



*Probing new frontiers:  
Unraveling **Dark Matter** with novel  
collider signatures in Type I 2HDM+a*

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# Motivation

## Open question: Dark Matter nature

- **Initial simplified DM models:** Add a singlet acting as mediator between the visible and dark sectors [arXiv:1506.03116](https://arxiv.org/abs/1506.03116)
- **Problem:** Unitarity may be violated: Interactions between DM mediator and SM fermions are not gauge invariant [arXiv:1510.02110](https://arxiv.org/abs/1510.02110)
- **Solution:** Extend the SM Higgs sector



**Two Higgs Doublet Model with an additional pseudoscalar DM mediator 2HDM+a:** simplest gauge-invariant and renormalisable extension of the simplified pseudoscalar DM model

→ New channels for particle interaction → More distinctive collider signatures

# 2HDM+a theory

- Two Higgs doublets  $H_1, H_2$ , one pseudoscalar singlet  $P$

- Scalar potential:  $V = V_H + V_{HP} + V_P$

- Masses:  $m_A, m_H, m_{H^\pm}, m_a, m_\chi$  (DM mass)

Previous ATLAS and CMS searches: **BSM 2HDM states degenerate in mass  $m_A = m_H = m_{H^\pm}$**

Many signatures are not kinematically allowed with this restriction:  $A \rightarrow Ha, A \rightarrow HZ, A \rightarrow H^+W^-$

Five Higgs bosons



One DM mediator



# Model Parameters

- Mixing angles:

$\alpha \rightarrow$  Mixing of CP-even states ( $H \leftrightarrow h$ )

$$\beta \rightarrow \tan \beta \equiv \frac{v_2}{v_1}$$

$\theta \rightarrow$  Mixing of CP-odd states ( $A \leftrightarrow a$ )

$\rightarrow \sin\theta$  choice affects pseudoscalar branching ratios

- Couplings

	up-type	down-type	leptons	$g_{A^u}$	$g_{A^d}$
Type I	$H_2$	$H_2$	$H_2$	$1/\tan\beta$	$-1/\tan\beta$
Type II	$H_2$	$H_1$	$H_1$	$1/\tan\beta$	$\tan\beta$

**Couplings in Type I in alignment limit  $\cos(\beta-\alpha)=0$**

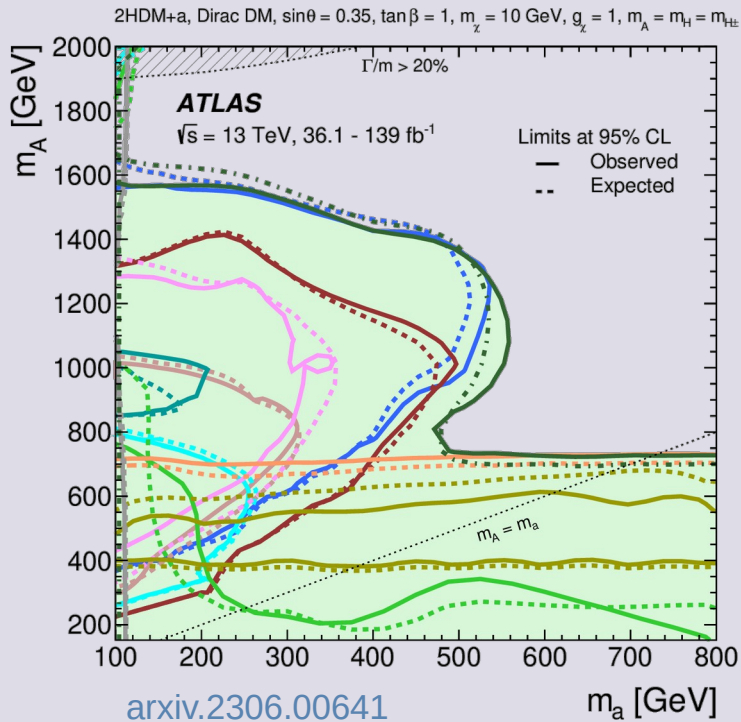
$$g_{Hf\bar{f}} = y_f \cot \beta \quad g_{Af\bar{f}} = \eta_f y_f \cot \beta \cos \theta$$

$$g_{af\bar{f}} = \eta_f y_f \cot \beta \sin \theta$$

# Previous searches

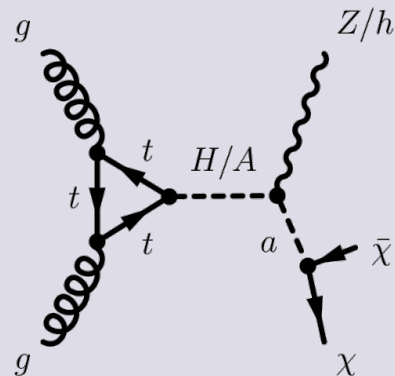
## Exclusion $m_A$ - $m_a$ plane

No mass hierarchy:  $m_A = m_H = m_{H^\pm}$

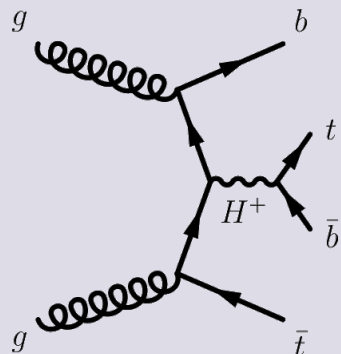


- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + h(b\bar{b})$ , 139 fb $^{-1}$   
 JHEP 11 (2021) 209
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + h(\tau\tau)$ , 139 fb $^{-1}$   
 arXiv:2305.12938
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + h(\gamma\gamma)$ , 139 fb $^{-1}$   
 JHEP 10 (2021) 13
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + Z(l\bar{l})$ , 139 fb $^{-1}$   
 PLB 829 (2022) 137066
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + Z(q\bar{q})$ , 36.1 fb $^{-1}$   
 JHEP 10 (2018) 180
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + tW$ , 139 fb $^{-1}$   
 arXiv:2211.13138
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + j$ , 139 fb $^{-1}$   
 PRD 103 (2021) 112006
- $tbH^\pm(tb)$ , 139 fb $^{-1}$   
 JHEP 06 (2021) 145
- $t\bar{t}t$ , 139 fb $^{-1}$   
 arXiv:2211.01136
- $h \rightarrow \text{invisible}$ , 139 fb $^{-1}$   
 arXiv:2301.10731
- **Combination**  
 $E_T^{\text{miss}} + h(b\bar{b})$ ,  $E_T^{\text{miss}} + Z(l\bar{l})$ ,  $tbH^\pm(tb)$

- $E_T^{\text{miss}} + h(b\bar{b})$  and  $E_T^{\text{miss}} + Z(l\bar{l})$  dominate the sensitivity



- $tbH^\pm$  provides complementary sensitivity

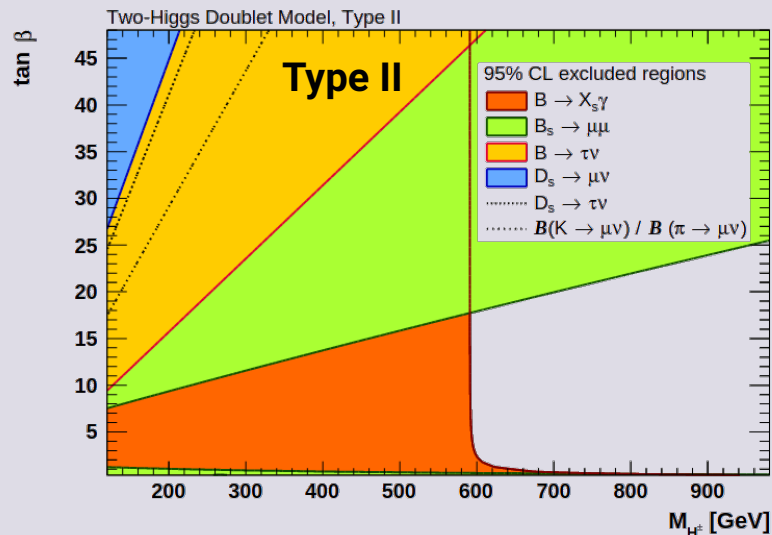
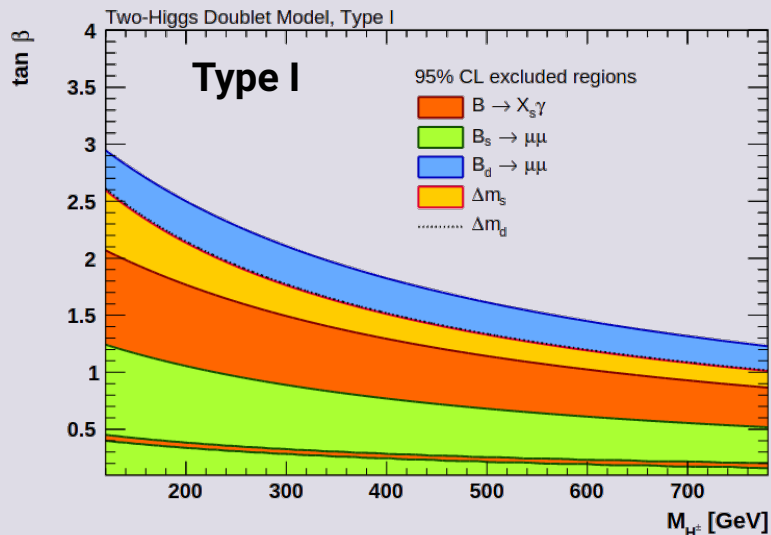


# 2HDM Type I

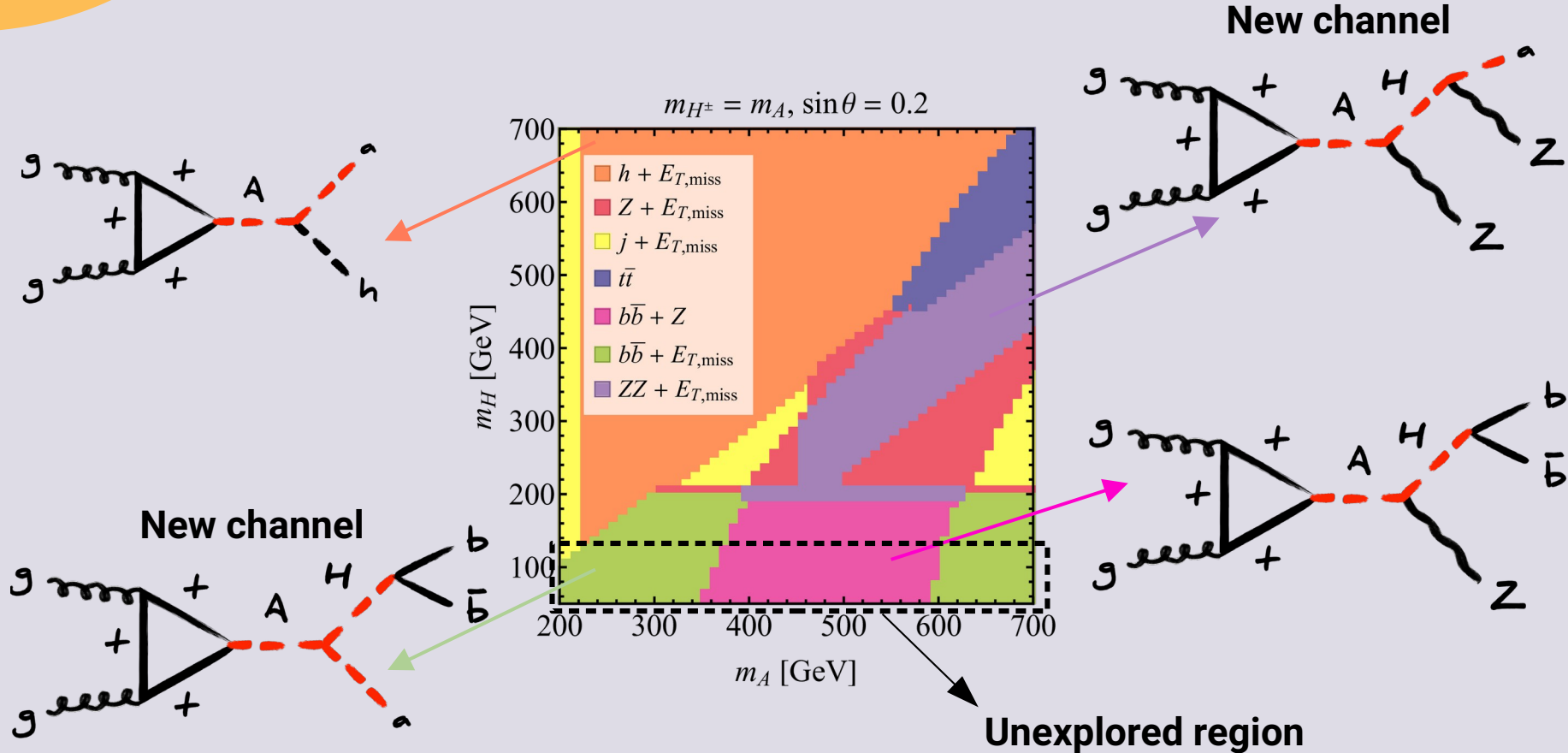
- **Why Type I?**

All previous LHC searches consider only Type II Yukawa sector

- Constraints from flavour physics on charged Higgs mass are very weak in Type I → allow lower  $H^\pm$  masses
- $H^\pm$  should be close to the mass of A or H: Allow smaller  $m_{H^\pm}$  → Smaller allowed masses for A/H → *Explore masses below the SM Higgs mass*

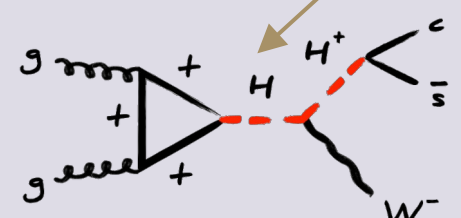
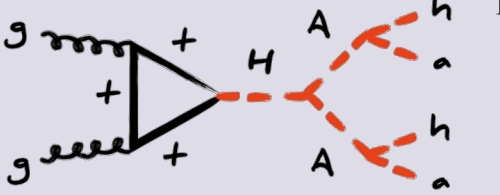
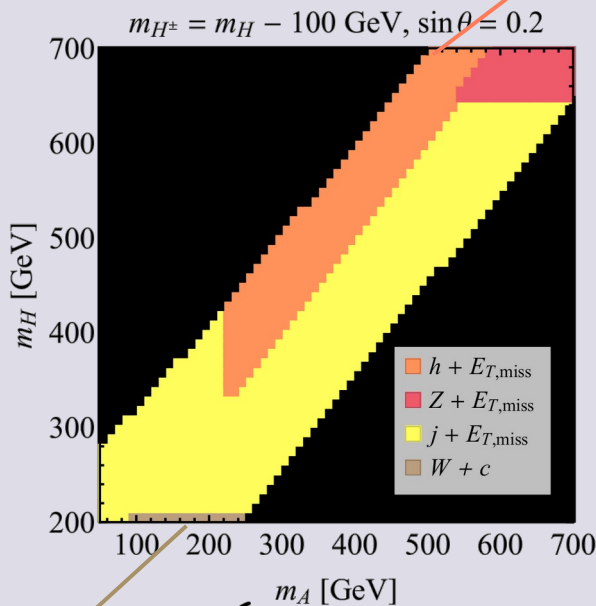
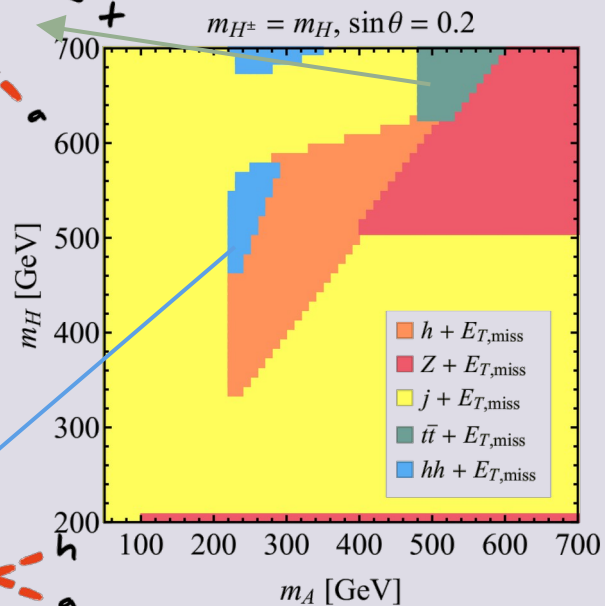
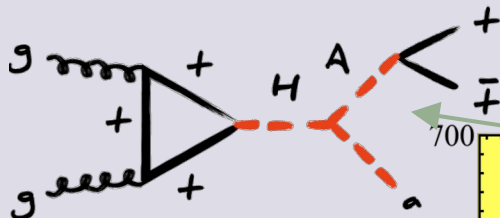
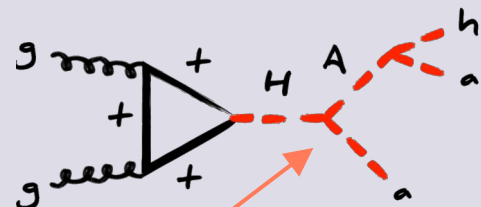


# A boson dominant decays



# H boson dominant decays

H decays provide new channels

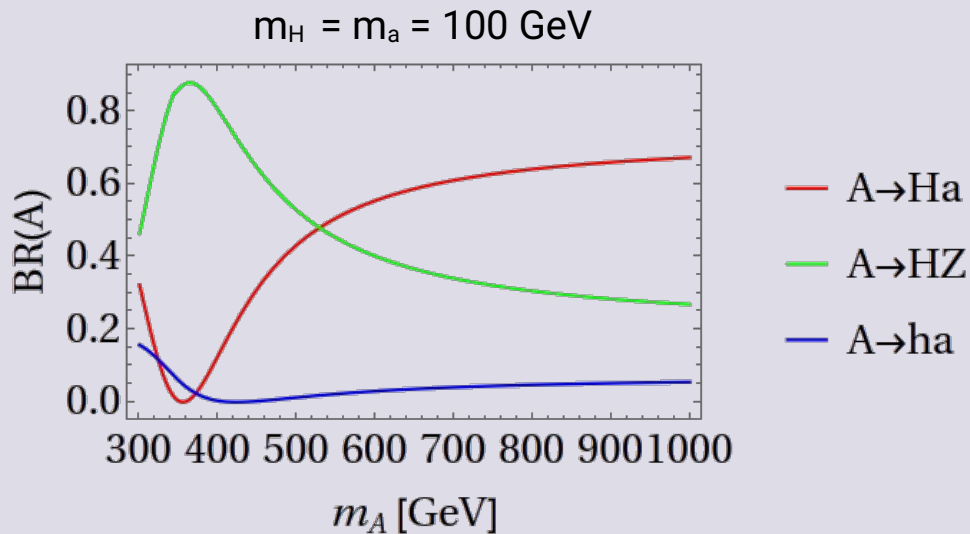
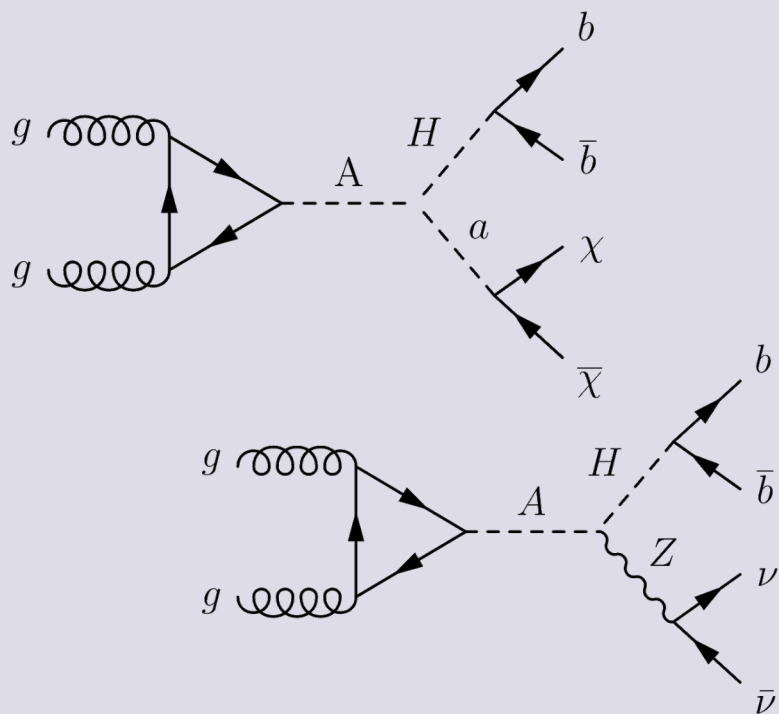


In the following we focus on  $\bar{b}b + E_{T,miss}$  and  $ll + \bar{b}b$



# $b\bar{b} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ signature

- **Study of  $b\bar{b} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$  final state:** Increased sensitivity due to resonant production, enhanced  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  branching ratio for smaller  $m_H$ , not complicated final state



- $A \rightarrow Ha$  decay dominates over  $A \rightarrow HZ$  for larger  $m_A$  values
- Both decay modes should be considered for  $b\bar{b} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$  final state

# $b\bar{b} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ signature

## Event reconstruction

### Requirements

- **0 leptons**  
leptons:  $p_T > 7\text{GeV}$ ,  $|\eta| < 2.47(\text{e}) / 2.5(\mu)$
- **Exactly 2 b-jets** with  $m_{bb} > 50\text{GeV}$   
jets: anti-kT  $p_T > 20\text{GeV}$ ,  $|\eta| < 2.5$
- **$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 150\text{GeV}$**

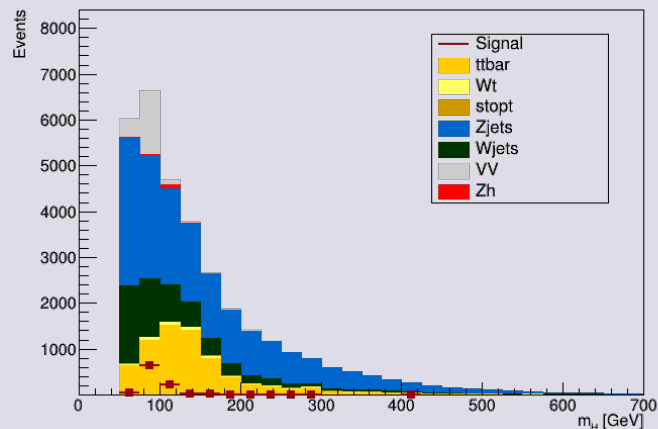
### Further cuts

- Less than 6 jets
- $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  significance  $(E_T^{\text{miss}} / \sqrt{\Sigma p_{T,\text{jets}}}) > 10$
- $\min\Delta\phi(E_T^{\text{miss}}, \text{jets}) > \pi/10$
- $\Delta R(b_1, b_2) < 3.3$
- $N_\tau = 0$
- $m_{\text{top}}^{\text{near(far)}} > 180(200)\text{ GeV}$

- **a or Z**: Missing transverse momentum
- **H candidate**: 2 b-jets
- Transverse mass for **A candidate**:  $H + E_T^{\text{miss}}$

$$m_T = \sqrt{m^2 + p_x^2 + p_y^2}$$

### Calculate sensitivity with $m_H$

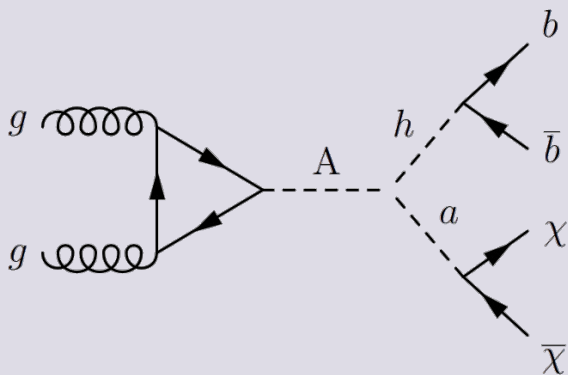


Cuts similar to the ATLAS  $A \rightarrow Z(\nu\nu)H(bb)$  analysis

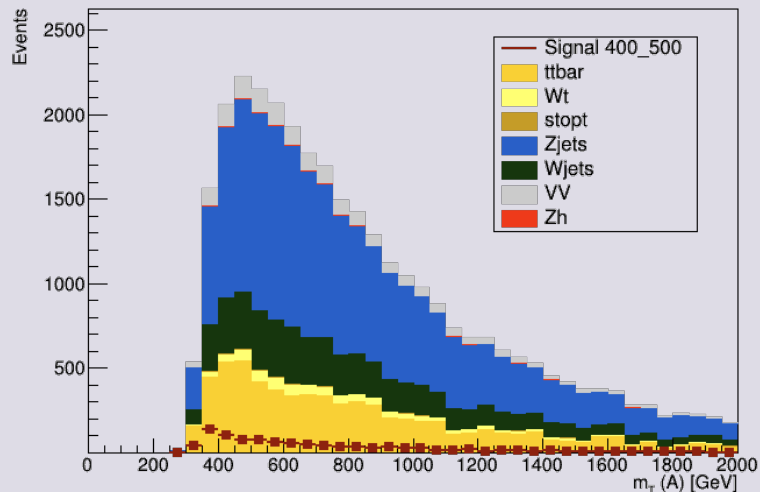
[arXiv:2311.04033](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.04033)

# $h + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ signature

- Complementary exclusion for the phase space where  $A \rightarrow Ha$  decay is not kinematically allowed
- Same cuts and reconstruction as  $b\bar{b} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$



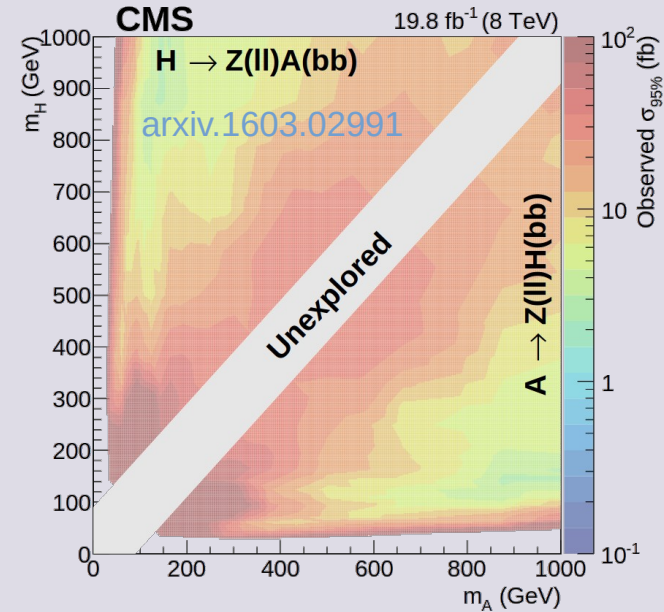
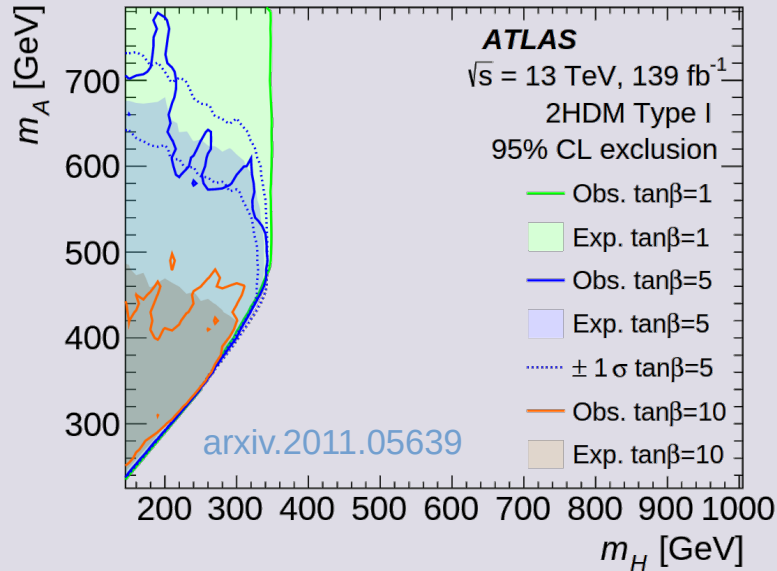
## Calculate sensitivity with $m_T(A)$



# $b\bar{b} + \ell\ell$ signature

## Previous analyses

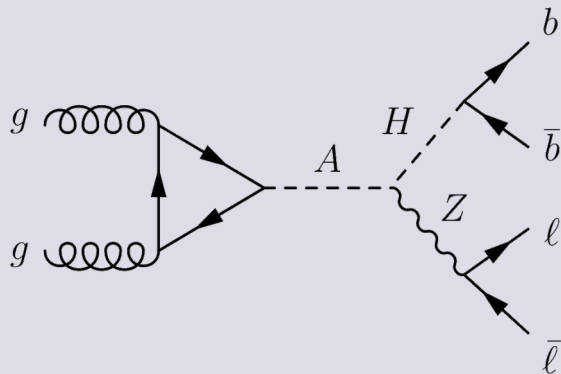
- Previous  $A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow \ell\ell b\bar{b}$  analyses both in **ATLAS** and **CMS** (full Run-2) cover  $m_{b\bar{b}}$  above the SM Higgs



# $b\bar{b}+l\bar{l}$ signature

## Event reconstruction

- **Z:** lepton-pair
- **H candidate:** 2 b-jets
- **A candidate:** H+Z

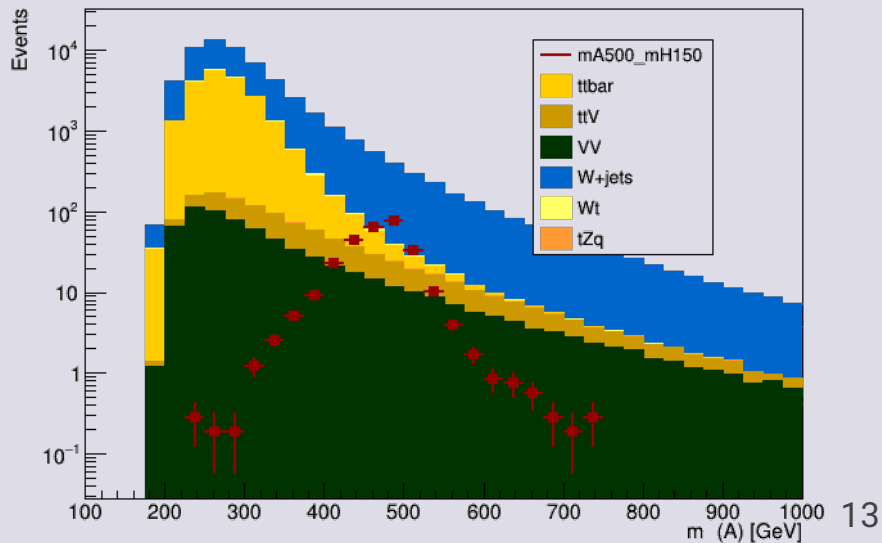


### Cuts inspired from the ATLAS $A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow l\bar{l}b\bar{b}$ analysis

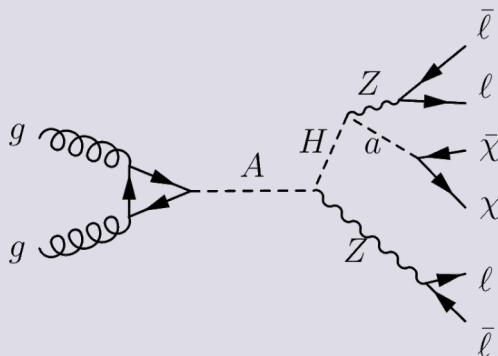
[arXiv:2011.05639](https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.05639)

- One opposite sign same flavour lepton pair
- Exactly two b-jets
- Less than 6 jets
- $80 < m_Z < 100 \text{ GeV}$
- $p_T(l_1) > 27 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $p_T(l_2) > 13 \text{ GeV}$
- $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  significance ( $E_T^{\text{miss}} / \sqrt{\Sigma p_T^{\text{jets}}}) < 3.5$
- $\sqrt{\Sigma p_T^2(\text{leptons} + \text{jets})} / m_{b\bar{b}} > 0.4$
- $m_{b\bar{b}}$  window:  $0.85m_H - 20 < m_{b\bar{b}} < m_H + 20$

Calculate sensitivity with  $m_A$



# ZZ+E<sub>T</sub><sup>miss</sup> signature

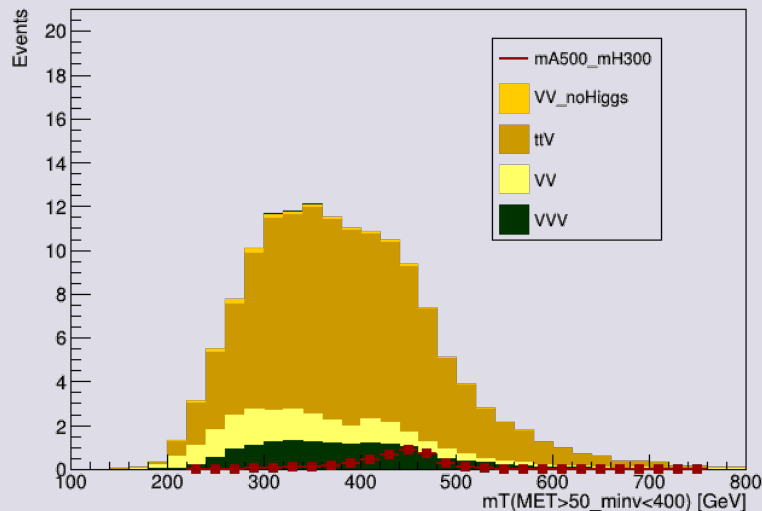


## Cuts inspired from the ATLAS $A \rightarrow ZH \rightarrow 4l + \text{MET}$ analysis [arXiv:2401.04742](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.04742)

- Exactly four leptons
- $|m_Z - 91.2| < 10$  GeV
- $p_T(l) > 25$  GeV
- $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 50$  GeV
- $m(4l) < 400$  GeV

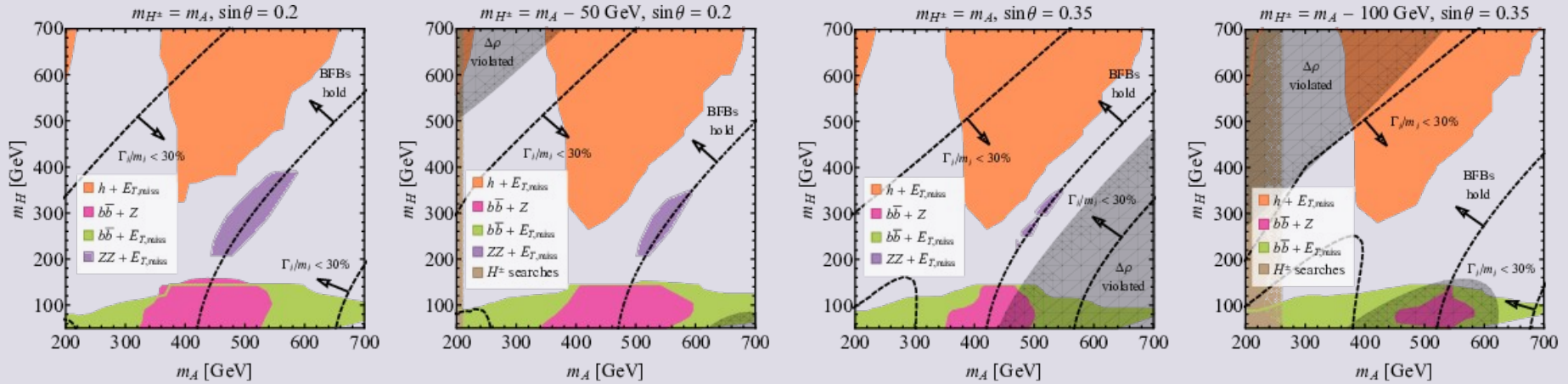
- Transverse mass for **A** candidate:  $m^{\text{inv}}(4l) + E_T^{\text{miss}}$

## Calculate sensitivity with $m_T(A)$



# Exclusion

- Show four different benchmark points for different  $\Delta m = m_A - m_{H^\pm}$  and  $\sin\theta$
- Expand exclusion to masses below the mass of the SM Higgs boson
- Larger  $\Delta m$  allows the resonant production of  $H^\pm$  through  $A \rightarrow H^+W^-$



- $\Delta\rho$  violated: Constraints from electroweak precision observables
- BFBs hold: Scalar potential is bounded from below
- $\Gamma_j/m_j < 30\%$ : Decay widths of scalars should remain small

# Conclusion

- **2HDM+a for Type I is not yet explored** → Leads to promising **new signatures**
- **Goal:** New benchmarks of uncovered final states → **New analyses with Run3 data**
- **New decay channels:**  $A \rightarrow a H(bb)$ ,  $A \rightarrow Z H(aZ)$   
 $H \rightarrow a A(tt)$ ,  $H \rightarrow H^+ W^-$
- $b\bar{b} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$  and  $l\bar{l}b\bar{b}$  expand exclusion to masses **below the SM Higgs mass**

Novel collider signatures in the type-I 2HDM+a model

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Coming soon

Thank you!

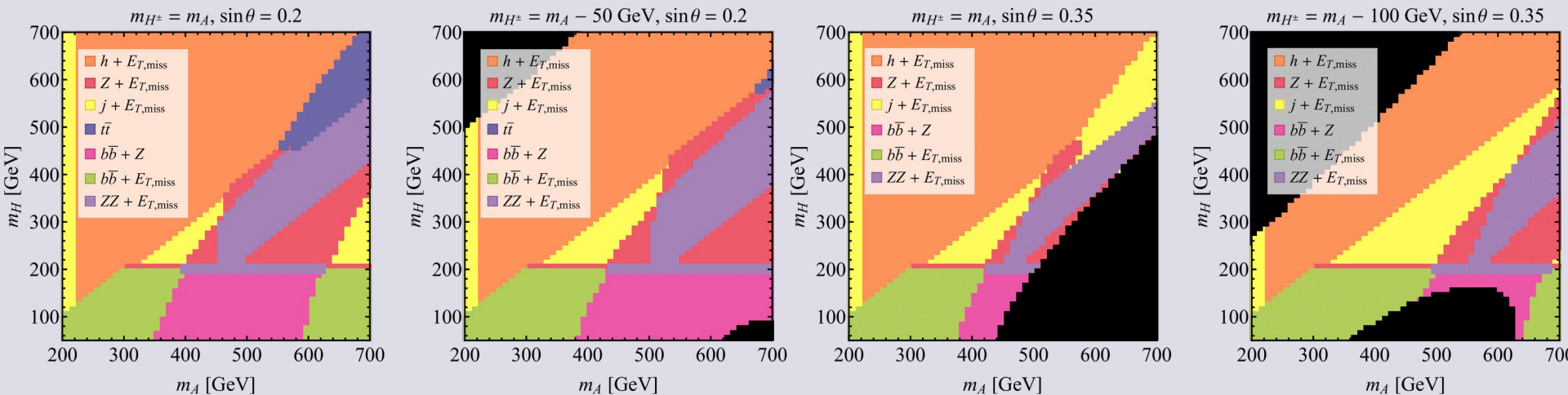




Back-up slides

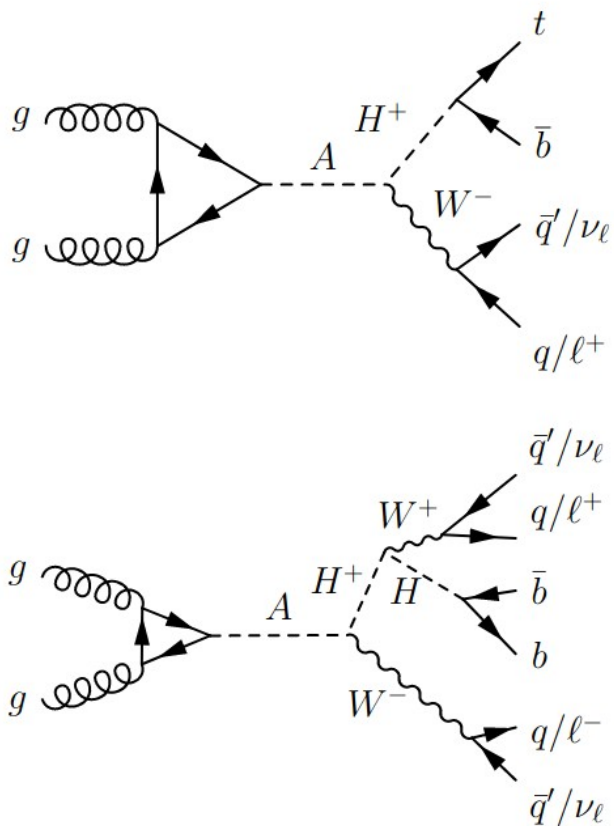
# Benchmark scenarios

Study four benchmark points for different  $\Delta m = m_A - m_{H^\pm}$  and  $\tan\beta$



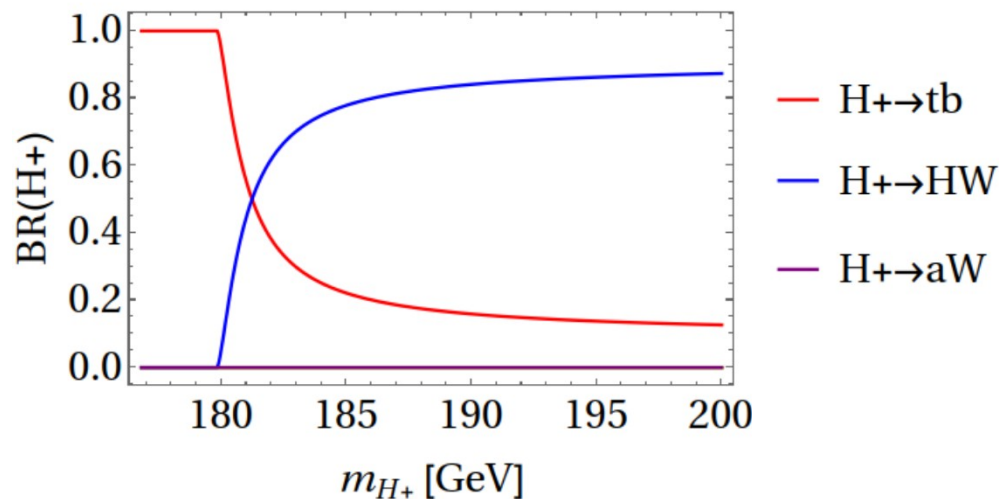
**Black:** Constraints from EW precision measurements and decay widths  $> 30\%$

# Signatures with charged Higgs



- Allowing **larger mass splitting** between  $m_A$  and  $m_{H^\pm}$  makes further **new unexplored signal signatures** kinematically possible such as  $A \rightarrow H^+W^-$

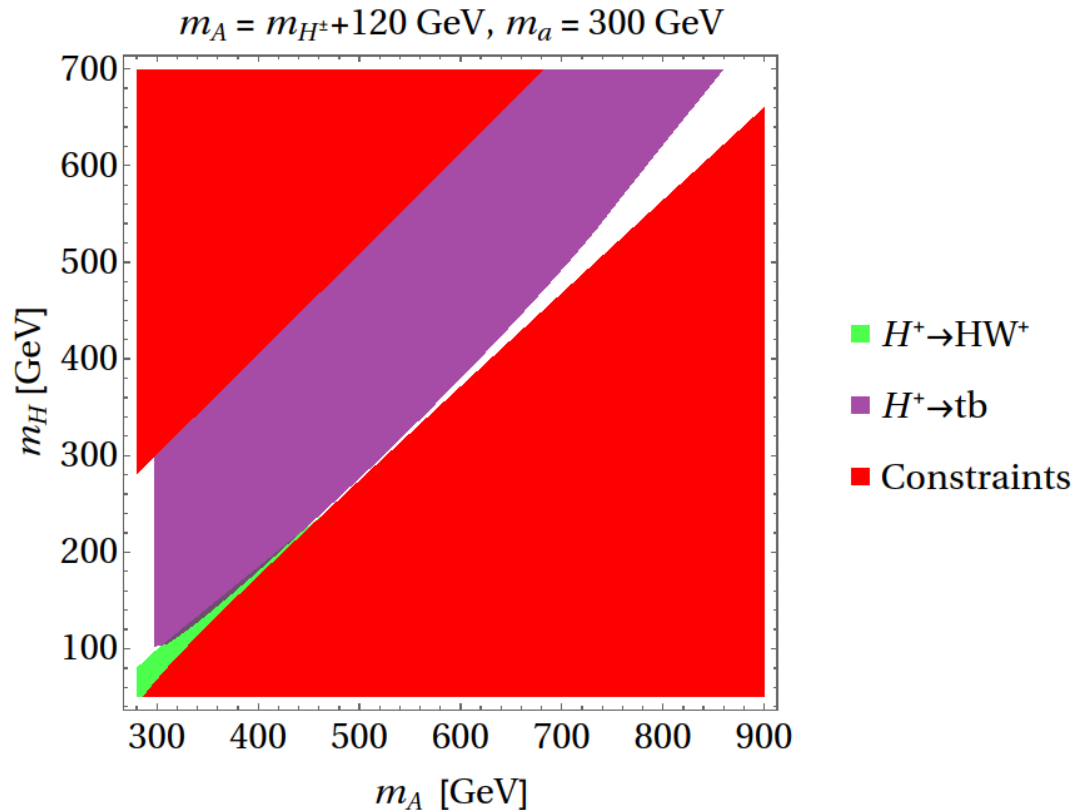
$$m_{H^\pm} = m_A - 120, \quad m_H = 100 \text{ GeV}, \quad m_a = 600 \text{ GeV}$$



# Signatures with charged Higgs

## The $A \rightarrow H^+W^-$ decay

- **No previous  $A \rightarrow H^+W^-$  analysis**
- Only a small region (bottom left corner) is sensitive for the  $H^\pm \rightarrow W^\pm H$  decay
- Larger region where the  $H^\pm \rightarrow t\bar{b}$  decay is important
- Both of them give a final state not previously explored



# 2HDM+a theory

- Two Higgs doublets  $H_1, H_2$ , one pseudoscalar singlet  $P$

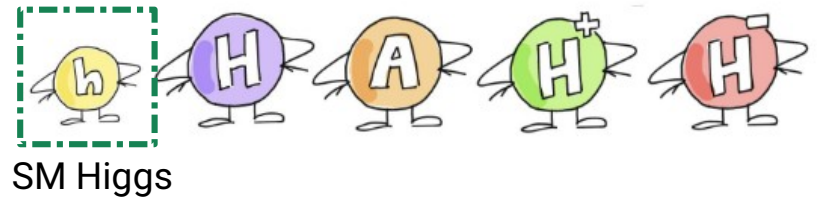
- Scalar potential  $V = V_H + V_{HP} + V_P$

- $$V_H = \mu_1 H_1^\dagger H_1 + \mu_2 H_2^\dagger H_2 + (\mu_3 H_1^\dagger H_2 + \text{h.c.})$$
$$+ \lambda_1 (H_1^\dagger H_1)^2 + \lambda_2 (H_2^\dagger H_2)^2$$
$$+ \lambda_3 (H_1^\dagger H_1)(H_2^\dagger H_2) + \lambda_4 (H_1^\dagger H_2)(H_2^\dagger H_1)$$
$$+ [\lambda_5 (H_1^\dagger H_2)^2 + \text{h.c.}]$$

- $$V_{HP} = P (i b_P H_1^\dagger H_2 + \text{h.c.}) + P^2 (\lambda_{P1} H_1^\dagger H_1 + \lambda_{P2} H_2^\dagger H_2)$$

- $$V_P = \frac{1}{2} m_P^2 P^2$$

Five Higgs bosons



One DM mediator



# Model Parameters

- Mixing angles:

$\alpha$   $\rightarrow$  Mixing of CP-even states ( $H \leftrightarrow h$ )

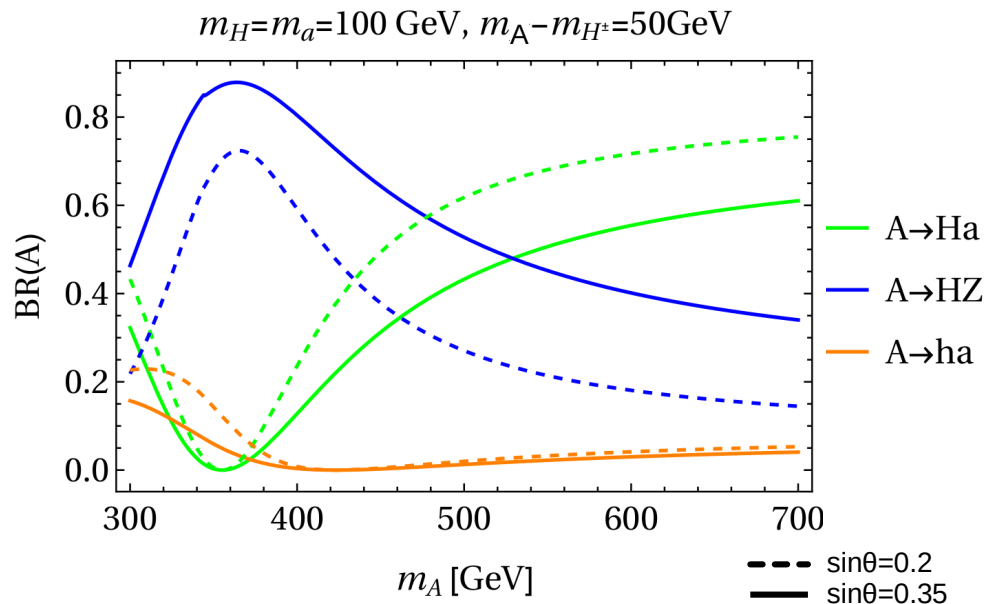
$\beta$   $\rightarrow \tan \beta \equiv \frac{v_2}{v_1}$

$\theta$   $\rightarrow$  Mixing of CP-odd states ( $A \leftrightarrow a$ )

- Allowing mass splittings  $\rightarrow$

**Relatively small  $\sin\theta$  values are allowed**

- $\sin\theta$  choice affects A branching ratio

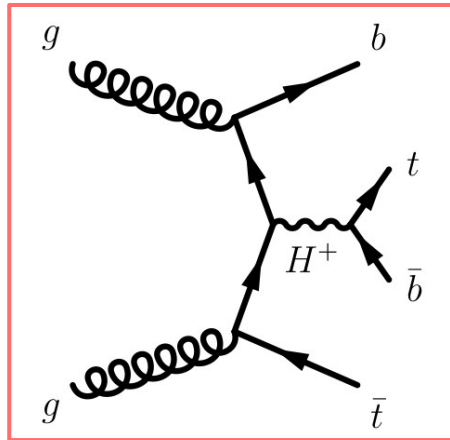


# Previous searches

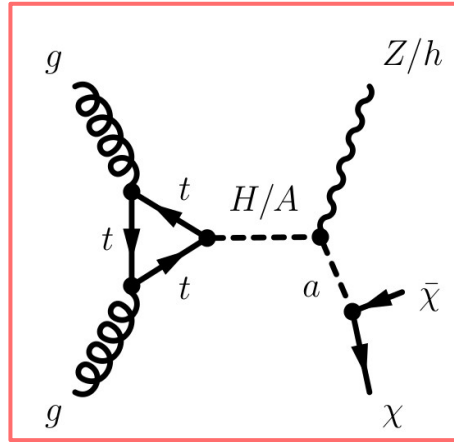
Previous searches:  
**No mass hierarchy!**

$$m_A = m_H = m_{H^\pm}$$

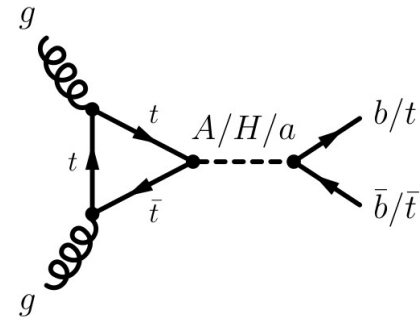
$\bar{t}b t \bar{b}$



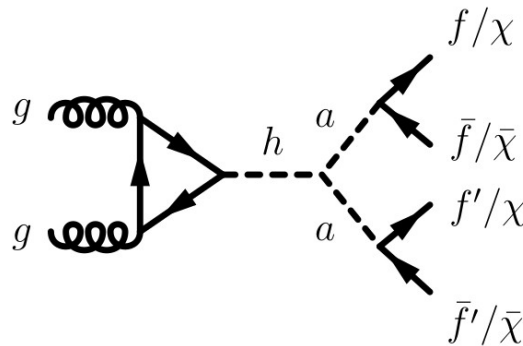
$\bar{b}\bar{b}/\bar{t}\bar{t} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$



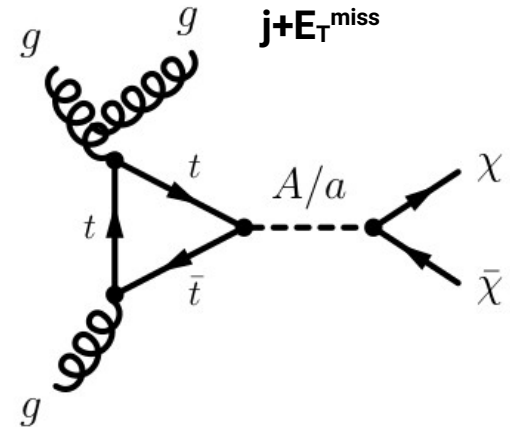
$\bar{b}\bar{b}/\bar{t}\bar{t}$  resonance



$\bar{f}\bar{f}'\bar{f}'$  or  $h \rightarrow$  invisible



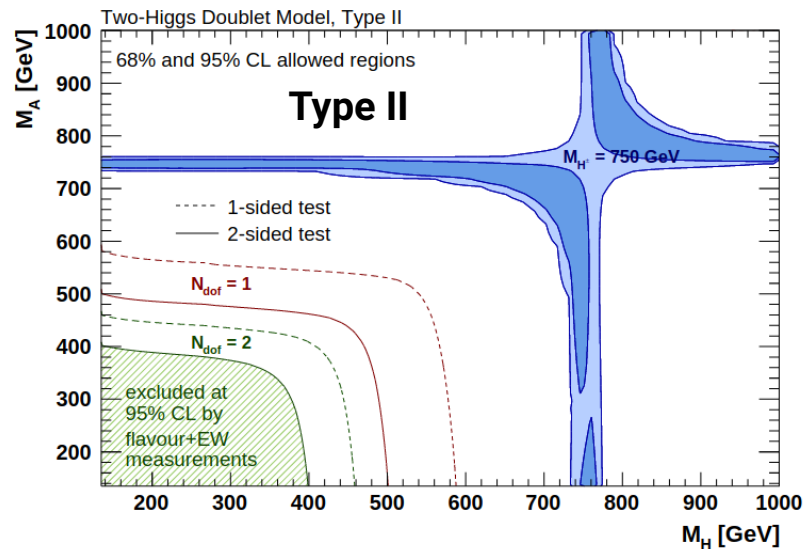
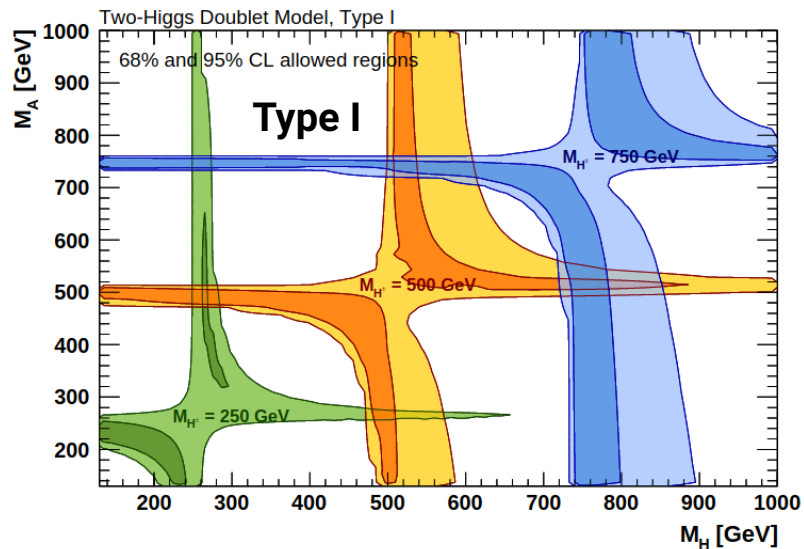
$j + E_T^{\text{miss}}$



# 2HDM Type I

- **Why Type I?**

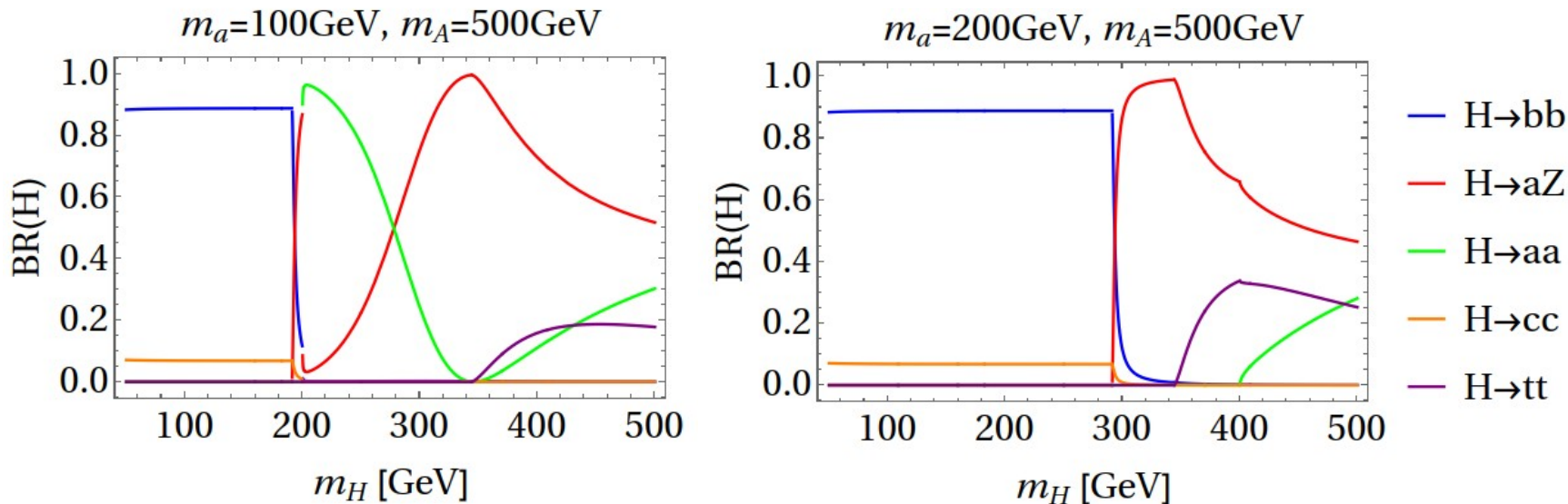
- We need  $\tan\beta \geq 3$  → **Moderately fermiophobic** (pseudo)scalars ( $\sim 1/\tan\beta$  suppressed) → The main BSM Higgs bosons decay modes differ significantly compared to Type II ( $\sim \tan\beta$  for Type II)





# $b\bar{b} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ signature H Branching Ratio

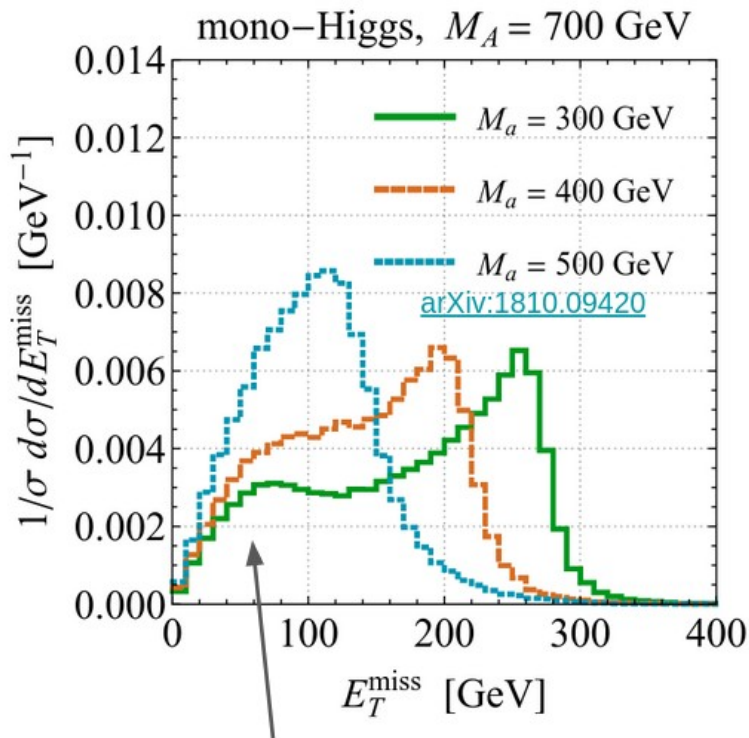
- The  $a$  mass choice affects the H branching ratios



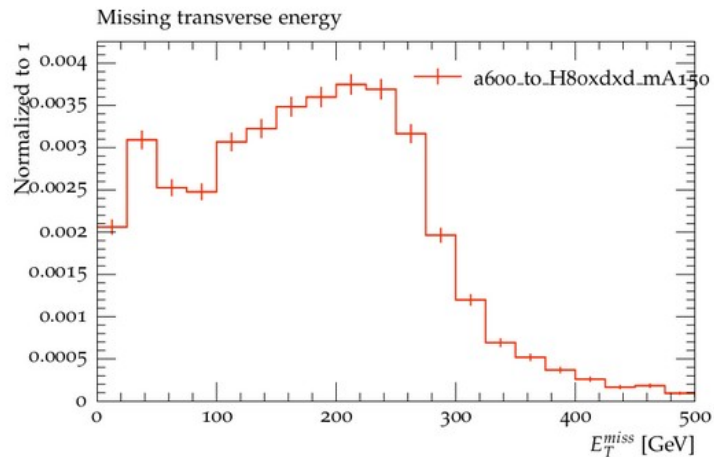
- $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  is dominant for lower  $m_H$
- $H \rightarrow aZ/aa$  start to dominate for  $m_H > m_a + m_Z$

# $\bar{b}b + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ signature

## Impact of Box Diagrams

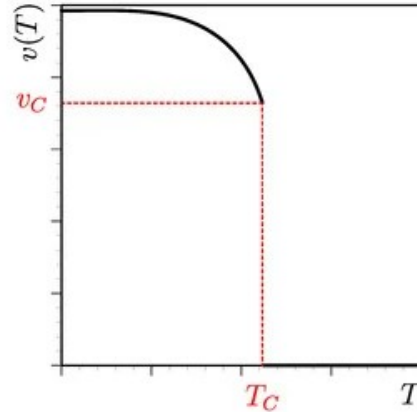
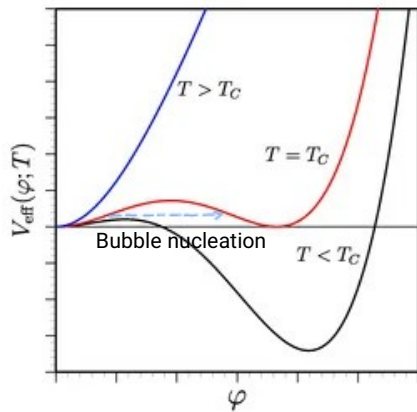
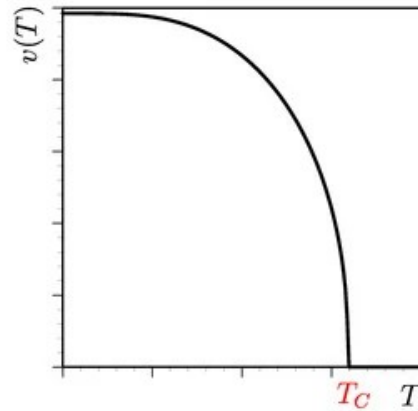
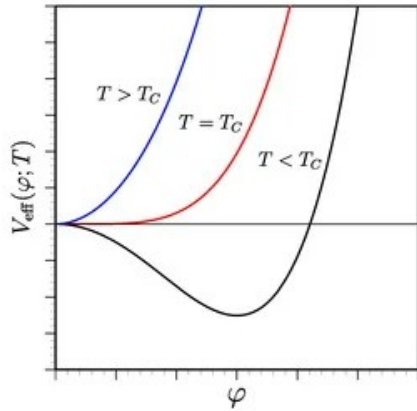


Box diagrams become important for large mass difference between  $a$  and  $A$  (decay  $A \rightarrow h_{\text{SM}} a(xdx)$ )

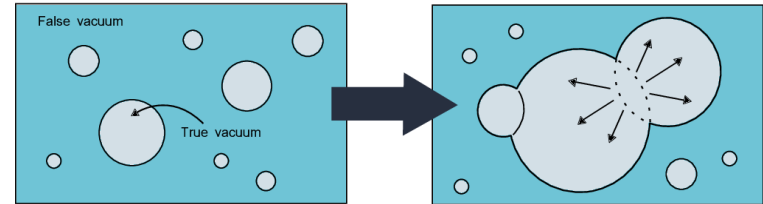


- decay  $a \rightarrow H(bb) A(xdx)$ , with  $m_a=600$  GeV,  $m_A=150$  GeV and  $m_H=80$  GeV
- Visible impact of box diagrams

# EW Phase Transition



- In SM **smooth crossover** (given the large Higgs mass)  $\rightarrow$  Continuous transition from symmetric vacuum to EW vacuum



- In 2HDM **first order EW phase transition**  $\rightarrow$  Abrupt transition from symmetric vacuum to EW vacuum
- Necessary condition for baryogenesis**