

## Searches for an extended Higgs boson sector at CMS

**Blois 2021:** 32nd Rencontres de Blois  
Particle Physics and Cosmology

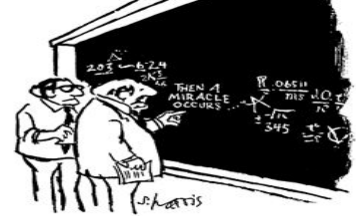
Khawla Jaffel  
on behalf of the CMS collaboration



EOS  
THE EXCELLENCE  
OF SCIENCE

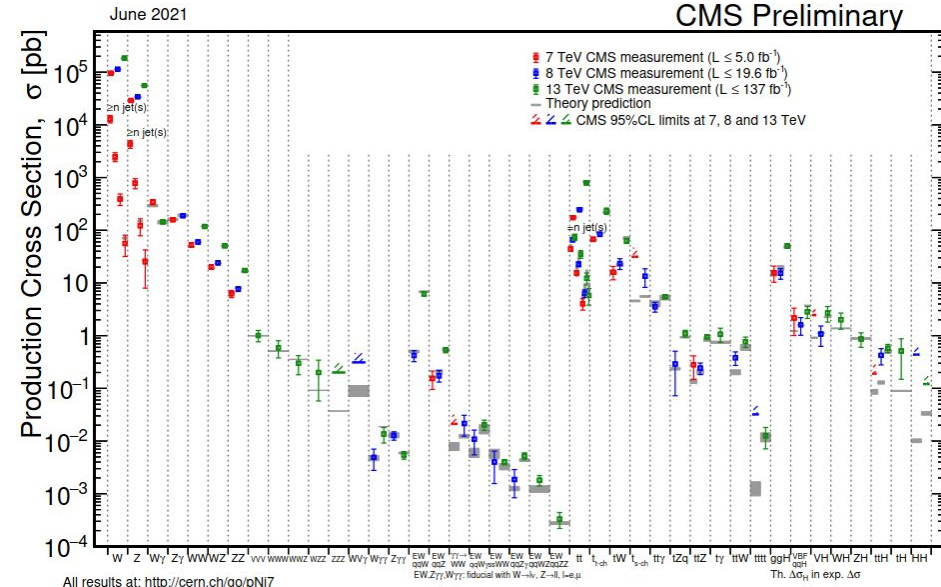


# Why probing extended Higgs sector ?



"I think you should be more explicit here in step two."

- **The impressive performance of the Standard Model :**
  - The SM agrees reasonably well with our measurements across 9 orders of magnitude.
- **But that's not the whole story!**
  - The SM provides no dark matter candidate and no explanation for the matter–antimatter asymmetry in the universe, can not explain the strong CP problem or the muon  $g-2$  anomaly... **So there must be physics beyond !**
- **No requirement for the Higgs sector to be minimal.**
  - Extended Higgs sectors come to address some of the shortcomings of the SM.
  - Searches for new BSM physics still remain a frontier in particle physics research.



[CMSPublic/PhysicsResultsCombined](https://cms.cern/public/PhysicsResultsCombined)

*“ Whether you can observe a thing or not depends on the theory which you use. It is the theory which decides what can be observed.”*

*-- Albert Einstein --  
Heisenberg's 1926 lecture at Berlin.*

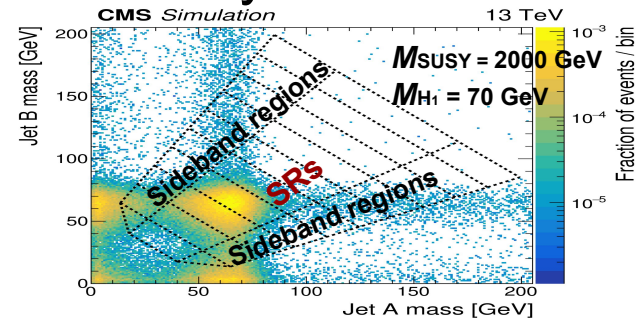
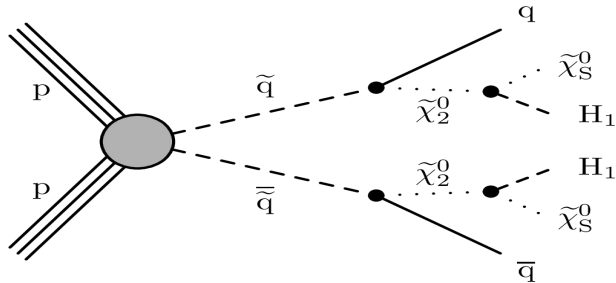
- Many of the proposed new physics models come with an extended Higgs sector:
  - **Simple extension :**
    - **2HDMs type ( I, II, X Lepton-specific and Y Flipped, III, FCNC-free )** : was proposed as a means to provide an extra source of CP-violation.
    - **MSSM** : Is the SUSY extension with minimal particle content and minimal gauge group and the MSSM Higgs sector corresponds to a type II 2HDM.  
It requires two complex Higgs doublets and it provides a dark matter candidate, allows for the unification of the gauge couplings, and mitigates the hierarchy problem.
  - **More complex models** : N2HDM (2HDM+Singlet, Triplet... ), NMSSM
- **Two different approaches can be used to discover or set limits on these models.:**
  1. Through their modifications to the SM-like Higgs couplings; can be tested by Higgs coupling precision measurements.
  2. Direct searches for BSM Higgses at high energy colliders.

⇒ The discovery of any BSM Higgses will be our evidence for the existence of an extended Higgs sector.

# In this talk :

- We will cover some of the **recent direct searches results by the CMS experiment** in the context of the extended Higgs boson sector.
  - **Searches for neutral Higgs bosons:**
    - Light  $H_1 \rightarrow bb$  : **SUSY** cascade decays  $\Rightarrow$  Ongoing
    - Light  $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$  : Exotic decay model independent  $\Rightarrow$  Ongoing
    - Heavy  $H \rightarrow h(\rightarrow \tau\tau) h_s(\rightarrow bb)$  : NMSSM  $\Rightarrow$  Published
    - Heavy  $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow (lv\,lv, lv\,qq)$  : 2HDM  $\Rightarrow$  Published
  - **Searches for charged Higgs bosons:**
    - Heavy  $H_{\pm} \rightarrow W_{\pm} Z$  and  $H_{\pm\pm} \rightarrow W_{\pm} W_{\pm}$  : Georgi–Machacek (GM)  $\Rightarrow$  Published

# Pair of boosted light $H_1 \rightarrow bb$ from SUSY cascade decays :



- **Search in the context of NMSSM.**

- $M_{H_1} \leq 125$  GeV :  $BR(H_1 \rightarrow bb)$  decreases for larger  $H_1$  masses as the  $WW$  and  $ZZ$  decay channels open up.
- The search targets squarks and gluinos with masses  $M_{SUSY} \geq 1200$  GeV.

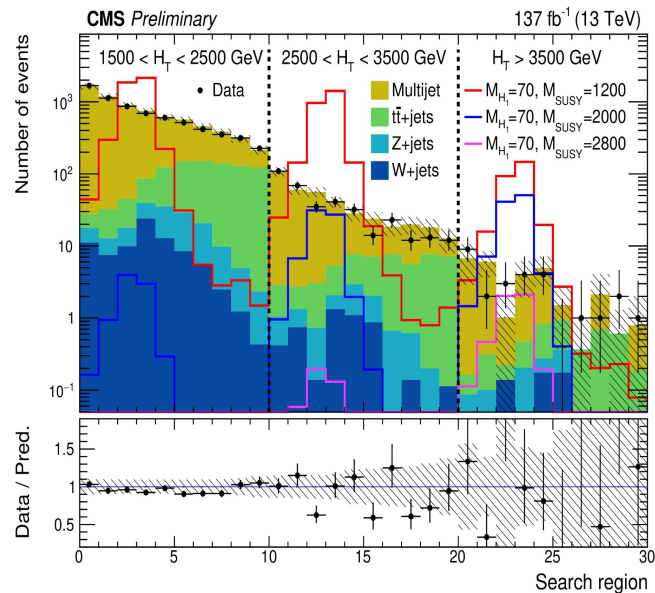
- **Event selection:**

- High HT ==  $\sum_{AK4 \text{ jets}} p_T$  +  $\geq 1$  AK4 Jets
- $\geq 2$  AK8 Jets **A and B** (wide-angle soft radiation is recursively removed from the jet) + double-b tagging algorithm used to reconstruct the b quarks originating from the  $H_1$  bosons decay.

- **Events Classification:**

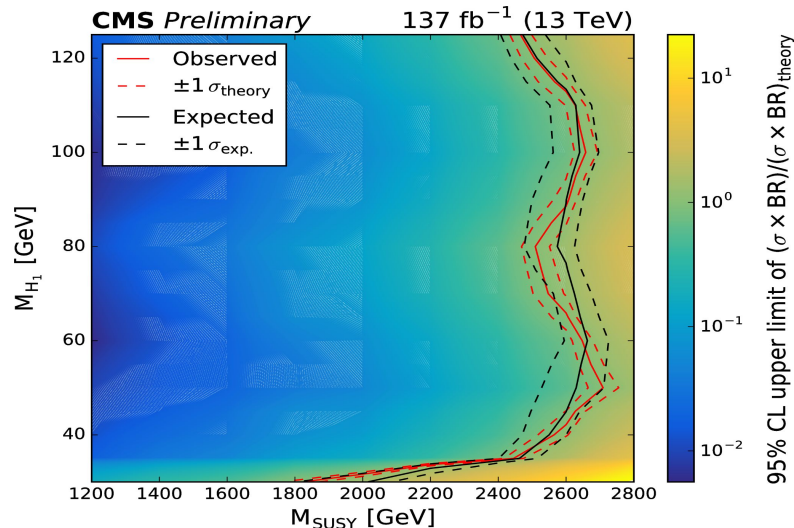
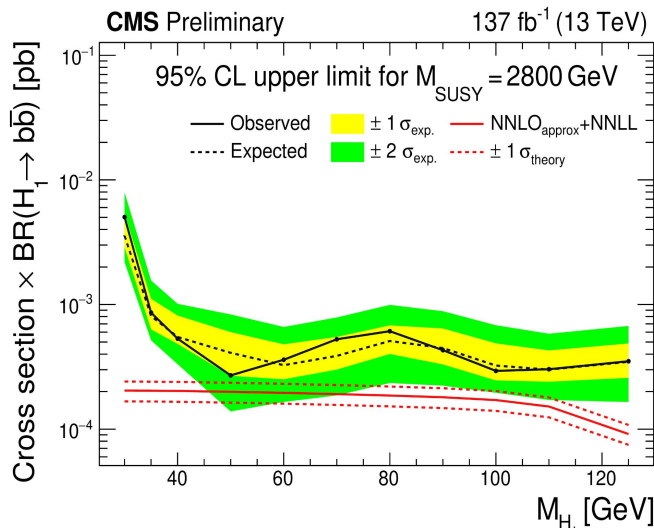
3 HT regions 1500–2500, 2500–3500, and 3500+ GeV. Each HT bin is divided into 10 mass SR.

- Total of 30 search regions for each data-taking year.



# Pair of boosted light $H_1 \rightarrow bb$ from SUSY cascade decays :

- Binned maximum likelihood fits to the data in the 90 search regions (10 regions  $S_i$  per HT bin for each data-taking year) are carried out under background-only and signal-plus-background hypotheses.
- **No evidence is found for any excess of events beyond the background expectations of the SM.**
  - $H_1$  bosons arising from the decays of squarks or gluinos, with masses in the range 40–120 GeV are excluded at the 95% confidence level.
  - **SUSY masses from 1200–2500 GeV, are excluded at the 95% confidence level.**



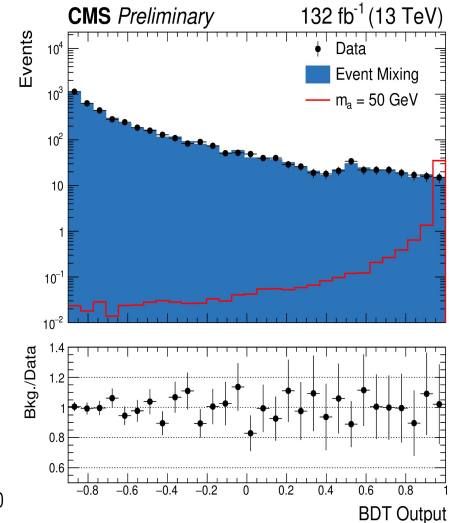
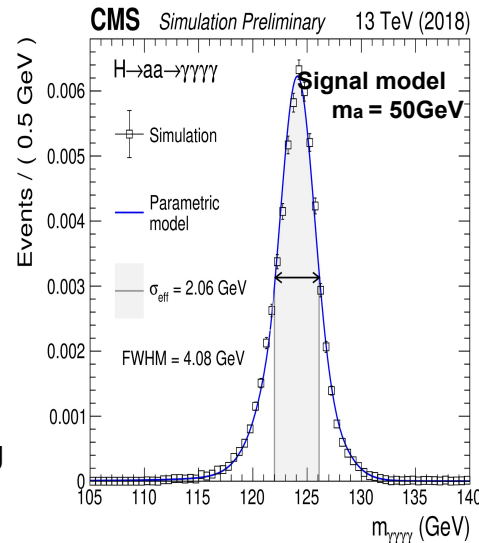
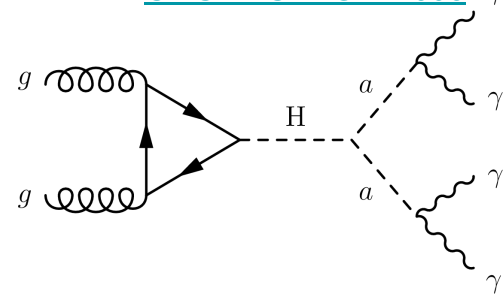
# $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ :

- **Signature** : Two light pseudo-scalars ( $a$ ) that range in mass from 15 to 60 GeV decay to 4 **well** isolated photons.
- **Main BKG**:  $\gamma\gamma$  + jets,  $\gamma$  + jets, as well as multijet events
- **A BDT classifier** is trained to separate signal from background, parameterized as a function of  $m_a$ .
  - To maximize the sensitivity of the analysis, events are categorized according to the output of the BDT.
  - The categorization is optimized by maximizing the Approximate Mean Significance :

$$AMS = \sqrt{2 \left( (S + B) \ln \left( 1 + \frac{S}{B} \right) - S \right)}$$

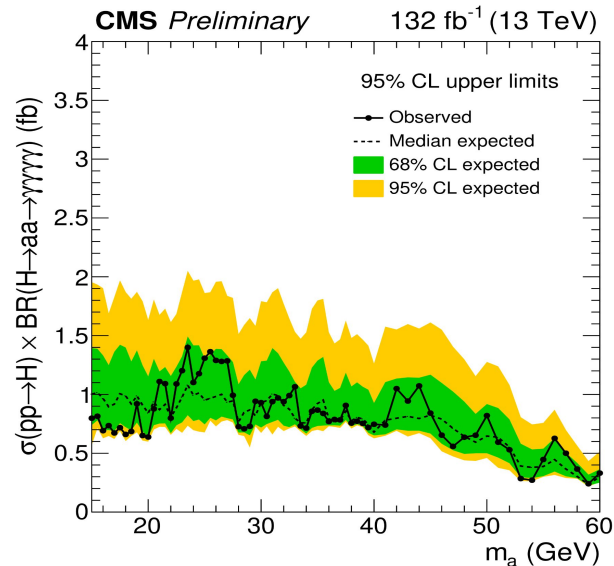
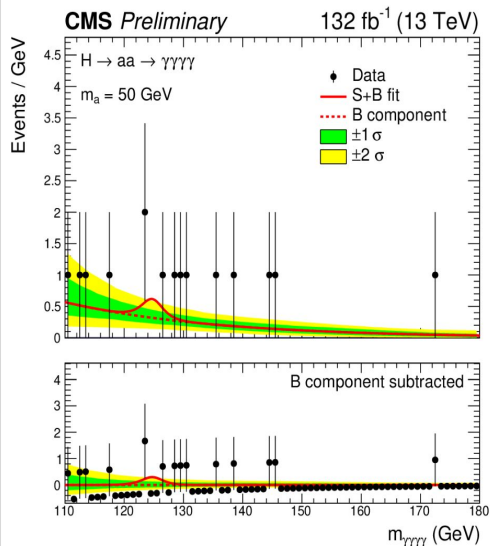
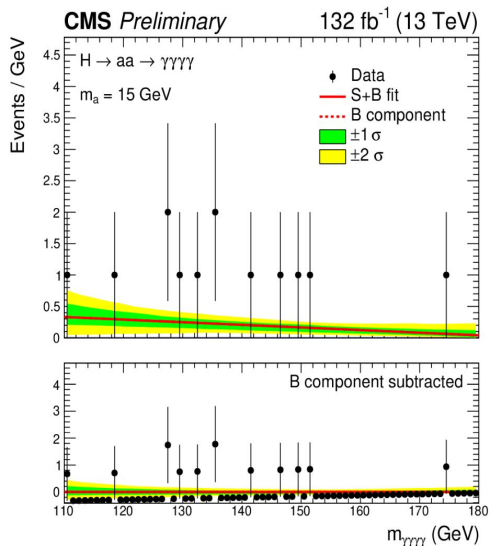
- **Double-sided Crystal Ball** function separate for each data taking used for **signal modeling** of  $m_{\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma}$  distributions.
- **Different functional forms used for background modeling** and the choice treated as a discrete nuisance parameter in the likelihood fit to data.

CMS-PAS-HIG-21-003



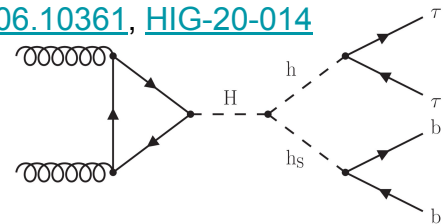
# $H \rightarrow aa \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ :

- A simultaneous maximum-likelihood fit is performed of the signal and background models to the observed mass of  $4\gamma$  distribution in the mass range  $110 < m_{\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma} < 180$  GeV for each  $m_a$  hypothesis.
  - **No significant deviation beyond the background expectations of the SM.**
- The limits range at 95% confidence level is set:
  - **Observed** : 0.8 fb ( $m_a = 15$  GeV)  $\rightarrow$  0.33 fb ( $m_a = 60$  GeV)
  - **Expected** : 1. fb ( $m_a = 15$  GeV)  $\rightarrow$  0.3 fb ( $m_a = 60$  GeV)





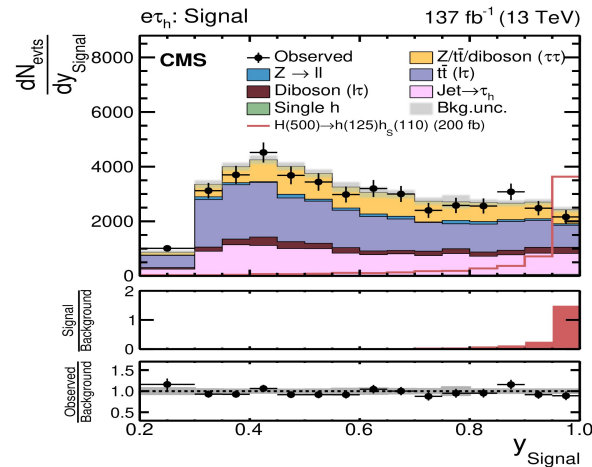
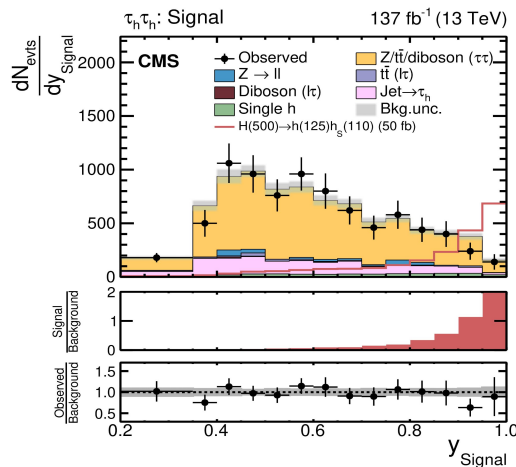
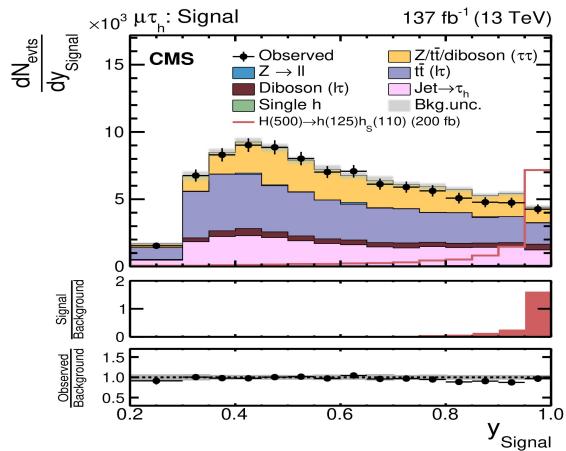
# Heavy $H \rightarrow h(\rightarrow \tau\tau) h_s(\rightarrow bb)$ :



Search for Heavy Higgs boson  $H$  decaying into the observed Higgs boson  $h(125)$  and an extended scalar  $h_s$  ( $m_{hs} < m_H - m_h$ ).

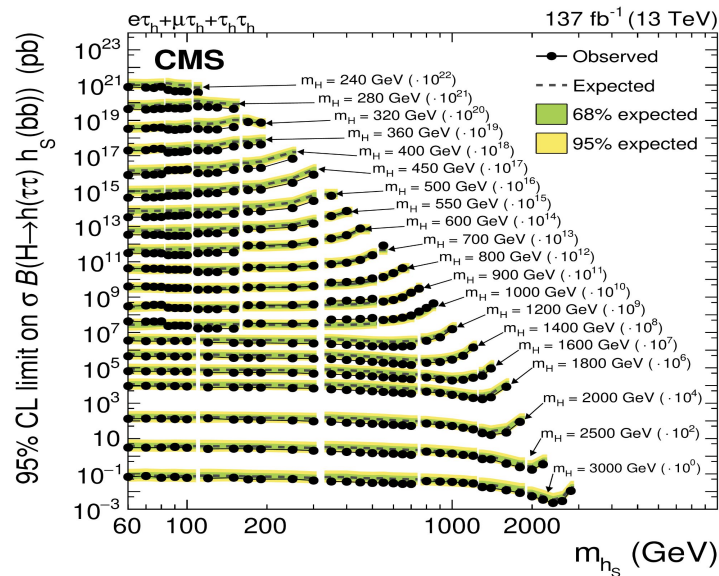
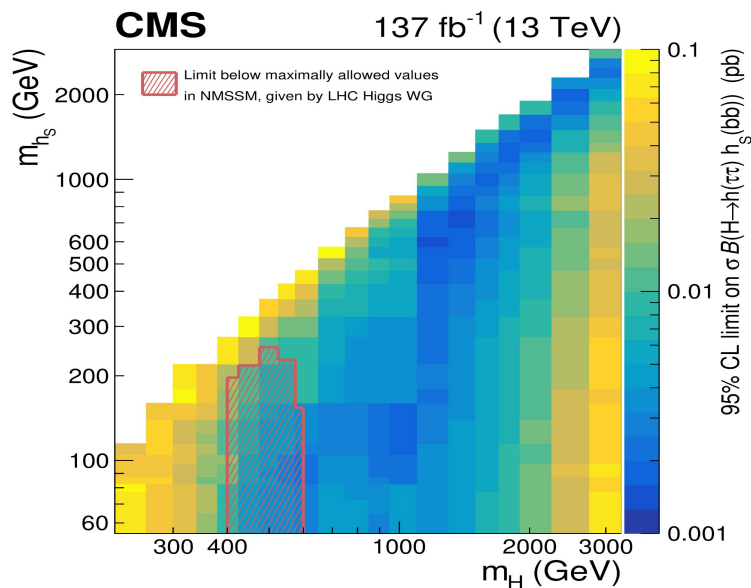
The search is inspired by the **NMSSM**, where  $h_s$  could have a dominant admixture of the additional singlet field, leading to a significant suppression of its couplings to SM particles.

- **Mass ranges explored** : 240 GeV - 3 TeV for  $m_H$  and 60 GeV - 2.8 TeV for  $m_{hs}$
- **Final states** :  $e\tau_h, \mu\tau_h, \tau_h\tau_h$
- **Event selection** :  $1\ell 1\tau_h(2\tau_h) + \geq 2jets(\geq 1b\text{-jet})$
- **Main BKG** :  $t\bar{t}$ , multijet QCD, Z, WW  $\Rightarrow$  Event classification in 45 categories  $\Rightarrow$  A total of 68 NNs per final state are used.



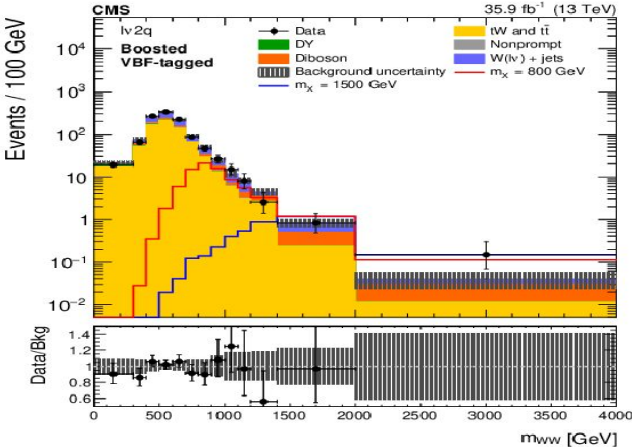
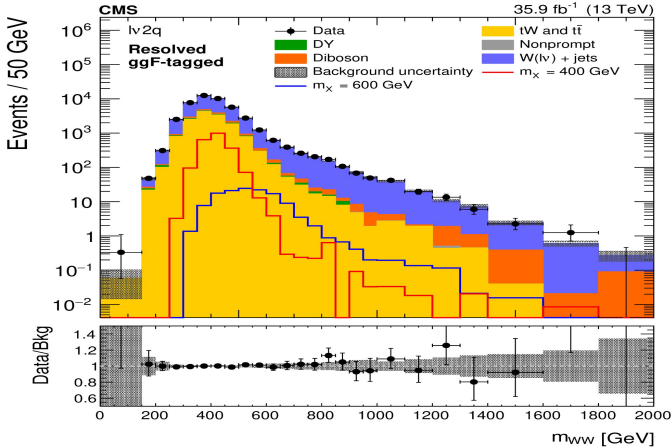
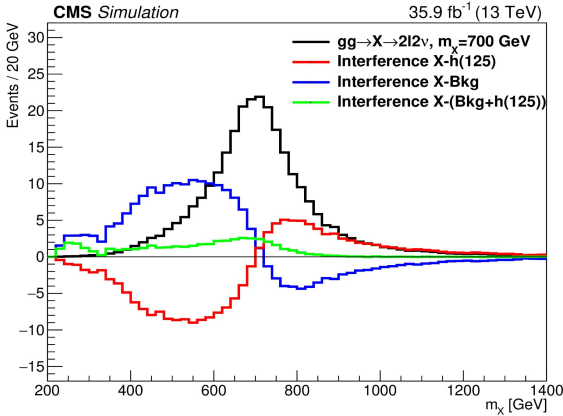
# Heavy $H \rightarrow h(\rightarrow \tau\tau) h_S(\rightarrow bb)$ :

- **Signal extraction:** maximum likelihood fit on NN scores.
- **No signal-like excess is observed in any of the investigated mass combinations.**
- 95% CL upper limits on  $\sigma \times \text{BR}(H \rightarrow h(\rightarrow \tau\tau) h_S(\rightarrow bb))$  is extracted.
- **NMSSM constrained for  $400 \leq m_H \leq 600$  GeV and  $60 \leq m_{h_S} \leq 200$  GeV .**
- Sensitivity range from 125 fb<sup>-1</sup> (for  $m_H = 240$  GeV) to 2.7 fb<sup>-1</sup> (for  $m_H = 1000$  GeV).



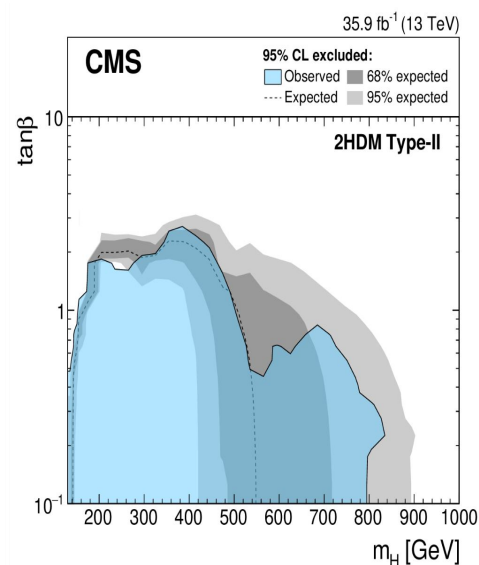
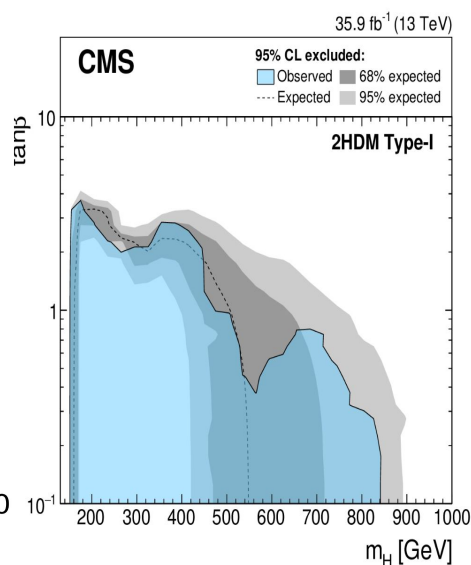
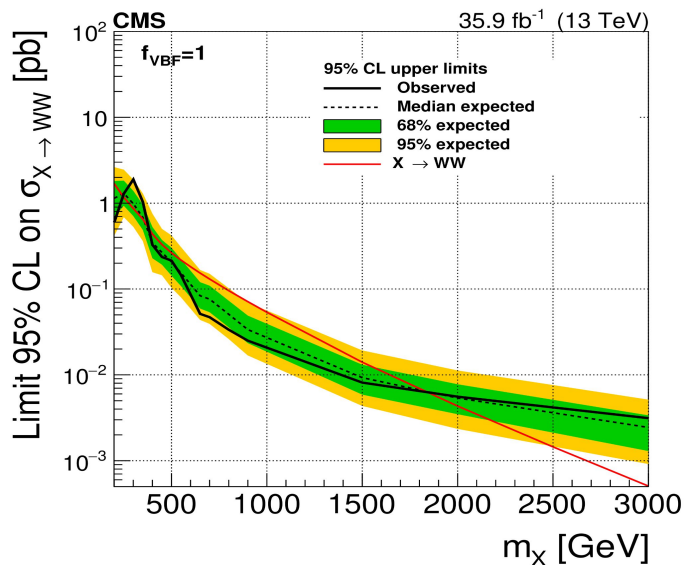
# Heavy H → WW → (lv lv, lv qq) :

- **W boson pair decay:** lvlv, lvqq.
  - **Fully leptonic channel:** ≥ 2 high-pT opposite charge lepton candidates.
  - **Semileptonic channel:** ≥ 1 at high-pT lepton + 2 AK4 jets or one AK8 jet.
  - **Search range:** From 0.2 up to 3.0 TeV.
- **Signal production mechanisms:** ggF( + Interference terms gg → h(125) ), VBF.
  - The ggF cross section decreases with mX while the VBF/ggF cross section ratio increases.
  - Event categorizations based on the kinematic properties of associated jets and ME techniques are employed to optimise the signal sensitivity.



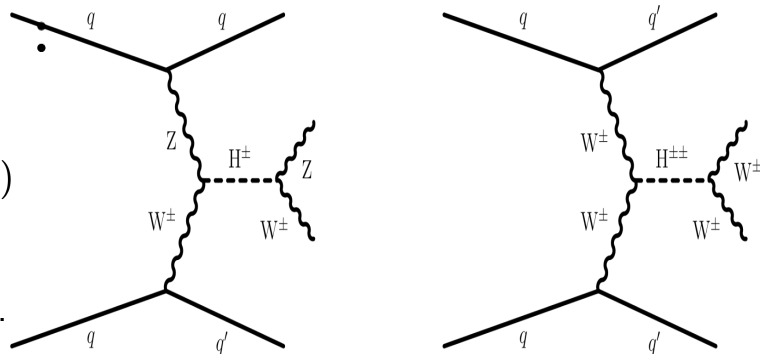
# Heavy $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow (lv lv, lv qq)$ :

- Combined upper limits at the 95% confidence level have excluded a heavy Higgs boson  $H$  with SM-like couplings and decays in the mass range: 200 GeV - 3TeV.
- Exclusion limits have been set in the context of **2HDM type I and II** with the assumption that  $m_H = m_A$ .
  - The observed exclusion contours reach  $m_H$  values of  $\approx 800$  GeV, for  $\tan\beta$  value excluded  $\approx 3$ .
- For the  $m_h^{mod+}$  and **hMSSM** scenarios the regions at low values of  $m_A \sim 430$  GeV and  $\tan\beta \sim 9$  have been excluded.



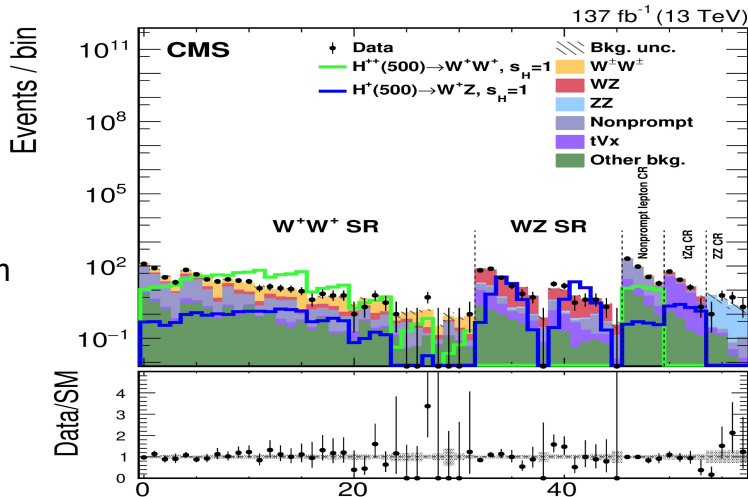
$$H^\pm \rightarrow W^\pm Z \text{ and } H^{\pm\pm} \rightarrow W^\pm W^\pm$$

- **Georgi-Machacek model (GM) :**
  - $H^{\pm\pm}$  and  $H^\pm$  are degenerate in mass at tree level ( $m_{H_5}$ )
  - The  $H_5$  states are fermiophobic and are assumed to decay to vector boson pairs with branching fraction of 100%.
- **Event selection:** The search performed in the leptonic decay modes.
  - $\geq 3$  isolated  $lep + p_T^{miss} + \geq 2 jets$  (large  $m_{jj}$  and  $\eta$ )



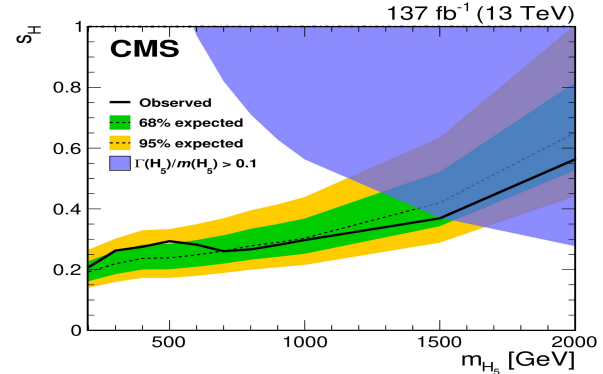
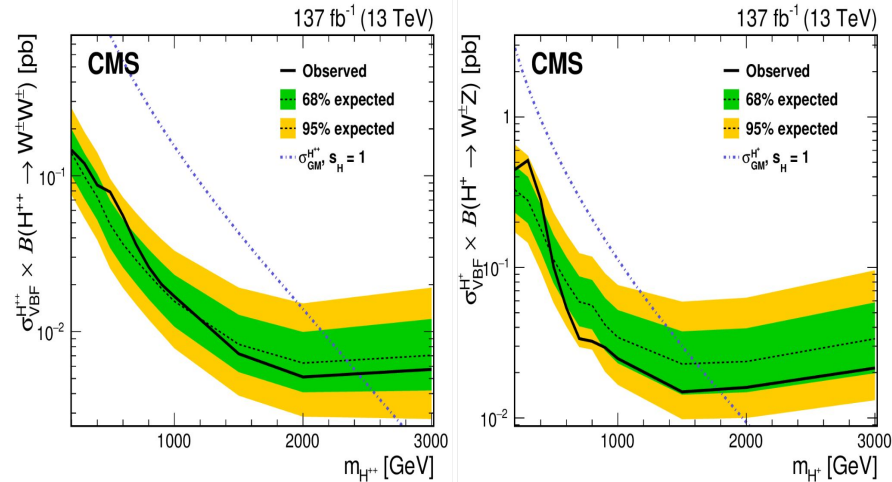
- **Mass range explored :** From 200 to 3000 GeV
- **Signal extraction:** A binned maximum-likelihood fit is performed using the WW and WZ SRs, and the non-prompt lepton, tZq, and ZZ CRs.
- The diboson transverse mass is constructed from the four-momentum of the selected charged leptons and the  $\sim p_T^{miss}$

$$m_T^{VV} = \sqrt{\left(\sum_i E_i\right)^2 - \left(\sum_i p_{z,i}\right)^2}$$



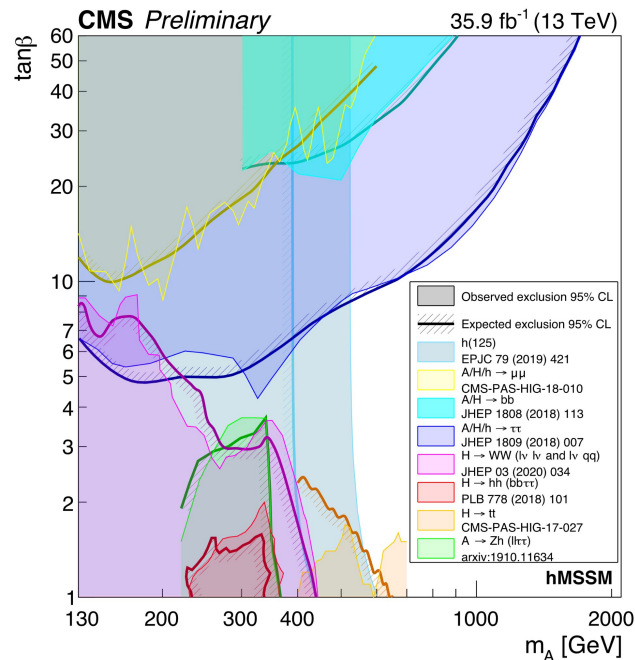
$$H^\pm \rightarrow W^\pm Z \text{ and } H^{\pm\pm} \rightarrow W^\pm W^\pm :$$

- No significant excess of events above the expectation from the SM background predictions is found.
- The 95 % CL upper limits on  $\sigma \times \text{BR}$  extracted for VBF production of the  $H^\pm$  and  $H^{\pm\pm}$  bosons individually.
  - Excluded GM sH parameter values greater than 0.20–0.35 for the mass range from 200 to 1500 GeV.
- The exclusion limits for sH are shown up to  $m_{H_5} = 2$  TeV, given the low sensitivity in the GM model for values above that mass.
  - sH characterizes the fraction of the W boson mass generated by the vev of the triplet fields.
  - Values above the curves are excluded **because of perturbativity and vacuum stability requirements.**



# Summary:

- Several searches for additional scalar and Higgs-like particles published or still on-going by the CMS Collaboration.
- Wide ranges of signatures carried out targeting additional neutral and charged Higgs bosons in a variety of models simple or complex.
- All searches profit significantly from the full run-II data; increased sensitivity over wide range of signatures comparing to run-I.
- Despite the absence of **significant deviation beyond the background expectations of the SM**, many effort have led to the exclusion of large parts of the MSSM parameter space.
- A remarkable improvement in search strategies and in object reconstruction (.eg. with machine learning techniques), as several of the researches discussed show.
- **Stay tuned for more results and hopefully discovery !**



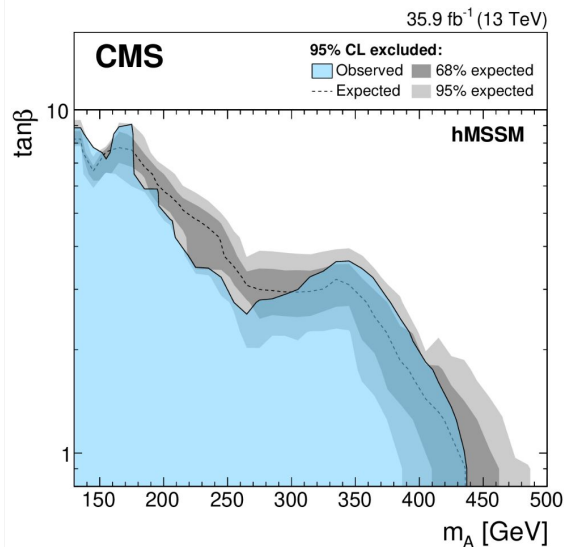
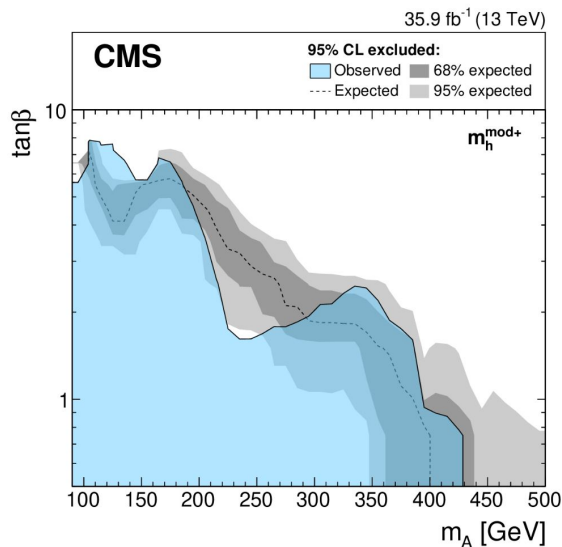
**Thank you for listening !**



**BACKUP**

# Heavy $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow (lv lv, lv qq)$ :

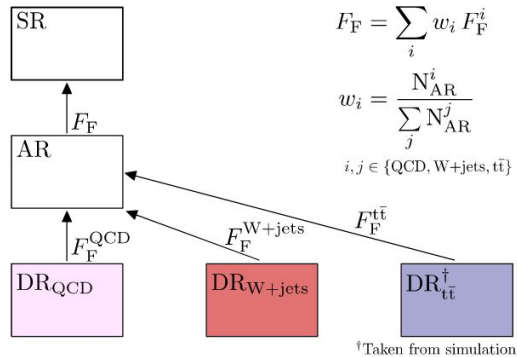
- The maximum  $\tan\beta$  value excluded for both **hMSSM** and  $m_h^{mod+}$  scenarios at 95 %CL is  $\approx 9$ , for value of  $m_A \approx 430$  GeV



# Heavy $H \rightarrow h (\rightarrow \tau \tau)$ $h_s (\rightarrow bb)$ :

## Classification and advanced techniques:

- $h_s \rightarrow bb$ : large BR and  $h \rightarrow \tau \tau$  clean signature
- Events sorted into five categories. One for signal, the other four are enriched with different backgrounds.
- A very good separation between the background events and the signal events is achieved, with a purity and classification sensitivity for the correct signal class of more than 80%
- $\tau$ -embedding method  $F$  and three independent extrapolation factors  $F_F$  are derived for the estimation of the background from QCD multijet, W+jets, and tt events due to the misidentification of jets as hadronic  $\tau$  lepton decays.



†Taken from simulation

Background process	Final state signature	Estimation method		
		$\tau$ -emb.	$F_F$	Sim.
Z	$\tau\tau$	✓	—	—
	Jet $\rightarrow \tau_h$ $\ell\ell$	—	✓	—
tt	$\tau\tau + X$	✓	—	—
	Jet $\rightarrow \tau_h$ $\ell + X$	—	✓	—
Diboson+single t	$\tau\tau + X$	✓	—	—
	Jet $\rightarrow \tau_h$ $\ell + X$	—	✓	—
W+jets	Jet $\rightarrow \tau_h$	—	✓	—
QCD multijet	Jet $\rightarrow \tau_h$	—	✓	—
Single h	$\tau\tau$	—	—	✓
	bb	—	—	✓

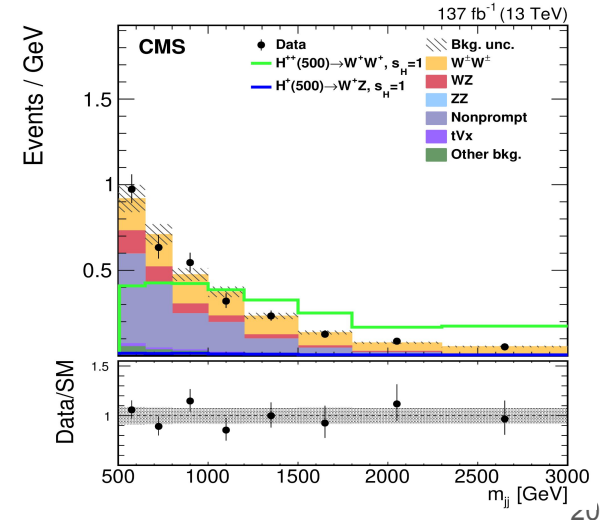
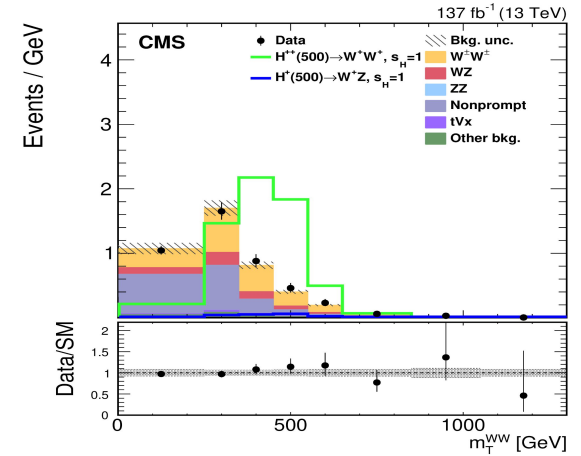
$\ell = e, \mu$

$$H^\pm \rightarrow W^\pm Z \text{ and } H^{\pm\pm} \rightarrow W^\pm W^\pm :$$

- 2D distribution is used in the fit :
  - WW SR : 8 bins in  $m_T$  and 4 bins in  $m_{jj}$ .
  - WZ SR : 7 bins in  $m_T$  and 2 bins in  $m_{jj}$ .
- $m_T$  is constructed from the four-momentum of the selected charged leptons and the  $p_T^{miss}$  :

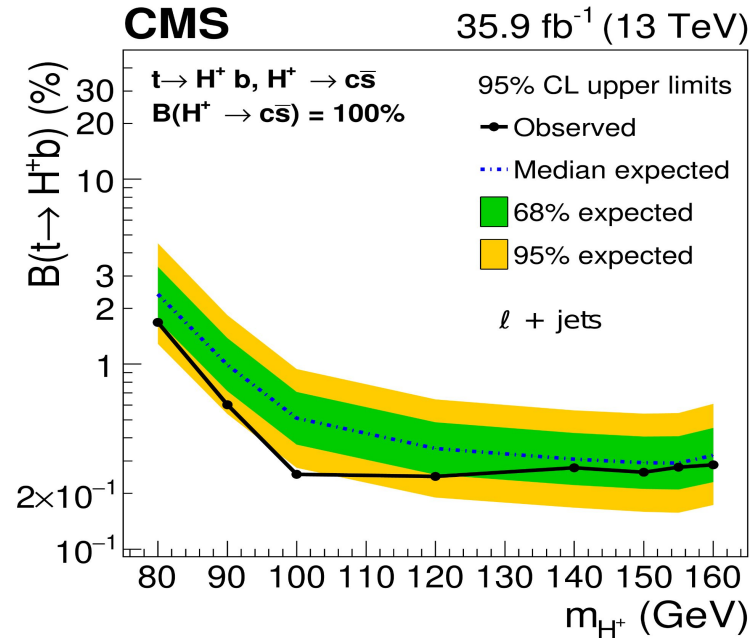
$$m_T^{VV} = \sqrt{\left(\sum_i E_i\right)^2 - \left(\sum_i p_{z,i}\right)^2}$$

- $m_T$  is effective in discriminating between the resonant signal and non-resonant bkg processes.
- $m_{jj}$  is effective in discriminating between all non-VBS processes and the signal (+EW VV) processes because VBF and VBS topologies typically exhibit large values for the dijet mass.



# Light Charged Higgs $H_{\pm} \rightarrow cs$ :

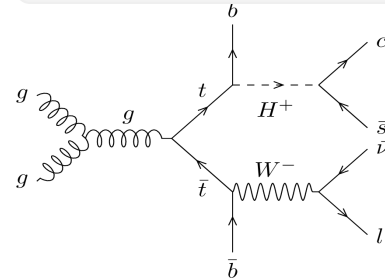
- An exclusion limit at 95% confidence level on  $B(H^+ \rightarrow cs)$  assuming branching fraction  $B(H^+ \rightarrow cs) = 100\%$ .
  - **No significant excess beyond standard model predictions is found in  $m_{jj}$  distribution.**
  - An upper limit in the range 1.68 – 0.25 % is set on the  $B(t \rightarrow H^+b)$  for a charged Higgs boson mass between 80 and 160 GeV after the individual charm tagging categories have been combined.



# Light Charged Higgs $H_{\pm} \rightarrow cs$ :

- Search performed on 2016 data.
- **Signature in low-mass ( $m_{H^+} < m_t$ ) :**
  - An isolated lep ( $\mu, e$ ) +  $p_T^{miss} (> 20\text{GeV})$  + at least 4 jets ( 2b-tagged ).
- **The SM  $tt$  process is an irreducible background :** 94% of the total expected background in the SR.
- **Final observable:** The invariant mass of the two non-b jets ( $m_{jj}$ ), assumed to be  $cs$ .
- Kinematic fit performed on the reconstructed  $m_{jj}$ .
- The events are divided exclusively into the 3 c-tagging working point (L, M, T) :
  - The  $m_{jj}$  distributions for the exclusive charm categories are used in in the background-only maximum likelihood fit to data.

Signal Process:  $tt$  pair decay products include a charged Higgs boson.



The SM decay of a  $tt$  pair in the semileptonic decay channel.

