



# Discovery Potential for MSSM Higgs Bosons with ATLAS

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*on behalf of the ATLAS collaboration*

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# MSSM Higgs Sector

- MSSM: 2 Higgs doublets → 5 physical bosons:  $h, H, A, H^+, H^-$
- phenomenology at **Born level** described by  $\tan\beta, m_A$
- mass prediction:  $M_h < M_Z$
- couplings:  $g_{\text{MSSM}} = \xi \cdot g_{\text{SM}}$ 
  - no coupling of  $A$  to  $W/Z$
  - large  $\tan\beta$ : large  $\text{BR}(h, H, A \rightarrow \tau\tau, bb)$

$\xi$	$t$	$b/\tau$	$W/Z$
$h$	$\cos\alpha/\sin\beta$	$-\sin\alpha/\cos\beta$	$\sin(\alpha-\beta)$
$H$	$\sin\alpha/\sin\beta$	$\cos\alpha/\cos\beta$	$\cos(\alpha-\beta)$
$A$	$\cot\beta$	$\tan\beta$	-----

$\alpha$ : mixing angle between CP even Higgs bosons  
(calculable from  $\tan\beta$  and  $M_A$ )

- **large loop corrections** to masses and couplings
- mainly dependent on  **$t/\tilde{t}$  sector**
- parameters:  
 $M_{\text{top}}$  and  $X_t, M_{\text{SUSY}}, M_2, \mu, M_{\text{gluino}}$
- mass prediction  $M_h < 133 \text{ GeV}$   
(for  $M_t = 175 \text{ GeV}$ )

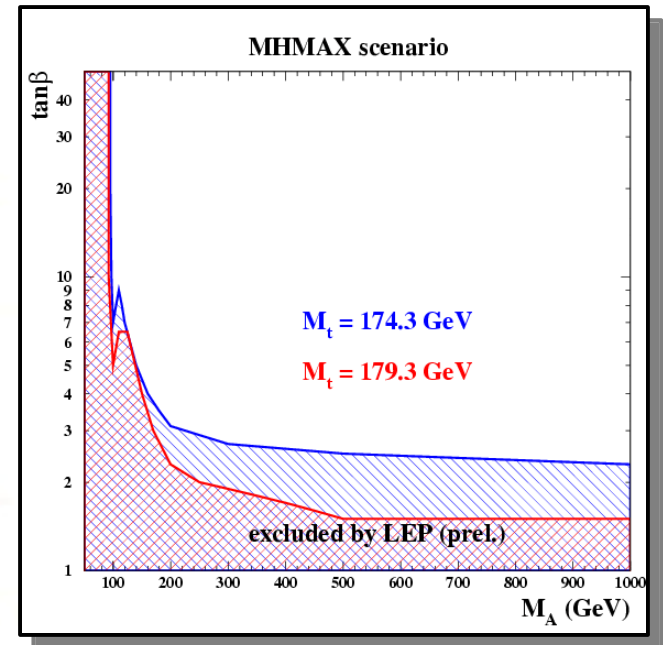
for exclusion bounds and discovery potential:  
**fix the 5 parameters in benchmark scenarios and scan  $(\tan\beta, M_A)$ - plane**



# The $(\tan\beta, M_A)$ -Plane

## current exclusion in $(\tan\beta, M_A)$ -plane:

- LEP searches for light Higgs
- excludes low  $\tan\beta$  and low  $M_A$
- note: no exclusion for  $M_t > \sim 183$  GeV



## main questions for LHC/ ATLAS:

- **Can at least 1 Higgs be discovered in the allowed parameter space?**
- **How many Higgs bosons can be observed ?**
- **Can we discriminate the SM from beyond the SM (like MSSM) ?**



# Benchmark Scenarios

• **4 CP conserving scenarios considered**

• **to exemplify the discovery potential**

• **mainly influence on phenomenology of h**

Name	$M_{\text{SUSY}}$ (GeV)	$\mu$ (GeV)	$M_2$ (GeV)	$X_t$ (GeV)	$M_{\text{gluino}}$ (GeV)
$m_h$ -max	1000	200	200	2000	800
no mixing	2000	200	200	0	800
gluophobic	350	300	300	-750	500
small $\alpha$	800	2000	500	-1100	500

suggested by Carena et al.,  
EPJ C26, 601(2003)

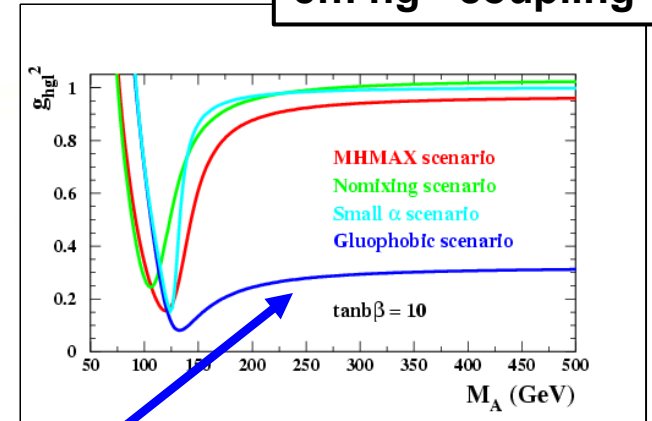
already  
at LEP

- 1) **MHMAX scenario** maximal  $M_h < 133$  GeV
- 2) **Nomixing scenario** small  $M_h < 116$  GeV

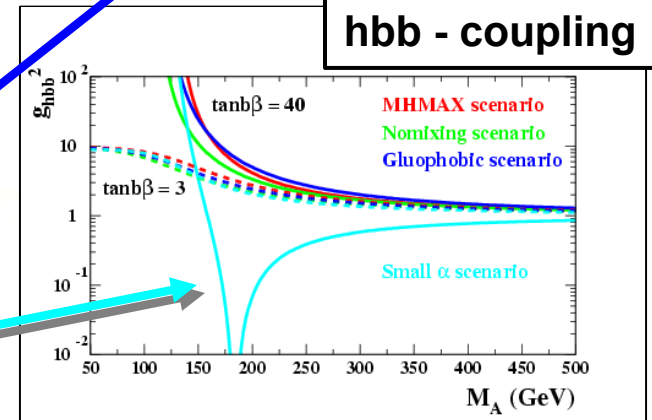
Newly  
designed  
for  
hadron  
colliders

- 3) **Gluophobic scenario**  $M_h < 119$  GeV
  - coupling of h to gluons suppressed
  - designed to affect discovery via  $gg \rightarrow h$ ,  $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  and  $h \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$
- 4) **Small  $\alpha$  scenario**  $M_h < 123$  GeV
  - coupling of h to b ( $\tau$ ) suppressed (for large  $\tan\beta$  and  $M_A$  150  $\rightarrow$  500 GeV)
  - designed to affect discovery via VBF,  $h \rightarrow \tau\tau$  and  $tth$ ,  $h \rightarrow bb$

eff. hg - coupling



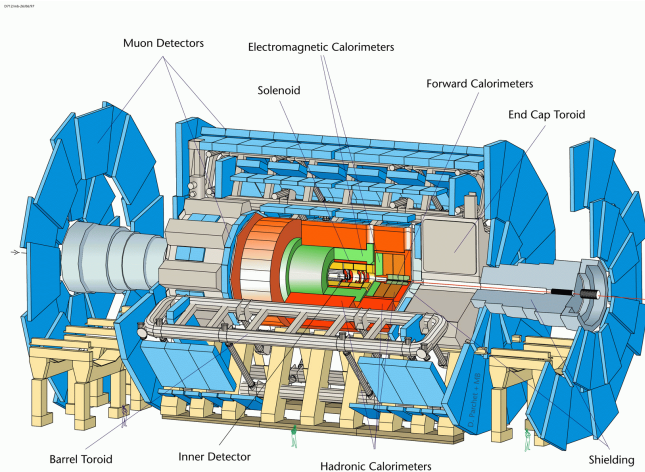
hbb - coupling



masses, coupling and BRs  
calculated with FeynHiggs  
(Heinemeyer et al.)



# Technical Issues



- **combination of latest results from (MSSM corrected) studies for SM Higgs boson and dedicated MSSM Higgs analysis (heavy higgs states)**
- **key performance numbers obtained from full simulation:** (e.g. trigger efficiencies, b-tagging,  $\tau$ -identification, mass resolutions...)
- **signal efficiencies and background expectations from fast simulations**

## developments/ improvements:

### 2) **new and updated search channels:**

- new: VBF with Higgs decay to  $\tau\tau$ ,  $WW$ ,  $\gamma\gamma$ .
- new:  $tt \rightarrow bW + bH \rightarrow bqq + b\tau\nu$
- updated:  $ttH$ ,  $H \rightarrow bb$  (better simulation of bgr.)
- updated/ new:  $bbH \rightarrow H \rightarrow \mu\mu$  ( $\tau\tau$ ), now also had.  $\tau$  decay

### 3) **improved theoretical calculations:**

- **FeynHiggs:** full one-loop corrections and dominant two-loop corrections included (increase of  $M_h$  by several GeV)
- considered to give most accurate calculations at present

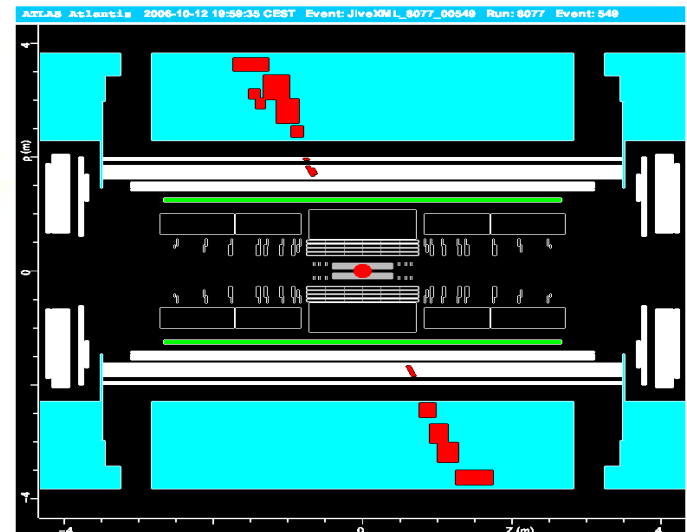
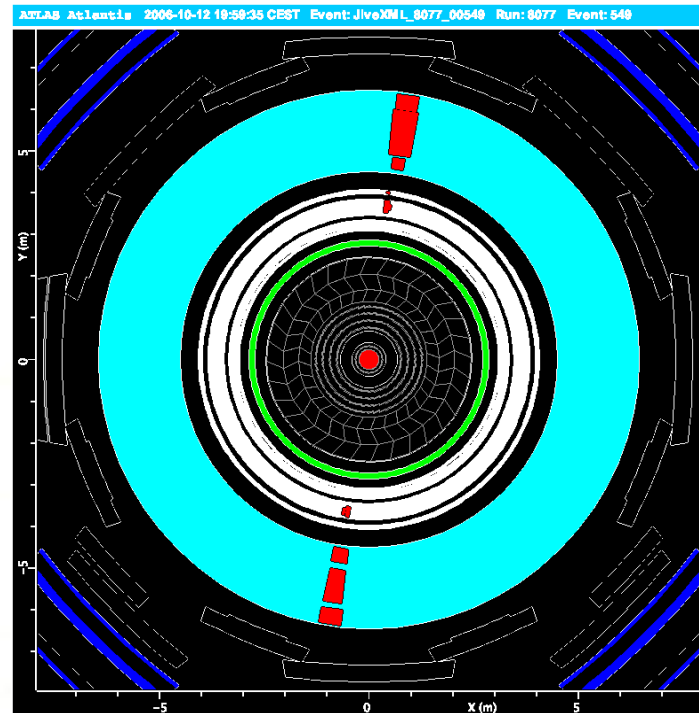
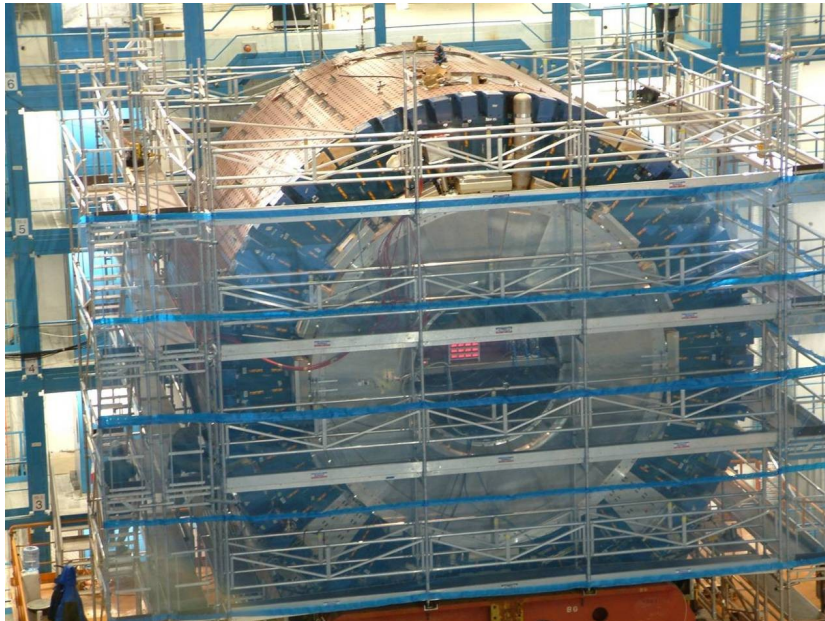
- two expected data sets:  **$30 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  and  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$**
- **discovery =  $5 \sigma$  excess using Poisson statistics**
- **no systematics included**



# Becoming a Reality

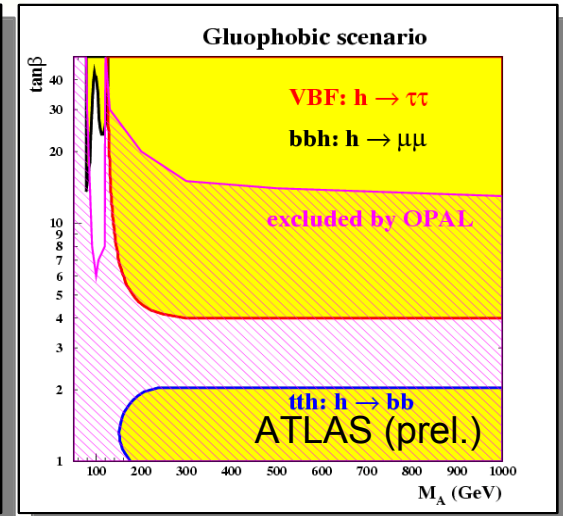
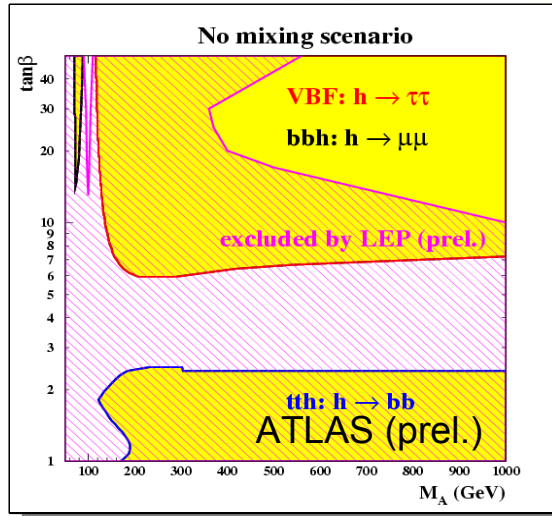
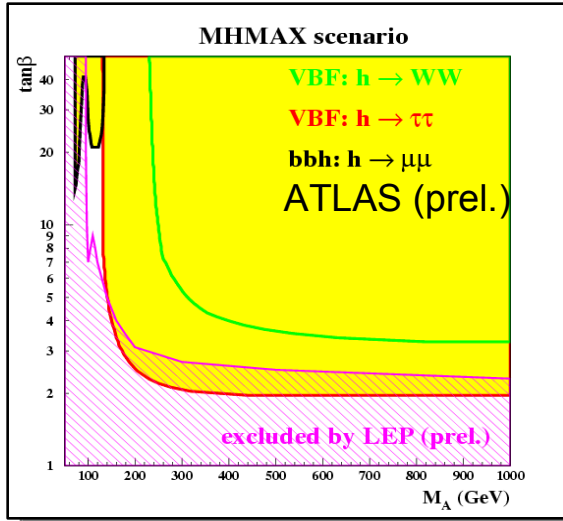
First Cosmic rays observed by the combined ATLAS Tile+LAr calorimeters in the underground cavern this Fall!

Huge effort from ATLAS physicists to understand the detector (calibration, alignment, etc)

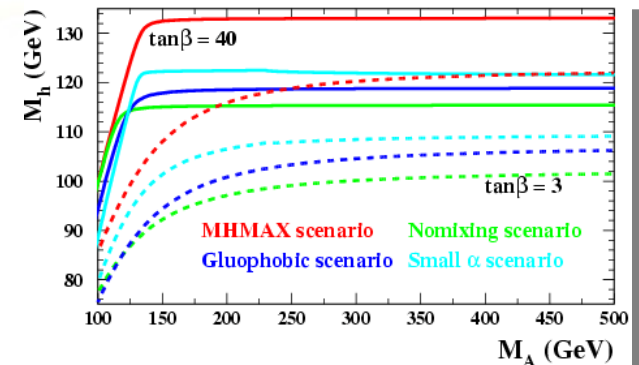


# Light Higgs Boson ( $30 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )

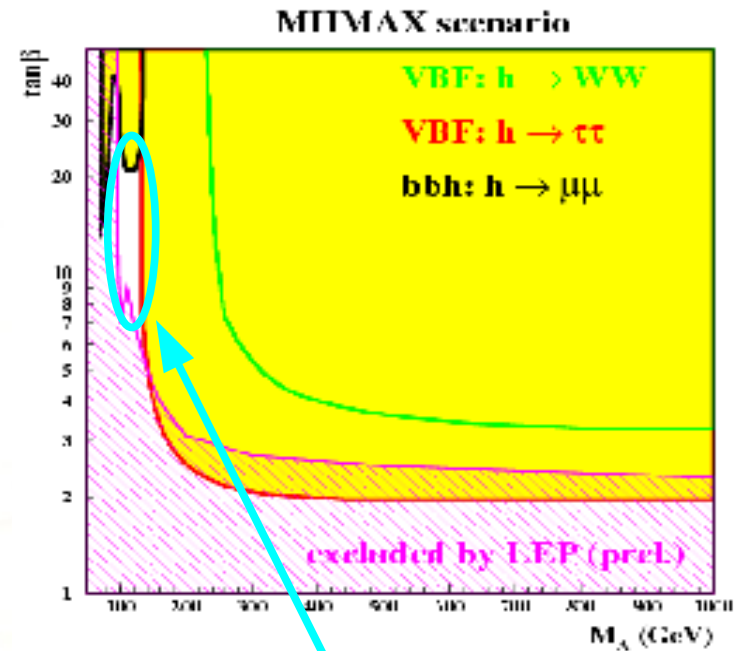
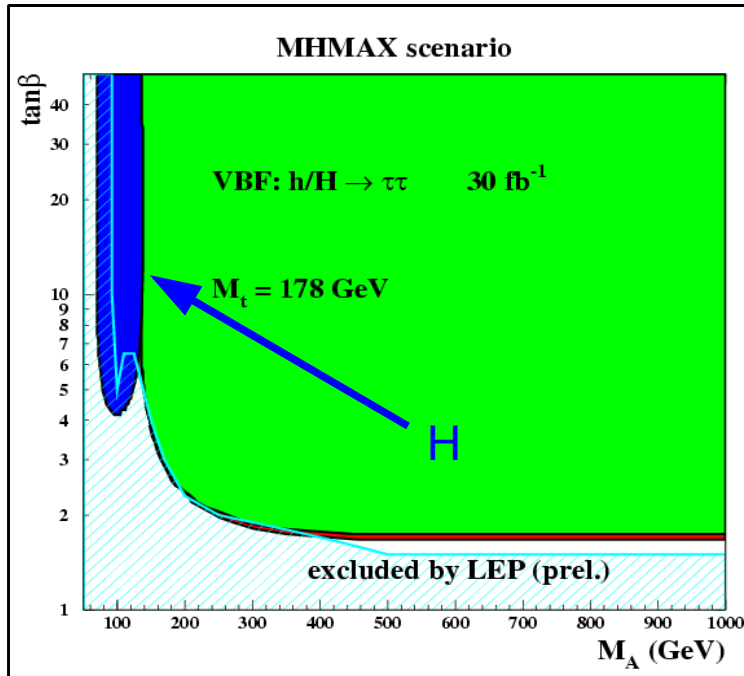
**h observable in entire parameter space and for all benchmark scenarios?**



- most important channels: **VBF**
  - differences mainly due to  $M_h$
- ➔ almost entire  $(\tan\beta, M_A)$ -plane covered**



# The Hole at Low $m_A$



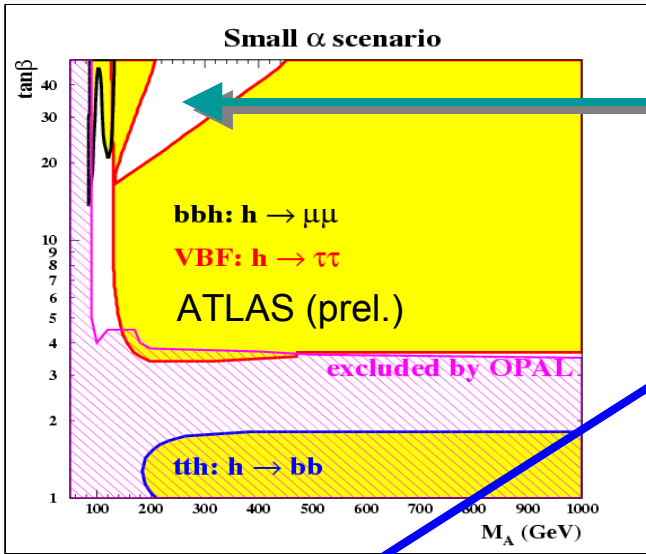
- VBF ( $hVV$ ) decouples for high  $\tan\beta$  and low  $m_A \rightarrow$  must use  $bbh$ , however...
- The  $h \rightarrow \tau\tau$  has DY background and no mass reconstruction possible.
- $h \rightarrow \mu\mu$  is cleaner but with a very small BR.
- Therefore for small  $m_A$  the  $bbh$  with  $h \rightarrow \mu\mu$  leaves a hole towards lower  $\tan\beta$

- At low  $m_A$  from 90-100 GeV, the  $h$  becomes unobservable in most models
- However, the  $H$  is always observable in this region, from  $H \rightarrow \tau\tau$

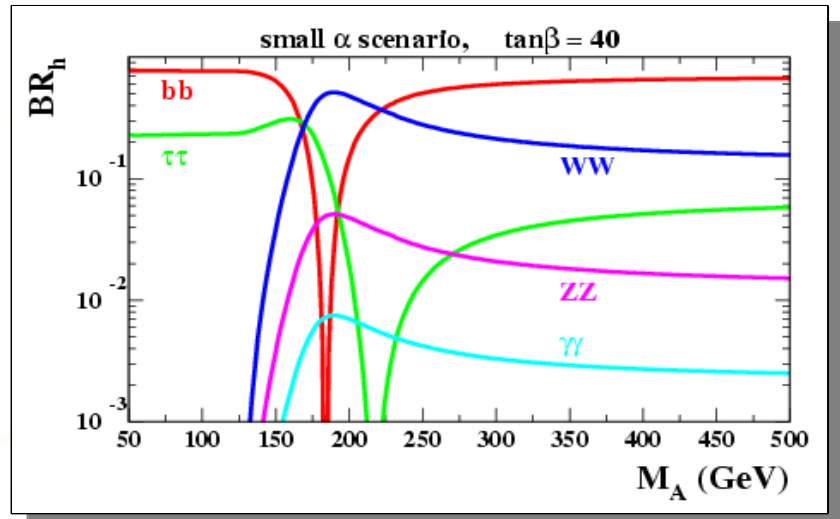
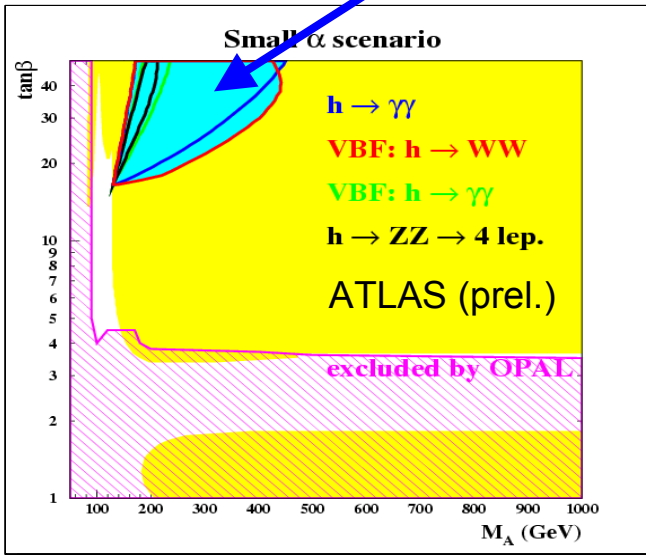




# Light Higgs in Small $\alpha$ Scenario (30 fb<sup>-1</sup>)



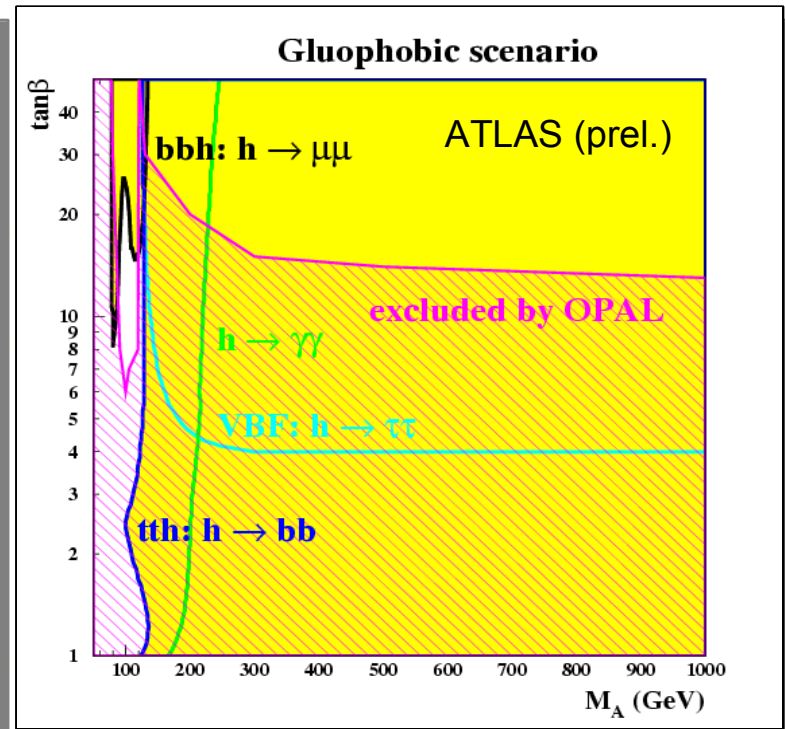
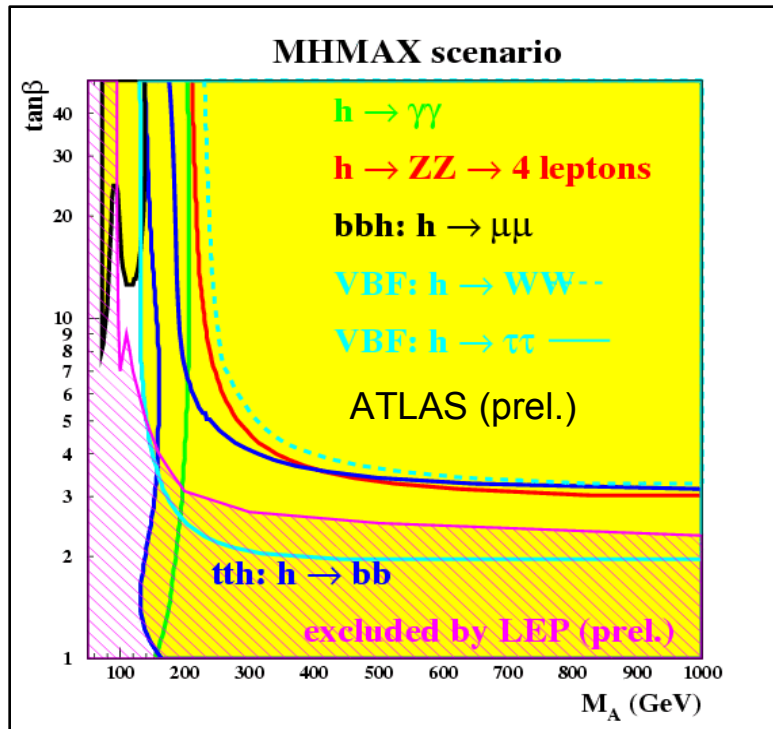
hole due to reduced BR for  $h \rightarrow \tau\tau$   
covered by enhanced BR to  
gauge bosons



Complementarity of search  
channels almost guarantees  
the discovery of h



# Light Higgs Boson ( $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )



VBF:  
only  
 $30 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

- also  $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ,  $h \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4 \text{ leptons}$ ,  $tth \rightarrow bb$  contribute
- large area covered by several channels  
→ stable discovery and parameter determination possible
- small area ( $M_h = 90 \text{ to } 100 \text{ GeV}$ ) covered only by H

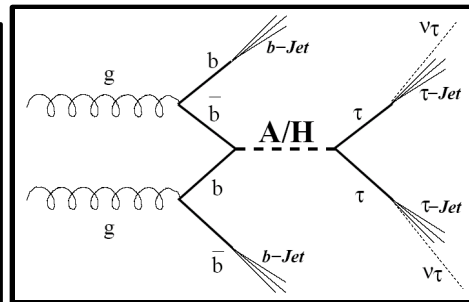
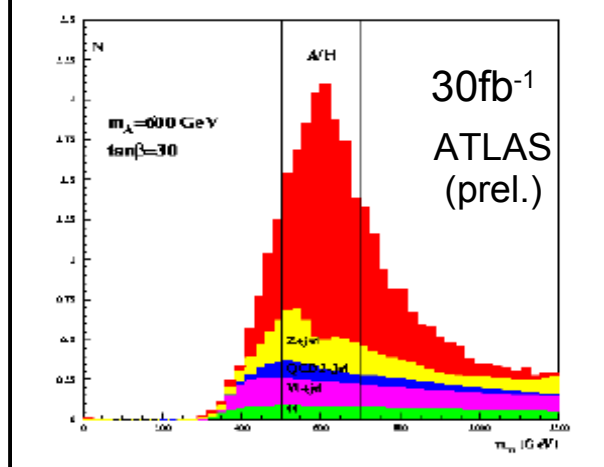


# Neutral Heavy Higgs Bosons (H/A)

## ➤ example: $bbH/A, H/A \rightarrow \tau\tau$

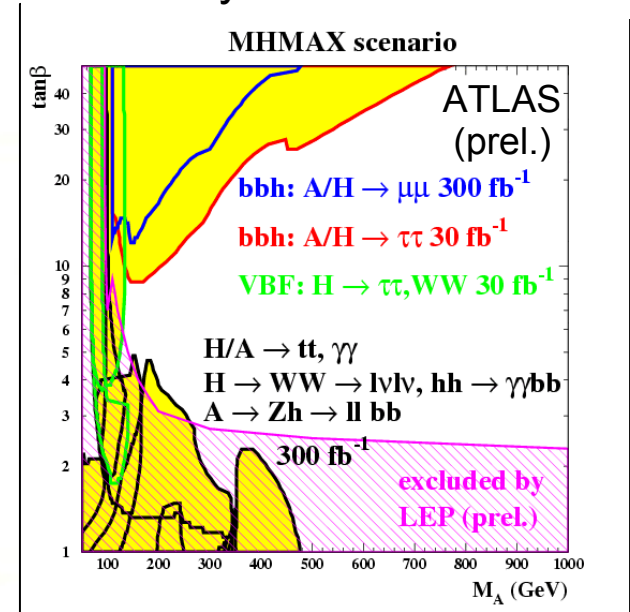
- $\sigma_{\text{prod}} \sim (\tan\beta)^2$ ; important at large  $\tan\beta$
- new analysis:  $\tau\tau \rightarrow \text{had. had.}$
- $\text{BR}(H/A \rightarrow \tau\tau) \sim 10\%$ , rest is  $bb$

### rec. mass for $\tau\tau \rightarrow \text{had.had.}$



New: take running  $b$ -quark mass for  $\sigma_{\text{prod}}$

## discovery reach for H/A:

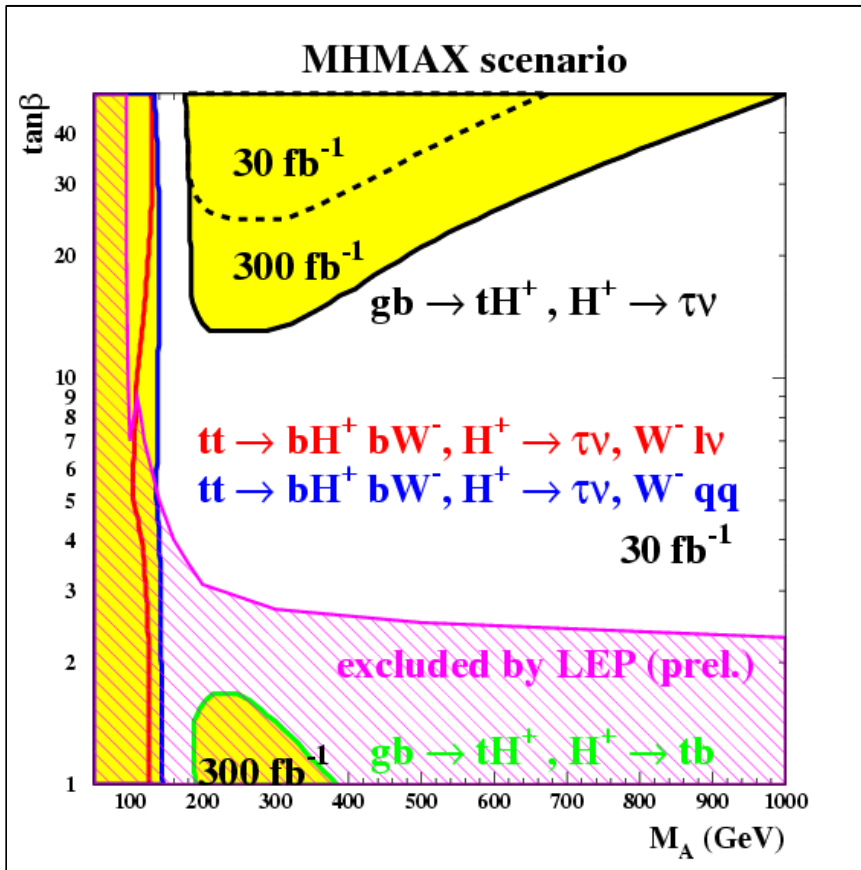


- $bb H/A \rightarrow bb \tau\tau$  covers large  $\tan\beta$  region
- other scenarios similar
- intermediate  $\tan\beta$  region not covered

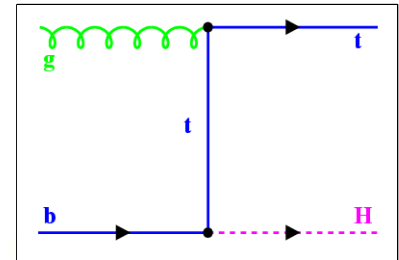
- only very few events remain after cuts (acceptance  $\sim 10^{-3}$ )
- LVL1 trigger performance crucial
- detailed study:  $>90\%$  LVL1 efficiency for  $M_A > 450 \text{ GeV}$  via “jet+ $E_{T,\text{miss}}$ ” and “ $\tau + E_{T,\text{miss}}$ ” triggers with a rate of  $\sim 1.4 \text{ kHz}$  (within rate limit)



# Charged Higgs Bosons

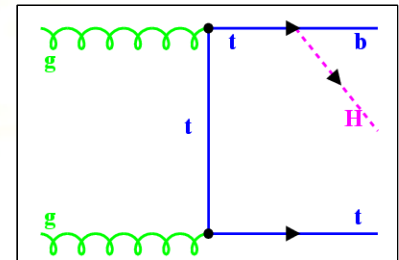


high mass:  $m_{H^{+-}} > m_{\text{top}}$



low mass:  $m_{H^{+-}} < m_{\text{top}}$

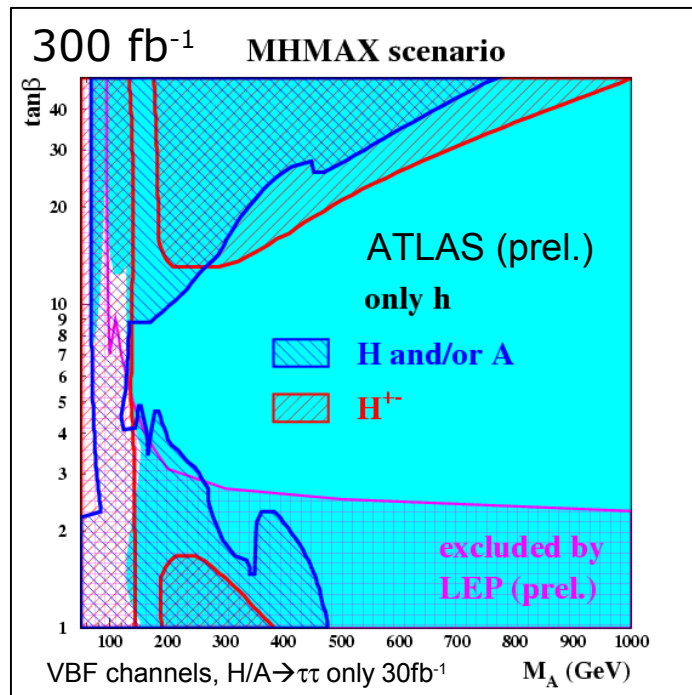
$gg \rightarrow tt$   
 $tt \rightarrow H^+ bW^-$   
 only low lumi.



❖ A consistent study of the gap region ( $\sim m_{\text{top}}$ ) is almost complete.



# Overall Discovery Potential (300 fb<sup>-1</sup>)



- at least one Higgs boson is observable for all parameter points (in all four benchmark scenarios)
- in some parts: >1 Higgs bosons observable  
→ distinguish between SM and extended Higgs sector
- but: significant area where only h or H is observable.
- basic conclusions independent of m<sub>top</sub>

## ongoing:

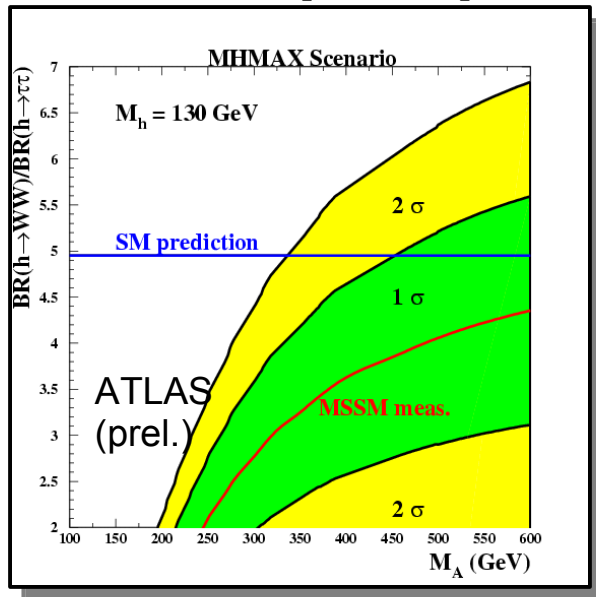
- including **SUSY decay modes** to increase areas for heavy Higgs bosons, e.g.  $H^\pm \rightarrow \chi_{1,2}^\pm \chi_{1,2,3,4}^0 \rightarrow 3l + E_{T,miss}$
- can SM be **discriminated from extended Higgs sector by parameter determination** e.g. via rate measurements?



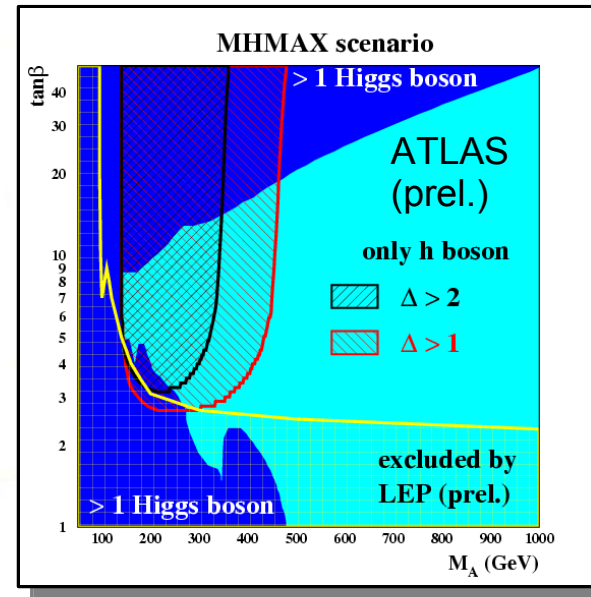
# SM or Extended Higgs Sector ?

- ❖ estimate of sensitivity from rate measurements in VBF channels ( $30 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )
- ❖ compare expected measurement of R in MSSM with prediction from SM

$$R = \frac{\text{BR}(h \rightarrow WW)}{\text{BR}(h \rightarrow \tau\tau)}$$



$$\Delta = |R_{\text{MSSM}} - R_{\text{SM}}| / \sigma_{\text{exp}}$$



- only statistical errors
- assume  $M_h$  exactly known

potential for discrimination

- seems promising
- needs further study incl. sys. errors



# CP-Conserving Summary

- A consistent investigation of the ATLAS discovery potential in the MSSM Higgs sector with **new MC studies** and **new theoretical calculations** has been performed.
- **In all 4 CP conserving MSSM benchmark scenarios at least one Higgs boson can be discovered.**

**Evaluation of discovery potential  
with sys. err. in progress...**

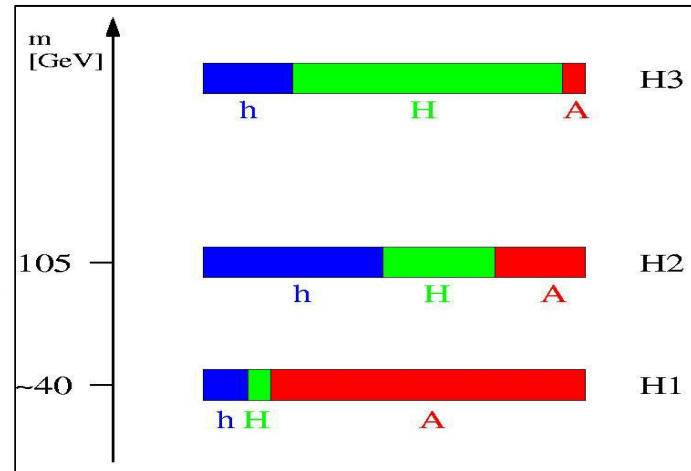
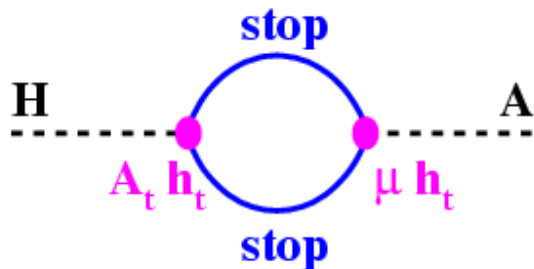
- In some areas of the parameter space more than one Higgs bosons can be discovered.

**Need work on discrimination between  
SM and extended Higgs sector in this case...**

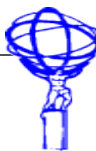


# The CP-Violating CPX scenario

- CP conserving at Born level, but CP violation via complex  $A_t$ ,  $A_b$ ,  $M_{gl}$



- CP eigenstates  $h$ ,  $A$ ,  $H$  mix to mass eigenstates  $H_1$ ,  $H_2$ ,  $H_3$
- maximise effect  $\rightarrow$  CPX scenario (Carena et al., Phys.Lett B495 155(2000))  
 $\arg(A_t) = \arg(A_b) = \arg(M_{gluino}) = 90$  degrees
- scan of Born level parameters:  $\tan\beta$  and  $M_{H^{+-}}$

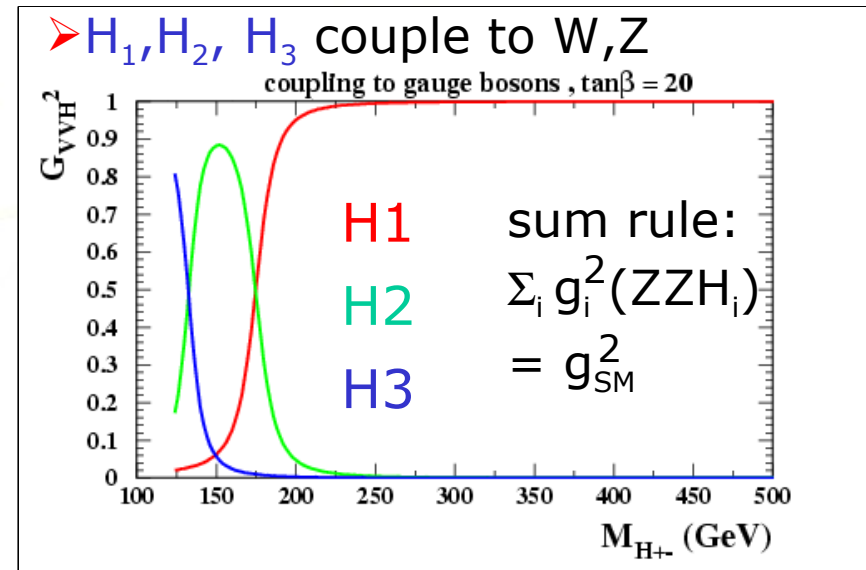
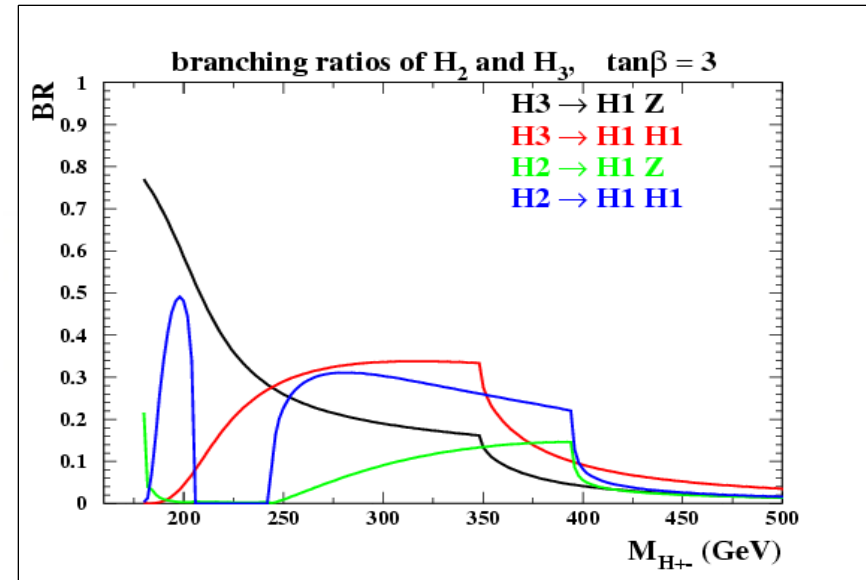
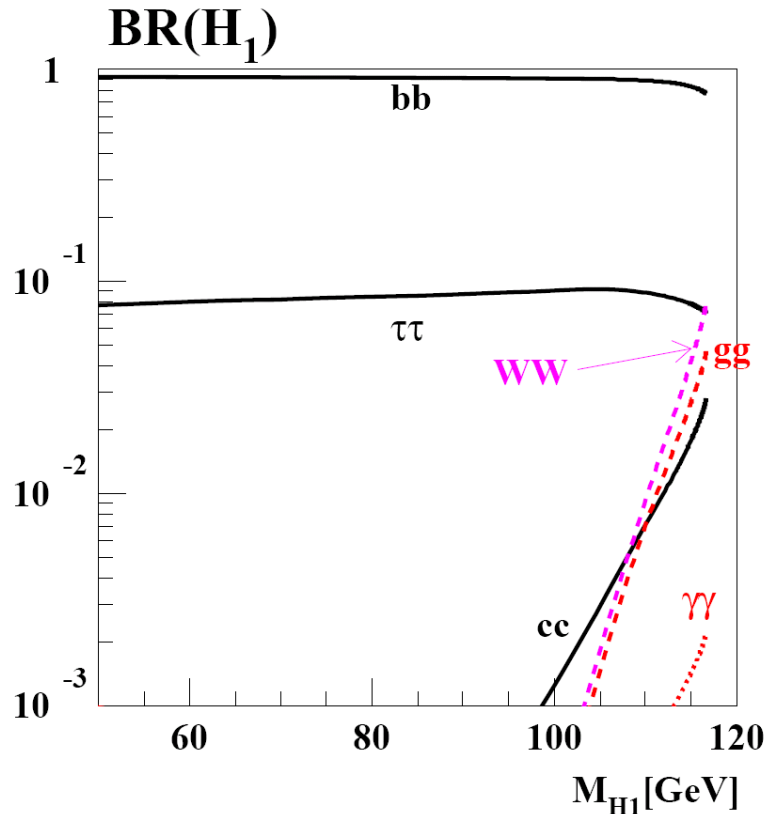




# Phenomenology in the CPX scenario

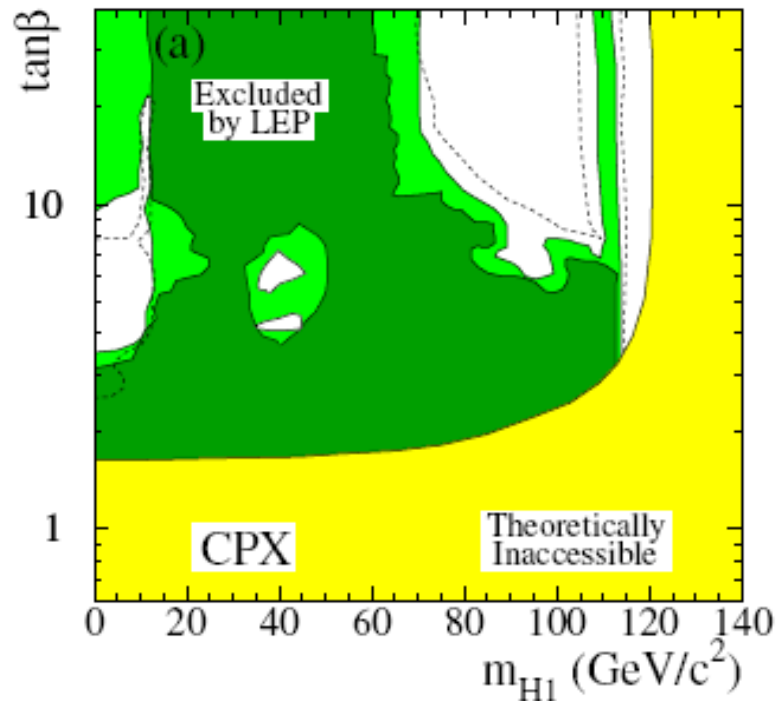
➤  $H_2, H_3 \rightarrow H_1 H_1, ZH_1, WW, ZZ$  decays

Production VBF ;  $pp \rightarrow ttH_i, bbH_i$ ;  
 $pp \rightarrow H_i$  &  $tt \rightarrow H^+ bWb, gb \rightarrow H^+ t$

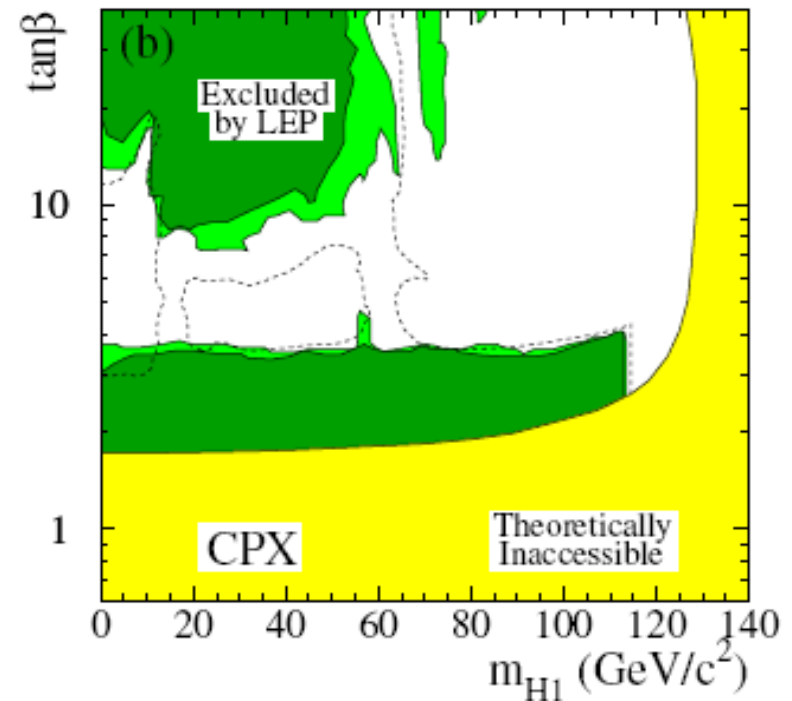


# LEP Limits in the CPX scenario

$m_t = 169.3 \text{ GeV}$



$m_t = 179.3 \text{ GeV}$



- ❖ Loss of sensitivity around  $\tan\beta \sim 3-10$  due to complexity of final states: ( $ZH_2 \rightarrow 6 \text{ jets} \dots H_1 H_2 \rightarrow bbbb$  etc.) and insensitivity to very low  $H_1$  mass
- ❖ no absolute limit on mass of  $H_1$  from LEP
- ❖ strong dependence of excluded region on  $m_{\text{top}}$  and on calculation (FeynHiggs vs CPH)



# CPX Scenario: A Light Higgs Boson $H_1$

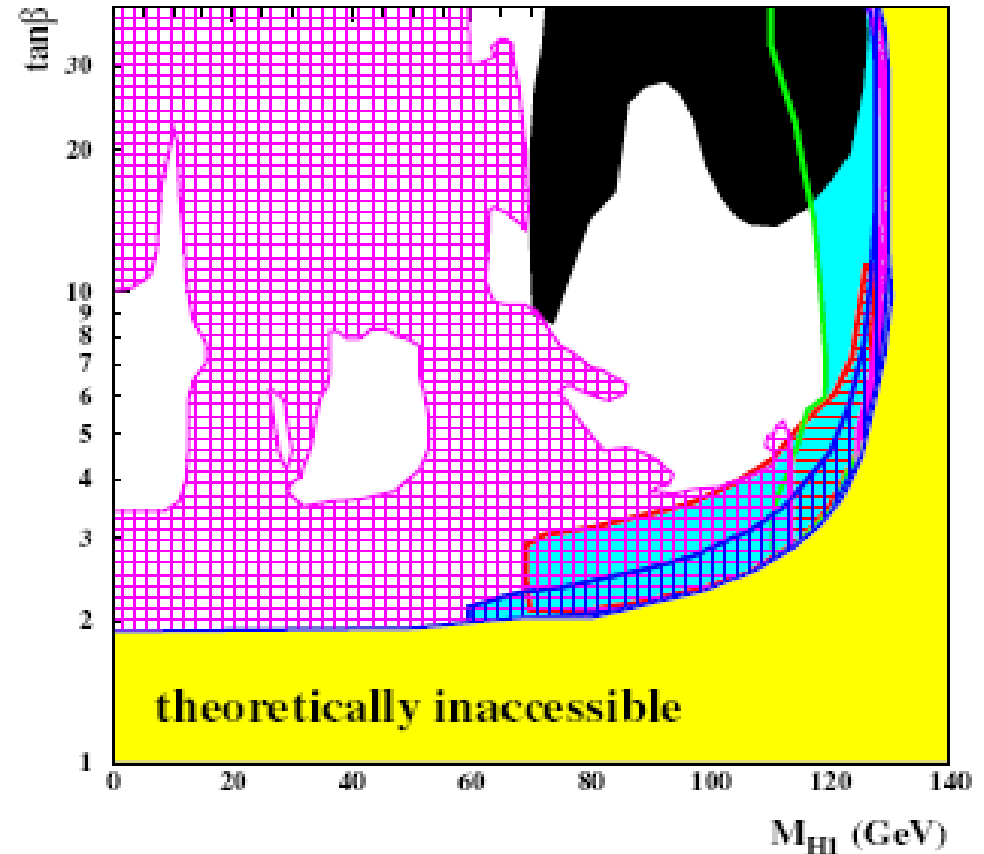
main difference from  
CPC scenarios, weaker  
exclusion from LEP:

CPC scenarios:

$M_h < M_Z$  excluded

CPV: no limit on  $M_{H1}$

ATLAS preliminary 300 fb<sup>-1</sup>

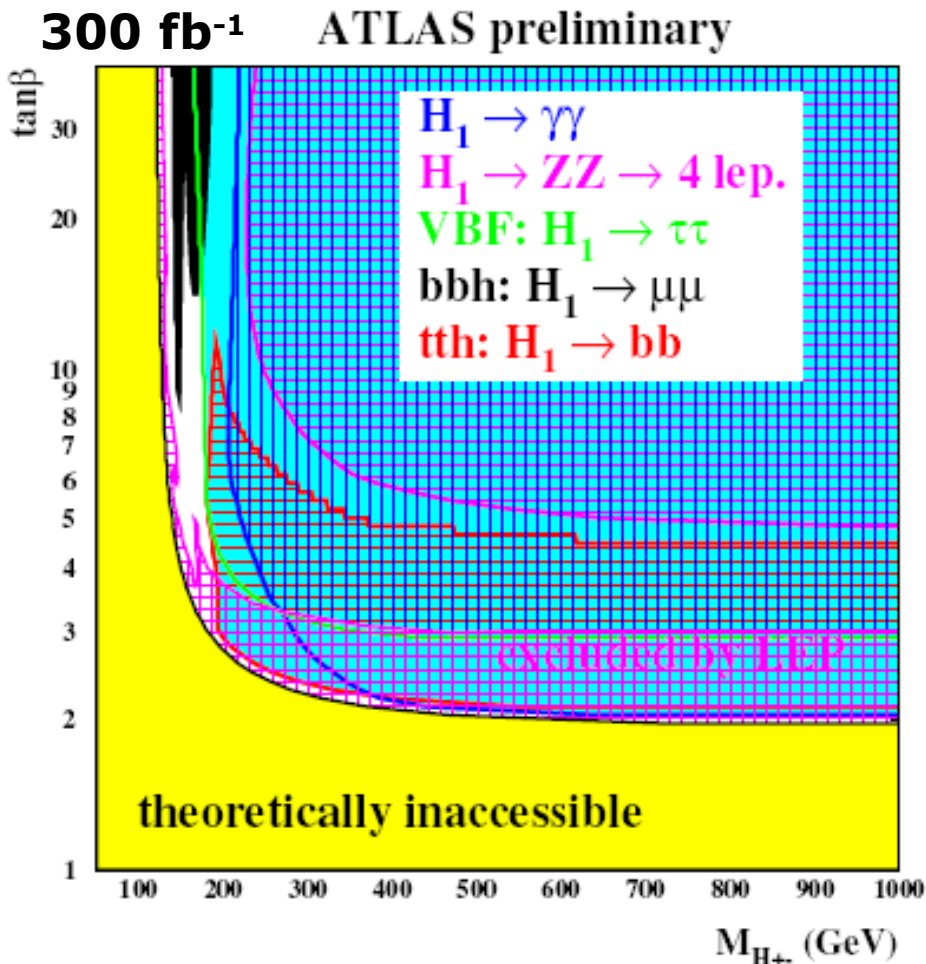


Excellent summary in the  
CERN CPNSH Yellow Report:  
[hep-ph / 0608079](#)

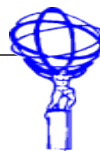
VBF:  $H_1 \rightarrow WW$   
VBF:  $H_1 \rightarrow \tau\tau$   
bbh:  $H_1 \rightarrow \mu\mu$   
tth:  $H_1 \rightarrow bb$



# CPX Scenario: A Light Higgs Boson $H_1$

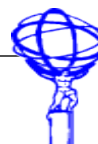
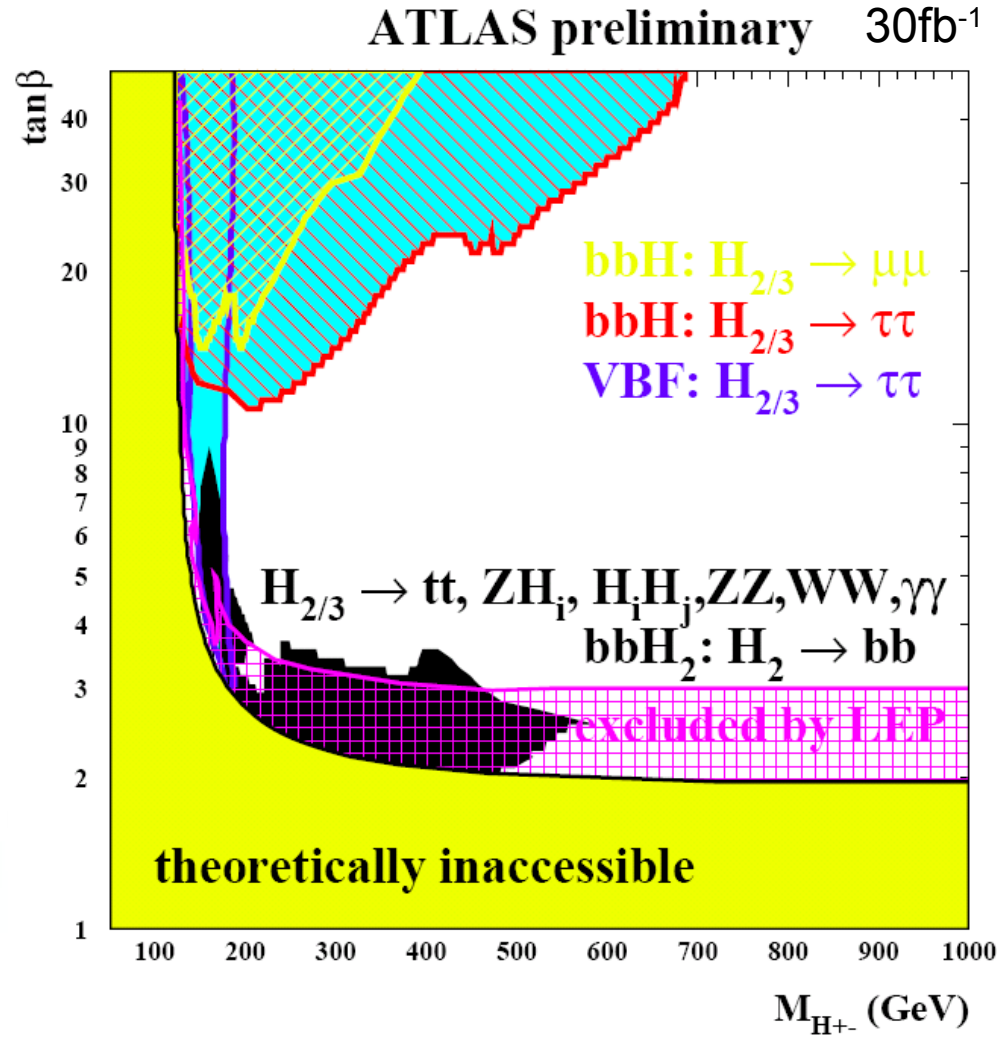


- border at low  $\tan\beta$  due to availability of MC studies (VBF:  $M_h > 110$  GeV, ttH and  $\gamma\gamma$ :  $M_h > 70$  GeV)
- border at low  $M_{H^{\pm}}$  due to decoupling of  $H_1$  from W,Z and t



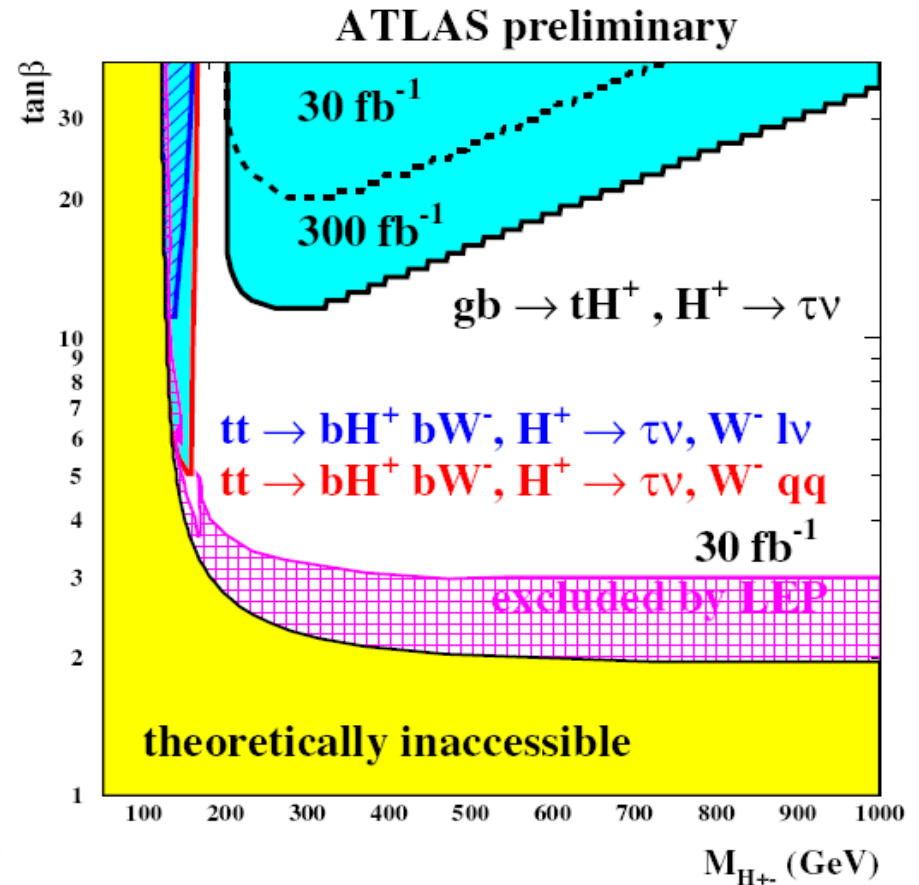
# CPX Scenario: Heavier Higgs Bosons $H_2$ and $H_3$

- The  $bbH$  cross section is decreasing with increasing  $H$  mass and decreasing  $\tan\beta$
- There is a reduction in the  $\tau$  decay BR in favor of  $bb$  and  $H_2 \rightarrow H_1 H_1$  while light  $H_1$  was not yet studied for LHC



# CPX Scenario: Charged Higgs

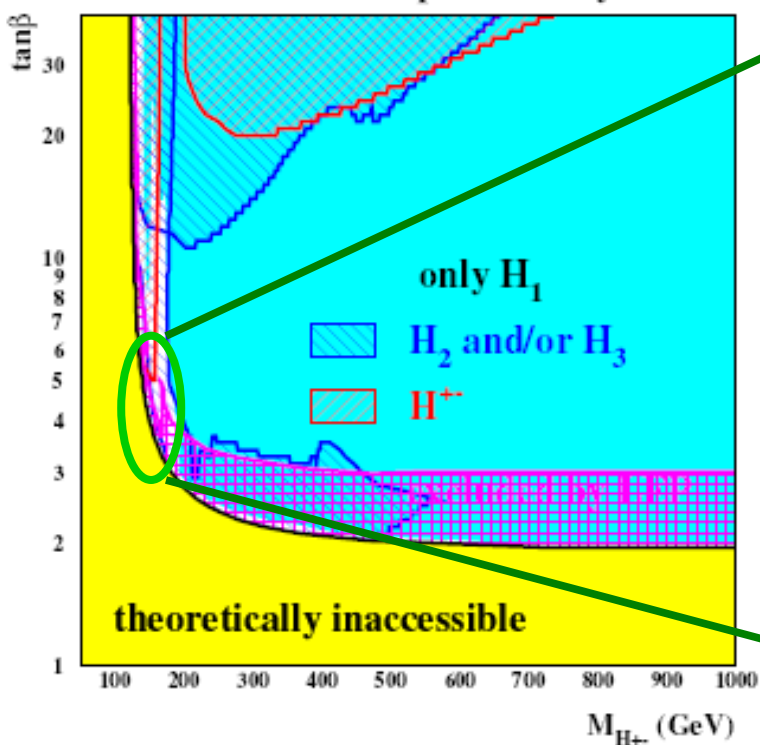
- The charged Higgs are still eigenstates
- Limits are very similar to CPC case...



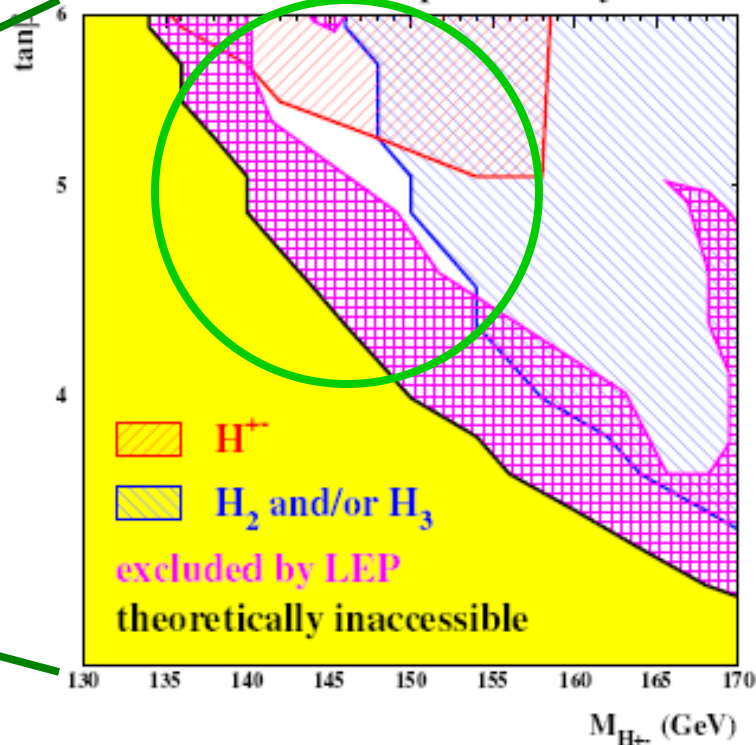
# Overall Discovery Potential in CPX Scenario

300 fb<sup>-1</sup>

ATLAS preliminary



ATLAS preliminary



## Small uncovered region !

$M_{H_1} : < 70 \text{ GeV}$

$M_{H_2} : 105 \text{ to } 120 \text{ GeV}$

$M_{H_3} : 140 \text{ to } 180 \text{ GeV}$

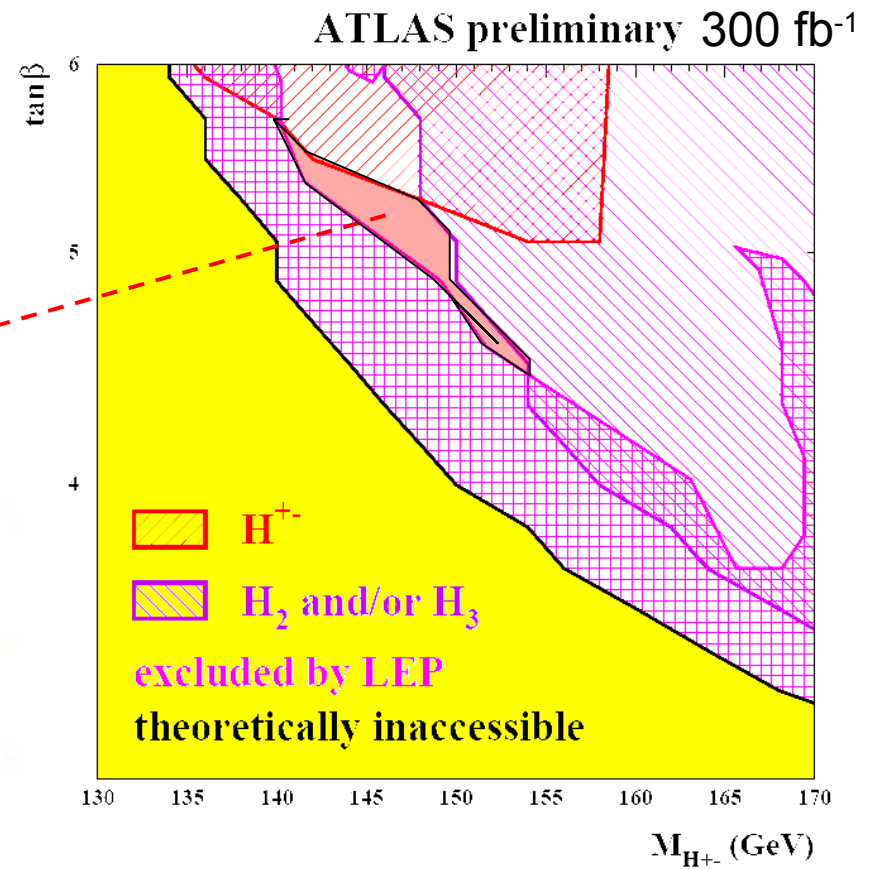
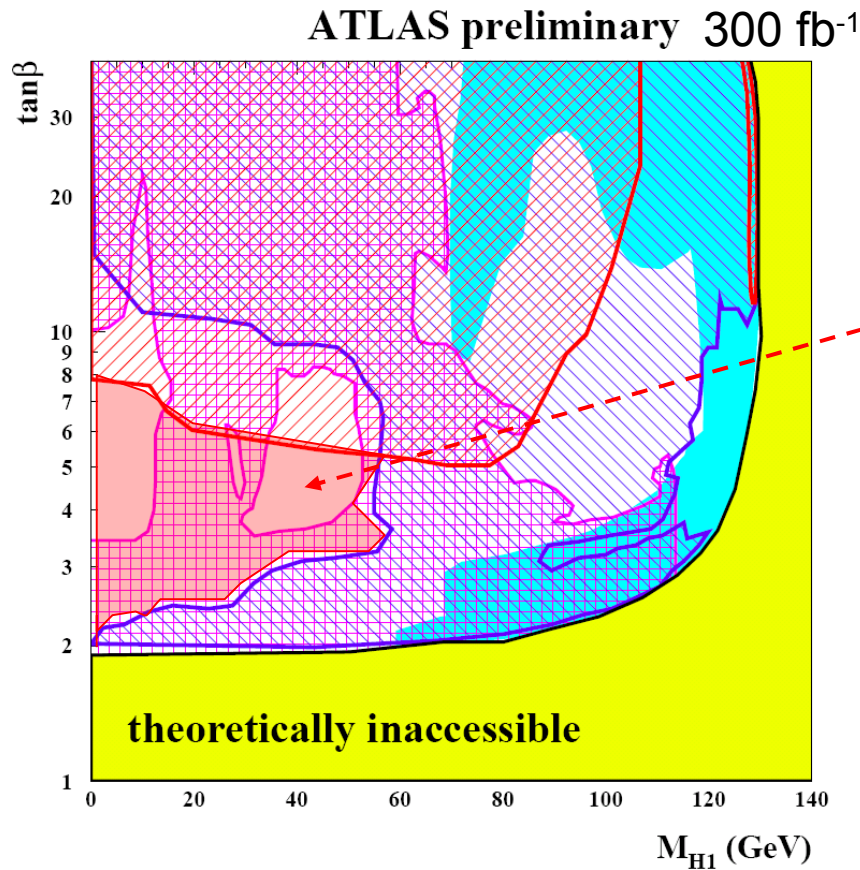
- The hole corresponds to light Higgs:  $m_{H_1} < 70, m_{H^{++}} < m_{\text{top}}$

Size of 'hole' depends on

- assumed  $M_t$  due to LEP exclusion
- FH versus CPSUPER



# Covering the 'hole' in the CPX Scenario



promising channel:

$tt \rightarrow bH^+bW^-$   $H^+ \rightarrow H_1 W^+$   $H_1 \rightarrow bb$ , same final state as  $ttH$ ,  $H \rightarrow bb$





# Conclusions

## ❖ CP-conserving MSSM:

- whole parameter space covered by at least one Higgs boson  
evaluation of discovery potential with sys. err. in progress...
- very possible that only one Higgs boson will be observable  
ongoing studies for SUSY decay modes and  
discrimination between SM and non-SM in this case...

## ❖ CP-violating MSSM:

- possibly a 'hole' as  $M_h$  below 70 GeV
  - may be covered by  $tt \rightarrow Wb$ ,  $H^+ \rightarrow b$ ,  $H^+ \rightarrow WH_1 \rightarrow Wbb$
- otherwise at least one Higgs boson is observable

Thanks to: Markus Schumacher, Eilam Gross, Johannes Haller, and the ATLAS Higgs WG

