

# Implications of naturalness and the string landscape for LHC SUSY searches

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# Six questions

- What exactly do we mean by naturalness?
- Is naturalness important?
- Is there a naturalness crisis (is SUSY excluded)?
- Is the string landscape an alternative to naturalness?
- What does naturalness imply for SUSY searches at LHC Run 3 and beyond?
- What does naturalness imply for dark matter searches?  
mixed axion+higgsino-like WIMP (some other time)

# What is naturalness?

- Dirac naturalness: no small or big numbers in a physical theory
- 'tHooft naturalness: small numbers technically OK as long as  $\rightarrow 0$  as theory becomes more symmetric: small  $m(e)$  is OK since  $\rightarrow 0$  under restoration of chiral symmetry
- But what we mean in contemporary HEP discussions is what we call “practical naturalness”

An observable  $\mathcal{O}$  is natural if all *independent* contributions to  $\mathcal{O}$  are comparable to or smaller than  $\mathcal{O}$

*e.g.* if  $\mathcal{O} = o_1 + \dots + o_n$ , and  $o_1 \gg \mathcal{O}$ , then some other contribution, say  $o_2$ , would have to be *finetuned* to a precise large opposite-sign value such that  $\mathcal{O}$  is maintained at its measured value

Such finetunings, while logically possible, are thought to be **highly implausible** and hence “unnatural”

# Naturalness and predictivity

- Naturalness is closely related to predictivity in a physical theory
- e.g. in perturbation theory, we expect lowest order term comparable to  $\mathcal{O}$  while higher order terms are increasingly tinier
- Dirac was bothered by this: divergent contributions
- But divergent contributions *\*dependent\**: as one diverges, others diverge in opposite sign such that precise cancellations occur
- QED OK: once diverges cancel, all contributions comparable or less than  $\mathcal{O}$

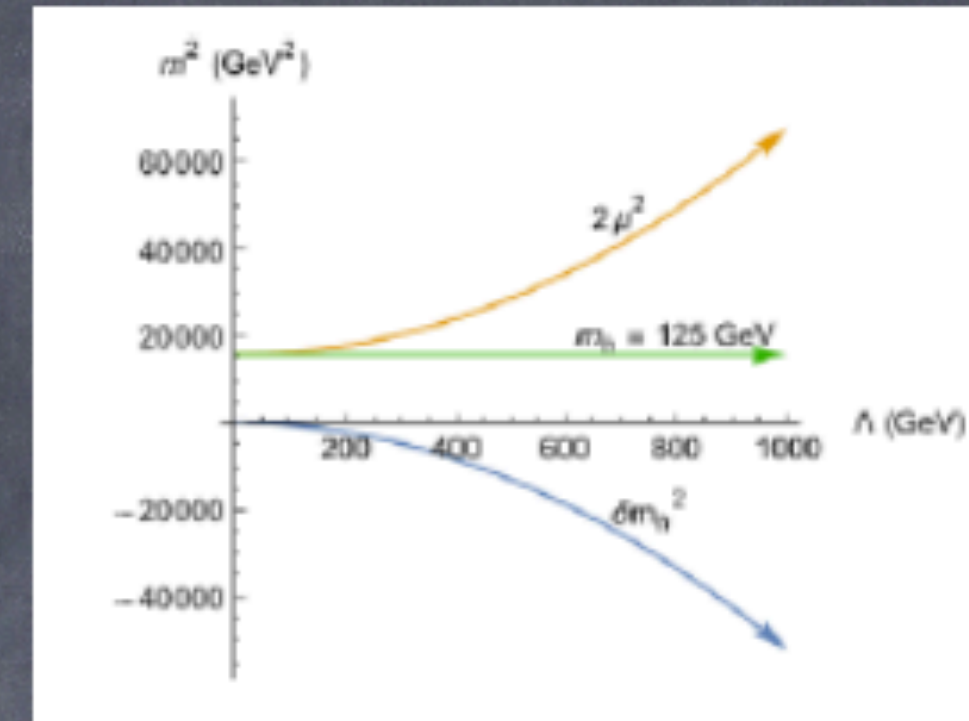
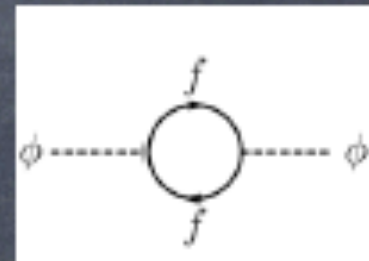


# Is naturalness important?

- The naturalness issue today relates to the magnitude of the weak scale

Biggest conundrum of SM: **why is Higgs mass so small?**

1. There is a lowest order mass term
2. Quantum corrections diverge quadratically with energy scale of new physics



$$m_{H_{SM}}^2 = 2\mu^2 + \delta m_{H_{SM}}^2$$

$$\delta m_{H_{SM}}^2 \simeq \frac{3}{4\pi^2} \left( -\lambda_t^2 + \frac{g^2}{4} + \frac{g^2}{8 \cos^2 \theta_W} + \lambda \right) \Lambda^2$$

3. To avoid the pathology of fine-tuning, SM must be valid only to  $\Lambda \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$

4. Need theory which is free of quadratic divergences to extend e.g. to GUT scale



# Another viewpoint:

## Higgs mass (hierarchy) problem (SM):

$$V = -\mu^2 \phi^\dagger \phi + \lambda (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2$$

$$m_h^2 \simeq 2\mu^2 + \delta m_h^2$$

$$\delta m_h^2 \simeq \frac{3}{4\pi^2} \left( -\lambda_t^2 + \frac{g^2}{4} + \frac{g^2}{8 \cos^2 \theta_W} + \lambda \right) \Lambda^2$$

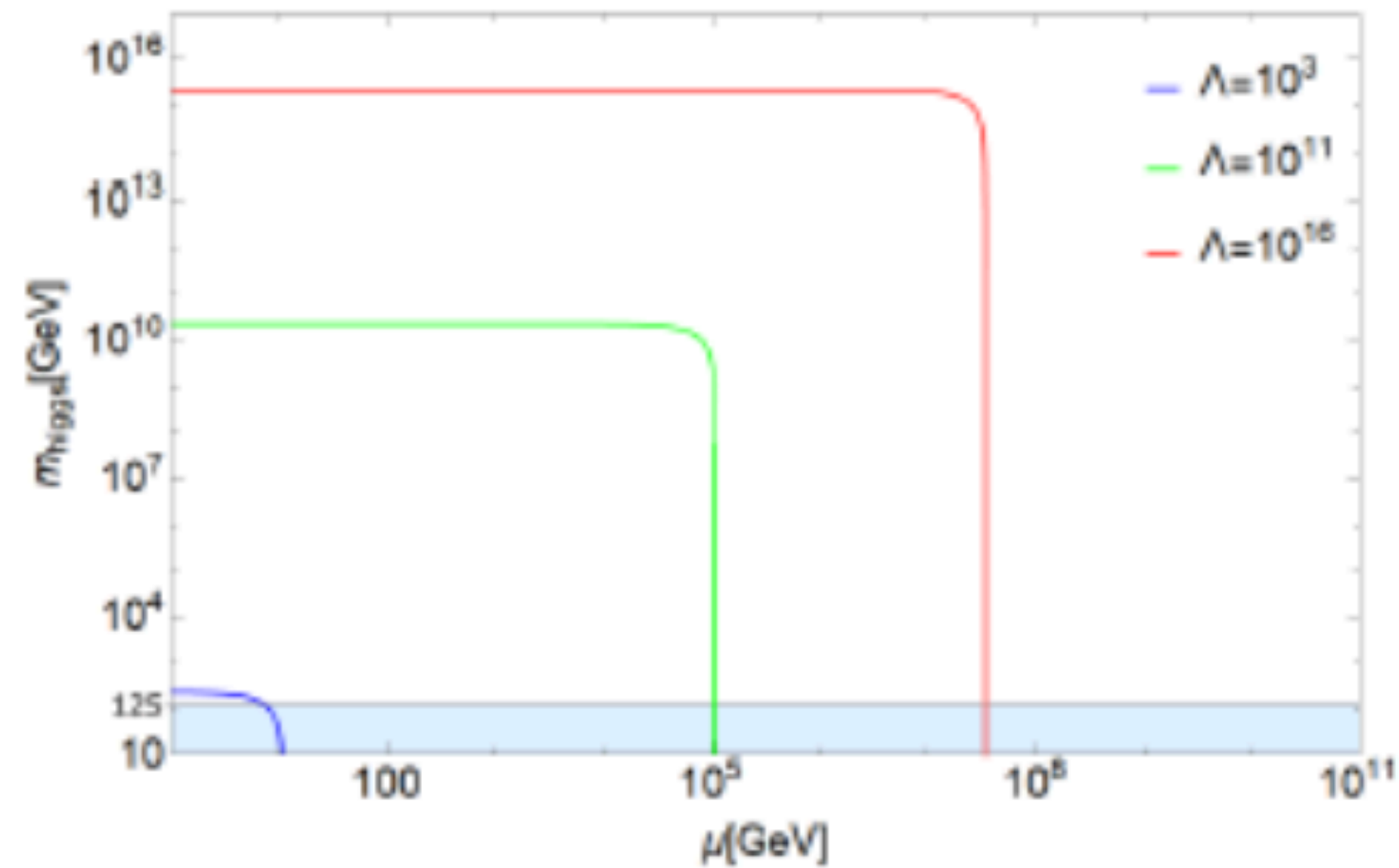


Figure 2: Value of  $m_h(SM)$  versus SM  $\mu$  parameter for theory cut-off values  $\Lambda_{SM} = 10^3, 10^{11}$  and  $10^{16}$  GeV.

Hardly plausible that SM is valid much beyond the TeV scale

“...settling the ultimate fate of naturalness is perhaps the most profound theoretical question of our time”



Arkani-Hamed et al.,  
arXiv:1511.06495

“Given the magnitude of the stakes involved,  
it is vital to get a clear verdict  
on naturalness from experiment”

This should be matched by theoretical scrutiny  
of what we mean by naturalness



# Is there a naturalness crisis (is SUSY excluded)?

- SM supersymmetrized (MSSM): all quadratic divergences cancel due to (super)symmetry
- log divergences remain [but log(big number) can be small number]
- naturalness can be used to place bounds on sparticle masses

e.g. EENZ/BG measure: apply to  $m(Z)$   $\Delta_{BG} \equiv \max_i [c_i]$  where  $c_i = \left| \frac{\partial \ln m_Z^2}{\partial \ln p_i} \right| = \left| \frac{p_i}{m_Z^2} \frac{\partial m_Z^2}{\partial p_i} \right|$

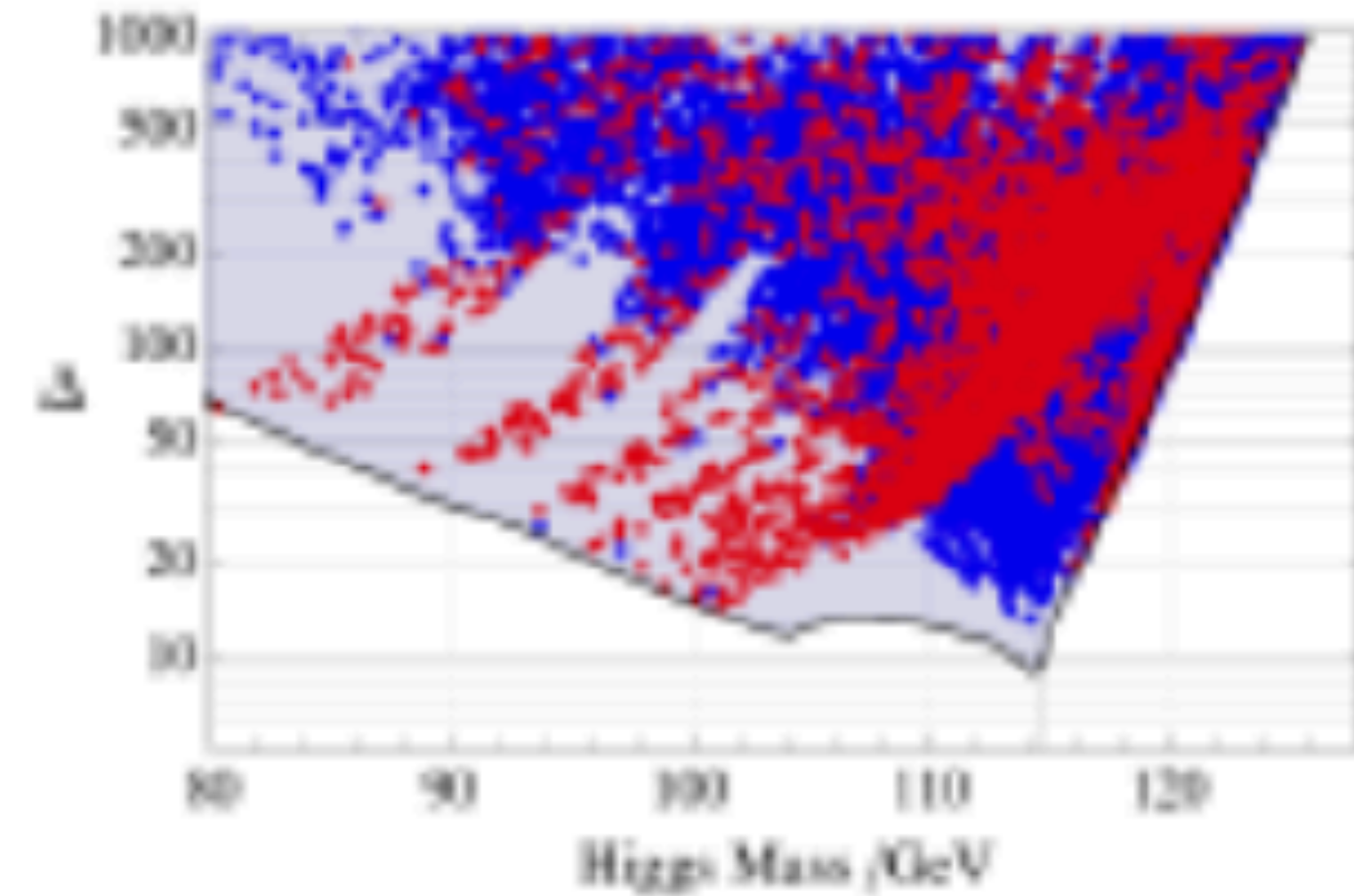
expand  $m(Z)$  in terms a high scale soft terms: DEL(BG) picks off RHS terms, compares to  $m(Z)^2$

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_Z^2 = & -2.18\mu^2 + 3.84M_3^2 + 0.32M_3M_2 \\
 & + 0.047M_1M_3 - 0.42M_2^2 + 0.011M_2M_1 - 0.012M_1^2 \\
 & - 0.65M_3A_t - 0.15M_2A_t - 0.025M_1A_t + 0.22A_t^2 \\
 & + 0.004M_3A_b - 1.27m_{H_u}^2 - 0.053m_{H_d}^2 \\
 & + .73m_{Q_3}^2 + .57m_{U_3}^2 + .049m_{D_3}^2 - .052m_{L_3}^2 + .053m_{E_3}^2 \\
 & + .051m_{Q_2}^2 - .11m_{U_2}^2 + .051m_{D_2}^2 - .052m_{L_2}^2 + .053m_{E_2}^2 \\
 & + .051m_{Q_1}^2 - .11m_{U_1}^2 + .051m_{D_1}^2 - .052m_{L_1}^2 + .053m_{E_1}^2,
 \end{aligned}$$

for  $\tan\beta=10$



	mass
gluino	400 GeV
uR	400 GeV
eR	350 GeV
chargino	100 GeV
neutralino	50 GeV



Cassel, Ghilencea, Ross, 2009

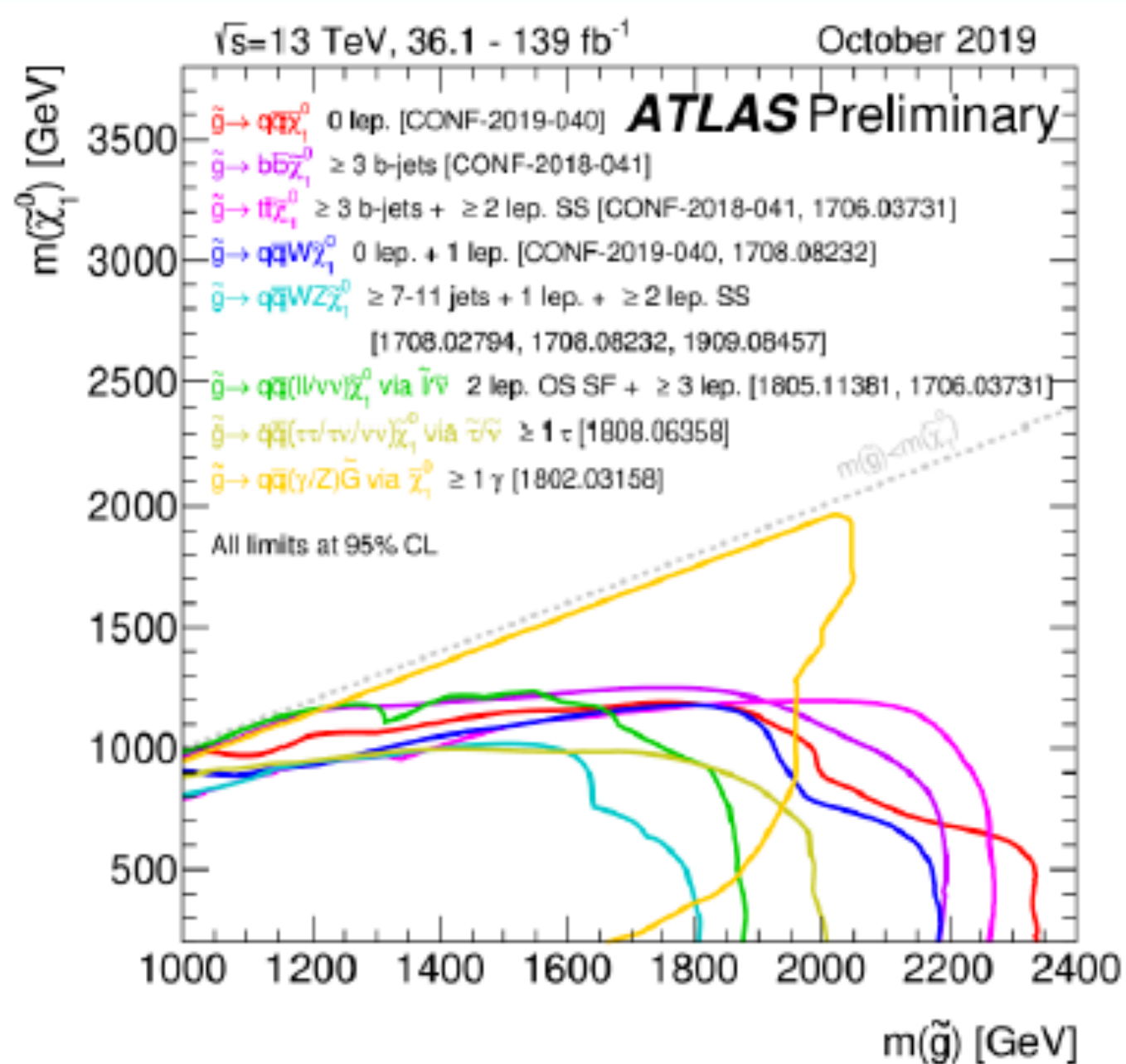
$\Delta \rightarrow 1000$   
 as  $m_h \rightarrow 125$  GeV  
 0.1% tuning!?

Barbieri-Giudice 10% bounds, 1987

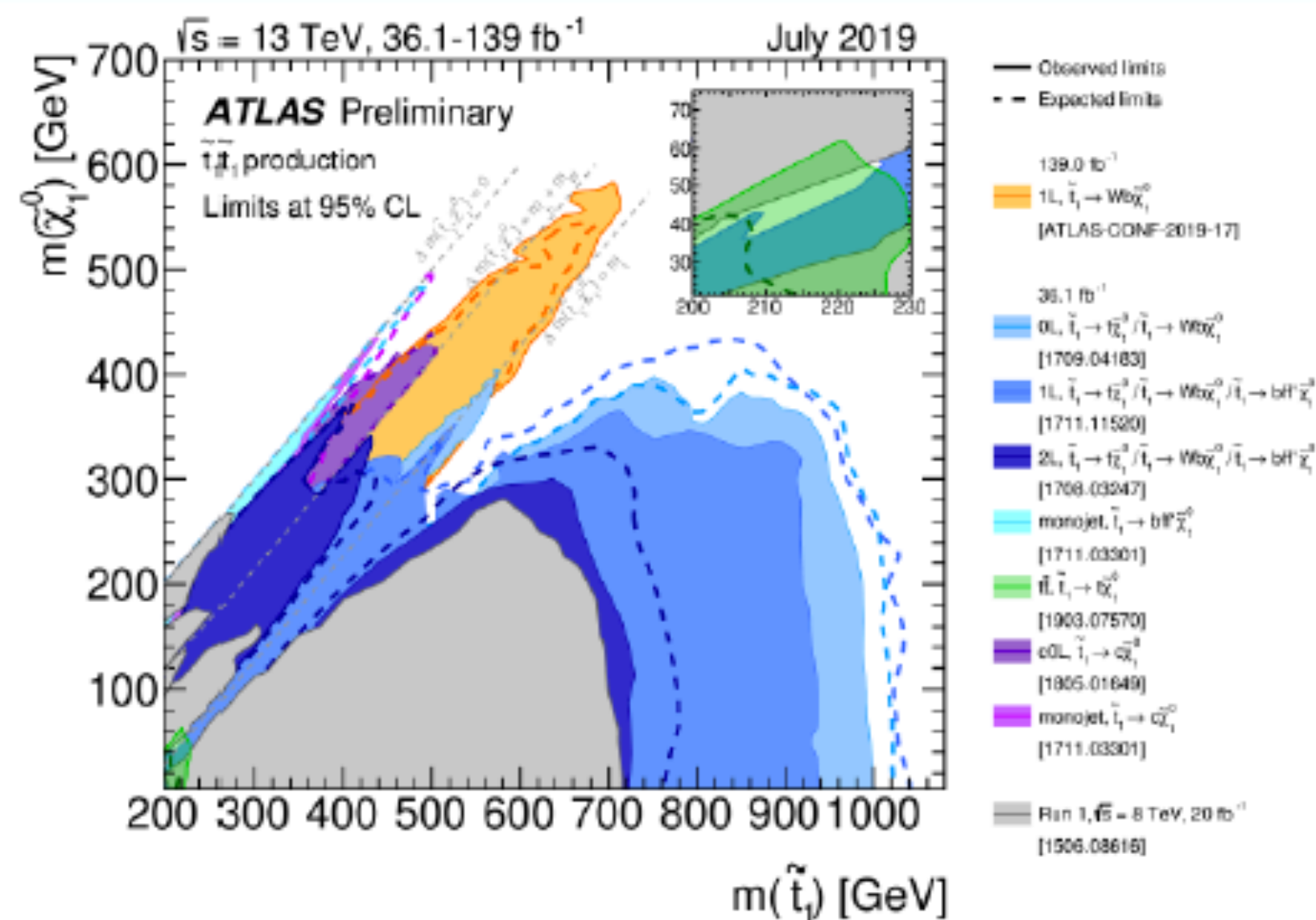
# Compare to data

But where are the sparticles?

none seen so far at LHC



$$m_{\tilde{g}} > 2.25\text{ TeV}$$



$$m_{\tilde{t}_1} > 1.1\text{ TeV}$$

These bounds appear in sharp conflict with EW “naturalness”



# What could be wrong?

- parameters  $p_i$  introduced by hand to parametrize our ignorance of \*correlations\* which occur in more fundamental theory
- e.g Polonyi model of SUSY breaking: all soft terms calculable in terms of gravitino mass  $m_{3/2}$

$$\begin{aligned}m_{\tilde{\phi}_1}^2 &= m_{3/2}^2, \\A &= (3 - \sqrt{3})m_{3/2}, \\B &= A - m_{3/2} = (2 - \sqrt{3})m_{3/2} \text{ while} \\M &\sim m_{3/2}\end{aligned}$$

then major cancellations occur in  $m(Z)^2$  expansion

what looked finetuned may in fact be natural

# High scale (HS, stop mass) measure

$$m_h^2 \simeq \mu^2 + m_{H_u}^2(\text{weak}) = \mu^2 + m_{H_u}^2(\Lambda) + \delta m_{H_u}^2$$

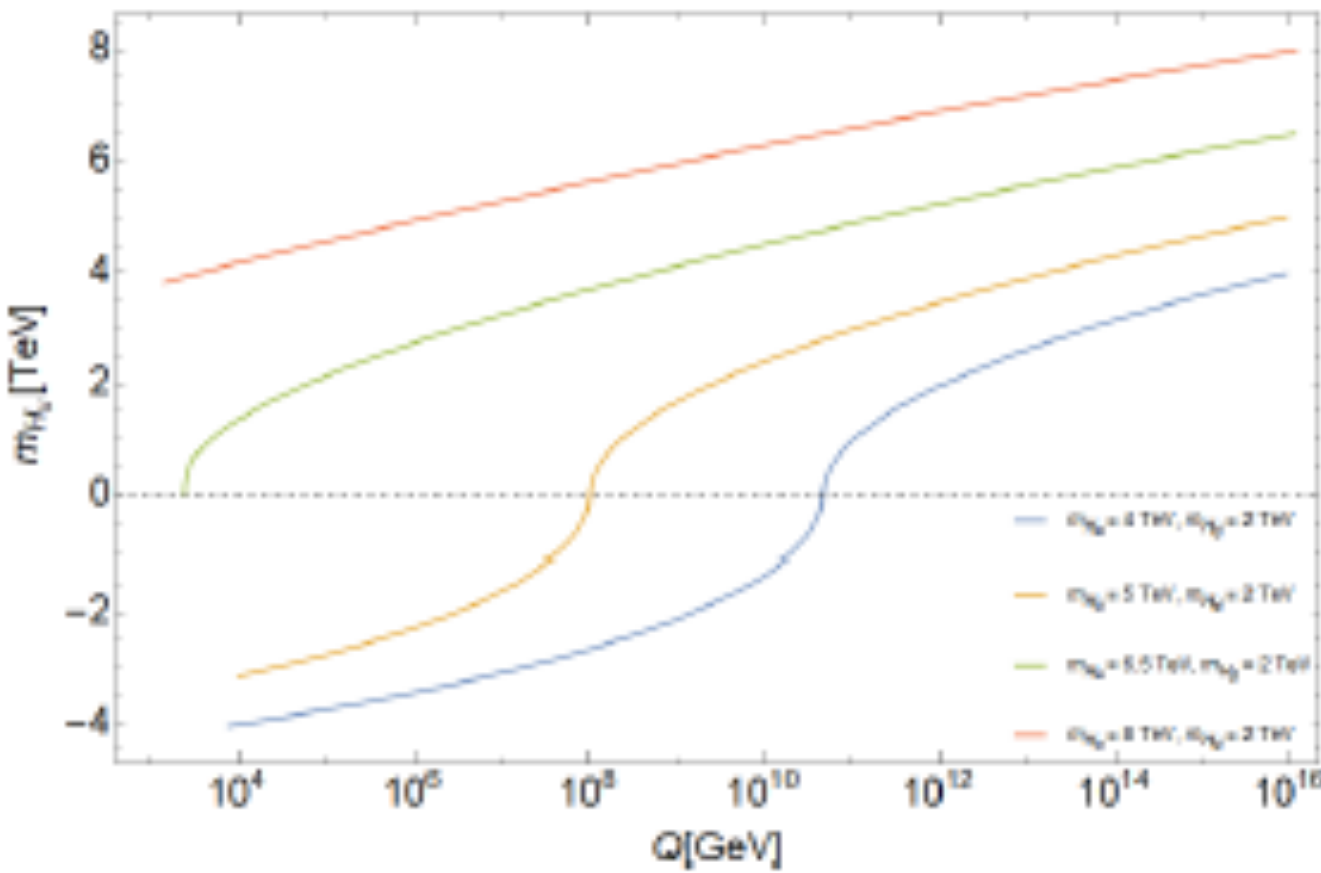
$$\delta m_{H_u}^2 \sim -\frac{3f_t^2}{8\pi^2}(m_{Q_3}^2 + m_{U_3}^2 + A_t^2) \ln(\Lambda^2/m_{SUSY}^2)$$

Implies 3 3rd generation squarks < 500 GeV:  
SUSY ruled out under  $\Delta_{HS}$

BUT! too many terms ignored! **NOT VALID!**

$$\frac{dm_{H_u}^2}{dt} = \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \left( -\frac{3}{5}g_1^2 M_1^2 - 3g_2^2 M_2^2 + \frac{3}{10}g_1^2 S + 3f_t^2 X_t \right)$$

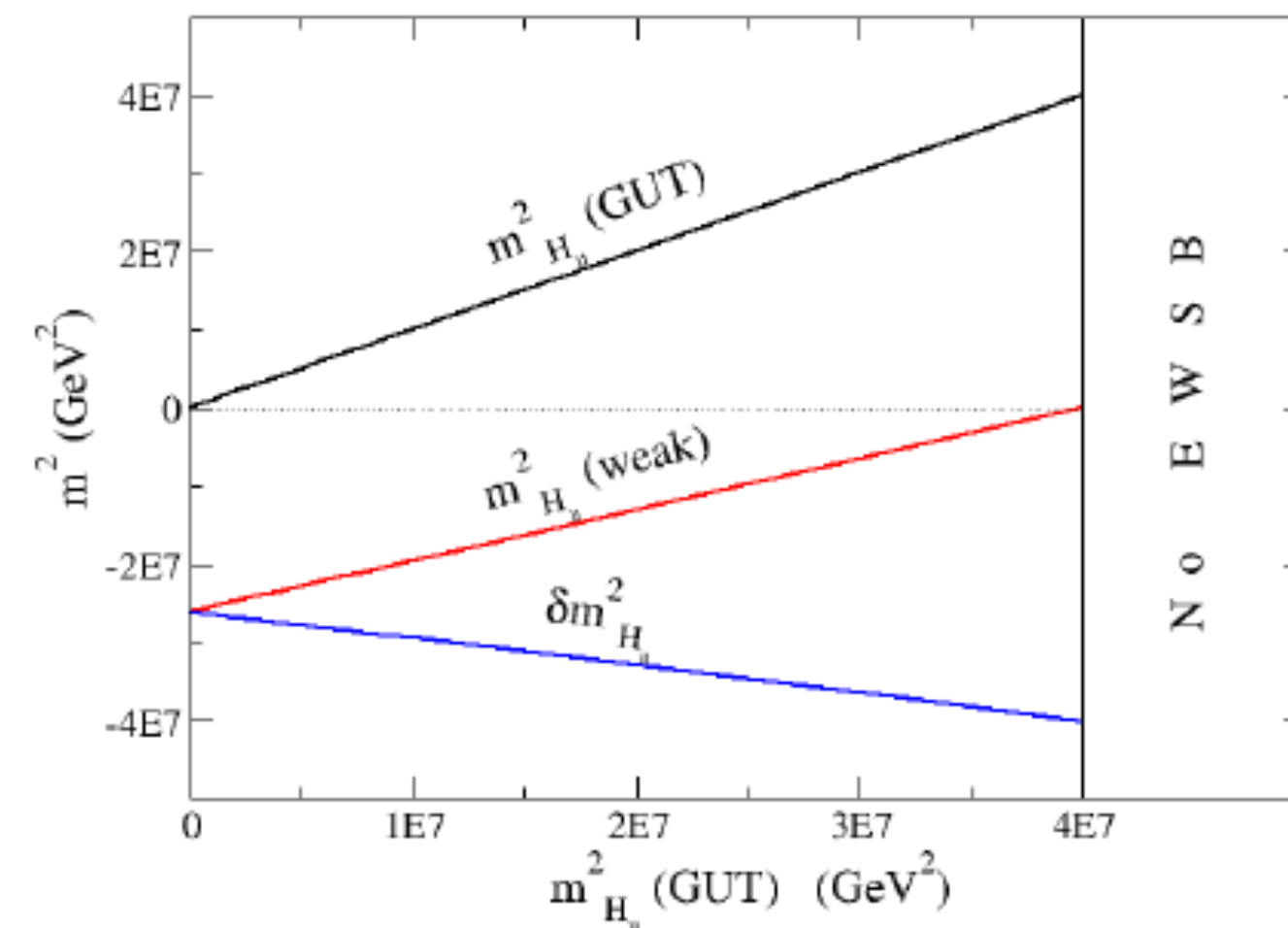
where  $t = \ln(Q^2/Q_0^2)$ ,  $S = m_{H_u}^2 - m_{H_d}^2 + Tr[m_Q^2 - m_L^2 - 2m_U^2 + m_D^2 + m_E^2]$  and  $X_t = m_{Q_3}^2 + m_{U_3}^2 + m_{H_u}^2 + A_t^2$ . By neglecting gauge terms and  $S$  ( $S = 0$ )



The bigger  $m_{H_u}^2(\Lambda)$  is, the bigger is the cancelling correction—these terms are *not independent*.

For big enough  $m_{H_u}^2(\Lambda)$ , then  $m_{H_u}^2$  driven to natural value at weak scale: *radiatively driven naturalness (RNS)*

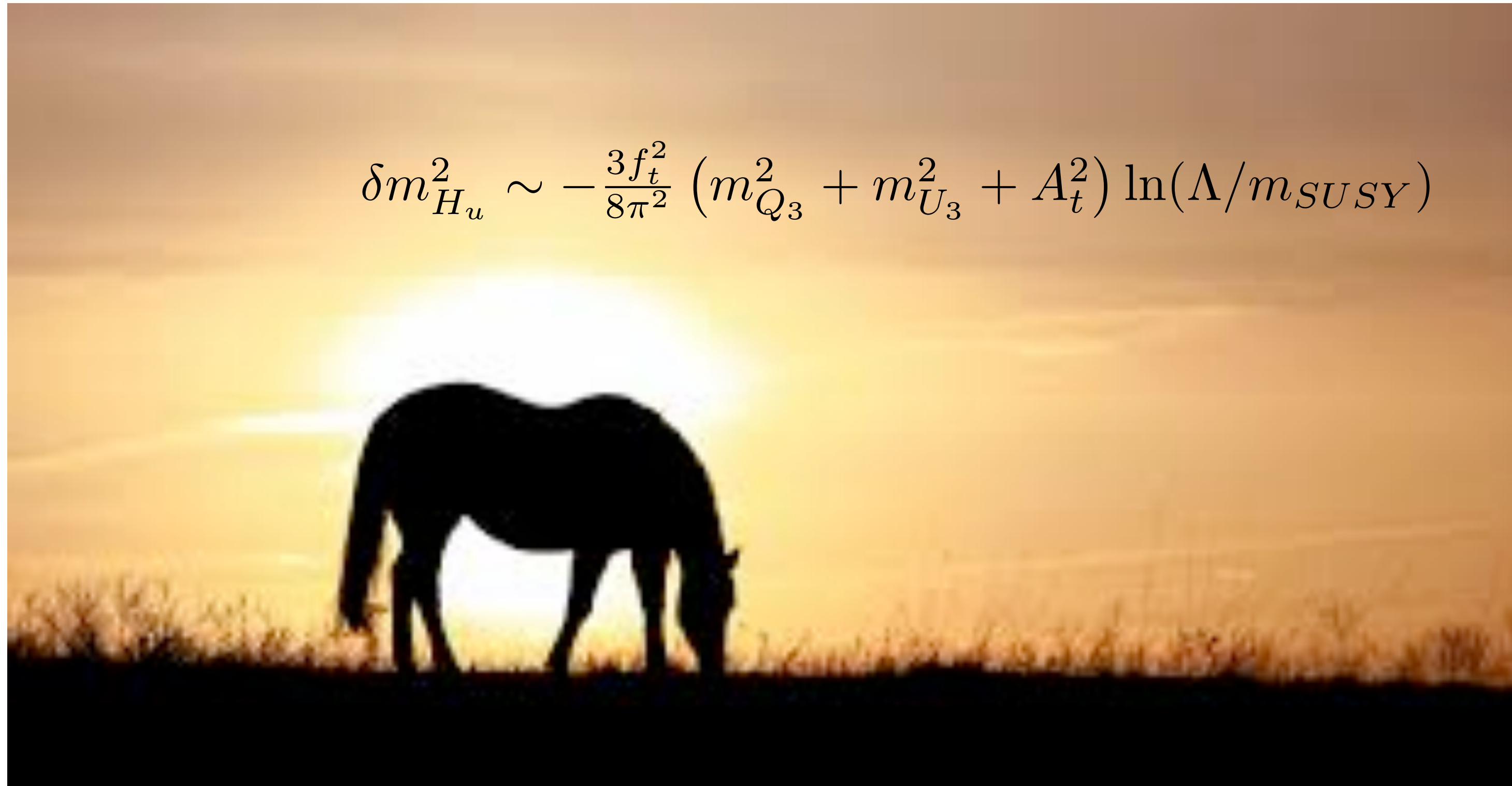
HB, Barger, Mickelson, Padeffke, Savoy





Recommendation: put this horse out to pasture

$$\delta m_{H_u}^2 \sim -\frac{3f_t^2}{8\pi^2} (m_{Q_3}^2 + m_{U_3}^2 + A_t^2) \ln(\Lambda/m_{SUSY})$$

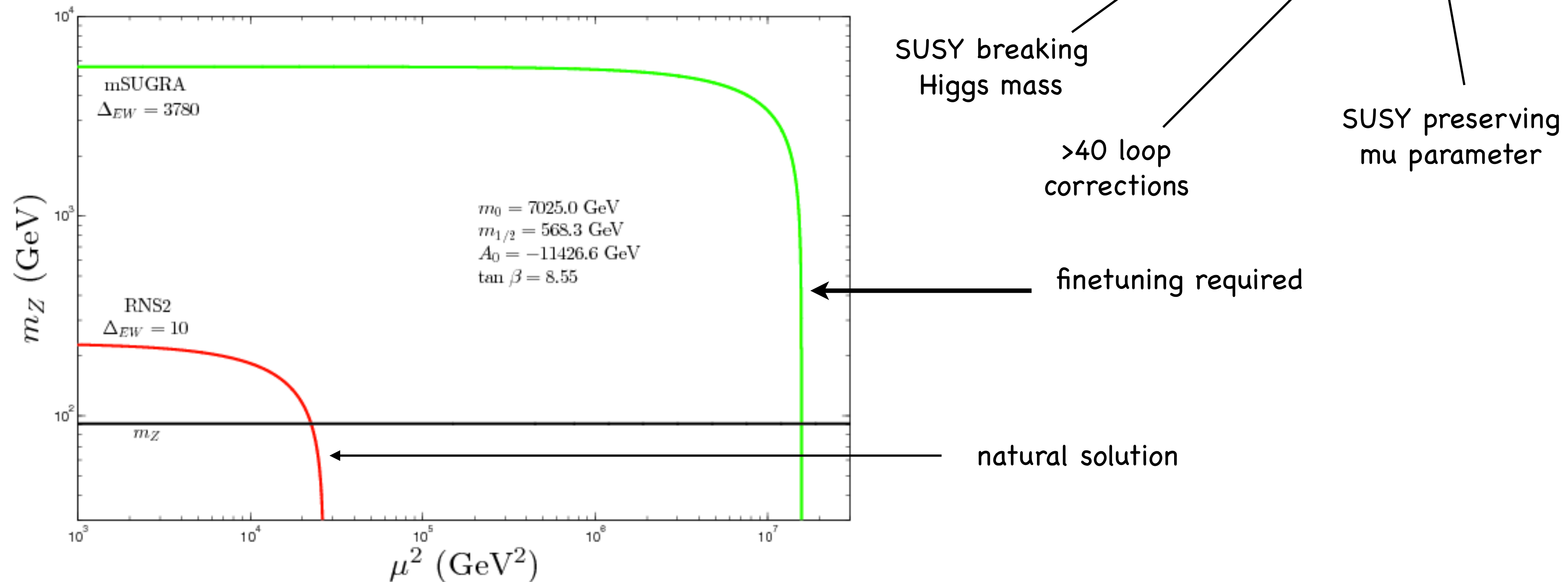


R.I.P.

sub-TeV 3rd generation squarks **not** required for naturalness

Next: simple electroweak fine-tuning in SUSY:  
 minimize Higgs potential in MSSM to relate  
 magnitude of weak scale  $m(Z)$  to SUSY Lagrangian;  
 dial value of  $\mu$  so that  $Z$  mass comes out right:  
**everybody does it but it is hidden inside spectra codes**

$$\frac{m_Z^2}{2} = \frac{m_{H_d}^2 + \Sigma_d^d - (m_{H_u}^2 + \Sigma_u^u) \tan^2 \beta}{\tan^2 \beta - 1} - \mu^2 \simeq -m_{H_u}^2 - \Sigma_u^u - \mu^2$$





# Simplest, most conservative SUSY measure: $\Delta_{EW}$

No large uncorrelated cancellations in  $m(Z)$  or  $m(h)$

$$\frac{m_Z^2}{2} = \frac{m_{H_d}^2 + \Sigma_d^d - (m_{H_u}^2 + \Sigma_u^u) \tan^2 \beta}{\tan^2 \beta - 1} - \mu^2 \sim -m_{H_u}^2 - \Sigma_u^u - \mu^2$$

$$\Delta_{EW} \equiv \max_i |C_i| / (m_Z^2/2) \quad \text{with} \quad C_{H_u} = -m_{H_u}^2 \tan^2 \beta / (\tan^2 \beta - 1) \quad \text{etc.}$$

simple, direct, unambiguous interpretation:

- $|\mu| \sim m_Z \sim 100 - 200 \text{ GeV}$
- $m_{H_u}^2$  should be driven to small negative values such that  $-m_{H_u}^2 \sim 100 - 200 \text{ GeV}$  at the weak scale and
- that the radiative corrections are not too large:  $\Sigma_u^u \lesssim 100 - 200 \text{ GeV}$

CETUP\*-12/002, FTPI-MINN-12/22, UMN-TH-3109/12, UH-511-1195-12

Radiative natural SUSY with a 125 GeV Higgs boson

Howard Baer,<sup>1</sup> Vernon Barger, Peisi Huang,<sup>2</sup> Azar Mustafayev,<sup>3</sup> and Xerxes Tata<sup>4</sup>

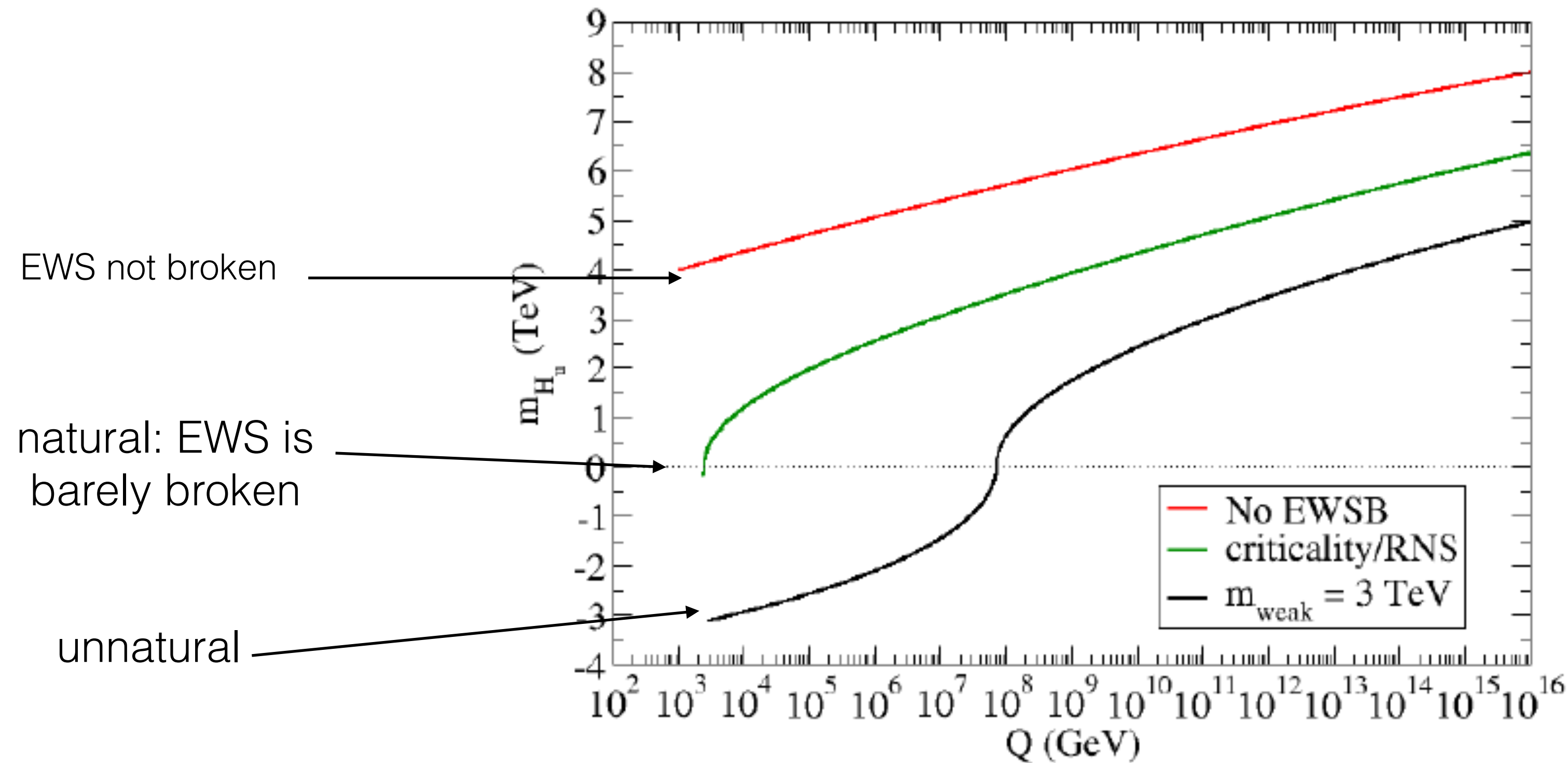
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<sup>3</sup>W. I. Fine Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455, USA

PRL109 (2012) 161802

radiative corrections drive  $m_{H_u}^2$  from unnatural  
 GUT scale values to naturalness at weak scale:  
 radiatively-driven naturalness



Evolution of the soft SUSY breaking mass squared term  $sign(m_{H_u}^2)\sqrt{|m_{H_u}^2|}$  vs.  $Q$

(We will see soon how the green curve is statistically favored by string landscape)

# How much is too much fine-tuning?



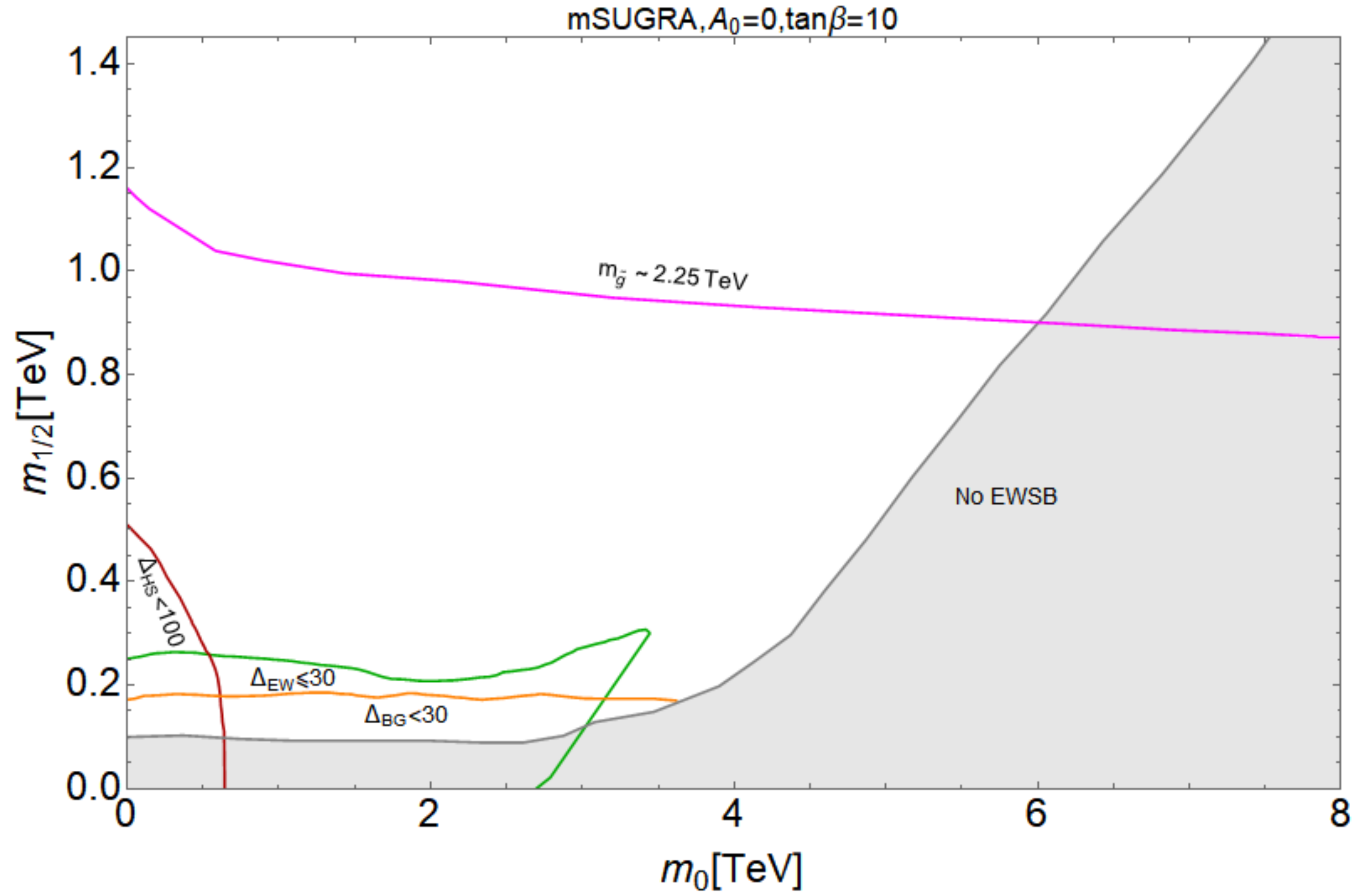
Visually, large fine-tuning has already developed by  $\mu \sim 350$  or  $\Delta_{EW} \sim 30$



bounds from naturalness (3%)	BG/DG	Delta_EW
mu	350 GeV	350 GeV
gluino	400-600 GeV	6 TeV
t1	450 GeV	3 TeV
sq/sl	550-700 GeV	10-30 TeV

h(125) and LHC limits are perfectly compatible with 3-10% naturalness: **no crisis!**

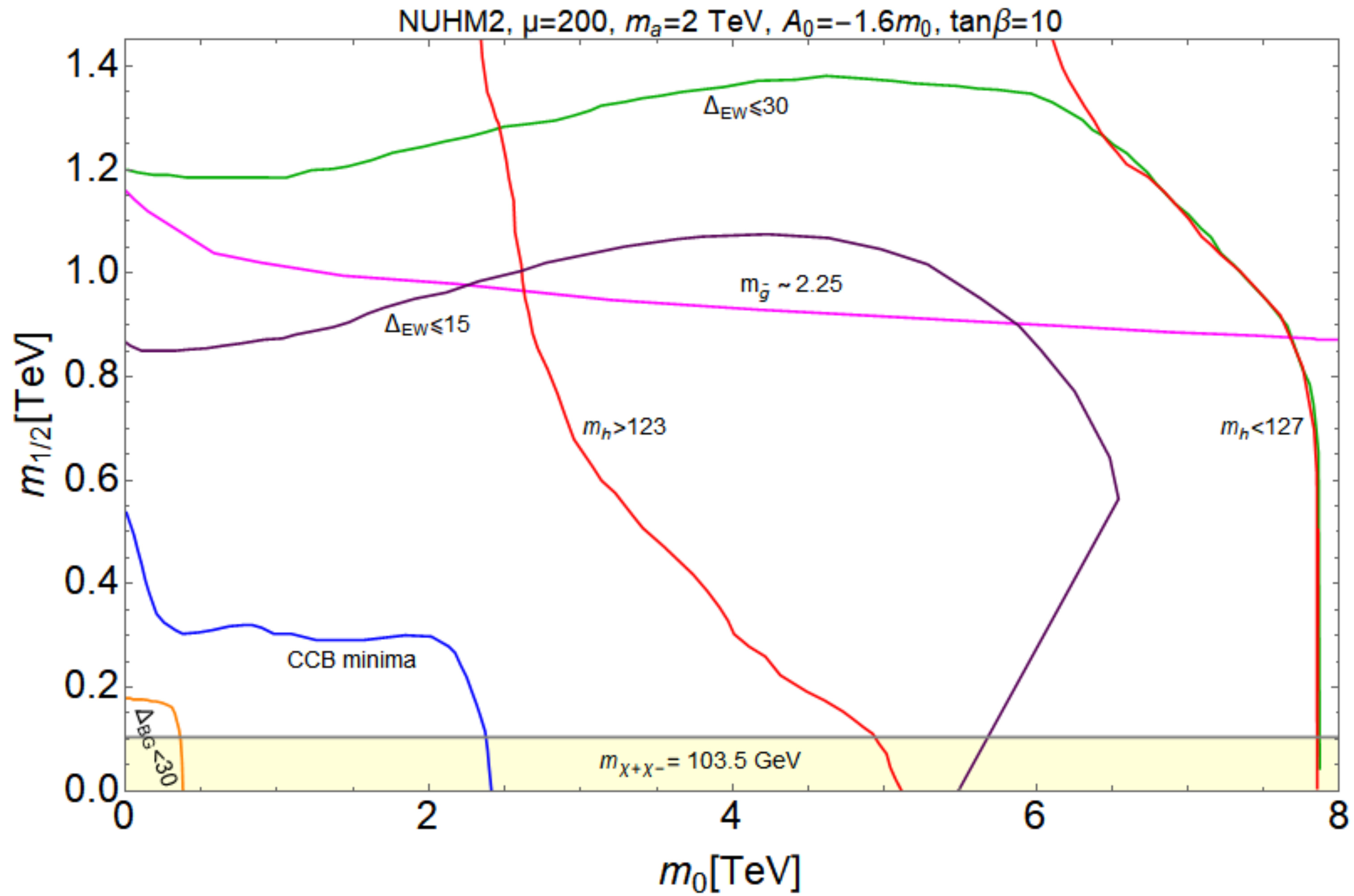
allowed p-space by all three measures in CMSSM:



Is SUSY a failed enterprise (as is often claimed in popular press)?

NUHM2: non-universality of Higgs soft terms  
always allows low  $\mu$  for  $m_{H_u} \sim 1.3 m_0$

$$m_0, m_{1/2}, A_0, \tan\beta, \mu, m_A$$





# Model independence of Delta(EW)

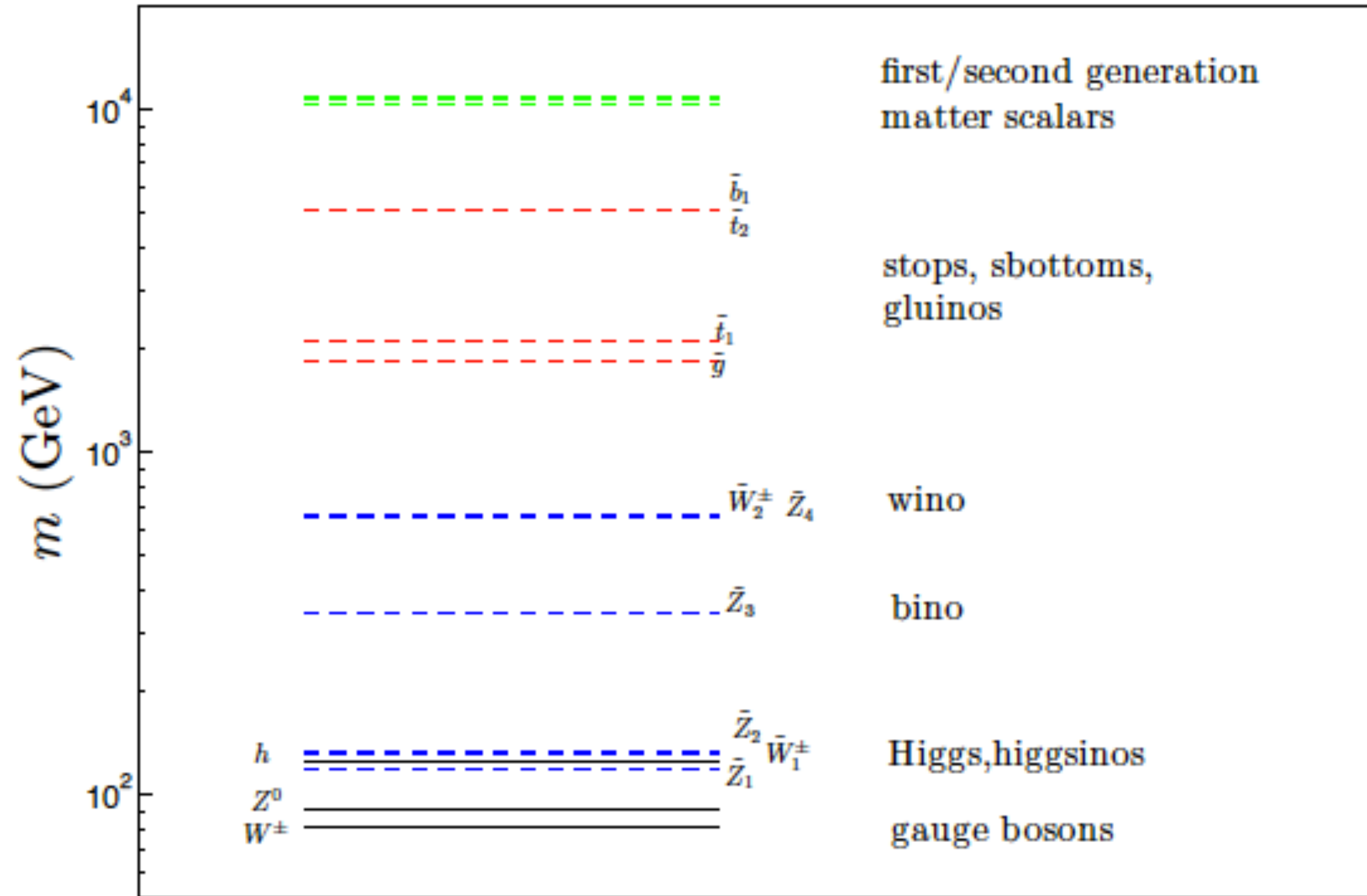
- A final advantage of  $\Delta_{EW}$  is that for a given SUSY mass spectrum, the value of  $\Delta_{EW}$  is independent of how the spectra is generated: whether it is generated from GUT scale parameters or in the pMSSM or any intermediate scale.
- This is not true for  $\Delta_{BG}$  which wildly fluctuates depending on scale and in fact  $\Delta_{BG} \rightarrow \Delta_{EW}$  for the pMSSM
- For  $\Delta_{HS}$ , log term  $\rightarrow \sim 30$  at  $\Lambda = m_{GUT}$  but  $\log \rightarrow 0$  for  $\Lambda \sim m_{weak}$   
so DHS  $\rightarrow 0$  for pMSSM

For Snowmass 2021: have developed publicly available code DEW4SLHA which calculates DEW from any SUSY Les Houches Accord file-  
can use your favorite spectra generator code or even pMSSM

HB, Barger, Dakotah Martinez, arXiv:2111.03096

to download, see [dew4slha.com](http://dew4slha.com)

# Typical spectrum for low $\Delta_{EW}$ models



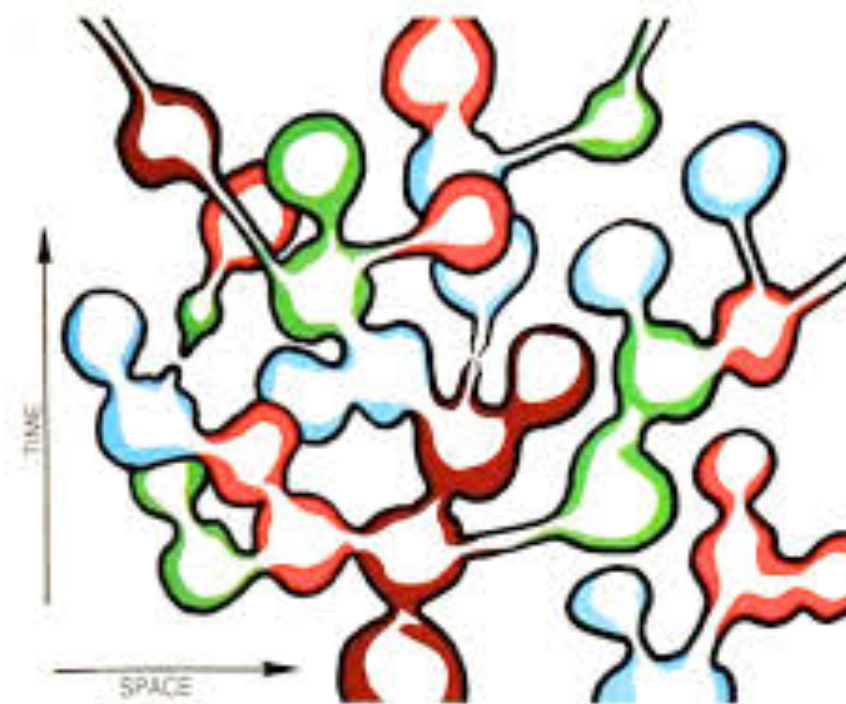
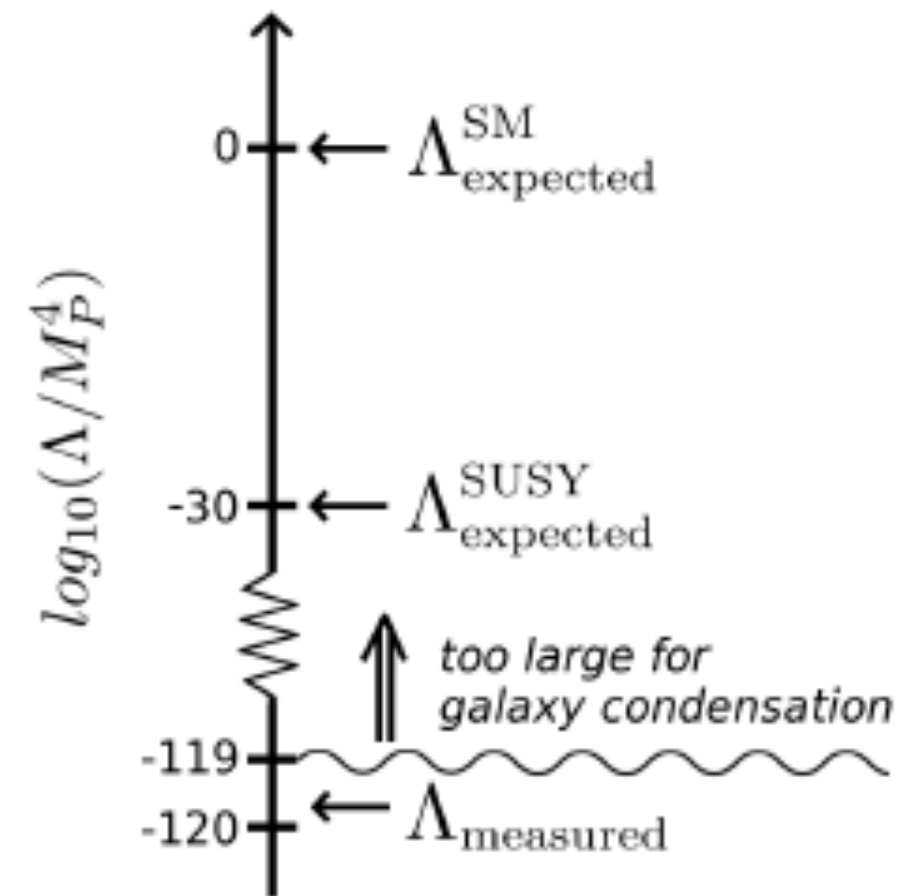
There is a Little Hierarchy, but it is **no problem**

$$\mu \ll m_{3/2}$$

higgsinos likely the lightest superparticles!

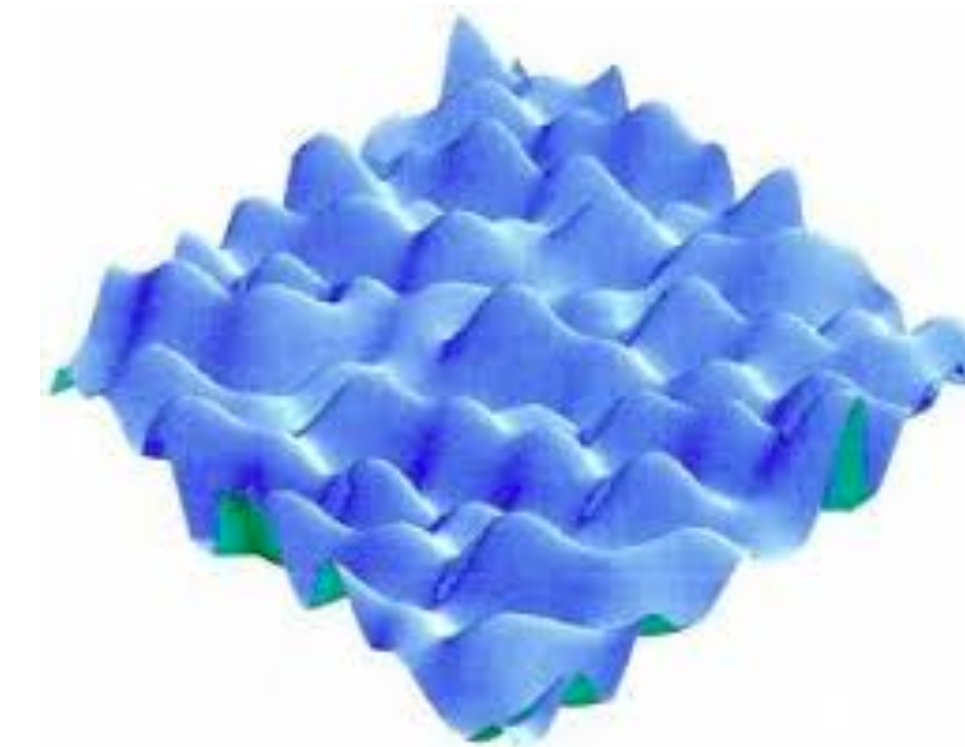
# How does this all relate to string landscape?

It is sometimes invoked that maybe we should abandon naturalness: after all, isn't the cosmological constant (CC) fine-tuned?



eternally inflating  
multiverse

In the landscape with  $10^{500}$  vacua with different CCs, then the tiny value of the CC may not be surprising since larger values would lead to runaway pocket universes where galaxies wouldn't condense—anthropics: no observers in such universes (Weinberg)



Bousso &  
Polchinski

The CC is as natural as possible subject to the condition that it leads to galaxy condensation

For some recent review material, see M. Douglas,  
The String Theory Landscape, 2018, Universe 5 (2019) 7, 176



# Statistical analysis of SUSY breaking scale in IIB theory:

M. Douglas, hep-th/0405279

start with  $10^{500}$  string vacua states

- string theory landscape contains vast ensemble of  $N=1$ ,  $d=4$  SUGRA EFTs at high scales
- the EFTs contain the SM as weak scale EFT
- the EFTs contain visible sector +potentially large hidden sector
- visible sector contains MSSM plus extra gauge singlets (e.g. a PQ sector, RN neutrinos,...)
- SUGRA is broken spontaneously via superHiggs mechanism via either F- or D- terms or in general a combination
- no preferred value for  $F_x$  (distributed as complex number) or  $D_a$  (distributed as real number)

In fertile patch of vacua with MSSM as weak scale effective theory  
but with no preferred SUSY breaking scale...

$$dP/d\mathcal{O} \sim f_{\text{prior}} \cdot f_{\text{selection}}$$

What is  $f(\text{prior})$  for SUSY breaking scale?

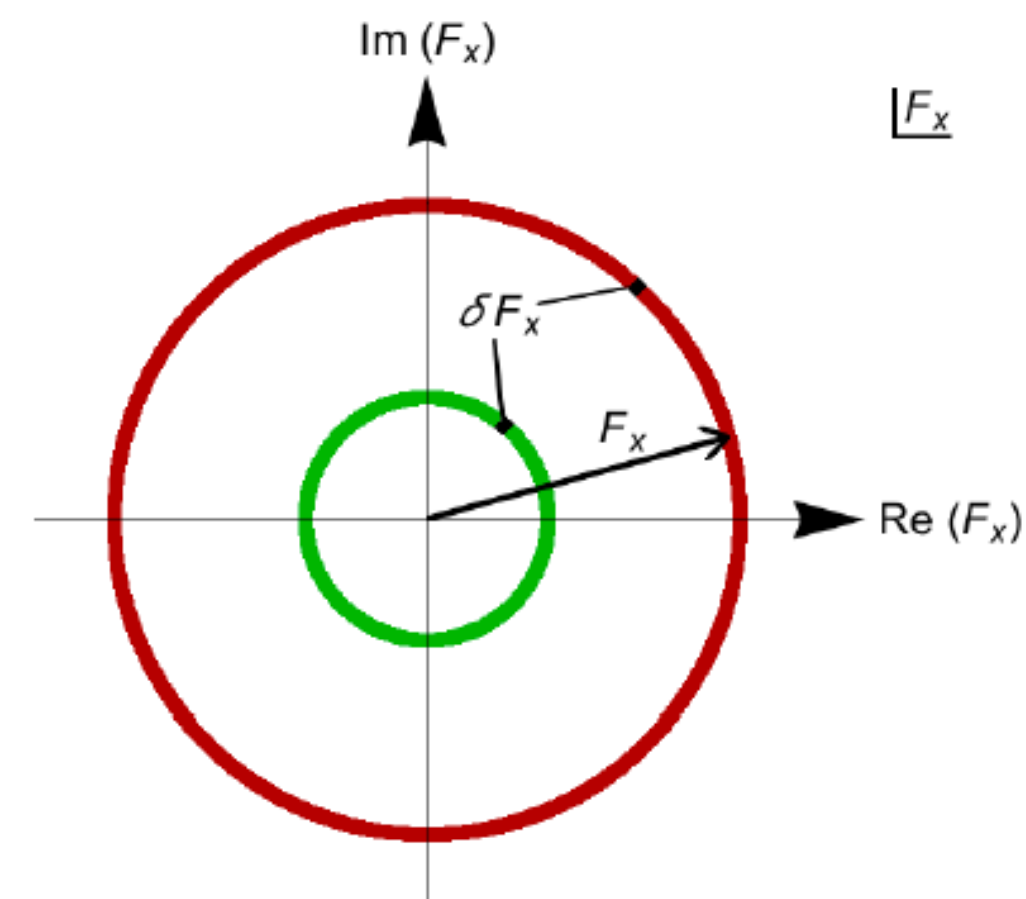
In string theory, usually multiple ( $\sim 10$ ) hidden sectors  
containing a variety of F- and D- breaking fields

For comparable  $\langle F_i \rangle$  and  $\langle D_j \rangle$  values, then expect

$$f_{\text{prior}} \sim m_{\text{soft}}^{2n_F + n_D - 1}$$

Douglas ansatz  
arXiv:0405279

Under single F-term  
SUSY breaking,  
expect **linearly increasing  
statistical selection  
of soft terms**



For uniform values of SUSY  
breaking moduli, expect landscape to prefer  
high scale of SUSY breaking!

Figure 1: Annuli of the complex  $F_X$  plane giving rise to linearly increasing selection of soft SUSY breaking terms.

What about **f(selection)**?

Originally, people adopted  $f_{EWFT} \sim m_{weak}^2/m_{soft}^2$

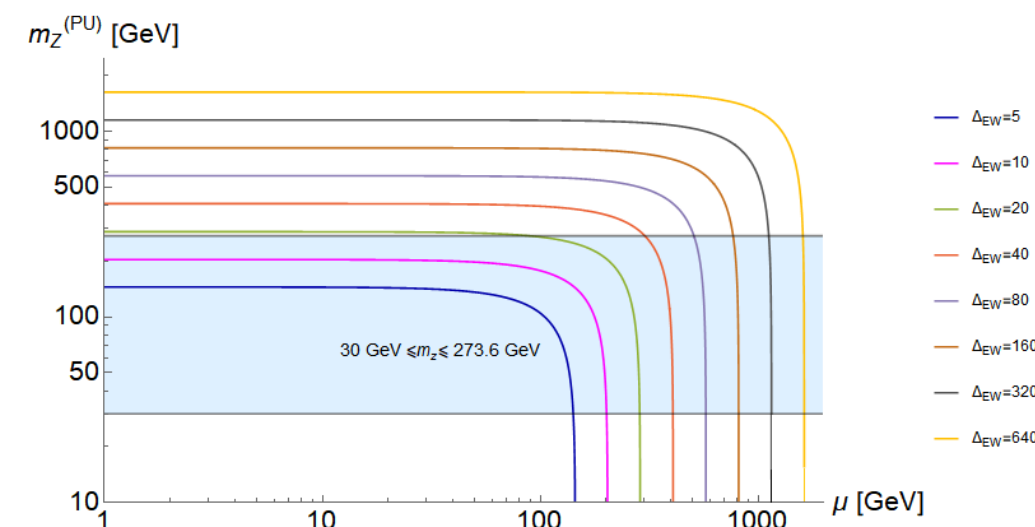
to penalize soft terms straying too far from weak scale

This doesn't work for variety of cases

- Too big soft terms can lead to CCB minima: must veto such vacua
- Bigger  $m(H_u)^2$  leads to more natural value at weak scale
- Bigger  $A(t)$  trilinear suppresses  $t_1, t_2$  contribution to weak scale

$$\frac{(m_Z^{PU})^2}{2} = \frac{m_{H_d}^2 + \Sigma_d^d - (m_{H_u}^2 + \Sigma_u^u) \tan^2 \beta}{\tan^2 \beta - 1} - \mu^2$$

Adopt  $\mu$  value so no longer available for tuning; then  $m_Z(PU) \approx 91.2$  GeV



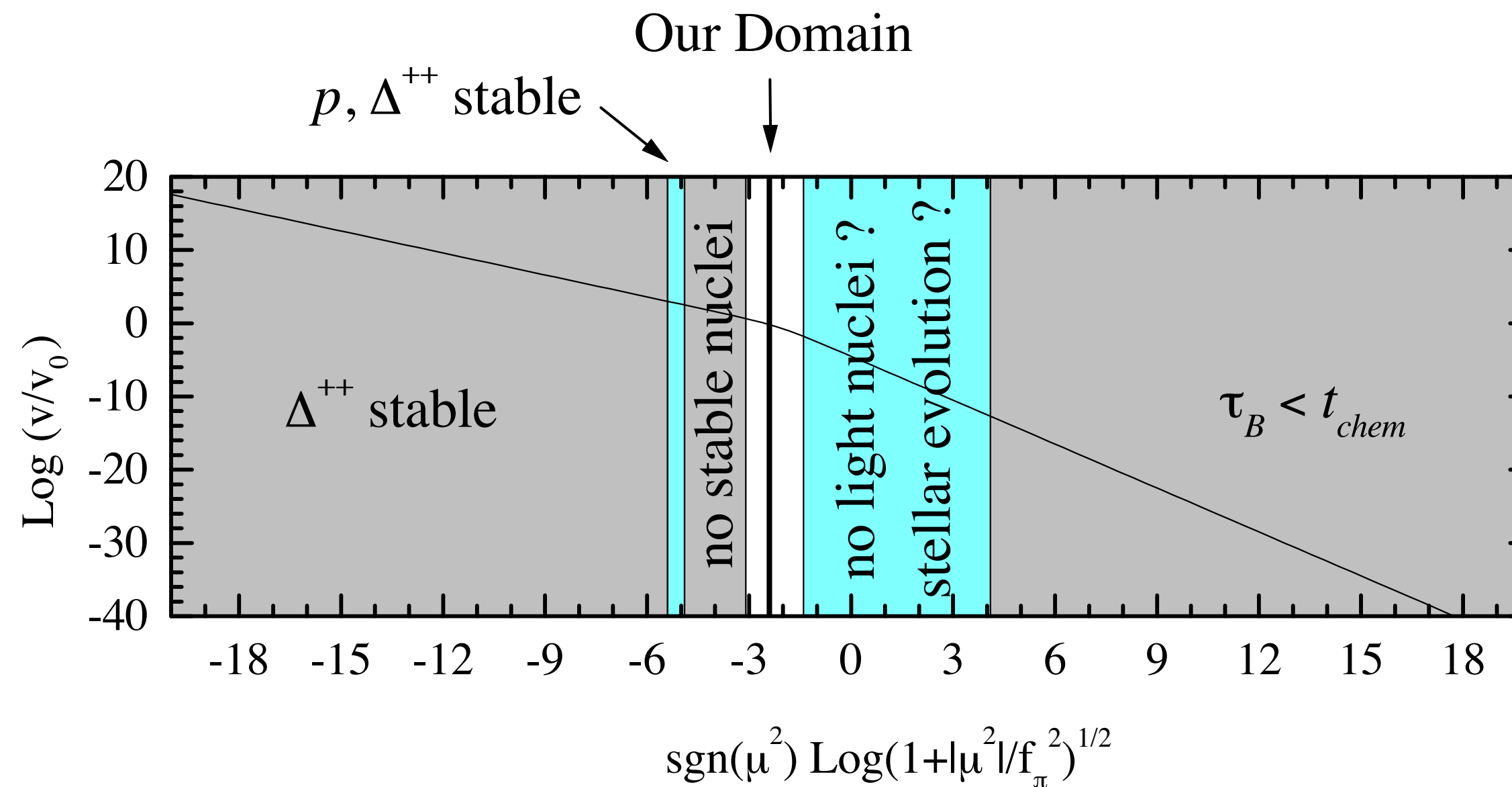
Then for statistically selected soft terms, **m(weak) is output**, not input

Must veto too large  $m(\text{weak})$  values: nuclear physics screw up: no complex atoms  
(Agrawal, Barr, Donoghue, Seckel, 1998)

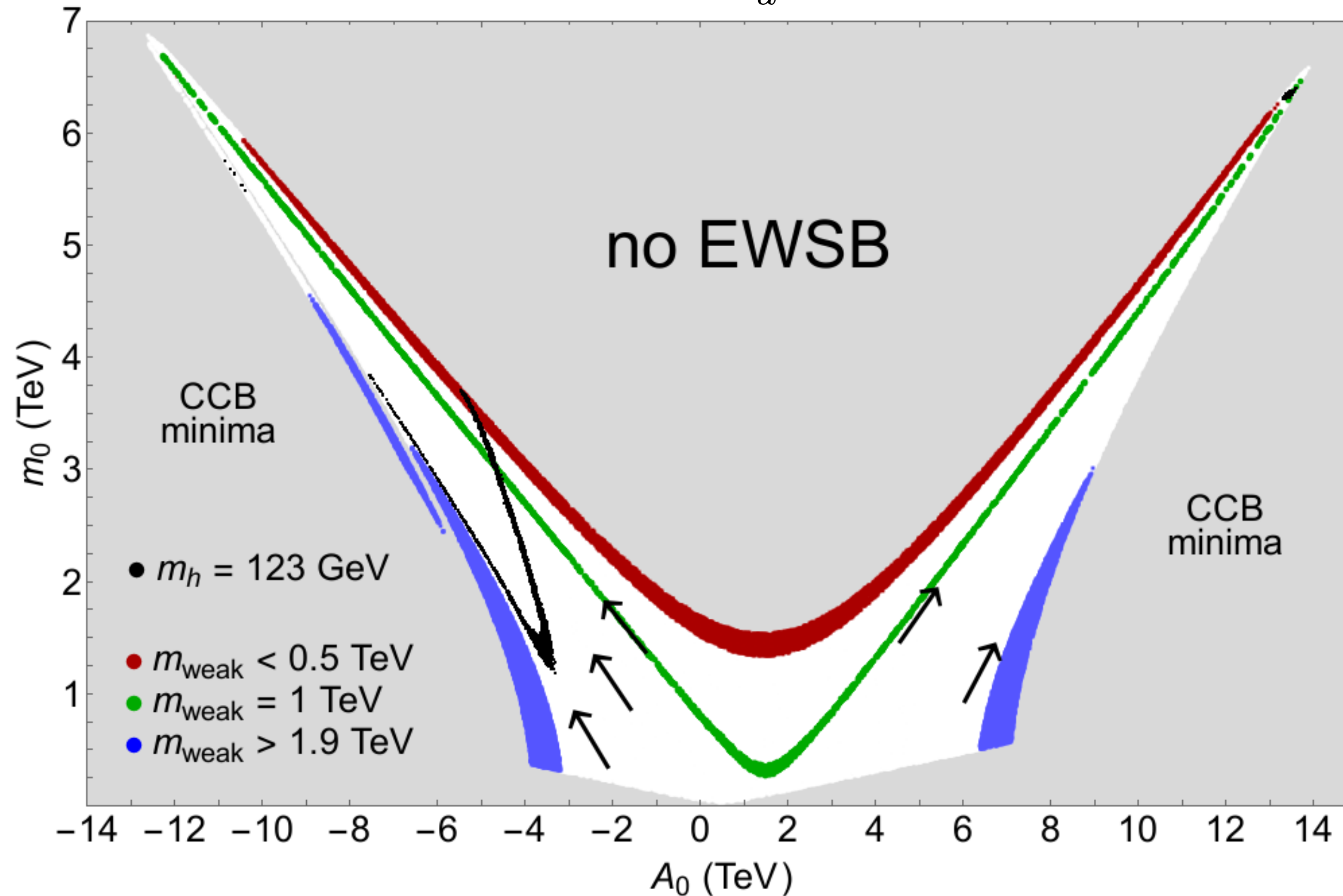
Factor four deviation of weak scale from measured value  $\Rightarrow \Delta_{EW} < 30$



Agrawal, Barr, Donoghue, Seckel result (1998):  
 pocket-universe value of weak scale  
 cannot deviate by more than  
 factor 2-5 from its measured value  
 lest disasters occur in nuclear physics: no nuclei, no atoms  
 (violates atomic principle)



$$m_{H_u} = 1.3m_0$$



statistical draw to large soft terms balanced by anthropic draw toward red ( $m(\text{weak}) \sim 100$  GeV): then  $m(\text{Higgs}) \sim 125$  GeV and natural SUSY spectrum!

Recent work: place on more quantitative footing:  
scan soft SUSY breaking parameters in NUHM3 model  
as  $m(\text{soft})^n$  along with  $f(\text{EWFT})$  penalty

We scan according to  $m_{\text{soft}}^n$  over:

- $m_0(1, 2) : 0.1 - 40 \text{ TeV},$

- $m_0(3) : 0.1 - 20 \text{ TeV},$

- $m_{1/2} : 0.5 - 10 \text{ TeV},$

- $A_0 : 0 - -60 \text{ TeV},$

- $m_A : 0.3 - 10 \text{ TeV},$

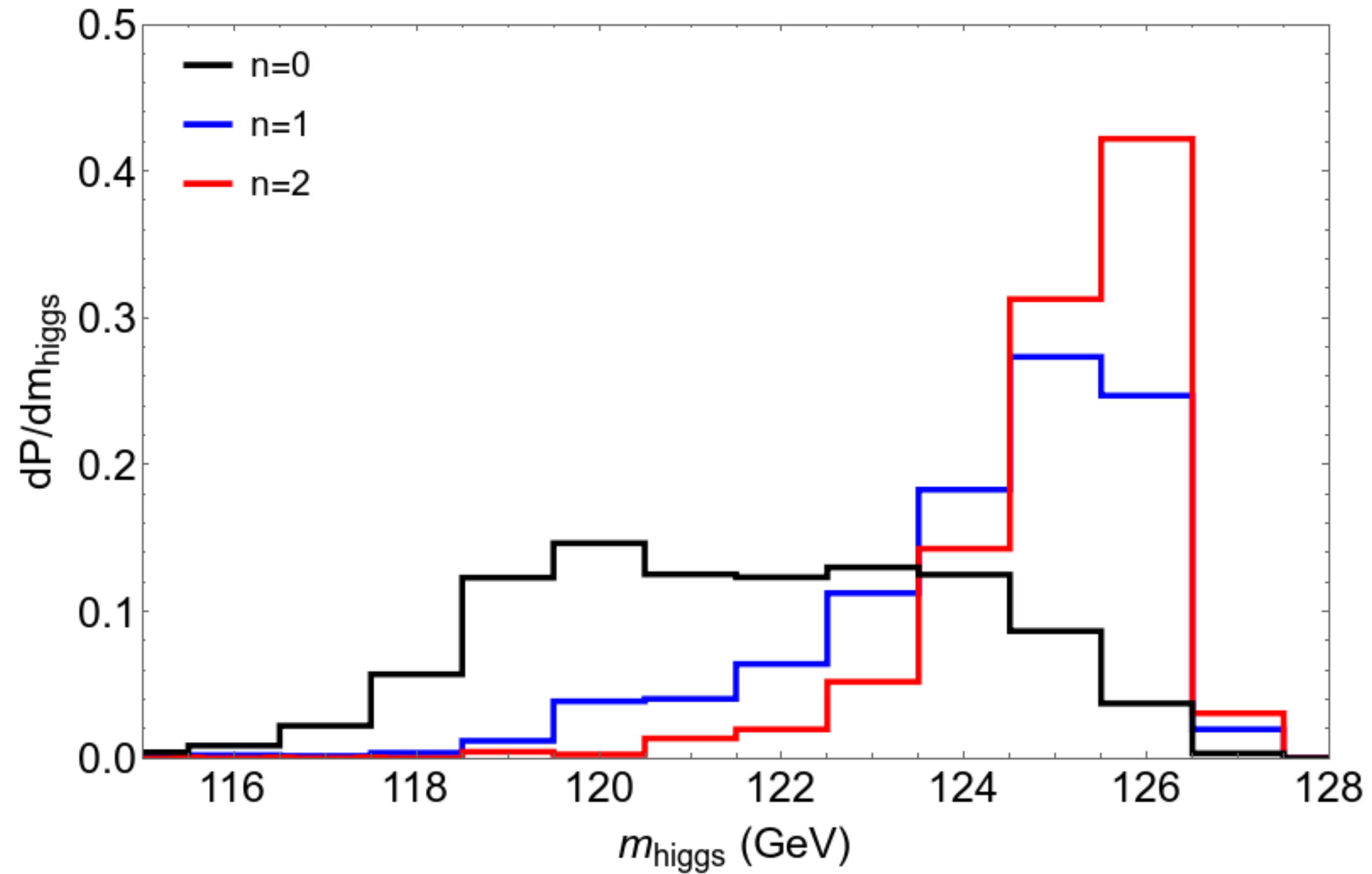
$\tan \beta : 3 - 60 \quad (\text{flat})$

$\mu = 150 \text{ GeV (fixed)}$



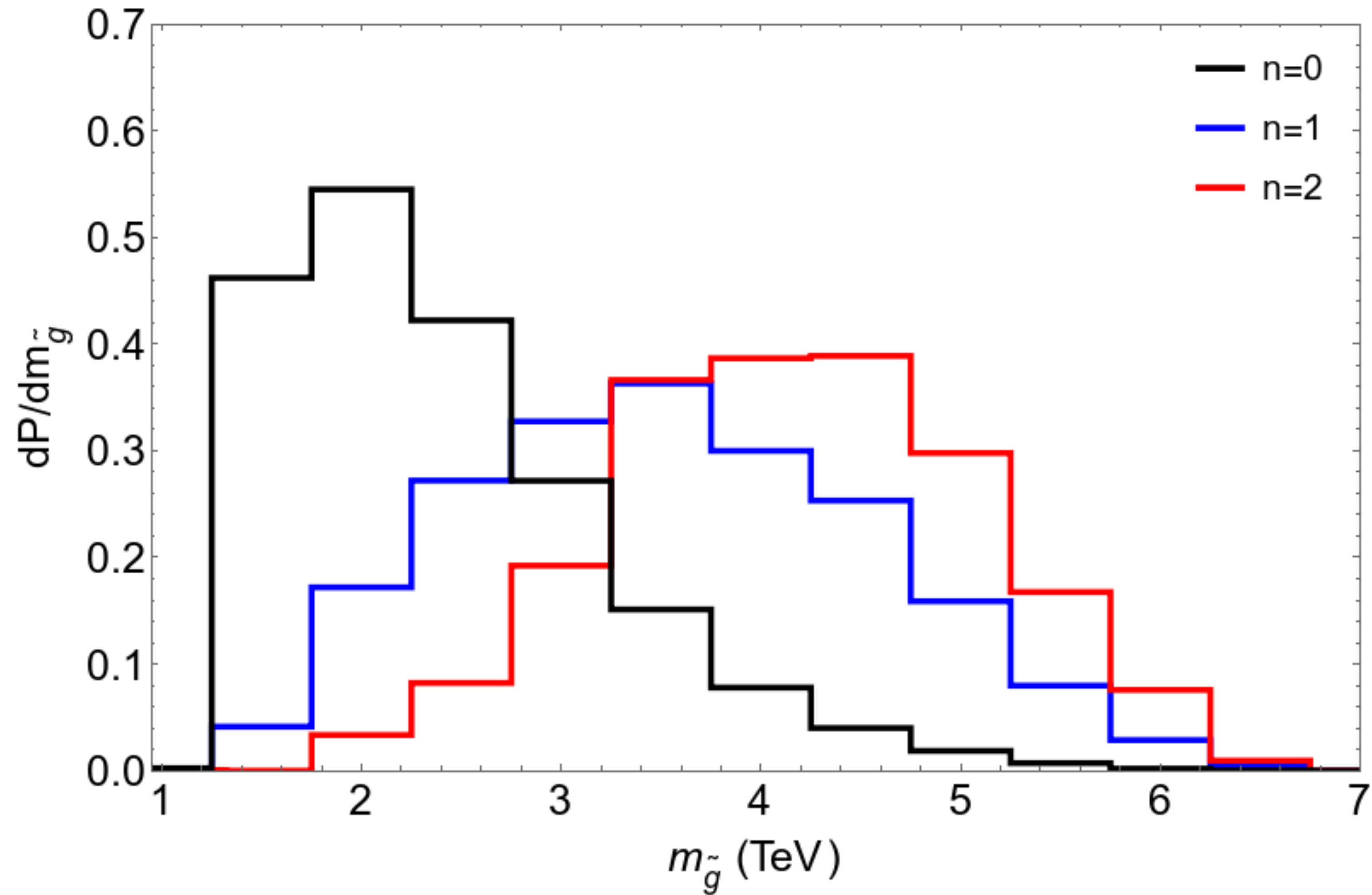
Making the picture more quantitative:

$$dN_{vac}[m_{hidden}^2, m_{weak}, \Lambda] = f_{SUSY}(m_{hidden}^2) \cdot f_{EWFT} \cdot f_{cc} dm_{hidden}^2$$



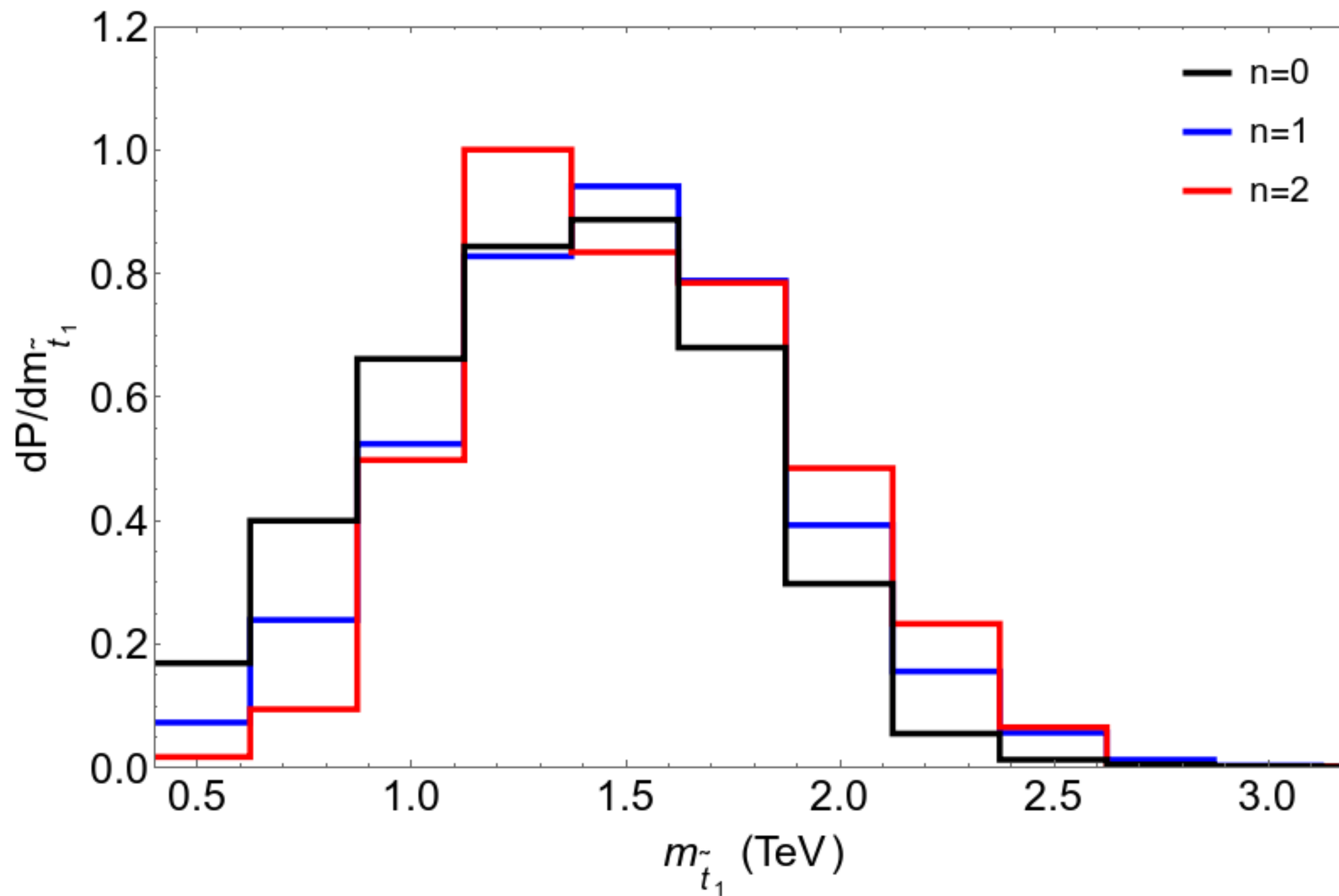
$m(h) \sim 125$  most favored for  $n=1,2$

What is corresponding distribution for gluino mass?



gluino typically beyond LHC 14 reach  
(need higher energy hadron collider)

and top-squark mass  $m(t_1)$ ?



$m(t_1)$  typically beyond present LHC reach



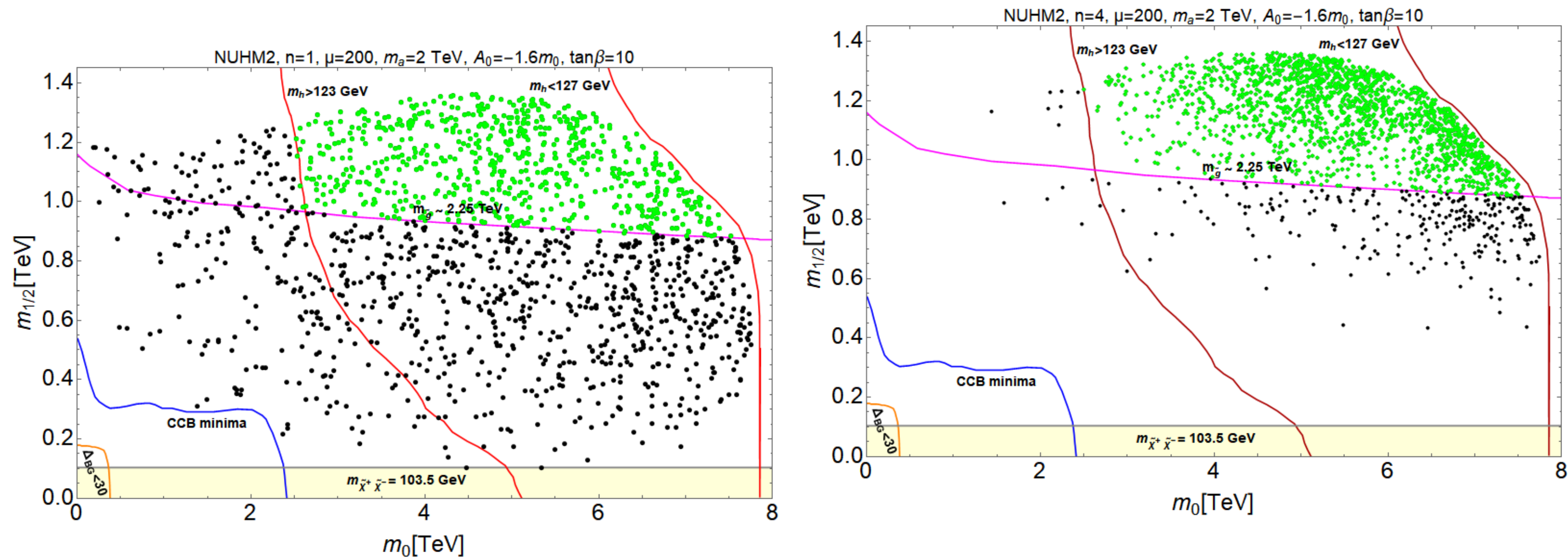
Stringy naturalness: higher density of points are more stringy natural!

conventional natural: favor low  $m_0$ ,  $m_{hf}$

stringy naturalness: favor high  $m_0$ ,  $m_{hf}$  so long as  $m(\text{weak}) \sim 100$  GeV

HB, Barger, Salam, arXiv:1906.07741

Living dangerously: Arkani-Hamed, Dimopoulos, Kachru, hep-ph/0501082



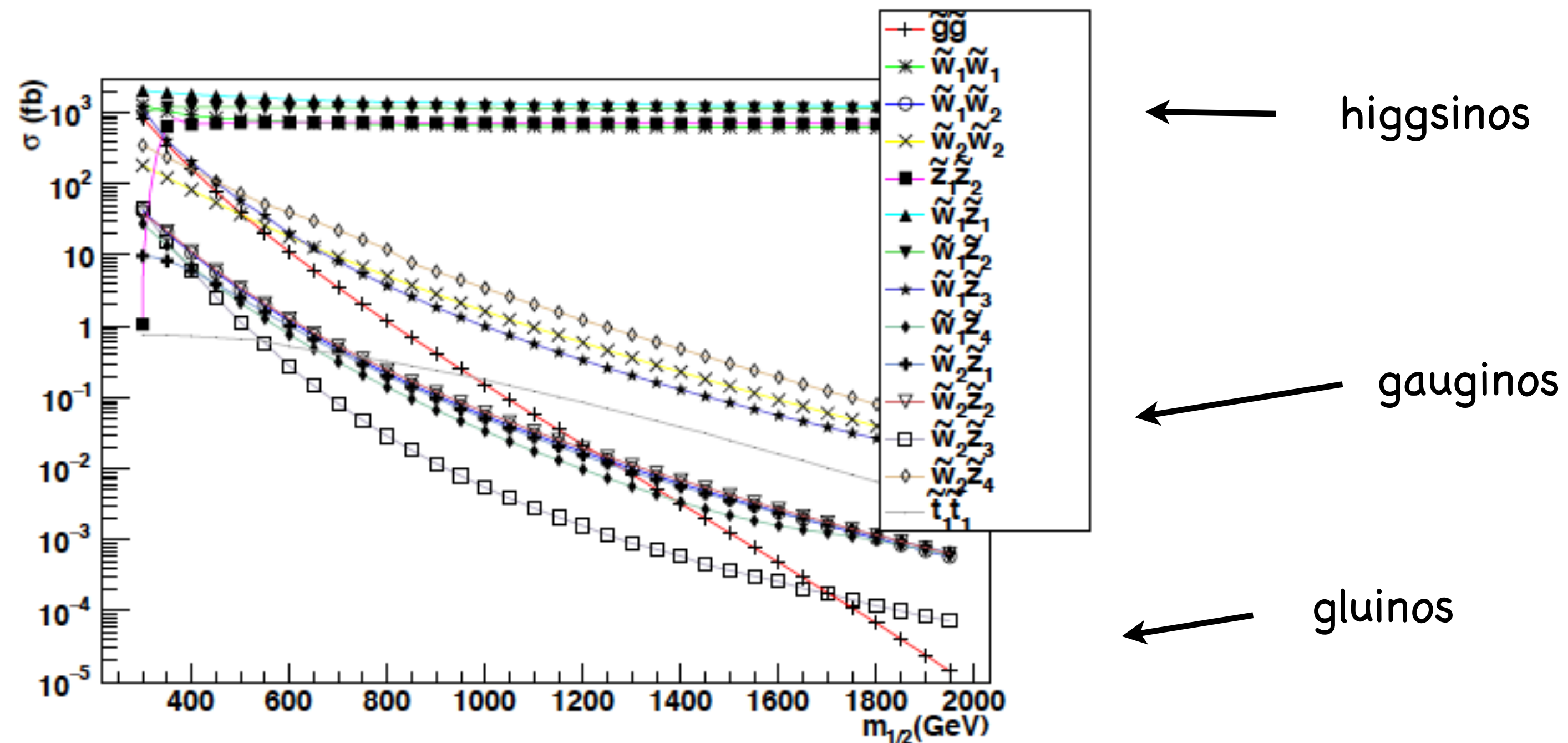
$$m(\text{soft})^1$$

$$m(\text{soft})^4$$

Under stringy naturalness, a 3 TeV gluino is more natural than a 300 GeV gluino!

What does naturalness imply for  
LHC SUSY searches at Run 3 and beyond?

# Sparticle prod'n along RNS model-line at LHC14:



higgsino pair production dominant—but only soft visible energy release from higgsino decays

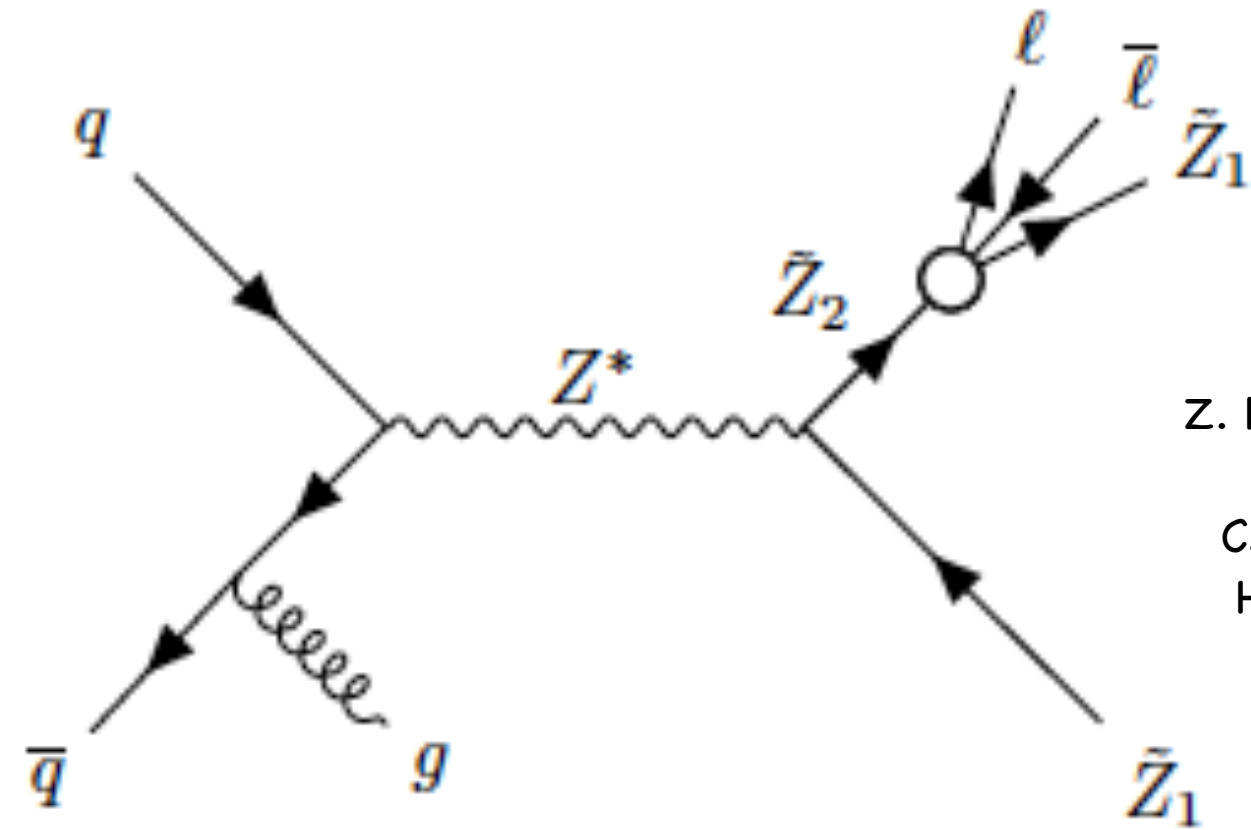
largest visible cross section: **wino pairs**

gluino pairs sharply dropping

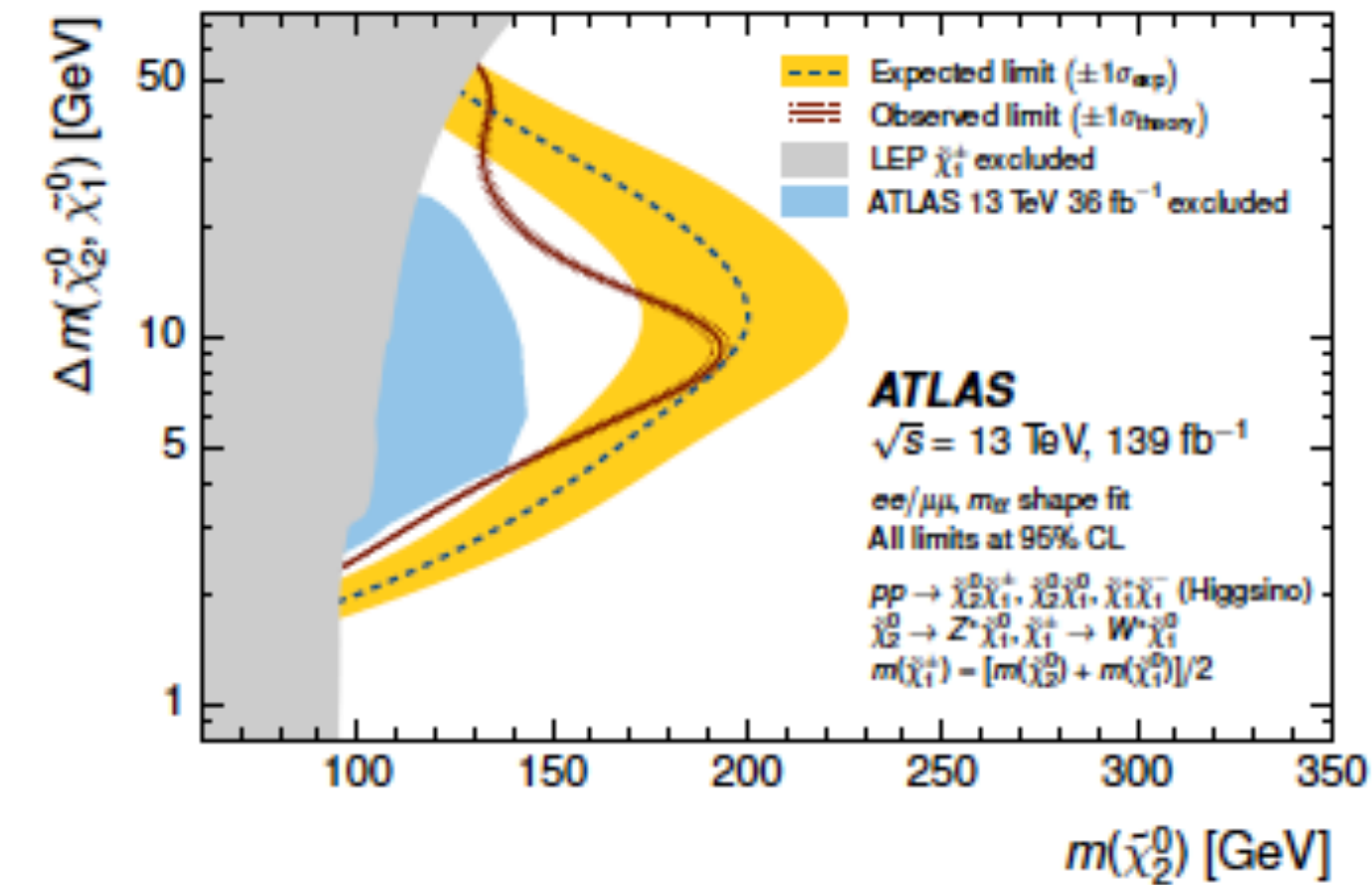
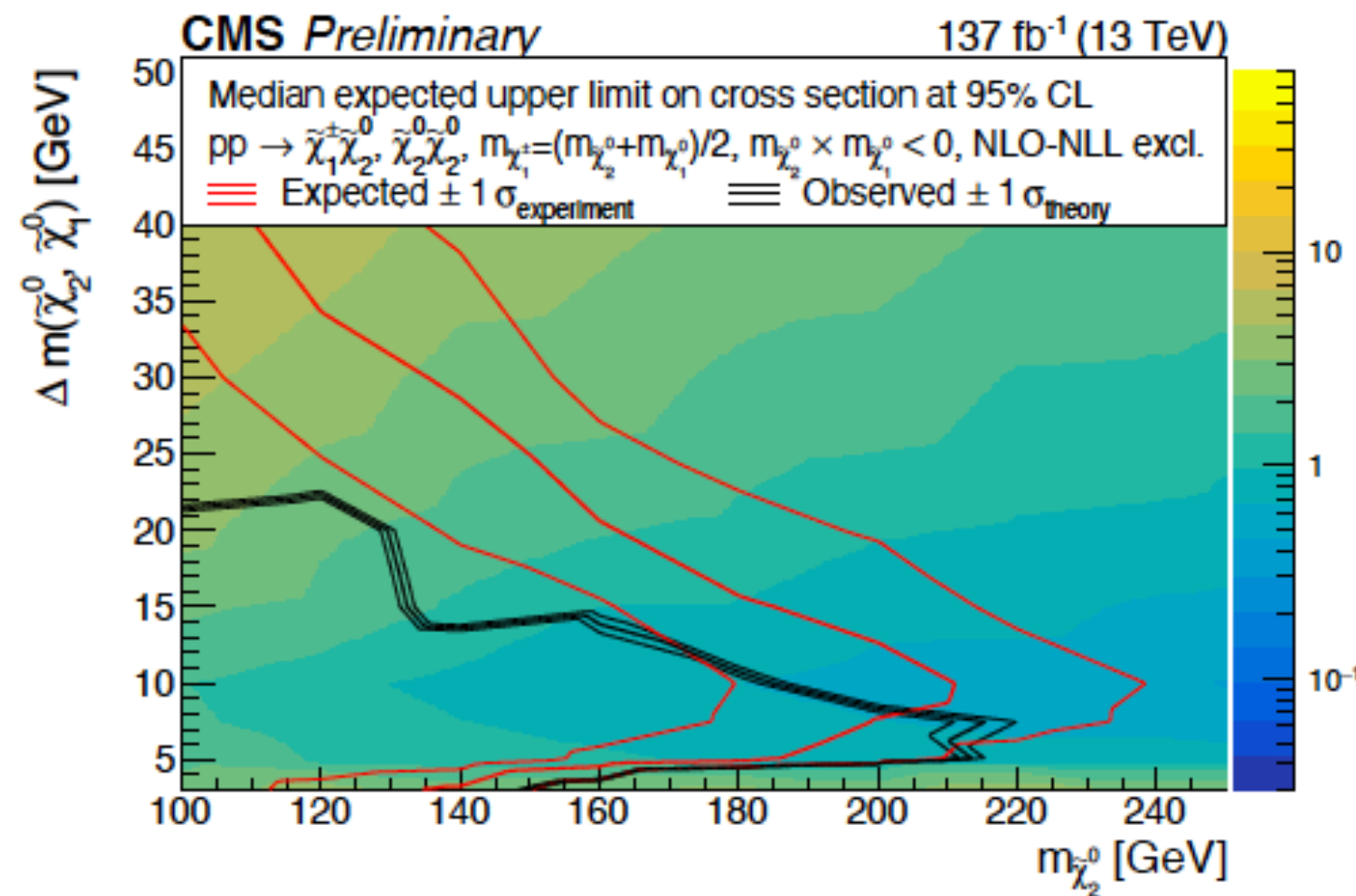
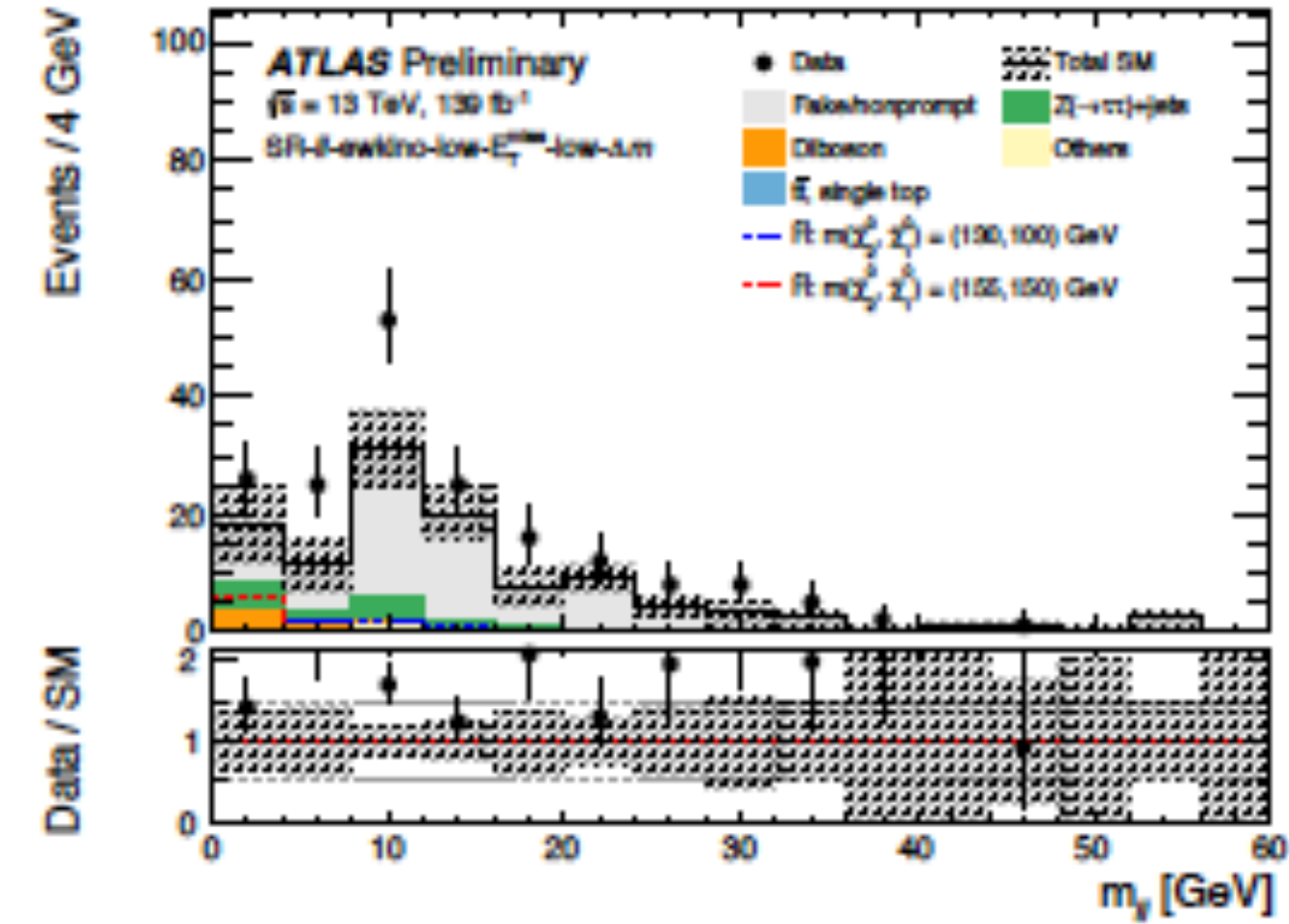


# Natural SUSY: only higgsinos need lie close to weak scale

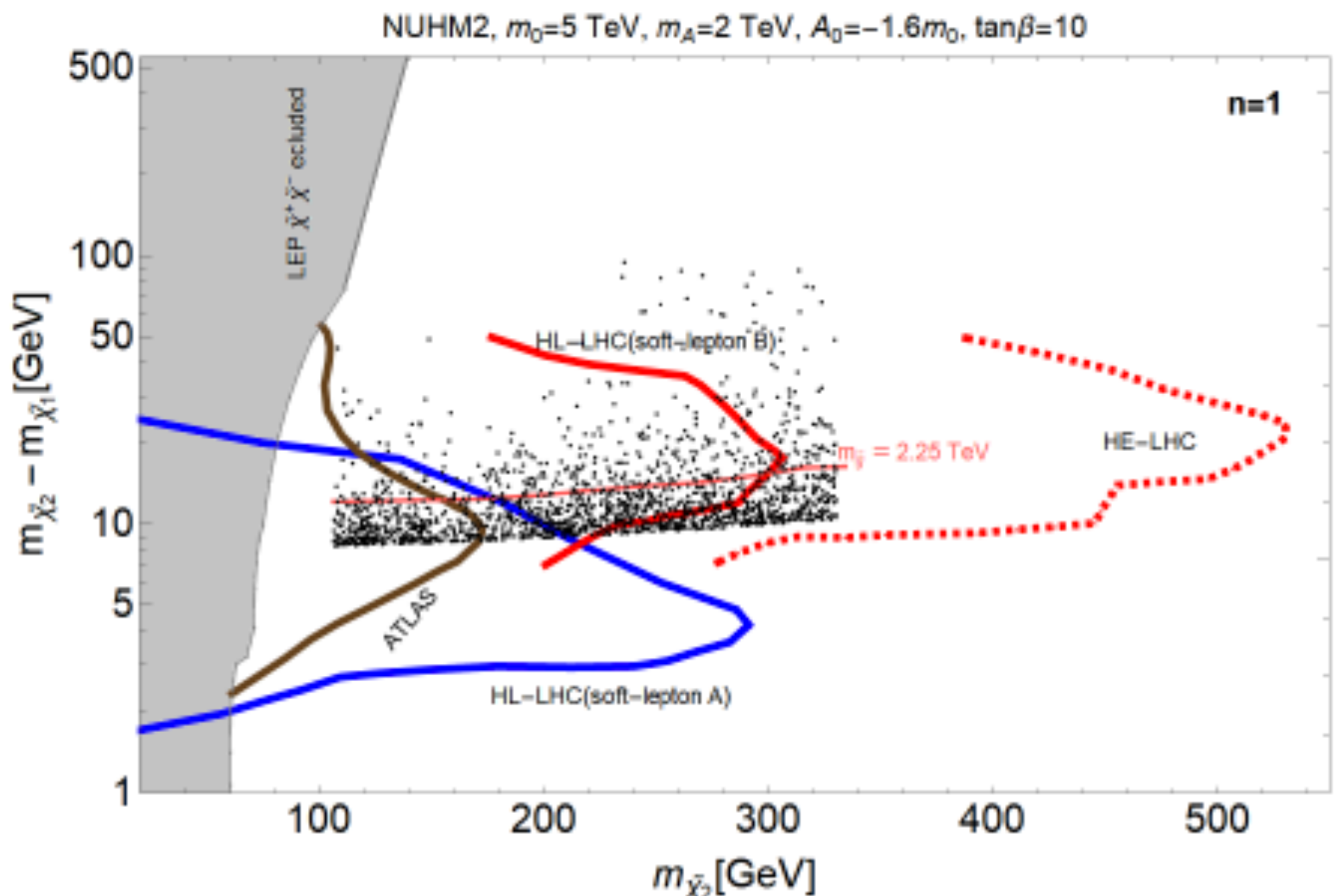
## Soft dilepton+jet+MET signature from higgsino pair production



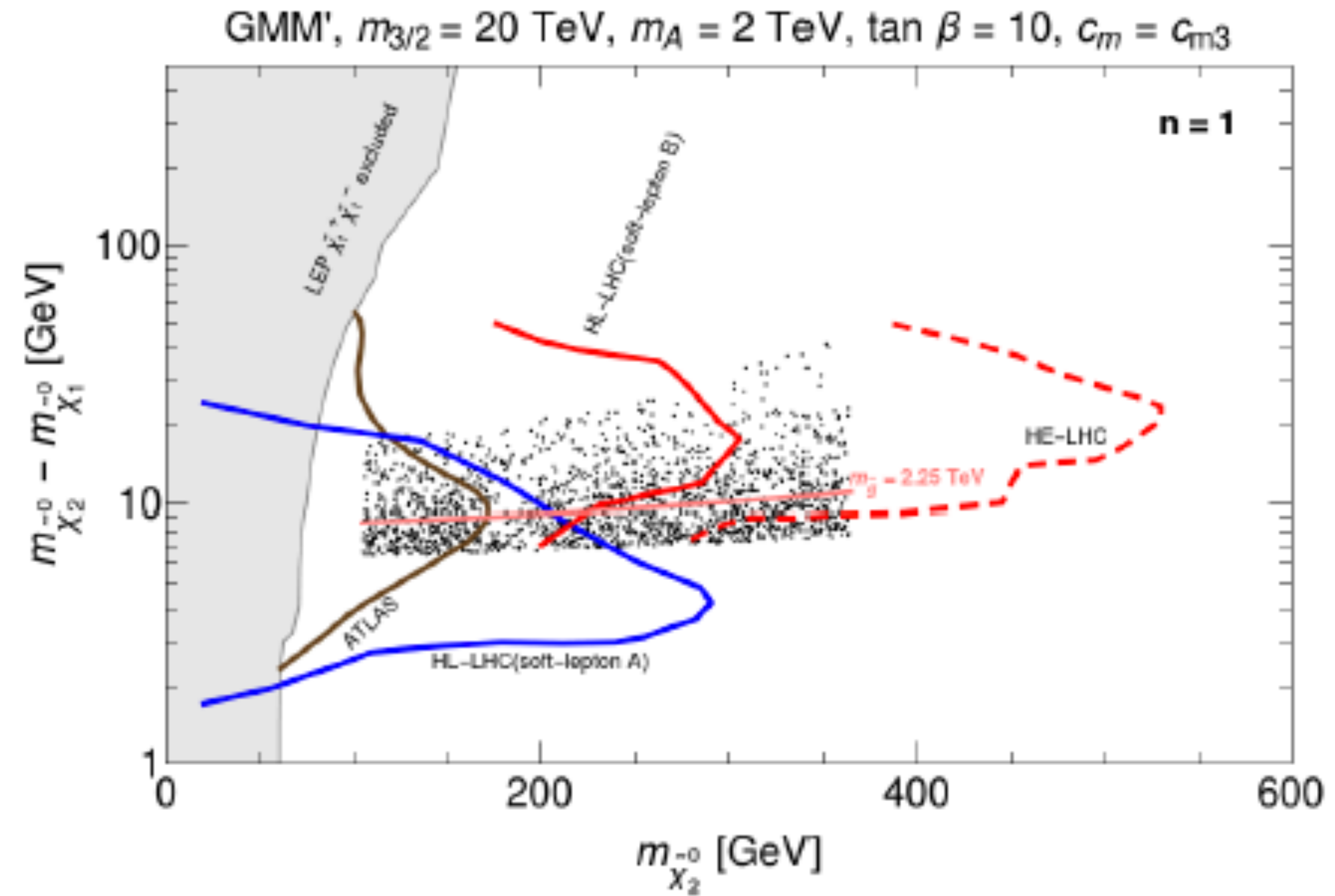
HB, Barger, Huang, 1107.5581;  
 Z. Han, Kribs, Martin, Menon, 1401.1235;  
 HB, Mustafayev, Tata; 1409.7058;  
 C. Han, Kim, Munir, Park, 1502.03734;  
 HB, Barger, Savoy, Tata, 1604.07438



It appears that HL-LHC can see much of natural SUSY p-space;  
 signal in this channel should **emerge slowly** as more integrated luminosity accrues



NUHM2 with  $n=1$  landscape draw (dots)



natural generalized mirage mediation with  $n=1$  landscape draw (dots)

HB, Barger, Salam, Sengupta, Tata  
 arXiv: [2007.09252](https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.09252)

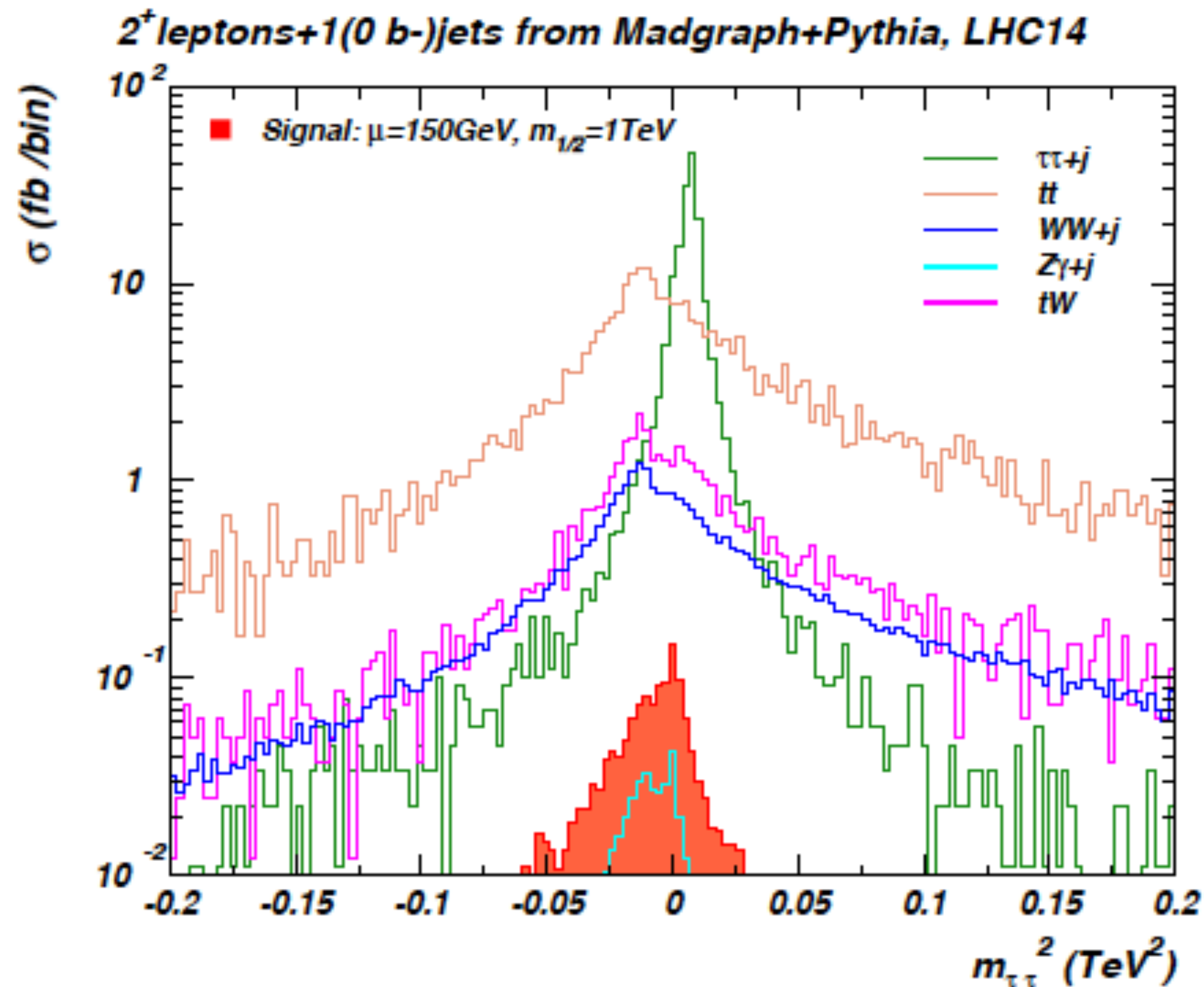


# Monojet plus soft dilepton signal from light higgsino pair production at LHC14

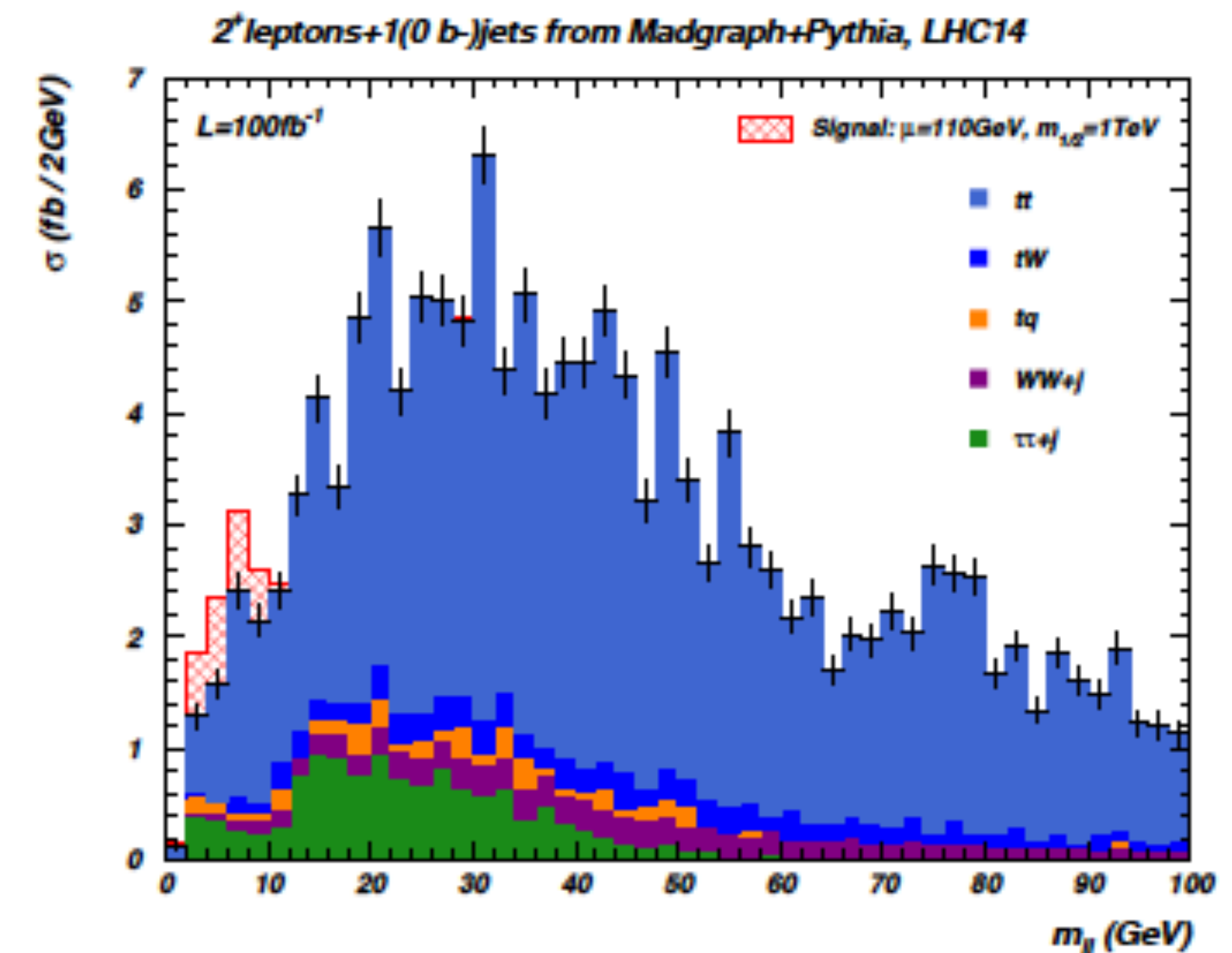
Howard Baer<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Azar Mustafayev<sup>3†</sup> and Xerxes Tata<sup>3§</sup>

- Published in: *Phys.Rev.D* 90 (2014) 11, 115007 • e-Print: [1409.7058](https://arxiv.org/abs/1409.7058) [hep-ph]

(CMS take note- left out of latest paper)



$m(\text{tautau})^2 < 0$  cuts out bulk of tau pair BG  
but leaves some from virtual tau pair  
production and jet mismeasurement





# New angular (and other) cuts to improve higgsino pair signal at HL-LHC; HB, Barger, Sengupta, Tata, arXiv:2109.14030

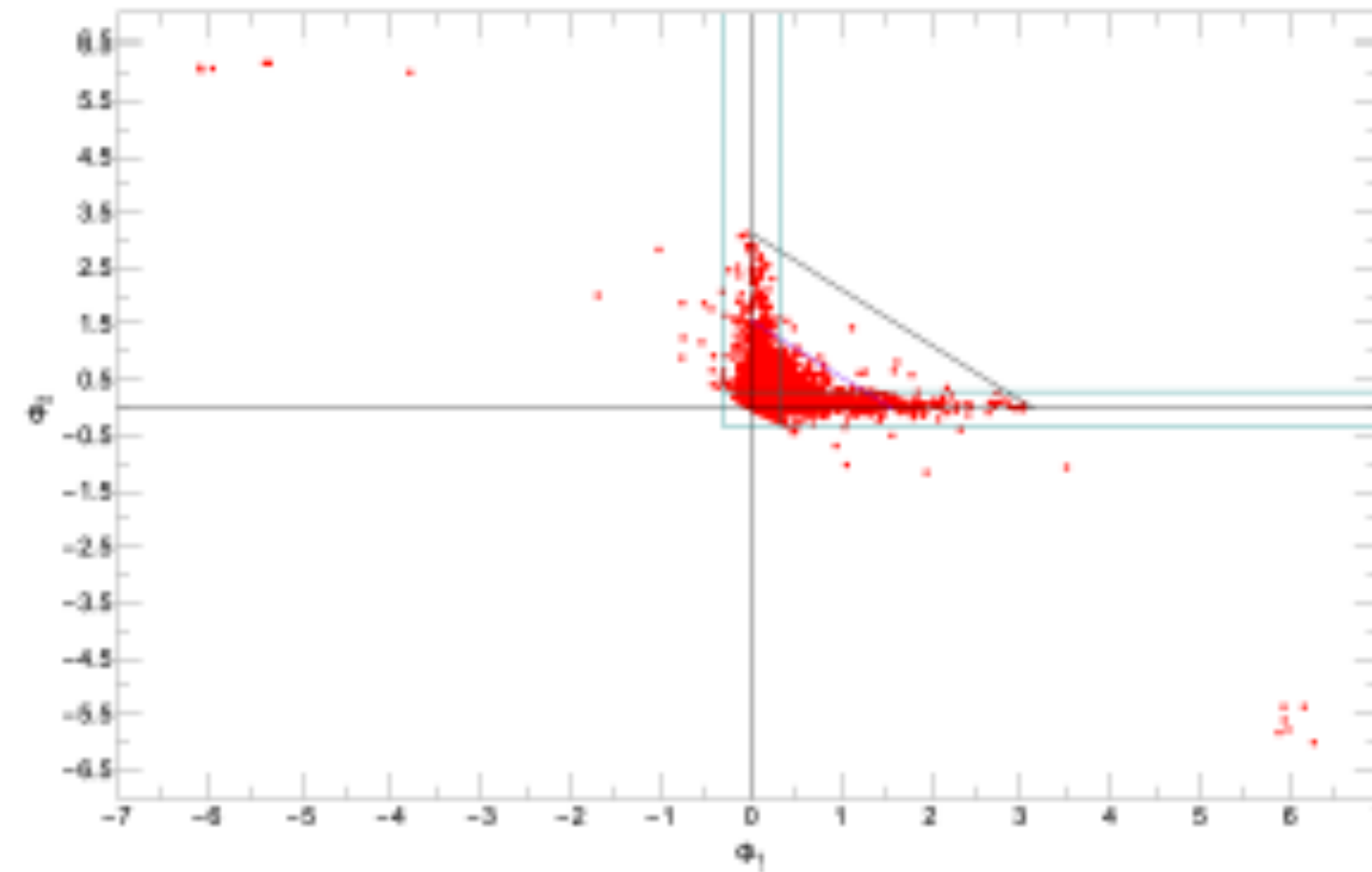
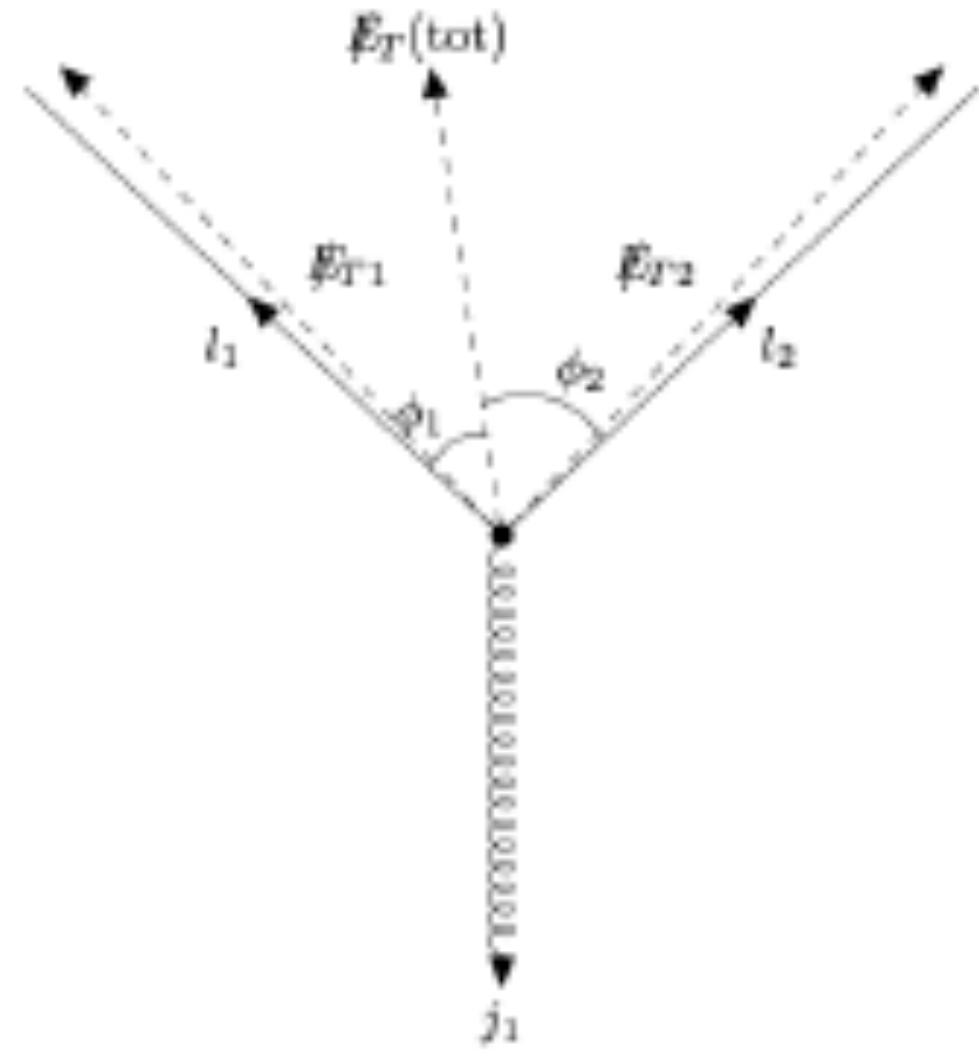


Figure 3: Distribution in  $\phi_1$  vs.  $\phi_2$  plane for  $\tau\tau j$  background after  $C1$  cuts, requiring also that  $n_j = 1$ .

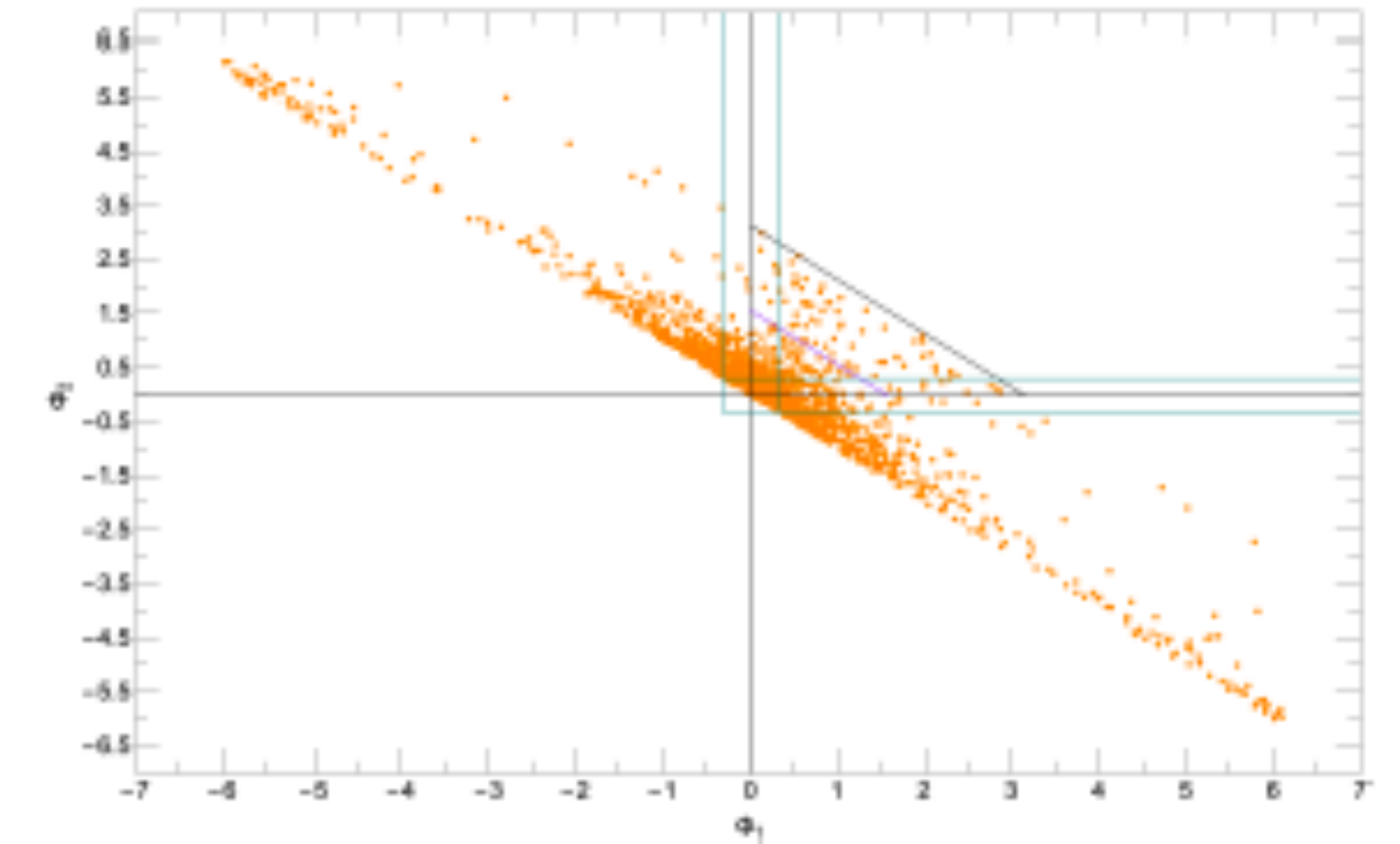


Figure 5: Distribution in  $\phi_1$  vs.  $\phi_2$  plane for signal point BM1 after  $C1$  cuts, requiring also that  $n_j = 1$ .

signal BM point

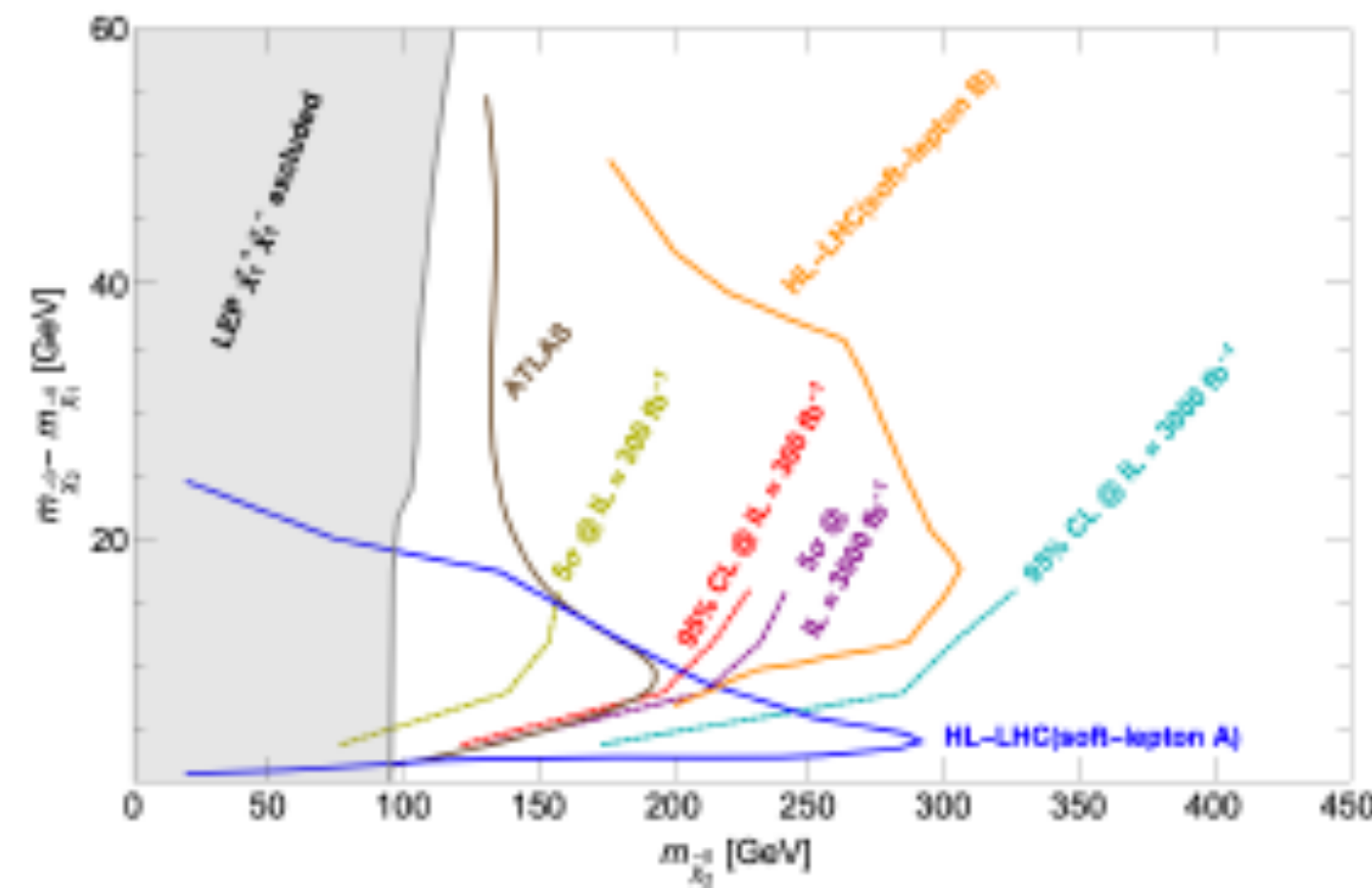
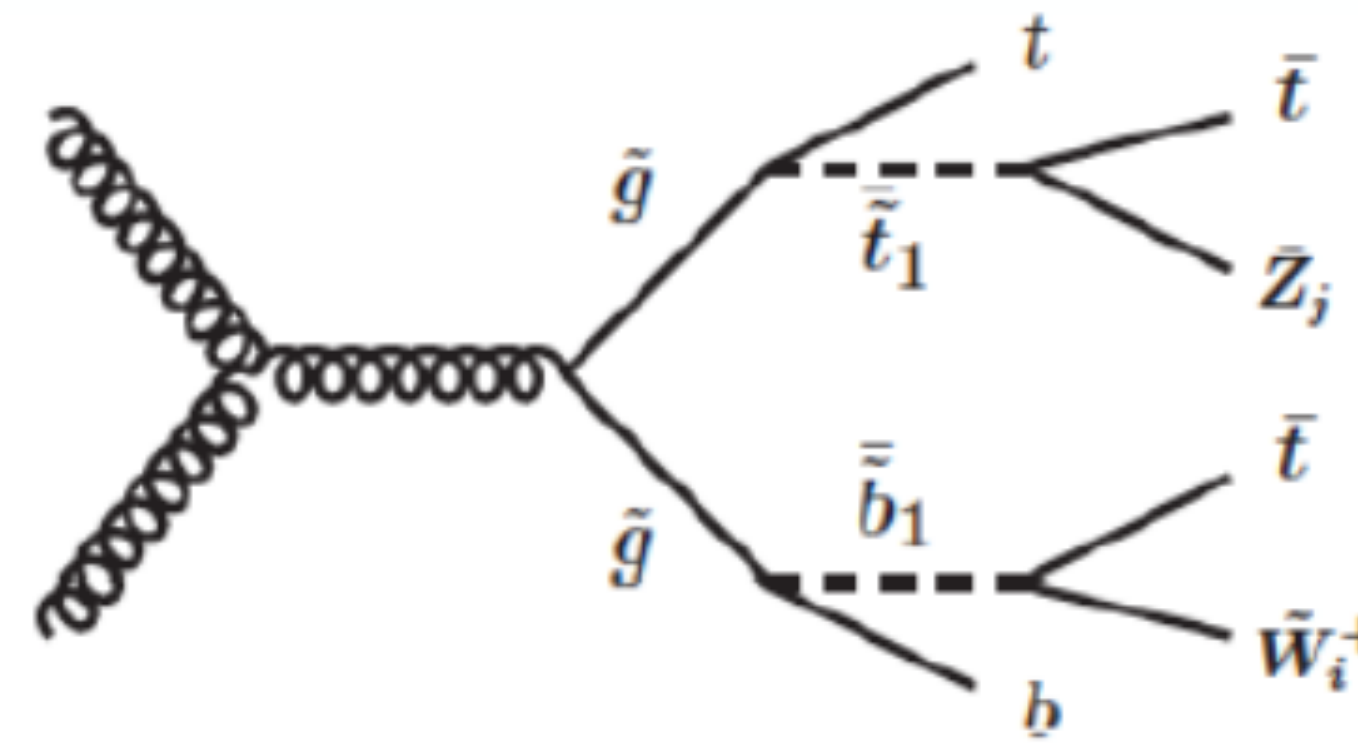


Figure 21: The projected  $5\sigma$  reach and 95% CL exclusion contours for LHC14 with 300 and 3000  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  in the  $m_{\chi_2^0}$  vs.  $\Delta m$  plane after  $C4$  cuts. Also shown is the current 95% CL exclusion (ATLAS) and the projected 95% CL exclusions from two different analyses for the HL-LHC [42].

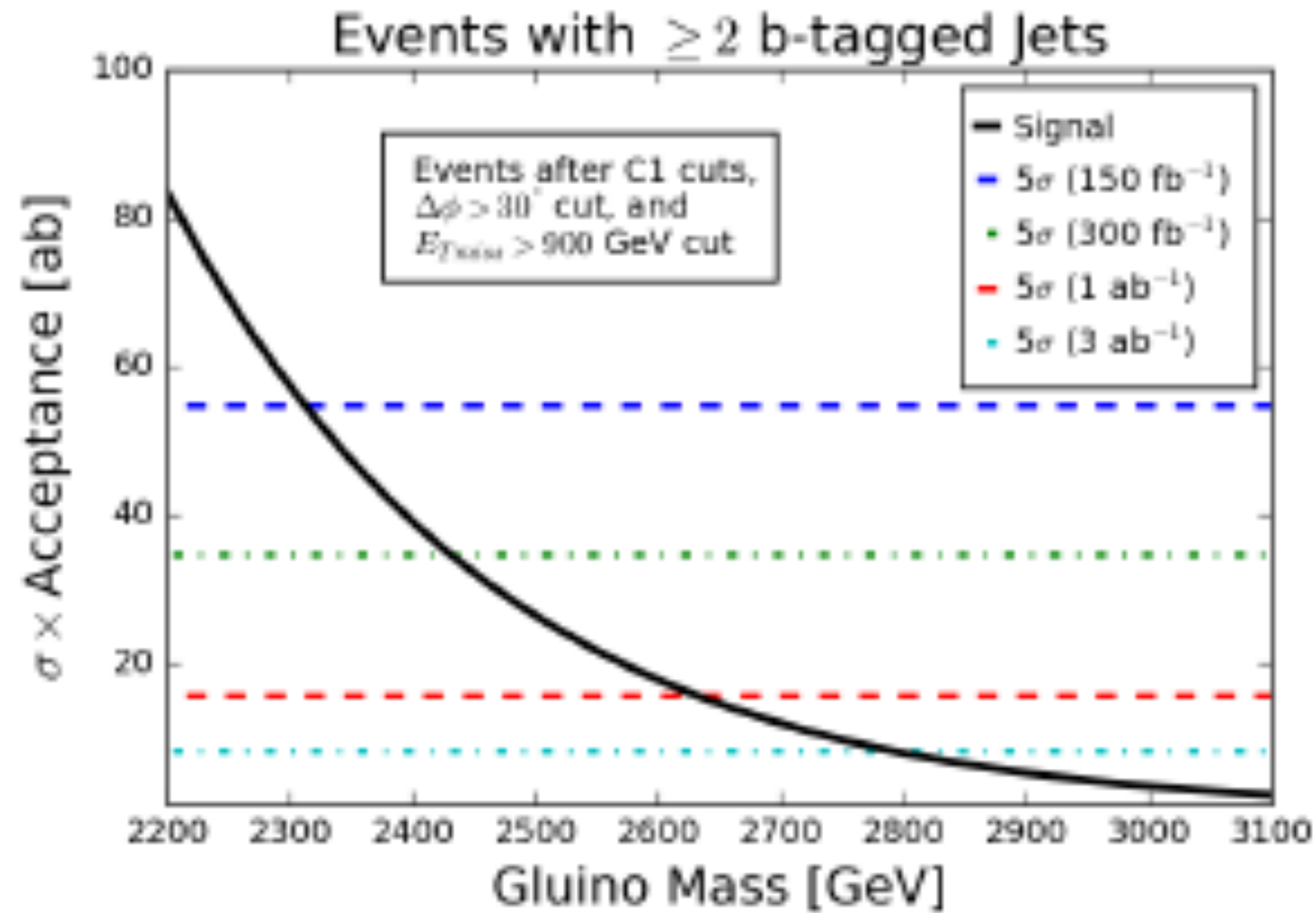
Snowmass 2021;  
EF08 contribution

greatly extended reach at HL-LHC!

# gluino pair cascade decay signatures



LHC14



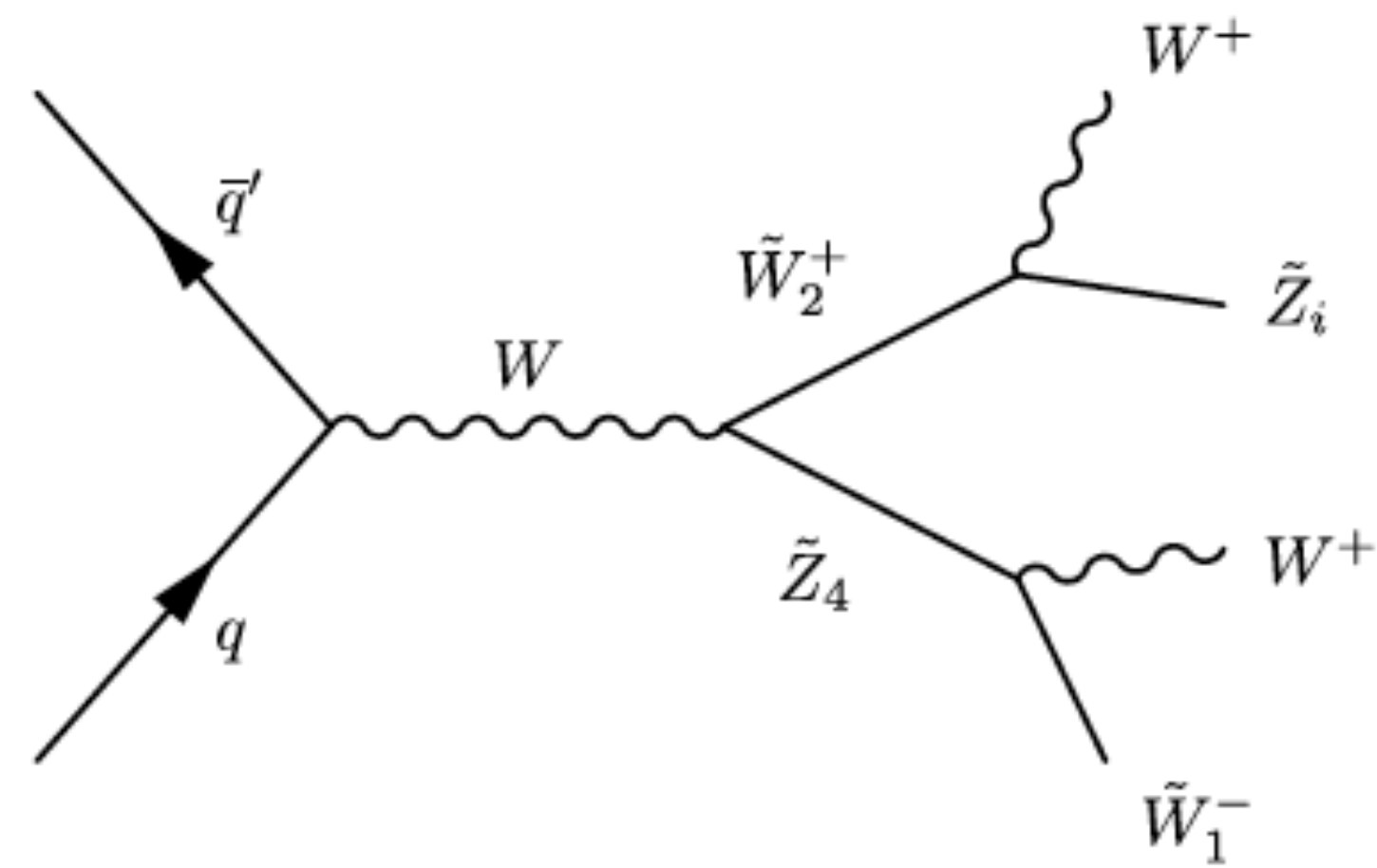
HB, Barger, Gainer, Huang, Savoy, Sengupta, Tata

HL-LHC to probe  $m(\text{gl}) \sim 2.8$  TeV

HE-LHC to probe  $m(\text{gl}) \sim 5.5\text{--}6$  TeV

FCC-hh(100) to probe  $m(\text{gl}) \sim 10$  TeV

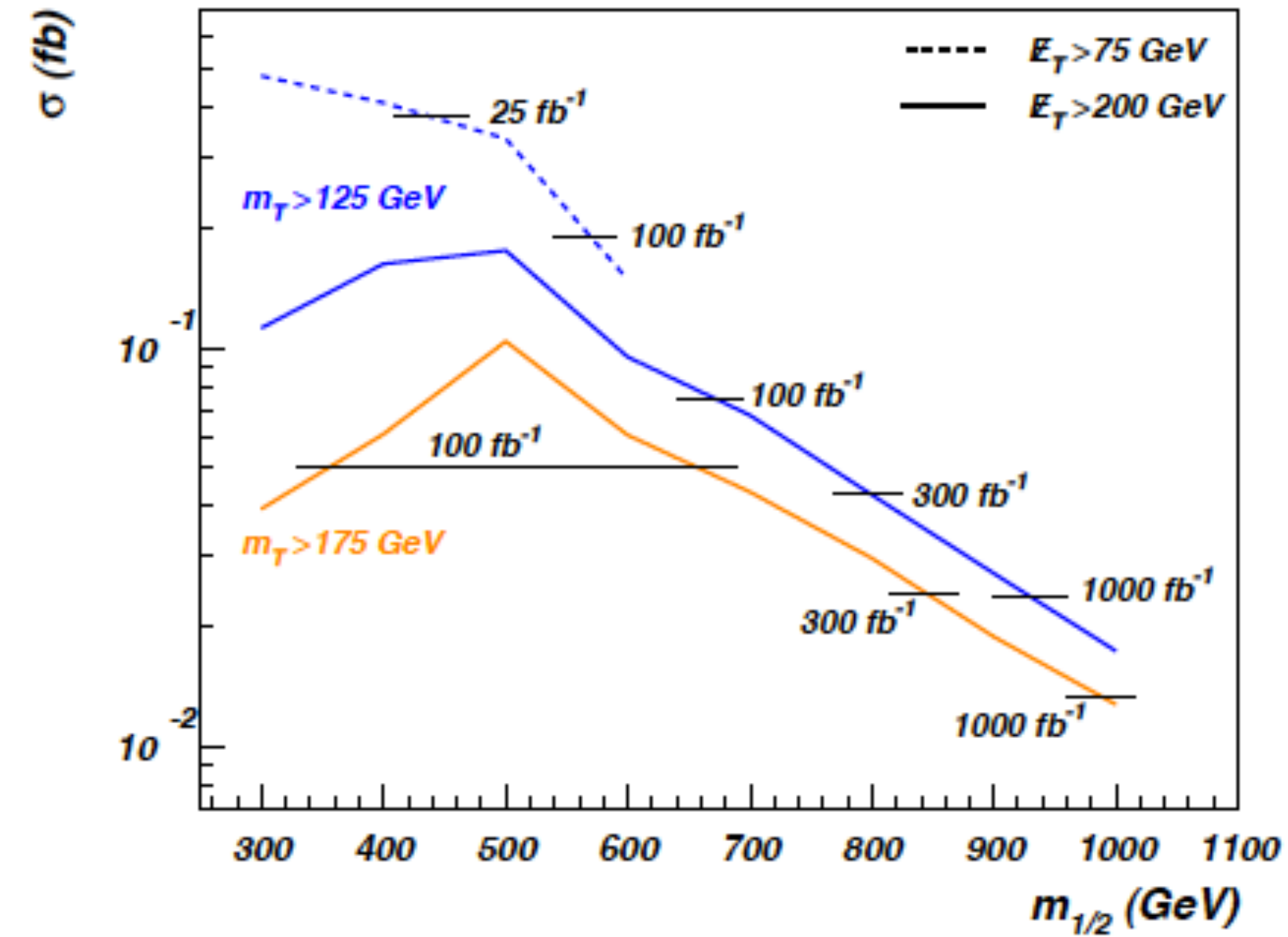
**Distinctive** new same-sign diboson (SSdB)  
signature from SUSY models with light higgsinos!



(soft)

(soft)

wino pair production



This channel offers added reach of LHC14 for  
natSUSY; it is also indicative of wino-pair prod'n  
followed by decay to higgsinos

H. Baer, V. Barger, P. Huang, D. Mickelson, A. Mustafayev, W. Sreethawong and X. Tata,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110** (2013) 151801.

HB, Barger, Sengupta, Tata, arXiv: 1710.09103

**So far, no ATLAS or CMS search in this well-motivated channel!**

# Conclusions

- Old naturalness measures overestimate finetuning
- Plenty of SUSY p-space left under conservative D(EW)
- Four light higgsinos  $\sim 100\text{--}350$  GeV
- String landscape: statistical draw to large soft terms balanced by anthropic requirement that pocket-universe  $m(\text{weak})^{\text{PU}} < 4m(\text{weak})^{\text{OU}}$ : natSUSY emergent from string landscape!
- predicts  $m_h \sim 125$  GeV; sparticles beyond present LHC reach
- search for soft di-, tri- leptons plus jet(s)+MET from light higgsinos
- same-sign diboson  $\rightarrow$  SS dilepton+MET from wino pair production
- usual gluino pair/top-squark pair production
- DM: mainly SUSY DFSZ axions plus light higgsino-like WIMPs