Experimental Higgs Searches

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Introduction

Accelerator, Experiments & Data

Object Identification

Analyses

Results

Bonus

- focus on low SM Higgs mass searches, other searches will be discussed briefly
- focus on LHC analyses
- do not hesitate asking any question!

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Accelerator, Experiments & Data Object Identification Analyses Results Bonus

Production Mechanics



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Accelerator, Experiments & Data Object Identification Analyses Results Bonus

Cross-section vs. Higgs Mass

- Gluon-gluon fusion, $gg \rightarrow H$, dominant
- ► Weak boson fusion, qq' → qq'H, very important too
- Small contributions from ttH, ZH and WH



Accelerator, Experiments & Data Object Identification Analyses Results Bonus

Cross-section vs. \sqrt{s}

- Sizeable dependence on \sqrt{s}
- $\sigma_{8\ TeV}/\sigma_{7\ TeV}(125) \sim 1.3$
- $\sigma_{14 \ TeV} / \sigma_{8 \ TeV} (125) \sim 2.6$



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Accelerator, Experiments & Data Object Identification Analyses Results Bonus

Branching ratios vs. Higgs Mass (I)

Partial widths at tree level:

- $\Gamma(H \to f\bar{f}) \propto N_c m_f^2 \beta^3 m_H$
- $\Gamma(H \to VV) \propto \\ \delta_V \beta m_H^3 (1 \tau_V + \frac{3}{4} \tau_V^2)$
- $\begin{array}{l} \beta^2=1-4m_f^2/m_H^2,\\ \tau_V=4m_V^2/m_H^2\\ N_c=3 \text{ for quarks and } N_c=1\\ \text{for leptons} \end{array}$

 $\delta_W = 2, \ \delta_Z = 1$

- Low mass region:
 - Contributions from several modes at m_H ~ 125 GeV



Higgs mass region:

 $\Gamma_{tot} \approx \Gamma(H \rightarrow WW) + \Gamma(H \rightarrow ZZ)$

$$\bullet \quad m_H \approx 1.4 \text{ TeV} \Longrightarrow \Gamma_{tot} \approx m_H \text{ or } c$$

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Accelerator, Experiments & Data Object Identification Analyses Results Bonus

Branching ratios vs. Higgs Mass (II)



Tiny width at low masses

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Accelerator, Experiments & Data Object Identification Analyses Results Bonus

$\sigma imes BR$ at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV



• Large number of available channels at $m_H \sim 125 \ GeV$

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The LHC Complex



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Experimental Higgs Searches

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ATLAS Overview



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Experimental Higgs Searches

CMS Overview



Recorded Luminosity



► $L \sim 20 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ at $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$ after good run selection is applied

Pile-Up



- Large number of overlapping events
- An issue to take into account in any analysis

Final States

- $\blacktriangleright H \to \gamma \gamma:$
 - ▶ $gg \to H$
 - ▶ *qq*H
 - \blacktriangleright W/Z/ttH

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Final States

- $H \to \gamma \gamma$:
 - ▶ $gg \to H$
 - ▶ *qq*H
 - ▶ $W/Z/t\bar{t}H$
- $\blacktriangleright \ H \to ZZ:$
 - $\blacktriangleright \ \mathrm{H} \to \mathrm{ZZ} \to 4\ell$
 - ▶ (qq)H → ZZ → 2q2 ℓ
 - $(qq)H, H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$

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Final States

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 - $(qq)H, H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$
- ▶ $H \rightarrow WW$:
 - $H \to WW \to \ell \nu \ell \nu$
 - $qqH, H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow \ell \nu \ell \nu \ell \nu / qq' \ell \nu$
 - WH \rightarrow WWW \rightarrow 3 ℓ 3 ν

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Final States

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 - gg → H
 - ▶ *qq*H
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 - (qq)H, H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow $2\ell 2\nu$
- ▶ $H \rightarrow WW$:
 - $H \to WW \to \ell \nu \ell \nu$
 - $qqH, H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow \ell \nu \ell \nu \ell \gamma qq' \ell \nu$
 - WH \rightarrow WWW \rightarrow 3 ℓ 3 ν

► $\mathbf{H} \to \tau \tau$: ► $(qq)\mathbf{H}, \ \mathbf{H} \to \tau \tau \to \ell/\tau_h \ell/\tau_h$

• W/ZH, $H \rightarrow \tau \tau \rightarrow \ell / \tau_h \ell / \tau_h$

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Final States

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- $\begin{array}{l} \blacktriangleright \ \mathrm{H} \rightarrow \tau \tau: \\ & \flat \ (qq)\mathrm{H}, \ \mathrm{H} \rightarrow \tau \tau \rightarrow \ell/\tau_h \ell/\tau_h \\ & \flat \ \mathrm{W}/\mathrm{ZH}, \ \mathrm{H} \rightarrow \tau \tau \rightarrow \ell/\tau_h \ell/\tau_h \\ \\ \blacktriangleright \ \mathrm{H} \rightarrow b \overline{b}: \\ & \flat \ \mathrm{W}/\mathrm{ZH} \\ & \flat \ \mathrm{t} \overline{\mathrm{t}} \mathrm{H} \\ & \flat \ \mathrm{q} \mathrm{q} \mathrm{H} \end{array}$

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Final States

- $H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$:
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 - $qqH, H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow \ell \nu \ell \nu \ell \nu / qq' \ell \nu$
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Experimental Higgs Searches

Key Points

- Trigger
- μ , e, γ , τ identification and momentum/energy resolution:
 - high p_T isolated objects
- Jet reconstruction:
 - reject backgrounds
 - select VBF events
- b-tagging:
 - reject backgrounds, apply anti b-tagging
 - select *b*-jets
- $\blacktriangleright E_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{miss}}$:
 - select events with neutrinos in the final state
 - reject backgrounds
- Systematics, data-driven methods

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Particle Detection



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Experimental Higgs Searches

Triggers (I)

- Huge rates at LHC
- Low signal yields against large backgrounds
- Relatively low p_T objects on Higgs decays, more difficult to be triggered



Triggers (II)



- Trigger efficiency of the order of ~80-90%
- Largely detector/experiment dependent

Triggers (III)



Lower efficiency for taus, need to apply tighter requirements to avoid too high trigger rates

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Experimental Higgs Searches

Muon Selection



- High selection efficiency, even low mass resonances
- Lepton isolation is a critical variable to separate leptons from WZ bosons and background

Electron Selection



• Clear η dependence

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Lepton Momentum Resolution



 Lot of work to improve lepton momentum resolution and to improve data/MC agreement

Image: A matrix

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Photon Selection & Resolution



- Critical point for $H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$
- Calibrated with $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$ events
- Looking at $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ candidates to calibrate crystal by crystal

Tau Selection



- Tight selection is required to reject multi-jet background
- Particle Flow technique rather important in CMS selection
- electron/muon rejection is also another important factor

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Jet Identification

Pile-up jets structure differs wrt regular jets:

- pile-up jets originate from several overlapping jets which merge together
- likelihood grows rapidly with high pileup
- discriminant exploits shape and tracking variables
- discrimination both inside and outside tracker acceptance



b-jet tagging (I)

- Mostly used either to select H → bb̄ events or reject tt̄/Wt events
- Techniques:
 - find tracks with large impact parameter
 - find set of tracks not coming from the interaction point
 - find leptons within jets
 - combine all together



Track Counting High Efficiency (TCHE): impact parameter significance of the second most displaced track in the jet

b-jet tagging (II)



• $\epsilon_{uds} \sim 1\%$ and $\epsilon_c \sim 10\%$ for $\epsilon_b \sim 70\%$ • $\epsilon_{uds} \sim 0.1\%$ and $\epsilon_c \sim 1\%$ for $\epsilon_b \sim 50\%$

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- Needed to reject processes with no intrinsic $E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$
- Critical for many analyses
- Noticeable performance dependence with pile-up

CMS Analyses in a Snapshot

Higgs decay mode	Higgs production mechanism	Mass range [GeV]	Data used		M	Hard to day
			7 TeV [fb ⁻¹]	8 TeV [fb ⁻¹]	resolution	combination
γγ	Untag (~gg) VBF-tag	110 - 150 110 - 150	5.1 5.1	5.3 5.3	1-2% 1-2%	~
bb	VH-tag ttH-tag	<mark>110</mark> – 135 110 – 140	5.0 5.0	12.1	10% -	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
ττ	1-jet (~gg) VBF-tag ZH-tag WH-tag	$\frac{110 - 145}{110 - 145}$ $\frac{110 - 160}{110 - 140}$	4.9 4.9 5.0 4.9	12.1 12.1 _	20% 20% 	***
$ZZ \rightarrow 4I$ $ZZ \rightarrow 2I2\tau$ $ZZ \rightarrow 2I2\nu$ $ZZ \rightarrow IIjj$	Inclusive Inclusive Inclusive Inclusive	$\frac{110 - 1000}{180 - 1000}$ $\frac{200 - 600}{120 - 600}$	5.0 5.0 4.7 4.7	12.2 12.2 5.0	1–2% 10–15% –	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
WW → 2l2v WW → lljj	0/1-jets (~gg) VBF-tag WH-tag Untag (~gg)	$\frac{110 - 600}{110 - 600}$ $\frac{110 - 200}{170 - 600}$	4.9 4.9 4.9 5.0	12.1 12.1 5.1 12.1	20% 20% 	~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

similar picture for ATLAS analyses 🖙

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Experimental Higgs Searches

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- High sensitivity analyses:
 - $\blacktriangleright \ \mathbf{H} \to \gamma \gamma$
 - $\blacktriangleright \ \mathrm{H} \to \mathrm{ZZ} \to 4\ell$
 - $\blacktriangleright \ H \to WW \to \ell \nu \ell \nu$
 - $(qq)H, H \rightarrow \tau\tau$
 - W/ZH, $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$



- High sensitivity analyses:
 - $\blacktriangleright \ \mathbf{H} \to \gamma \gamma$
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 - $\blacktriangleright \ H \to WW \to \ell \nu \ell \nu$
 - $(qq)H, H \rightarrow \tau\tau$
 - W/ZH, $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$
- Other analyses at low masses:
 - ▶ WH \rightarrow WWW \rightarrow 3 ℓ 3 ν
 - W/ZH, $H \rightarrow \tau \tau$
 - ▶ $t\bar{t}H$, $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$
 - $\blacktriangleright \ \mathbf{H} \to \mathbf{Z} \gamma$

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- High sensitivity analyses:
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 - $\blacktriangleright \ \mathbf{H} \to \mathbf{Z} \gamma$

- Higg mass analyses:
 - $H \to WW \to qq' \ell \nu$
 - ▶ $(qq)H, H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$
 - ▶ $(qq)H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2q2\ell$

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- High sensitivity analyses:
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- Other analyses at low masses:
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 - W/ZH, $H \rightarrow \tau \tau$
 - ▶ $t\bar{t}H$, $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$
 - $H \to Z\gamma$

- Higg mass analyses:
 - $H \to WW \to qq' \ell \nu$
 - $(qq)H, H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$
 - ▶ $(qq)H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2q2\ell$
- Notice that these two analyses are also very high performing at high mass:
 - $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$, including $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\tau$

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• $H \to WW \to \ell \nu \ell \nu$



- Cut-based approach:
 - apply a set of sequential requirements
 - cut-and-count
 - usually used as first analysis and/or cross-check
- Shape-based approach:
 - fit for signal (and backgrounds) using a given variable (or variables)
- Multivariate techniques to build discriminant variables: can be used in both cut-based and shape-based approaches
 - Boosted Decision Tree
 - Neural Network
 - Fished Discriminant
 - Likelihood
 - Matrix Element

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Bosonic Decays: higher sensitivity channels

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$\mathbf{H} \rightarrow \gamma \gamma \ (\mathbf{I})$

- Two high p_T isolated photons
- Small $\sigma \times BR$, but clean topology
- Narrow peak on large continous background
- Main ingredients:
 - photon reconstruction, isolation and identification
 - good energy calibration and primary vertex reconstruction
 - good background modeling
- Additional categories help:
 - events with two high $p_{\rm T}$ jets with large $\Delta \eta_{ii}$ and m_{ii}
 - events with leptons
 - events with large $E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$

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$H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ (II)



- Events are split in categories
- Improve mass resolution and signal-to-background ratio

$H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ (III)



$H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma (IV)$



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Experimental Higgs Searches

$H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ (IV)-CMS

- Three analyses: BDT approach, cut-based approach, mass window approach
- Chosen BDT approach as default analysis due to its superior performance



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$H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ (V)



- \blacktriangleright Results consistent with a boson with mass ${\sim}125~{
 m GeV}$
- Both results are still largely statistical limited
- Much better precision will happen with larger amount of data

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- Four high $p_{\rm T}$ isolated leptons from the same vertex
- Good mass resolution
- Very small signal rate, but high signal-to-background ratio
- Backgrounds:
 - > ZZ continuum: almost irreducible, different mass shape
 - ► Z + jets, Zbb & tt
 : lepton isolation and impact parameter, to reject $b \rightarrow \ell X$ decays
- Additional help from kinematic discriminants

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$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow ZZ4\ell \ (\mathrm{II})$



- \blacktriangleright Relatively clean mass peak around ${\sim}125~{\rm GeV}$
- $Z \rightarrow 4\ell$ peak well visible too

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$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow ZZ4\ell \text{ (III)}$



- Kinematic variable to further separate signal and background
- Make use of angular information
- Other approaches give comparable performance

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$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow ZZ4\ell \ (\mathrm{IV})$



$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow ZZ4\ell \ (\mathrm{V})$



- \blacktriangleright Results consistent with a boson with mass ${\sim}125~{
 m GeV}$
- Both results are still largely statistical limited

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$H \rightarrow ZZ4\ell$: Spin Separation (I)



• Able to separate 0^+ & 0^- at the ${\sim}2\sigma$ level

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$H \rightarrow ZZ4\ell$: Spin Separation (II)



• Little sensitivity to separate 0^+ & 2^+

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$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ (I)

- Two high p_{T} isolated leptons and moderate $E_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{miss}}$
- Large $\sigma \times BR$
- No mass peak is the main drawback
- Controlling the background is the key
- Backgrounds: main discriminating variables
 - WW: $\Delta \phi_{\ell\ell}/m_{\ell\ell}$
 - tī: *b*-tagging, $\Delta \phi_{\ell\ell}/m_{\ell\ell}$
 - $Z \rightarrow \ell \ell$: $E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$, $\Delta \phi_{\ell \ell} / m_{\ell \ell}$
 - ► *W* + *jets*: lepton id
 - WZ/ZZ: more than 2 leptons in the final state, $E_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{miss}}$
- Categories:
 - ▶ 0-jet, 1-jet, VBF
 - different-flavor, same-flavor

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$H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ (II)



$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ (III)-ATLAS



• m_T distribution used as final discriminant variable

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$H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ (III)-CMS



- ► Make use 2D m_{ℓℓ}-m_T variable for different-flavor 0/1-jet bins, cut-based approach otherwise
- Signal and backgrounds behave differently on the 2D plane
- Data able to partially constrain backgrounds and a set of the s

$H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu (IV)$



- Performance comparison among the different exclusive final states
- ▶ Worse observed limits than expectation, compatible with $m_H \sim 125 \text{ GeV}$





Experimental Higgs Searches

$H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ (V)



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 \triangleright ~3.1(4.1) σ observed (expected) significance at $m_H \sim 125 \text{ GeV}$

 $\triangleright \sim 2.8(1.9)\sigma$ observed (expected) significance at $m_H \sim 125 \text{ GeV}$ 3

140

160

180

3σ

 4σ

5σ

200

m_H [GeV]

$H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$ (VI)



- Consistent with $m_H \sim 125 \text{ GeV}$
- ► Low mass resolution gives a very shallow likelihood profile as a function of $m_{\rm H}$

Fermionic Decays: lower sensitivity channels

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$H \rightarrow \tau \tau (I)$



$H \rightarrow \tau \tau (II)$



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$H \rightarrow \tau \tau (III)$



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Experimental Higgs Searches

$H \rightarrow \tau \tau (IV)$



$H \rightarrow \tau \tau (V)$



- Consistent with $m_H \sim 125 \text{ GeV}$ and background-only for now
- Larger dataset and/or further improvements are needed to make a conclusion

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$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow b \bar{b} (\mathsf{I})$



$\mathrm{H} ightarrow b ar{b}$ (II)

CMS



- Relatively tight preselection
- b-jet regression to improve mass resolution
- BDT as a final variable

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ATLAS



- Cut-based approach
- Split in several exclusive categories: E^{miss}_T (Z(νν)H), p^W_T (W(ℓν)H), p^Z_T (Z(ℓℓ)H)

Experimental Higgs Searches

$\mathrm{H} ightarrow b ar{b}$ (III)



- ▶ Both experiments see evidence of $WZ/ZZ \rightarrow b\bar{b} + X$ production
- Mild excess compatible with $m_H \sim 125 \text{ GeV}$ in CMS

$|\mathrm{H} ightarrow bar{b}~(\mathsf{IV})$



Higgs Searches at the Tevatron



- W/ZH, $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ most sensitive channels
- $ho \sim 3\sigma$ excess at $m_{
 m H} \sim 125~{
 m GeV}$

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Other Decays

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$WH \rightarrow WWW \rightarrow 3\ell 3\nu$



- Three high p_{T} isolated leptons with moderate $E_{\mathrm{T}}^{\mathrm{miss}}$
- Z veto and anti b-tagging to reject WZ and top events
- Most of backgrounds controlled from data

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$$W/ZH, H \rightarrow \tau \tau$$



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- Three/Four high p_T isolated leptons, at least one of them τ_h
- Using visible mass as final variable



Experimental Higgs Searches

$t\bar{t}H, H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$



- Rather complicated analysis, low yields with large backgrounds
- CMS: several categories using a BDT as final variable
- ATLAS: several categories using m_{bb} as final variable

$H \to Z\gamma$



▶ $H \rightarrow Z\gamma \rightarrow 2\ell\gamma$: two leptons and one photon in the final state

- Relatively simple analysis, but very low expected signal yields
- Split in several categories to improve S/B and mass resolution

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$H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow qq' \ell \nu$



- ▶ One high $p_{\rm T}$ isolated lepton, at least 2-jets, and large $E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$
- Using $m_{qq'\ell\nu}$ as final variable
- No significant excess is seen

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$(qq)H, H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$



- Two leptons from a Z boson, large $E_{\rm T}^{\rm miss}$
- ► Using m_T as final variable
- ▶ Split in several categories: electrons/muons, 0/1/2-jets

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Experimental Higgs Searches

$H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 2q2\ell$



- ► Two leptons from a Z boson, two jets from another Z boson
- Using $m_{2q2\ell}$ as final variable
- Split in several categories: electrons/muons, 0/1/2 *b*-jets

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Significance



- CMS at $m_{\rm H} = 125 \ {\rm GeV}$: ~6.9/7.8 observed/expected
- ATLAS at $m_{\rm H} = 125~{\rm GeV}$: $\sim 7.0/6.0$ observed/expected

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Mass



- ► CMS: 125.8 ± 0.4 (*stat.*) ± 0.4 (*syst.*) GeV
- ► ATLAS: 125.2 ± 0.3 (*stat*.) ± 0.6 (*syst*.) GeV

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σ/σ_{SM}



- Signal strength compatible with SM prediction
- Fermionic final state don't have enough sensitivity to claim its observation

Production Mechanics



Couplings



- Far from background-only value
- Best fit values compatible with SM Higgs expectation

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 $\lambda_{WZ} = \kappa_W / \kappa_Z$



Well compatible with SM prediction

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MSSM b(b)H, H $\rightarrow b\bar{b}$



- Multijet final states with three b-tagged jets
- Invariant mass of the two leading b-jets used as a final variable

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• Limits as a function of m_A and $tan\beta$

$\mathsf{MSSM}\ \mathrm{H} \to \mu\mu$



- Sensitive to production in association with a b quark pair and via gluon-gluon fusion
- $m_{\mu\mu}$ is the final variable

$\mathsf{MSSM}\ \mathrm{H} \to \tau\tau$



- Sensitive to production in association with a b quark pair and via gluon-gluon fusion
- ▶ Very similar analysis techniques as SM $H \rightarrow \tau \tau$ search



- \blacktriangleright Found a SM Higgs-like particle at $m_{
 m H} \sim 125~{
 m GeV}$
- ► Spin, parity, couplings... to be determined with more precision
- So far, all measurements statistically consistent with SM Higgs prediction
- Program to search for additional Higgs boson-like particles has just started
- No significant excess found in any beyond SM Higgs-like particle search

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