

# Dark photon searches with CMS

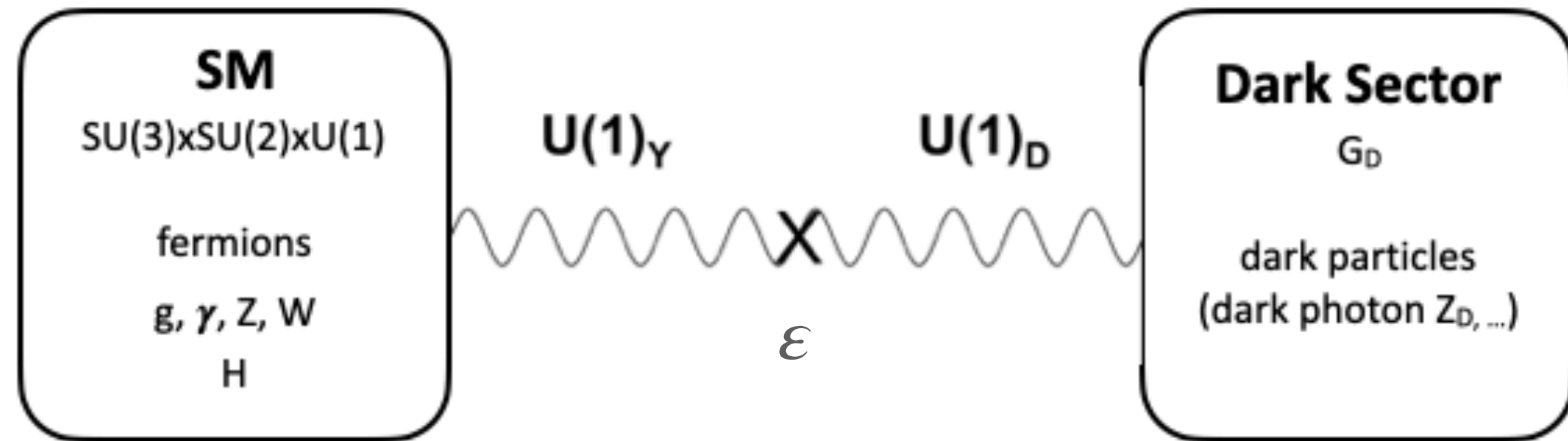
Simranjit S. Chhibra<sup>1\*</sup> on behalf of the CMS collaboration

<sup>1</sup>CERN

33<sup>rd</sup> Rencontres de Blois, 22–27 May 2022

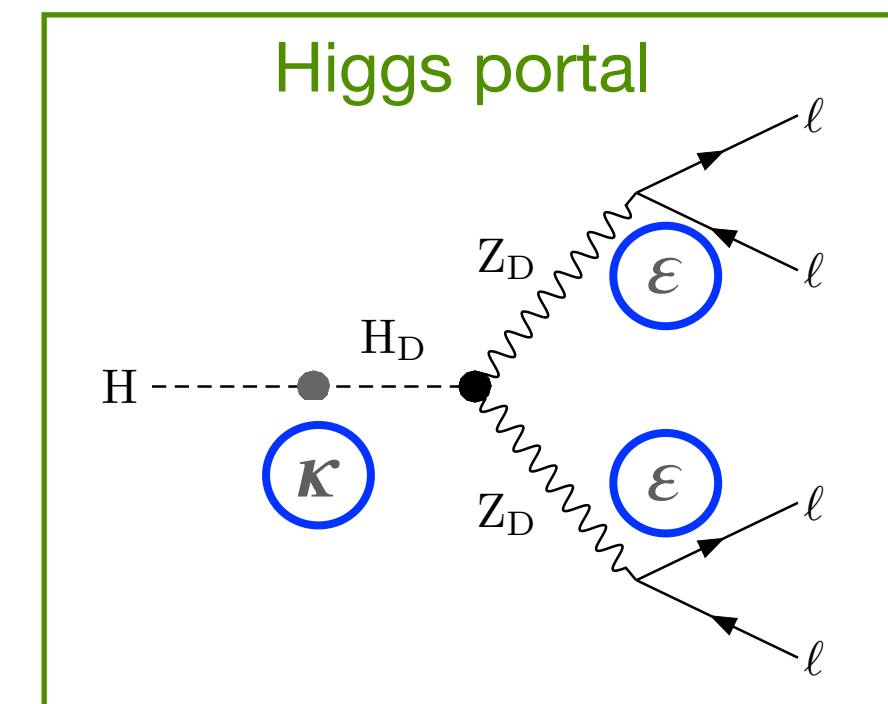
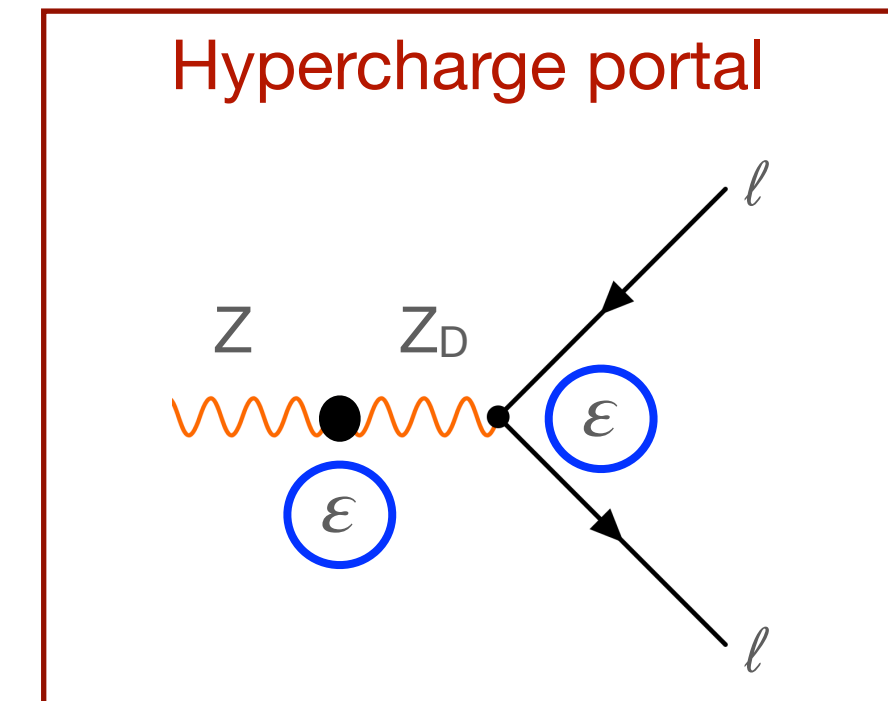
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1133536/>

# Physics motivation



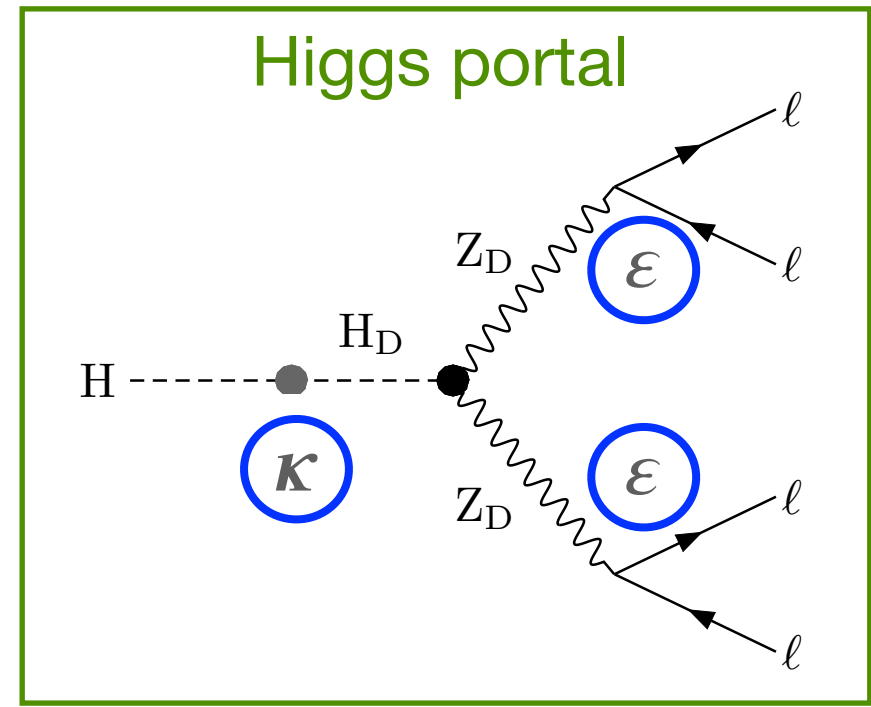
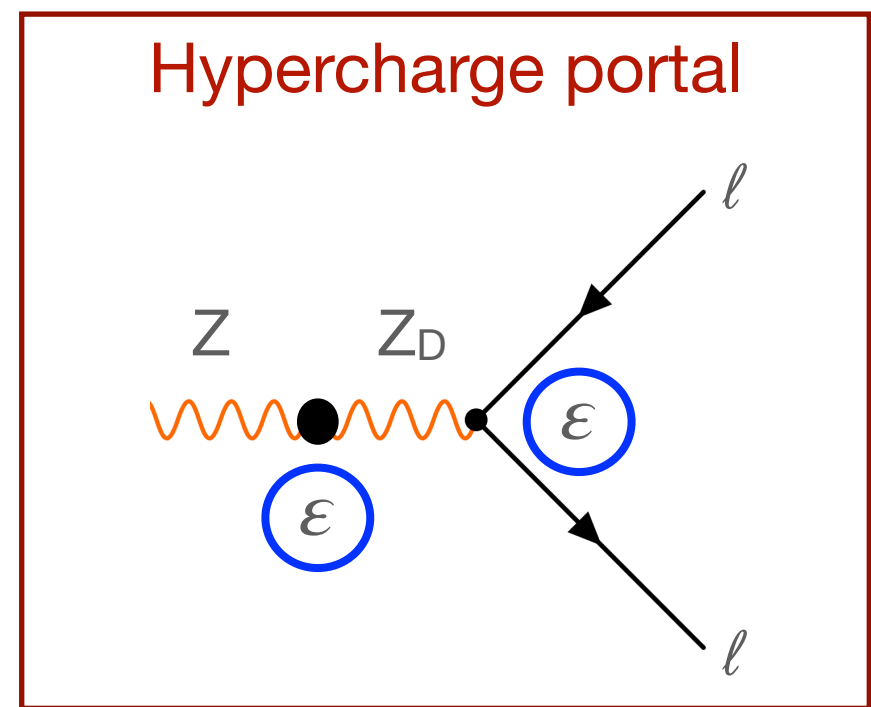
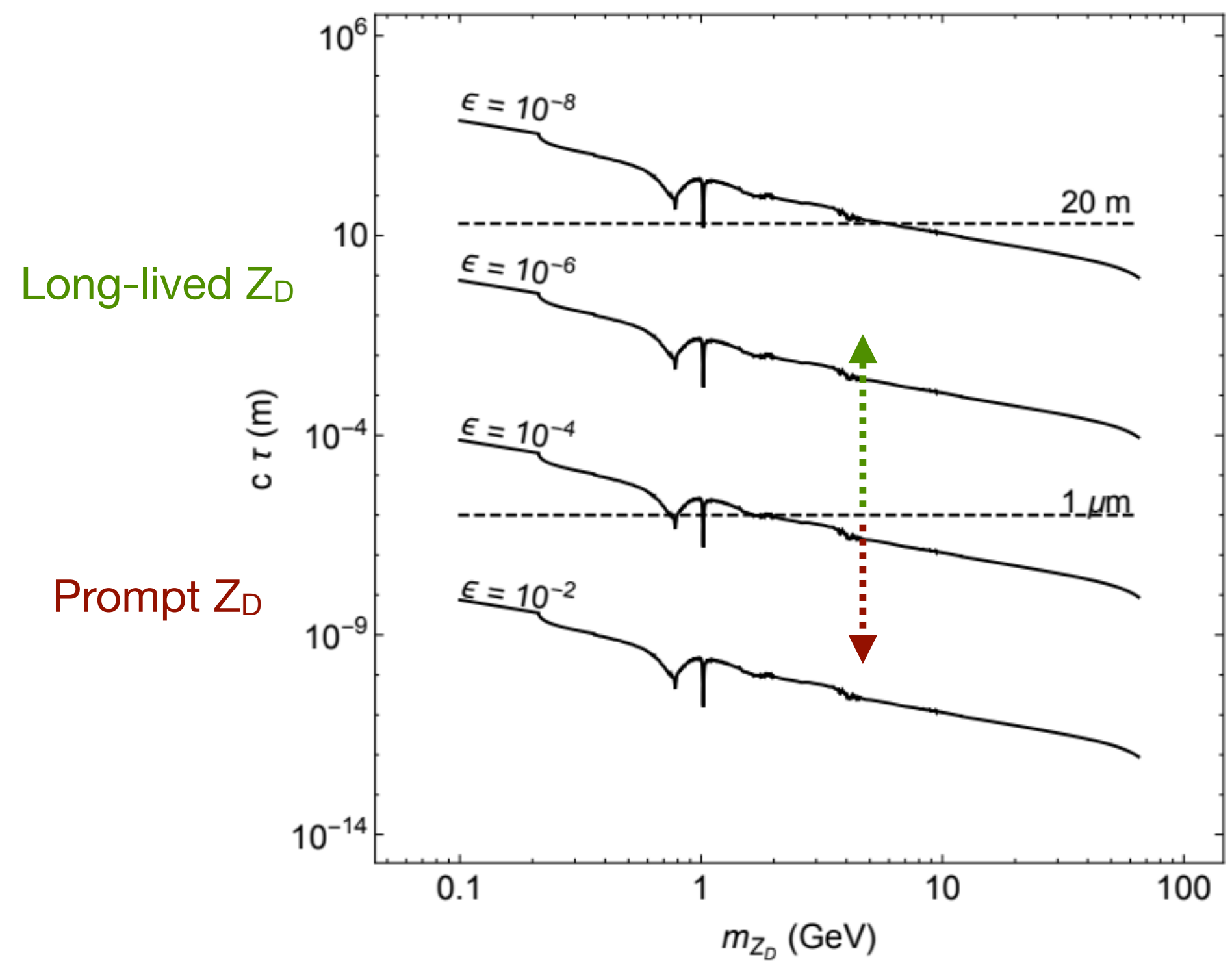
$$\mathcal{L} \subset -\frac{1}{4} \hat{B}_{\mu\nu} \hat{B}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} \hat{Z}_{D\mu\nu} \hat{Z}_D^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\epsilon}{\cos\theta} \hat{Z}_{D\mu\nu} \hat{B}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} m_{D,0}^2 \hat{Z}_D^\mu \hat{Z}_{D\mu}$$

Kinetic-mixing term



- Like a photon of electromagnetism, dark photon ( $Z_D$  or  $A'$ ) mediates an interaction, arising from a  $U(1)_D$  gauge symmetry, between particles of the dark sector
- The SM coupling to the dark sector is described via the gauge invariant kinetic-mixing term
- The  $Z_D$  interaction with SM fermions is similar to that of a photon or a Z boson and its coupling with them is proportional to  $\epsilon$

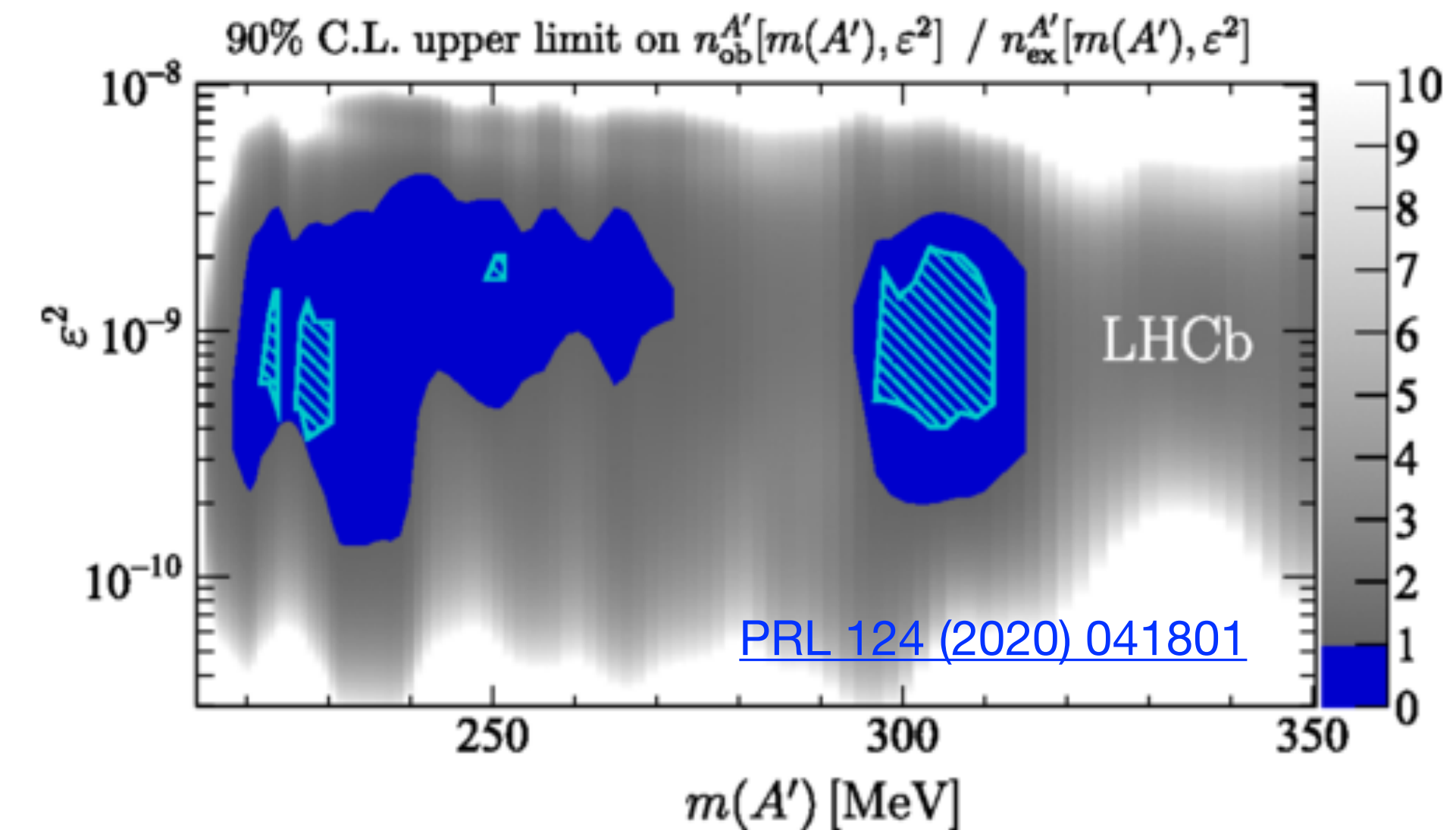
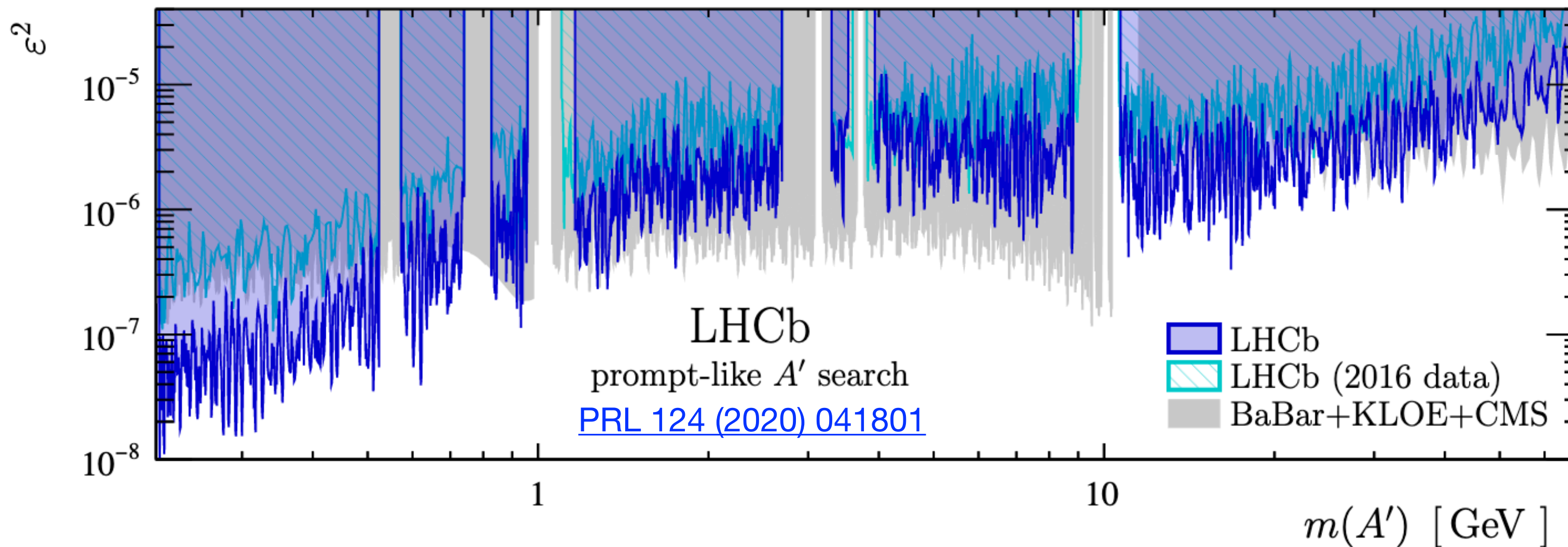
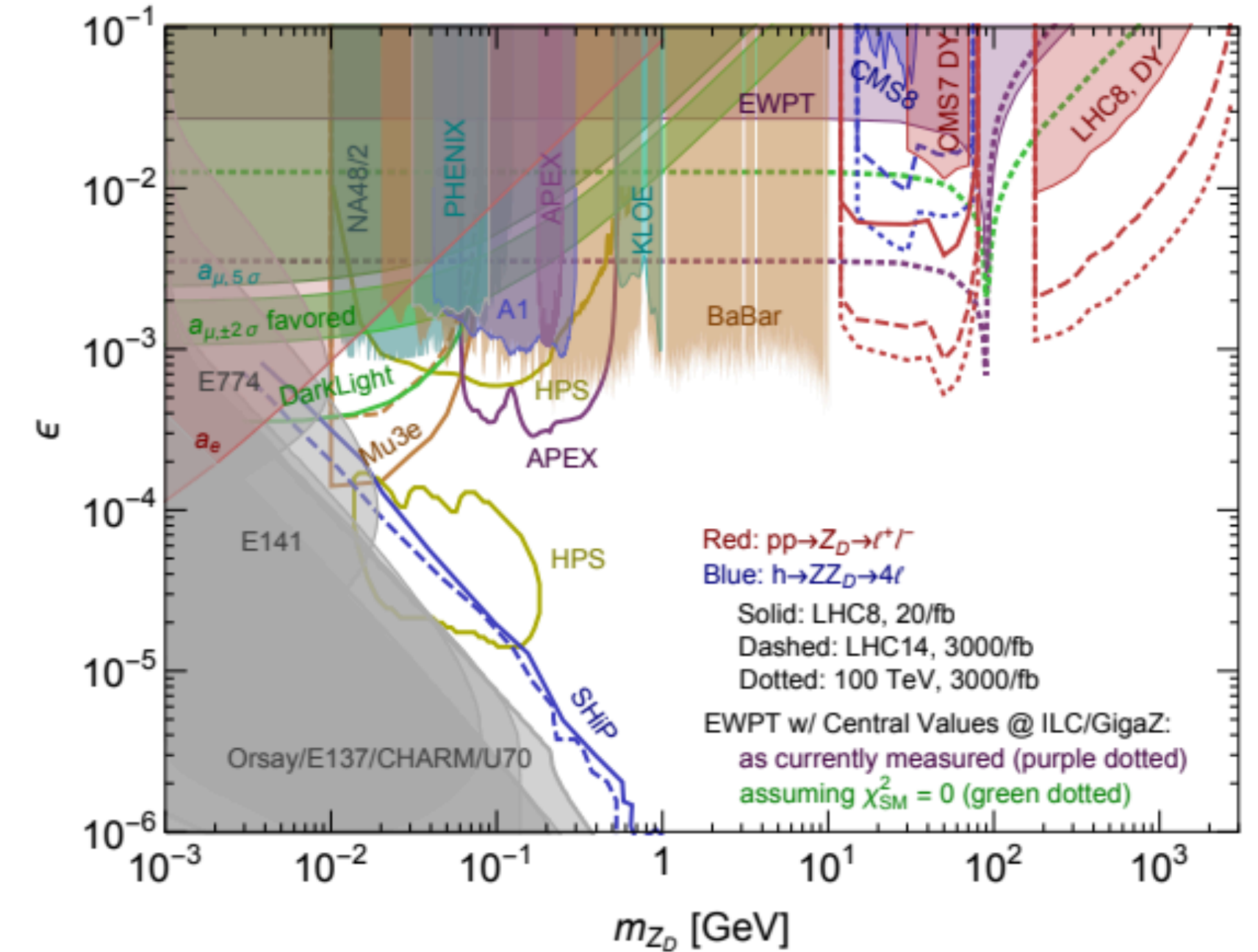
# $Z_D$ decay length





# Experimental search status

- Exclusion limits in  $[m_{Z_D}, \epsilon(\epsilon^2)]$  parameter space
- **[0.02, 10.2] GeV:** BaBar has put the strongest limits so far,  $\epsilon \sim 10^{-3}$
- **> 10 GeV:**  $\epsilon \sim 3 \times 10^{-2}$  from the EWPT measurements from LEP
- **[0.2, 70] GeV:**  $\epsilon^2 \sim 10^{-7} - 10^{-5}$  from LHCb
- LHCb places world-leading constraints on a low-mass long-lived dark photon





# The CMS experiment

## CMS DETECTOR

Total weight : 14,000 tonnes  
 Overall diameter : 15.0 m  
 Overall length : 28.7 m  
 Magnetic field : 3.8 T

STEEL RETURN YOKE  
 12,500 tonnes

SILICON TRACKERS  
 Pixel (100x150  $\mu\text{m}$ )  $\sim 16\text{m}^2 \sim 66\text{M}$  channels  
 Microstrips (80x180  $\mu\text{m}$ )  $\sim 200\text{m}^2 \sim 9.6\text{M}$  channels

SUPERCONDUCTING SOLENOID  
 Niobium titanium coil carrying  $\sim 18,000\text{A}$

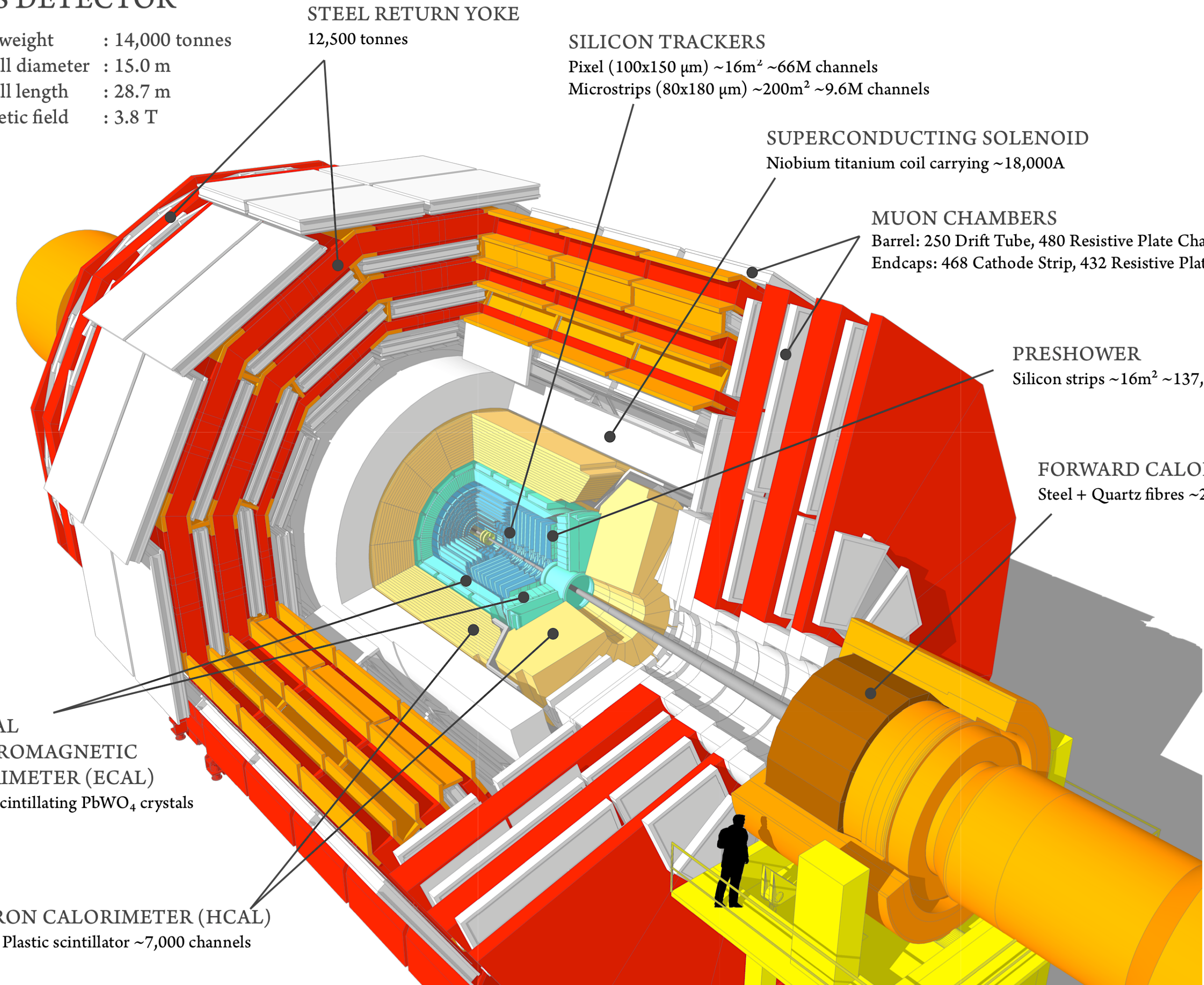
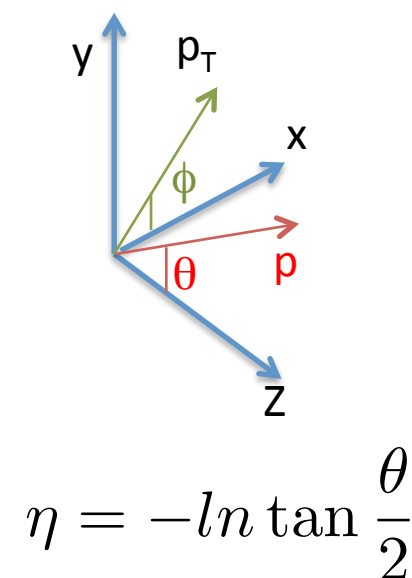
MUON CHAMBERS  
 Barrel: 250 Drift Tube, 480 Resistive Plate Chambers  
 Endcaps: 468 Cathode Strip, 432 Resistive Plate Chambers

PRESHOWER  
 Silicon strips  $\sim 16\text{m}^2 \sim 137,000$  channels

FORWARD CALORIMETER  
 Steel + Quartz fibres  $\sim 2,000$  Channels

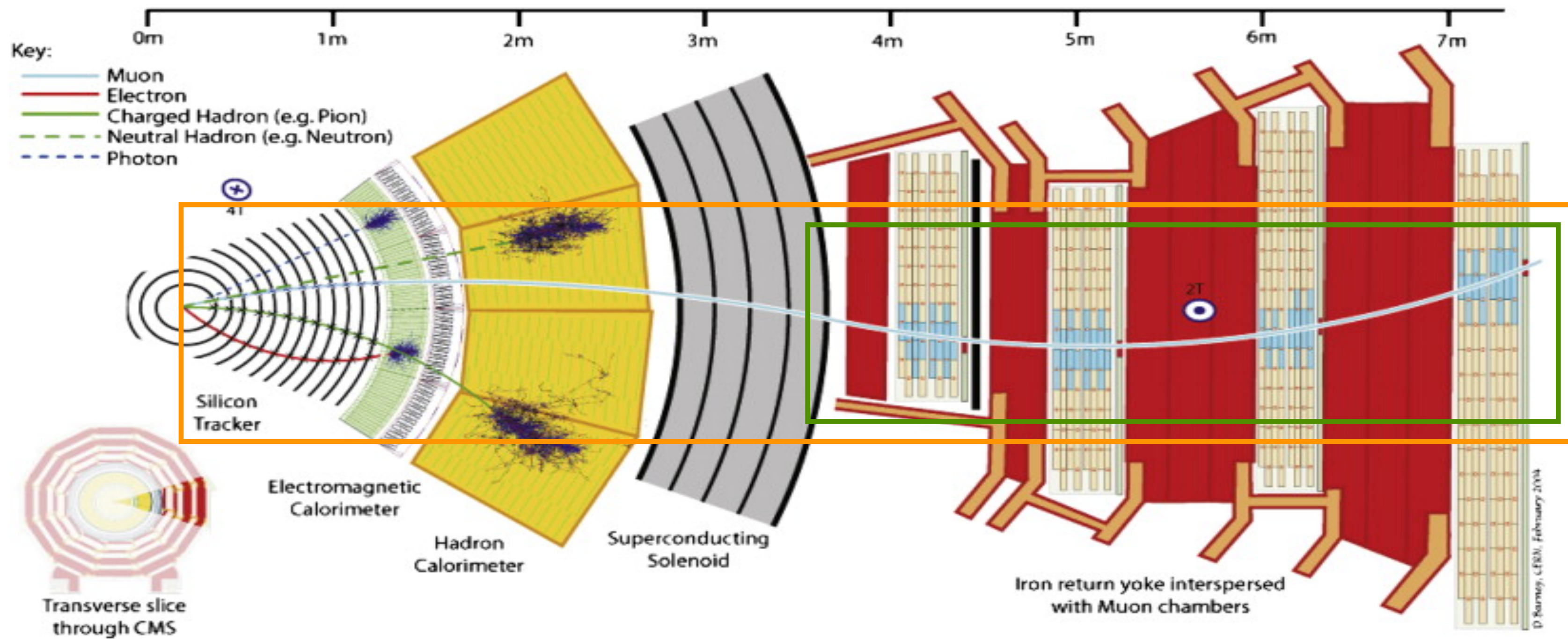
CRYSTAL ELECTROMAGNETIC CALORIMETER (ECAL)  
 $\sim 76,000$  scintillating  $\text{PbWO}_4$  crystals

HADRON CALORIMETER (HCAL)  
 Brass + Plastic scintillator  $\sim 7,000$  channels

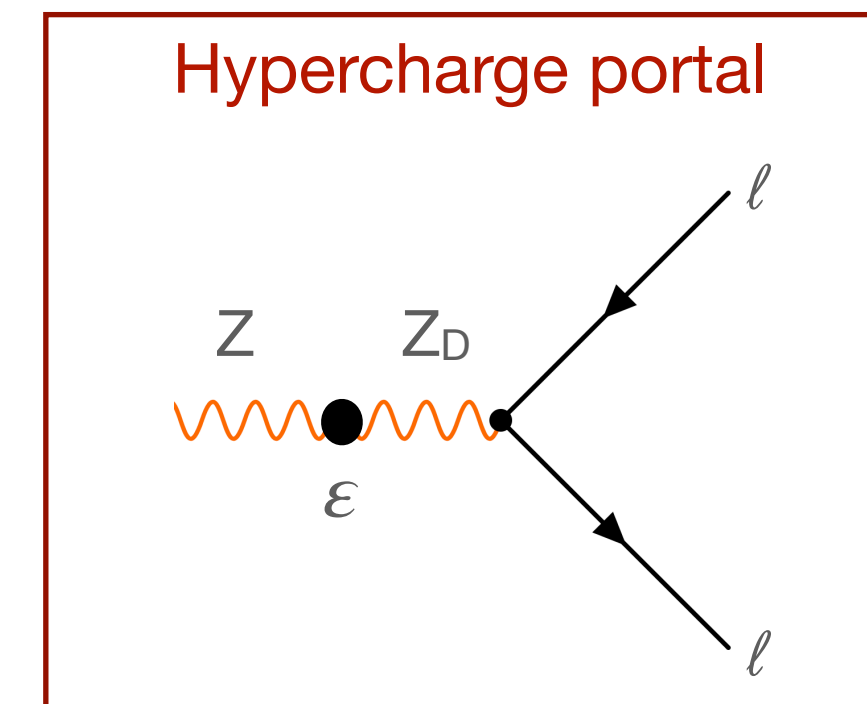
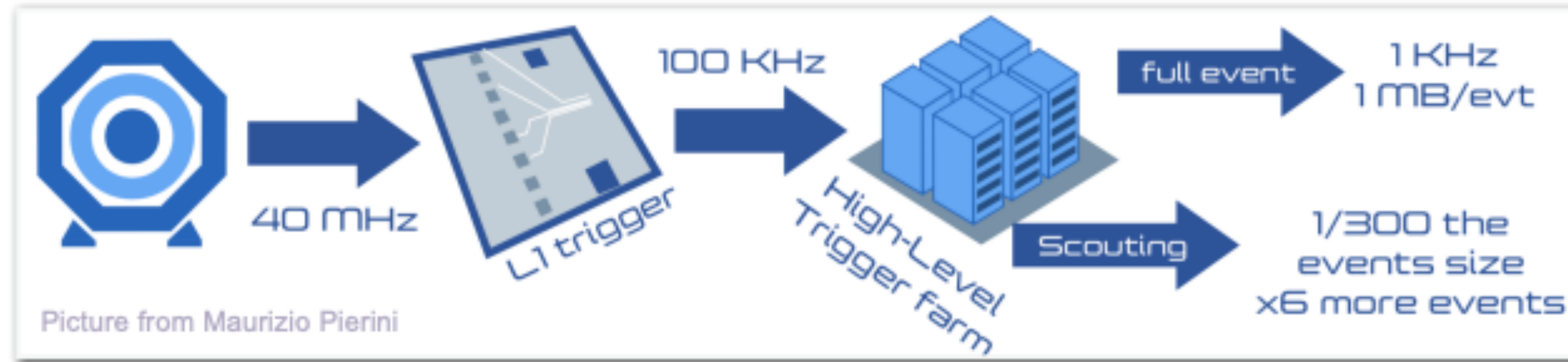




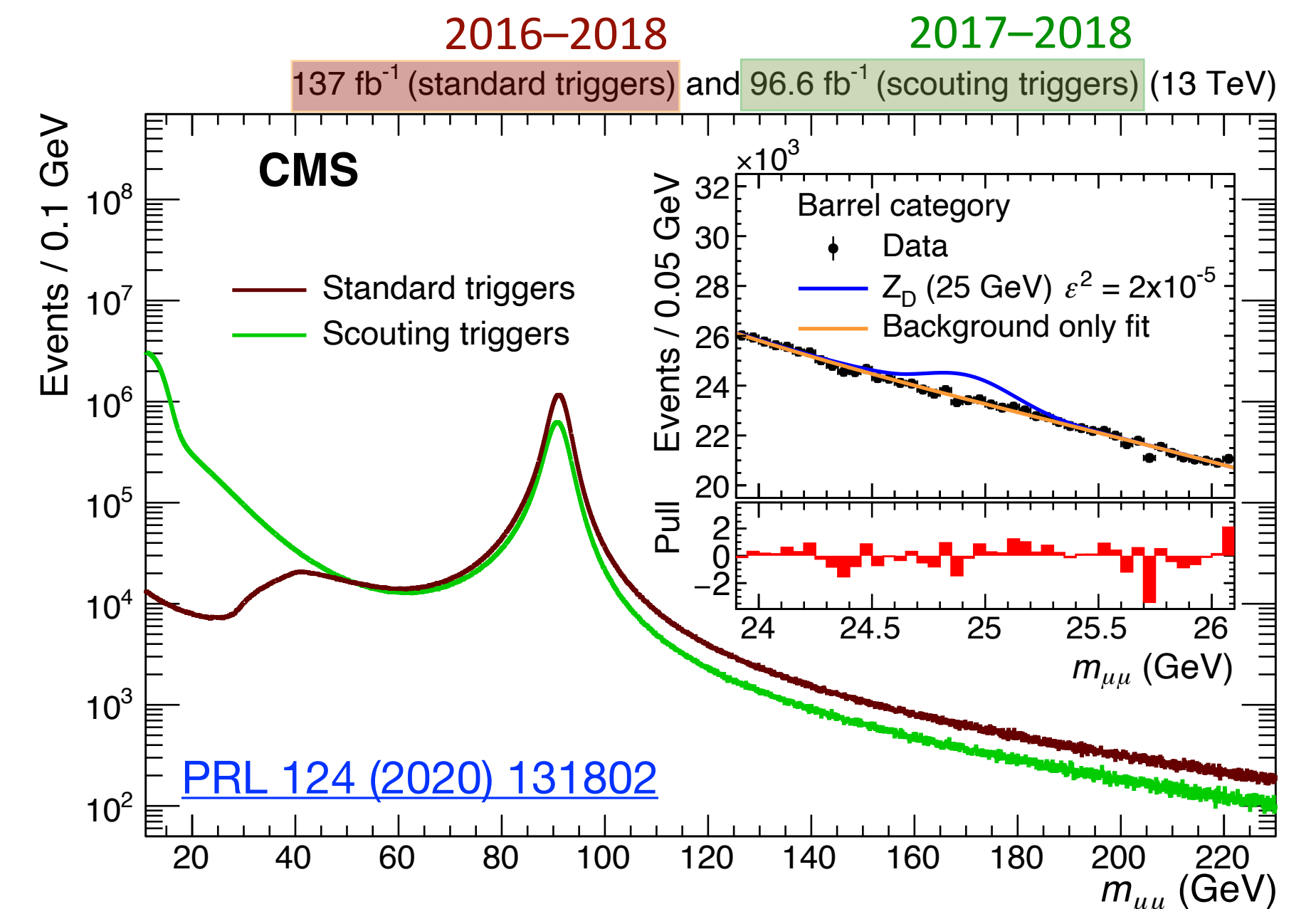
# Particles' signature in CMS



# Prompt dark photon search



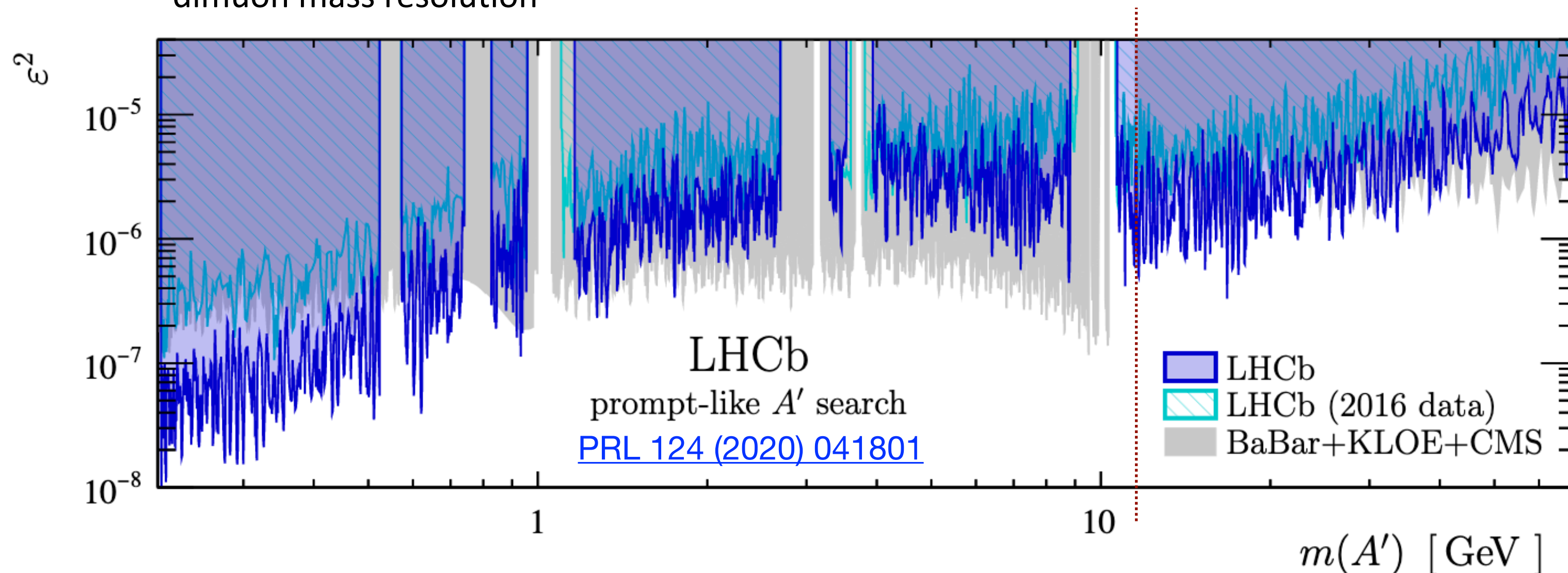
- *Scouting dimuon triggers*, deployed during LHC run 2 (2017–2018), requiring two muons with  $p_T > 3$  GeV in an event, allowed to explore otherwise inaccessible  $11.5 \text{ GeV} < m_{Z_D} < 45 \text{ GeV}$
- For  $45 \text{ GeV} < m_{Z_D} < 200 \text{ GeV}$ , *standard dimuon triggers* (requiring two muons with  $p_T > 17, 8$  GeV @ the HLT) data was analysed



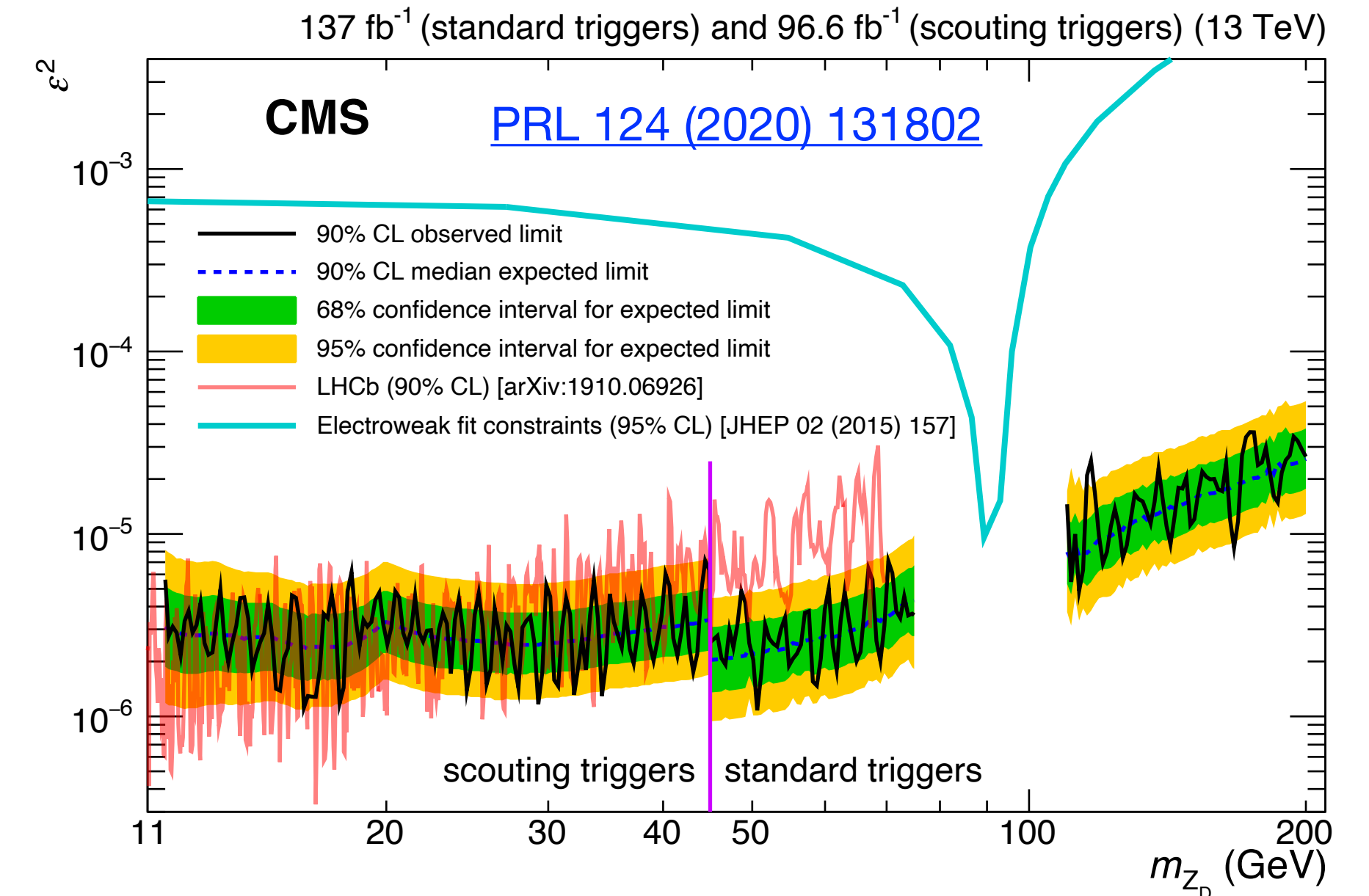


# Prompt dark photon search

- Search for a narrow resonance peak in dimuon mass spectrum
  - Event selection: 2 identified and isolated opposite-charge muons
    - $p_T > 4 \text{ GeV}$  &&  $|\eta| < 1.9$  ( $11.5 \text{ GeV} < m_{Z_D} < 45 \text{ GeV}$ )
    - $p_T > 20, 10 \text{ GeV}$  &&  $|\eta| < 1.9$  ( $45 \text{ GeV} < m_{Z_D} < 200 \text{ GeV}$ )
  - Main backgrounds:
    - $< Z$  peak: Drell-Yan, non-prompt muons and fake muons
    - $> Z$  peak: Drell-Yan and  $t\bar{t}$
  - For a signal mass hypothesis, a simultaneous binned maximum likelihood fit is performed in a mass window of  $+5(7)\sigma$  for scouting(standard) analysis to extract the signal, where  $\sigma$  is dimuon mass resolution



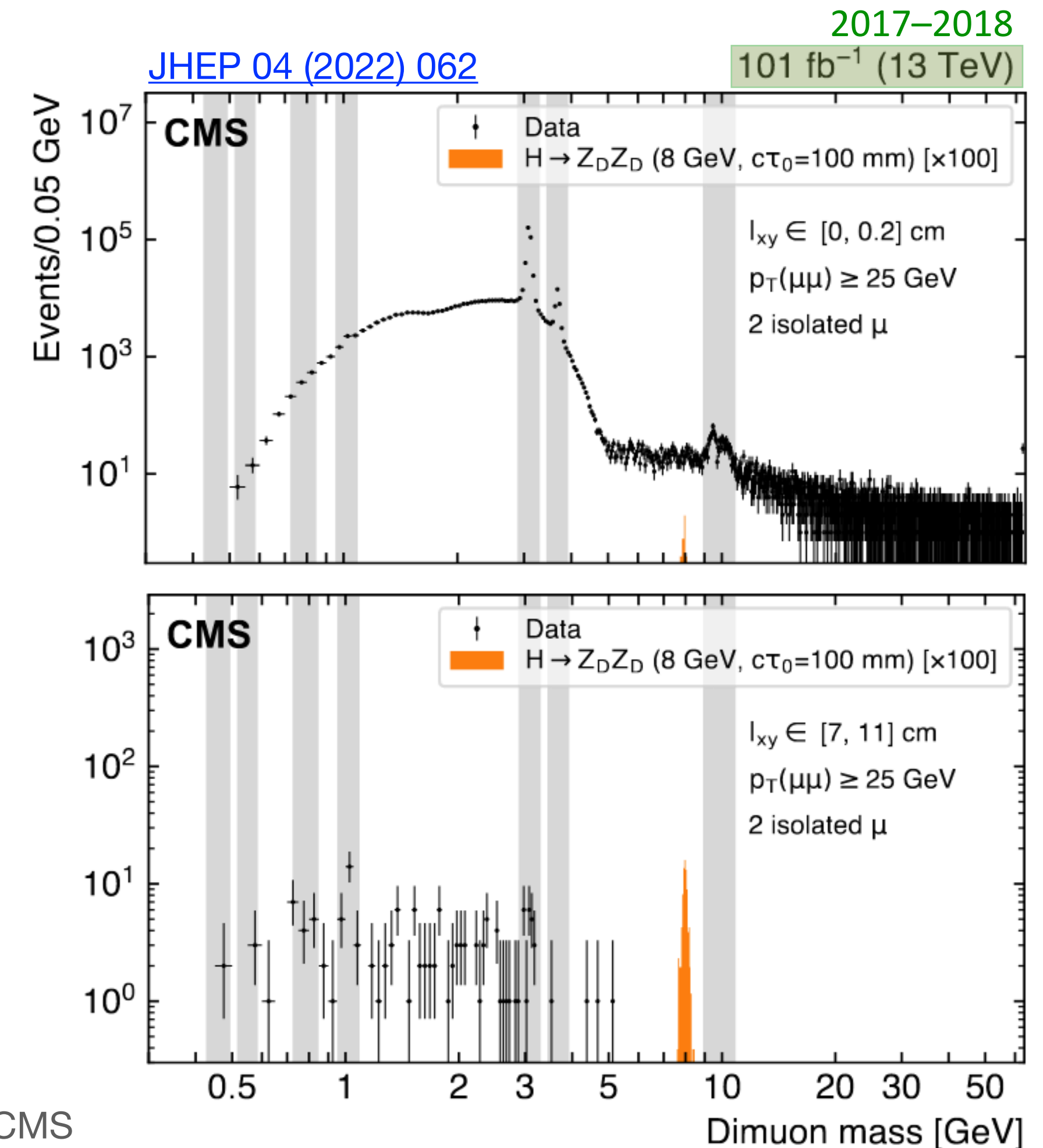
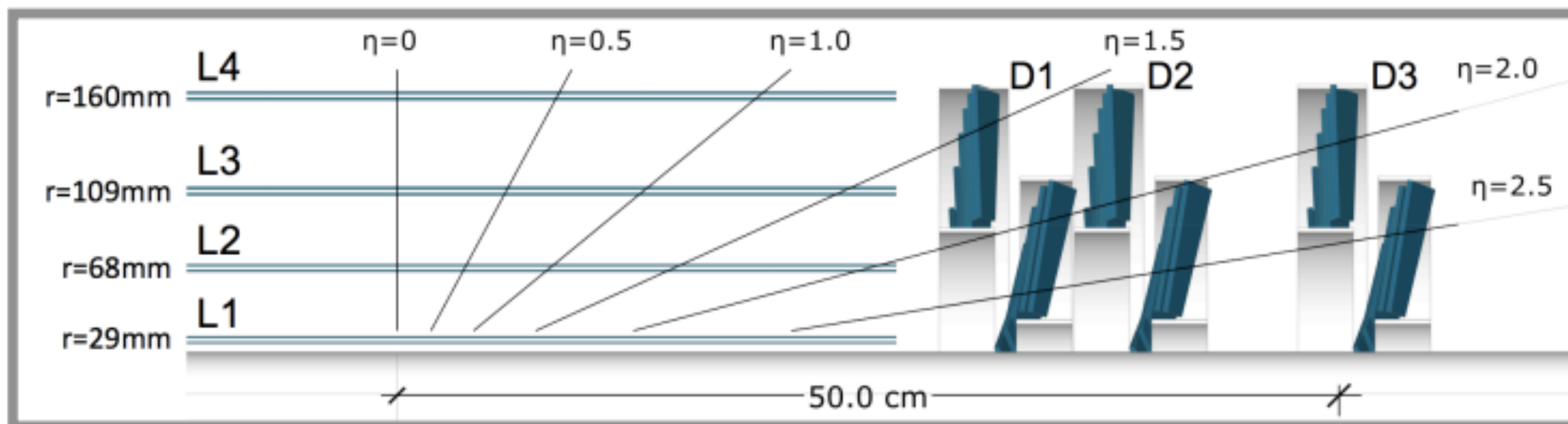
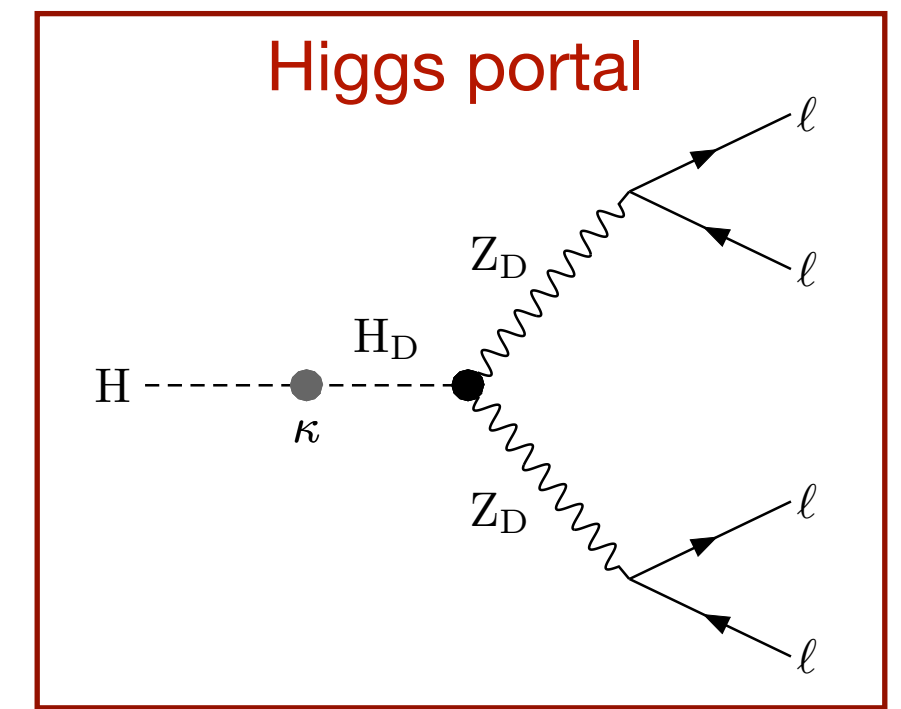
**Most stringent constraints to date in the  $\sim 30\text{--}75$  and  $110\text{--}200 \text{ GeV}$  mass ranges**





# Long-lived dark photon search

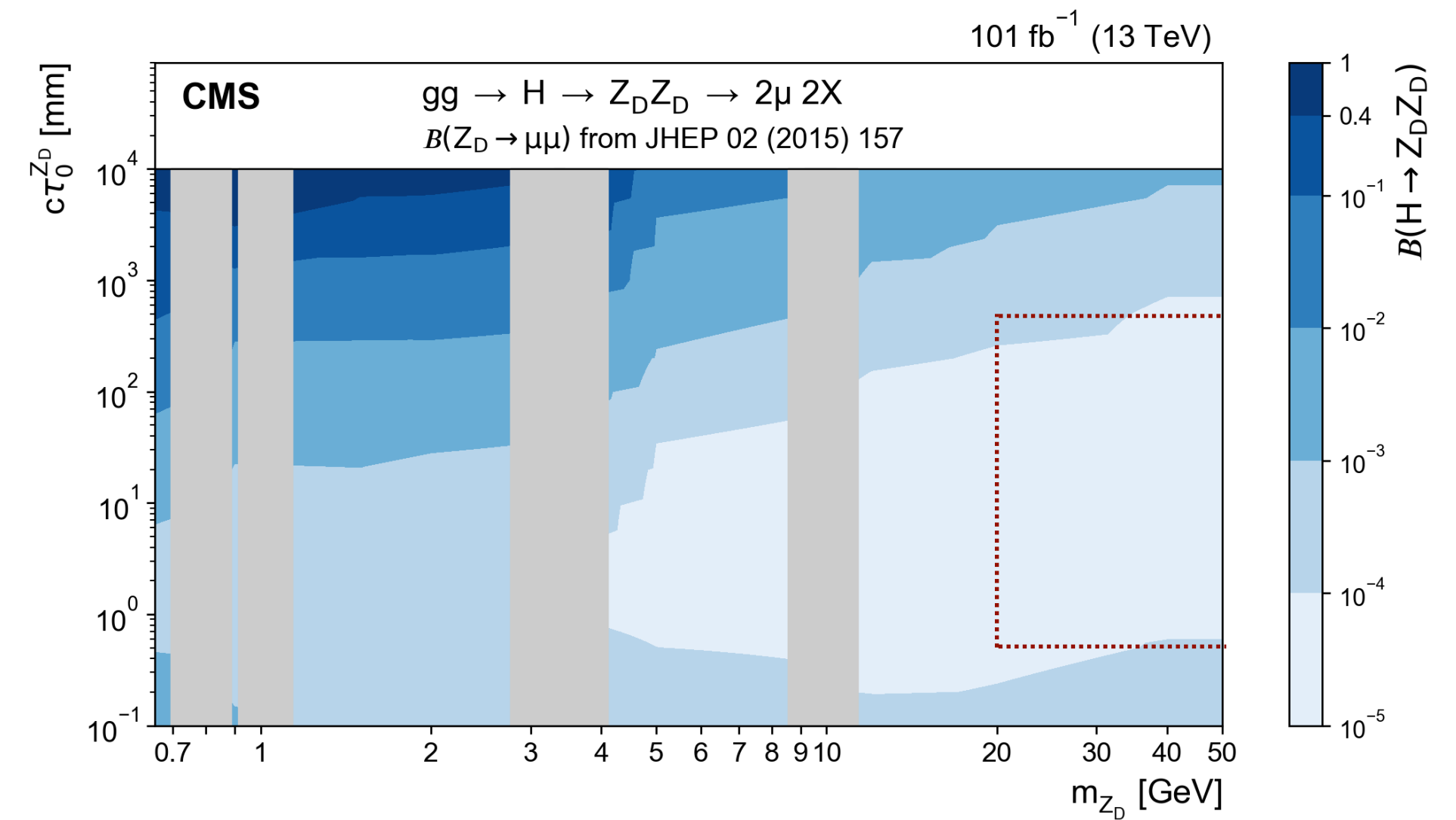
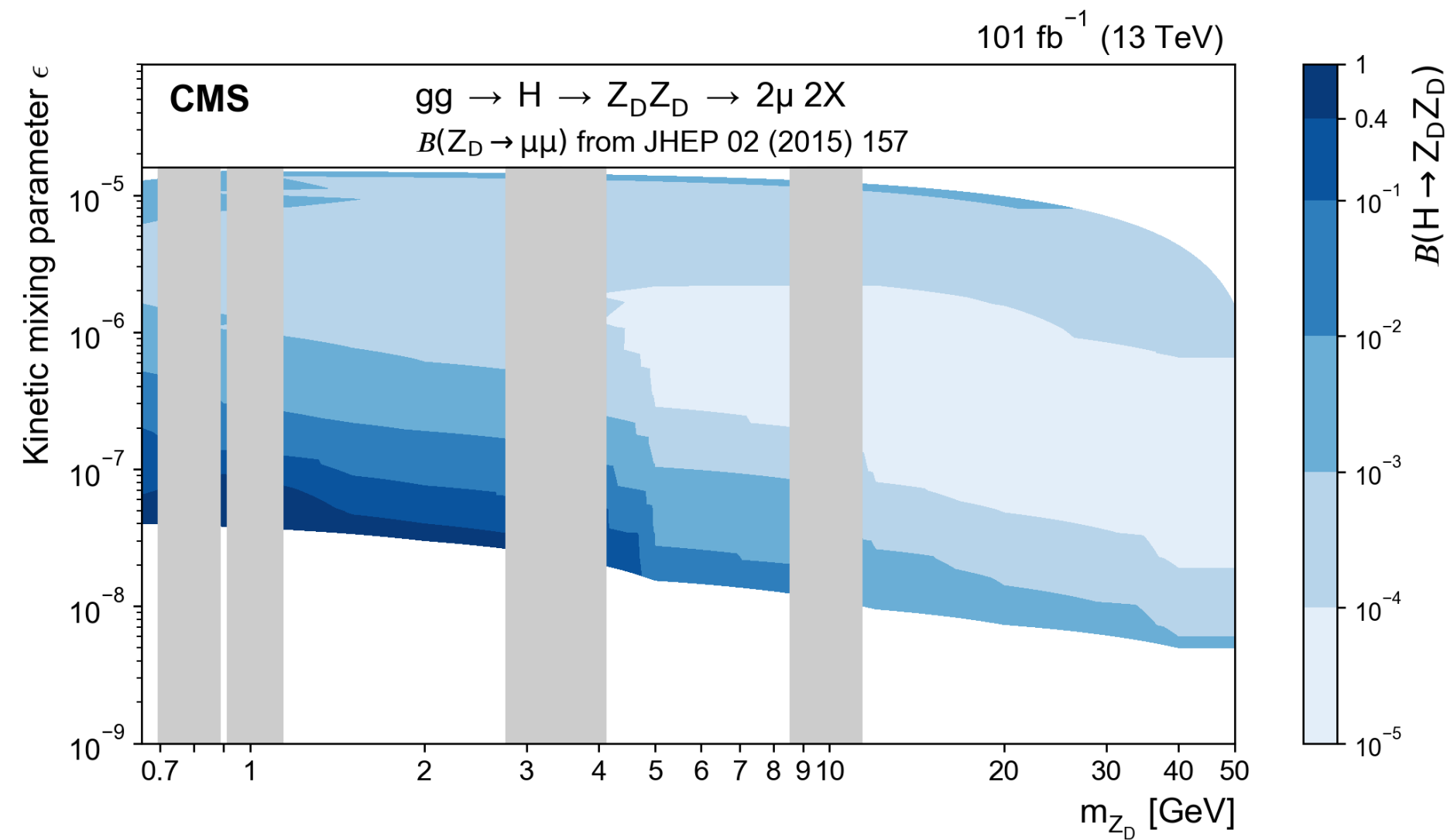
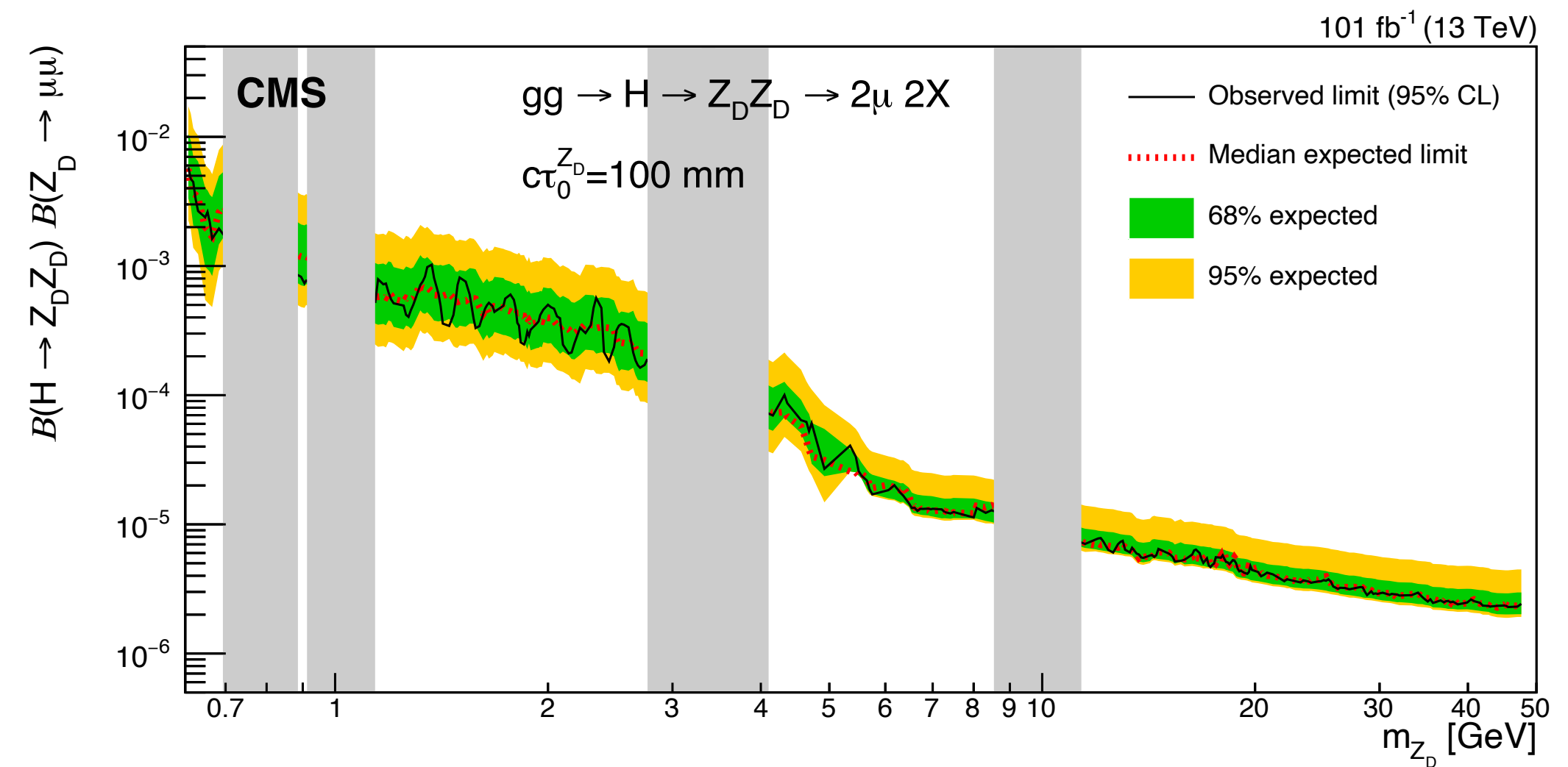
- $\sim 200 \text{ MeV} < m_{Z_D} < 50 \text{ GeV}$ ; transverse displacement  $l_{xy} < 11 \text{ cm}$  (imposed by scouting triggers)
- Scouting dimuon triggers data only
- Search for a narrow resonance peak in dimuon mass spectrum
  - Event selection: 2 identified and isolated opposite-charge muons
    - At least one pair of displaced muons ( $p_T > 10 \text{ GeV}$  &&  $|\eta| < 2.4$  &&  $\geq 2$  pixel-tracker hits) forming a secondary vertex (SV)
  - Event categorisation:
    - $l_{xy}$  bins (0, 0.2, 1, 2.4, 3.1, 7, 11) cm
    - $p_T^{\mu\mu}$ :  $< 25 \text{ GeV}$  or  $> 25 \text{ GeV}$
    - # isolated muons: 0, 1 or 2
  - For a signal mass hypothesis, a simultaneous binned maximum likelihood fit is performed in a mass window of  $\pm 5\sigma$  to extract the signal, where  $\sigma$  is dimuon mass resolution



# Long-lived dark photon search

[JHEP 04 \(2022\) 062](#)

Most stringent constraints to date for substantial regions of the parameter space

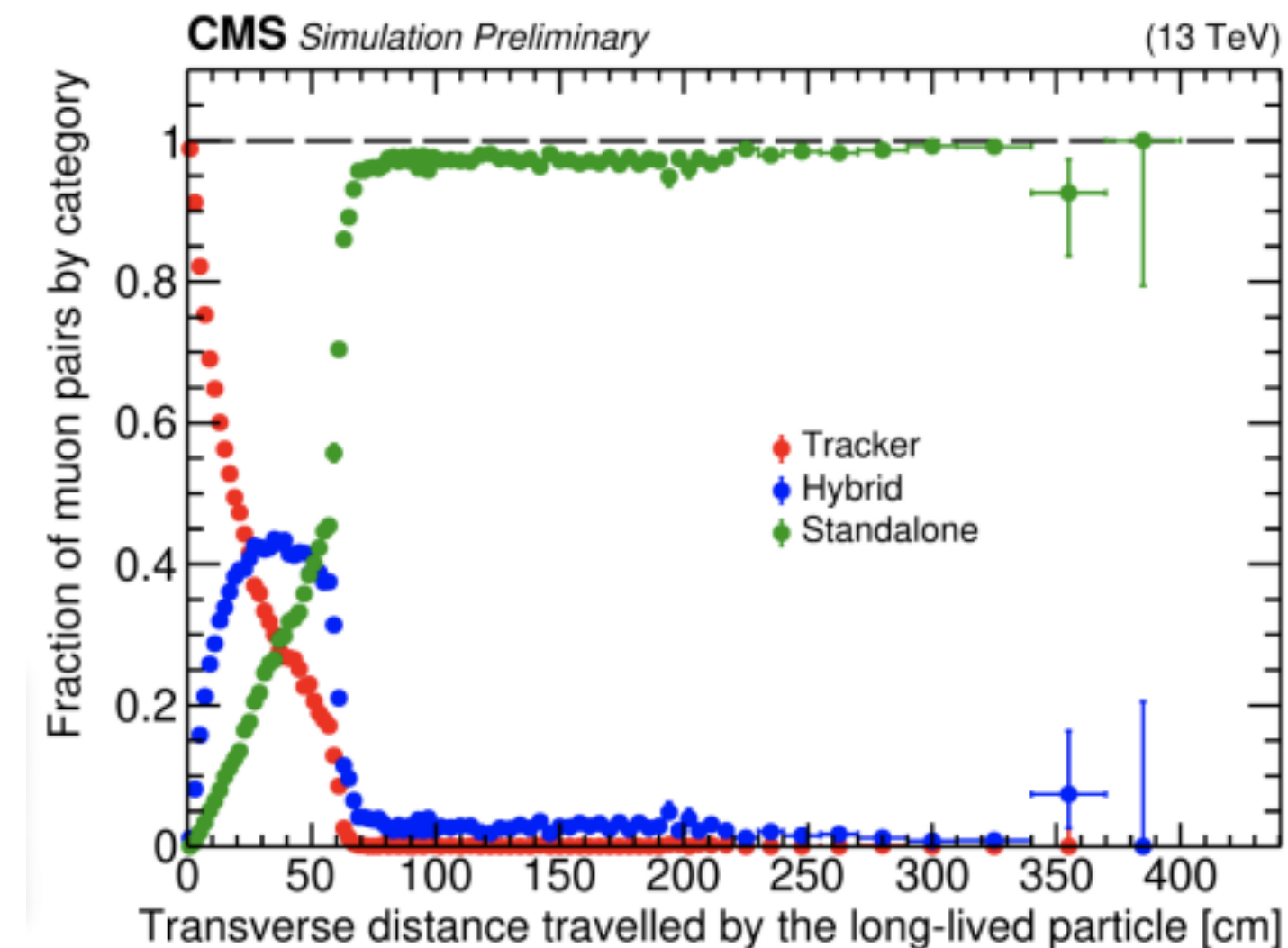
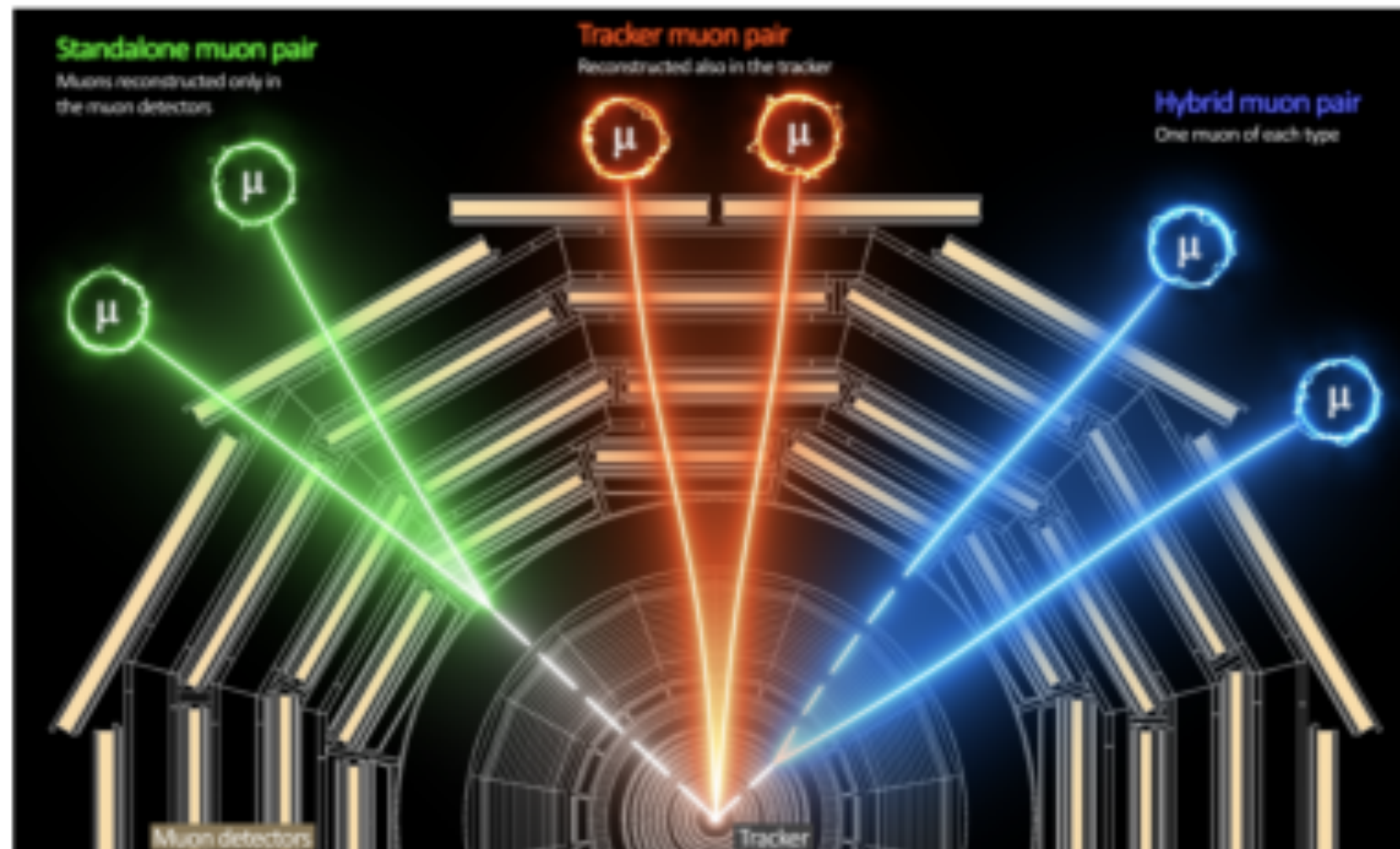
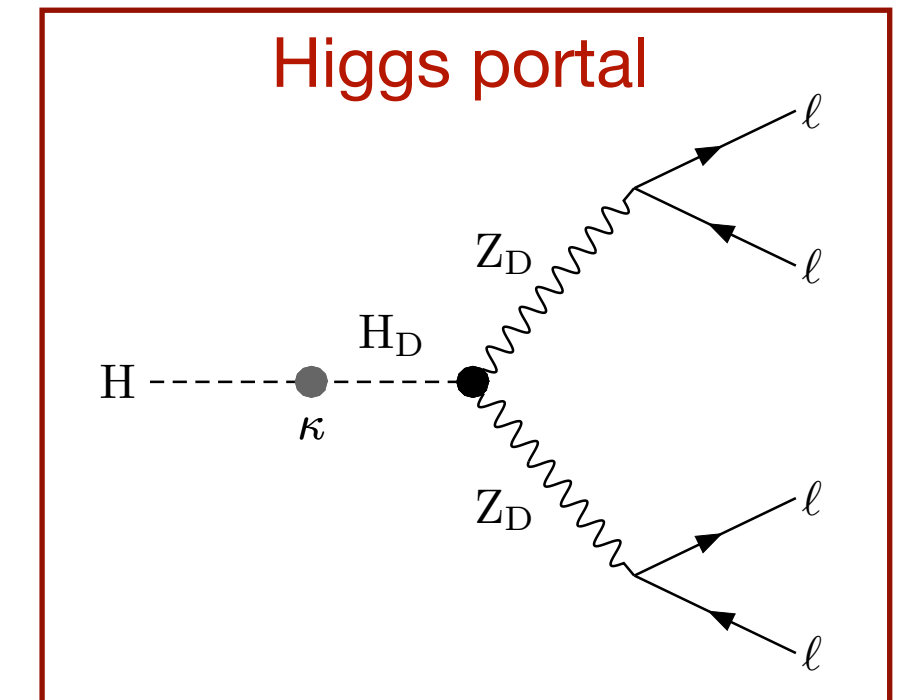




# Very long-lived dark photon search

[arXiv:2205.08582](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.08582)

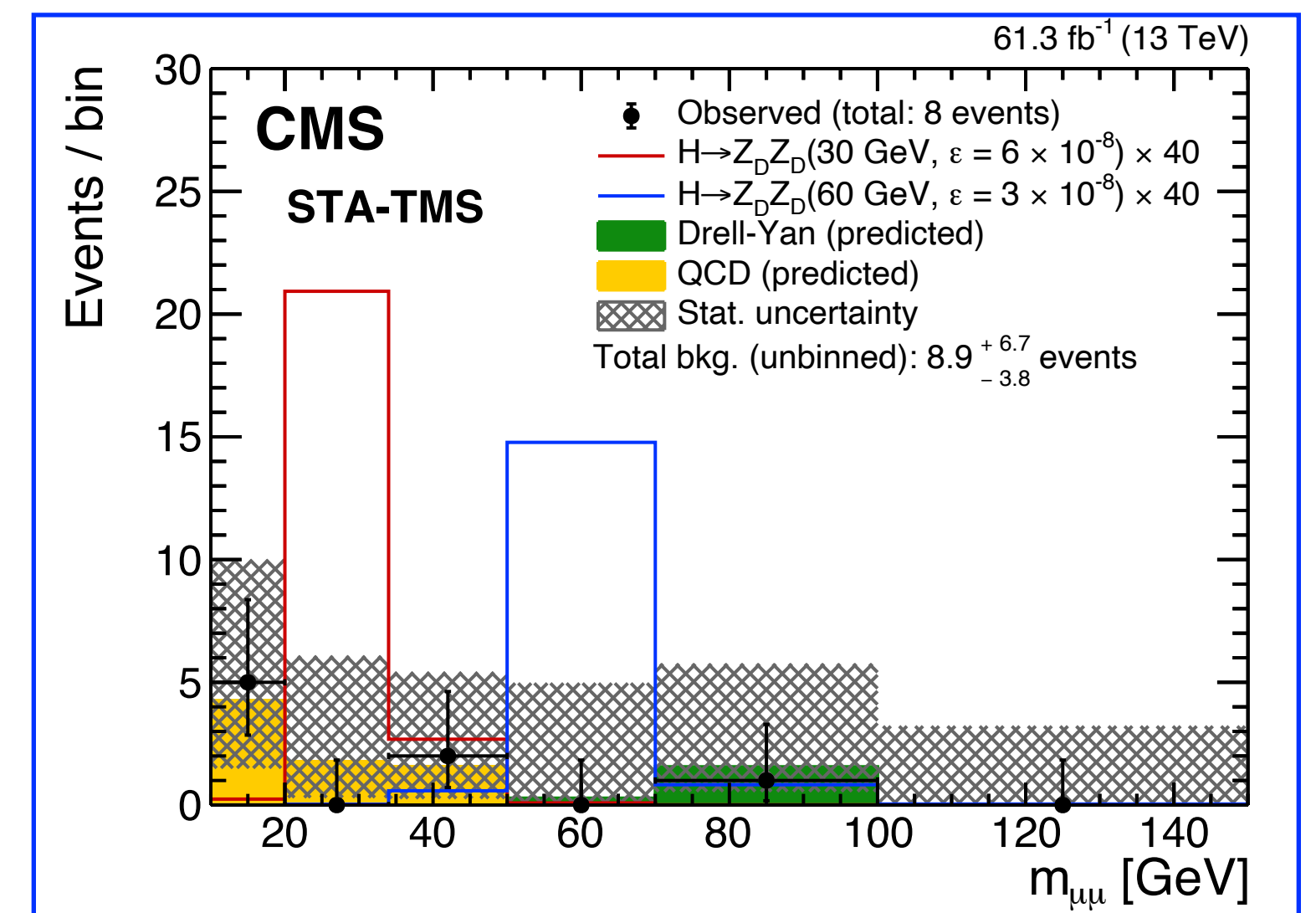
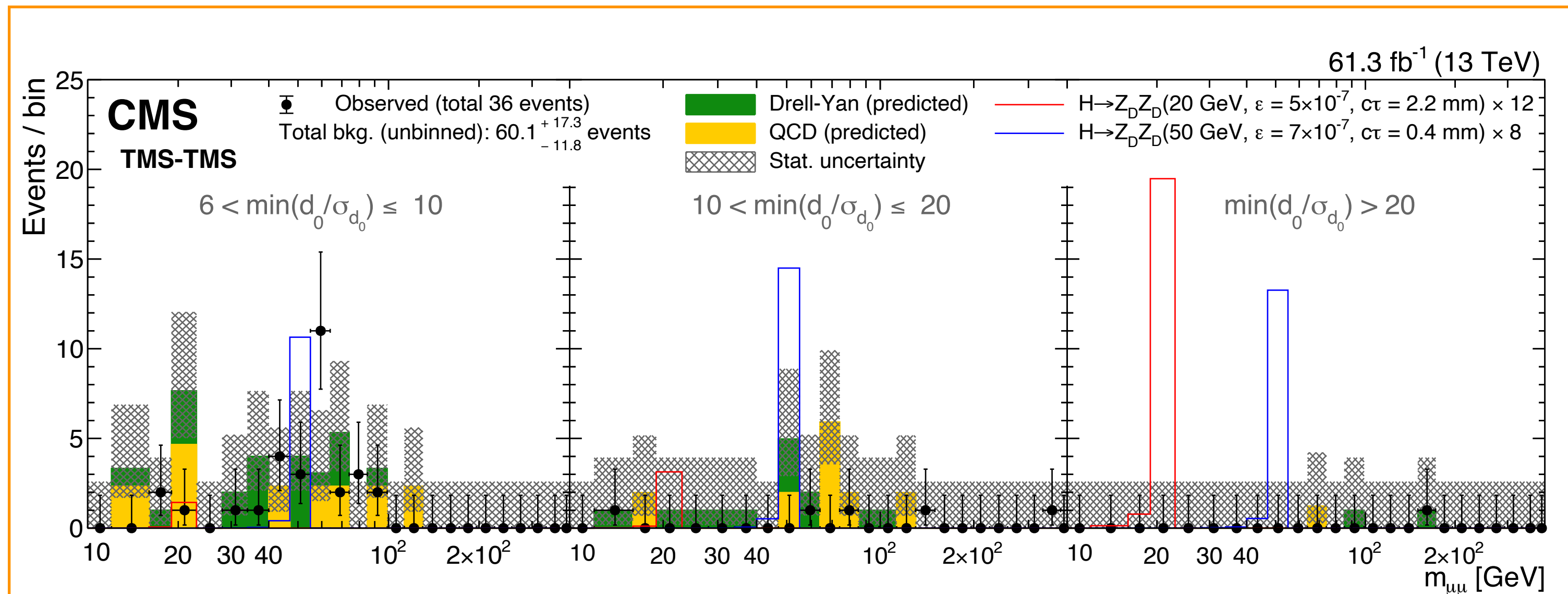
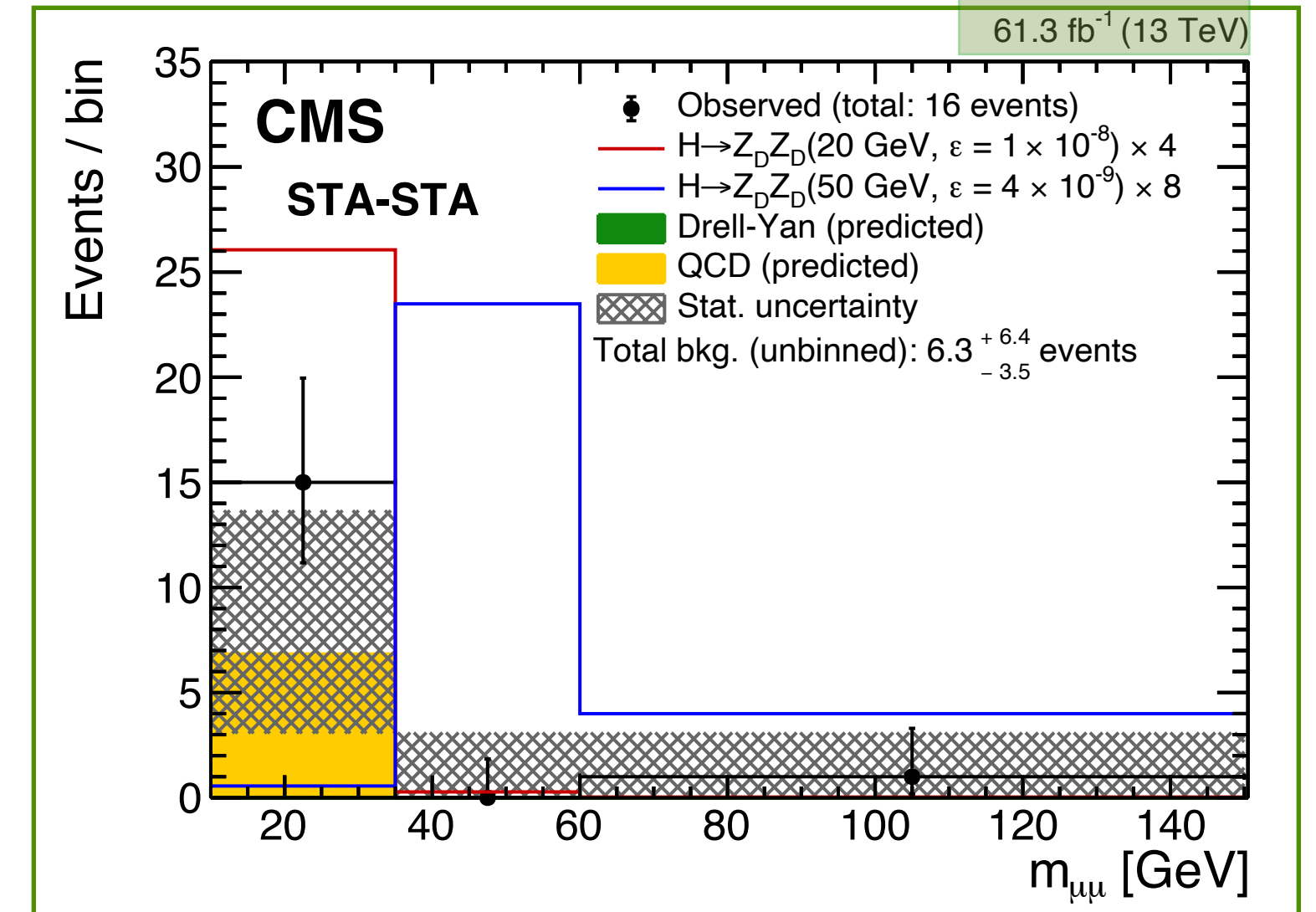
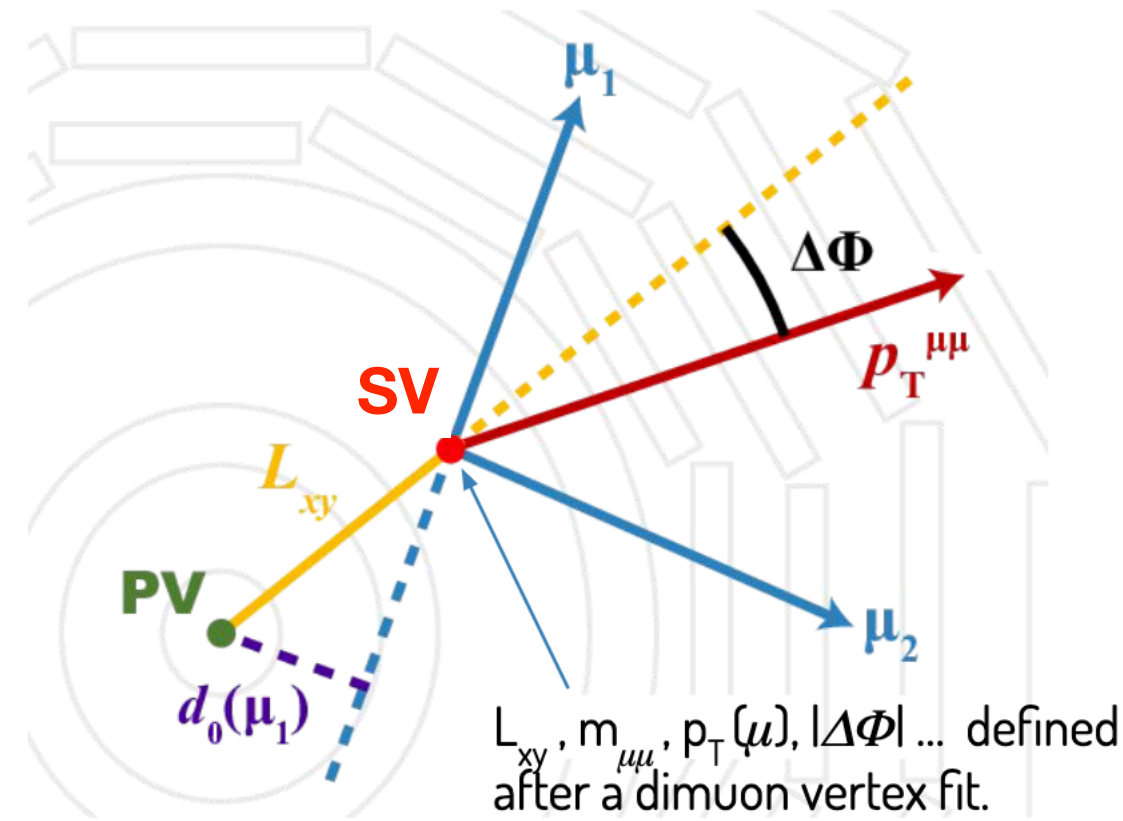
- $10 < m_{Z_D} < 60 \text{ GeV}$ ;  $O(10^2 \mu\text{m}) < l_{xy} < \text{several meters}$
- Standard dimuon trigger ( $p_T > 28(23) \text{ GeV}$  @ the HLT for 2016(2018)) data only (total luminosity =  $97.6 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )
- Search for excess of events in dimuon mass spectrum
  - Event selection: 2 identified and isolated opposite-charge muons
    - At least one pair of displaced muons forming a SV
  - Event categorisation:
    - TMS-TMS, STA-STA, Hybrid pair
- Main backgrounds:
  - Drell-Yan and QCD
- Counting experiment to derive the exclusion upper limits



# Very long-lived dark photon search

arXiv:2205.08582

2018



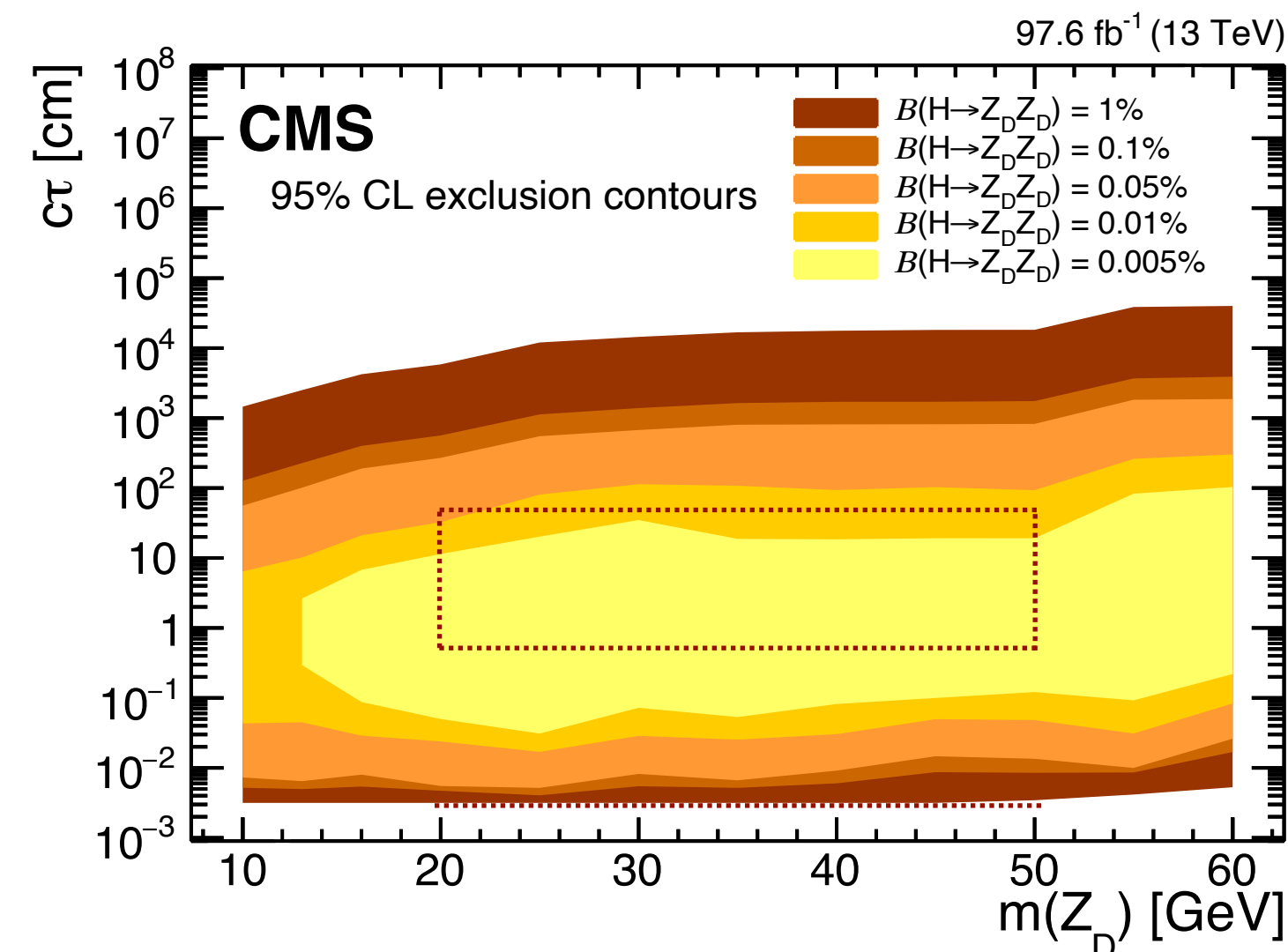
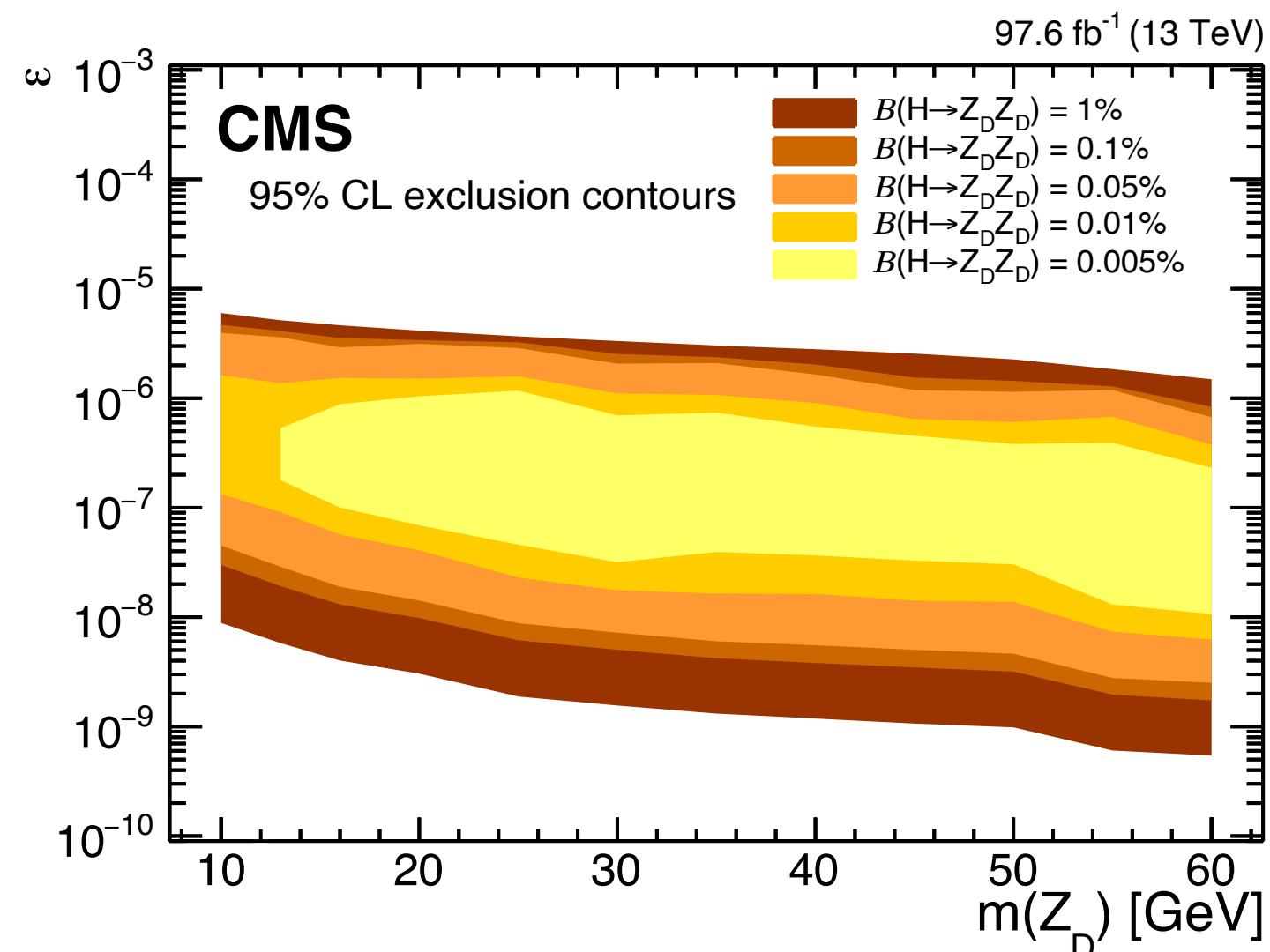
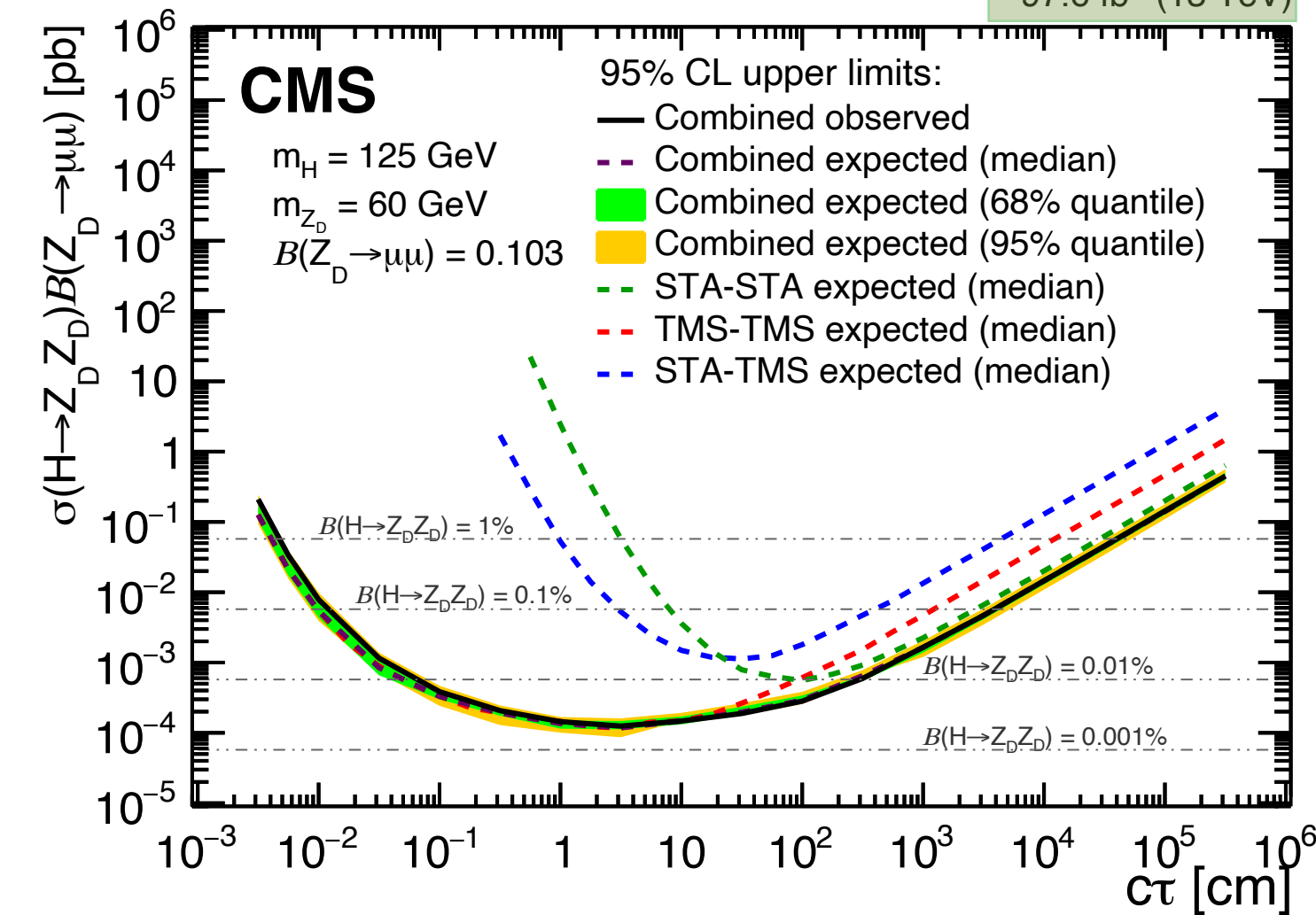


# Very long-lived dark photon search

Most stringent constraints to date for  
 $m_{Z_D} > 20$  GeV and  $c\tau = 0.003\text{--}0.05$  cm and  $>50$  cm

2016, 2018

97.6 fb<sup>-1</sup> (13 TeV)



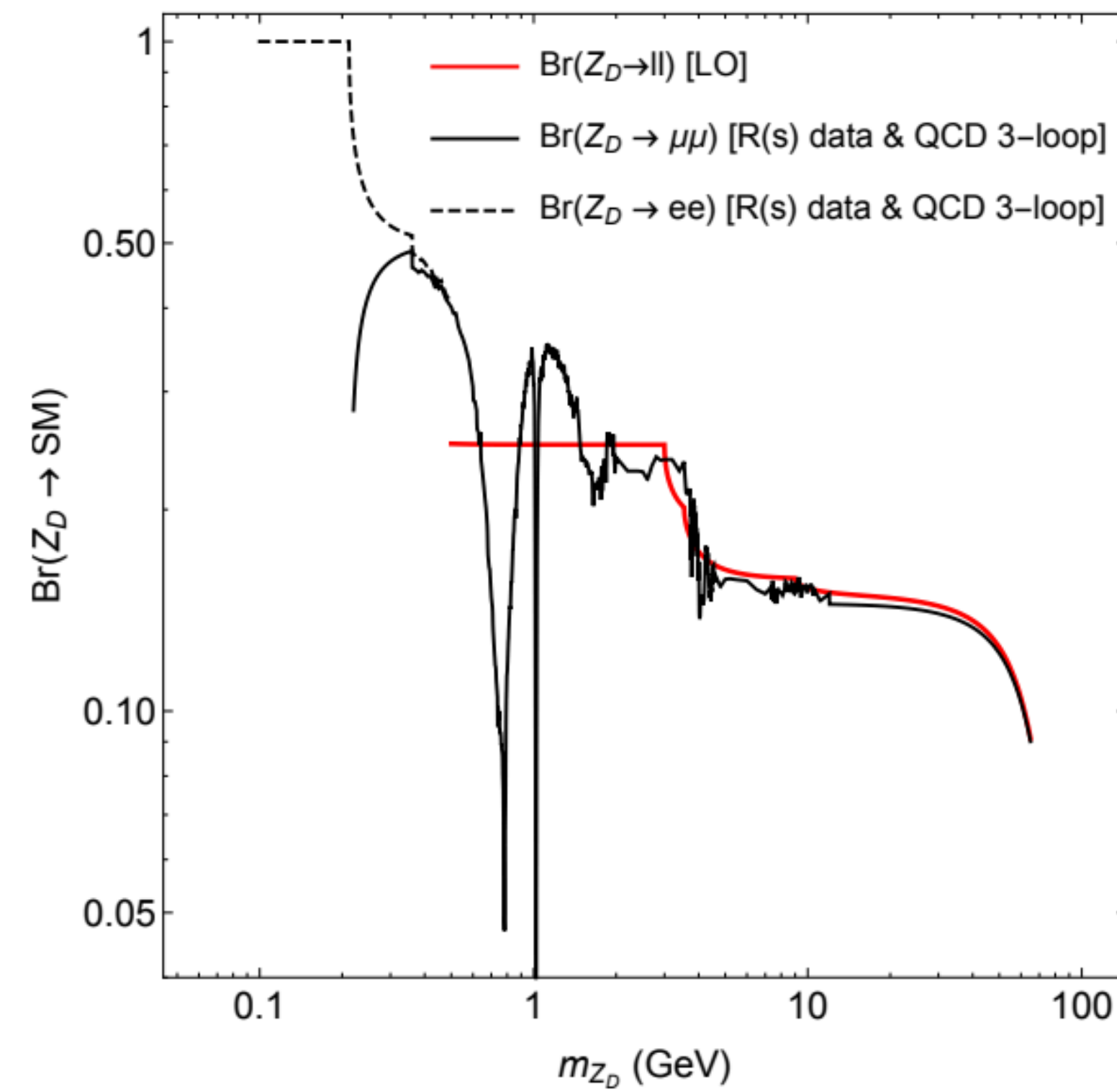
# Summary

- $Z_D$  could serve as a mediator between SM and the dark sector [[JHEP 02 \(2015\) 157](#)]
- $Z_D$  can be performed at the LHC exploiting  $Z_D \rightarrow 2\mu$  (hypercharge portal) and  $H \rightarrow Z_D Z_D \rightarrow 4\mu$  (Higgs portal) events
- CMS deployed dedicated high-rate dimuon triggers (decreased event size) during LHC run 2 to explore  $m_{Z_D} < 45$  GeV
- Several dark photon searches with CMS have been discussed today
  - Prompt search:  $11.5 \text{ GeV} < m_{Z_D} < 45 \text{ GeV}$  and  $45 \text{ GeV} < m_{Z_D} < 200 \text{ GeV}$  [[PRL 124 \(2020\) 131802](#)]
  - Long-lived search:  $l_{xy} < 11 \text{ cm}$ ;  $\sim 200 \text{ MeV} < m_{Z_D} < 50 \text{ GeV}$  [[JHEP 04 \(2022\) 062](#)]
  - Very long-lived search:  $l_{xy}$  up to several meters;  $10 < m_{Z_D} < 60 \text{ GeV}$  [[arXiv:2205.08582](#)]
- No significant excess of events has been observed beyond the standard model expectation
- **These searches place most stringent constraints to date for substantial regions of the  $[m_{Z_D}, \varepsilon^2]$  and  $[m_{Z_D}, c\tau]$  parameter spaces**



# Backup slides

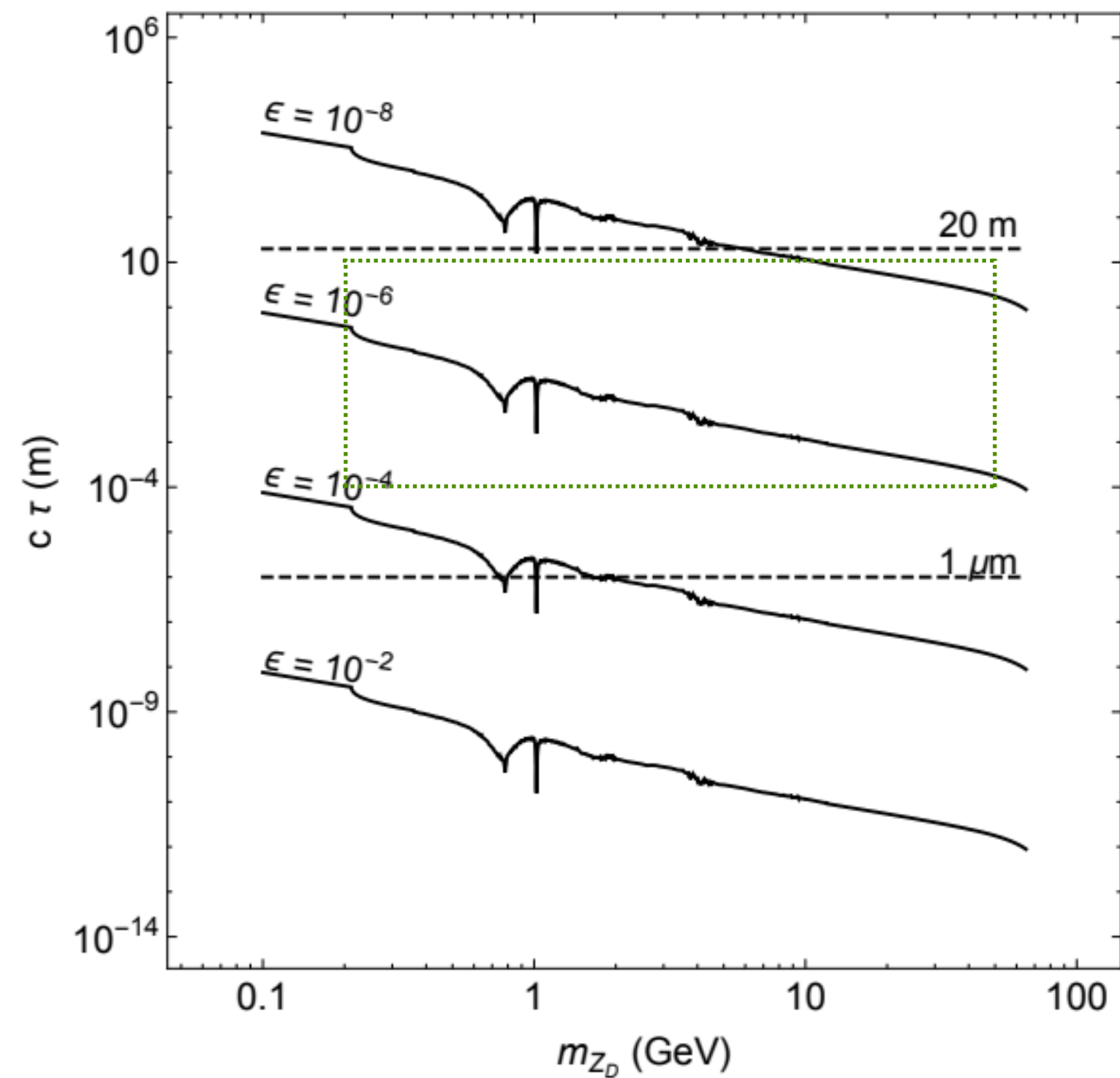
# $Z_D$ branching ratio



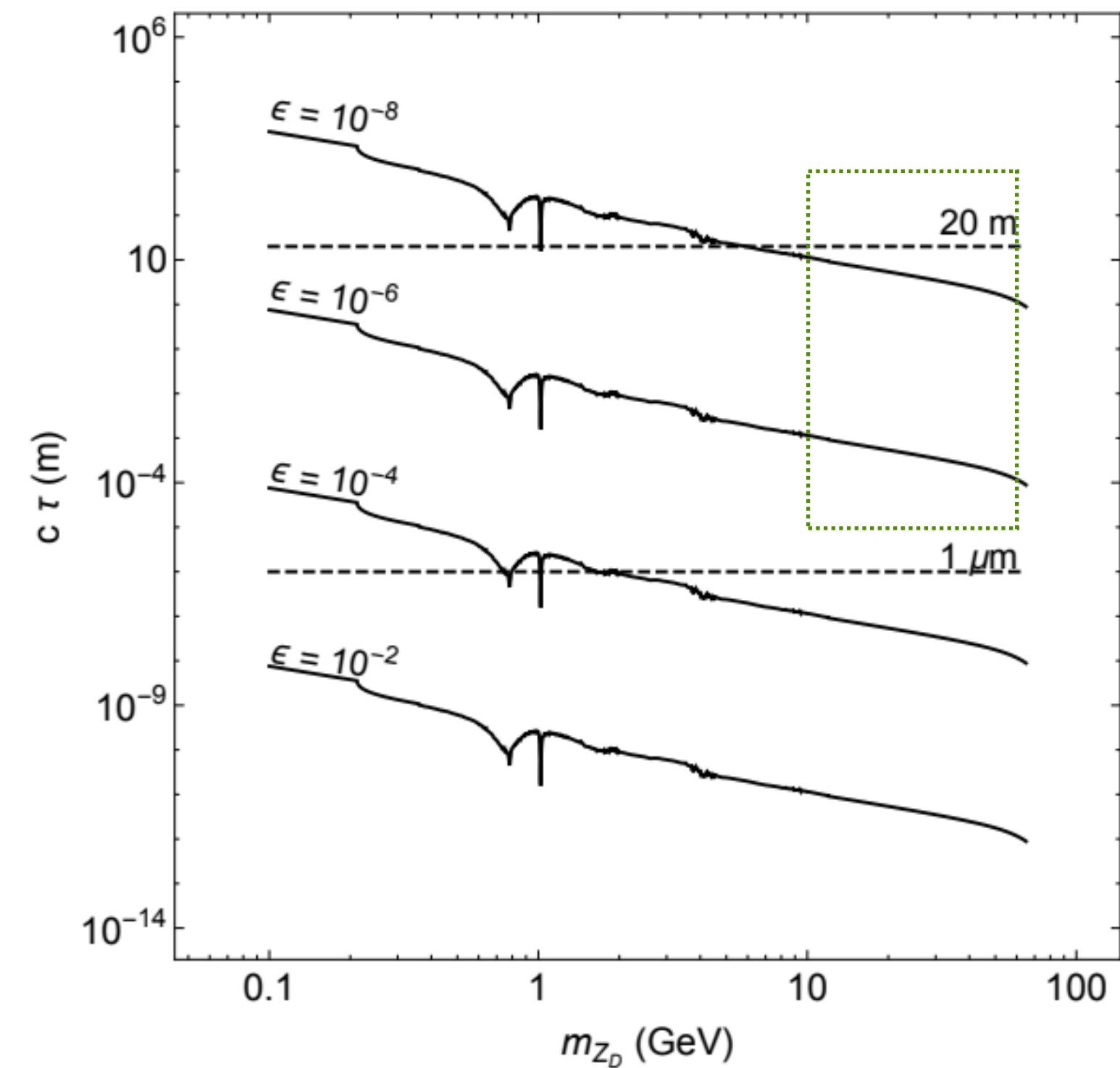


# $Z_D$ decay length

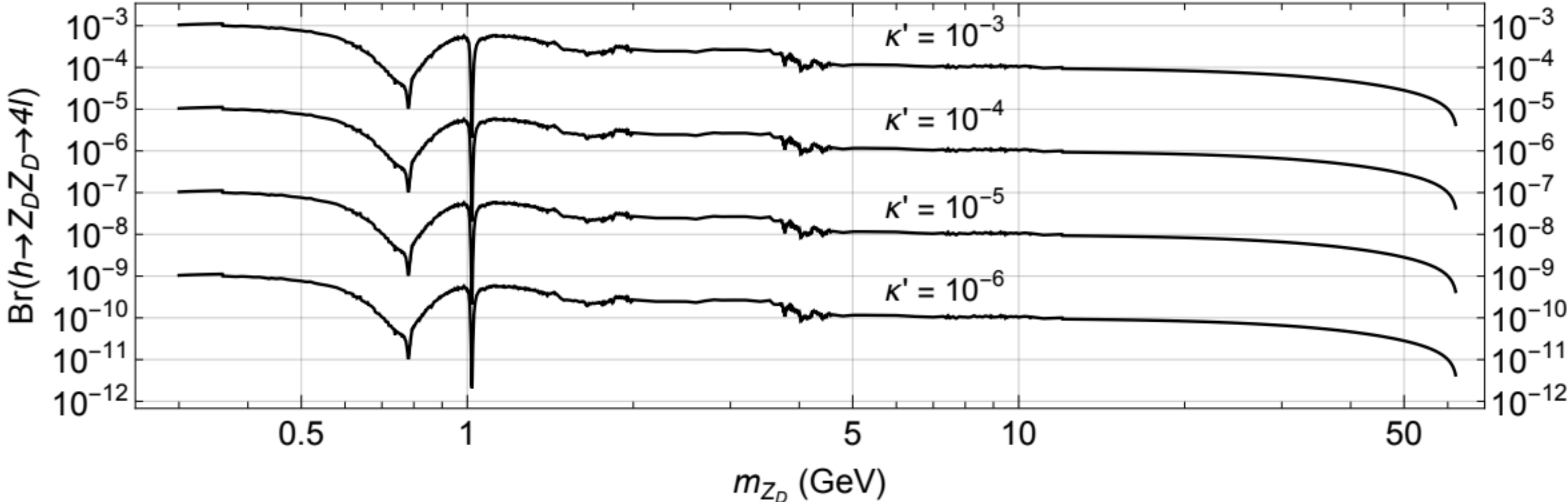
Long-lived  $Z_D$



Very long-lived  $Z_D$



# $Z_D$ decay length





# Scouting dimuon triggers' data

