

# Momentum-dependent dark matter couplings and monojets

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Based on work in collaboration with D. Barducci, A. Bharucha, N. Desai, M. Frigerio, B. Fuks, S. Kulkarni, S. Lacroix, G. Polesello, D. Sengupta

- Contribution @ Les Houches 2015 proceedings, arXiv:1605.02684

- Paper to appear

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# Momentum – dependent DM couplings ?

A simple model : The SM + a real gauge singlet scalar  $\mathbf{Z}_2$  – odd field  $\eta$  (“dark matter”) + a real gauge singlet scalar  $\mathbf{Z}_2$  – even field  $s$  (mediator).

$$\mathcal{L}_{\eta,s} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\eta\partial^\mu\eta - \frac{1}{2}m_\eta^2\eta\eta + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu s\partial^\mu s - \frac{1}{2}m_s^2 s s$$
$$+ \frac{c_{s\eta}f}{2}s\eta\eta + \frac{\alpha_s}{16\pi}\frac{c_{sg}}{f}sG_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu}$$

Standard (MI) scalar coupling

Mediator coupling to gluons

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Derivative coupling

Free parameters :  $m_s$ ,  $m_\eta$ ,  $f$  ( $\leftrightarrow c_{\partial s\eta}$ ),  $c_{s\eta}$ , and  $c_{sg}$

The derivative term yields an interaction vertex that scales as

$$\sim \frac{p_s^2}{f}$$

MD coupling

UV motivation: Such terms arise in compositeness models if  $\eta$  is a pNGB involved in the breaking of a global symmetry at some scale  $f$  and is a result of the shift symmetry of pNGB's.

M. Frigerio, A. Pomarol, F. Riva, A. Urbano, arXiv:1204.2808

D. Marzocca, A. Urbano, arXiv:1404.7419

N. Fonseca, R. Z. Funchal, A. Lessa, L. Lopez-Honorez, arXiv:1501.05957

# Why should MD couplings be interesting ?

Generically, the strongest constraints in monojet searches come from the high – energy tail of the jet  $p_T$  distribution.

But we saw that our interaction vertex scales as  $\sim \frac{p_s^2}{f}$  → Enhanced at high energies.

- i) Monojet constraints should be stronger than in conventional models.
- ii) Could the spectral shape differences help distinguish such models?

→ This talk

→ In progress

However, note an important point :

When  $m_\eta < m_s/2$ ,  $\frac{p_s^2}{f} \rightarrow \frac{m_s^2}{f}$

Any differences between MI and MD couplings only arise in the *off-shell* regime.

From a DM standpoint, on/off-shell is pretty irrelevant. For the LHC, *it matters* : monojet searches shine when the mediator is produced and decays on-shell.

Still, we focus on the off-shell regime where differences might stand a chance of being observed.

# Constraints

- Dijet searches for the mediator : SpS (140 – 300 GeV), Tevatron (200 – 1400 GeV), LHC Run I (up to 4.5 TeV).

For  $f \sim 1$  TeV, they amount to  $c_{sg} < 100$ .

- DM relic abundance (micrOMEGAs + analytical cross-check) :

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle_{gg} \simeq \frac{\alpha_s^2 c_{sg}^2 (c_{s\eta} f^2 + 4c_{\partial s\eta} m_s^2)^2}{256\pi^3 f^4 (m_s^2 - 4m_\eta^2)^2}, \quad \langle \sigma v \rangle_{ss} \simeq \frac{\sqrt{1 - \frac{m_s^2}{m_\eta^2}} (c_{\partial s\eta} m_s^2 + c_{s\eta} f^2)^4}{16\pi f^4 m_\eta^2 (m_s^2 - 2m_\eta^2)^2}$$

- Direct detection (LUX – **only relevant for MI couplings**) :

Another reason why MD couplings are interesting!

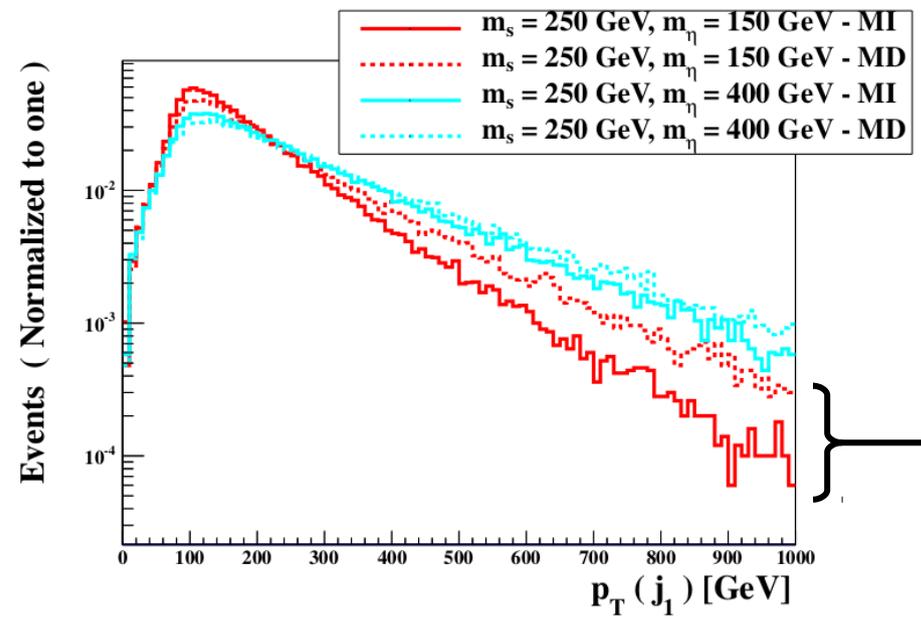
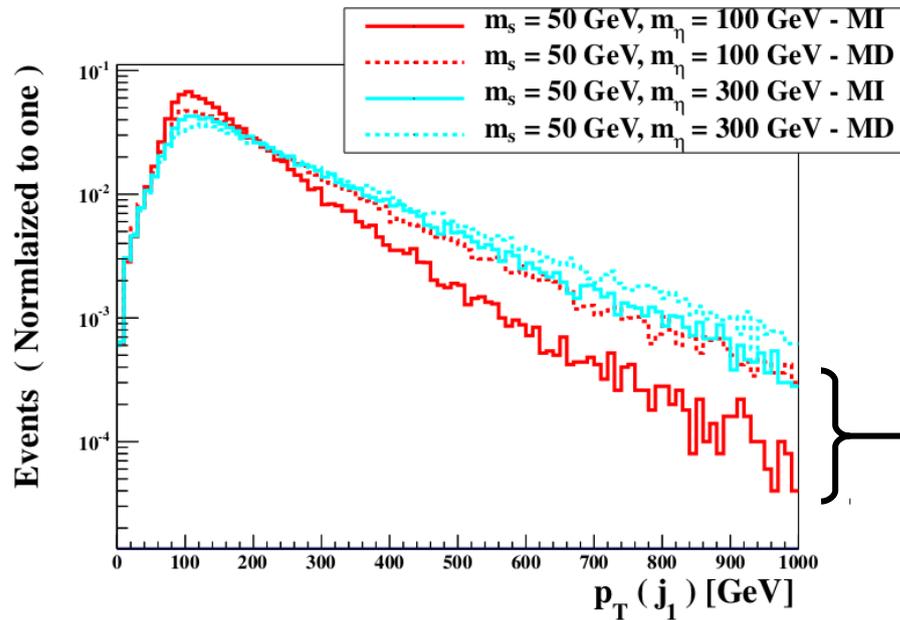
$$\sigma_{SI} = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{m_\eta m_p}{m_\eta + m_p} \right)^2 \left| \frac{8\pi}{9\alpha_s} \frac{m_p}{m_\eta} f_G f_{TG} \right|^2, \quad f_G = \frac{\alpha_s c_{sg} c_{s\eta}}{32\pi} \frac{1}{m_s^2}$$

- Perturbative unitarity of the scattering matrix (for our calculations to make sense) :

$$(c_{s\eta} \times c_{sg}) < \frac{64\sqrt{2}\pi^2 (1 - \frac{m_s^2}{s})}{\alpha_s \left(1 - \frac{4m_\eta^2}{s}\right)^{1/4}}, \quad (c_{\partial s\eta} \times c_{sg}) < \frac{64\sqrt{2}\pi^2 f^2 (s - m_s^2)}{\alpha_s s^2 \left(1 - \frac{4m_\eta^2}{s}\right)^{1/4}} \rightarrow \sim 2 \text{ TeV}$$

# MD vs MI : A first look

Leading jet  $p_T$  distributions for a few representative examples of  $(m_\eta, m_s)$  combinations:



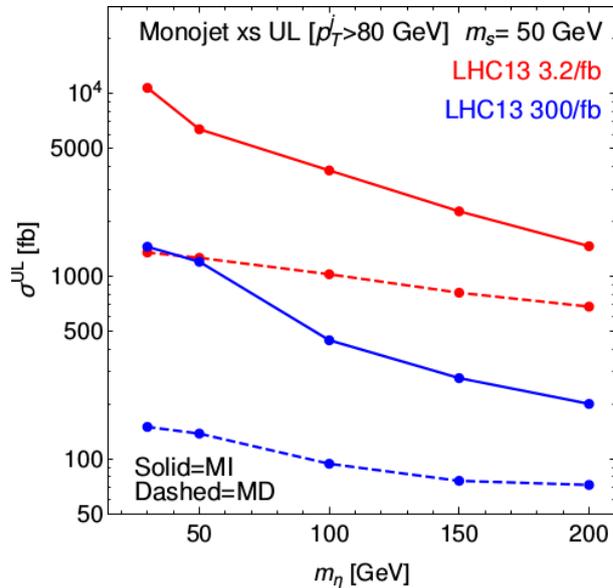
This is the effect we pointed out. Differences become maximal for small DM masses.

Distributions normalised to 1 with a generator-level cut  $p_T > 80$  GeV.

Efficiency associated with selection  $p_T > 300$  GeV larger by  $\sim 50\%$  for MD couplings.

# Monojet constraints : cross section ULs

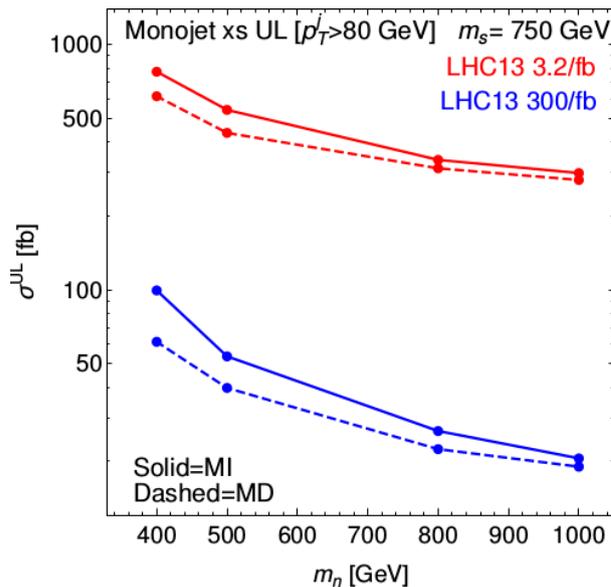
Fixing  $m_s$ , and assuming pure MI or MD interactions, the cross section ULs only depend on the kinematics (i.e.  $m_\eta$ ) and not on the overall rate  $\rightarrow$  Can be computed once and for all.



Limits based on MADANALYSIS 5 implementation of ATLAS monojet search results with  $3.2 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  @ 13 TeV. 13 signal regions in the analysis, limits extracted from most sensitive one.

ATLAS Collaboration, arXiv:1604.07773  
D. Sengupta, <https://inspirehep.net/record/1476800>

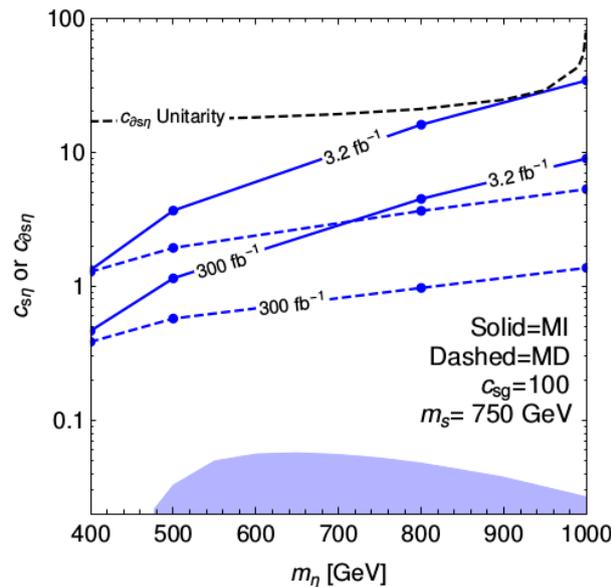
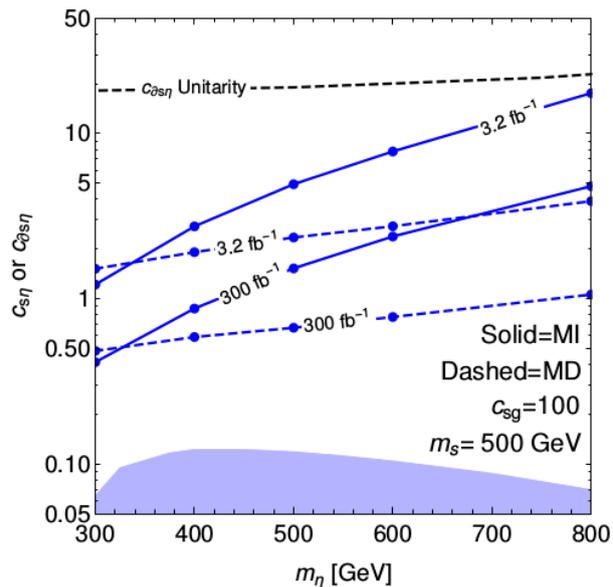
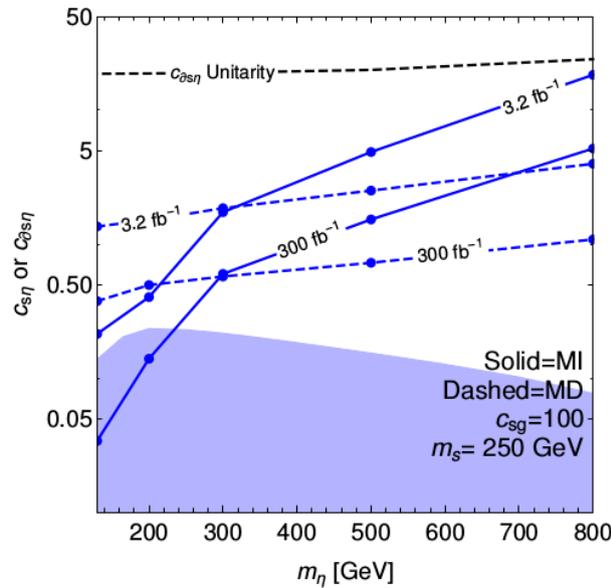
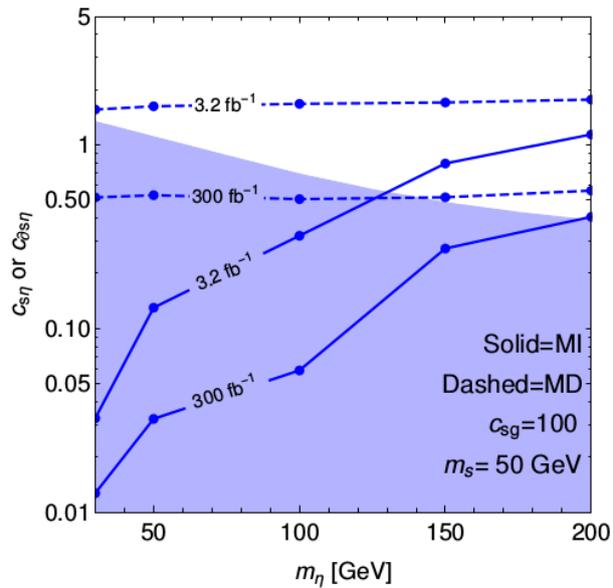
Projections inspired from the same analysis, including tighter MET requirements w/ background extrapolation (incl. uncertainty estimation).



MD operators are clearly more efficiently constrained, esp. for low dark matter masses. At higher masses the limits become essentially indistinguishable (although sensitivity gradually lost).

# Connection to dark matter

Let's translate these ULs to our model and superimpose DM + TH constraints.



DD wipes out all relevant regions of the parameter space in the MI case  $\rightarrow$  Ignore MI DM pheno.

But  $\eta$  might not be dark matter!

TH constraints OK throughout, more relevant for smaller  $c_{sg}$ .

Above threshold, existing limits probe subleading (but potentially existing!) DM components.

*cf also D. Abercrombie et al, arXiv:1507.00966*

Collider and cosmological constraints are complementary.

With  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  the low-mass Planck-compatible region will, nonetheless, be tested.

# Summary and outlook

- Momentum-dependent dark matter couplings to the visible sector can be motivated :
  - From a UV perspective, as they appear in well-motivated extensions of the SM.
  - From a DM perspective, as they provide a viable alternative to conventional dark matter scenarios. They can reproduce the observed DM abundance while evading direct detection constraints.
  - From a collider perspective, as they can be constrained at the LHC.
- In the off-shell regime, monojet searches mostly probe underabundant dark matter candidates (multi-component dark matter? Some unconventional thermal history?). In MD scenarios the LHC can probe smaller cross sections than in conventional models.
- They appear to be among the most promising cases to distinguish even a subleading component of dark matter in the Universe from more conventional scenarios. Seen differently: assume the LHC observes an excess in monojet searches. To which extent can the DM properties be (mis-)identified?

Work in progress, stay tuned!

**Additional material**

# An even simpler model

The simplest model : The SM + a real gauge singlet scalar  $\mathbf{Z}_2$  – odd field  $\eta$ .

$$\mathcal{L}_\eta = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\eta\partial^\mu\eta - \frac{1}{2}\mu_\eta^2\eta^2 - \frac{1}{4}\lambda_\eta\eta^4 - \frac{1}{2}\lambda\eta^2 H^\dagger H + \frac{1}{2f^2}(\partial_\mu\eta^2)\partial^\mu(H^\dagger H)$$

Standard (dim-4) Higgs portal

Momentum-dependent coupling

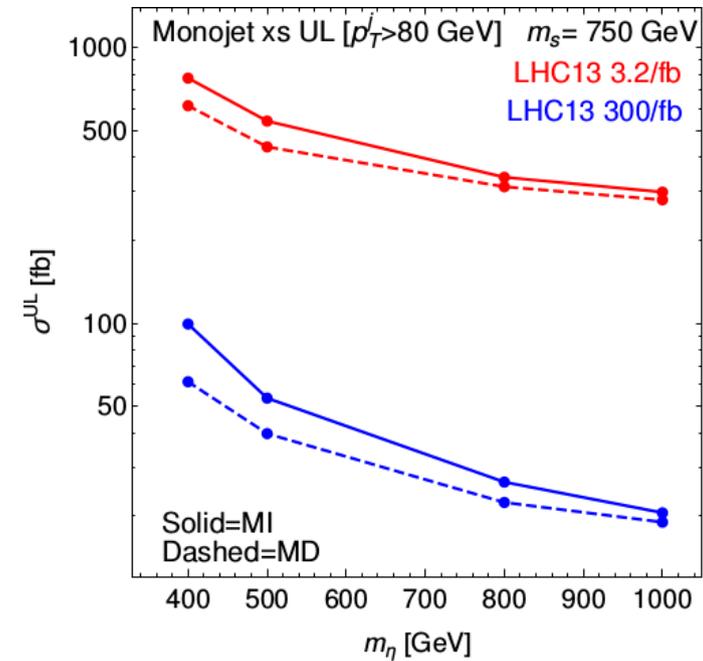
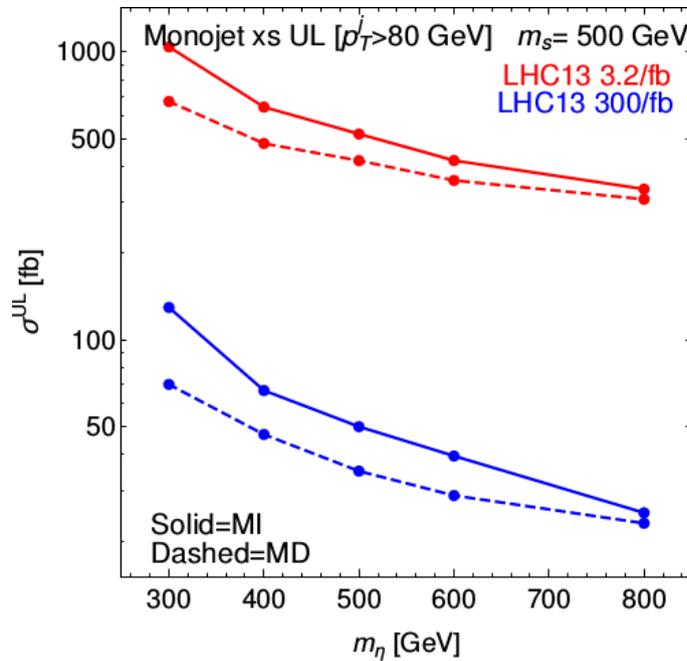
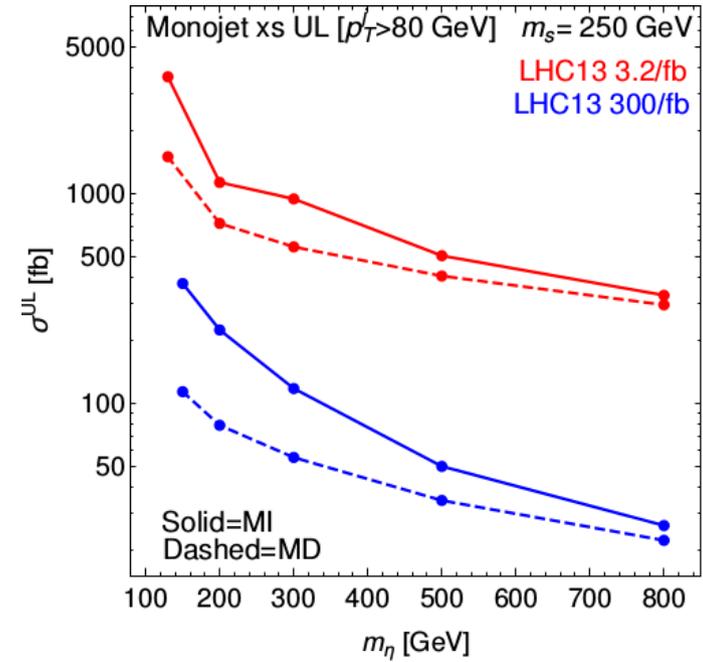
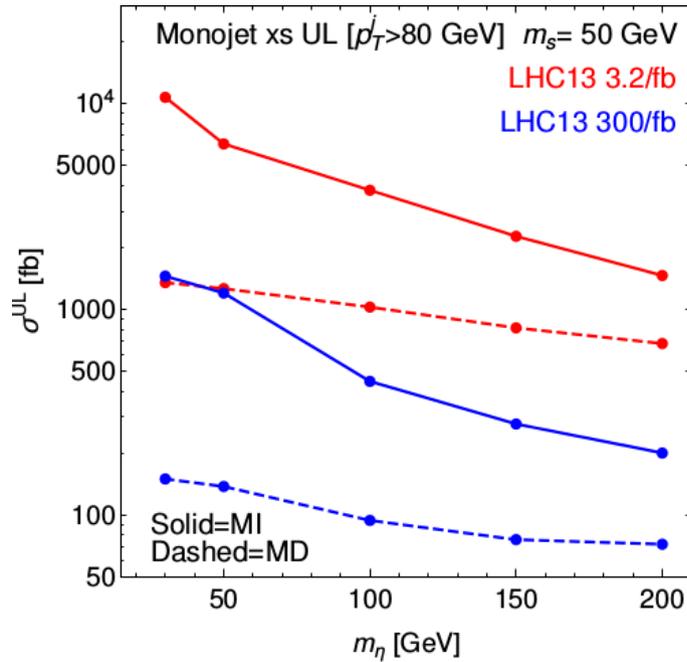
M. Frigerio, A. Pomarol, F. Riva, A. Urbano, arXiv:1204.2808

Upon EWSB, a Lagrangian term is generated  $\mathcal{L}_\eta \supset -\frac{1}{4}(v+h)^2 \left( \lambda\eta^2 + \frac{1}{f^2}\partial_\mu\partial^\mu\eta^2 \right)$

yielding an interaction vertex that scales as  $\sim \frac{p_h^2}{f^2}$

But in this minimal model, both the Higgs production cross section and the “compositeness scale”  $f$  are severely bound  $\rightarrow$  The signal is found to be too weak...

# Upper limits : more results



# Varying $c_{sg}$

