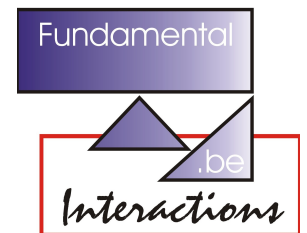
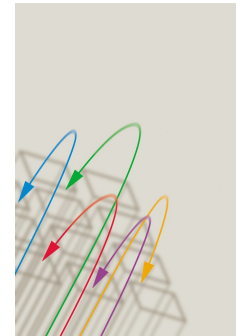
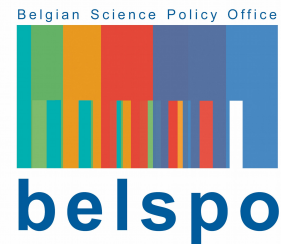


# Searches for Exotic Signatures at the LHC

Steven Lowette

Vrije Universiteit Brussel - IIHE



21 December 2017

Final Meeting IAP

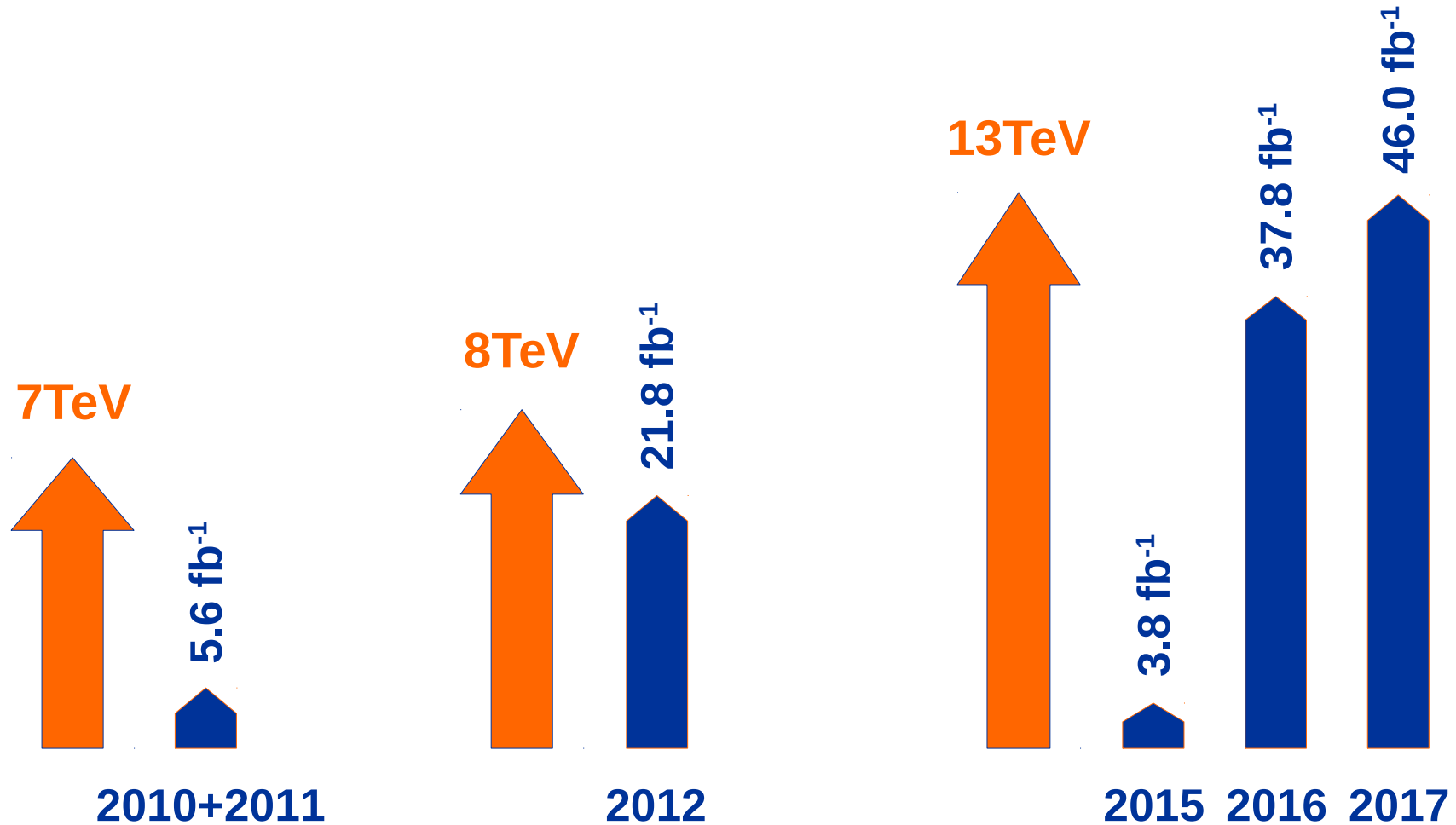
“Fundamental Interactions”



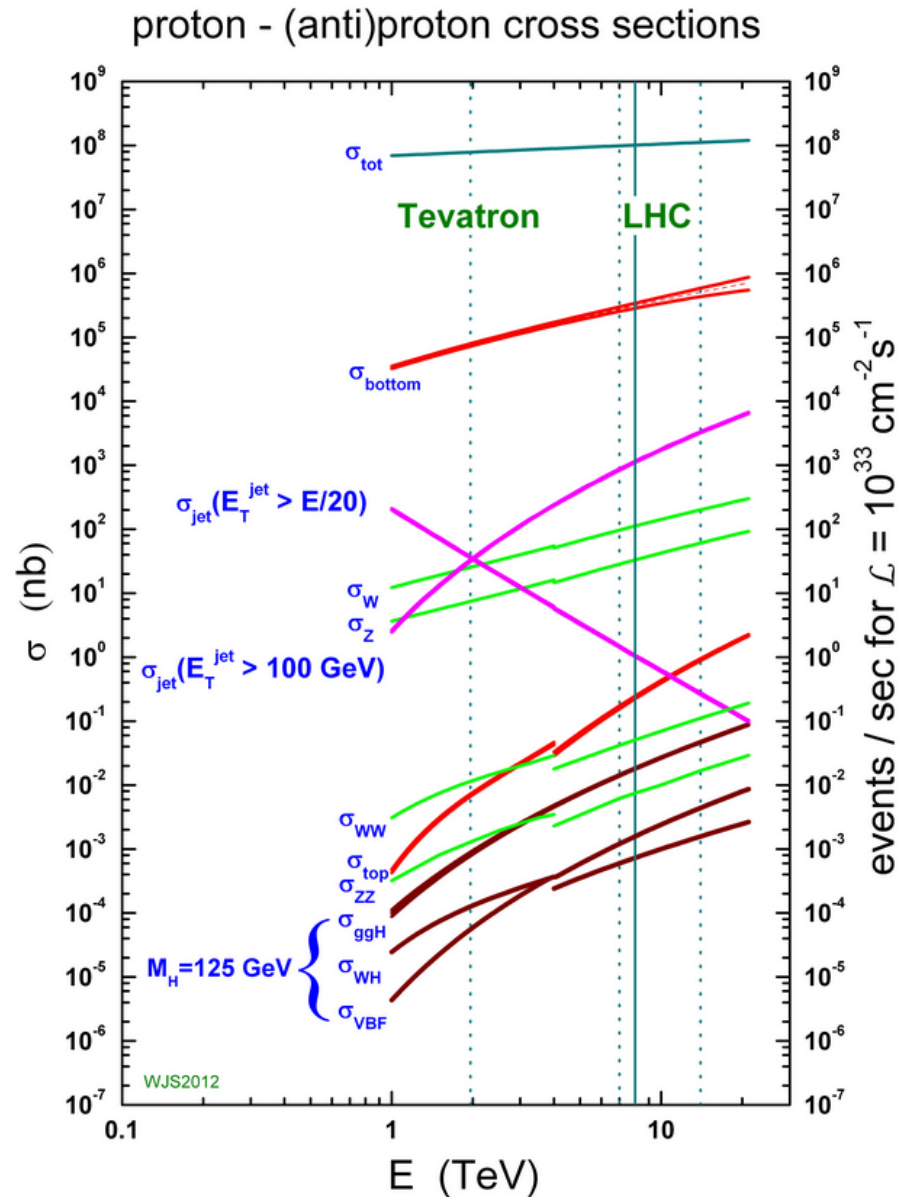
- from energy...  
...to luminosity
- what now?
- new opportunities
  - dark matter
  - long-lived particles
  - experimental anomalies

# The LHC revolution

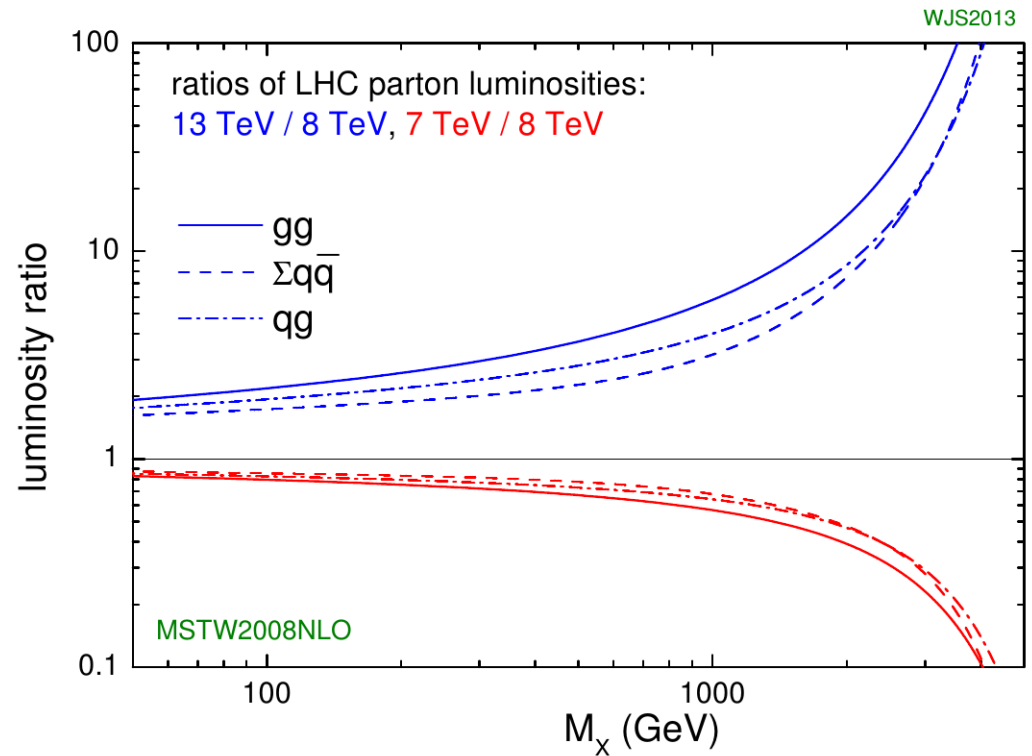
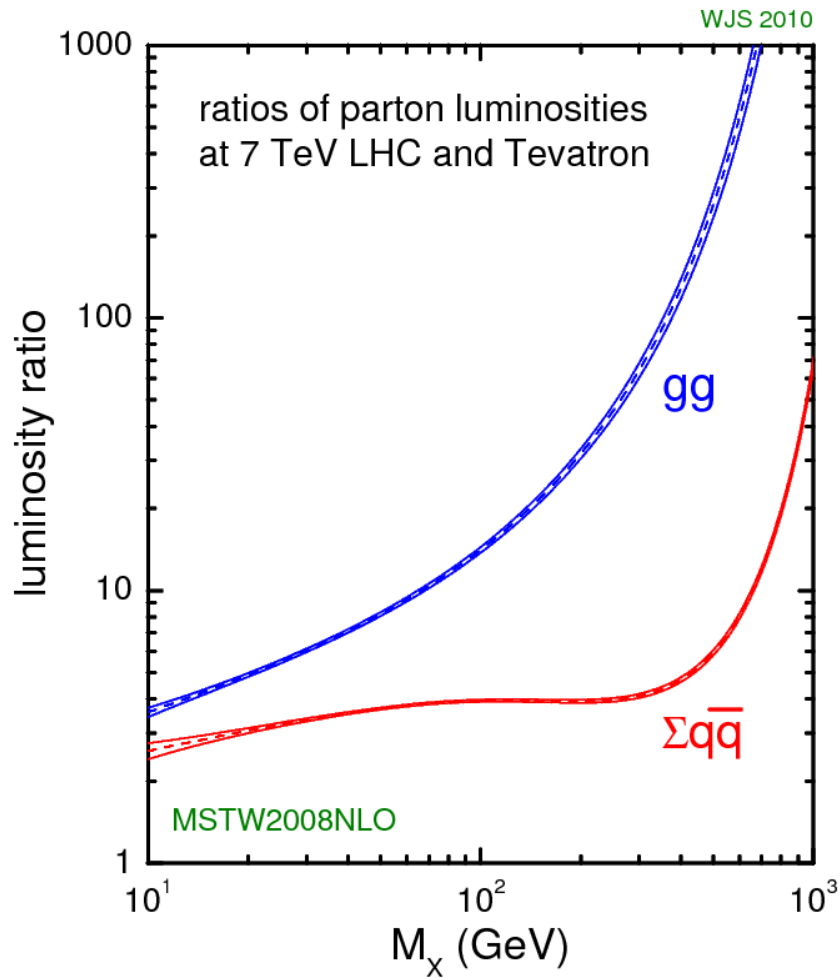
- world-record energies, luminosities beyond expectation



# The energy frontier

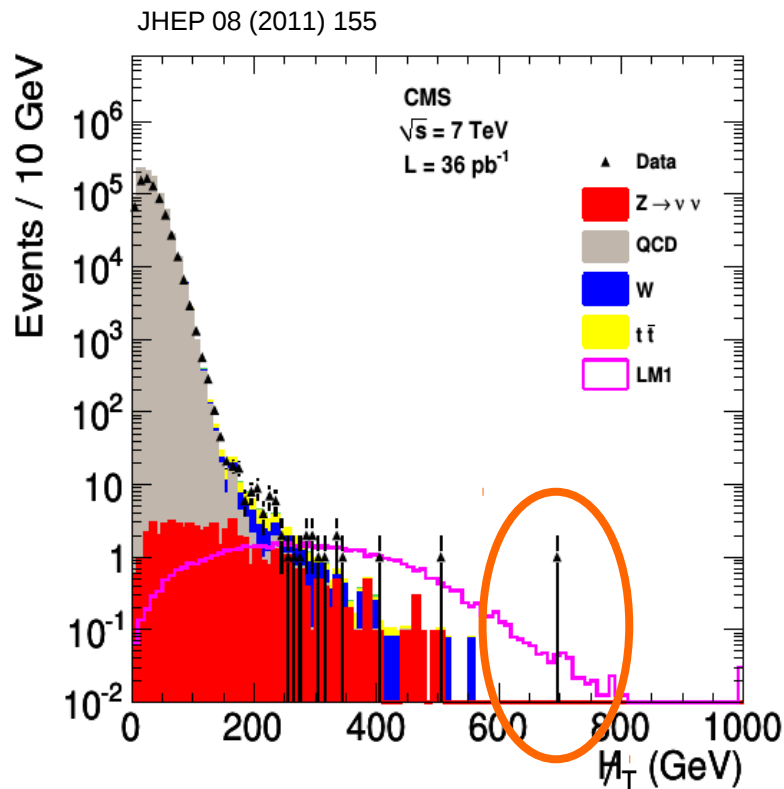


# The energy frontier

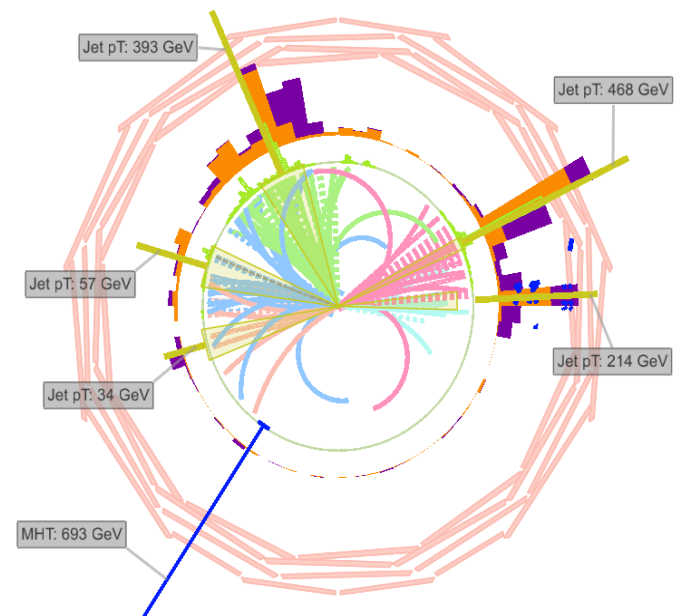


## Excitement in 2010 and 2015

- first data at world-record centre-of-mass energy collisions
  - “new physics around the corner”



**MET = 693 GeV**



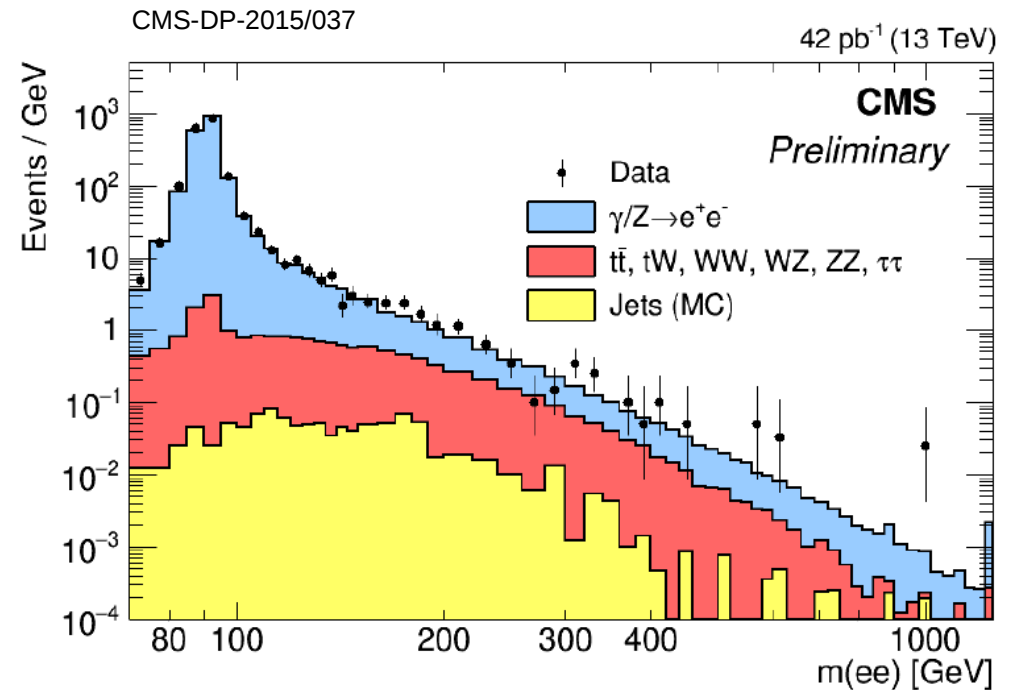
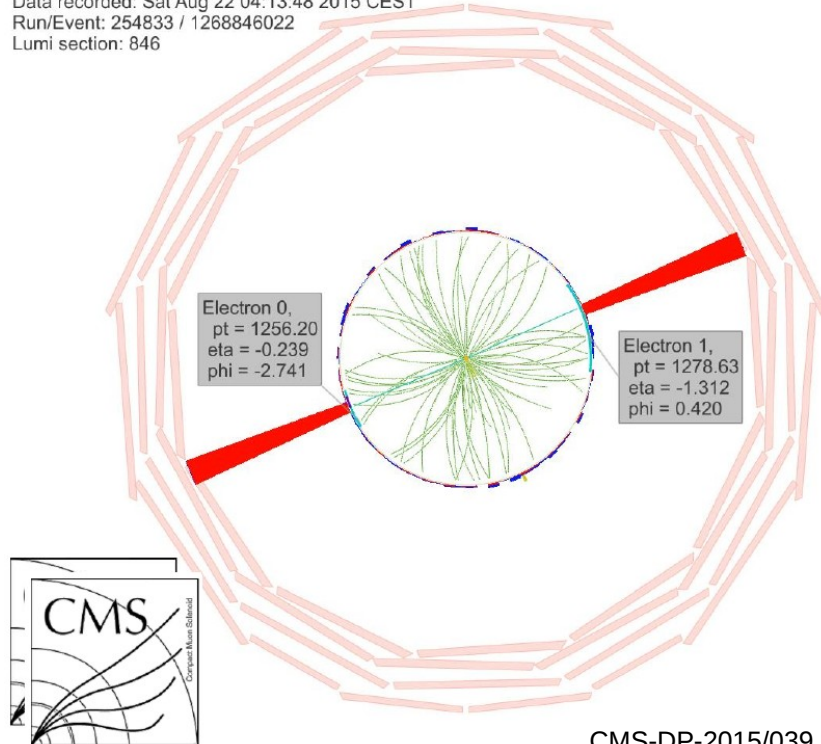
# The energy frontier

## Excitement in 2010 and 2015

- first data at world-record centre-of-mass energy collisions
  - “new physics around the corner”

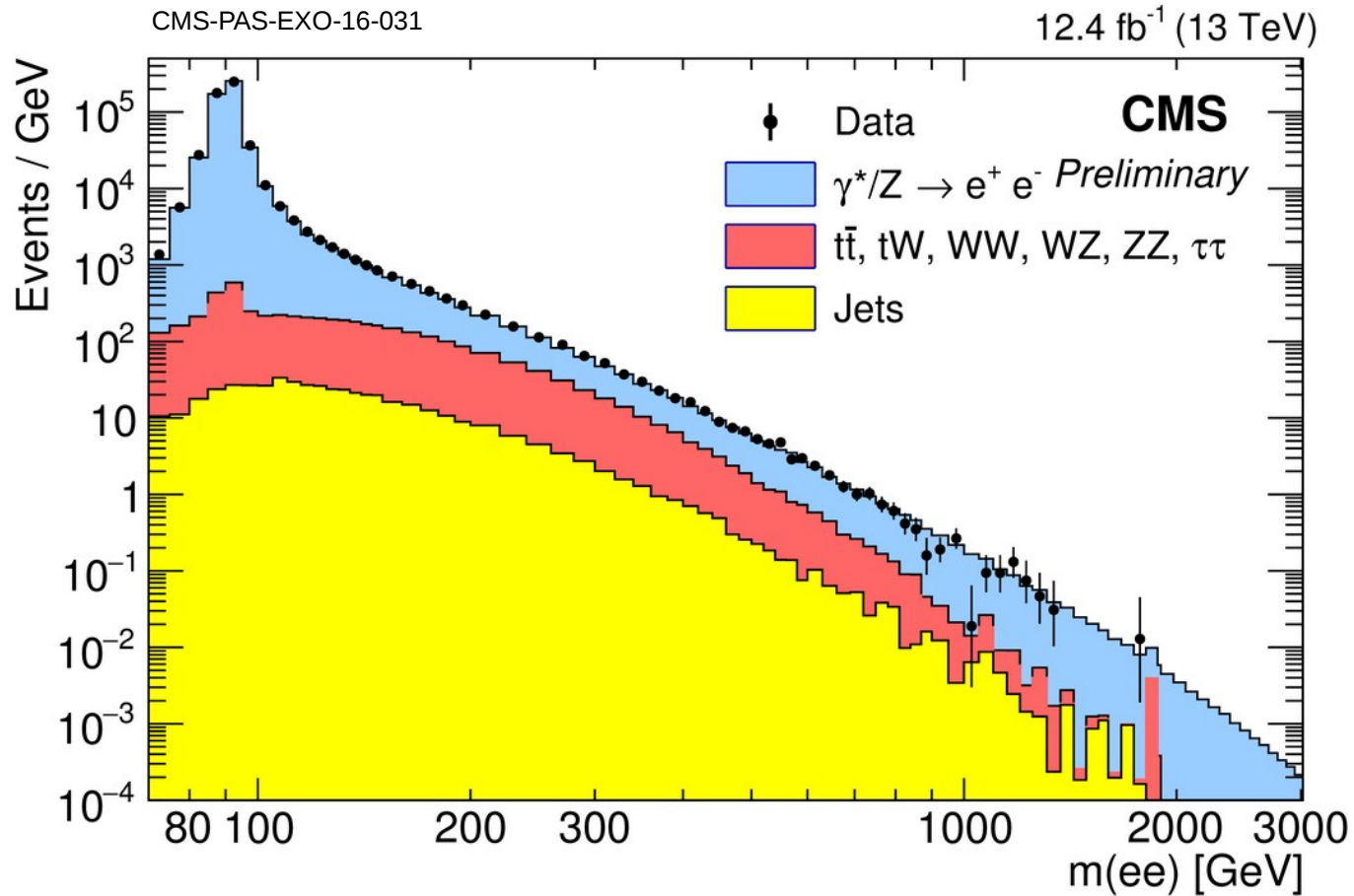
**$m(e^+e^-) = 2.91 \text{ TeV}$**   
 **$B < 0.002 \text{ ev. (64pb}^{-1}\text{)}$**

CMS Experiment at LHC, CERN  
Data recorded: Sat Aug 22 04:13:48 2015 CEST  
Run/Event: 254833 / 1268846022  
Lumi section: 846



## Current state of the art

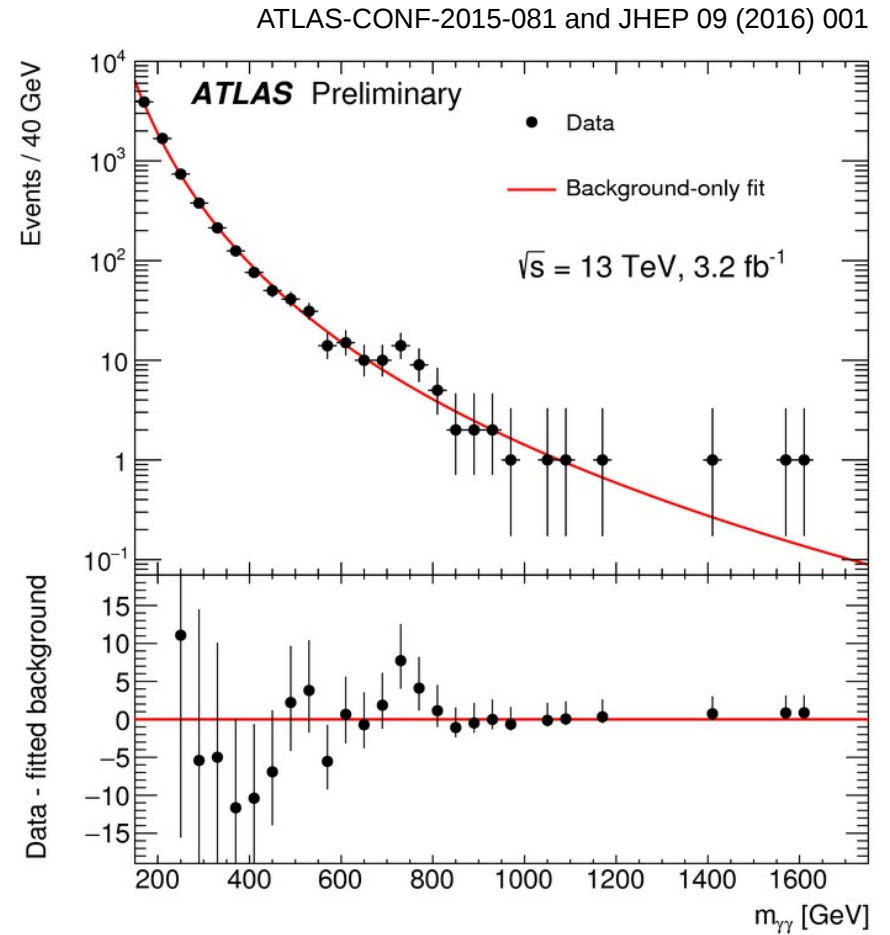
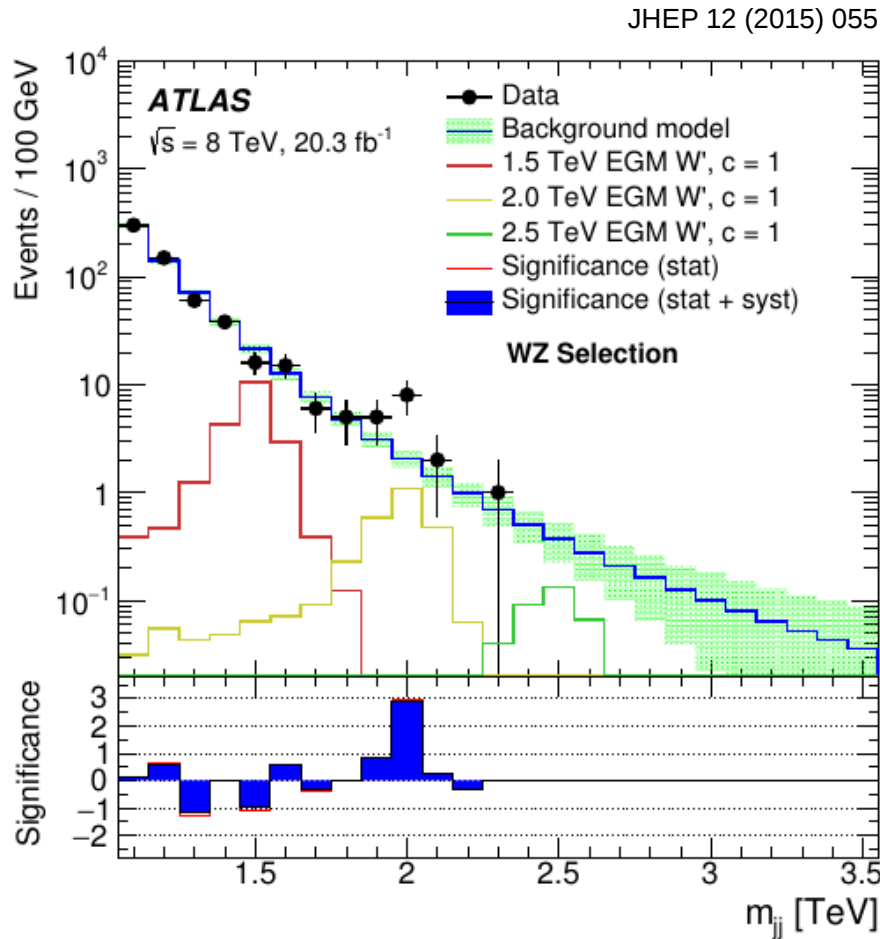
- smooth spectra including tails incredibly well predicted





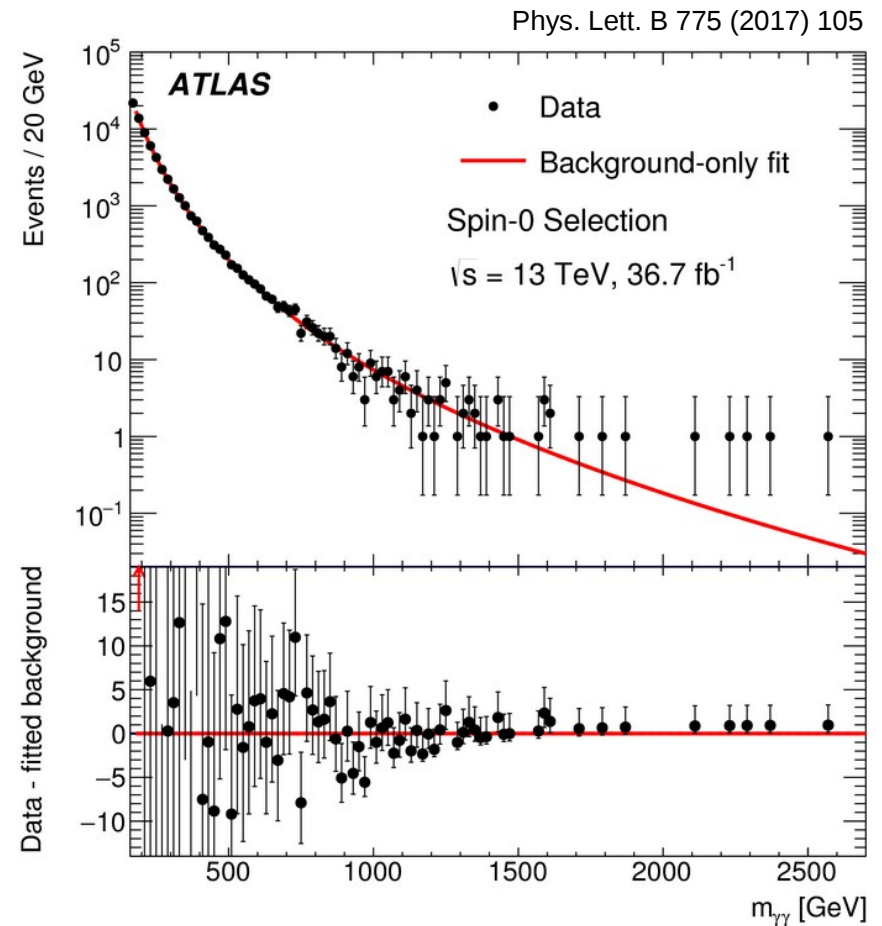
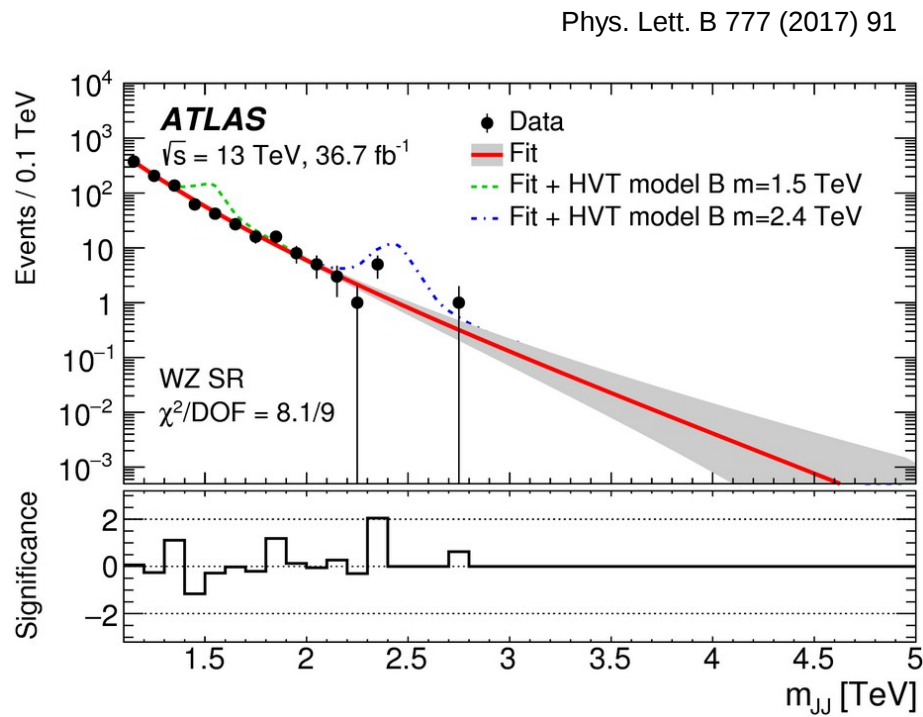
# On the kinematic tails

## We still had some surprises...



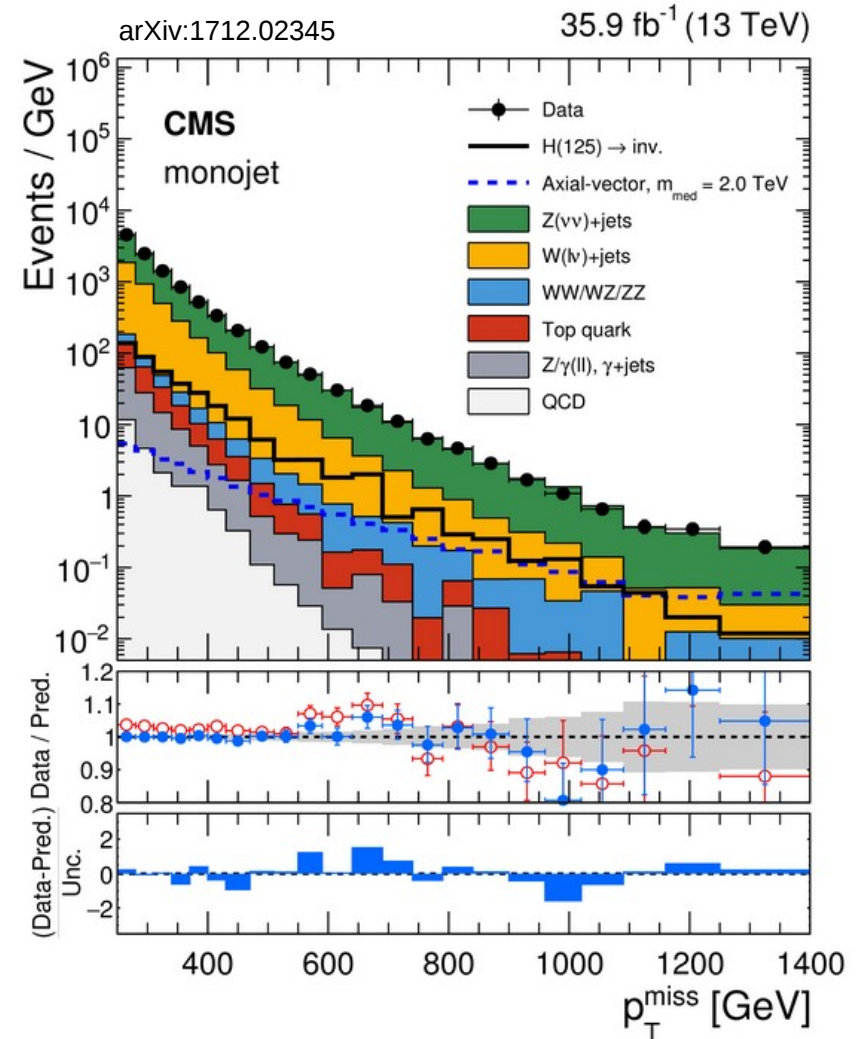
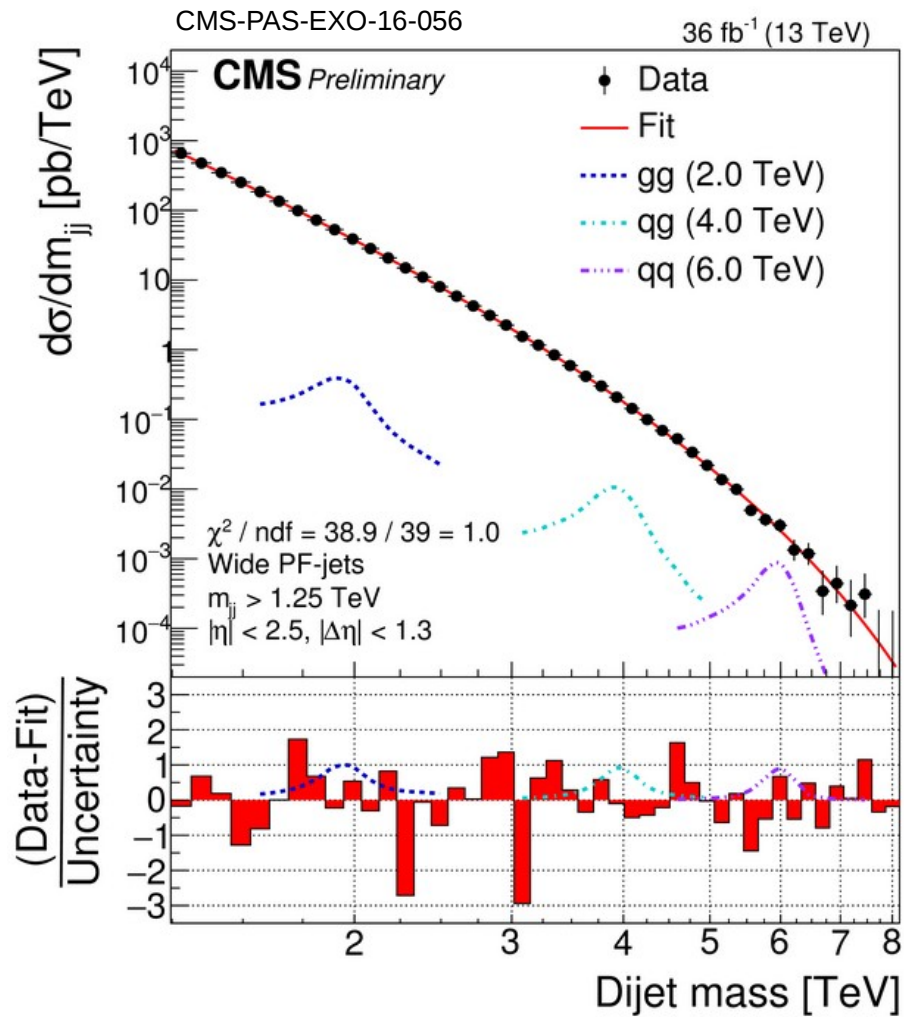
# On the kinematic tails

## We still had some surprises...



# On the kinematic tails

## Also excellent hadronic control



see also Eur.Phys.J. C77 (2017) 829

## So what now?

- data volume now grows  $\sim$  linearly
  - while statistical uncertainties on tails scale with  $\sim \sqrt{\text{data volume}}$
  - 100fb<sup>-1</sup> now
  - 150fb<sup>-1</sup> by end of 2018
  - 500fb<sup>-1</sup> by end of 2023
    - jump in luminosity from 2026 onwards (HL-LHC): towards 3000fb<sup>-1</sup>
- “classic” analyses now often **systematically limited**
  - DMWG meeting 18/12: “**Monojet: from now on, systematically-limited search**”
  - and not easy to further improve

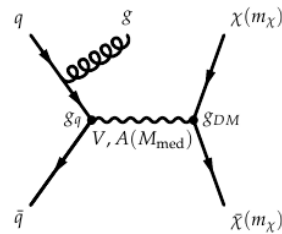
## So what now?

- **new era – change of mindset**
  - precision measurements
    - global interpretations
  - evolution of the search program
- **create new search opportunities**
  - follow up experimental anomalies
  - new final states or topologies
  - new approaches in our data taking and use of it
  - new analysis techniques improving sensitivity
  - new territory in model parameter space
  - new interpretations or combinations
  - analyses that were previously at the limit of sensitivity

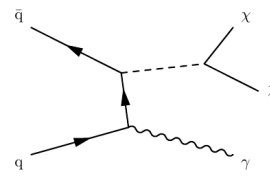
# New opportunities: DM

## Dark Matter searches with simplified models

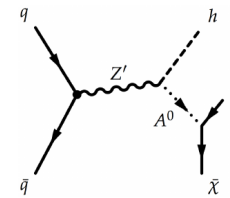
- explore “all” final states



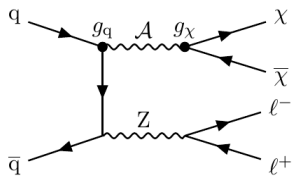
**MonoJet**



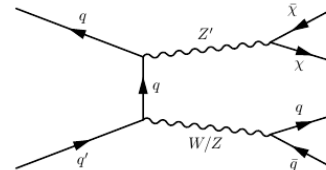
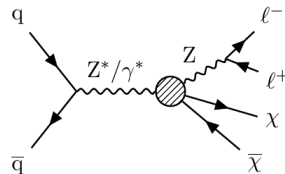
**MonoPhoton**



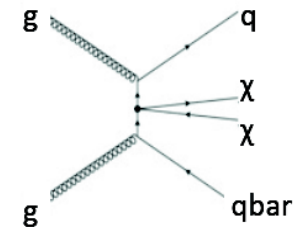
**MonoHiggs**



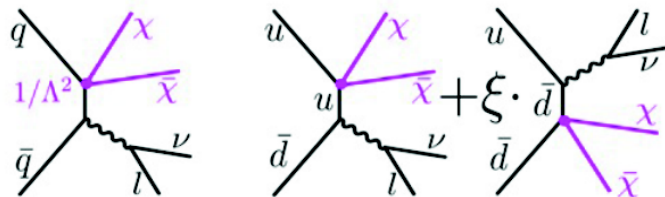
**MonoZ (leptonic)**



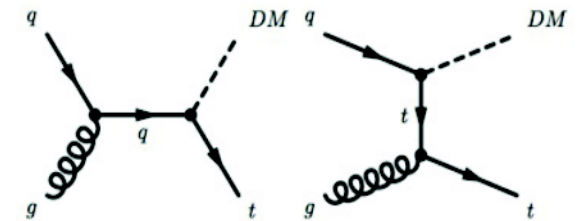
**MonoW/Z (Hadronic)**



**BBbar /TTbar**



**MonoW (monoLepton)**

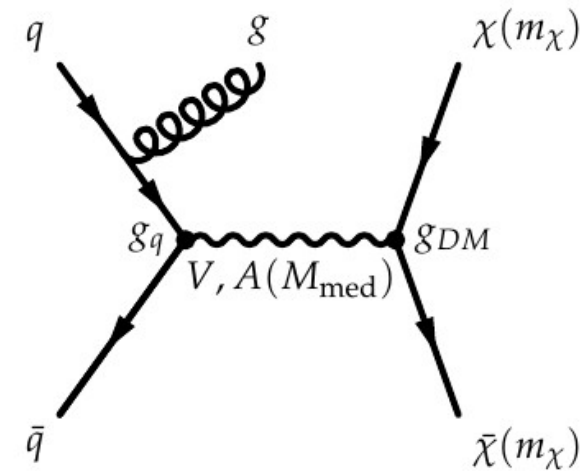
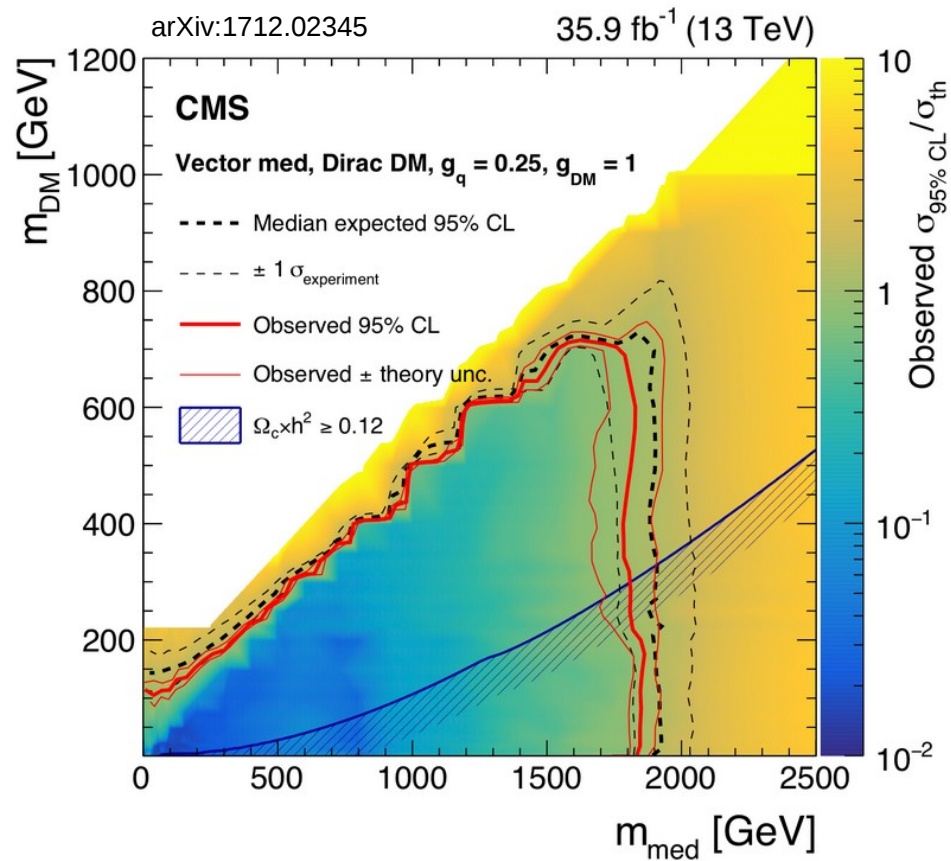


**MonoTop**



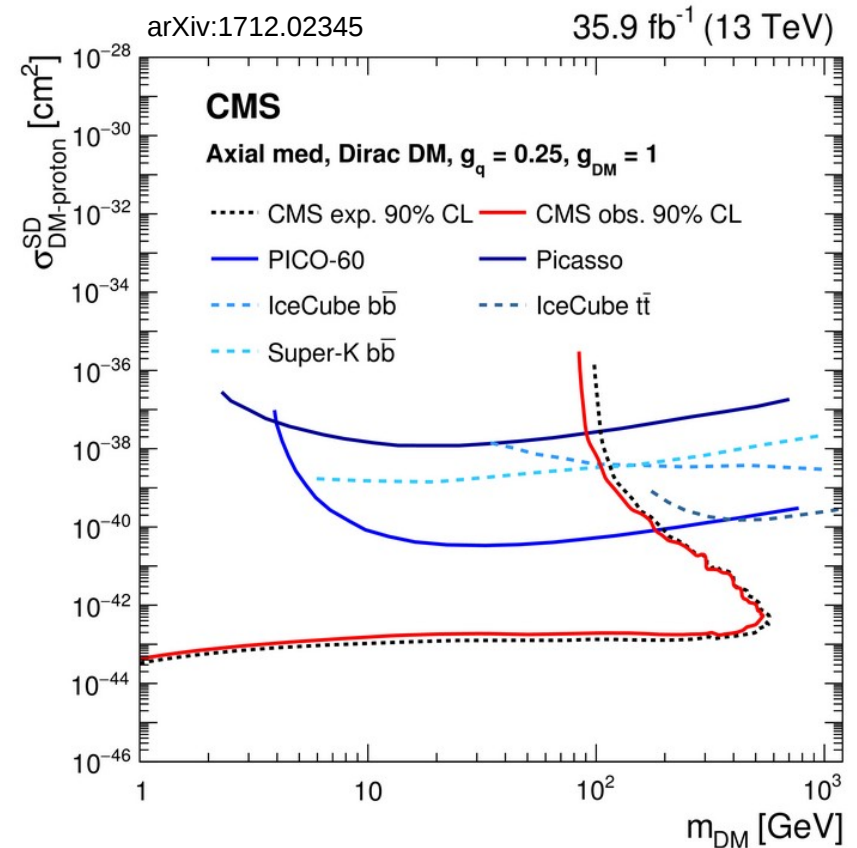
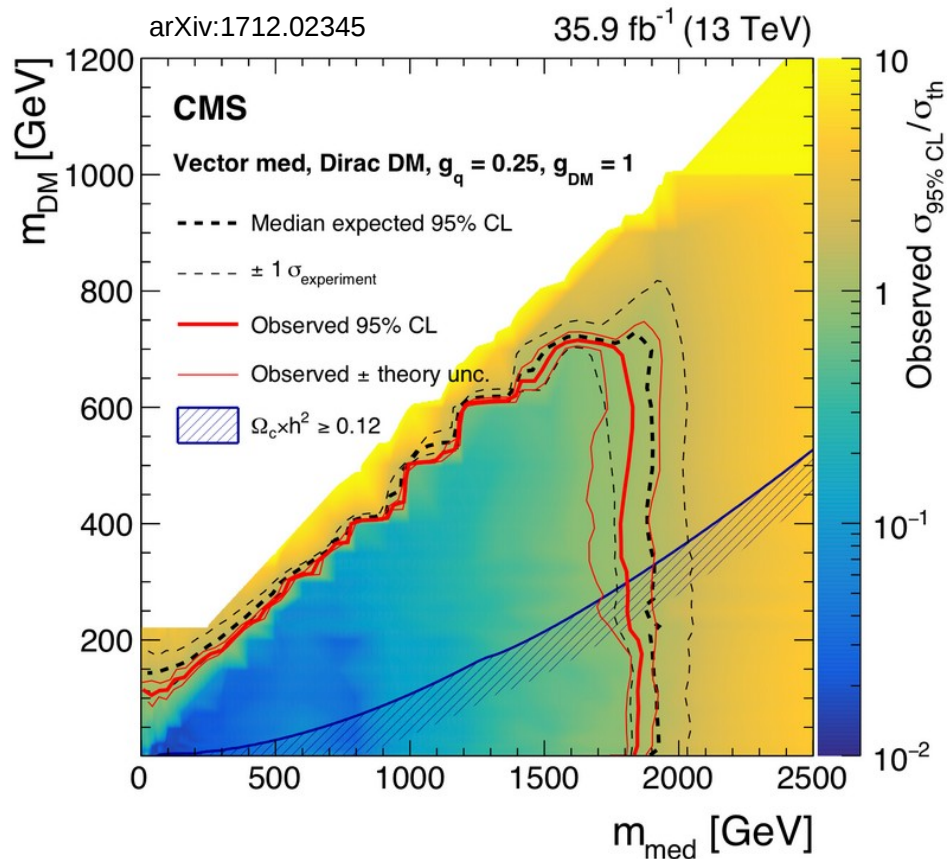
# New opportunities: DM

## “Invisible mediator” searches



# New opportunities: DM

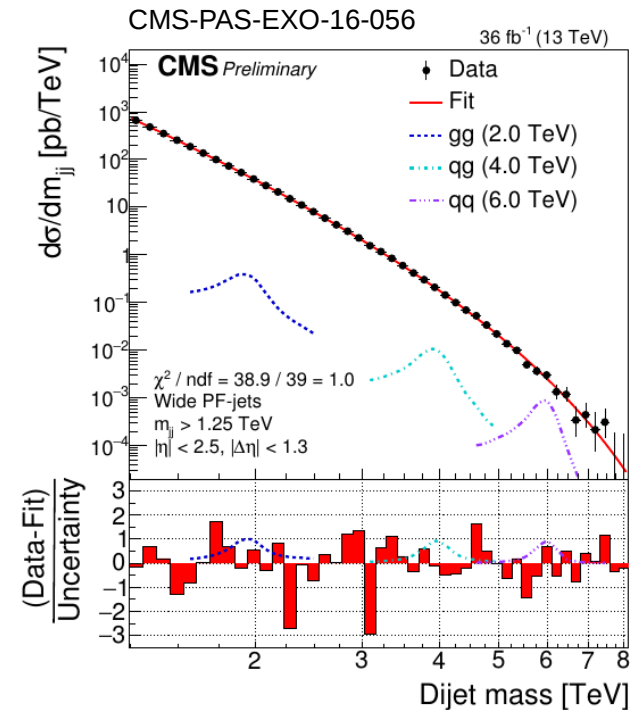
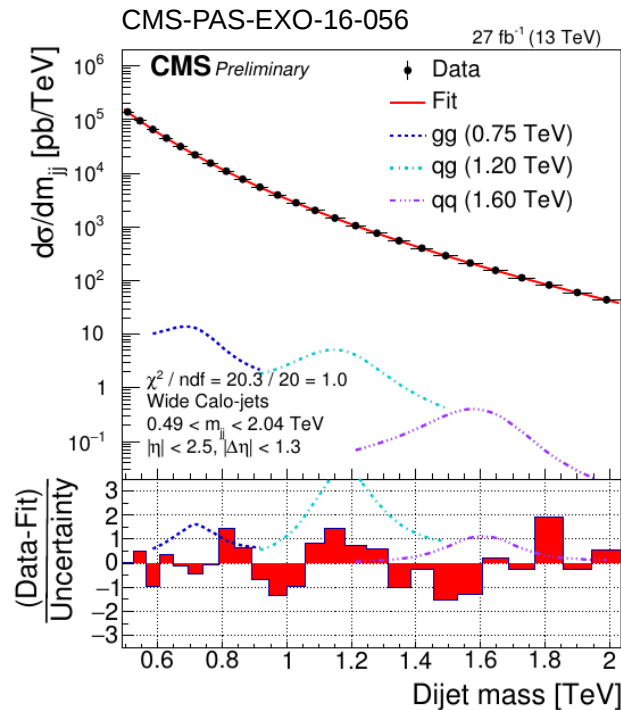
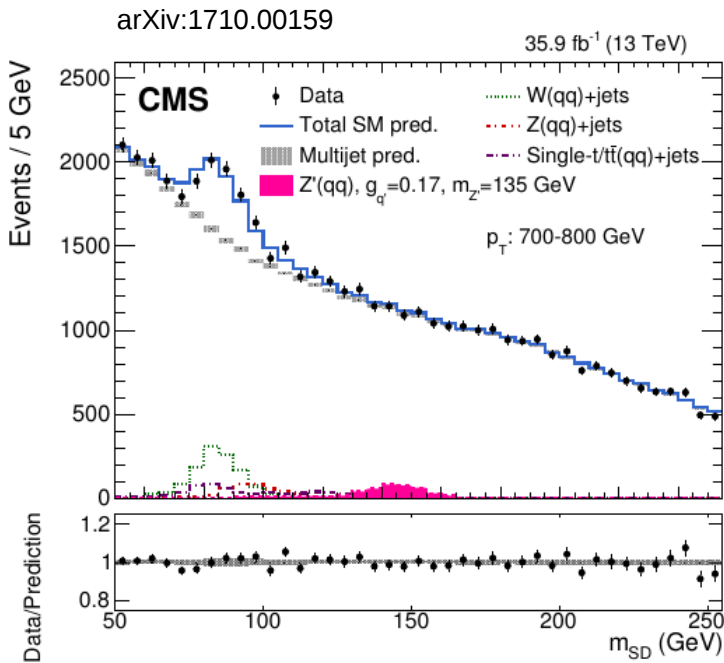
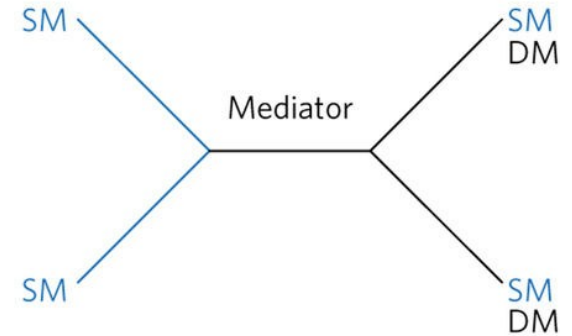
## Link beyond LHC





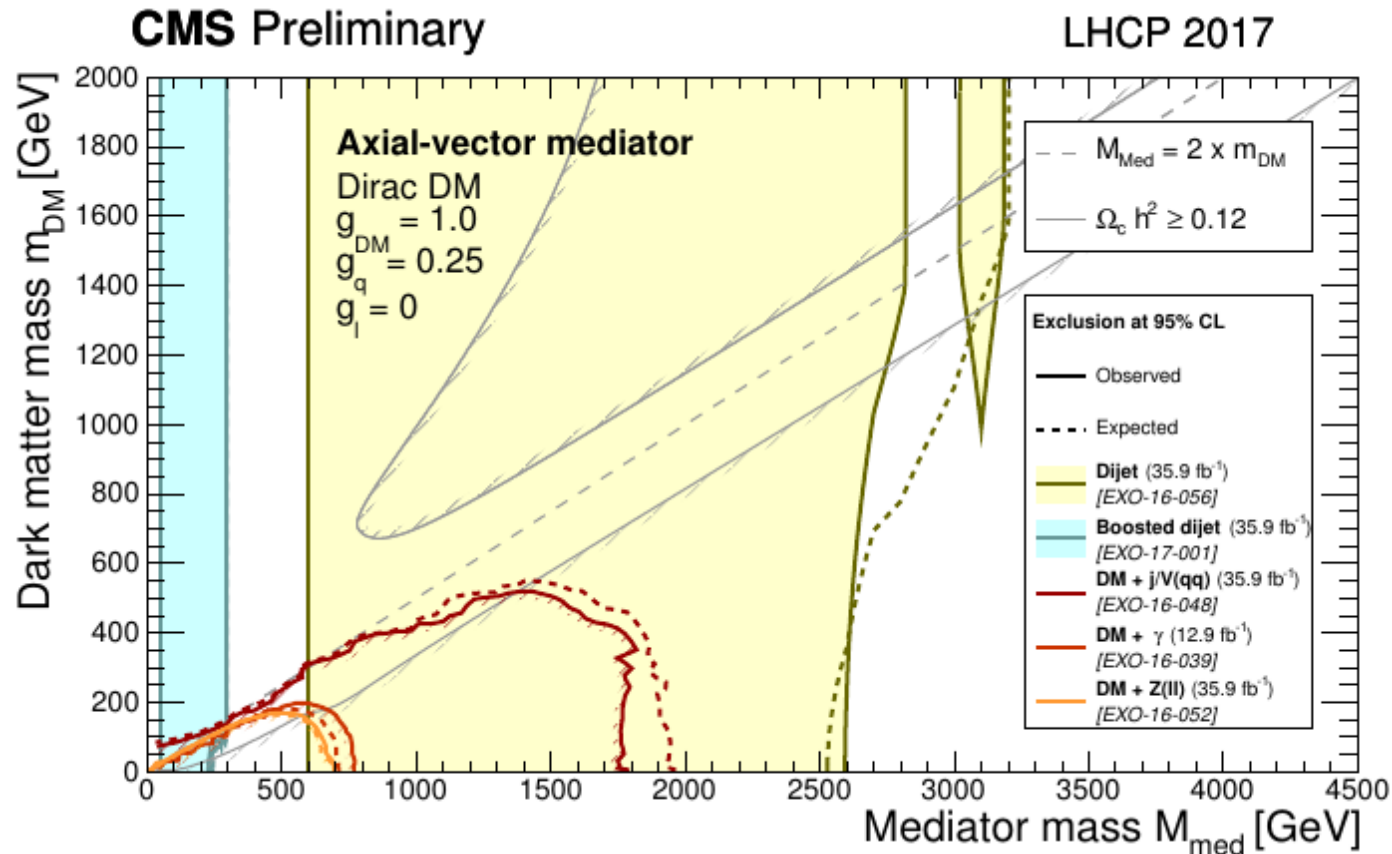
# New opportunities: DM

## Link “visible mediator” searches

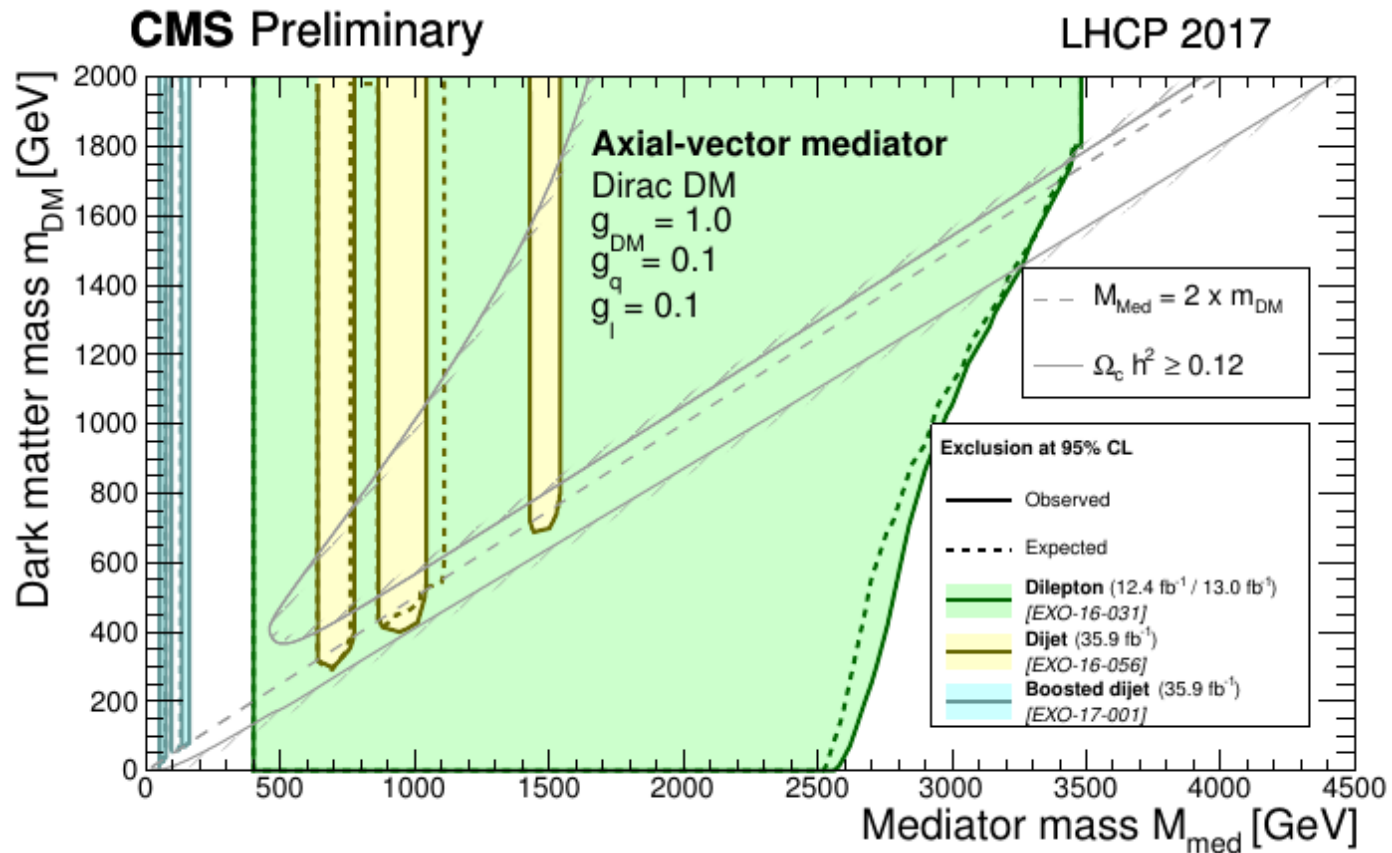


# New opportunities: DM

## Status Dark Matter searches



## Status Dark Matter searches

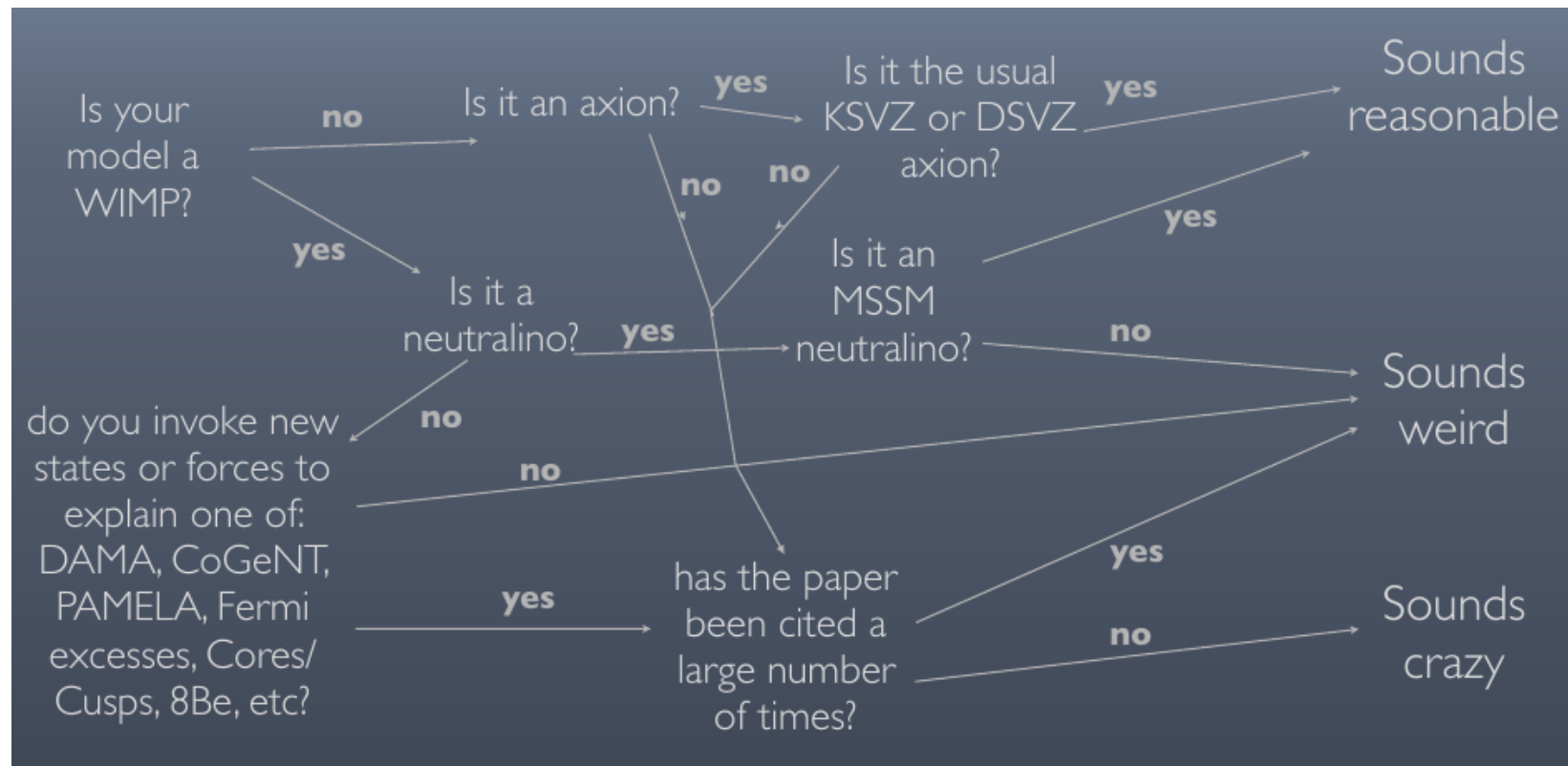


- careful! very sensitive to considered couplings!

# New opportunities: exotics

## Off the beaten track

- what is **exotic** is time-dependent

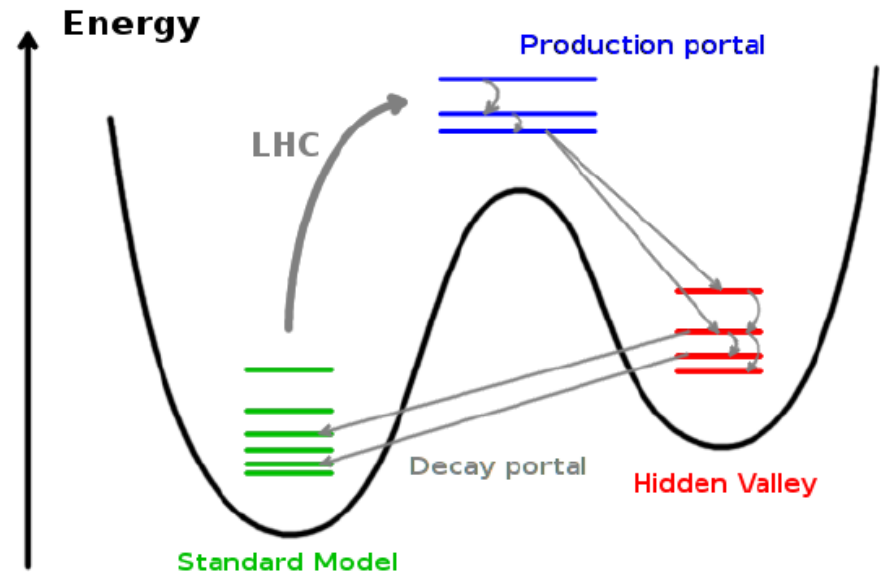


Neil Weiner's DM bingo card

- like fashion: **the creative of today is tomorrow mainstream** (or forgotten...)

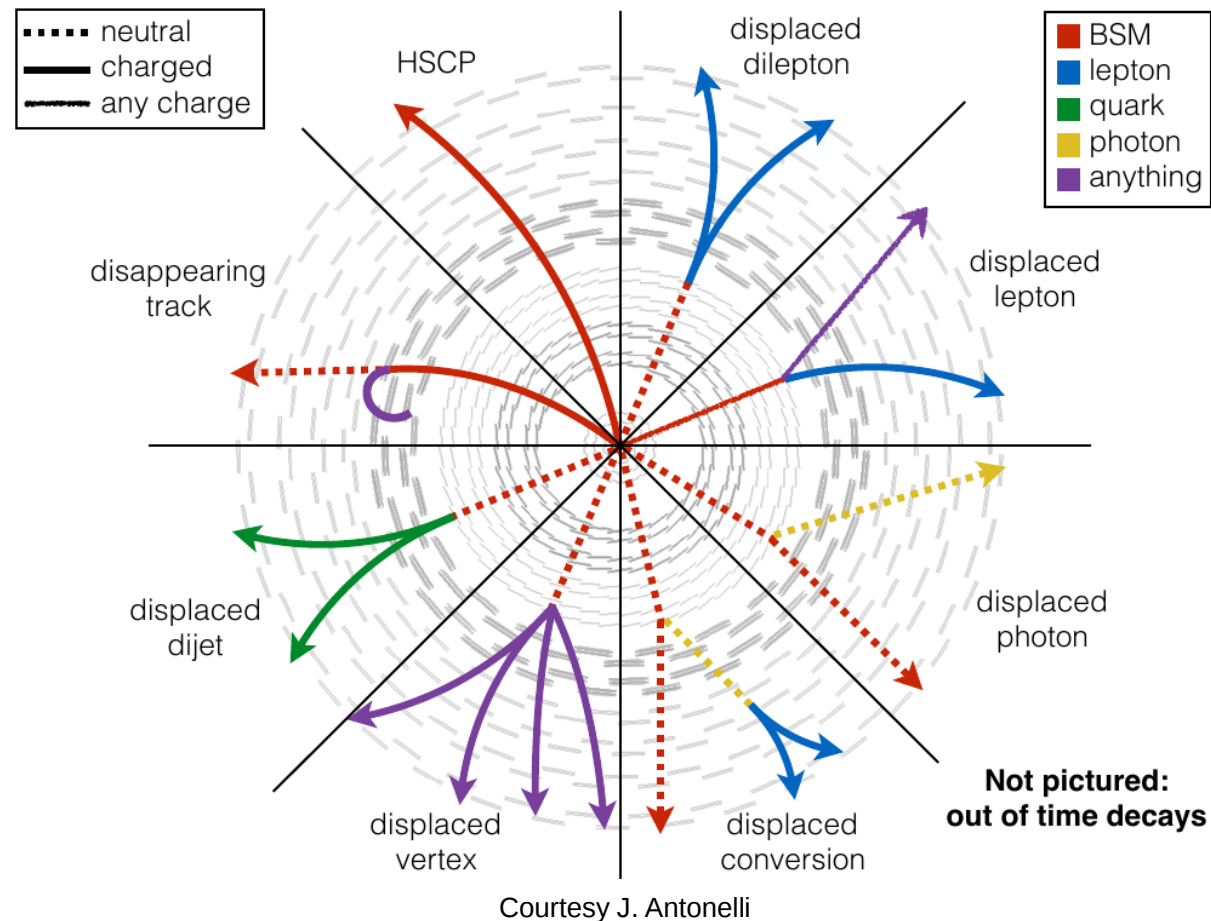
## Long-lived particles at the LHC

- no BSM so far → move away from under the lamppost
- long-lived particles are **theoretically motivated**
  - small mass splittings  
eg. SUSY
  - high-mass barrier  
eg. Hidden Valleys
  - small couplings  
eg. dark photons
- **theoretical landscape is vast!**
- “exotic new physics could be around the corner”



# New opportunities: long-lived

- also experimental landscape is vast
- maximize experimental coverage of unusual signatures
  - using pheno motivation

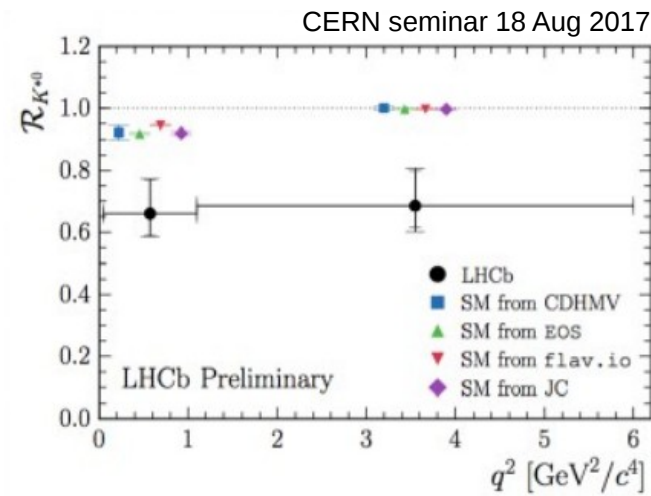
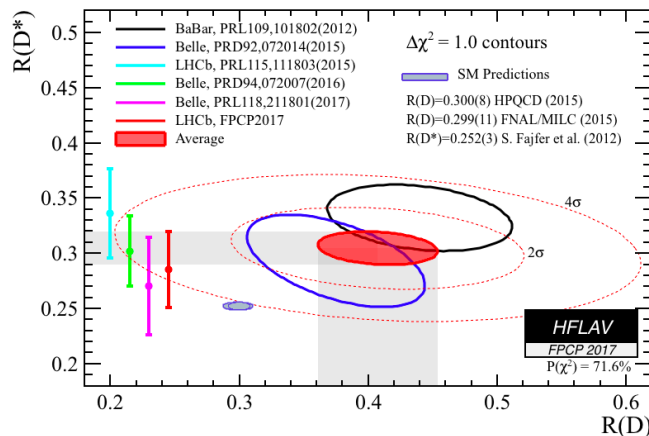


# New opportunities: long-lived

- experimental exotics
  - **non-standard simulation**
    - eg. R hadrons, SIMPs, quirks,...
  - **non-standard reconstruction**
    - non-standard timing
    - dE/dx
    - secondary vertices & displaced jets
    - veto on material interactions
    - Soft Unclustered Energy Patterns
    - ...
  - **non-standard triggers**
    - displacement at trigger, trigger-level analysis, new L1 ideas,...
- **our detector was often not designed for this**
  - use flexibility and versatility to get the most out of it
- **rich program of searches for the next few years!**

## Flavour anomalies

- several few-sigma deviations in  $R_{D^{(*)}}$ ,  $R_{K^{(*)}}$ ,  $P'_5$ , ...



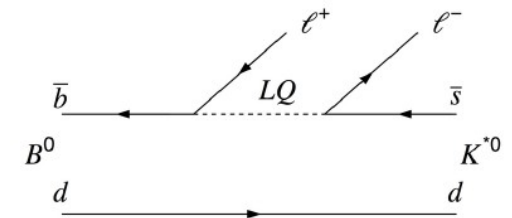
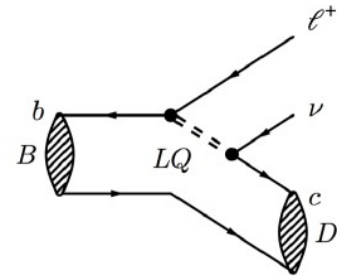
- anomalies come and go, but attractive here is that they could be explained together with minimal extra new physics



# New opportunities: anomalies

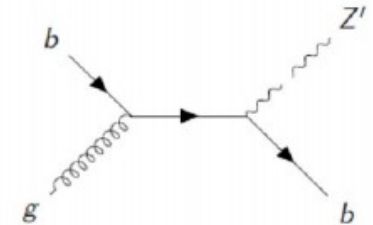
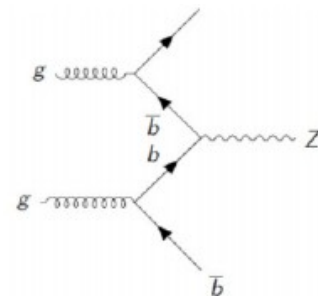
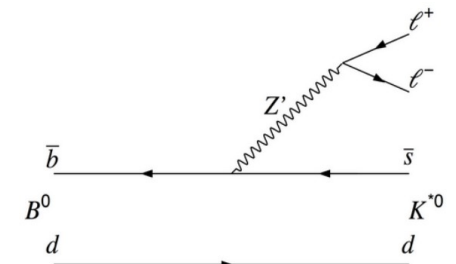
- **leptoquarks (LQ)**

- TeV scale, 3<sup>rd</sup> generation favoured
- reinforcing searches for LQ's
  - single- and pair-produced
  - different generations



- **Z's**

- di-tau search
  - links to e-mu final state
- coupling to b?
  - associated Z' - b production to explore



## Conclusions

- rich set of exotics searches in CMS
  - more than 130 exotics papers so far
- the LHC has entered the luminosity era
  - the CMS search program is evolving
  - usual exotic searches to follow slow pace of luminosity growth
  - new exotic opportunities being actively pursued
    - dark matter intensely explored with 13TeV data
    - long-lived particles in intense development
    - on guard for experimental anomalies
- the IAP provided fertile grounds and a scientific community that allowed for a visible Belgian role in CMS and pheno exotics over the years

Thank  
you!