Probing invisible physics at a muon collider: Opportunities and Challenges

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Based on work in progress with R. Masarotti, E. Salvioni and A. Wulzer

Muon Colliders

• There has been a renewed interest in muon colliders



Taken from Fabio Maltoni's talk at Muon Collider Collaboration Meeting '22

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- Considerable R&D effort



- first annual meeting was this October
- EU design study proposal accepted



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What is the physics potential of a muon collider?

Advantages of a Muon Collider

• Energy Reach

$$2 \rightarrow 2$$
 scattering
EW: $\beta \sim 1$
QCD: $\beta \sim \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\alpha_2}\right)^2 \sim 100$



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 - full kinematics of event can be reconstructed
 - access to missing invariant mass (MIM)

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Perfect machine for studying invisible physics (DM, LLPs,...)

Probing invisible physics at a muon collider

1. Opportunities:

- Focus on scalar Higgs portal to invisible new physics:
 - 1. Higgs portal scalar
 - 2. pNGB dark matter
 - 3. invisible Higgs decays

2. Challenges:

- Realistic limitations of muon collider / detector
- Accelerator and detector effects (beam energy spread,...) are important
- Study invisible Higgs decays as realistic benchmark

1. Opportunities

Higgs Portal Scalar

• SM singlet scalar ϕ coupled to SM through **renormalizable** Higgs portal

Marginal Higgs portal (aka renormalizable Higgs portal)

$$\mathscr{L}_{\rm BSM} \supset -\frac{\lambda}{2} \phi^2 H^{\dagger} H$$

• Assume that ϕ is stable or long-lived on detector scales



- "Nightmare Scenario" for BSM physics: extremely hard to probe (especially for $m_{\phi} > m_h/2$)
- Well motivated; relevant for many BSM scenarios

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-> observed relic abundance requires $\lambda \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-2} - 10^{-1})$

review: 1903.03616

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- effective coupling
$$\lambda = \sqrt{4N_c} \, y_t^2 pprox 3.4$$

Cheng, Li, Salvioni, Verhaaren 2018 Cohen, Craig, Giudice, McCullough 2018

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First-order electroweak phase transition

- requires large couplings
$$\ \lambda \sim {\cal O}(1)$$

For collider tests see e.g. Curtin, Meade, Yu 2014

review: 1903.03616

Higgs Portal Scalar DM

• Minimal model in tension with direct detection experiments



Still possible in extended theories (extra scalars, non-standard cosmology,...)

Derivative Higgs Portal: pNGB DM

Derivative Higgs portal

$$\frac{c_d}{2f^2}\partial_\mu\phi^2\partial^\mu|H|^2$$



 \blacksquare If ϕ is stable: pseudo Nambu-Goldstone Boson dark matter

Frigerio, Pomarol, Riva, Urbano 2012

Effective Interaction Strength



Derivative Higgs Portal: pNGB DM

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Relic Abundance



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pNGB DM is practically invisible in direct detection

- pNGB DM arises naturally in non-minimal composite Higgs models
- Minimal model

$$SO(6)/SO(5) \longrightarrow (H, \phi) \sim 4 + 1$$
 of $SO(4)$

Gripaios et al 2009, Frigerio et al 2012, Marzocca and Urbano 2014

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Balkin, MR, Salvioni, Weiler 2017, 2018

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Needs controlled breaking of Goldstone symmetry

$$V_\phi \supset rac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2 + rac{\lambda}{2} \phi^2 H^\dagger H$$
 has to be suppressed!

• **pNGB DM** can arise from complex scalar with U(1) broken by mass term

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\rm SM} + |\partial_{\mu}S|^{2} + \frac{\mu_{S}^{2}}{2}|S|^{2} - \frac{\lambda_{S}}{2}|S|^{4} - \lambda_{HS}|S|^{2}|H|^{2} + \frac{\mu_{S}'^{2}}{4}(S^{2} + \text{h.c.})$$

$$\longrightarrow U(1) \text{ spontaneously broken } S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(v_{s} + \sigma)e^{i\phi/v_{s}}$$

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• Integrating out radial mode generates $\frac{c_d}{2f^2}\partial_\mu\phi^2\partial^\mu|H|^2$ with $\frac{c_d}{f^2} \simeq \frac{\lambda_{HS}}{\lambda_S v_S^2}$

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note that corrections to Higgs couplings scale as
$$\frac{c_H}{c_d} \simeq \frac{\lambda_{HS}}{\lambda_S}$$

instead of
$$\frac{c_H}{c_d} \simeq 1$$
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instead of $\frac{c_H}{c_d} \simeq 1$ (typical scaling in Composite Higgs)

Collider probes are even more important!

• Main production channel is VBF for $\sqrt{s}\gtrsim 1~{\rm TeV}$

WW fusion is completely invisible, focus on ZZ fusion



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• Very different scaling of cross-section with m_{ϕ} and s

$$\sigma_{\mu^{-}\mu^{+} \to \mu^{-}\mu^{+}\phi\phi}^{\text{der}} \sim \frac{c_{d}^{2}s}{f^{4}}$$

$$\sigma_{\mu^{-}\mu^{+} \to \mu^{-}\mu^{+}\phi\phi}^{\text{marg}} \sim \frac{\lambda^{2}}{m_{\phi}^{2}} \log \frac{s}{m_{\phi}^{2}}$$
(for $s \gg m_{h}^{2}, m_{V}^{2}$)

approximately independent of m_{ϕ} limited by \sqrt{s}

• Main BG:
$$\mu^-\mu^+ \rightarrow \mu^-\mu^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$$

- Kinematic variables: $M_{\mu\mu}, |\Delta\eta_{\mu\mu}|, \text{MIM}, E_T$
- MIM is very effective for BG suppression

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$$m_{\phi} < m_h/2$$

$$\sqrt{s} = 6 \text{ TeV}$$



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HL-LHC CLIC 1.5 HE-LHC CLIC 3 FCC 100 μ C 6 μ C 14

 $m_{\phi} \, [\text{GeV}]$ 130170190310330540990 at $\lambda = \sqrt{4N_c} y_t^2 \approx 3.4$ (scalar top partners)



 m_{ϕ} [GeV]130170190310330540990at $\lambda = \sqrt{4N_c} y_t^2 \approx 3.4$ $\sqrt{s} = 6$ TeV muon collider outperforms FCC-hh(scalar top partners)14

Marginal Higgs Portal: 1st order EWPT



Shaded regions: possibility of a first order EW phase transition

Buttazzo, Redigolo, Sala, Tesi 1807.04743

Derivative Higgs Portal



Derivative Higgs Portal



Only muon collider can truly probe pNGB DM
Higgs Portal: forward muons

Caveat: coverage of very forward muons is crucial

current design: detector coverage of $|\eta_{\mu}| < 2.44$



θ	η
0°	00
0.1°	7.04
0.5°	5.43
1°	4.74
2°	4.05
5°	3.13
10°	2.44

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• Large beam induced background (BIB) in forward region



muons decay along the beam



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- **BUT:** forward muon detection in principle possible at muon collider



Detector and accelerator effects become important

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Detector and accelerator effects become important

A more realistic study is needed to make the case for a forward muon detector

• At FCC-hh: $BR(h \rightarrow inv) < 2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$

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How well can we do at a muon collider as a function of the detector coverage?

• Consider ZZ-fusion production at $\sqrt{s} = 10$ TeV

• Main BG:
$$\mu^-\mu^+ \rightarrow \mu^-\mu^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$$

• In contrast to FCC-hh:

Muon collider is sensitive to MIM

MIM is essential for BG suppression

$$MIM = \sqrt{p_{\mu}p^{\mu}} \qquad p = (\sqrt{s}, \vec{0}) - p_{\mu^+} - p_{\mu^-}$$
 20



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Invisible Higgs Decay: Parton Level

• Cut on MIM, $M_{\mu\mu}, \Delta \eta_{\mu\mu}, E_T, \min(E_{\mu^-}, E_{\mu^+})$



Projected 95% CL constraints

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1. Beam energy spread (BES)

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2. Beam angular spread (BAS)



$$p = (\sqrt{s}, \vec{0}) - p_{\mu^+} - p_{\mu^-} + ?$$
1. Beam energy spread (BES)
2. Beam angular spread (BAS)
3. Uncertainty in energy measurement

Irreducible imperfections of MIM measurement

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1. Beam energy spread (BES)
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• Different definitions for MIM possible MIM $\equiv \left| \sqrt{\not p_{\mu} \not p^{\mu}} \right|$ or MIM $\equiv \operatorname{Re} \left(\sqrt{\not p_{\mu} \not p^{\mu}} \right)$

Irreducible imperfections of MIM measurement

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- Different definitions for MIM possible MIM $\equiv \left| \sqrt{\not p_{\mu} \not p^{\mu}} \right|$ or MIM $\equiv \operatorname{Re} \left(\sqrt{\not p_{\mu} \not p^{\mu}} \right)$
- High-rate processes become important BGs $\mu^-\mu^+
 ightarrow \mu^-\mu^+$

$$\mu^-\mu^+ \to \mu^-\mu^+\gamma$$

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$$p_{\mu^{-}} = (E_1, 0, 0, E_1) \longrightarrow \mu^{-} \mu^{+} p_{\mu^{+}} = (E_2, 0, 0, -E_2)$$

• Expected BES is 1 per mille e.g. 2203.07224

Detection frame \neq COM frame (longitudinal boost)

MIM distribution gets smeared



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- Higgs peak swamped by photon BG
- Width of photon distribution set by p_{γ}^{z}

$$\Delta \mathrm{MIM} \sim 200~\mathrm{GeV} \left(\frac{\delta_{\mathrm{BES}}}{10^{-3}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{p_{\gamma}^z}{2~\mathrm{TeV}}\right)^{1/2}$$



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Hard collinear photon emission is main source of photon BG



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Hard collinear photon emission is main source of photon BG

One of the muons will be less energetic

Efficient suppression with cut on

$$\operatorname{Min}(E_{\mu^-},E_{\mu^+})$$

Comment on Photon BG

• Photon BG is generated at fixed order in MadGraph



• Generator level cuts of $p_T^{\gamma} > 10$ GeV and $|\eta_{\gamma}| > 2.44$

 \rightarrow assume that EM calorimeter only covers $\theta > 10^{\circ}$ ($|\eta| < 2.44$)

 Including photon radiation from signal and an improved simulation is work in progress

Beam Angular Spread (BAS)



• Average angular spread $\Delta \theta \sim 0.6 \,\mathrm{mrad}$

final state muons are boosted w.r.t. collision in COM frame (transverse)

• Seems to have small effect on analysis



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• Energy measurement uncertainty of forward muons has large effect on MIM



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500



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• Energy measurement uncertainty of forward muons has large effect on MIM



Combination

• Sensitivity to $BR(h \rightarrow inv)$ with all effects combined



1. Perfect 4-momentum reconstruction
• Sensitivity to $BR(h \rightarrow inv)$ with all effects combined



1. Perfect 4-momentum reconstruction

2.0.1% BES

• Sensitivity to $BR(h \rightarrow inv)$ with all effects combined



1. Perfect 4-momentum reconstruction

2. 0.1% BES

3. 0.1% BES + 0.1% energy uncertainty

• Sensitivity to $BR(h \rightarrow inv)$ with all effects combined



Perfect 4-momentum reconstruction
 0.1% BES
 0.1% BES + 0.1% energy uncertainty
 0.1% BES + 1% energy uncertainty

• Sensitivity to $BR(h \rightarrow inv)$ with all effects combined



Next Steps

- Improve simulation of photon BG
- Include photon radiation off signal
- Further detector / accelerator effects (displacement of interaction point,...)
- Apply to other scenarios

Your suggestions or comments

Conclusions

- A high-energy μ -collider can be the perfect machine to study invisible physics
- Accurate reconstruction of MIM requires **forward** muon detector
- **Detector** and **accelerator** effects not negligible for forward muons

A realistic study of these effects is needed to make the case for a forward muon detector



Invisible Higgs Decay Distributions



Cut Summary



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Invisible Higgs Decay Projections

	LHC current [52]	HL-LHC	ILC 250 [44]	FCC-ee 240 [44]	FCC-hh[55]
	(VBF)	$\operatorname{VBF}\left[53\right]\left[Zh\right]\left[54\right]$	(Zh)	(Zh)	(inclusive)
${ m BR}(h o { m inv})$	0.13	$0.035\ [0.08]$	$1.3\cdot 10^{-3}$	$8\cdot 10^{-4}$	$2.5\cdot 10^{-4}$

Invisible Higgs Decay Projections



MIM Scaling with BES

- Consider $\mu^{-}(p_1)\mu^{+}(p_2) \to \mu^{-}(p_{\mu^{-}}^{\text{out}})\mu^{+}(p_{\mu^{+}}^{\text{out}})\gamma(p_{\gamma})$
- True initial 4-vectors $p_{1/2}^{\mu} = E_{1/2}(1, 0, 0, \pm 1)$

• MIM² =
$$(p_1 + p_2 - p_{\mu^-}^{\text{out}} - p_{\mu^+}^{\text{out}})^2 = p_{\gamma}^2 = 0$$

• We do not know initial 4-momenta and assume $\tilde{p}_{1/2}^{\mu} = \frac{\sqrt{s}}{2}(1,0,0,\pm 1)$

$$MIM^{2} = (\tilde{p}_{1} + \tilde{p}_{2} - p_{\mu^{-}}^{out} - p_{\mu^{+}}^{out})^{2} = (\tilde{p}_{1} + \tilde{p}_{2} - p_{1} - p_{2} + p_{\gamma})^{2}$$

• For $E_i = \frac{\sqrt{s}}{2}(1+\delta_i)$

 $\mathrm{MIM}^2 = 2(\tilde{p}_1 + \tilde{p}_2 - p_1 - p_2) \cdot p_\gamma + \mathcal{O}(\delta_i^2) \simeq 2 |p_\gamma^z| \sqrt{s} \, \delta_i$

pNGB DM Realizations

• **Complex** scalar DM

 $SO(7)/SO(6) \longrightarrow (H, \chi) \sim \mathbf{4}_0 + \mathbf{1}_{\pm 1}$ of $SO(4)_{U(1)_{\text{DM}}}$ \blacksquare stabilised by exact $U(1)_{\text{DM}} \subset SO(6)$ Balkin, MR, Salvioni, Weiler, 1707.07685

- Controlled Goldstone symmetry-breaking / mass generation by
 - 1. Coupling to top $\lambda \sim \frac{\lambda_h}{2}$ In tension with XENON1T

Balkin, MR, Salvioni, Weiler, 1707.07685

2. Coupling to bottom (or lighter quarks)

 $\lambda \propto y_b^2 \ll 1$

Balkin, MR, Salvioni, Weiler, 1809.09106

3. Weakly gauging $U(1)_{\text{DM}} = \lambda \propto \text{higher-loop} \ll 1$