

Search for Dark Matter and hidden sectors in CMS

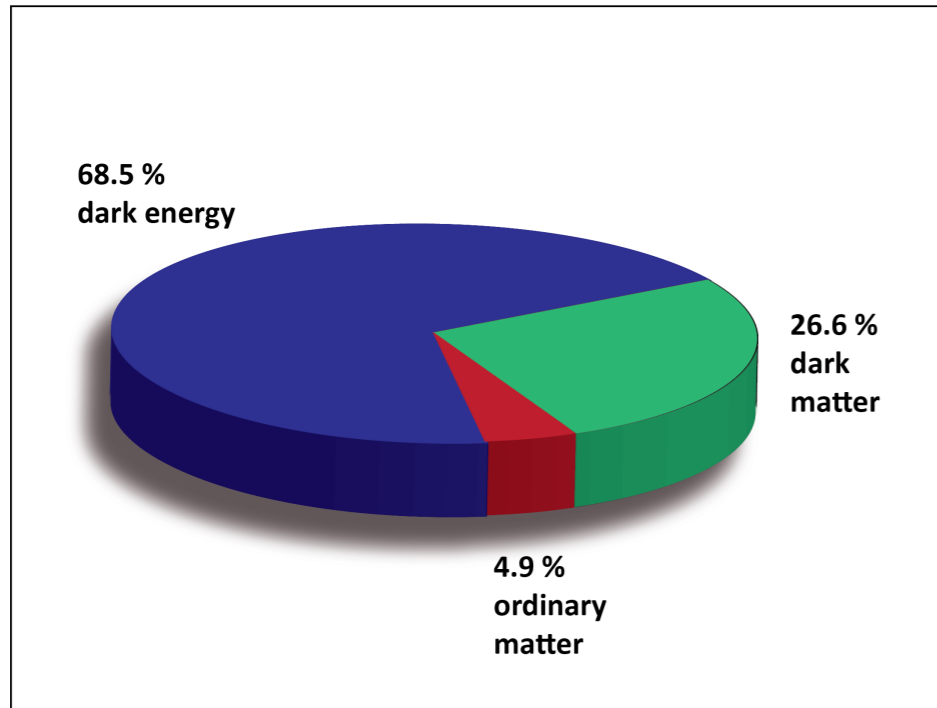
TeVPA2023: TeV Particle Astrophysics Conference,
11-15 Sep 2023, Napoli (Italy)

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On behalf of CMS collaboration



September 14, 2023

What is the Universe Made of?



▶ Experiment Results:

- ☑ Universe is not empty.

▶ Matter in the Universe:

- ☑ Occupies less than 5% of the total universe.

▶ Unexplained 95%:

- ☑ Majority of the universe's composition is unknown.
- ☑ Referred to as "dark matter."
- ☑ Exists in space, yet its nature remains a mystery.

▶ Strong Evidence for Dark Matter:

- ☑ We have convincing proof from studying the sky and how things are pulled by gravity.

▶ Galaxy Spin Mystery:

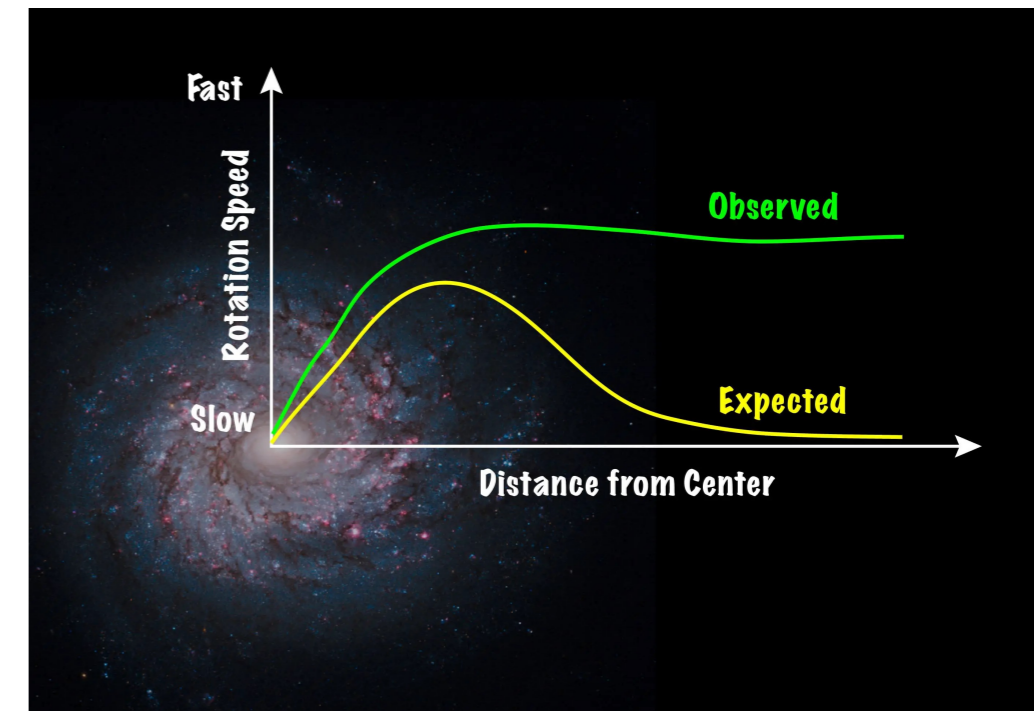
- ☑ Galaxies spin in a way that suggests something we can't see (Dark Matter) is affecting them.

▶ Bending of Light:

- ☑ Light from faraway objects is bent because of an invisible force (Dark Matter).

▶ Clues in Cosmic Background:

- ☑ Patterns in the early universe's radiation tell us about Dark Matter's role in shaping the cosmos.



What could dark matter be?

Different ways to solve the puzzle:

Scientists use various methods to uncover the secrets of Dark Matter (DM).

Indirect Detection (ID):

This method looks for clues in the particles produced when DM particles collide or annihilate, as seen in experiments like HESS and IceCube.

Direct Detection (DD):

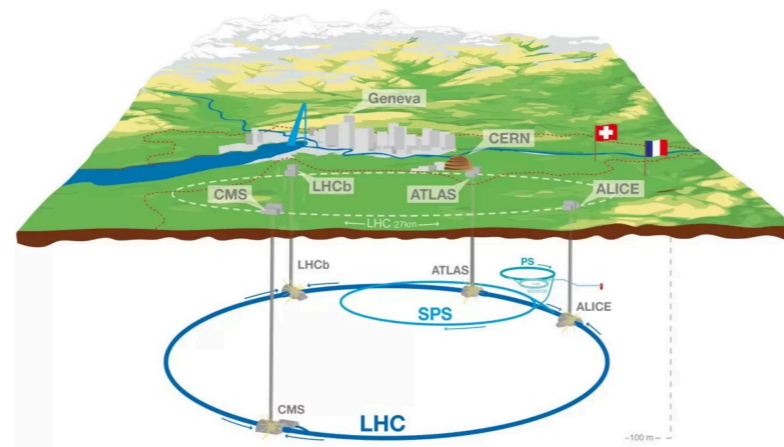
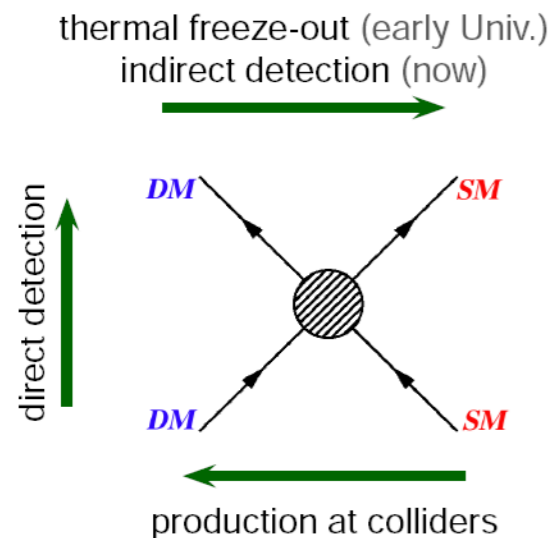
DD involves looking for signs of DM by detecting the tiny impacts it has when it interacts with atomic nuclei. Examples include XENON and SNOLAB experiments.

Collider Experiments:

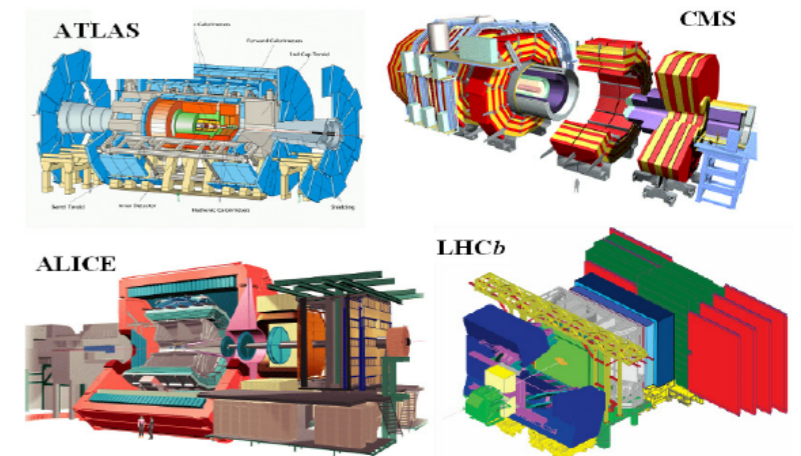
At places like the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), scientists recreate high-energy conditions to produce DM particles directly.

This approach allows researchers to investigate how DM is created.

It complements DD and ID methods in the search for DM.



Large Hadron Collider ...



Large Hadron Collider

- The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN is the largest and most powerful particle accelerator ever built.
- Particle collisions occur where the beams interact, at four specific locations where the giant detectors Alice, Atlas, CMS, and LHCb are installed.
- The LHC is a Discovery Machine, run at 7/8/13/13.6 TeV started in 2008.
- Primary physics targets

Origin of mass

Nature of Dark Matter

Understanding space time

Matter versus antimatter

Primordial plasma

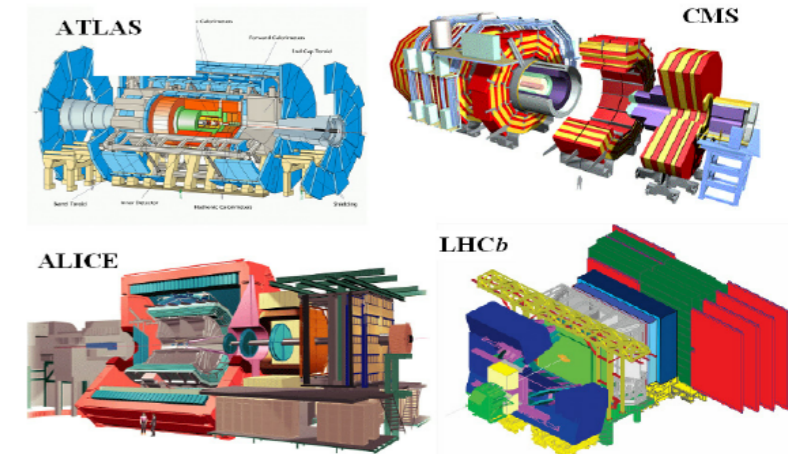
Exotica Particles

• LHC is ~ 100m underground

• LHC is 27 Km long

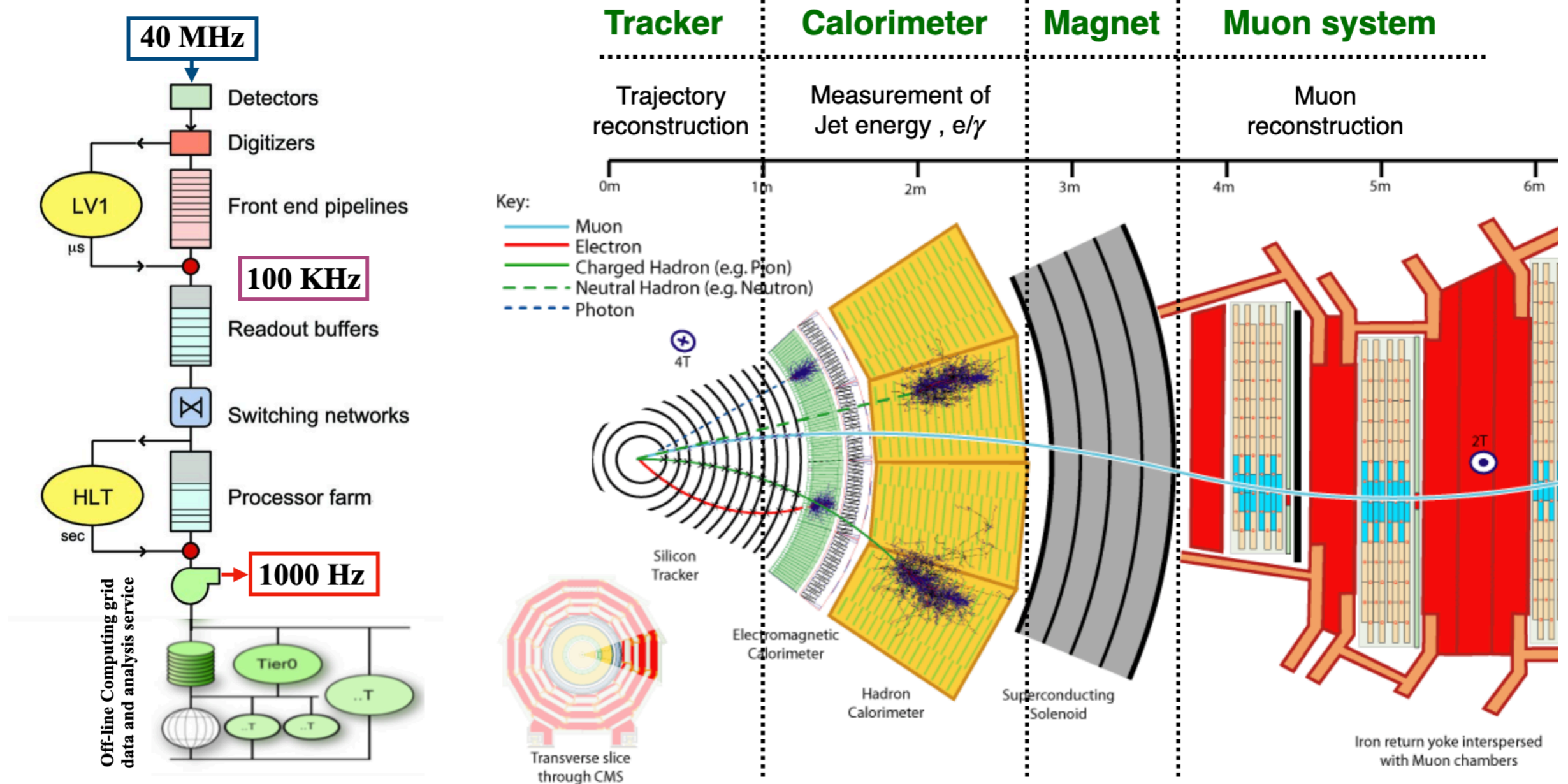
• LHC has ~ 1200 magnets 8.3 Tesla

• LHC 40 million proton-proton collision per second



Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS)

* CMS acts as a giant, high-speed camera, taking 3D "images" of the collision for further analysis.

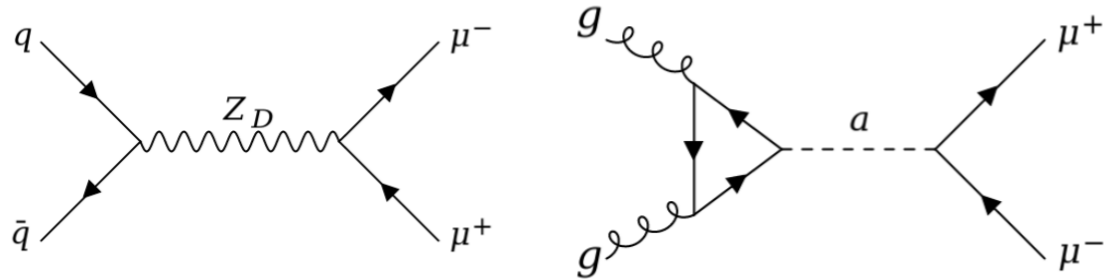


► The layout of the CMS trigger design :

- Level 1 based on hardware trigger 40 MHz to 100 KHz
- HLT based on software trigger 100 KHz to 1000 Hz

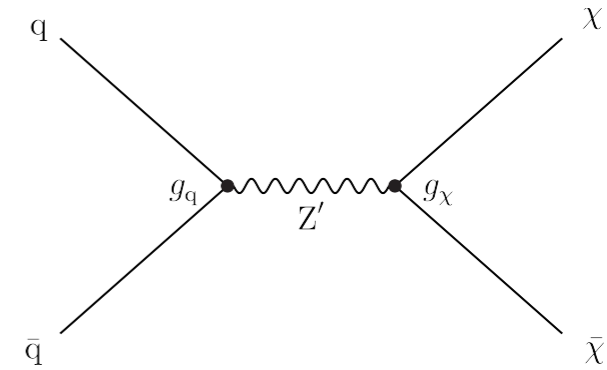
CMS Dark Matter Searches

Dark Photon and 2HDM+S



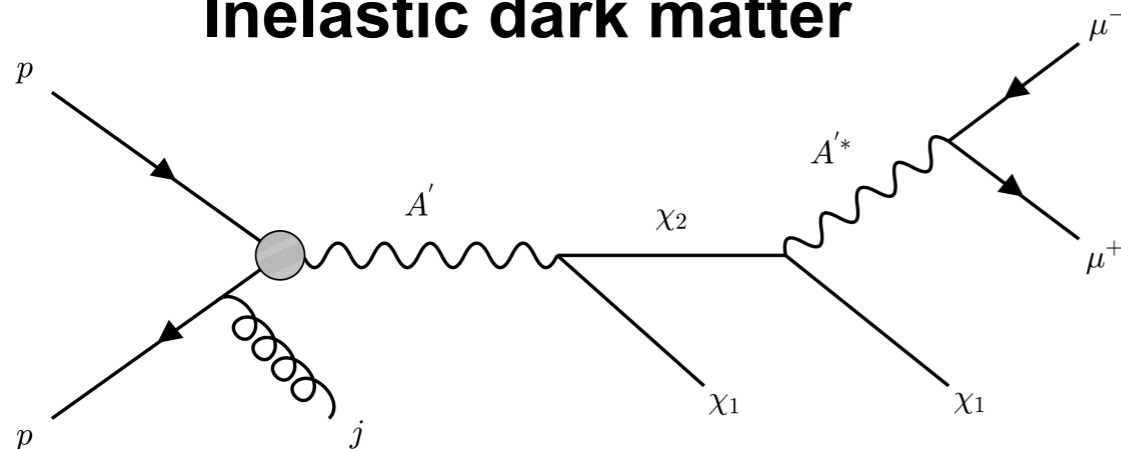
- Dark photon (Z_D) \rightarrow New $U(1)_D$ gauge field that mixes with the SM hypercharge gauge field $U(1)_Y$ field.
- 2HDM+S \rightarrow coupling of the light pseudoscalar boson to SM particles through its mixing with the Higgs fields.
- Such a particle could act as a portal between Standard Model fields and unknown dark sectors.

Semi-visible Jets



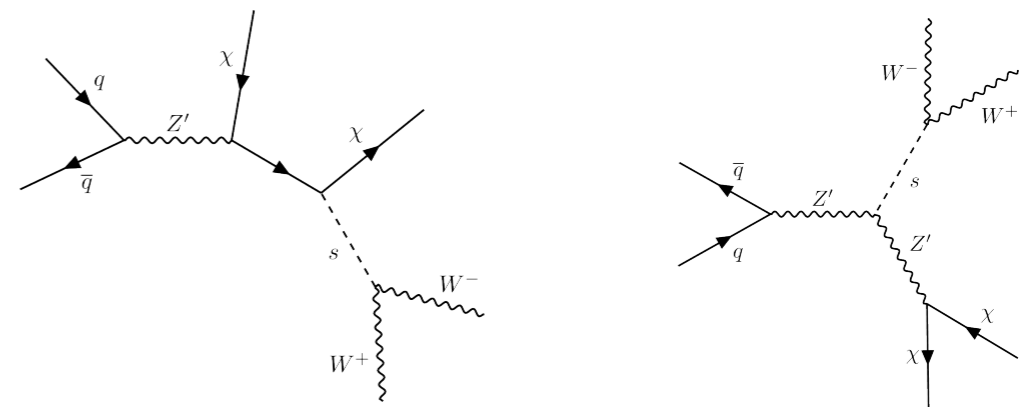
- SM-DM boson mediator:
- Spin-0: Scalar (S) or pseudo-scalar (a)
- Spin-1: Vector (V/Z') or axial-vector (A)
- Minimal set of parameters: m_χ , m_{mediator} , g_χ , g_q
- Final state is a mixture of visible and invisible particles

Inelastic dark matter

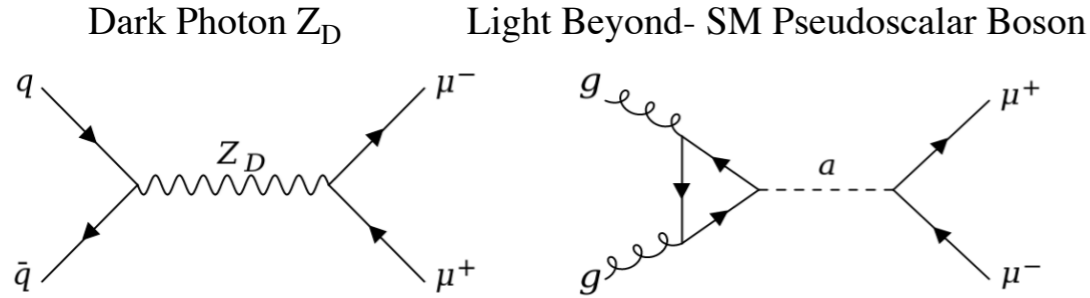


- Two dark matter states close in mass: χ_1 and χ_2
- Kinetic mixing between photon and dark photon: A' , ϵ
- Inelastic (off-diagonal) coupling between χ_1 and χ_2

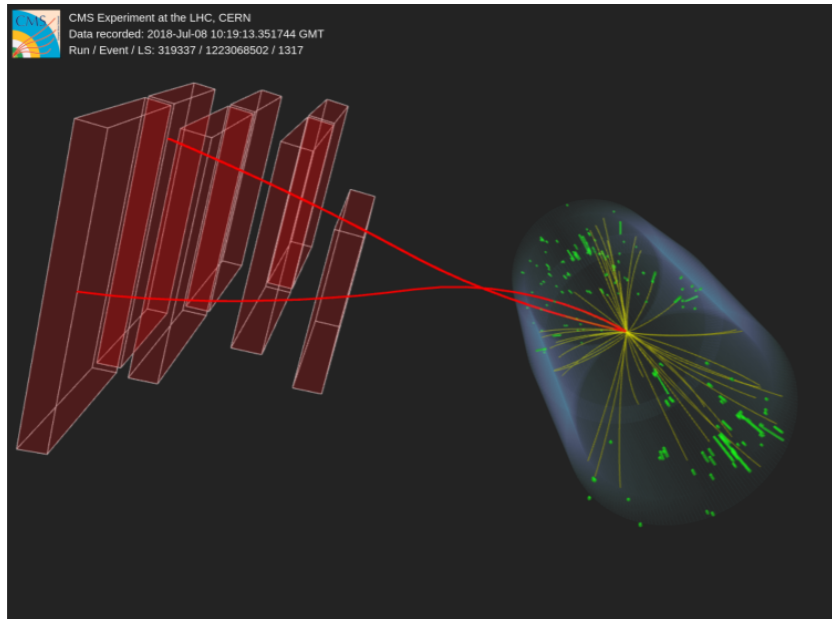
Dark Higgs



- More complete models involving a dark Higgs.
- The dark Higgs mass is considered to be above the W^+W^- mass threshold.
- First dark Higgs attempt at CMS



Low-mass dimuon events displays



✓ Main Discriminator :

- Muons should passed a muon identification based on MVA techniques (BDT).
- Two MVA discriminants are optimized to each mass ranges.
- MVAs inputs are : muon track quality, relative isolation, and vertex association.
- Above 4 GeV, the Upsilon trained selection is used
- Below 4 GeV, the J/ψ trained selection is used

2HDM+S → Two Higgs doublet model with an extra complex scalar singlet.

✓ Searching for a light (1-8 GeV) BSM mediator decaying into a pair of opposite sign muons, i.e., looking for narrow peaks in the dimuon mass spectrum within the ranges of 1.1–2.6 GeV and 4.2–7.9 GeV.

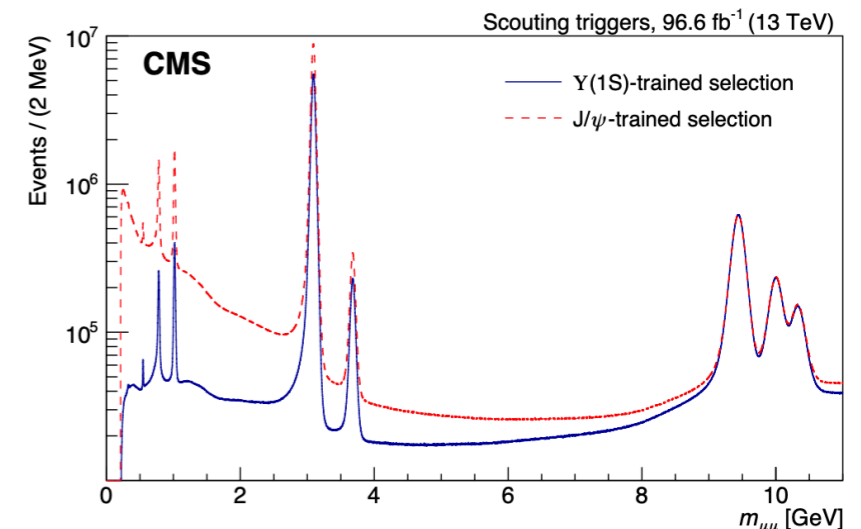
✓ Main Backgrounds :

- DY production of dimuon pairs in the low $m_{\mu\mu}$ region ($1 < m_{\mu\mu} < 10$ GeV)
- Resonant dimuon production via J/ψ , $Y(1S)$.
- D^0 mesons decay resonances → pions and kaons misreconstructed as muons

✓ Trigger → CMS high-rate data scouting trigger records events with two muons with $p_T > 3$ GeV

✓ Event selections :

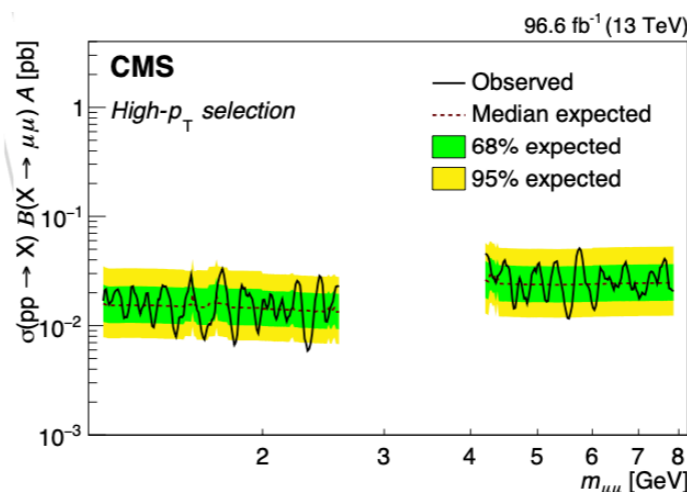
- At least 2 OS muons at $p_T > 4$ GeV, $|\eta| < 1.9$
 - ⚙ (The restriction on η is imposed to ensure optimal dimuon mass resolution without incurring a significant loss in acceptance.)
- Transverse primary vertex displacement (L) cut:
 - * $|\text{PrimaryVertex} - \text{BeamSpot}| L_{xy} < 0.2$ cm (0.015 cm → dark photon)
- Boosted signal cuts (optimized for 2HDM+S model)
 - * Single muon $p_T > 5$ GeV
 - * Pair $p_T > 20(35)$ GeV for $m_{\mu\mu}$ less than(greater than) 4 GeV



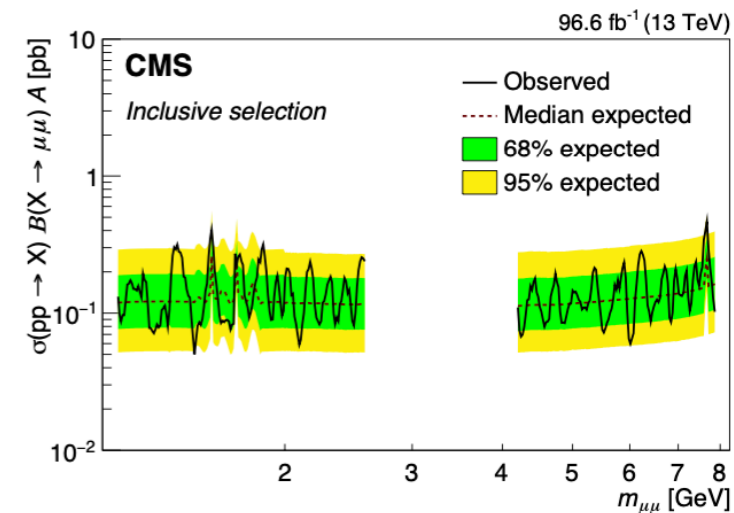


- ▶ The excess is observed in the high- p_T selection at 2.42 GeV
- ▶ local significance of 2.6σ and a global significance of 0.6σ .
- ▶ This coincides with a 3.1σ excess observed by LHCb at 2.42 GeV in a comparable analysis.
- ▶ The upward deviations in the expected limits below 2 GeV are due to the peaking background associated with D^0 meson decays. (inclusive selection)

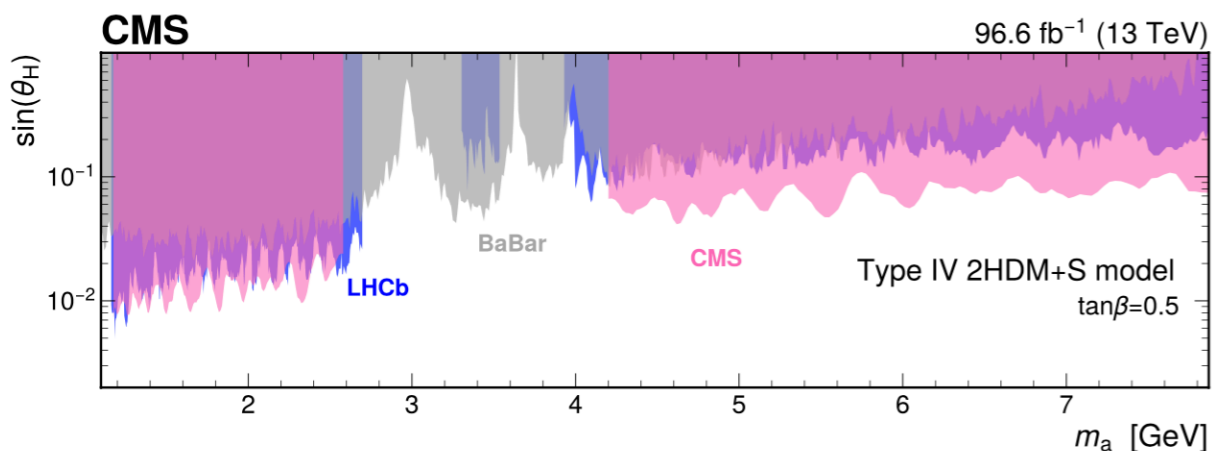
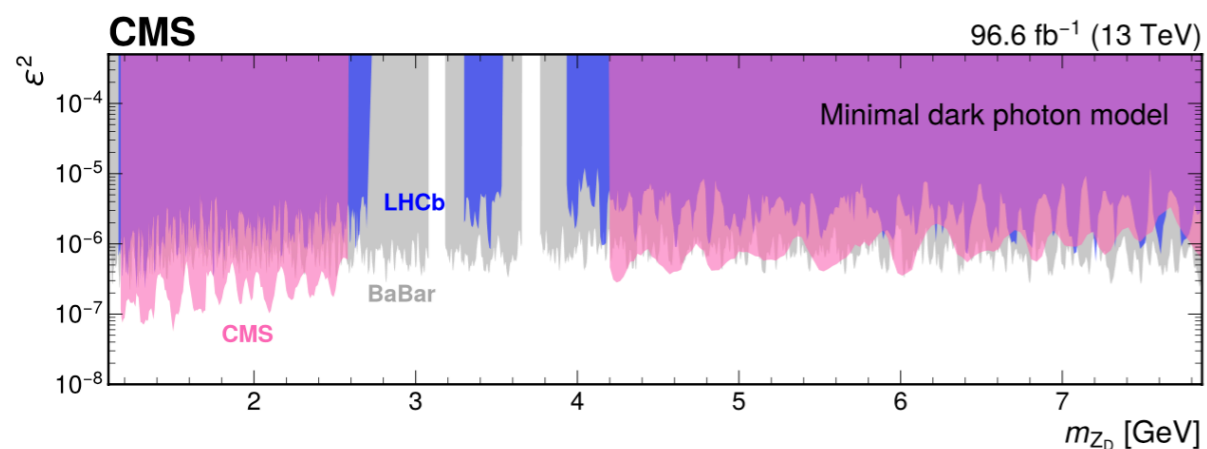
Boosted Selection



Inclusive Selection



Exclude the regions around the J/ψ , $\psi(2S)$, and $Y(1S)$ resonances.

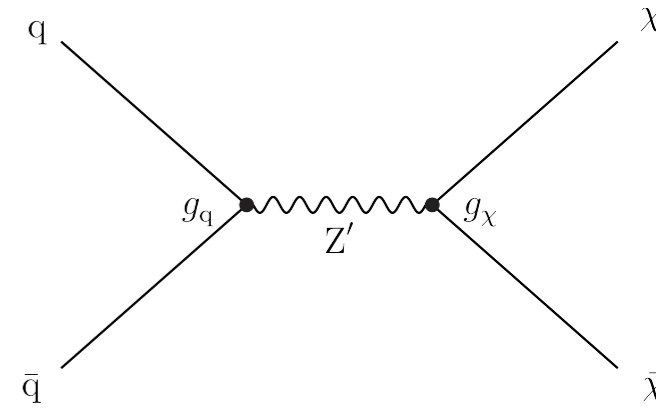


✔ Increased sensitivity at lower masses due to higher DY production cross-section at lower energy scales.

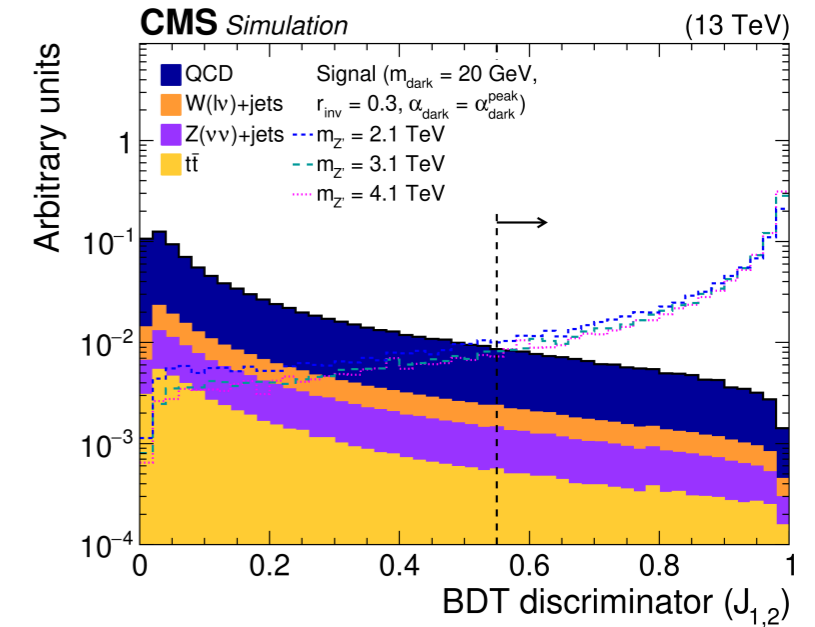
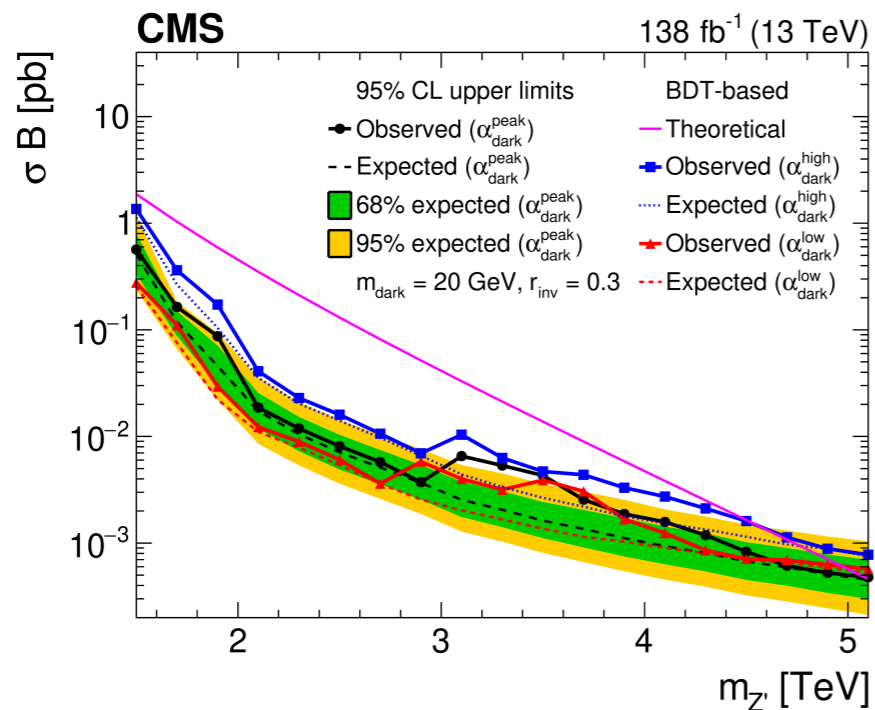
✔ The low-mass limits region are competitive with recently LHCb results.

Dark sector strongly-interaction \rightarrow Dark quarks form bound dark hadron states

- ☑ Dark sector consists of various dark quark types (χ_1, χ_2, \dots)
- ☑ Dark quarks combine to create dark hadrons
- ☑ Dark hadrons can be stable or unstable
- ☑ Unstable dark hadrons quickly decay into SM (Standard Model) quarks
- ☑ Stable dark hadrons are potential Dark Matter (DM) candidates and leaves the detector without interacting
- ☑ The final state therefore are "semivisible" jets (SVJ), consisting of a mixture of visible and invisible particles
- ☑ Z' boson mediator effective parameters cross section, $m_{Z'}$, m_{dark} , α_{dark} , and r_{inv}



- 🔊 α_{dark} coupling strength of the dark QCD force.
- 🔊 Fraction stable $r_{\text{inv}} = N_{\text{stable}} / (N_{\text{stable}} + N_{\text{unstable}})$



Dark sector strongly-interaction → Dark quarks form bound dark hadron states

✓ Experimental signature : Pair of jets along with the E_T^{miss} that is aligned with one of the jets.

(Previous searches for jets+ E_T^{miss} not sensitive)

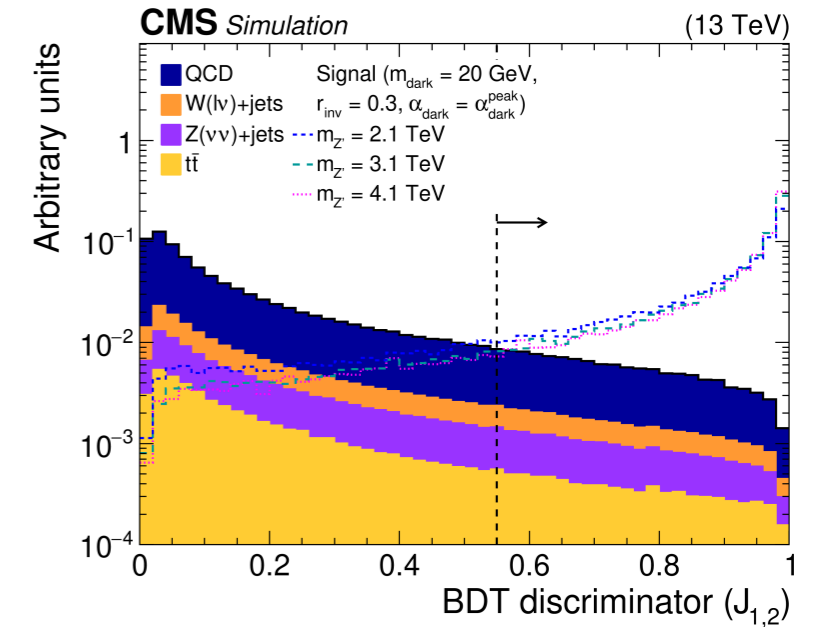
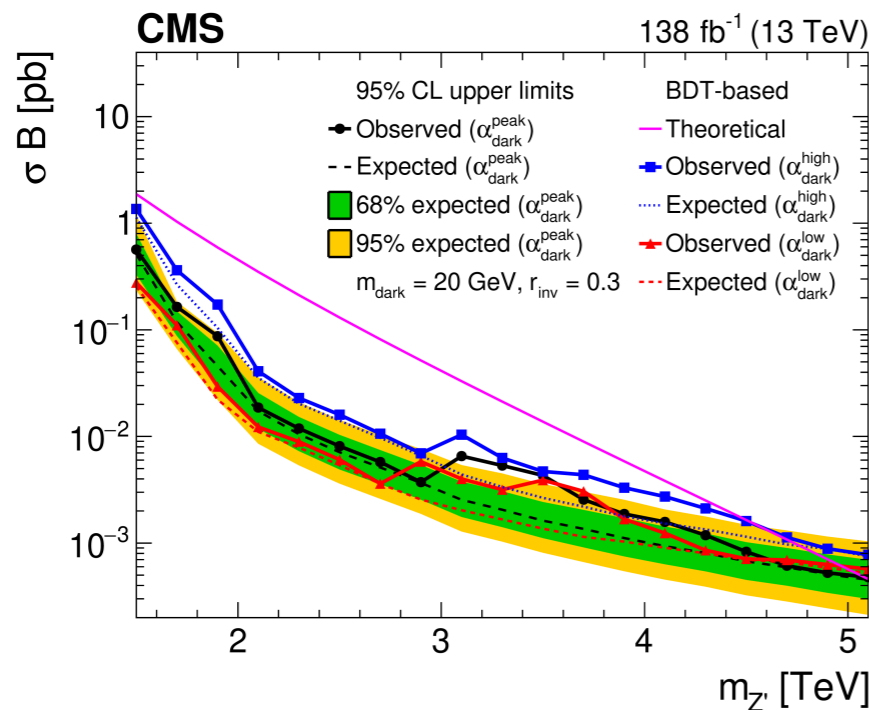
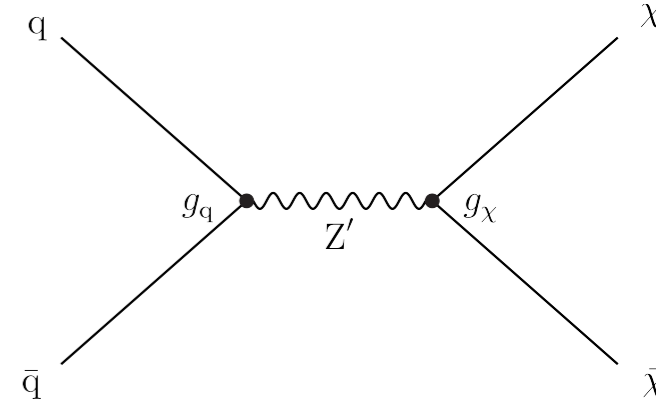
✓ Trigger : on jet p_T or on the H_T , $H_T = \sum(p_T > 30 \text{ GeV}, |\eta| < 3.0)$ (Jet p_T)

✓ Leptons : Veto on (μ or e)

✓ Sensitive variables: Di-jet transverse mass m_T , E_T^{miss} and $R_T = P_T^{miss} / m_T$

✓ Dominant background : QCD multi-jets, rejected by $R_T > 0.15$ and this reject t-channel as well

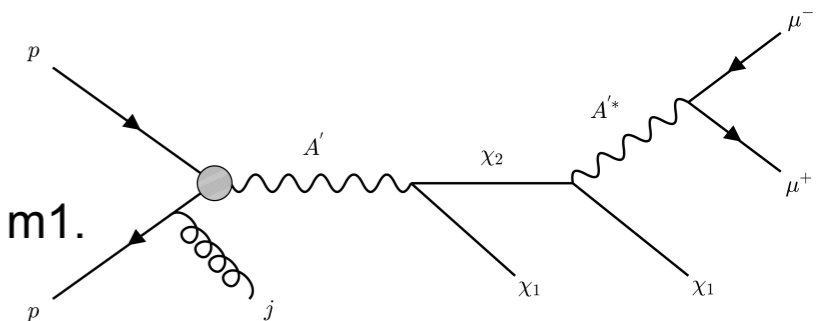
✓ Using BDT for semivisible jet identification improves the mediator mass exclusion to 5.1 TeV.



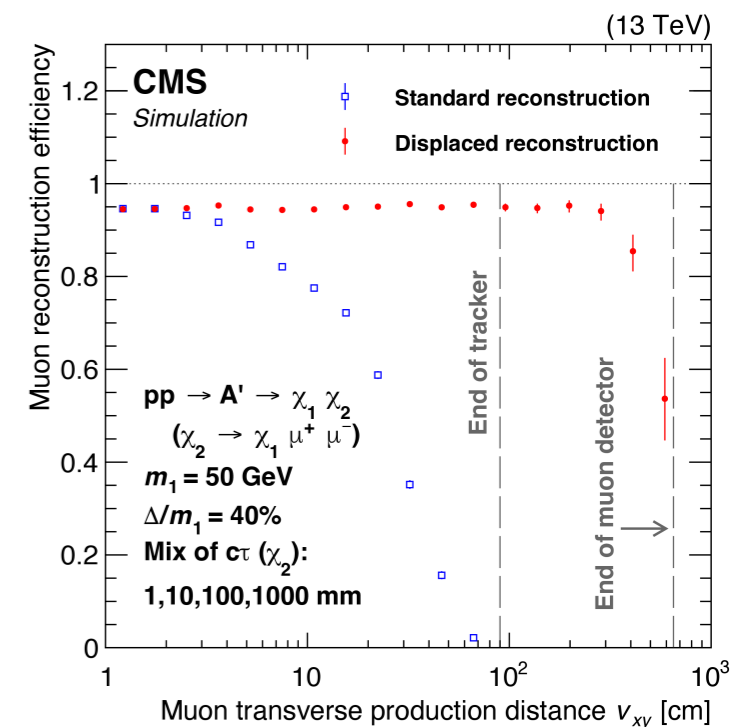
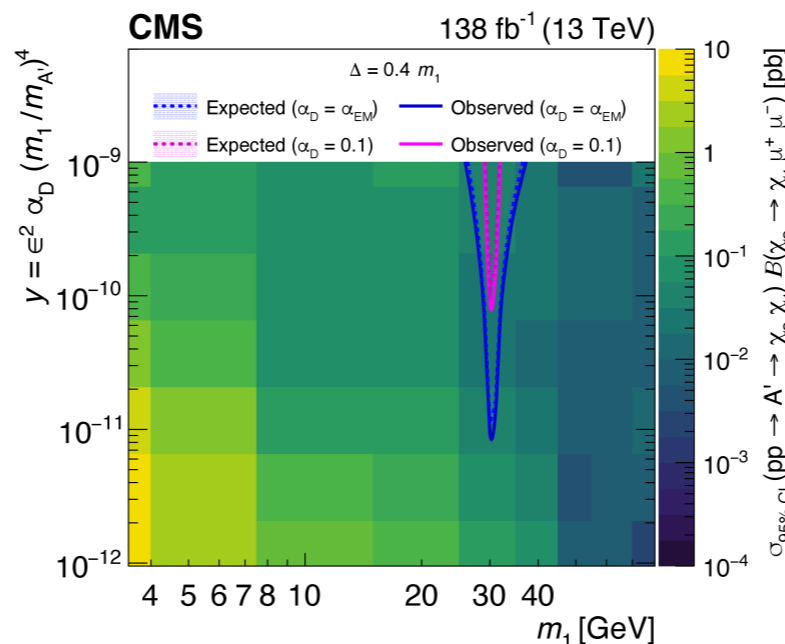
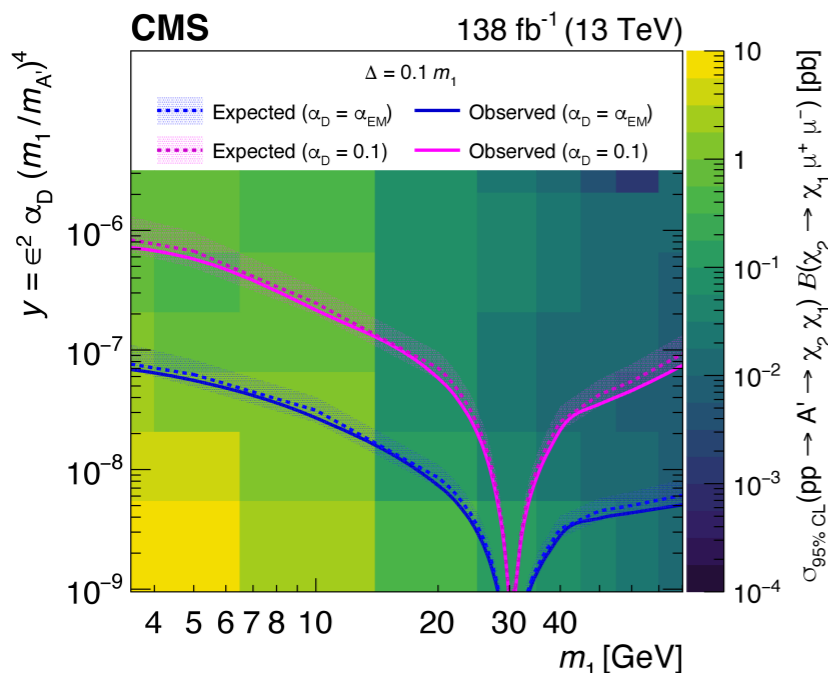
- Excluding $1.5 \leq m_{Z'} \leq 5 \text{ TeV}$ for $r_{inv} = 0.3$
- Excluding $0.01 \leq r_{inv} \leq 0.77$ for $m_{dark} = 20 \text{ GeV}$
- Small excess around $m_{Z'} = 3.5 \text{ TeV}$ with no real significance ($\sim 2\sigma$ local)

Search for dark matter using displaced muons for leverage

- ✓ The dark photon A' promptly decays into two closely-massed states, χ_1 and χ_2 .
- ✓ χ_1 (mass m_1) remains stable and undetectable.
- ✓ χ_2 (mass m_2) travels a distance before decaying into χ_1 and SM particles through an off-shell dark photon
- ✓ The mass difference (Δ) between χ_2 and χ_1 is relatively small, typically 10-40% of m_1 .
- ✓ The small mass difference results a "soft" decay products low transverse momentum ($p_T < 15$ GeV) and small angular separation.



- ✓ Experimental signature:
 - Pair of soft, displaced, collimated muons
 - Significant MET collimated with muons
 - Energetic recoiling jet opposite to DM system
- ✓ Trigger on MET, not soft muons



Search for dark matter using displaced muons for leverage

✓ Signal region :

○ Apply $dR(< 0.2)$ matching between the displaced muons pair and PF at outermost hit.

○ Split SR into 3 match categories: 0, 1, or 2

✓ Dominant background : QCD dominates in all match categories

✓ Limits : m_1 of the DM state vs the interaction strength $y \equiv \epsilon^2 \alpha_D (m_1/m_{A'})^4$

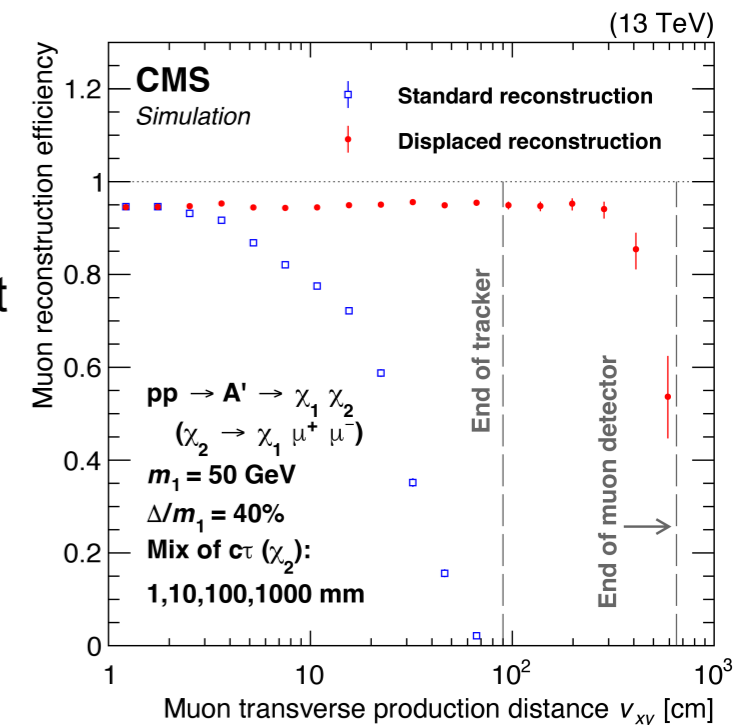
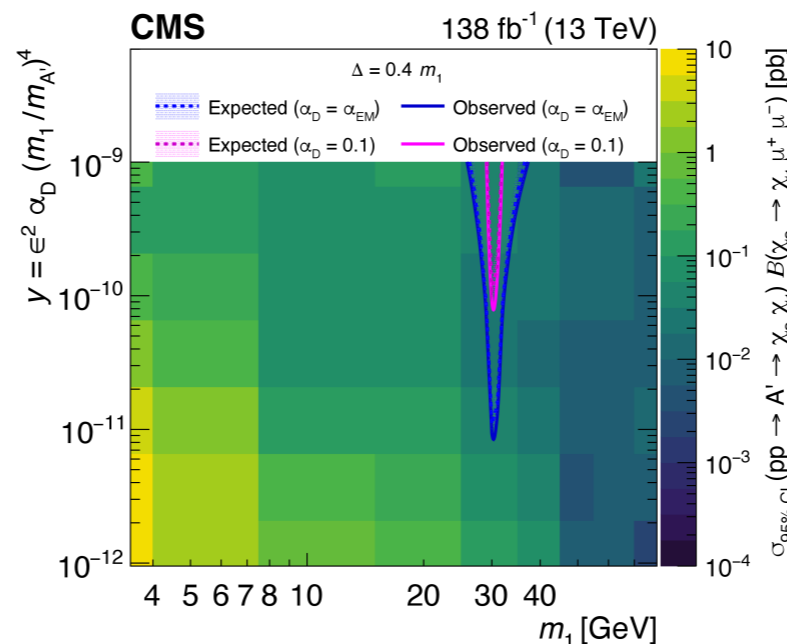
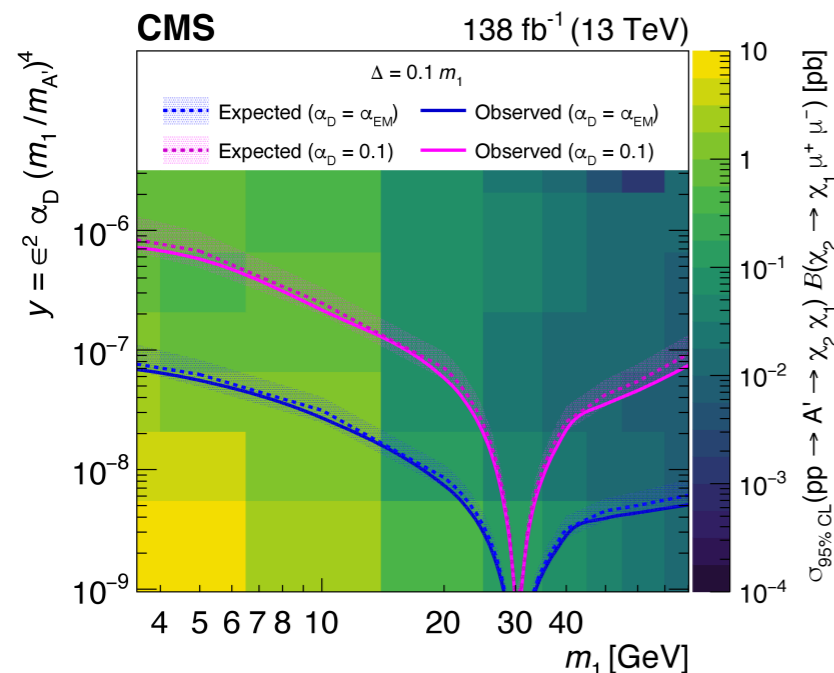
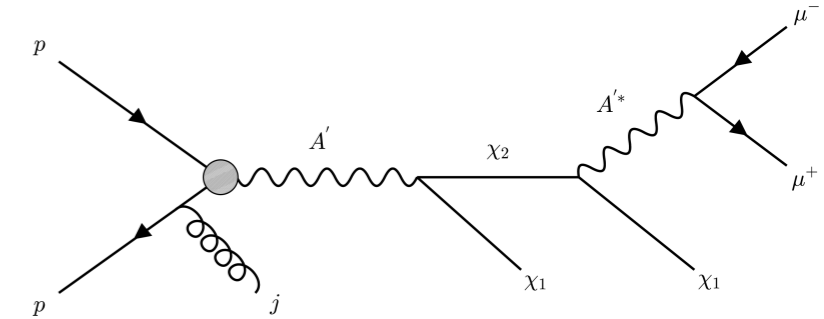
(allows the relevant variables to be scaled with the thermal-relic abundance in a straightforward way)

✓ Sensitivity to exclude parameter space is strongest in the 10% splitting case

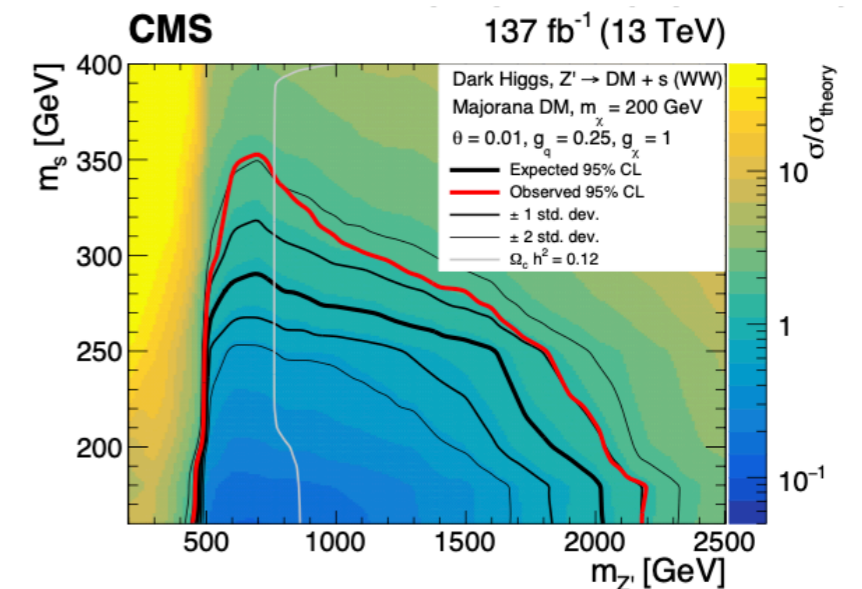
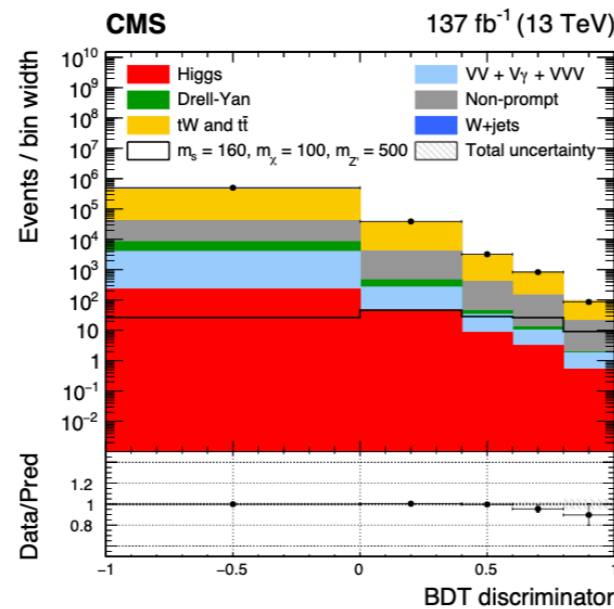
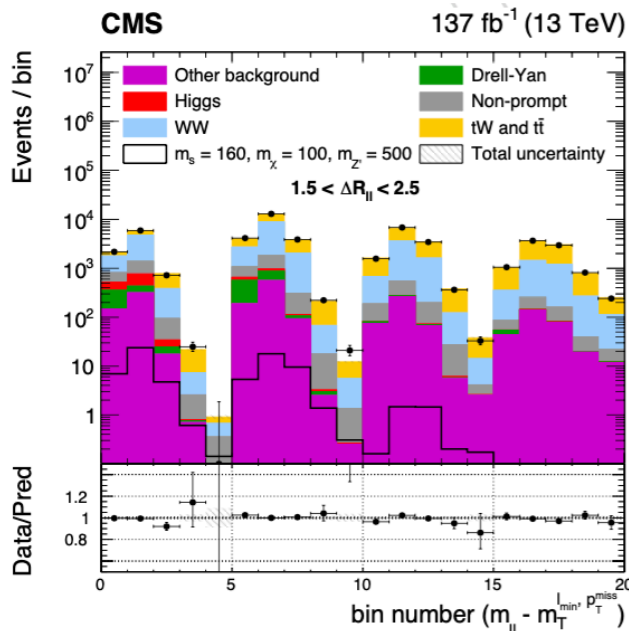
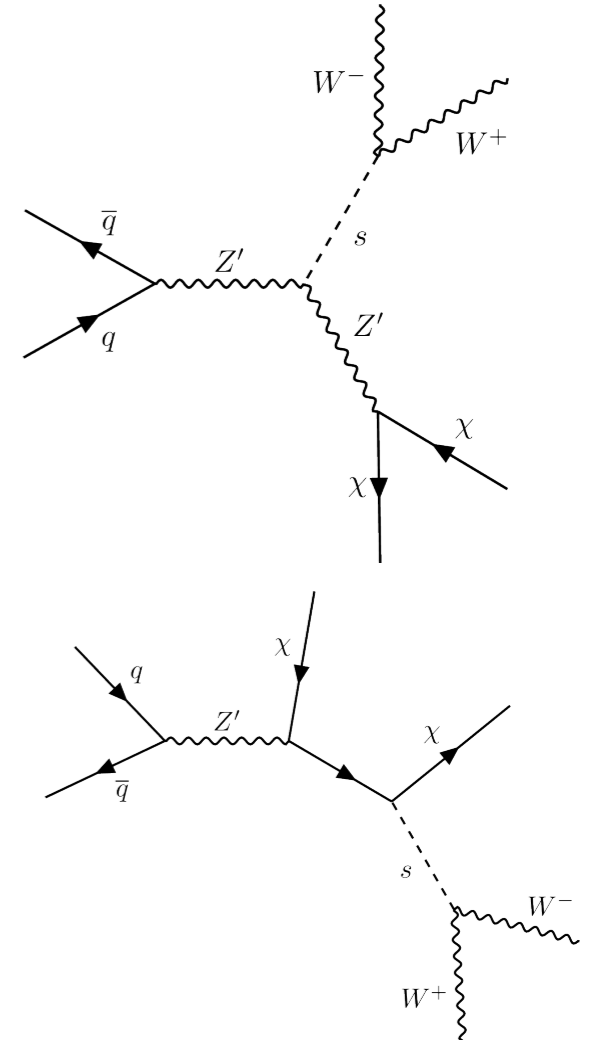
✓ 40% splitting cross-sections are very small

✓ The sensitivity amplified near $m_1 \approx 30$ GeV or $m_{A'} \approx 90$ GeV due to the A' mixing with the Z boson in that mass range.

✓ $\alpha_D = \alpha_{EM}$ scenario more sensitive, but $\alpha_D = 0.1$ scenario more cosmologically relevant



- ✓ Search for dark matter particles produced in association with a dark Higgs boson.
- ✓ Dark Higgs boson decays to a pair of visible W bosons.
- ✓ Both W bosons decay either fully leptonically (2l2v) or semi-leptonically (lvjj).
- ✓ Experimental signature :
 - Fully leptonic : Double lepton (opposite-sign / different-flavor) + MET
 - Semi leptonic Signal lepton + Di-jet + MET
- ✓ Triggers: single lepton for (lvjj) / double lepton for (2l2v)
- ✓ Dominant background: $W^+ W^-$, $t\bar{t}$ + tW and Drell-Yan (constrained in CRs enriched in these events by investing some the SR cuts [N b-jets, ΔR_{ll} and $M_T(ll, p_T^{miss})$])



Analysis Strategy :

Fully leptonic channel : cut-based analysis using variables $\Delta\phi(p_T^{miss}, p_T^{l_{min}})$, m_{ll} , $m_{\tau}(l_{min}, p_T^{miss})$

Semi-leptonic channel : Apply BDT discriminator

Signal regions :

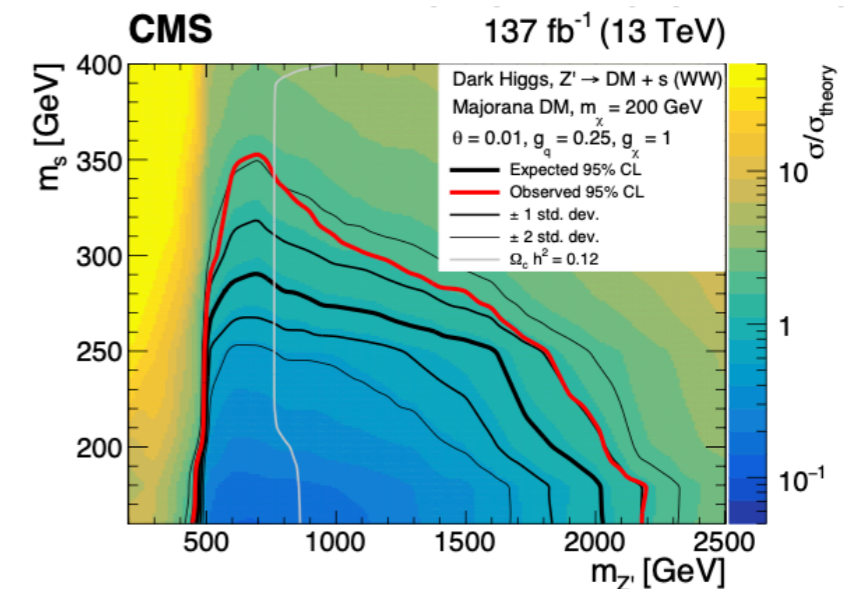
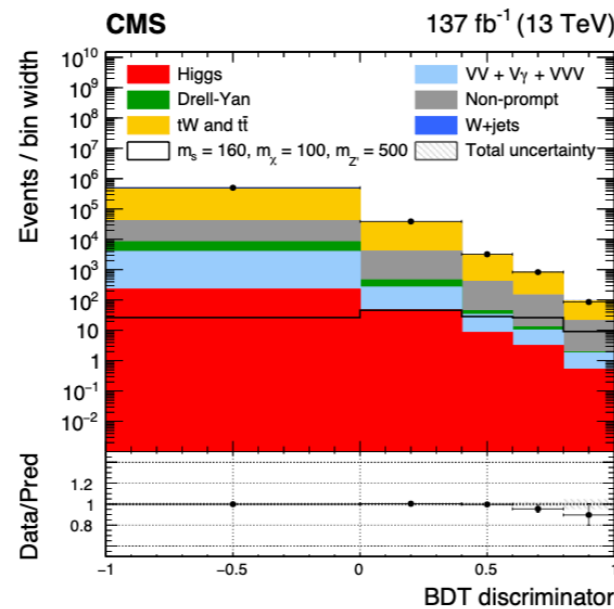
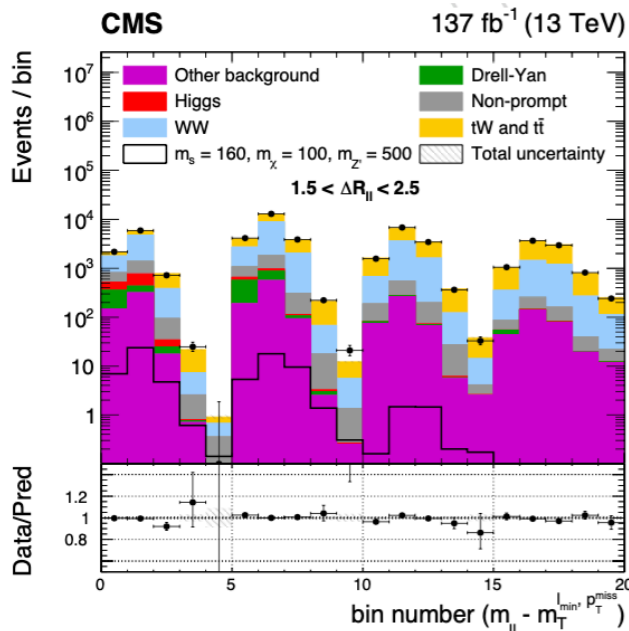
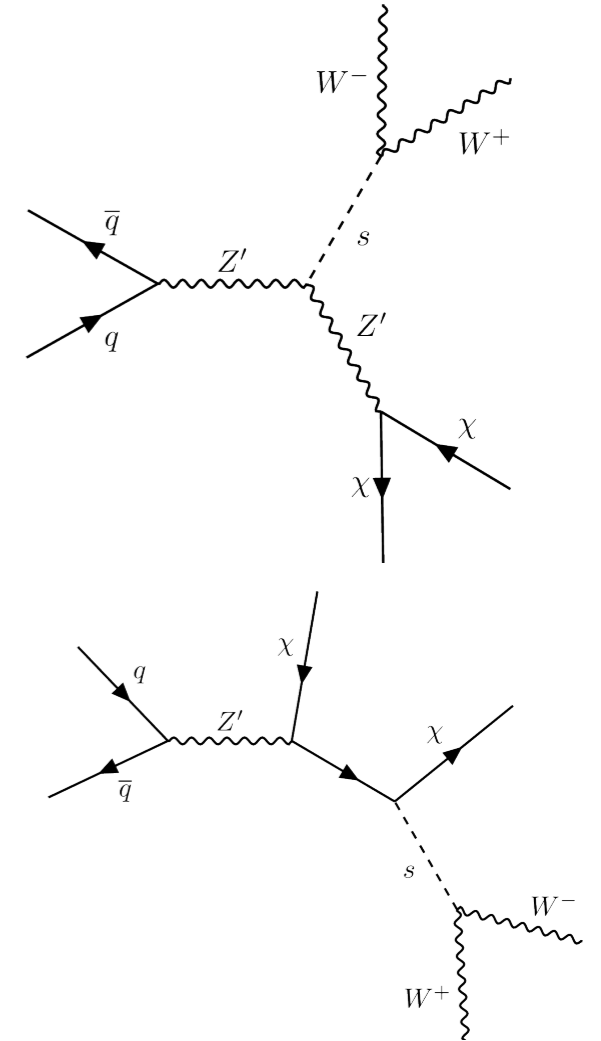
Fully leptonic channel : 3SR defined

→ SR1 ($\Delta R_{ll} < 1.0$ high boost), SR2 ($1.0 < \Delta R_{ll} < 1.5$ medium boost), SR3 ($1.5 < \Delta R_{ll} < 2.5$ low boost)

Semi-leptonic channel : 1 SR defined BDT > 0.6

Results : Extends the search from previous public results to a wider DM mass range, from 100 GeV to 300 GeV.

Stringent limits: $m_{DM} = 200\text{GeV}$, excluding m_s masses up to $\approx 350\text{GeV}$ at $m_{Z'}$ masses of 700GeV , and up to $m_{Z'} \approx 2200\text{GeV}$ for $m_s = 160\text{GeV}$.



- ☑ Dark matter is a mysterious substance that makes up about 85% of the matter in the universe.
- ☑ Both astrophysical and terrestrial searches are needed to uncover a complete dark matter model.
- ☑ The LHC has explored a wide range of dark matter parameter space, but no hint so far.
- ☑ Dark matter could be hiding in a region of parameter space that we have not yet explored
- ☑ Observed complementarity between collider and non-collider dark matter searches,
- ☑ The LHC started Run3 on July 5, 2022, with stable proton-proton collisions at energy of 13.6 TeV.
- ☑ Stay tuned for new results of Run 3.

Thank You for Your Attention!