

# Dark Matter in ATLAS and CMS

Xinhui Huang<sup>[1][2]</sup>

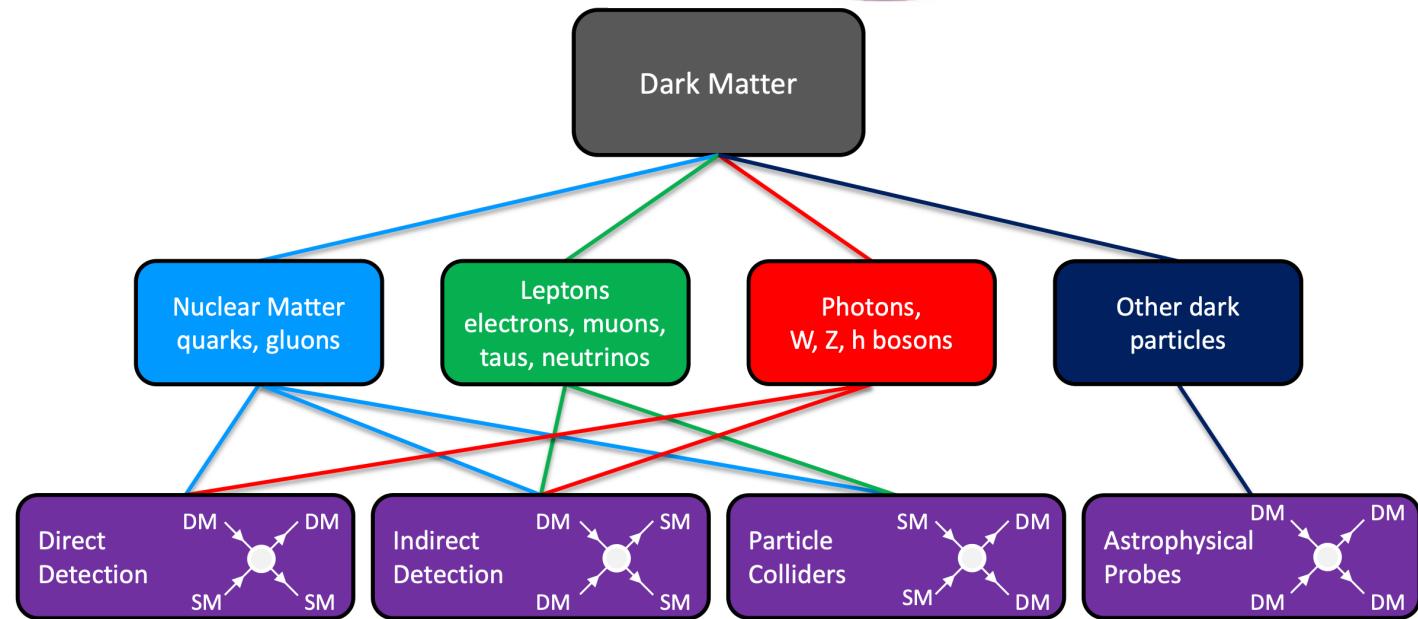
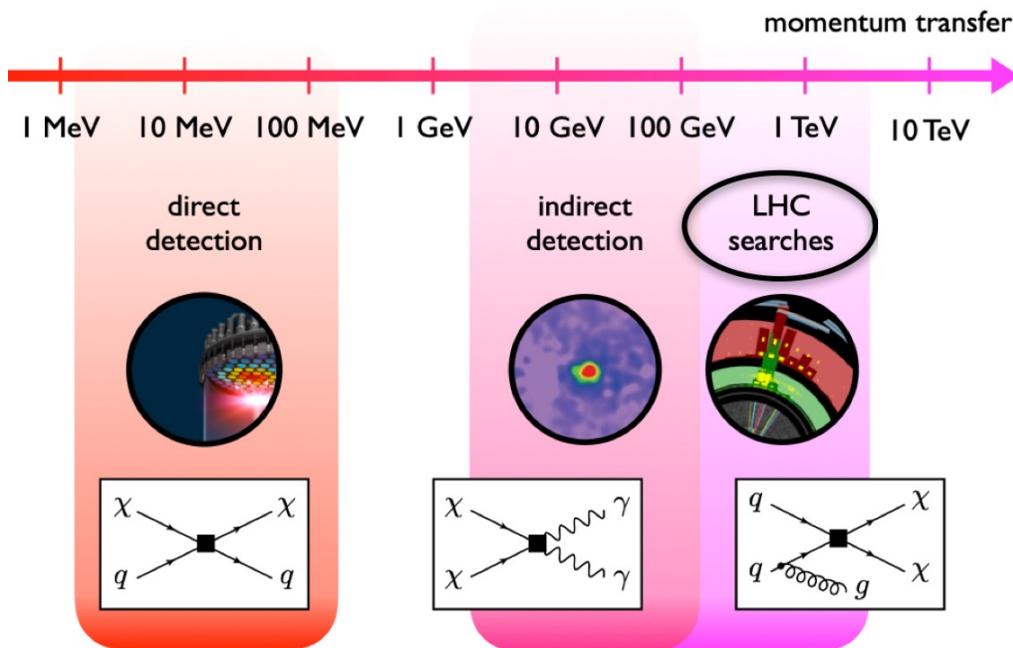
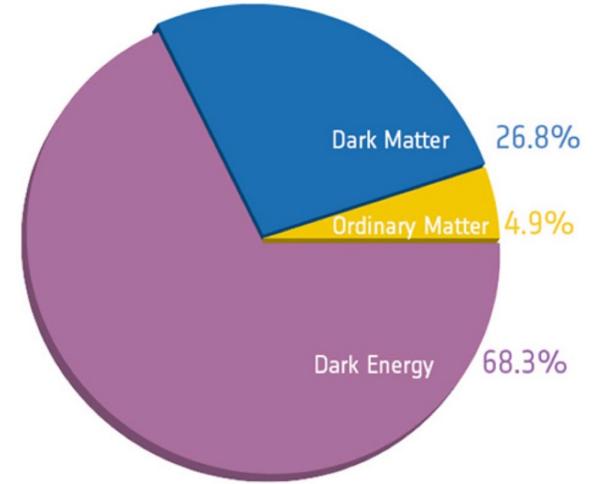
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On behalf of the ATLAS and CMS Collaboration

Corfu 2024  
August 31, 2024

# Introduction to Dark Matter

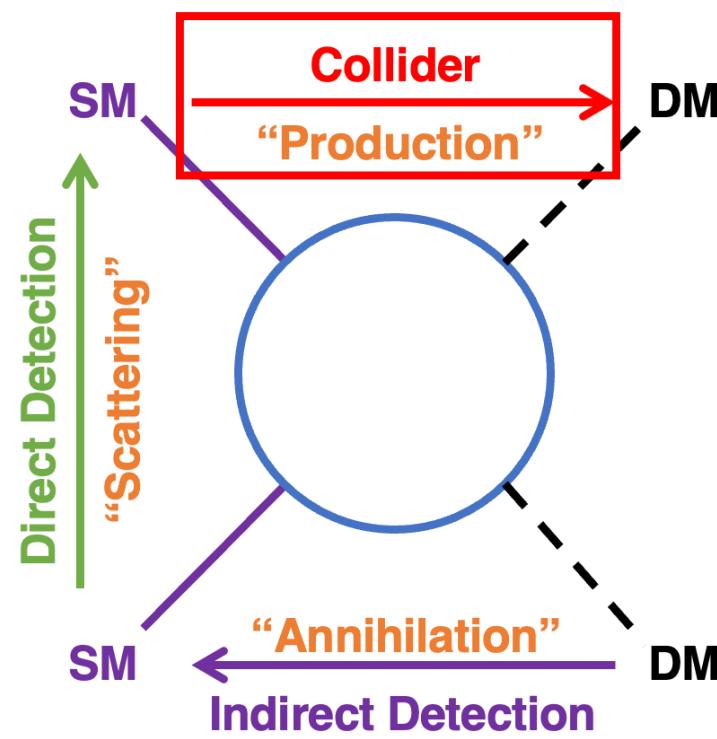
- Standard Model is the most accurate theory of particle physics, but some questions are still to be answered.
  - Gravity
  - Dark matter(DM)
  - Dark energy
  - Matter anti-matter asymmetry...
- Dark Matter is supported by many astrophysical measurements;
- Dark Matter is **~5 times more** than ordinary matter.



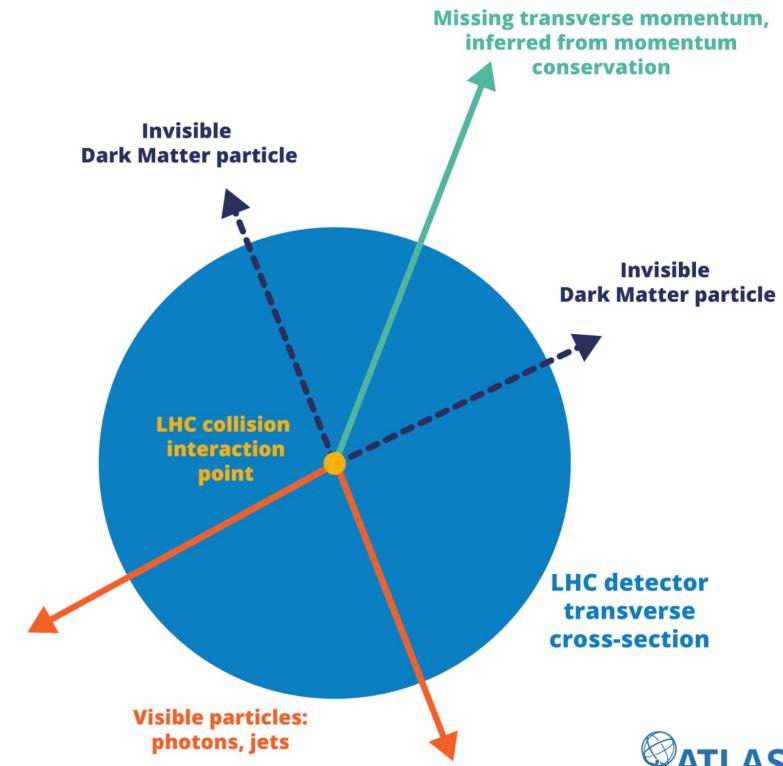
# Dark Matter searches at the Large Hadron Collider

- With proton-proton collision at LHC and two largest detector ATLAS and CMS, dark matter could be produced from **interaction of SM particles** and be detected indirectly by its special **experimental signature – Missing transverse momentum ( $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ )**.

DM production in collider experiments



Missing transverse momentum from LHC searches



ATLAS  
EXPERIMENT

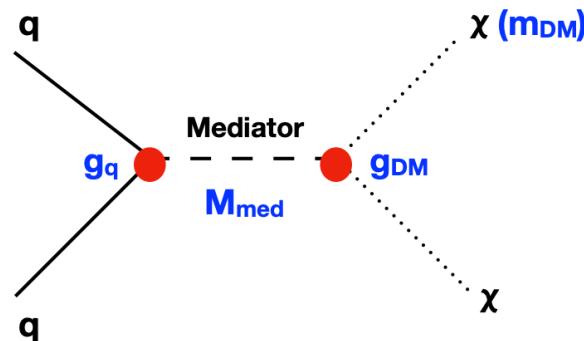
From Theodora Lagouri

# Dark Matter models

- As there is no suitable DM candidate available in SM, two popular interpretations are considered for ATLAS and CMS DM searches

## Simplified dark matter model

- Capture the essential features of DM signals through a minimal set of parameters.

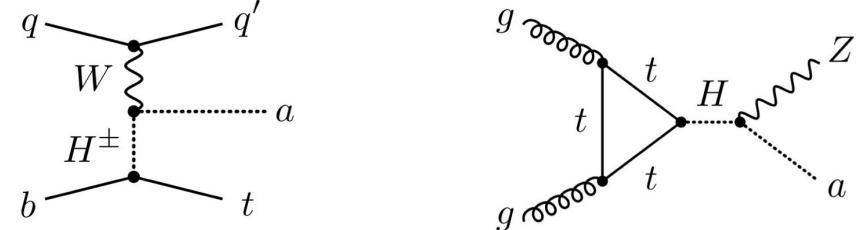


- Model parameters:

- Spin/parity of the mediator
- $M_{\text{med}}$ -Mediator mass
- $m_{\text{DM}}$ -DM mass
- $g_{\text{DM}}$ -Mediator coupling to quarks
- $g_q$ -Mediator coupling to DM

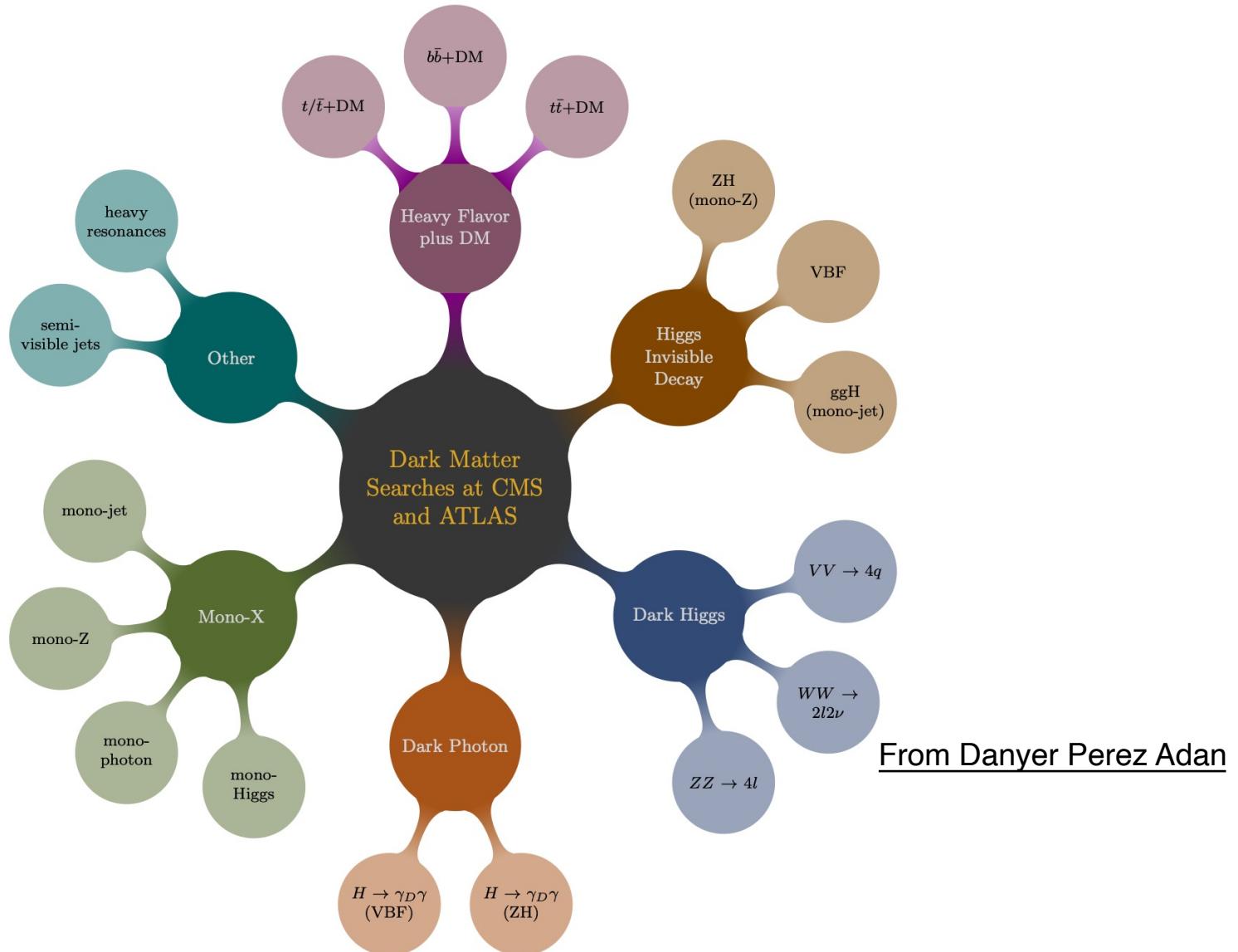
## 2HDM+a

- Less simplified model.
- Exist more rich dynamics and interactions.



- Fully defined by 14 parameters:  
 $v, m_h, m_A, m_H, m_{H^\pm}, m_a, m_\chi$   
 $\cos(\beta - \alpha), \tan\beta, \sin\theta$   
 $y_\chi, \lambda_3, \lambda_{P1}, \lambda_{P2}$
- 5 remain unconstrained with EWK and flavour constraints
  - $m_A = m_H = m_{H^\pm}$  - masses of heavy Higgs
  - $m_a$  - mass of pseudo-scalar mediator
  - $m_\chi$  - DM mass
  - $\sin\theta$  – Mixing angle between CP-odd states a and A
  - $\tan\beta$  – Ratio of 2 Higgs doublet VEVs

# Dark matter searches at ATLAS and CMS

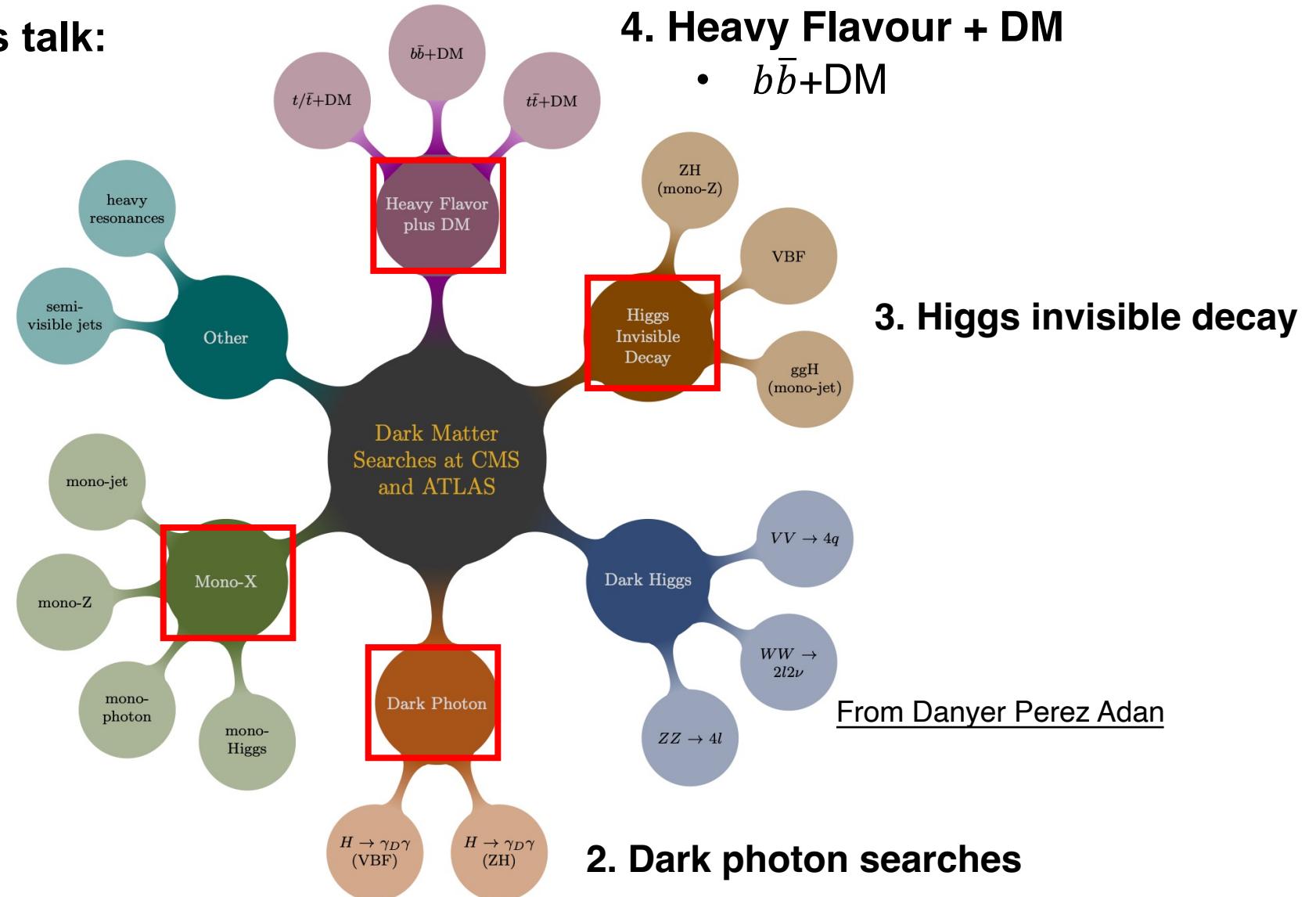


# Dark matter searches at ATLAS and CMS

Topics introduced in this talk:

## 1. Mono-X searches

- Mono-top
- Mono-V
- Mono-Jet

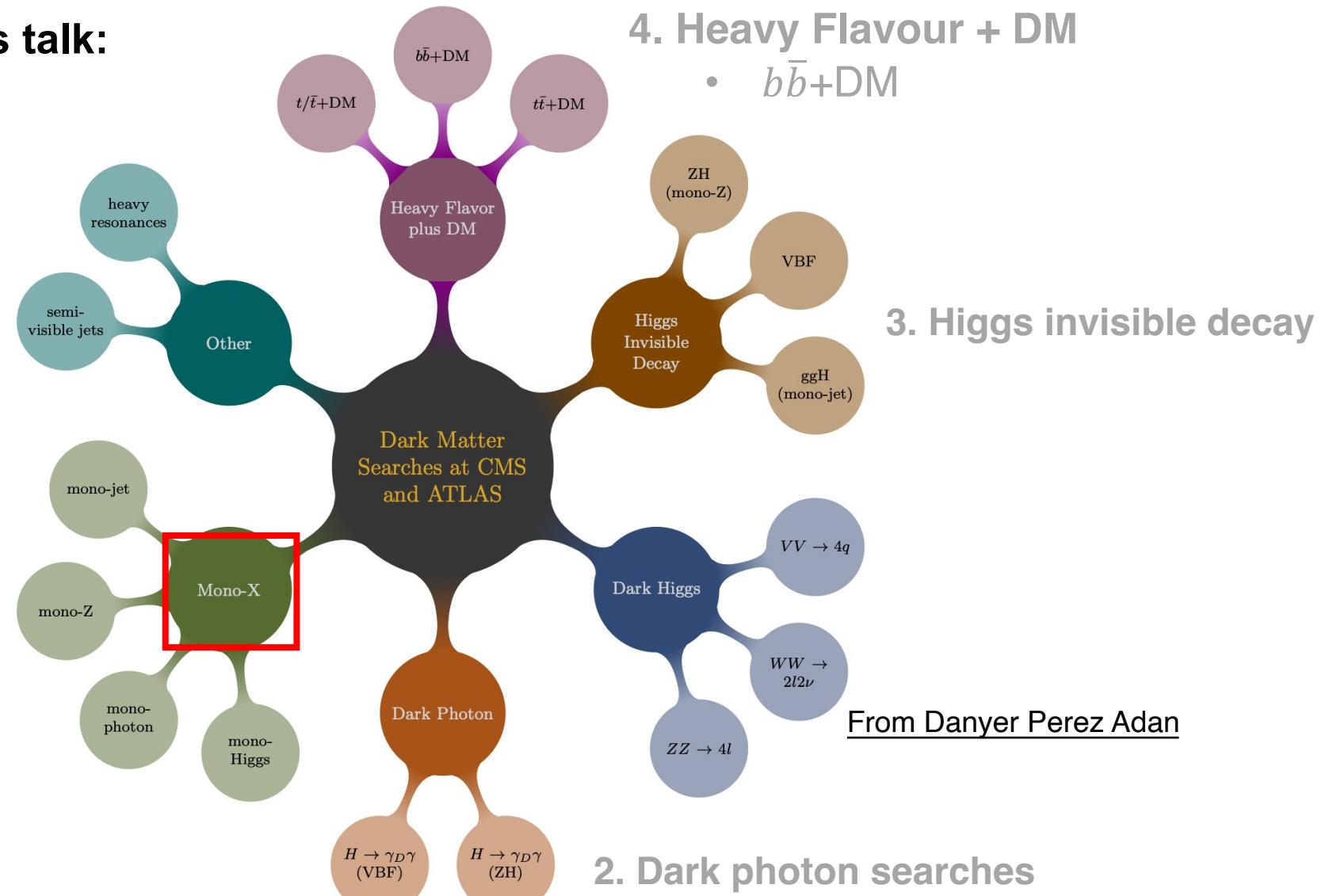


# Dark matter searches at ATLAS and CMS

Topics introduced in this talk:

## 1. Mono-X searches

- Mono-top
- Mono-V
- Mono-Jet



## 2. Dark photon searches

From Danyer Perez Adan

# Mono-X searches: Mono-Top

ATLAS:[arXiv:2402.16561]  
CMS-PAS-SUS-23-004



Mono-X

Heavy Flavour + DM

Higgs->inv.

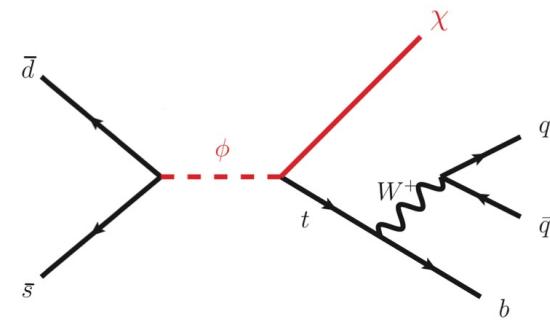
Dark photon

Summary plots

- Experimental signature: MET + top-tagged jet
- Only consider hadronic top quark decay
- At tree level, the mono-top could be produced via flavour-changing neutral current (FCNC)

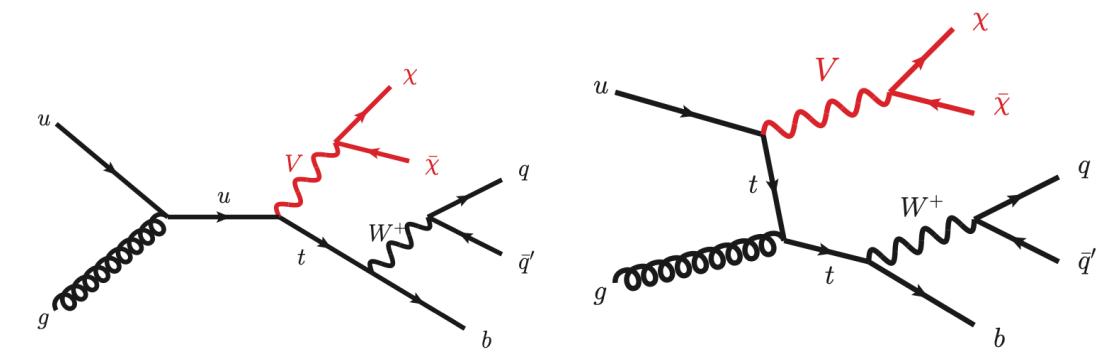
ATLAS

Scalar-mediator

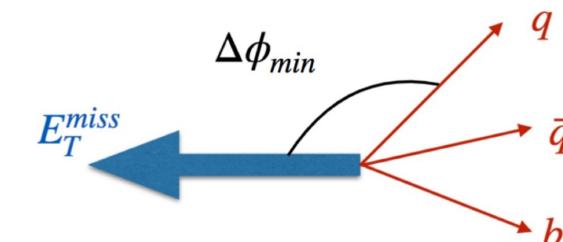


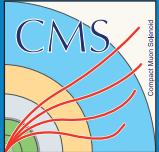
Vector-mediator

CMS



- Large  $\Delta\phi_{min}$ (MET, jet  $p_T$ ) to reduce QCD backgrounds.
- Main backgrounds:  $V(W/Z)+\text{jets}$  and  $t\bar{t}$





## Mono-X

## Dark photon

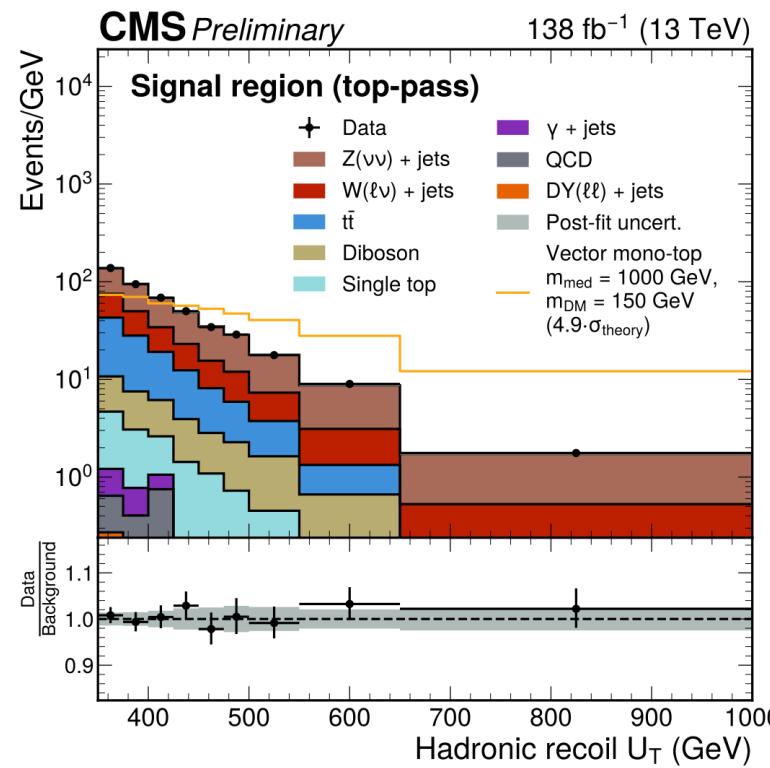
## Higgs->inv.

## Heavy Flavour + DM

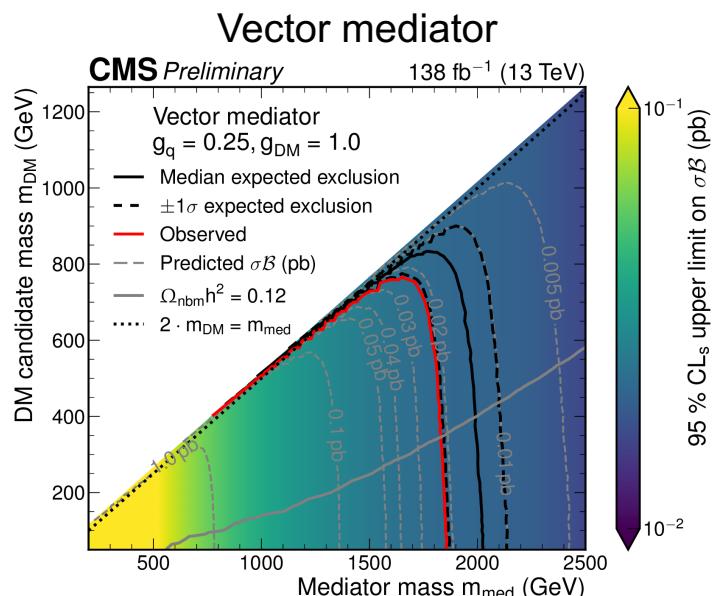
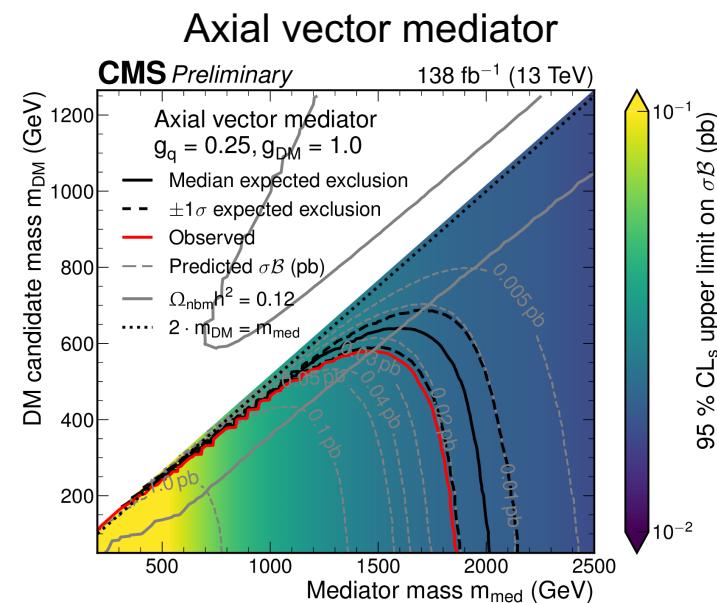
## Summary plots

- The observable - hadronic recoil  $U_T$  is defined as  $\overrightarrow{U}_T = \vec{p}_T^{miss} + \sum_i \vec{p}_{T,i}$
- The major backgrounds in the SRs are estimated using orthogonal data in the CRs.
- The minor backgrounds are all determined from simulation.
  - Single top quark, diboson and QCD multijet production

### Post-fit plots with vector-mediator



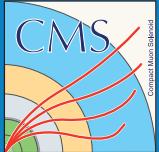
### Regions exclude in $(m_{DM}, m_{\phi/V})$ space



- Most stringent exclusion limits for (axial) vector coupled dark matter production via an up-top FCNC to date.

# Mono-X searches: Mono-Top

ATLAS:[arXiv:2402.16561]  
CMS-PAS-SUS-23-004



Mono-X

Dark photon

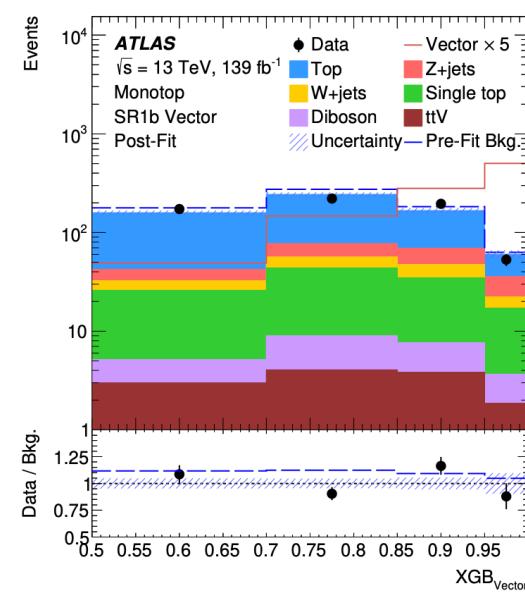
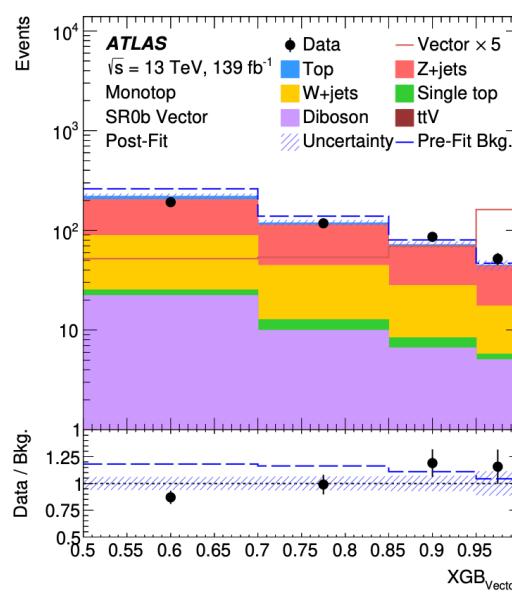
Higgs->inv.

Heavy Flavour + DM

Summary plots

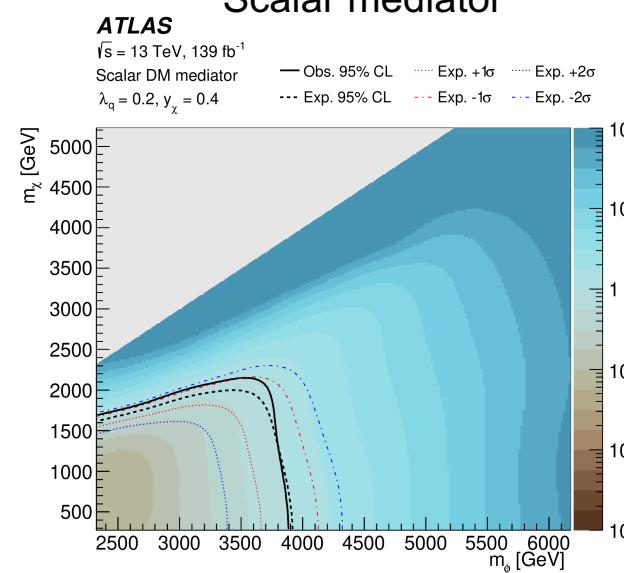
- Signal regions are defined to maximize the discovery potential.
- Extreme gradient-boosted (XGBoost) decision tree (BDT) to enhance the signal discrimination against the SM background.
- No significant excess above the SM expectation is found in any of the SRs.

Post-fit plots with vector-mediator

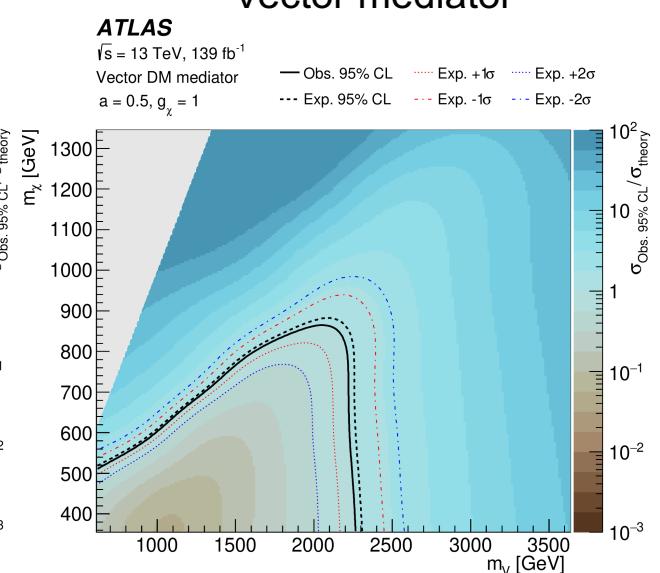


Regions exclude in  $(m_{DM}, m_{\phi/V})$  space

Scalar mediator



Vector mediator



- With couplings  $\lambda_q = 0.6$  and  $y_\chi = 0.4$ , excluding scalar DM mediator masses up to 4.3 TeV,
- With couplings  $a = 0.5$  and  $g_\chi = 1$ , excluding vector DM mediator masses up to 2.3 TeV

# Mono-X searches: Mono-V(W/Z)jets

ATLAS: [arXiv: 2406.01272]



## Mono-X

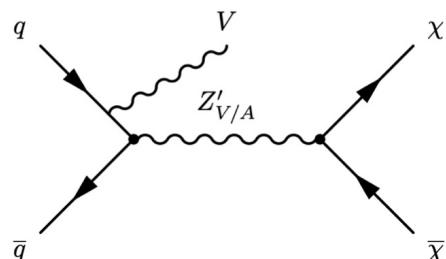
## Dark photon

## Higgs->inv.

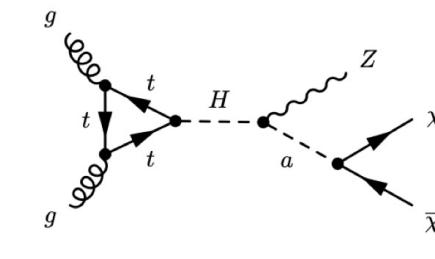
## Heavy Flavour + DM

## Summary plots

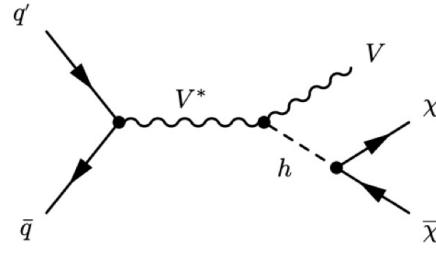
- Experimental signature: V(W/Z, had) + MET



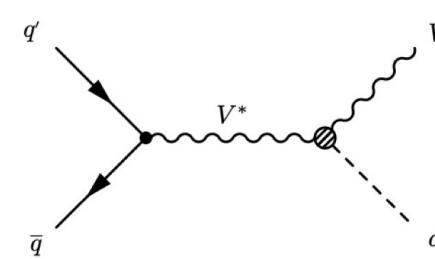
**Simplified Dark Matter model with a vector or axial-vector mediator**



**Two-Higgs-doublet model with a pseudoscalar**



**Invisible decaying Higgs boson**

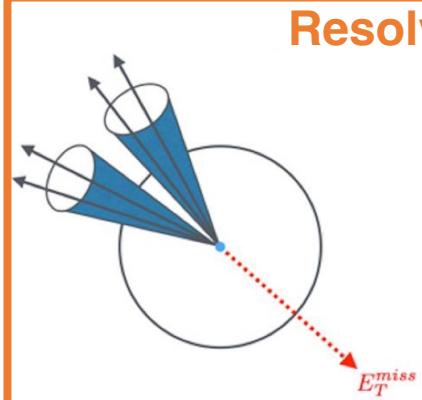


**ALP (Axion-Like Particles)**

- Two different topologies are considered depending on Lorentz boost of the vector boson
  - The jets move closer together with increasing  $V$  momentum

### Pre-selection

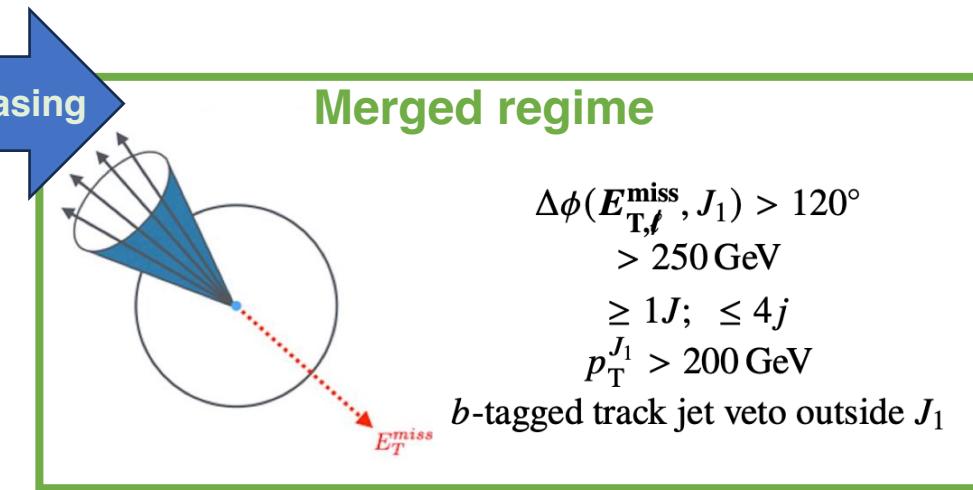
$$\begin{aligned} p_{T,\ell}^{\text{miss}} &> 30 \text{ GeV} \\ \min_i(\Delta\phi(E_{T,\ell}^{\text{miss}}, j_i)) &> 20^\circ \\ \Delta\phi(E_{T,\ell}^{\text{miss}}, p_{T,\ell}^{\text{miss}}) &< 90^\circ \end{aligned}$$



### Resolved regime

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\phi(E_{T,\ell}^{\text{miss}}, j_1 j_2) &> 120^\circ \\ &> 200 \text{ GeV} \\ &\geq 2j; \leq 4j \\ p_T^{j_1} &> 45 \text{ GeV} \\ \sum_i p_T^{j_i} &\geq 120(150) \text{ GeV for } 2j (\geq 3j) \\ \Delta\phi(j_1, j_2) &< 140^\circ; \Delta R(j_1, j_2) < 1.4 \\ m_{j_1 j_2} &\in [65, 105] \text{ GeV} \end{aligned}$$

### $P_T$ increasing



### Merged regime

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\phi(E_{T,\ell}^{\text{miss}}, J_1) &> 120^\circ \\ > 250 \text{ GeV} \\ &\geq 1J; \leq 4j \\ p_T^{J_1} &> 200 \text{ GeV} \end{aligned}$$

*b*-tagged track jet veto outside  $J_1$

- Main backgrounds:  $W(l\nu)/Z(\nu\nu)$ +jets, di-boson and  $t\bar{t}$

Mono-X

Dark photon

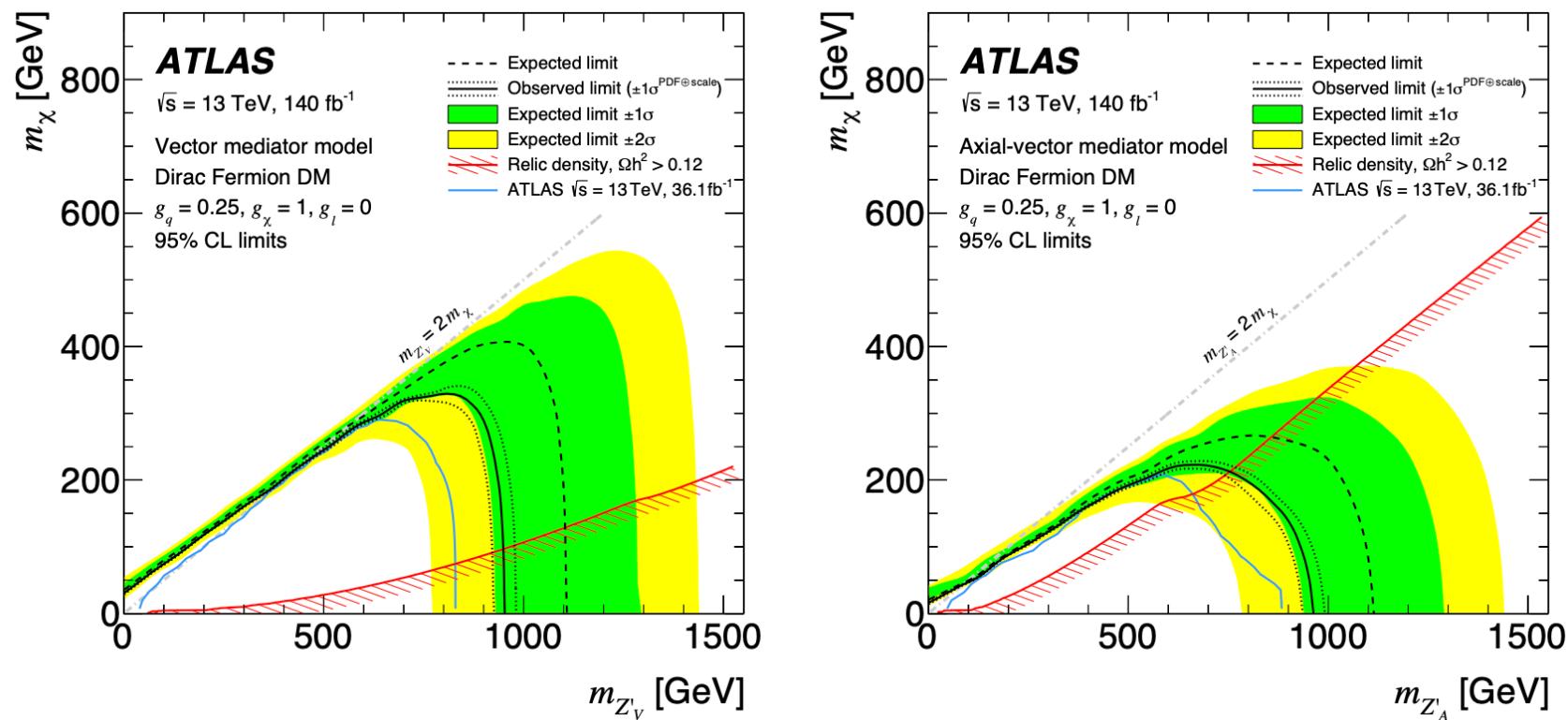
Higgs->inv.

Heavy Flavour + DM

Summary plots

## Simplified DM model

- Exclusion contours at 95% CL on the DM and mediator masses in the simplified DM model



- For the **vector mediator model**, masses up to 955 GeV are excluded for  $m_\chi = 1$  GeV.
- For the **axial-vector mediator model**, masses up to 965 GeV are excluded for  $m_\chi = 1$  GeV.

Mono-X

Dark photon

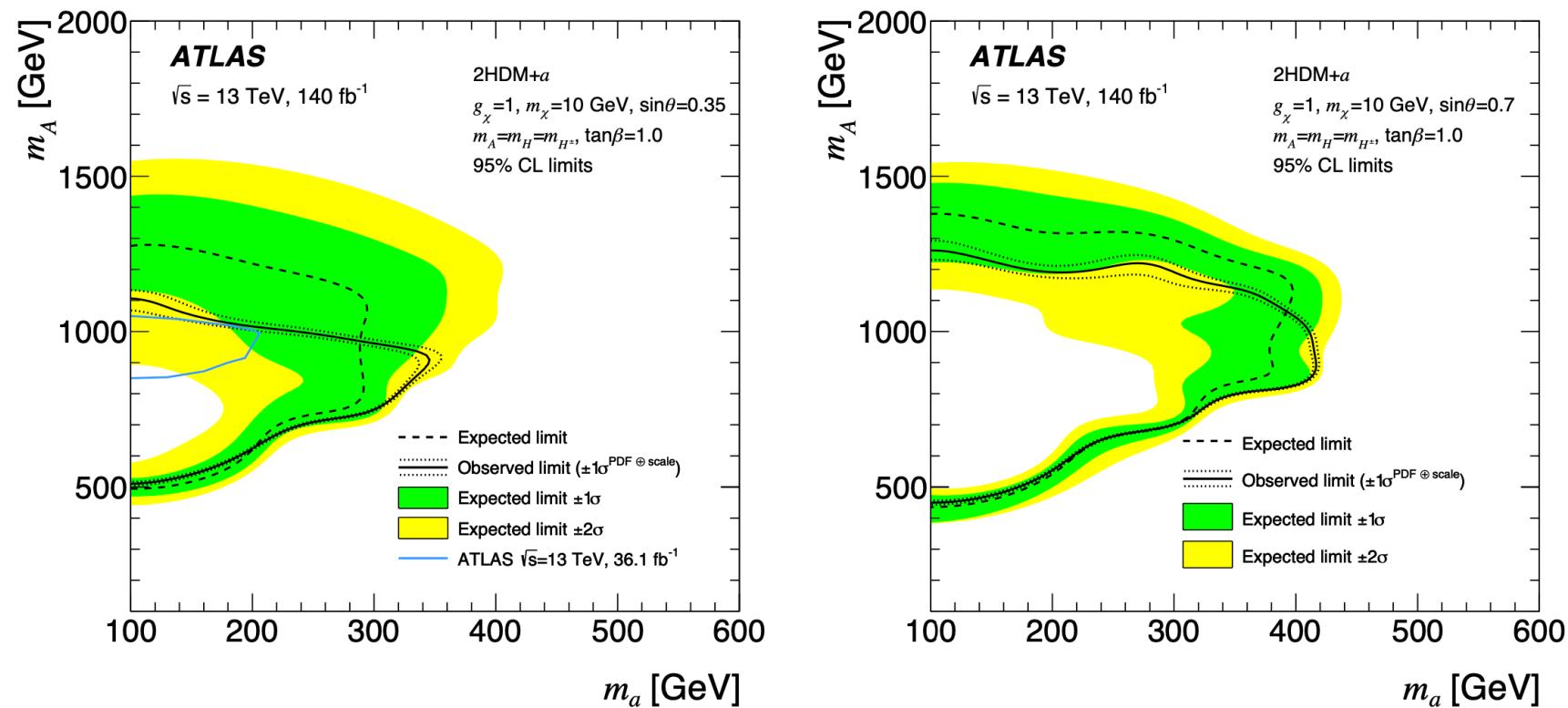
Higgs->inv.

Heavy Flavour + DM

Summary plots

## 2HDM + a model

- The exclusion contours in the  $m_A$ - $m_a$  scans with  $\sin\theta = 0.35$  and  $\sin\theta = 0.7$



- Maximum reach is  $m_a = 340$  (420) GeV at  $m_A = 900$  GeV, while values between  $m_a = 520$  (480) GeV and  $m_A = 1100$  (1220) GeV are excluded for  $m_a = 100$  GeV.

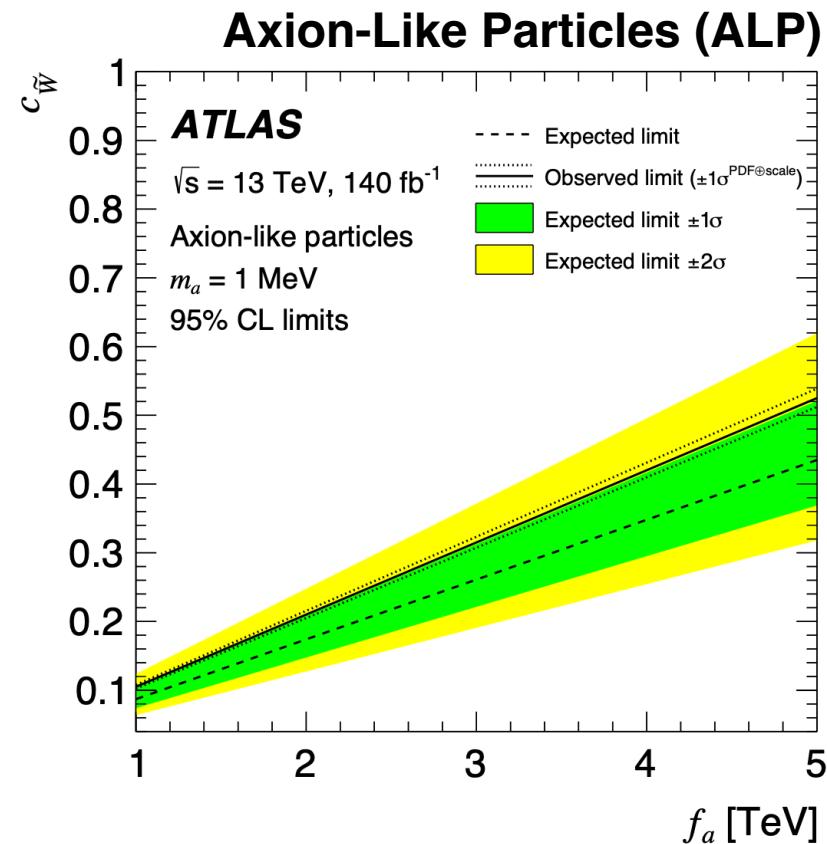
Mono-X

Dark photon

Higgs->inv.

Heavy Flavour + DM

Summary plots

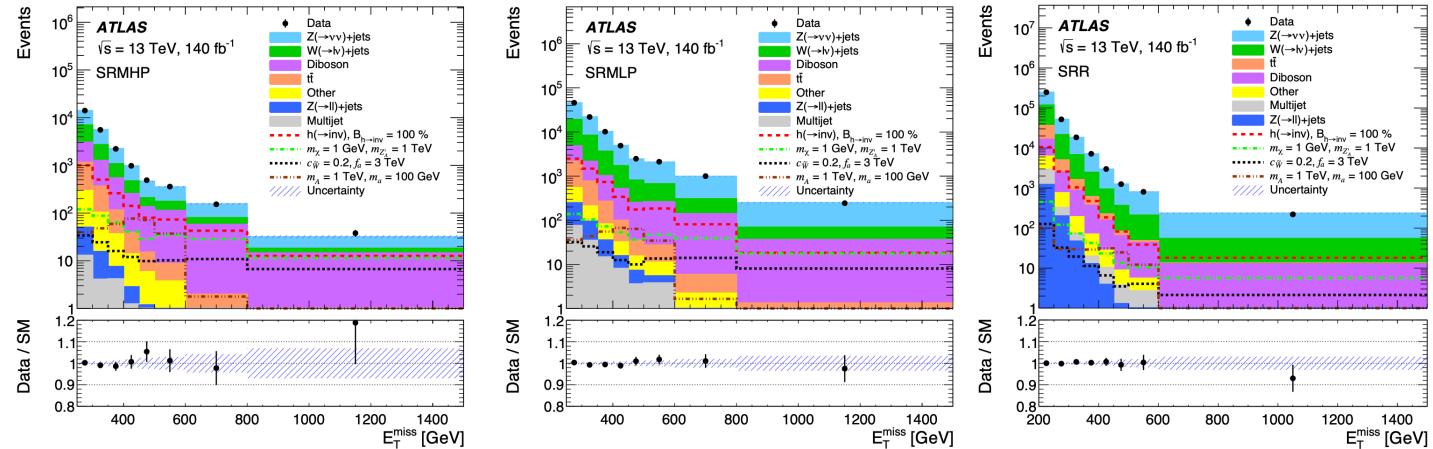


- Exclusion contour in the  $c_{\tilde{W}} - f_a$  plane for a fixed axion mass of 1 MeV

### Higgs invisible decay

- Likelihood fit with data on MET to obtain limits for  $B(H \rightarrow \text{inv})$

### Distribution of MET after bkg-only fit



Limits on $B_{h \rightarrow \text{inv.}}$	Expected limit	Observed limit
Merged topology	$0.34^{+0.14}_{-0.09}$	0.38
Resolved topology	$0.54^{+0.23}_{-0.15}$	0.71
Combined	$0.31^{+0.13}_{-0.09}$	0.34

# Mono-X searches: Mono-Jet

ATLAS: [arXiv: 2403.02793]



- Interpretation of jets + MET differential xs measurement in **axial-vector mediator DM model** and **2HDM+a**
- Combine different regions in a fit after unfolding.
- Experimental signature: jet(s) +  $p_T^{\text{miss}}$  /MET
- Main backgrounds:
  - jets are mis-reconstructed or mis-calibrated, giving rise to fake  $p_T^{\text{miss}}$
  - Z/W+jet, top, diboson, multi-jet
- Jet topologies:

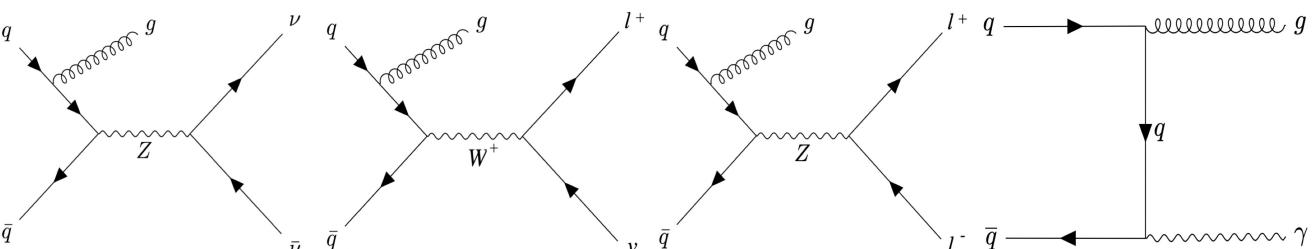
## Mono-Jet

- $\geq 1$  jet
- leading jet:
  - $p_T > 120$  GeV
  - $|\eta| < 2.4$

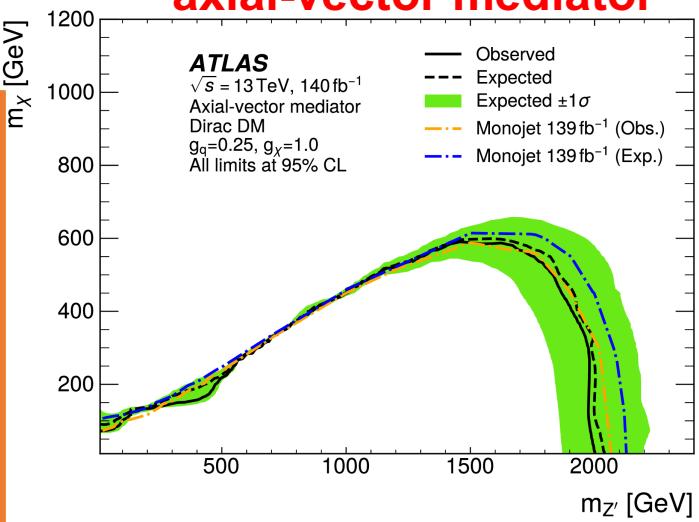
## VBF process

- $\geq 2$  jets
- leading jet:
  - $p_T > 80$  GeV
- subleading jet:
  - $p_T > 50$  GeV
- $|\Delta y_{jj}| > 1$ , in-gap jet veto
- $m_{jj} > 200$  GeV

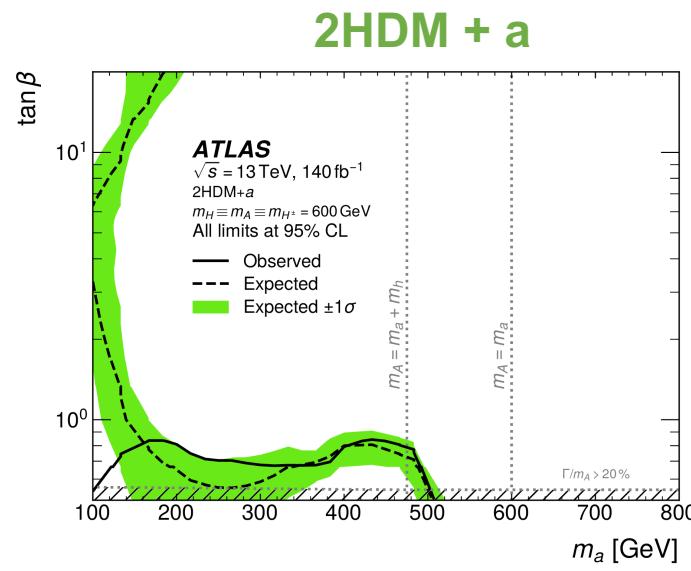
## Dark photon | Higgs->inv. | Heavy Flavour + DM | Summary plots



**Dark matter with  
axial-vector mediator**



Exclusion limits at 95% in the plane of  $(m_{Z'}, m_\chi)$  for a simplified DM model



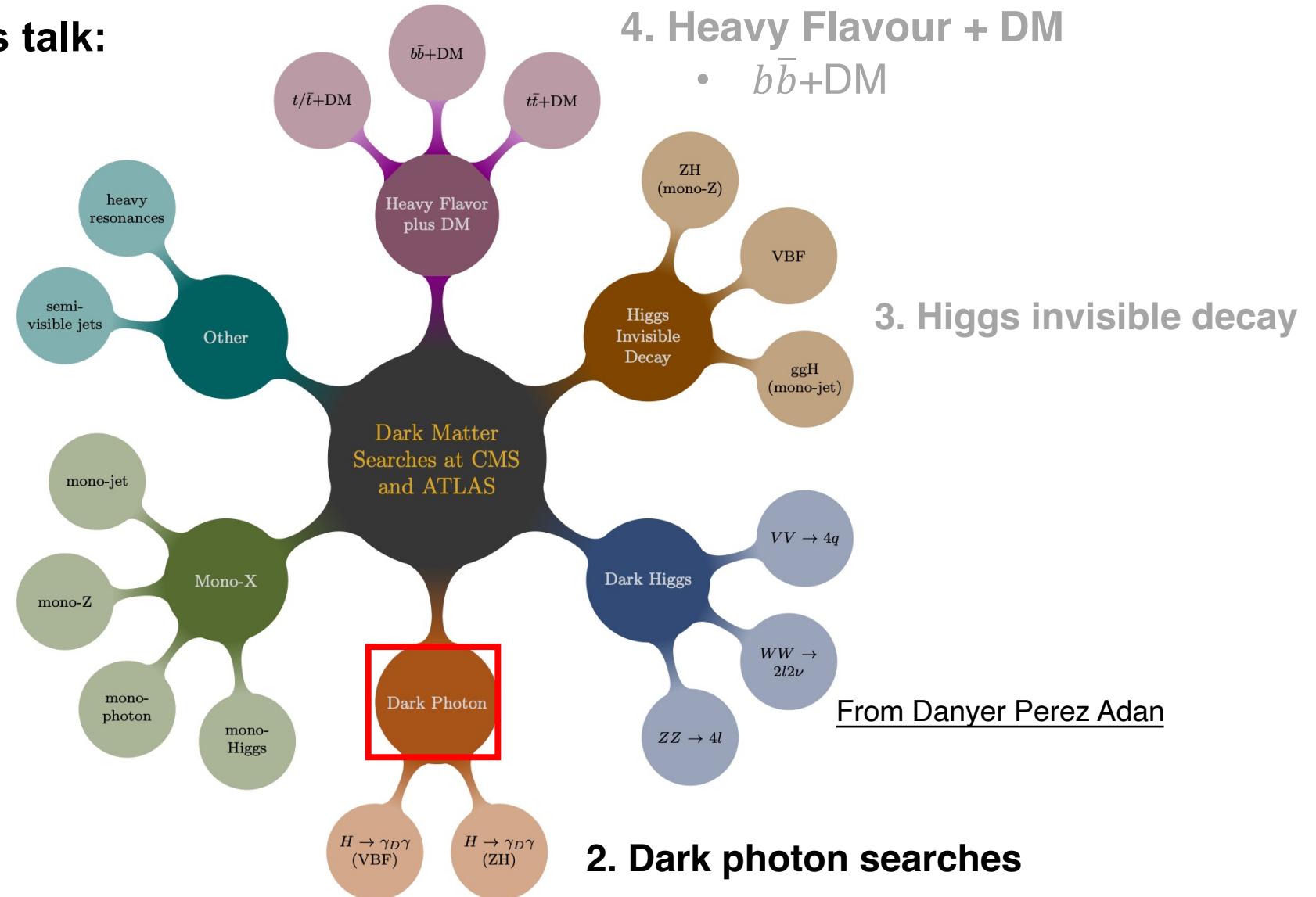
Exclusion limits at 95% in the  $(m_a, \tan\beta)$  plane for the 2HDM+a mode

# Dark matter searches at ATLAS and CMS

Topics introduced in this talk:

## 1. Mono-X searches

- Mono-top
- Mono-V
- Mono-Jet



From Danyer Perez Adan

# Dark photon searches

CMS: [arXiv:1908.02699], [arXiv:2009.14009]

ATLAS: [arXiv:2406.01656]



Mono-X

Dark photon

Higgs->inv.

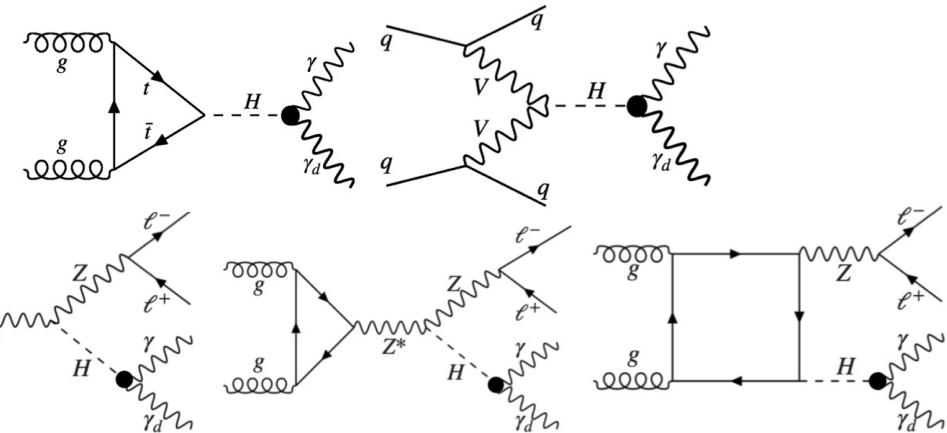
Heavy Flavour + DM

Summary plots

- Experimental signatures:

$\gamma + \text{MET} +$

- Forward jets (VBF channel)
- Z (ZH channel)
- no extra high  $p_T$  signature (ggF channel)

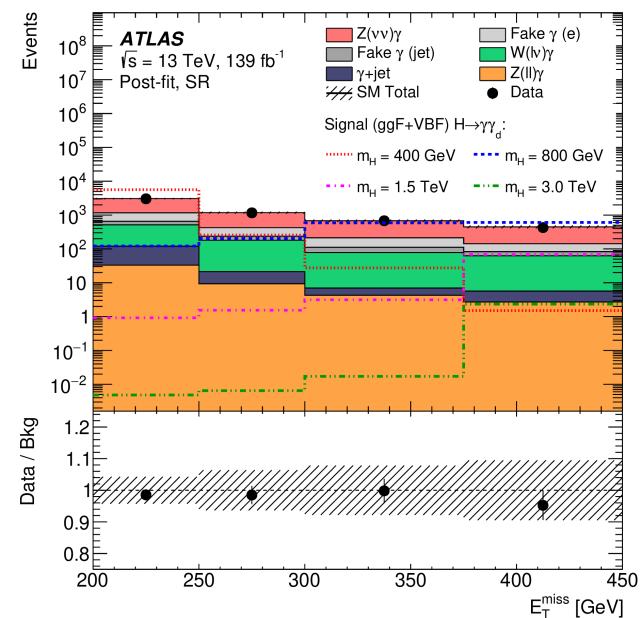


- Main backgrounds in different channel:

	VBF	ZH	ggF
ATLAS	$Z\gamma, W\gamma + \text{jets}$	fake MET from $Z/Z\gamma + \text{jets}$	$Z(\rightarrow \nu\nu)\gamma, W(\rightarrow l\nu)\gamma, \gamma + \text{jets}$ and $Z(\rightarrow ll)\gamma$
CMS		WZ and ZZ	-

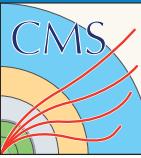
- Likelihood fit on MET distribution to obtain limits of  $\text{BR}(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d)$

Post-fit plots in ggF channel



# Dark photon searches

CMS: [arXiv:1908.02699]  
 CMS: [arXiv:2009.14009]



Mono-X

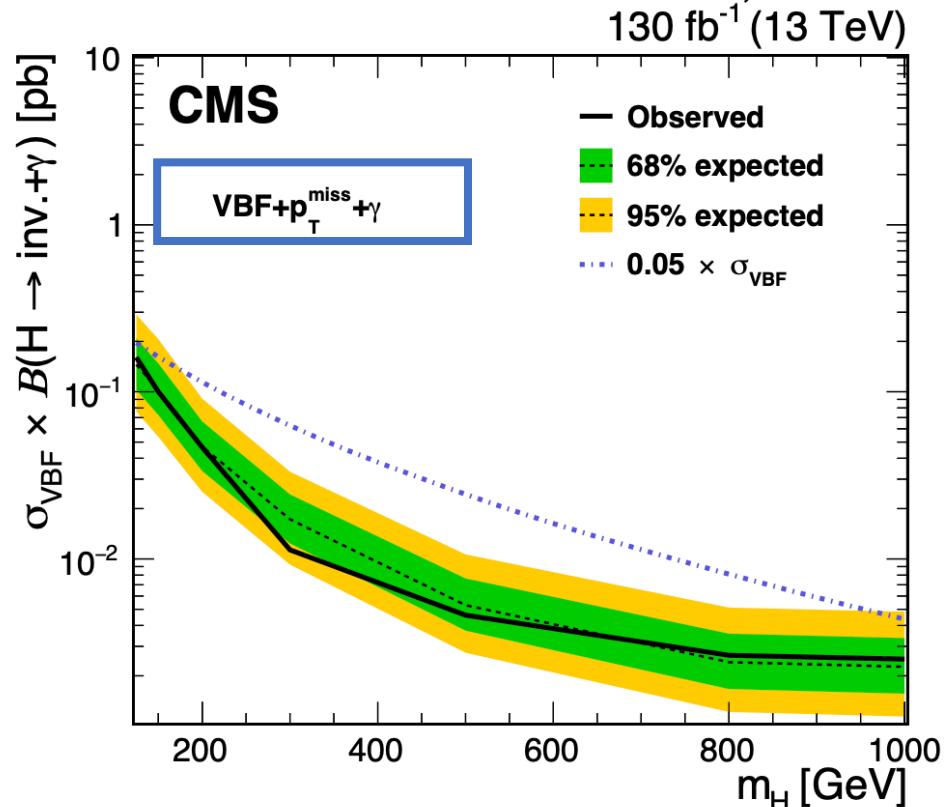
Dark photon

Higgs->inv.

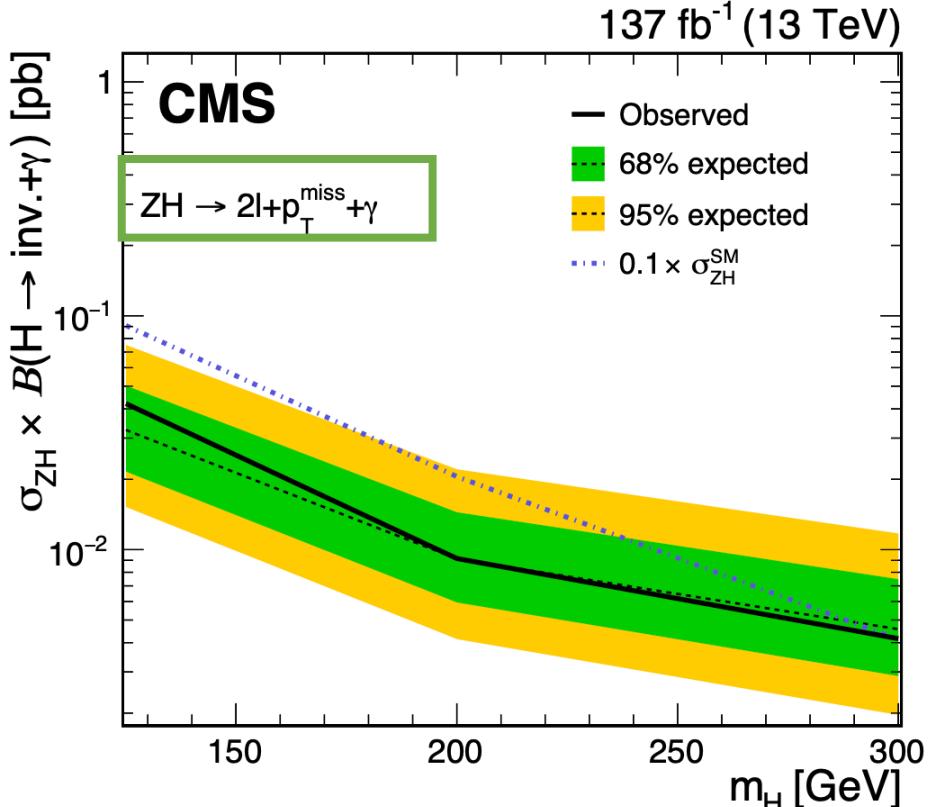
Heavy Flavour + DM

Summary plots

- Limits obtained by CMS
- For **SM** Higgs, the upper limits of  $\text{BR}(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d)$  is 2.9%
- For **BSM** Higgs, limits scans from
  - 125 GeV to 1000 GeV in **VBF** channel;
  - 125 GeV to 300 GeV in **ZH** channel;



VBF		ZH		VBF+ZH	
Obs. (%)	Exp. (%)	Obs. (%)	Exp. (%)	Obs. (%)	Exp. (%)
3.5	$2.8^{+1.3}_{-0.8}$	4.6	$3.6^{+2.0}_{-1.2}$	2.9	$2.1^{+1.0}_{-0.7}$



# Dark photon searches

ATLAS: [arXiv:2406.01656]

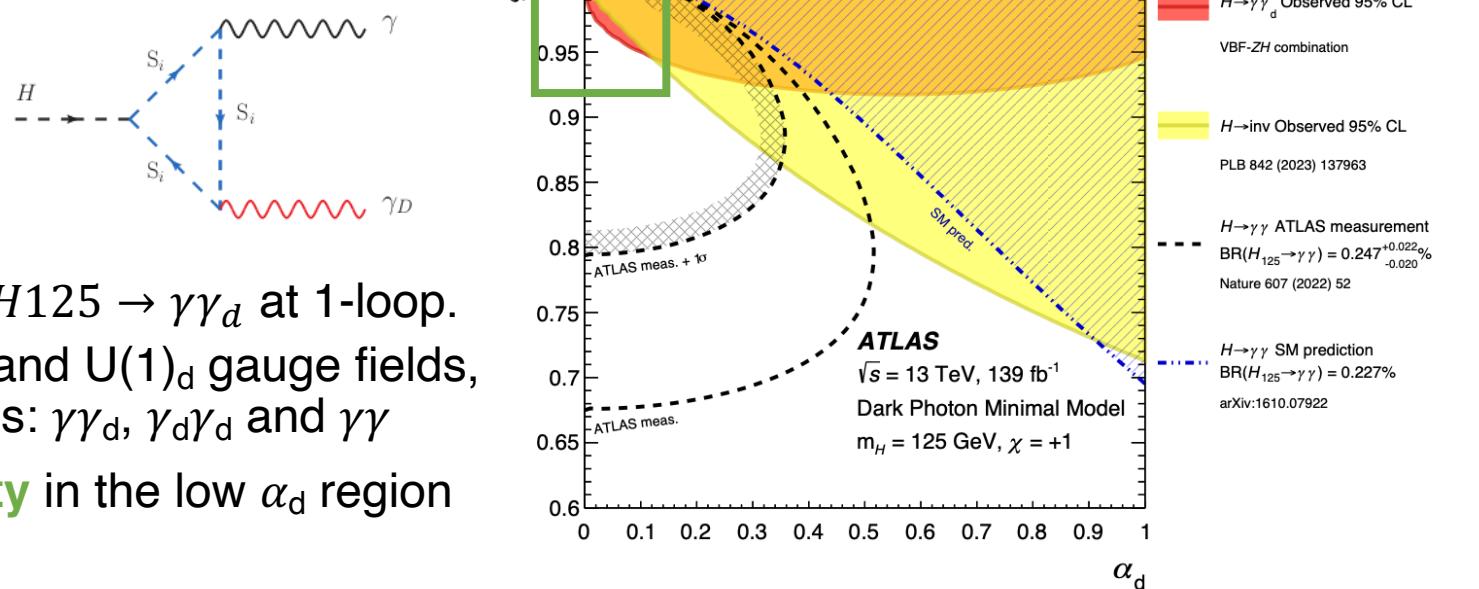
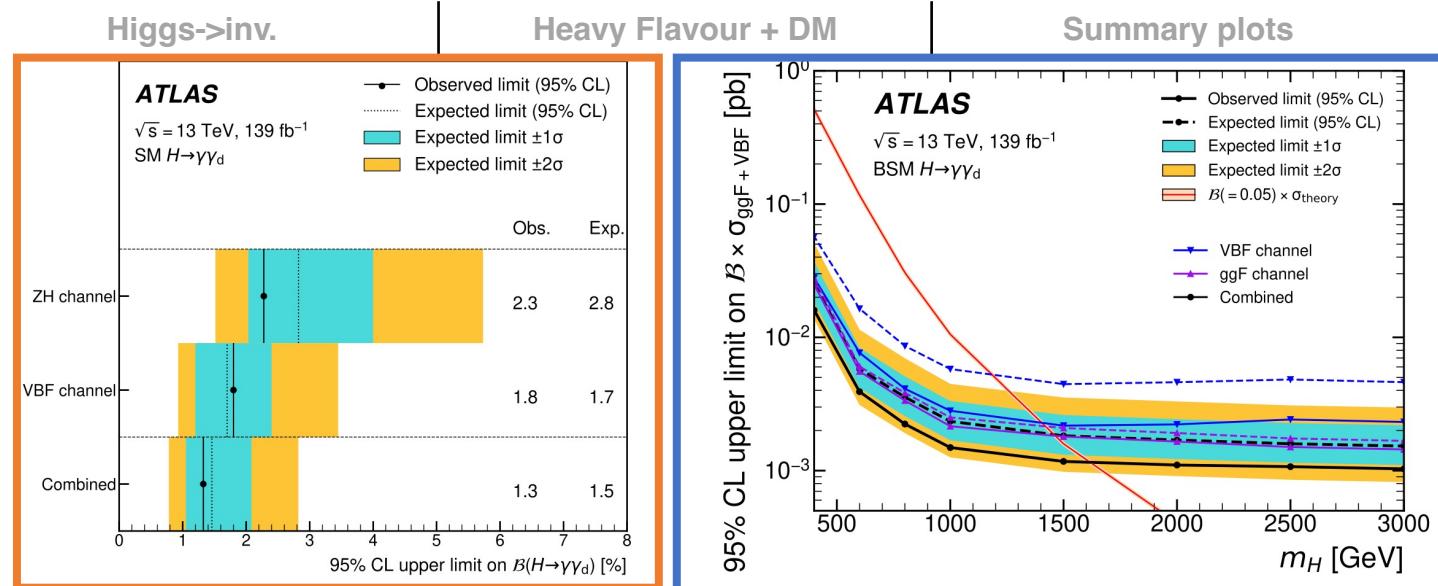


- | Mono-X  | Dark photon   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limits obtained by ATLAS Run 2 combination</li> <li>For <b>SM Higgs</b>,<br/><math>\text{BR}(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d)</math> is 1.3%</li> <li>Improvement of 29% in sensitivity compared to VBF limit</li> <li>Most stringent results for <math>\text{BR}(H_{125} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d)</math></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For <b>BSM Higgs</b>,<br/>limit scans from 500 GeV to 3TeV</li> <li>Improvement of 33% at <math>m_H=1500\text{GeV}</math> compared to ggF results</li> </ul> |

Interpreted with minimal simplified model:

$$L^0 = \partial_\mu \hat{S}^\dagger \partial^\mu \hat{S} - \hat{S}^\dagger M_S^2 \hat{S}$$

- 2 scalar messengers  $S_i (i = +, -)$  allow for  $H_{125} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma_d$  at 1-loop.
  - Messenger sector couples to both  $U(1)$  and  $U(1)_d$  gauge fields, allowing three Higgs boson decay modes:  $\gamma\gamma_d$ ,  $\gamma_d\gamma_d$  and  $\gamma\gamma$
- Combination provides **additional sensitivity** in the low  $\alpha_d$  region

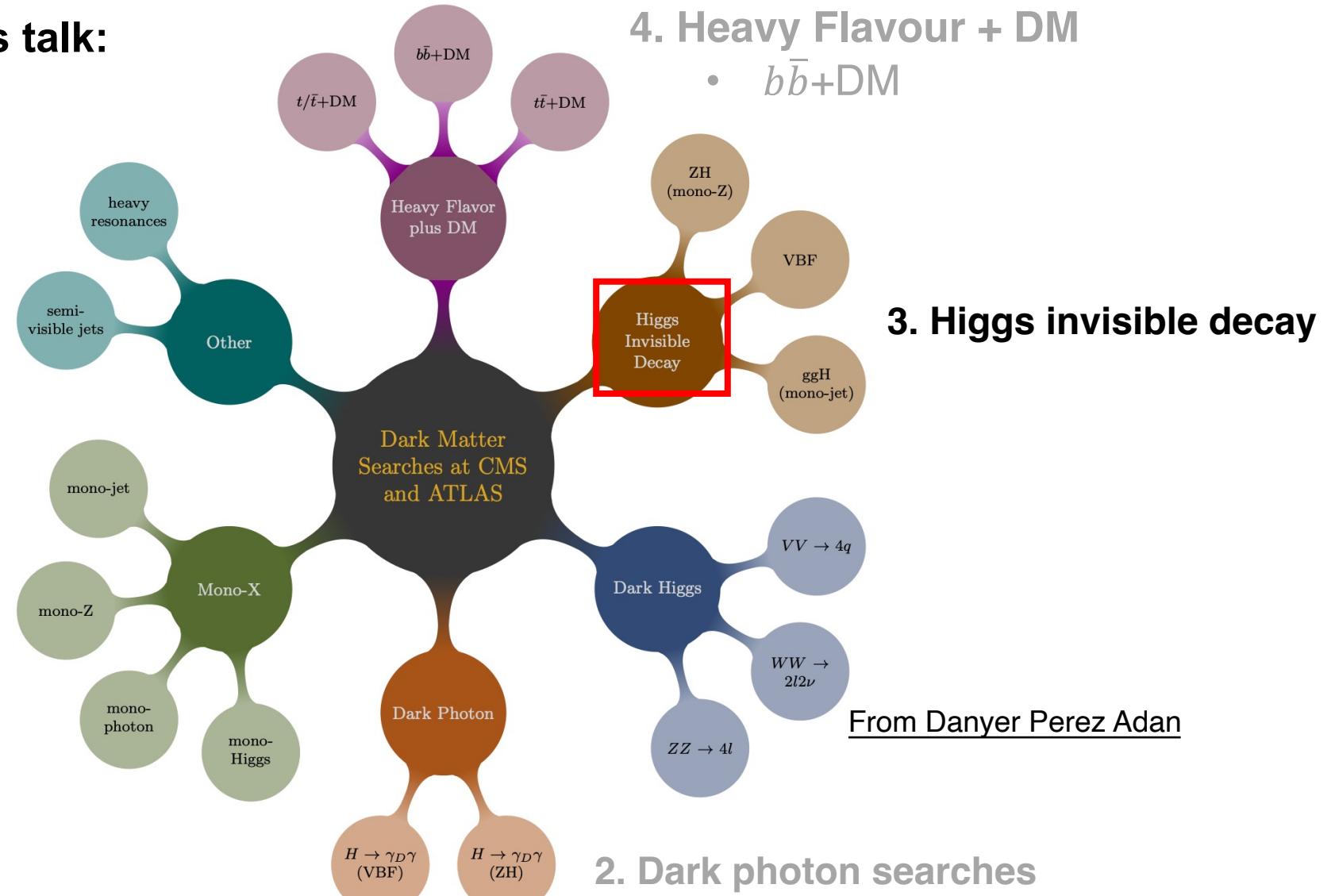


# Dark matter searches at ATLAS and CMS

Topics introduced in this talk:

## 1. Mono-X searches

- Mono-top
- Mono-V
- Mono-Jet



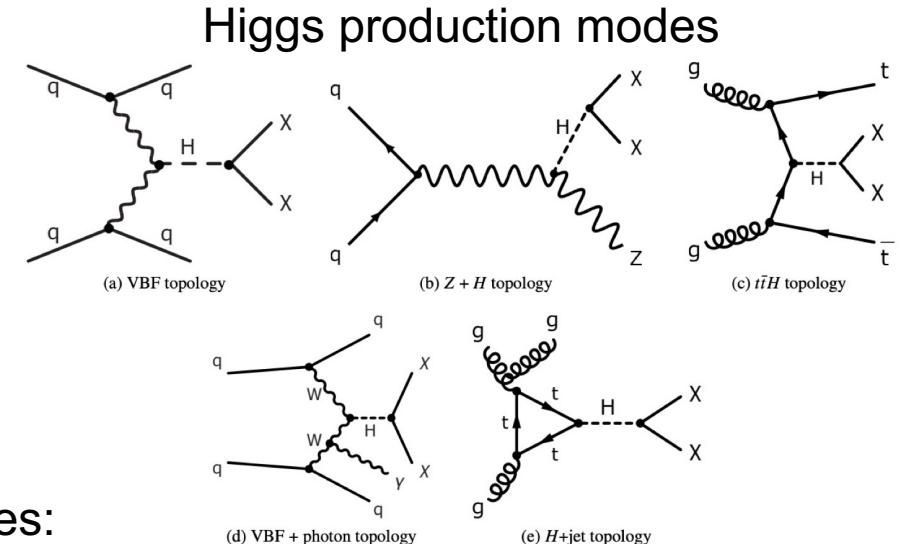
# Higgs invisible decay

CMS: [arXiv: 2303.01214]  
 ATLAS: [arXiv: 2301.10731]



Mono-X | Dark photon | Higgs->inv. | Heavy Flavour + DM | Summary plots

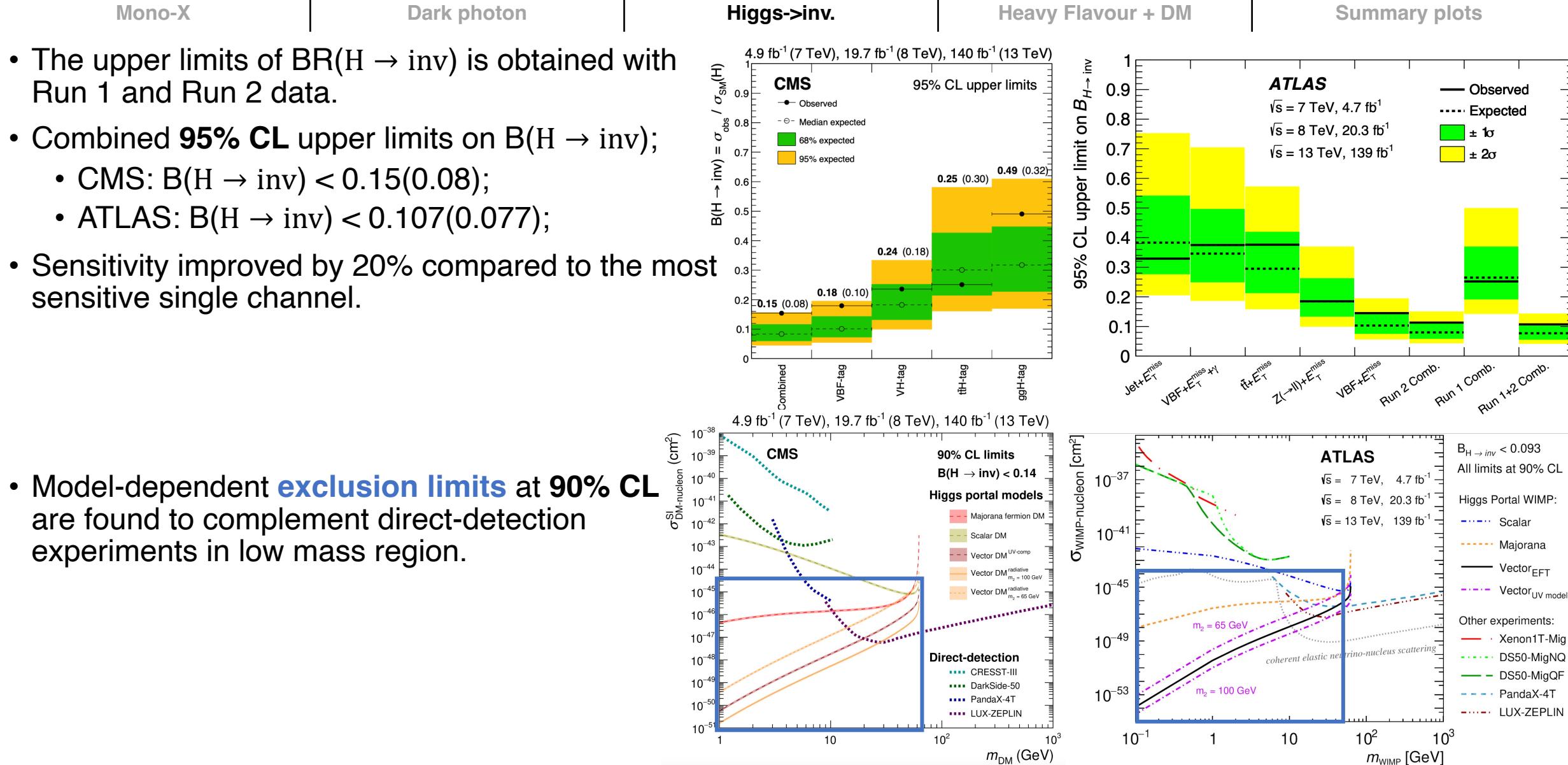
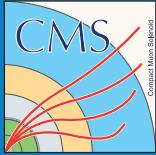
- Search for Higgs invisible decay via multiple Higgs production modes.
- Experimental signatures: Jet + H( $\rightarrow$ inv), Z(l $\bar{l}$ ) + H( $\rightarrow$ inv)
- Strategy:
  - SM BR(H  $\rightarrow$  inv) = 0.1% (H  $\rightarrow$  ZZ\*  $\rightarrow$  4 $\nu$ )
  - Higgs invisible decay would increase the BR w.r.t SM prediction.
- The sensitivity is driven by **VBF** and **Z+H** channel.
- Main backgrounds and signature from different Higgs production modes:



Higgs production mode	Experimental signature	Leading Backgrounds
VBF	VBF+H( $\rightarrow$ inv)	Z( $\rightarrow \nu\nu$ )+jets and W( $\rightarrow l\nu$ )+jets
Z+H	Z(l $\bar{l}$ )+H( $\rightarrow$ inv)	Z ( $\rightarrow ll$ ) Z ( $\rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$ ) and WZ
t $\bar{t}$ H	t $\bar{t}$ +H( $\rightarrow$ inv)	t $\bar{t}$ and Z ( $\rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$ ) +jets in 0-lepton channel, t $\bar{t}$ in 1-lepton channel, ttZ in 2-lepton channel
VBF+photon	VBF+H( $\rightarrow$ inv)+ $\gamma$	V $\gamma$ +jets
H+jet	jet+H( $\rightarrow$ inv)	Z ( $\rightarrow \nu\nu$ ) + jets and W ( $\rightarrow l\nu$ ) + jets

# Higgs invisible decay

CMS: [arXiv: 2303.01214]  
 ATLAS: [arXiv: 2301.10731]

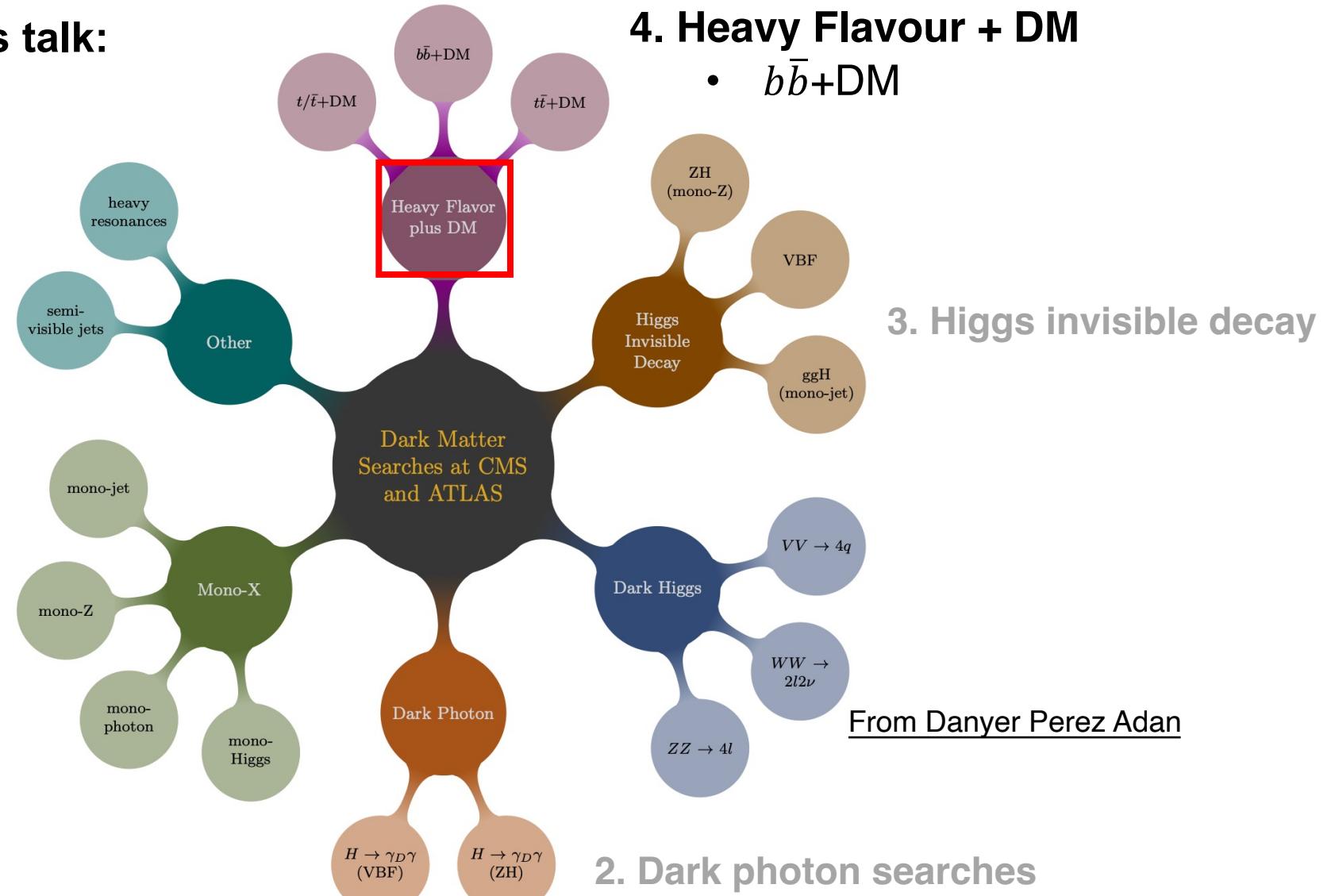


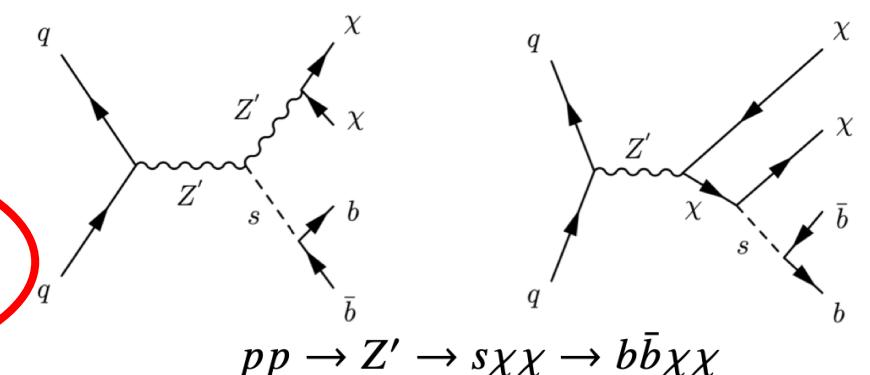
# Dark matter searches at ATLAS and CMS

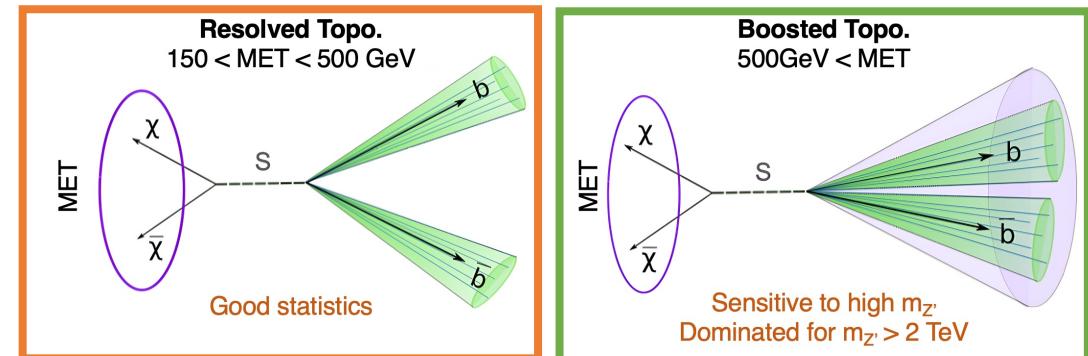
Topics introduced in this talk:

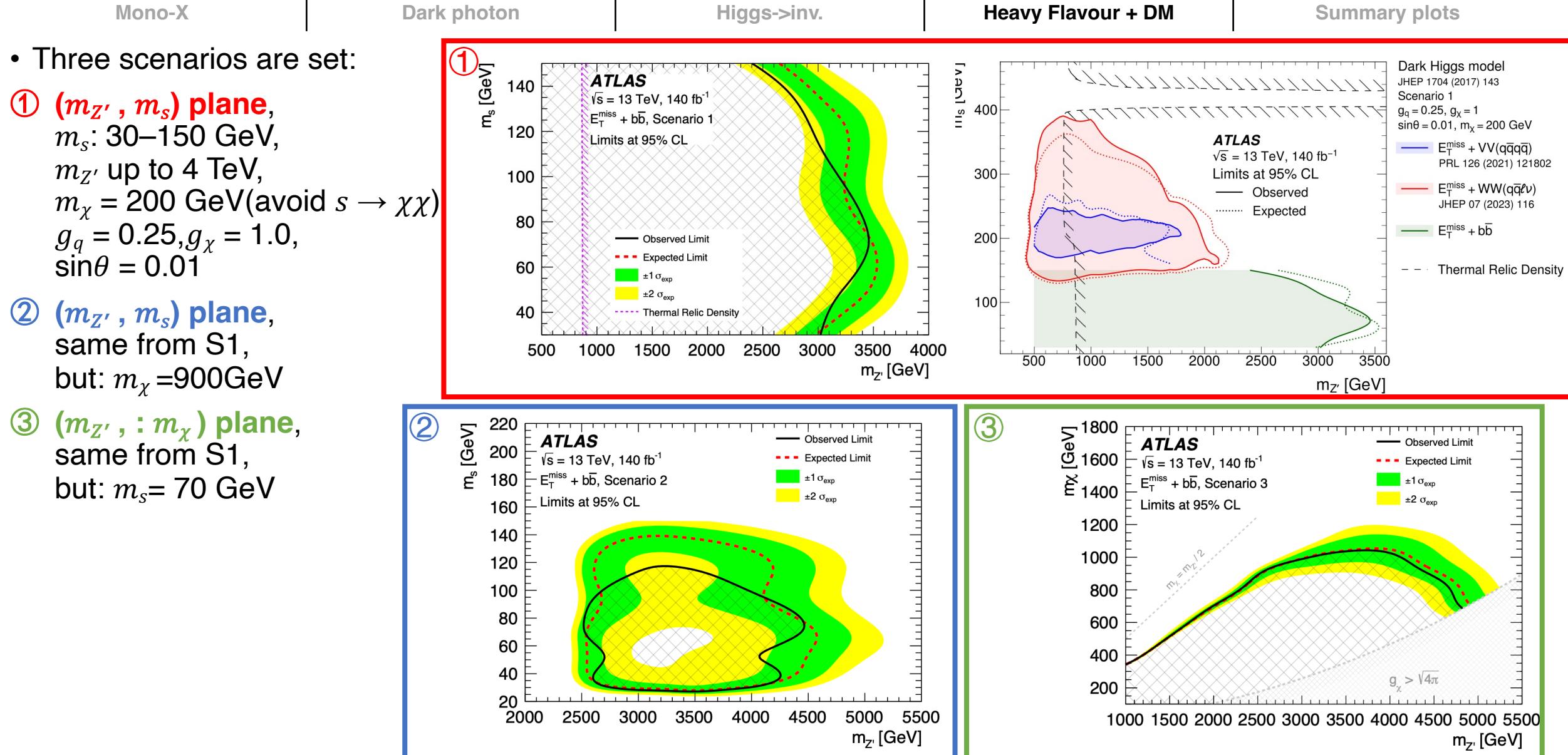
## 1. Mono-X searches

- Mono-top
- Mono-V
- Mono-Jet



- | Mono-X  | Dark photon | Higgs->inv. | <b>Heavy Flavour + DM</b>  | Summary plots |
|---|-------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experimental signature: X(decays into b pair) + MET</li> <li>Dark Higgs Model:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majorana DM candidate's mass <math>m_\chi</math>,</li> <li><math>Z'</math> mass <math>m_{Z'}</math></li> <li>Dark Higgs boson mass <math>m_s</math></li> <li>Coupling of the <math>Z'</math> boson to quarks <math>g_q</math></li> <li>Coupling to DM <math>g_\chi</math></li> <li>Mixing angle between the SM and dark Higgs bosons <math>\theta</math></li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Resolved</b> and <b>Merged</b> topologies are considered to cover all the interested phase space.</li> <li>Novel tagging algorithm is employed to improved sensitivity</li> <li>Main backgrounds: V+jets, and <math>t\bar{t}</math><br/>At large MET regions, di-boson also contributed as non-negligible backgrounds.</li> </ul> |             |             | <p style="text-align: center;"><math>pp \rightarrow Z' \rightarrow s\chi\chi \rightarrow b\bar{b}\chi\chi</math></p>  |               |
- Free parameters to describe interaction with SM and DM





# Summary plots of DM searches in ATLAS and CMS

# Summary of Simplified model searches

ATLAS Summary Plots  
CMS Summary Plots



Mono-X

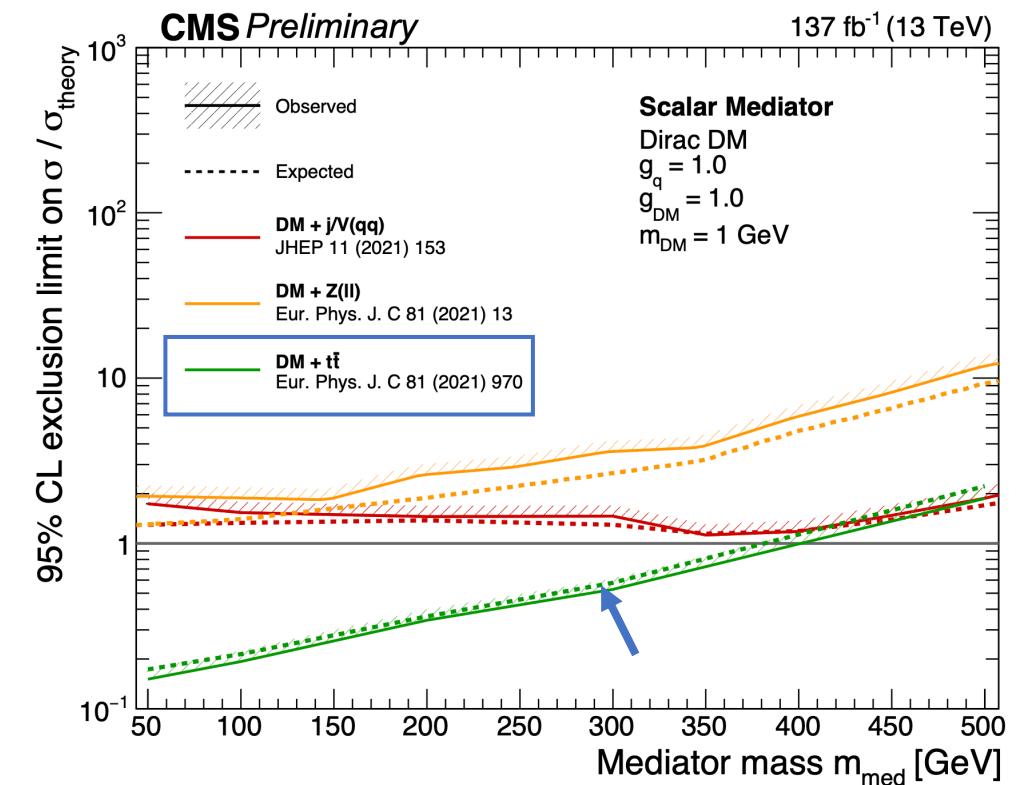
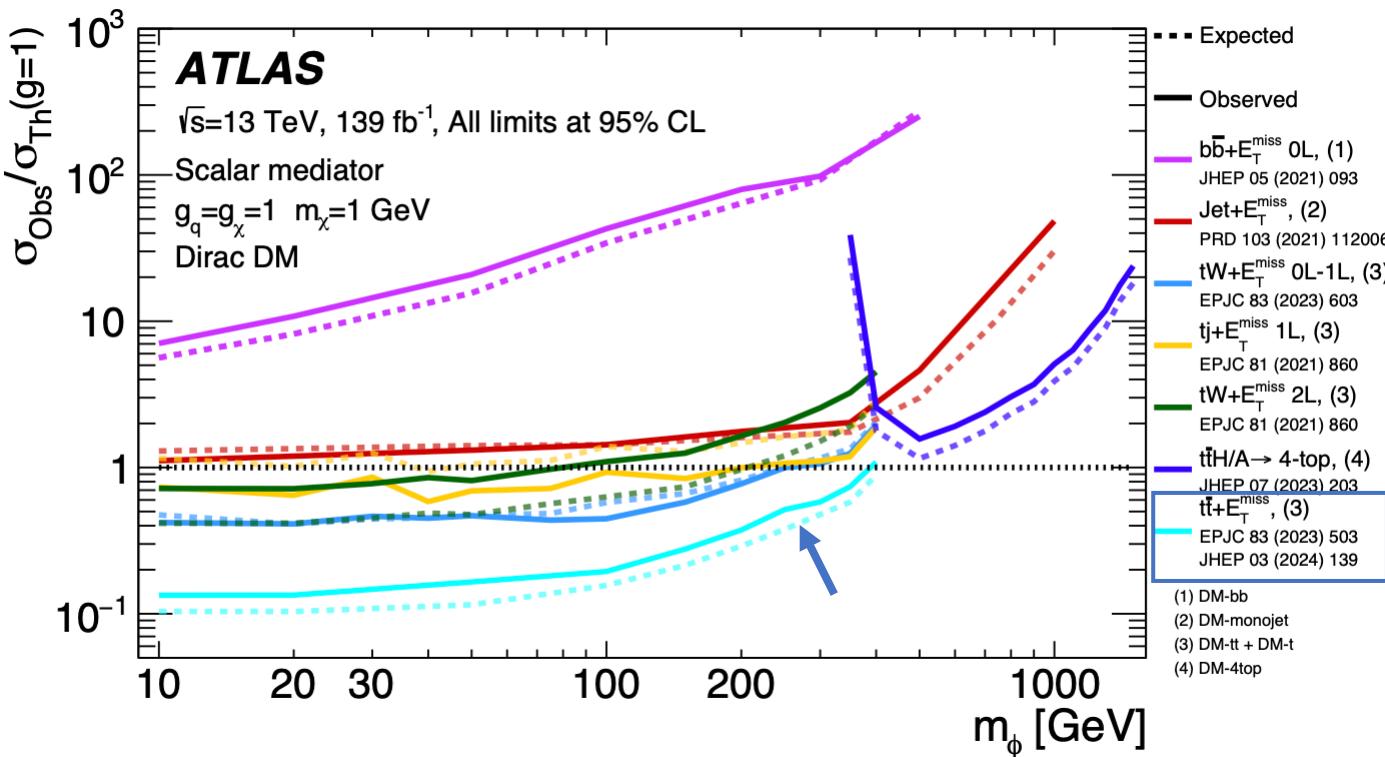
Dark photon

Higgs->inv.

Heavy Flavour + DM

Summary plots

- ATLAS & CMS summary plots with simplified DM model of scalar mediator searches
  - MET+  $t\bar{t}$



Plots for pseudo-scalar mediator searches in backup.

# Summary of Simplified model searches

ATLAS Summary Plots  
CMS Summary Plots



Mono-X

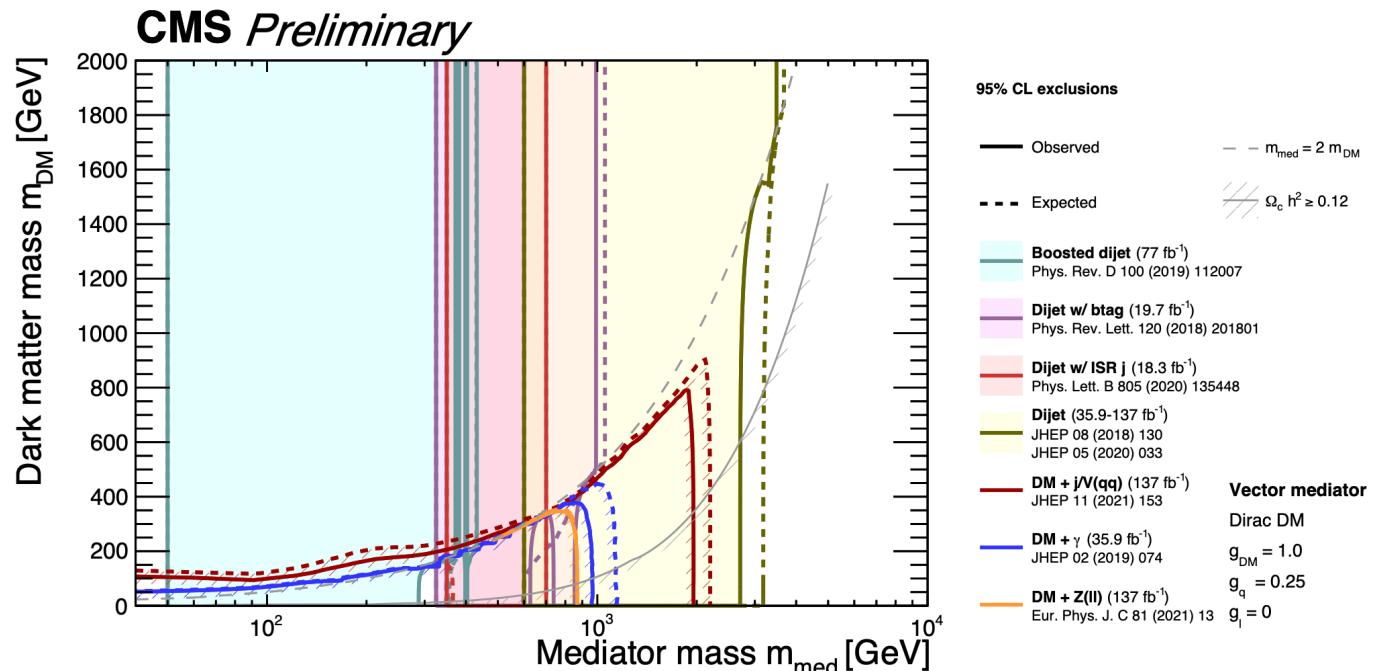
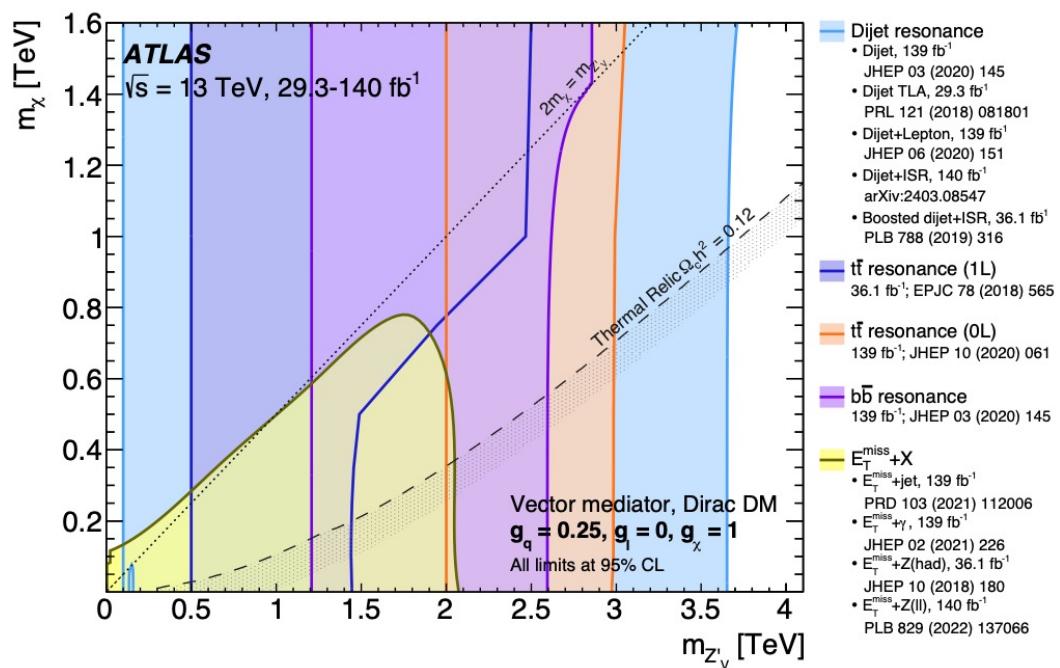
Dark photon

Higgs->inv.

Heavy Flavour + DM

Summary plots

- ATLAS & CMS summary plots with simplified DM model of vector mediator searches



Plots for axial-vector mediator searches in backup.

# Summary of 2HDM+a searches

Mono-X

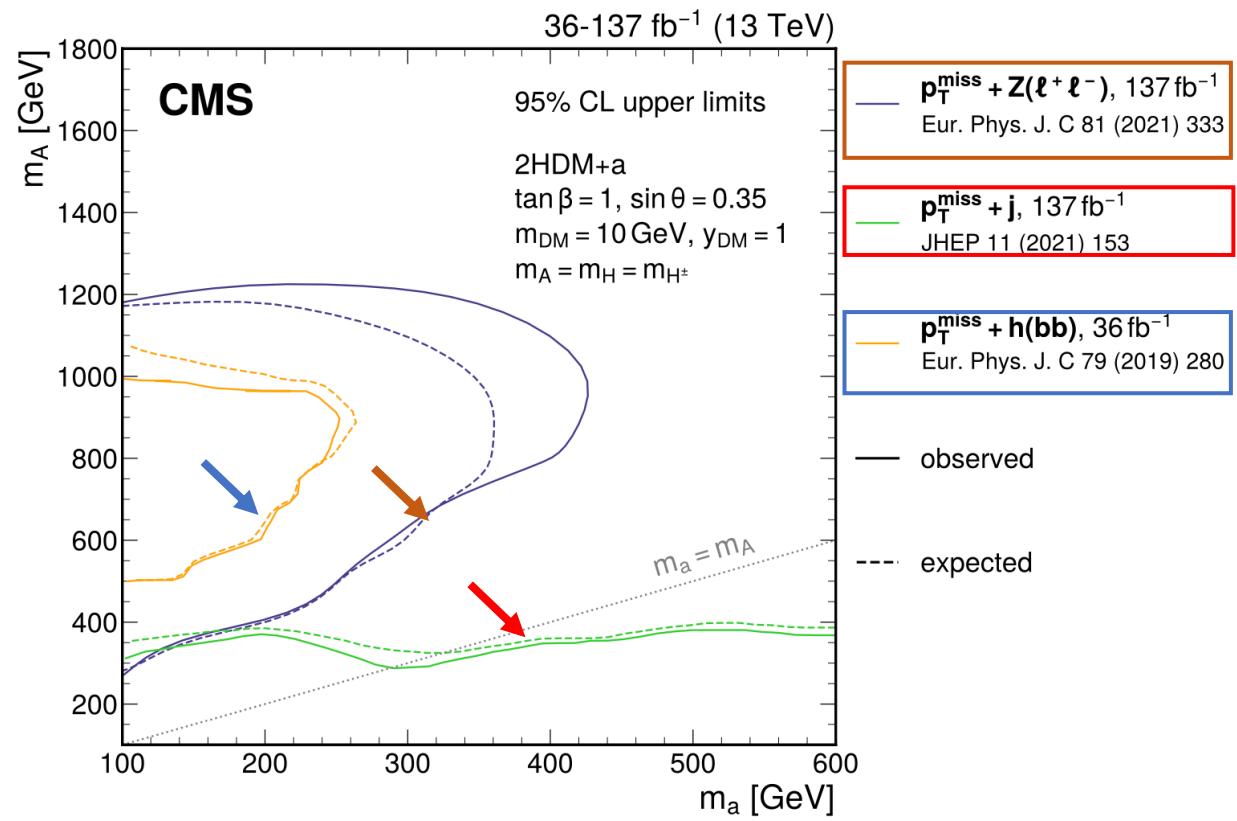
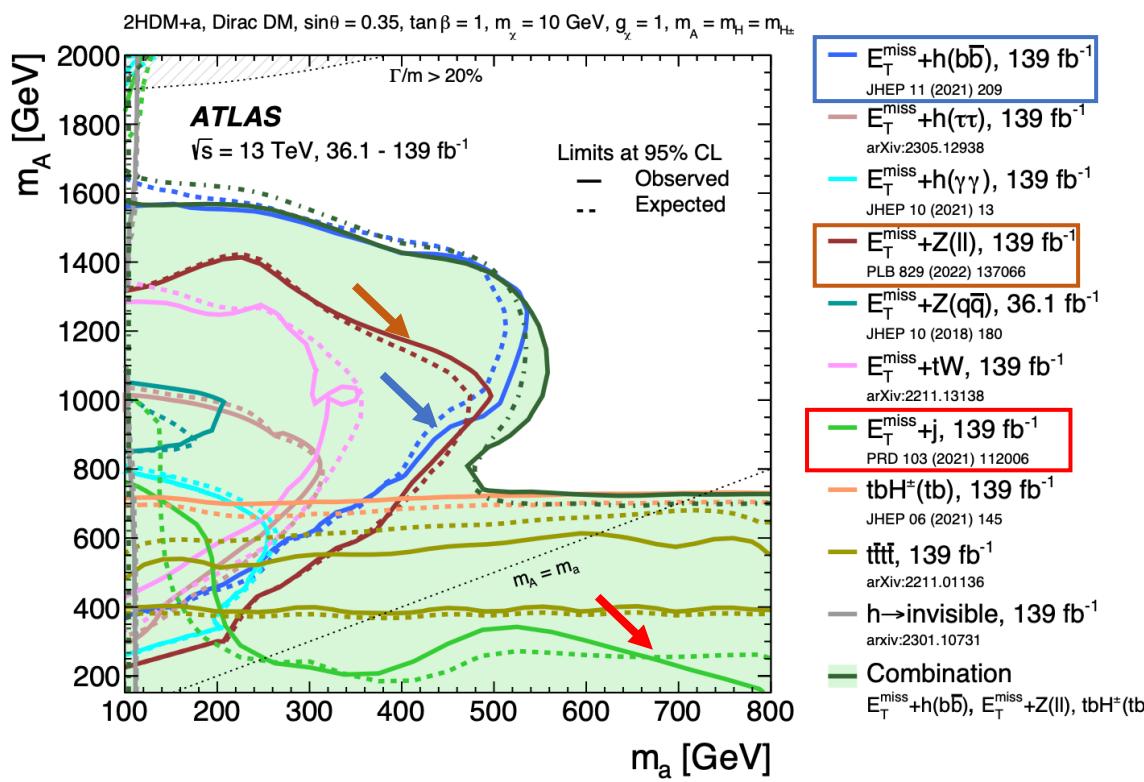
Dark photon

Higgs->inv.

Heavy Flavour + DM

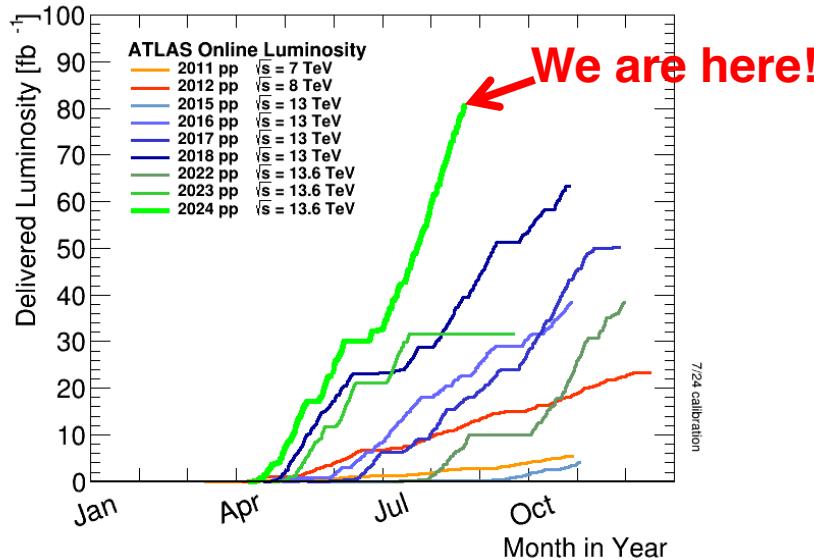
Summary plots

- ATLAS & CMS summary plots with 2HDM + a model
  - $h(bb) + \text{MET}$ ,  $Z(\rightarrow ll) + \text{MET}$ ,  $\text{jet} + \text{MET}$  ...



# Summary

- Wide range dark matter model searches at ALTAS and CMS:
  - Most on Simplified models .
  - Extended dark matter models also included like 2HDM+a.
- Sensitivity improved from latest searches and combinations.
- So far **no significant** dark matter signal found .
- [ATLAS](#) and [CMS](#) provides nice **summary plots** for Run 2 DM searches.
- Run 3 and HL-LHC datasets will provide a good opportunity for discoveries.
  - With larger datasets and technique improvement, the exclusion would be more stringent.
- More DM search results, please visit [ATLAS/CMS](#) public website.



Thanks for you attention!

# Backup

# Summary of DM searches

Mono-X

Dark photon

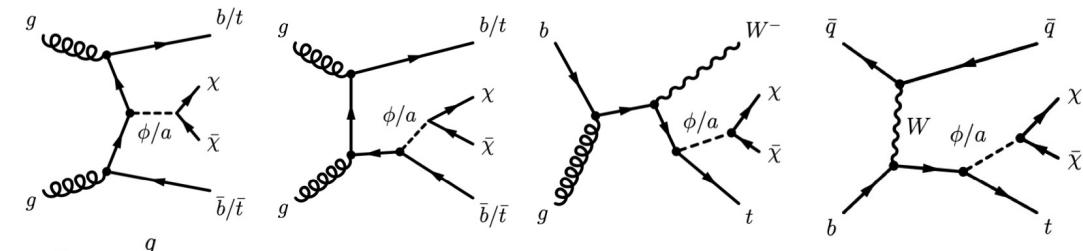
Higgs->inv.

Heavy Flavour + DM

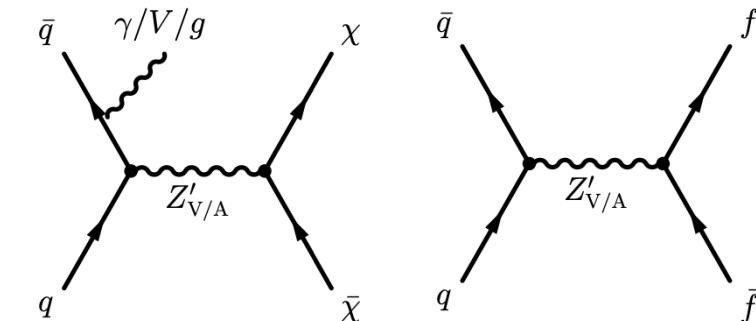
Summary plots

- Experimental signatures:
  - **Spin-0:** tt/bb + MET, jet + MET, t(W/j) + MET, tt resonance
  - **Spin-1:** X+MET, Resonances
- Analyses with MET
  - Invisible decays:
    - tt/bb + MET, t(W/j) + MET, jet + MET...
  - Visible decays:
    - Dijet TLA, Dijet + lepton, Dilepton...
- Main backgrounds:
  - tt/bb + MET: top pair production, W+jets, Z+jets
  - t(W/j) + MET: top pair production, W+jets, Z+jets
  - jet + MET: Z( $\nu\nu$ )+jets and W( $\ell\nu$ )+jets
  - $\gamma$  + MET:  $W\gamma$ ,  $Z\gamma$ , and  $\gamma$ +jets
  - Z( $\ell\ell$ ) + MET: ZZ and WZ
  - V + MET:  $t\bar{t}$  and W/Z+jets

## Spin 0



## Spin 1



# Summary of Simplified model searches

ATLAS Summary Plots  
CMS Summary Plots



Mono-X

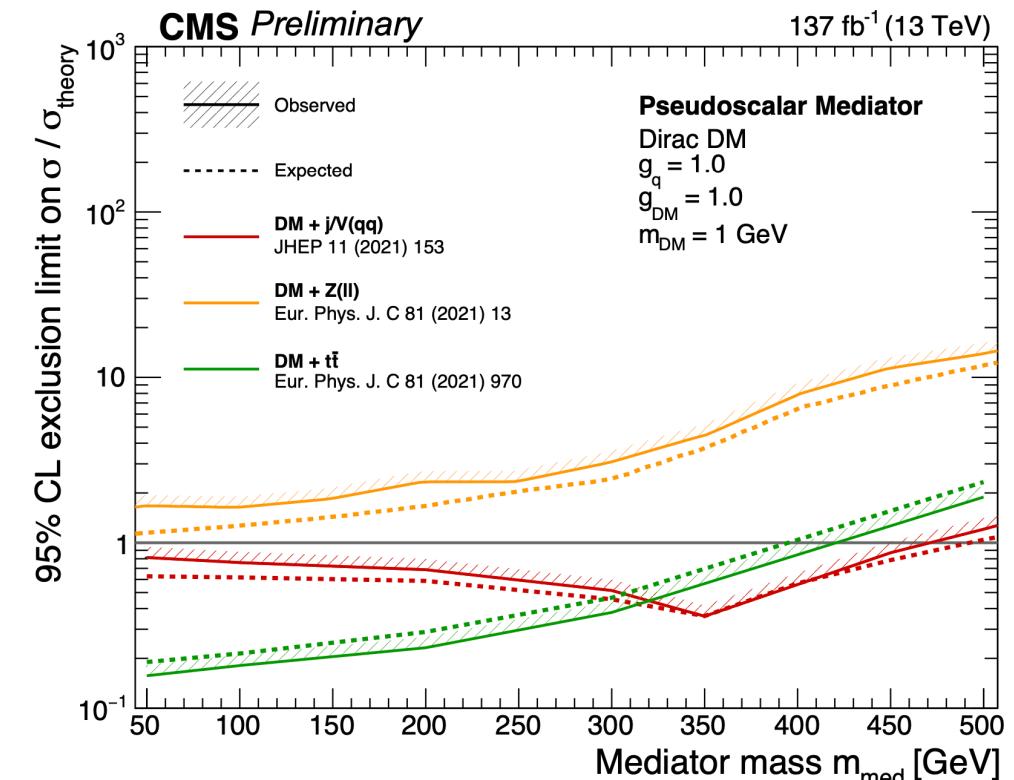
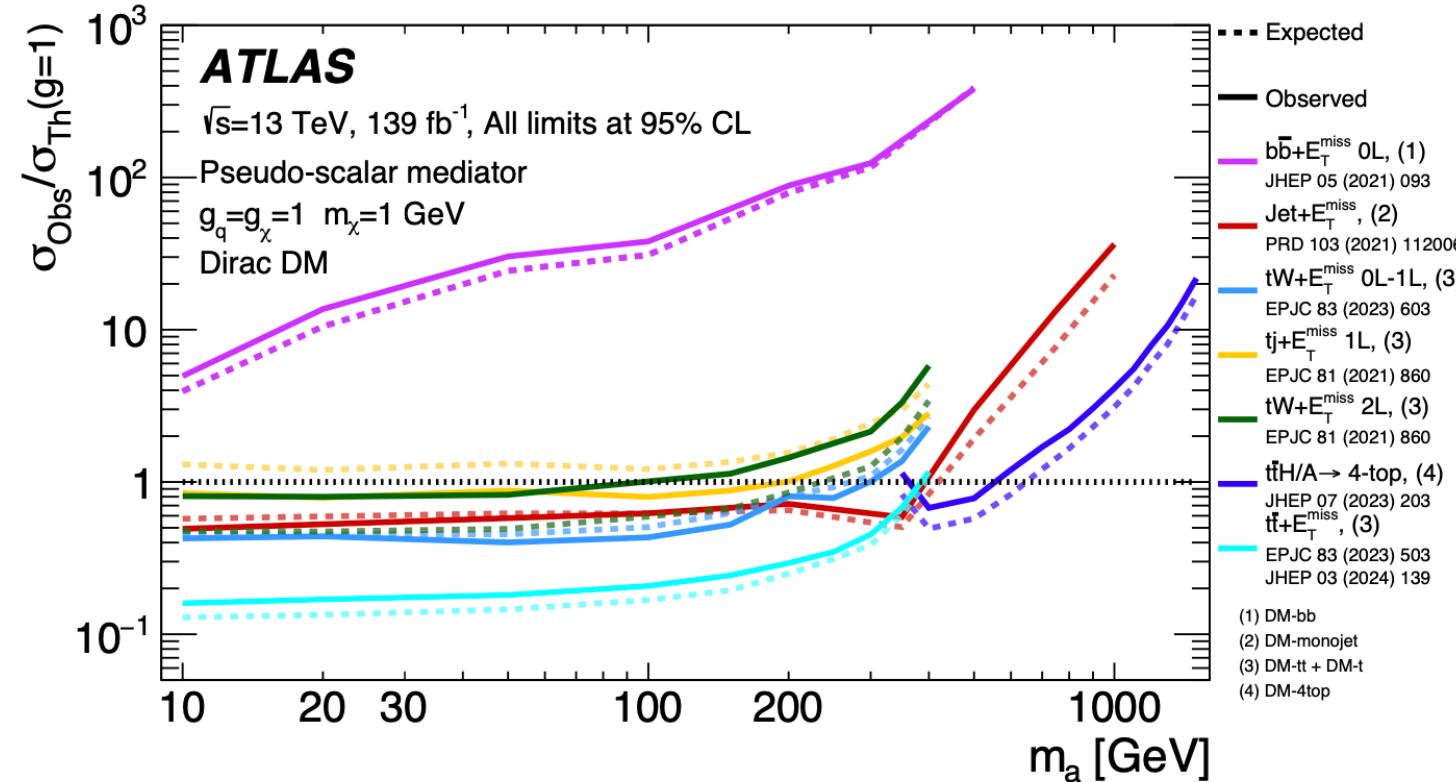
Dark photon

Higgs->inv.

Heavy Flavour + DM

Summary plots

- ATLAS & CMS summary plots with simplified DM model of pseudo-scalar mediator searches



# Summary of Simplified model searches

ATLAS Summary Plots  
CMS Summary Plots



Mono-X

Dark photon

Higgs->inv.

Heavy Flavour + DM

Summary plots

- ATLAS & CMS summary plots with simplified DM model of axial-vector mediator searches

