

Exploring long-lived particles decaying into Displaced Dimuons at $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$ TeV : Innovative Triggers for Enhanced Sensitivity at the CMS Experiment



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[CMS-EXO-23-014](#)

LLP2024

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On behalf of the CMS Collaboration

sdk Π
Doktoratskolleg
Particles and Interactions

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Introduction - Long Lived Particles

Several theories have been proposed to explain the incompleteness of the SM - Beyond Standard Model (BSM) theories

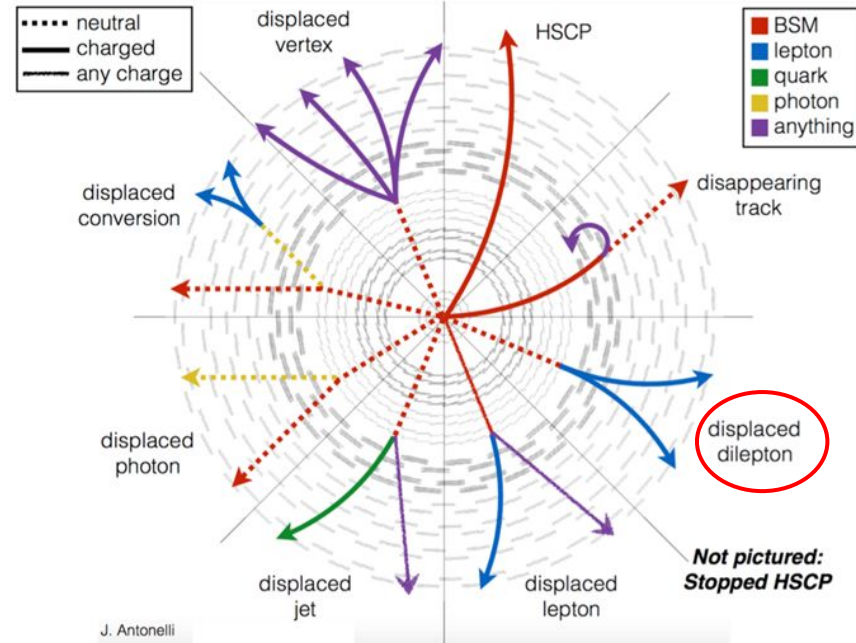
- Examples : Supersymmetry (SUSY), Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs)

From searches at colliders and other experiments :

Everything is so far consistent with Standard Model predictions

However there could still be interesting signatures that could be accessible, but we haven't yet probed extensively!

⇒ Long lived particles!



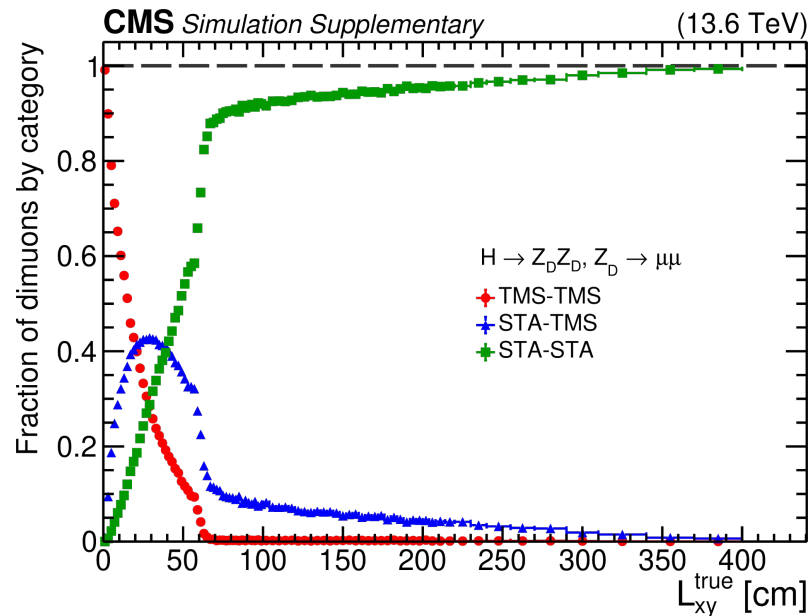
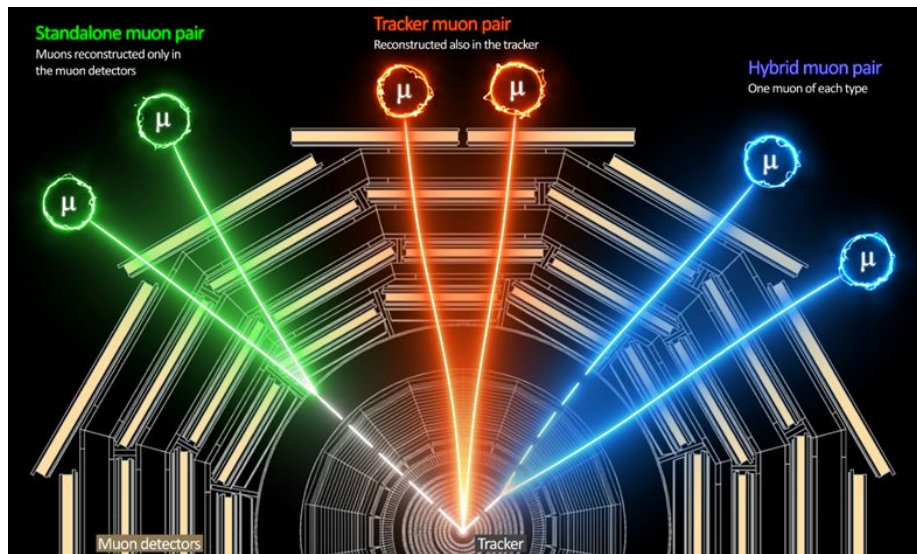
[J. Antonelli, ICHEP 2016](#)

This search :

Secondary dimuon vertex displaced from the proton-proton collision point by up to several meters.

Search for Displaced Dimuons in Run 3

- ✗ Muon signatures allow utilization of the largest part of detector volume.
- ✗ Two types of muons based on reconstruction : **STA** (Standalone) and **TMS** (Tracker + Muon System)
 - ✗ Gives three complementary and exclusive categories : **STA-STA**, **TMS-TMS**, **STA-TMS**
- ✗ **First direct search for BSM with LHC Run 3 data^[1] : significant improvements over previous (Run 2) results!^[2]**

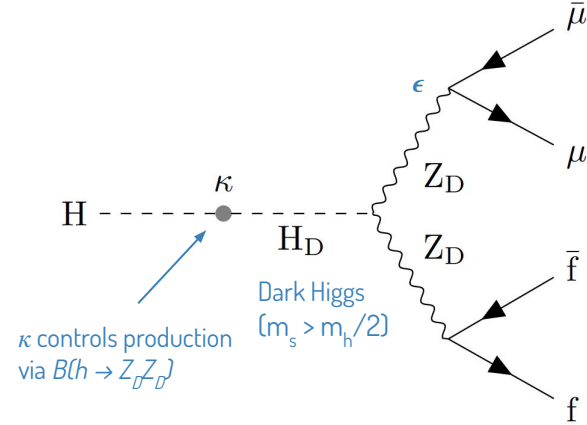


Largely **model-independent** search, covering a **large range of kinematics**.

Two models used as benchmark to interpret results

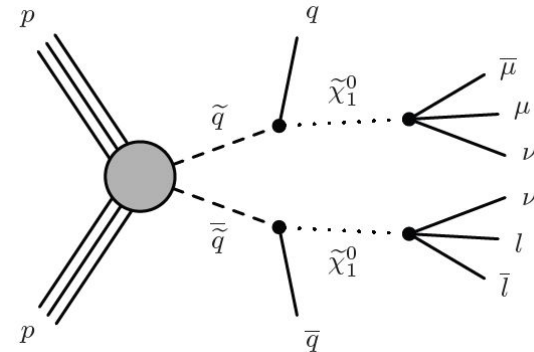
Hidden Abelian Higgs Model [3]: $H \rightarrow Z_D Z_D$, $Z_D \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

- Dark Higgs (H_D) mixes with SM Higgs (h) via κ
- ϵ controls dark photon (Z_D) lifetime: $c\tau_{Z_D} \sim \epsilon^{-2}$



RPV SUSY Model [4]:

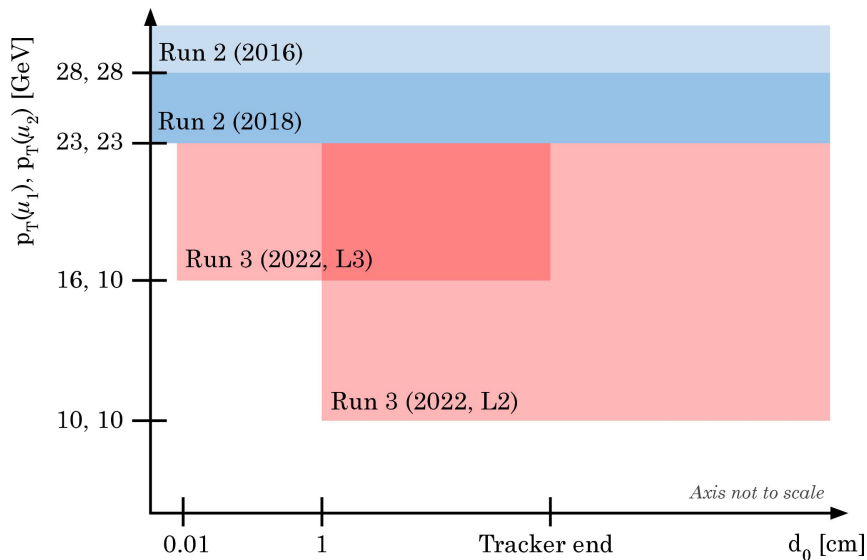
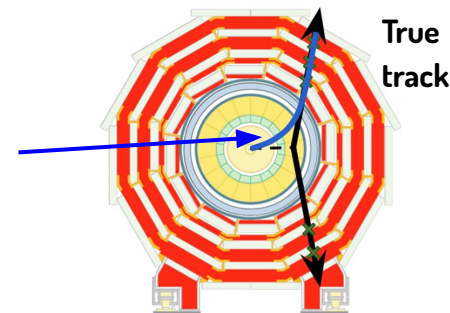
- Non-zero RPV couplings λ_{122} and $\lambda_{12\bar{2}}$ enable non-resonant long lived neutralino decay. $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow \mu\mu\nu$



Lessons from the Run 2 analysis :

- ✗ For very displaced muons, beamspot constraint @L1 underestimated p_T → **trigger inefficiency.**
- ✗ High p_T thresholds at the HLT
- ✗ HLT use muon system based reconstruction, did not require tracker information

Fitted track

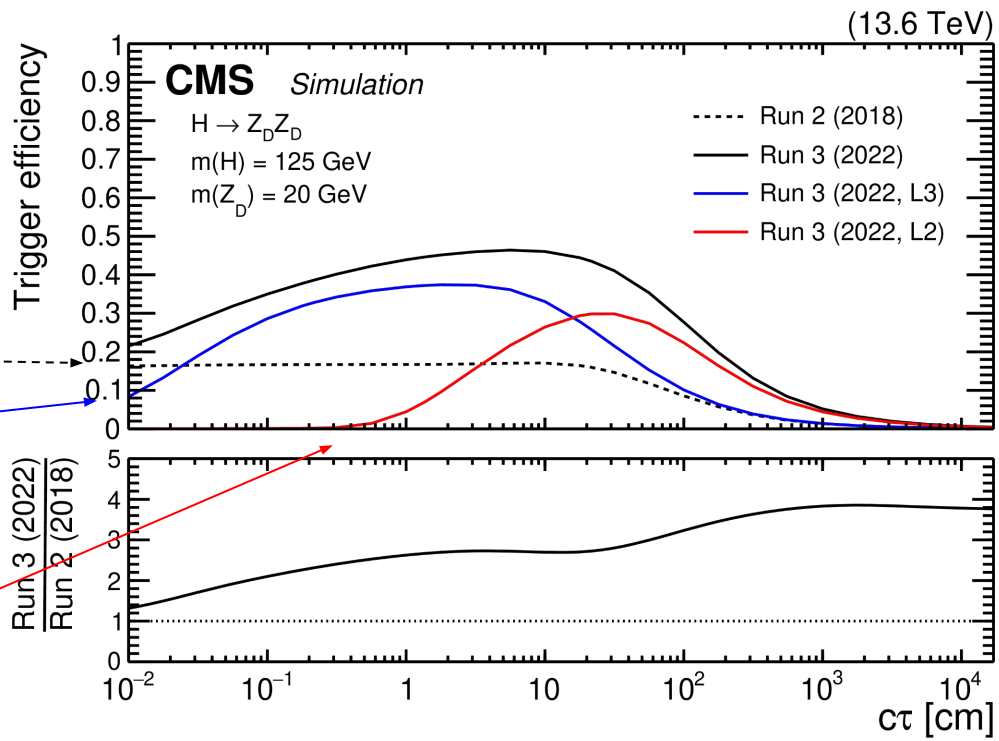
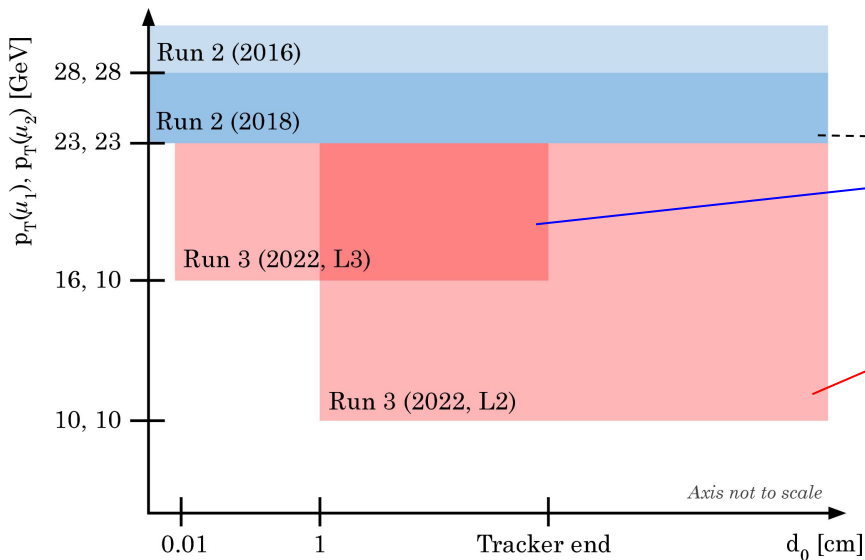


New Triggers developed at L1 and HLT

- ✗ **L1** : new track finding algorithms for displaced muons
- ✗ **HLT** :
 - ✗ **Lower p_T thresholds** : 23 GeV → 10 GeV
 - ✗ **Muon d_0 thresholds** : suppress prompt muons
 - ✗ **Utilize tracker information** : higher precision, able to reject prompt muons.

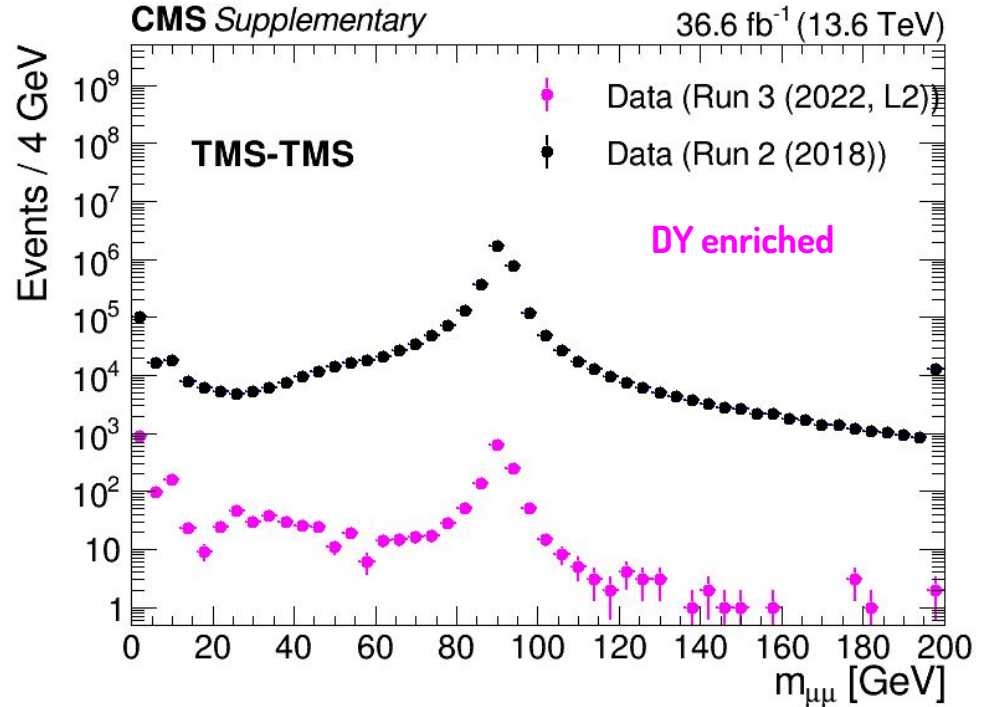
Trigger Performance in BSM Signal

✗ Efficiency in **signal** increased by a factor **2x to 4x!**



Trigger : Prompt Background Rejection

- ✗ Efficiency in **signal** increased by a factor **2x to 4x!**
 - ✗ Performance in data :
 - ✗ **Drell-Yan** : prompt dimuons
 - **rejection factor of 2000** :
- Makes trigger rate acceptable

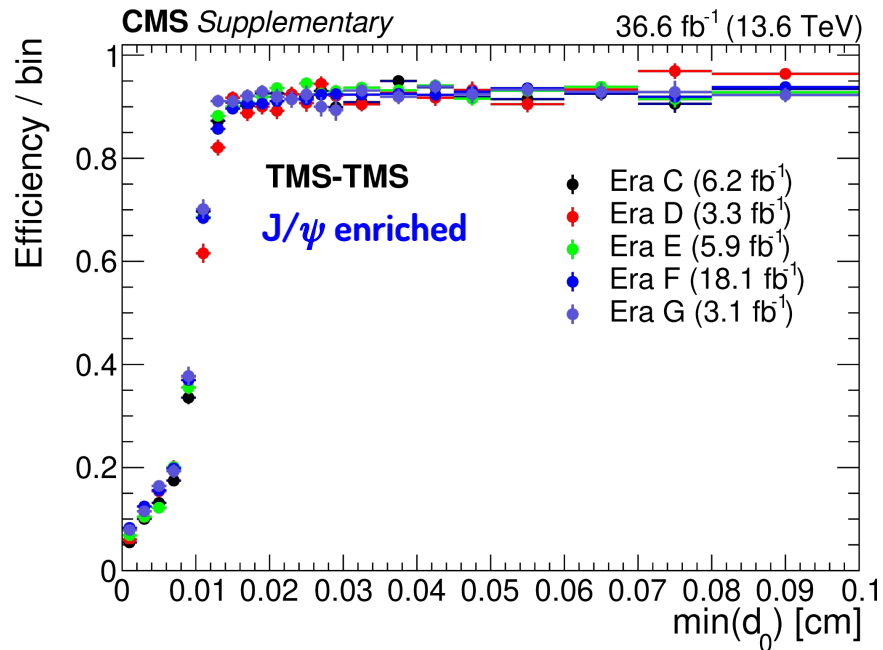
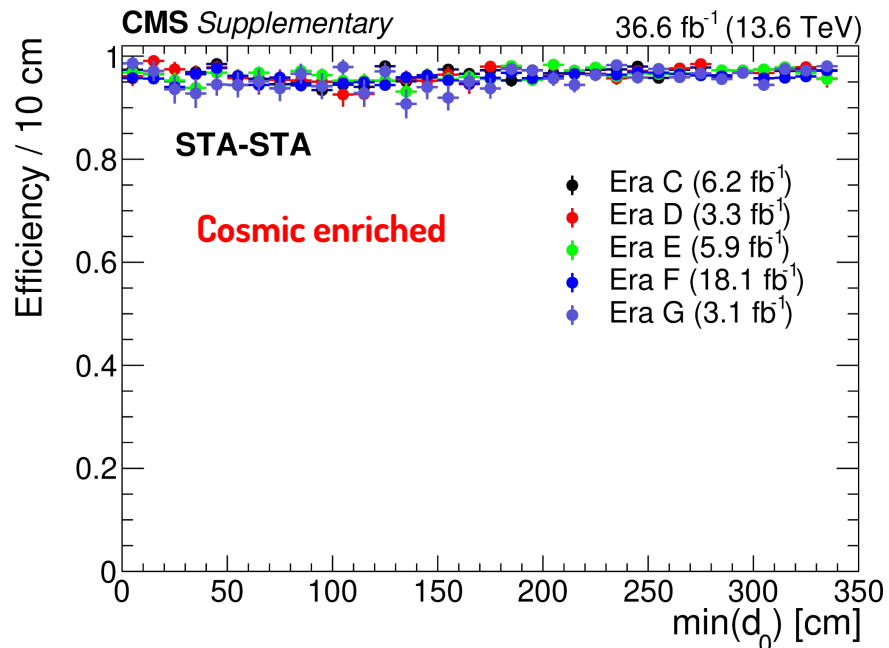


Trigger Efficiency in SM displaced dimuons

✗ Efficiency in **signal** increased by a factor **2x to 4x!**

✗ Performance in data :

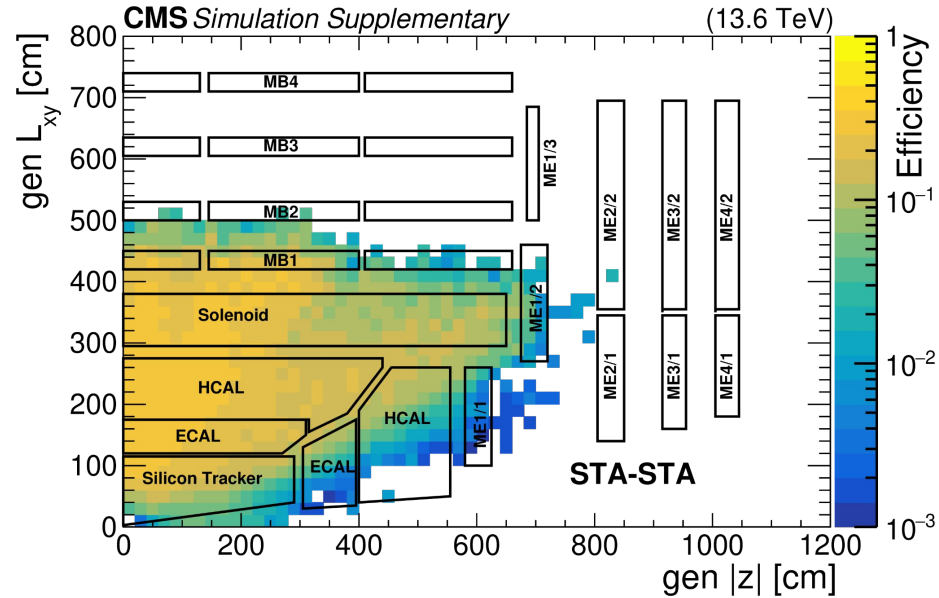
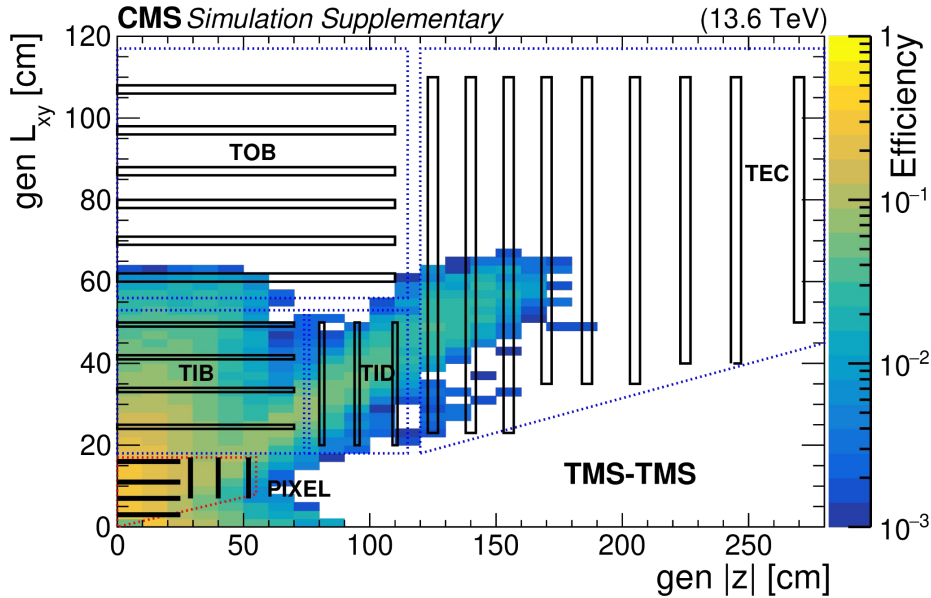
✗ **Cosmic muons, $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu\mu$** :
displaced dimuons, proxy for signal



- Selection efficiency > 90%
- Prompt dimuons suppressed

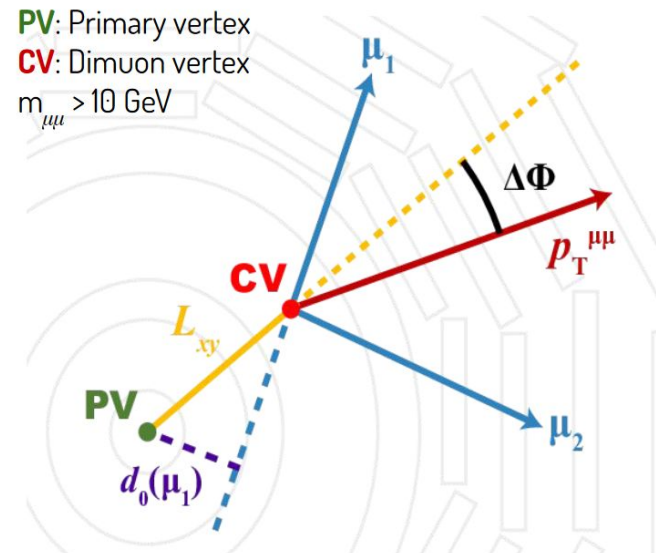
Vertex Efficiency in the CMS Detector

- ✗ Typical vertex efficiency in the **TMS-TMS** and **STA-STA** categories, in all HAHM signal samples combined.
 - ✗ In **TMS-TMS**, efficient upto **-60 cm** from tracker muons
 - ✗ In **STA-STA**, efficient up to **-400 cm** in vertex L_{xy} and **-600 cm** in $|z|$ from standalone muons in detector acceptance!



Powerful handles to distinguish signal from background

- Muon Track/Dimuon Vertex quality (fit χ^2)
- **STA** to **TMS** association.
- Displacement : $L_{xy}/\sigma(L_{xy})$, $d_0/\sigma(d_0)$
- Kinematics :
 - p_T^μ , $\alpha_{\mu\mu}$, Collinearity $|\Delta\Phi|$
- Muon direction
- Timing
- Charge (OS/SS)
- Invariant mass : $m_{\mu\mu} > 10 \text{ GeV}$
- TMS muon isolation

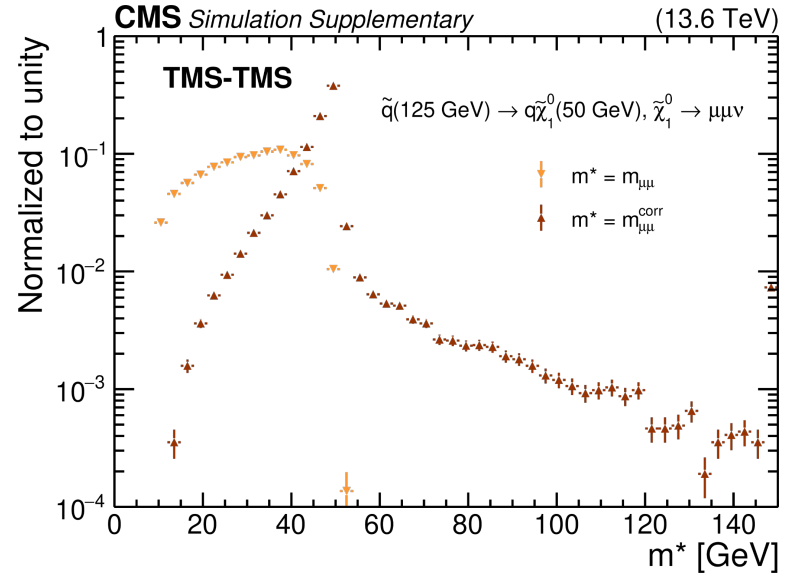


Powerful handles to distinguish signal from background

- Muon Track/Dimuon Vertex quality (fit χ^2)
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- Displacement : $L_{xy}/\sigma(L_{xy}), d_0/\sigma(d_0)$
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 - $p_T^\mu, \alpha_{\mu\mu}$, **Collinearity $|\Delta\Phi|$**
- Muon direction
- Timing
- Charge (OS/SS)
- Invariant mass : $m_{\mu\mu} > 10 \text{ GeV}$
- TMS muon isolation

New in Run 3

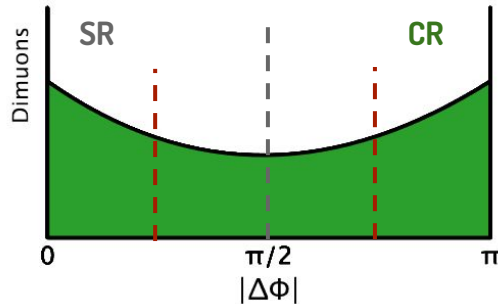
- Corrected mass for non-resonant dimuon vertices : $m_{\mu\mu}^{\text{corr}} = \sqrt{m_{\mu\mu}^2 + p_{\mu\mu}^2 \sin^2 \theta} + p_{\mu\mu} \sin \theta$,
- STA muon isolation



- ✗ **Signal region designed to have low to none SM backgrounds** for optimal signal discovery significance
 - ✗ Misidentification or mis-reconstruction of muons can cause background events to enter the signal region.
- ✗ Backgrounds may be **symmetric** or **asymmetric** in Collinearity $\Delta\Phi$.
 - ✗ This depends on whether the $p_T^{\mu\mu}$ and L_{xy} vectors point in the same direction (correlated) or not.

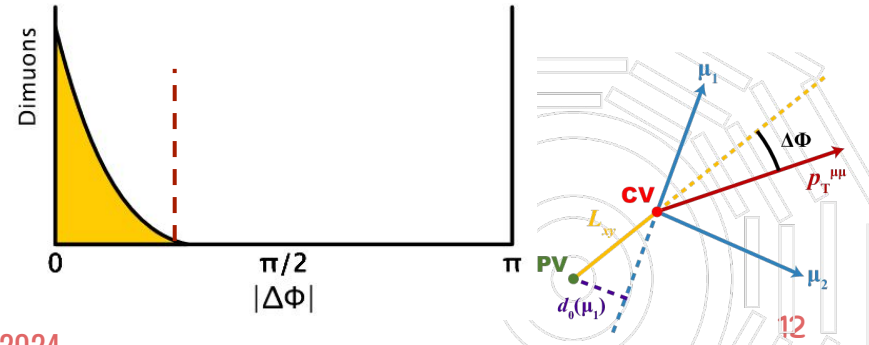
Symmetric

- Symmetrically distributed around $\pi/2$
- Occurs when $p_T^{\mu\mu}$ and L_{xy} vectors are uncorrelated
 - Mismeasured (prompt) Drell-Yan (DY), dibosons,
 - Cosmic ray muons
 - Unrelated jets, W+jets



Asymmetric

- Signal like, peaks at zero
- Occurs for QCD processes
 - Mismeasured low-mass resonances (e.g. J/ψ)
 - Cascade decays resulting in 2+ muons (e.g. from B mesons)



Backgrounds : $\Delta\Phi$ symmetric

Backgrounds estimated using the **ABCD method**, measured in CRs adjacent to SR :

$$N_{SR}^A = N_B * (N_C / N_D)$$

- ✗ For $\Delta\Phi$ **symmetric** backgrounds (e.g. DY) :
 - Signal expected to have **small $\Delta\Phi$**

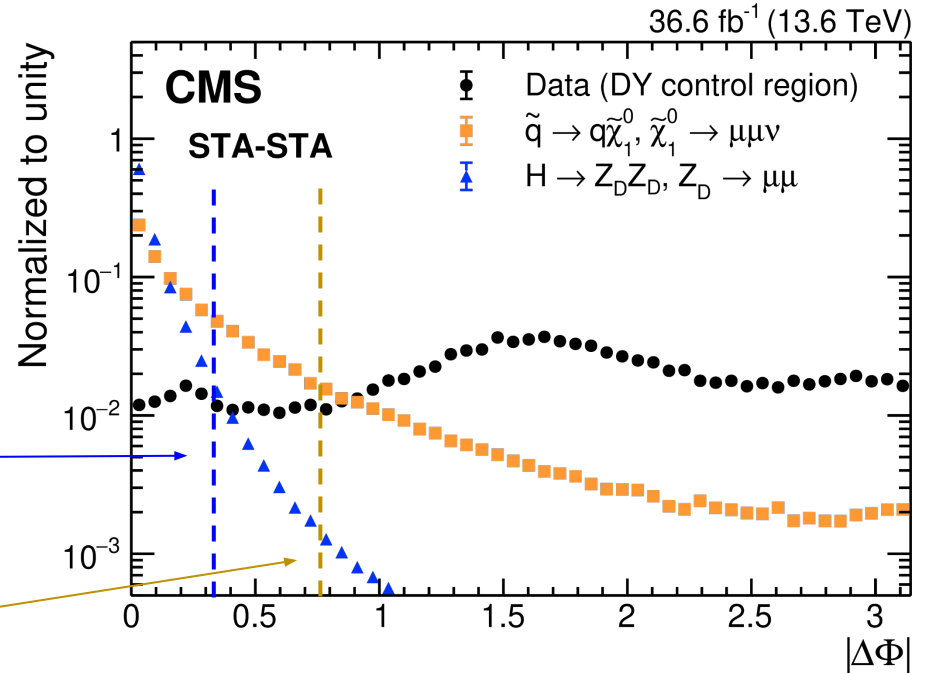
$ \Delta\Phi < \pi/C$	$ \Delta\Phi > \pi - \pi/C$
A = DY background in SR	B
C Inverted STA-TMS association (STA-STA)	D

For the **dark photon** model :

- **TMS-TMS** : $C = 30$
- **STA-STA** : $C = 10$

For the **RPV SUSY** model :

- $C = 4$



Backgrounds : $\Delta\Phi$ asymmetric

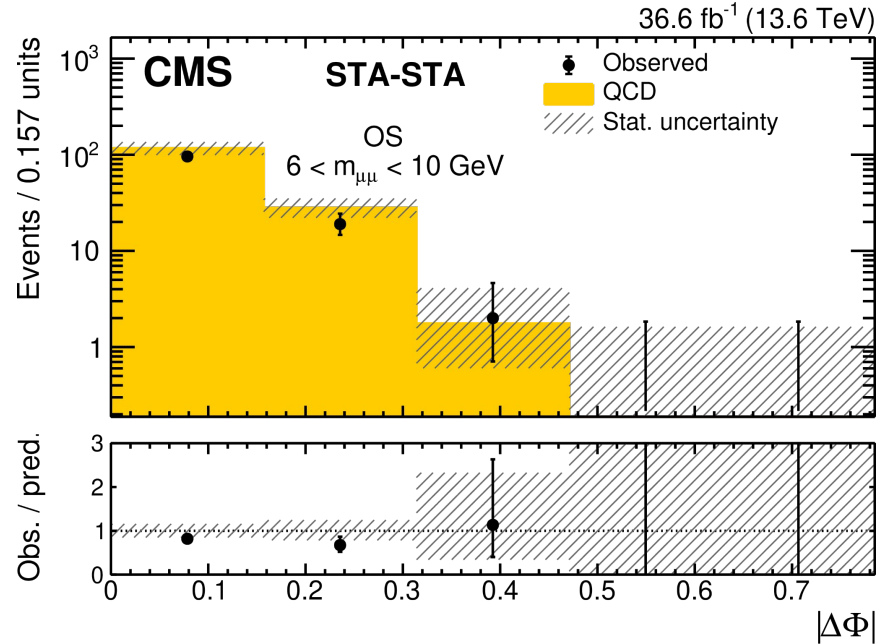
Backgrounds estimated using the **ABCD method**, measured in CRs adjacent to SR :

$$N_{SR}^A = N_B * (N_C / N_D)$$

✗ For $\Delta\Phi$ **asymmetric** backgrounds (e.g. QCD) :

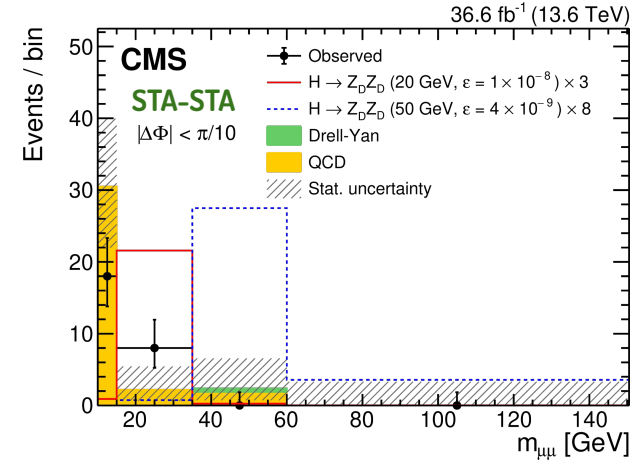
- Signal expected to have **Opposite Sign** and **isolated muons**

	OS	SS
Isolation	A = QCD background in SR	B
Fail Isolation	C	D

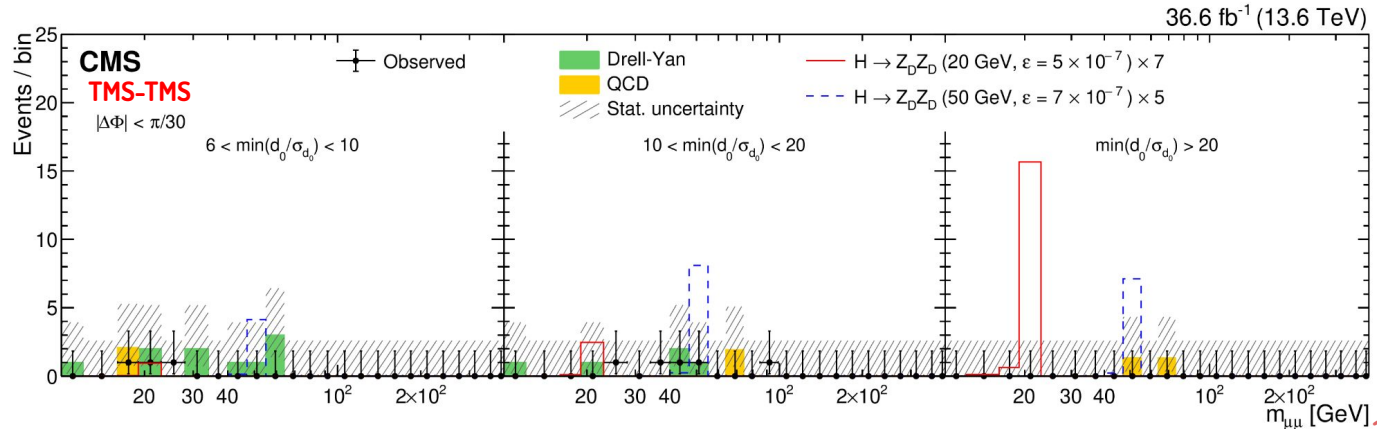


Results - Dark Photon model

- ✗ Background contamination generally very small in both **TMS-TMS** and **STA-STA** categories
 - Most background events in **STA-STA** have low mass.
- ✗ TMS-TMS further divided into SRs based on muon d_0
- Best sensitivity in most displaced SR**
- ✗ Observed number of events consistent with predictions.



**No excesses
observed.**



✗ Features **non-resonant dimuon production**

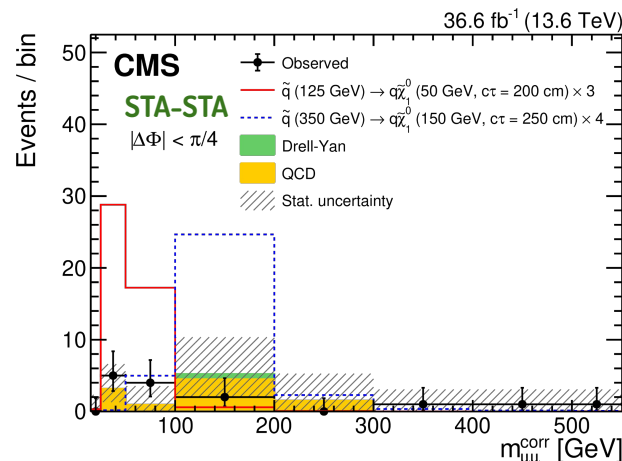
- **Corrected mass** to account for neutrino: minimum mass of secondary vertex consistent with direction of the LLP

$$m_{\mu\mu}^{\text{corr}} = \sqrt{m_{\mu\mu}^2 + p_{\mu\mu}^2 \sin^2 \theta} + p_{\mu\mu} \sin \theta,$$

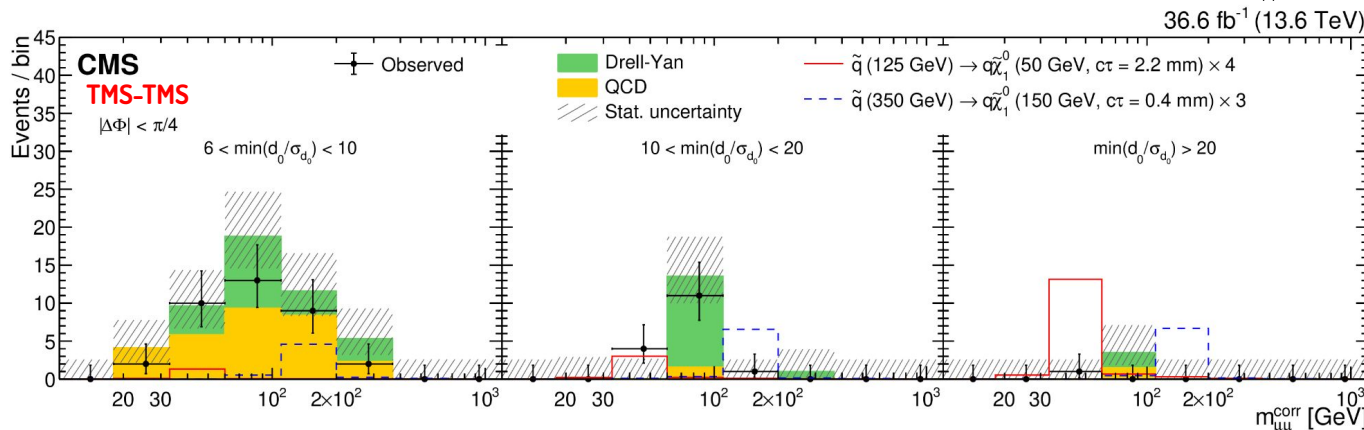
✗ TMS-TMS further divided into SRs based on muon d_0

Best sensitivity in most displaced SR

✗ Observed number of events consistent with predictions.



No excesses observed.

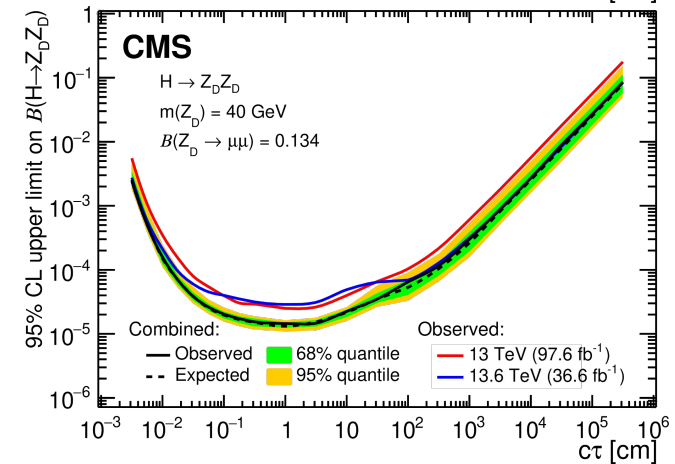
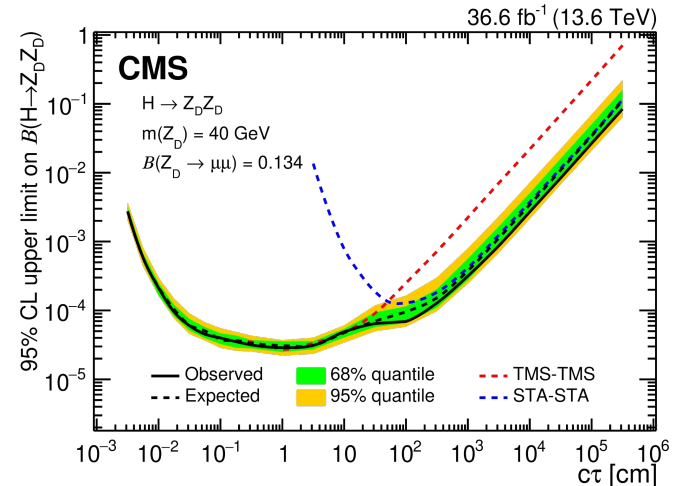


Results - Limits

Results used to set upper limits on model parameters :

- ✗ For the Dark Photon model :
 - Limits set on $B(H \rightarrow Z_D Z_D)$
 - Run 3 (2022 only) limits **comparable or better** than full Run 2 with **only 40% as much luminosity!** (36.6 fb^{-1} vs 97.6 fb^{-1})
 - **Combined** Run 2 + Run 3 limits **stronger by factor 2**

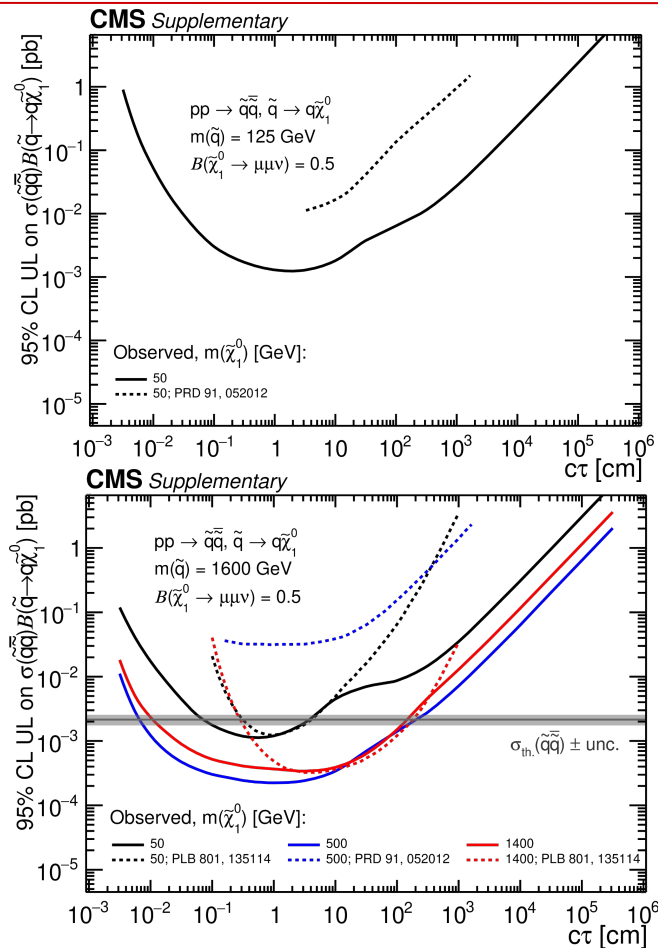
[CMS-EXO-23-014](#)



Results used to set upper limits on model parameters :

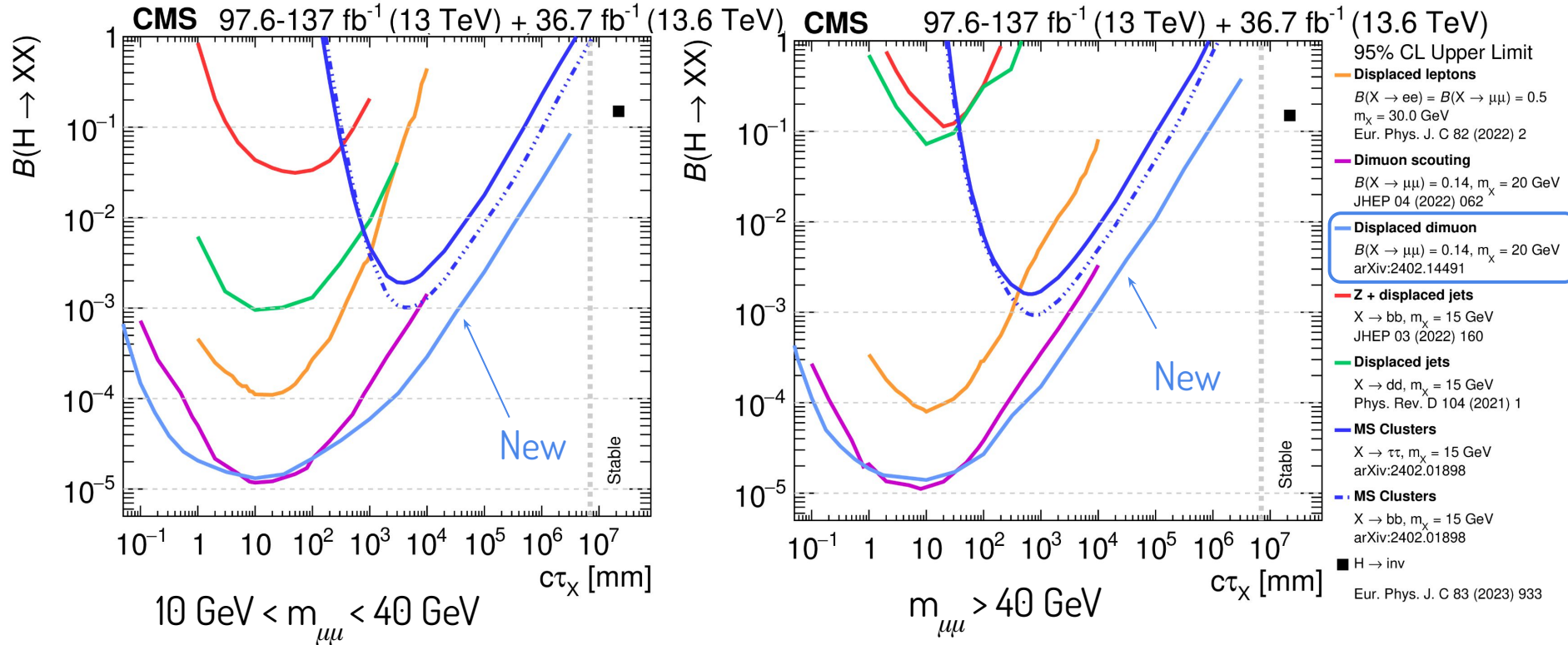
- ✗ For the RPV SUSY model
 - Limits set on $\sigma(\tilde{q}\tilde{q})B(\tilde{q}\rightarrow q\tilde{\chi}_1^0)$
 - Limits on $\sigma(\tilde{q}\tilde{q})$ significantly stronger than previous CMS (Run 1) limits
 - Stronger limits than ATLAS for $c\tau \lesssim 1$ cm and $c\tau \gtrsim 1$ m

[CMS-EXO-23-014](#)



Comparison to other LLP searches : $H \rightarrow XX$

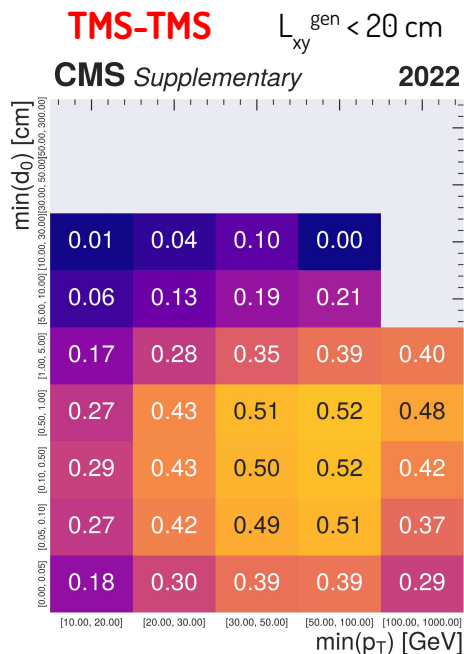
Best constraints to date in $B(H \rightarrow XX)$ in broad range of $c\tau(X)$ for $m(X) > 10$ GeV



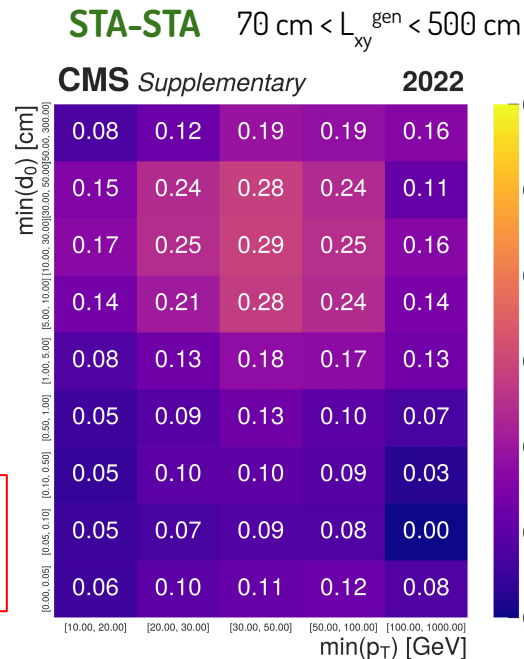
EXO-23-005

- ✗ We provide signal efficiencies as a function of the minimum p_T and d_0 of the two muons to aid reinterpretation efforts.
 - ✗ Efficiencies provided separately for HAHM and RPV SUSY, in each category, and for different L_{xy} ranges.

Inviting feedback from our colleagues!



HAHM signal



All maps available on the HEPData page [here](#)

Innovation in trigger strategy allowed CMS to explore new BSM territory already with data from the first year of LHC Run 3 : **First search for new physics at 13.6 TeV**, with 36.6 fb^{-1} of data collected in 2022.

- ✗ Improves upon previous Run 2 search by a **factor 2x to 4x** – **sensitivity gain driven by new triggers**
 - ✗ At L1 Trigger : new algorithms implemented for displaced dimuons
 - ✗ At HLT : new dimuon paths with lower p_T , and displacement thresholds to reject prompt muons
- ✗ No excesses observed.
- ✗ **Limits comparable or better than Run 2** with despite only modest integrated luminosity.
- ✗ Results combined with Run 2 data for Dark Photon model
 - ✗ **Best constraints to date** to $B(H \rightarrow Z_D Z_D)$ in broad range of $c\tau(Z_D)$ for $m(Z_D) > 10 \text{ GeV}$
- ✗ Significant improvements in constraints to $\sigma(\tilde{q}\tilde{q})$ in RPV SUSY

Published in [JHEP](#), also available on [arXiv : 2402.14491](#)

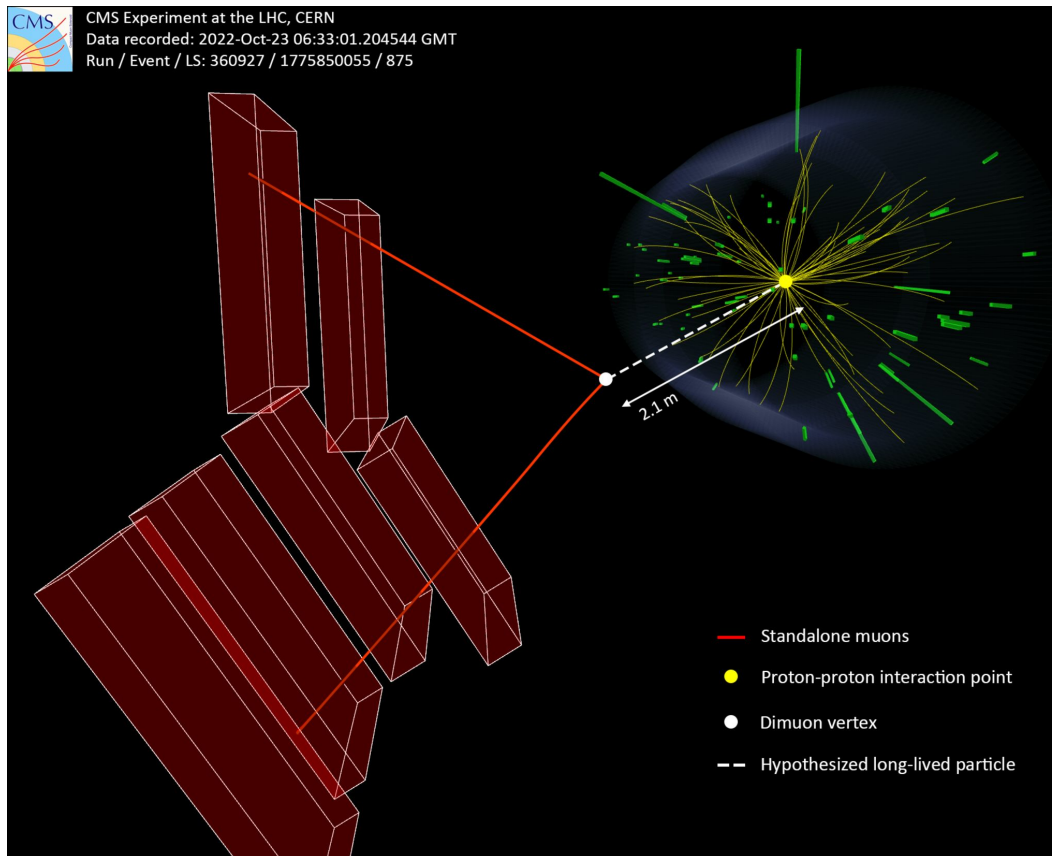
Reinterpretation material provided on HEPData : <https://www.hepdata.net/record/ins2760892>

We welcome your feedback!

mangesh.sonawane@cern.ch

1. CMS Collaboration, “Search for long-lived particles decaying to a pair of muons in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s}=13.6$ TeV with 2022 data”, <https://cds.cern.ch/record/2889915>
2. CMS Collaboration, “Search for long-lived particles decaying to a pair of muons in proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV”, [http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/JHEP05\(2023\)228](http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/JHEP05(2023)228)
3. Curtin et al., “Illuminating dark photons with high-energy colliders”, [https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP02\(2015\)157](https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP02(2015)157)
4. R. Barbier et al., “R-parity-violating supersymmetry”, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.physrep.2005.08.006>

Backup

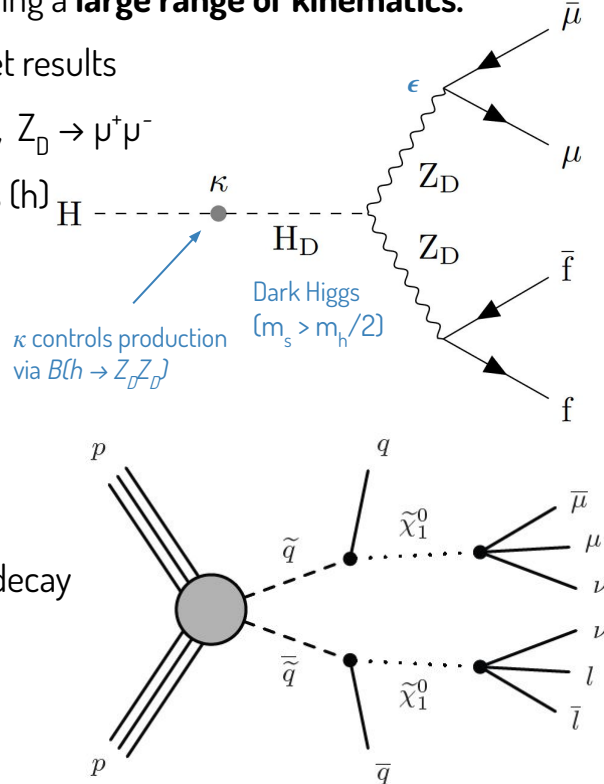


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Two models used as benchmark to interpret results

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- Dark Higgs (H_D) mixes with SM Higgs (h) via κ
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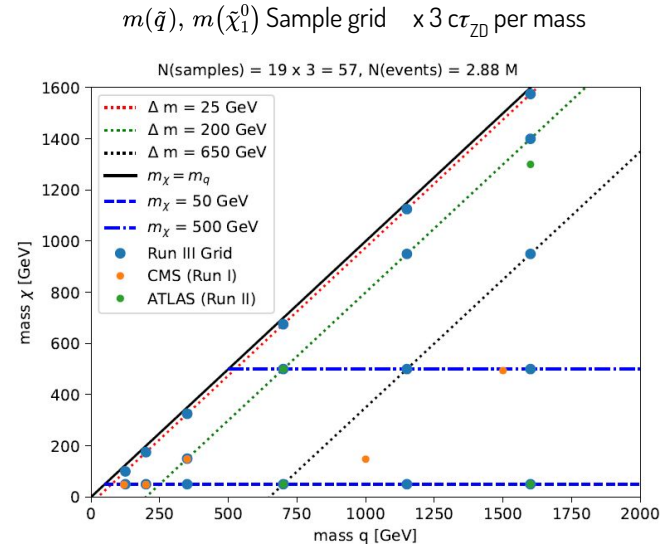


m_h	m_{Z_D}	$B(Z_D \rightarrow \mu\mu)$
125 GeV	10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60	10-15%

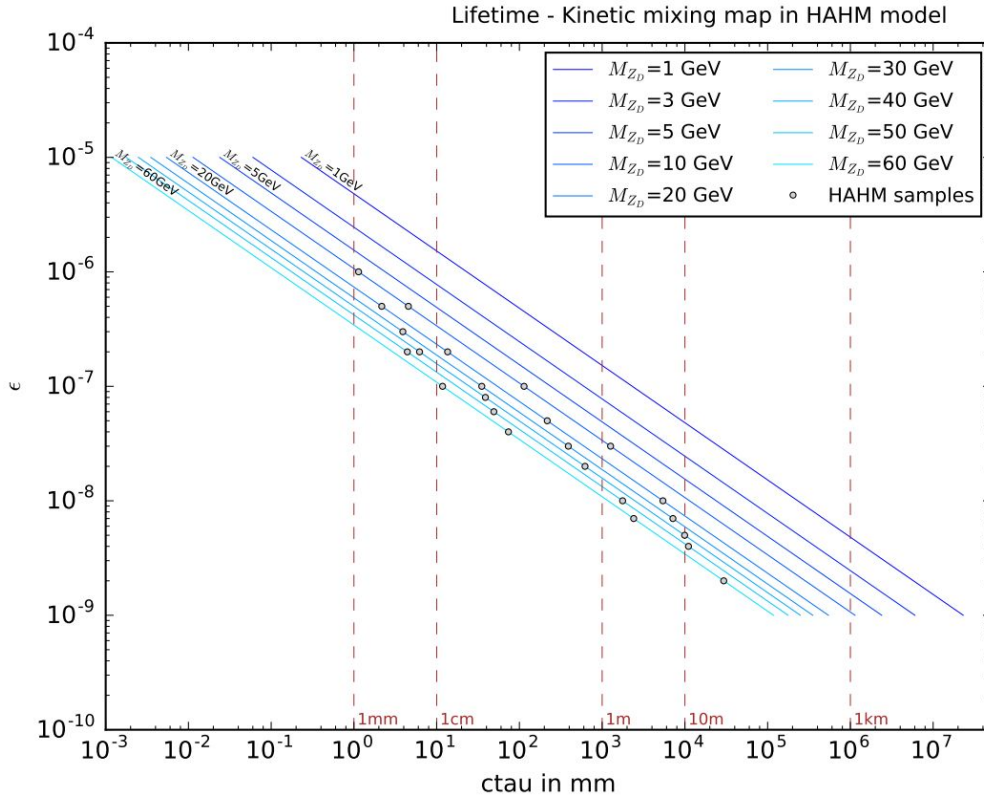
$\times 4 c\tau_{Z_D}$ per mass

RPV SUSY Model [4]:

- Non-resonant long lived neutralino decay $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow \mu\mu\nu$



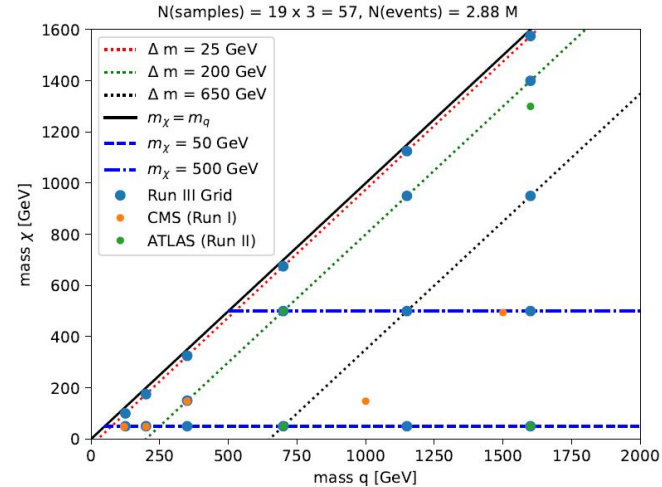
Signal samples - grid



m_h	m_{Z_D}	$B(Z_D \rightarrow \mu\mu)$
125 GeV	10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60	10-15%

$\times 4 \tau_{Z_D}$ per mass

$m(\tilde{q}), m(\tilde{\chi}_1^0)$ Sample grid $\times 3 \tau_{Z_D}$ per mass



$$\mathcal{B}(\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow \mu\mu\nu) = \mathcal{B}(\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow ee\nu)$$

<i>Event selection</i>	
$N(\text{PV})$	≥ 1
HLT-STA muon matching	yes
$N(\text{nearly parallel STA muons})$	< 4

<i>Muon selection</i>	<i>Muon type</i>	
	STA	TMS
STA-to-TMS muon association	not matched to TMS μ	matched to STA μ
$N(\text{CSC+DT hits})$	> 12	—
- associated STA muon	—	> 12
$N(\text{DT hits})$ for muons in barrel tracker muon	> 18	—
$N(\text{matched muon segments})$	—	yes
p_T	—	> 1
σ_{p_T} / p_T	$> 10 \text{ GeV}$	$> 10 \text{ GeV}$
$\chi^2_{\text{trk}} / \text{dof}$	< 1.0	< 1.0
$I_{\text{trk}}^{\text{rel}}$	< 2.5	—
$ \Delta t $	—	< 0.075
muon direction	$< 12 \text{ ns}$	—
d_0 / σ_{d_0}	inside-out	—
	—	> 6

<i>Dimuon selection</i>	<i>Dimuon category</i>		
	STA-STA	STA-TMS	TMS-TMS
DCA	$< 15 \text{ cm}$	$< 15 \text{ cm}$	$< 15 \text{ cm}$
pairing criteria	best 1-2 ranked dimuons selected		
χ^2_{vtx}	< 10	< 20	< 10
$\Delta N(\text{pixel hits})$	—	—	< 3
$N(\text{hits before vertex})$	—	< 6	< 3
$N(\text{tracker layers}) + \text{floor}(L_{xy} [\text{cm}] / 15)$	—	> 5	> 5
$ \phi_{\mu}^{\text{TMS}} $	—	< 2.9	—
$\cos \alpha$			
- 2016 data analysis	> -0.8	> -0.8	> -0.8
- 2018 data analysis	> -0.9	> -0.9	> -0.99
$N(\text{dimuon segments})$	> 4	—	—
if $ \Delta \eta_{\mu\mu} < 0.1$			
- $N(\text{dimuon segments})$	> 5	—	—
- $N(\text{DT hits})$ for muons in barrel	> 24	—	—
no back-to-back muon			
with $ \Delta t_{\text{b2b}} > 20 \text{ ns}$	yes	—	—
$m_{\mu\mu}$	$> 10 \text{ GeV}$	$> 10 \text{ GeV}$	$> 10 \text{ GeV}$
p_T of the leading muon	—	—	$> 25 \text{ GeV}$
$L_{xy} / \sigma_{L_{xy}}$	> 6	> 3	> 6
$ \Delta \Phi $	$< \pi / 4$	$< \pi / 4$	$< \pi / 4$
opposite-sign muons	yes	yes	yes

Event Selection

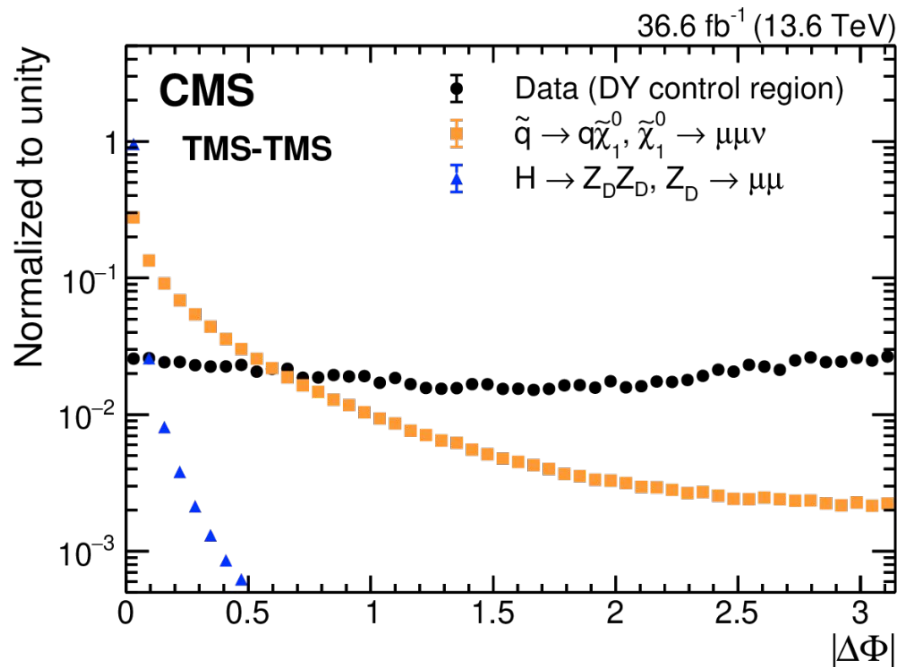
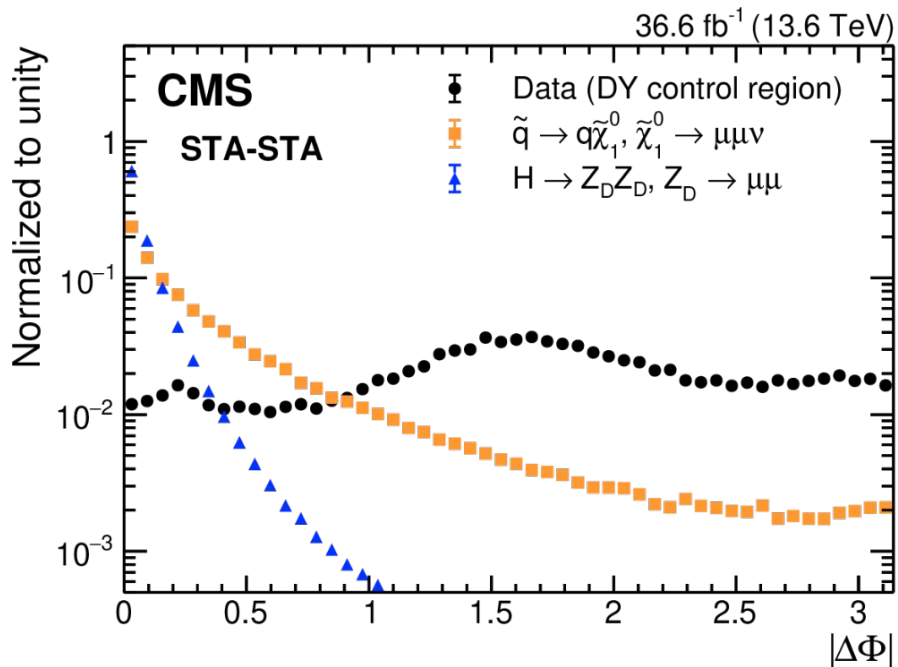
Requirement	Dimuon Category	
	STA-STA	TMS-TMS
Good primary vertex	yes	yes
HLT-RECO matching	yes	yes
$N(\text{parallel pairs})$	< 6	< 6

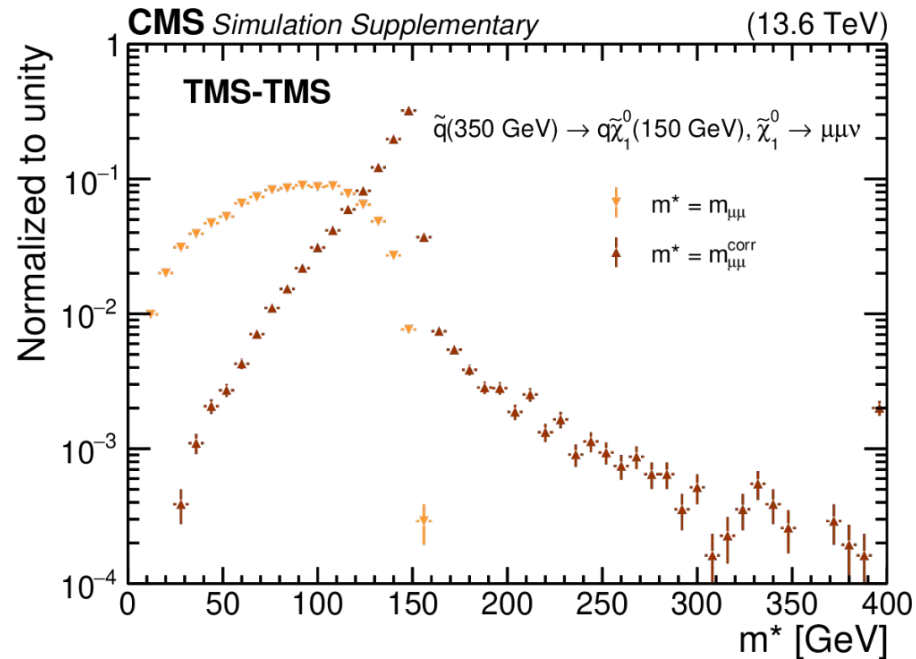
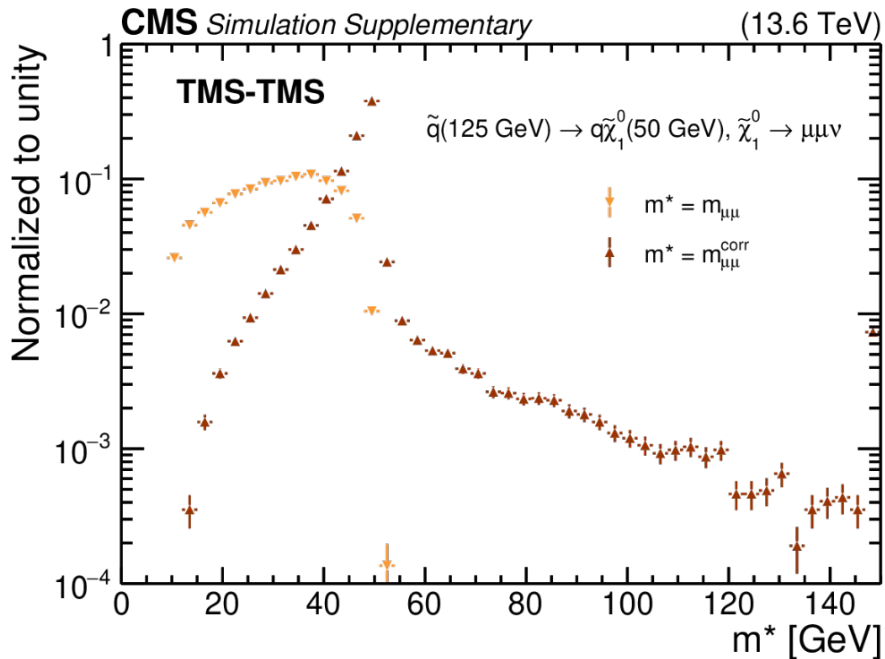
Muon Selection

Requirement	Muon Type	
	STA	TMS
STA to TMS muon association	not matched to TMS μ	matched to STA μ
$N(\text{CSC} + \text{DT hits})$	> 12	> 12 (assoc. STA muon)
$N(\text{DT hits})$ for muon in barrel	> 18	-
Tracker muon	-	yes
$N(\text{matched muon segments})$	-	> 1
p_T	> 10 GeV	> 10 GeV
$\sigma(p_T)/p_T$	< 1.0	< 1.0
$\chi^2_{\text{track}}/\text{dof}$	< 2.5	-
I^{rel}	$< 0.15^*$	< 0.075
$ t_{\text{in-out}} $	< 12 ns	-
Muon direction	+1 ('inside-out')	-
$d_0/\sigma(d_0)$	-	> 6

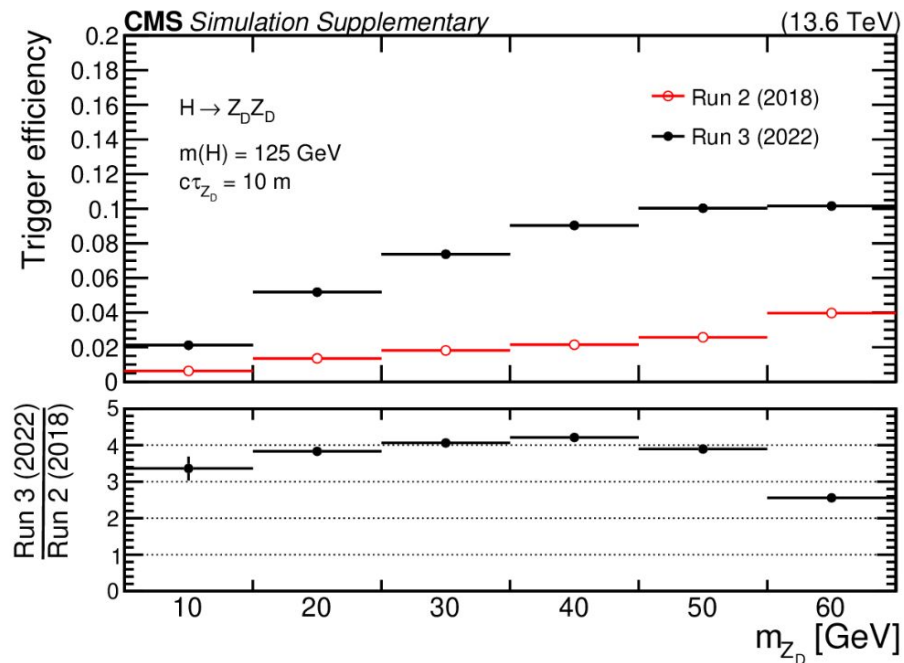
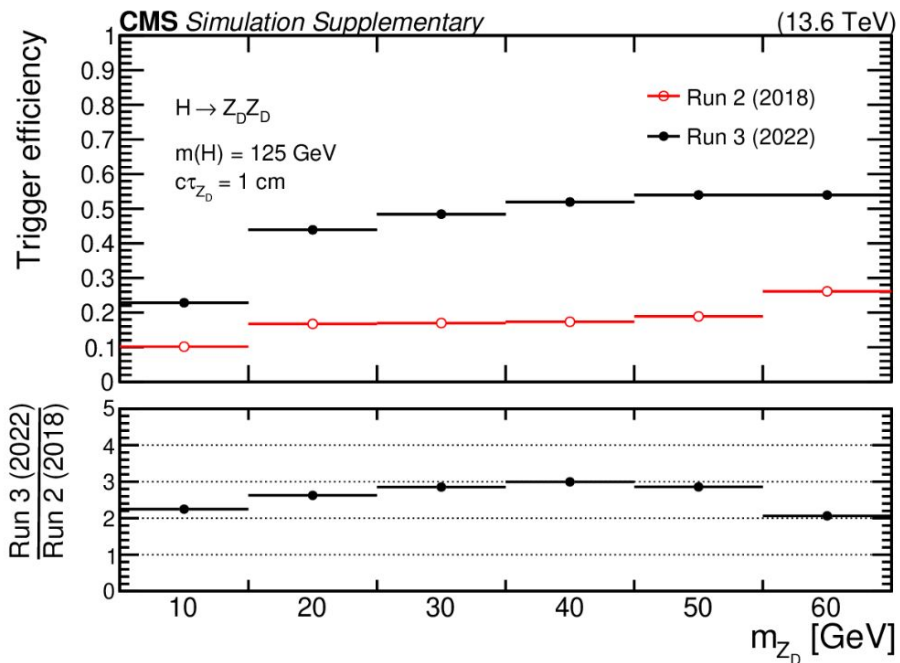
Dimuon Selection

Requirement	Dimuon Category	
	STA-STA	TMS-TMS
DCA	< 15 cm	< 15 cm
Convergent common vertex fix	yes	yes
Pairing criteria	Select best 1-2 dimuons ranked by $\min(\Sigma \chi^2_{\text{vertex}}/\text{dof})$	
χ^2_{vertex}	< 10	< 10
$\Delta N(\text{pixel hits})$	-	< 3
$N(\text{hits before vertex})$	-	Not applied*
$\sigma(L_{xy})$	< 20 cm*	-
$\cos \alpha$	> -0.9	-0.99
Back-to-back muon timing, $ \Delta t_{\text{b2b}} $	> 20 ns	-
$N(\text{dimuon segments})$	> 4	-
If $ \Delta \eta_{\mu\mu} < 0.1$		
$\cdot N(\text{dimuon segments})$	> 5	-
$\cdot N(\text{DT hits})$ for muons in barrel	> 24	-
$m_{\mu\mu}$	> 10 GeV	> 10 GeV
Leading muon p_T	-	> 25 GeV
$L_{xy}/\sigma(L_{xy})$	> 6	> 6
Muon sign correlation	opposite-sign (OS)	
$ \Delta \Phi $ for $H \rightarrow Z_D Z_D$ (HAHM)*	$< \pi/10^*$	$< \pi/30^*$
$ \Delta \Phi $ for $\tilde{q} \rightarrow q \tilde{\chi}_1^0$ (RPV SUSY)*	$< \pi/4^*$	$< \pi/4^*$
$m_{\mu\mu}, m_{\mu\mu}^{\text{corr}}$ intervals*	See Section 6.6*	

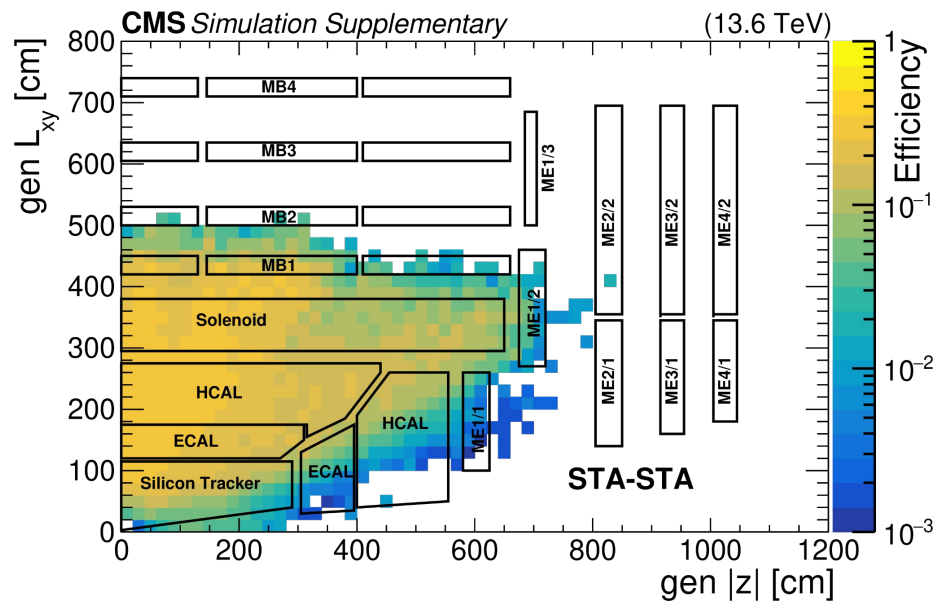
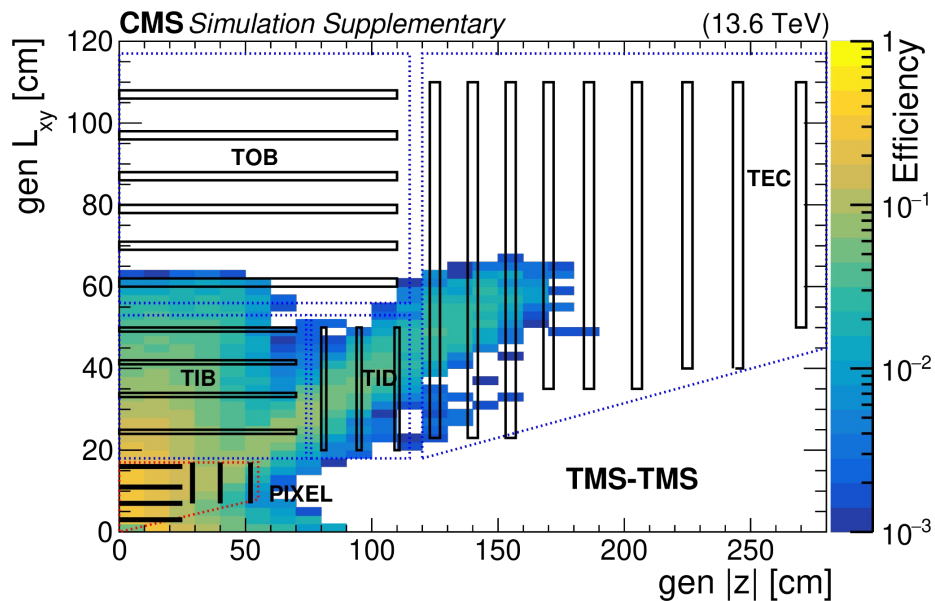




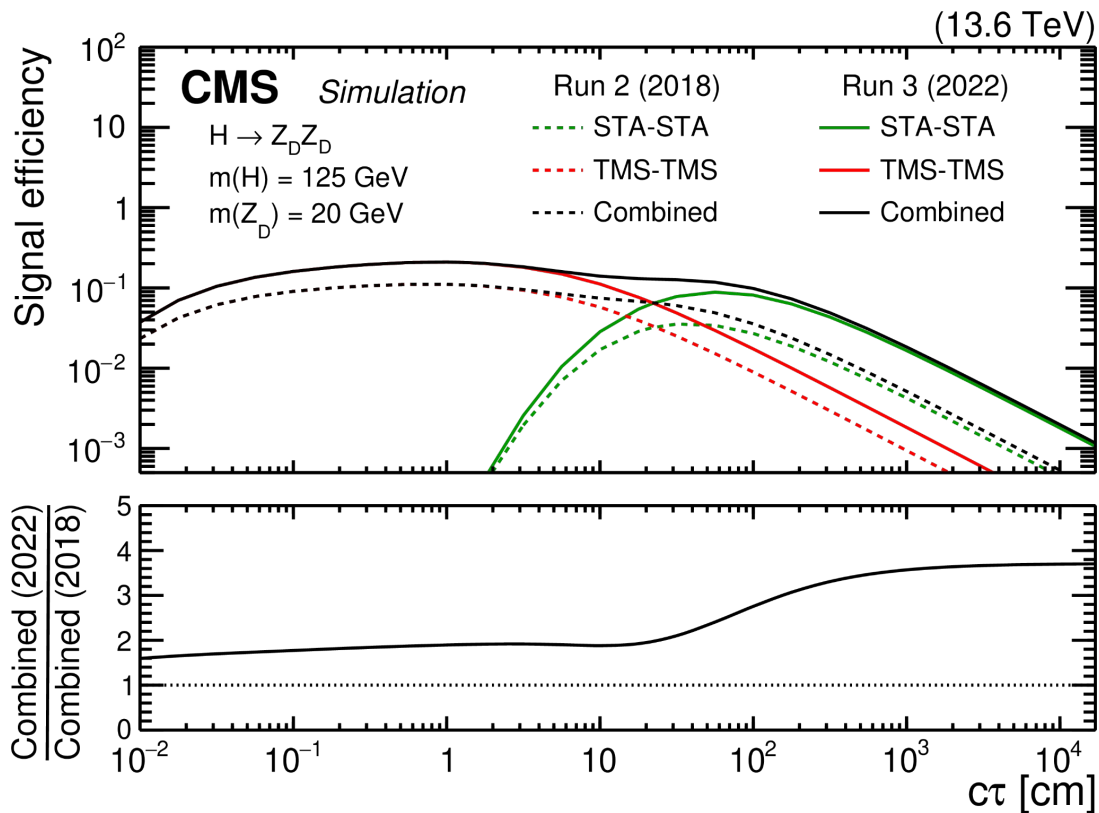
Signal Efficiency vs Z_D mass

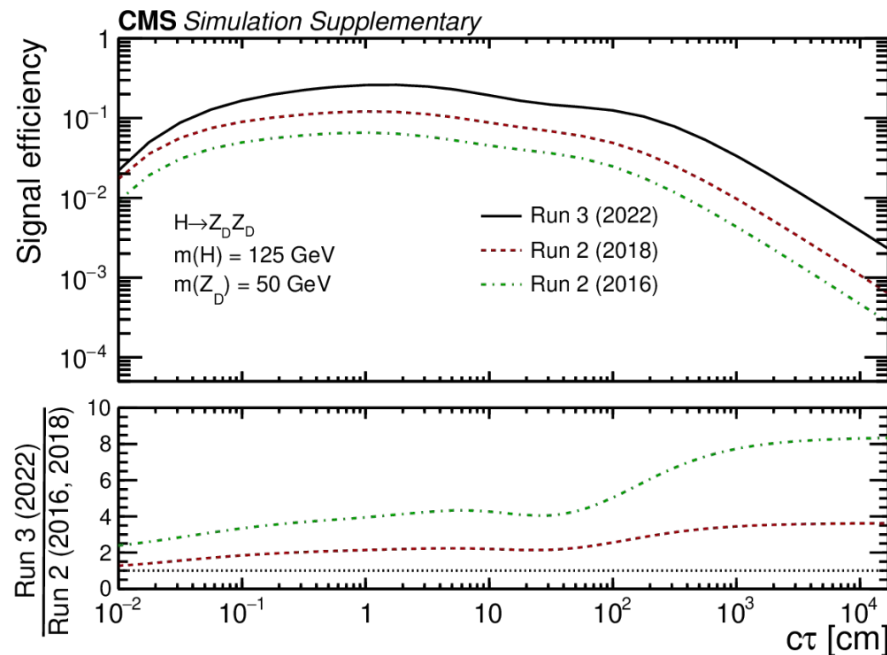
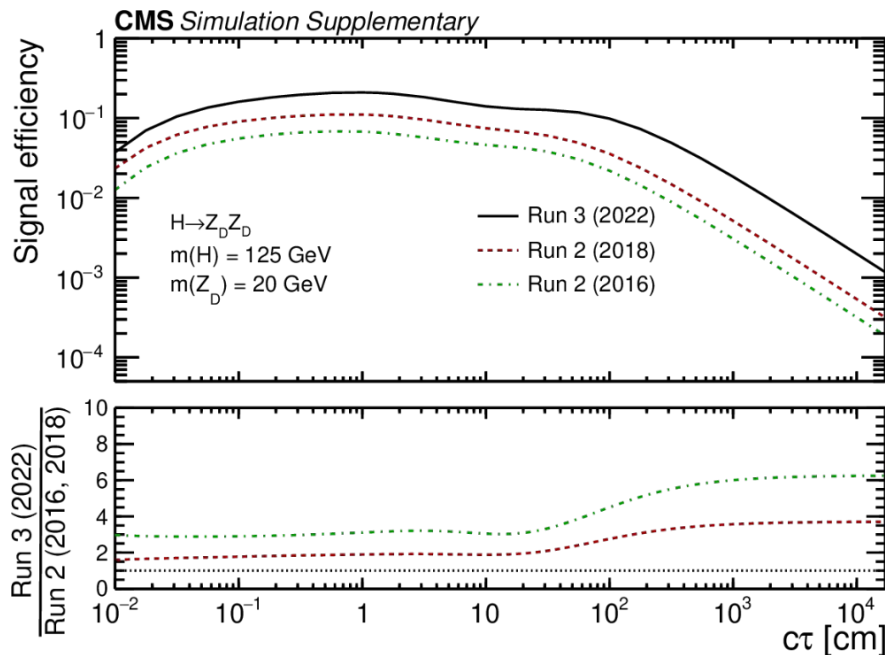


Signal Efficiency in detector

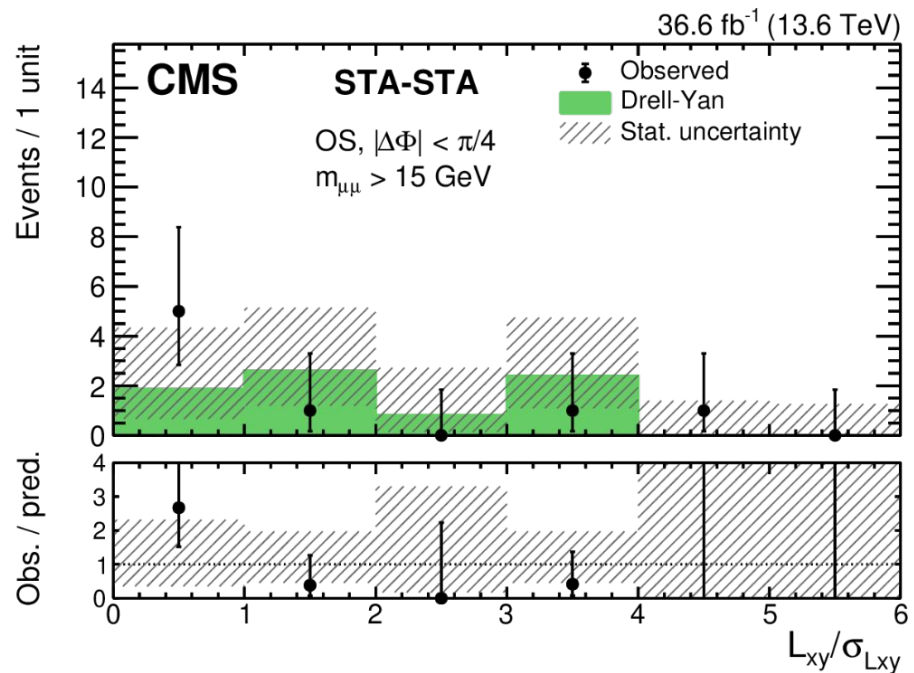
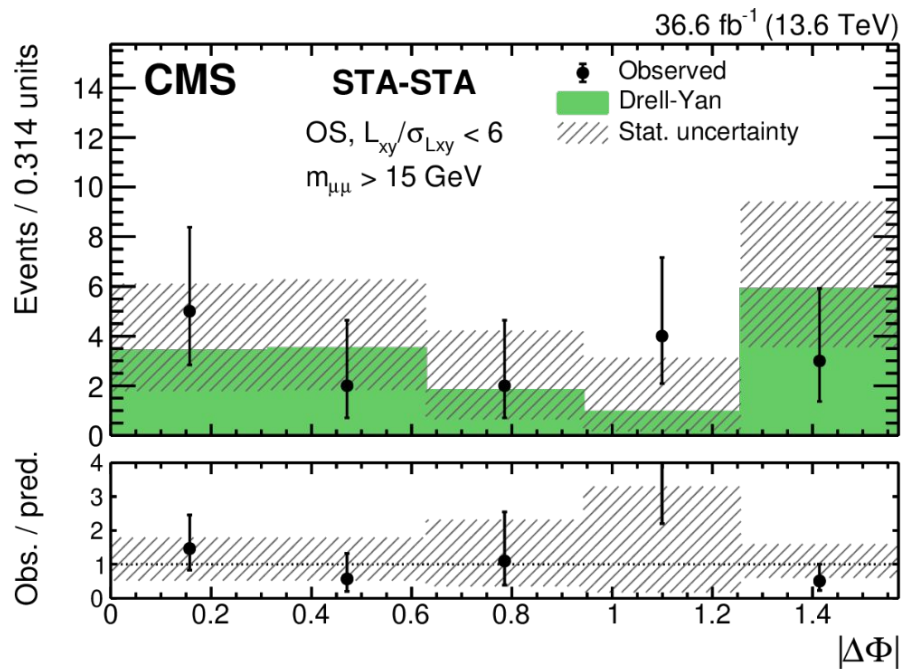


Signal Efficiency vs $c\tau$

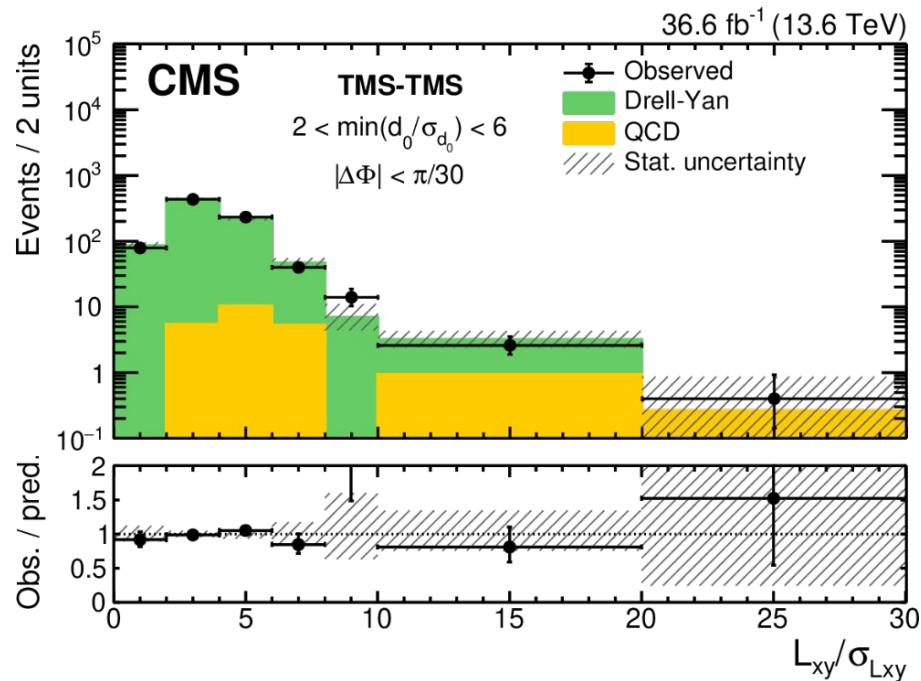
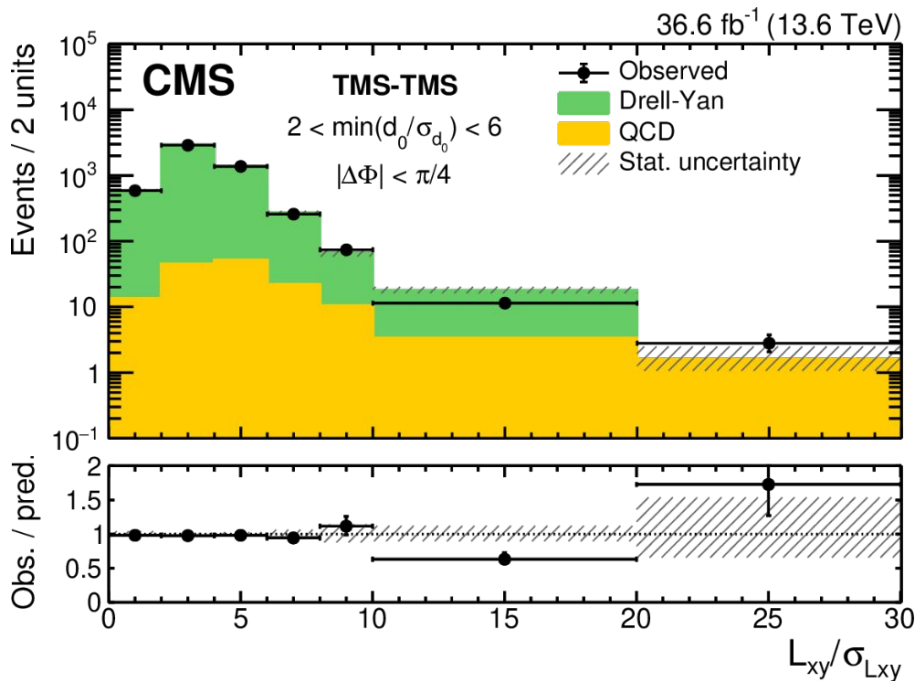




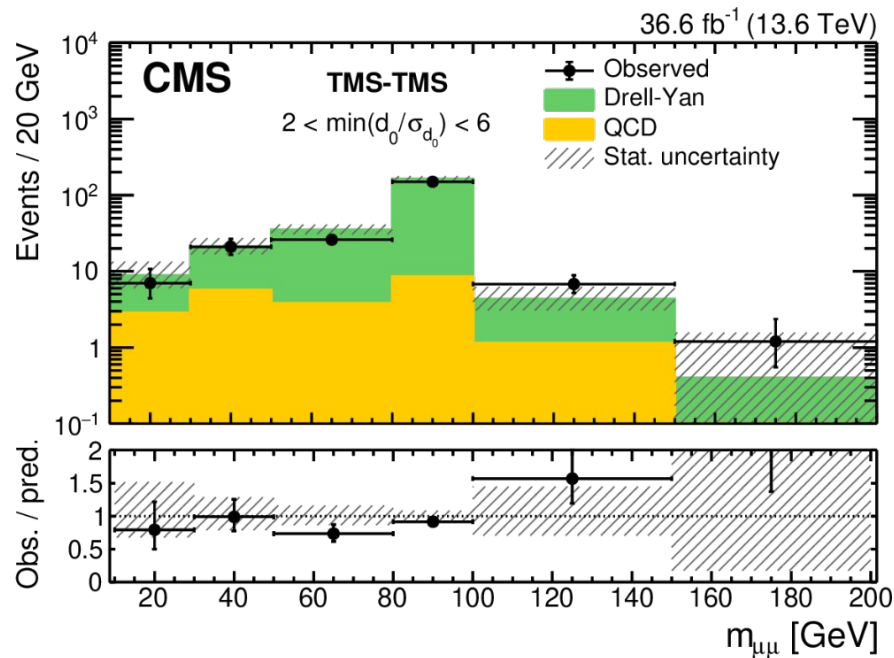
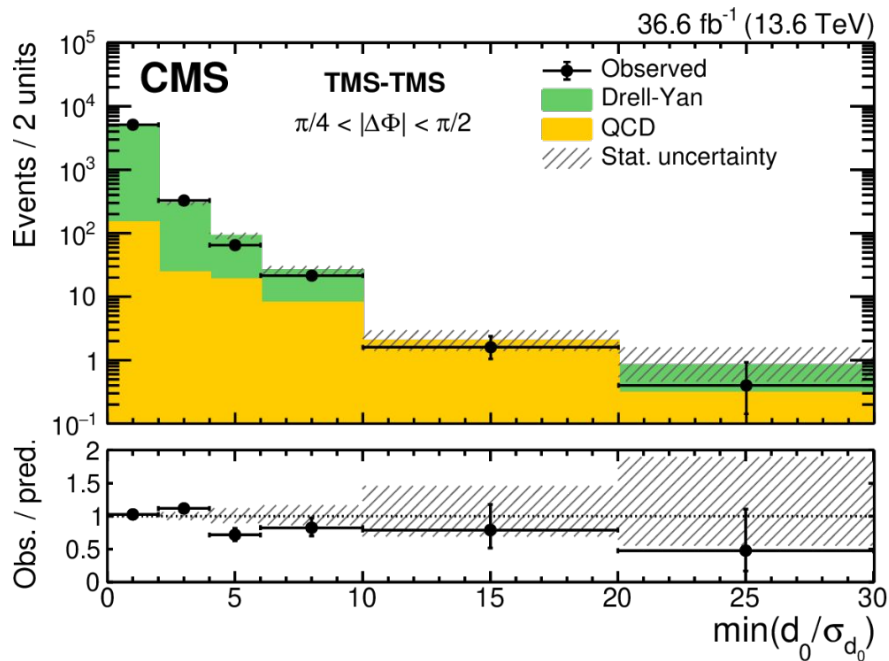
Validation of bg prediction : STA-STA



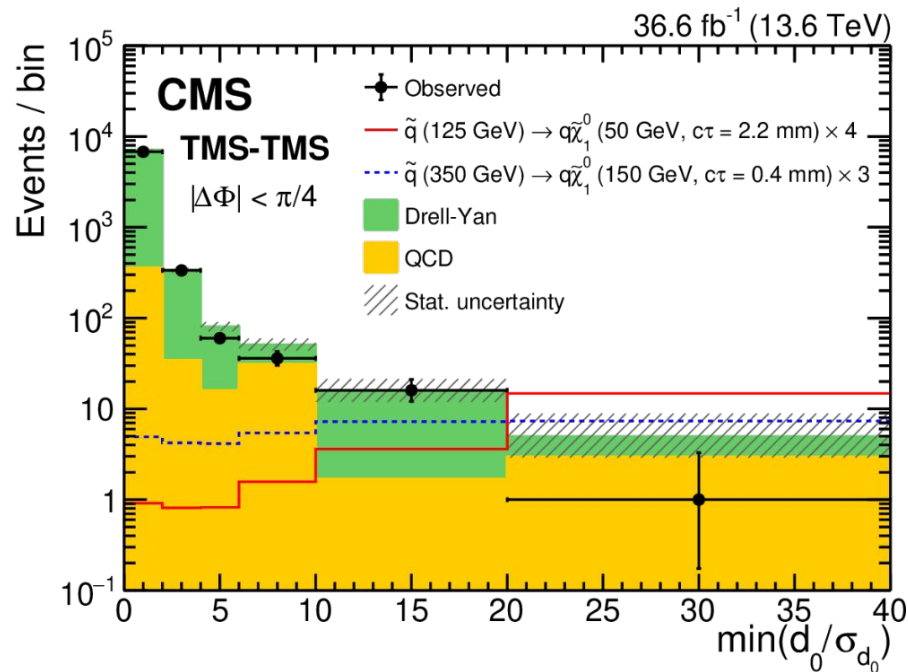
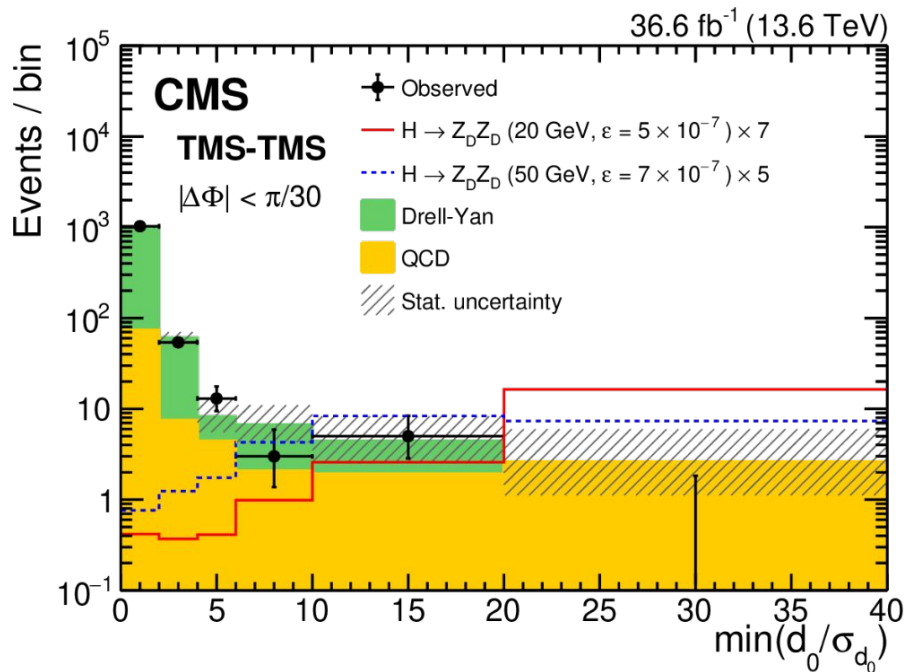
Validation of bg prediction : TMS-TMS



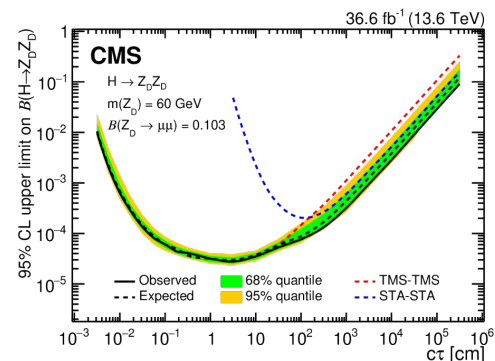
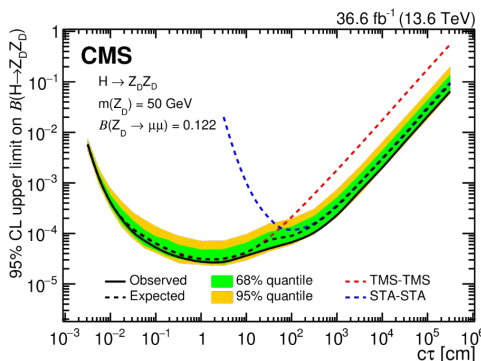
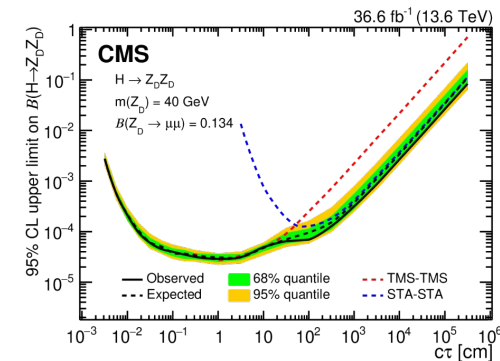
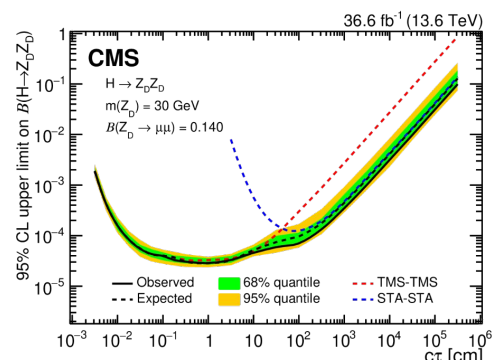
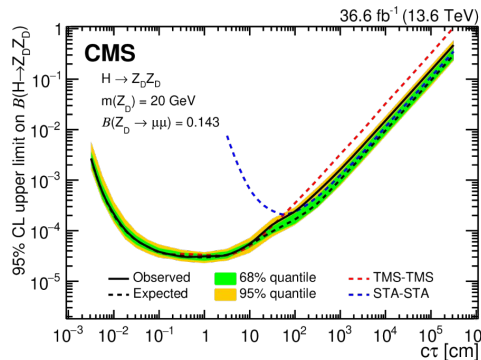
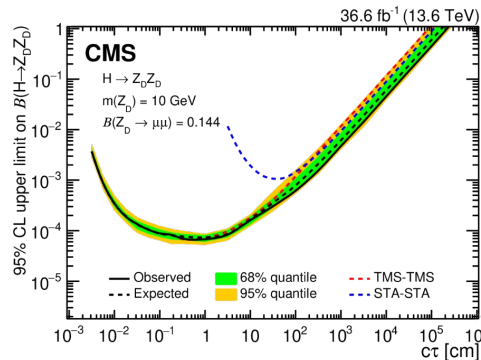
Validation of bg prediction : TMS-TMS

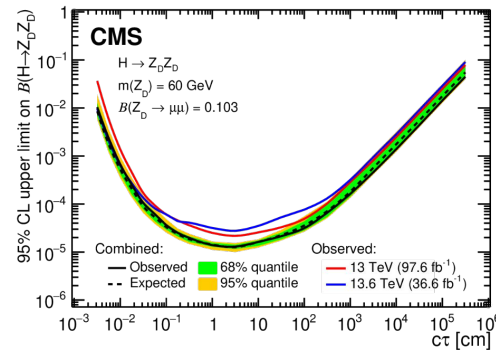
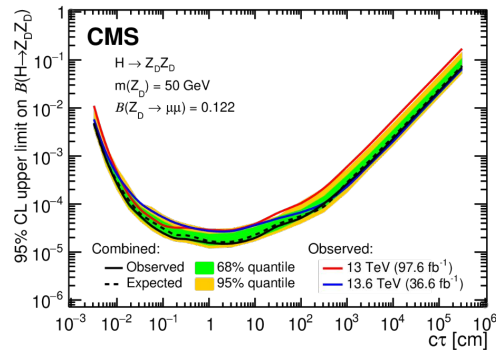
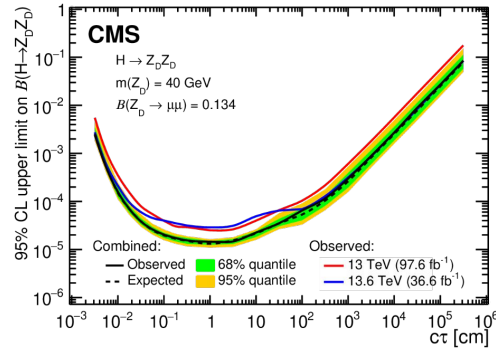
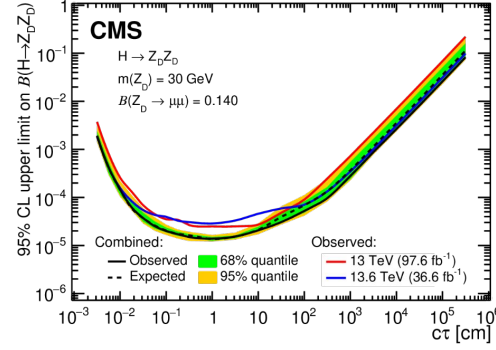
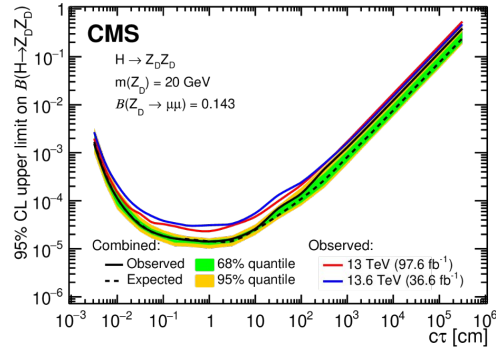
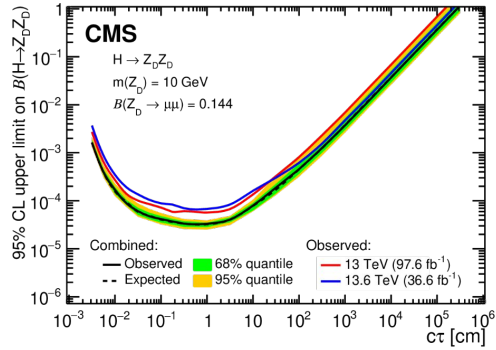


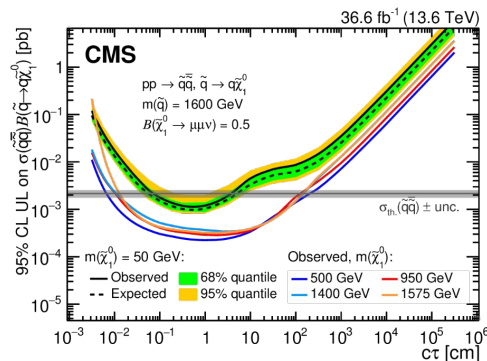
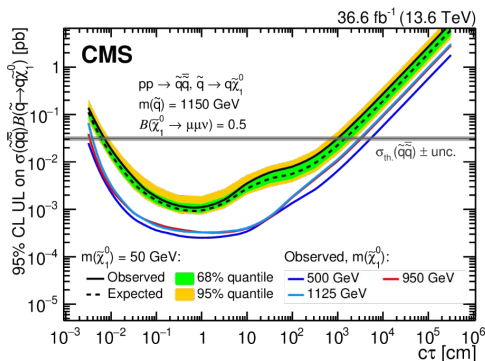
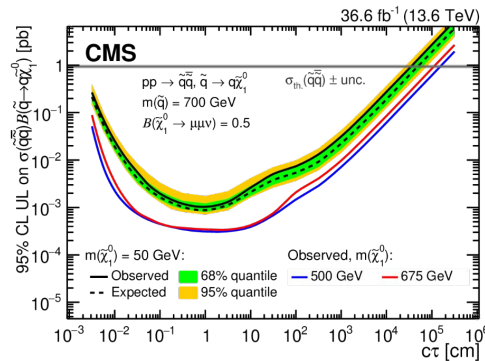
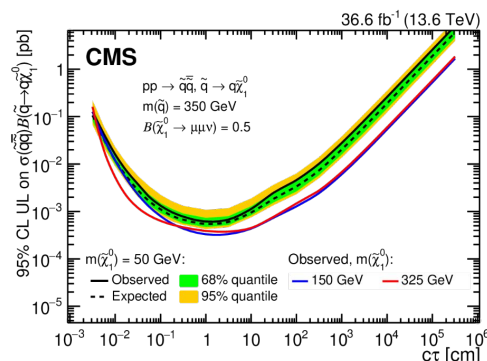
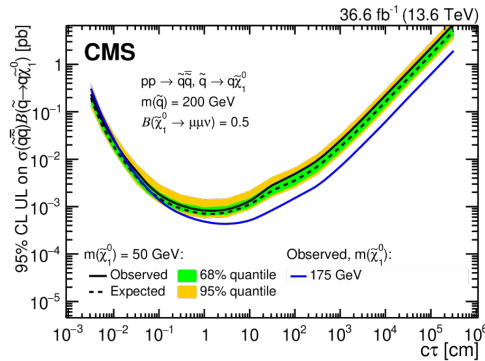
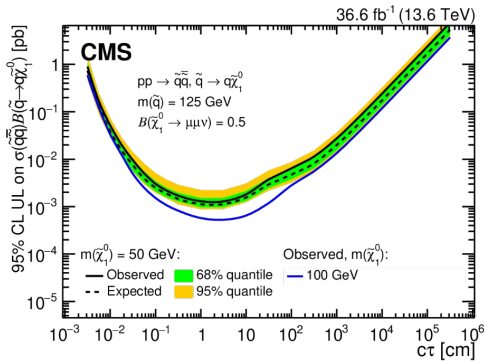
TMS-TMS signal region



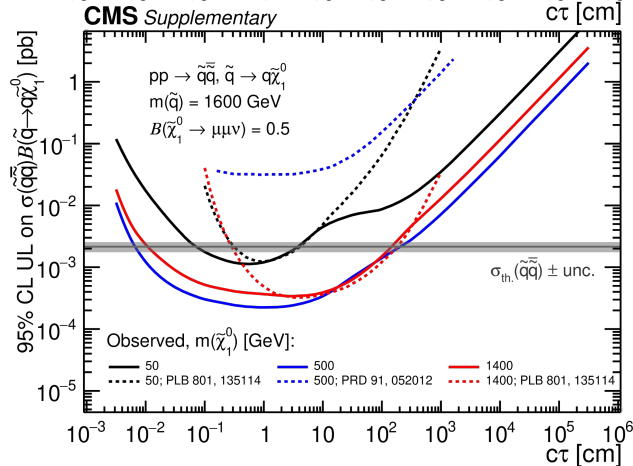
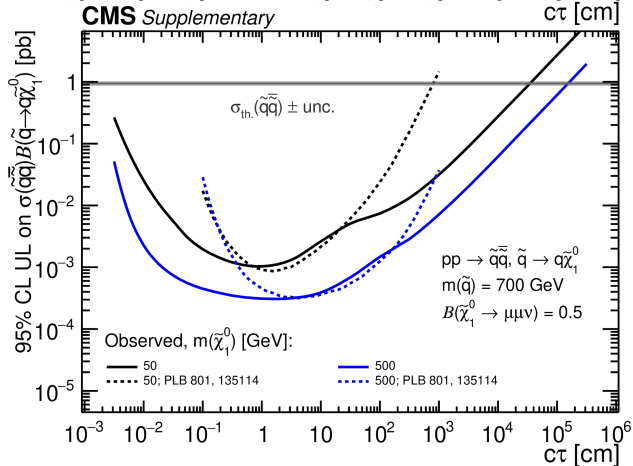
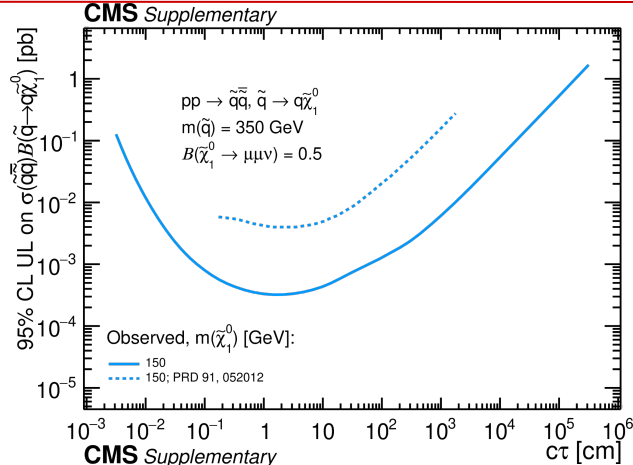
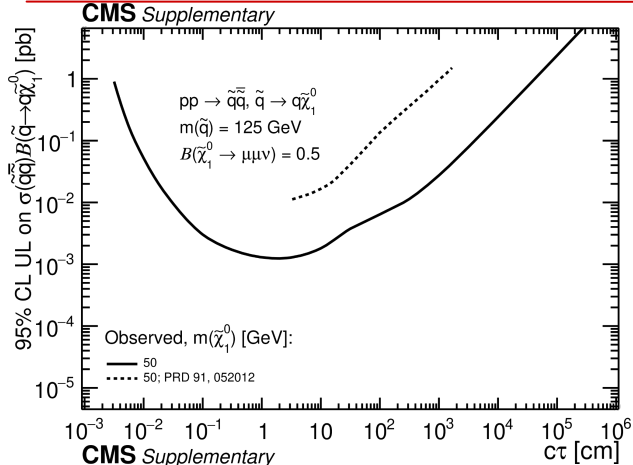
Dark Photon Limits - Categorywise







RPV SUSY limits - Comparison



Solid lines :
limits set by this search