



TAE 2022
International Workshop on High Energy Physics

Sep 04 -- Sep 17 2022



Long-lived particles (@ LHC)

Emma Torró
IFIC - Valencia

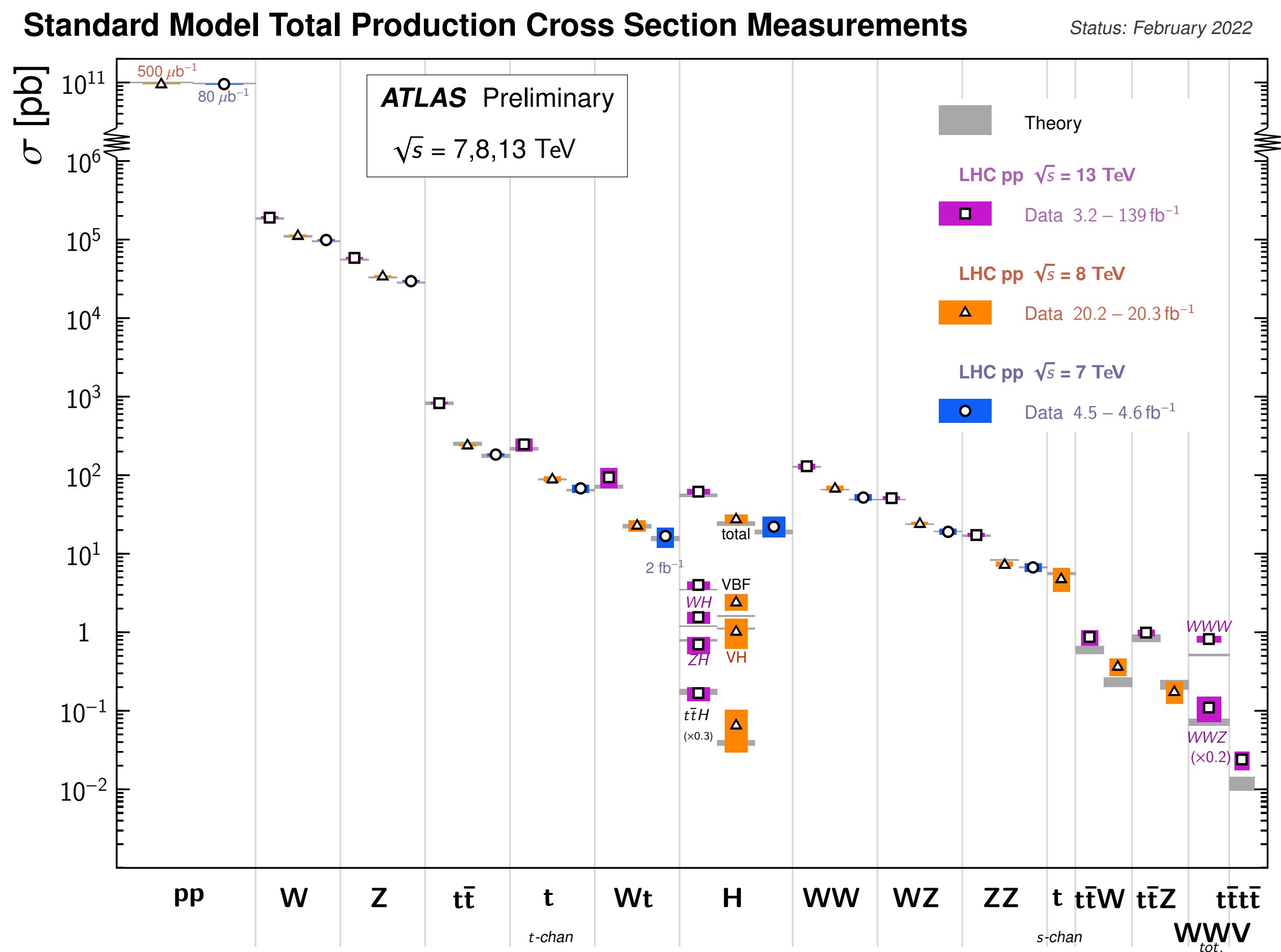


GENERALITAT
VALENCIANA
Conselleria d'Educació,
Cultura i Esport

Gen=T

Searching for new physics

- Standard Model (SM): very successful theory
- Precise predictions, verified by experiment with impressive agreement with theory across orders of magnitude



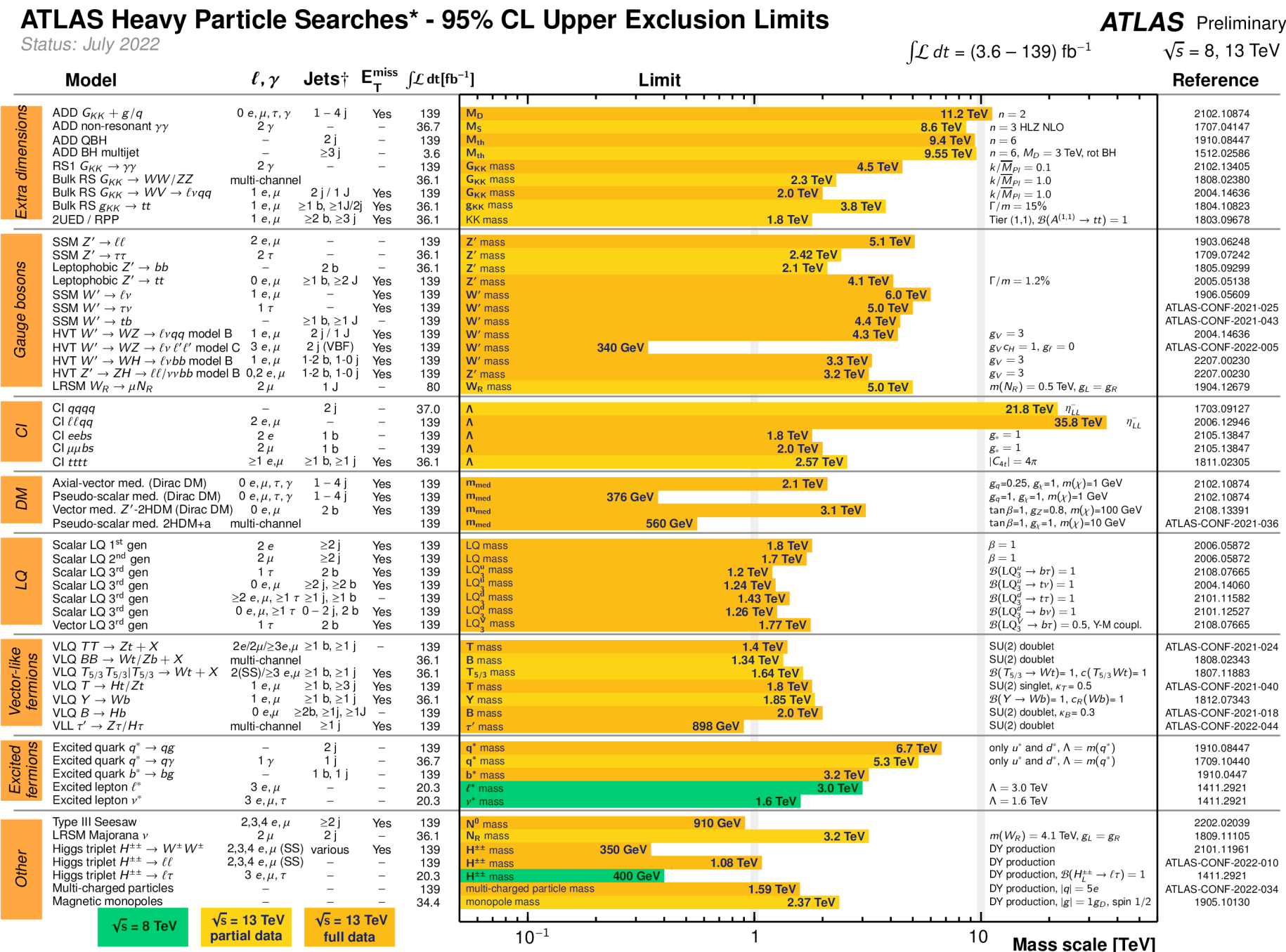
2012!!
The SM puzzle is
complete but.....

Searching for new physics

- Standard Model (SM): very successful theory
- Precise predictions, verified by experiment with impressive agreement with theory across orders of magnitude
- But we believe this picture is **not yet final**: observational and theoretical issues need resolution
- Searches for **beyond-Standard-Model physics** a core element of LHC programme

To date, **O(100)**
ATLAS, CMS,
LHCb papers on
BSM searches with
full Run 2 dataset!

Still, no evidence of
new physics...



But still many open
questions

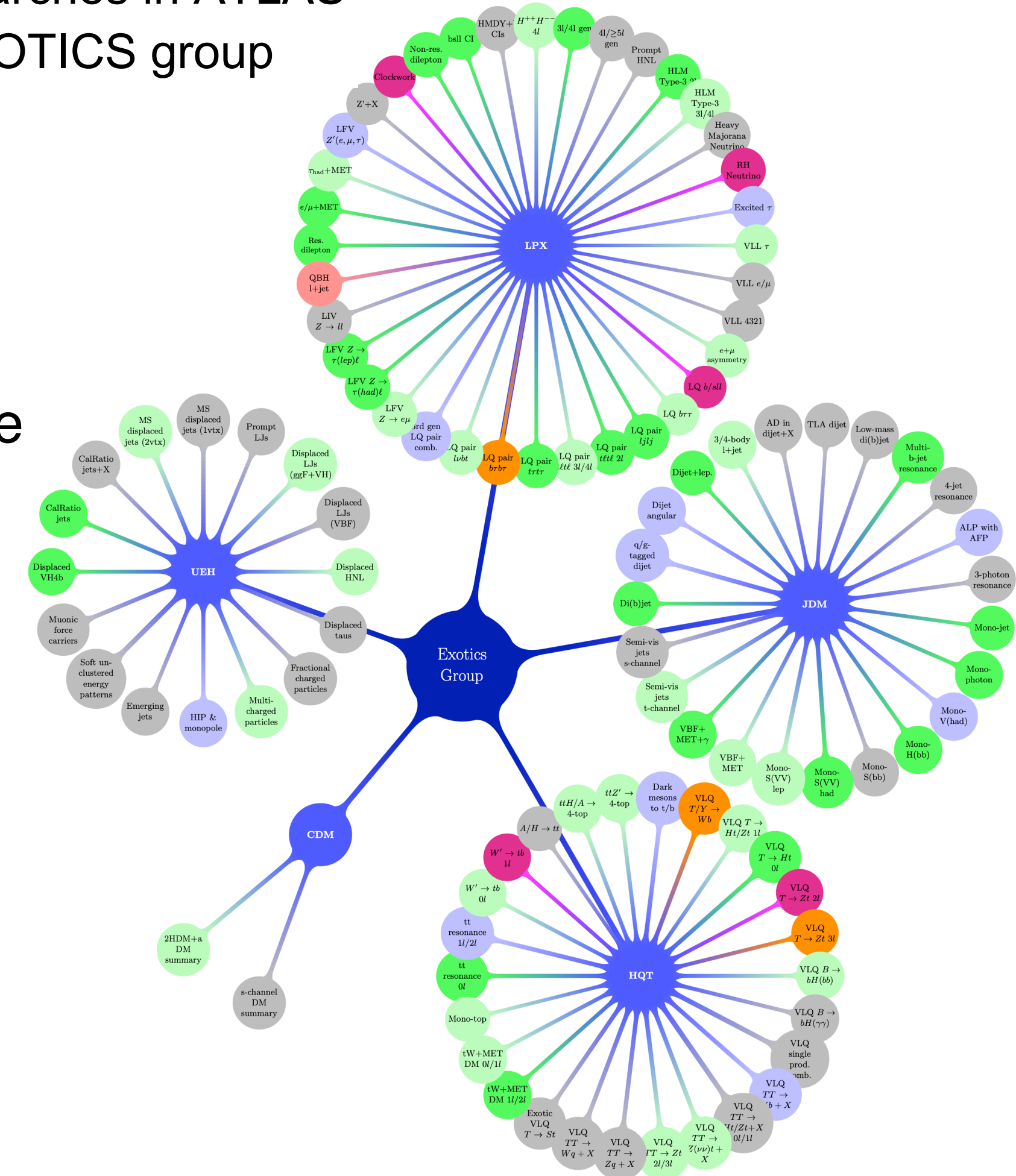
Why are we not finding new physics??

- Several possible reasons:
 - It is above the scale accessible by the LHC??
- Not much we can do at the moment....

Why are we not finding new physics??

- Several possible reasons:
 - It is above the scale accessible by the LHC??
Not much we can do at the moment....
 - It isn't where we have been looking. What if it is just **very hard to see**?
- Strategy: organize searches according to final states.
 - Start with the simple models, then if nothing new observed, we explore the more complex, well-motivated ones
 - Soft new particles
 - Low cross sections
 - Huge / difficult backgrounds
 - Long-lived particles with unconventional signatures

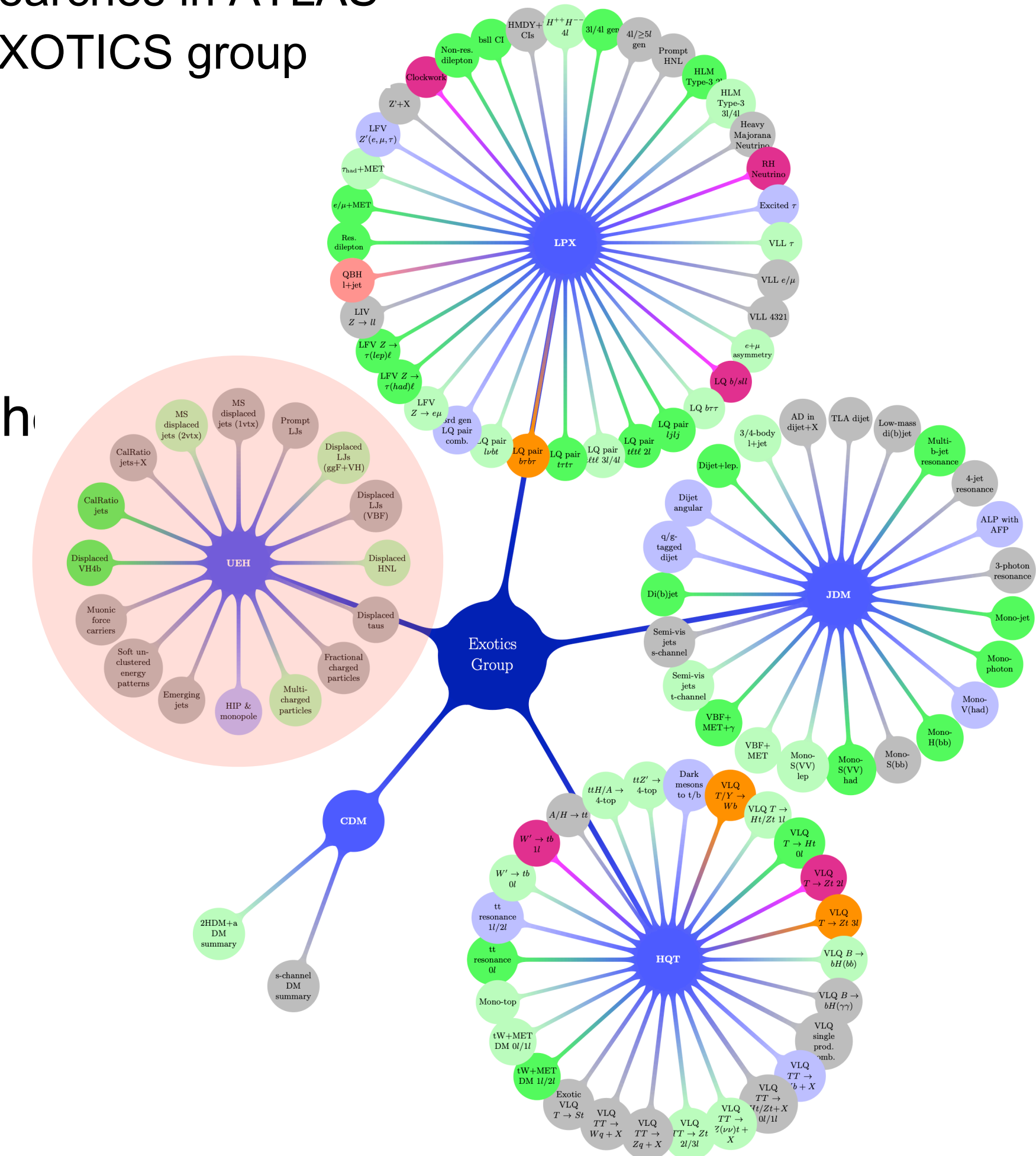
Searches in ATLAS EXOTICS group



Why are we not finding new physics??

- Several possible reasons:
 - It is above the scale accessible by the LHC??
Not much we can do at the moment....
 - It isn't where we have been looking. What if it is just **very hard to see?**
- Strategy: organize searches according to final states.
 - Start with the simple models, then if nothing new observed, we explore the more complex, well-motivated ones
 - Soft new particles
 - Low cross sections
 - Huge / difficult backgrounds
 - **Long-lived particles with unconventional signatures**

Searches in ATLAS EXOTICS group



Long lifetimes can come from...

- Small couplings
- Decays via heavy particles
- Limited phase space

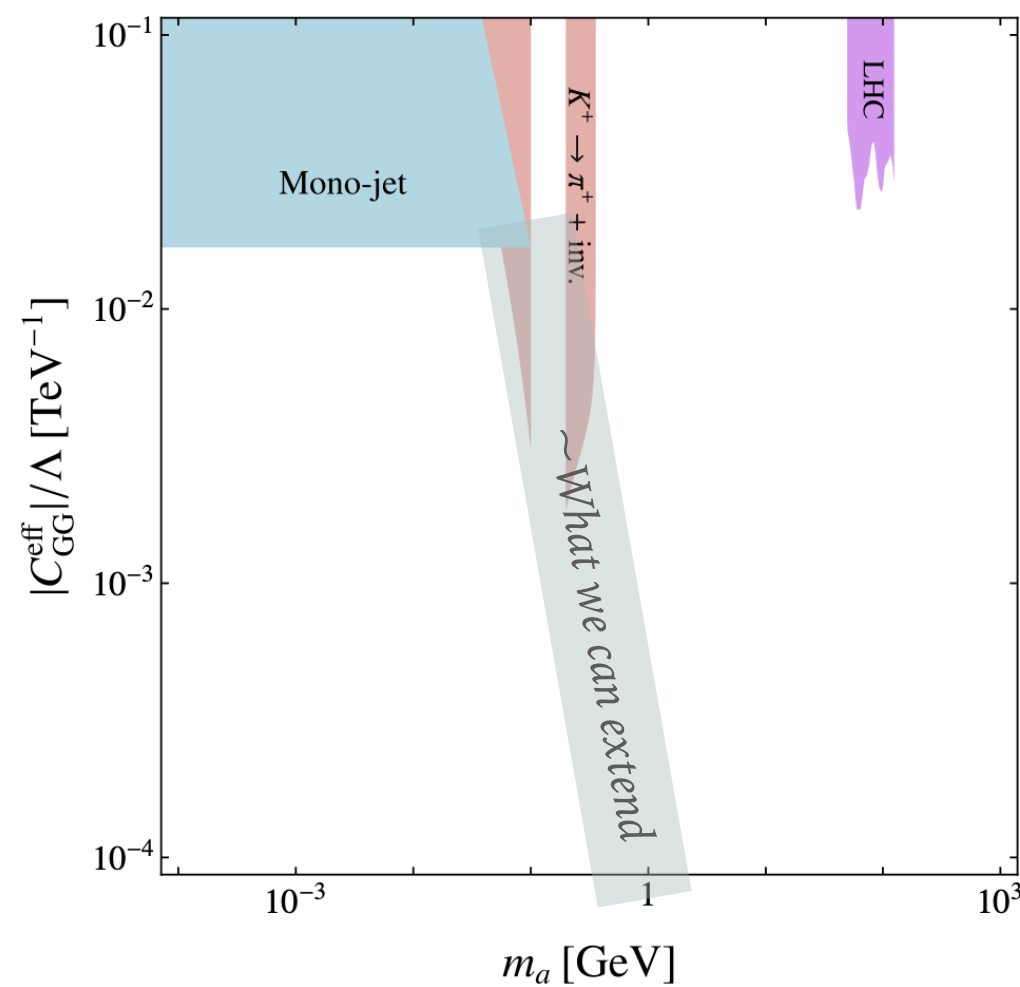
Example in BSM

Some parameter space in ALPs

heavy neutrinos

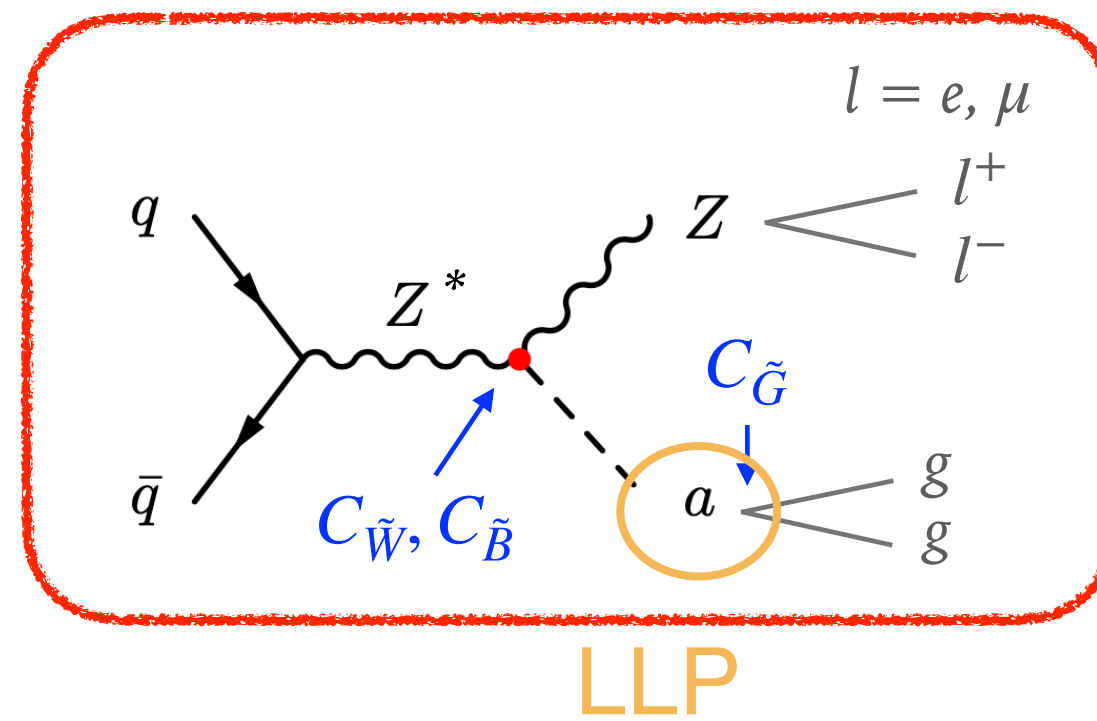
compressed scenarios
(almost degenerate masses)

ALPs



Limits on the ALP-gluon couplings vs. ALP mass from collider and accelerator searches

Axion-like particles

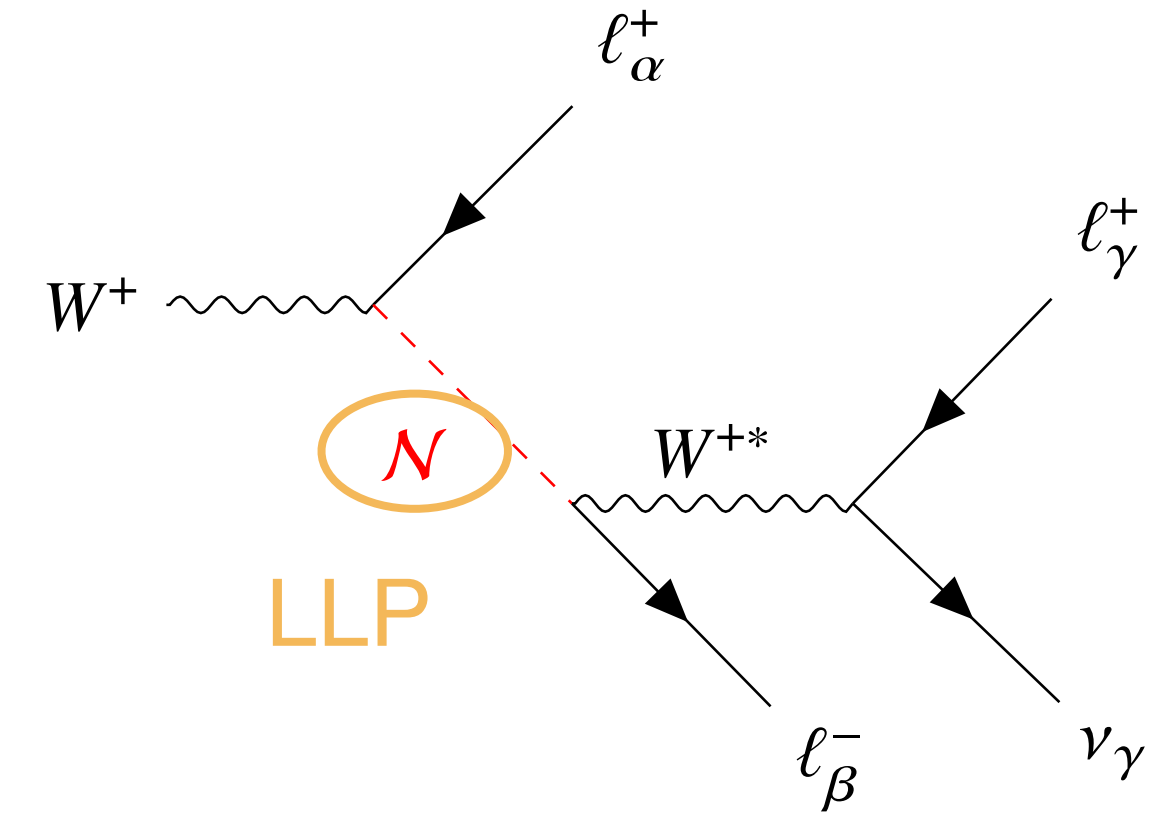


Width of ALP decay to gluons:

$$\Gamma_{ag} = 2C_{\tilde{G}}^2 M a^3 / (f_a^2 \pi)$$

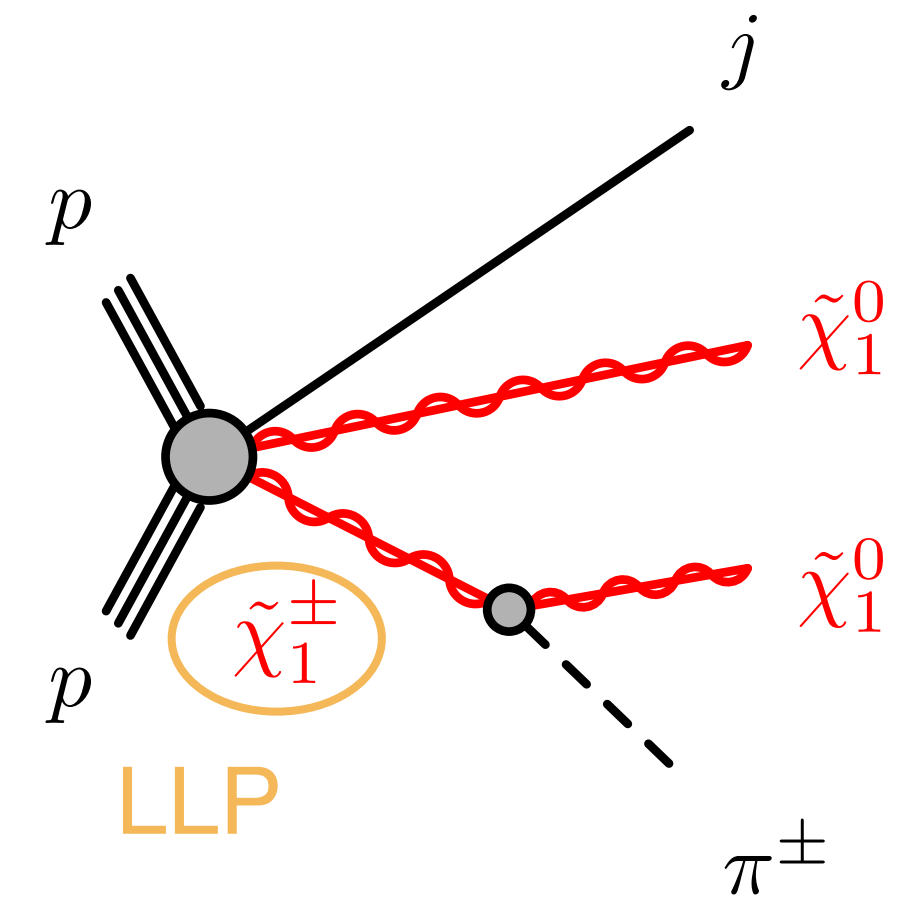
HNL

Heavy neutral lepton



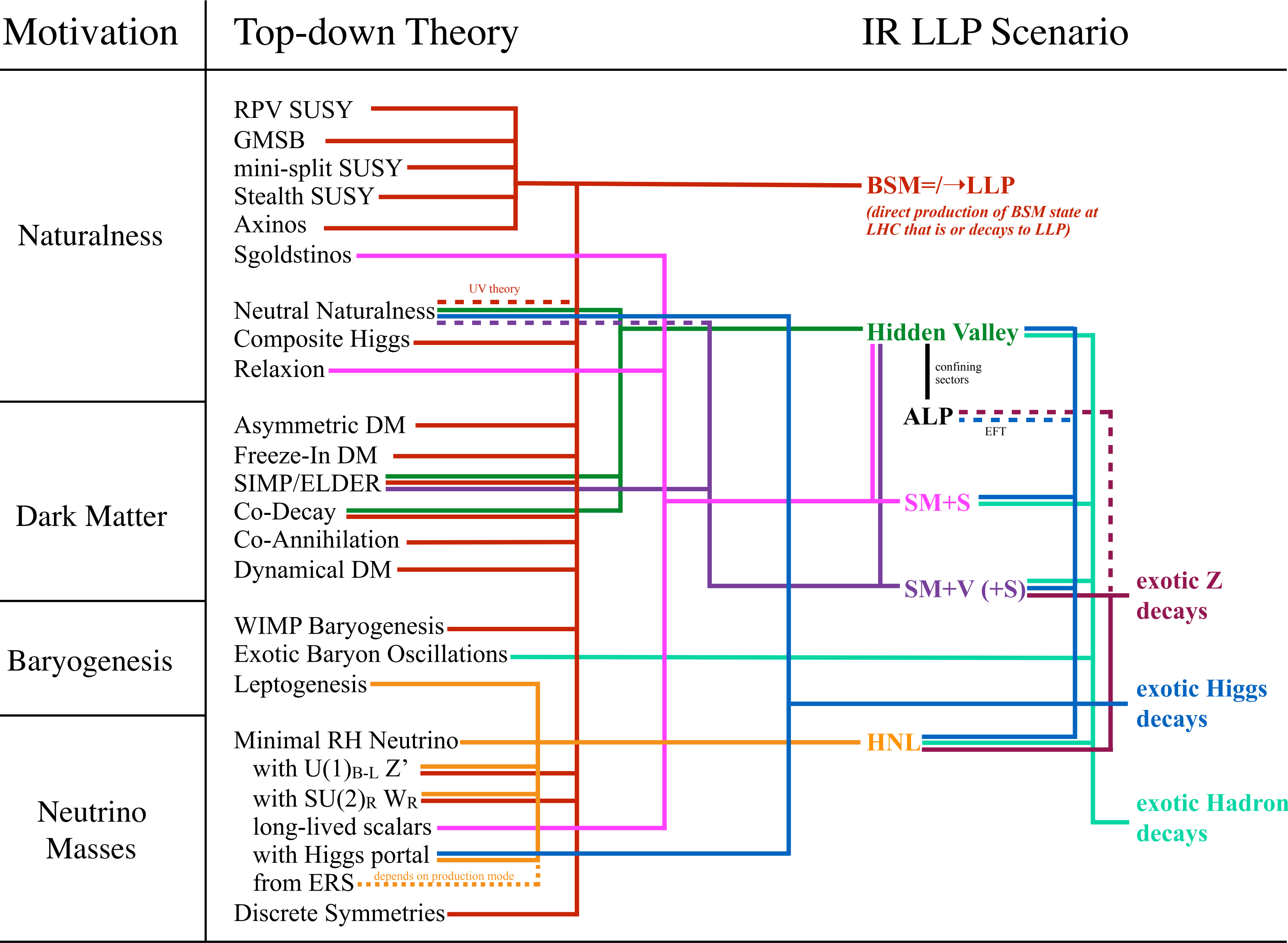
SUSY

AMSB, $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm} \sim m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$

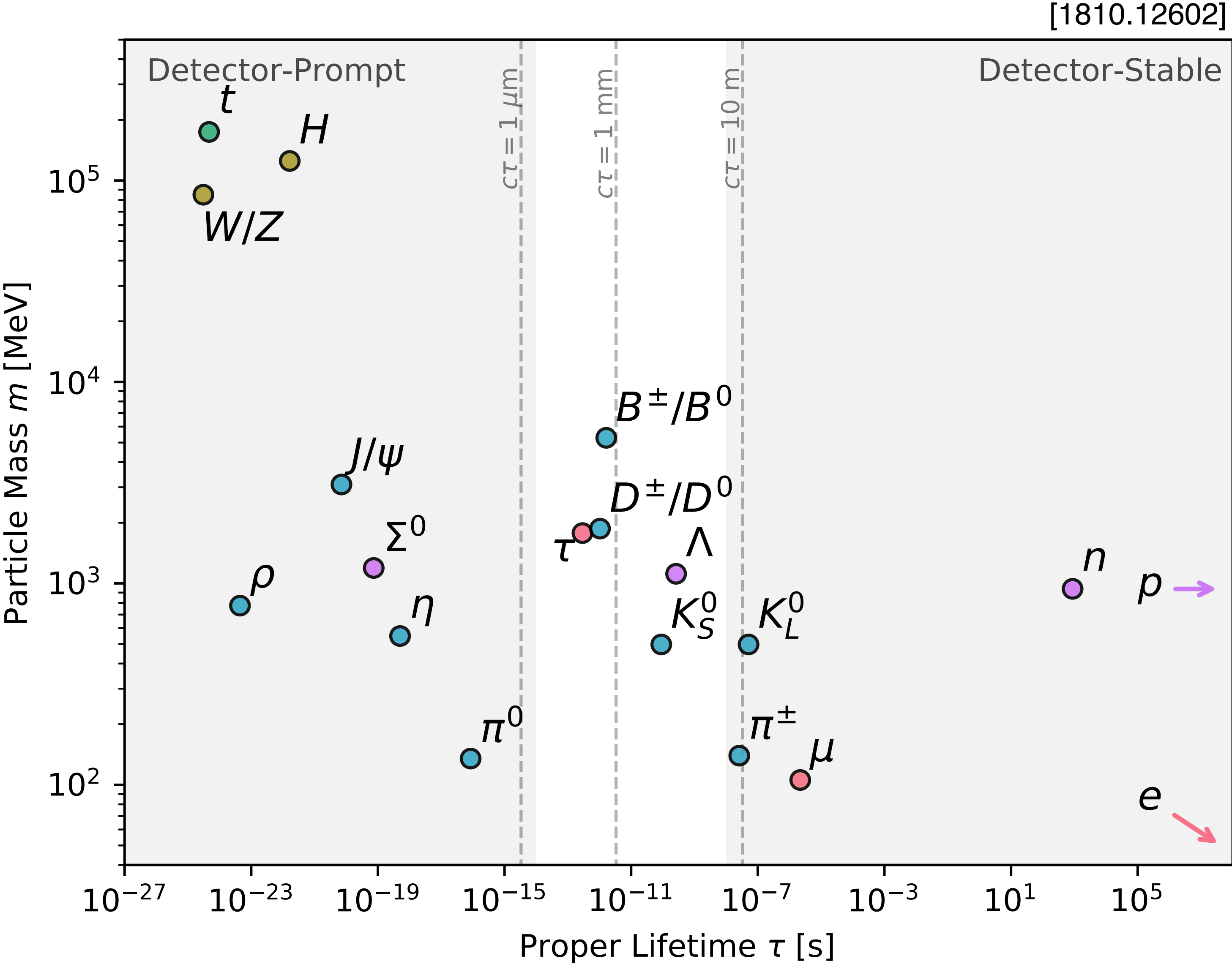


Long lifetimes can come from...

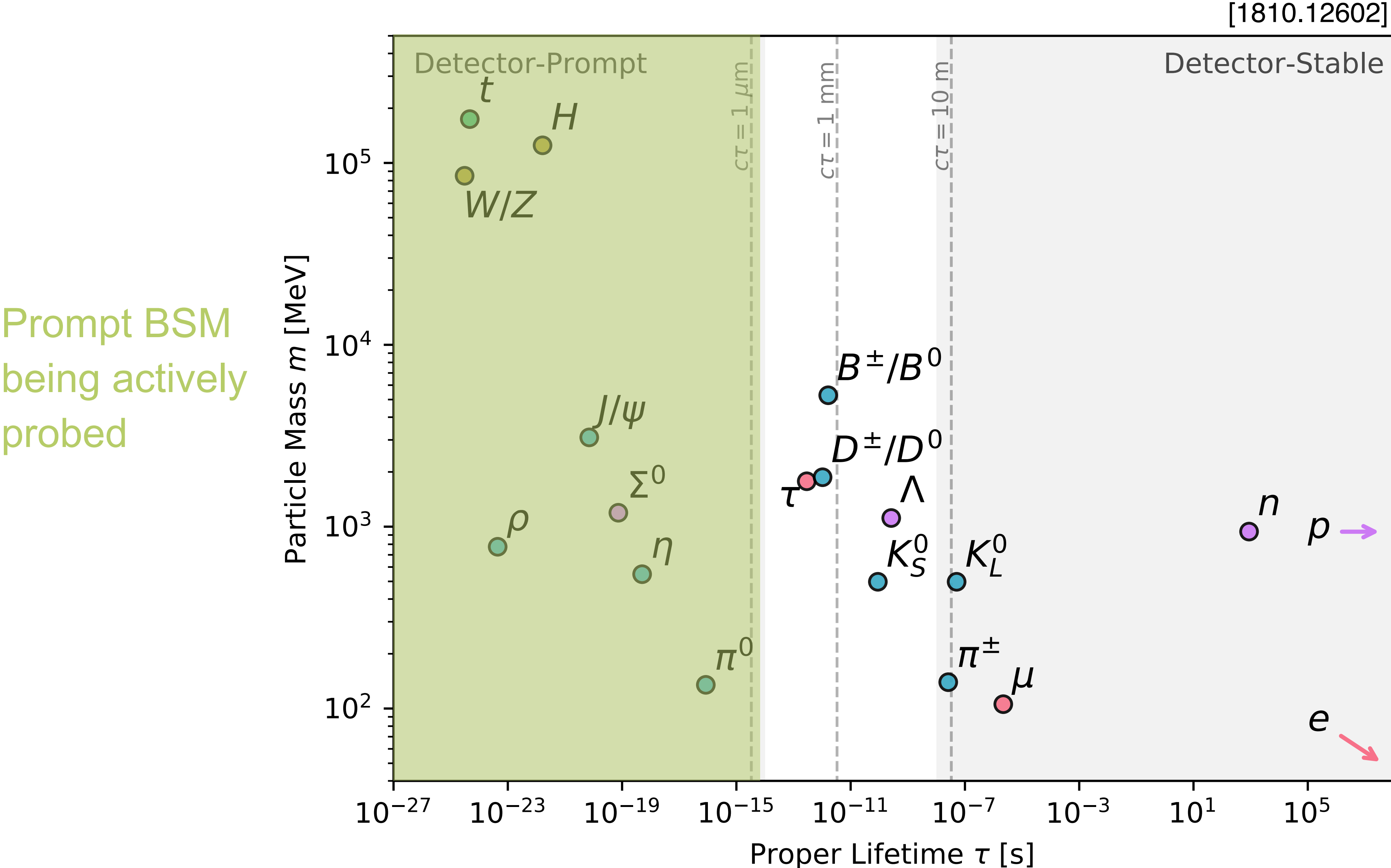
- Many different signal models predict LLP



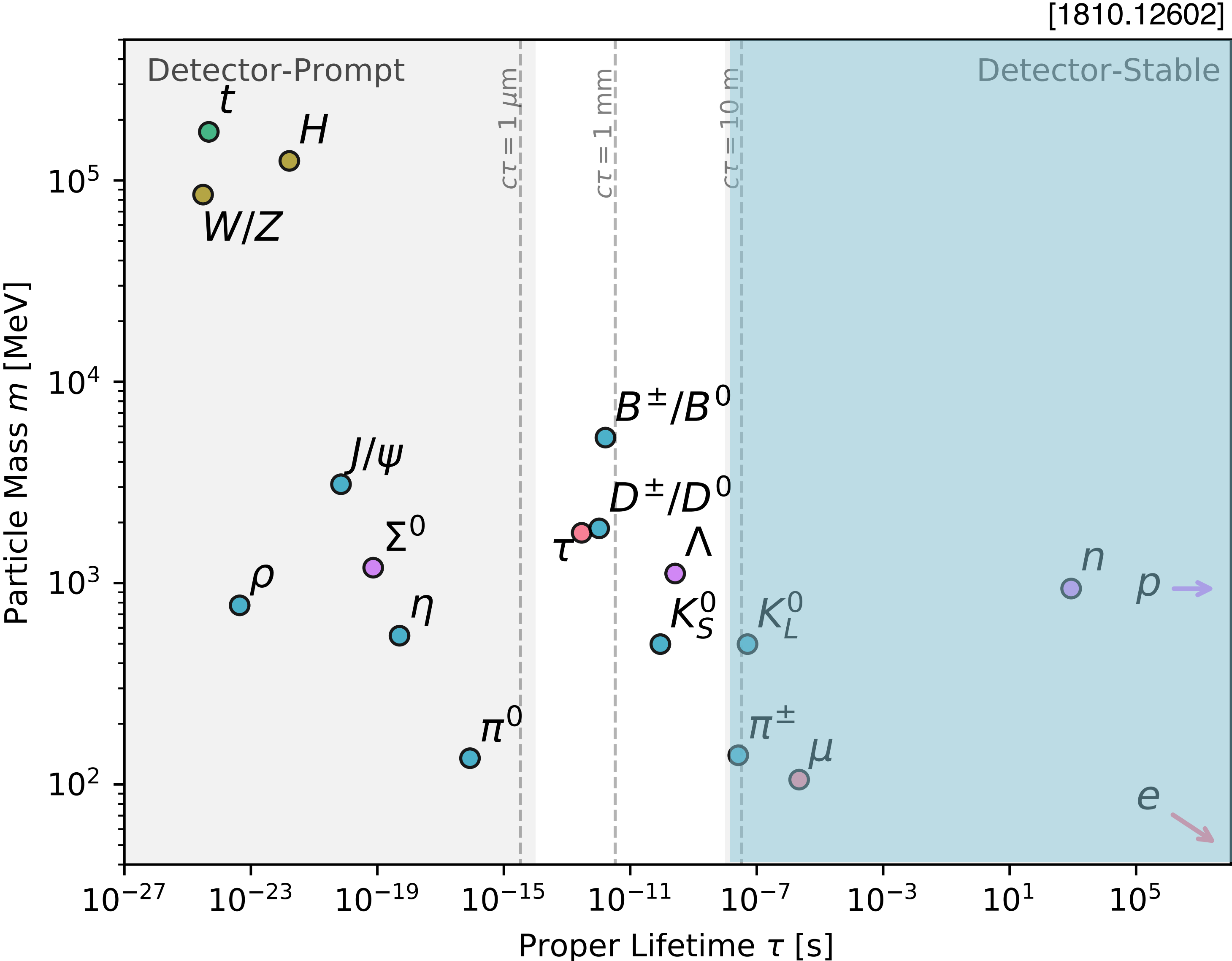
Searching for new physics. Where should we look?



Searching for new physics. Where should we look?



Searching for new physics. Where should we look?

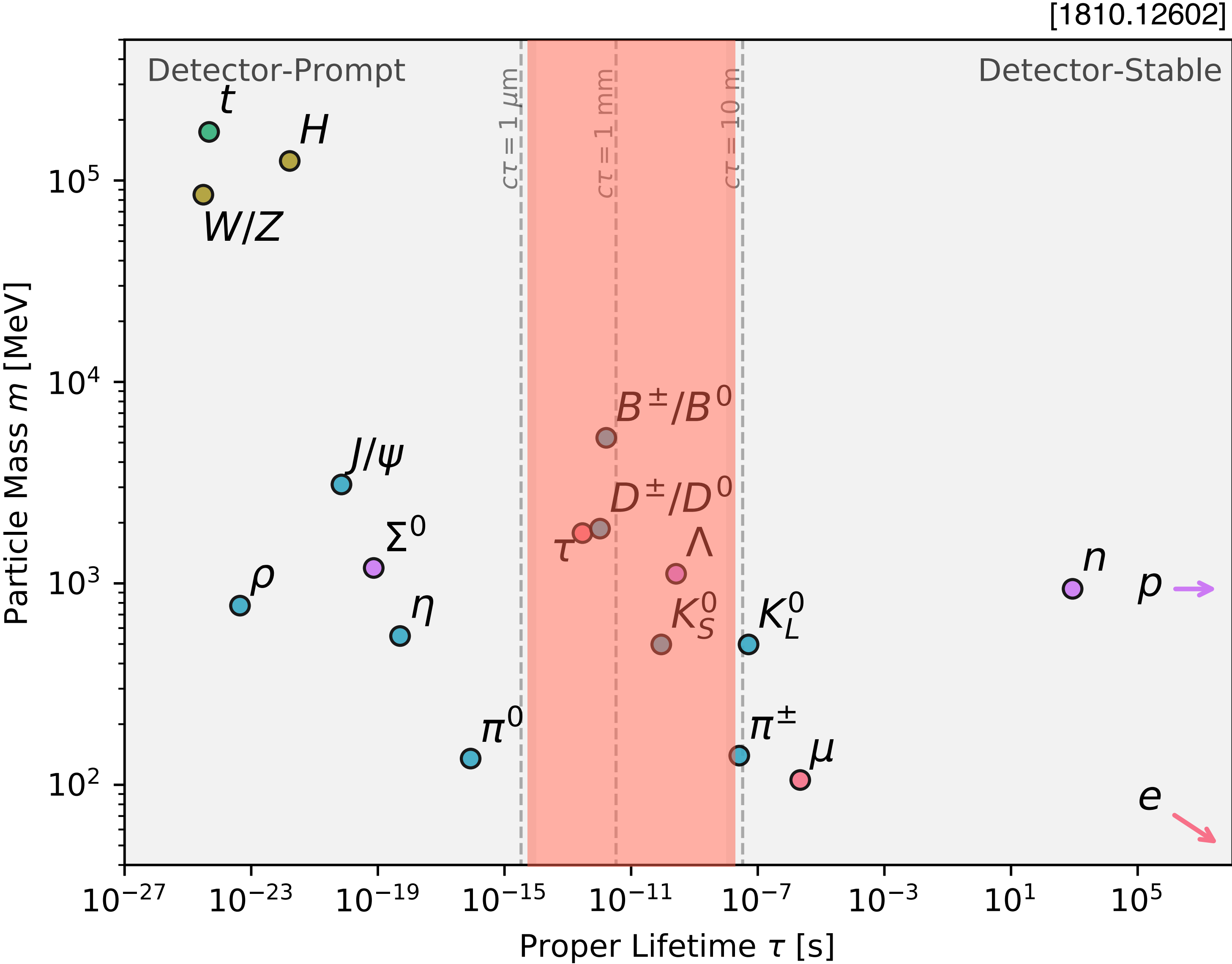


Very long-lived BSM
being probed as
missing transverse
energy (unmeasured
particles) or charged
particles

Searching for new physics. Where should we look?

If BSM particles
live here, they
can evade most
of our searches!!!

Dedicated
searches
needed!!



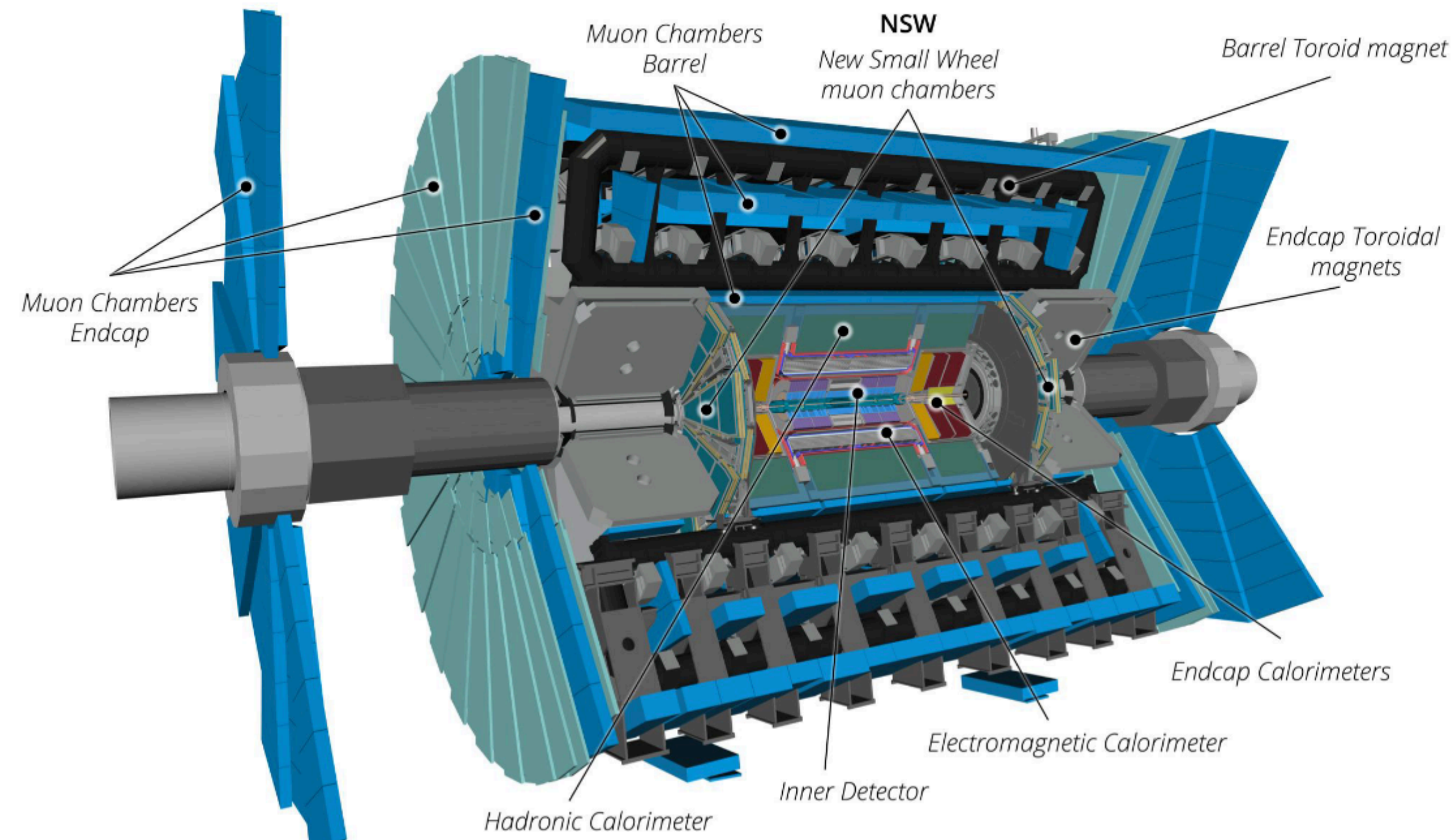
How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

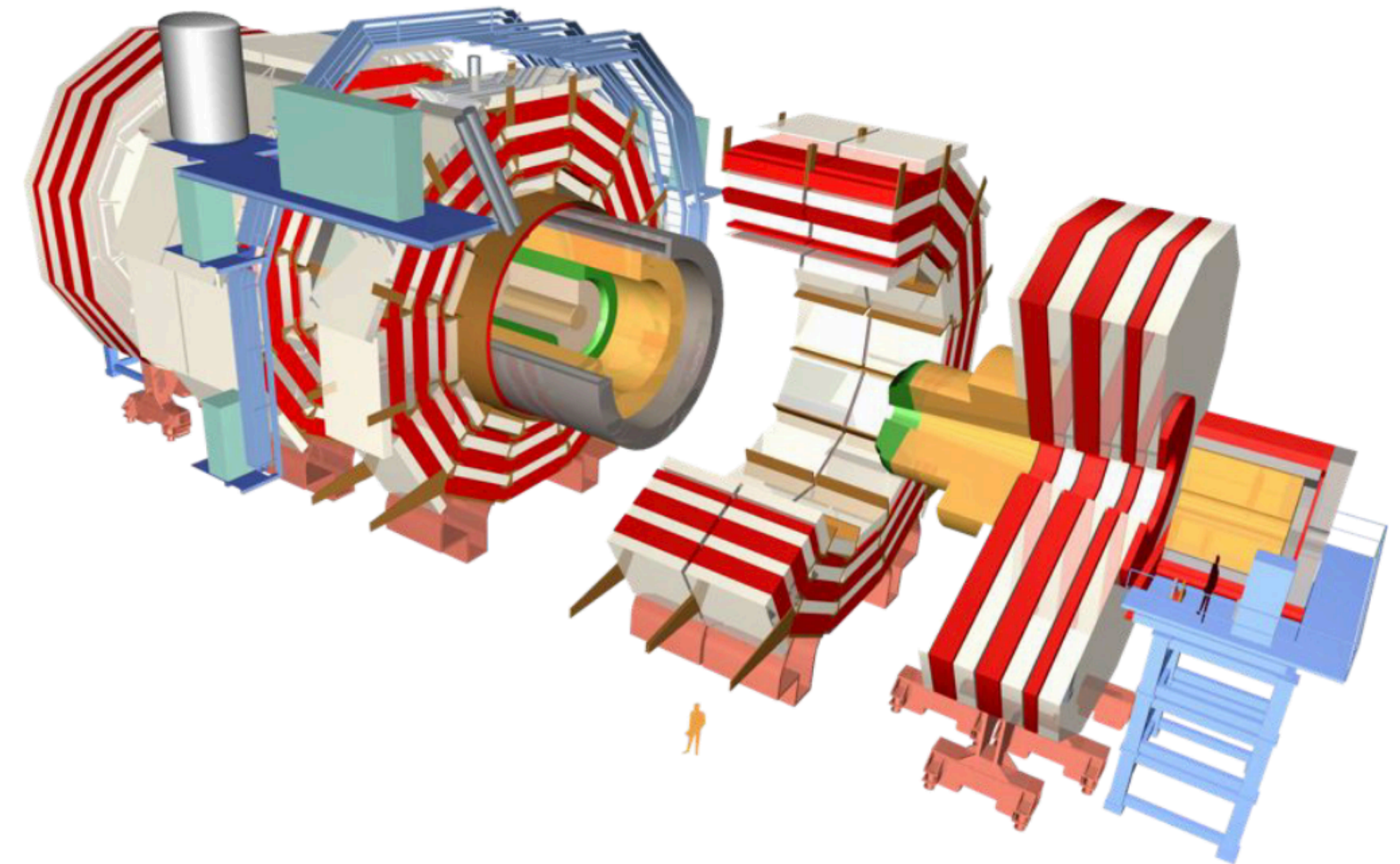
LLP lifetime where is it more probable to find a LLP decay?

Imagine the ATLAS/CMS/LHCb detector structure....

A Toroidal LHC ApparatuS



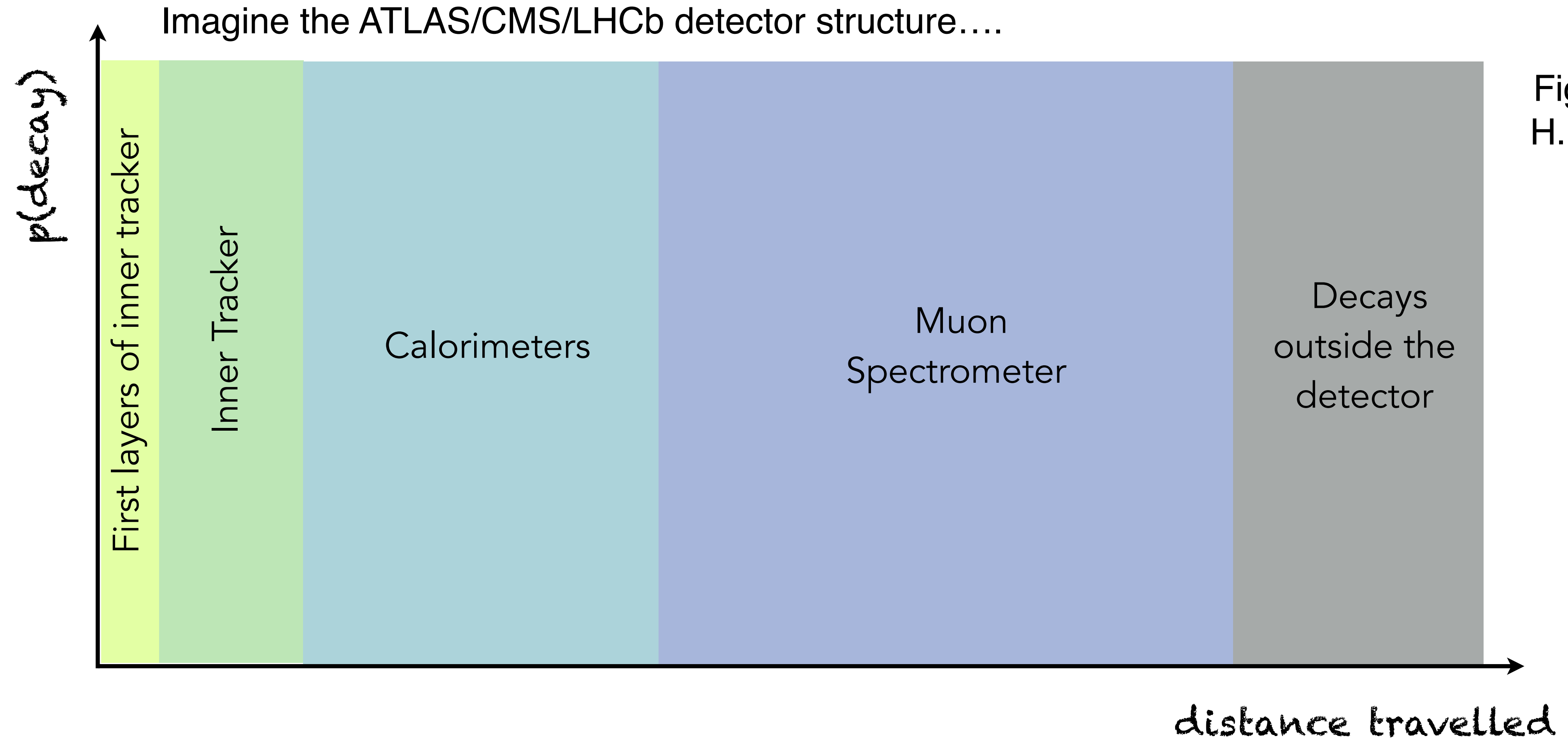
Compact Muon Solenoid



How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

LLP lifetime where is it more probable to find a LLP decay?



How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

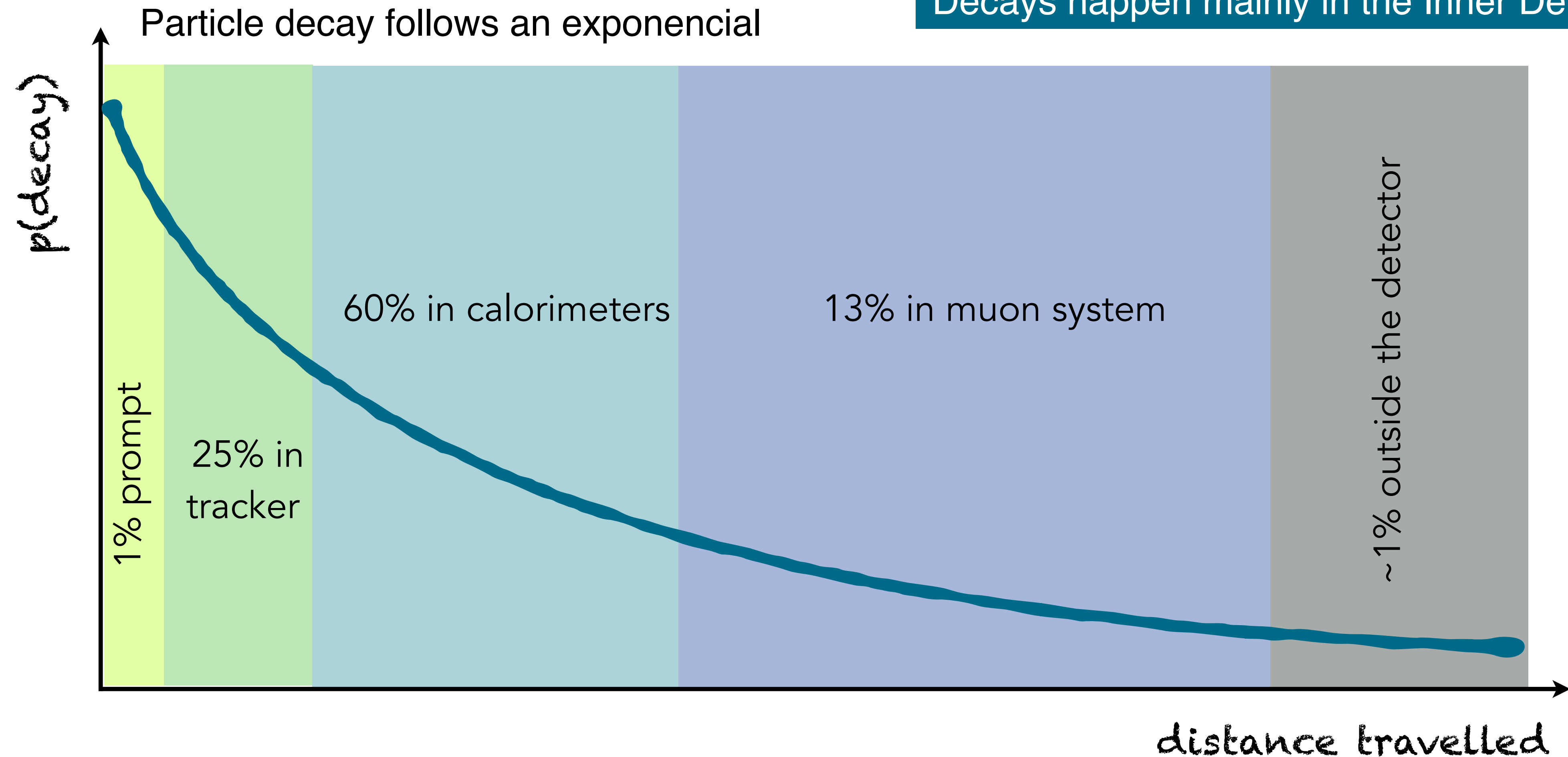
That depends on:

LLP lifetime where is it more probable to find a LLP decay?

Example light particle with relatively short lifetime:

E.g. for $c\tau = 5$ cm, $\langle\beta\gamma\rangle \sim 30$

Decays happen mainly in the Inner Detector and calo



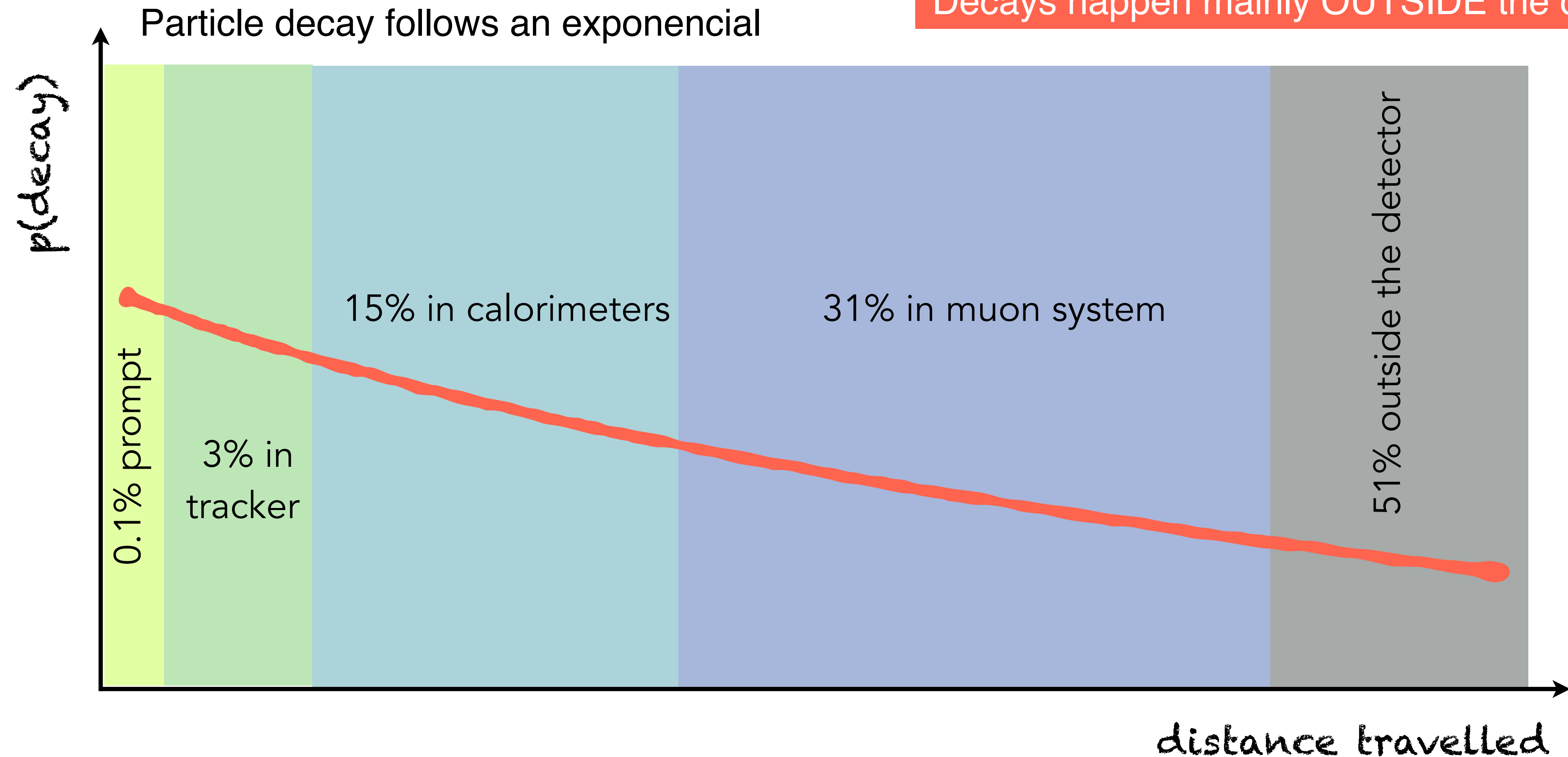
Figures by
H. Russell

How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

LLP lifetime where is it more probable to find a LLP decay?

Example light particle with relatively short lifetime:
E.g. for $c\tau = 50$ cm, $\langle\beta\gamma\rangle \sim 30$
Decays happen mainly OUTSIDE the detector



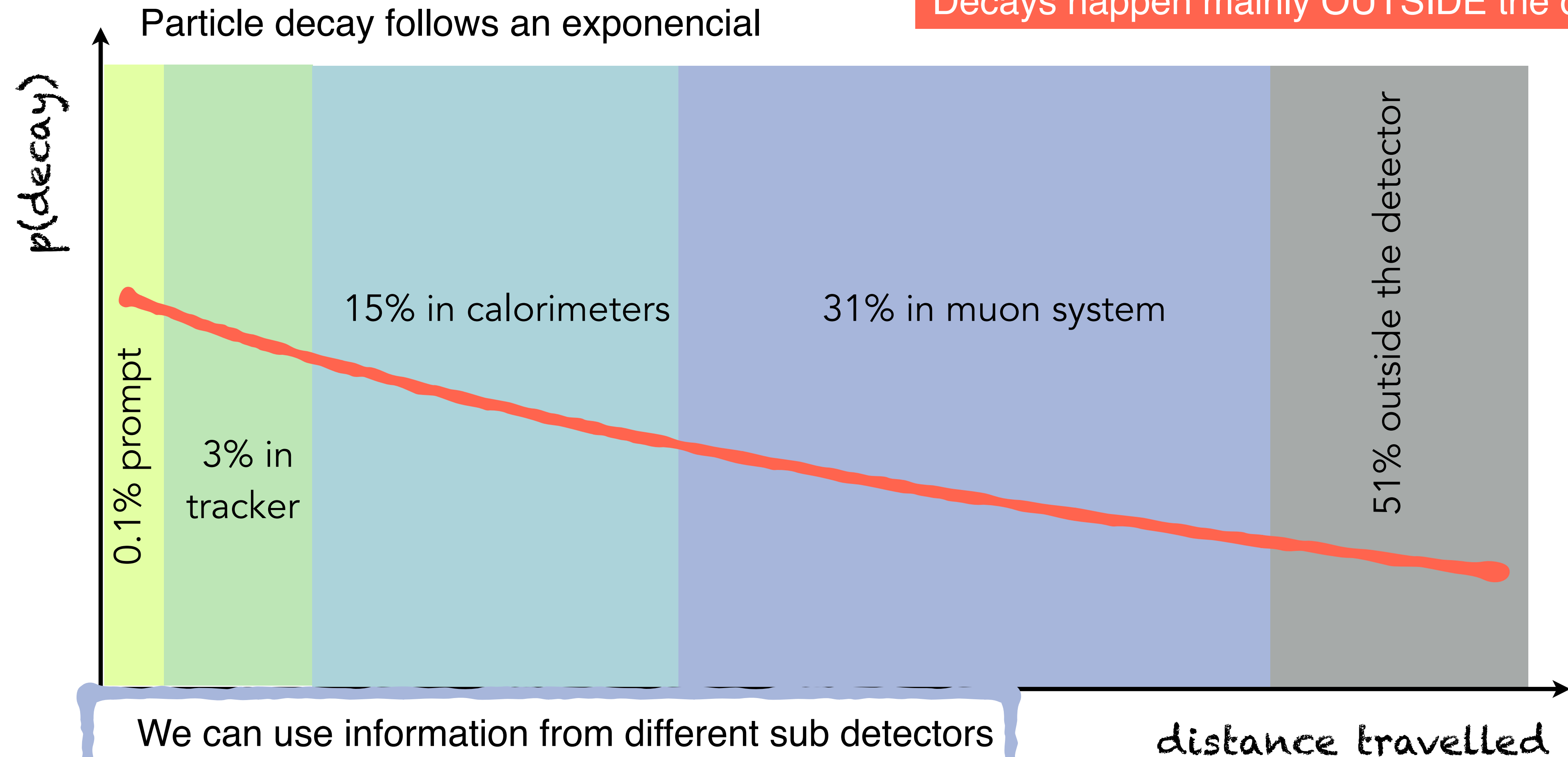
Figures by
H. Russell

How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

LLP lifetime where is it more probable to find a LLP decay?

Example light particle with relatively short lifetime:
E.g. for $c\tau = 50$ cm, $\langle\beta\gamma\rangle \sim 30$
Decays happen mainly OUTSIDE the detector



Figures by
H. Russell

We can use information from different sub detectors
(or even different detectors!) for different targets

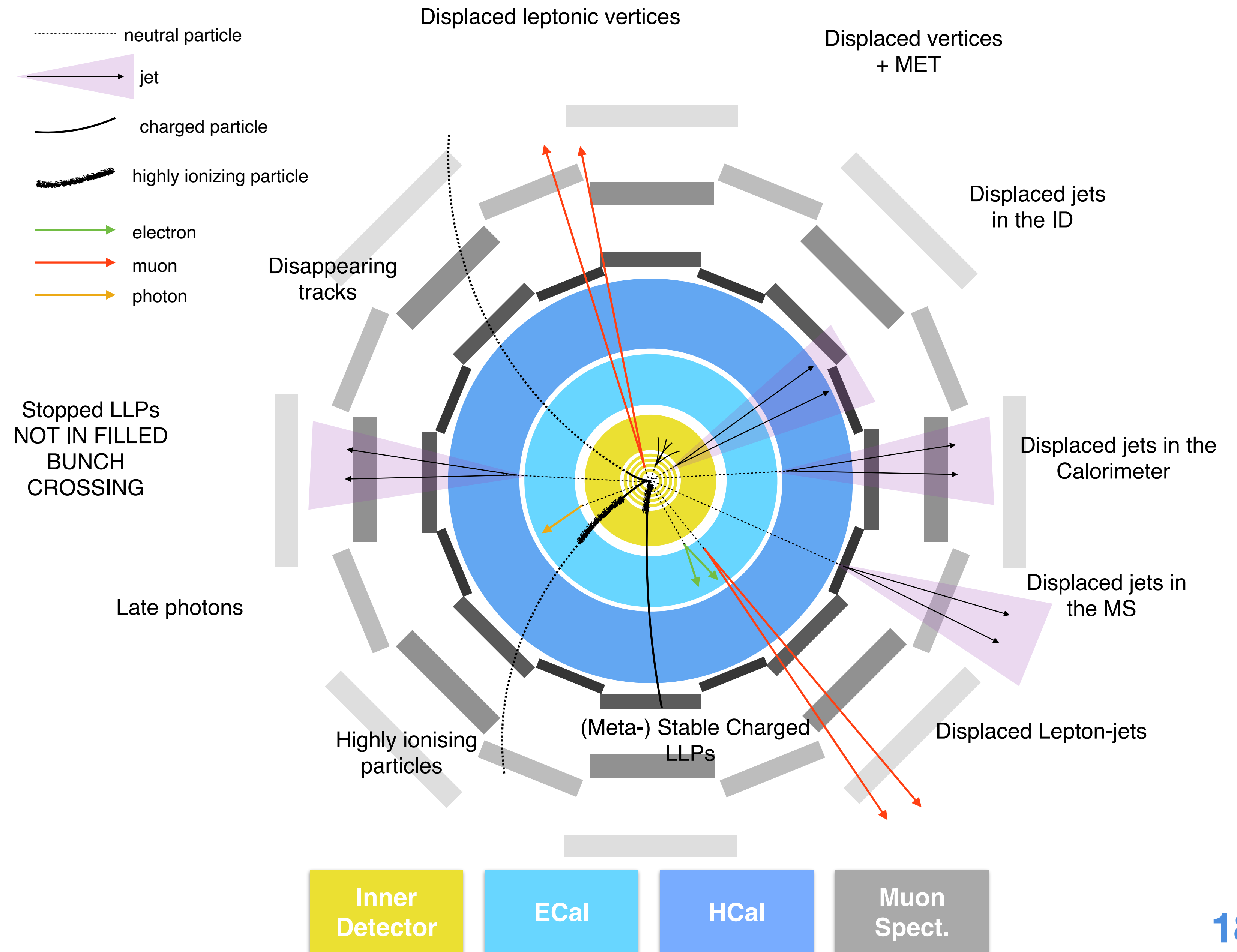
How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

LLP lifetime

LLP nature

- Is it charged?
 - Does it leave a standard track?
 - Is it highly ionising?
- Is it neutral?
 - which decay mode (hadronic, leptonic, photons, invisible)?



How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

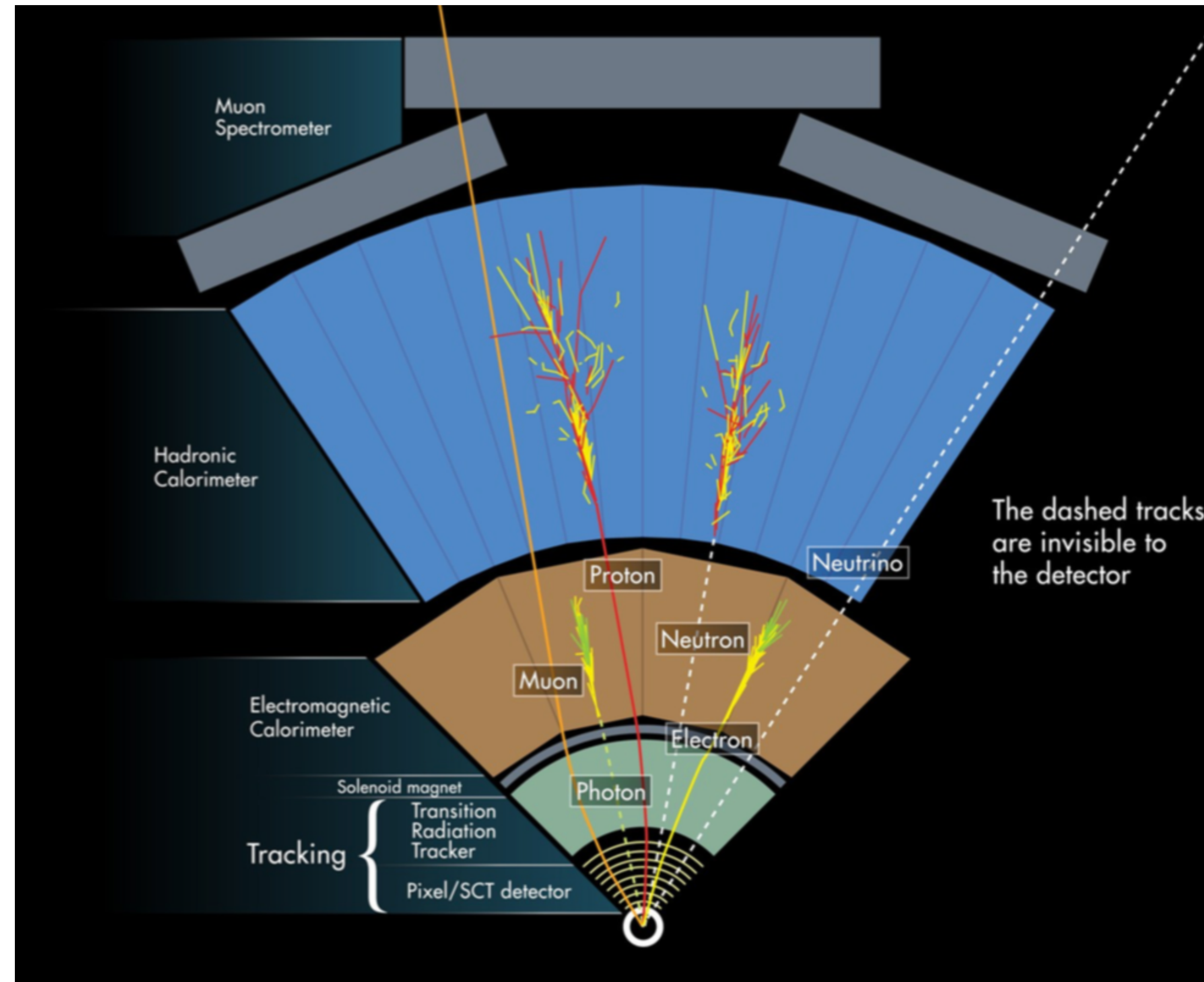
That depends on:

LLP lifetime

LLP nature

object identification

- ATLAS and CMS were designed to identify (prompt) SM particles
- Standard object ID algorithms assume prompt particles generated at the Interaction Point
 - don't have good efficiency for LLP reconstruction
- Then, can we look for LLPs in ATLAS and CMS?



How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

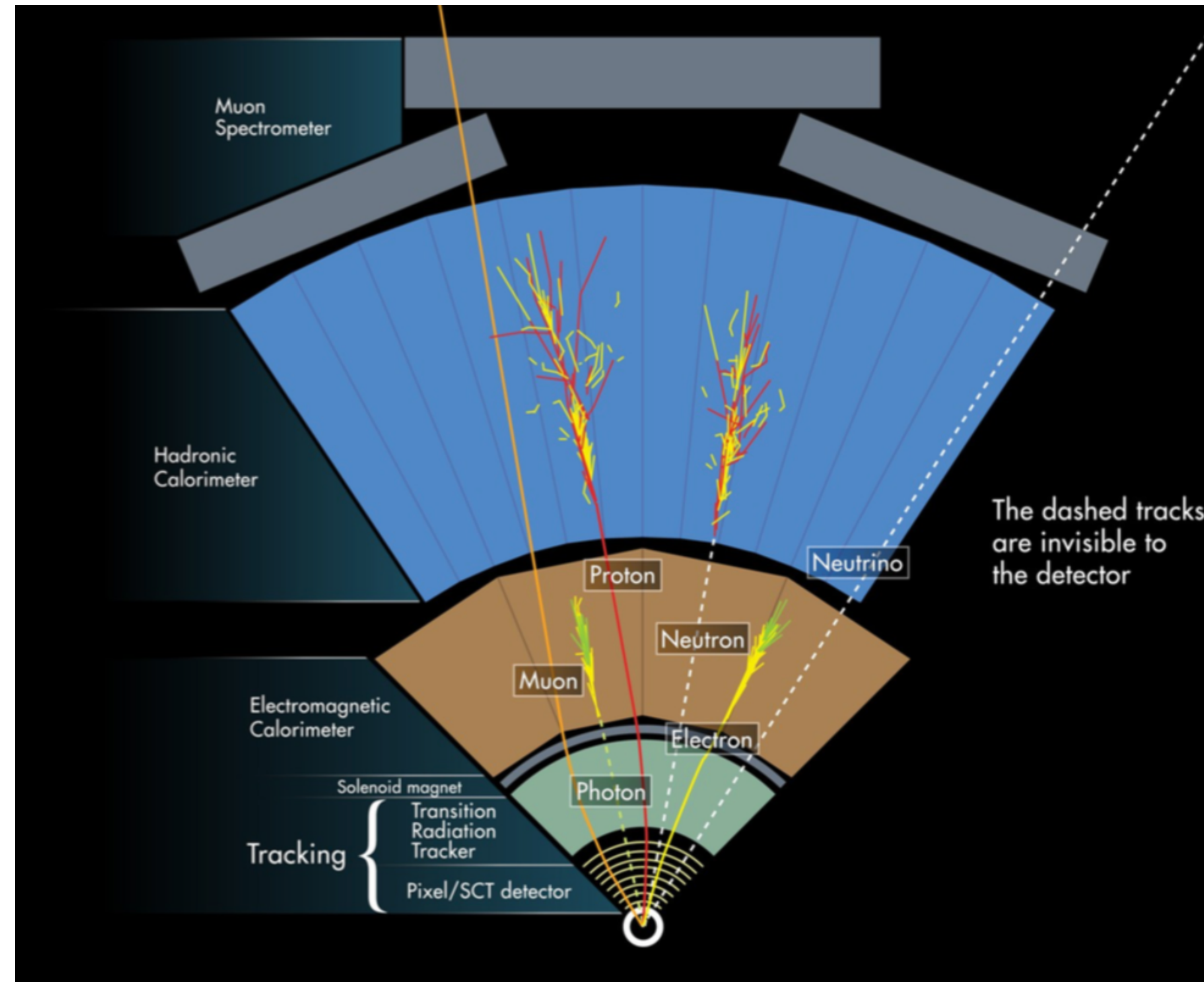
LLP lifetime

LLP nature

object identification

- ATLAS and CMS were designed to identify (prompt) SM particles
- Standard object ID algorithms assume prompt particles generated at the Interaction Point
 - don't have good efficiency for LLP reconstruction
- Then, can we look for LLPs in ATLAS and CMS?

YES! But algorithms have to be adapted or invented!
Also moving to ML techniques for displaced objects identification



How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

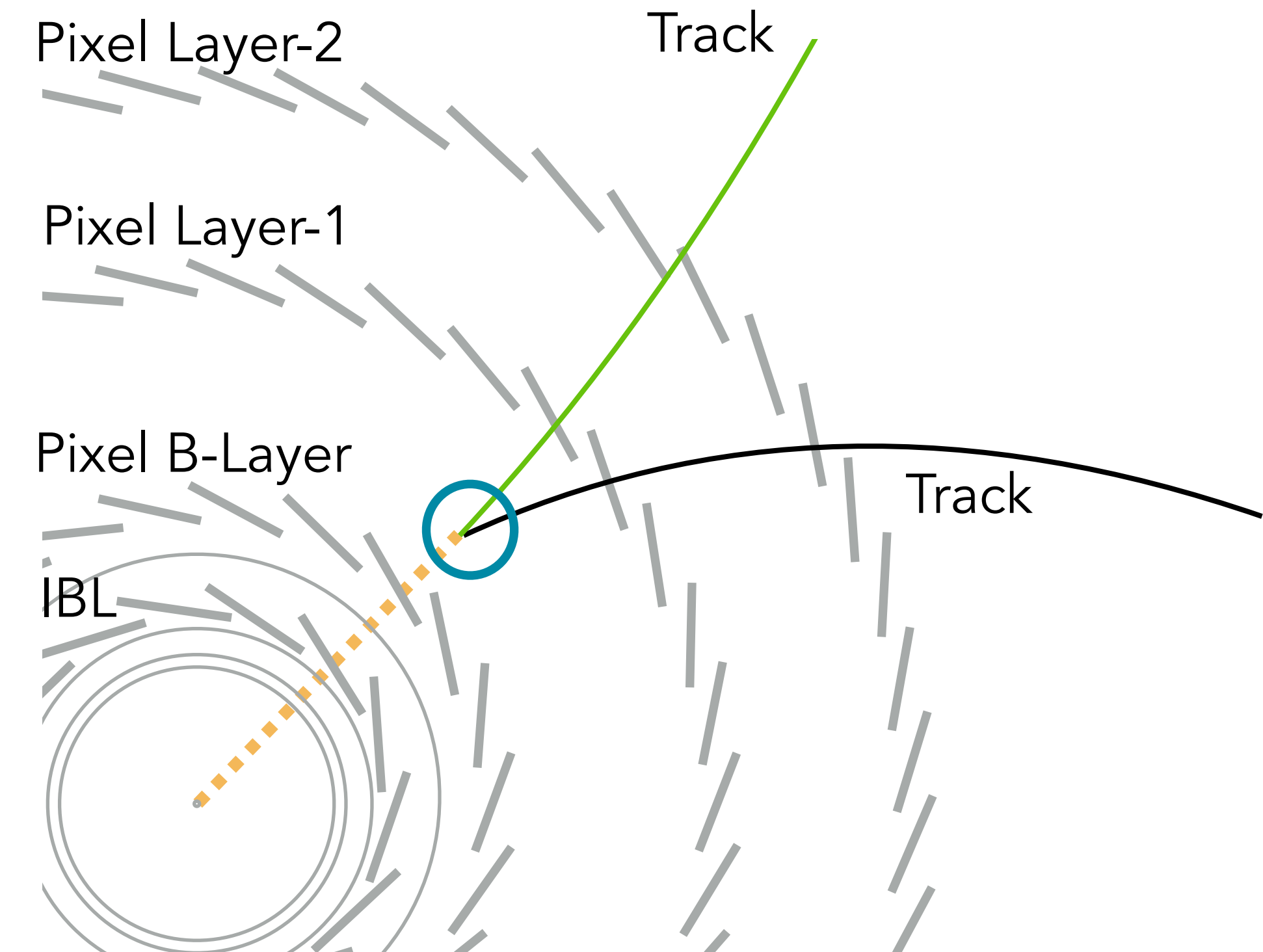
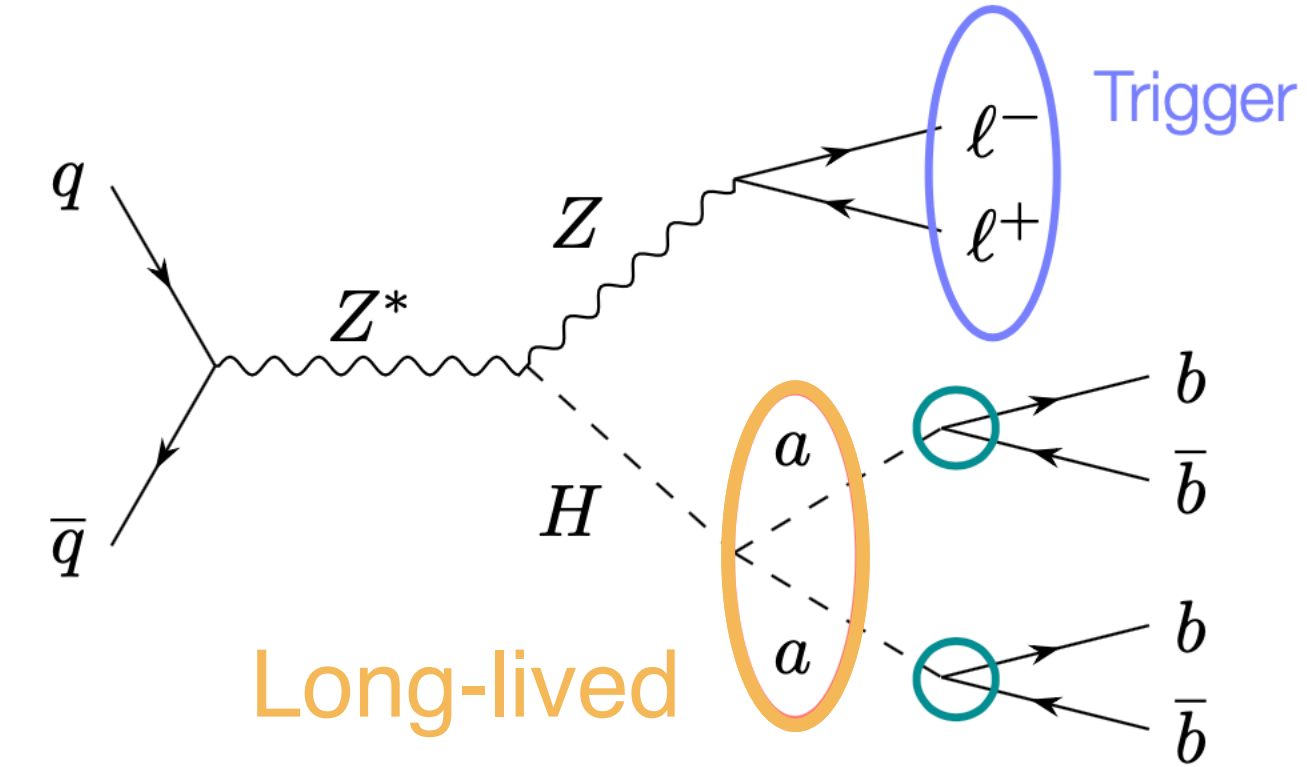
LLP lifetime

LLP nature

object identification

Example:
Large Radius Tracks (LRT)

- Standard tracking in ATLAS (similar in CMS) optimized for particles that point back to the interaction point with displacements of a few mm
 - tight requirements in number of silicon hits and impact parameter
 - would reject tracks from displaced decays



How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

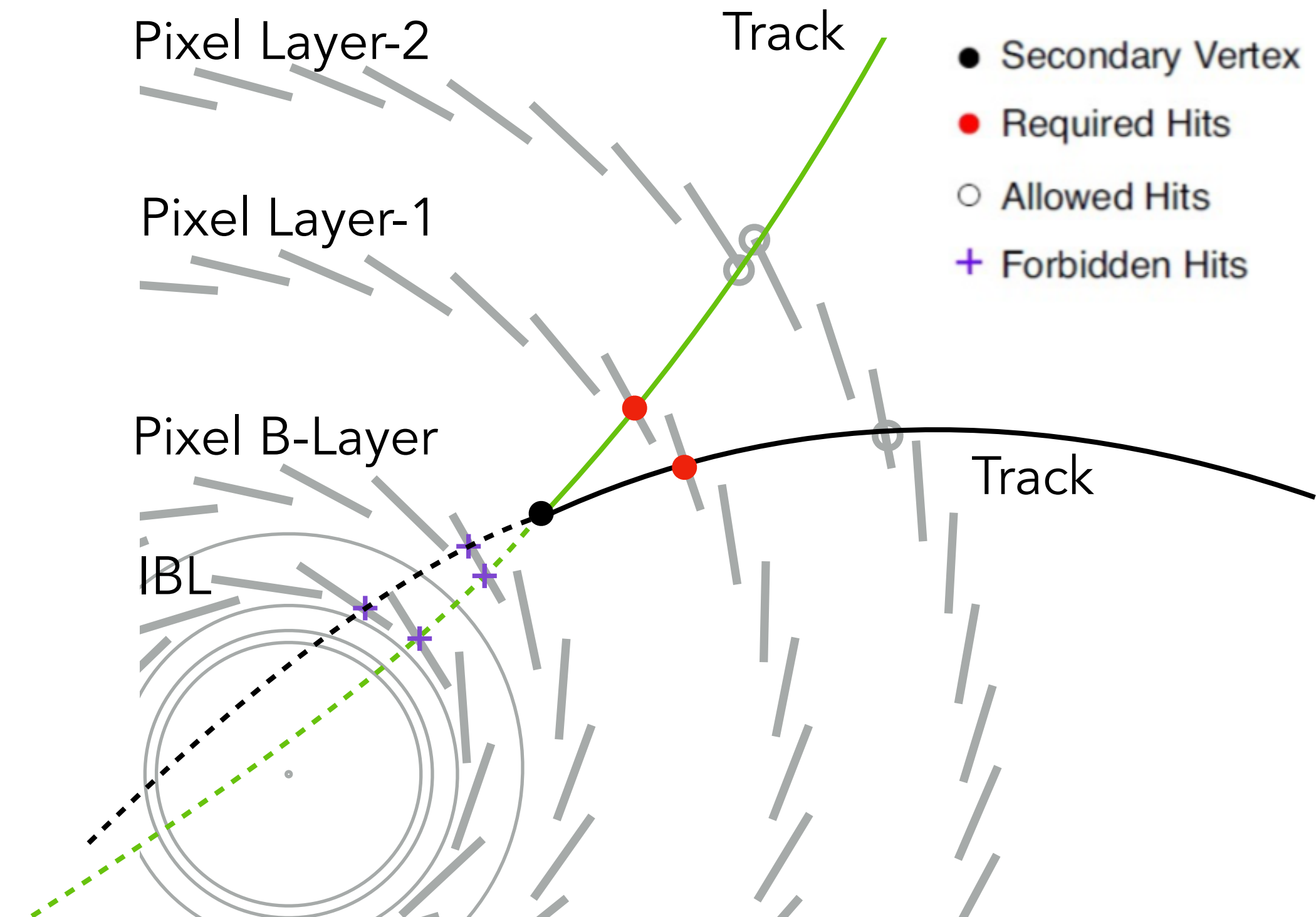
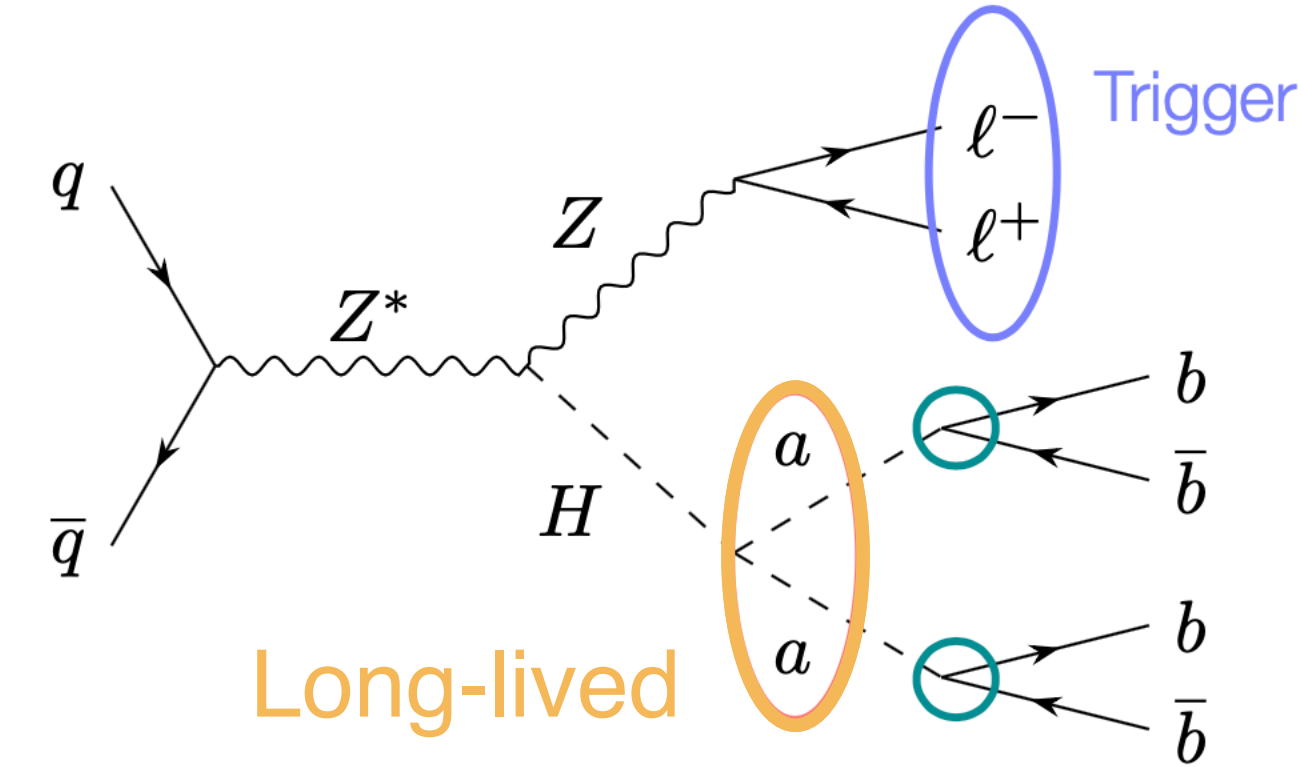
LLP lifetime

LLP nature

object identification

Example:
Large Radius Tracks (LRT)

- Standard tracking in ATLAS (similar in CMS) optimized for particles that point back to the interaction point with displacements of a few mm
 - tight requirements in number of silicon hits and impact parameter
 - would reject tracks from displaced decays
- Large radius tracking (LRT)
 - Relax requirements in number of silicon hits and impact parameter
 - Re-run only with hits not associated with existing tracks to form Displaced Vertices (DV)
- targets charged particles with displacements **up to 300 mm** improving acceptance for long-lived particles



How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

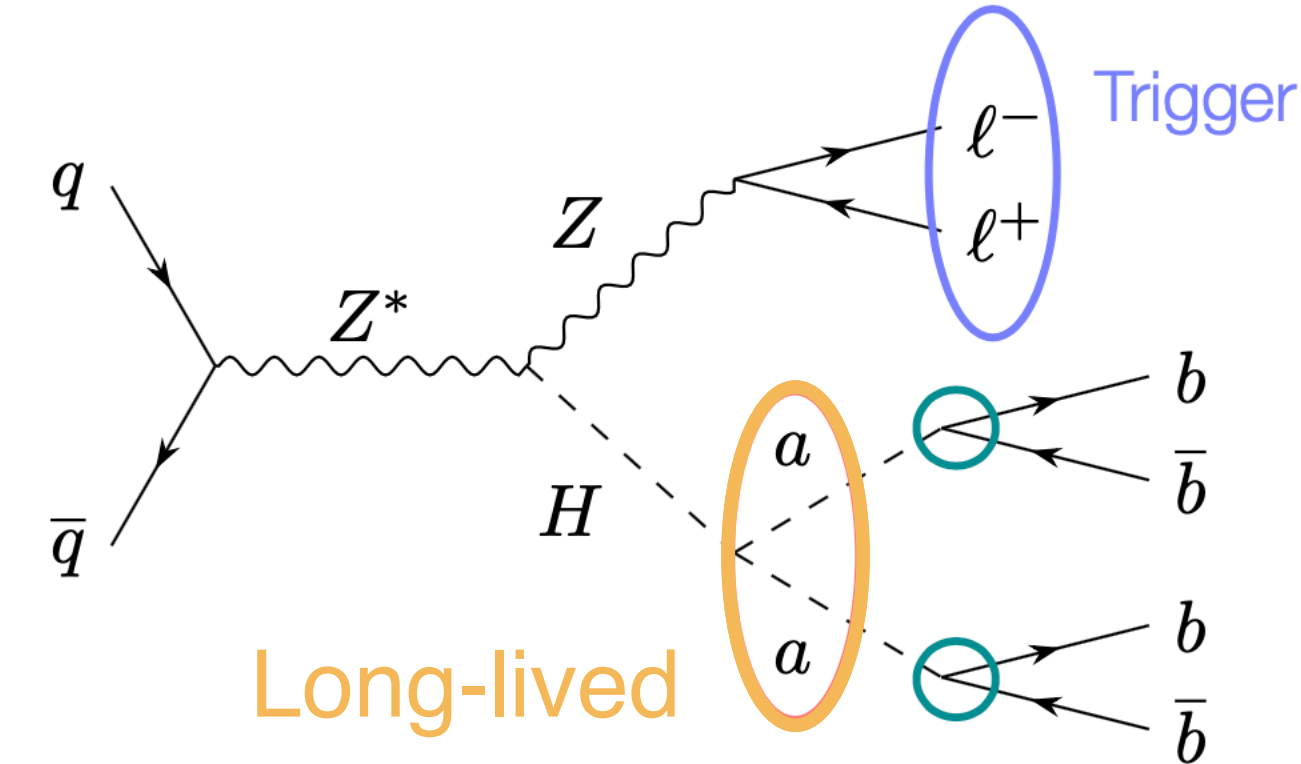
That depends on:

LLP lifetime

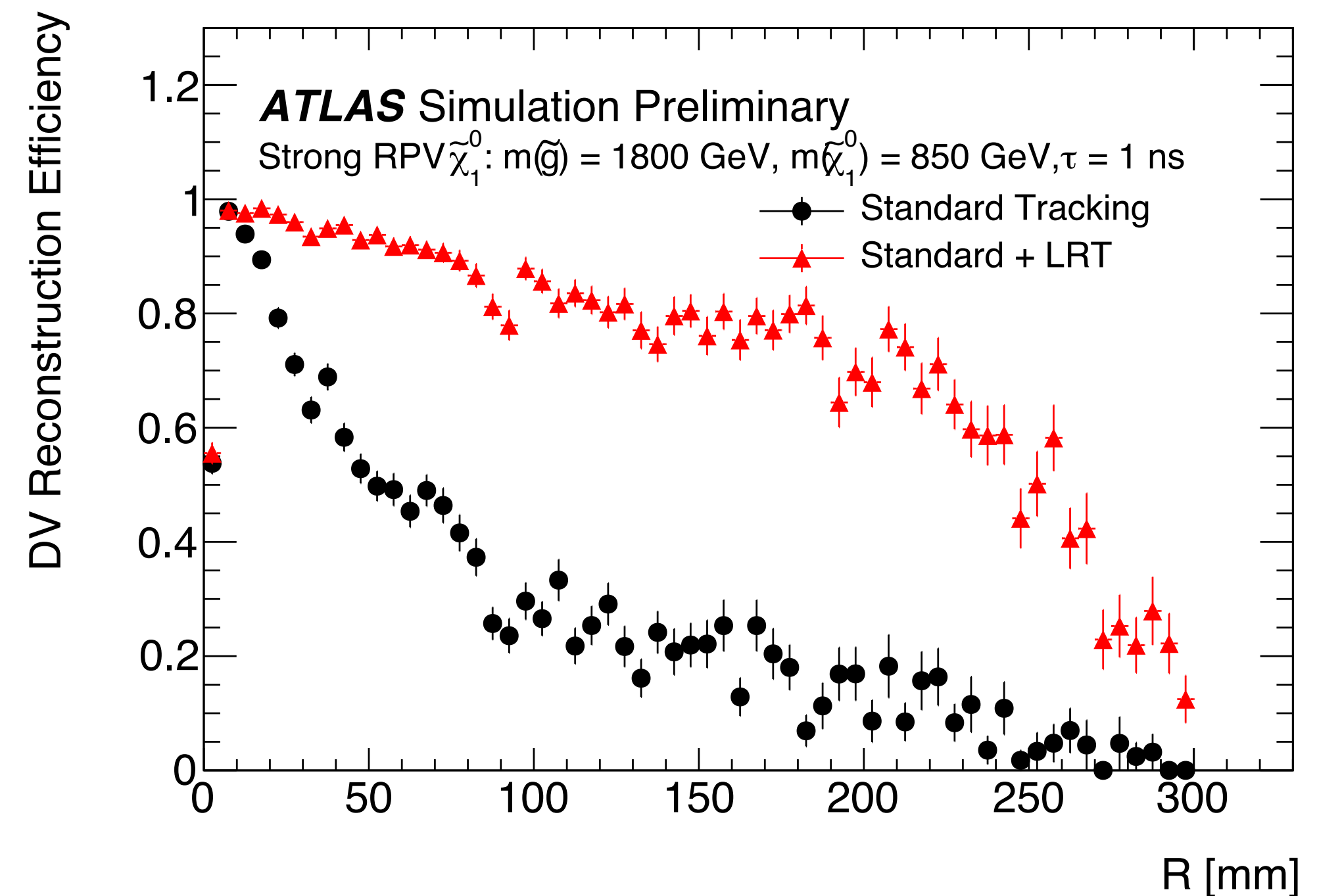
LLP nature

object identification

Example:
Large Radius Tracks (LRT)



- Standard tracking in ATLAS (similar in CMS) optimized for particles that point back to the interaction point with displacements of a few mm
 - tight requirements in number of silicon hits and impact parameter
 - would reject tracks from displaced decays
- Large radius tracking (LRT)
 - Relax requirements in number of silicon hits and impact parameter
 - Re-run only with hits not associated with existing tracks to form Displaced Vertices (DV)
- targets charged particles with displacements **up to 300 mm** improving acceptance for long-lived particles



How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

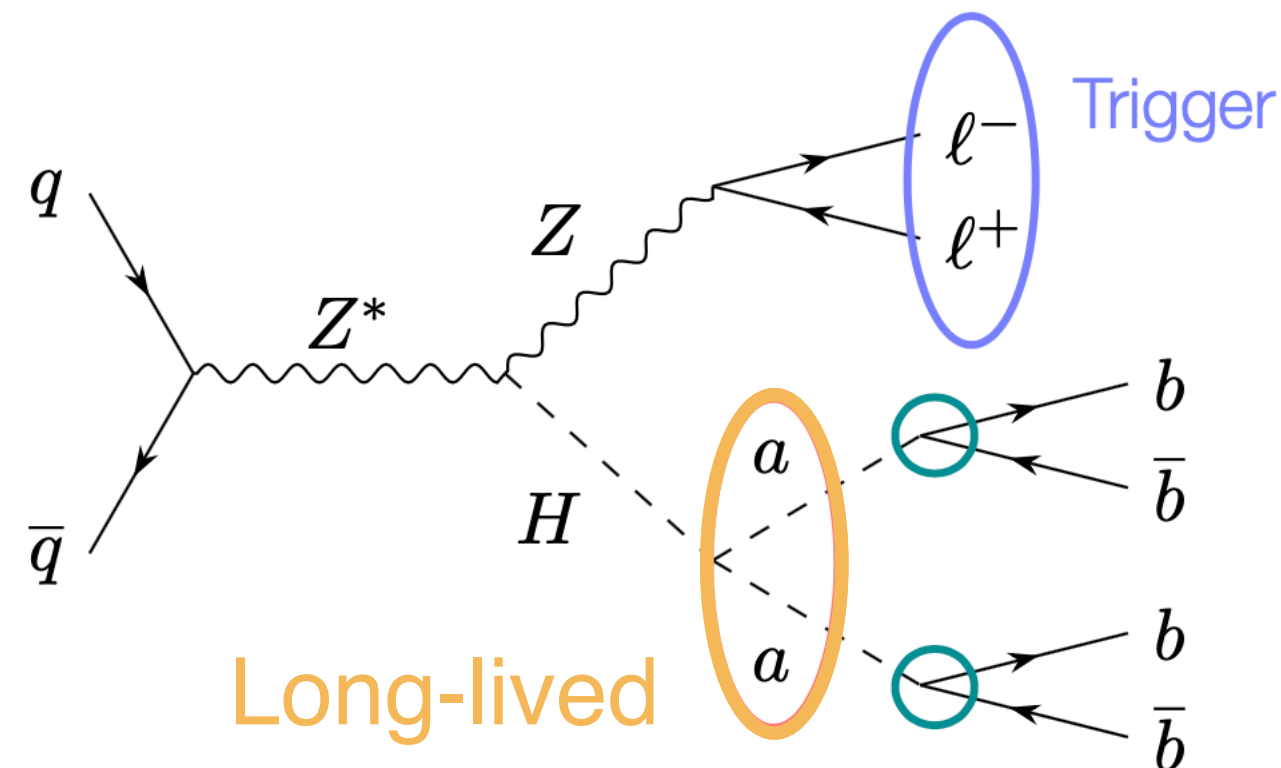
LLP lifetime

LLP nature

object identification

trigger

- **Trigger**: combination of hardware + software that must decide very quickly whether to save an event or lose it forever
- Depending on the model:
 - Rely on additional SM-like activity
(e, mu, jet, MET triggers)



Standard lepton triggers

How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

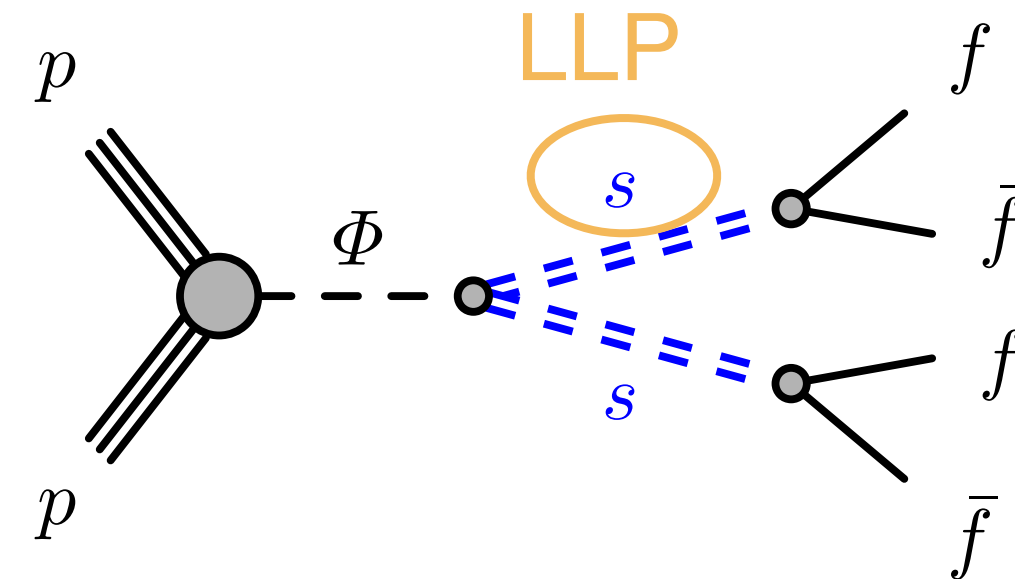
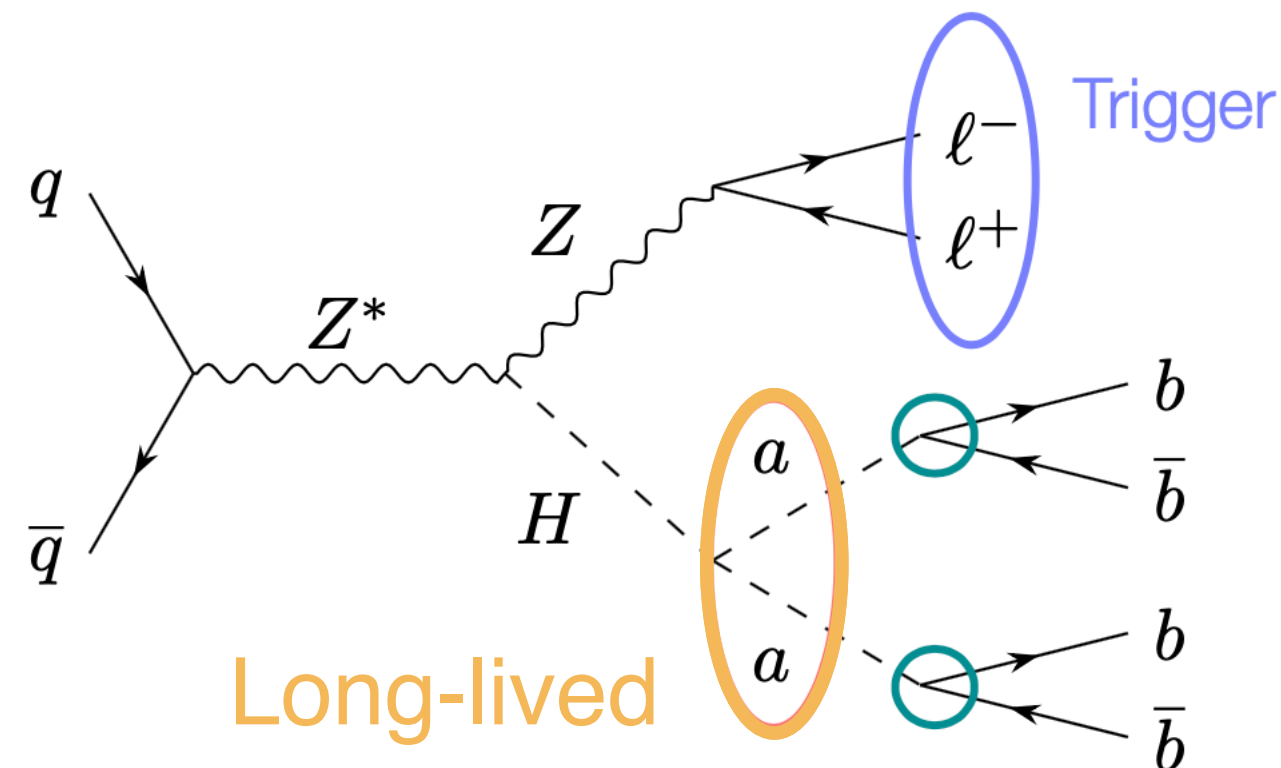
LLP lifetime

LLP nature

object identification

trigger

- **Trigger**: combination of hardware + software that must decide very quickly whether to save an event or lose it forever
- Depending on the model:
 - Rely on additional SM-like activity
(e, mu, jet, MET triggers)



Standard lepton triggers

But what if there's no prompt activity in the event??

How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

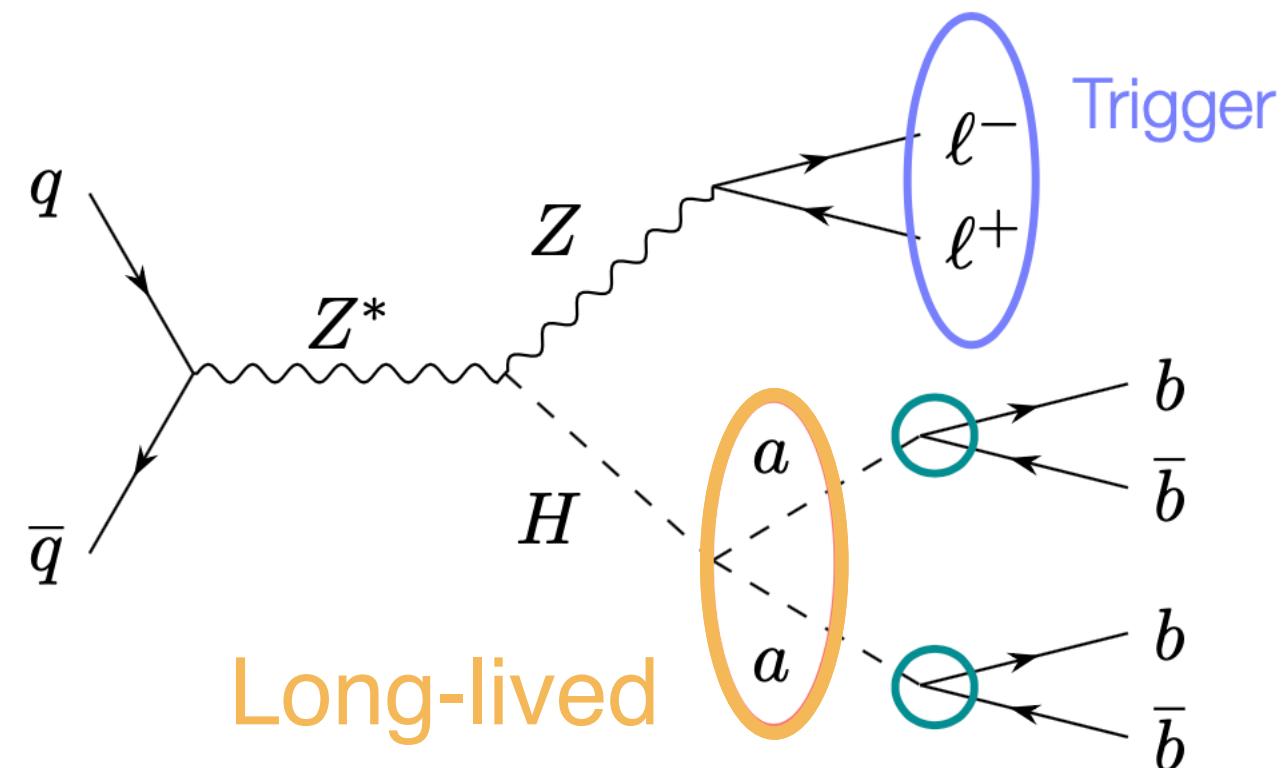
LLP lifetime

LLP nature

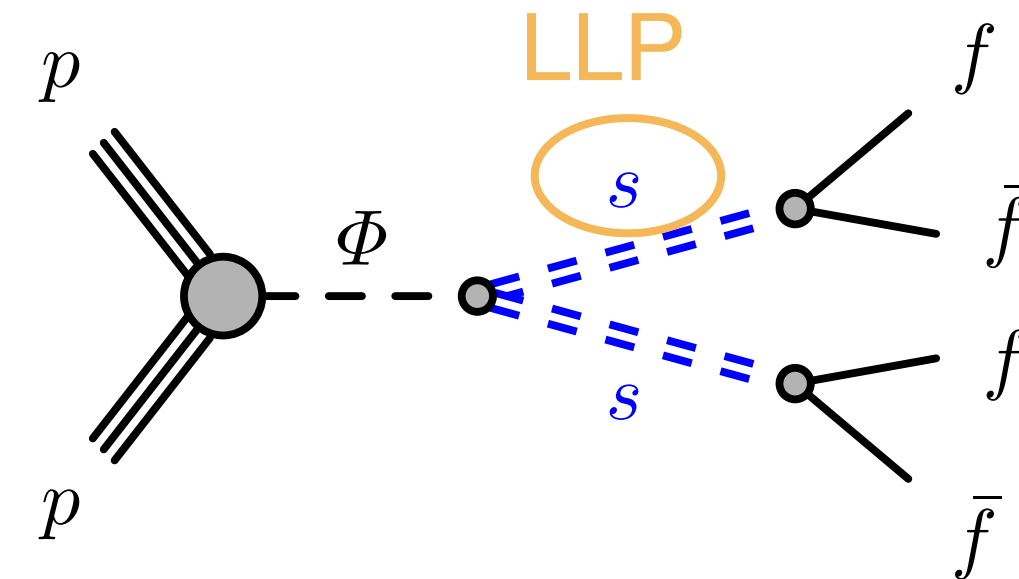
object identification

trigger

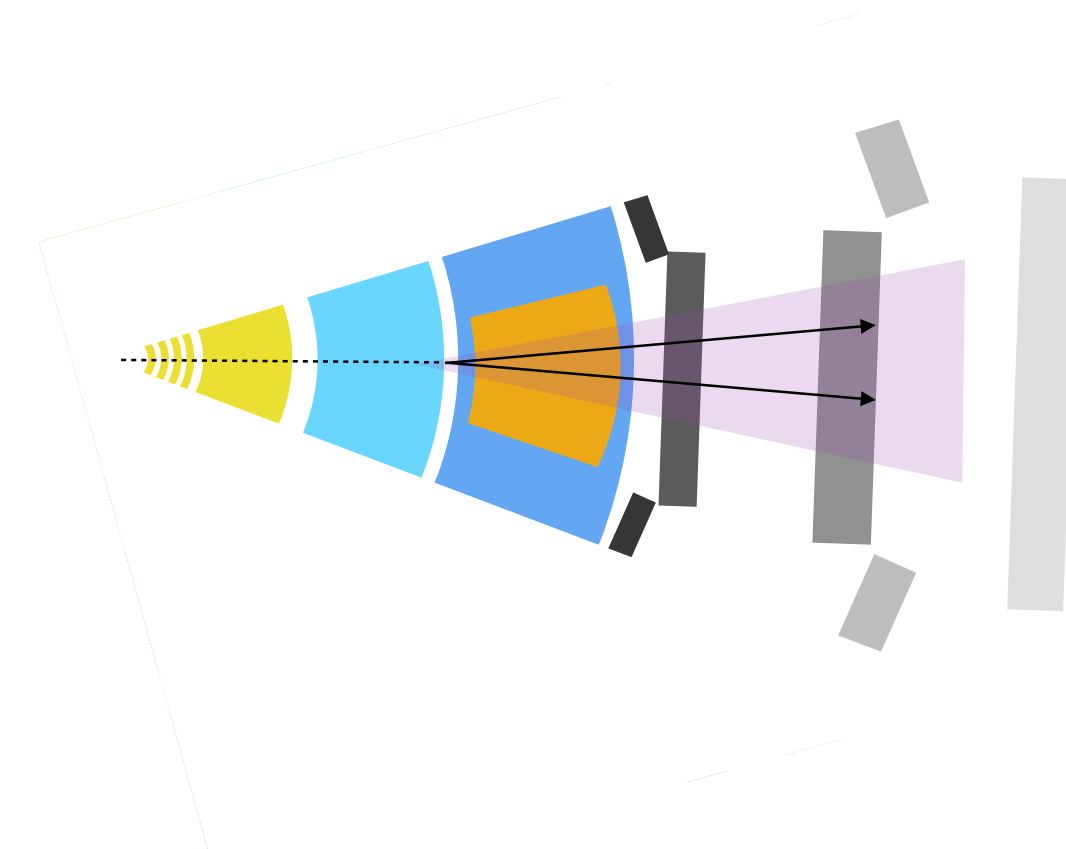
- **Trigger**: combination of hardware + software that must decide very quickly whether to save an event or lose it forever
- Depending on the model:
 - Rely on additional SM-like activity (e, mu, jet, MET triggers)
 - Develop dedicated triggers exploiting specific features



Standard lepton triggers



But what if there's no prompt activity in the event??



Dedicated trigger requires a jet with **no ID tracks** and **most energy in the HCal**

How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

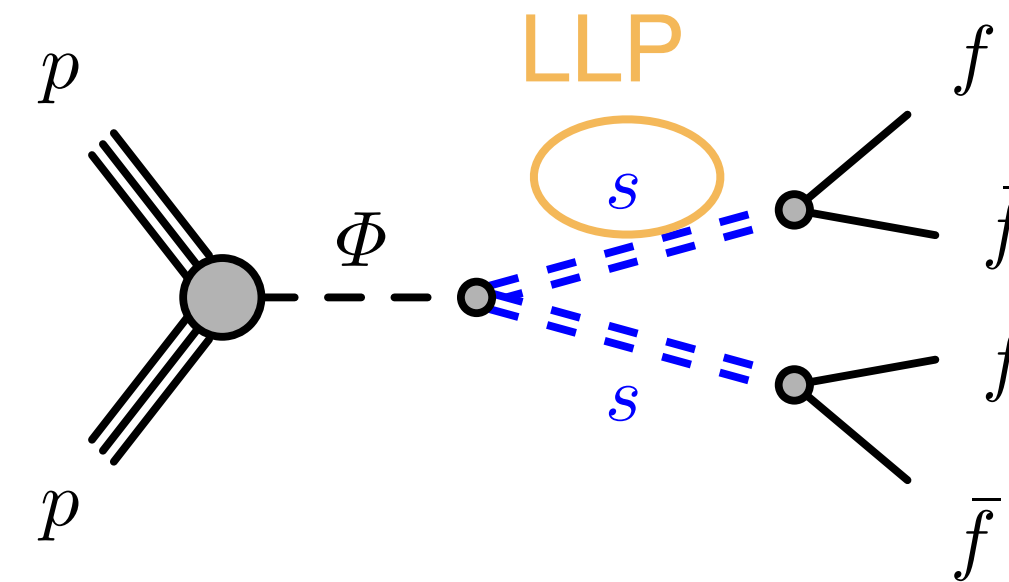
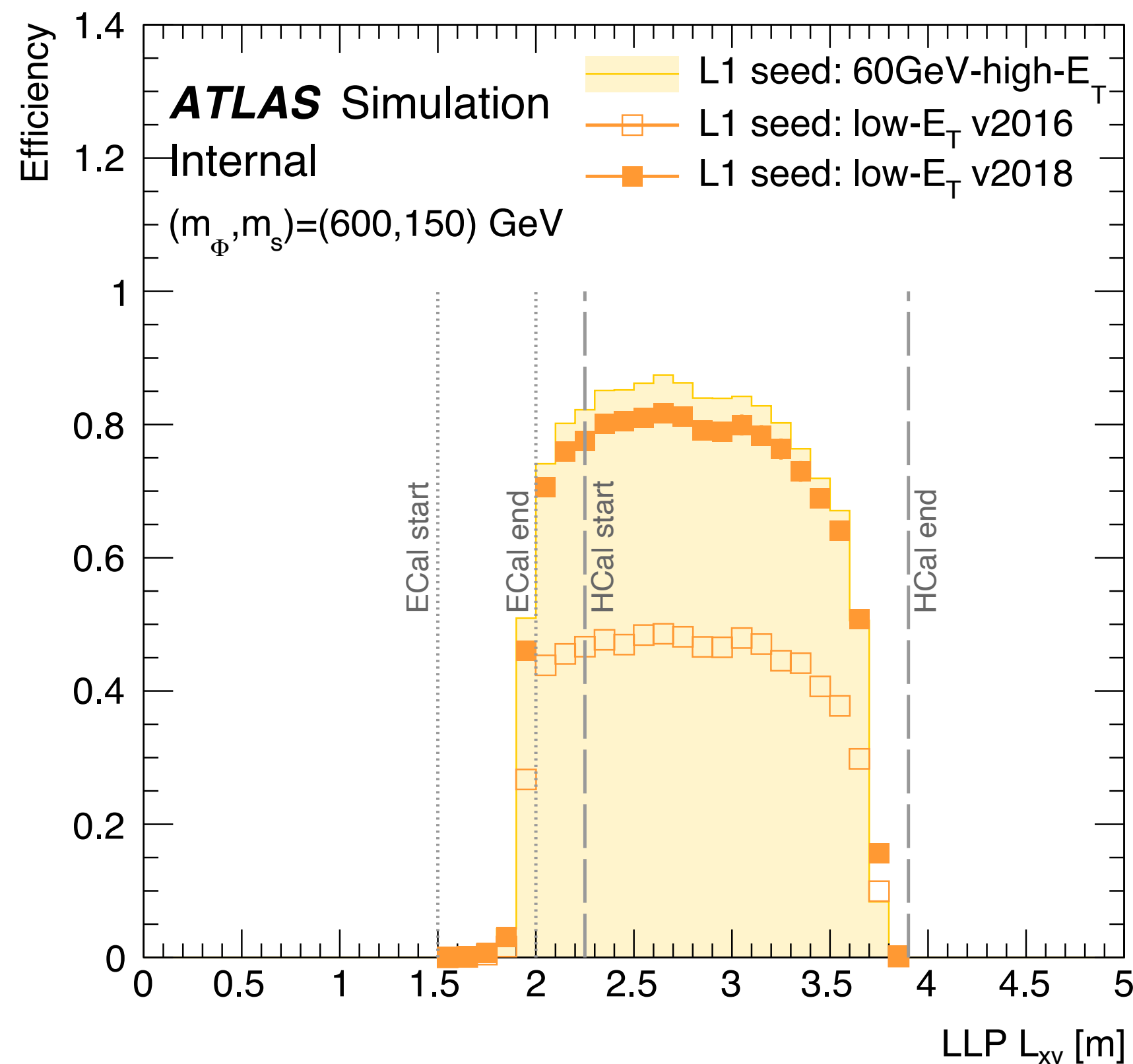
LLP lifetime

LLP nature

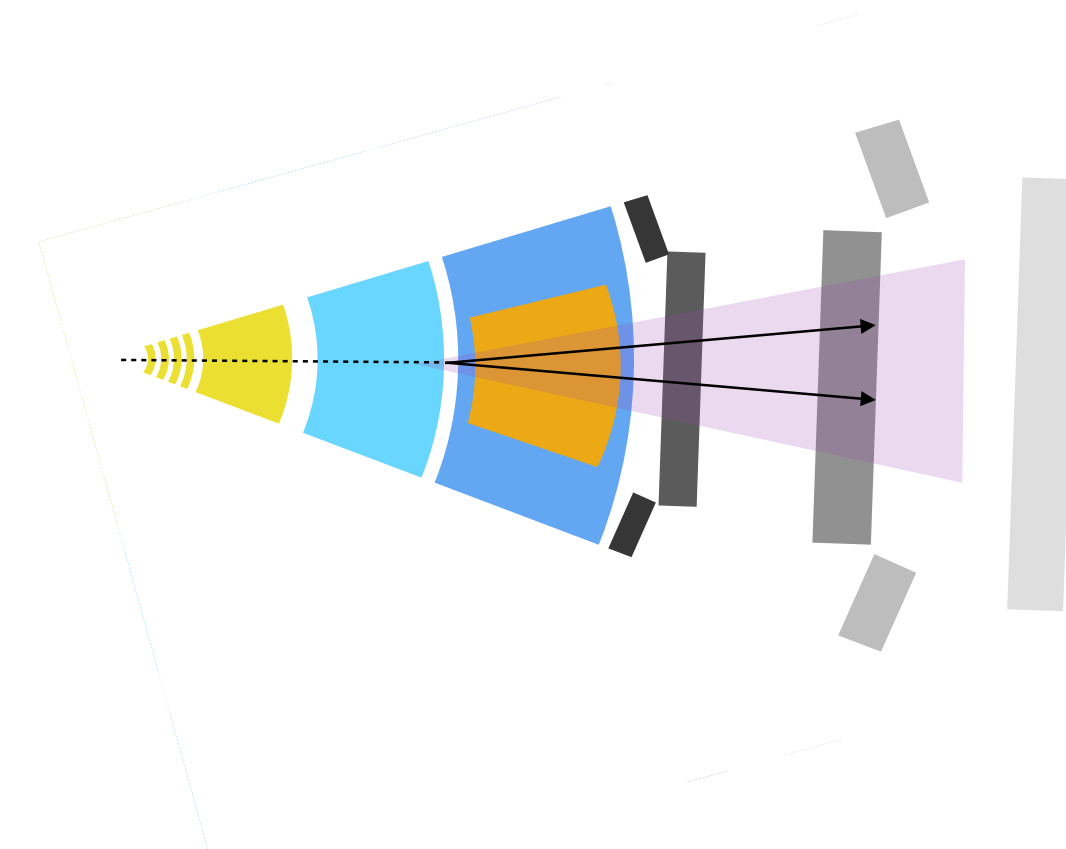
object identification

trigger

- **Trigger**: combination of hardware + software that must decide very quickly whether to save an event or lose it forever
- Depending on the model:



- Develop dedicated triggers exploiting specific features



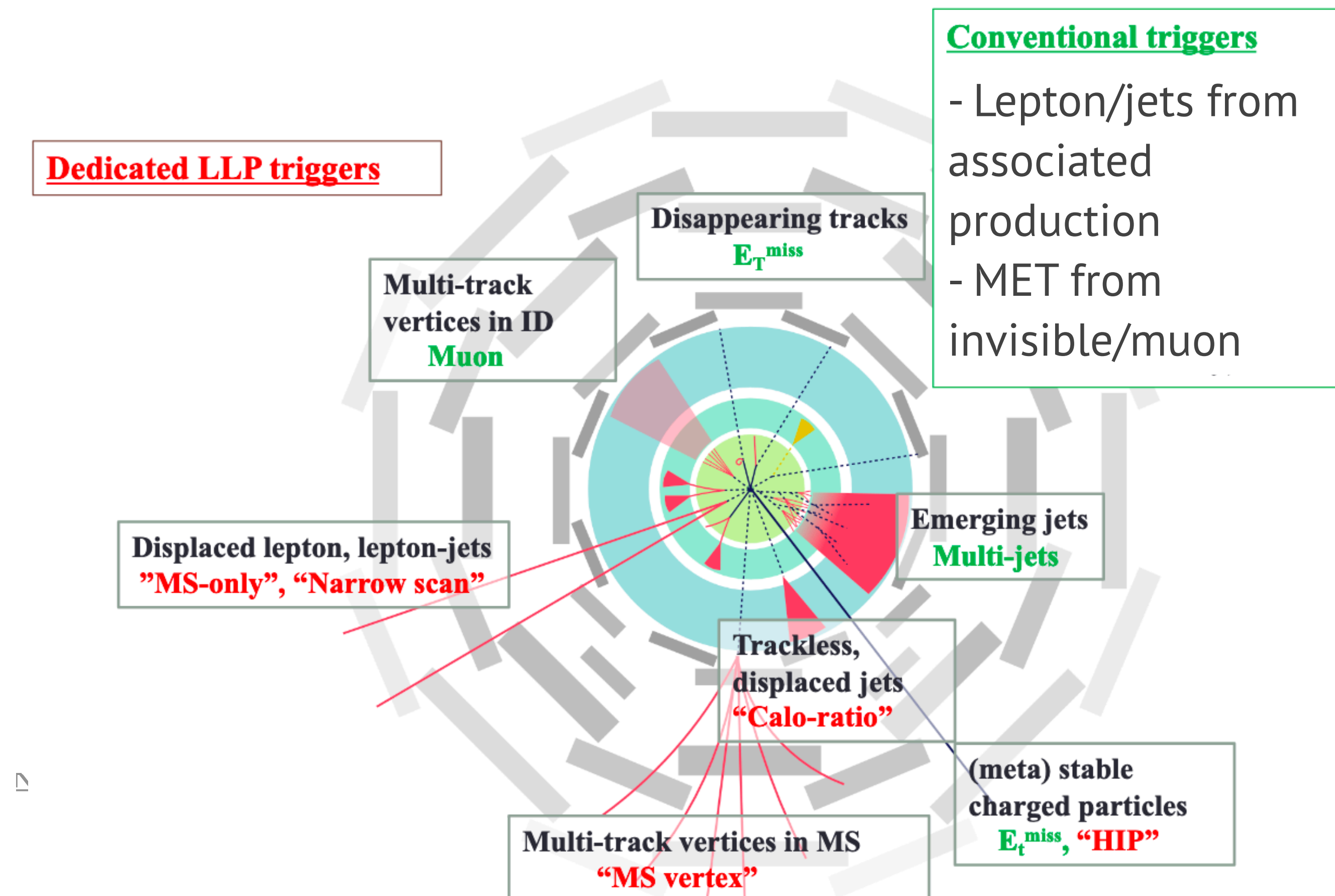
Dedicated trigger requires a jet with **no ID tracks** and **most energy in the HCal**

How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:



- **Trigger**: combination of hardware + software that must decide very quickly whether to save an event or lose it forever
- Depending on the model:



How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

LLP lifetime

LLP nature

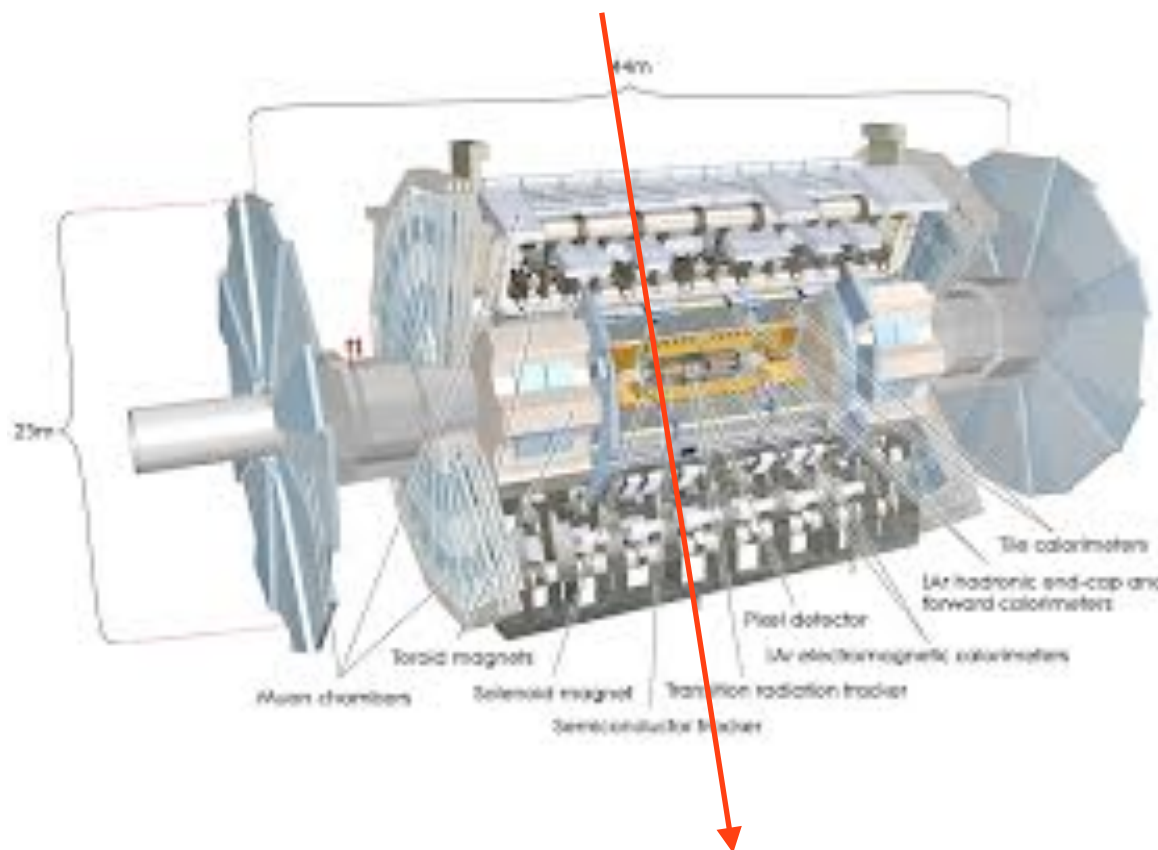
object identification

trigger

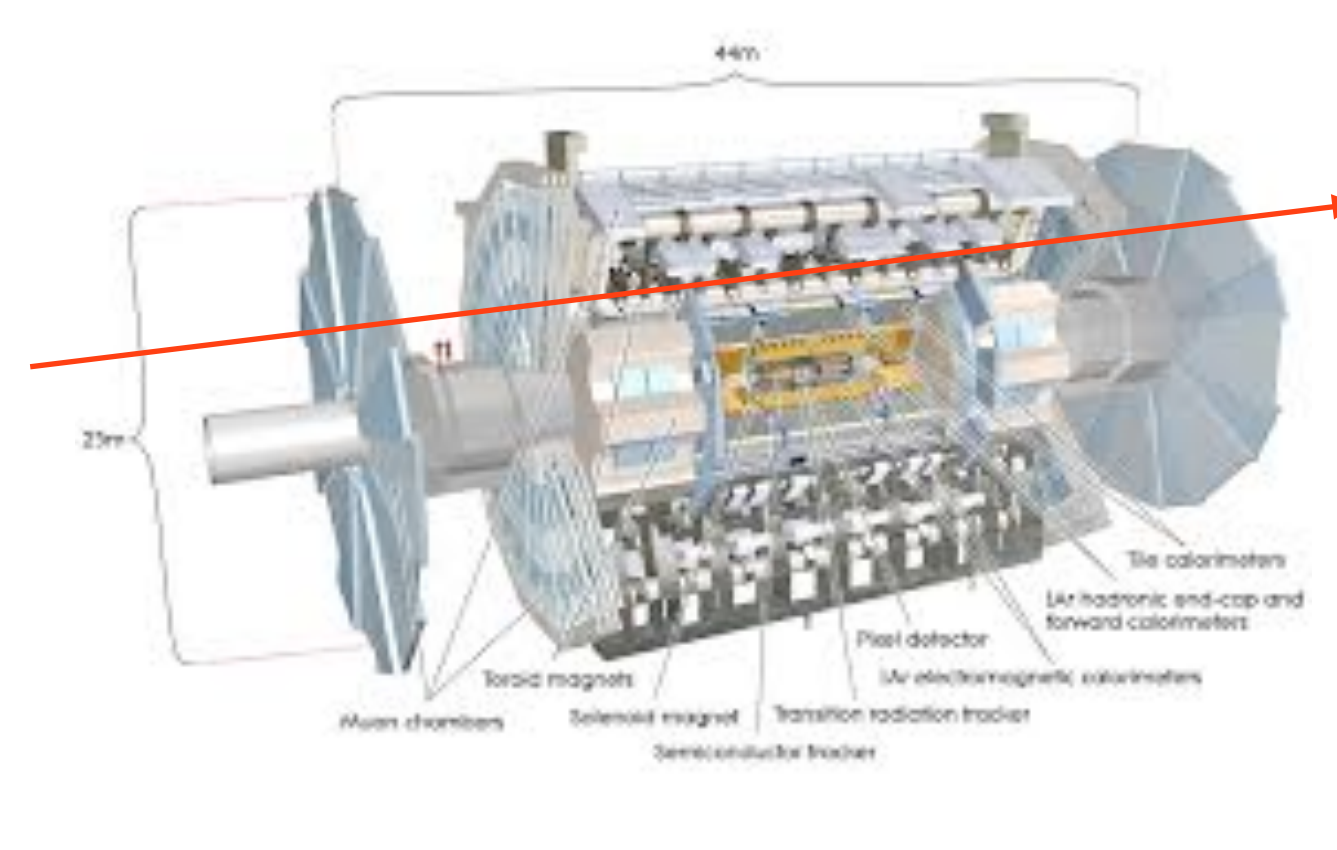
background rejection

- Small or unusual backgrounds play a key role:

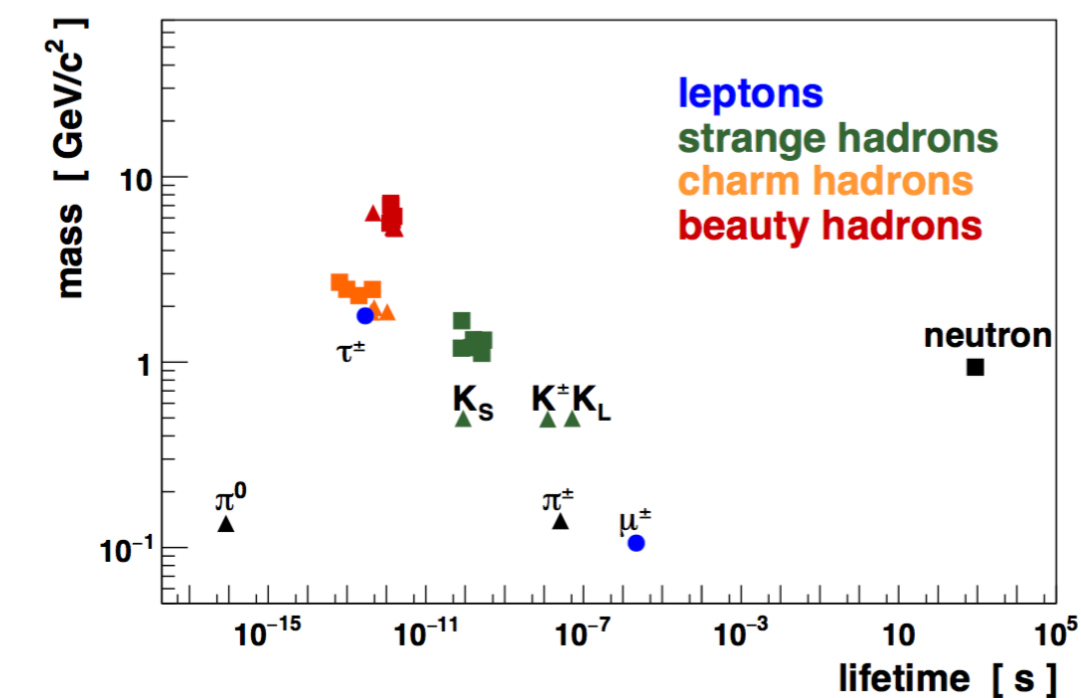
cosmic muons



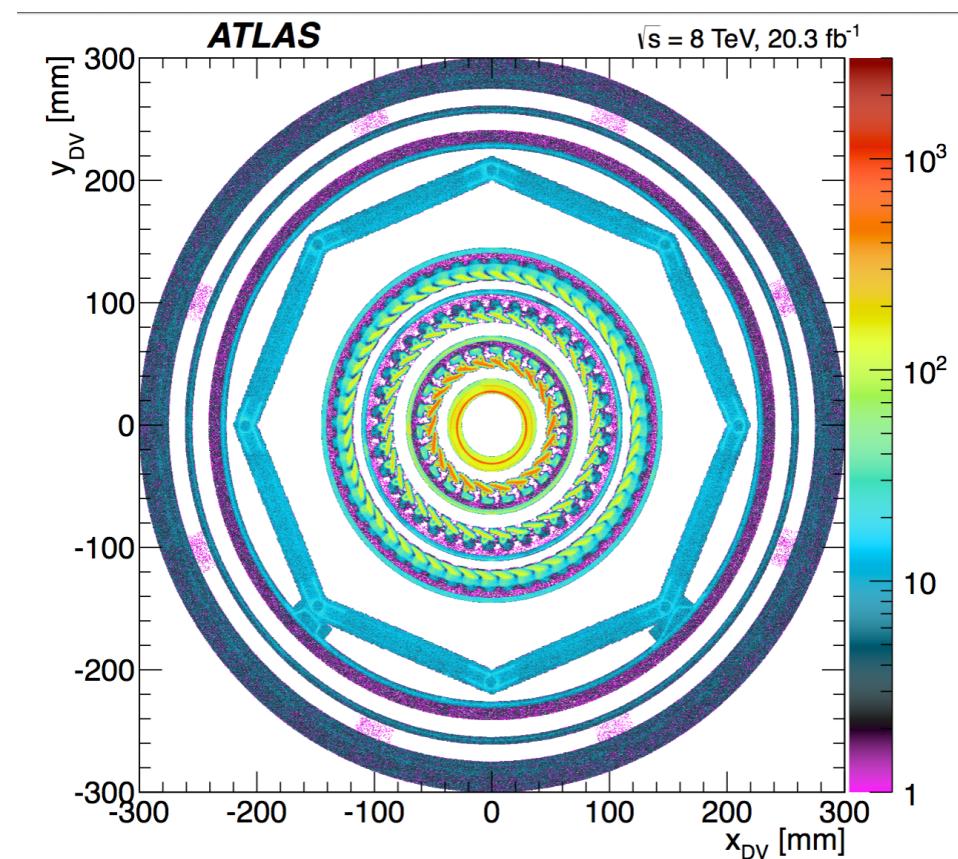
beam halo muons



SM particles with relatively long lifetime



material interactions



- For most of them, no good simulations
 - All searches rely on data-driven methods

How can we look for LLPs in collider experiments?

That depends on:

LLP lifetime

LLP nature

object identification

trigger

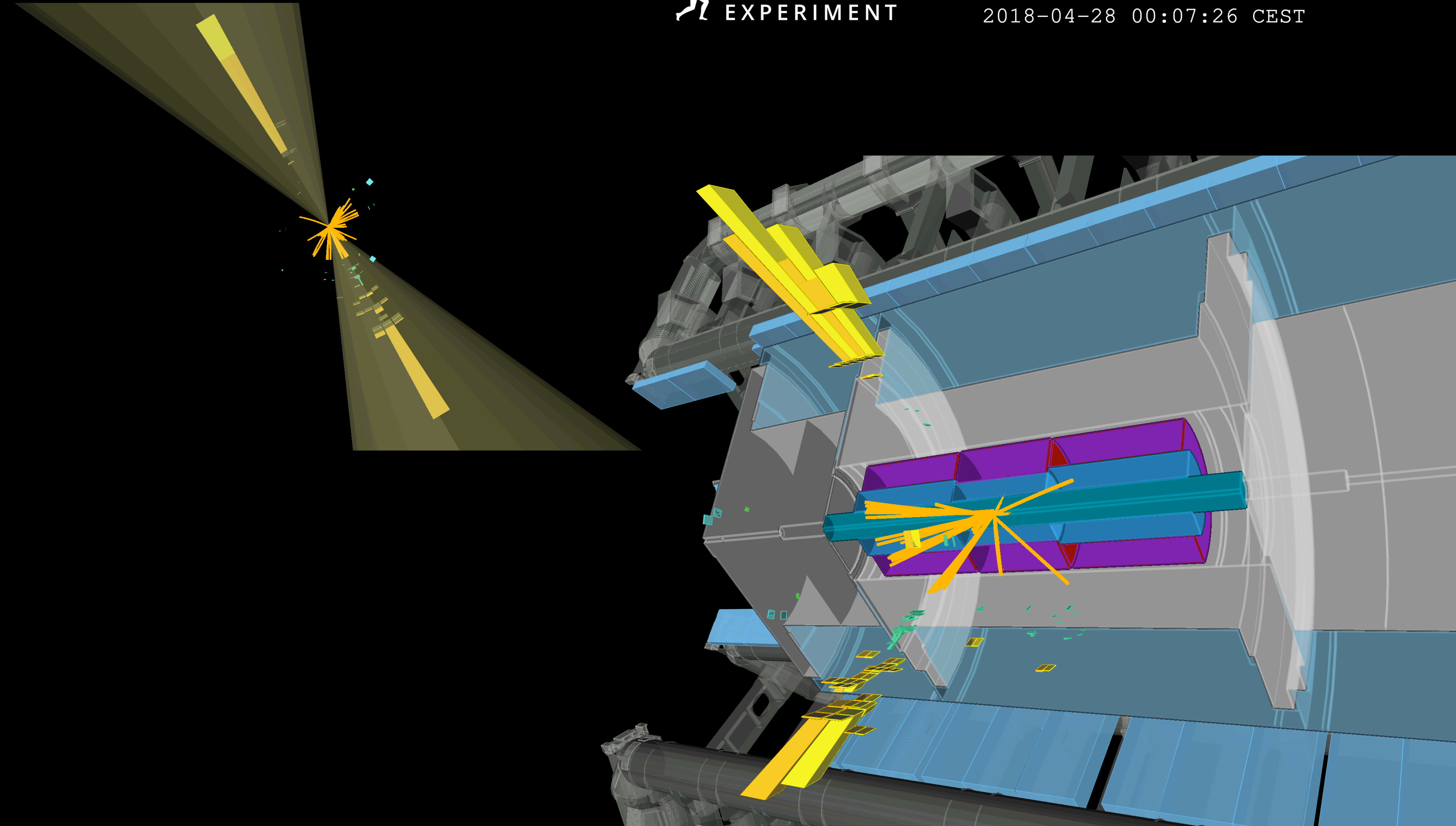
background rejection

Systematics!!!

- Algorithms developed specifically for each analysis.
Can't use ATLAS/CMS common recommendations for object reconstruction nor trigger



Run: 349051
Event: 864471013
2018-04-28 00:07:26 CEST



**Examples of
some
unconvention
al searches in
LHCb, CMS,
ATLAS**

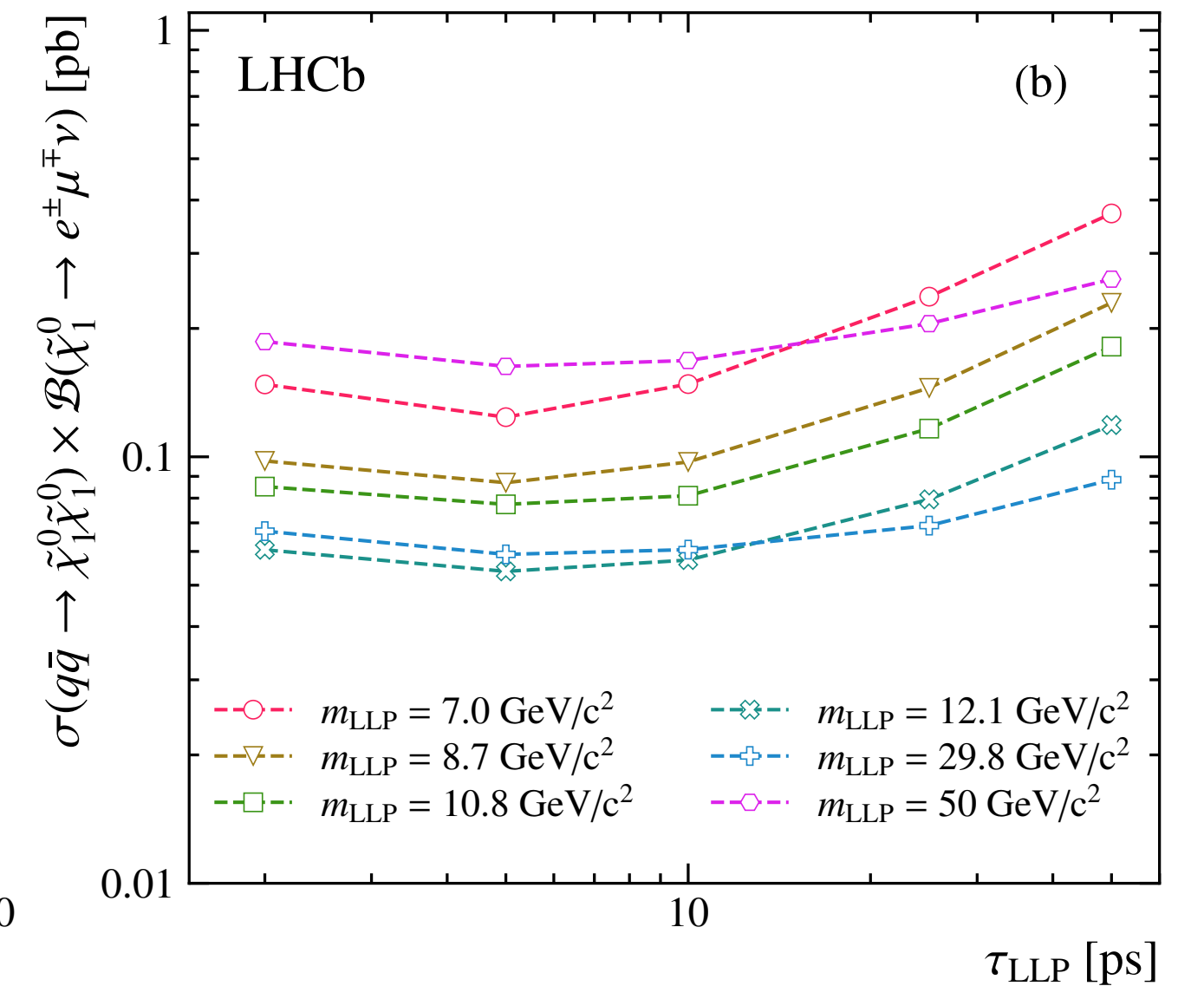
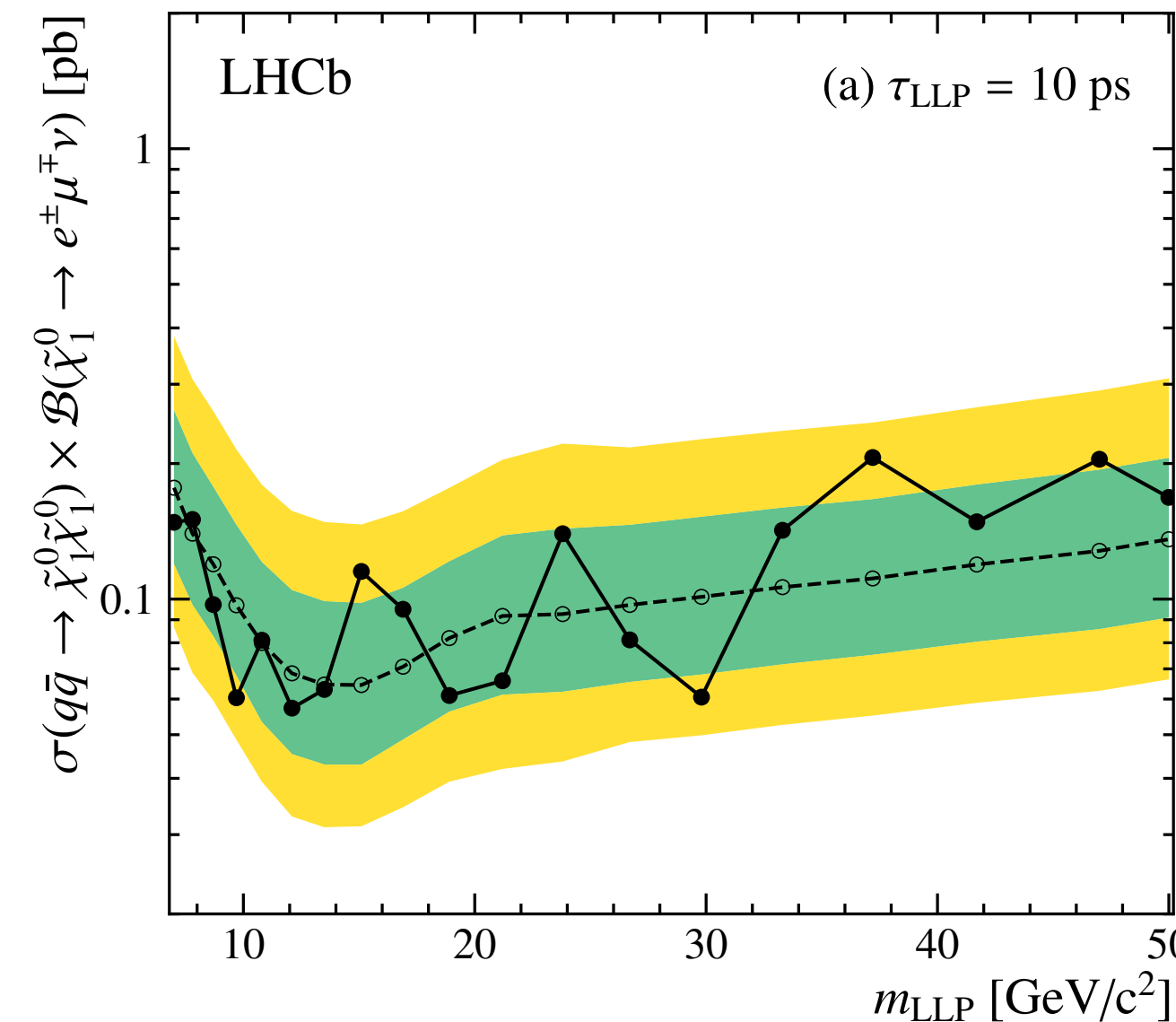
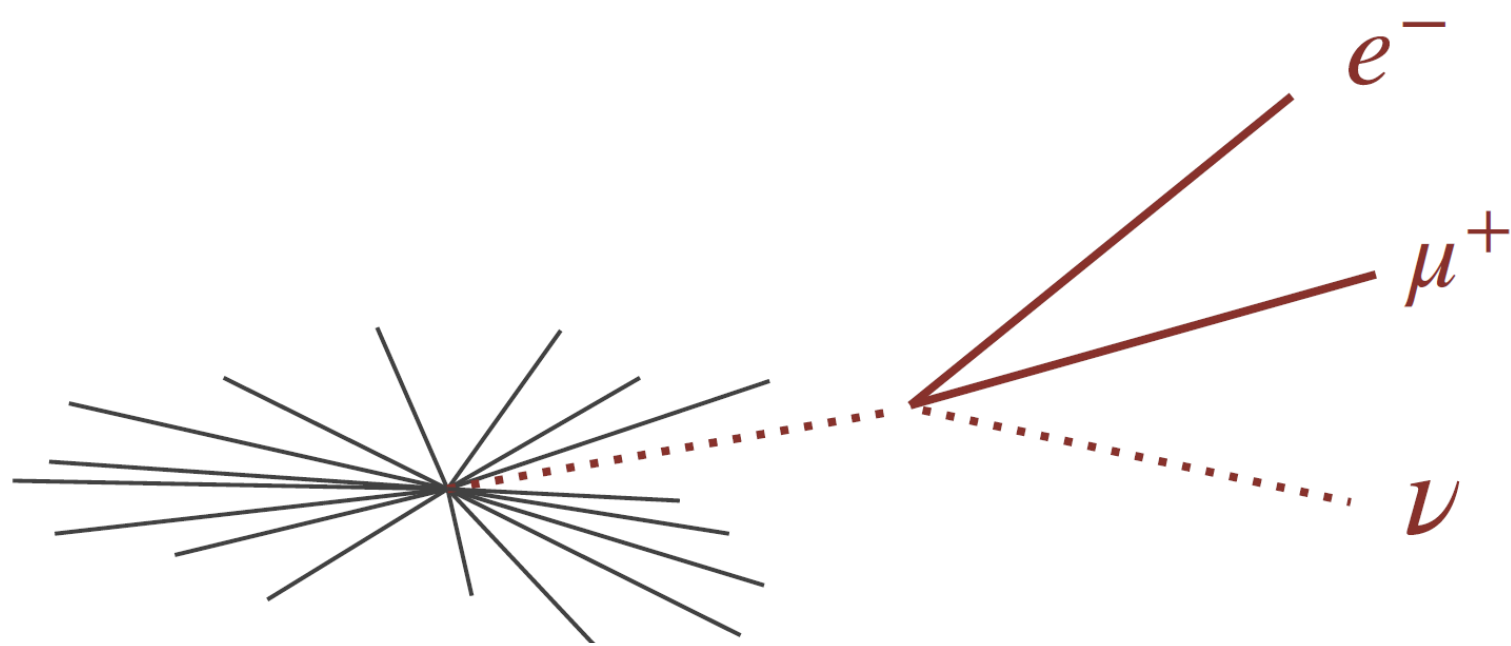
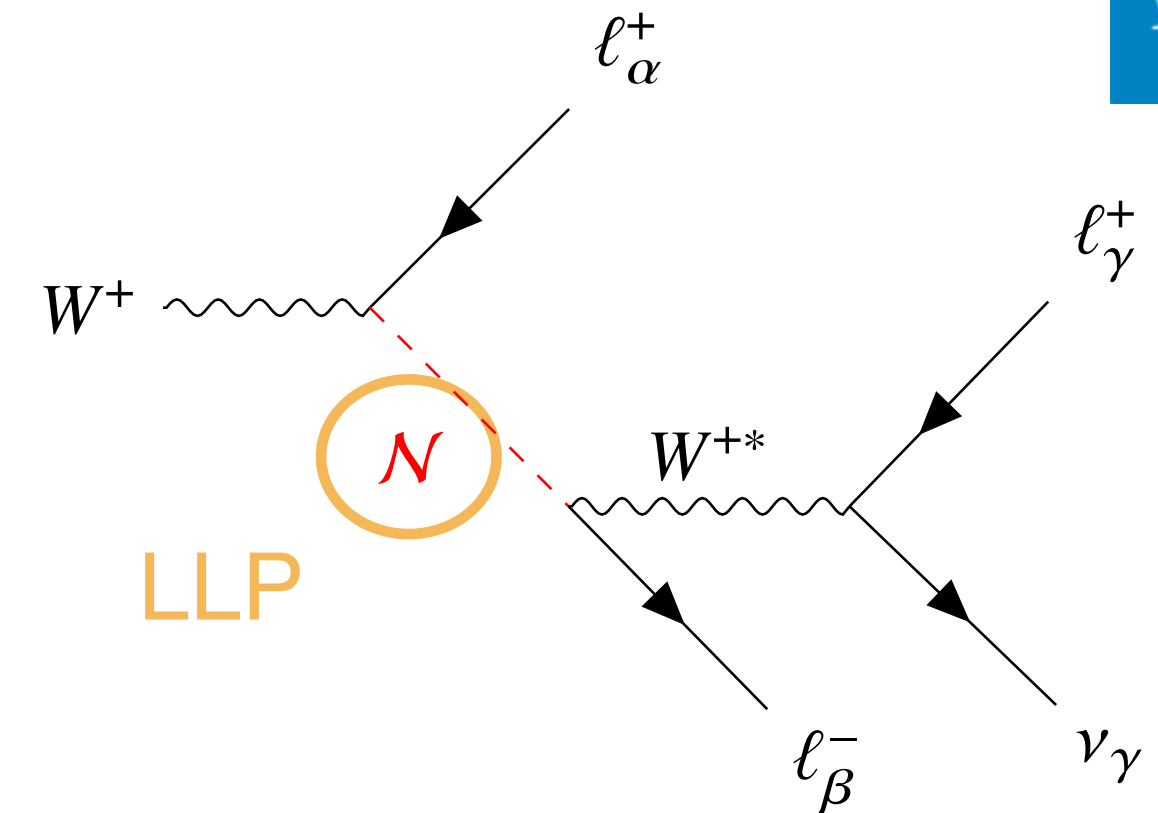
LLP decays in the ID - unconventional tracking

Single displaced vertex

[Eur. Phys. J. C81 \(2021\) 261](#)



- Search for single LLP decaying to $e^\pm \mu^\mp \nu$,
 - Example, LLP can be neutralino (RPV) or HNL
- Search for displaced vertices with opposite sign e and μ
 - lifetimes between 2 and 50 ps
 - masses between 7 and 50 GeV
- Probes **forward region** (not covered by ATLAS and CMS)

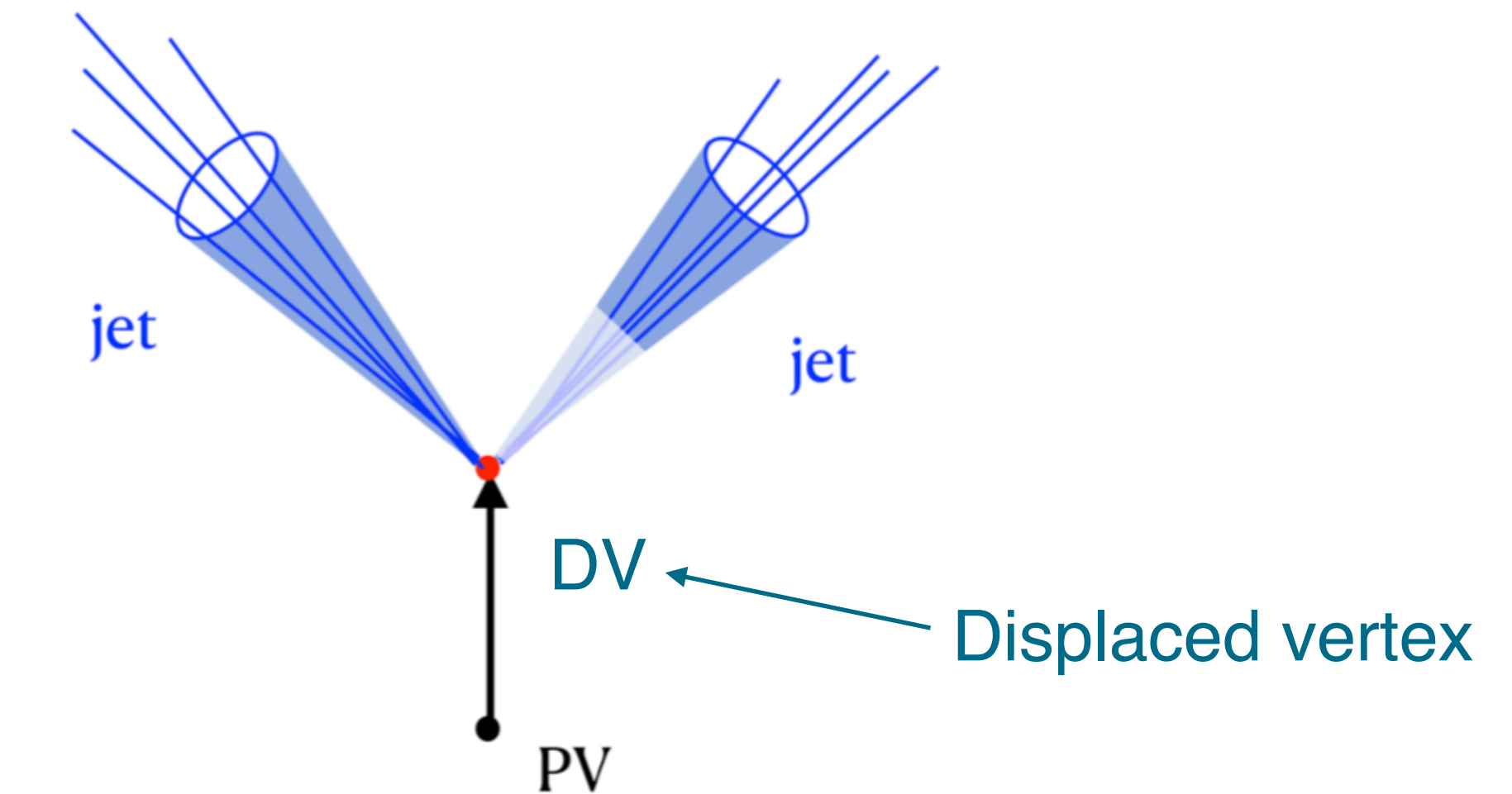
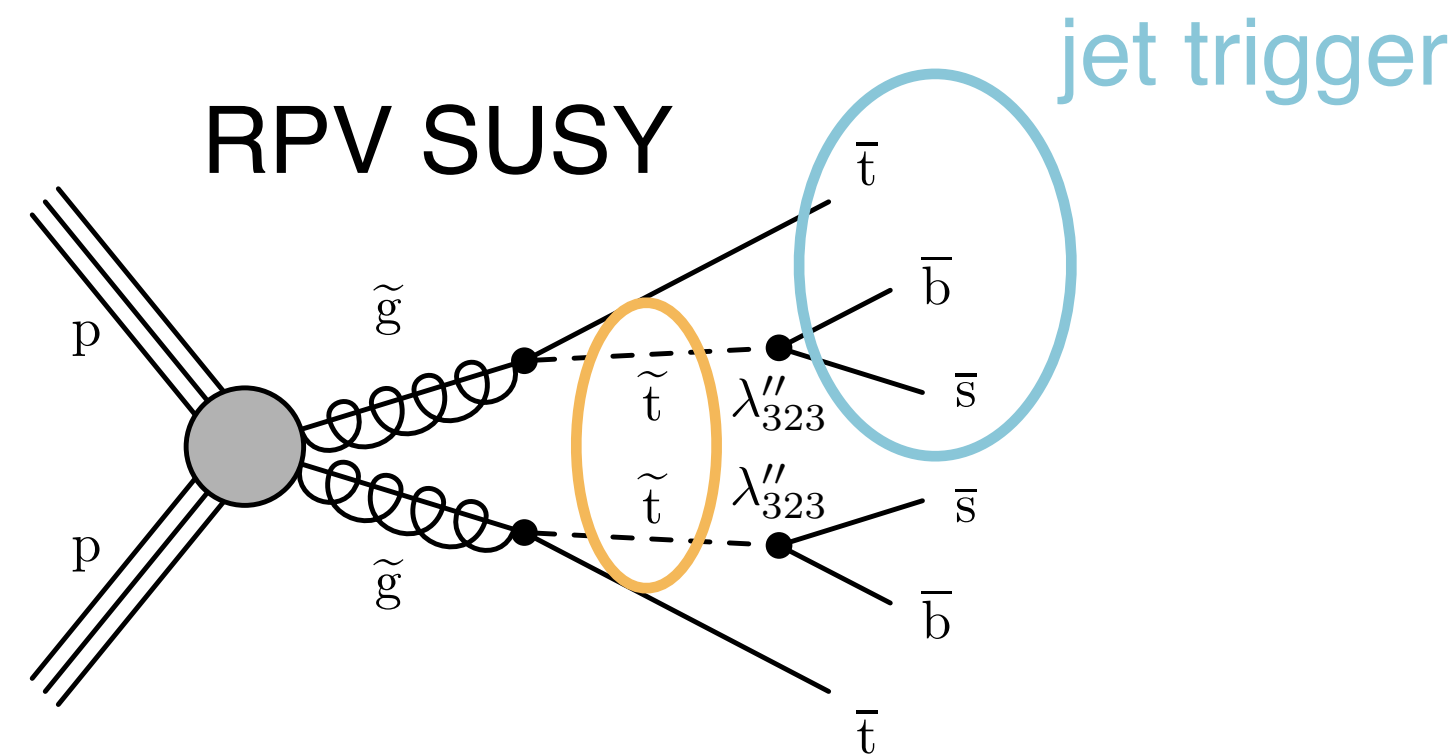
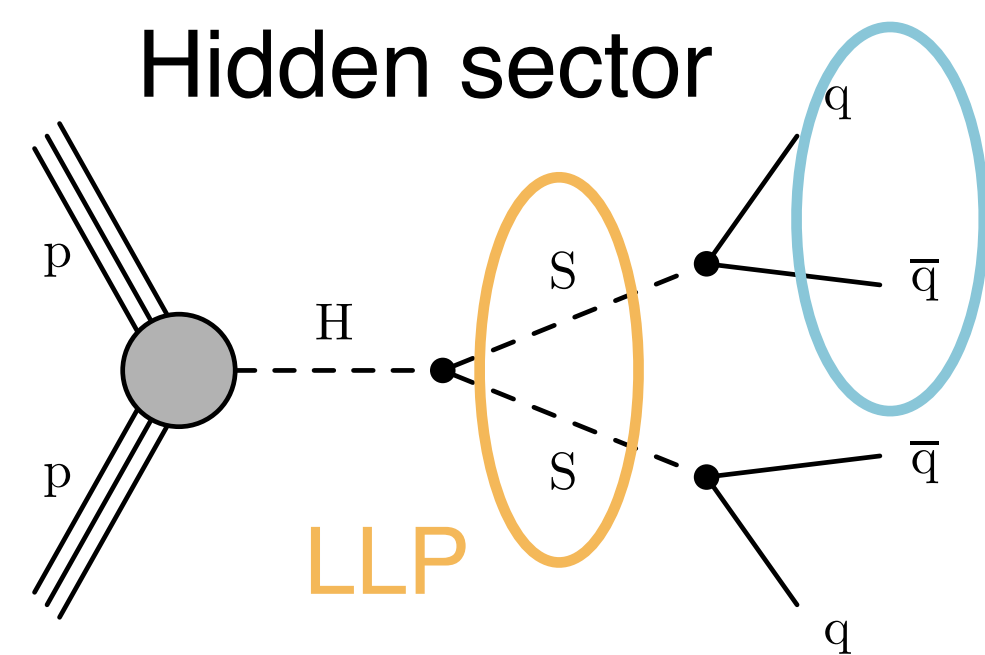
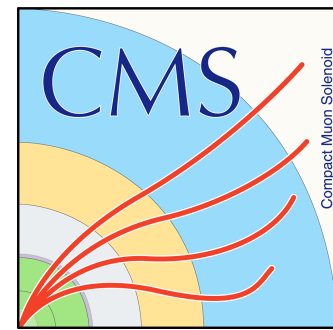


- Exclusion of lifetimes ~ 10 ps ($c\tau \sim 0.1$ mm)

LLP decays in the ID - unconventional tracking

Pairs of displaced vertices

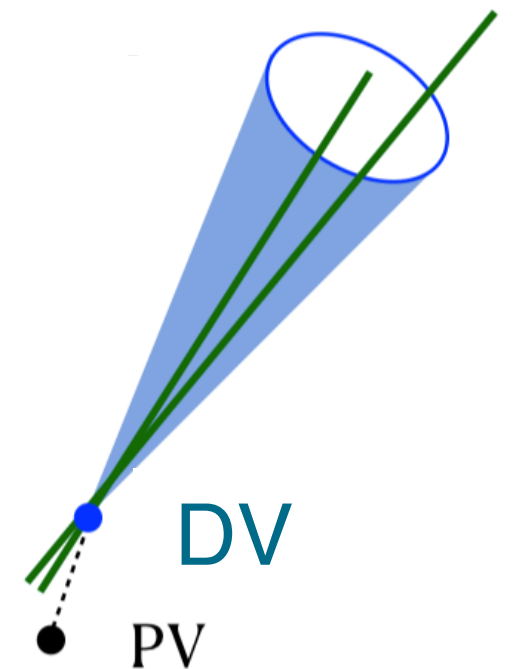
[CMS-PAS-EXO-19-021](#)



- Dedicated di-jet trigger
- Select dijet events and look for displaced vertex (DV) within them
- Select events with at least 1 DV
- MVA selection to discriminate signal from huge QCD background
- Minor backgrounds from heavy flavour decays and random track crossing

CMS high-level trigger

select displaced tracks online and tag displaced-jets with the HLT system by counting the number of prompt/displaced tracks associated with the jets



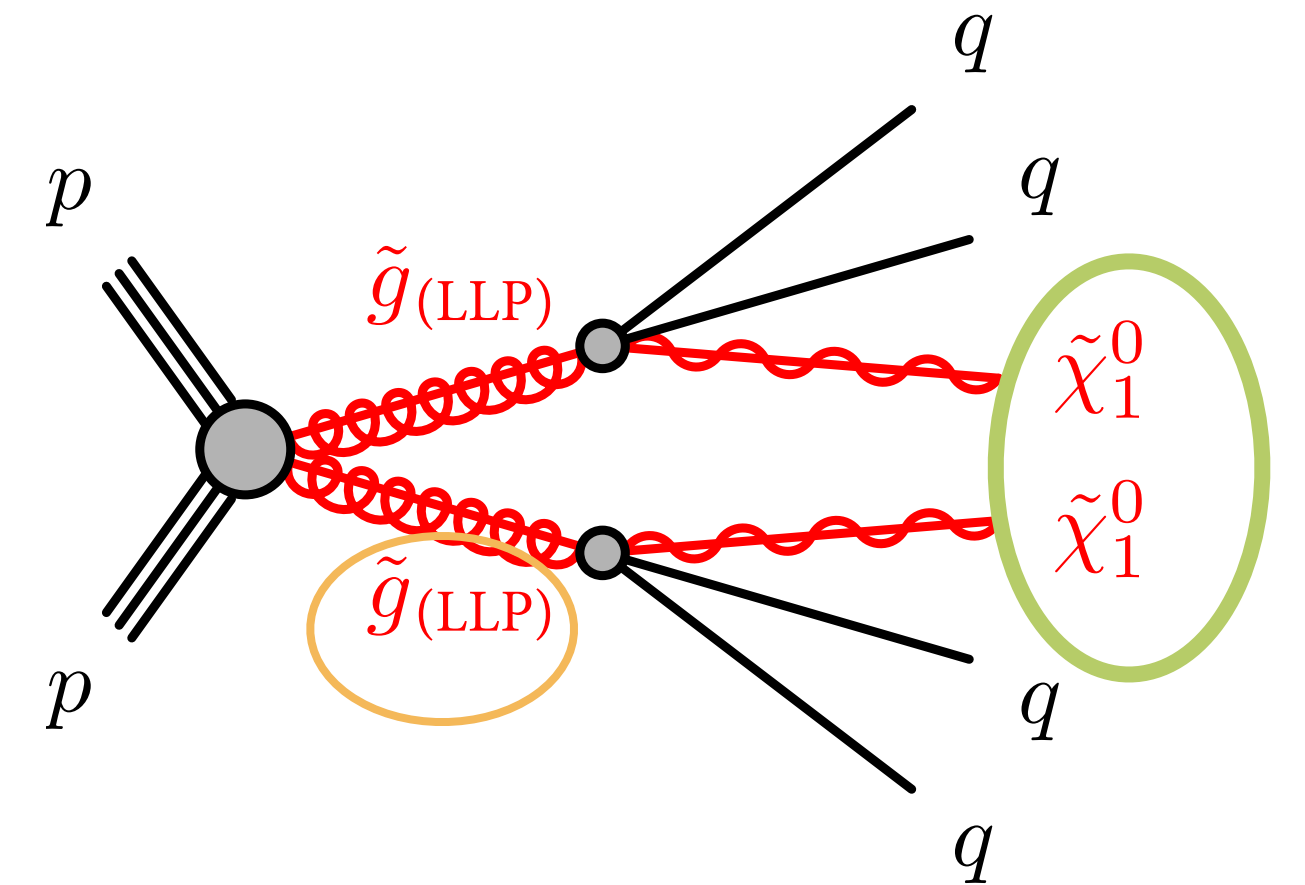
- Exclusion of $c\tau$ between 10 and 100 mm

Charged LLPs

Large dE/dx

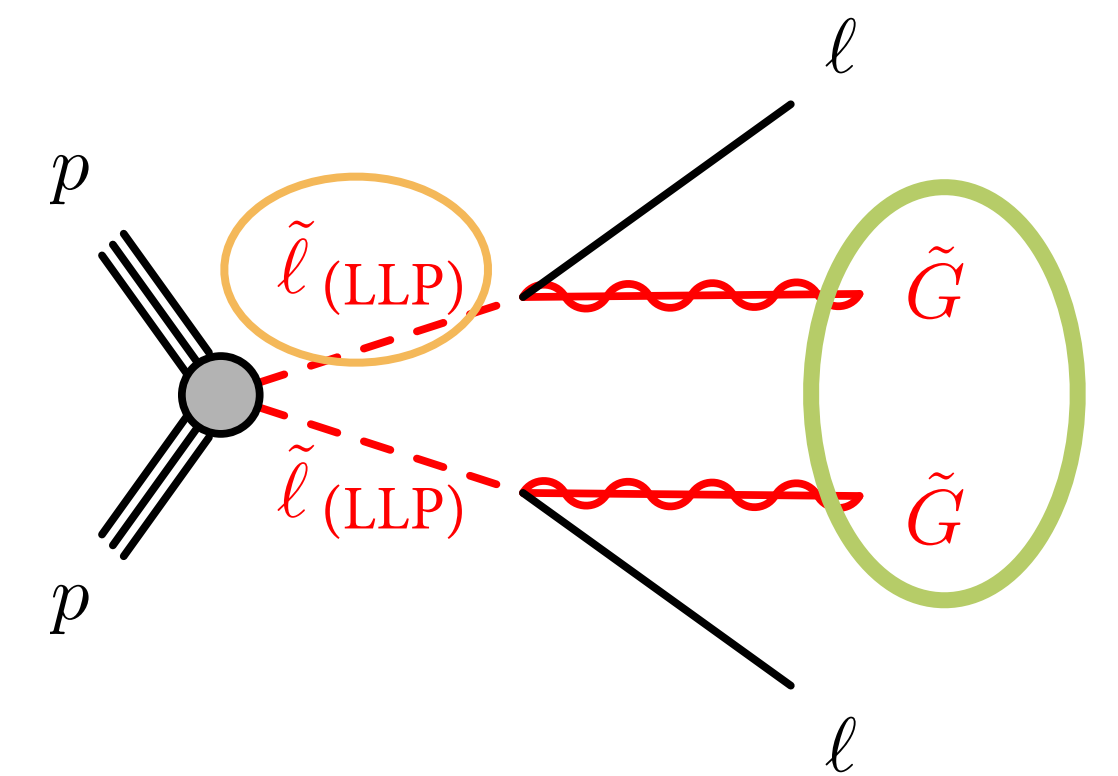
- Pair production of several different long-lived sparticles of charge $|q| = 1$
- isolated tracks with high transverse momenta (p_T) and anomalously large specific ionisation losses (dE/dx)
- particles are **expected to move significantly slower than the speed of light**
- Use **MET triggers**
- Fully data-driven background estimation!

2205.06013



High p_T track with
large dE/dx

LSP = MET

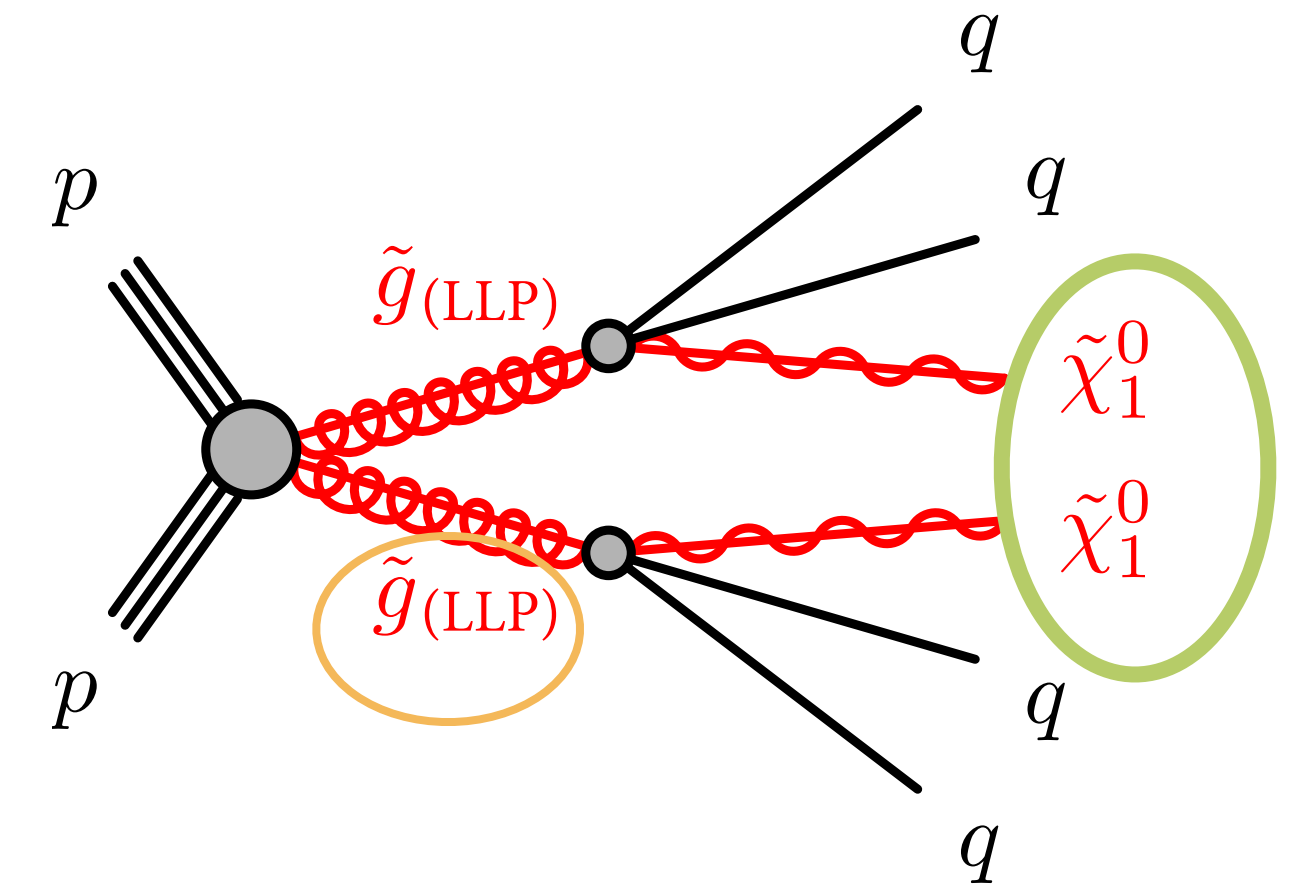


Charged LLPs

Large dE/dx

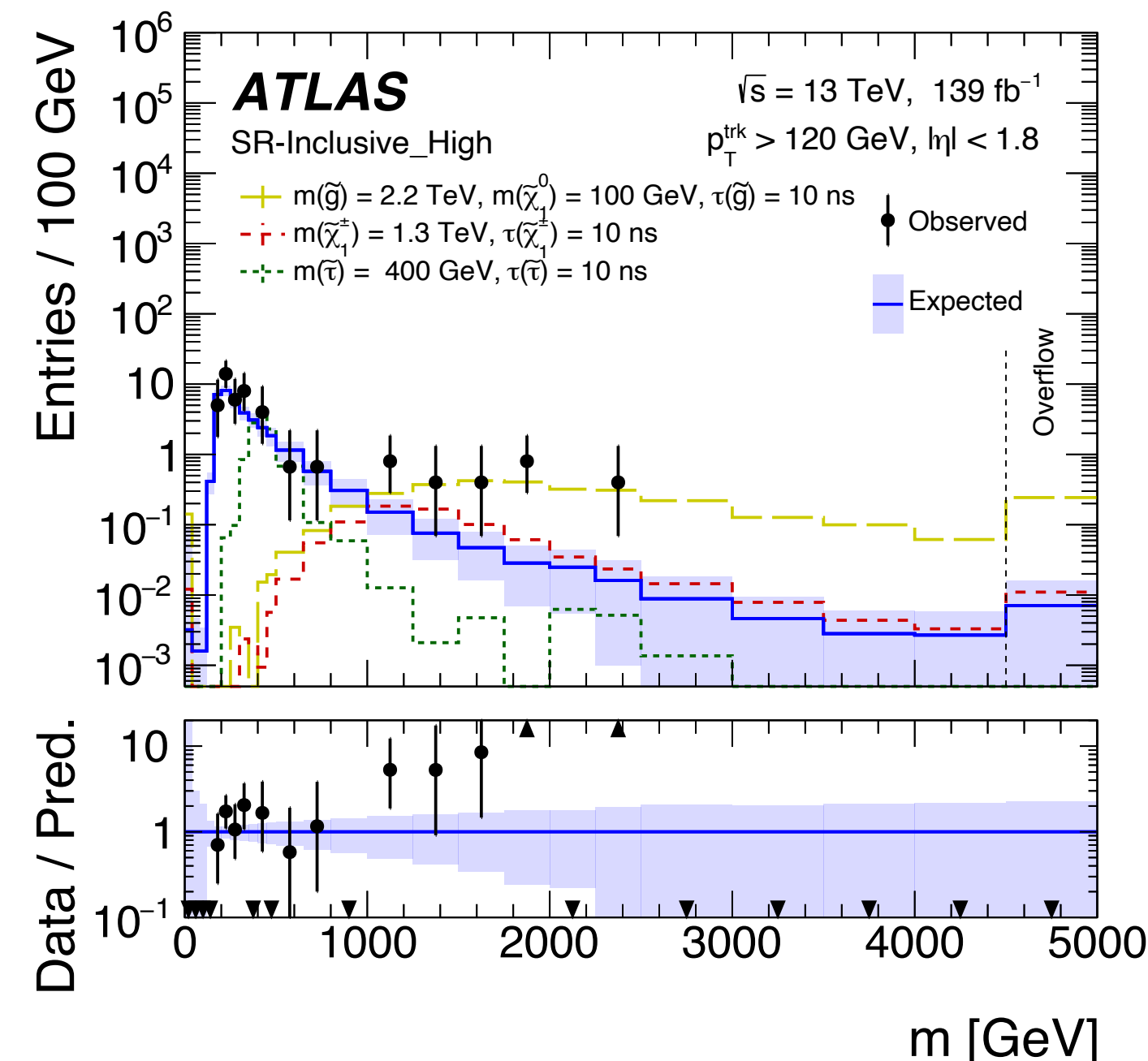
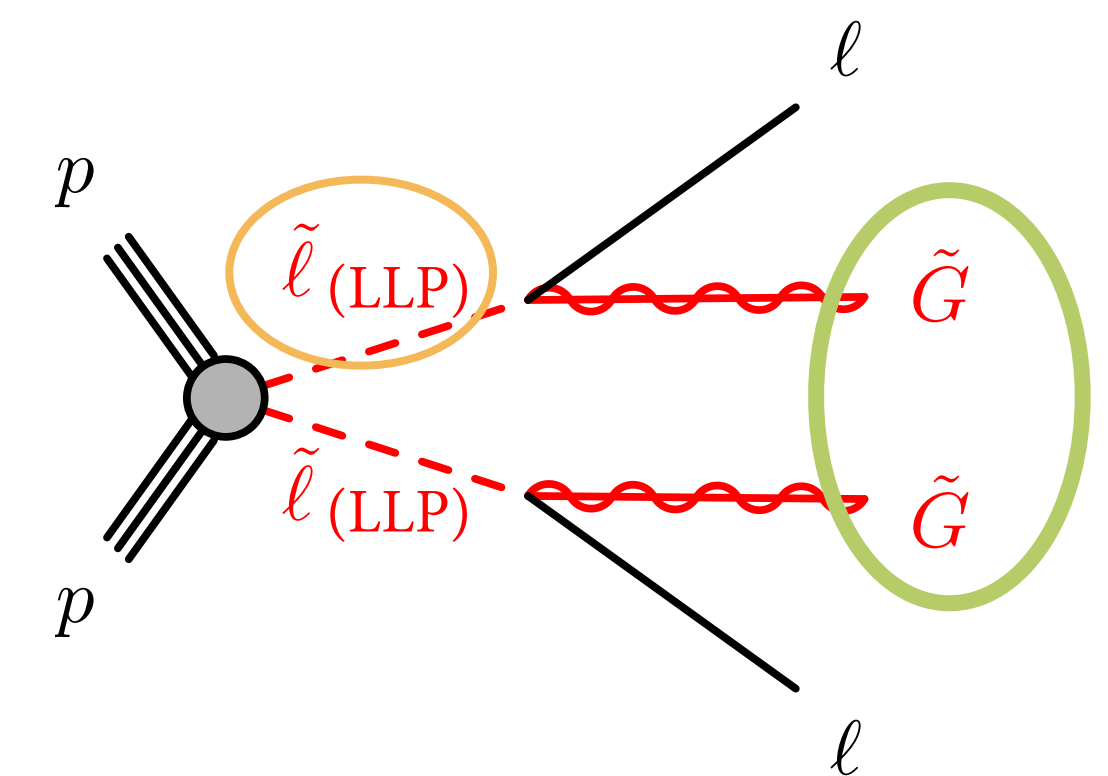
- Pair production of several different long-lived sparticles of charge $|q| = 1$
- isolated tracks with high transverse momenta (p_T) and anomalously large specific ionisation losses (dE/dx)
- particles are **expected to move significantly slower than the speed of light**
- Use **MET** triggers
- Fully data-driven background estimation!

2205.06013



High p_T track with large dE/dx

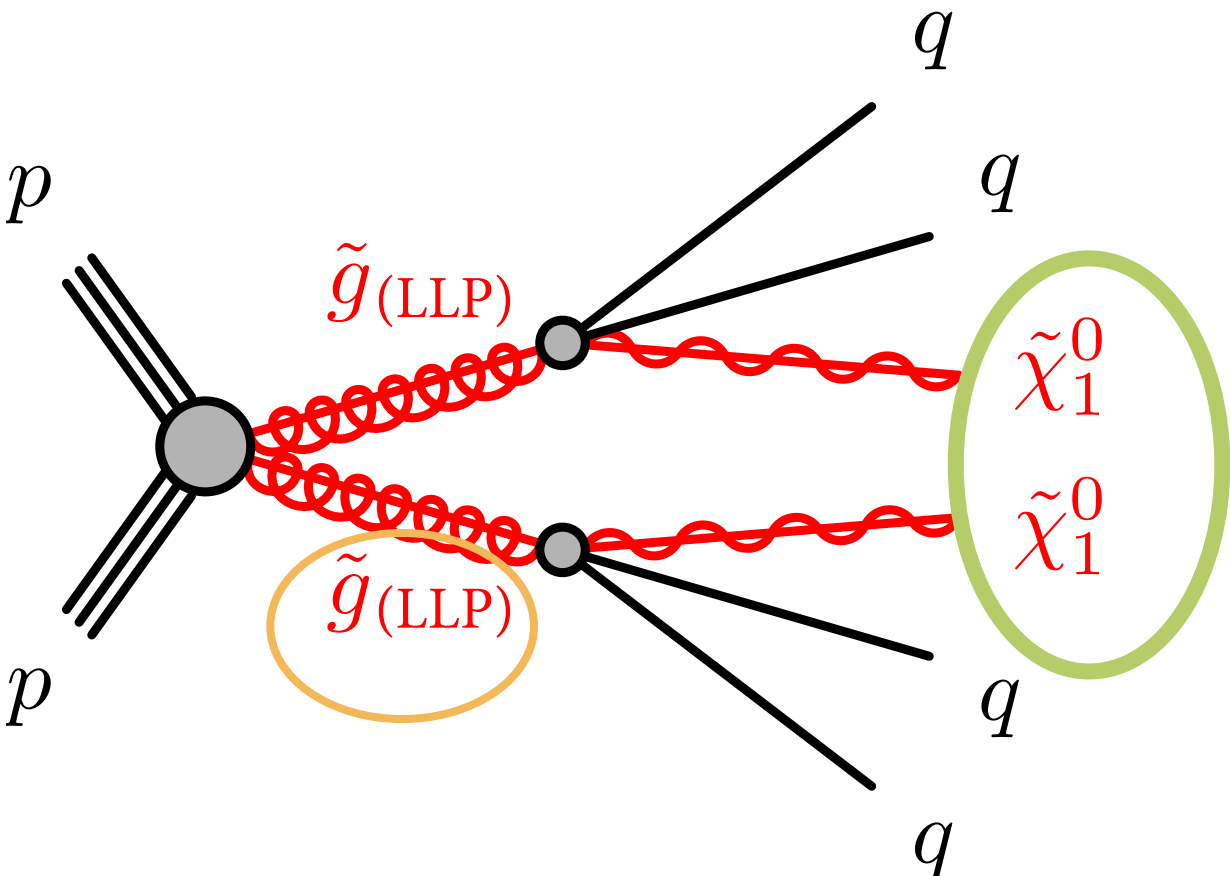
LSP = MET



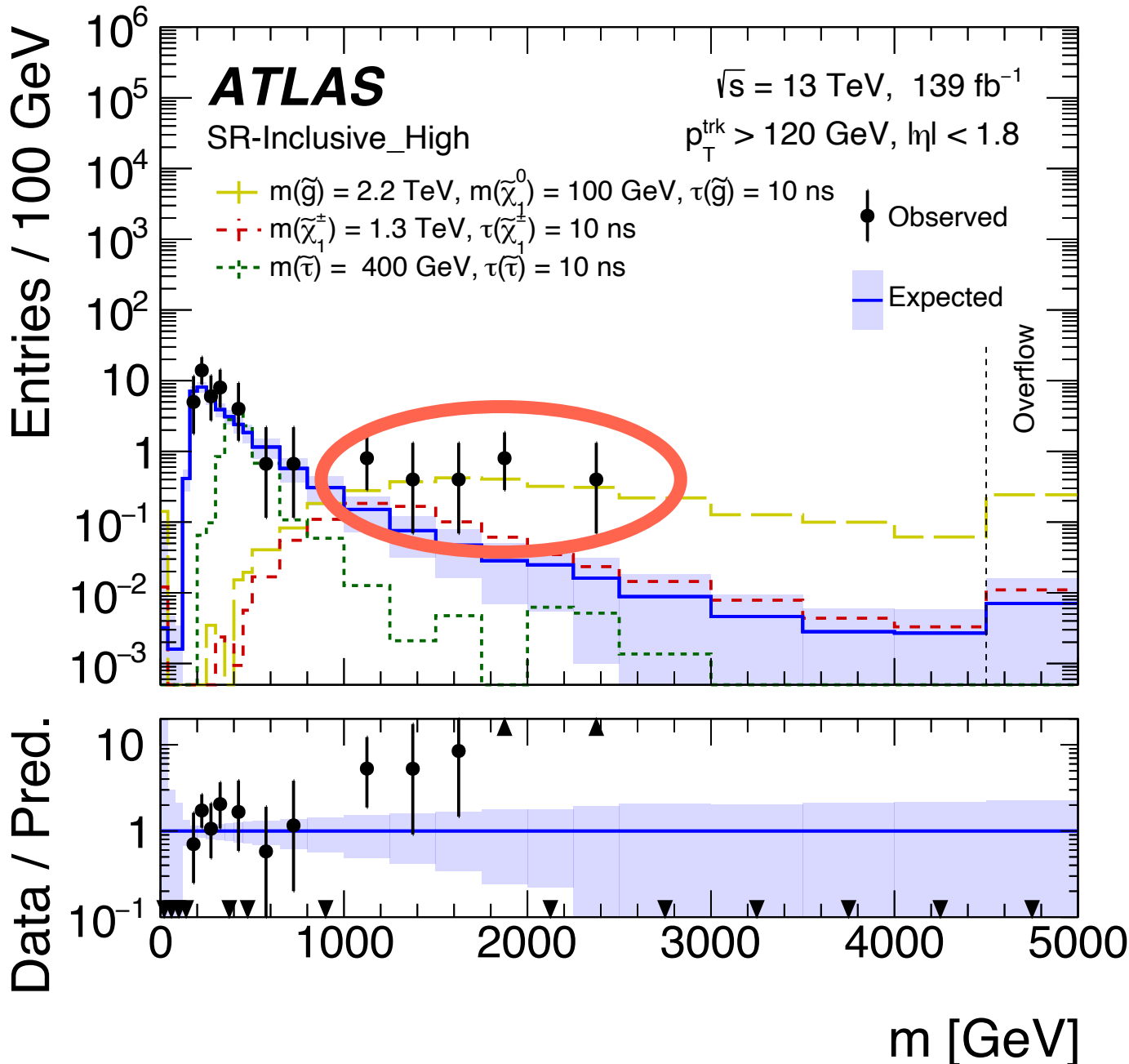
Charged LLPs

Large dE/dx

- Pair production of several different long-lived sparticles of charge $|q| = 1$
- isolated tracks with high transverse momenta (pT) and anomalously large specific ionisation losses (dE/dx)
- particles are **expected to move significantly slower than the speed of light**
- Use **MET triggers**
- Fully data-driven background estimation!



| Target mass [GeV] | Mass window [GeV] | Region bin | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | | SR-Inclusive_High | | | | | |
| | | Exp. | Obs. | p_0 | Z_{local} | $S_{\text{exp.}}^{95}$ | $S_{\text{obs.}}^{95}$ |
| lifetime | | | | | | | |
| 200 | [120, 225] | 5.6 ± 0.7 | 7 | 2.65×10^{-1} | 0.6 | $6.3^{+2.5}_{-1.7}$ | 7.8 |
| 300 | [200, 350] | 9.2 ± 0.8 | 14 | 7.11×10^{-2} | 1.5 | $7.6^{+3.0}_{-2.1}$ | 12.5 |
| 400 | [300, 500] | 5.8 ± 0.4 | 6 | 4.39×10^{-1} | 0.1 | $6.1^{+2.5}_{-1.8}$ | 6.5 |
| 450 | [350, 600] | 5.1 ± 0.4 | 3 | 5.00×10^{-1} | 0.0 | $6.0^{+2.2}_{-1.6}$ | 4.6 |
| 500 | [400, 700] | 4.3 ± 0.4 | 4 | 5.00×10^{-1} | 0.0 | $5.4^{+2.2}_{-1.3}$ | 5.2 |
| 550 | [400, 800] | 4.8 ± 0.4 | 4 | 5.00×10^{-1} | 0.0 | $5.8^{+2.5}_{-1.8}$ | 5.4 |
| 600 | [450, 900] | 3.91 ± 0.31 | 2 | 5.00×10^{-1} | 0.0 | $5.5^{+2.2}_{-1.6}$ | 4.0 |
| 650 | [500, 1000] | 3.22 ± 0.31 | 2 | 5.00×10^{-1} | 0.0 | $5.2^{+1.9}_{-1.6}$ | 4.4 |
| 700 | [550, 1100] | 2.64 ± 0.31 | 2 | 5.00×10^{-1} | 0.0 | $4.7^{+1.9}_{-1.0}$ | 4.3 |
| 800 | [600, 1200] | 2.22 ± 0.24 | 3 | 2.86×10^{-1} | 0.6 | $4.5^{+1.8}_{-1.0}$ | 5.5 |
| 900 | [650, 1400] | 2.0 ± 0.3 | 4 | 9.74×10^{-2} | 1.3 | $4.3^{+1.6}_{-0.9}$ | 6.8 |
| 1000 | [700, 1850] | 1.9 ± 0.5 | 4 | 9.01×10^{-2} | 1.3 | $4.1^{+1.9}_{-0.7}$ | 7.0 |
| 1200 | [800, 2400] | 1.5 ± 0.7 | 6 | 9.10×10^{-3} | 2.4 | $4.0^{+1.6}_{-0.8}$ | 10.0 |
| 1400 | [900, 2900] | 1.1 ± 0.7 | 7 | 2.08×10^{-3} | 2.9 | $4.0^{+1.4}_{-0.7}$ | 11.5 |
| 1600 | [1000, 3450] | 0.9 ± 0.5 | 7 | 6.03×10^{-4} | 3.2 | $3.6^{+1.5}_{-0.5}$ | 11.8 |
| 1800 | [1100, 4000] | 0.8 ± 0.6 | 7 | 8.87×10^{-4} | 3.1 | $3.5^{+1.1}_{-0.2}$ | 11.9 |
| 2000 | [1200, 4600] | 0.6 ± 0.5 | 5 | 4.92×10^{-3} | 2.6 | $3.1^{+1.1}_{-0.1}$ | 9.4 |



3.6 σ excess!!

Is this New Physics???

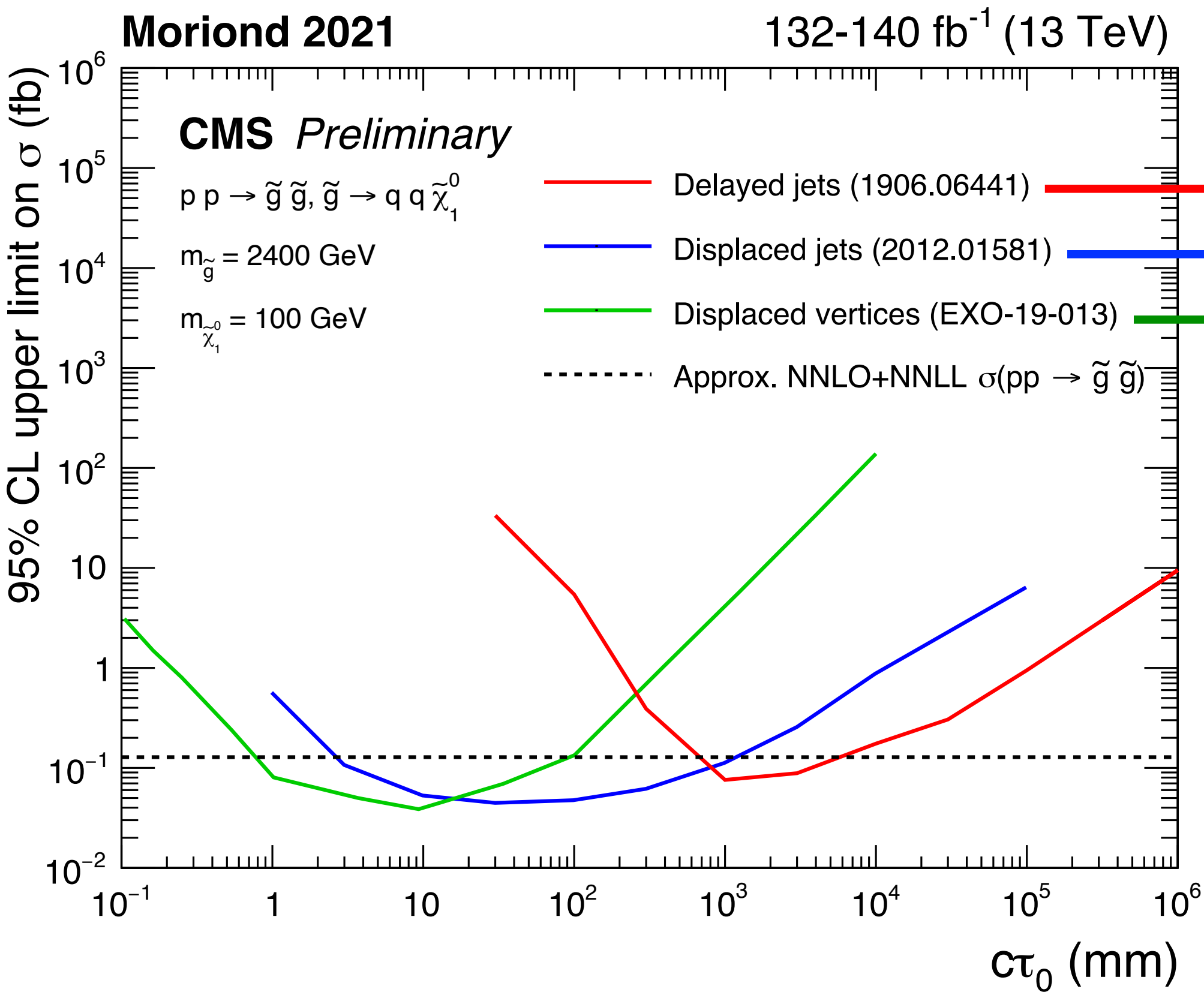
Maybe, though... from the TOF of these events indicate that **none of the candidate tracks** are from charged particles moving significantly **slower than the speed of light** 😞

CMS doing a similar analysis

Analysis will be repeated in Run 3!

Complementary searches

- Searches for signatures in different subdetectors can be complementary

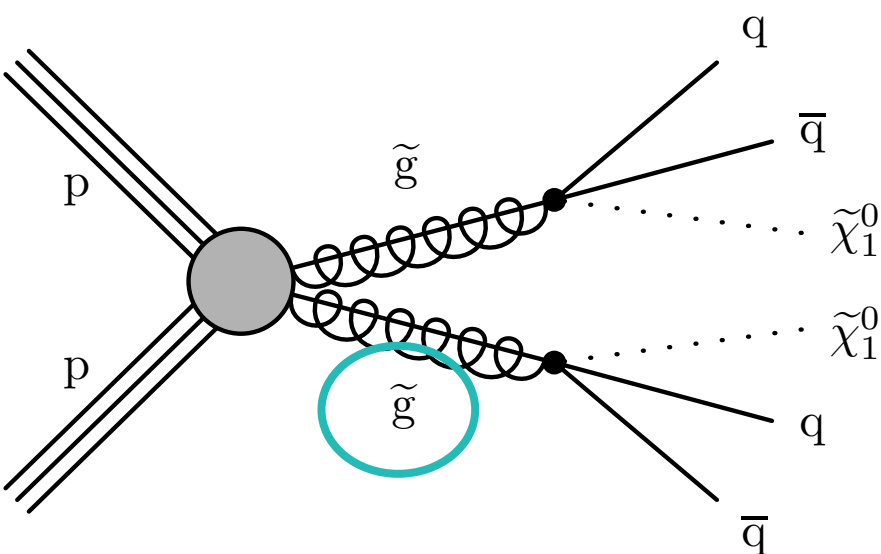


Target decays in:

Calorimeters

Tracker

Beam pipe



We can expand the lifetime coverage by using multiple search strategies

Complementary searches

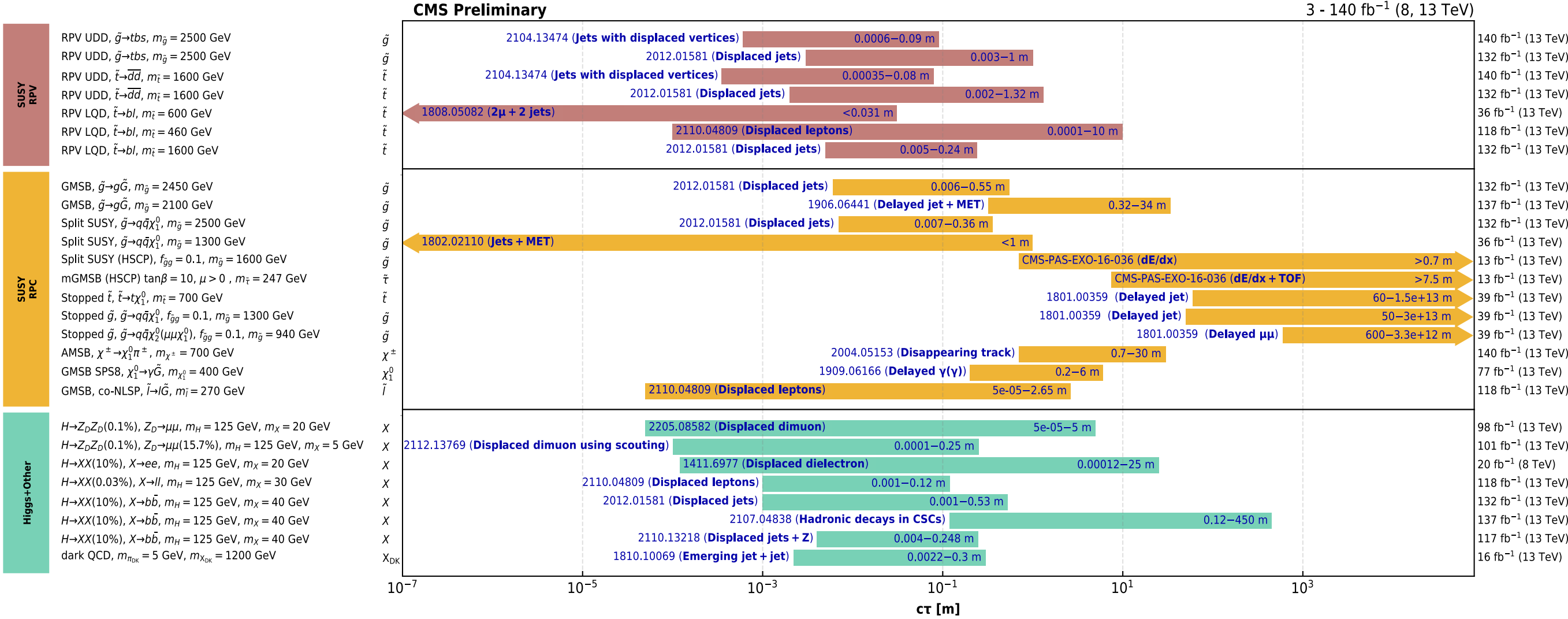
- Searches for signatures in different subdetectors can be complementary

Hard to compare between experiments
Not using the same benchmark models
Being discussed in the [LHC LLP WG](#)

- Among all LLP searches in ATLAS, CMS, and LHCb we’ve tested $c\tau$ from 10^{-5} to 10^2 m!!

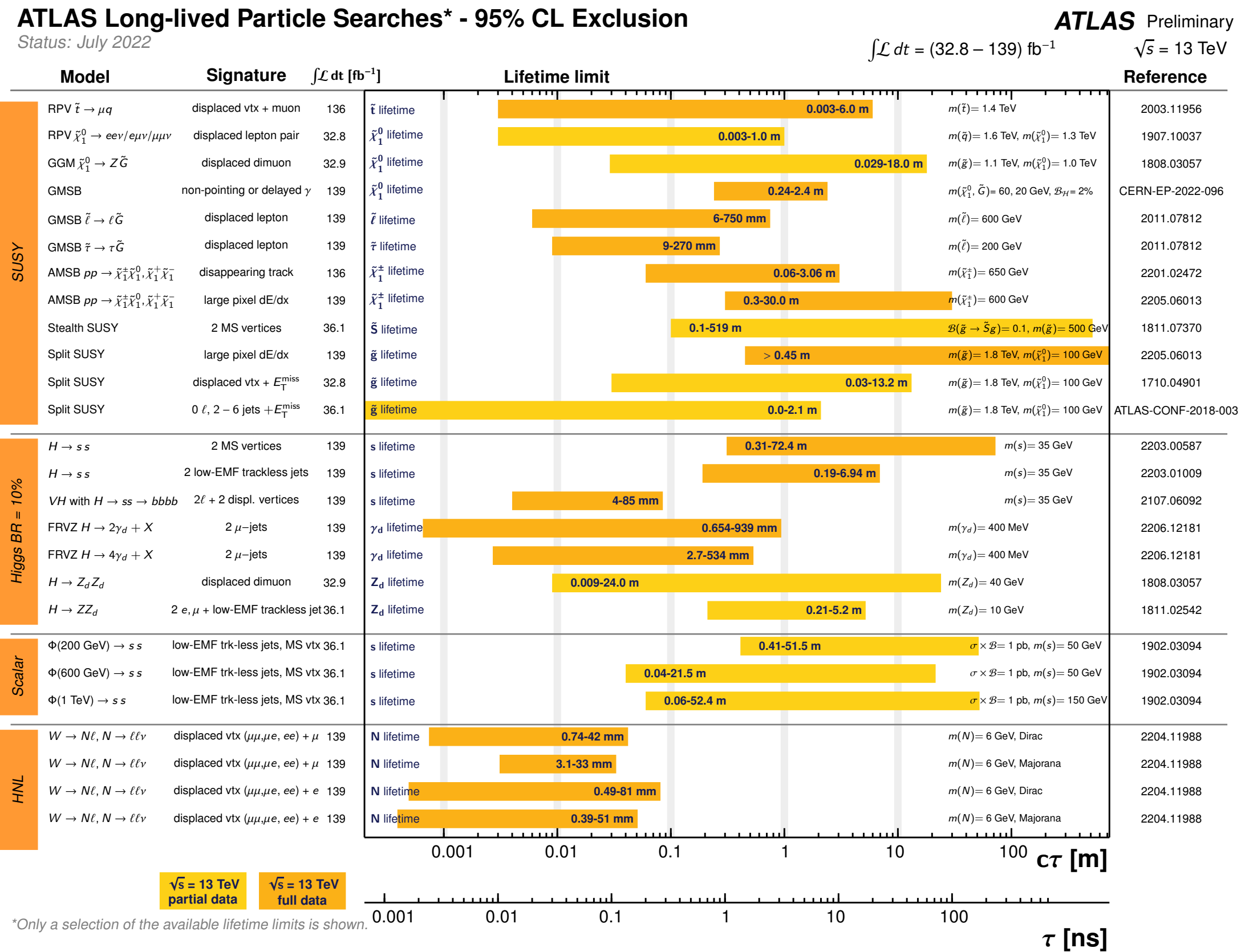
- Find a few more examples in backup

Overview of CMS long-lived particle searches



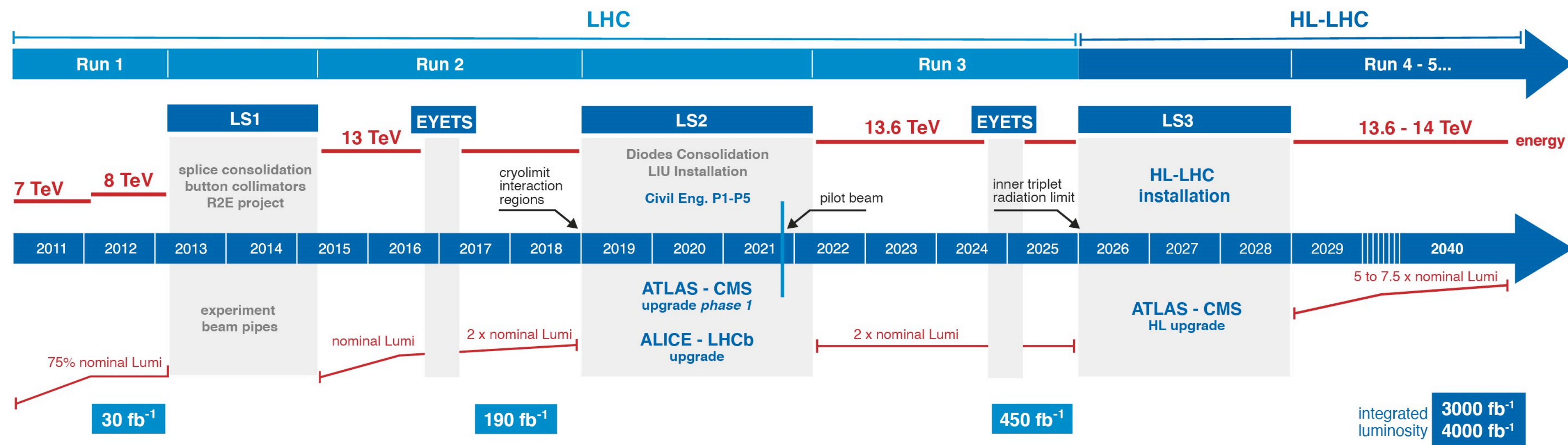
Selection of observed exclusion limits at 95% C.L. (theory uncertainties are not included). The y-axis tick labels indicate the studied long-lived particle.

ICHEP 2022



Looking at the future: Run 3 and HL-LHC

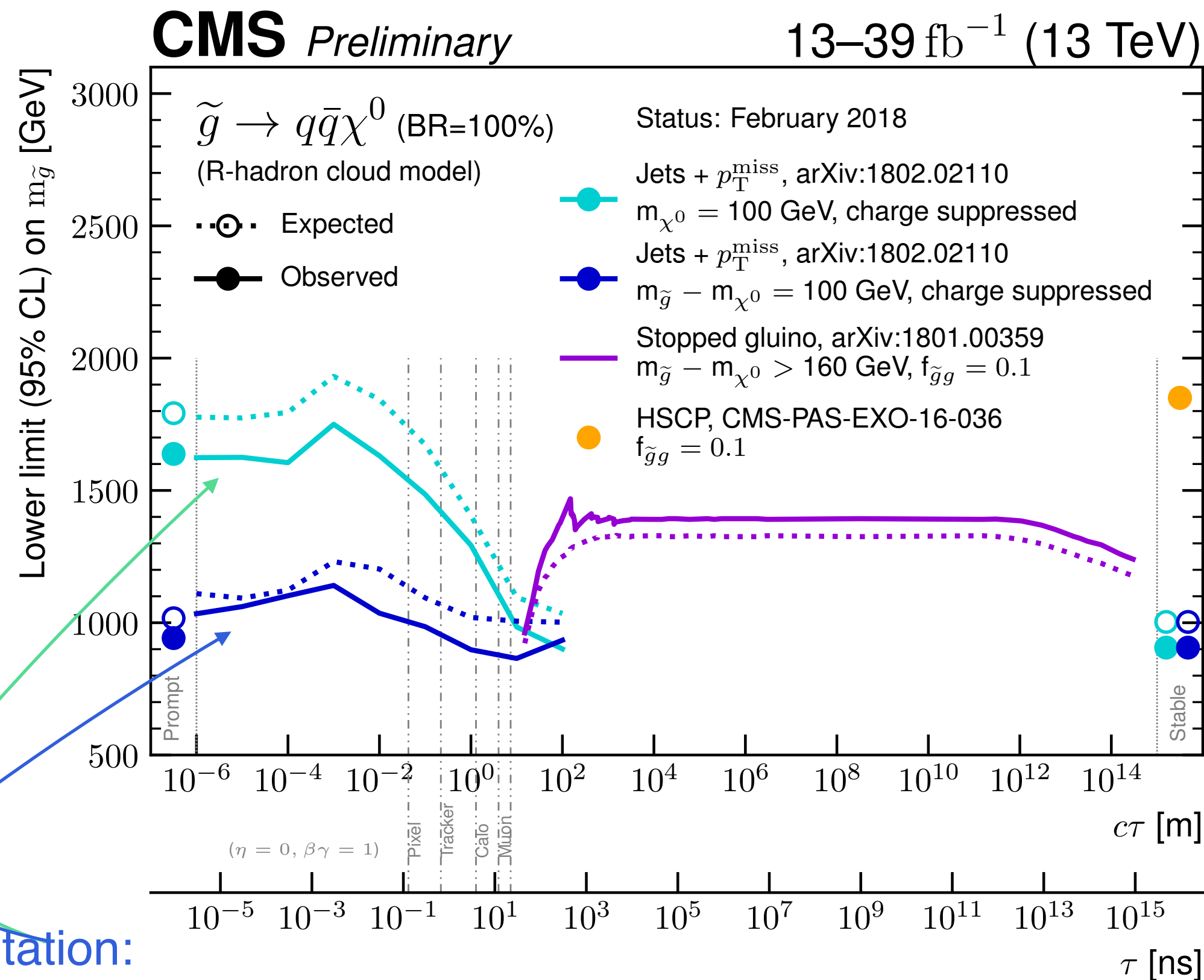
- Run 1 (2009-2013) and Run 2 (2015-2018) delivered 200/fb for the two general purpose experiments, ATLAS and CMS (only 5% of the total integrated luminosity to be collected)
- Run 3 (2022-2025) started with an energy of 13.6 TeV!
- High Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC) will start with Run 4 in 2029:
 - Expected integrated luminosity: 3000/fb, observation of Higgs boson self-coupling as physics driver



- How can we make the best use of the future data?
- Lots of plans and ideas...

Reinterpretation

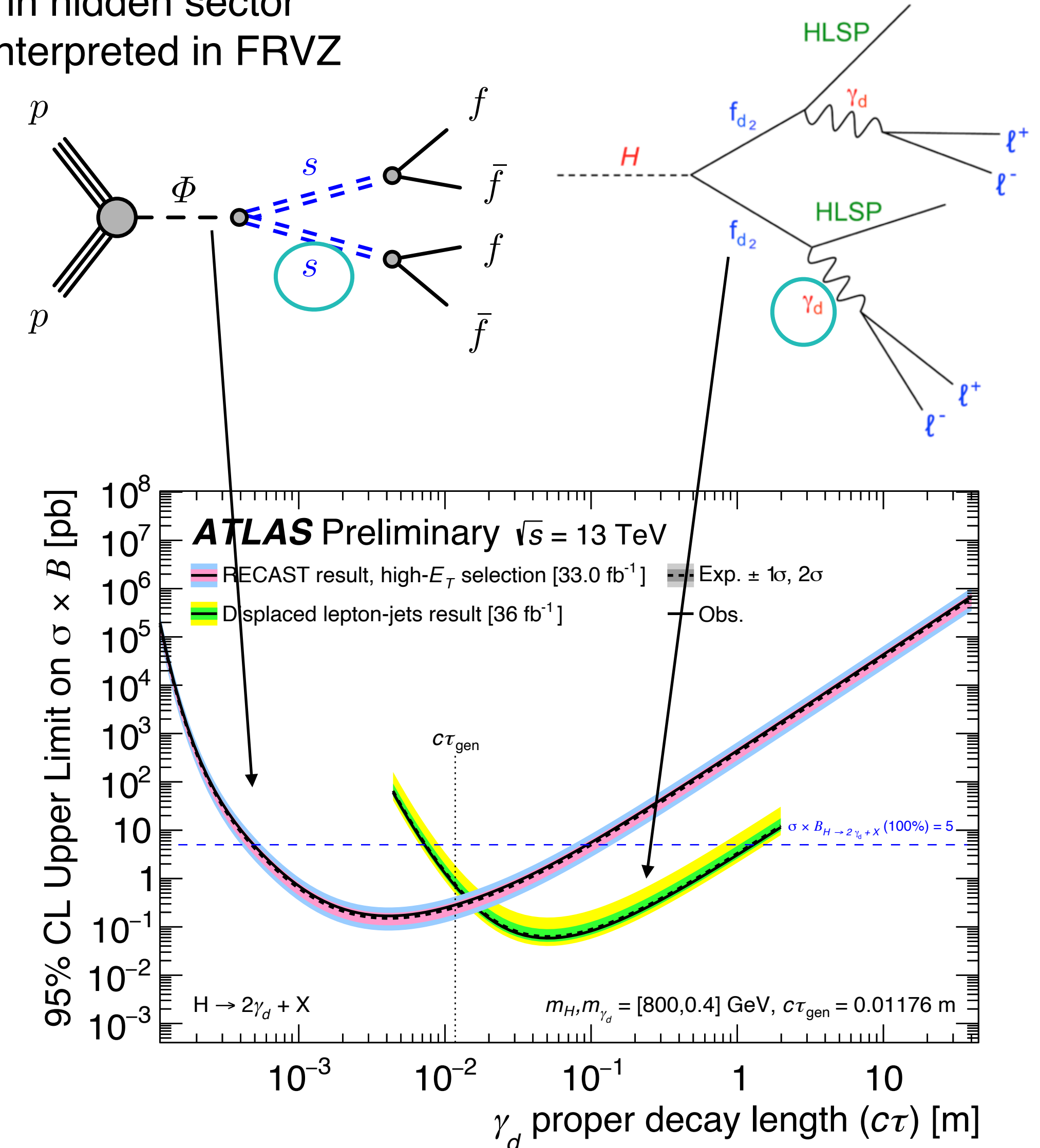
- Understanding backgrounds is a big part of the analysis
- Every search is defined based on a benchmark theory model but other models can lead to very similar signatures.
- Better understanding of general coverage of existing analyses



Re-interpretation:
[SUS-16-038](#)

Search for pairs of displaced jets in hidden sector
 Reinterpreted in FRVZ

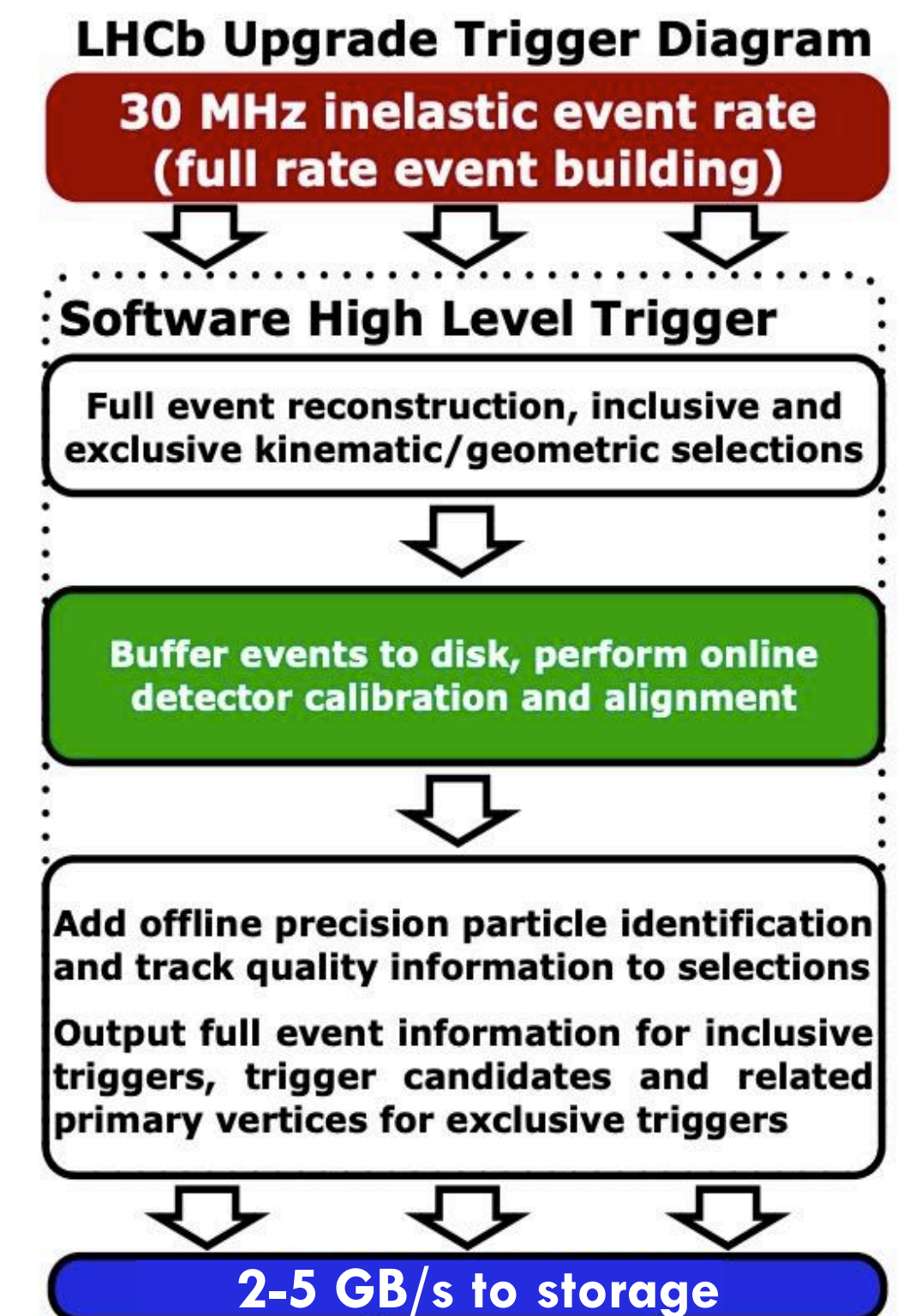
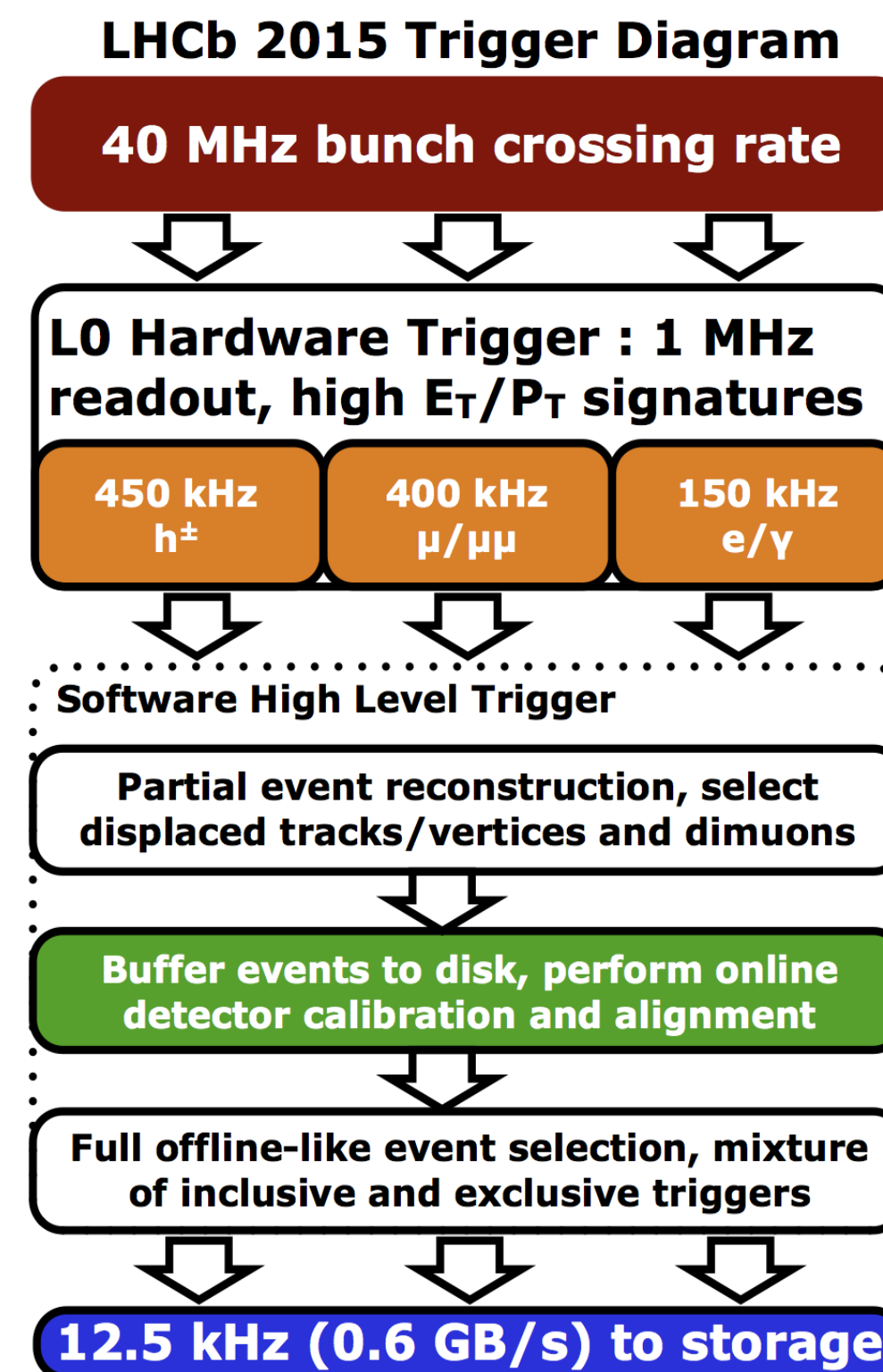
Dark matter FRVZ model
 Original search for displaced dark photon jets



New triggers for Run 3

- Trigger is the first filter in data taking
- If we don't trigger on new processes we can't discover them!
- Run 3 is an opportunity to add ideas for new triggers
 - Study topologies or phase spaces that have not been ever looked at!
- The limit bandwidth is limited... How do we do that?

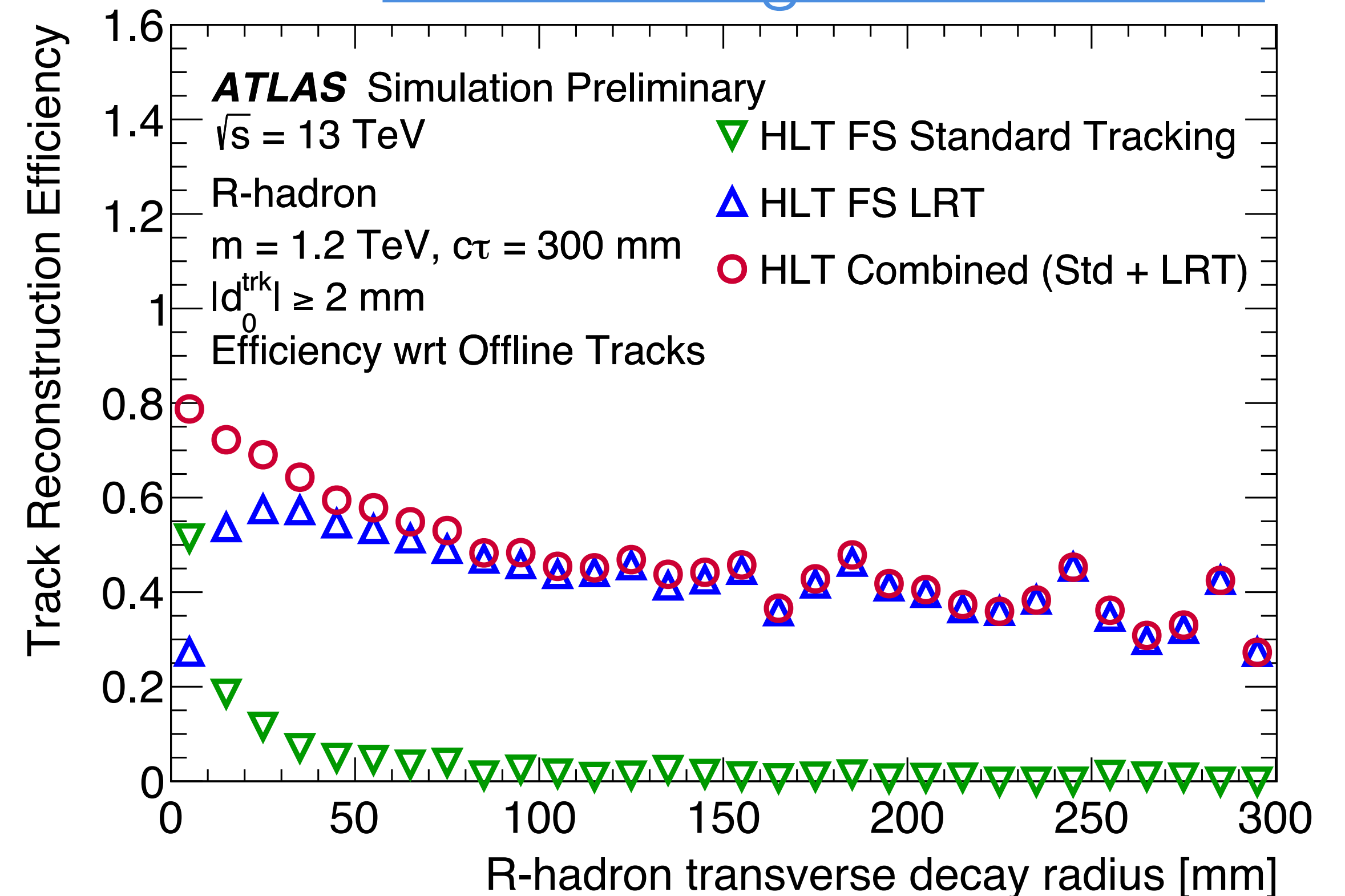
- LHCb: radical idea
- get rid of the L0 trigger in Run 3!!!
 - gain a factor 2 in hadronic channels
 - GPU-based HLT



New triggers for Run 3

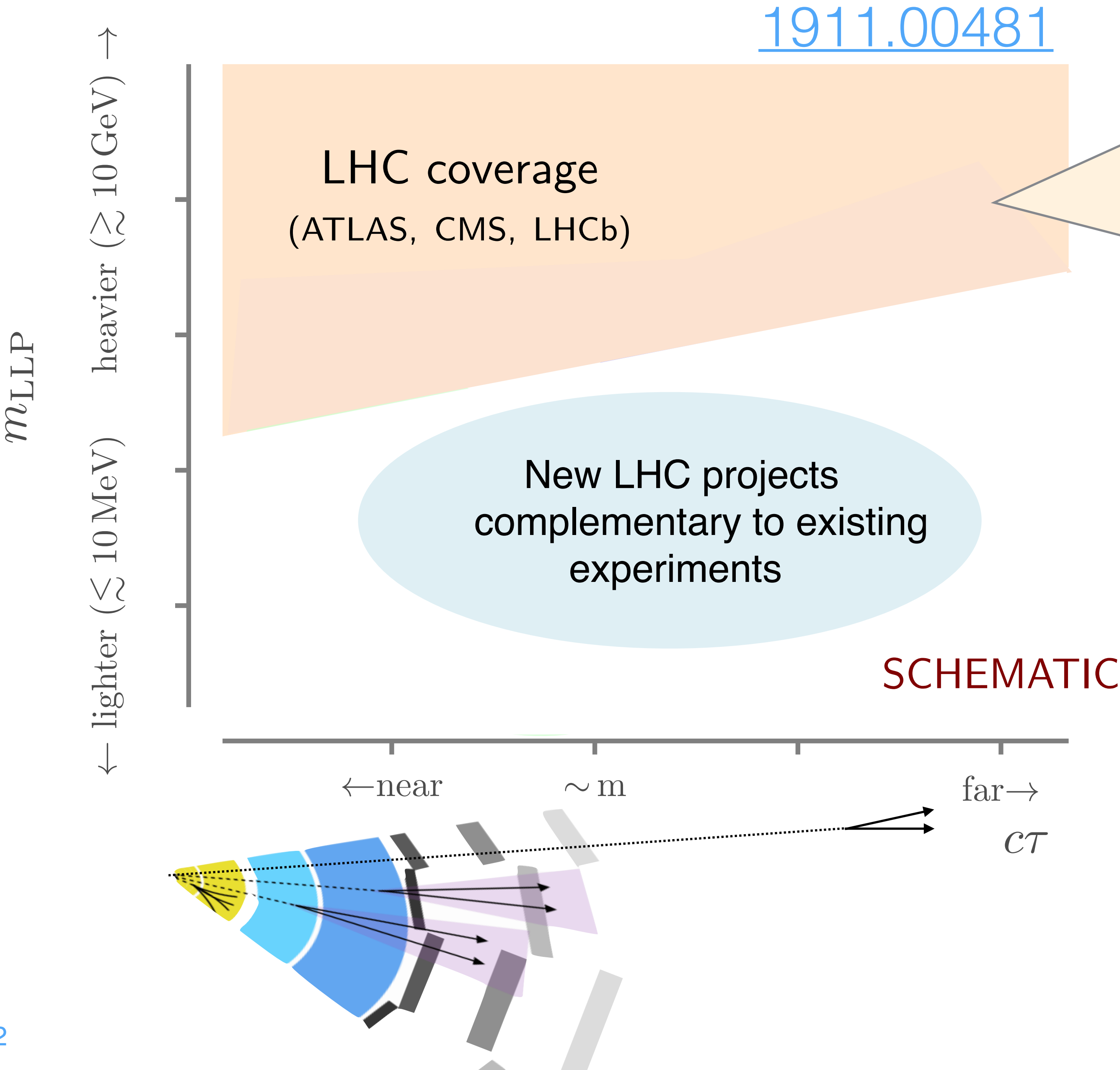
- Trigger is the first filter in data taking
- If we don't trigger on new processes we can't discover them!
- Run 3 is an opportunity to add ideas for new triggers
 - Study topologies or phase spaces that have not been ever looked at!
- The limit bandwidth is limited... How do we do that?
- In ATLAS and CMS: created and improving dedicated triggers for Run 3
- Great example: running ATLAS LRT at trigger level

[HLTTrackingPublicResults](#)

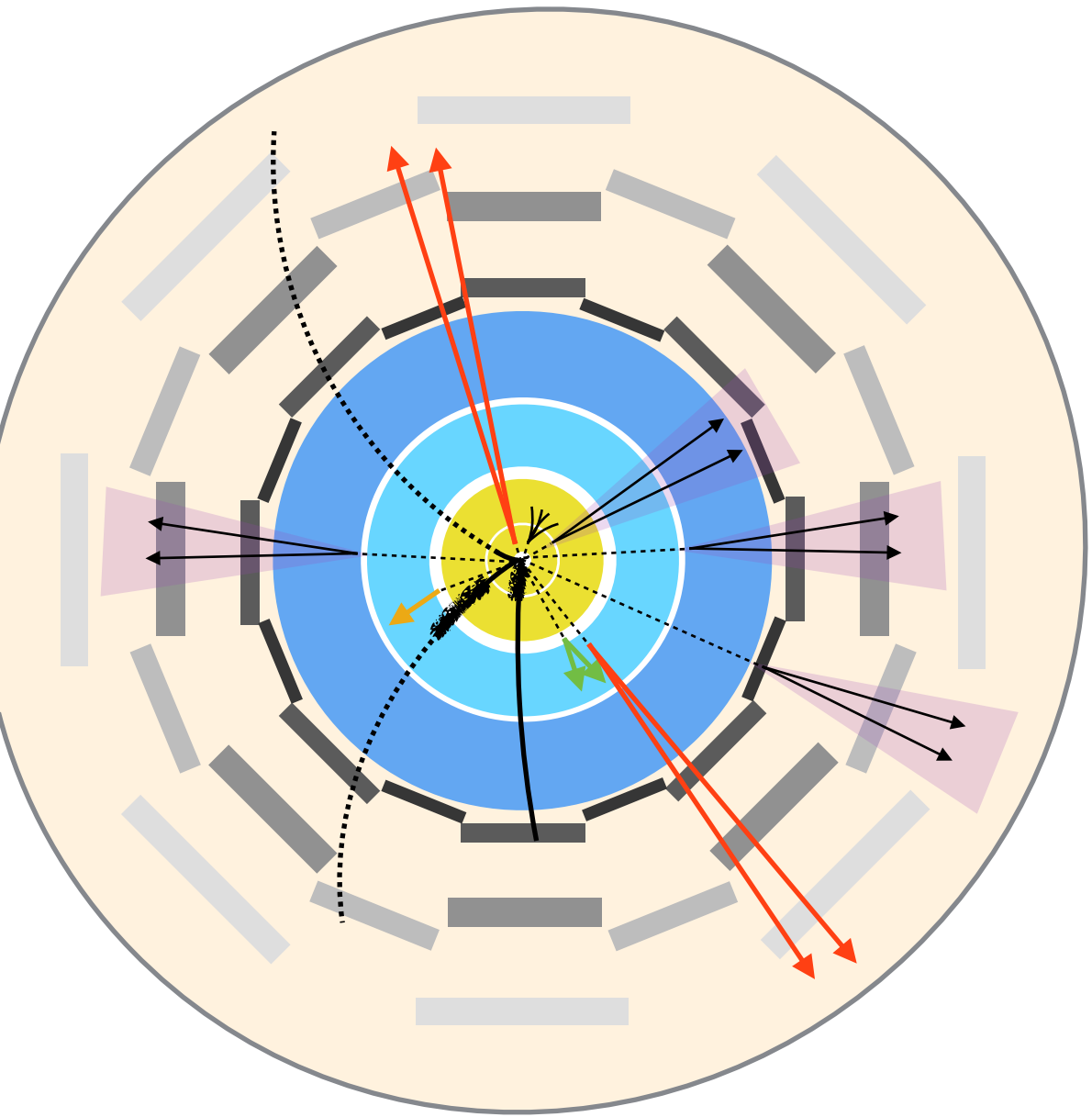


Searches beyond ATLAS, CMS, LHCb

- Many of the theories involving Long-lived particles give no specifications on lifetimes
- Need dedicated experiments far away from the IP!



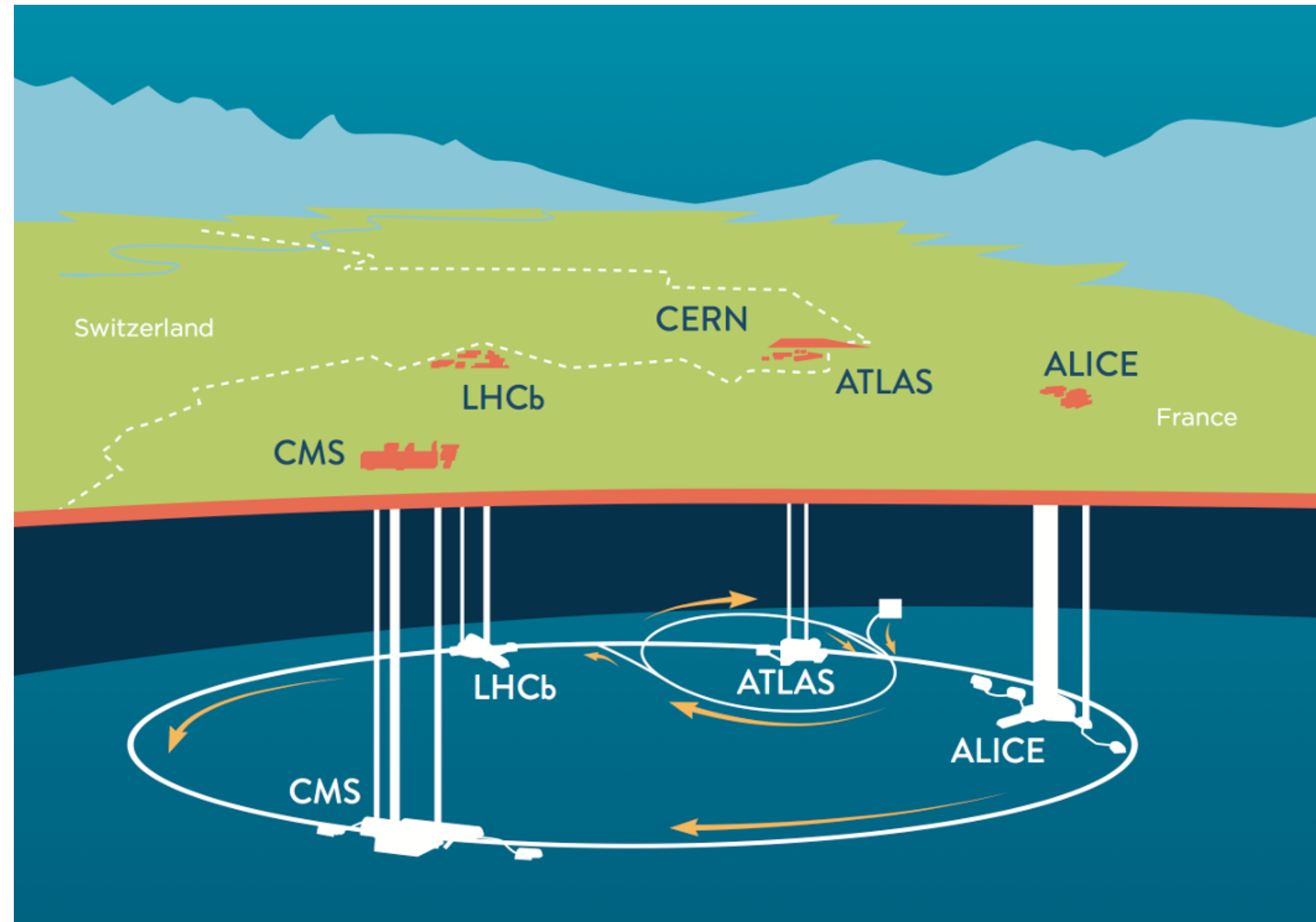
[1911.00481](#)



- Trigger constraints
- lots of SM background
- limited by size

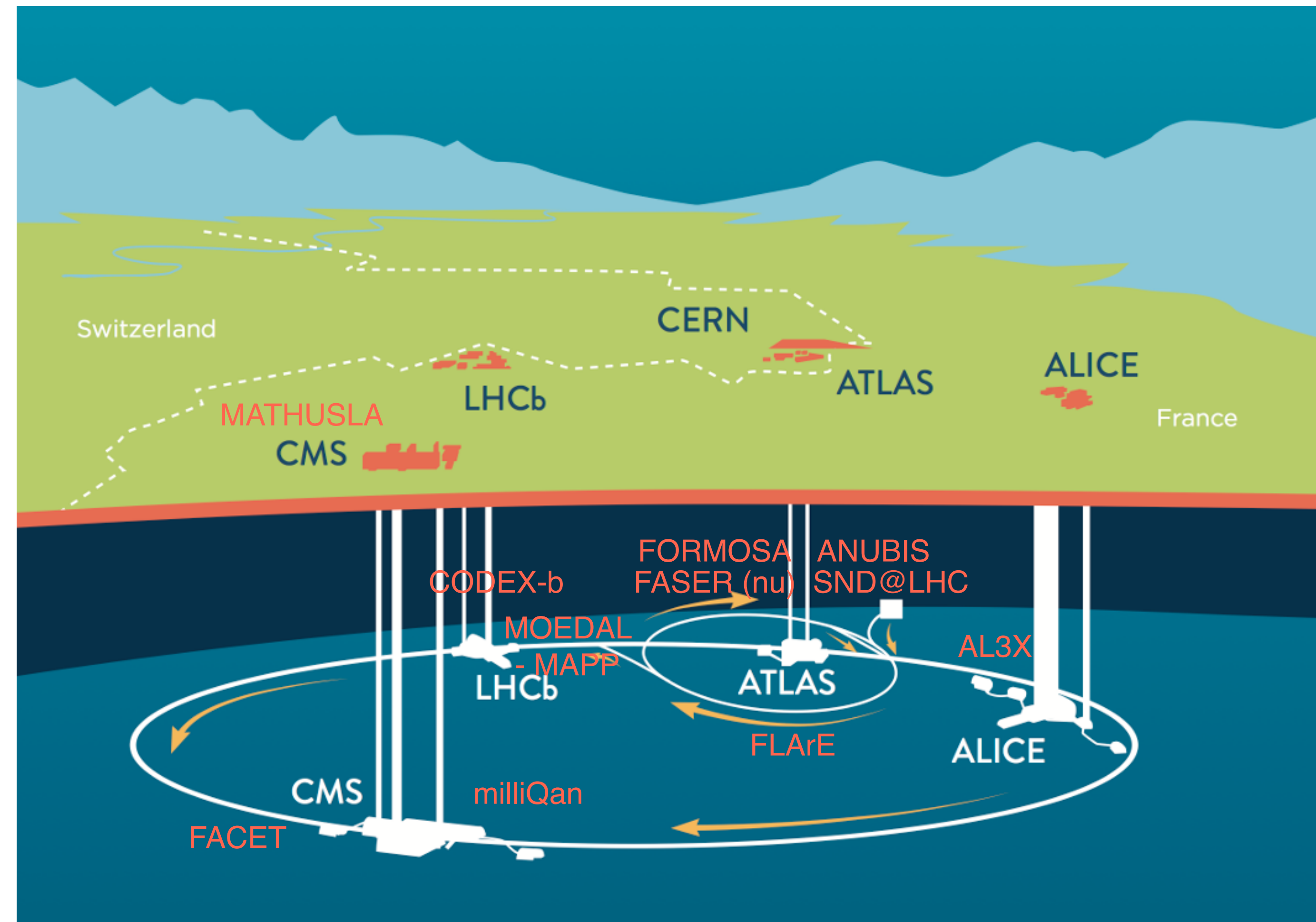
Overview of proposed LLP detectors at the LHC

- Huge range of lifetimes from $\sim 50\text{m}$ to 10^8 m covered by different detector volume and distance from IP
- Range of models, couplings and masses covered by different angle wrt beam axis
- Many possible decay modes!
- Need variety of detectors = complementary



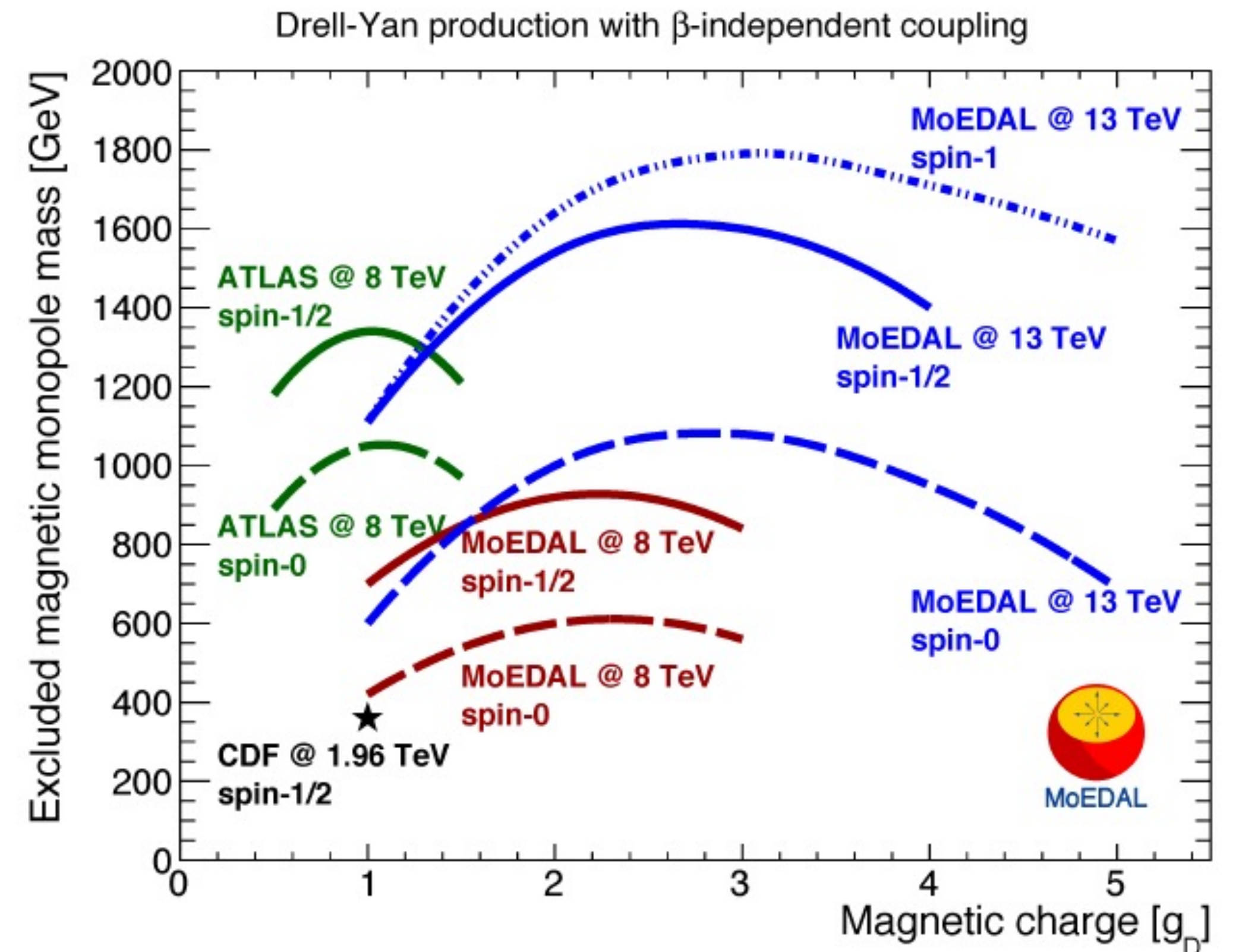
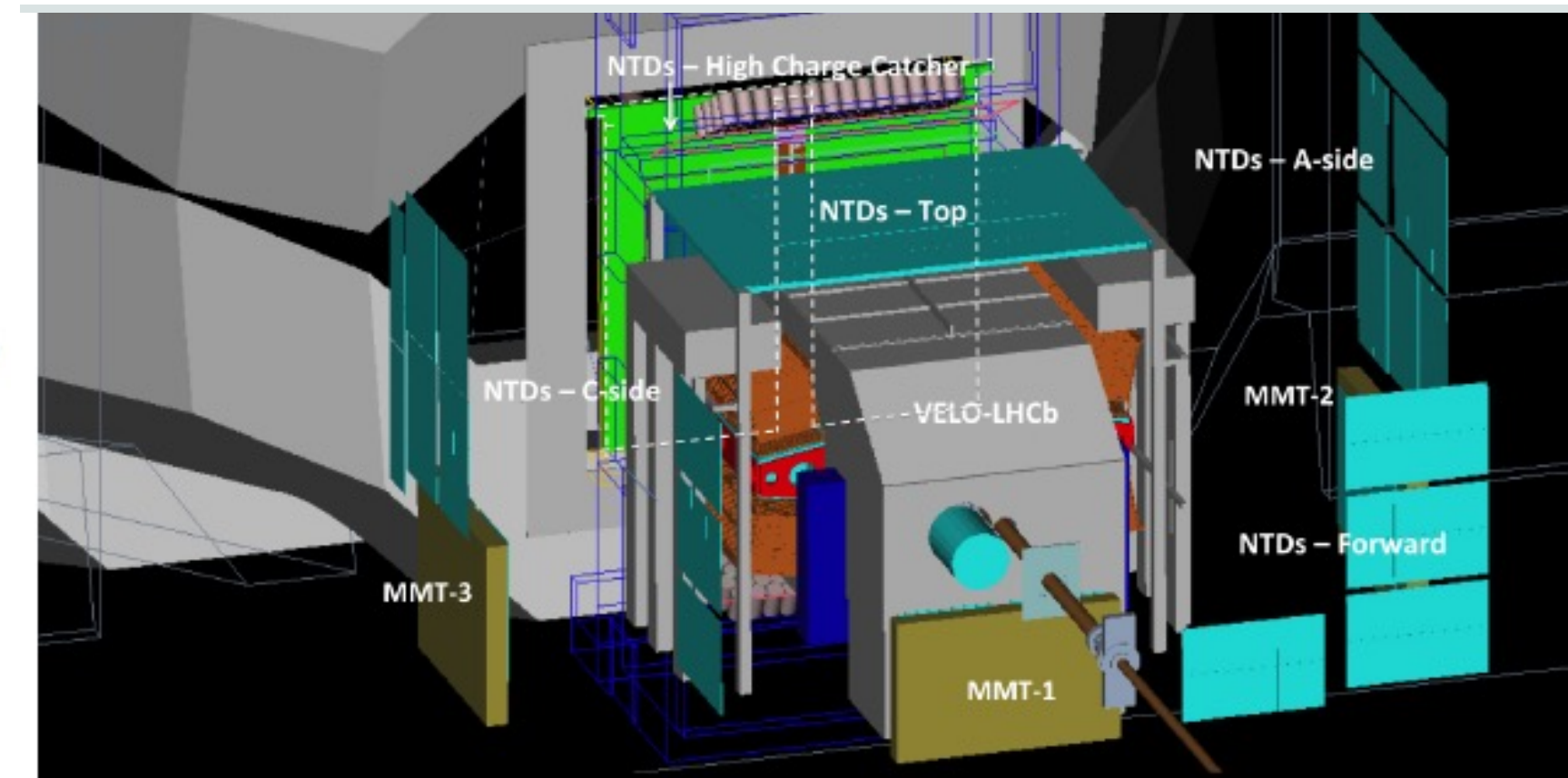
Overview of proposed LLP detectors at the LHC

- Huge range of lifetimes from $\sim 10\text{m}$ to 10^8 m covered by different detector volume and distance from IP
- Range of models, couplings and masses covered by different angle wrt beam axis
- Many possible decay modes!
- Need variety of detectors = complementary



MoEDAL

- Located at LHCb cavern, approved in 2010
- Target: highly ionizing particles, magnetic monopoles, massive pseudo-stable charged particles (sleptons, R-hadrons) , ...
- Two technologies used:
 - Magnetic Monopole traps
 - bind a magnetically charged particles with an energy of 0.5 - 2.5 MeV and capture it inside the atomic lattice
 - Nuclear Track Detectors: when a HIP passes through the NTD, it creates an invisible damage along its track
- Moedal's results for monopoles leading mass limits





MAsive Timing Hodoscope for Ultra Stable neutral pArticles

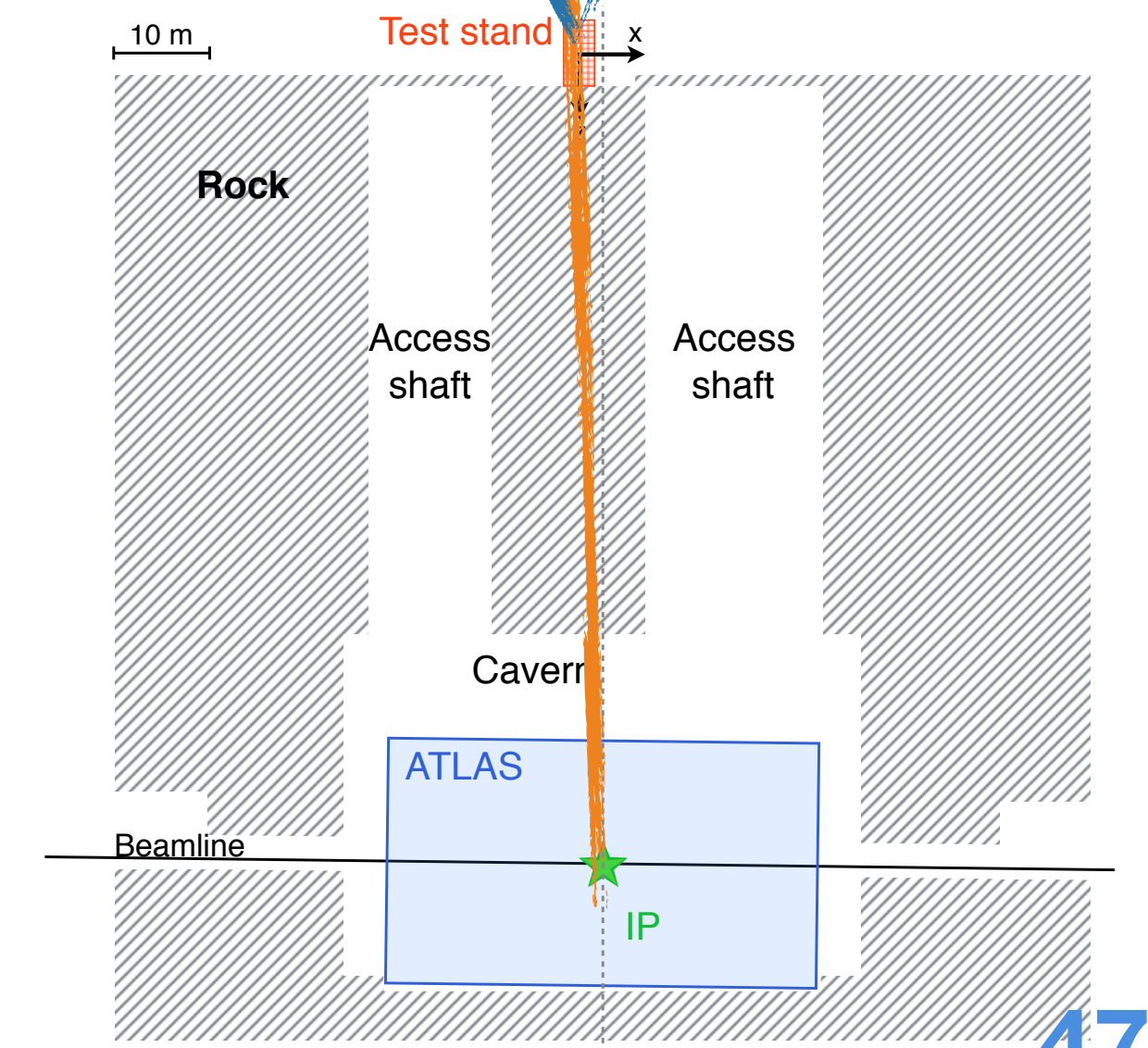
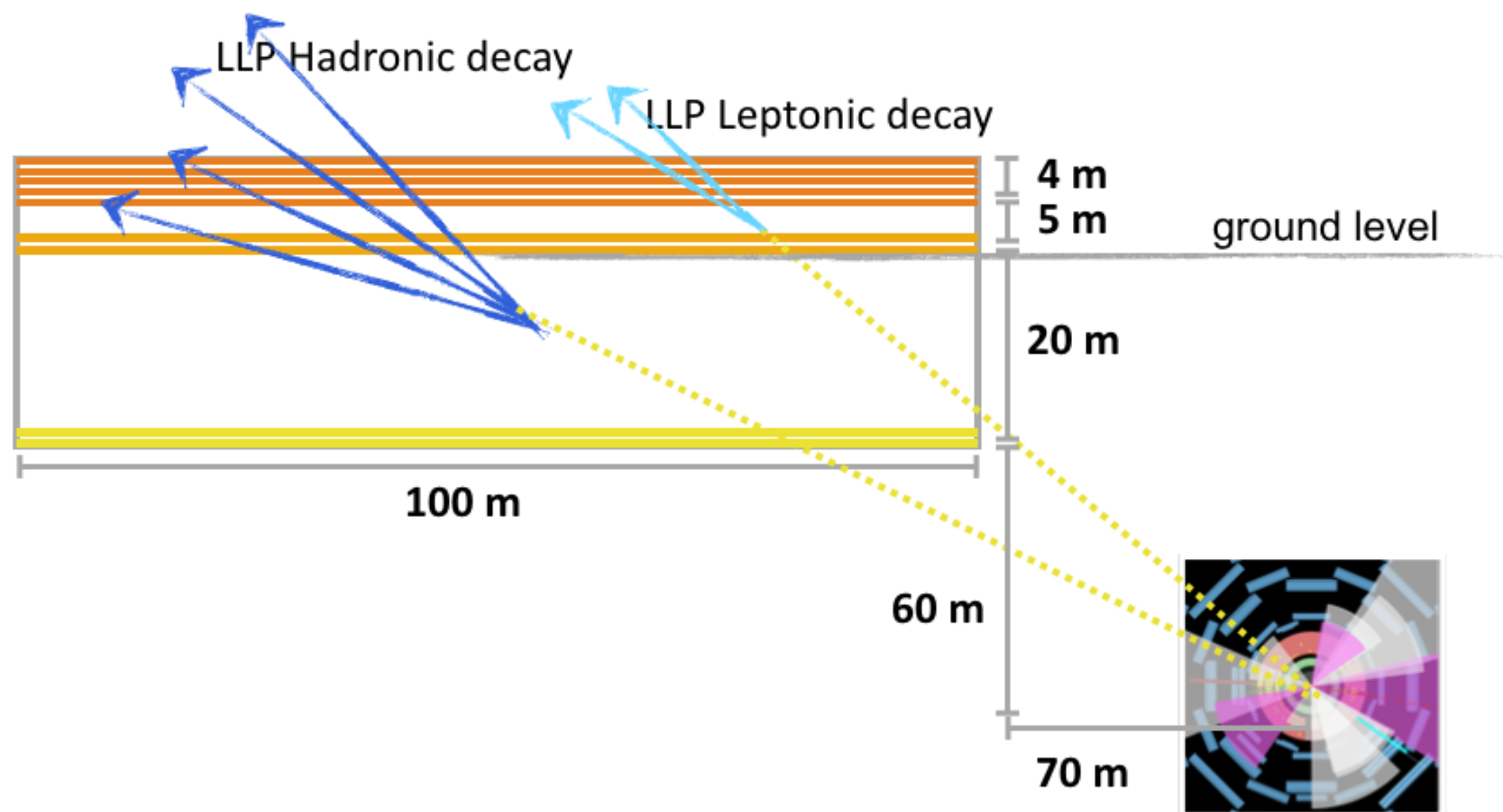
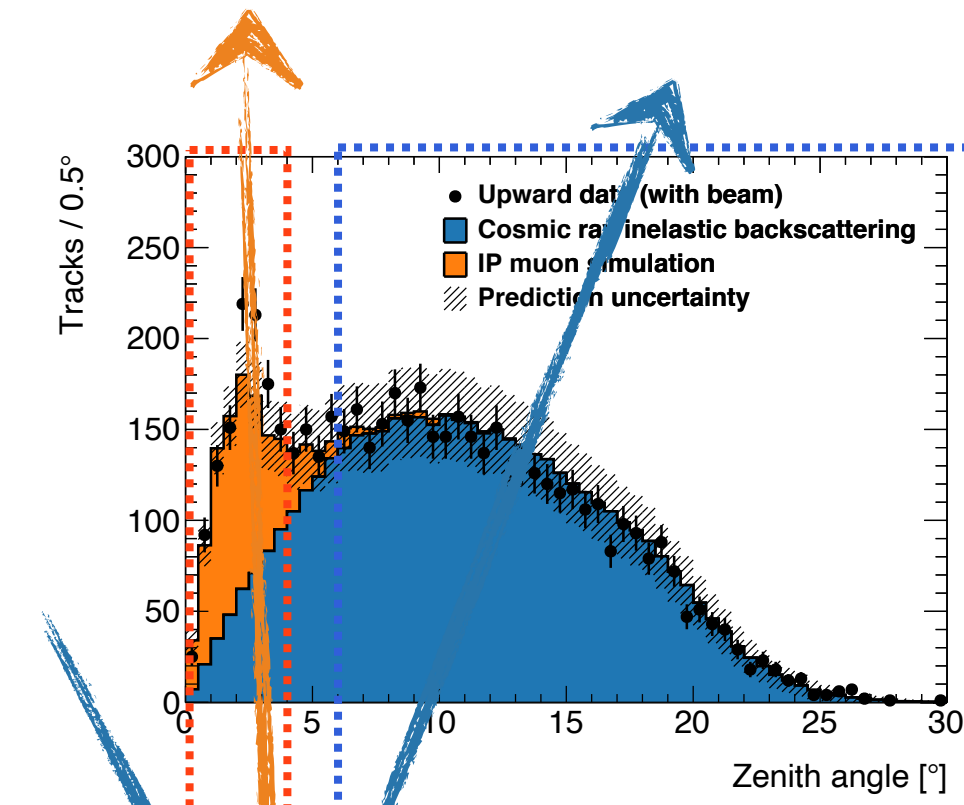
Lol: [1811.00927](#)

Test stand: [2005.02018](#)

Updated Lol: [2009.01693](#)

Snowmass: [2203.08126](#)

- Sensitive to LLPs with lifetime up to 10^8 m
- Placed on the surface above CMS during HL-LHC: rock shielding
 - Aiming for zero background analysis
- Large air decay volume with several scintillator layers for tracking
- Test stand with 2018 confirmed background hypothesis and gives confidence in projected physics reach

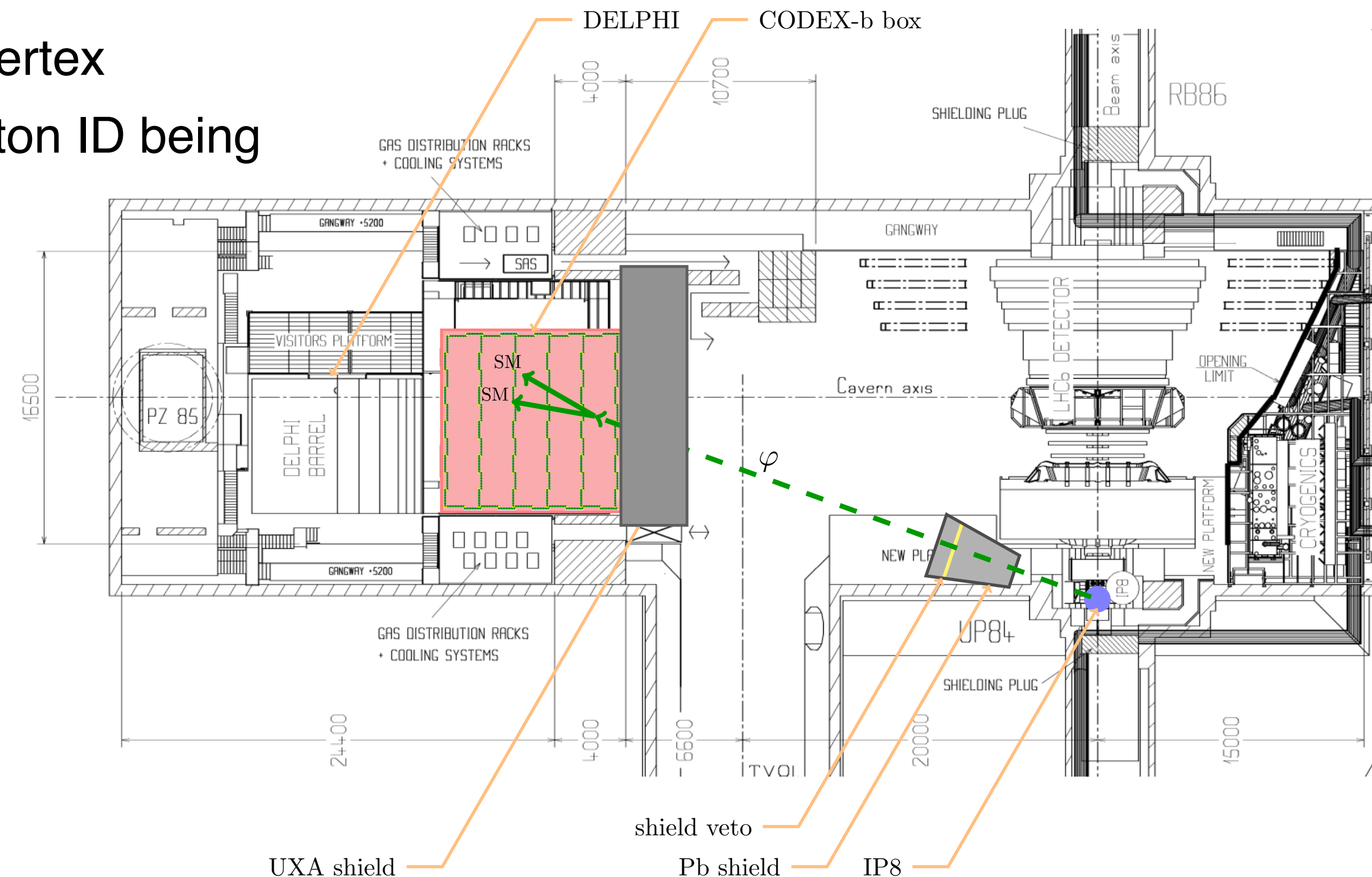
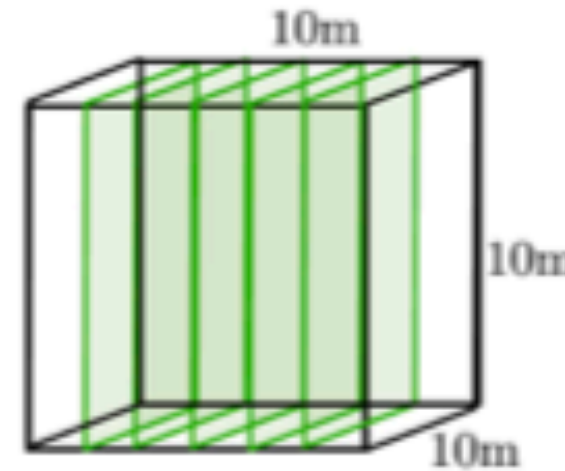




Compact Detector for Exotics at LHC-b

Proposal: [1911.00481](#)
Snowmass: [2203.07316](#)

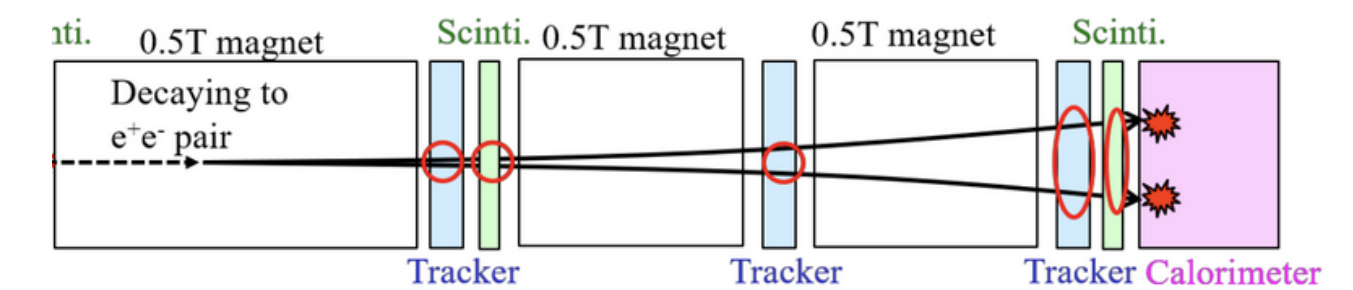
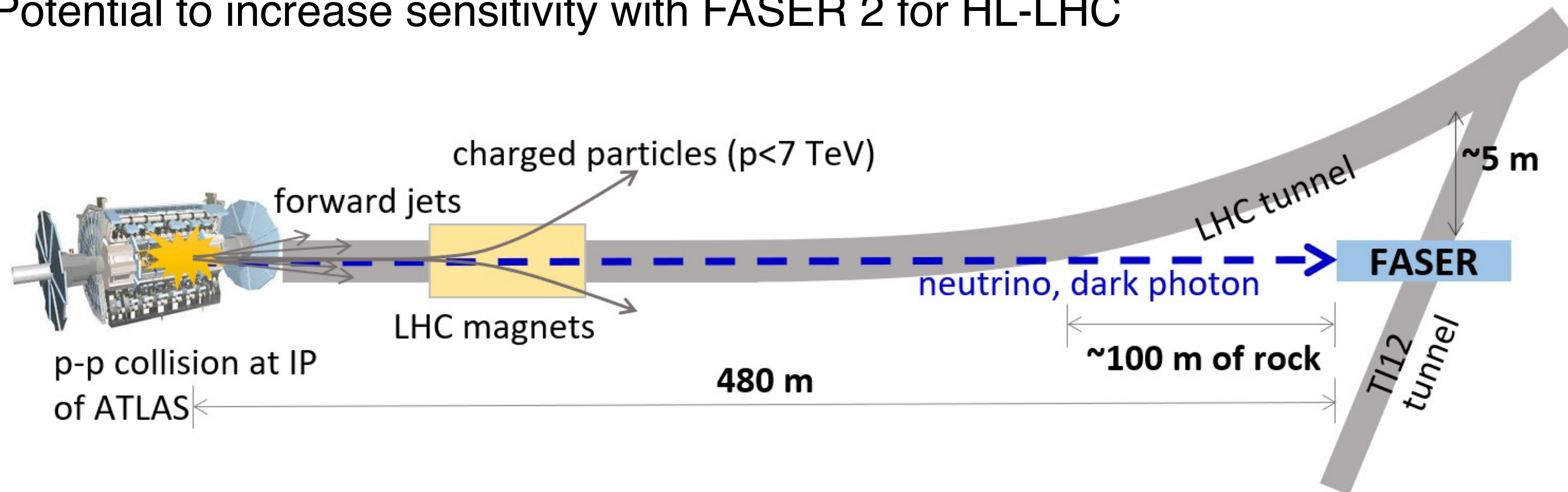
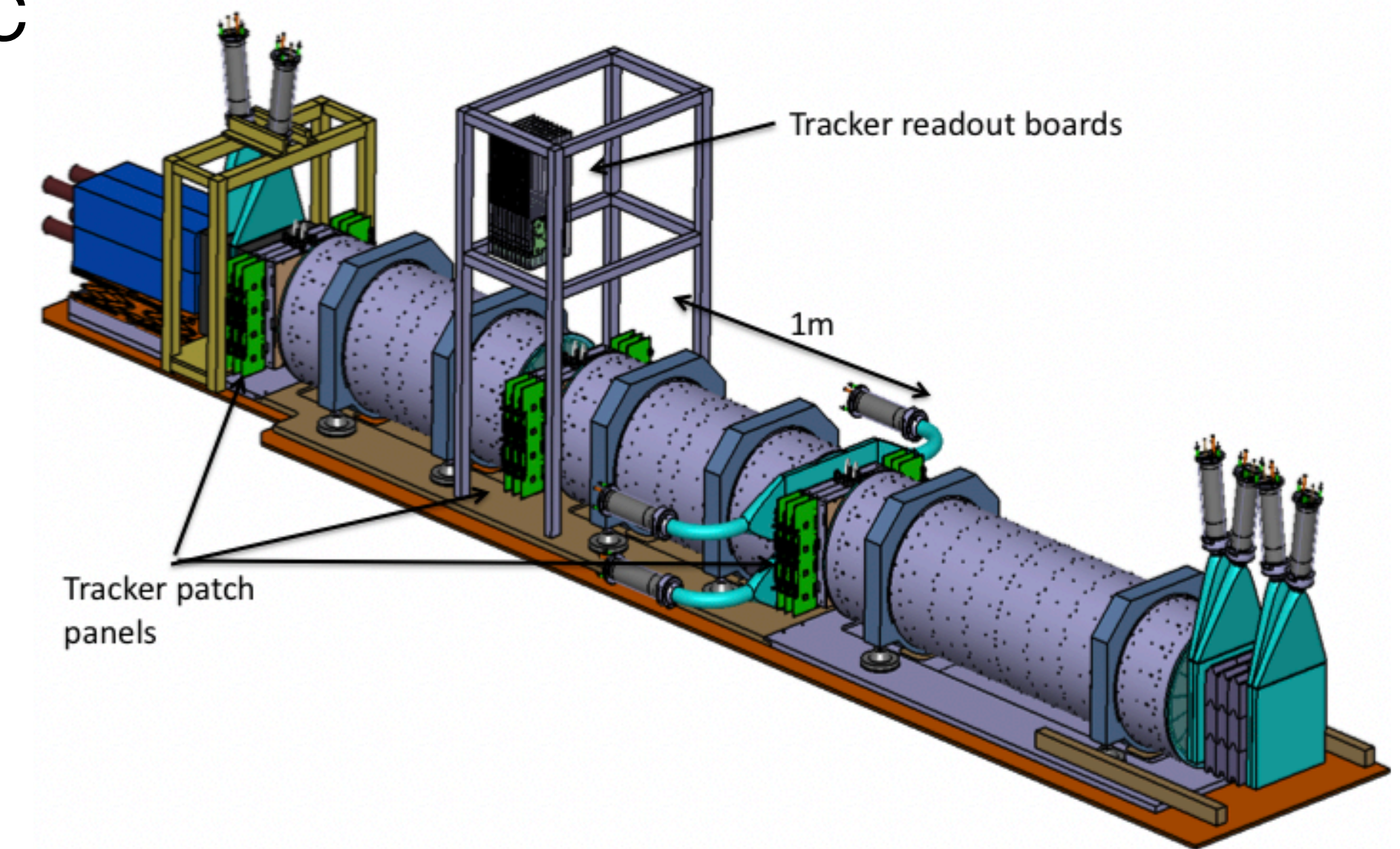
- Target: light, weakly interacting LLPs at HL-LHC
- Use LHCb trigger CPUs space in LHCb cavern / DELPHI location
- 10x10x10 m³ box
- 6 layers of RPCs for tracking to reconstruct LLP decay vertex
 - Addition of calorimetry or other material layers for photon ID being considered
- Shield veto againsts collision backgrounds
- Codex-beta:
 - demonstrator, 2x2x2 m³
 - data-taking in Run 3
 - Integrated with LHCb
 - will check backgrounds and technology
 - Full detector for Run 5





ForwArd Search ExpeRiment at the LHC

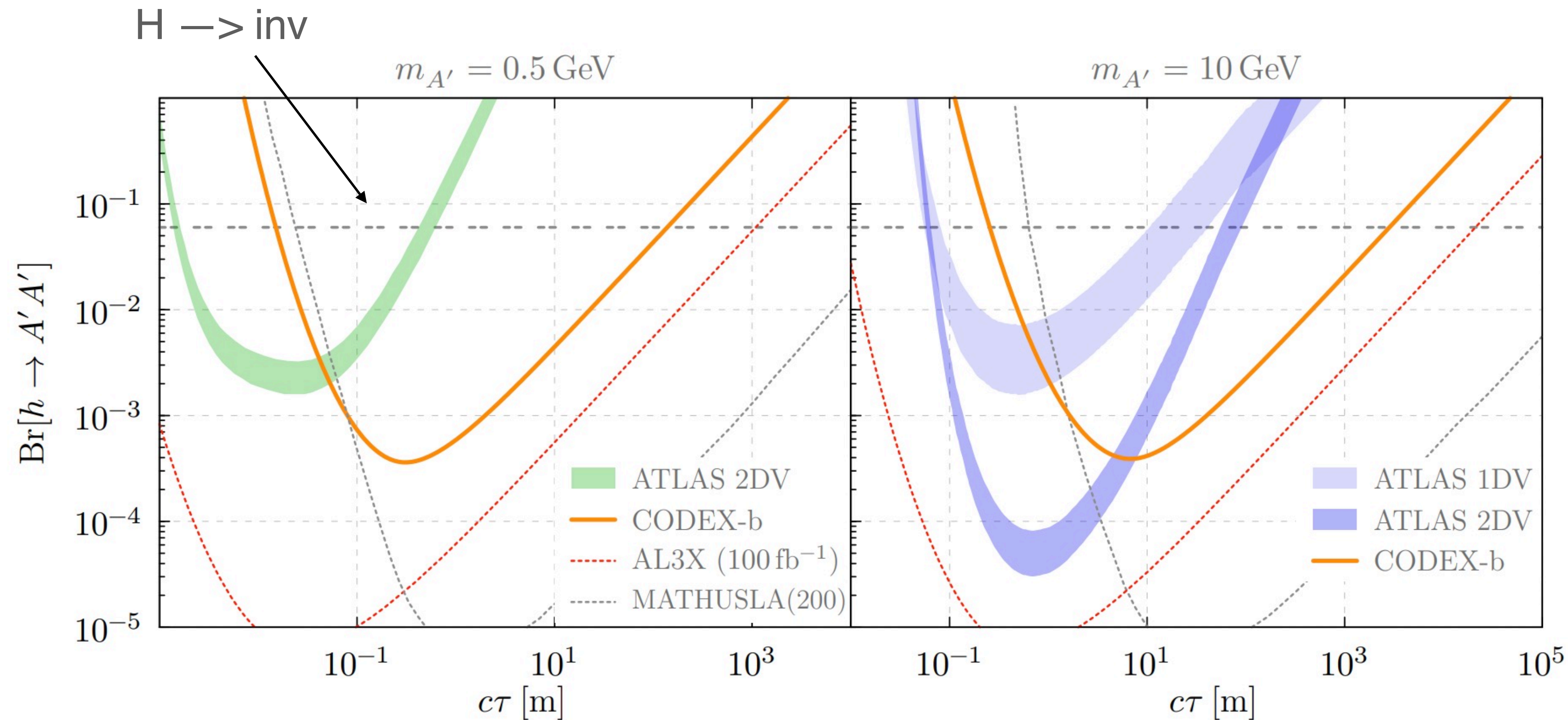
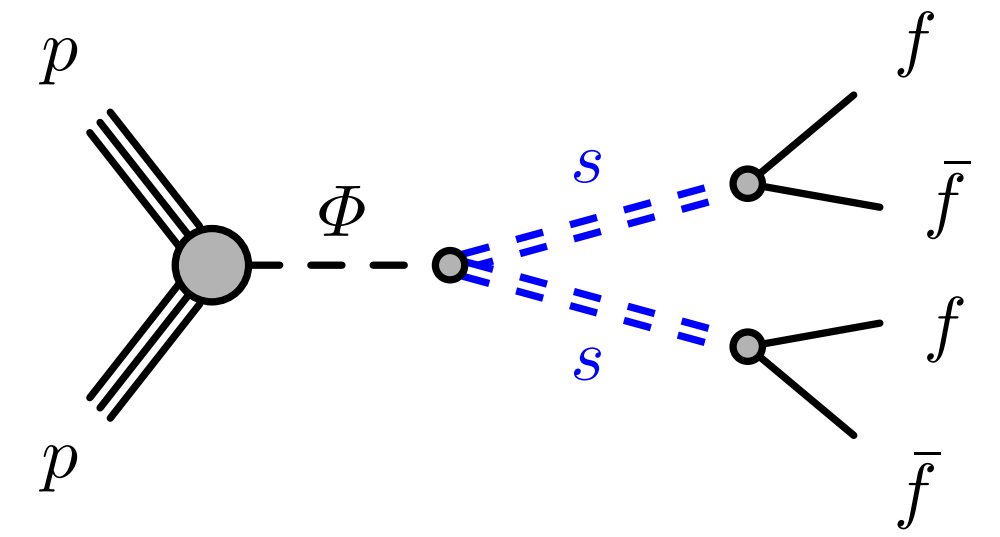
- Target: light, weakly interacting LLPs:
 - very rarely produced
 - along the beamline at low p_T $\sim 2\%$ of pions produced within FASER angular acceptance
- Fast! Lol (2018), approved (2019), Installation (2020)
- Expected to start data-taking for Run3 (2022)
- Potential to increase sensitivity with FASER 2 for HL-LHC



$pp \rightarrow A'(\rightarrow e^+e^-) + X$, with $E(A') \sim \text{TeV}$

[1708.09389](https://arxiv.org/abs/1708.09389)

Sensitivity — neutral LLPs, scalar mediators



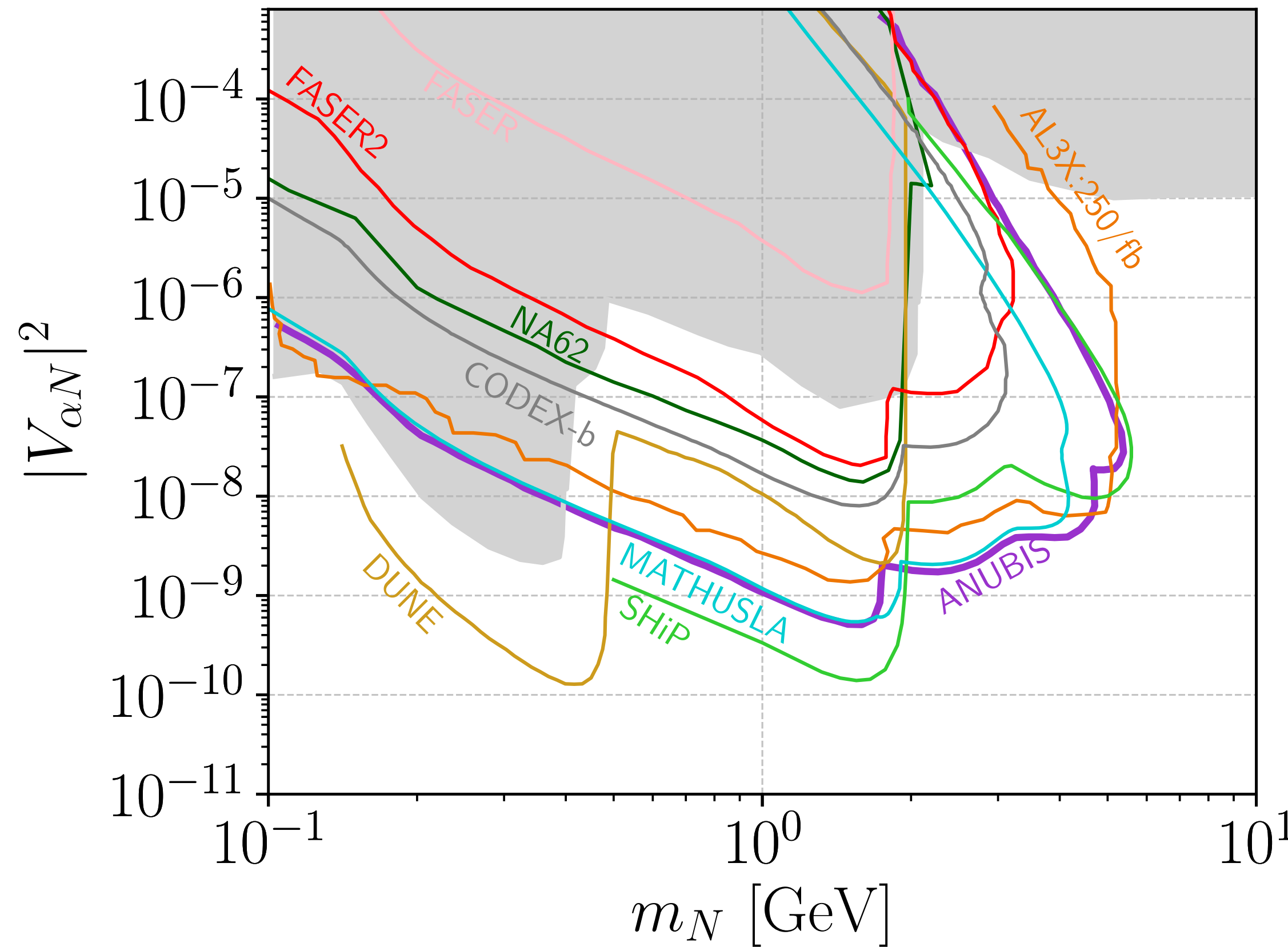
CODEX-b EoL: [1911.00481](#)

- Mathusla: Good sensitivity for mass $> 5 \text{ GeV}$ and lifetime $\gg 100 \text{ m}$, even at low masses
- Codex-b 300/fb, complementary to MATHUSLA at shorter lifetimes

Sensitivity — neutral LLPs, HNLs

$$\alpha = e, \mu$$

$$V_{\alpha N_j} \propto \sqrt{m_\nu / m_N}$$



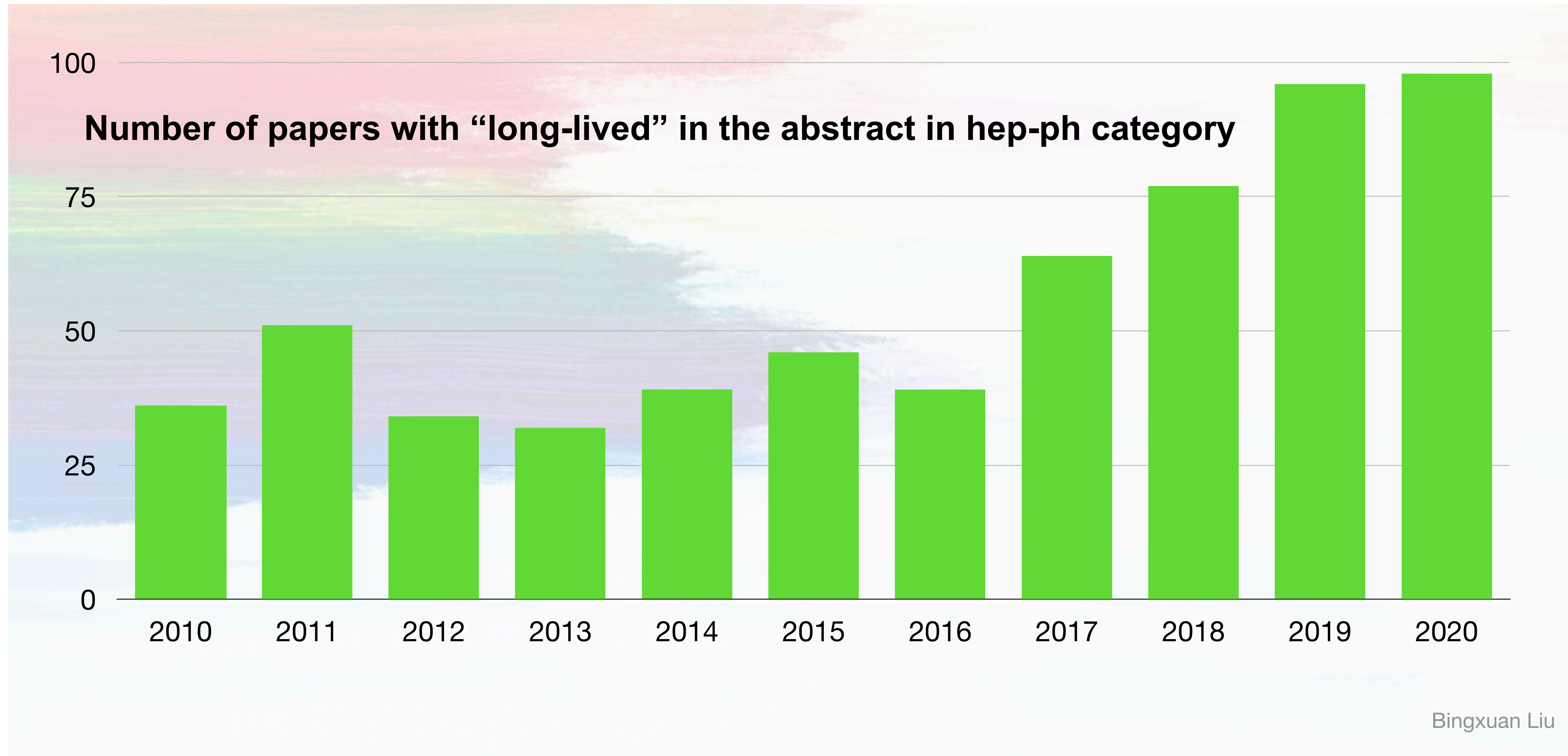
2001.04750

CODEX-b 300/fb
MATHUSLA 3/ab
ANUBIS shaft only 3/ab
FASER 3/ab
SHiP 2×10^{20} protons on target

- SHiP covers most of the space
- MATHUSLA, ANUBIS, AL3X better at masses > 1 GeV
- Complementarity between forward and transverse detectors!

Conclusions

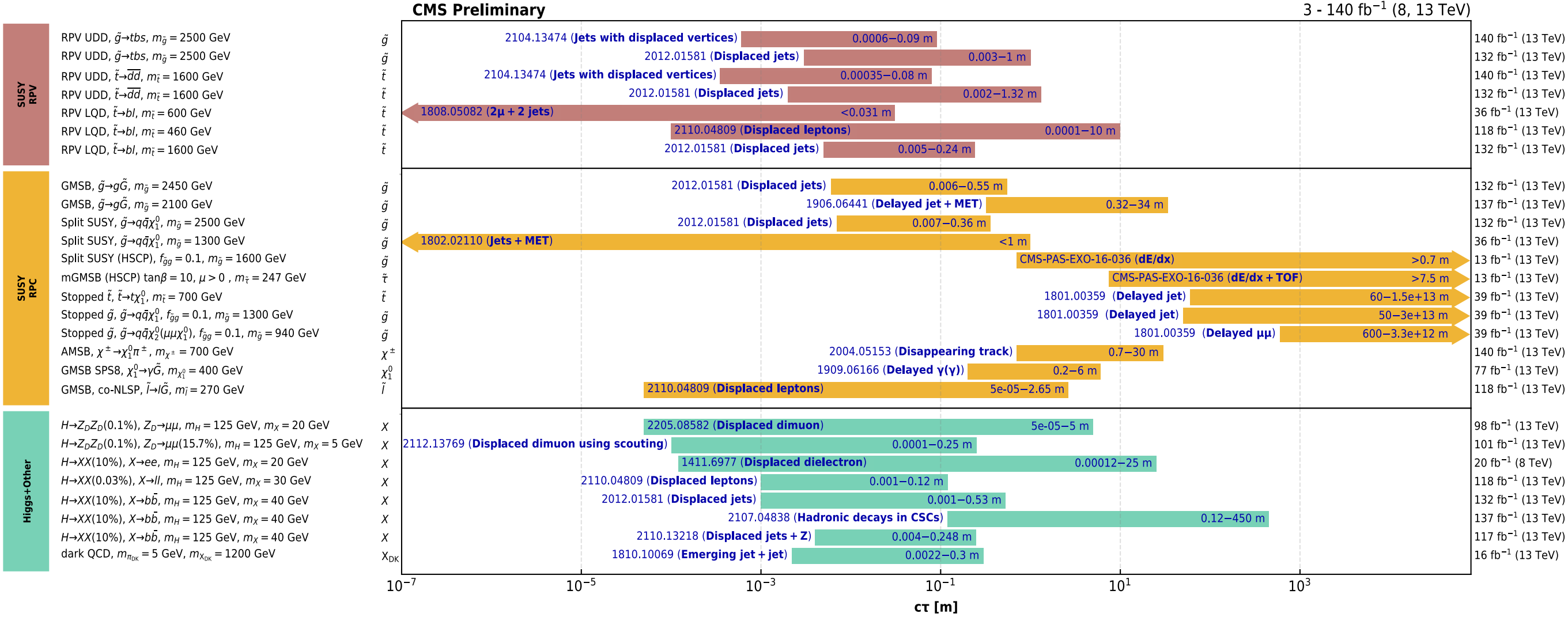
- LLPs might be the key for finding BSM physics
- LLPs are gaining interest!



Conclusions

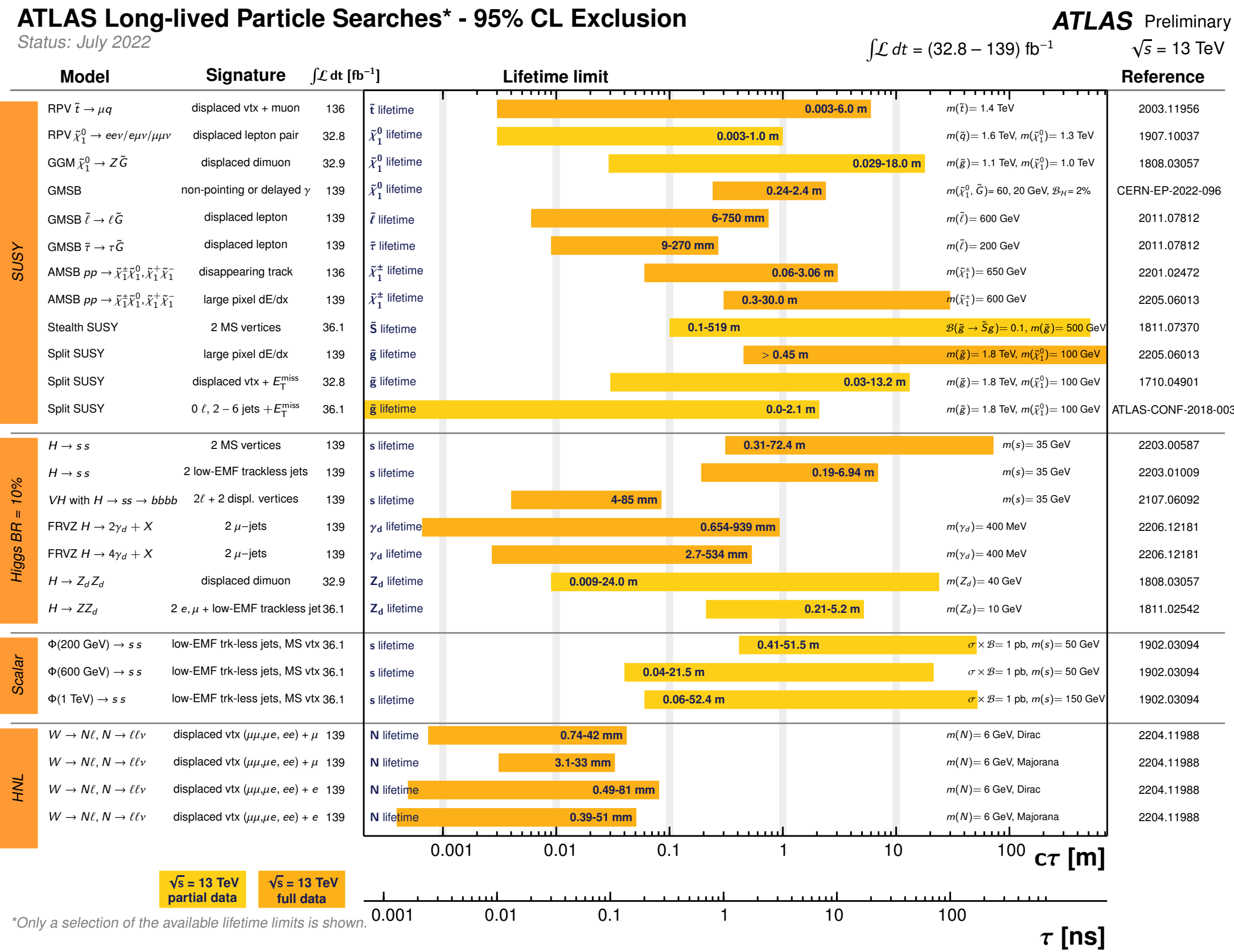
- LLPs might be the key for finding BSM physics
- LLPs are gaining interest!
- Great effort at the LHC experiments to search for LLPs...

Overview of CMS long-lived particle searches



Selection of observed exclusion limits at 95% C.L. (theory uncertainties are not included). The y-axis tick labels indicate the studied long-lived particle.

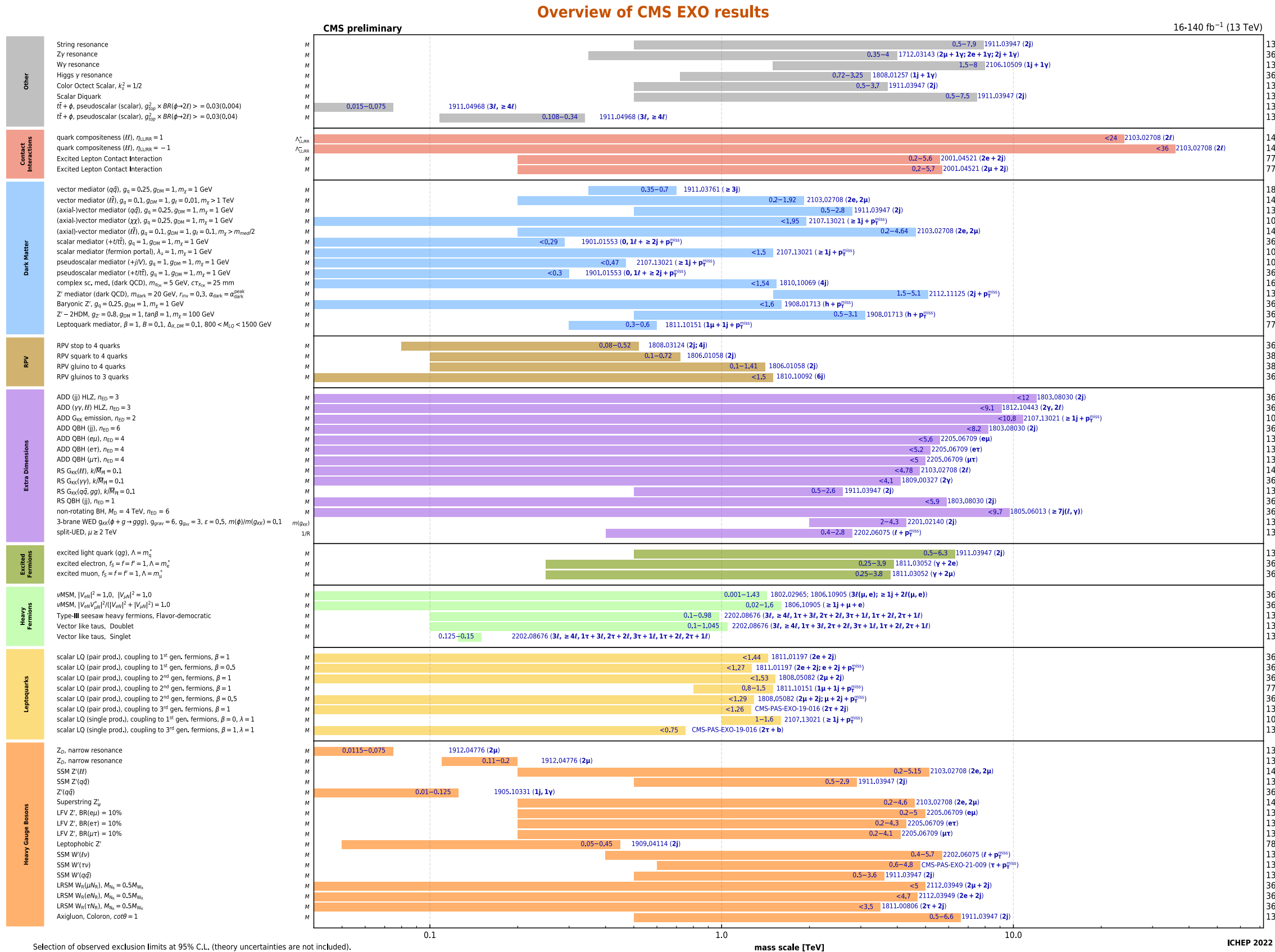
ICHEP 2022



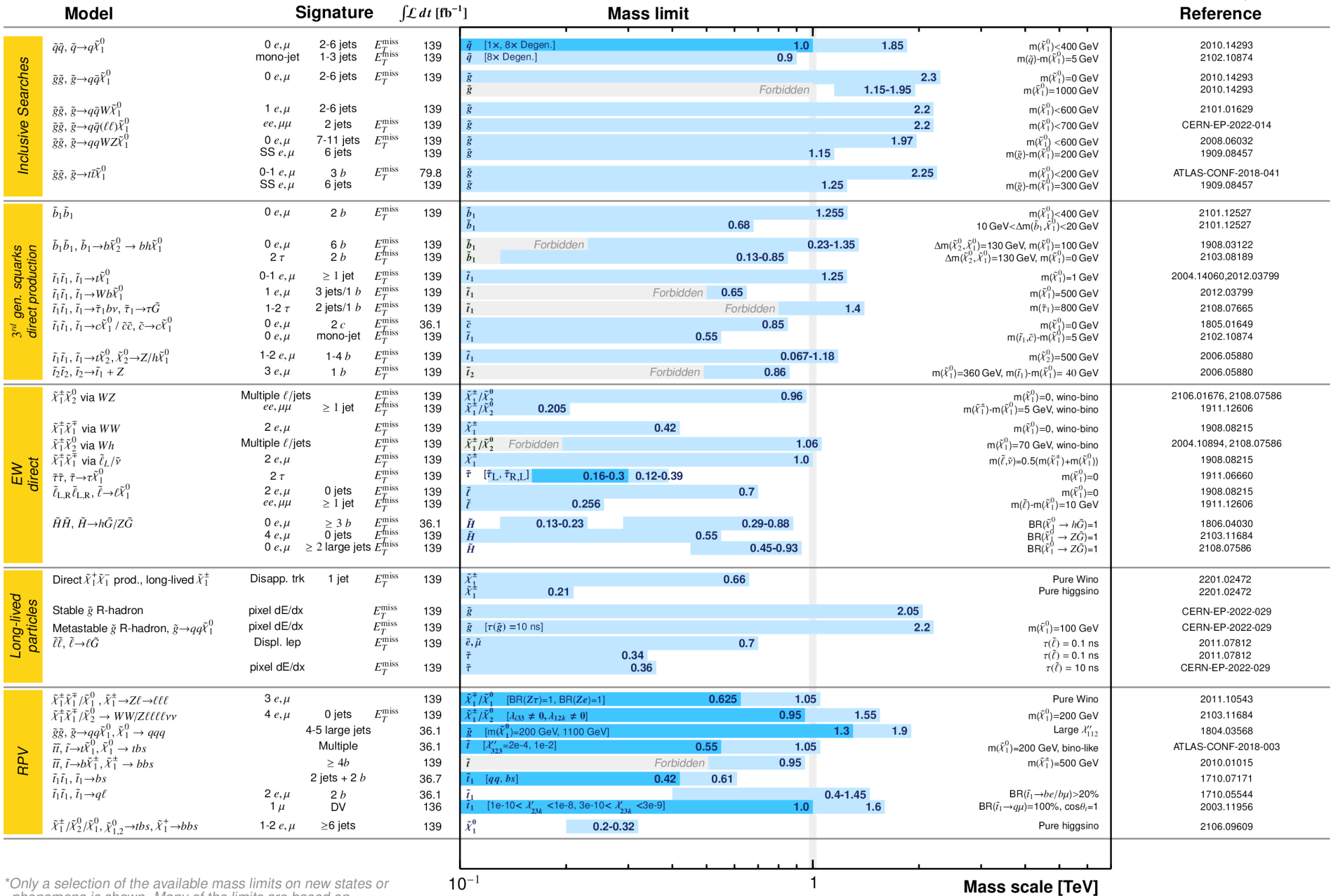
*Only a selection of the available lifetime limits is shown.

Conclusions

- LLPs might be the key for finding BSM physics
- LLPs are gaining interest!
- Great effort at the LHC experiments to search for LLPs... BUT!
still not even close to the effort in prompt searches

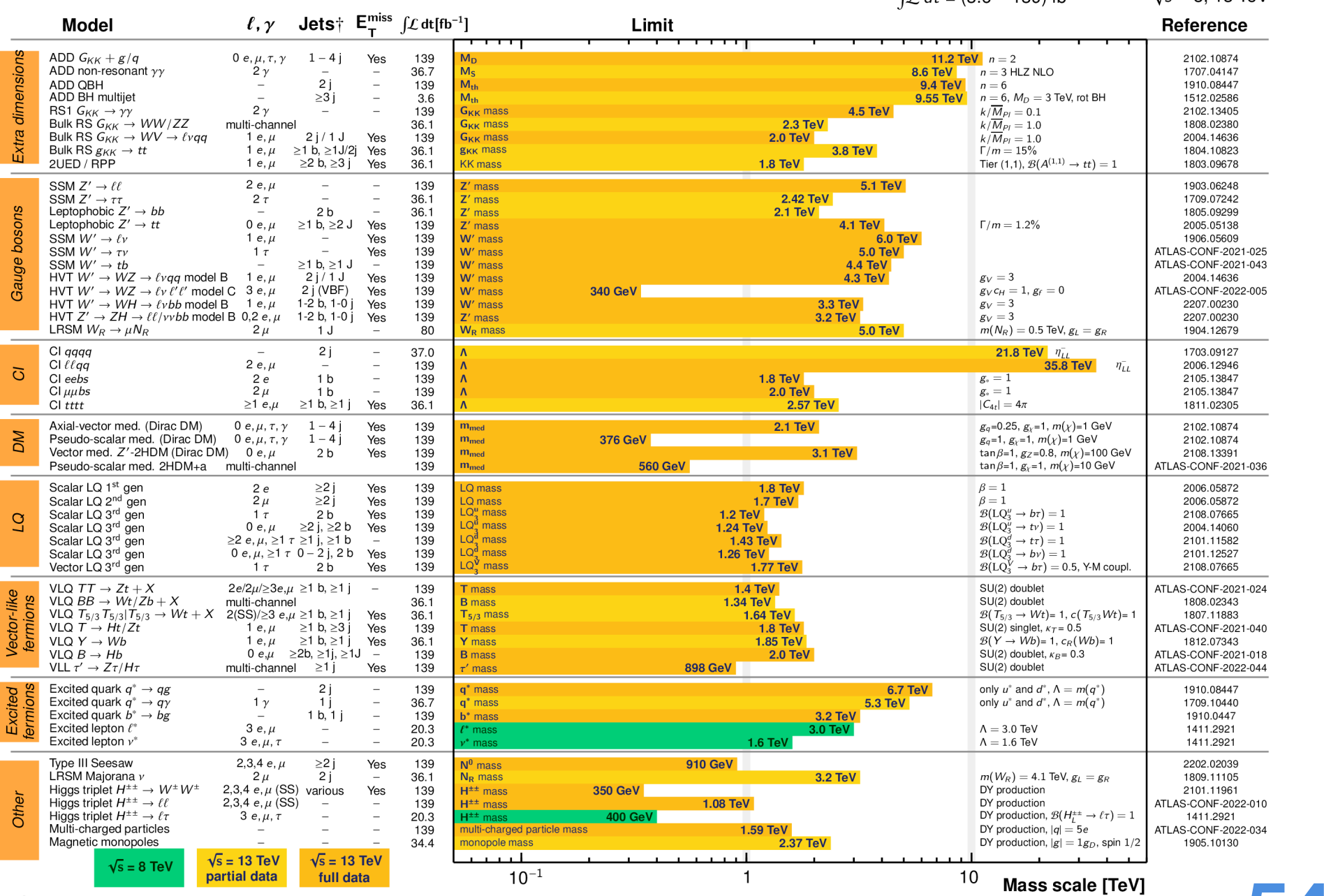


ATLAS SUSY Searches* - 95% CL Lower Limits
March 2022



*Only a selection of the available mass limits on new states or phenomena is shown. Many of the limits are based on simplified models, c.f. refs. for the assumptions made.

ATLAS Heavy Particle Searches* - 95% CL Upper Exclusion Limits
Status: July 2022



*Only a selection of the available mass limits on new states or phenomena is shown.
†Small-radius (large-radius) jets are denoted by the letter j (J).

ATLAS Preliminary
 $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV

ATLAS Preliminary
 $\sqrt{s} = 8, 13$ TeV

Conclusions

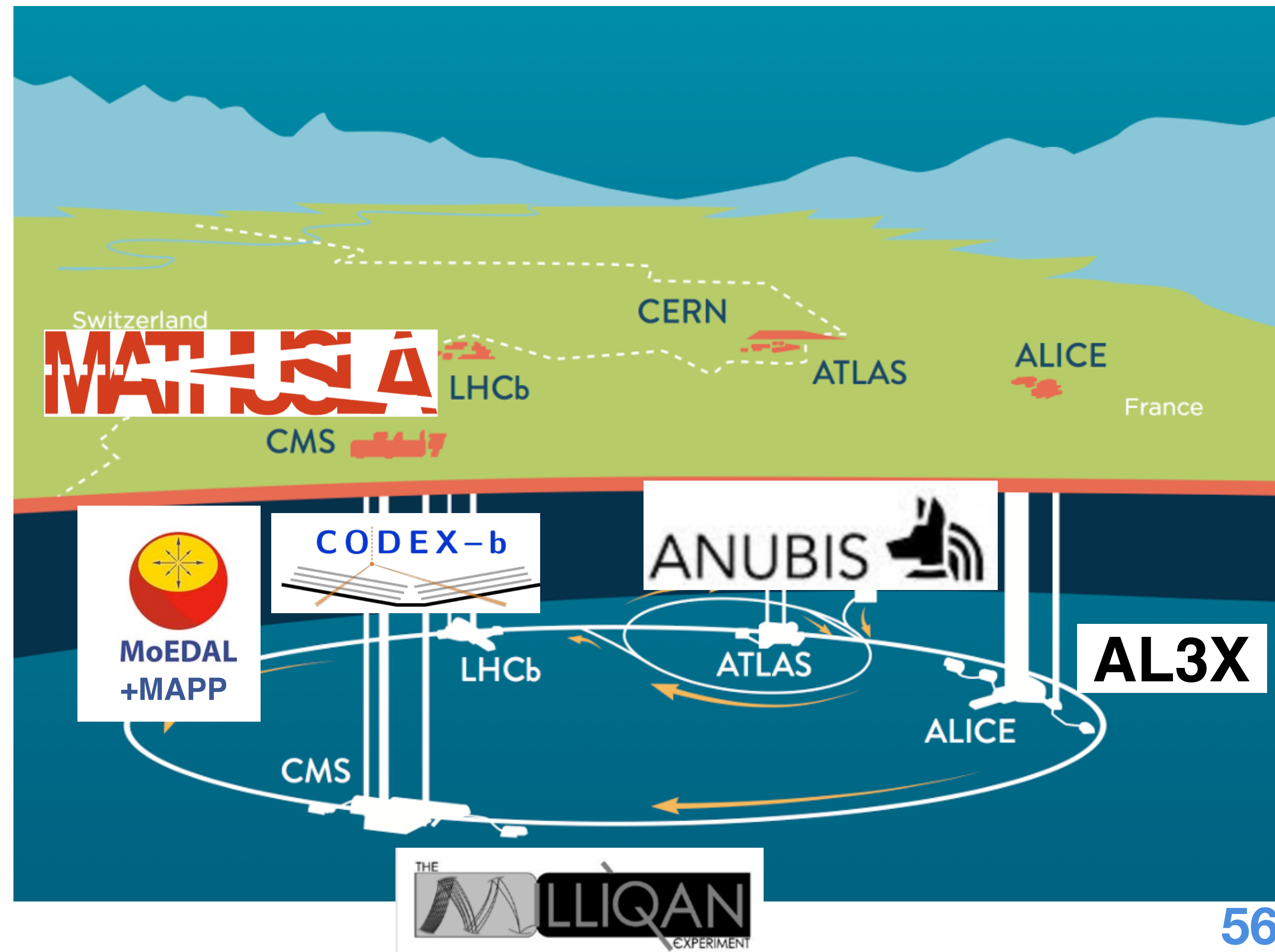
- LLPs might be the key for finding BSM physics
- LLPs are gaining interest!
- Great effort at the LHC experiments to search for LLPs... BUT! still not close to the effort in prompt searches
- Run 3 and HL-LHC offer a great opportunity to innovate and plan for new unconventional searches yet to be explored
 - Development of new tools and strategies to improve identification of LLPs, pushing the detector beyond its original design capabilities

Conclusions

- LLPs might be the key for finding BSM physics
- LLPs are gaining interest!
- Great effort at the LHC experiments to search for LLPs... BUT! still not close to the effort in prompt searches
- Run 3 and HL-LHC offer a great opportunity to innovate and plan for new unconventional searches yet to be explored
 - Development of new tools and strategies to improve identification of LLPs, pushing the detector beyond its original design capabilities
- **The LLP community is growing**

[LHC LLP WG](#)

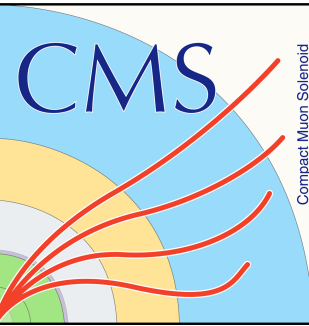
Most are young collaborations,
happy to welcome new people



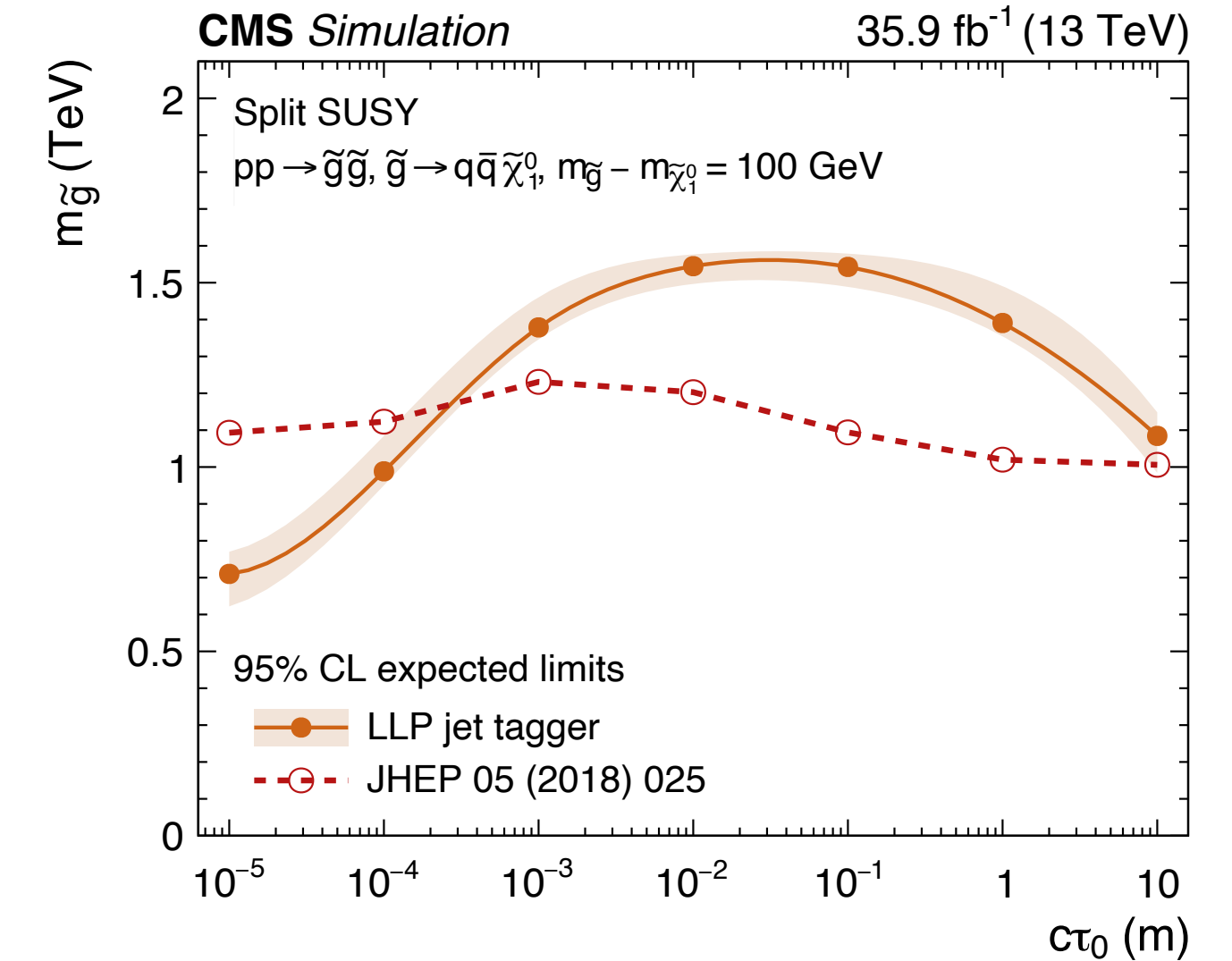
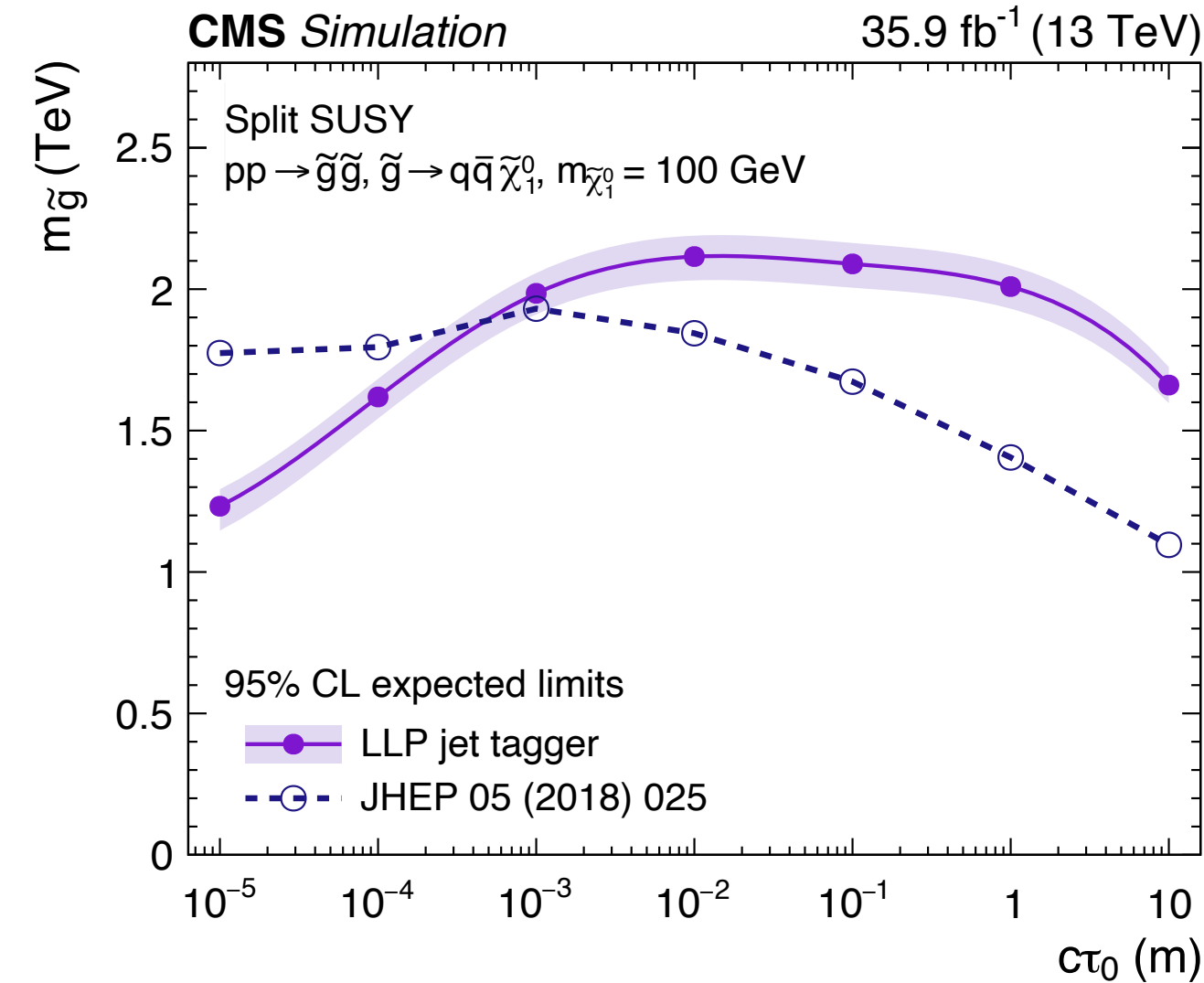
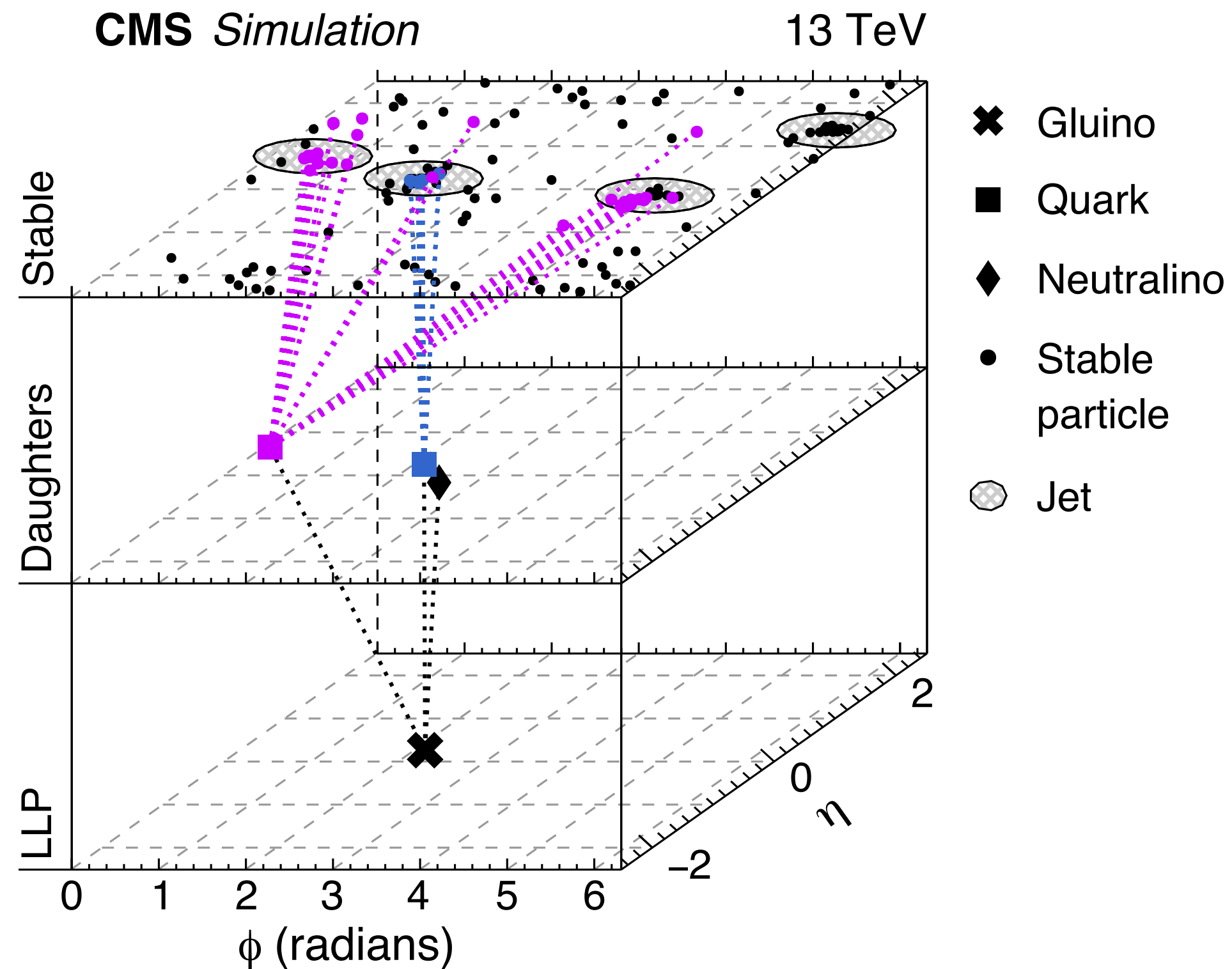
Backup

Improving object identification: Machine learning

[CERN-EP-2019-281](#)



- Identification of displaced objects is very challenging
- The use of machine learning techniques for the identification of LLPs is getting extended:
- CMS: deep neural network to identify displaced jets
 - for charged and neutral LLPs decaying hadronically
 - with and w/o DV
- using information from all jet constituents



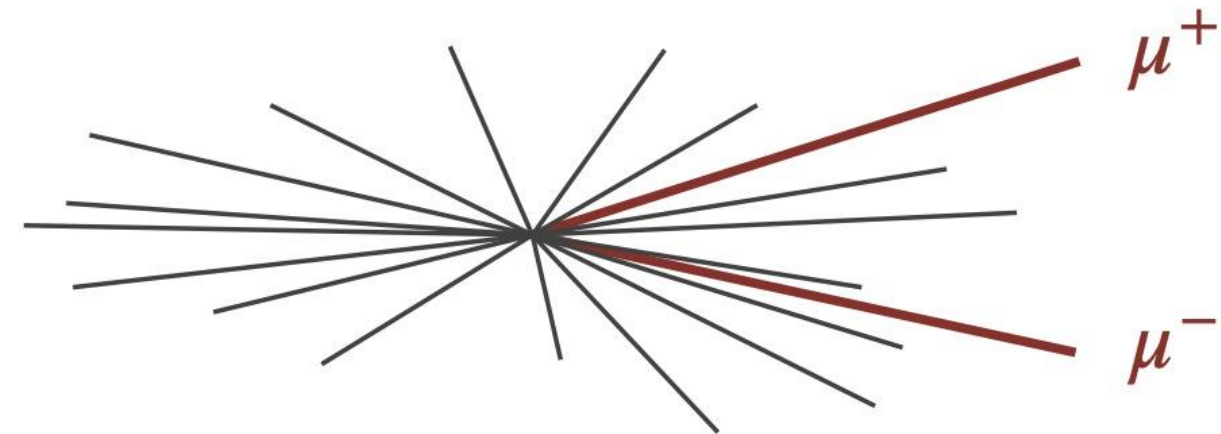
Using the LLP jet tagger, limits are improved in a very noticeable way!

LLP decays in the ID - unconventional tracking

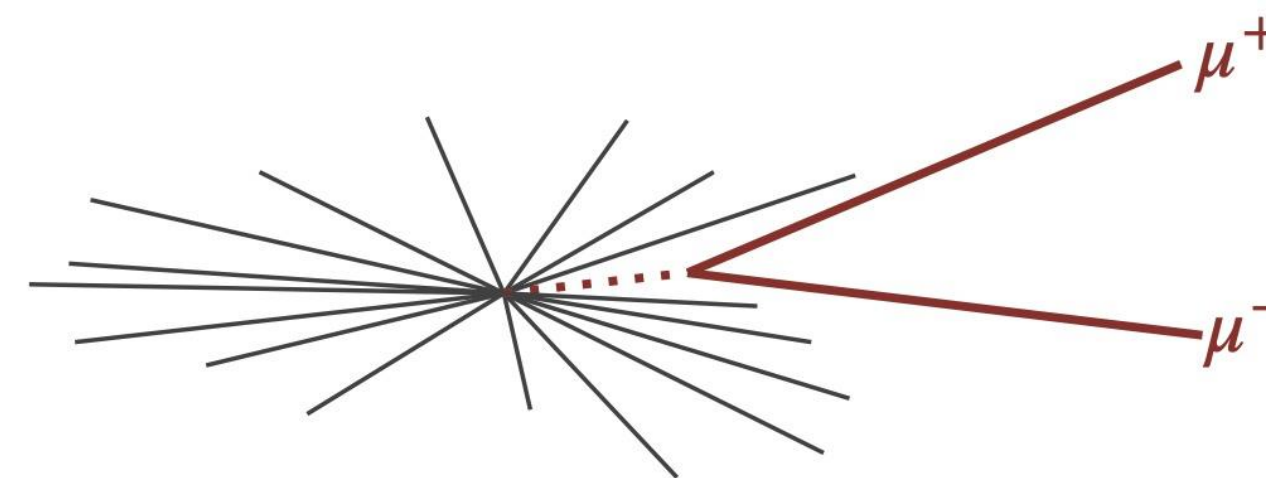
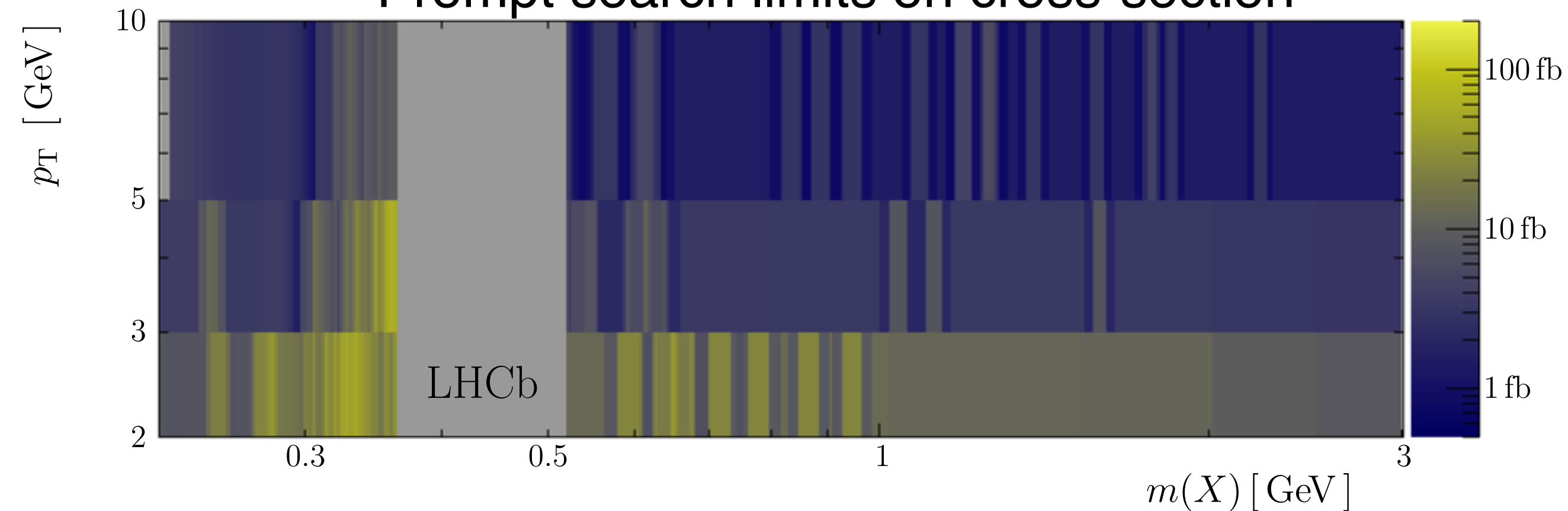


- Search for a low-mass dimuon resonance
- The X bosons can either decay promptly or displaced: lifetime $O(1)$ ps
- The searches for displaced $X \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ decays consider **masses up to 3 GeV**.
- dataset: run 2: 5.1 fb⁻¹

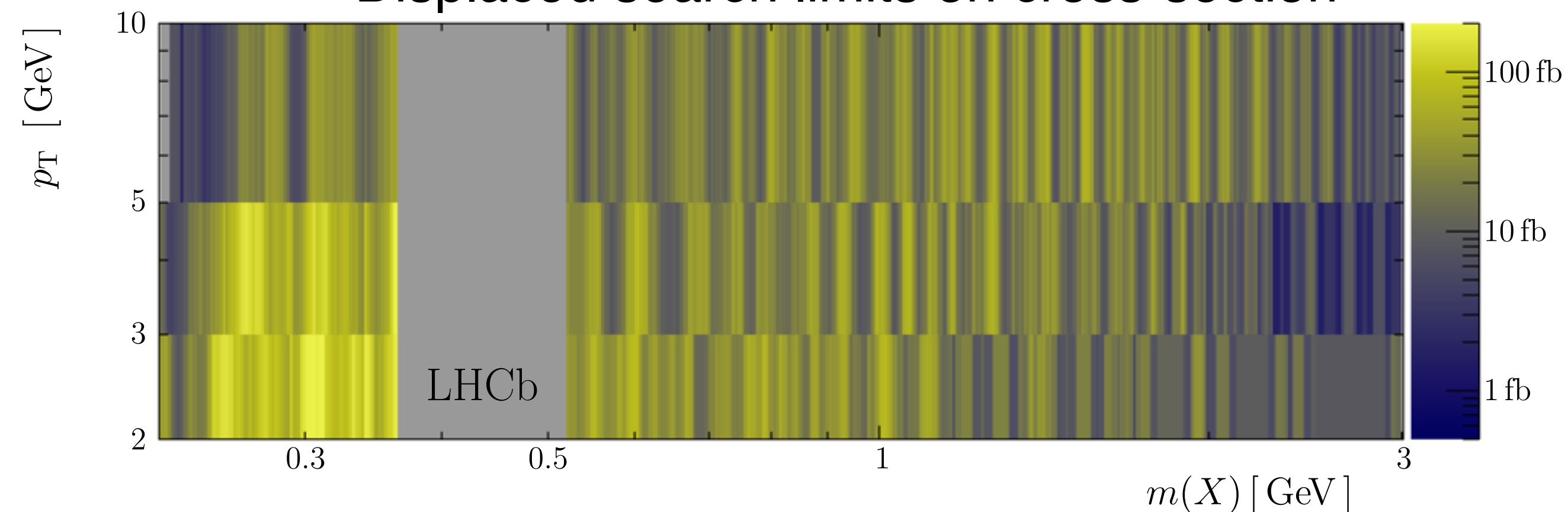
[JHEP 10 \(2020\) 156](#)



Prompt search limits on cross-section



Displaced search limits on cross-section



- Exclusion both in the prompt and displaced cases for masses below 3 GeV!

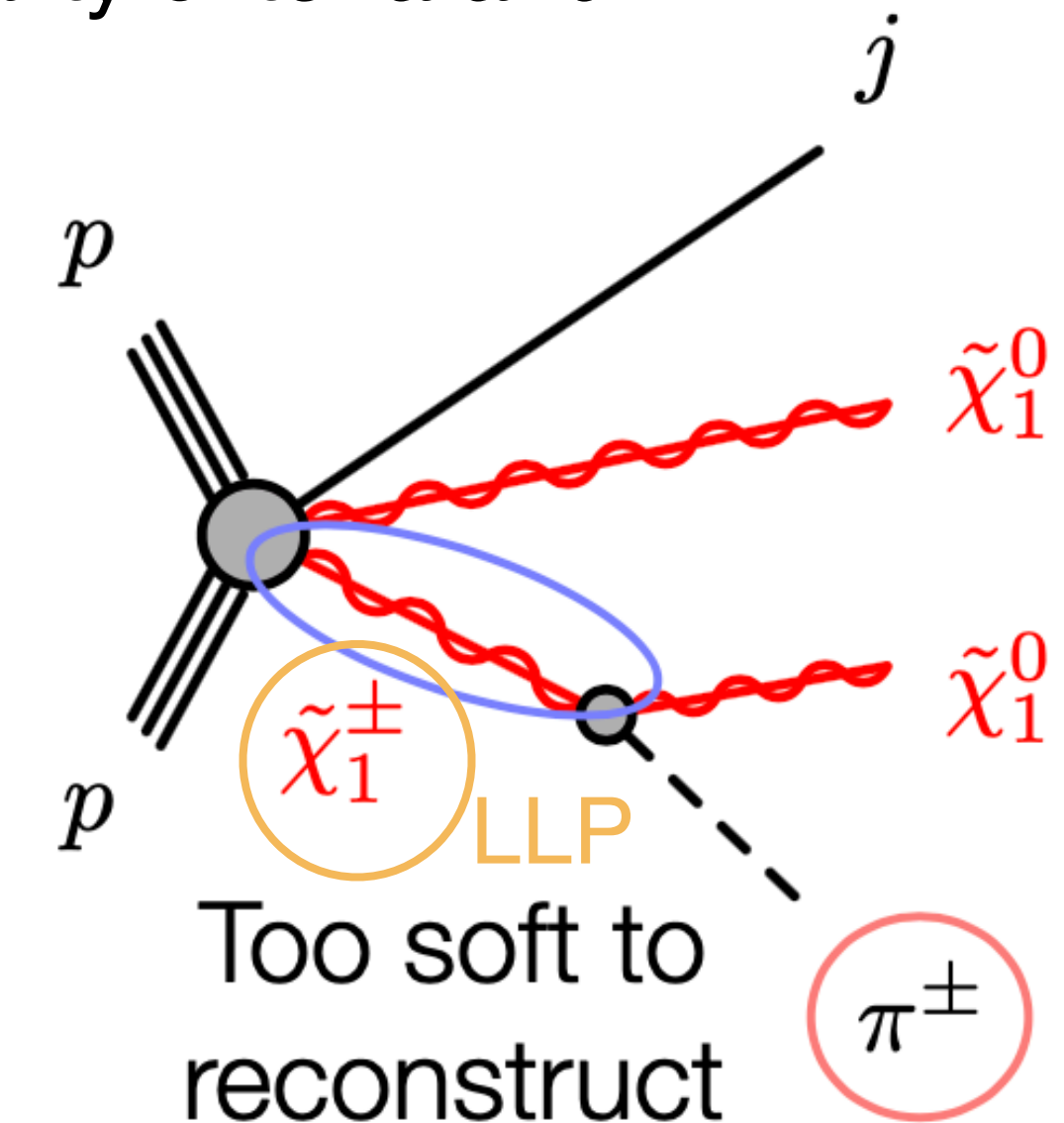
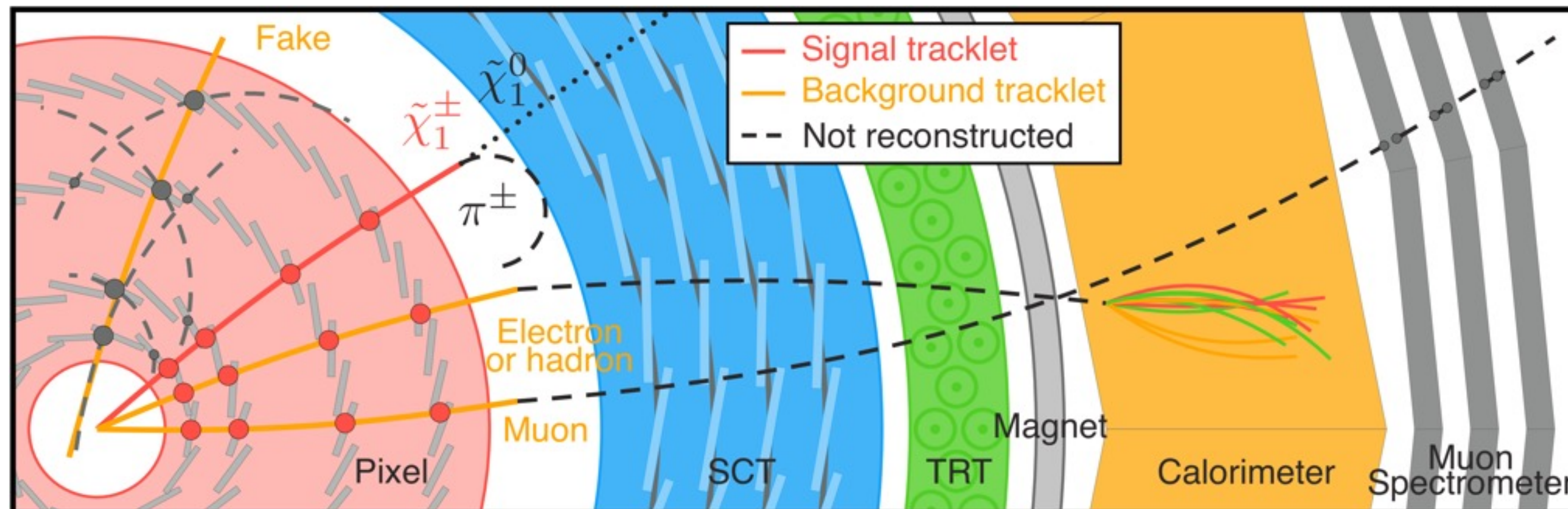
LLP decays in the ID - unconventional tracking

Disappearing tracks

[ATLAS-CONF-2021-015](#)



- Unconventional tracking can be used to search for multiple types of displaced objects
- Example: SUSY scenario with very small mass gap between neutrino and chargino:
 - Chargino becomes long-lived
 - Pion is too soft to be reconstructed
- MET trigger
 - High threshold, not optimal!
- Disappearing track: lacks hits in the outermost silicon layers and no calorimeter activity
- Significant improvement over previous results due to additional track quality criteria and increase in integrated luminosity



LLP decays in the calorimeters

Stopped particles

- Search for late decays to hadronic jets from LLPs
- Benchmark: gluino R-hadrons with very high squark masses inducing large gluino lifetime
- Dedicated jet+MET trigger, recorded in empty bunch crossings (BC) to reduce background
- All backgrounds are non-collision in out-of-time BCs: cosmic-ray muons, beam-induced, cavern background
- Require special reconstruction configuration

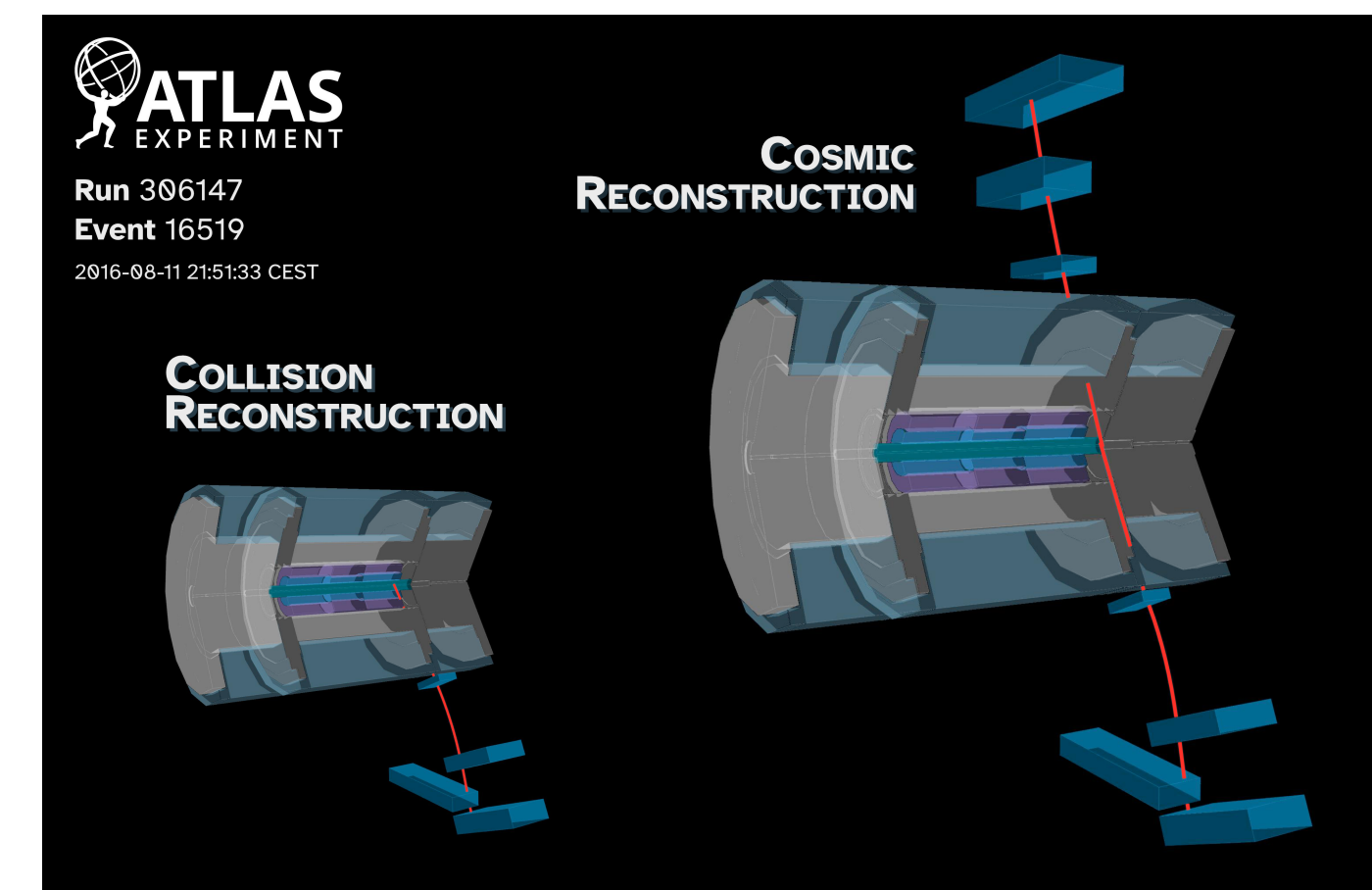
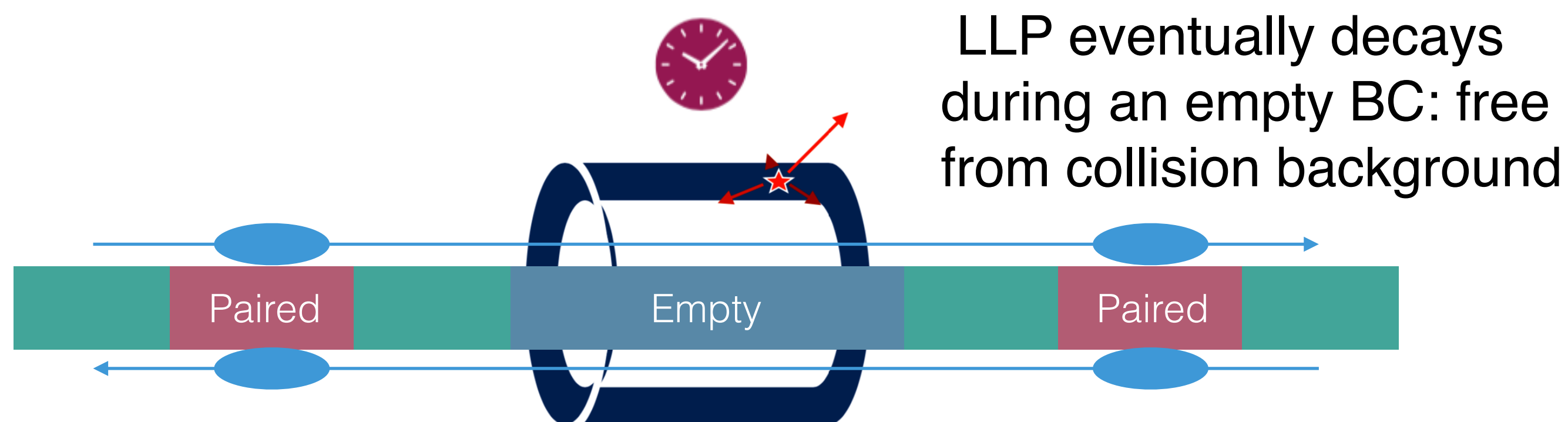
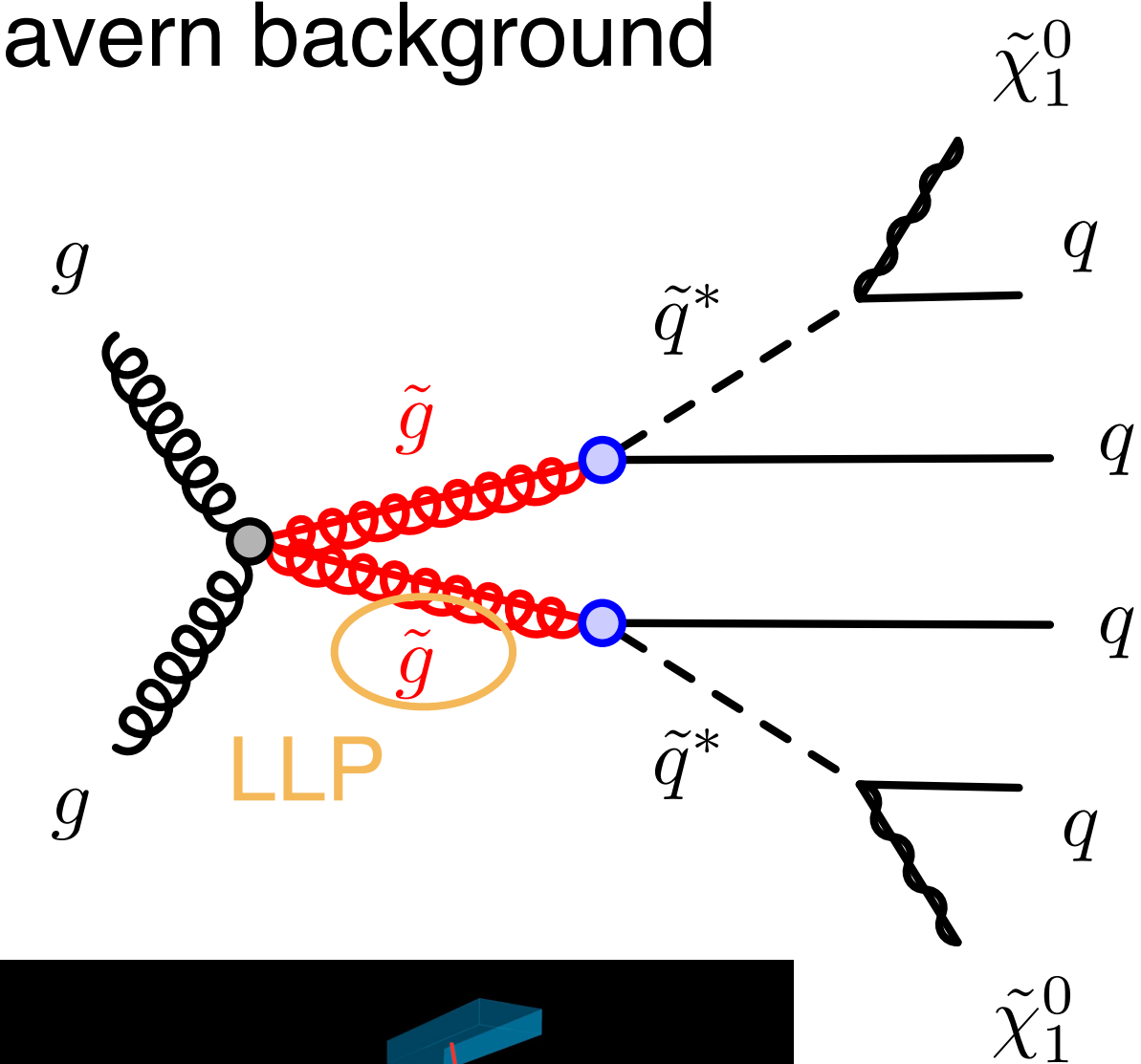
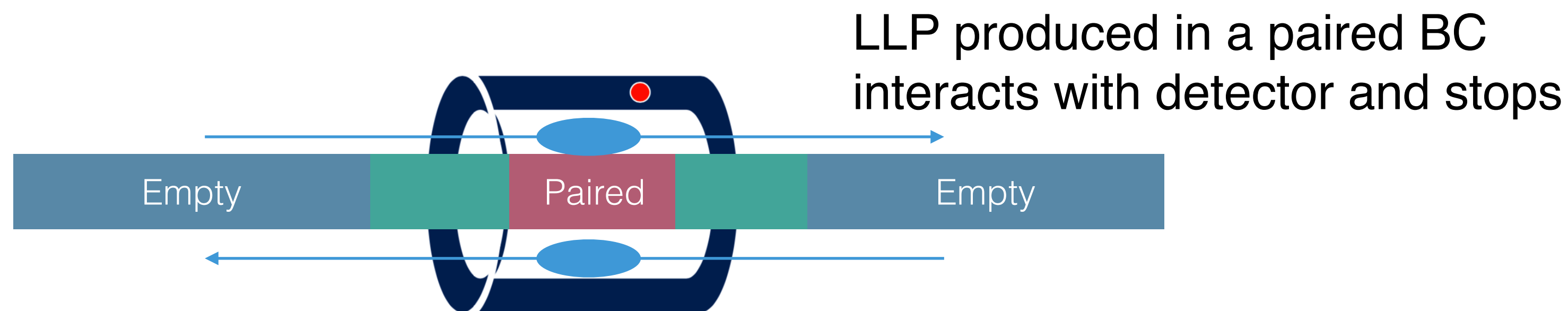
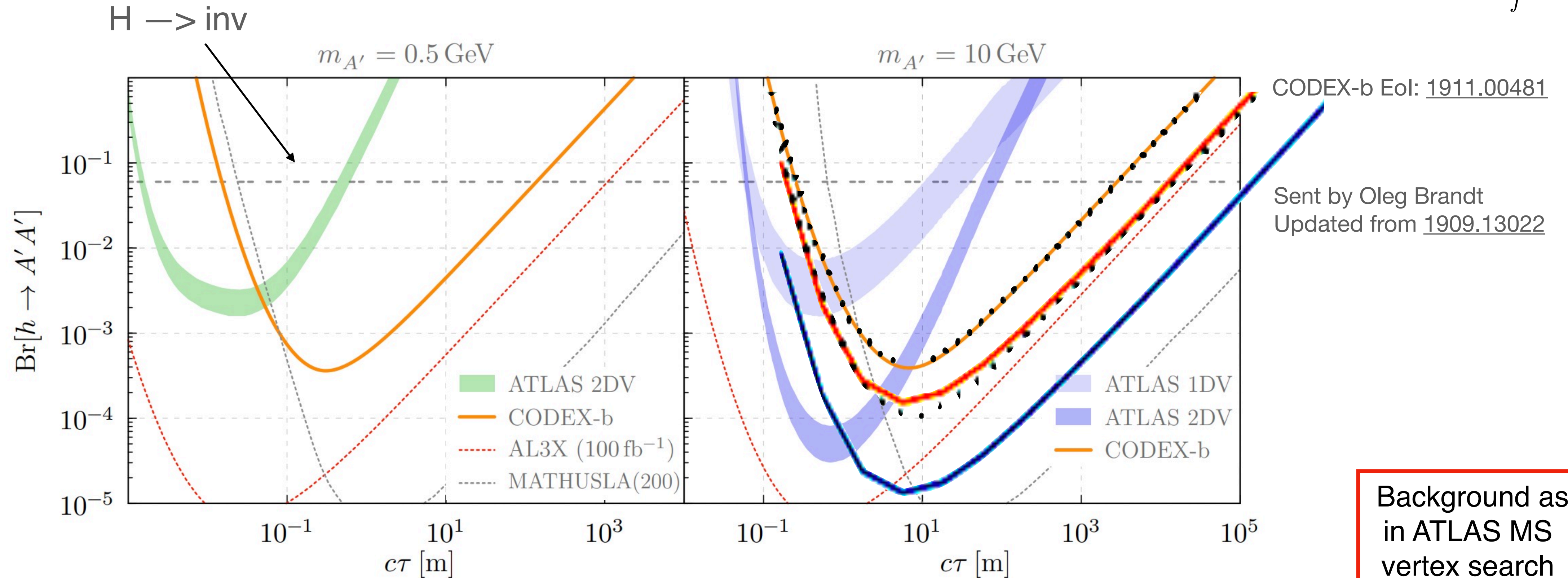
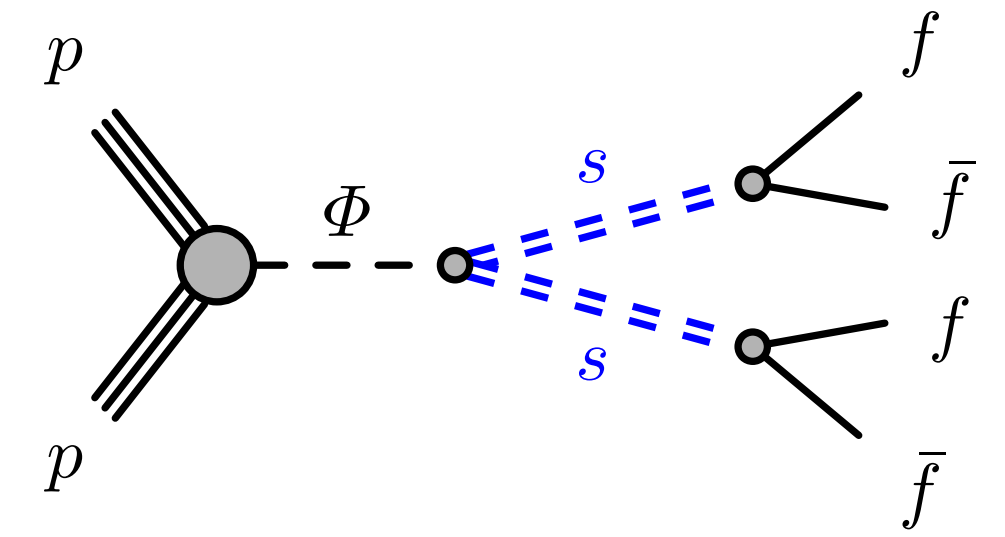


Fig. inspired by C. Sebastiani

Sensitivity — neutral LLPs @ LHC

Scalar mediators



Background as
in ATLAS MS
vertex search
Similar reach
as Codex 1/at

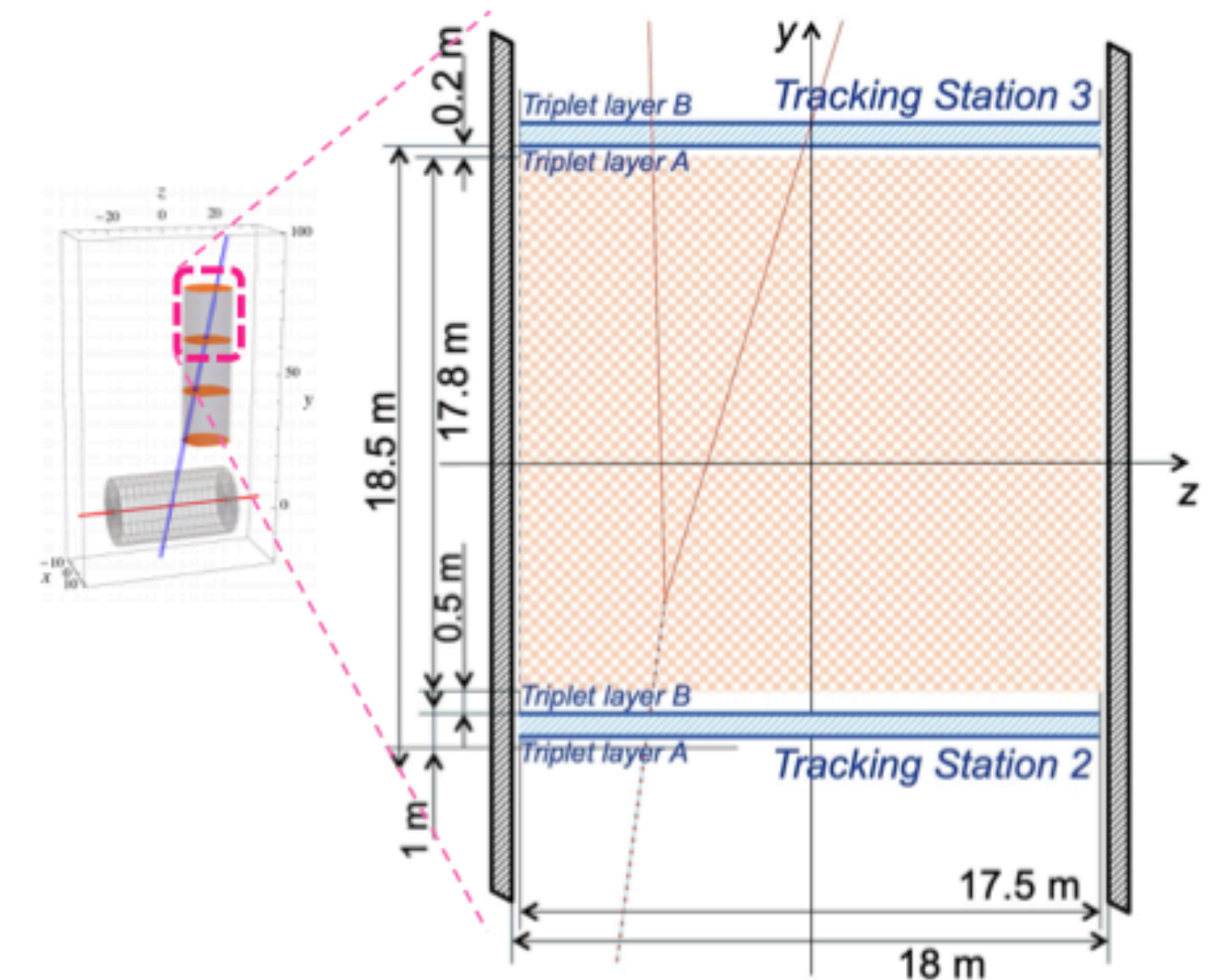
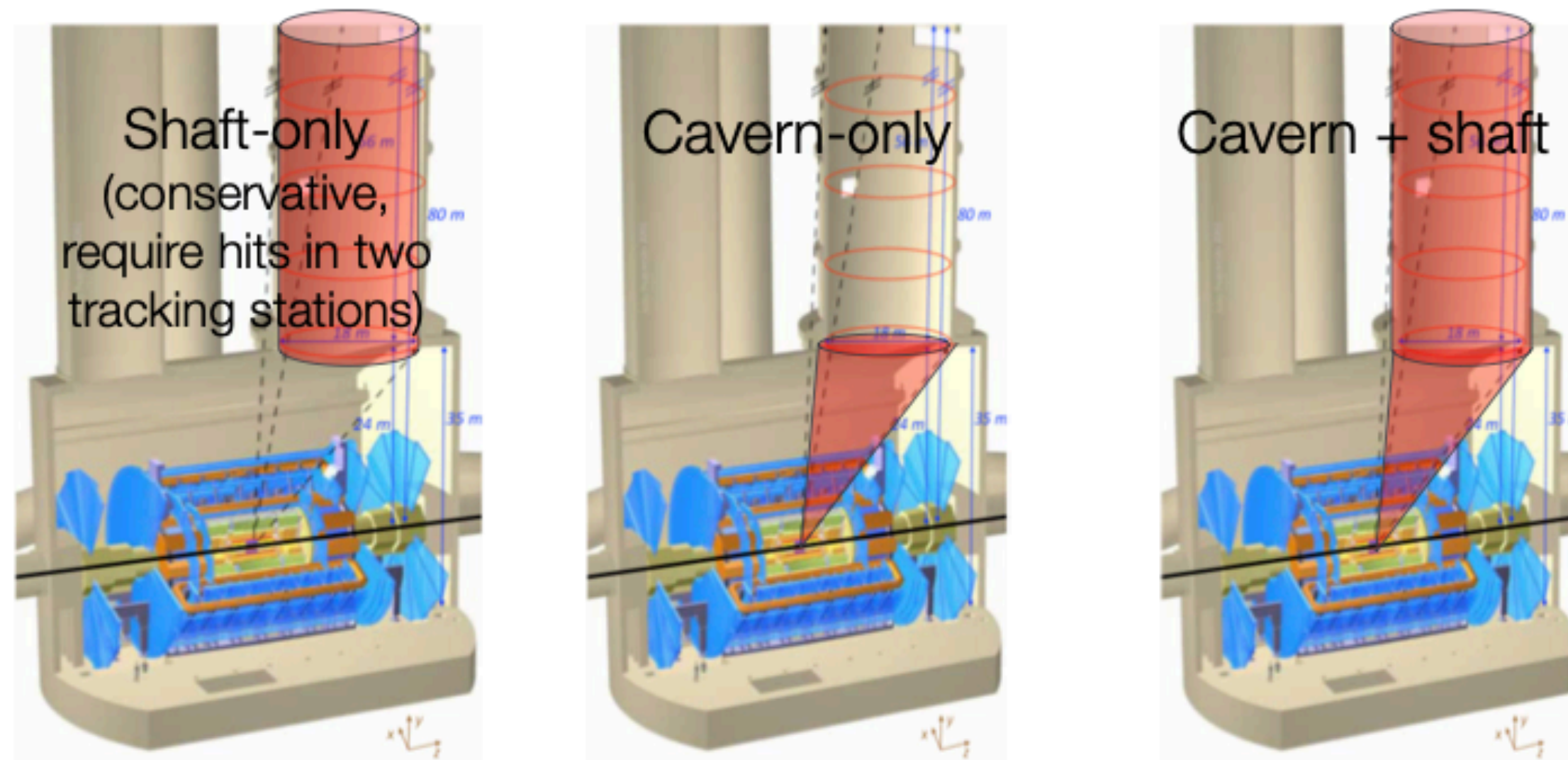
- Mathusla: Good sensitivity for mass $> 5 \text{ GeV}$ and lifetime $\gg 100 \text{ m}$, even at low masses
- Codex-b 300/fb, complementary to MATHUSLA at shorter lifetimes

- Anubis Cavern + shaft, 3/ab, 50 events
- Anubis Cavern + shaft, 3/ab, 4 events
- Codex-b 10m x 10m x 10m, 300/fb
- Codex-b 20m x 10m x 10m, 1/ab

An Underground Belayed In-Shaft

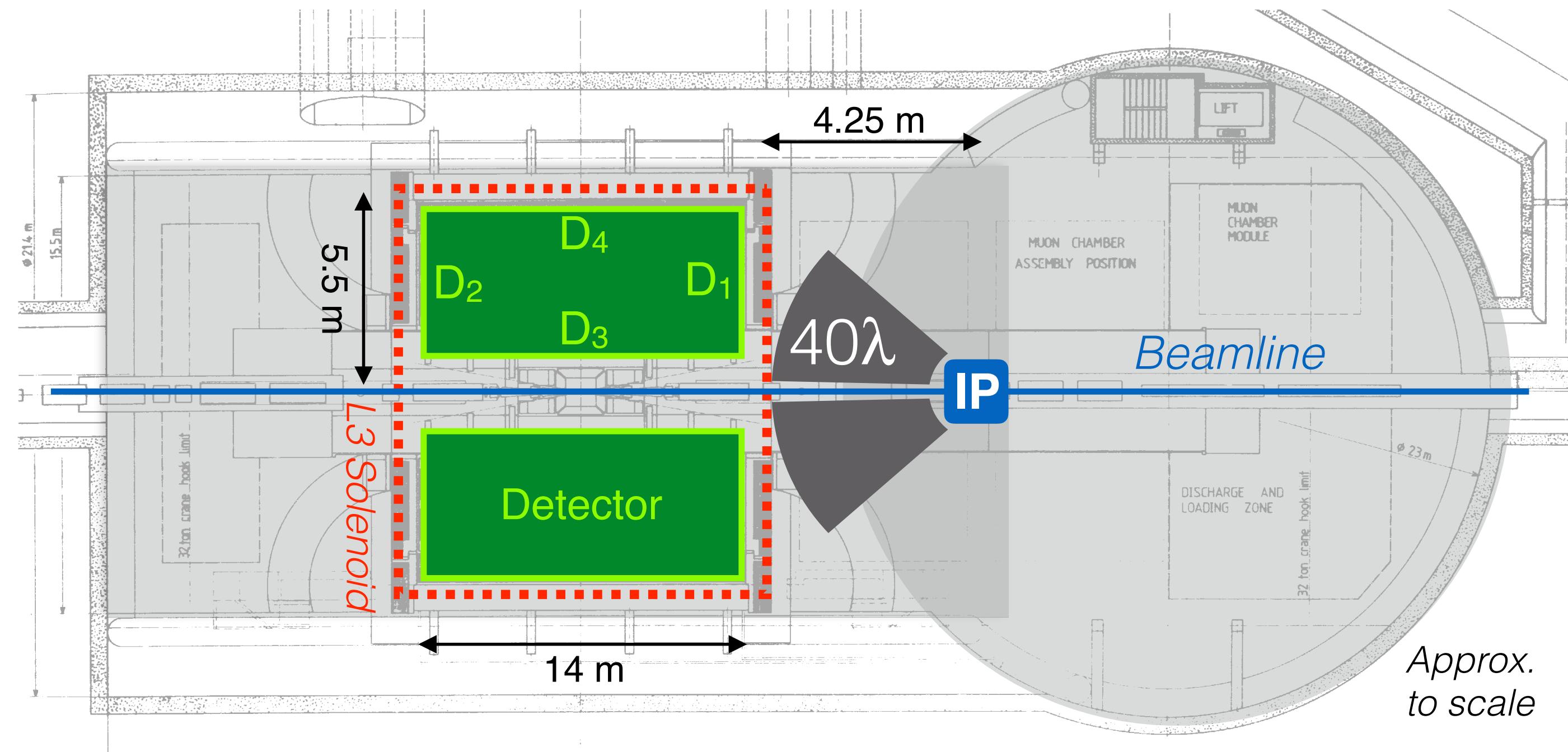
- Instrumenting ATLAS access shaft (56m) for HL-LHC
 - 3 possible configurations using the shaft and/or part of the cavern

- 4 RPC layers for tracking
- Use timing to reject cosmic rays
- Can be combined with ATLAS information as veto and background estimator

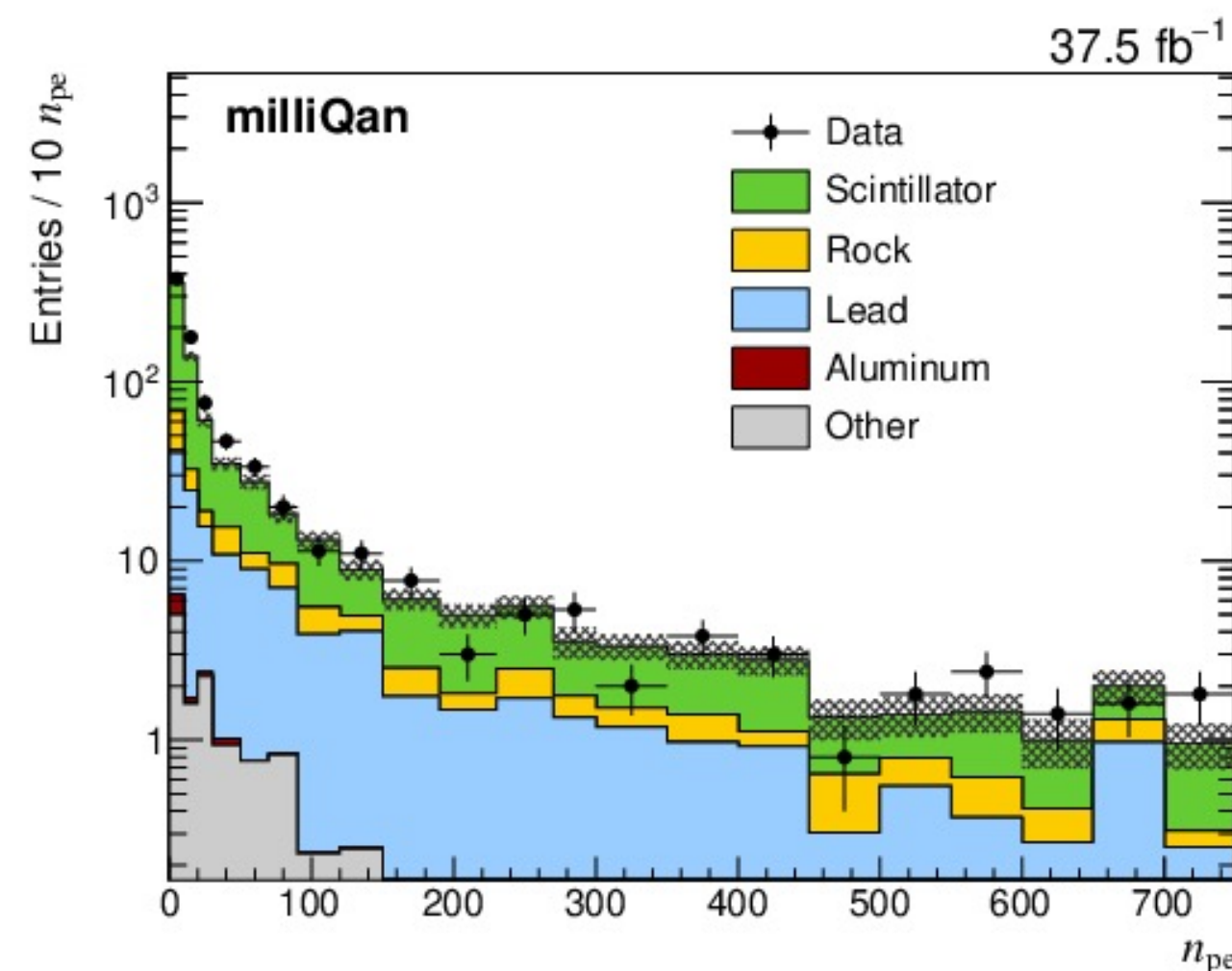
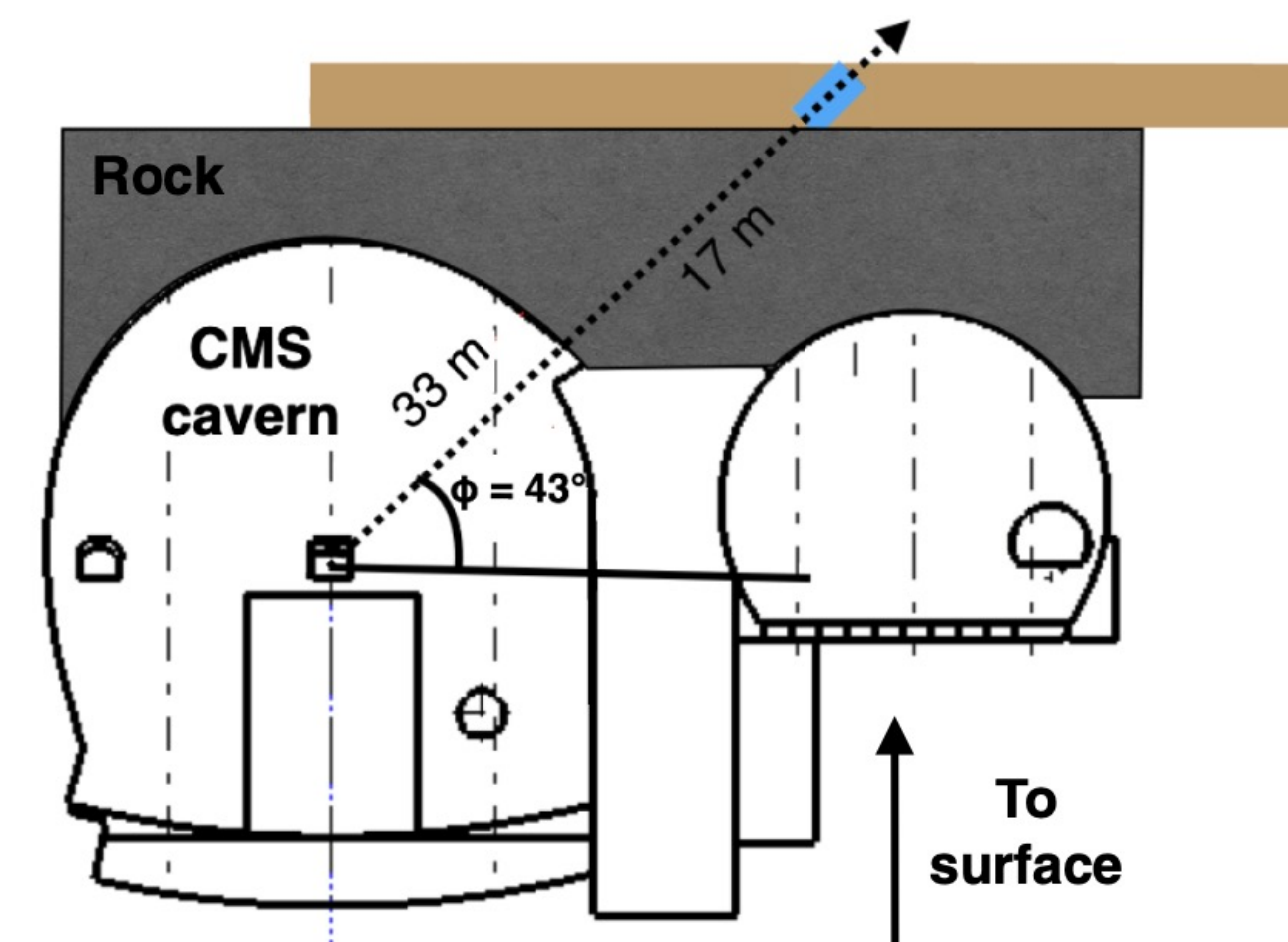


- Plan: installing a demonstrator for Run 3

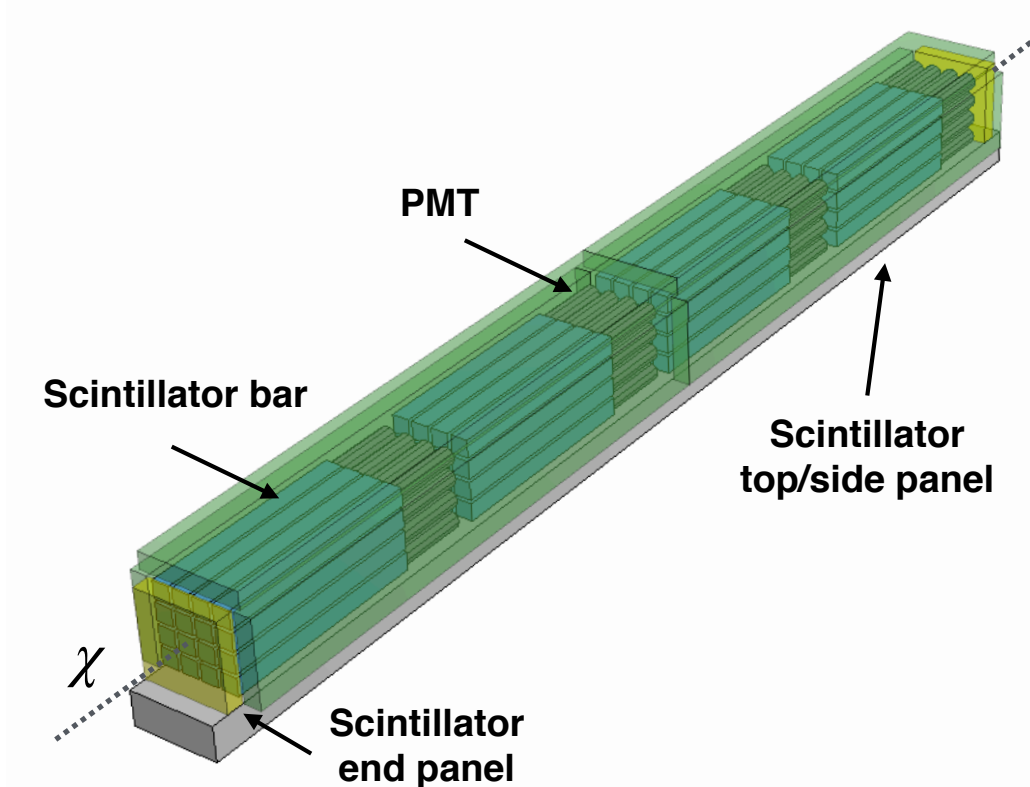
- Use ALICE's cavern and magnet for LLP searches
- Implies that ALICE is removed!
- Requires upgrading IP2 to run at the nominal LHC luminosity
- The IP has to be moved so that the LLP has enough space to decay (would require adjusting magnets)
- Use existing magnets for momentum measurements
- Add absorber, aiming at zero background
- Quite unlikely to be built, but a good example on how to use existing caverns for LLP detectors



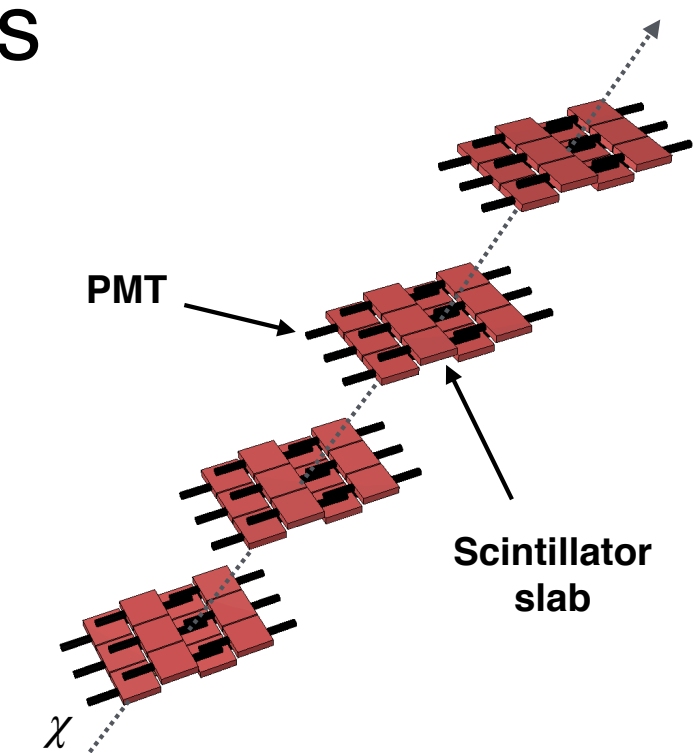
- Target Millicharged particles in dark QED with mass $O(\text{GeV})$
- 70m underground (shielded from cosmics) and 33m from CMS IP (17m of rock, shield from LHC)
- Scintillator bars + PMTs allow small ionisation signal from mCPs to be detected
- Prototype took data in 2018 (~1% of full detector), confirmed background expectation



- Two detectors for Run 3
 - Bar detector (upgrade from milliQan demonstrator)
 - 0.2 m x 0.2 m x 3 m plastic scintillators bars
 - Background estimation validated with demonstrator



- Slab detector
 - 40 cm x 60 cm x 5 cm scintillator slabs
 - Helps with background rejection
 - Increased reach for heavier mCPs

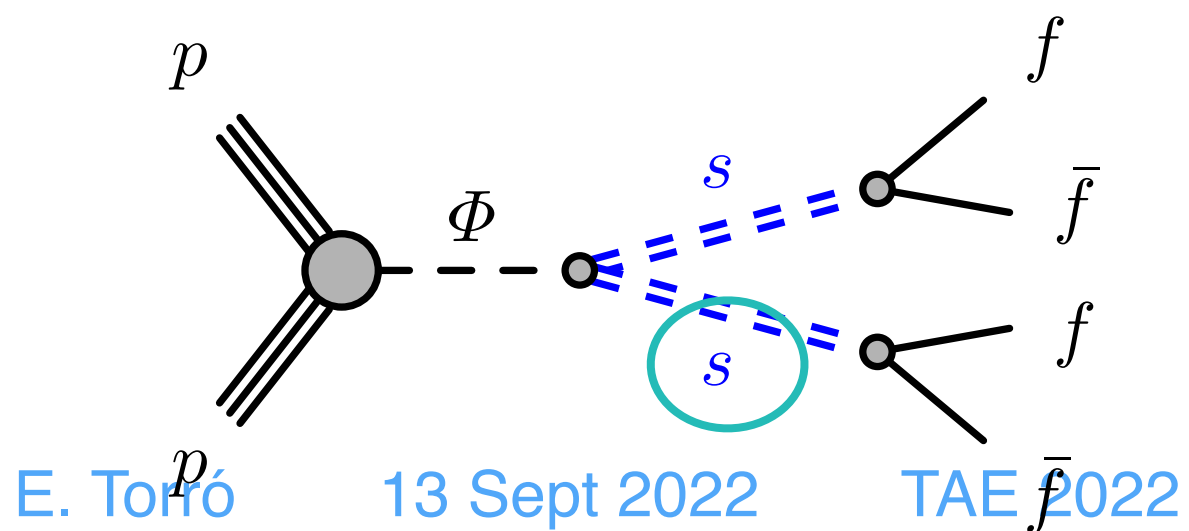
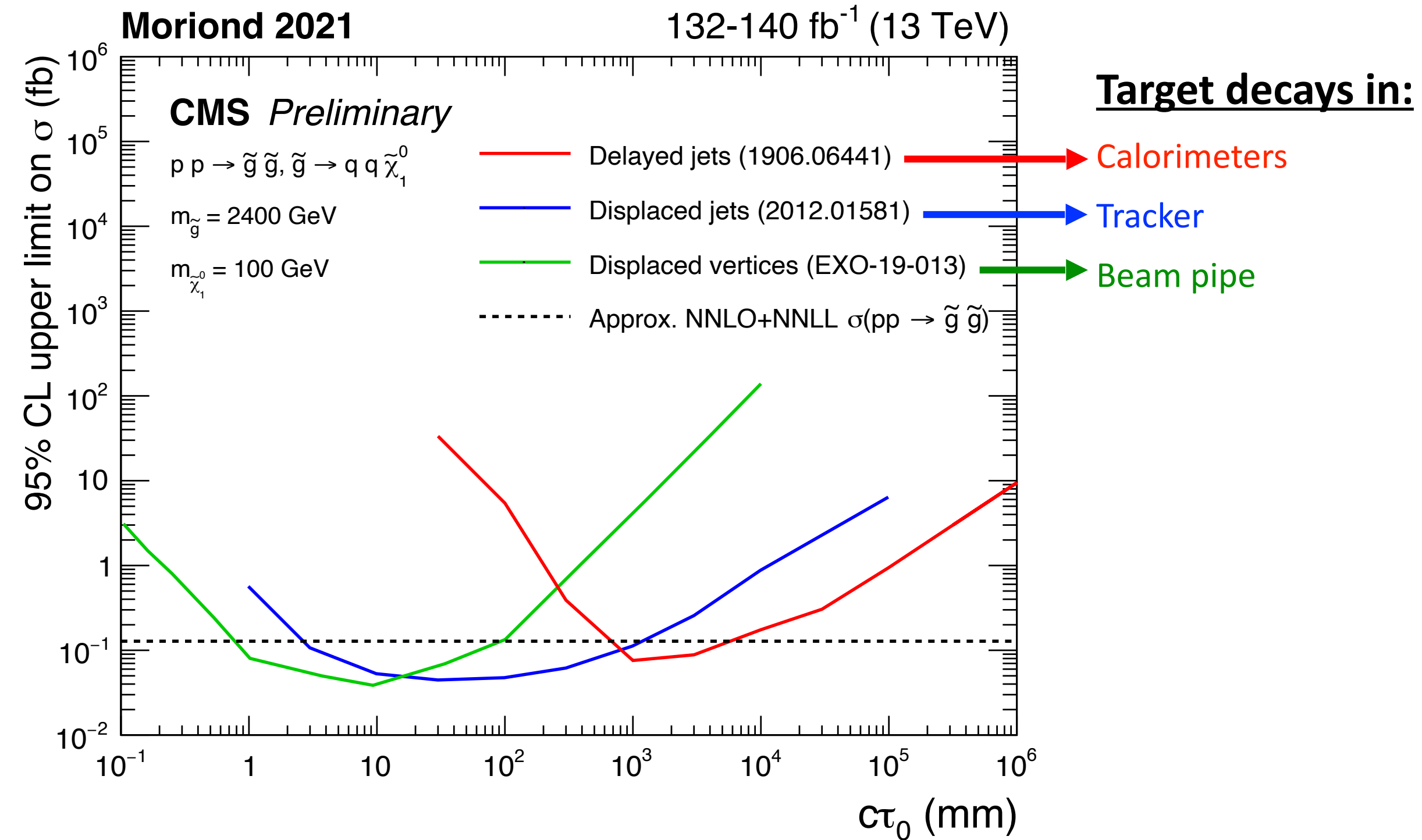
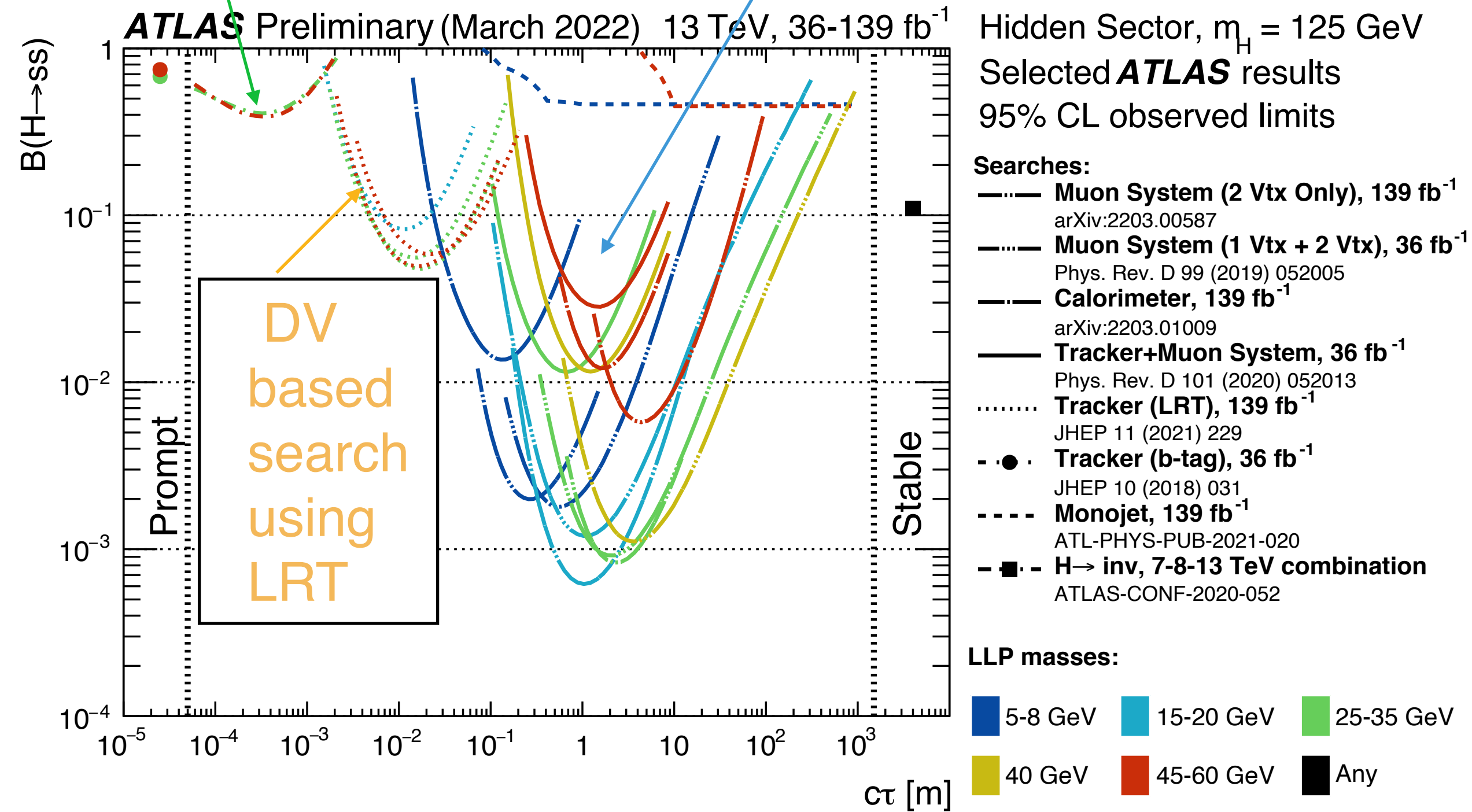


Complementary searches

- Searches for signatures in different subdetectors can be complementary

Prompt search reinterpretation

Calo/MS displaced objects searches



We can expand the lifetime coverage by using multiple search strategies

