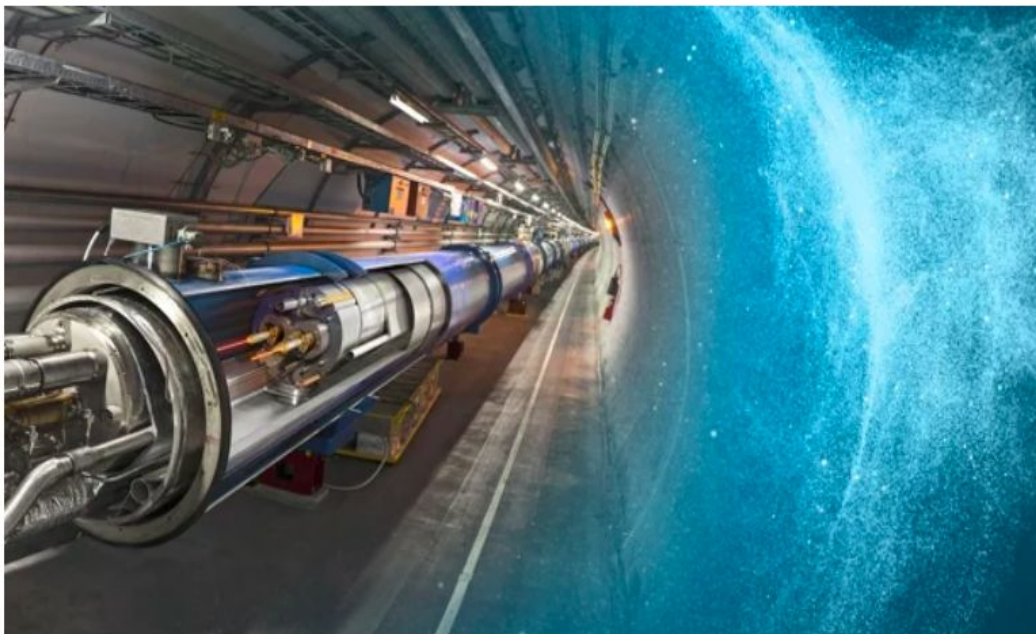


# Peeking into the dark with the ATLAS detector



*Alvaro Lopez Solis*  
*On behalf of the ATLAS collaboration*  
*CERN LHC seminar*  
*19<sup>th</sup> July 2022*



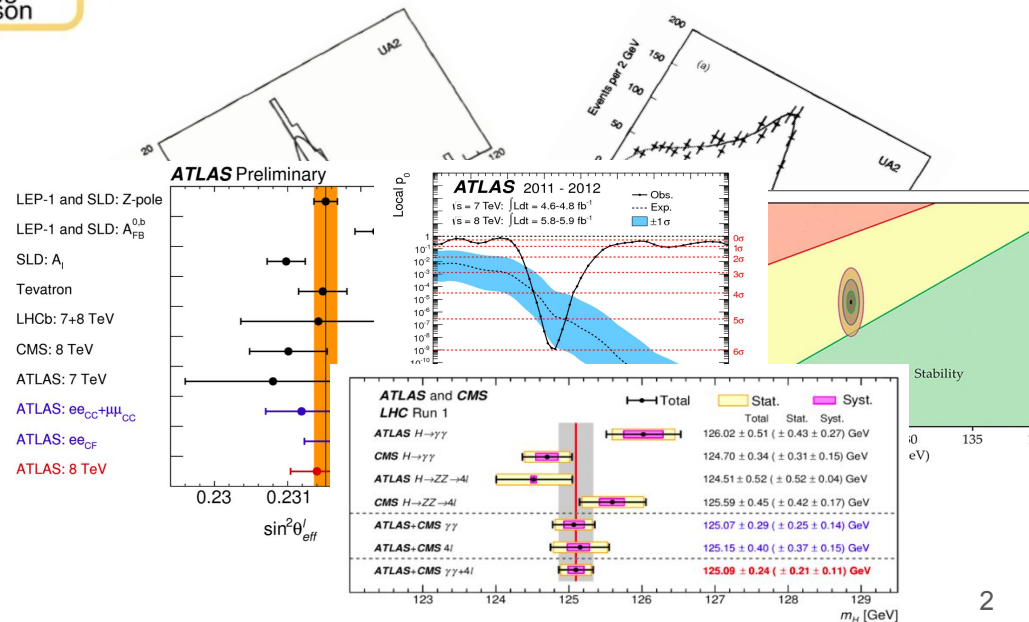
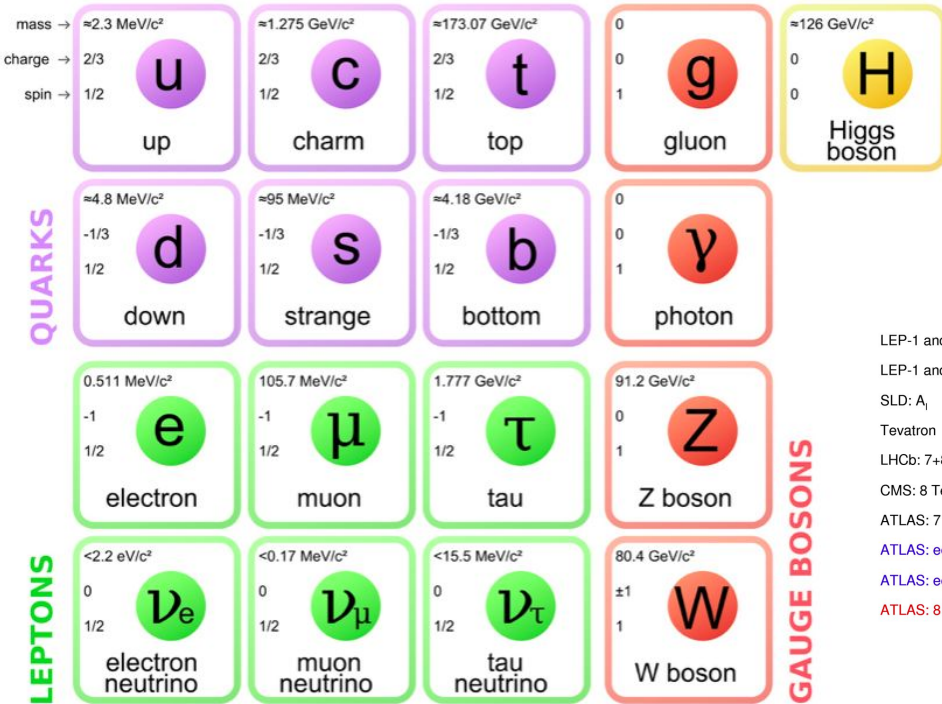
**HELMHOLTZ**  
RESEARCH FOR GRAND CHALLENGE



# The Standard Model: successful theory

Very successful theory!

- Precision EWK measurements
- Higgs mechanism and Higgs discovery



# Why the Standard Model is not enough ?

mass →	$\approx 2.3 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.275 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.07 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	$\approx 126 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
charge →	2/3	2/3	2/3	0	0
spin →	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	0
	<b>u</b> up	<b>c</b> charm	<b>t</b> top	<b>g</b> gluon	<b>H</b> Higgs boson
<b>QUARKS</b>	$\approx 4.8 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 95 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	
	-1/3	-1/3	-1/3	0	
	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	
	<b>d</b> down	<b>s</b> strange	<b>b</b> bottom	<b><math>\gamma</math></b> photon	
	$0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$105.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$1.777 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$91.2 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
	-1	-1	-1	0	
	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	
	<b>e</b> electron	<b><math>\mu</math></b> muon	<b><math>\tau</math></b> tau	<b>Z</b> Z boson	
<b>LEPTONS</b>	$< 2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$	$< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$< 15.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$80.4 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
	0	0	0	$\pm 1$	
	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	
	<b><math>\nu_e</math></b> electron neutrino	<b><math>\nu_\mu</math></b> muon neutrino	<b><math>\nu_\tau</math></b> tau neutrino	<b>W</b> W boson	
				<b>GAUGE BOSONS</b>	

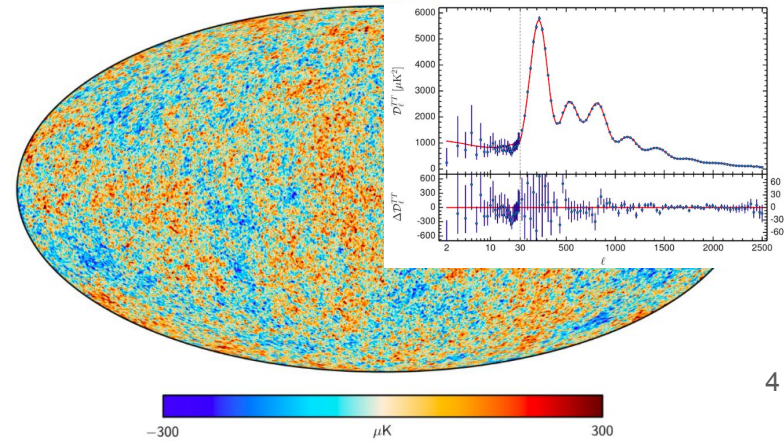
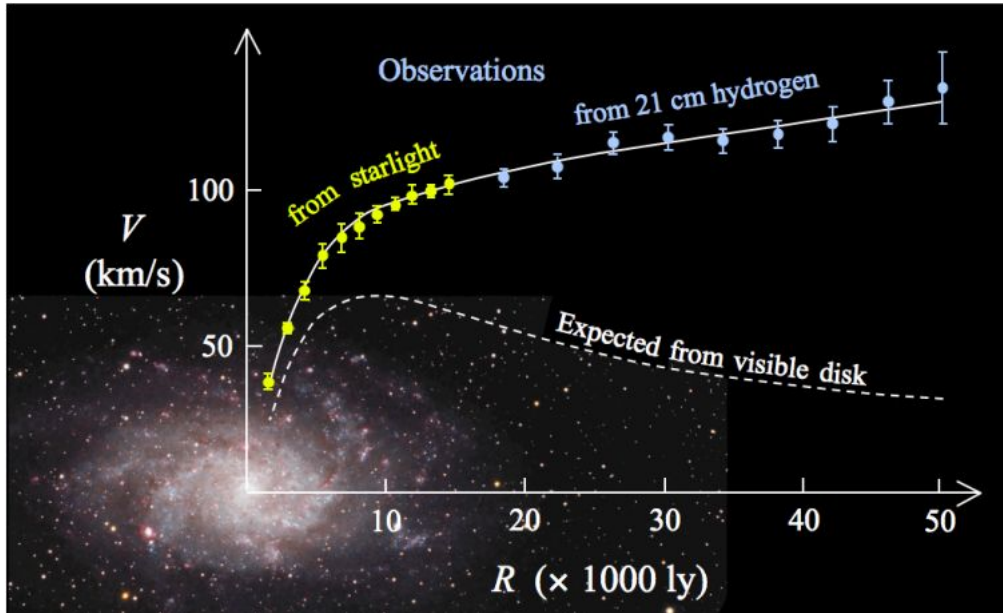
## Very successful theory!

- Precision EWK measurements
- Higgs mechanism and Higgs discovery

## But, many fundamental questions remain unanswered

- Gravity
- Particle mass hierarchy
- Naturalness
- Neutrino oscillations
- Matter-antimatter asymmetry
- Dark matter
- .....

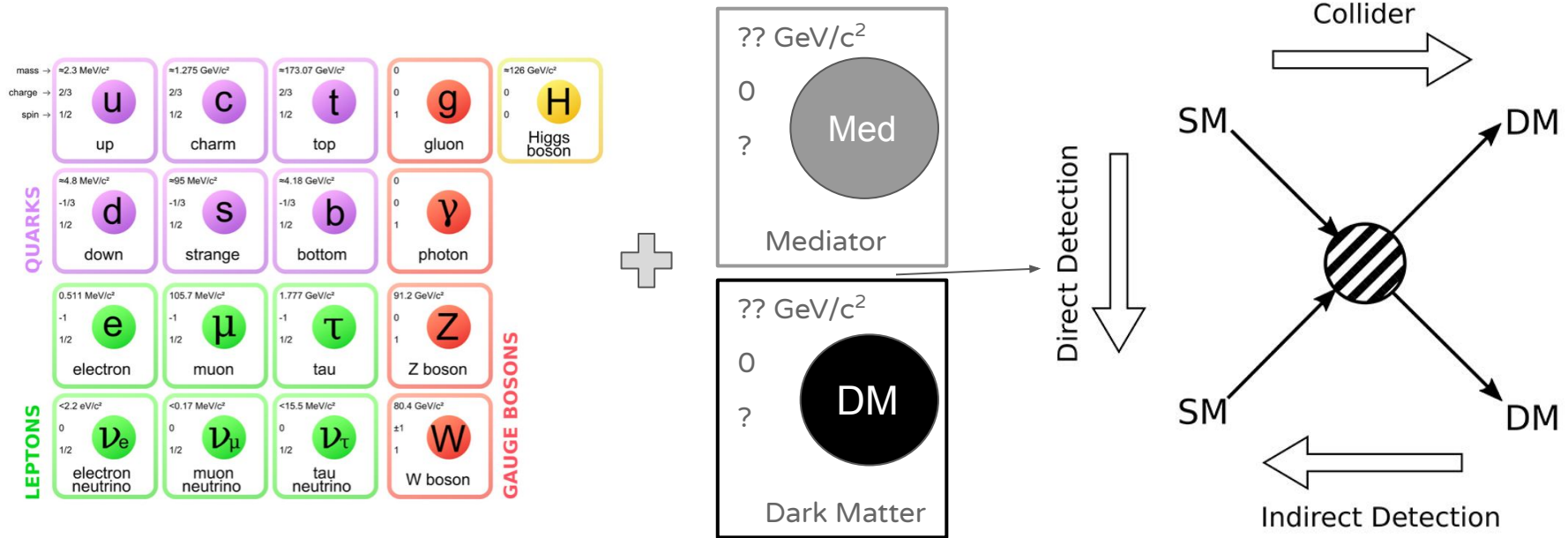
# Why dark matter?



Powerful evidence indicating the [existence of particles](#) in the Universe that don't interact with light



# What is DM? How can we detect it ?



DM couples to SM ? -> We can see it at colliders ! ( $pp \rightarrow \text{SM} + \text{DM}$ )

Many theories predicting DM + SM interactions. ATLAS DM searches widely use simplified models.

Assuming a interaction between dark matter and SM particles through mediators (either SM or new).

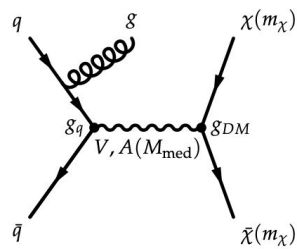
# Simplified models: Mono-X searches

Simple representation of DM connecting to SM as proxy of more complete theories.

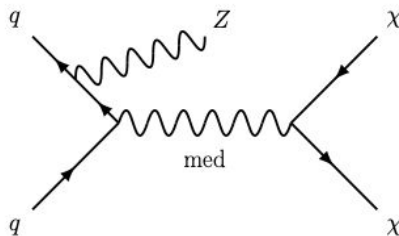
SM couples with DM sector via a mediator

- Spin-0 or spin-1 mediator
- Signature of Mono-X (X = SM particle)

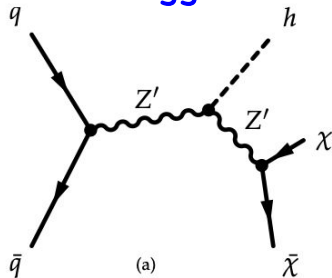
## Mono-jet



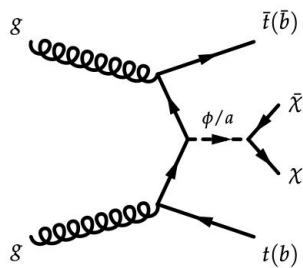
## Mono-Z



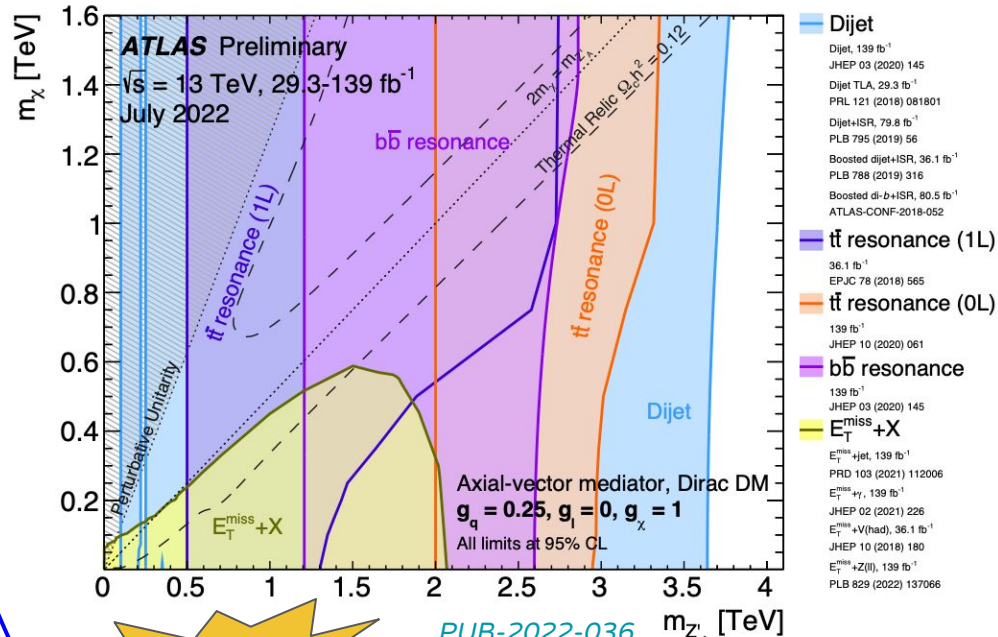
## Mono-Higgs



## Mono-tt/bb



Exclusion of the combined searches sensitive to mono-X



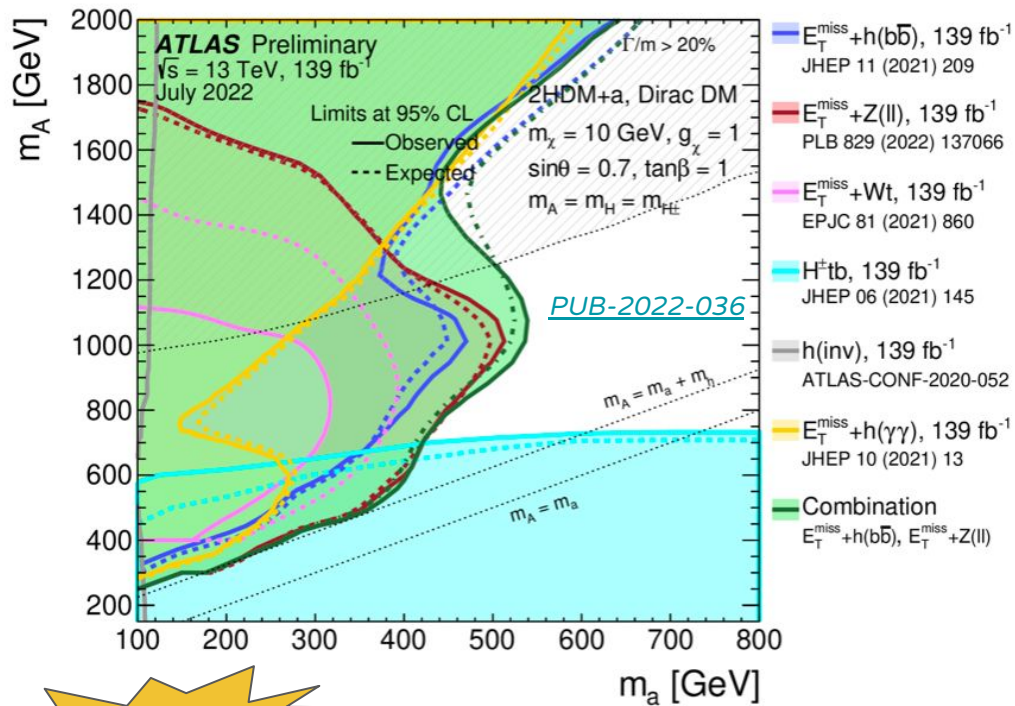
Today!

[PUB-2022-036](#)  
[Phys. Dark. Univ, Vol 27, 100371](#)

Presenting latest mono-top search in ATLAS

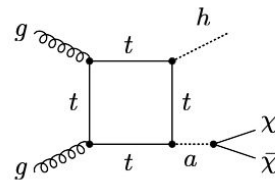
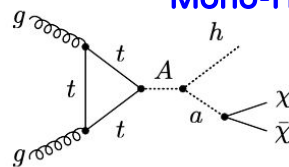
# A more UV-complete model: 2HDM+a

*Phys.Dark.Univ Vol 27, 100351*

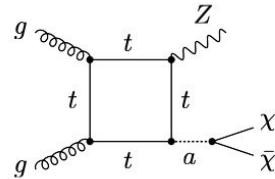
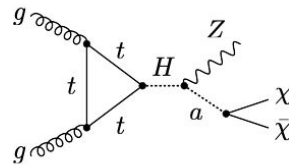


Simplest renormalizable theory with DM singlet Unitarity.  
 Rich phenomenology in several final states at colliders.

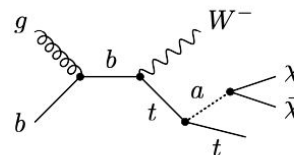
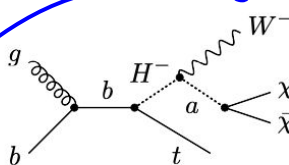
## Mono-Higgs



## Mono-Z



## Single-top



Today!

Latest search in tW+DM final state

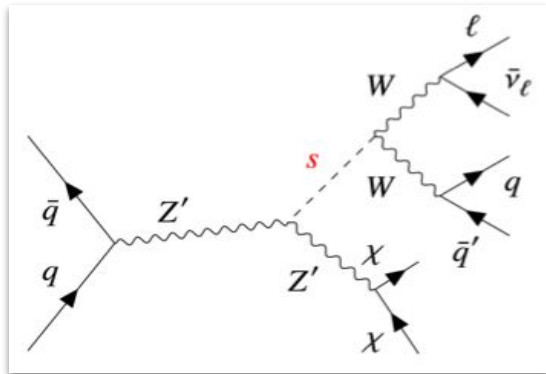
# More complex dark sectors ?

Is DM only just a single-flavoured unique particle and a mediator?  
The dark sector might be more interesting than we think

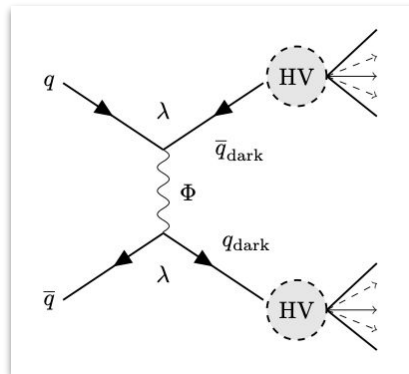
- More than one fermion and boson
- Several mediators with SM
- SM-like interactions between dark matter particles
- Long-lived particles

Today!

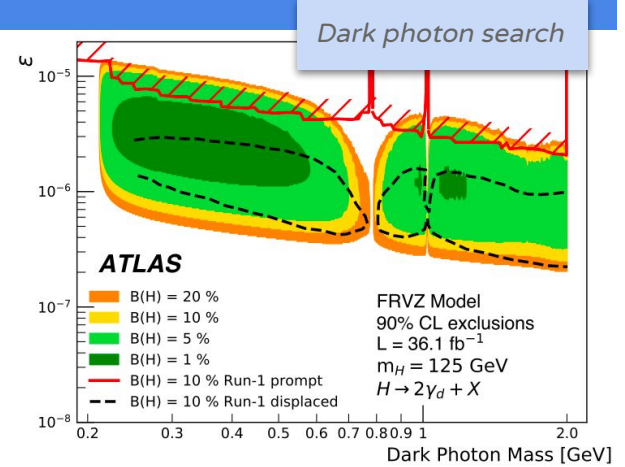
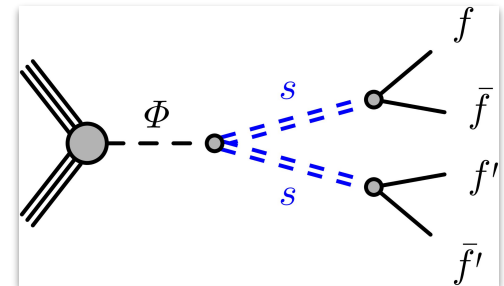
**Dark Higgs ( $S$ ) search**  
 $S \rightarrow WW (qq'lv)$



**Strongly coupled DM:**  
**Semi-visible jets**

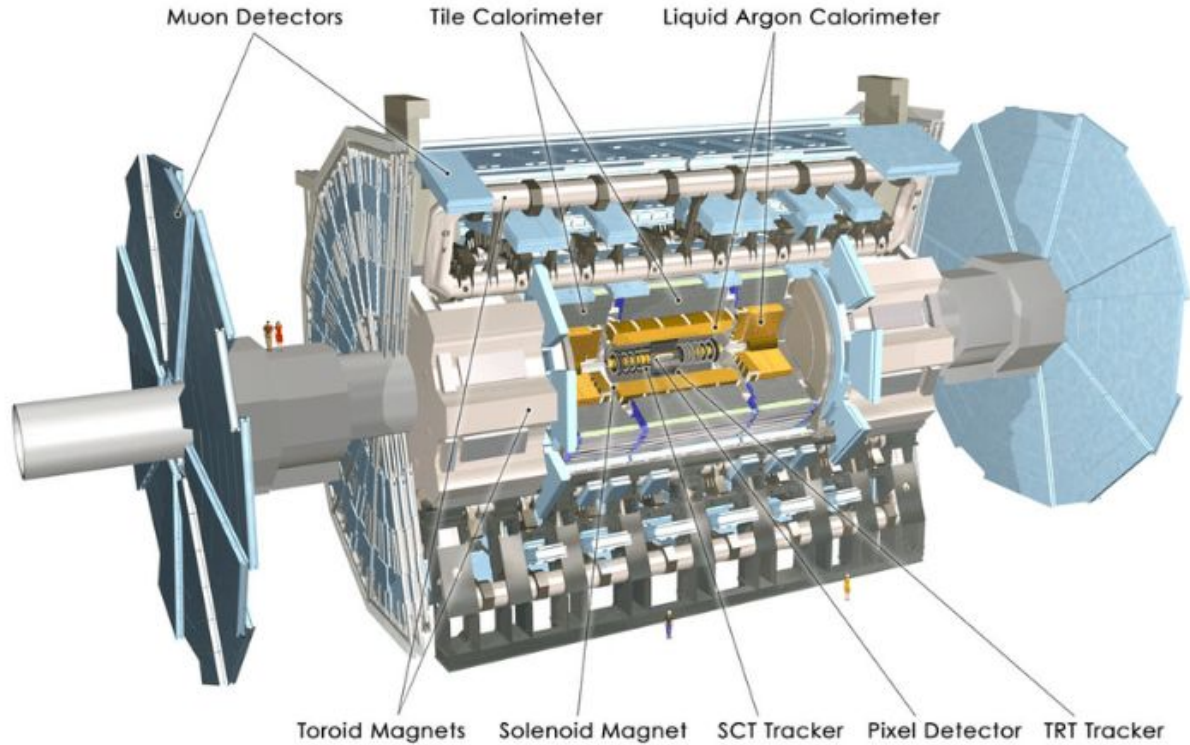


**Long-lived particles:**  
**Displaced jets**





# The ATLAS detector





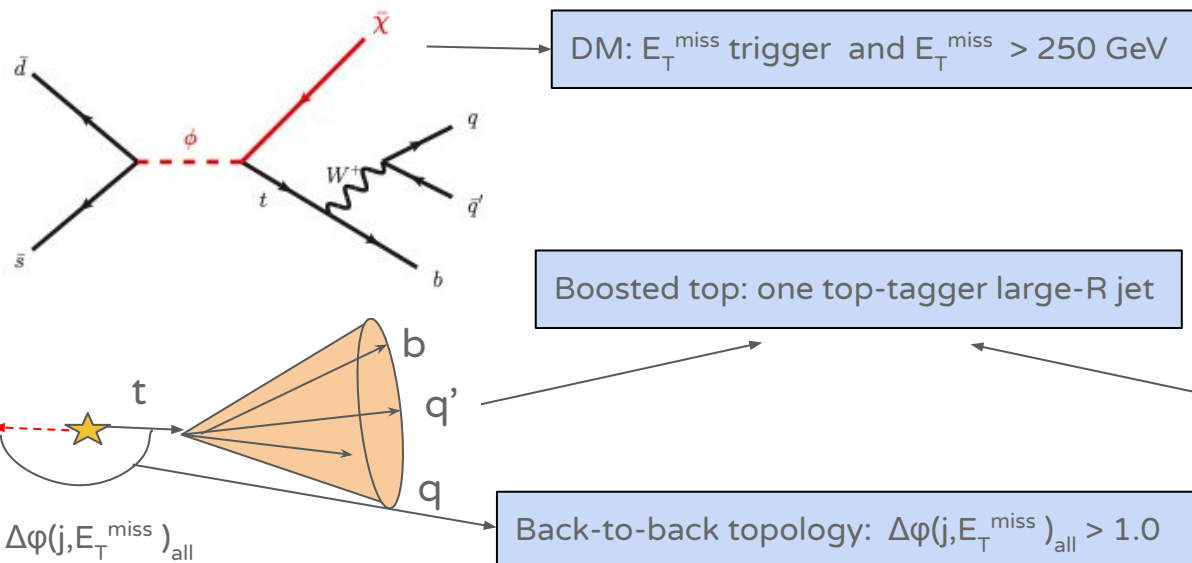
Searches for dark matter particles in  
association with a top-quark

Mono-top: [ATLAS-CONF-2022-036](#)

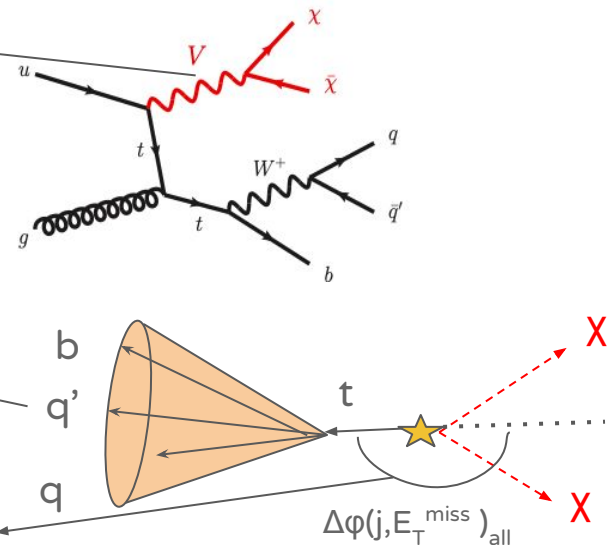
tW+DM: [ATLAS-CONF-2022-012](#)

# Search for Dark Matter plus a single-top

## Resonant production

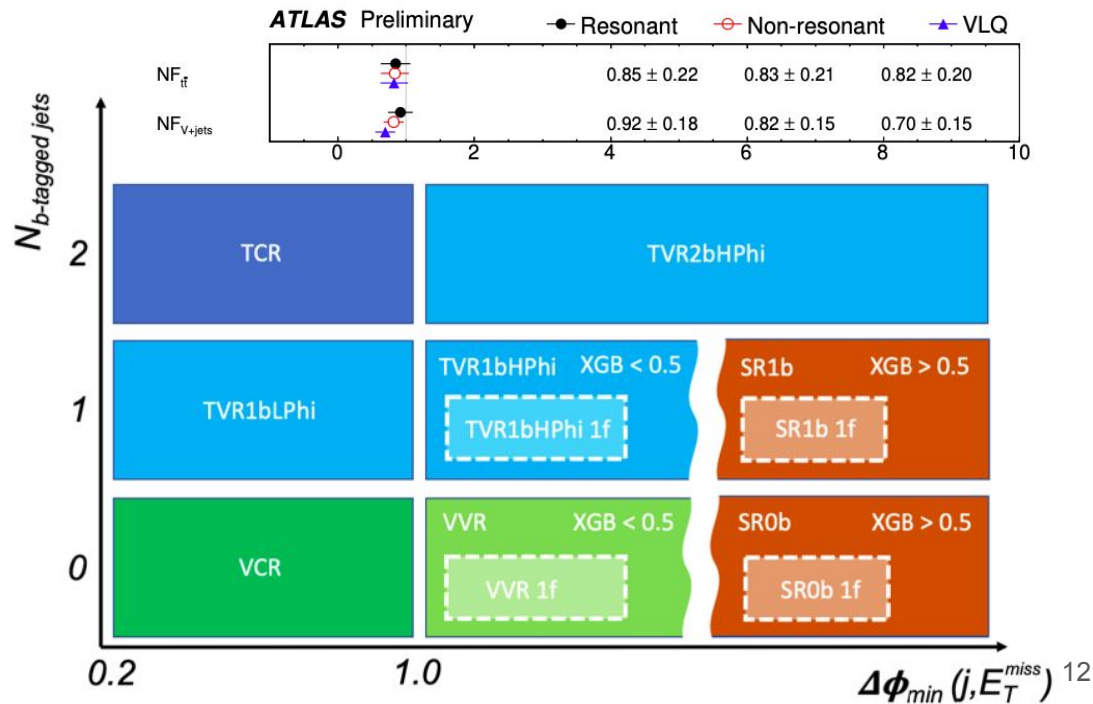
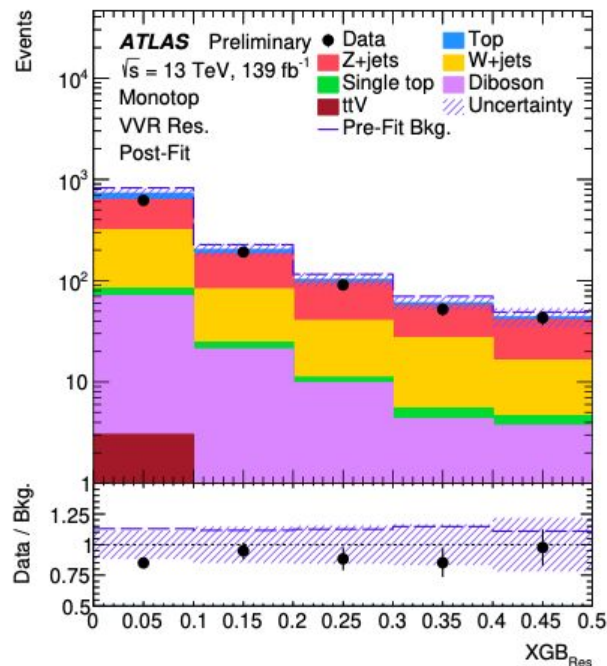


## Non-resonant production



# Analysis strategy

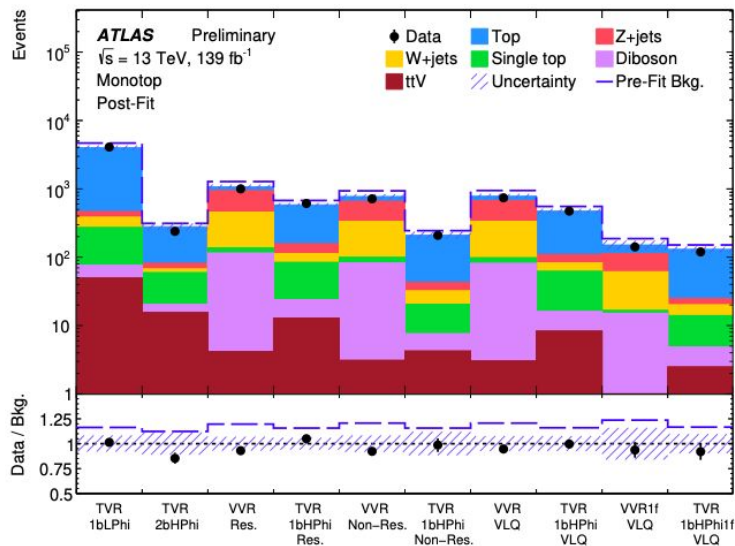
Selection based on a BDT trained on event-level discriminants with good separation power.  
 Dominant background is V+jets and tt. Defined control and validation regions per production mode.  
 SRs with 0 and 1 b-jet.



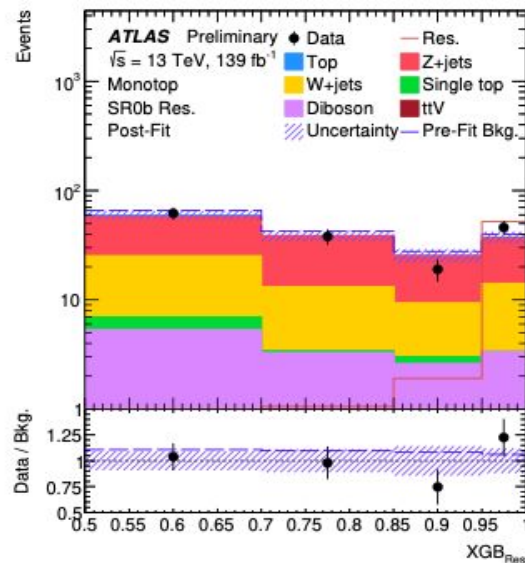


# Post-fit results: New Physics ?

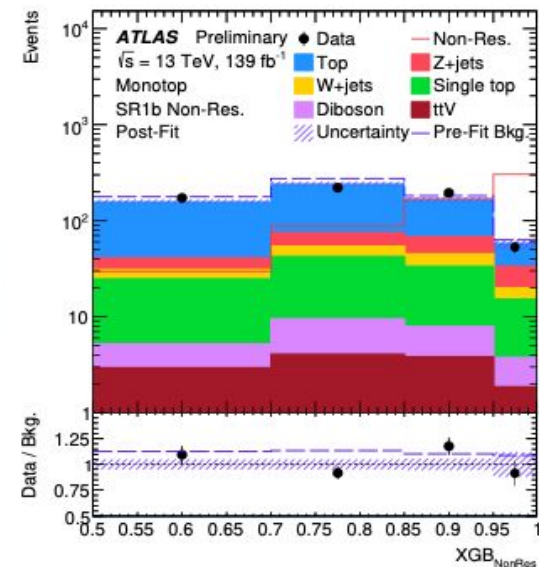
## Validation regions



## Resonant signal region



## Non-resonant signal region

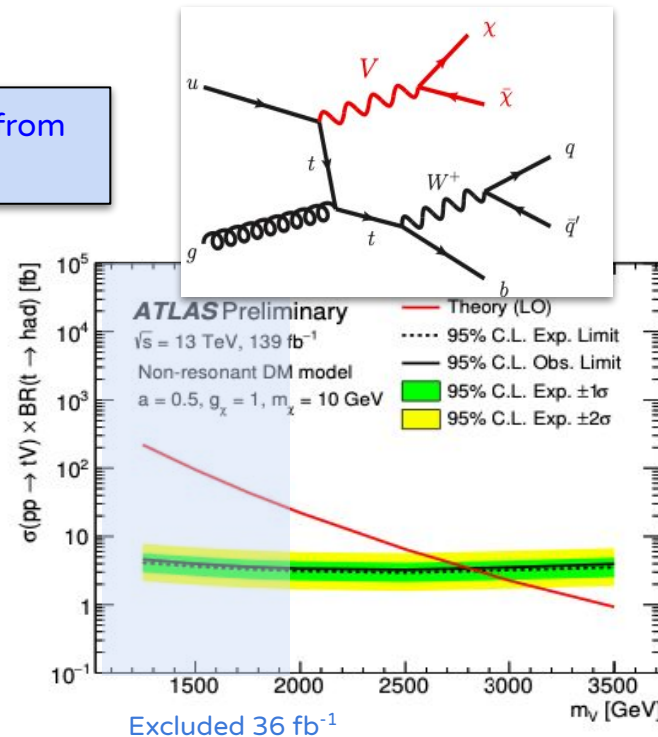
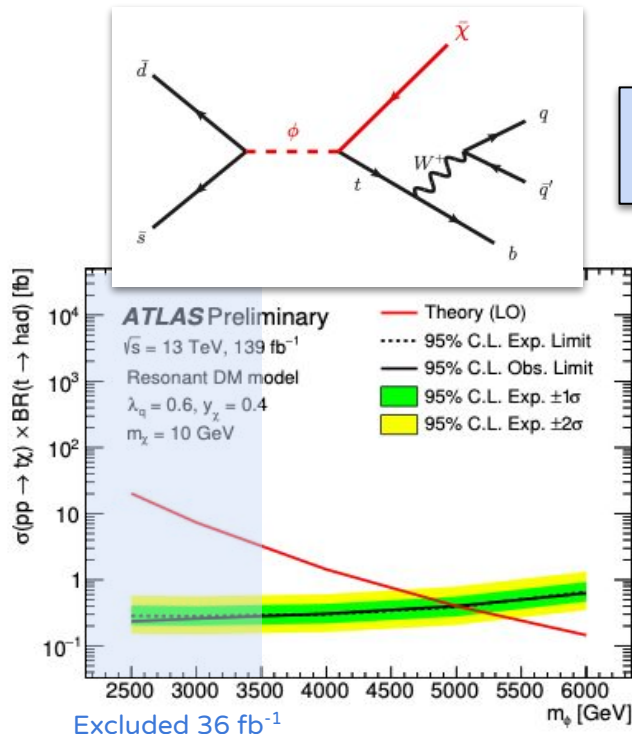


Good agreement between data and SM.

Dominant uncertainties: background theory modelling and large-R jet calibration

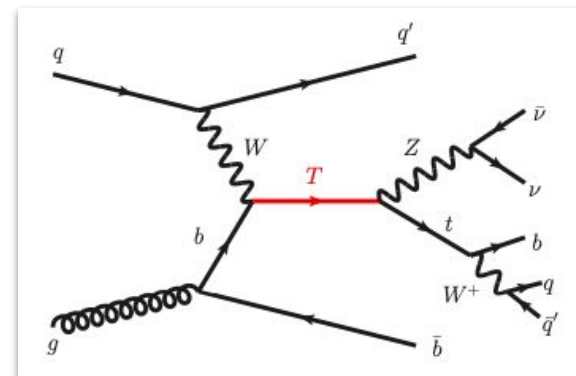
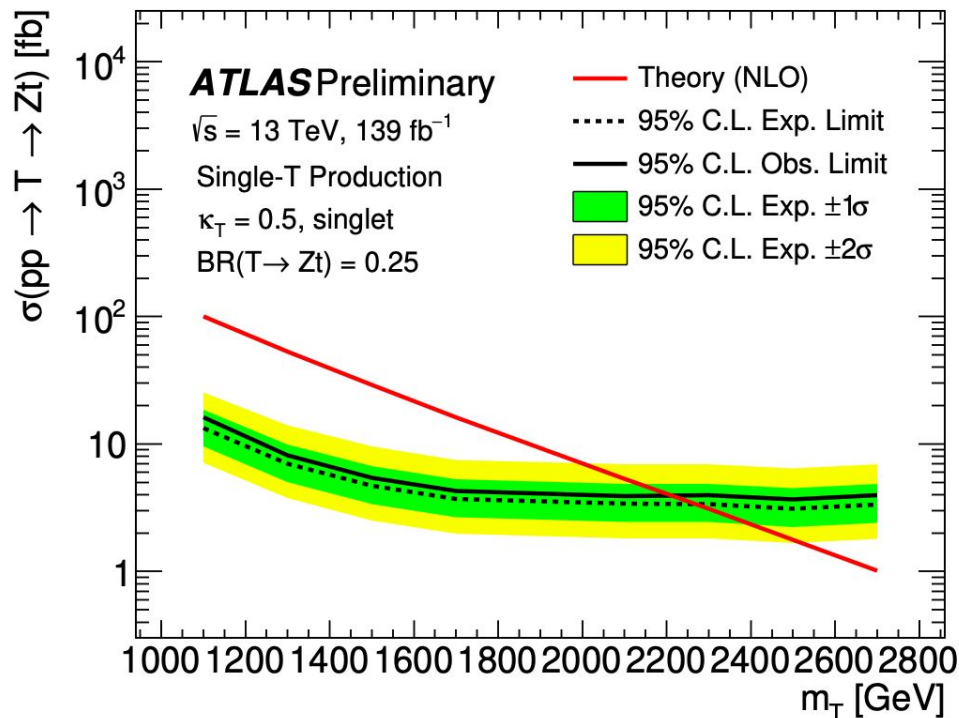
# Interpretation: simplified model

Significant improvements from early Run-2 results !



Exclusion limits derived from fit of the BDT output distribution for each production mode, separately.

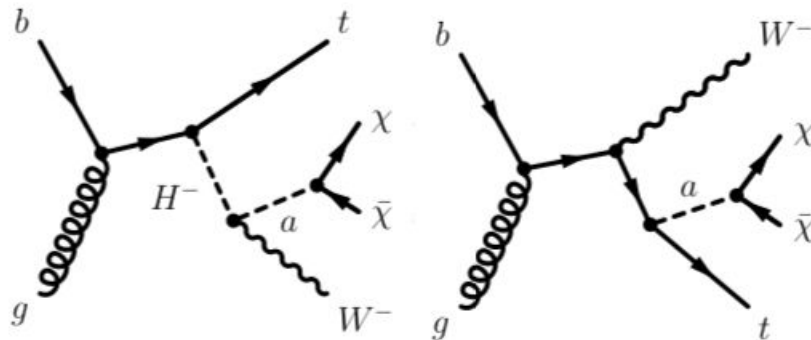
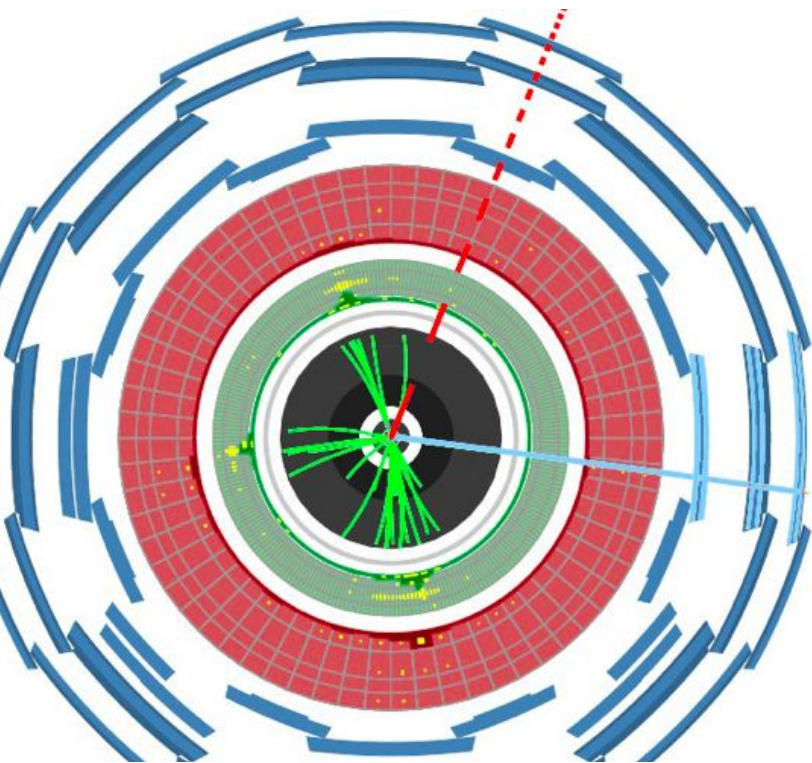
# Interpretation: simplified model and VLQ model



Additional interpretation using a vector-like-quark model.

No exclusion in early Run-2 results !

# Search for dark matter in association with $tW$



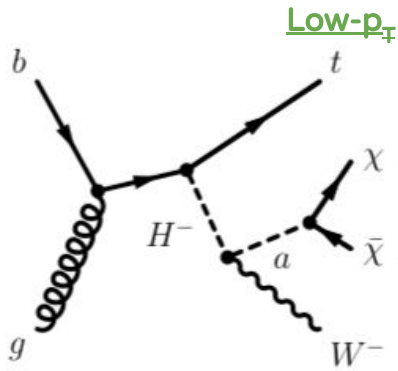
Signals present one top, a W-boson and large missing transverse momentum.

- $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  trigger and high offline  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$
- Profit of the top quark and W-quark to reduce the background.

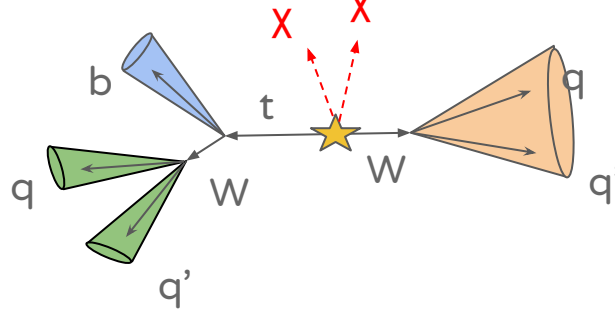
Exploring 0L and 1L channels. 2L from previous results in final interpretation



# Analysis strategy: the zero-lepton channel



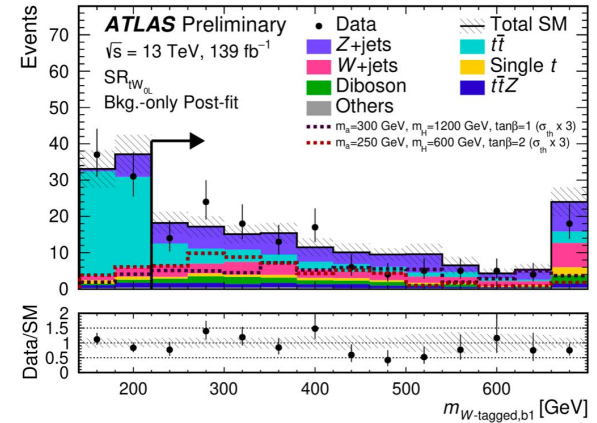
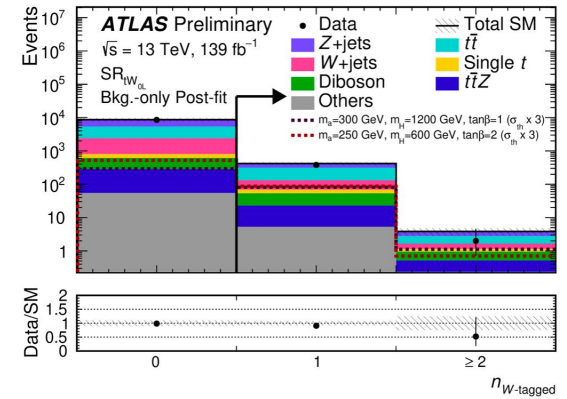
**High- $p_T$**



At least 4 standard jets and at least 1 b-jet and high  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$   
 One W-boson reconstructed as a large-R jet  $\rightarrow$  **W-tagging**

- $\Delta R(b, W) > 1.0$  and  $m(b, W) > 220$  GeV.

Main bkg. : Z+jets, W+jets, tt

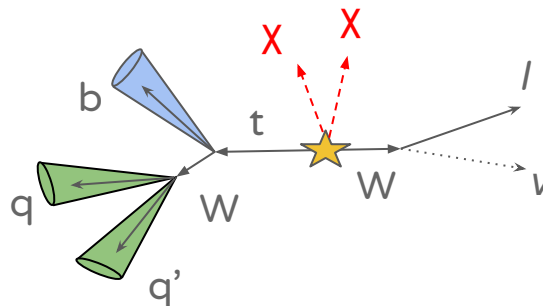


# Analysis strategy: the one-lepton channel

Top-decays hadronically: **reclustering jets to reconstruct W**

- At least 3 jets, 1 b-jet
- $m_T(l, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 200$  GeV
- $am_{T2} > 220$  GeV
- $m_{W}^{\text{reclus}} > 60$  GeV

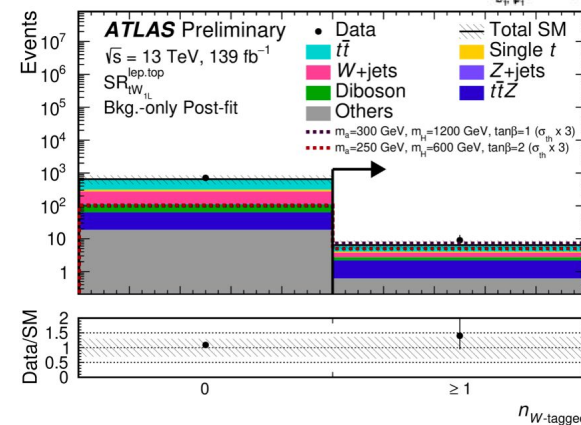
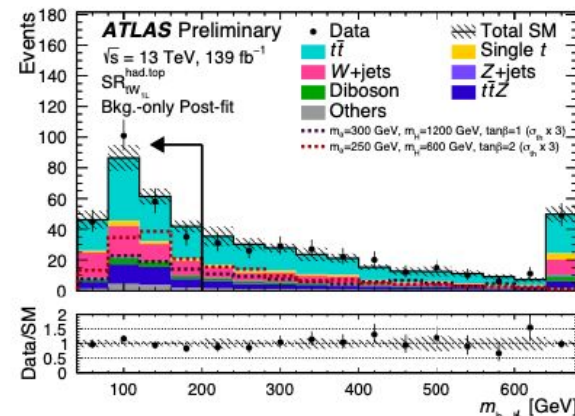
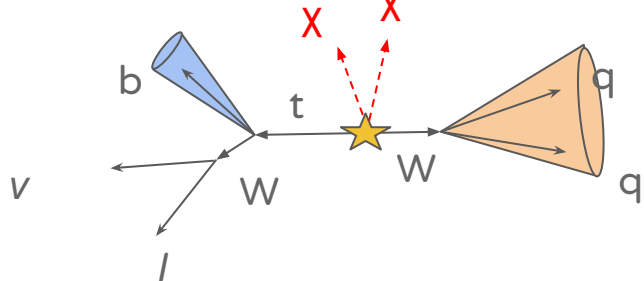
Main bkg. : W+jets, tt



Top-decays leptonically: hadronic W-boson is boosted: **W-tagged**

- At least 3 jets, 1 b-jet
- $m_T(l, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 130$  GeV
- $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  significance  $> 15$

Main bkg. : ttZ, tt



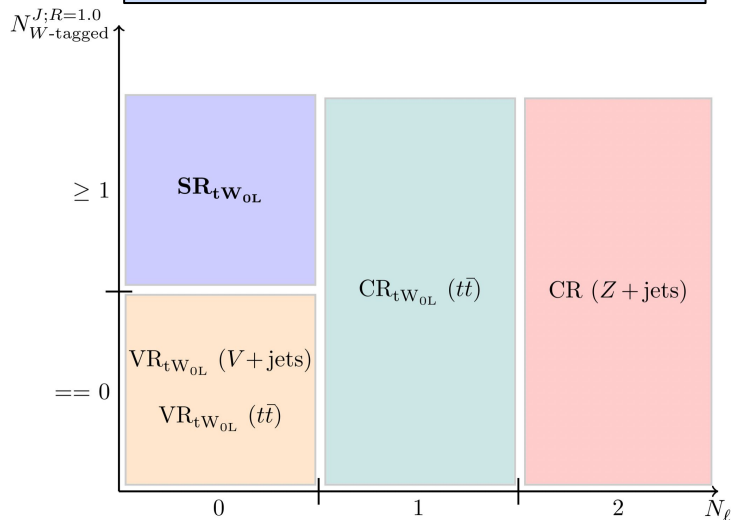
# Background estimation

Defining control and validation regions close to the SRs to normalize the most important backgrounds.

Common CRs: Z+jets, W+jets, single-top and ttZ.

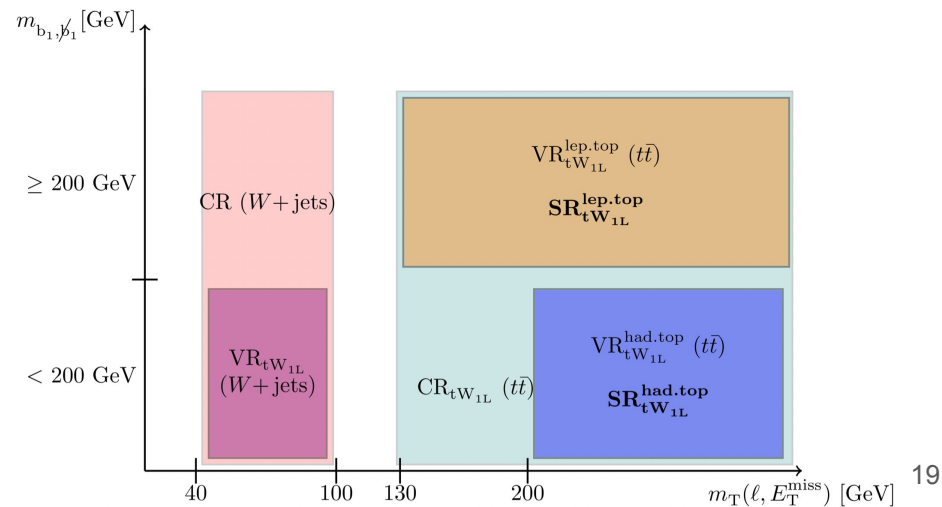
## Dedicated 0L regions

CR for tt. VRs for V+jets and tt.



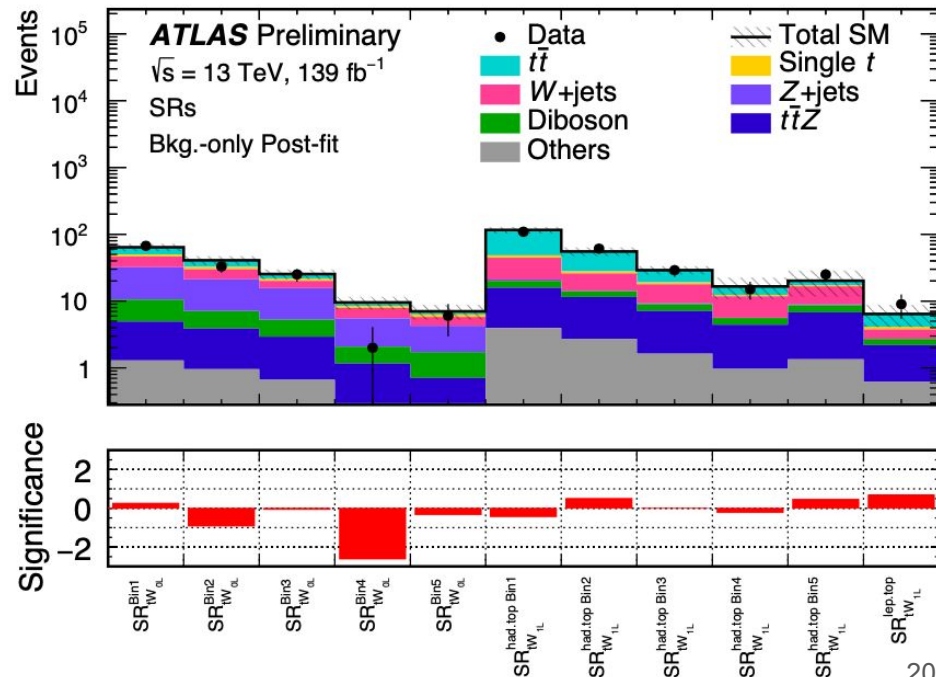
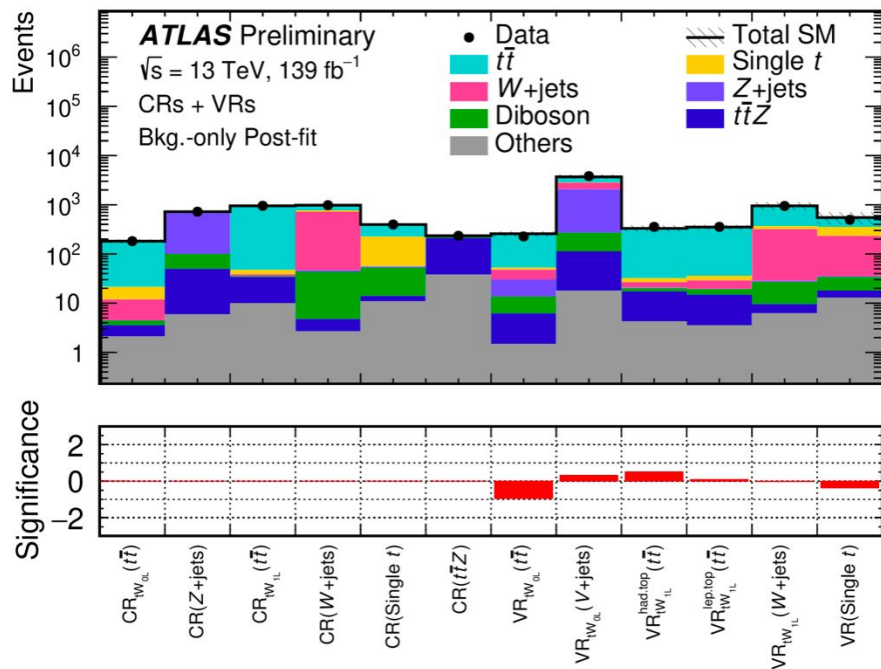
## Dedicated 1L regions

CR for tt. VRs for W+jets and tt (hadronic and leptonic)



# Background-only fit results

Simultaneous fit of all the SRs and CRs of the 0L, 1L. **No evidence of New Physics observed.**  
 2.5 $\sigma$  deficit in one bin of the 0L channel.

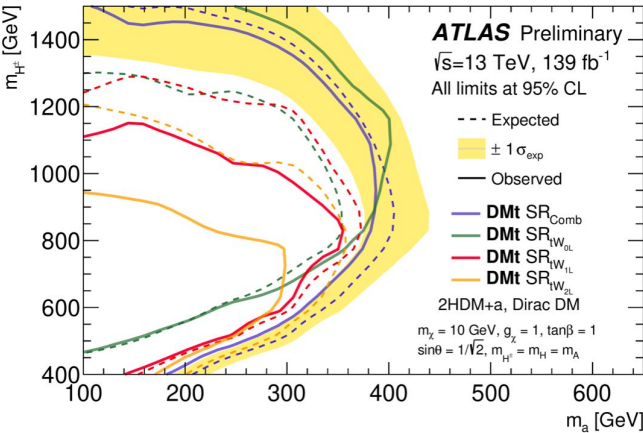




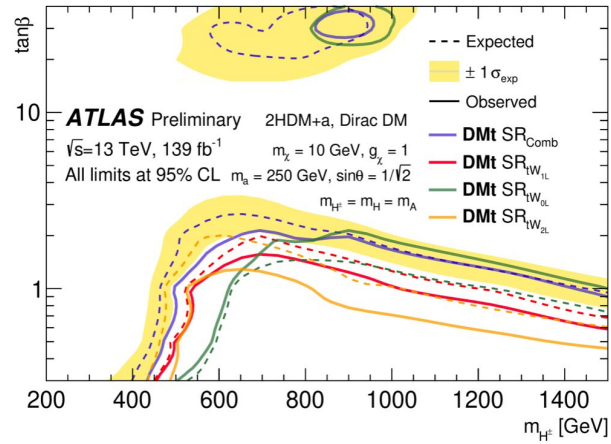
# Interpretation of 2HDM+a limits

Free parameters of the model :  $m_{H^+}$ ,  $m_a$ ,  $m_\chi$ ,  $\tan\beta$  ( $= v_u/v_d$ ),  $\sin\theta$  (a-A mixing).

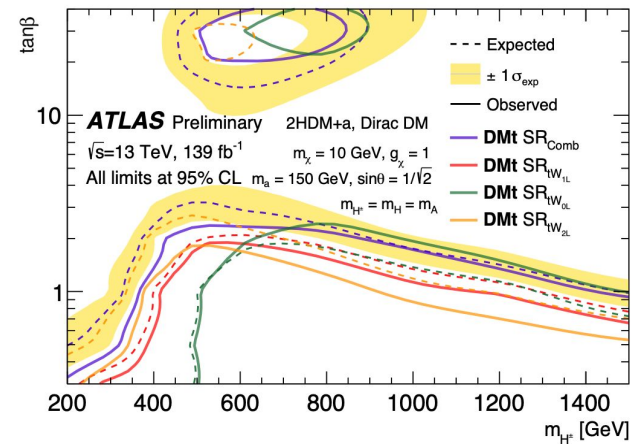
Combined limit



0L individual limit



1L individual limit



2L individual limit

Final interpretation combining 0L and 1L channels with 2L from previous analysis in tW+DM.  
 Exclusion at high  $\tan\beta$  due to process  $\sigma \times B$  evolution



Searches for dark matter from dark heavy bosons and strongly coupled dark sectors

Leptonic mono-S: [ATLAS-CONF-2022-029](#)

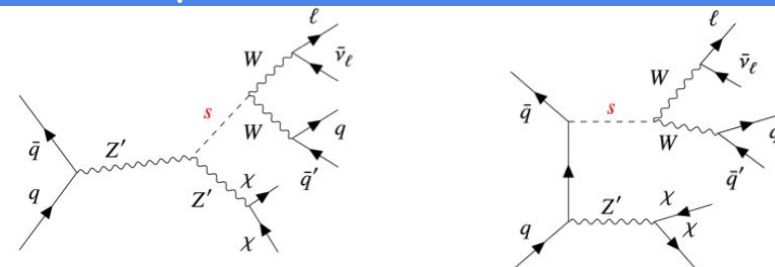
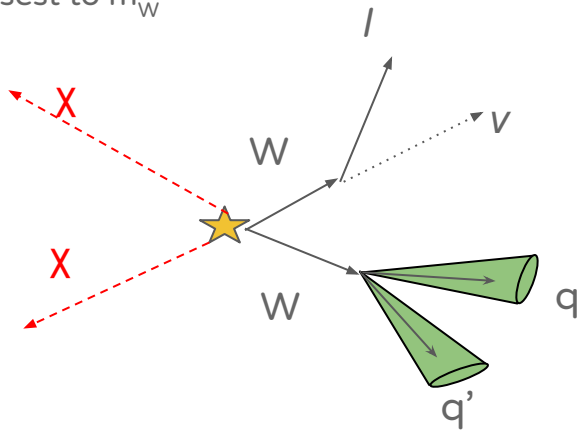
Semi-visible jets: [ATLAS-CONF-2022-038](#)

# Search for dark Higgs in $WW+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ : strategy

Events with one lepton:  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  or muon triggers  
 Dominant background  $\rightarrow$   $W$ +jets:  $m_T(l, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 220$  GeV  
 Large  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  significance

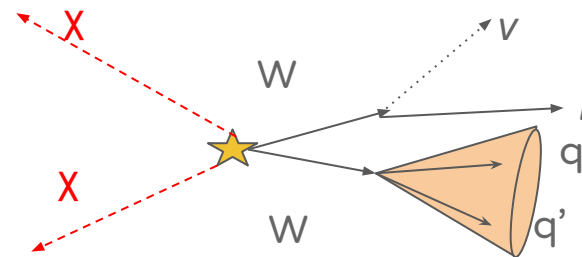
## Resolved region

At least 2 jets, but no b-tagged jets  
**Reconstruction of  $W$ -candidate** with the two jets with  $m_{jj}$  closest to  $m_W$



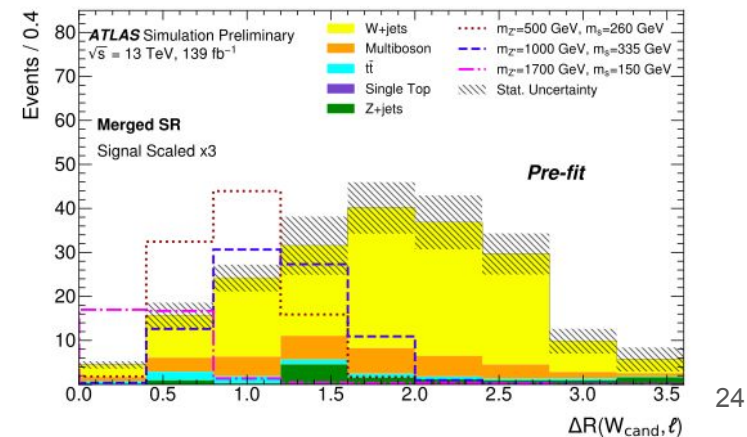
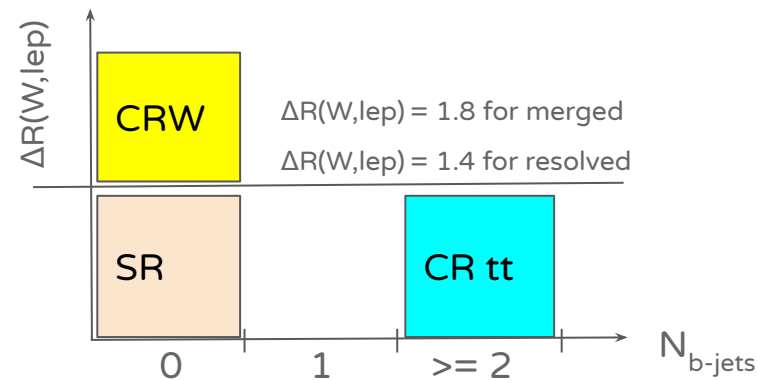
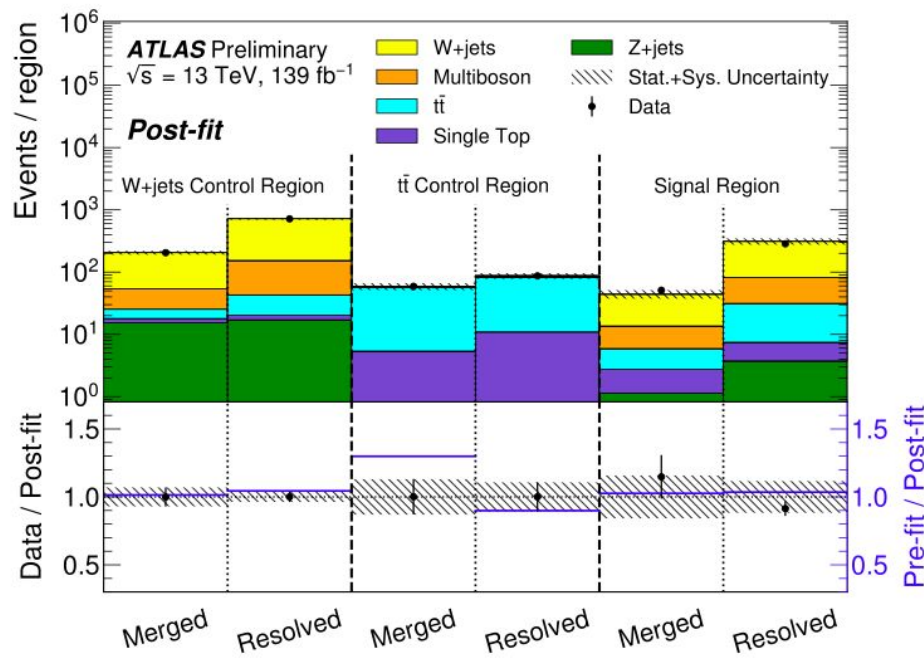
## Merged region

**$W$ -tagging from large- $R$ .**  $s \rightarrow WW$  boosted and lepton might overlap with hadronic  $W$ -boson  $\rightarrow$  TAR jet with  $D_2^{\beta=1} < 1.1$  as  $W$ -candidate.



# Background estimation

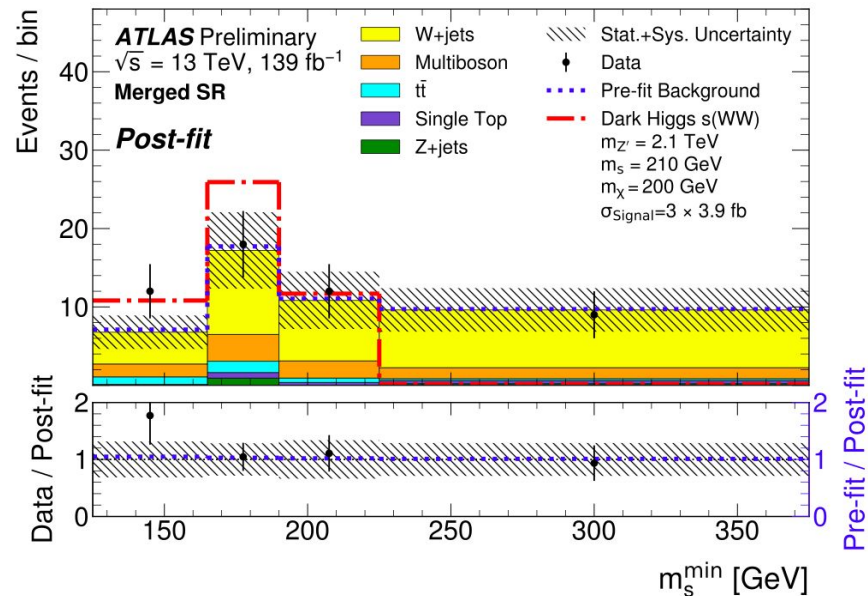
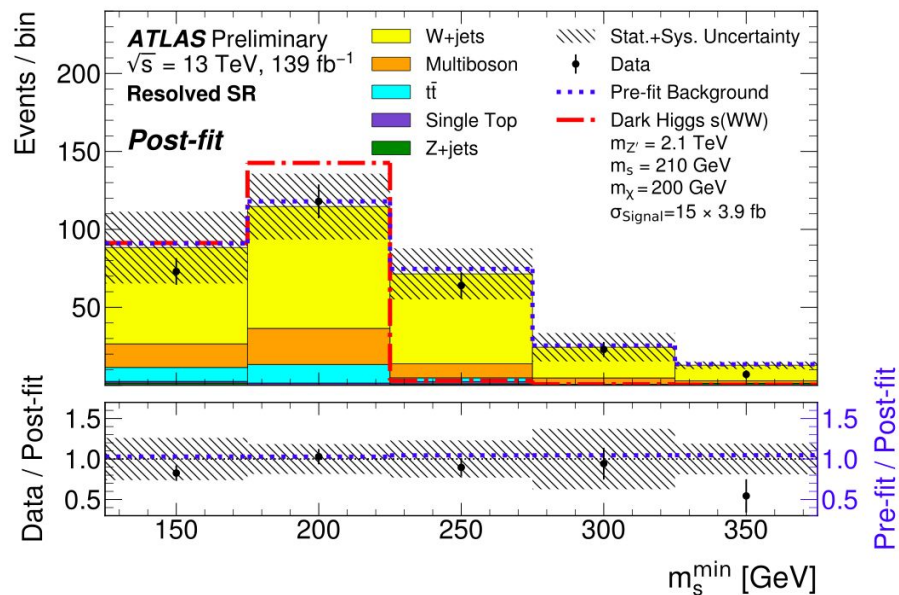
Both regions dominated by W+jets and  $tt \rightarrow$  Single-bin control regions to normalize background.





# Results

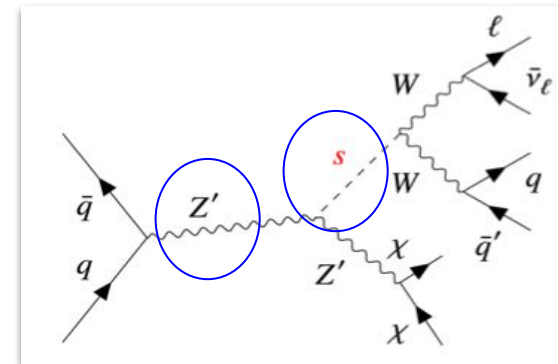
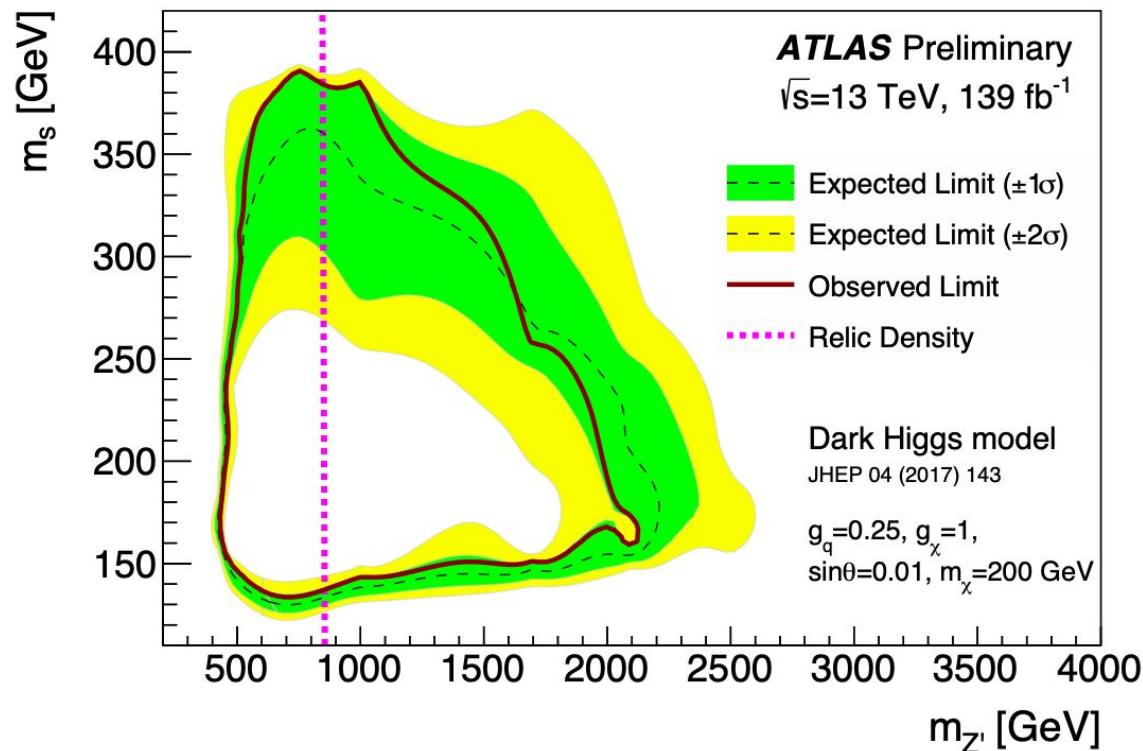
$m_s^{\min}$  variable: minimum possible Dark Higgs boson mass from object kinematics  $\rightarrow$  SRs divided into bins



Good agreement between data and SM predictions in the signal region



# Limits on Dark Higgs model

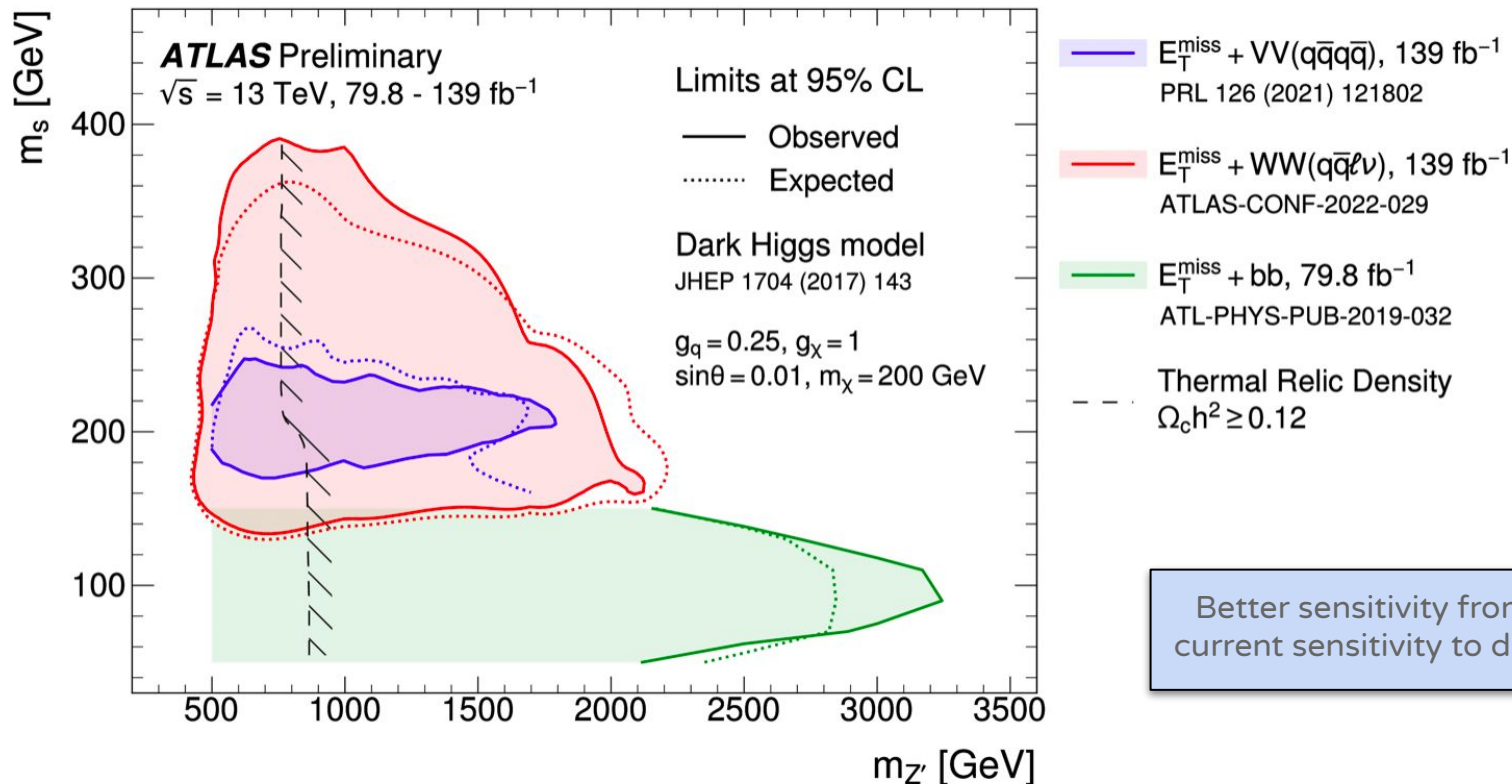


Highest exclusion for  $m_{Z'} \sim 750 \text{ GeV}$

Exclusion for different  $m_{Z'}$  values for  $m_s$  in  $[130, 390] \text{ GeV}$

# Limits on Dark Higgs model

July 2022

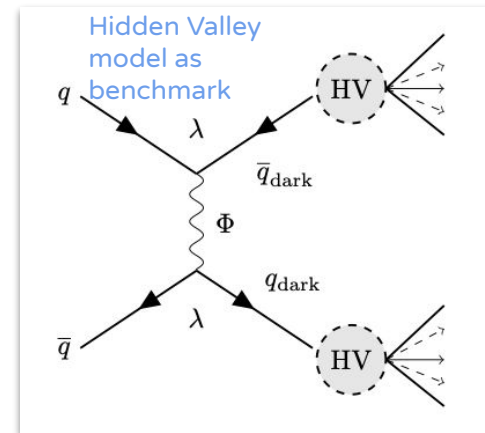


Better sensitivity from 1L channel on current sensitivity to dark Higgs models

# Strongly coupled dark sectors

Dark sector with  $q_{\text{dark}}$  and interactions similar to QCD. **Confinement and hadronization in dark sector (dark hadrons)**

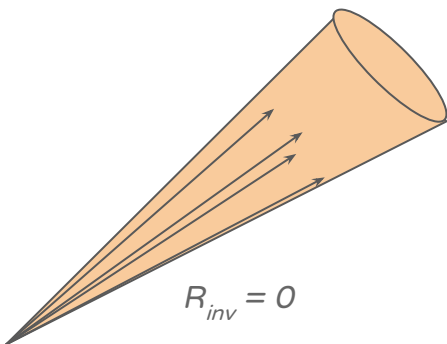
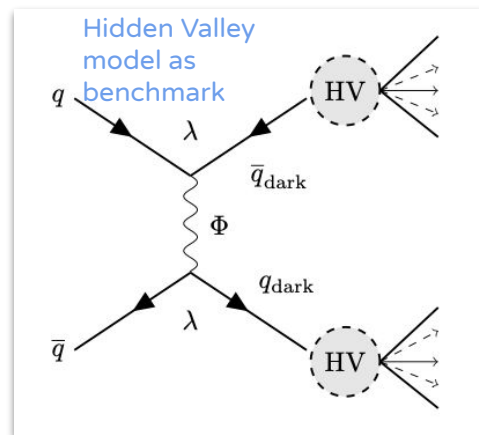
- $q$ - $q_{\text{dark}}$  interaction leading to some dark hadrons decaying into SM particles
  - Stable hadrons (DM candidates)
  - Unstable hadrons (decay into SM quarks)
- Semi-visible jets, not very explored
  - Ratio of stable dark hadrons over total number of hadrons:  $R_{\text{inv}}$



# Strongly coupled dark sectors

Dark sector with  $q_{\text{dark}}$  and interactions similar to QCD. **Confinement and hadronization in dark sector (dark hadrons)**

- $q$ - $q_{\text{dark}}$  interaction leading to some dark hadrons decaying into SM particles
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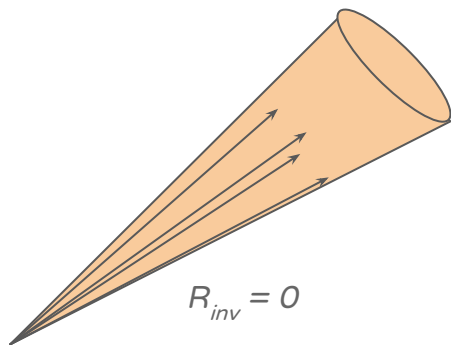


Visible jets.  
SM measurements

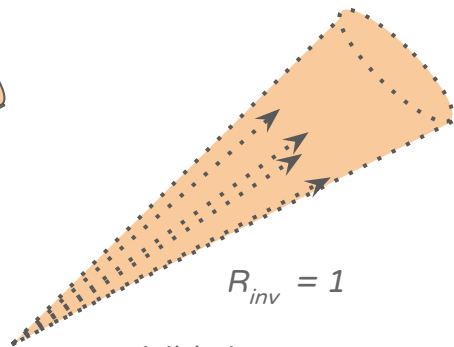
# Strongly coupled dark sectors

Dark sector with  $q_{\text{dark}}$  and interactions similar to QCD. **Confinement and hadronization in dark sector (dark hadrons)**

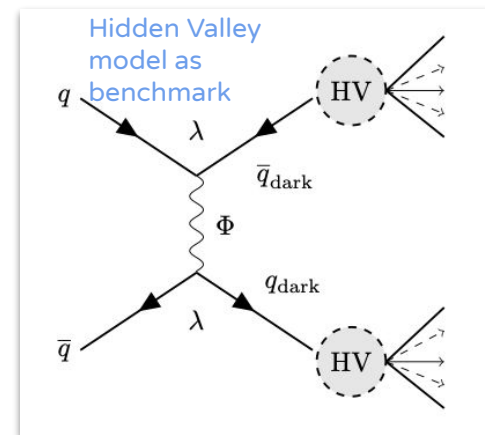
- $q$ - $q_{\text{dark}}$  interaction leading to some dark hadrons decaying into SM particles
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- Semi-visible jets, not very explored
  - Ratio of stable dark hadrons over total number of hadrons:  $R_{\text{inv}}$



Visible jets.  
SM measurements



Invisible jets.  
Mono-X DM searches

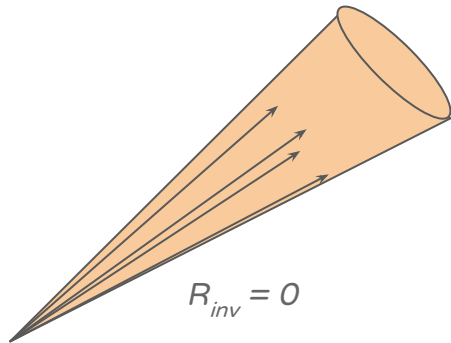




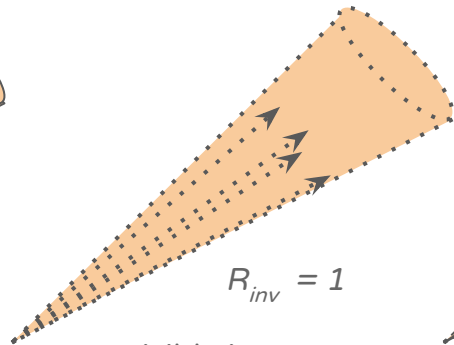
# Strongly coupled dark sectors

Dark sector with  $q_{\text{dark}}$  and interactions similar to QCD. **Confinement and hadronization in dark sector (dark hadrons)**

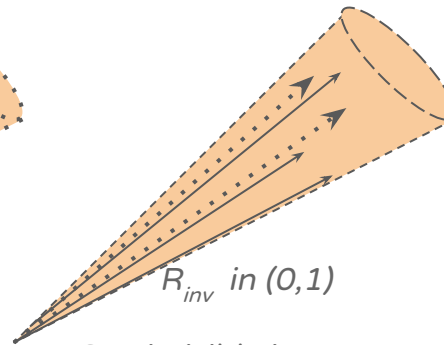
- $q$ - $q_{\text{dark}}$  interaction leading to some dark hadrons decaying into SM particles
  - Stable hadrons (DM candidates)
  - Unstable hadrons (decay into SM quarks)
- Semi-visible jets, not very explored
  - Ratio of stable dark hadrons over total number of hadrons:  $R_{\text{inv}}$



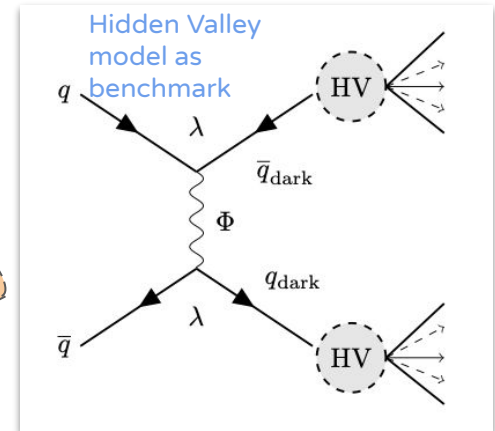
Visible jets.  
SM measurements



Invisible jets.  
Mono-X DM searches



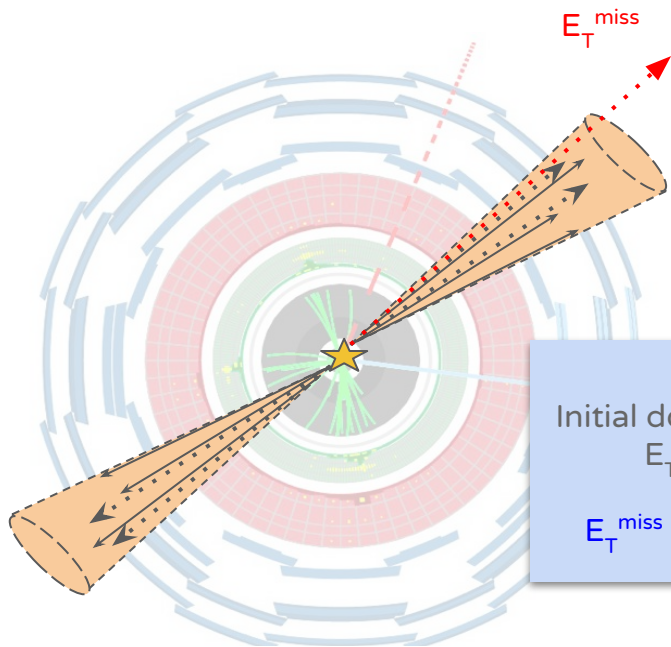
Semi-visible jets.  
**Little explored !**



# Analysis strategy: signal topology

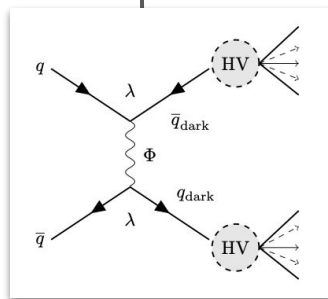
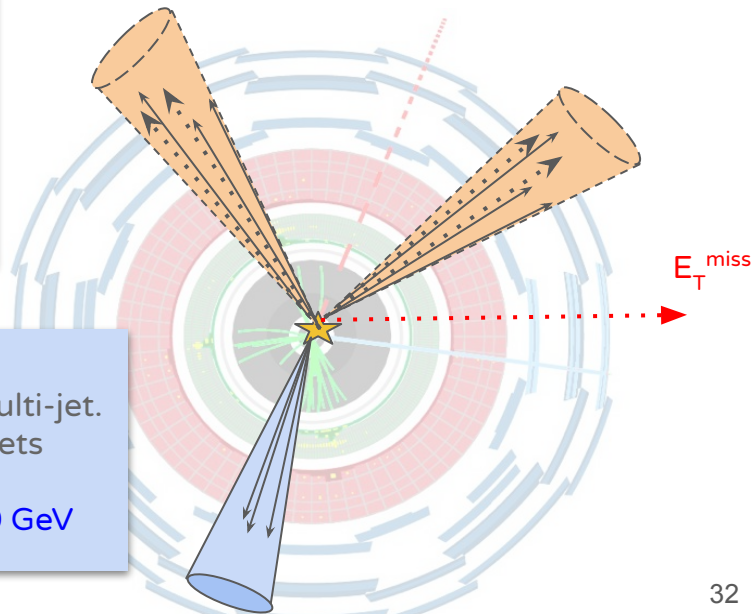
## Leading order signals

Back-to-back.  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  aligned with one of the jets



## LO plus additional jets

$E_T^{\text{miss}}$  less aligned with one of the jets



OL search: jets +  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$   
Initial dominant background: multi-jet.  
 $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  from mismeasured jets

$$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 600 \text{ GeV and } H_T > 600 \text{ GeV}$$

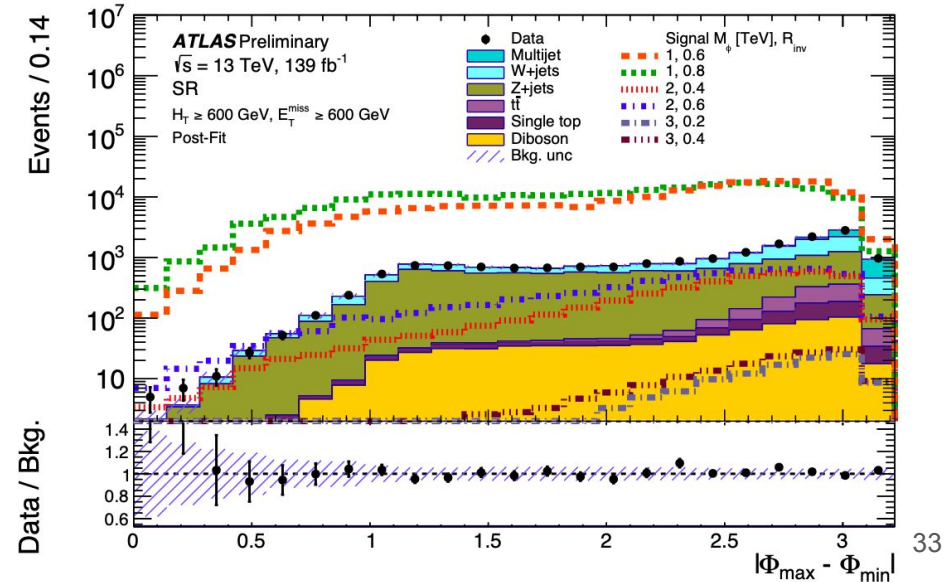
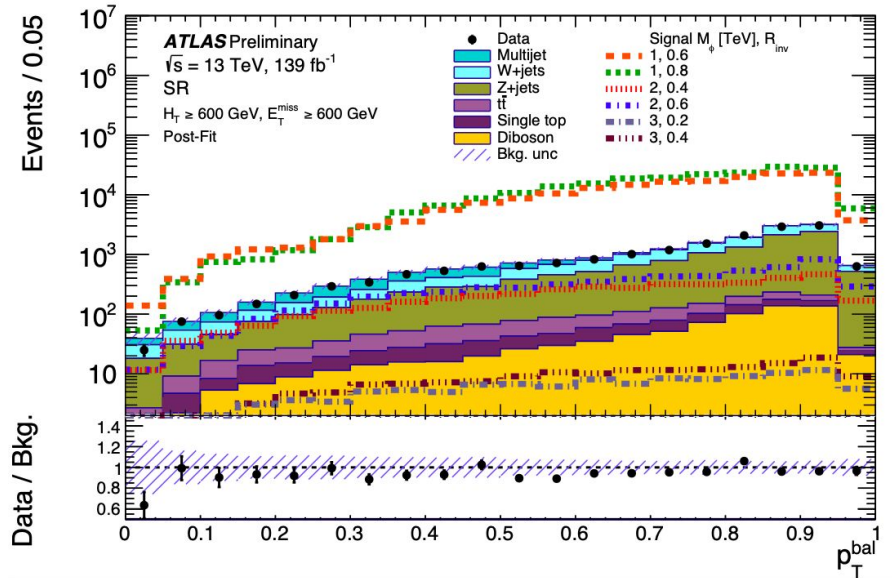
# Analysis strategy

At least two jets with  $p_{T,j} > 30$  GeV. One with  $p_{T,j} > 250$  GeV.  
 $\Delta\Phi(j, E_T^{\text{miss}}) < 2.0$  for at least one jet.

- Closest jet to  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  in  $\Phi$ :  $j_1$ . Farthest,  $j_2$   
 Using  $p_T^{\text{bal}}$  and  $|\Delta\Phi(j_1, j_2)| = |\Phi_{\text{max}} - \Phi_{\text{min}}|$  as discriminants.

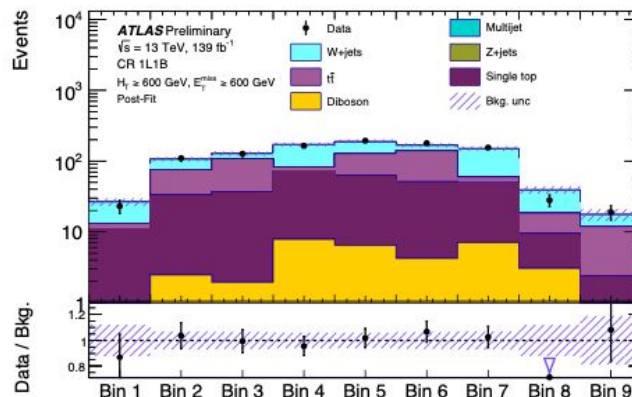
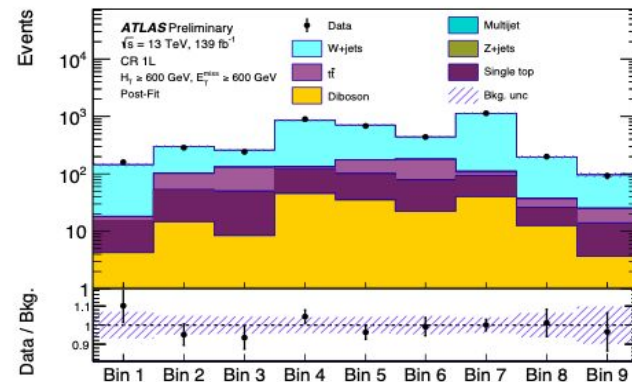
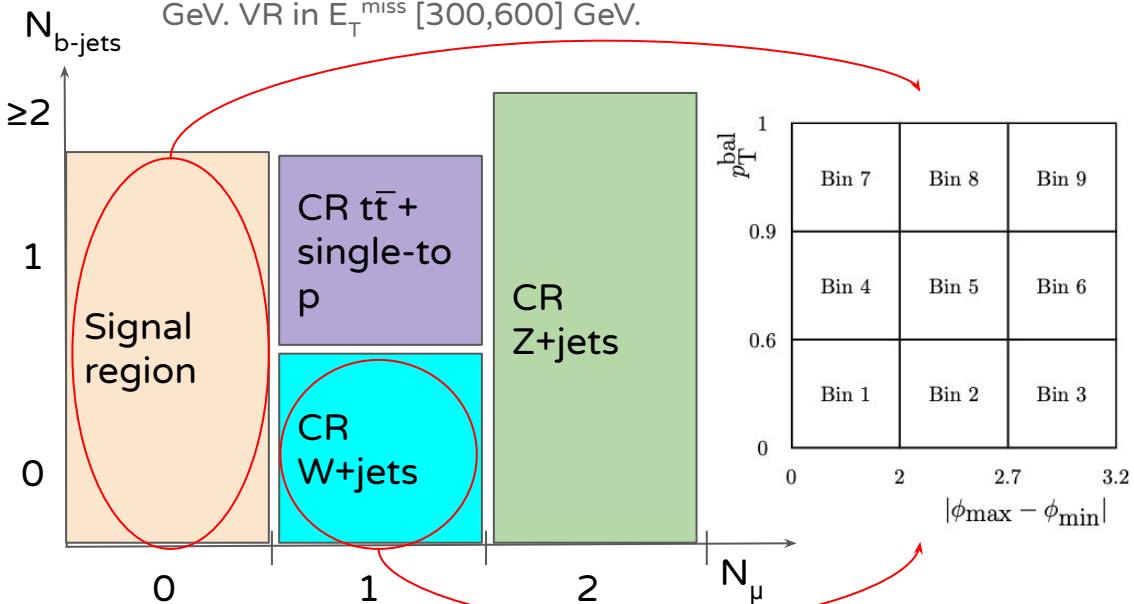
$$p_T^{\text{bal}} = \frac{|\vec{p}_T(j_1) + \vec{p}_T(j_2)|}{|\vec{p}_T(j_1)| + |\vec{p}_T(j_2)|}$$

$$|\phi_{\text{max}} - \phi_{\text{min}}|$$

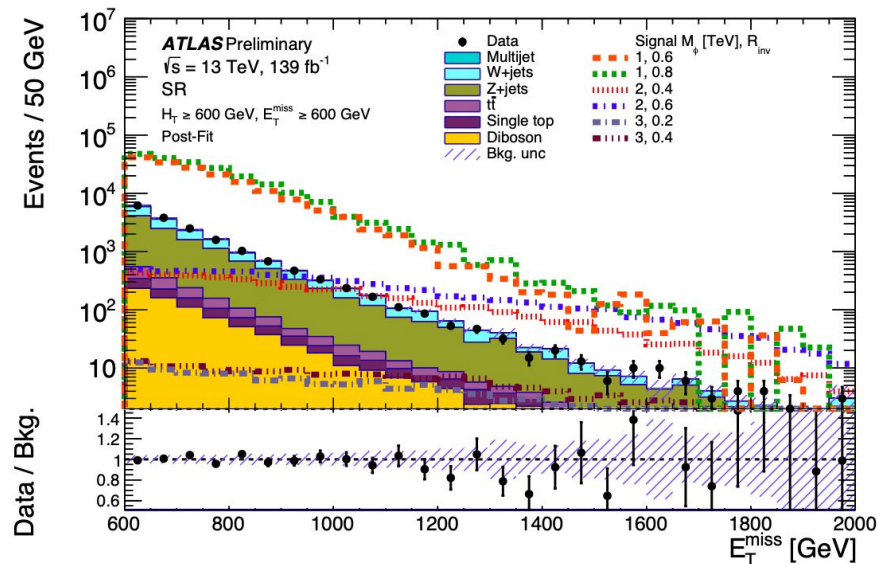
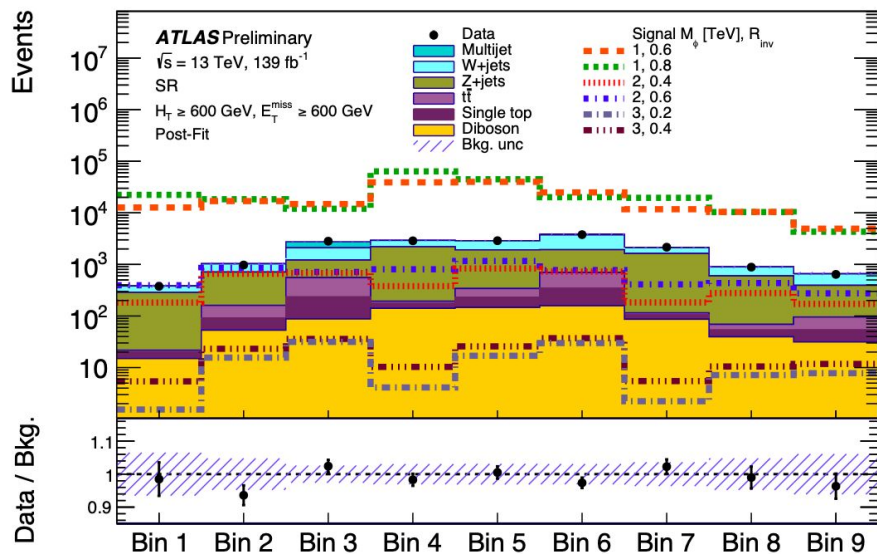


# Background estimation

- Backgrounds estimated from dedicated control regions.
  - $t\bar{t}$  and single-top merged into one single contribution
- Each region (SRs and CRs) is divided into 9 bins
  - One norm factor per background.
- Multijet: correction factors in region with  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  in [250,300] GeV. VR in  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  [300,600] GeV.



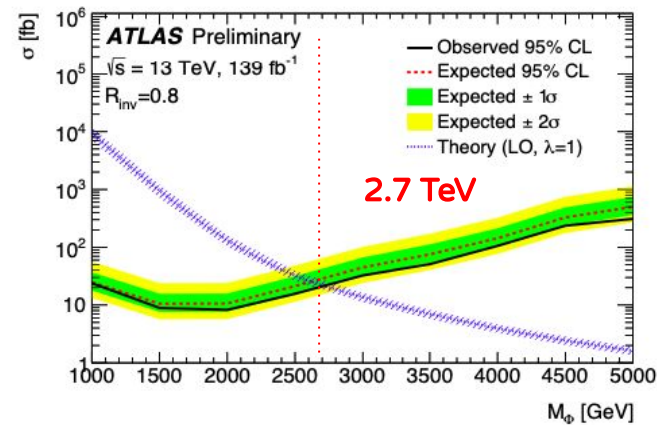
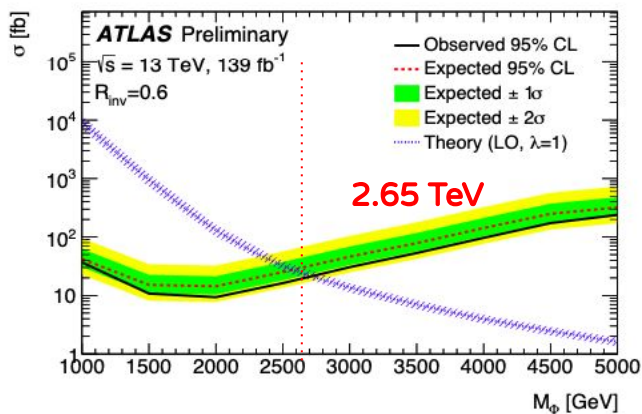
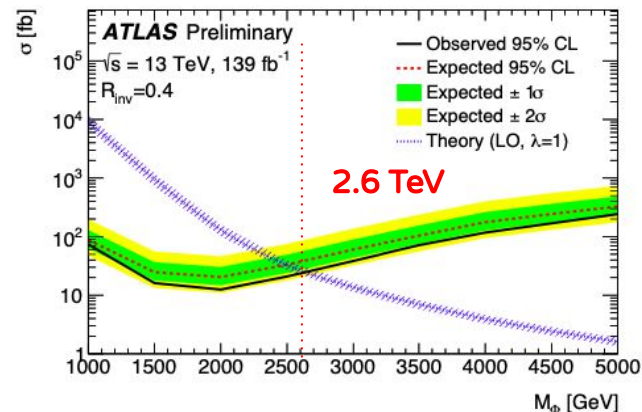
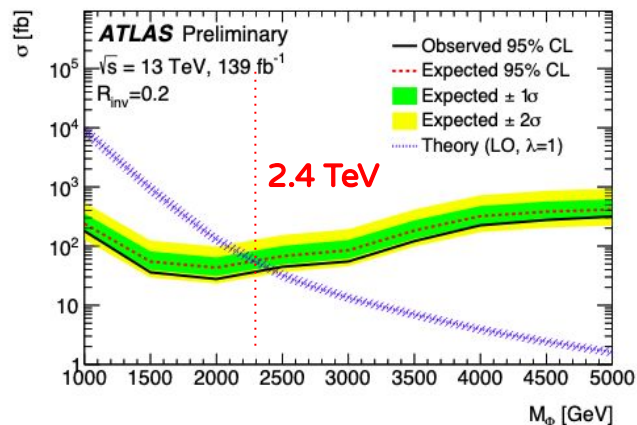
# Results



After fit, no BSM signal has been observed and good agreement between data and SM prediction

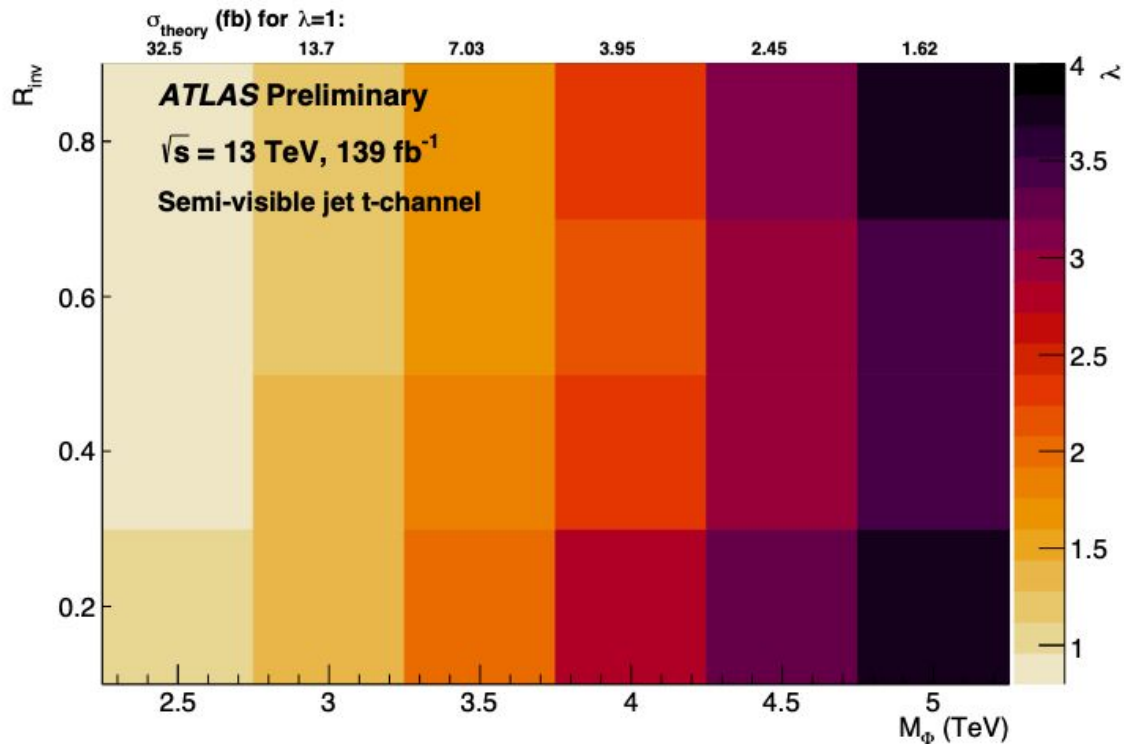


# Intepretation of results

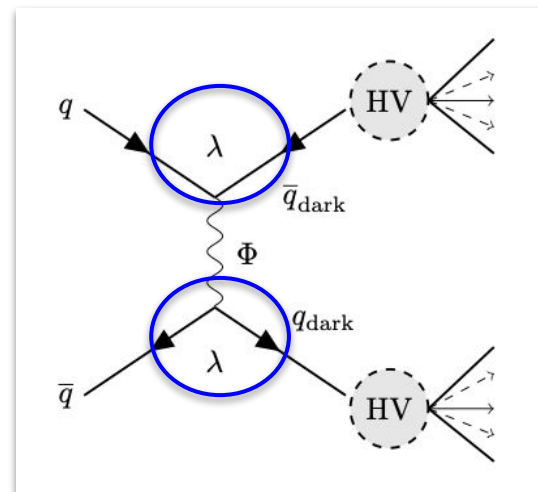


# Interpretation of results

Upper limit on  $\lambda$  (coupling strength  $q'_{\text{dark}} - q$ )



Cross-section dependence with  $\lambda^4$ ..





Searches for long-lived particles in displaced hadronic jets

LLP into displaced jets : [JHEP 06 \(2022\) 005](#)



# Searches for long-lived particles

The dark sector might also contain particles of medium lifetime (LLPs)

- Decays within the detectors but displaced from interaction point.

Relatively unexplored during Run-I → Focused on prompt particles searches.

LLP searches have experienced a tremendous advance at LHC during Run-II

- Displaced vertices
- Displaced leptons and jets
- Pixel dE/dx
- .....

Presenting a search for displaced jets in the ATLAS hadronic calorimeter

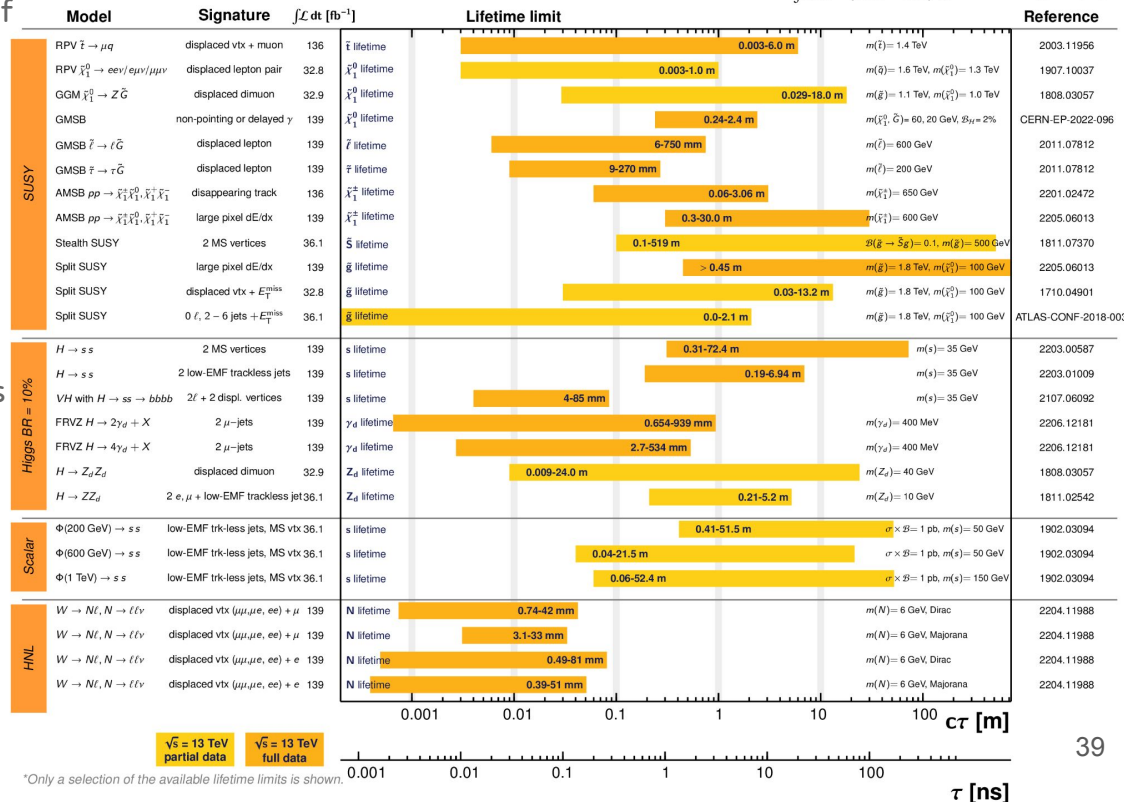
## ATLAS Long-lived Particle Searches\* - 95% CL Exclusion [PUB-2022-034](#)

Status: July 2022

ATLAS Preliminary

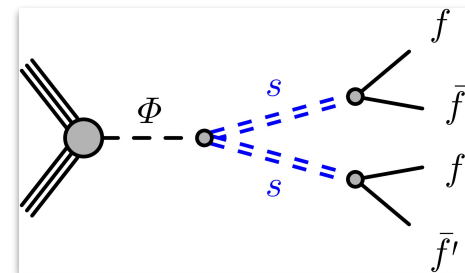
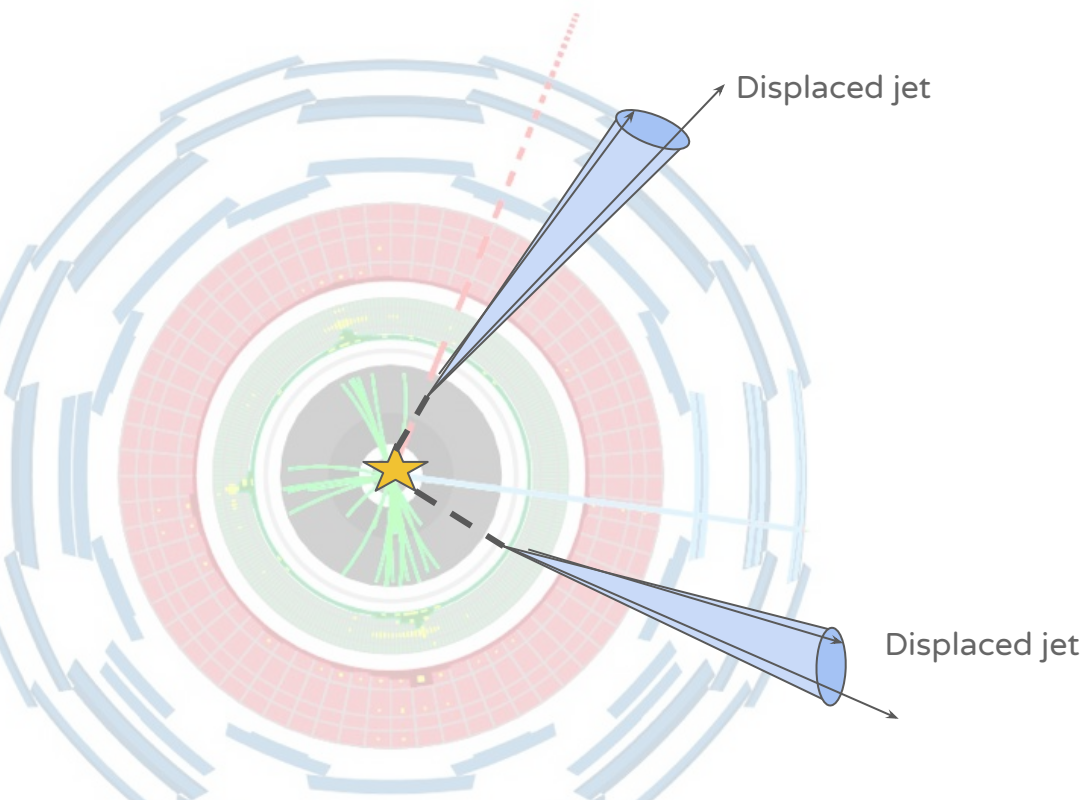
$$\int \mathcal{L} dt = (32.8 - 139) \text{ fb}^{-1}$$

$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$



\*Only a selection of the available lifetime limits is shown.

# LLP in displaced hadronic jets: signature



Heavy scalar mediator ( $\Phi$ ) decaying to two long-lived scalars ( $s$ )

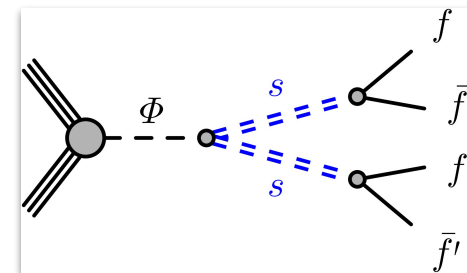
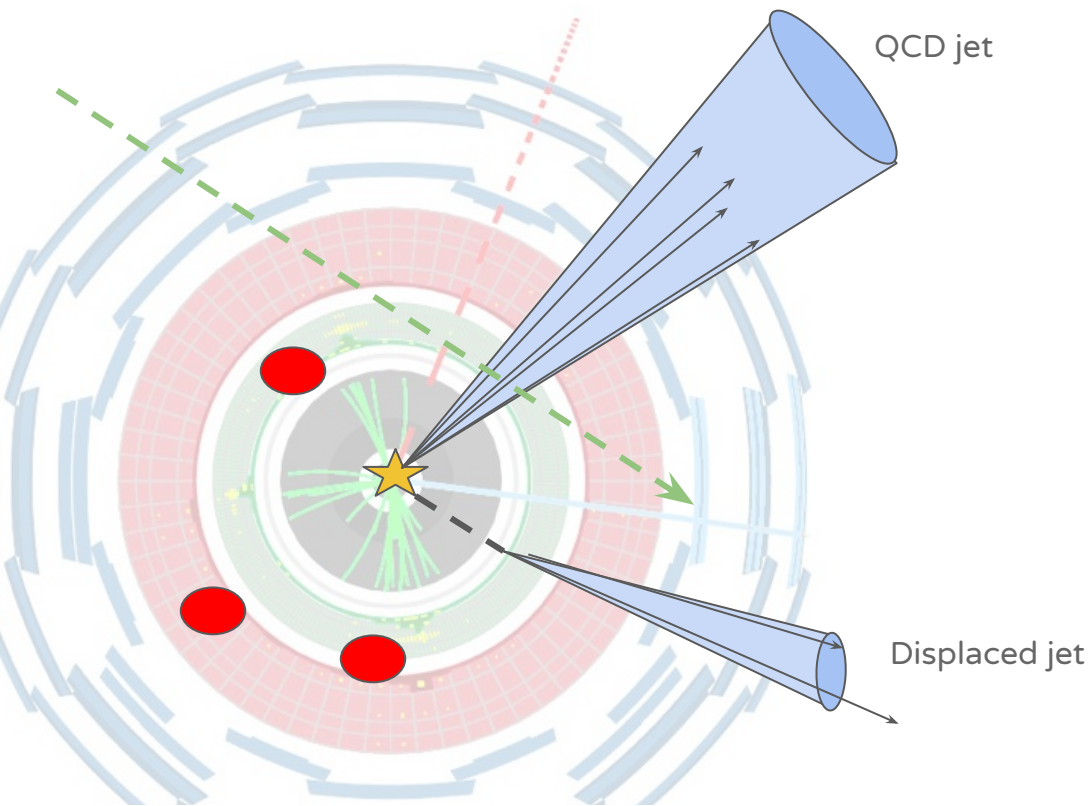
- Scalars decaying to SM fermions (quarks, leptons)

## Signature: displaced jets

- Large energy deposit in HCAL and low energy deposits in ECAL
- Trackless jets
- Narrow deposits



# LLP in displaced hadronic jets: backgrounds



## QCD jets

- Jets usually deposits in all subsystems.
- Large QCD cross-section in pp collisions  
→ dominant

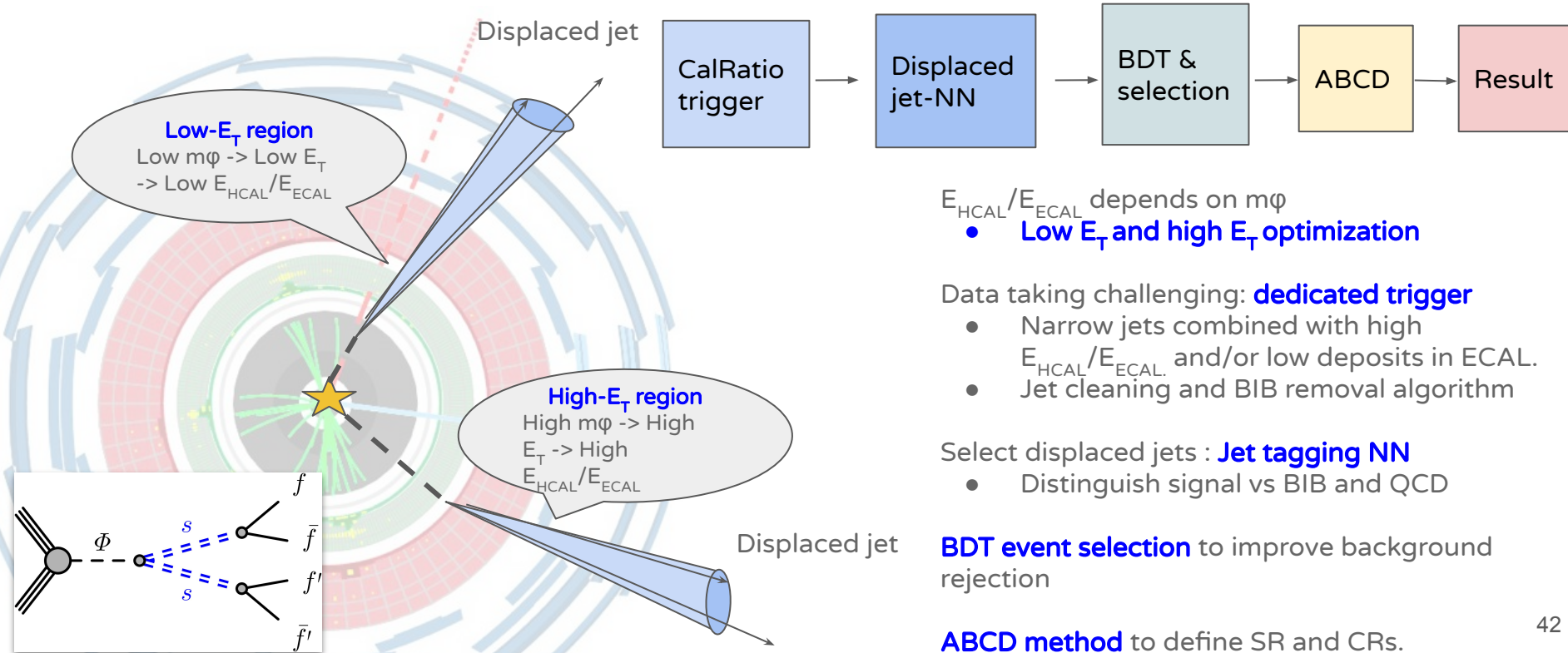
## Beam-induced background (BIB):

- LHC beam-gas and beam-halo interactions upstream detector

## Cosmic backgrounds:

- Cosmic rays and external radiation to detector

# LLP in displaced hadronic jets: analysis strategy

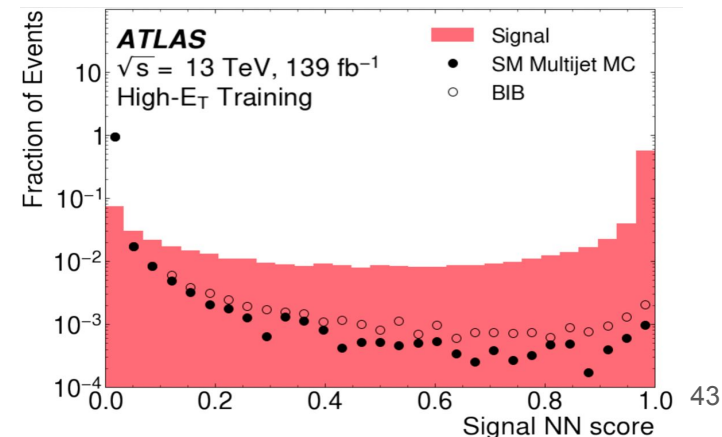
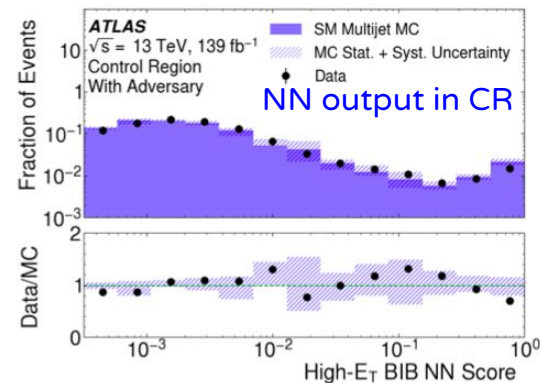
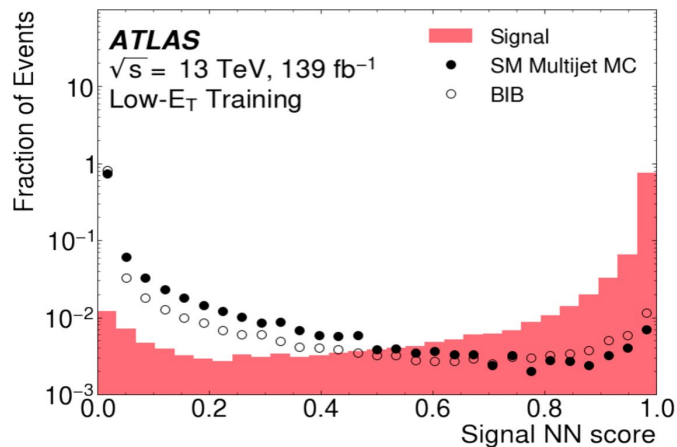


# Displaced jet NN

Neural network (CNN plugged on LSTM) to distinguish signal, BIB and QCD.

- Quality, momenta, IP of tracks around candidate jets
- Momenta, timing, energy fraction in ECAL and HCAL of topoclusters.
- Spatial and timing info of muon-tracks arounds jets. Jet variables.
- ANN to reduce dependence on mismodelled key observables.

Separate NN for low- $E_T$  and high- $E_T$ .  
Good separation between signal and BIB and multi-jet.

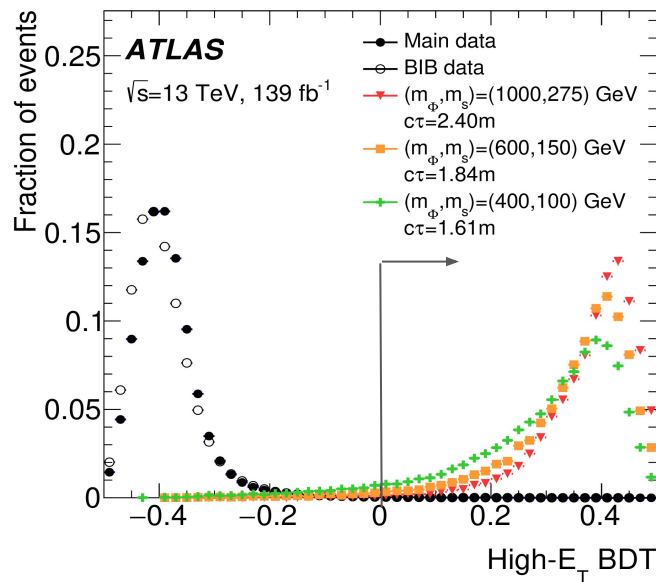
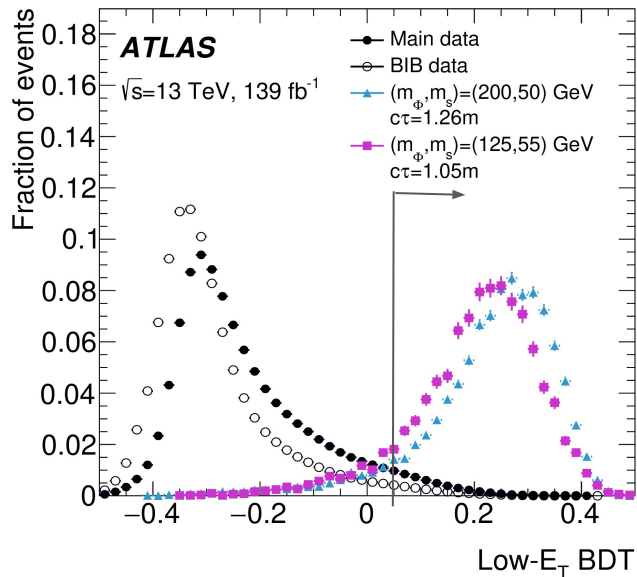


# BDT and event selection

BDT defined per-event. Based on jet-NN signal and BIB score of two leading  $E_T$  jets and event variables.

Event cleaning: jet time, BDT score cut, trigger matching of one jet and high  $E_{\text{HCAL}}/E_{\text{ECAL}}$

Final selection to remove BIB and cosmic.



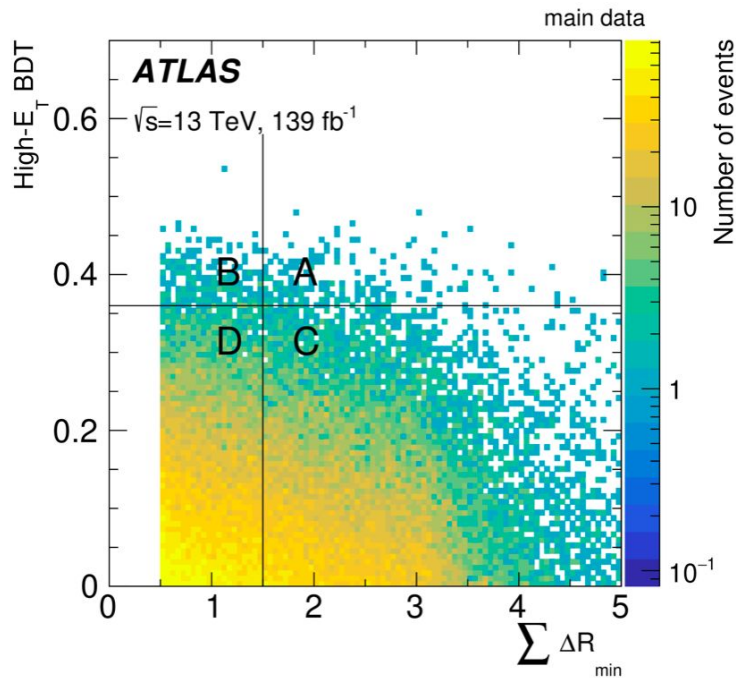
<p>Low-<math>E_T</math> selection</p> $H_T^{\text{miss}}/H_T < 0.6$ $(\sum_{\text{jet}^{\text{sig}_{1l}}, \text{jet}^{\text{sig}_{2l}}} \log_{10}(E_H/E_{EM})) > 2$ $p_T(\text{jet}^{\text{sig}_{1l}}) > 80\text{GeV}$ $p_T(\text{jet}^{\text{sig}_{2l}}) > 80\text{GeV}$ <p>low-<math>E_T</math> NN product &gt; 0.7</p>
<p>High-<math>E_T</math> selection</p> $H_T^{\text{miss}}/H_T < 0.6$ $(\sum_{\text{jet}^{\text{sig}_{1h}}, \text{jet}^{\text{sig}_{2h}}} \log_{10}(E_H/E_{EM})) > 1$ $p_T(\text{jet}^{\text{sig}_{1h}}) > 70\text{GeV}$ $p_T(\text{jet}^{\text{sig}_{2h}}) > 80\text{GeV}$ <p>high-<math>E_T</math> NN product &gt; 0.5</p>

# Signal and control regions: ABCD method

After event selection, main background is multi-jet. Modified ABCD method to estimate multi-jet background.

- Combined fit of multi-jet background following relation of ABCD method.

Define SR (A) and CRs (B,C, D) based on top of event selection with: BDT score and  $\Sigma\Delta R_{\min}(\text{jet,tracks})$ .



Multi-jet background prediction in SR (A)

$$N_A = (N_B \cdot N_C) / N_D$$

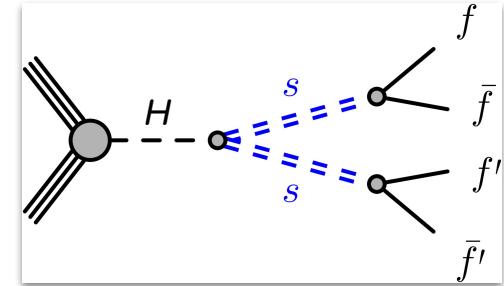
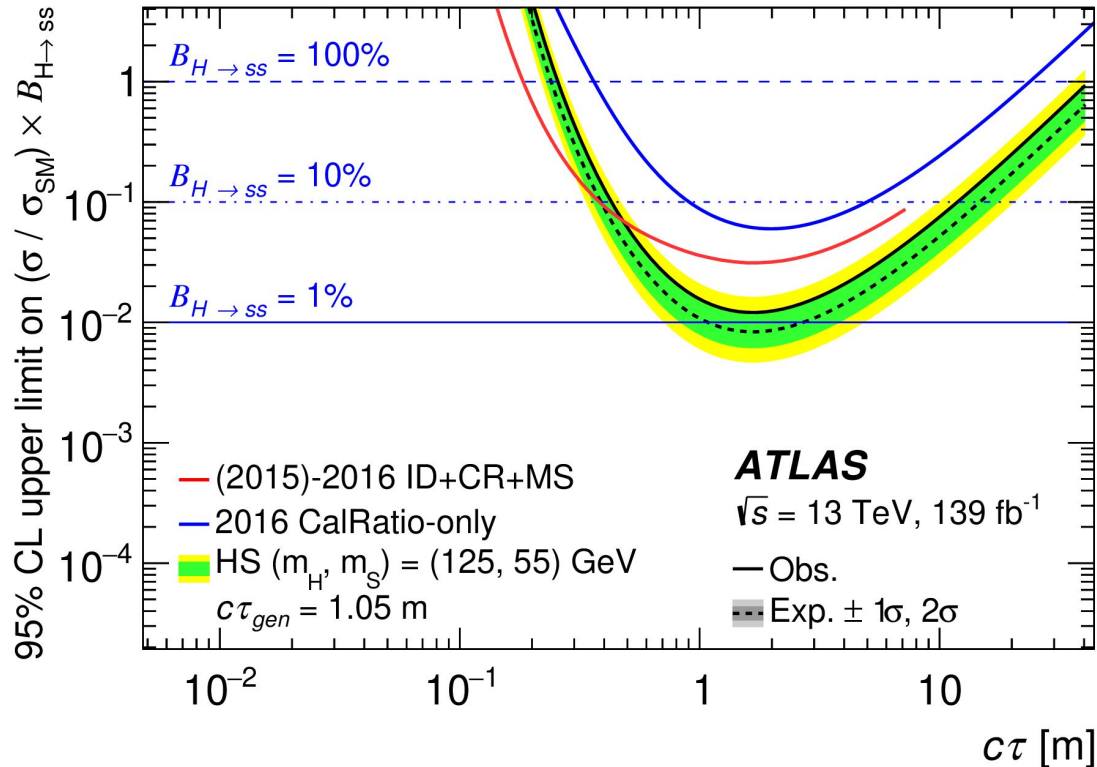
Low- $E_T$ selection	A	B	C	D
Observed data	23	3	220	61
<i>a priori</i>				
Estimated background	$10.8 \pm 6.6$	$3 \pm 1.7$	$220 \pm 15$	$61 \pm 7.8$

High- $E_T$ selection	A	B	C	D
Observed data	22	7	233	131
<i>a priori</i>				
Estimated background	$12.4 \pm 4.7$	$7 \pm 2.6$	$233 \pm 15$	$131 \pm 11$

Excesses observed (p-value: low- $E_T$  = 0.076, high- $E_T$  = 0.083)  
Agreement between data and SM prediction.



# Interpretation: limits if $\Phi$ is SM Higgs boson



Less sensitive limit from 2016 combination at low  $c\tau$  due to not inclusion of ID

Sensitivity to  $BR(H \rightarrow ss)$  down to 1%

Better sensitivity than previous CalRatio:

- Better trigger.
- Better displaced jet-NN.

# Interpretation: limits if $\Phi$ is SM Higgs boson

## Searches:

- **Muon System (2 Vtx Only), 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
arXiv:2203.00587
- **Muon System (1 Vtx + 2 Vtx), 36 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
Phys. Rev. D 99 (2019) 052005
- **Calorimeter, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
arXiv:2203.01009
- **Calorimeter, 11 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
Eur. Phys. J. C 79 (2019) 481
- **Tracker+Muon System, 36 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
Phys. Rev. D 101 (2020) 052013
- **Tracker (LRT), 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
JHEP 11 (2021) 229

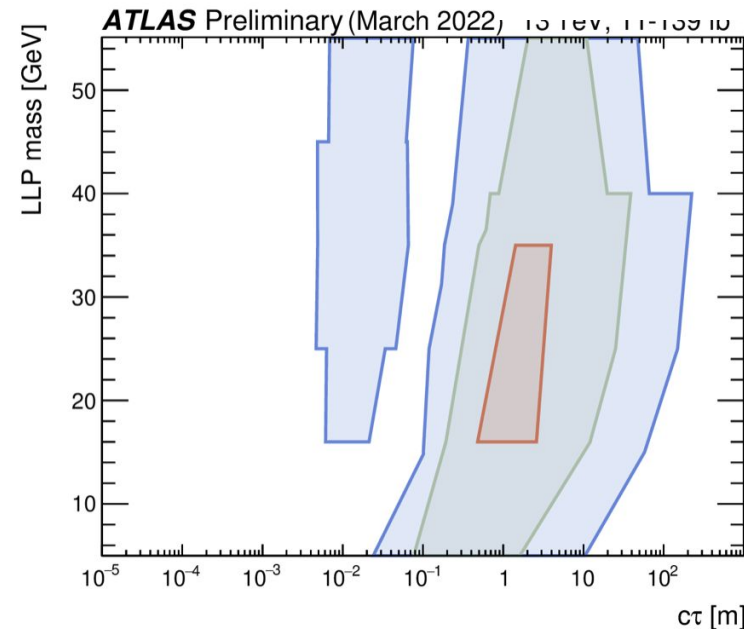
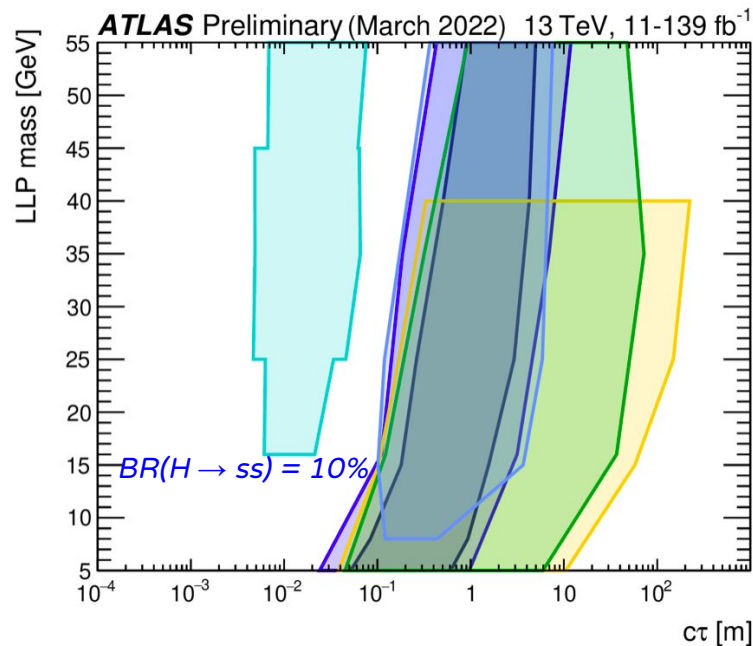
■  $B(H \rightarrow ss) = 10\%$

■  $B(H \rightarrow ss) = 1\%$

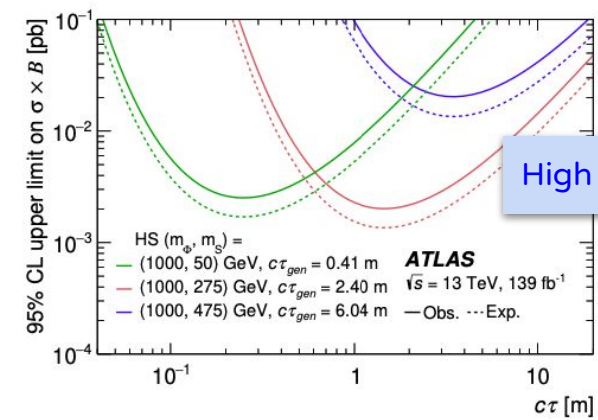
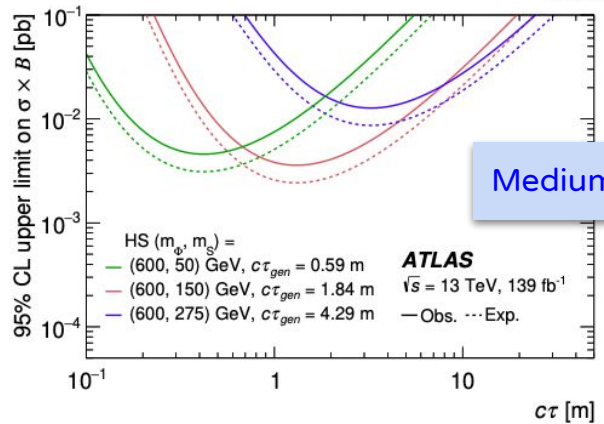
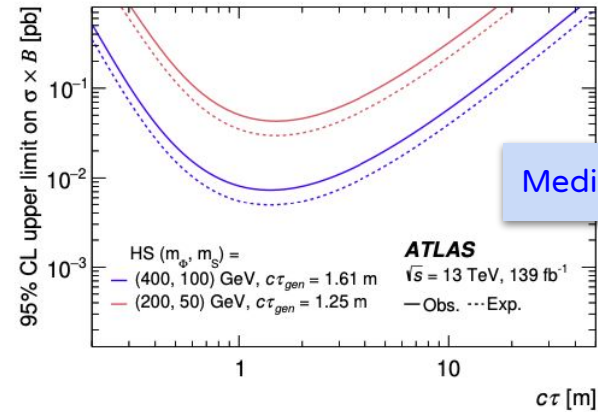
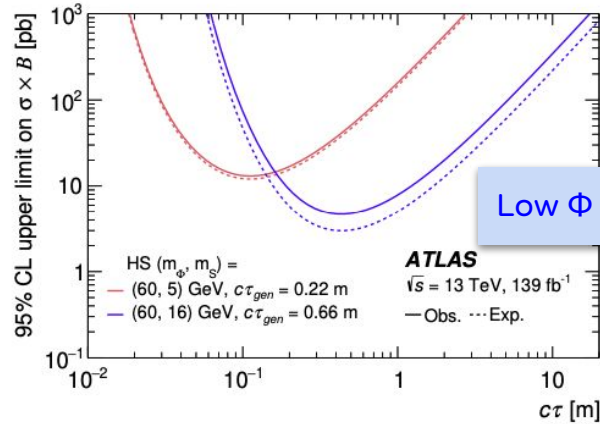
■  $B(H \rightarrow ss) = 0.1\%$

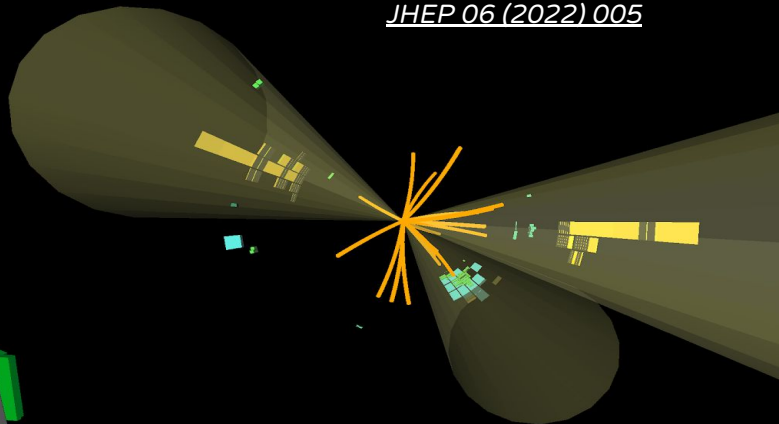
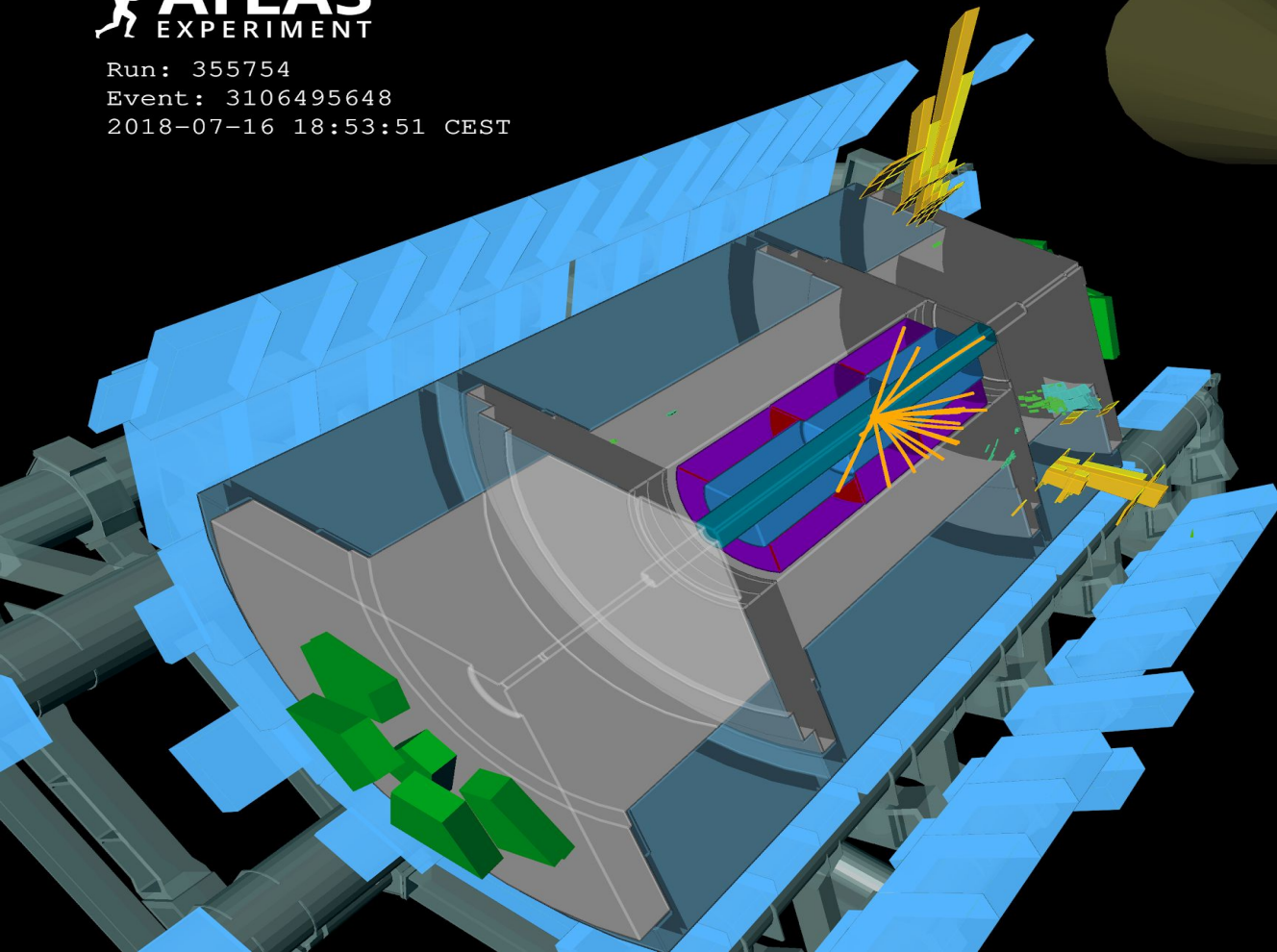
## Contributing searches:

- Muon System (2 Vtx Only), 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
arXiv:2203.00587
- Muon System (1 Vtx + 2 Vtx), 36 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
Phys. Rev. D 99 (2019) 052005
- Calorimeter, 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
arXiv:2203.01009
- Calorimeter, 11 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
Eur. Phys. J. C 79 (2019) 481
- Tracker+Muon System, 36 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
Phys. Rev. D 101 (2020) 052013
- Tracker (LRT), 139 fb<sup>-1</sup>**  
JHEP 11 (2021) 229



# Interpretation: limits if $\Phi$ is new heavy scalar





Event selected by  
region A in high- $E_T$   
selection.

# Conclusion

Run-2 has provided us with more and improved DM searches and seen the expansion of ATLAS research to long-lived particles

Recent new analyses searching for dark matter in association to a top-quark.

- Mono-top searches greatly improved the current limits with respect to Early Run-2
- Additional channels increase sensitivity in  $tW+DM$  searches.

Searches for more complex dark sectors presented

- First results on strongly coupled DM sector in semi-visible jets with ATLAS and in the single-lepton channel for dark Higgs into  $WW$ .

New search for long-lived particles using displaced jets

- Improving early Run-2 limits and sensitivity at middle  $c\tau$



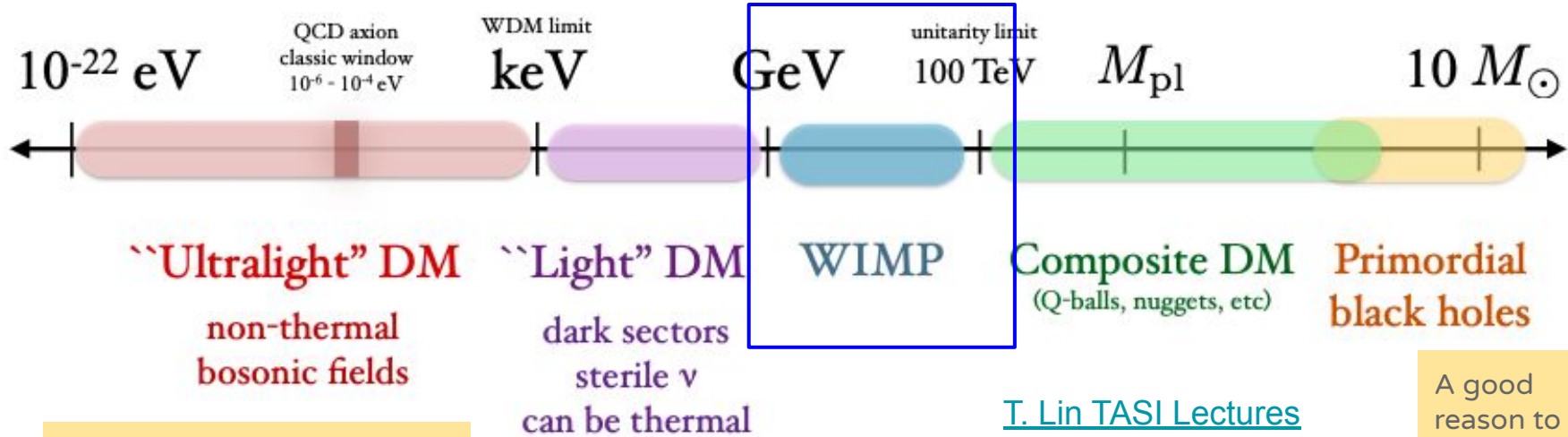
LHC Run-3 started. New and exciting results await us. Stay tuned !



The image shows the interior of a large particle accelerator tunnel, likely the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). The view is from a central perspective looking down the length of the tunnel. The tunnel walls are lined with complex machinery, including large cylindrical components with orange and white stripes. The floor is a network of metal walkways and support structures. In the center, a series of blue and green components are visible, possibly part of the superconducting magnets. A blue rectangular overlay with the word "Backup" in white text is centered in the middle of the image. The overall atmosphere is industrial and technical.

Backup

# Where to find it ? Is it big or small?



Cannot explain relic abundance but other SM problems ( e.g. strong CP violation)

Can explain relic abundance from thermal freeze-out at Early Universe. And masses similar to what we know

Big structures formed of new particles or SM particles

A good reason to preserve the Earth. Things out there could be dark and full of terrors ....

T. Lin TASI Lectures

The most favoured theory is that it is a **WIMP (weakly interacting particle)**.

# What kind of particle ?

## Dark Matter ?

SUSY, extra dimensions, axions, ..  
→ Simplified models

I don't know, but I am going to start easy: it is a single particle

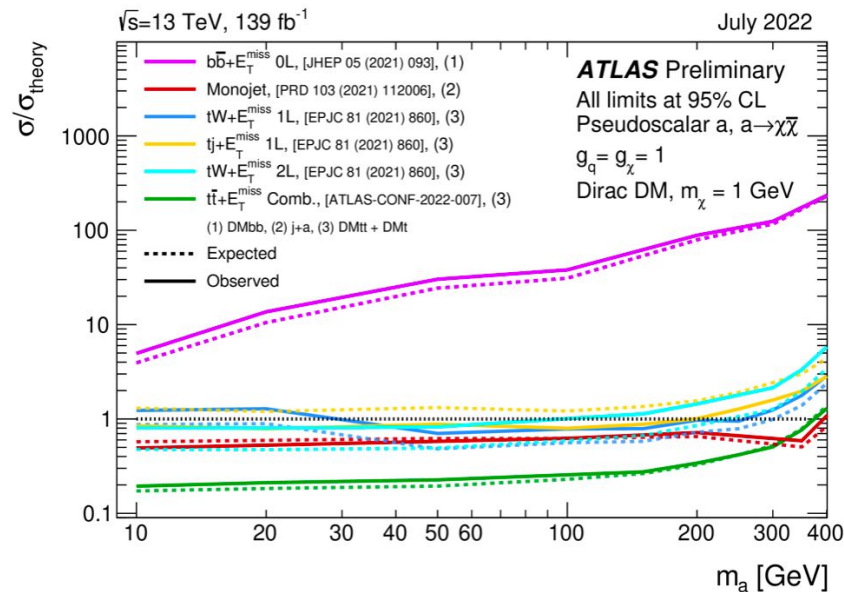
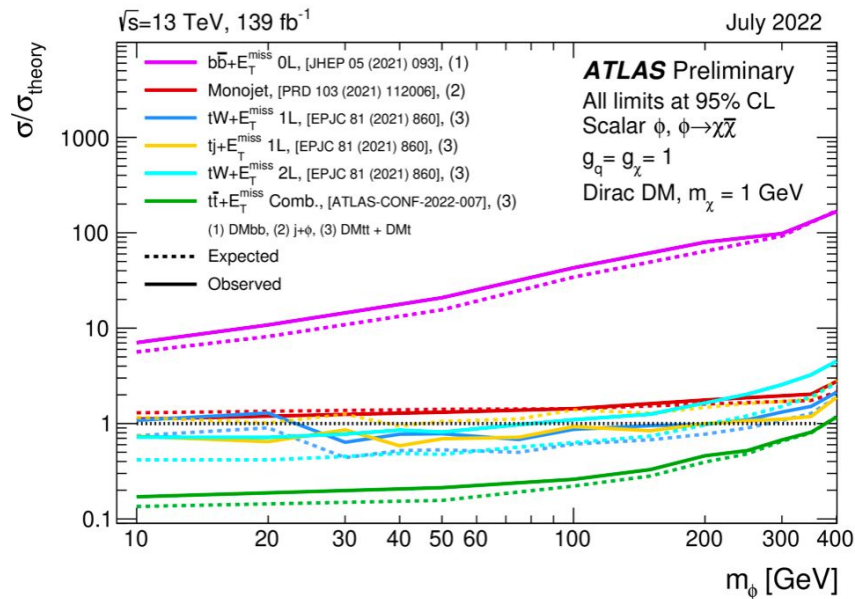
Dark photons,  
Dark quarks,  
Dark Higgs  
.....

Dark sector could have similar structure as SM

Not at LHC

Might be something else: PBH, MOND....

# Scalar and pseudo-scalar mediators DMtt





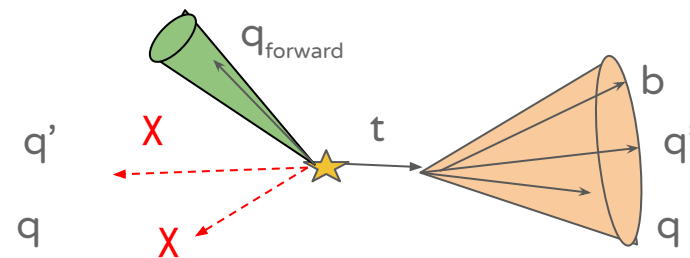
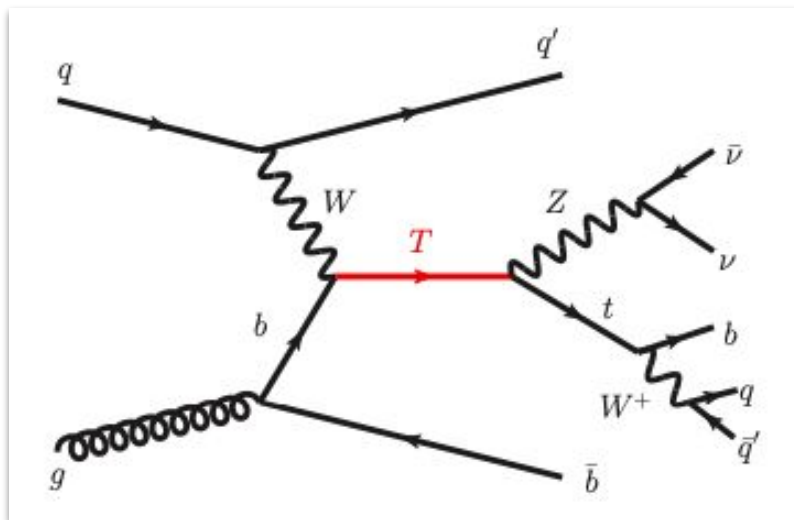
The image shows the interior of a tokamak fusion reactor, characterized by its complex, cylindrical structure. The central column is surrounded by various components, including toroidal field coils and diagnostic systems. A prominent blue rectangular box is overlaid in the center, containing the text "Mono-top backup" in white. The background is a detailed view of the reactor's internal structure, with various pipes, cables, and structural elements visible. The lighting is bright, highlighting the metallic surfaces and the intricate design of the facility.

# Mono-top backup



# Search for Dark Matter plus a single-top

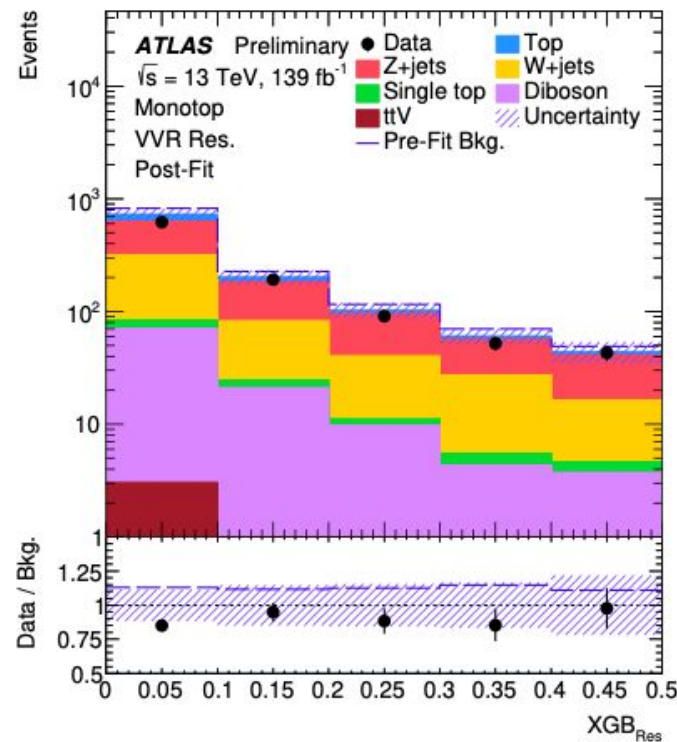
## Vector-like quark (VLQ)



$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$  trigger and  $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 250$  GeV  
 At least one top-tagged large-R jet  $\Delta\phi(j, E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}) > 1.0$   
 At least one forward jet.

# Mono-top: BDT selection

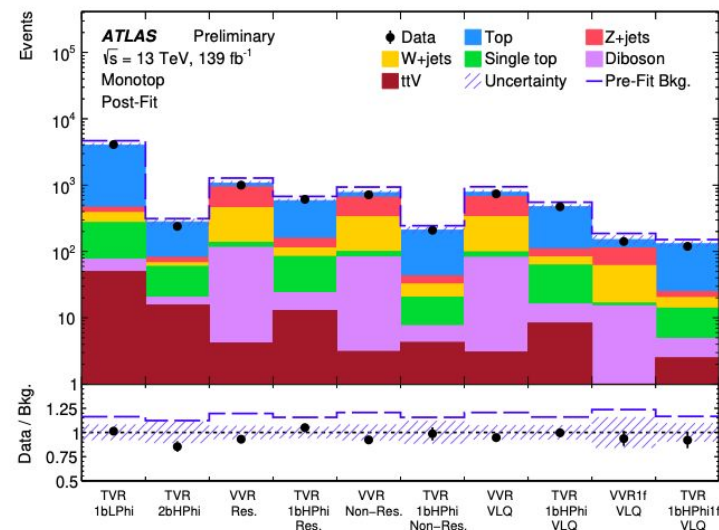
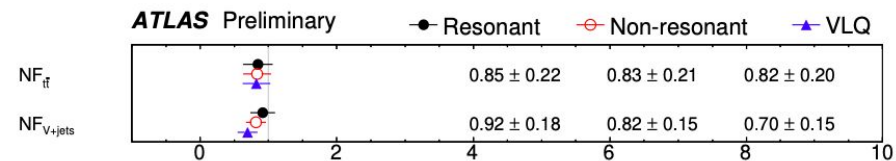
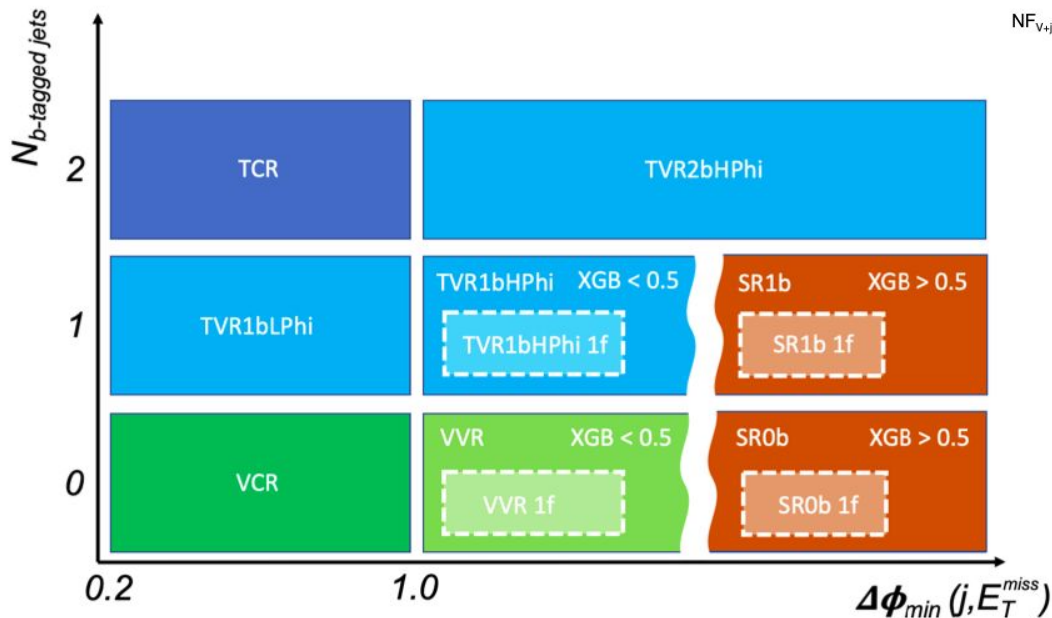
Variable	Description	Resonant DM model	Non-resonant DM model	VLQ
$E_T^{\text{miss}}$	Missing transverse momentum	✓	✓	✓
$\Omega$	$E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and large- $R$ jet $p_T$ balance: $\frac{E_T^{\text{miss}} - p_T(J)}{E_T^{\text{miss}} + p_T(J)}$	✓	✓	✓
$N_{\text{jets}}$	Small- $R$ jet multiplicity	✓	✓	✓
$\Delta R_{\text{max}}$	Maximum $\Delta R$ between two small- $R$ jets	✓	✓	✓
$m_{T,\text{min}}(E_T^{\text{miss}}, b\text{-jet})$	Transverse mass of $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and the closest $b$ -tagged jet.	✓	✓	✓
$m_{\text{top-tagged jet}}$	Mass of the large- $R$ top-tagged jet	✓		✓
$\Delta p_T(J, \text{jets})$	Scalar difference of large- $R$ jet $p_T$ and the sum of $p_T$ of all small- $R$ jets.	✓	✓	
$H_T$	Sum of all small- $R$ jet $p_T$		✓	✓
$H_T/E_T^{\text{miss}}$	Ratio of $H_T$ and $E_T^{\text{miss}}$		✓	✓
$\Delta E(E_T^{\text{miss}}, J)$	Energy difference between $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and the large- $R$ jet		✓	✓
$\Delta\phi(E_T^{\text{miss}}, J)$	Angular distance in the transverse plane between $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and large- $R$ jet		✓	✓
$p_T(J)$	Large- $R$ jet $p_T$			✓
$m_T(E_T^{\text{miss}}, J)$	Transverse mass of the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and large- $R$ jet			✓
$\Delta\phi(b\text{-tagged jet}, J)$	Angular distance in the transverse plane between the large- $R$ jet and the leading $b$ -jet			✓



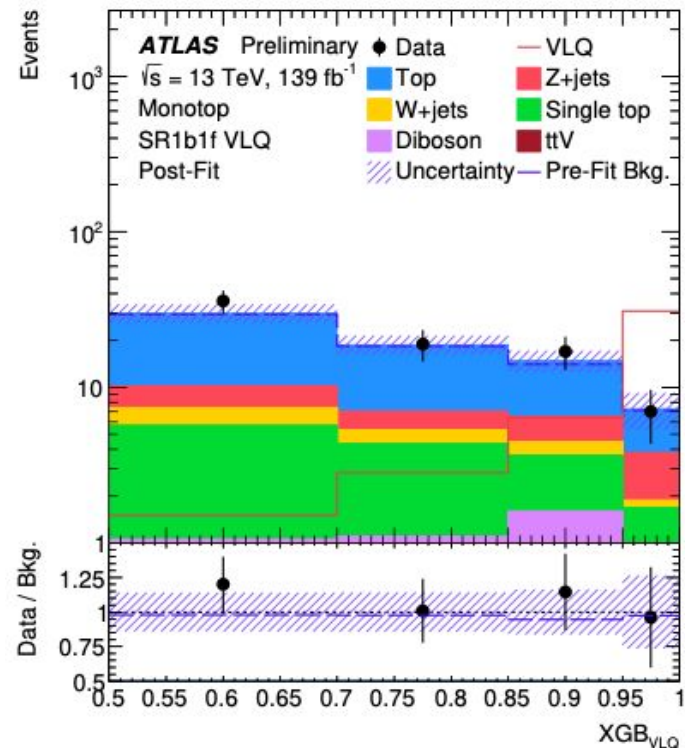
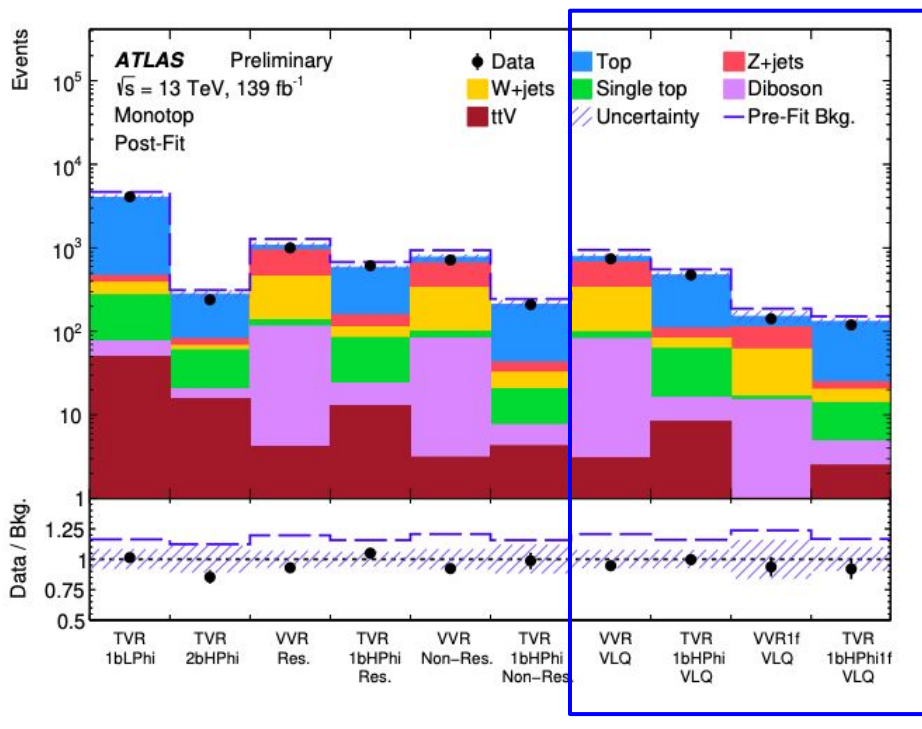
BDT < 0.5 → VR ; BDT > 0.5 → SRs

# Background estimation

Dominant background is V+jets and tt. Defined control and validation regions per production mode.  
 Same definitions for three production modes  
 + 1 forward jet for VLQ model.

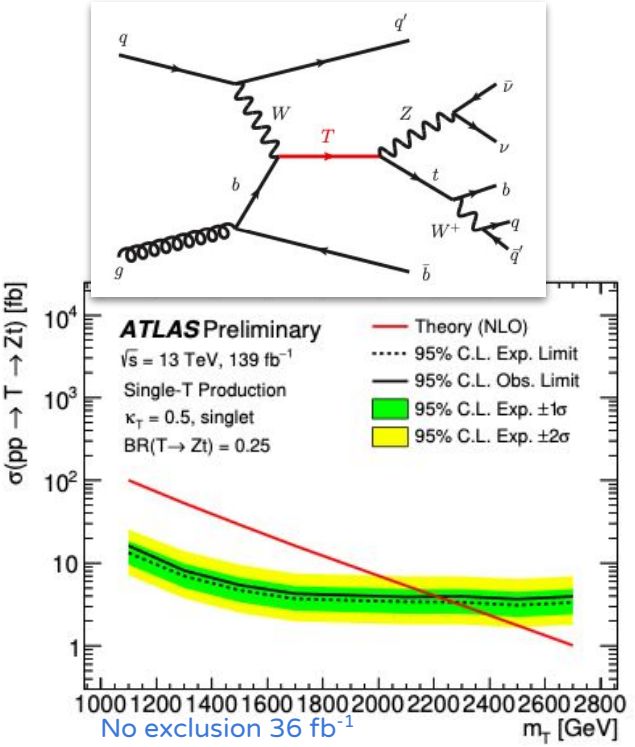
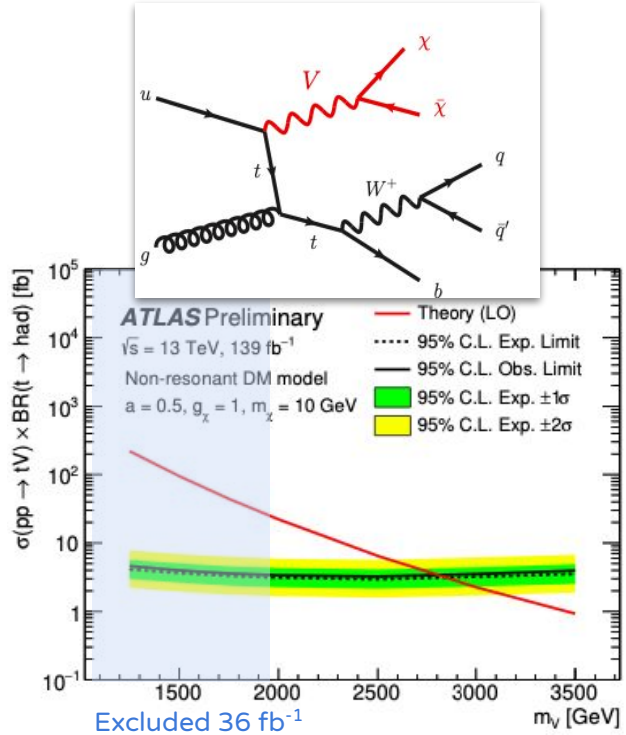
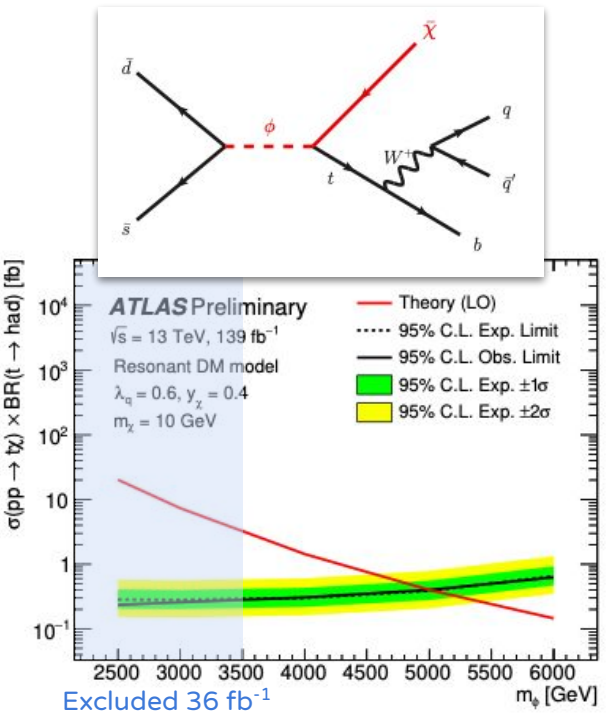


# Post-fit results: VLQ



Good agreement between data and SM. Dominant uncertainties: large-R jet calibration and modelling

# Interpretation: simplified model and VLQ model



Exclusion limits derived from fit of the BDT output distribution for each production mode, separately.

Significant improvements from early Run-2 results !





tW+MET backup

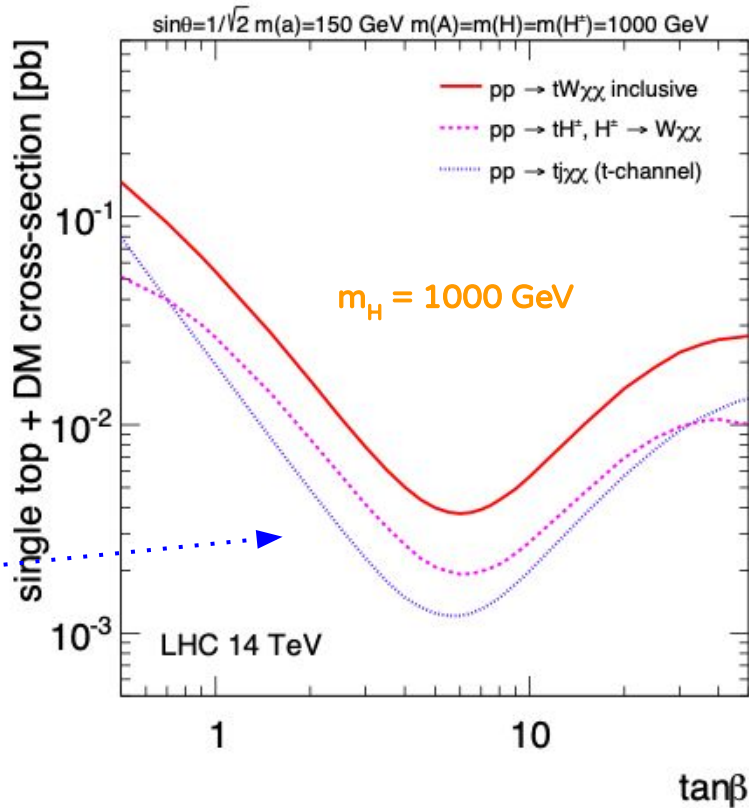
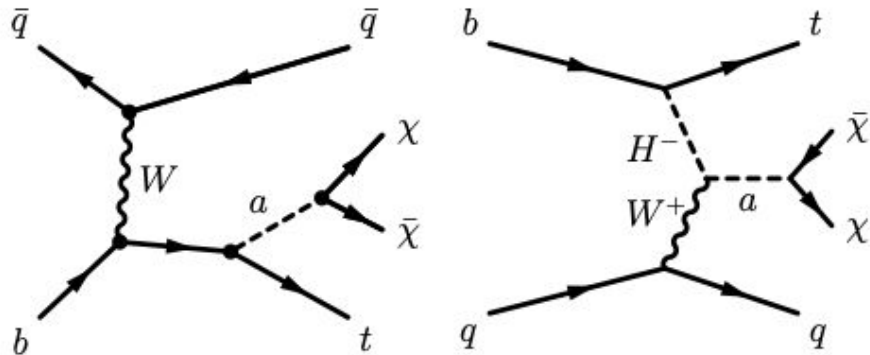
# Single-top quark production and Dark Matter

*s-channel*

Negligible contributions

*t-channel*

Subdominant production mode of single-top quark in association to dark matter in 2HDM+a model



# Single-top quark production and Dark Matter

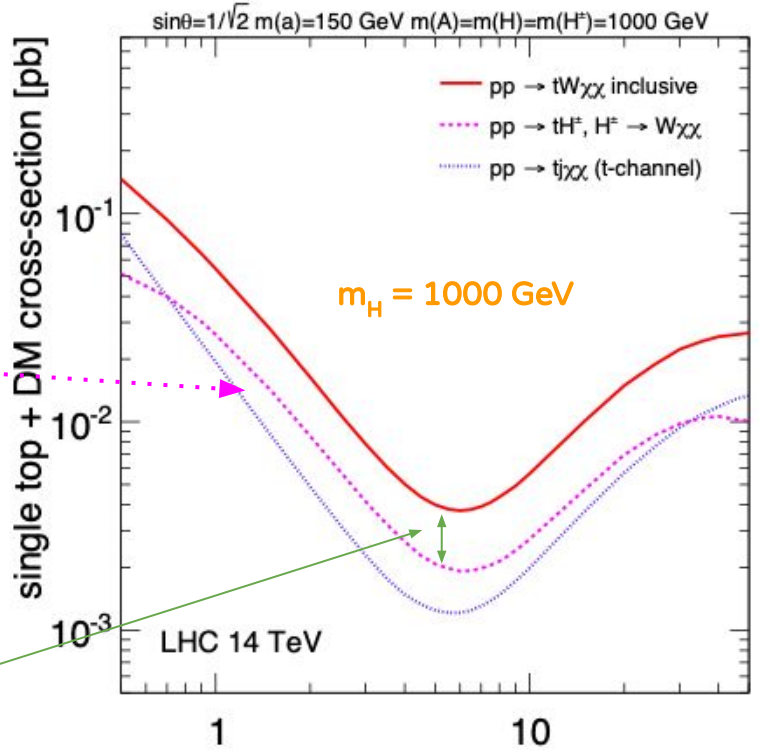
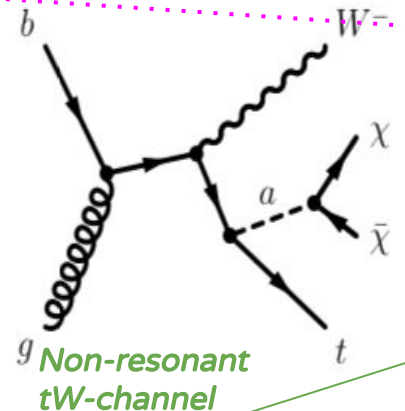
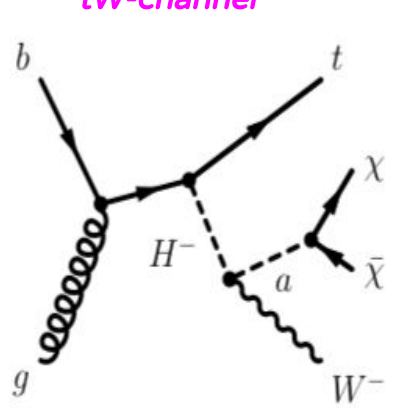
## *tW*-channel

Dominates the cross-section of the single-top production with dark matter

Resonant and non-resonant production mode

- Resonant dominating at  $m_H \sim [400, 1200]$

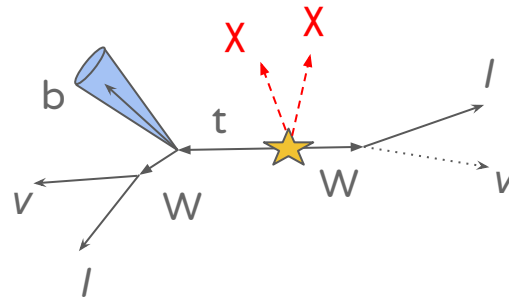
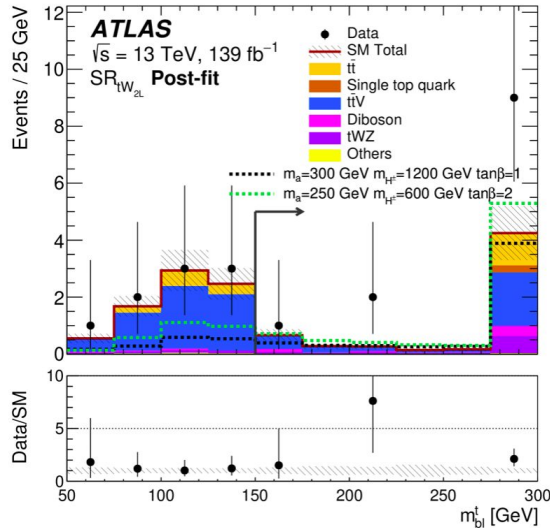
Resonant *tW*-channel



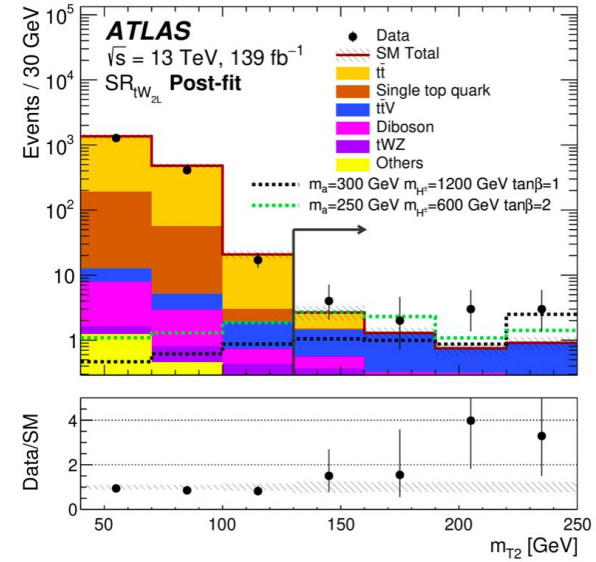
# Analysis strategy: the two-lepton channel

Pseudo-reconstruct top quark to discriminate.  $m_{T2}$ ,  $m_{bl}^{\min}$  and  $m_{bl}^t \rightarrow$  Endpoints for SM tt and single-top.

- At least 1 b-jet and 1 additional jet
- $m_{T2} > 130$  GeV
- $m_{bl}^{\min} < 170$  GeV
- $m_{bl}^t > 150$  GeV



Main bkg. : Z+jets, ttZ, tt and single-top



$$m_{bl}^t = \min[\max(m_{\ell_1 j_1}, m_{\ell_2 j_2}), \max(m_{\ell_1 j_2}, m_{\ell_2 j_1})] \quad m_{bl}^{\min} = \min(m_{b_1 \ell_1}, m_{b_1 \ell_2}). \quad m_{T2}(\vec{p}_T^{\ell_1}, \vec{p}_T^{\ell_2}, \vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}) = \min_{\vec{q}_T} \left[ \max \left( m_T^{\text{lep}}(\vec{p}_T^{\ell_1}, \vec{q}_T), m_T^{\text{lep}}(\vec{p}_T^{\ell_2}, \vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}} - \vec{q}_T) \right) \right] \quad 64$$

# Background estimation

Defining control and validation regions close to the SRs to normalize the most important backgrounds.

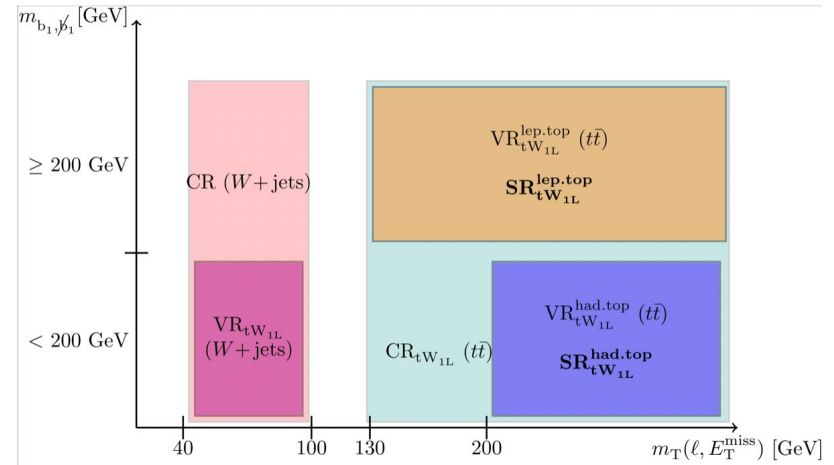
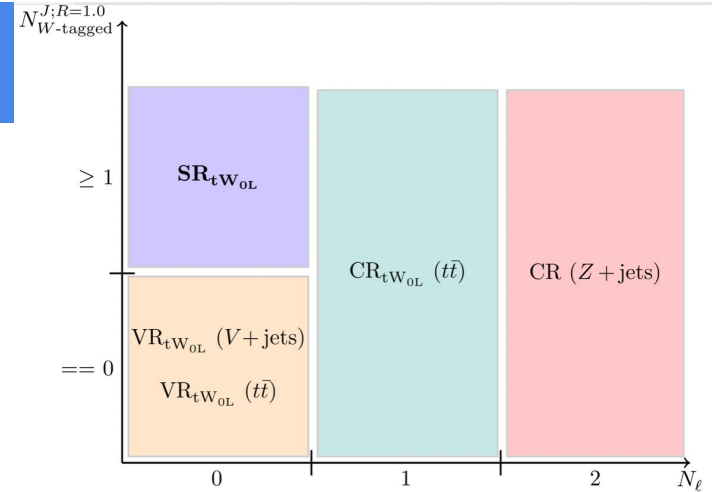
## 0L and 1L channels

- Common CRs for Z+jets, W+jets, single-top and ttZ.
- tt normalized separately for 0L and 1L regions.

## 2L channel

- CRs for tt and ttZ
- Additional control region for WZ

Variable	SR	CR( $\bar{t}\bar{t}$ )	CR( $\bar{t}\bar{t}Z$ )	CR(WZ)	VR( $\bar{t}\bar{t}$ )	VR( $3\ell$ )
$N_\ell^{\text{signal}}$	= 2 (OS)	= 2 (OS)	= 3 ( $\geq 1$ SFOS)	= 3 ( $\geq 1$ SFOS)	= 2 (OS)	= 3 ( $\geq 1$ SFOS)
$p_T(\ell_3)$ [GeV]	-	-	> 20	> 20	-	> 20
$m_{ee/\mu\mu}$ [GeV]	$\notin [71, 111]$	$\notin [71, 111]$	$\in [71, 111]$	$\in [71, 111]$	$\notin [71, 111]$	$\in [71, 111]$
$N_{\text{jet}}$	$\geq 1$	$\geq 1$	$\geq 3$	$\in [1, 3]$	$\geq 1$	$\geq 1$
$N_{b\text{-jet}}$	$\geq 1$	$\geq 1$	$\geq 1$ ( $\geq 2$ if $N_{\text{jet}} = 3$ )	= 1	$\geq 1$	$\geq 1$
$m_{b\ell}^{\text{min}}$ [GeV]	< 170	< 170	< 170	> 170	< 170	varies
$m_{b\ell}^{\text{max}}$ [GeV]	> 150	< 150	-	-	> 150	-
$m_{T2}$ [GeV]	> 130	$\in [40, 80]$	> 90	> 90	$\in [40, 80]$	> 90
$\Delta\phi_{\text{min}}$ [rad]	> 1.1	> 1.1	-	-	> 1.1	-



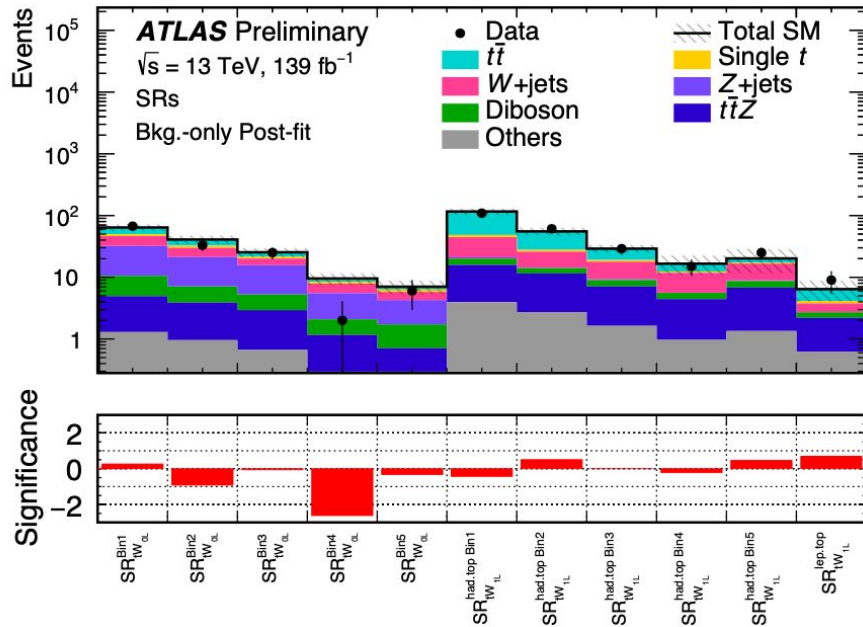


# Background-only fit results

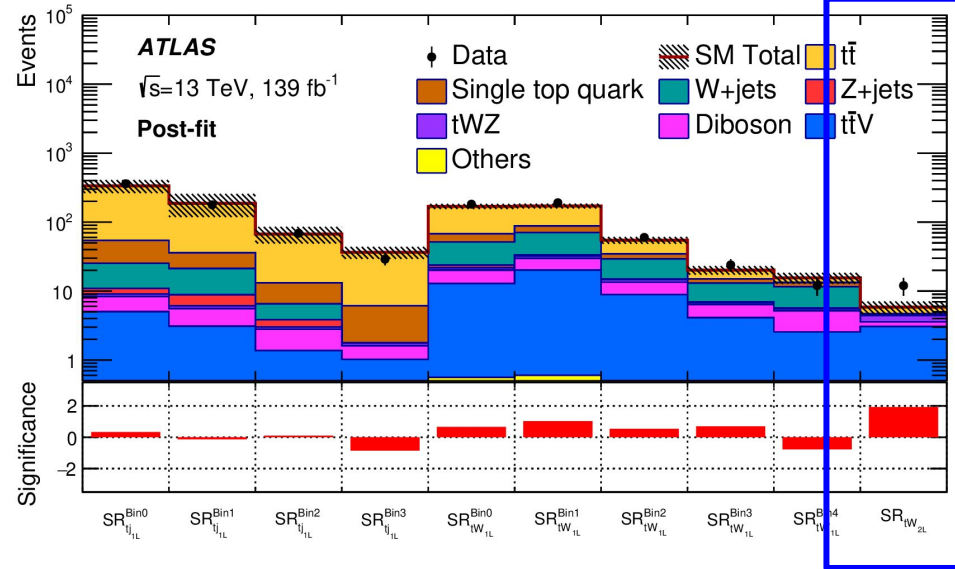
Simultaneous fit of all the SRs and CRs of the 0L, 1L and 2L regions

No DM evidence observed.  $2\sigma$  excess observed in 2L and  $2.5\sigma$  deficit in one bin of the 0L channel.

0L+1L combined fit



ATLAS 1L+2L fit





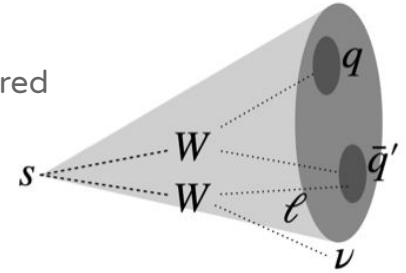
# Dark Higgs backup

# TAR jets for W-tagging in Dark Higgs search

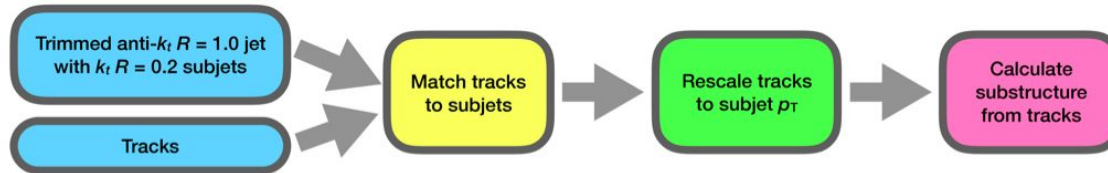
Beneficial due to overlapping electrons with hadronic W-jet in the  $WW+E_T^{\text{miss}}$ .

TAR: Track-assisted reconstruction → Mass and substructure from track jets

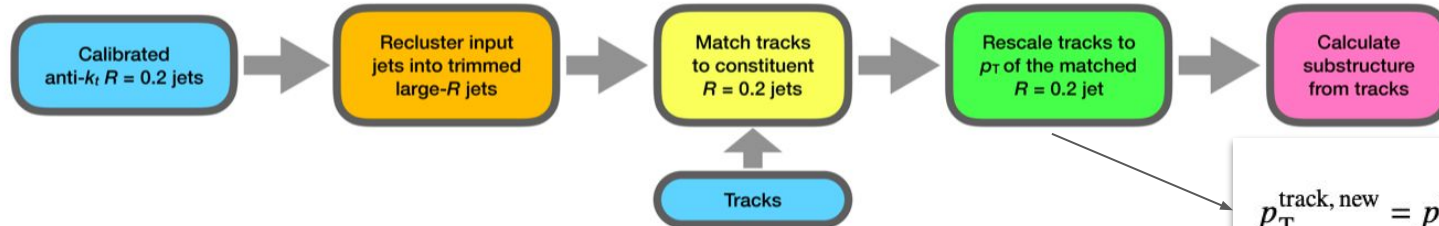
R=0.2 jets overlapping with electron → and tracks coming associated to electrons not considered



**TAS**



**TAR**



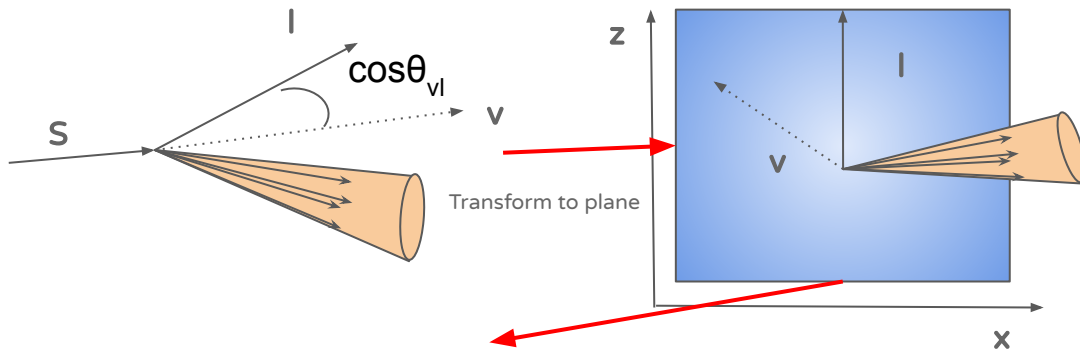
$$p_T^{\text{track, new}} = p_T^{\text{track, old}} \times \frac{p_T^{R=0.2}}{\sum_i p_{T,i}^{\text{track, old}}}$$

**SAT**



# Fit configuration: the $m_S^{\min}$ variable

Reconstructing  $m_S$  challenging. But beneficial as **discriminant variable for fit (resolved and merged)**

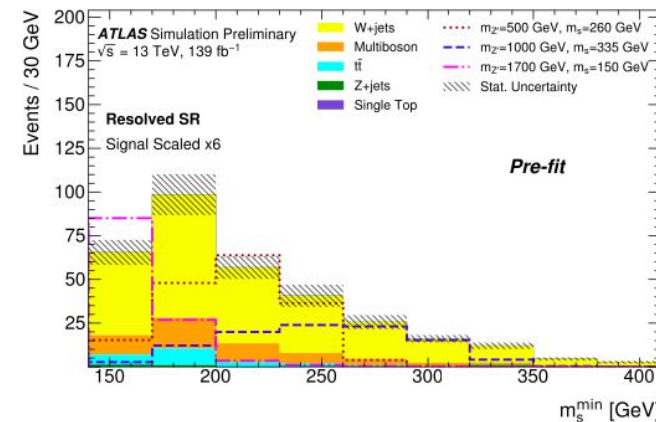
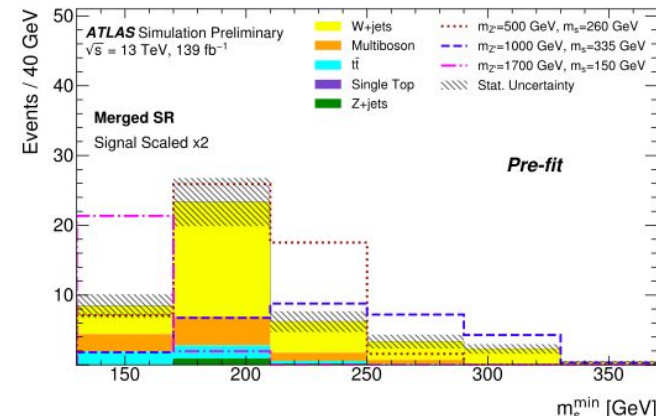


$$m_S^2 = \left( E_\ell + \frac{m_W^2}{2E_\ell(1 - \cos \theta_{\ell\nu})} + E_{W_{\text{cand}}} \right)^2 - \left( \left| \vec{p}_{W_{\text{cand}}} \right| \sin \theta_{W_{\text{cand}}\ell} + \frac{m_W^2 \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta_{\ell\nu}}}{2E_\ell(1 - \cos \theta_{\ell\nu})} \right)^2 - \left( E_\ell + \left| \vec{p}_{W_{\text{cand}}} \right| \cos \theta_{W_{\text{cand}}\ell} + \frac{m_W^2 \cos \theta_{\ell\nu}}{2E_\ell(1 - \cos \theta_{\ell\nu})} \right)^2,$$

$$m_S = f(\cos \theta_{\nu\ell})$$

minimize over all possible  $\cos \theta_{\nu\ell}$

$$m_S^{\min} \equiv \min_{\cos \theta_{\ell\nu}} (m_S)$$





The image shows the interior of the ATLAS detector tunnel, a complex structure of metal beams and machinery. Several large cylindrical components are visible, some with orange and white stripes. A blue rectangular box is overlaid in the center, containing the text "LLP CalRatio backup".

# LLP CalRatio backup



# Searches for long-lived particles

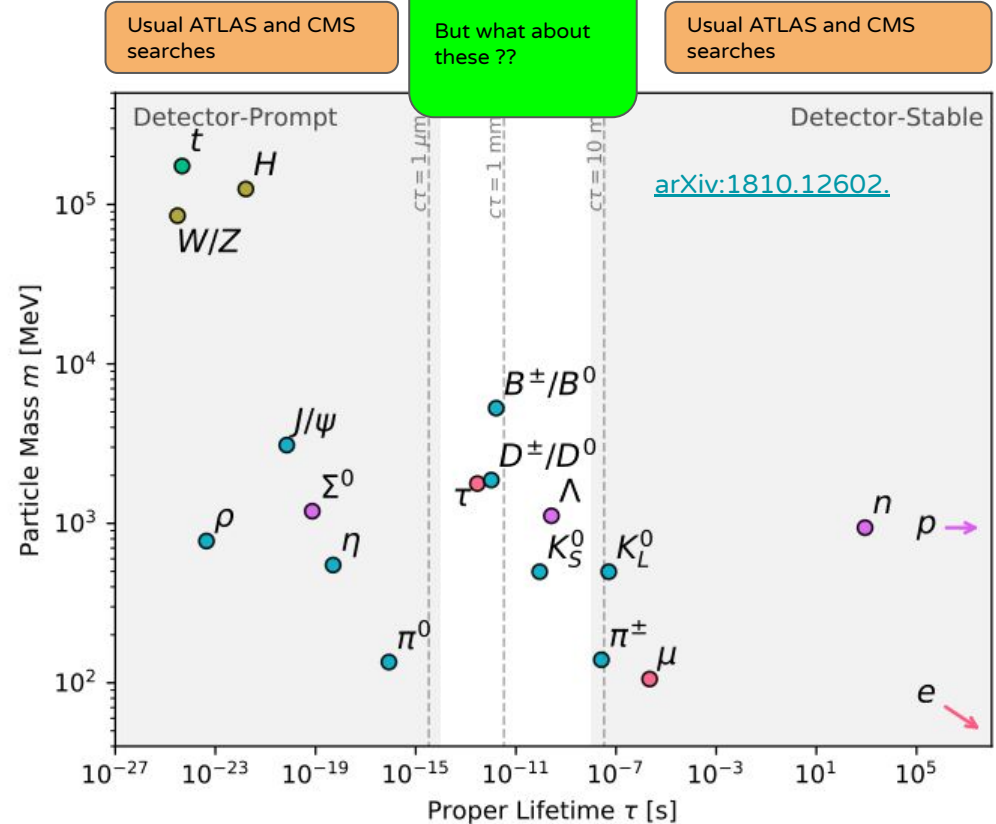
Apart from dark matter, many BSM theories predict particles of medium lifetime (LLPs)

- Decays within the detectors

Relatively unexplored during Run-I →  
Focused on prompt particles searches.

LLP searches have experienced a tremendous advance at LHC during Run-II

- Displaced vertices
- Displaced leptons and jets
- Pixel dE/dx
- Displaced vertices



# ATLAS Long-lived Particle Searches\* - 95% CL Exclusion

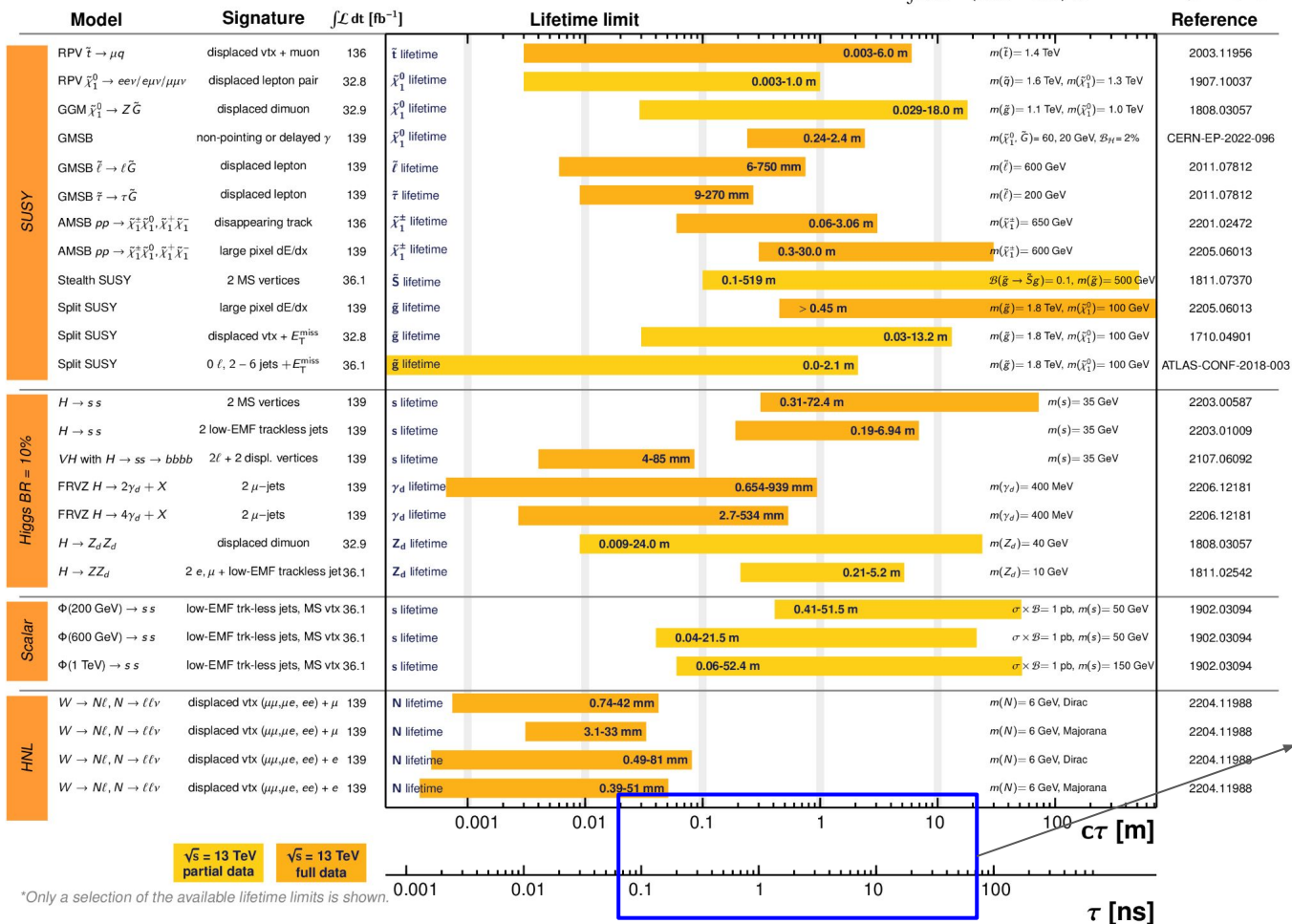
Status: July 2022

ATLAS Preliminary

$$\int \mathcal{L} dt = (32.8 - 139) \text{ fb}^{-1}$$

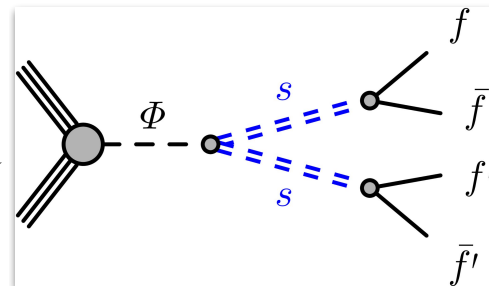
$$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$$

[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-034](#)



Presenting a search for displaced jets

- LLP decaying after ATLAS tracker.
- Large deposits in hadronic calorimeter
- Sensitive between 20mm and 20m

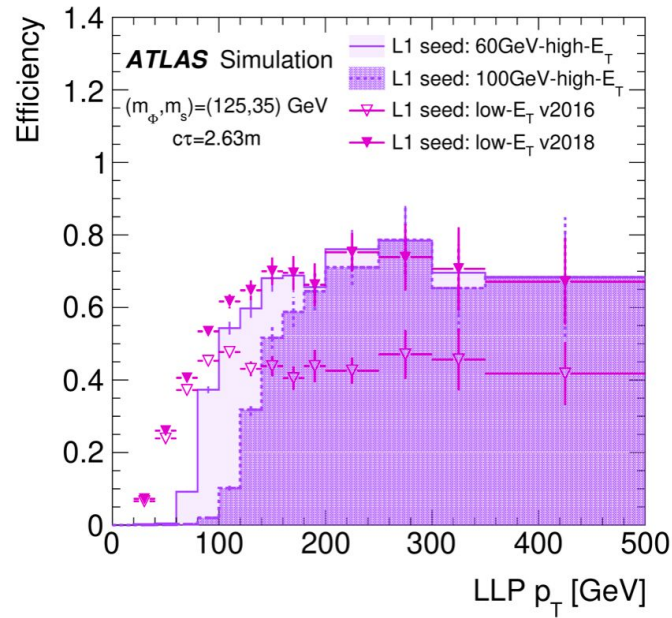
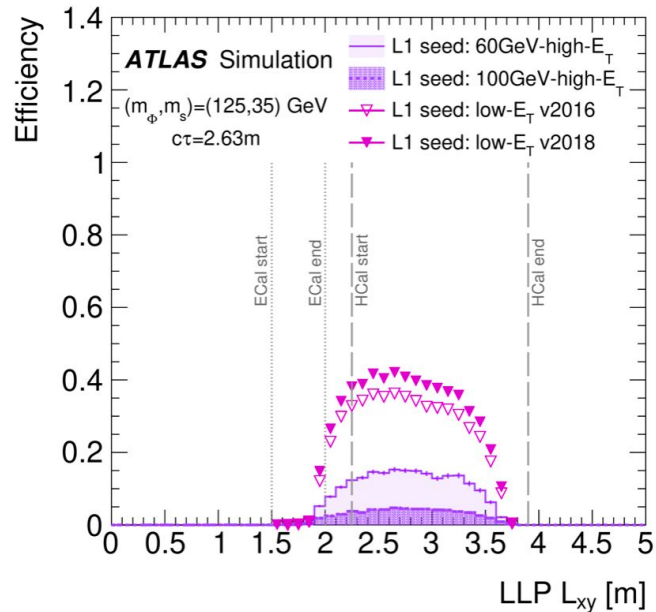


# CalRatio triggers

Two step trigger: L1 and HLT. L1 seeds the candidates to HLT

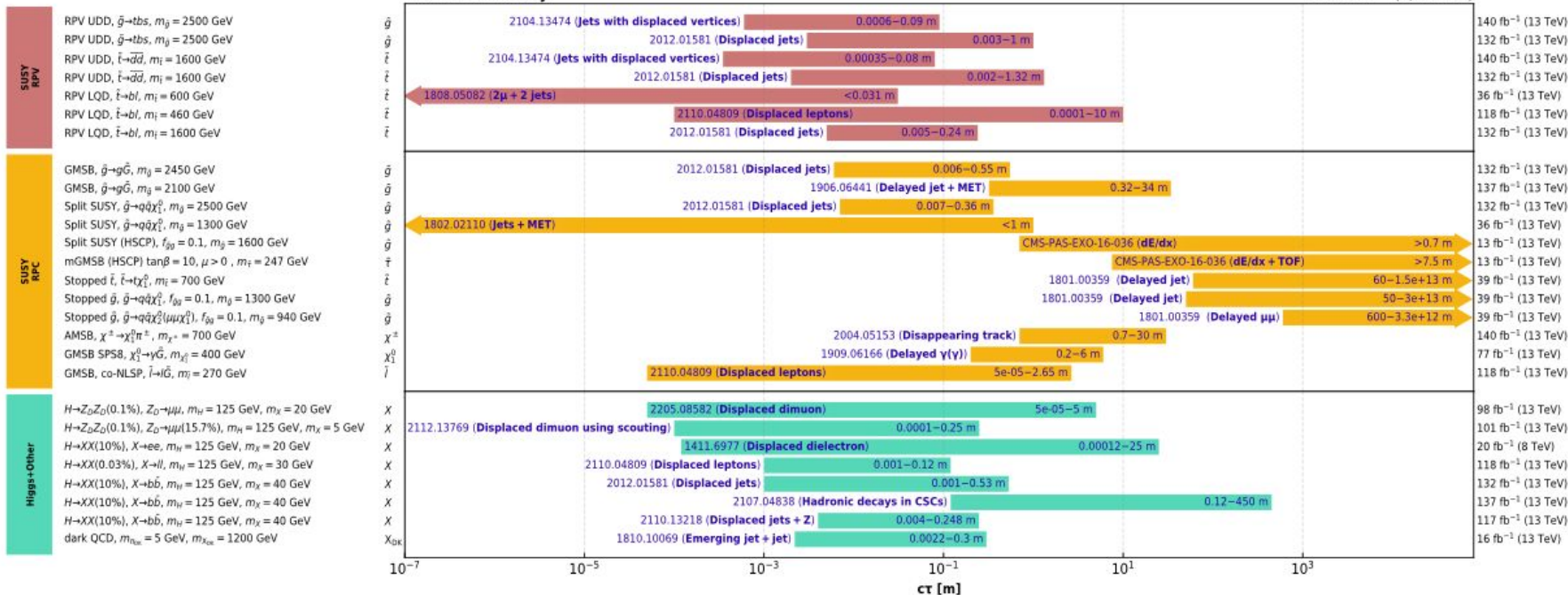
- L1: Triggering on events with narrow deposits ( $\Delta\eta \times \Delta\phi = 0.2 \times 0.2$ ) in calorimeter and  $E_{\text{HCAL}}/E_{\text{ECAL}} > 9$
- HLT: CalRatio dedicated jet cleaning (standard jet cleaning minus  $E_{\text{HCAL}}/E_{\text{ECAL}}$ ) and BIB removal (no jet with deposits in 4 cells in  $\phi$  and timing) applied

Efficiency dependent on LLP  $p_T$  and decay position.



# CMS long-lived particles summary

## Overview of CMS long-lived particle searches



Selection of observed exclusion limits at 95% C.L. (theory uncertainties are not included). The y-axis tick labels indicate the studied long-lived particle.