

HELMHOLTZ
RESEARCH FOR GRAND CHALLENGES

EXOTIC SEARCHES IN CMS

Jeremi Niedziela (DESY)
for CMS Collaboration

OUTLINE

Searches for BSM particles decaying to Higgs, top and Gauge bosons (B2G)

- Search for W' bosons decaying to a top and a bottom quark in leptonic final states [B2G-20-012](#)
- Search for a heavy resonance decaying into a top quark and a W boson in the lepton+jets final state [B2G-21-055](#) [B2G-20-010](#)



Exotica (EXO)

- Search for prompt production of a GeV scale resonance decaying to a pair of muons [EXO-21-005](#)
- Search for dark matter particles produced in W^+W^- events with transverse momentum imbalance [EXO-21-012](#)

INTRODUCTION

Why search for new physics at LHC?

- dark Matter,
- dark Energy,
- baryon asymmetry in the Universe,
- origin of neutrino masses,
- gravity and quantum mechanics,
- fine-tuning of the Higgs mass,
- hierarchy of fermion masses,
- ...



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soft bombs
lepton jets
unparticles
hidden valley
leptoquarks
black holes
extra dimensions
massive gravitons
stopped particles
W'/Z' bosons
dark photons
excited quarks
extra scalars
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And what could explain it?

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And what could explain it?

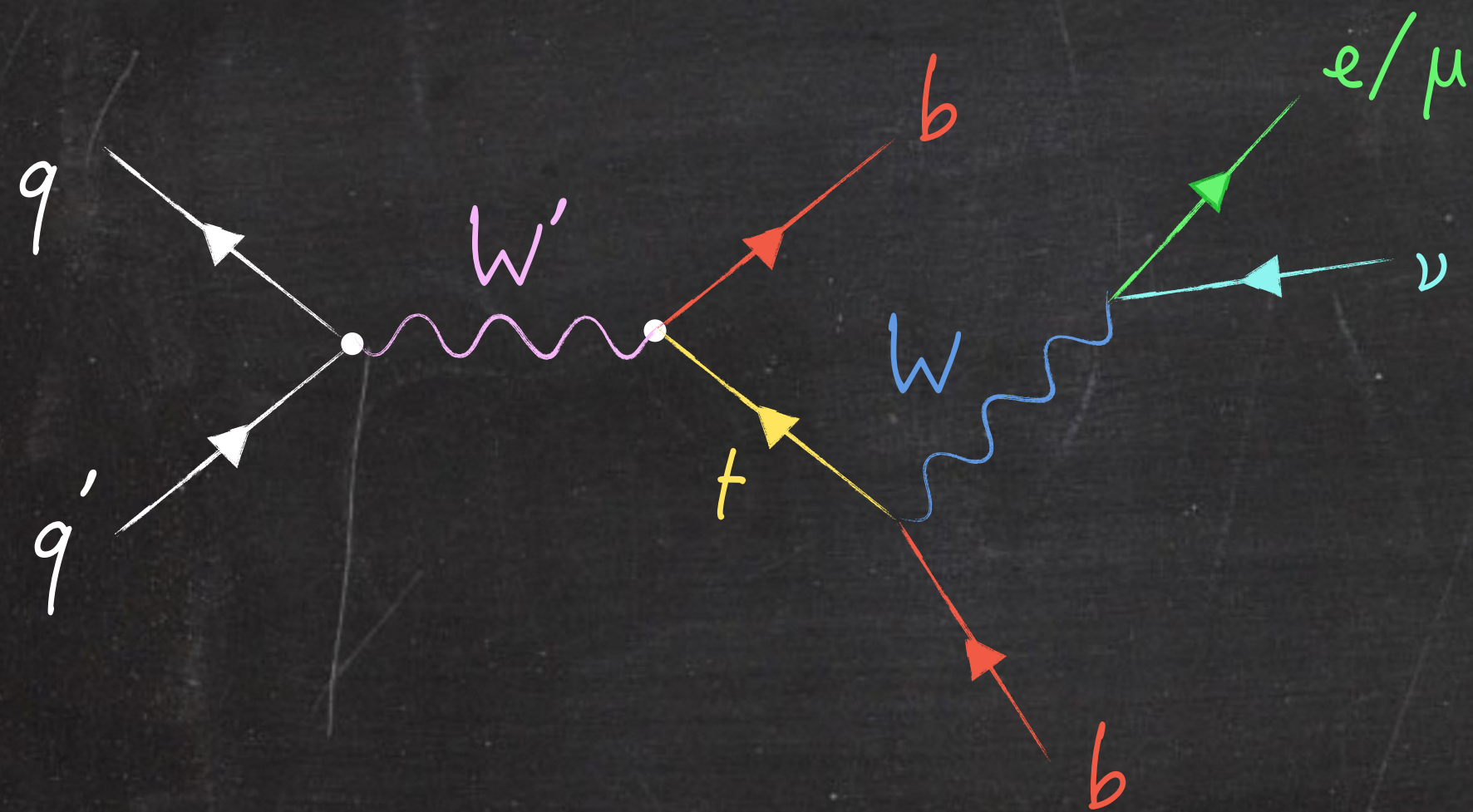
This talk

Presented results (unless stated otherwise):

- proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV,
- full LHC Run 2 data,
- luminosity: 138 fb⁻¹.

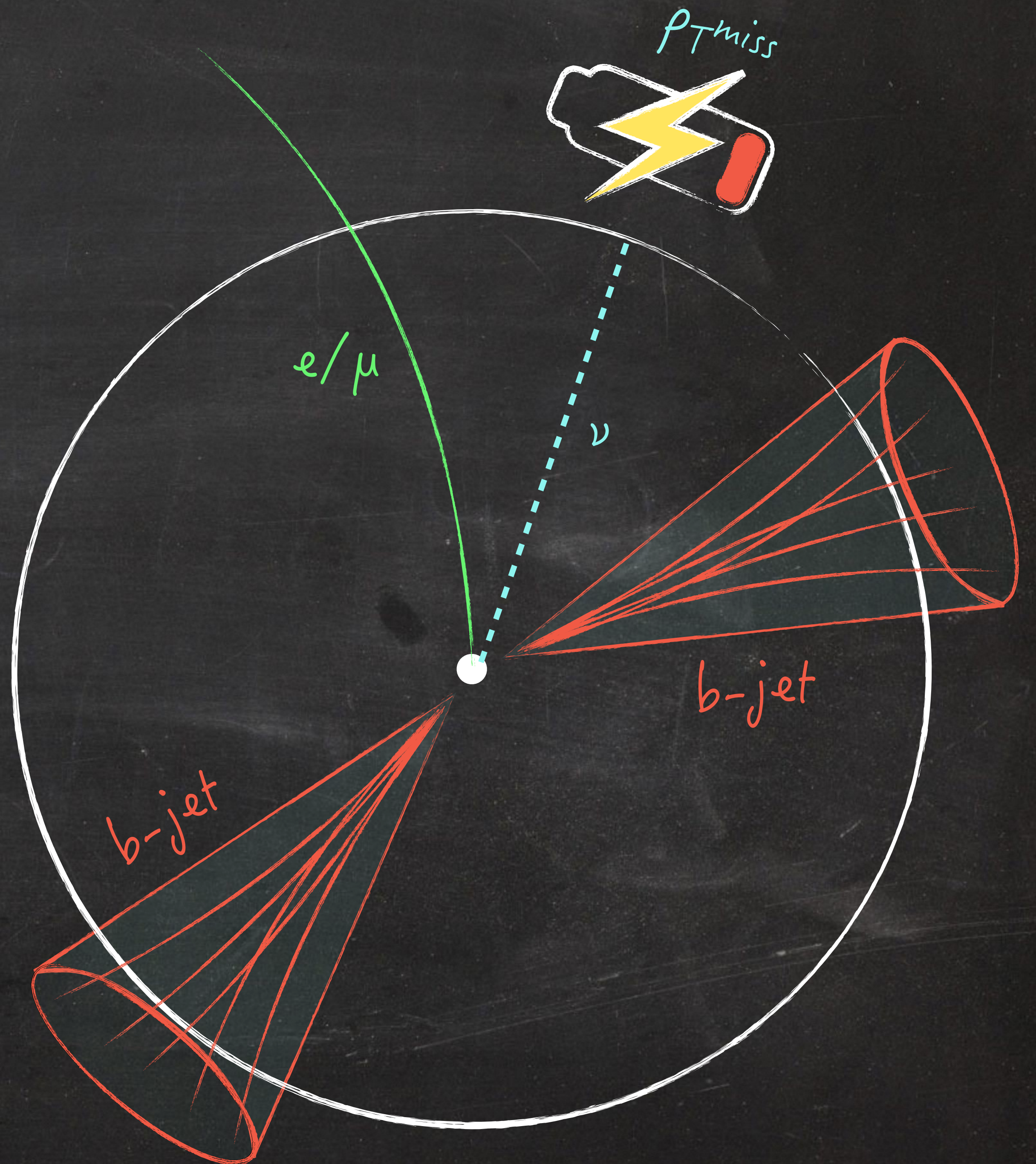
W' SEARCH

- target: multi-TeV mass range (2-6 TeV considered)
 - completing previous searches (< 3 TeV)
- top quark → distinct signature
- different width (1, 10, 20, 30%) and chirality assumptions
 - interpretations for wide range of models



Analysis details

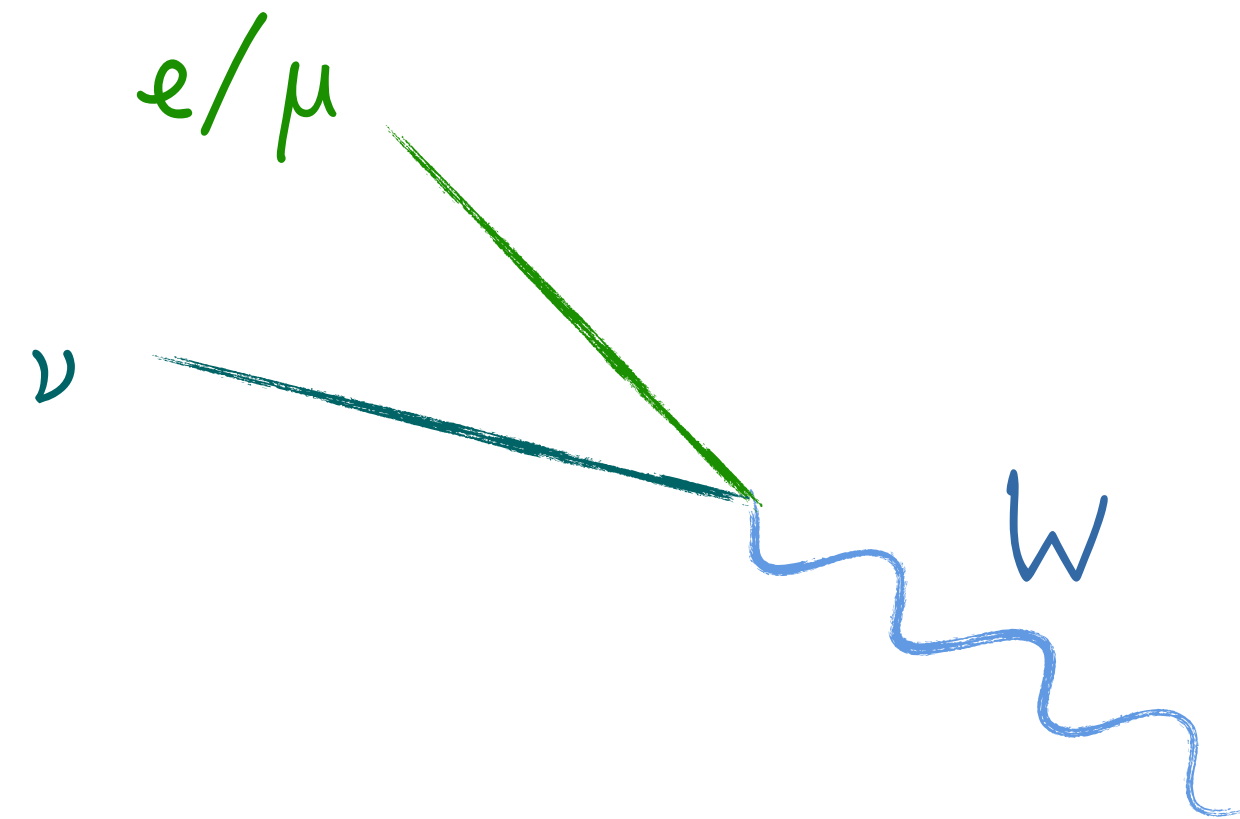
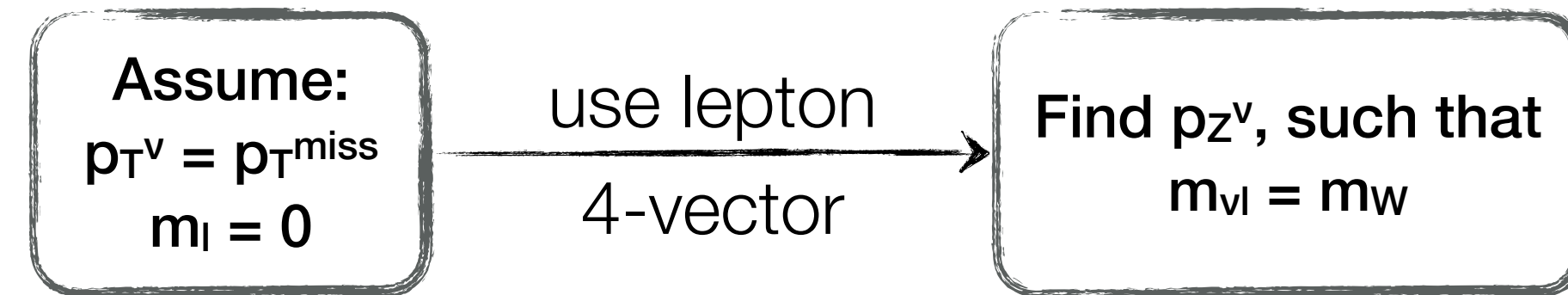
- backgrounds: W +jets, QCD, $t\bar{t}$, single top
- signal/control regions: number of b-tagged top/ W' jets



W' search

B2G-20-012

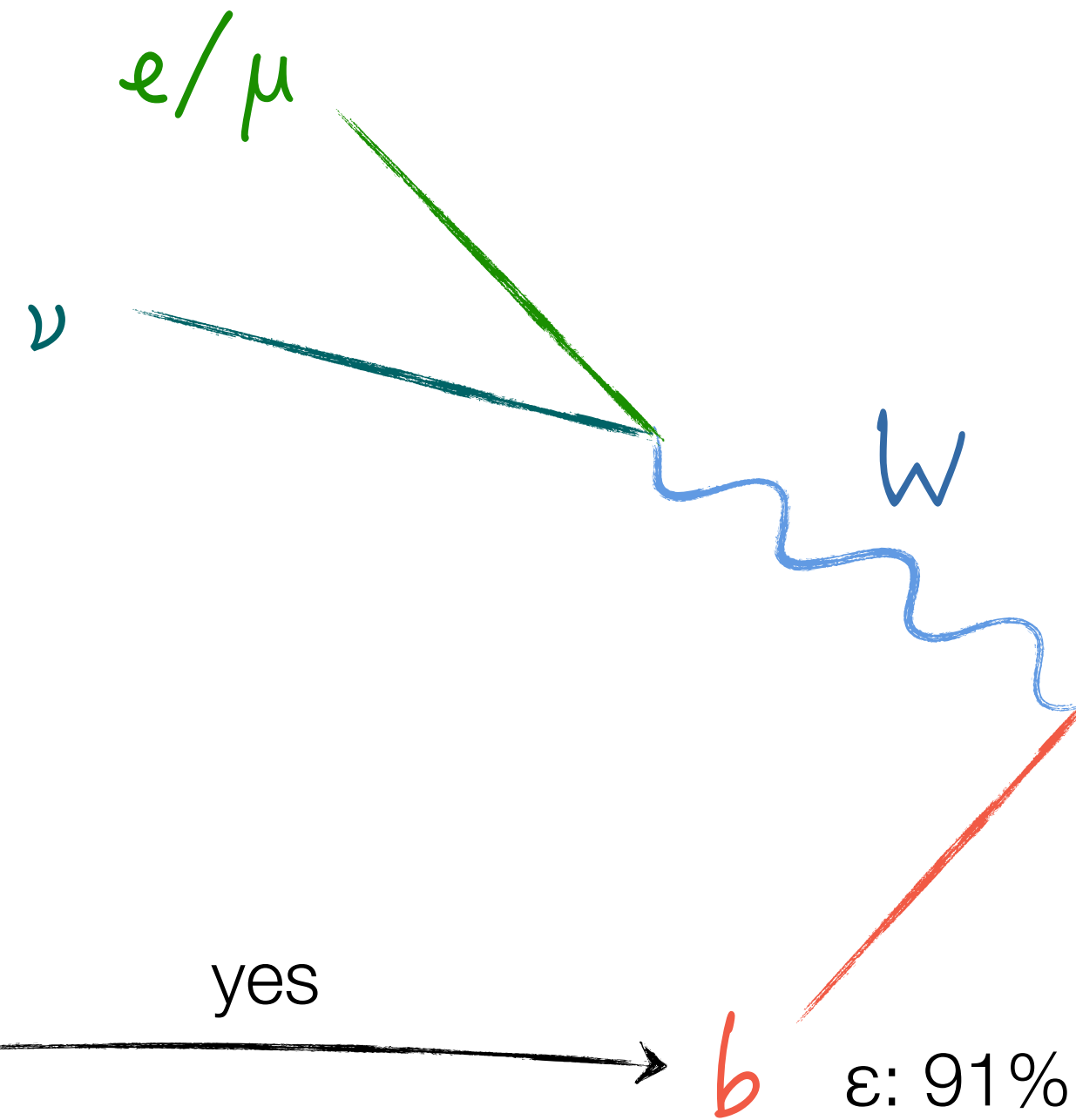
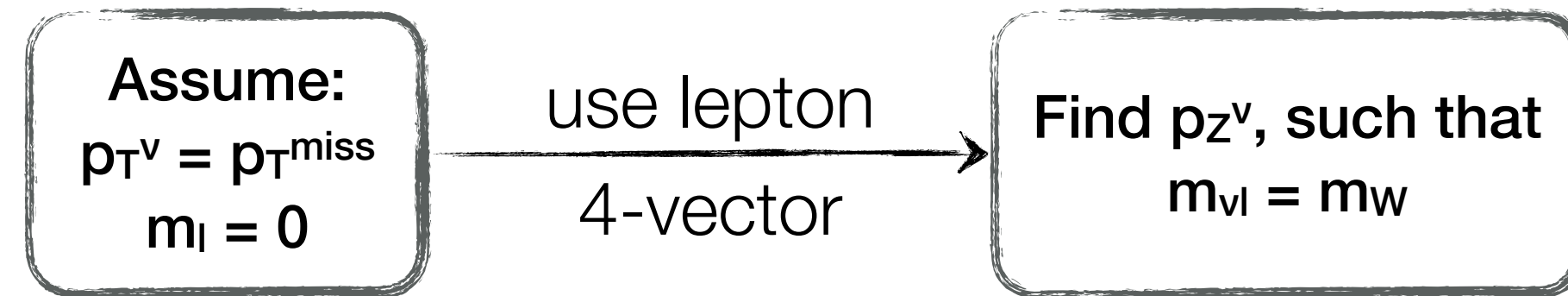
reconstruct W



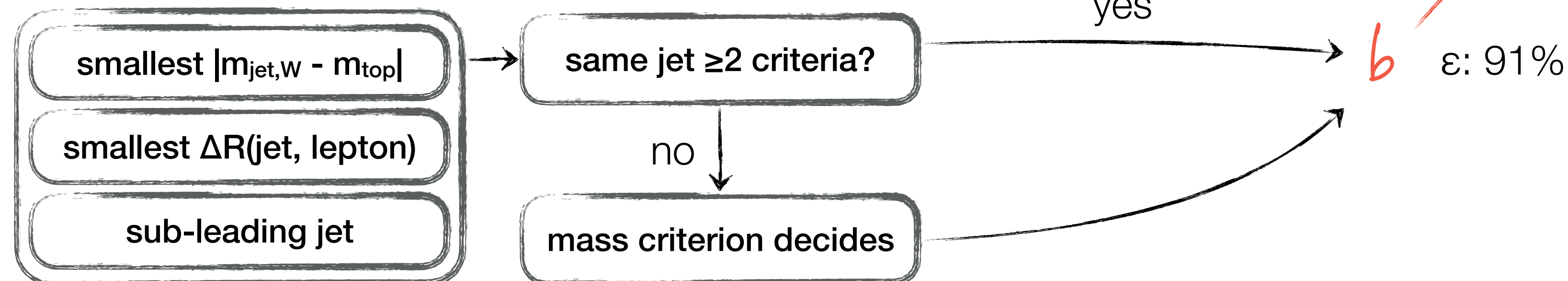
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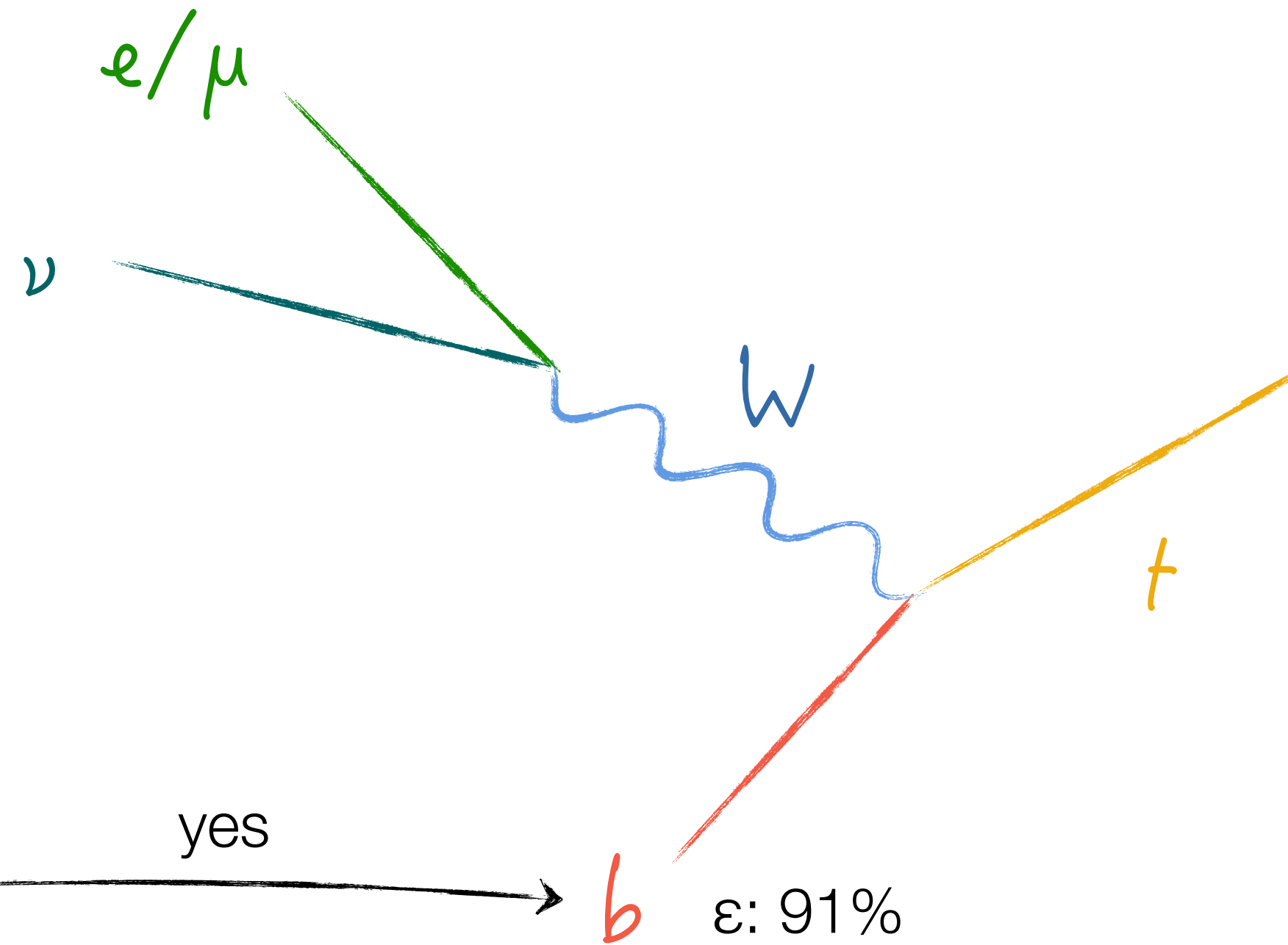
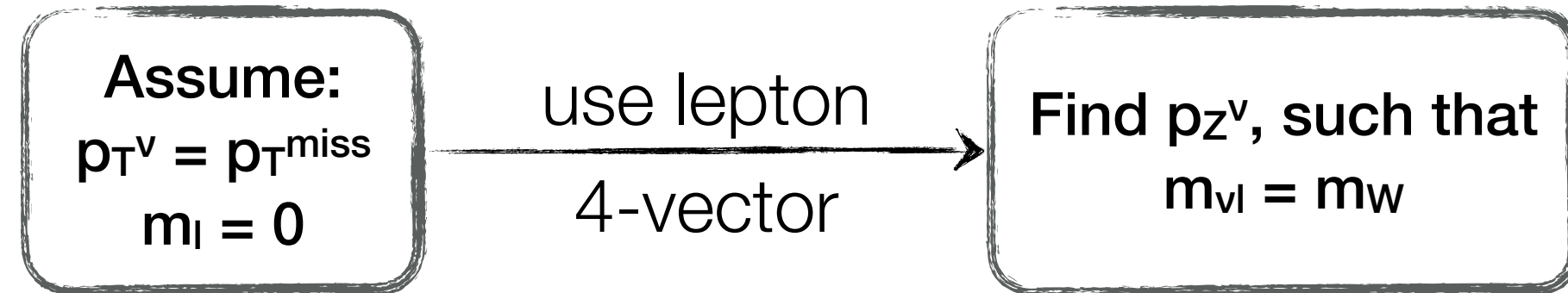
find b-jet originating from top



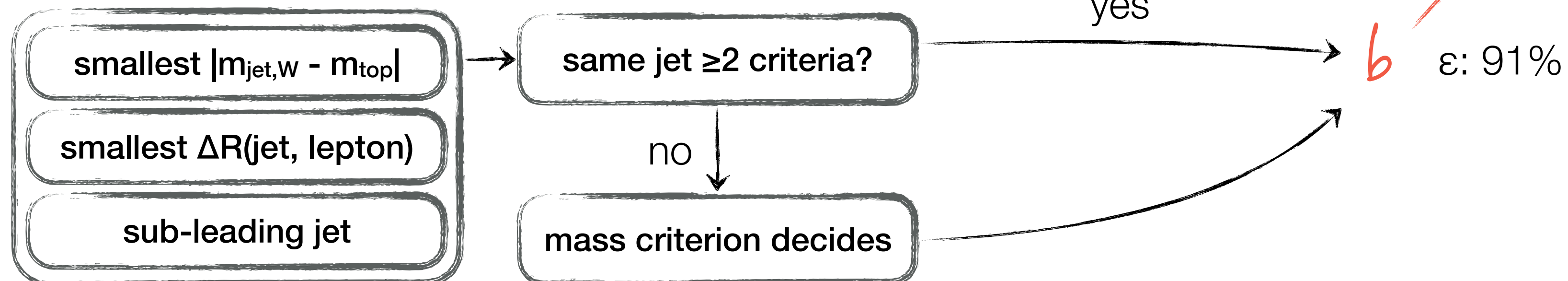
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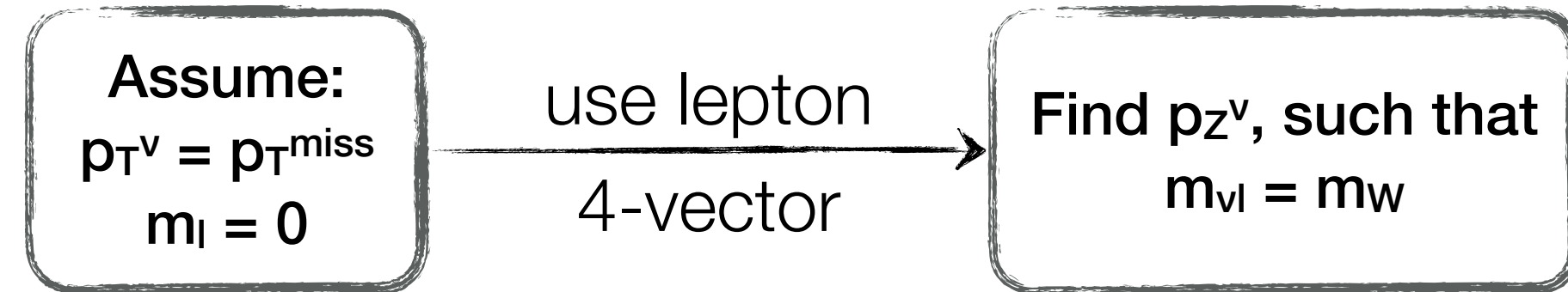
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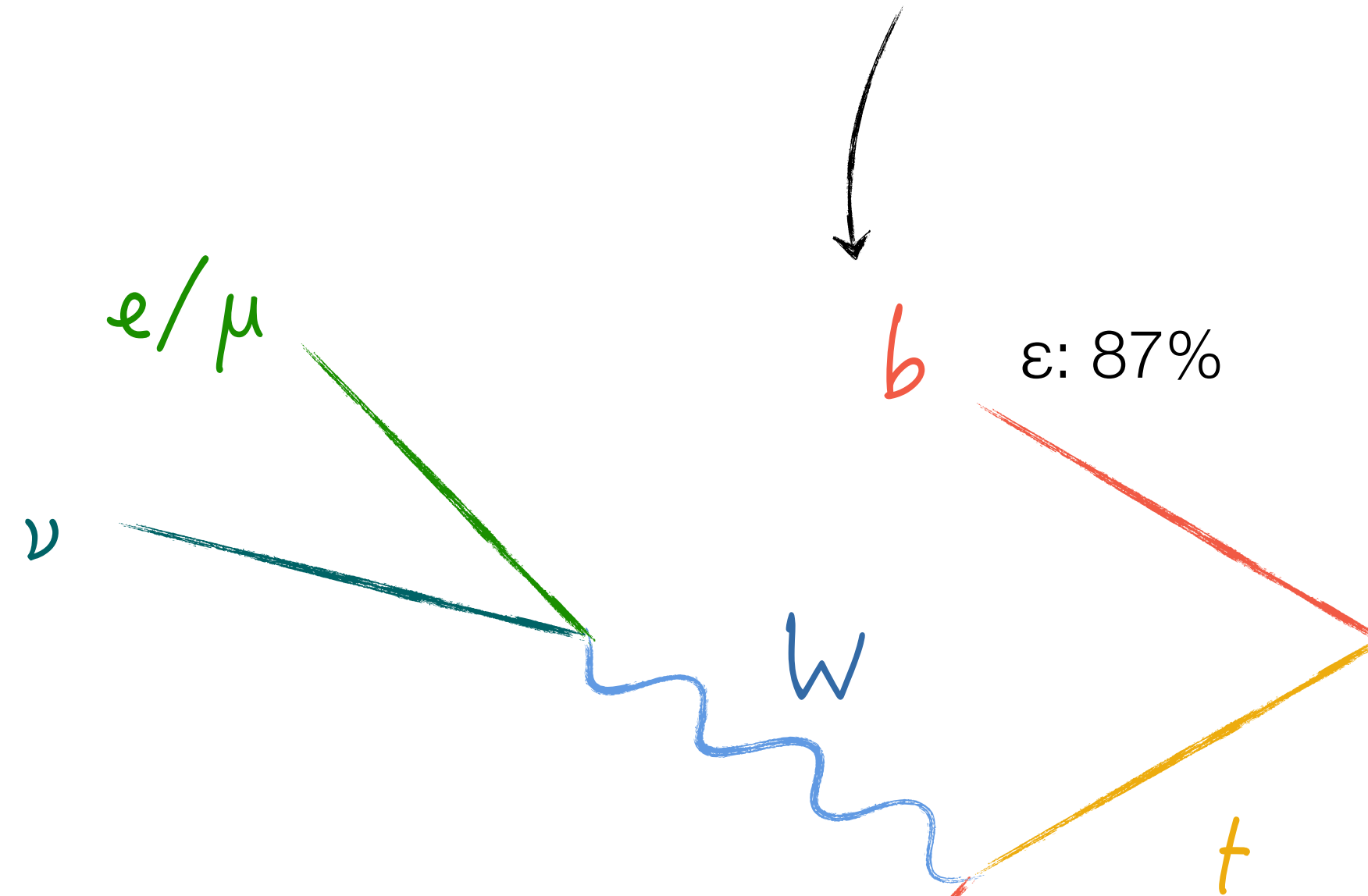
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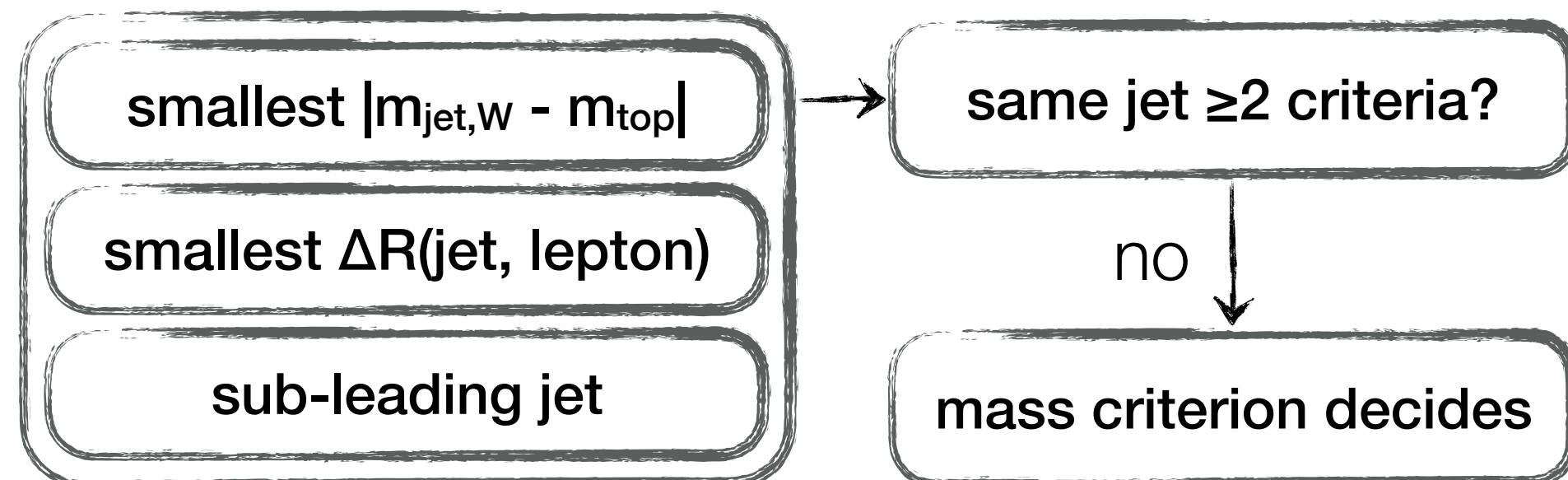
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find jet originating from W'
(highest p_T , possibly b-tagged)



find b-jet originating from top

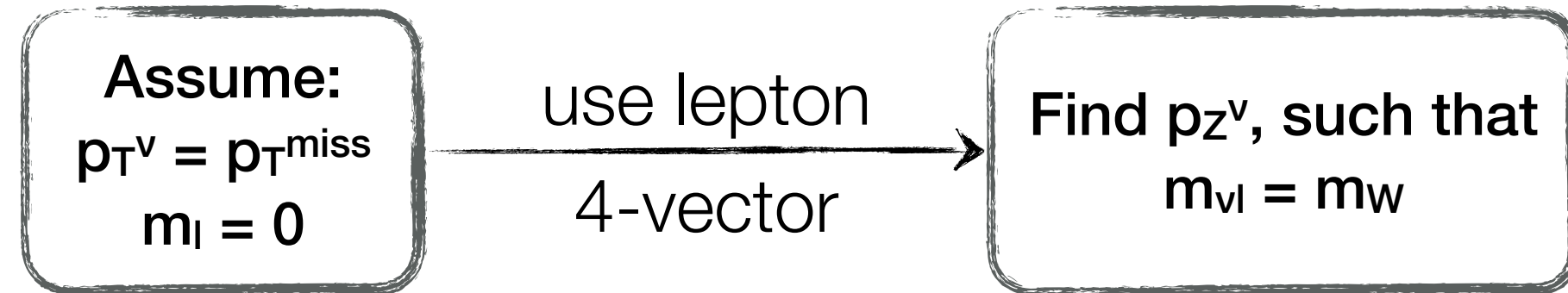


b ε: 91%

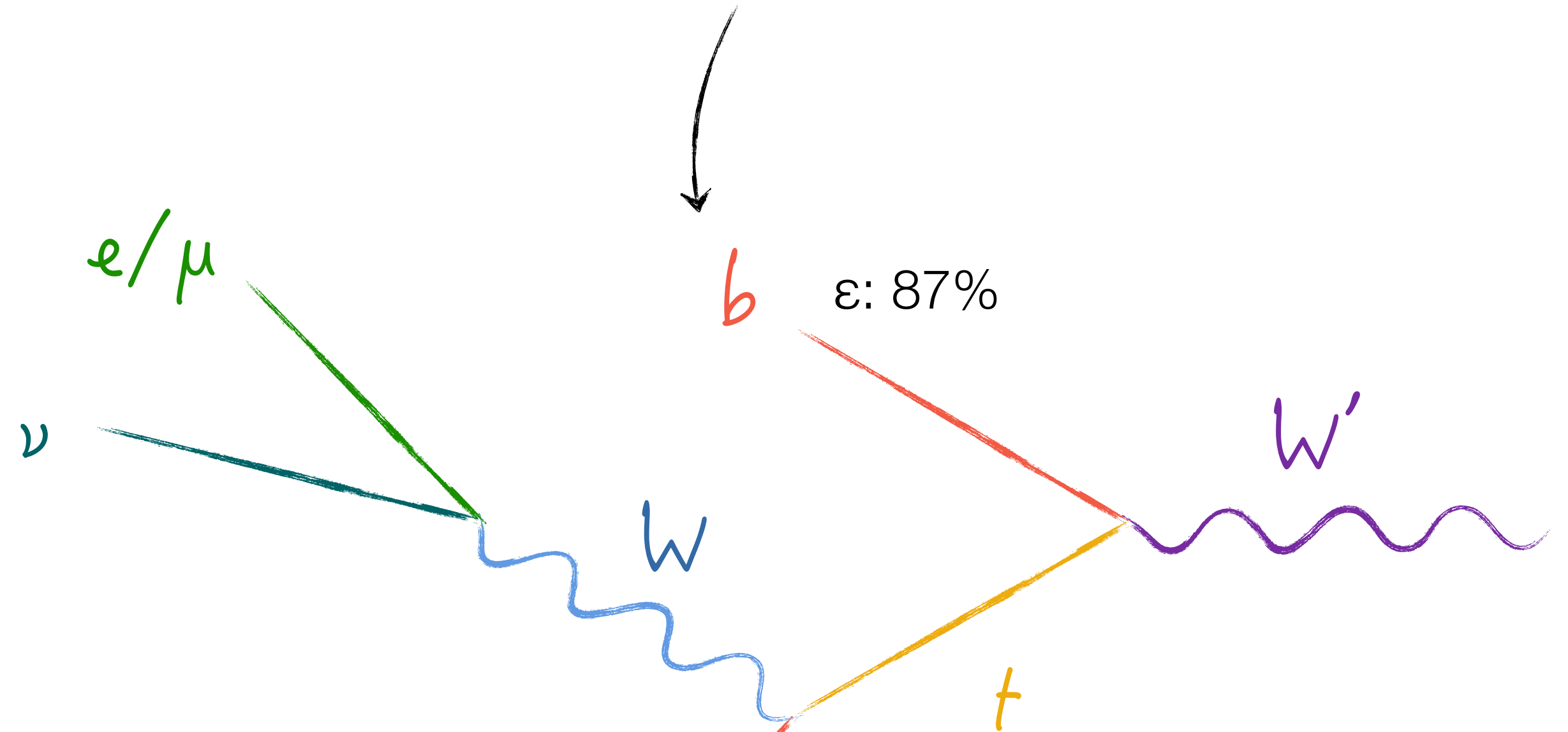
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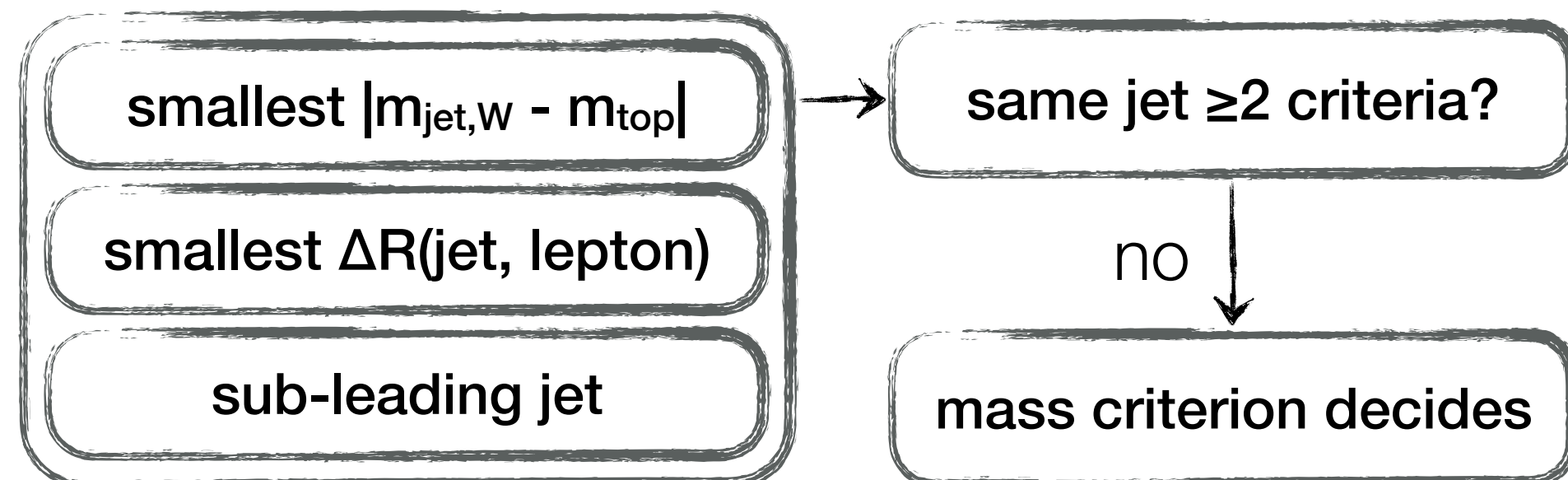
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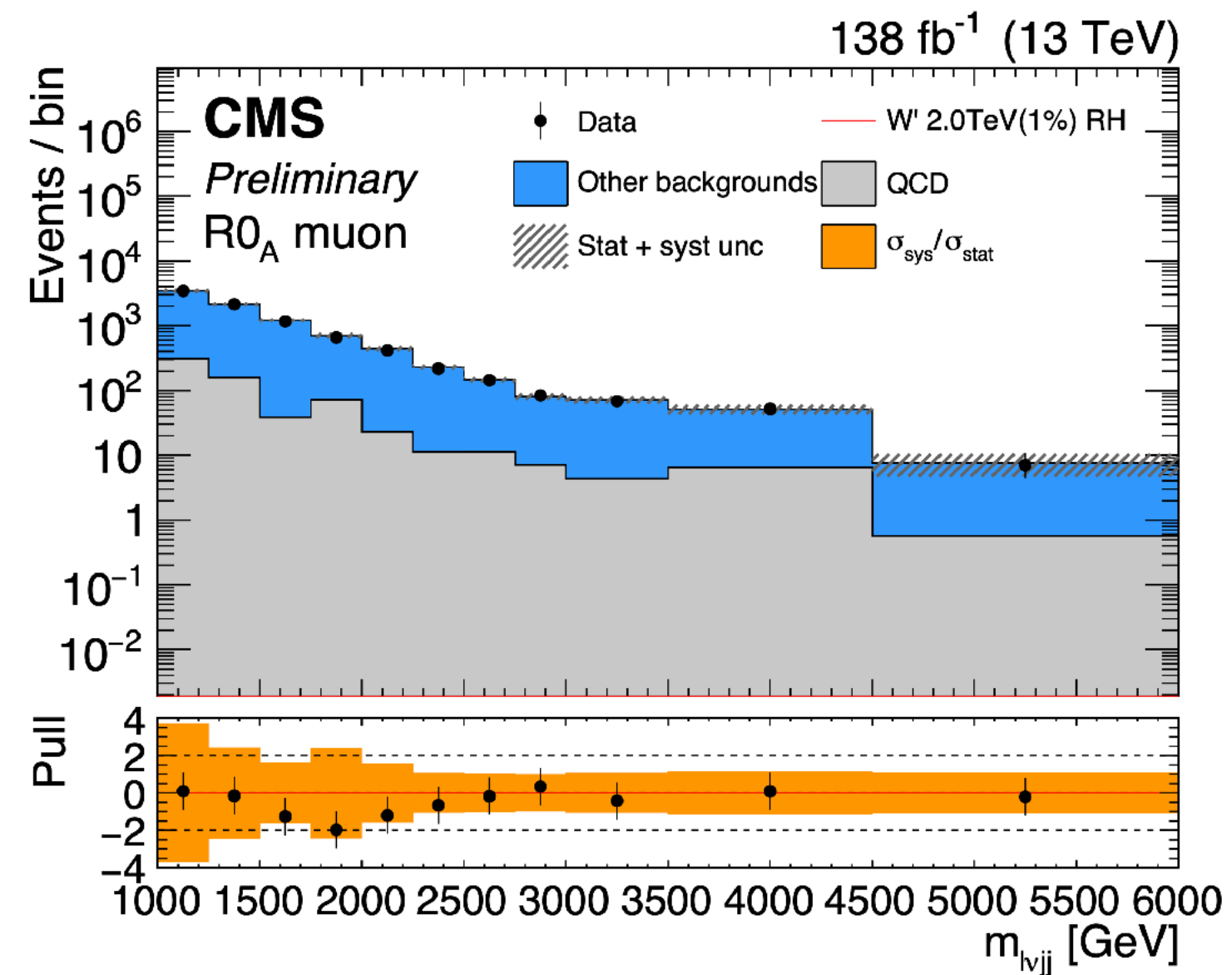
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W' search

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Results

- ABCD-like method with $m_{\text{jet}W'}$ vs. m_{top} ,
- good agreement in the Control Region,

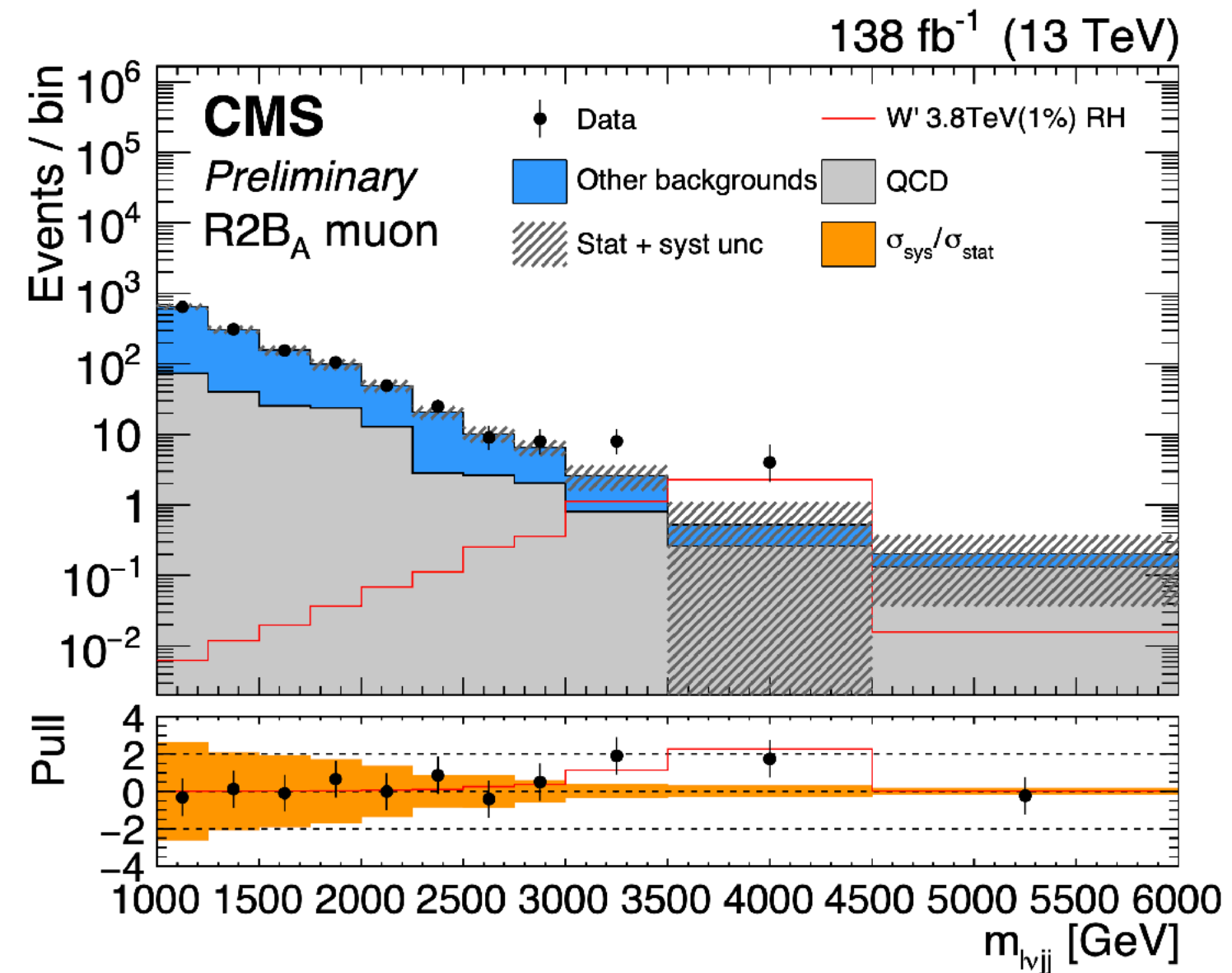
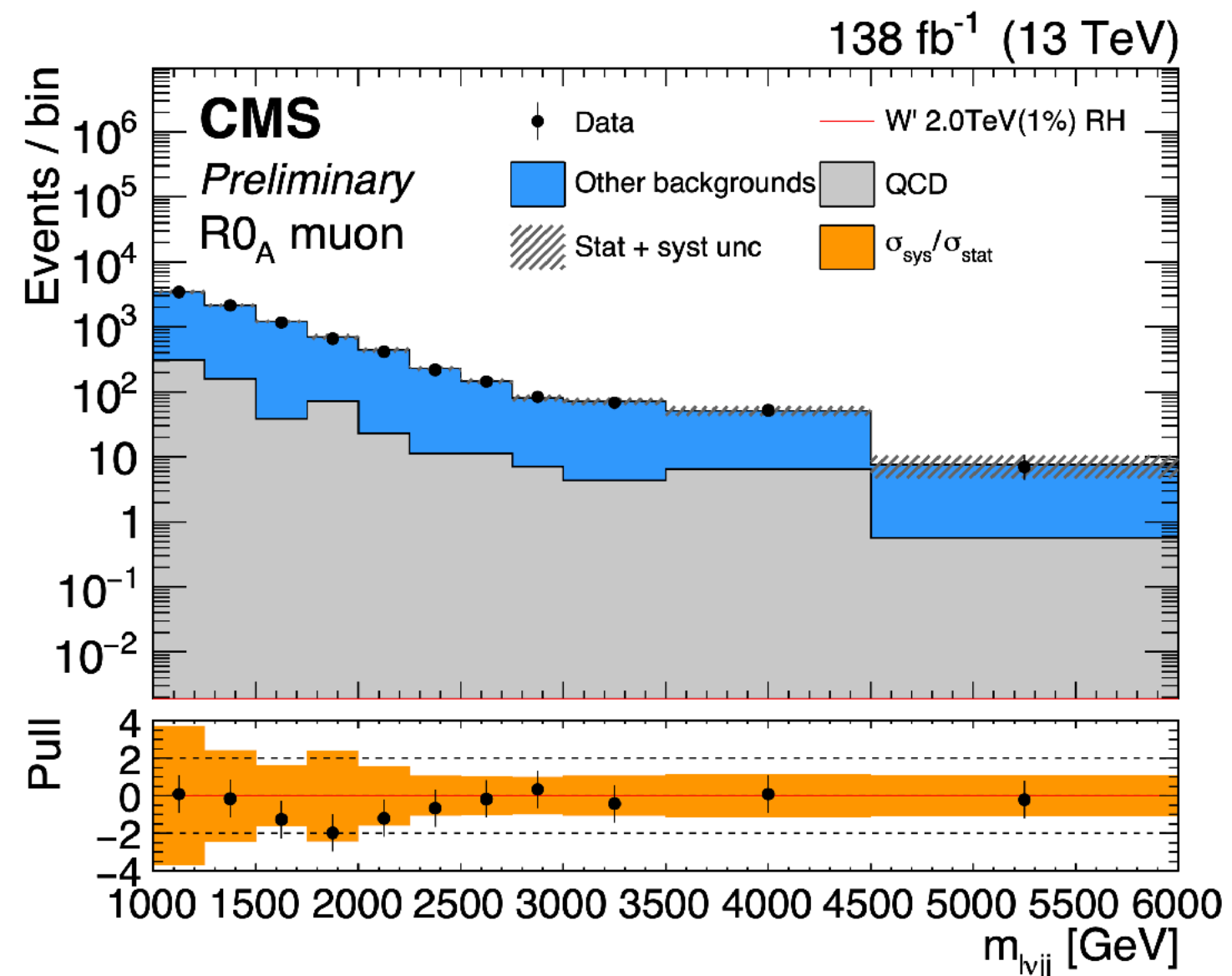


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- ABCD-like method with $m_{\text{jet}W'}$ vs. m_{top} ,
- good agreement in the Control Region,
- small excess at 3.4-4.4 TeV (local: 2.6σ , global: 2.0σ) in one of the μ SR
 - best described by right-handed, narrow width signal hypothesis,

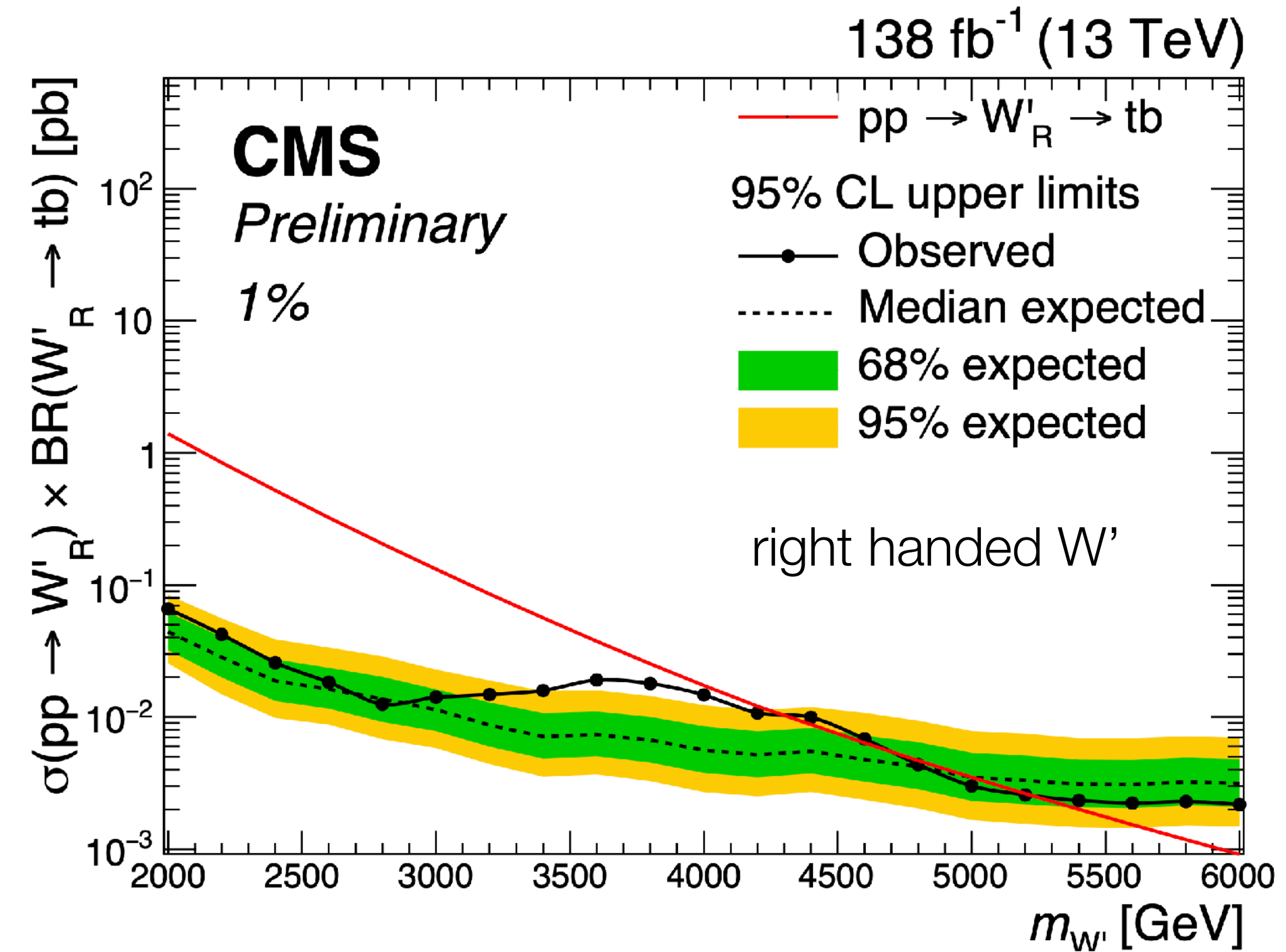
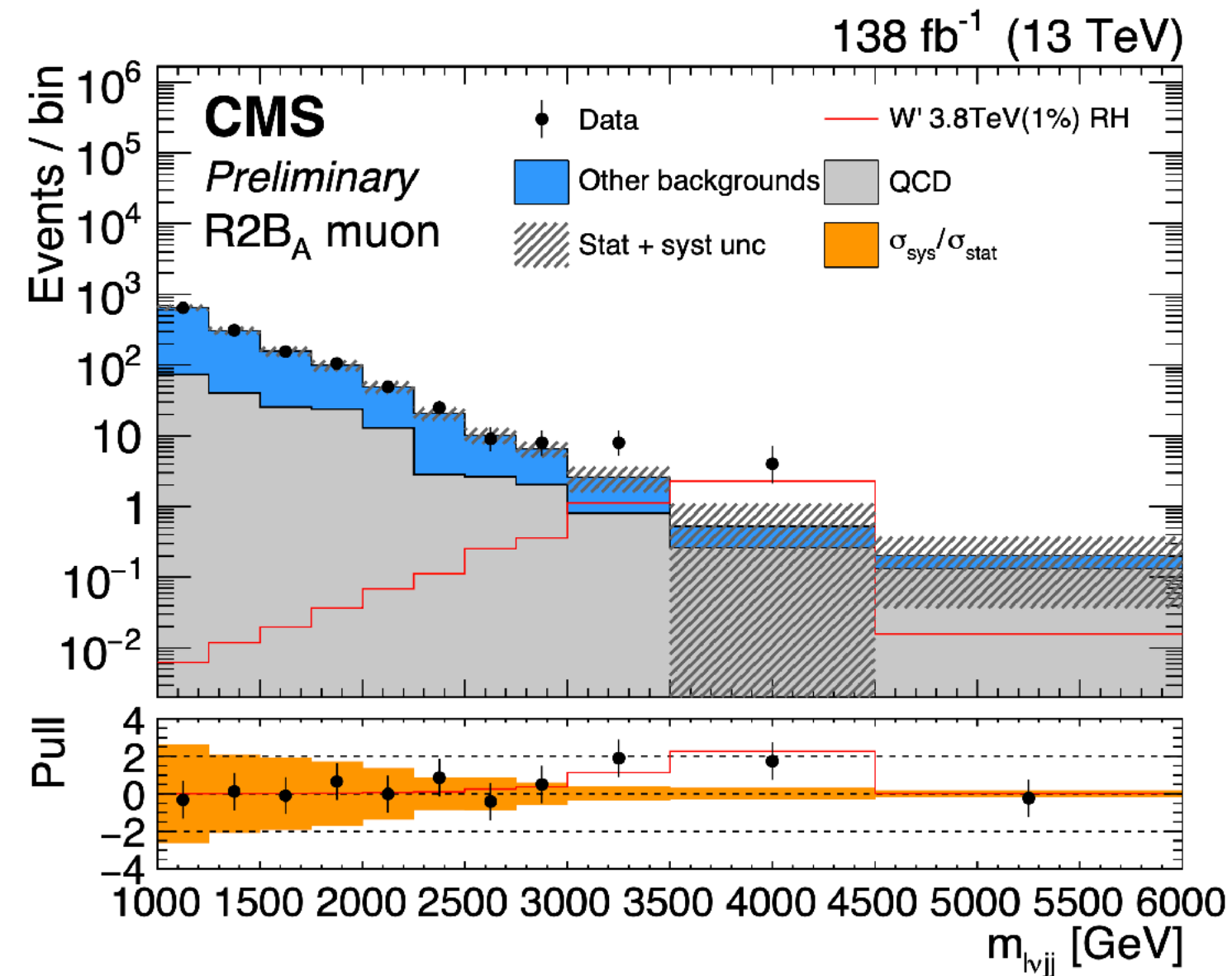
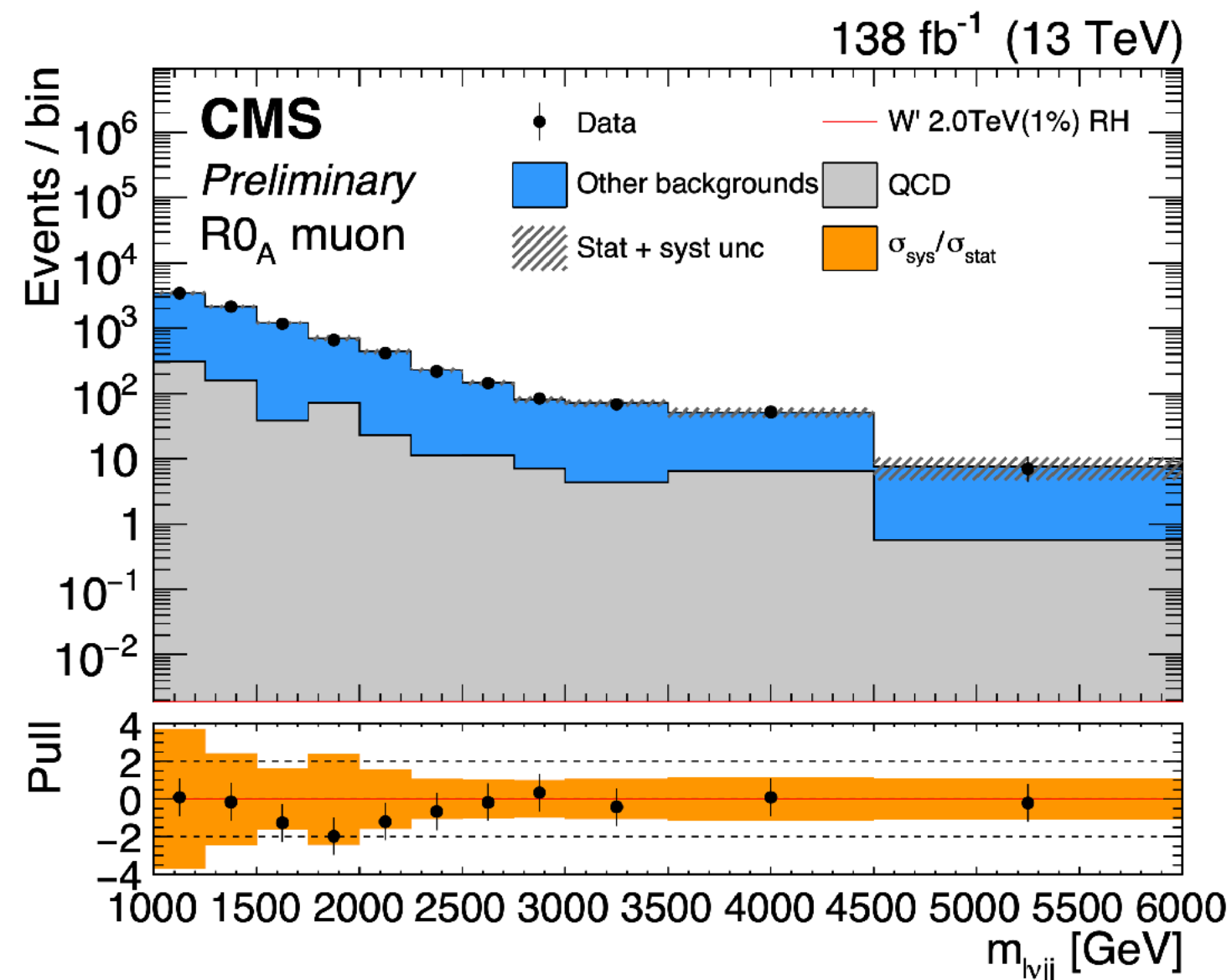


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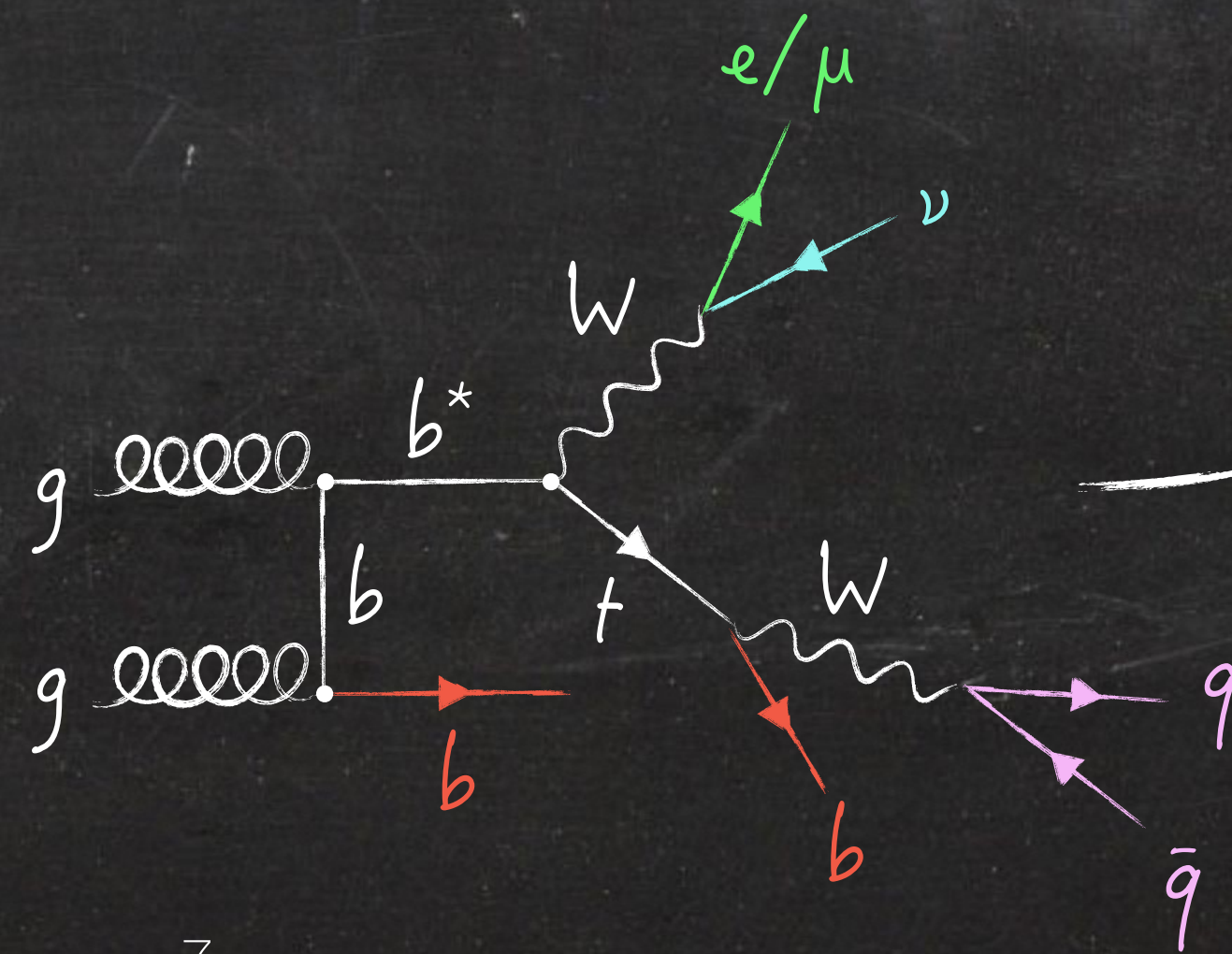
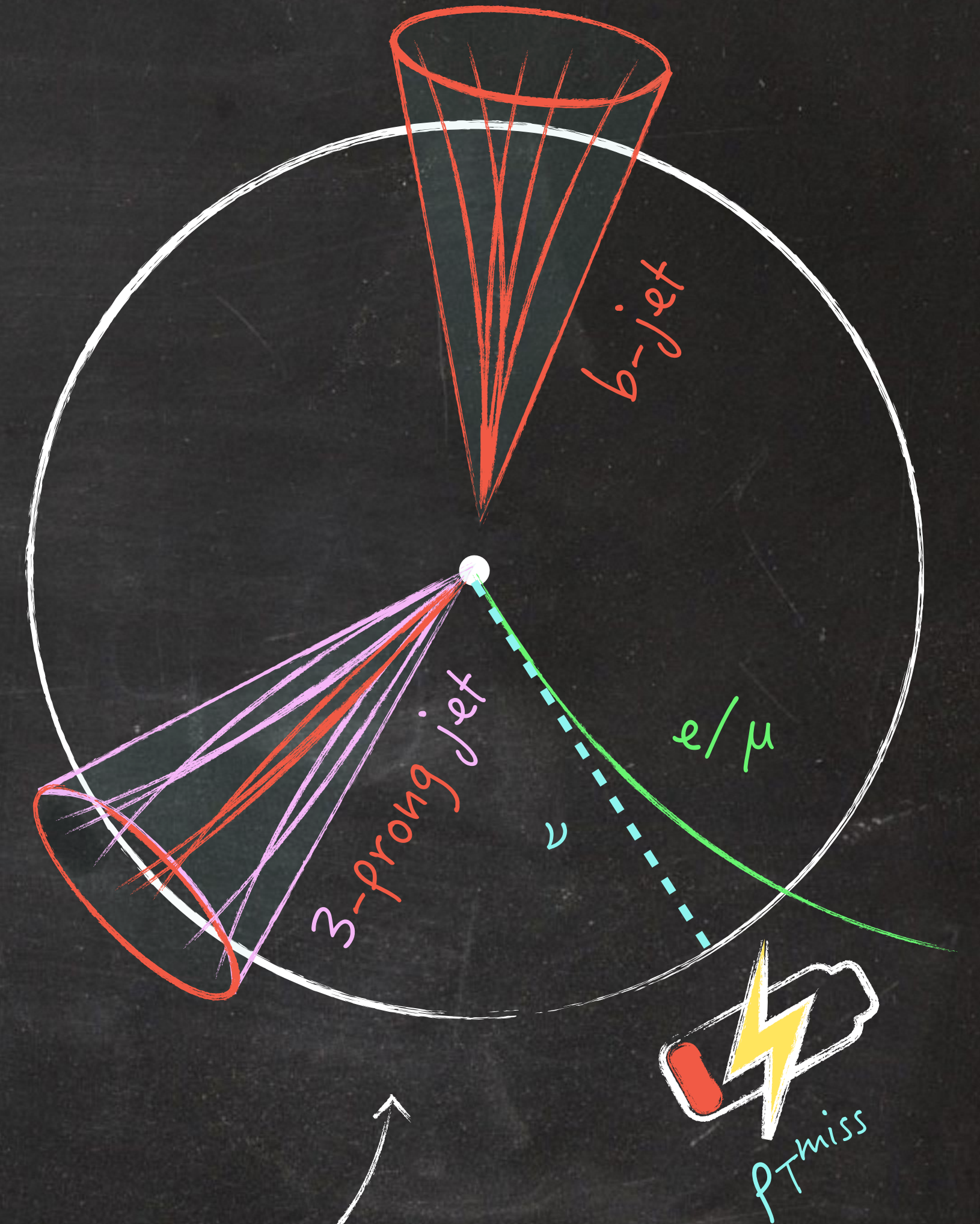
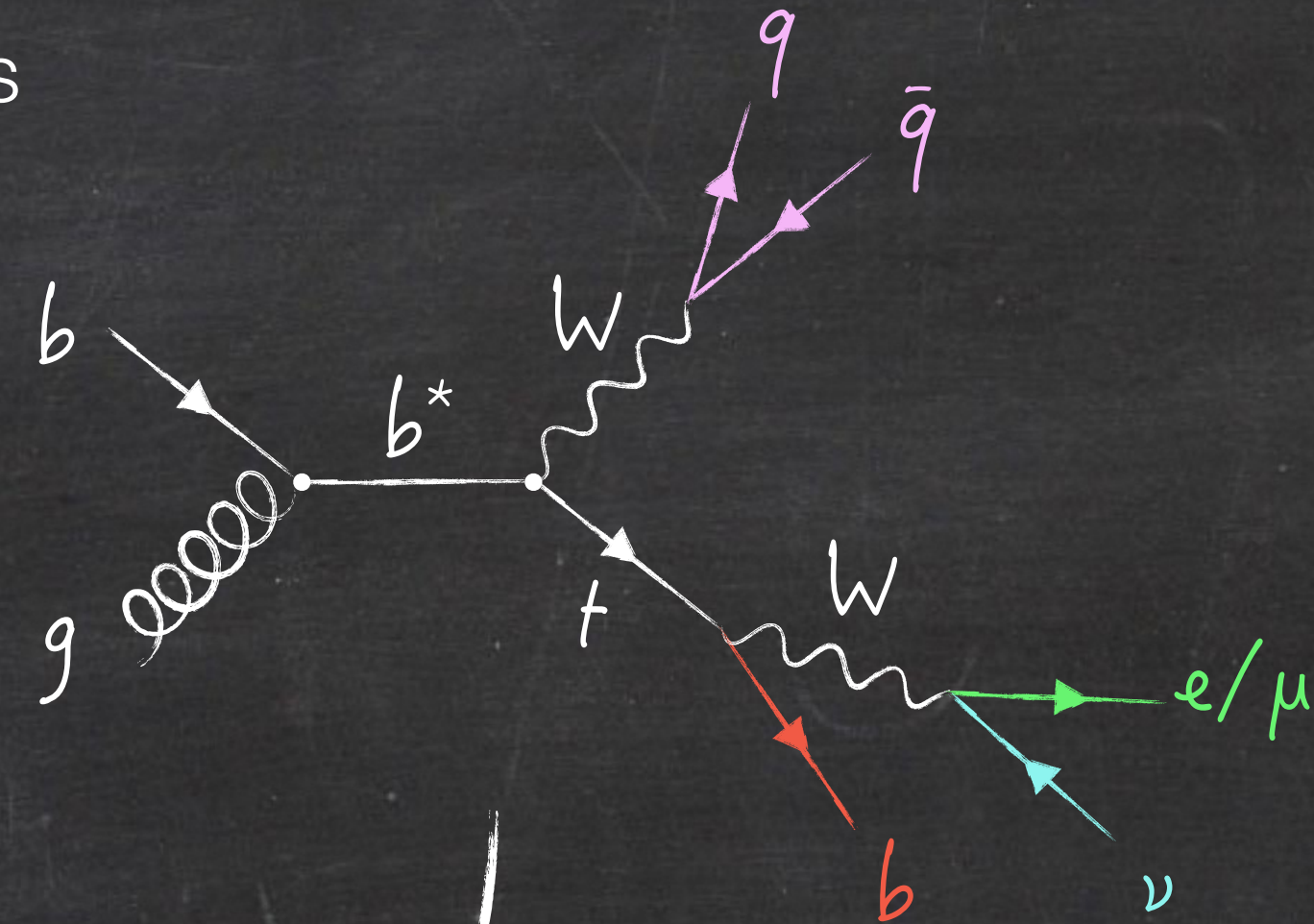
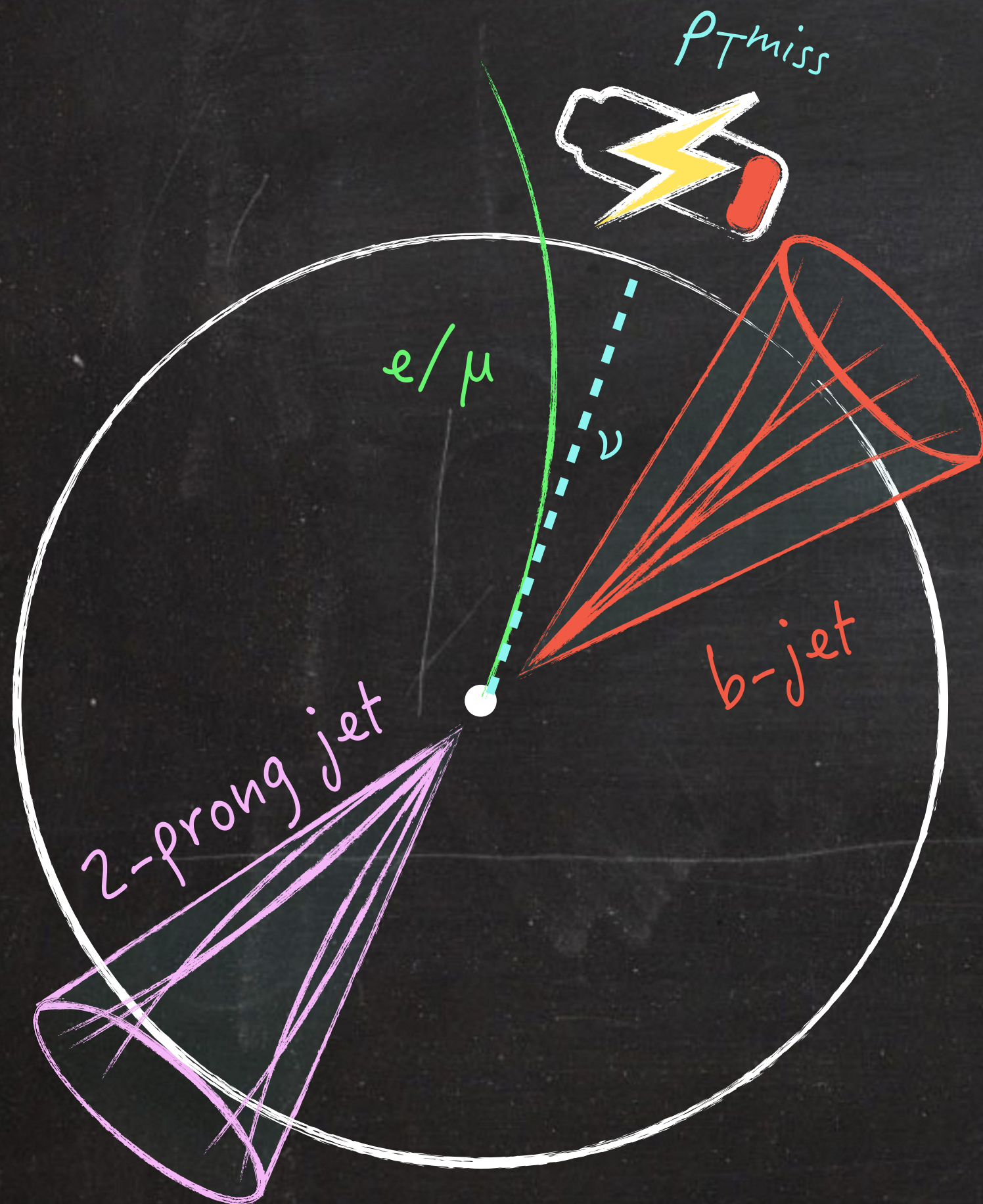
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 - best described by right-handed, narrow width signal hypothesis,
- simultaneous fit in all signal regions for e/ μ final states,
- limits on RH and LH W', with different widths.



HEAVY TW RESONANCE

- excited b-quarks in compositeness models \approx few TeV
- for $m_{b^*} > 700$ GeV decays to tW dominant
- high p_T top and W \rightarrow collimated objects
- RH, LH and VL scenarios studied



HEAVY TW RESONANCE

B2G-20-010

B2G-21-005

Analysis details & Results

- backgrounds: $t\bar{t}$, QCD, W +jets, single top, WW ,
- signal/control regions:
 - number of b-tagged jets,
 - high/low p_T^{miss} and p_T^W ,

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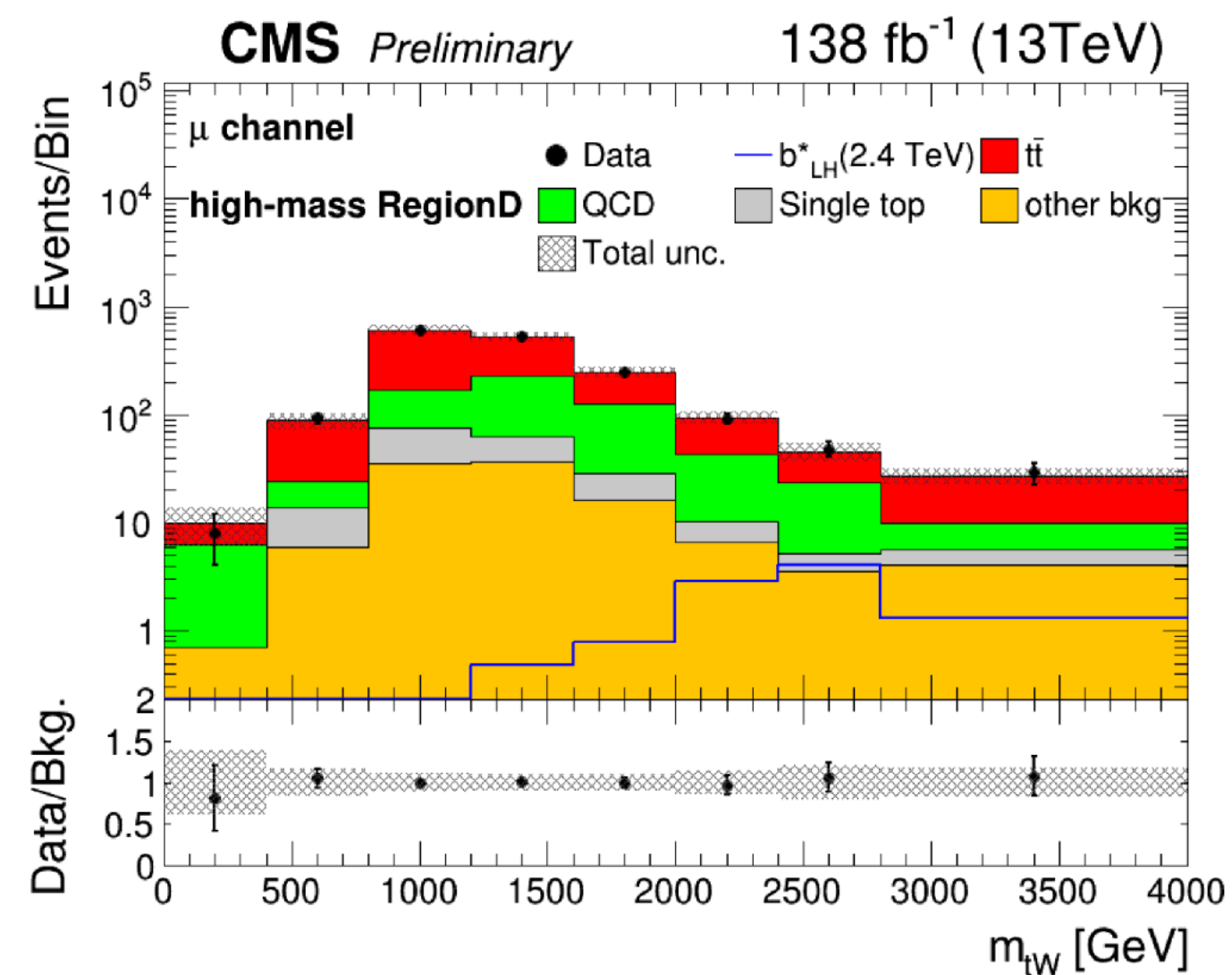
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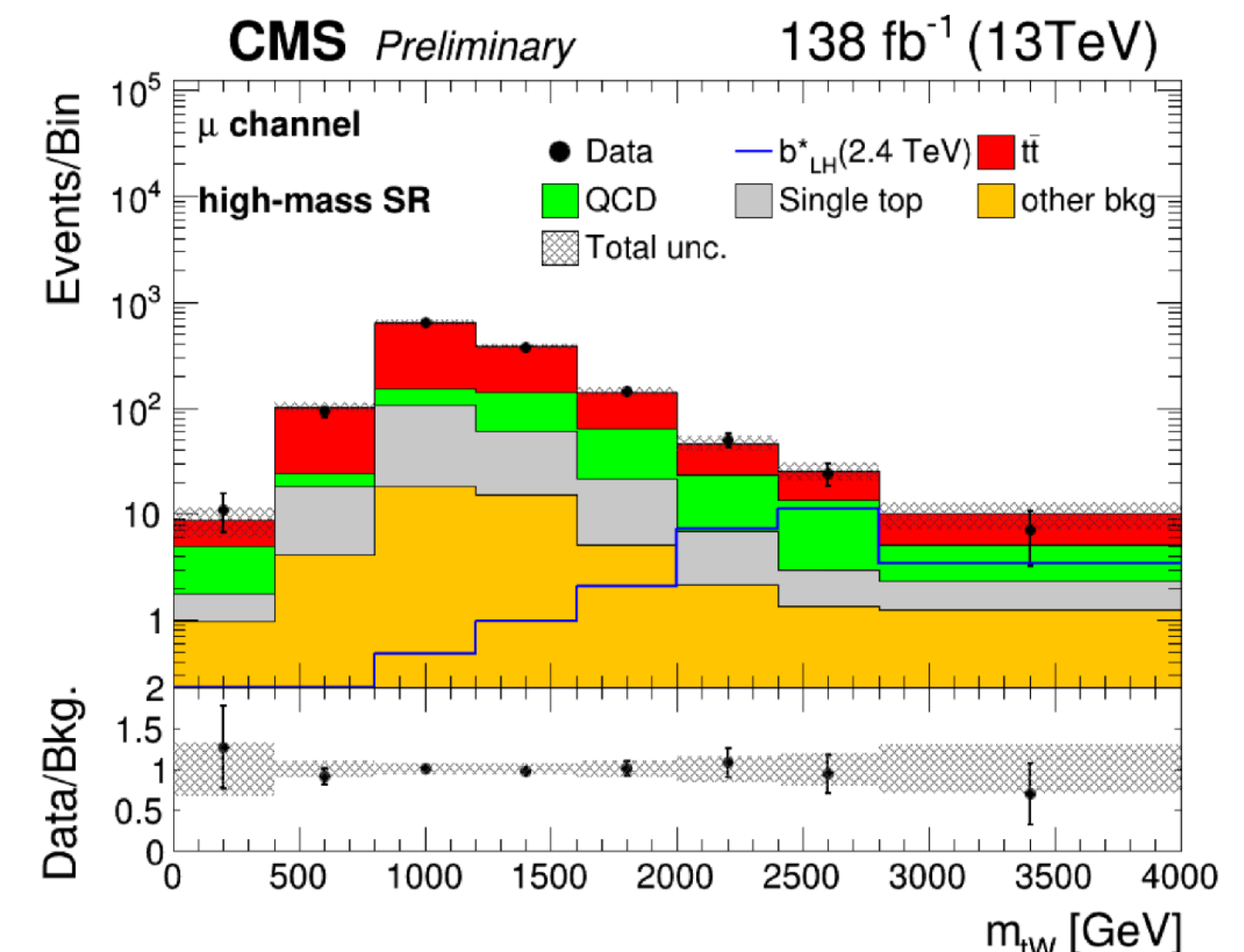
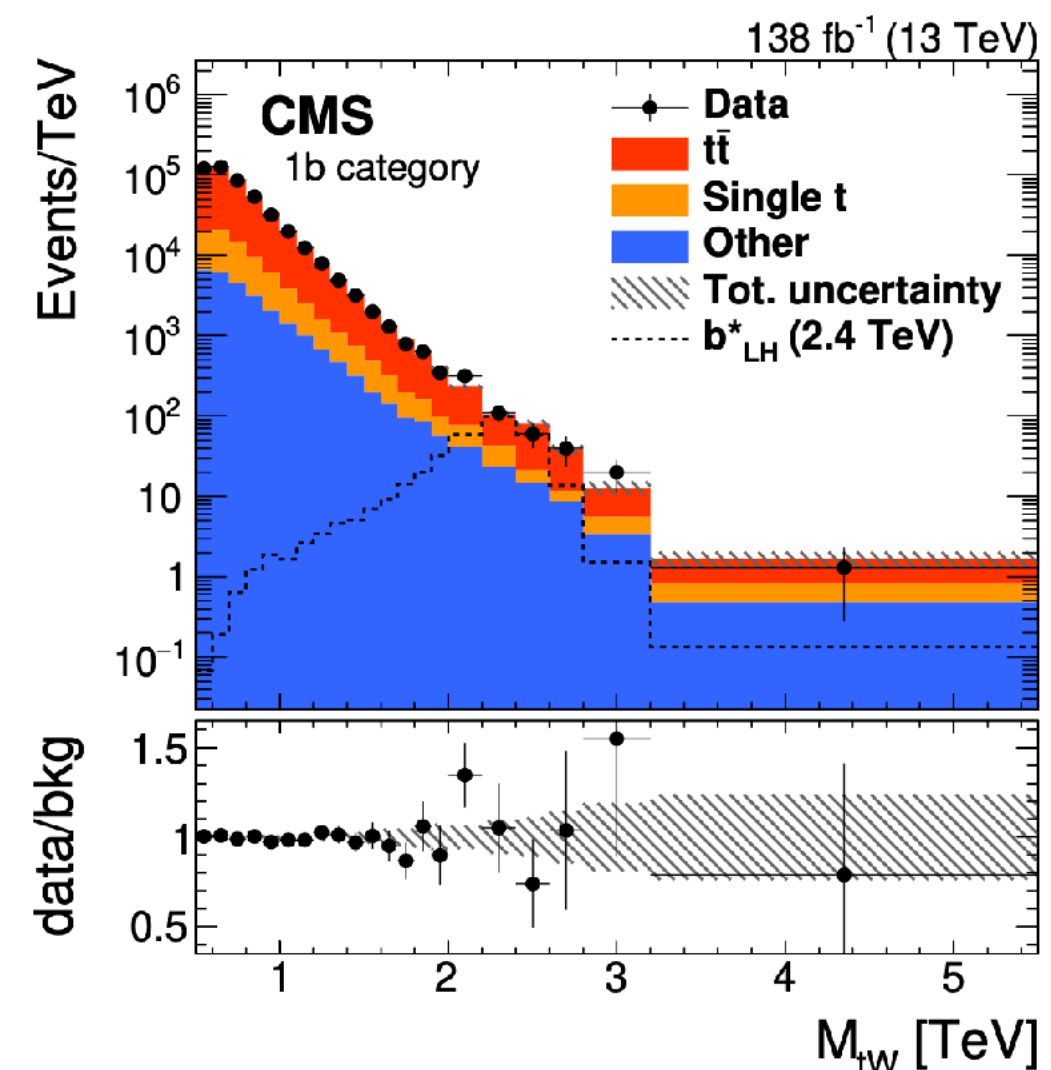
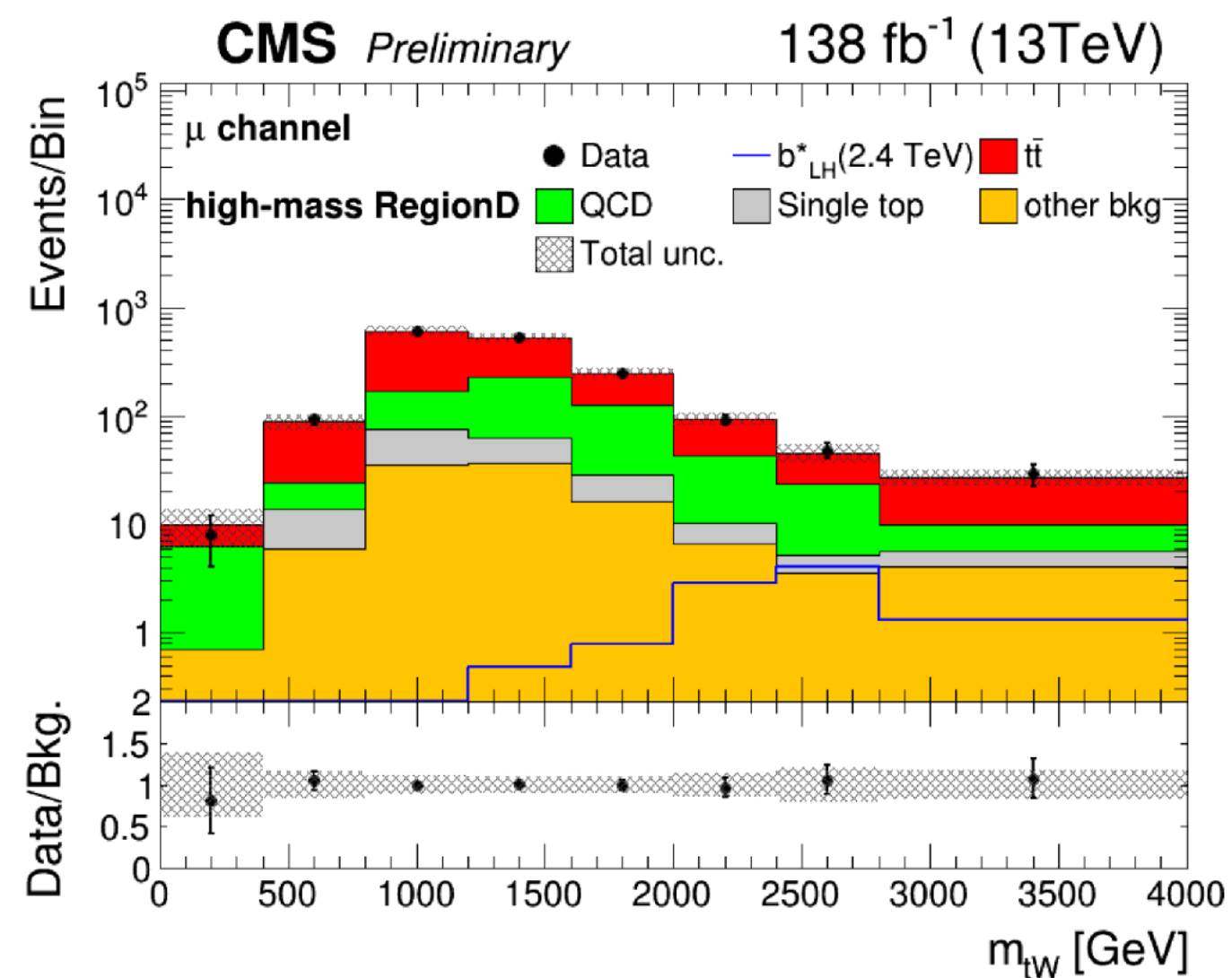
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- good agreement in Control Regions,
- no significant excess observed,



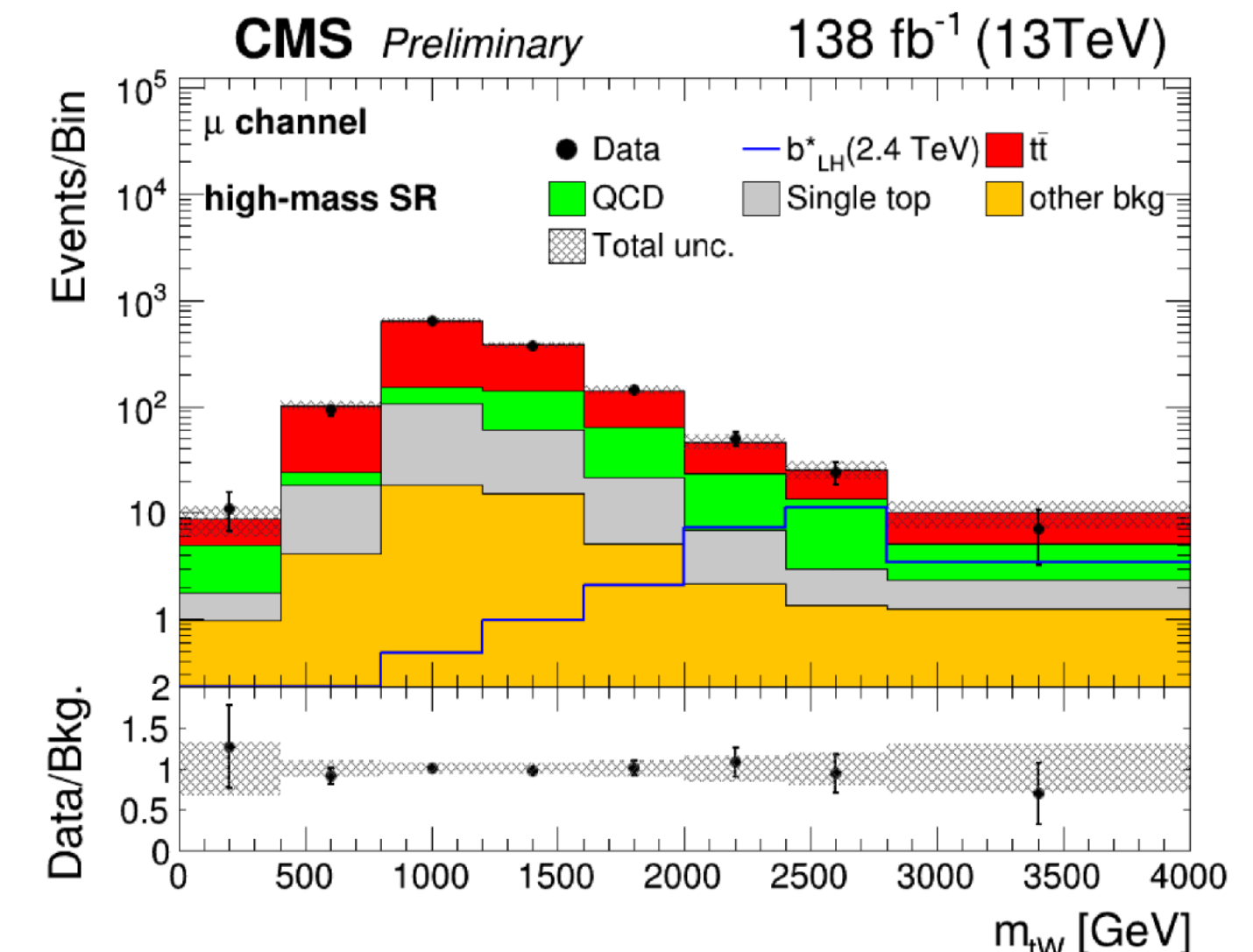
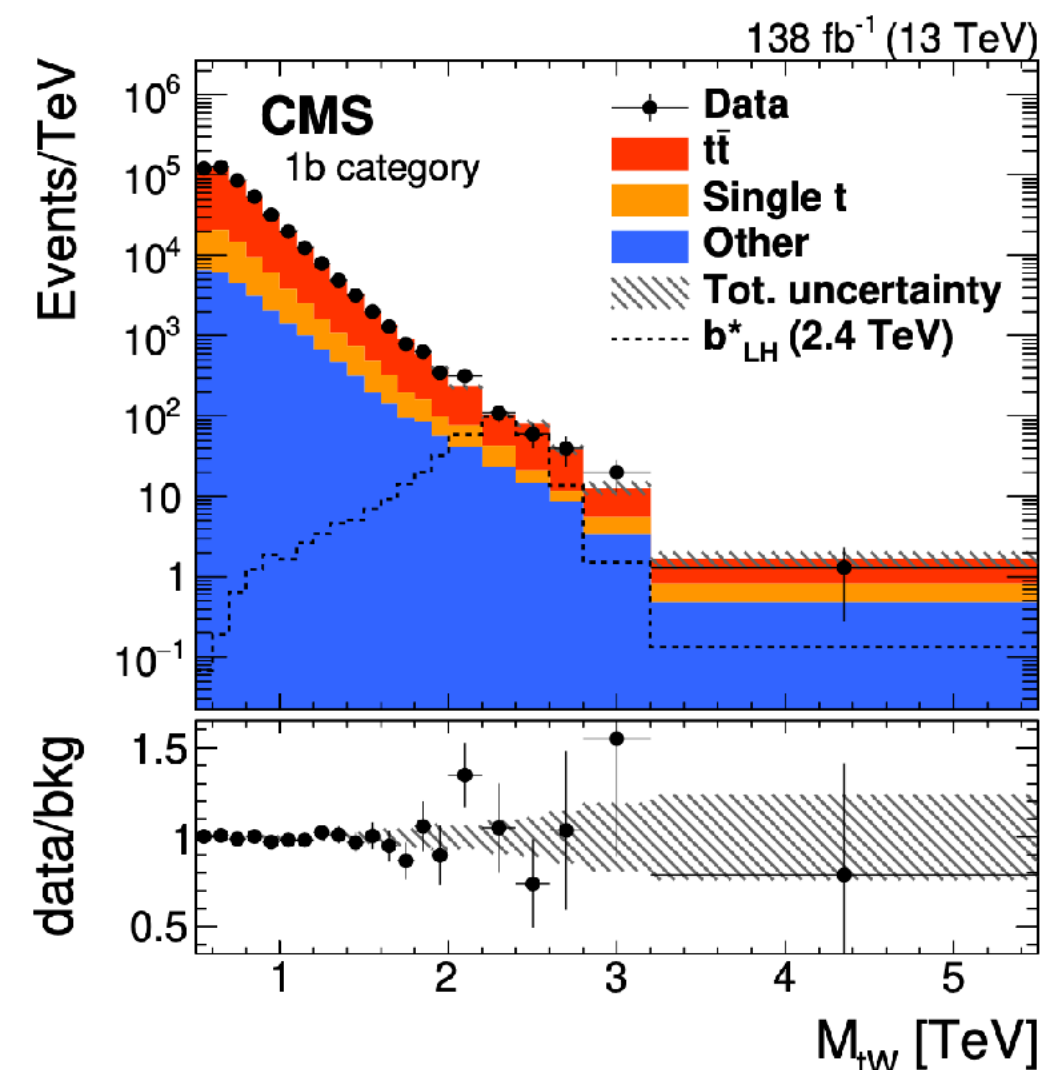
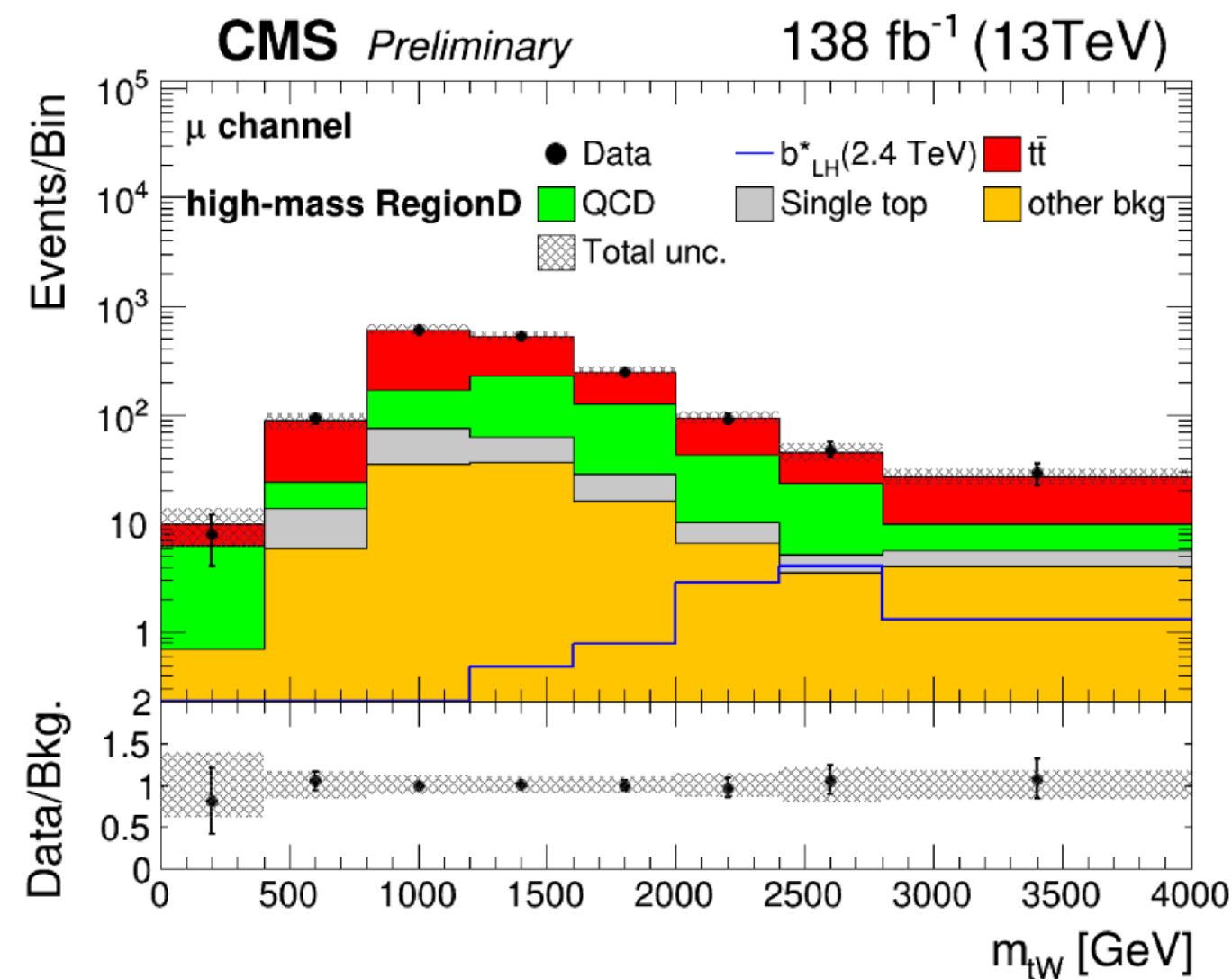
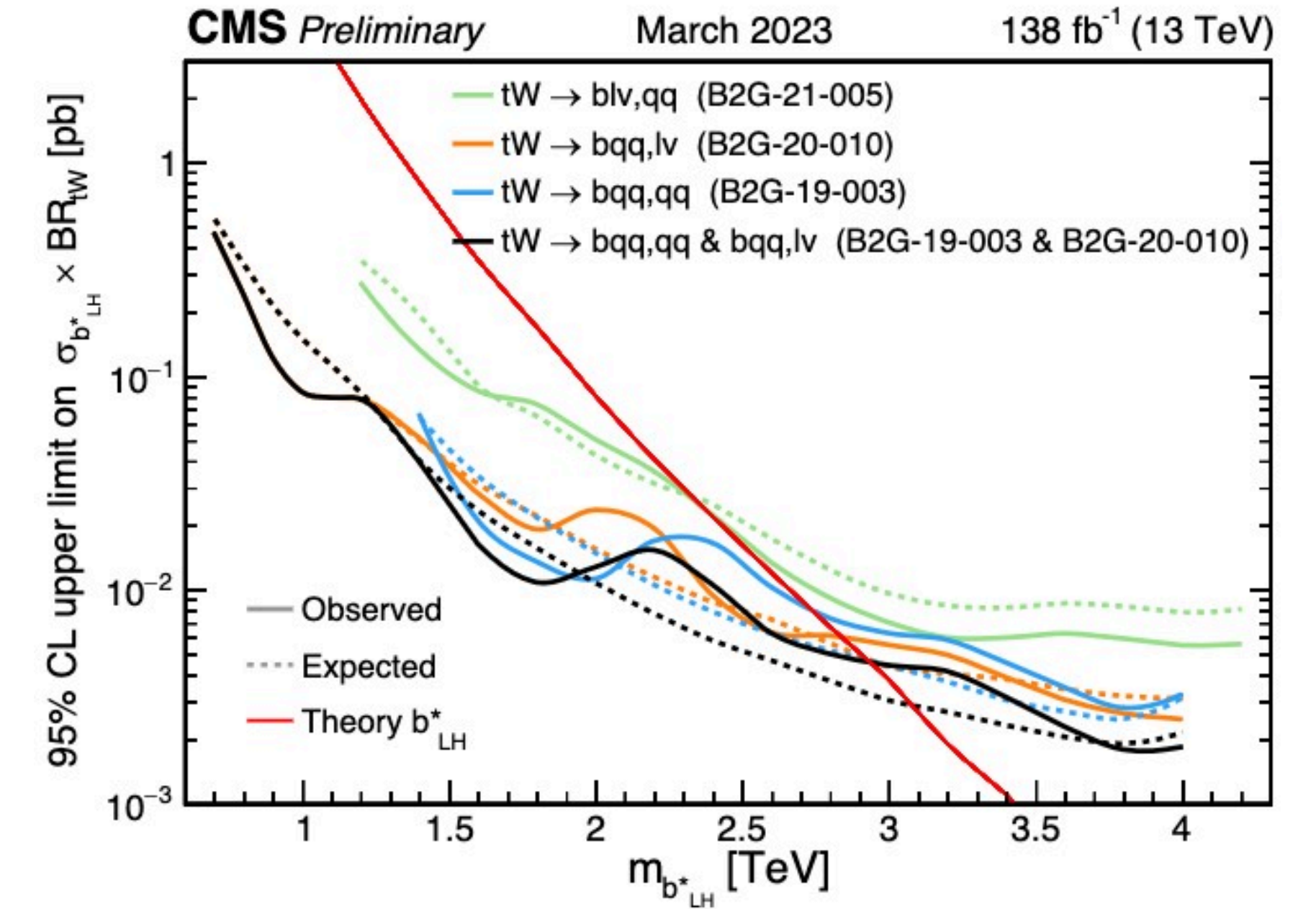
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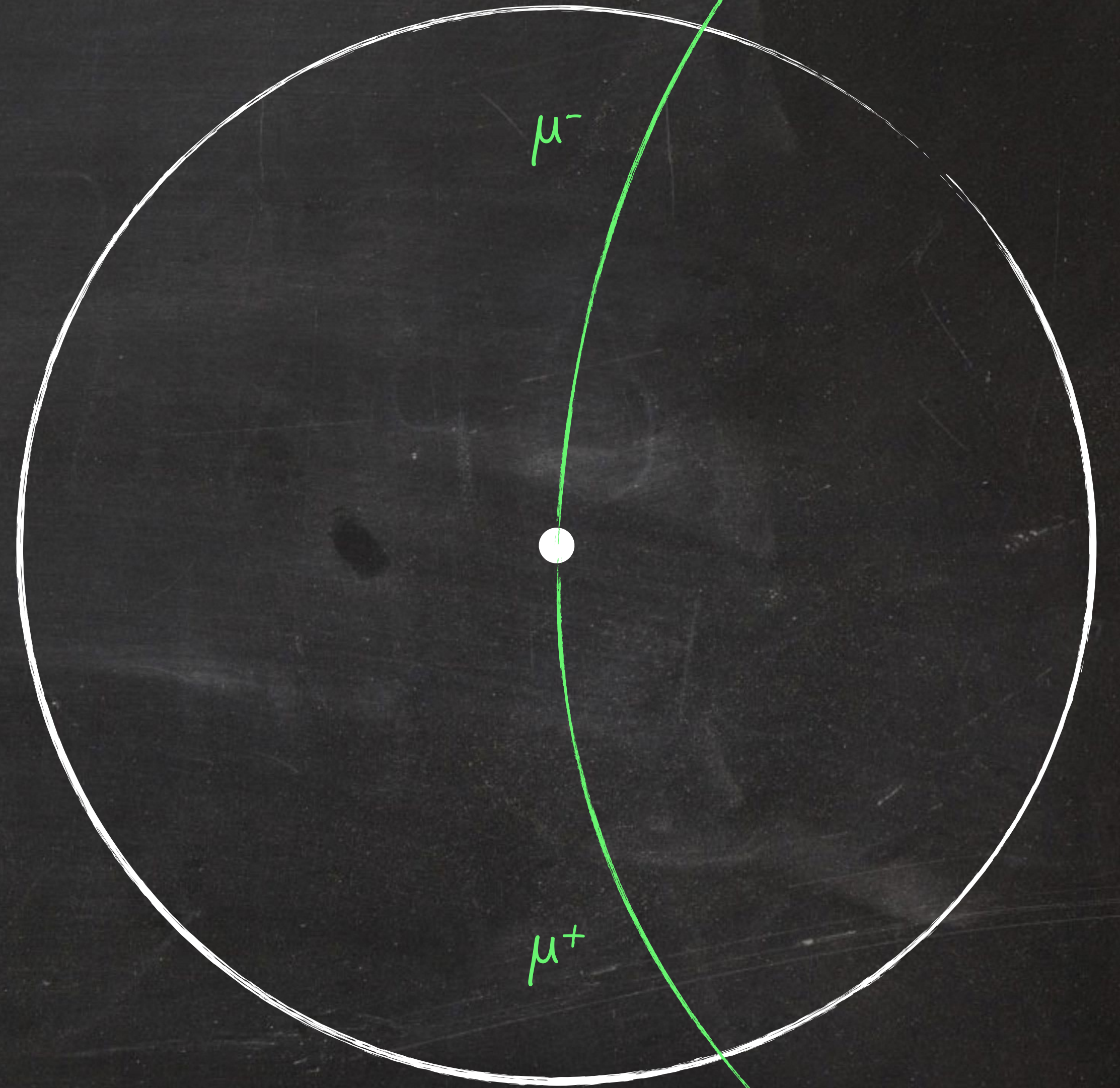
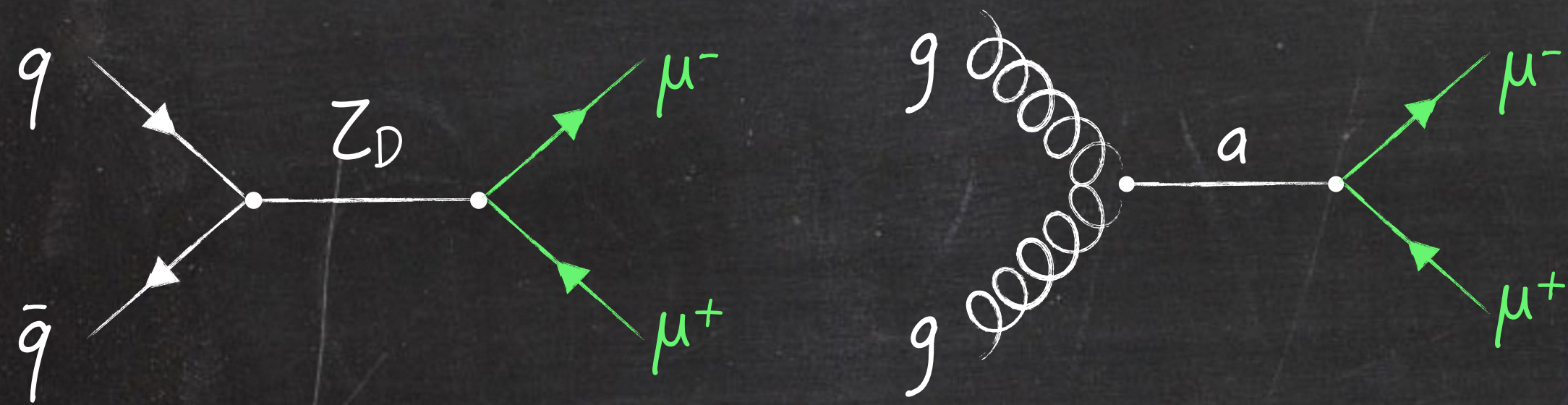
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- good agreement in Control Regions,
- no significant excess observed,
- depending on the signal hypothesis and final states, excited b-quarks excluded up to 3.0-3.2 TeV.



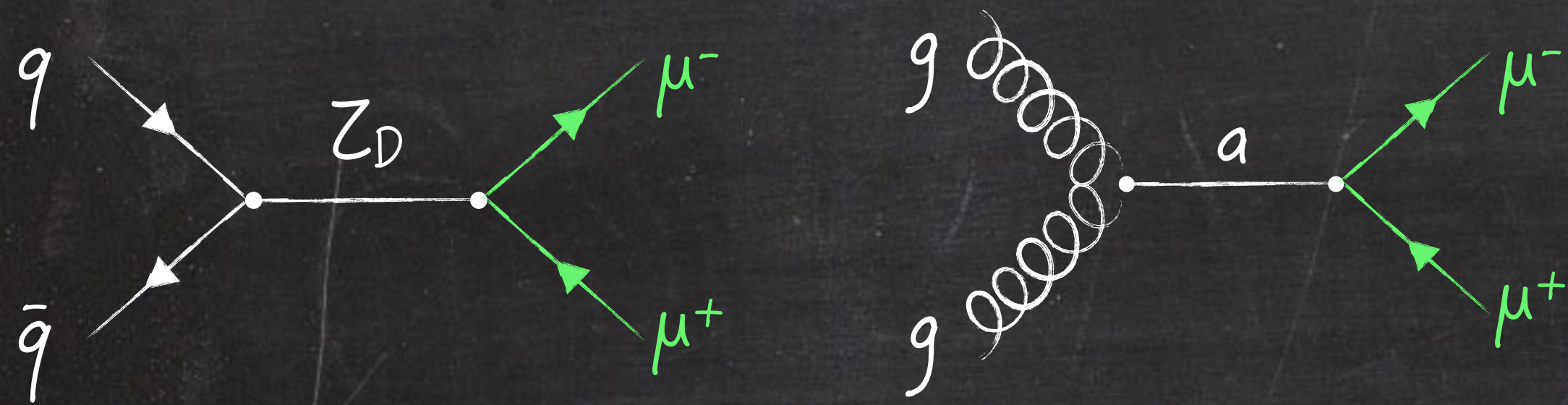
LOW-MASS DIMUONS

- final state: 2 opposite sign muons
- extension of high-mass searches
 - mass range: 1.1-2.6 GeV and 4.2-7.9 GeV
(excluding region of J/ψ , ψ' and $Y(1S)$ resonances)
- example theoretical scenarios
 - dark photons Z_D , with kinetic mixing ε
 - two Higgs doublet models with extra scalar a (2HDM+S)



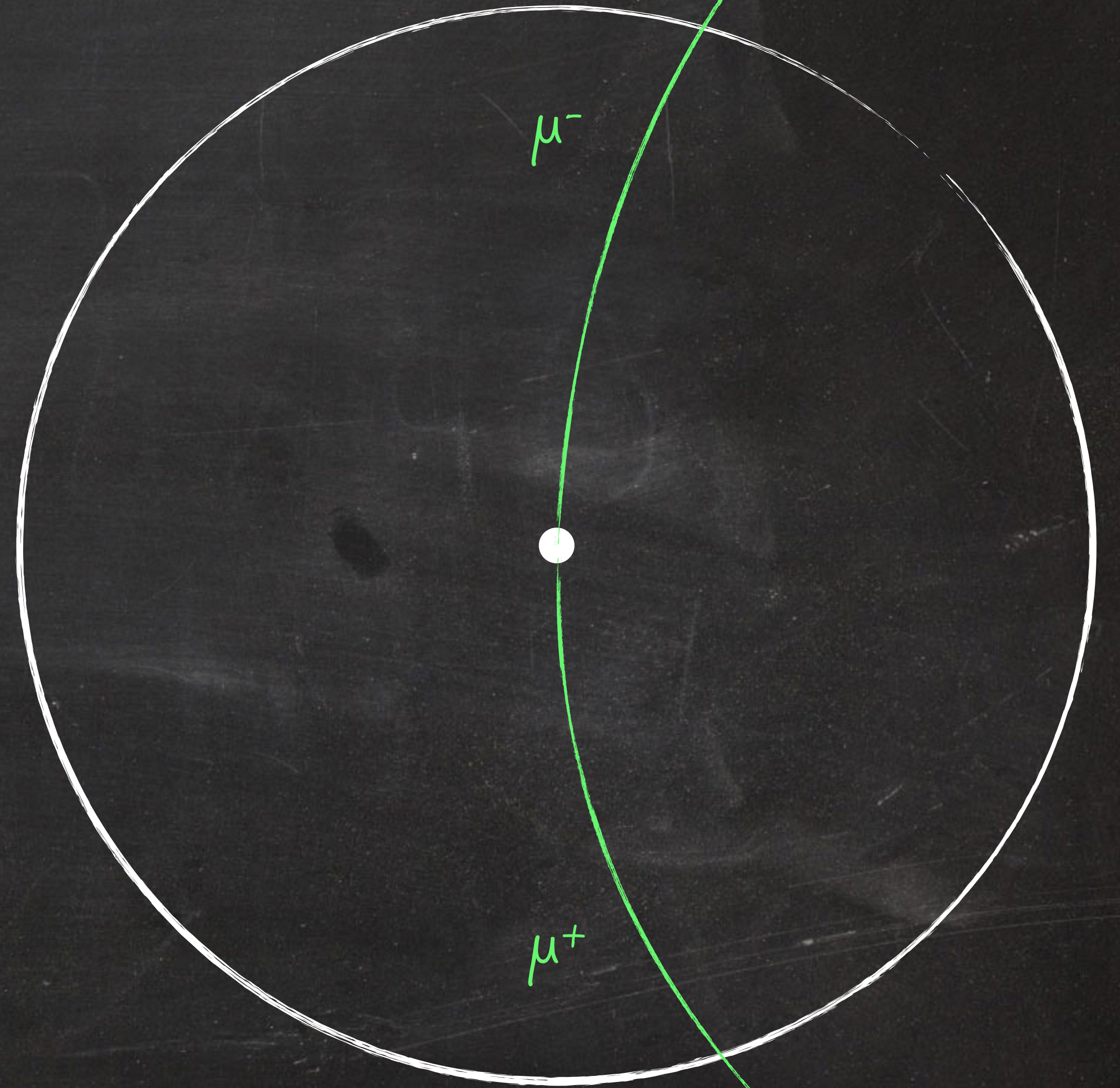
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Analysis details

- dedicated scouting trigger stream
 - muon p_T as low as 3 GeV
 - storing reduced event information



Scouting trigger

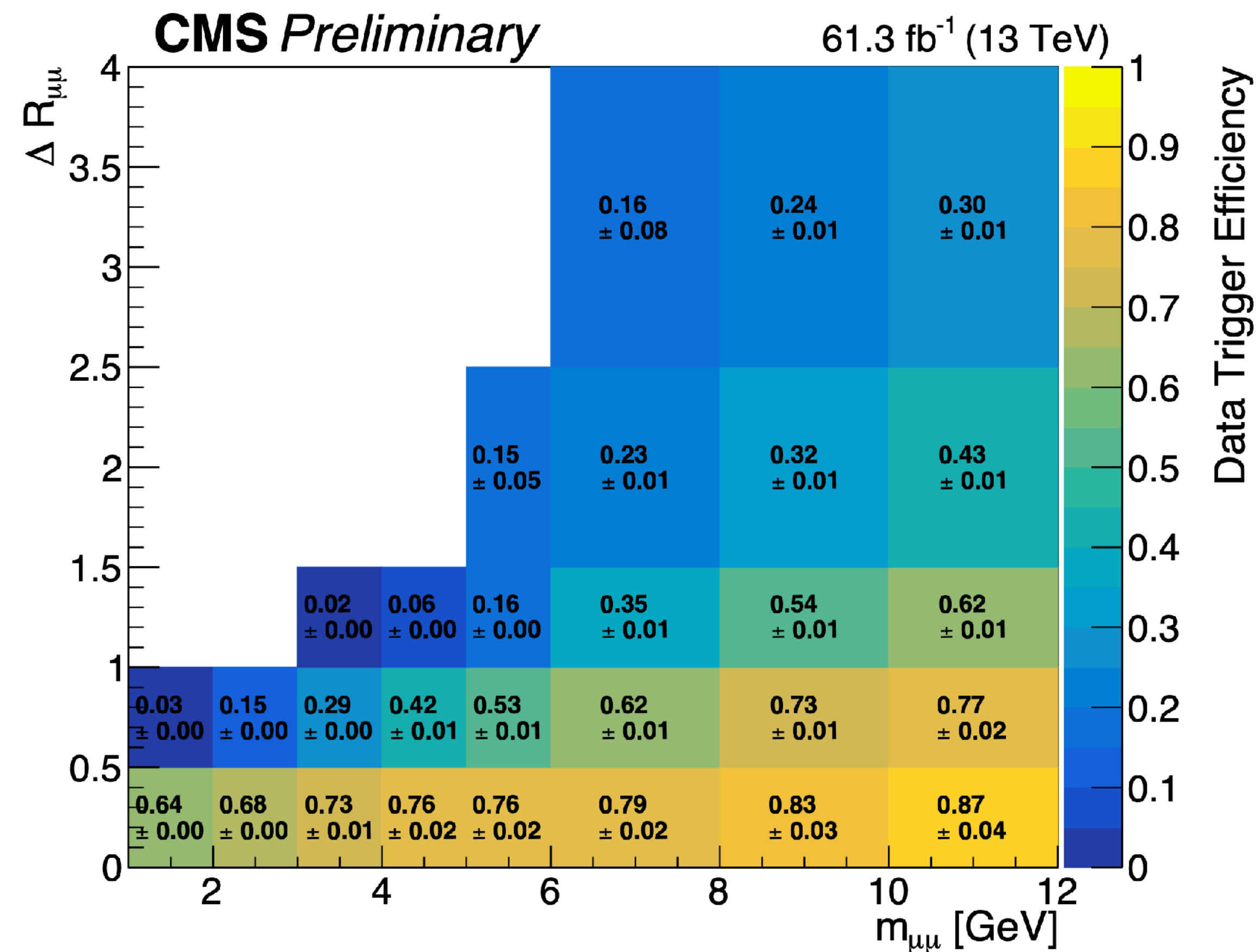
- at HLT: ≥ 2 muons $p_T > 3$ GeV,
- $\approx 4-8$ kB/event (standard event size ≈ 1 MB),
- 2 kHz event rate (standard dimuon triggers: 0.45 kHz),
- integrated luminosity: 96.6 fb^{-1} ,

LOW-MASS DIMUON SCOUTING

EXO-21-005

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(more boost, more aligned \rightarrow larger uncertainty on vertex position).



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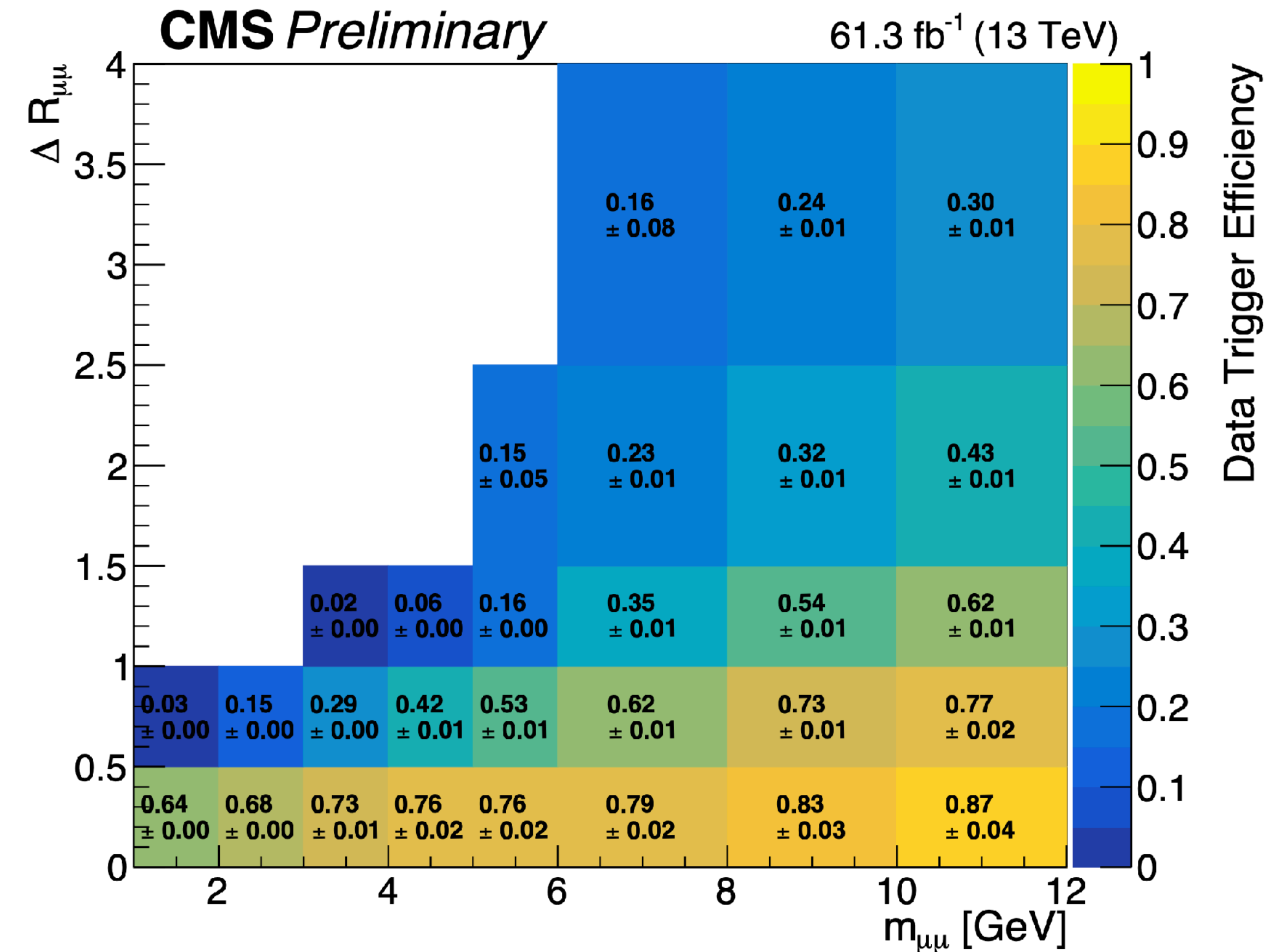
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Offline analysis

- $p_T > 4$ GeV, $|\eta| < 1.9$ (assure optimal dimuon mass resolution),
- muons identified with a MVA technique, based on:
 - tracks quality,
 - isolation,
 - vertex information.



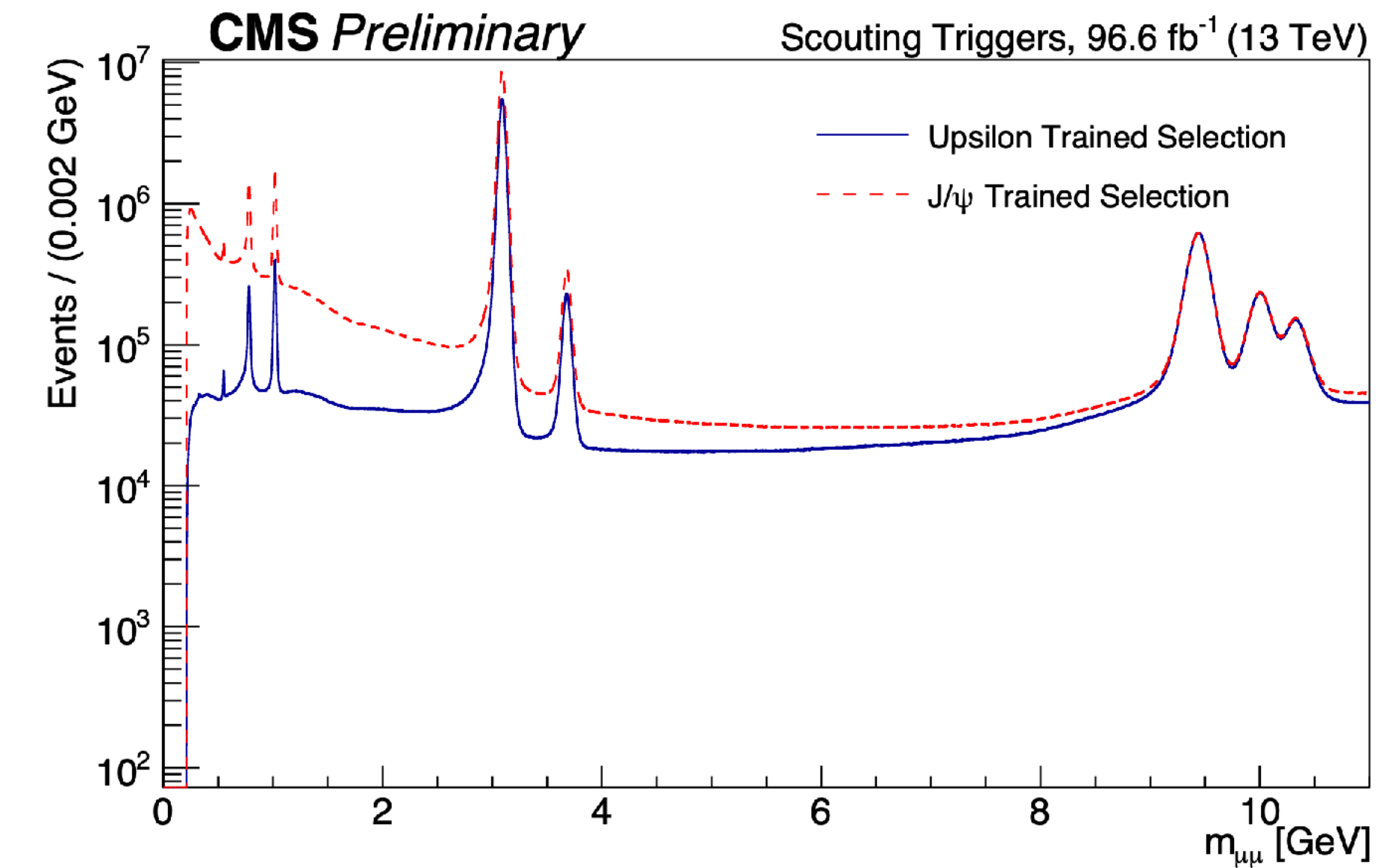
LOW-MASS DIMUON SOUTING

EXO-21-005

Signal extraction & background estimation

Fit to dimuon m_{inv} distribution:

- signal: double Crystal Ball + Gaussian, parameters from known resonances,
- background: empirical functions (e.g. polynomial times exponential).



LOW-MASS DIMUON SOUTING

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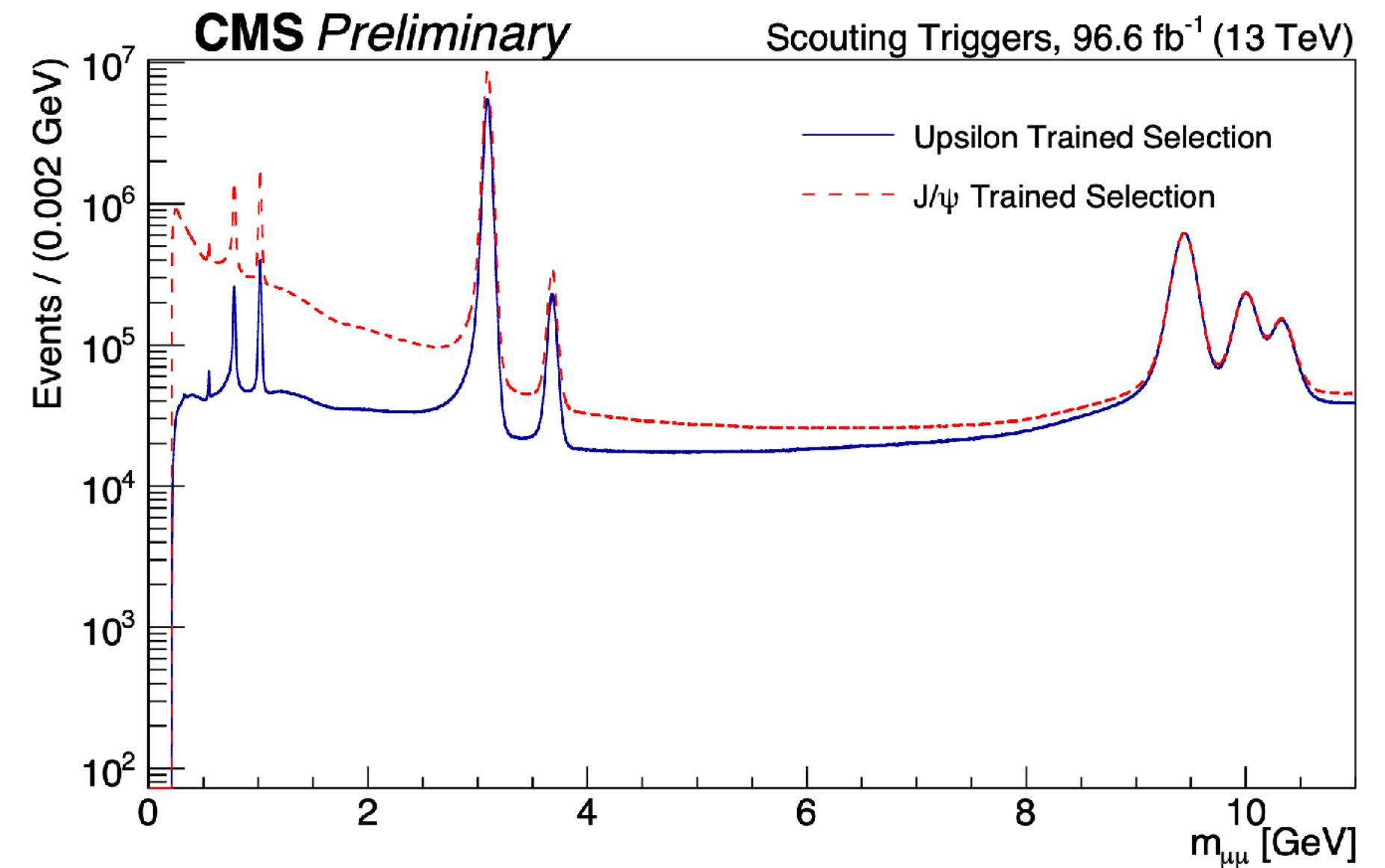
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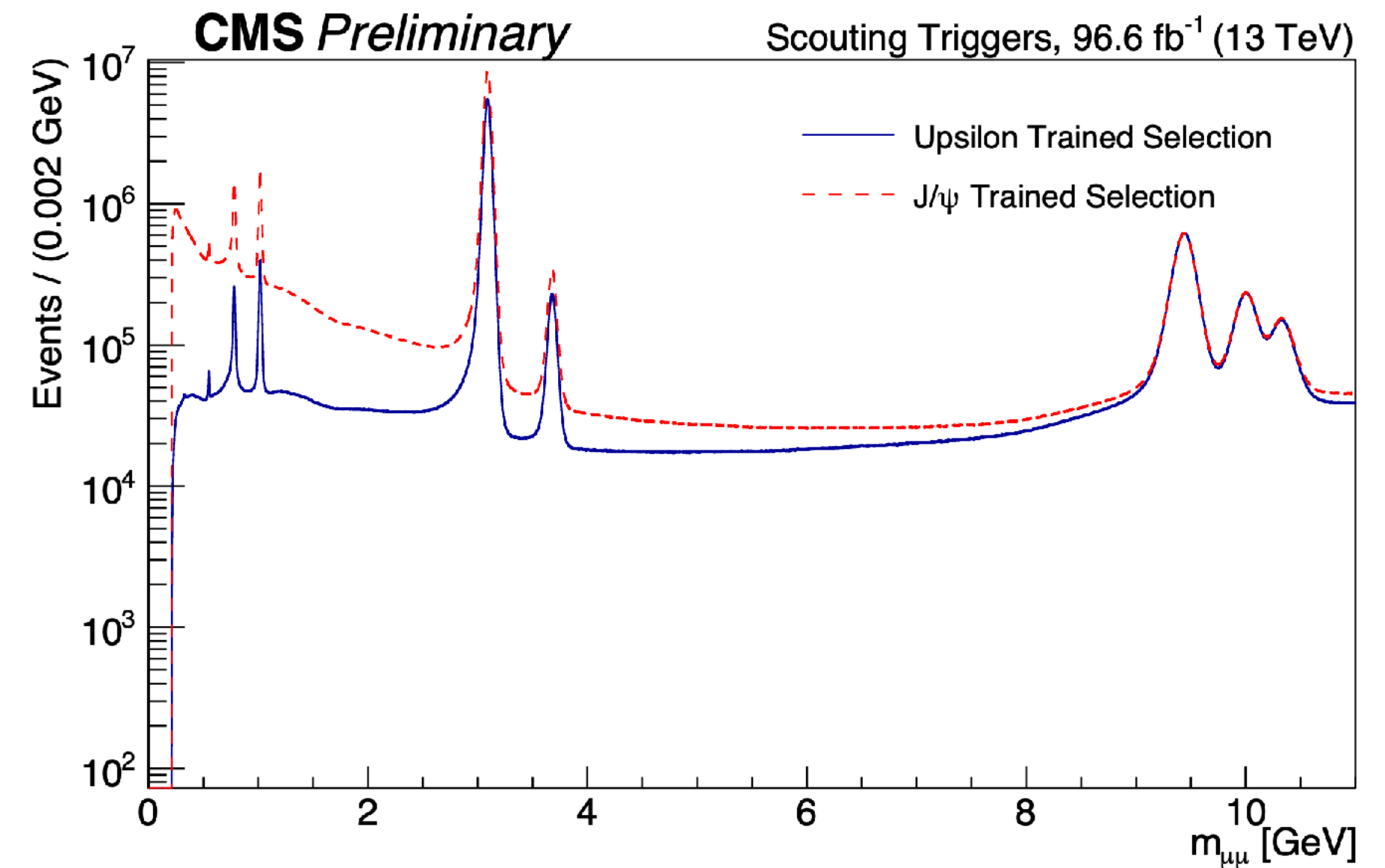
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→ side note: 3.1σ LHCb excess at 2.42 GeV,



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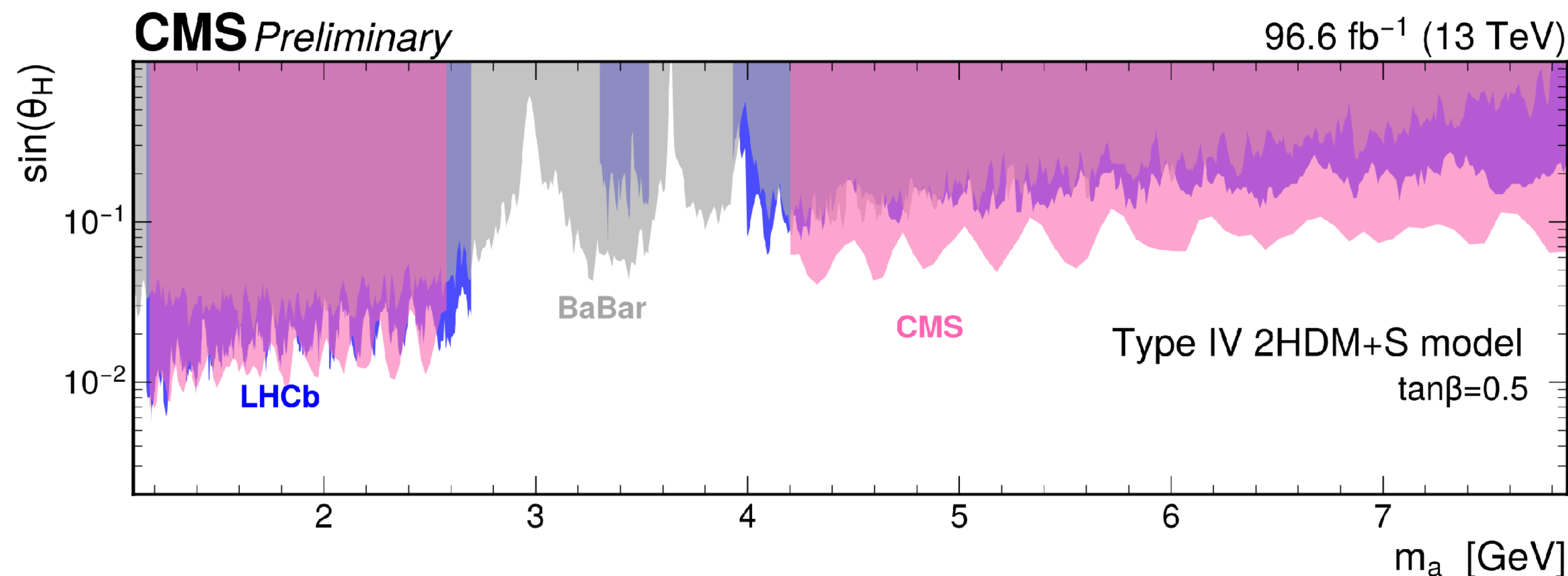
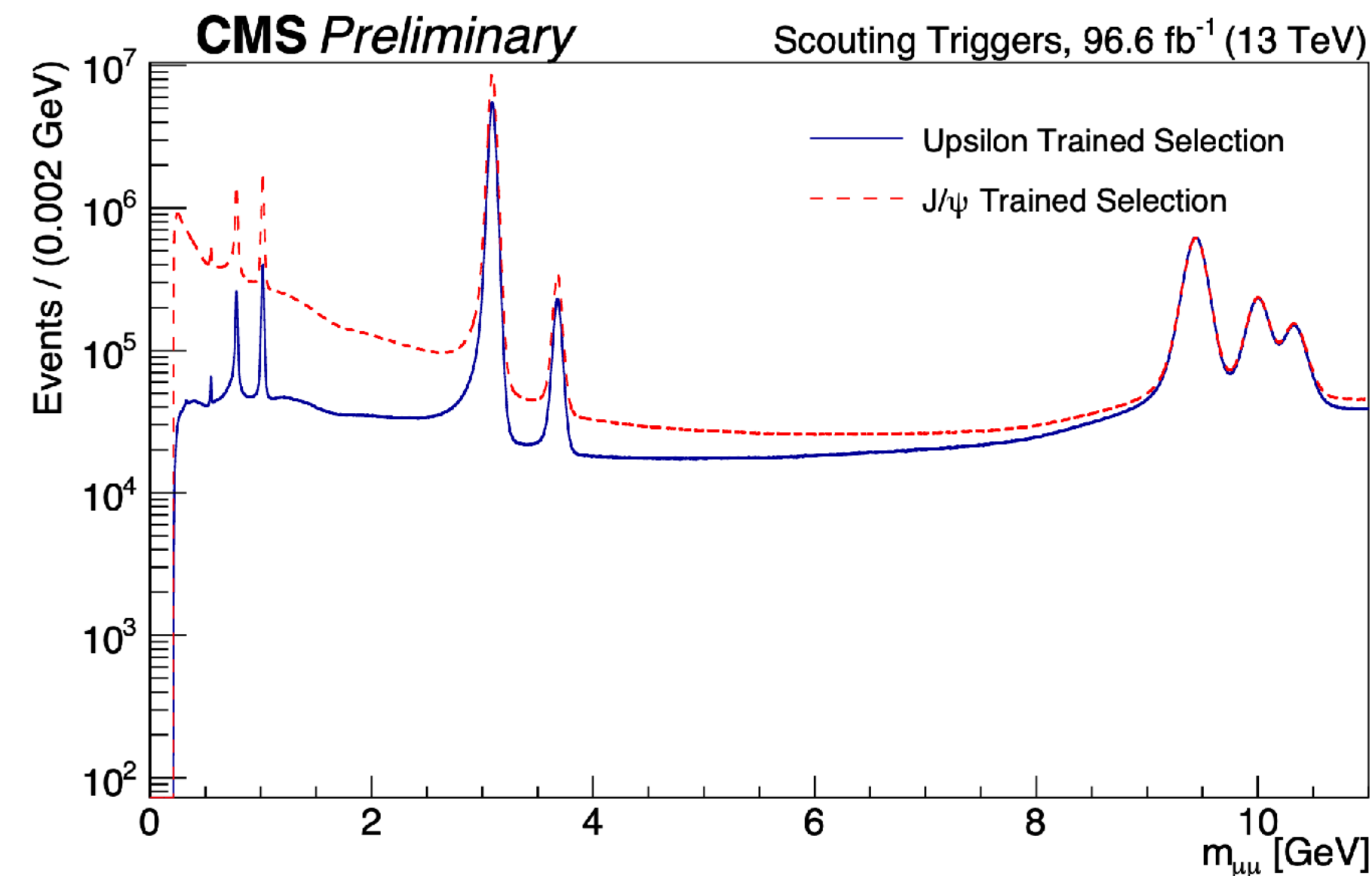
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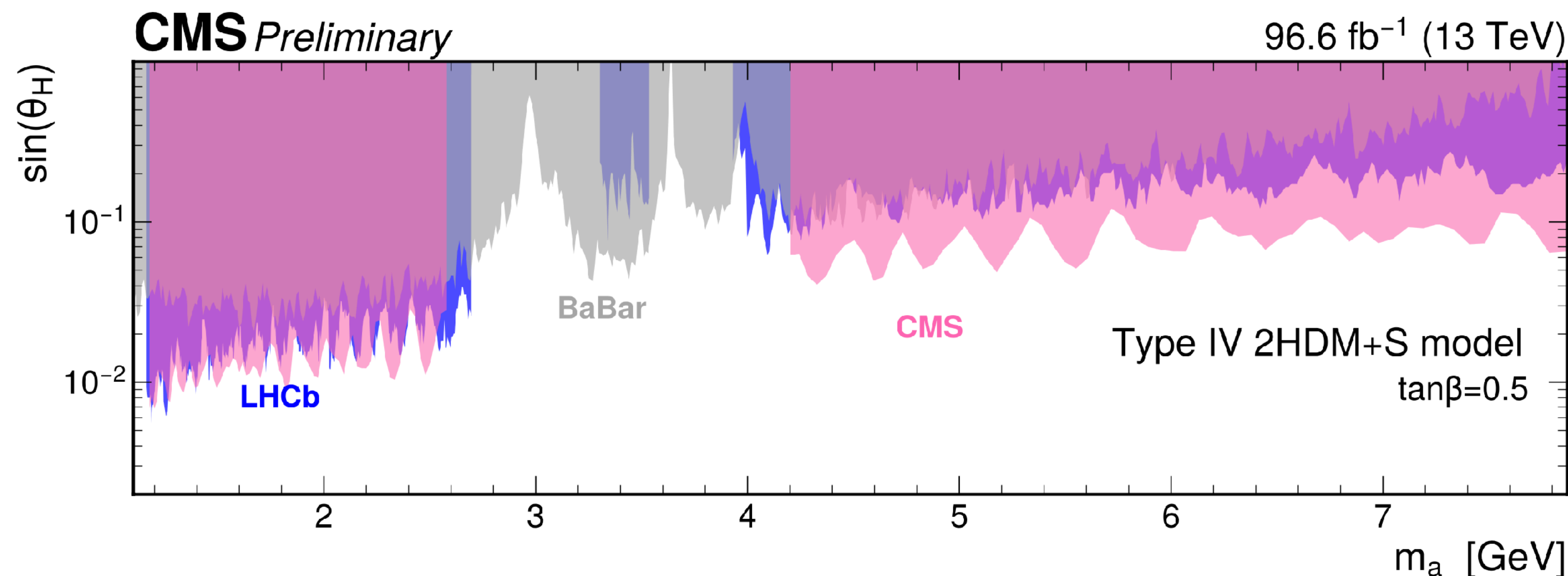
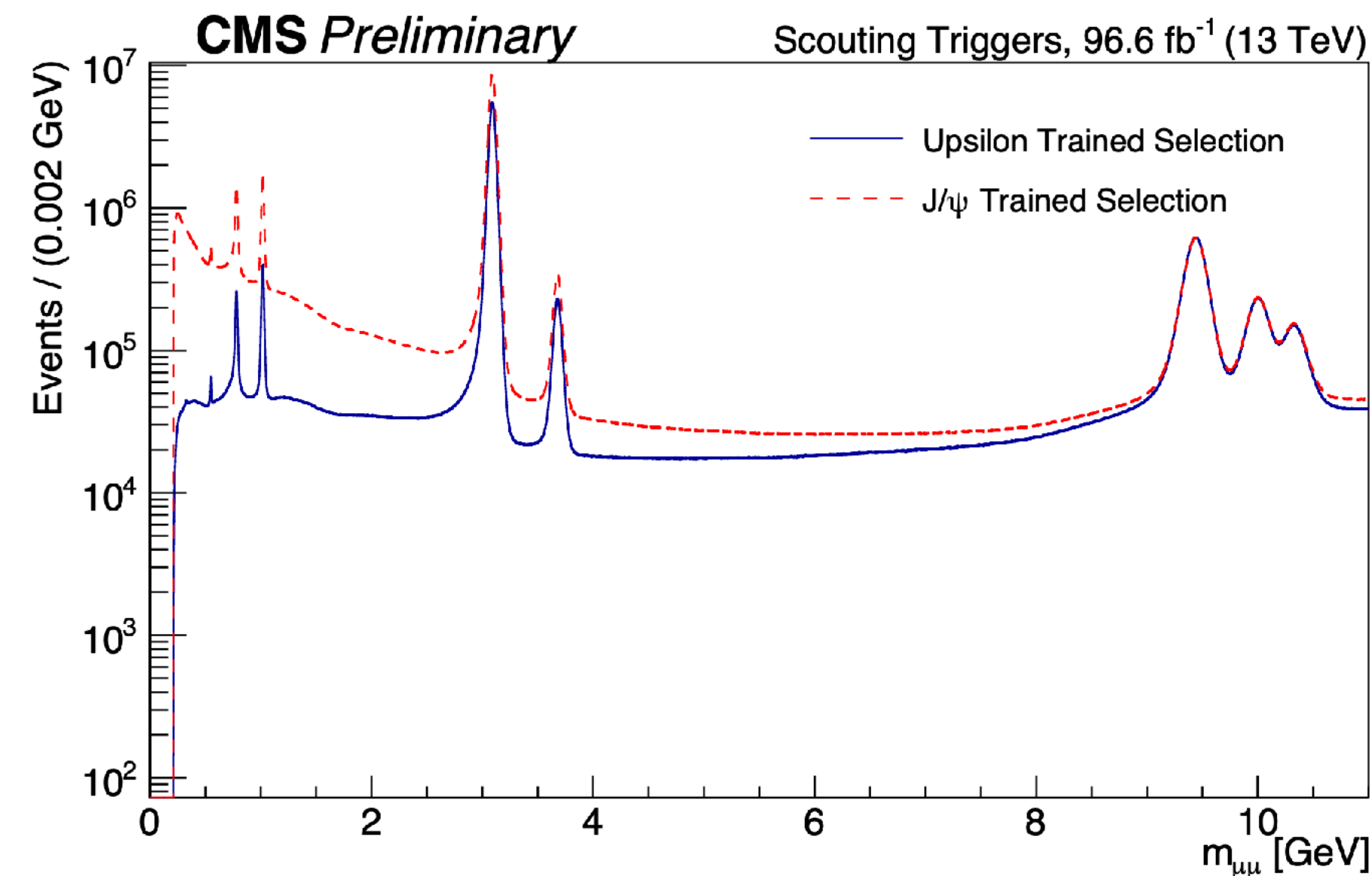
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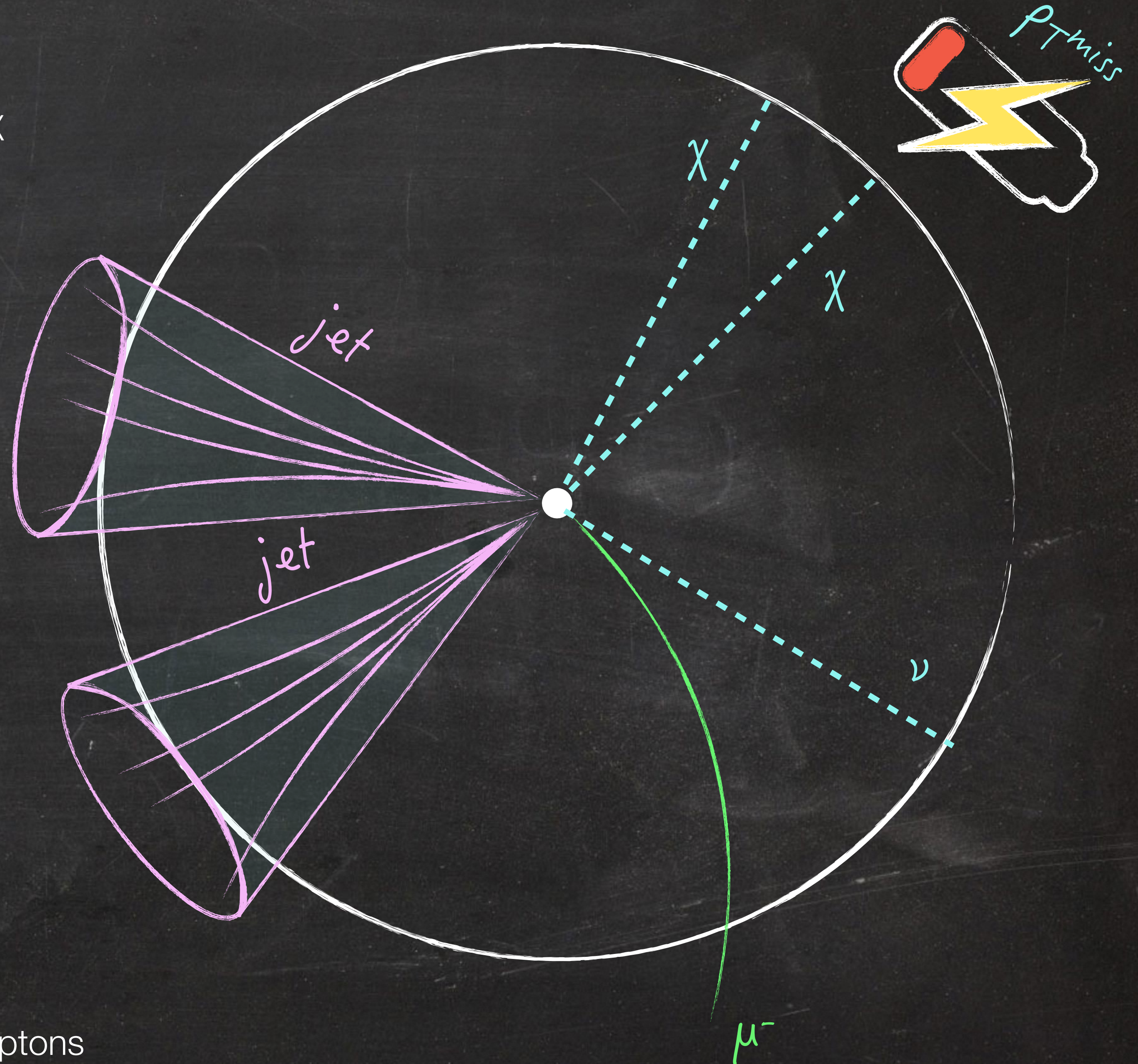
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more details
→ Chris' talk!

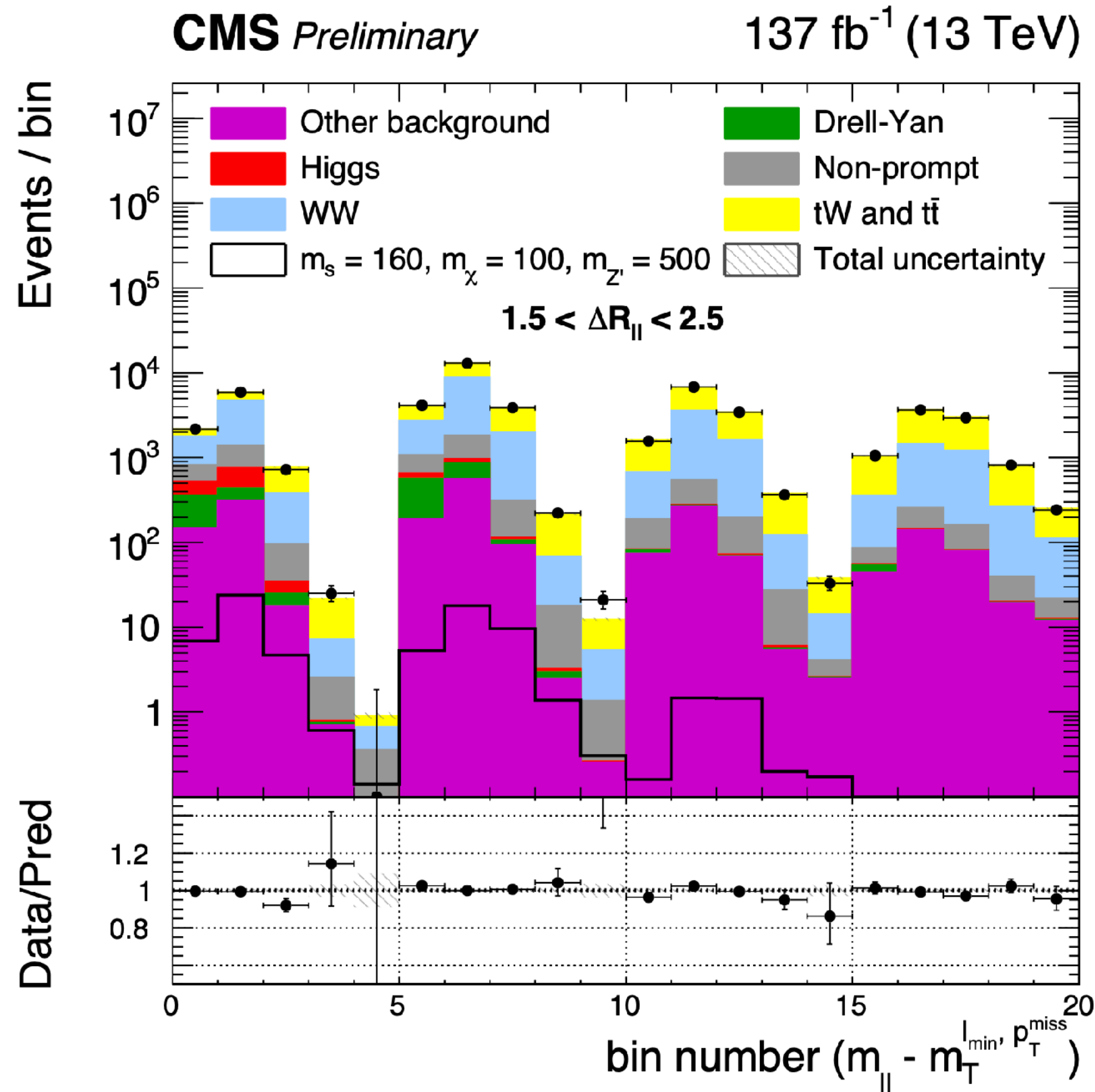
DARK HIGGS

- models with dark Higgs s , Z' boson and DM candidates χ
- $m_s > 160$ GeV \rightarrow decays to WW dominant
- di-leptonic & semi-leptonic channels



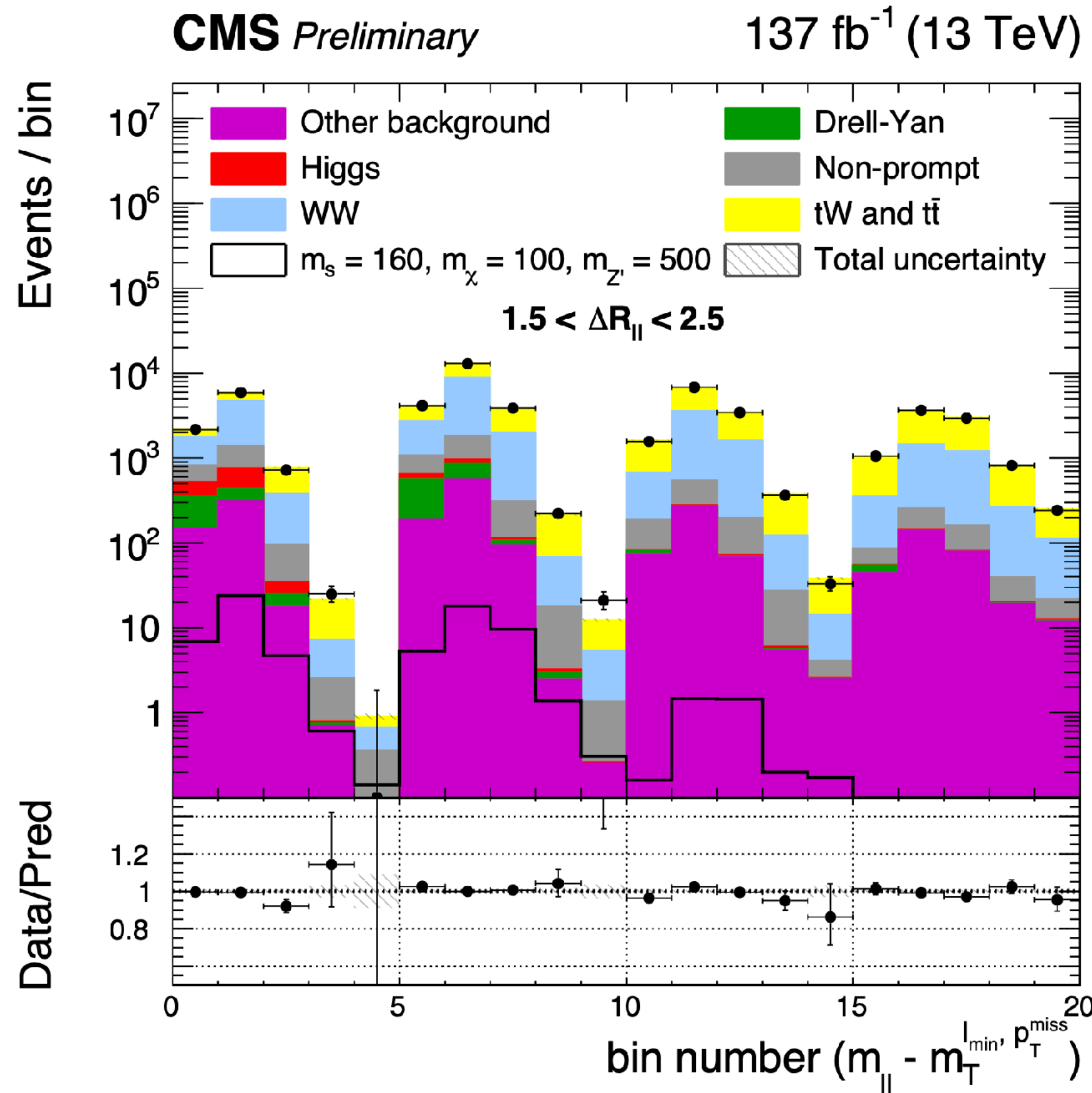
Analysis details

- luminosity: 137 fb^{-1} (2016-2018)
- backgrounds: WW , $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$, W +jets, tW , $t\bar{t}$
- signal/control regions: e.g. same sign vs. opposite sign leptons



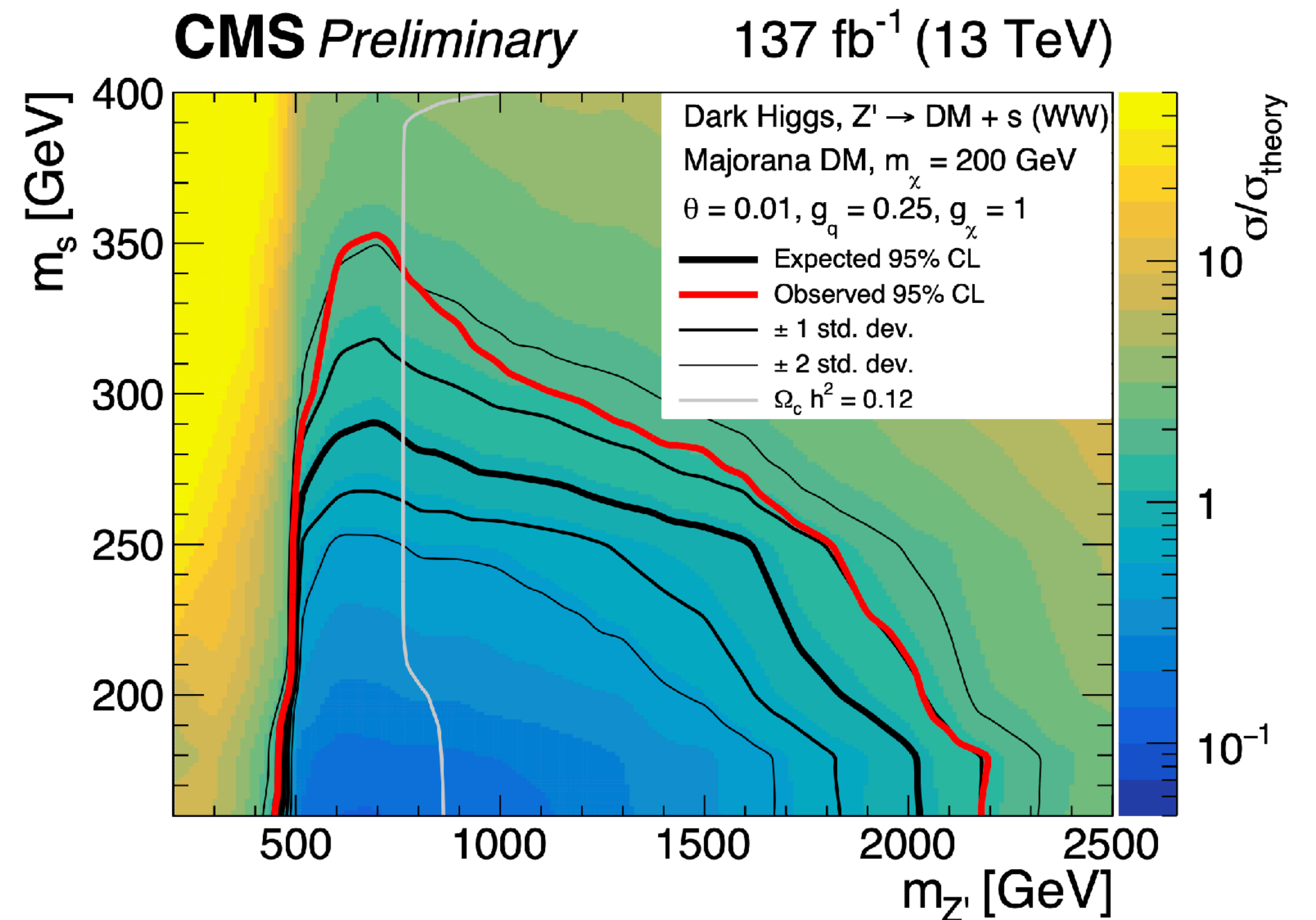
Analysis details

- di-leptonic channel:
 - main variable: m_T of trailing lepton $\oplus p_T^{\text{miss}}$ system,
 - 2D fit to $m_{||}$ vs. $m_T^{l_{min}, p_T^{\text{miss}}}$,
- semi-leptonic channel:
 - BDT based on 13 most discriminative variables (e.g. $p_{T^{ij}}$, $\Delta\eta_{l,jj}$, p_T^{miss}).



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 - BDT based on 13 most discriminative variables (e.g. p_{Tij} , $\Delta\eta_{l,jj}$, p_T^{miss}).



Results

- simultaneous fit to both channels,
- no significant excess,
- limits derived on m_s vs. $m_{Z'}$ for different m_χ assumptions,
- for $m_\chi = 200$ GeV, these are the most stringent limits.

SUMMARY

W' search

- **small excess** ($< 3\sigma$) at 3.4-4.4 TeV,
- best described by RH narrow width W' .

Heavy tW resonance

- consistent with SM,
- excited **b-quarks excluded** up to 3.0 - 3.2 TeV.

Low-mass dimuon scouting

- **small excess** at 2.41 GeV (local 3σ), consistent with the LHCb excess at 2.42 GeV,
- limits on dark photons and 2HDM+S.

Dark Higgs boson

- consistent with SM,
- **dark Higgs exclusion** up to 350 GeV, Z' up to 2.2 TeV.

SUMMARY

W' search

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- best described by RH narrow width W'.

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soft bombs
lepton jets
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hidden valley
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massive gravitons
stopped particles
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sterile neutrinos
contact interactions
4th generation quarks
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axiguons
axions

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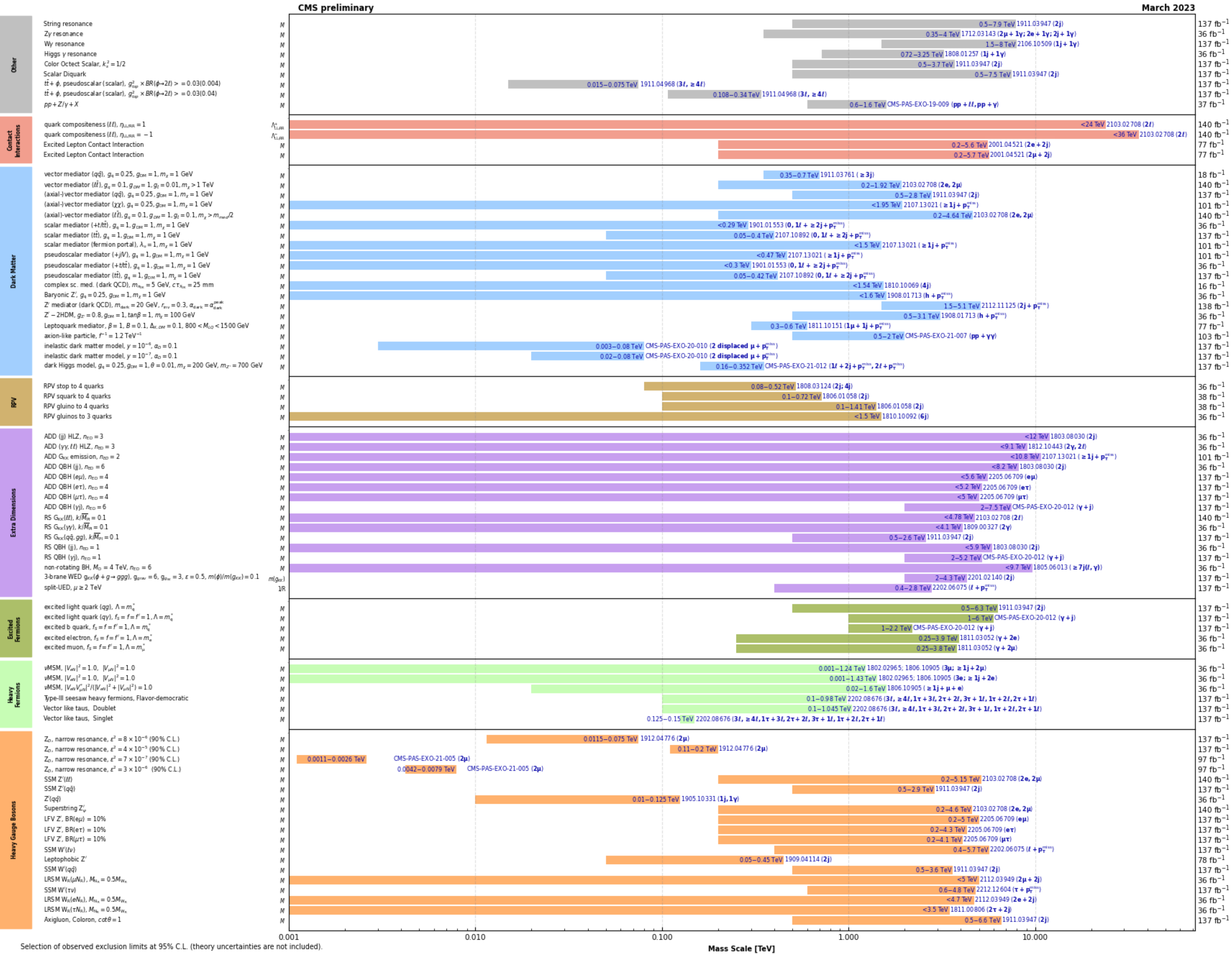
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BACKUP

EXO Results



Selection of observed exclusion limits at 95% C.L. (theory uncertainties are not included).

W' search

B2G-20-012

Trigger

- muons,
- electrons,
- photons → helps for very high energy electrons
- jets → +8% efficiency,

number of b-jets	jet _{top} b-tagged	jet _{W'} b-tagged	label
0	X	X	R0B
Signal-enriched regions			
1	✓	X	RT
1	X	✓	RW'
≥2	✓	✓	R2B

Selections

- isolation requirements (I_{mini}) → reduce number of leptons from hadronic decays,
- events with additional e/μ discarded → reduce $t\bar{t}$ background,
- $p_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 120 \text{ GeV}$ → suppress QCD background,
- AK4 jets: ≥2 required (>300 GeV and >150 GeV):
 - for top quark and W' candidates,
 - jet ID with DeepJet to reduce light quark and gluon jets,
- AK8 jets: ≥2 required:
 - for loose selection,
 - veto hadronic tops from SM backgrounds.

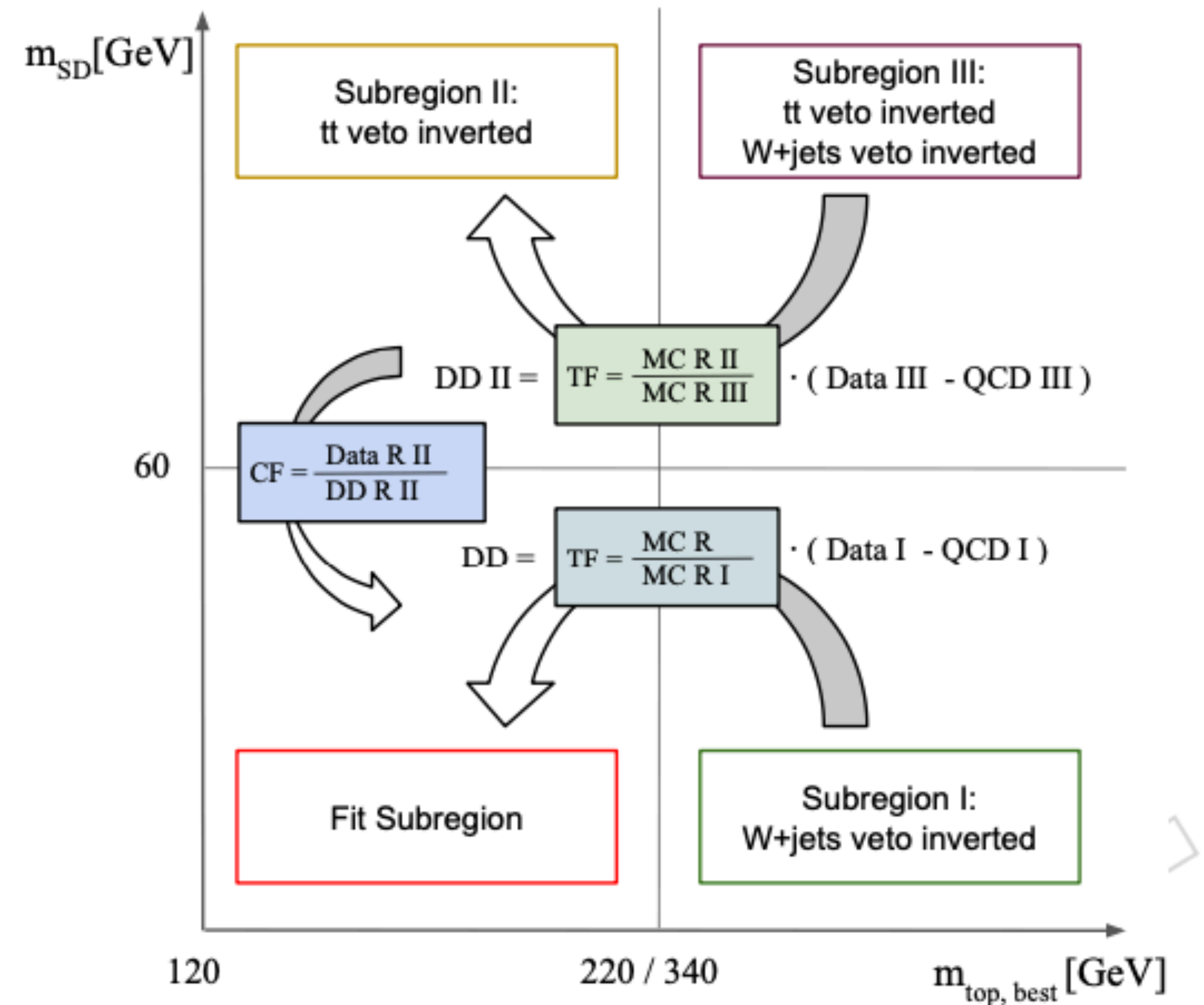
$$I_{\text{mini}} = \frac{\Sigma_I(R)}{p_{\text{T}}^{\text{lep}}}, \text{ with } R = \frac{10 \text{ GeV}}{\min(\max(p_{\text{T}}^{\text{lep}}, 50 \text{ GeV}), 200 \text{ GeV})}$$

Regions definition

- regions: depending on which selected W' and t jets are b-tagged,
- subregions based on:
 - $m_{SD,AK8}$ of the AK8 jet with smallest $\Delta R(\text{jet}_{W'}, \text{jet}_{AK8})$. Soft-drop declustering removes soft wide-angle radiation from a jet,
 - the mass of the reconstructed top quark m_{top} .

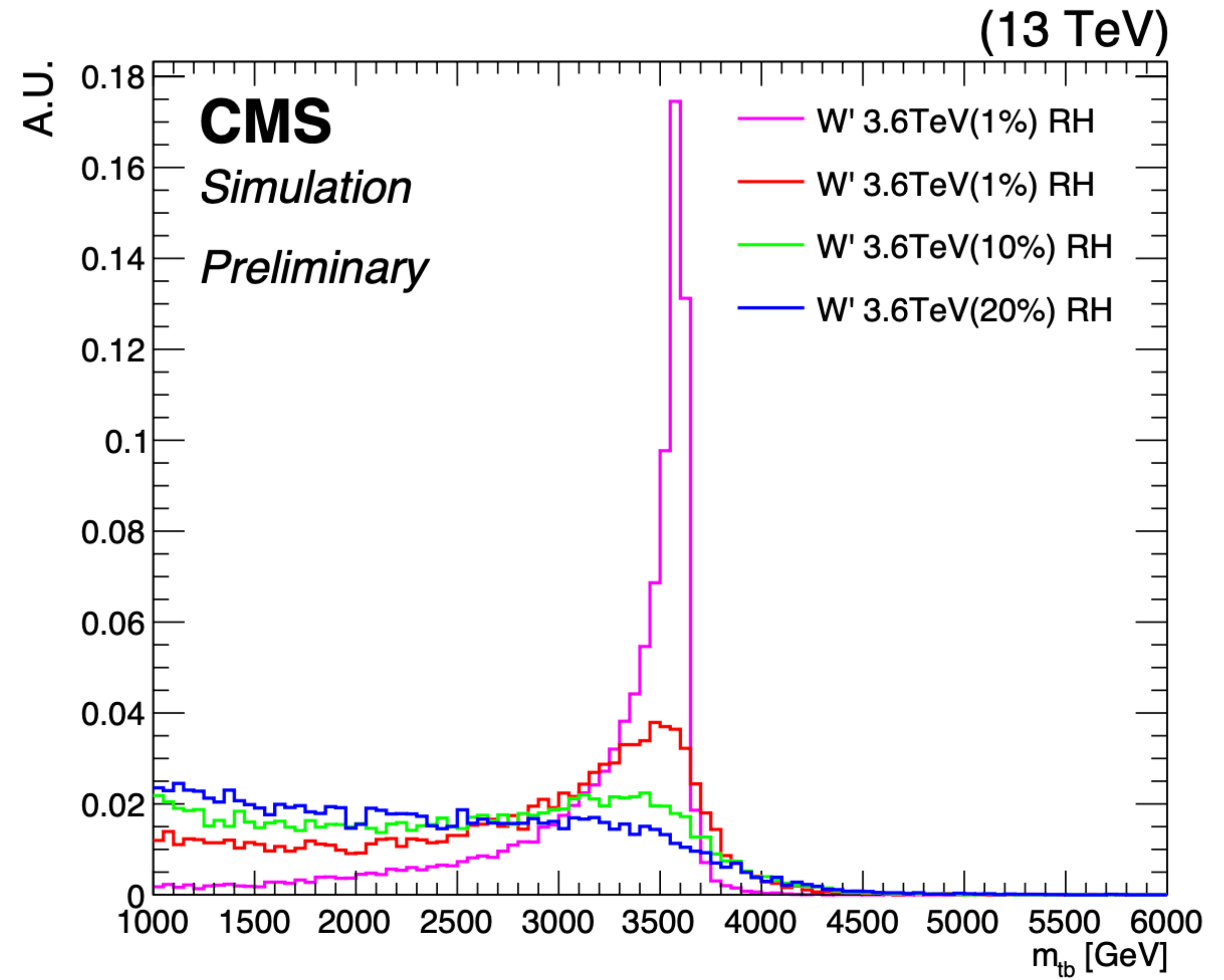
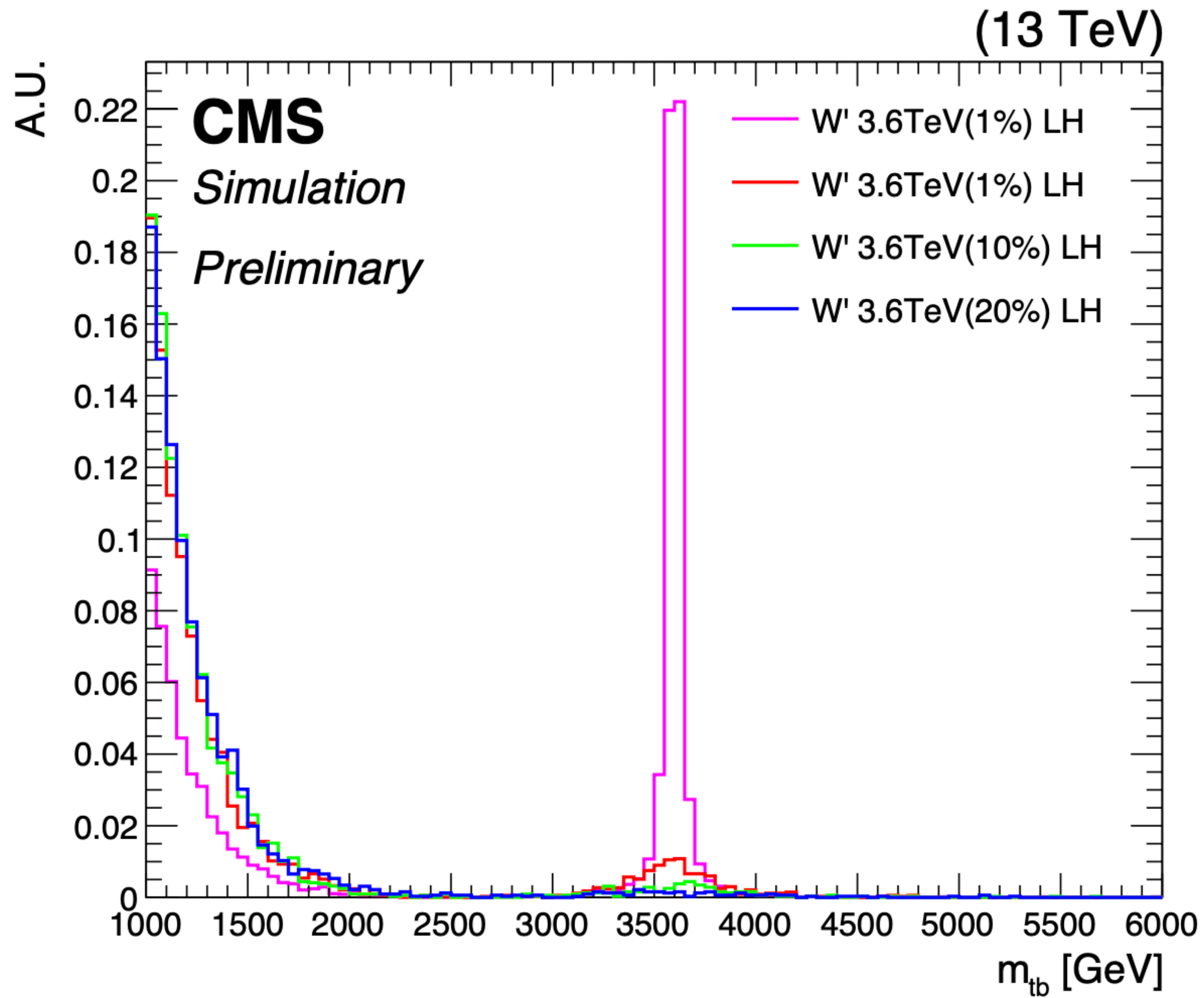
Background estimation

- distribution of background extracted from data,
- overall shape and normalization found from control regions,
- simulation used to determine transfer functions to signal regions,
- function fitted: $a \cdot \exp(b \cdot m_{W'}) + c \cdot m_{W'} + d$,
- statistical uncertainty of the fit propagated to the prediction,
- some regions used to estimate systematic effects (differences in $m_{W'}$ spectra due to selections, or different background composition).



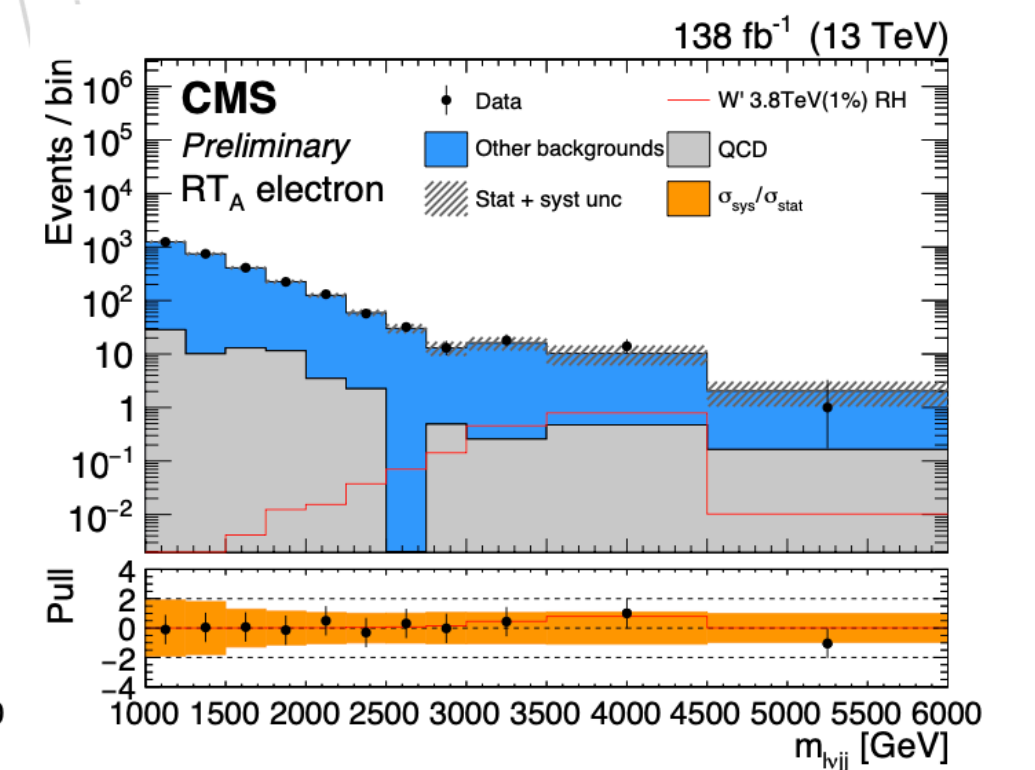
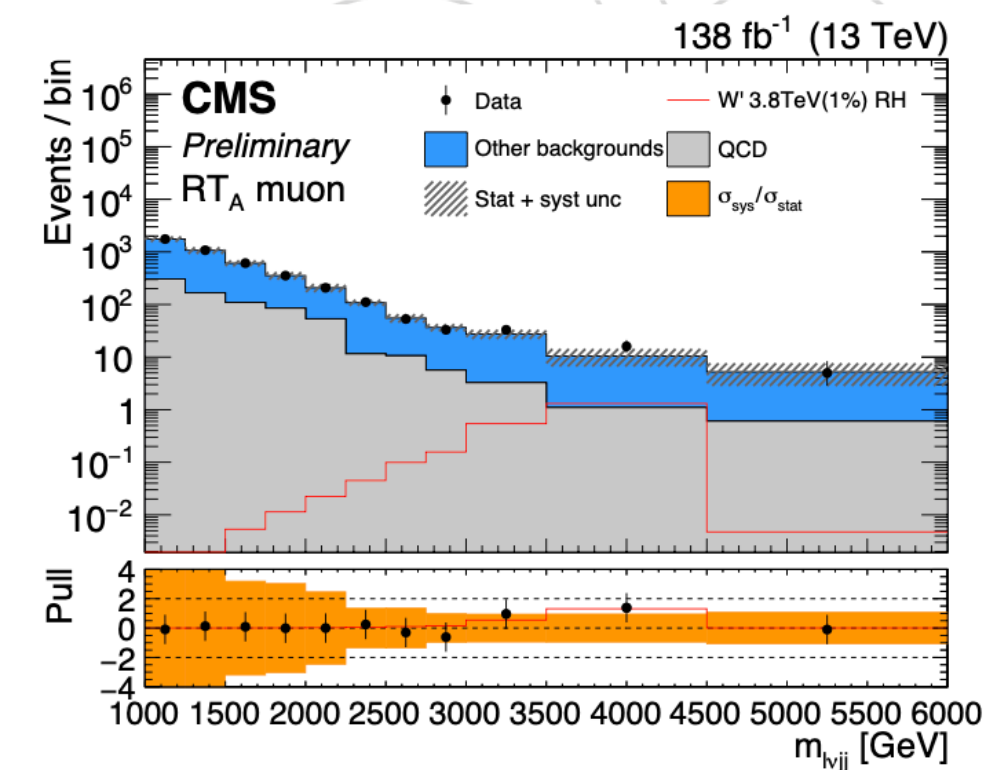
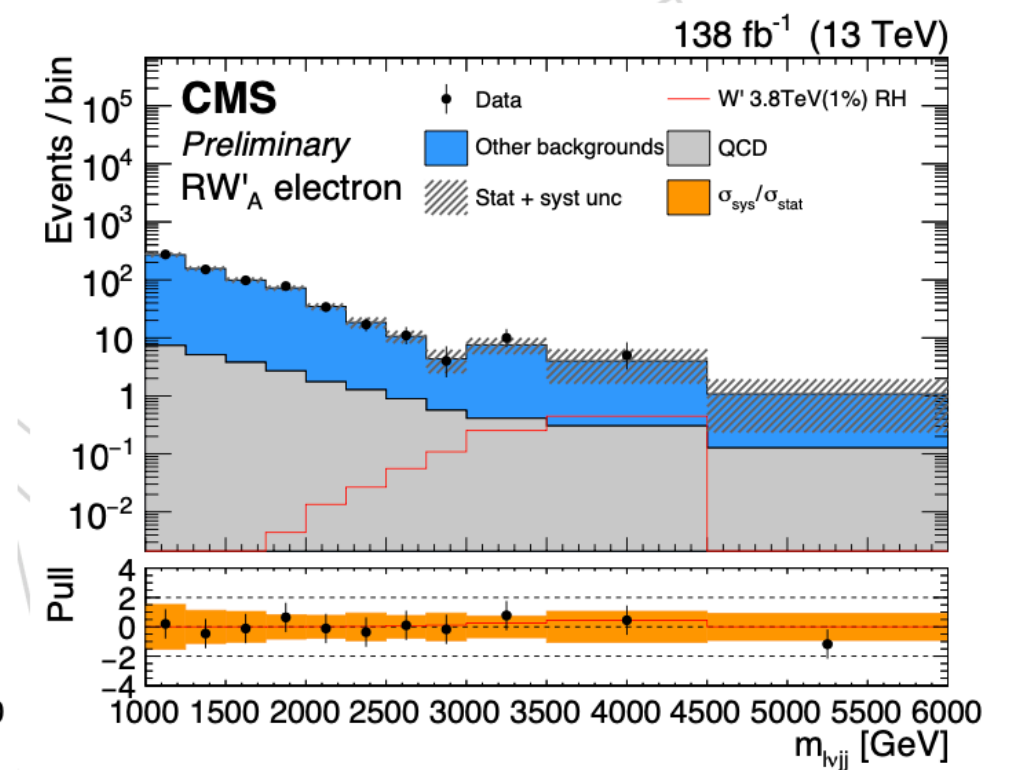
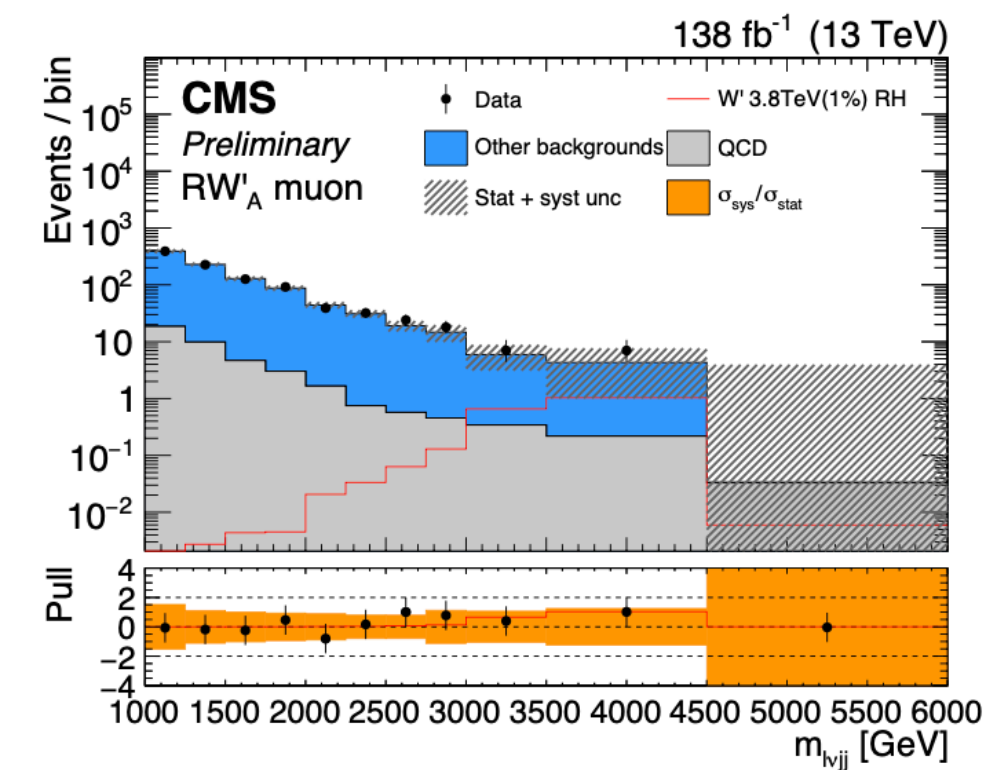
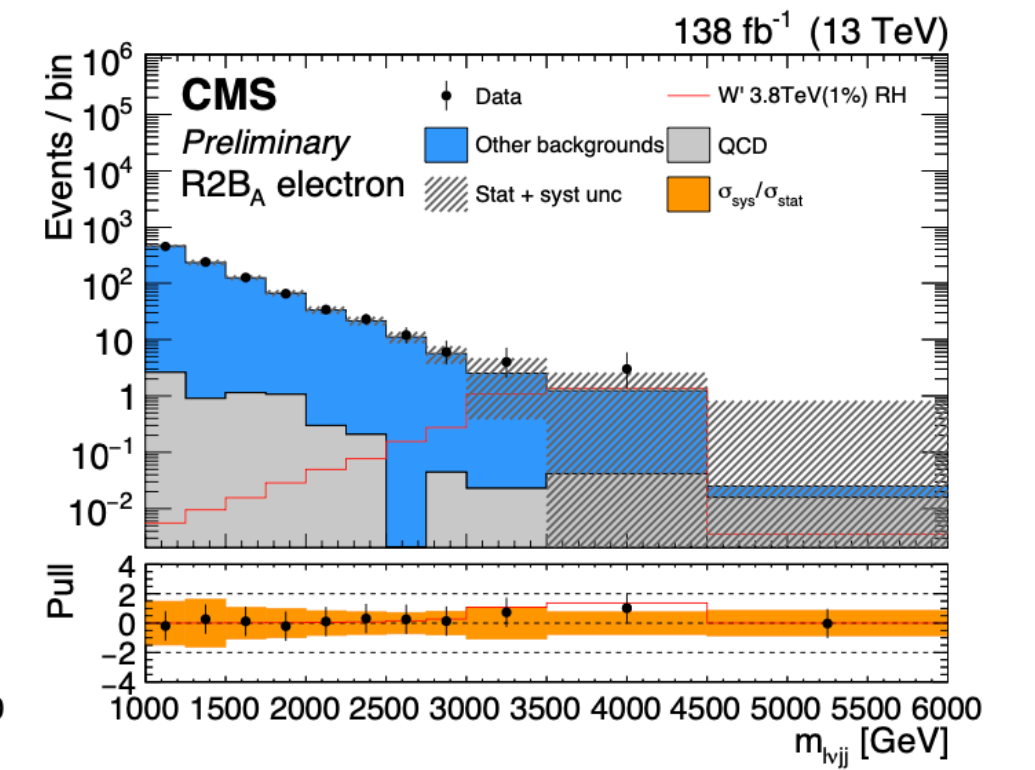
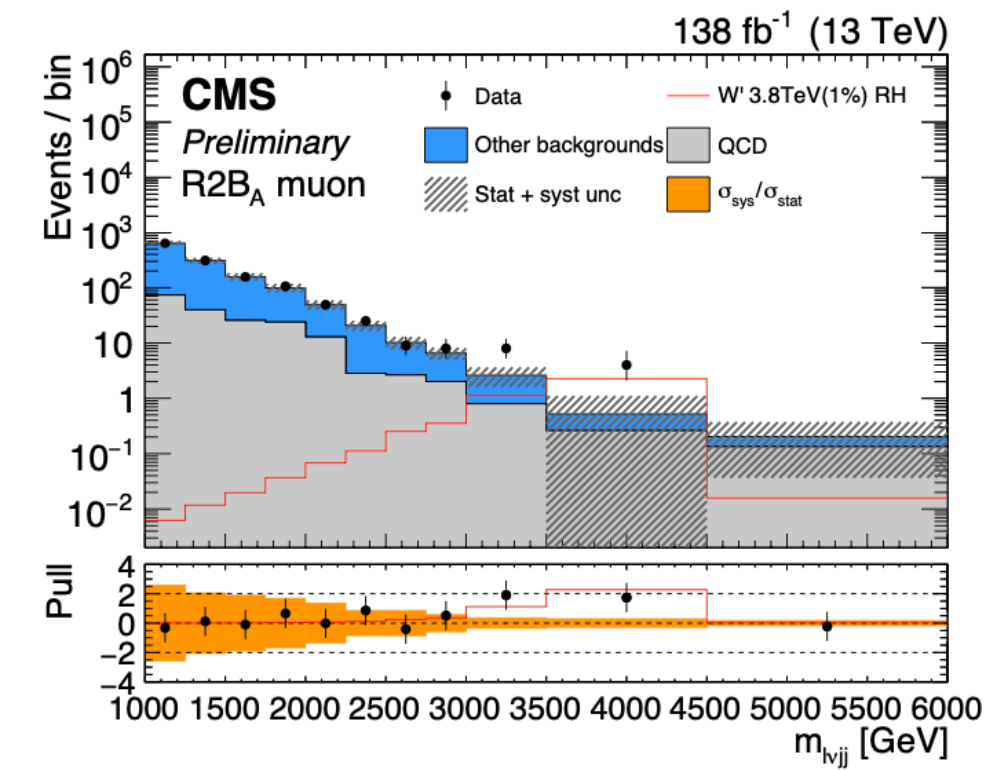
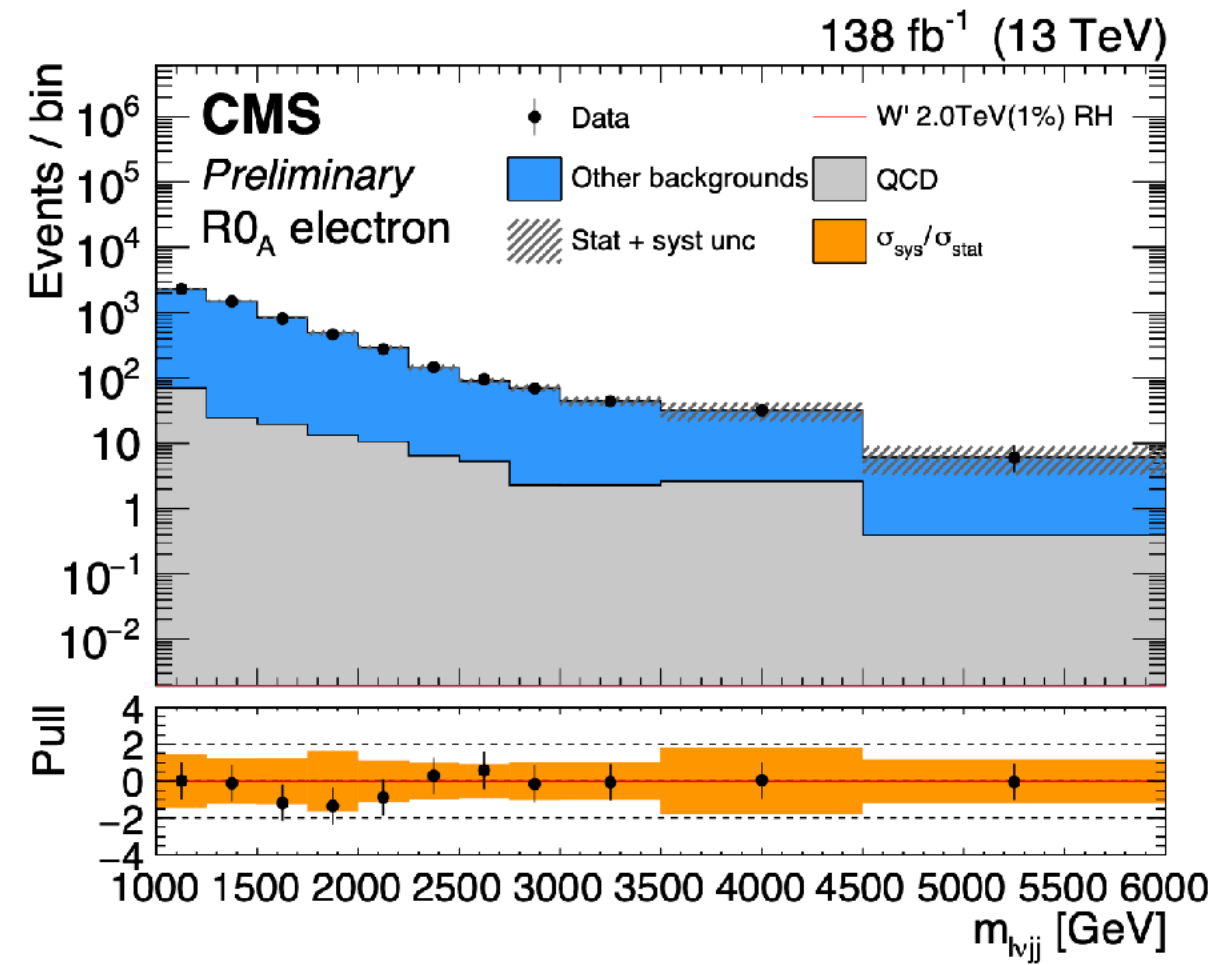
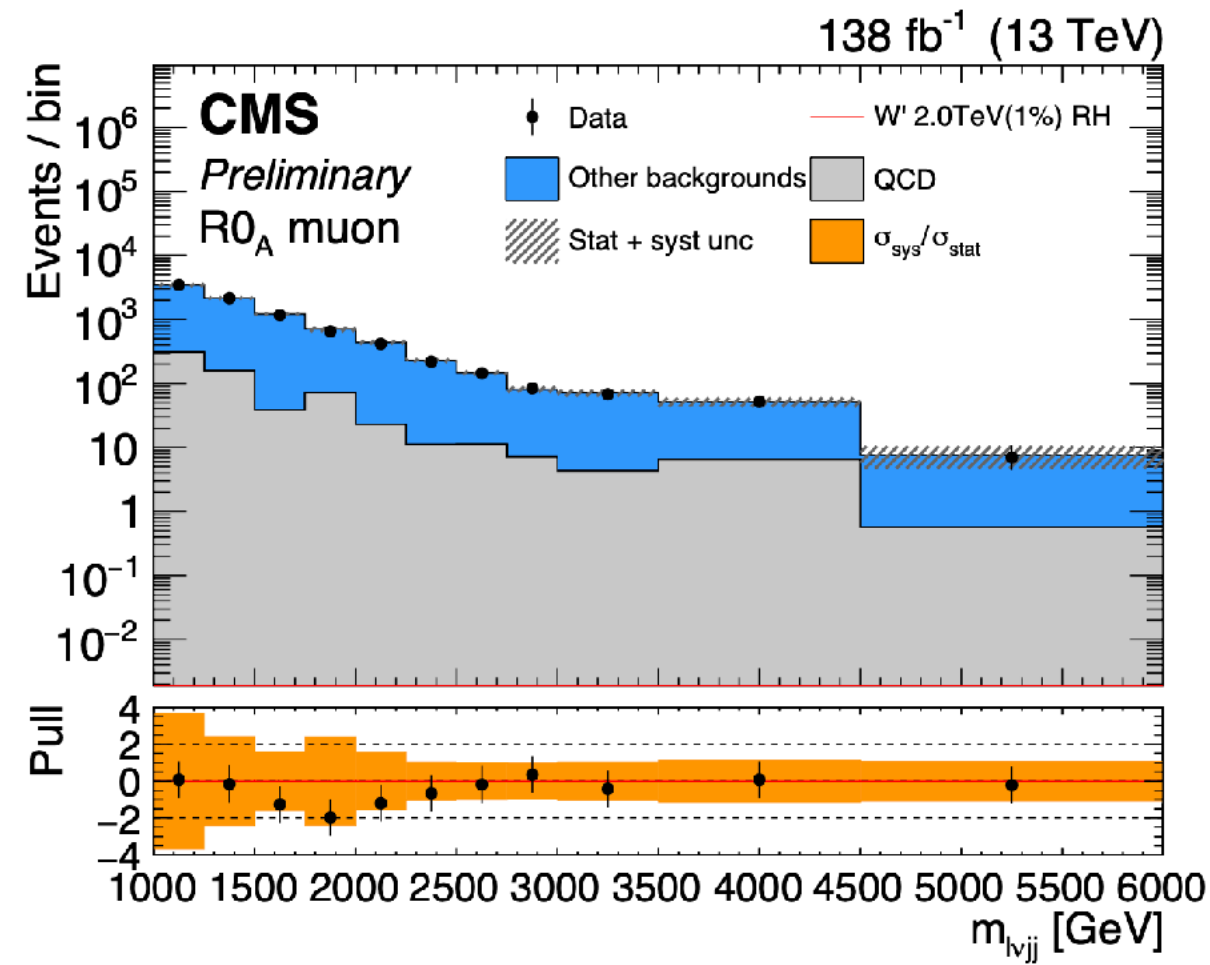
W' search

B2G-20-012



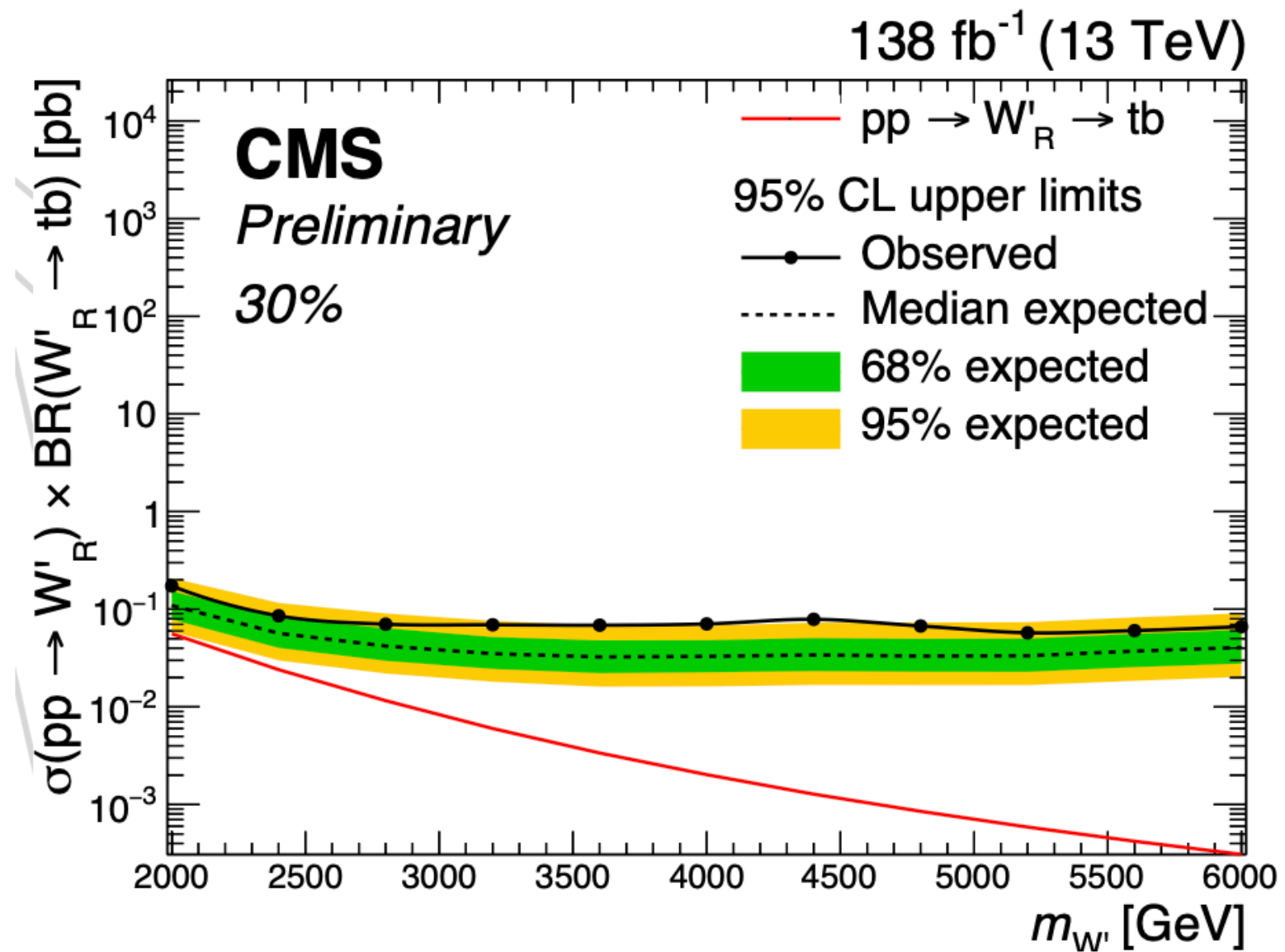
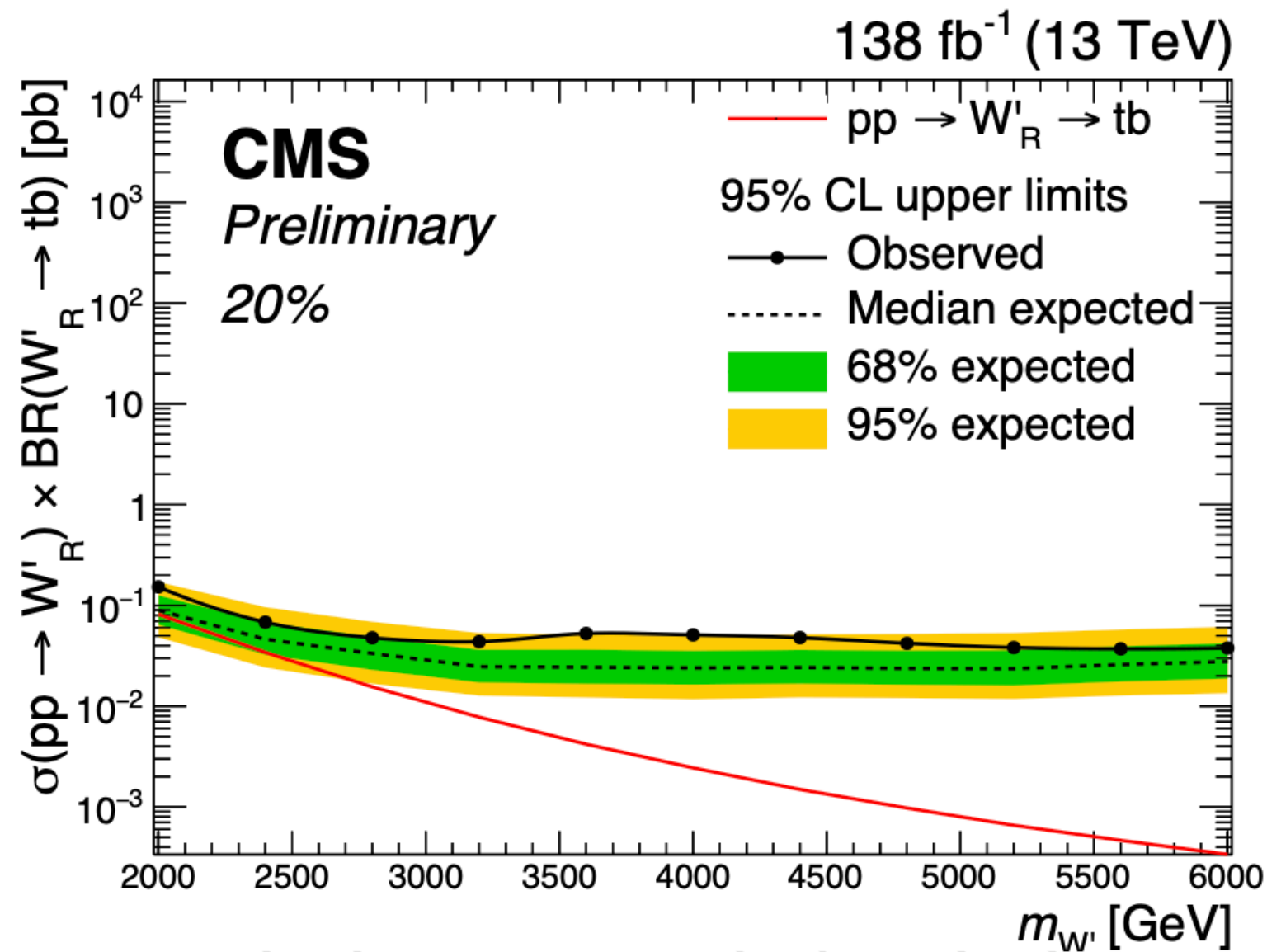
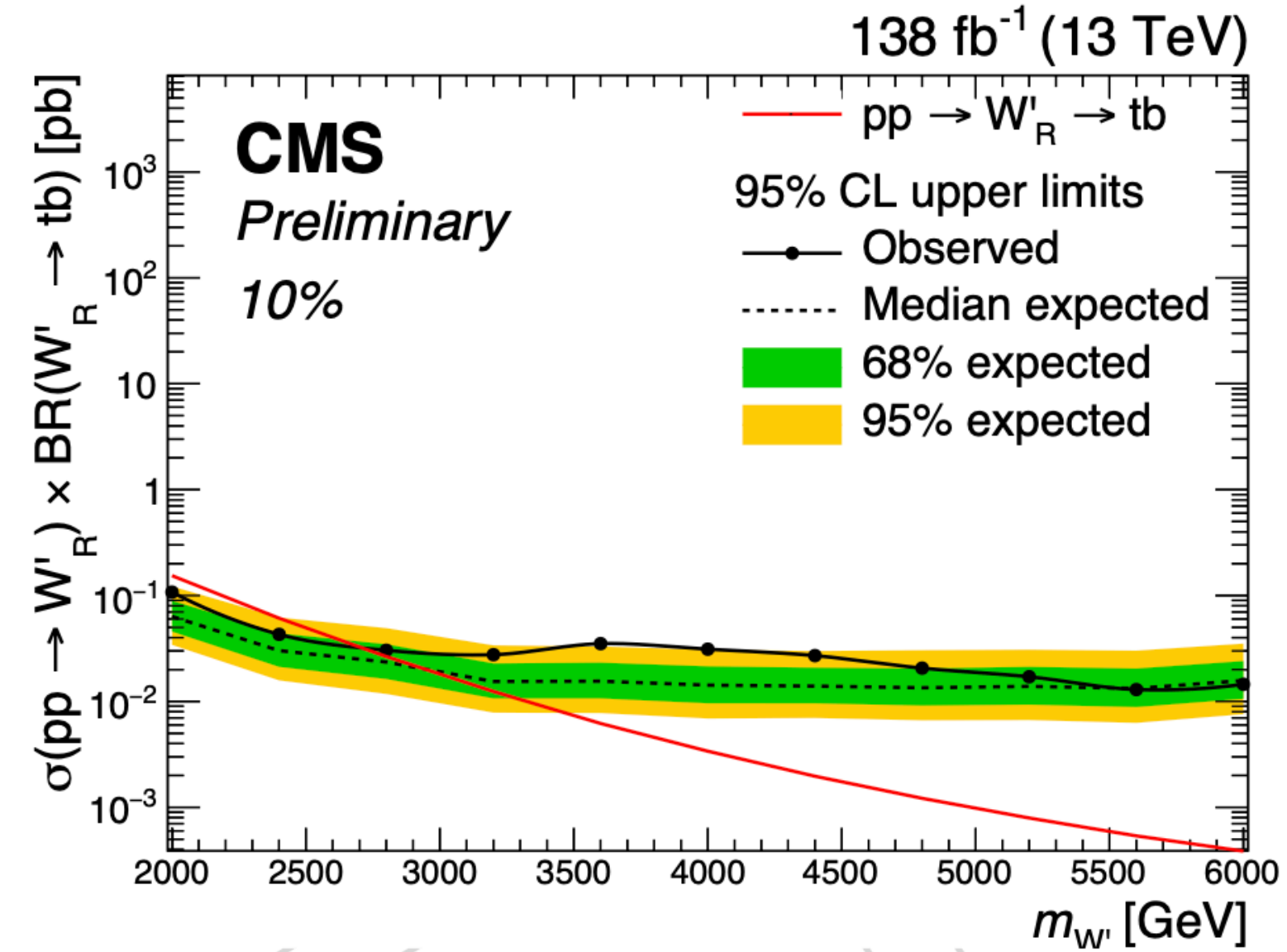
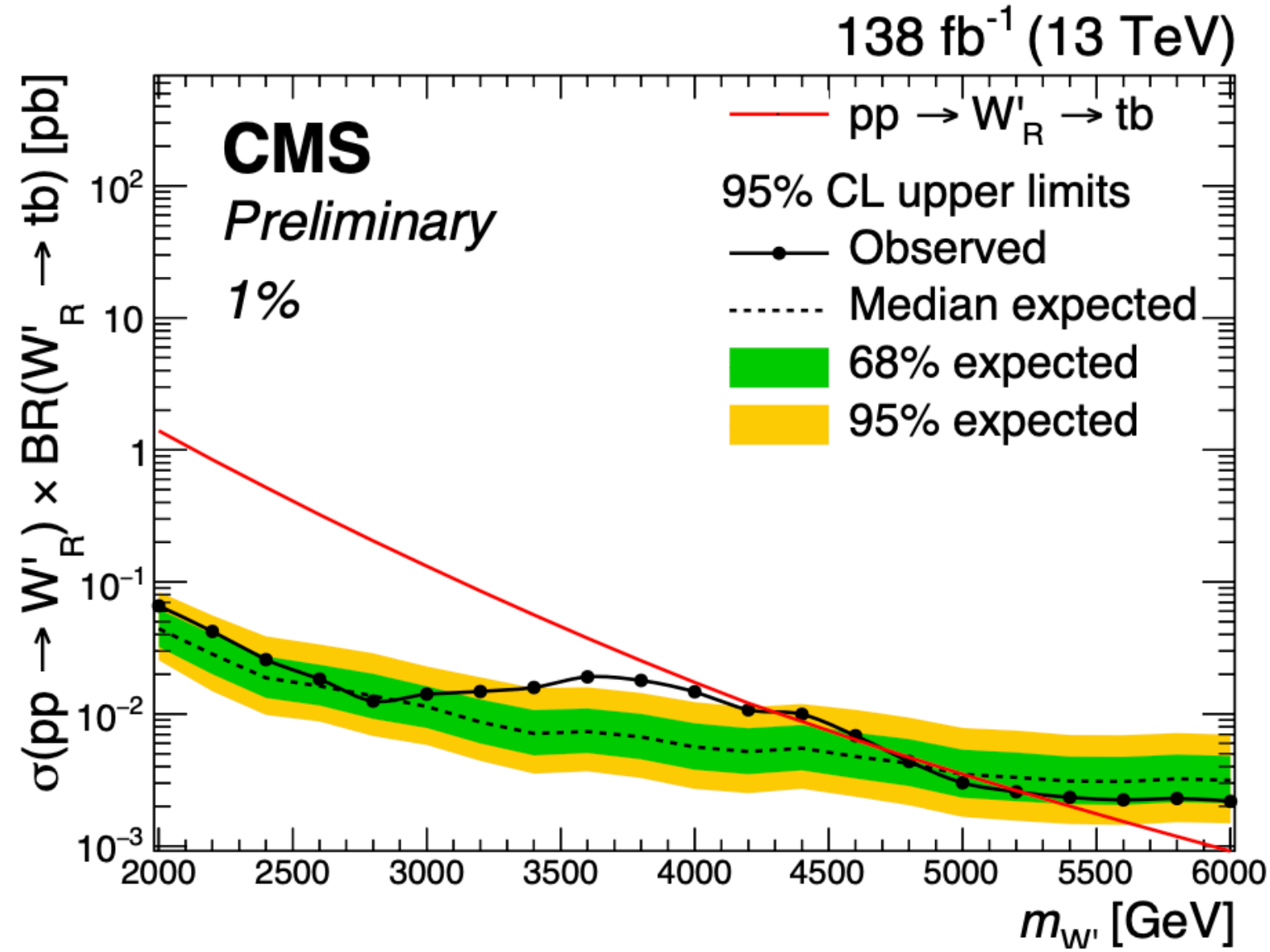
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B2G-20-012



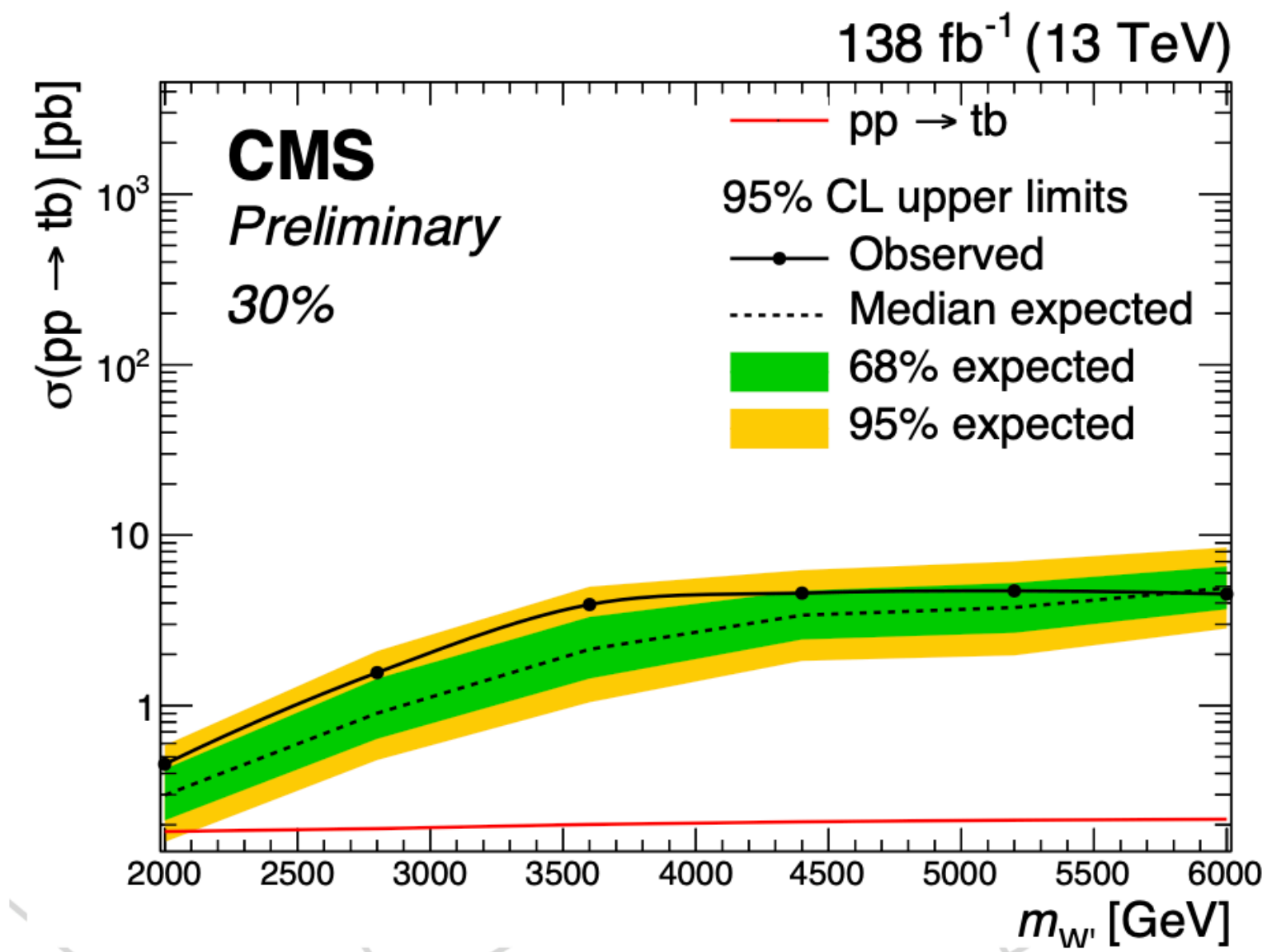
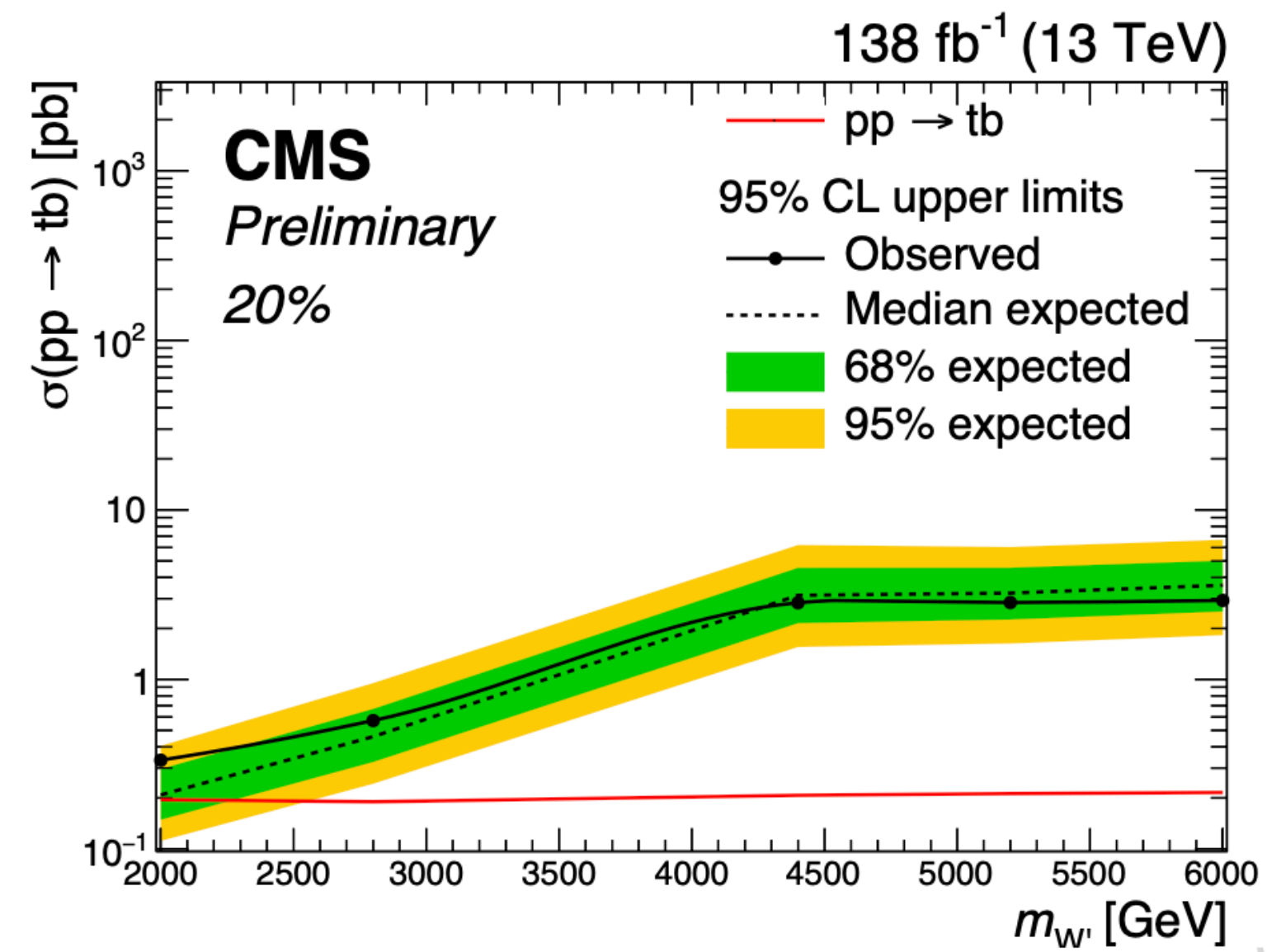
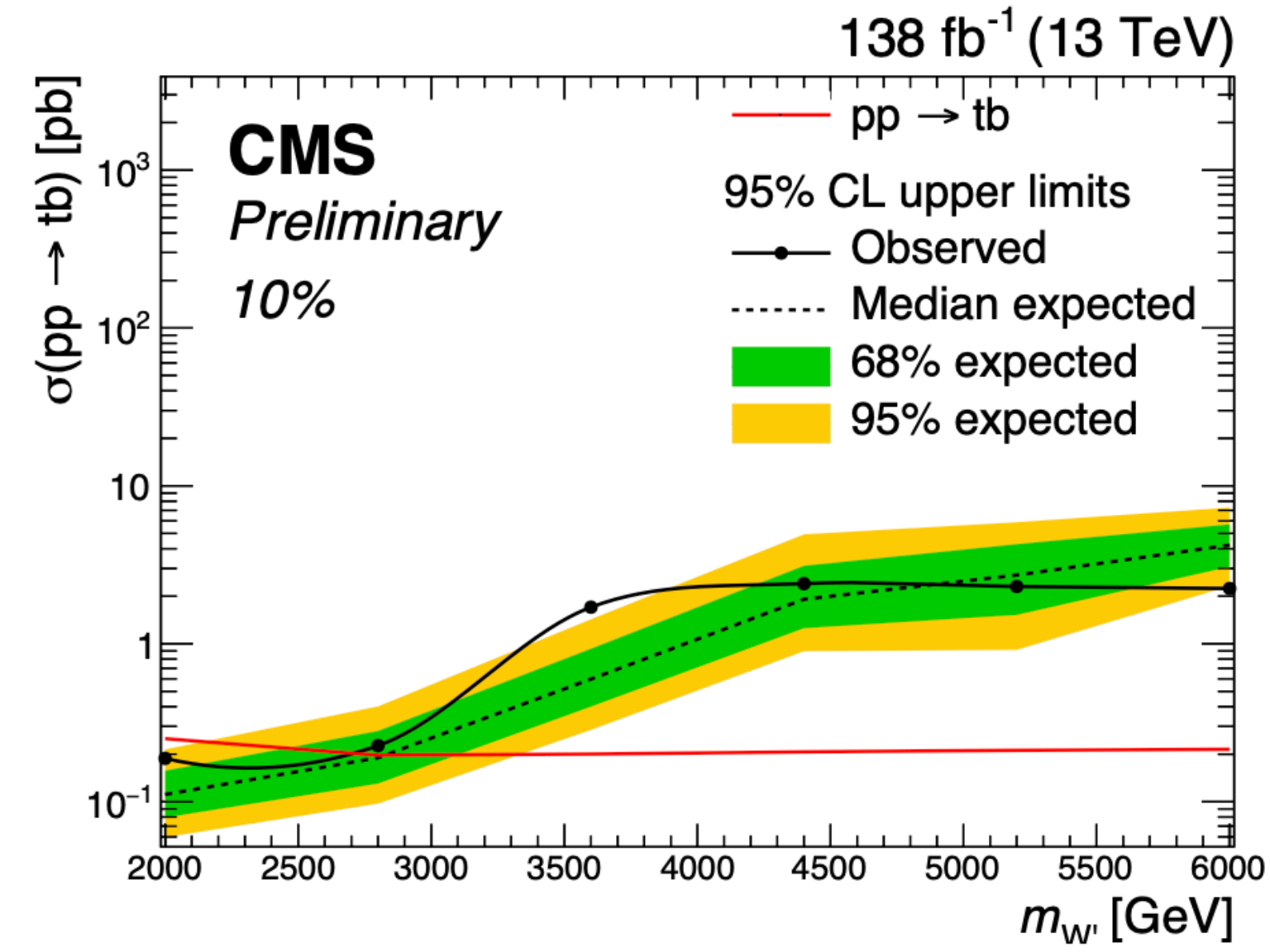
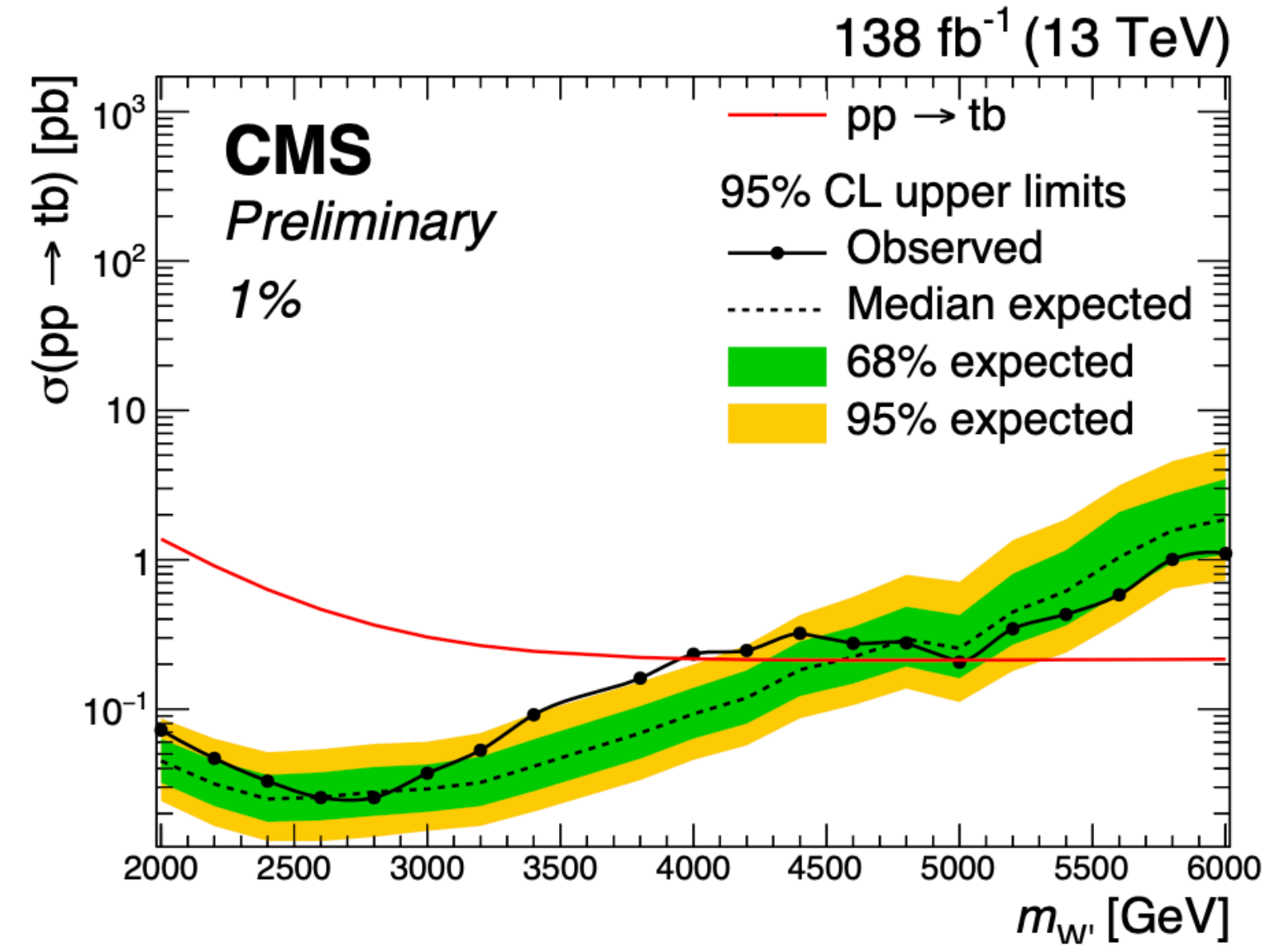
W' search

right handed W'



W' search

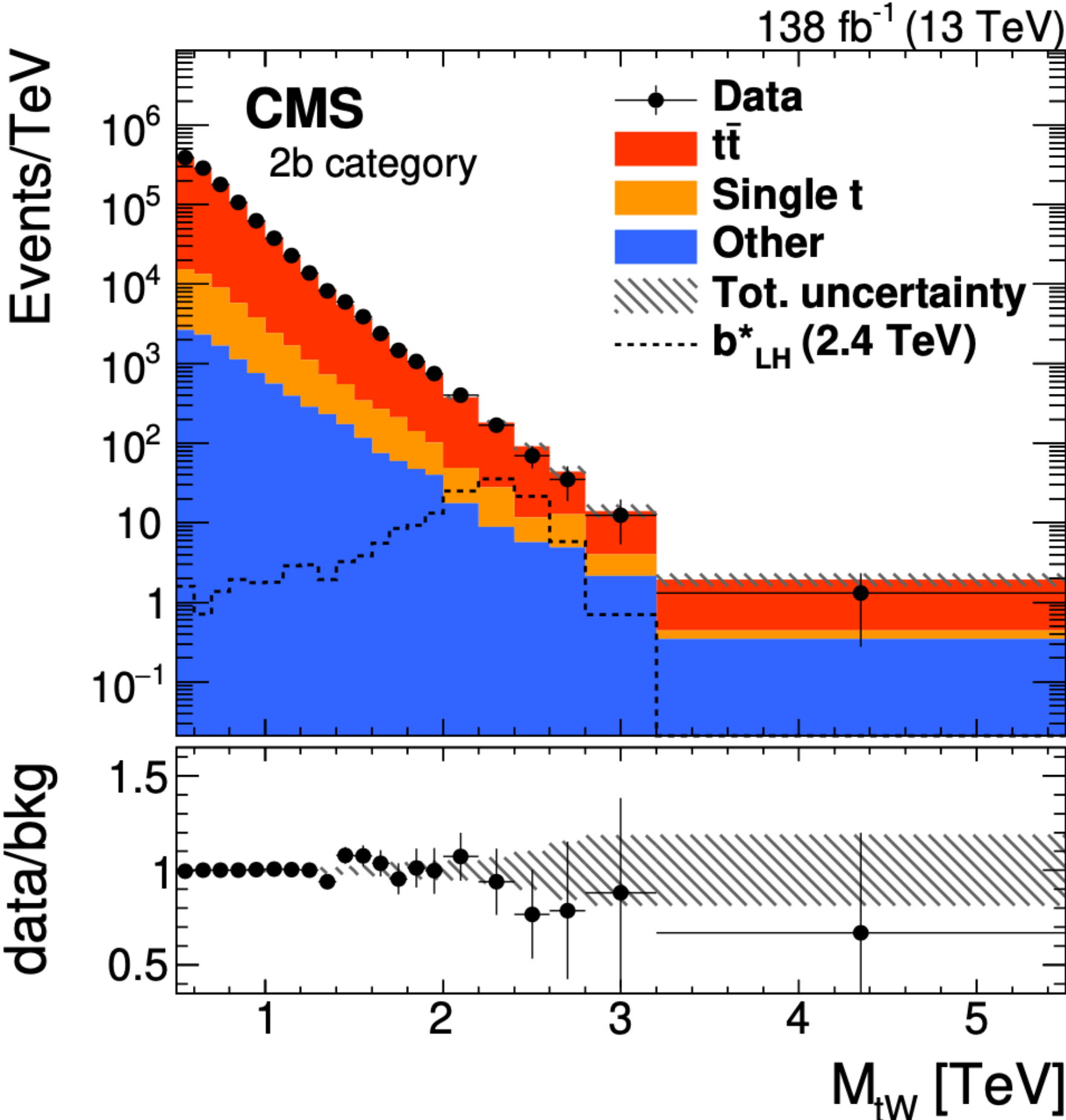
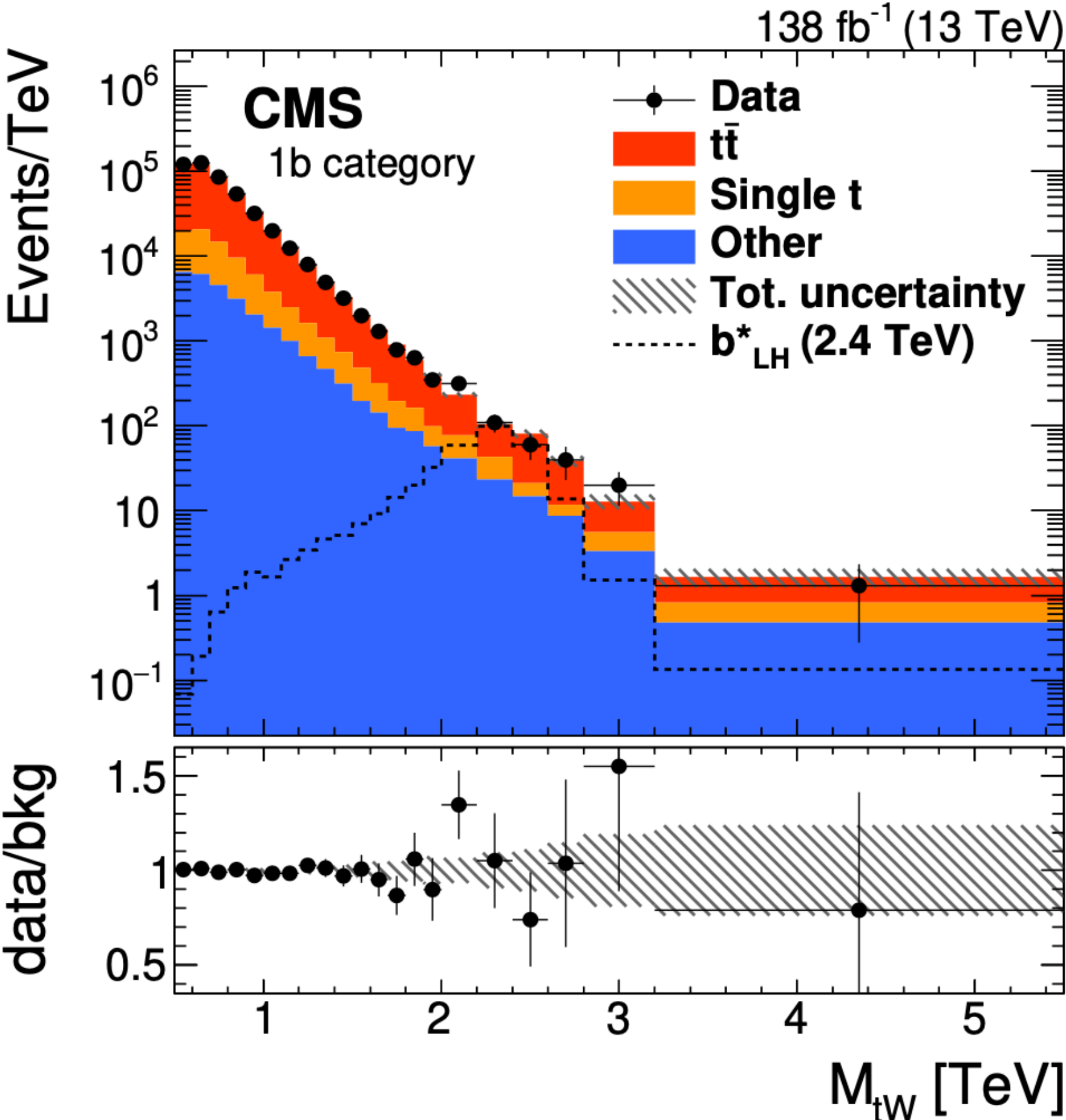
left handed W'



Heavy tW search

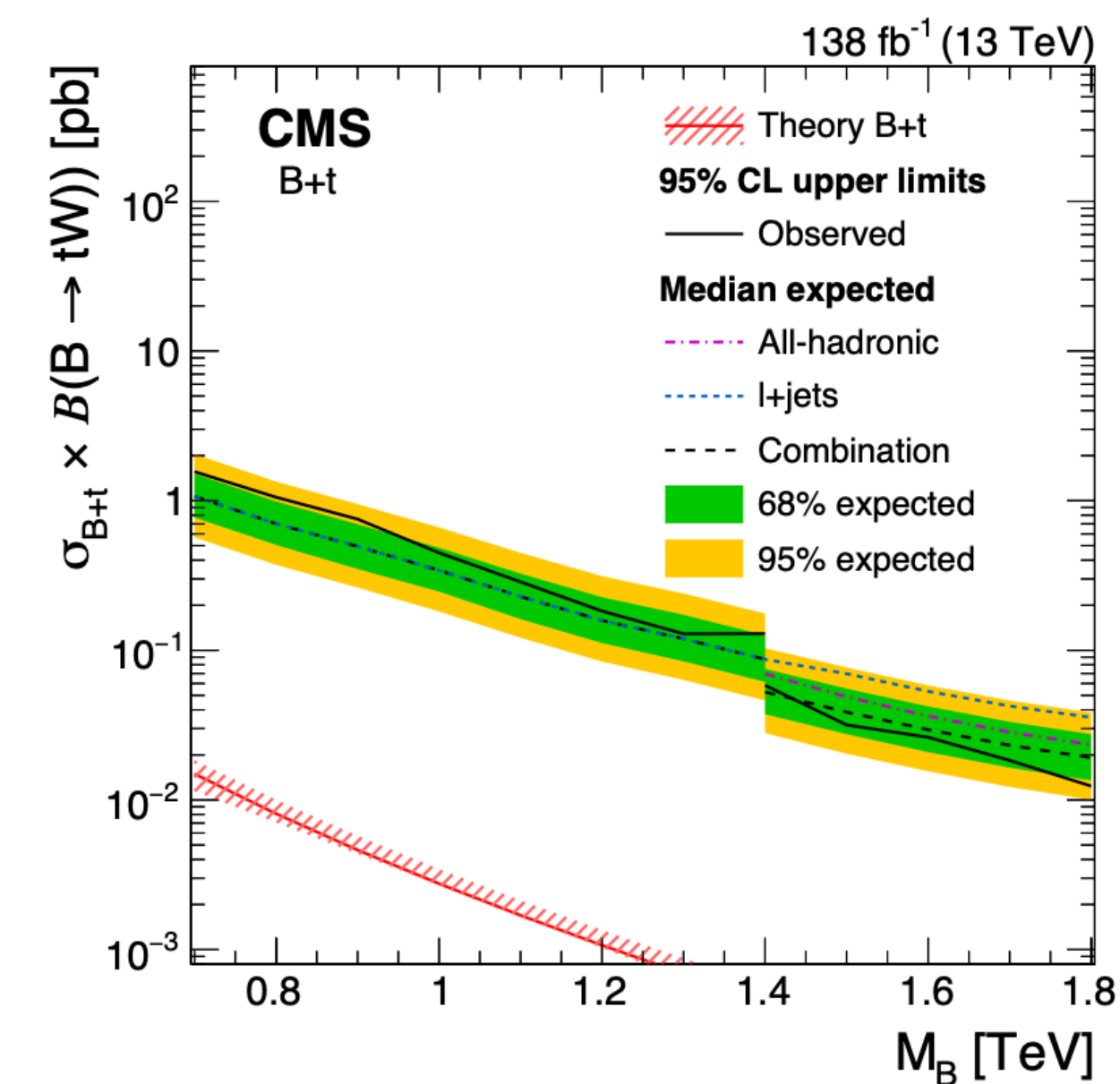
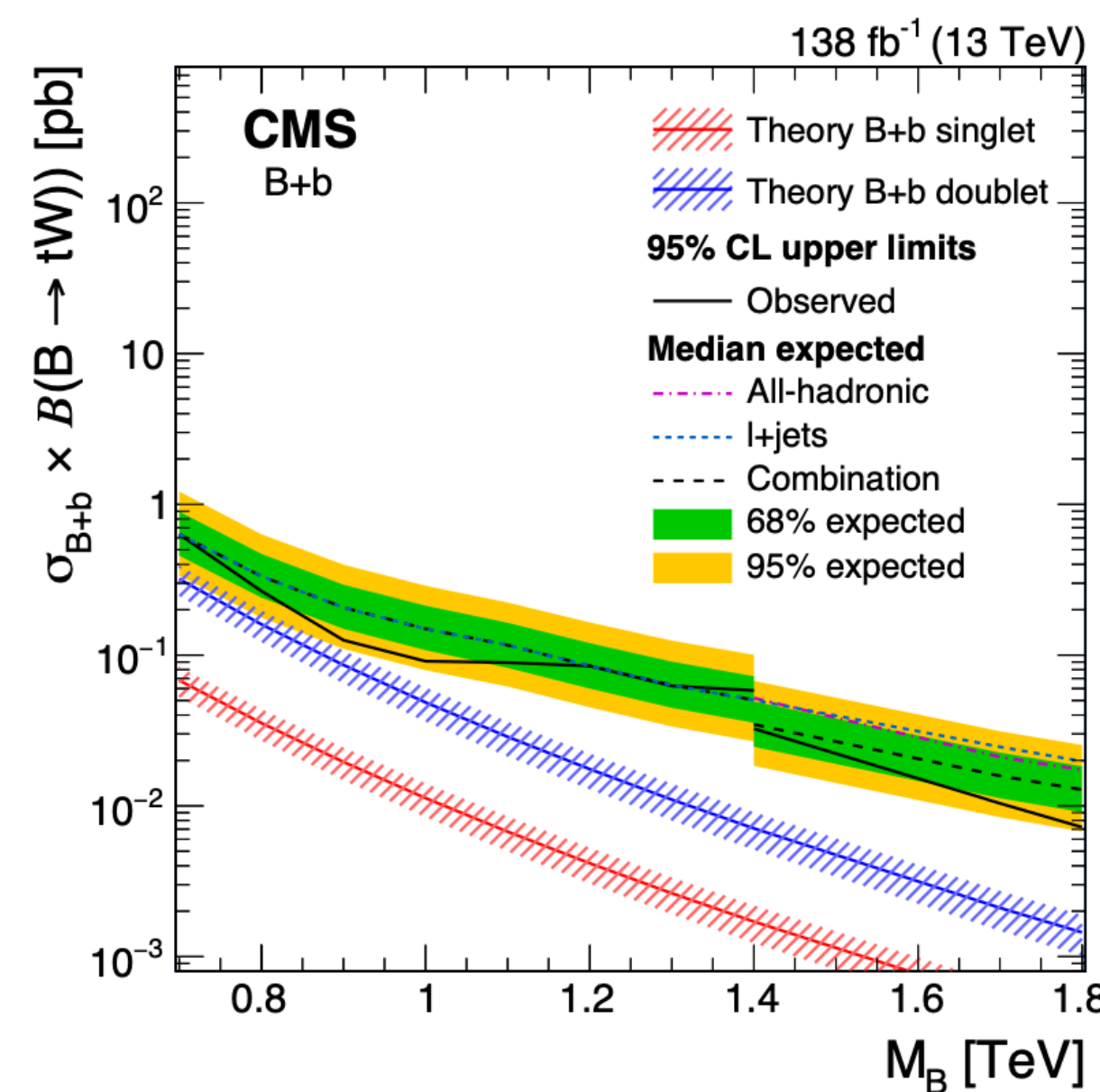
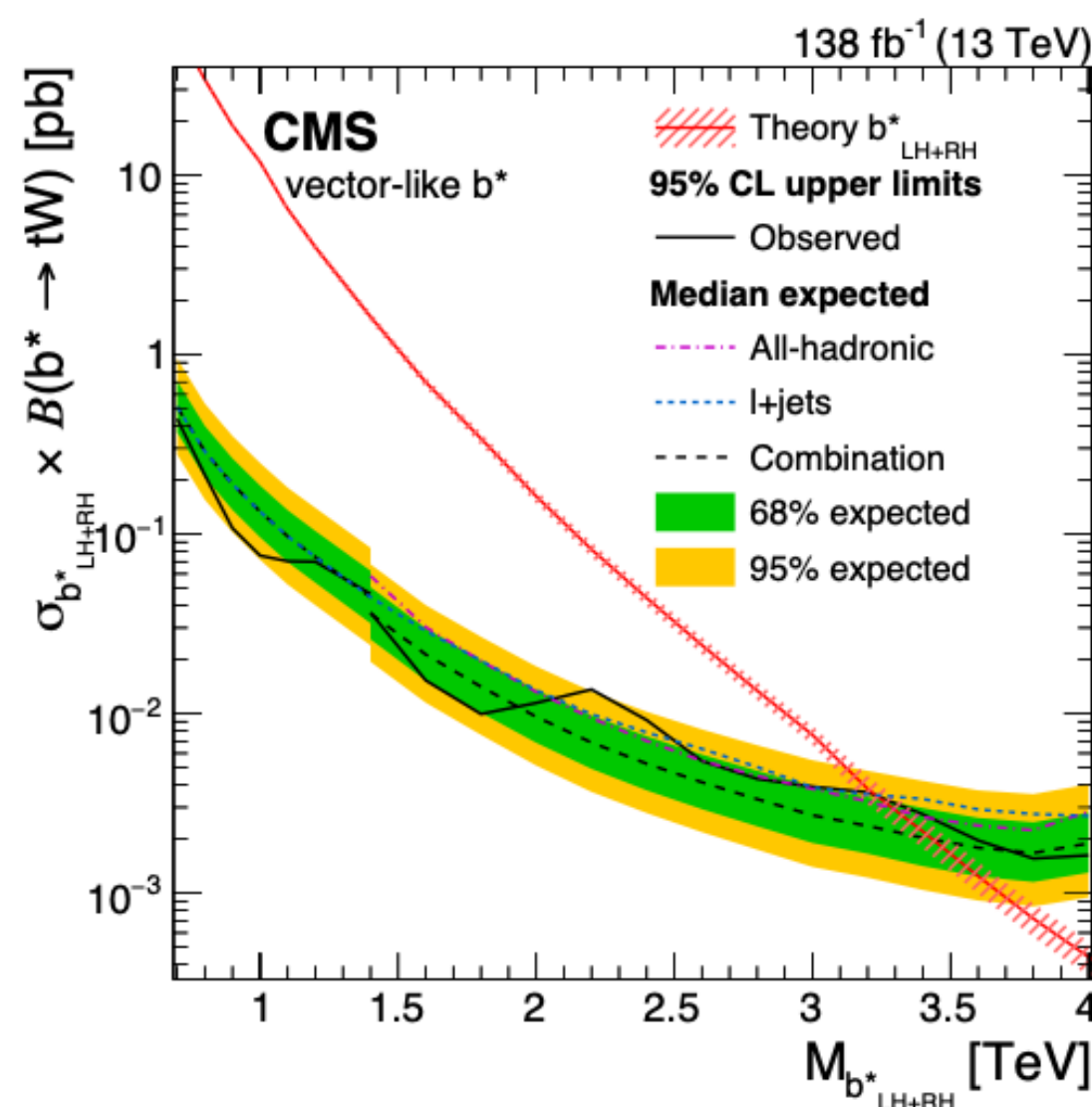
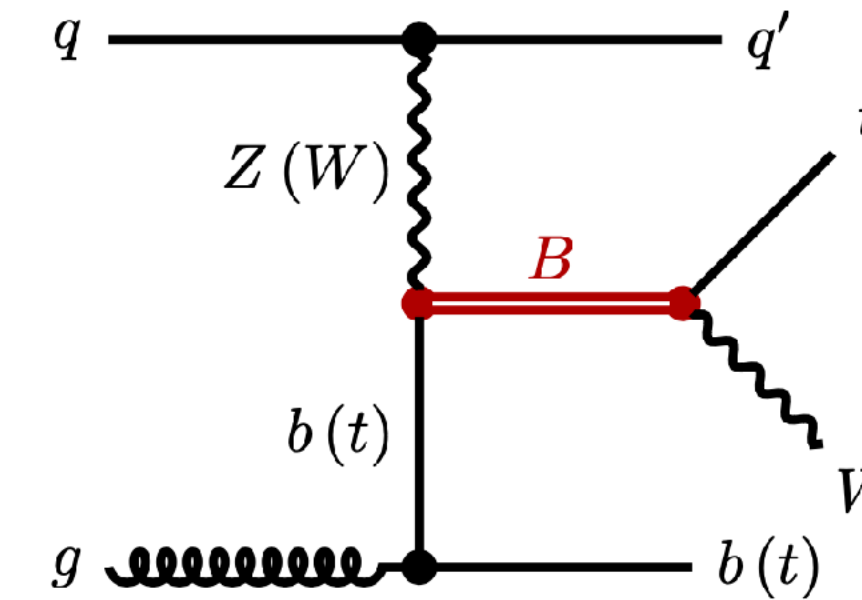
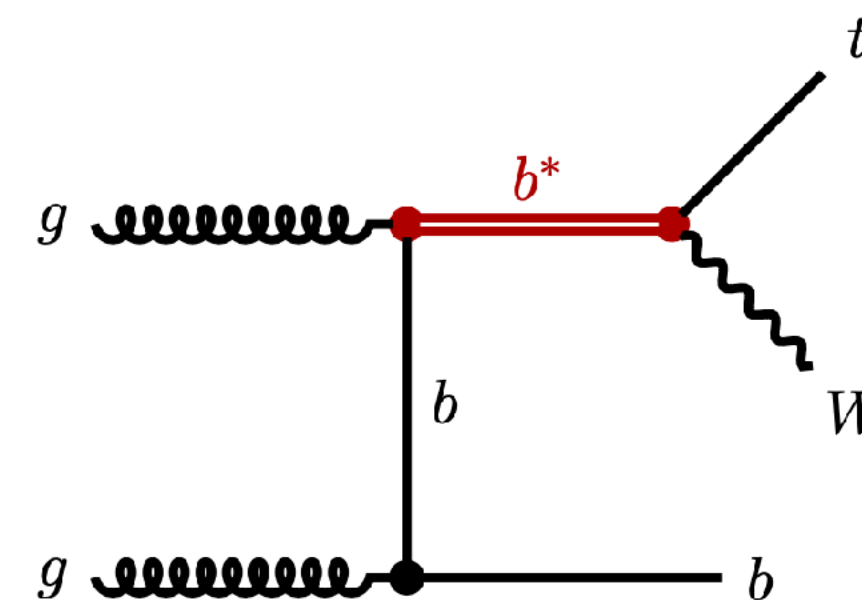
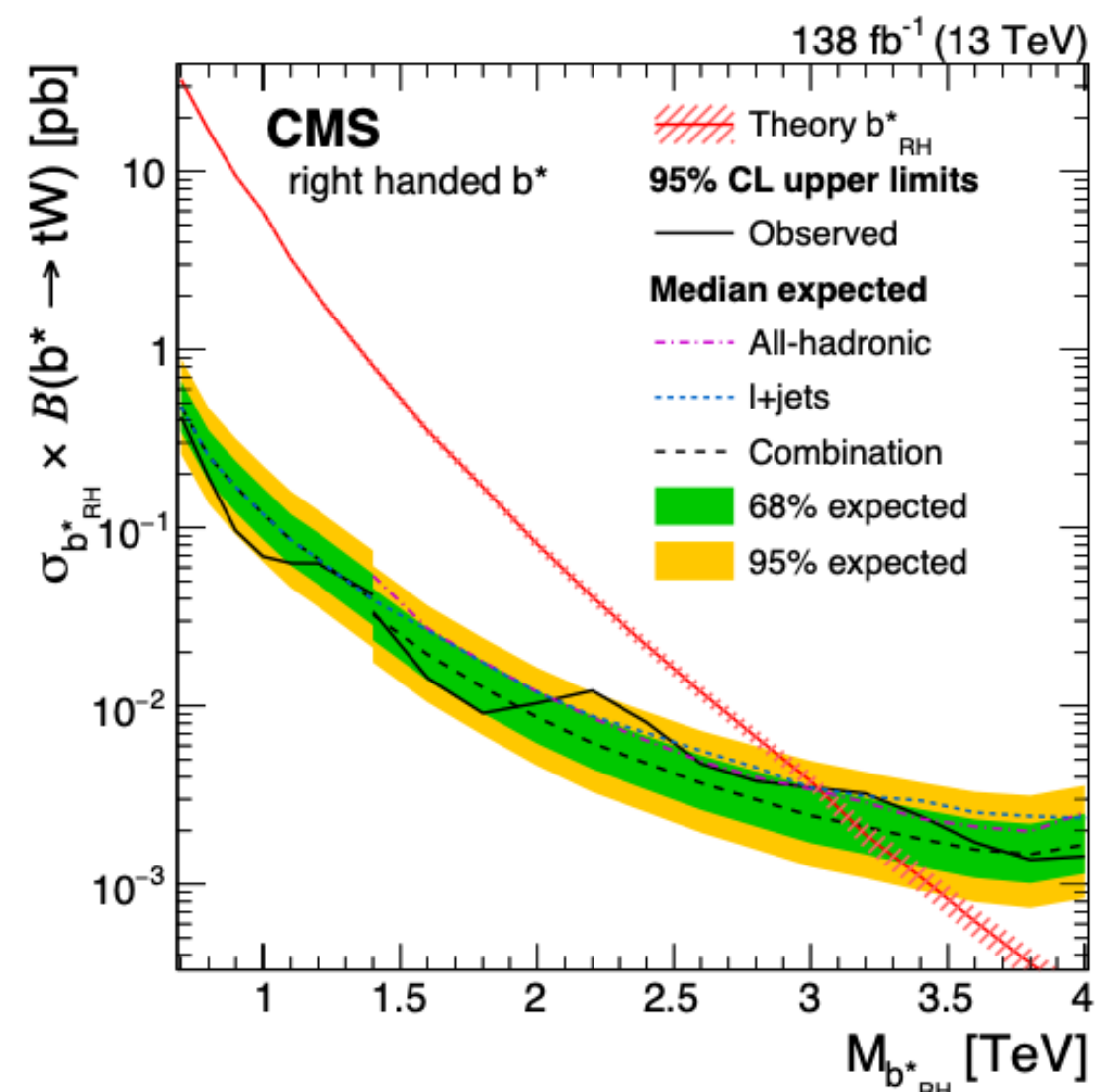
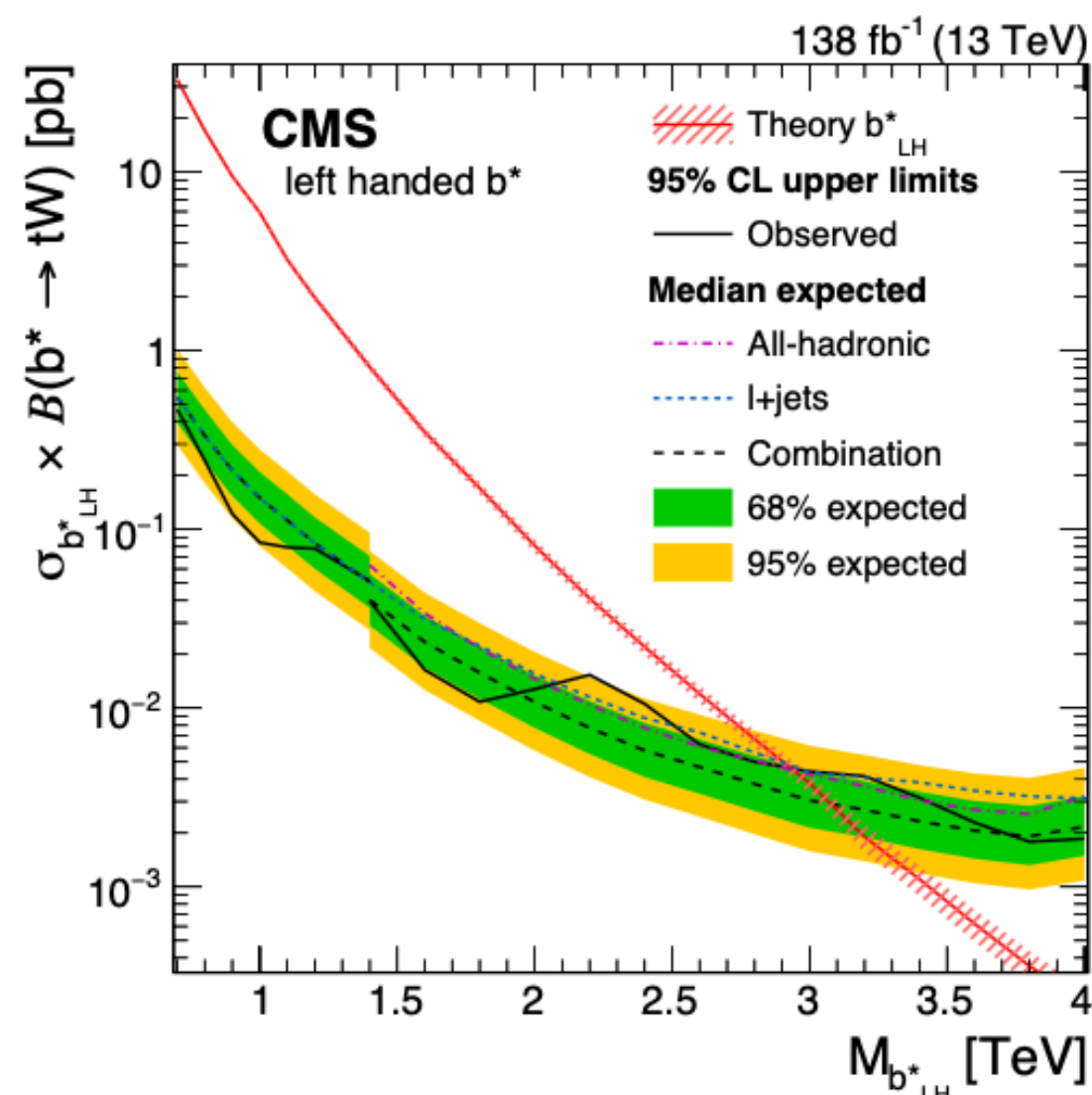
Trigger

- ≥ 1 muon,
- ≥ 2 electron,
- photons



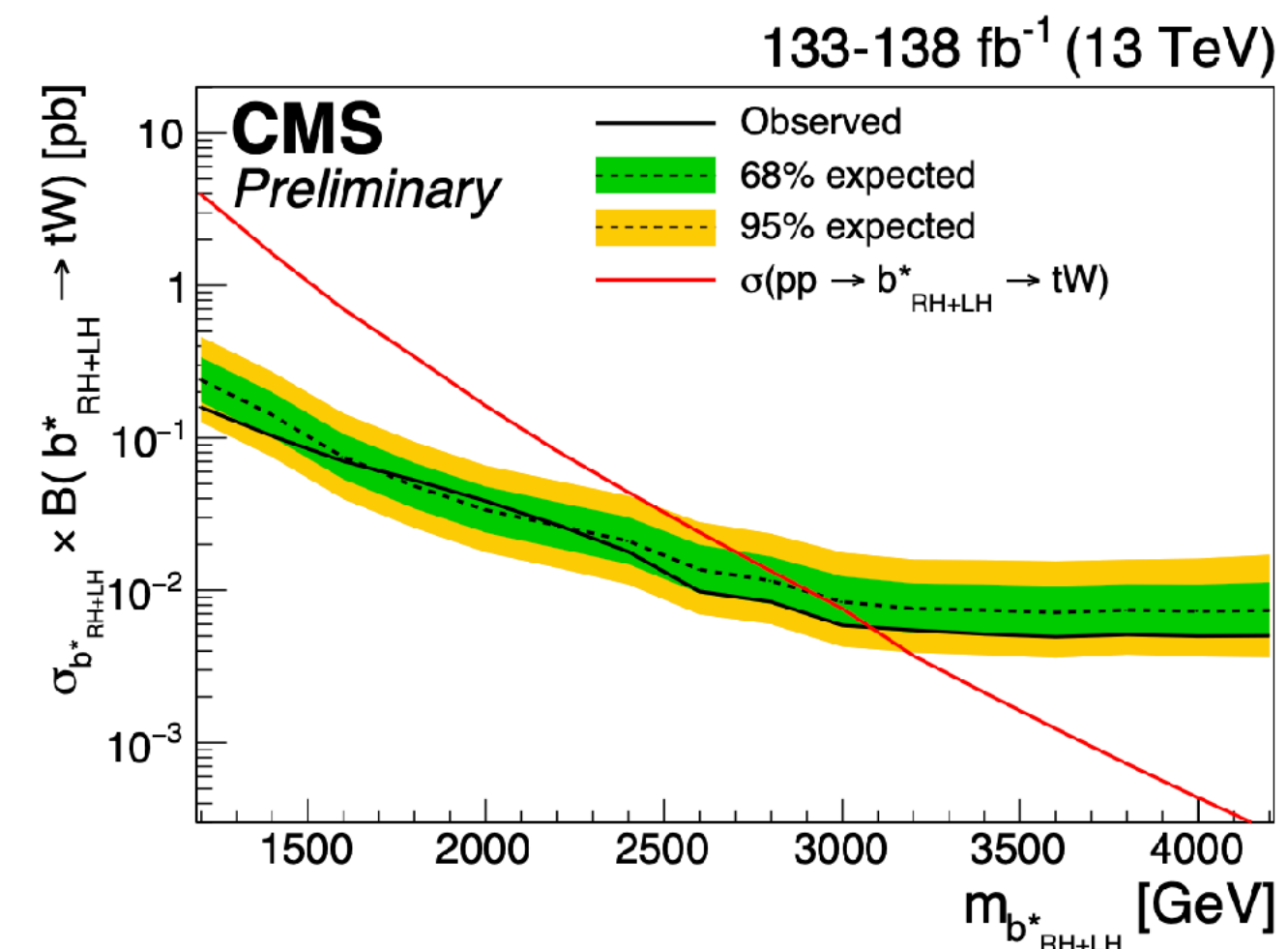
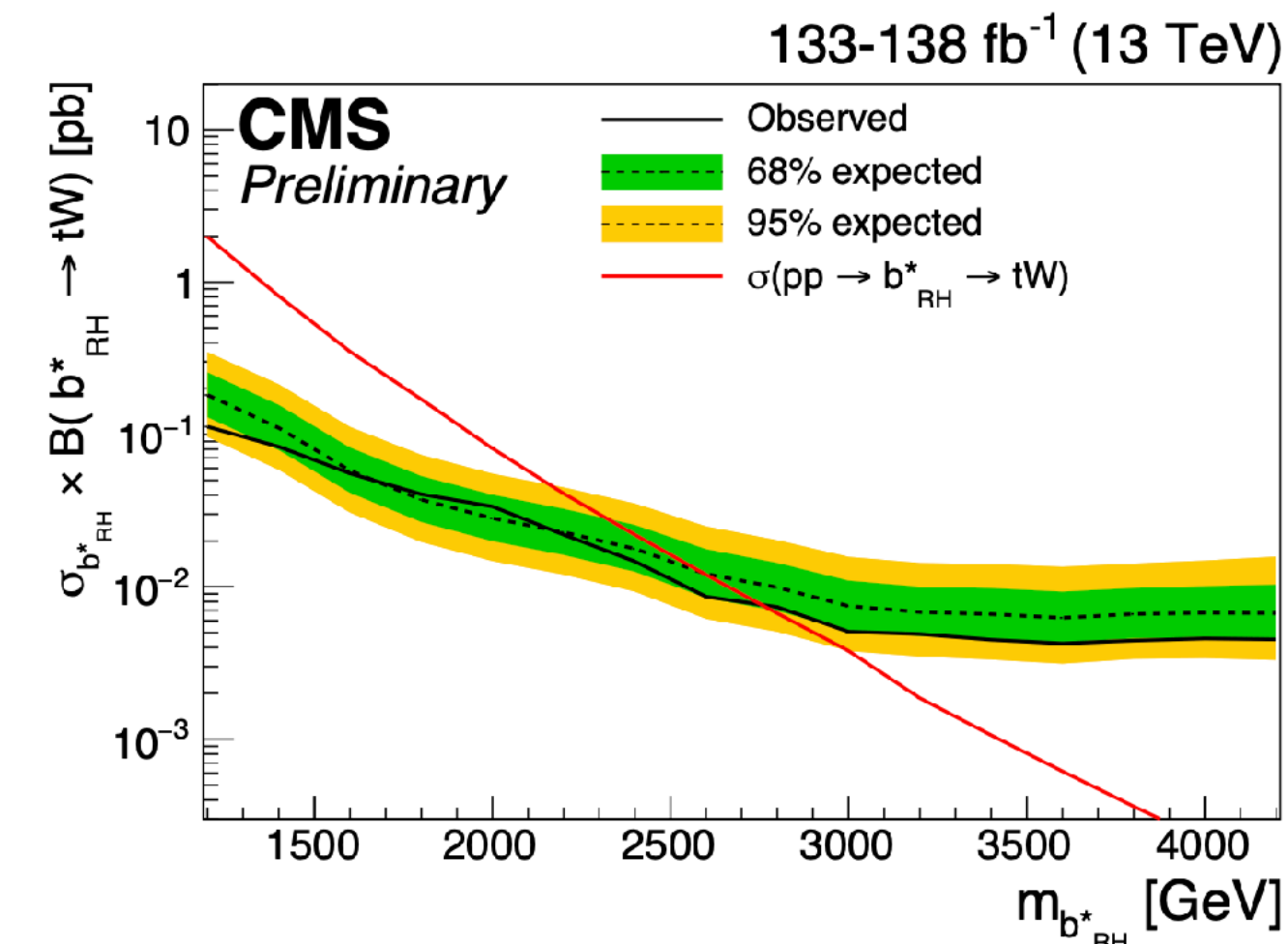
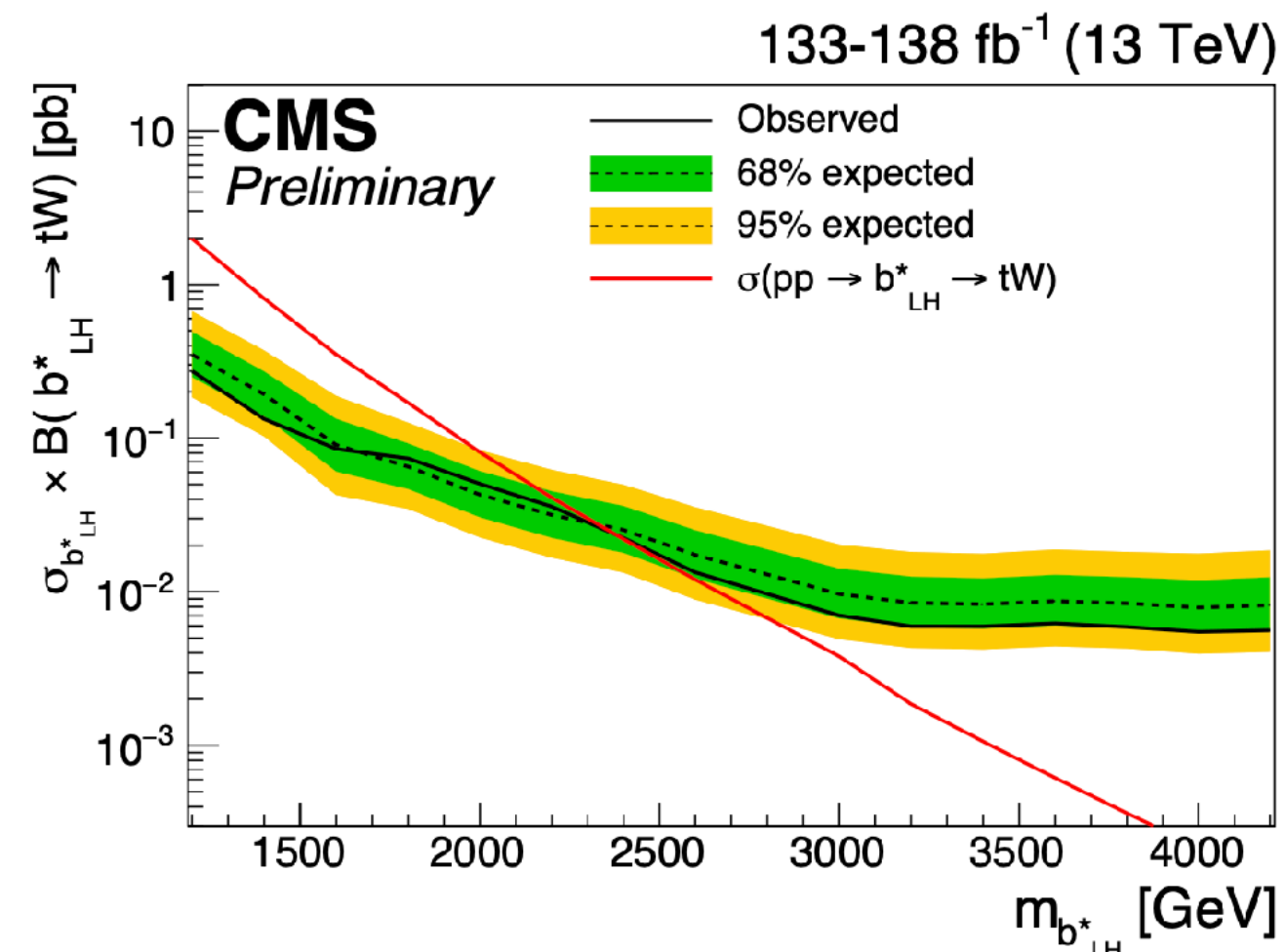
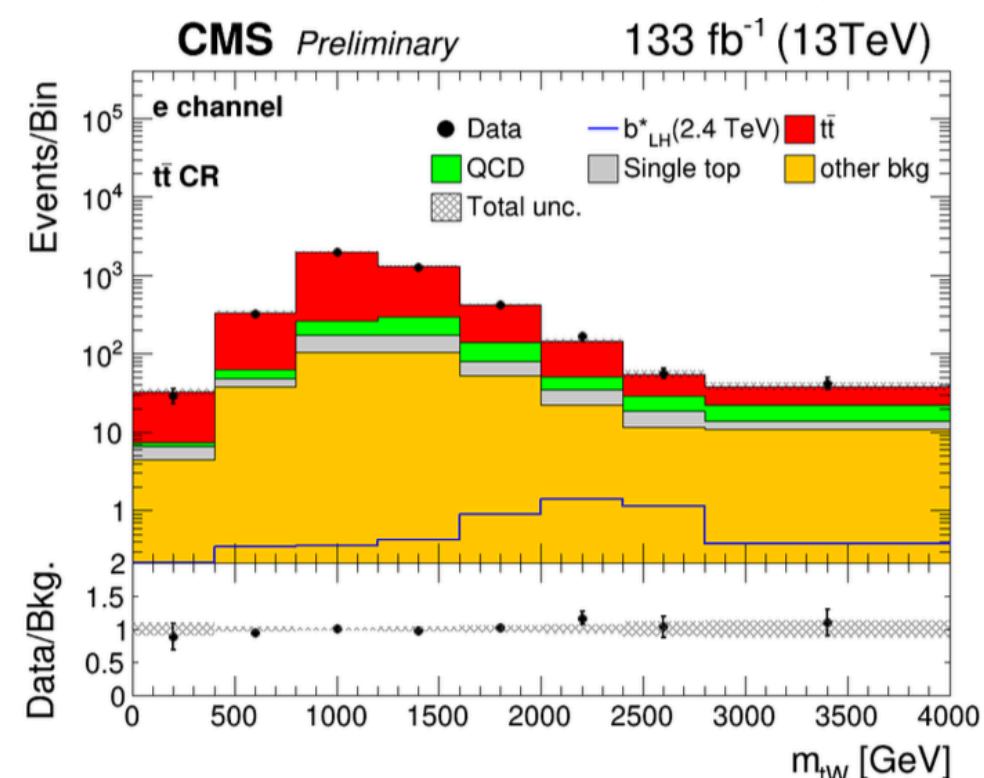
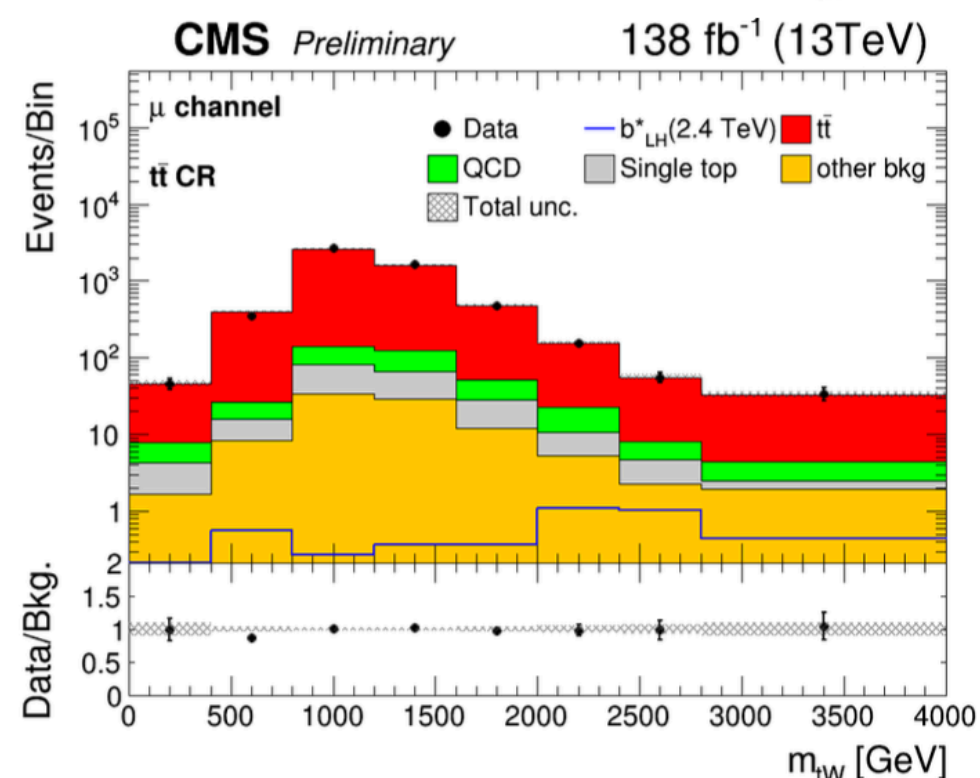
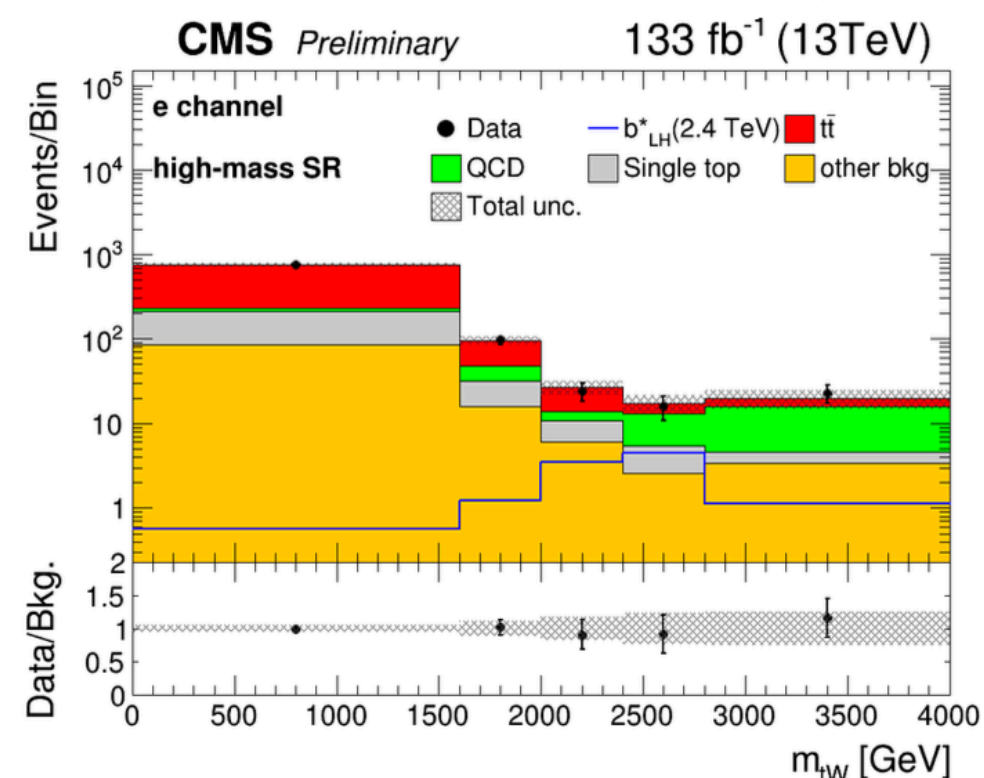
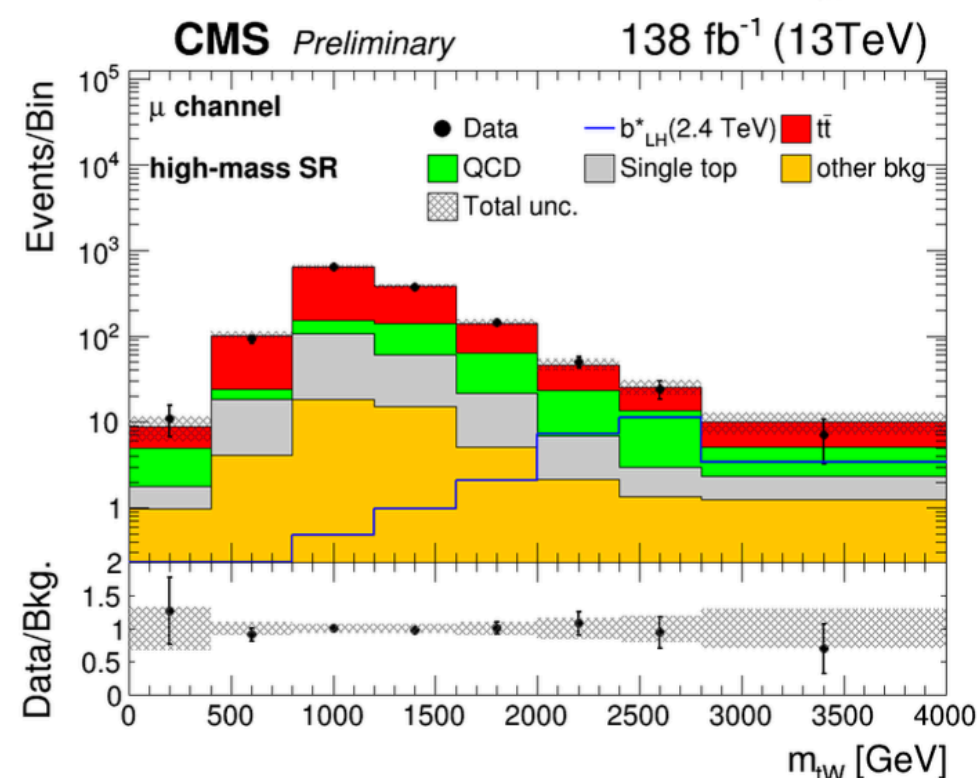
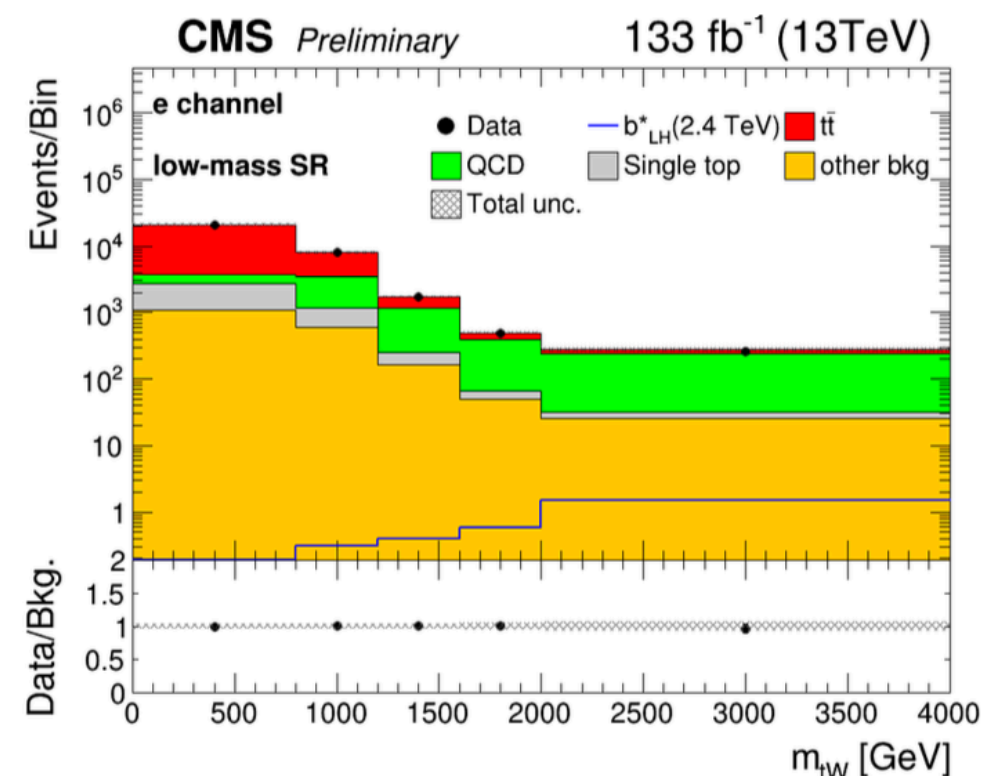
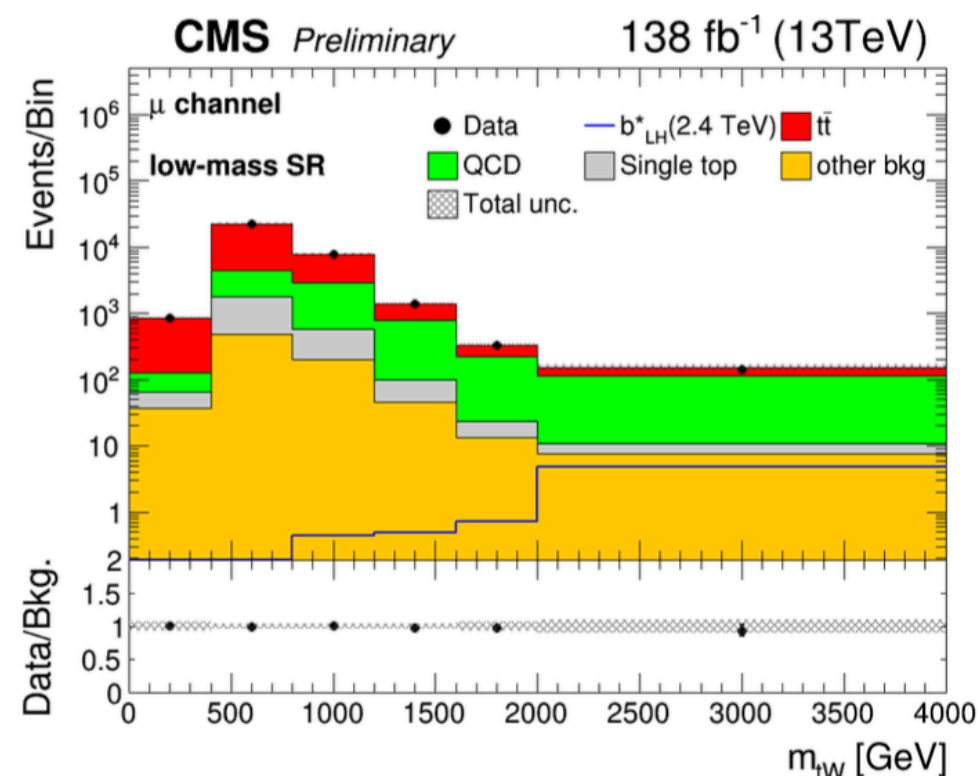
Heavy tW search

B2G-20-010



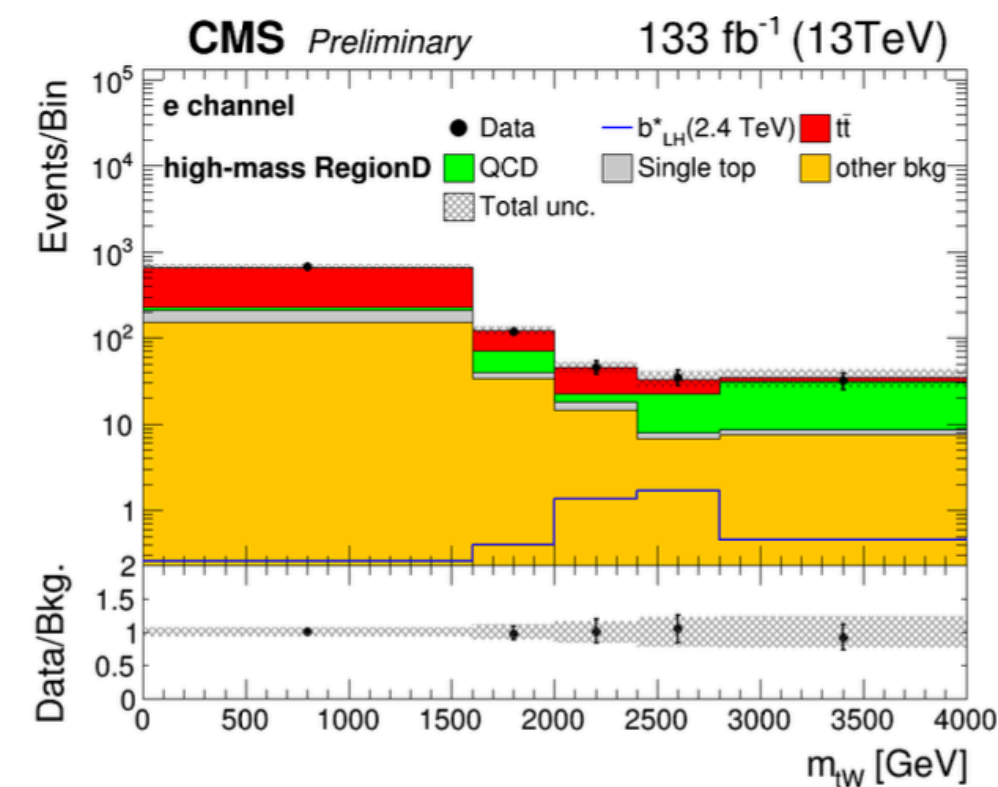
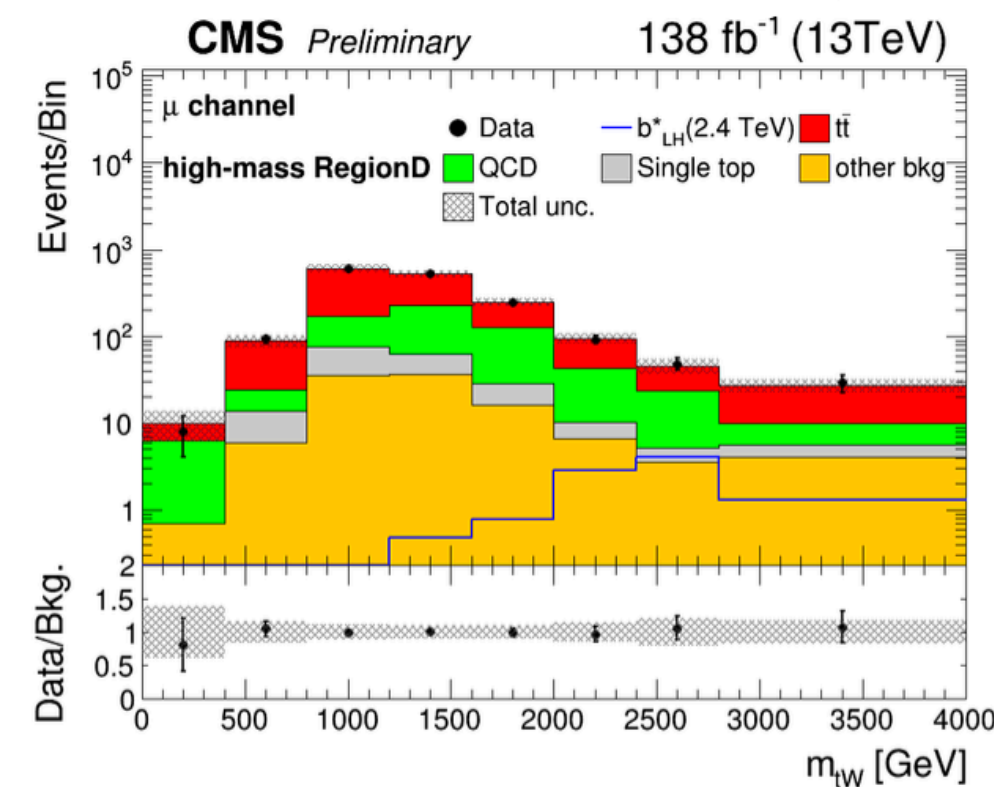
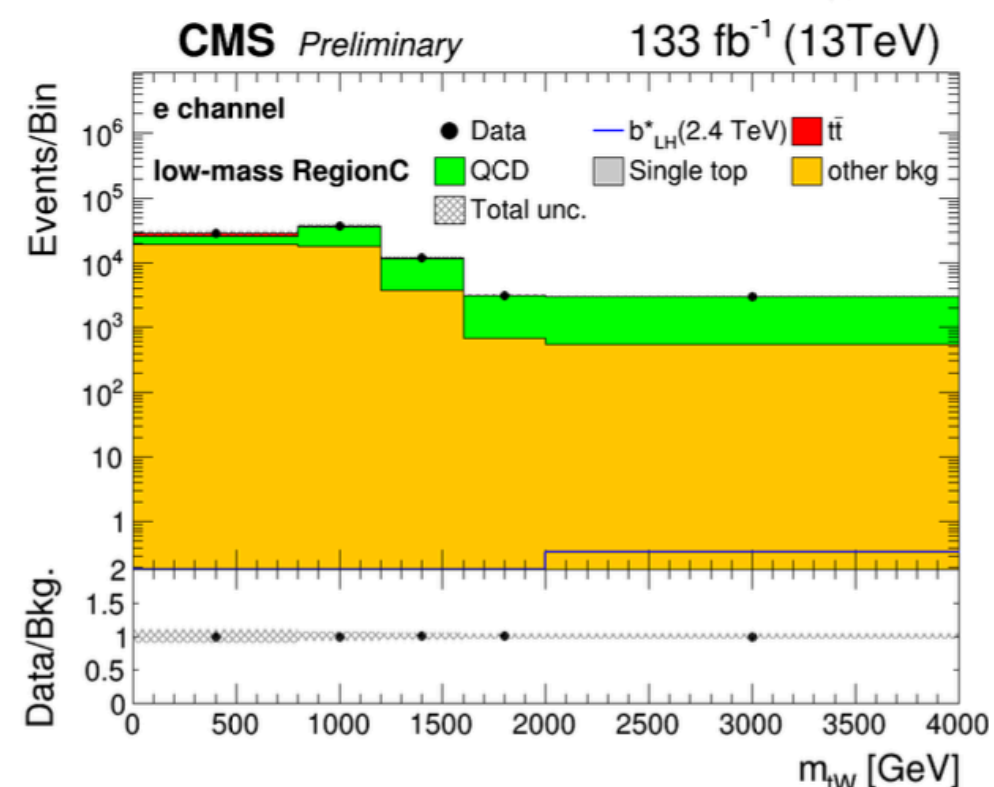
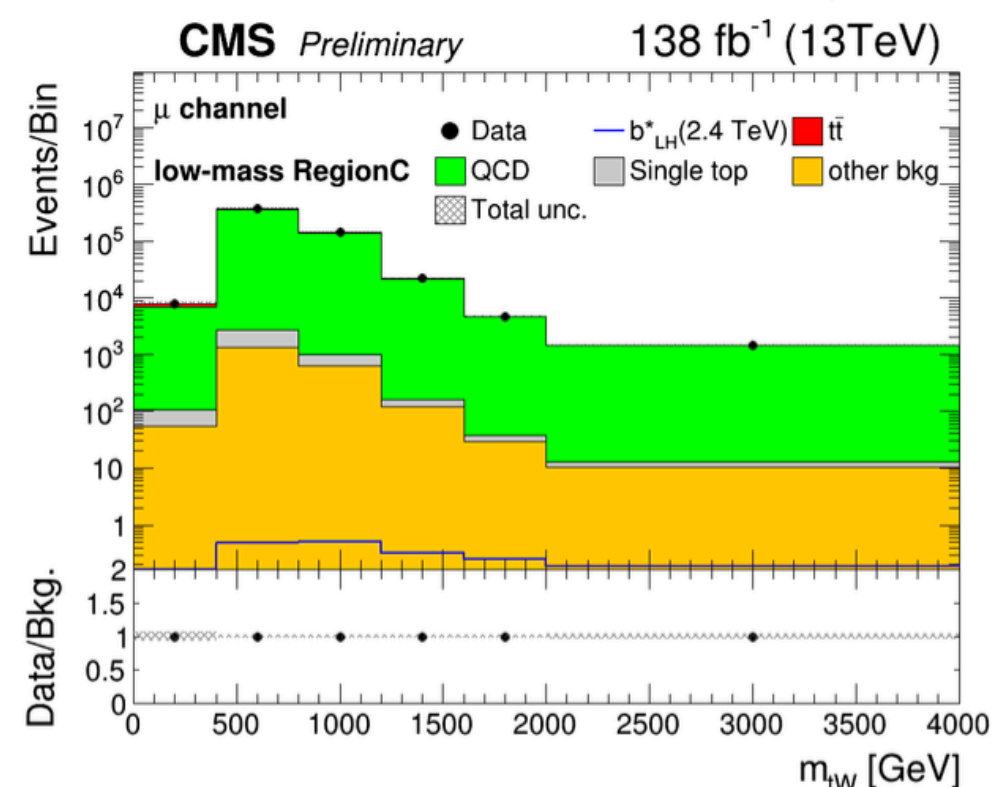
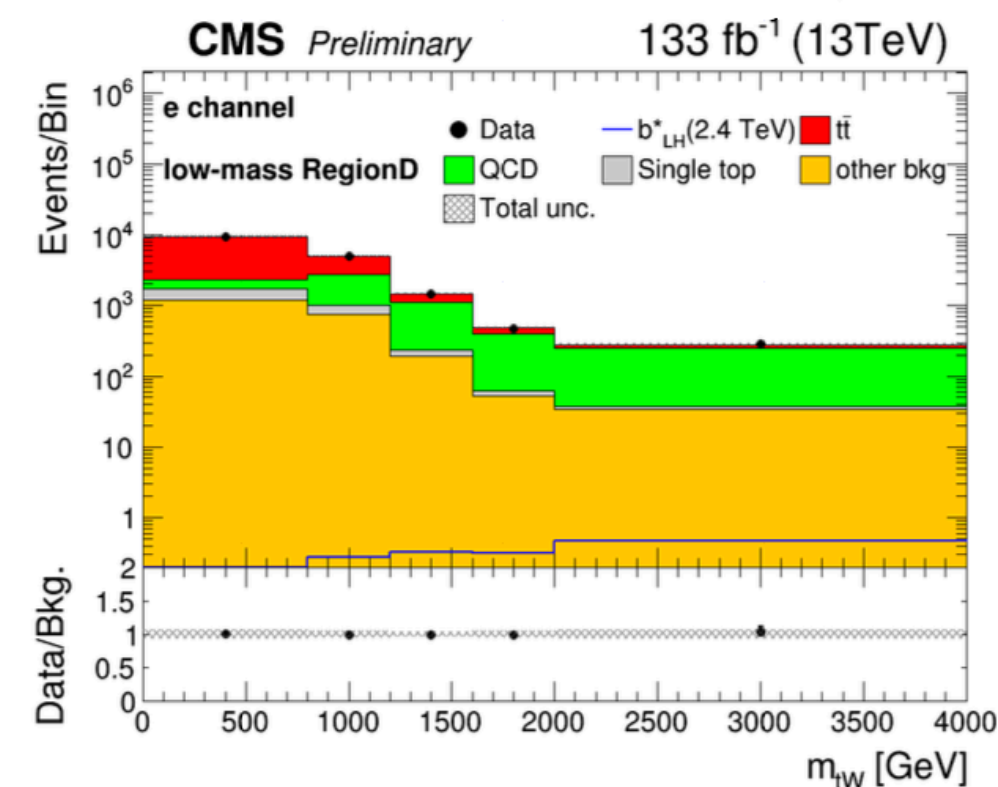
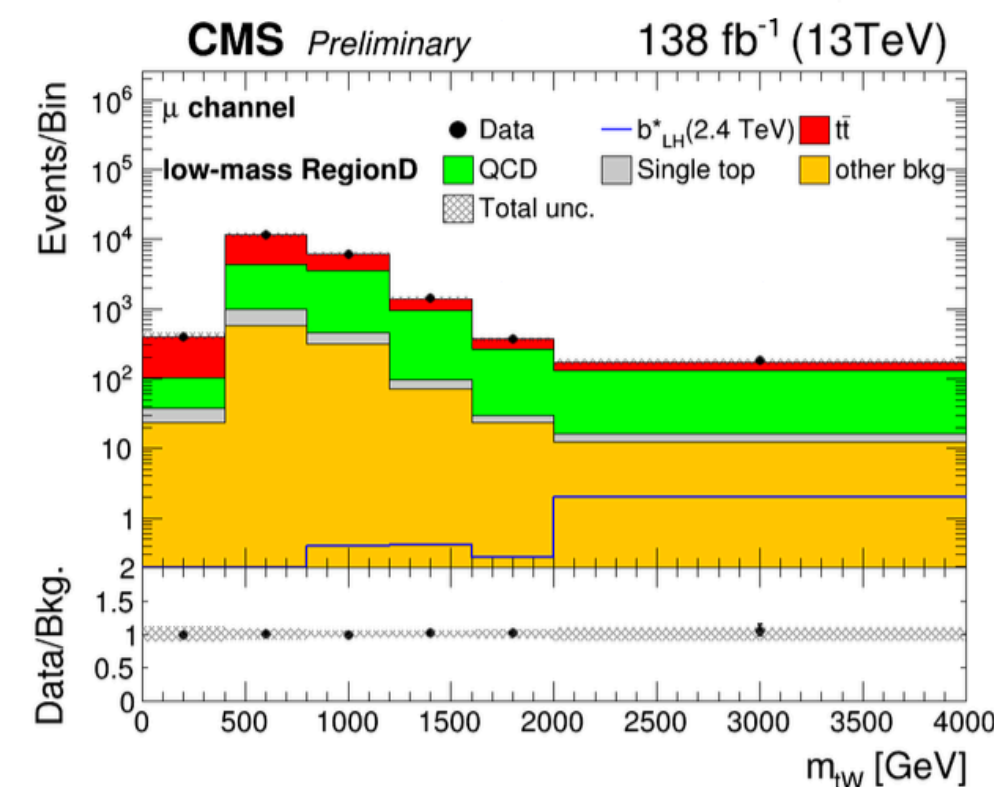
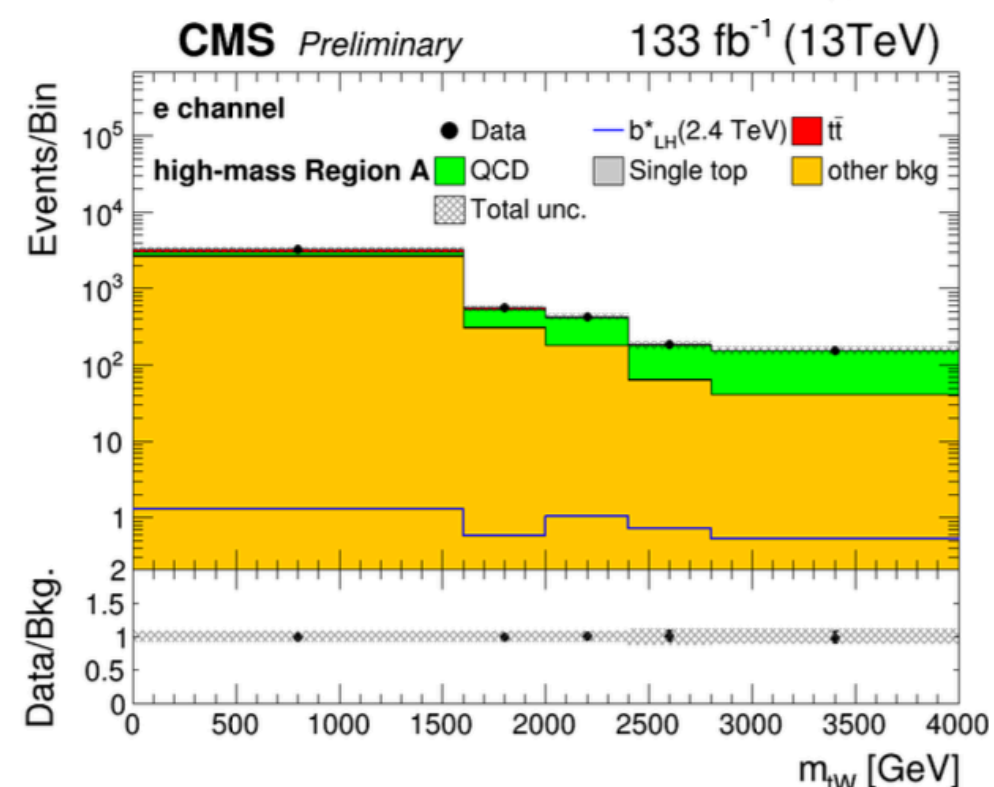
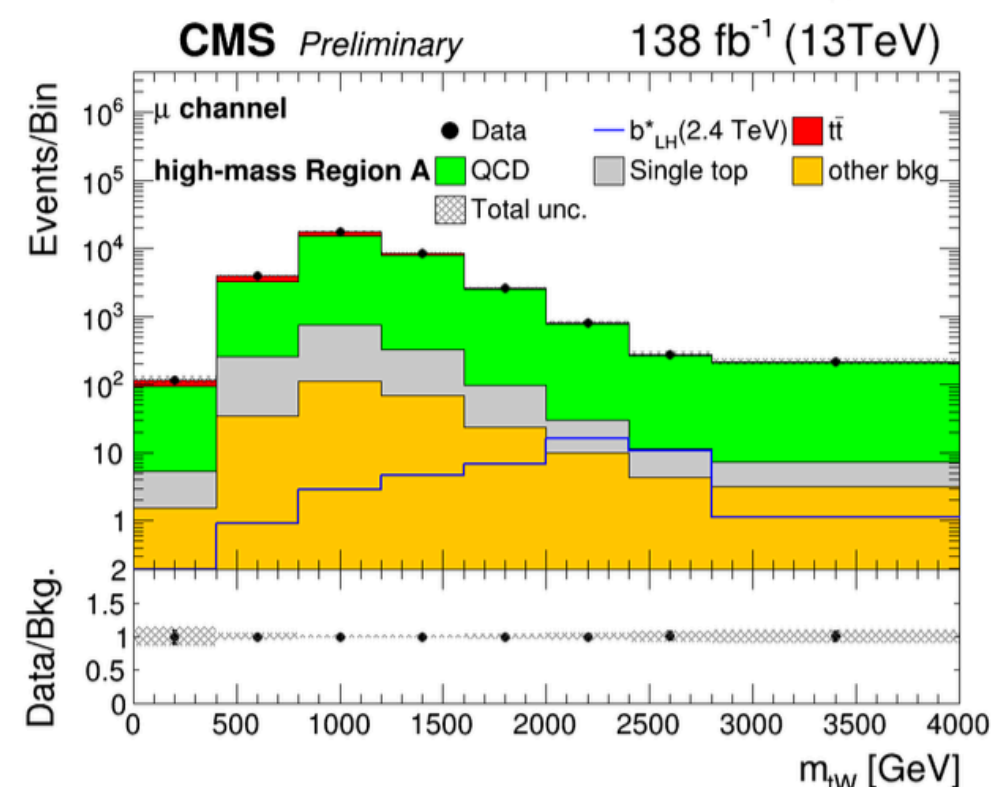
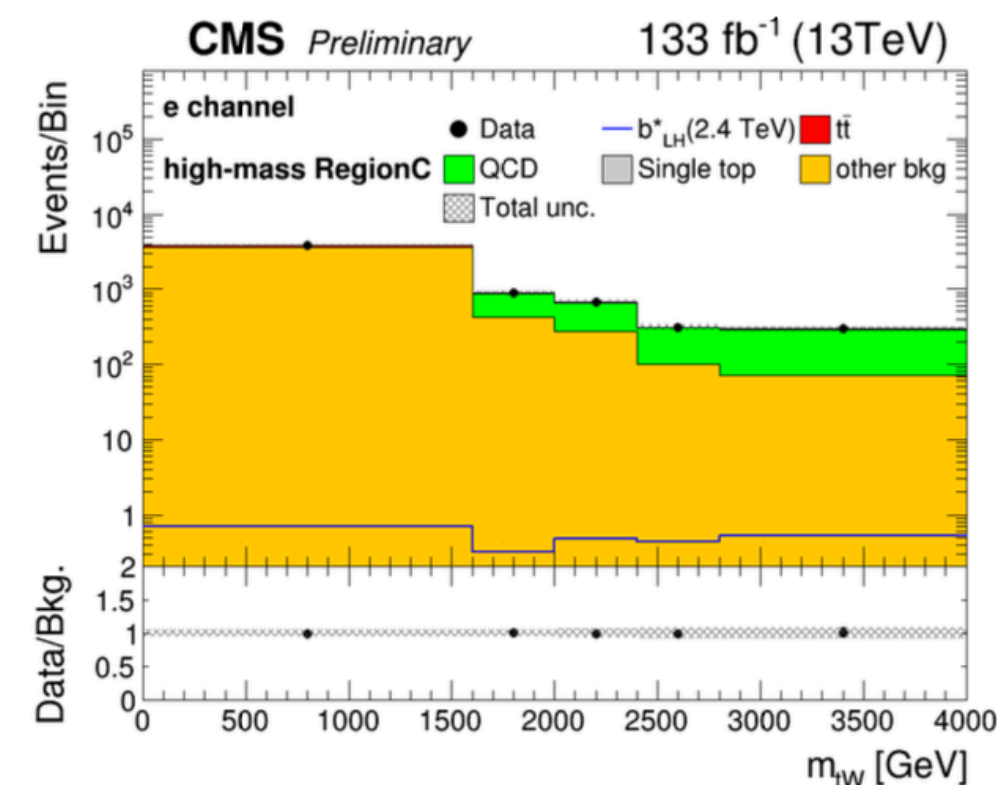
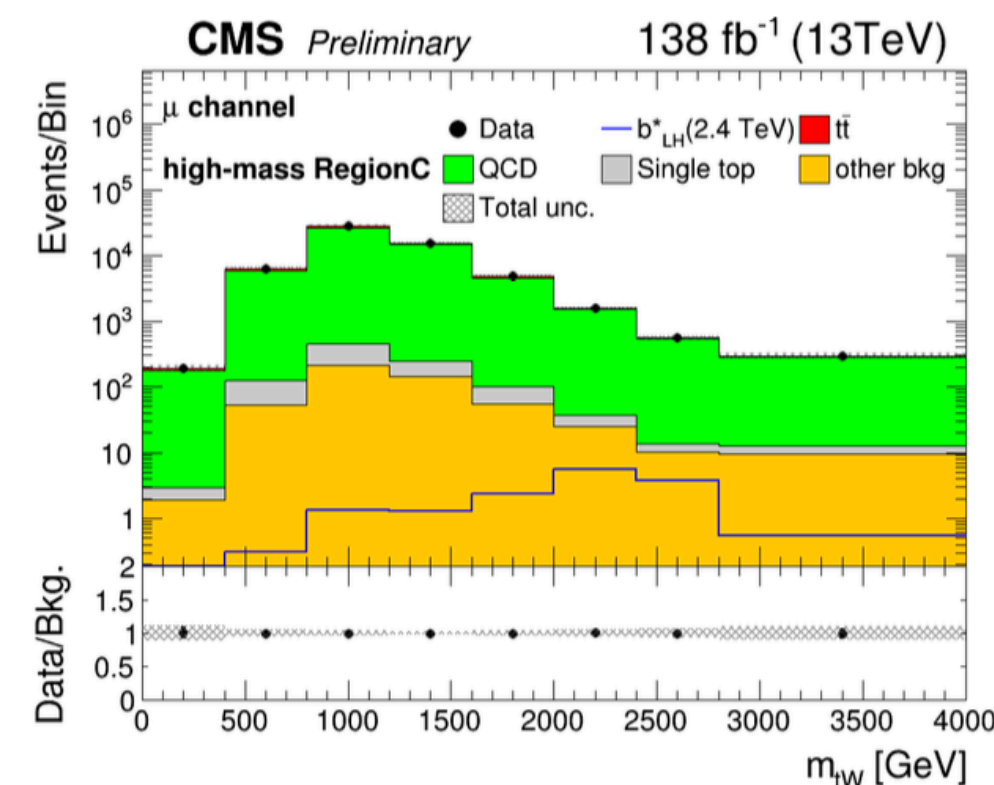
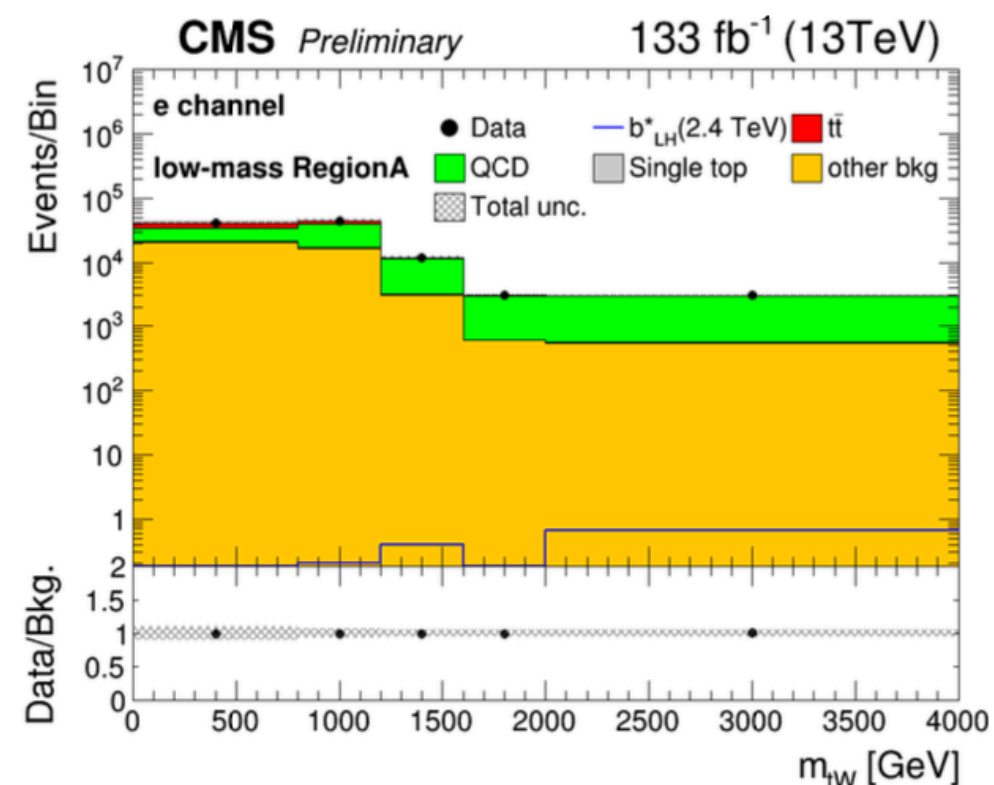
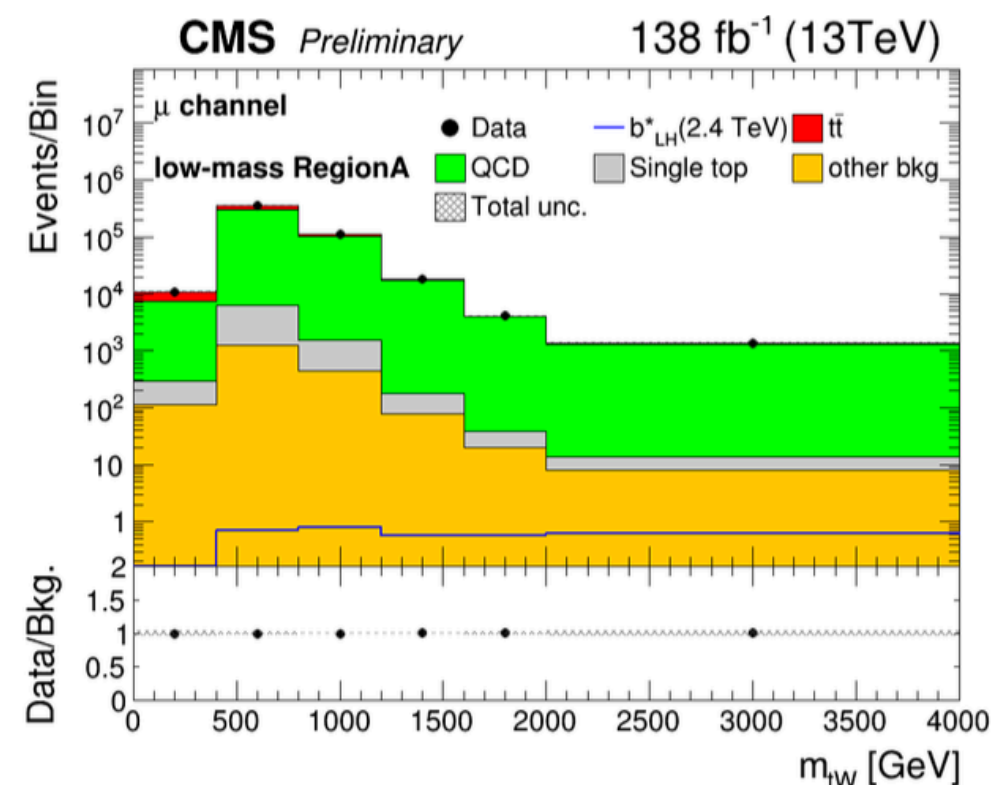
Heavy tW search

B2G-21-005



Heavy tW search

B2G-21-005

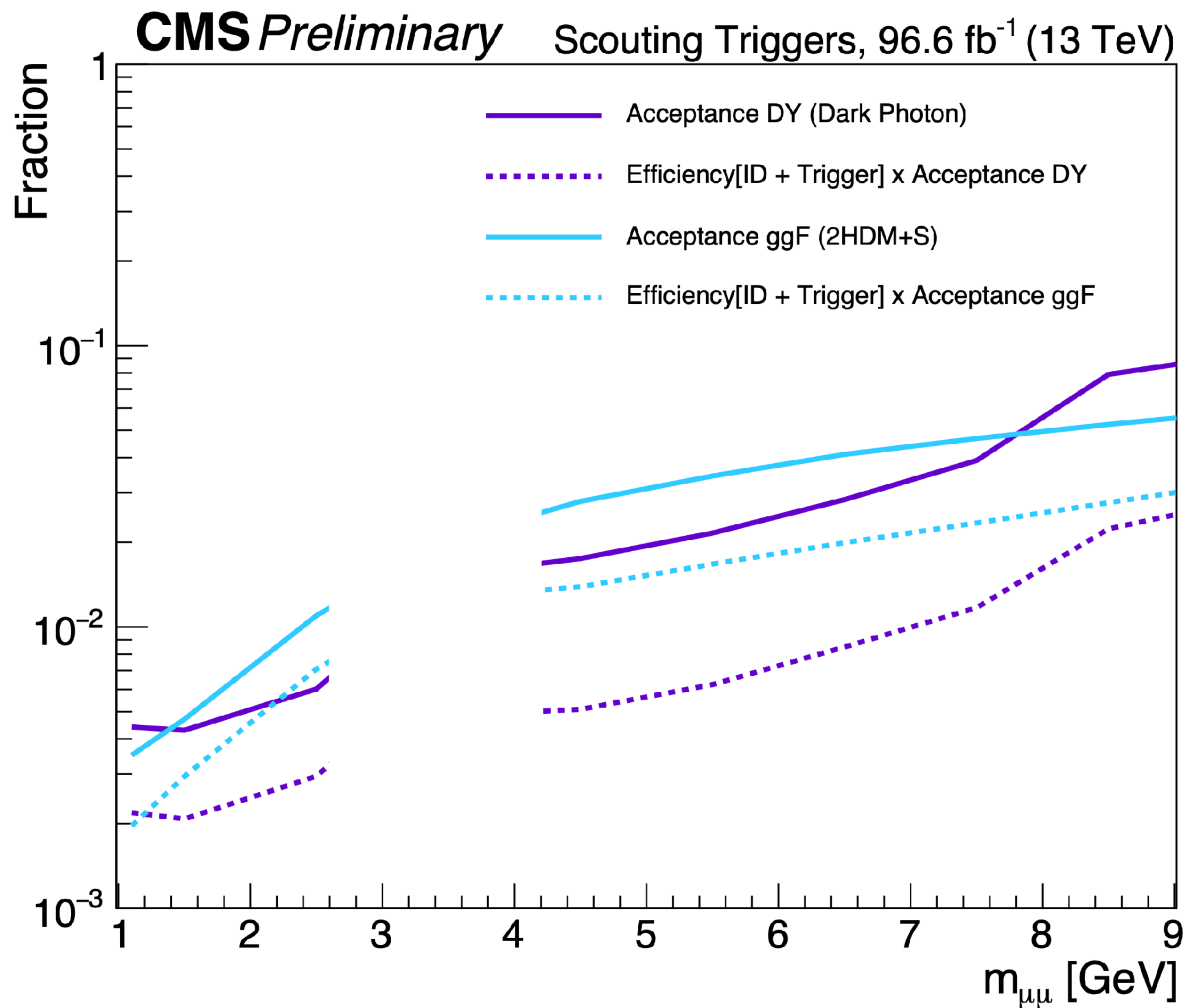


Signal/control regions

- dominant backgrounds: QCD & $t\bar{t}$,
- QCD from data: ABCD method, several CRs, simultaneous maximum-likelihood fit with the SRs,
- $t\bar{t}$ determined from simulation:
 - $t\bar{t}$ -enriched CR used to constrain the uncertainties in the $t\bar{t}$ normalization and shape of the $t\bar{t}$ background in the m_{tW} distribution,
 - W tagging requirement \rightarrow t tagging requirement on AK8 jets,
 - QCD background in $t\bar{t}$ CR small \rightarrow taken from simulation,
- minor backgrounds from W +jets, diboson, top + W \rightarrow shape from simulation, yields through nuisance parameters in the fit.

LOW-MASS DIMUON SCOUTING

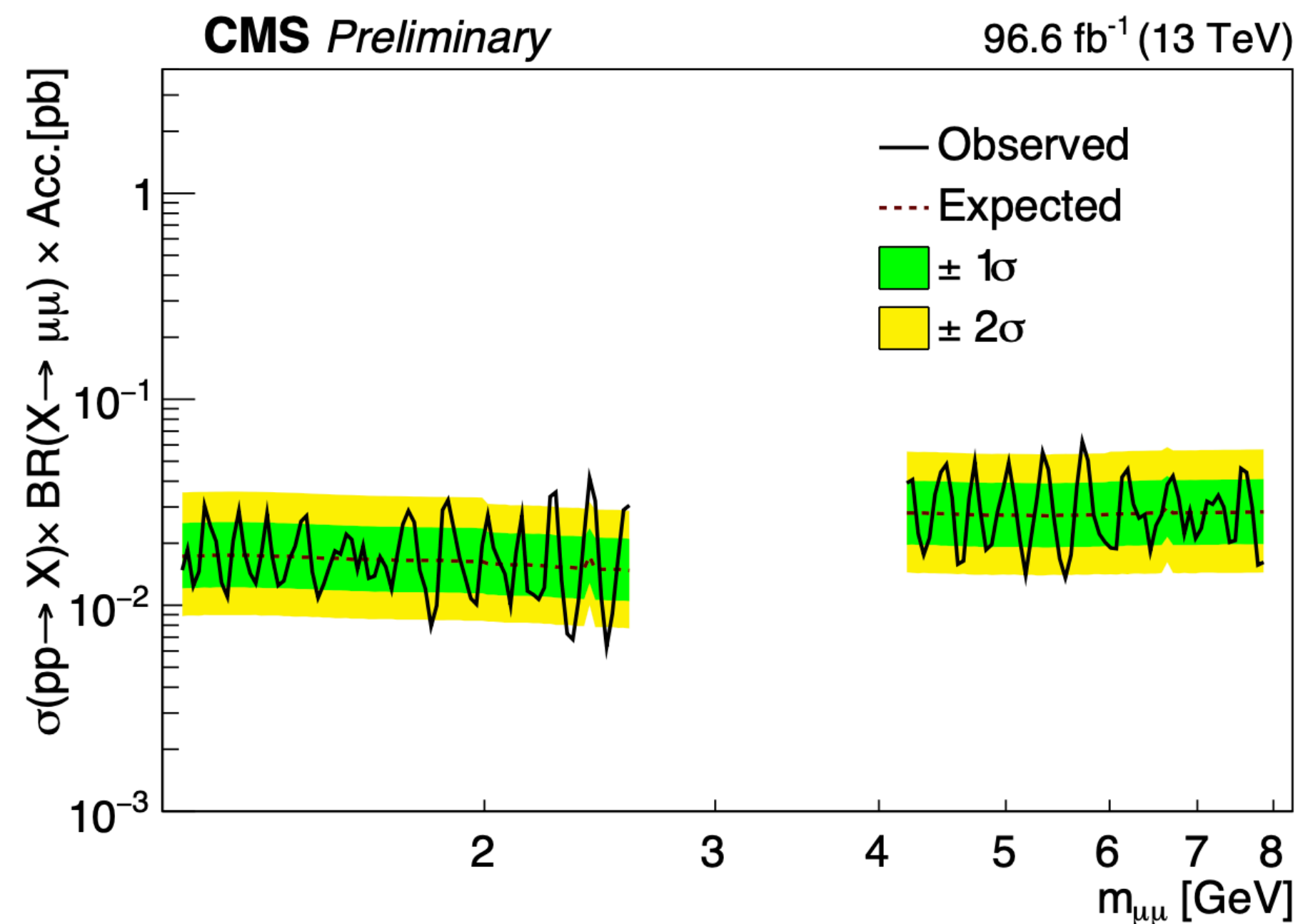
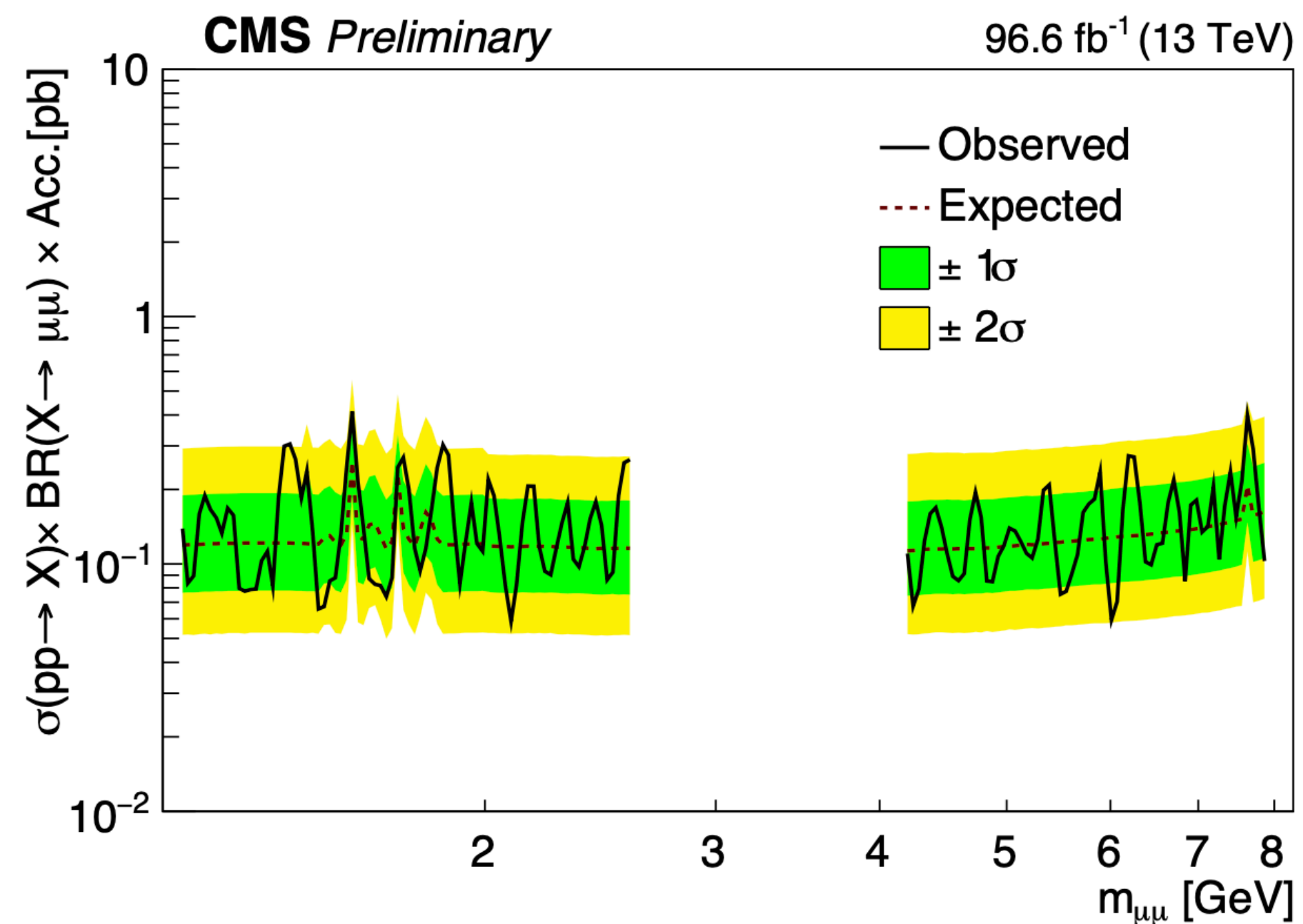
EXO-21-005



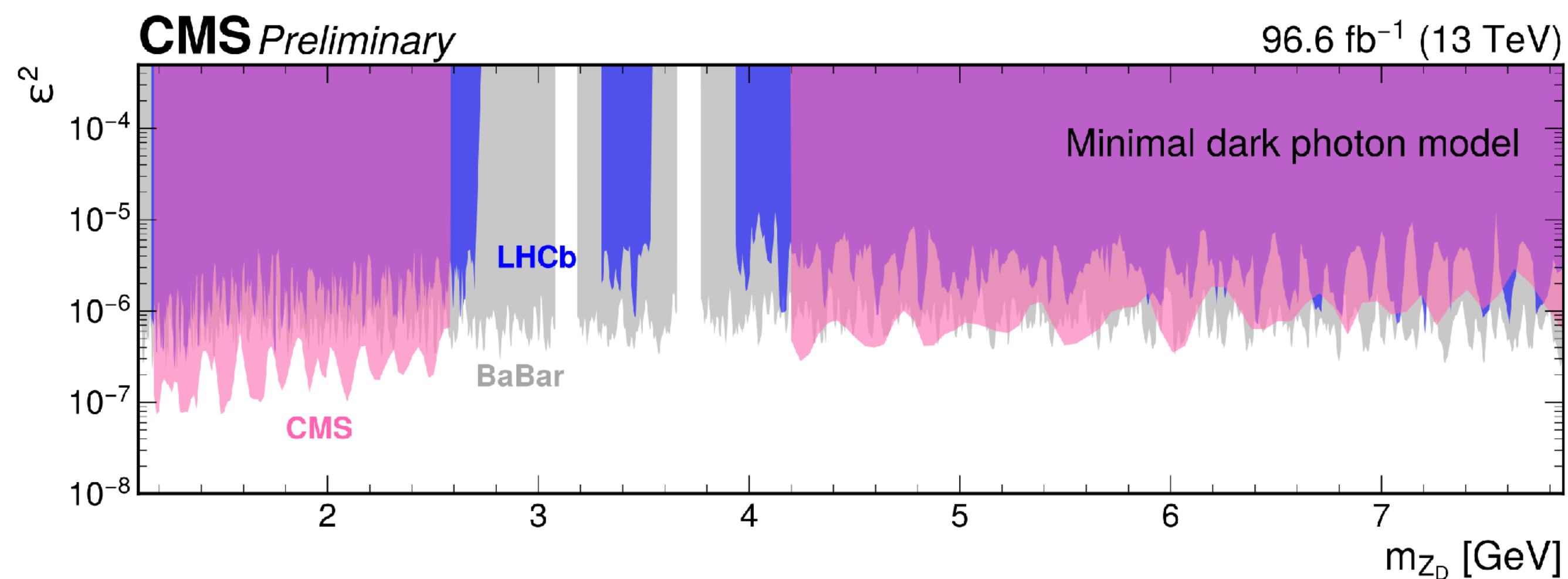
OS	L1 seeds				
	$p_{T,1}$	$p_{T,2}$	$ \eta $	$m_{\mu\mu}$	$\Delta R_{\mu\mu}$
X	> 15 GeV	> 7 GeV	—	—	—
✓	> 4.5 GeV		< 2.0	$\in [7, 18]$	—
	> 4.0 (4.5) GeV		—	—	< 1.2
	—		< 1.5	—	< 1.4

LOW-MASS DIMUON SCAOUTING

EXO-21-005



Effect	$m_{\mu\mu} < 2.6 \text{ GeV}$	$m_{\mu\mu} > 4.2 \text{ GeV}$
Integrated luminosity		2.3–2.5%
Mass resolution		20%
Trigger efficiency		1–20%
Muon ID efficiency	4–9%	12–20%
Vertex selection	—	3%
Efficiency application	8%	4%
D meson normalization TFs	20–25%	—



INELASTIC DM

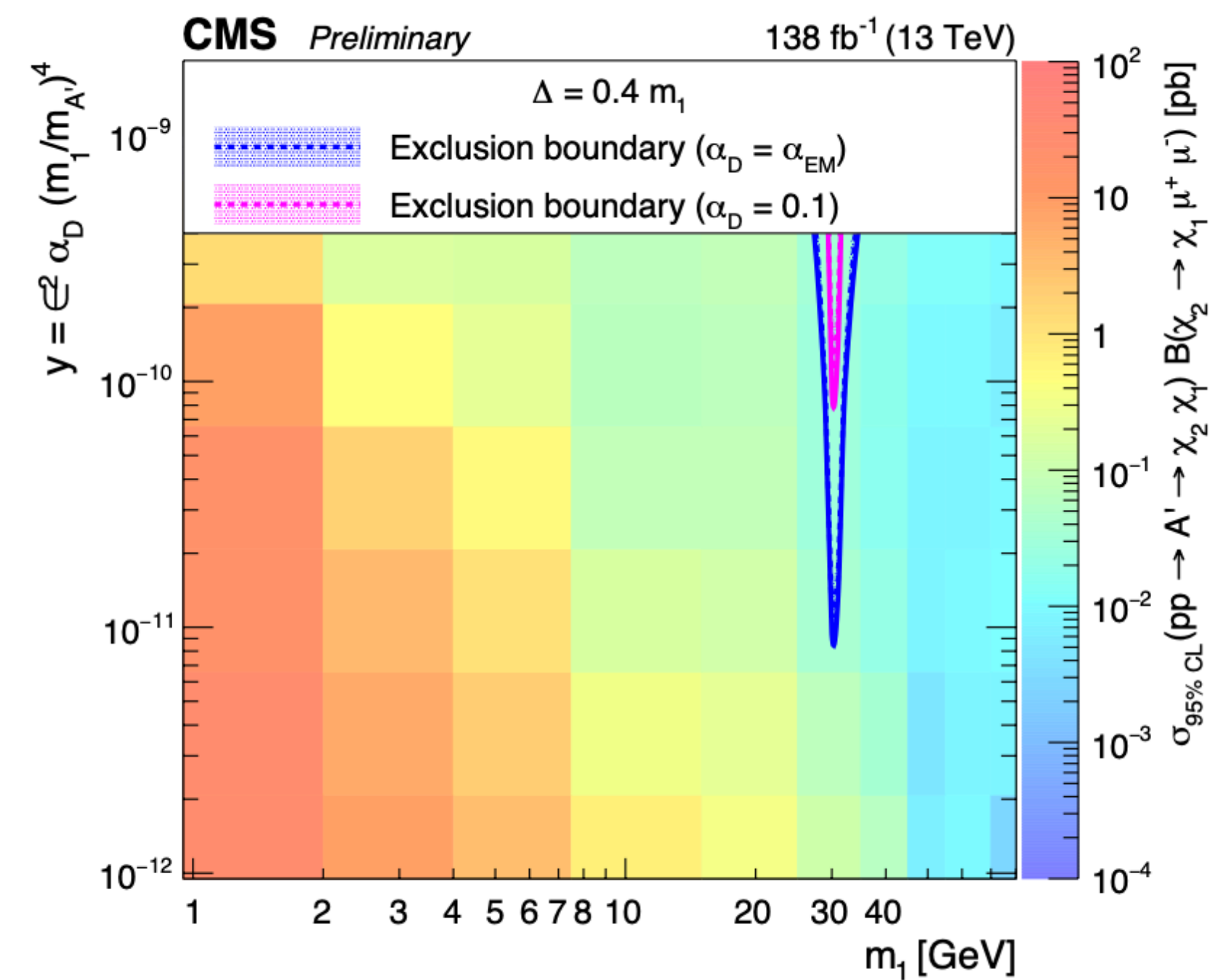
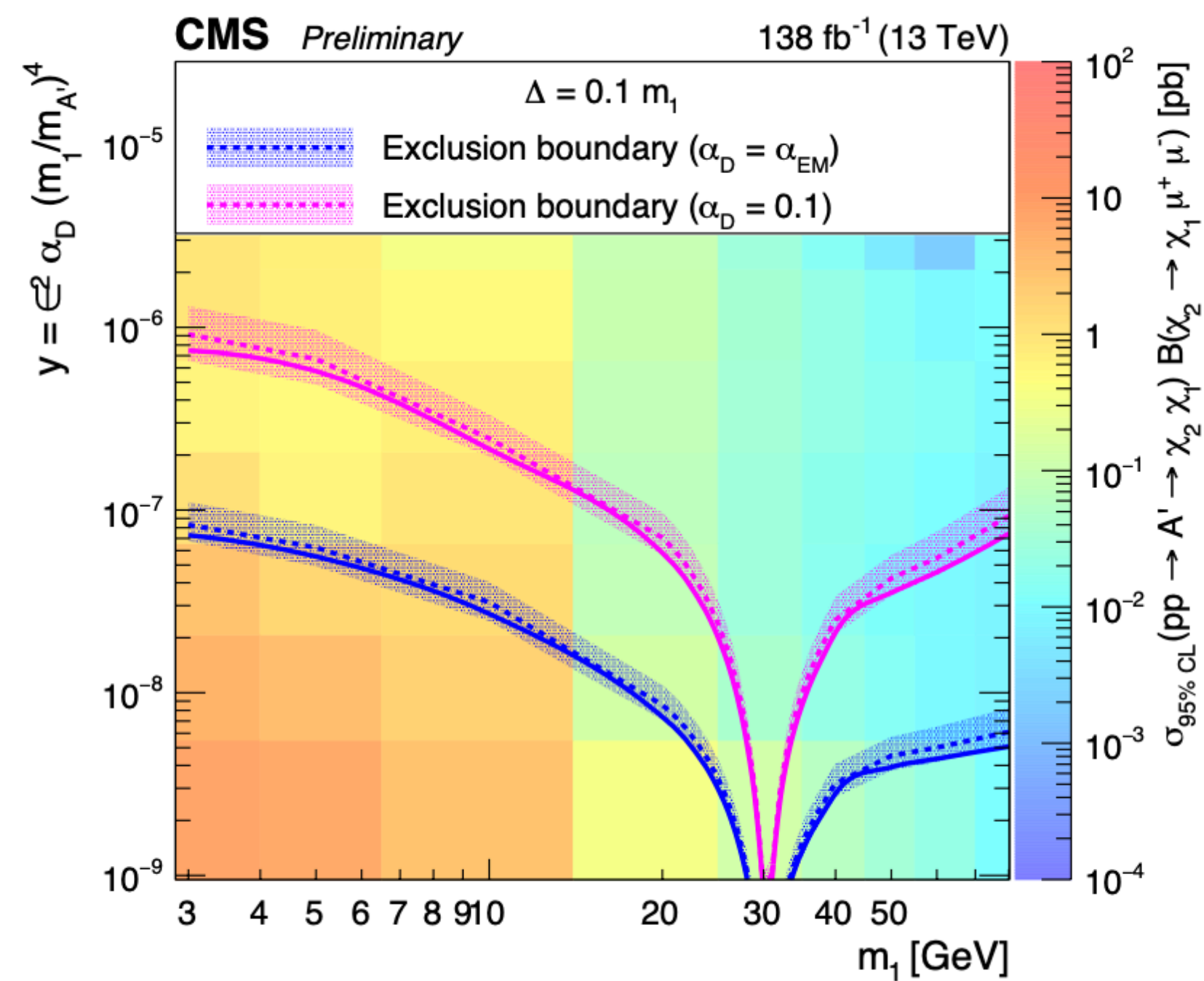
EXO-20-010

Trigger

- triggering on MET (muons too soft)

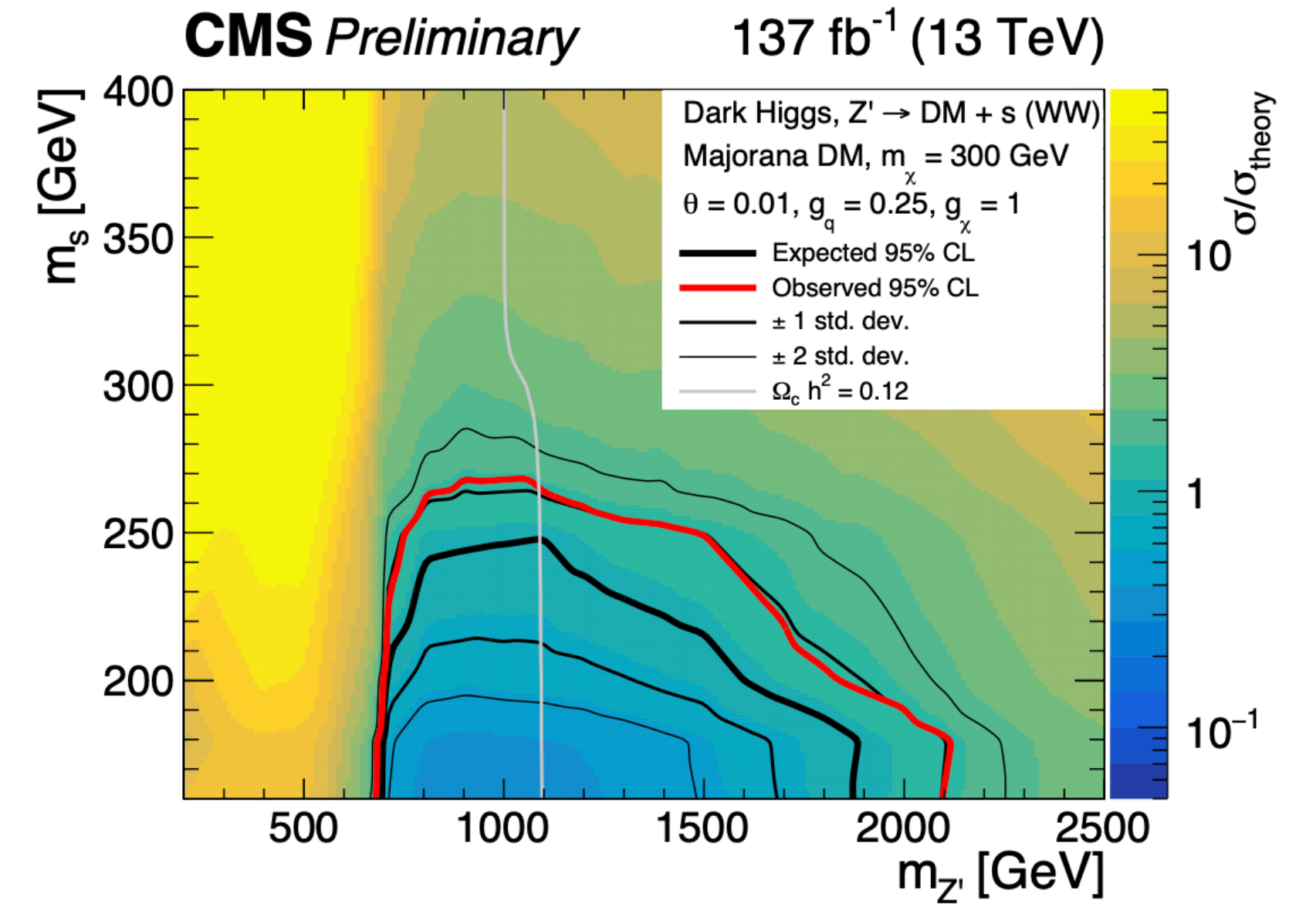
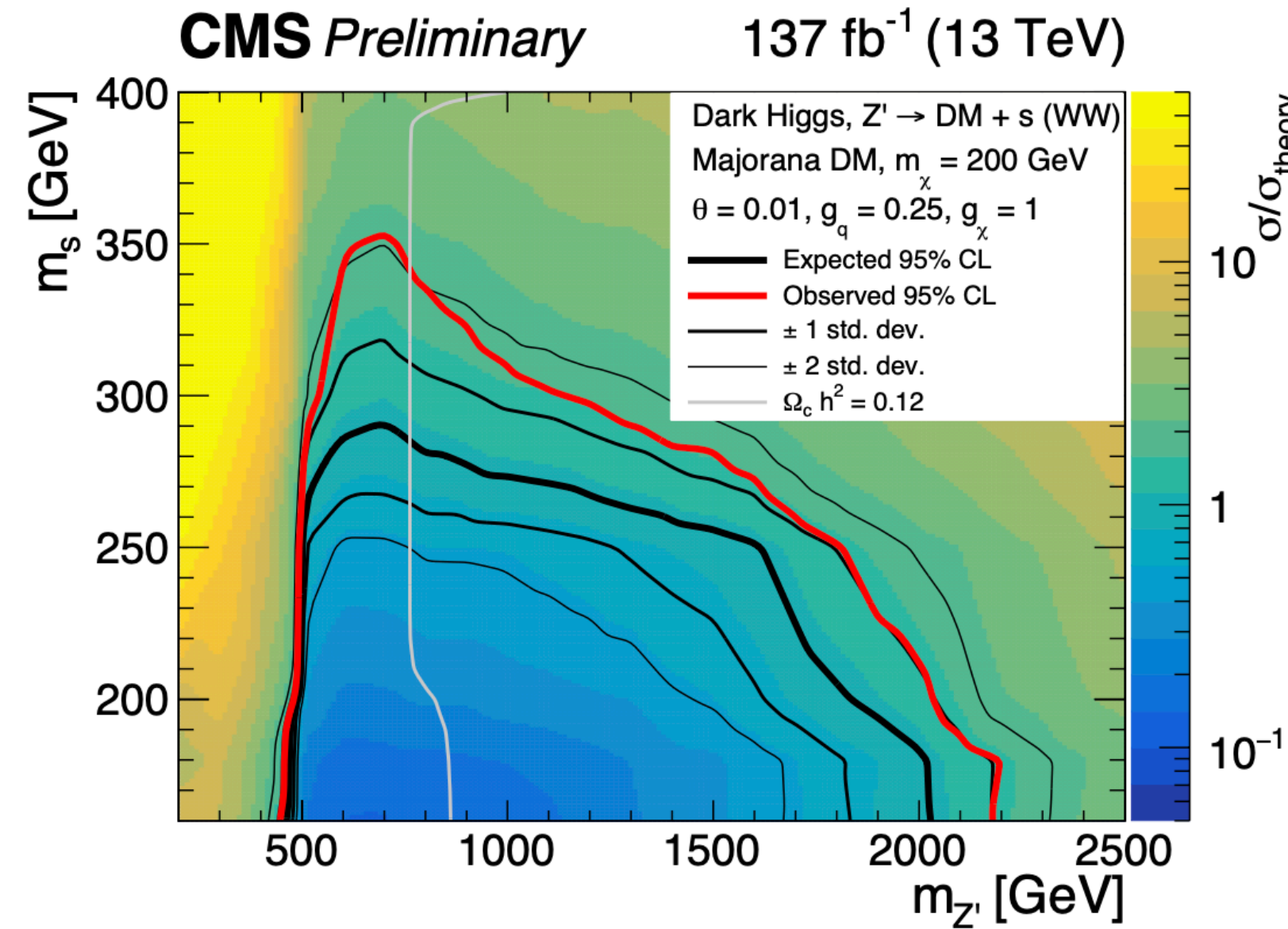
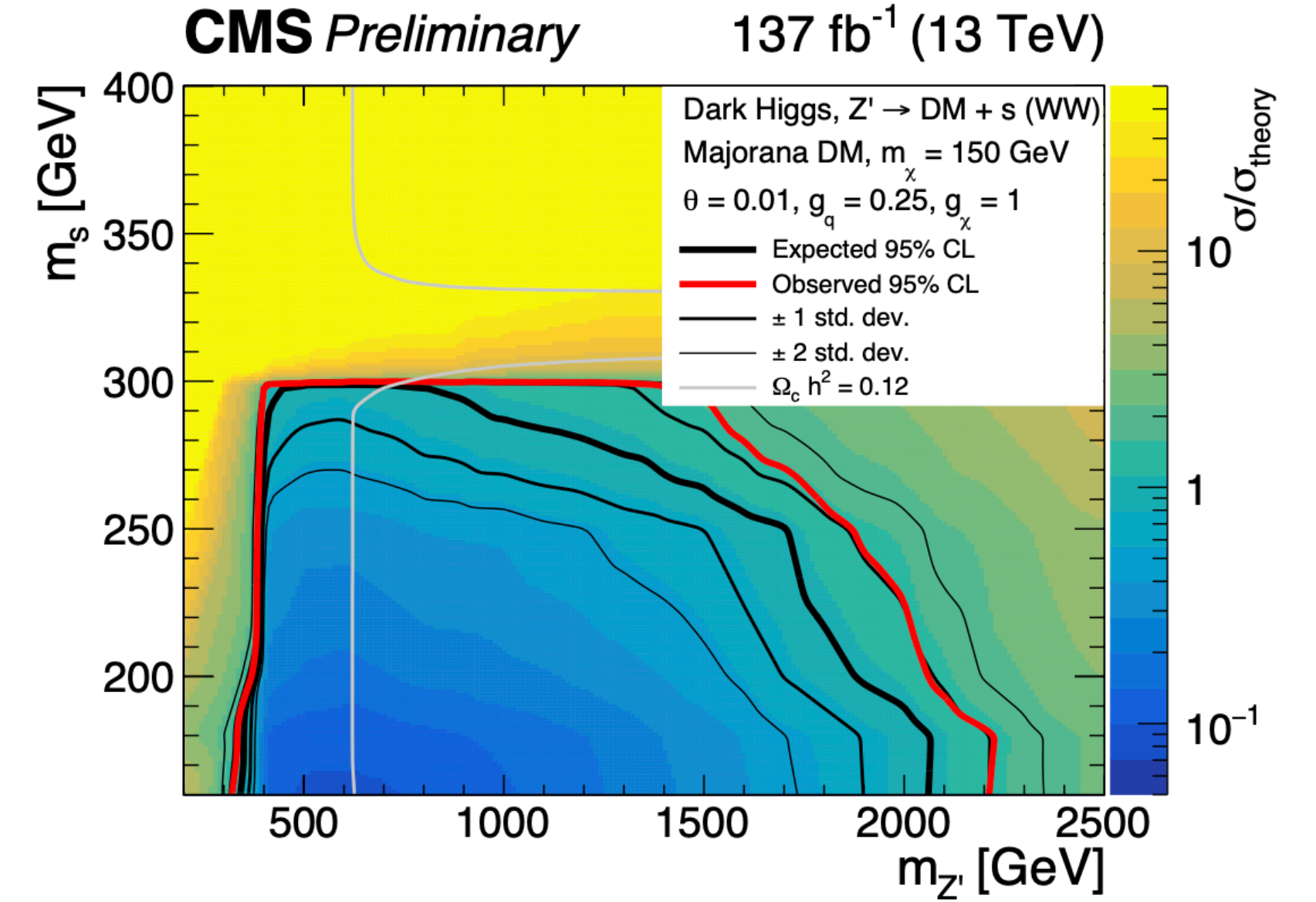
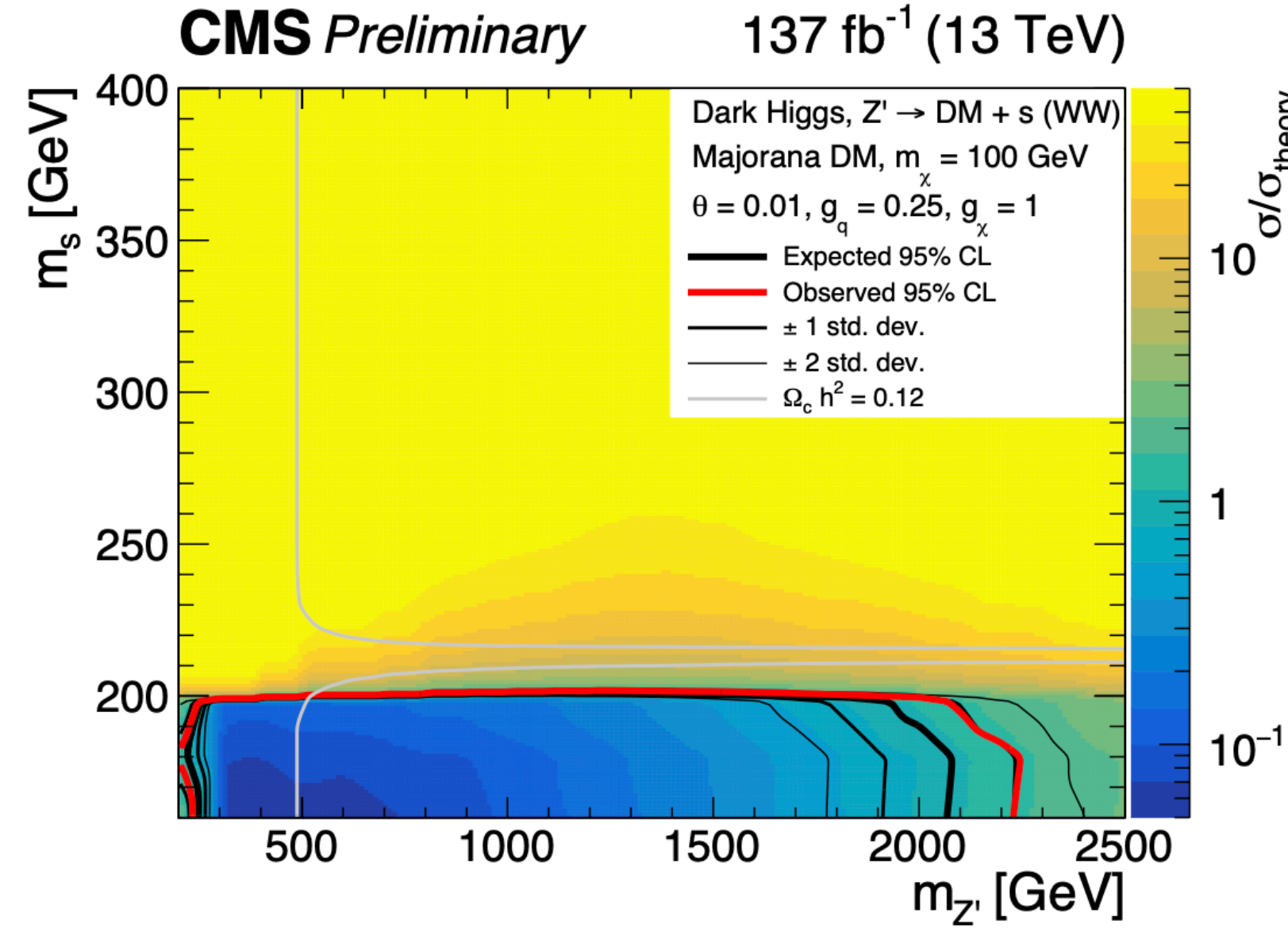
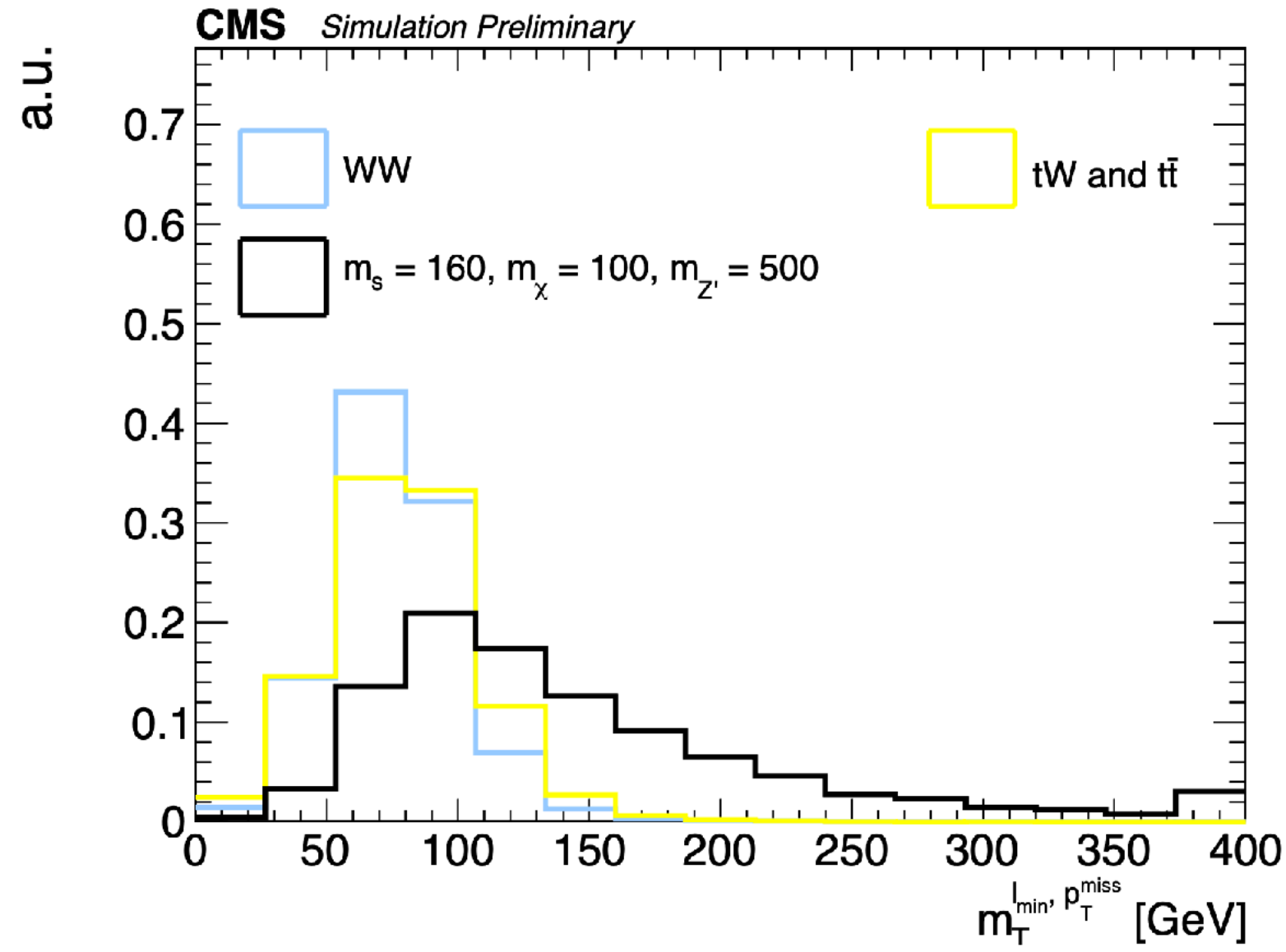
Backgrounds

- QCD (suppressed with $N_{\text{jets}} \leq 2$ requirement)
- top (suppressed by b-jets veto)
- W+jets



DARK HIGGS

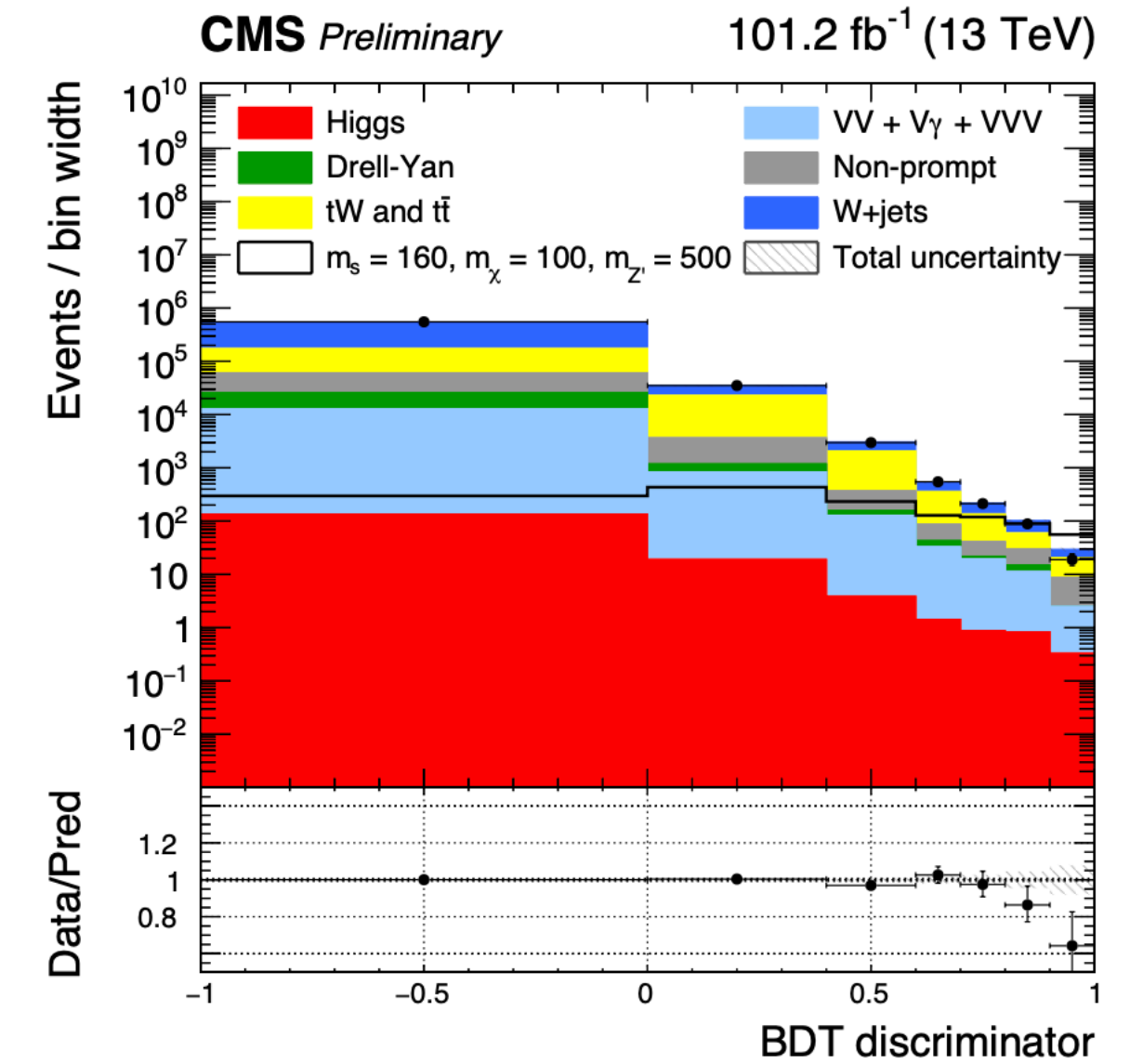
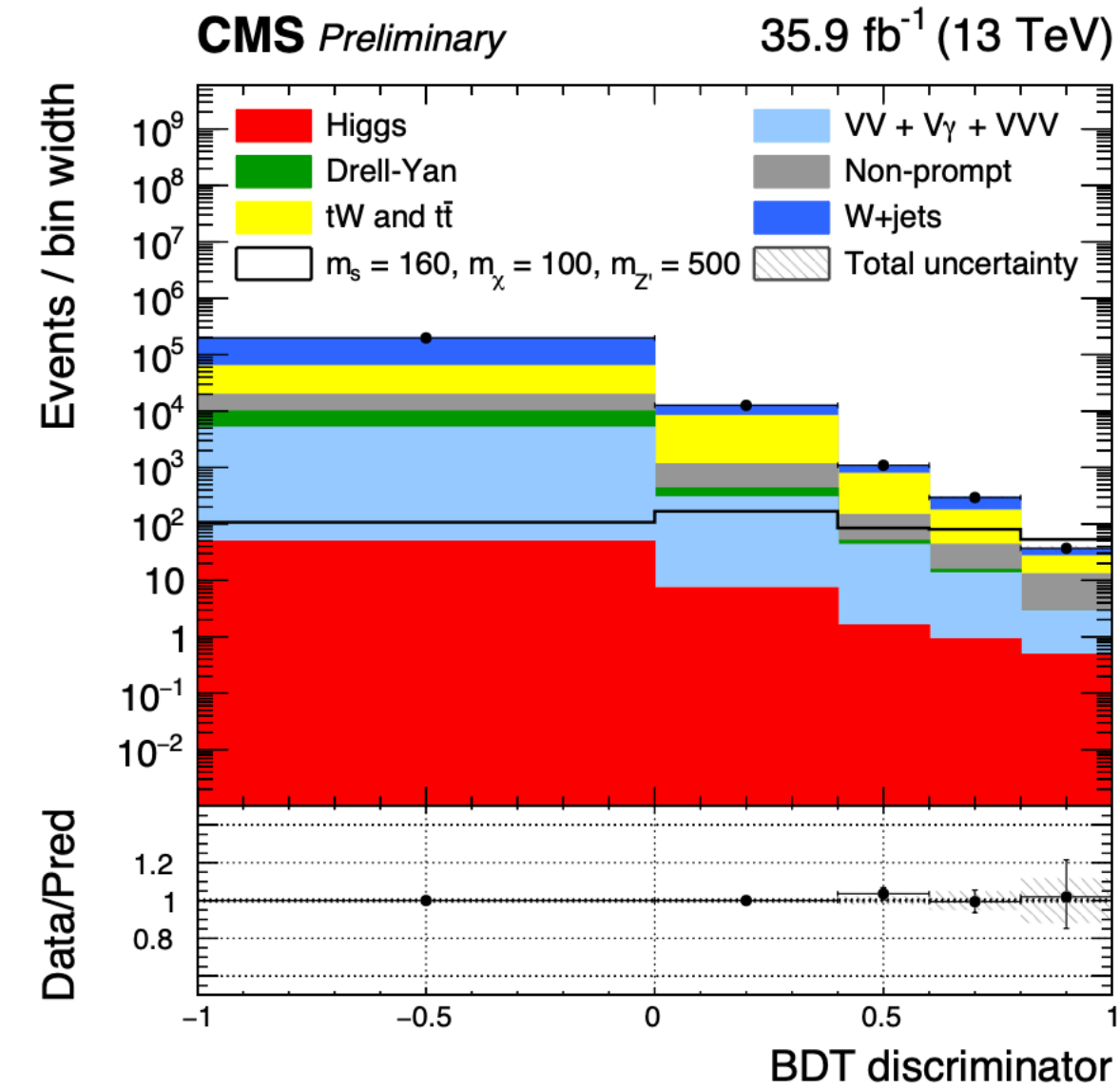
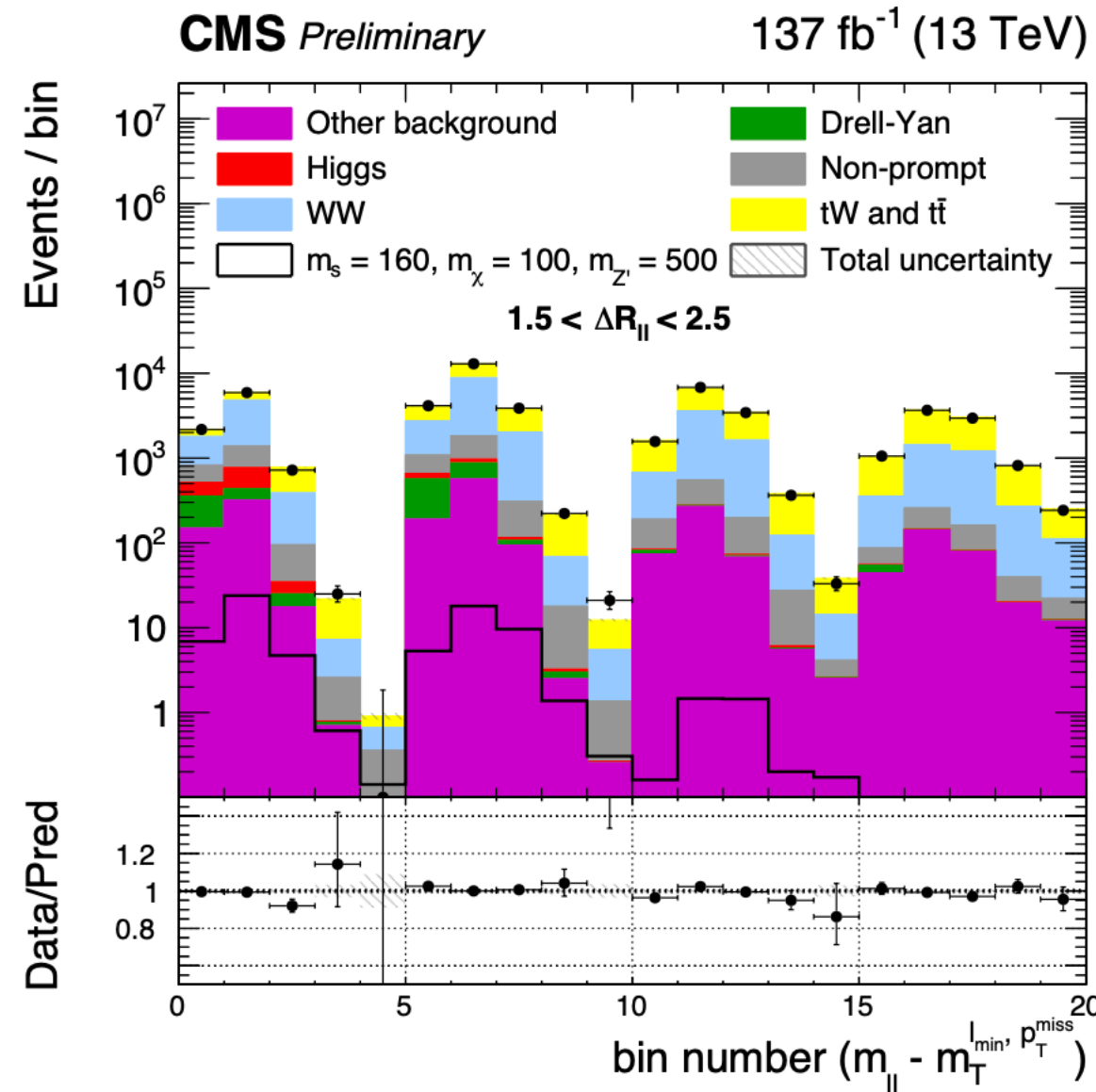
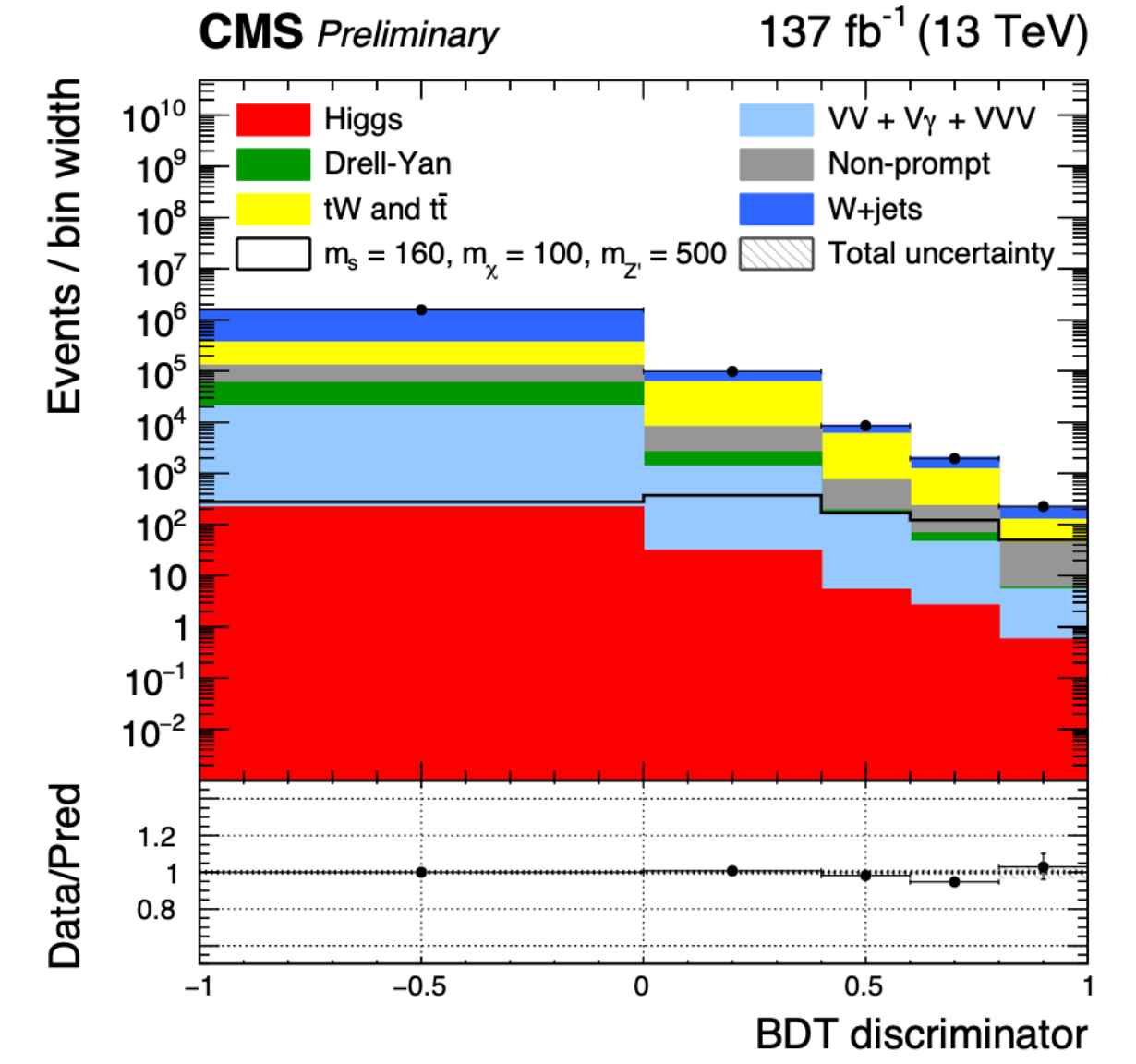
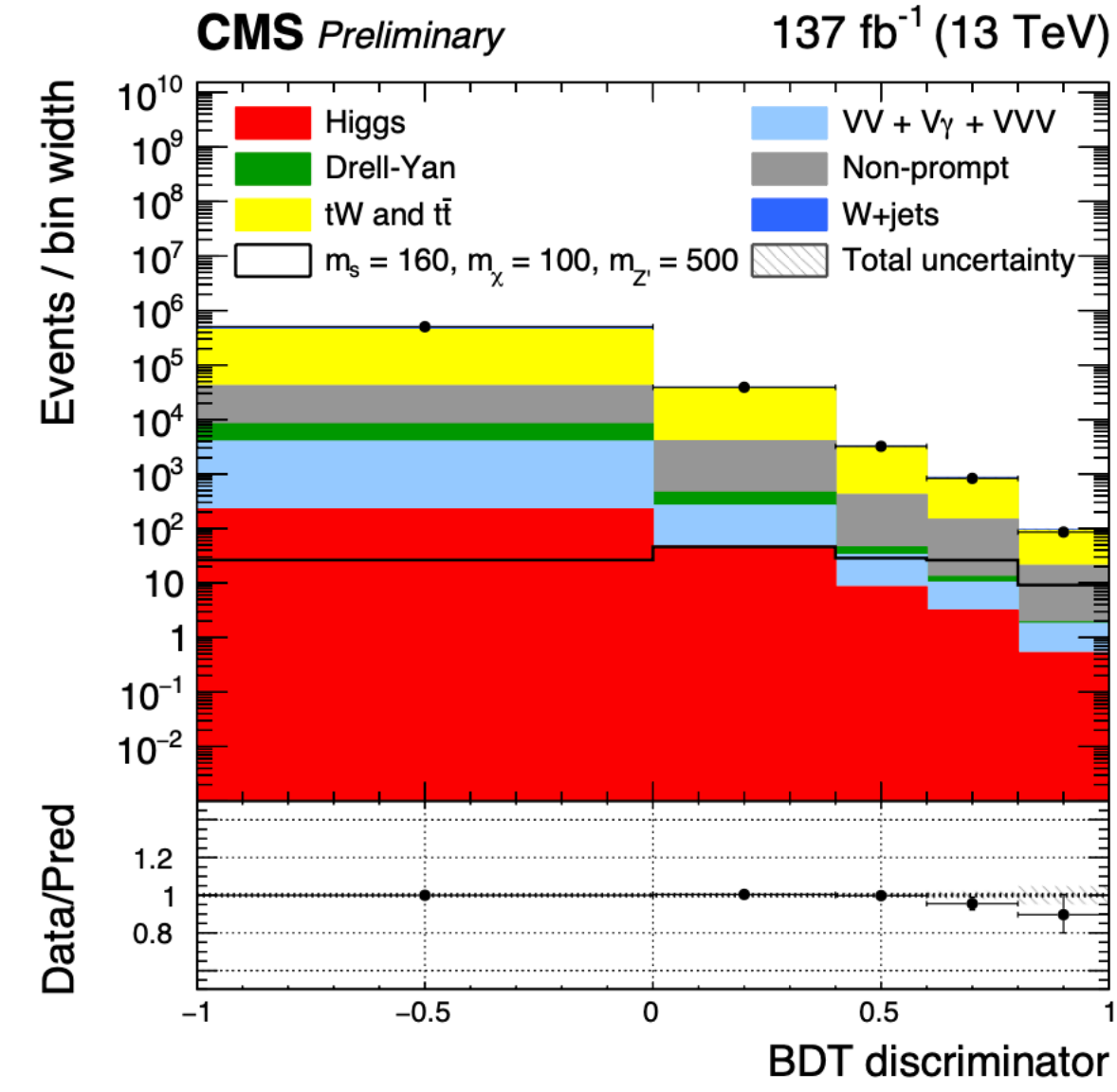
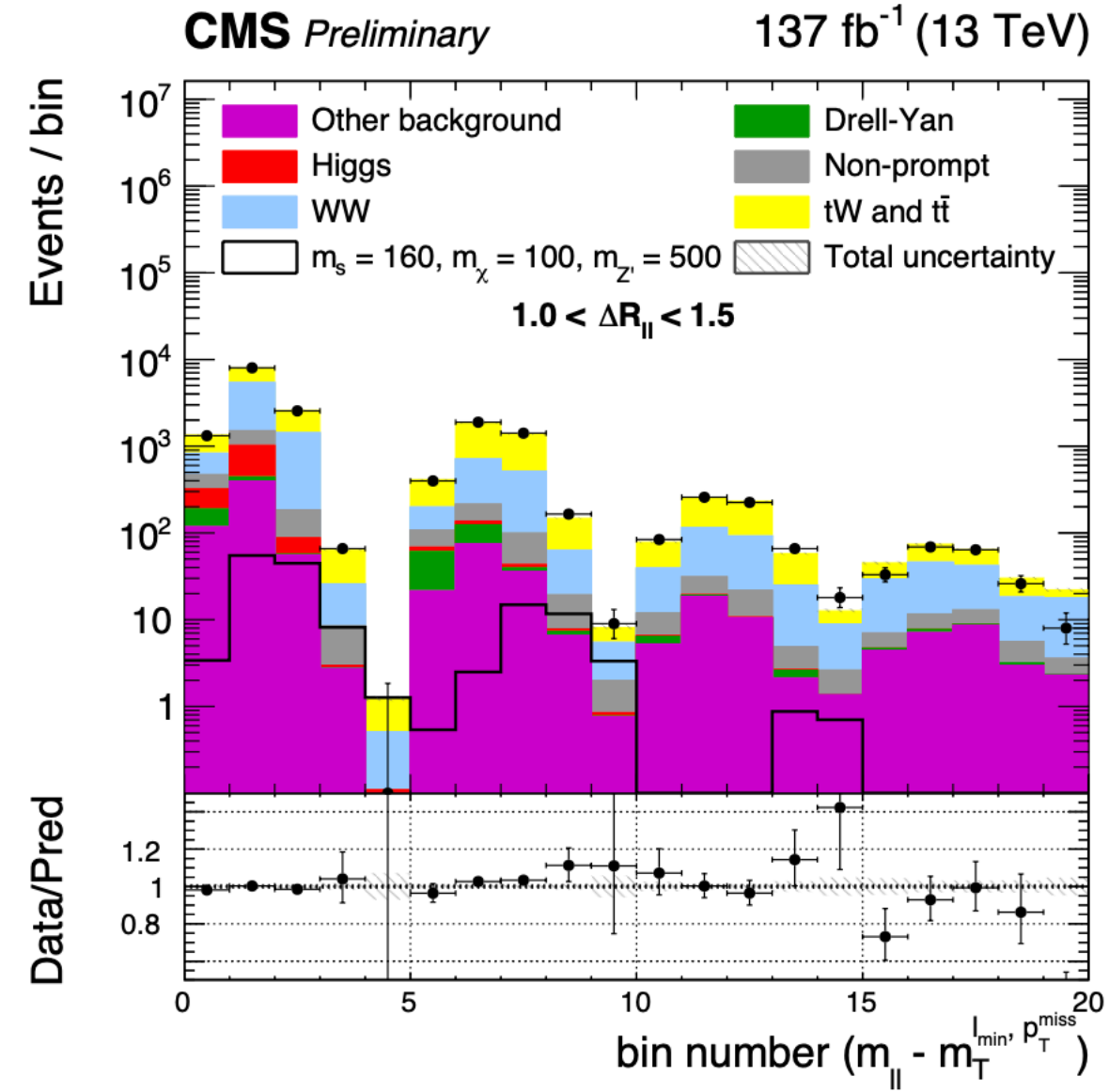
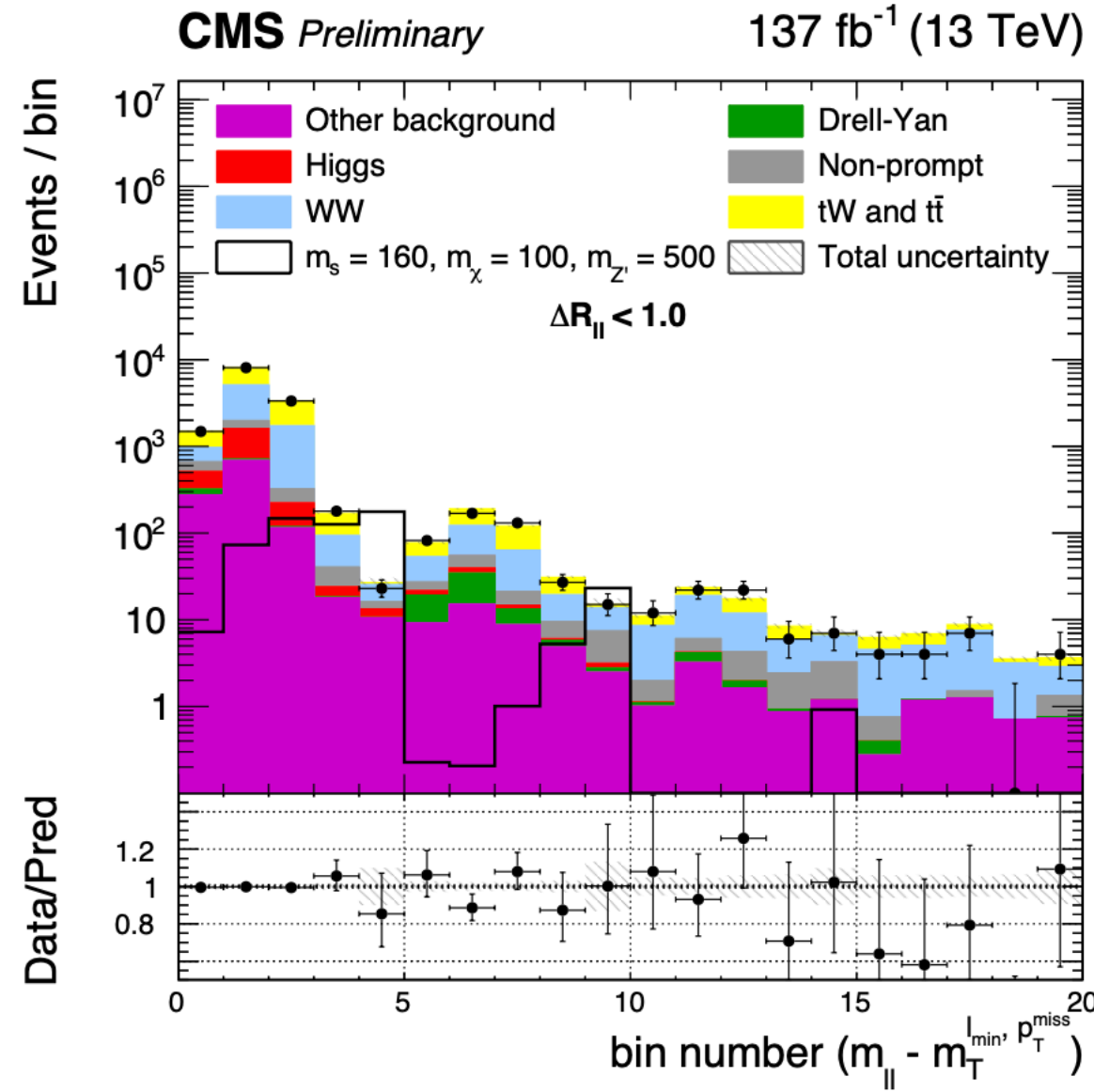
EXO-21-012



$$m_T^{\ell \min, p_T^{\text{miss}}} = \sqrt{2 p_T^{\ell \min} p_T^{\text{miss}} [1 - \cos \Delta\phi(\vec{p}_T^{\ell \min}, \vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}})]},$$

DARK HIGGS

EXO-21-012

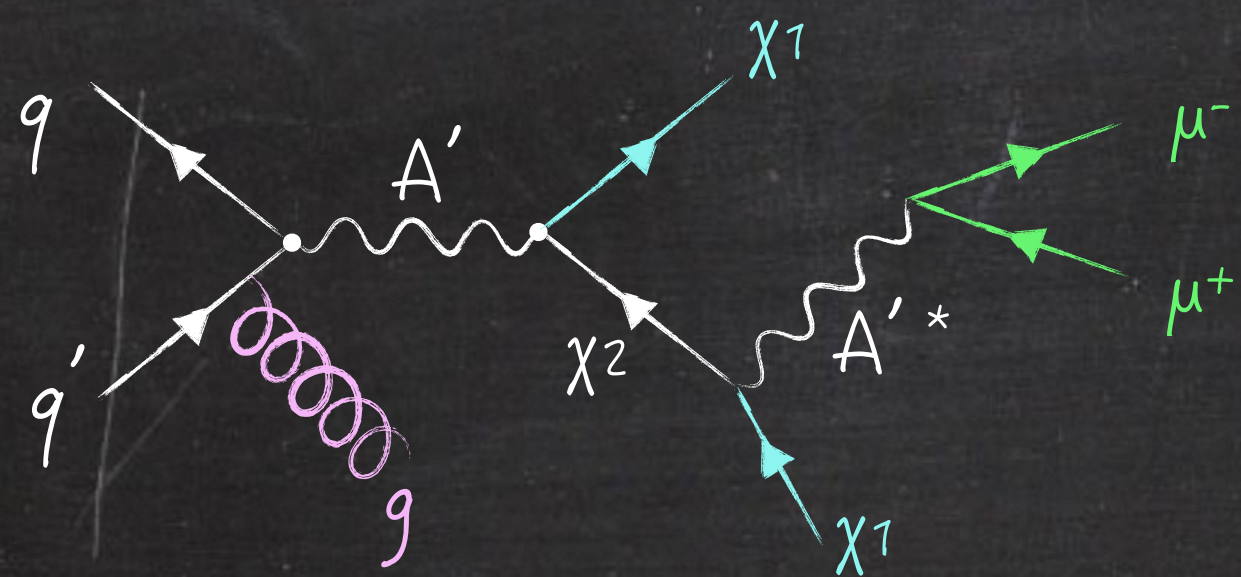


Signal/control regions

- normalization of background from observed CRs.
- main backgrounds:
 - WW & DY (di-leptonic channel),
 - W+jets (semi-leptonic channel),
 - tW & tt (both),
- one independent CR for each process:
 - tW and tt enriched region → reversing requirement on the number of b-tagged jets,
 - W+W- → reversing the ΔR_{ll} : $\Delta R_{ll} > 2.5$,
 - Drell-Yan → inverting the $m_{T^{mll,pTmiss}}$: $m_{T^{mll,pTmiss}} < 50\text{GeV}$,
 - W + jets → inverting the m_{jj} : $m_{jj} < 65\text{ GeV}$ or $m_{jj} > 105\text{ GeV}$,
- yields in CRs fitted simultaneously with SRs, background normalizations float freely.

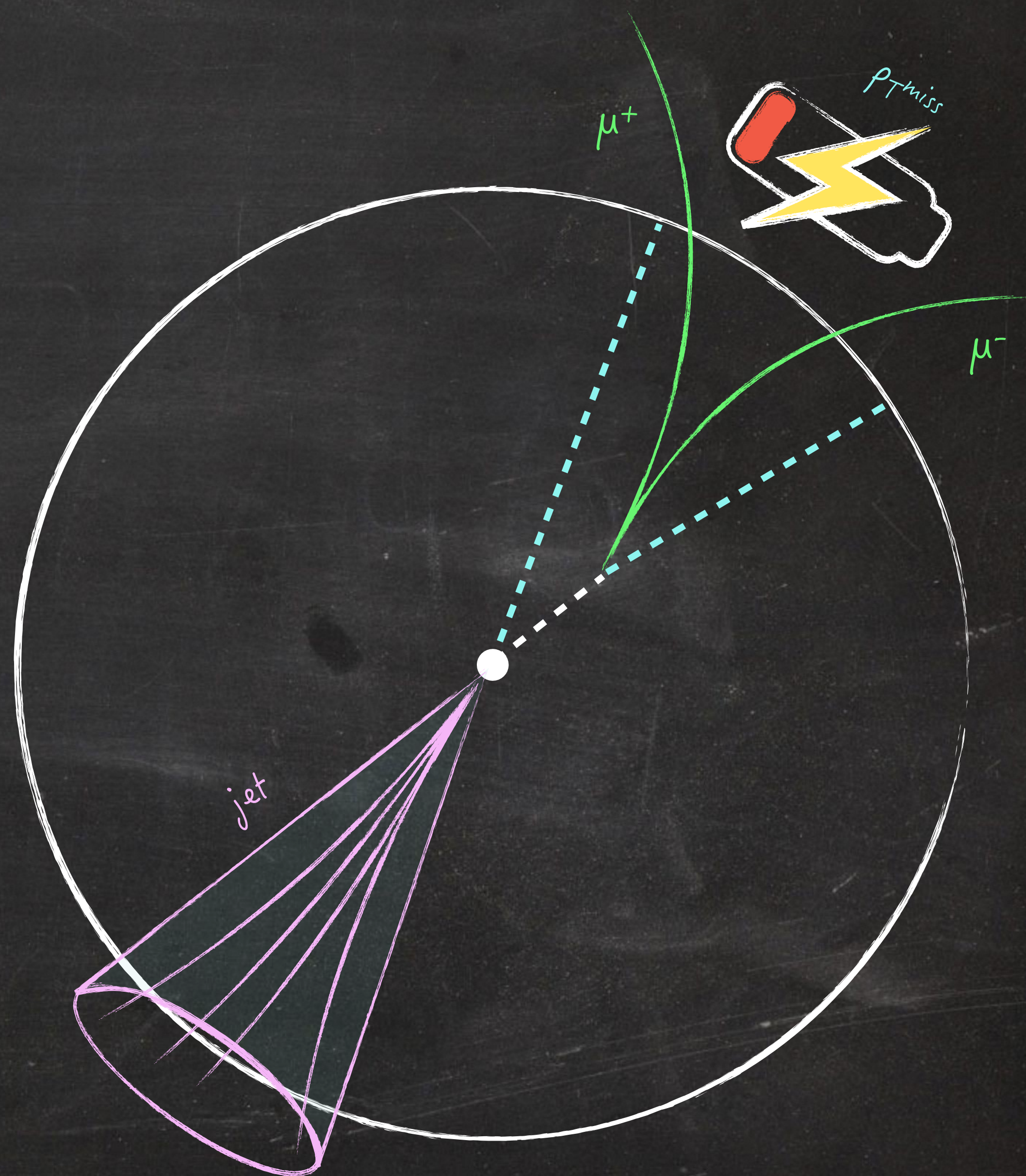
INELASTIC DM

- first search for inelastic DM at a hadron collider
 - ≥ 2 DM states χ_1 & χ_2 + dark photon A' with ε mixing
- small $\Delta = m_2 - m_1 \in [10, 40\%] m_1$:
 - long lived (easier to distinguish from backgrounds)
 - low selection efficiency (even 10^{-4} for low mass/large displacement)
 - large predicted cross sections (\approx a few fb)
 - low p_T , low ΔR muons
- p_T^{miss} collimated with displaced muons



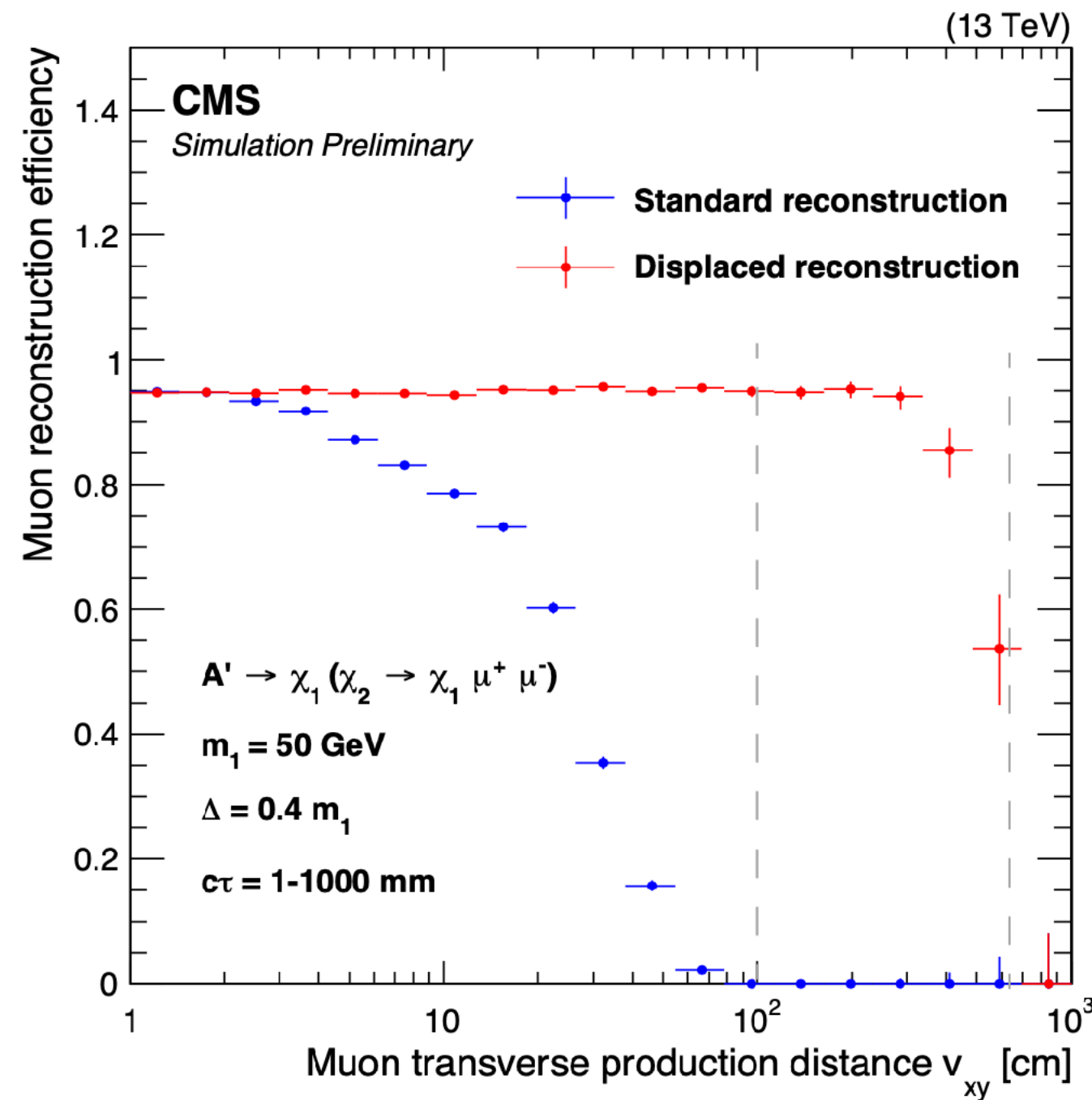
Analysis details

- backgrounds: QCD, single top, W +jets
- signal regions: depending on di-muon displacement
- control region: >2 jets
- cosmic muons rejected by $\Delta R < 0.9$



Search for inelastic dark matter in events with two displaced muons and missing transverse momentum

EXO-20-010



Specialized displaced standalone (dSA) muon reconstruction

- muon system only,
- cosmic muons algorithm for track seeding,
- **efficient for large displacement**, up to a few meters,
- small displacement muons **replaced** by standard PF algorithm,
- signal regions defined by number of dSA muons replaced by PF muons.

Results

- ABCD method: min- d_{xy} vs. relative isolation I_{PF} or $\Delta\phi_{\mu\mu}^{MET}$,
- data consistent with the SM prediction,
- **limits** in interaction strength y vs. m_1 ,
- sensitivity at $m_1 = 30$ GeV $\rightarrow m_{A'} = 90$ GeV increased due to kinetic mixing between A' and Z boson.

