

On behalf of the CMS &  
ATLAS collaborations

# A flavor for leptoquarks

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Lots of new, exciting results presented at ICHEP 2022 !!



**University of  
Zurich**<sup>UZH</sup>

Aug. 29th, 2022  
BLV2022 Brussels



# Theoretical puzzle : Similarity of quarks and leptons

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Quarks	$u$ up	$C$ charm	$t$ top
	$d$ down	$S$ strange	$b$ beauty
Leptons	$e$ electron	$\mu$ muon	$\tau$ tau
	$\nu_e$ neutrino electron	$\nu_\mu$ neutrino muon	$\nu_\tau$ neutrino tau

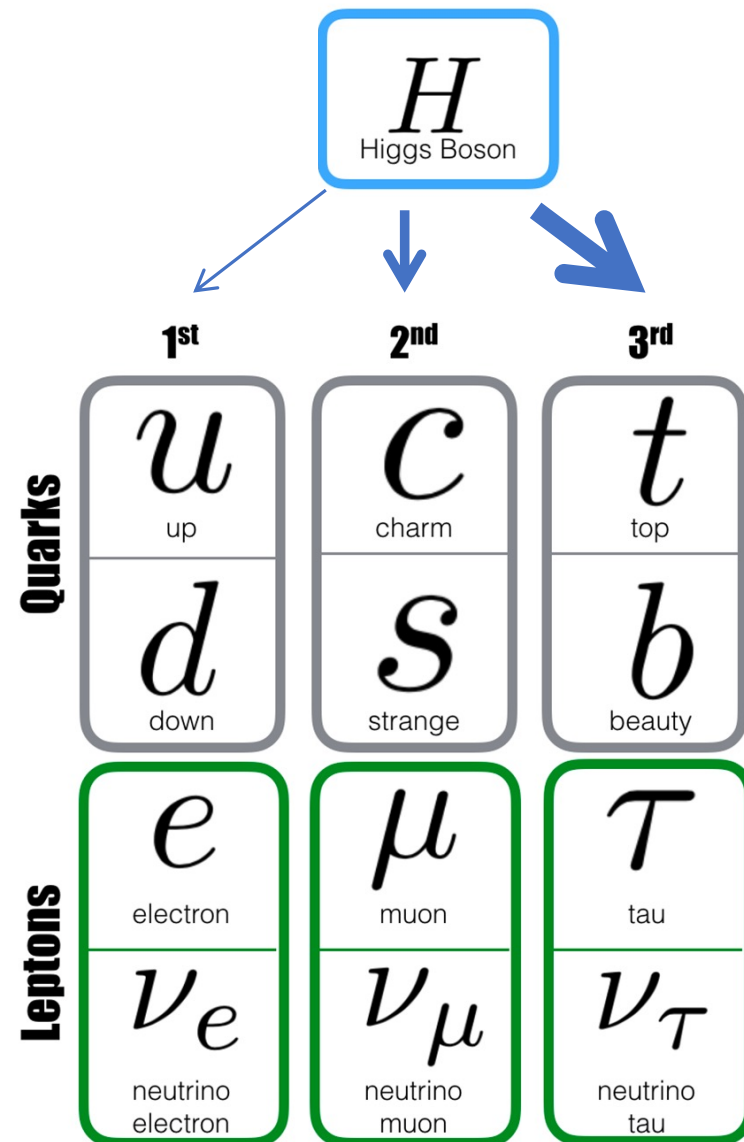
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Some underlying symmetry ?

# Theoretical Puzzle : flavor

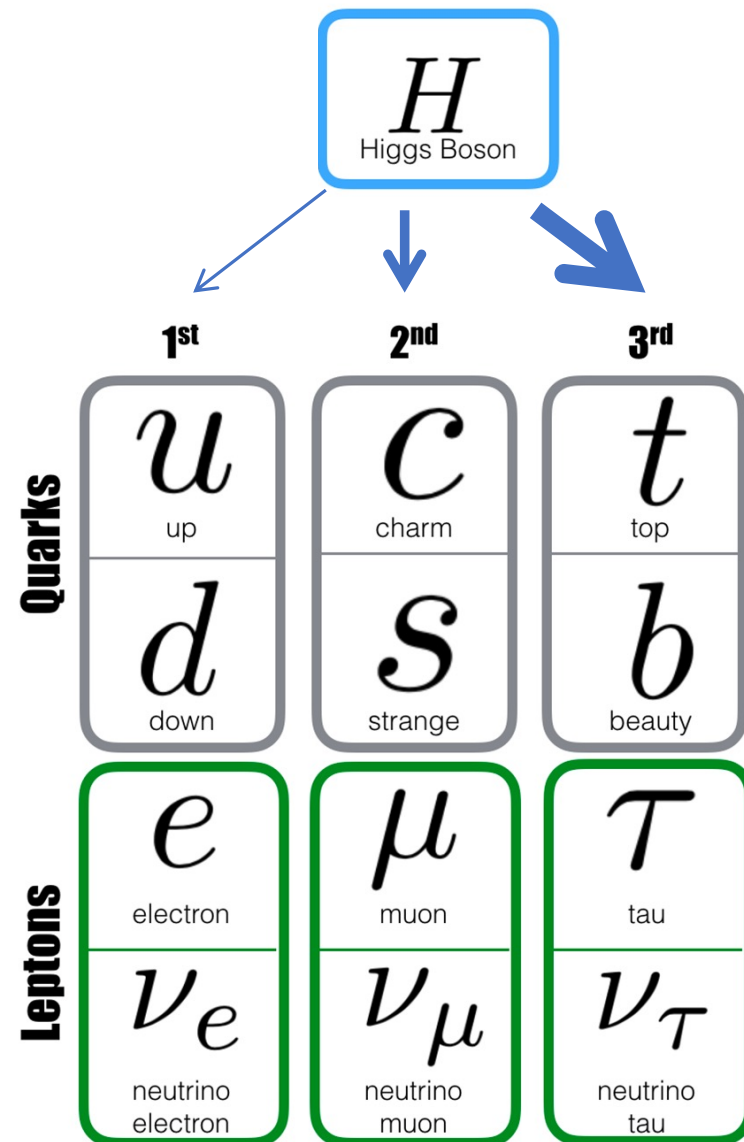
- **WHY** three generations of identical particles
- **HOW** do they get different masses ?



Only the Higgs boson can tell difference between electron, muon, and tau lepton. Gives them different masses !!

# Theoretical Puzzle : flavor

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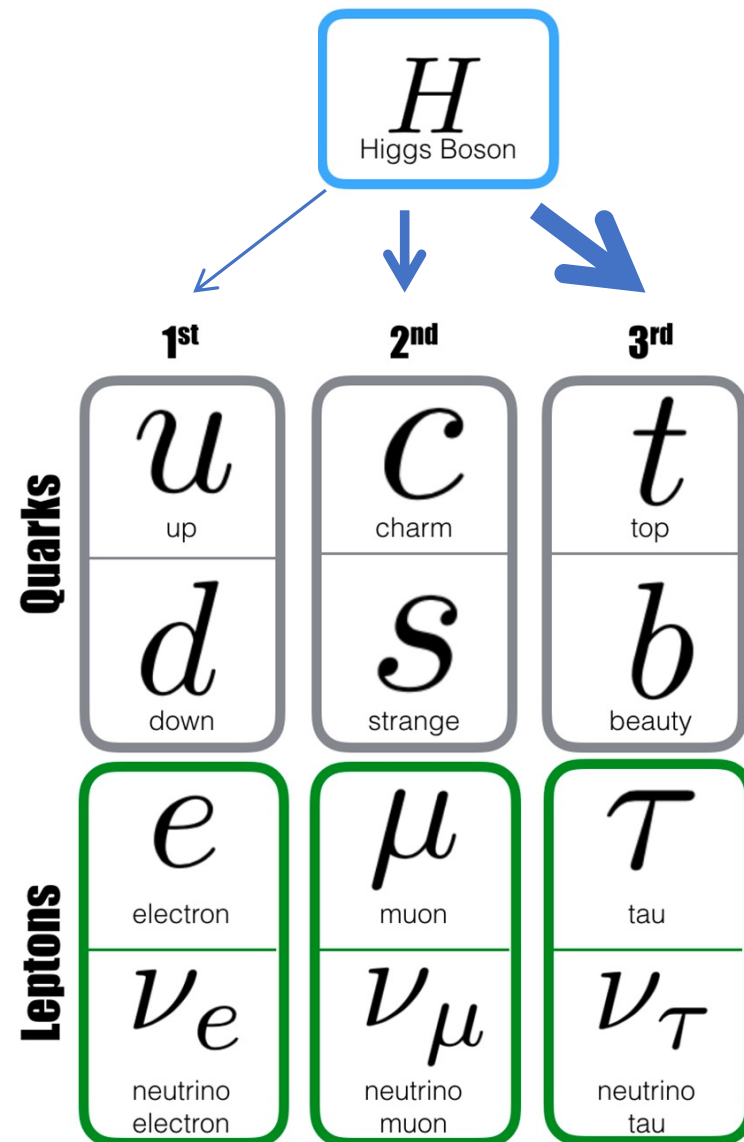


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Yet ... we are unaware of any mechanism for it to do so (and assign arbitrary Yukawa couplings)

# Theoretical Puzzle : flavor

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- **HOW** do they get different masses ?



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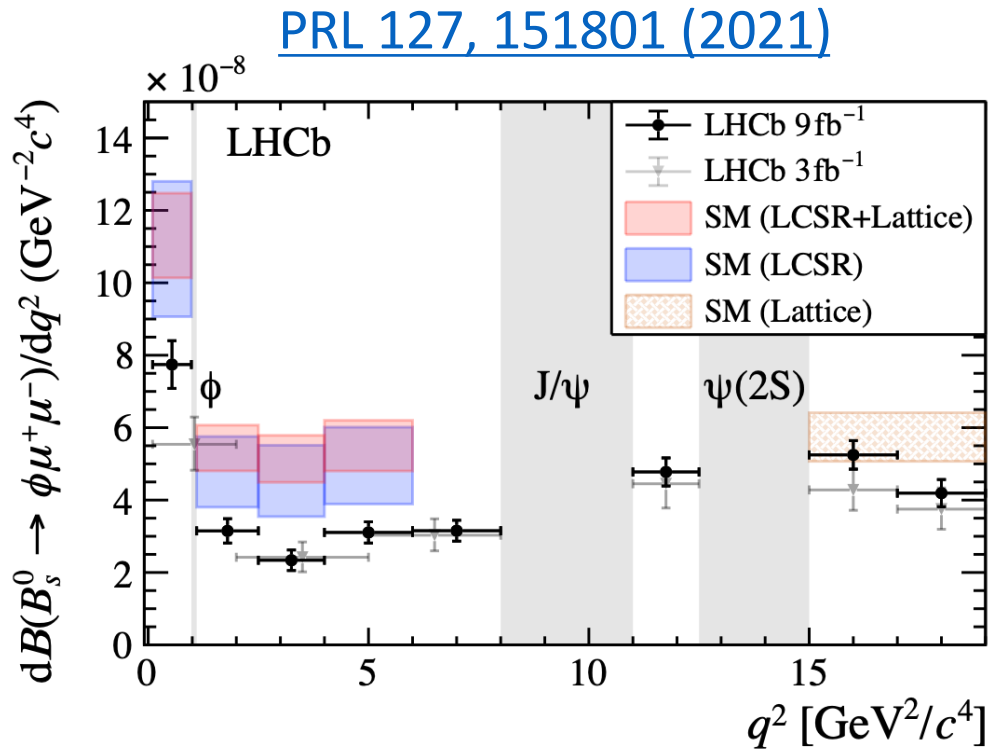
Yet ... we are unaware of any mechanism for it to do so (and assign arbitrary Yukawa couplings)

Precise measurements of Higgs couplings do not elucidate the **WHY** or **HOW**

New physics needed to tell the difference

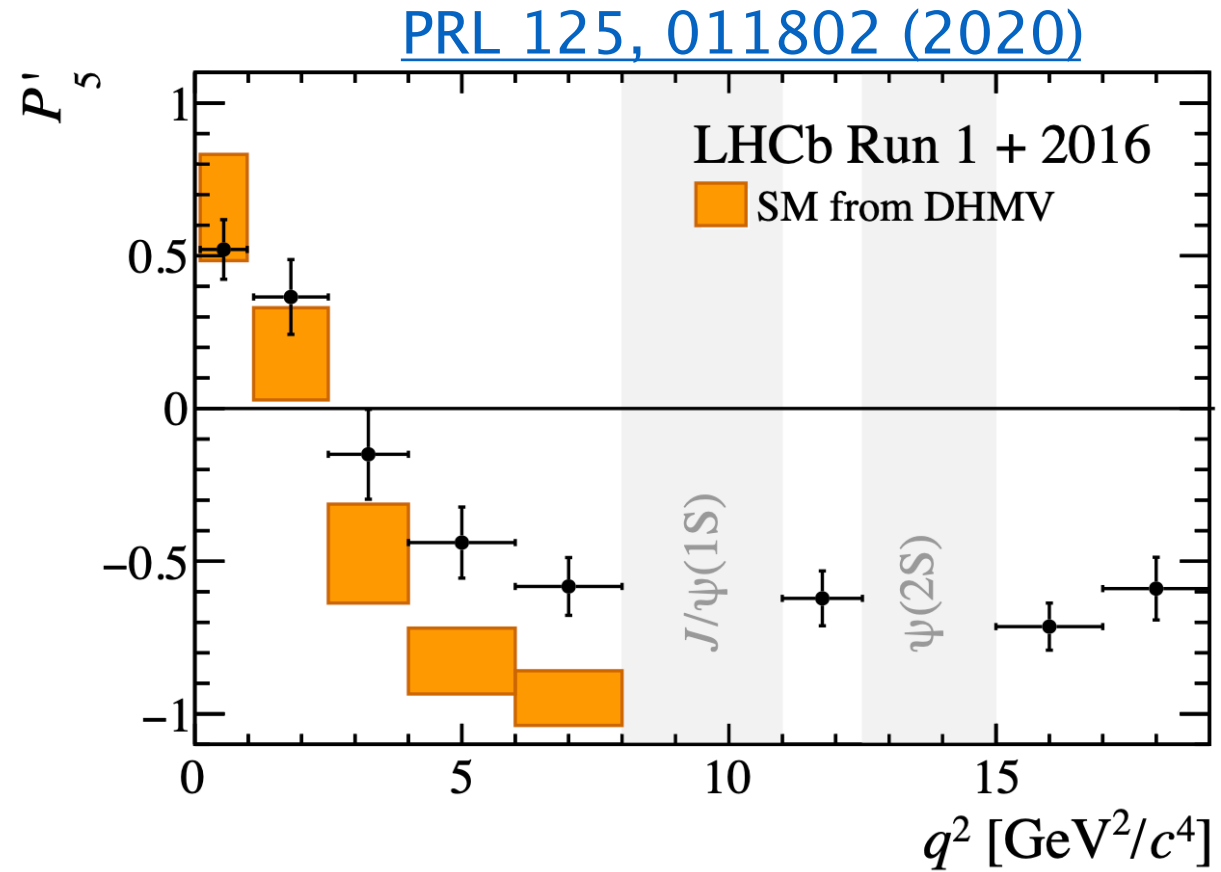
$e$  vs.  $\mu$  vs.  $\tau$   
 $u$  vs.  $c$  vs.  $t$

# Experimental puzzles : flavor anomalies in B decays



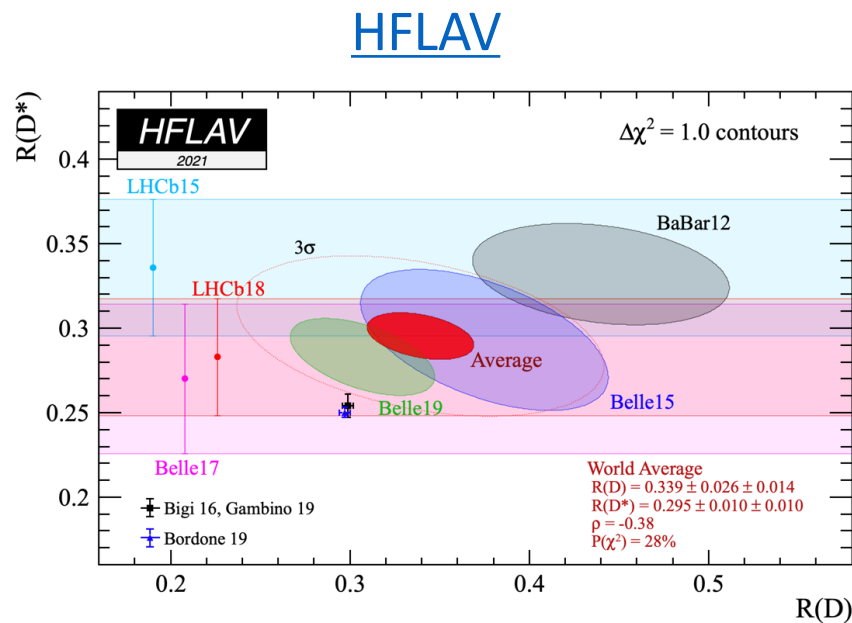
$B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-$   
Angular analysis

3.6  $\sigma$



$B^0 \rightarrow K^{0*} \mu^+ \mu^-$   
angular analysis

3.3  $\sigma$



$R(D^*)$  &  $R(D)$   
[arXiv:2103.11769](#)

3.1  $\sigma$

Other measurements :

3.1  $\sigma$   $R(K)$  : [arXiv:2103.11769](#) (LHCb)

2.4  $\sigma$   $R(K^*)$  : [JHEP 08 \(2017\) 055](#) (LHCb)

2  $\sigma$   $R(J/\psi)$  : [PRL 120, 121801 \(2018\)](#) (LHCb)

# BSM explanations ?

New heavy mediators

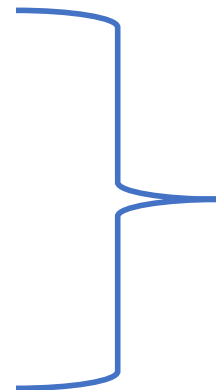
Lepton flavor universality violation

New left-handed currents



# BSM explanations ?

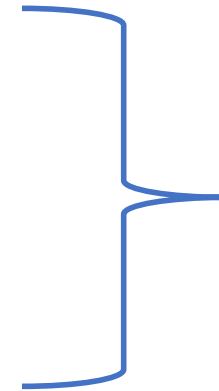
- New heavy mediators
- Lepton flavor universality violation
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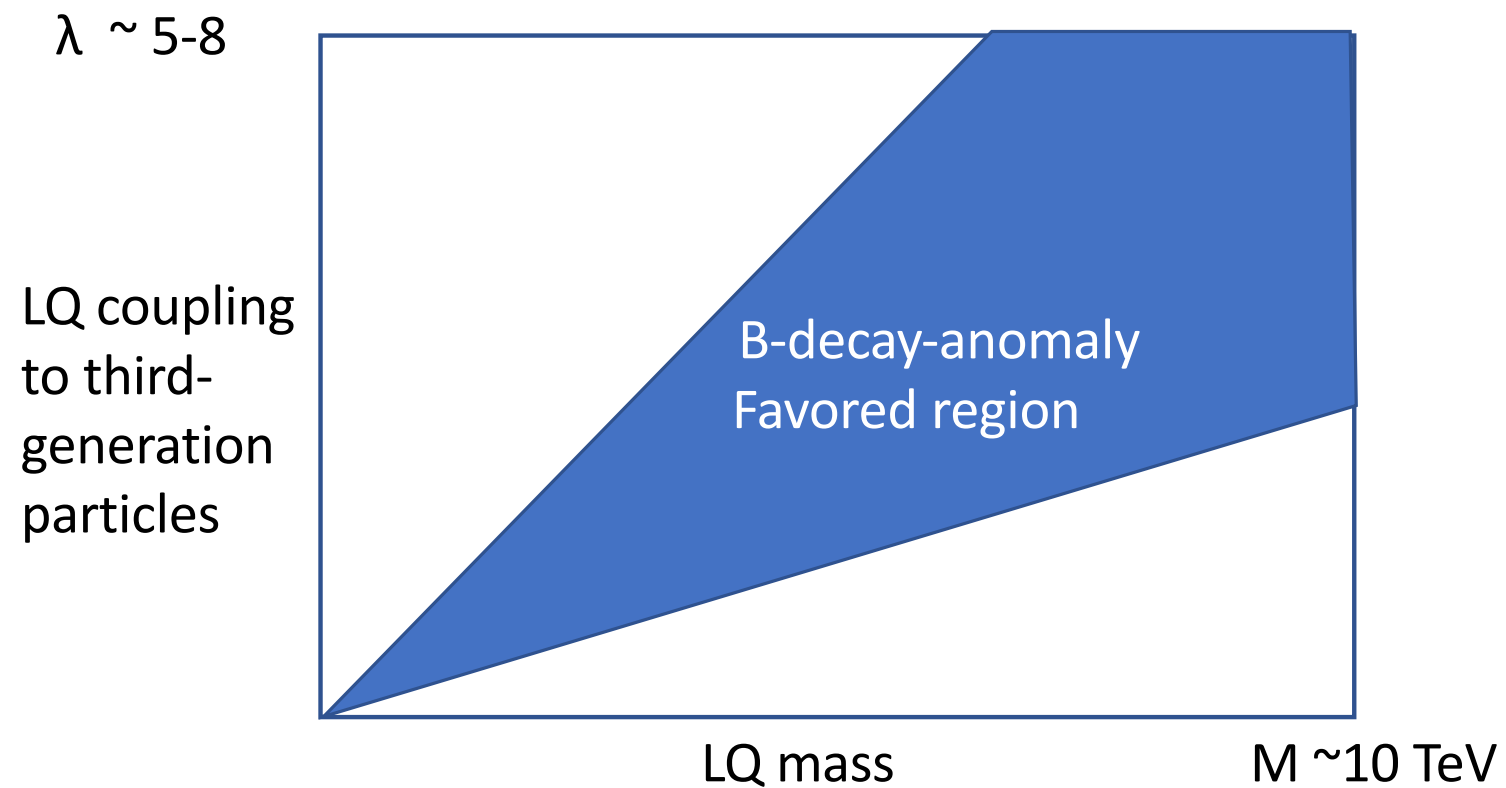
**Leptoquarks !**

# BSM explanations ?

New heavy mediators  
Lepton flavor universality violation  
New left-handed currents



## Leptoquarks !



# Leptoquarks

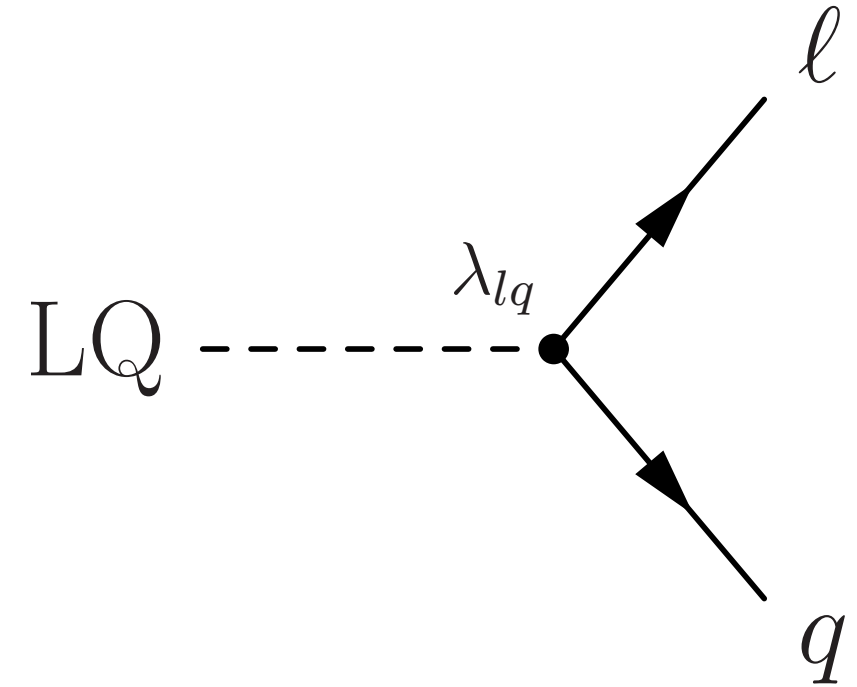
- **Scalar or vector boson**

- **Decay into  $\ell q$**

⇒ carry L, B, color

- **Coupling LQ- $\ell$ -q :**  $\lambda_{\ell q}$

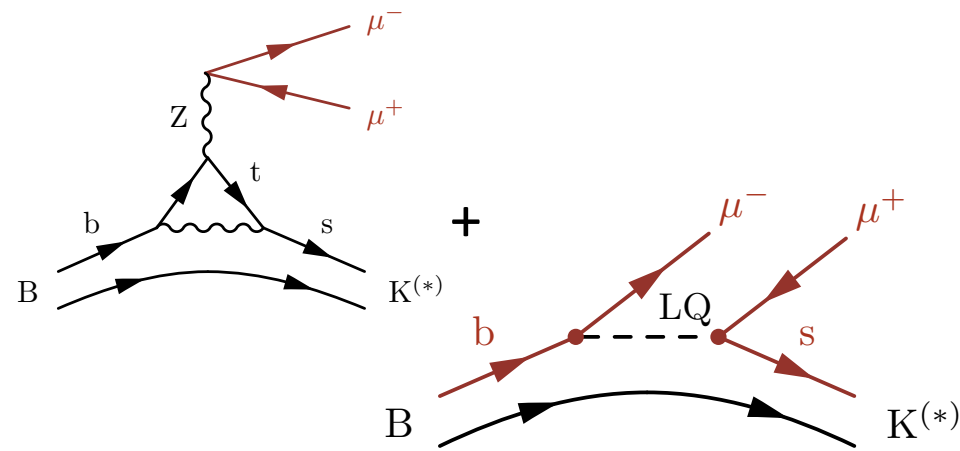
- **Fractional charge**



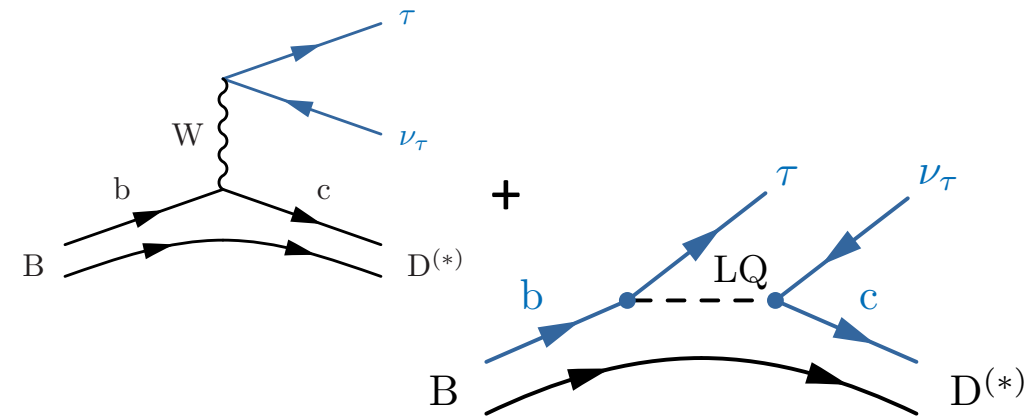
$$\underbrace{\text{LQ}}_{\pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{2}{3}, \pm \frac{4}{3}, \pm \frac{5}{3}} \rightarrow \underbrace{\ell}_{\pm 1, 0} \underbrace{q}_{\mp \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{2}{3}}$$

# Flavor anomalies as explained by LQ

Measured  $R_{K^{(*)}} = \frac{\Gamma(B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \mu\mu)}{\Gamma(B \rightarrow K^{(*)} ee)} < \boxed{\text{SM } 1}$

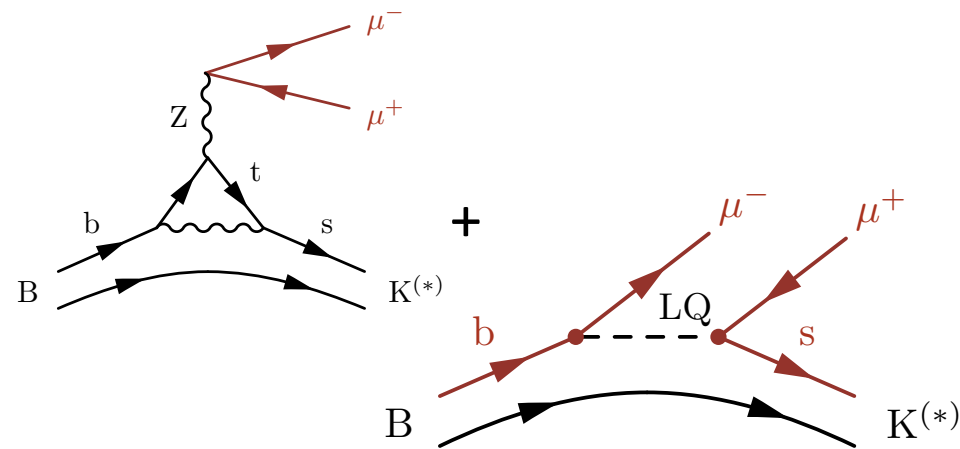


Measured  $R_{D^{(*)}} = \frac{\Gamma(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \tau \bar{\nu})}{\Gamma(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \ell \bar{\nu})} > \boxed{\text{SM } 0.25}$

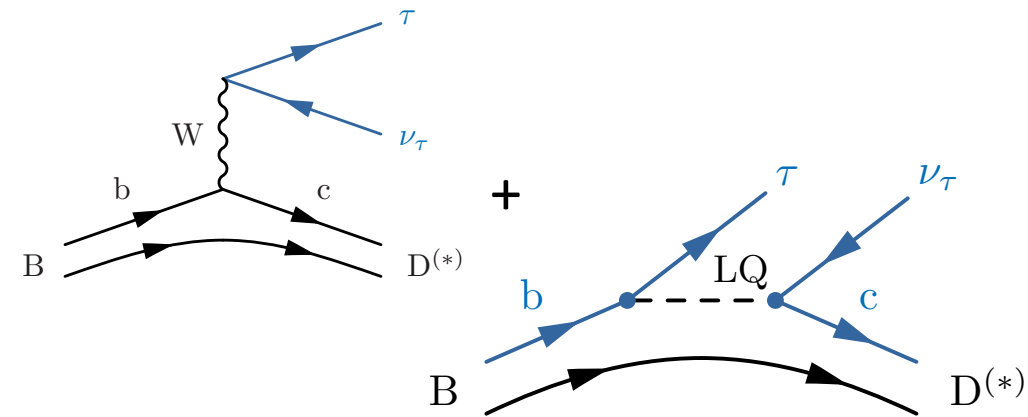


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- Combined explanation of flavor and angular anomalies
- Vector LQ left-handed currents

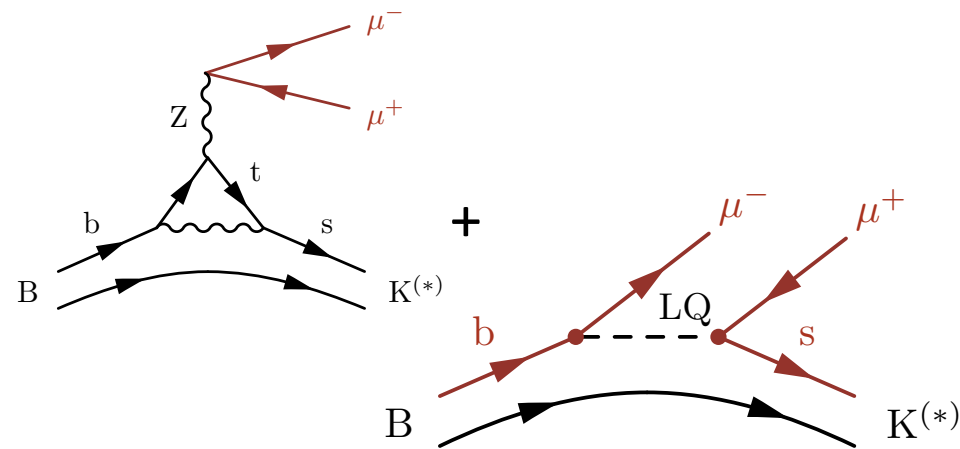
Flavor structure  $\Rightarrow V_{ql} \sim$

	$e/\nu_e$	$\mu/\nu_\mu$	$\tau/\nu_\tau$
$d/u'$	0	0	-0.02
$s/c'$	0	+0.02	0.13
$b/t'$	0	-0.13	1

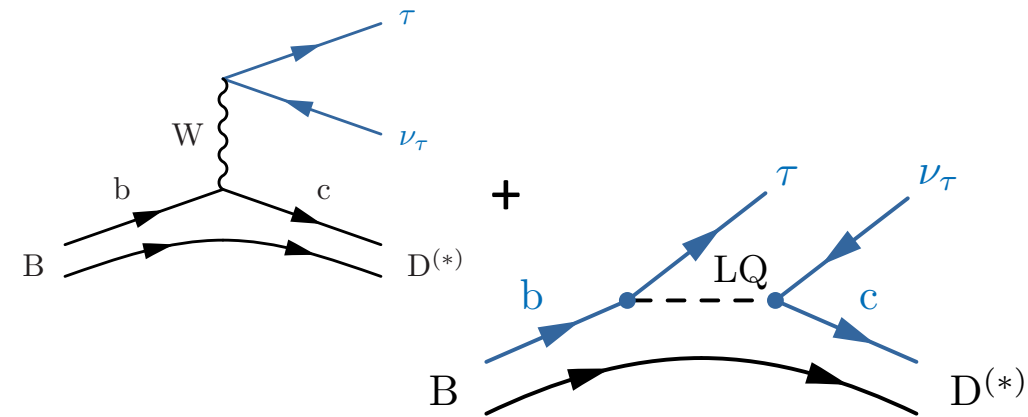
arXiv:1706.07808, arXiv:1903.11517

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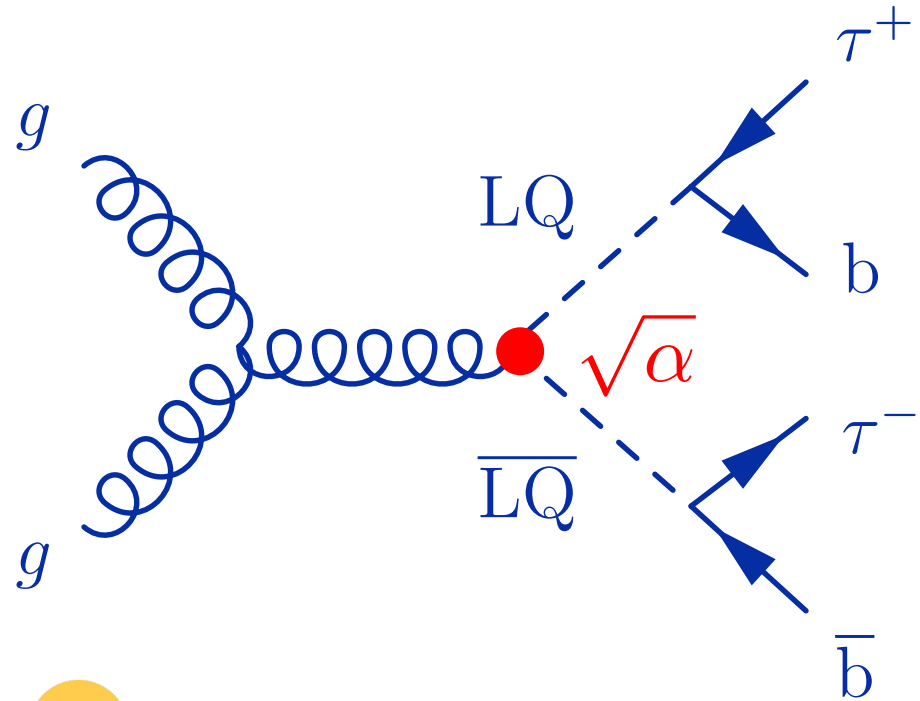
$LQ \approx LQ_3$

arXiv:1706.07808, arXiv:1903.11517

signs for destructive interference with SM in  $B \rightarrow K\mu\mu$  decay

Can we search for leptoquarks  
directly ?

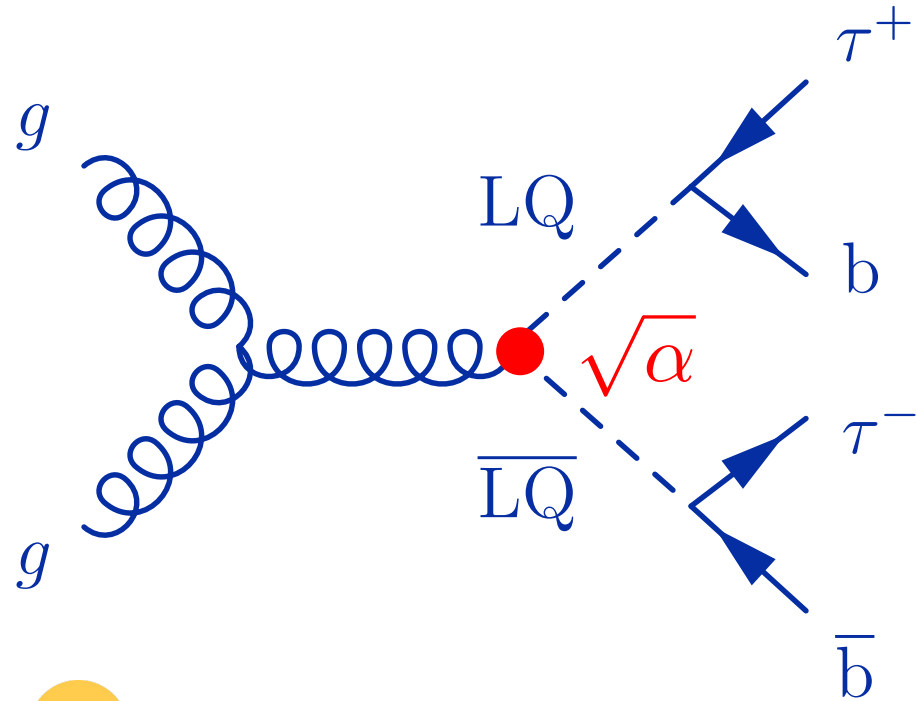
# LQ pairs



- 😊 Large QCD production
- 😊 Model independent
- 😊 Resonant

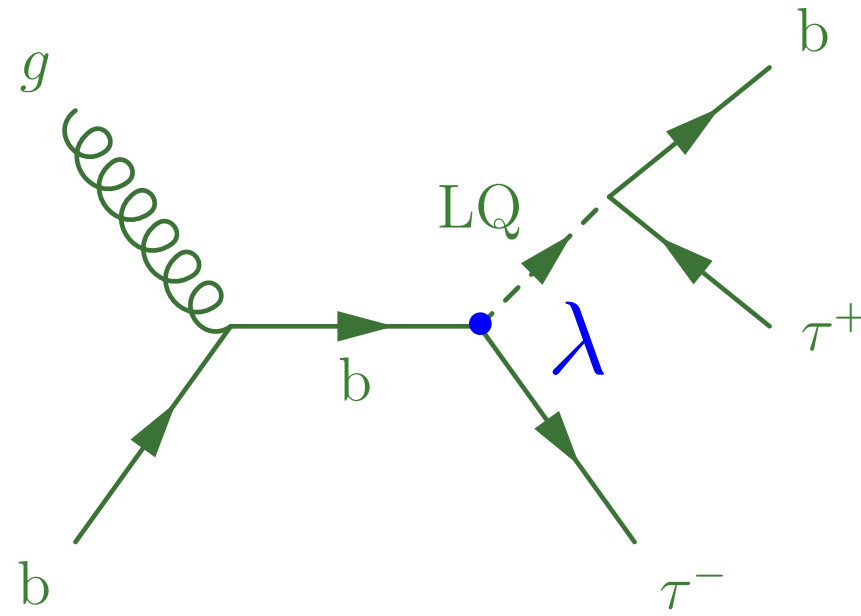


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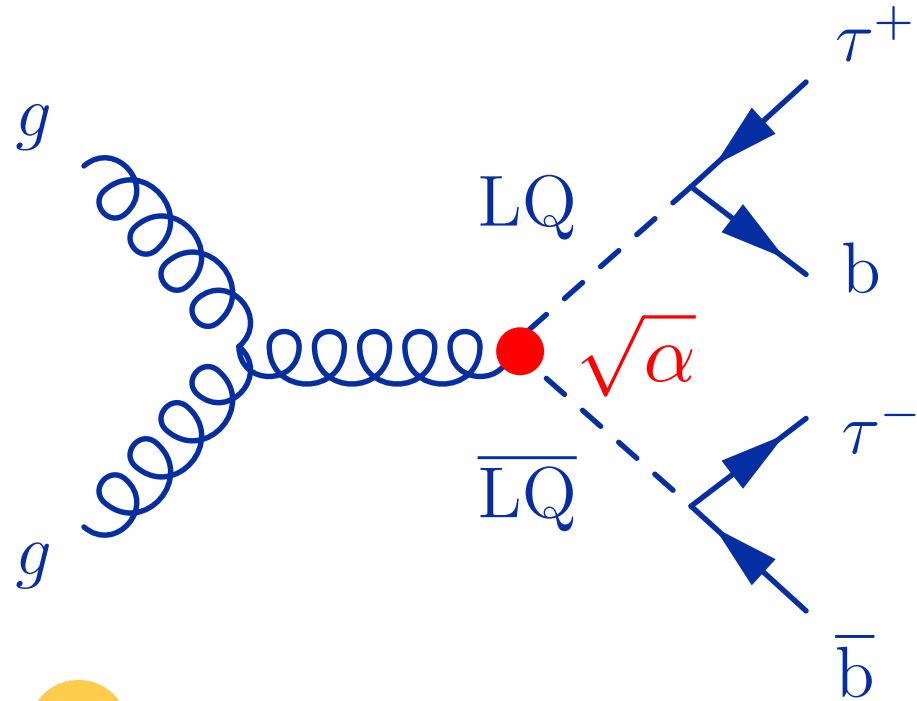
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# Single LQ



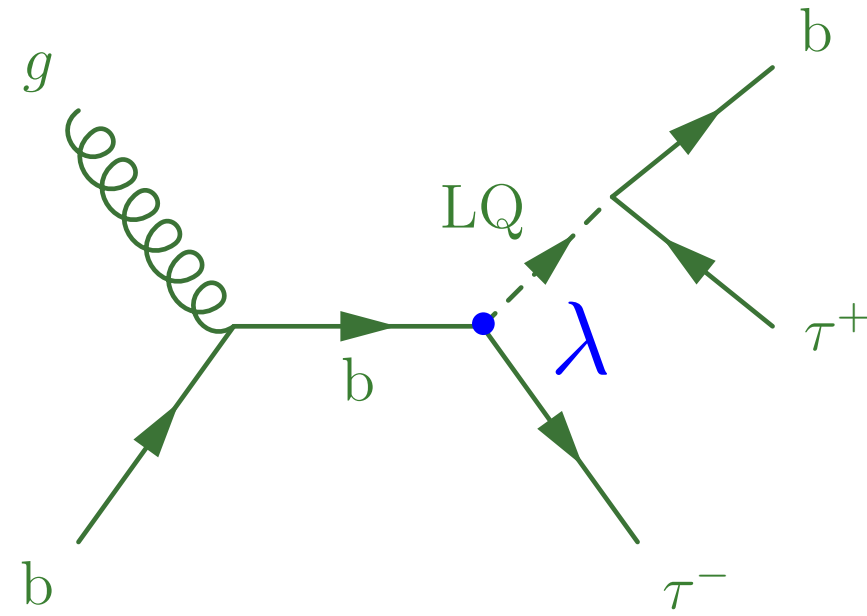
- 😊  $\sigma \propto \lambda^2$
- 😞 PDF suppression
- 😞 Wide-resonance at high  $\lambda$

# LQ pairs



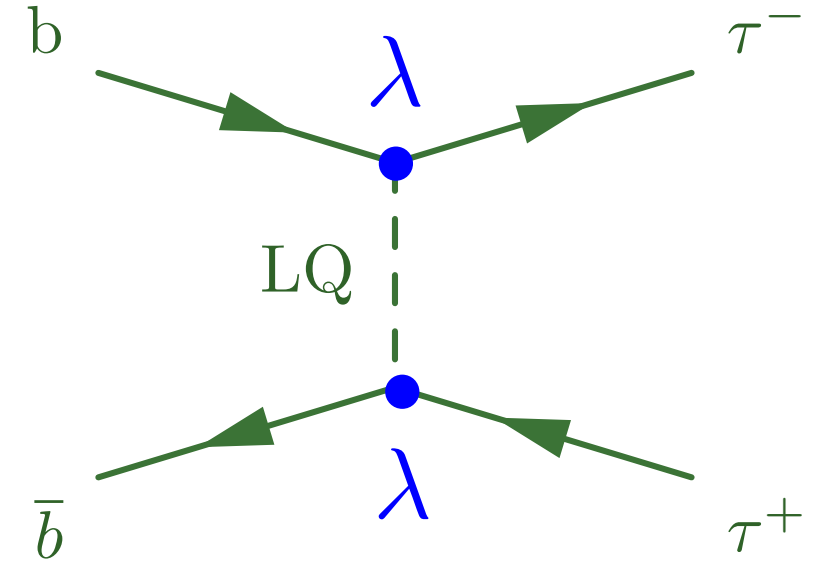
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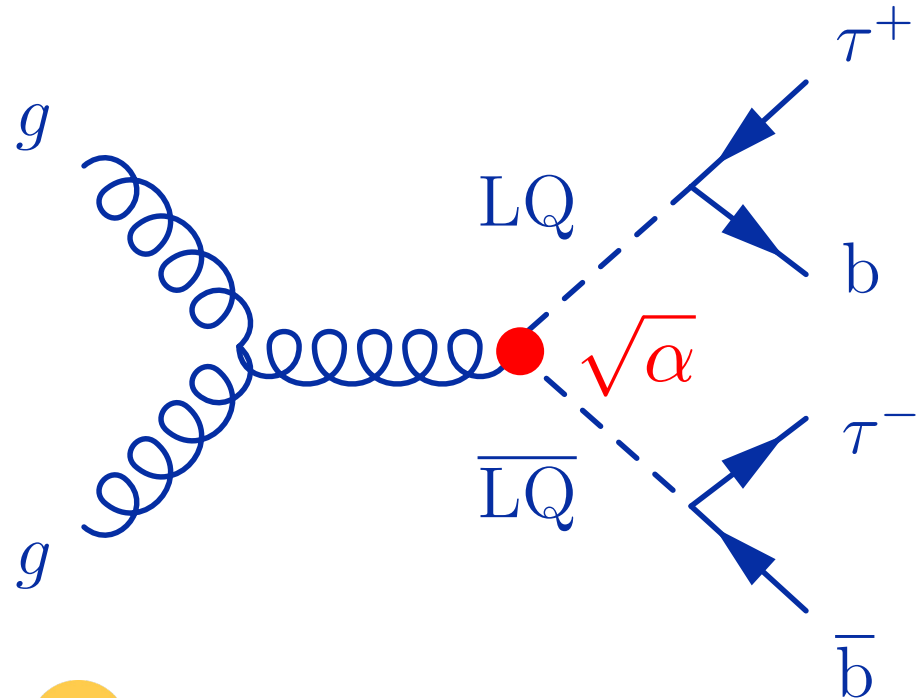
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# non-resonant LQ



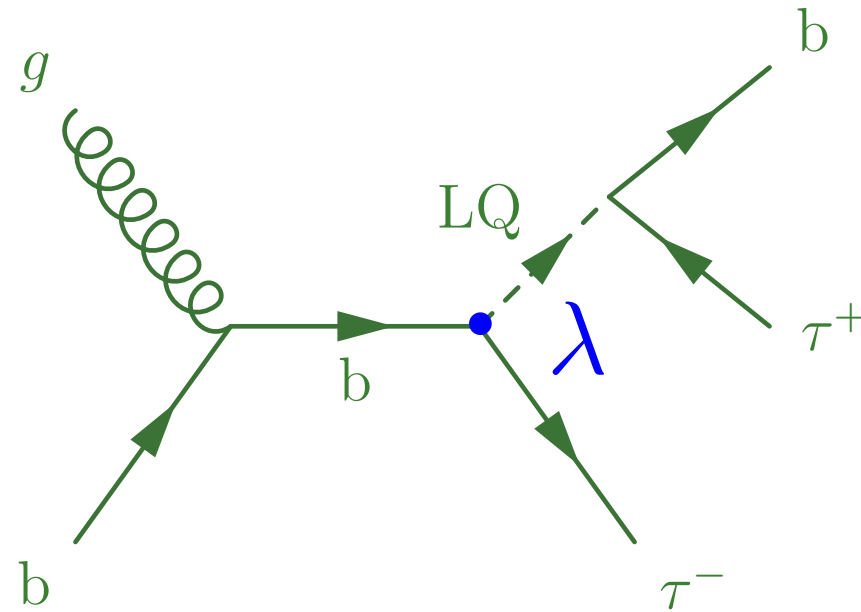
- 😊  $\sigma \propto \lambda^4$
- 😱 PDF suppression  $^2$
- 😞 No resonance

# LQ pairs



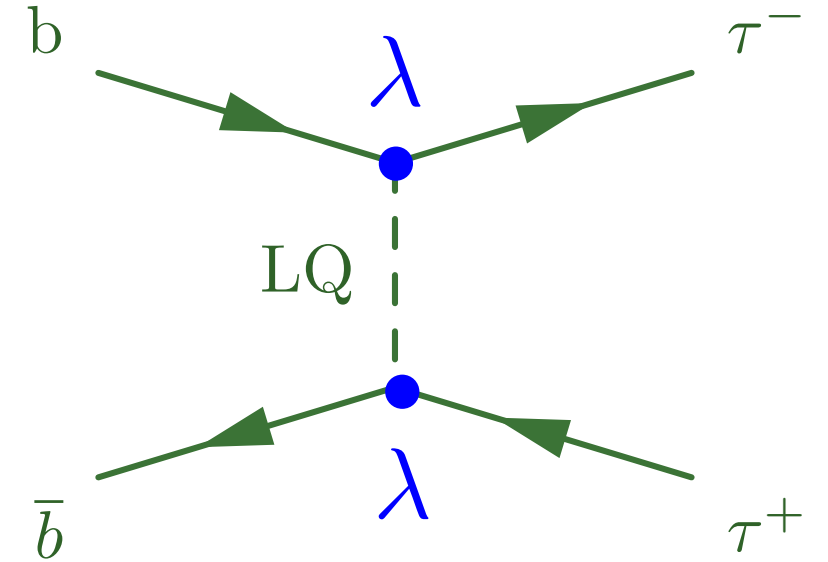
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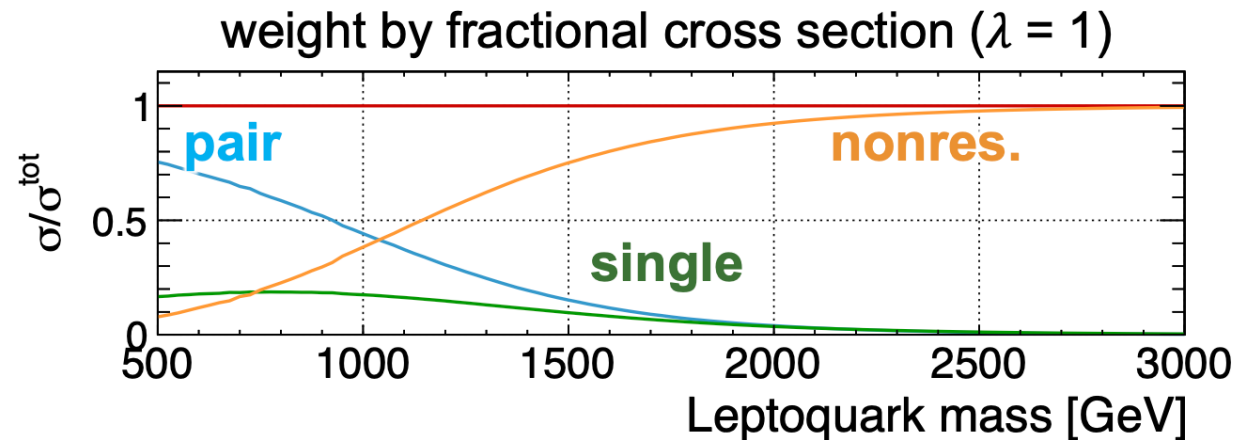


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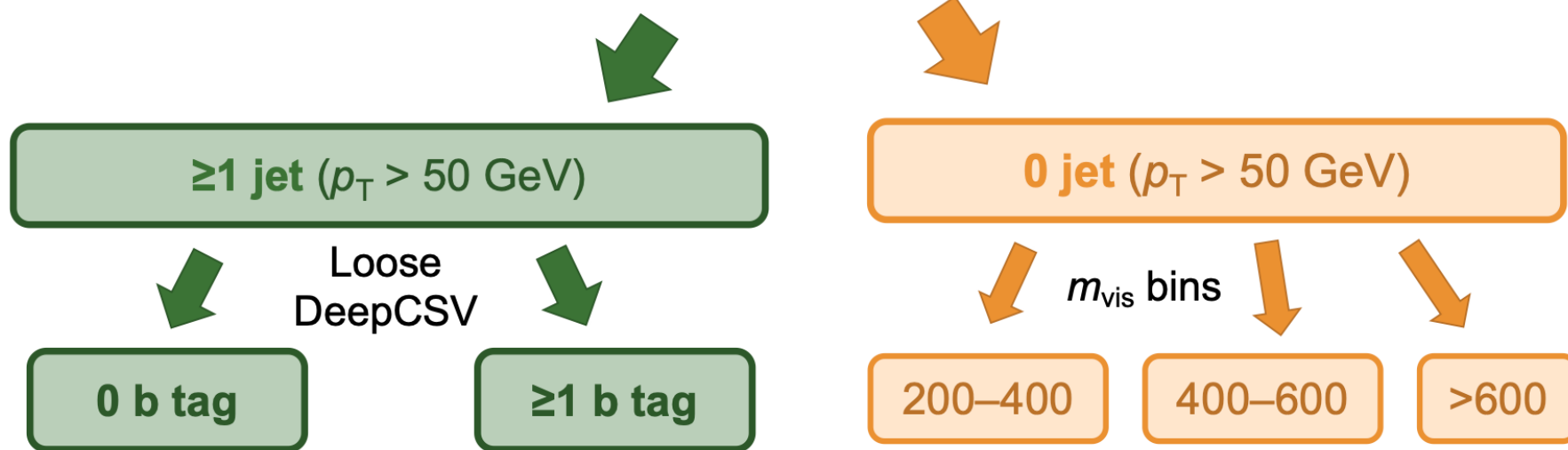


# New @ ICHEP : [CMS-EXO-19-016](#)

## CMS search for pair, single, non-resonant LQs

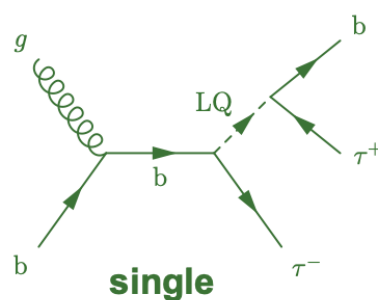
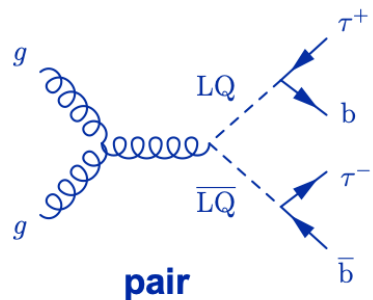
### Summary of signal selections

$\mu\mu$ ,  $e\tau_h$ ,  $\mu\tau_h$ ,  $\tau_h\tau_h$  and  $e\mu$  pre-selections ( $e/\mu/\tau_h p_T > 50$  GeV)



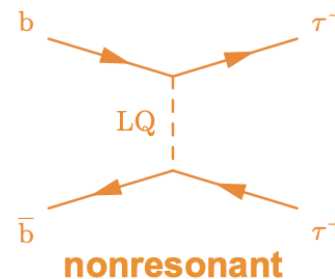
discriminating variable:

$$S_T^{\text{MET}} = p_T^{\tau_1} + p_T^{\tau_2} + p_T^j + \text{MET}$$



discriminating variable:

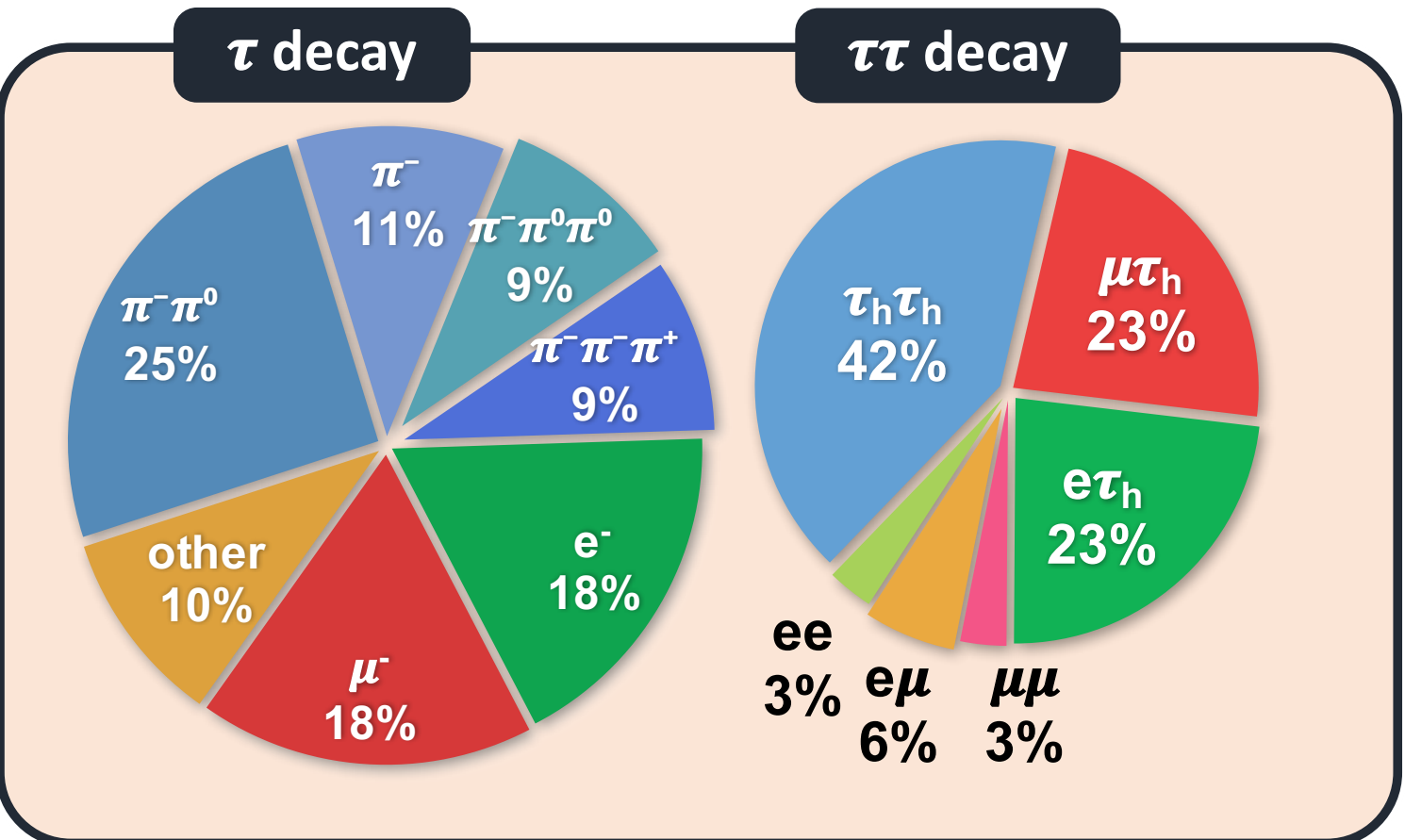
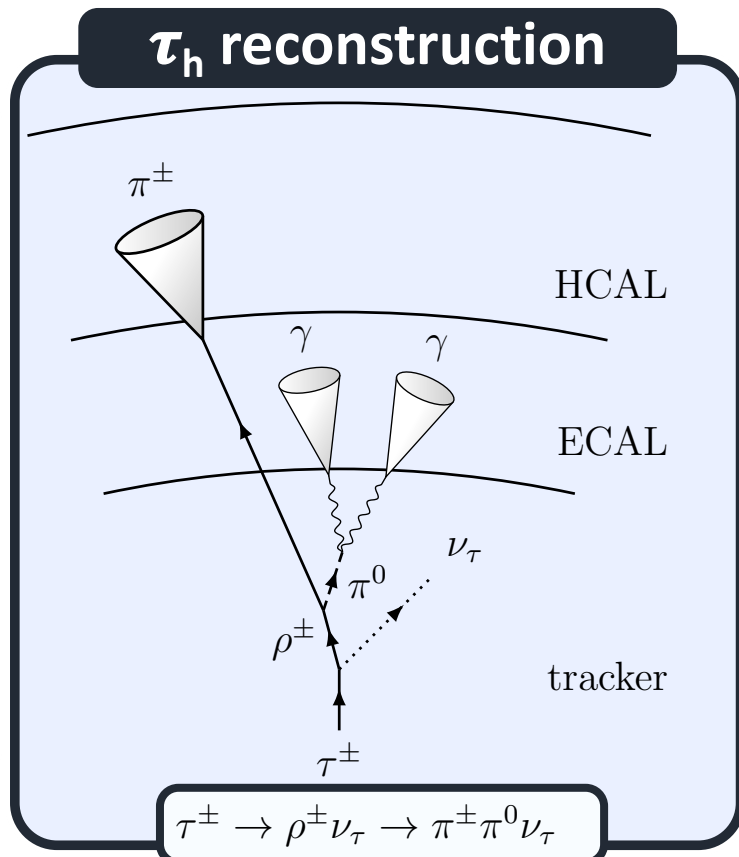
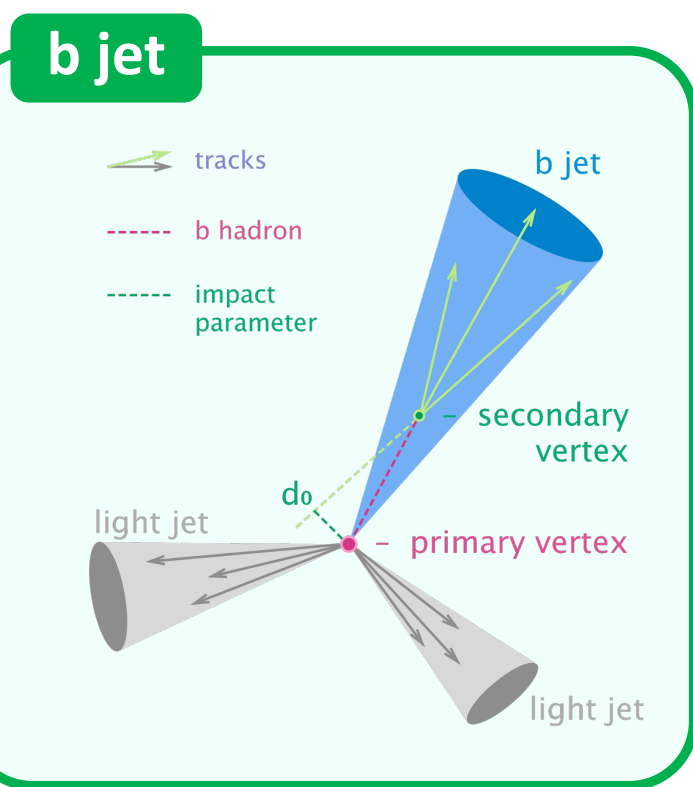
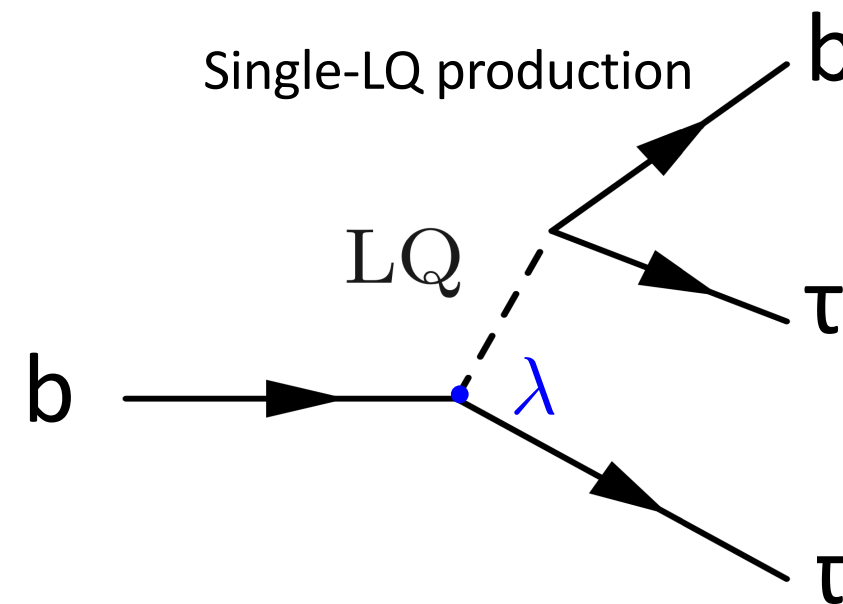
$$\chi = e^{\Delta\eta}$$



$S_T^{\text{MET}}$  sensitive to LQ signal with high  $P_T$  objects

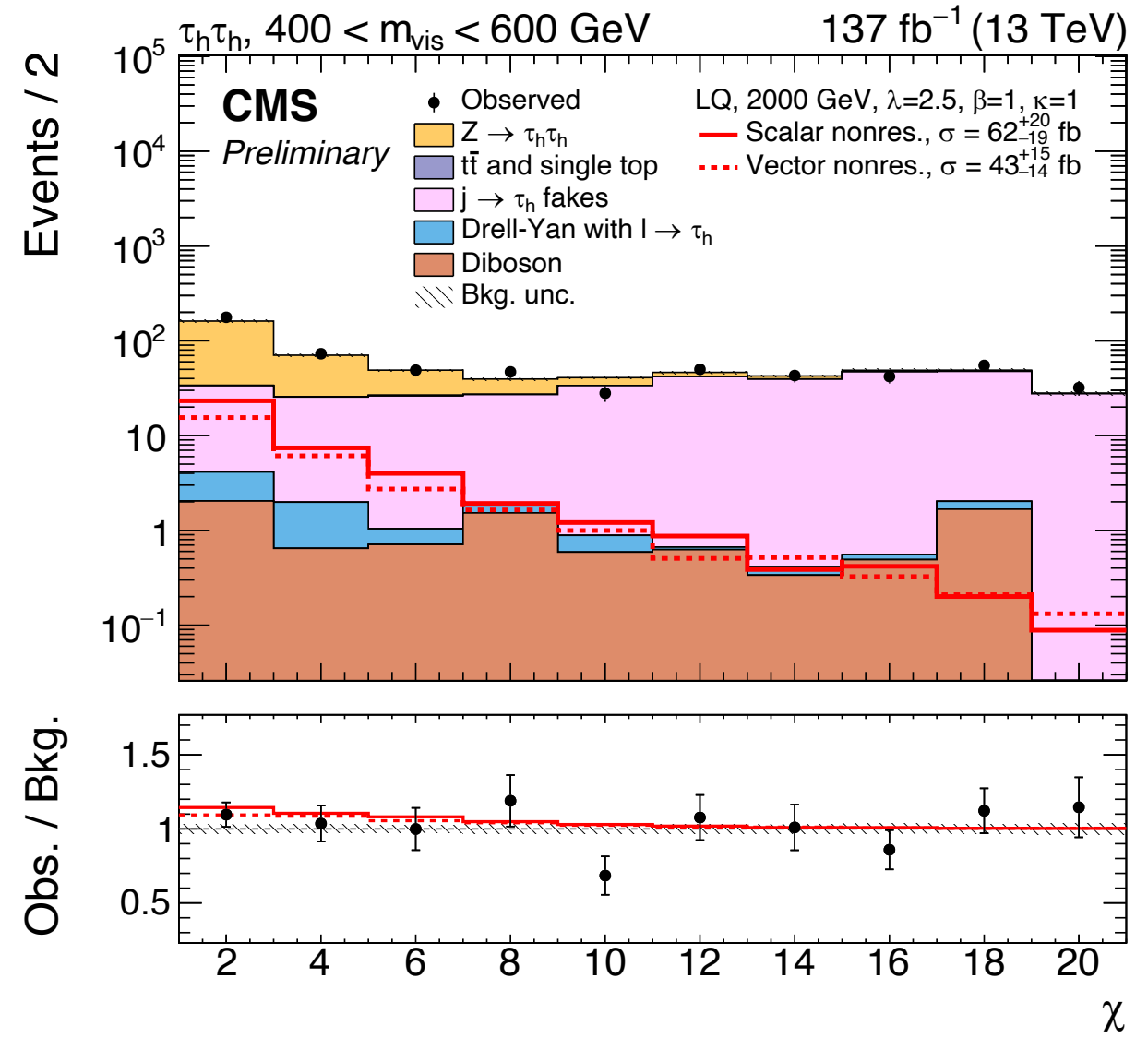
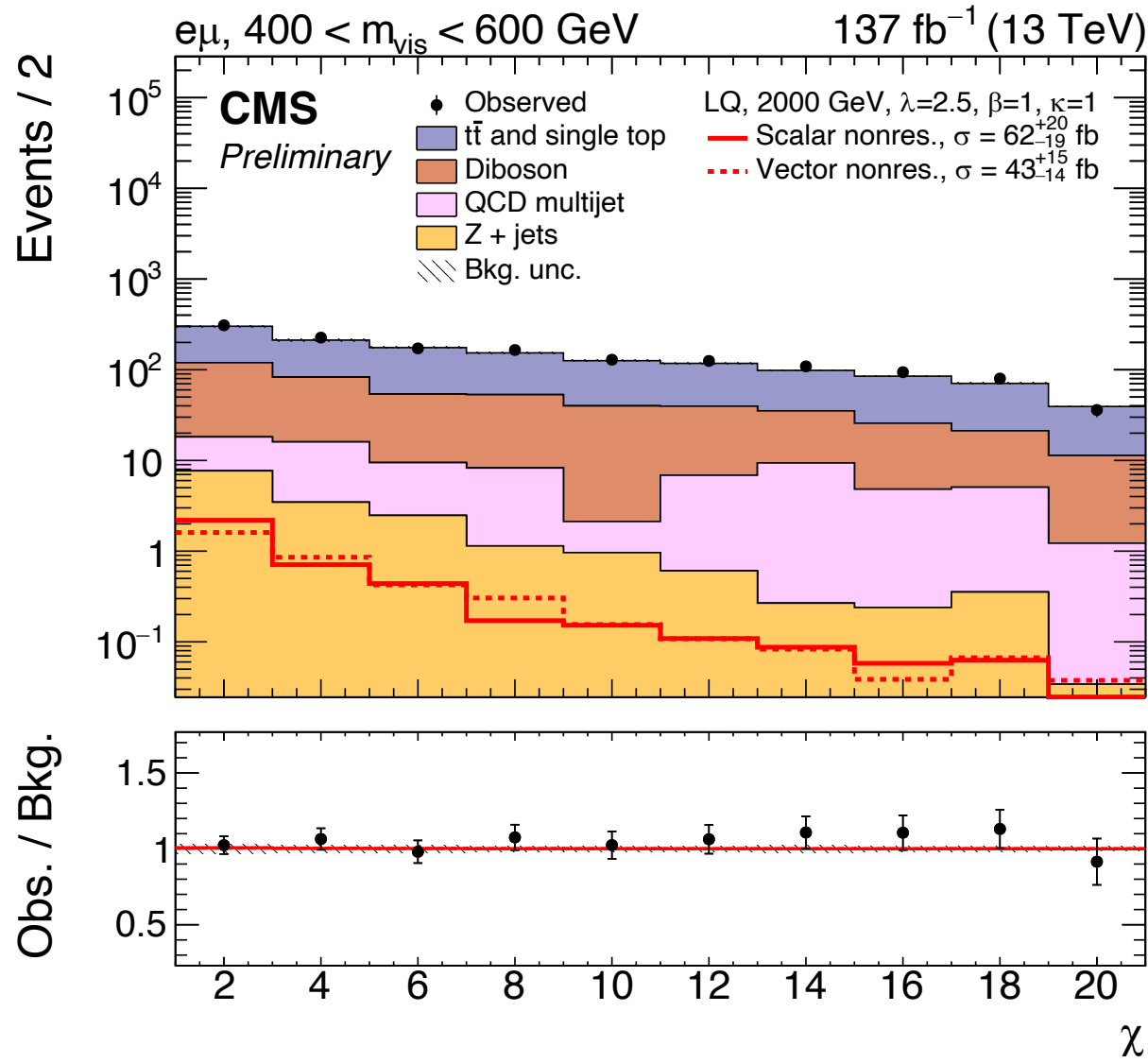
$\chi$  angular variable sensitive to changes in  $\tau\tau$  angular distributions

# Reconstruction of 3<sup>rd</sup> generation LQs



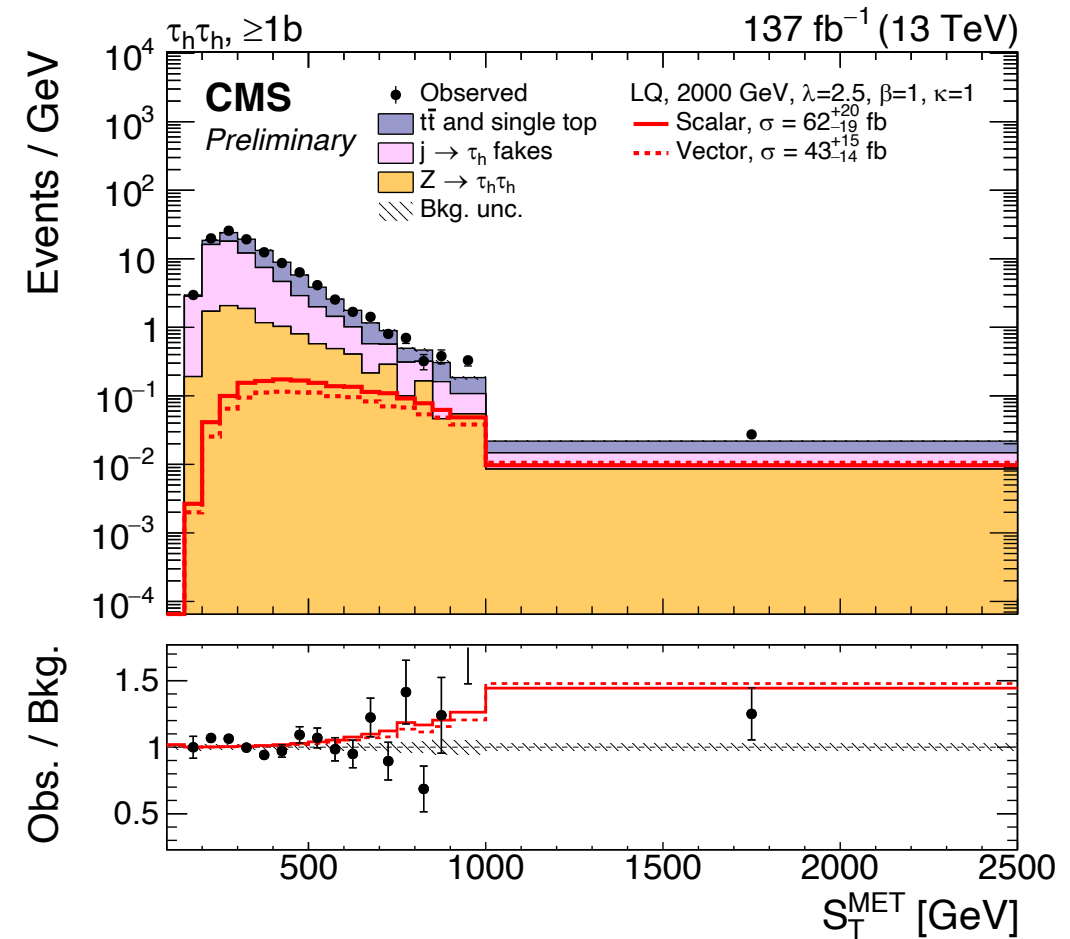
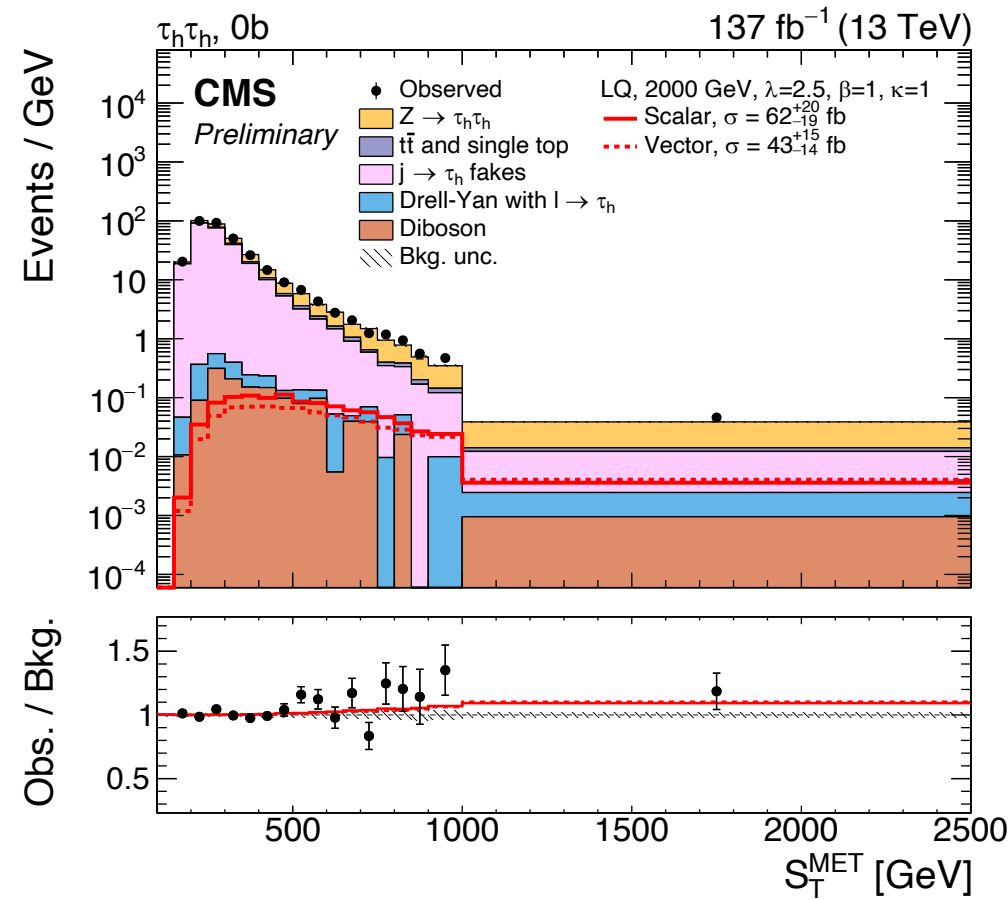
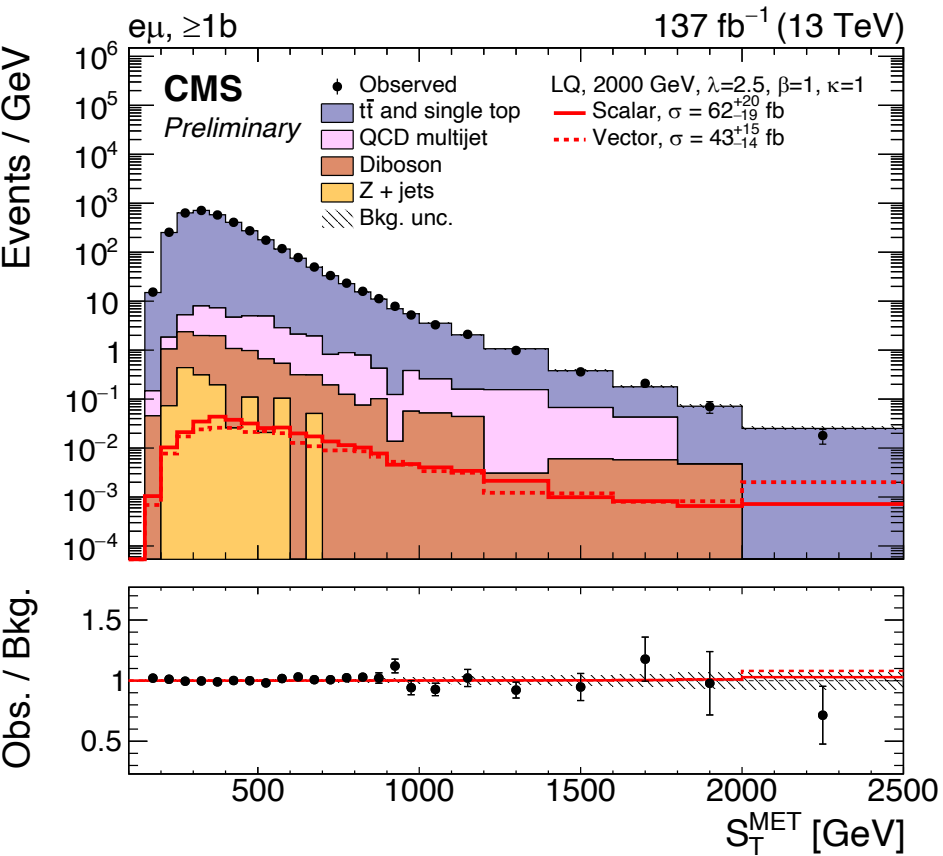
# Comparison of observables : $\chi$ fit in 45 signal regions

(5  $\tau$  modes \* 3 years \* 3 visible mass categ.)



# Comparison of observables : STMET fit in 30 signal regions (5 $\tau$ modes \* 3 years \* two b-tag categories)

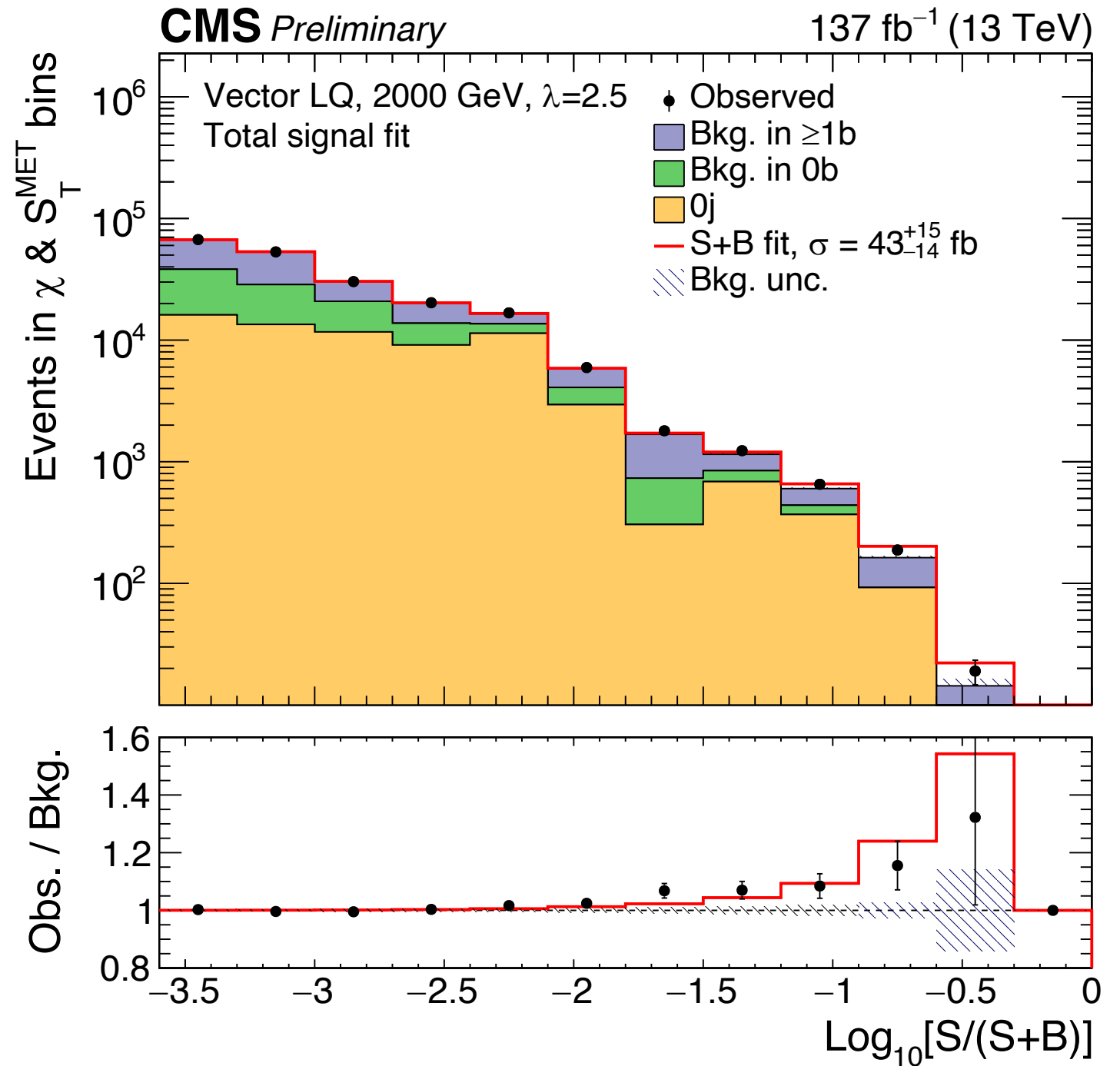
3 examples showing different background compositions :



Some disagreements in the tails

# Digesting 75 signal regions

Here, we order bins from all 75 signal regions by increasing signal significance, and show best fit of S+B



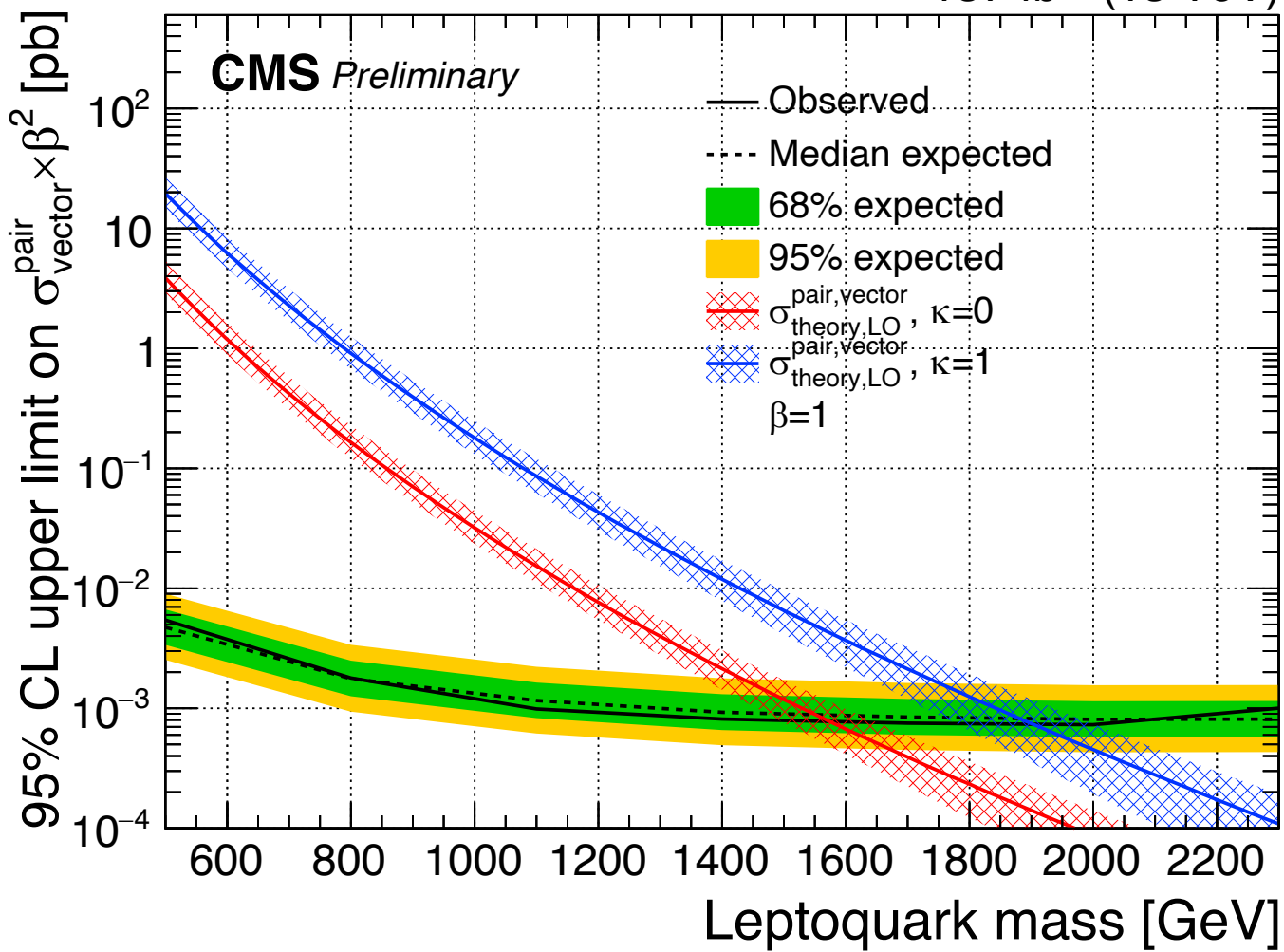
An excess is observed :  $\sim 3.5 \sigma$



# Excess :

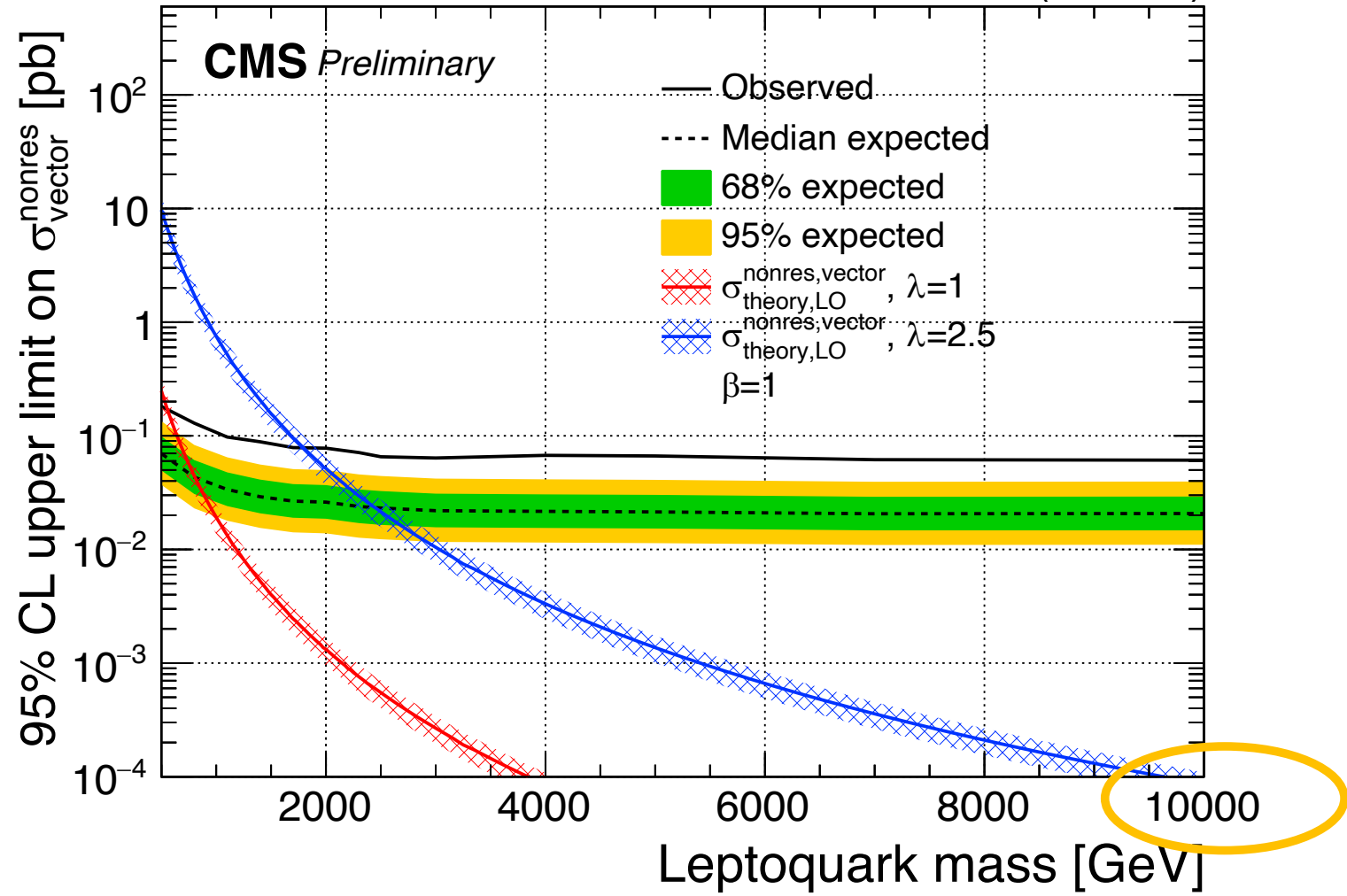
LQ pair production

137 fb<sup>-1</sup> (13 TeV)



LQ t-channel exchange

137 fb<sup>-1</sup> (13 TeV)

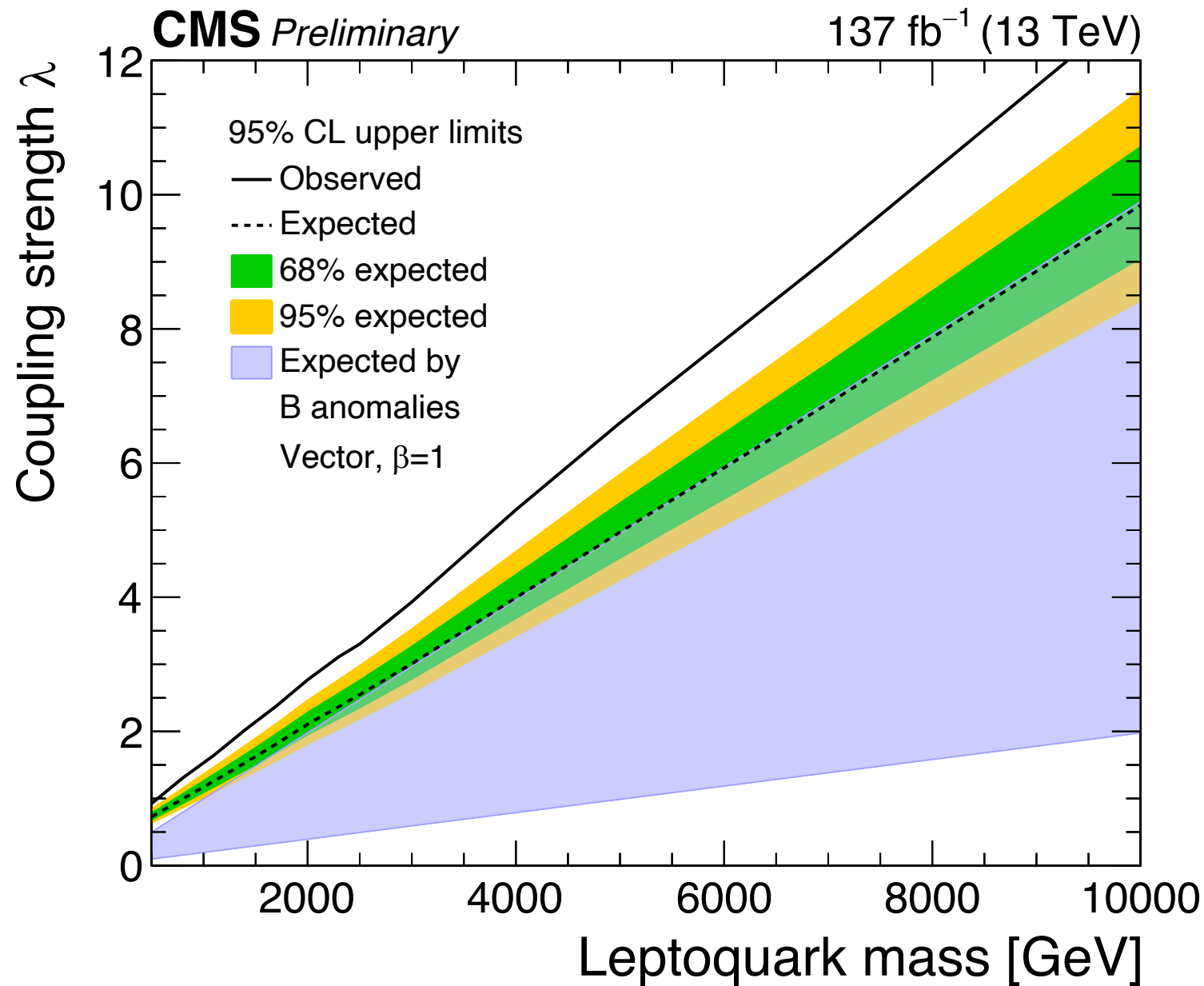


Pair-produced leptoquarks excluded below 1.6 – 1.9 TeV

Non-resonant t-channel LQ exchange shows mass-independent excess, extending to high masses

Possible signal is more consistent with a LQ with high-mass & high-coupling

# Could this be the LQ seen in B anomalies ?

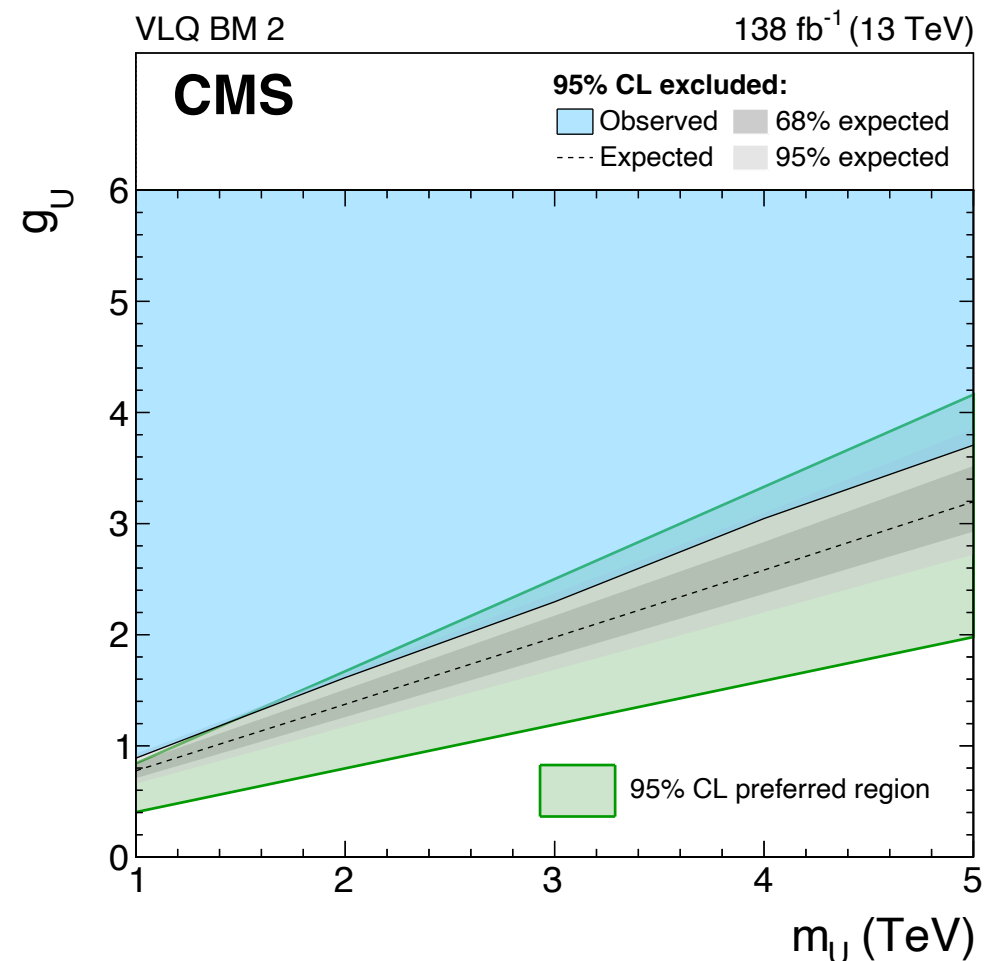


Expected limits just on the edge of the anomaly - favored region,

Since LQ pair production excludes masses  $< 2$  TeV, the excess points to high mass & coupling

# Cross-check ?

- Another CMS analysis (BSM Higgs search [CMS-HIG-21-001](#)) has also considered t-channel LQ exchange
  - Considers  $\tau\tau$  with and without  $\geq 1$  b-tag
  - Different event selection, optimization, & discriminating variables
  - Considers interference with SM processes



A 2-Sigma excess is observed across the mass region

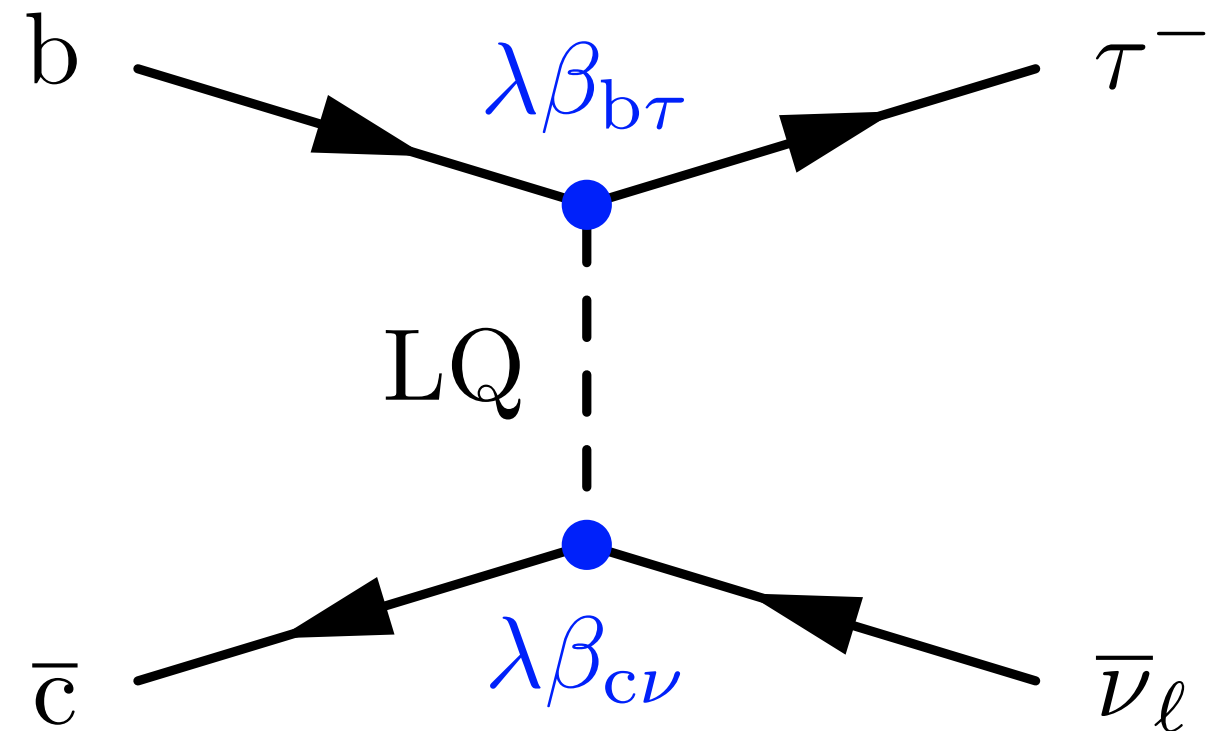
- Additional cross-checks show consistency with [CMS-EXO-19-016](#)
- Interference found to be less than 10% at masses above 2 TeV

# If this signal is real, where else might it be ?

Flavor structure

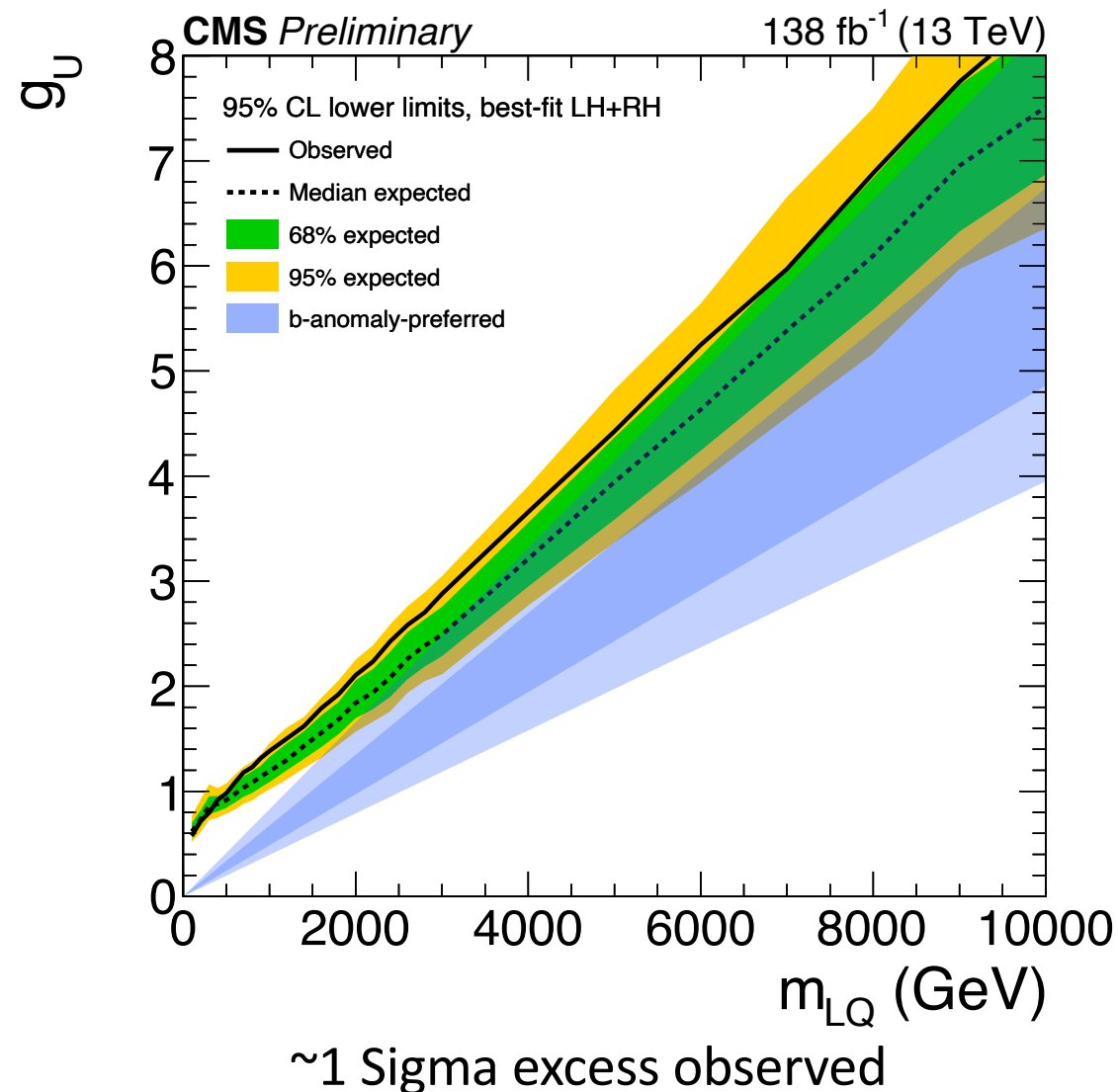
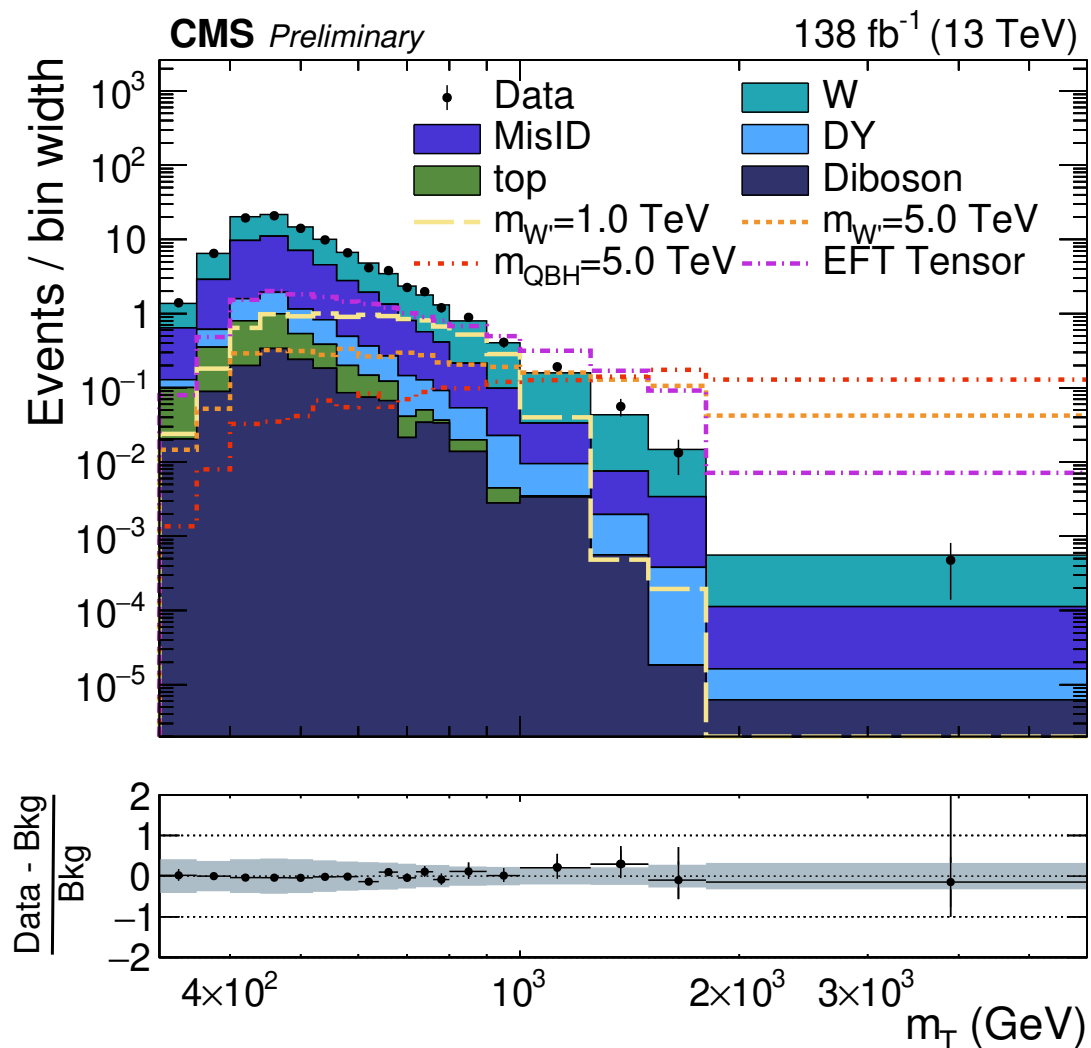
$$\Rightarrow V_{q\ell} \sim \begin{matrix} d/u' \\ s/c' \\ b/t' \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} e/\nu_e & \mu/\nu_\mu & \tau/\nu_\tau \\ 0 & 0 & -0.02 \\ 0 & +0.02 & 0.13 \\ 0 & -0.13 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

LQ-c- $\nu$  coupling is off-diagonal : 10% size of LQ-b- $\tau$

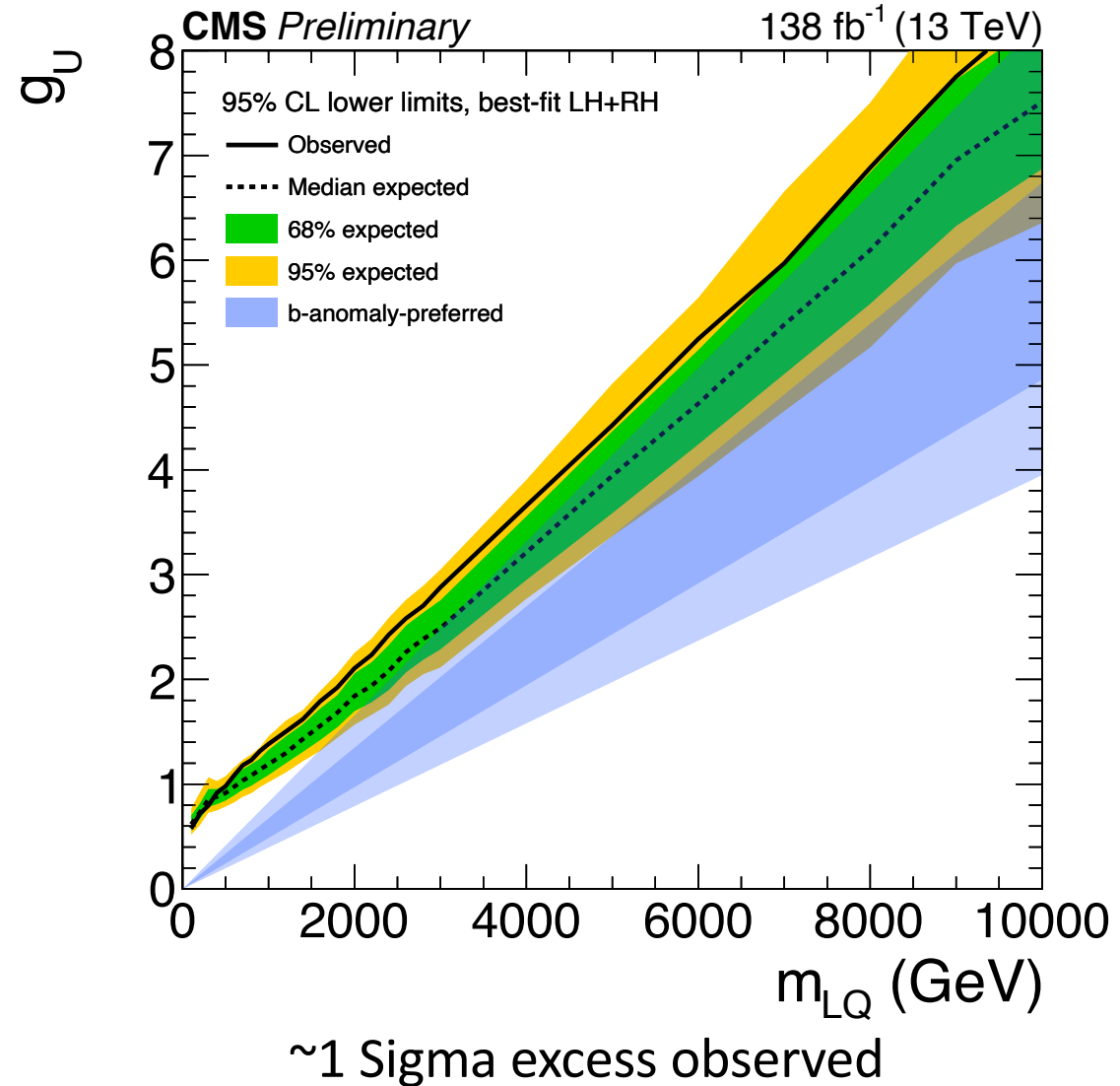
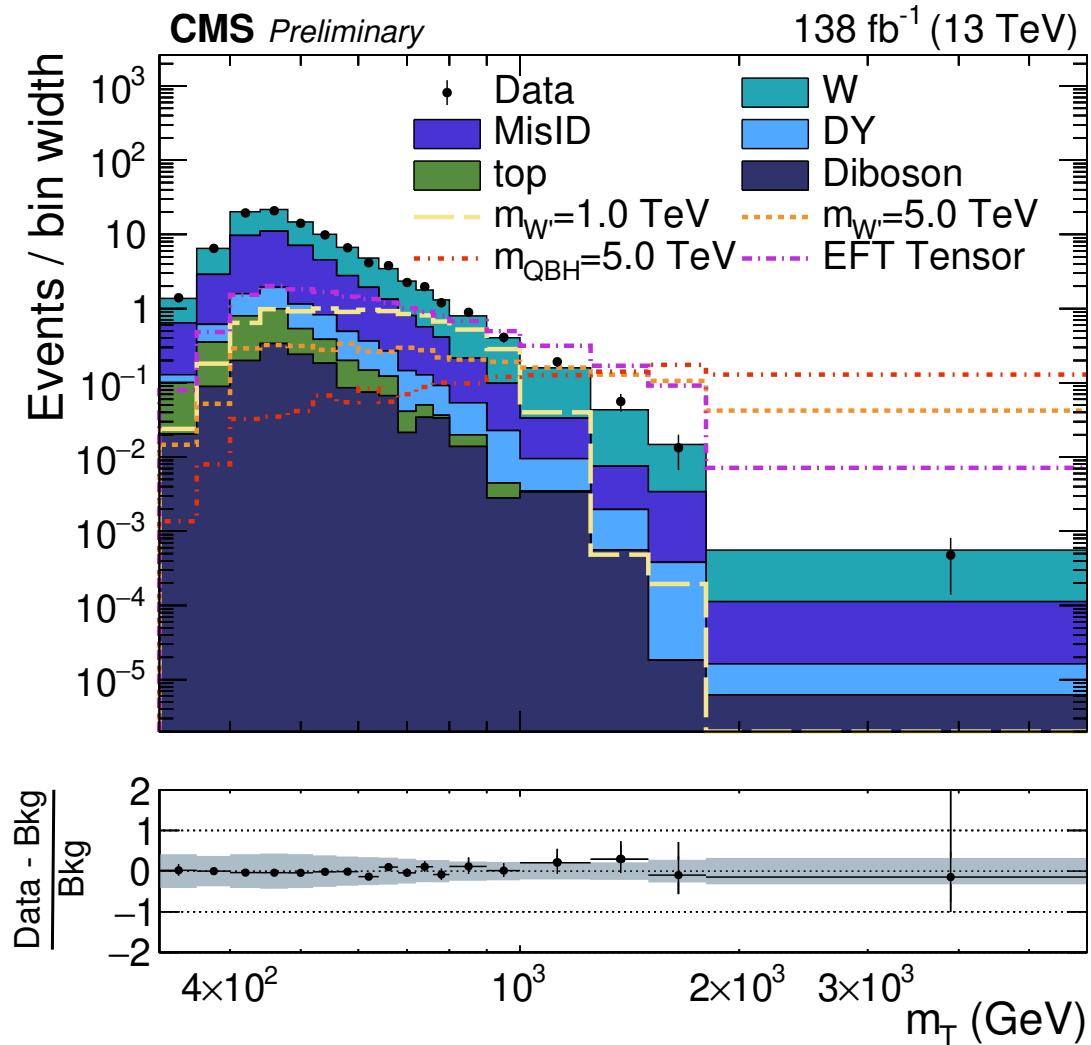


Final state of  $\tau + \nu$  is interesting for t-channel leptoquark exchange

# Search for t-channel LQ exchange in $\tau + \nu$



# Search for t-channel LQ exchange in $\tau + \nu$



The coupling strengths excluded by searches in the tau+MET (CMS-EXO-21-009) and ditau (CMS-EXO-19-016) final state are compatible within approximately 5-25% for a vector LQ mass of 2 TeV and coupling benchmarks that could explain the b-anomalies.

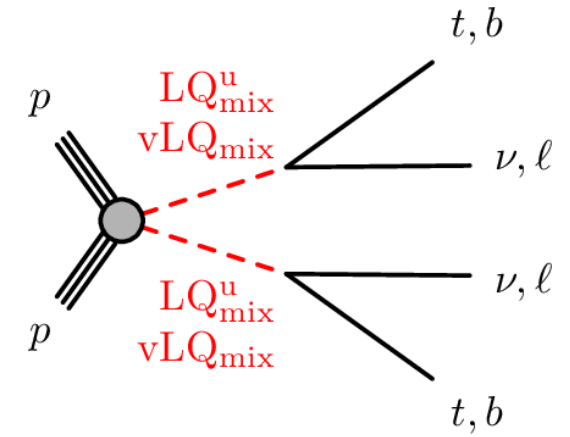
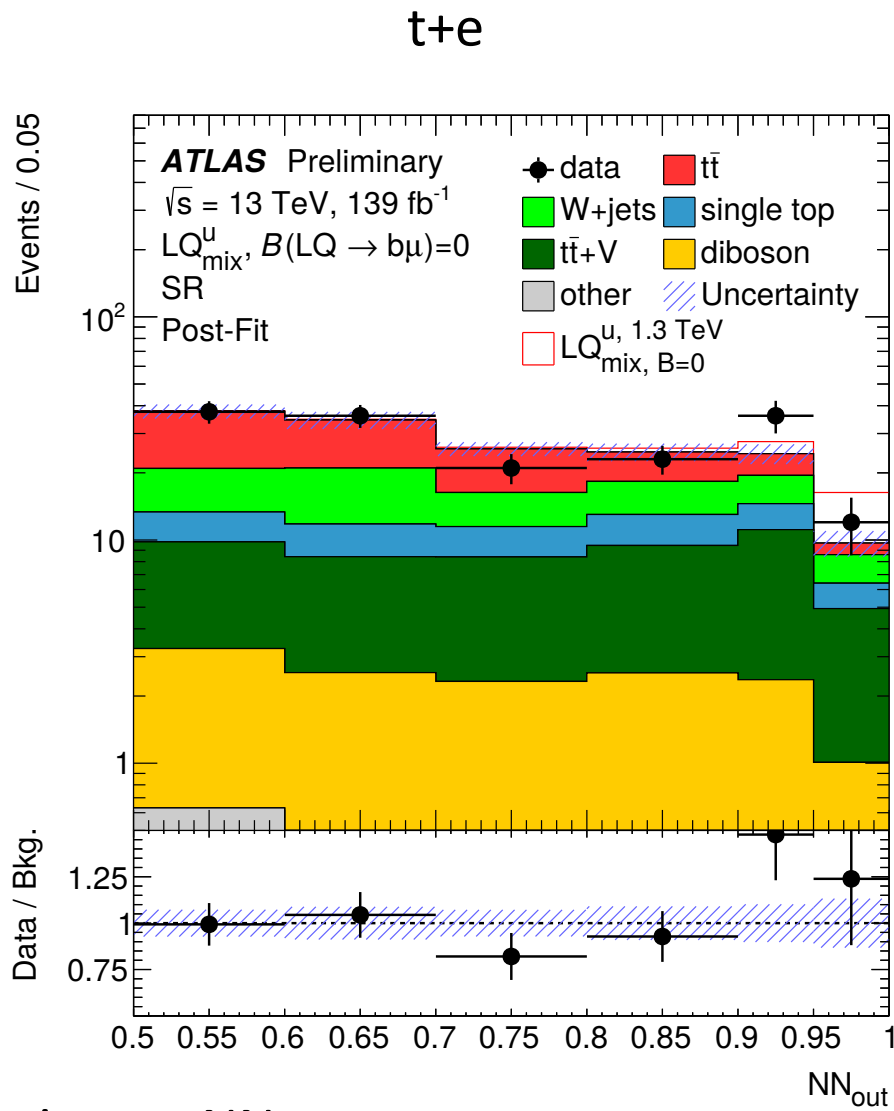
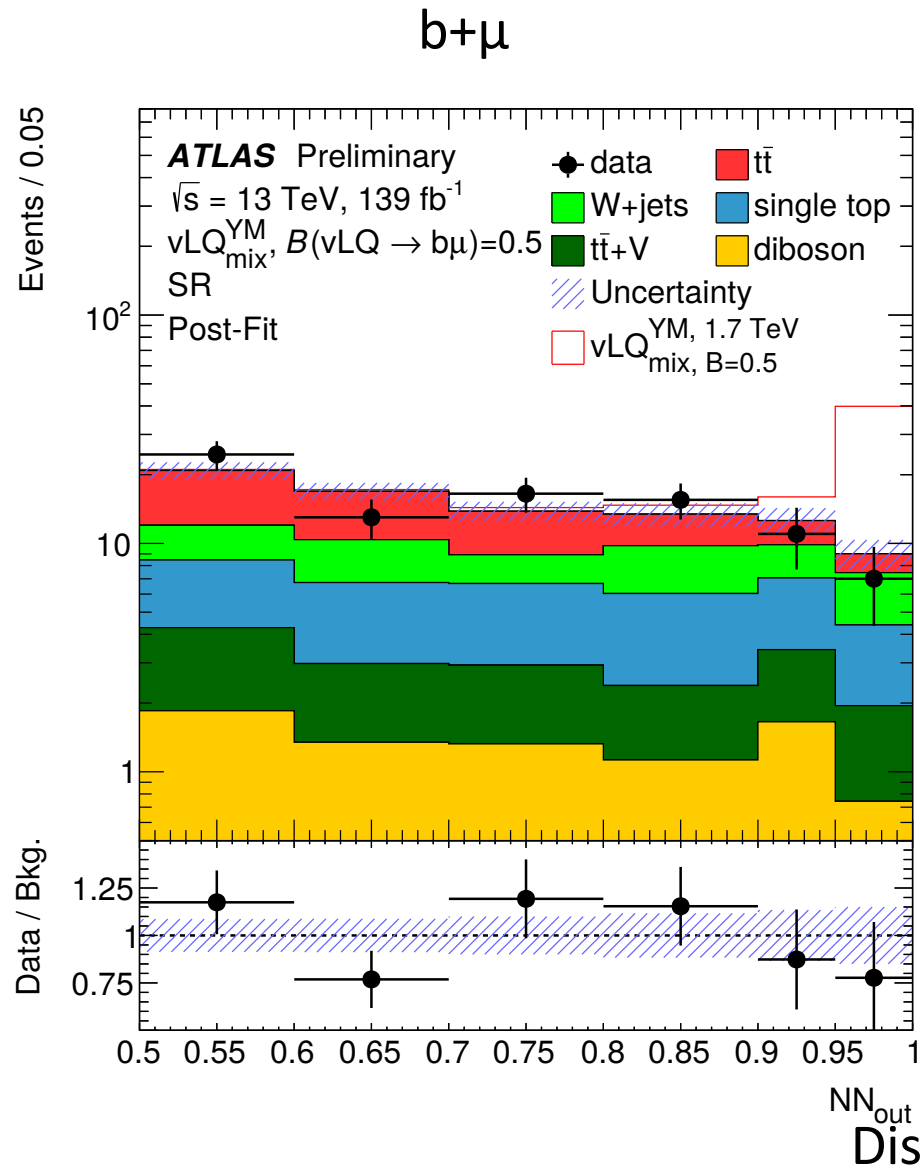
# What about ATLAS ?

- ATLAS has 3 new (ICHEP 2022) LQ results :
  - Search for scalar/vector LQs  $\rightarrow$  to 3<sup>rd</sup> gen. quarks + 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> gen. leptons ([ATLAS-CONF-2022-009](#))
    - LQ (pairs)  $\rightarrow$  (t,b) + (e, $\mu$ , $\nu$ ) with **exactly 1e or 1 $\mu$**  in the final state
    - Considers up-type LQ (charge = 2/3e) and down-type LQ (charge = 1/3e)
  - Search for scalar/vector LQLQ  $\rightarrow$  t $\ell$  + t $\ell$  with  $\ell = e, \mu$  ([ATLAS-CONF-2022-052](#))
    - LQ pairs  $\rightarrow$  te + te OR t $\mu$  + t $\mu$
    - Considers down-type LQ (charge = 1/3e)
    - **3 or 4 leptons** in final state
  - Search for scalar LQs in  $\tau\tau b$  ([ATLAS-CONF-2022-037](#))
    - LQLQ with LQ  $\rightarrow$   $\tau b$
    - Considers LQ with charge 4/3e
    - For the first time, **single LQ production considered**

# Searches for LQs with charge $2/3e$ and $1/3e$ ([ATLAS-CONF-2022-009](#))

1 lepton

$LQ \rightarrow t+\nu, t+e, t+\mu$  and  $LQ \rightarrow b+\nu, b+e, b+\mu$

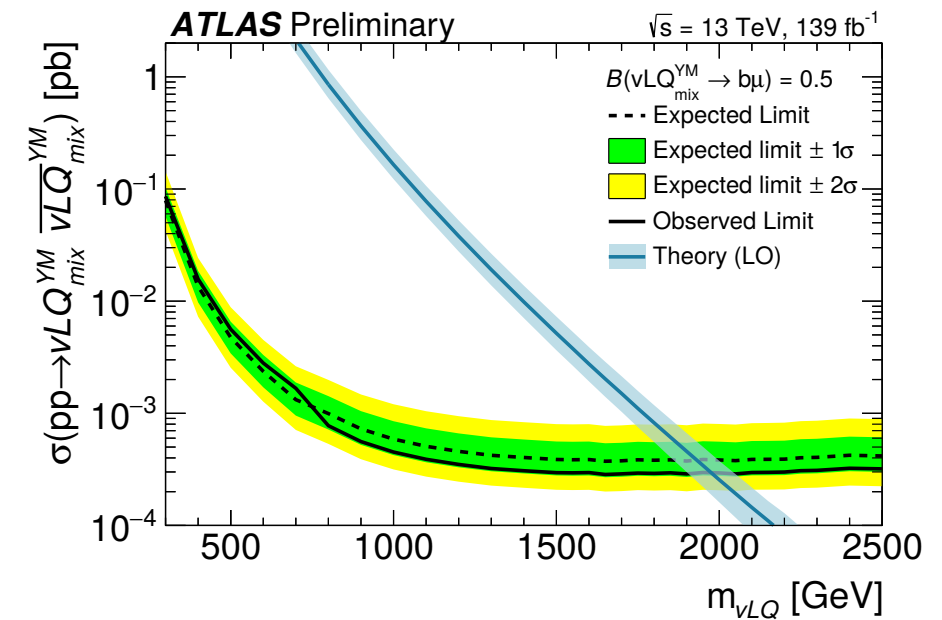
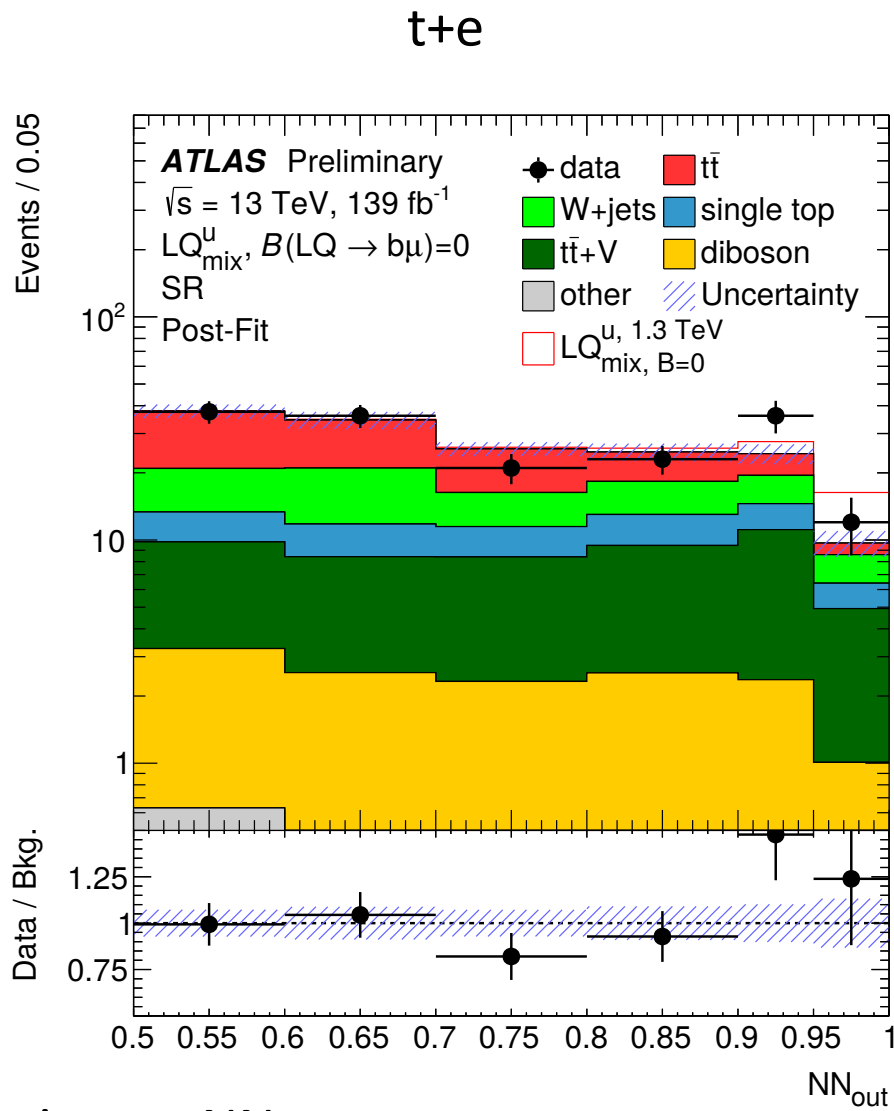
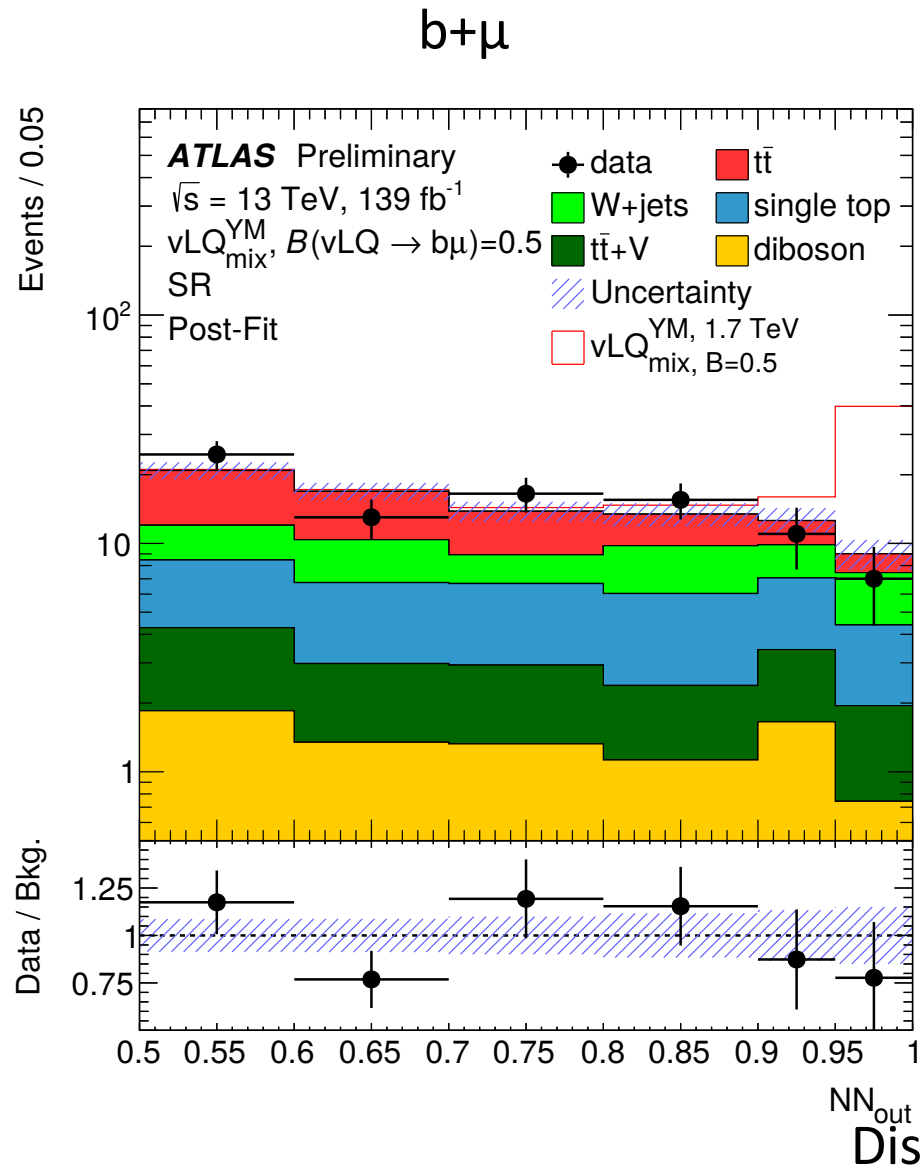
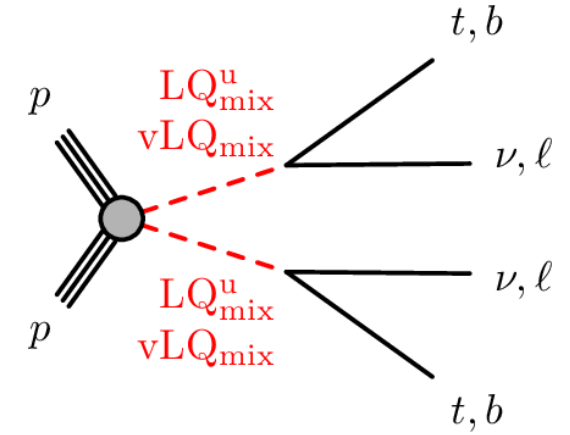




# Searches for LQs with charge $2/3e$ and $1/3e$ [\(ATLAS-CONF-2022-009\)](#)

1 lepton

$LQ \rightarrow t+\nu, t+e, t+\mu$  and  $LQ \rightarrow b+\nu, b+e, b+\mu$



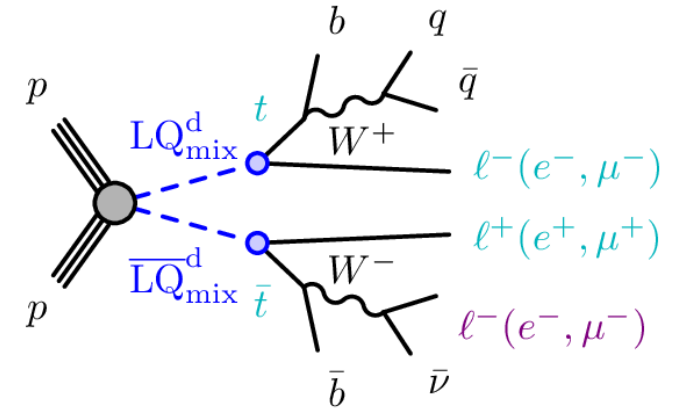
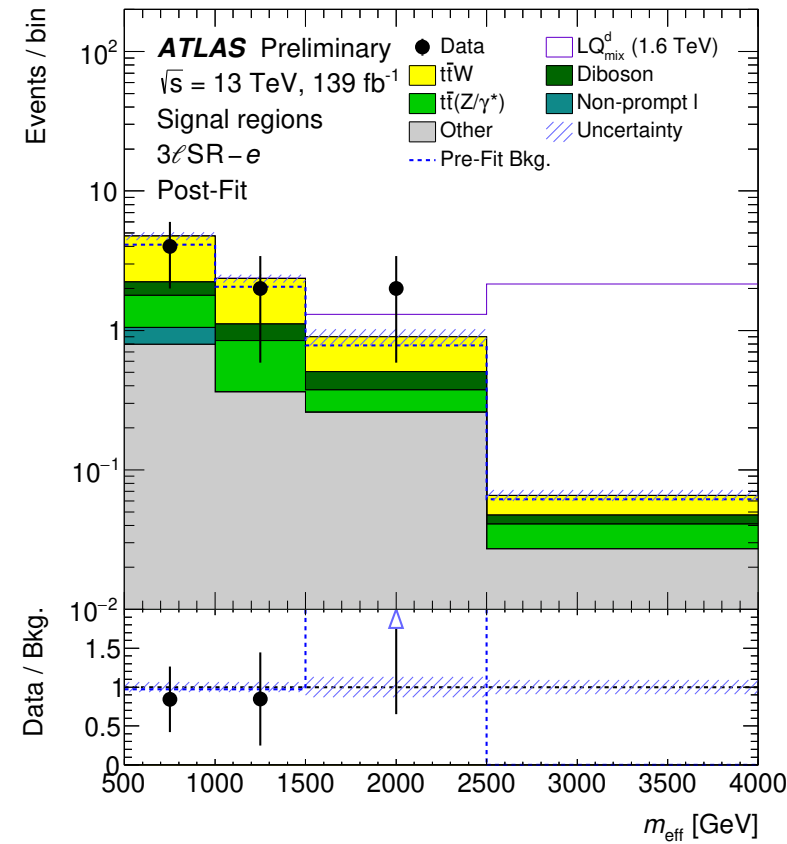
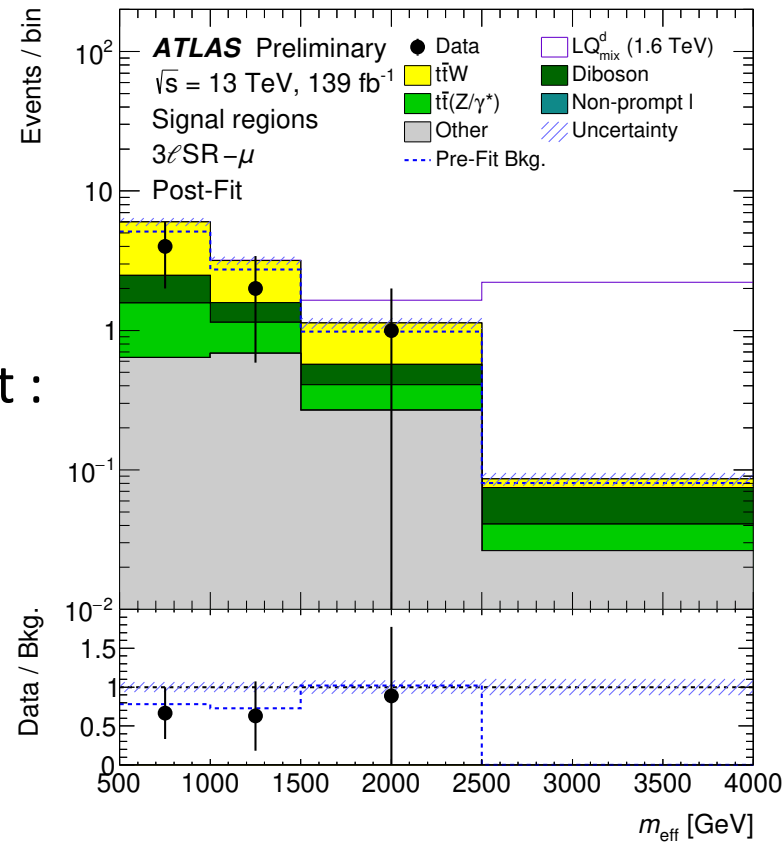
No excesses observed

LQ limits on mass range 1.4 – 1.95 TeV

Strongest limits : vector LQs with Yang Mills couplings > vector LQs with minimal couplings > Scalar LQs

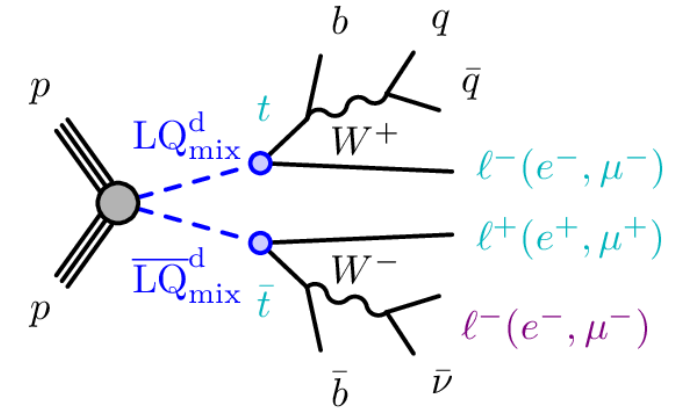
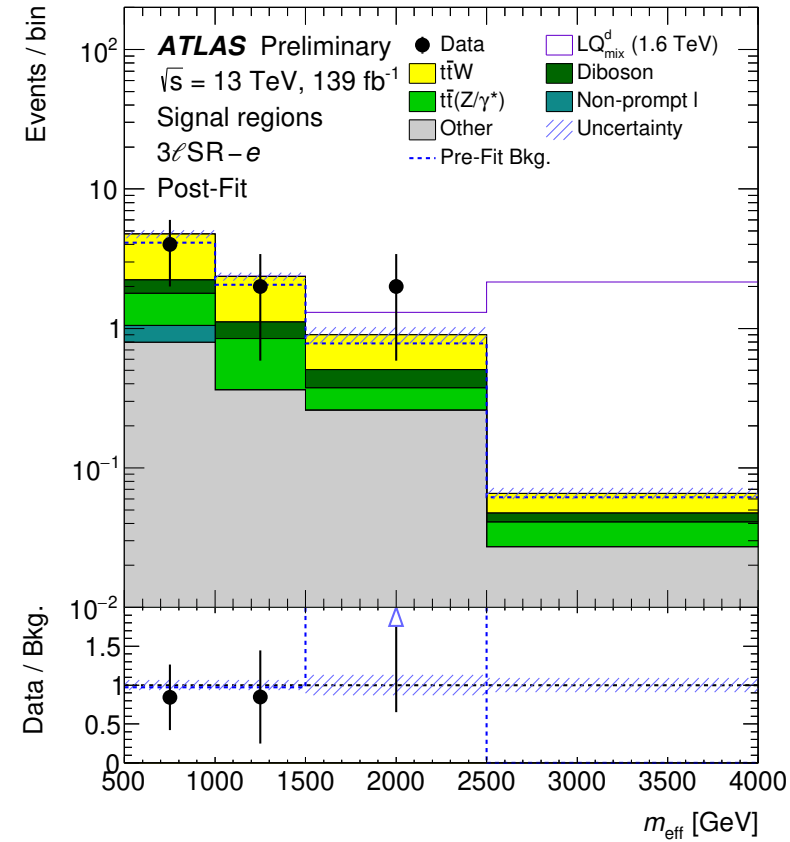
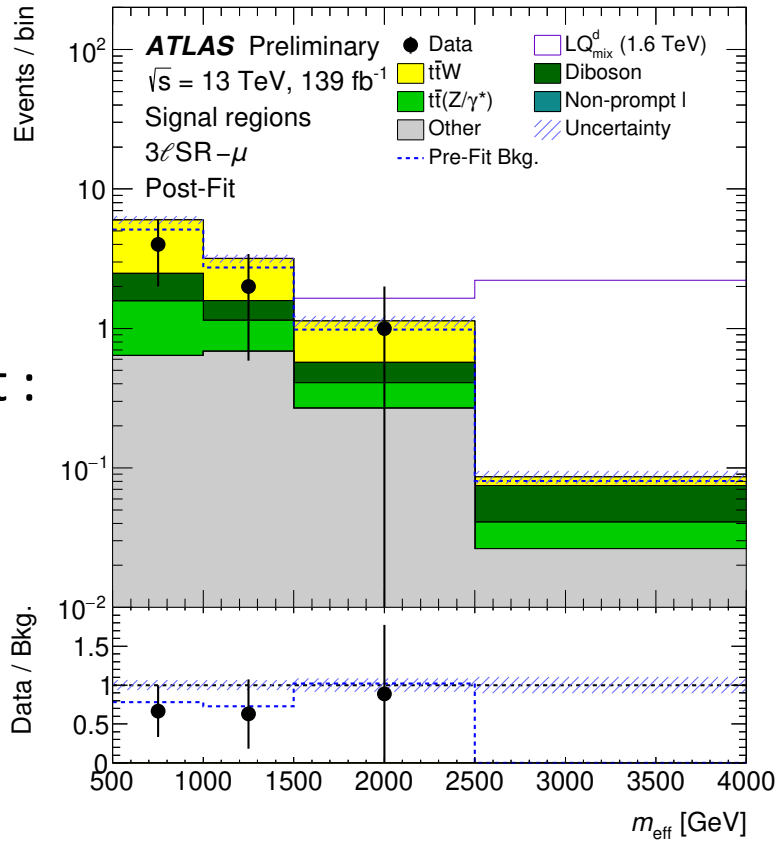
# LQLQ $\rightarrow$ $t\ell + t\ell$ (ATLAS-CONF-2022-052)

Discriminant :  
 $m_{\text{eff}}$



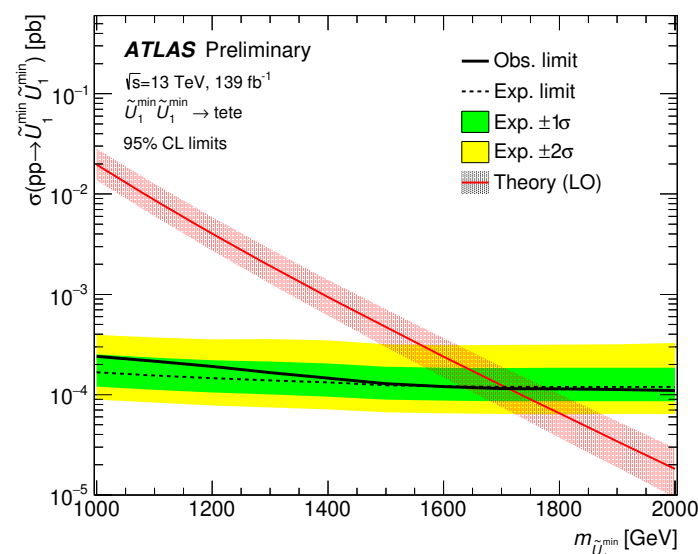
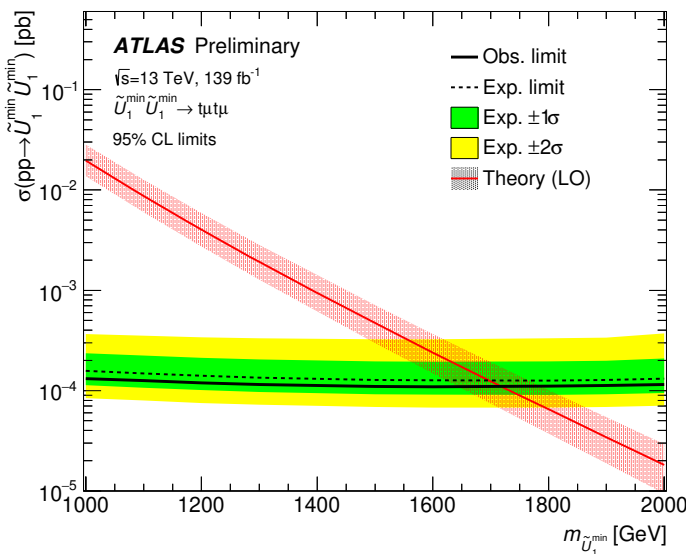
# LQLQ $\rightarrow$ $t\ell + t\ell$ (ATLAS-CONF-2022-052)

Discriminant :  $m_{\text{eff}}$



No excess observed, Limits on  $M_{LQ} \sim 1.7$  TeV

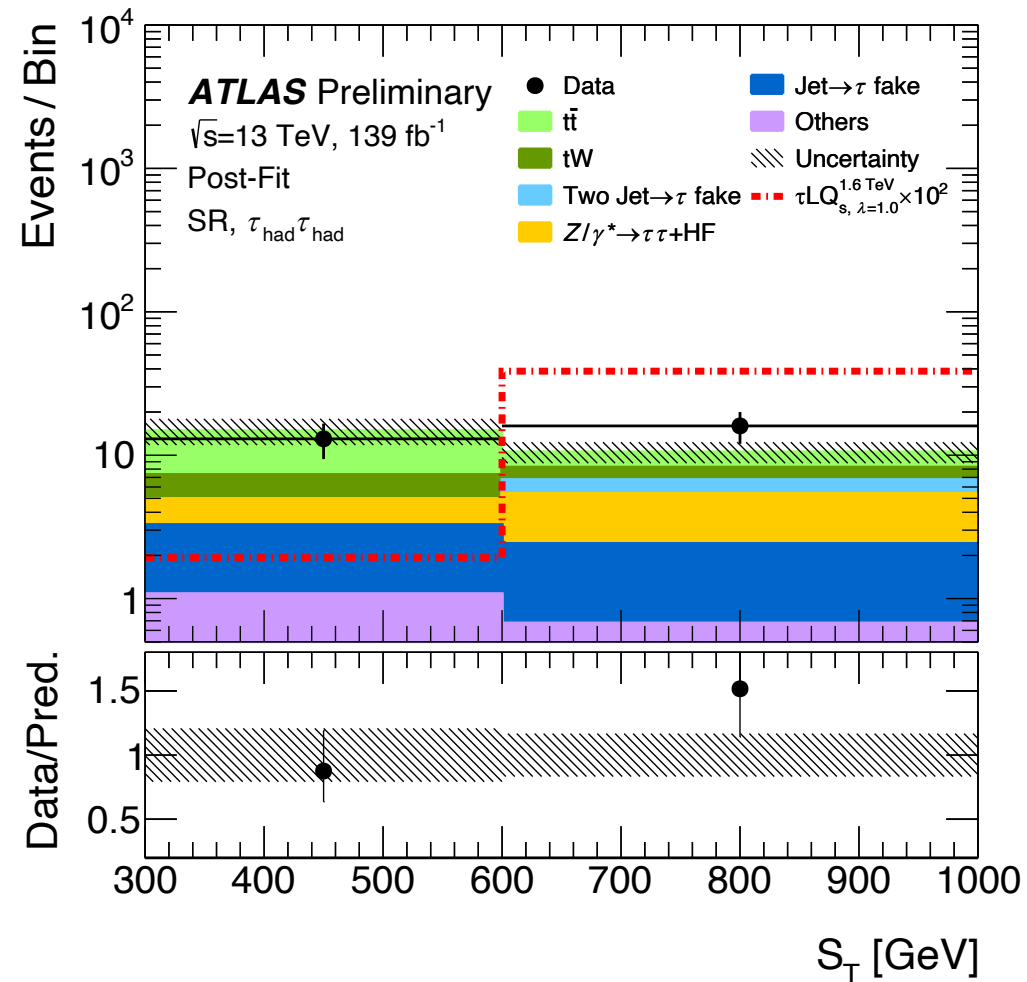
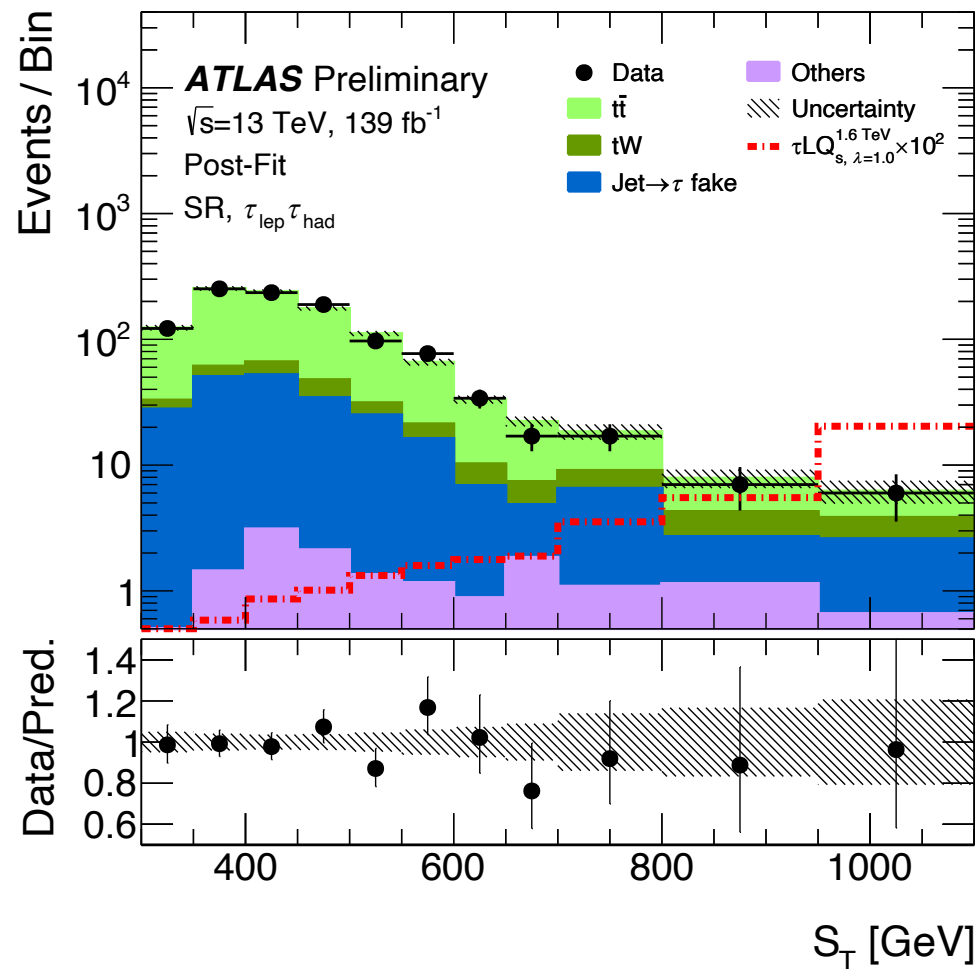
Limits



# ATLAS LQ pair and single production

( [ATLAS-CONF-2022-037](#) )

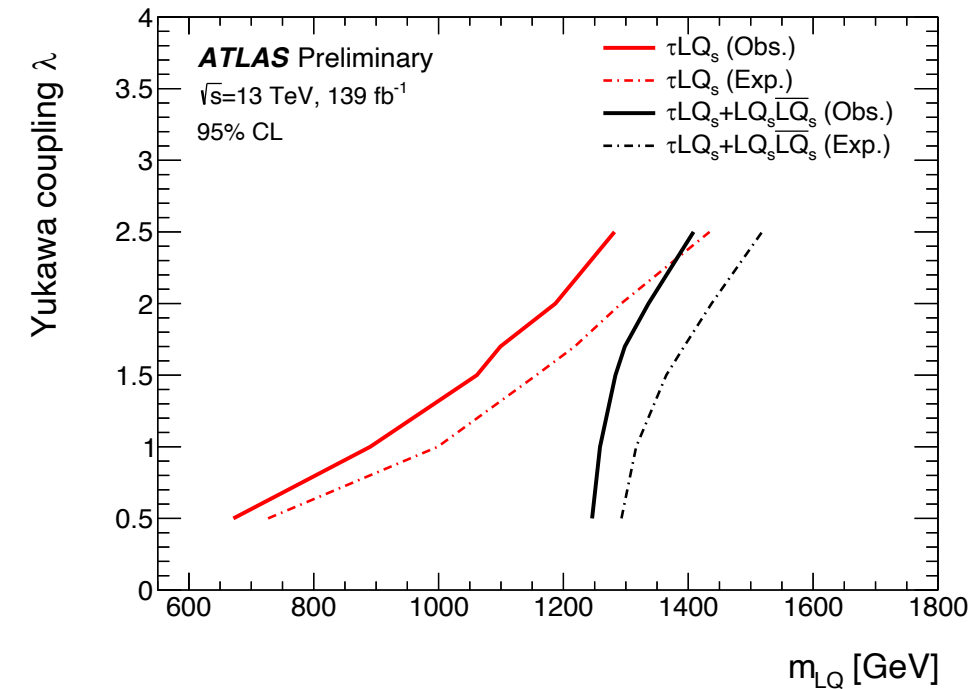
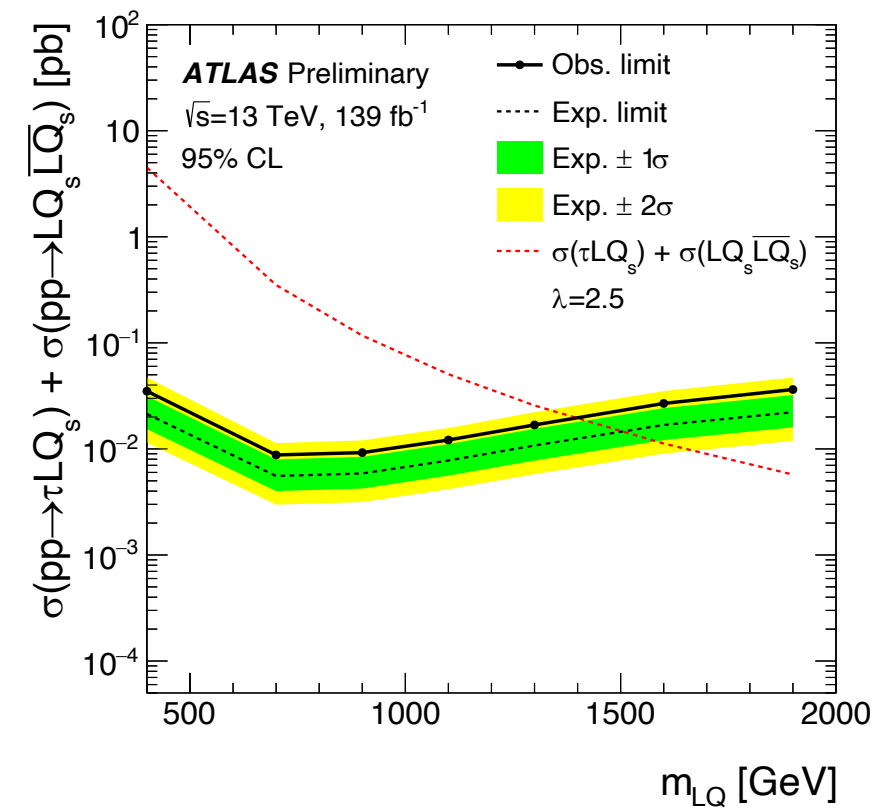
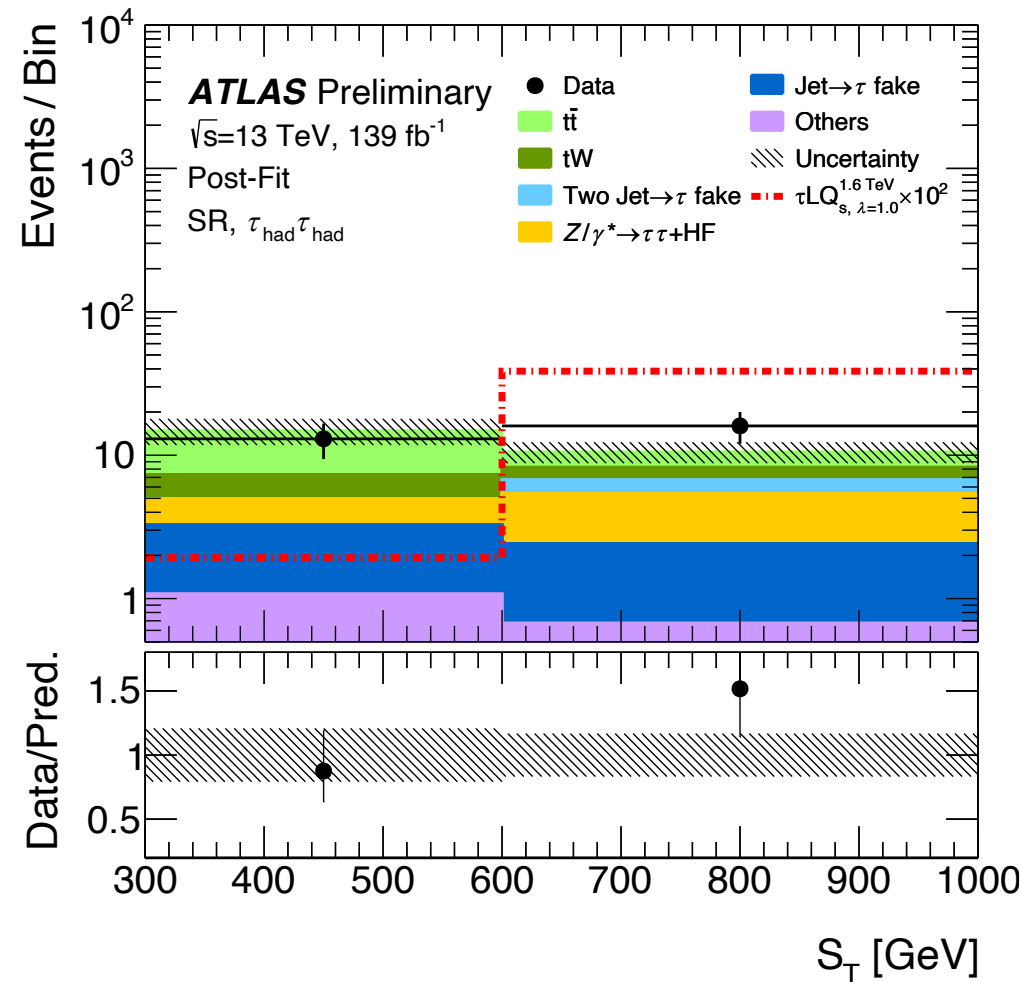
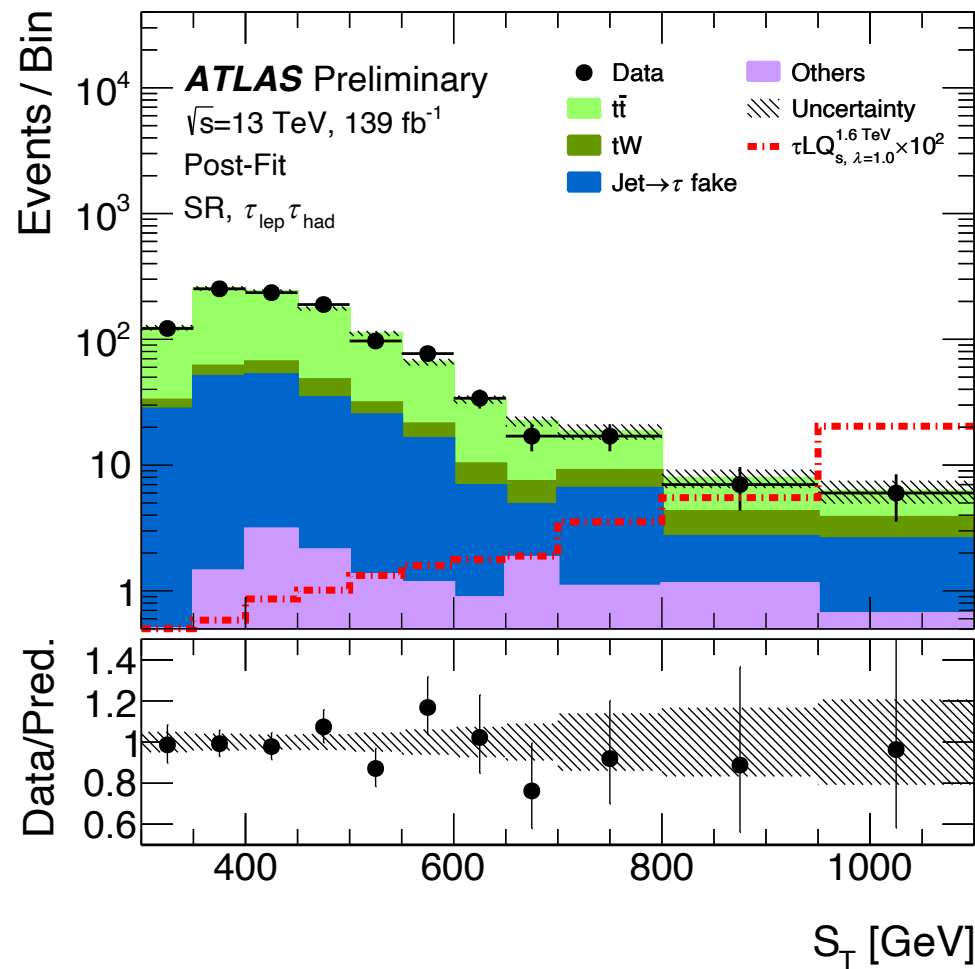
- New single-LQ search combined with LQ pair production
  - $b\tau\tau$  final state targets both
  - However, final state not sensitive to non-resonant production



# ATLAS LQ pair and single production

( [ATLAS-CONF-2022-037](#) )

- New single-LQ search combined with LQ pair production
  - $b\tau\tau$  final state targets both
  - However, final state not sensitive to non-resonant production

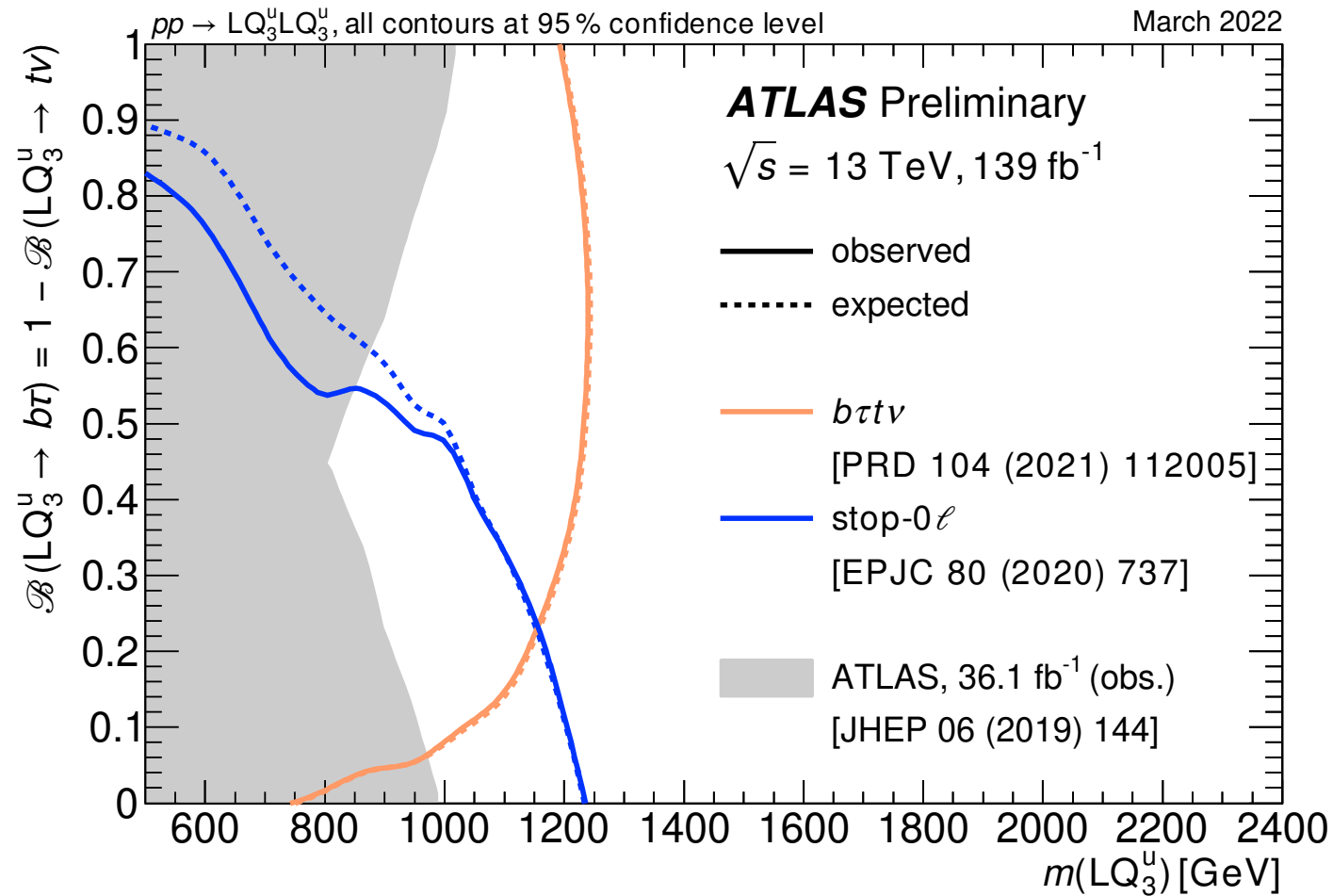


- No excess observed for  $M_{LQ}$  2 TeV
- Mass constraints similar to CMS

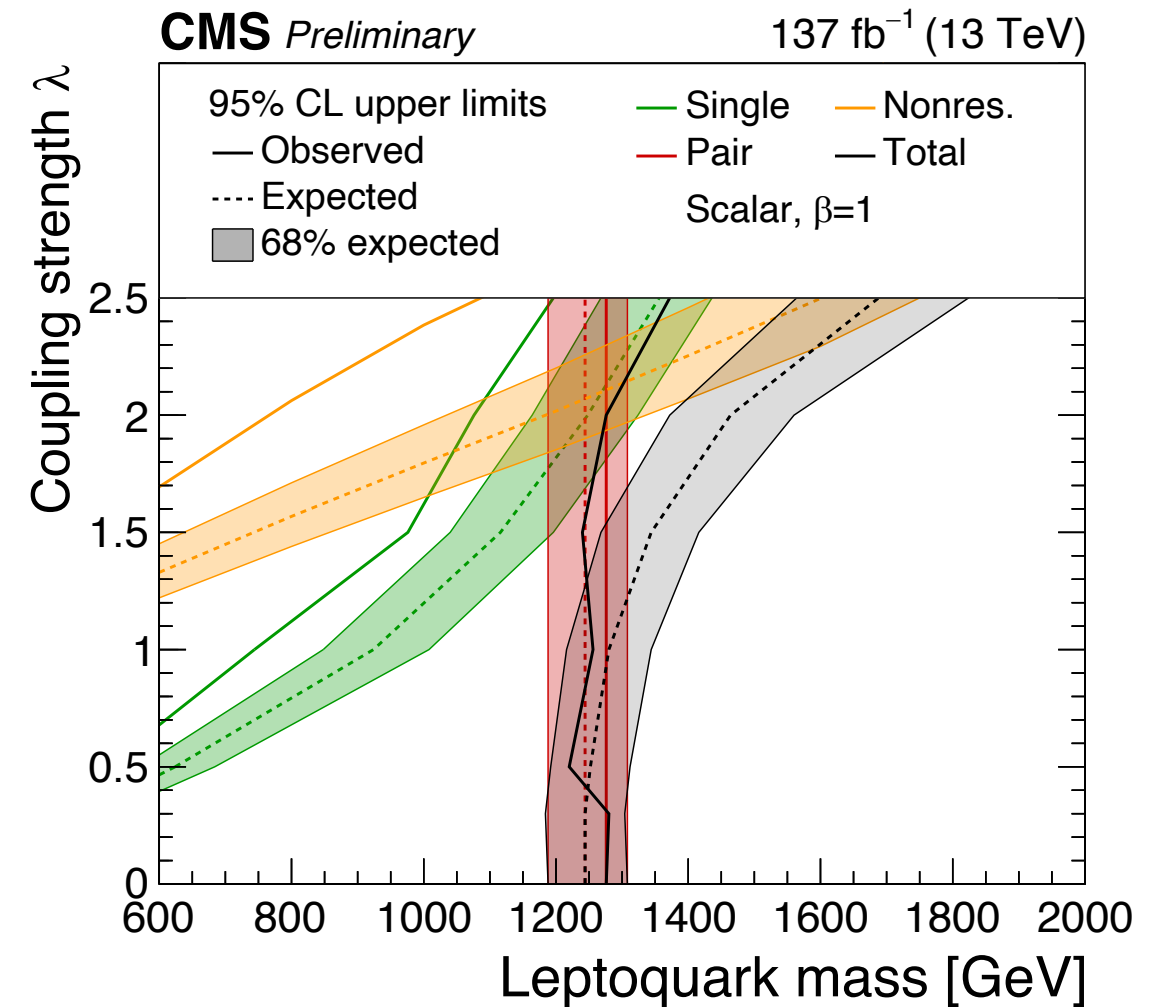
# Some LQ summary plots (many more available)

[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-012](#)

[CMS-PAS-EXO-19-016](#)



As a function of BR to either  $tv$  or  $b\tau$



Coupling vs. mass  
combining single + pair + nonresonant LQ production

# Summary: Leptoquark searches at CMS & ATLAS

- Third-generation leptoquarks offer explanation of flavor structure of SM and could be responsible for B anomalies
- 3G LQ pair production sets coupling-independent mass constraints below  $M_{LQ}$  of  $\sim 2$  TeV
- Non-resonant, t-channel LQ exchange allows possibility to probe high masses & high couplings favored by B anomalies
  - CMS sees an intriguing  $3.5\sigma$  excess
  - Combined with other searches, favors high-mass ( $> 2$  TeV) and high coupling
- Not covered : Many LQ searches in 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> generation on CMS and ATLAS physics pages

[CMS-EXO-19-016](#)

