Searching for BSM physics with displaced signatures at LHCb

A personal perspective

Federico Leo Redi

2nd Workshop on electromagnetic dipole moments of unstable particles



Outline

- LLPs Five Ws
- LLPs at LHCb: present
- LLPs at LHCb: past
- LLPs at LHCb future
- Conclusions

Introduction

- In this talk, I will concentrate on **displaced** signature and related physics searches.
- **Landscape**: LHC results in brief:
 - Direct searches for **NP** by **ATLAS** and **CMS** have not happened so far
 - Parameter space for popular **BSM** models is **decreasing rapidly**, but only < 5% of the complete HL-LHC data set has been delivered so far
 - NP discovery **still may happen!**
 - **LHCb** reported intriguing hints (cautiously optimistic) for the violation of lepton flavour universality
 - In $b \rightarrow c\mu\nu / b \rightarrow c\tau\nu$, and in b→se+e- / b→sµ+µ- decays and in angular variables (P'₅)
 - Possible evidence of **BSM** physics if substantiated with further studies (e.g. **BELLE II**)

Interaction

Explored

Unexplored

Energy scale

Intensity frontier:

Flavour physics, lepton flavour violation, electric dipole moment, dark sector

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News





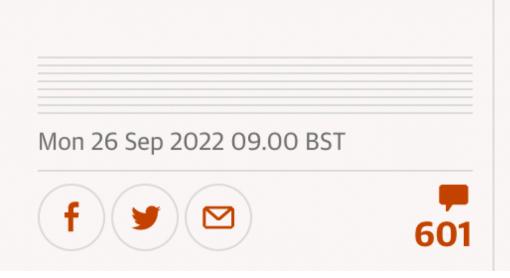


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Opinion Particle physics

No one in physics dares say so, but the race to invent new particles is pointless Sabine Hossenfelder



In private, many physicists admit they do not believe the particles they are paid to search for exist - they do it because their colleagues are doing it

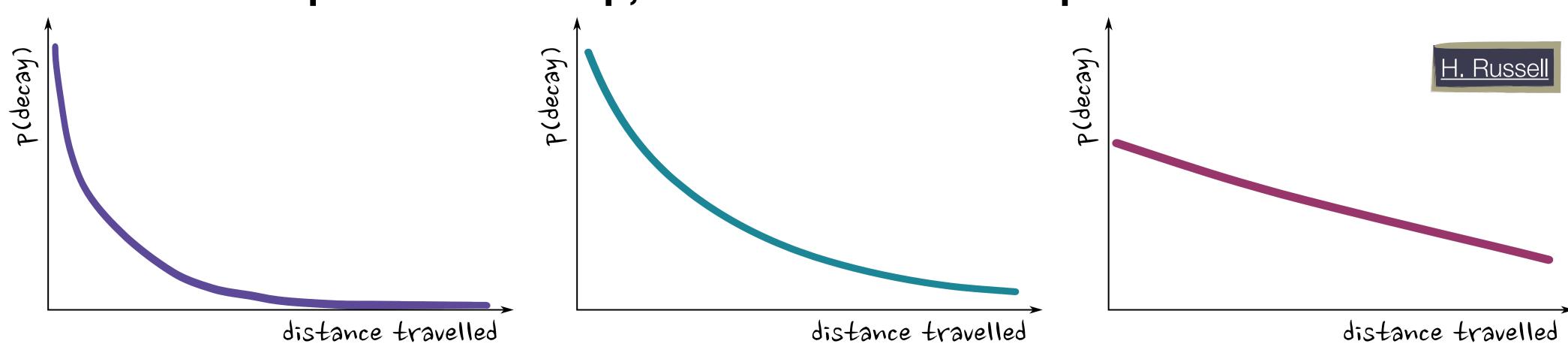


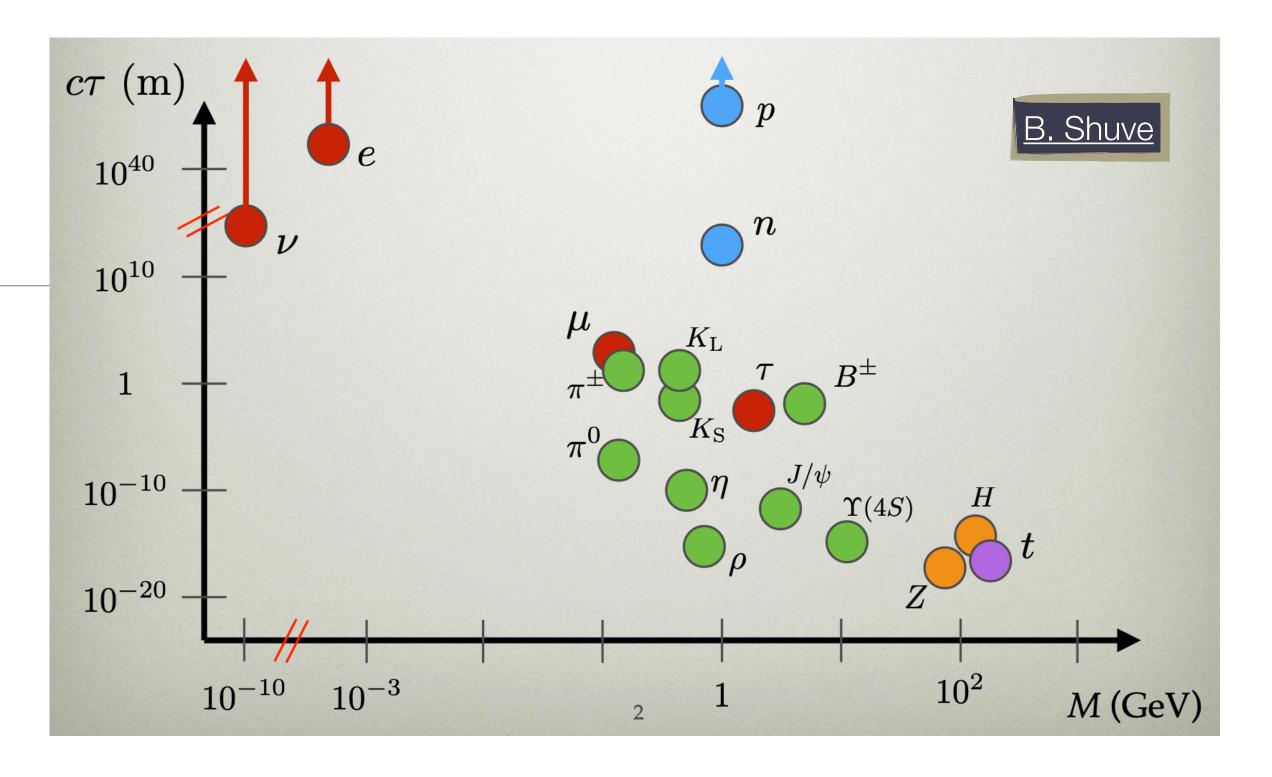
Fears of sahotage as gas

What are long-lived particles?

What is a long-lived particle?

- As an experimentalist: it's a particle that decays in a reconstructable distance from the production point (e.g. pp interaction point at the LHC)
- De-facto used for BSM particles
- Lifetime is sampled from an exp, there is an additional parameter





The community

- Started with few of us and slowly evolving in "main stream" particle physics
- Great communal effort with a bottom up approach
- Started independently and matured in the LHC Long-lived Particles Working Group (LHC LLP WG) which I coconvene: Established in 2020 to serve as

a formal bridge with the relevant physics

F∆SER>

J. Beacham

groups of the approved LHC experiments

LHC LLP WG

Theory/pheno

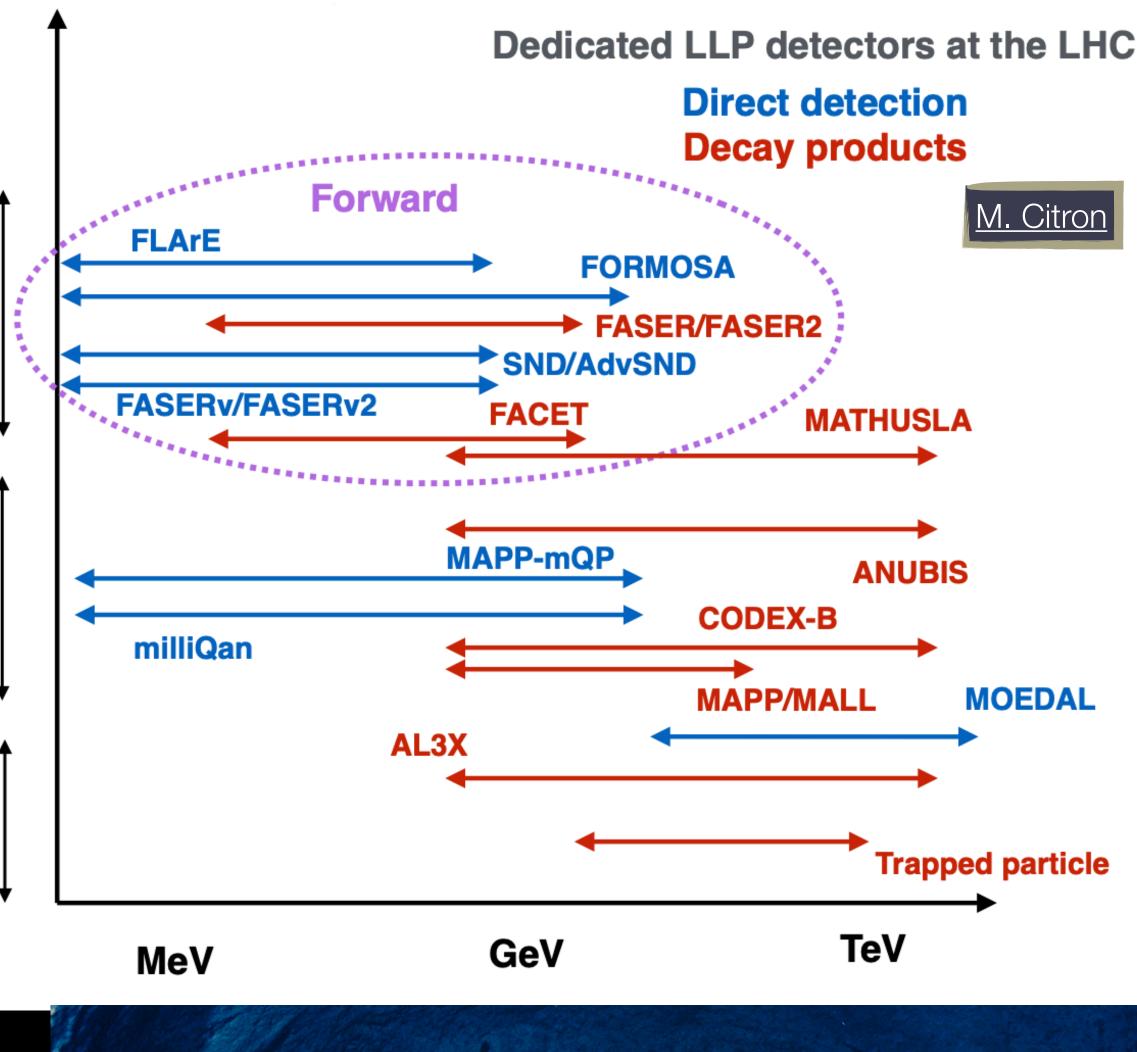


Distance from

O(100)m

O(10)m

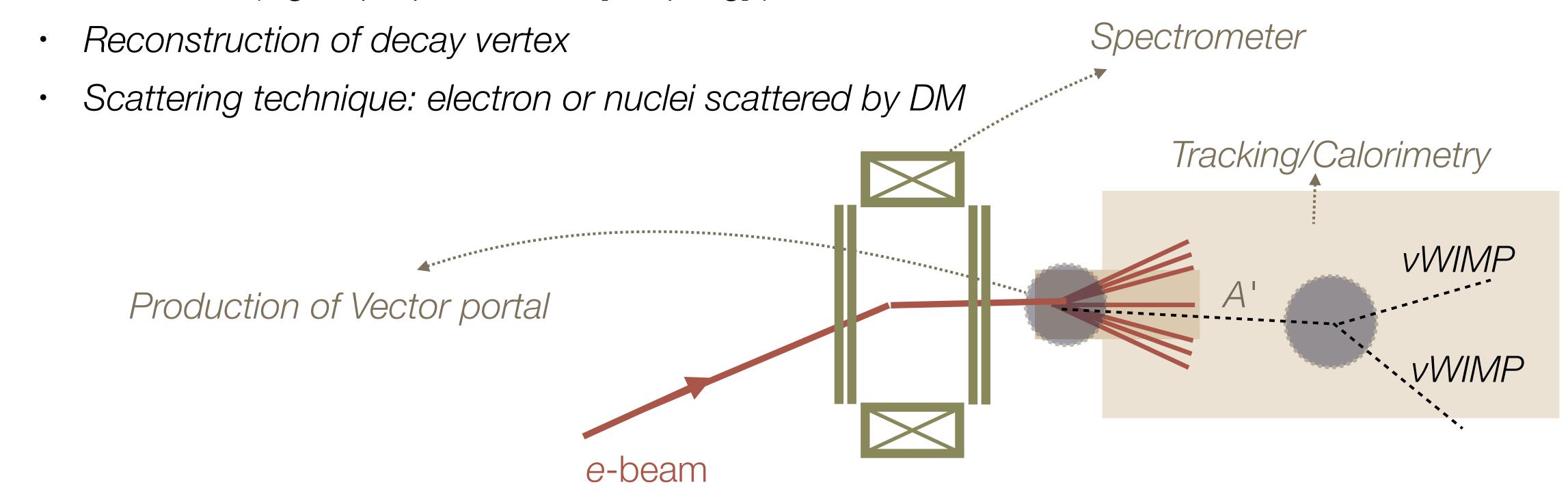
≤O(1)m





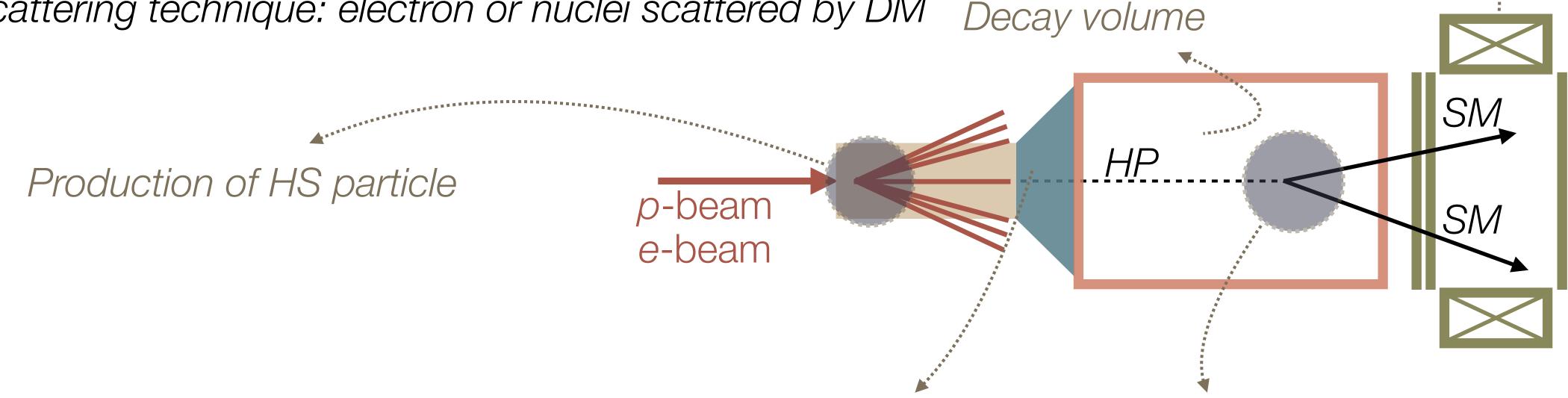
Exploring the dark sector

- · Indirect search (signal proportional to [coupling]²)
 - · Missing energy technique
- Direct search (signal proportional to [coupling]4)



Exploring the dark sector

- Indirect search (signal proportional to [coupling]²)
 - Missing energy technique
- Direct search (signal proportional to [coupling]4)
 - Reconstruction of decay vertex
 - Scattering technique: electron or nuclei scattered by DM



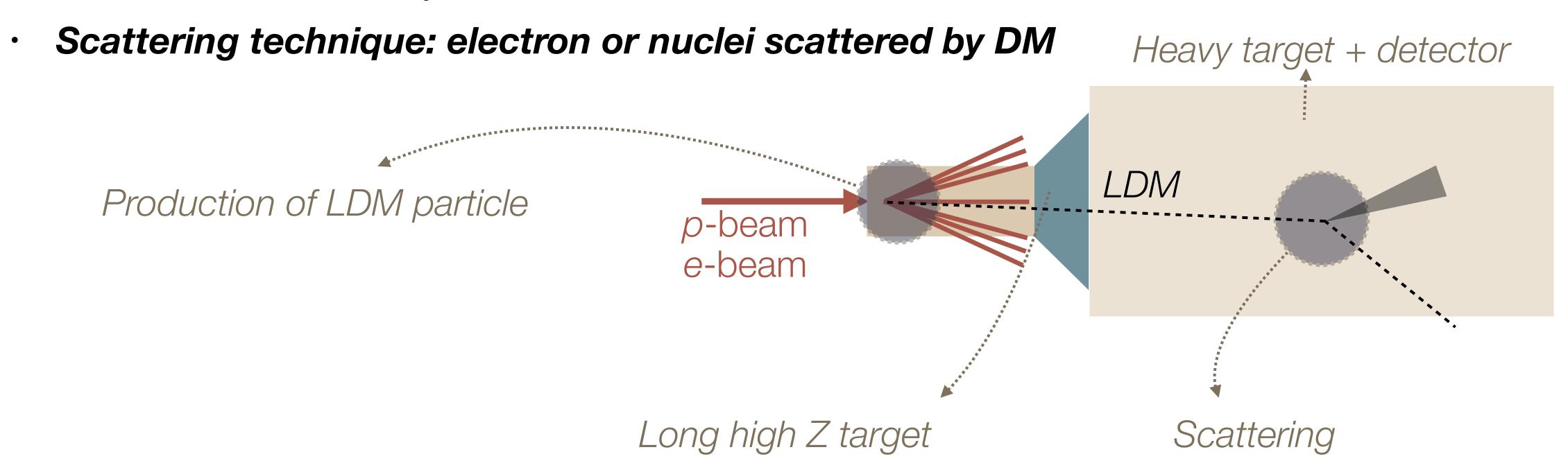
Long high Z target or collider

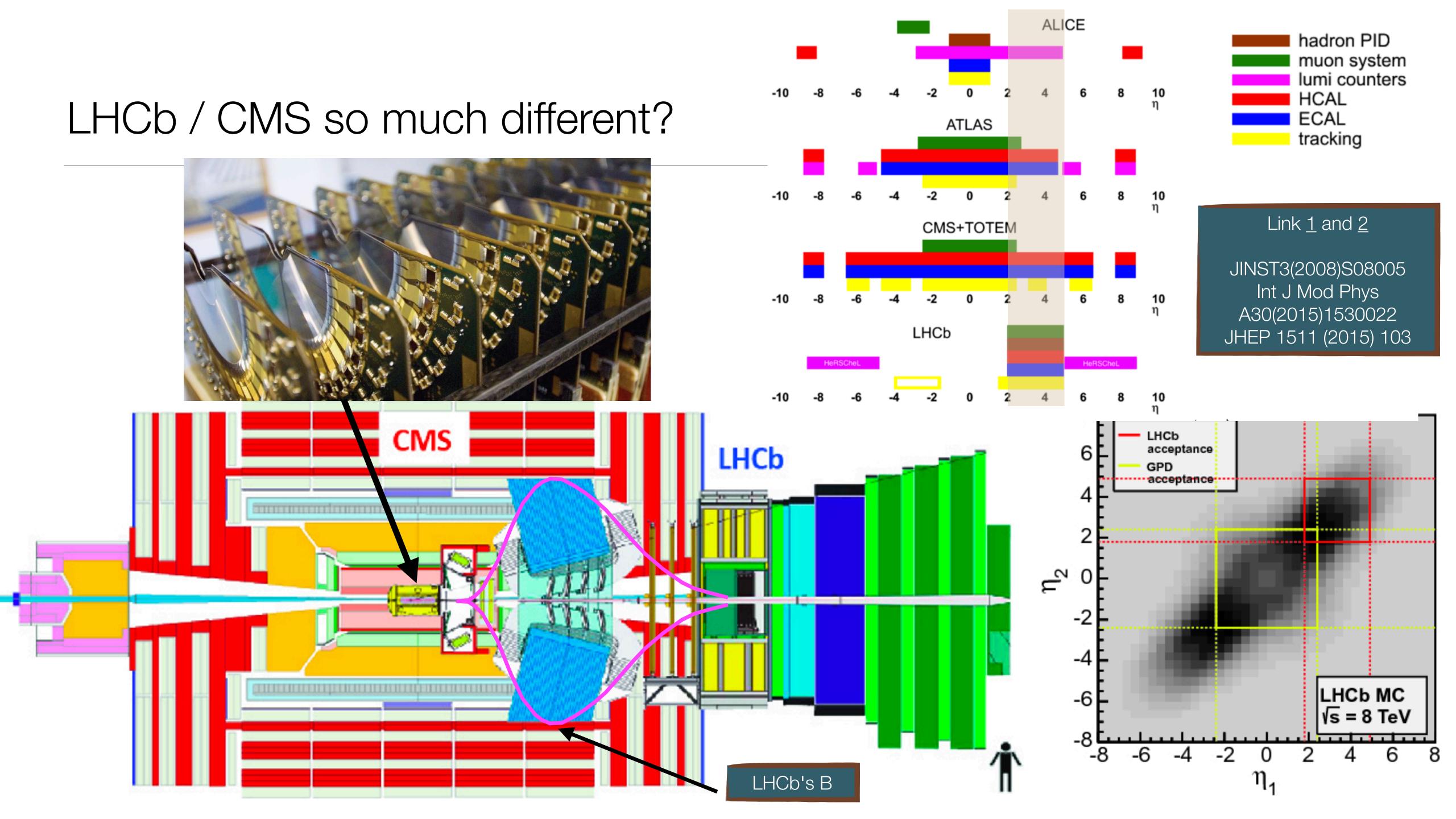
Decay to SM particles

Spectrometer

Exploring the dark sector

- Indirect search (signal proportional to [coupling]²)
 - Missing energy technique
- Direct search (signal proportional to [coupling]4)
 - Reconstruction of decay vertex





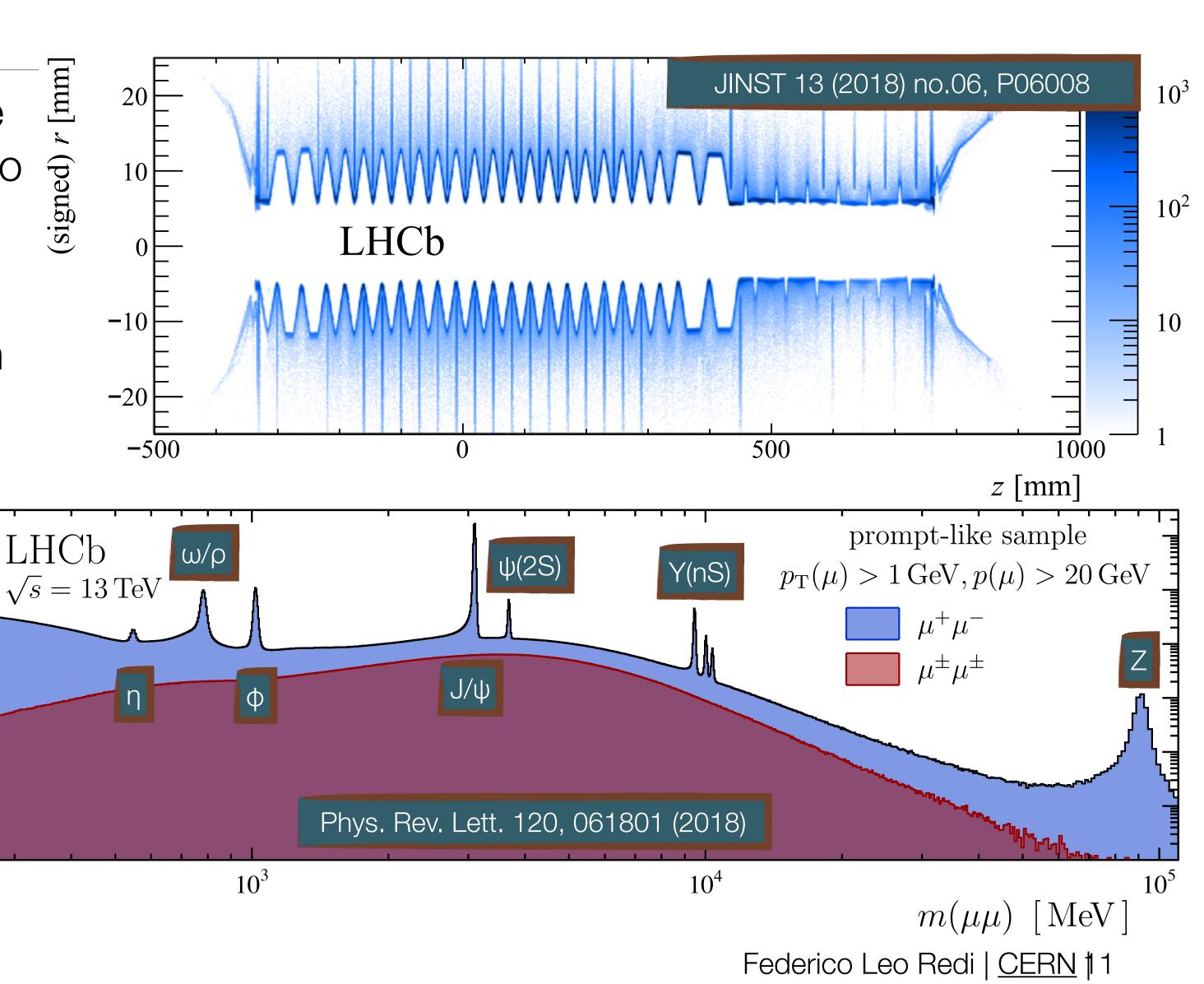
LHCb detector

Precise knowledge of the location of the material in the LHCb VELO is essential to reduce the background in searches for long-lived exotic particles

LHCb data calibration process can align active sensor elements and one can develop a full map the VELO material didates $/\sigma[m(\mu\mu)]/2$

Real-time calibration in Run 2 (Turbo Stream)

Very efficient online reconstruction e.g. in di-muon final states (50 years of SM!)



The QEE PAWG

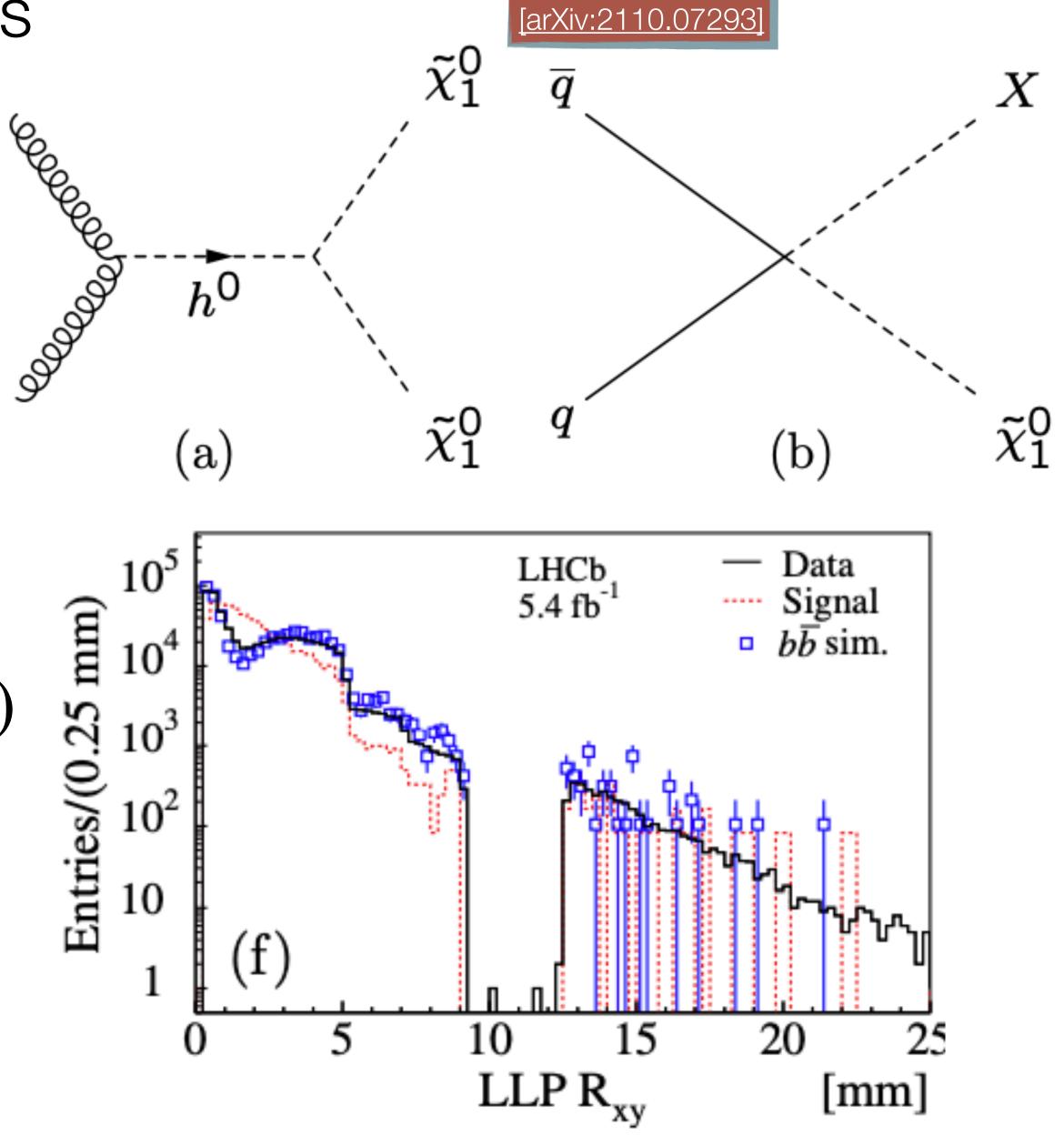
- · QEE (EW, QCD, Higgs) PAWG at LHCb:
- · Responsible for strategy, scientific oversight for all such measurements at LHCb
- 6 published papers in the last year alone, a further 6 papers are in the final stages of the review process
- The initial idea of looking for LLPs with LHCb turned in a plethora of new results

- · Displaced leptons (hard to beat us)
 - Dark photon
 - Low-mass di-muon resonances
 - Majorana neutrino
 - LLPs decaying to eµv

- Displaced jets (hard to beat CMS)
 - Majorana neutrino from Ws
 - LLPs to jet jet
 - LLPs to µ+jets

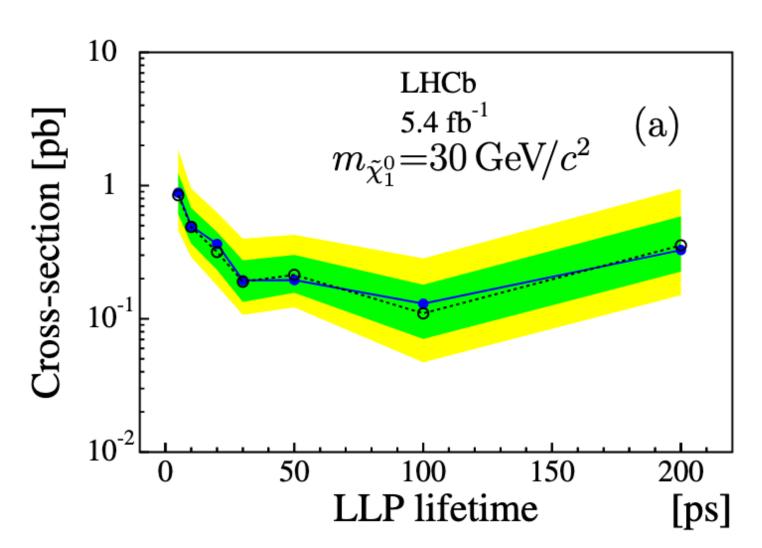
Search for massive long-lived particles decaying semileptonically

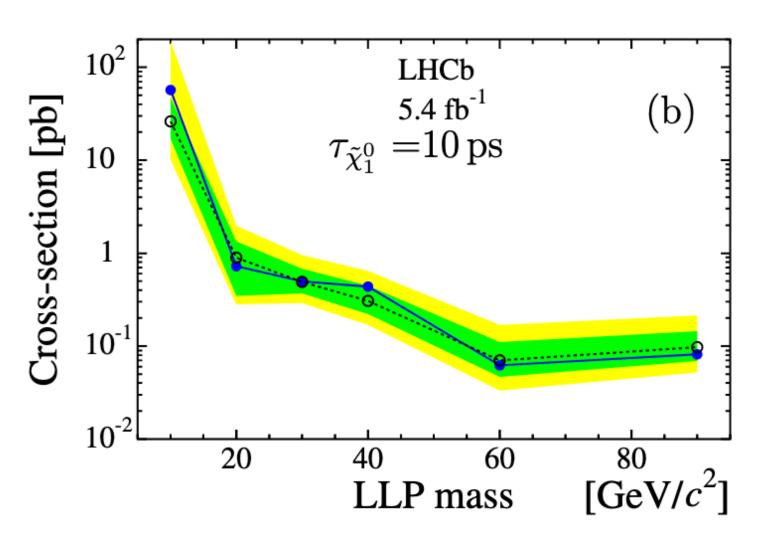
- Production: either in gluon fusion or non-resonant
- Lifetimes in the range [5,200] ps (compare with. B+ iiietime ~ 1 p3)
- The LLP signature is a displaced vertex made of charged particle tracks accompanied by an isolated µ with high pT with respect to the proton beam $dirqc\theta$ on
- Mass range to avoid SM b-quark states and to $\sim m(h^0)$ consider LHCb forward acceptance
- We use the fact that lifetime range is well above bhadron lifetime but vertices still within LHCb's VELO
- Requiring a vertex displaced from any PV in the event and containing one isolated, high-pT muon
- Particles interacting with the detector material are an important source of background: veto



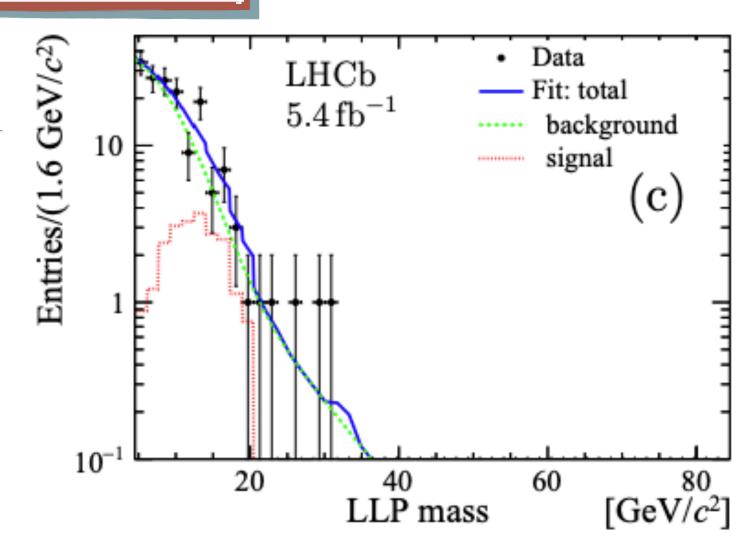
Search for massive long-lived particles decaying semileptonically

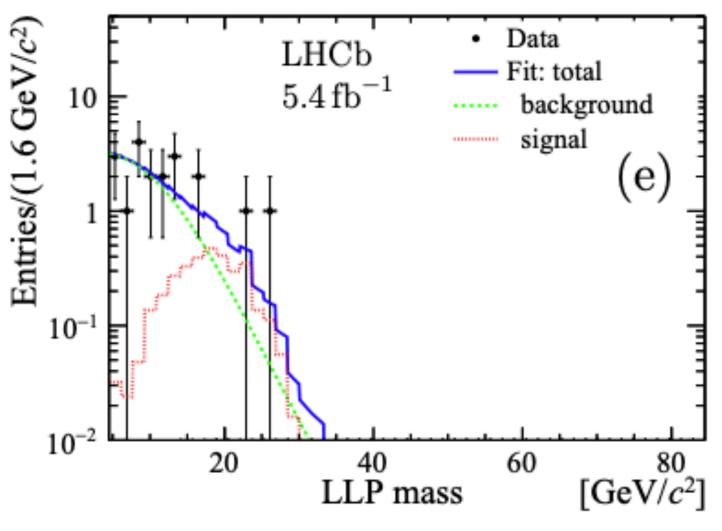
- Un-binned extended maximum-likelihood fit to the distribution of the reconstructed LLP mass. No excess is found
- Statistical and systematic uncertainties are included as nuisance parameters
- 95% CL upper limits are computed on $\sigma(LLPs) \times B(LLPs \rightarrow \mu qq)$ for both production modes
- Very hard to compete with CMS/ATLAS in this region, what for lower masses?





[arXiv:2110.07293]

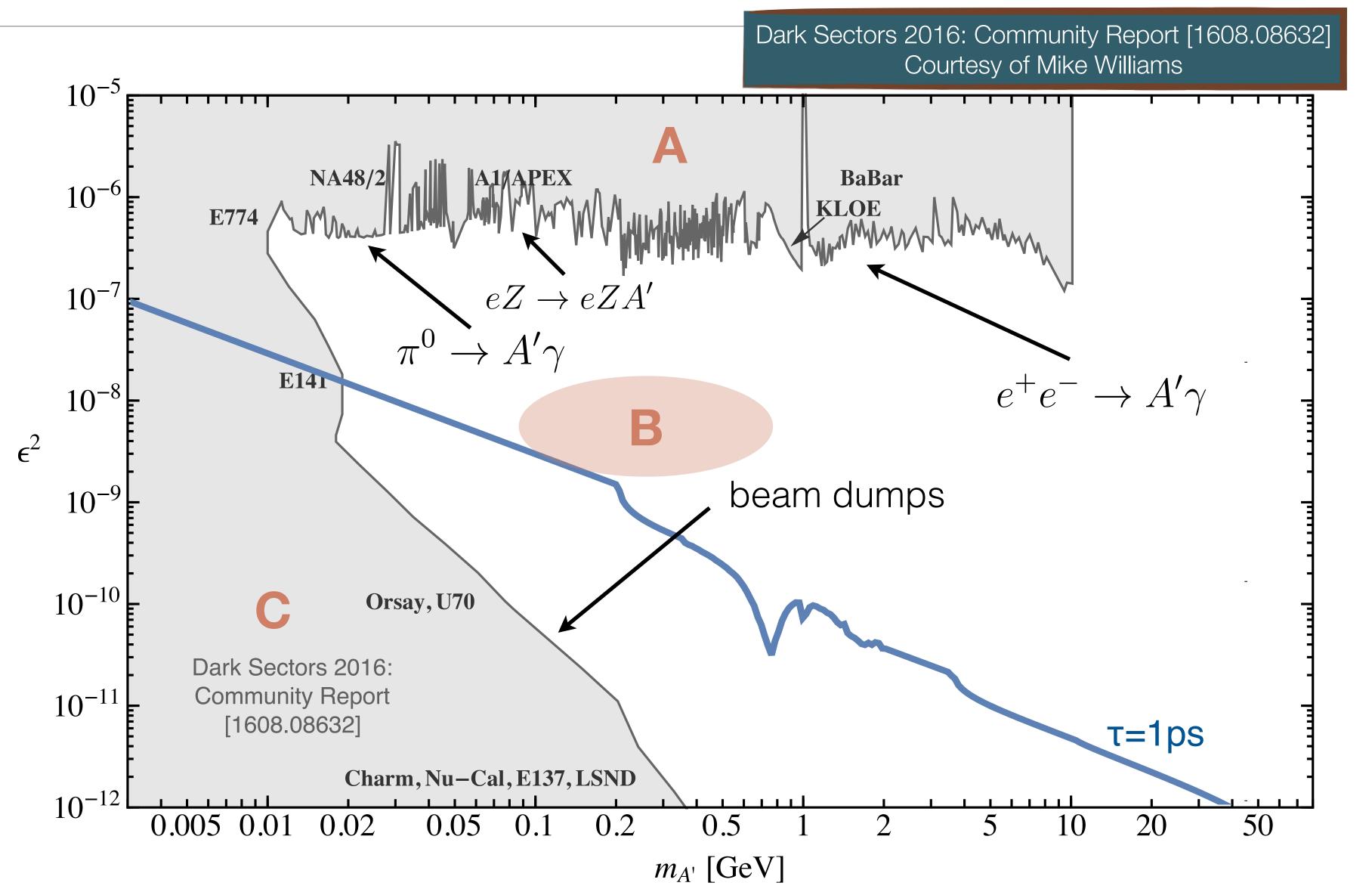




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Visible dark photons

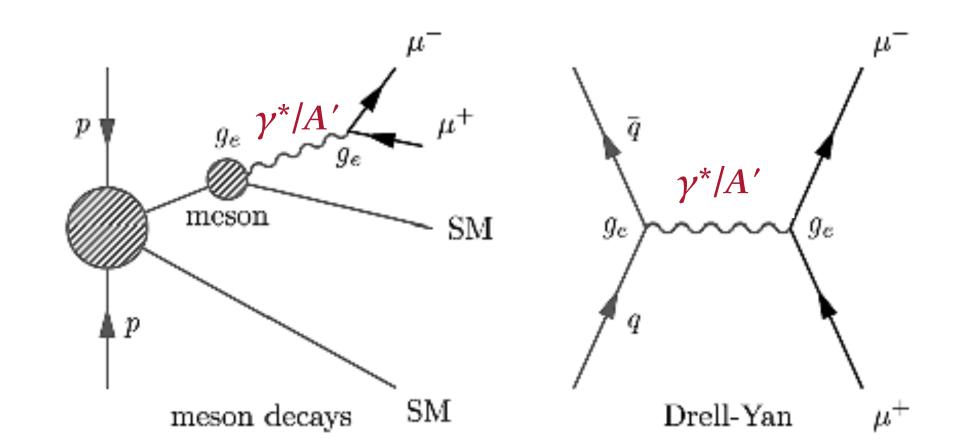
- A: Bump hunts, visible or invisible
- B: Displaced vertex searches, short decay ϵ^2 lengths
- C: Displaced vertex searches, long decay lengths

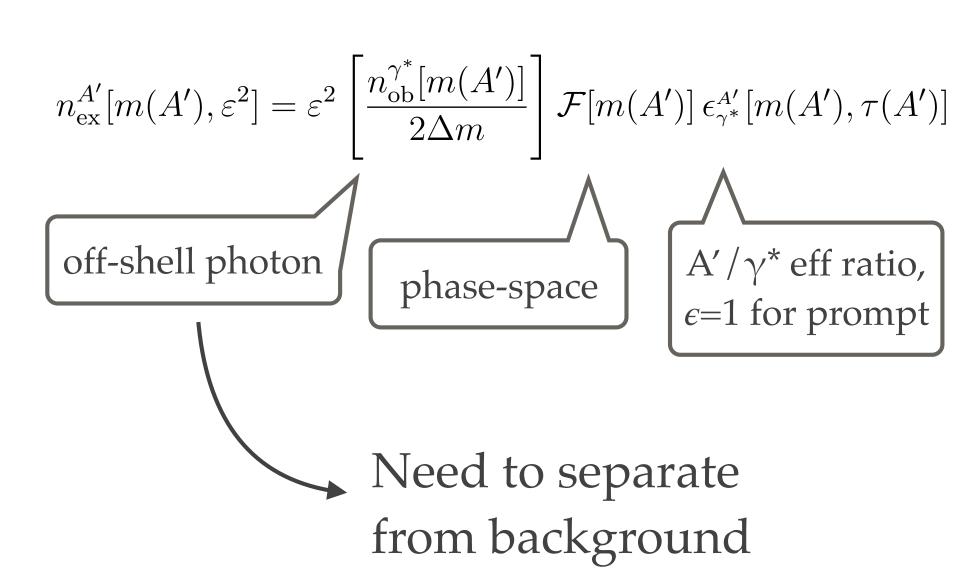


Searching for Dark Photons

Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 061801 (2018)

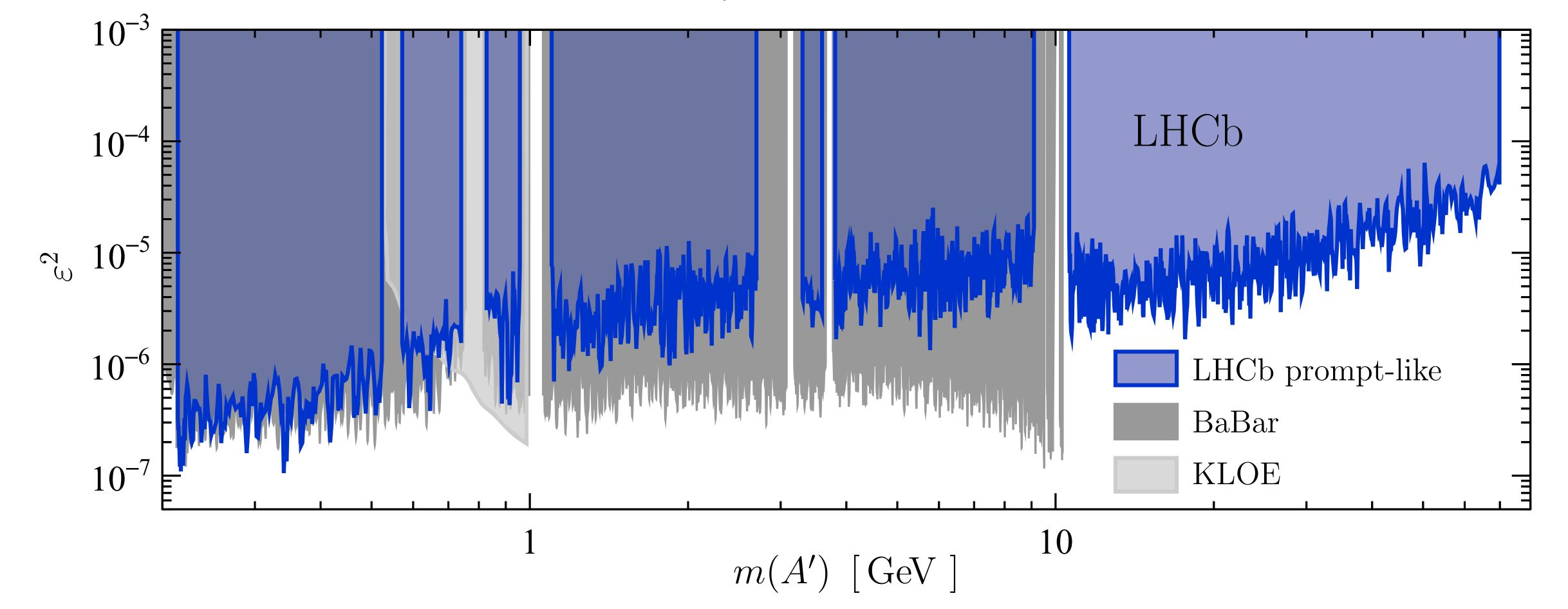
- Search for dark photons decaying into a pair of muons
- Used **1.6 fb⁻¹** of 2016 LHCb data (13 TeV)
- Kinetic mixing of the dark photon (A') with off-shell photon (γ*) by a factor ε:
 - A' inherits the production mode mechanisms from γ*
 - A' $\rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ can be **normalised** to $\gamma^* \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$
 - No use of MC → no systematics from MC → fully data-driven analysis
- Separate y* signal from background and measure its fraction
- Prompt-like search (up to 70 GeV/c²) → displaced search (214-350 MeV/c²)
 - A' is long-lived only if the mixing factor is really small





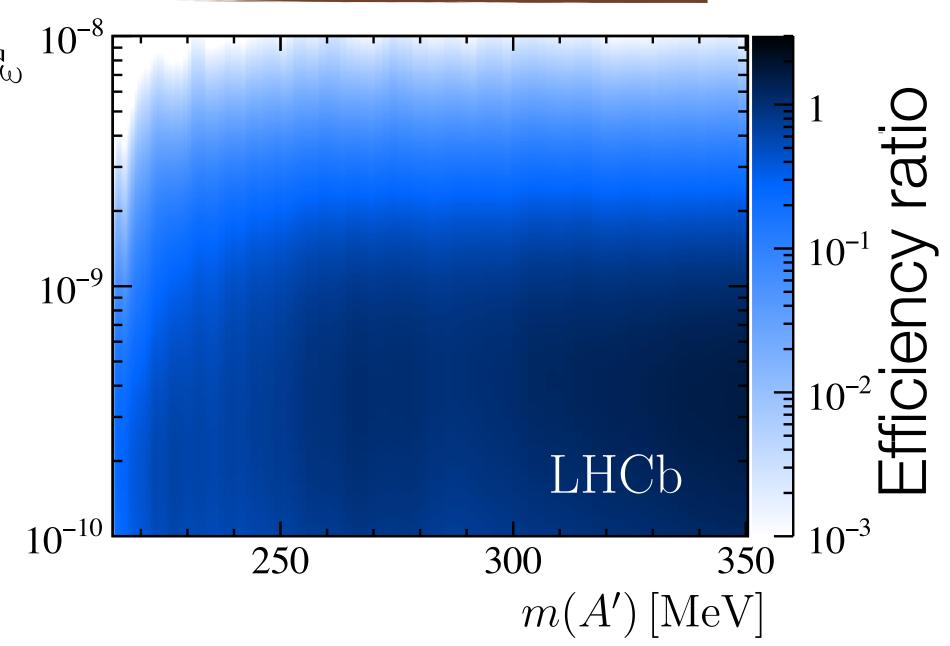
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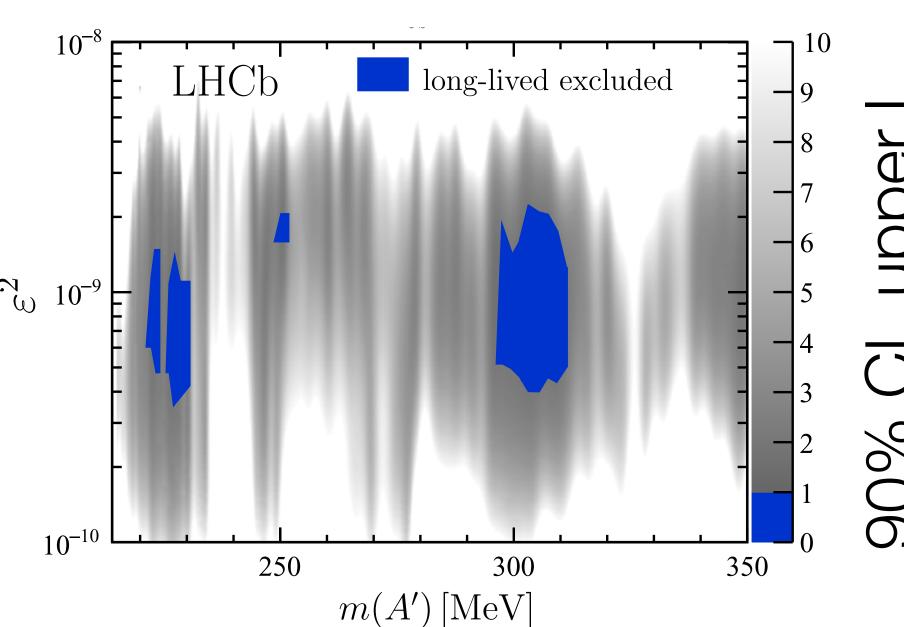
- No significant excess found exclusion regions at 90% C.L.
- First limits on masses above 10 GeV & competitive limits below 0.5 GeV



Search for Dark Photons / Displaced

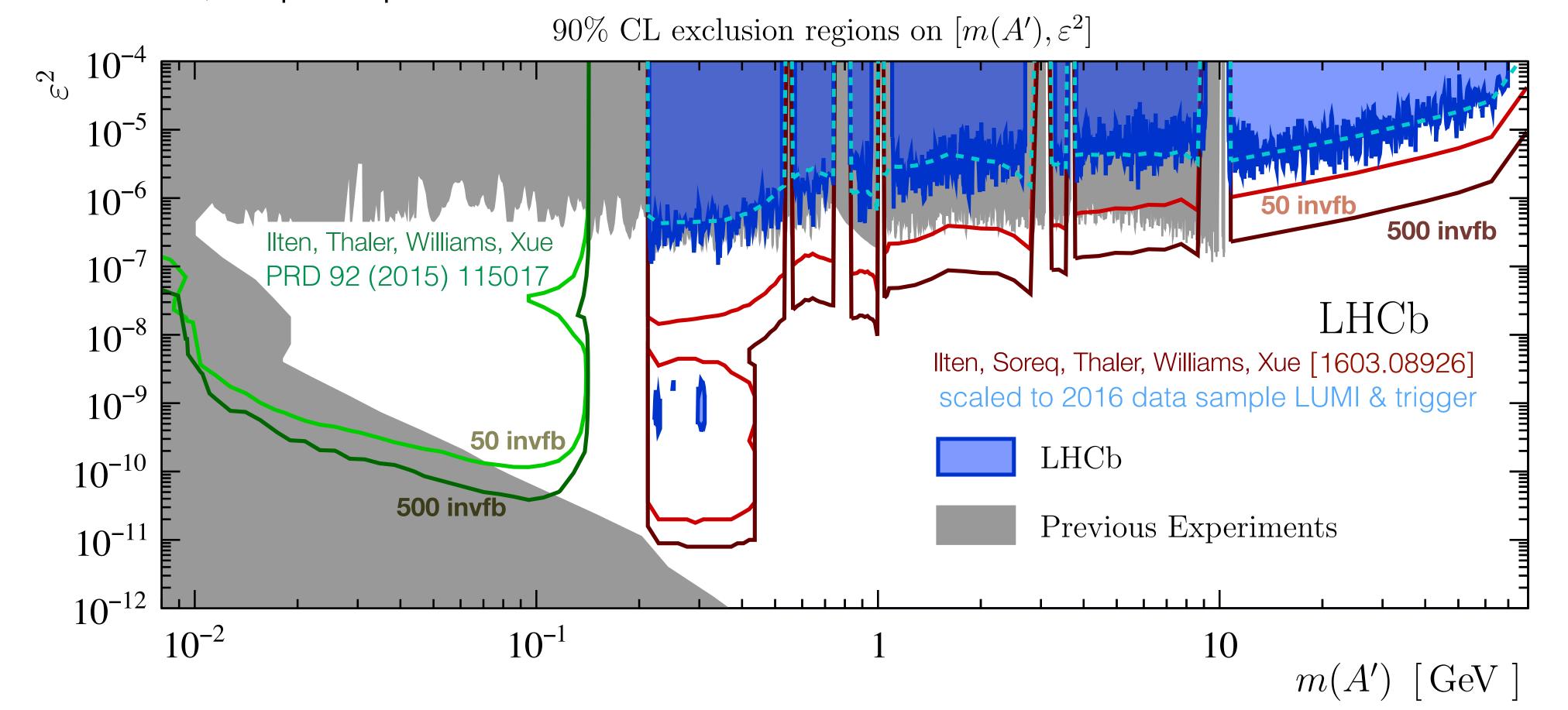
- Looser requirements on muon transverse momentum
- Material background mainly from photon conversions
- Isolation decision tree from B⁰s→µ+µ- search
 - Suppress events with additional number of tracks, i.e. µ
 from b-hadron decays
- Fit in bins of mass and lifetime use consistency of decay topology χ^2
- Extract p-values and confidence intervals from the fit
- No significant excess found small parameter space region excluded
- First limit ever not from beam dump





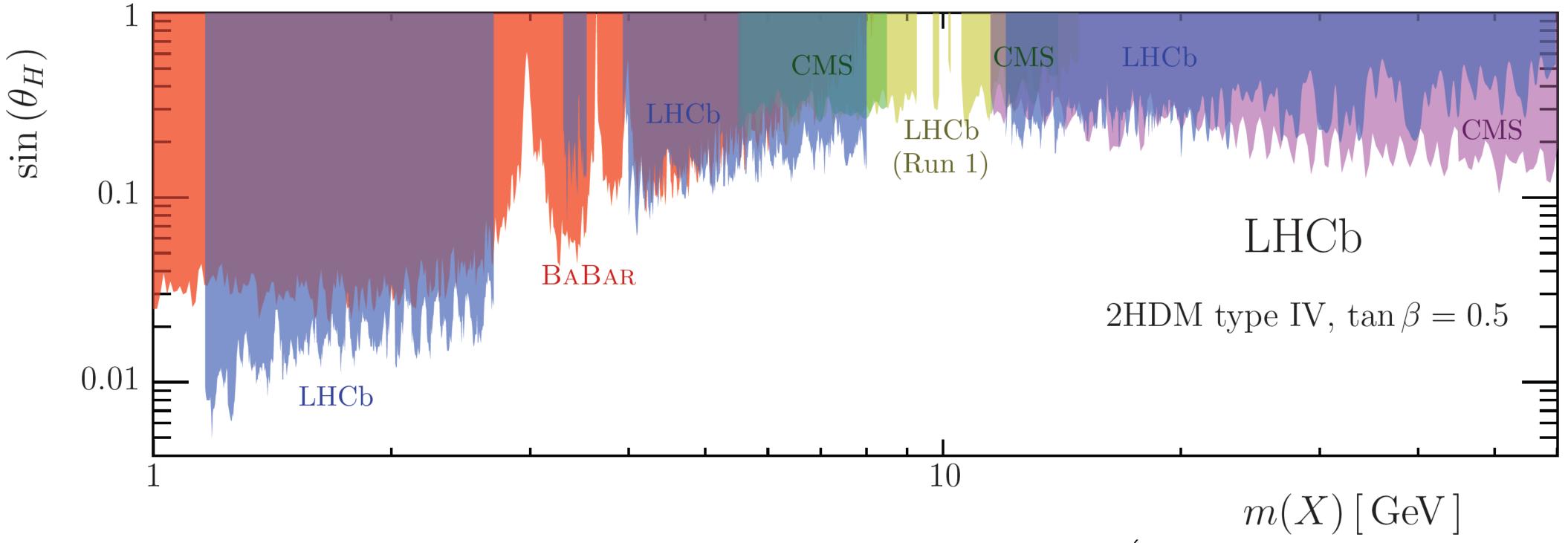
Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 061801 (2018)

• The 2016 dimuon results are consistent with (better than) predictions for prompt (long-lived) dark photons as discussed in [1603.08926]. We implemented huge improvements in the 2017 triggers for low masses, so plan quick turn around on 2017 dimuon search - then onto electrons.



Low-mass dimuon resonances

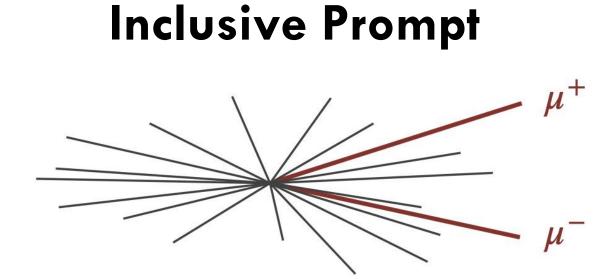
- A complex scalar singlet is added to the two-Higgs doublet (2HDM) potential
- E.g. a scenario where the pseudoscalar boson acquires all of its couplings to SM fermions through its mixing with the Higgs doublets; the corresponding X–H mixing angle is denoted as θ_H

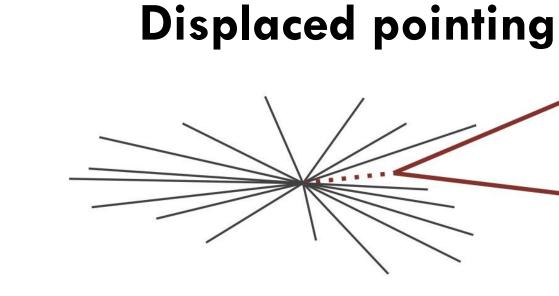


Low-mass dimuon resonances

☐ Non-minimal searches, example signatures:

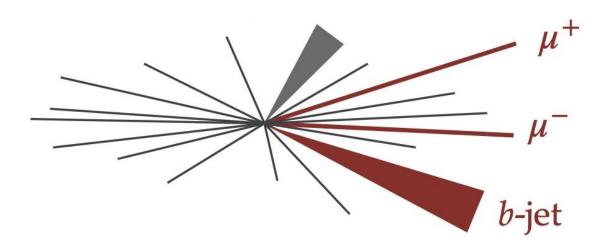
+ no isolation requirement + non-zero width considered



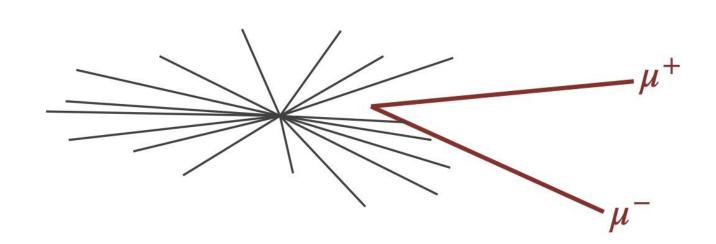


Prompt + b-jet

+ non-zero width considered

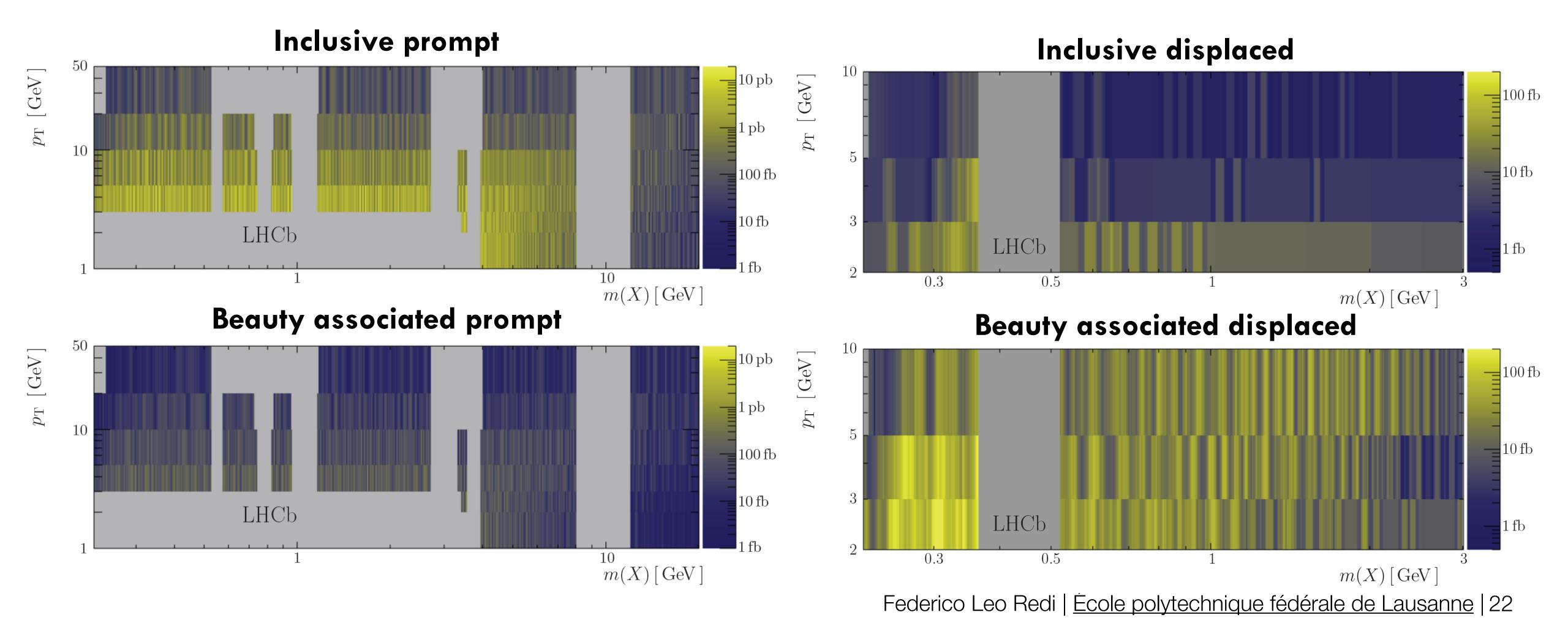


Displaced non-pointing



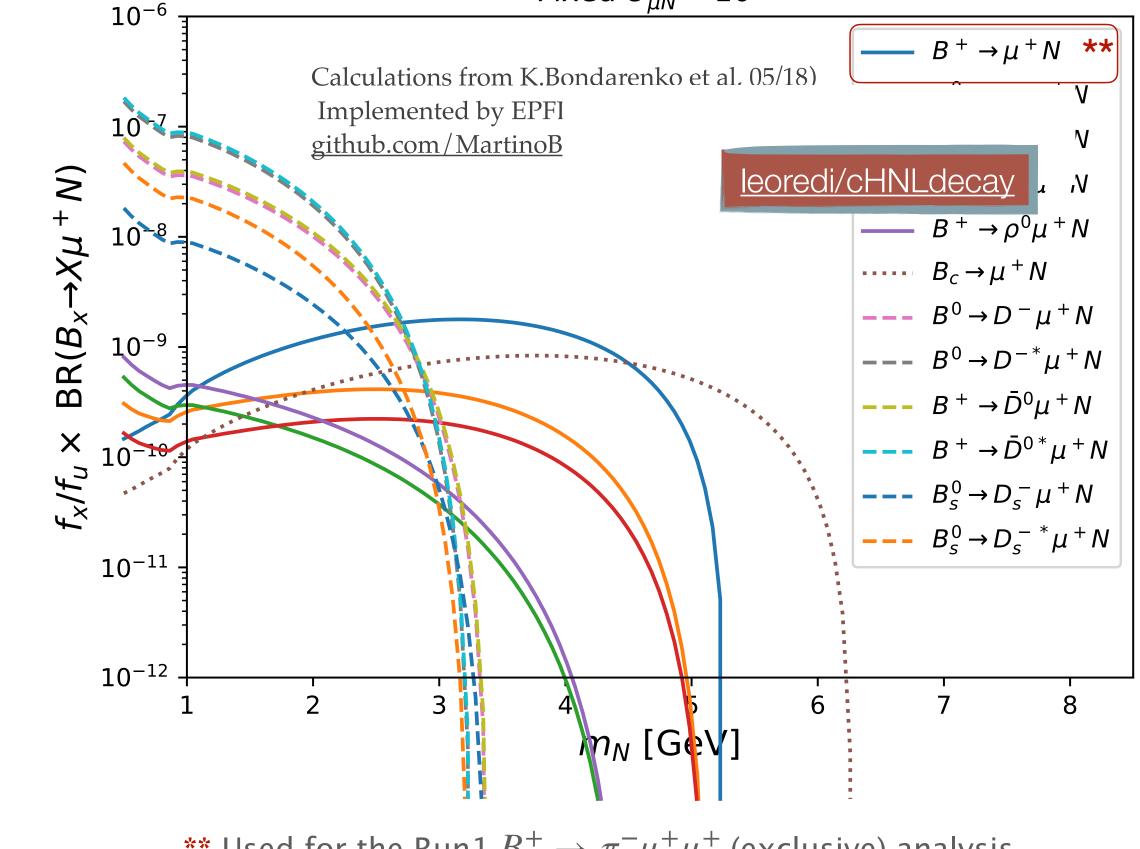
Low-mass dimuon resonances

 \Box Upper limits at 90% CL on $\sigma(X \to \mu\mu)$



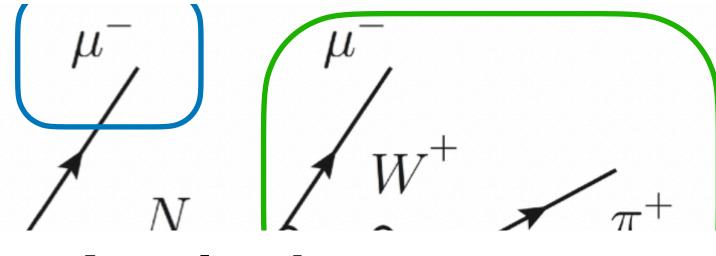
What about from a b?

- Can one expand such narrow searches? C all the knowledge of b quarks and missing
- Yes, e.g. in Majorana neutrino searches wh hard to compete with LHCb in the B produ region
- Previous analysis (B $\rightarrow \mu N^{**}$) only used one production mode: simple but inefficient
- Here Xb → µN is added together with I
- Multiple final states are also considered the expertise built in FLU searches containing vs:
- Gain up to 12 times signal yield (only for displaced vertexes)



** Used for the Run1 $B^+ \to \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+$ (exclusive) analysis

Serhii Cholak



Analysis strategy.

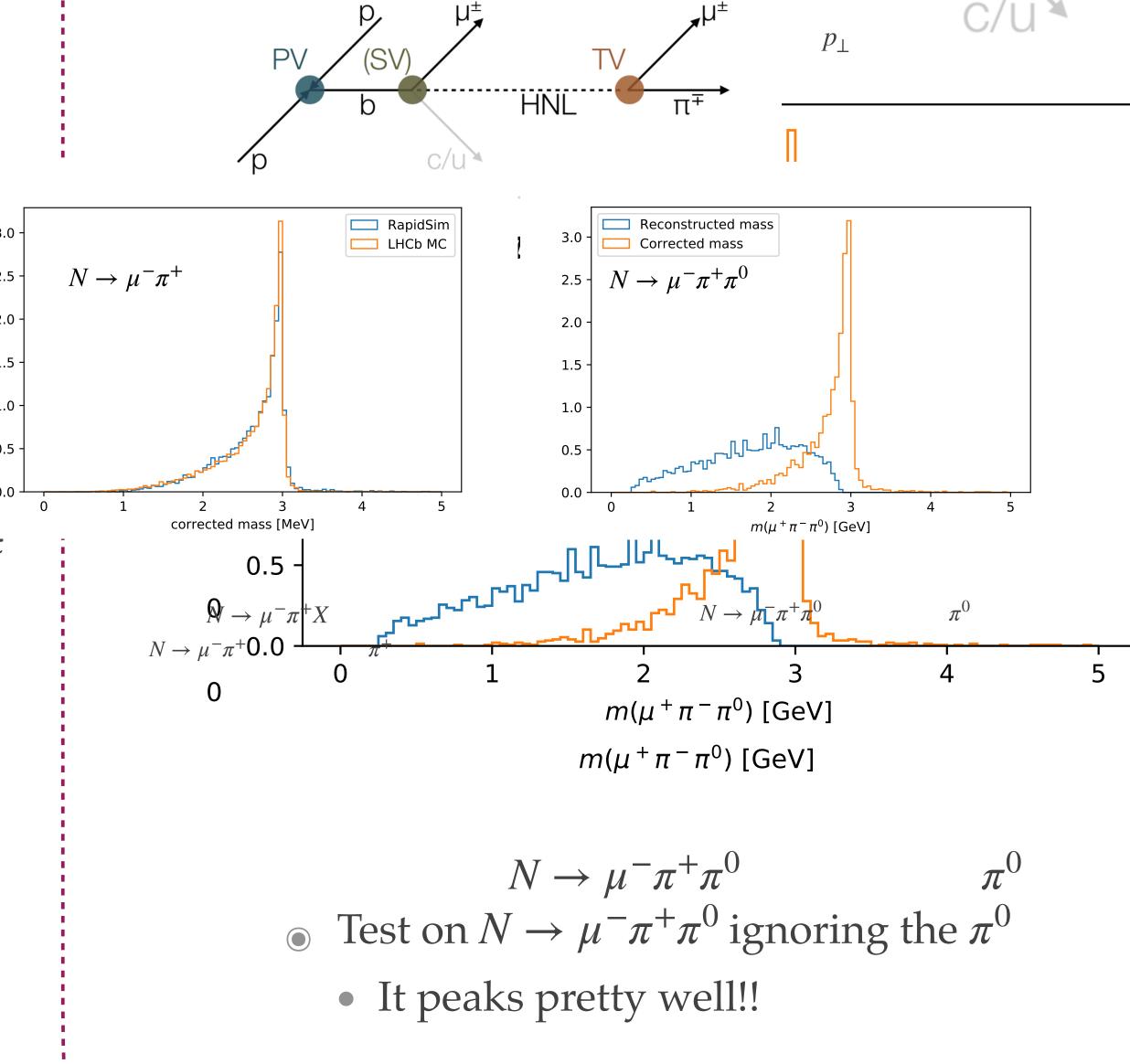




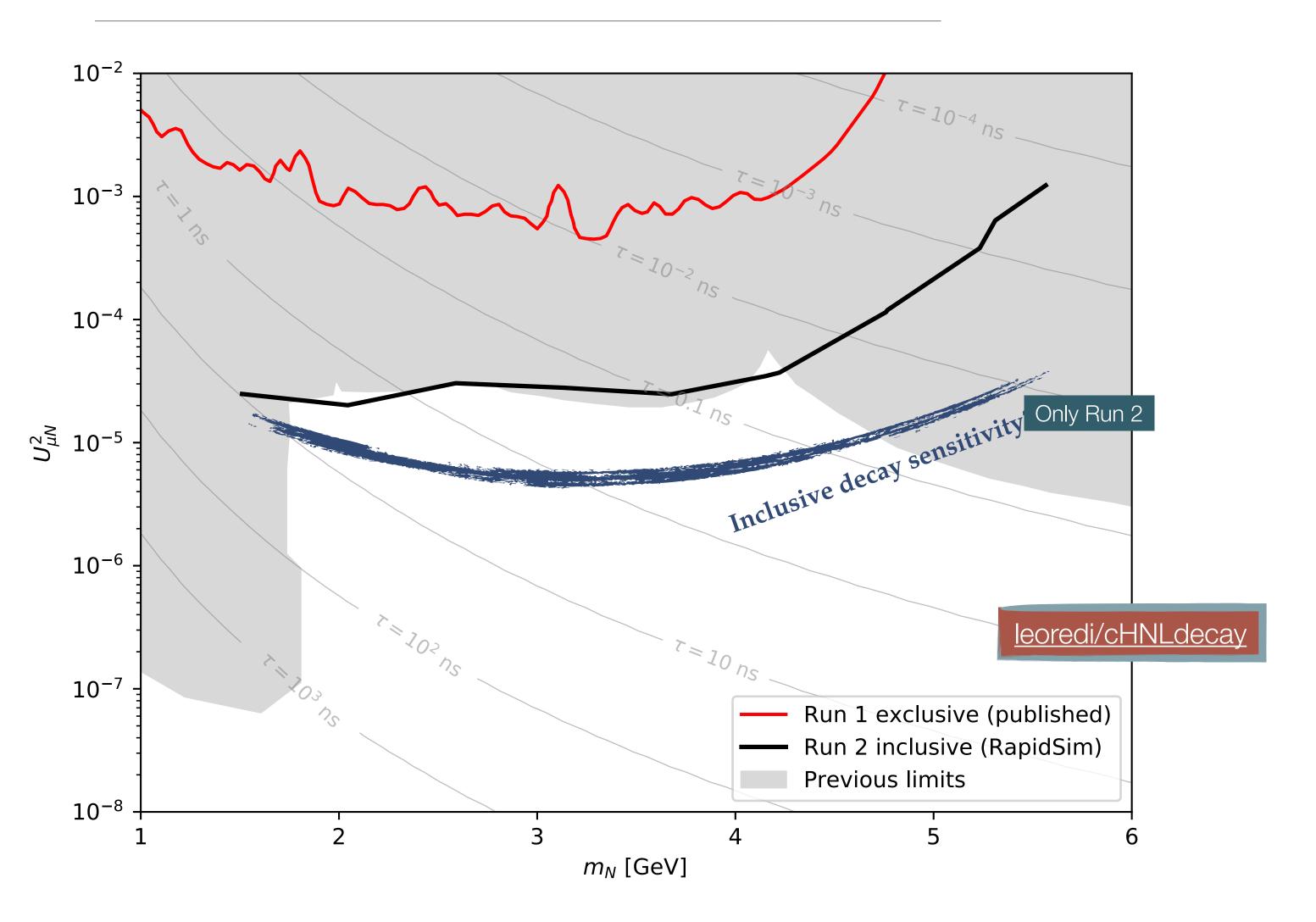


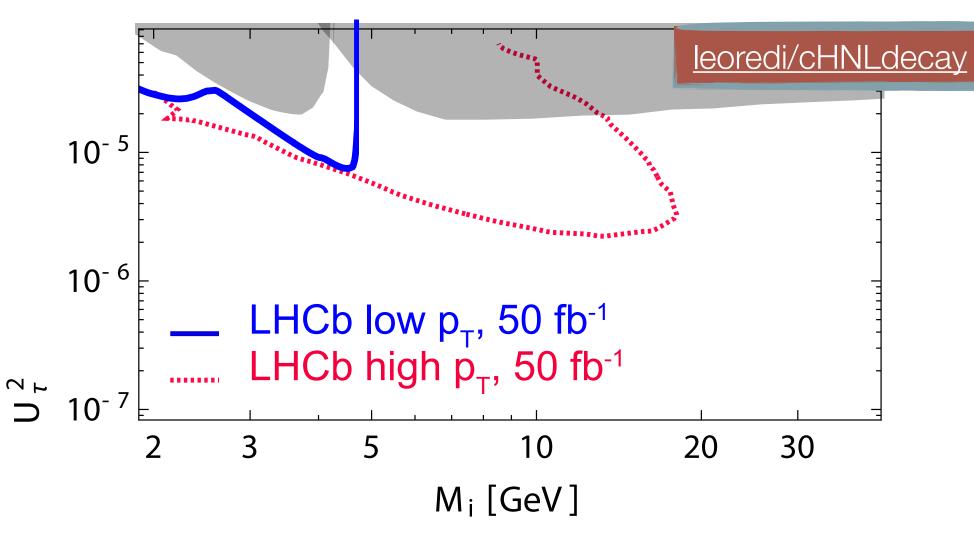
- The search strategy modification:
 - 3-body decay spectra with a missing particle doesn't peak \rightarrow Corrected mass = $\sqrt{p_{\perp}^2 + m_{\text{vis}}^2 + p_{\perp}}$ \rightarrow Corrected mass = $\sqrt{p_{\perp}^2 + m_{\text{vis}}^2 + p_{\perp}}$ $+ p_{\perp}$
 - Impossible to reconstruct SV without the HNL's momenta
 - → Use PV TV line instead

leoredi/cHNLdecay



Heavy neutral leptons





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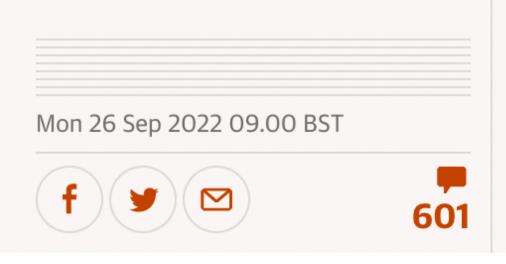
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OpinionParticle physics

No one in physics dares say so, but the race to invent new particles is pointless

Sabine Hossenfelder



In private, many physicists admit they do not believe the particles they are paid to search for exist - they do it because their colleagues are doing it



Most viewed



Fears of sahotage as gas

Conclusions

- This was a heavily biased selection: what has emerged from looking at the LHC under a new perspective: it's not only a machine for b-physics but also an incredible machine for direct searches
- Our work on LFU measurements and the techniques we have developed can be applied to direct searches of BSM physics, this has started a new field of measurements both at LHCb and beyond
- In the end, Michelangelo maybe got it right 8 years ago...
- The days of `guaranteed' discoveries or of no-lose theorems in particle physics are over, at least for the time being...
- ... but the big questions of our field remain wild [SIC] open (hierarchy problem, flavour, neutrinos, DM, BAU,...)
- This simply implies that, more than for the past 30 years, future HEP's progress is to be driven by experimental exploration, possibly renouncing/reviewing deeply rooted theoretical bias



LLP Community







Theory/pheno

























































LHC LLP WG





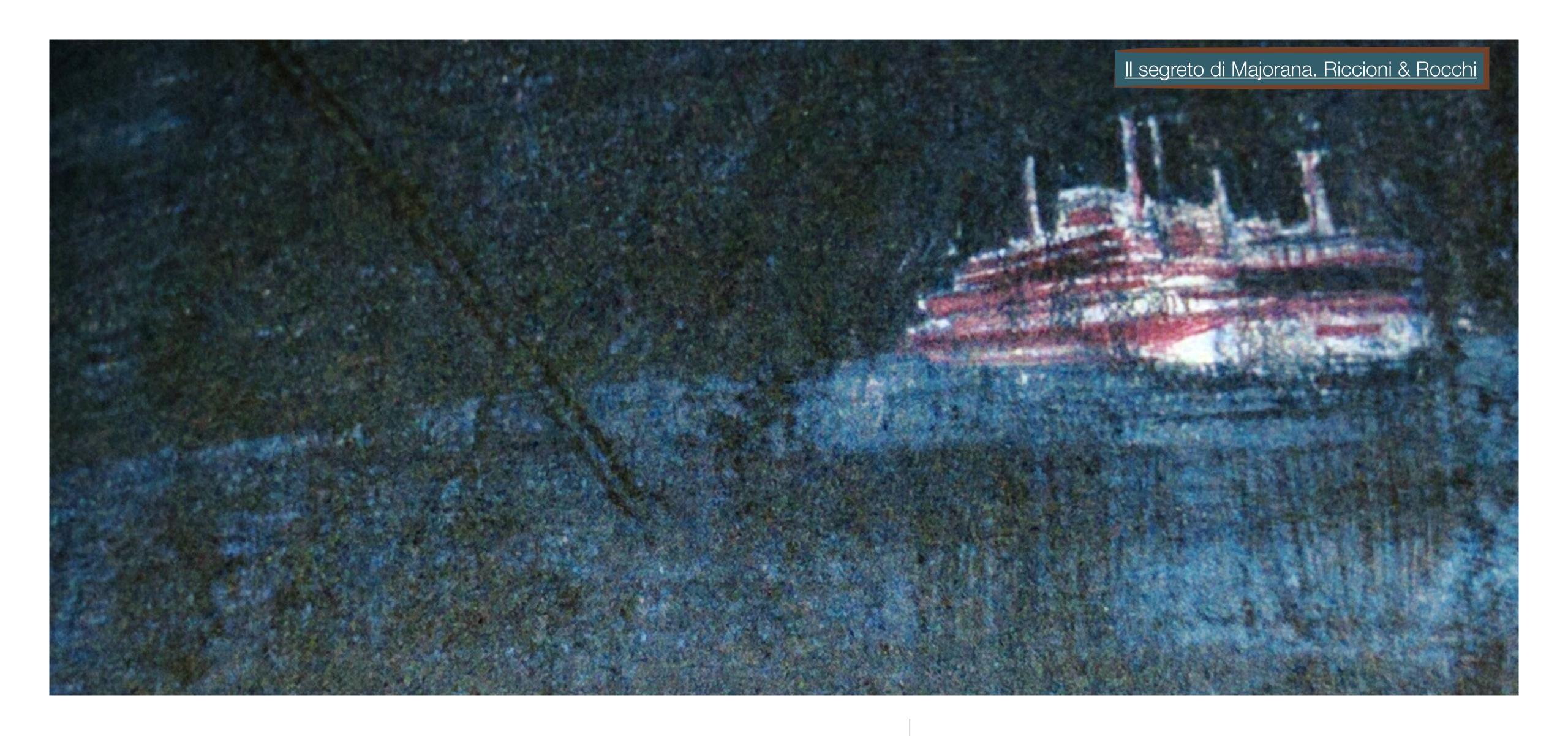


Theory/pheno









Thanks for your kind attention

Federico Leo Redi

Landscape today

- The Intensity frontier is a broad and diverse, yet connected, set of science opportunities: heavy
 quarks, charged leptons, hidden sectors, neutrinos, nucleons and atoms, proton decay, etc...
- · In this talk, I will concentrate on displaced signature and related physics searches.
- Landscape: LHC results in brief:
 - Direct searches for NP by ATLAS and CMS have not happened so far
 - Parameter space for popular **BSM** models is **decreasing rapidly**, but only < 5% of the complete HL-LHC data set has been delivered so far
 - NP discovery still may happen!
 - LHCb reported intriguing hints (cautiously optimistic) for the violation of lepton flavour universality
 - In b \rightarrow c $\mu\nu$ / b \rightarrow c $\tau\nu$, and in b \rightarrow se+e- / b \rightarrow s $\mu+\mu-$ decays and in angular variables (P'₅)
 - Possible evidence of BSM physics if substantiated with further studies (e.g. BELLE II)

LLPs at the LHCb detector / 1

LHCb is a dedicated flavour experiment in the forward region at the LHC (1.9 < η < 4.9) (~1°-15°)

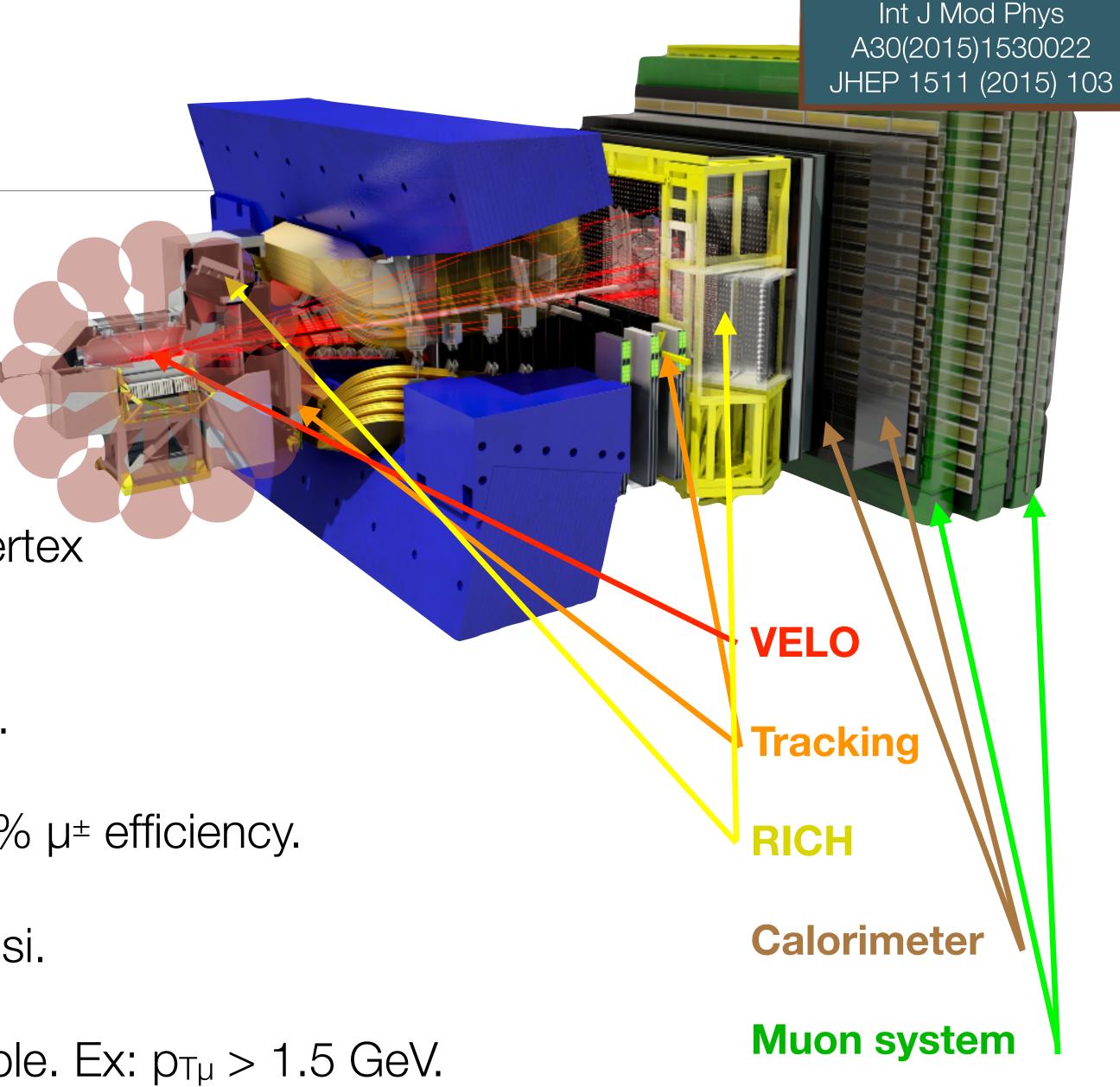
• Precise vertex reconstruction < 10 μm vertex resolution in transverse plane.

• Lifetime resolution of ~ 0.2 ps for $\tau = 100$ ps.

• Muons clearly identified and triggered: ~ 90% μ± efficiency.

• Great mass resolution: e.g. 14 MeV for J/psi.

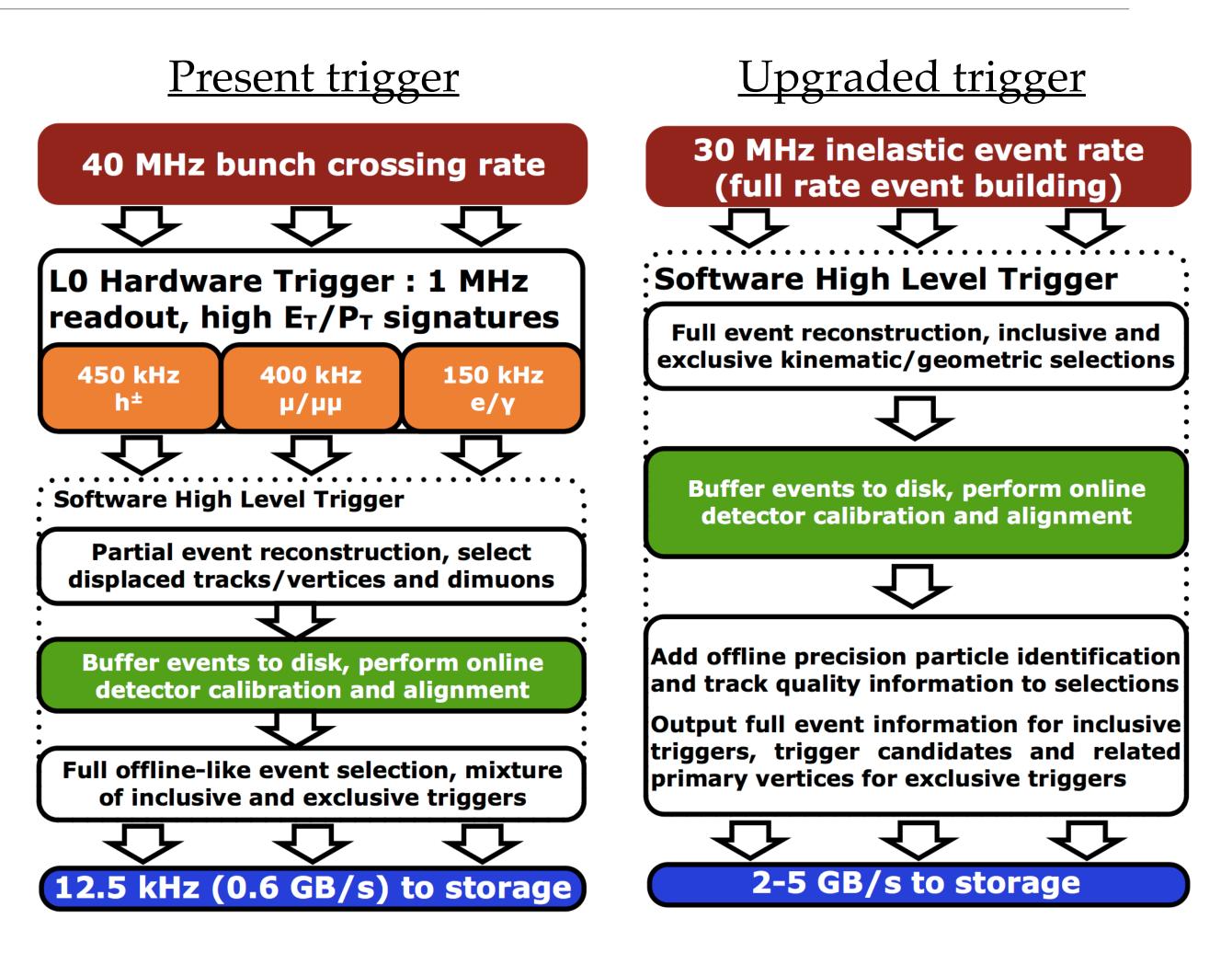
• Low pt trigger means low masses accessible. Ex: $p_{T\mu} > 1.5$ GeV.

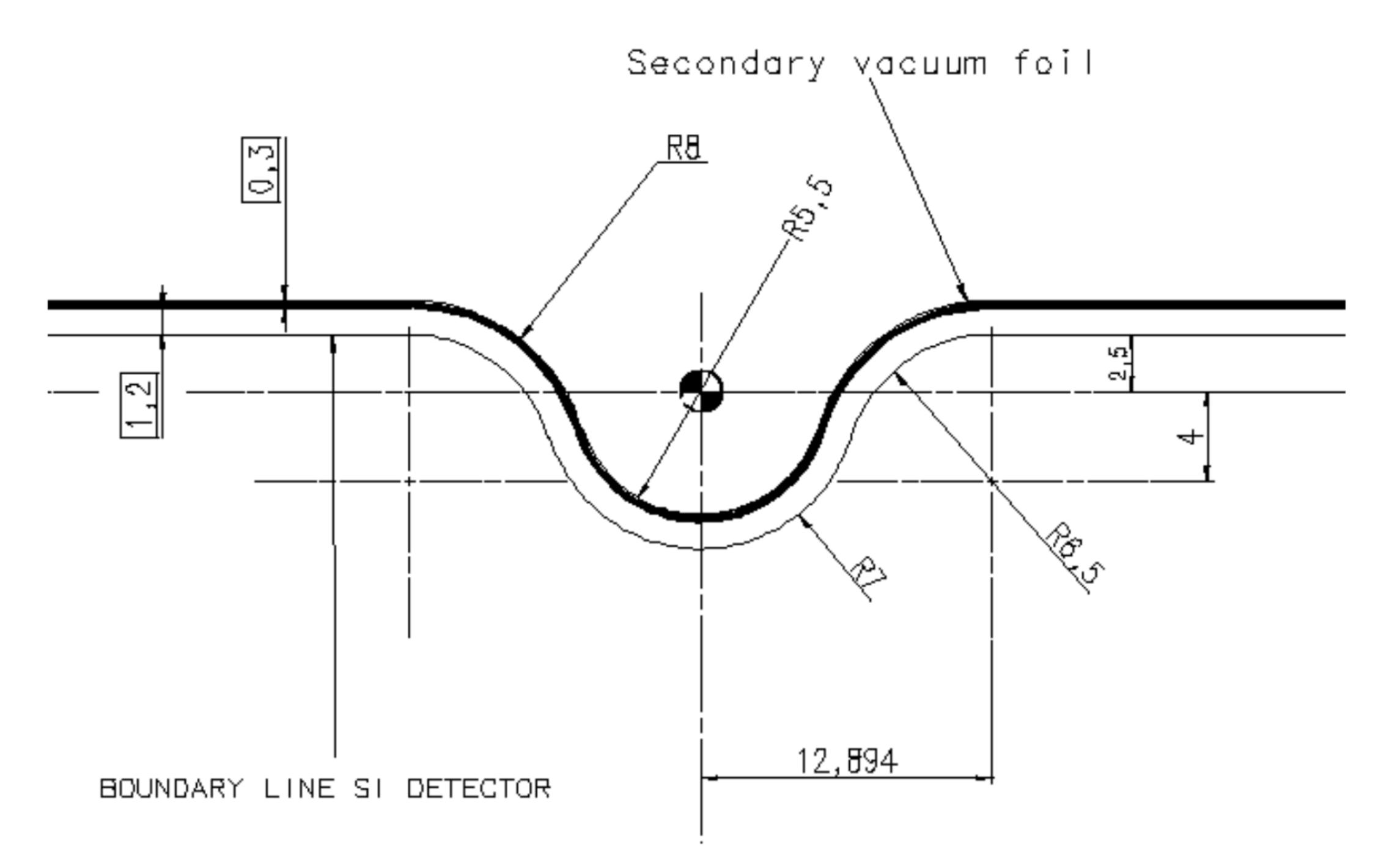


JINST3(2008)S08005

LHCb detector / 2

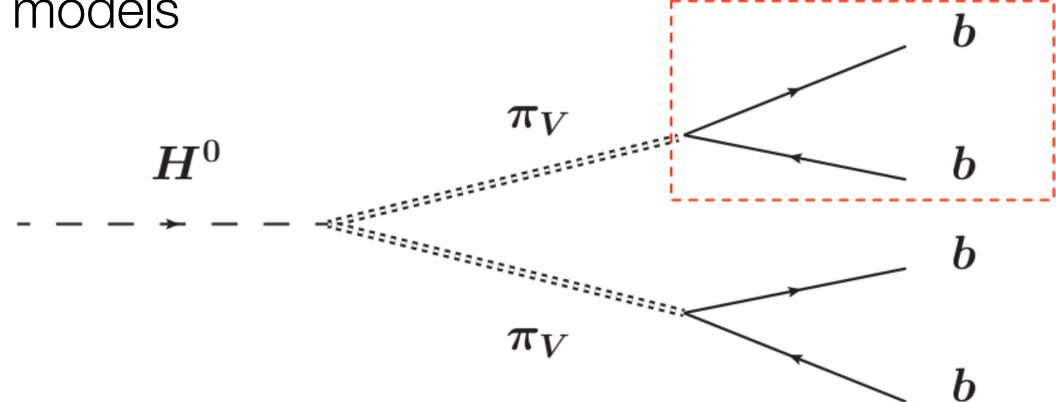
- Lower luminosity (and low pile-up)
 - ~1/8 of ATLAS/CMS in Run 1
 - ~1/20 of ATLAS/CMS in **Run 2**
- Hardware L0 trigger to be removed
- Full real-time reconstruction for all particles available to select events (since 2015)
 - Real-time reconstruction for all charged particles with p_T > 0.4 GeV
 - We go from 1 TB/s (post zero suppression to 0.7 GB/s (mix of full + partial events)
- LHCb will move to a readout system
 without a hardware stage for LHC Run 3
 and process 5 TB/s in real time on the
 CPU farm

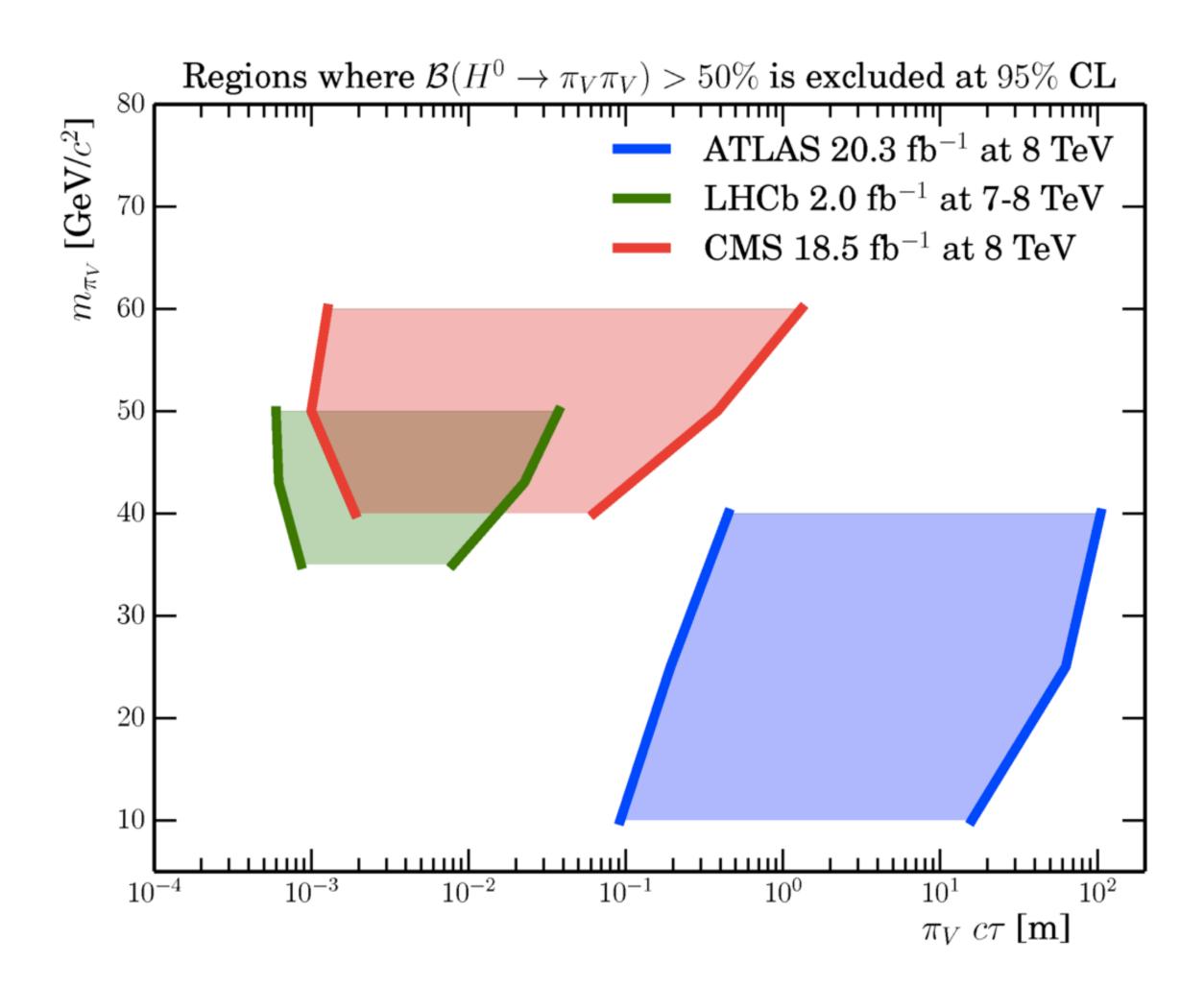




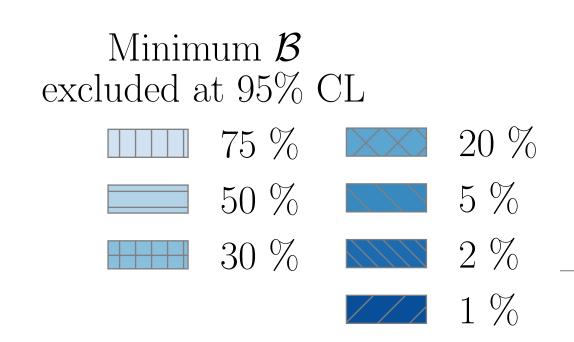
LHCb / Higgs→LLP→jet pairs

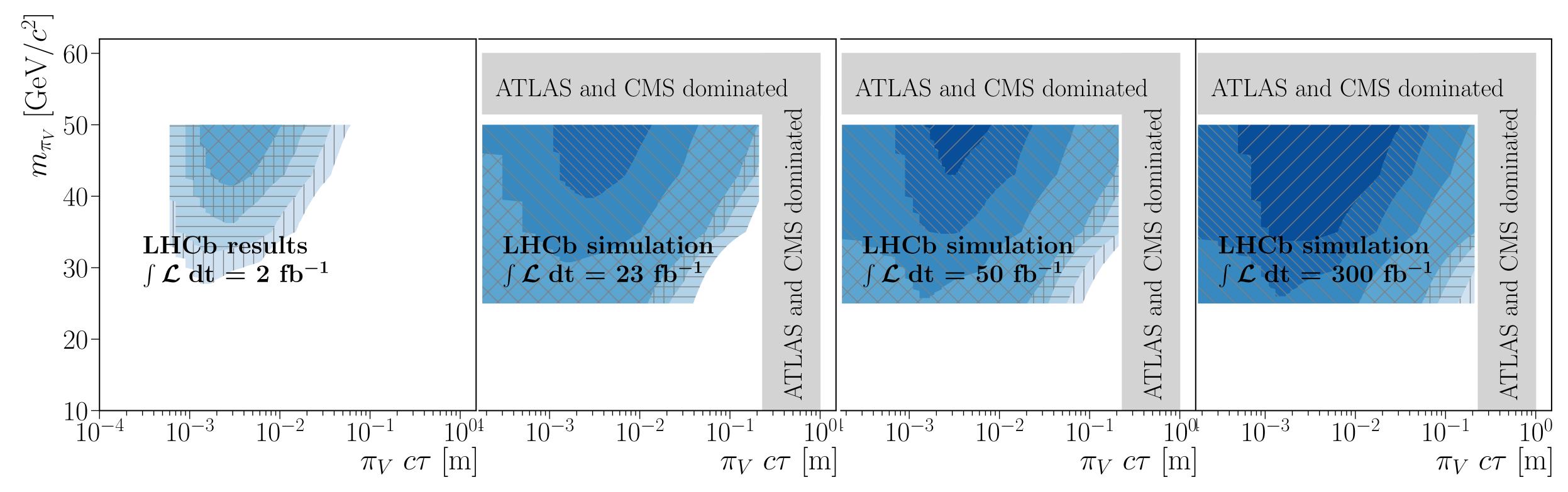
- Massive LLP decaying →bb+bb
 with bb → jets
- Single displaced vertex with two associated tracks; based on Run-1 dataset
- Production of LLP could come e.g. from Higgs like particle decaying into pair of LLPs (e.g. π_{V})
- $m_{\pi V}=$ [25; 50] GeV and $\tau_{\pi V}=$ [2; 500] ps
- Background dominated by QCD
- No excess found: result interpreted in various models





LHCb / Higgs→LLP→jets pairs / 2





Model independent scaling of current results to future integrated luminosity for different BFs

Published Run 1

at 2 fb^{-1}

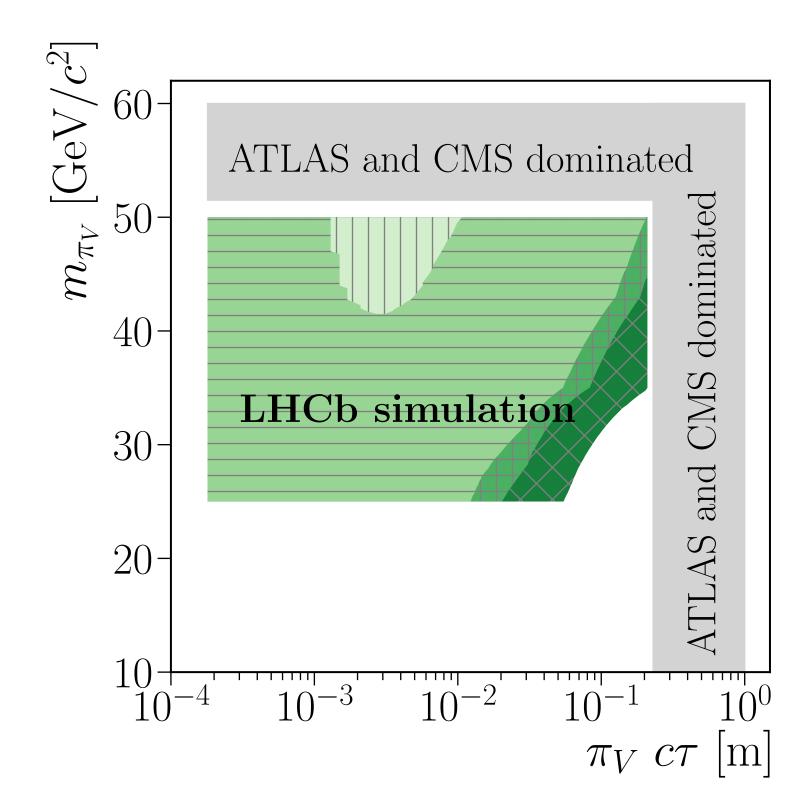
 23 fb^{-1}

 50 fb^{-1}

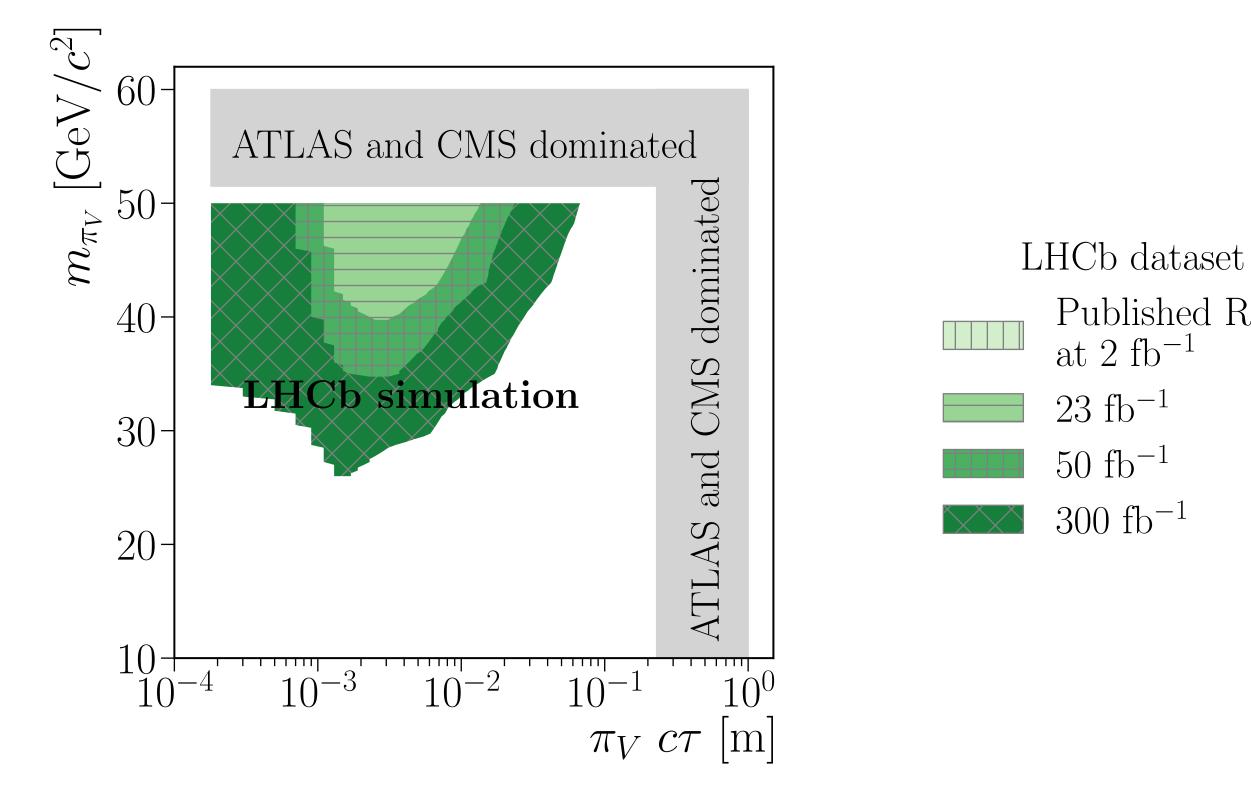
 300 fb^{-1}

LHCb / Higgs→LLP→jets pairs / 3

Model dependent scaling of current results to future integrated luminosity for two different BFs

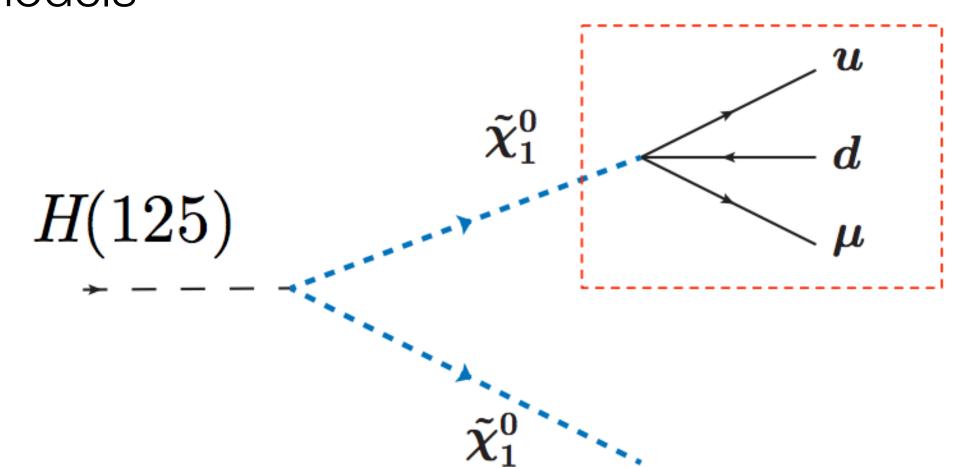


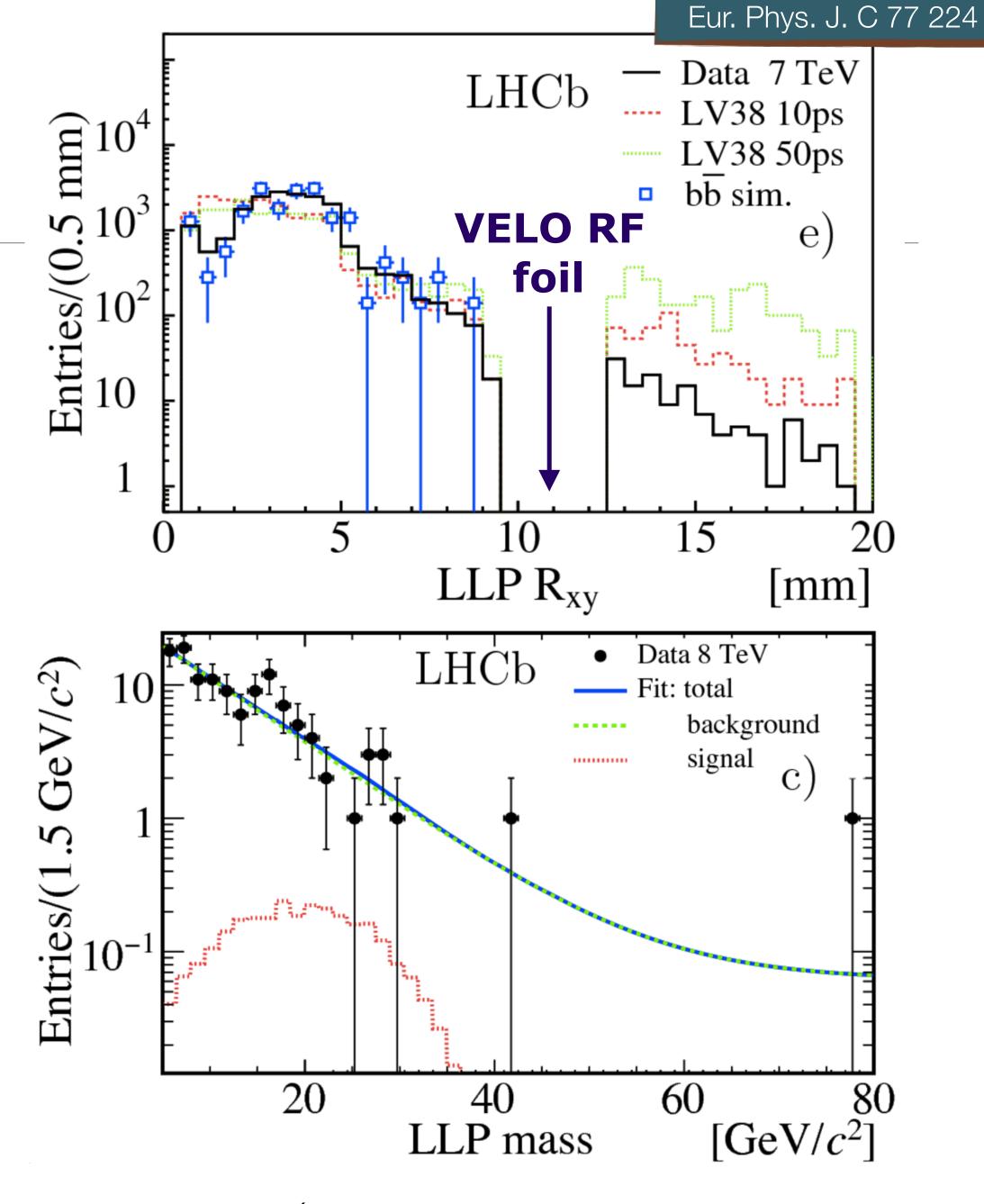
BF(Higgs $\rightarrow \pi_V + \pi_V$) < 20 %



BF(Higgs
$$\rightarrow \pi_V + \pi_V$$
) < 2 %

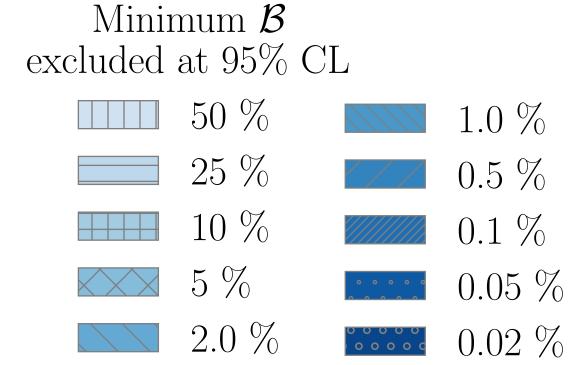
- Massive LLP decaying → µ+qq (→ jets)
- Single displaced vertex with several tracks and a high p_T muon; based on Run-1 dataset
- Production of LLP could come e.g. from Higgs like particle decaying into pair of LLPs
- · m_{LLP}=[20; 80] GeV and τ_{LLP}=[5; 100] ps
- Background dominated by **bb**
- No excess found: result interpreted in various models

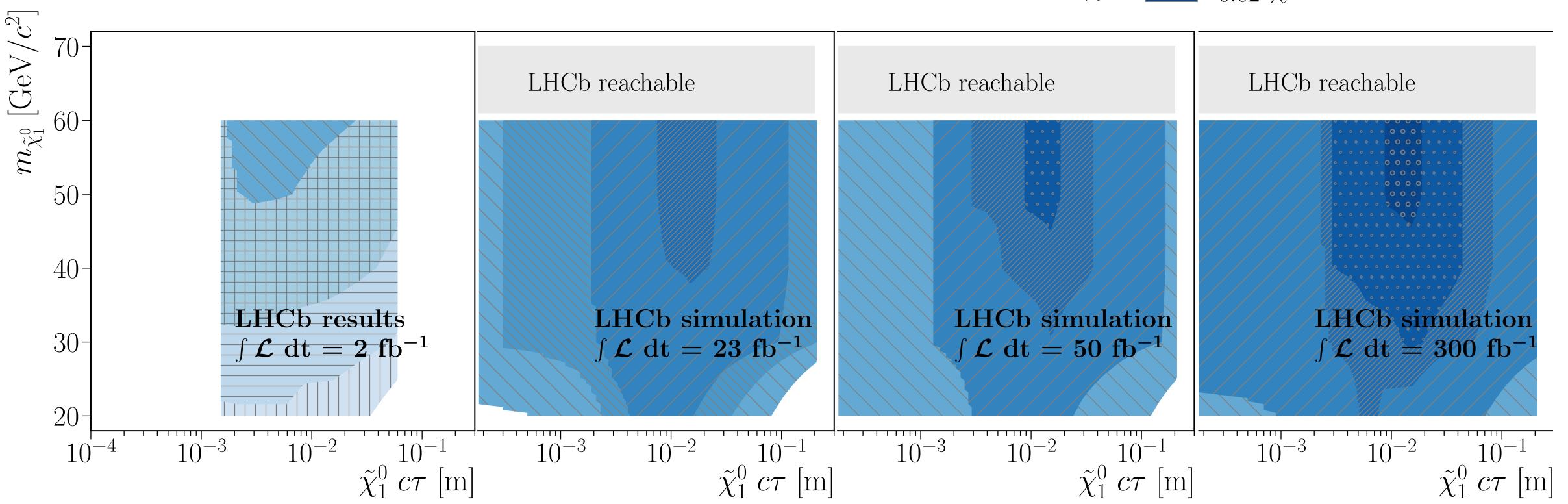




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LHCb / Higgs→LLP→µ+jets / 2

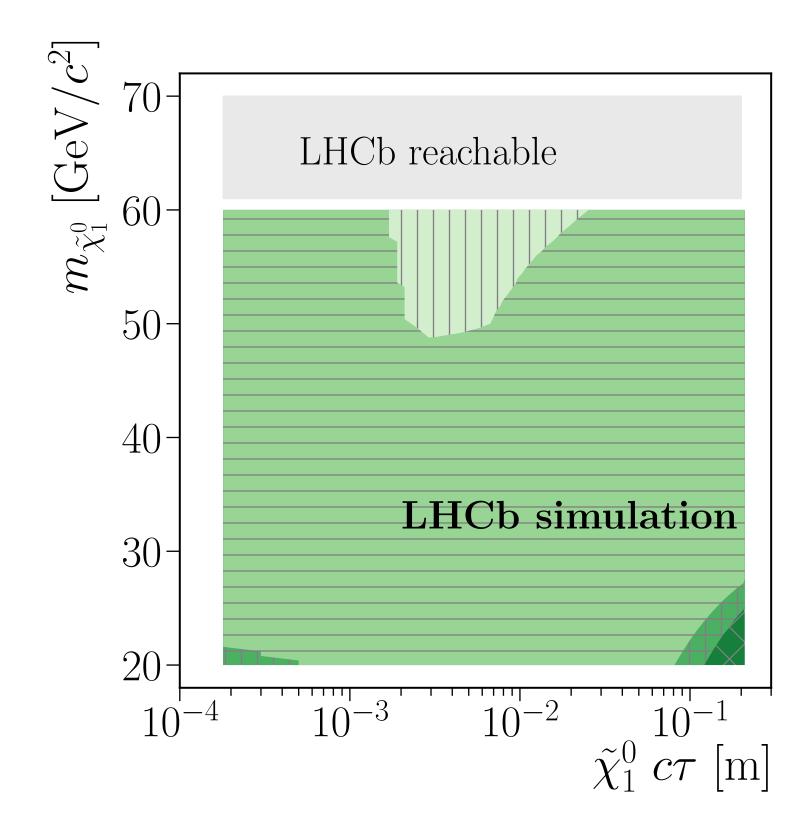




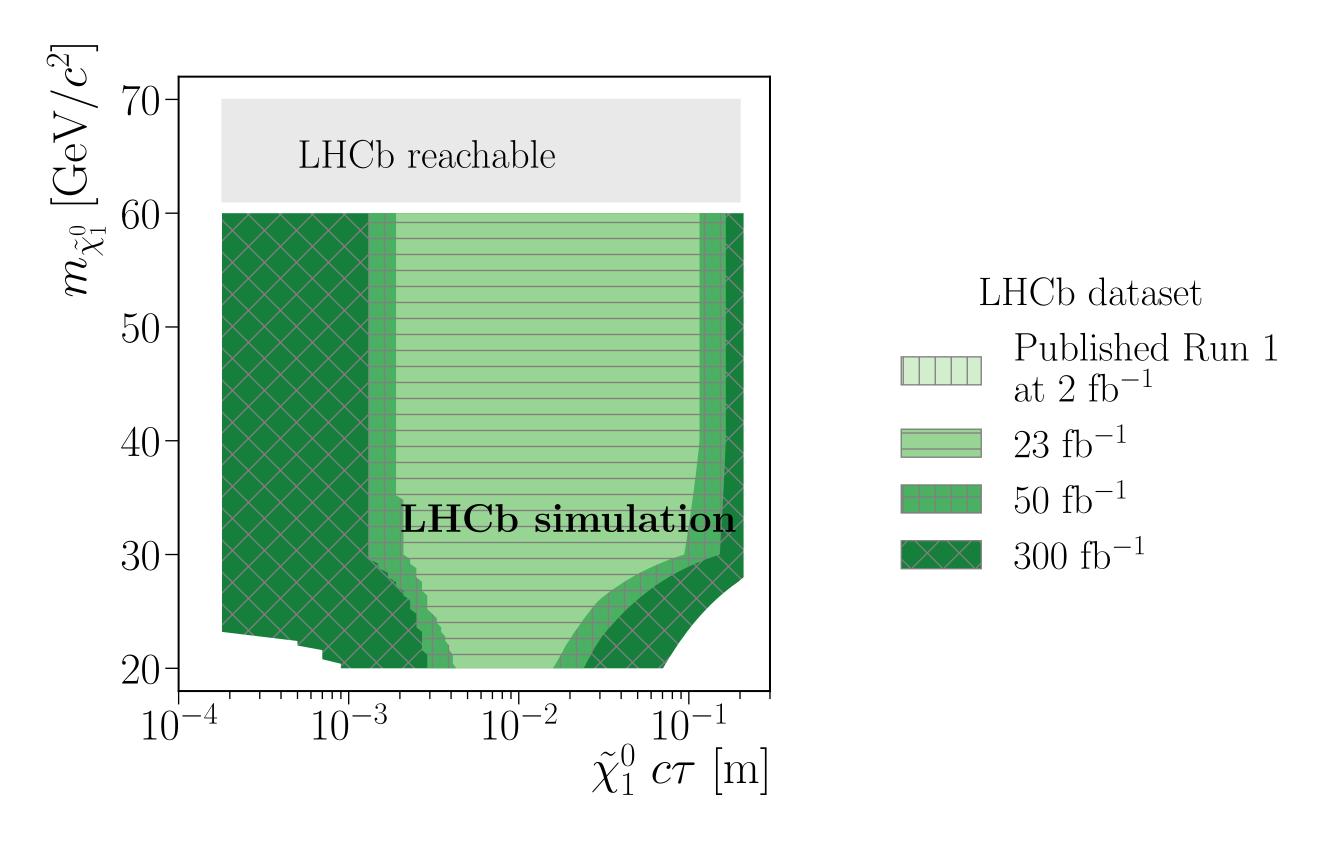
Model independent scaling of current results to future integrated luminosity for different BFs

LHCb / Higgs→LLP→µ+jets / 3

Model dependent scaling of current results to future integrated luminosity for two different BFs



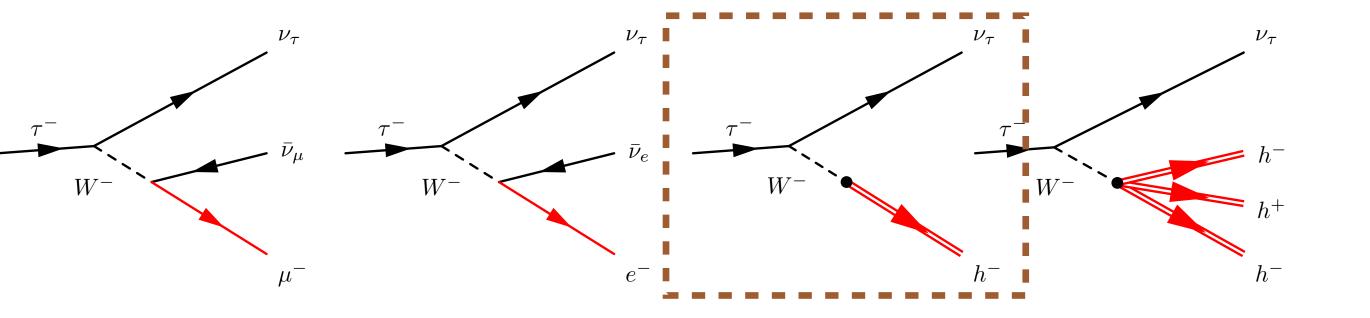
BF(Higgs→LLP+LLP) < 2 %

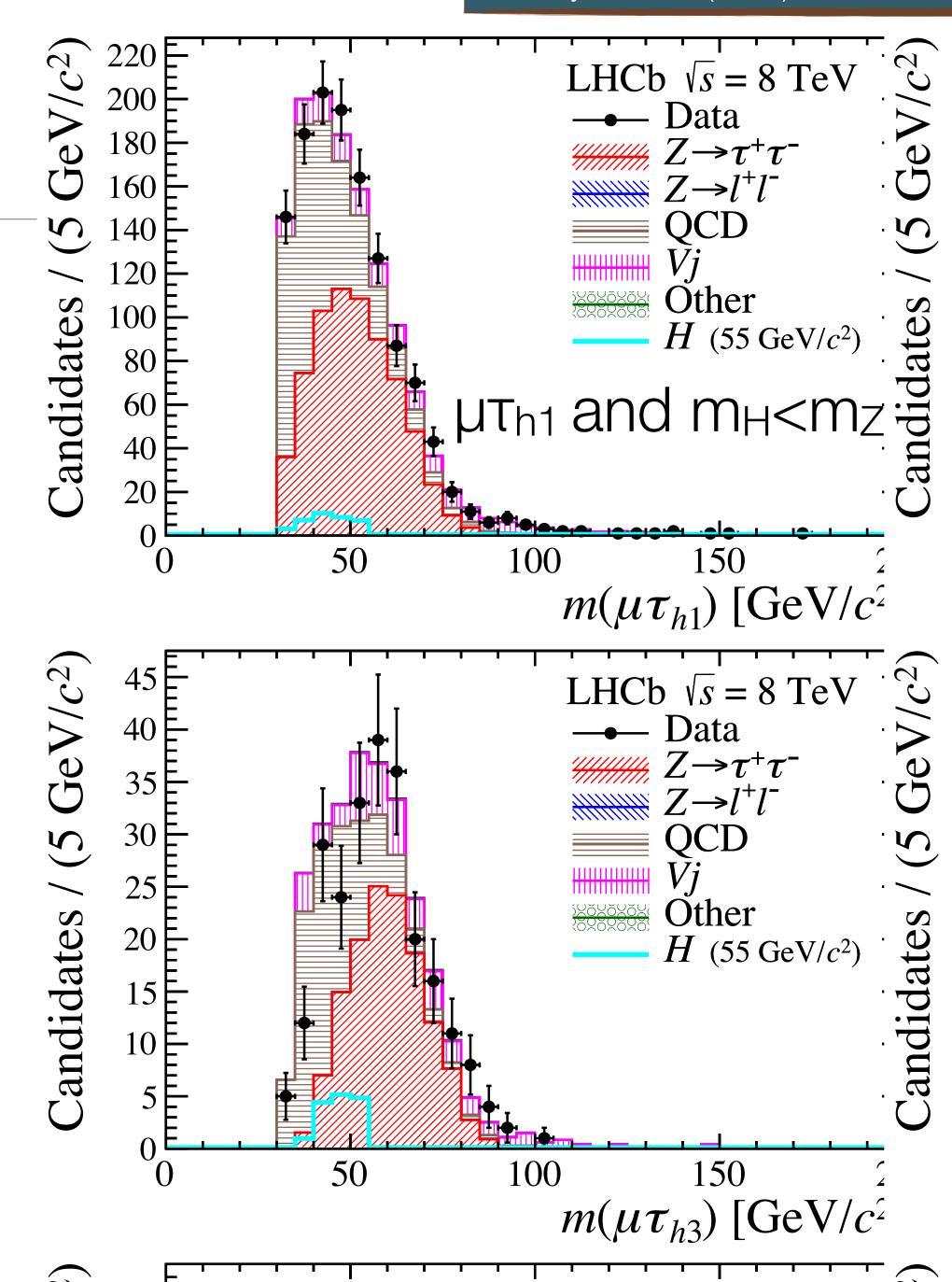


BF(Higgs→LLP+LLP) < 0.5 %

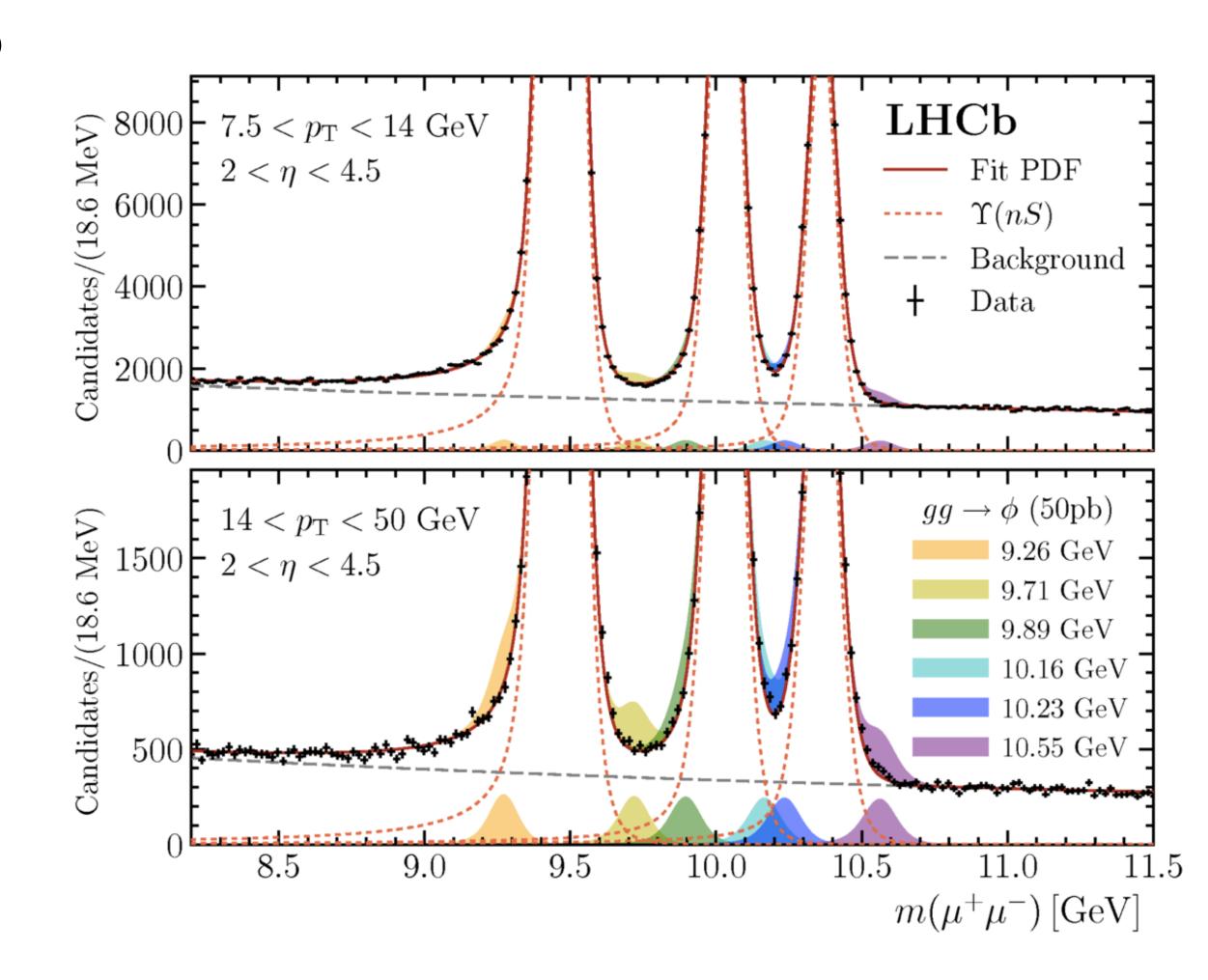
H→µT decays / 1

- Higgs-like boson decaying → µτ
 charged-lepton flavour-violating (CLFV)
- Analysis is separated into four channels
- m_H=[45; 195] GeV and minimal flight distance (impact parameter) of the reconstructed candidate is imposed
- Three different selections based on **m**_H w.r.t. **m**_Z
- Background dominated by QCD, Z→ττ, Vj
- No excess found



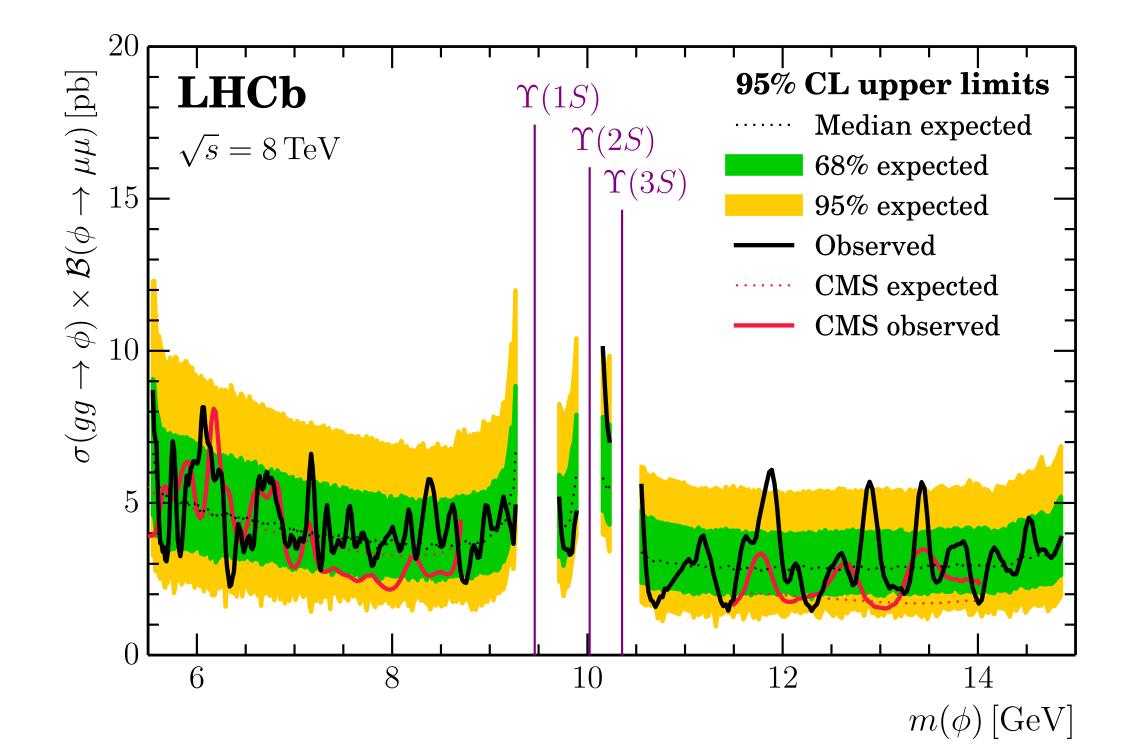


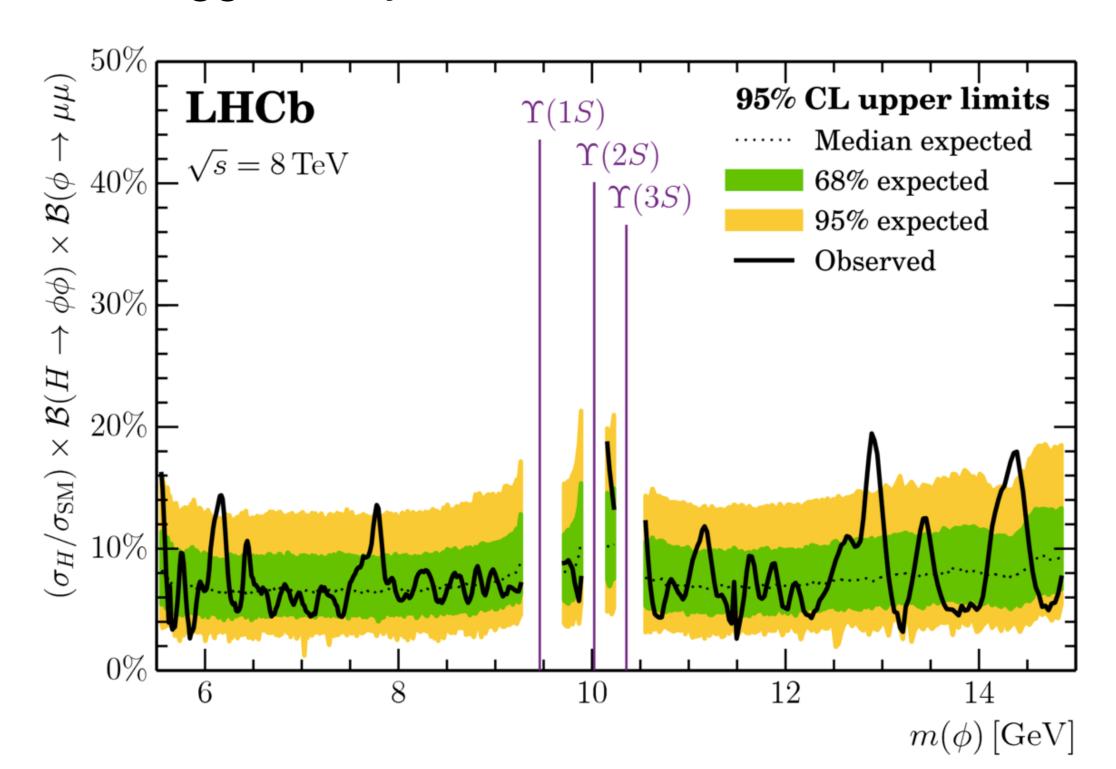
- Other light spin-0 particles in which LHCb can do well are light bosons from pp; only Run 1
- Spin-0 boson, φ, using Run 1 prompt φ→μ+μdecays, have been searched for
- Use dimuon final states:
 - Access to different mass window w.r.t $\gamma\gamma$ or $\tau\tau$ searches in 4π experiments
- Done in **bins of kinematics** ([p_T , η]) to maximise sensitivity
- Precise modelling of Y(nS) tails to extend search range as much as possible
- Mass independent efficiency (uBDT)



JHEP 1809 (2018) 147

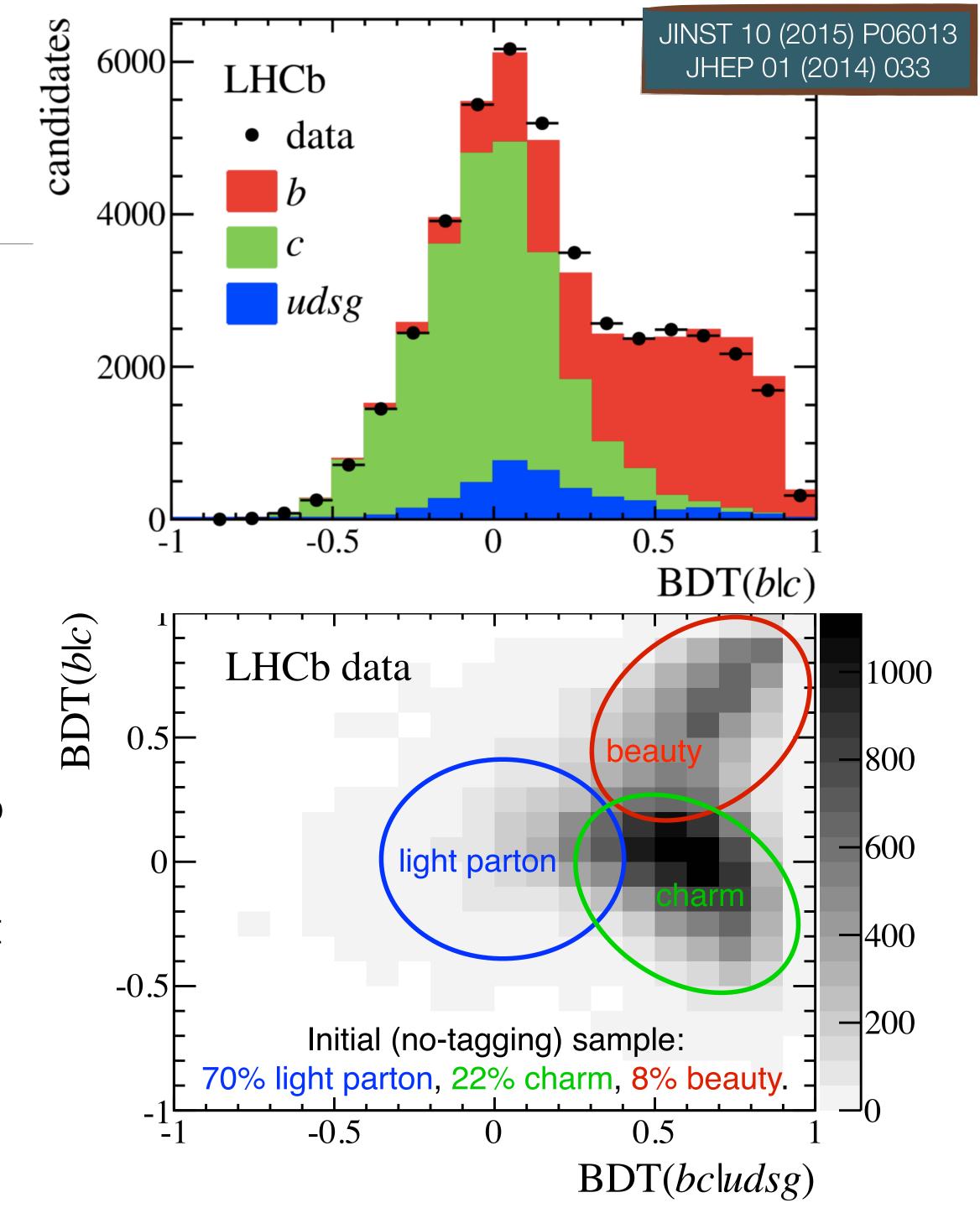
- Search for dimuon resonance in $m_{\mu\mu}$ from 5.5 to 15 GeV (also between Y(nS) peaks)
- · No signal: limits on σ•BR set on (pseudo)scalars as proposed by **Haisch** & **Kamenik** [1601.05110]
- First limits in 8.7-11.5 GeV region elsewhere competitive with CMS
- Interpreted as a search for a scalar produced through the SM Higgs decay



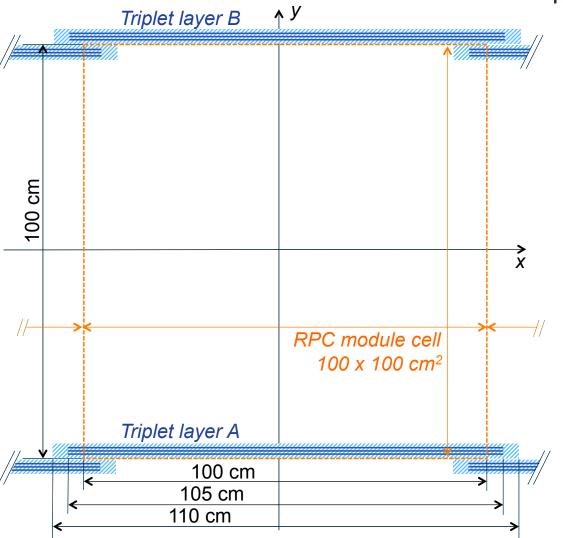


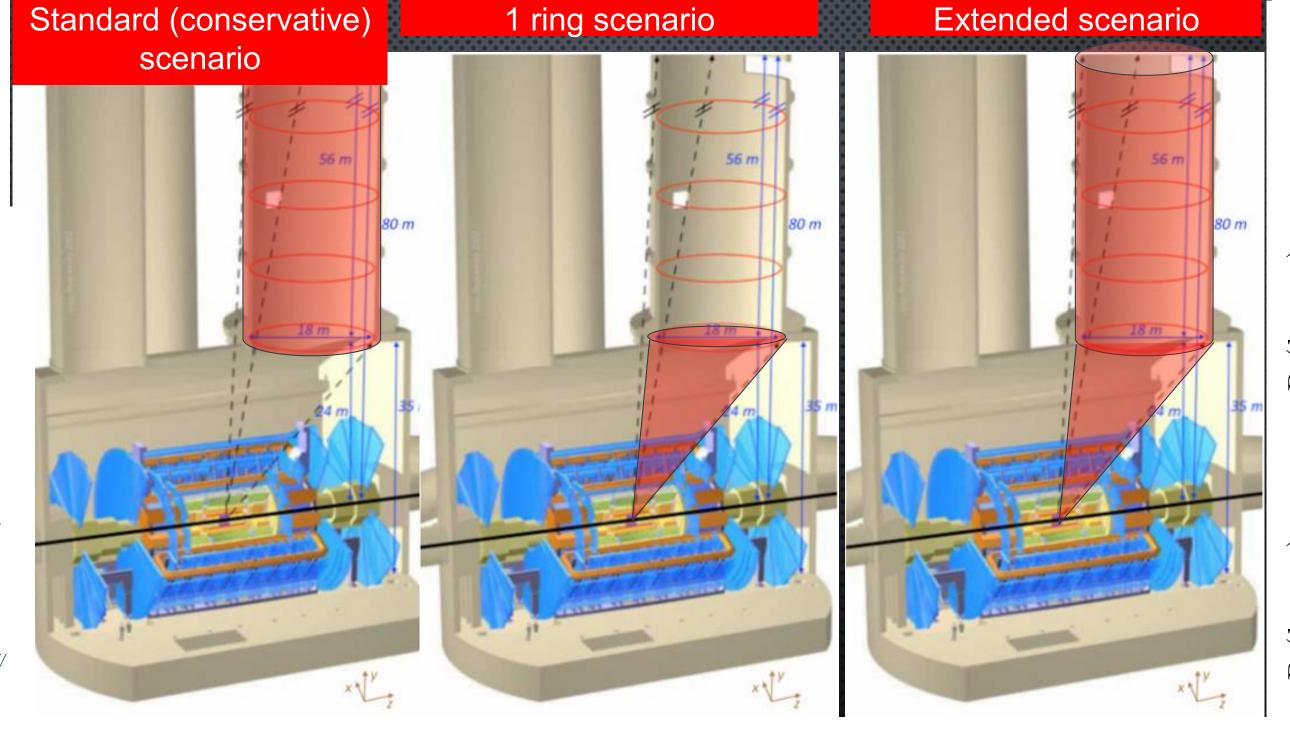
Jet physics at LHCb / 1

- Efficiency above 90% for jets with p_T above 20 GeV
- Jets reconstructed both online and offline!
- b and c jet tagging
- Require jets with a secondary vertex reconstructed close enough
- **Light jet** mistag rate < 1%, $\epsilon_b \sim 65\%$, $\epsilon_c \sim 25\%$
- SV properties (displacement, kinematics, multiplicity, etc) and jet properties combined in two BDTs
 - **BDT**_{bc|udsg} optimised for heavy flavour versus light discrimination
 - **BDT**_{b|c} optimised for b versus c discrimination



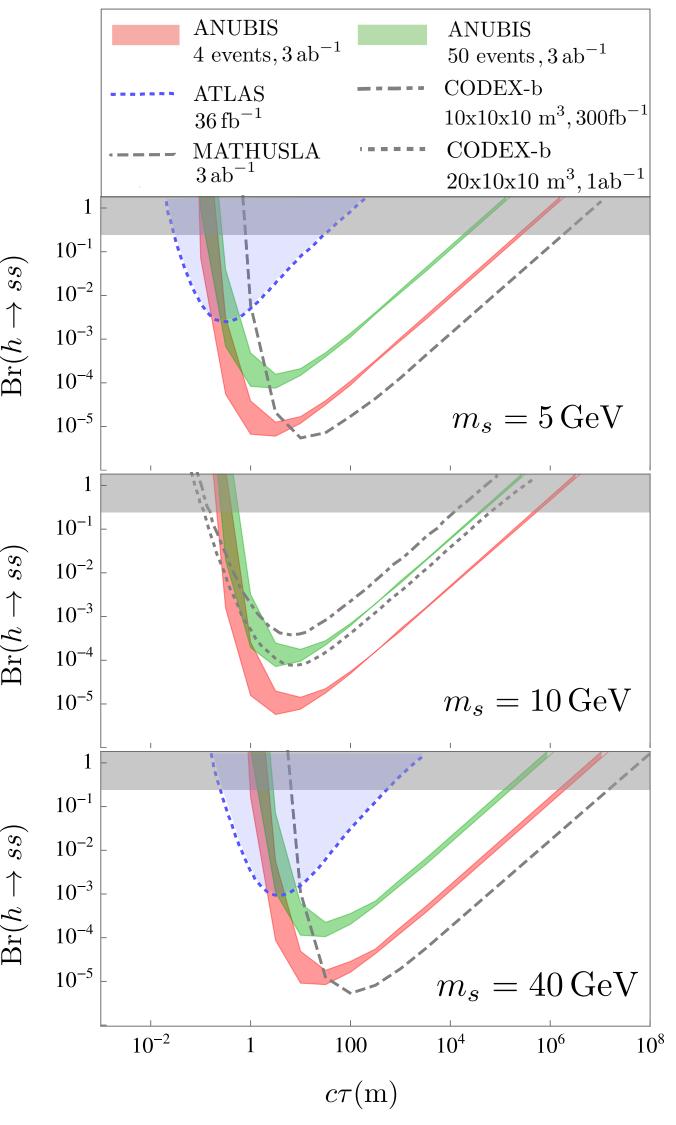








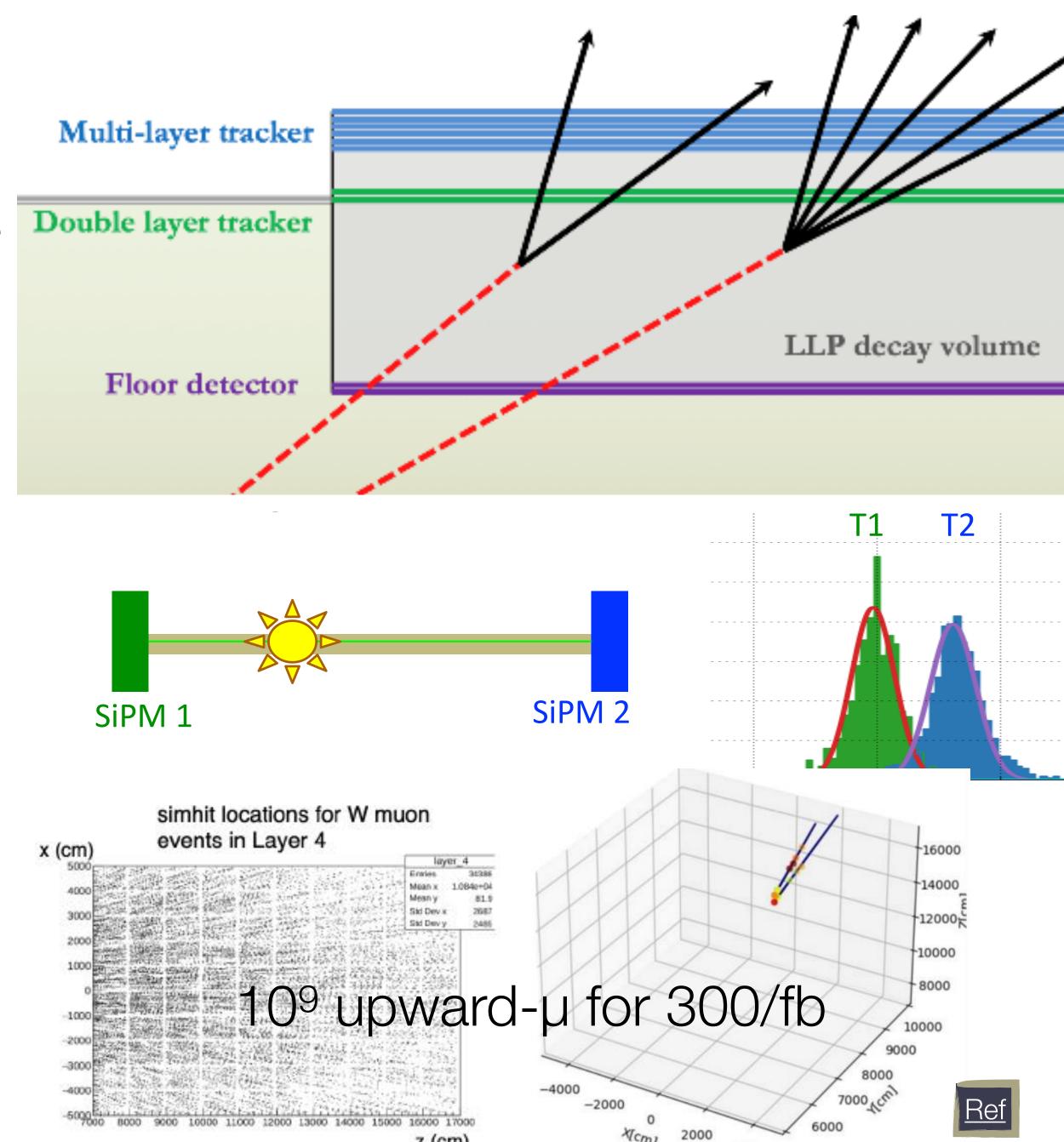
- Instrument the ATLAS shaft with Resistive Plate Chamber (RPC) used for ATLAS phase-2 upgrade
- 2D readout triplet layers for a total of 2.3 km² instrumented area
- Benchmark: for LLPs for Higgs decays h → ss with different LLP masses
- Comparable physics reach of MATHUSLA
- Can work together with the ATLAS detector





MATHUSLA

- Massive Timing Hodoscope for Ultra Stable neutraL pArticles
- Sensitive to neutral long-lived particles that have lifetime up to the Big Bang Nucleosynthesis (BBN) limit (10⁷ – 10⁸ m) for the HL-LHC
- ~70 m to IP on surface, with IP ~80 m below surface and ~7.5 m offset to the beam line
- 100x100x~29 m³
- LLPs decaying inside MATHUSLA are reconstructed as displaced vertices,
- 4D tracking with ~ns timing resolution
- Can run standalone or combined to CMS
- Important Background Simulations underway with GEANT4: e.g. upward-µ



4000 5000



Tracking stations

detector per station

3 planes of silicon strip

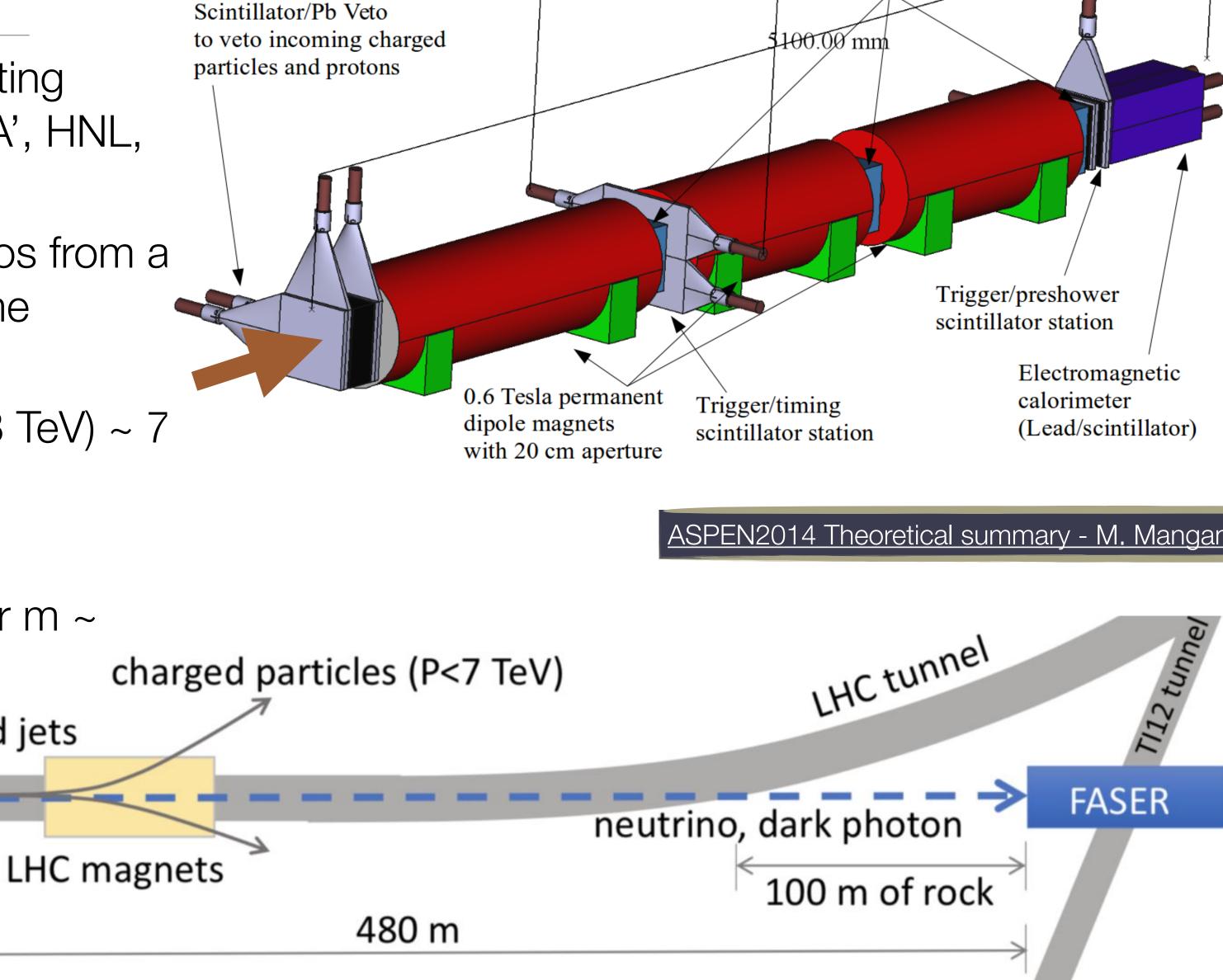
FASER

- FASER: search for new, weakly-interacting particles in the MeV - GeV range (e.g. A', HNL, ALPS)
- FASERv: first measurements of neutrinos from a collider and in unexplored energy regime (SND@LHC)
- Large inelastic pp cross-section $\sigma_{inel}(13 \text{ TeV}) \sim 7$ mb $\rightarrow N_{inel}$ (Run 3, 150/fb) $\sim 10^{16}$
- Small production angle: θ ~ mrad
- Macroscopic decay length: ~ 100 m for m ~ 10-100 MeV

p-p collision at IP

of ATLAS

forward jets



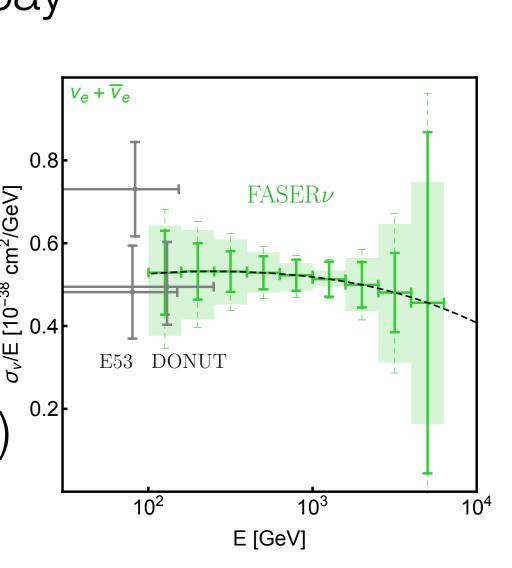
1100.00 mm

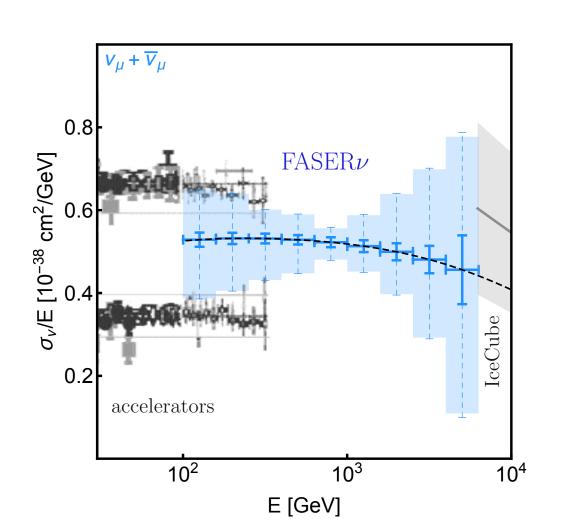


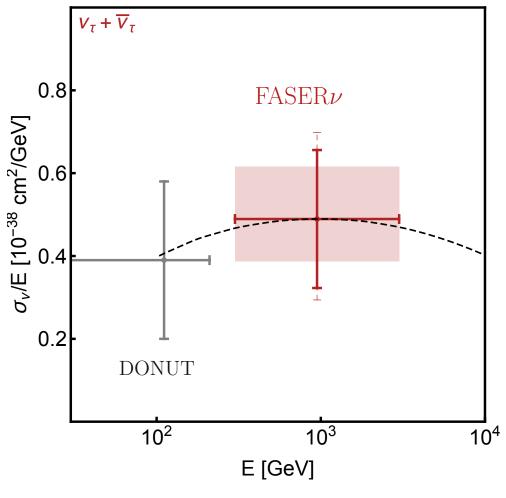
FASER

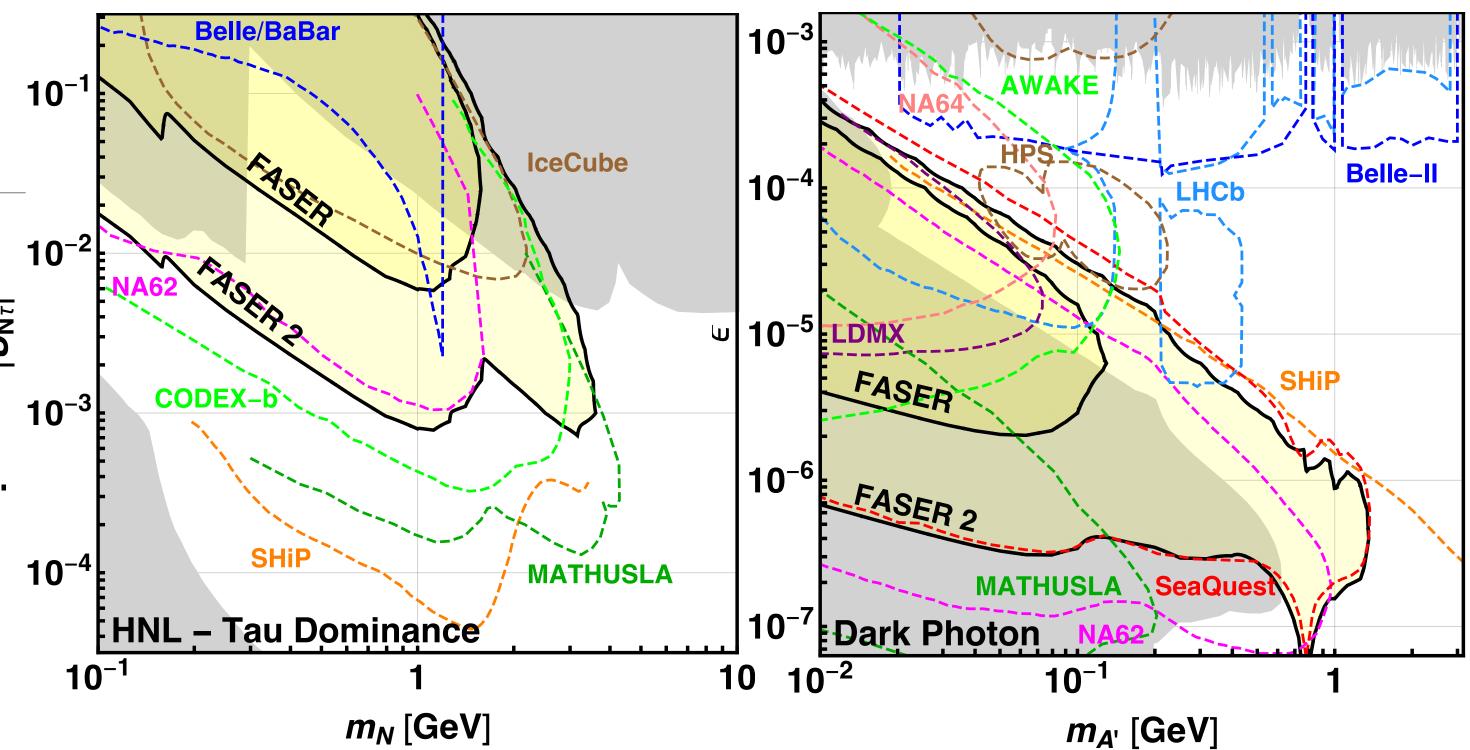
· FASER:

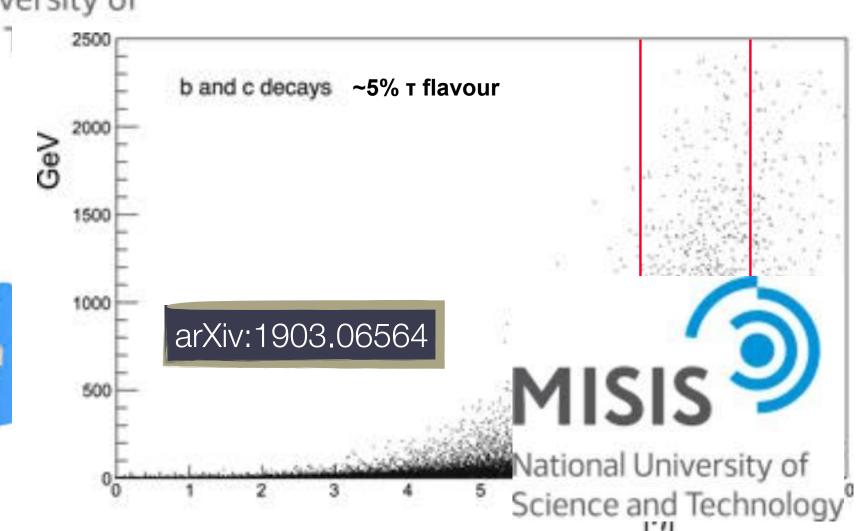
- Benchmark physics process: Dark $\frac{3}{5}$ Photons A'
- Produced via kinetic mixing from e.g. π^0 decays
- Detected in decay to e+e- in FASER decay volume
- Sensitive to other LLPs and decay modes as well
- FASERv (and InterFace Tracker):
 - Based on emulsion film therefore vertex detector with intrinsic resolution of ~ 50 nm
 - Track-finding efficiency (> 96 %)



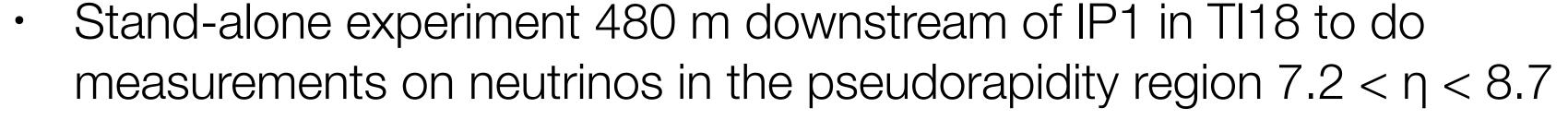




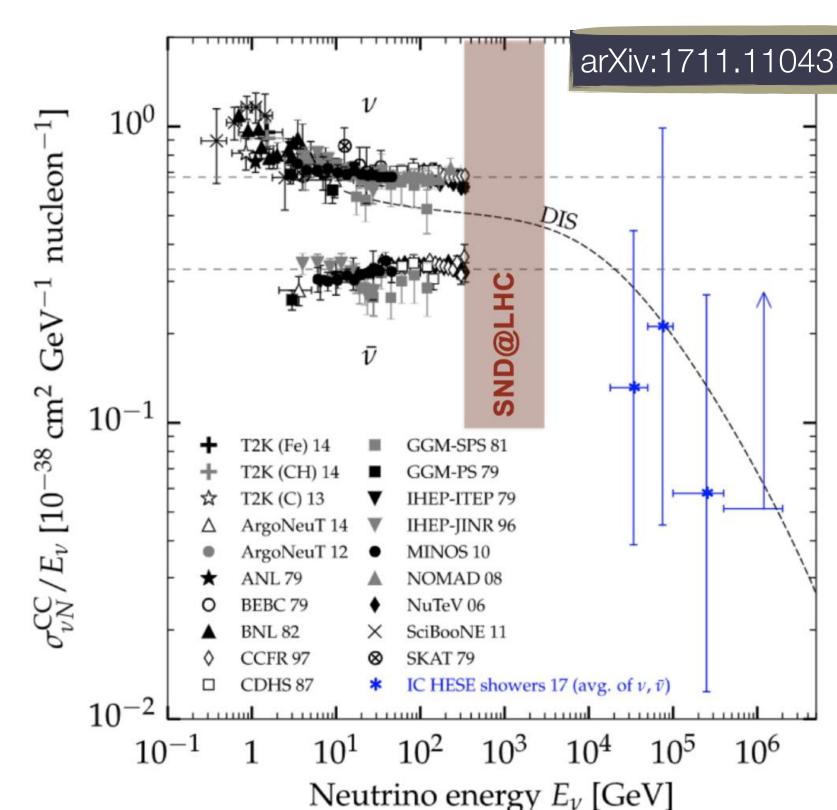




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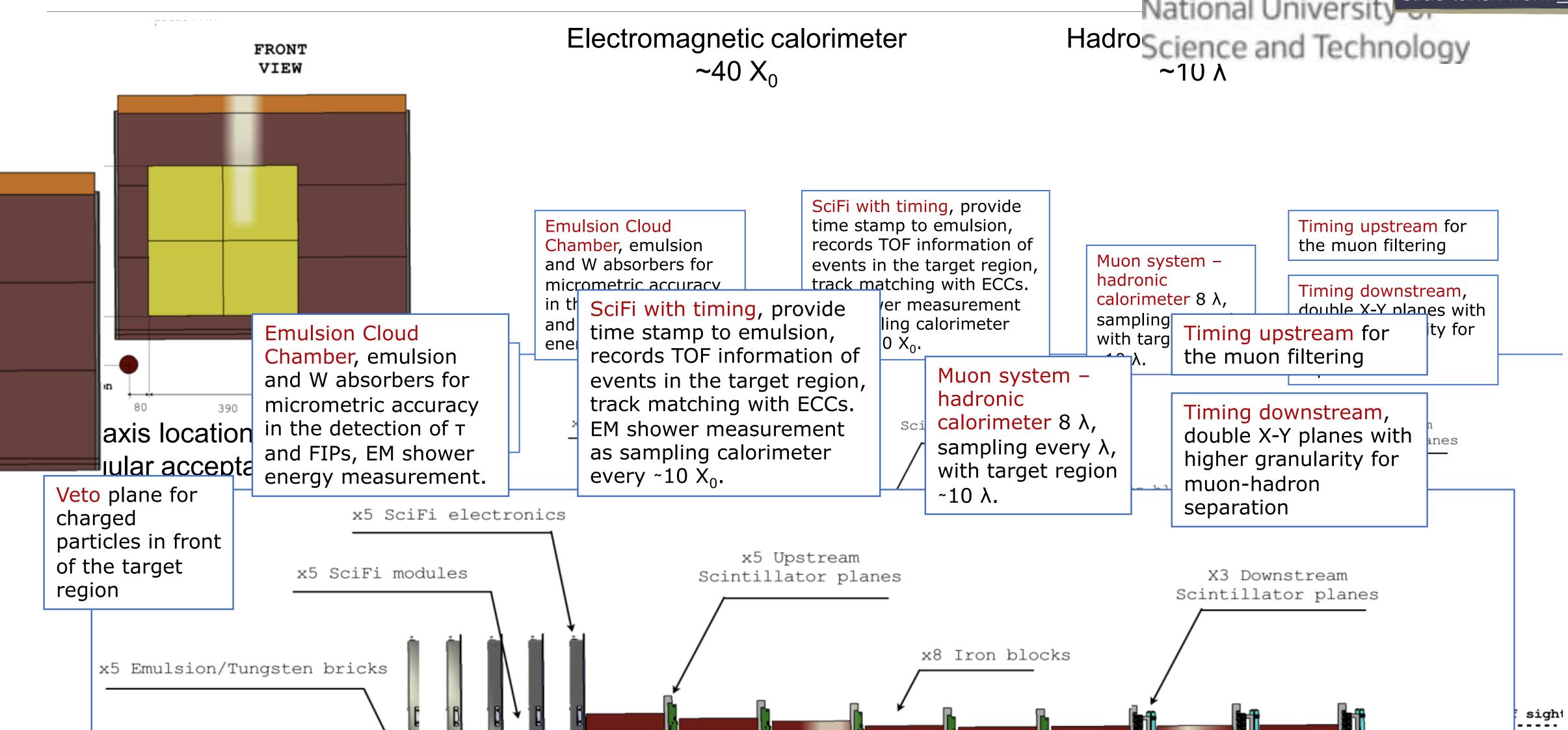


- Large expected flux v in forward direction
- · Large brad and butter physics output; e.g.:
 - Opp→vX
 - Measurement of the NC/CC ratio
 - Direct search for feebly interacting particles through scattering



x1 Scintillator plane





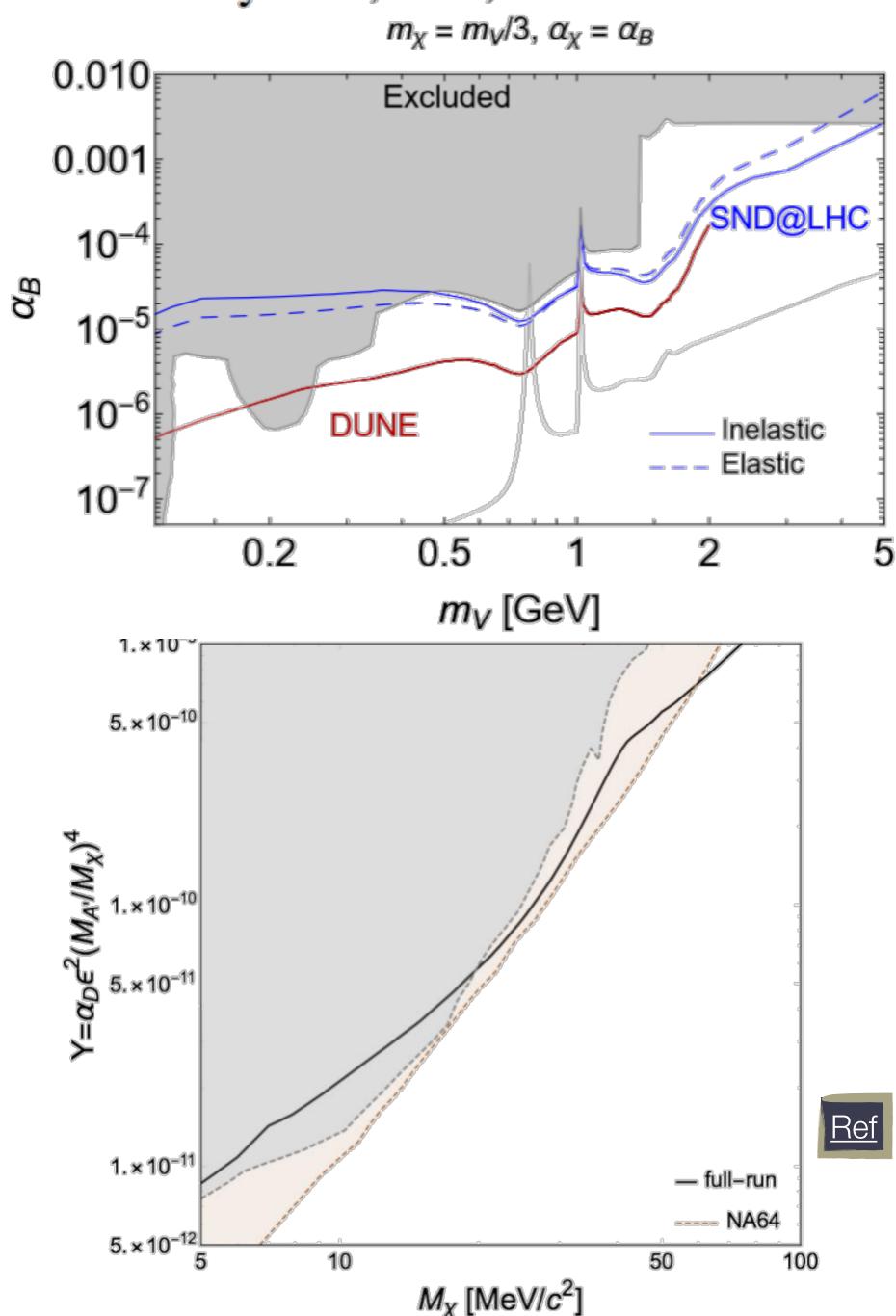


- Some exar Scattering and Neutrino Detector) searches are:
- Leptophobic portal
 - $V \rightarrow \chi \chi$ and elastic scattering $\chi N \rightarrow \chi N$
 - Deep inelastic Scattering: background suppression exploiting kinematical leatures $\chi + e \to \chi + e$

Dark photons

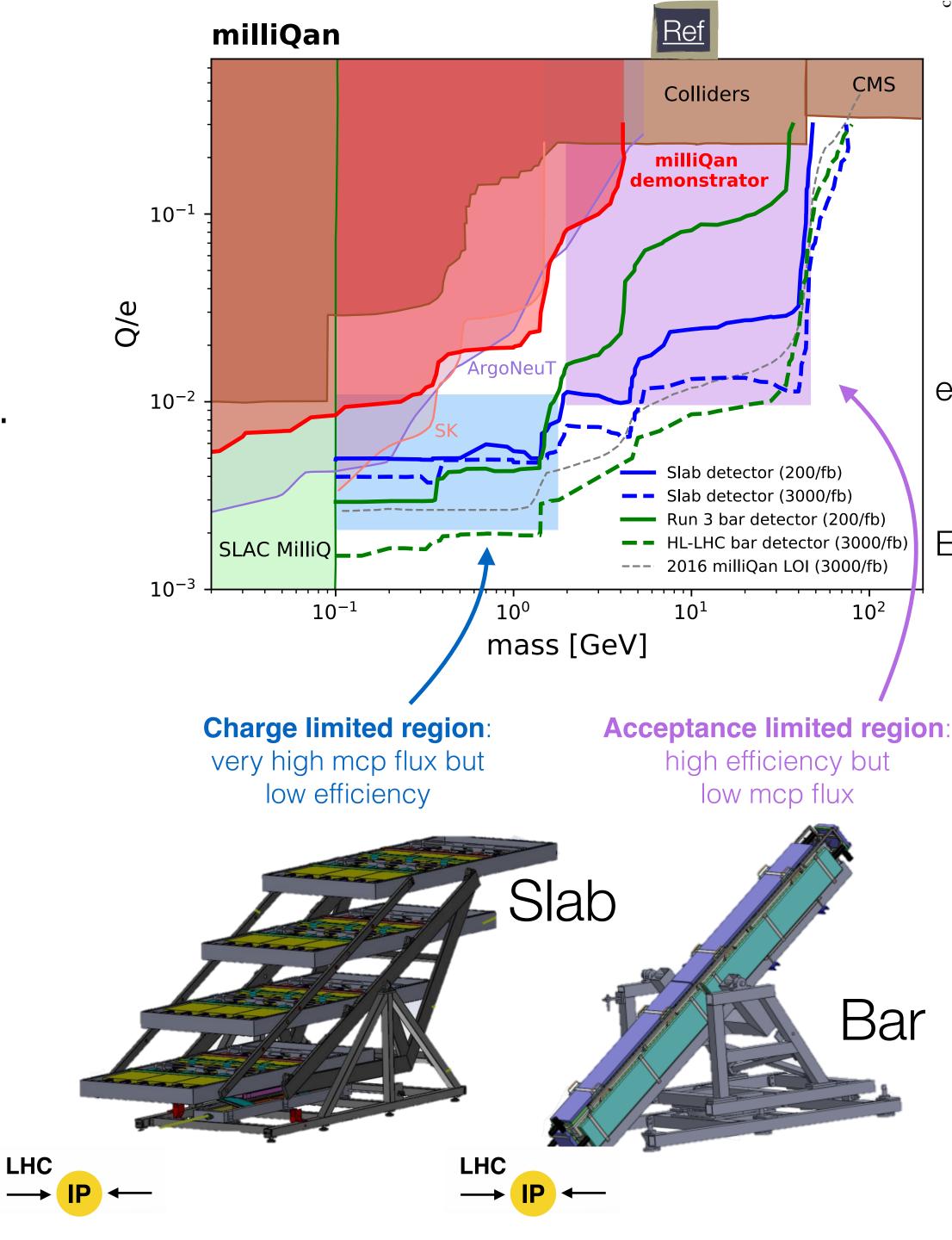
- Search for Light Dark Matter scattering off atomic electrons A'→xx with xe→xe in the target
- DM scattering acquires and additional ϵ^2 in the yield
- SND@LHC is an ε⁴ experiment
- Assume a time resolution of ~200 ps, dominated by the bunch size

Excluded: by CDF, BES, E949 and BNL



milliQan

- milliQan targets a gap for heavier (~ GeV) low charged particles not reachable by searches using effects on sun, stars and supernovae, cosmological bounds, etc...
- 33 m from CMS IP at an angle and 17 m of rock act as natural shielding against background coming from IP
- Demonstrator run collecting ~35/fb, 2000h of data in 2018 (one of the few)
- For Run 3 a bar and slab detector will be deployed
- Bar detector is a 4 layer, 4x4 scintillator bar
 - Essentially a larger version of demonstrator
 - Extra layer helps veto backgrounds
- Slab detector (new for Run 3) has 4 layers of 12 40 x
 60 x 5 cm slabs
 - Dramatically improve acceptance for Q > ~0.01e





MoEDAL

- So far MoEDAL has placed the world's best direct limits on: Multiply charged magnetic monopoles, spin-1 monopoles, Schwinger's Dyon, etc...
- Also sensitivity to Long-lived Massive Singly & Double Charged Particles
 - Enhanced by the installation of MAPP (MoEDAL apparatus for penetrating particles)
 - Planned for deployment during LHC's Run 3
 - · Lifetimes longer than 10 years can be probed
- MoEDAL can cover the lifetime region with ct ≥ 100 m
- Expected sensitivities for four types of doubly-charged particles, assuming a Run 3 integrated luminosity of 30/ fb: a scalar singlet (red), a scalar triplet (blue), a fermion singlet (green) a fermion triplet (magenta)

