_T$$

$$X_1 \rightarrow \cancel{E}_T, X_2 \rightarrow \bar{f} f$$

$$X_2 \rightarrow \gamma X_1$$

etc.

$$h \rightarrow \gamma + \cancel{E}_T, (bb) + \cancel{E}_T, (\tau\tau) + \cancel{E}_T, \gamma\gamma + \cancel{E}_T, (\ell\ell) + \cancel{E}_T$$

# Many exotic decays are possible

## 3. $h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4$

e.g. 
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} h \rightarrow 4x \\ h \rightarrow 2x2y \end{array} \right\} x, y = e, \mu, \tau, \gamma, b, j, \cancel{E}_T, \dots$$

1.  $(b\bar{b})(b\bar{b})$
2.  $(b\bar{b})(\tau^+\tau^-)$
3.  $(b\bar{b})(\mu^+\mu^-)$
4.  $(\tau^+\tau^-)(\tau^+\tau^-)$
5.  $(\tau^+\tau^-)(\mu^+\mu^-)$
6.  $(jj)(jj)$
7.  $(jj)(\gamma\gamma)$
8.  $(\ell^+\ell^-)(\ell^+\ell^-)$
9.  $(\gamma\gamma)(\gamma\gamma)$
10.  $\gamma\gamma + \cancel{E}_T$

# Many exotic decays are possible

## 4. $h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 6$

e.g. w/ NMSSM neutralinos

$$h \rightarrow \chi_2 \chi_2, \quad w/ \quad \chi_2 \rightarrow \chi_1 a, \quad a \rightarrow f \bar{f}$$

## 5. $h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 6$

e.g.  $h \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}_1 \tilde{\chi}_1 \rightarrow 6 \text{ SM particles}$  (w/ R-parity violation)

## 6. $h \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow \text{many}$

e.g. lepton-jets, photon-jet, ... (e.g. in Hidden Valleys)

## 7. any of above w/ displaced vertex

*etc.!*

# Many exotic decays are possible

can map decay topologies to various popular theoretical models or scenarios, including:

- SM + Scalar
- 2HDM (+ Scalar)
- SM + Fermion
- SM + 2 Fermions
- SM + Vector
- MSSM
- NMSSM with exotic Higgs decay to scalars
- NMSSM with exotic Higgs decay to fermions
- Little Higgs
- Hidden Valleys

## Two basic lessons:

There is no shortage of “simplified”  
and well known theoretical models  
that have exotic decays

Need broad array of searches!

A few examples in more detail to  
show rich possibilities

# SM + singlet scalar

$$V(H, S) = -\mu^2 |H|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \mu'^2 S^2 + \lambda |H|^4 + \frac{1}{4} \kappa S^4 + \frac{1}{2} \zeta S^2 |H|^2$$

$S$  = real scalar

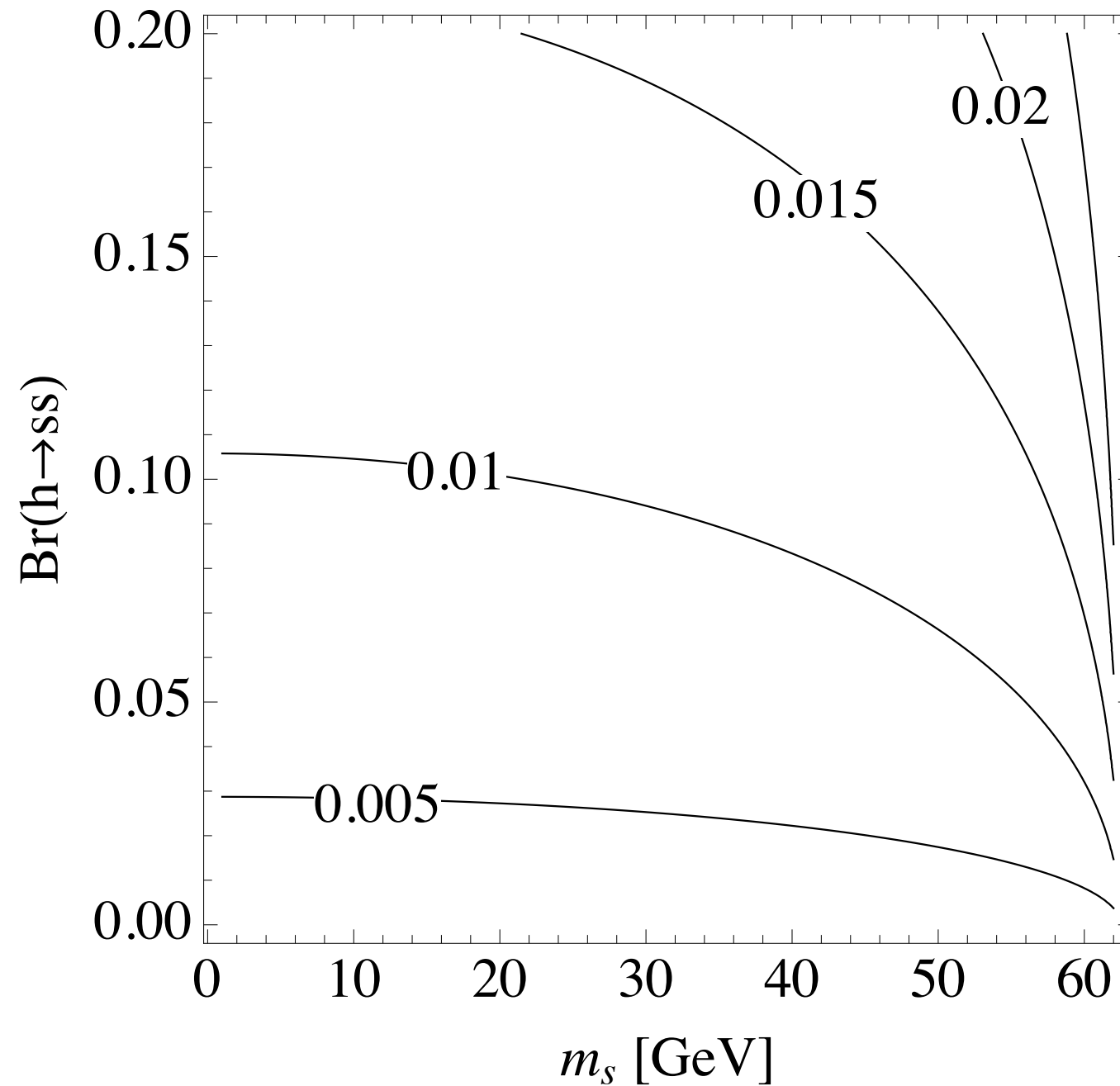
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} \supset \mu_v h s s \qquad h \rightarrow ss$$

- if  $Z_2$  symmetry ( $S \rightarrow -S$ ) unbroken:  $s$  stable &  $h \rightarrow$  invisible
- otherwise  $s \rightarrow f \bar{f}$
- can extend to complex scalar w/ approximate global  $U(1)$  symmetry, giving rise to light pseudo-scalar,  $a$

$$h \rightarrow aa \quad (\text{similar phenomenology})$$

# SM + singlet scalar

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} \supset \mu_\nu h s s$$



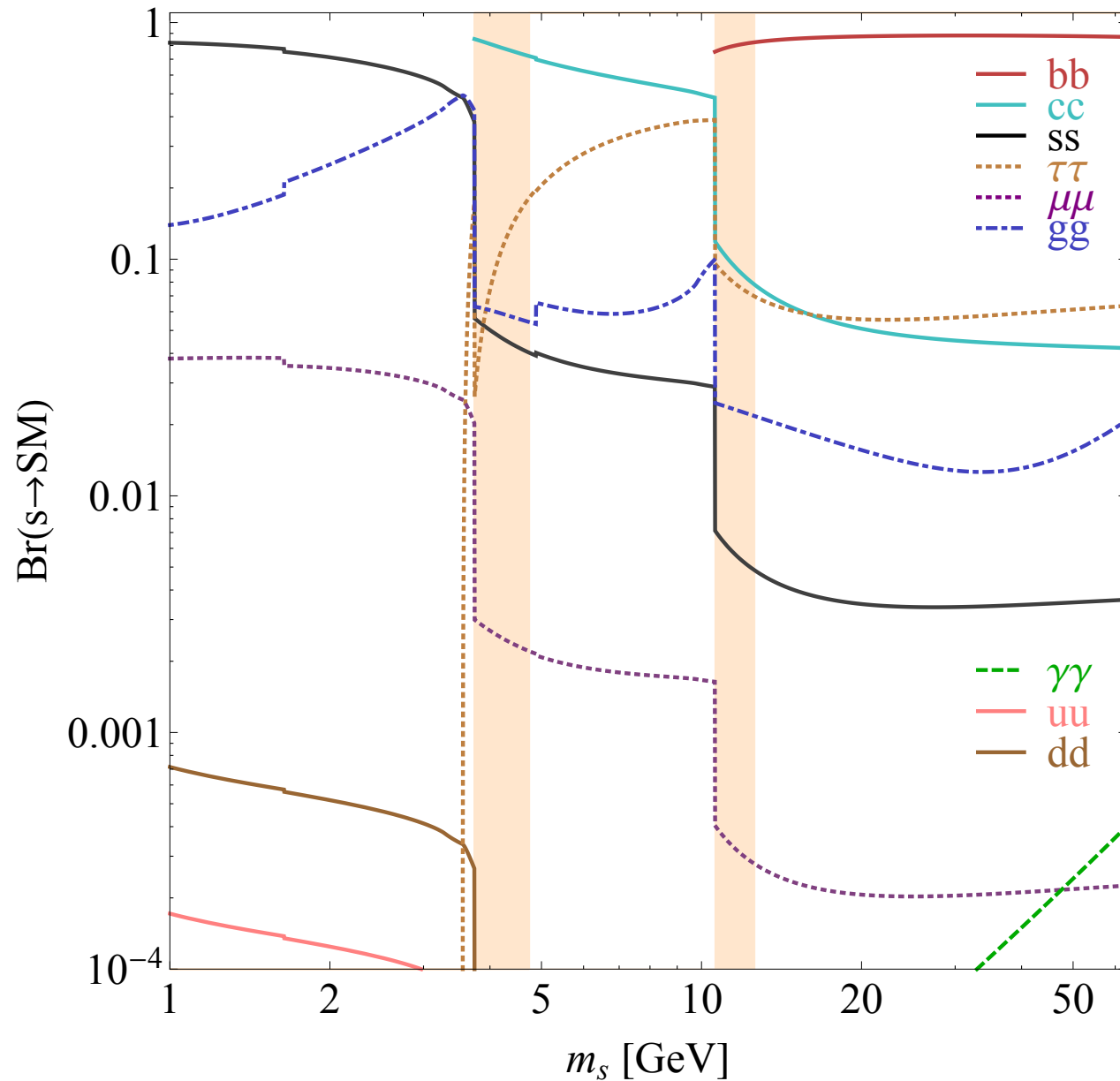
easy to get  
BR = 10%

contours show  $\mu_\nu$  in units of  $v$

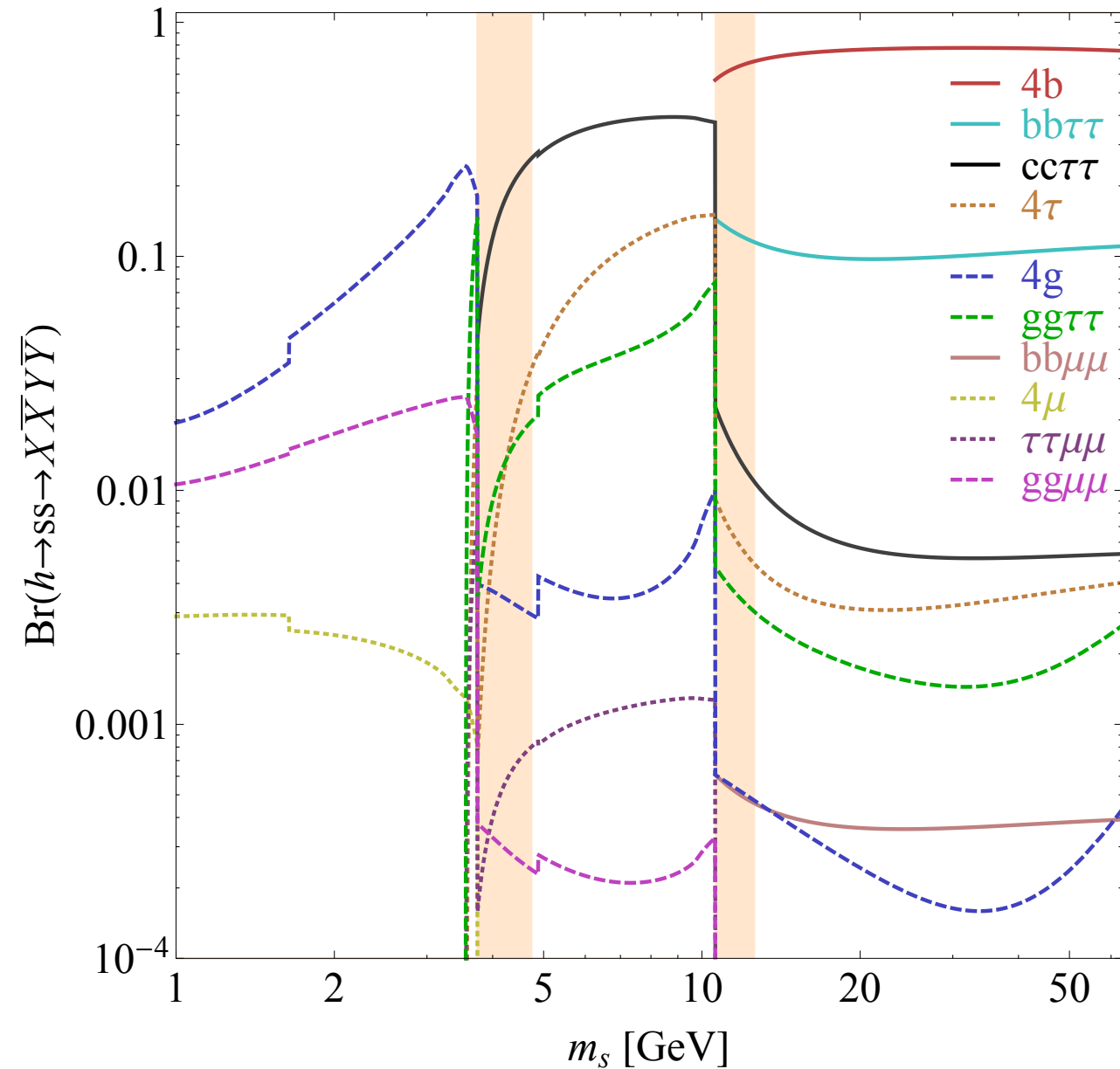


# SM + singlet scalar

$s \rightarrow \text{SM}$



$h \rightarrow s \rightarrow X \bar{X} Y \bar{Y}$



simple model, w/ lots of possibilities already

4b dominates, then 2b2 $\tau$

# 2HDM + S

## Two-Higgs-Doublet-Models (2HDM)

w/ CP and flavor conservation, 4 popular types:

|     | 2HDM I | 2HDM II | 2HDM III | 2HDM IV |
|-----|--------|---------|----------|---------|
| $u$ | $H_u$  | $H_u$   | $H_u$    | $H_u$   |
| $d$ | $H_u$  | $H_d$   | $H_u$    | $H_d$   |
| $e$ | $H_u$  | $H_d$   | $H_d$    | $H_u$   |

MSSM-like

lepton-specific

flipped

see e.g. recent review by Craig et.al., Branco et.al....

viable in e.g. the “decoupling limit” where one Higgs is SM-like

(important to search for Higgs partners)

# 2HDM + S

Now add a singlet w/ small mixing w/ Higgs

allows  $h \rightarrow aa$  &/or  $h \rightarrow ss$  ( $h \rightarrow Za$  also possible)  
(pseudo-scalar) (scalar)

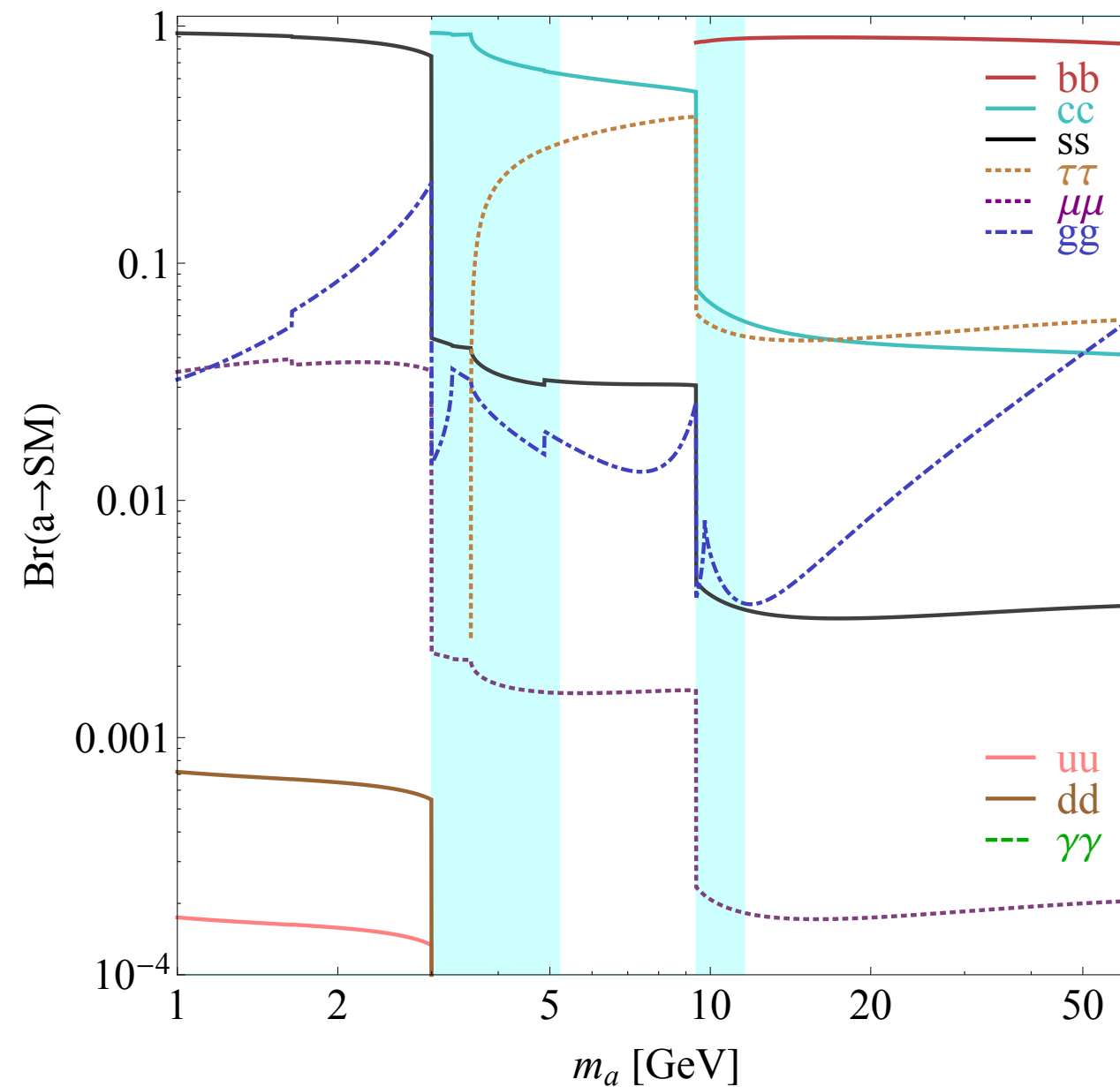
easily get BR < 10-20%

pseudo-scalar (**a**) and scalar (**s**) inherit a mixture of  $H_u$  and  $H_d$  couplings to fermions

get *rich* set of 125 GeV Higgs exotic decay modes  
(much richer than pure NMSSM!)

# 2HDM + S (pseudoscalar)

Type I

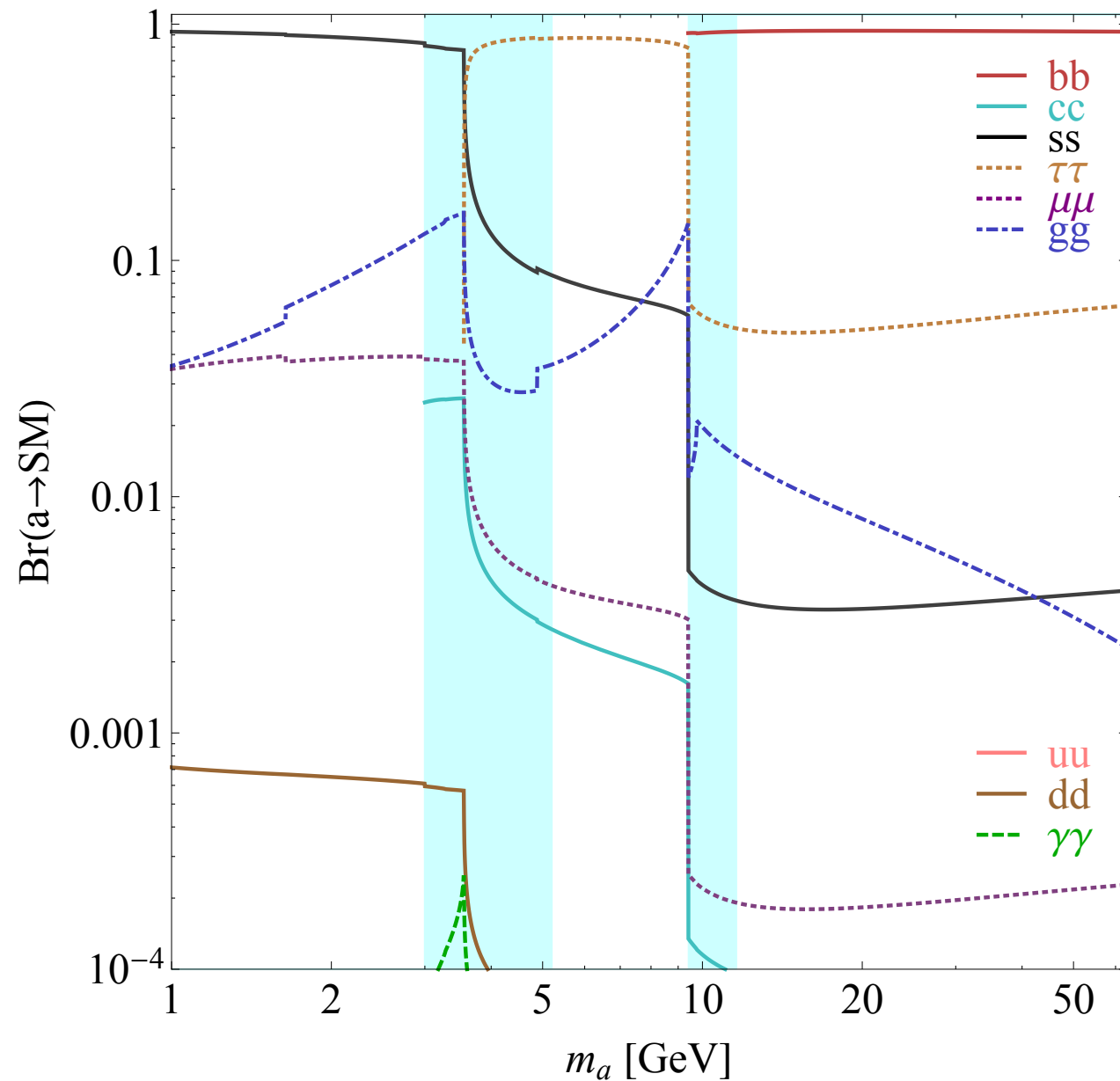


2b (>10 GeV)

2c or 2s (<10 GeV)

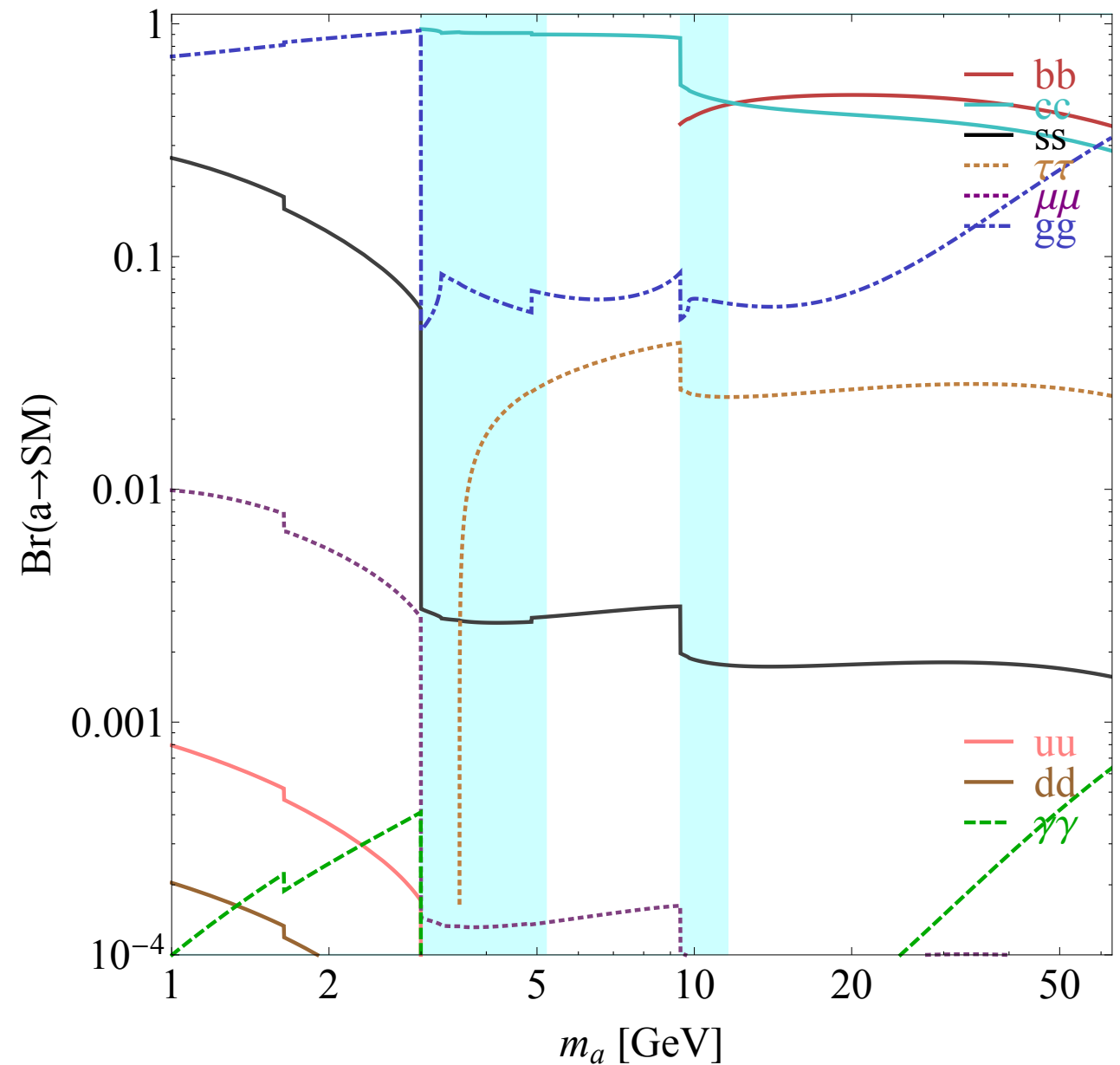
# 2HDM + S (pseudoscalar)

$\tan \beta=5$ , TYPE II



2b ( $>10$  GeV)  
2 $\tau$  or 2s ( $<10$  GeV)

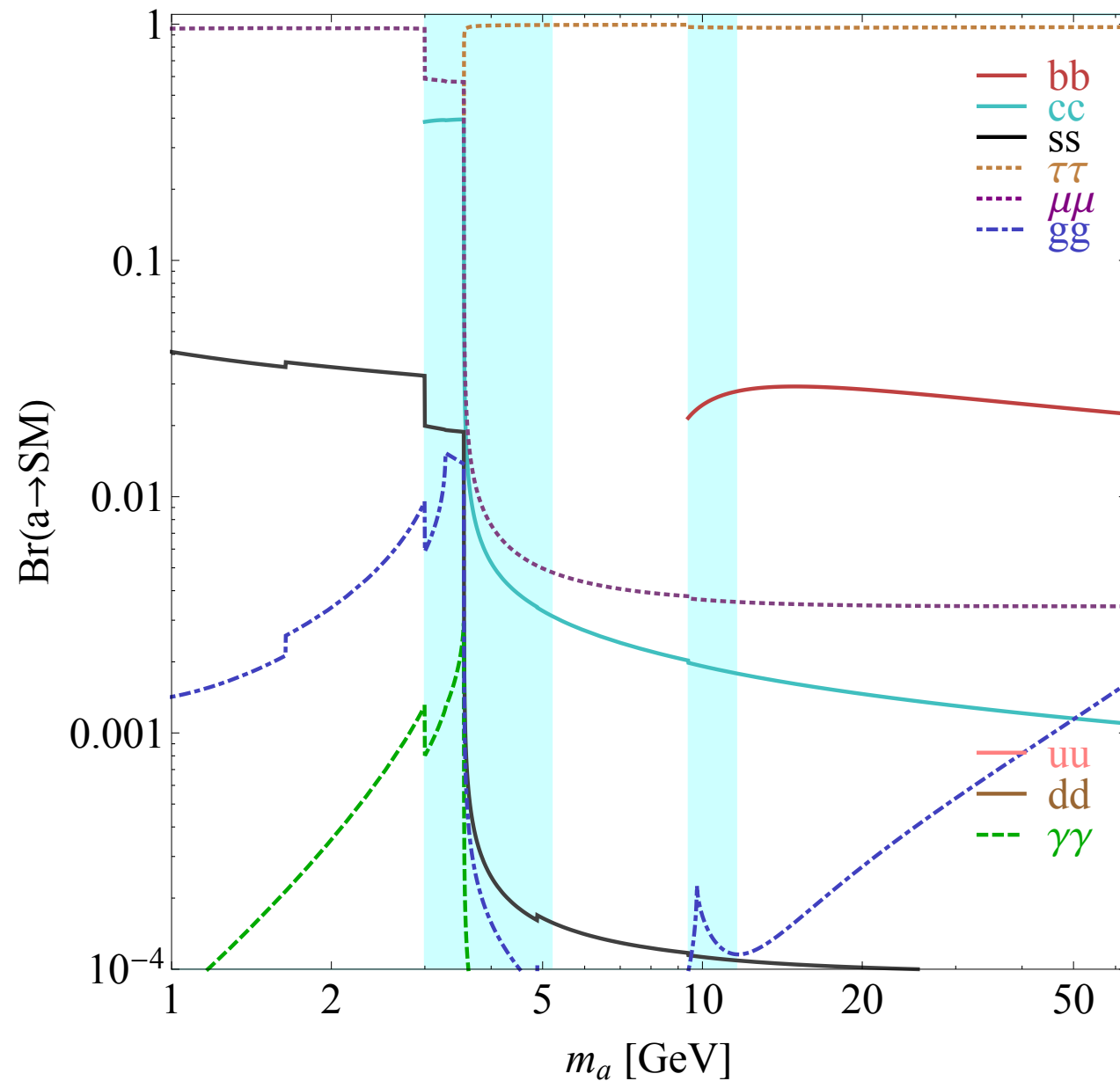
$\tan \beta=0.5$ , TYPE II



equal 2b, 2c ( $>10$  GeV)  
2c or 2g ( $<10$  GeV)

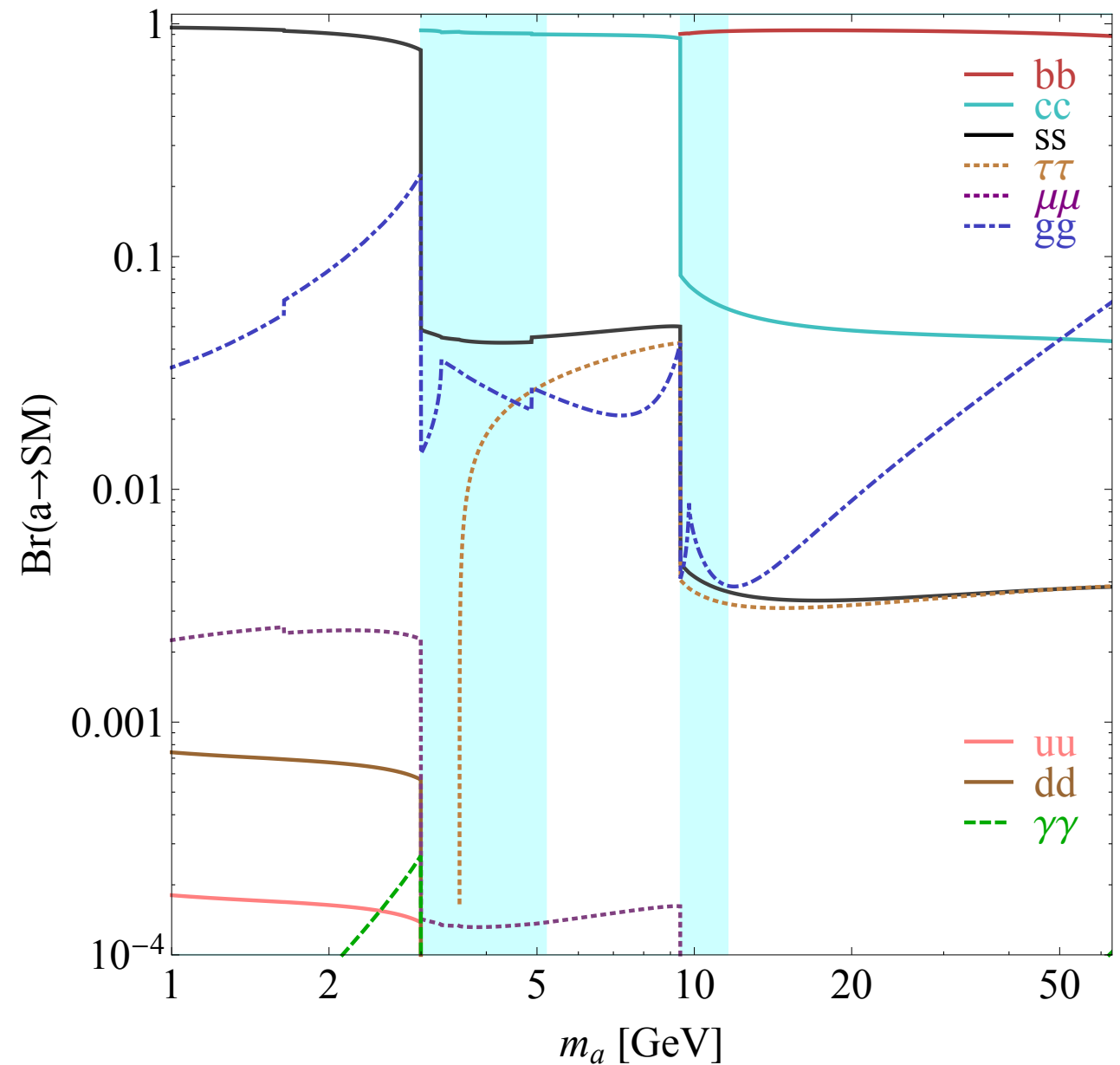
# 2HDM + S (pseudoscalar)

$\tan \beta=5$ , TYPE III



$2\tau (>3.4 \text{ GeV}) !$   
 $2\mu (<3.4 \text{ GeV})$

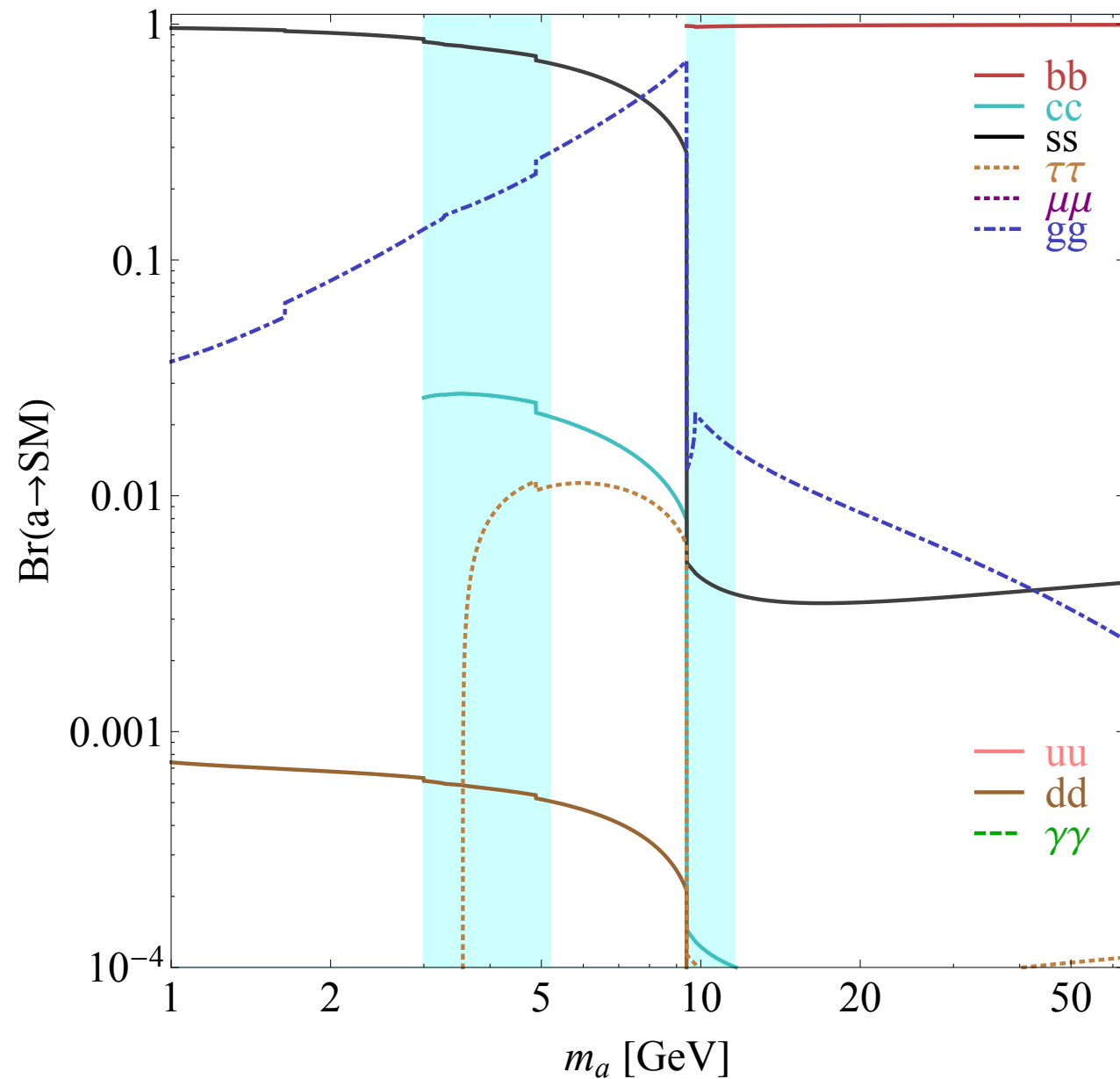
$\tan \beta=0.5$ , TYPE III



$2b (>10 \text{ GeV})$   
 $2c \text{ or } 2s (<10 \text{ GeV})$

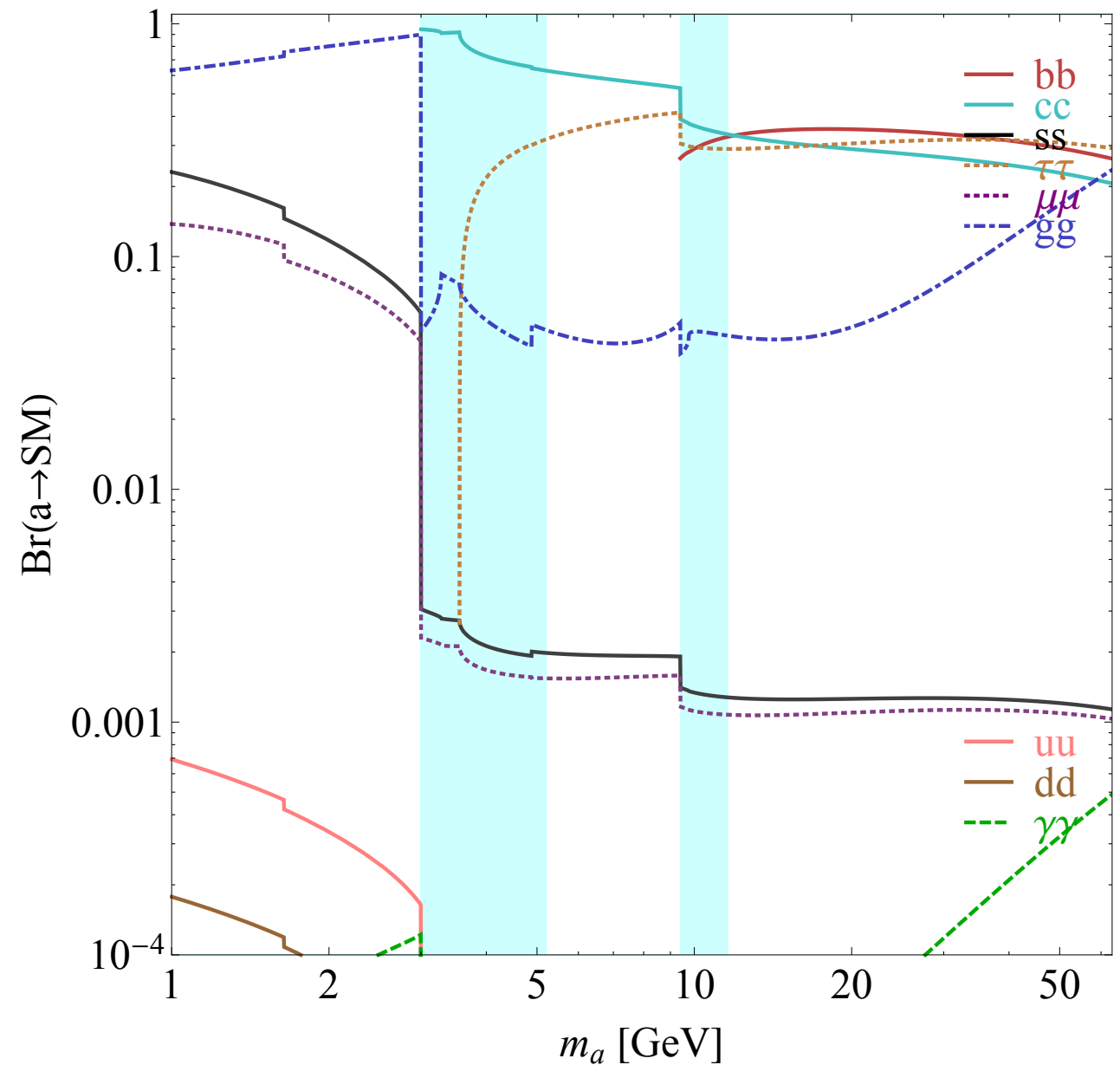
# 2HDM + S (pseudoscalar)

$\tan \beta=5$ , TYPE IV



2b ( $>10$  GeV)  
2g or 2s ( $<10$  GeV)

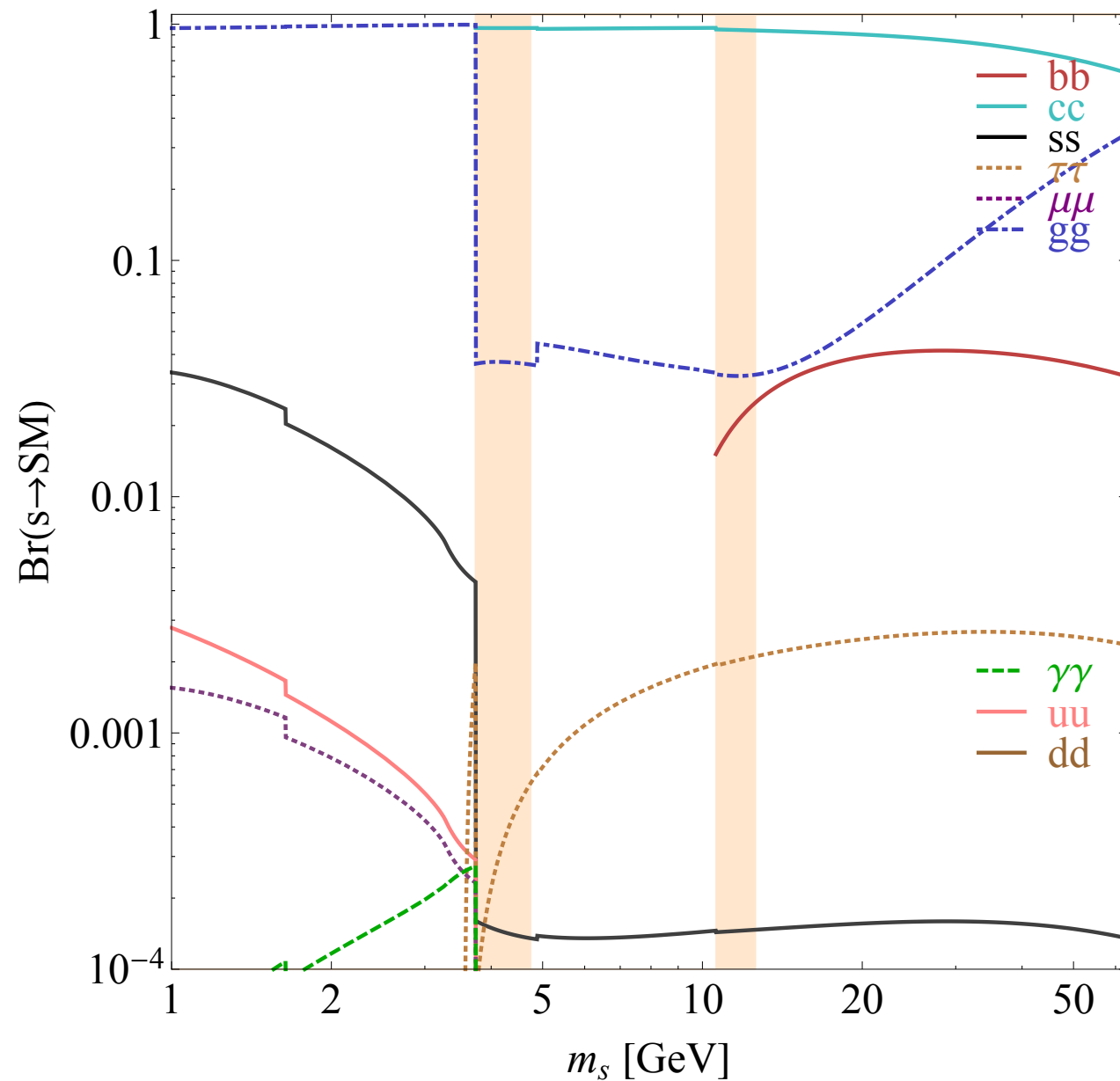
$\tan \beta=0.5$ , TYPE IV



equal 2b, 2c, 2 $\tau$  ( $>10$  GeV)  
2c or 2g ( $<10$  GeV)

# 2HDM + S (scalar)

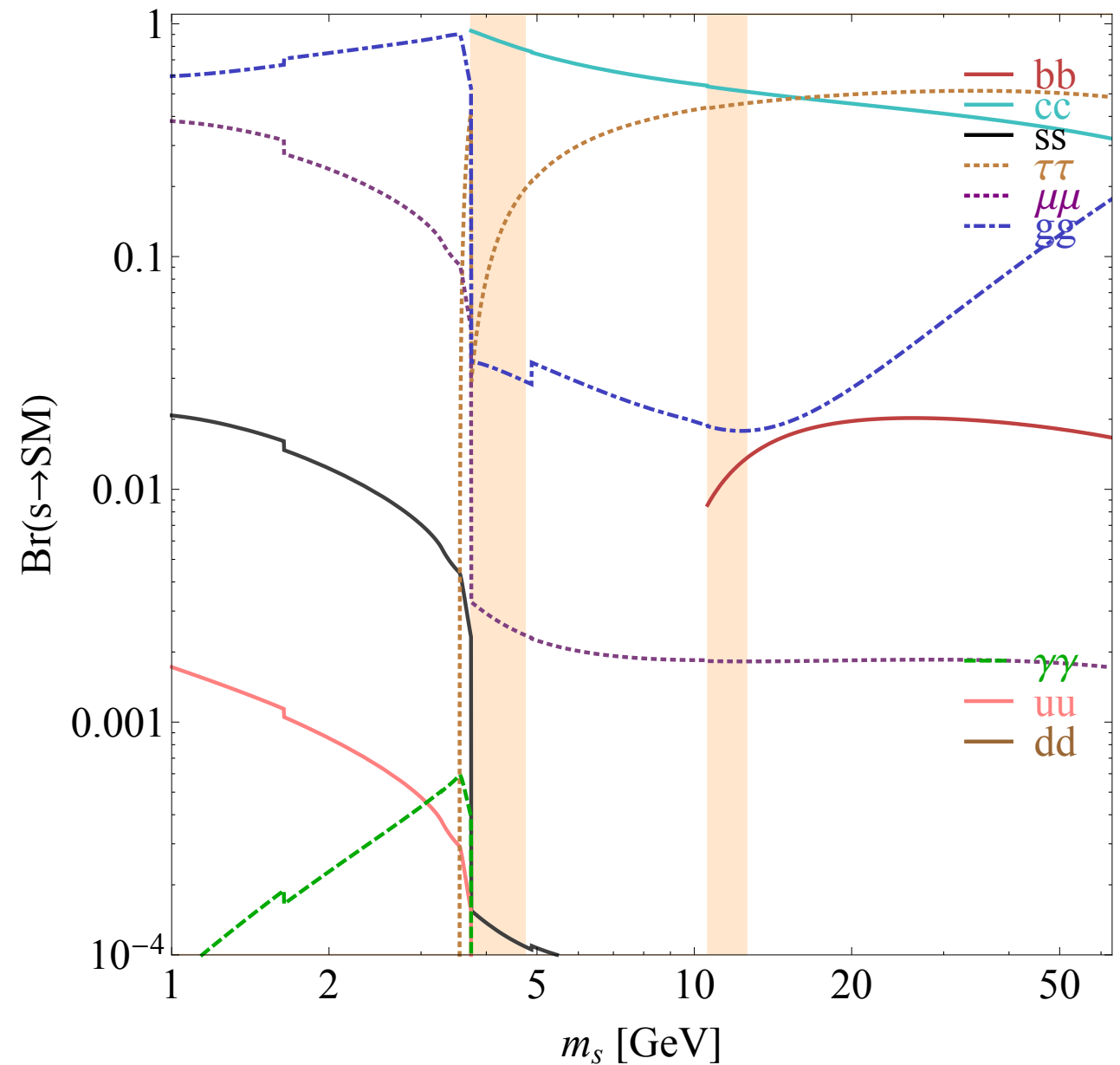
$\alpha = 0.1, \tan \beta = 0.5$ , TYPE II



2c (>3 GeV)

2g (<3 GeV)

$\alpha = 0.1, \tan \beta = 0.5$ , TYPE IV



equal 2c, 2τ (>3 GeV)

2g (<3 GeV)



# SM + Vector

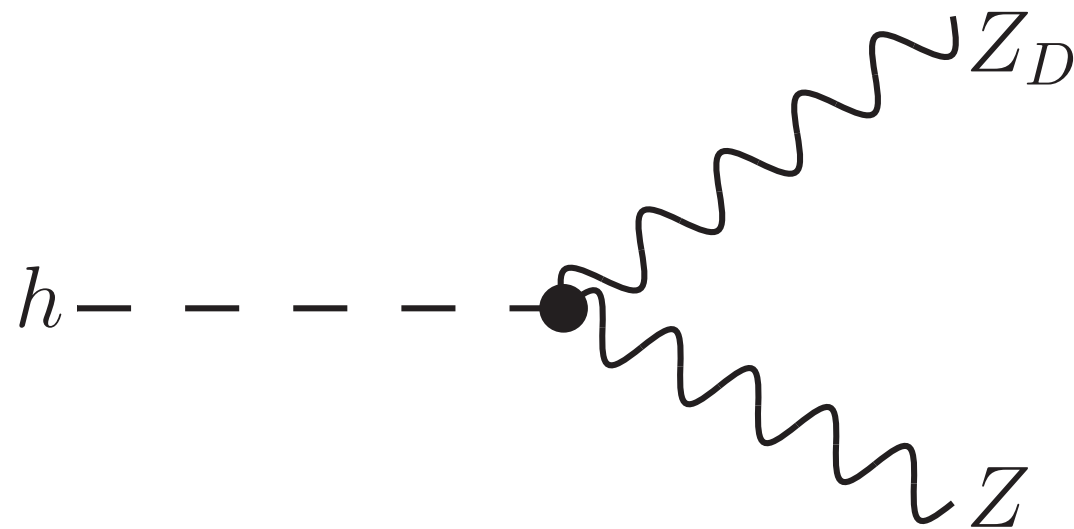
- add to SM a  $U(1)_D$  “dark” gauge symmetry (mediator  $Z_D$ ), broken by a “dark” Higgs,  $S$
- $U(1)_D$  mixes with  $U(1)_Y$  (kinetic mixing), strength  $\epsilon$
- $S$  can mix w/ ordinary Higgs  $H$ , strength  $\zeta$

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

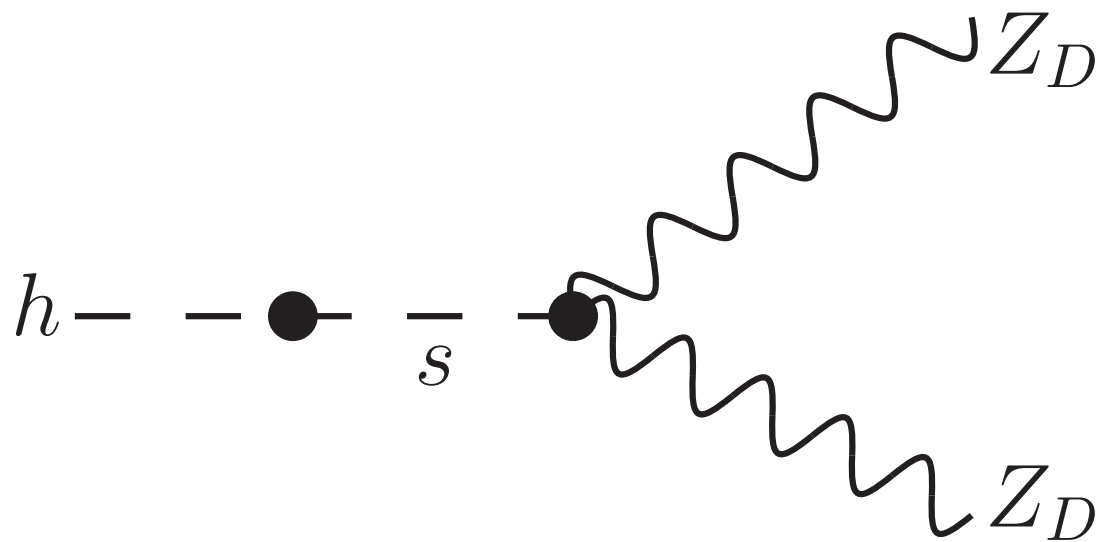
$$V_0 = -\mu^2|H|^2 + \lambda|H|^4 - \mu_D^2|S|^2 + \lambda_D|S|^4 + \zeta|S|^2|H|^2$$

# SM + Vector

- e.g.



$$\propto \epsilon$$

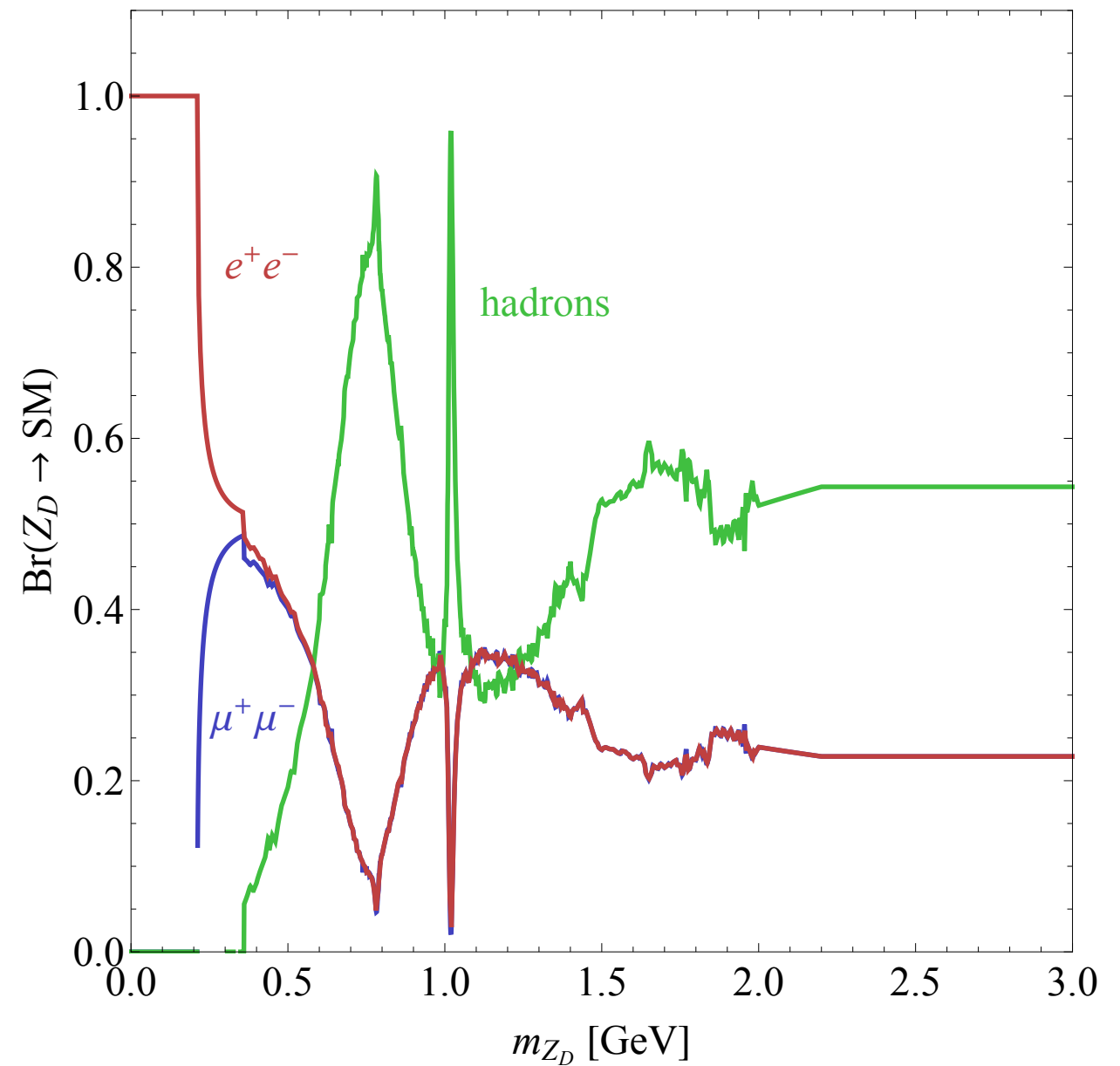
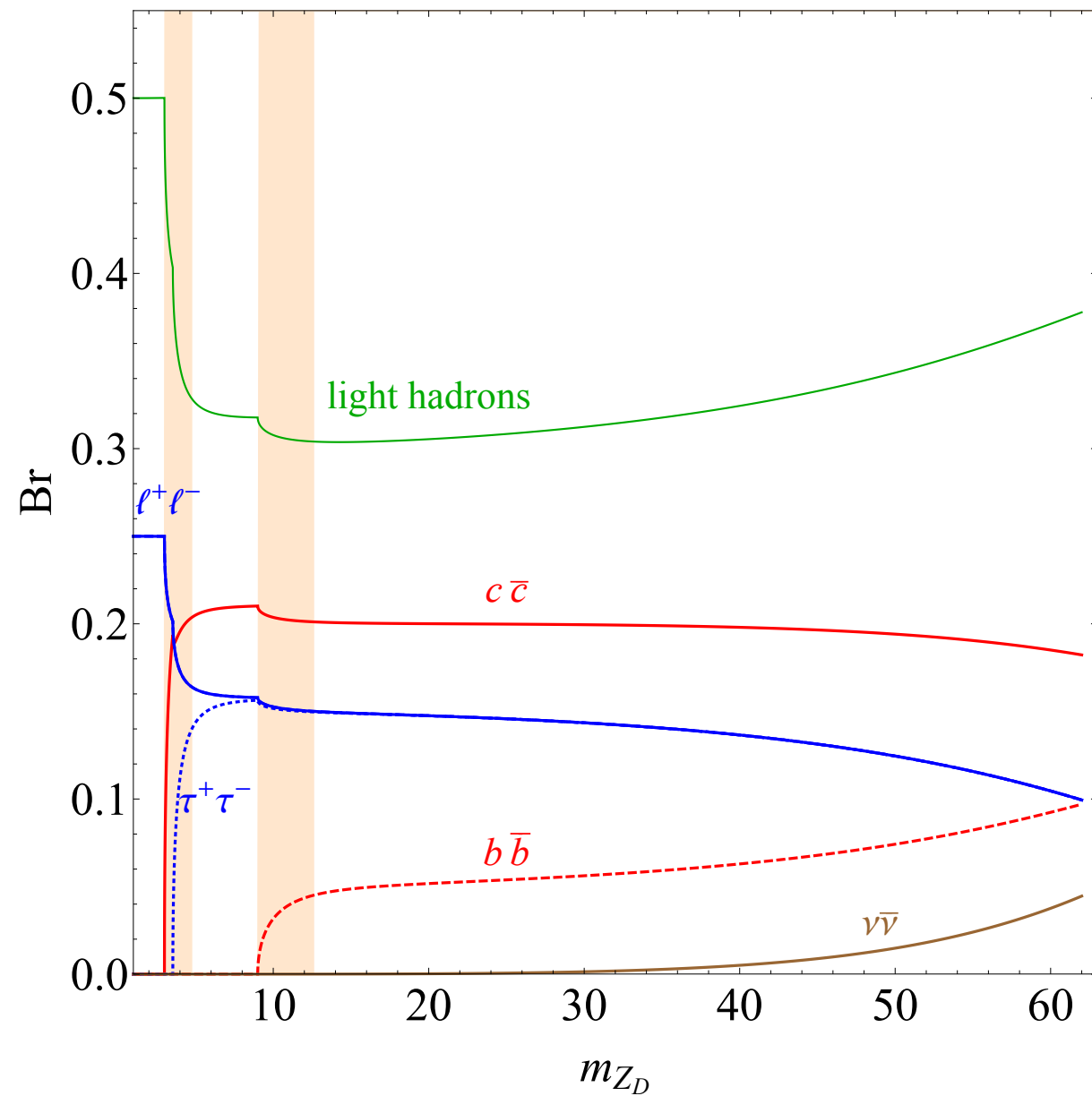


$$\propto \zeta$$

either could dominate, leading to different phenomenology

# SM + Vector

$$Z_D \rightarrow \text{SM}$$



could easily get signatures w/ many leptons

# Some lessons and suggestions of what to focus on

- reasonably detailed discussion of many decay modes in paper (worth reading once you've picked your favorite final state)
- in the following I will briefly summarize only a few lessons
- please read detailed summary of paper as it contains more info and important caveats

# Some lessons and suggestions of what to focus on

- in a particular model, important to know **which of the various decay modes offers the best sensitivity to the existence of the exotic decays**; i.e., given various

$$\text{Br}(h \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_i)$$

**which gives strongest limit on**

$$\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(h \rightarrow \text{non-SM decays}) = \frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \sum_i \text{Br}(h \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_i) \quad ?$$

$$h \rightarrow aa^{(\prime)} \rightarrow \text{fermions}$$

couplings of  $a$  to SM fermions are weighted by mass, possibly separately for up-type quarks, down-type quarks, and leptons

# h → aa<sup>(')</sup> → fermions

| Decay<br>Mode<br>$\mathcal{F}_i$ | Projected/Current  | Produc-<br>tion<br>Mode | quarks allowed  |  | quarks suppressed   |  |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|--|---|--|
|                                  | 2 $\sigma$ Limit   |                         | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on   | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on   |
|                                  | on $\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)$  |                         |   | $\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$ |   | $\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$ |
|                                  | 7+8 [14] TeV   |                         |   | 7+8 [14] TeV   |   | 7+8 [14] TeV   |
| $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$               | $0.7^T [0.2^L]$  | $W$                     | 0.8   | 0.9 [0.2]  | 0   | –  |
| $b\bar{b}\tau\tau$               | $> 1 [0.15^L]$   | $V$                     | 0.1   | $> 1 [1]$  | 0   | –  |
| $b\bar{b}\mu\mu$                 | $(2 - 7) \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ }^T$<br>$[(0.6 - 2) \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ }^T]$ | $G$                     | $3 \times 10^{-4}$  | $0.5 - 1$<br>$[0.2 - 0.8]$   | 0   | –  |
| $\tau\tau\tau\tau$               | $0.2 - 0.4^R [\text{U}]$   | $G$                     | 0.005   | $40 - 80 [\text{U}]$   | 1   | $0.2 - 0.4 [\text{U}]$   |
| $\tau\tau\mu\mu$                 | $(3 - 7) \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ }^T [\text{U}]$                                | $G$                     | $3 \times 10^{-5}$  | $10 - 20 [\text{U}]$   | 0.007   | $0.04 - 0.1 [\text{U}]$  |
| $\mu\mu\mu\mu$                   | $1 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ }^R [\text{U}]$                                      | $G$                     | $1 \cdot 10^{-7}$   | $1000 [\text{U}]$  | $1 \cdot 10^{-5}$   | $10 [\text{U}]$  |

projection/limit based on theory estimate in literature (L), our theory estimate (T), our re-interpretation of an LHC limit (R), or is unknown (U)

# $h \rightarrow aa^{(\prime)} \rightarrow \text{fermions}$

| Decay<br>Mode<br>$\mathcal{F}_i$ | Projected/Current  | Produc-<br>tion<br>Mode | quarks allowed  |  | quarks suppressed   |  |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|--|---|--|
|                                  | $2\sigma$ Limit  |                         | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on   | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on   |
|                                  | on $\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)$  |                         |   | $\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$ |   | $\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$ |
|                                  | 7+8 [14] TeV   |                         |   | 7+8 [14] TeV   |   | 7+8 [14] TeV   |
| $b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$               | $0.7^T [0.2^L]$  | $W$                     | 0.8   | 0.9 [0.2]  | 0   | –  |
| $b\bar{b}\tau\tau$               | $> 1 [0.15^L]$   | $V$                     | 0.1   | $> 1 [1]$  | 0   | –  |
| $b\bar{b}\mu\mu$                 | $(2 - 7) \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ }^T$<br>$[(0.6 - 2) \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ }^T]$ | $G$                     | $3 \times 10^{-4}$  | $0.5 - 1$<br>$[0.2 - 0.8]$   | 0   | –  |
| $\tau\tau\tau\tau$               | $0.2 - 0.4^R [\text{U}]$   | $G$                     | 0.005   | $40 - 80 [\text{U}]$   | 1   | $0.2 - 0.4 [\text{U}]$   |
| $\tau\tau\mu\mu$                 | $(3 - 7) \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ }^T [\text{U}]$                                | $G$                     | $3 \times 10^{-5}$  | $10 - 20 [\text{U}]$   | 0.007   | $0.04 - 0.1 [\text{U}]$  |
| $\mu\mu\mu\mu$                   | $1 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ }^R [\text{U}]$                                      | $G$                     | $1 \cdot 10^{-7}$   | $1000 [\text{U}]$  | $1 \cdot 10^{-5}$   | $10 [\text{U}]$  |

**Conclusion:**  $b\bar{b}\mu\mu$  &  $\tau\tau\mu\mu$  searches well motivated in [Run I](#) & [Run II](#);  
 scan w/o prejudice for  $m_a$ ; consider also  $a$  different from  $a'$



$$h \rightarrow aa^{(\prime)} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma \text{ or } gg$$

| Decay<br>Mode<br>$\mathcal{F}_i$ | Projected/Current<br>$2\sigma$ Limit<br>on $\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)$<br>7+8 [14] TeV | Produc-<br>tion<br>Mode | $\text{Br}(a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \approx 0.004$       |  | $\text{Br}(a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \approx 0.04$        |  |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|---|--|
|                                  |   |                         | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on<br>$\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$<br>7+8 [14] TeV | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on<br>$\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$<br>7+8 [14] TeV |
| $jjjj$                           | $> 1$ [ $0.1^{L*}$ ]  | $W$                     | 0.99  | $> 1$ [ $0.1^*$ ]  | 0.92  | $> 1$ [ $0.1^*$ ]  |
| $\gamma\gamma jj$                | 0.04 [ $0.01^{L*}$ ]  | $W$                     | 0.008   | 5 [ $1^*$ ]  | 0.08  | 0.5 [ $0.1^*$ ]  |
| $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$       | $2 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ }^T$ [ $3 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ }^{L*}$ ]                      | $G$                     | $1 \cdot 10^{-5}$   | 20 [ $1^*$ ]   | 0.001   | 0.2 [ $0.03^*$ ]   |

**Conclusion:** search for  $4\gamma$  in Run I and for  $4\gamma, 4j, 2\gamma 2j$  in Run II;  
keeping triggers for multiple photons is well-motivated

$$h \rightarrow Z_D Z_D$$

couplings of  $Z_D$  to SM fermions are  
weighted by SM gauge charge

(i.e. generally enhanced couplings to leptons  
compared to pseudo-scalar  $a$ )

$$h \rightarrow Z_D Z_D$$

| Decay<br>Mode<br>$\mathcal{F}_i$ | Projected/Current<br>$2\sigma$ Limit<br>on $\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)$<br>7+8 [14] TeV | Produc-<br>tion<br>Mode | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on<br>$\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$<br>7+8 [14] TeV |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|
| $jjjj$                           | $> 1$ [ $0.1^{L*}$ ]  | $W$                     | 0.25  | $> 1$ [ $0.4^*$ ]  |
| $\ell\ell\ell\ell$               | $4 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ }^R$ [U]  | $G$                     | 0.09  | $4 \cdot 10^{-4}$ [U]  |
| $jj\mu\mu$                       | $0.002 - 0.008 \text{ }^T$ [U]<br>[( $5 - 20$ ) $\times 10^{-4} \text{ }^T$ ]         | $G$                     | 0.15  | $0.01 - 0.06$<br>[0.003 – 0.01]  |
| $b\bar{b}\mu\mu$                 | $(2 - 7) \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ }^T$<br>[( $6 - 20$ ) $\cdot 10^{-5} \text{ }^T$ ]      | $G$                     | 0.015   | $0.01 - 0.05$<br>[0.003 – 0.01]  |

strong constraint on  $4\ell$  from published results on Higgs results &  $Z^{(*)}Z^{(*)}$

**Conclusion:** dedicated  $4\ell$  search can improve on this result and is highly motivated in Run I & Run II; extend to low  $Z_D$  masses

see more examples in  
backup & paper

# Summary of highly motivated searches

- $h \rightarrow Z_D Z_D \rightarrow (\ell^+ \ell^-)(\ell^+ \ell^-)$
  - $h \rightarrow Z Z_D \rightarrow (\ell^+ \ell^-)(\ell^+ \ell^-)$
  - $h \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- + \cancel{E}_T$
  - $h \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- \ell^+ \ell^- + \cancel{E}_T$
  - $h \rightarrow aa^{(\prime)} \rightarrow (b\bar{b})(\mu^+ \mu^-)$
  - $h \rightarrow aa^{(\prime)} \rightarrow (\tau^+ \tau^-)(\mu^+ \mu^-)$
  - $h \rightarrow aa^{(\prime)} \rightarrow (\gamma\gamma)(\gamma\gamma)$
  - $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + \cancel{E}_T$
- search across **full kinematic range**, including regimes where **leptons are collimated or (b-)jets merge**
  - in some cases, **re-interpret search** for same final state but **w/ small MET** by relaxing invariant mass = 125 GeV

# Summary

Higgs may be our (only)  
window to new physics

must look *explicitly* for non-standard decays

# Backup

$$h \rightarrow ZZ_D, Za$$

| Decay<br>Mode<br>$\mathcal{F}_i$             | Projected/Current<br>$2\sigma$ Limit<br>on $\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)$<br>7+8 [14] TeV | Produc-<br>tion<br>Mode | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on<br>$\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$<br>7+8 [14] TeV |
|--|---|-------------------------|---|--|
| $ZZ_D \rightarrow \ell\ell\ell\ell$          | $4 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ }^R \text{ [U]}$  | $G$                     | 0.02  | 0.002 [U]  |
| $Za \rightarrow \ell\ell\mu\mu$              | $4 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ }^R \text{ [U]}$  | $G$                     |   |  |
| $\text{Br}(a \rightarrow b\bar{b}) \sim 0.9$ |   |                         | $2 \cdot 10^{-5}$   | 2 [U]  |
| $\text{Br}(a \rightarrow q\bar{q}) = 0$      |   |                         | $2 \cdot 10^{-4}$   | 0.2 [U]  |

**Conclusion:**  $Za$  and  $ZZ_D$  searches well motivated in [Run I](#) & [Run II](#);  
scan w/o mass-prejudice



$h \rightarrow \psi\psi'$  w/  $\psi \rightarrow \psi' a, a \rightarrow f f, \psi' \rightarrow \text{invisible}$

| Decay<br>Mode<br>$\mathcal{F}_i$ | Projected/Current                             | Produc-<br>tion<br>Mode | quarks allowed  |  | quarks suppressed   |  |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|---|--|
|                                  | $2\sigma$ Limit                               |                         | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on   | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on   |
|                                  | on $\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)$<br>7+8 [14] TeV |                         |   | $\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$<br>7+8 [14] TeV |   | $\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$<br>7+8 [14] TeV |
| $(b\bar{b}) \cancel{E}_T$        | $> 1^T$ [ $0.2^{L*}$ ]                        | $Z$                     | 0.9   | $> 1$ [ $0.2^*$ ]  | 0   | –  |
| $(\tau\tau) \cancel{E}_T$        | $> 1$ [ $> 1^{L*}$ ]                          | $Z$                     | 0.1   | $> 1$ [ $> 1^*$ ]  | 1   | $> 1$ [ $> 1^*$ ]  |
| $\mu\mu \cancel{E}_T$            | $0.1^R$ [U]                                   | $G$                     | 0.003   | 40 [U]   | 0.03  | 4 [U]  |

(numbers assume no muon resonance, i.e. are pessimistic)

$$h \rightarrow \psi\psi^{(\prime)} \text{ w/ } \psi \rightarrow \psi' Z_D, Z_D \rightarrow f f, \psi' \rightarrow \text{inv.}$$

| Decay<br>Mode<br>$\mathcal{F}_i$ | Projected/Current<br>$2\sigma$ Limit<br>on $\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)$<br>7+8 [14] TeV | Produc-<br>tion<br>Mode | $h \rightarrow \psi\psi' \rightarrow \bar{f}f + \cancel{E}_T$ |  | $h \rightarrow \psi\psi \rightarrow \bar{f}_1f_1 + \bar{f}_2f_2 + \cancel{E}_T$ |  |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|---|--|
|                                  |   |                         | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$   | Limit on   | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$                     | Limit on   |
|                                  |   |                         |   | $\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$<br>7+8 [14] TeV |   | $\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$<br>7+8 [14] TeV |
| $(b\bar{b}) \cancel{E}_T$        | $> 1^T$ [ $0.2^{L*}$ ]  | $Z$                     | 0.05  | $> 1$ [ $4^*$ ]  | 0.1   | $> 1$ [ $2^*$ ]  |
| $(\tau\tau) \cancel{E}_T$        | $> 1$ [ $> 1^{L*}$ ]  | $Z$                     | 0.15  | $> 1$ [ $> 1^*$ ]  | 0.28  | $> 1$ [ $> 1^*$ ]  |
| $\ell\ell \cancel{E}_T$          | $0.07^R$ [U]  | $G$                     | 0.30  | 0.2 [U]  | 0.51  | 0.1 [U]  |
| $\ell\ell\ell\ell \cancel{E}_T$  | $5 \cdot 10^{-4}{}^R$ [U]   | $G, V$                  | —   | —  | 0.09  | 0.005 [U]  |

(numbers assume no lepton resonance, i.e. are pessimistic)

**Conclusion:** MET + 2 or 4 lepton searches in Run I is well-motivated,  
both w/ and w/o pair-wise resonances

$$h \rightarrow \psi\psi^{(\prime)} \text{ w/ } \psi \rightarrow \psi' + \gamma, \psi' \rightarrow \text{inv.}$$

| Decay<br>Mode $\mathcal{F}_i$ | Projected/Current $2\sigma$ Limit<br>Limit on $\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)$ | Production<br>Mode |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| $\gamma \cancel{E}_T$         | $> 1^R$ [U]  | $G$                |
| $\gamma\gamma \cancel{E}_T$   | $.04^R$ [U]  | $G$                |

(numbers assume no photon resonance, i.e. are pessimistic)

**Conclusion:** MET +  $\gamma\gamma$  search in Run I is well-motivated as a meaningful limit could be obtained

$$h \rightarrow \psi\psi^{(\prime)} \text{ w/ } \psi \rightarrow \psi' a, a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, \psi' \rightarrow \text{inv.}$$

| Decay<br>Mode<br>$\mathcal{F}_i$ | Projected/Current<br>$2\sigma$ Limit<br>on $\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)$<br>7+8 [14] TeV | Produc-<br>tion<br>Mode | $\text{Br}(a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \approx 0.004$       |  | $\text{Br}(a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \approx 0.04$        |  |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|---|--|
|                                  |   |                         | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on   | $\frac{\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)}{\text{Br}(\text{non-SM})}$ | Limit on   |
|                                  |   |                         |   | $\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$<br>7+8 [14] TeV |   | $\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{SM}}} \cdot \text{Br}(\text{non-SM})$<br>7+8 [14] TeV |
| $\gamma\gamma \cancel{E}_T$      | $.04^R$ [U]   | $G$                     | 0.004   | 10 [U]   | 0.04  | 1 [U]  |

(numbers assume no photon resonance, i.e. are pessimistic)

**Conclusion:** MET +  $\gamma\gamma$  search in Run I is well-motivated as a meaningful limit could be obtained and an enhancement in  $a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  decay is a reasonable possibility

# Small MET

- Searches w/o MET can probe scenarios w/ *small MET* if certain kinematic requirements are relaxed
- *Example*:  $h \rightarrow aa'$ , w/  $a' \rightarrow$  invisible,  $a \rightarrow f f$ , and

$$m_h \sim m_a \gg m_h - m_a \sim m_{a'}$$

**Conclusion:** searches *should not* only be done assuming that *invariant mass of observed objects equals Higgs mass*; search for *lower masses too* (and *higher*, since there may be *Higgs partners* as well)

# Collimated objects in pairs

| Decay<br>Mode<br>$\mathcal{F}_i$    | Projected/Current<br>$2\sigma$ Limit<br>on $\text{Br}(\mathcal{F}_i)$<br>7+8 [14] TeV | Produc-<br>tion<br>Mode |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| $\{\mu\mu\}\{\mu\mu\}$              | $1 \cdot 10^{-5} (5 \cdot 10^{-3})$ [U]   | $G$                     |
| $\{ee\}\{ee\}$                      | limit unclear [U]   | $W, G$                  |
| $\{\mu\mu\}X$                       | 1 [U]   | $G$                     |
| $\{\mu\mu\} \cancel{E}_T$           | $0.03^L$ [U]  | $W$                     |
| $\{\mu\mu\}\{\mu\mu\} \cancel{E}_T$ | $1 \cdot 10^{-5} (5 \cdot 10^{-3})$ [U]   | $G$                     |
| $\{ee\}\{ee\} \cancel{E}_T$         | limit unclear [U]   | $W, G$                  |
| $\{\tau\tau\}\{\mu\mu\}$            | $(3 - 7) \cdot 10^{-4}{}^T$ [U]   | $G$                     |
| $\{\gamma\gamma\}\{\gamma\gamma\}$  | 0.01 [U]  | $G$                     |
| $\{\gamma\gamma\} \cancel{E}_T$     | U[U]  |                         |
| $\{gg\}\{gg\}$                      | $> 1$ [ $0.7^L$ ]   | $W$                     |
| $\{b\bar{b}\}\{b\bar{b}\}$          | $0.7^T$ [ $0.2^L$ ]   | $W$                     |

## Conclusion:

Some LHC searches exist for “lepton-jets”, but not always w/ full data set;  
also, a much more **comprehensive** search is **warranted** and **highly motivated**

Various additional studies are needed, e.g.

$$h \rightarrow XY \rightarrow \gamma YY = \gamma + \cancel{E}_T$$

$$h \rightarrow aa \rightarrow (b\bar{b})(b\bar{b})$$

$$h \rightarrow aa \rightarrow (b\bar{b})(\tau^+\tau^-)$$

# Trigger implications for Run II

- it is highly motivated to keep one-lepton and VBF di-jet trigger thresholds as low as possible to trigger on Associated Higgs production or VBF for those channels with difficult decays
- a combination of a VBF di-jet + soft leptons + MET is needed for e.g.  $h \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- + \cancel{E}_T$  w/ large MET
- ditto for photons



# Data “parking”

- **ATLAS:** lower  $p_T$ -thresholds for some objects may help
- **CMS:** VBF production ( $M_{jj} > 650 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $|\Delta\eta| > 3.5$ )