

Contribution ID: 206

Type: poster

Search for a Higgs boson decaying to a pair of 125 GeV Higgs bosons (hh) or for a Higgs boson decaying to Zh, with tau leptons in the final state

A search for a Higgs boson (H) decaying into a pair of lighter (Standard Model like) 125 GeV Higgs bosons (h) or a Higgs boson (A) decaying into a Z boson and an h boson is presented. This search is performed on a dataset corresponding to an integrated luminosity of 19.7 fb–1 of pp collision data collected by CMS in 2012. A final state consisting of two tau leptons and two b-jets is used to search for the H -> hh decay and a final state consisting of two tau leptons and two additional leptons, compatible with being the decay products of a Z boson, is used to search for the decay A -> Zh. This search is performed in the context of two benchmark scenarios: one scenario of the minimal supersymmetric extension to the standard model and one scenario of a two Higgs Doublet Model. No excess is found and upper limits at 95% confidence level are set on the production cross-section in the mass range 220< mA <350 GeV and 260< mH <350 GeV.

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Track Classification: Higgs and New Physics