

# Searches for Long-Lived Particles at ATLAS & CMS: An Overview

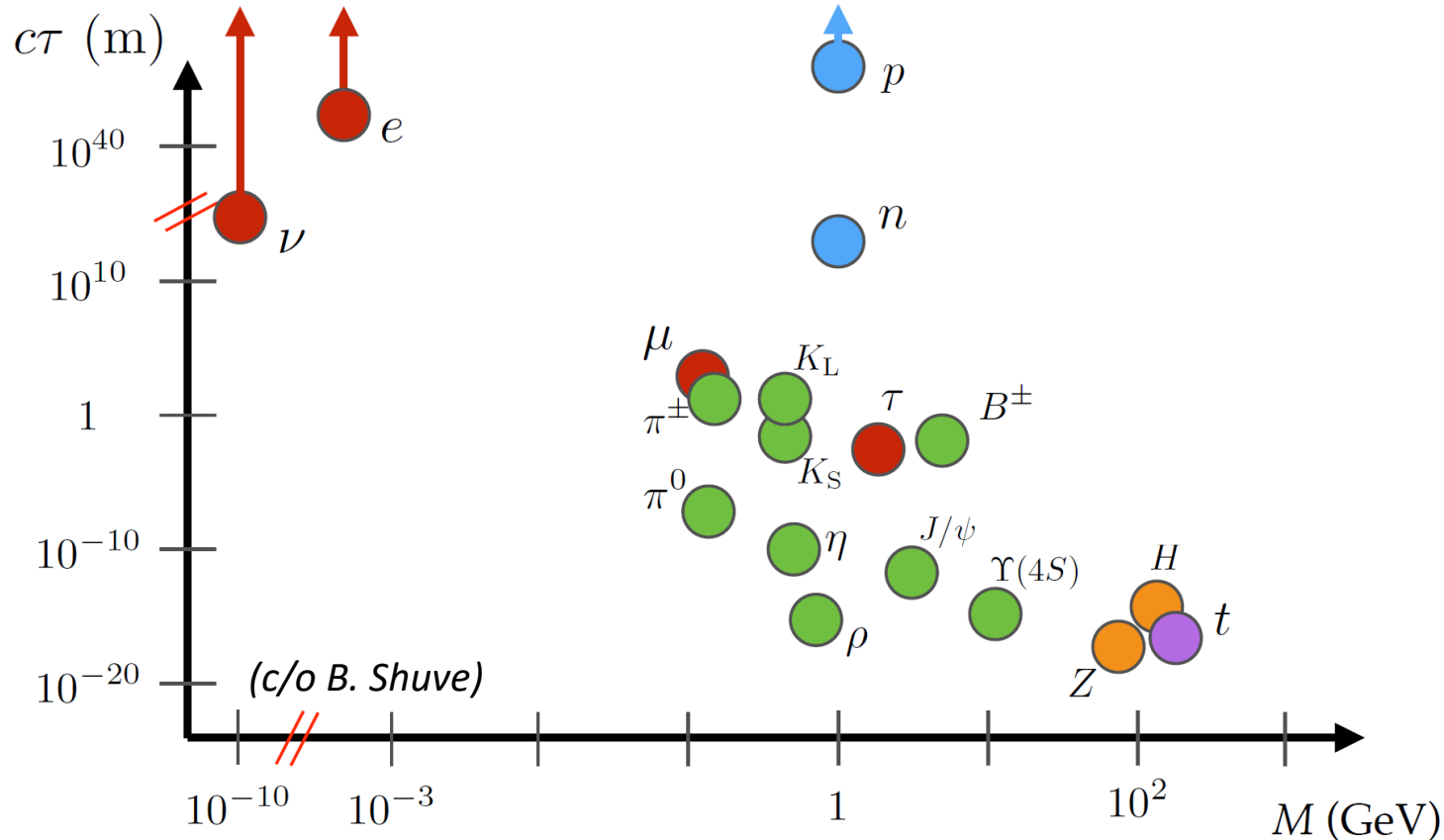
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Aspen Winter Conference

03/29/2019

# LLP Search: Physics Motivation

SM particles can be long(ish)-lived when the coupling is weak and/or the decay is suppressed. →



Same principles apply to BSM physics:

small couplings and no definite mass scale → long-lived particles (LLPs)!

# LLP Search: Experimental Challenges

## Object reconstruction:

- Conventional reconstruction methods often do not work well for LLPs
- Standard methods to remove noise etc. often remove our signals
  - Increased vulnerability to background
- Rich final state: how to #CatchThemAll?

## Background estimation:

- Particles do not point back to primary vertex:
  - detector center: LLPs from SM, pile-up, ...
  - detector volume: conversion, ...
  - outside detector: cosmics, beam gas, ...
- Limits from detector acceptance & resolution

## Triggering:

### **Trigger strategy B:**

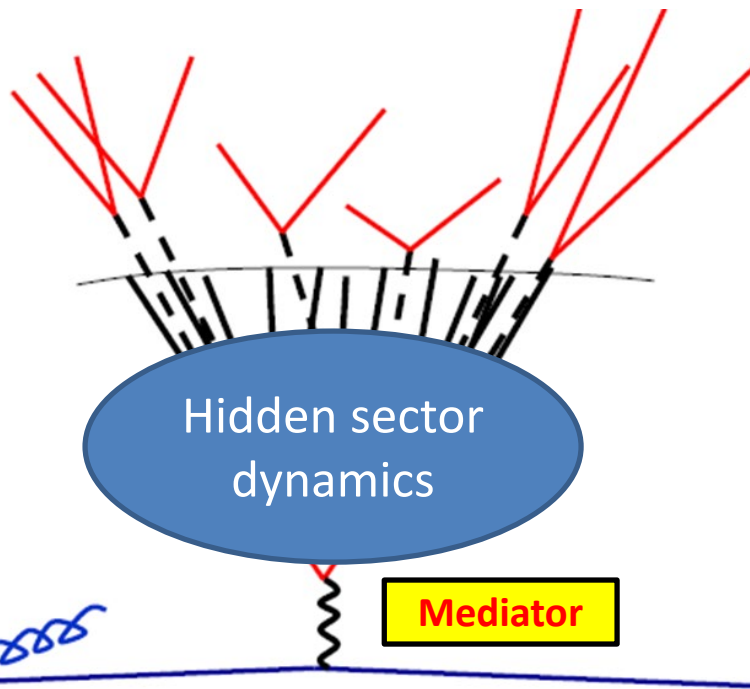
trigger on decay products

→ displaced objects, soft and/or with high multiplicity, are very difficult to trigger!

### **Trigger strategy A:**

trigger on production process: ISR or new heavy particle(s) (e.g. HT)

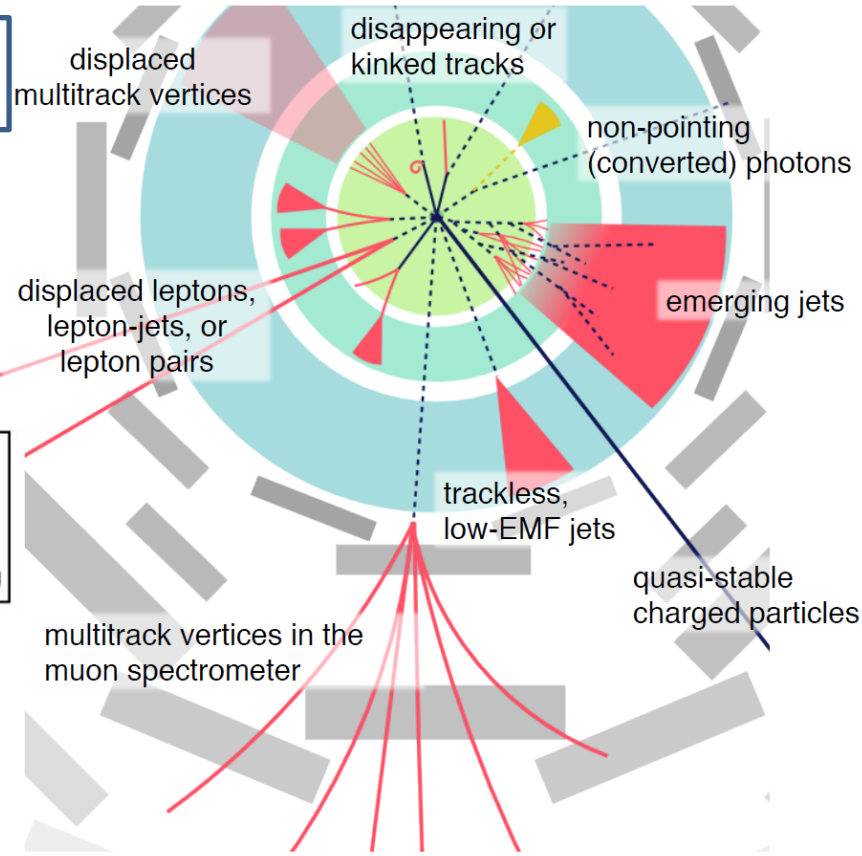
→ high threshold leads to significant loss in signal efficiency



# LLP Search: Experimental Landscape

A broad range of *signature-driven* LLP searches have been conducted at ATLAS & CMS experiments with LHC Run1 & Run2 data.

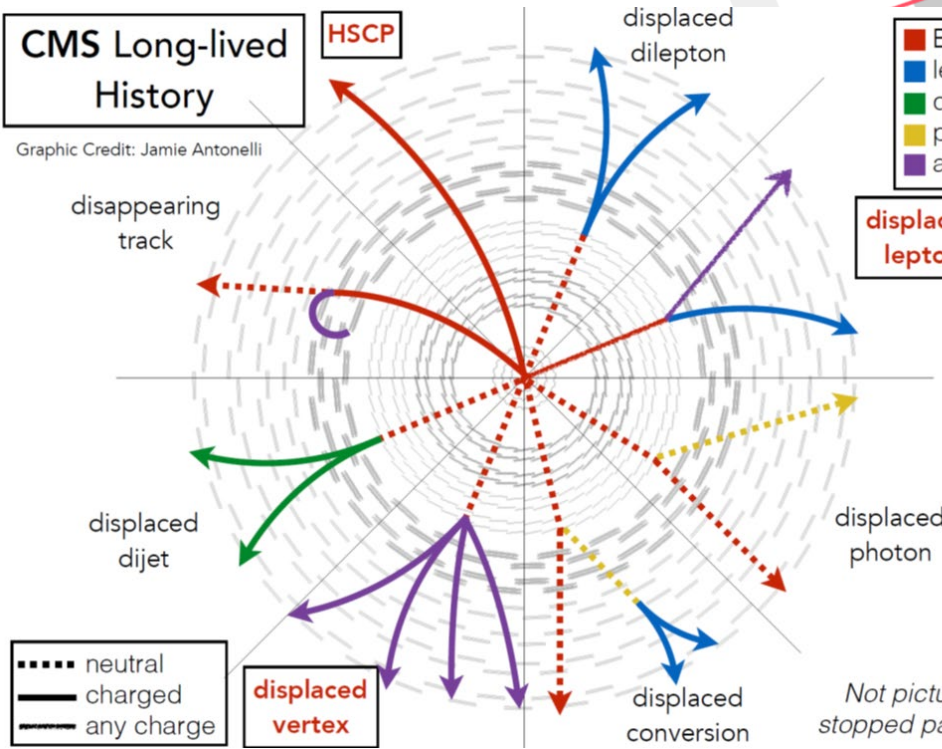
ATLAS LLP history  
c/o Heather Russell



CMS Long-lived History

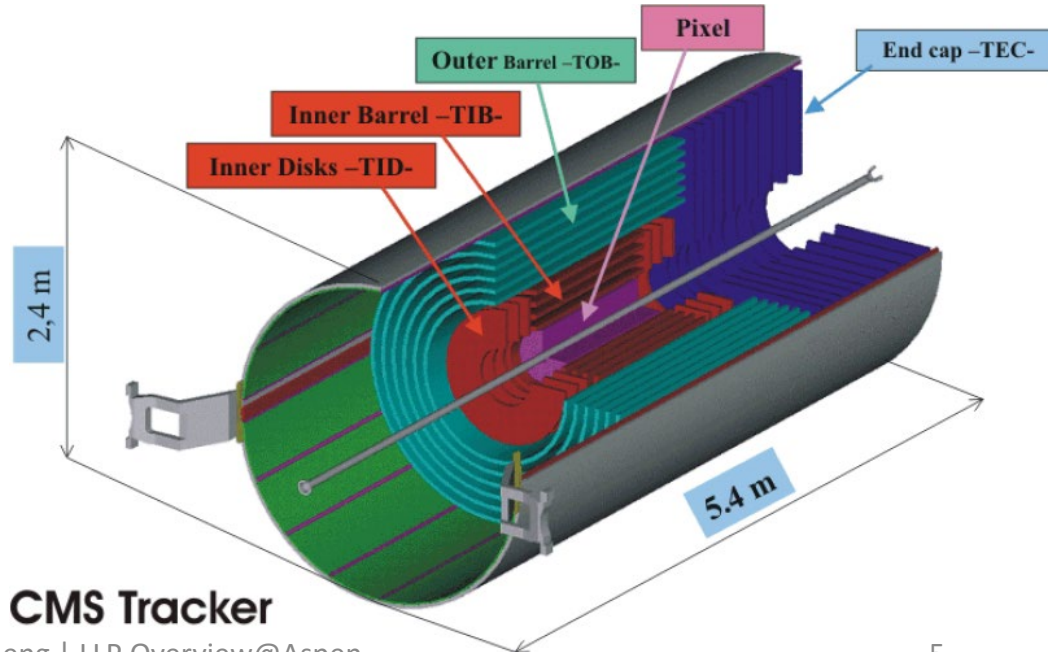
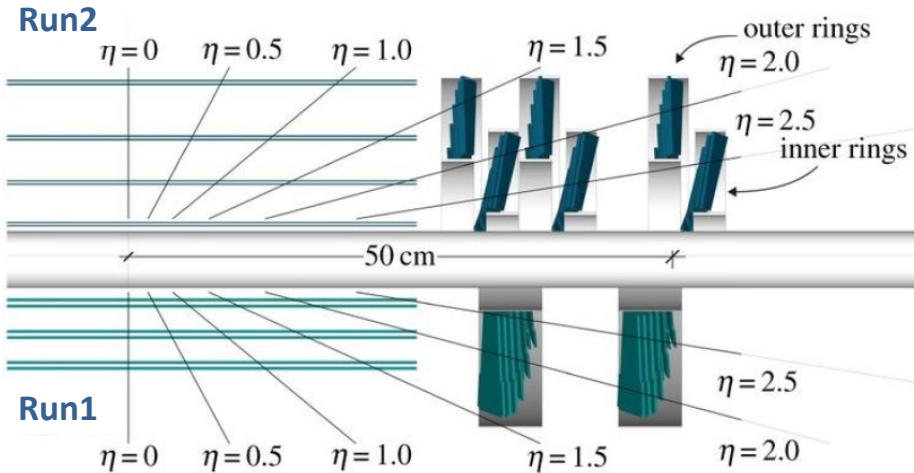
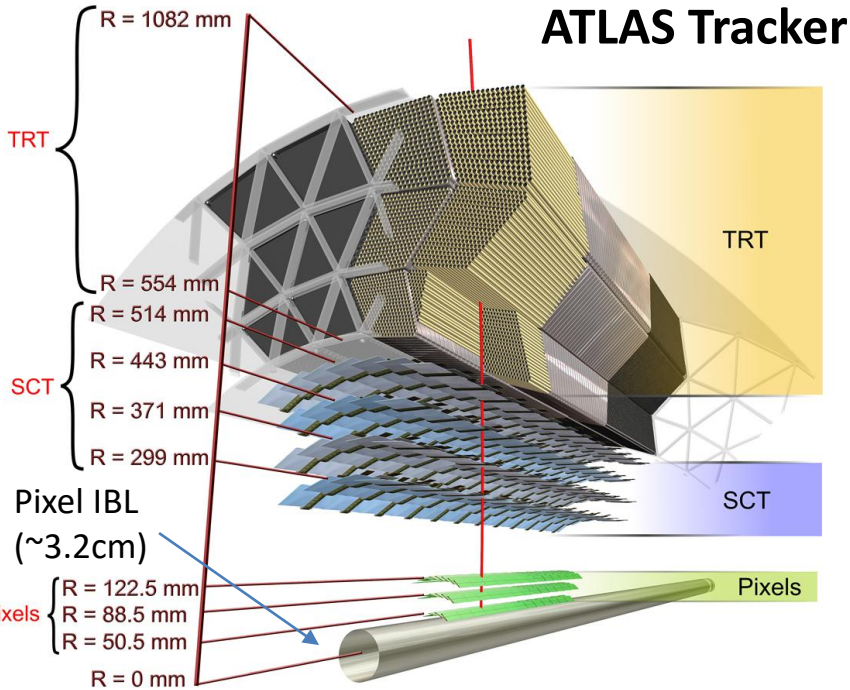
HSCP

Graphic Credit: Jamie Antonelli



This overview talk will focus on the experimental signatures, trigger & reconstruction strategies, and (very briefly) HL-LHC prospects.

# Displaced Decays in the Tracker



For LLPs that decay inside the tracking\* volume, displaced vertices or disappearing/ kinked tracks may be reconstructed.

\* Focus on inner detectors for now; cases with muons later.

# Displaced Vertices: ATLAS

arXiv:1710.04901

13 TeV 33 fb<sup>-1</sup>

Run 2: DV+MET

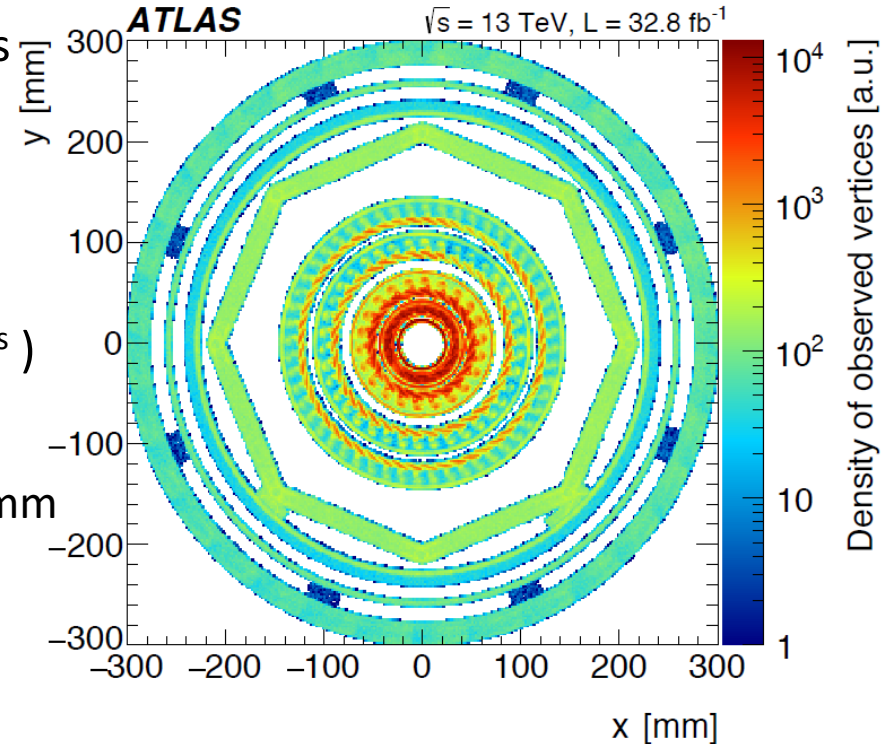
PRD 92 (2015) 072004

8 TeV 20.3 fb<sup>-1</sup>

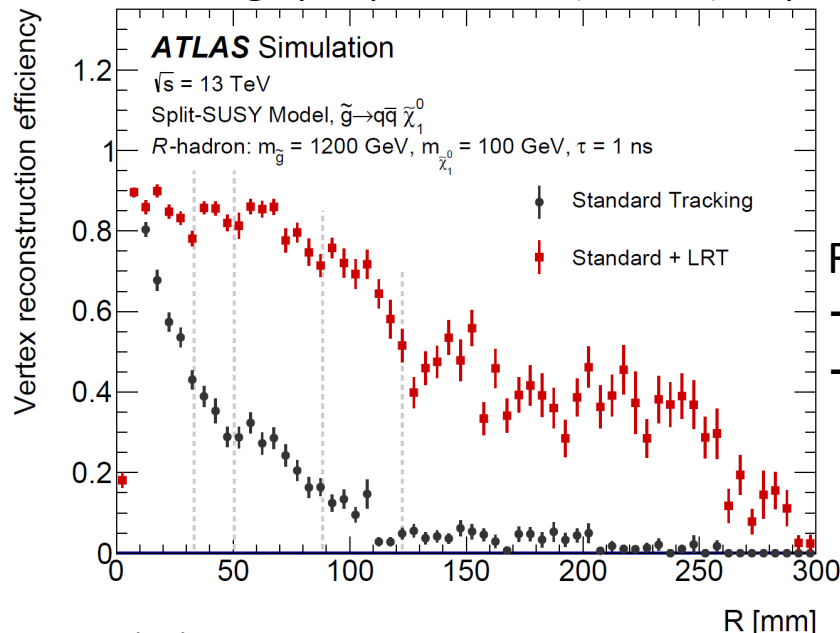
Run 1: DV+e/μ,  
DV+jets, DV+MET

Displaced hadronic decays  
with a multi-track vertex:

- Cannot trigger on DV
- Trigger on associated production of other particles (jet, e/μ, E<sub>T</sub><sup>miss</sup>)

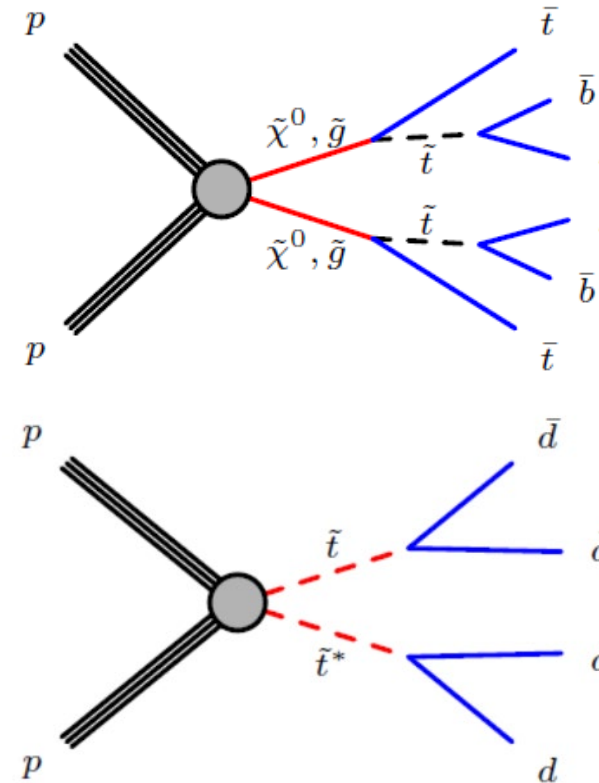


Dedicated large-radius tracking (LRT) & secondary vertex finding: |d0| < 300mm (> 2mm) & |z0| < 1500mm



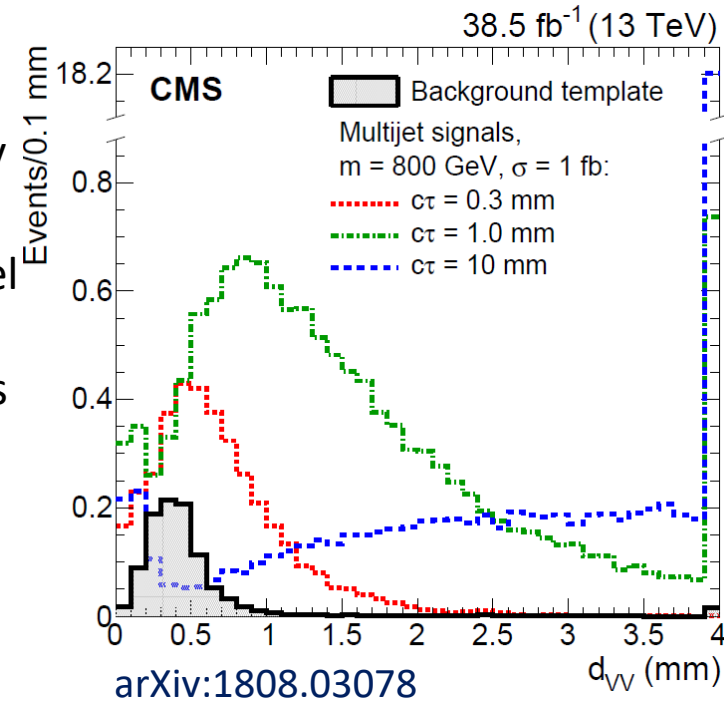
Requiring  $\geq 1$  DV w/ mass  $> 10$  GeV & nTracks  $\geq 5$ ,  
 → Effectively remove SM backgrounds  
 → Irreducible background from hadronic interactions (lower mass & fewer tracks; apply material veto), merged vertices, & accidental crossings: data-driven estimation

# Displaced Vertices: CMS



Hadronic LLP decays in dijet & multijet channels

- HT trigger: 800 (900) GeV
- $\geq 2$  DVs, each  $\geq 5$  tracks
  - hit in innermost pixel
- dVV: distance in xy between the two vertices with highest mass & number of tracks
- Fit dVV templates for signal & background, binned by displacement
- Main background: multijet & tt, esp. with b's

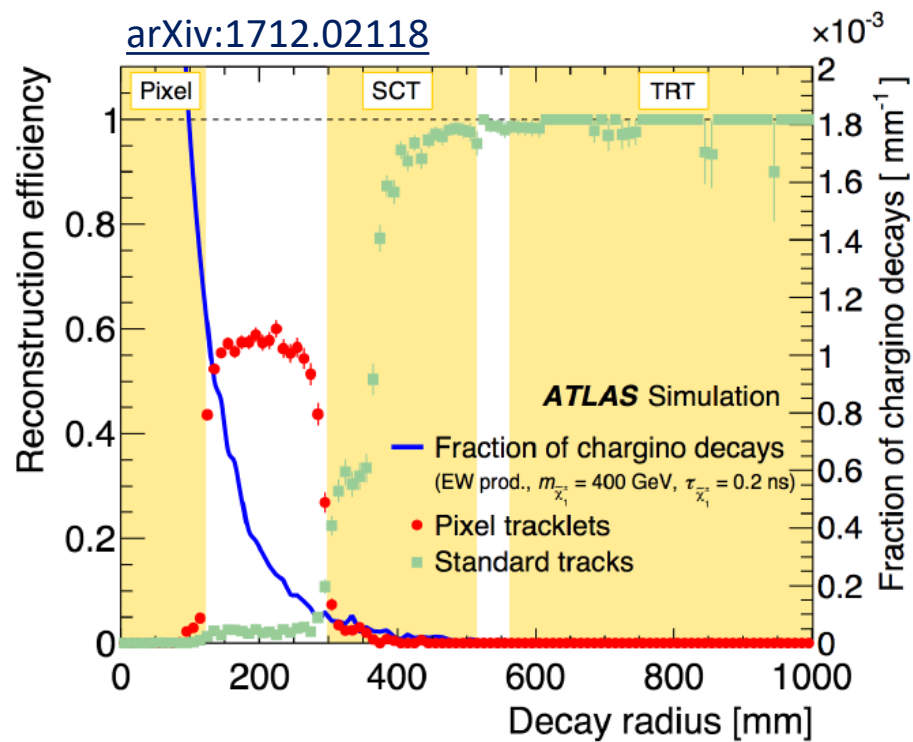
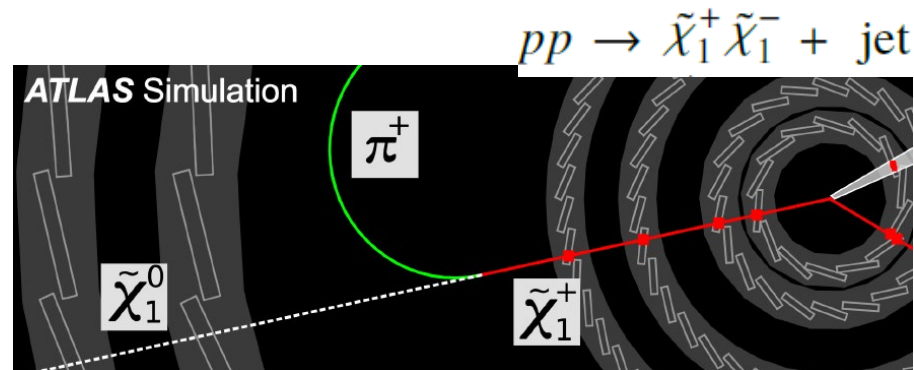
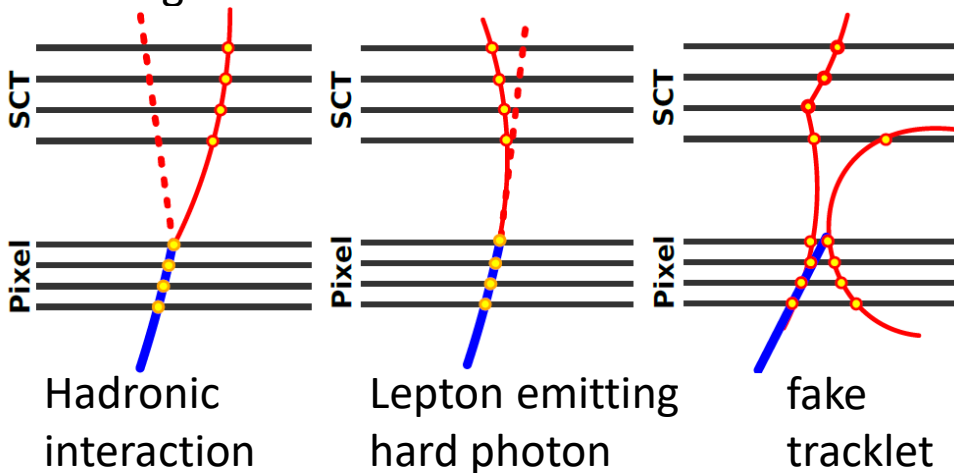


| $d_{VV}$ range | Fitted background yield                  | Observed | Predicted multijet signal yields |               |               |
|----------------|--|----------|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                |  |          | 0.3 mm                           | 1.0 mm        | 10 mm         |
| 0–0.4 mm       | $0.51 \pm 0.01$ (stat) $\pm 0.13$ (syst) | 1        | $2.8 \pm 0.7$                    | $3.5 \pm 0.8$ | $1.0 \pm 0.2$ |
| 0.4–0.7 mm     | $0.37 \pm 0.02$ (stat) $\pm 0.09$ (syst) | 0        | $2.0 \pm 0.5$                    | $3.7 \pm 0.9$ | $0.5 \pm 0.1$ |
| 0.7–40 mm      | $0.12 \pm 0.02$ (stat) $\pm 0.08$ (syst) | 0        | $1.1 \pm 0.3$                    | $11 \pm 3$    | $31 \pm 7$    |

# Disappearing Tracks: ATLAS

Charged particle with lifetime 0.01ns – 10ns decays to invisible particle + soft charged particle:

- Trigger on  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$
- Two search channels
  - electroweak: ISR jet +  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$
  - strong: multijet +  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$
- “Disappearing” tracklet reconstruction
  - hits in each of the first four pixel layers
  - no hits in the SCT layers
  - isolated;  $p_T > 20$  GeV
- Backgrounds:



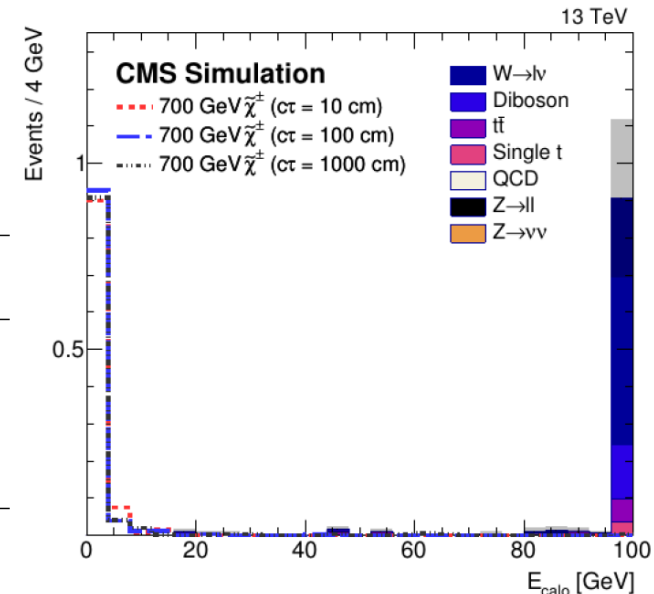
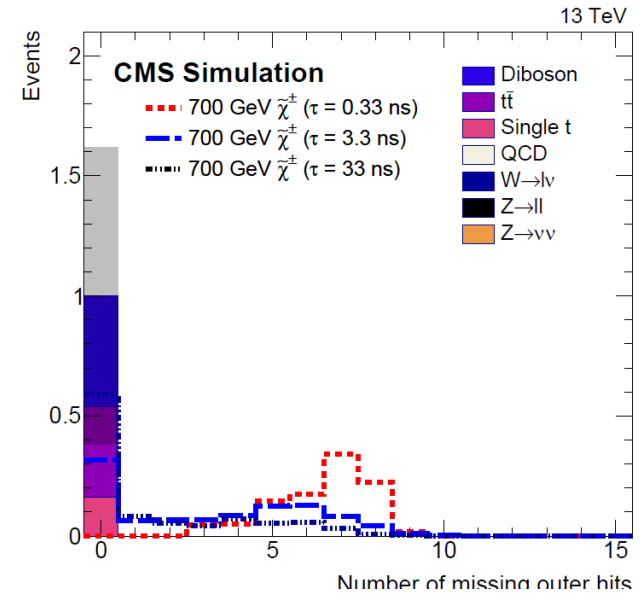


# Disappearing Tracks: CMS

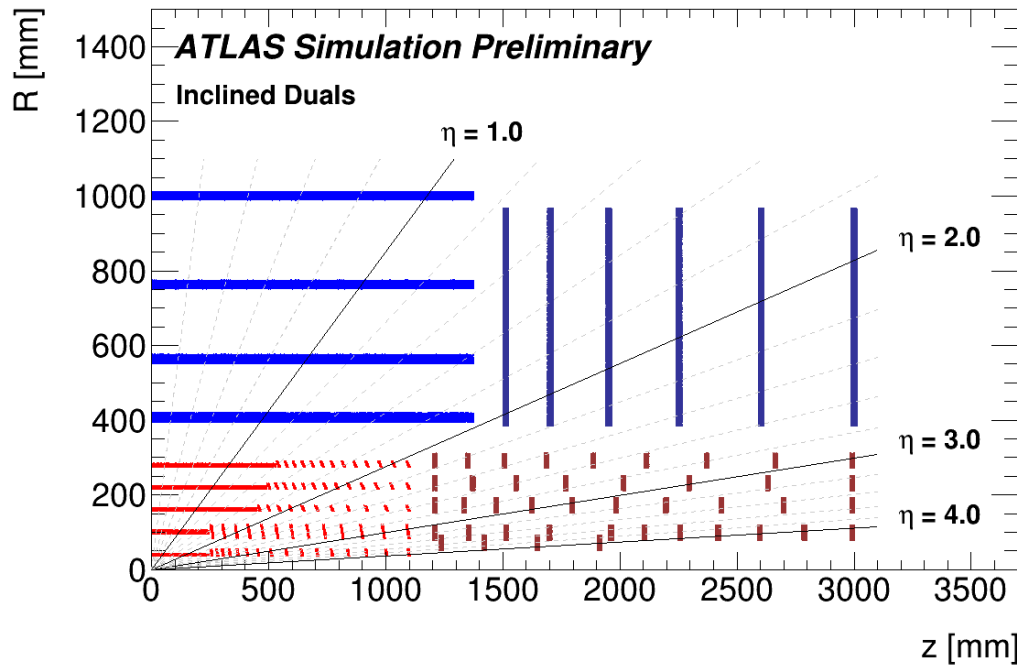
- Signal lifetime: 0.1ns – 100ns
- Trigger:  $p_T^{\text{miss}} > 100\text{GeV}$
- Disappearing track reconstruction:
  - isolated  $>55\text{GeV}$  track, originating from IP
  - missing  $\geq 3$  outer tracker hits
  - associated calorimetry energy ( $dR < 0.5$ )  $< 10\text{GeV}$
- Main backgrounds:
  - Charged leptons  
→ lepton veto
  - Spurious tracks  
→ estimated from data in large  $d_0$  sideband

[arXiv:1804.07321](https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.07321)

| Run period | Estimated number of background events |                       |                       | Observed events |
|------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
|            | Leptons                               | Spurious tracks       | Total                 |                 |
| 2015       | $0.1 \pm 0.1$                         | $0_{-0}^{+0.1}$       | $0.1 \pm 0.1$         | 1               |
| 2016A      | $2.0 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.1$                 | $0.4 \pm 0.2 \pm 0.4$ | $2.4 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.4$ | 2               |
| 2016B      | $3.1 \pm 0.6 \pm 0.2$                 | $0.9 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.9$ | $4.0 \pm 0.7 \pm 0.9$ | 4               |
| Total      | $5.2 \pm 0.8 \pm 0.3$                 | $1.3 \pm 0.4 \pm 1.0$ | $6.5 \pm 0.9 \pm 1.0$ | 7               |



# Tracker Upgrade: HL-LHC Prospects

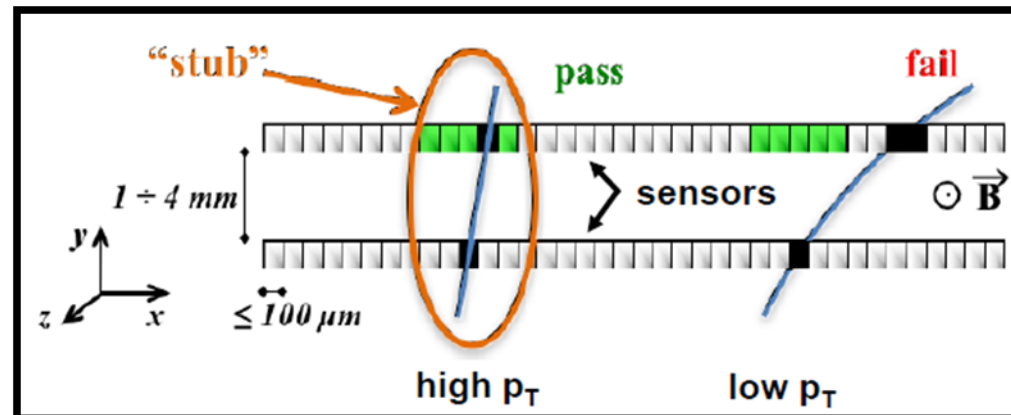


Both ATLAS & CMS trackers will be fully replaced for HL-LHC conditions

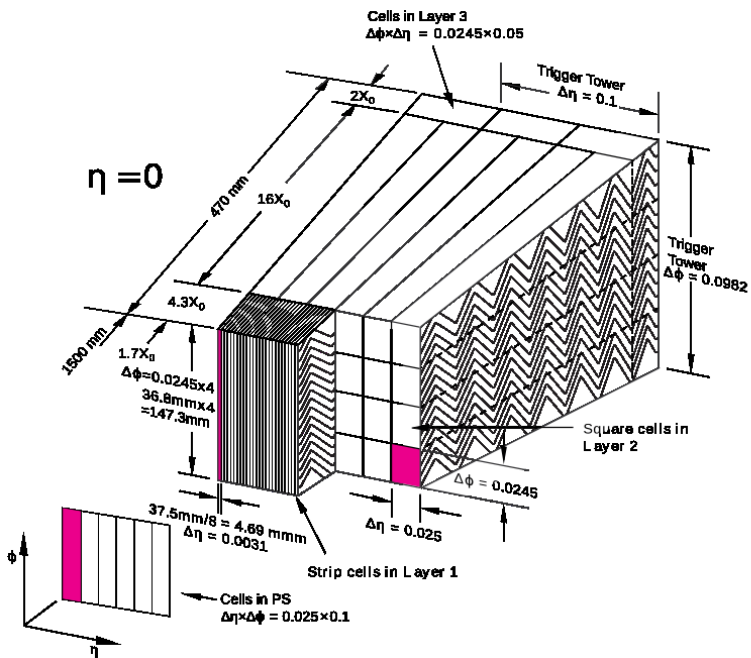
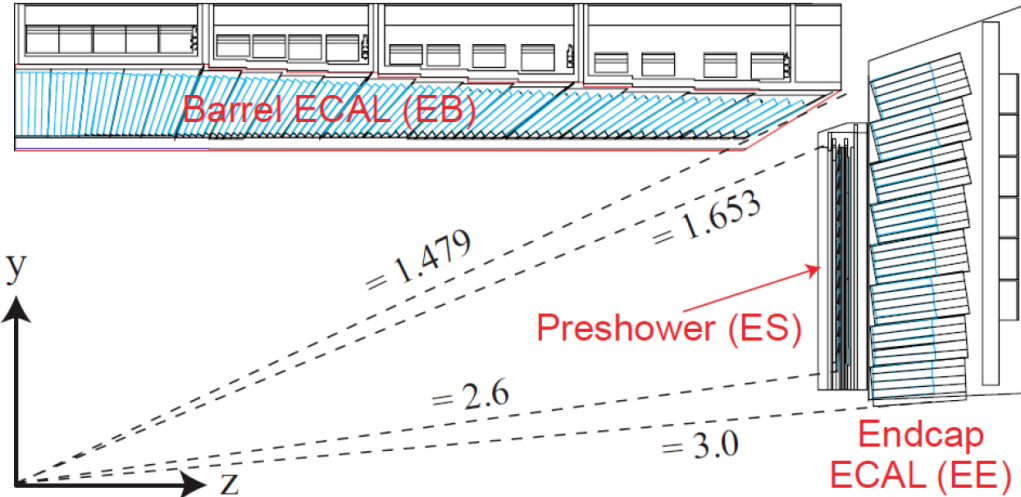
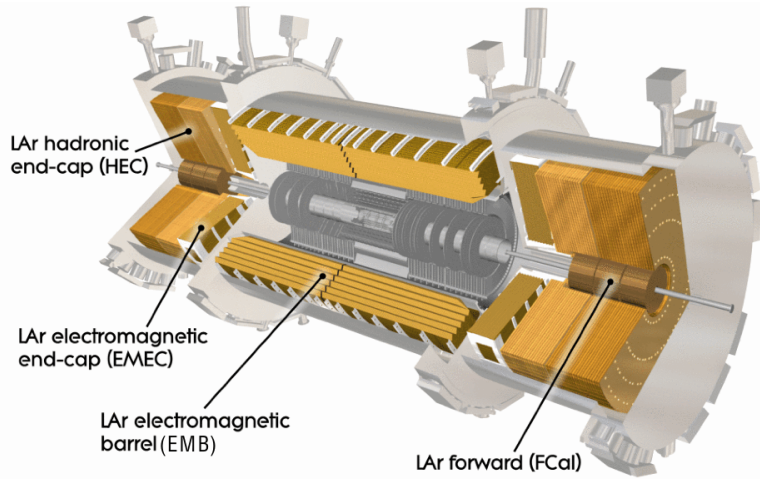
- high granularity & radiation hard
- extended  $|\eta| \sim 4$
- tracking @ L1 hardware trigger
- CMS: inner pixel + outer tracker w/ 2-sided sensor modules (PS or SS)
- ATLAS: inner pixel + outer strip tracker (silicon based; no more TRT)

## CMS L1 track trigger (L1TT)

- Two-sided sensor modules in OT
- stubs: correlated hit pairs, consistent with  $\geq 2\text{GeV}$  track
- Stubs form input to track finding at L1 trigger rate of 750kHz

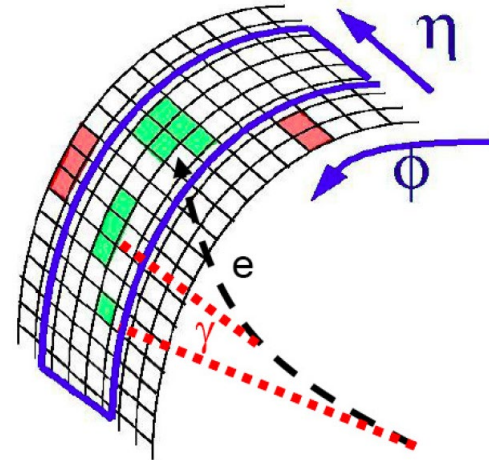


# Displaced Decays with the ECAL



← ATLAS liquid argon calorimeter

CMS ECAL →  
(lead tungstate crystal)



# Displaced Photons: ATLAS

Search for neutral LLP (350ps-100ns) decay to photon + invisible particle

- Trigger: diphoton, >35(25)GeV, no timing constraint
- Offline:
  - diphoton, >50GeV
  - $|t| < 4\text{ns}$  to remove satellite bunches

ATLAS LAr ECAL provides both photon direction & time measurements

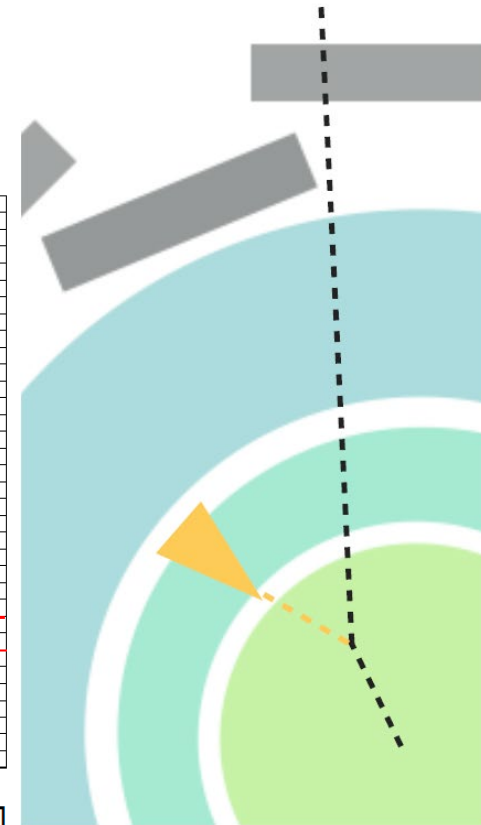
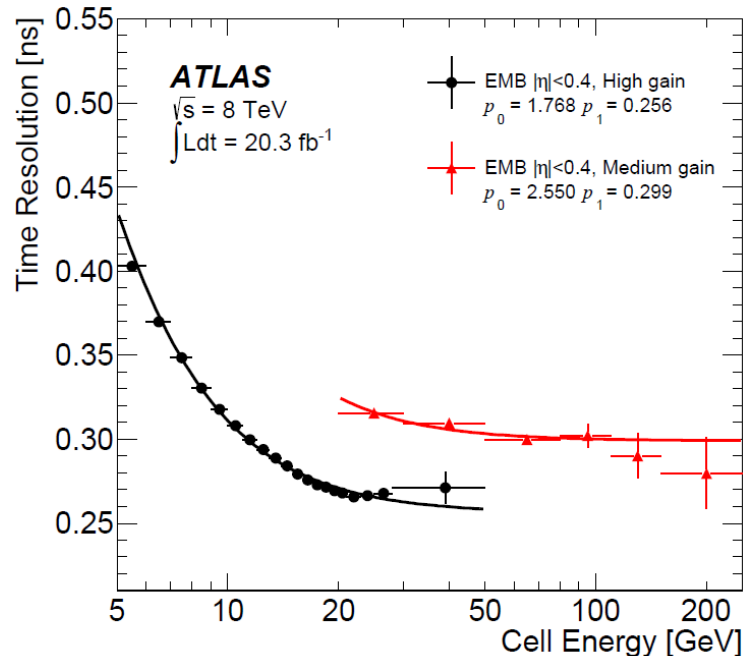
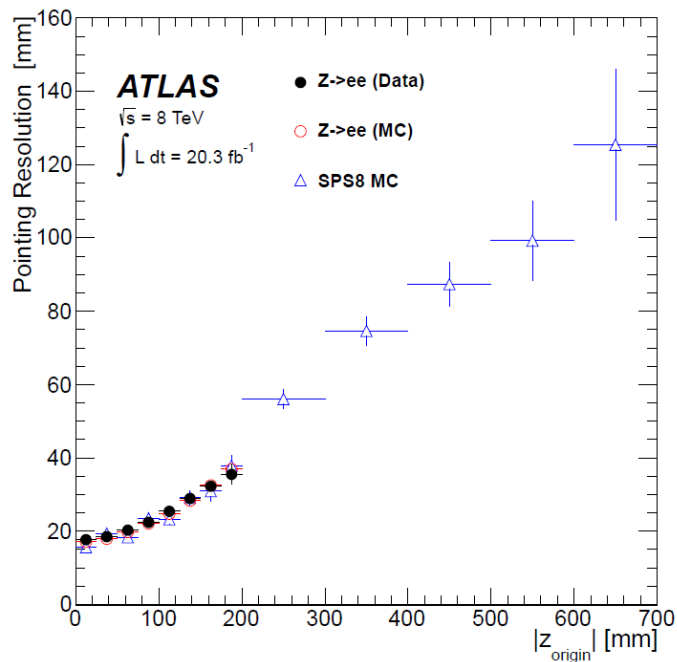
→ 8TeV analysis uses both pointing & timing (7TeV only used pointing)

→ data-driven Nx1D fit: in bins of  $|Z|$ , 1D fit of photon time

PRD 90 (2014) 112005

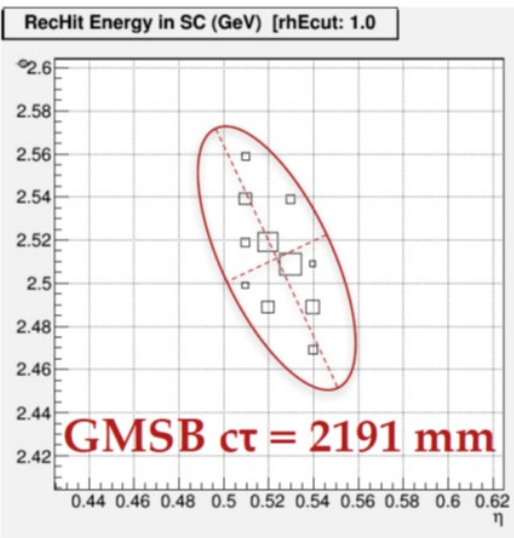
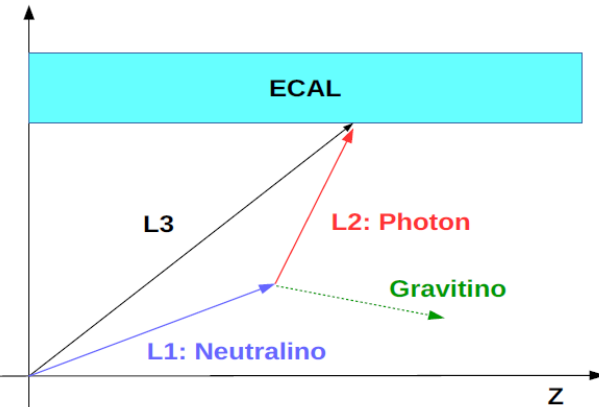
8 TeV 20.3 fb<sup>-1</sup>

Run 1: di-photon  
+ MET Final State

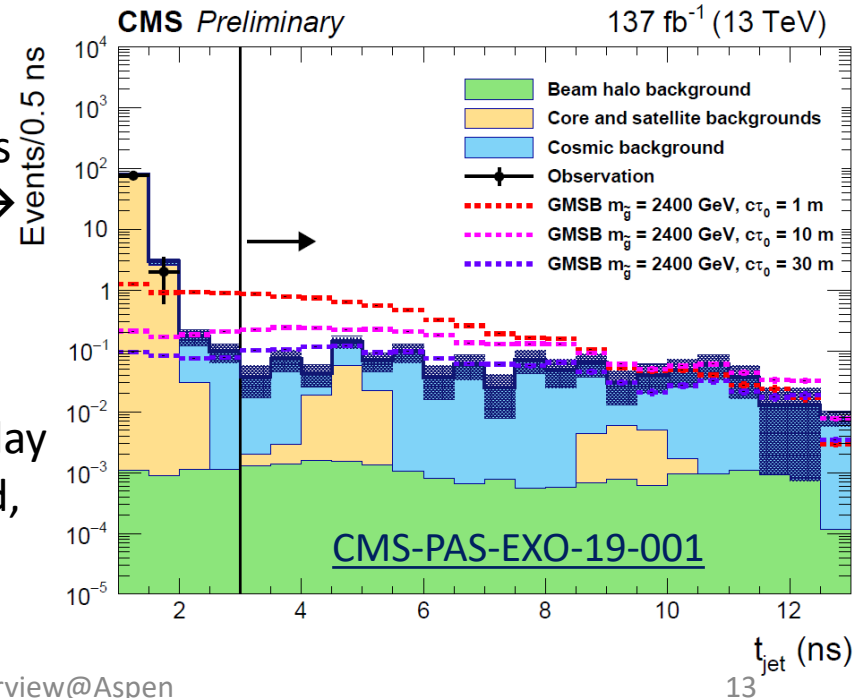


# Delayed Photon/ Jets: CMS

CMS ECAL: good timing & energy resolution but no pointing  
 For Run2 displaced photon search, include ECAL cluster shape information in the trigger & OOT photon reconstruction:  
 OOT photon cluster shapes more elliptical than prompt photons  
 Trigger: single displaced photon ( $>60\text{GeV} + \text{shape}$ ) + HT ( $>350\text{GeV}$ )  
 OOT photon reco: OOT seed + photon energy, shape, iso etc.  
 Signal selection:  $\geq 1$  tightly-ID OOT photon,  $\geq 3$  jets, HT  $>400\text{GeV}$   
 Data-driven background fitted in 2D of vs photon time

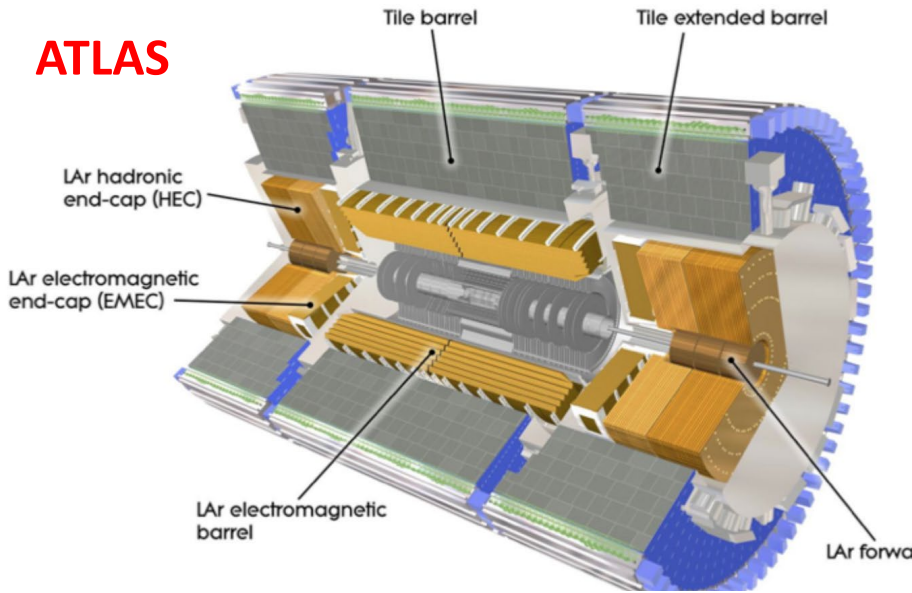


New delayed jet search with ECAL timing ( $\sim 200\text{ps}$  resolution for  $>50\text{GeV}$ )  $\rightarrow$   
 Trigger:  $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 120\text{GeV}$   
 Signal selection:  
 $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 300\text{GeV}$   
 jets:  $p_T > 30\text{GeV}$ , time delay  $> 3\text{ns}$  & small time spread, large HCAL fraction



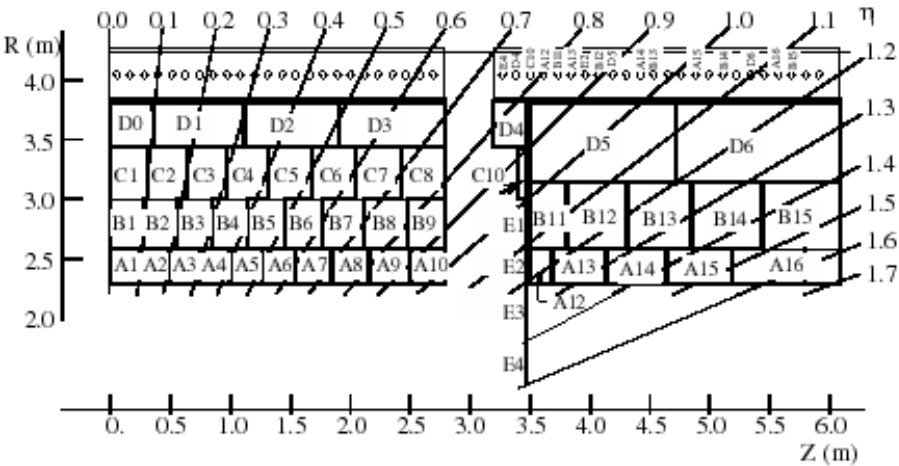
# Displaced Decays with the HCAL

ATLAS

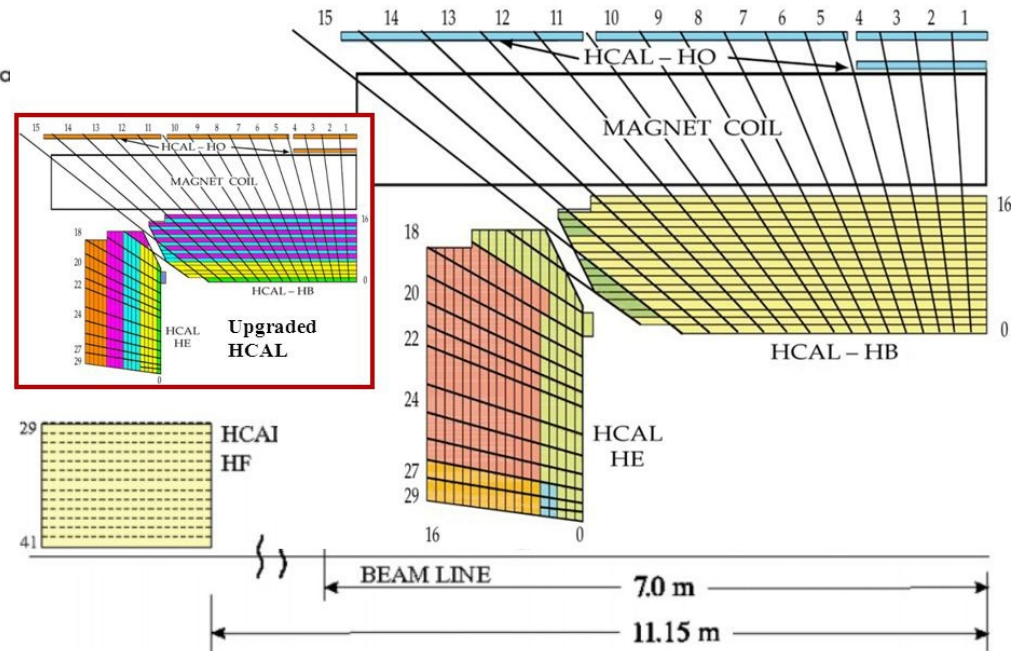


ATLAS & CMS experiments have hadronic calorimetry with different materials and designs.  
 → Searches for non-prompt jets at both experiments take advantage of the HCAL designs in triggering and reconstruction.

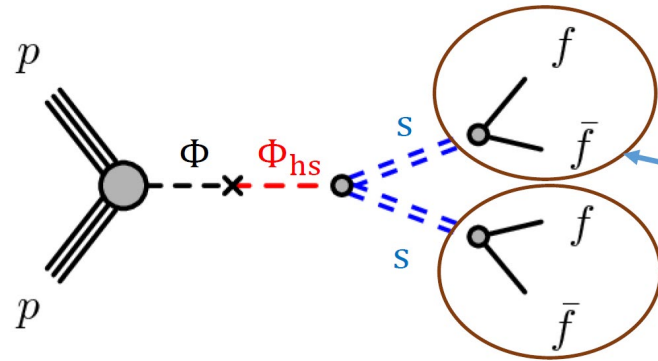
TILECAL CELLS



## CMS HCAL System

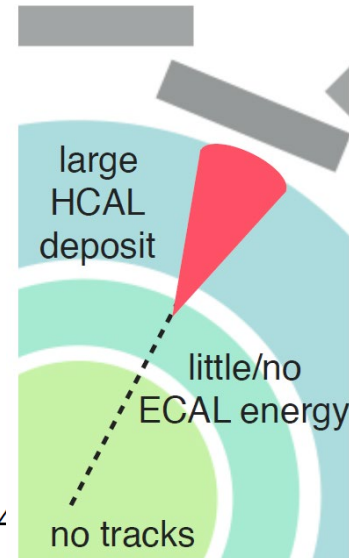


# Displaced Jets: ATLAS

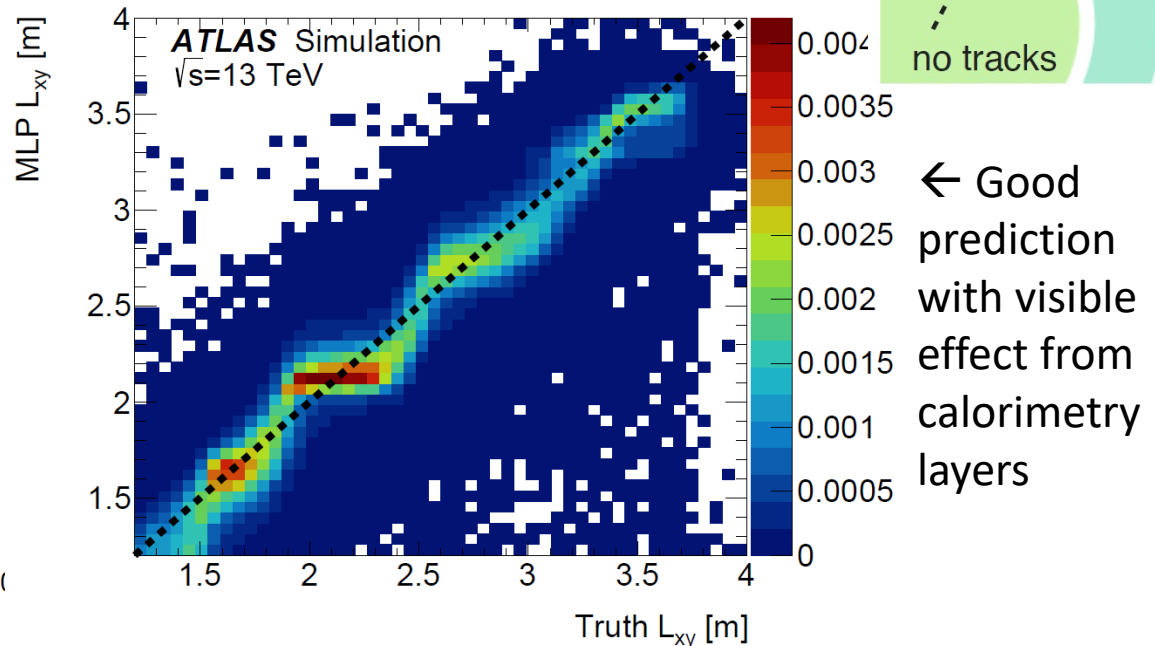
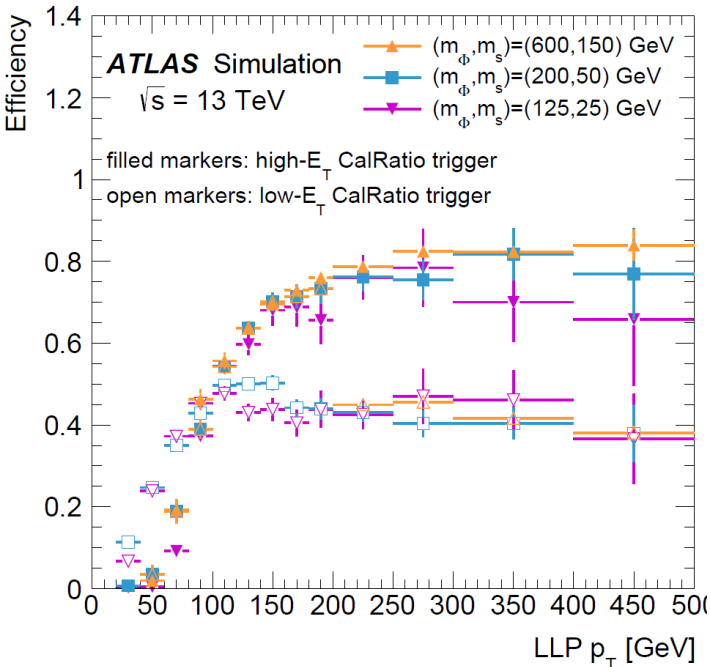


Narrow, trackless jets that appear in the HCAL (or on edge of ECAL)

- “CalRatio” trigger:  $>60(30)\text{GeV}$
- Multi-Layer Perceptron (MLP): MVA to determine jet decay position from energy deposits in each ECAL & HCAL layer; trained on signal, multi-jet background, beam-induced background



[arXiv:1902.03094](https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.03094)

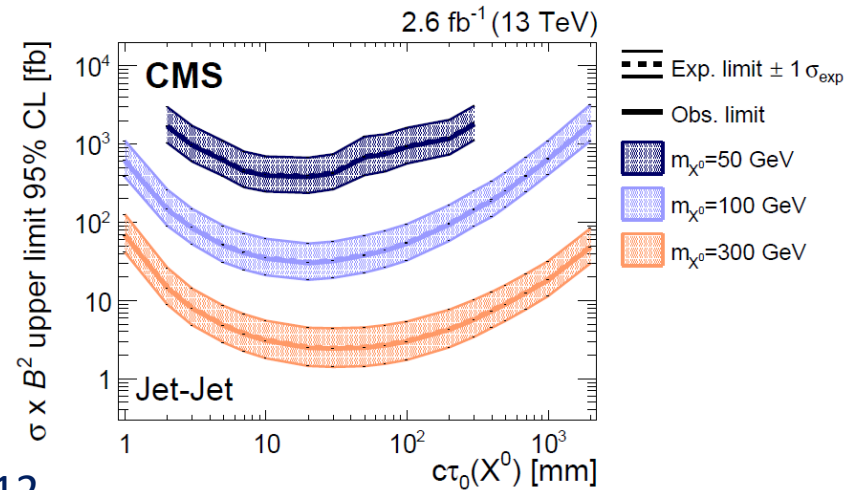


← Good prediction with visible effect from calorimetry layers

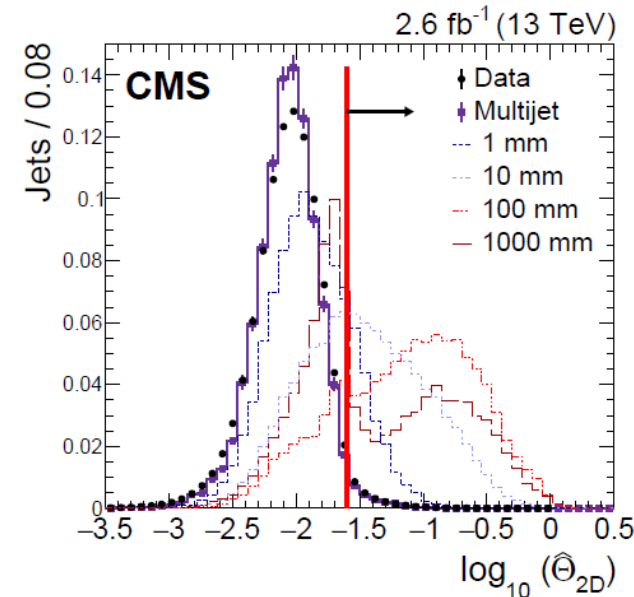
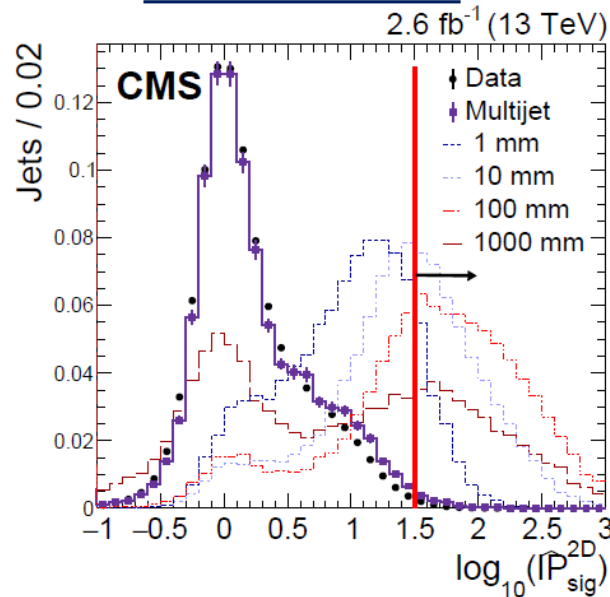
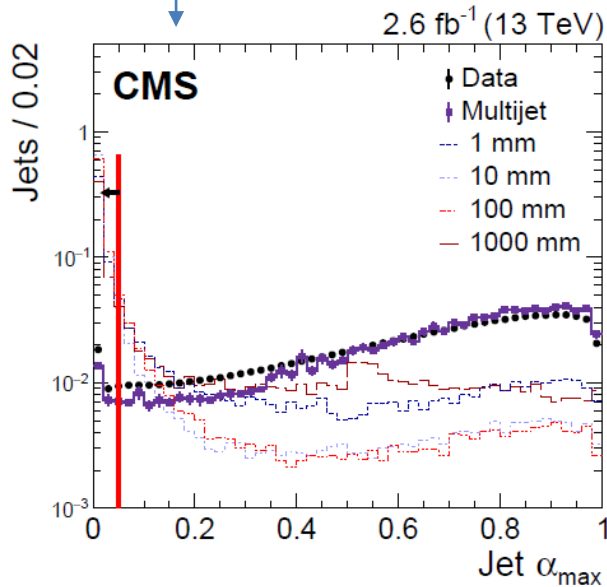
# Inclusive Displaced Jets: CMS

- Trigger:  $\geq 2$  jets w/  $p_T > 40 \text{ GeV}$ ;  $HT > 500 \text{ GeV}$
- Displaced jet tagging:
  - based on PV compatibility, displacement significance, & emission angle (track, parent)
  - tag == 2 or  $\geq 3$  jets
- Inclusive final state with no lepton veto

$$\alpha_{\text{jet}}(\text{PV}) = \frac{\sum_{\text{tracks} \in \text{PV}} p_T^{\text{tracks}}}{\sum_{\text{tracks}} p_T^{\text{tracks}}}$$

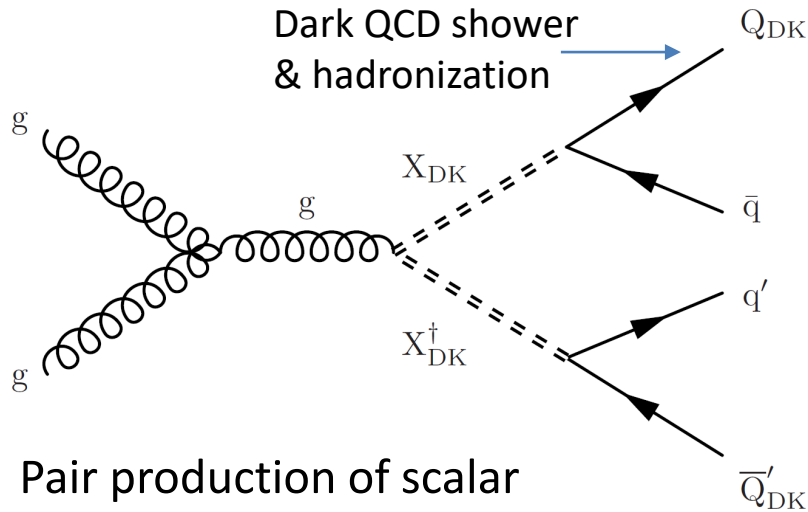


[arXiv:1711.0912](https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.0912)





# Emerging Jets: CMS



Trigger:  $HT > 900 \text{ GeV}$

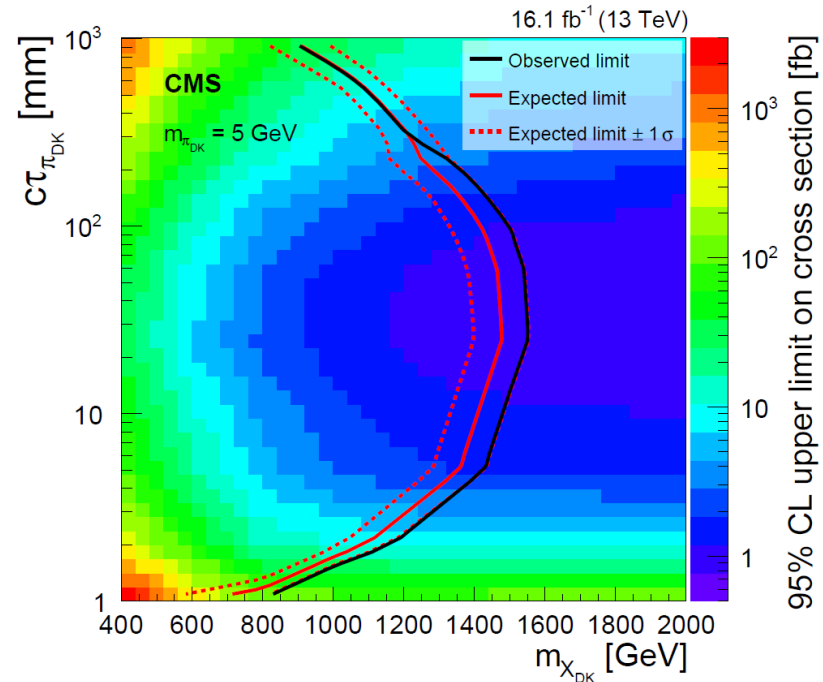
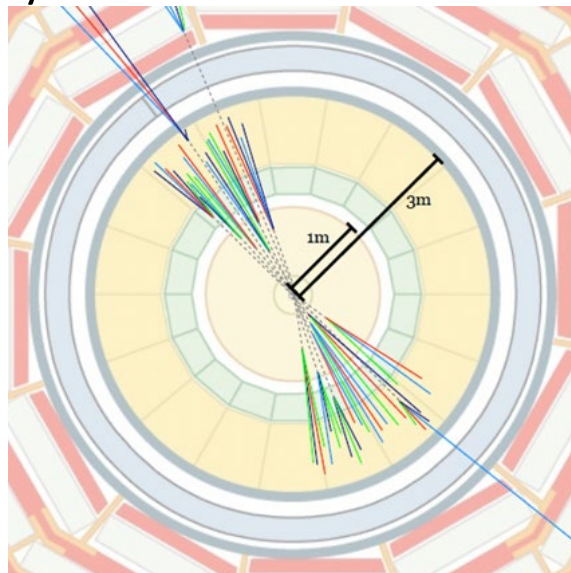
Signal selection: 4 jets passing  $p_T$  &  $HT$  cuts; of which 2 “emerging” jets or 1 “emerging” jet + large  $P_T^{\text{miss}}$

- “Emerging” jets: tracks w/ large impact parameters & less jet  $p_T$  associated w/ prompt tracks

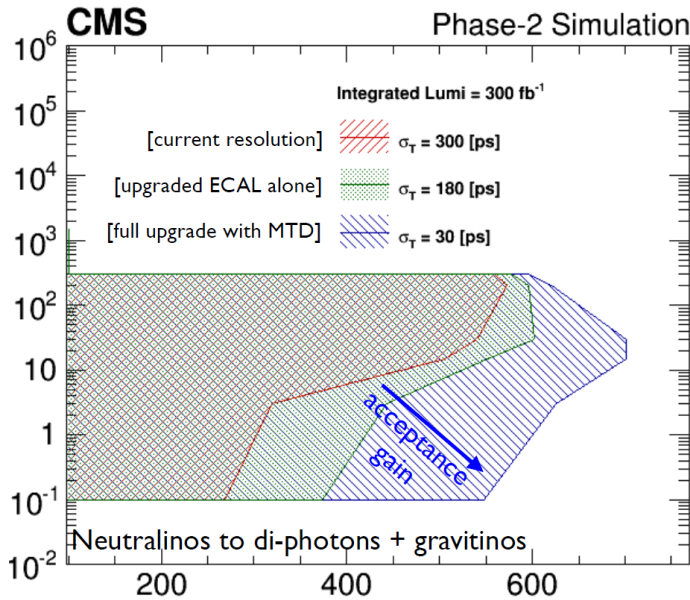
Background: SM four-jet process with B’s and/or significant  $p_T$  mismeasurement (fake  $P_T^{\text{miss}}$ )

Pair production of scalar mediators  $X$ , each decay to  $q$ -dark &  $q$  pairs  $\rightarrow$  two QCD jets, two emerging\* jets  
\* few tracks starting at a distance

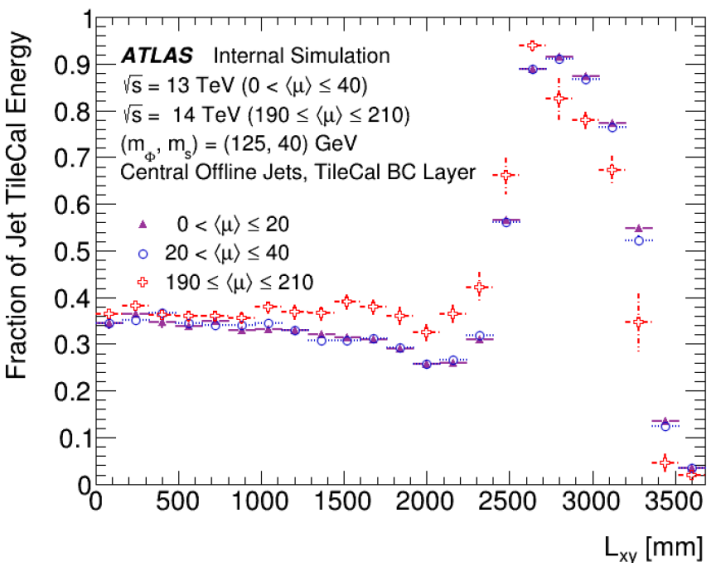
[arXiv:1810.10069](https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.10069)



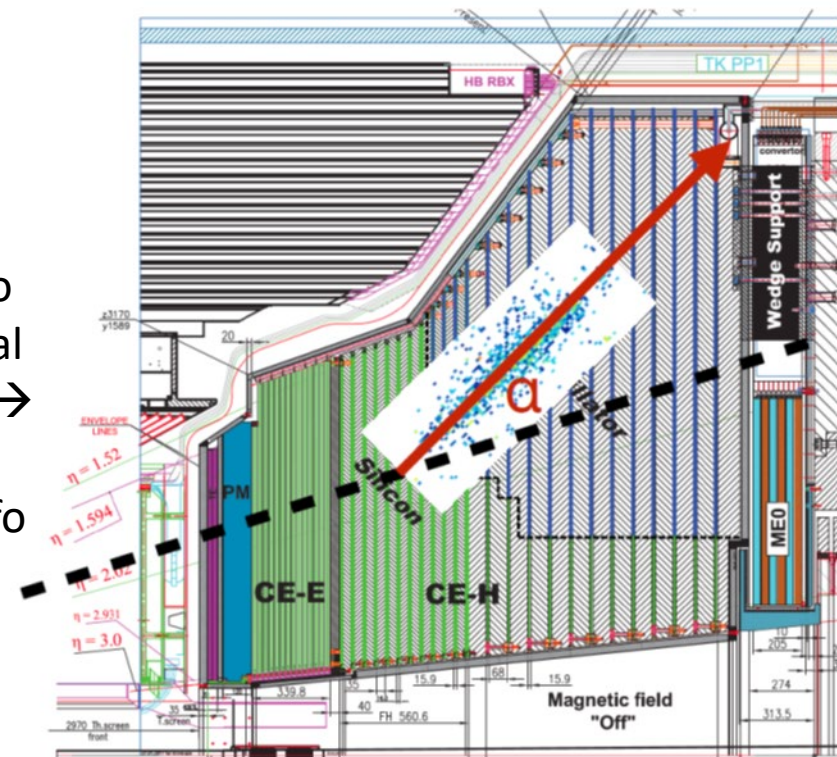
# Calorimetry Upgrade: HL-LHC Prospects



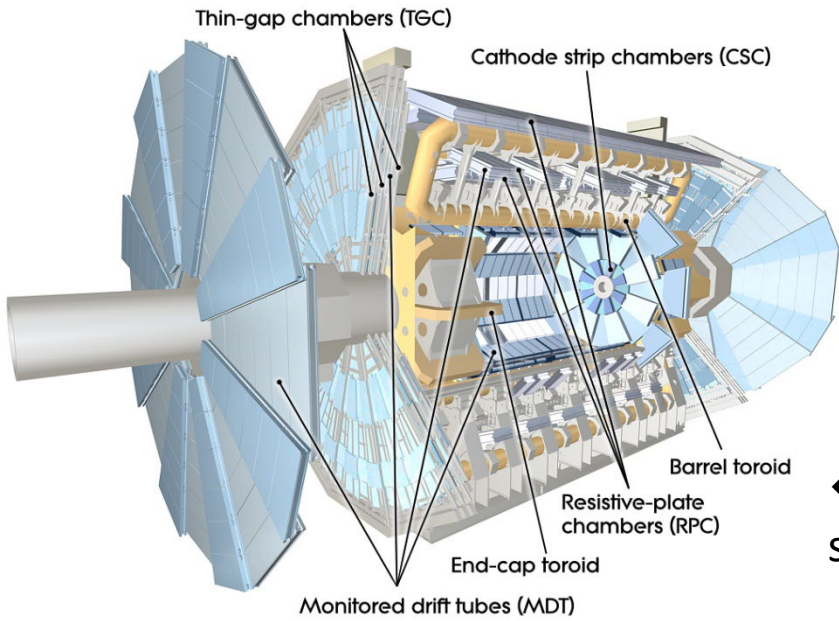
- Calorimeter upgrades (ECAL electronics + HGCAL) at CMS will provide precise timing (10s of ps) for high energy photons in barrel + high energy hadrons/photons in endcap
- MIP Timing Detector (MTD) outside tracker volume at CMS, can provide precision timing ( $\sim 30$ ps) for charged hadrons & converted photons down to a few GeV.



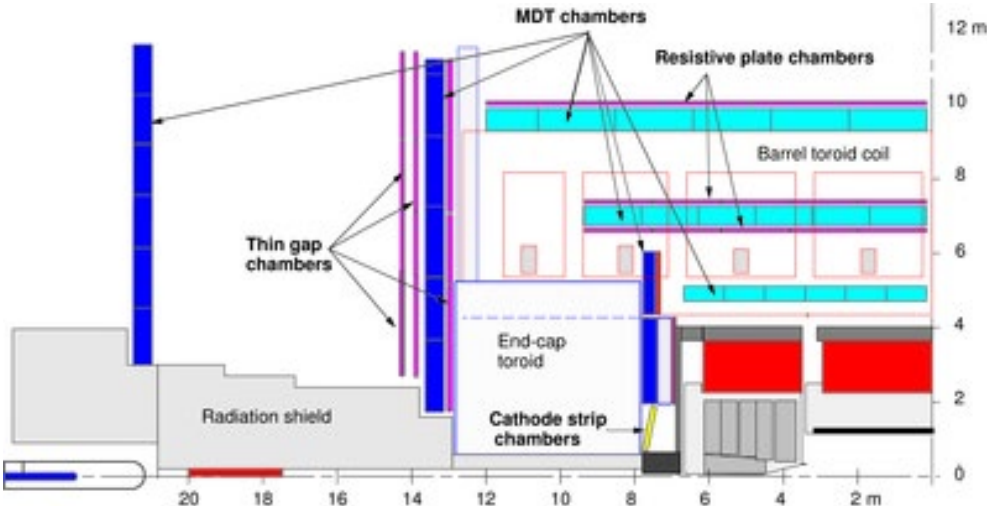
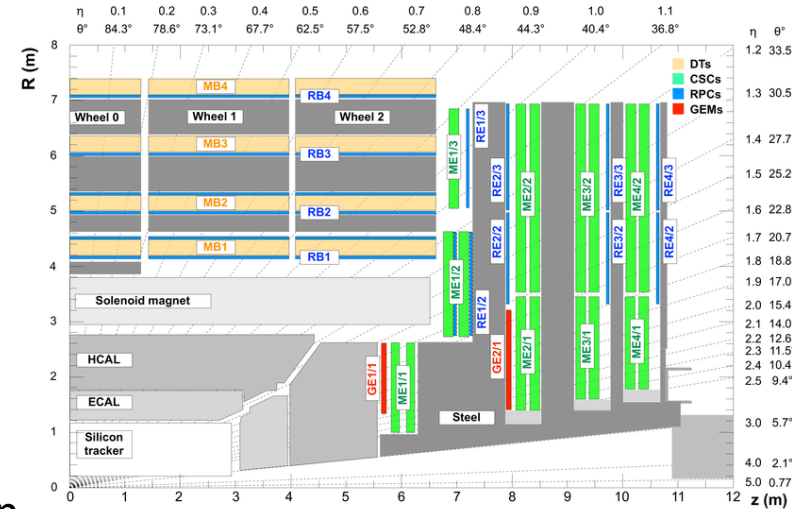
Additional spacial segmentation info  
 ← at ATLAS TileCal and CMS HGCAL →  
 can provide shower profile info  
 in triggering & identifying LLP  
 hadronic decays.



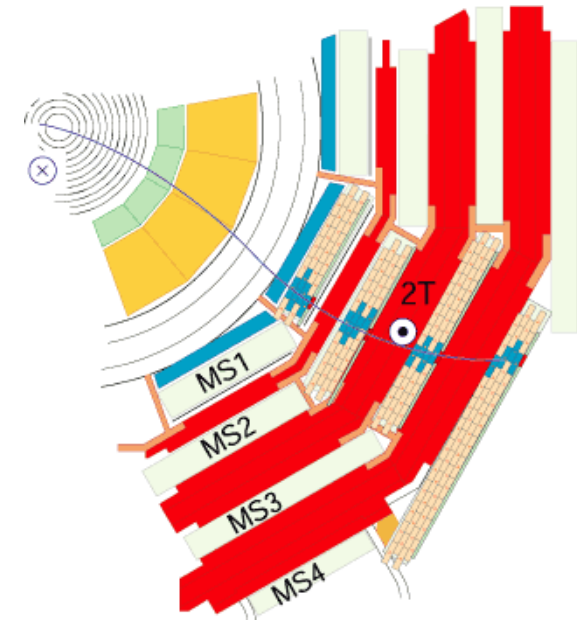
# Displaced Decays with Muon System



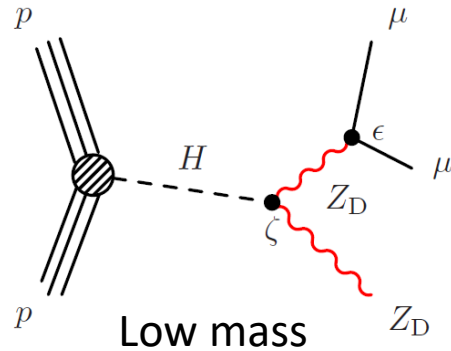
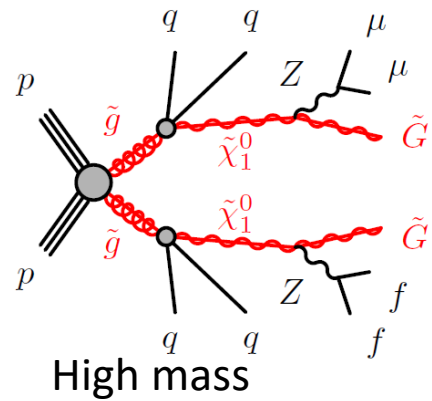
← ATLAS muon system



CMS muon system →

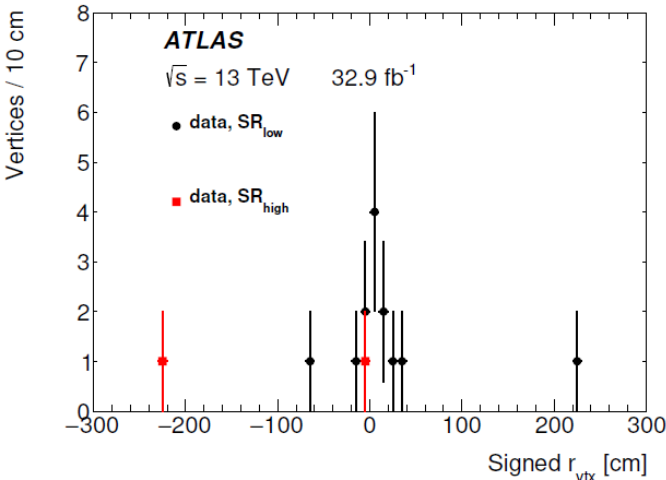


# Displaced Muons: ATLAS



- Opposite-sign muons with vertex up to 4m from interaction point
- Two search regions: high & low mass
- Muon reconstruction: starting from MS tracks and extrapolate to IP; small displacement matched to ID tracks

| Signal type | Trigger                            | Description  | Thresholds  | <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.03057">arXiv:1808.03057</a> |
|-------------|------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| High mass   | $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ or single muon | missing transverse momentum<br>single muon restricted to the barrel region | $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 110 \text{ GeV}$<br>muon $ \eta  < 1.05$ and $p_T > 60 \text{ GeV}$                              |   |
| Low mass    | collimated dimuon<br>trimuon       | two muons with small angular separation<br>three muons                     | $p_T$ of muons $> 15$ and $20 \text{ GeV}$ and $\Delta R_{\mu\mu} < 0.5$<br>$p_T > 6 \text{ GeV}$ for all three muons |   |

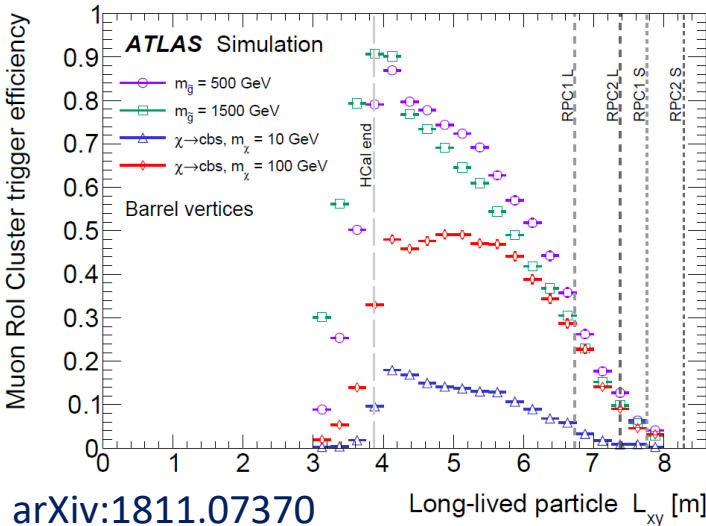


All muon candidates (MS-only or matched to tracks) form muon pairs  $\rightarrow$  extrapolate from MS to find vertex  
 $\rightarrow$  angular separation  $> 0.1$ , vertex position  $|r| < 4\text{m}$  &  $|z| < 6\text{m}$   
 $\rightarrow$  dimuon mass  $> 15\text{GeV}$  to remove conversion & multijet  
 $\rightarrow$  Background estimated from same- & opposite- sign dimuon CRs in data for prompt & non-prompt muons

# Displaced Muon Vertices: ATLAS

LLP hadronic decays with vertices between end of HCAL & start of 2<sup>nd</sup> muon station

Trigger: cluster of three (four) muon ROIs in the barrel (endcaps) within  $dR < 0.4$ ; no tracking or calo requirements

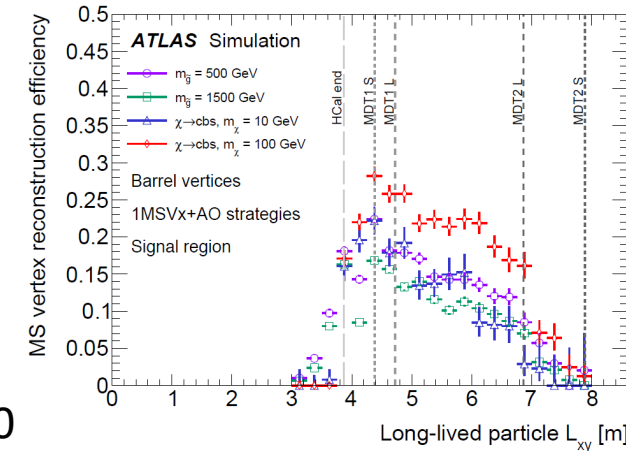
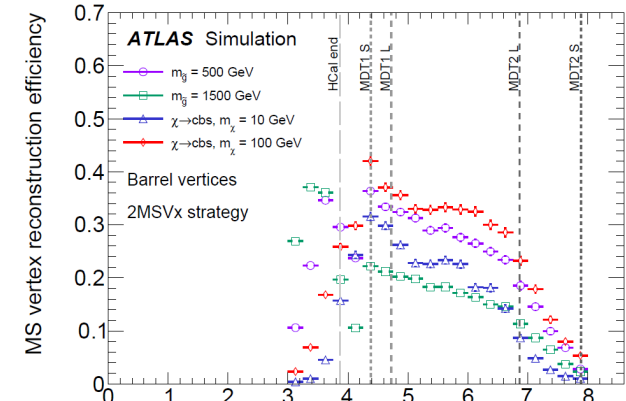


Two strategies:

- $\geq 2$  DV
- 1DV + associated objects

Vertex reconstruction uses tracklets from multilayer MDT hits

Backgrounds: punch-through jets & non-collision

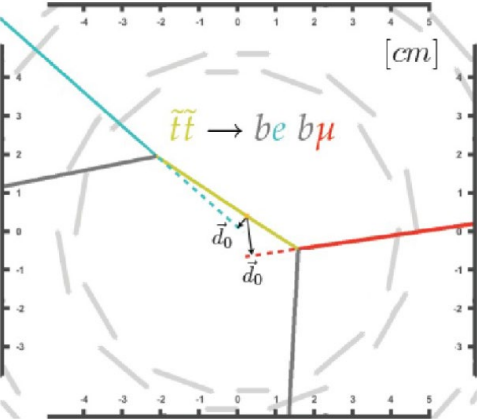


[arXiv:1811.07370](https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.07370)

expected  $< 1$ , observed 0

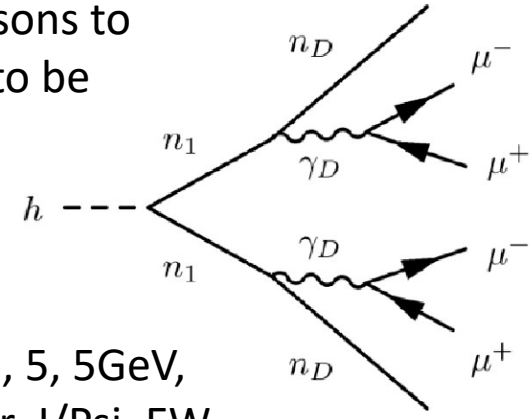
| Strategy                   | Selection   | Region  | A   | Expected background                   | B     | C       | D      |
|----------------------------|---|---------|-----|---------------------------------------|-------|---------|--------|
| 2MSVx                      | At least 2 MS vertices                                      | Barrel  | 14  | $15 \pm 3$ (stat.) $\pm 3$ (syst.)    | 2,057 | 25      | 3,414  |
| 1MSVx+Jets                 | Exactly 1 MS vertex<br>At least 2 jets with $E_T > 150$ GeV | Endcaps | 4   | $11 \pm 3$ (stat.) $\pm 9$ (syst.)    | 560   | 15      | 761    |
| 1MSVx+ $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ | Exactly 1 MS vertex<br>$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 30$ GeV         | Barrel  | 224 | $243 \pm 38$ (stat.) $\pm 29$ (syst.) | 42    | 132,000 | 22,800 |
|                            |   | Endcaps | 489 | $497 \pm 51$ (stat.) $\pm 30$ (syst.) | 94    | 165,800 | 31,390 |

# Displaced Muons: CMS



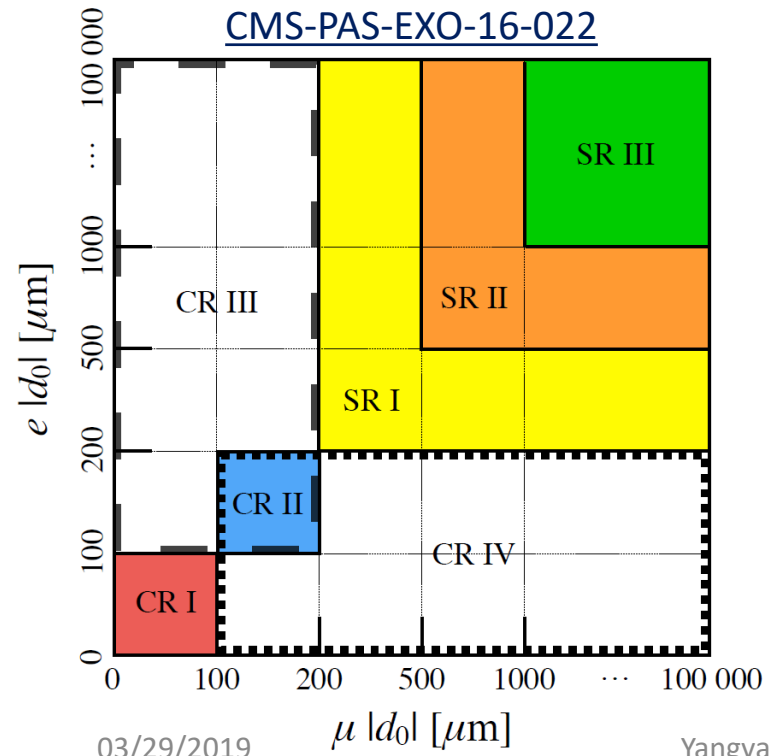
← Single displaced leptons not from the same vertex; focused on e-mu state

Higgs decay to light bosons to muon pairs: extended to be sensitive to small displacement (inside pixel volume):  $d_{xy} < 9.8\text{cm}$ ,  $d_z < 46.5\text{cm}$

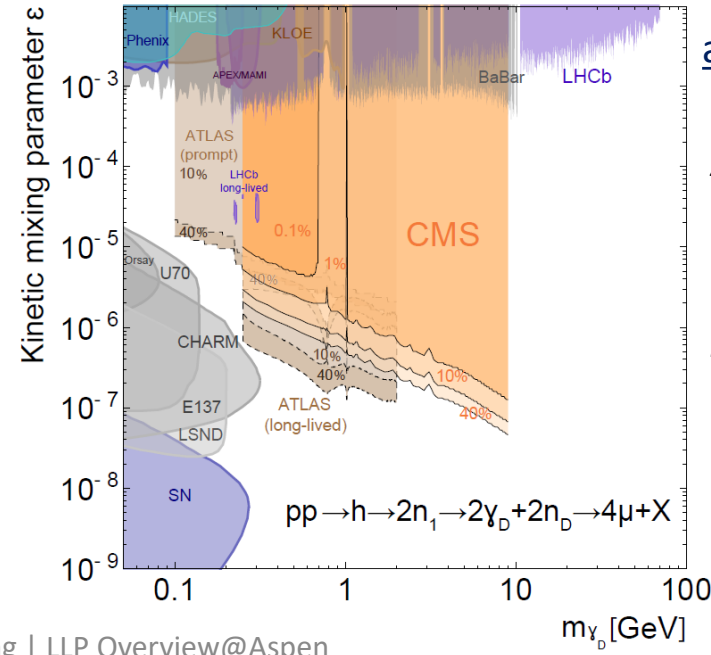


- Tri-muon trigger: 15, 5, 5 GeV,
- Backgrounds: bb-bar, J/Psi, EW

CMS-PAS-EXO-16-022



CMS 35.9 fb<sup>-1</sup> (13 TeV)



[arXiv:1812.00380](https://arxiv.org/abs/1812.00380)

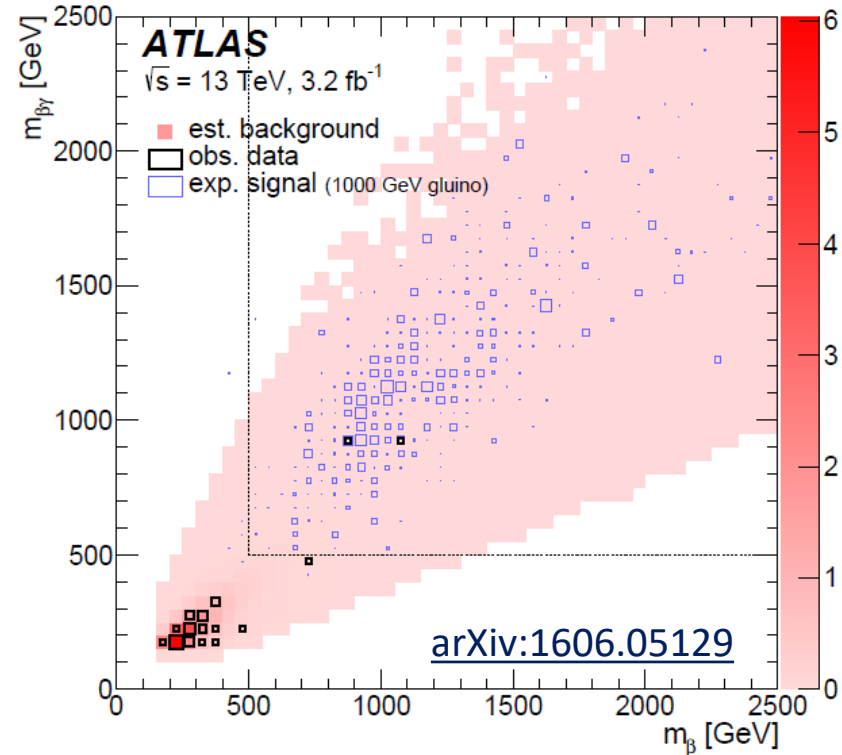
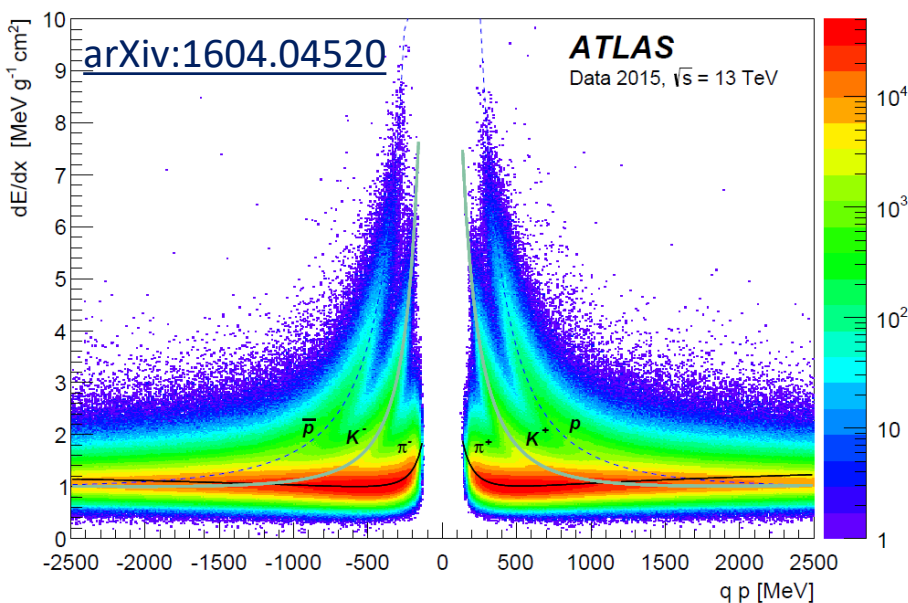
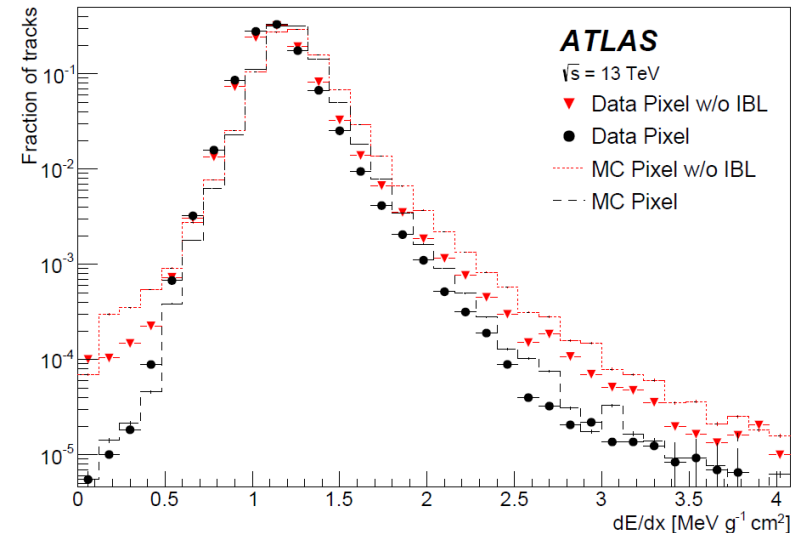
*Additional CMS Run2 analysis-in-progress on displaced dimuon/lepton jets ...*

# Heavy Stable Charged Particle: ATLAS

← ATLAS pixel detector dE/dx measurement improves with IBL: reduces tails at both low & high ends

Highly-ionizing, slow-moving heavy particles can be identified at ATLAS with dE/dx from tracker and TileCal  
 time of flight: 1.3-2.5ns timing resolution;  $\sigma(\beta) \sim 0.1$

- Muon TBA



# HSCP & Stopped LLPs: CMS

Searches for HSCP on CMS uses dE/dx measurement in the inner tracker & time-of-flight in the muon system

Two strategies:

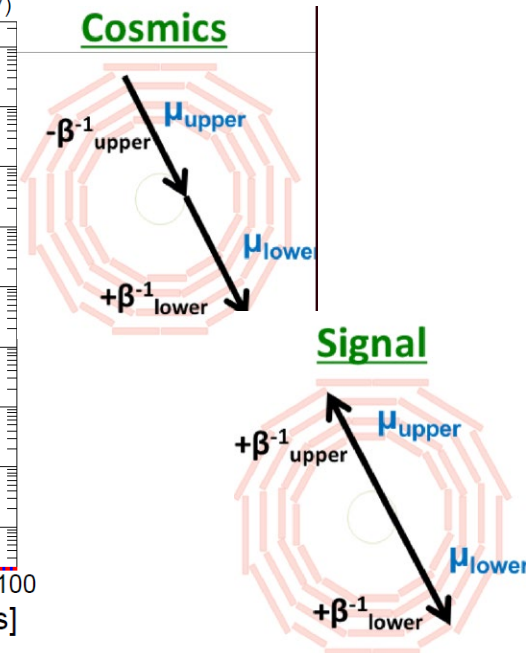
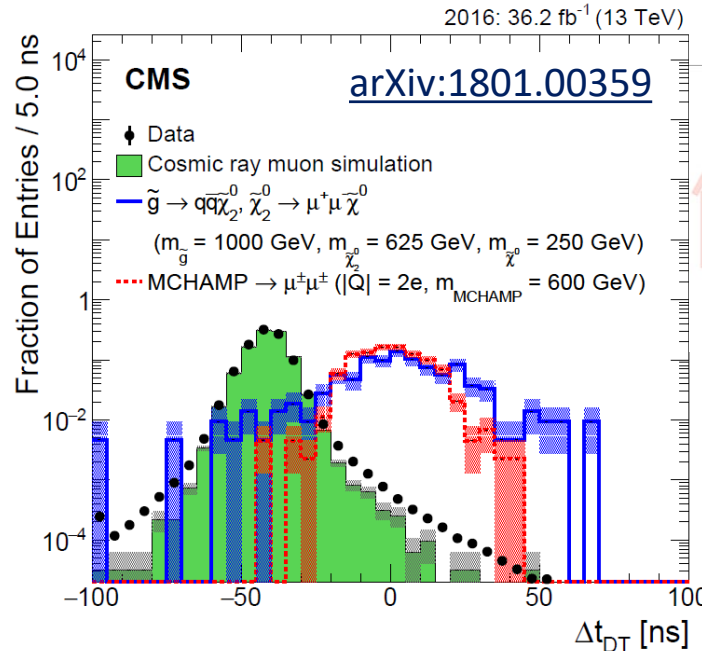
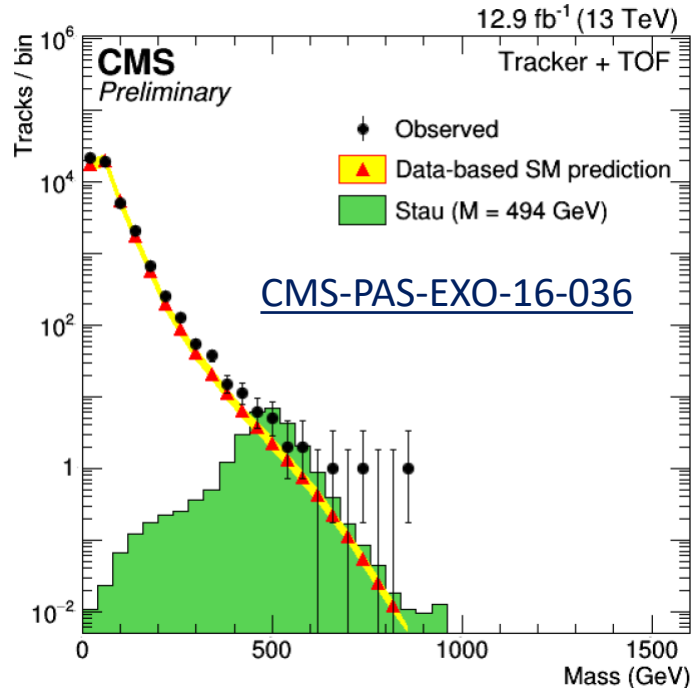
$$I_h = K \frac{m^2}{p^2} + C$$

- tracker-only
- tracker + TOF

$$\beta^{-1} = 1 + \frac{c\delta t}{L}$$

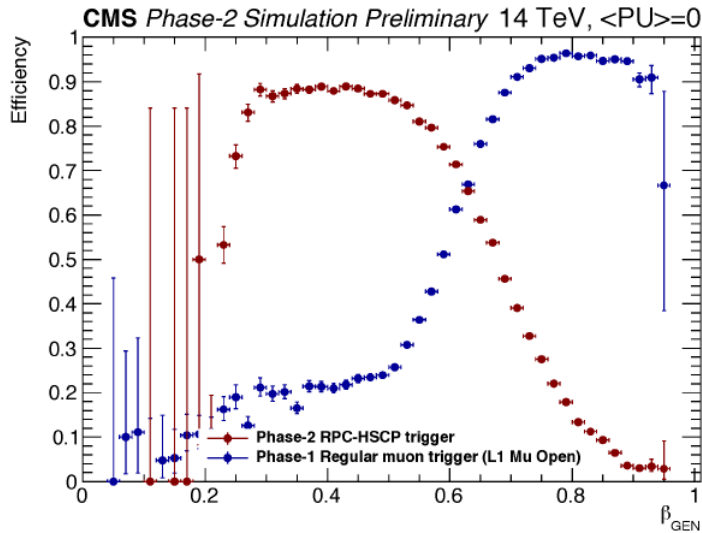
Energy loss can result in particles “stopping” in the detector → large lifetimes ( $10^{-7} - 10^6$ s)

- Decay in the calorimeter:
  - asynchronous hadronic activity
  - $E > 70\text{GeV}$ ,  $|\eta| < 1$ , 2 BX away from collisions
- Decay in the muon system:
  - displaced muon pairs; 2 BX away from collisions
  - displaced standalone muon reco,  $p_T > 50\text{GeV}$

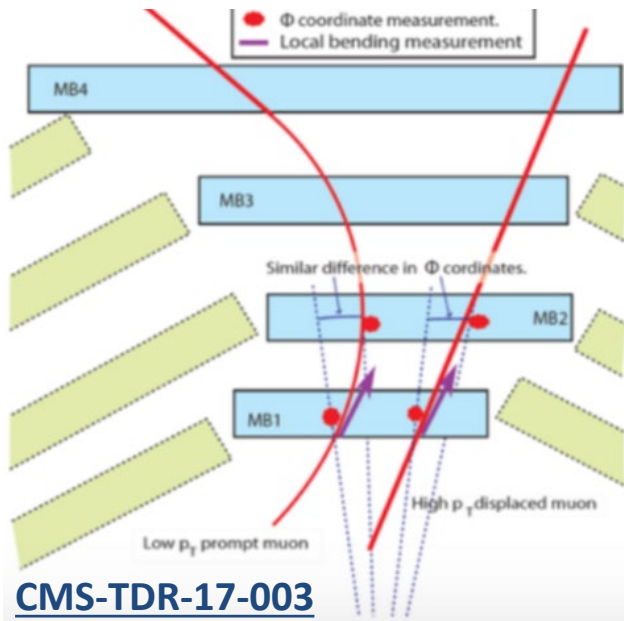




# Muon Upgrade: HL-LHC Prospects

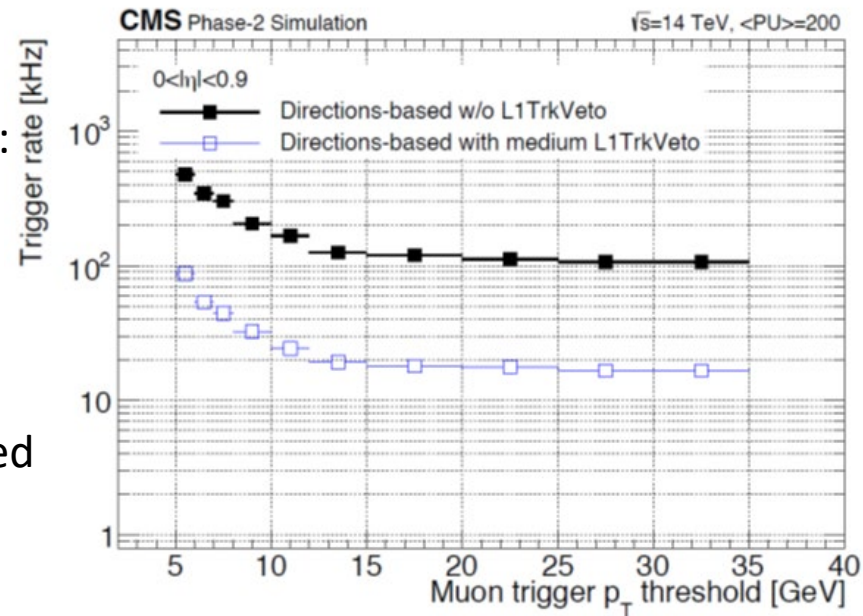


- HSCP**: heavy, slow-moving, highly-ionizing → muon system
- **RPC upgrade**: ~1.5ns TOF resolution to each RPC station → **RPC-HSCP trigger**: linear fit to time vs distance from IP
  - Improve mass resolution:
    - Ph2 trigger level comparable to Ph1 offline level
  - Ability to trigger on, at the correct BX, HSCP with velocity as low as  $\beta \sim 0.25$ 
    - Increase reconstruction efficiency for low  $\beta$



← New GEM stations:  
high  $p_T$  displaced muon vs low  $p_T$  prompt muon

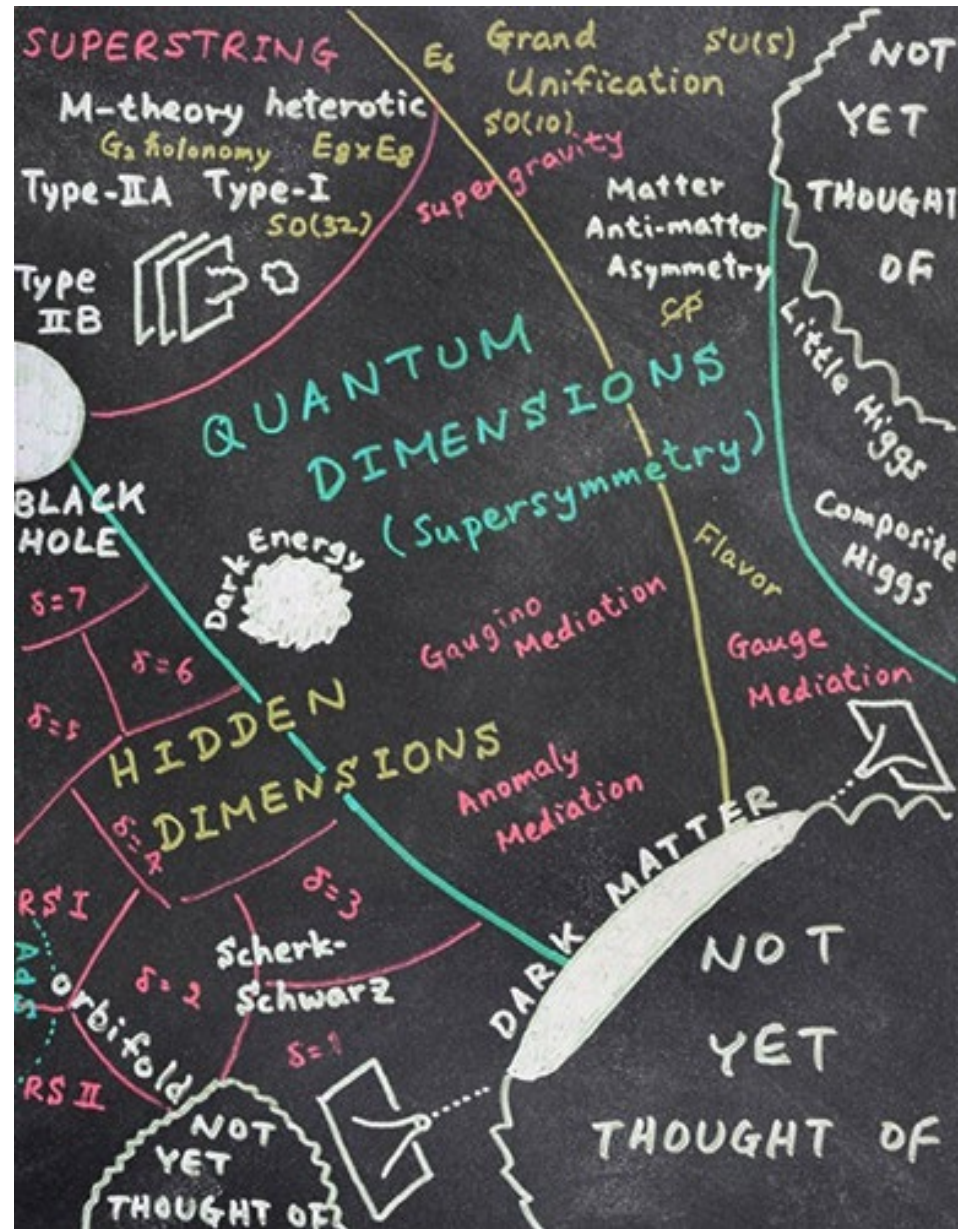
L1 track trigger: used as veto for L1 displaced muon trigger →



# Conclusions & Outlook

- Long-lived particles are predicted in a wide range of BSM scenarios
- Rich, exotic final states present unique, under-explored search opportunities
  - Broad range of lifetime & decay products
- Various signature-driven LLP searches performed on ATLAS & CMS experiments
  - Results have broad reinterpretation value
  - Challenges in trigger, reconstruction, & background estimation
- Detector and trigger upgrades @HL-LHC bring tantalizing prospects
  - Increased forward acceptance and improved resolution
  - New timing & L1 trigger capabilities open up new possibilities
  - Stay tuned for Zhen's talk!

# THANK YOU!



*c/o Hitoshi Murayama*