



# RECENT HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LHC



Greg Landsberg  
Ischia, Italy, 31.05.24

Vulcano Workshop  
2024



# Outline

## ◆ LHC Performance: Four Machines in One

## ◆ 30,000 Feet Highlights:

- Standard Model Measurements
- Searches for New Physics

## ◆ Conclusions: Quo Vadis?

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◆ Disclaimer: these are selected highlights of a large number of LHC results, with clear personal bias: they tell a story, rather than simply make up a shopping list... Priority is given to the results with direct connection to astrophysics and cosmology themes. All the links are clickable!

◆ For a full physics analysis landscape at the LHC, please refer to:

- <https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/ALICEpublic/ALICEPublicResults>
- <https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AtlasPublic>
- <https://cms-results-search.web.cern.ch/>
- [https://lhcbproject.web.cern.ch/lhcbproject/Publications/LHCbProjectPublic/Summary\\_all.html](https://lhcbproject.web.cern.ch/lhcbproject/Publications/LHCbProjectPublic/Summary_all.html)

***Dedication: I'd like to dedicate this talk to the memory of Peter Ware Higgs (29.05.29-08.04.24), whose transformative and groundbreaking ideas laid the foundation for the physics of the standard model and the very particle named after him***



# The LHC Legacy

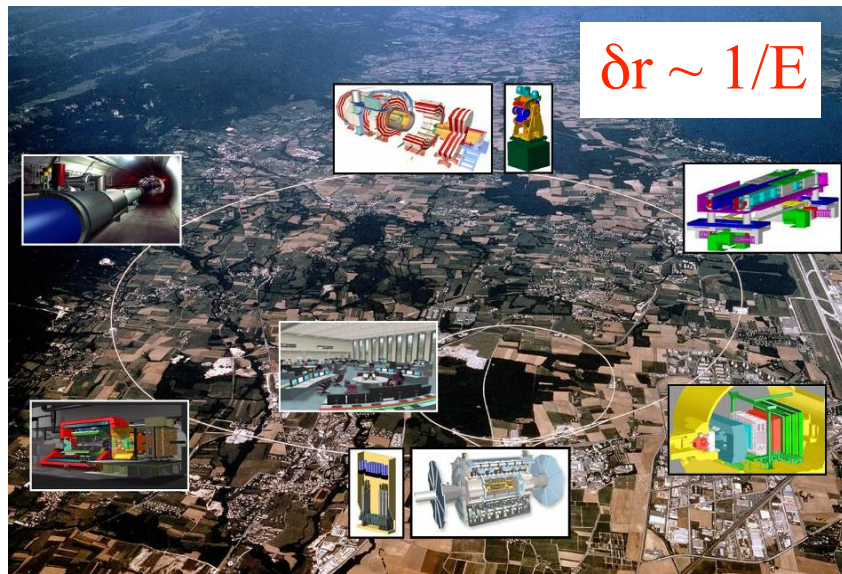
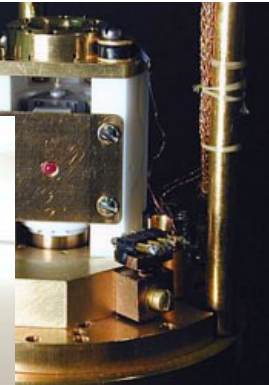
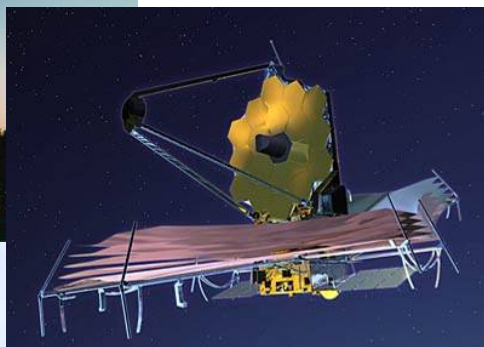
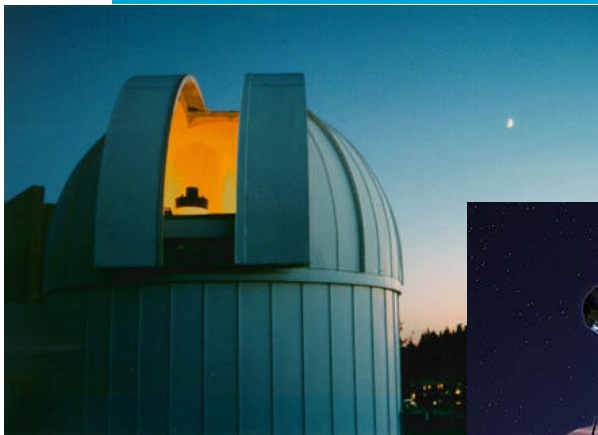






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# Telescopes vs. Microscopes



$$\delta r \sim 1/E$$

$$\Delta\theta = 1.22 \lambda/D$$

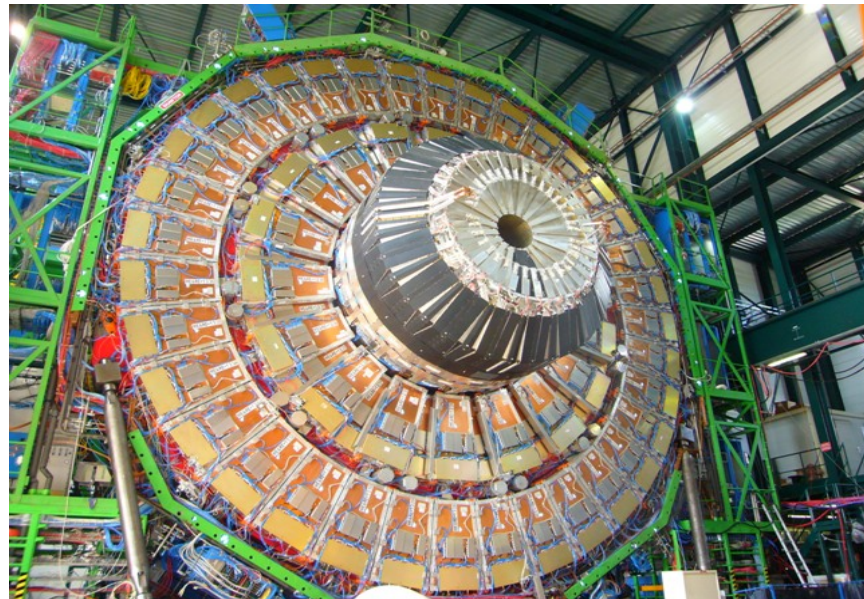
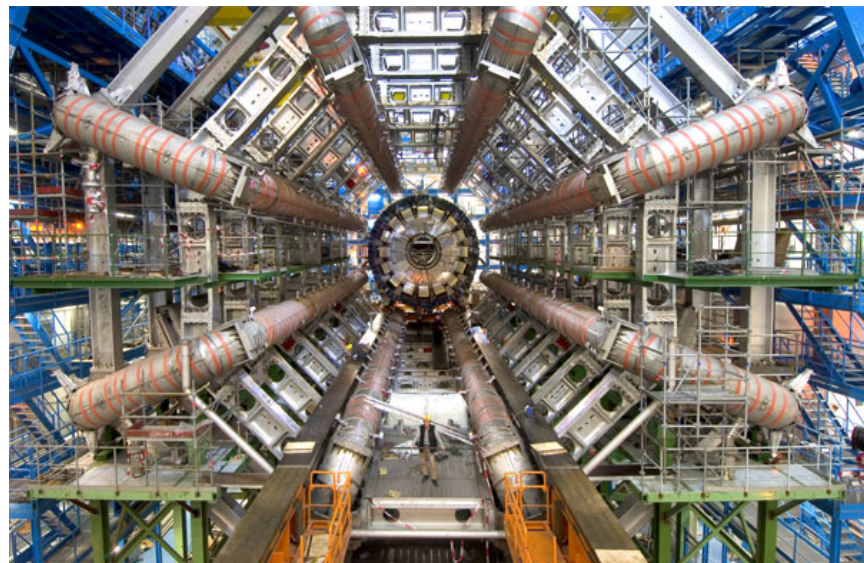




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# Beautiful Instruments

Slide 5 Greg Landsberg - Recent LHC Highlights - Vulcano 2024 - Ischia



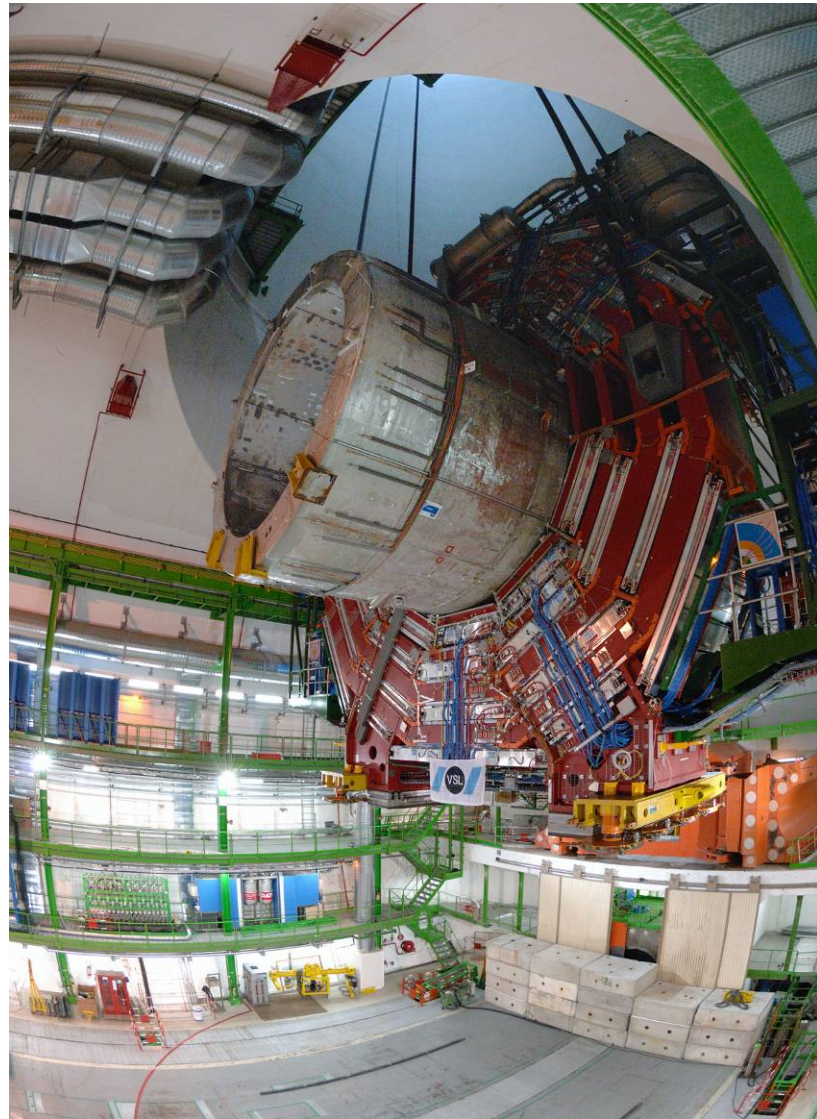




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# Spectacular Launches

Slide 6 Greg Landsberg - Recent LHC Highlights - Vulcano 2024 - Ischia

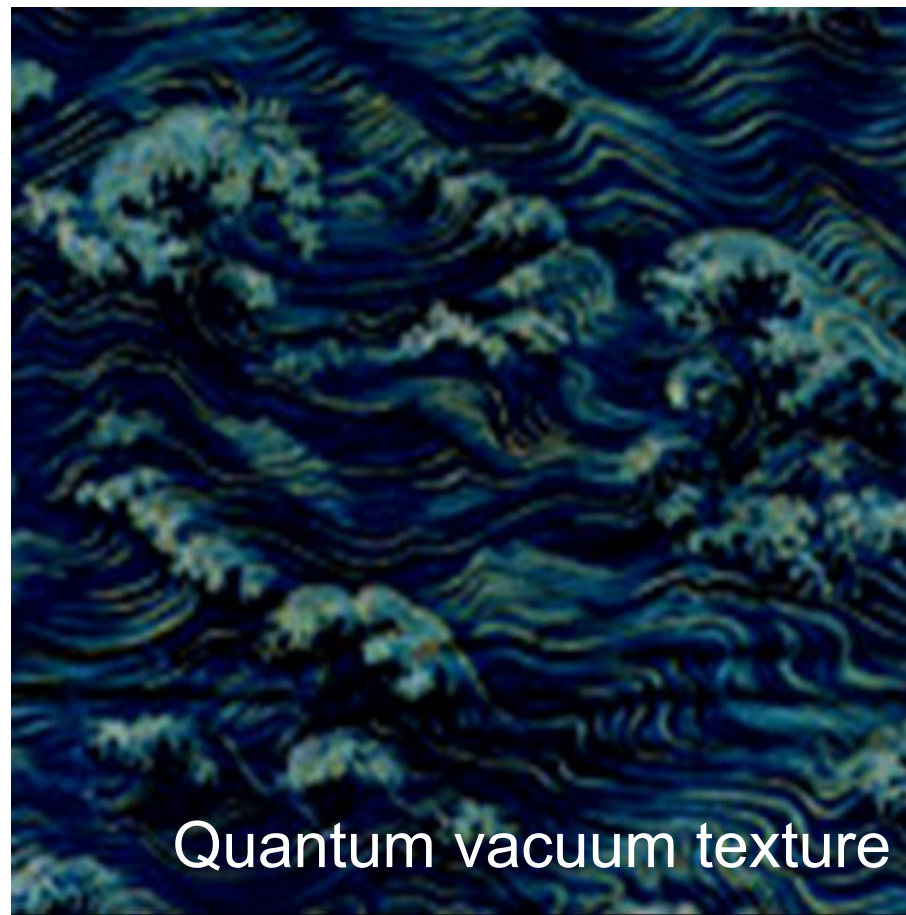
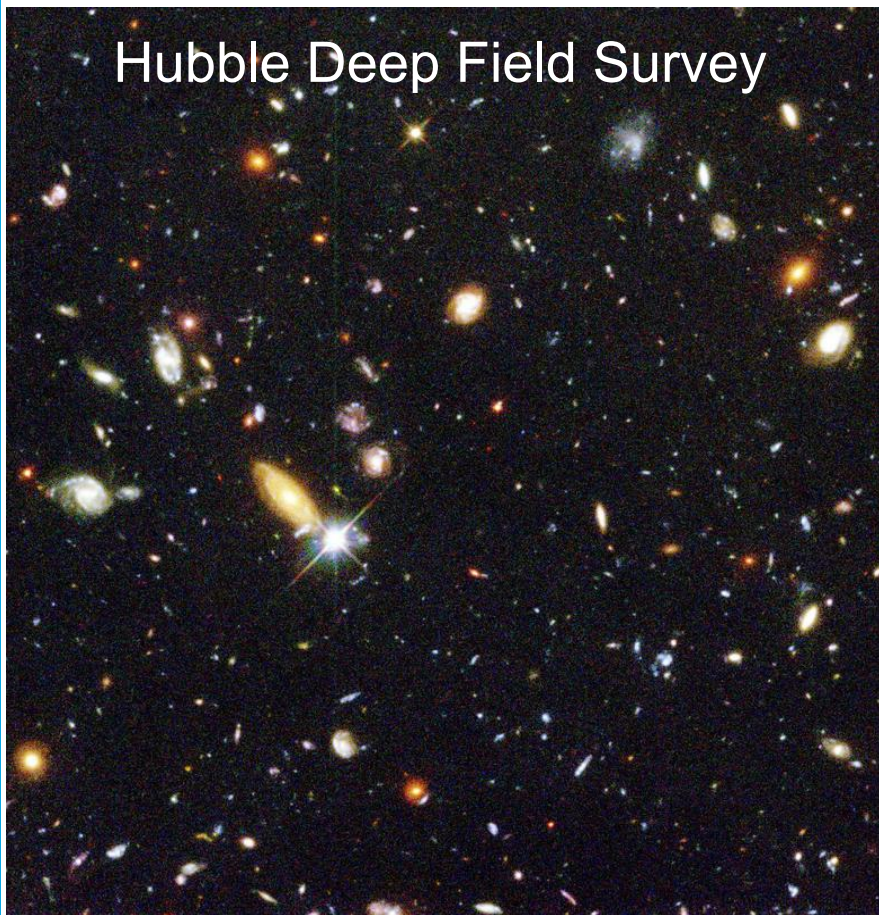






# Deep Fields

Hubble Deep Field Survey

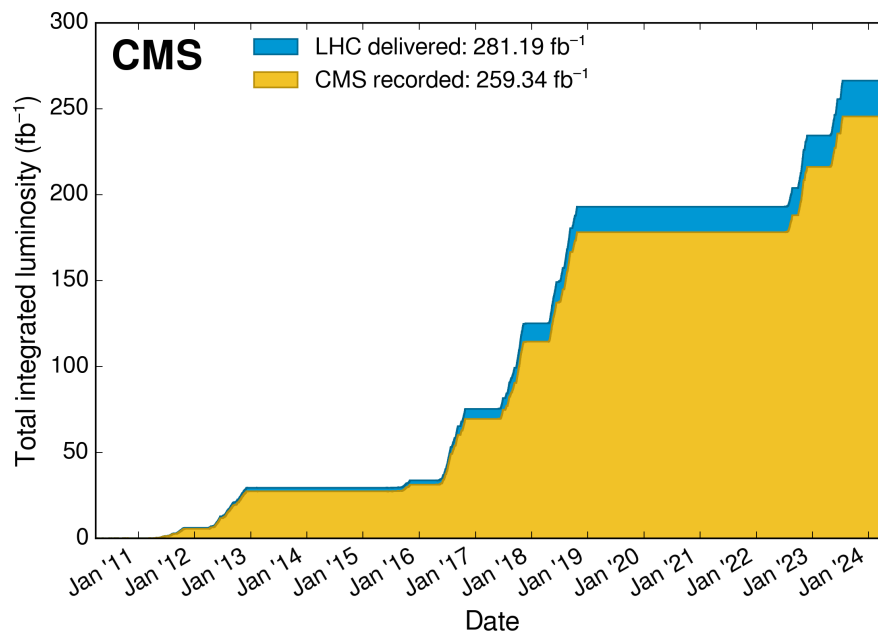
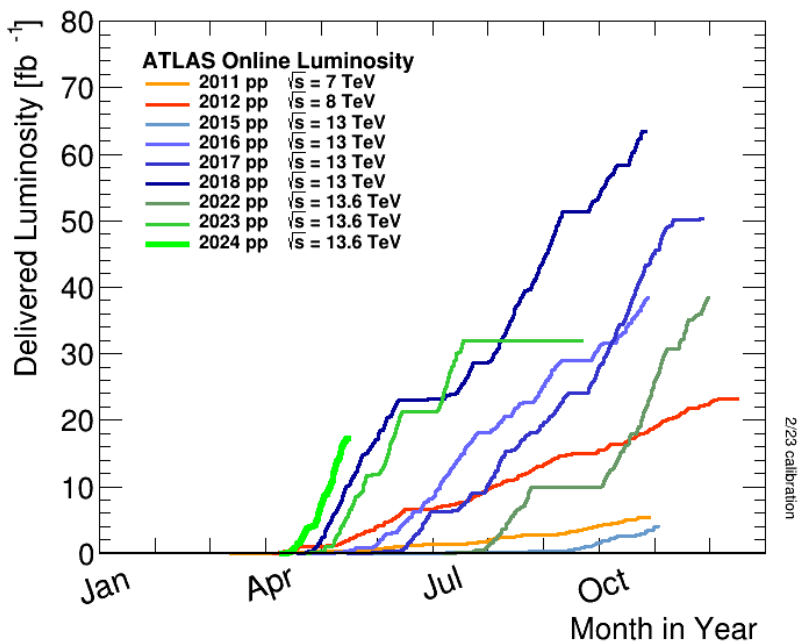


Quantum vacuum texture



# LHC - a Big Success!

- ◆ Nearly 300/fb of data have been delivered by the LHC in Runs 1-3 (2010-2023), at a c.o.m. of 7-13.6 TeV, exceeding the integrated luminosity projections
- ◆ Over 90% of the delivered data are fully certified for physics analyses
- ◆ Several heavy-ion and proton-lead runs at various energies, augmented by the proton-proton reference data at the same energies
- ◆ Thank you, LHC, for spectacular running!





# Four Machines in One!

2.2-inch mono  
touchscreen

4-in-1 print, copy,  
scan, fax

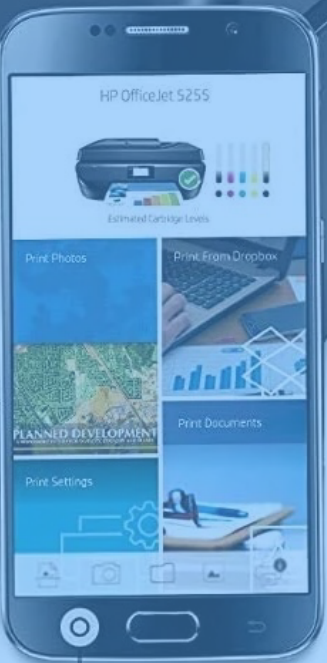
Bluetooth®  
Smart

Dual Band  
Wi-Fi

35-page auto  
document feeder



HP OfficeJet 5255





# The LHC Legacy

- ◆ The LHC has figuratively replaced three machines in one go:
  - ◉ Tevatron (Higgs, BSM searches, top physics, and precision EW measurements)
  - ◉ BaBar/Belle B factories (precision B physics)
  - ◉ RHIC (heavy-ion physics)
- ◆ It also added one more machine:
  - ◉  $\gamma\gamma$  collider (LbL scattering, Breit-Wheeler processes, searches for ALPs)
- ◆ The LHC experiments in general, and ATLAS & CMS in particular, are very successful and productive in all these four areas
- ◆ Would not be possible without theoretical and phenomenological breakthroughs of the past decade:
  - ◉ Higher-order calculations ("NLO revolution"  $\rightarrow$  N<sup>3</sup>LO), modern Monte Carlo generators, reduced and better estimated PDF uncertainties
- ◆ Since it's impossible to cover all the aspects of this impressive program in one talk, I'll present a few highlights of recent LHC results in Higgs physics, SM physics, flavor physics, heavy-ion physics, and the discovery program, somewhat geared to the topics of this workshop





# Challenge: Big Data

- ◆ The amount of data produced by each LHC experiment is truly enormous:  $\sim 10$  PB/year
- ◆ It takes some time to fully calibrate and align the detectors, and then reconstruct the data with the best possible calibrations
- ◆ As a result, most of the results presented in these talk are based on Run 2 (2015-2018, 13 TeV,  $\sim 140$ /fb) data
- ◆ First results from Run 3 dataset at 13.6 TeV started to appear!
- ◆ Overall, a very fast turn-around compared to earlier generations of HEP experiments!



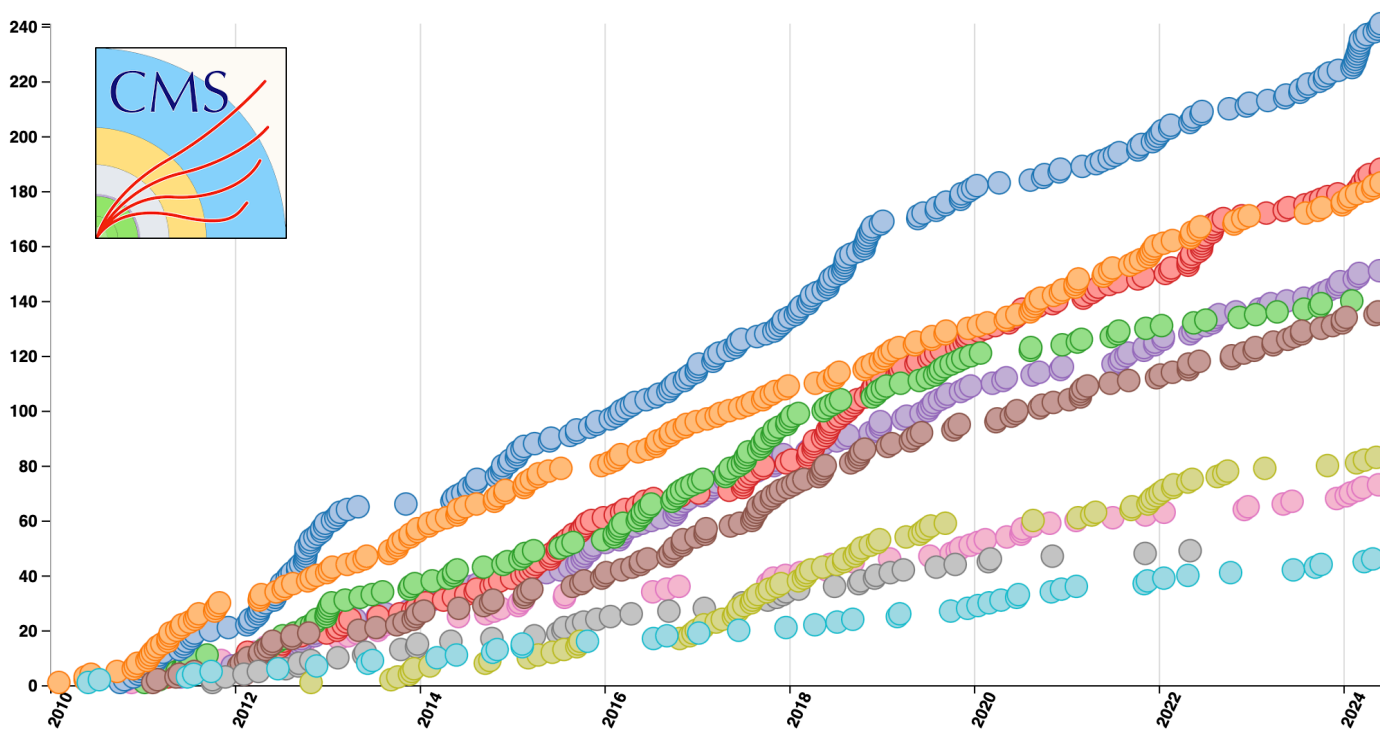
# Publish or Perish!

◆ Nearly 1,300 papers submitted by each ATLAS and CMS; over 700 by LHCb, and nearly 500 by ALICE!

Show all Total Exotica Standard Model Supersymmetry Higgs Top Heavy Ions

B and Quarkonia Forward and Soft QCD Beyond 2 Generations Detector Performance

1292 collider data papers submitted as of 2024-05-29







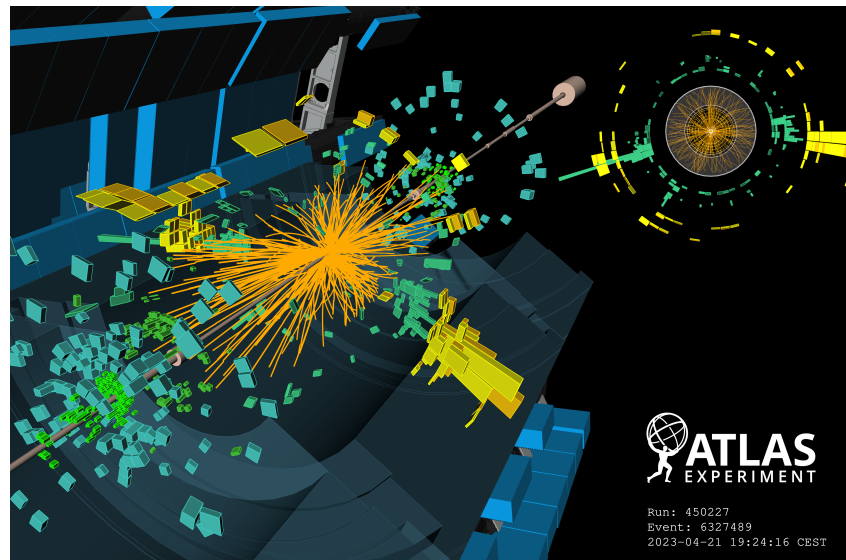
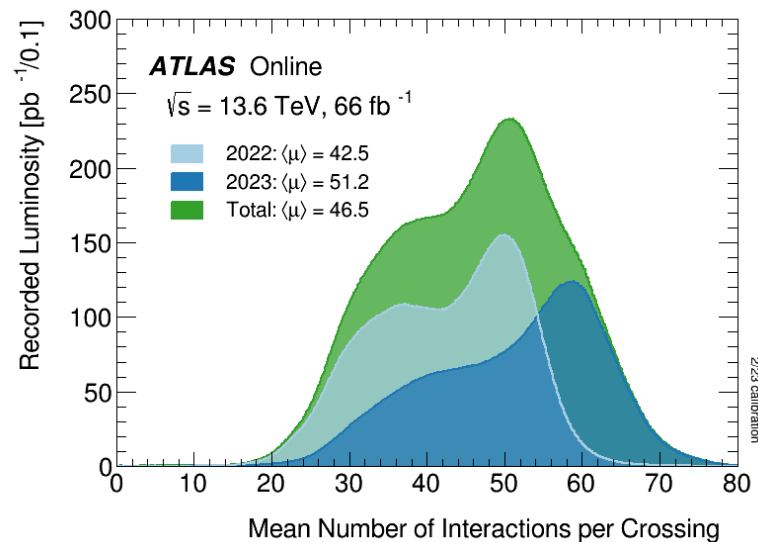
# ATLAS+CMS Physics Reports

- ◆ ATLAS and CMS just submitted several Phys. Rept. articles on various aspects of the program
  - ◉ These are legacy Run 2 papers and a valuable resource on experimental techniques and results
- ◆ ATLAS:
  - ◉ [arXiv:2403.02455](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.02455), The quest to discover supersymmetry at the ATLAS experiment
  - ◉ [arXiv:2403.09292](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.09292), Exploration at the high-energy frontier: ATLAS Run 2 searches investigating the exotic jungle beyond the Standard Model
  - ◉ [arXiv:2404.05498](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.05498), Characterising the Higgs boson with ATLAS data from Run 2 of the LHC
  - ◉ [arXiv:2404.06829](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.06829), Electroweak, QCD and flavour physics studies with ATLAS data from Run 2 of the LHC
  - ◉ [arXiv:2404.10674](https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.10674), Climbing to the Top of the ATLAS 13 TeV data
  - ◉ [arXiv:2405.04914](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.04914), ATLAS searches for additional scalars and exotic Higgs boson decays with the LHC Run 2 dataset
- ◆ CMS:
  - ◉ [arXiv:2403.01313](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.01313), Review of top quark mass measurements in CMS
  - ◉ [arXiv:2403.16926](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.16926), Searches for Higgs boson production through decays of heavy resonances
  - ◉ [arXiv:2403.16134](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.16134), Enriching the physics program of the CMS experiment via data scouting and data parking
  - ◉ [arXiv:2405.10785](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.10785), Overview of high-density QCD studies with the CMS experiment at the LHC
  - ◉ [arXiv:2405.13778](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.13778), Dark sector searches with the CMS experiment
  - ◉ [arXiv:2405.17605](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.17605), Review of searches for vector-like quarks, vector-like leptons, and heavy neutral leptons in proton-proton collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV at the CMS experiment
  - ◉ [arXiv:2405.18661](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.18661), Stairway to discovery: a report on the CMS programme of cross section measurements from millibarns to femtobarns



# Challenge: Pileup

- ◆ In ATLAS and CMS now a proton-proton event looks nearly as busy as a heavy-ion one!
- ◆ Average number of simultaneous interactions per bunch crossing (pileup, PU) is about 50 in the last two years
  - This by far exceeds the original LHC design PU number of 20
- ◆ Developed sophisticated tools to mitigate the effects of the PU: particle-flow reconstruction, machine-learning techniques

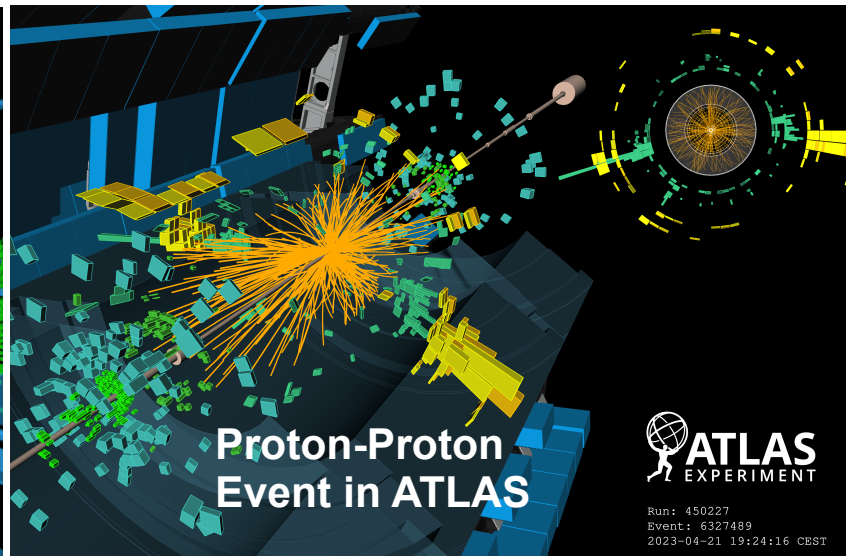
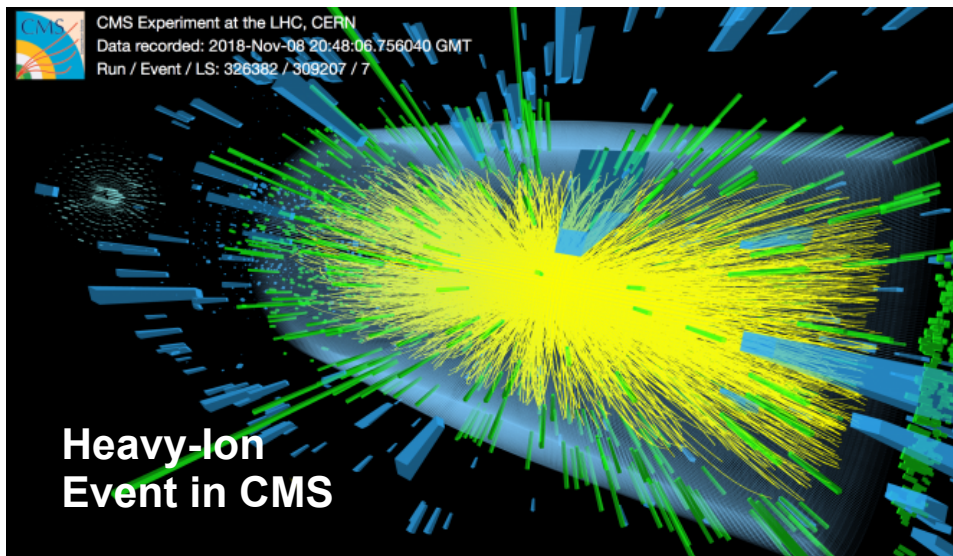
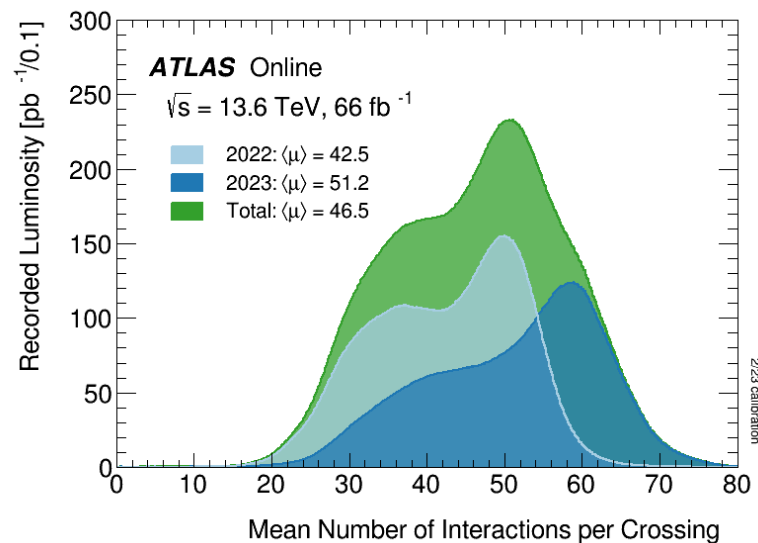






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A blue-tinted photograph of three men in a hallway. The man in the foreground is on the left, wearing a dark suit and a yellow shirt. The man in the middle is slightly behind him, wearing a light blue shirt. The man on the right is further back, wearing a light blue shirt, and has a glowing, starburst-like particle detector effect behind his head. The hallway has a white door on the left and a white wall on the right.

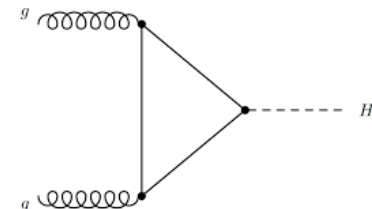
# Higgs Physics Highlights





# Higgs Factory

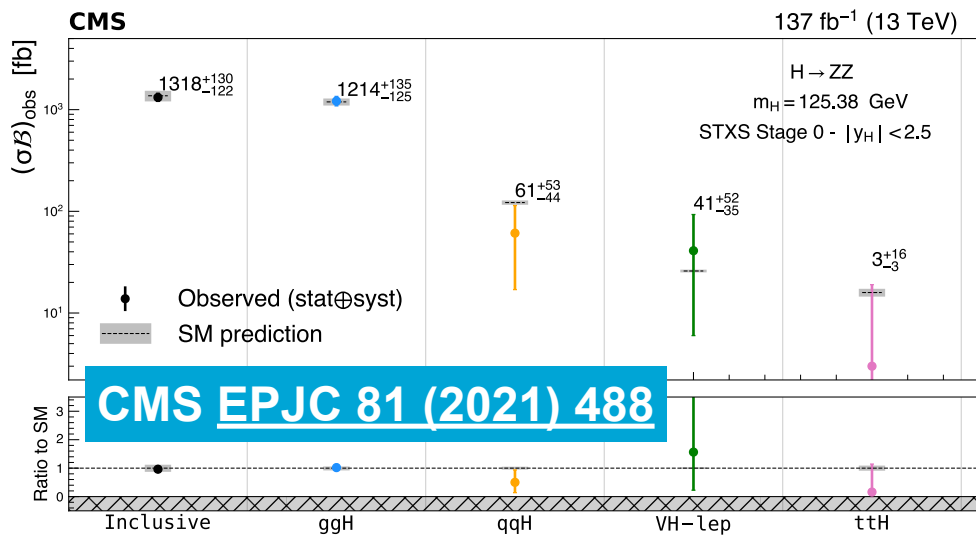
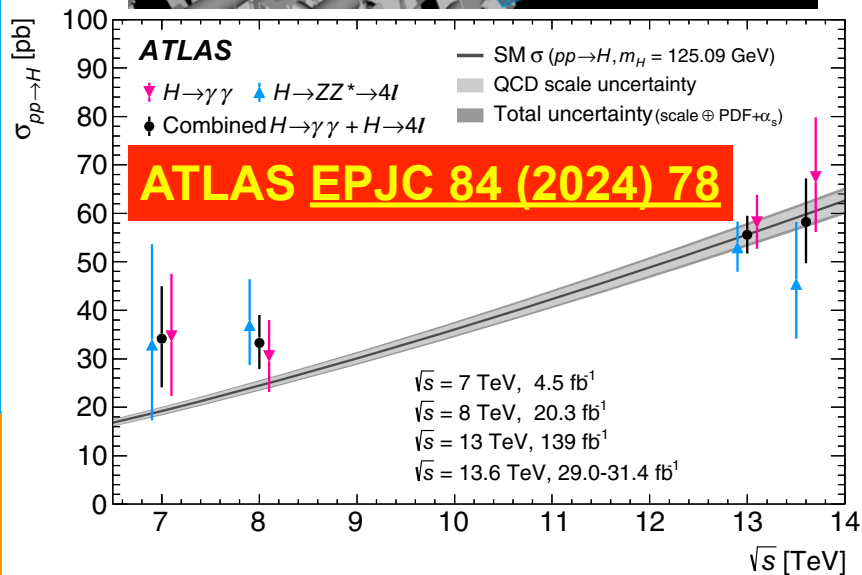
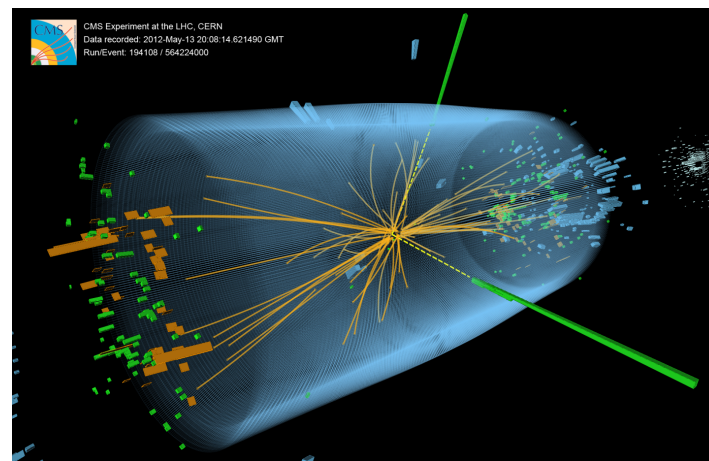
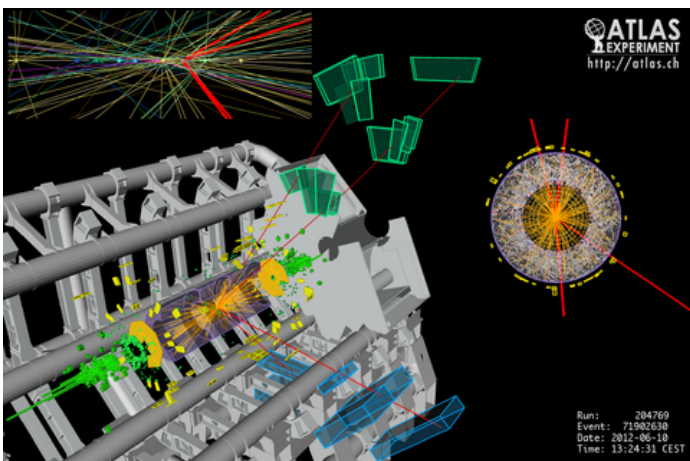
- ◆ LHC is the Higgs factory and the only place to study Higgs physics directly today
- ◆ At 13 TeV, the production cross section for the Higgs boson, dominated by gluon-gluon fusion, is  $\sim 50$  pb
  - ◉ 14M Higgs bosons delivered by the LHC in Run 2!
  - ◉ By now ATLAS and CMS could have accumulated as many Higgs bosons as four LEP experiments accumulated Z bosons
  - ◉ With the cross section @13.6 TeV of  $\sim 60$  pb another 11M have been already delivered in Run 3!
- ◆ But: triggering is a big challenge:
  - ◉ Most of  $gg \rightarrow H(bb)$  events were never put on tape, which is how half of the Higgs bosons are produced and decay
- ◆ Need to pursue aggressive triggering strategies and go for lower cross section production mechanisms to observe all possible Higgs boson decays and couplings





# Higgs Boson Cross Sections

◆ Inclusive and fiducial cross section in multiple production modes have been measured and broadly agree with the SM predictions

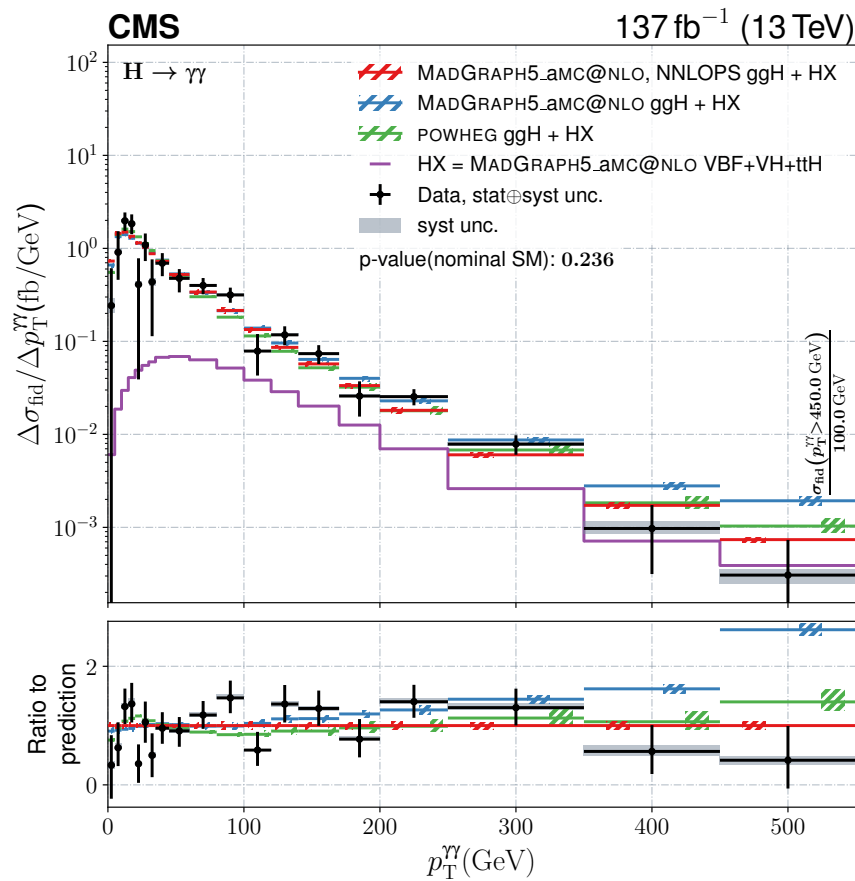
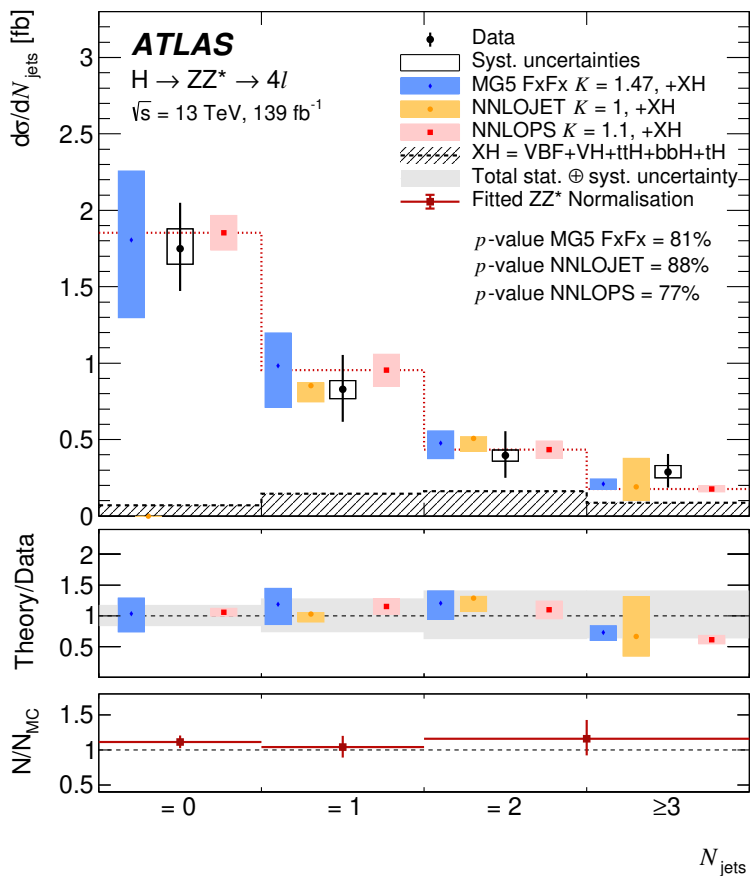






# Going Differential

- By now the number of recorded Higgs bosons is large enough to start measuring differential (and double-differential cross sections)
- Stress tests of higher-order theoretical calculations and parton shower generators



ATLAS EPJC 80 (2020) 941

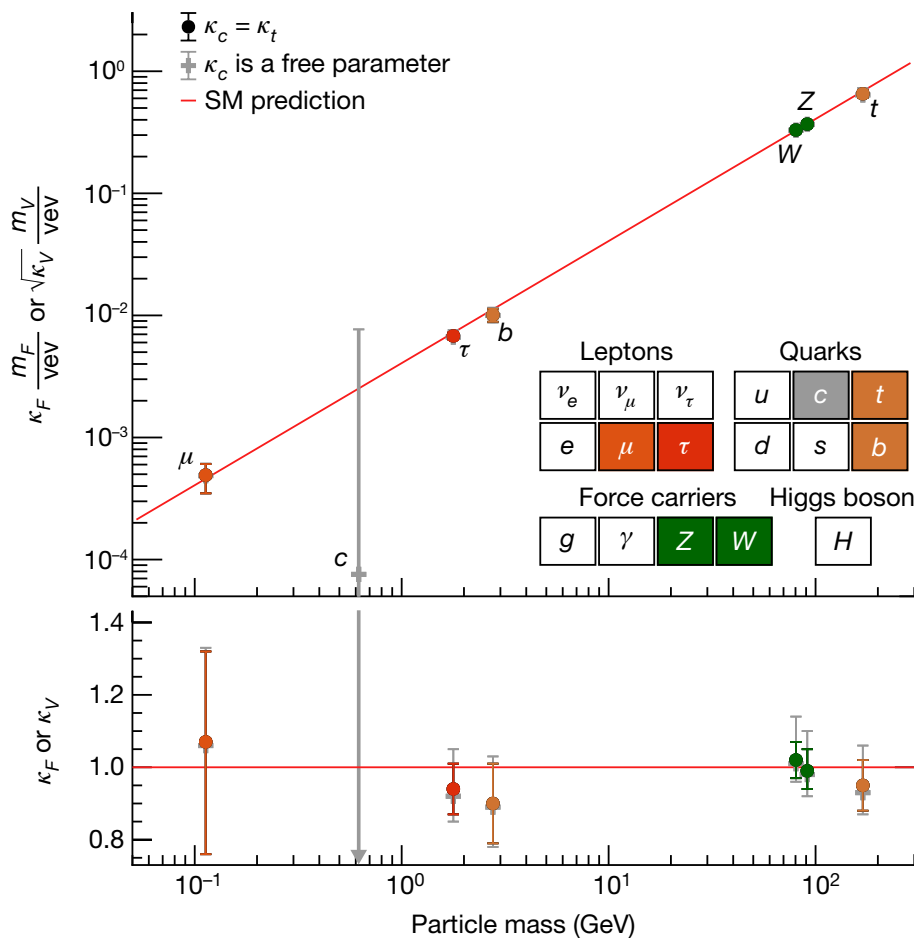
CMS JHEP 07 (2023) 091



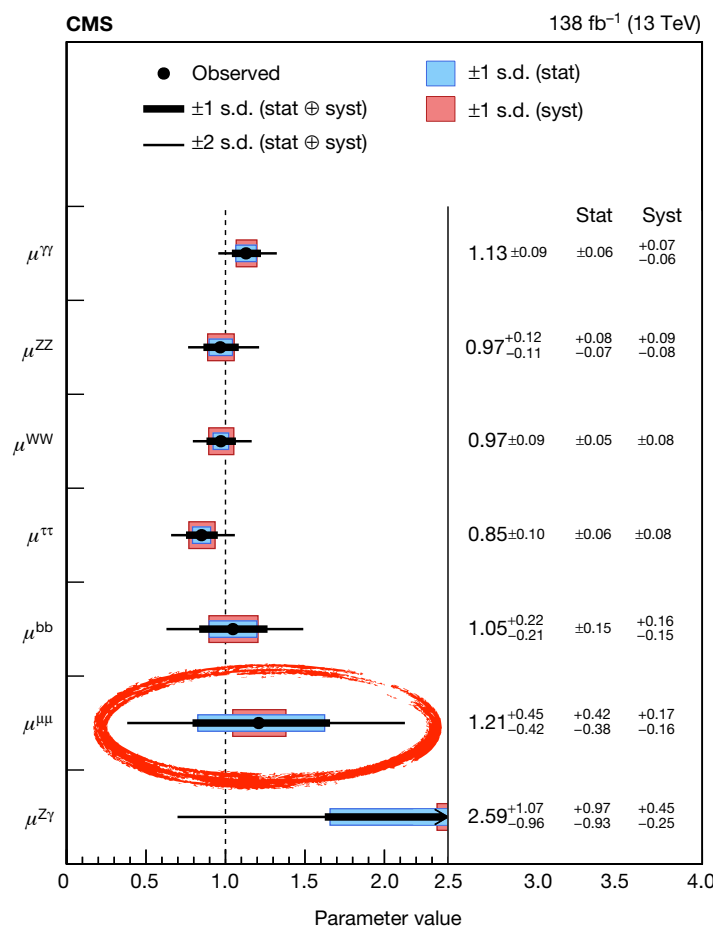
# Higgs Boson Couplings

◆ Couplings to third-generation fermions and EW bosons have been measured; first evidence for coupling to muons

**ATLAS Nature 607 (2022) 52**



**CMS Nature 607 (2022) 60**



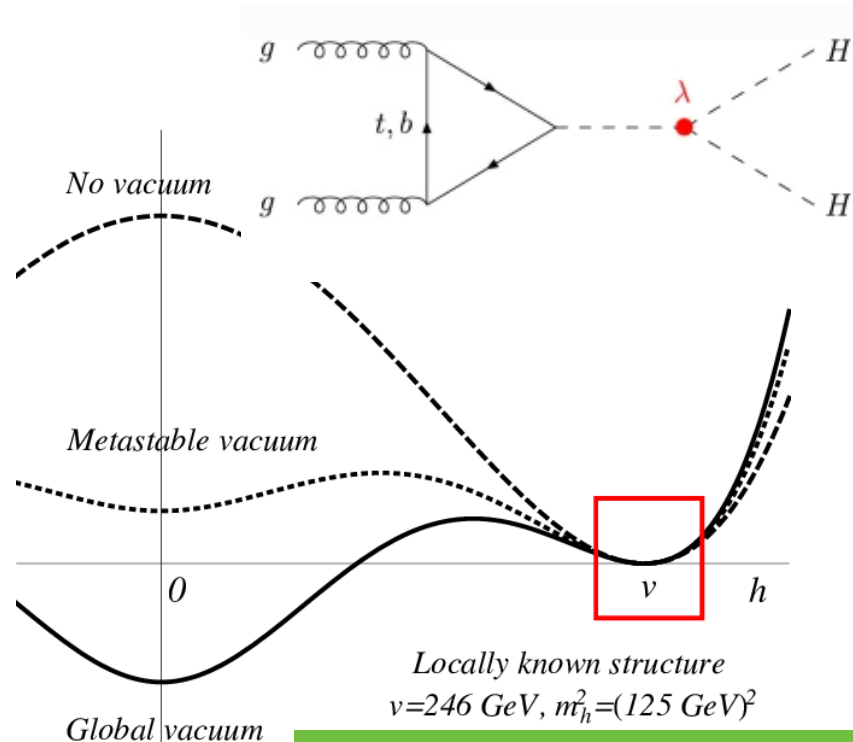
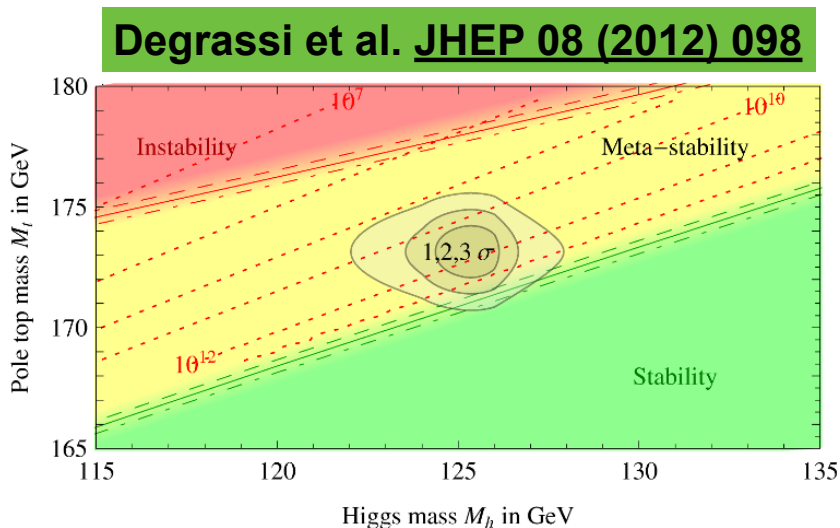




# Exploring Higgs Potential

- ◆ One of the most important couplings is a Higgs boson self-coupling,  $\lambda$
- ◆ Directly affects the shape of the Higgs potential, with implications for both early and late universe (e.g., EW vacuum stability)
- ◆ Depends on  $\lambda$  (or, in the SM,  $m_H = \sqrt{2\lambda}v$ ),  $m_t$ , and  $\alpha_s$
- ◆ Important to precisely measure all these parameters, including  $\lambda$ , to test the predictions of the Higgs mechanism

Slide 20 Greg Landsberg - Recent LHC Highlights - Vulcano 2024 - Ischia

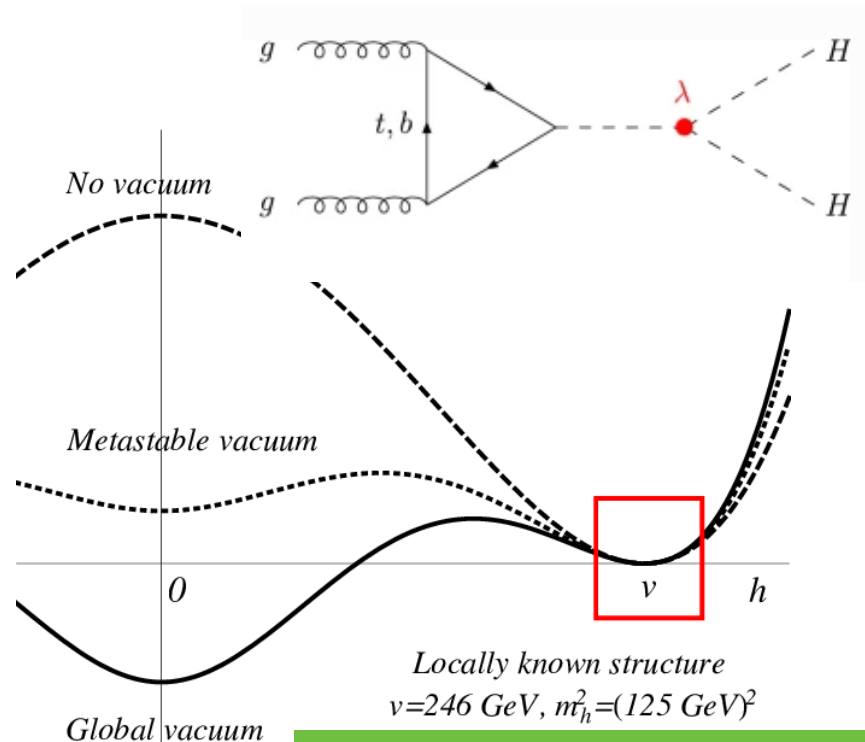
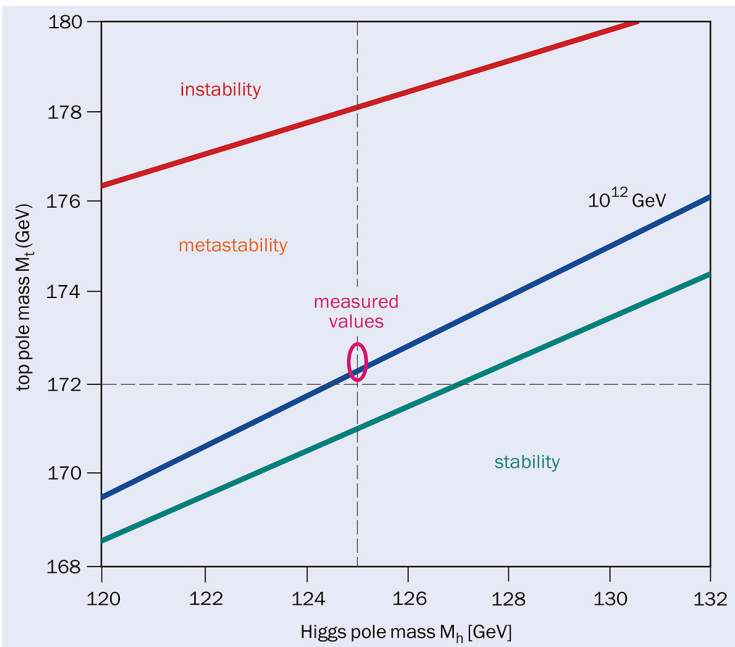




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**J. Ellis, CERN Courier 62 (2022) 59**



**Bai et al. JHEP 07 (2021) 225**

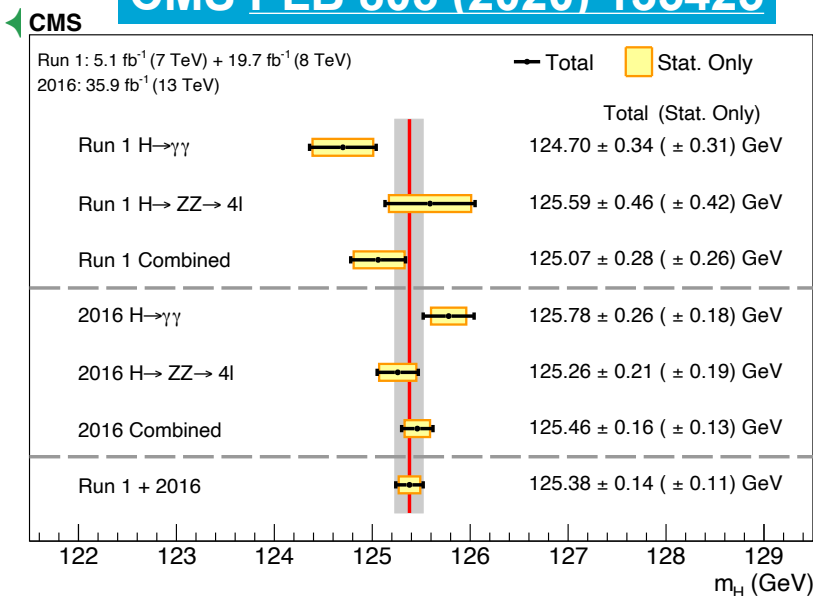




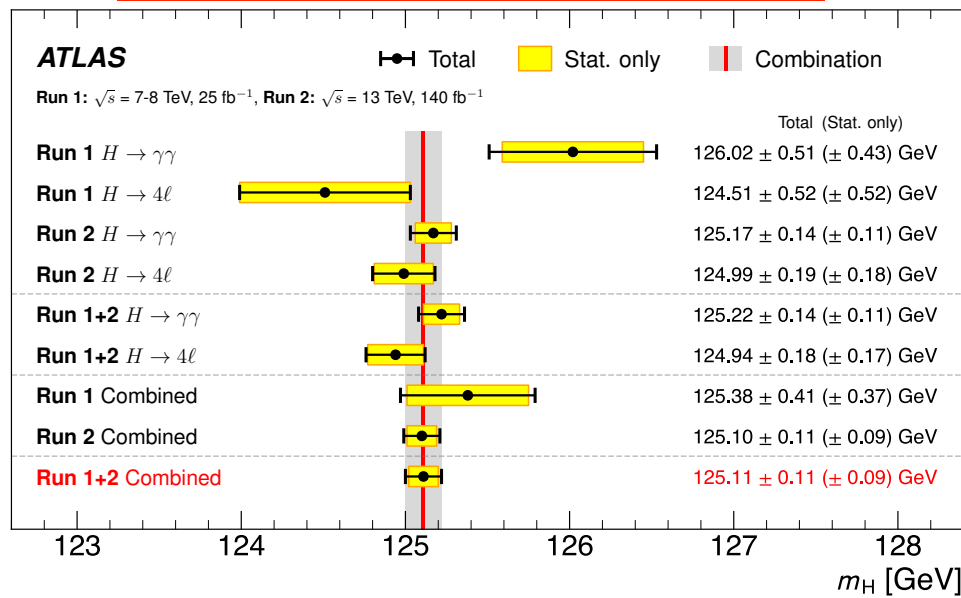
# Higgs Boson Mass (and Width)

- ◆ New, more precise measurements of the Higgs boson mass by ATLAS and CMS, with sub-permille precision per experiment achieved!
- ◆ The two experiments also measured the Higgs boson width by combining on-shell and off-shell production of H(ZZ) with
  - ◉  $\Gamma_H = 3.2^{+2.4}_{-1.7}$  MeV [CMS, Nat. Phys. **18** (2022) 1329]
  - ◉  $\Gamma_H = 4.5^{+3.3}_{-2.4}$  MeV [ATLAS, PLB **846** (2023) 138223]
- ◆ Measurements are in agreement with the SM prediction of  $\Gamma_H = 4.1$  MeV

## CMS PLB 805 (2020) 135425



## ATLAS PRL 131 (2023) 251802



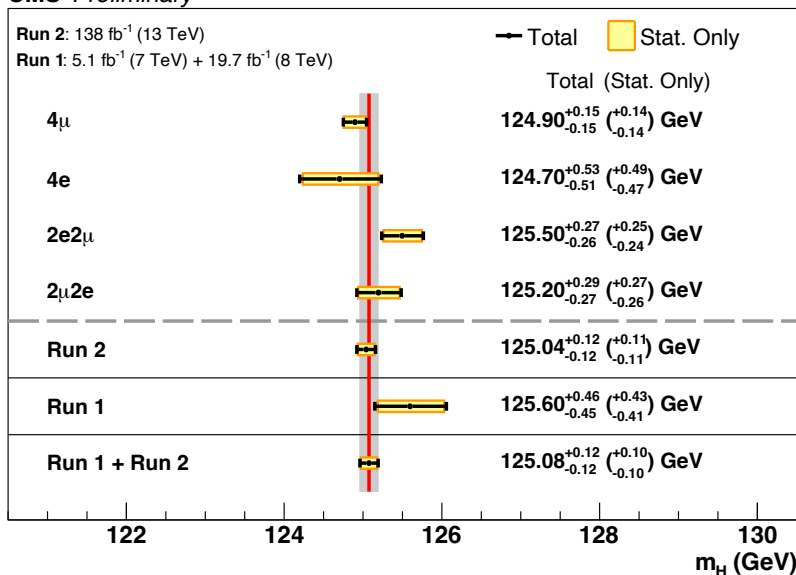


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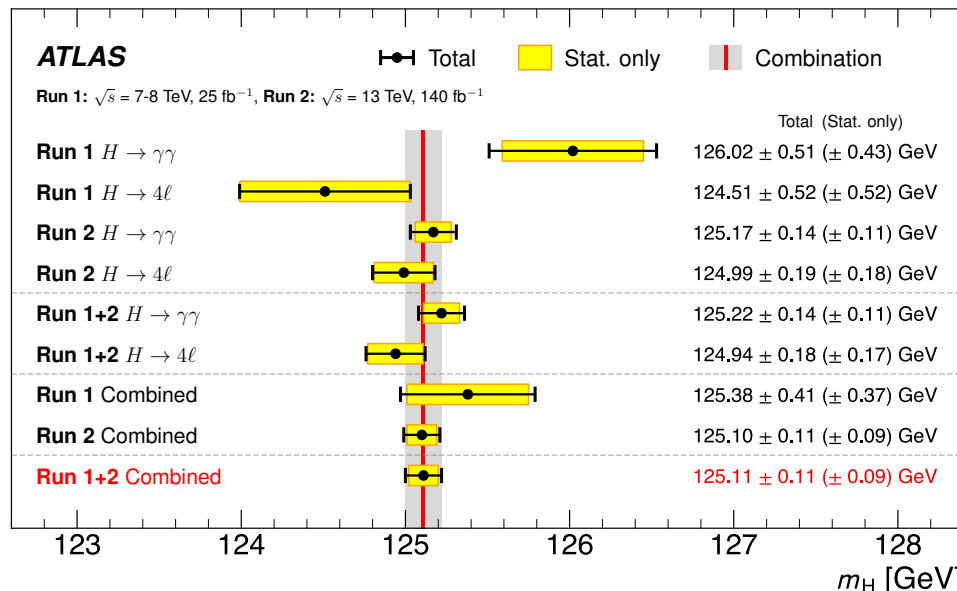
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## CMS PAS HIG-21-019

◆ CMS Preliminary



## ATLAS PRL 131 (2023) 251802

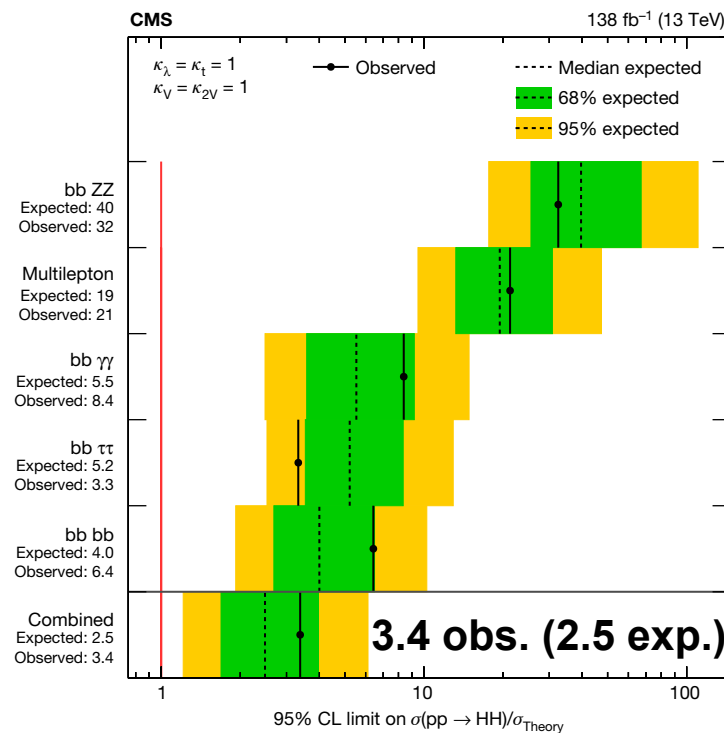
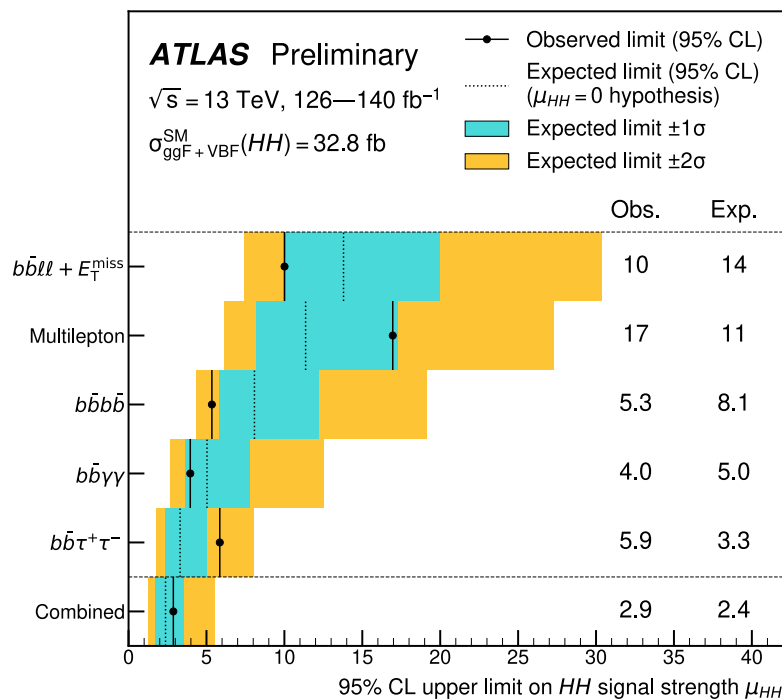






# Probing Self-Coupling

- Measurement of Higgs boson self-coupling  $\lambda$  is an ultimate goal of HL LHC
- The cross section is very low, due to large negative interference between the diagrams contributing to Higgs boson pair production
- Enormous progress has been achieved using ML b-tagging techniques and multivariate methods
- Current 95% CL limits on  $\mu = \sigma/\sigma_{SM}$  for HH production are  $<2.9$  (2.4) in ATLAS and  $<3.4$  (2.5) in CMS [already exceeded early HL LHC projections!]





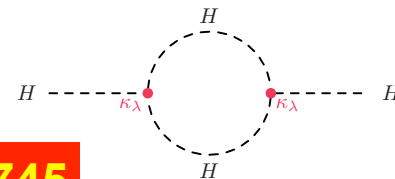
# Sensitivity to $\lambda$

Because of the negative interference, sensitivity to  $\lambda$  is non-trivial

Combination of single and double Higgs production helps to constrain the self-coupling in a more model-independent way:

**ATLAS PLB 843 (2024) 137745**

and **CMS PAS HIG-23-006**



Here we focus on just HH analyses:

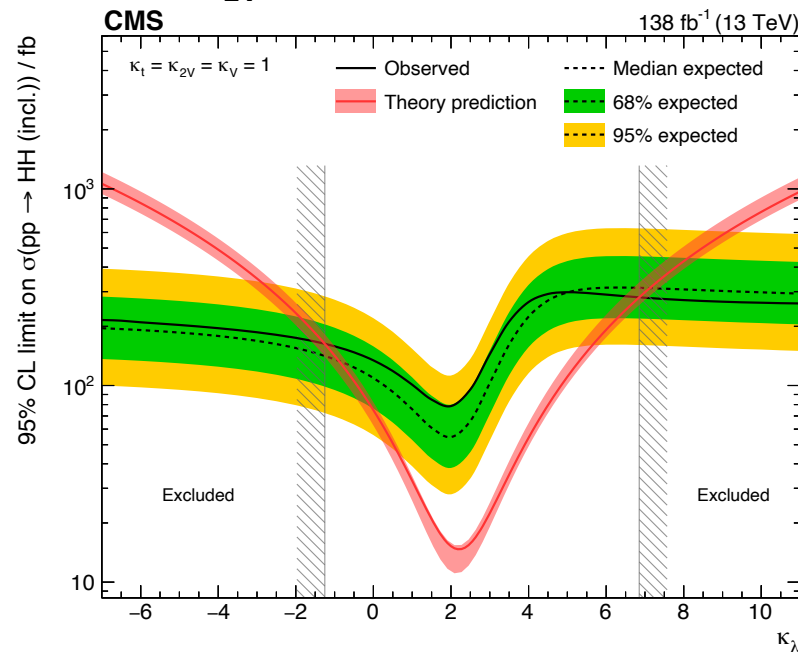
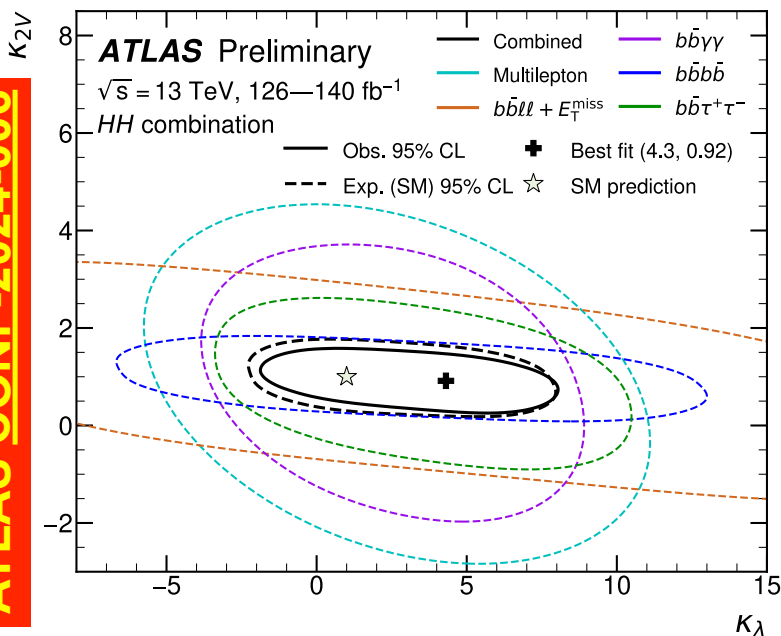
$-1.2 < \kappa_\lambda < 7.2 @ 95\% \text{ CL}$

$0.57 < \kappa_{2V} < 1.48 @ 95\% \text{ CL}$

$-1.24 < \kappa_\lambda < 6.9 @ 95\% \text{ CL}$

$0.67 < \kappa_{2V} < 1.38 @ 95\% \text{ CL}$

$\kappa_{2V} = 0$  is excluded at  $6.6\sigma$ !



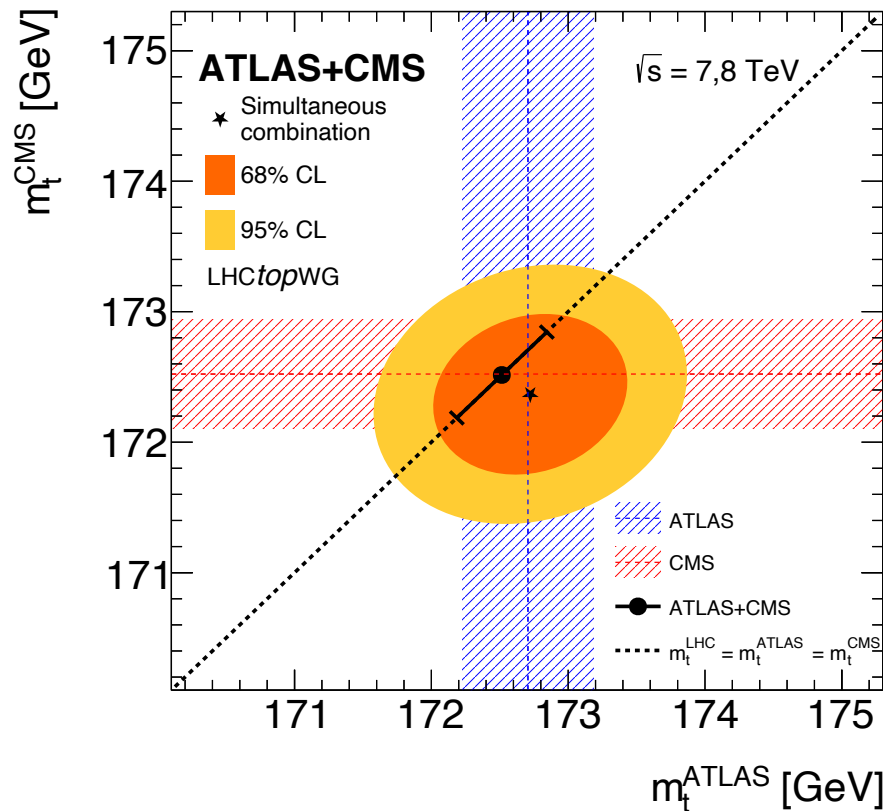
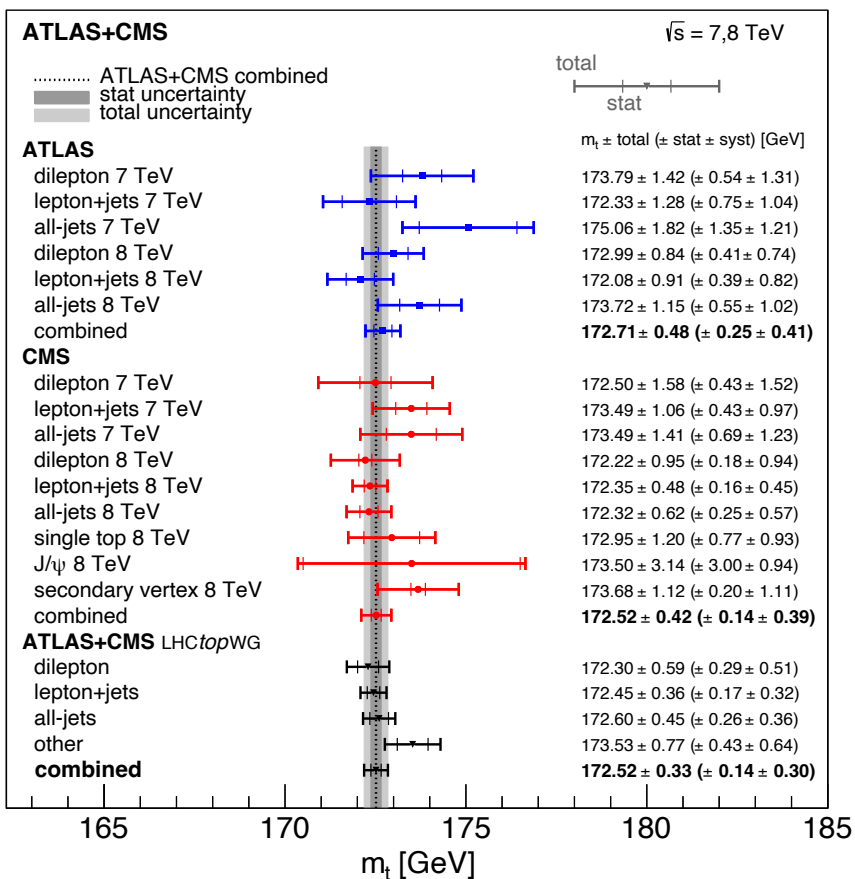




# Top Quark Mass Measurement

◆ The most precise measurement of the top quark mass is currently from a recent Run 1 combination of ATLAS and CMS measurements:  $m_t = 172.52 \pm 0.33$  GeV, with  $<2\%$  precision

● The most precisely measured quark mass!



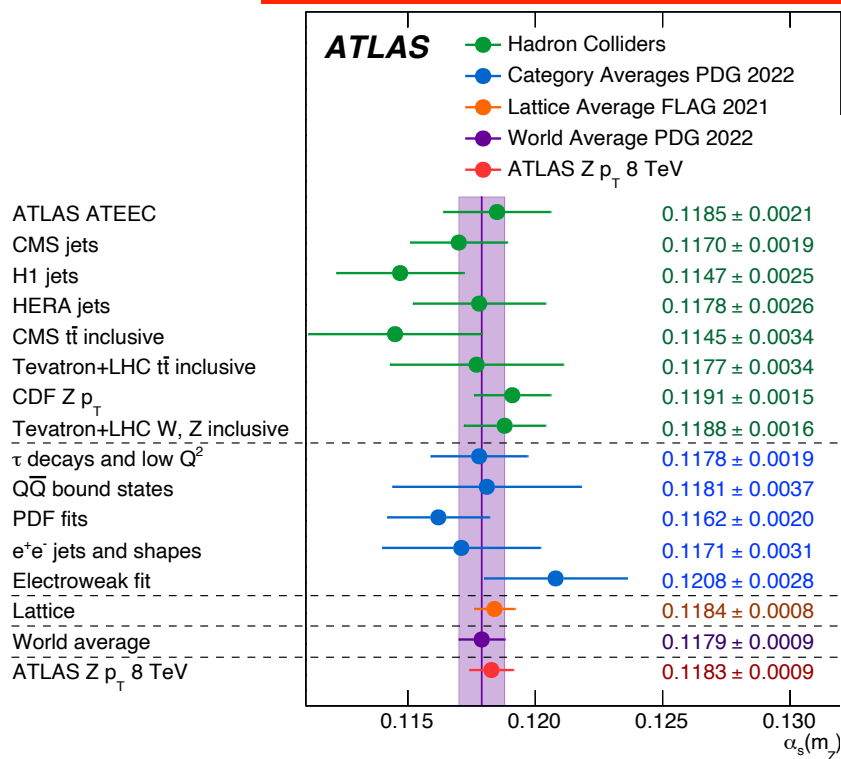
**ATLAS & CMS [arXiv:2402.08713](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.08713)**



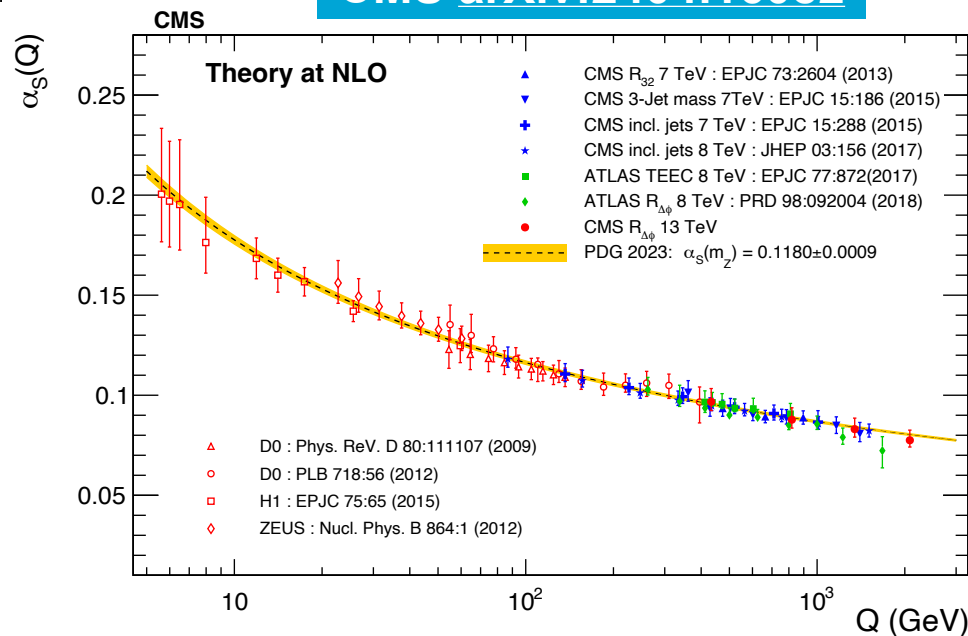
# Strong Coupling Measurement

- Several new results from ATLAS and CMS, including ATLAS's novel N<sup>3</sup>LO extraction based on Z boson p<sub>T</sub> spectrum, which is as precise as 2022 world average! [Submitted to Nature Physics.]
- The running of  $\alpha_s(Q)$  has been probed at the LHC over nearly 3 orders of magnitude in Q and agrees very well with the QCD NLO RGE evolution

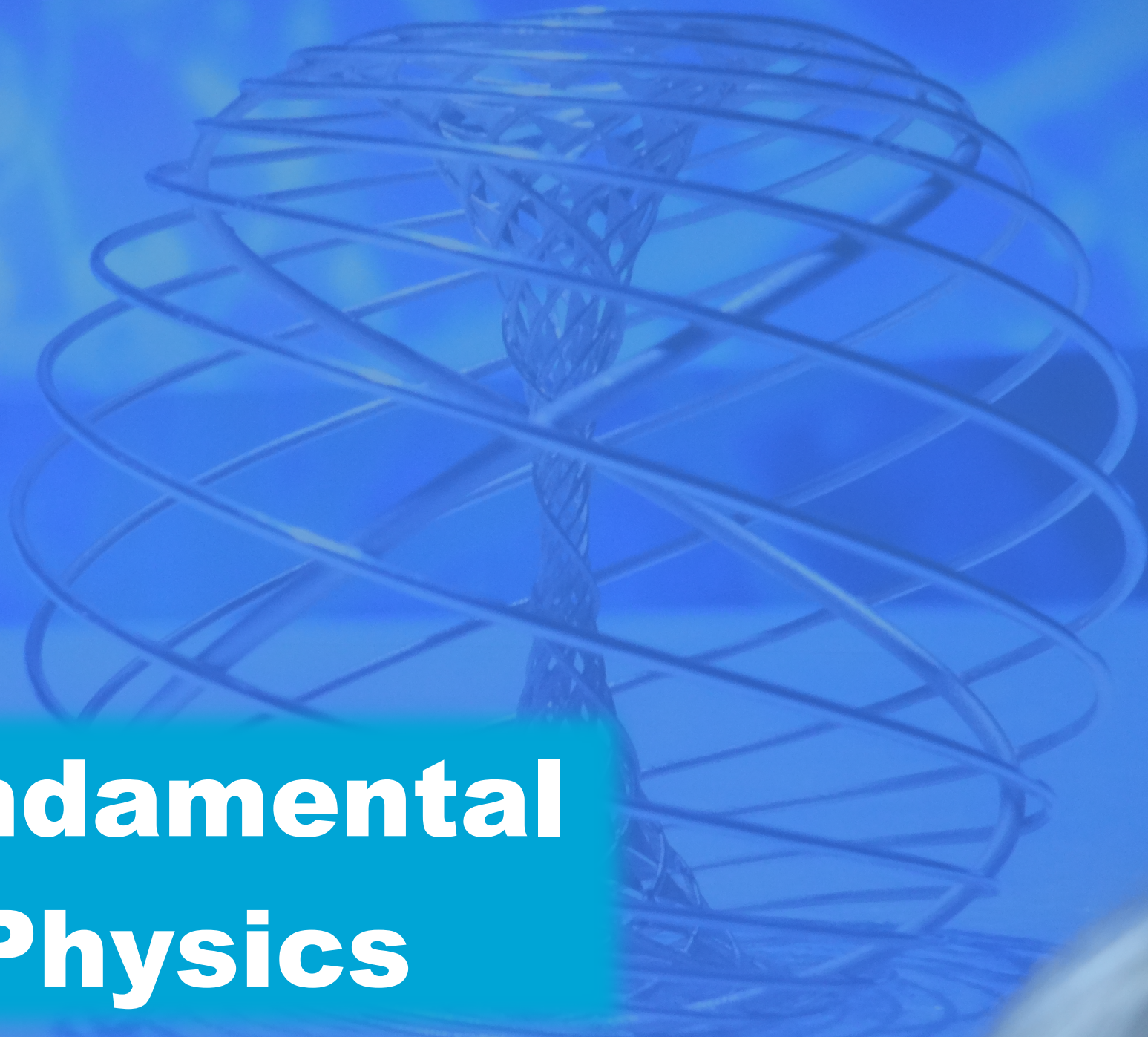
**ATLAS arXiv:2309.12986**



**CMS arXiv:2404.16082**





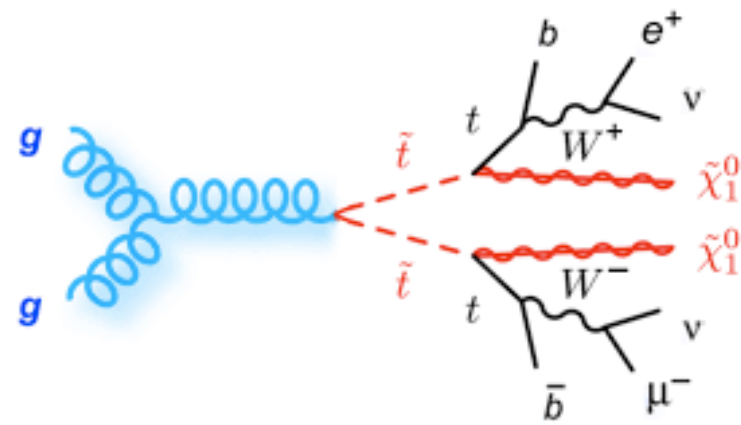


# Fundamental Physics



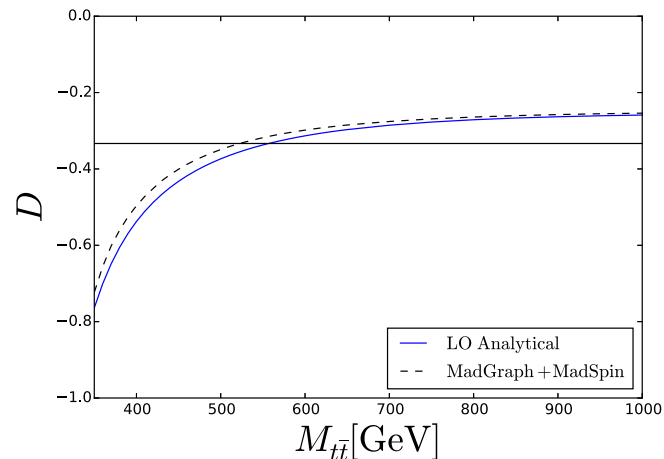
# Top Quark Entanglement

- ◆ Top quark pair production is an excellent laboratory to look for fundamental QM effects, such as quantum entanglement
- ◆ Top quark decays before it hadronizes and the spins of the two top quarks and their decay products are therefore correlated, leading to an entanglement
- ◆ Explore near-threshold  $t\bar{t}$  production in the dilepton+jets final state
- ◆ The spin correlation matrix  $C$  can be used to define the entanglement condition [Peres–Horodecki condition, similar to Bell's inequality]



- Entanglement marker  $D = -\text{Tr}[C]/3 = -3\langle \cos\phi \rangle$ , where  $\phi$  is the angle between two leptons from the top quark decays in the  $t\bar{t}$  rest frame
- If  $D < -1/3$ , the  $t\bar{t}$  system is entangled

Afik, de Nova, EPJ+ 136 (2021) 907

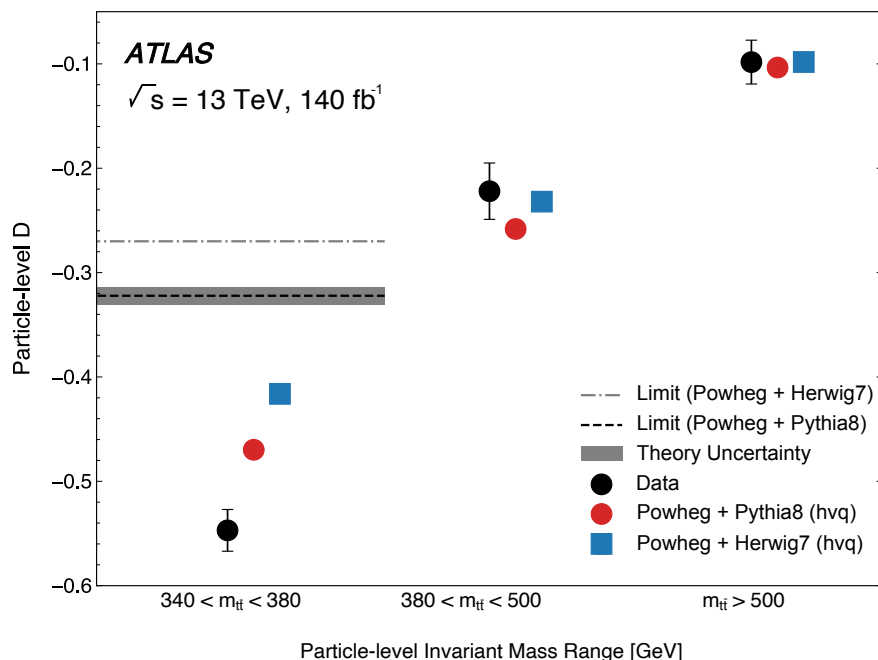




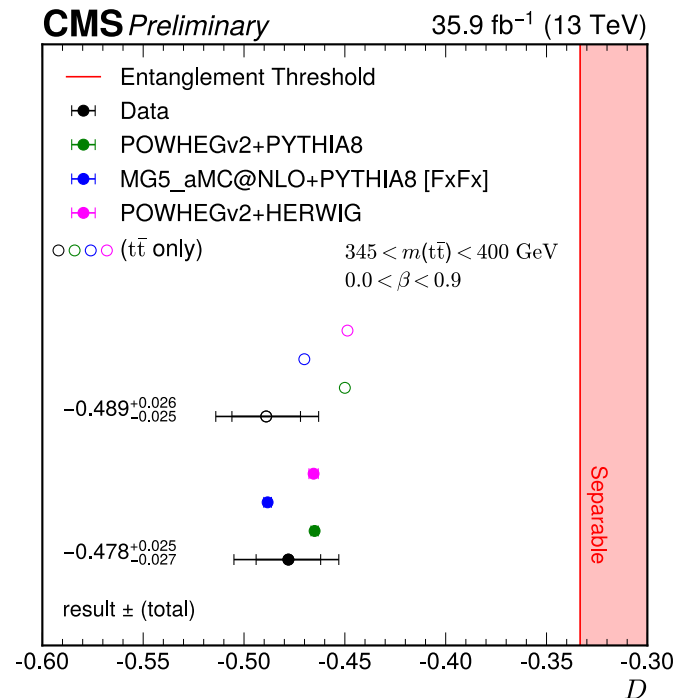
# Observation of Entanglement

- ◆ New ATLAS result [submitted to Nature] is the first observation of quantum entanglement in the  $t\bar{t}$  system:  $D = -0.547 \pm 0.002$  (stat)  $\pm 0.021$  (syst)
- ◆ Recently CMS confirmed this and showed that inclusion of the below-threshold toponium resonance improves the agreement between the observed and predicted entanglement

**ATLAS [arXiv:2311.07288](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.07288)**



**CMS PAS TOP-23-001**

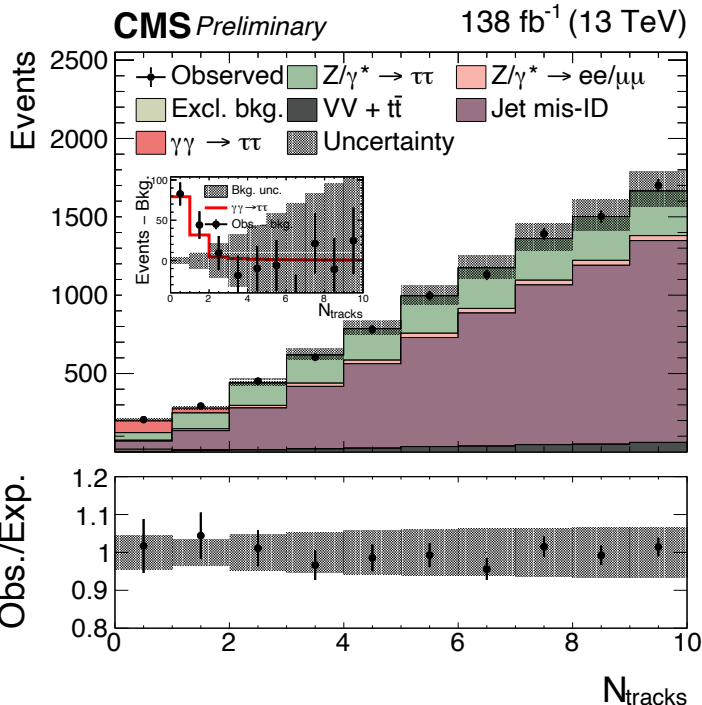
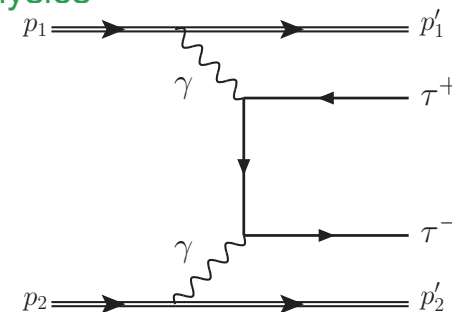




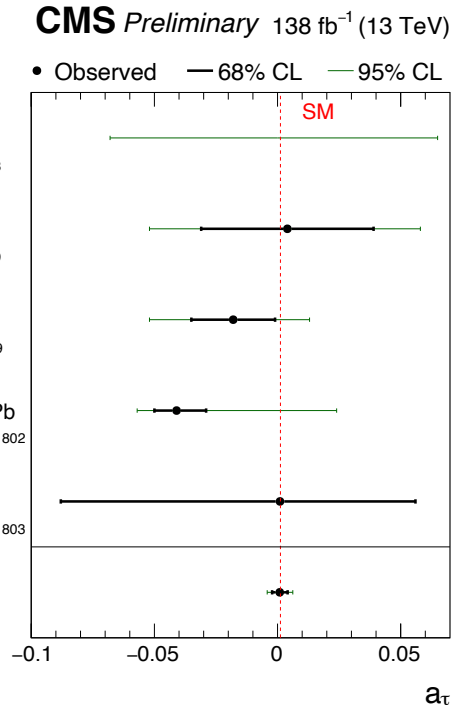


# g-2 of the Tau Lepton

- ◆ Anomalous magnetic moments are fundamental parameters sensitive to new physics
  - Cf. Peter Winter's talk on the muon g-2 saga
- ◆ The magnetic moment of the tau lepton is known rather poorly
- ◆ New CMS analysis using photon-photon collisions [LHC as a photon collider!] in pp running to probe exclusive photoproduction of tau lepton pairs, which is sensitive to g-2
  - Based on the combination of hadronic and leptonic tau decays
  - Exclusivity is ensured by requiring primary vertex with no more than one extra track
- ◆ First observation of exclusive  $\tau\tau$  production and the most stringent limit on  $a_\tau - 2$ :  $[-0.0042, 0.0062]$ , approaching sensitivity to the Schwinger term  $\alpha/2\pi = 0.00116$



CMS PAS SMP-23-005





# Lepton Flavor Universality

- ◆ In the SM, couplings of gauge bosons to fermions are universal, which is an accidental symmetry of the SM
- ◆ Recent interest in lepton flavor universality (LFU) violation sparked by the LHCb claims of LFU violation in  $b \rightarrow s l^+ l^-$  transitions [by now understood to be due to a missing background]

- Higgs boson is the only known particle with non-flavor-universal couplings to leptons

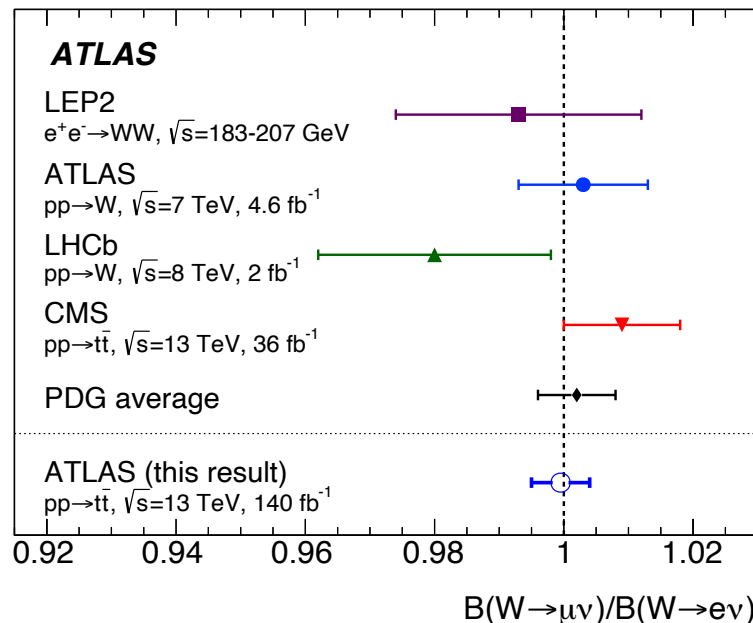
- ◆ Recent precision test by ATLAS in  $W \rightarrow e \nu$  vs.  $\mu \nu$  decays

- Uses  $t\bar{t}$  production as a clean source of  $W$  events
  - Additionally uses the  $Z(ee)/Z(\mu\mu)$  ratio, for which LFU has been firmly established by LEP and LHC, to reduce the uncertainty

- ◆  $R_{\mu/e}(W) = 0.9995 \pm 0.0022$  (stat)  $\pm 0.0036$  (syst)  $\pm 0.0014$  (ext)

- ◆ Most precise measurement to date

**ATLAS arXiv:2403.02133**

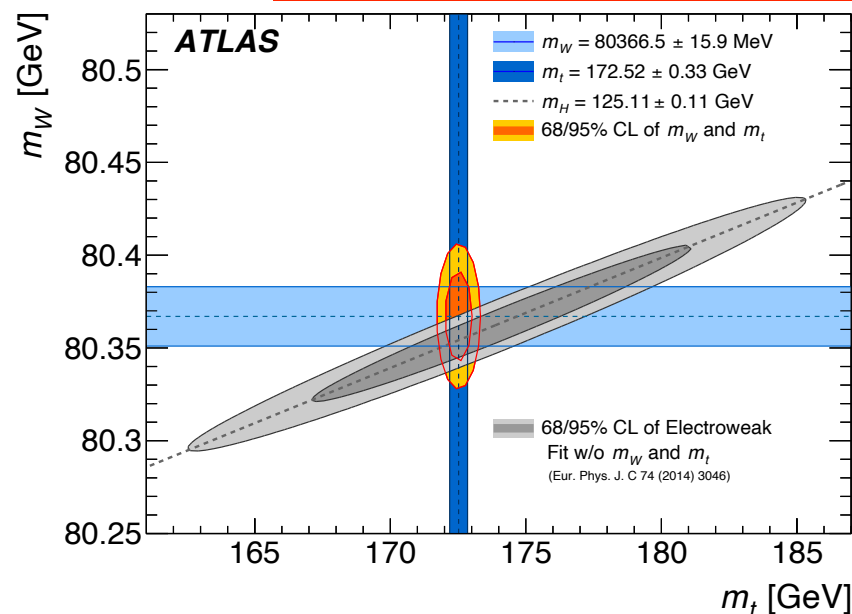
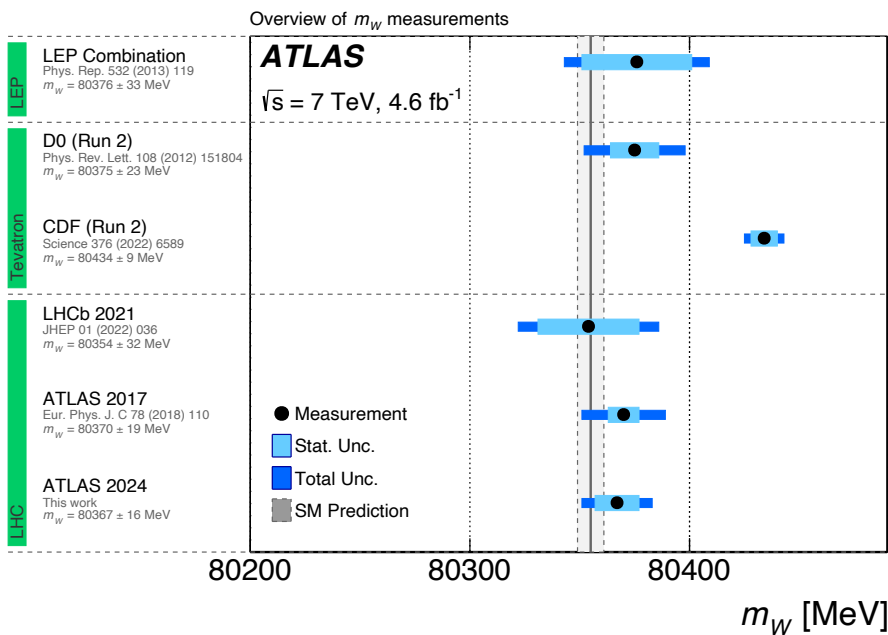




# Measurement of the W Boson Mass

- ◆ The mass of the W boson is a fundamental parameter in the SM; also crucial for precision EW fits
- ◆ At the LHC the measurements have been so far down by ATLAS and LHCb
- ◆ Recent update of the earlier analysis by ATLAS to include the latest constraints on parton distribution functions
  - ◉  $M_W = 80366.5 \pm 15.9$  MeV (reduction of the uncertainty by 2.6 MeV)
- ◆ Also measured the W width  $\Gamma_W = 2202 \pm 47$  MeV

**ATLAS [arXiv:2403.15085](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.15085)**







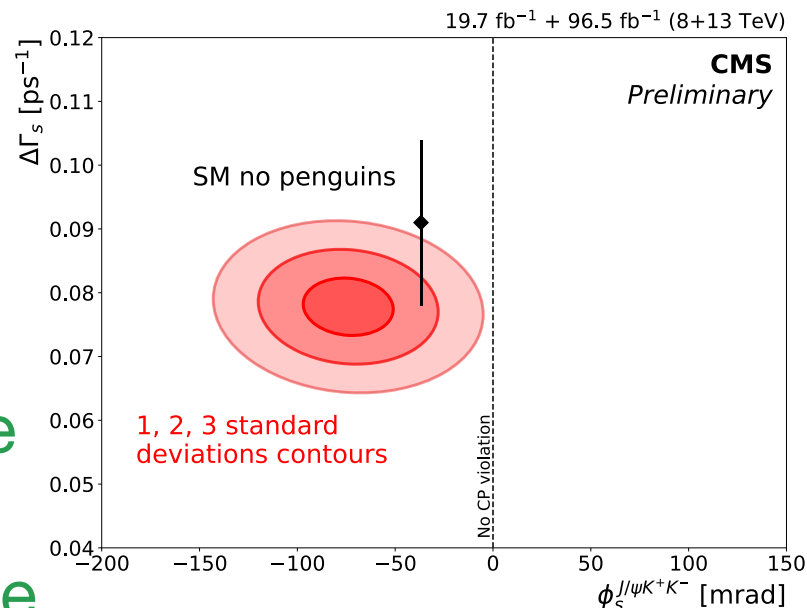
# CP Violation in $B_s \rightarrow J/\psi\phi$ Decays

- ◆ CP violation (CPV) is one of three Sakharov conditions for creation of matter-antimatter asymmetry in the universe
- ◆ Recent result from CMS is based on the most performant flavor tagger to date, allowed to establish CPV in  $B_s \rightarrow J/\psi\phi$  decays

- New tagger, based on DNNs achieved unprecedented tagging efficiency of 55.9% with the dilution factor of 10%, for a tagging power of 5.6%

- ◆ The result is consistent with the SM and LHCb measurement, and established for the first time  $>3\sigma$  evidence for the CPV phase  $\phi_s$  to be non-zero

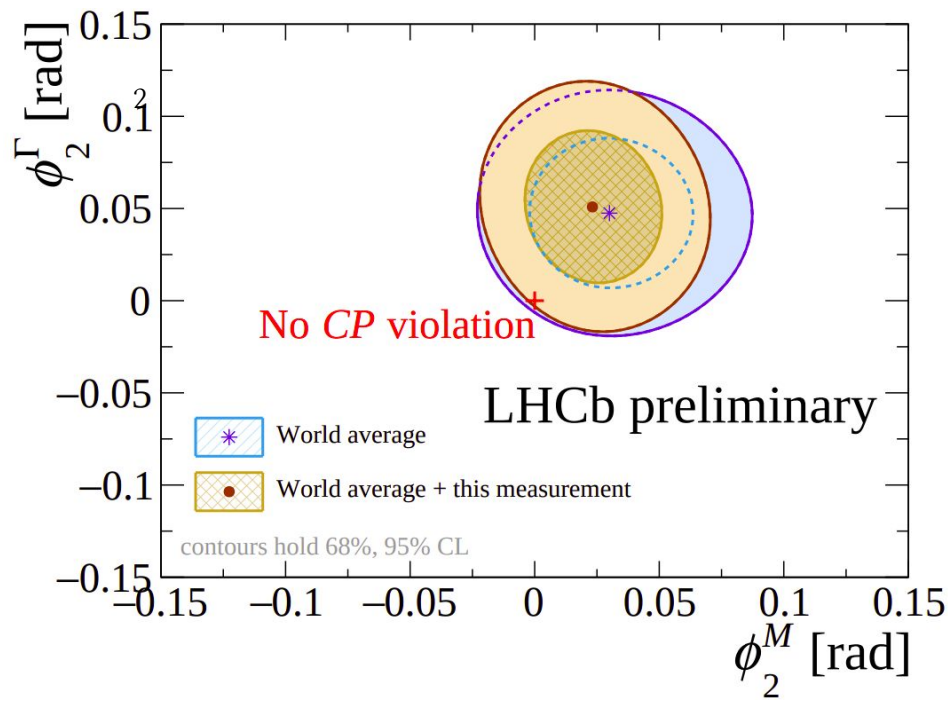
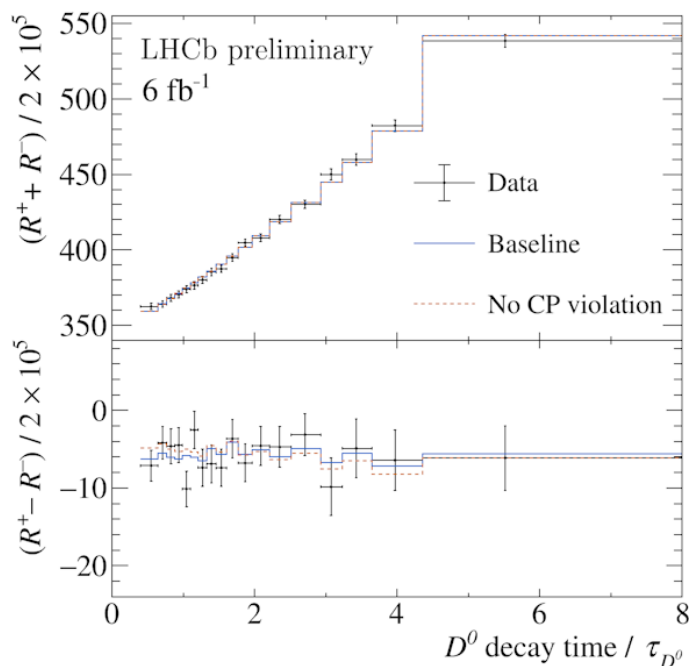
CMS PAS BPH-23-004





# CP Violation in Charm

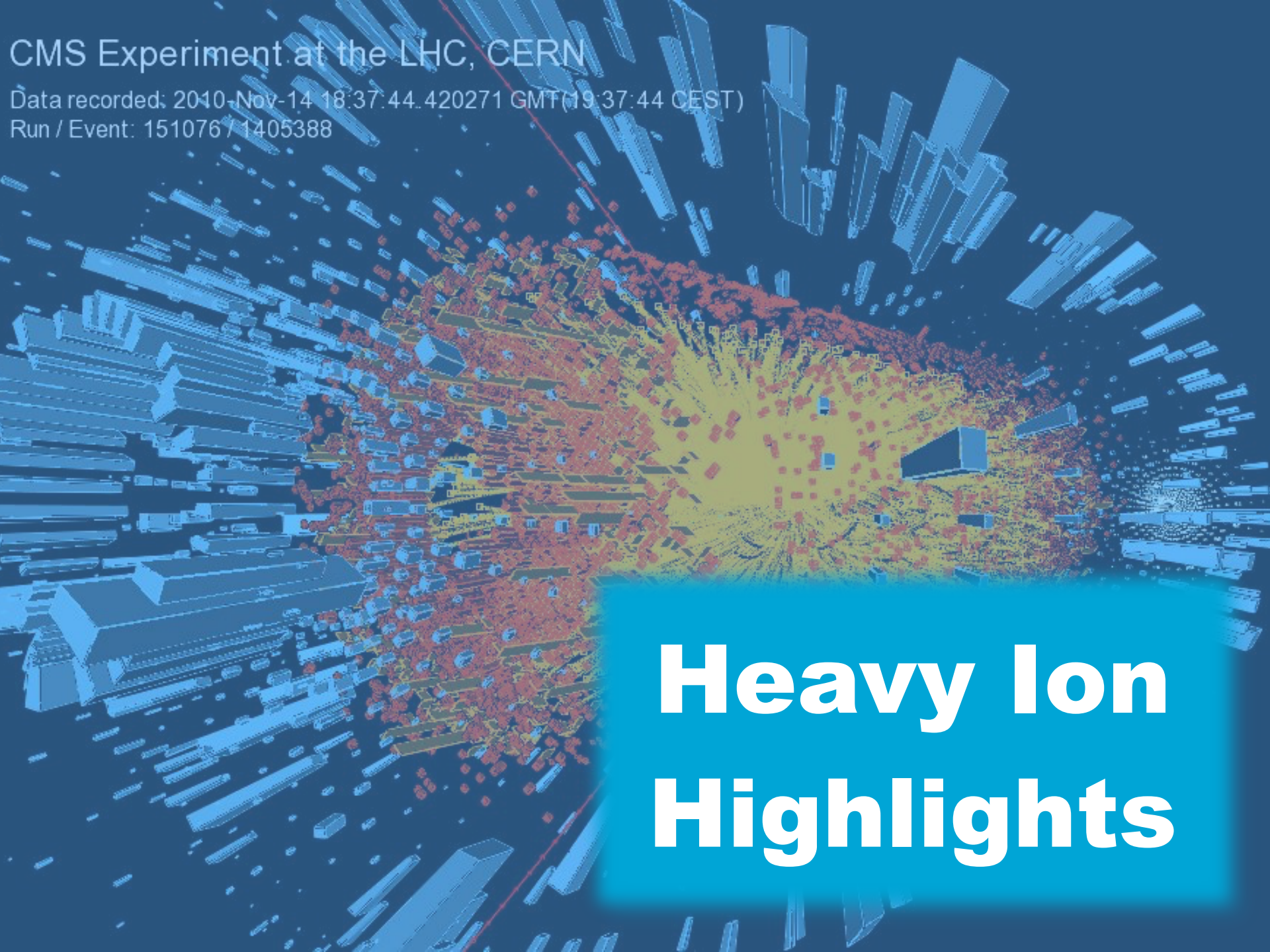
- ◆ CPV has been observed in strange, beauty, and recently charm sectors
  - ◉ In charm sector CPV can occur in  $D^0 \leftrightarrow \bar{D}^0$  oscillations, directly in the decay, or in both
  - ◉ LHCb earlier observed CPV in the  $D^0 \rightarrow K^+K^-, \pi^+\pi^-$  decays
- ◆ New LHCb result on a search for CPV in a charm decay:  $D^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-$ 
  - ◉ Use  $D^*$  as a source of  $D^0$ , tagged via the  $D^* \rightarrow D^0\pi$  decay; 410M  $D^0$
  - ◉ No evidence for CPV in decay, mixing, or both



CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN

Data recorded: 2010-Nov-14 18:37:44.420271 GMT(19:37:44 CEST)

Run / Event: 151076 / 1405388



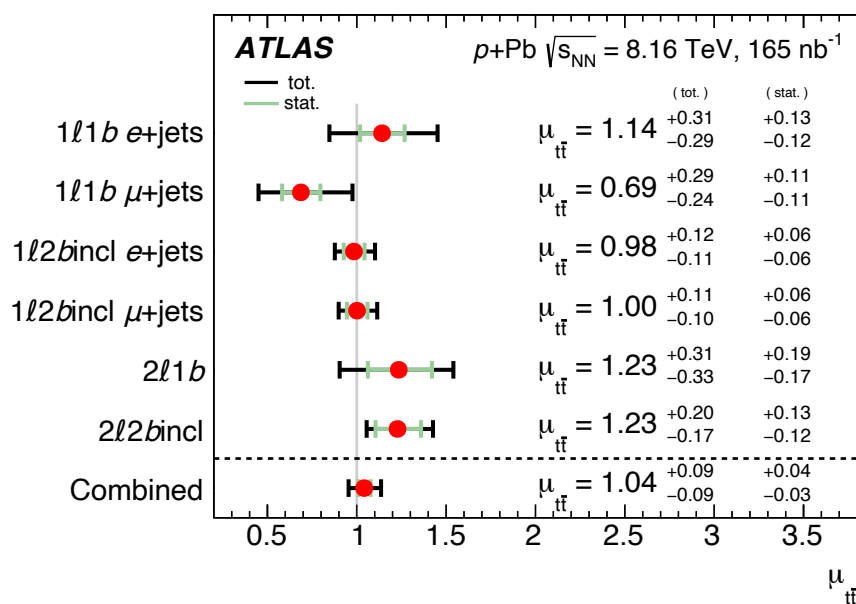
# Heavy Ion Highlights



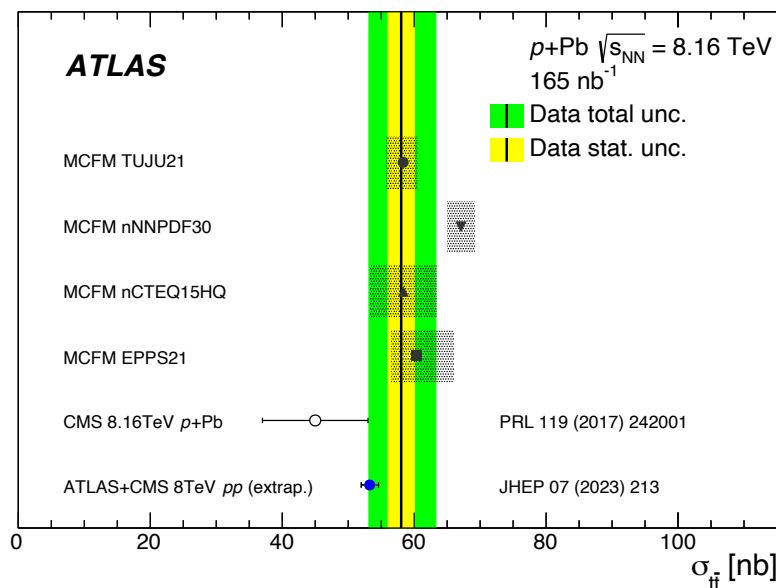


# Observation of $t\bar{t}$ Production

- Top quark production in nucleus-nucleus collisions is an excellent probe of nuclear PDFs at low Bjorken  $x$ , particularly the gluon nPDF
- A new ATLAS analysis focuses on both  $l+jets$  and dilepton decay channels of the  $t\bar{t}$  system in pPb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16$  TeV ( $165 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ )
- Signal observed w/  $>5\sigma$  significance in each channel, with cross section  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}} = 58.1 \pm 2.0$  (stat)  $^{+4.8}_{-4.4}$  (syst) nb consistent with the scaled pp NNLO cross section calculations
  - Analysis approaches sensitivity necessary to probe nPDFs



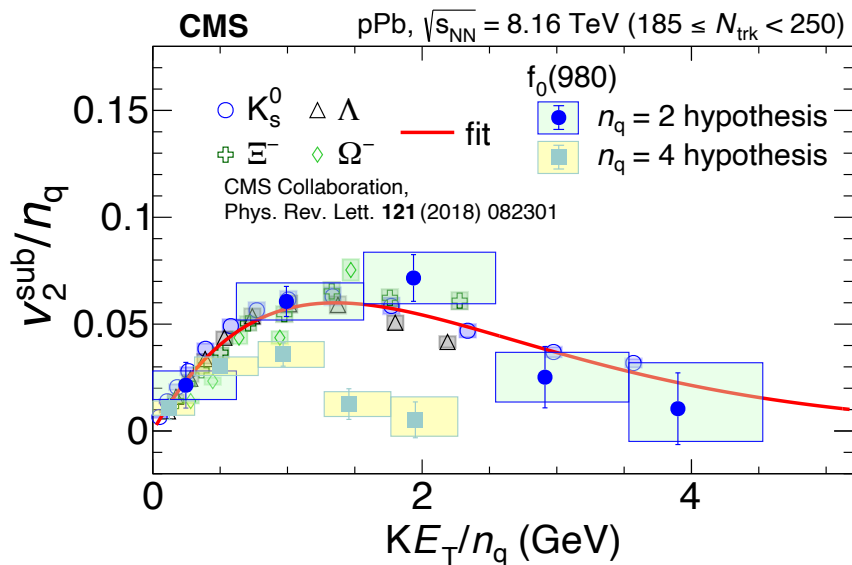
**ATLAS arXiv:2405.05078**





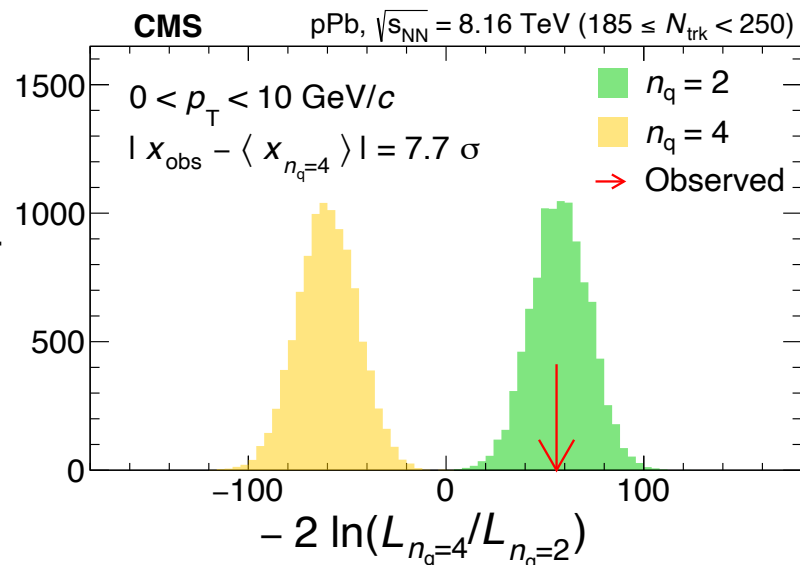
# Resolving $f_0(980)$ Puzzle

- For the first time, heavy ion collisions were used to probe the particle content of a potentially exotic state
- Since the 60-ies, the  $f_0(980)$  state, which is rather broad was speculated to be a tetraquark candidate, a molecular state, or an ordinary meson
- This is possible through the coalescence picture of bound state formation in nuclear collisions
  - Bound states are formed from particle with similar momenta and spatial positions
  - The elliptic flow of a state thus inherits the elliptic flow of the constituents,  $v_2(p_T) \approx n_q v_{2,q}(p_T/n_q)$
- Consequently, measuring the elliptic flow of a specific state can tell how many quarks it contains
- CMS measurement excluded  $n_q = 4$  over  $n_q = 2$  by  $7.7\sigma$ , thus solving a half-a-century old puzzle! [Submitted to Nature Comm.]



CMS arXiv:2312.17092

Pseudo-experiments

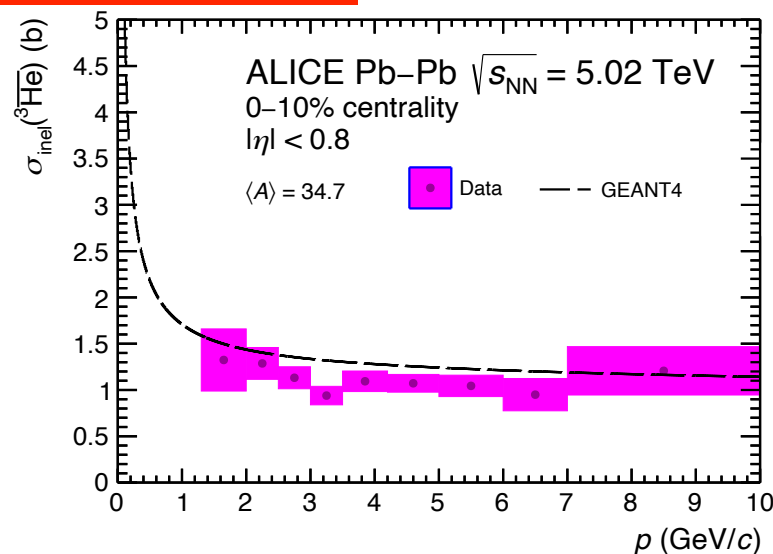
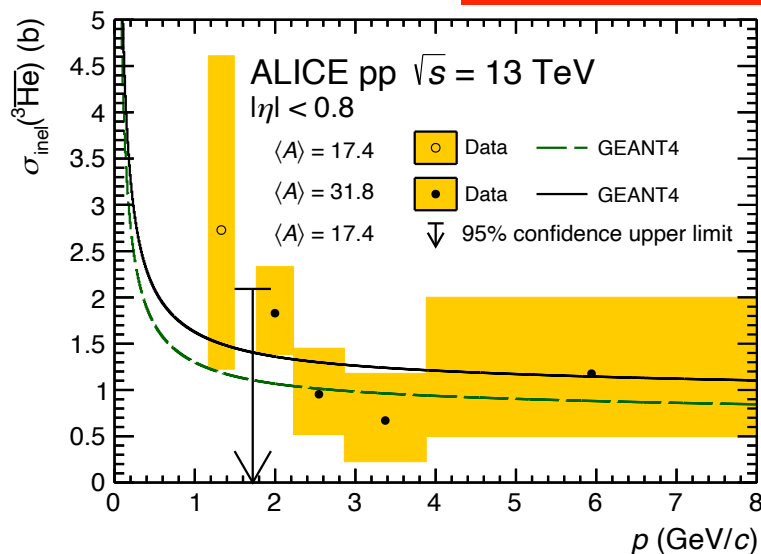




# Anti- $^3\text{He}$ Absorption in Matter

- ◆ Astrophysical observation of low-energy antinuclei, such as anti- $^3\text{He}$ , is one of the most promising signatures of DM annihilation
  - Important question is the transparency of our galaxy to these antinuclei
- ◆ ALICE has measured for the first time the cross section of anti- $^3\text{He}$  interactions as a function of momentum by measuring anti- $^3\text{He}$  absorption in several sub-detectors
  - anti- $^3\text{He}/^3\text{He}$  ratio method is used for pp collisions
  - anti- $^3\text{He}$  disappearance in TRD is used for PbPb collisions

**ALICE Nature Phys. 19 (2023) 61**



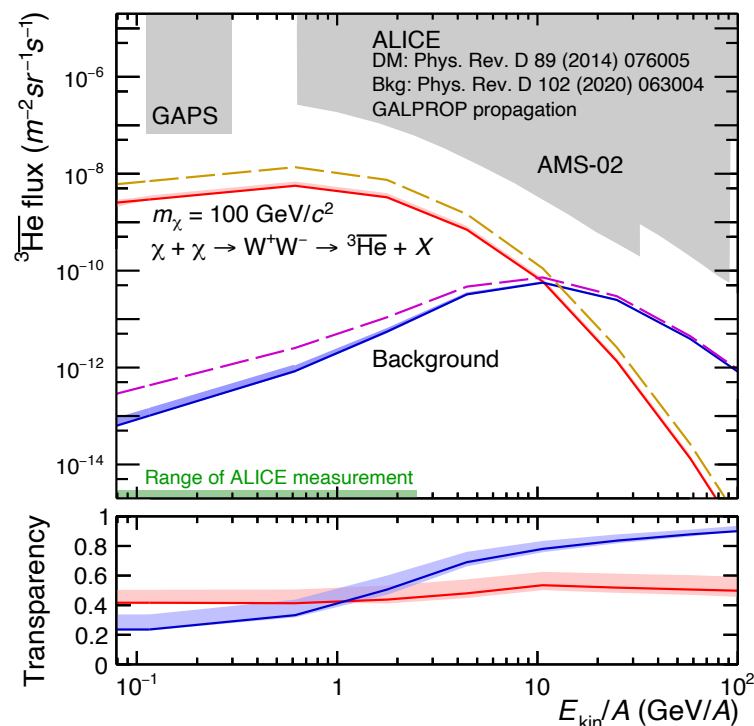
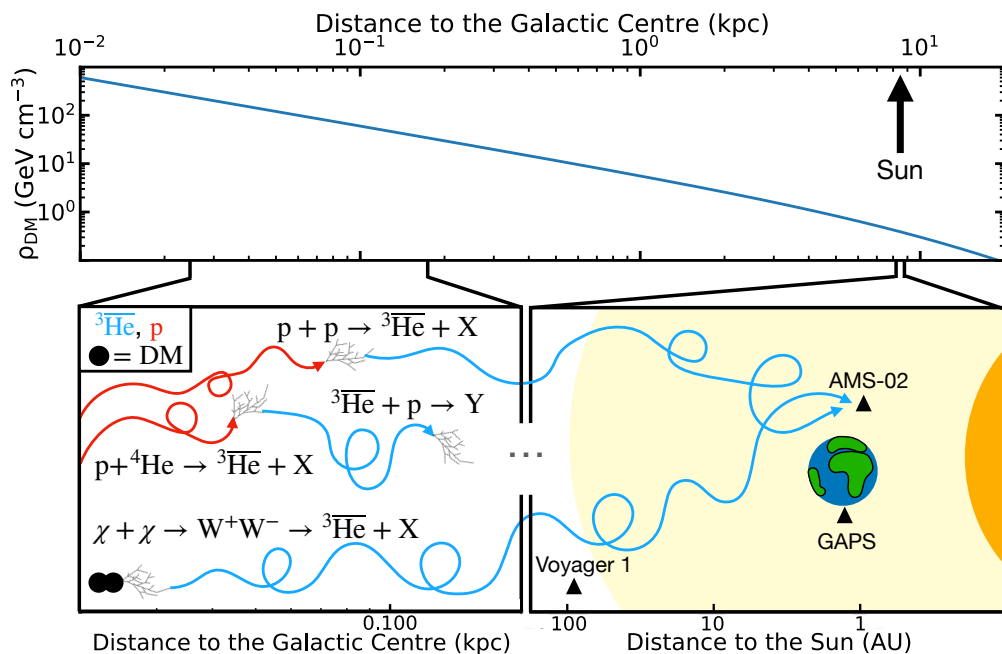


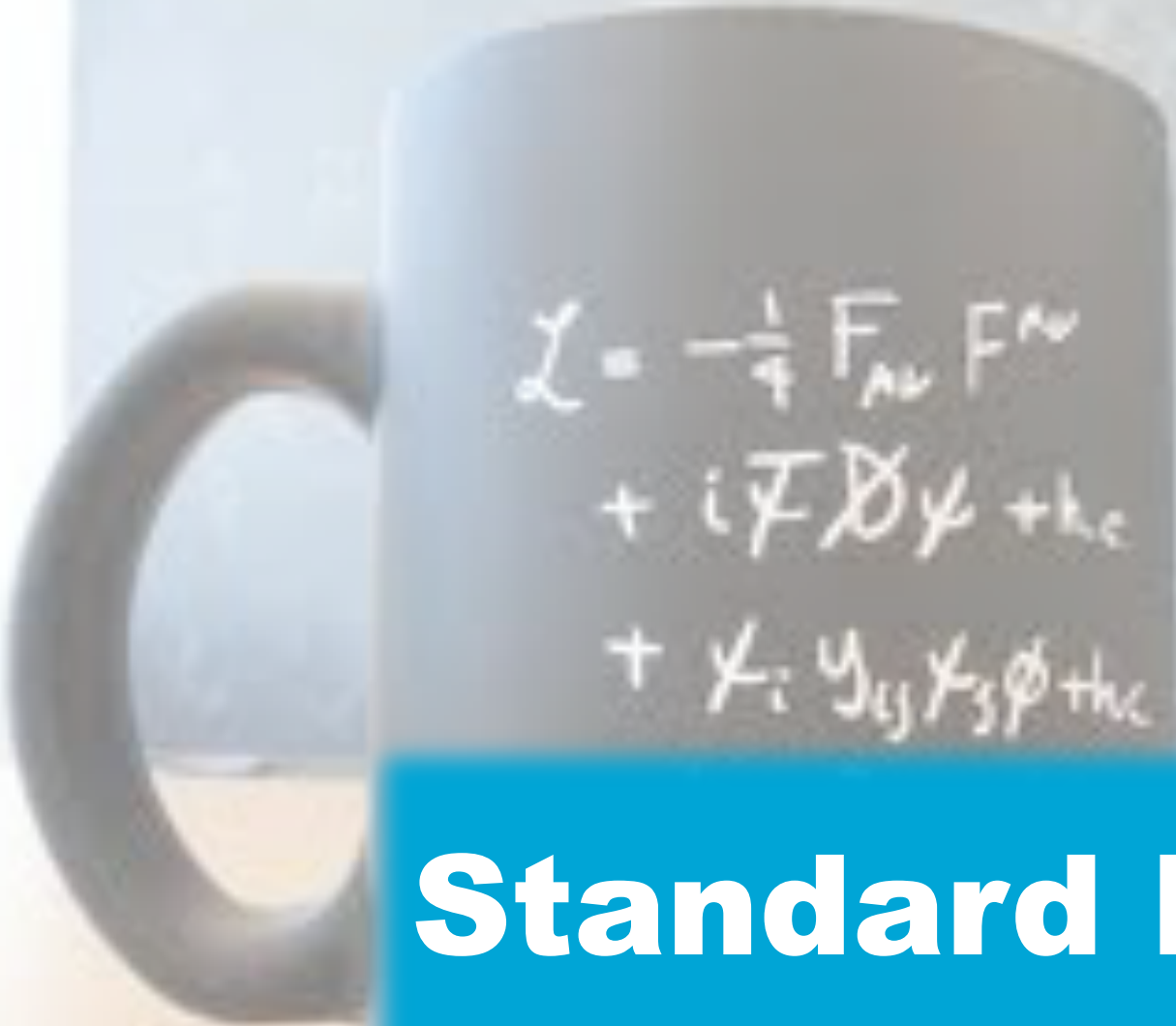


# Astrophysical Impact

- ◆ These cross section measurements allowed to model our galaxy transparency to anti- $^3\text{He}$  produced in DM annihilation in the center of Milky Way
- ◆ Various processes are considered, along with the effect of solar modulation
- ◆ Prediction for a 100 GeV WIMP are made and are about 1 order of magnitude below the current AMS-02 and GAPS sensitivity

**ALICE Nature Phys. 19 (2023) 61**




$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$
$$+ i\bar{\psi}\not{D}\psi + h.c.$$
$$+ \bar{\psi}_i \gamma_{ij} \psi_j \phi + h.c.$$

# Standard Model Highlights

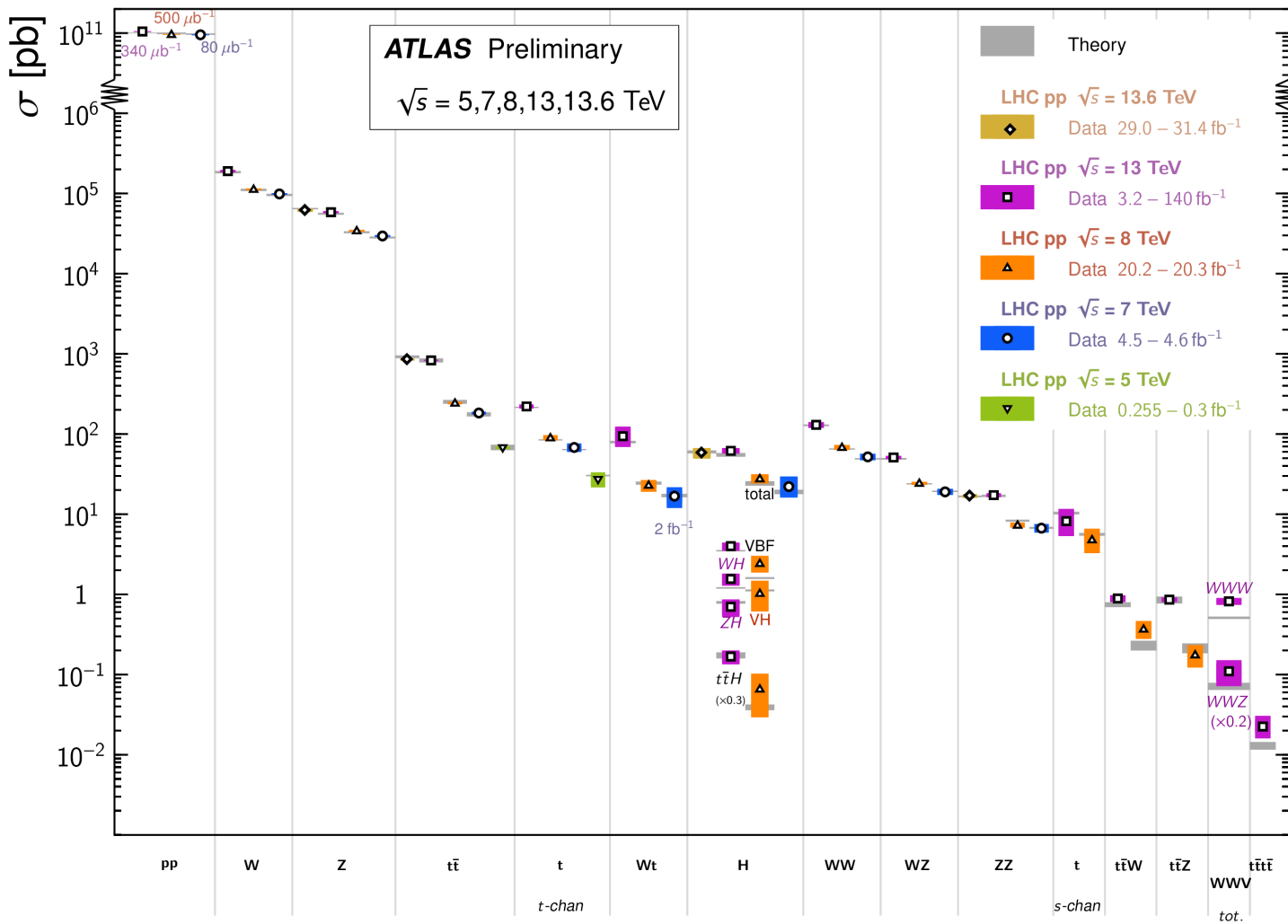


# "Stairway to Heaven"

◆ Mind-boggling precision on so many SM processes!

### Standard Model Total Production Cross Section Measurements

Status: October 2023







# Searches for New Physics





# Looking for Unknown

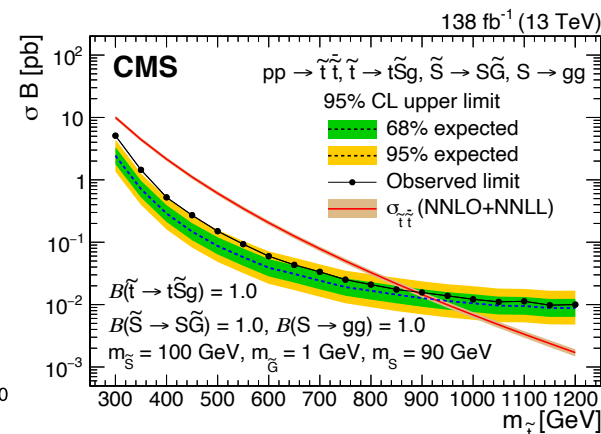
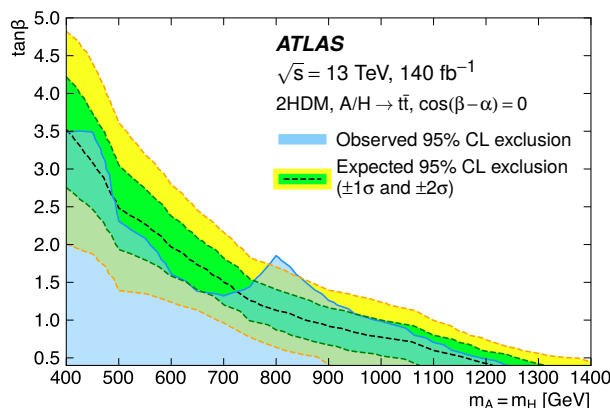
- ◆ The LHC has been successfully operating for nearly 15 years, transforming the entire landscape of searches for new physics
- ◆ Despite a number of tantalizing hints seen by ATLAS, CMS, and LHCb over the years, apart from the observation of the Higgs boson and a number of QCD states, none of them raised to the discovery level yet; many are now gone
- ◆ So, why are we still looking for new physics at the LHC and where should we look for it if we are to continue?
- ◆ Why are we still covering something like a territory of Brazil with the "Brazilian flag" exclusion plots?





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# The Why



- ◉ Many things are missing from the standard model (SM), hinting that it is likely incomplete
  - ❖ Physics issues: no gravity; no dark matter; no connection between the three generations of quarks and leptons; no quantitative explanation of the matter-antimatter asymmetry in the universe; no neutrino oscillations
  - ❖ Math issues: naturalness, which became a real problem since the discovery of the Higgs boson; "arbitrary" fermion masses; strong CP problem
- ◉ Most of viable SM extensions that cure some of the above problems require new particles, dimensions, symmetries
- ◉ Many lead to the phenomenology within the reach of the LHC, although there is no guarantee anymore
- ◉ Many exclusions, while appear strong, are based on simplifying assumptions, which are often arbitrary (e.g.,  $Br = 1$ ) - read the fine print!



# The Why



**Read the fine print!**





# The Where

- ◆ Given that the LHC has reached its ultimate energy, looking for heavy particles is a game of a diminishing return - it will take many years to discover something in this regime, if we haven't seen a hint so far
  - ◉ No more low-hanging fruit!
- ◆ The focus shifts to much more complicated signatures, which haven't been exploited thus far, as well as significantly more sophisticated analyses than we pursued during the earlier years
- ◆ Doubling time has doubled since Run 2; it is now about three years
  - ◉ Compatible with a "lifetime" of a graduate student in an LHC experiment, allowing for a well-designed and sophisticated analysis rather than a "luminosity chase"





# The Where

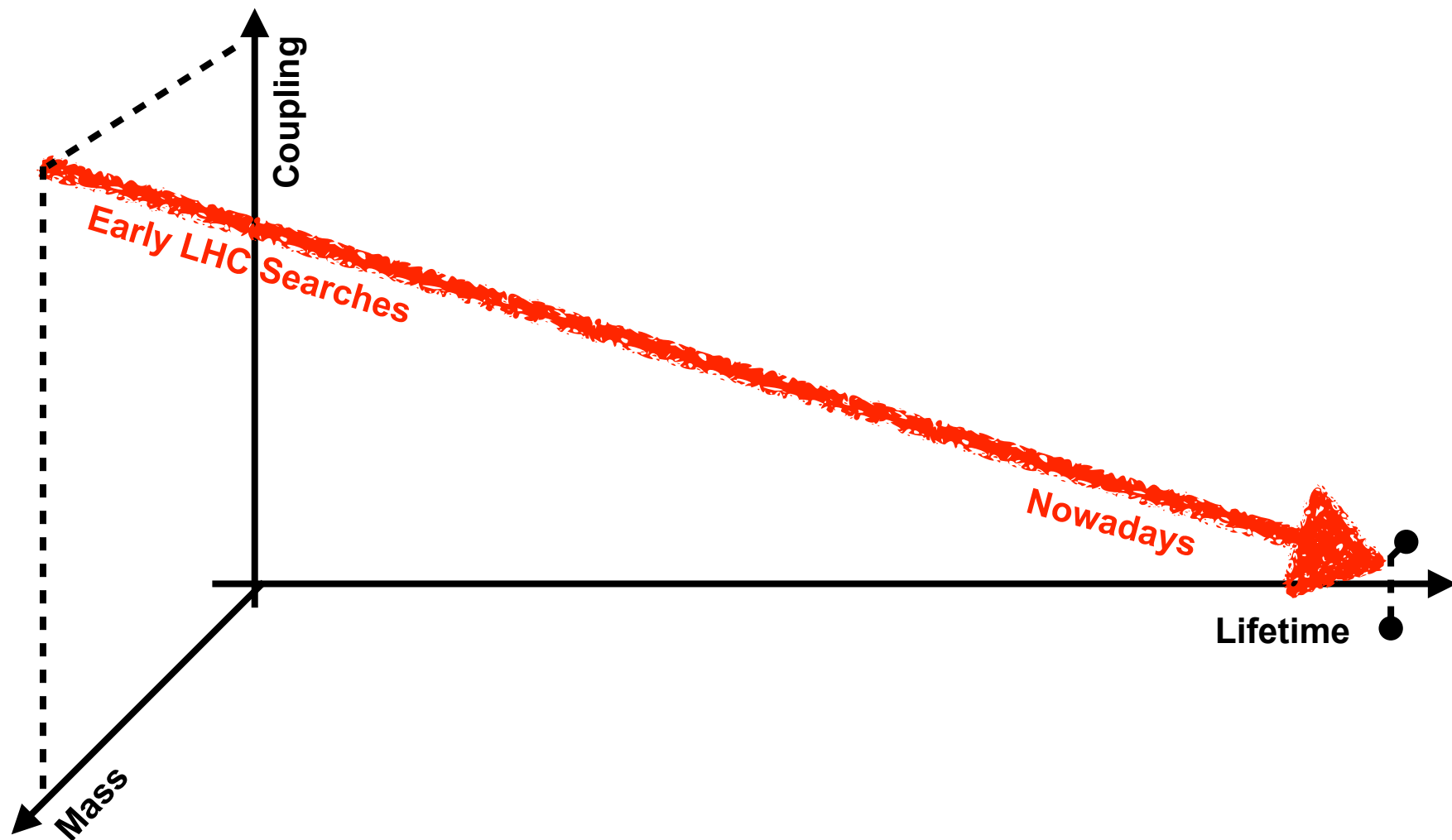
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# Stairway to Hell

## ◆ The paradigm shift







# New Tools for the New Paradigm

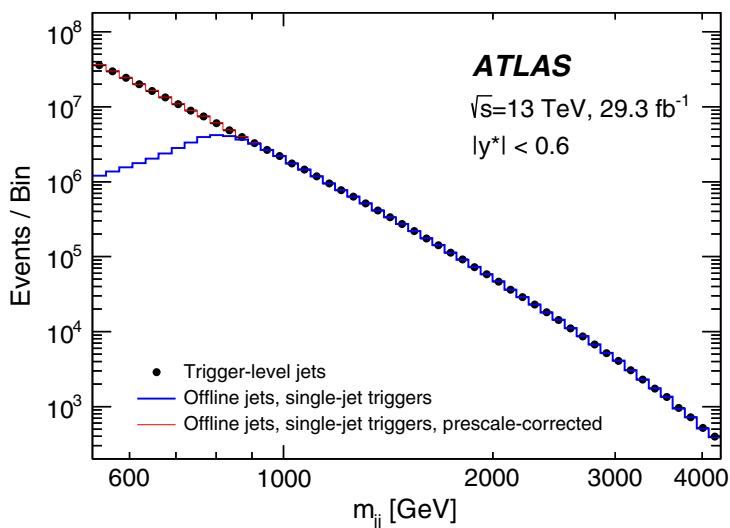
- ◆ Use of new triggers not available earlier in the LHC running
  - ◉ A variety of triggers optimized for long-lived particles
  - ◉ Trigger-level analysis (TLA), aka data scouting - ATLAS and CMS, and triggerless design with real-time alignment and calibration (LHCb)
    - ❖ Extensive use of GPU in the trigger
  - ◉ ISR-based triggers with jet substructure and mass-decorrelated subjet taggers
  - ◉ Data parking
- ◆ Novel approaches with machine learning (ML) techniques: weakly supervised and unsupervised ML



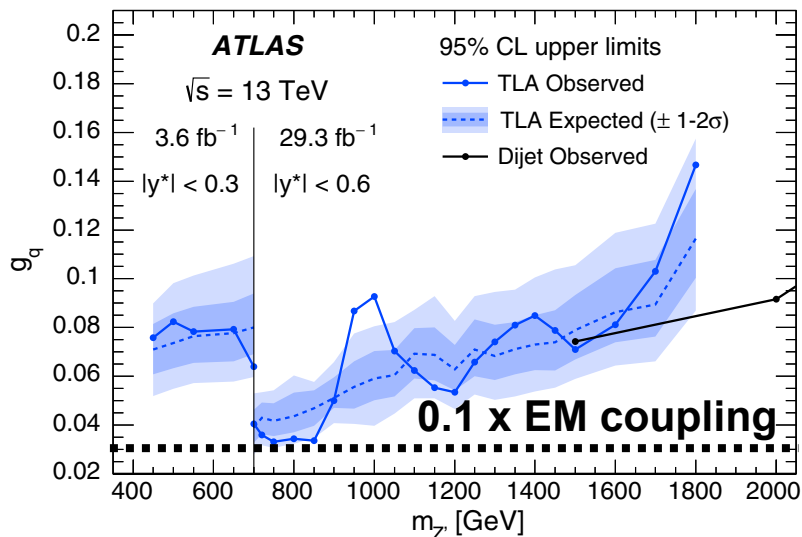
# Toward Small Masses: TLA

◆ Trigger-level analysis (TLA) is based only on the high-level trigger (HLT) objects resulting in a very compact event size and vastly increased rate per bandwidth for the TLA data stream

● Avoids the use of (large) trigger prescales



ATLAS, PRL 121 (2018) 081801

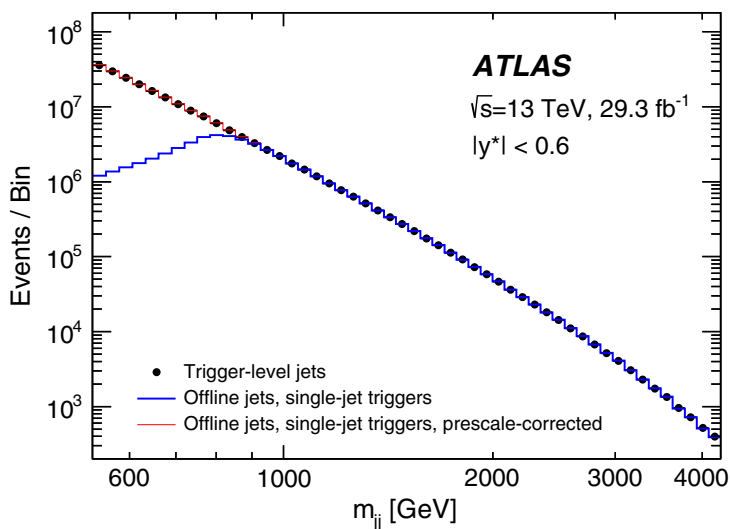




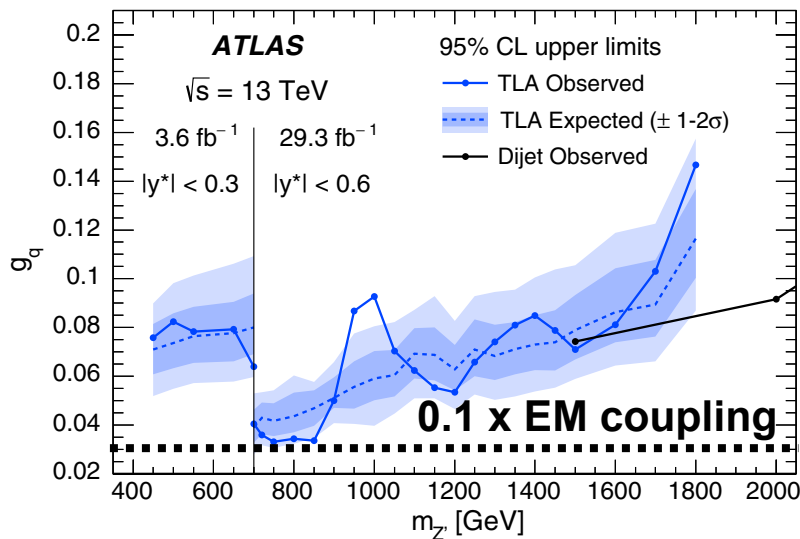
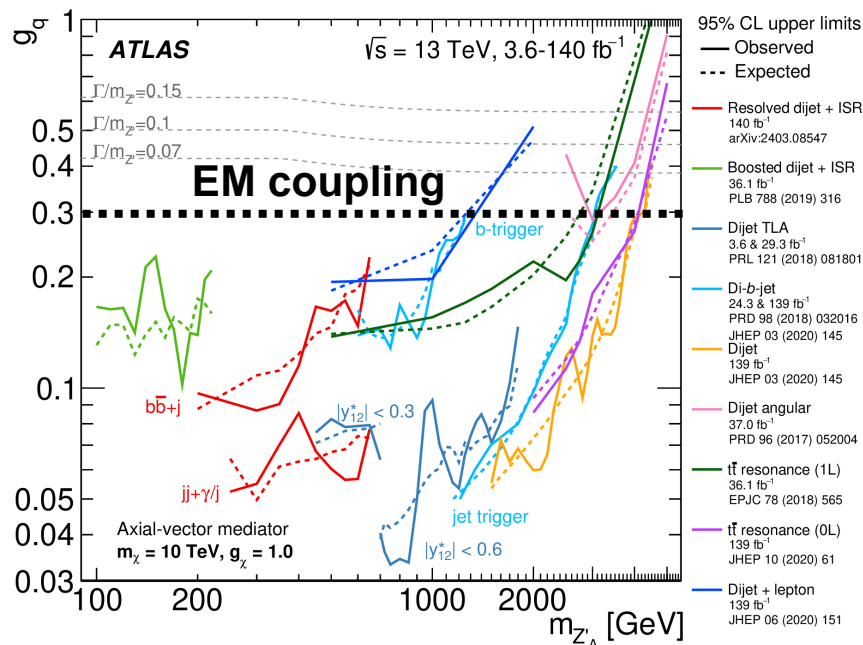
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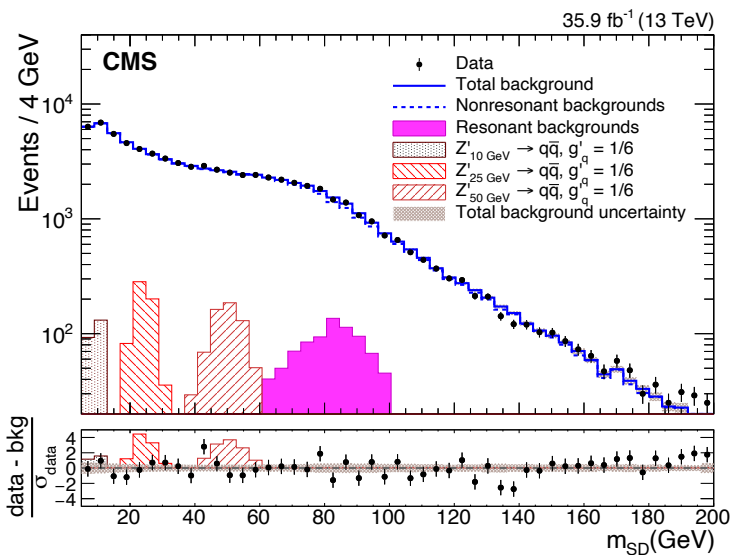
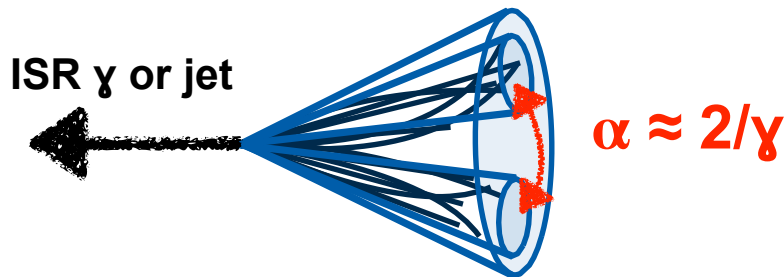




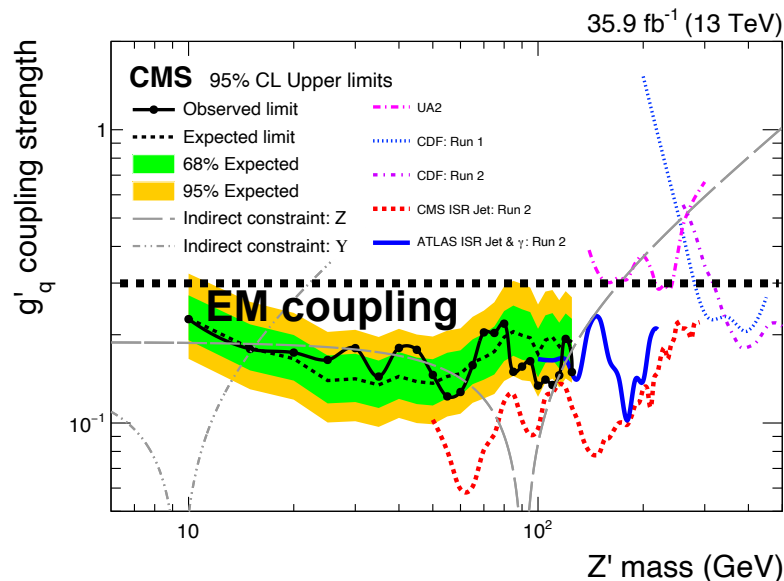


# Toward Small Masses: ISR

- Use high- $p_T$  single-photon or single jet triggers to record the events, require a substructure in the recoiling AK8 jet, and search for narrow resonances in the recoiling jet trimmed mass spectrum
- Allows to go as low as 10 GeV in the resonance mass!



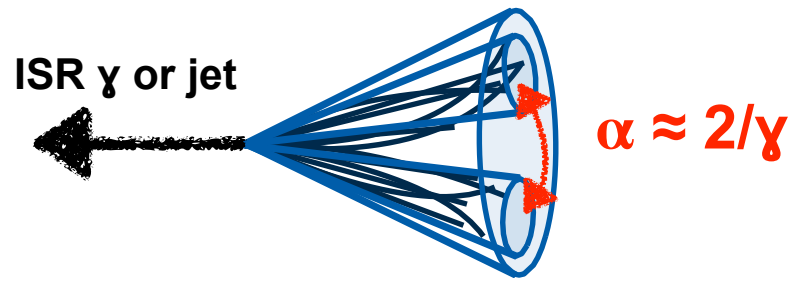
CMS, PRL 123 (2019) 231803



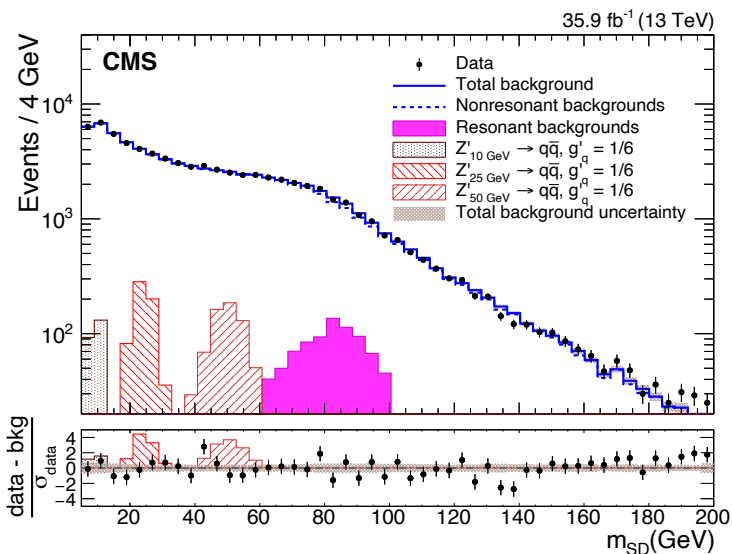


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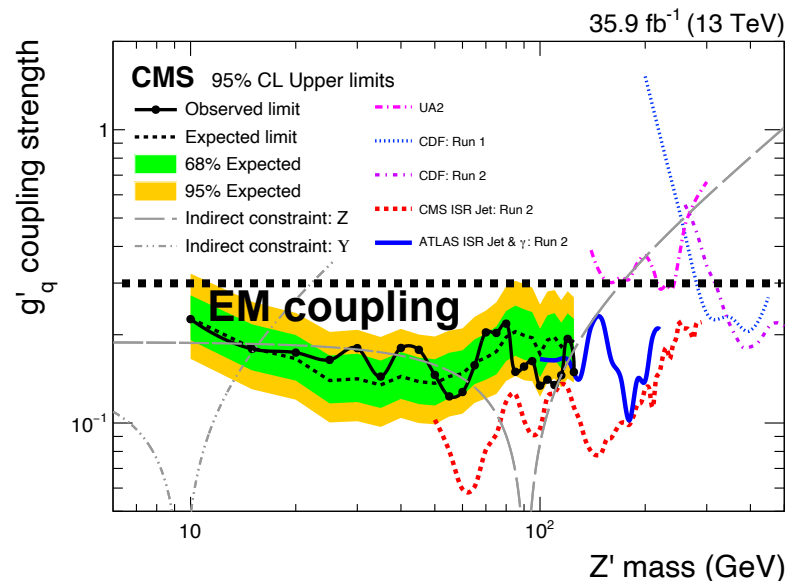
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$p_T(\text{ISR}) \sim 100 \text{ GeV}$   
 $m(X) \sim 25 \text{ GeV}$   
 $\gamma \sim 4, \alpha \sim 0.5$  - a single jet



CMS, PRL 123 (2019) 231803



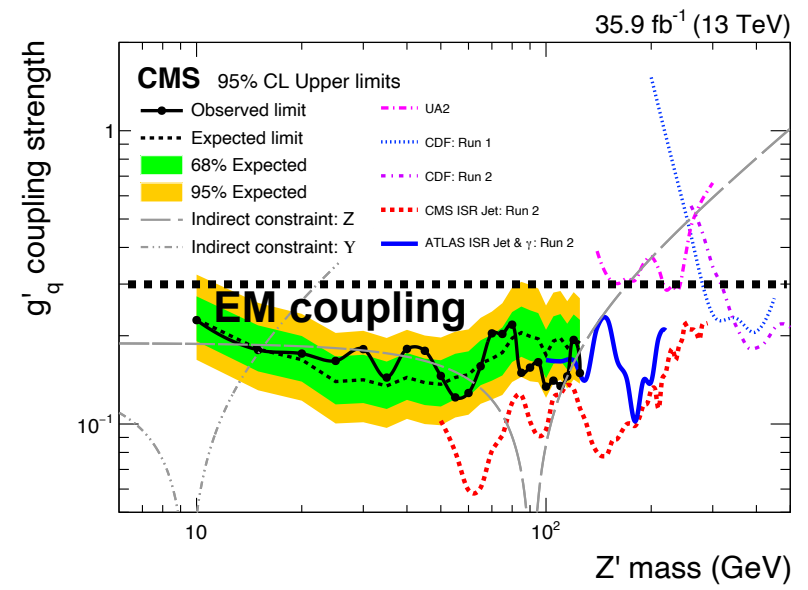
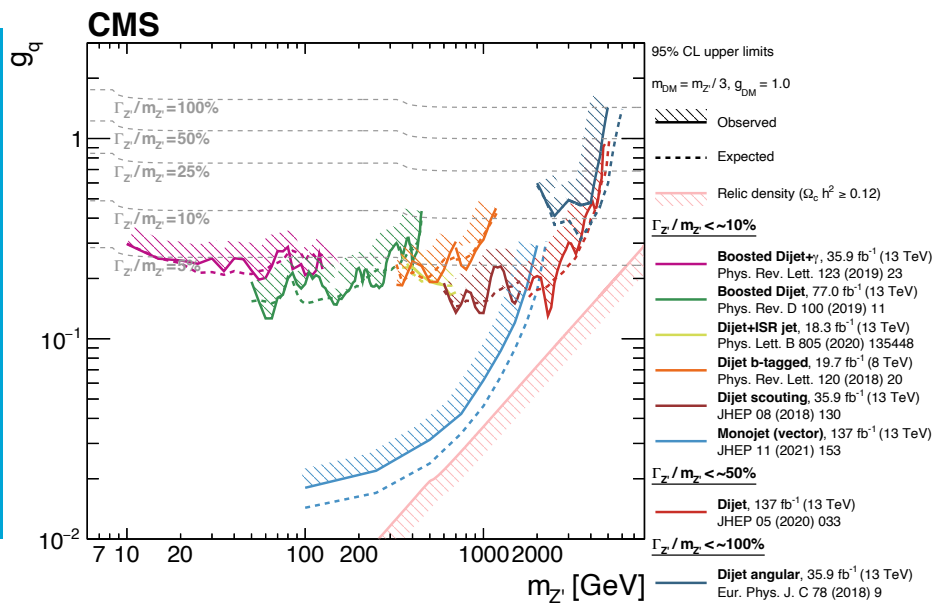
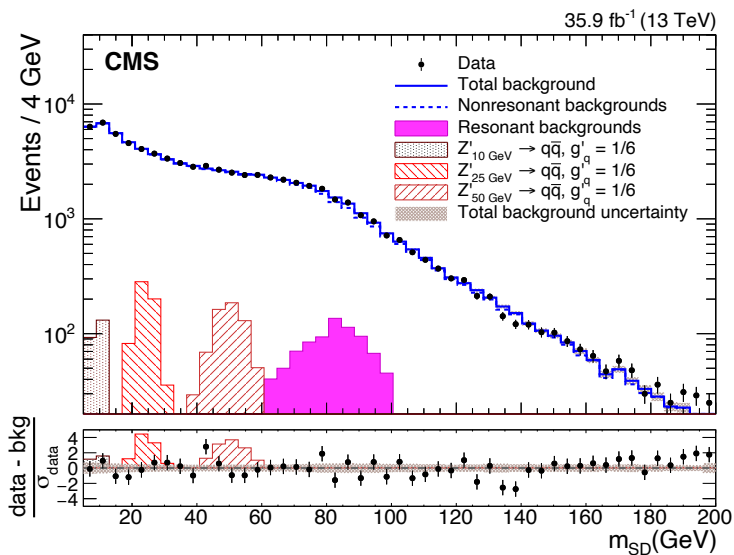


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CMS, arXiv:2405.13778

CMS, PRL 123 (2019) 231803

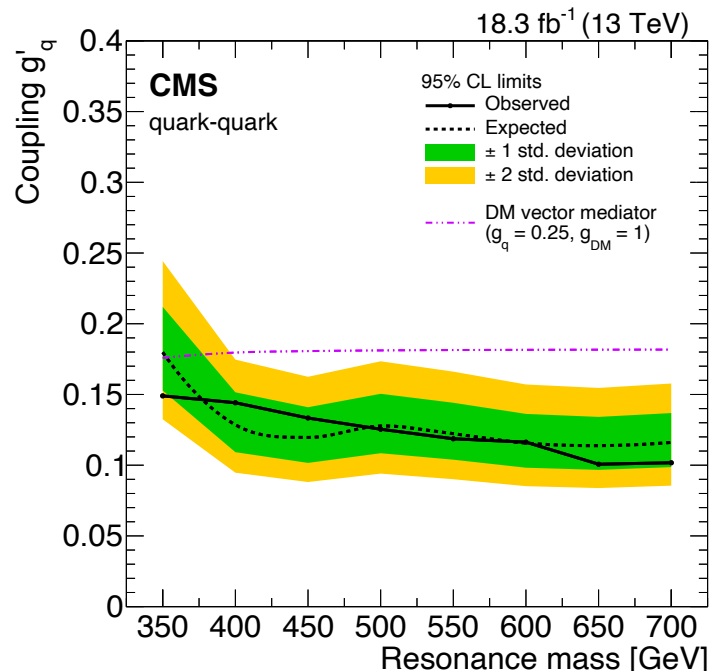
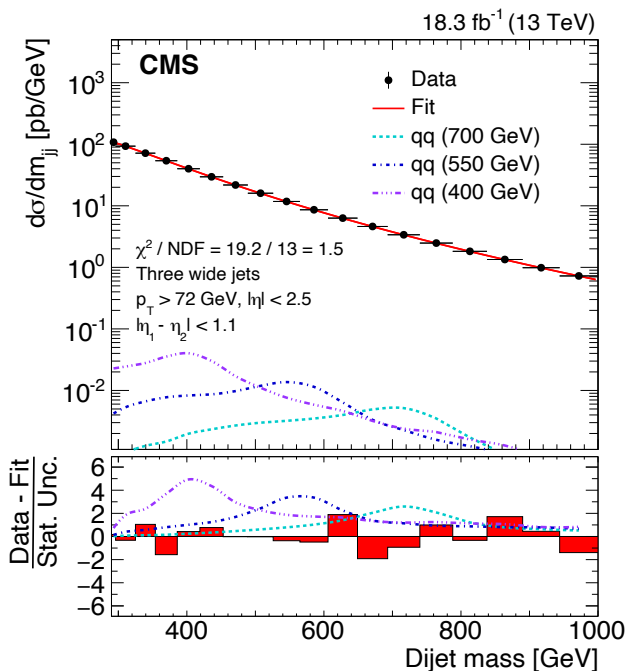




# Toward Low Masses: ISR+Scouting

- One could also combine the two techniques, adding extra sensitivity
  - The idea behind a CMS search for dijet resonances in three-jet events collected by a low- $H_T$  scouting trigger (4 kHz @  $10^{34}$  cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$ ) available for ~half of 2016 data taking (18 fb $^{-1}$ )
  - Use large-R (1.1) jets offline to improve resolution and acceptance
  - Limits set in the 350-700 GeV range as low as 1/3 of EM coupling

CMS, PLB 805 (2020) 135448





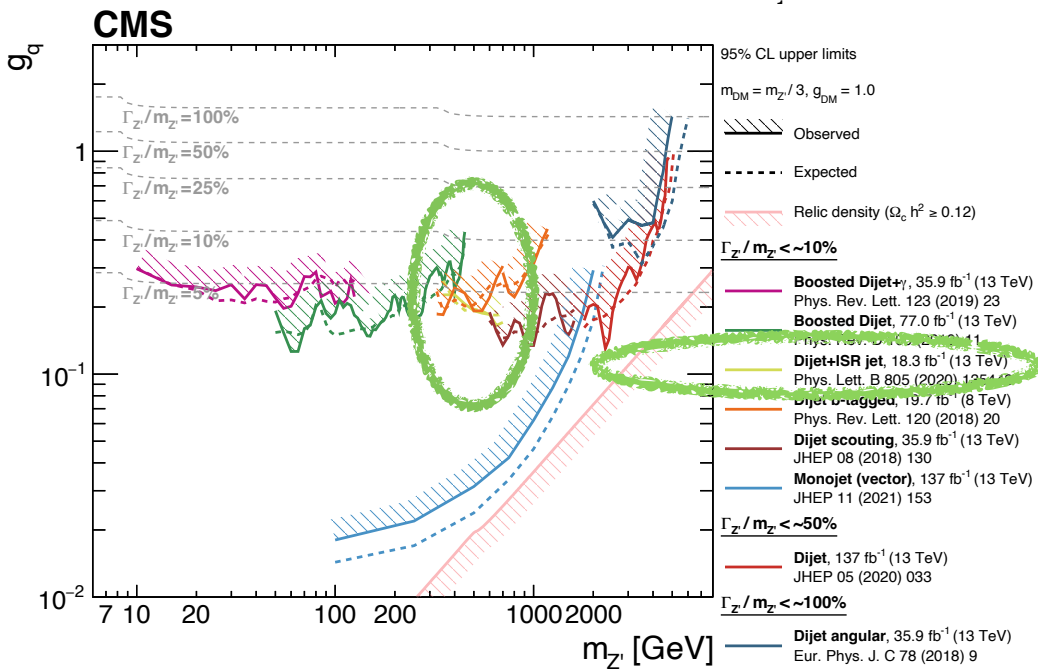
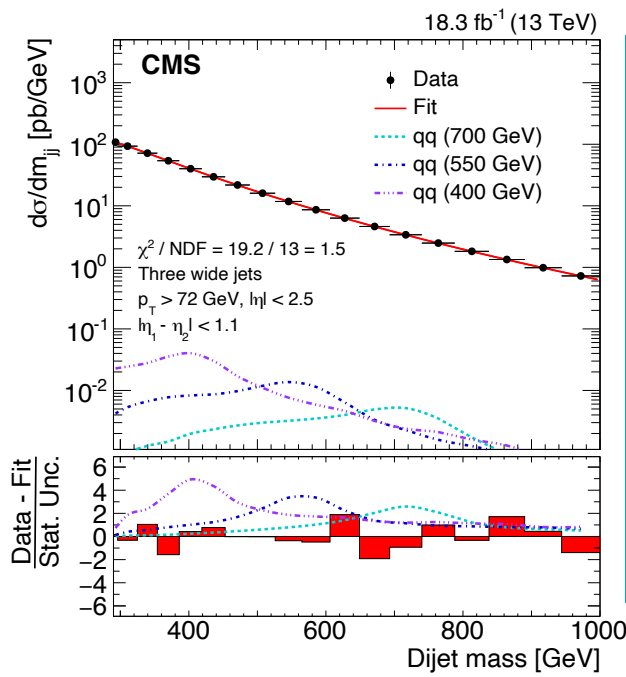


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CMS, PLB 805 (2020) 135448

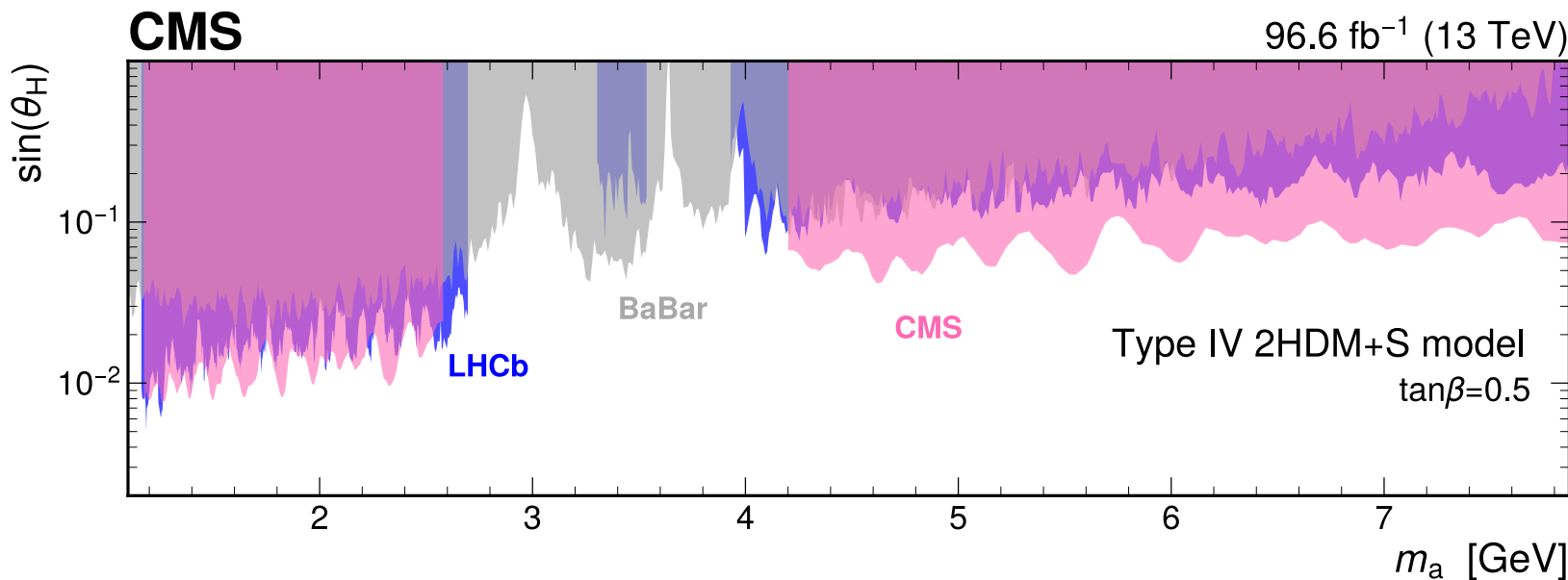
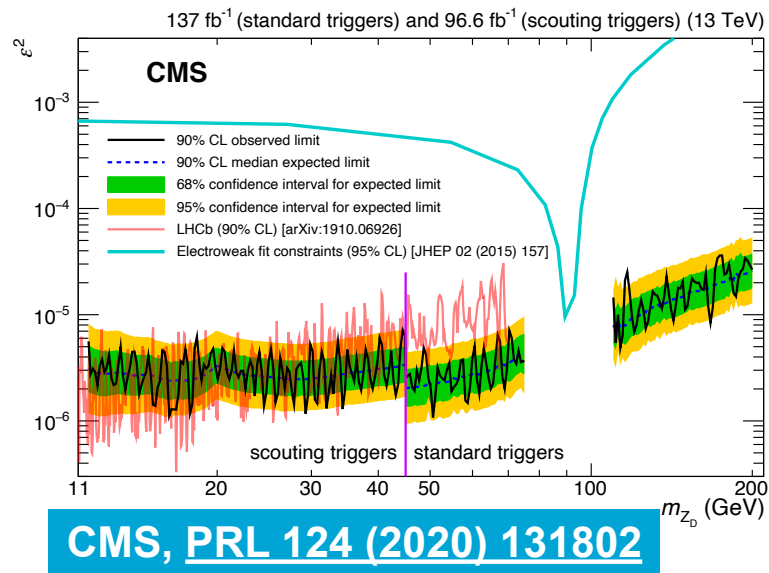
CMS, arXiv:2405.13778





# Low-Mass Dimuon Resonances

- ◆ CMS searches based on the dimuon regular and scouting triggers
- ◆ Nice complementarity between the two sets of results, interpreted as dark Z boson or in the context of 2HDM + complex singlet model w/ H-a mixing
- ◆ New search based entirely on a scouting trigger allowed to lower the mass reach below the Y resonances in the same models



CMS JHEP 12 (2023) 070



# Toward Long Lifetimes

## ◆ Plethora of models and experimental results

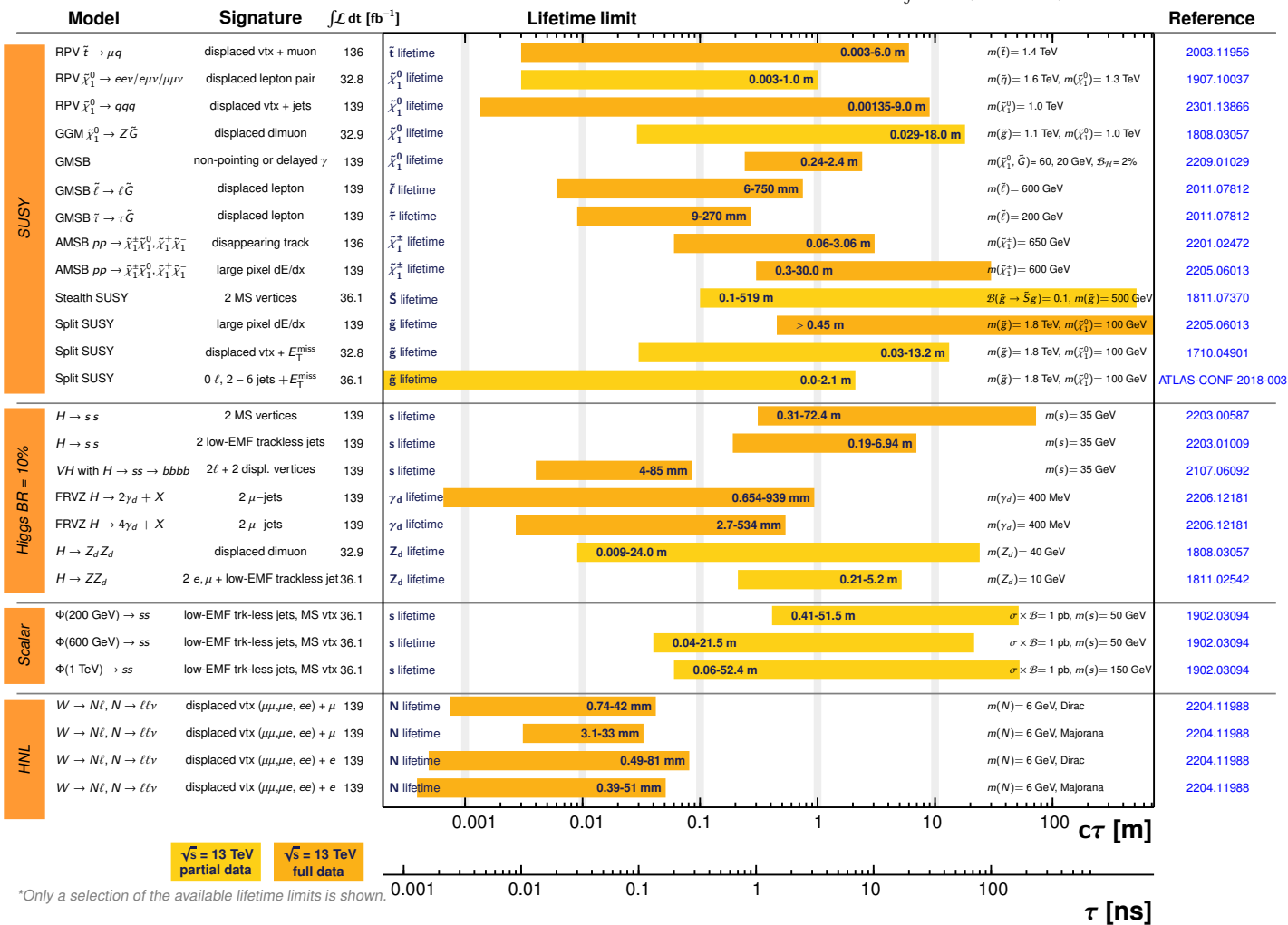
### ATLAS Long-lived Particle Searches\* - 95% CL Exclusion

Status: March 2023

ATLAS Preliminary

$$\int \mathcal{L} dt = (32.8 - 139) \text{ fb}^{-1}$$

$$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$$



### SUSY (RPV and RPC)

### H(125) → XY

### H → SS

### HNL

$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$  partial data  $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$  full data

\*Only a selection of the available lifetime limits is shown.

**Cf. an excellent talk by Claudia Seltz**

# **Dark Matter Searches**



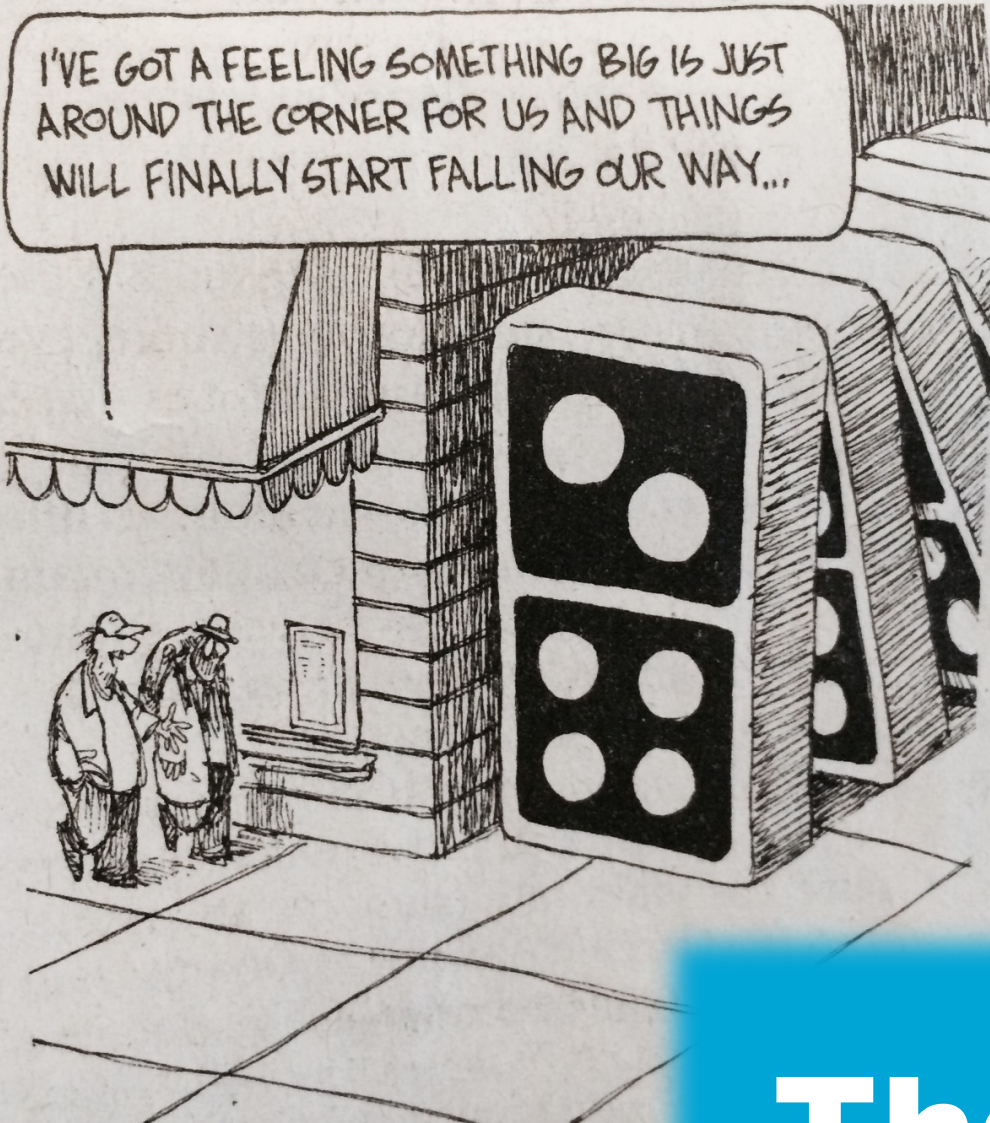


# Conclusions: Quo Vadis?

- ◆ LHC is an amazing machine, with a spectacular performance by far exceeding the expectations
- ◆ Discovery of the Higgs boson in 2012 has completed the standard model of particle physics and paved an avenue to decades of exploration
  - ◉ Cf. the richness of top quark physics now, nearly 30 years after the discovery!
- ◆ Precision standard model measurements, supported by the latest theory developments, continue to be very exciting and important
- ◆ Direct searches for new physics have unexpectedly failed so far, but not for the lack of trying!
  - ◉ Redirect searches away from theoretical lampposts, and toward challenging signatures and most sophisticated analysis techniques
  - ◉ If no observation: LHC will do for dim-6 operators what LEP did for the dim-4 ones (SMEFT approach)
- ◆ It's too early to throw a towel in: there are still hints for possible BSM physics and we will follow up on them diligently
- ◆ Stay tuned for many new results from Run 3 data to come soon!

NON SEQUITUR

I'VE GOT A FEELING SOMETHING BIG IS JUST  
AROUND THE CORNER FOR US AND THINGS  
WILL FINALLY START FALLING OUR WAY...

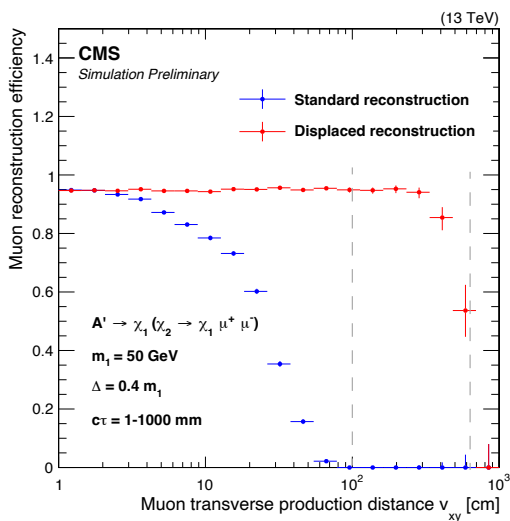
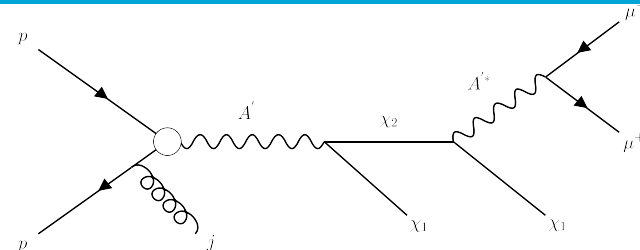


**Thank You!**

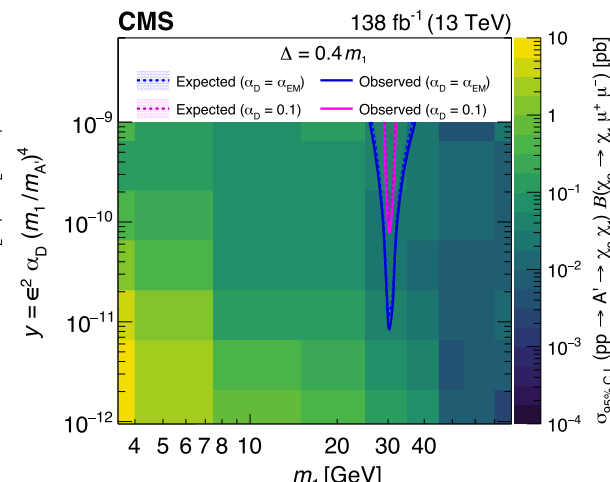
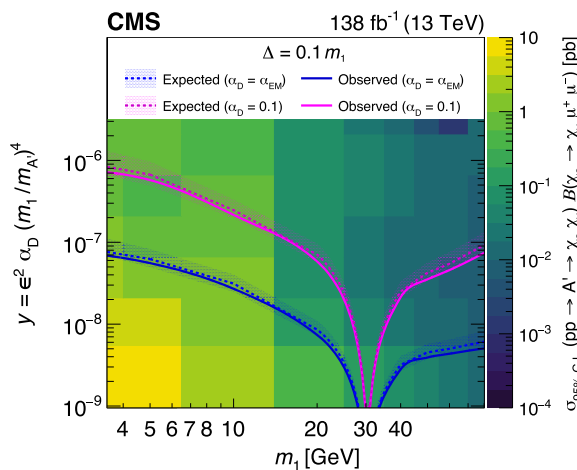


# Search for Inelastic DM

- Originally models of inelastic DM (IDM) were proposed to explain the DAMA anomaly; nevertheless they are generally viable models involving dark sectors - first IDM search at the LHC
- Probe a model w/ 2 nearly mass-degenerate DM states,  $\chi_1$  and  $\chi_2$  ( $m_2 - m_1 = \Delta = (0.1-0.4)m_1$ ), as well as a dark photon mediator  $A'$  ( $m_{A'} = 3m_1$ ), which is long-lived
- The signature is two collimated displaced muons aligned with  $p_T^{\text{miss}}$  (also used for triggering)
- Special displaced muon reconstruction capable of extending sensitivity to large  $c\tau$
- $A'$  is mixed both with photon and Z, hence peak in sensitivity around  $m(A') = m(Z)$



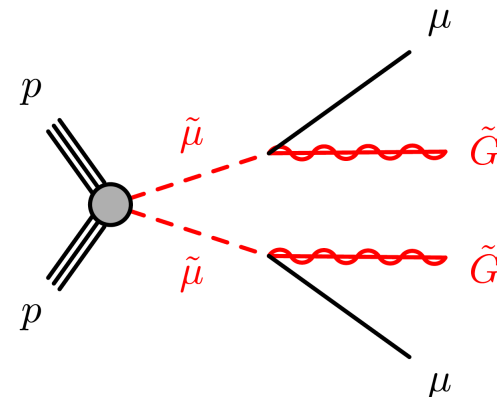
## CMS PRL 132 (2024) 041802



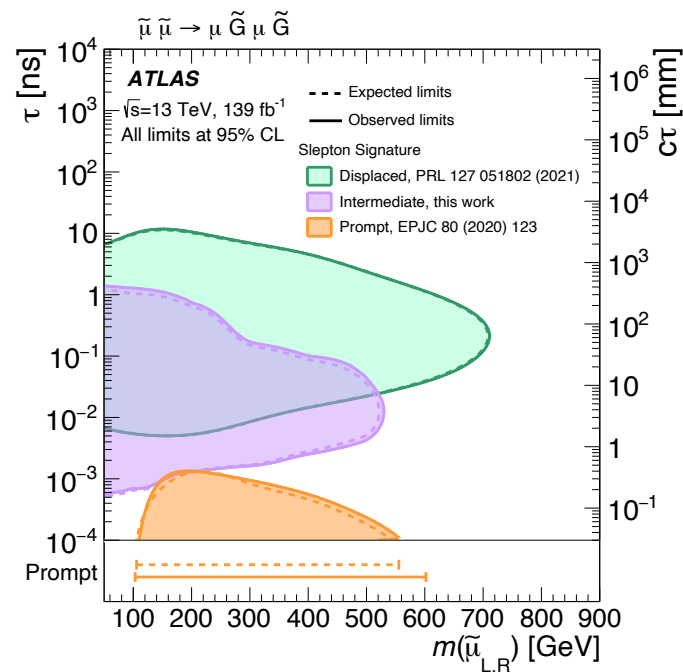


# Search for Displaced Dimuons

- ◆ In many models (e.g., GMSB SUSY), leptons could be non-prompt, but characterized by a relatively small displacement ( $c\tau \sim 0.3\text{-}3\text{ mm}$ )
- ◆ Dominant background is from b hadron decays and estimated by extrapolating from  $0.1 < d_0^\pm < 0.3\text{ mm}$  control regions
- ◆ Data agree well w/ expectations in 3 signal regions corresponding to different dimuon threshold masses
- ◆ The new result bridges the prompt searches ( $d_0 < 0.3\text{ mm}$ ) and the dimuon LLP analysis ( $0.3\text{ cm} < d_0 < 300\text{ cm}$ )



**ATLAS [PLB 846 \(2023\) 138172](#)**



Set of Regions	Expected $N_H^{\text{bkg}}$	Observed $N_H^{\text{data}}$	Threshold $m_{\mu^+\mu^-}$	Additional cut
1	$2.1 \pm 0.8$	1	200 GeV	-
2	$12.5 \pm 5.2$	7	140 GeV	-
3	$17.2 \pm 7.4$	14	125 GeV	$\Delta R_{\mu^+\mu^-} > 3\text{ rad.}$