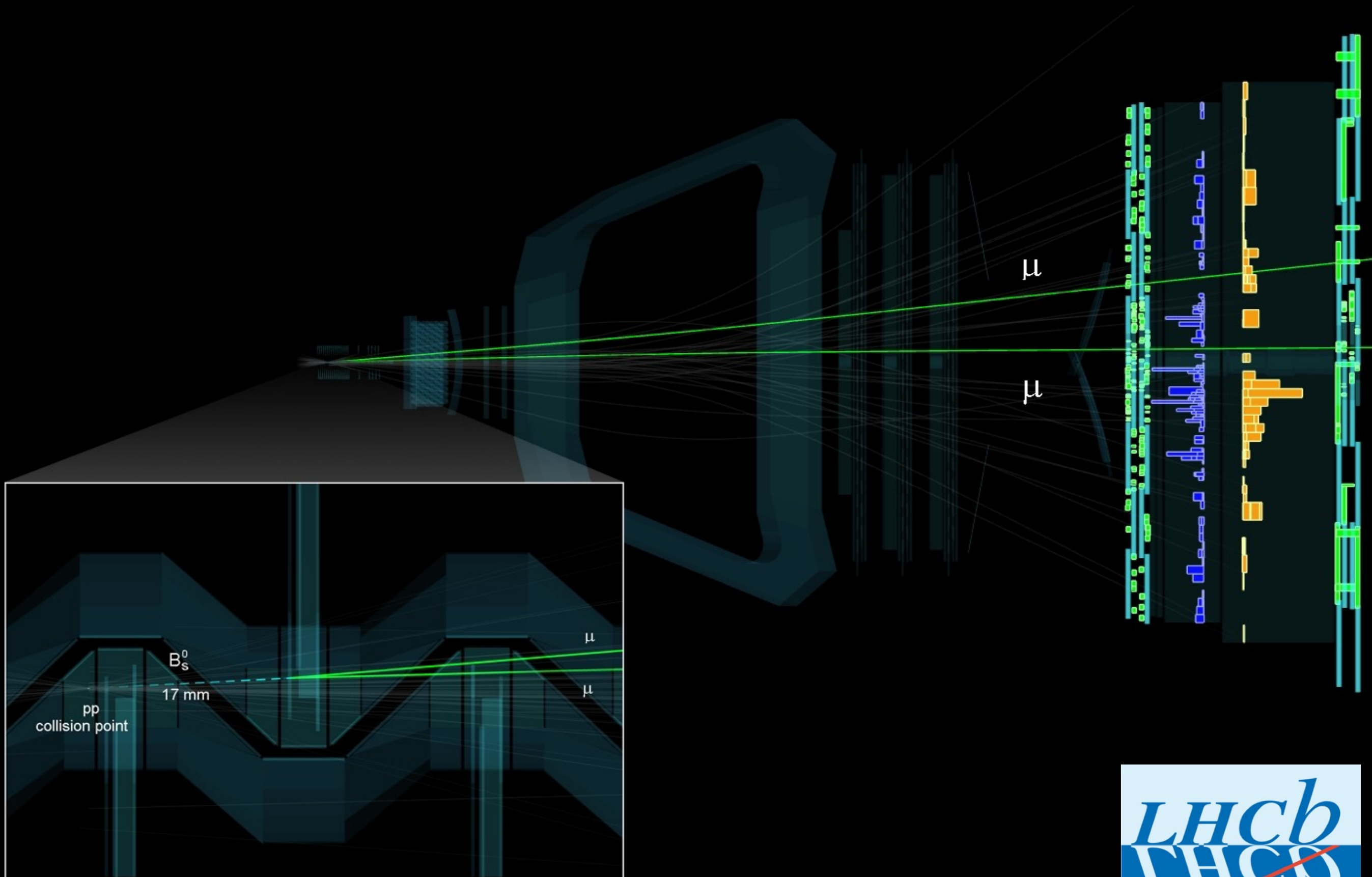


Searches for dark sectors and long-lived particles at ATLAS+CMS

Kate Pachal
on behalf of the ATLAS + CMS
collaborations

When it comes to SM processes....

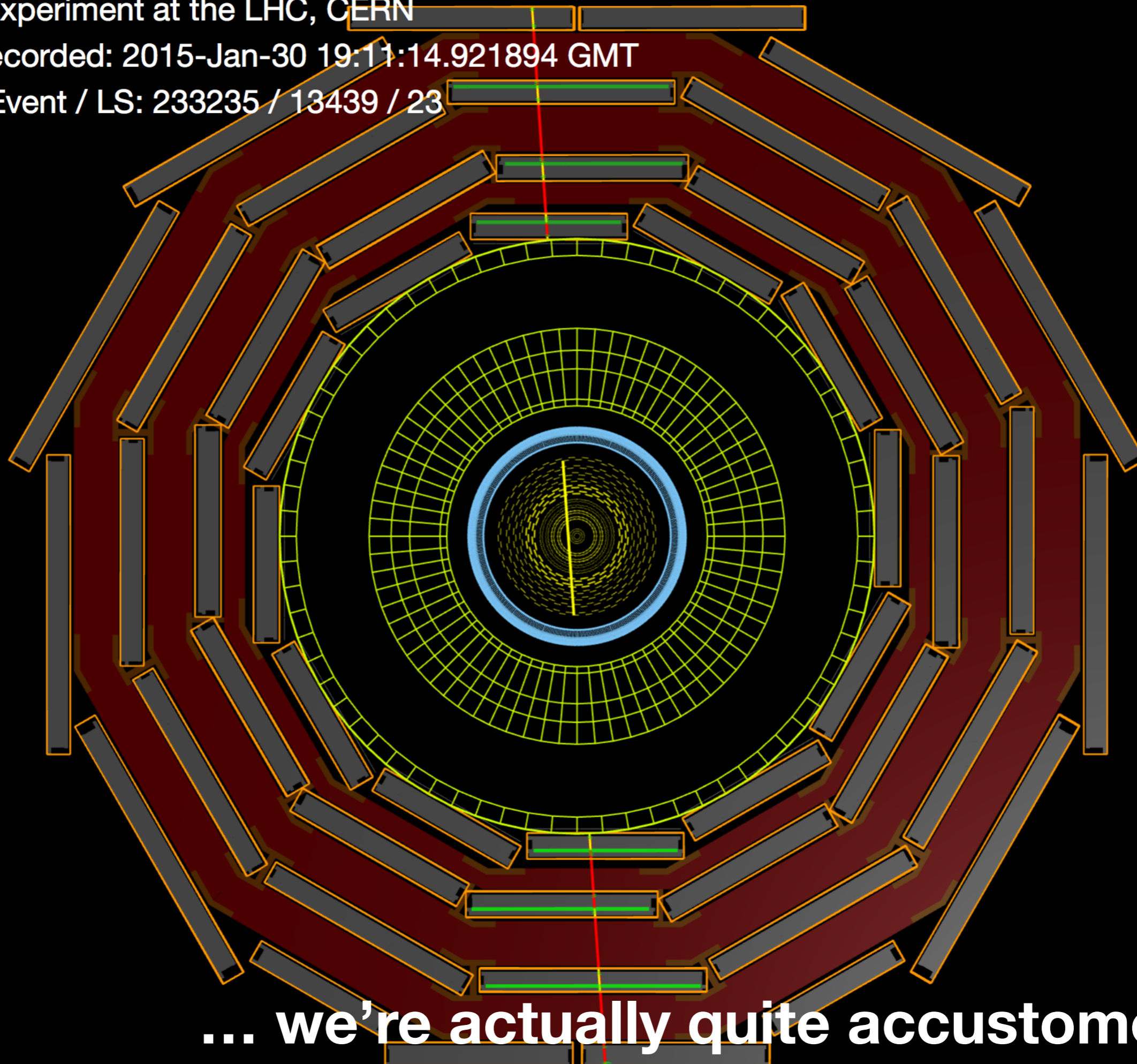




CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN

Data recorded: 2015-Jan-30 19:11:14.921894 GMT

Run / Event / LS: 233235 / 13439 / 23



... we're actually quite accustomed ...



... to seeing long-lived particles.

So what about for our new physics signatures?

- Long lived particles and dark sector interactions can give non-prompt signatures we should be looking for
- Well motivated! Plenty of models suggest long-lived particles, but this search program picking up steam now essentially due to difficulty of doing the searches.
- Challenging!
 - Analyses often require complex trigger strategies
 - Final states many need dedicated reconstruction processes (e.g. large-radius tracking) or otherwise use the detector in unconventional ways
- Early Run 2 was a great time for standard searches, but we need to start looking in new corners!

What makes particles long-lived?

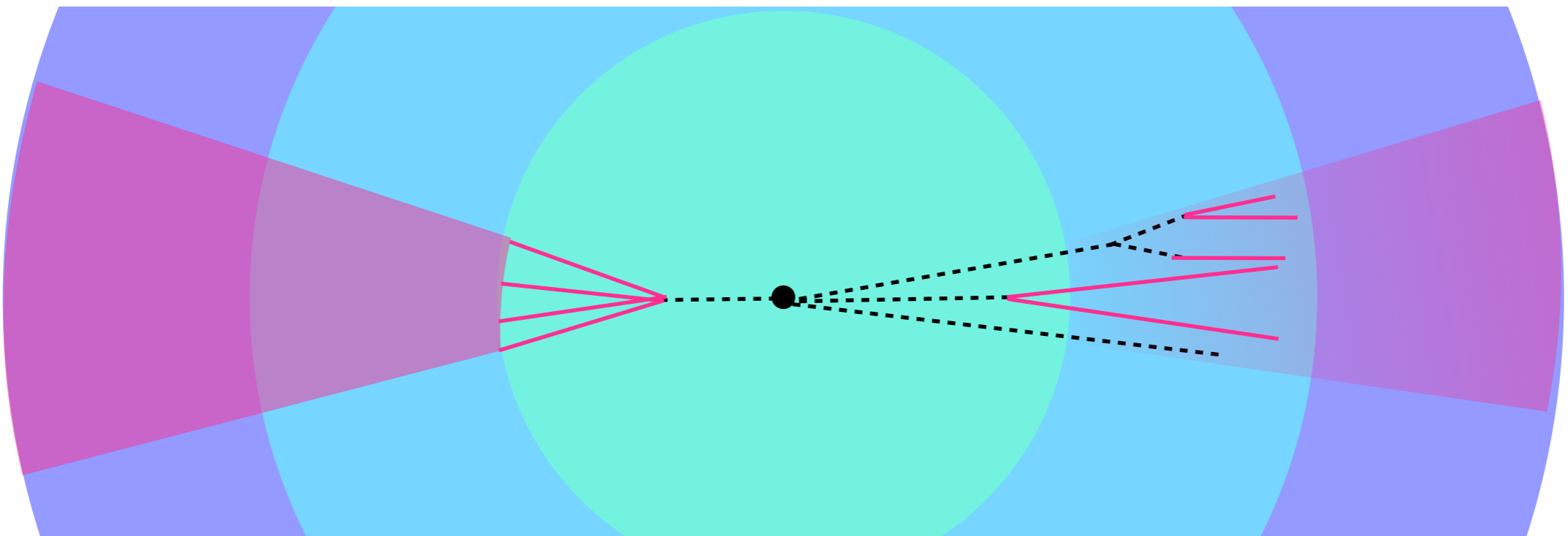
Decays via
heavy particle
e.g. μ to e via off-
shell W

Limited phase
space
e.g. K_{short} vs K_{long}
 $m_{\text{kaon}} \sim m_{3\pi}$

Small couplings
e.g. B meson decays
via electroweak
processes

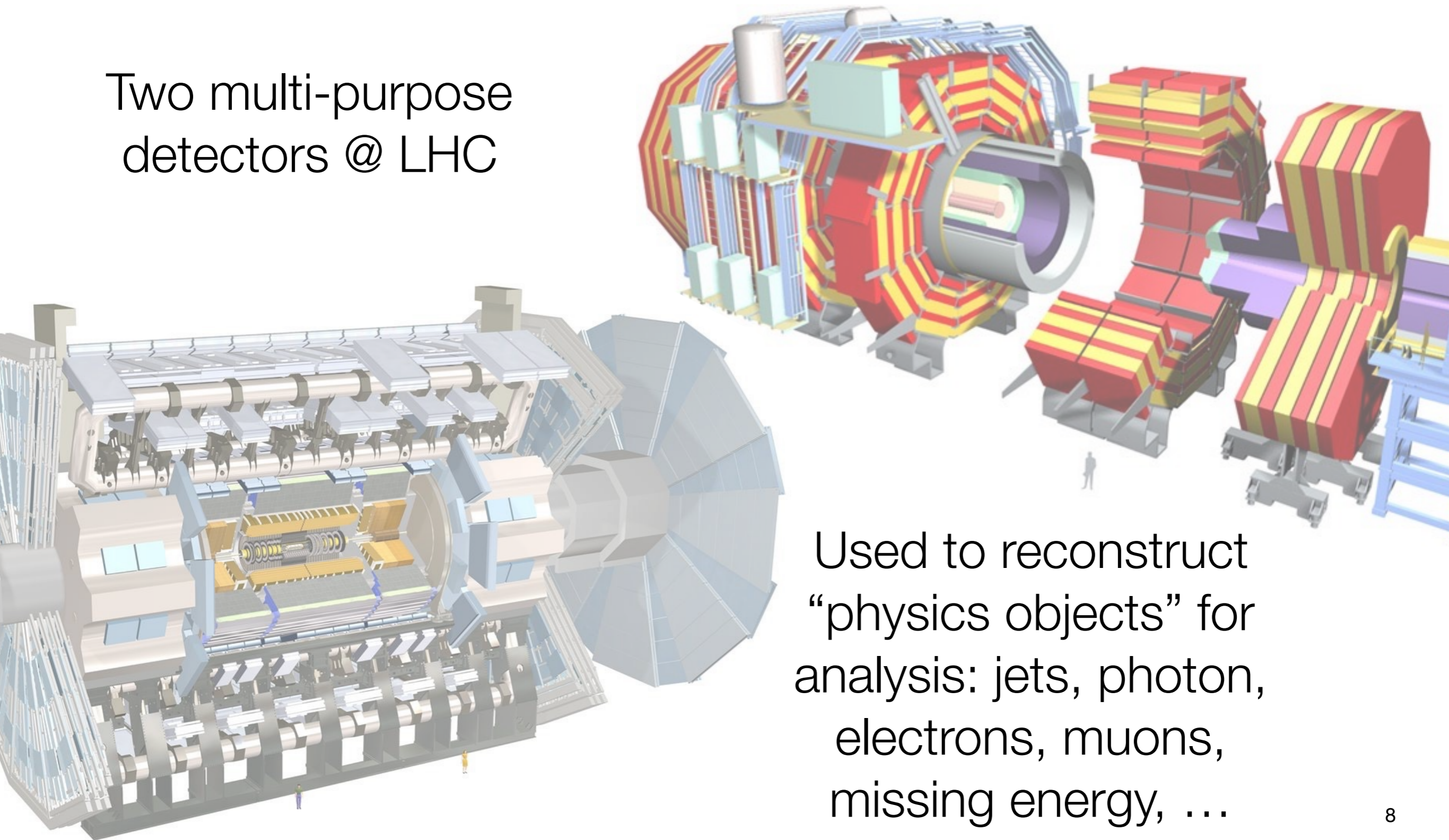
Dark sector searches: similar experimental challenges!

- Presence of a “dark sector” means decay chain includes particles which don’t interact with the detector in standard-model-like ways
- Can provide similar experimental challenges to long lived particles
- Example: displaced jets (from long-lived particle) versus emerging jets (dark QCD) both have displaced vertices and tracks which don’t point to the PV



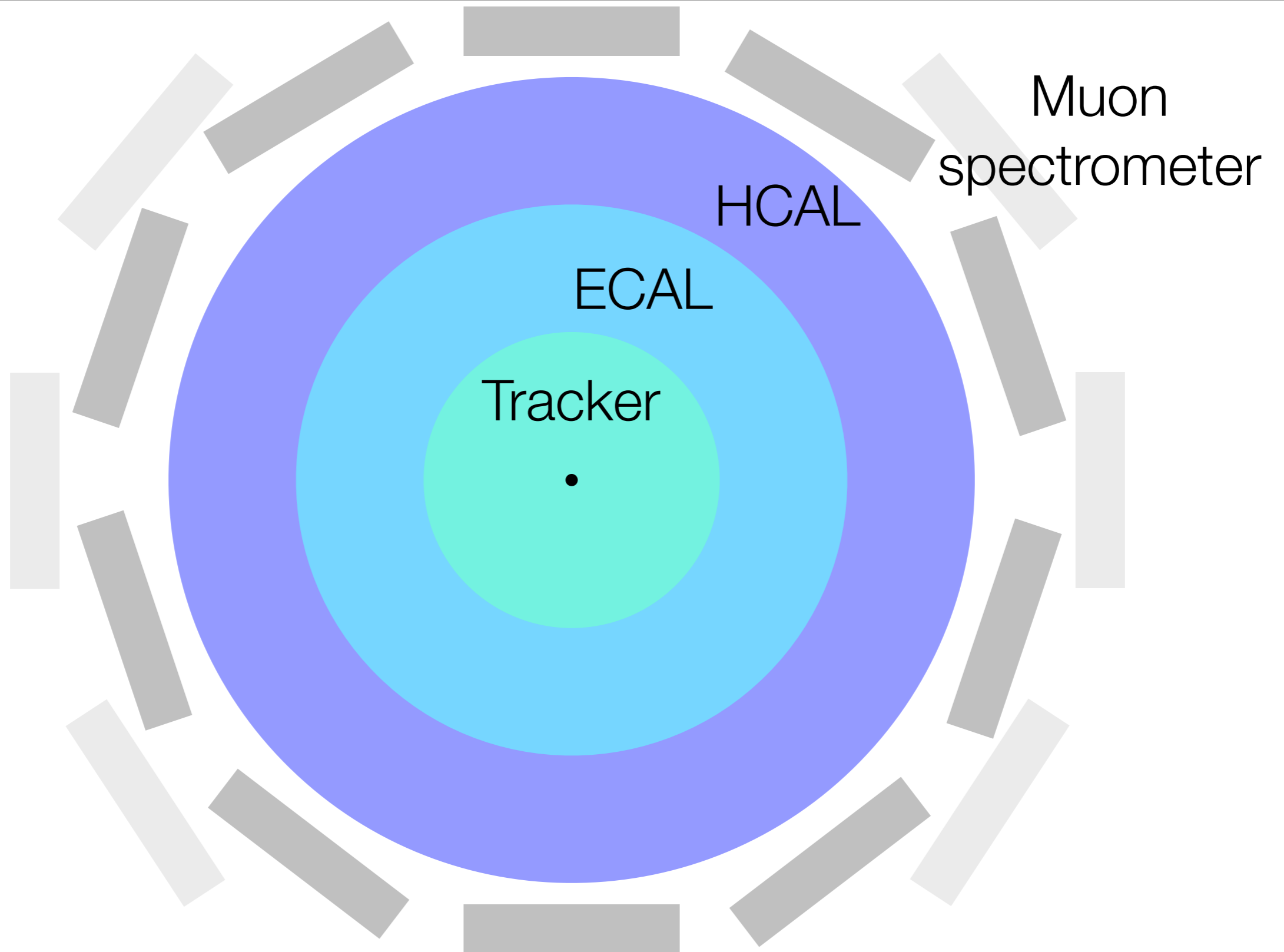
The detectors

Two multi-purpose detectors @ LHC

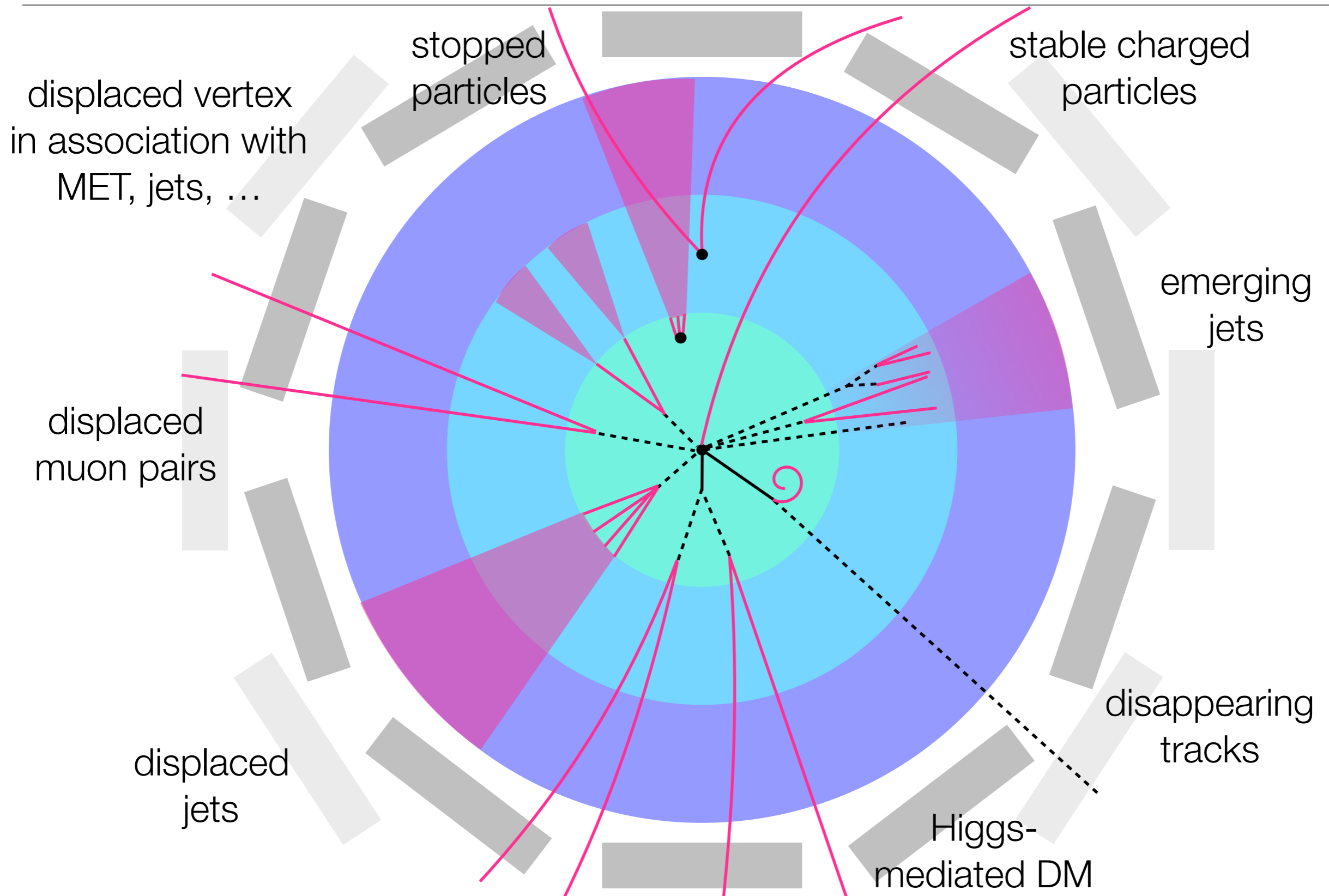


Used to reconstruct “physics objects” for analysis: jets, photon, electrons, muons, missing energy, ...

Long lived & dark sector signatures

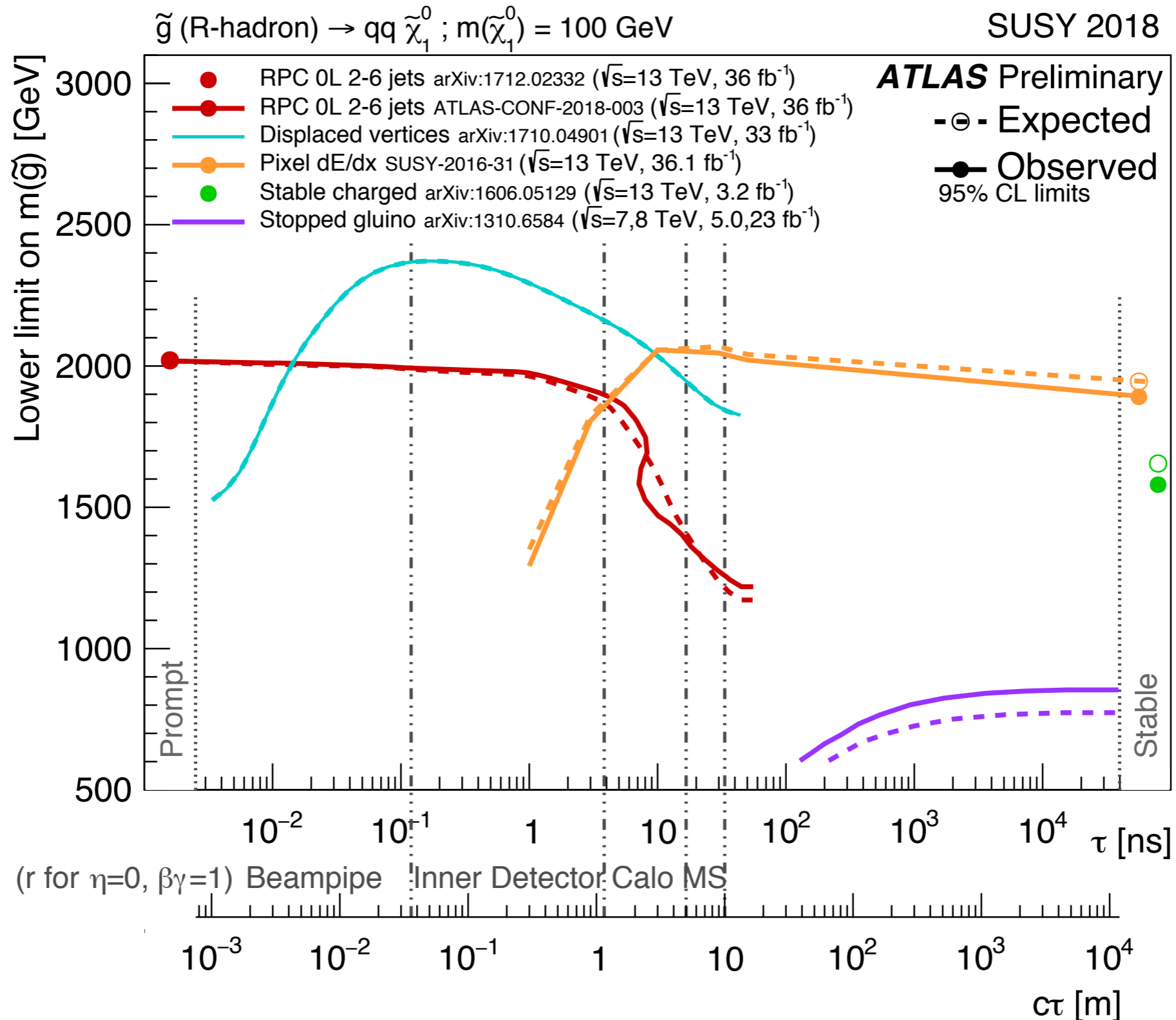


Long lived & dark sector signatures



Can't prompt searches cover this?

Kind of!



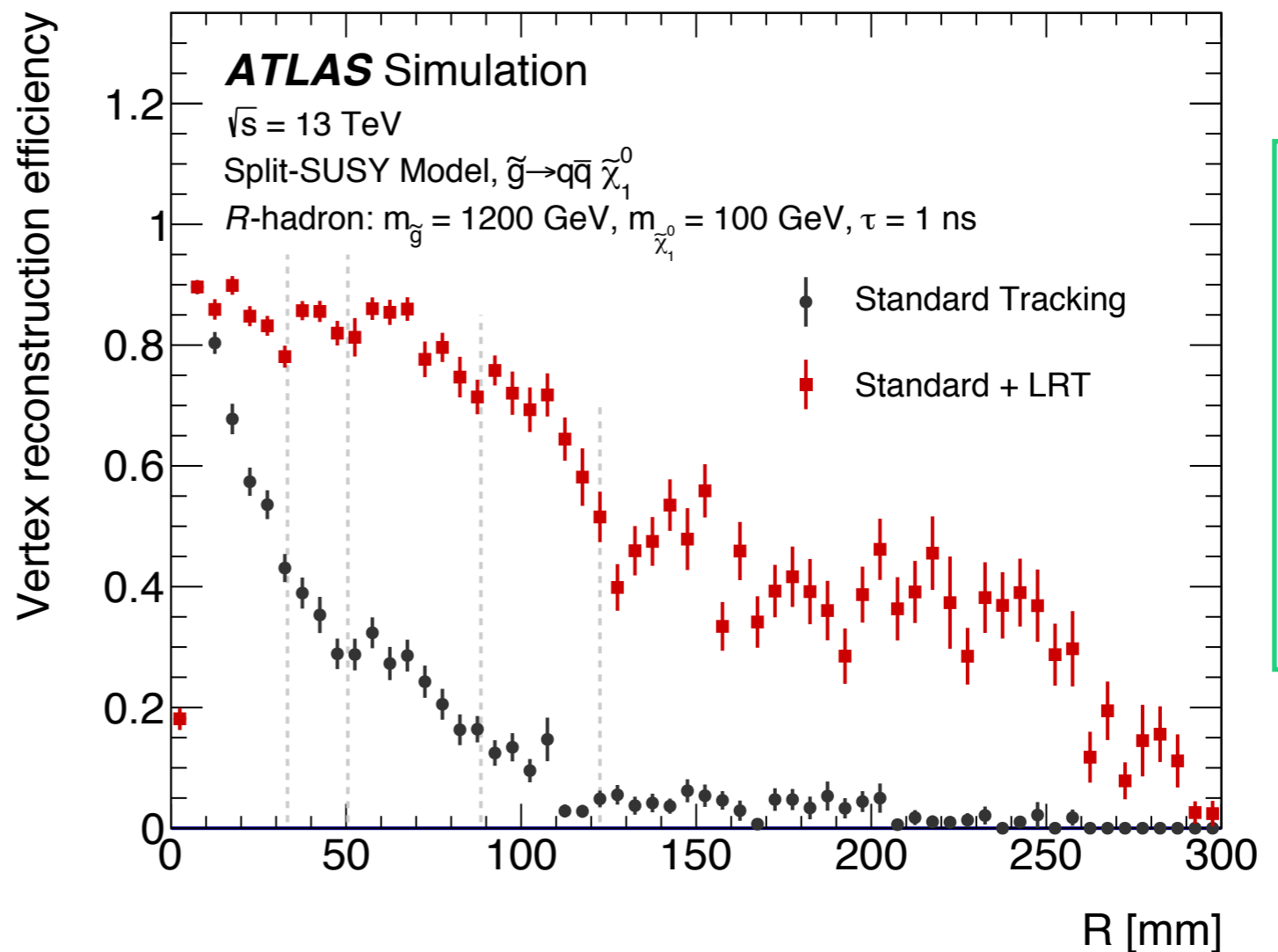
But dedicated searches dominate pretty quickly

Displaced vertex + [X]

Displaced vertex + [X]

- A strong indicator of a long-lived particle is secondary vertex at large displacement. Special requirements for finding displaced vertices: large-radius tracking!
- CMS has good efficiency already from standard tracking. ATLAS needs custom algorithm for these searches:

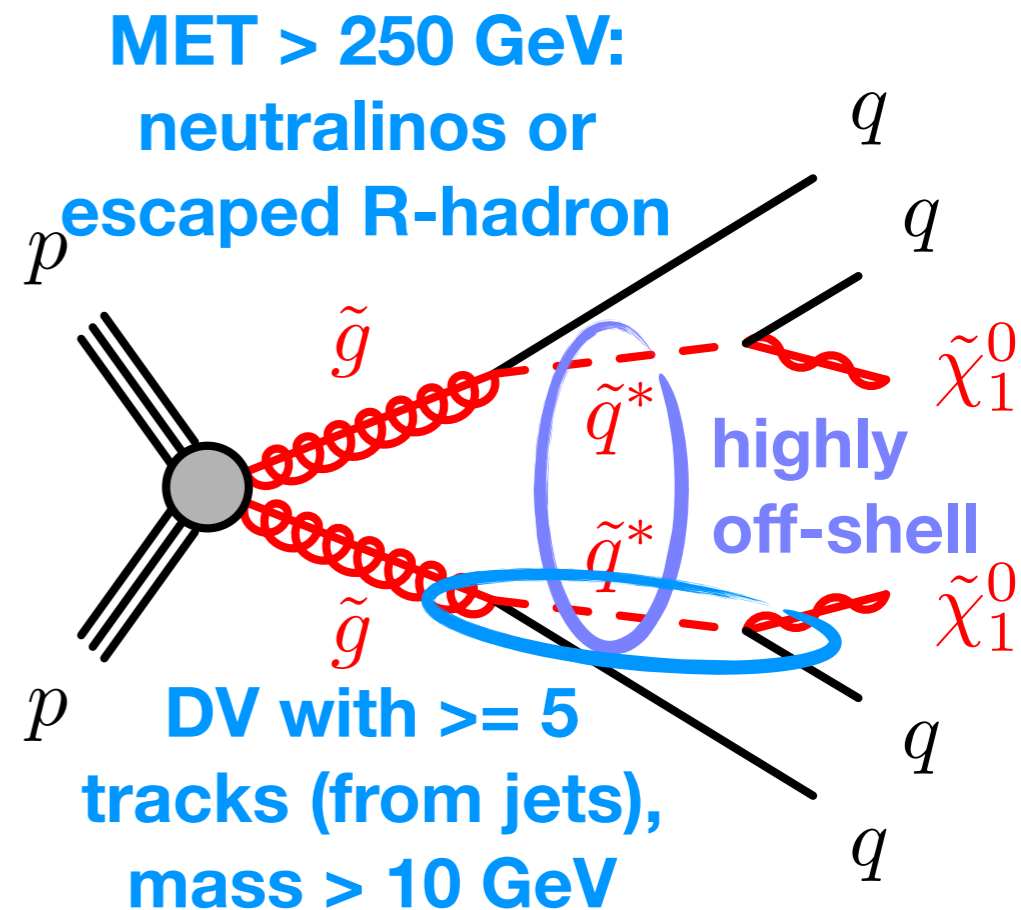
Efficiency with standard and LR tracking for example signal



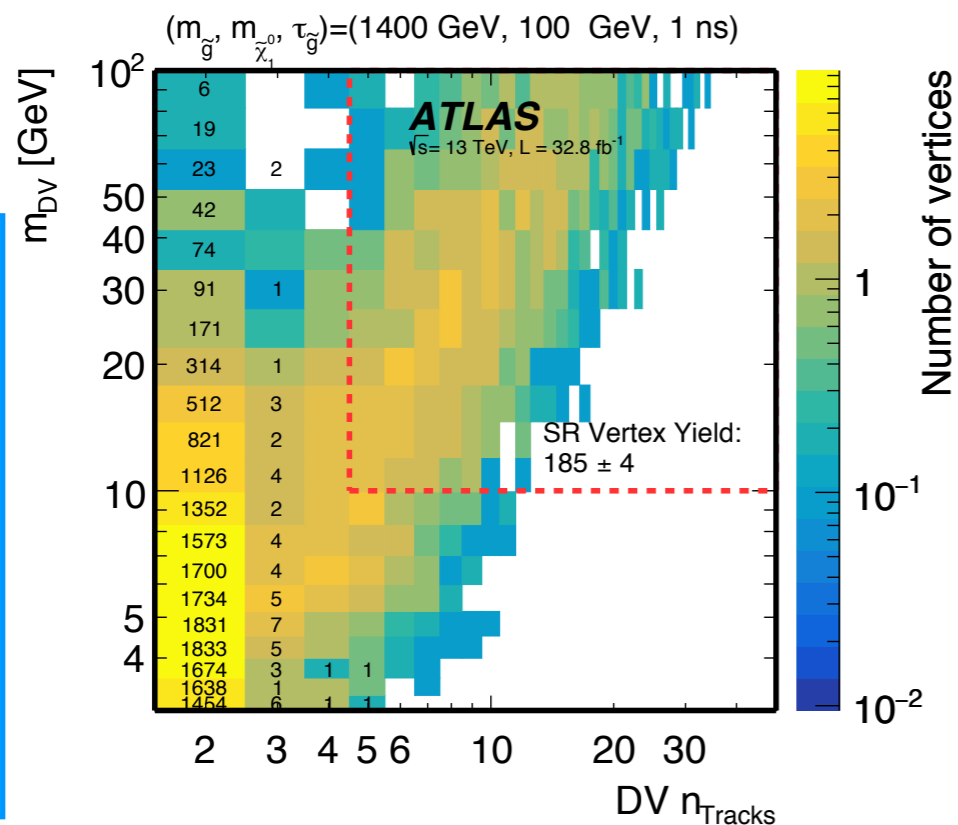
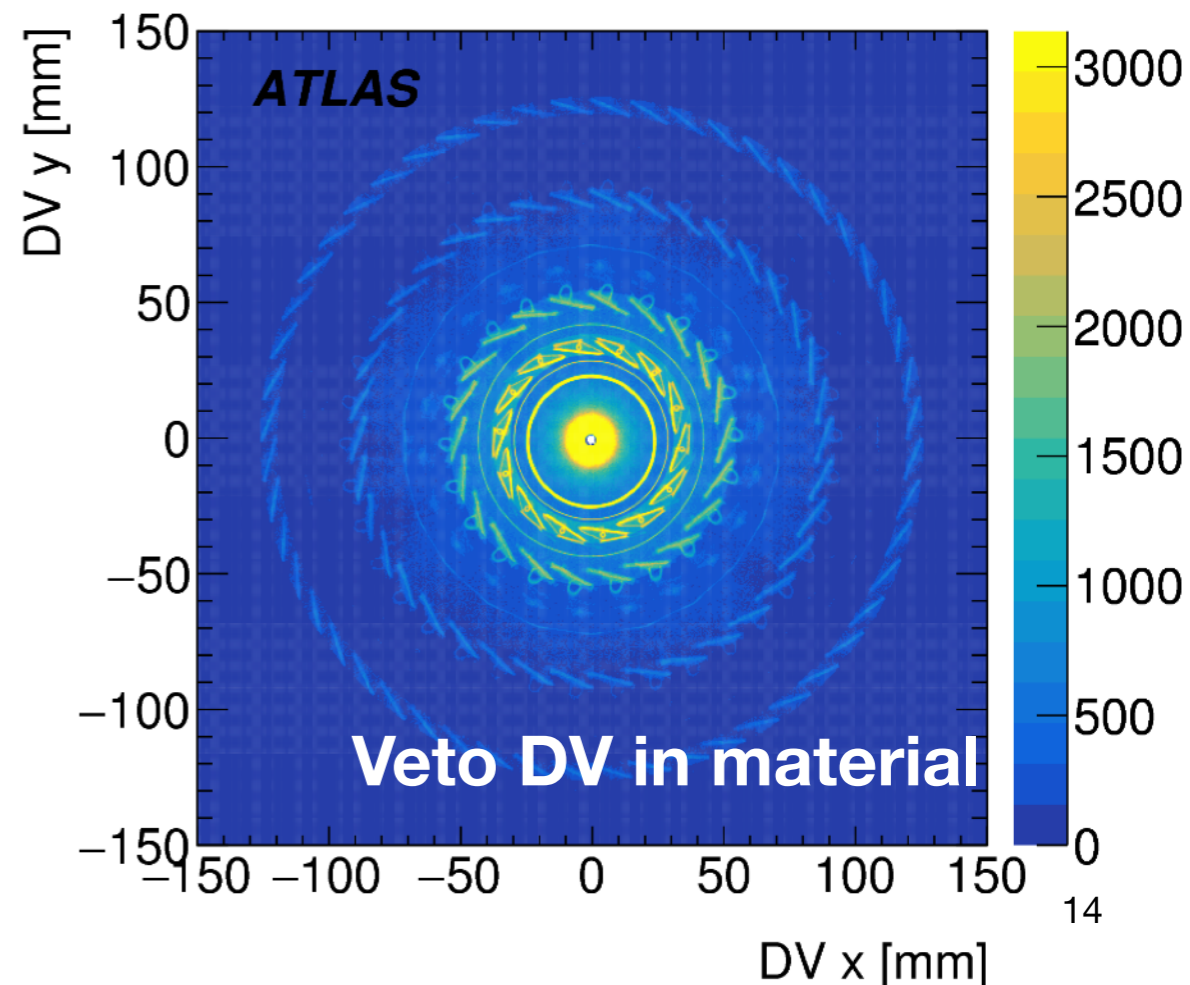
ATLAS arxiv:1710.04901

Displaced vertex + missing energy

- Sensitive to: pair-produced particles decaying to jets; lifetimes 0.02-10ns
- Benchmark: split SUSY. High squark mass means gluinos live long enough to produce R-hadrons
- Backgrounds: hadronic interactions, merged vertices, accidental track crossings



$\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV, $L=32.8$ fb $^{-1}$, All Reconstructed Vertices



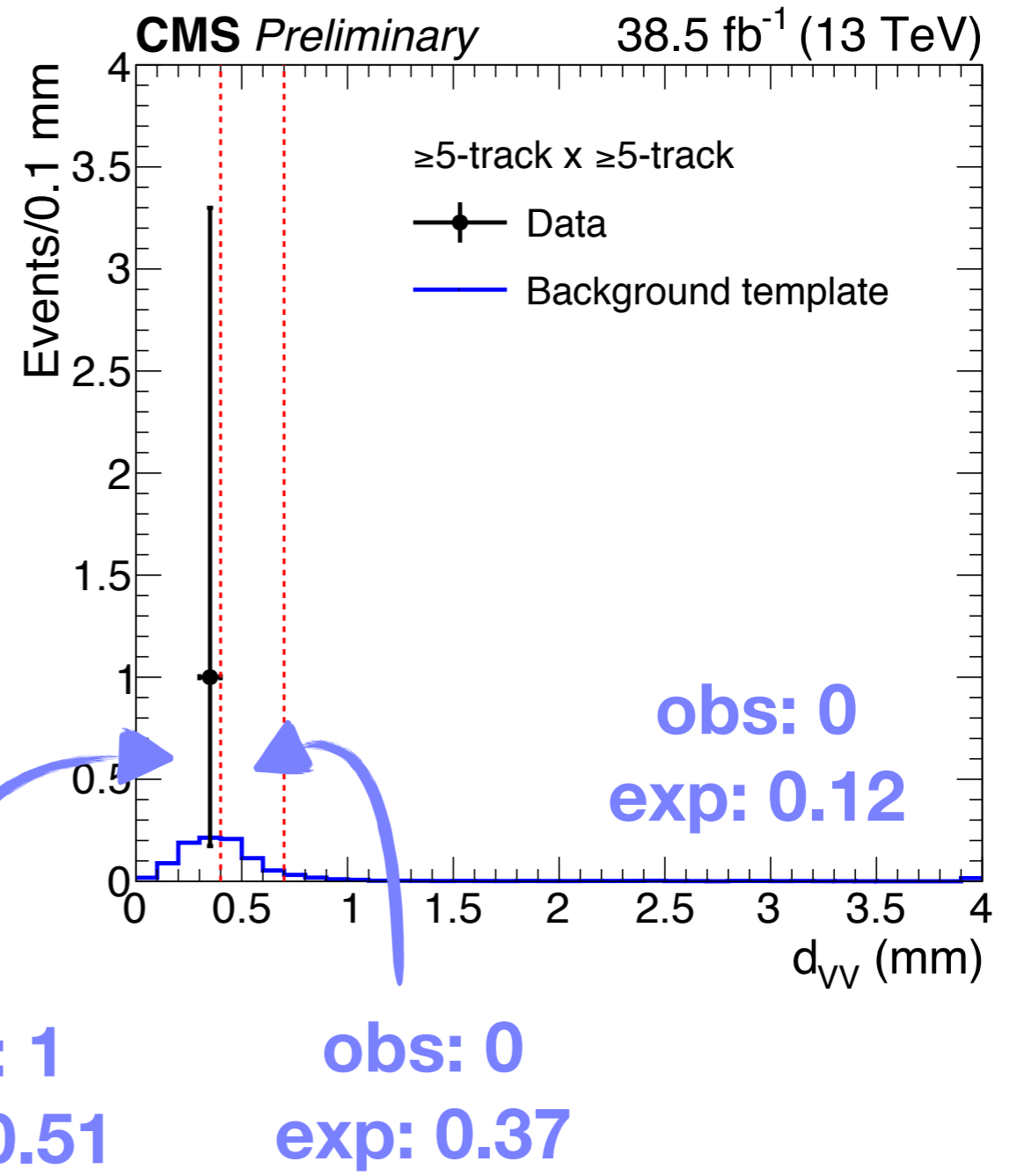
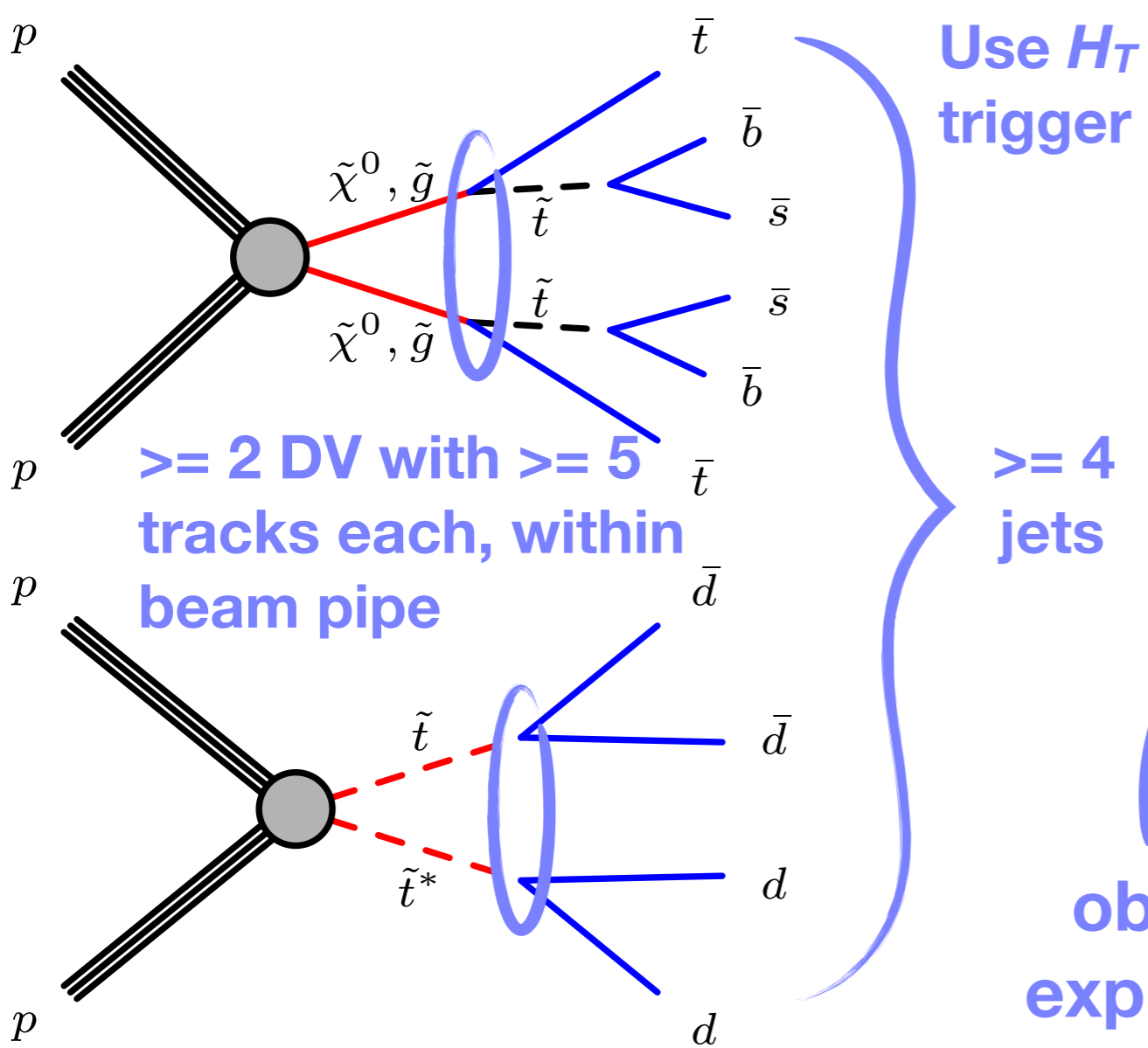
**obs: 0
events
exp: 0.02
events**

ATLAS arxiv:1710.04901

Displaced vertex + jets

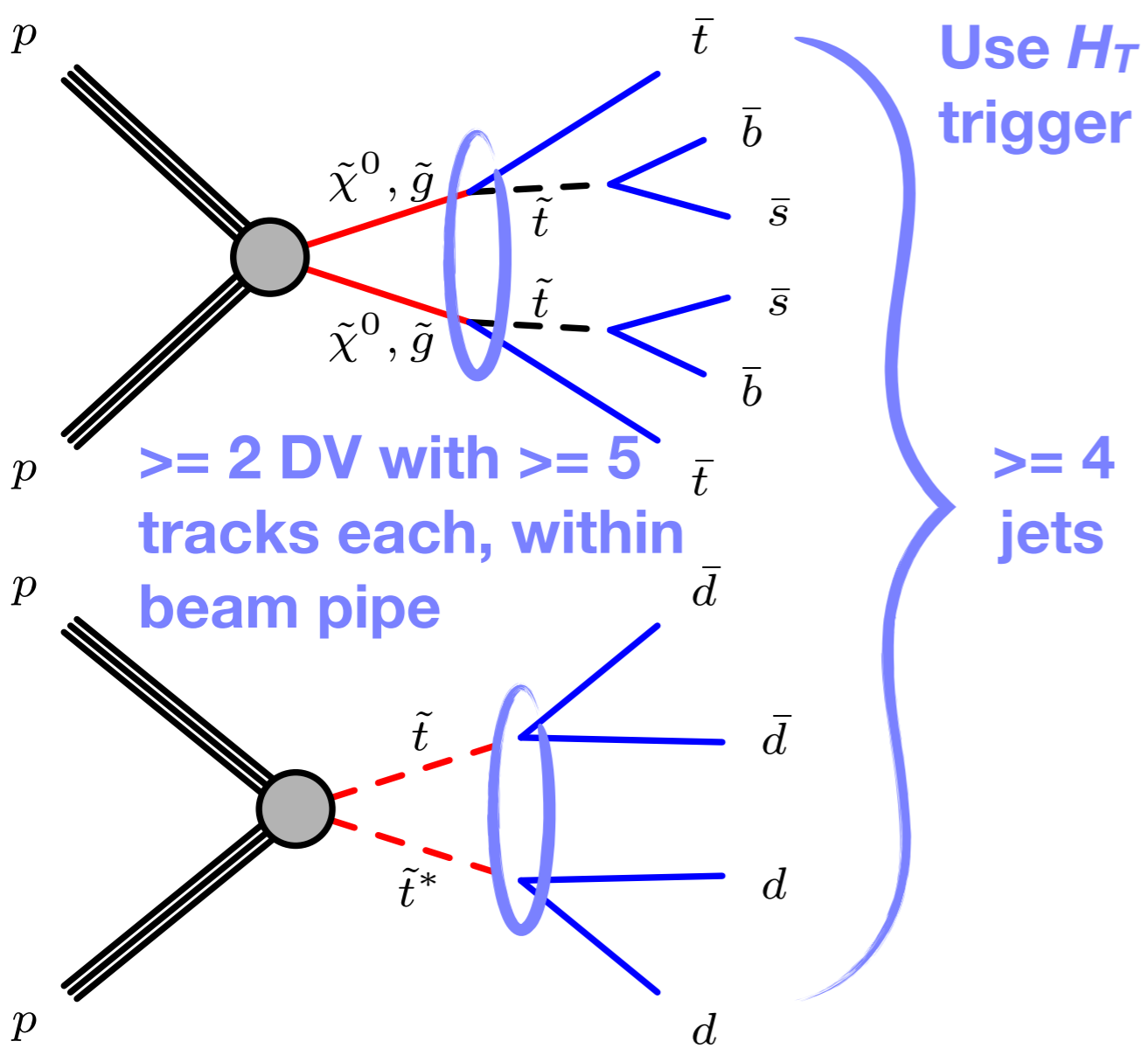
What if no neutralinos or escaped long-lived particles? Select for two DVs and presence of jets.

Variable of interest: distance between two displaced vertices

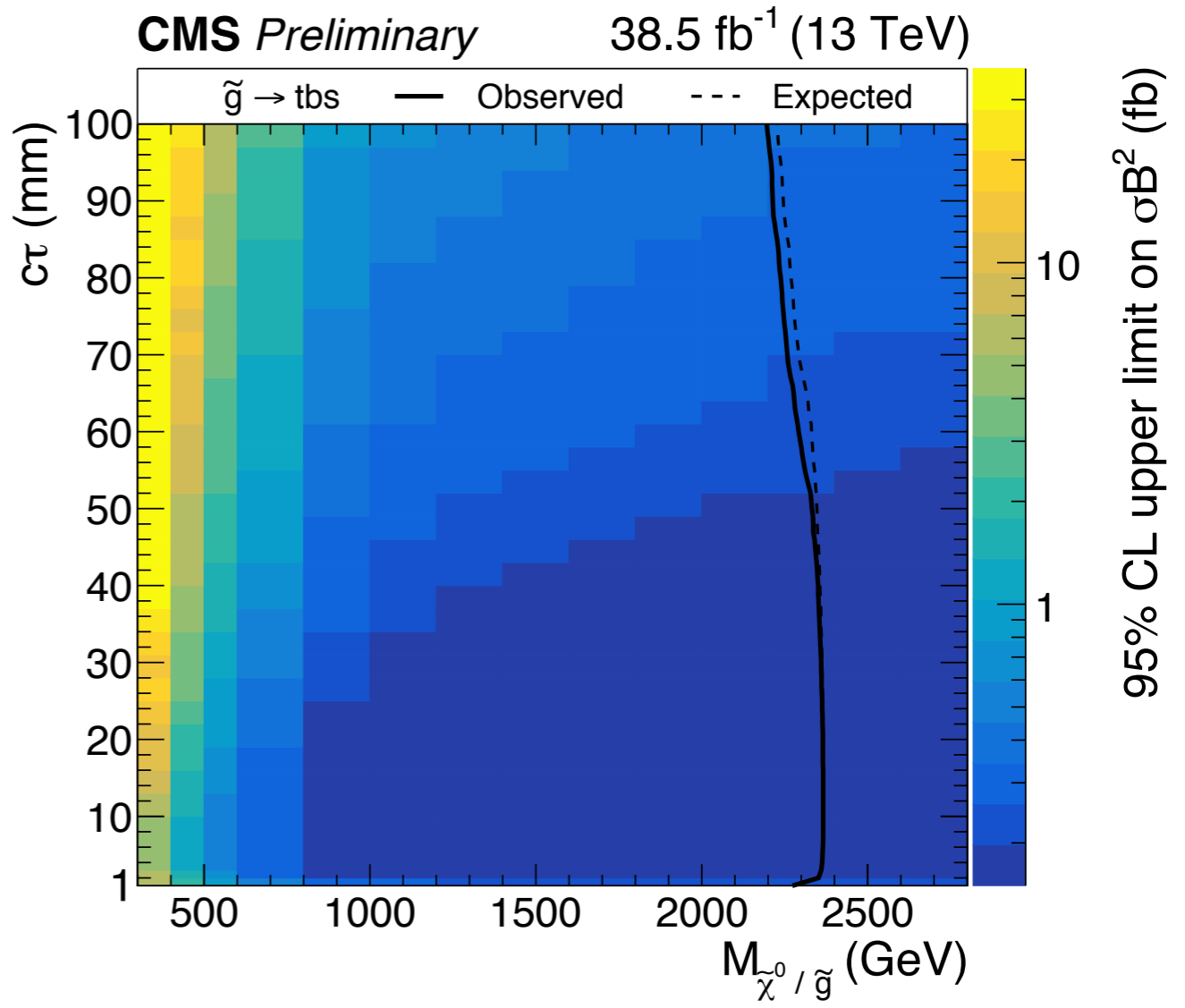


Displaced vertex + jets

What if no neutralinos or escaped long-lived particles? Select for two DVs and presence of jets.



Variable of interest: distance between two displaced vertices



Set limits versus mass and lifetime for each benchmark process

The background features a series of overlapping circles on the right side, transitioning from light purple to light blue to light green. On the left side, there are several tilted, semi-transparent rectangular bars in shades of light gray and white, some overlapping each other.

Along those lines — displaced objects

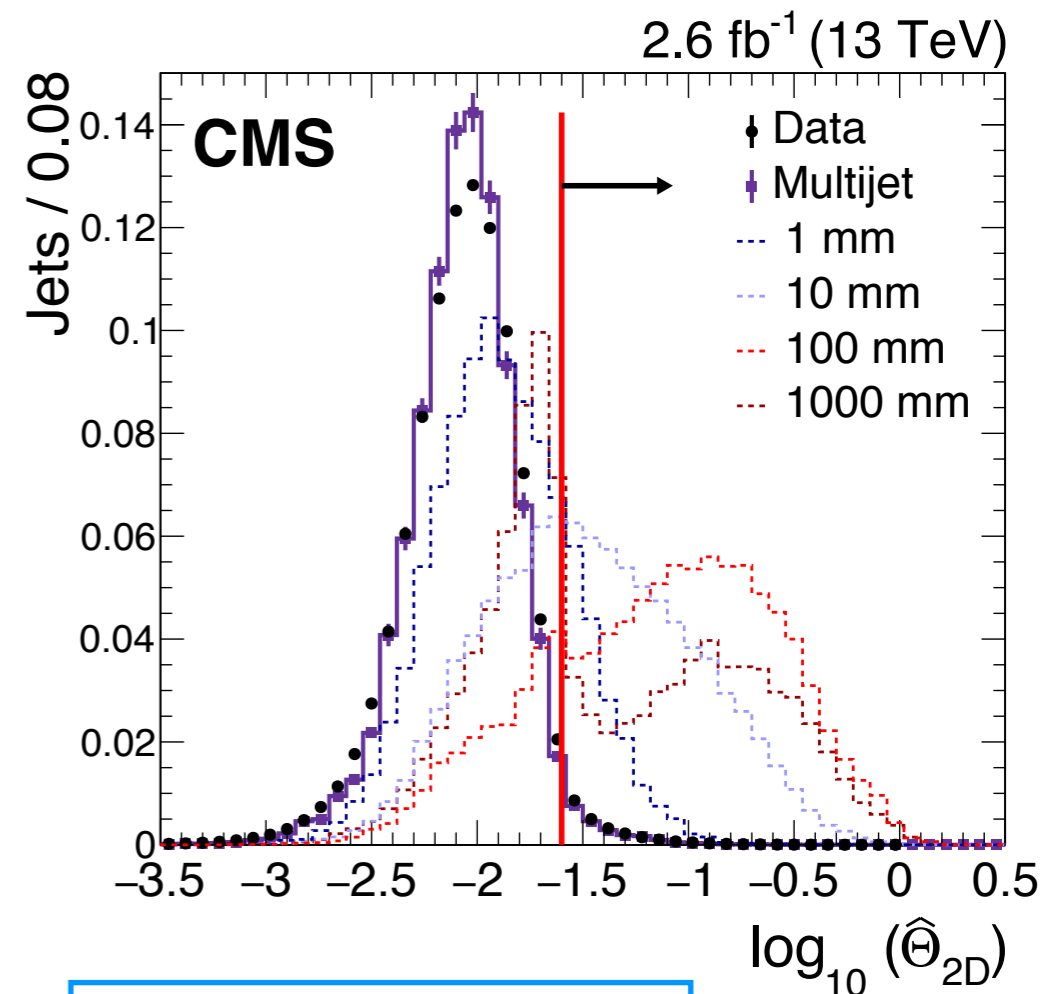
Displaced jets

- Reminder: CMS default reconstruction already good at finding large-radius tracks!
- Associate tracks to jet and select on displacement: impact parameter, jet angle, # of tracks associated to PV
- Two custom HLTs: High H_T , ≥ 2 jets, ≤ 2 prompt tracks, ≥ 1 high IP track (2nd trigger)
- Backgrounds: mis-measured jets; b-, c-, and s-jets. Model in $N_j^{\text{disp}} == 1$ control region

N_{tags}	Expected	Observed
2	1.09 ± 0.16	1
≥ 3	$(4.9 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-4}$	0

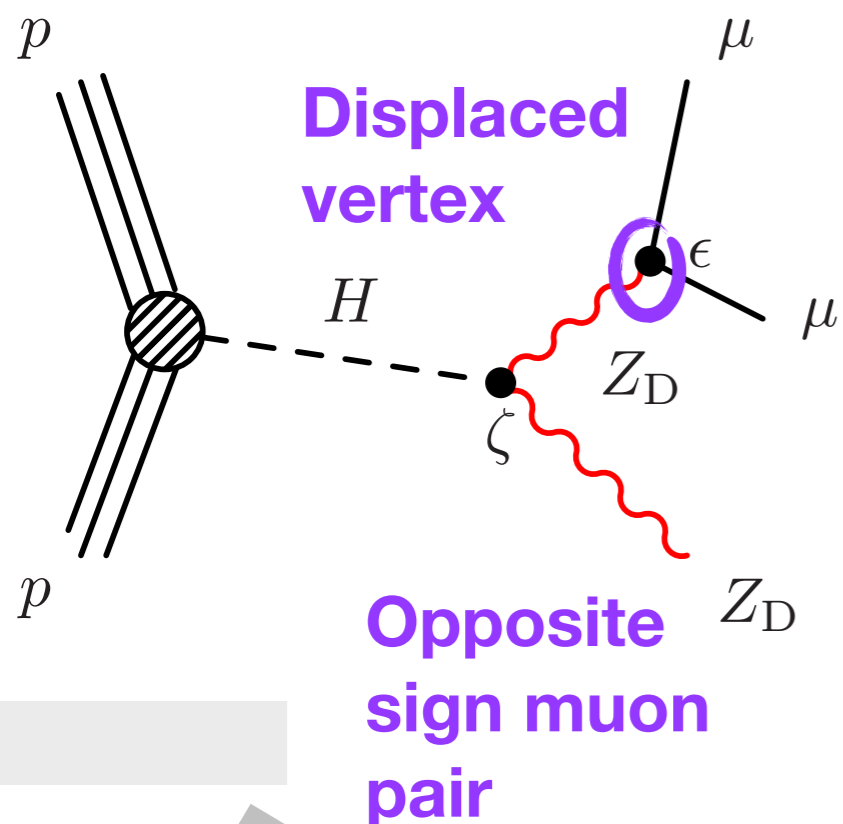
Require ≥ 2
displaced jets

No explicit
DV requirement

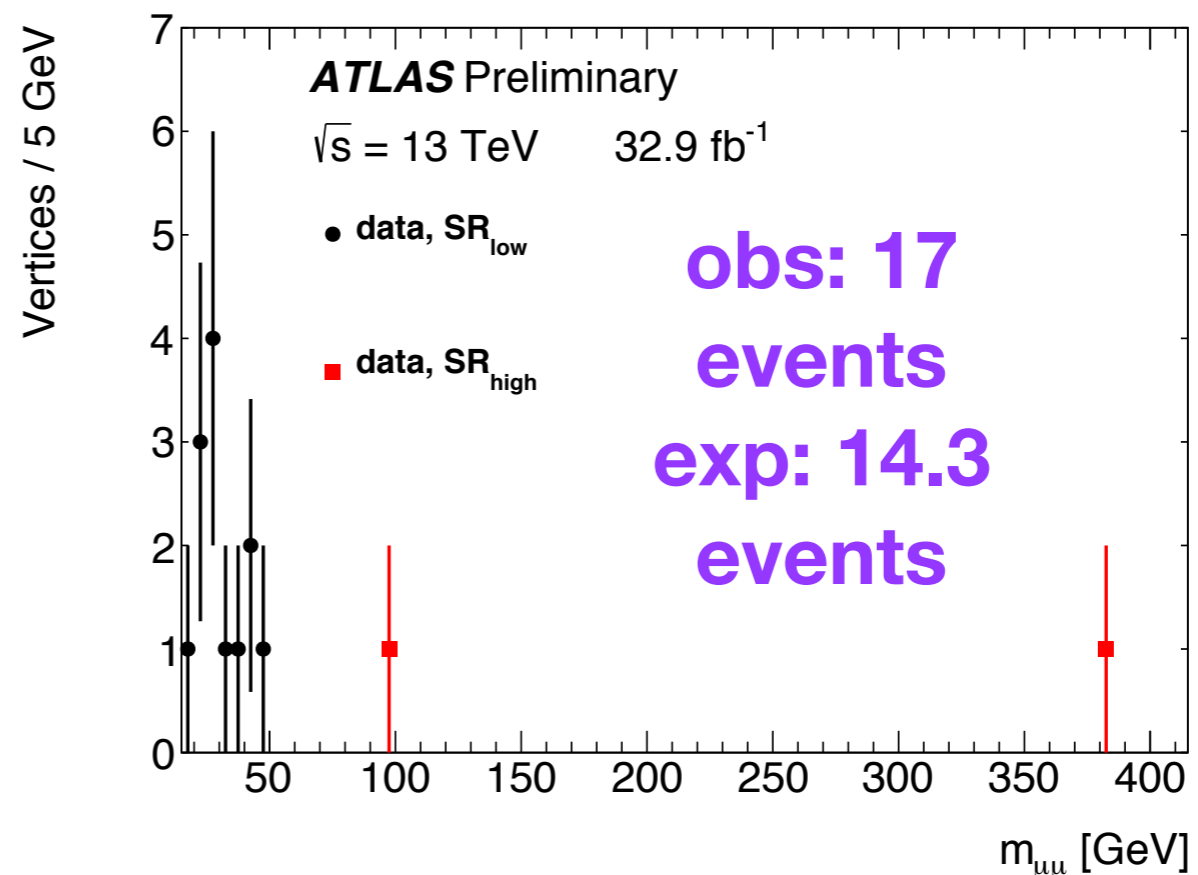


CMS [arXiv:1711.09120v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.09120v2)

Dark photons to displaced muon pairs

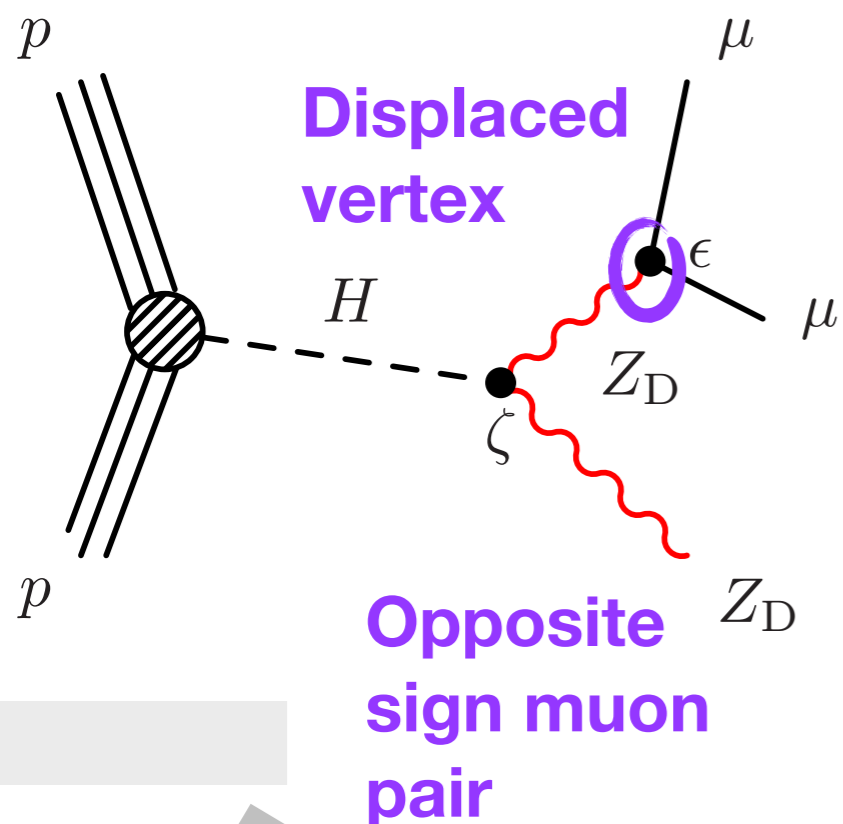


- Benchmarks: Higgs to $Z_D Z_D$, gauge-mediated SUSY breaking
- MET or (multi-)muon trigger. Extrapolate tracks from MS to determine if consistent with a common vertex. Require large boost ($p_T/mass > 2$) to suppress DY/Z+jets
- Other backgrounds: cosmic μ s, beam-induced background, π/K decays

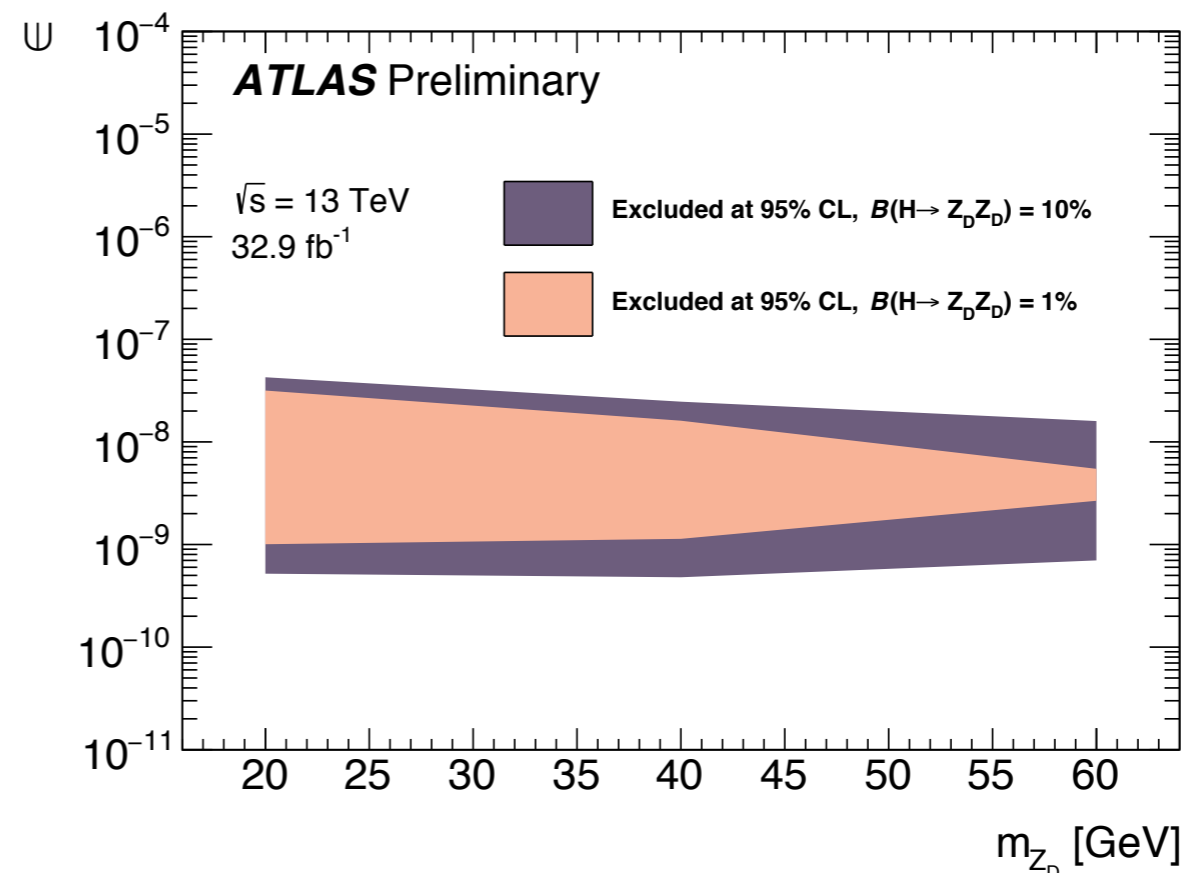


ATLAS EXOT-2017-03

Dark photons to displaced muon pairs



- Benchmarks: Higgs to $Z_D Z_D$, gauge-mediated SUSY breaking
- MET or (multi-)muon trigger. Extrapolate tracks from MS to determine if consistent with a common vertex. Require large boost ($p_T/mass > 2$) to suppress DY/Z+jets
- Other backgrounds: cosmic μ s, beam-induced background, π/K decays

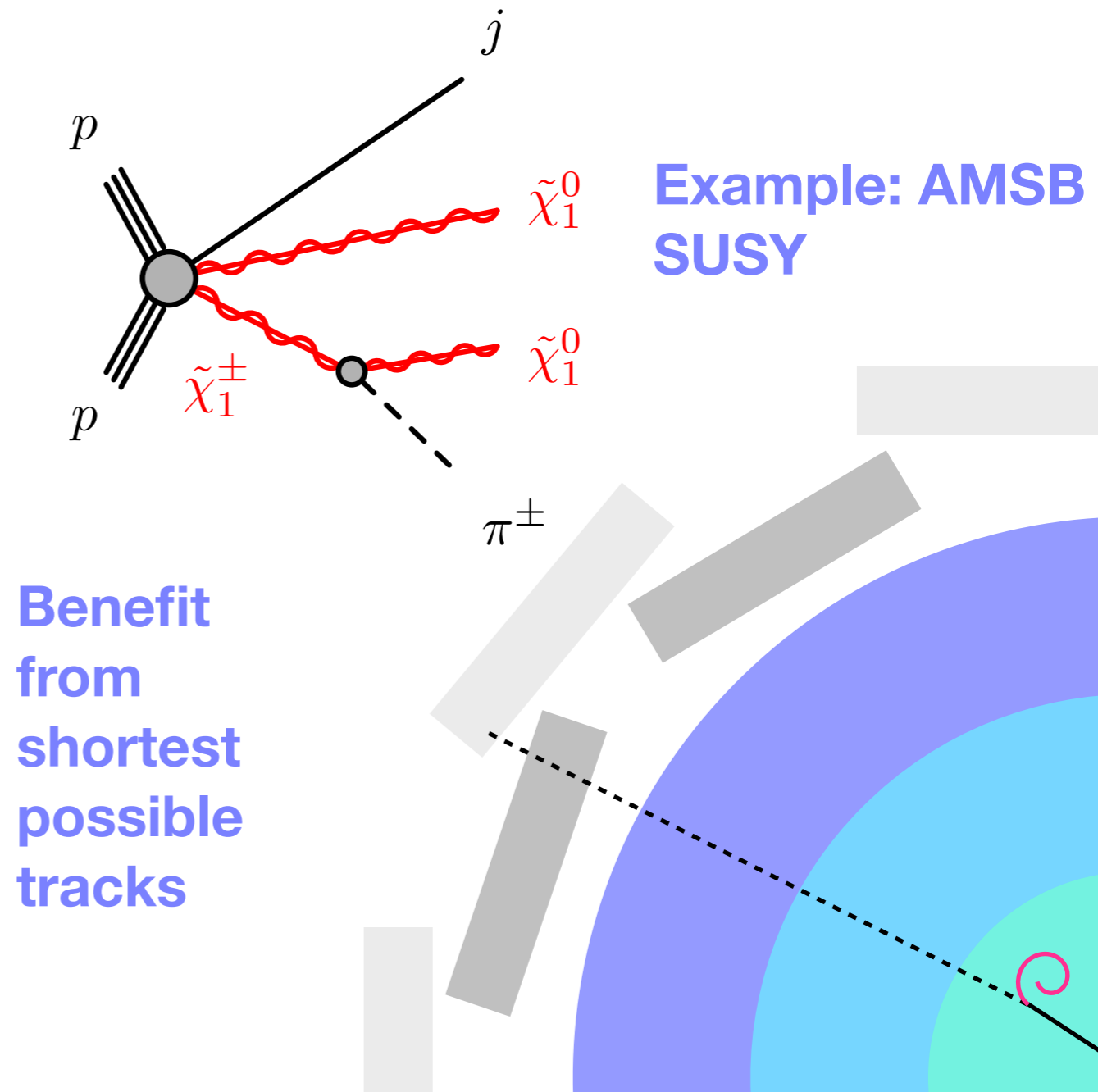
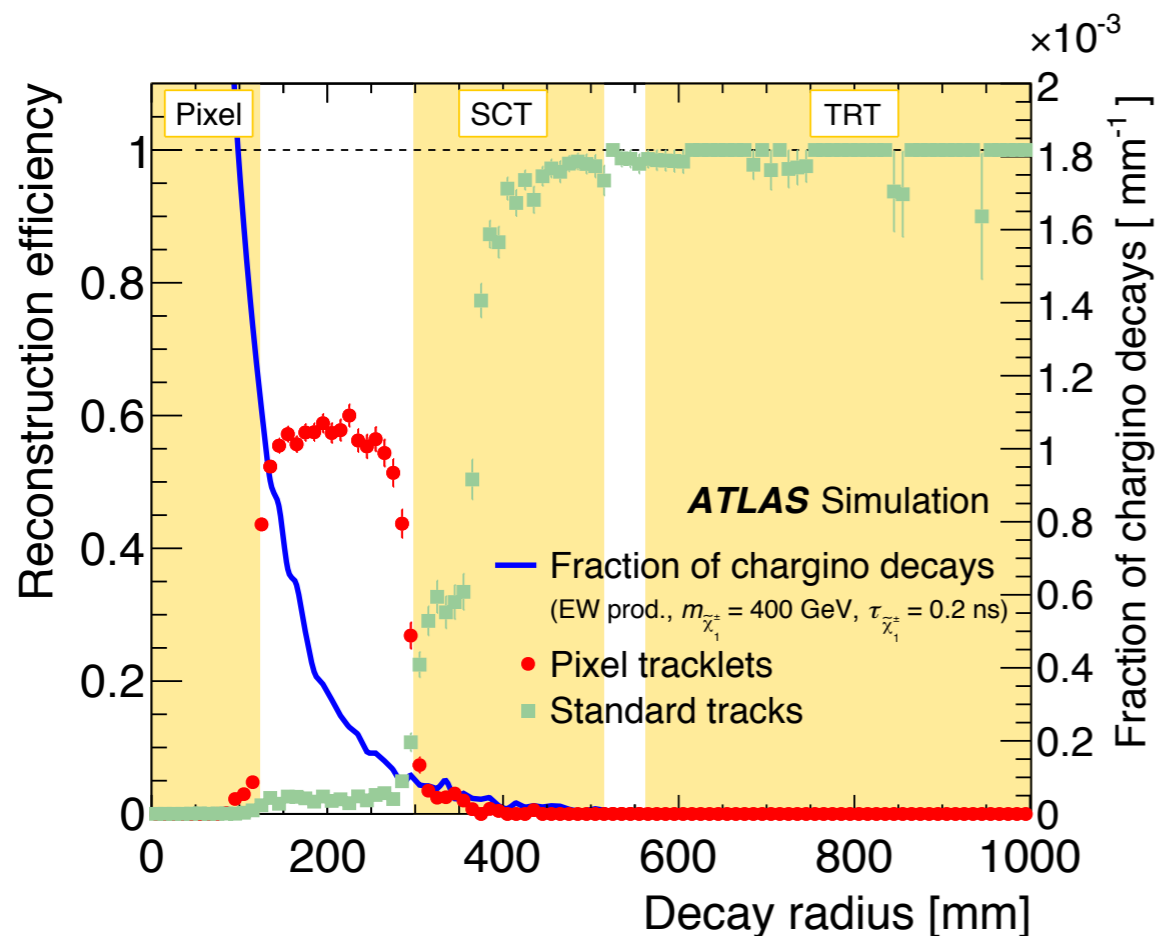


ATLAS EXOT-2017-03

Searching from tracks

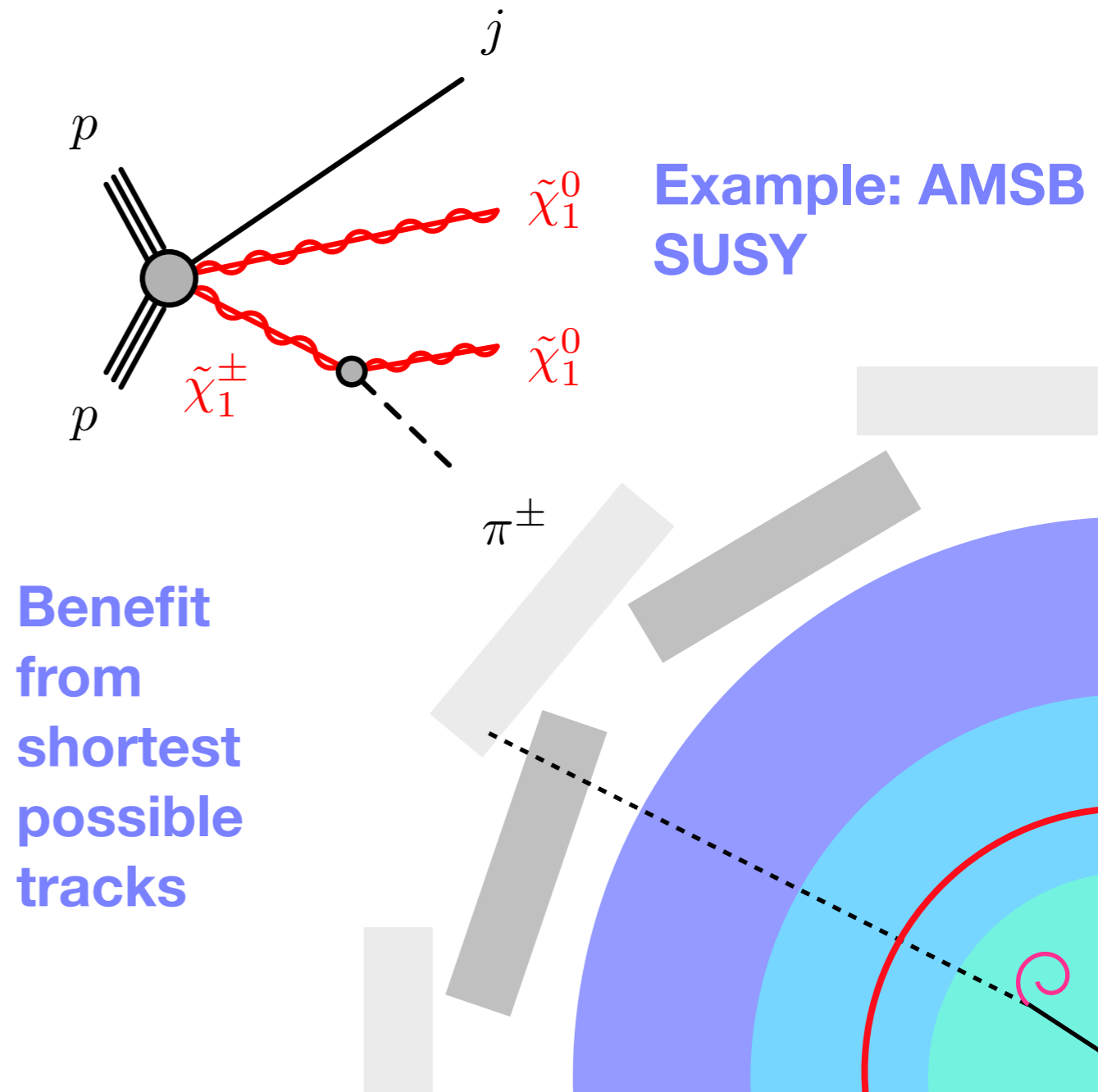
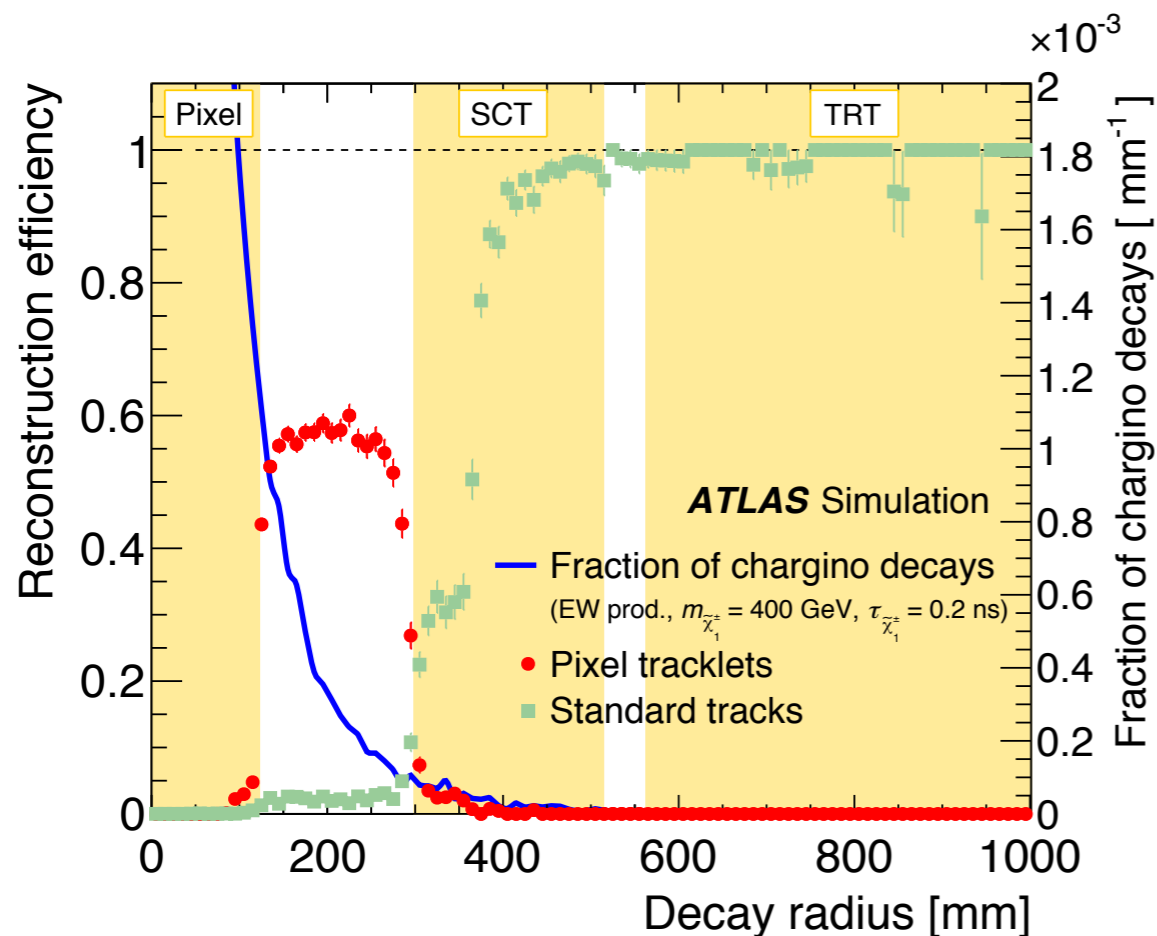
Disappearing tracks

- Charged particle decaying to invisible particle of nearly degenerate mass gains long lifetime from small Δm .
SM particle (π) too soft to reconstruct
- Signature: MET, track vanishing after n ID layers, high- p_T ISR jet for boost



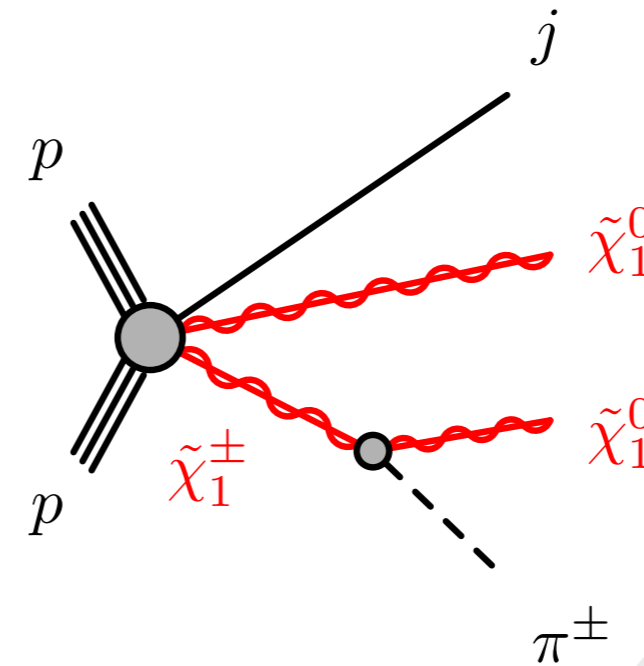
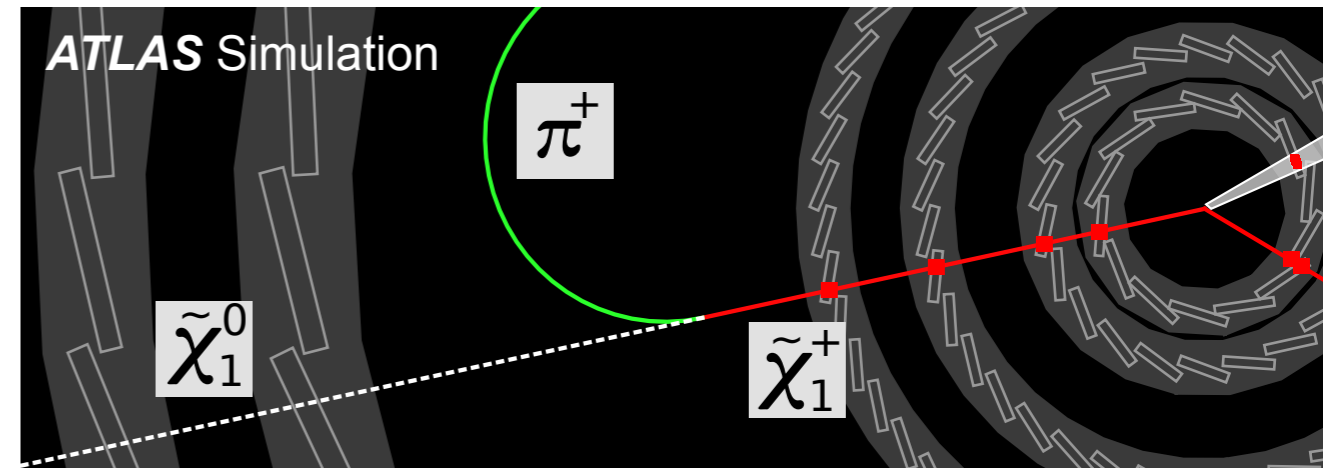
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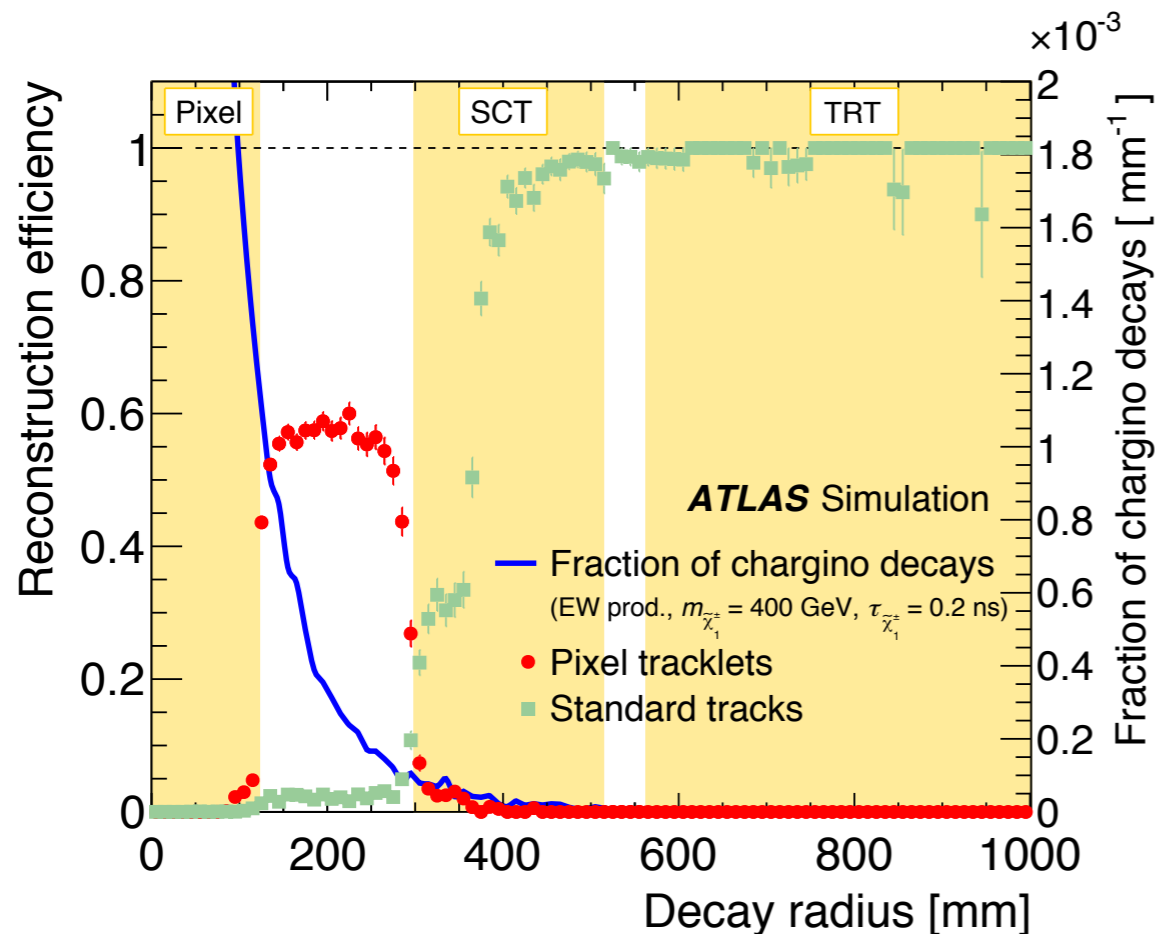


Disappearing tracks

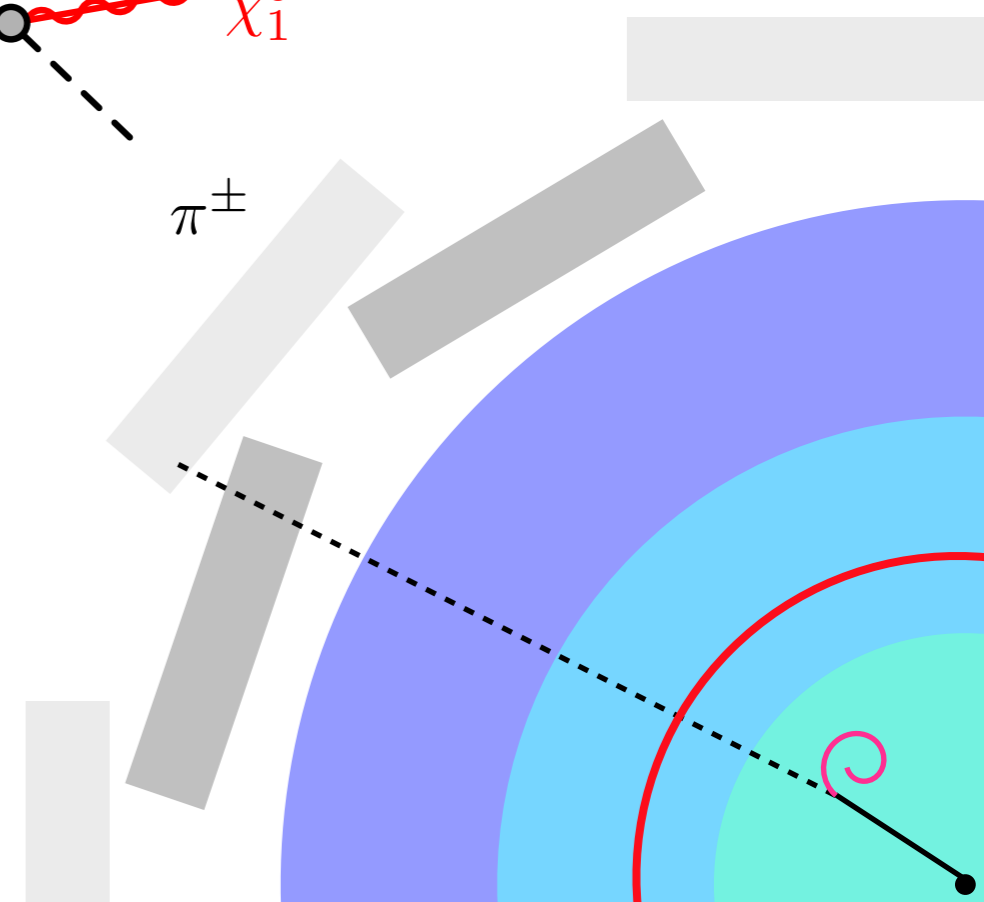
- Charged particle decaying to invisible particle of nearly degenerate mass gains long lifetime from small Δm . SM particle (π) too soft to reconstruct
- Signature: MET, track vanishing after n ID layers, high- p_T ISR jet for boost



Example: AMSB SUSY



Benefit from shortest possible tracks

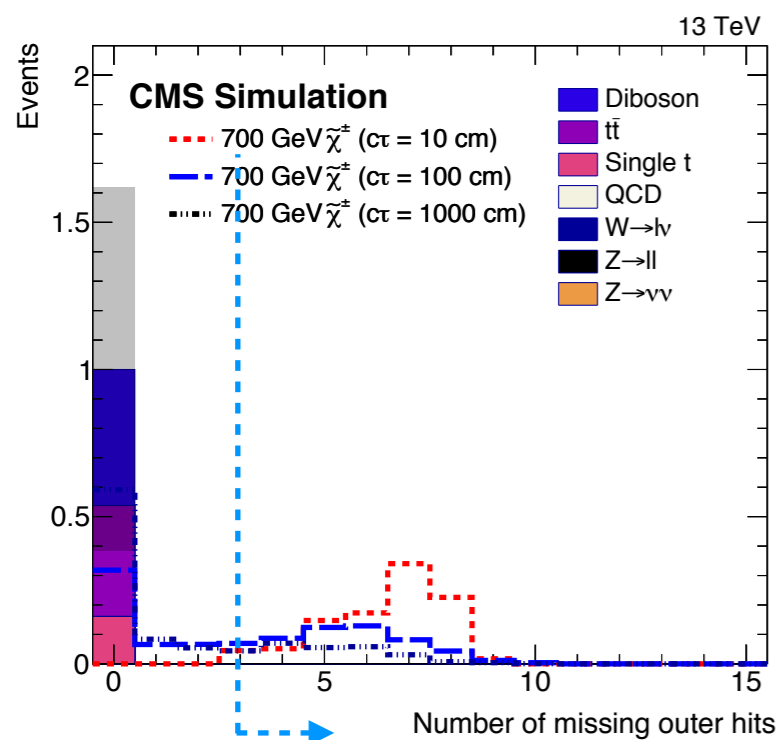


Disappearing tracks: CMS highlight

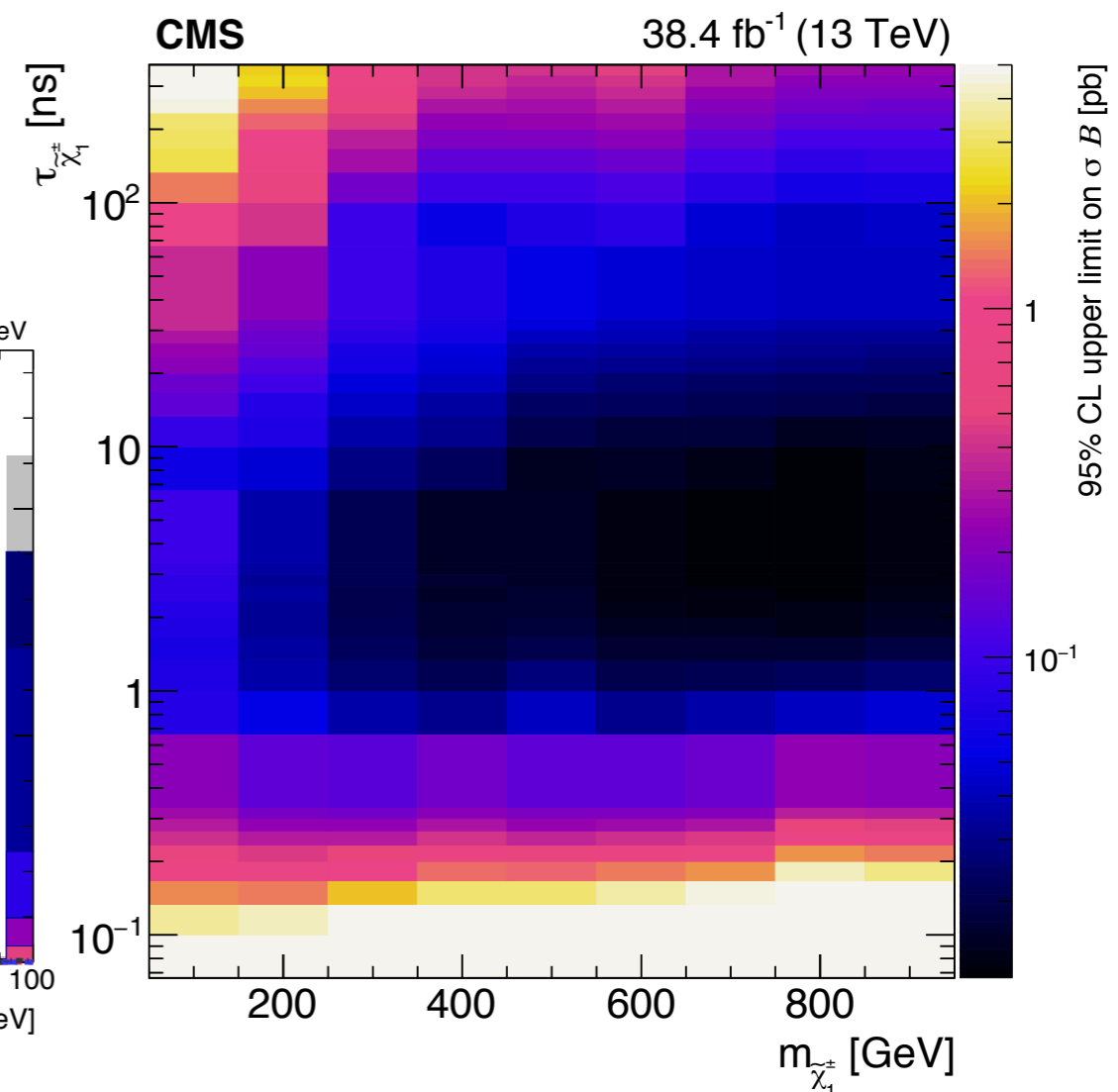
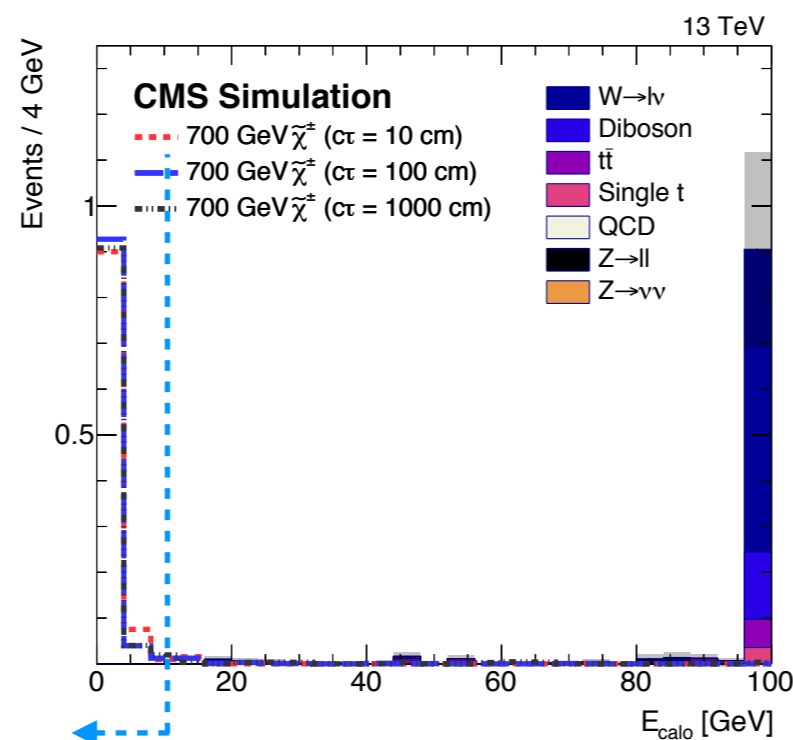
CMS [arXiv:1804.07321v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.07321v1)
ATLAS [arXiv:1712.02118v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/1712.02118v2)

- Selection: p_T^{miss} + isolated track trigger and ≥ 1 (distant) jet of 100 GeV.
Track selection: isolated, no associated calo or MS hits, only outer hits missing
- Backgrounds: mis-reconstructed leptons, spurious tracks
- Results: expected 6.5 events, observed 7

At least 3 missing outer hits

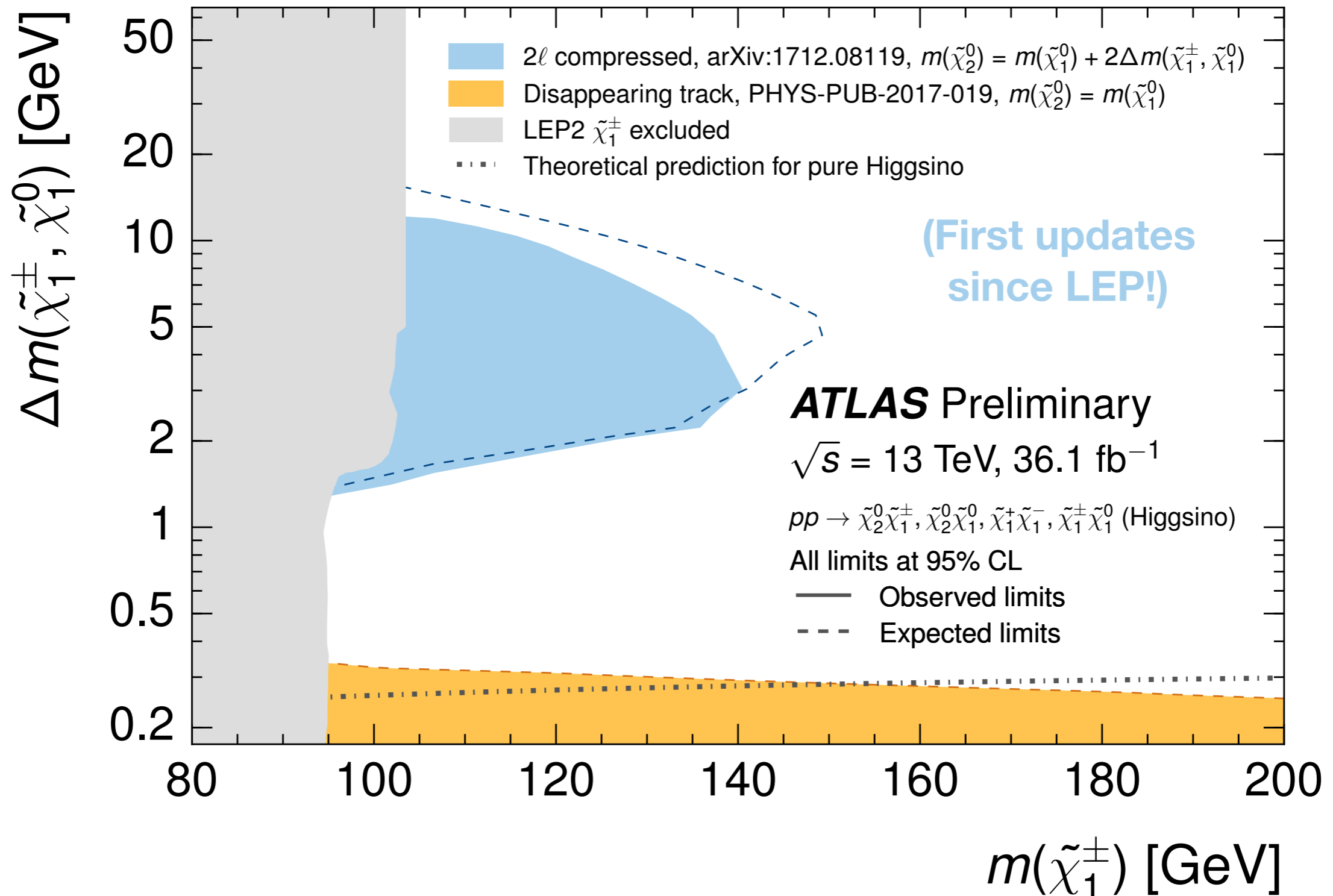


< 10 GeV of nearby energy in the ECAL



Constraining Higgsinos with disappearing tracks

March 2018



Stable charged particles

CMS PAS EXO-16-036
ATLAS SUSY-2016-31

- Search for heavy, long-lived charged particles using track dE/dx
 - SM particles travel $\sim c$ and have consistent dE/dx while values larger for heavy stable particles.
- Time of flight can also be longer!



**dE/dx is ionisation
energy loss with
distance traveled**

**Measure
using charge
in individual
track hits**

Benchmarks

- R-hadrons
- Stops
- Staus
- Lepton-like fermions

Stable charged particles: ATLAS highlight

- MET trigger; high-mass and momentum isolated track with high dE/dx
- Stable & metastable signal regions optimised for different lifetimes:

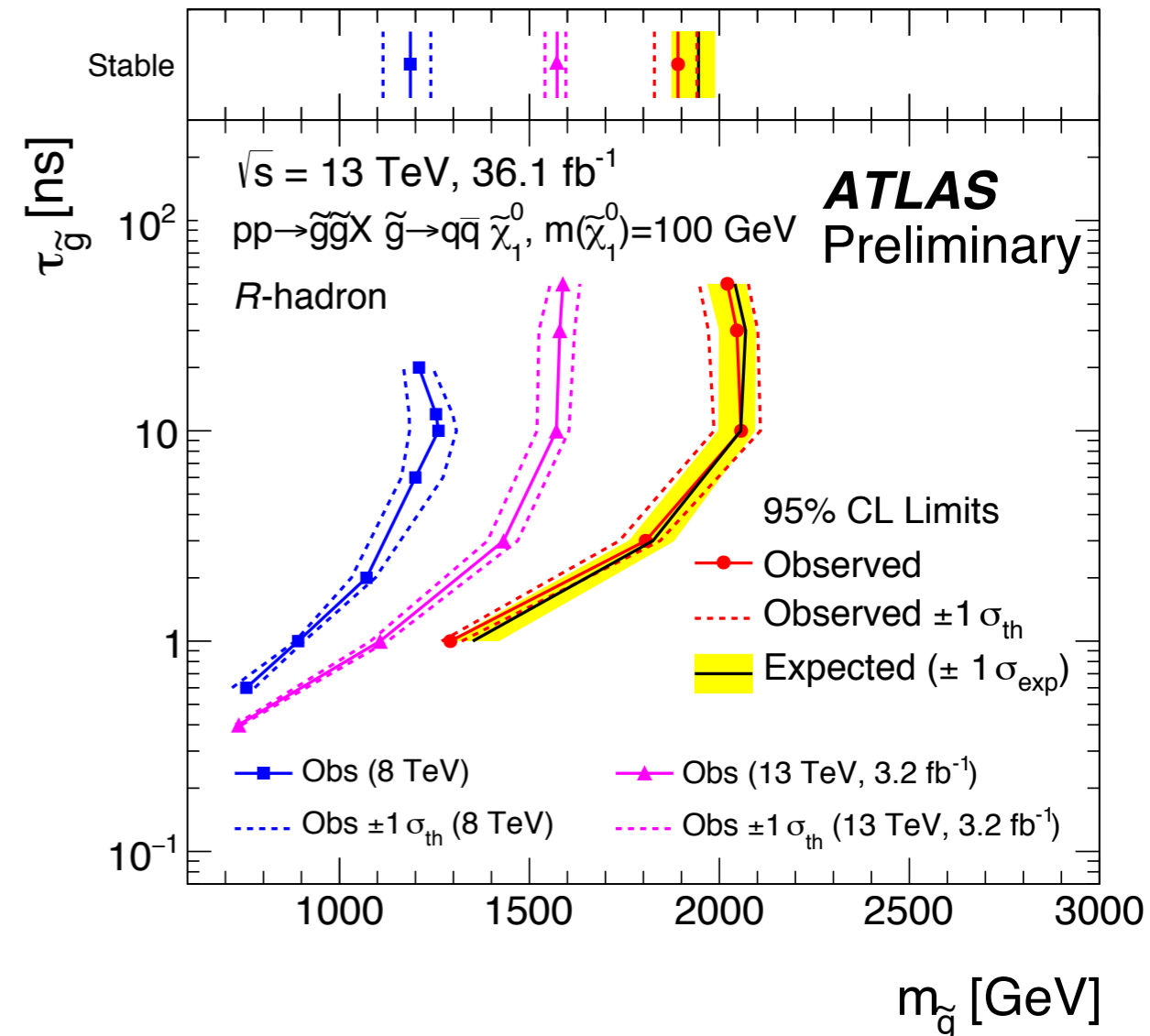
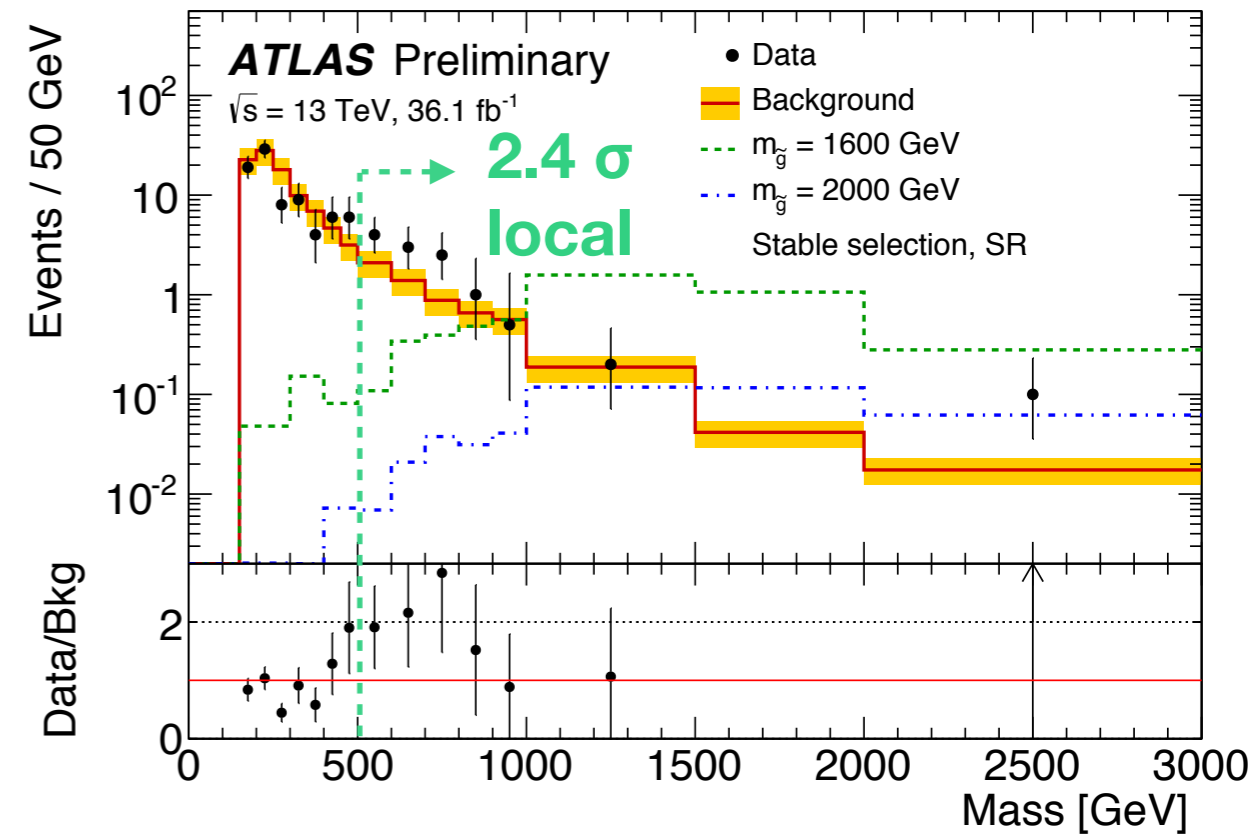
metastable

$\tau \sim 1\text{-}50$ ns
isolation looser
muon veto

stable

τ long w.r.t.
detector
isolation tighter

- Background is unlucky tails of charge distribution or mismeasured tracks: overlapping particles, spurious hits, ...
- Estimate from regions with low MET, low dE/dx



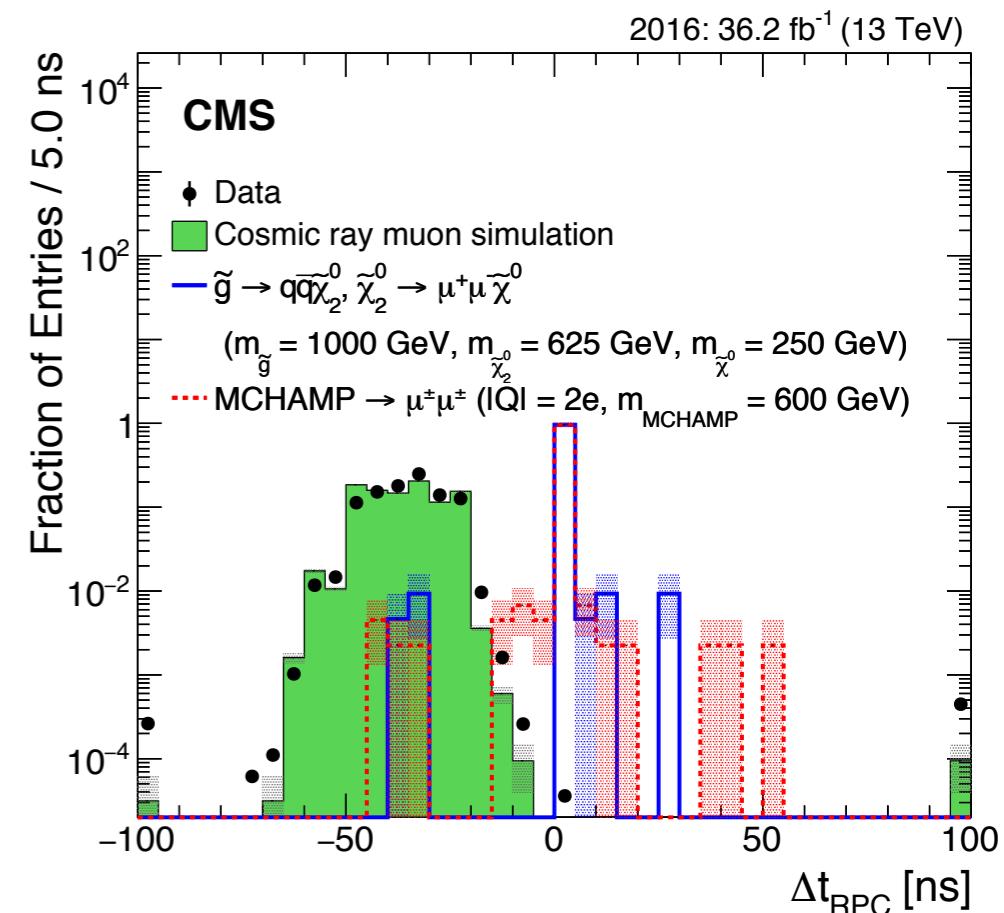
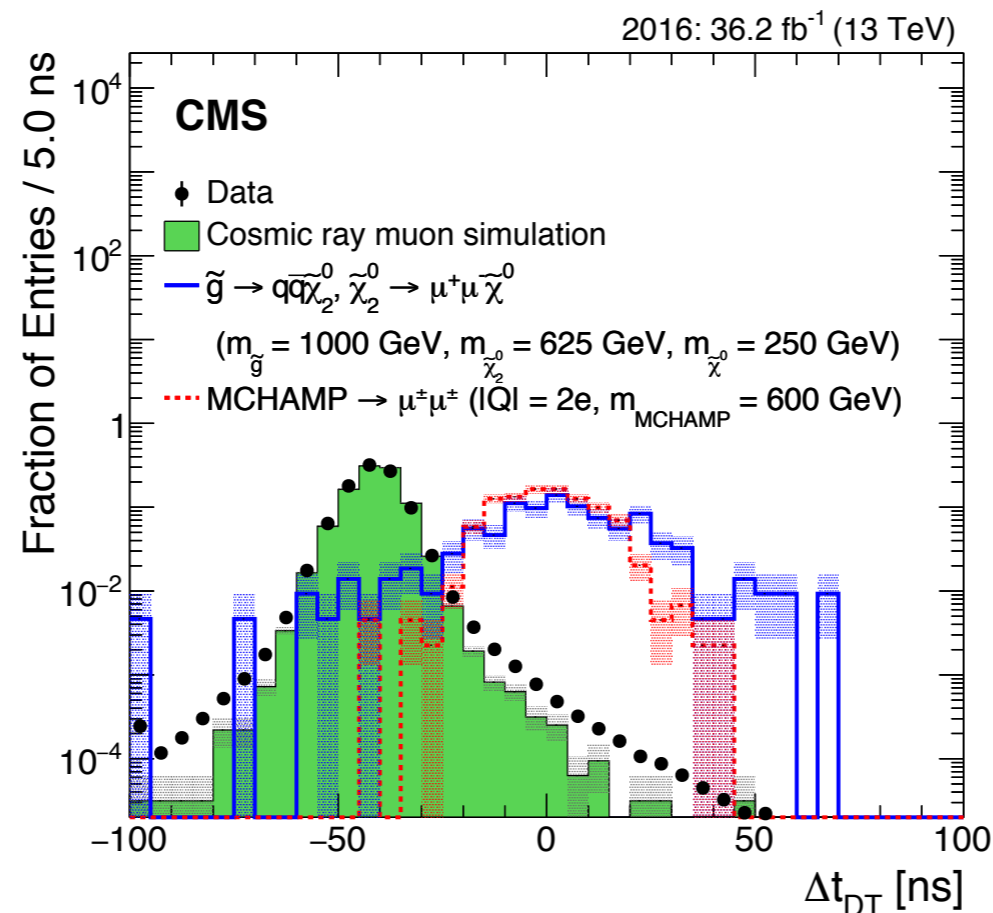
Even longer lifetimes ...

Stopped particles (τ 10 μ s - 1000 s)

- Search bunch crossings with no pp collisions (no PVs) for stopped particles decaying to jet or muon pair
- Calorimeter search: ≥ 1 central high p_T jet. Bkgs from cosmic μ s, beam halo, HCAL noise. Suppress with MS based vetoes, cleaning
- Muon search: two high- p_T custom MS-only tracks (allow DVs) with outgoing times of flight. Bkg: cosmic muons, suppressed by timing

CMS arXiv:1801.00359v2

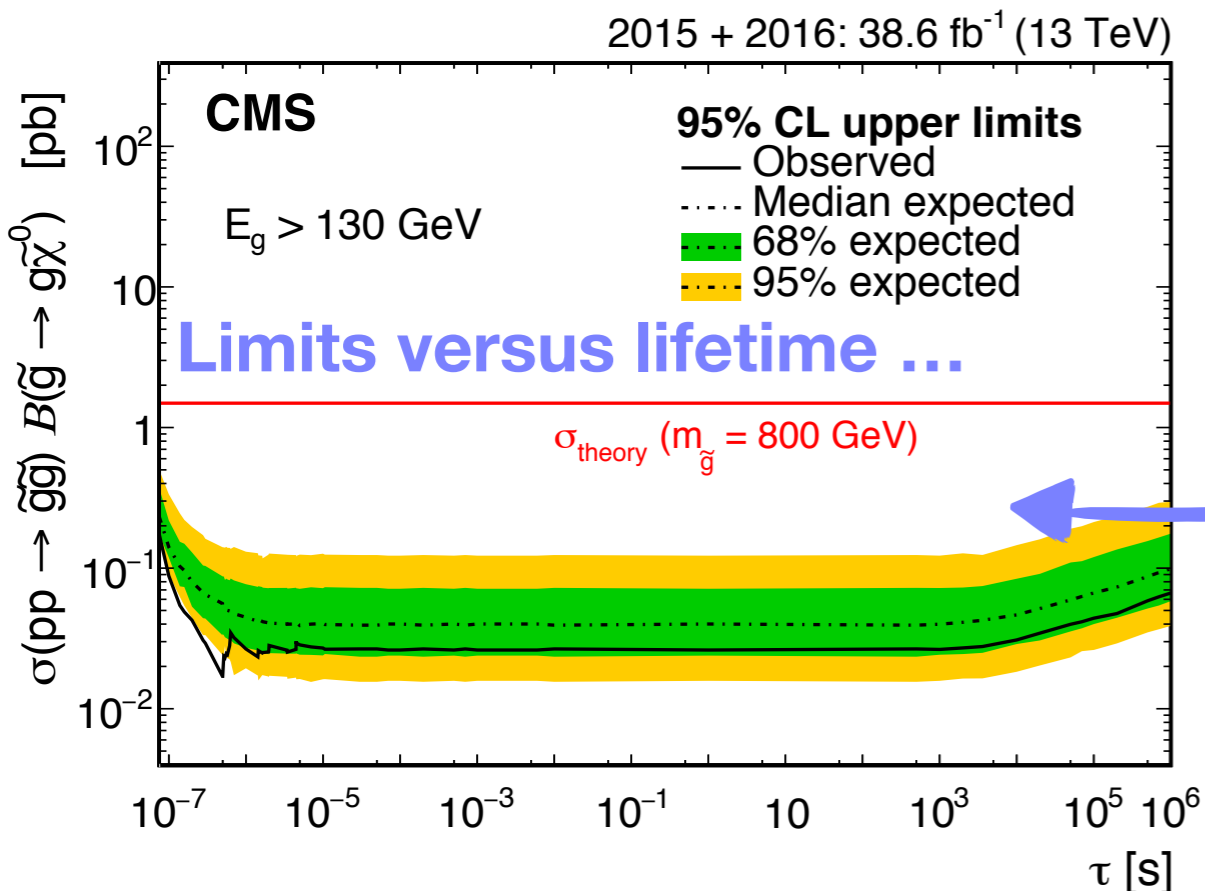
timing upper μ -
timing lower μ
using RPCs
and drift tubes



Stopped particles (τ 10 μ s - 1000 s)

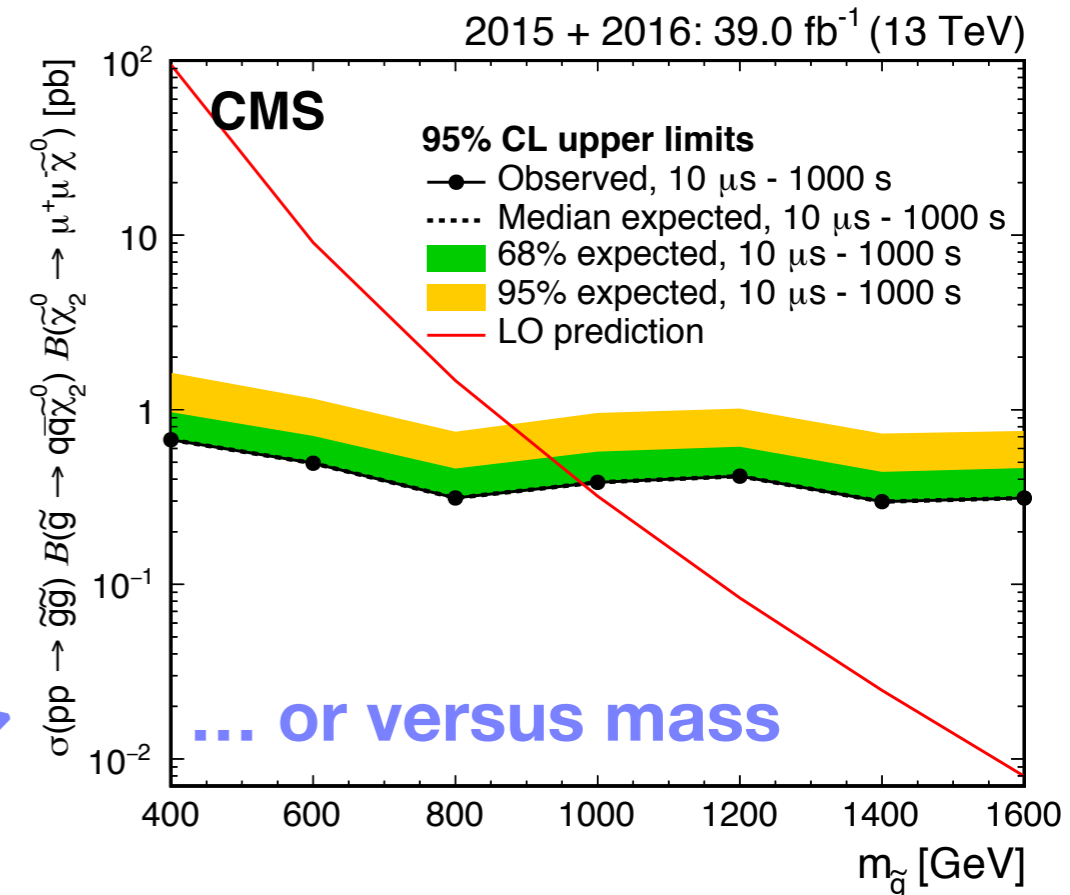
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CMS arXiv:1801.00359v2



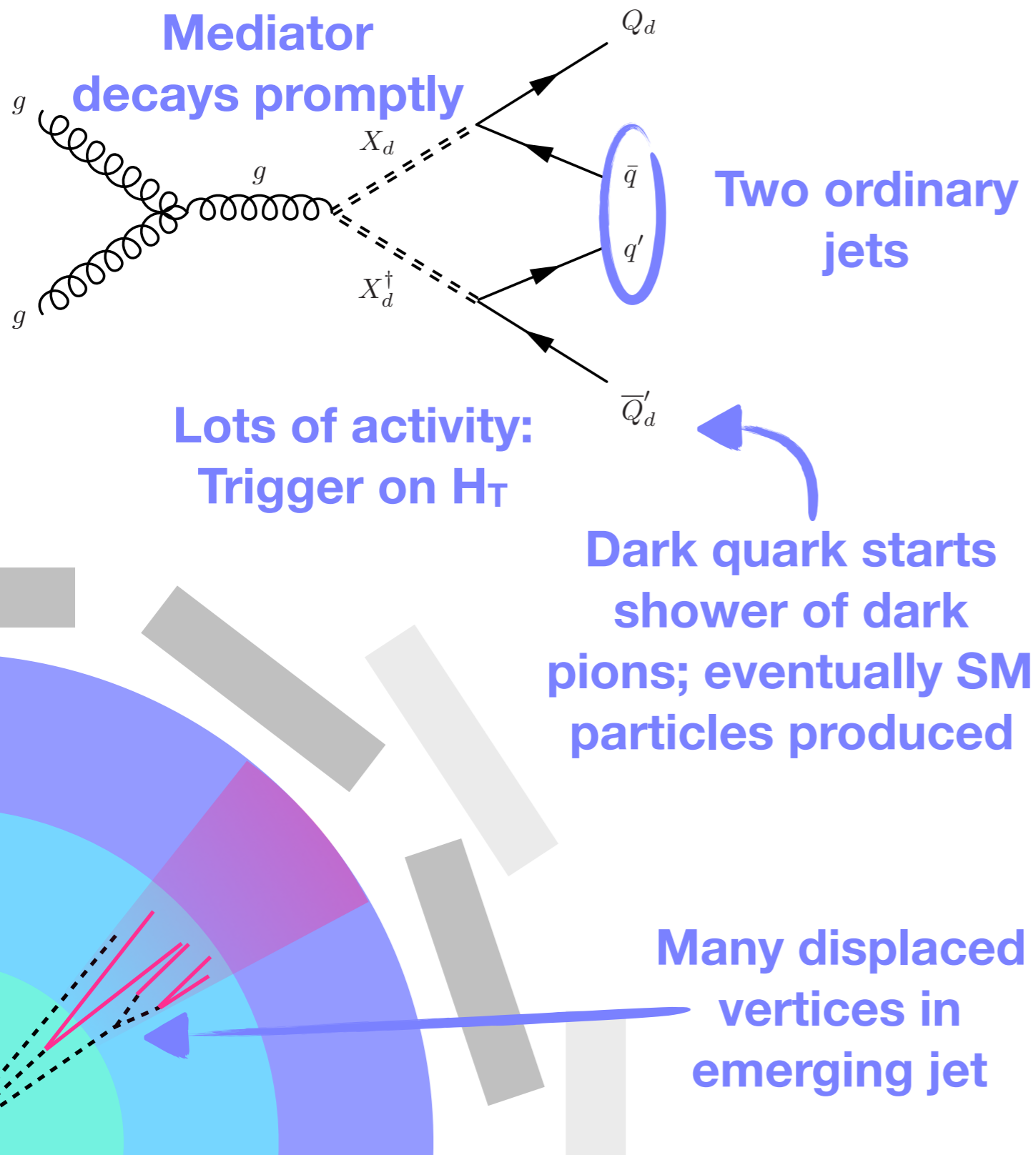
Gluino 2-body decay. Calorimeter search,

muon search

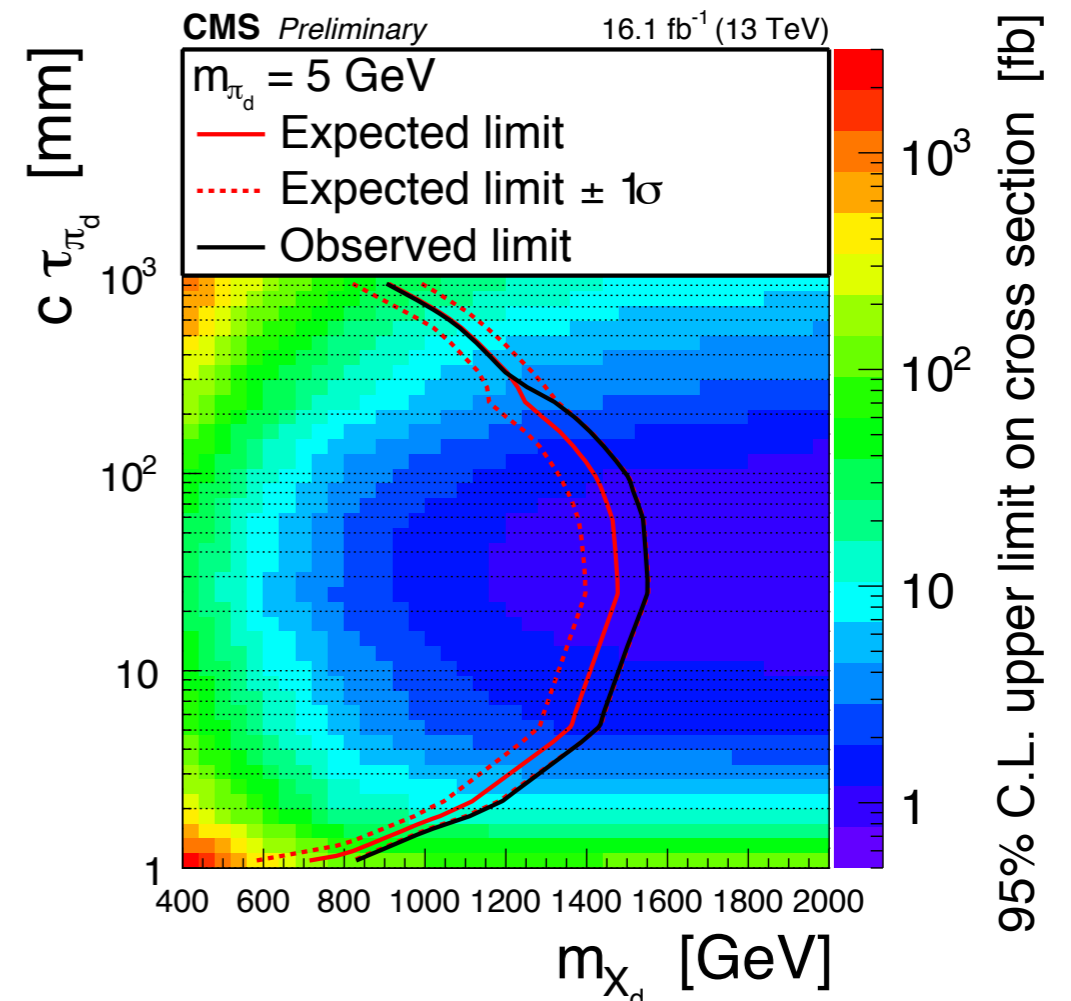


Dark sector

Emerging jets

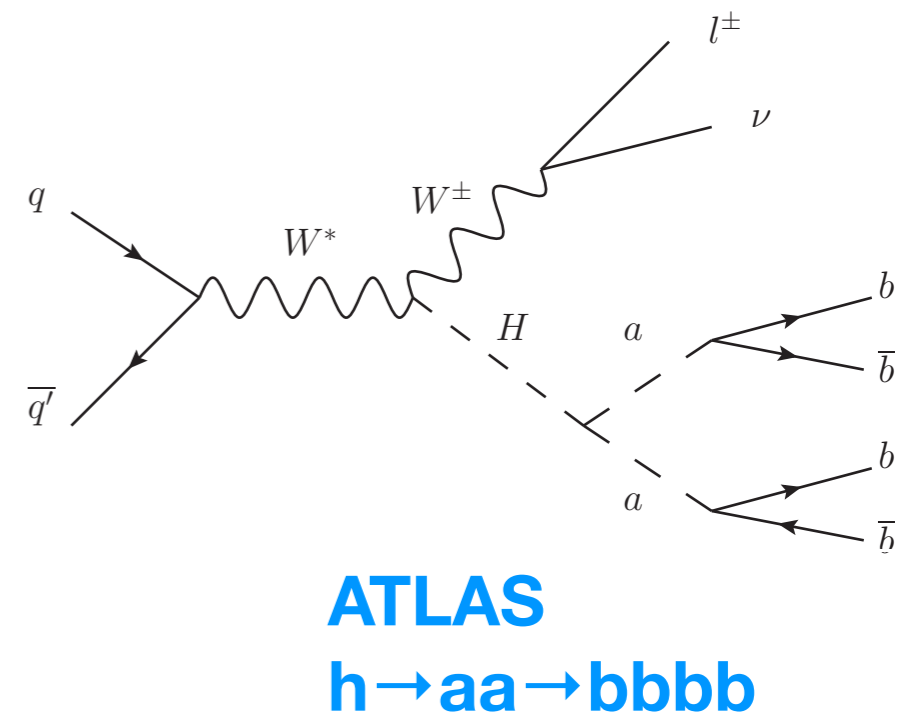
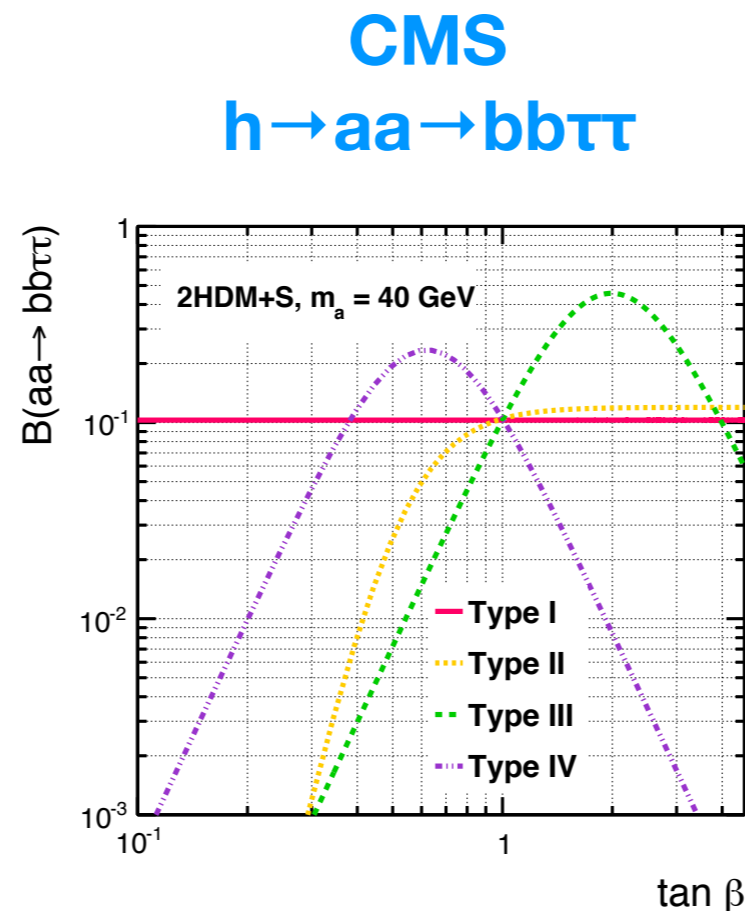
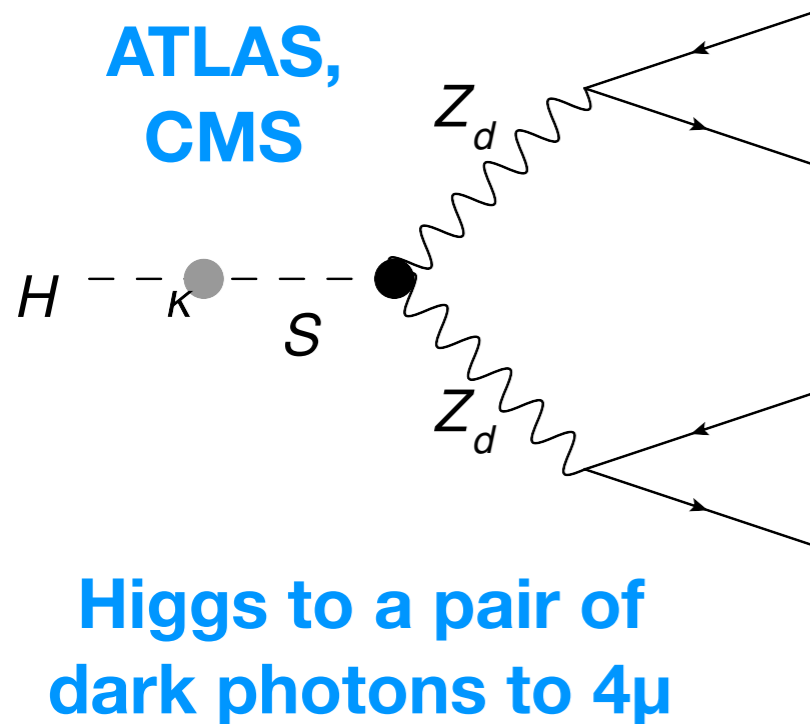


- Benchmark: Dark QCD
- 4 jets; either 2 emerging jets (EJs) or 1 EJ and large MET
- Use displacement of associated tracks and vertices to tag EJs
- Multijets with b-jets main background; use data-driven estimate studied versus n_{track}



Higgs-portal dark sector

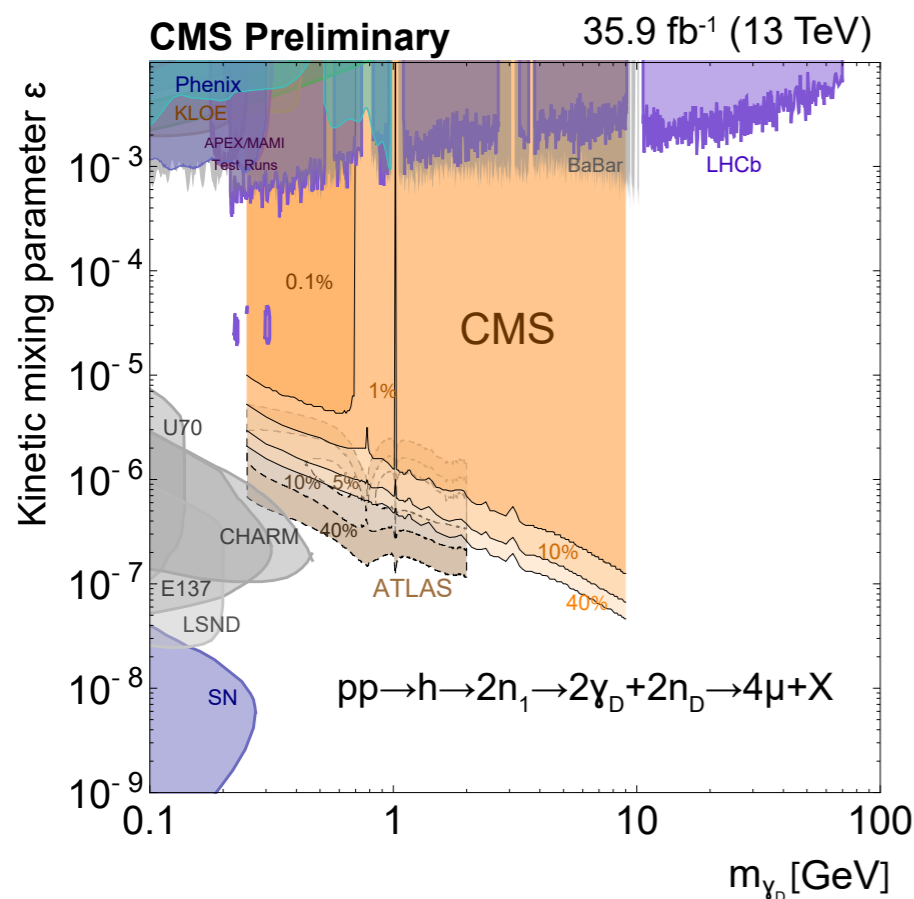
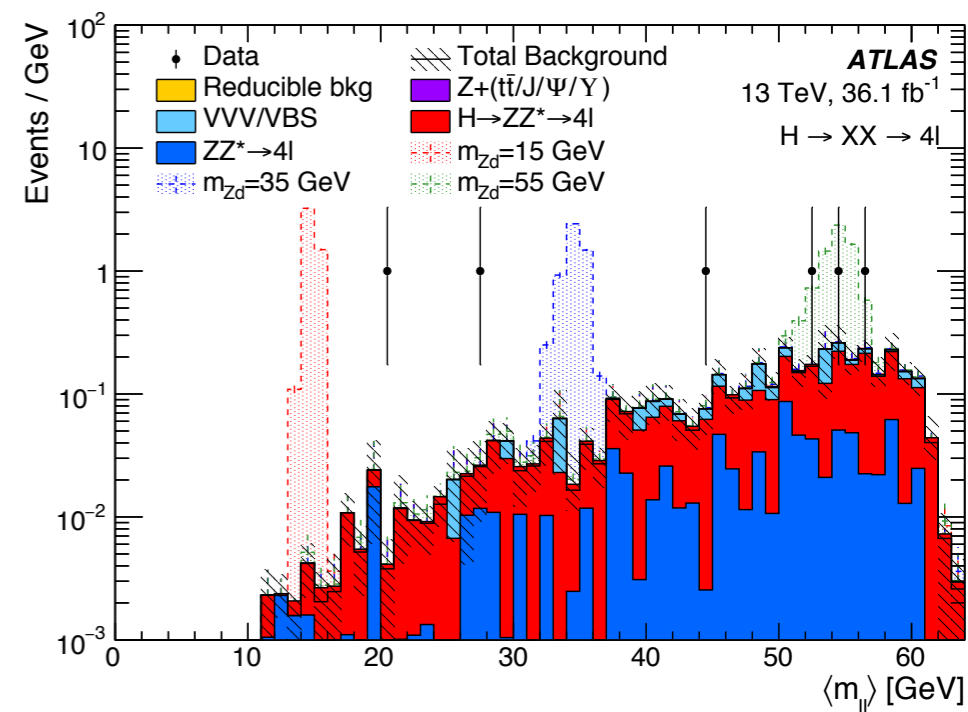
- Assume Higgs is the connection between dark sector & Standard Model. Various benchmark models with 2HDM gaining in popularity lately.
- Strongly motivates Higgs \rightarrow invisible searches (see Ruth's talk!)
- Various other interesting signatures too; growing collection of LHC searches!
Today covering only a small selection:



Higgs to dark photons to 4 muons

CMS PAS HIG-18-003
ATLAS arXiv:1802.03388v2

- Extremely low background from SM at these low masses. Contributions: bb , J/ψ pair production, $Z + J/\psi$, electroweak 4μ via off-shell Z s
- No observed excesses; constrain γ_D masses 0.25-8.5 GeV (CMS), 15-55 GeV (ATLAS)



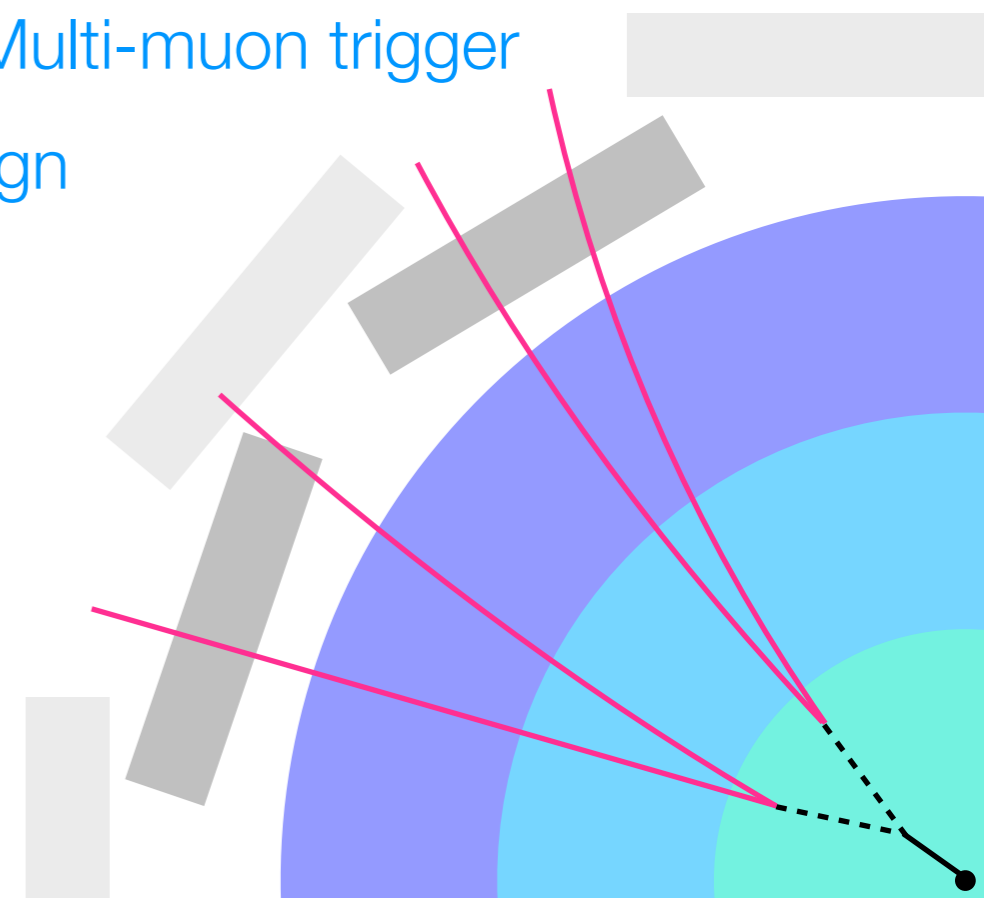
Selection:

Multi-muon trigger

Two opposite-sign muon pairs

Common PV even if DV between muon pairs (CMS)

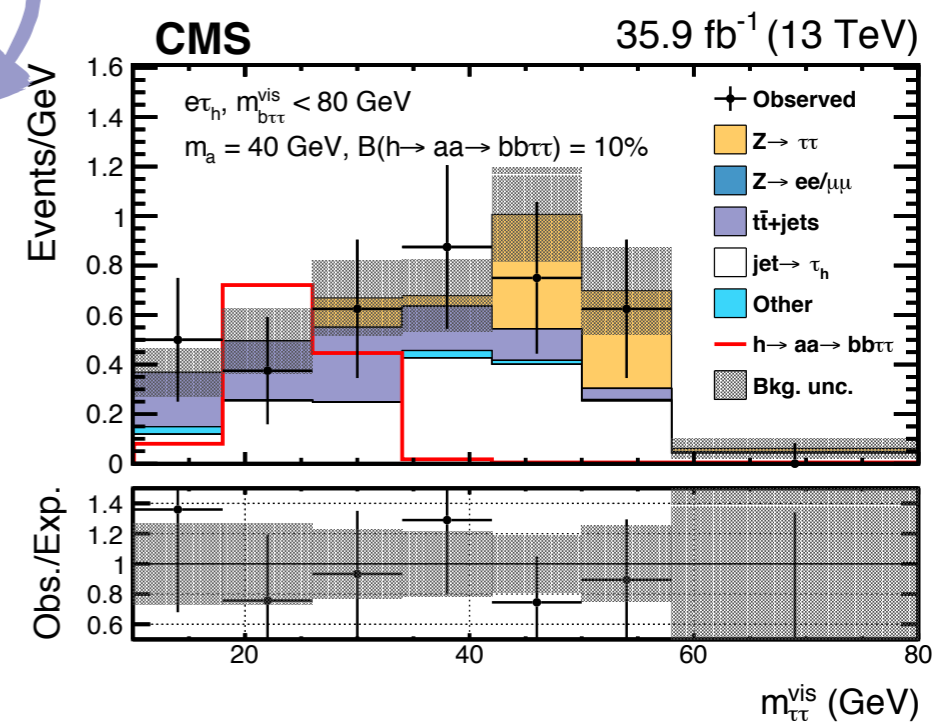
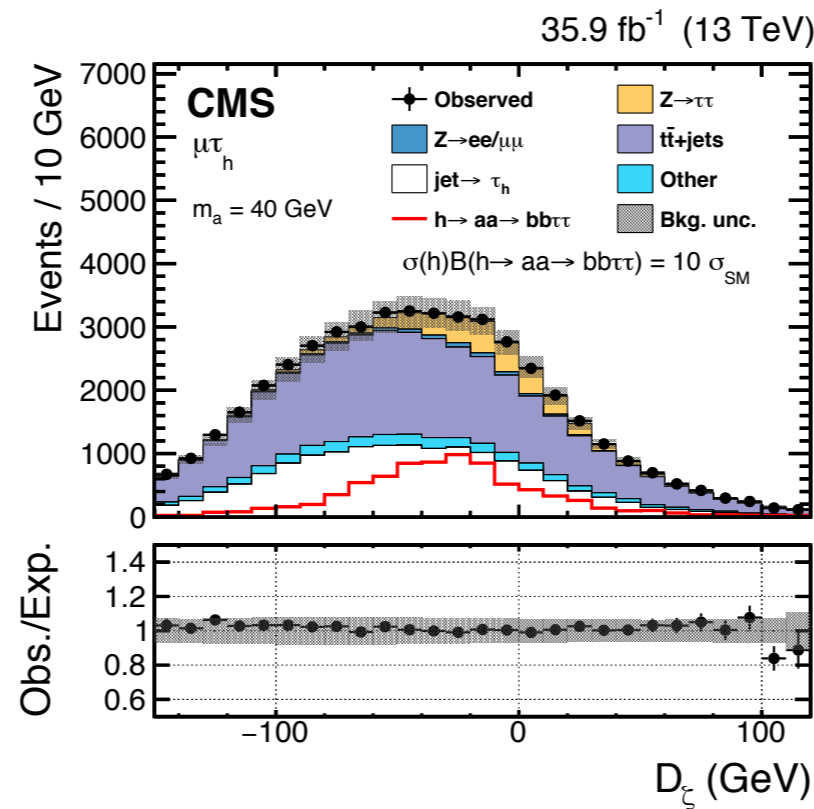
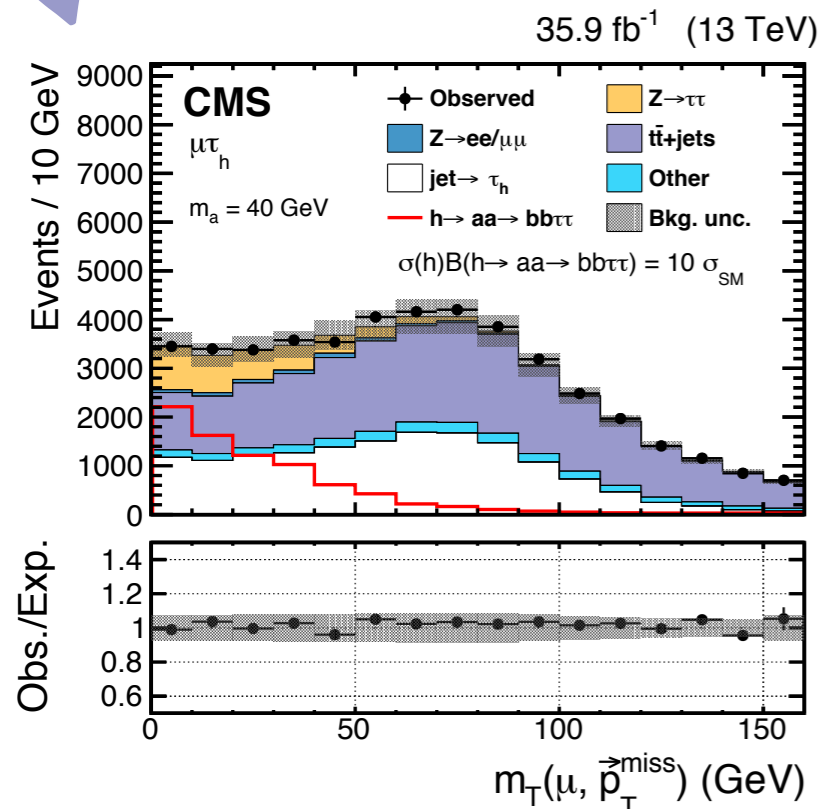
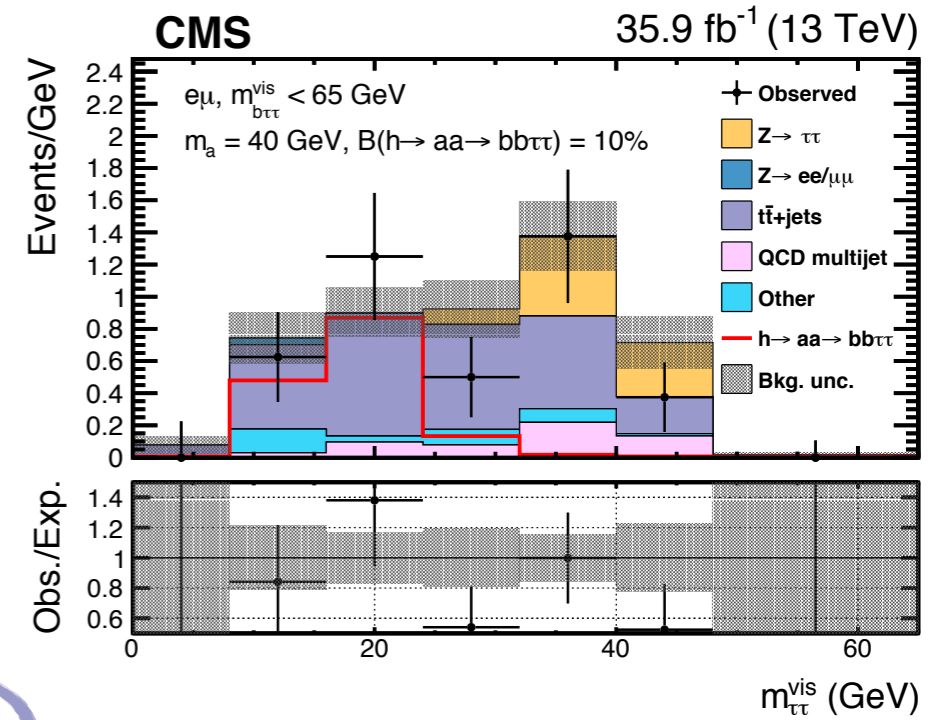
Invariant mass of muon pairs very similar



Light pseudoscalars to $bb\tau\tau$

CMS arXiv:1805.10191v1

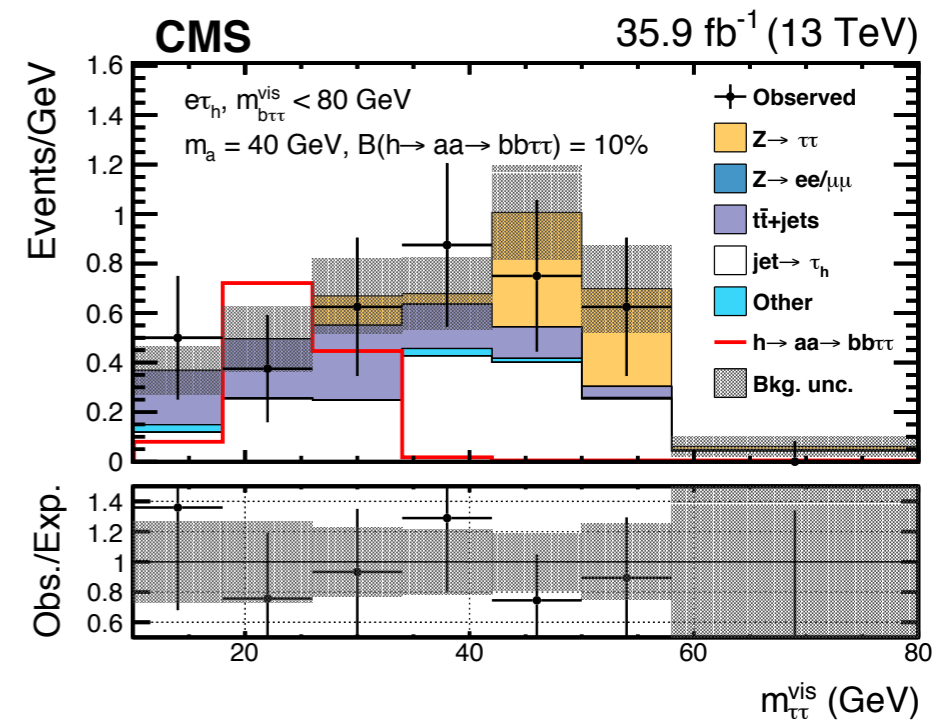
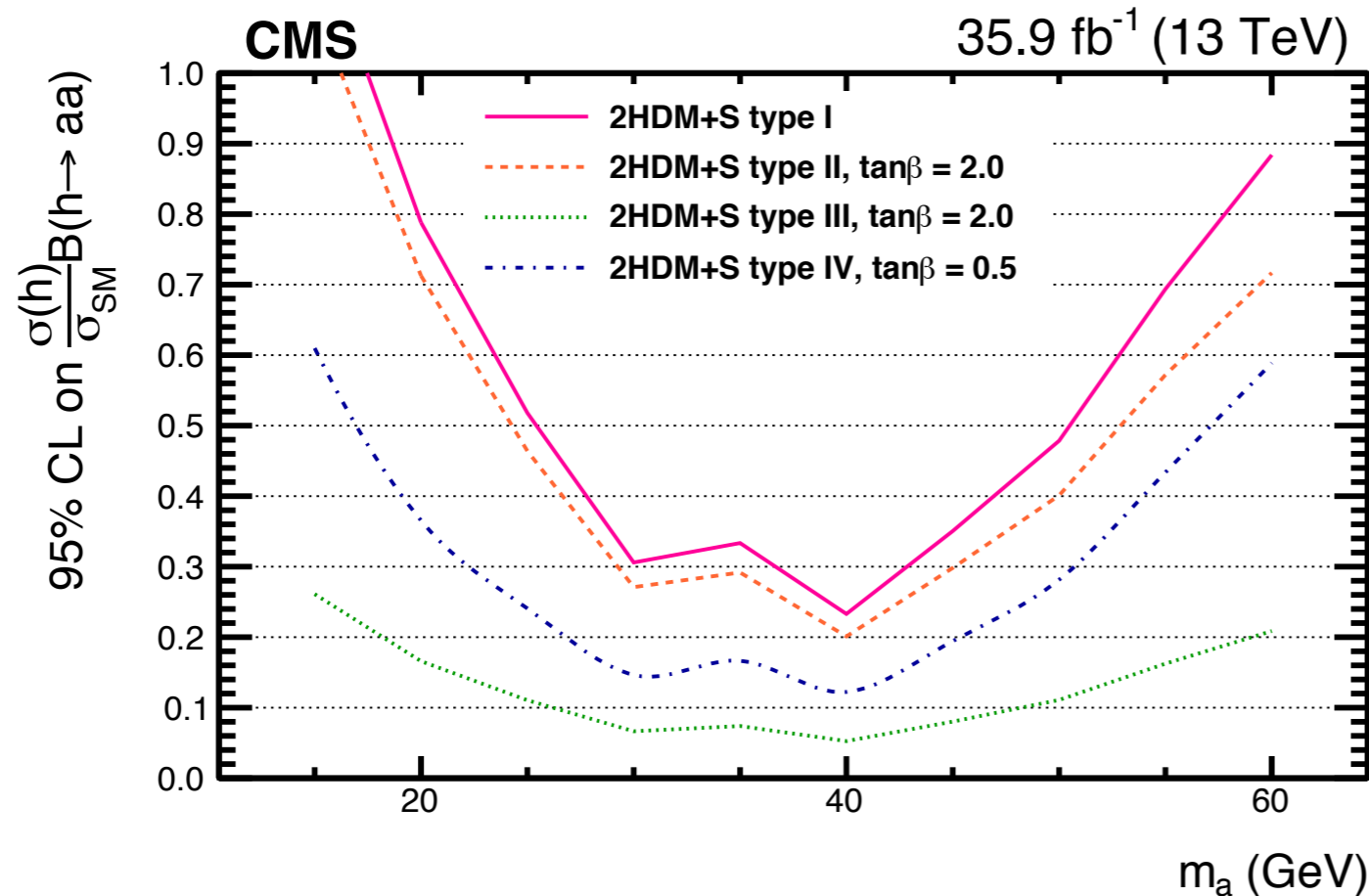
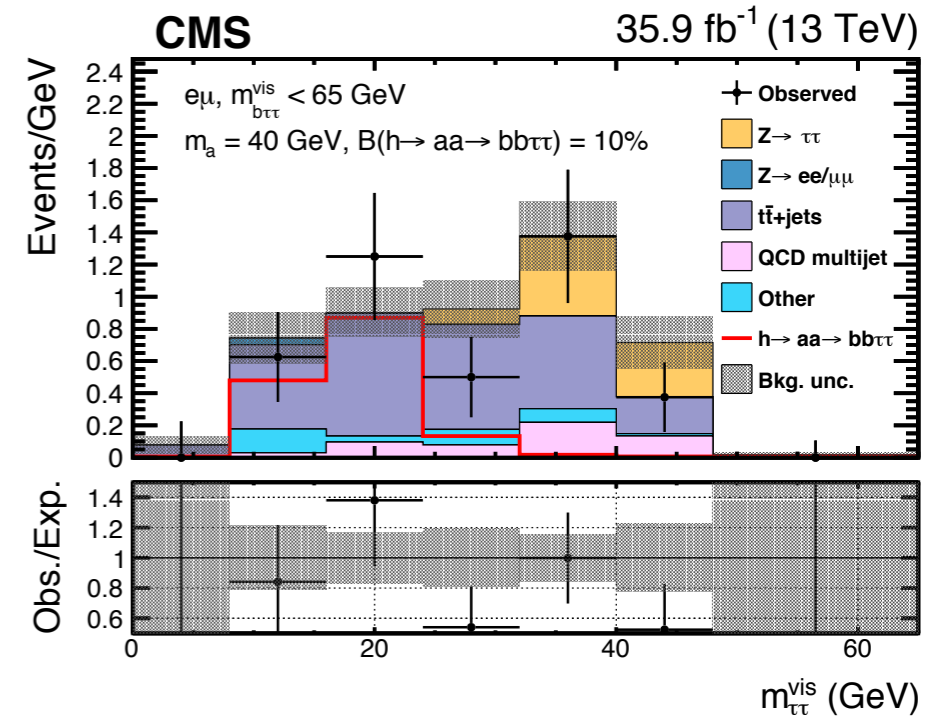
- Process: $h(125) \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 2\tau 2b$, m_a 15 GeV - 60 GeV. Benchmark 2HDM+S.
- $\tau\tau$ final states: $e\mu$, $e+\text{had}$, or $\mu+\text{had}$. Search in $m_{\tau\tau}$.
- Trigger on μ , e , $\mu\tau$; require ≥ 1 b-jet plus desired leptons. Low lepton transverse mass suppresses W , $t\bar{t}$; cut on correlation of MET to $\tau\tau$ system removes $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ and $t\bar{t}$



Light pseudoscalars to $bb\tau\tau$

CMS arXiv:1805.10191v1

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Light pseudoscalars to 4b

ATLAS [arXiv:1806.07355v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/1806.07355v1)

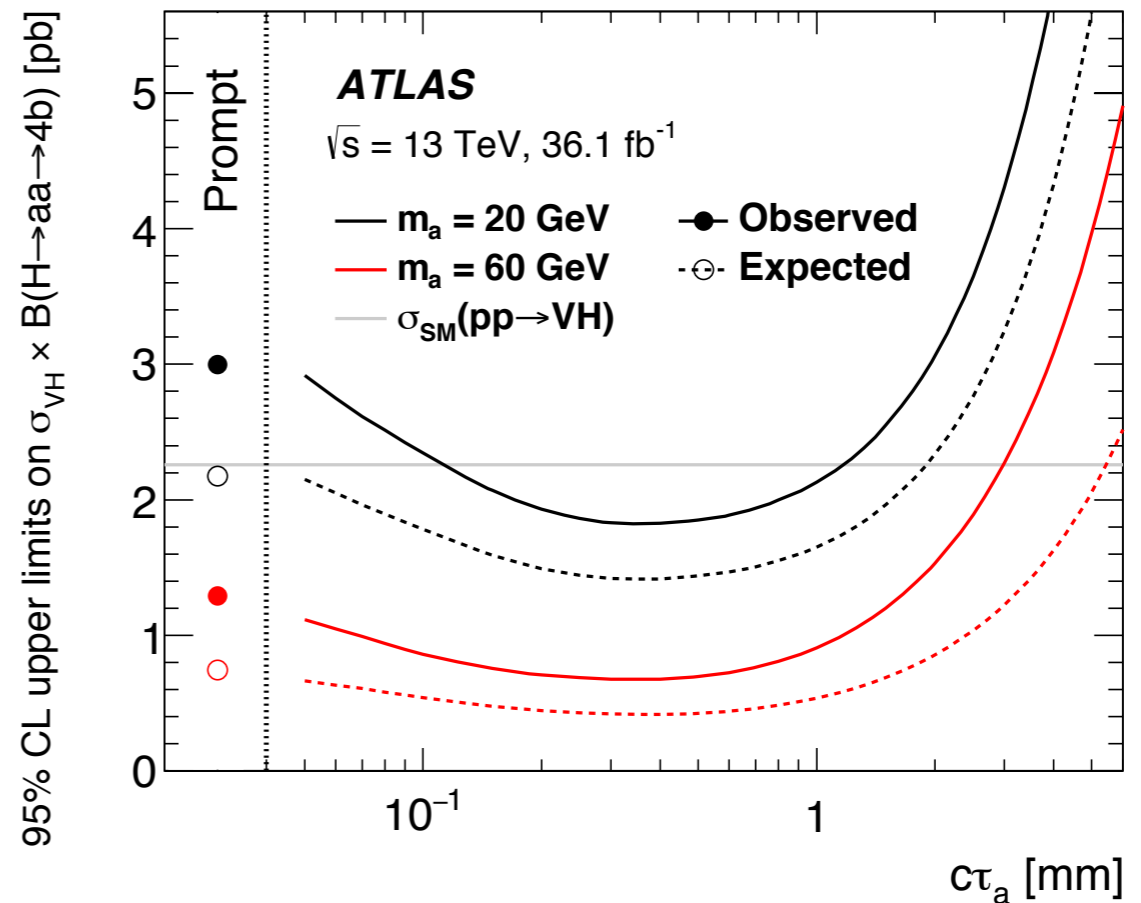
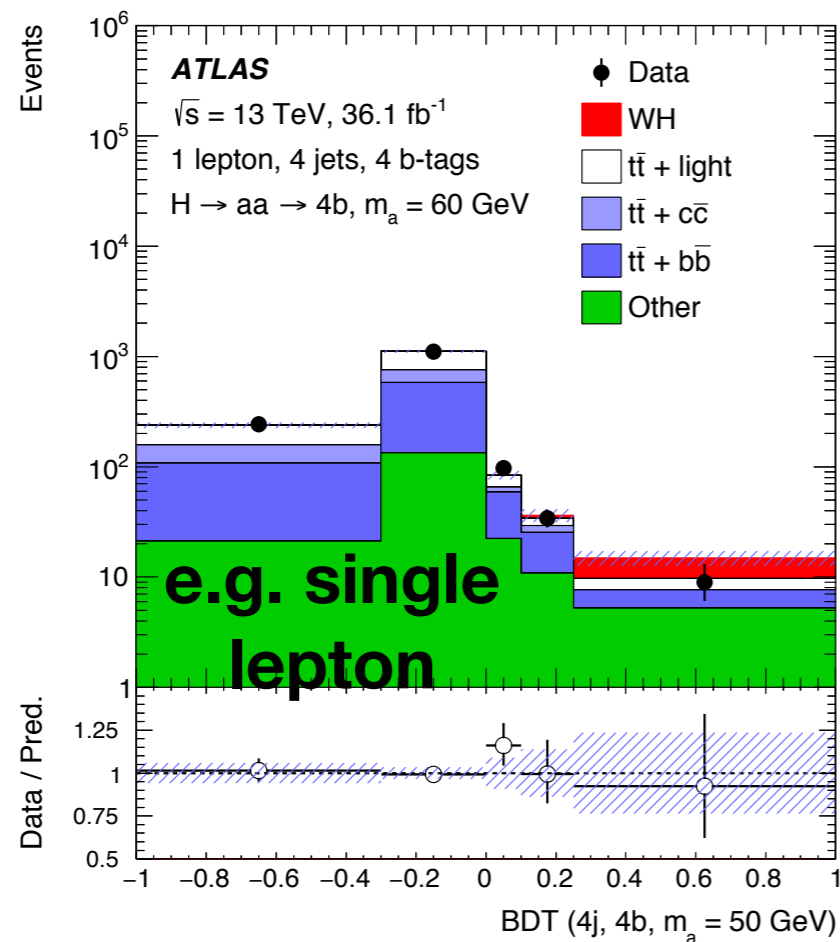
- Process: $h(125) \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4b$ with a leptonic W or Z. Trigger on e or μ .
- 2l or 1l+MET with mass near W, Z; ≥ 3 jets; ≥ 2 b-tagged.
Dominant bkg ttbar, Z+jets
- Use BDT for discrimination in six signal regions

Variable	(1 ℓ , 3j, 3b)	(1 ℓ , 4j, 3b)	(1 ℓ , 4j, 4b)	(2 ℓ , 3j, 3b)	(2 ℓ , $\geq 4j$, 3b)	(2 ℓ , $\geq 4j$, $\geq 4b$)
m_{bbb}	✓	✓		✓	✓	
m_{bbbb}			✓			✓
m_{bb1}			✓			✓
m_{bb2}			✓			✓
Average $\Delta R(b,b)$	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
H_T	✓	✓	✓			
p_T^W	✓					
m_{bbj}		✓				
m_{T2}	✓	✓	✓			
$\Delta R(\ell,\ell)$				✓	✓	✓
$\Delta R(Z,H)$				✓	✓	
$\cos \theta^*$						✓
E_T^{miss}				✓	✓	✓

Light pseudoscalars to 4b

ATLAS [arXiv:1806.07355v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/1806.07355v1)

- Process: $h(125) \rightarrow aa \rightarrow 4b$ with a leptonic W or Z. Trigger on e or μ .
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Dominant bkg $t\bar{t}$, Z+jets
- Use BDT for discrimination in six signal regions



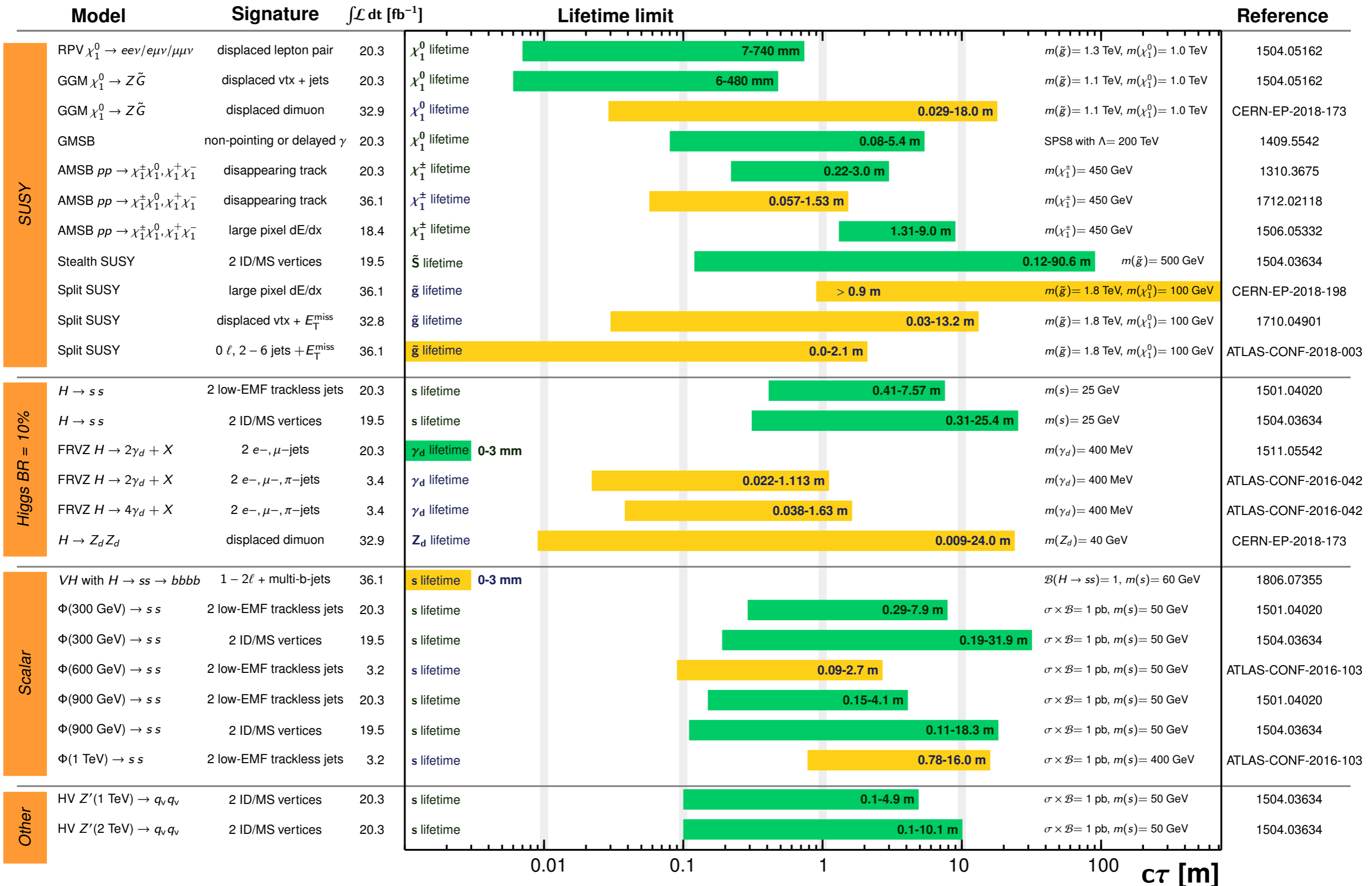
Conclusion

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

Status: July 2018

ATLAS Preliminary

$$\int \mathcal{L} dt = (3.2 - 36.1) \text{ fb}^{-1} \quad \sqrt{s} = 8, 13 \text{ TeV}$$



$\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$ $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$

*Only a selection of the available lifetime limits on new states is shown.

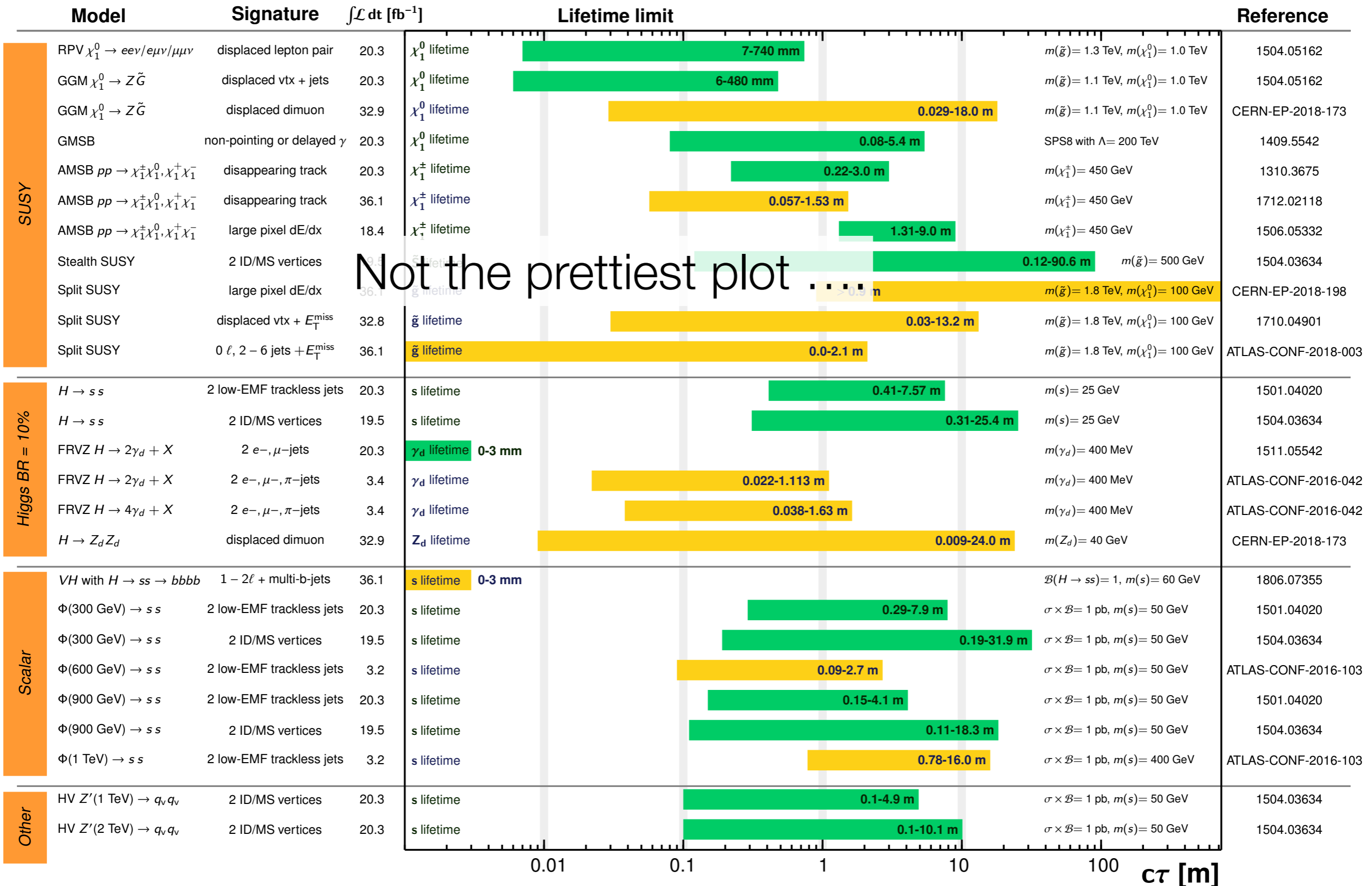
($\gamma\beta = 1$)

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Not the prettiest plot

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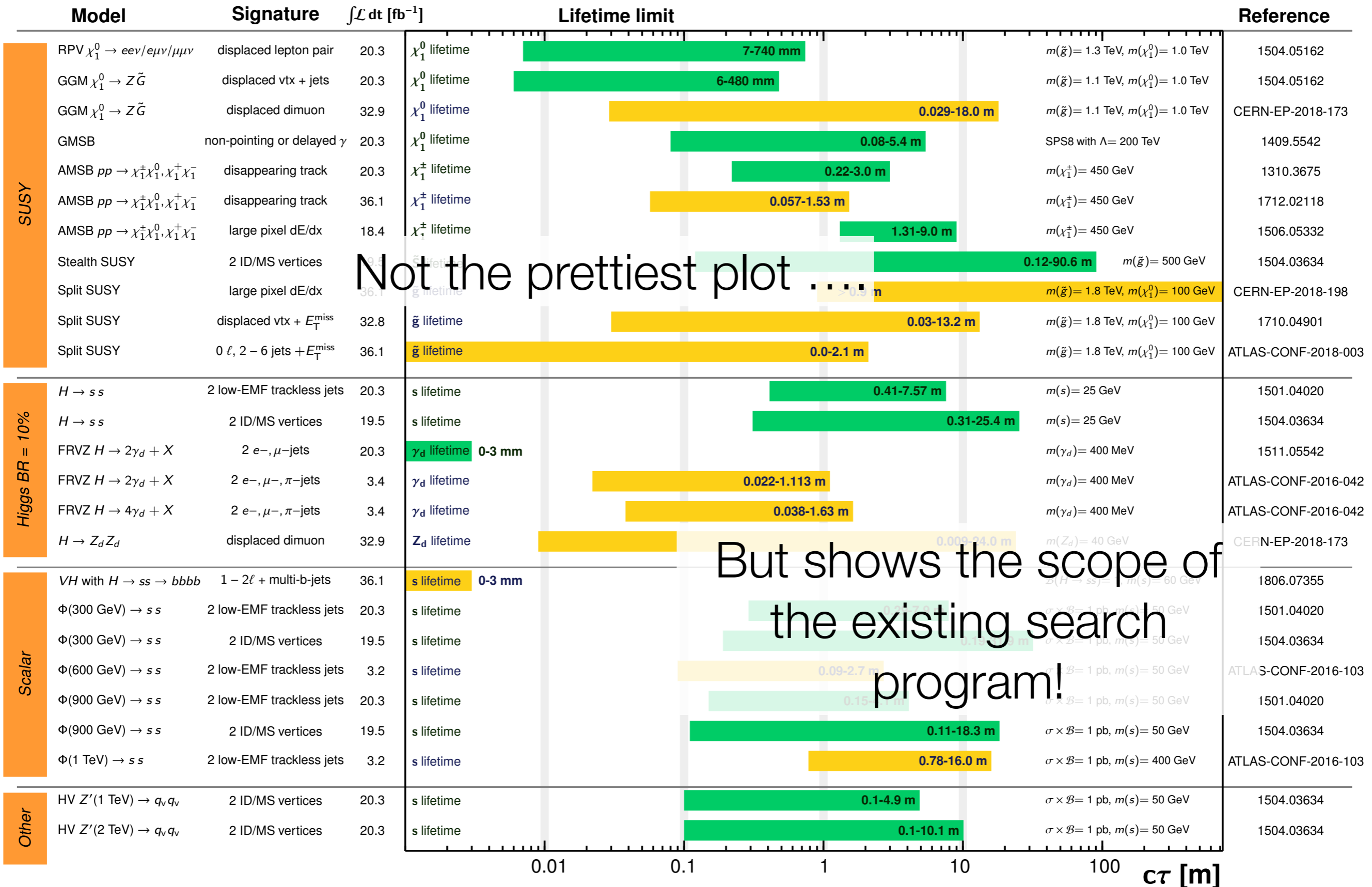
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($\gamma\beta = 1$)

Conclusion

- Lots of exciting, hot-off-the-press searches from ATLAS & CMS
 - Highlighted several very recent results today, including dark photons to 4μ , ATLAS stable charged particles, CMS emerging jets
- Long-lived particle searches gaining popularity and continuing to attract new efforts and attention
 - As more traditional searches become stats limited and begin to slow down, lots left to do in this comparatively unexplored frontier
 - Fun experimental challenges for everyone!

Backup