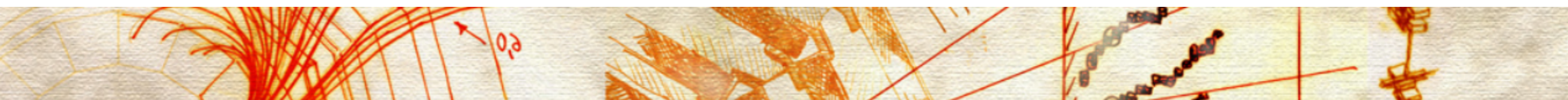


# SEARCHES FOR DARK PHOTONS AT THE LHC

**Swagata Mukherjee**, *On behalf of the ATLAS, CMS, and LHCb collaborations*

III. Physikalisches Institut A, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

The 10th Annual Large Hadron Collider Physics Conference, May 16-20, 2022

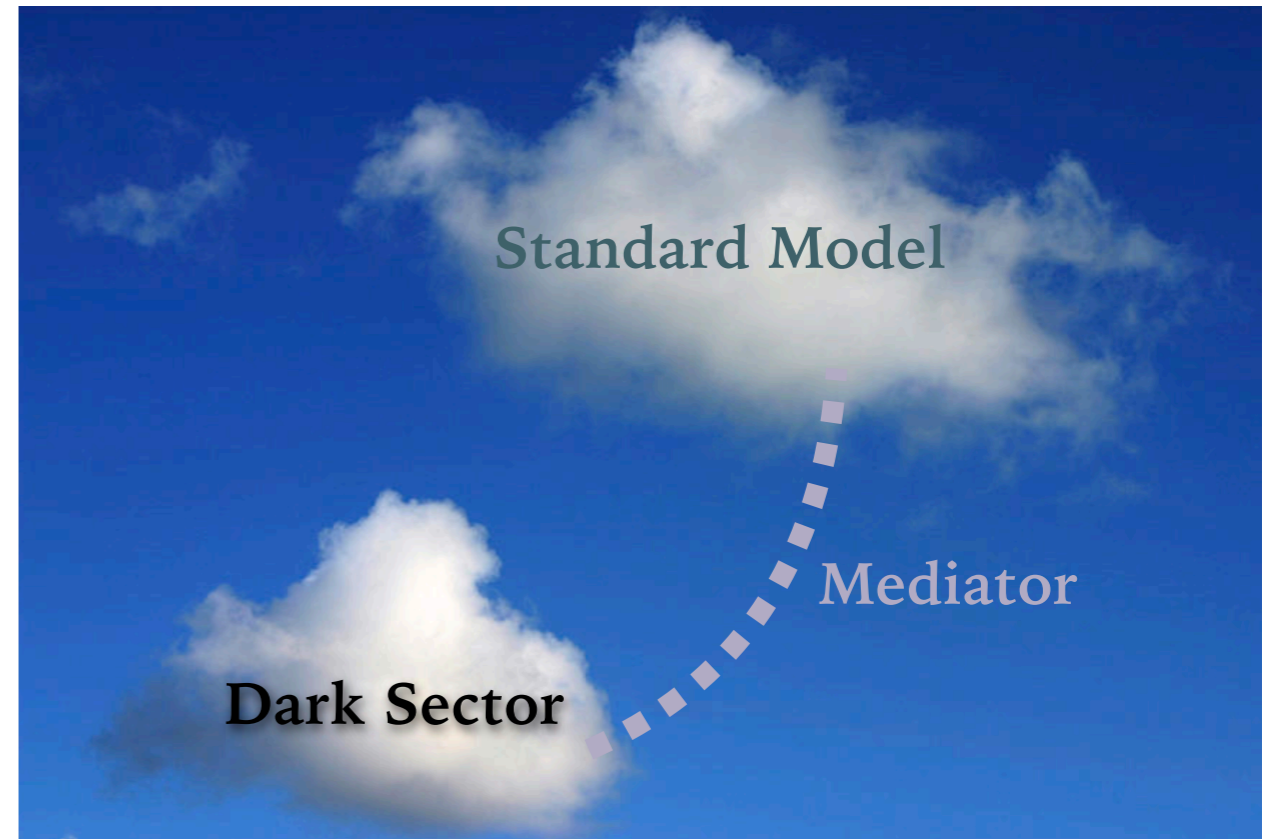


# INTRODUCTION

## THE ASSUMPTION AND THE HOPE

Let's say we have a Dark Sector, which has its own couplings and particles.

Some field (the mediator) provides at least a weak coupling to Standard Model particles, that can be detected.

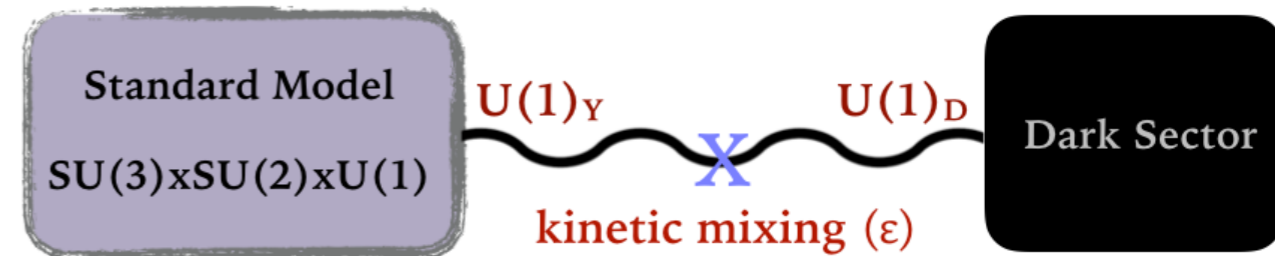


# INTRODUCTION

## THE ASSUMPTION AND THE HOPE

Let's say we have a Dark Sector, which has its own couplings and particles.

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### One option is to introduce extra $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$

Dark sector can couple to the SM through **kinetic mixing** with the hypercharge gauge boson.  $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$  leads to a new boson called **dark photon** ( $A'$  /  $Z_D$  /  $\gamma_d$ )

If the  $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$  symmetry is broken by the introduction of a **dark Higgs boson**, then there could also be a mixing between the SM Higgs boson ( $H$ ) and the dark sector Higgs boson ( $H_d$  /  $S$ ). The mixing is often called  $\kappa$ .



# INTRODUCTION

## THE ASSUMPTION AND THE HOPE

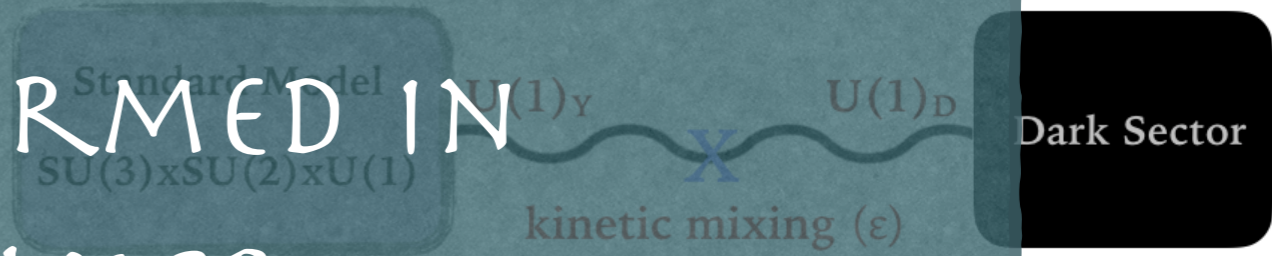
Let's say we have a Dark Sector, which has its own couplings and particles.

MANY DARK PHOTON SEARCHES

HAVE BEEN PERFORMED IN

ATLAS, CMS AND LHCb.

Some field (the mediator) provides at least a weak coupling to Standard Model particles, that can be detected.



IN 18 MINUTES I WILL BE ABLE TO

One option is to introduce extra  $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$

GIVE ONLY A GLIMPSE OF

Dark sector can couple to the SM through kinetic mixing with the hypercharge gauge boson.  $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$  leads to a new boson called dark photon ( $A' / Z_D / \gamma_d$ )

SELECTED FEW.

If the  $U(1)_{\text{dark}}$  symmetry is broken by the introduction of a dark Higgs boson, then there could also be a mixing between the SM Higgs boson ( $H$ ) and the dark sector Higgs boson ( $H_d / S$ ). The mixing is often called  $\kappa$ .



# DARK PHOTON SEARCH (LHCb)

Search for dark photons decaying into a pair of muons

Real-time reconstruction and calibration (Turbo stream)

Reduced event content, but fine for bump-hunt

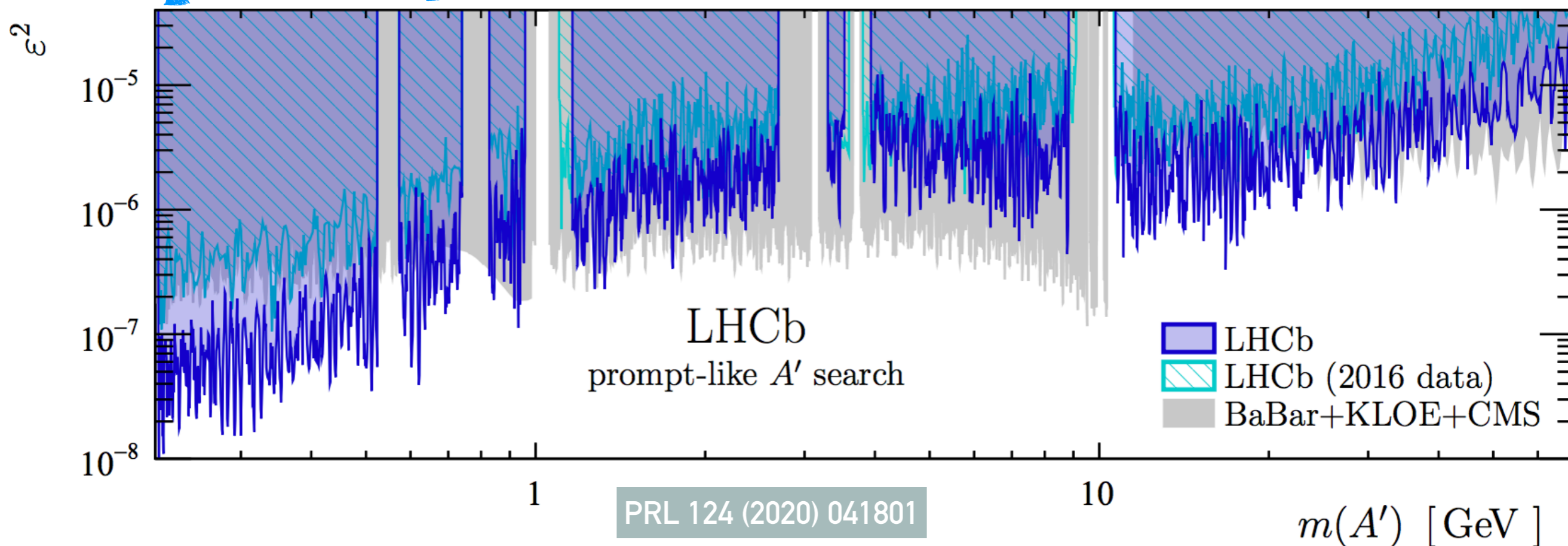
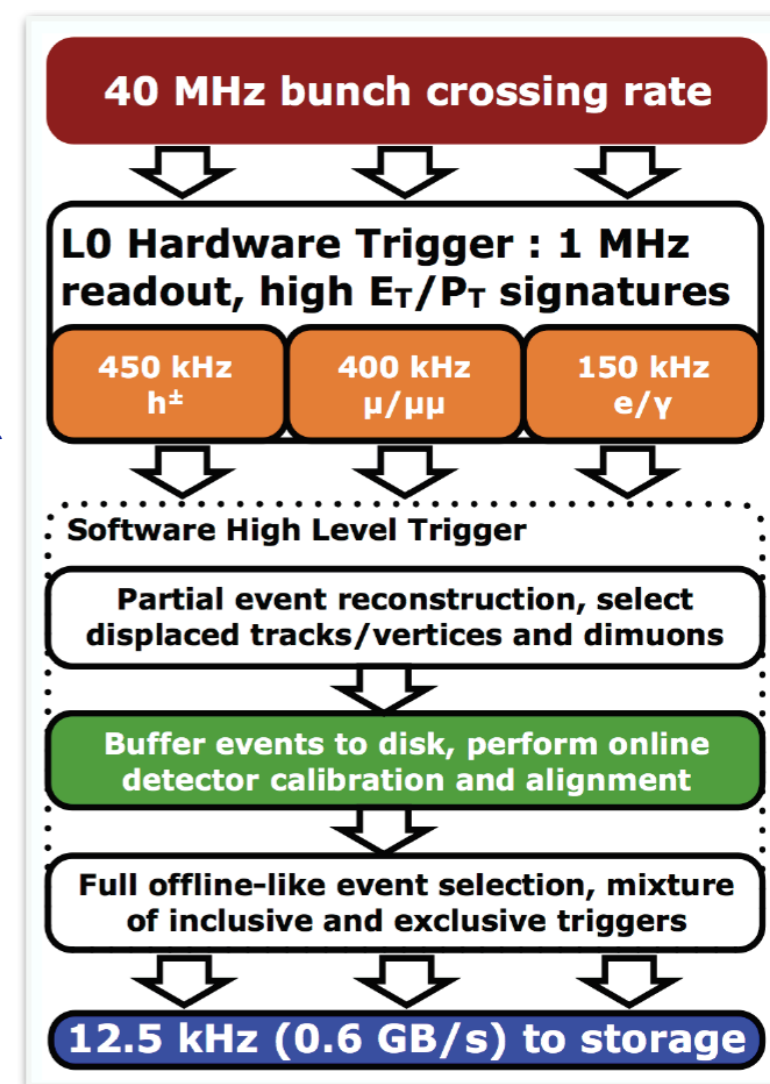
Very low- $p_T$  trigger allows to probe very low masses

Prompt search up to 70 GeV

Used  $5.5 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of Run2 LHCb data (13 TeV)

Fully data-driven analysis

LHCb put the most stringent limit  
in the 214-740 MeV mass region

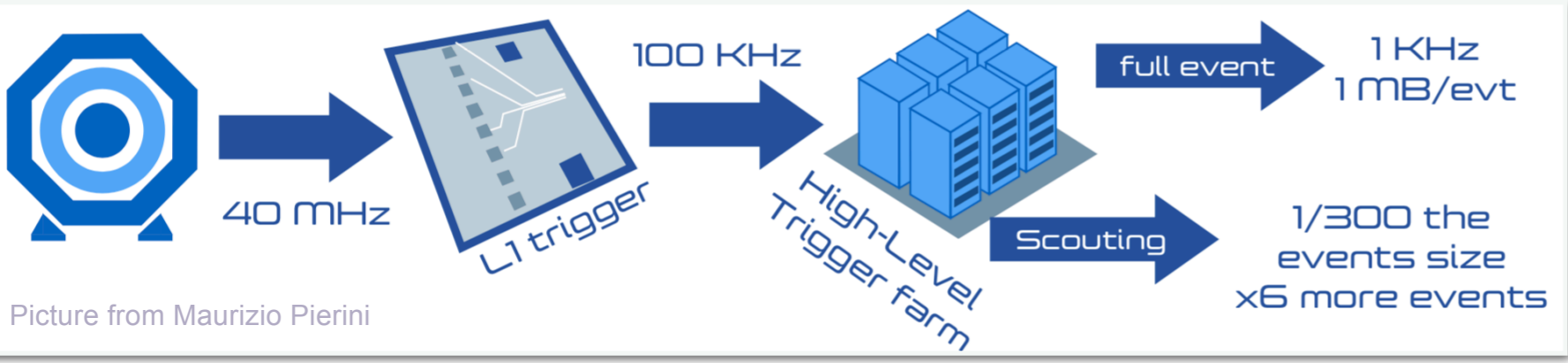


# PROMPT DARK PHOTON SEARCH (CMS)

Similar analysis in CMS:

Low mass: 11.5-45 GeV, using novel **data-scouting** technique: a new paradigm in CMS software-based trigger.

High mass: 45-200 GeV, using nominal triggers + nominal event content

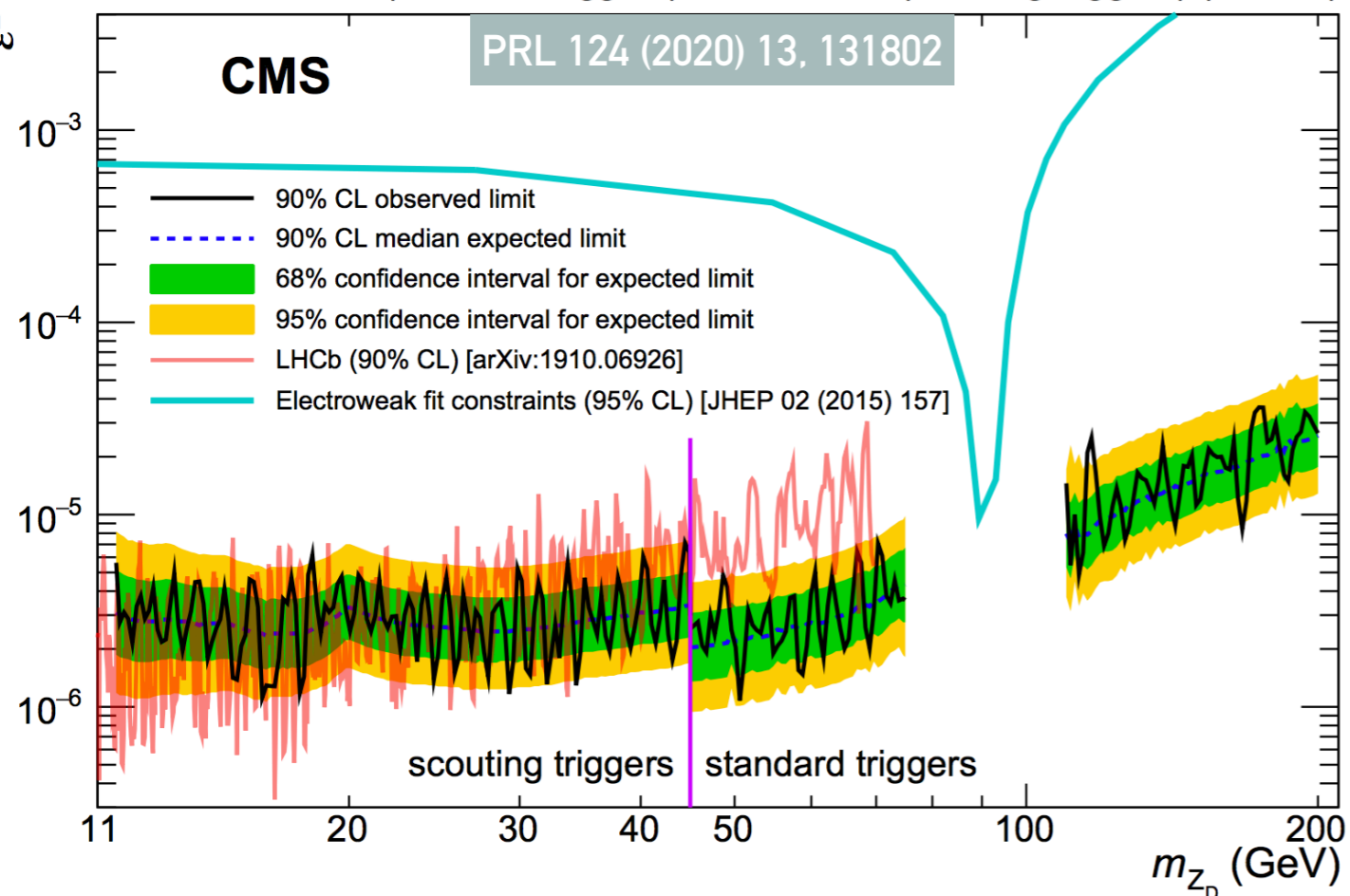


Picture from Maurizio Pierini

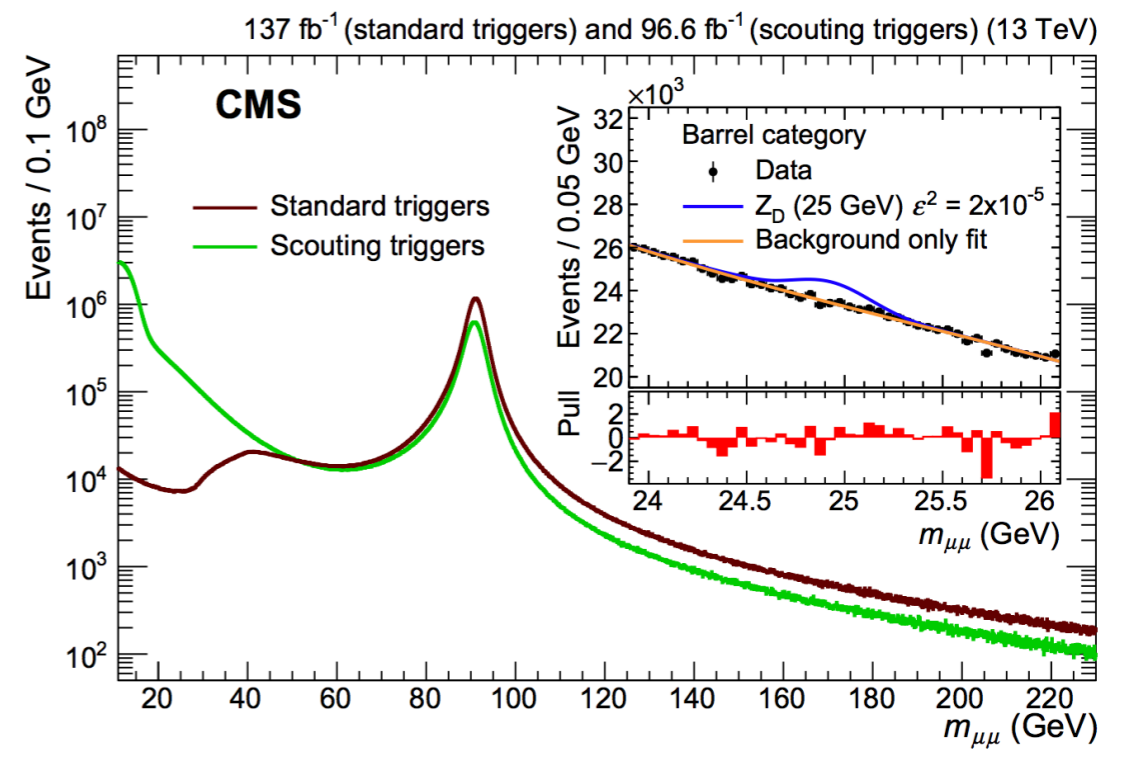
**Data Scouting (CMS)**  
**Turbo Stream (LHCb)**

DIFFERENT NAMES,  
 SAME GAME 😎

137 fb<sup>-1</sup> (standard triggers) and 96.6 fb<sup>-1</sup> (scouting triggers) (13 TeV)



## First CMS analysis using muon scouting



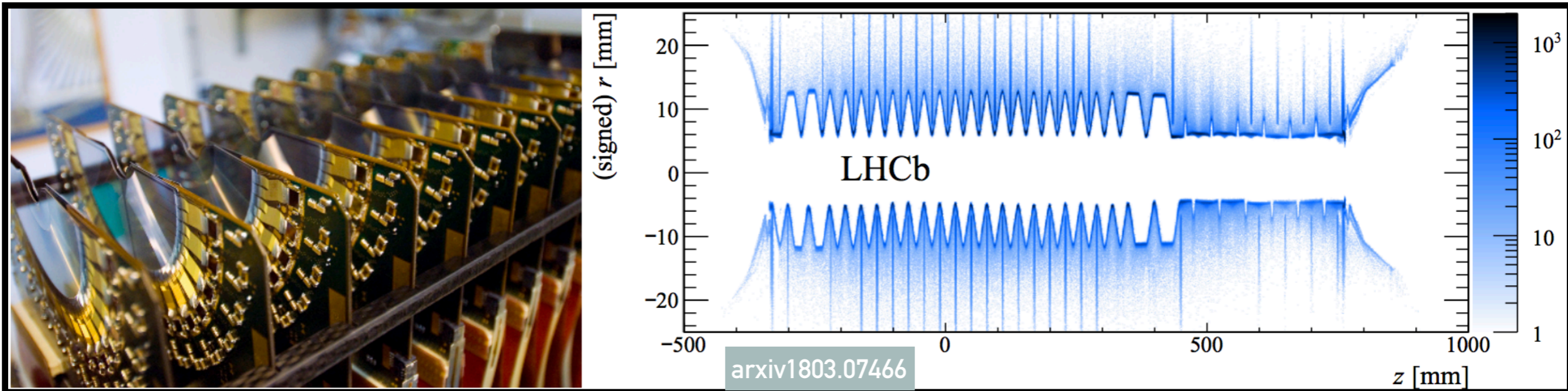
Best limits in most of the phase space probed. Even at low masses (11.5-45 GeV), limits competitive to LHCb



# LONG-LIVED DARK PHOTON SEARCH (LHCb)

Background dominated by material interactions for displaced dimuon search @LHCb.

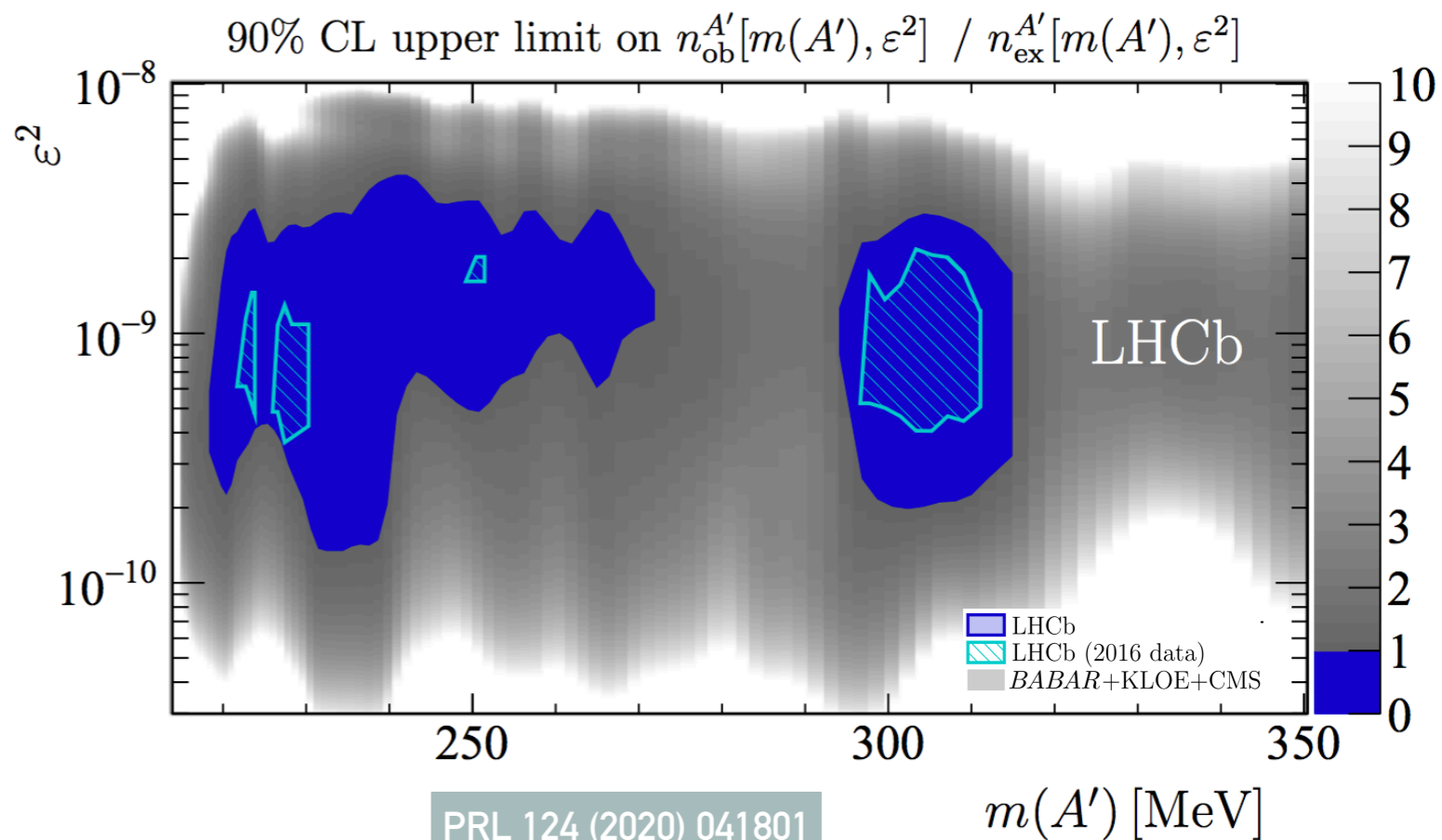
Precise knowledge of location of material in LHCb VELO is essential to reduce the background



Material background mainly from photon conversions

Displaced search probes the very low mass region (214-350 MeV)

A region generally accessible only by beam-dump experiments!





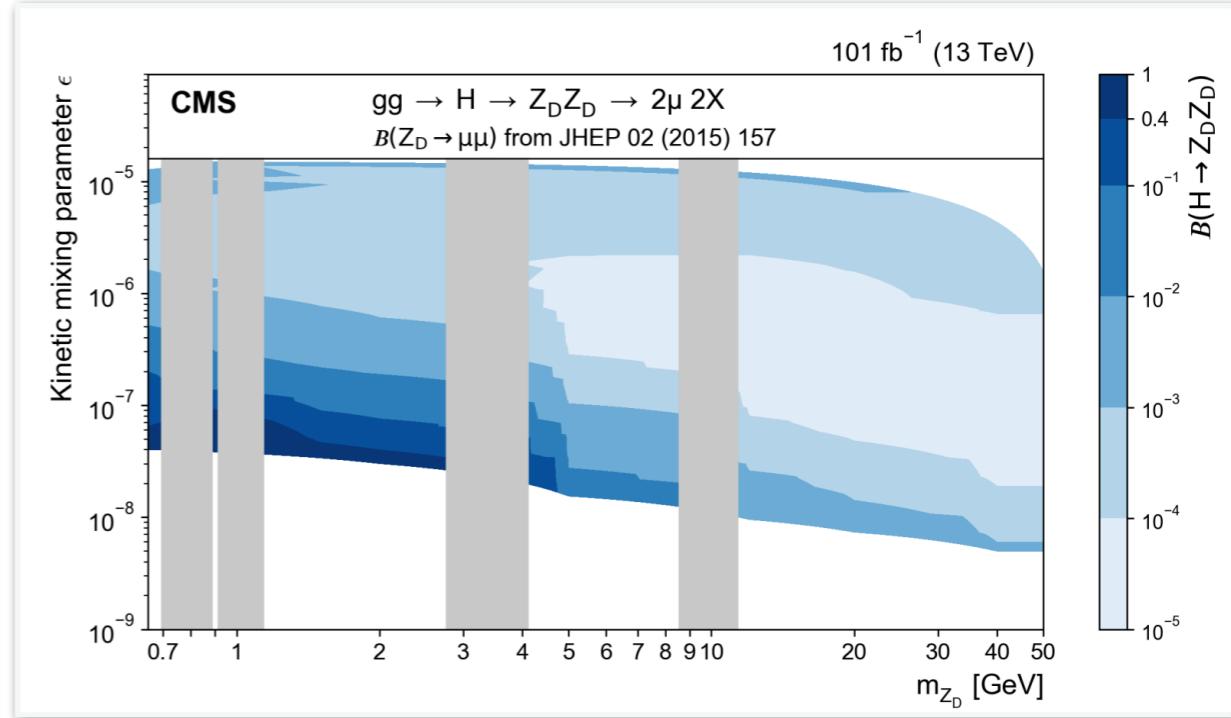
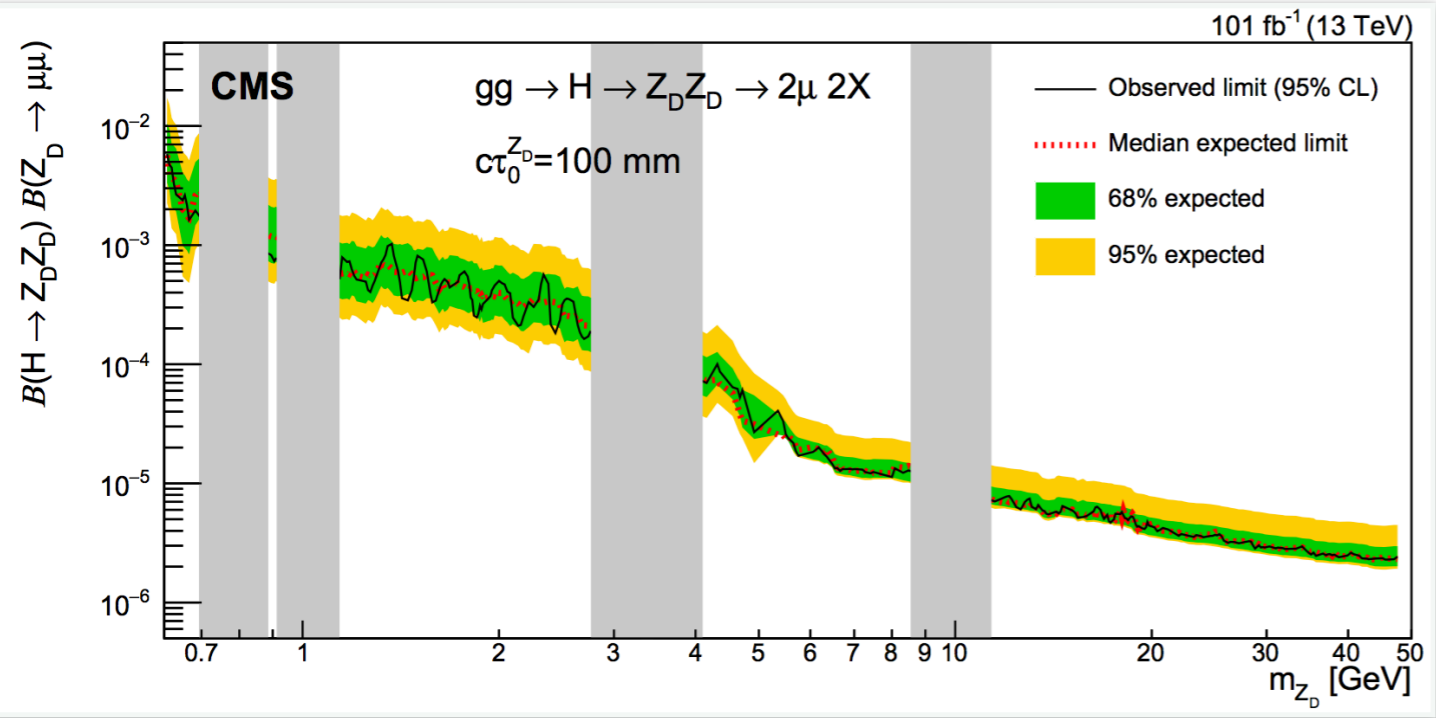
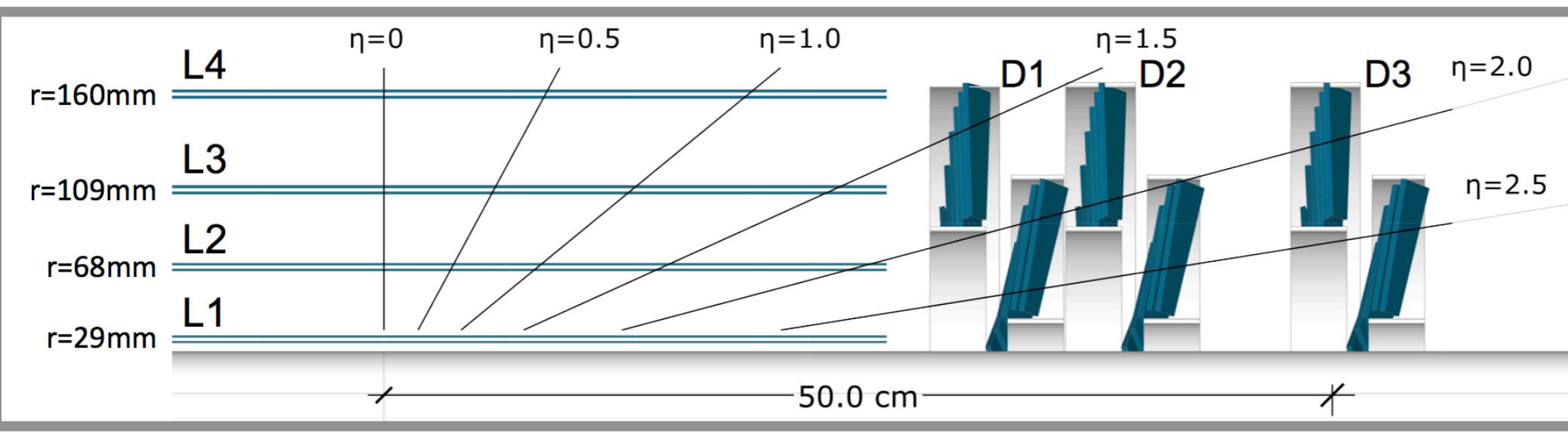
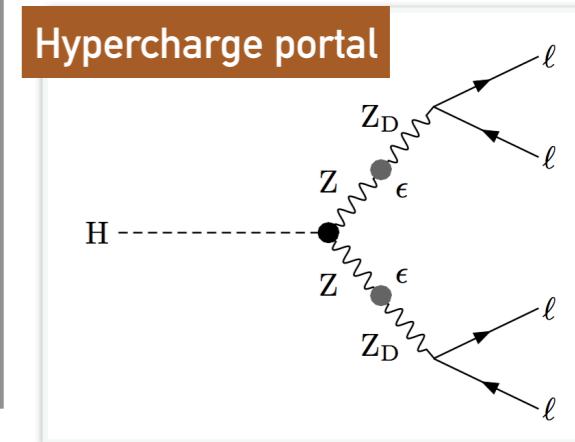
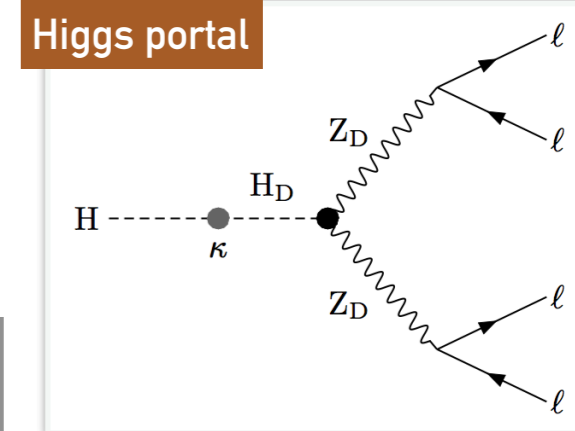
# SEARCH FOR DISPLACED DARK PHOTON (CMS)

JHEP 04 (2022) 062

First CMS search for long-lived BSM signatures using scouting data

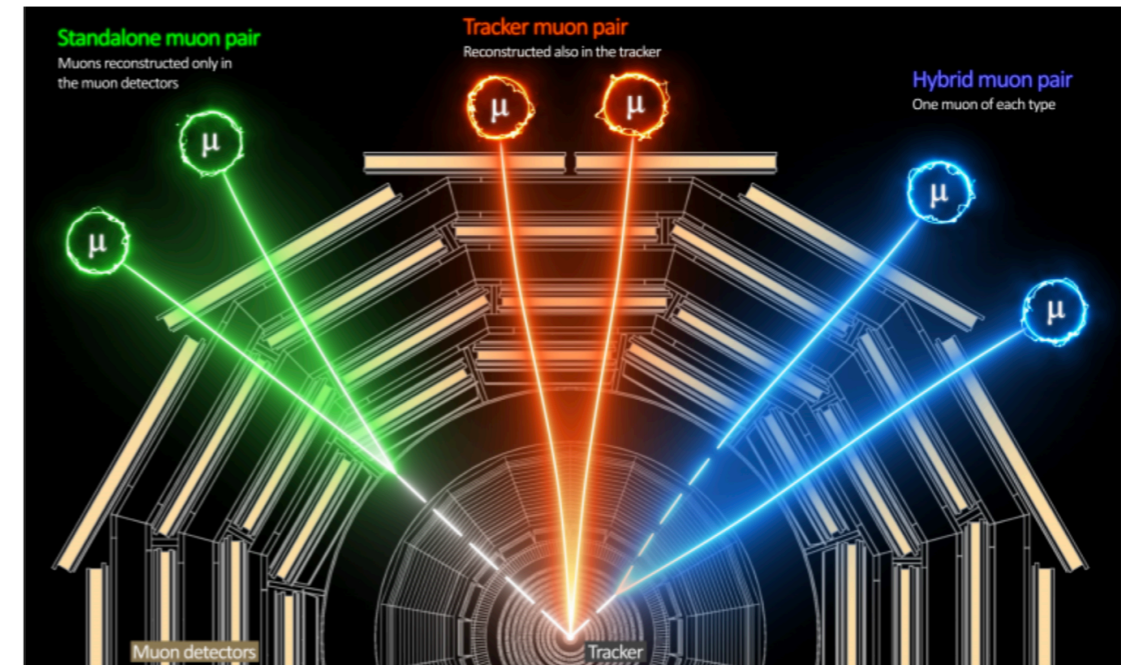
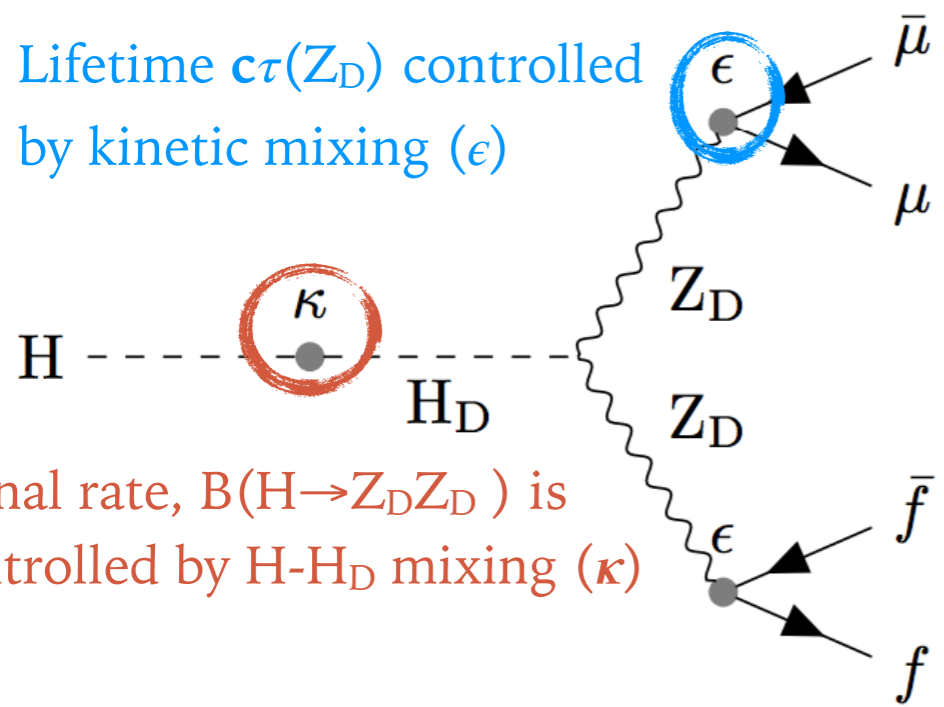
Presence of  $\geq 2$  hits in inner tracker required in scouting dimuon trigger

Range of accessible transverse displacement:  $0 \leq l_{xy} < 109$  mm



Probed very low masses, thanks to scouting triggers!

Improved previous limits by 2-10 times



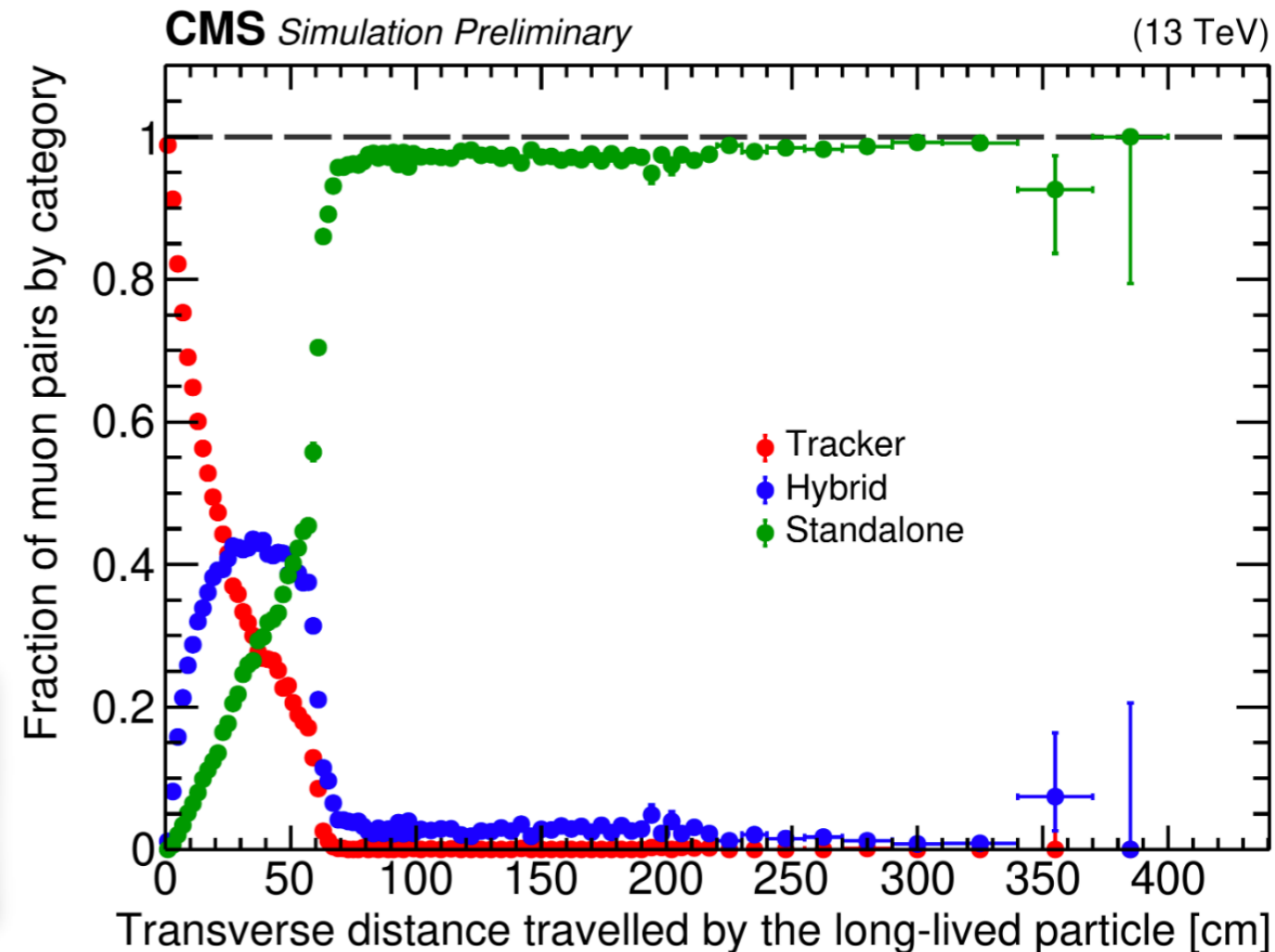
Two types of muons, based on where they are reconstructed :

- Standalone: muon system only
- Tracker: Muon system + tracker

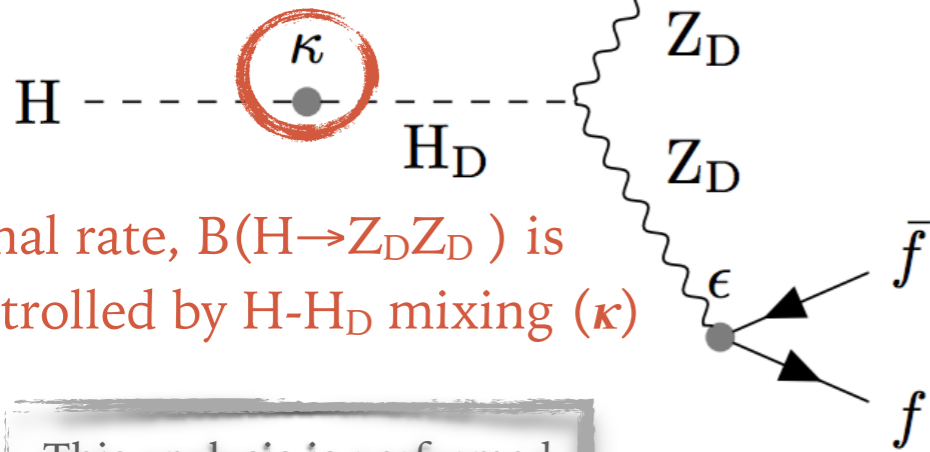
This gives rise to 3 categories of dimuon:

- Both standalone
- Both tracker
- Hybrid

This analysis is performed using nominal triggers, not scouting triggers



Lifetime  $c\tau(Z_D)$  controlled by kinetic mixing ( $\epsilon$ )



Signal rate,  $B(H \rightarrow Z_D Z_D)$  is controlled by H- $H_D$  mixing ( $\kappa$ )

This analysis is performed using nominal triggers, not scouting triggers

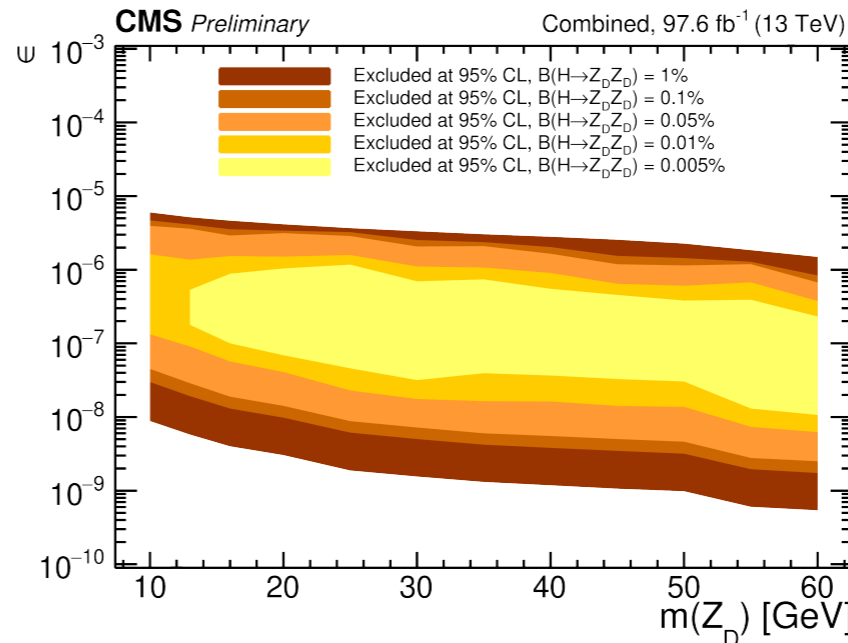
Look for at least one pair of displaced muons, within and beyond the tracker.

Signal region has very low contribution from SM backgrounds

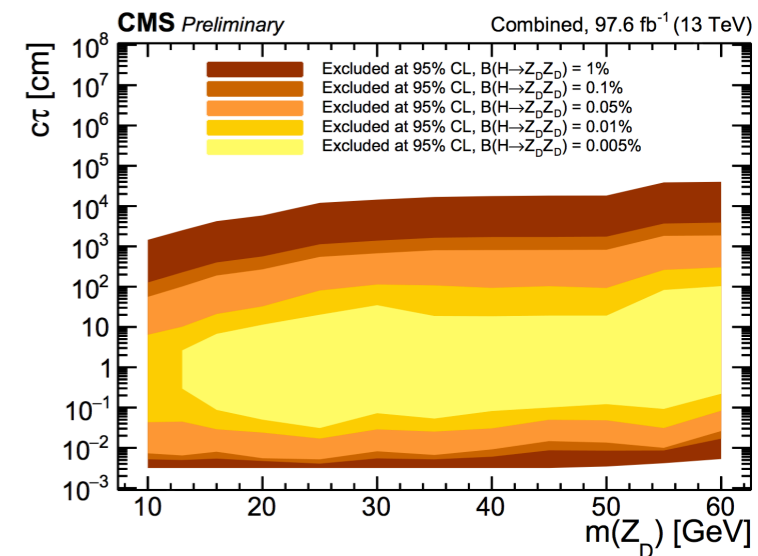
Potential backgrounds are misidentified muons, or badly reconstructed muons from Drell-Yan, heavy-flavour decay, low mass resonances, cosmic rays

Benchmark model: Hidden Abelian Higgs Model (HAHM)

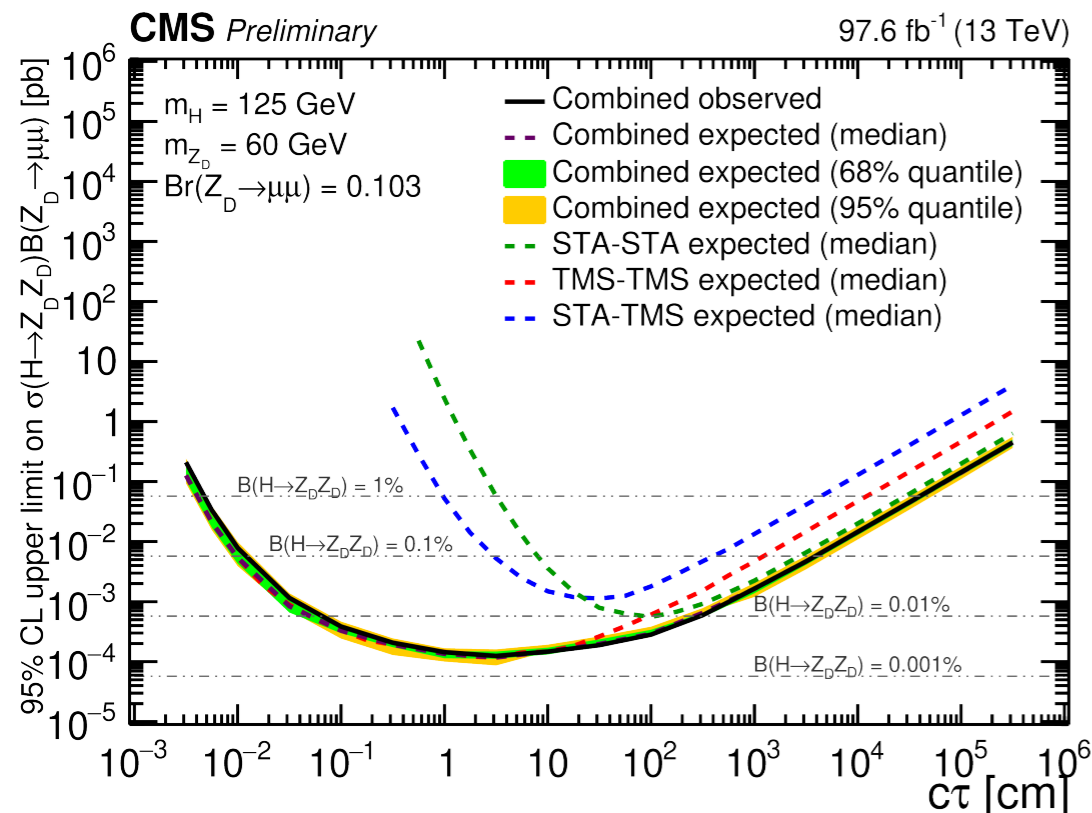
Mass vs Kinetic mixing plane



Mass vs lifetime plane



Best limits for most considered masses and lifetimes.



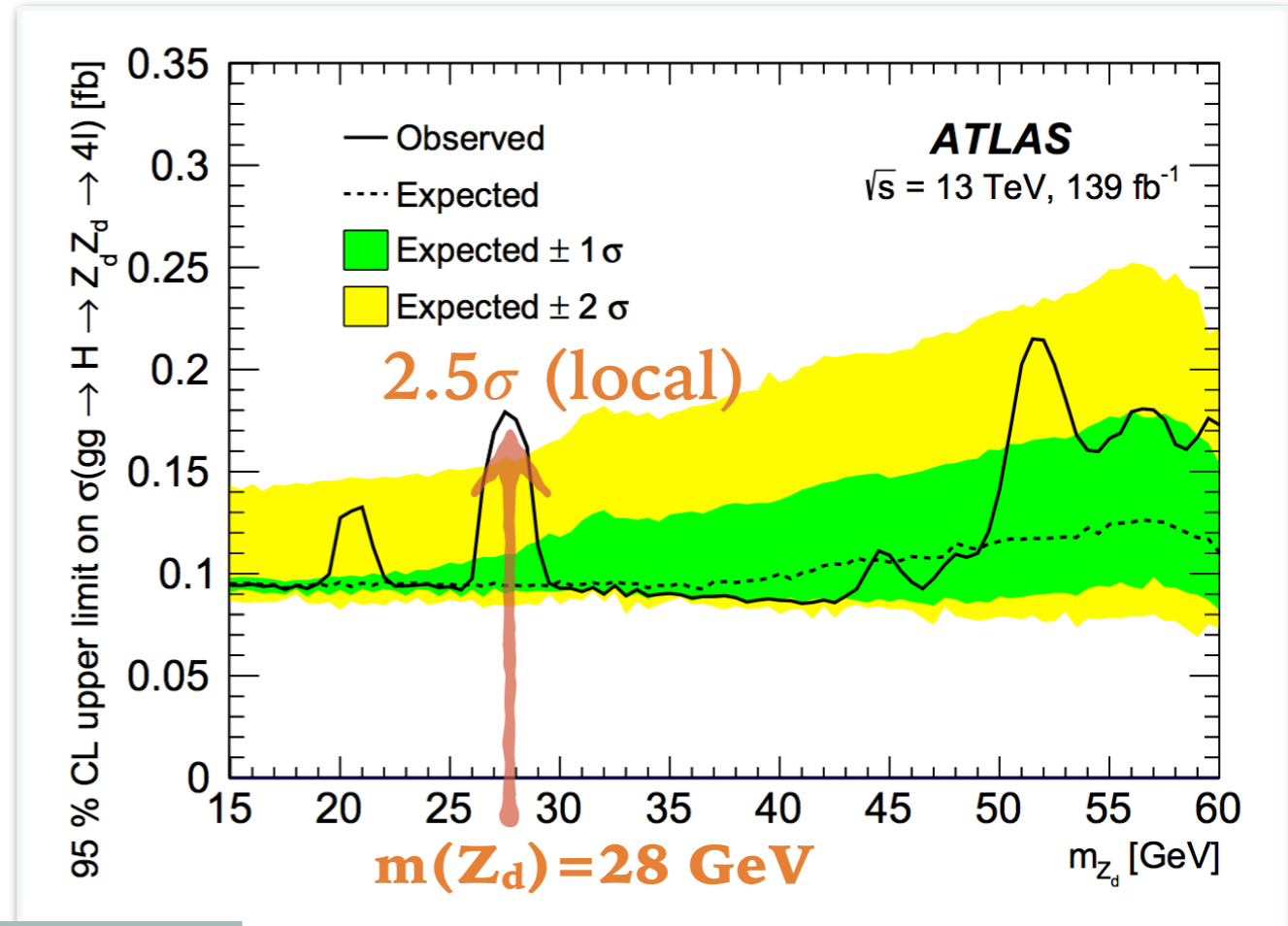
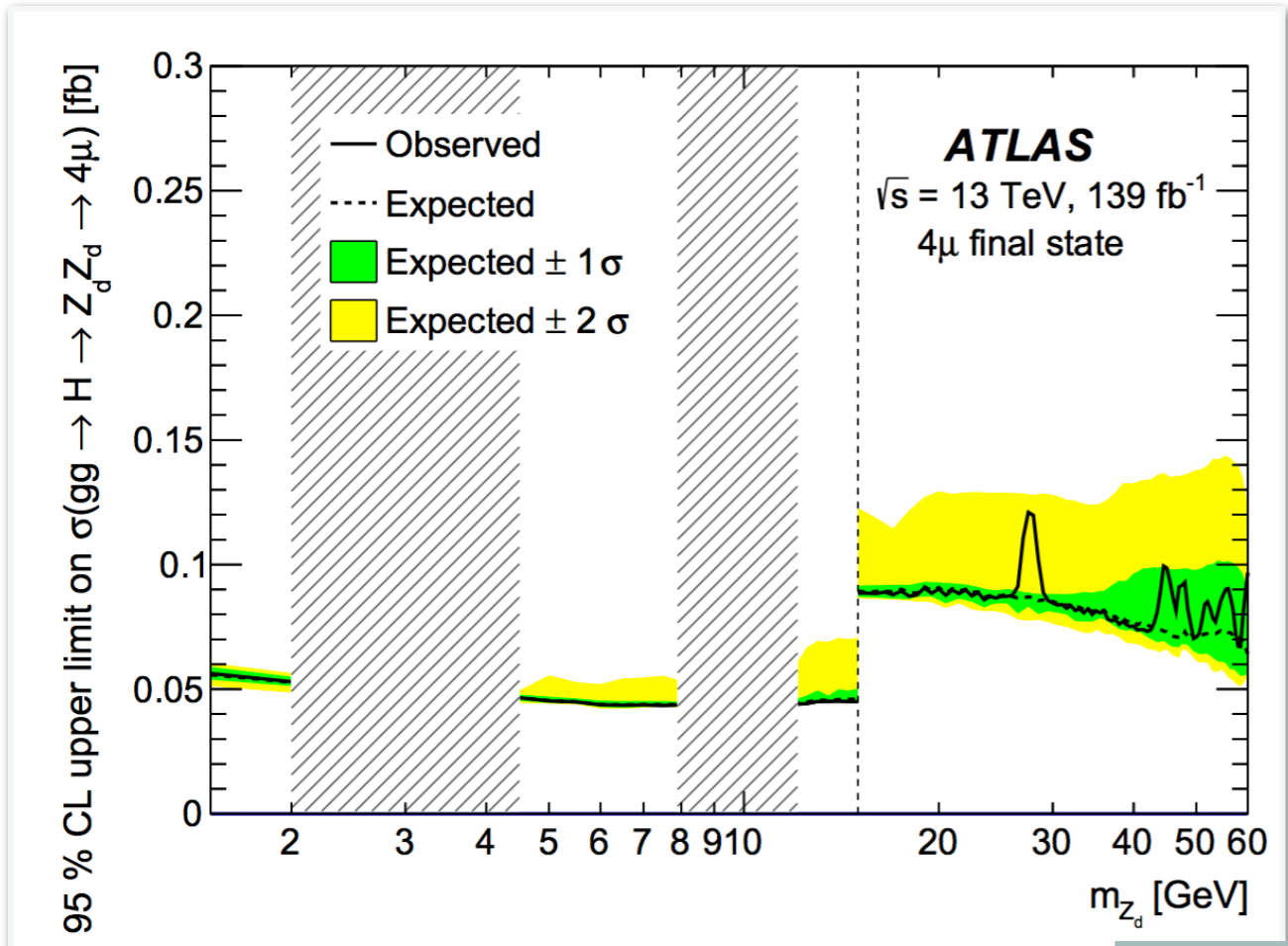
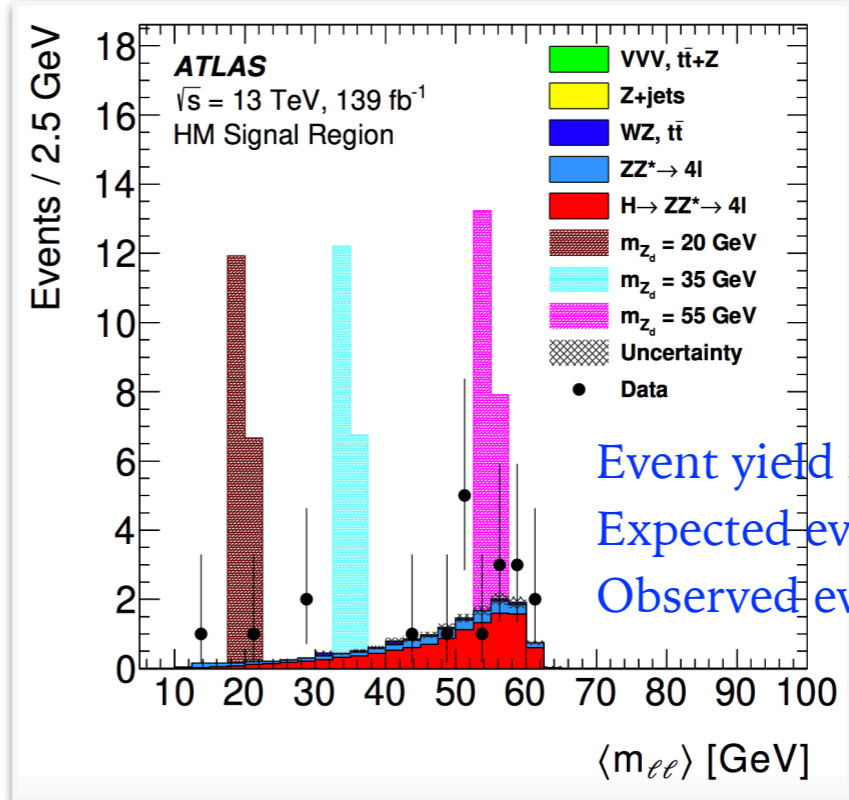
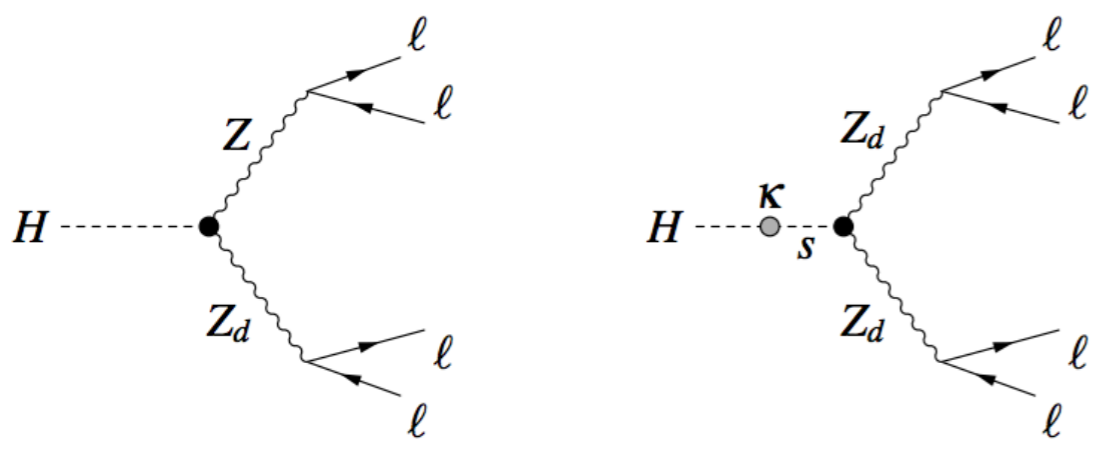


# SEARCH FOR HIGGS DECAYING TO DARK PHOTON (ATLAS)

High-mass search:  $H \rightarrow Z_d Z_d \rightarrow 4\ell$  ( $15 < m_X < 60$  GeV)

Low-mass search:  $H \rightarrow Z_d Z_d \rightarrow 4\mu$  ( $1 < m_X < 15$  GeV)

$ZZ_d$  search:  $H \rightarrow ZZ_d \rightarrow 4\ell$  ( $15 < m_X < 55$  GeV)



# VBF HIGGS DECAYING TO PHOTON AND DARK-PHOTON (ATLAS)

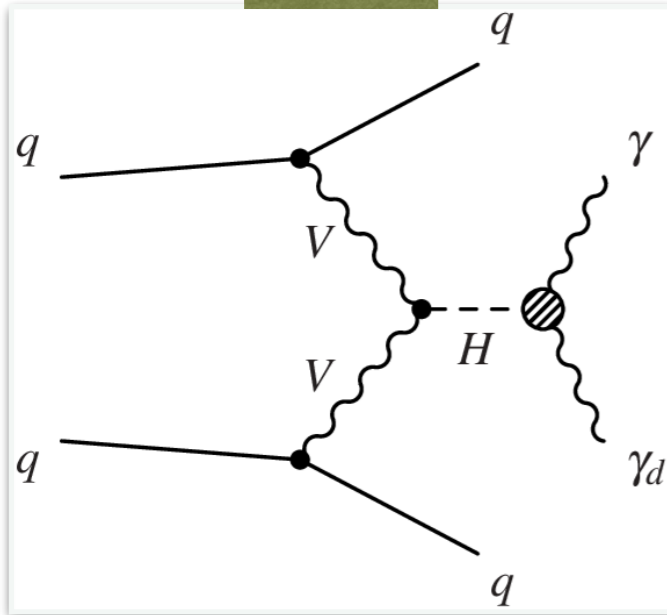
VBF production of Higgs

arXiv:2109.00925

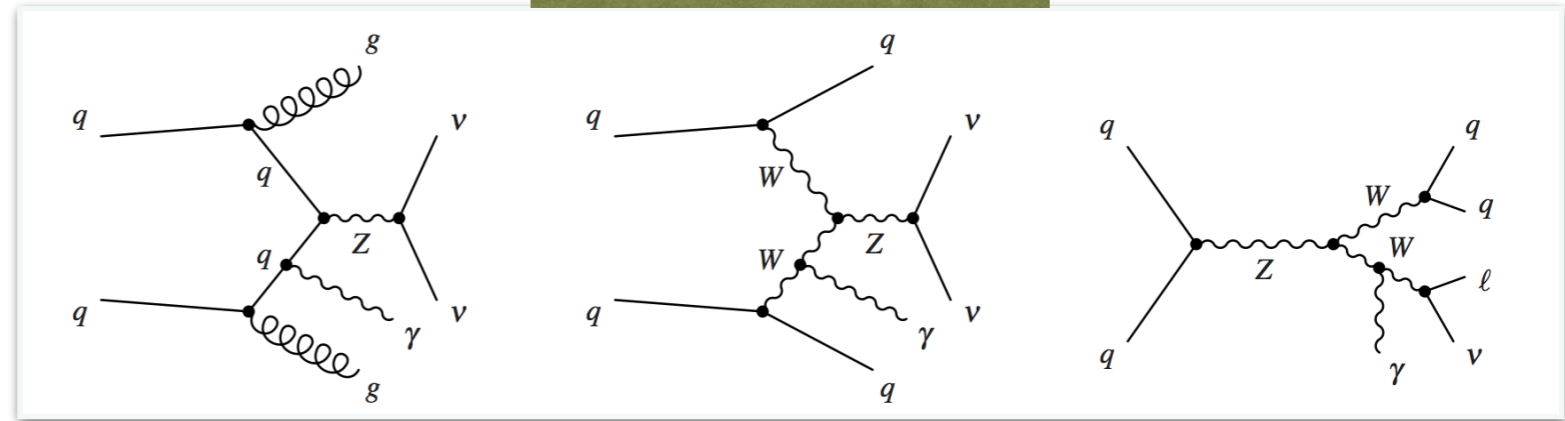
Higgs decay to photon + dark photon (undetected)

Final state: 2 jets + photon + MET

Signal

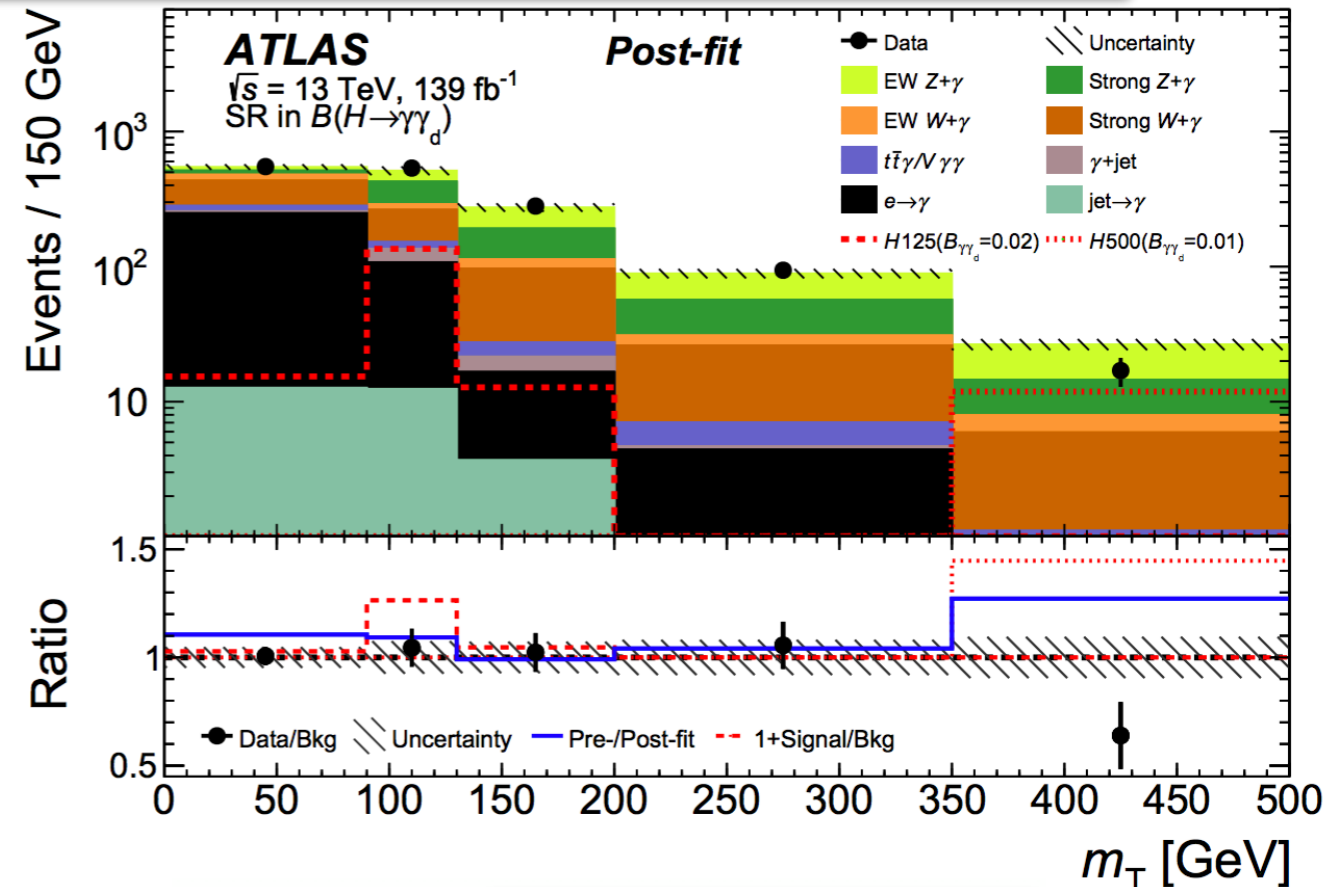


Main backgrounds



Signal-like events selected using highly efficient MET trigger.

Jacobian peak of  $H \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma_d$  decays characterised by the use of transverse mass.



$$m_T(\gamma, E_T^{\text{miss}}) = \sqrt{2p_T^\gamma E_T^{\text{miss}} [1 - \cos(\phi_\gamma - \phi_{E_T^{\text{miss}}})]}$$

# VBF HIGGS DECAYING TO PHOTON AND DARK-PHOTON (ATLAS)

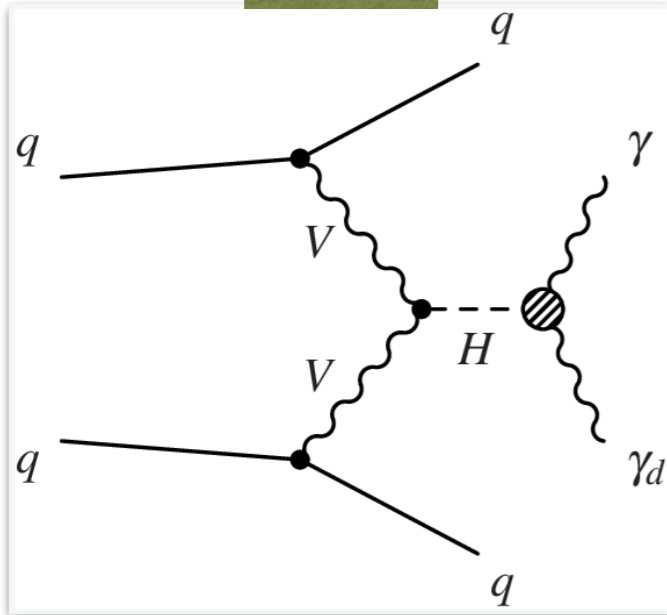
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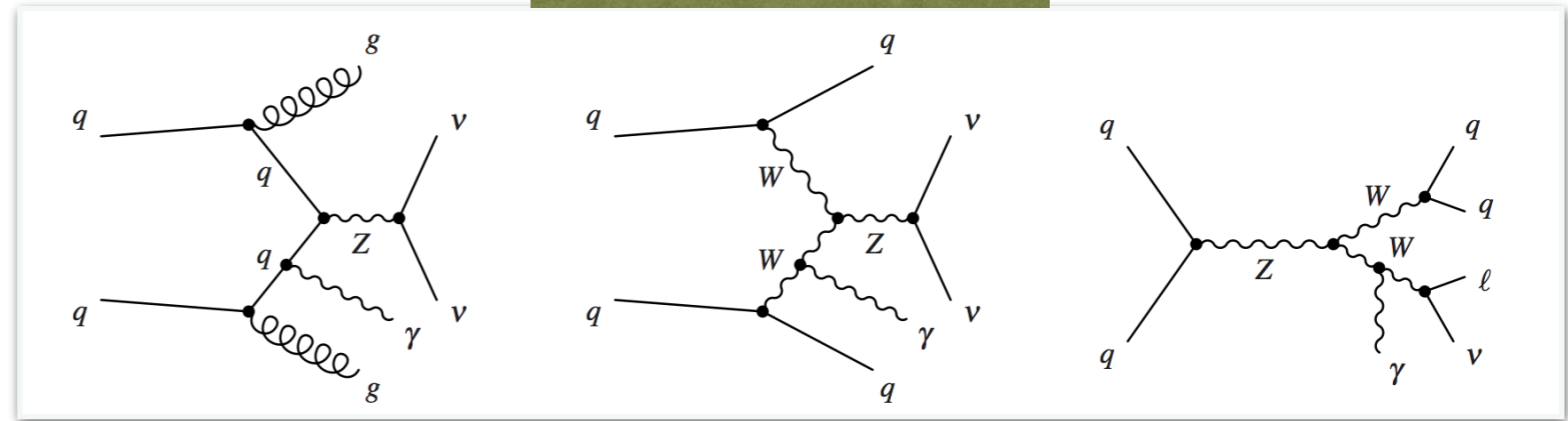
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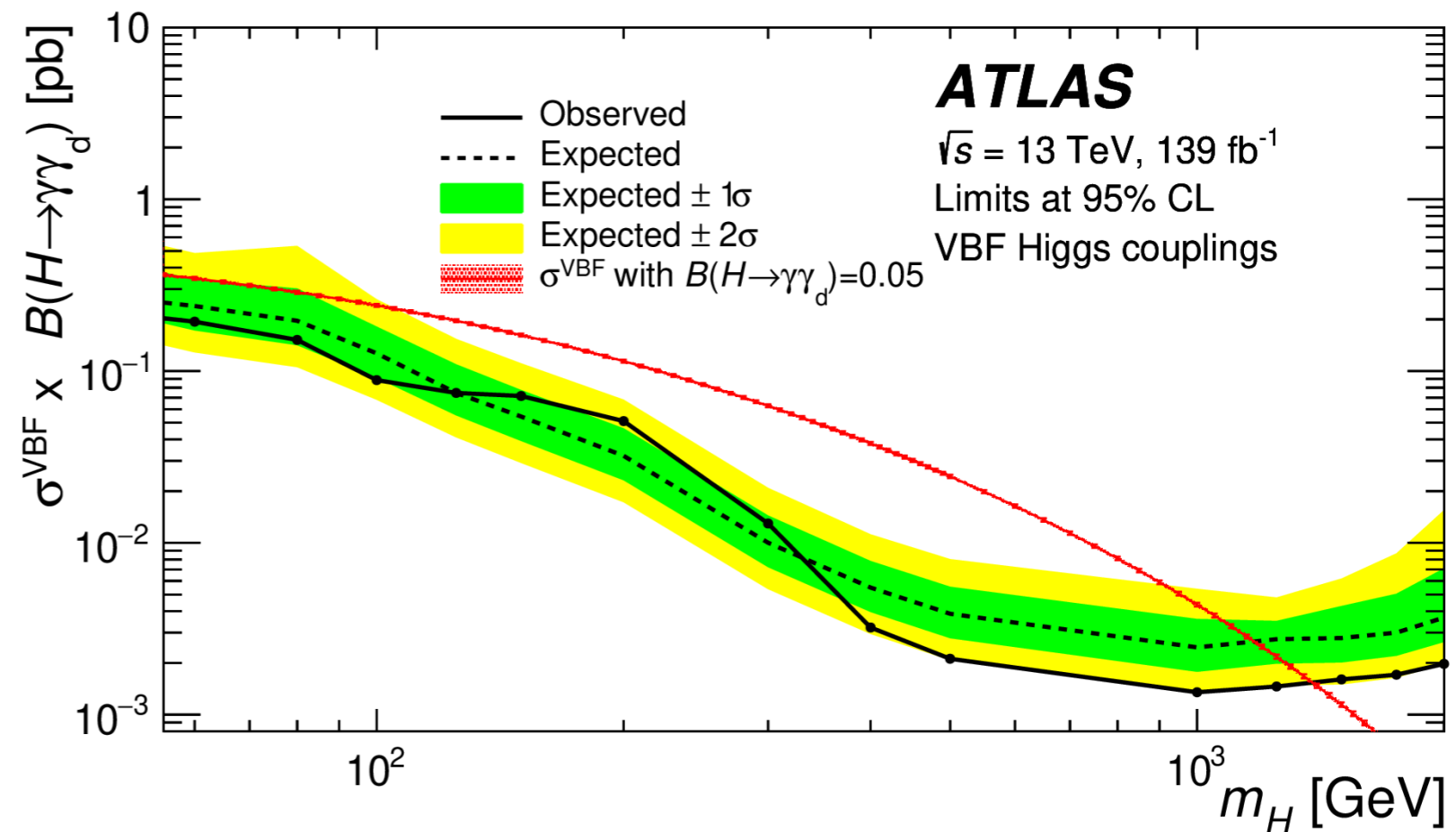


Main backgrounds



Upper limit on cross-section times branching provided for various Higgs mass hypothesis (60 GeV - 2 TeV)

This search provides very stringent upper limit of 0.018 on branching of  $H(125) \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma_d$





# SEARCH FOR DISPLACED LEPTON-JET (ATLAS)

Lepton-jet: boosted, light dark photon decaying to pairs of following particles in a narrow cone:

- Electrons/light hadrons (caloDPJ)
- Muons ( $\mu$ DPJ)

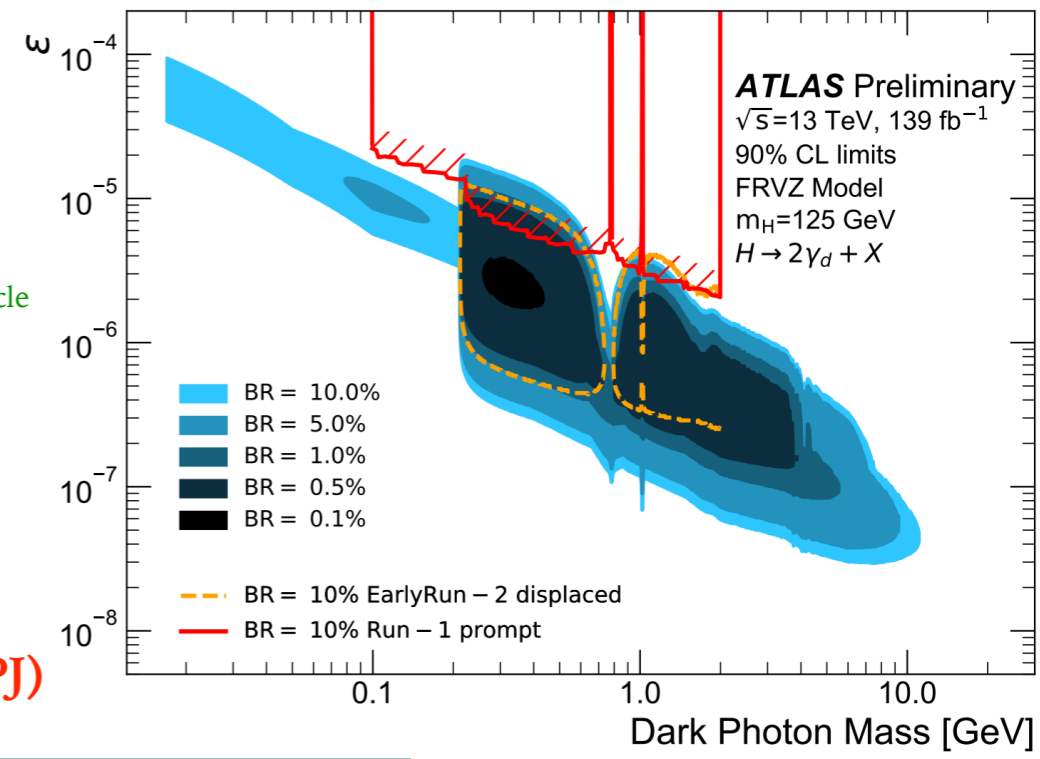
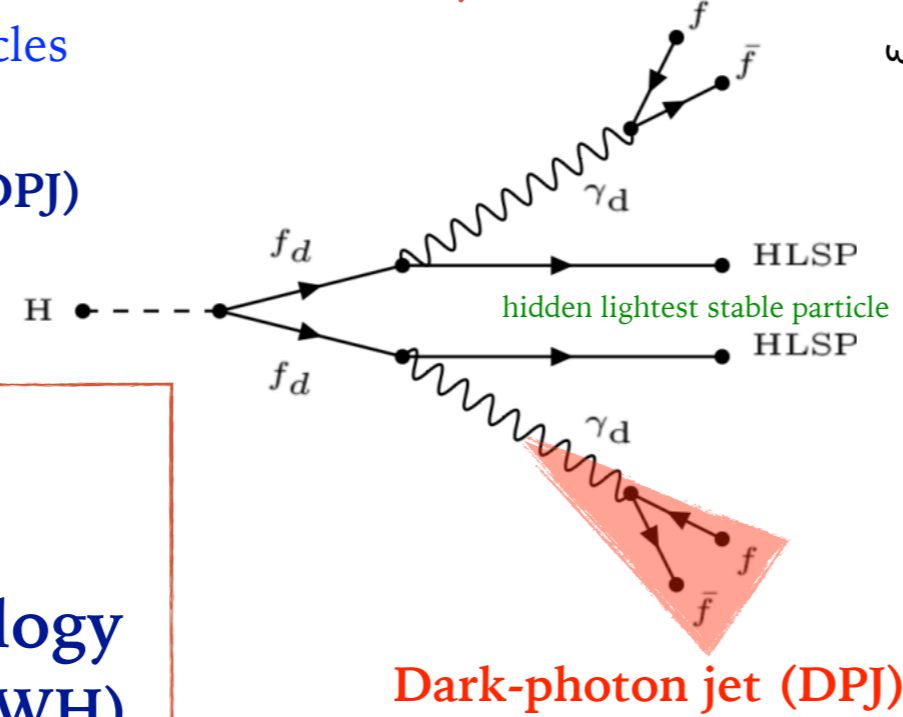
Improved analysis sensitivity due to addition of WH topology (i.e, now we have ggF+WH)

First time exclusion in the fully electron channel

Significant analysis improvements by using sophisticated ML taggers

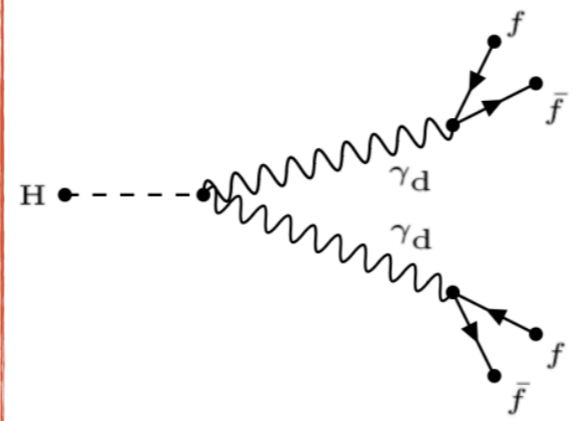
- Cosmic-ray muon tagger (DNN)
- QCD tagger (CNN) for calorimeter-based dark photon signal
- Beam-induced background tagger (CNN)

Falkowsky, Ruderman, Volansky, Zupan [FRVZ] model

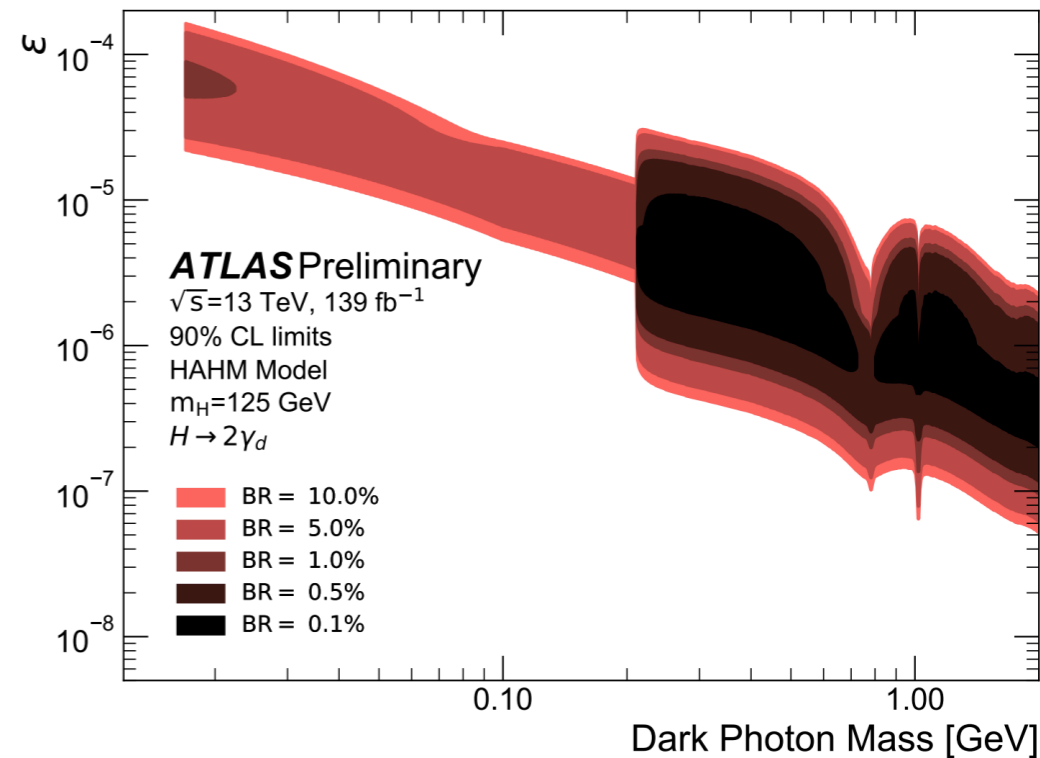


ATLAS-CONF-2022-001

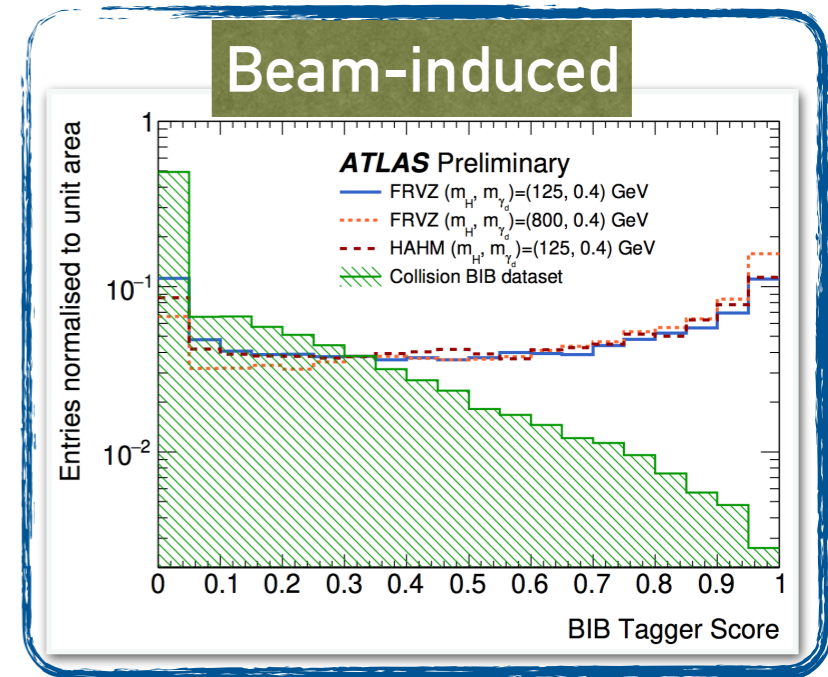
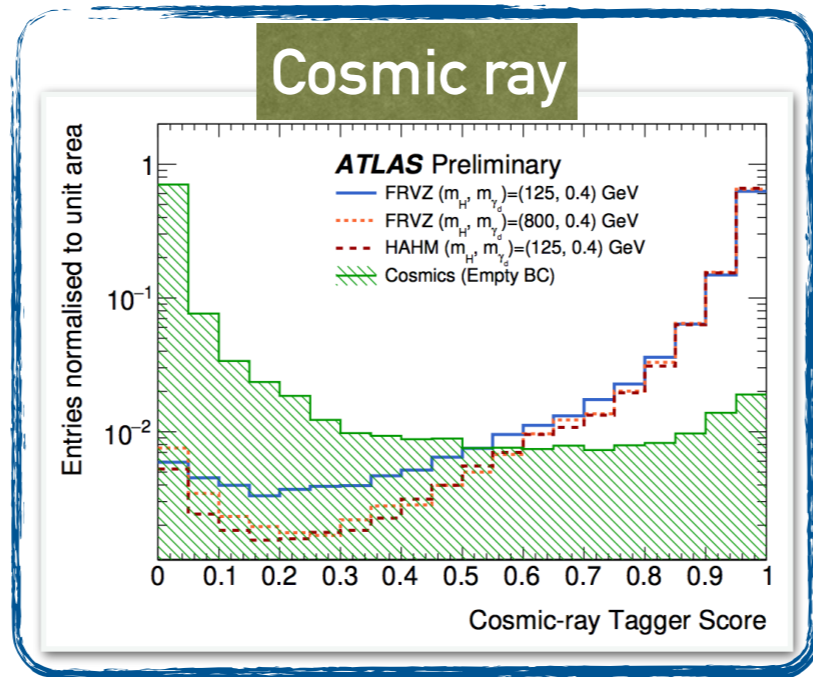
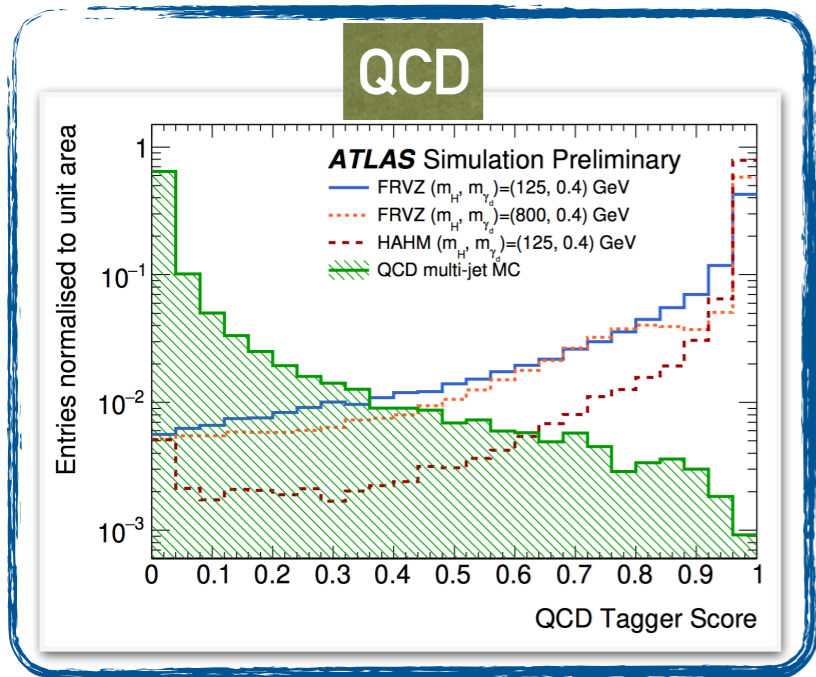
Hidden Abelian Higgs model [HAHM] model



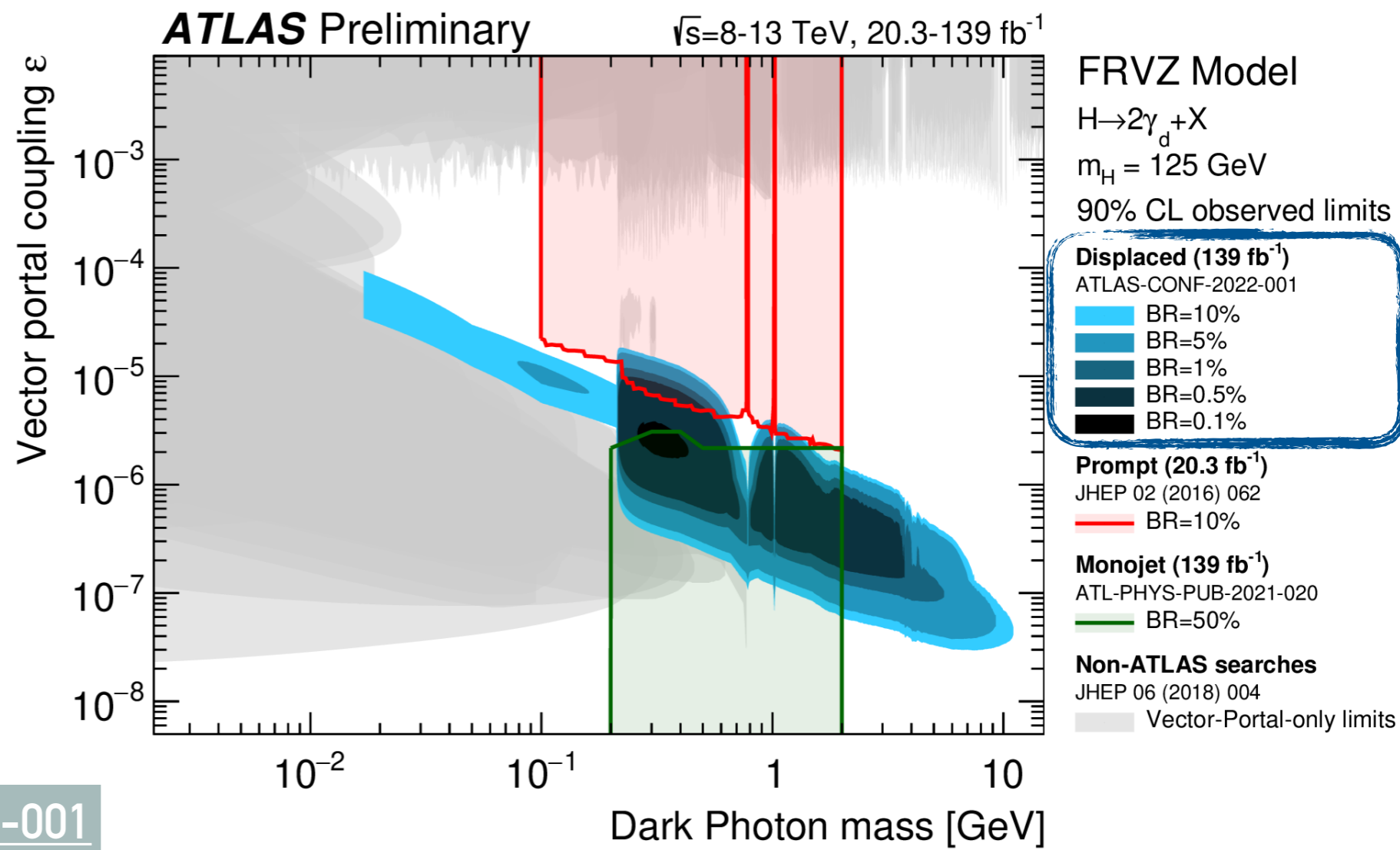
Assumption in this analysis: Dark gauge coupling ( $\alpha_d$ ) < 0.01 Dark showers are not considered.



# SEARCH FOR DISPLACED LEPTON-JET (ATLAS)



Thanks to the powerful taggers, and other improvements in analysis techniques, this search excludes an impressive region of the phase space.



ATLAS-CONF-2022-001

THAT'S ALL!

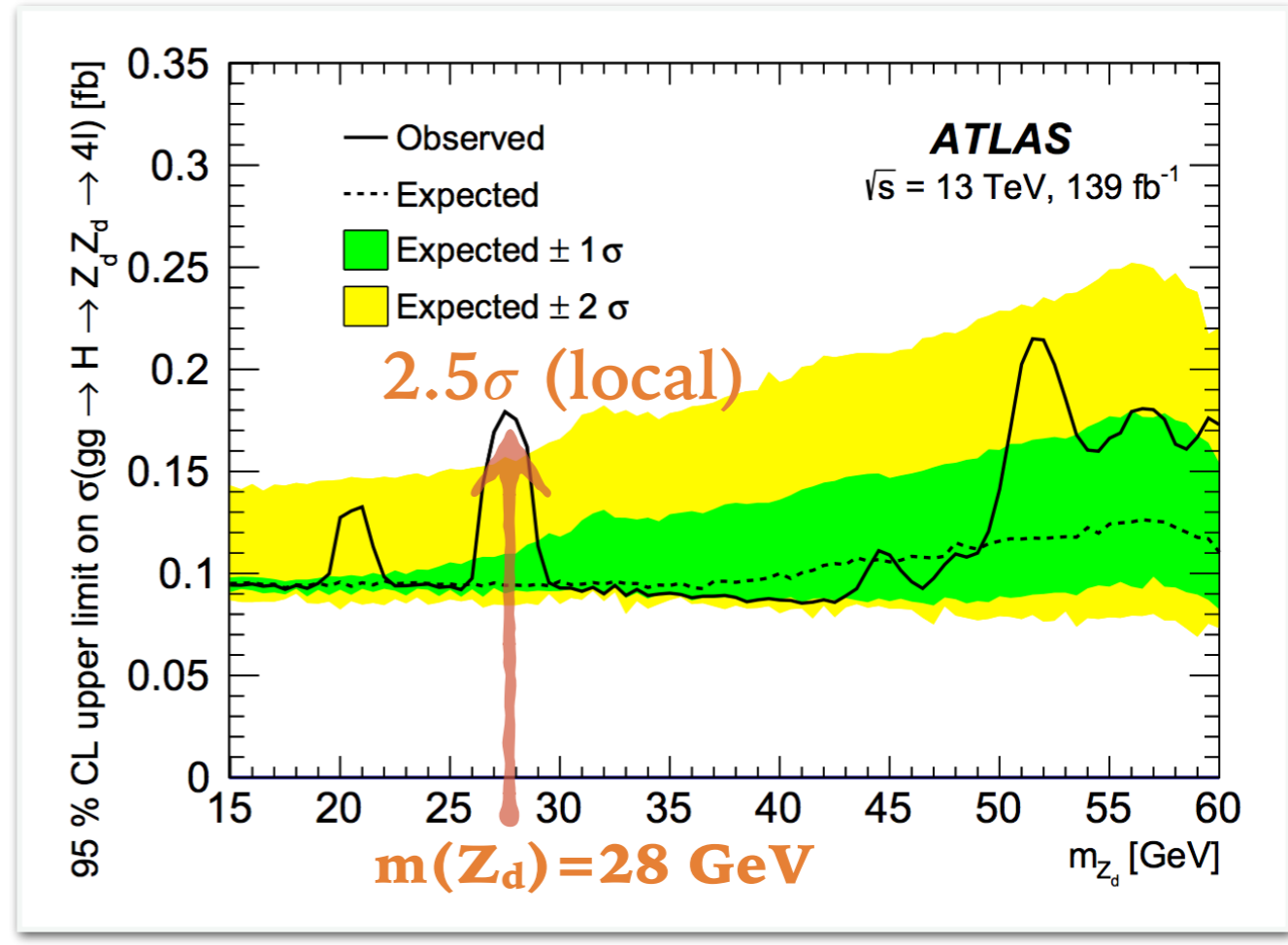
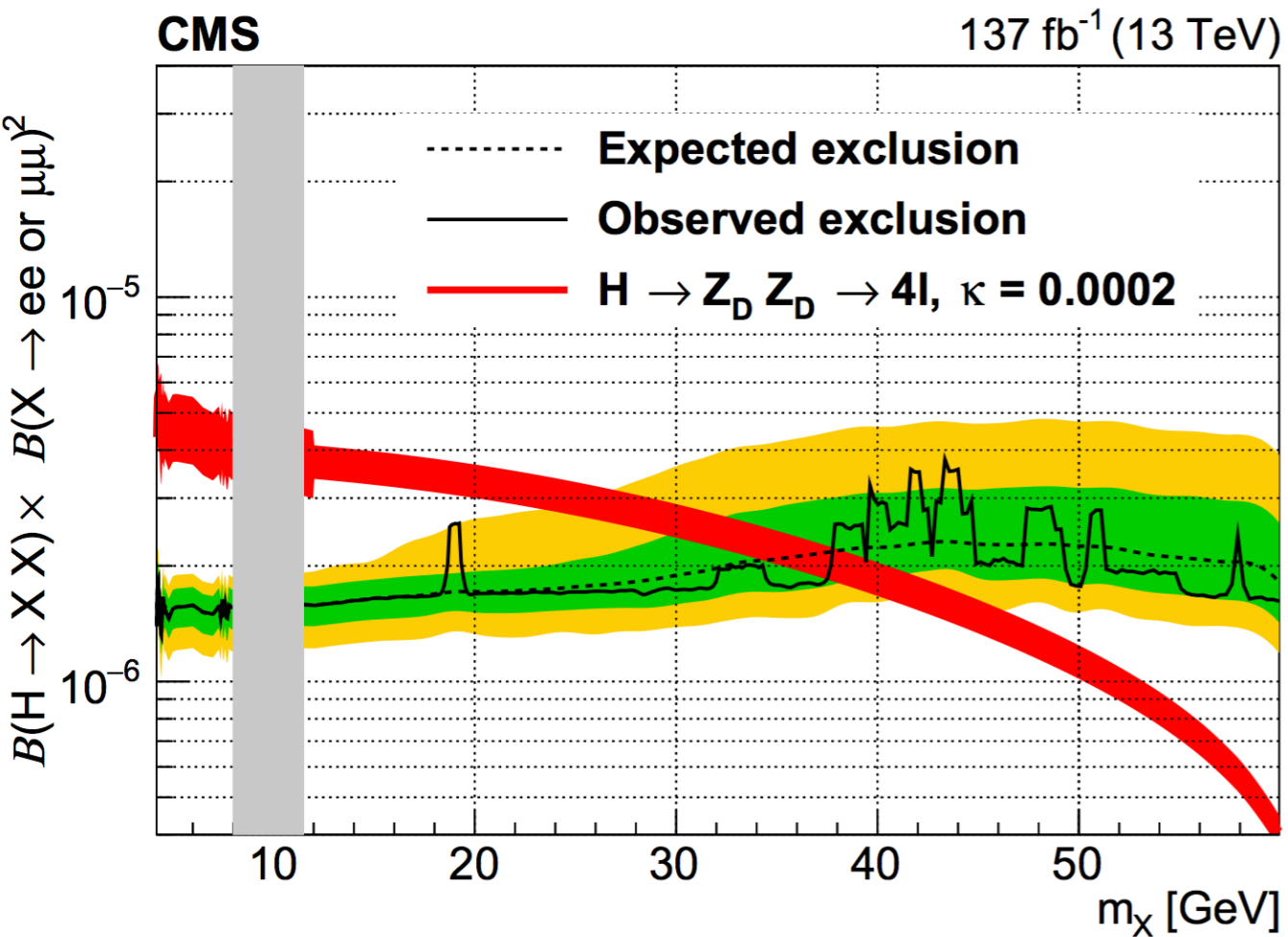
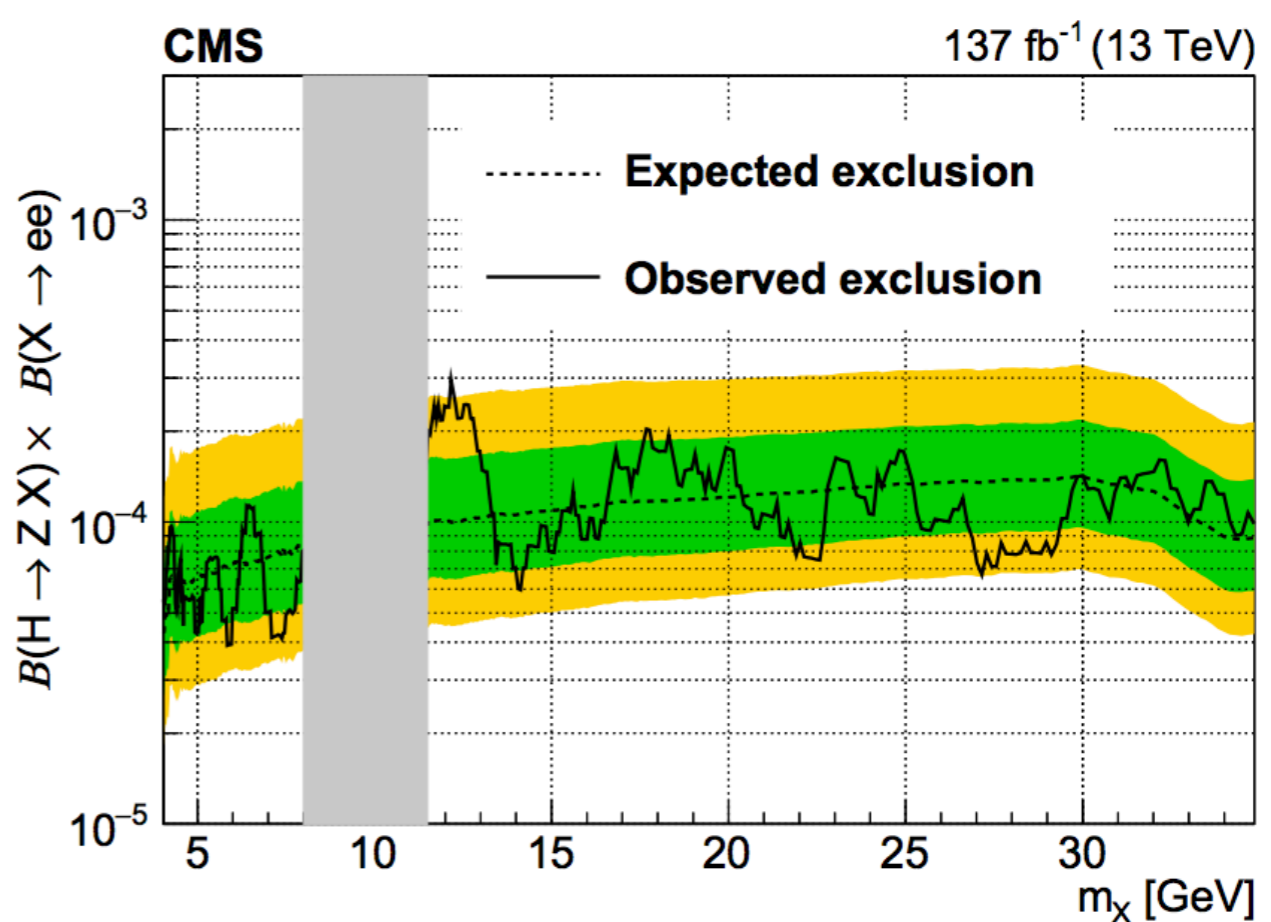
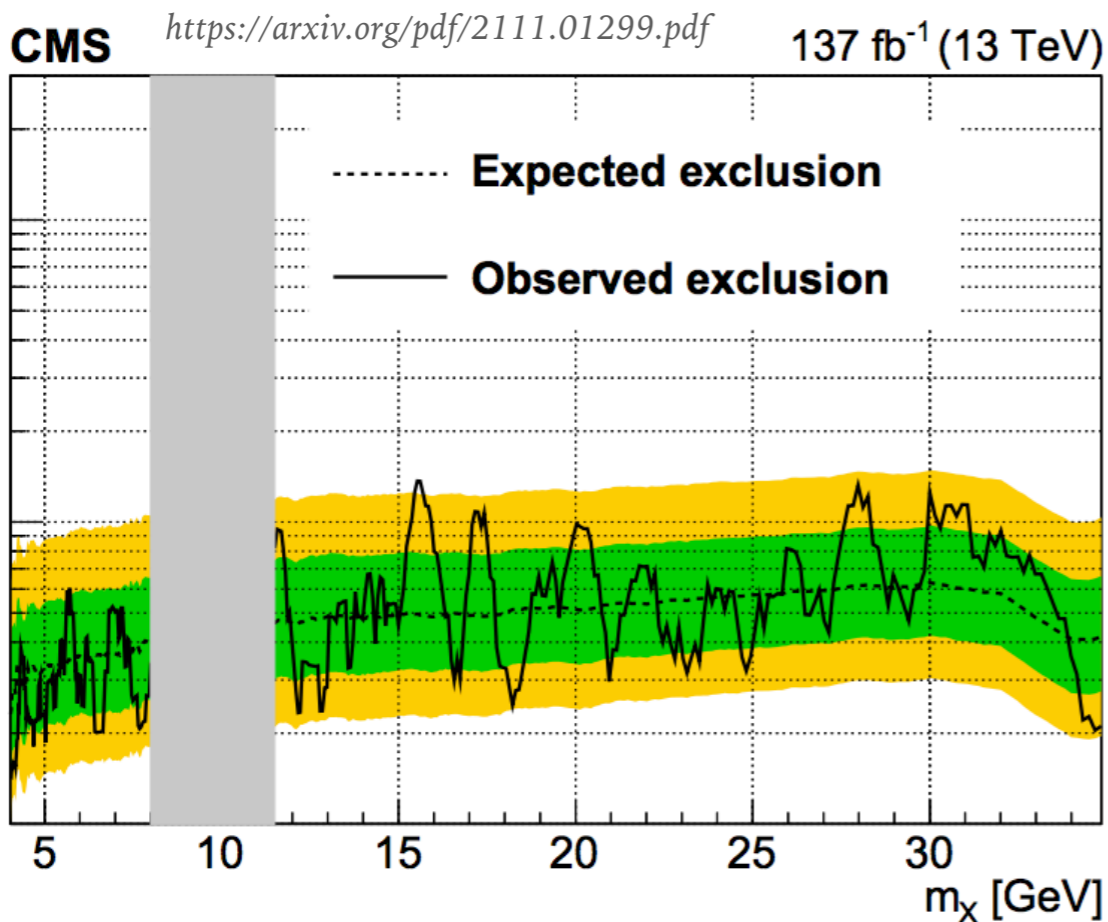


WE ARE TAKING A SHOT AT THE  
DARK SIDE OF THE MOON ~~UNIVERSE~~

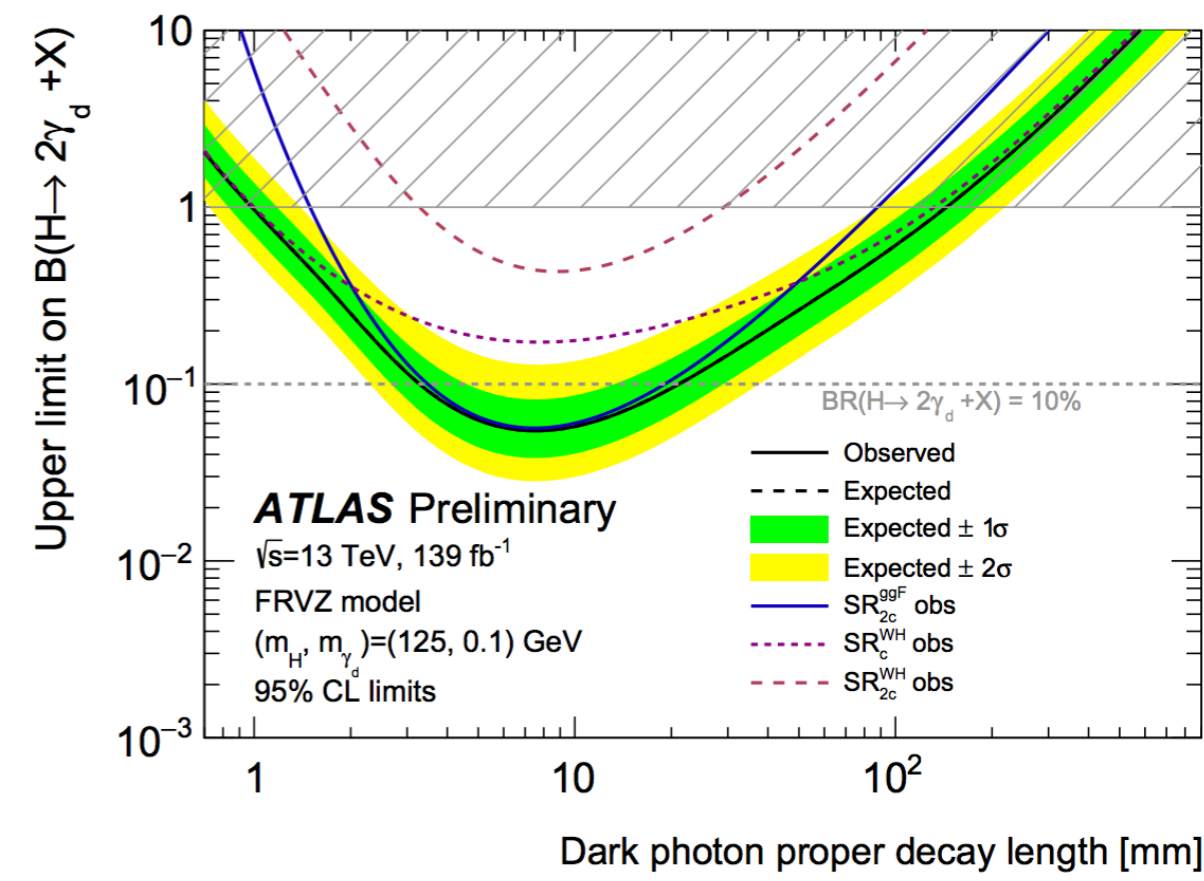
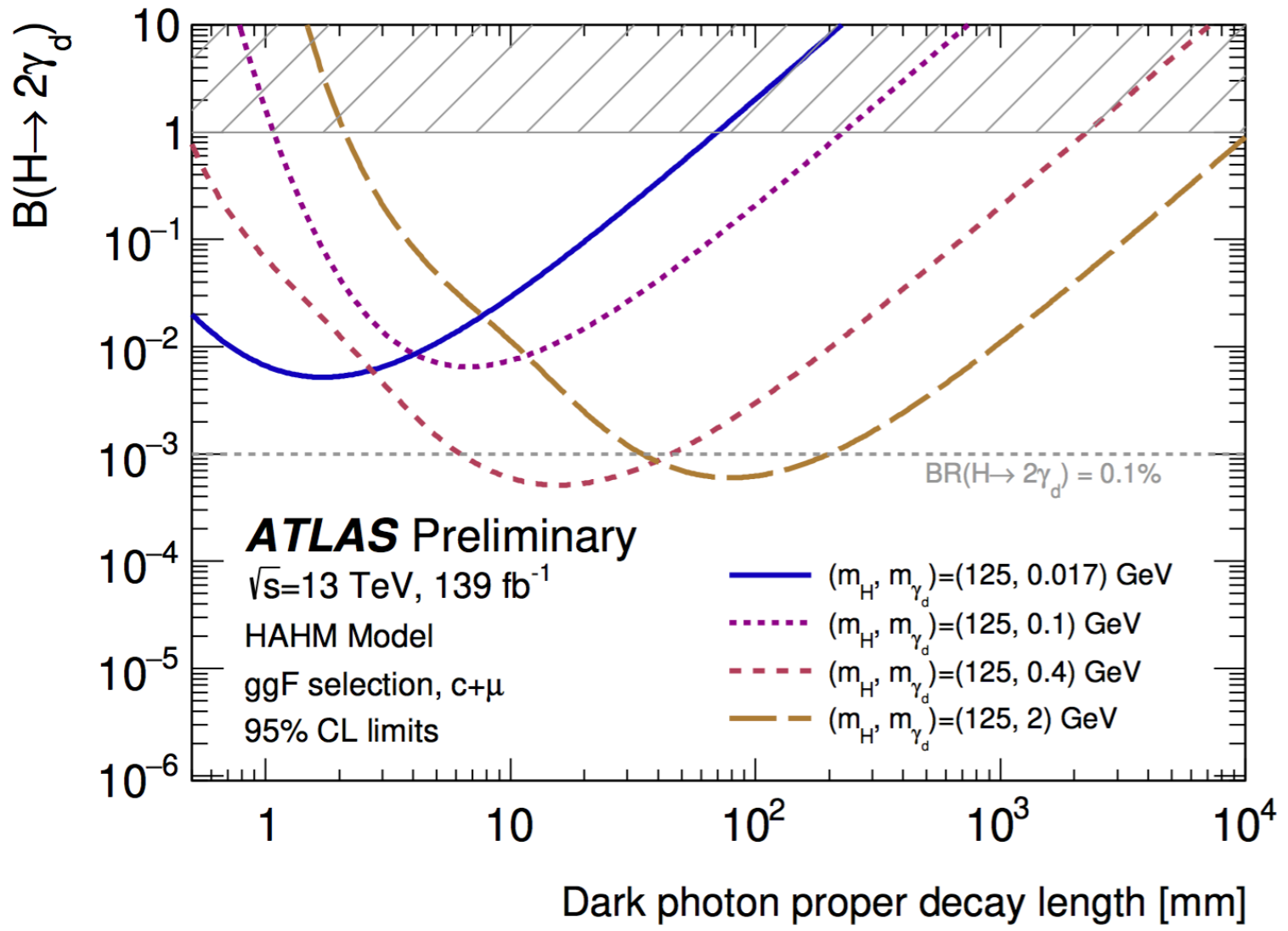
STICK WITH US



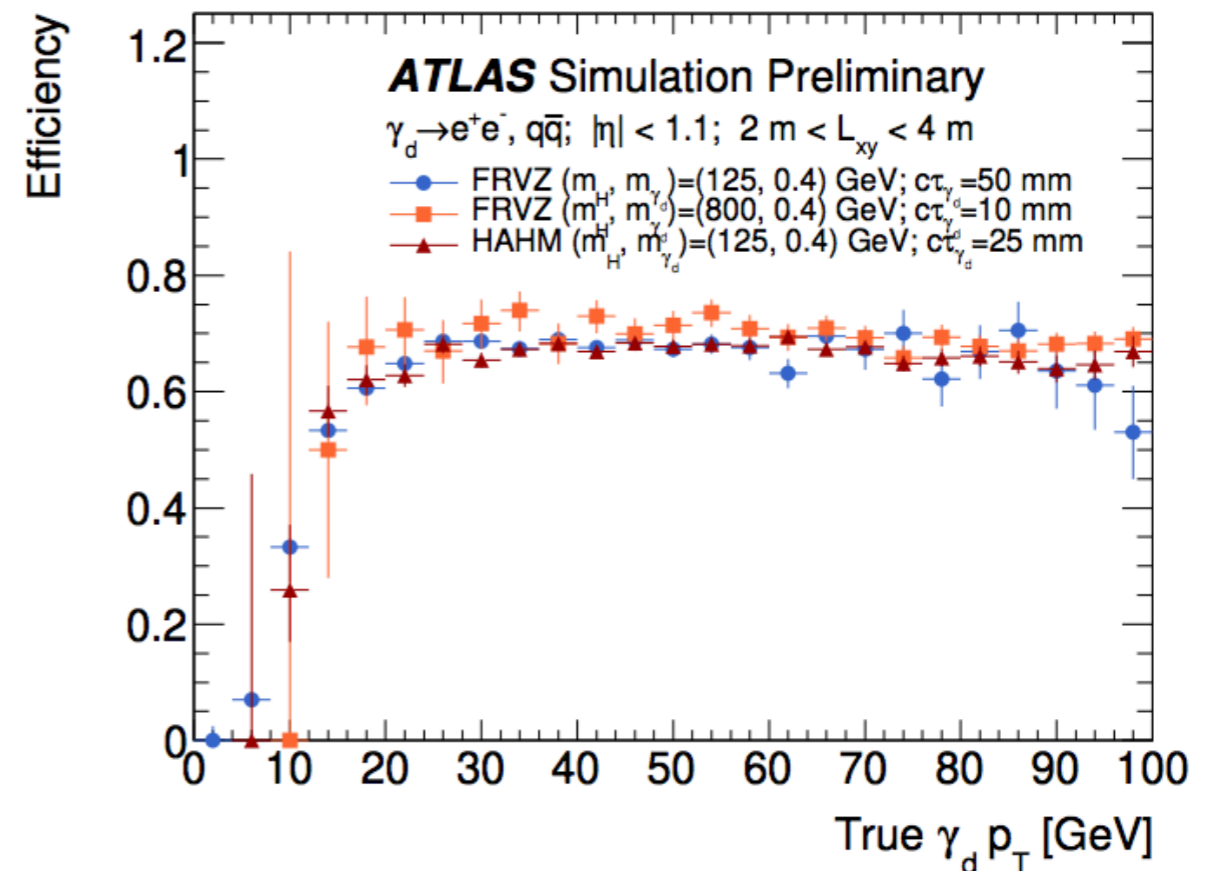
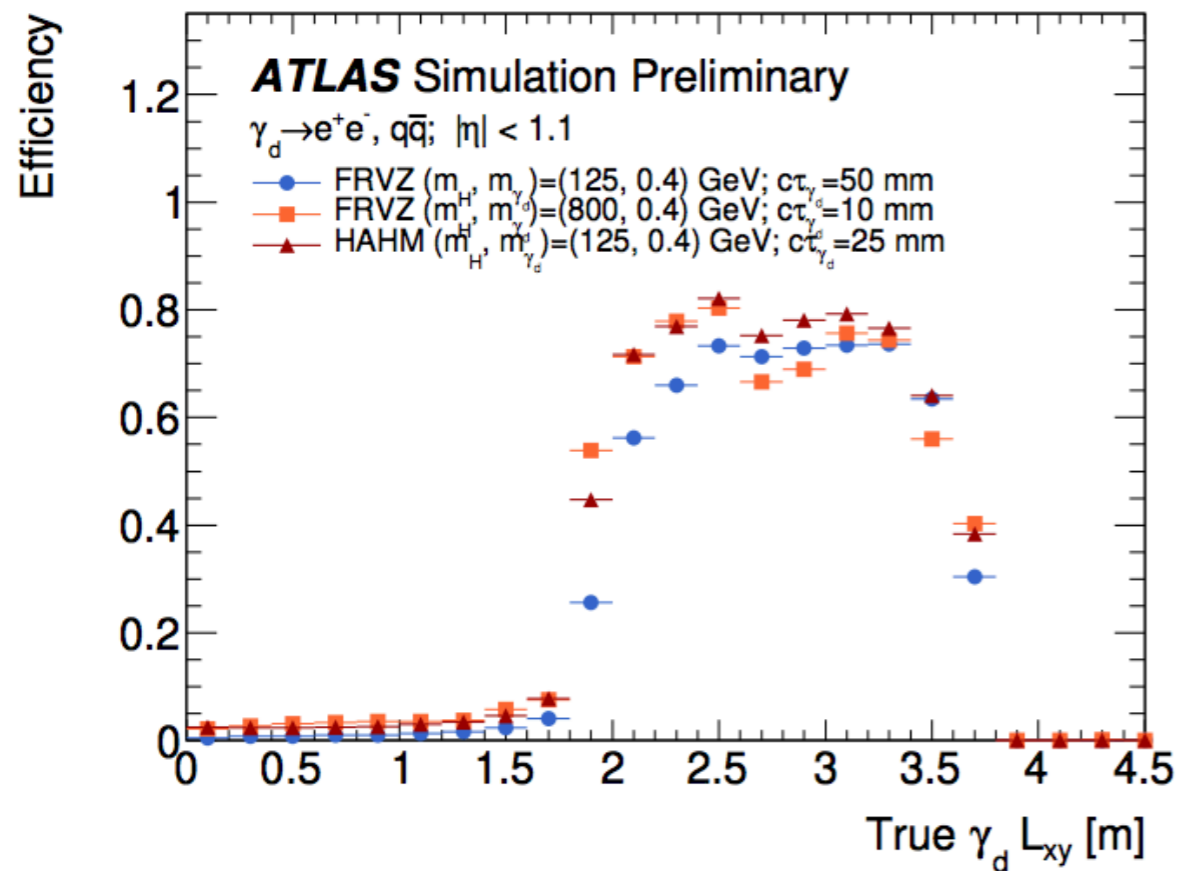
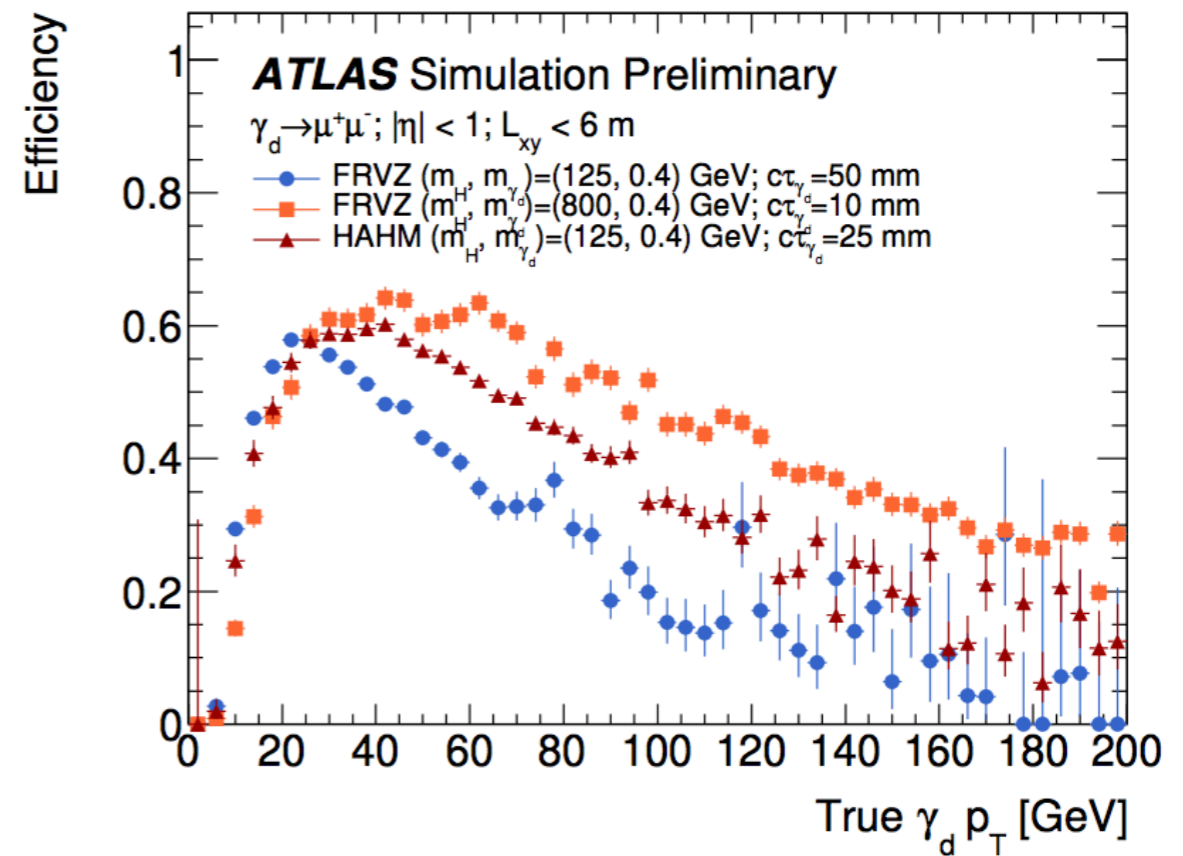
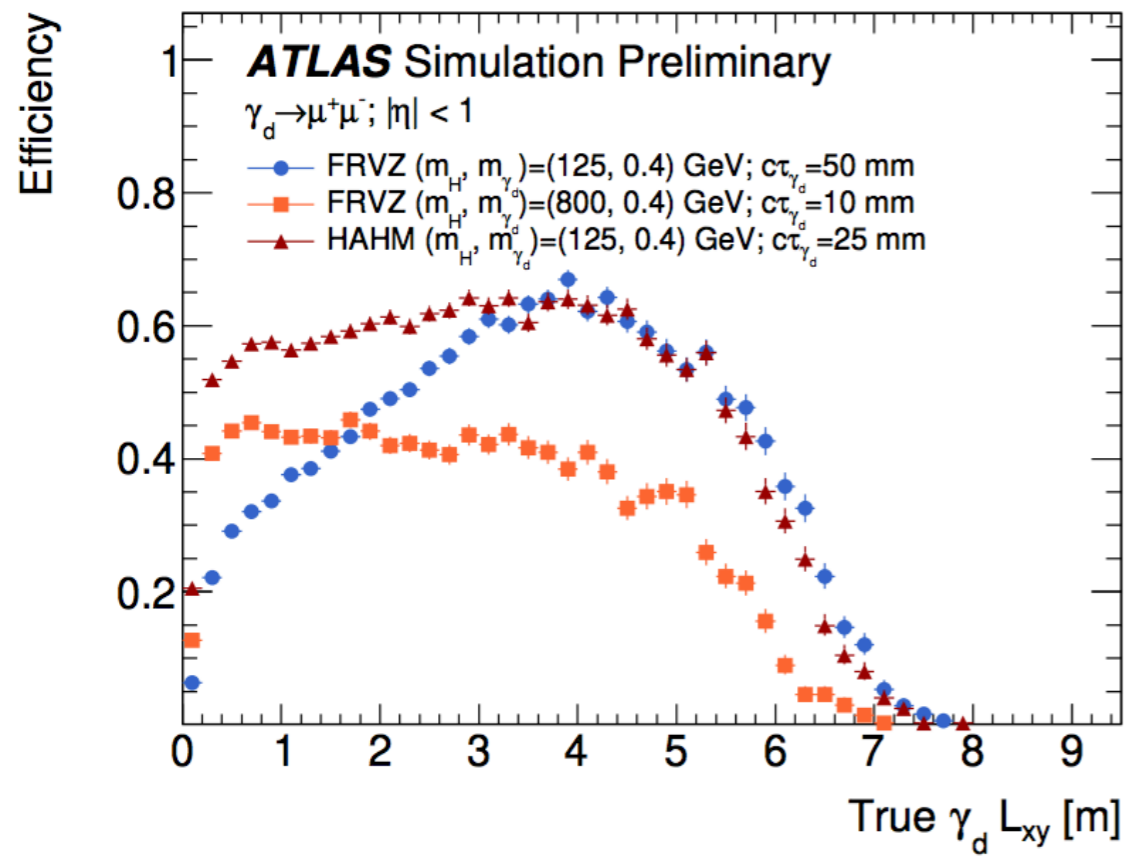
# EXTRA SLIDES

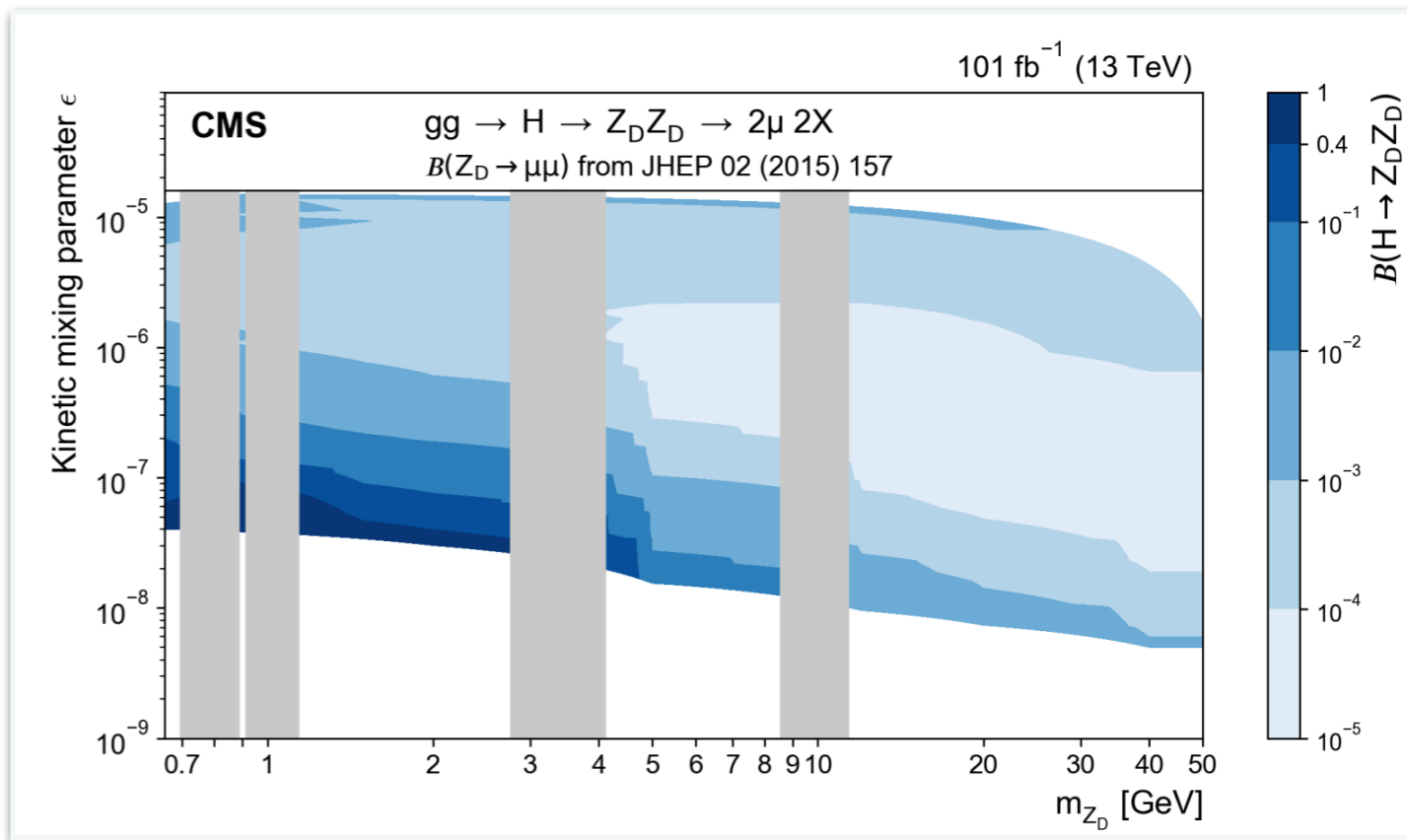
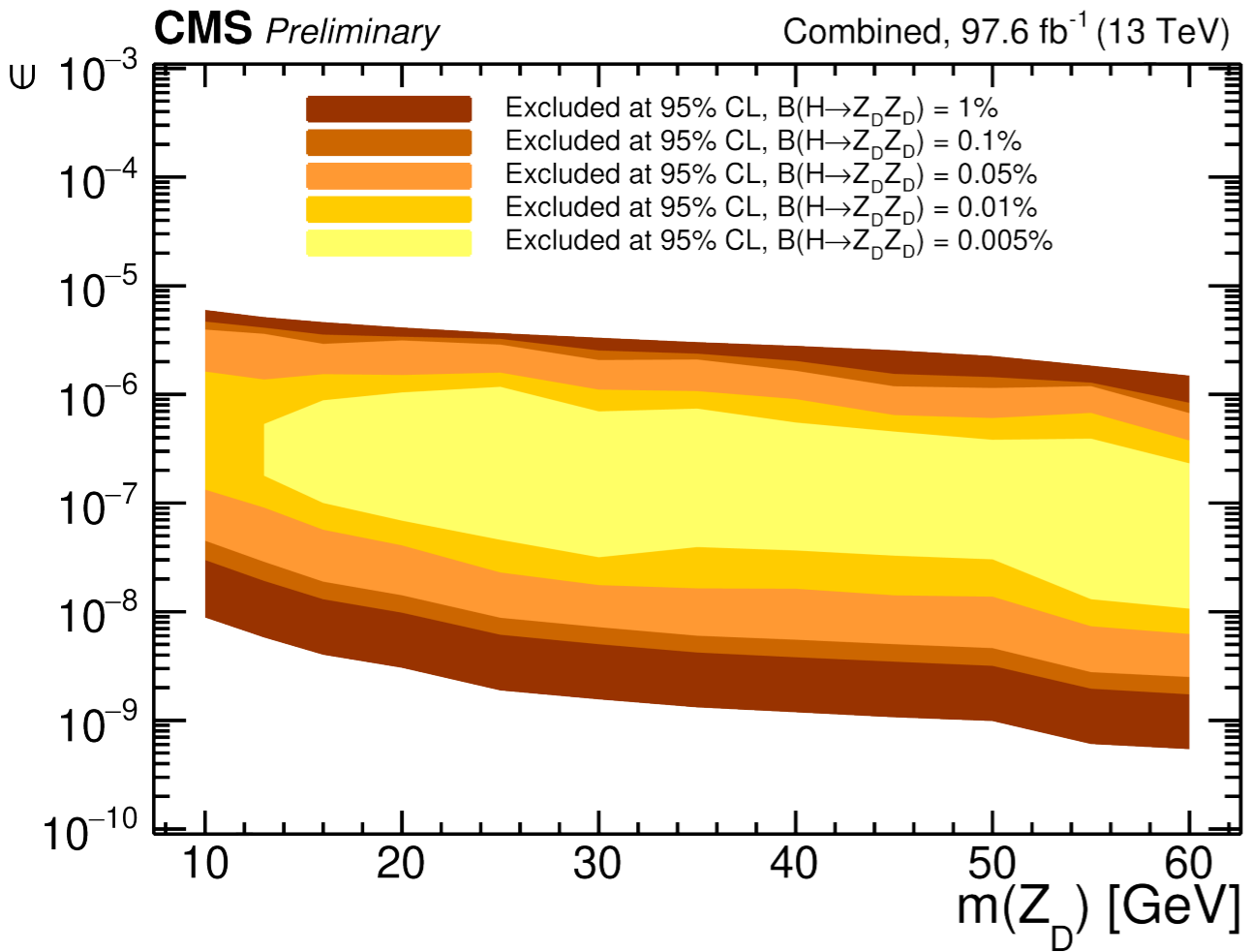


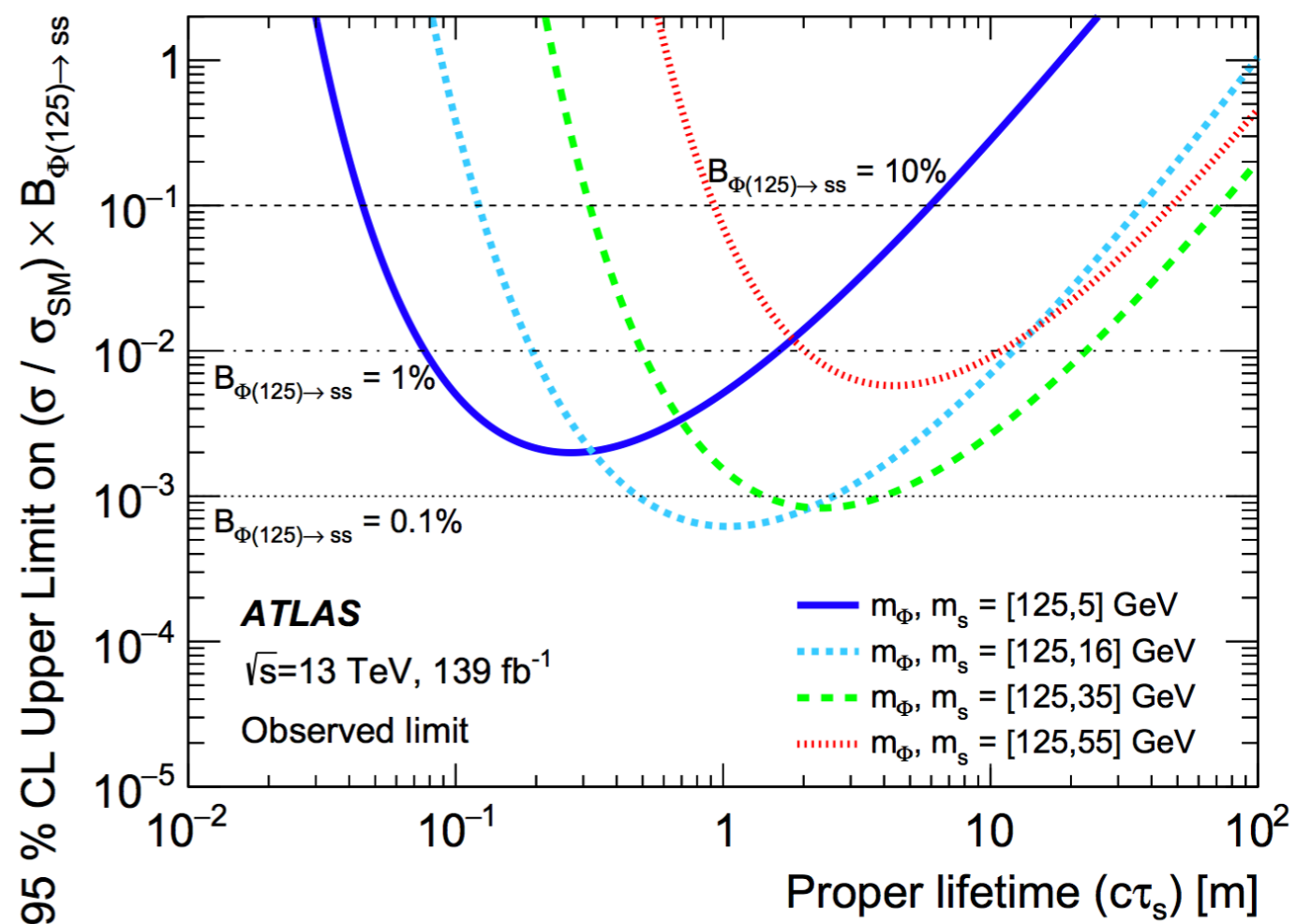
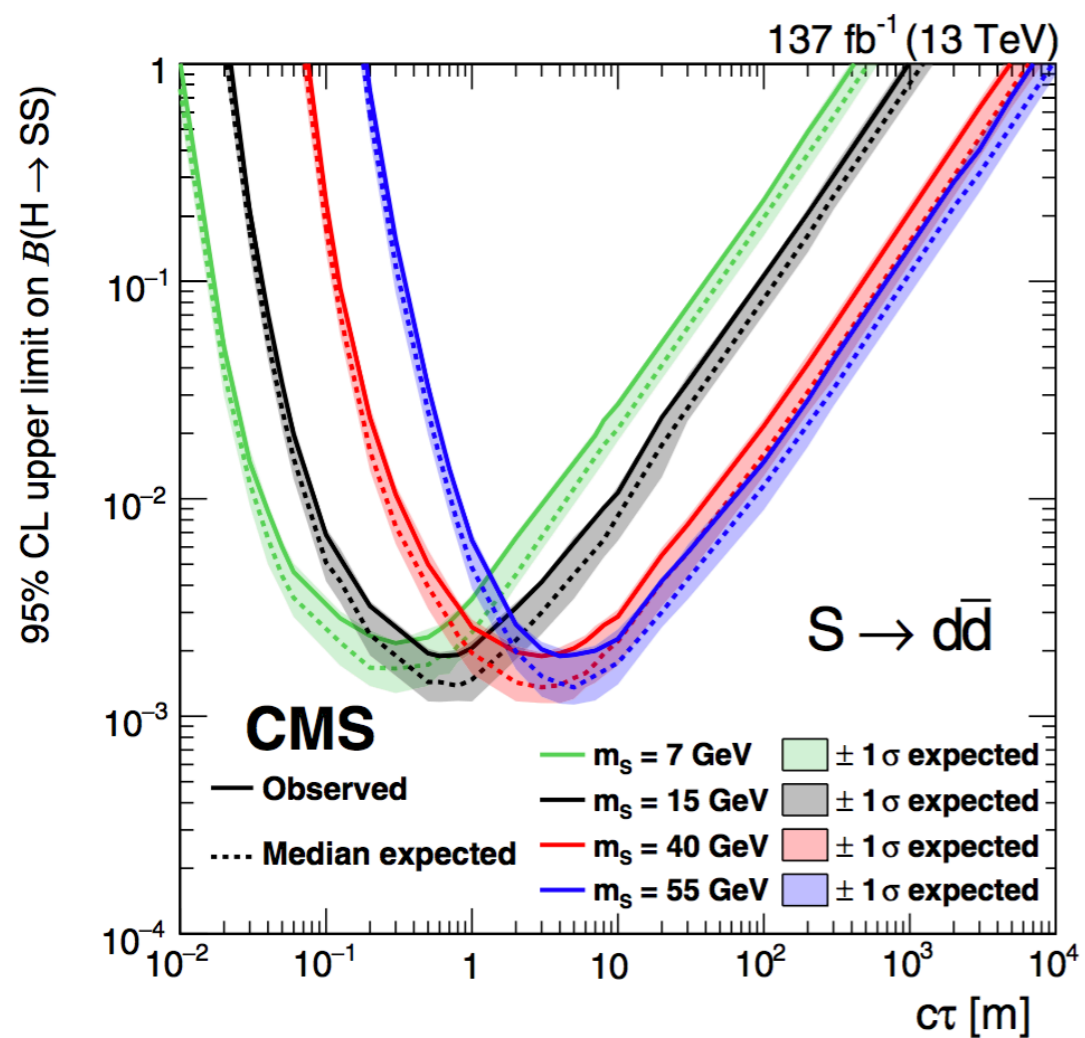
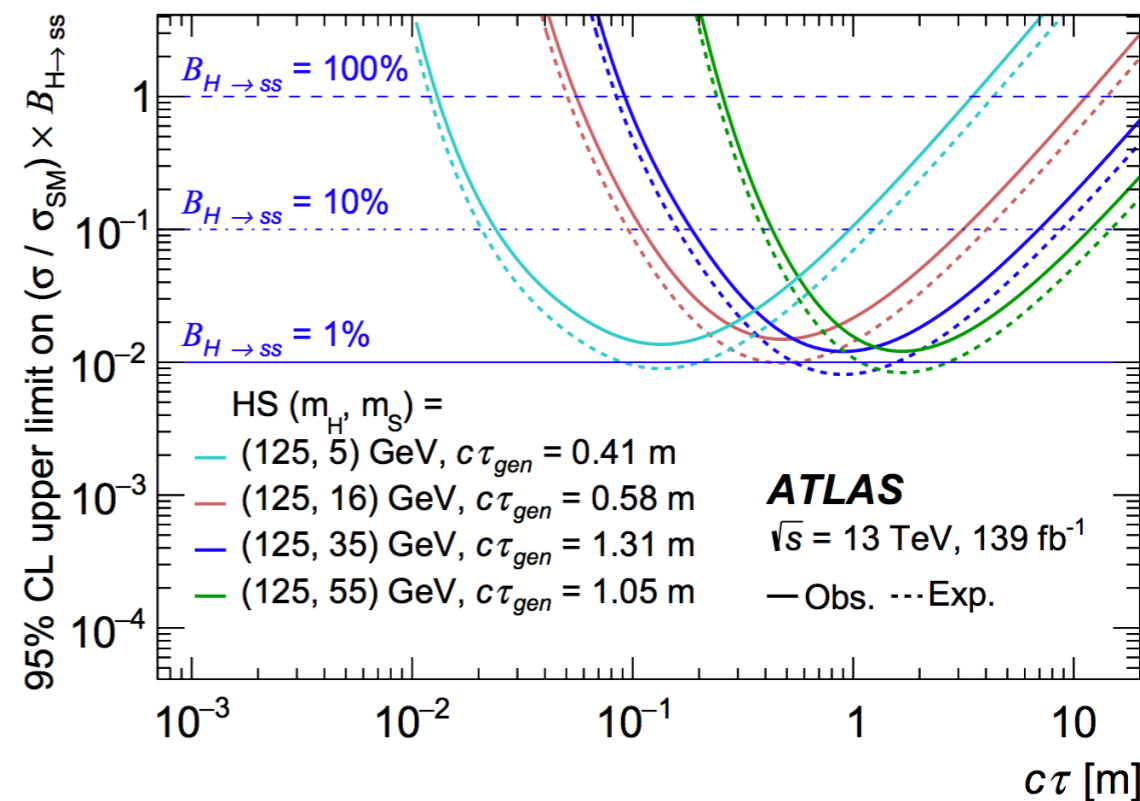
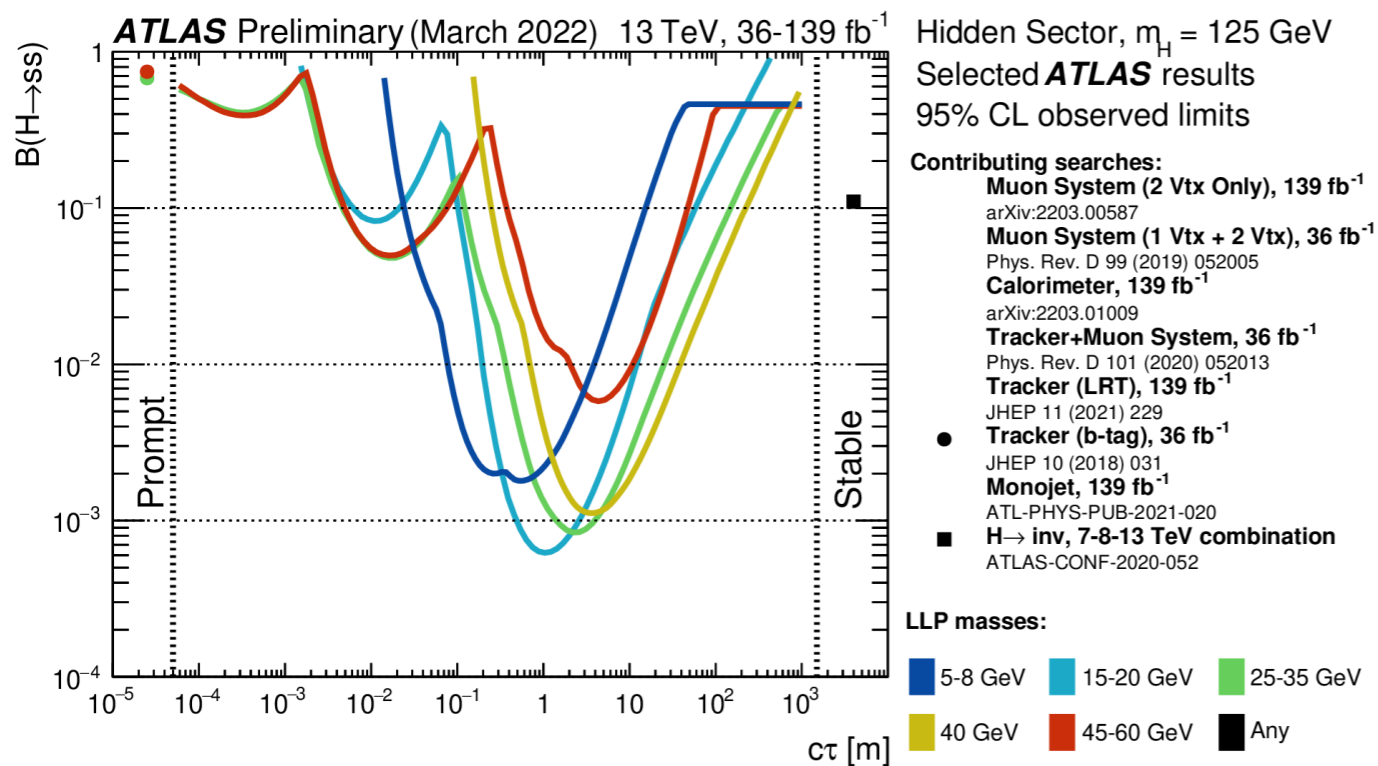
# SEARCH FOR DISPLACED LEPTON-JET (ATLAS)



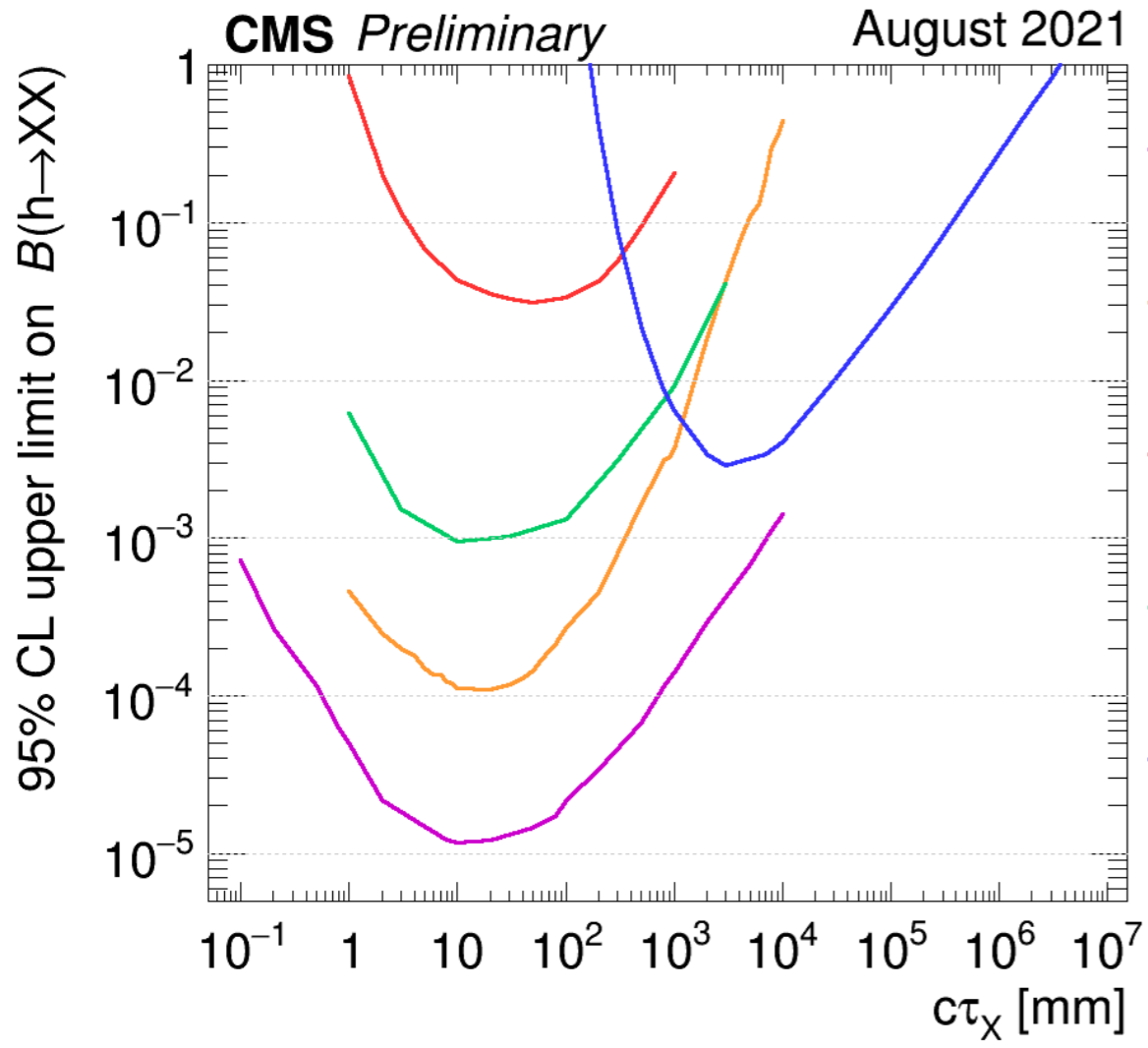












<https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/CMSPublic/SummaryPlotsEXO13TeV>

