

Indirect Sensitivities to the Scale of Supersymmetry

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Abstract

Precision measurements, now and at a future linear electron-positron collider (ILC), can provide indirect information about the possible scale of supersymmetry. We illustrate the present-day and possible future ILC sensitivities within the constrained minimal supersymmetric extension of the Standard Model (CMSSM), in which there are three independent soft supersymmetry-breaking parameters $m_{1/2}$, m_0 and A_0 . We analyze the present and future sensitivities separately for M_W , $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$, $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$, $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)$, M_h and Higgs branching ratios. We display the observables as functions of $m_{1/2}$, fixing m_0 so as to obtain the cold dark matter density allowed by WMAP and other cosmological data for specific values of A_0 , $\tan \beta$ and $\mu > 0$. In a second step, we investigate the combined sensitivity of the currently available precision observables, M_W , $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$, by performing a χ^2 analysis. The current data are in very good agreement with the CMSSM prediction for $\tan \beta = 10$, with a clear preference for relatively small values of $m_{1/2} \sim 300$ GeV. In this case, there would be good prospects for observing supersymmetry directly at both the LHC and the ILC, and some chance already at the Tevatron collider. For $\tan \beta = 50$, the quality of the fit is worse, and somewhat larger $m_{1/2}$ values are favoured. With the prospective ILC accuracies the sensitivity to indirect effects of supersymmetry greatly improves. This may provide indirect access to supersymmetry even at scales beyond the direct reach of the LHC or the ILC.

1 Introduction

Measurements at low energies may provide interesting indirect information about the masses of particles that are too heavy to be produced directly. A prime example is the use of precision electroweak data from LEP, the SLC, the Tevatron and elsewhere to predict (successfully) the mass of the top quark and to provide an indication of the possible mass of the hypothetical Higgs boson [1]. Predicting the masses of supersymmetric particles is much more difficult than for the top quark or even the Higgs boson, because the renormalizability of the Standard Model and the decoupling theorem imply that many low-energy observables are insensitive to heavy sparticles. Nevertheless, present data on observables such as M_W , $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ already provide interesting information on the scale of supersymmetry (SUSY), as we discuss in this paper, and have a great potential in view of prospective improvements of experimental and theoretical accuracies.

In the future, a linear e^+e^- collider (ILC) will be the best available tool for making many precision measurements [2]. It is important to understand what information ILC measurements may provide about supersymmetry, both for the part of the spectrum directly accessible at the LHC or the ILC and for sparticles that would be too heavy to be produced directly. Comparing the indirect indications with the direct measurements would be an important consistency check on the theoretical framework of supersymmetry.

Improved and more complete calculations of the supersymmetric contributions to a number of low-energy observables such as M_W and $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$ have recently become available (see the discussion in Sect. 3 below). These, combined with estimates of the experimental accuracies attainable at the ILC and future theoretical uncertainties from unknown higher-order corrections, make now an opportune moment to assess the likely sensitivities of ILC measurements.

There have been many previous studies of the sensitivity of low-energy observables to the scale of supersymmetry, including, for example, the precision electroweak observables [3–9]. Such analyses are bedevilled by the large dimensionality of even the minimal supersymmetric extension of the Standard Model (MSSM), once supersymmetry-breaking parameters are taken into account. For this reason, simplifying assumptions that may be more or less well motivated are often made, so as to reduce the parameter space to a manageable dimensionality. Following many previous studies, we work here in the framework of the constrained MSSM (CMSSM), in which the soft supersymmetry-breaking scalar and gaugino masses are each assumed to be equal at some GUT input scale. In this case, the new independent MSSM parameters are just four in number: the universal gaugino mass $m_{1/2}$, the scalar mass m_0 ,

the trilinear soft supersymmetry-breaking parameter A_0 , and the ratio $\tan\beta$ of Higgs vacuum expectation values. The pseudoscalar Higgs mass M_A and the magnitude of the Higgs mixing parameter μ can be determined by using the electroweak vacuum conditions, leaving the sign of μ as a residual ambiguity.

The non-discoveries of supersymmetric particles and the Higgs boson at LEP and other present-day colliders impose significant lower bounds on $m_{1/2}$ and m_0 . An important further constraint is provided by the density of dark matter in the Universe, which is tightly constrained by WMAP and other astrophysical and cosmological data [10]. These have the effect within the CMSSM, assuming that the dark matter consists largely of neutralinos [11], of restricting m_0 to very narrow allowed strips for any specific choice of A_0 , $\tan\beta$ and the sign of μ [12,13]. Thus, the dimensionality of the supersymmetric parameter space is further reduced, and one may explore supersymmetric phenomenology along these ‘WMAP strips’, as has already been done for the direct detection of supersymmetric particles at the LHC and linear colliders of varying energies [14–19]. A full likelihood analysis of the CMSSM planes incorporating uncertainties in the cosmological relic density was performed in Ref. [20]. The principal aim of this paper is to extend this analysis to indirect effects of supersymmetry.

We consider the following observables: the W boson mass, M_W , the effective weak mixing angle at the Z boson resonance, $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$, the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon, $(g-2)_\mu$ and the rare b decays $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ and $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$, as well as the mass of the lightest \mathcal{CP} -even Higgs boson, M_h , and the Higgs branching ratios $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow b\bar{b})/\text{BR}(h \rightarrow WW^*)$. We first analyze the sensitivity of each observable to indirect effects of supersymmetry, taking into account the present and prospective future experimental and theoretical uncertainties. We then investigate the combined sensitivity of those observables for which experimental determinations exist at present, i.e., M_W , $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$. We perform χ^2 analyses both for fixed values of A_0 and for scans in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane for $\tan\beta = 10$ and 50 with $\mu > 0$. We find a remarkably high sensitivity of the current data for the electroweak precision observables to the scale of supersymmetry. In the case $\tan\beta = 10$, we find a preference for moderate values of $m_{1/2} \sim 300$ GeV, in which case sparticles should be observable at both the LHC and the ILC. In the case $\tan\beta = 50$, the global fit is not so good, and low values of $m_{1/2}$ are not so strongly preferred. In order to investigate the possible future sensitivities we study the combined effect of all the above observables (except $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$, which is discussed separately). For this purpose we choose certain values of $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ as assumed future ‘best-fit’ values (corresponding to the central values of the observables) and investigate the indirect constraints arising from the precision observables for prospective experimental and theoretical uncertainties.

In Section 2 of the paper we specify the WMAP strips and discuss their dependences on A_0 and the top-quark mass. We discuss in Section 3 the present and future sensitivities of the different precision observables to the scale of supersymmetry, represented by $m_{1/2}$ as one moves along different WMAP strips. In Section 4 we analyze the combined sensitivity of the precision observables for the present situation, and Section 5 presents the prospective combined sensitivity assuming the accuracies expected to become available at the ILC with its GigaZ option. Finally, Section 6 gives our conclusions. In most of the scenarios studied, even if it does not produce sparticles directly, the ILC will check the consistency of the CMSSM at the loop level and thereby provide valuable extra information beyond that obtainable with the LHC.

2 Supersymmetric dark matter and WMAP strips

It is well known that the lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP) is an excellent candidate for cold dark matter (CDM) [11], with a density that falls naturally within the range $0.094 < \Omega_{\text{CDM}} h^2 < 0.129$ favoured by a joint analysis of WMAP and other astrophysical and cosmological data [10]. Assuming that the cold dark matter is composed predominantly of LSPs, the uncertainty in the determination of $\Omega_{\text{CDM}} h^2$ effectively reduces by one the dimensionality of the MSSM parameter space. Specifically, if one assumes that the soft supersymmetry-breaking gaugino masses $m_{1/2}$ and scalar masses m_0 are universal at some GUT input scale, as in the CMSSM studied here, the $(m_{1/2}, m_0)$ planes usually studied for fixed A_0 , $\tan\beta$ and sign of μ are effectively reduced to narrow strips of limited thickness in m_0 for any given value of $m_{1/2}$ [12] and the other parameters.

These strips have been delineated and parametrized when $A_0 = 0$ for several choices of $\tan\beta$ for each sign of μ , and the possible LHC and ILC phenomenology along these lines has been discussed [16]. As preliminaries to studying indirect sensitivities to the scale of supersymmetry along some of these WMAP strips, we first address a couple of physics issues. One is that the experimental central value of m_t has changed since Ref. [16], from 174.3 GeV to 178.0 GeV [21], and the other is the dependence of the WMAP strips on A_0 . The change in m_t has a significant effect on the regions of CMSSM parameter space allowed, particularly in the focus-point region where the range of m_0 allowed by cosmology now starts above 4 TeV. In view of the high values of m_0 and the sensitivity to m_t [22], we do not study the focus-point region further in this paper. There are also m_t - and A_0 -dependent effects in the ‘funnels’ where neutralinos annihilate rapidly via the H, A poles. These affect the dependence of m_0 on $m_{1/2}$ along the WMAP lines, as we now discuss in more detail. As

explained below, because of the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon, we focus on cases with $\mu > 0$.

Plotted in Fig. 1 is the region in the $(m_{1/2}, m_0)$ plane for fixed $\tan\beta, A_0$ and $\mu > 0$ for which the relic density is in the WMAP range (the results of [9] are in qualitative agreement with Ref. [23]). We have applied cuts based on the lower limit to the Higgs mass, $b \rightarrow s\gamma$, and require that the LSP be a neutralino rather than the stau. The thin strips correspond to the relic density being determined by either the coannihilation between nearly degenerate $\tilde{\tau}$'s and χ 's or, as seen at high $\tan\beta$, by rapid annihilation when $m_\chi \approx M_A/2$. We see in Fig. 1(a) that the WMAP strip for $\mu > 0$ and $\tan\beta = 10$ does not change much as m_t is varied, reflecting the fact that the allowed strip is dominated by annihilation of the neutralino LSP χ with the lighter stau slepton $\tilde{\tau}_1$. The main effect of varying m_t is that the truncation at low $m_{1/2}$, due to the Higgs mass constraint, becomes more important at low m_t . This effect is not visible in Fig. 1(b) for $\tan\beta = 50$, where the cutoff at low $m_{1/2}$ is due to the $b \rightarrow s\gamma$ constraint, and rapid $\chi\chi \rightarrow A, H$ annihilation is important at large $m_{1/2}$. The allowed regions at larger $m_{1/2}$ vary significantly with m_t when $\tan\beta = 50$, because the A, H masses and hence the rapid-annihilation regions are very sensitive to m_t through the renormalization group (RG) running. Indeed, the rapid-annihilation region almost disappears for $m_t = 182$ GeV at this value of $\tan\beta$. In this case, in particular, we see a wisp of allowed CMSSM parameter space running almost parallel to, but significantly above, the familiar coannihilation strip, which is due to rapid $\tilde{\tau}_1\tilde{\tau}_1 \rightarrow H$ annihilation. At higher values of $\tan\beta$ the rapid-annihilation region would reappear for $m_t = 182$ GeV.

We now turn to the variation of the WMAP strips for different A_0 , but with m_t fixed to $m_t = 178$ GeV. Since the WMAP strips are largely independent of the sign of μ , for clarity we show them in Fig. 2 only for $\mu > 0$. We see in Fig. 2(a,b) that the WMAP strip for $\tan\beta = 10$ also does not change much as A_0 is varied: the main effect is for the strip to move to larger m_0 as $|A_0|$ is increased. This is because the main effect of A_0 is on the running of the diagonal stau masses, whose RG equations depend only on A_0^2 . The splitting of the two stau masses depends on the sign of A_0 via the off-diagonal entries in the stau mass matrix, but the impact of this effect on the final stau masses is relatively small. Hence the WMAP strips rise for both signs of A_0 . For a given value of $m_{1/2}, m_0$ and $\tan\beta$, the low-energy value of A_τ is shifted from its high-energy value, A_0 , by an amount ΔA that is relatively independent of A_0 . Therefore, for $|A_0|$ much larger than ΔA , the low-energy value of A_τ will be larger than that for $A_0 = 0$, causing the right-handed stau soft mass to drop. This in turn increases the value of m_0 corresponding to the coannihilation strip. Only when the low-energy value of $|A_\tau|$ is less than and of opposite sign to ΔA does the light stau

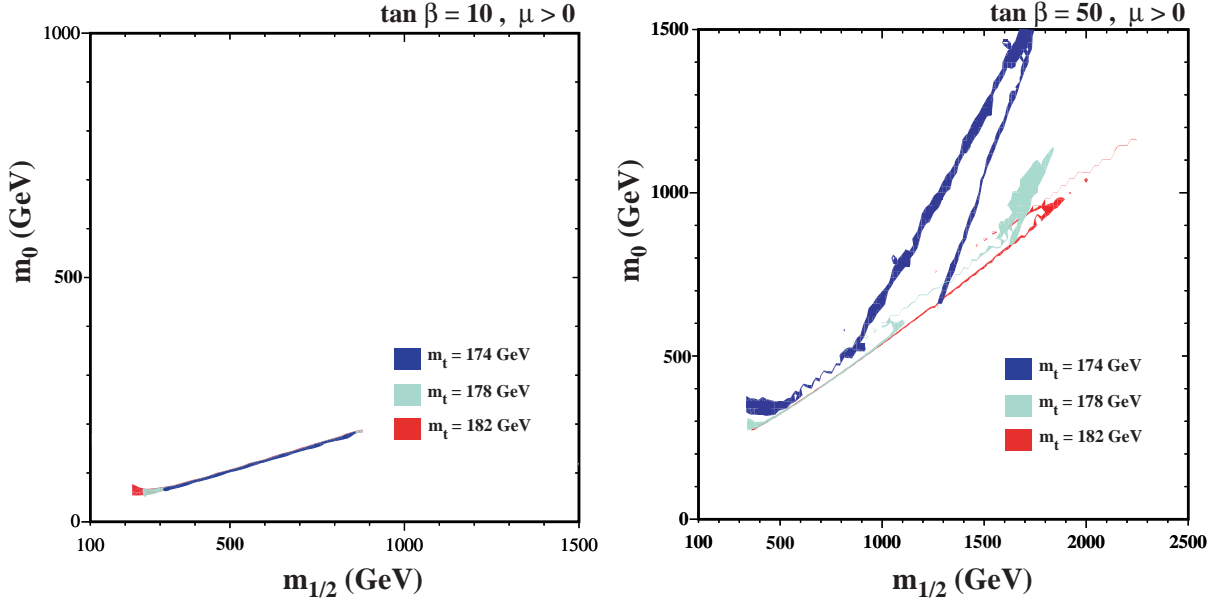


Figure 1: The WMAP strips for $\mu > 0$, $A_0 = 0$ and (a) $\tan \beta = 10$, (b) $\tan \beta = 50$, showing the dependence on the top-quark mass, for $m_t = 174, 178$ and 182 GeV.

mass increase. In the specific examples shown in Fig. 2(a,b), ΔA ranges from about 130 GeV at low $m_{1/2}$ to about 550 GeV at high $m_{1/2}$. Since the shifts are always positive, the coannihilation strip rises less for negative values of A_0 (Fig. 2(b)) than for positive values (Fig. 2(a)).

The WMAP regions for $\tan \beta = 50$ vary much more rapidly with $|A_0|$, because of the sensitivity of the A, H masses and hence the rapid-annihilation regions. In Fig. 2(c) the case for $A_0 \geq 0$ can be seen, whereas Fig. 2(d) shows $A_0 \leq 0$. We again see wisps of allowed CMSSM parameter space due to rapid $\tilde{\tau}_1 \bar{\tilde{\tau}}_1 \rightarrow H$ annihilation. In this case, as described above, the right-handed stau mass is sensitive to the value of A_0 . Therefore, for $A_0 \neq 0$ (Fig. 2(c,d)), the cosmologically preferred region shifts to larger m_0 for both signs of A_0 . In addition, the value of the heavy Higgs scalar and pseudoscalar masses depends on A_0 (not only A_0^2) and the position of the rapid-annihilation funnels therefore depends sensitively on A_0 .

In the following, we mainly present our results along the WMAP strips for $m_t = 178$ GeV, the present experimental central value [21], but we do show results for different values of $|A_0|$. This is because the variation with m_t is less important for $\tan \beta = 10$, and comparable with that due to varying $|A_0|$ when $\tan \beta = 50$. Additionally, we present scans of the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ planes for $\tan \beta = 10$ and 50 .

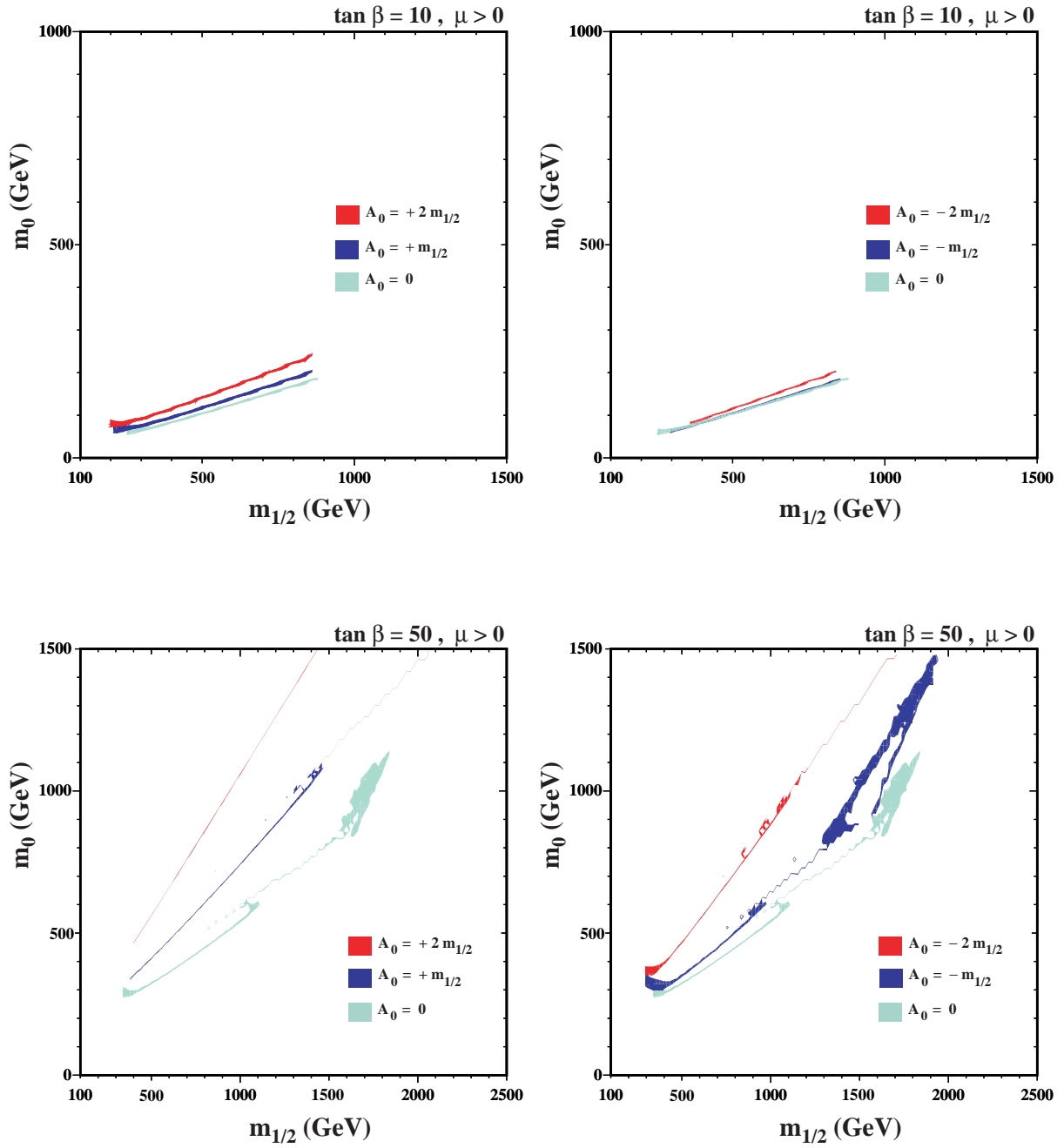


Figure 2: The WMAP strips for $\mu > 0$, $m_t = 178$ GeV and (a) $\tan\beta = 10$, $A_0 \geq 0$ (upper left), (b) $\tan\beta = 10$, $A_0 \leq 0$ (upper right), (c) $\tan\beta = 50$, $A_0 \geq 0$ (lower left), (d) $\tan\beta = 50$, $A_0 \leq 0$ (lower right) showing the dependence on A_0 for $A_0 = 0, \pm m_{1/2}$ and $\pm 2m_{1/2}$.

3 Present and future sensitivities to the scale of supersymmetry from low-energy observables

In this section, we briefly describe the low-energy observables used in our analysis. We discuss the current and prospective future precision of the experimental results and the theoretical predictions. In the following, we refer to the theoretical uncertainties from unknown higher-order corrections as ‘intrinsic’ theoretical uncertainties and to the uncertainties induced by the experimental errors of the input parameters as ‘parametric’ theoretical uncertainties. We also give relevant details of the higher-order perturbative corrections that we include. We do not discuss theoretical uncertainties from the RG running between the high-scale parameters and the weak scale (see Ref. [19] for a recent discussion in the context of predicting the CDM density). At present, these uncertainties are expected to be less important than the experimental and theoretical uncertainties of the precision observables. In the future, both the uncertainties from unknown higher-order terms in the RG running and from the parameters entering the running will considerably improve.

Results for these observables are shown as a function of $m_{1/2}$ with A_0 varied, m_0 determined by the WMAP constraint (see Sect. 2), and $\tan\beta = 10, 50$. In this way the indirect sensitivities of the low-energy observables to the scale of supersymmetry are investigated.

3.1 The W boson mass

The W boson mass can be evaluated from

$$M_W^2 \left(1 - \frac{M_W^2}{M_Z^2} \right) = \frac{\pi\alpha}{\sqrt{2}G_F} (1 + \Delta r), \quad (1)$$

where α is the fine structure constant and G_F the Fermi constant. The radiative corrections are summarized in the quantity Δr [24]. The prediction for M_W within the Standard Model (SM) or the MSSM is obtained from evaluating Δr in these models and solving eq. (1) in an iterative way.

The one-loop contributions to Δr can be written as

$$\Delta r = \Delta\alpha - \frac{c_W^2}{s_W^2} \Delta\rho + (\Delta r)_{\text{rem}}, \quad (2)$$

where $\Delta\alpha$ is the shift in the fine structure constant due to the light fermions of the SM, $\Delta\alpha \propto \log m_f$, and $\Delta\rho$ is the leading contribution to the ρ parameter. It is given by fermion and sfermion loop contributions to the transverse parts of the gauge boson self-energies at

zero external momentum,

$$\Delta\rho = \frac{\Sigma_Z(0)}{M_Z^2} - \frac{\Sigma_W(0)}{M_W^2}. \quad (3)$$

The remainder part, $(\Delta r)_{\text{rem}}$, contains in particular the contributions from the Higgs sector.

We include the complete one-loop result in the MSSM [25,26] as well as higher-order QCD corrections of SM type of $\mathcal{O}(\alpha\alpha_s)$ [27,28] and $\mathcal{O}(\alpha\alpha_s^2)$ [29,30]. Furthermore, we incorporate supersymmetric corrections of $\mathcal{O}(\alpha\alpha_s)$ [31] and of $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_t^2)$ [32] to $\Delta\rho$.

The remaining intrinsic theoretical uncertainty in the prediction for M_W within the MSSM is still significantly larger than in the SM, where it is currently estimated to be about 4 MeV [33]. We estimate the present [34] and future intrinsic uncertainties to be

$$\Delta M_W^{\text{intr,current}} = 10 \text{ MeV}, \quad \Delta M_W^{\text{intr,future}} = 2 \text{ MeV}. \quad (4)$$

The parametric uncertainties are dominated by the experimental error of the top-quark mass and the hadronic contribution to the shift in the fine structure constant. The current errors induce the following parametric uncertainties

$$\delta m_t^{\text{current}} = 4.3 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow \Delta M_W^{\text{para},m_t,\text{current}} \approx 26 \text{ MeV}, \quad (5)$$

$$\delta(\Delta\alpha_{\text{had}}^{\text{current}}) = 36 \times 10^{-5} \Rightarrow \Delta M_W^{\text{para},\Delta\alpha_{\text{had}},\text{current}} \approx 6.5 \text{ MeV}. \quad (6)$$

At the ILC, the top-quark mass will be measured with an accuracy of about 100 MeV [2]. The parametric uncertainties induced by the future experimental errors of m_t and $\Delta\alpha_{\text{had}}$ [35] will then be [36]

$$\delta m_t^{\text{future}} = 0.1 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow \Delta M_W^{\text{para},m_t,\text{future}} \approx 1 \text{ MeV}, \quad (7)$$

$$\delta(\Delta\alpha_{\text{had}}^{\text{future}}) = 5 \times 10^{-5} \Rightarrow \Delta M_W^{\text{para},\Delta\alpha_{\text{had}},\text{future}} \approx 1 \text{ MeV}. \quad (8)$$

The present experimental value of M_W is [1]

$$M_W^{\text{exp,current}} = 80.425 \pm 0.034 \text{ GeV}. \quad (9)$$

With the GigaZ option of the ILC (i.e. high-luminosity running at the Z resonance and the WW threshold) the W -boson mass will be determined with an accuracy of about [37,38]

$$\delta M_W^{\text{exp,future}} = 7 \text{ MeV}. \quad (10)$$

In all plots of this section we show the theory predictions without parametric and intrinsic theoretical uncertainties (using $m_t = 178 \text{ GeV}$). In the fits carried out in Sects. 4 and 5 below we take both parametric and intrinsic theoretical uncertainties into account.

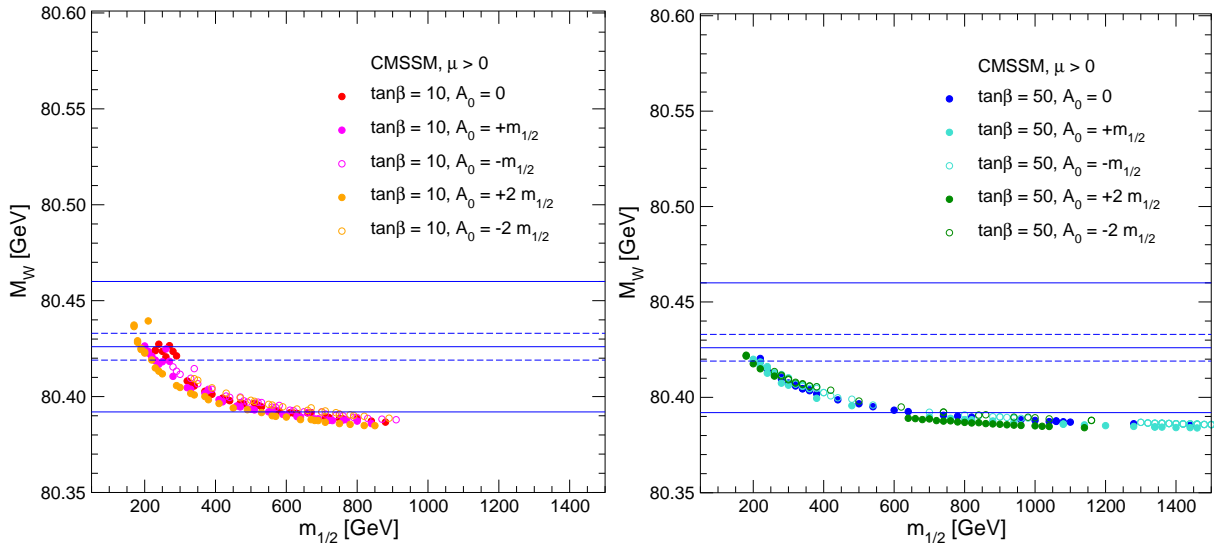


Figure 3: The CMSSM prediction for M_W as a function of $m_{1/2}$ along the WMAP strips for (a) $\tan\beta = 10$ and (b) $\tan\beta = 50$ for various A_0 values. In each panel, the centre (solid) line is the present central experimental value, and the (solid) outer lines show the current $\pm 1\text{-}\sigma$ range. The dashed lines correspond to the anticipated GigaZ accuracy, assuming the same central value.

We display in Fig. 3 the CMSSM prediction for M_W and compare it with the present measurement (solid lines) and a possible future determination with GigaZ (dashed lines). Panel (a) shows the values of M_W obtained with $\tan\beta = 10$ and $|A_0| \leq 2$, and panel (b) shows the same for $\tan\beta = 50$. It is striking that the present central value of M_W (for both values of $\tan\beta$) favours low values of $m_{1/2} \sim 200\text{--}300$ GeV, though values as large as 800 GeV are allowed at the $1\text{-}\sigma$ level, and essentially all values of $m_{1/2}$ are allowed at the 90% confidence level. The GigaZ determination of M_W might be able to determine indirectly a low value of $m_{1/2}$ with an accuracy of ± 50 GeV, but even the GigaZ precision would still be insufficient to determine $m_{1/2}$ accurately if $m_{1/2} \gtrsim 600$ GeV.

3.2 The effective leptonic weak mixing angle

The effective leptonic weak mixing angle at the Z boson resonance can be written as

$$\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{4} \left(1 - \text{Re} \frac{v_{\text{eff}}}{a_{\text{eff}}} \right), \quad (11)$$

where v_{eff} and a_{eff} denote the effective vector and axial couplings of the Z boson to charged leptons. As in the case of M_W , the leading supersymmetric higher-order corrections enter

via the ρ parameter,

$$\delta \sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}} \approx -\frac{c_W^2 s_W^2}{c_W^2 - s_W^2} \Delta \rho. \quad (12)$$

Our theoretical prediction for $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$ contains the same higher-order corrections as described in Sect. 3.1.

In the SM, the remaining intrinsic theoretical uncertainty in the prediction for $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$ has been estimated to be about 5×10^{-5} [39]. For the MSSM, we use as present [34] and future intrinsic uncertainties

$$\Delta \sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^{\text{intr,current}} = 12 \times 10^{-5}, \quad \Delta \sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^{\text{intr,future}} = 2 \times 10^{-5}. \quad (13)$$

The current experimental errors of m_t and $\Delta \alpha_{\text{had}}$ induce the following parametric uncertainties

$$\delta m_t^{\text{current}} = 4.3 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow \Delta \sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^{\text{para},m_t,\text{current}} \approx 14 \times 10^{-5}, \quad (14)$$

$$\delta(\Delta \alpha_{\text{had}}^{\text{current}}) = 36 \times 10^{-5} \Rightarrow \Delta \sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^{\text{para},\Delta \alpha_{\text{had}},\text{current}} \approx 13 \times 10^{-5}. \quad (15)$$

These should improve in the future to

$$\delta m_t^{\text{future}} = 0.1 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow \Delta \sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^{\text{para},m_t,\text{future}} \approx 0.4 \times 10^{-5}, \quad (16)$$

$$\delta(\Delta \alpha_{\text{had}}^{\text{future}}) = 5 \times 10^{-5} \Rightarrow \Delta \sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^{\text{para},\Delta \alpha_{\text{had}},\text{future}} \approx 1.8 \times 10^{-5}. \quad (17)$$

It is well known that there is a $2.8\text{-}\sigma$ discrepancy [1] between the leptonic and heavy-flavour determinations of the electroweak mixing angle, with the leptonic measurement of $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$ tending to pull down the value of Higgs-boson mass preferred in the SM fit, whereas the heavy-flavour measurements favour a larger value of the Higgs mass. The Electroweak Working Group notes that the overall quality of a global electroweak fit is quite acceptable, $\sim 26\%$ [1], and we use their combination of the two sets of measurements:

$$\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^{\text{exp,current}} = 0.23150 \pm 0.00016. \quad (18)$$

The experimental accuracy will improve to about

$$\delta \sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}^{\text{exp,future}} = 1 \times 10^{-5}. \quad (19)$$

at GigaZ [40].

Fig. 4 shows the prediction for $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$ in the CMSSM compared with the present and future experimental precision. As in the case of M_W , low values of $m_{1/2}$ are also favoured

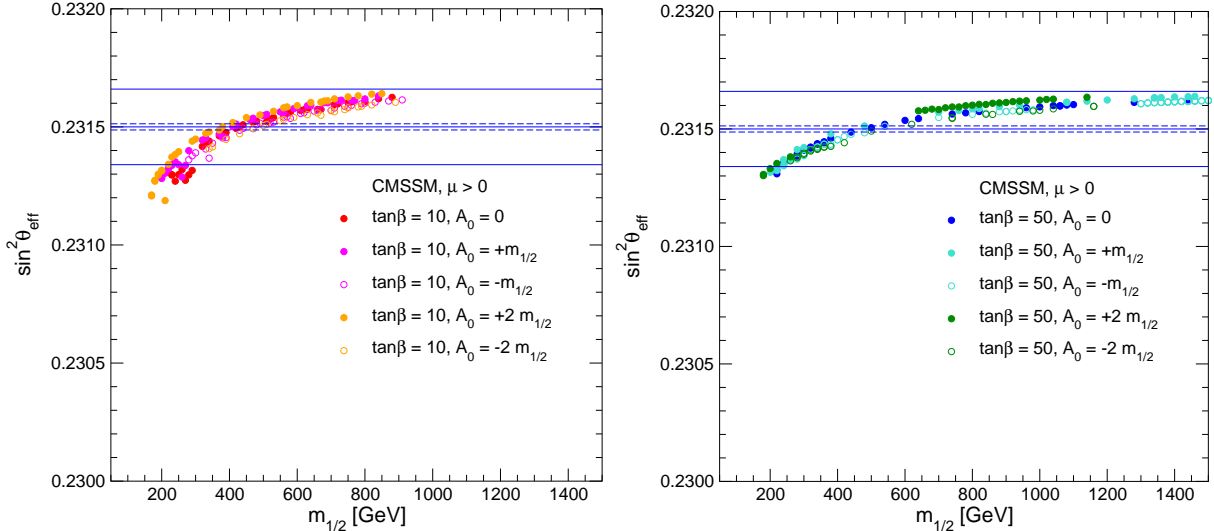


Figure 4: The CMSSM prediction for $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$ as a function of $m_{1/2}$ along the WMAP strips for (a) $\tan \beta = 10$ and (b) $\tan \beta = 50$ for various A_0 values. In each panel, the centre (solid) line is the present central experimental value, and the (solid) outer lines show the current $\pm 1\text{-}\sigma$ range. The dashed lines correspond to the anticipated GigaZ accuracy, assuming the same central value.

independently by $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$. The present central value prefers $m_{1/2} = 300\text{--}500$ GeV, but the $1\text{-}\sigma$ range extends beyond 1500 GeV (depending on A_0), and all values of $m_{1/2}$ are allowed at the 90% confidence level. The GigaZ precision on $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$ would be able to determine $m_{1/2}$ indirectly with even greater accuracy than M_W at low $m_{1/2}$, but would also be insufficient if $m_{1/2} \gtrsim 700$ GeV.

3.3 The anomalous magnetic moment of the muon

We now discuss the evaluation of the MSSM contributions to the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon, $a_\mu \equiv (g - 2)_\mu$. Since the possible deviation of the SM prediction from the experimental result is crucial for the interpretation of the a_μ results, we first review this aspect in the light of recent developments.

The SM prediction for the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon (see Refs. [41, 42] for reviews) depends on the evaluation of the hadronic vacuum polarization and light-by-light (LBL) contributions. The former have been evaluated in [43–46] and the latter in [47, 48]. The evaluations of the hadronic vacuum polarization contributions using e^+e^- and τ decay data give somewhat different results. Recently, new data have been published by the KLOE Collaboration [49], which agree well with the previous data from CMD-2. This, coupled

with a greater respect for the uncertainties inherent in the isospin transformation from τ decay, has led to a proposal to use the e^+e^- alone and shelve the τ data, resulting in the estimate [50]

$$a_\mu^{\text{theo}} = (11\,659\,182.8 \pm 6.3_{\text{had}} \pm 3.5_{\text{LBL}} \pm 0.3_{\text{QED+EW}}) \times 10^{-10}, \quad (20)$$

where the source of each error is labelled ¹.

This result is to be compared with the final result of the Brookhaven $(g-2)_\mu$ Experiment E821, namely [52]

$$a_\mu^{\text{exp}} = (11\,659\,208.0 \pm 5.8) \times 10^{-10}, \quad (21)$$

leading to an estimated discrepancy

$$a_\mu^{\text{exp}} - a_\mu^{\text{theo}} = (25.2 \pm 9.2) \times 10^{-10}, \quad (22)$$

equivalent to a 2.7σ effect. In view of the chequered history of the SM prediction, eq. (20), and the residual questions concerning the use of the τ decay data, it would be premature to regard this discrepancy as firm evidence of new physics. We do note, on the other hand, that the $(g-2)_\mu$ measurement imposes an important constraint on supersymmetry, even if one uses the τ decay data. We use eq. (22) for our numerical discussion below.

The following MSSM contributions to the theoretical prediction for a_μ have been considered. We take fully into account the complete one-loop contribution to a_μ , which was evaluated nearly a decade ago in Ref. [53]. We make no simplification in the sparticle mass scales but, for illustrating the possible size of corrections, a simplified formula can be used, in which relevant supersymmetric mass scales are set to a common value, $M_{\text{SUSY}} = m_{\tilde{\chi}^\pm} = m_{\tilde{\chi}^0} = m_{\tilde{\mu}} = m_{\tilde{\nu}_\mu}$. The result in this approximation is given by

$$a_\mu^{\text{SUSY,1L}} = 13 \times 10^{-10} \left(\frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{M_{\text{SUSY}}} \right)^2 \tan\beta \text{sign}(\mu). \quad (23)$$

We see that supersymmetric effects can easily account for a $(20 \dots 30) \times 10^{-10}$ deviation, if μ is positive and M_{SUSY} lies roughly between 100 GeV (for small $\tan\beta$) and 600 GeV (for large $\tan\beta$). For this reason, in the rest of this paper, we restrict our attention to $\mu > 0$. Even in view of the possible size of experimental and theoretical uncertainties, it is very difficult to reconcile $\mu < 0$ with the present data on a_μ .

In addition to the full one-loop contributions, we also include several two-loop corrections. The first class of corrections comprises the leading $\log(m_\mu/M_{\text{SUSY}})$ terms of supersymmetric

¹The updated QED result from [51] is included.

one-loop diagrams with a photon in the second loop, which are given by [54]:

$$\Delta a_\mu^{\text{SUSY,2L,QED}} = \Delta a_\mu^{\text{SUSY,1L}} \times \left(\frac{4\alpha}{\pi} \log \left(\frac{M_{\text{SUSY}}}{m_\mu} \right) \right). \quad (24)$$

These amount to about -8% of the supersymmetric one-loop contribution for a supersymmetric mass scale $M_{\text{SUSY}} = 500$ GeV.

The second class of two-loop corrections comprises diagrams with a closed loop of SM fermions or scalar fermions. These were calculated in Ref. [55], where it was demonstrated that these corrections may amount to $\sim 5 \times 10^{-10}$ in the general MSSM, if all experimental bounds are taken into account. These corrections are included in the Fortran code `FeynHiggs` [56, 57]. We have furthermore taken into account the 2-loop contributions to a_μ from diagrams containing a closed chargino/neutralino loop, which have been evaluated in [58]. Here we use an approximate form for these corrections, which are typically $\sim 1 \times 10^{-10}$.

The current intrinsic uncertainties in the MSSM contributions to a_μ can be estimated to be $\sim 6 \times 10^{-10}$ [58, 59]. In the more restricted CMSSM parameter space the intrinsic uncertainties are smaller, being about 1×10^{-10} . Once the full two-loop result in the MSSM is available, this uncertainty will be further reduced. We assume that in the future the uncertainty in eq. (22) will be reduced by a factor two.

As seen in Fig. 5, the CMSSM prediction for a_μ is almost independent of A_0 for $\tan\beta = 10$, but substantial variations are possible for $\tan\beta = 50$, except at very large $m_{1/2}$. In the case $\tan\beta = 10$, $m_{1/2} \sim 200\text{--}400$ GeV is again favoured at the $\pm 1\text{-}\sigma$ level, but this preferred range shifts up to 400 to 800 GeV if $\tan\beta = 50$, depending on the value of A_0 . At the $2\text{-}\sigma$ level, there is nominally an upper bound $m_{1/2} \lesssim 600(1100)$ GeV for $\tan\beta = 10(50)$, but according to the discussion above it should be interpreted with care. Nevertheless, the lower bound to $m_{1/2}$ for both $\tan\beta = 10$ and 50 should be regarded as relatively robust. On the other hand, it is striking that M_W , $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$ and a_μ all favour small $m_{1/2}$ for $\tan\beta = 10$. If $\tan\beta = 50$, the consistency between the ranges preferred by the different observables is not so striking.

3.4 The decay $b \rightarrow s\gamma$

Since this decay occurs at the loop level in the SM, the MSSM contribution might, *a priori*, be of similar magnitude. The most up-to-date theoretical estimate of the SM contribution to the branching ratio is [60]

$$\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma) = (3.70 \pm 0.30) \times 10^{-4}, \quad (25)$$

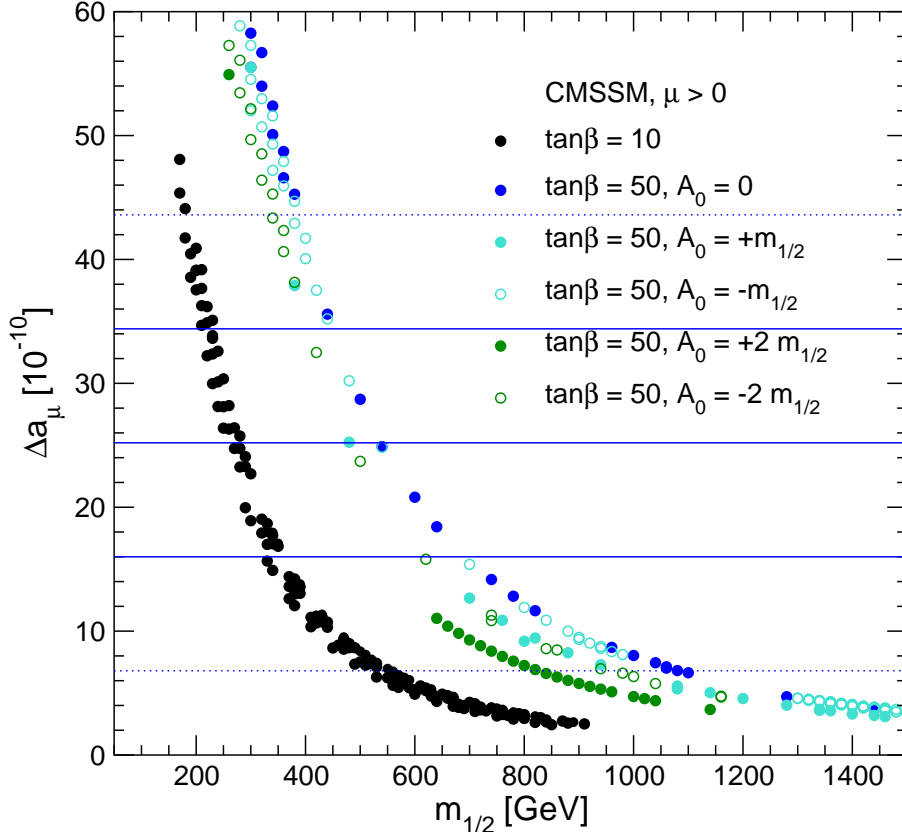


Figure 5: The CMSSM prediction for Δa_μ as a function of $m_{1/2}$ along the WMAP strips for $\tan\beta = 10, 50$ and different A_0 values. The central (solid) line is the central value of the present discrepancy between experiment and the SM value evaluated using e^+e^- data (see text), and the other solid (dotted) lines show the current $\pm 1(2)$ - σ ranges, eq. (22).

where the calculations have been carried out completely to NLO in the $\overline{\text{MS}}$ renormalization scheme, and the error is dominated by higher-order QCD uncertainties. A complete NNLO QCD calculation is now underway, and will reduce significantly the uncertainty, once it is available.

For comparison, the present experimental value estimated by the Heavy Flavour Averaging Group (HFAG) is [61]

$$\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma) = (3.54_{-0.28}^{+0.30}) \times 10^{-4}, \quad (26)$$

where the error includes an uncertainty due to the decay spectrum, as well as the statistical error. The very good agreement between eq. (26) and the SM calculation eq. (25) imposes important constraints on the MSSM, as we see below.

Our numerical results have been derived and checked with three different codes. The

first is based on Refs. [62, 63]² and the second is based on Refs. [63, 64]³. Results have been derived using the charm pole mass as well as the charm running mass, giving an estimate of remaining higher-order uncertainties. Finally, our results have been checked with the $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ evaluation provided in Ref. [65], which yielded very similar results to our two other approaches. For the current theoretical uncertainty of the MSSM prediction for $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ we use the value of eq. (25). For the future uncertainty from the experimental as well as the theoretical side we assume a reduction by a factor of 3.

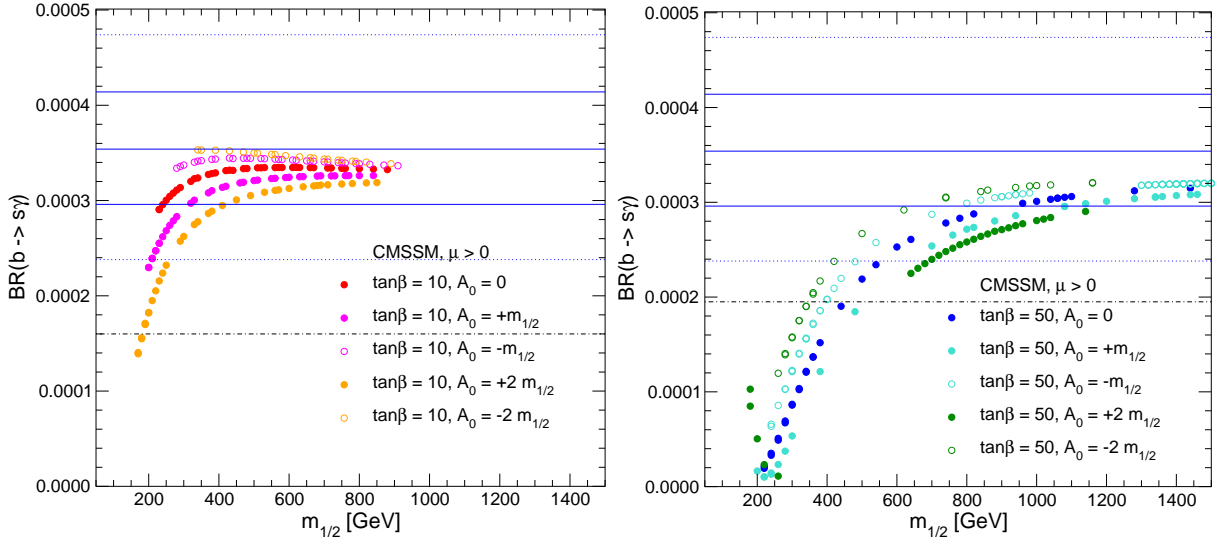


Figure 6: The CMSSM predictions for $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ as a function of $m_{1/2}$ along the WMAP strips for (a) $\tan\beta = 10$ and (b) $\tan\beta = 50$ and various choices of A_0 . The uncertainty shown combines linearly the current experimental error and the present theoretical uncertainty in the SM prediction. The central (solid) line indicates the current experimental central value, and the other solid (dotted) lines show the current $\pm 1(2)\text{-}\sigma$ ranges. The dash-dotted line corresponds to a more conservative estimate of intrinsic uncertainties (see text).

As already mentioned, the present central value of this branching ratio agrees very well with the SM, implying that large values of $m_{1/2}$ cannot be excluded for any value of $\tan\beta$. The uncertainty range shown in Fig. 6 combines linearly the current experimental error and the present theoretical uncertainty in the SM prediction. Note however, that at present there is also an uncertainty in the computed MSSM value (included in obtaining the excluded regions in Figs. 1 and 2) from the uncertainty in the SUSY loop calculations. Taking this conservatively into account results in a 95% C.L. exclusion bound of 0.00016 in the case of $\tan\beta = 10$, and of 0.000195 in the case of $\tan\beta = 50$. These values are shown as dash-dotted

²We are grateful to P. Gambino and G. Ganis for providing the corresponding code.

³We thank Gudrun Hiller for providing the corresponding Fortran code.

lines in Fig. 6. This allows a somewhat lower range in $m_{1/2}$ than depicted in Fig. 6. We assume that these uncertainties can be significantly reduced in the future. We have checked that they have no significant impact on the results presented below.

Since the CMSSM corrections are generally smaller for smaller $\tan\beta$, even values of $m_{1/2}$ as low as ~ 200 GeV would be allowed at the 90% confidence level if $\tan\beta = 10$, whereas $m_{1/2} \gtrsim 450$ GeV would be required if $\tan\beta = 50$. These limits are very sensitive to A_0 , and, if the future error in $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ could indeed be reduced by a factor ~ 3 , the combination of $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ with the other precision observables might be able, in principle, to constrain A_0 significantly.

3.5 The branching ratio $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$

The SM prediction for this branching ratio is $(3.4 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-9}$ [66], and the present experimental upper limit from the Fermilab Tevatron collider is 3.4×10^{-7} at the 95% C.L. [67], providing ample room for the MSSM to dominate the SM contribution. The current Tevatron sensitivity, being based on an integrated luminosity of about 410 pb^{-1} summed over both detectors, is expected to improve significantly in the future. A naive scaling of the present bound with the square root of the luminosity yields a sensitivity at the end of Run II of about 5.4×10^{-8} assuming 8 fb^{-1} collected with each detector. An even bigger improvement may be possible with better signal acceptance and more efficient background reduction. In Ref. [68] an estimate of the future Tevatron sensitivity of 2×10^{-8} at the 90% C.L. has been given, and a sensitivity even down to the SM value can be expected at the LHC. Assuming the SM value, i.e. $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) \approx 3.4 \times 10^{-9}$, it has been estimated [69] that LHCb can observe 33 signal events over 10 background events within 3 years of low-luminosity running. Therefore this process offers good prospects for probing the MSSM.

For the theoretical prediction we use results from Ref. [70]⁴, which include the full one-loop evaluation and the leading two-loop QCD corrections. We are not aware of a detailed estimate of the theoretical uncertainties from unknown higher-order corrections.

In Fig. 7 the CMSSM prediction for $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$ as a function of $m_{1/2}$ is compared with the present Tevatron limit and our estimate for the sensitivity at the end of Run II. For $\tan\beta = 10$ the CMSSM prediction is significantly below the present and future Tevatron sensitivity. With the current sensitivity, the Tevatron starts to probe the CMSSM region with $\tan\beta = 50$. The sensitivity at the end of Run II will test the CMSSM parameter space with $\tan\beta = 50$ and $m_{1/2} \lesssim 600$ GeV, in particular for positive values of A_0 . The LHC will

⁴We are grateful to A. Dedes for providing the corresponding code.

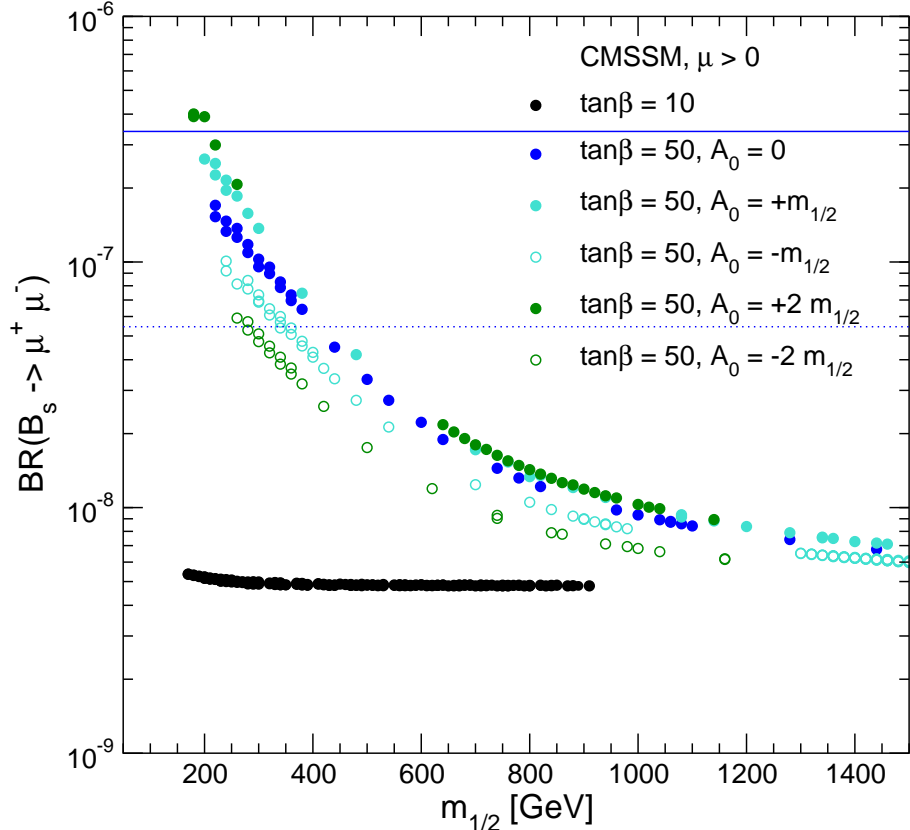


Figure 7: The CMSSM prediction for $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)$ as a function of $m_{1/2}$ along the WMAP strips for $\tan\beta = 10$ and all A_0 values, and for $\tan\beta = 50$ with various values of A_0 . The solid line shows the current Tevatron limit at the 95% C.L., and the dotted line corresponds to an estimate for the sensitivity of the Tevatron at the end of Run II.

be able to probe the whole CMSSM parameter space via this rare decay.

3.6 The lightest MSSM Higgs boson mass

The mass of the lightest \mathcal{CP} -even MSSM Higgs boson can be predicted in terms of the other CMSSM parameters. At the tree level, the two \mathcal{CP} -even Higgs boson masses are obtained as a function of M_Z , the \mathcal{CP} -odd Higgs boson mass M_A , and $\tan\beta$. In the Feynman-diagrammatic (FD) approach, which we employ here, the higher-order corrected Higgs boson masses are derived by finding the poles of the h, H -propagator matrix. This is equivalent to solving

$$\left[p^2 - m_{h,\text{tree}}^2 + \hat{\Sigma}_{hh}(p^2) \right] \times \left[p^2 - m_{H,\text{tree}}^2 + \hat{\Sigma}_{HH}(p^2) \right] - \left[\hat{\Sigma}_{hH}(p^2) \right]^2 = 0, \quad (27)$$

where the $\hat{\Sigma}(p^2)$ denote the renormalized Higgs-boson self-energies, and p is the external momentum.

For the theoretical prediction of M_h we use the code `FeynHiggs` [56, 57], which includes all numerically relevant known higher-order corrections. The status of the incorporated results for the self-energy contributions to eq. (27) can be summarized as follows. For the one-loop part, the complete result within the MSSM is known [71–73]. Concerning the two-loop effects, their computation is quite advanced, see Ref. [74] and references therein. They include the strong corrections at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_t\alpha_s)$ and Yukawa corrections at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_t^2)$, as well as the dominant one-loop $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_t)$ term, and the strong corrections from the bottom/sbottom sector at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_b\alpha_s)$. For the b/\tilde{b} sector corrections also an all-order resummation of the $\tan\beta$ -enhanced terms, $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_b(\alpha_s \tan\beta)^n)$, is known [75, 76]. Most recently, the $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_t\alpha_b)$ and $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_b^2)$ corrections have been derived [77].⁵

The current intrinsic error of M_h due to unknown higher-order corrections and its prospective improvement in the future have been estimated to be [74, 79]

$$\Delta M_h^{\text{intr,current}} = 3 \text{ GeV}, \quad \Delta M_h^{\text{intr,future}} = 0.5 \text{ GeV}. \quad (28)$$

The estimated future uncertainty assumes that a full two-loop result, leading three-loop and possibly even higher-order corrections become available.

Concerning the parametric error on M_h , the top-quark mass has the largest impact, entering $\propto m_t^4$ at the one-loop level. As a rule of thumb, an uncertainty of $\delta m_t = 1 \text{ GeV}$ translates to an induced parametric uncertainty in M_h of $\Delta M_h^{m_t} \approx 1 \text{ GeV}$ [80]. We find for the parametric uncertainties induced by the present experimental errors of m_t and α_s

$$\delta m_t^{\text{current}} = 4.3 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow \Delta M_h^{\text{para},m_t,\text{current}} \approx 4 \text{ GeV}, \quad (29)$$

$$\delta \alpha_s^{\text{current}} = 0.002 \Rightarrow \Delta M_h^{\text{para},\alpha_s,\text{current}} \approx 0.3 \text{ GeV}. \quad (30)$$

These will improve in the future to

$$\delta m_t^{\text{future}} = 0.1 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow \Delta M_h^{\text{para},m_t,\text{future}} \approx 0.1 \text{ GeV}, \quad (31)$$

$$\delta \alpha_s^{\text{future}} = 0.001 \Rightarrow \Delta M_h^{\text{para},\alpha_s,\text{future}} \approx 0.1 \text{ GeV}. \quad (32)$$

Thus, the intrinsic error would be the dominant source of uncertainty in the future. On the other hand, a further reduction of the unknown higher-order corrections to M_h is in principle possible.

The experimental accuracy on M_h at the ILC [2] will be even higher than the prospective precision of the theory prediction,

$$\delta M_h^{\text{exp,future}} = 0.05 \text{ GeV}. \quad (33)$$

⁵Furthermore, a two-loop effective potential calculation has been carried out in Ref. [78], but no public code based on this result is available.

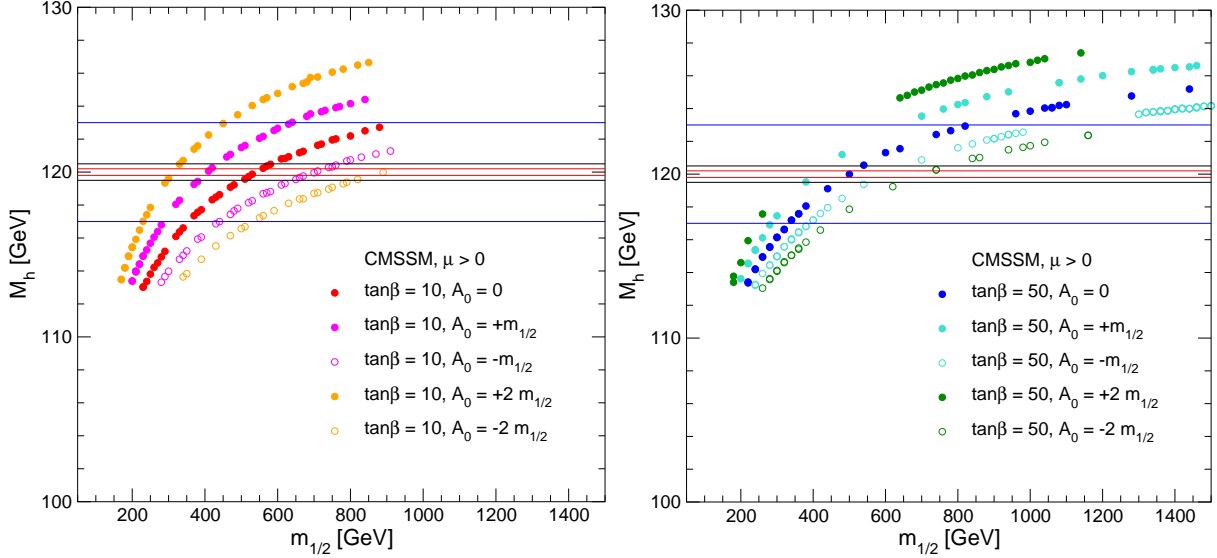


Figure 8: The CMSSM predictions for M_h as functions of $m_{1/2}$ with (a) $\tan\beta = 10$ and (b) $\tan\beta = 50$ for various A_0 . A hypothetical experimental value is shown, namely $M_h = 120$ GeV. We display an optimistic anticipated theory uncertainty of ± 0.2 GeV, as well as a more realistic theory uncertainty of ± 0.5 GeV and the current theory uncertainty of ± 3 GeV.

We show in Fig. 8 we show the for M_h , assuming a hypothetical measurement at $M_h = 120$ GeV. Since the experimental error at the ILC will be smaller than the prospective theory uncertainties, we display the effect of the current and future intrinsic uncertainties. In addition, a more optimistic value of 200 MeV is also shown. The figure clearly illustrates the high sensitivity of this electroweak precision observable to variations of the supersymmetric parameters (detailed results for Higgs boson phenomenology in the CMSSM can be found in Ref. [81]). The comparison between the measured value of M_h and a precise theory prediction will allow one to set tight constraints on the allowed parameter space of $m_{1/2}$ and A_0 .

3.7 The Higgs boson branching ratios

Within the CMSSM, various Higgs boson decay channels will be accessible at the LHC and the ILC. At the LHC, Higgs boson couplings [82] or ratios of them [83, 84] can in general be determined at the level of $\sim 10\%$ at best, depending on the Higgs-boson mass and theoretical assumptions. Therefore we concentrate on ILC measurements and accuracies.

It has been shown in Ref. [85] that the observable combination

$$r \equiv \frac{[\text{BR}(h \rightarrow b\bar{b})/\text{BR}(h \rightarrow WW^*)]_{\text{MSSM}}}{[\text{BR}(h \rightarrow b\bar{b})/\text{BR}(h \rightarrow WW^*)]_{\text{SM}}} \quad (34)$$

of Higgs boson decay rates is particularly sensitive to deviations of the MSSM Higgs sector from the SM. Even though the experimental error on the ratio of the two branching ratios is larger than that on the individual ones, the quantity r has a stronger sensitivity to M_A than any single branching ratio.

For the evaluation of $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow b\bar{b})$, we use the results of Ref. [86], including the result of resumming the contributions of $\mathcal{O}((\alpha_s \tan \beta)^n)$ [75, 76]. The evaluation of $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow WW^*)$ is based on an effective-coupling approach, taking into account off-shell effects. The corrections used for the effective-coupling calculation are the same as for the Higgs-boson mass calculation, including the full one-loop and leading and subleading two-loop contributions [56, 74]. The evaluation has been performed with `FeynHiggs` [56, 57].

For the prospective accuracy at the ILC, we consider two cases. At the ILC with $\sqrt{s} = 500$ GeV an accuracy of 4% seems to be feasible [2], whilst at $\sqrt{s} = 1$ TeV this accuracy could be improved to [87]

$$\left(\frac{\delta r}{r}\right)^{\text{exp, future}} = 1.5\%. \quad (35)$$

Since in this ratio of branching ratios many theoretical uncertainties cancel, we assume that the future theoretical error can be neglected. In the analysis in Sect. 5 we use the accuracy of eq. (35).

In Fig. 9 the results for r are shown as functions of $m_{1/2}$ for $\tan \beta = 10, 50$. In the figure we indicate accuracies of both 4% and 1.5%. For low $\tan \beta$, the high ILC accuracy in r will allow one to detect a deviation from the SM prediction for all CMSSM points. For large $\tan \beta$, the effects of the supersymmetric contributions to r are in general smaller. Deviations up to $m_{1/2} \approx 1$ TeV could be visible, depending somewhat on A_0 .

4 Combined Sensitivity: Present Situation

4.1 Best fits for WMAP strips at fixed A_0

We now investigate the combined sensitivity of the four low-energy observables for which experimental measurements exist at present, namely M_W , $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$. Since only an upper bound exists for $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$, we discuss it separately below. We begin with an analysis of the sensitivity to $m_{1/2}$ moving along the WMAP strips with fixed

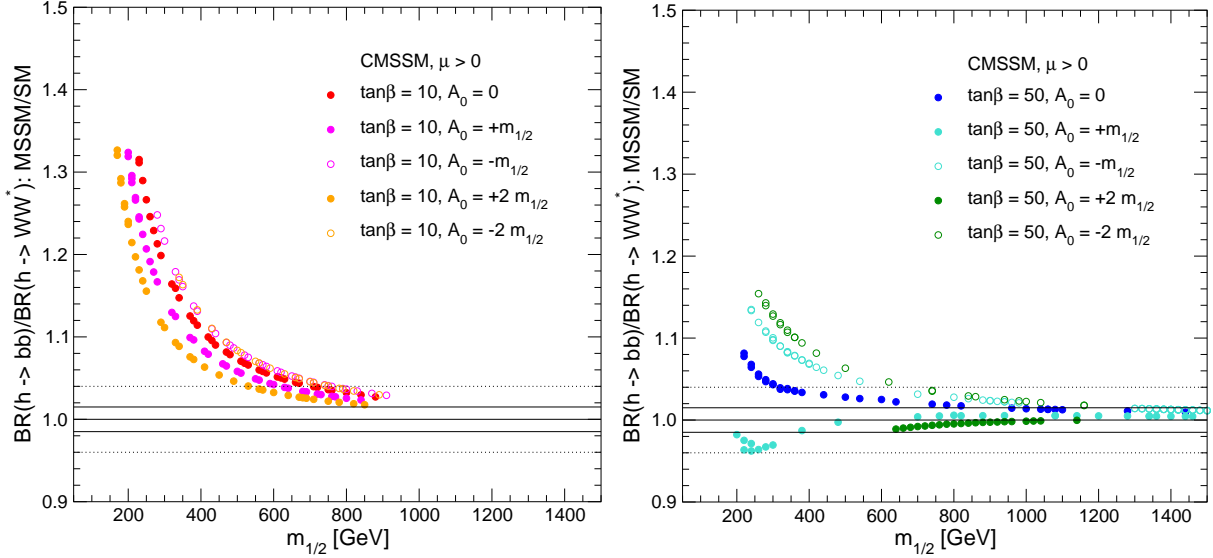


Figure 9: The CMSSM predictions for $[\text{BR}(h \rightarrow b\bar{b})/\text{BR}(h \rightarrow WW^*)]_{\text{MSSM}}/[\text{BR}(h \rightarrow b\bar{b})/\text{BR}(h \rightarrow WW^*)]_{\text{SM}}$ as functions of $m_{1/2}$ for (a) $\tan\beta = 10$ and (b) $\tan\beta = 50$ with various values of A_0 . The central (solid) line corresponds to the SM expectation. The outer (dotted) and inner (solid) lines indicate an ILC measurement with 4% and 1.5% accuracy, respectively.

values of A_0 and $\tan\beta$. The experimental central values, the present experimental errors and theoretical uncertainties are as described in Sect. 3. The experimental uncertainties, the intrinsic errors from unknown higher-order corrections and the parametric uncertainties have been added quadratically, except for $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$, where they have been added linearly. Assuming that the four observables are uncorrelated, a χ^2 fit has been performed with

$$\chi^2 \equiv \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{R_n^{\text{exp}} - R_n^{\text{theo}}}{\sigma_n} \right)^2. \quad (36)$$

Here R_n^{exp} denotes the experimental central value of the n th observable, so that $N = 4$ for the set of observables included in this fit, R_n^{theo} is the corresponding CMSSM prediction and σ_n denotes the combined error, as specified above. We have rejected all points of the CMSSM parameter space with either $M_h < 113$ GeV [88,89] or a chargino mass lighter than 103 GeV [90].

The results are shown in Fig. 10 for $\tan\beta = 10$ and $\tan\beta = 50$. They indicate that, already at the present level of experimental accuracies, the electroweak precision observables combined with the WMAP constraint provide a sensitive probe of the CMSSM, yielding interesting information about its parameter space. For $\tan\beta = 10$, the CMSSM provides a

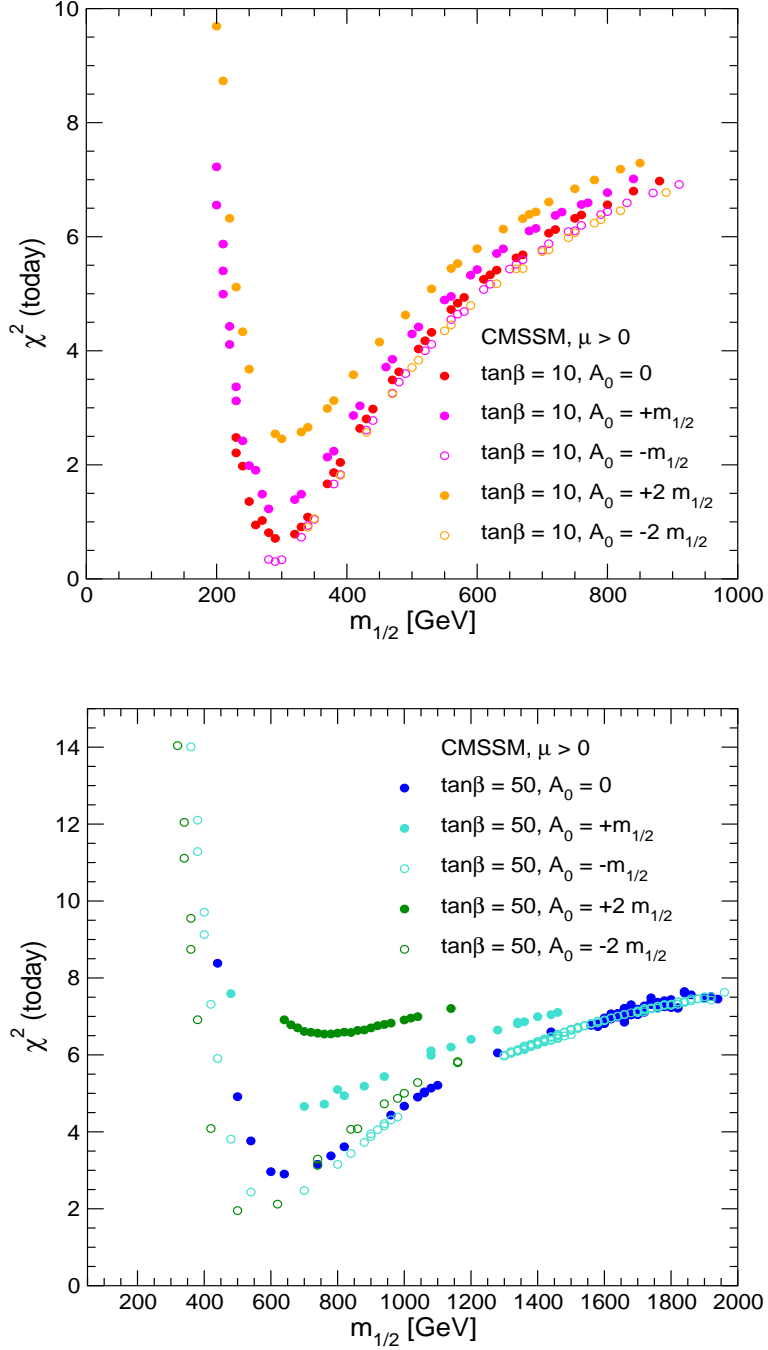


Figure 10: The results of χ^2 fits based on the current experimental results for the precision observables M_W , $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ are shown as functions of $m_{1/2}$ in the CMSSM parameter space with CDM constraints for different values of A_0 . The upper plot shows the results for $\tan\beta = 10$, and the lower plot shows the case $\tan\beta = 50$.

very good description of the data, resulting in a remarkably small minimum χ^2 value. The fit shows a clear preference for relatively small values of $m_{1/2}$, with a best-fit value of about $m_{1/2} = 300$ GeV. The best fit is obtained for $A_0 \leq 0$, while positive values of A_0 result in a somewhat lower fit quality. The fit yields an upper bound on $m_{1/2}$ of about 600 GeV at the 90% C.L. (corresponding to $\Delta\chi^2 \leq 4.61$).

These results can easily be understood from the analysis in Sect. 3. For $\tan\beta = 10$, the CMSSM prediction with $m_{1/2} \approx 300$ GeV is very close to the experimental central values of M_W , $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$ and $(g-2)_\mu$ for all values of A_0 , see Figs. 3–5. Also, $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ is well described for $m_{1/2} \approx 300$ GeV and $A_0 \leq 0$, while large positive values of A_0 lead to a CMSSM prediction for $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ which is significantly below the experimental value. Consequently, in the case of $\tan\beta = 10$, a very good fit quality is obtained for $m_{1/2} \approx 300$ GeV and $A_0 \leq 0$.⁶ Some of the principal contributions to the increase in χ^2 when $m_{1/2}$ increases for $\tan\beta = 10$ are as follows. For $A_0 = -m_{1/2}$, $m_{1/2} = 900$ GeV, we find that $(g-2)_\mu$ contributes about 5 to $\Delta\chi^2$, M_W nearly 1 and $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$ about 0.2, whereas the contribution of $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ is negligible. On the other hand, for $A_0 = +2m_{1/2}$, which is disfavoured for $\tan\beta = 10$, the minimum in χ^2 is due to a combination of the four observables, but $(g-2)_\mu$ again gives the largest contribution for large $m_{1/2}$.

For $\tan\beta = 50$ the overall fit quality is worse than for $\tan\beta = 10$, and the sensitivity to $m_{1/2}$ from the precision observables is lower. This is related to the fact that, whereas M_W and $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$ prefer small values of $m_{1/2}$ also for $\tan\beta = 50$, as seen in Figs. 3 and 4, the CMSSM predictions for $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ for high $\tan\beta$ are in better agreement with the data for larger $m_{1/2}$ values, as seen in Figs. 5 and 6. Also in this case the best fit is obtained for negative values of A_0 , but the preferred values for $m_{1/2}$ are 200–300 GeV higher than for $\tan\beta = 10$.

In Figs. 11–14 the fit results of Fig. 10 are expressed in terms of the masses of different supersymmetric particles. Fig. 11 shows that for $\tan\beta = 10$ the best fit is obtained if the lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP), which within the CMSSM is the lightest neutralino, is lighter than about 200 GeV (with a best-fit value ~ 100 GeV). The best-fit values for the masses of the lighter chargino, the second-lightest neutralino (recall also that $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^+} \approx m_{\tilde{\chi}_2^0}$), both sleptons and the lighter stau are all below 250 GeV, while the preferred region of the masses of the heavier chargino and the heavier neutralinos is about 400 GeV. These masses offer good prospects of direct sparticle detection at both the ILC and the LHC. There are also some prospects for detecting the associated production of charginos and neutralinos at

⁶A preference for relatively small values of $m_{1/2}$ within the CMSSM has also been noticed in Ref. [7], where only $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ had been analyzed.

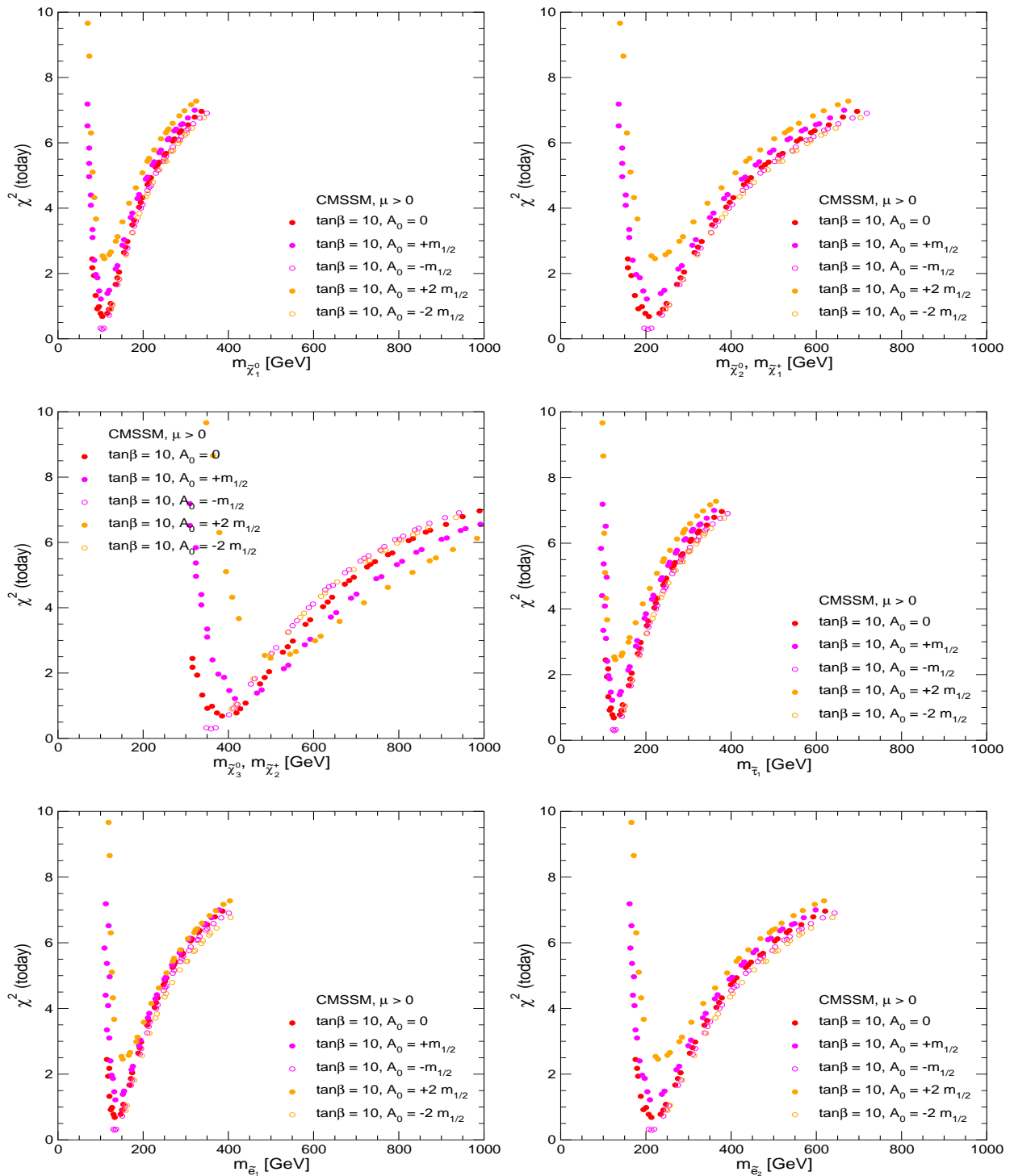


Figure 11: The χ^2 contours in the CMSSM with $\tan\beta = 10$ for different sparticle masses, based on the fits to the parameter space shown in Fig. 10. The first row shows (left) the mass of the neutralino LSP, $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$, and (right) the mass of the lighter chargino, $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm} \approx m_{\tilde{\chi}_2^0}$. The second row shows (left) the mass of the heavier chargino, $m_{\tilde{\chi}_2^\pm} \approx m_{\tilde{\chi}_3^0}$, and (right) the mass of the lighter stau, $m_{\tilde{\tau}_1}$. The selectron masses are shown in the third row.

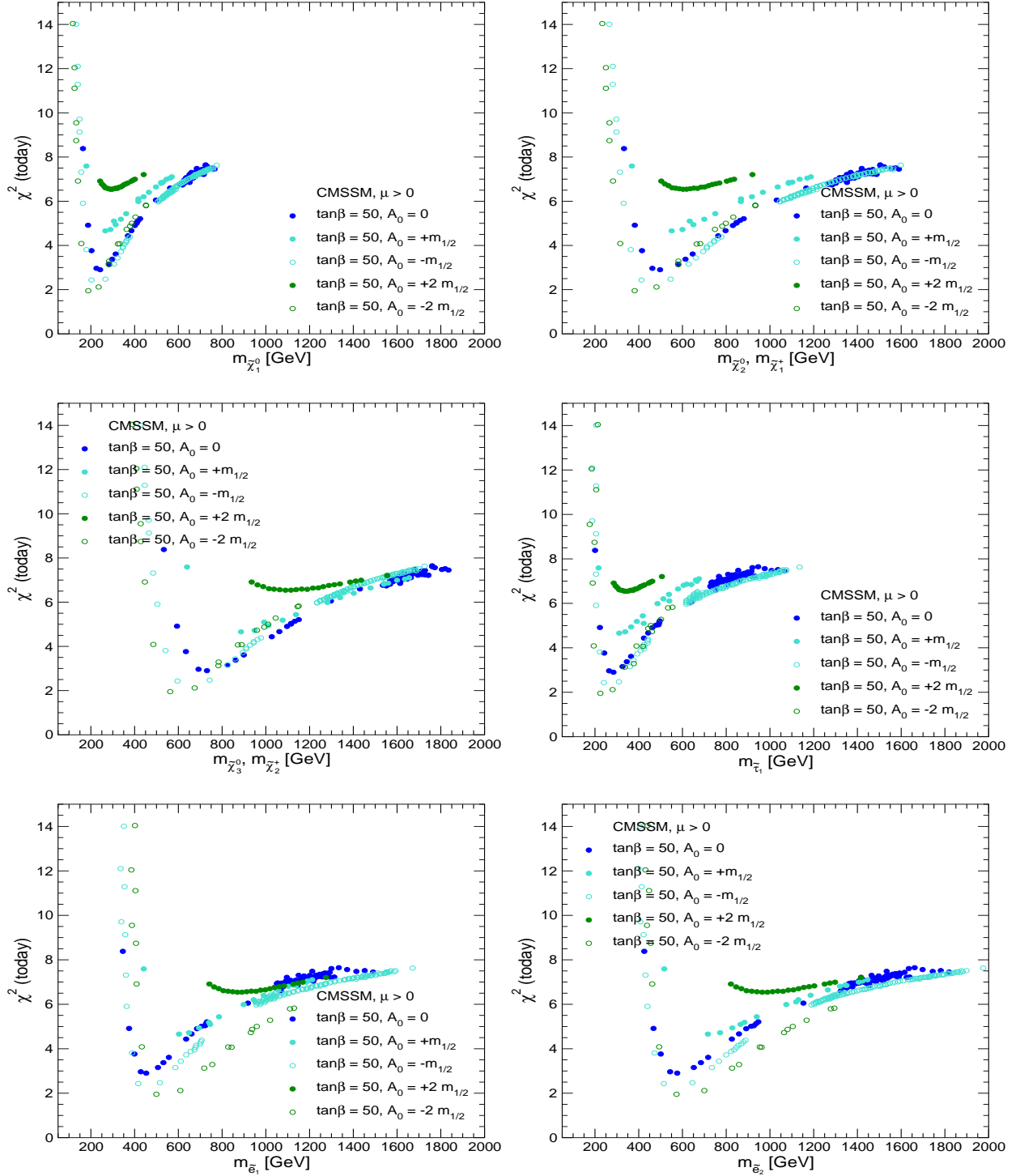


Figure 12: The χ^2 contours in the CMSSM with $\tan\beta = 50$ for different sparticle masses, based on the fits to the parameter space shown in Fig. 10. The first row shows (left) the mass of the lightest neutralino, $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$, and (right) the mass of the lighter chargino, $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^+} \approx m_{\tilde{\chi}_2^0}$. The second row shows (left) the mass of the heavier chargino, $m_{\tilde{\chi}_2^+} \approx m_{\tilde{\chi}_3^0}$, and (right) the mass of the lighter stau, $m_{\tilde{\tau}_1}$. The selectron masses are shown in the third row.

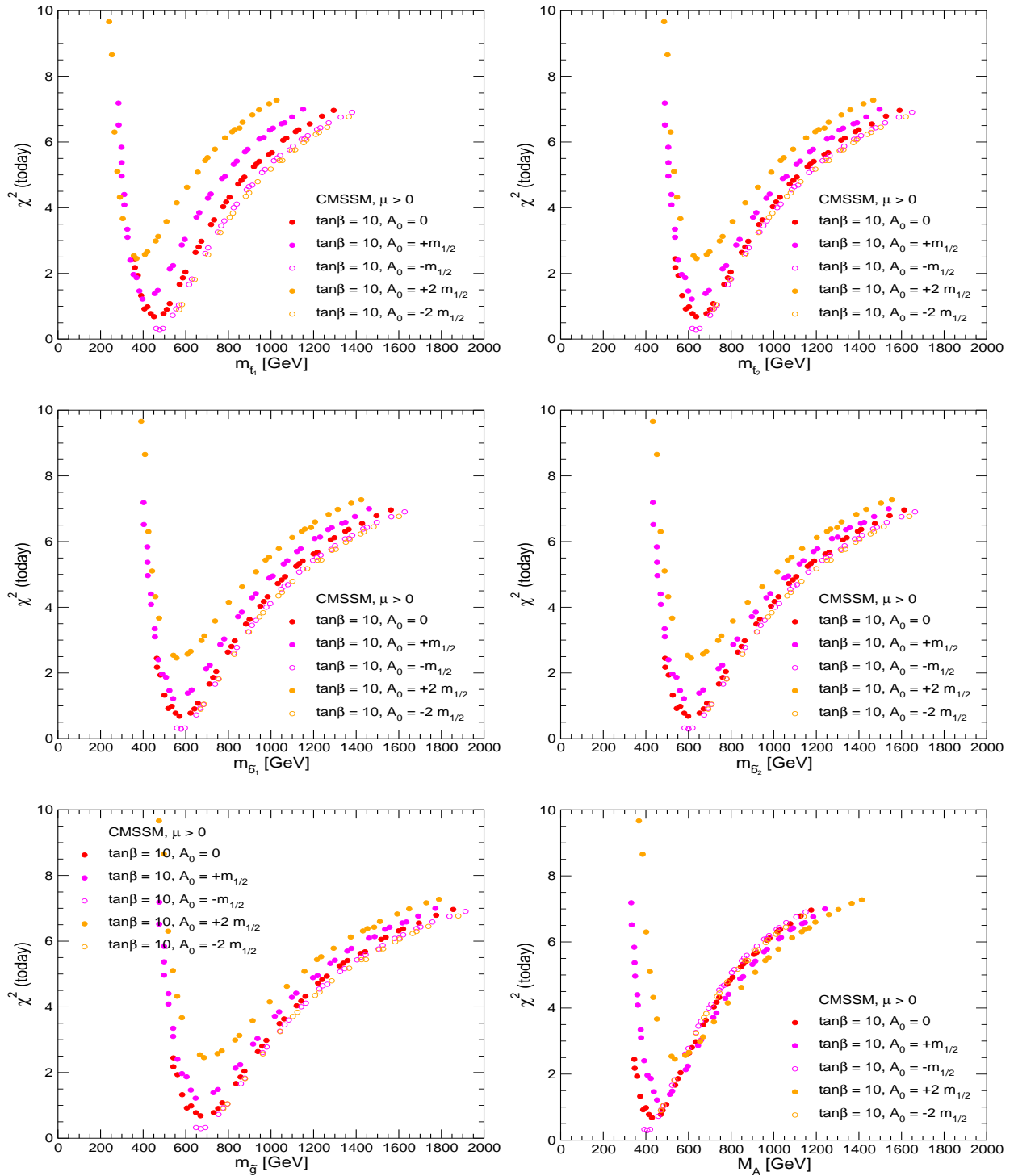


Figure 13: The χ^2 contours in the CMSSM with $\tan\beta = 10$ for different sparticle masses, based on the fits to the parameter space shown in Fig. 10. The first row shows the scalar top masses, $m_{\tilde{t}_1}$, $m_{\tilde{t}_2}$. The second row shows the scalar bottom masses, $m_{\tilde{b}_1}$, $m_{\tilde{b}_2}$. The third row shows the gluino mass, $m_{\tilde{g}}$, (left) and the mass of the scalar Higgs boson, M_A (right).

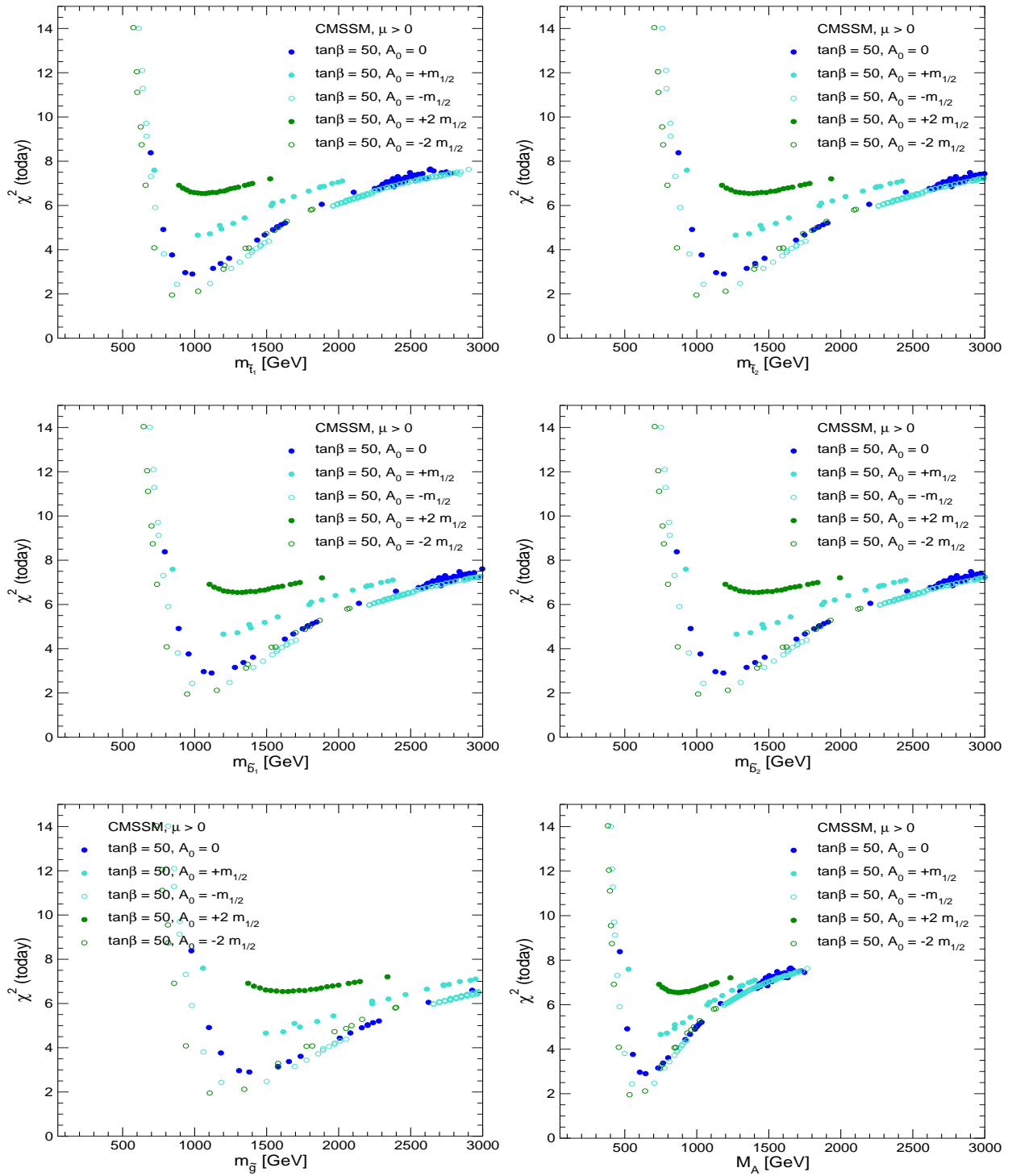


Figure 14: The χ^2 contours in the CMSSM with $\tan\beta = 50$ for different sparticle masses, based on the fits to the parameter space shown in Fig. 10. The first row shows the scalar top masses, $m_{\tilde{t}_1}$, $m_{\tilde{t}_2}$. The second row shows the scalar bottom masses, $m_{\tilde{b}_1}$, $m_{\tilde{b}_2}$. The third row shows the gluino mass, $m_{\tilde{g}}$, (left) and the mass of the scalar Higgs boson, M_A (right).

the Tevatron collider, via their trilepton decay signature, in particular. This is estimated to be sensitive to $m_{1/2} \lesssim 250$ GeV [91], covering much of the region below the best-fit value of $m_{1/2}$ that we find for $\tan\beta = 10$.

The same particle masses in the case $\tan\beta = 50$ are shown in Fig. 12. Here the best-fit values for the LSP mass and the lighter stau are still below about 250 GeV. The minimum χ^2 for the other masses is shifted upwards compared to the case with $\tan\beta = 10$. The best-fit values are obtained in the region 400–600 GeV. Correspondingly, these sparticles would be harder to detect. At the ILC with $\sqrt{s} \lesssim 1$ TeV, the best prospects would be for the production of $\tilde{\chi}_1^0\tilde{\chi}_2^0$ or of $\tilde{\tau}_1\tilde{\bar{\tau}}_1$. Other particles can only be produced if they turn out to be on the light side of the χ^2 function.

In Fig. 13, 14 we focus on the coloured part of the supersymmetric spectrum and the Higgs mass scale. The case of $\tan\beta = 10$ is shown in Fig. 13. The top row shows the two scalar top masses, the middle row displays the two scalar bottom masses, and the bottom row depicts the gluino mass and M_A . All the coloured particles should be accessible at the LHC. However, among them, only \tilde{t}_1 has a substantial part of its χ^2 -favoured spectrum below 500 GeV, which would allow its detection at the ILC. The same applies for the mass of the A boson. The Tevatron collider has a sensitivity to $m_{\tilde{t}_1} \lesssim 450$ GeV, which is not far below our best-fit value for $\tan\beta = 10$ [91].

Finally, in Fig. 14 we show the same masses in the case of $\tan\beta = 50$. All the particles are mostly inaccessible at the ILC, though the LHC has good prospects. However, at the 90% C.L. the coloured sparticle masses might even exceed ~ 3 TeV, which would render their detection difficult. Concerning the heavy Higgs bosons, their masses may well be below ~ 1 TeV. In the case of large $\tan\beta$, this might allow their detection via the process $b\bar{b} \rightarrow b\bar{b}H/A \rightarrow b\bar{b}\tau^+\tau^-$ [92].

4.2 Scan of the CMSSM Parameter Space

Whereas in the previous section we presented fits keeping $A_0/m_{1/2}$ fixed, we now analyse the combined sensitivity of the precision observables M_W , $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$, $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ and $(g-2)_\mu$ in a scan over the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ parameter plane. In order to perform this scan, we have evaluated the observables for a finite grid in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0, m_0)$ parameter space, fixing m_0 using the WMAP constraint. As before, we have considered the two cases $\tan\beta = 10$ and $\tan\beta = 50$. Due to the finite grid size, very thin lines in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane for $\tan\beta = 50$, see Fig. 2, can either be missed completely, or may be represented by only a few points.

Fig. 15 shows the WMAP-allowed regions in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane for $\tan\beta = 10$ and

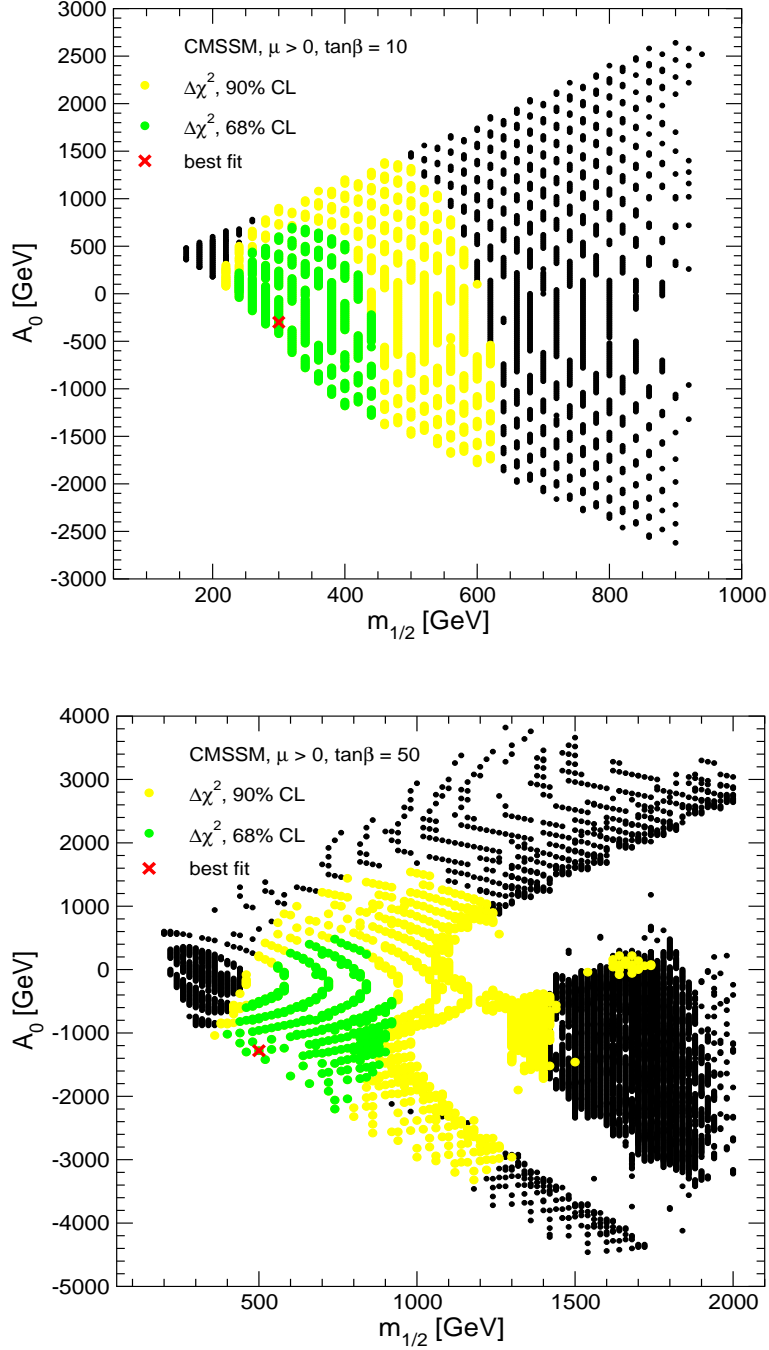


Figure 15: The results of χ^2 fits for $\tan\beta = 10$ (upper plot) and $\tan\beta = 50$ (lower plot) based on the current experimental results for the precision observables M_W , $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ are shown in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ planes of the CMSSM with the WMAP constraint. The best-fit points are indicated, and the coloured regions correspond to the 68% and 90% C.L. regions, respectively.

$\tan\beta = 50$. The current best-fit values obtained via χ^2 fits for $\tan\beta = 10$ and $\tan\beta = 50$ are indicated. The coloured regions around the best-fit values correspond to the 68% and 90% C.L. regions (corresponding to $\Delta\chi^2 \leq 2.30, 4.61$, respectively).

For $\tan\beta = 10$ (upper plot of Fig. 15), the precision data yield sensitive constraints on the available parameter space for $m_{1/2}$ within the WMAP-allowed region. The precision data are less sensitive to A_0 . The 90% C.L. region contains all the WMAP-allowed A_0 values in this region of $m_{1/2}$ values. As expected from the discussion above, the best fit is obtained for negative A_0 and relatively small values of $m_{1/2}$. At the 68% C.L., the fit yields an upper bound on $m_{1/2}$ of about 450 GeV. This bound is weakened to about 600 GeV at the 90% C.L.

As discussed above, the overall fit quality is worse for $\tan\beta = 50$, and the sensitivity to $m_{1/2}$ is less pronounced. This is demonstrated in the lower plot of Fig. 15, which shows the result of the fit in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane for $\tan\beta = 50$. The best fit is obtained for $m_{1/2} \approx 500$ GeV and negative A_0 . The upper bound on $m_{1/2}$ increases to nearly 1 TeV at the 68% C.L.

The holes in the coverage of the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane arise from the finite grid size of the scanning procedure, as mentioned above. They would be filled if our scan would also pick up the very thin lines, especially the wisps arising from $\tilde{\tau}_1\tilde{\tau}_1 \rightarrow H$. Thus, the holes correspond to an extremely fine-tuned part of the parameter space, and are sparsely populated but not empty.

In Fig. 16 we analyze the prospects for the Tevatron to observe the process $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$. We show the regions of the parameter space that are favoured at the 68% or 90% C.L., as a result of our fits to the precision observables described above for $\tan\beta = 10$ and $\tan\beta = 50$. The dotted line corresponds to our estimate of the final Tevatron sensitivity at the 95% C.L. of 5.4×10^{-8} , see Sect. 3.5. It can be seen that, even for $\tan\beta = 50$, all parameter points result in a prediction for $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$ that is below our estimate of the future Tevatron sensitivity at the 95% C.L. Only with the more optimistic estimate of 2×10^{-8} at the 90% C.L., discussed above, could a part of the favoured region for $\tan\beta = 50$ be probed. The LHC, on the other hand, will cover the whole CMSSM parameter space.

5 Combined Sensitivity: ILC Precision

5.1 Best fits for WMAP strips at fixed A_0

We now turn to the analysis of the future sensitivities of the precision observables, based on the prospective experimental accuracies at the ILC and the estimates of future theoretical

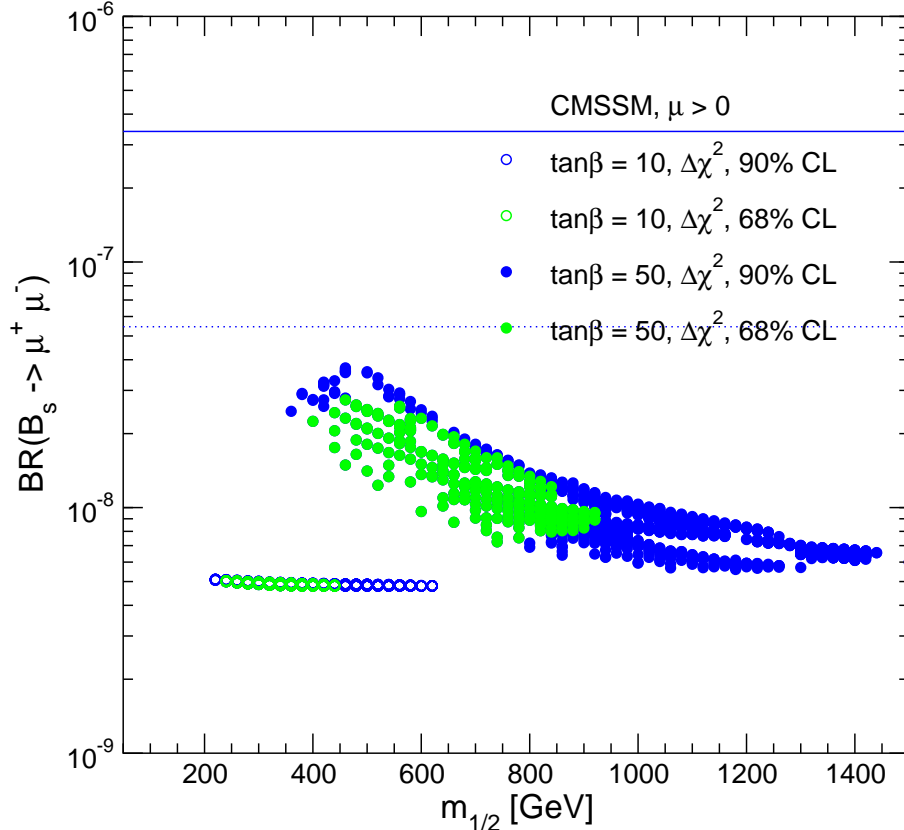


Figure 16: Predictions for $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)$ within the CMSSM with WMAP constraints are shown as functions of $m_{1/2}$, corresponding to the best-fit regions obtained by a χ^2 fit (see Fig. 15) based on the current experimental results for the precision observables M_W , $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$. The different colours indicate the 68% and 90% C.L. regions. The present bound on $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)$ from the Tevatron (solid line) and our estimate for the prospective sensitivity at the end of Run II (dotted line) are also indicated (see text).

uncertainties discussed in Sect. 3. As before, we first display our results as functions of $m_{1/2}$ moving along the WMAP strips with fixed values of A_0 and $\tan\beta$. We perform a χ^2 fit for the combined sensitivity of the observables M_W , $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$, $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$, M_h and $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow b\bar{b})/\text{BR}(h \rightarrow WW^*)$. We do not include $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)$ into our fit. A measurement of this branching ratio at the LHC could be used in combination with the above measurements at the ILC.

The results are shown in Fig. 17 for $\tan\beta = 10$ and $\tan\beta = 50$. The assumed future experimental central values of the observables have been chosen such that they correspond to the best-fit value of $m_{1/2}$ in Fig. 10 for each individual value of A_0 . Thus, the minimum of the χ^2 curve for each A_0 in Fig. 17 occurs at $\chi^2 = 0$ by construction. The comparison

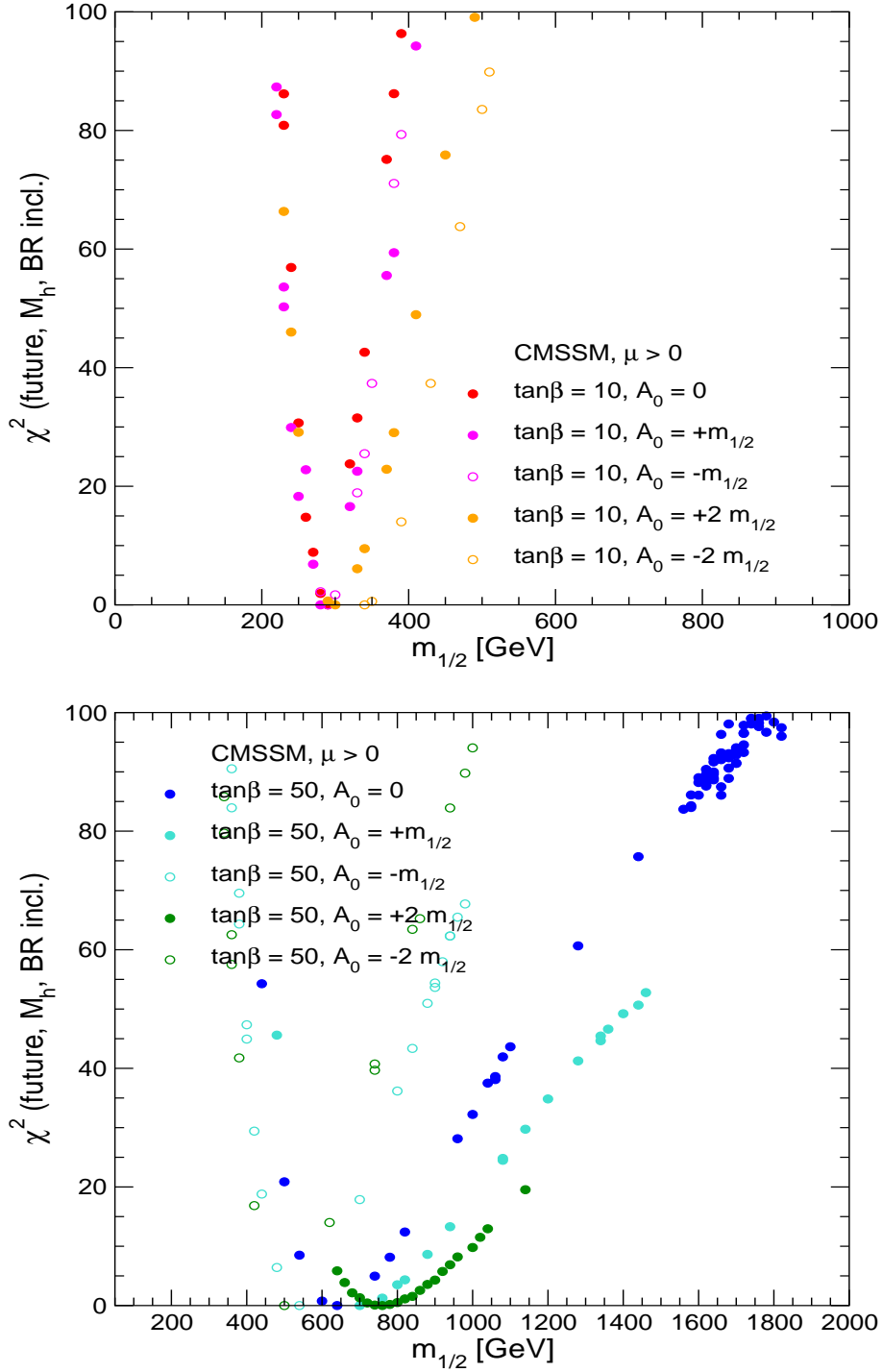


Figure 17: The results of χ^2 fits based on the prospective experimental accuracies for the precision observables M_W , $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$, $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$, M_h and Higgs branching ratios at the ILC are shown as functions of $m_{1/2}$ in the CMSSM parameter space with the current WMAP constraints for $\tan\beta = 10$ (upper plot) and $\tan\beta = 50$ (lower plot). For each A_0 individually, the anticipated future experimental central values are chosen according to the present best-fit point.

of the prospective accuracies at the ILC, Fig. 17, with the present situation, Fig. 10, shows a big increase in the sensitivity to indirect effects of supersymmetric particles within the CMSSM obeying the current WMAP constraints. For the example shown here with best-fit values around $m_{1/2} = 300$ GeV (upper plot, $\tan\beta = 10$), it is possible to constrain particle masses within about $\pm 10\%$ at the 95% C.L. from the comparison of the precision data with the theory predictions. We find a slightly higher sensitivity for $A_0 \leq 0$ than for positive A_0 values. For the examples with best-fit values of $m_{1/2}$ in excess of 500 GeV (lower plot, $\tan\beta = 50$) the constraints obtained from the χ^2 fit are weaker but still very significant.

5.2 Scan of the CMSSM parameter space

We now investigate the combined sensitivity of the precision observables M_W , $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$, $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$, M_h and $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow b\bar{b})/\text{BR}(h \rightarrow WW^*)$ in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane of the CMSSM assuming ILC accuracies. Fig. 18 shows the fit results for $\tan\beta = 10$, whilst Fig. 19 shows the $\tan\beta = 50$ case.

In each figure we show two plots, where the WMAP-allowed region and the best-fit point according to the current situation (see Fig. 15) are indicated. In both plots two further hypothetical future ‘best-fit’ points have been chosen for illustration. For all the ‘best-fit’ points, the assumed central experimental values of the observables have been chosen such that they precisely coincide with the ‘best-fit’ points⁷. The coloured regions correspond to the 68% and 90% C.L. regions around each of the ‘best-fit’ points according to the ILC accuracies.

The comparison of Figs. 18, 19 with the result of the current fit, Fig. 15, shows that the ILC experimental precision will lead to a drastic improvement in the sensitivity to $m_{1/2}$ and A_0 when comparing precision data with the CMSSM predictions. For the best-fit values of the current fits for $\tan\beta = 10$ and $\tan\beta = 50$, the ILC precision would allow one to narrow down the allowed CMSSM parameter space to very small regions in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane. The comparison of these indirect predictions for $m_{1/2}$ and A_0 with the information from the direct detection of supersymmetric particles would provide a stringent test of the CMSSM framework at the loop level. A discrepancy could indicate that supersymmetry is realised in a more complicated way than is assumed in the CMSSM.

Because of the decoupling property of supersymmetric theories, the indirect constraints become weaker for increasing $m_{1/2}$. The additional hypothetical ‘best-fit’ points shown in

⁷We have checked explicitly that assuming future experimental values of the observables with values distributed statistically around the present ‘best-fit’ points with the estimated future errors does not degrade significantly the qualities of the fits.

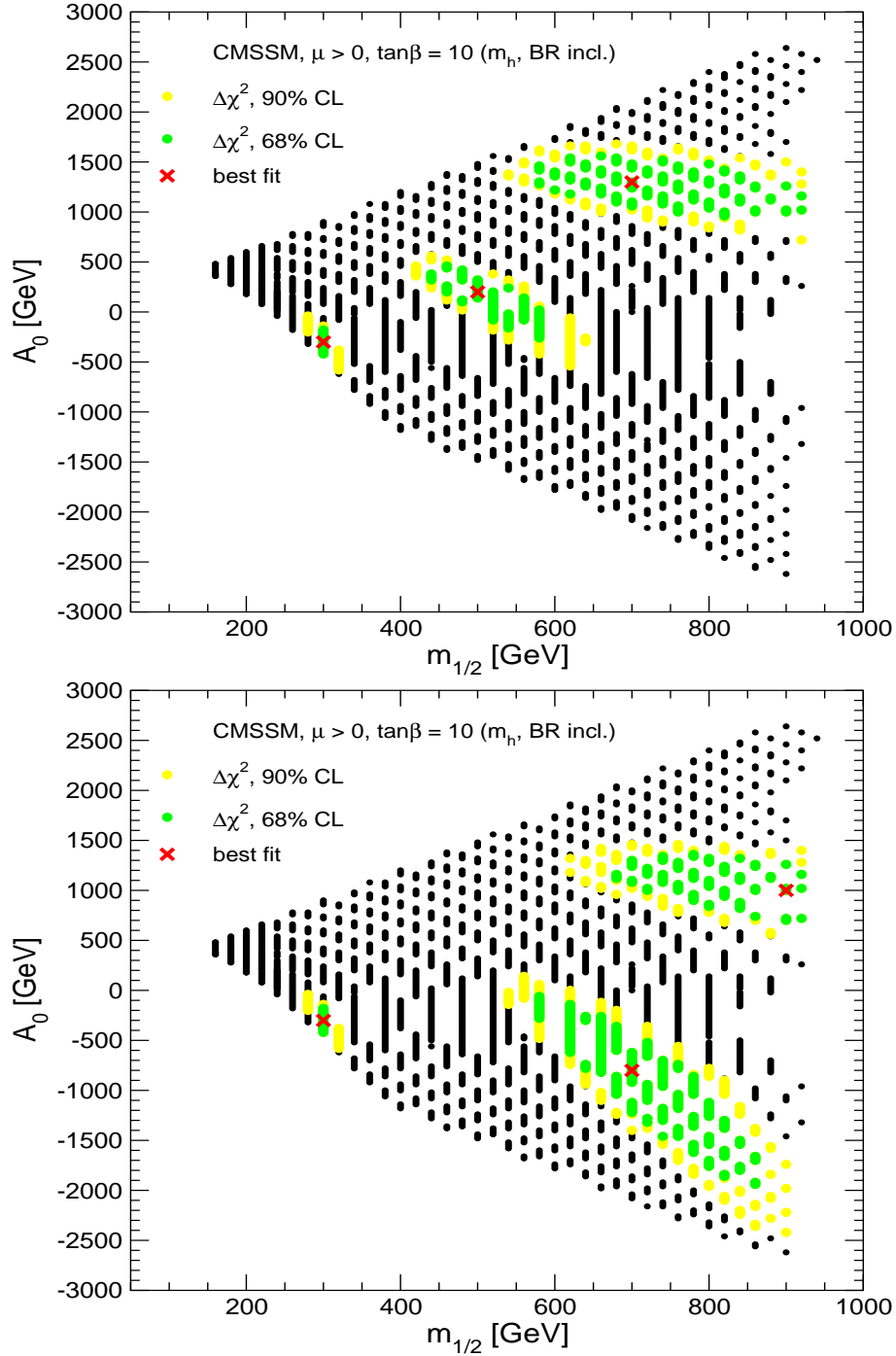


Figure 18: The results of a χ^2 fit based on the prospective experimental accuracies for the precision observables M_W , $\sin^2 \theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g - 2)_\mu$, $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$, M_h and Higgs branching ratios at the ILC are shown in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane of the CMSSM with WMAP constraints for $\tan\beta = 10$. In both plots the WMAP-allowed region and the best-fit point according to the current situation (see Fig. 15) are indicated. In both plots two further hypothetical future ‘best-fit’ values have been chosen for illustration. The coloured regions correspond to the 68% and 90% C.L. regions according to the ILC accuracies.

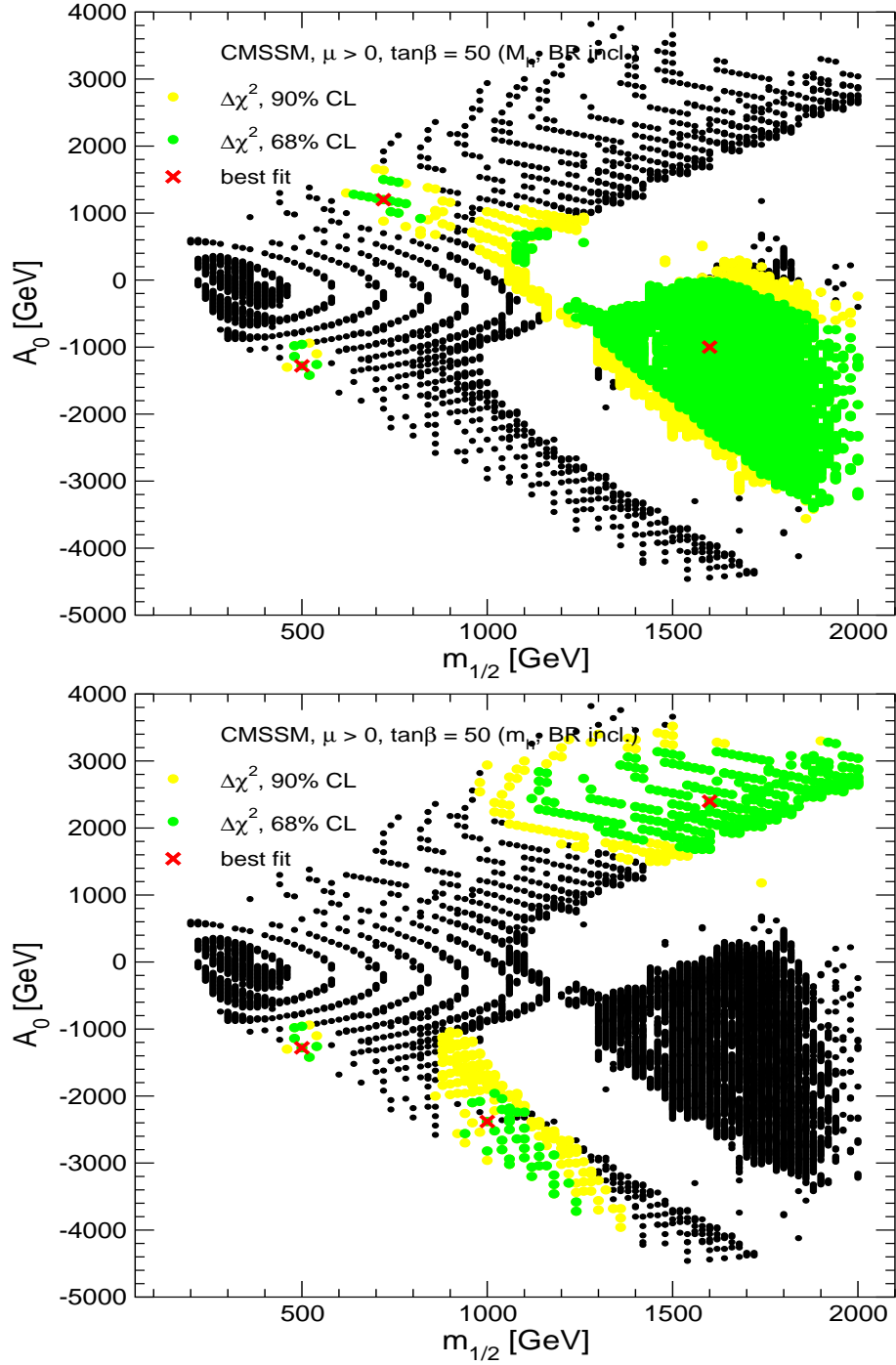


Figure 19: The results of a χ^2 fit based on the prospective experimental accuracies for the precision observables M_W , $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$, $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$, M_h and Higgs branching ratios at the ILC are shown in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane of the CMSSM with WMAP constraints for $\tan\beta = 50$. In both plots the WMAP-allowed region and the best-fit point for $\tan\beta = 50$ according to the current situation (see Fig. 15) are indicated. In both plots two further hypothetical future ‘best-fit’ values have been chosen for illustration. The coloured regions correspond to the 68% and 90% C.L. regions according to the ILC accuracies.

Figs. 18, 19 illustrate the indirect sensitivity to the CMSSM parameters in scenarios where the precision observables prefer larger values of $m_{1/2}$.

For $\tan\beta = 10$, we have investigated hypothetical ‘best-fit’ values for $m_{1/2}$ of 500 GeV, 700 GeV (for $A_0 > 0$ and $A_0 < 0$) and 900 GeV. For $m_{1/2} = 500$ GeV, the 90% C.L. region in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane is significantly larger than for the current best-fit value of $m_{1/2} \approx 300$ GeV, but interesting limits can still be set on both $m_{1/2}$ and A_0 . For $m_{1/2} = 700$ GeV and $m_{1/2} = 900$ GeV, the 90% C.L. region extends up to the boundary of the WMAP-allowed parameter space for $m_{1/2}$. Even for these large values of $m_{1/2}$, however, the precision observables (in particular the observables in the Higgs sector) still allow one to constrain A_0 .

For $\tan\beta = 50$, where the WMAP-allowed region extends up to much higher values of $m_{1/2}$ ⁸, we find that for a ‘best-fit’ value of $m_{1/2}$ as large as 1 TeV, which would lie close to the LHC limit and beyond the direct-detection reach of the ILC, the precision data would still allow one to establish an upper bound on $m_{1/2}$ within the WMAP-allowed region. Thus, this indirect sensitivity to $m_{1/2}$ could give important hints for supersymmetry searches at higher-energy colliders. For ‘best-fit’ values of $m_{1/2}$ in excess of 1.5 TeV, on the other hand, the indirect effects of heavy sparticles become so small that they are difficult to resolve even with ILC accuracies.

6 Conclusions

We have investigated the sensitivity of precision observables, now and at the ILC, to indirect effects of supersymmetry within the CMSSM. We have taken into account the constraints from WMAP and other astrophysical and cosmological data which effectively reduces the dimensionality of the CMSSM parameter space.

We have performed a χ^2 analysis based on the present experimental results of the observables M_W , $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$, $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ for two values of $\tan\beta$, taking into account the current theoretical uncertainties. For $\tan\beta = 10$, we find that the CMSSM provides a very good description of the data. A clear preference can be seen for relatively small values of $m_{1/2}$, with a best-fit value of about 300 GeV and $A_0 \approx -m_{1/2}$. This result can be understood from the separate analyses of each of the observables, each of which is well described by the CMSSM prediction for $m_{1/2} \approx 300$ GeV. At the 90% C.L., we find an upper bound on $m_{1/2}$ of about 600 GeV. The supersymmetric particle spectrum corresponding to the best-fit region contains relatively light states. There is a possibility that some sparticles might be

⁸We notice again the sparsely-populated ‘voids’ due to our coarse sampling procedure.

detectable at the Tevatron collider, and many should be detectable at the LHC [83] and the ILC [2], allowing a detailed determination of their properties [93].

For $\tan\beta = 50$, the quality of the fit is worse than for the case with $\tan\beta = 10$. While M_W and $\sin^2\theta_{\text{eff}}$ prefer small values of $m_{1/2}$ also for $\tan\beta = 50$, $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\text{BR}(b \rightarrow s\gamma)$ are better described in this case by larger $m_{1/2}$ values. The indirect constraints on $m_{1/2}$ are therefore less pronounced for $\tan\beta = 50$. The best-fit value is obtained for $m_{1/2} \approx 500$ GeV and negative A_0 . The best-fit values for the LSP mass and the lighter stau are still below about 250 GeV, while the preferred mass values of the heavier neutralinos, the charginos and the other sleptons are in the region of 500 GeV. The 90% C.L. regions of these masses extend beyond 1 TeV, but would be kinematically accessible at a multi-TeV linear collider [94]. Coloured particles, such as the stops and sbottoms and the gluino are likely to have masses within the reach of the LHC. However, at the 90% C.L. also masses beyond ~ 3 TeV are possible. Heavy Higgs bosons might also be accessible at the LHC in the case of large $\tan\beta$.

We have investigated the implications of our fit results for the prospects for detecting a signal for $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$. For both $\tan\beta = 10$ and $\tan\beta = 50$, we find that the 90% C.L. region for $m_{1/2}$ and A_0 leads to predicted values of $\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$ that are below our 95% C.L. estimate of the Tevatron sensitivity at the end of Run II. With a more optimistic estimate, the Tevatron could probe a part of the parameter region for $\tan\beta = 50$ at the 90% C.L. It seems more likely, however, that detection of this process would have to await LHC data.

In the second part of our analysis, we have investigated the future sensitivities of the precision observables to indirect effects of supersymmetry, assuming the experimental accuracies achievable at the ILC with a low-energy option running at the Z resonance and the WW threshold and estimating the future theoretical uncertainties. As further precision observables besides the ones discussed for the present situation, we have included the mass of the lightest \mathcal{CP} -even Higgs boson and the ratio of branching ratios $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow b\bar{b})/\text{BR}(h \rightarrow WW^*)$. We have chosen several points in the $(m_{1/2}, A_0)$ plane of the CMSSM with the current WMAP constraints as examples for ‘best-fit’ values, adjusting the assumed future experimental central values of the precision observables to coincide with the predictions of the ‘best-fit’ values. With the prospective ILC accuracies, the sensitivity to indirect effects of supersymmetry improves very significantly compared to the present situation. We find that for assumed ‘best-fit’ values of $m_{1/2} \lesssim 500$ GeV the precision observables allow one to constrain tightly $m_{1/2}$ and A_0 . Comparing these indirect predictions with the results from the direct observation of supersymmetric particles will allow a stringent consistency test of the model at the loop level.

Because of the decoupling property of supersymmetric theories, the indirect constraints become weaker for larger $m_{1/2}$. Nevertheless, useful limits on $m_{1/2}$ and A_0 can be obtained for ‘best-fit’ values of $m_{1/2}$ as high as 1 TeV. Thus, the indirect sensitivity from the measurement of precision observables at the ILC may even exceed the direct search reach of the LHC and ILC.

Whilst this analysis has been restricted to the CMSSM, similar conclusions are expected to apply if the assumption of universal soft supersymmetry-breaking scalar masses is relaxed for the Higgs bosons, at least for values of μ and m_A not greatly different from those in the CMSSM. The impact of the dark-matter constraint may well be rather different if universality between the soft supersymmetry-breaking squark and slepton masses is also relaxed, but we expect that the indication found here for relatively light sparticle masses would be maintained. The investigation of these issues requires a more detailed study of models beyond the CMSSM, which is in preparation.

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