

# Dilepton plus $\cancel{E}_T$ Signature from Two-component Dark Matter at the LHC

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## Why multiple-component dark matter (DM)?

- The standard model (SM) fails to explain DM.
- Traditional WIMP DM models focus on a single component.
- But the nature may have a richer dark sector beyond the SM.

## Our Model

- A 3-Higgs-Doublet Model containing [1, 2]:
  - 1 active doublet  $\rightarrow$  SM-like Higgs.
  - 2 inert scalar doublets  $\rightarrow$  two stable scalar DM candidates.
- Stabilised by a  $Z_2 \times Z'_2$  discrete symmetry.

## LHC Search

- $2\ell + \cancel{E}_T$  signature from the production and decay from next-to-lightest particles (NLPs) in the dark sector.
- The signal will depend on the mass of the DM and mass gaps between DM and its NLPs.

## $Z_2 \times Z_2'$ inert (2+1) Higgs doublet model

the Higgs doublet terms are:

$$\phi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} H_1^+ \\ \frac{H_1 + iA_1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \phi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} H_2^+ \\ \frac{H_2 + iA_2}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \phi_3 = \begin{pmatrix} G^+ \\ \frac{v+h+iG^0}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix},$$

and the  $Z_2 \times Z_2'$  discrete symmetry in our model:

$$g_{Z_2} = \text{diag}(-1, 1, 1), \quad g_{Z_2'} = \text{diag}(1, -1, 1),$$

In this model, the  $Z_2 \times Z_2'$  symmetry makes the lightest particle in each new doublet stable, and by choosing the **neutrally charged particle** to be the lightest one, it allow us to have DM in the model.

In our work, we chose the **CP-even** components in each doublet to be the lightest particles, i.e.

$$H_1 \quad \text{and} \quad H_2,$$

so that it provides us a two-component DM scenario, and the decays of the heavy particles, e.g.  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ , will lead to some experimental observations.

# Model constraints

There are several constraints for our model ( $n = 1, 2$ ).

- Avoiding the EW gauge boson decay into new scalars:

$$m_{H_n/A_n} + m_{H_n^\pm} \geq m_{W^\pm}, \quad m_{H_n} + m_{A_n} \geq m_Z, \quad 2m_{H_n^\pm} \geq m_Z.$$

- Survived mass region from LEP2 Supersymmetry particle search re-interpreted for the I(1+1)HDM [3]:

$$m_{A_n} > 100 \text{ GeV}, \quad \text{or} \quad m_{H_n} > 80 \text{ GeV}, \quad \text{or} \quad \Delta m = |m_{A_n} - m_{H_n}| < 8 \text{ GeV}.$$

- We take a lower bound on charged states from [4]:

$$m_{H_n^\pm} > 70 \text{ GeV}.$$

- DM relic density constraints [5]:

$$\Omega_{H_1} h^2 + \Omega_{H_2} h^2 = \Omega_{DM} h^2 = 0.1200 \pm 0.0012.$$

Then the model should also satisfy the theoretical constraints on aspects of perturbative unitarity, EW precision observables, the stability of the potential and the global minimum conditions [2].

# Process and couplings

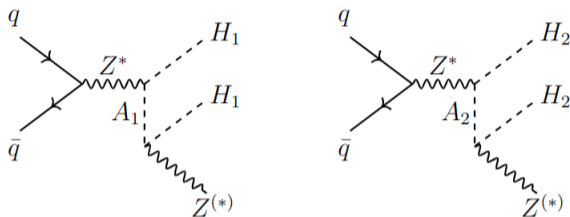


Figure: Diagrams leading to the  $2\ell + \cancel{E}_T$  final state mediated by the Z boson.

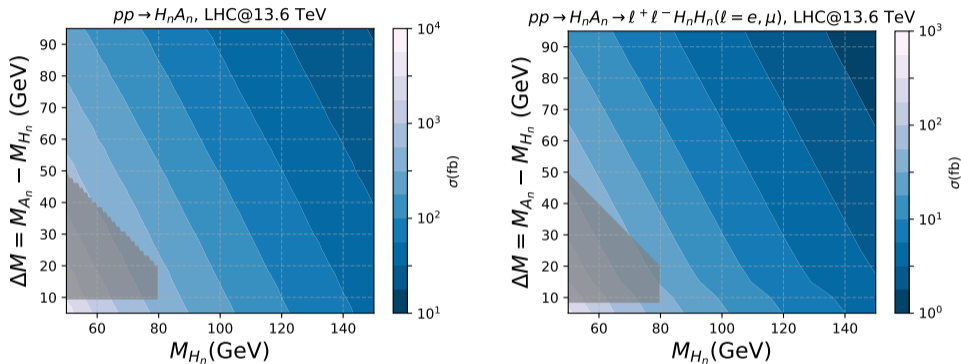
- Small mass gap between DM and its NLPs.
- The off-shell Z boson and DM can provide us a  $2\ell + \cancel{E}_T$  signature.

And due to the vertices in our diagrams are all in EW gauge with coupling:

$$g_{H_n A_n Z} = 1/2(g \cos \theta_W + g' \sin \theta_W).$$

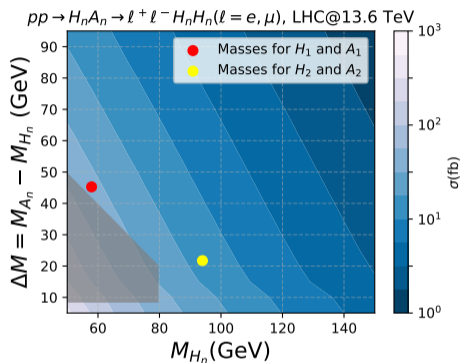
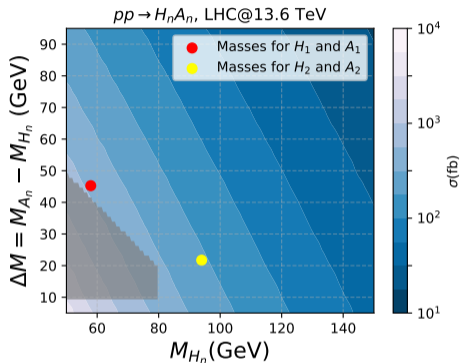
The signals from this process will only be affected by the masses of DM and mass gaps between  $H_n$  and  $A_n$  from the new parameter space.

# Mass scan on cross-sections



**Figure:** Parameter scan over masses of the DM and the mass differences between DM and NLP in each dark sector for cross-sections for the processes  $pp \rightarrow H_n A_n$  and  $pp \rightarrow H_n A_n \rightarrow H_n H_n \ell \ell$ , and the shaded grey area was ruled out by the LEP2 re-interpretation.

# Mass scan on cross-sections



- We chose a benchmark point (BP) with masses:  $m_{H_1} = 57.92$  GeV,  $m_{H_2} = 93.98$  GeV,  $m_{A_1} = 103.19$  GeV, and  $m_{A_2} = 115.7$  GeV.
- This BP allows us to have a sufficiently large cross-section of these processes.

# Detector-level distributions and background

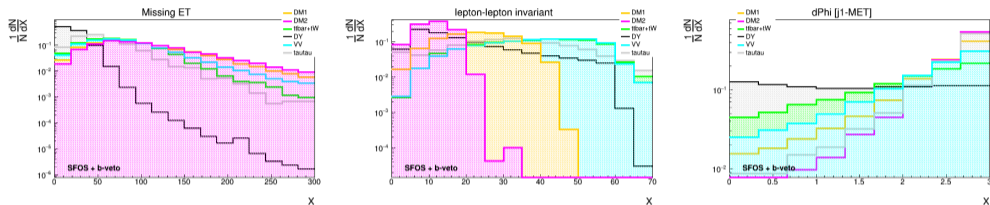


Figure: Detector-level distributions on missing transverse energy, dilepton invariant masses and separations between jet and  $\cancel{E}_T$  for both signals and background events.<sup>2</sup>

- We require an initial-state radiation (ISR) jet at final state to increase  $\cancel{E}_T$ .
- detector-level Backgrounds: Drell-Yan process,  $\tau\tau$ , dileptonic  $t\bar{t}$ ,  $tW$  and  $VV$ .

<sup>2</sup>Produced by MadGraph5\_aMC@NLO [6] and CheckMATE2 [7, 8, 9] which incorporates pythia [10] and delphes [11].

# Fake and non-prompt lepton background

Additionally, there is a significant contribution on reducible background coming from fake and non-prompt (FNP) leptons [12].

- **Fake leptons:** lepton signals where the reconstructed object is not due to leptons, e.g. jets misidentified as leptons.
- **Non-prompt leptons:** leptons from the semileptonic decay of hadrons, e.g. b, c-mesons, or from photon conversions in detector material.

As the measurement of electron and muon signals are coming from the detector layers with different structures, which makes **fake muon** signals **negligible** and leads FNP muon signals mainly coming from **b, c-meson semileptonic decay** [12], i.e. non-prompt muons.

Therefore, in this work, we focus on the **dimuon signature**, i.e.  $\ell = \mu$ , to avoid the fake lepton background, and aim to construct the non-prompt muon background events in our analysis.

We identify the most populated FNP muon source will come from the events with 1 **prompt muon** and 1 **non-prompt muon**. Therefore, we target two types of FNP muon background in our research:

$$W + \text{jets} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Semi-muonic } t\bar{t},$$

- For  $W + \text{jets}$ , the  $W + c$  and  $W + b\bar{b}$  provide most of the FNP muons, and the jets provide FNP muon from semileptonic decay of C-hadrons and B-hadrons.
- For the Semi-muonic  $t\bar{t}$ , one of the  $b$  quarks provides the FNP muon from hadron's semileptonic decay.

Due to the very large cross-section of  $W + \text{jets}$  (around  $20nb$ ), we used sample #501709 in Open LHC Monte Carlo Event Generation<sup>3</sup> to be our events, as it provides a strong soft-muon filter filtering 99.4% of the events.

We generate semi-muonic  $t\bar{t}$  in MadGraph5\_aMC@NLO[6] with pythia [10]

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<sup>3</sup>[https://opendata.atlas.cern/docs/data/for\\_research/evgen\\_data](https://opendata.atlas.cern/docs/data/for_research/evgen_data), and a white paper will be published in arXiv soon.

Cuts	DM1	DM2	Drell-Yan( $\mu^+\mu^-$ )	dimuonic $t\bar{t}$	$Z^*/\gamma^*(\rightarrow\tau^+\tau^-)$	$tW$	VV(all)
All	1807.79 ± 18.08	788.81 ± 7.89	8725164.07 ± 2374.69	1635000.00 ± 3983.63	973467.60 ± 615.67	160234.93 ± 402.82	93396.10 ± 223.44
2 OS muons	391.21 ± 8.41	129.44 ± 3.20	3113354.82 ± 1418.52	827214.00 ± 1467.77	216543.00 ± 290.38	19607.30 ± 140.91	11981.51 ± 78.82
b-veto	335.89 ± 7.79	112.64 ± 2.98	2657890.00 ± 1310.65	99080.00 ± 806.21	187339.60 ± 270.09	3610.18 ± 60.41	9831.79 ± 72.06
$E_T^{miss} > 110\text{GeV}$	132.51 ± 4.89	50.25 ± 1.99	1836.13 ± 34.45	20514.00 ± 362.32	15795.84 ± 78.43	655.31 ± 25.73	2175.25 ± 34.18
$\Delta R_{ll} < 1.5$	105.94 ± 4.38	45.36 ± 1.89	1774.73 ± 33.87	4456.00 ± 168.43	11800.36 ± 67.79	419.11 ± 20.59	1363.23 ± 27.12
$P_T^H > 120\text{GeV}$	54.05 ± 3.13	29.58 ± 1.53	830.48 ± 23.17	2015.00 ± 113.22	9210.56 ± 59.89	157.42 ± 12.58	816.54 ± 21.47
$\Delta\Phi[J_1 - E_T^{miss}] > 2.0$	51.52 ± 3.05	28.71 ± 1.50	357.39 ± 15.20	1837.00 ± 108.10	9069.99 ± 59.43	146.02 ± 12.13	767.83 ± 20.90
$\Delta\Phi[\text{Jets} - E_T^{miss}] > 0.4$	47.91 ± 2.94	25.56 ± 1.42	142.18 ± 9.59	1186.00 ± 32.85	8515.89 ± 57.58	119.41 ± 10.95	696.26 ± 19.90
$m_{\tau\tau}$ cut	37.42 ± 2.60	22.64 ± 1.34	126.03 ± 9.02	991.00 ± 79.41	1186.47 ± 21.49	100.47 ± 10.05	579.32 ± 18.11
$M_{T2}(\text{tau}) > 20\text{GeV}$	32.18 ± 2.41	15.70 ± 1.11	107.28 ± 8.33	794.00 ± 71.08	61.52 ± 4.89	85.39 ± 9.27	512.08 ± 16.96
$M_{T2}(\text{top}) > 180\text{GeV}$	22.96 ± 2.04	10.25 ± 0.90	57.52 ± 6.10	242.00 ± 14.87	36.99 ± 3.80	38.98 ± 6.26	378.47 ± 14.74
$m_{ll} < 50\text{ GeV}$	22.96 ± 2.04	10.25 ± 0.90	56.23 ± 6.03	131.00 ± 10.92	28.81 ± 3.35	31.71 ± 5.64	309.33 ± 13.28

Table: Cutflow for the signal and background (with 2 prompt muons) normalized events for LHC Run-III with  $\sqrt{s} = 13.6\text{ TeV}$  and luminosity  $300\text{fb}^{-1}$ .

Total DM	Total SM	$S/\sqrt{B}$ at LHC ( $300\text{fb}^{-1}$ ( $3ab^{-1}$ ))
33	557	1.41(4.45)

Table: Signal significance for LHC Run-III with  $\sqrt{s} = 13.6\text{ TeV}$  and luminosity  $300\text{fb}^{-1}$  (HL-LHC luminosity of  $3ab^{-1}$ ).

If we combine the ATLAS and CMS data,  $S/\sqrt{B}$  will be multiplied by a factor of  $\sqrt{2}$ .

# Distribution after cuts

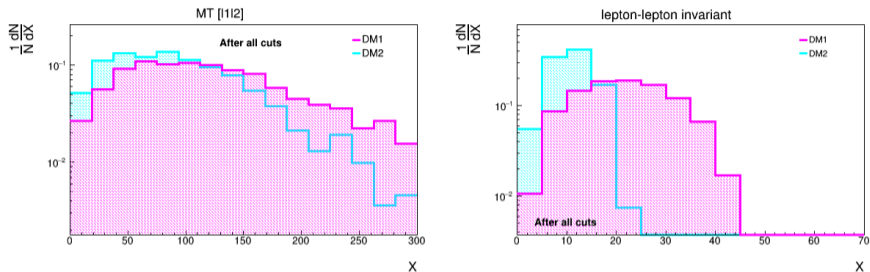
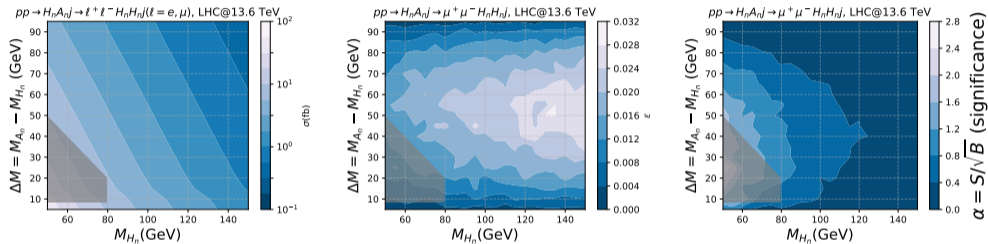


Figure: Detector-level distributions for dimuon pairs after all cuts in table 1 for  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ .

- The signal distribution after all cuts shows two different patterns as we expected.
- It can confirm the presence of two-component DM at the LHC and also the mass spectrum of the inert particles.

# Mass scan on efficiency and significance



**Figure:** Parameter scan over masses of the DM and the mass differences between DM and NLP in each dark sector for cross-section efficiency and significance for process of  $pp \rightarrow H_n A_n j \rightarrow H_n H_n \mu \mu j$ , and the shaded grey area was ruled out by the LEP2 re-interpretation.

## Discussion:





- Exploration a two-component scalar DM model:  $I(2+1)HDM$  with  $Z_2 \times Z_2'$  symmetry.
- Simulation on a  $2\ell + \cancel{E}_T$  signature at the LHC.
- A full detector-level analysis showing that the signal is detectable at the LHC.
- The method shows a model-independent parameterisation using DM mass and mass splitting for multi-component DM searches,
- Also suitable for interpretations in other two-component scalar DM models providing  $2\ell + \cancel{E}_T$  signals.

## Next steps:

- Finalising the non-prompt muon background estimation in our analysis.
- Developing a similar analysis for  $Z_2 I(2+1)HDM$  DM searches.

**Thank you!**

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# Appendix - Parton-level distributions

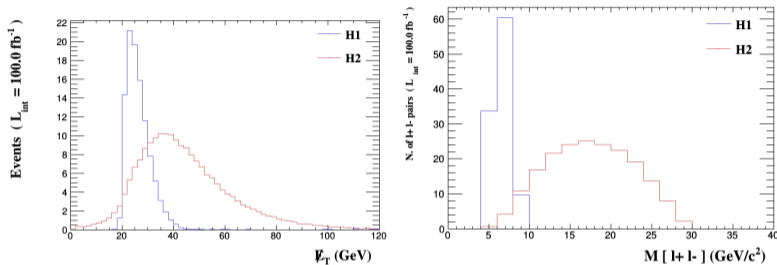


Figure: Parton level distributions on missing transverse energy and invariant mass of dilepton pairs for  $Z_2 \times Z_2'$  i3HDM in [1]

We can clearly see there will be two different patterns for this two-component DM model. It not only allows us to prove the existence of two DM states at the same time, but also confirms the mass spectrum of the inert particles.

## Appendix - Selections

1. Exactly two tight opposite-sign muons ( $\mu^+\mu^-$ ).
2. A veto on b-jet to suppress backgrounds from  $t\bar{t}$  and  $tW$  productions.
3. Missing transverse energy  $\cancel{E}_T$ . must be greater than 110 GeV
4.  $\Delta R$  between the two SFOS muons must obey  $\Delta R(l^+l^-) < 1.5$ .
5. The transverse momentum of the leading jet must obey  $p_T^{j_1} > 120$  GeV.
6.  $\Delta\phi$  between the leading jet and  $\cancel{E}_T$  must be above 2.0 to eradicate the DY background where  $\cancel{E}_T$  comes solely from the presence of the jet.
7.  $\Delta\phi$  between any jet and  $\cancel{E}_T$  must be above 0.4.
8. Reconstruct  $m_{\tau\tau}$  by assuming energetic tau production in the  $Z^{(*)}/\gamma^{(*)}(\rightarrow \tau\tau) + j$  process, i.e. considering  $\nu$ 's are highly collinear with the  $\mu$ 's, and cut out the range for  $0 < m_{\tau\tau} < 160\text{GeV}$ [13, 14, 15].
9.  $M_{T2}(\ell_1, \ell_2, E_T^{miss}) = \min_{\vec{q}_T^{(1)} + \vec{q}_T^{(2)} = \vec{p}_T^{miss}} [\max(M_T(\vec{p}_T^{\ell_1}, \vec{q}_T^{(1)}), M_T(\vec{p}_T^{\ell_2}, \vec{q}_T^{(2)}))] < 20\text{GeV}$
10.  $M_{T2}(\text{top}) = \min[M_{T2}(\ell_1 + \text{jet}_1, \ell_2 + \text{jet}_2, E_T^{miss}), M_{T2}(\ell_1 \leftrightarrow \ell_2)] > 180\text{GeV}$
11. The invariant mass must satisfy  $m_{ll} < 50$  GeV in order to avoid contributions from on-shell Z-boson decays.

The Higgs potential for  $Z_2 \times Z'_2$  i3HDM is

$$V = V_0 + V_{Z_2 \times Z'_2},$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_0 = & -\mu_1^2(\phi_1^\dagger\phi_1) - \mu_2^2(\phi_2^\dagger\phi_2) - \mu_3^2(\phi_3^\dagger\phi_3) + \lambda_{11}(\phi_1^\dagger\phi_1)^2 + \lambda_{22}(\phi_2^\dagger\phi_2)^2 + \lambda_{33}(\phi_3^\dagger\phi_3)^2 \\ & + \lambda_{12}(\phi_1^\dagger\phi_1)(\phi_2^\dagger\phi_2) + \lambda_{23}(\phi_2^\dagger\phi_2)(\phi_3^\dagger\phi_3) + \lambda_{31}(\phi_3^\dagger\phi_3)(\phi_1^\dagger\phi_1) \\ & + \lambda'_{12}(\phi_1^\dagger\phi_2)(\phi_2^\dagger\phi_1) + \lambda'_{23}(\phi_2^\dagger\phi_3)(\phi_3^\dagger\phi_2) + \lambda'_{31}(\phi_3^\dagger\phi_1)(\phi_1^\dagger\phi_3), \end{aligned}$$

$$V_{Z_2 \times Z'_2} = \lambda_1(\phi_1^\dagger\phi_2)^2 + \lambda_2(\phi_2^\dagger\phi_3)^2 + \lambda_3(\phi_3^\dagger\phi_1)^2 + \text{h.c.},$$