



University  
of Victoria

**TMEX-2020, Quy Nhon, Vietnam**



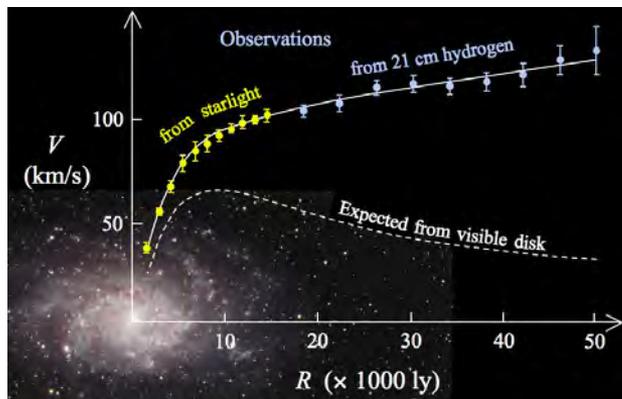
# Accelerator Searches for Dark Matter

Ellis Kay - The University of Victoria (ATLAS)

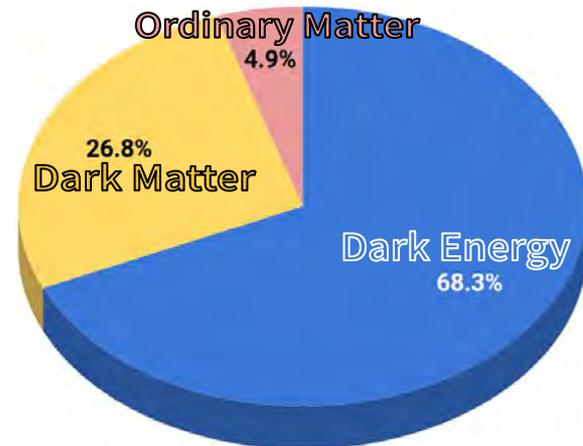
On behalf of  ATLAS



# Hints at Dark Matter

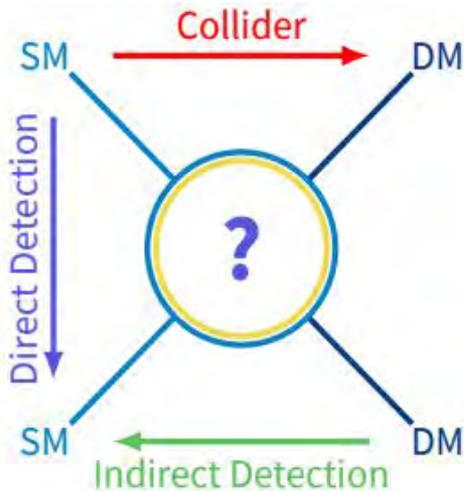


- A range of astrophysical measurements point to the existence of a non-baryonic form of matter ([Phys.Rept.405:279-390,2005](#))
  - Galaxy rotation curves, gravitational lensing, colliding galaxy clusters...
- Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs) are an attractive Dark Matter (DM) candidate, especially for the LHC
  - Lead to the correct relic density of non-relativistic matter
  - Non-gravitational interactions with the SM .∴ could be seen at colliders!!



# Methods for Detecting Dark Matter

Various methods exist for detecting DM, covering different ranges of DM mass,  $m_\chi$



## Direct Detection (DD):

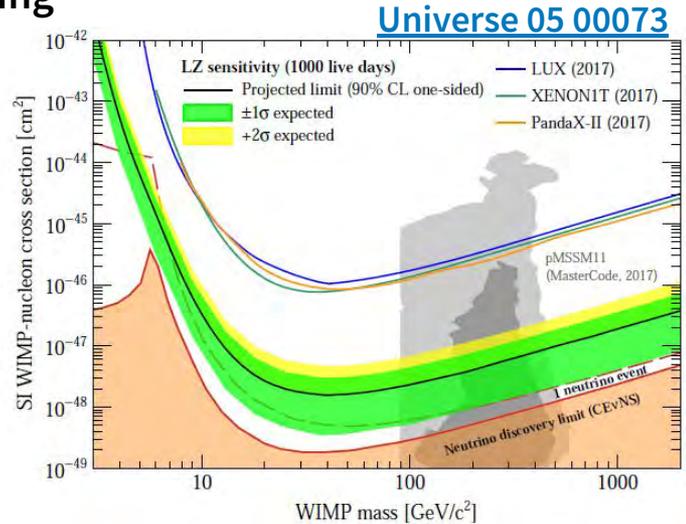
→ Nuclear recoil from elastic scattering

## Indirect Detection (ID):

→ DM annihilation

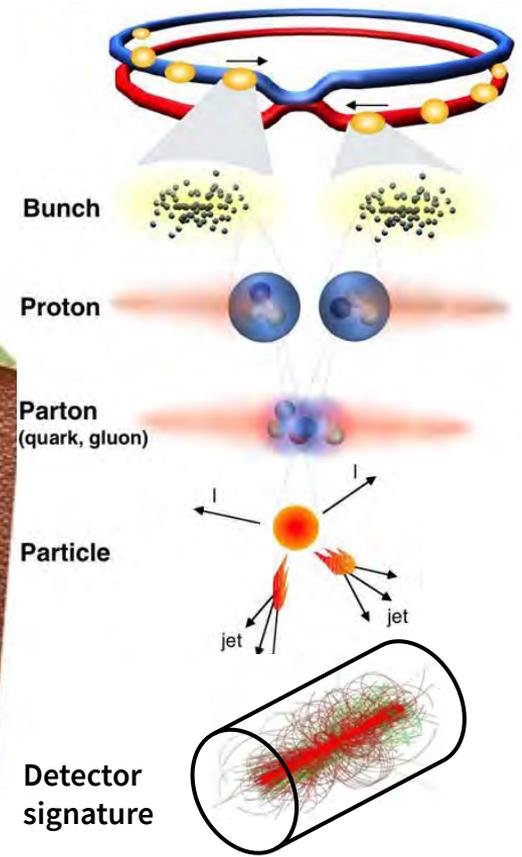
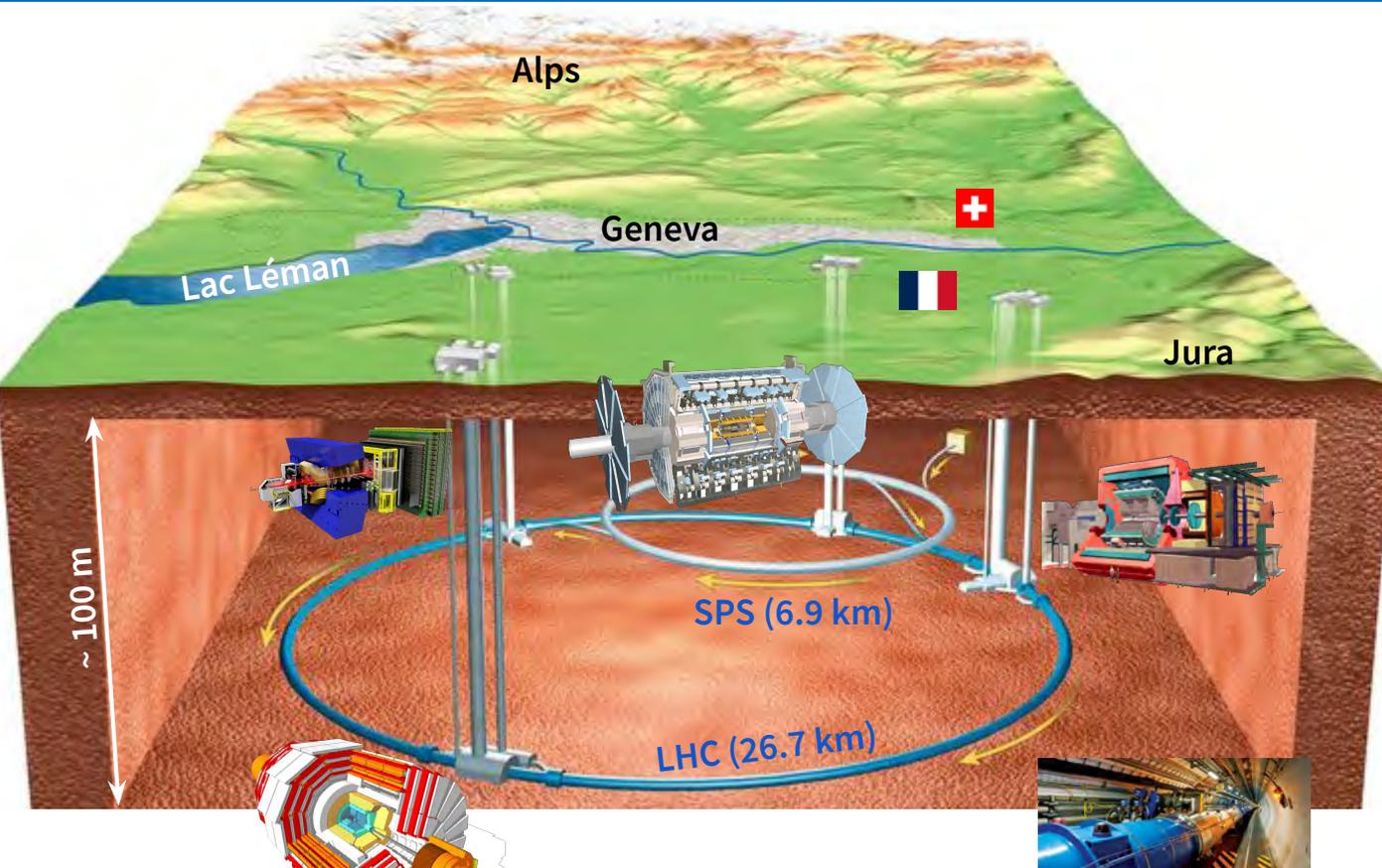
## Collider Searches:

→ DM production in high energy particle interactions

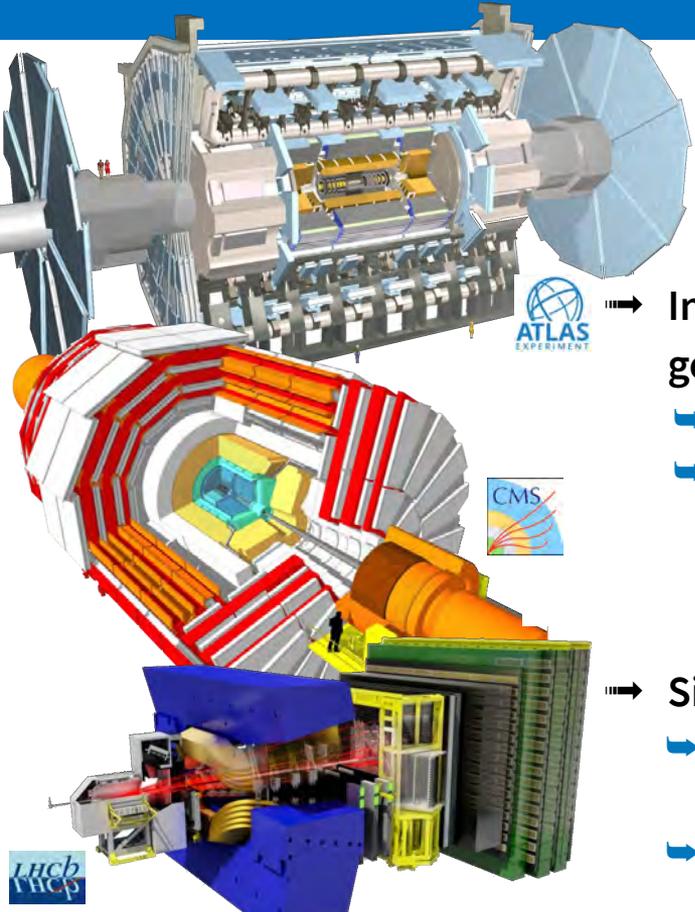


All three complementary methods continue to put mounting pressure on the WIMP hypothesis...

# The Large Hadron Collider



# Dark Matter Detectors at the LHC



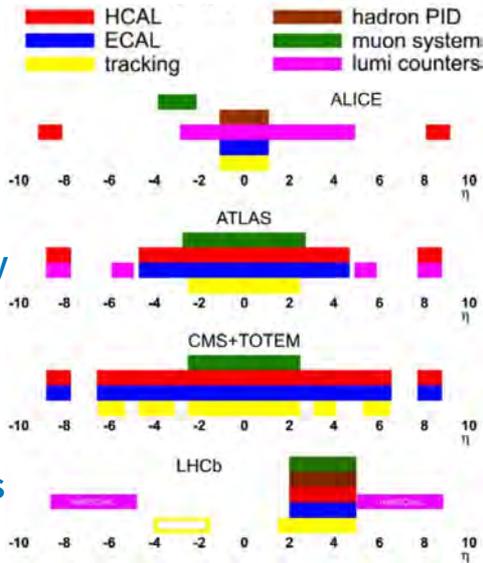
Three of the four main LHC experiments exploit distinct technologies to conduct complementary searches for DM

## ATLAS & CMS

- ⇒ Independently designed hermetic general-purpose detectors
  - Investigate largest range of physics possible
  - Can reconstruct missing transverse momentum ( $E_T^{miss}$ ) using all measured decay products

## LHCb

- ⇒ Single arm forward spectrometer
  - Probes the forward rapidity region & triggers on particles with low  $p_T$
  - Can explore relatively small boson masses

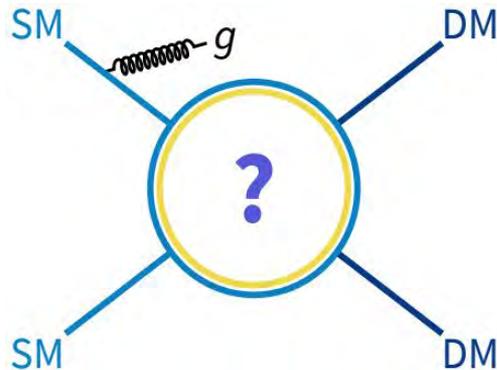


# Types of LHC DM Searches

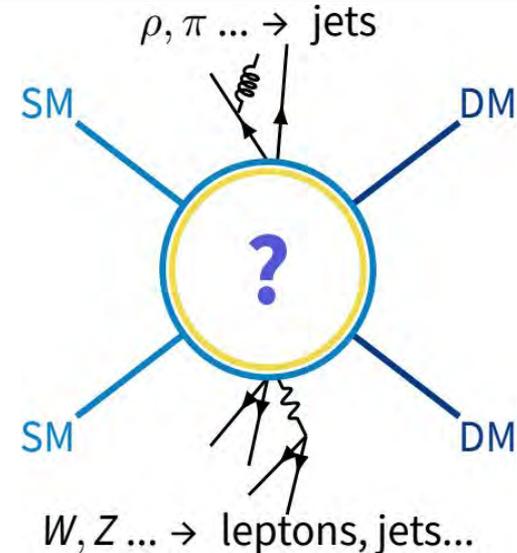
See [Phys. Dark Univ. 26 \(2019\) 100371](#)  
& [LHC DM Working Group](#)



Dark matter is invisible to our detectors  $\rightarrow$  look for associated production of visible (SM) particles



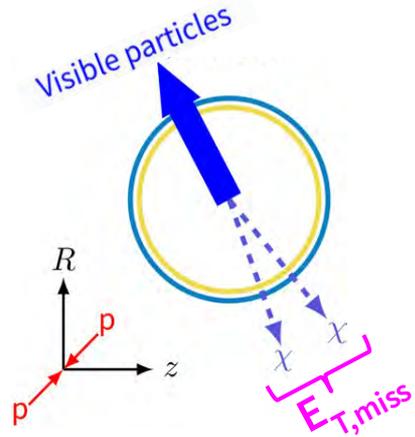
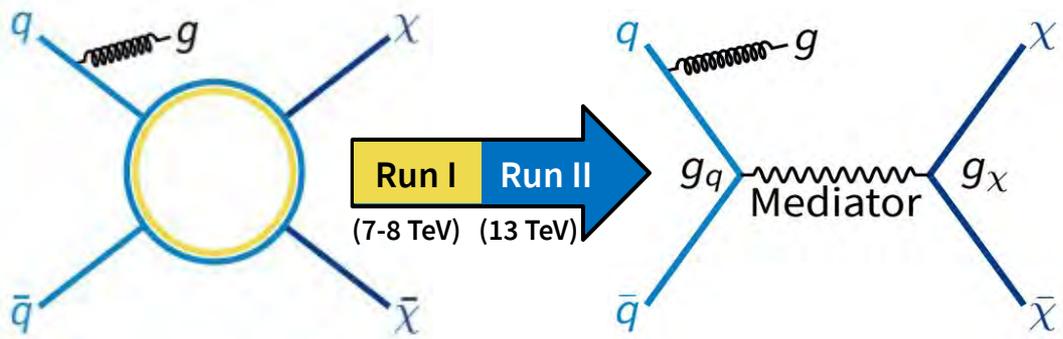
- $\Rightarrow$  Simple signals e.g. a single mediator
- $\Rightarrow$  Sizeable cross-sections
- $\Rightarrow$  Fewer assumptions on specific model parameters



- $\Rightarrow$  More reliant on model assumptions
- $\Rightarrow$  E.g. supersymmetry, UV complete models

# Simplified Models - 'Mono-X'

- The most general models involve contact interaction operators in Effective Field Theories (EFTs)
- These become invalid at large momentum transfer,  $Q^2$ , which is problematic for Run-II
  - Favour 'simplified' models with a mediator, introducing  $m_\chi, m_{\text{med}}, g_q$  and  $g_\chi$

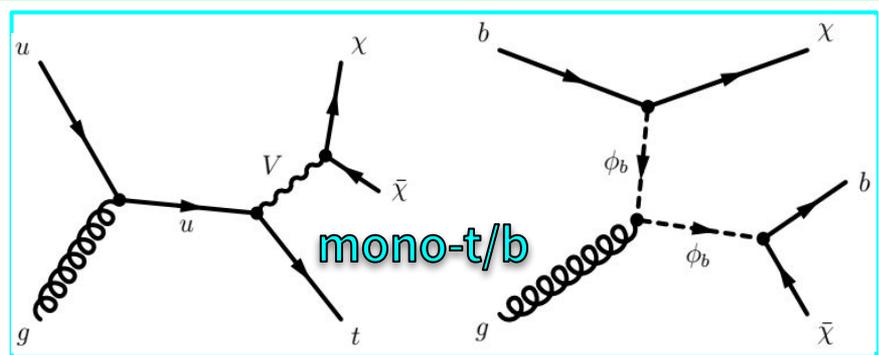
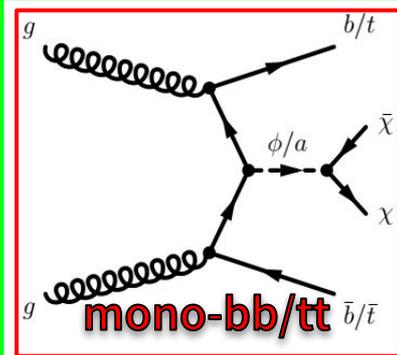
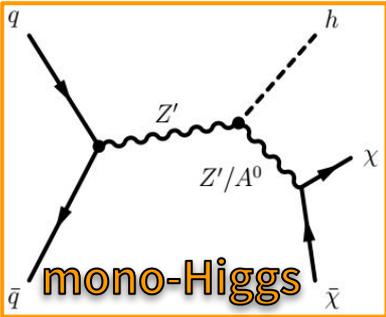
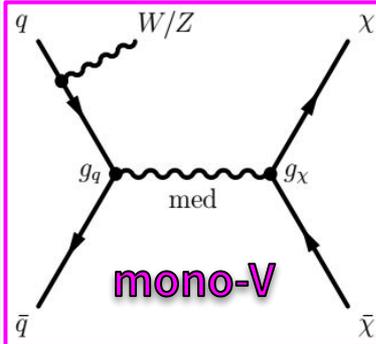
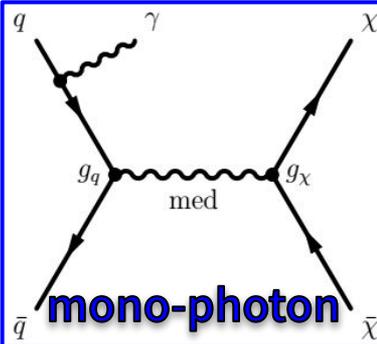
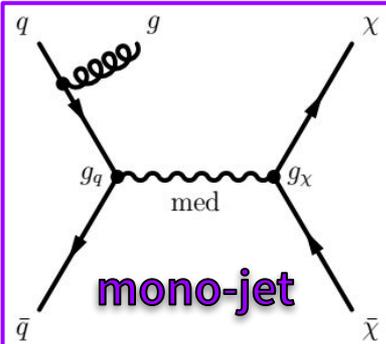


[CERN-TH-2017-102](#)

- Look for 'mono-X' signatures
  - Select events with 'X' (jet/ $\gamma$ /W/Z/t/H), veto other objects, precisely model backgrounds, check  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$
  - Fix  $g_q, g_\chi$  and exclude  $m_\chi, m_{\text{med}}$  → [CERN-LPCC-2016-001](#)
- Also look for visible decays of the mediator to complement these searches → [CERN-LPCC-2017-01](#)
  - Re-interpret other analyses as mediator searches

# Mono-X Signatures

There is a wealth of mono-X final states to be investigated at the LHC...



**Heavy Flavour (HF)**

With various production mechanisms ( $q\bar{q}$ ,  $gg$  etc.) ...

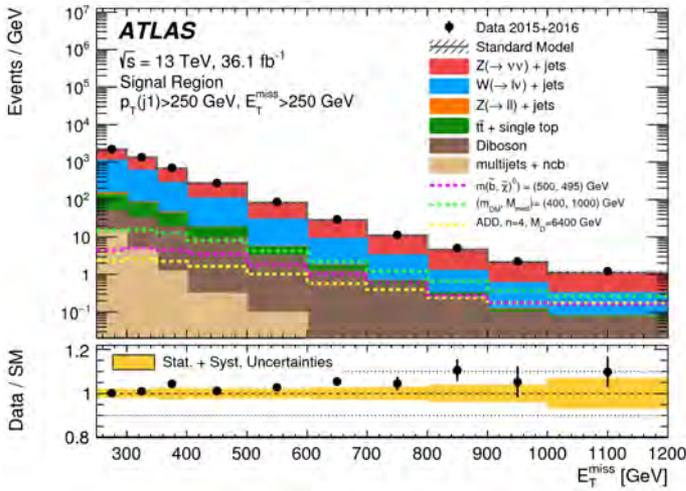
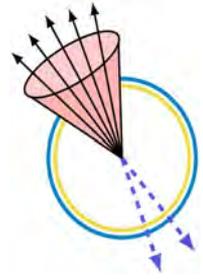
Via (axial-)vector or (pseudo-)scalar mediators...

And with different couplings, depending on the benchmark

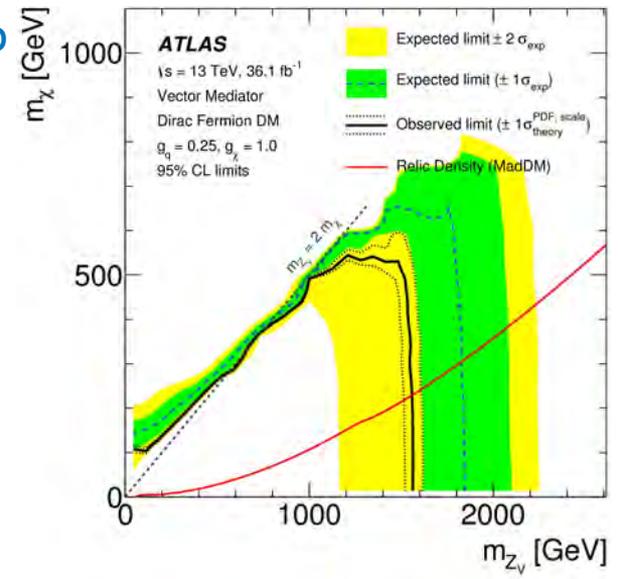
# Mono-jet



- ➔ Gluon ISR is by far the most prevalent at the LHC!
- ➔  $m_{med} < 1.6$  TeV (ATLAS) - 1.8 TeV (CMS) excluded at 95% CL for (axial-)vector mediators
- ➔ Pseudoscalar  $m_{med} < 0.4$  TeV excluded for CMS
- ➔ Re-interpretations for a series of scenarios
  - CMS: fermion portal, nonthermal,  $H \rightarrow inv$ , ADD
  - ATLAS: coloured scalar, squark pair production (compressed-mass), ADD



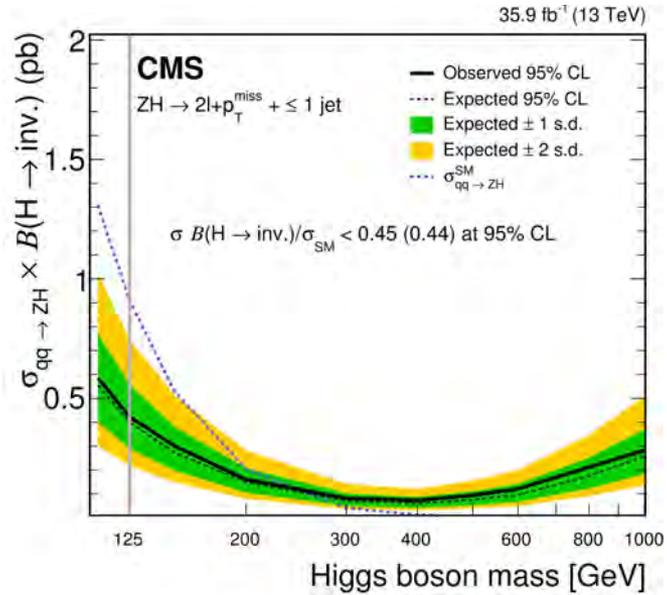
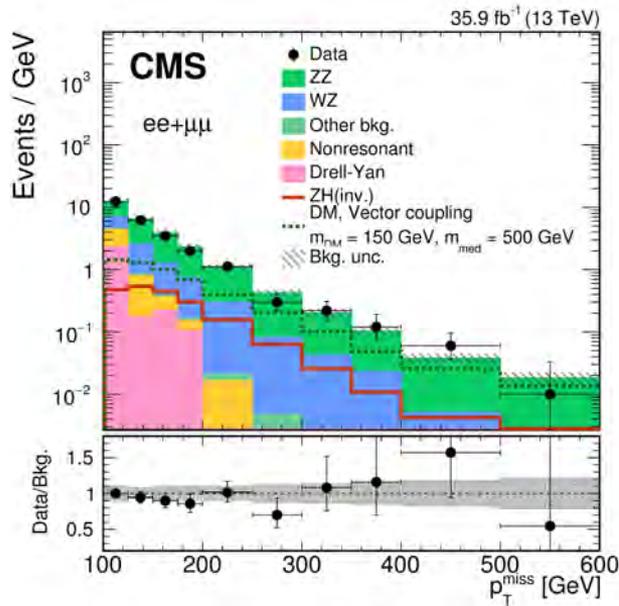
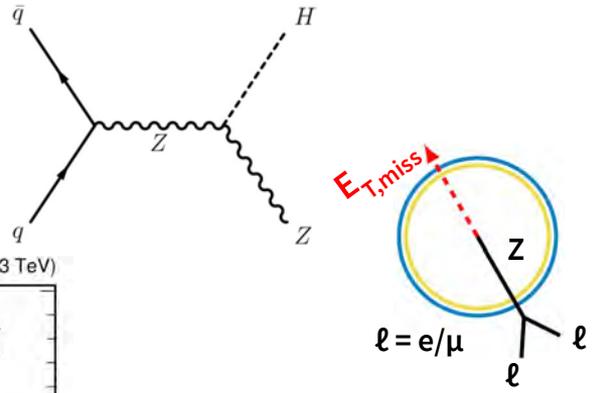
Dominant backgrounds = Z/W+jets  
 Constrained using enriched V+jet CRs  
 Perform simultaneous bg-only likelihood fit to  $E_T^{miss}$  distributions



# Mono Z( $\ell\ell$ )



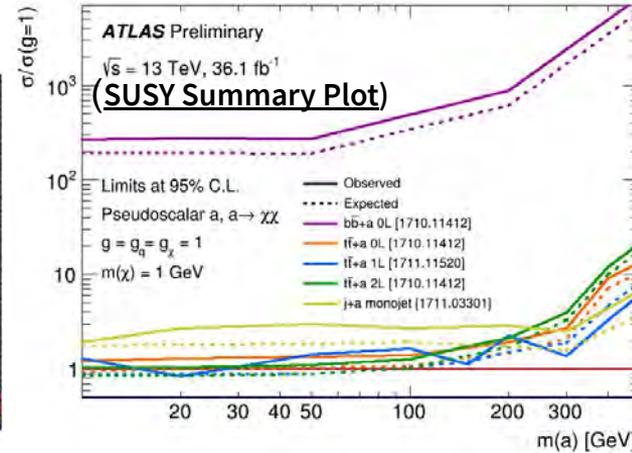
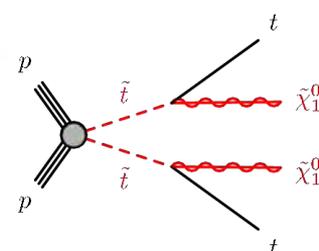
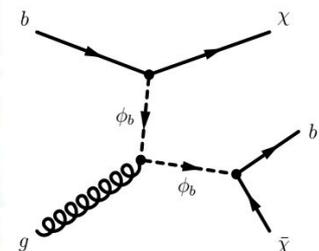
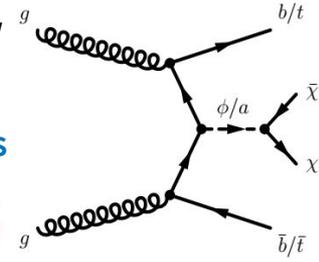
- ➔ Single lepton triggers offer sensitivity to signals with lower  $E_T^{miss}$
- ➔ WIMP production with  $Z'$  mediator or  $H \rightarrow inv$  decays
- ➔ ATLAS:  $B(H \rightarrow inv) = 0.67$  (obs, 95% CL)
- ➔ CMS:  $B(H \rightarrow inv) = 0.4$  (obs, 95% CL,  $ZH \rightarrow \ell\ell + inv$ )



**CMS: For  $H \rightarrow inv$  interpretation, perform multivariate boosted decision tree (BDT) to increase sensitivity (12 variables)**



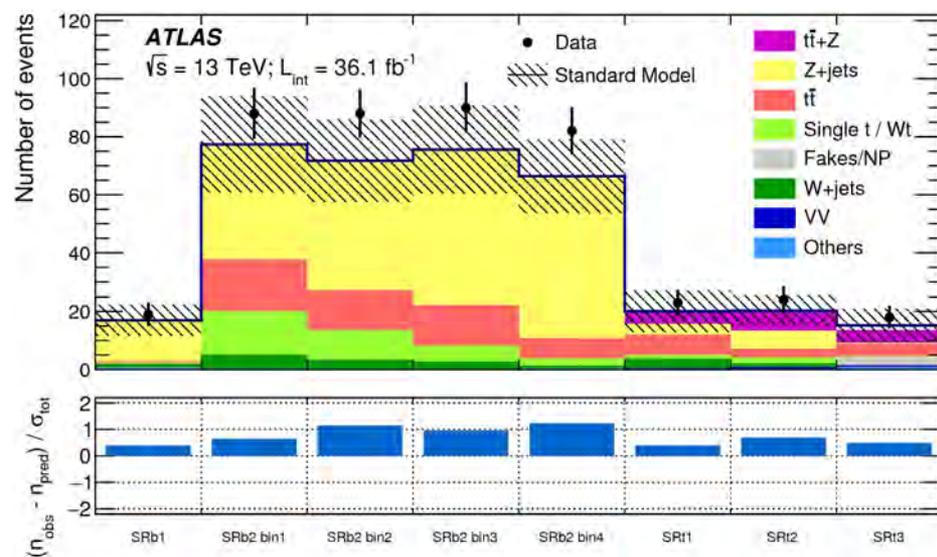
- Assuming minimal flavour violation, interactions between SM matter and any new neutral spin-0 state is proportional to fermion masses via Yukawa-type couplings
  - Colour-neutral mediators sizeably produced in association with Heavy Flavour (HF) quarks
- Z+jets & t $\bar{t}$  dominant backgrounds



**bb/tt searches have same final state as SUSY searches:**

ATLAS: [JHEP 06 \(2018\) 108](#)

CMS: [Phys. Rev. D 97, 032009 \(2018\)](#)



# Mono Higgs

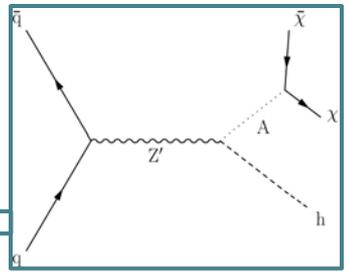
ATLAS: [ATLAS-CONF-2018-039](#) (bb)  
 ATLAS: [Phys. Rev. D 96 \(2017\) 112004](#) ( $\gamma\gamma$ )

CMS: [Eur. Phys. J. C 79 \(2019\) 280](#) (bb)  
 CMS: [JHEP 09 \(2018\) 046](#) ( $\gamma\gamma/\tau\tau$ )  
 CMS: [CMS-EXO-18-011](#) (bb+ $\gamma\gamma$ + $\tau\tau$ +WW+ZZ)

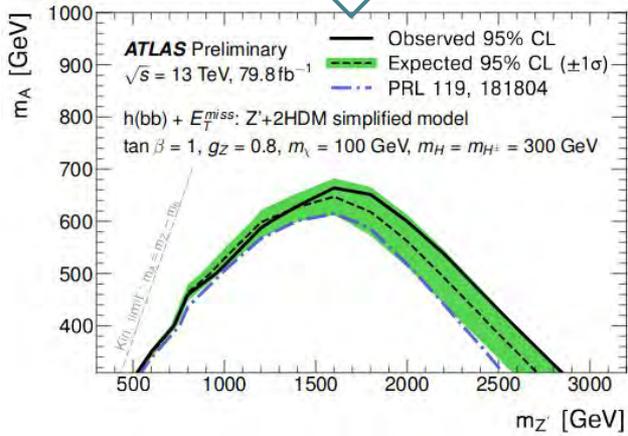
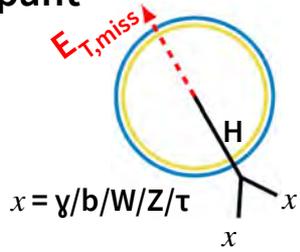
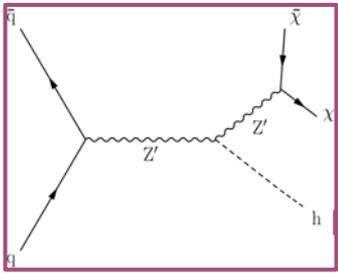


→ Higgs ISR is strongly suppressed ∴ target interactions in which H is a direct participant

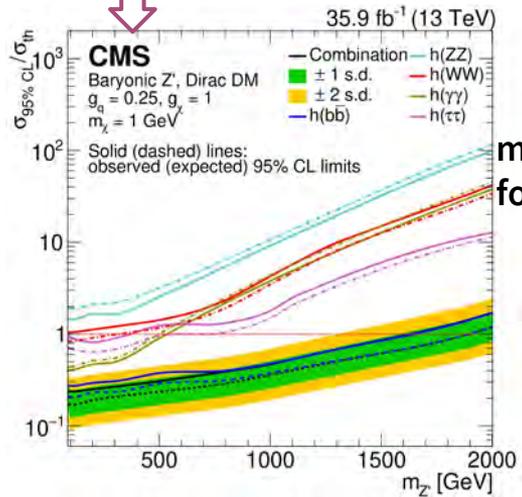
Z'-2HDM  
 New pseudo-scalar A  
 resonant



Baryonic Z' model  
 New U(1) with baryon  
 number symmetry  
 non-resonant



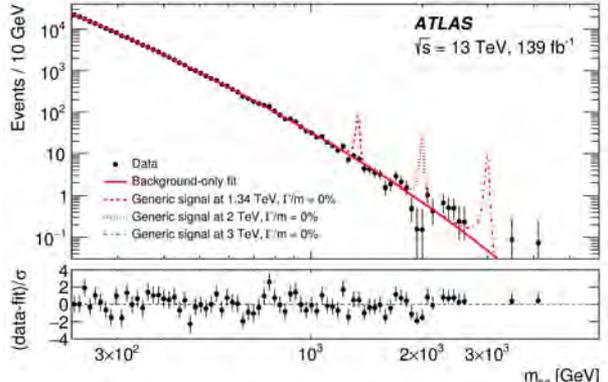
$m_{Z'} < 2.8$  TeV excluded  
 for  $m_A = 300$  GeV



$m_{Z'} < 1.6$  TeV excluded  
 for  $m_χ = 1$  GeV

# Visibly Decaying Mediator Searches

- ➔ DM cannot be produced on-shell if  $2m_{DM} > m_{med}$ 
  - Mediator decays back to SM
  - Need to probe visible signatures to see DM interactions off-shell
- ➔ The LHC is a “mediator machine”!
- ➔ Probe high masses in search of BSM mediators.
- ➔ Look for bumps on the smoothly falling di-object distribution, which is modeled by a parameterized function.
- ➔ In absence of bump, set limits for different physics scenarios.

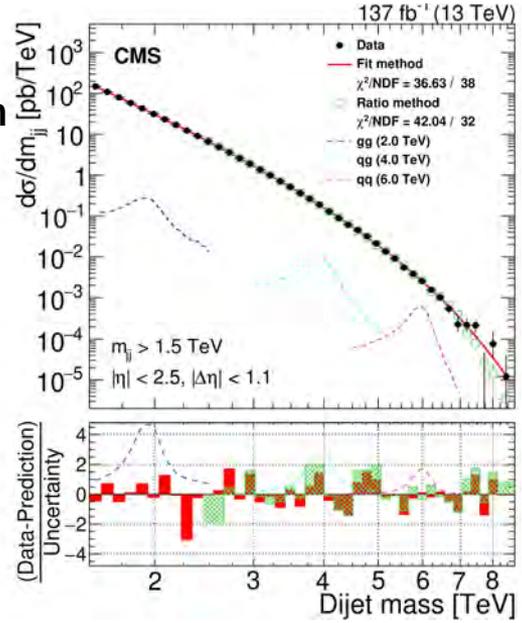


## Dilepton

- ➔ ATLAS: [PHYS. LETT. B 796 \(2019\) 68](#)
- ➔ CMS: [JHEP 06 \(2018\) 120](#)

## Dijet

- ➔ ATLAS: [CERN-EP-2019-1](#)
- ➔ CMS: [CERN-EP-2019-222](#)

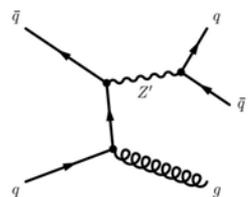
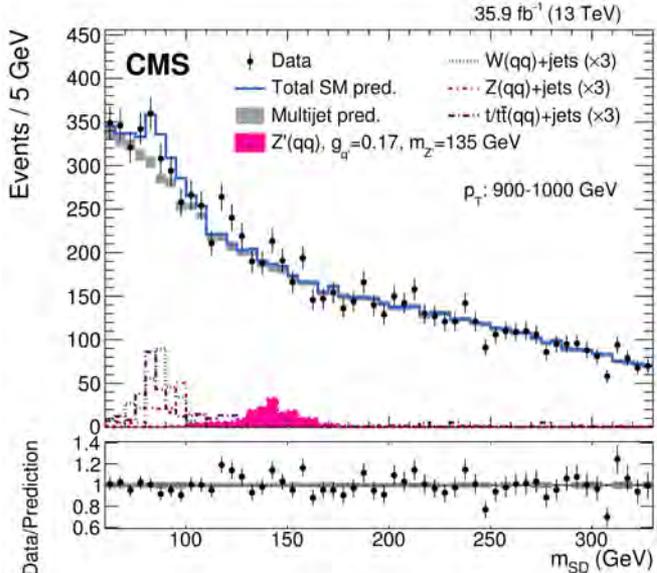
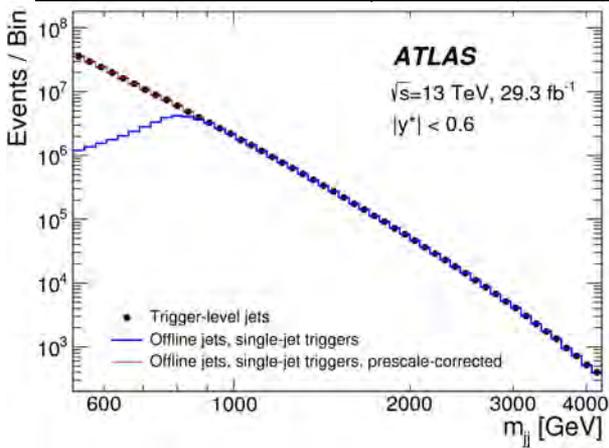


# Low Mass Di-jet Searches



- ➔ Sensitivity at low ( $< 1$  TeV)  $m_{jj}$  is limited by jet triggers
  - Data collection rates for inclusive single-jet triggers  $\ll$  SM multijet production rate
- ➔ “Data-scouting” / “Trigger-object Level Analysis” (TLA)
  - Use reduced data format to allow high trigger rate with low bandwidth

**PHYS. REV. LETT. 121, 081801 (2018)**

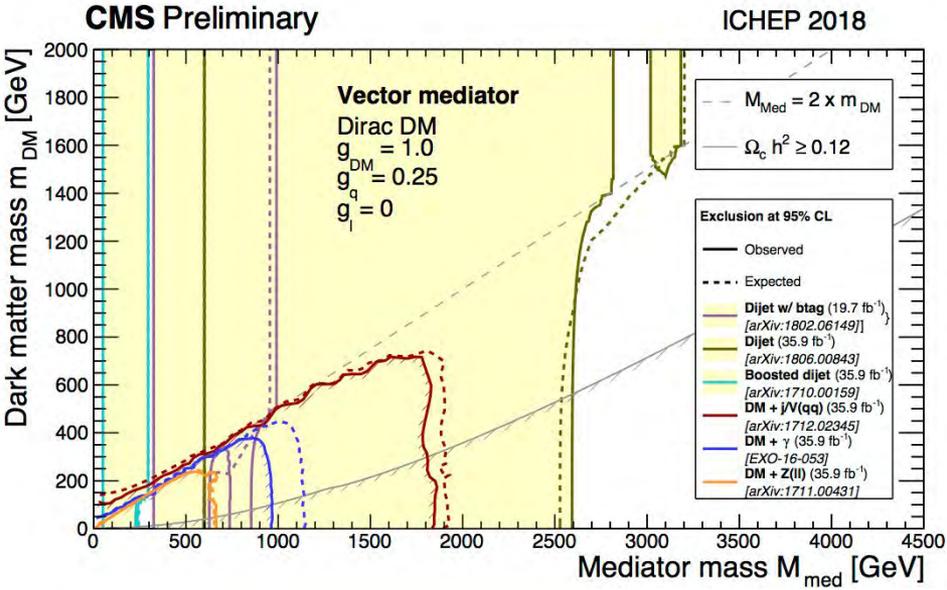
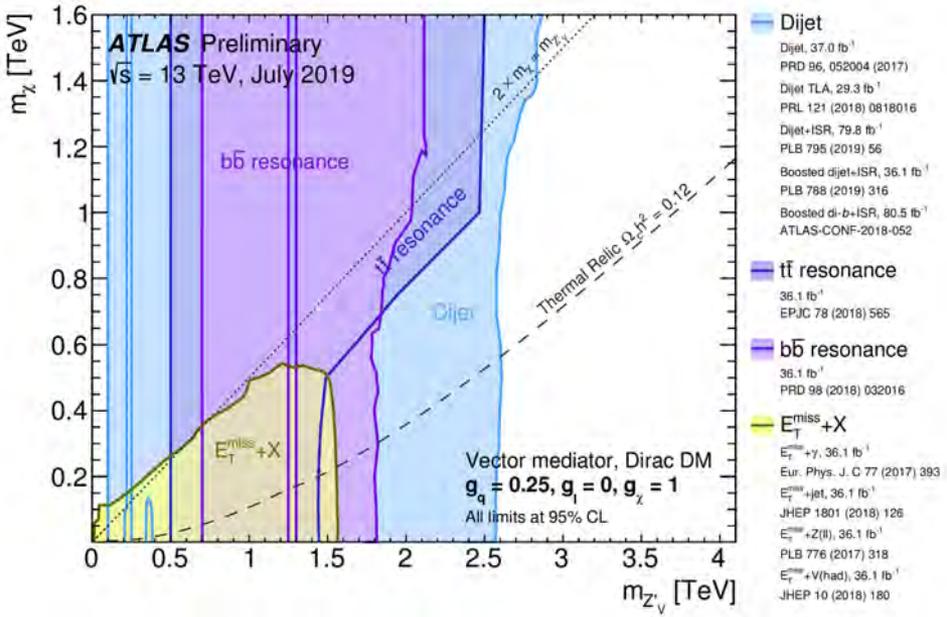


- ➔ Introduce hard Initial-State Radiation (ISR) requirement
  - Require  $\geq 1$  high  $p_T$  ISR jet in association with the  $qq$  resonance
  - Provides enough energy to satisfy trigger
  - Min  $p_T$  high enough that hadroisation from  $qq$  gives a large-R jet
  - Achieve sensitivity to even lower mediator masses
  - ATLAS: 225 - 1100 GeV, CMS:  $< 100$  GeV!

# Combined Results



Vector mediator, Dirac DM,  $g_\chi = 1, g_q = 0.25, g_l = 0$



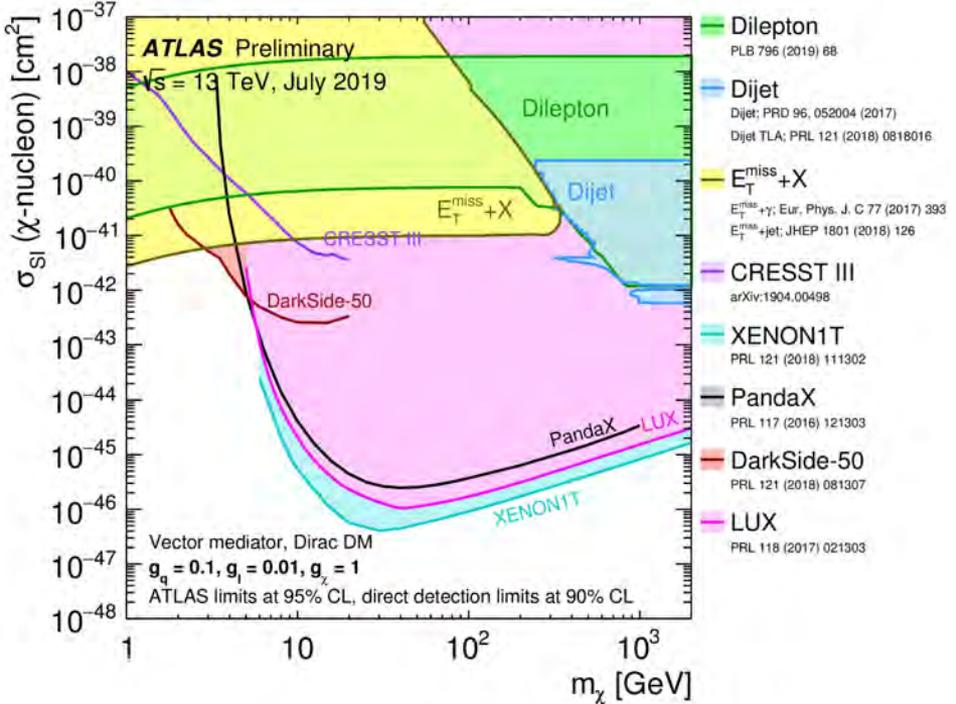
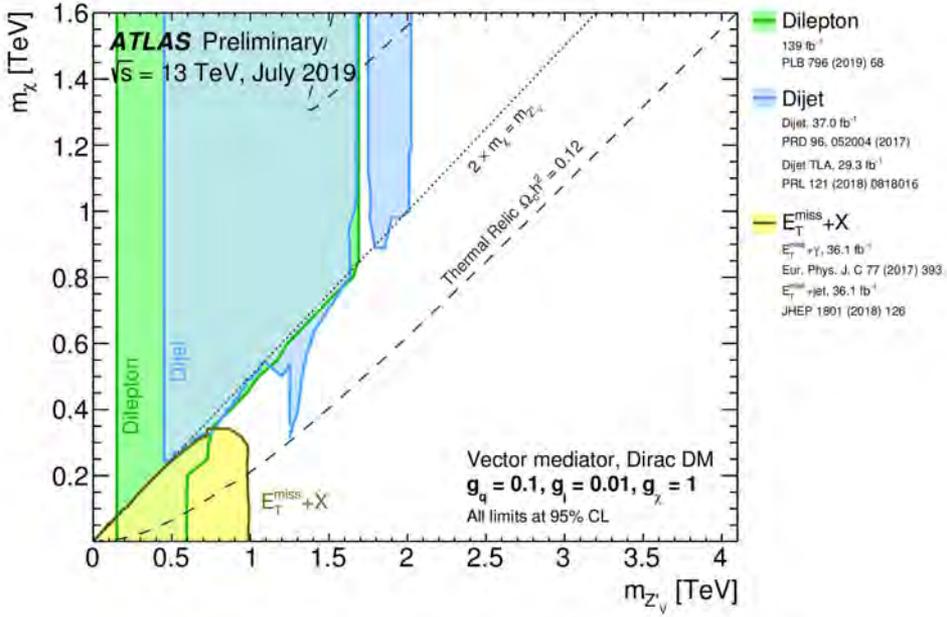
$m_{med} \sim 2.5$  TeV reach from mediator searches

# Combined Results



SI WIMP-nucleon scattering cross-section, Dirac DM,  $g_\chi = 1, g_q = 0.1, g_l = 0.01$

→ For these couplings in this model, the mono-jet search has higher sensitivity than DD at low  $m_\chi$ !

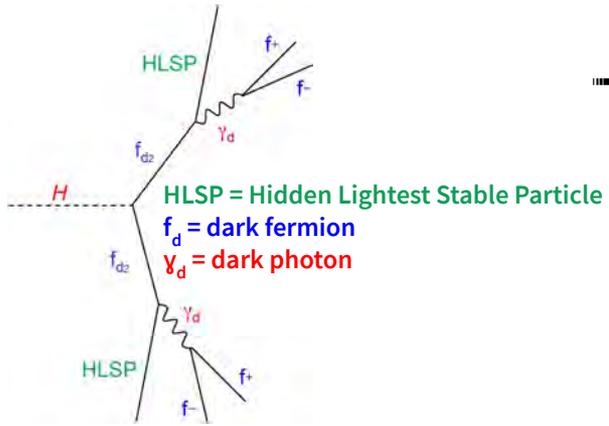
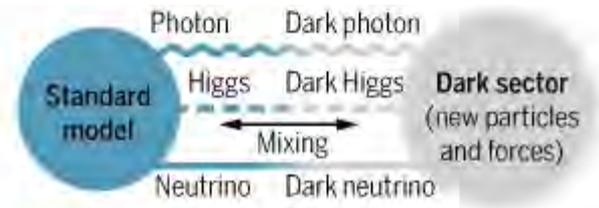


# Dark Sector Searches

e.g. ATLAS: [CERN-EP-2019-140](#) (dark  $\gamma$ )  
 & CMS: [JHEP 10 \(2019\) 139](#) (dark  $\gamma$ )

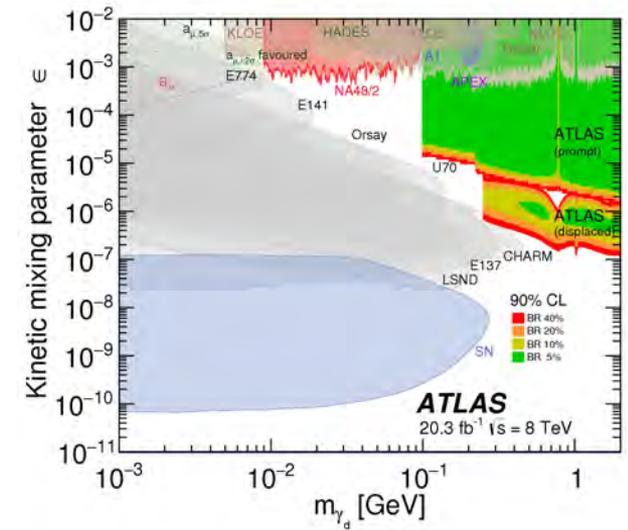


- ➔ What if DM exists in a hidden sector, composed of particles which don't undergo SM gauge interactions?
- ➔ Dark mediators could couple to SM via portal interactions
  - Coupling to SM encoded in a mixing term in the Lagrangian
  - Look for SM particles from DM decays via these portals
  - Set limits on coupling strength to SM...  $\varepsilon^2$  (dark  $\gamma$ ),  $f_a$  (ALPs)...
  - Small mixing  $\rightarrow$  long lifetime



- ➔ LHC detectors can extend to high masses and low couplings
  - Complementary to fixed target/beam-dump experiments ([JHEP02\(2016\)062](#))

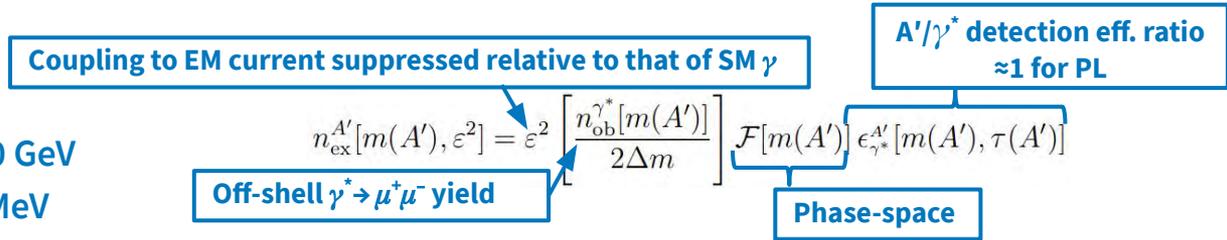
C.BICKEL/SCIENCE



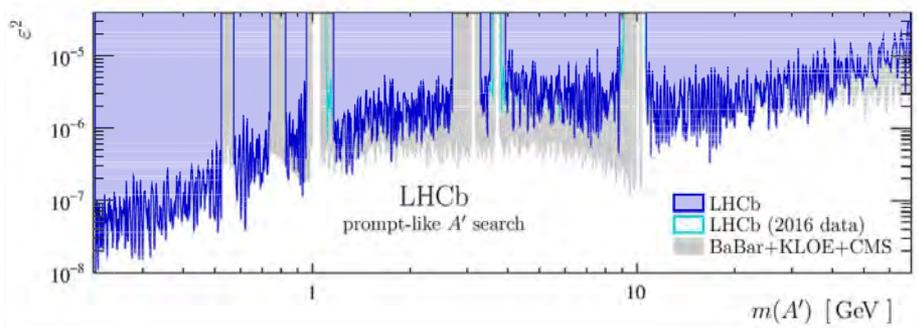
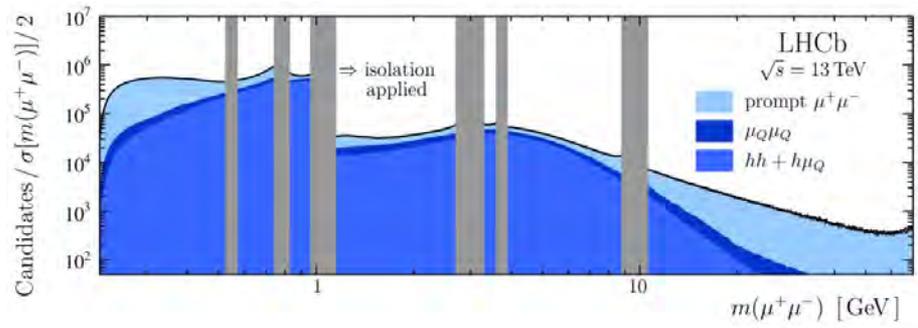


➔ Search for dark photons,  $A'$

- ➔ In  $A' \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$
- ➔ Prompt-like (PL):  $2(m_\mu) < m_{A'} < 70$  GeV
- ➔ Long-lived (LL):  $214 < m_{A'} < 350$  MeV

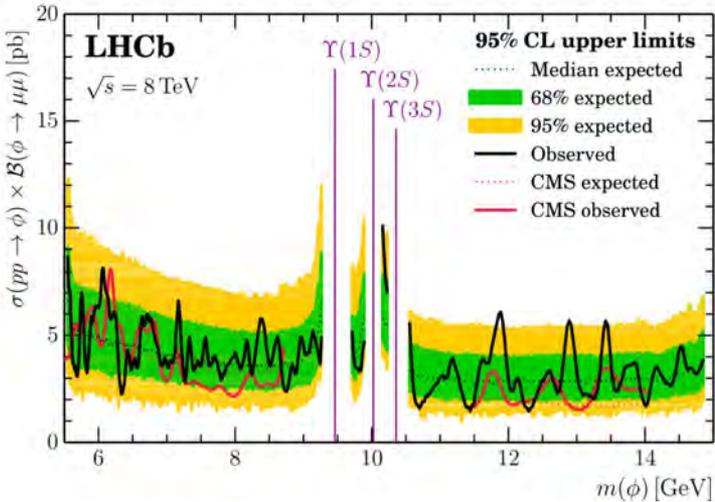


- ➔ Coupling arises via kinetic mixing between SM hypercharge &  $A'$  field strength tensors
- ➔ PL: most stringent limit to date for  $\mu\mu$  production in  $214 < m_{A'} < 740$  MeV &  $10.6 < m_{A'} < 30$  GeV
- ➔ Comparable to best existing limits for  $m_{A'} < 0.5$  GeV
- ➔ LL: first to achieve sensitivity using a displaced-vertex signature, world leading constraints for low mass  $A'$  with lifetimes  $O(1)$  ps

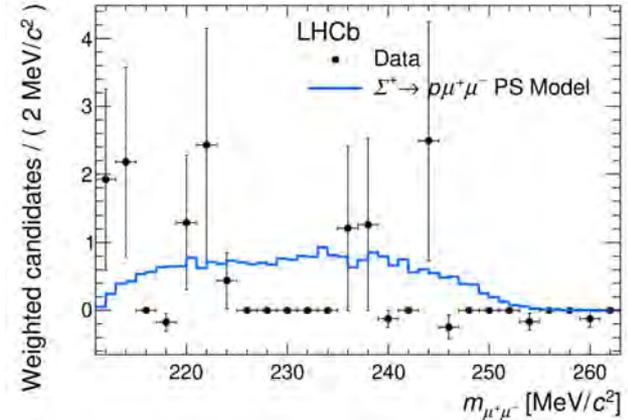
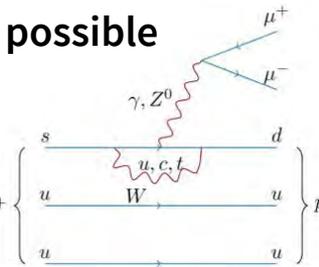


# LHCb Dark Boson Searches

- $pp \rightarrow \phi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$  In  $gg$  fusion JHEP 09 (2018) 147
- ⇒ Narrow resonance search in  $\Upsilon$  mass region
- ⇒ Analysis designed is model-independent
- ➡ Independent of production mech, spin
- ⇒ First limits set in previously unexplored  $8.7 < m(\phi) < 11.5$  GeV



- In  $\Sigma^+ \rightarrow p \mu^+ \mu^-$  PRL 120, 221803 (2018)
- ⇒ Narrow range of  $\mu\mu$  masses from 3 candidates observed at HyperCP indicate possible intermediate particle  $X^0$
- ⇒ LHCb observes the  $\Sigma^+$  decay  $\Sigma^+ \rightarrow p \mu^+ \mu^-$
- ⇒ BUT no significant  $m_{\mu\mu}$  peak!



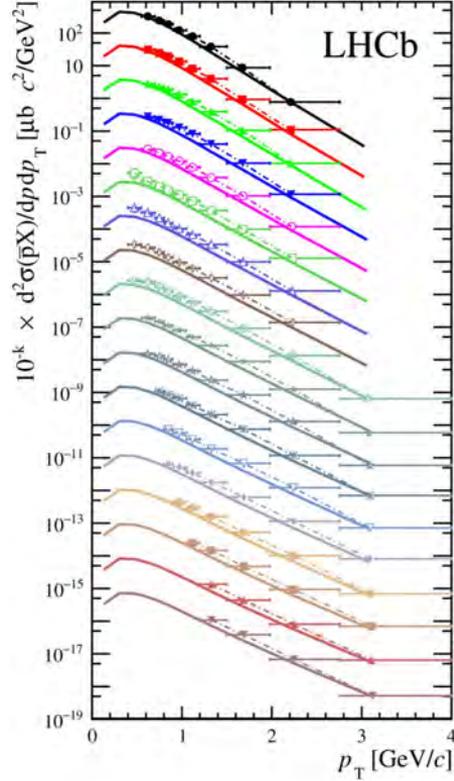
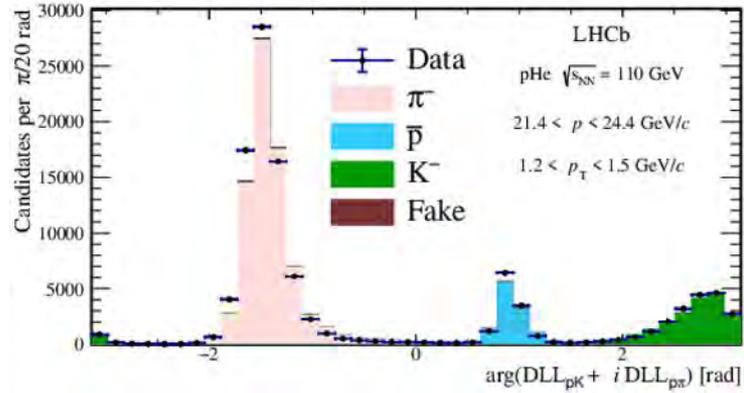
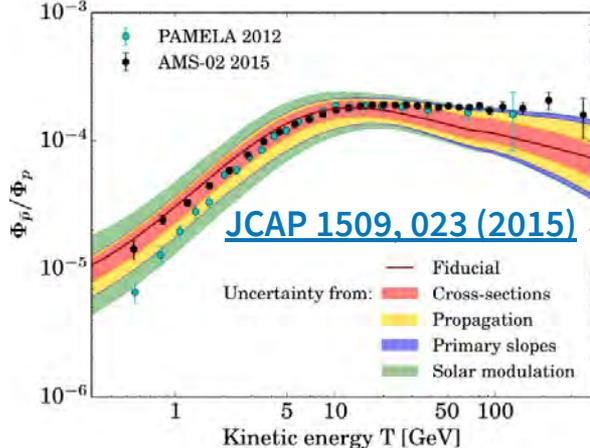
# Antiproton Production $\sigma$

PRL 121, 222001 (2018)



- The antiproton fraction in cosmic rays is a sensitive probe of dark matter annihilation
- Large uncertainties due to limited knowledge of  $\bar{p}$  production cross-section in 10-100 GeV  $\bar{p}$  range cannot cover observed excess of  $\bar{p}$  yields over current prediction
- System for Measuring Overlap with Gas (SMOG) CERN-LHCC-2019-005 allows injection of He in THE LHCb interaction region

→ 6.5 TeV protons collide with He





# Conclusion & Outlook

- The LHC has an extensive DM search program
  - Three different detectors exploit different technologies to conduct complementary searches
- Mono-X searches in many complementary channels covering a broad range of benchmarks
- Mediator searches extending to the TeV scale to hunt of-shell DM interactions
  - Lower masses also probed thanks to TLA and boost from ISR
- Also producing constraints in EW SUSY &  $H \rightarrow inv$  interpretations
- These searches complement results from other detection methods
  - Strong limits for SD DM-nucleon cross section and model-dependent limits for  $m_{\chi} < 10$  GeV!
- Now delving into the dark sector
  - With distinct and complementary coverage of mass & lifetimes from hermetic & forward detectors
- Ongoing analysis of full Run 2 dataset!