

Interplay of ALP couplings at a Future Muon Collider

Sudhakantha Girmohanta

Aug 07, 2024



Based on:

1. S. Chigusa, S. Girmohanta, Y. Nakai and Y. Zhang JHEP 01, 077 (2024)

ALP EFT Framework

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- ❖ ALP (a) : CP-odd pNGB of spontaneously broken global $U(1)$ at a scale f_a .

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu a)(\partial^\mu a) - \frac{1}{2}m_a^2 a^2 - c_W \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{W}} - c_B \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{B}} - c_G \mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{G}} - \frac{c_{a\Phi}}{2} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \sum_{\psi=Q,L} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \sigma_3 \psi + \text{h.c.}$$

ALP-gauge boson coupling $\mathcal{A}_{\widetilde{X}} = \left(\frac{\alpha_X}{4\pi} \right) \frac{a}{f_a} X_{\mu\nu} \widetilde{X}^{\mu\nu} ; X \in \{B, W, G\}$

ALP-fermion coupling

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ALP-fermion coupling

- ❖ We are interested in ALP with m_a and $f_a \sim \text{TeV}$ [composite models, extra-dimensional models, heavy axion models...]

Rubakov (1997), Fukuda+(2015), Gherghetta+(2016), Gaillard+(2018)...

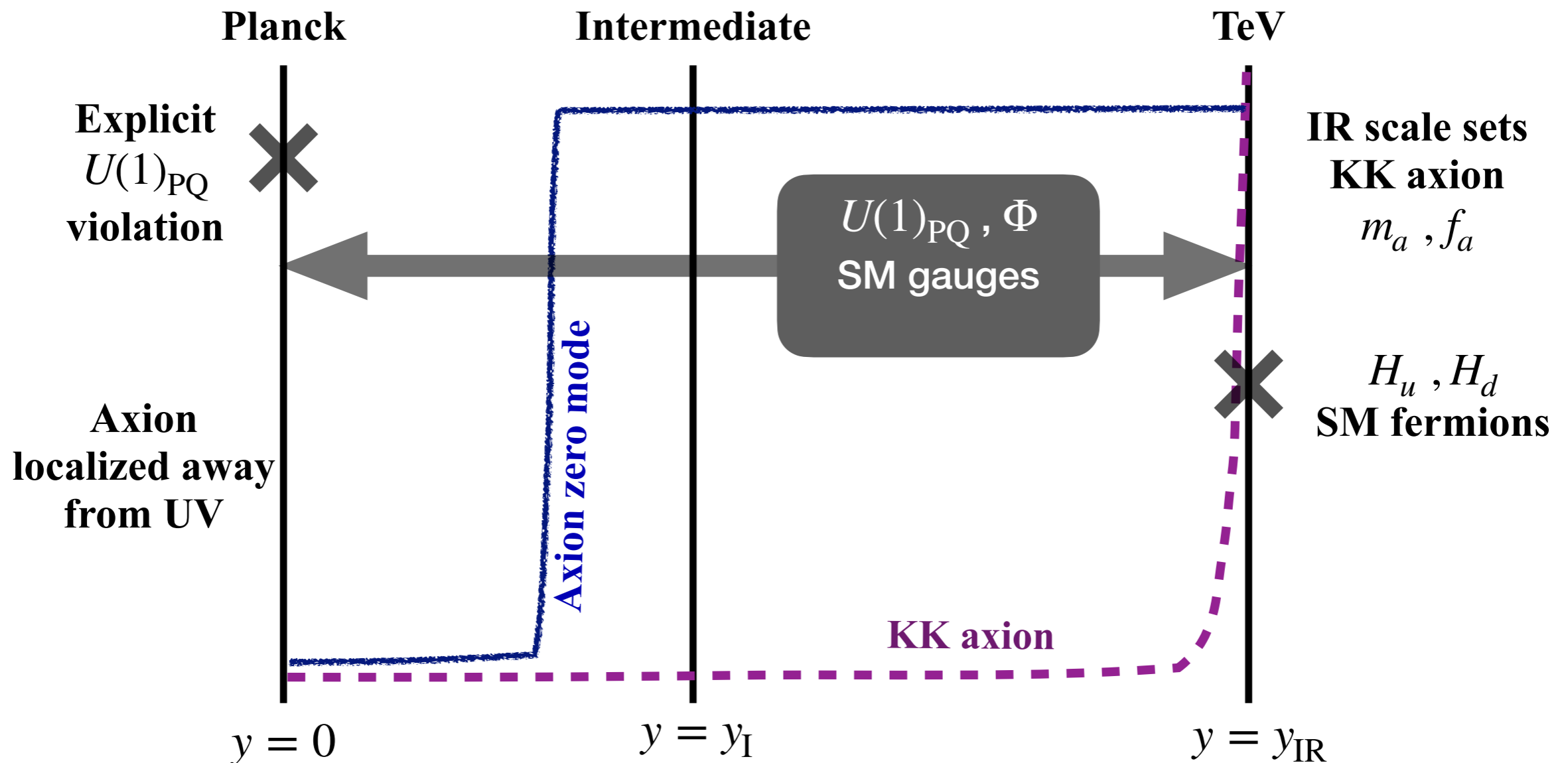
$$\tau(a \rightarrow t\bar{t}) \sim 10^{-25} \text{s} \left(\frac{f_a/\text{TeV}}{c_{a\Phi}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\text{TeV}}{m_a} \right) \quad \text{ALP decays promptly}$$

- ❖ A multi-TeV muon collider has great potential to explore TeV-scale ALPs.

Motivation: TeV scale ALPs

Choi PRL 92 101602 (2003)
Cox et. al. JHEP 01 188 (2020)
Lee et. al. JHEP 03 038 (2022)

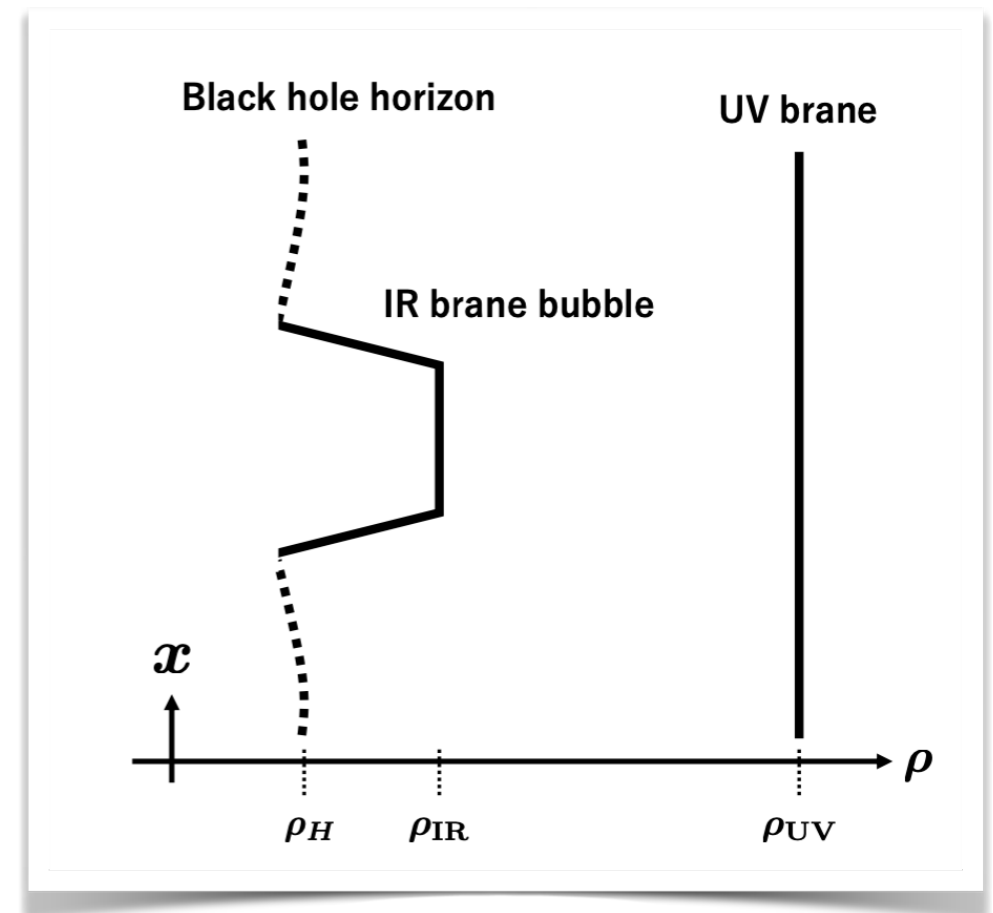
- ❖ Simultaneous solution of the **QCD axion quality problem** and **electroweak naturalness problem** using a doubly composite dynamics.
- ❖ **Consequence: TeV scale KK axion with \sim TeV scale decay constant.**



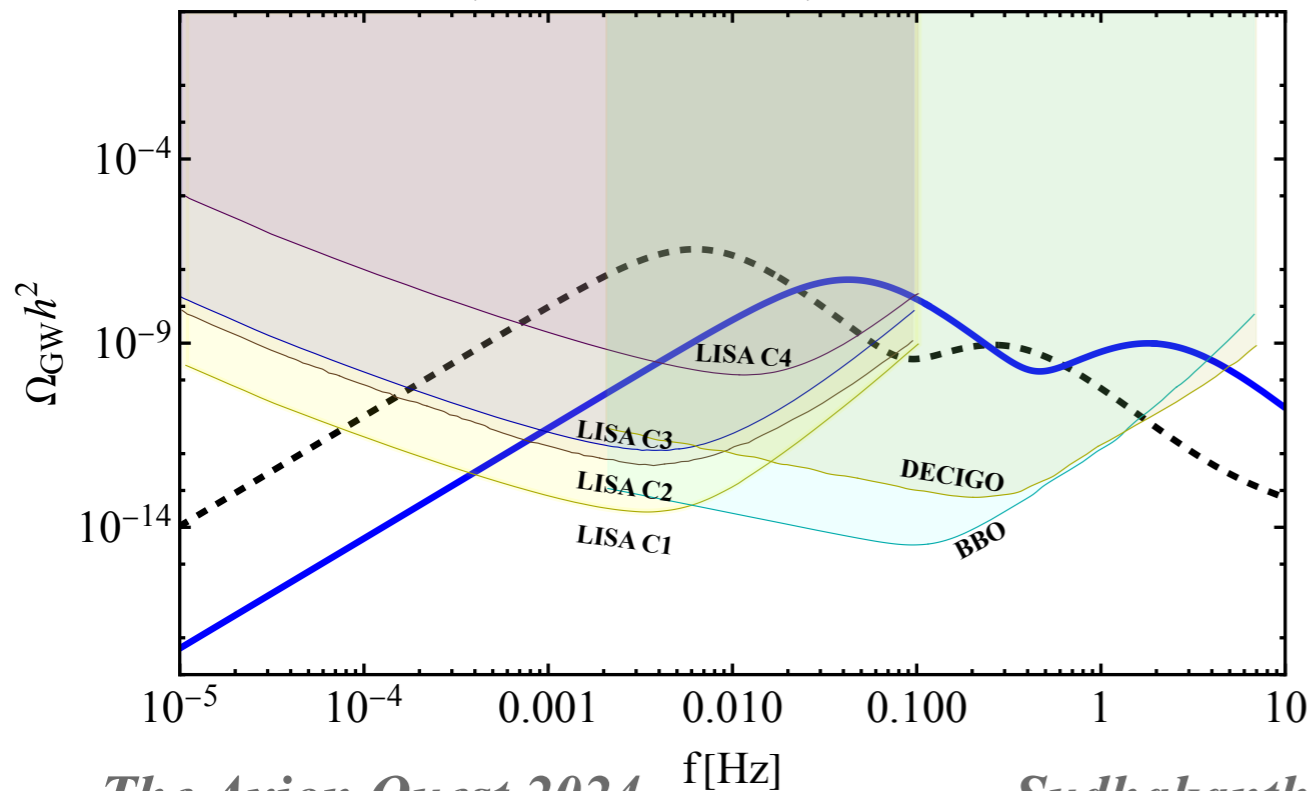
Related works: Multi-brane cosmology

Creminelli et. al. (2002) ; Fujikura et. al. (2020)

- ❖ Stabilization of multi-brane setup and cosmology (Nelson-Barr, axion quality...):
Lee, Nakai, Suzuki (2022); Girmohanta, Lee, Nakai, Suzuki (2022)
- ❖ Multi-peaks from consecutive phase transitions.
Girmohanta, Lee, Nakai, Suzuki (2023)
- ❖ Explanation of PTA signal, baryogenesis & dark matter with dark sector phase transition.
*Fujikura, Girmohanta, Nakai, Suzuki (2023) ;
Fujikura, Girmohanta, Nakai, Zhang (2024)*

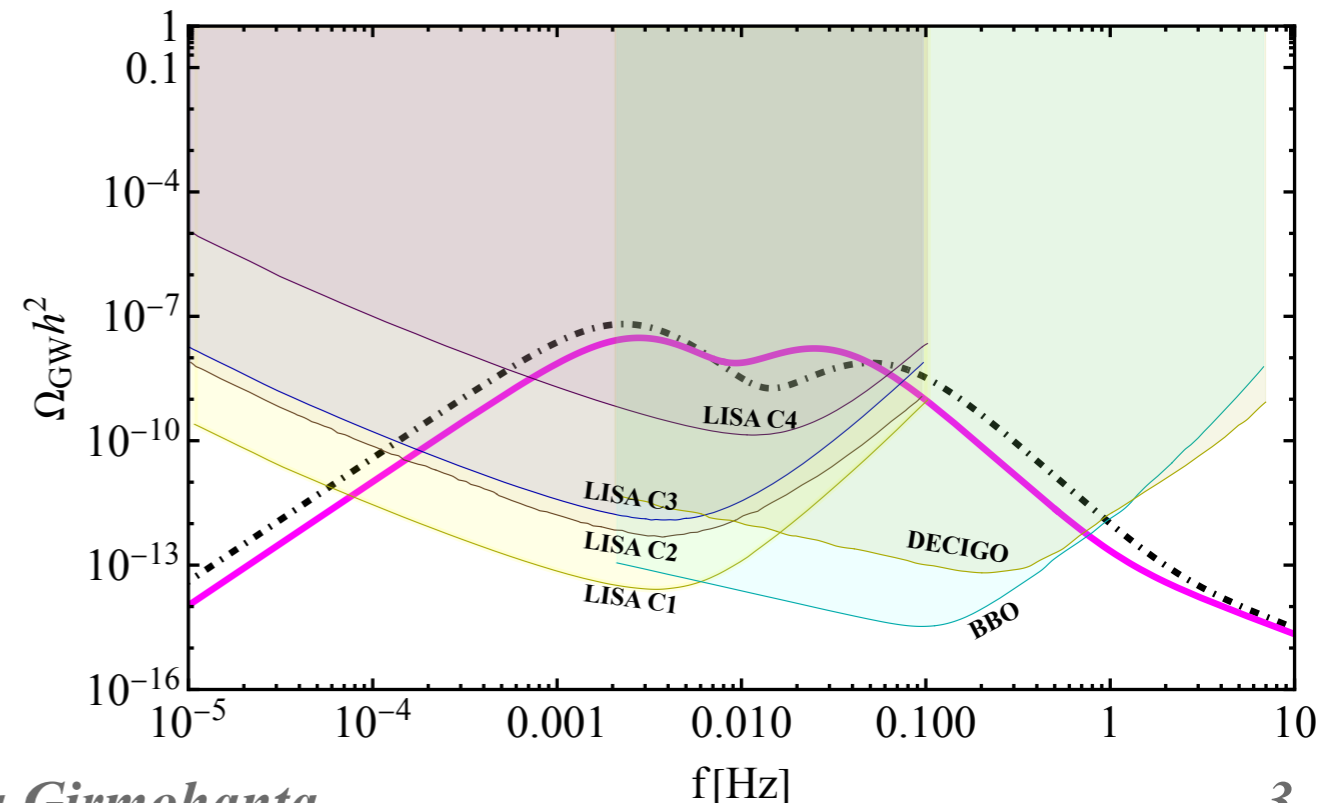


$\mu_{1,\min}=1000 \text{ TeV}, \mu_{2,\min}=10 \text{ TeV}$



The Axion Quest 2024

$\mu_{1,\min}=50 \text{ TeV}, \mu_{2,\min}=3 \text{ TeV}$

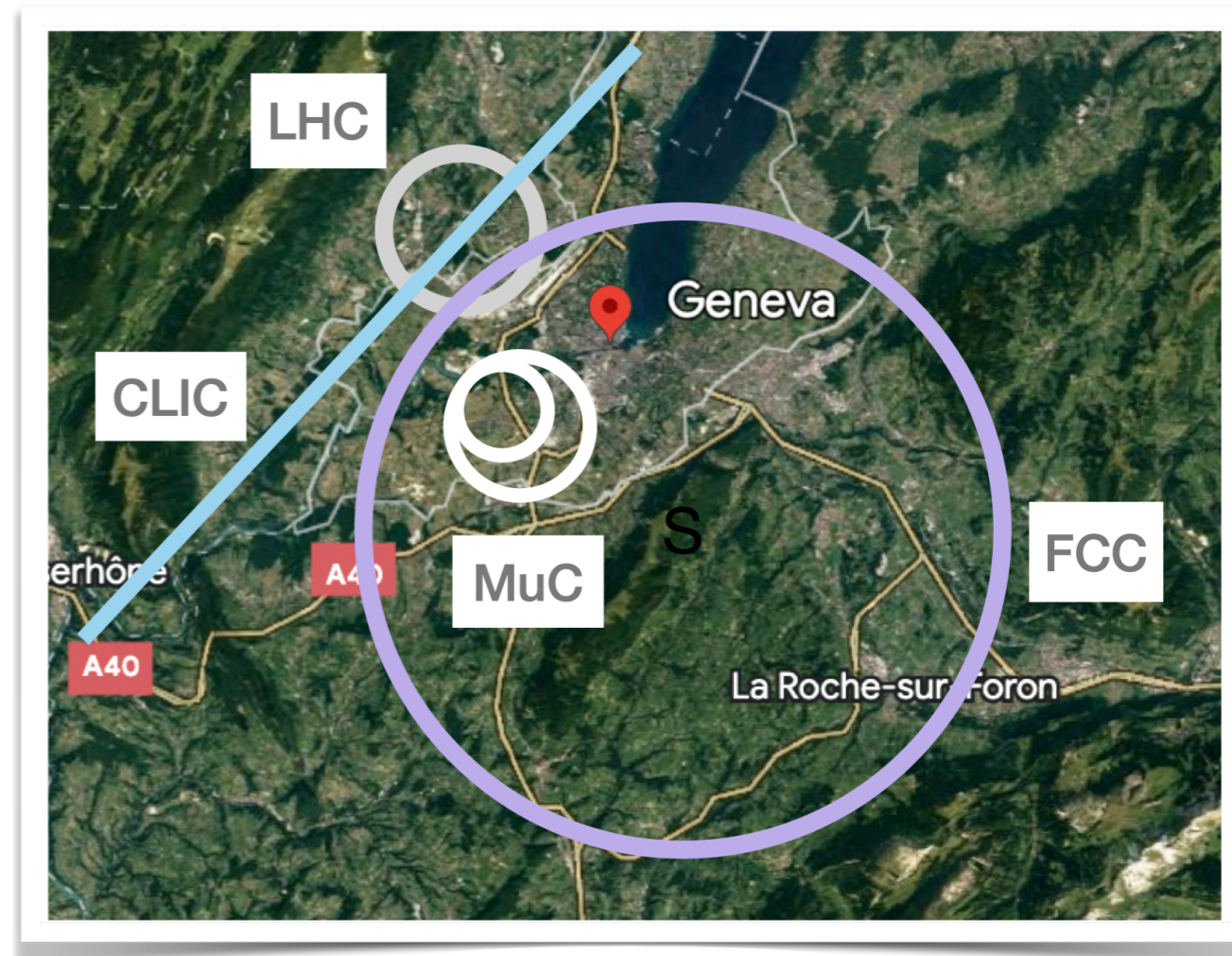


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Muon Collider & TeV scale ALPs

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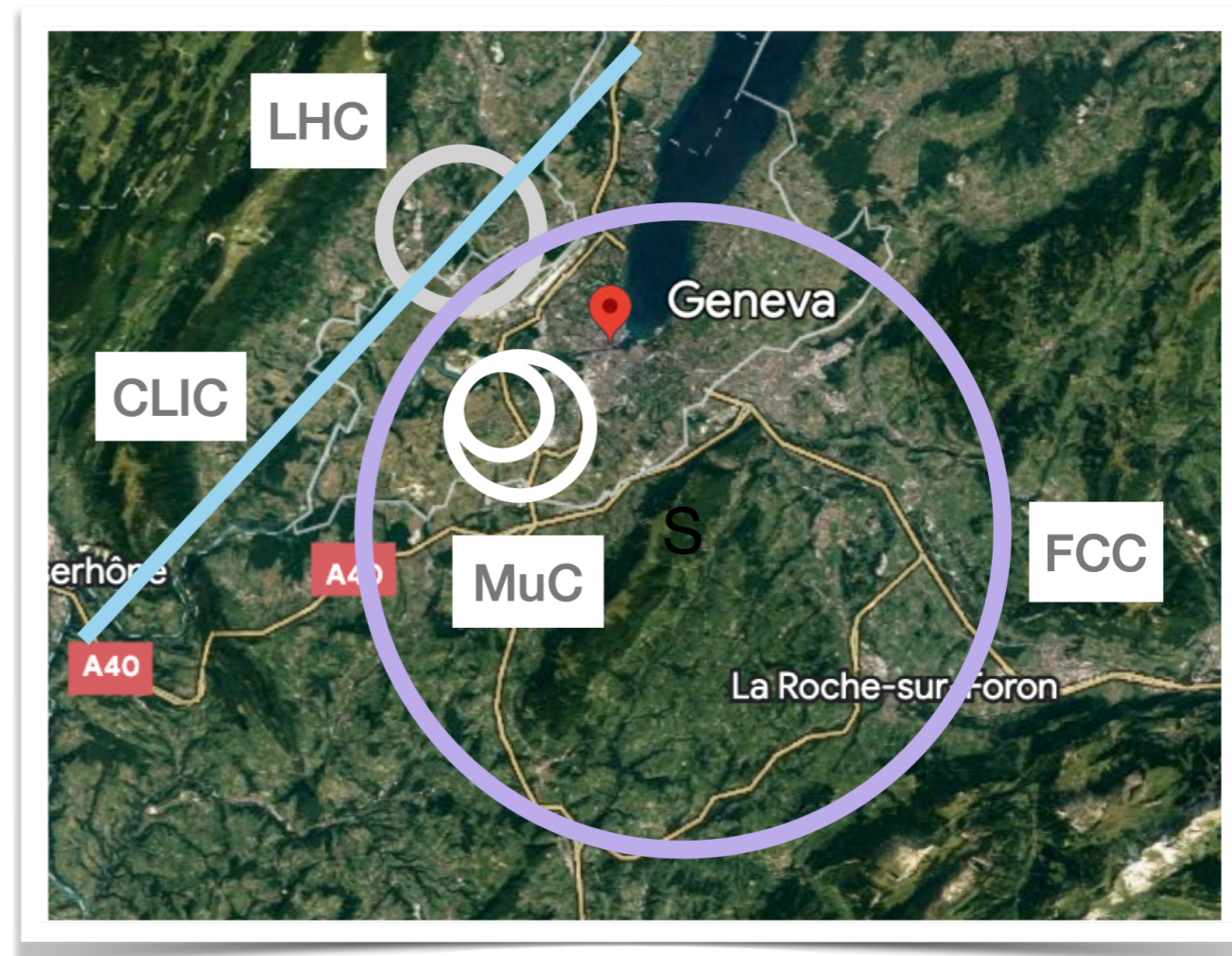
- ❖ **Synchrotron energy loss** ($\propto m_\mu^{-4}$) much smaller than electrons.
- ❖ Circular design can achieve **high luminosity** with multi-TeV \sqrt{s} .
- ❖ Significant beam energy is carried by **fundamental muons**, advantageous for producing TeV scale ALPs.
- ❖ **Multiple production channels** through VBF and $\mu^+\mu^-$ annihilation.
- ❖ Less overall background with larger \sqrt{s} as inclusive cross-section remains small.



DiPetrillo's talk PASCOS 2024

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- ❖ **Multiple production channels** through VBF and $\mu^+\mu^-$ annihilation.
- ❖ Less overall background with larger \sqrt{s} as inclusive cross-section remains small.
- ❖ **Beam induced background (BIB)** poses significant challenge.
- ❖ Recent progress in 1.5 TeV detector design and dedicated mitigation of BIB.

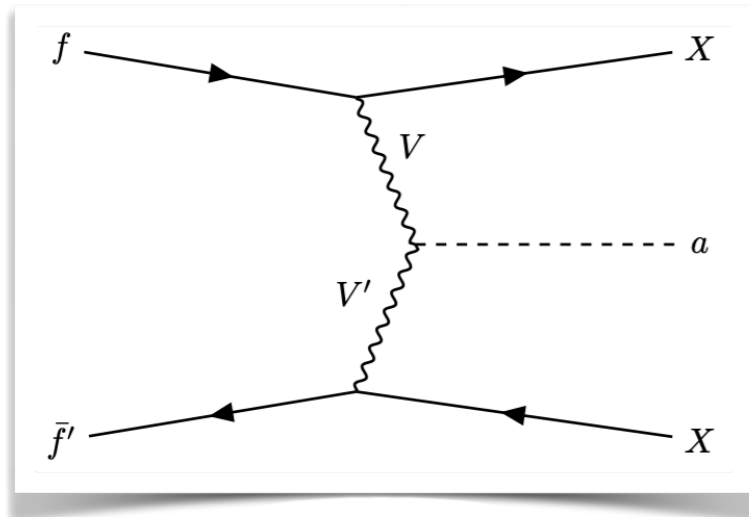


DiPetrillo's talk PASCOS 2024

Tops of ALPs

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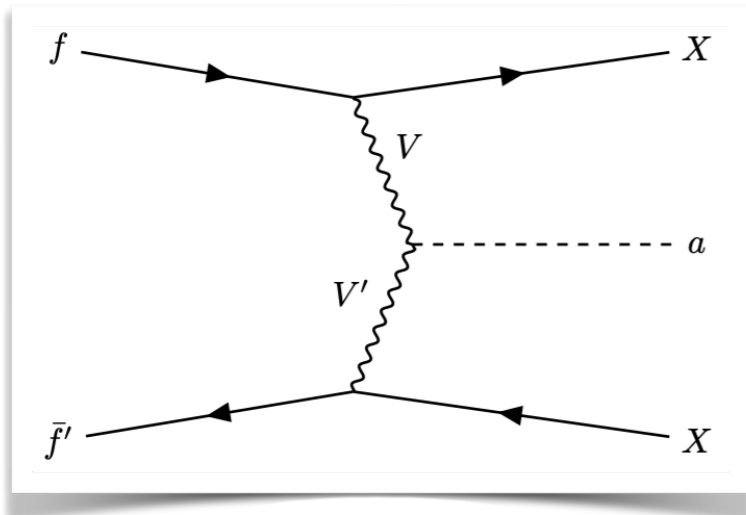
- ❖ Studies have focussed on the **ALP-EW gauge boson** interactions. *Bao et. al. (2022)*
Han et. al. (2022)



**High energy muon collider is also a VBF machine:
cross-section enhancement $\sim \ln(\hat{s}/m_V^2)$.**

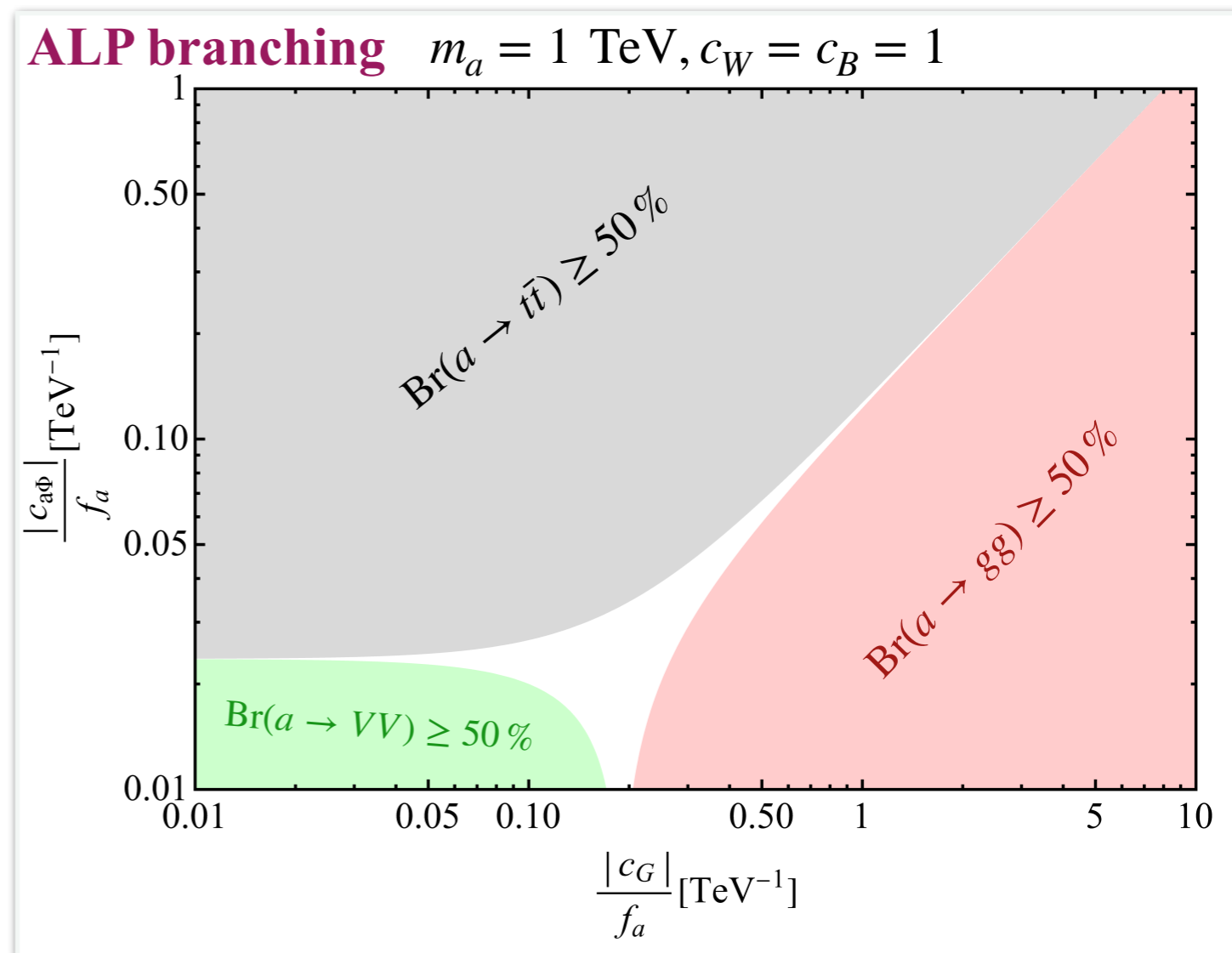
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High energy muon collider is also a VBF machine:
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- ❖ **ALP-fermion** and gluon couplings are present in general and modify the phenomenology drastically.
- ❖ TeV scale ALPs dominantly decay to $t\bar{t}$ when $c_{a\Phi} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$.
- ❖ **How large can these couplings be?**



Unitarity as a guiding principle

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- ❖ ALP EFT operators lead to rapid increase in scattering amplitude of $2 \rightarrow 2$ processes with CM energy $\sqrt{s} \implies$ **constrained by partial wave unitarity.**

$\left(\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}\right) c_G \lesssim 0.3 \left(\frac{f_a}{\text{TeV}}\right) \left(\frac{\text{TeV}}{\sqrt{s}}\right)$	$\left(\frac{\alpha_2}{4\pi}\right) c_W \lesssim 2.1 \left(\frac{f_a}{\text{TeV}}\right) \left(\frac{\text{TeV}}{\sqrt{s}}\right)$
$\left(\frac{\alpha_1}{4\pi}\right) c_B \lesssim 2.7 \left(\frac{f_a}{\text{TeV}}\right) \left(\frac{\text{TeV}}{\sqrt{s}}\right)$	$ c_{a\Phi} \lesssim 30 \left(\frac{f_a}{\text{TeV}}\right) \left(\frac{\text{TeV}}{\sqrt{s}}\right)$

Brivio et. al. (2021)

**ALP-fermion coupling
loosely constrained**

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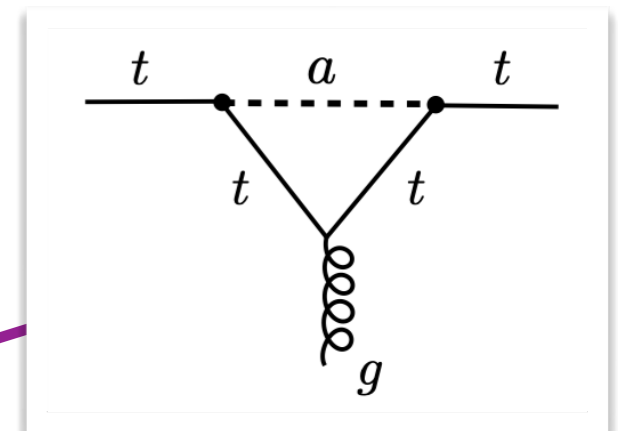
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**ALP-fermion coupling
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- ❖ Simplified benchmark parameters to explore ALP-fermion couplings.

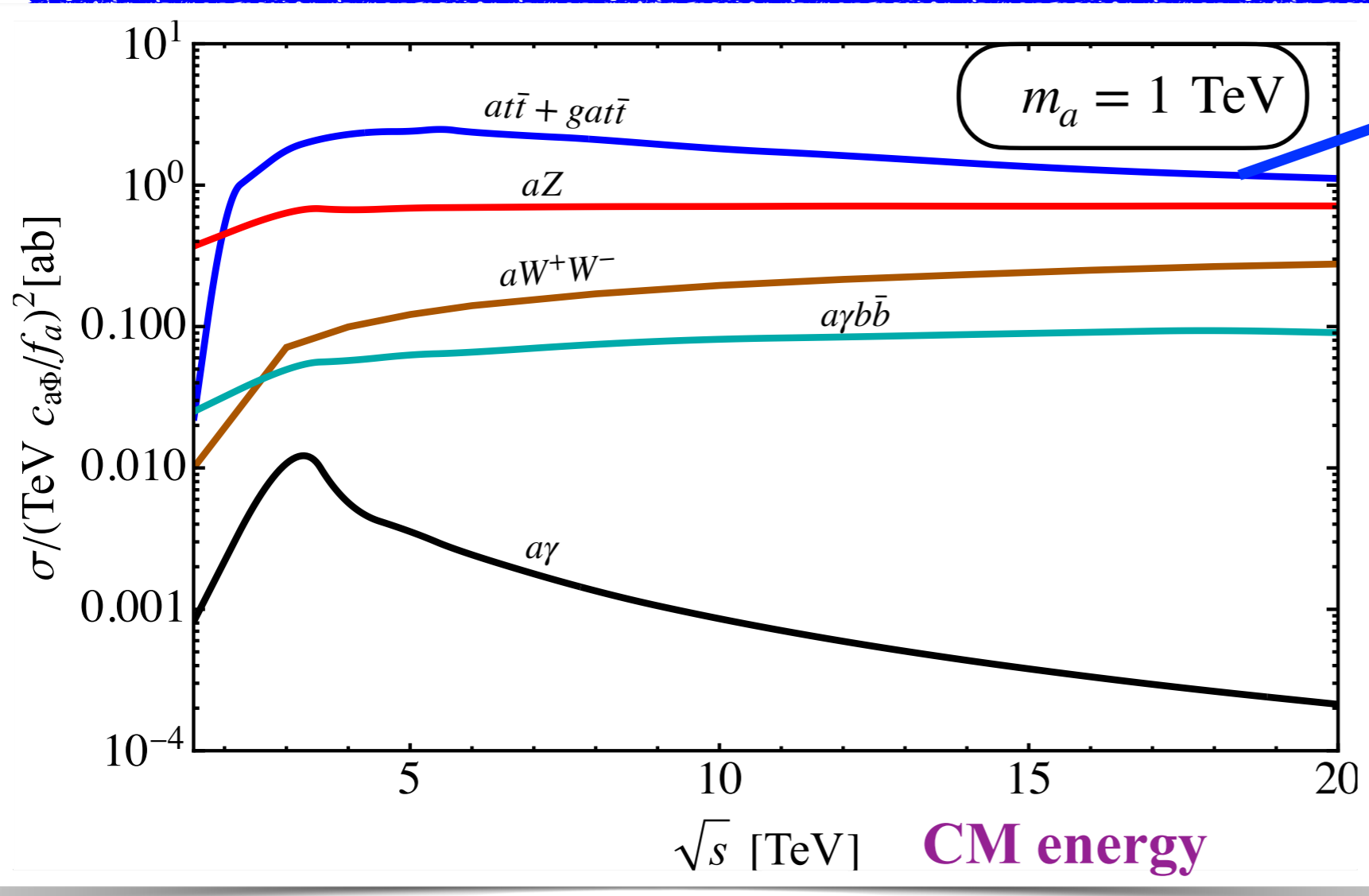
c_W	c_B	c_G	$ c_{a\Phi} /f_a$ [TeV ⁻¹]	m_a [TeV]
0	0	0	6	1



- ❖ Contribution to top chromomagnetic moment $\hat{\mu}_t \sim -7 \times 10^{-4}$, well below the CMS bound $-0.014 < \Re(\hat{\mu}_t) < 0.004$. Contribution to $g_\mu - 2$ negligible.

Top associated ALP production

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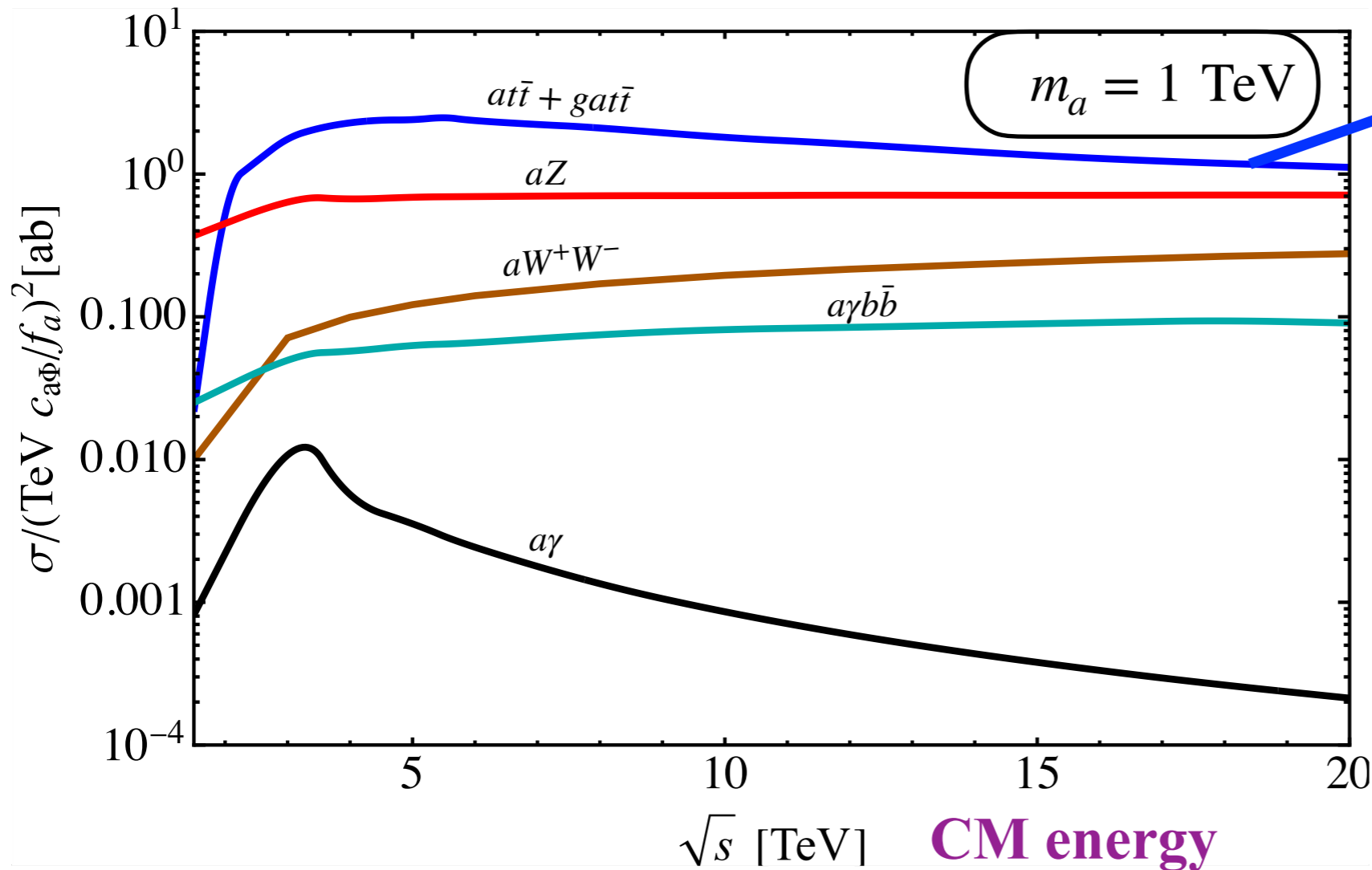


$\mu^+\mu^- \rightarrow t\bar{t}a(+g)$
dominant production channel.

VBF contribution & more than one gluon emission
 $\lesssim \mathcal{O}(10\%)$ **correction.**

a promptly decays to $t\bar{t}$.
 $c\tau_a \sim 200 \text{ fm}.$

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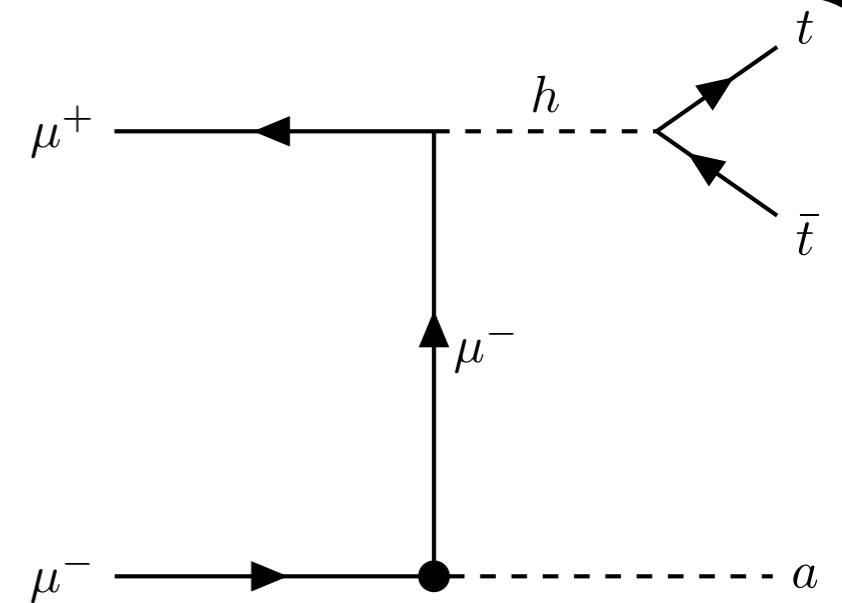
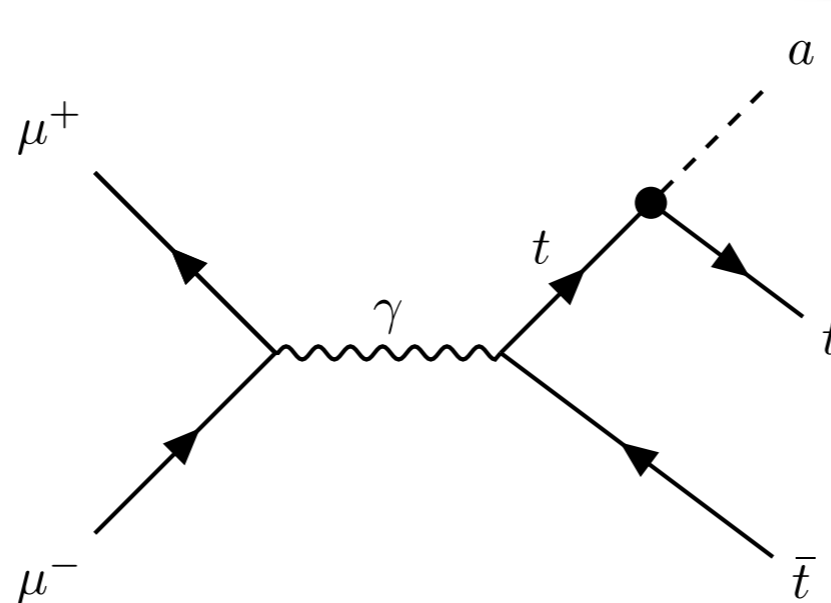


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Look for 4-top signal events ($t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$).

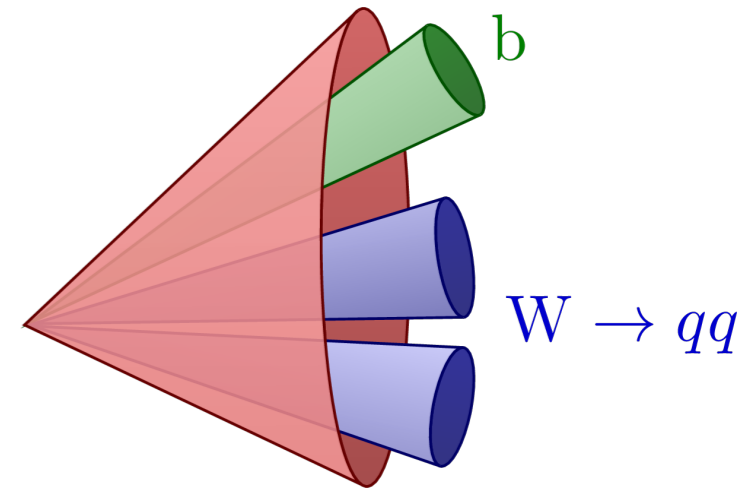


Analysis Strategy : top-jet identification

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- ❖ We utilize **hadronic decays** of the top and identify **boosted top-jet candidate** using jet reconstructed mass.
- ❖ In hadron colliders, due to smaller partonic energy for 4-top events, analysis with leptonic decays is preferable.

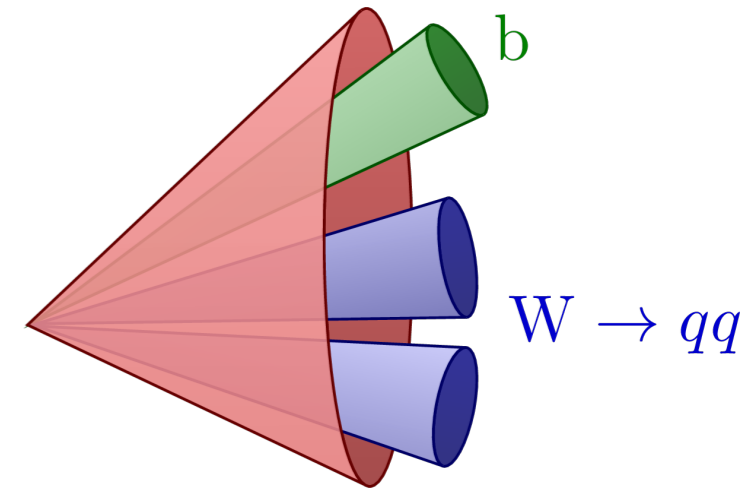
ATLAS (2023), CMS (2023)



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ATLAS (2023), CMS (2023)

❖ Short muon lifetime ($2.2 \mu s$) \implies decay products and secondary interactions give rise to beam induced background (BIB).

❖ Challenge: **separating true jets from BIB fake-jets.**

❖ Use **BIB characteristics** to discriminate. *Muon collider collaboration (2022)*

Low transverse momenta p_T .

Asynchronous time of arrival.

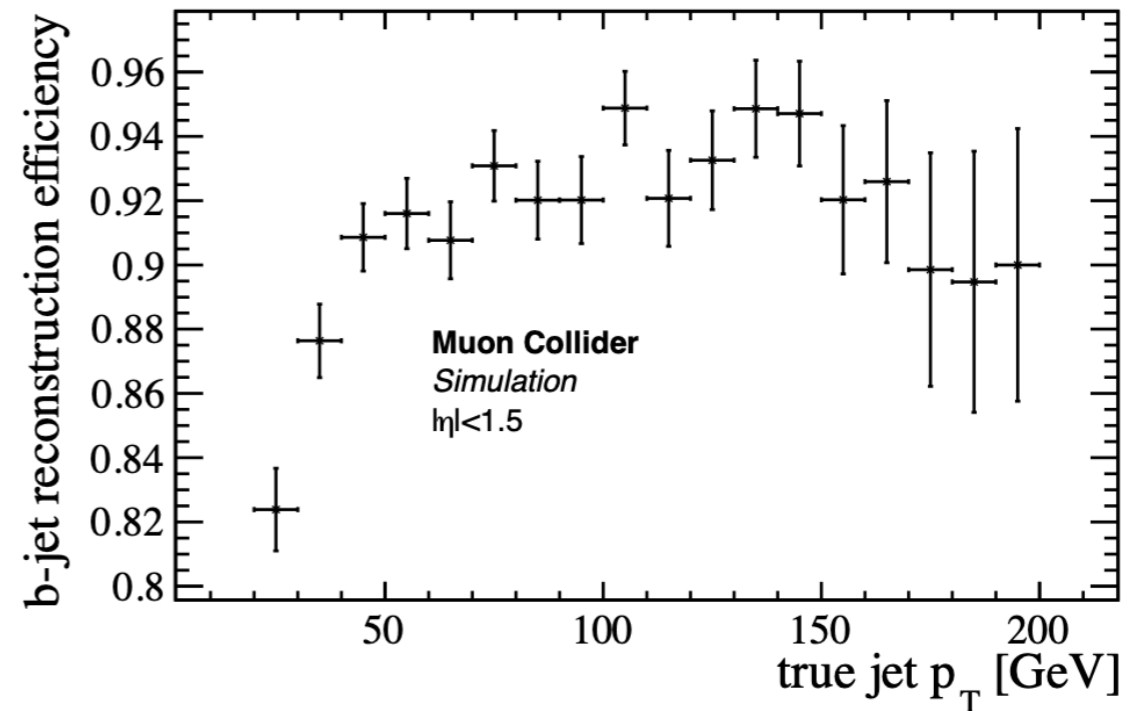
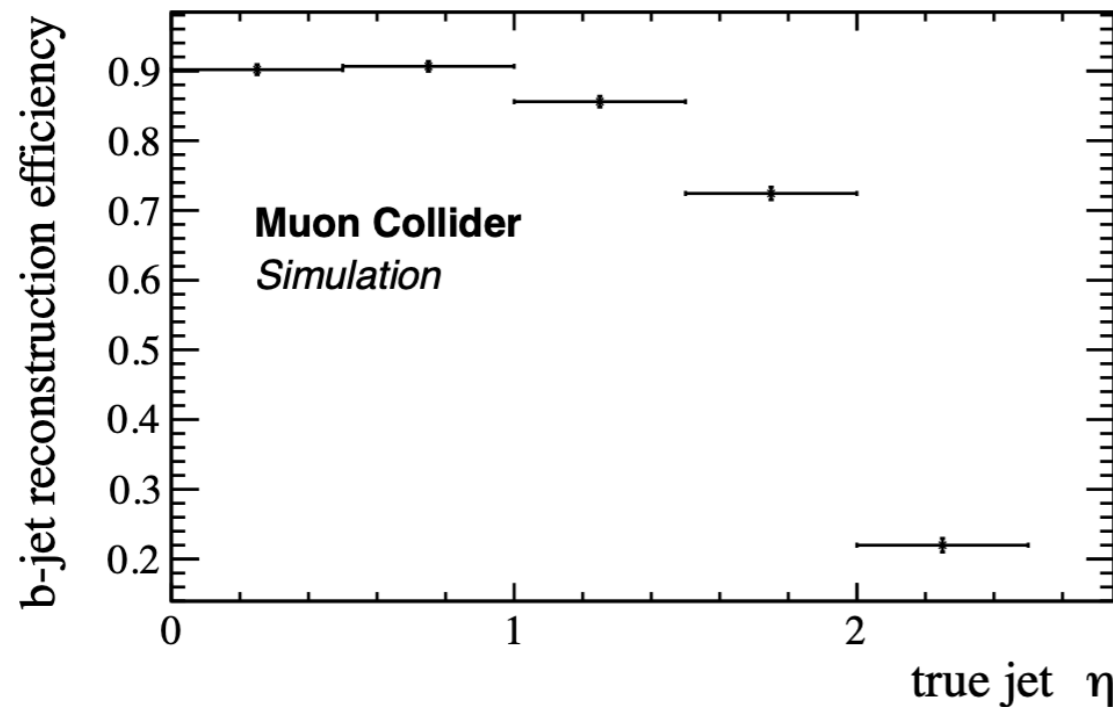
Displaced origin.

High absolute pseudo-rapidity η .

BIB Reduction and Backgrounds

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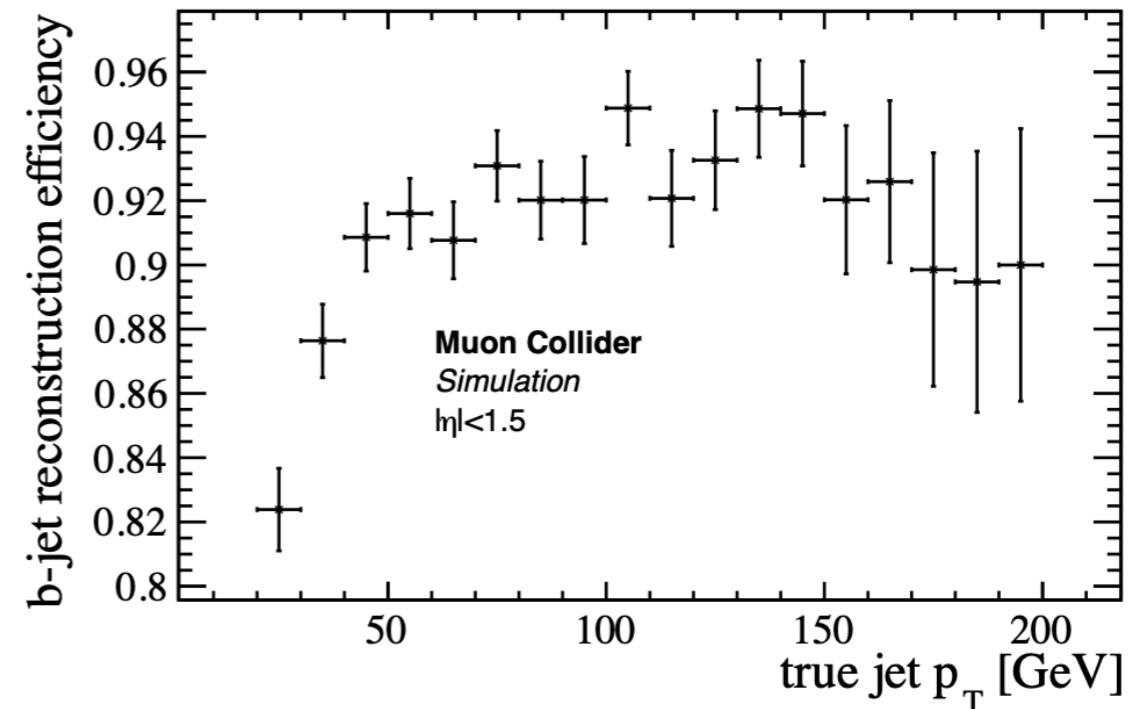
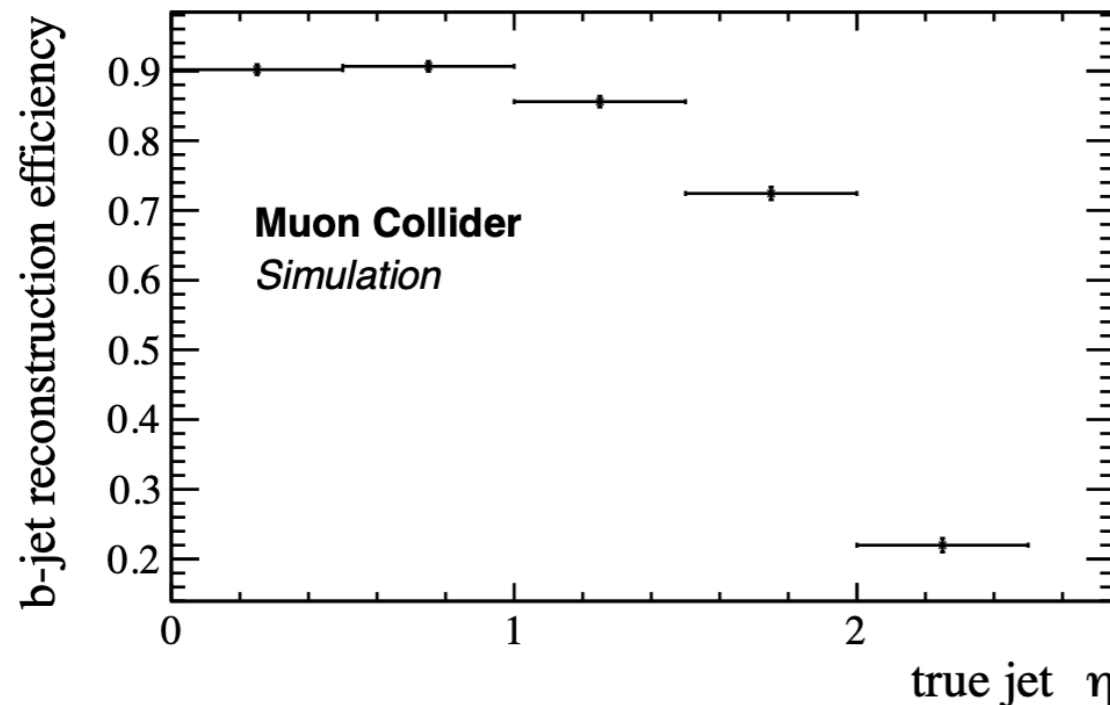
Muon collider collaboration (2022)



- ❖ **Jet selection (n_{jet}):** jets with $|\eta| < 1.5$ and $p_{T,\text{jet}} > 50$ GeV. Efficiency ~ 0.9 .
- ❖ **Top candidate (n_{top}):** Selected jets with $140 \text{ GeV} \leq m_j \leq 220 \text{ GeV}$.

BIB Reduction and Backgrounds

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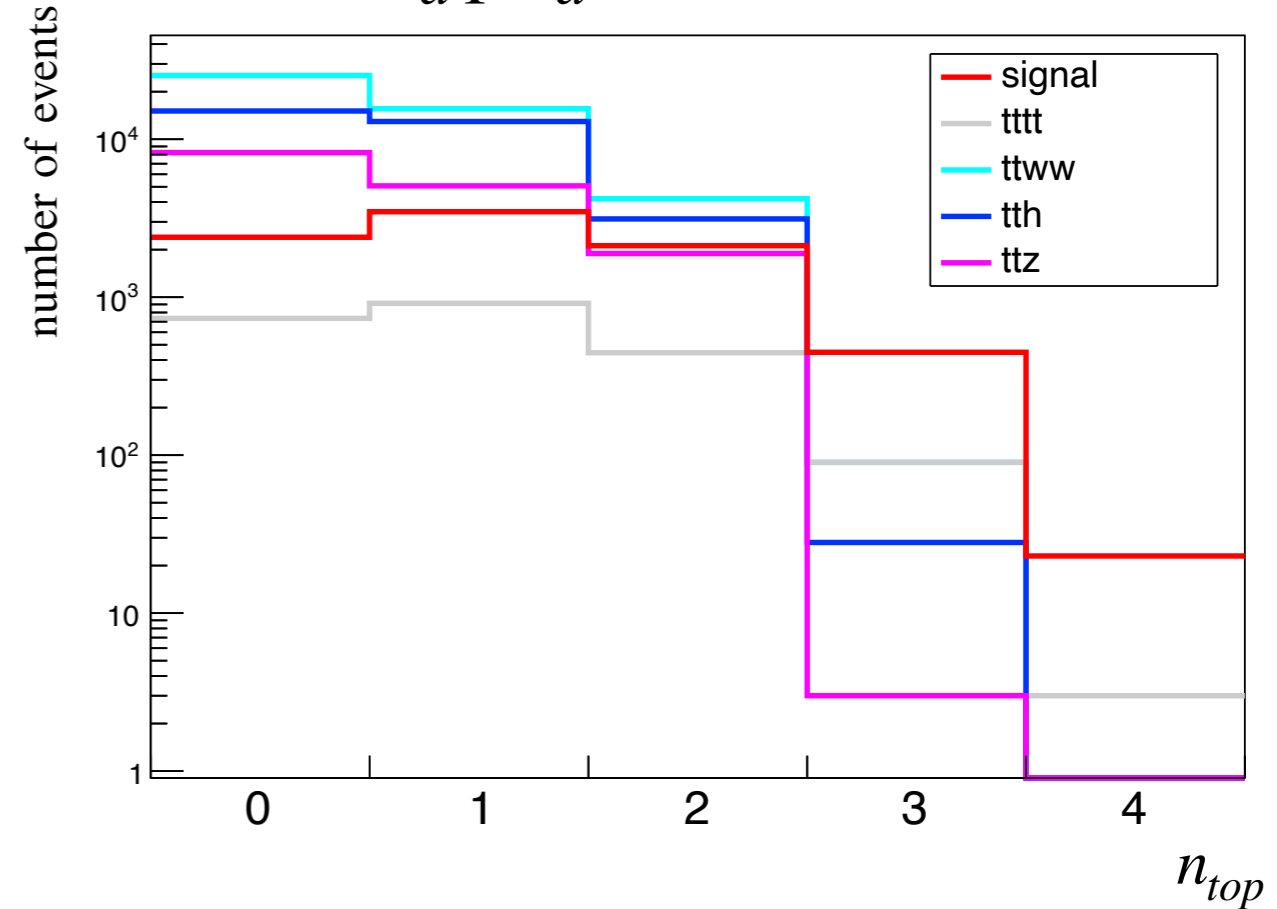
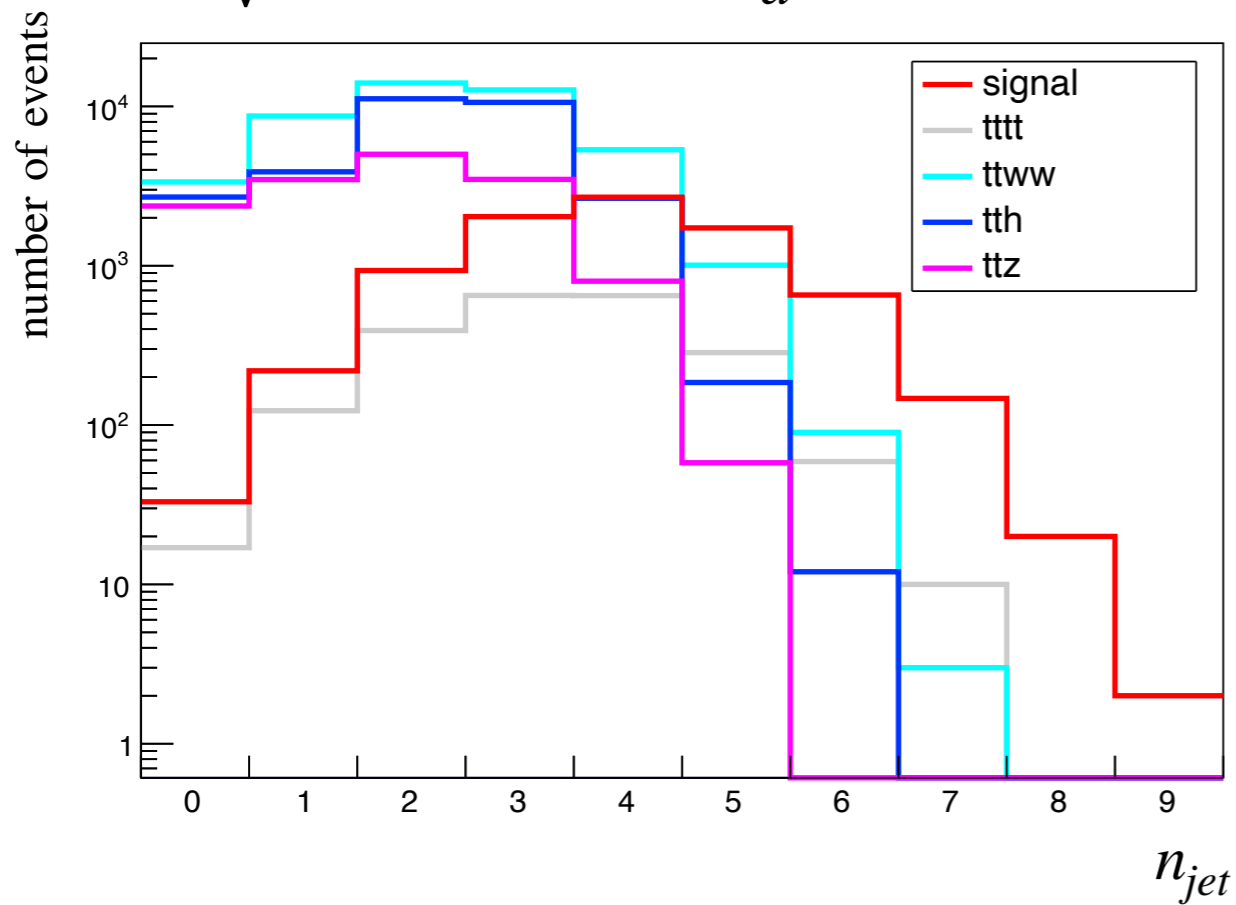


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- ❖ We demand $n_{\text{top}} \geq 3$ for signal events.
- ❖ Trims down plethora of backgrounds with less number of top candidates.
- ❖ **Dominant backgrounds considered: SM $t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$, $t\bar{t}W^+W^-$, $t\bar{t}h$, $t\bar{t}Z$.**

Event selection and cut-flow

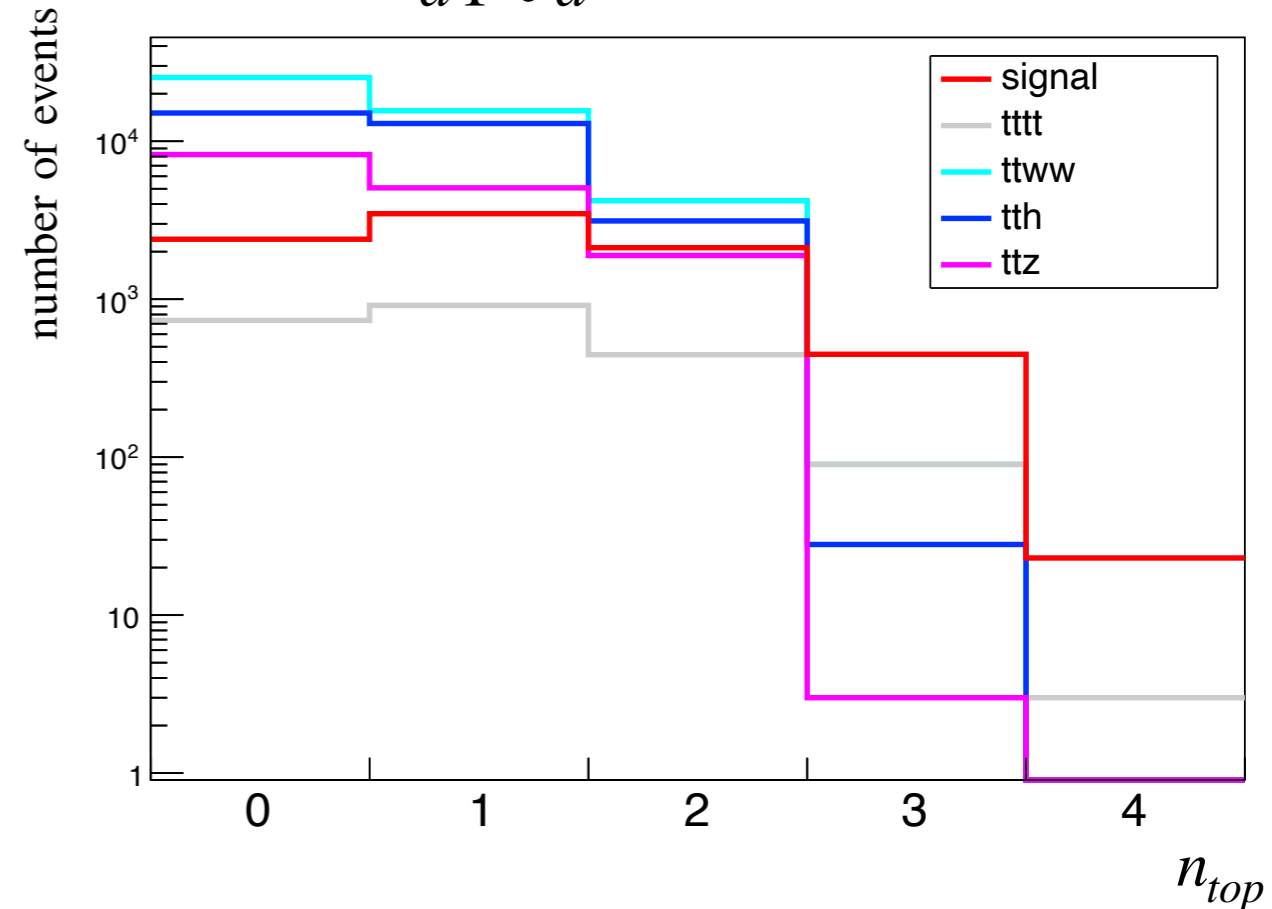
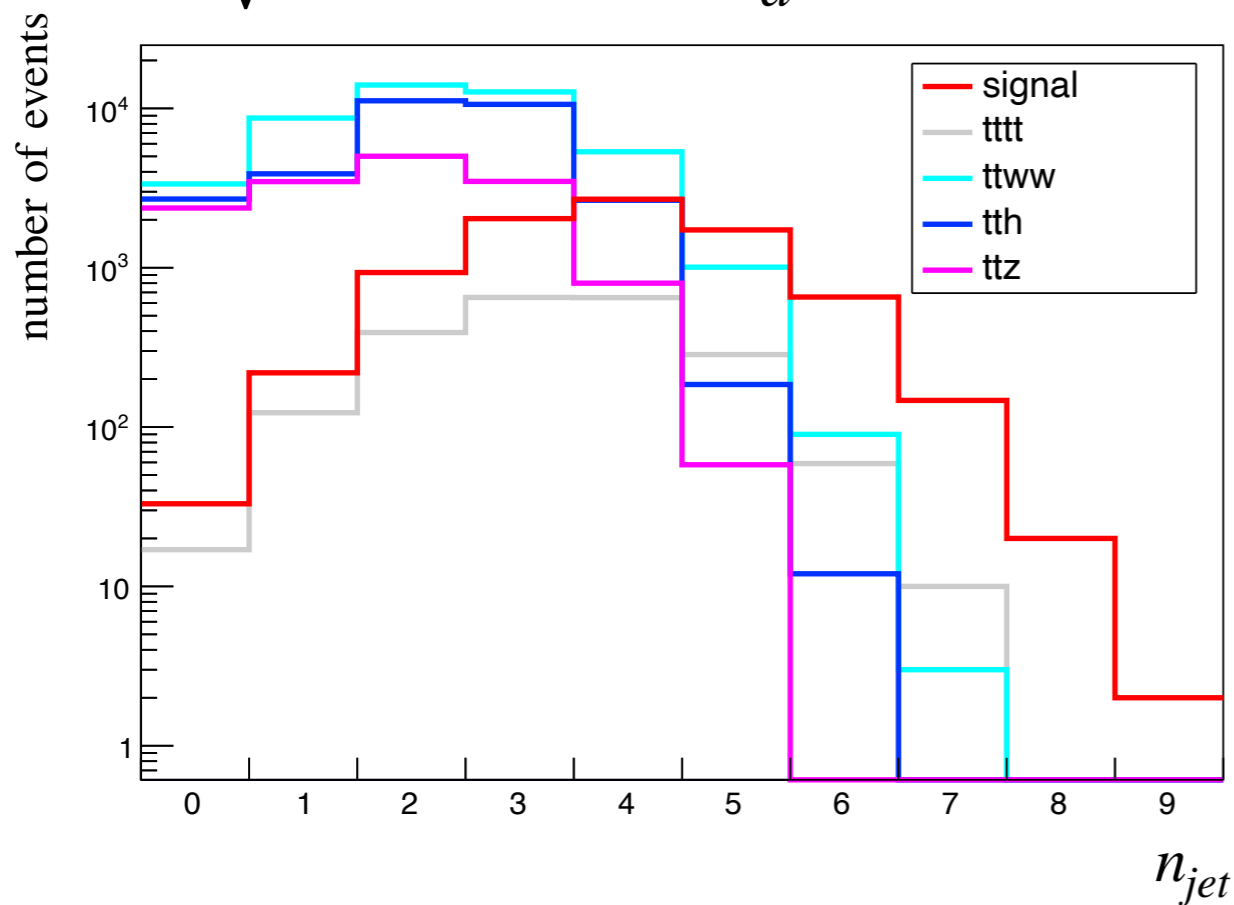
Event selection and cut-flow

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cut \ processes	$t\bar{t}a$	$t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$	$t\bar{t}W^+W^-$	$t\bar{t}h$	$t\bar{t}Z$
	[Signal]				
origin	9015	2285	46510	32380	15790
$n_{\text{top}} \geq 3$	495 (5.5%)	82 (4%)	37 (0.1%)	26 (0.1%)	3 (0.02%)
$n_{\text{jet}} \geq 4$	417 (4.6%)	65 (2.8%)	19 (0.04%)	< 1	< 1

Cut-flow

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$$\sqrt{s} = 10 \text{ TeV}, m_a = 1 \text{ TeV}, \mathcal{L} = 100 \text{ ab}^{-1}, c_{a\Phi}/f_a = 6 \text{ TeV}^{-1}$$

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origin	6625	1509	34970	12300	67730
$n_{\text{top}} \geq 3$	784 (12%)	146 (10%)	49 (0.1%)	9 (0.1%)	61 (0.1%)
$n_{\text{jet}} \geq 4$	757 (11%)	136 (9%)	24 (0.1%)	< 1	7 (0.01%)

Cut-flow

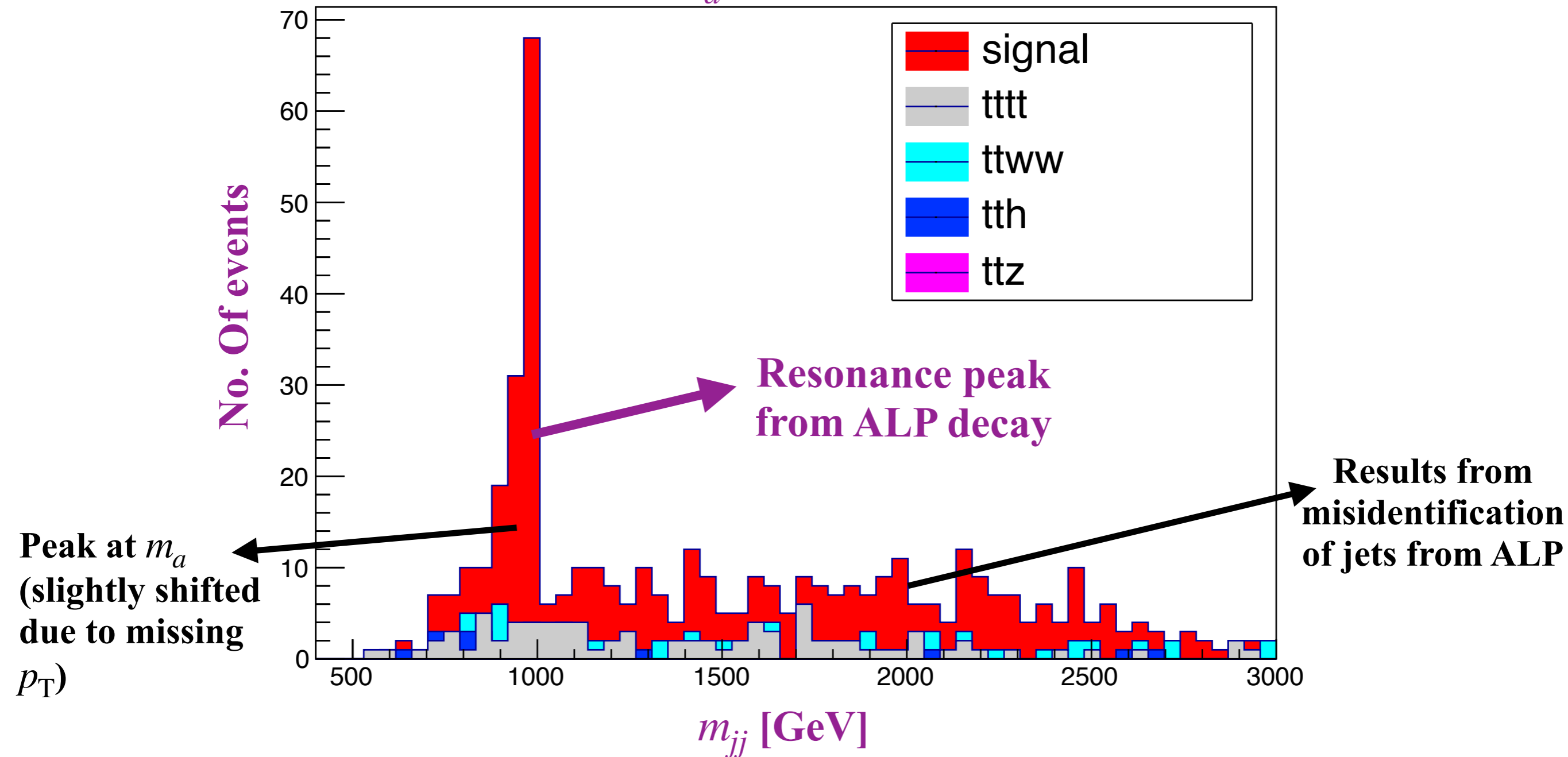
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- ❖ Notice top reconstruction improves with increasing \sqrt{s} .
- ❖ Effective reduction of background using n_{top} and n_{jet} .
- ❖ ALP decay: two top-jets with least $\Delta R \equiv \sqrt{(\Delta\eta)^2 + (\Delta\phi)^2}$ selected.
- ❖ Use of boosted top jets allows us to **reconstruct the resonance peak in dijet invariant mass distribution m_{jj}** .

Dijet invariant mass distribution

$$m_a = 1 \text{ TeV}$$



- ❖ Need to perform **fitting of this distribution** to evaluate signal significance.

Statistical Treatment

Statistical Treatment

❖ λ_i : Expected no. of events in the i^{th} bin.

b_i : smooth
distribution

$$\lambda_i = \sum_{k=0}^3 \beta_k \left(m_{jj}^{(i)} \right)^k + A \exp \left(- \frac{\left(m_{jj}^{(i)} - m_0 \right)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right)$$

s_i : peak
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s_i : peak structure

- ❖ Prepared simulation data for multiple ALP mass m_a . Best fit gives:

$$\tilde{\lambda}_i(\mu) = \tilde{b}_i + \mu \tilde{s}_i \quad ; \quad \tilde{\lambda}_i(\mu = 1) : \text{Expected events for ALP model .}$$

- ❖ \tilde{b}_i contains both SM background + smooth contribution from intermediate ALP
 \implies robust against possible systematics altering the smooth dijet distribution.

Likelihood function:

$$L(\mathbf{o}; \mu) = \prod_{i=1}^{N_B} \frac{e^{-\tilde{\lambda}_i(\mu)} \tilde{\lambda}_i(\mu)^{o_i}}{\Gamma(o_i + 1)}$$

o_i : histogram data

N_B : No. Of bins

Test statistic

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Test-statistic :

$$q_0 = -2 \ln \frac{L(\mathbf{o}; \mu = 0)}{L(\mathbf{o}; \mu = 1)}$$

Wilks theorem

Asymptotically obeys
 χ^2 distribution with d.o.f = 1.
5 σ CL : $\sqrt{q_0} = 5$

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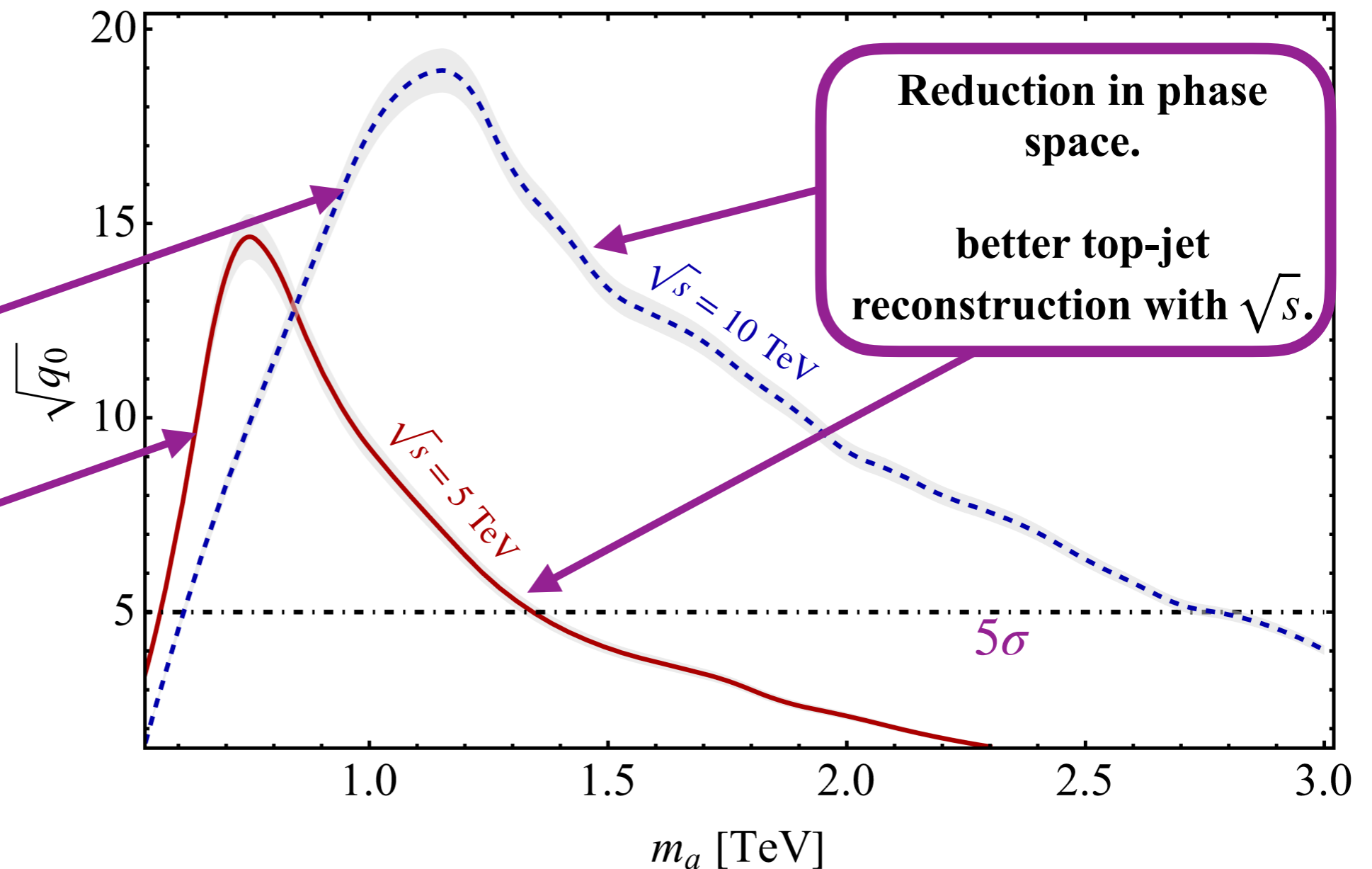
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Low m_a : tops from
ALP decay **highly**
collimated in the lab
frame, clustered as
single jet.

Verified by finding
peak in jet mass
histogram at m_a .



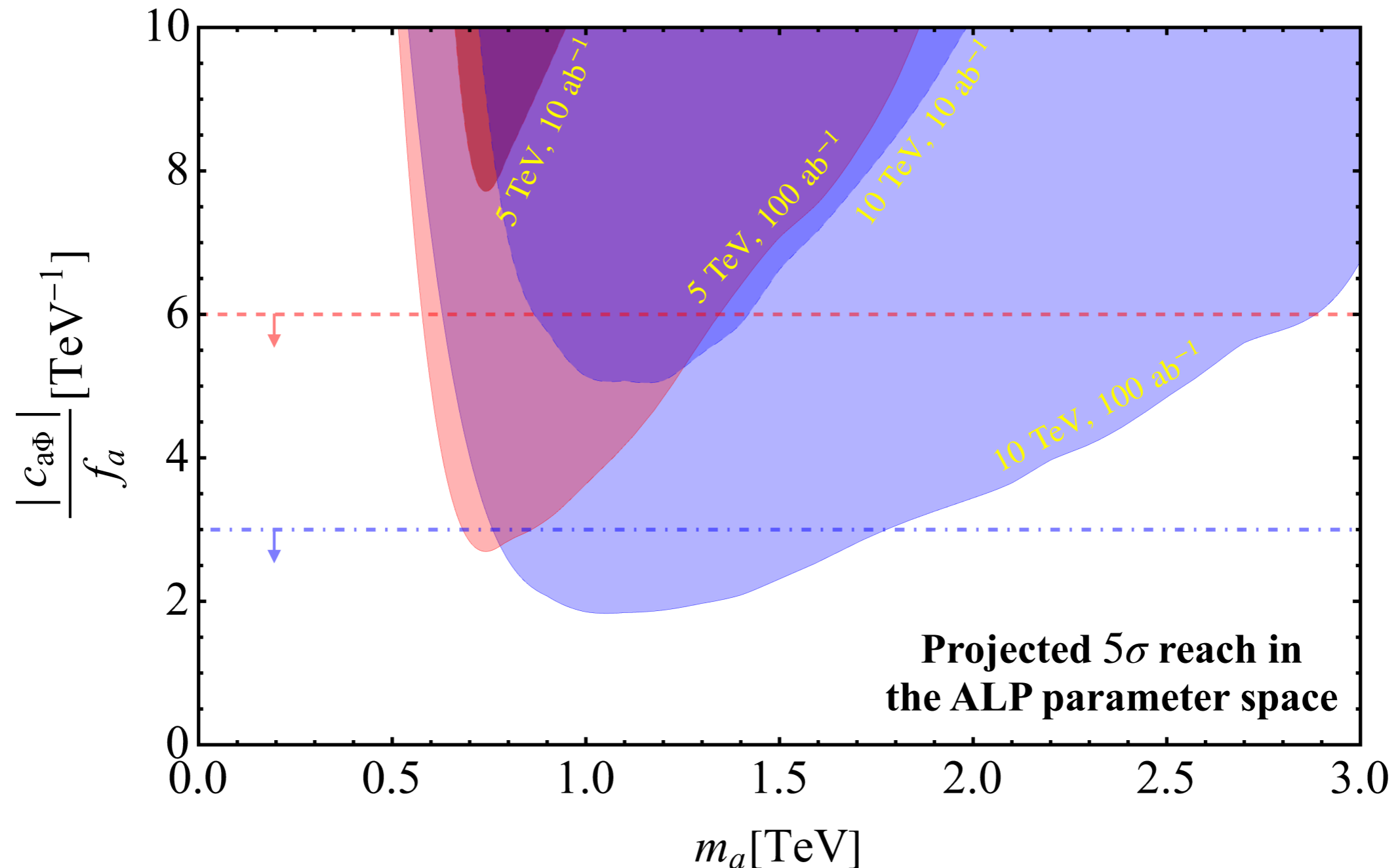
Results

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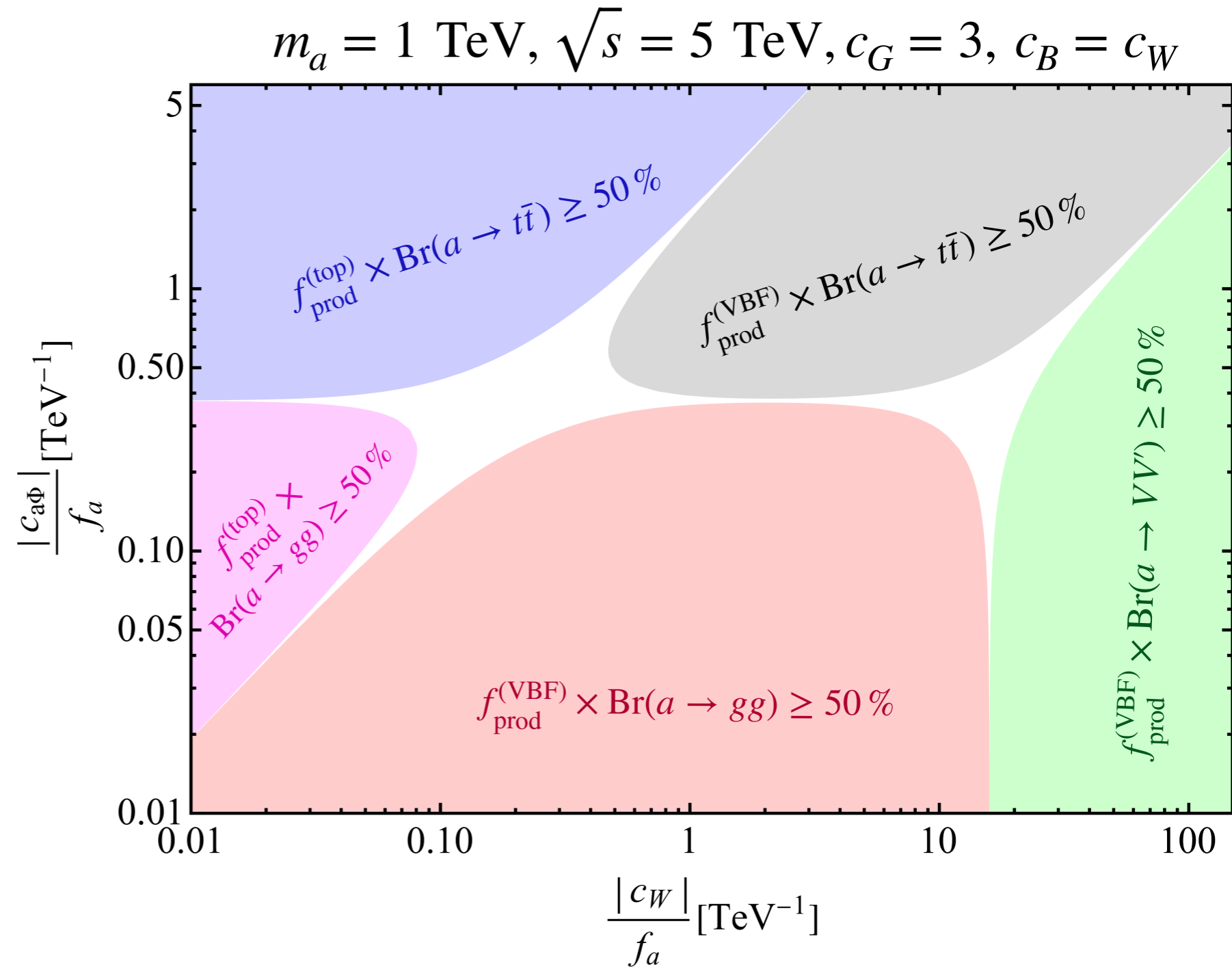
- ❖ 5σ reach in the coupling-mass plane? $\sqrt{q_0}$ **does not scale with coupling**. Non-trivial dependence on BG and jet-reconstruction efficiency.
- ❖ Nevertheless, **signal cross-section scales with $(c_{a\Phi}/f_a)^2$** . Get coupling corresponding to $\sqrt{q_0} = 5$ for fixed m_a with the same BG.

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Exploring the uncharted : work in progress



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$$m_a = 1 \text{ TeV}, \sqrt{s} = 5 \text{ TeV}, c_G = 3, c_B = c_W$$

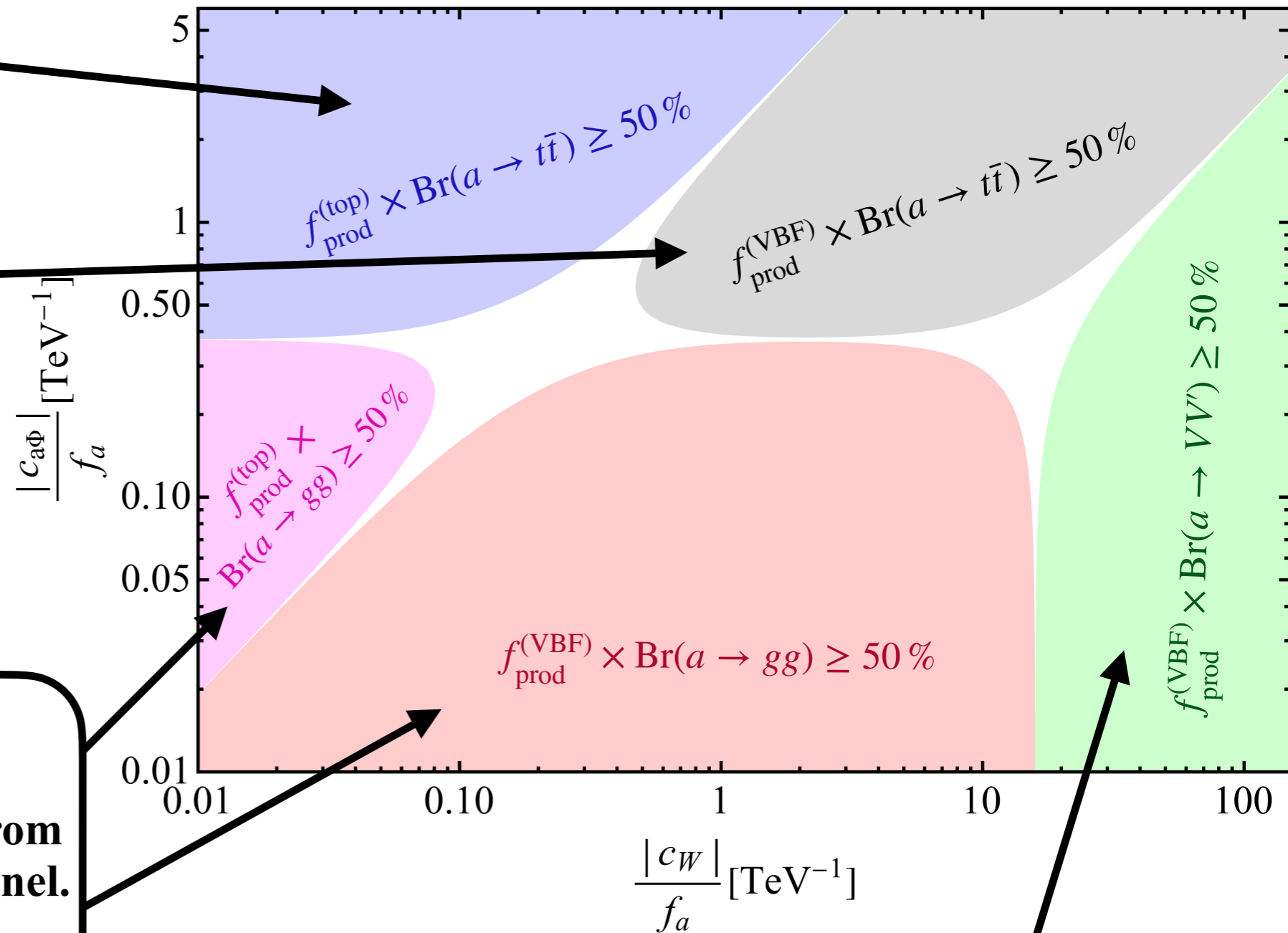
Present talk

Production by VBF
but $a \rightarrow t\bar{t}$

Explore ALP-gluon coupling.

Challenge: Huge background from
EW jets in VBF production channel.

Use of forward muons and
jet-substructure can help.



Analyzed by Bao et. al. (2022),
Han et. al. (2022)

Advertisement : Axion Quest Talk

Dr. Shota Nakagawa's talk on Friday Aug 09 at 3:30 PM

How Viable Is a QCD Axion near 10 MeV?

Sudhakantha Girmohanta, Shota Nakagawa, Yuichiro Nakai and Junxuan Xu

*Tsung-Dao Lee Institute, Shanghai Jiao Tong University,
No. 1 Lisuo Road, Pudong New Area, Shanghai, 201210, China
School of Physics and Astronomy, Shanghai Jiao Tong University,
800 Dongchuan Road, Shanghai, 200240, China*

Conclusions

- ▶ Multi-TeV future muon collider can have great capability in probing TeV scale ALP parameter space.
- ▶ ALP-fermion couplings are naturally present and can change the phenomenology drastically.
- ▶ We utilized ALP-top coupling and analyzed the 4-top channel.
- ▶ Peak in the dijet invariant mass distribution could be reconstructed, thanks to the boosted top decay products in a muon collider.
- ▶ A large territory uncharted in the TeV ALP parameter space where the interplay of ALP EFT couplings can be interesting.

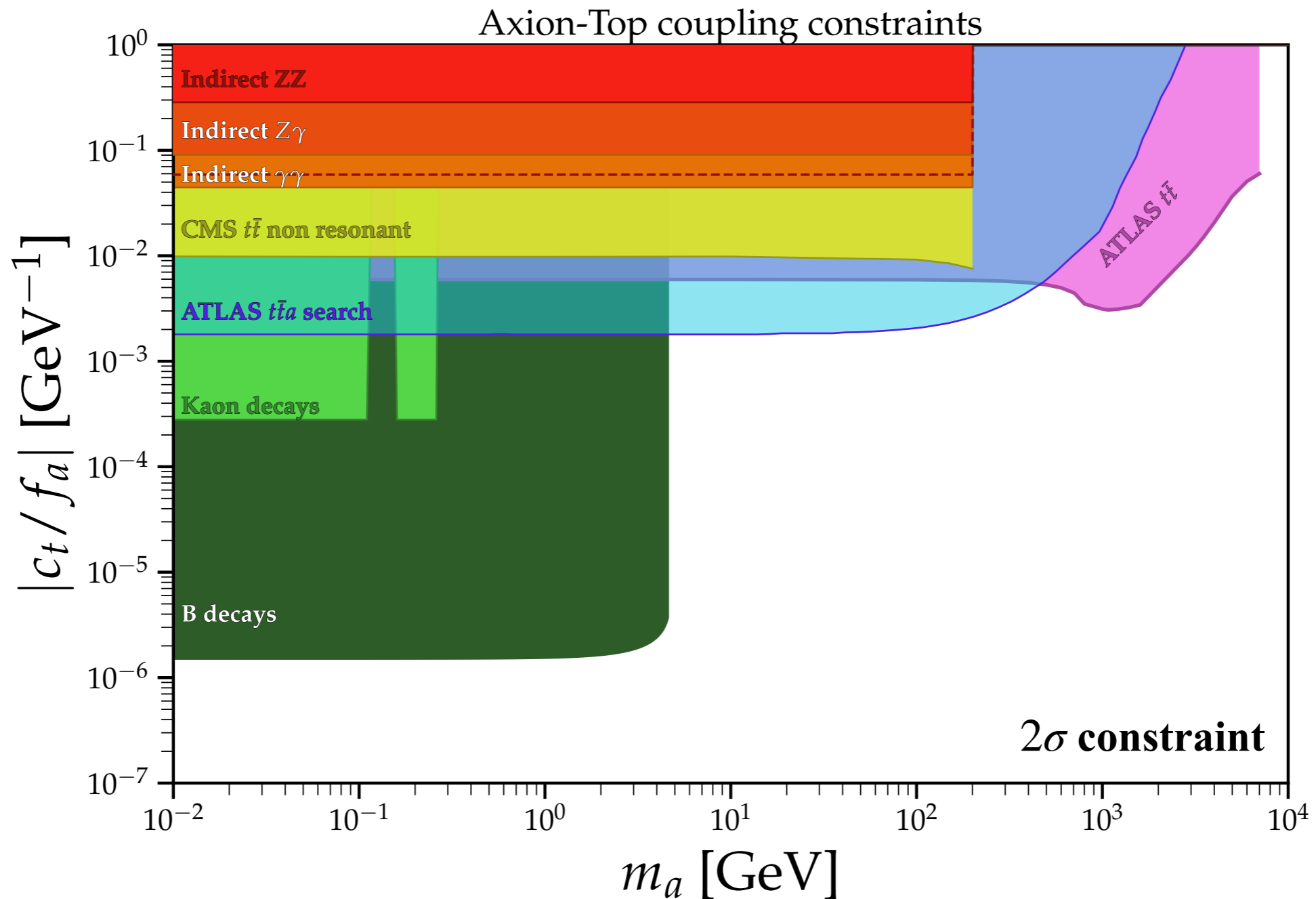
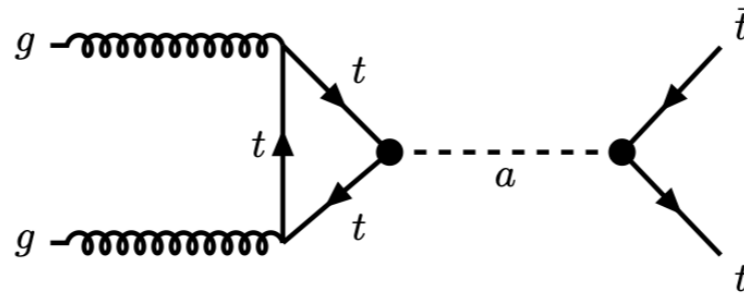
Thank you for your time! Questions?

Backup

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Esser et. al. 2023

Non-resonant ALP searches

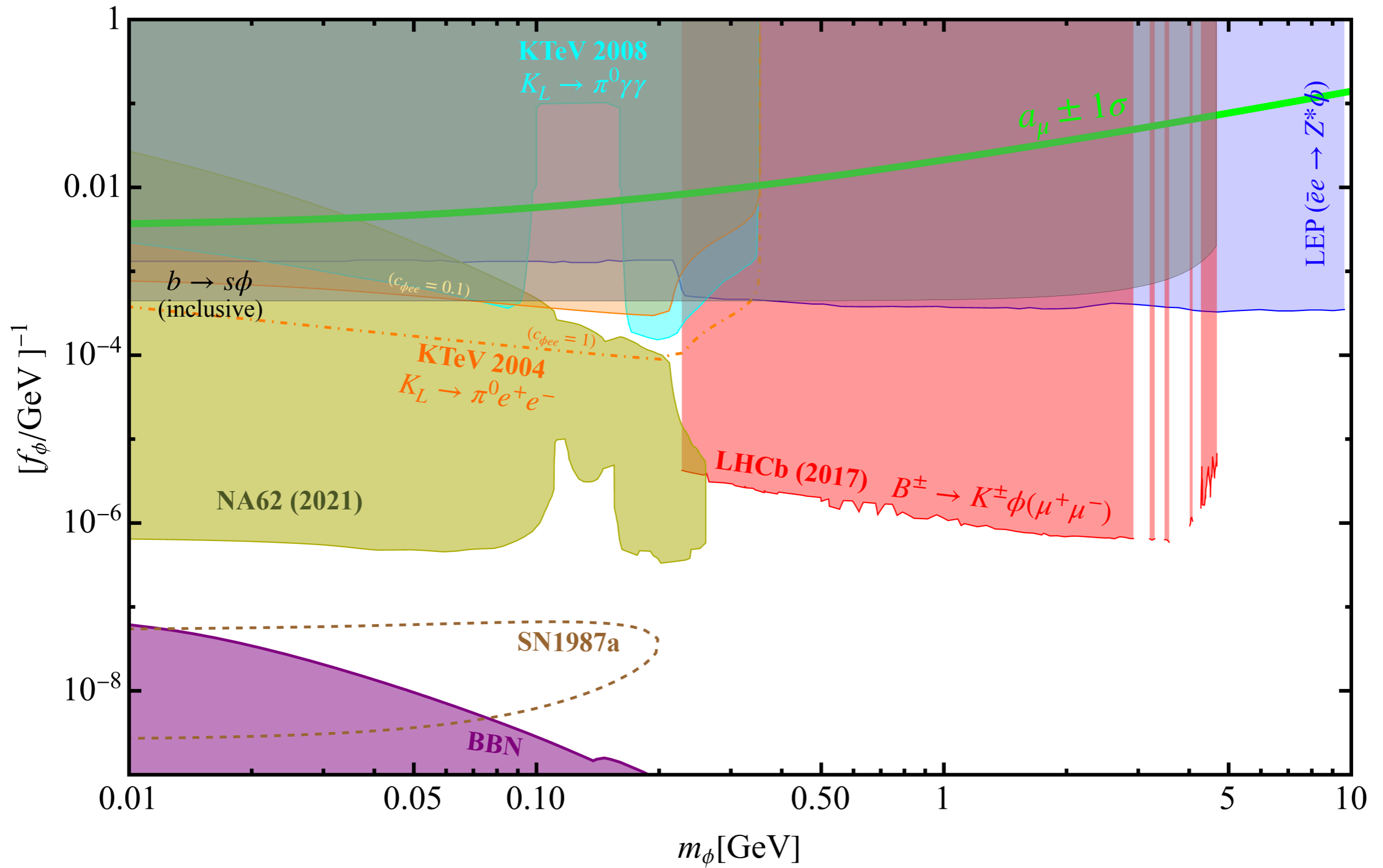


Production cross section

	$t\bar{t}a$	$t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$	$t\bar{t}W^+W^-$	$t\bar{t}h$	$t\bar{t}Z$
$\sigma[\text{ab}]$	90	23	465	324	158

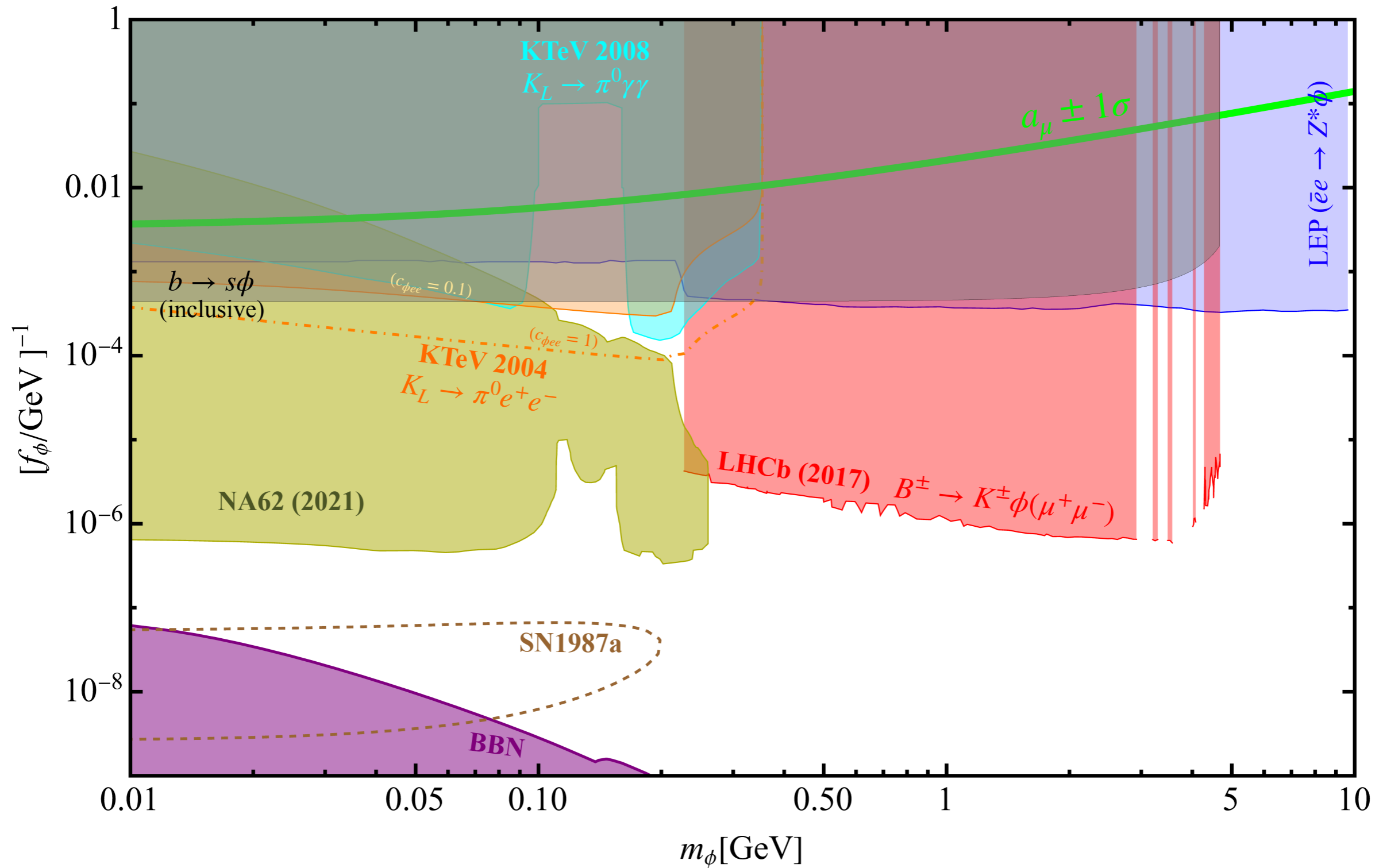
Dilaton phenomenology: rare meson decays

S. Girmohanta, Y. Nakai, Y. Shigekami and K. Tobioka [JHEP 01, 153 (2024)]



Dilaton phenomenology: rare meson decays

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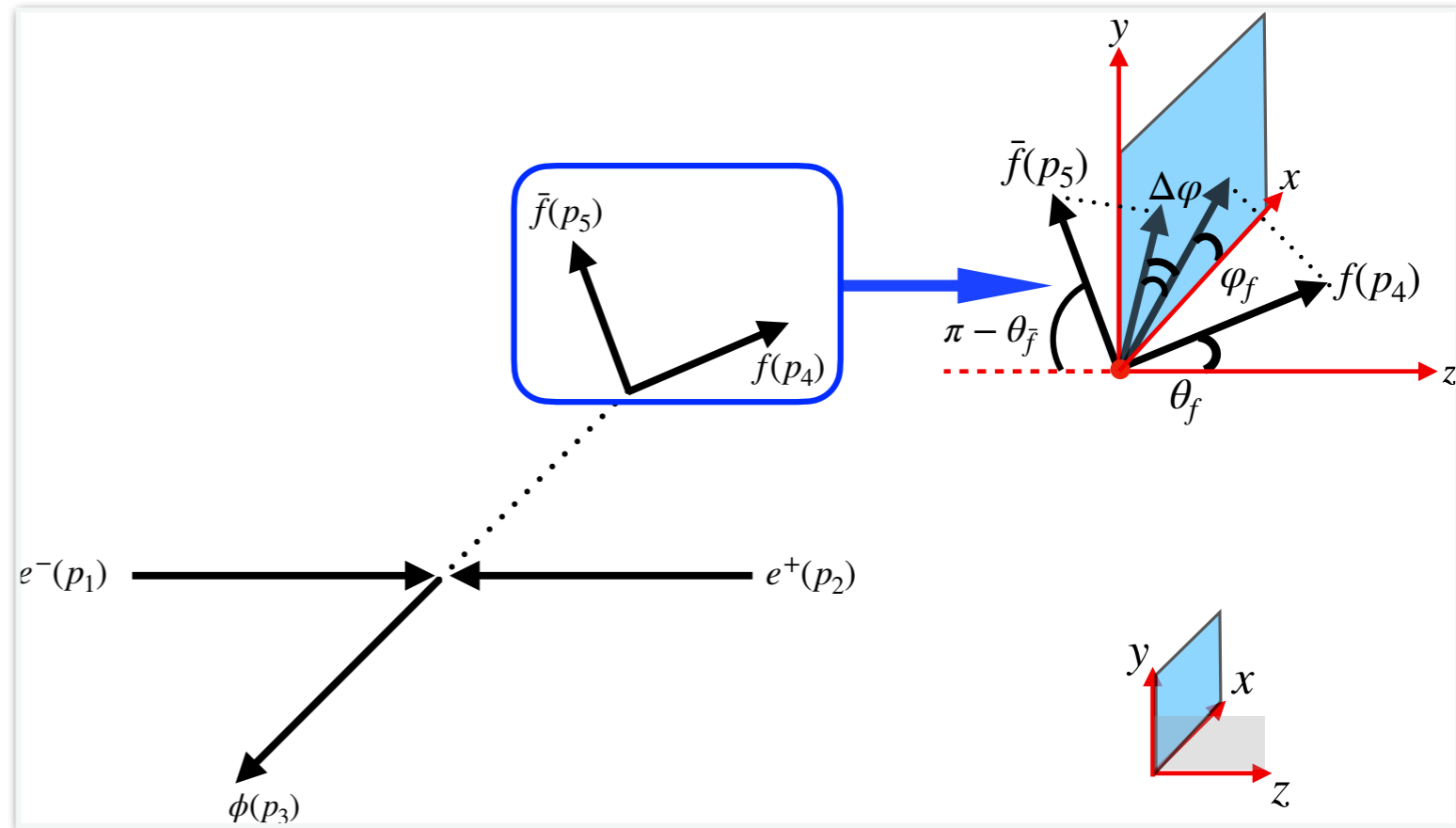
Light dilaton explanation of $g_\mu - 2$ anomaly is excluded. Distinction from Higgs-portal scalar in the photon coupling is properly taken into account \rightarrow Belle II.

Probing the CP property of the dilaton at Belle II

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Imprint of the CP nature in
 $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-\phi$ with $\Delta\varphi$.

$\Delta\varphi$: Azimuthal angle between
the outgoing e^+e^- .



Probing the CP property of the dilaton at Belle II

Imprint of the CP nature in $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-\phi$ with $\Delta\varphi$.

$\Delta\varphi$: Azimuthal angle between the outgoing e^+e^- .

Two benchmark points are shown where $\phi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ and $\phi \rightarrow \text{inv}$.

