Higgs to AA Decays at the LHC

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Early Phase of LHC for ILC

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LEP Results

m_{Higgs} Lower Limit

- Standard Model: 114 GeV
- MSSM: 114 GeV, 90 GeV
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Most searches focus on 'Standard Channels'

channel blind search (recoil mass method):

- 82 GeV with full SM coupling
- 20 GeV with 1/10 SM coupling

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No Light Higgs Bosons



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Maybe Light Higgs Bosons



Allows existence of relatively light Higgs (80 - 150 GeV) to decay to even lighter Higgs pairs.

Lightest Higgs (A) dominantly decays into $b\bar{b}$, $\tau\bar{\tau}$, light jets, $\gamma\gamma$...

Search channels studied: $bb\bar{b}\bar{b}, b\bar{b}\tau\bar{\tau}, \tau\tau\bar{\tau}\bar{\tau}, \tau\bar{\tau}jj, 4\gamma \dots$

Most studies make use of the leading Higgs production mechanisms: gluon fusion and weak boson fusion.

Higgs Production



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W/Z associated Higgs production



Decay Chain



- Signal compromised by smaller σ and W, Z leptonic BR.
- Background suppressed by 2 or more orders of magnitude.

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Factorization of the Cross Section

$$\begin{split} \sigma &= \sigma(Wh) \ \mathcal{B}(W) \ \kappa_{hWW}^2 \mathcal{B}(h \to aa) \mathcal{B}(a \to b\bar{b}) \mathcal{B}(a \to \tau\bar{\tau}) \cdot 2 \\ \sigma &= \sigma(Wh) \ \mathcal{B}(W) \ \kappa_{hWW}^2 \mathcal{B}(h \to aa) \mathcal{B}(a \to b\bar{b})^2 \end{split}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} C_{bb\tau\tau}^2 &\equiv& \kappa_{hWW}^2 \mathcal{B}(h \to aa) \mathcal{B}(a \to b\bar{b}) \mathcal{B}(a \to \tau\bar{\tau}) \cdot 2 \\ C_{bbbb}^2 &\equiv& \kappa_{hWW}^2 \mathcal{B}(h \to aa) \mathcal{B}(a \to b\bar{b})^2 \end{array}$$

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| | | representative | considered |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | parameters | value | range |
| masses | m_h | 120 | 90-130 |
| | m_a | 30 | 20-60 |
| coupling | κ_{hVV} | 0.7 | 0.5-1.0 |
| branching | $\mathcal{B}(h \to aa)$ | 0.85 | 0.8-1.0 |
| fractions | $\mathcal{B}(a \to b\bar{b})$ | 0.92 | 0.95-0.70 |
| | $\mathcal{B}(a \to \tau \bar{\tau})$ | 0.08 | 0.05 - 0.30 |
| $2b2\tau$ channel | $C_{2b2\tau}^2$ | 0.061 | 0.019-0.42 |
| 4b channel | $C_{4b}^{\overline{2}}$ | 0.35 | 0.13-0.90 |

Cuts, Tagging

| b-tagging: | 50% | for $E_T > 20$ GeV, $ \eta < 1.0$ |
|--------------------|----------|--|
| au-tagging: | 40% | for $E_{vis} > 20$ GeV, $ \eta < 1.5$ |
| $jet \ rejection:$ | 50 - 200 | |

$\begin{array}{rcl} \Delta R &> & 0.4 \\ m_{inv} &> & 20 \; {\rm GeV} \end{array}$

Signal (assuming $C_{2b2\tau}^2 = 0.06, C_{4b}^2 = 0.35$)



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 $h \rightarrow aa @LHC$

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Signal vs. Background



Signal vs. Background



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Signal Significance

Window Cuts

m(4b): 100 - 140 GeV m(2b): 20 - 40 GeV

Statistics

| $C_{4b}^2 = 0.35$ | σ (fb) | S/B | $S/\sqrt{S+B}$ | | |
|-------------------|---------------|------|----------------------|----------------|--|
| 10 | | | 10 fb^{-1} | 100 fb $^{-1}$ | |
| m(4b) | 4.5 | 0.35 | 3 | 9 | |
| m(2b) | 4.5 | 0.32 | 3 | 9 | |
| | | | | | |

With $\int Ldt = 10$ fb⁻¹, can achieve 5σ discovery for $C_{4b}^2 \gtrsim 0.5$ With $\int Ldt = 300$ fb⁻¹, can achieve 5σ discovery for $C_{4b}^2 \gtrsim 0.09$