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# Prospects for searches for Leptoquarks with large coupling with the top quark

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Based on  
**PRD 100, 075019 (2019) & arXiv:2004.01096**  
written in collaboration with  
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# Background

- **LQs** are color triplet bosons with lepton numbers - **can couple to leptons and quarks**. Currently, they are receiving a lot of attention in the literature as they are one of the leading candidates to resolve the **persistent B-decay anomalies ( $R_{K^{(*)}}$  and  $R_{D^{(*)}}$ )**. The anomalies **hint towards large cross-generational LQ couplings** involving third generation quarks.
- The LHC is searching for LQs that couple with third-generation fermions and has put direct bounds on them. Among the various possible signatures, the  $pp \rightarrow \ell_q \ell_q \rightarrow t\tau t\tau$  mode is already extensively searched for by the ATLAS and the CMS collaborations. Assuming 100% branching ratios, the limits stand at about a TeV.
- **LQs can decay to a top quark and a charged (light) lepton giving rise to a resonance system of a boosted top quark and a high- $p_T$  lepton at the LHC**. They can be **produced in pairs or singly**. As their mass increases, the pair production cross section falls off faster than the single production cross sections due to the extra phase-space suppression it receives.
- **Large couplings** of LQs **hint towards non-negligible single productions**. However, the common perception is, at the LHC, LQs that couple with third generation quarks exclusively have tiny single production cross sections for perturbative new couplings because of the small b-quark parton density function (PDF) (t-PDF is absent).

- Electromagnetic charge conservation forces **the LQs that decay to a top quark and a charged lepton to have electromagnetic charge 1/3 or 5/3**. From the Buchmüller-Rückl-Wyler models we see that **among the scalar LQs, only  $S_1$ ,  $S_3$  and  $R_2$  can have the desired decay modes**.
- The relevant Lagrangian terms:

Buchmuller, Ruckl, Wyler, **PLB 191, 442 (1987)**

Doršner, Fajfer, Greljo, Kamenik, Košnik, **PRpt 641, 1 (2016)**

$$S_1(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, 1/3): \quad y_{1\ 3j}^{LL} \left( -\bar{b}_L^C \nu_L + \bar{t}_L^C \ell_L^j \right) S_1 + y_{1\ 3j}^{RR} \bar{t}_R^C \ell_R^j S_1 + \text{H.c.}$$

$$S_3(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{3}, 1/3): \quad -y_{3\ 3j}^{LL} \left[ \left( \bar{b}_L^C \nu_L + \bar{t}_L^C \ell_L^j \right) S^{1/3} + \sqrt{2} \left( \bar{b}_L^C \ell_L^j S^{4/3} - \bar{t}_L^C \nu_L S^{-2/3} \right) \right] + \text{H.c.}$$

$$R_2(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, 7/6): \quad -y_{2\ 3j}^{RL} \bar{t}_R \ell_L^j R_2^{5/3} + y_{2\ 3j}^{RL} \bar{t}_R \nu_L R_2^{2/3} + y_{2\ j3}^{LR} \bar{\ell}_R^j t_L R_2^{5/3*} + y_{2\ j3}^{LR} \bar{\ell}_R^j b_L R_2^{2/3*} + \text{H.c.}$$

with  $j = \{1, 2\}$ . All neutrinos are denoted by  $\nu_L$ .

- We assume diagonal CKM & PMNS matrices (a good approximation for LHC direct searches).

- Among the possible vector LQ models, the weak singlet  $\tilde{U}_1$ , doublets  $V_2$  and  $\tilde{V}_2$  and the triplet  $U_3$  would qualify.
- The relevant Lagrangian terms:

Buchmuller, Ruckl, Wyler, **PLB 191, 442 (1987)**

Doršner, Fajfer, Greljo, Kamenik, Košnik, **PRpt 641, 1 (2016)**

$$\tilde{U}_1(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, 5/3): \quad \tilde{x}_{1\ 3j}^{RR} \bar{t}_R (\gamma \cdot \tilde{U}_1) \ell_R^j + \text{H.c.}$$

$$U_1(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, 2/3): \quad x_{1\ 3j}^{LL} \left\{ \bar{t}_L (\gamma \cdot U_1) \nu_L + \bar{b}_L (\gamma \cdot U_1) \ell_L^j \right\} + x_{1\ 3j}^{RR} \bar{b}_R (\gamma \cdot U_1) \ell_R^j + \text{H.c.}$$

$$V_2(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{2}, 5/6): \quad -x_{2\ 3j}^{RL} \bar{b}_R^C \left\{ (\gamma \cdot V_2^{1/3}) \nu_L - (\gamma \cdot V_2^{4/3}) \ell_L^j \right\} + x_{2\ 3j}^{LR} \left\{ \bar{t}_L^C (\gamma \cdot V_2^{1/3}) - \bar{b}_L^C (\gamma \cdot V_2^{4/3}) \right\} \ell_R^j + \text{H.c.}$$

$$\tilde{V}_2(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{2}, -1/6): \quad \tilde{x}_{2\ 3j}^{RL} \bar{t}_R^C \left\{ -(\gamma \cdot \tilde{V}_2^{1/3}) \ell_L^j + (\gamma \cdot \tilde{V}_2^{-2/3}) \nu_L \right\} + \text{H.c.}$$

$$U_3(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{3}, 2/3): \quad x_{3\ 3j}^{LL} \left\{ -\bar{b}_L (\gamma \cdot U_3^{2/3}) \ell_L^j + \bar{t}_L (\gamma \cdot U_3^{2/3}) \nu_L + \sqrt{2} \bar{b}_L (\gamma \cdot U_3^{-1/3}) \nu_L + \sqrt{2} \bar{t}_L (\gamma \cdot U_3^{5/3}) \ell_L^j \right\}$$

+ H.c. with  $j = \{1, 2\}$ . All neutrinos are denoted by  $\nu_L$ .



- We can write **a simple phenomenological Lagrangian** for the scalar models,

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \lambda_\ell \left( \sqrt{\eta_L} \bar{t}_L^C \ell_L + \sqrt{\eta_R} \bar{t}_R^C \ell_R \right) \phi_1 + \lambda_\nu \bar{b}_L^C \nu_L \phi_1 + \tilde{\lambda}_\ell \left( \sqrt{\eta_L} \bar{t}_R \ell_L + \sqrt{\eta_R} \bar{t}_L \ell_R \right) \phi_5 + \text{H.c.}$$

- In this notation, a charge 1/3 (5/3) scalar LQ is generically represented by  $\phi_1$  ( $\phi_5$ ).
- $\eta_L$  and  $\eta_R = 1 - \eta_L$  are the fractions of leptons coming from LQ decays that are left-handed and right-handed respectively.

Benchmark scenario	Possible charge(s)	Simplified model [Eqs. (9)–(10)]			LQ models [Eqs. (3)–(8)]			
		Type of LQ	Nonzero couplings equal to $\lambda$	Lepton chirality fraction	Type of LQ	Nonzero coupling equal to $\lambda$	Decay mode(s)	Branching ratio(s)
LCSS	1/3	$\phi_1$	$\lambda_\ell = \lambda_\nu$	$\eta_L = 1, \eta_R = 0$	$S_3^{1/3}$	$-y_{33j}^{LL}$	$\{t\ell, b\nu\}$	$\{50\%, 50\%\}$
LCOS	1/3	$\phi_1$	$\lambda_\ell = -\lambda_\nu$	$\eta_L = 1, \eta_R = 0$	$S_1$	$y_{13j}^{LL}$	$\{t\ell, b\nu\}$	$\{50\%, 50\%\}$
RC	$\{1/3, 5/3\}$	$\{\phi_1, \phi_5\}$	$\{\tilde{\lambda}_\ell, \lambda_\ell\}$	$\eta_L = 0, \eta_R = 1$	$\{S_1, R_2^{5/3}\}$	$\{y_{13j}^{RR}, y_{2j3}^{LR}\}$	$t\ell$	100%
LC	5/3	$\phi_5$	$\tilde{\lambda}_\ell$	$\eta_L = 1, \eta_R = 0$	$R_2^{5/3}$	$-y_{23j}^{RL}$	$t\ell$	100%

- We can write **a similar simplified phenomenological Lagrangian for the vLQ models,**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} \supset & \Lambda_\ell \left\{ \sqrt{\eta_R} \bar{t}_L^C (\gamma \cdot \chi_1) \ell_R + \sqrt{\eta_L} \bar{t}_R^C (\gamma \cdot \chi_1) \ell_L \right\} + \Lambda_\nu \bar{b}_R^C (\gamma \cdot \chi_1) \nu_L \\ & + \bar{\Lambda}_\ell \left\{ \epsilon_R \sqrt{\eta_R} \bar{b}_R (\gamma \cdot \chi_2) \ell_R + \sqrt{\eta_L} \bar{b}_L (\gamma \cdot \chi_2) \ell_L \right\} + \bar{\Lambda}_\nu \bar{t}_L (\gamma \cdot \chi_2) \nu_L \\ & + \tilde{\Lambda}_\ell \left\{ \sqrt{\eta_R} \bar{t}_R (\gamma \cdot \chi_5) \ell_R + \sqrt{\eta_L} \bar{t}_L (\gamma \cdot \chi_5) \ell_L \right\} + \text{H.c.} \end{aligned}$$

- In this notation, a charge 1/3 (5/3) vLQ is generically represented by  $\chi_1(\chi_5)$ .
- The kinetic terms for a vLQ contains a free parameter, usually denoted as  $\kappa$**

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{2} \chi_{\mu\nu}^\dagger \chi^{\mu\nu} + M_\chi^2 \chi_\mu^\dagger \chi^\mu - ig_s \kappa \chi_\mu^\dagger T^a \chi_\nu G^{a\mu\nu}$$

# Simple Models & Benchmarks

Bhaskar, Mandal, SM, arXiv:2004.01096

Benchmark scenario	Possible charge(s)	Simplified models [Eqs. (14) – (16)]			LQ models [Eqs. (1) – (13)]			Branching ratios(s) $\{\beta, 1 - \beta\}$
		Type of LQ	Non-zero couplings equal to $\lambda$	Charged lepton chirality fraction	Type of LQ	Non-zero coupling equal to $\lambda$	Decay mode(s)	
LC	1/3	$\chi_1$	$\Lambda_\ell$	$\eta_L = 1$	$\tilde{V}_2^{1/3}$	$\tilde{x}_{2\ 3j}^{RL}$	$tl$	$\{100\%, 0\}$
	2/3	$\chi_2$	$\bar{\Lambda}_\nu$	—	$(\tilde{V}_2^{-2/3})^\dagger$	$(\tilde{x}_{2\ 3j}^{RL})^*$	$t\nu$	
	5/3	$\chi_5$	$\tilde{\Lambda}_\ell$	$\eta_L = 1$	$U_3^{5/3}$	$\sqrt{2} x_{3\ 3j}^{LL}$	$tl$	
LCSS*	2/3	$\chi_2$	$\bar{\Lambda}_\ell = \bar{\Lambda}_\nu$	$\eta_L = 1$	$U_1$	$x_{1\ 3j}^{LL}$	$\{t\nu, bl\}$	$\{50\%, 50\%\}$
LCOS			$\bar{\Lambda}_\ell = -\bar{\Lambda}_\nu$		$U_3^{2/3}$	$-x_{3\ 3j}^{LL}$		
RC	1/3	$\chi_1$	$\Lambda_\ell$	$\eta_R = 1$	$V_2^{1/3}$	$x_{2\ 3j}^{LR}$	$tl$	$\{100\%, 0\}$
	5/3	$\chi_5$	$\tilde{\Lambda}_\ell$		$\tilde{U}_1$	$\tilde{x}_{1\ 3j}^{RR}$		
RLCSS*	1/3	$\chi_1$	$\Lambda_\ell = \Lambda_\nu$	$\eta_R = 1$	$V_2^{1/3}$	$x_{2\ 3j}^{LR} = -x_{2\ 3j}^{RL}$	$\{tl, b\nu\}$	$\{50\%, 50\%\}$
RLCOS*			$\Lambda_\ell = -\Lambda_\nu$		$V_2^{1/3}$	$x_{2\ 3j}^{LR} = x_{2\ 3j}^{RL}$		

# Production of LQs

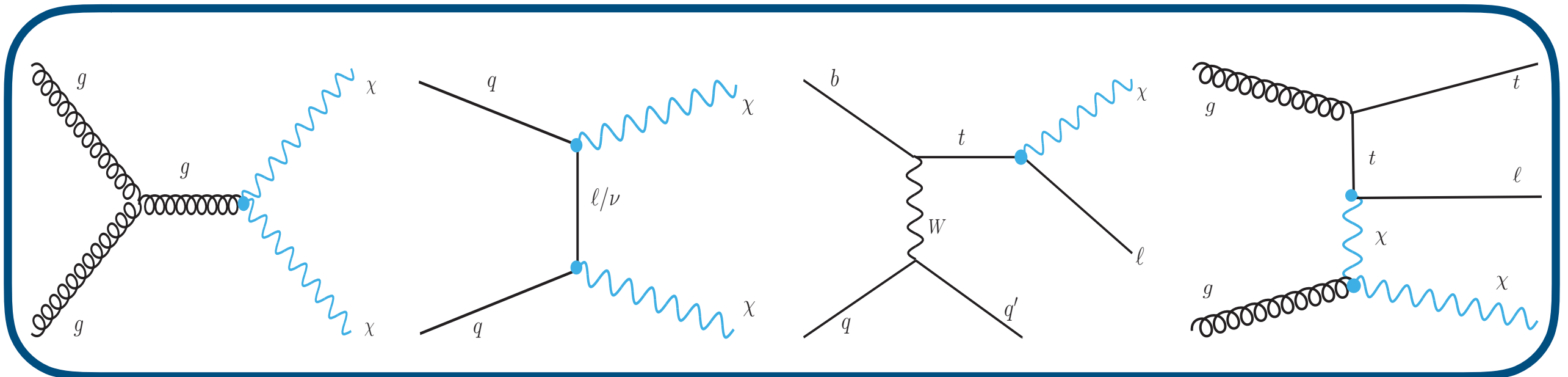
- The **pair production** process leads to the following final state

$$pp \rightarrow \phi\phi / \chi\chi \rightarrow (t\ell)(t\ell)$$

where a  $\phi(\chi)$  stands for either a  $\phi_1(\chi_1)$  or a  $\phi_5(\chi_5)$ .

- Single production channels**, where a LQ is produced in association with a lepton and either a jet or a top-quark, lead to

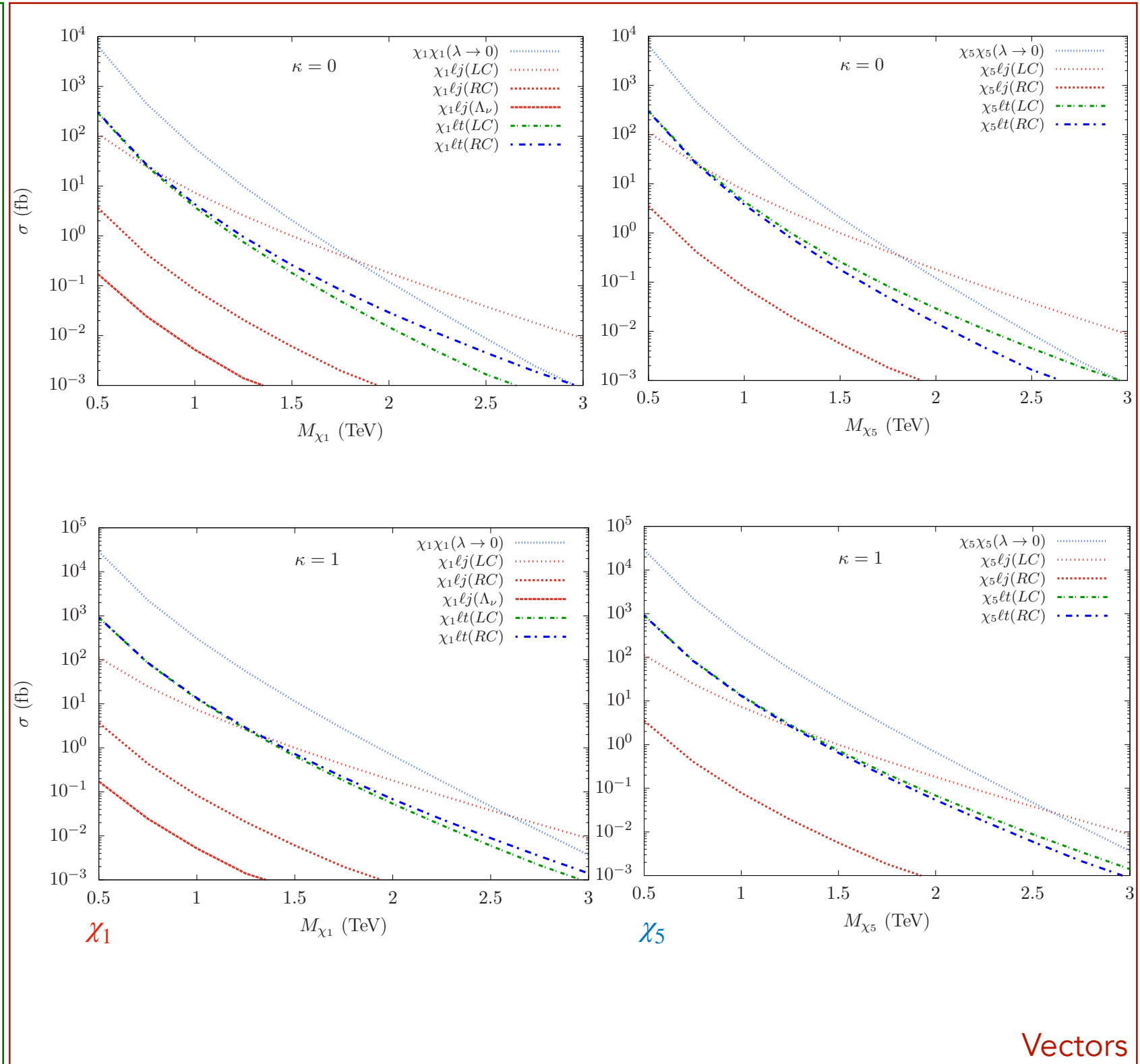
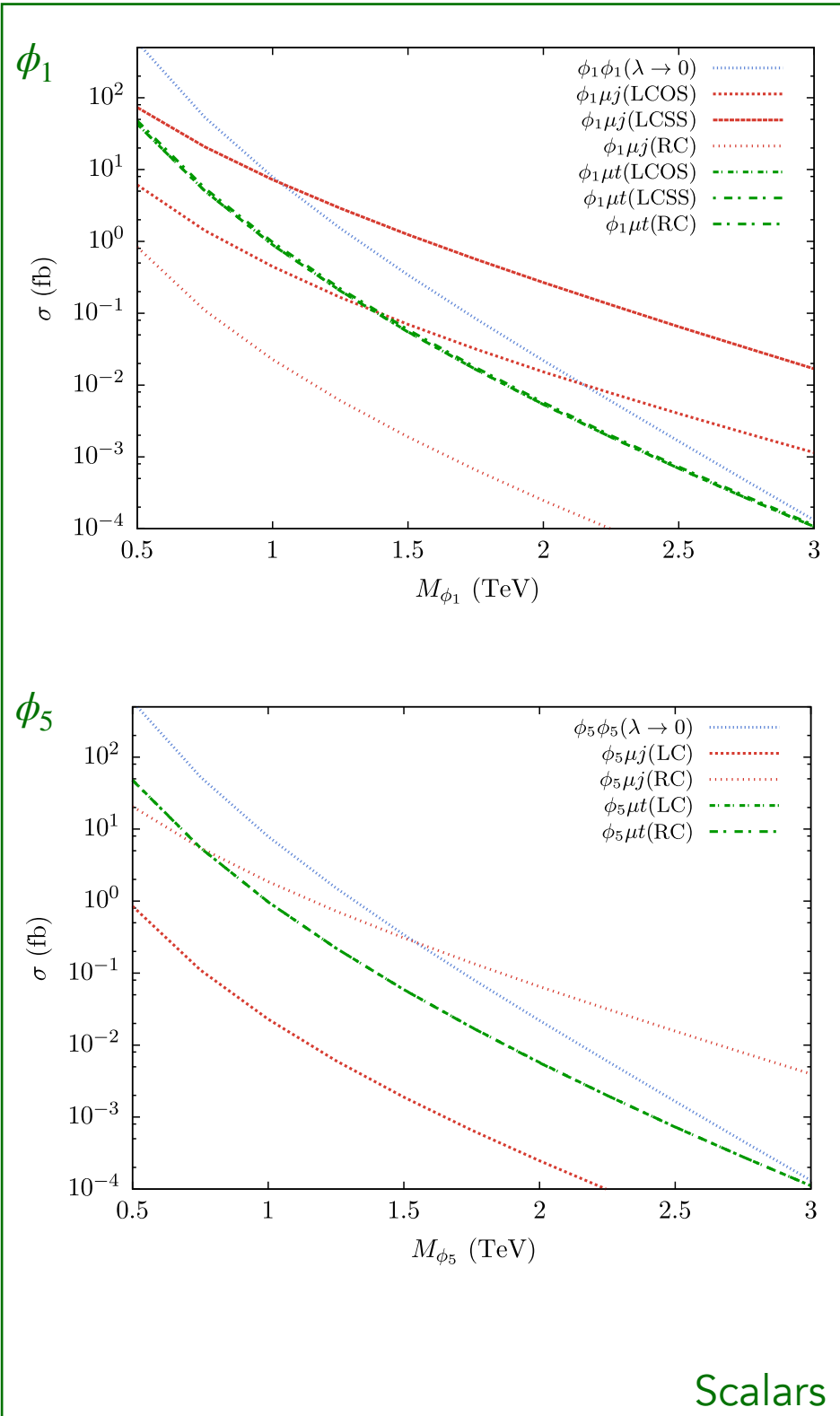
$$pp \rightarrow \{(\phi / \chi)t\ell \rightarrow (t\ell)t\ell\} + \{(\phi / \chi)\ell j \rightarrow (t\ell)\ell j\}$$



# Production of LQs

$$\lambda = 1$$

Chandak, Mandal, SM, PRD 100, 075019 (2019)  
& Bhaskar, Mandal, SM, arXiv:2004.01096



# Signal Topology

- We consider hadronic decays of tops. **The characteristic of our signal is the presence of one or two boosted top quarks forming one/two top-like fatjets and two high- $p_T$  leptons.**
- If we **define our signal as events containing exactly two high- $p_T$  same flavor opposite sign (SFOS) leptons and at least one hadronic top-like fatjet in the final state** then it would **include both single and pair productions** and enhance the sensitivity.
- There is **some overlap between the pair and the single production processes.** For example, at the parton level, a  $t\bar{t}$  final state can be produced from both the pair production as well as the  $pp \rightarrow (\phi / \chi)t\bar{t}$  processes. Hence, **one has to be careful to avoid double-counting** while computing single productions. We ensure that for any single production process both  $\phi(\chi)$  and  $\phi^\dagger(\bar{\chi})$  are never on-shell simultaneously.

# SM Backgrounds

Bhaskar, Mandal, SM, arXiv:2004.01096

- The main SM background processes for this signal topology: **single  $Z$  and  $tt$  processes**. Processes with a large cross section containing a single lepton can also act as a background if the second lepton appears due to a jet misidentified as a lepton. However, due to very small misidentification rate, this class of processes contribute negligibly to the total background.
- We use **MadGraph5 at LO**. The higher-order effects are considered through K-factors. We use **NNPDF2.3LO PDFs, Pythia6 & Delphes3** (with the default CMS card). Fatjets are reconstructed using the **FastJet** package by clustering Delphes tower objects. To reconstruct hadronic tops from fatjets, we use **HEPTopTagger**.

Background processes		$\sigma$ (pb)	QCD Order
$V + jets$ [109, 110]	$Z + jets$	$6.33 \times 10^4$	NNLO
	$W + jets$	$1.95 \times 10^5$	NLO
$VV + jets$ [111]	$WW + jets$	124.31	NLO
	$WZ + jets$	51.82	NLO
	$ZZ + jets$	17.72	NLO
Single $t$ [112]	$tW$	83.1	N <sup>2</sup> LO
	$tb$	248.0	N <sup>2</sup> LO
	$tj$	12.35	N <sup>2</sup> LO
$tt$ [113]	$tt + jets$	988.57	N <sup>3</sup> LO
$ttV$ [114]	$ttZ$	1.045	NLO+NNLL
	$ttW$	0.653	NLO+NNLL

# Signal Selection

- We apply the following sets of cuts on the signal and background events sequentially.

- ⦿ At least **one top-jet (obtained from HEPTopTagger) with  $p_T(t_h) > 135$  GeV. Two SFOS leptons with  $p_T(\ell_1) > 400$  GeV and  $p_T(\ell_2) > 200$  GeV and pseudorapidity  $|\eta(\ell)| < 2.5$ .** For electron, we consider the barrel-endcap cut on  $\eta$  between 1.37 and 1.52.
- ⦿ Invariant mass of lepton pair  **$M(\ell_1, \ell_2) > 120$  GeV** to avoid Z-peak.
- ⦿ The missing energy  **$MET < 200$  GeV.**
- ⦿ The scalar sum of the transverse  $p_T$  of all visible objects,  **$S_T > 1.2 \times \text{Min}(M_{\ell_q}, 1750)$  GeV.**
- ⦿  **$M(\ell_1, t)$  OR  $M(\ell_2, t) > 0.8 \times \text{Min}(M_{\ell_q}, 1750)$  GeV.**



# Significance

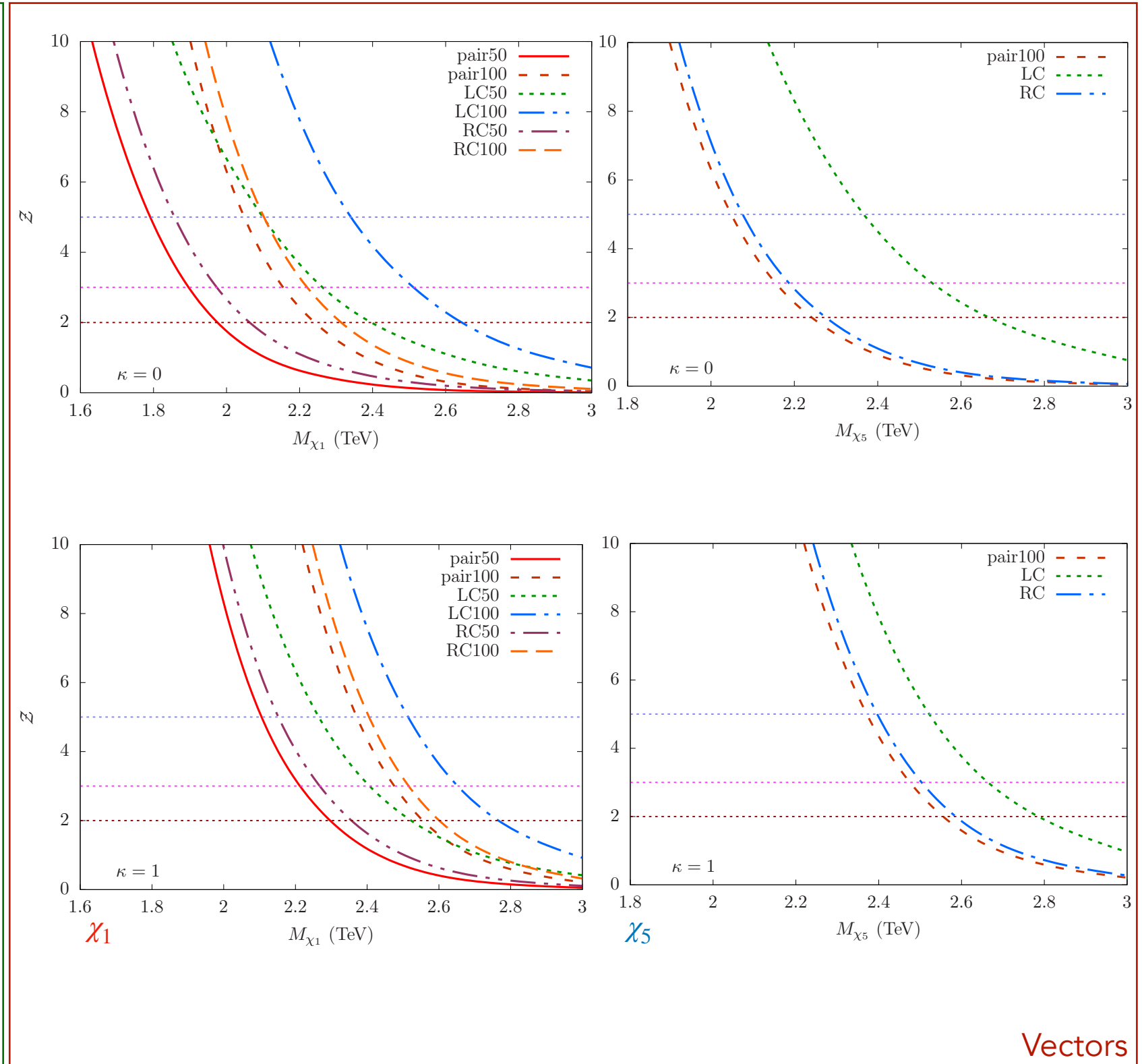
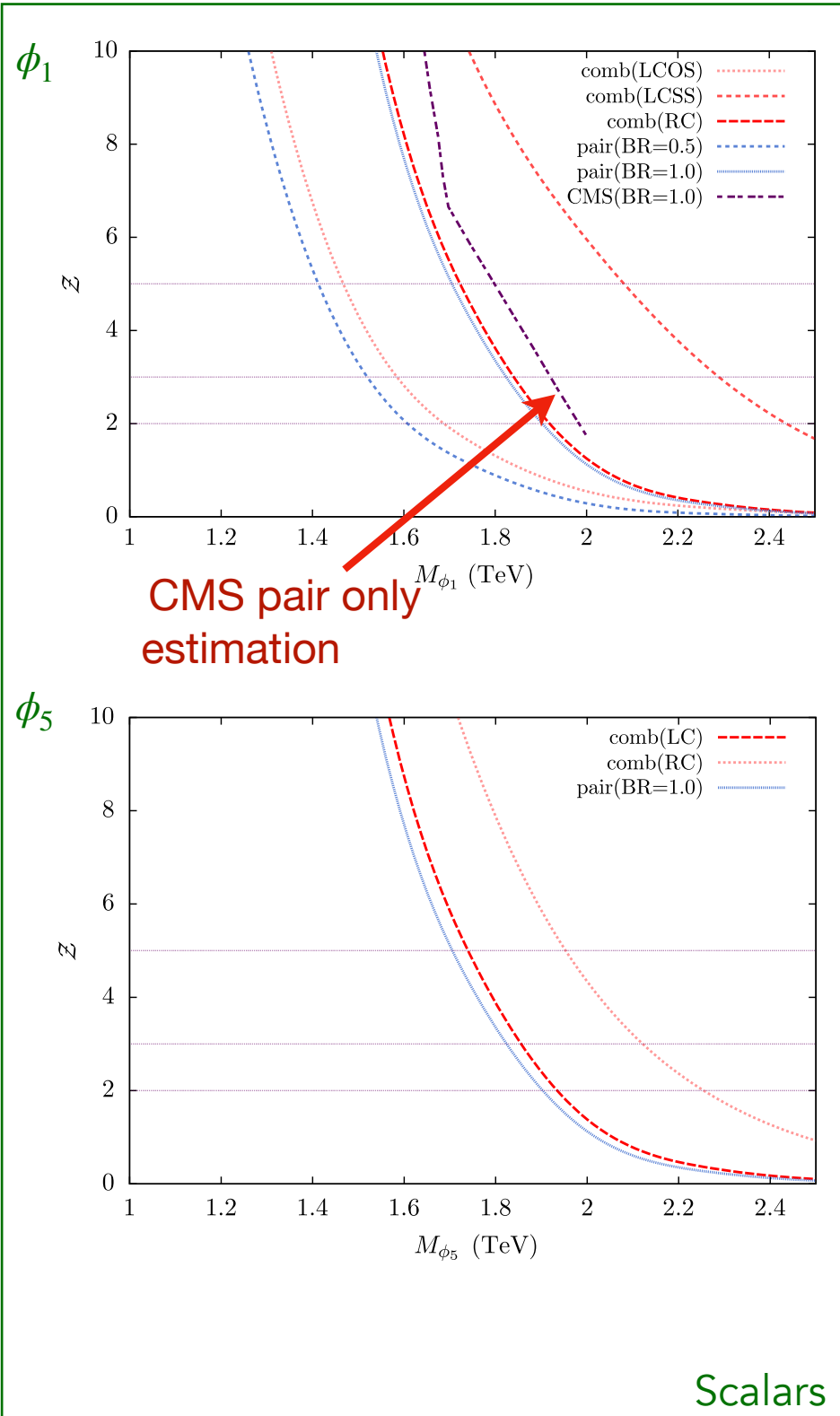
$3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$

$\lambda = 1$

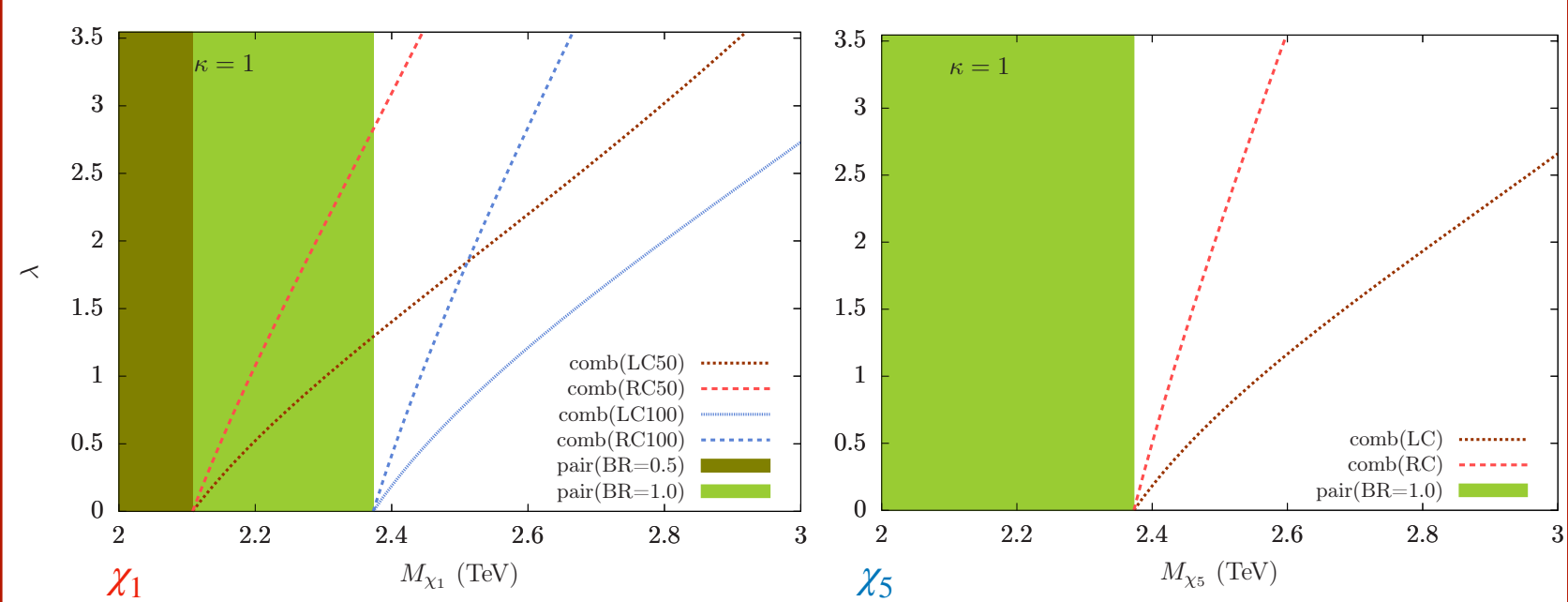
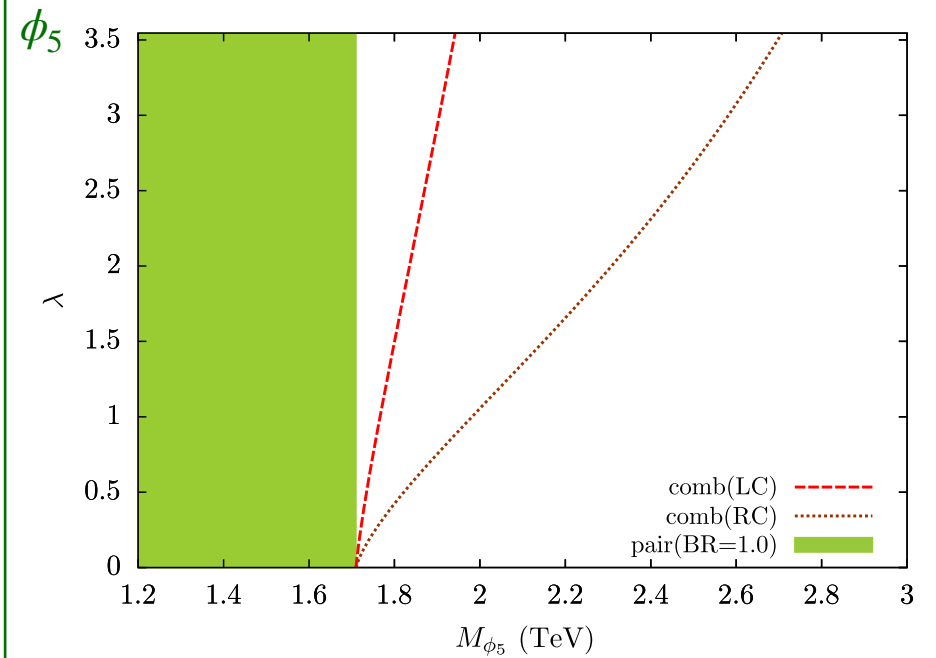
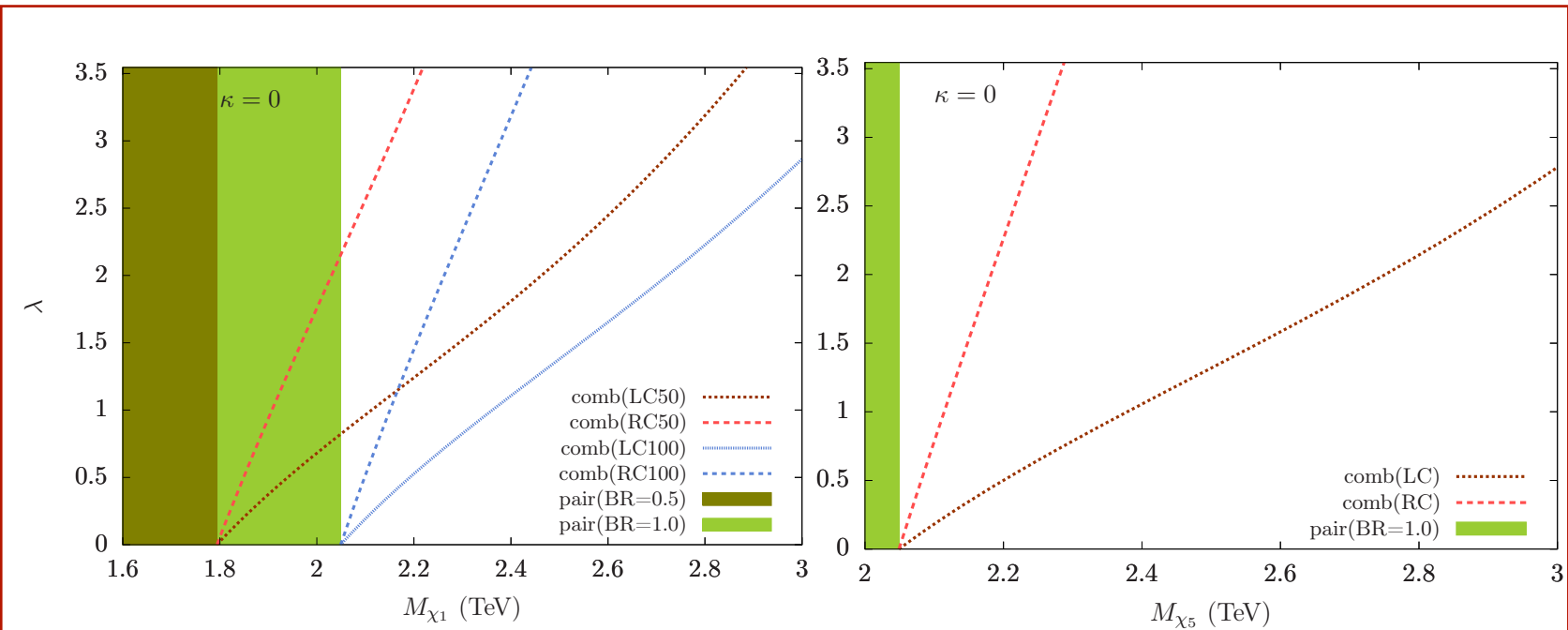
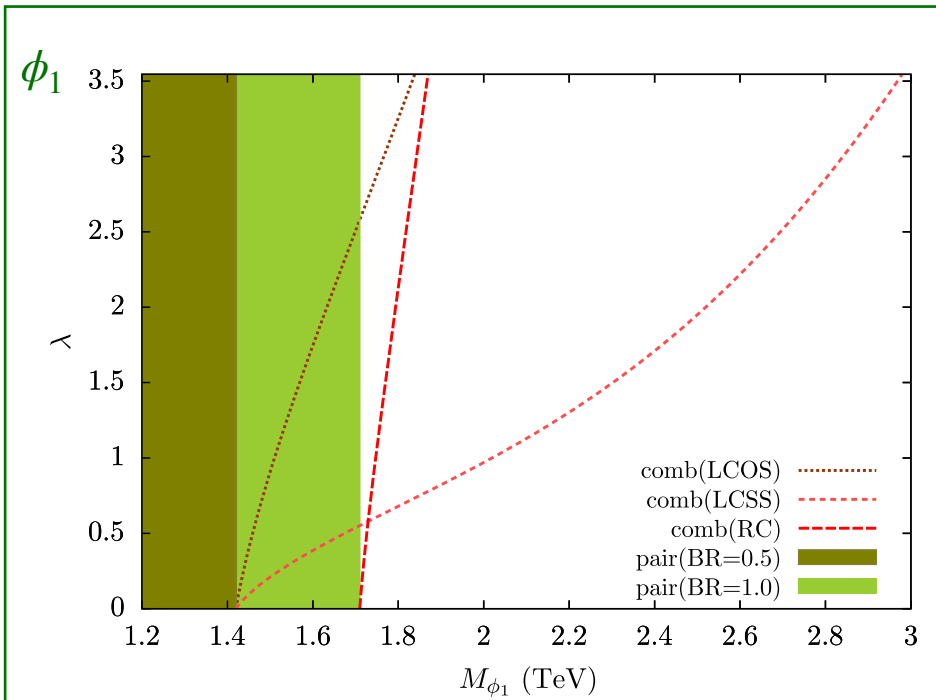
$$\mathcal{L} = \sqrt{2(N_S + N_B) \ln \left( \frac{N_S + N_B}{N_B} \right) - 2N_S}$$

Chandak, Mandal, SM, PRD 100, 075019 (2019)

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$$\sigma_{\text{signal}} \approx \sigma_{\text{pair}}(M_{\ell_q}) + \lambda^2 \sigma_{\text{single}}(\lambda = 1, M_{\ell_q})$$



Scalars

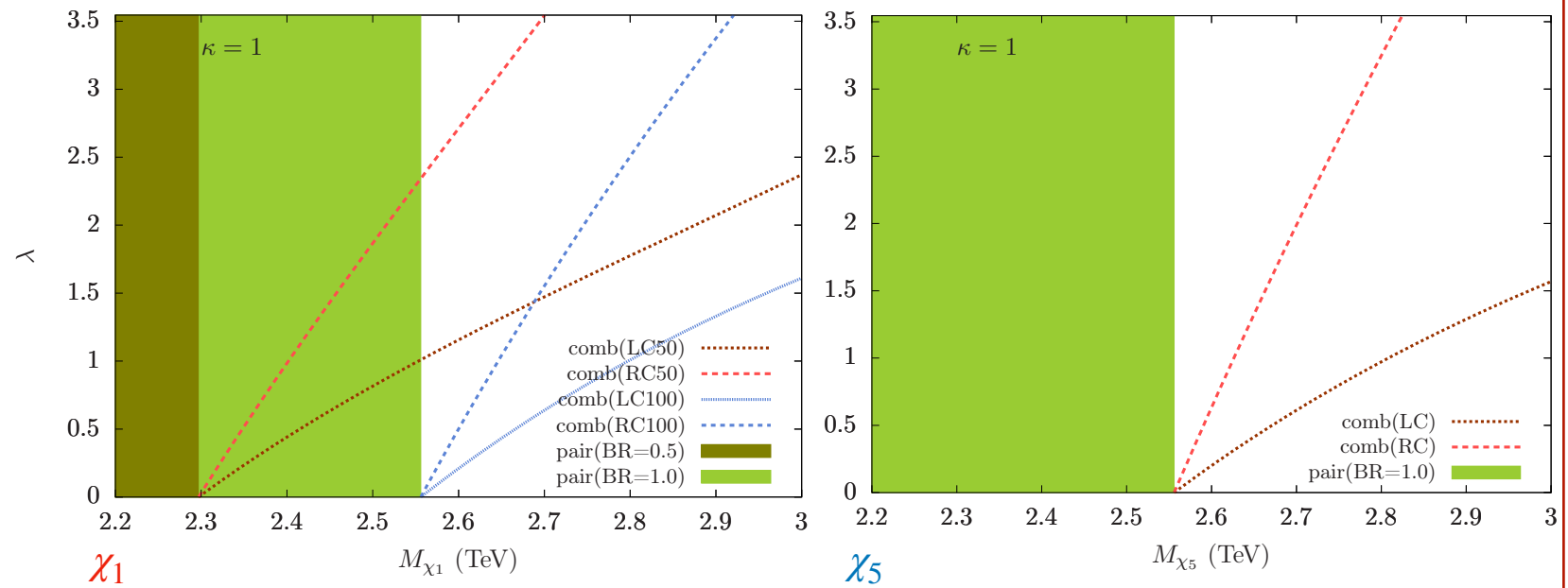
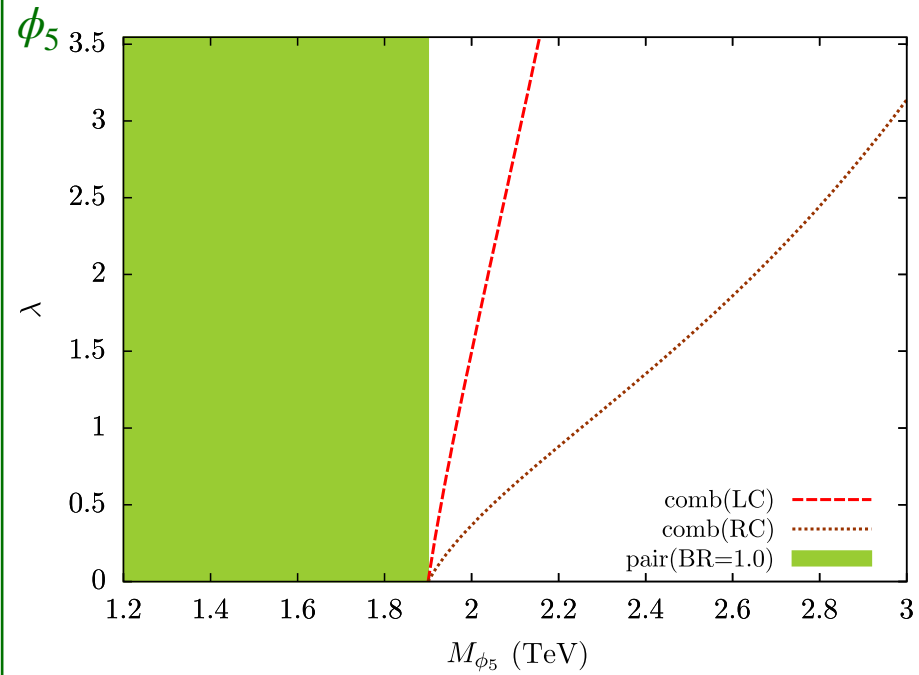
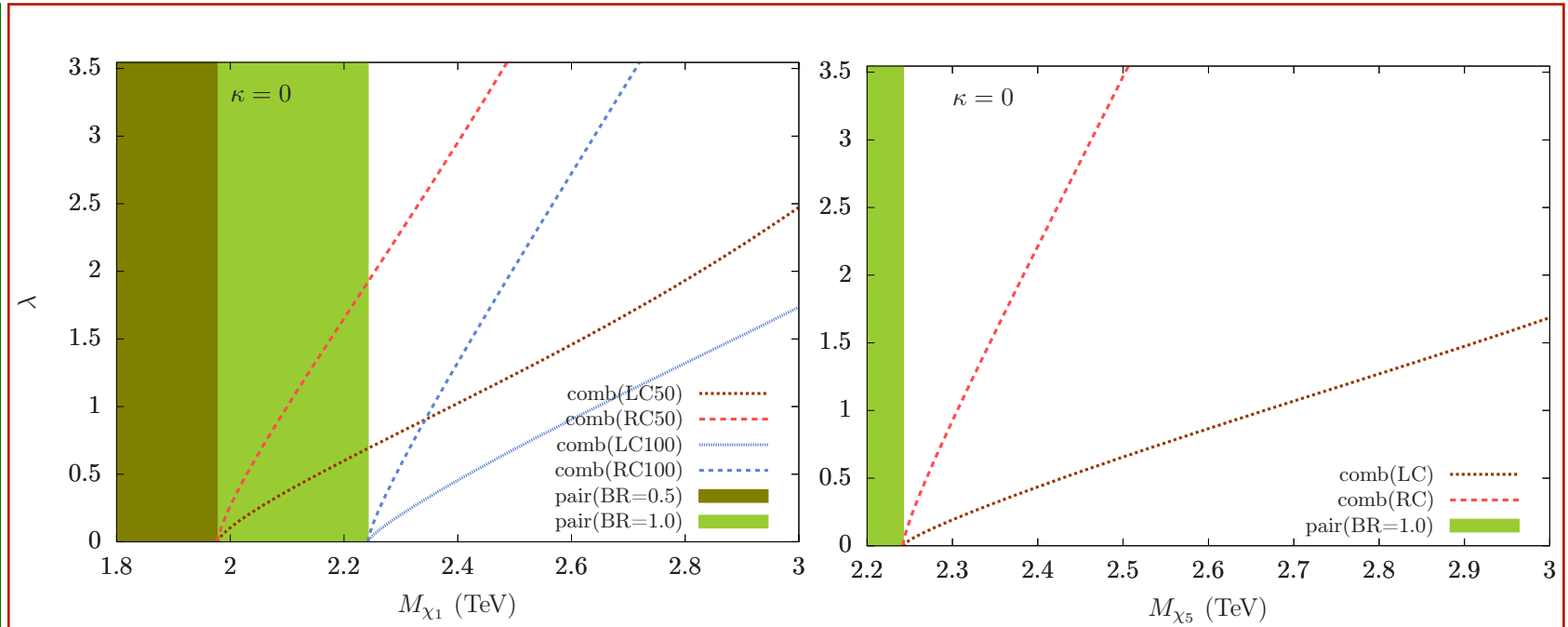
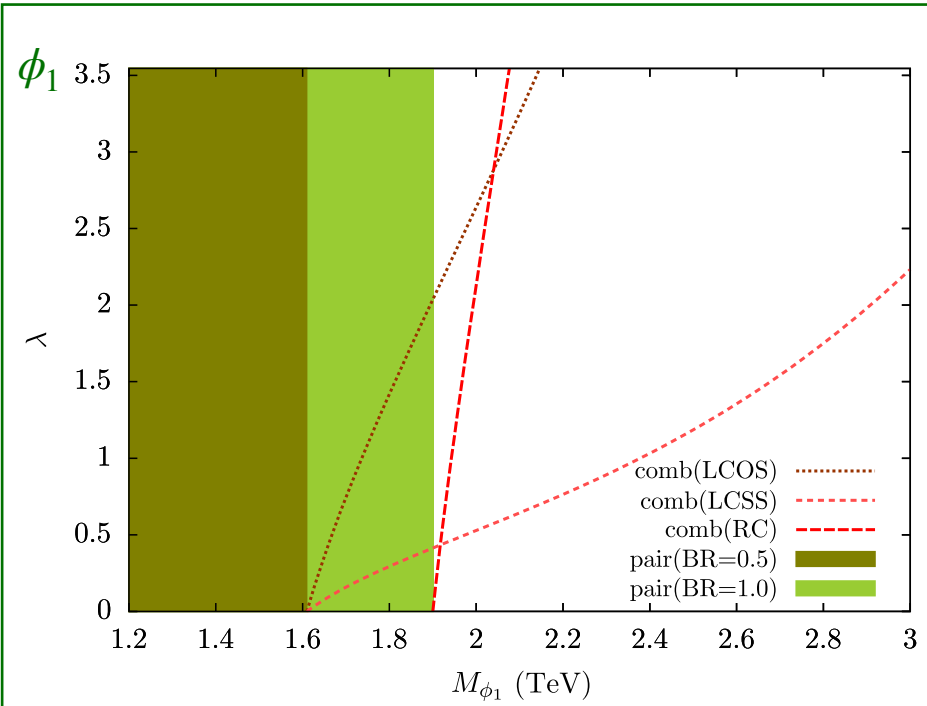
Vectors

# Exclusion

$3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$

$$\sigma_{\text{signal}} \approx \sigma_{\text{pair}}(M_{\ell_q}) + \lambda^2 \sigma_{\text{single}}(\lambda = 1, M_{\ell_q})$$

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Scalars

Vectors

# Summary

- The HL-LHC may discover/exclude charge  $1/3$  and  $5/3$  LQs that decay to a top quark and a charged lepton even if they are significantly heavier than a TeV.
- We have introduced some simple Lagrangians (suitable for bottom-up single production studies) that can cover the relevant parameter spaces of the full models. We have identified some representative benchmark scenarios.
- Despite considering LQ couplings with only third generation quarks, we see that the single production cross sections are not necessarily very small as long as the cross-generational coupling ( $\lambda$ ) is not small.
- Discussed a strategy of combining single and pair production events to maximise discovery/exclusion reach. In some scenarios, the single production can significantly enhance the reach.

*Thank You*