# Exotics at the LHC

Status and prospects

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9 September 2021 EOS be.h Equinox Meeting







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#### **Possibility landscape**

 that's it! the SM is all there is!



source: undisclosed



#### **Possibility landscape**



"The reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated"

Dr. B.S.M. Physics



#### **Possibility landscape**



- NP exists, but a very high mass scale
  - EFTs? deviations in decay rates?
- NP exists at our mass scale, but too low cross section
  - smarter triggers? high lumi?
- NP is already in our data!
  - swamped in similar background?
  - "cleaned" in standard reconstruction? not reconstructed? forgot to trigger?

• ...

#### Exotics searches with CMS



- very large scope of new physics topics
  - dark matter, long-lived particles, leptoquarks, dijet/lepton/photon resonances, heavy neutrinos, extra dimensions, etc etc
  - (more or less) all "searches" except most SUSY, exotic Higgs, heavy resonances in top/H/W/Z final states, and SM EFT analyses



## LHC Timeline



- the Run-2 dataset is our current workhorse
  - mainly 136fb<sup>-1</sup> of 13TeV c.o.m. pp collisions
  - huge physics output
- Run-3 is our next big thing
  - large sample at higher energy, but deteriorating detectors
  - note: 2021 was canceled, LS3 shifted



#### CMS exotica publications



• first we have to finish Run-2!



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#### Exotica in LHC Run-2



- first we have to finish Run-2!
- data taking stopped 2.5y ago
  - but we're still far from done
  - "only" ~20 Exotica papers on full Run-2 dataset submitted or published
- this summer: 13 (!) new preliminary results were made public in conferences
  - in principle we still expect many more to come

• in the following, I will cherry-pick some Run-2 results to demonstrate the challenges for Run-3

#### Run-3: LHC context

arXiv:2103.02708

- collect ~190/fb in 2022-2024
  - Iuminosity will double >3 years from now
- many new physics scenarios have rapidly falling cross sections
  - physics stays compelling but no more easy doubling
    - $\rightarrow$  strategy shift
- c.o.m. energy will increase, probably to 13.6 TeV
  - high-mass EXO searches get an extra boost
  - $\sigma_{14TeV} / \sigma_{13TeV} \sim 1.5 @ 3TeV ; \sim 2.6 @ 6TeV$







- Run-3's challenge is to push the limits of our physics coverage
  - ultimate high-mass LHC reach from increase in c.o.m. energy



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  - ultimate high-mass LHC reach from increase in c.o.m. energy
  - intense hunt for low-mass and low-coupling new physics



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- Run-3's challenge is to push the limits of our physics coverage
  - ultimate high-mass LHC reach from increase in c.o.m. energy
  - intense hunt for low-mass and low-coupling new physics
  - maximal use of the detector for unconventional searches also Sam's talk!



arXiv:2012.01581

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137 fb<sup>-1</sup>, 2016-2018 (13 TeV)

CMS

Median expected

Observed

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  - intense hunt for low-mass and low-coupling new physics
  - maximal use of the detector for unconventional searches
  - explore new phenomenologies



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  - explore new phenomenologies
  - attempt the exotic exotics





arXiv.org > hep-ph > arXiv:1708.08951

High Energy Physics - Phenomenology



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  - explore new phenomenologies
  - attempt the exotic exotics
  - provide re-interpretation tools to the pheno community



arXiv.org > hep-ph > arXiv:1809.05548

High Energy Physics - Phenomenology

[Submitted on 14 Sep 2018 (v1), last revised 29 Apr 2019 (this version, v2)]

#### The Simplified Likelihood Framework

Andy Buckley, Matthew Citron, Sylvain Fichet, Sabine Kraml, Wolfgang Waltenberger, Nicholas Wardle



#### Run-3: opportunities



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  - ultimate high-mass LHC reach from increase in c.o.m. energy
  - intense hunt for low-mass and low-coupling new physics
  - maximal use of the detector for unconventional searches
  - explore new phenomenologies
  - attempt the exotic exotics
  - provide re-interpretation tools to the pheno community
- how? any challenge brings opportunties for innovation
  - trigger at lower thresholds or higher rates; roll out cross triggers
  - deploy next-gen reconstruction and computing techniques
  - work towards ultimate precision where relevant
  - push our detector beyond its design capabilities
  - publicly share our results, likelihoods, and efficiencies

#### Run-3: an extra word on trigger



- the trigger in Run-3 defines our physics program until 2028
- 2021 is the year we build the menu
- investment now to make Run-3 a success



#### Run-3: an extra word on trigger





#### Wrapping up



- 10 years of exotics searches with enormous impact
  - no discoveries so far...
- the exotica physics outlook for LHC Run-3 is exciting!
  - slight energy increase, significantly larger dataset
  - plenty of room for innovation, in particular for triggers
- LHC Run-2 is not over!
  - majority of publications still to come
  - it will remain a reference dataset and sandbox for years to come
- beyond: HL-LHC era will bring us a new detector
  - many enhanced capabilities for exotic final states

#### Wrapping up



- 10 years of exotics searches with enormous impact
  - no discoveries so far... but remember this?



#### Wrapping up



- 10 years of exotics searches with enormous impact
  - no discoveries so far... until yesterday!

Combining the  $\gamma\gamma$  and  $Z\gamma$  channels, with associated leptons, di-jets, bottom quarks and missing energy, we obtain a local (global) significance of  $5.1\sigma$  ( $4.8\sigma$ ) for a mass of  $m_S = 151.5$  GeV and



#### Exotics at the LHC



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