



Searching for Heavy Neutral Leptons with muon detectors in the CMS experiment

[Martin Kwok](#) (Fermilab)

Université Catholique de Louvain -

[Centre for Cosmology, Particle Physics and Phenomenology Seminar](#)

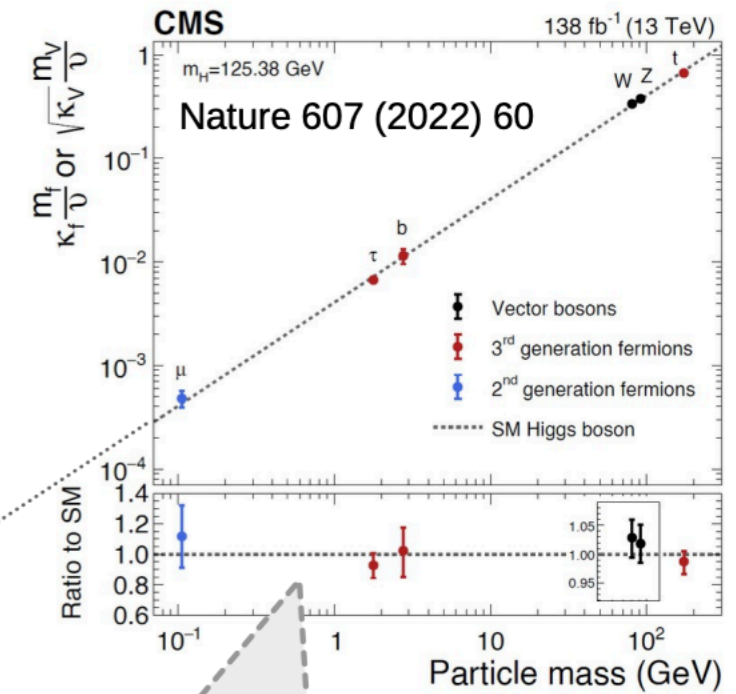
5 September, 2023

Outline

- What is HNL?
- What is Muon Detector Shower(MDS)?
- How to search for HNL with MDS?
- What's to expect in Run 3?

Heavy Neutral Lepton

- SM is very successful, yet incomplete...
- Neutrino oscillation is a lab-accessible BSM effect!
 - Established experimentally ~2000s
 - Peculiarly light (but non-zero mass)
- But Left-handed weak currents cannot have mass term
- Idea: extend SM neutrino sector by adding new particle N
 - Allow Majorana/Dirac mass term for SM neutrinos
- Gives SM neutrino mass via see-saw mechanism
 - Connected to other unsolved problems (Baryon asymmetry, DM candidate, Anomalous g-2 [1],[2],[3],[4],[5])



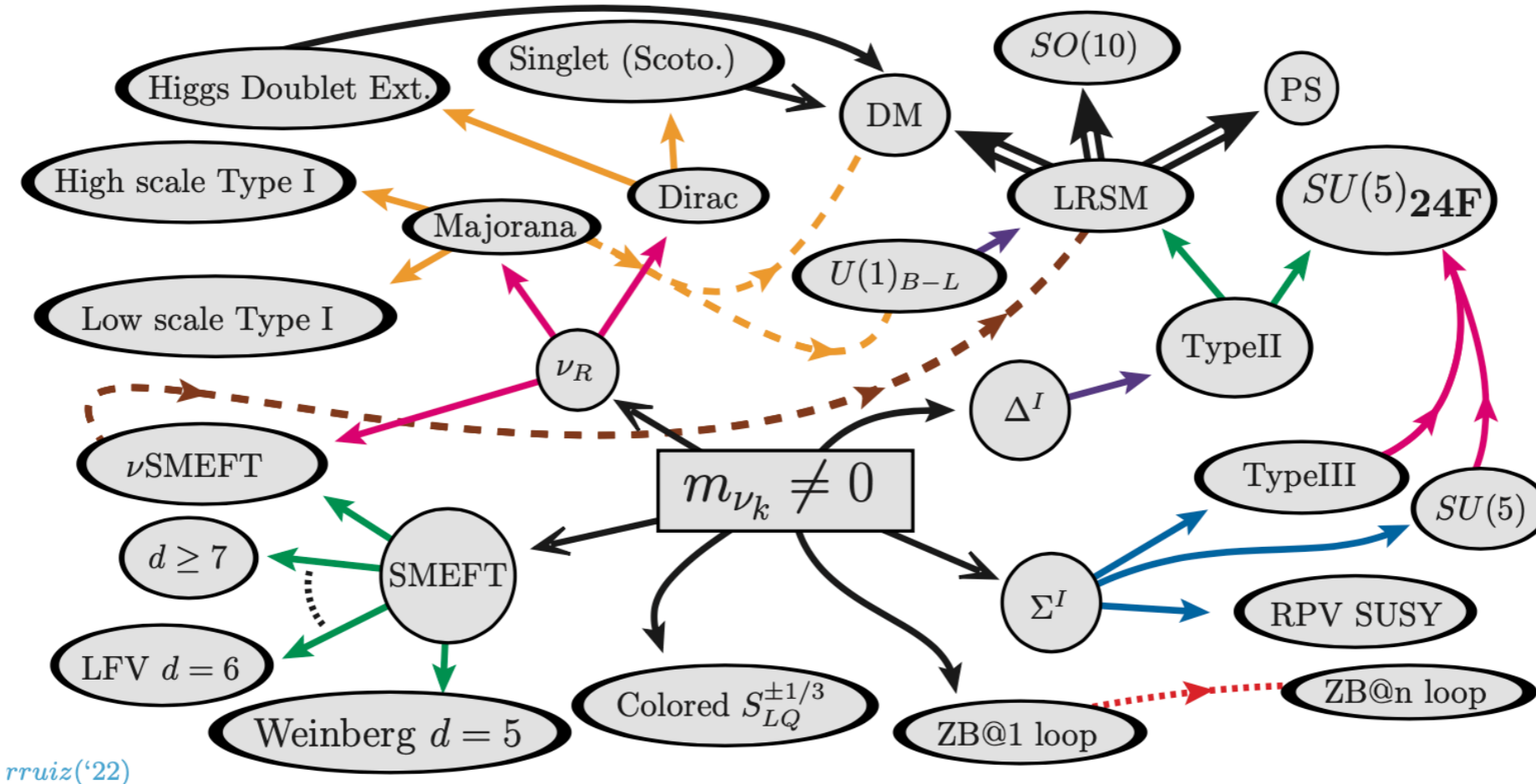
ν

???

	masse →	charge →	spin →					
QUARKS	≈2.3 MeV/c ²	2/3	1/2	u up	≈1.275 GeV/c ²	2/3	1/2	c charm
					≈173.07 GeV/c ²	2/3	1/2	t top
						0	1	g gluon
							0	H boson de Higgs
					≈4.8 MeV/c ²	-1/3	1/2	d down
					≈95 MeV/c ²	-1/3	1/2	s strange
					≈4.18 GeV/c ²	-1/3	1/2	b bottom
					0	1	γ photon	
LEPTONS	0.511 MeV/c ²	-1	1/2	e électron	105.7 MeV/c ²	-1	1/2	μ muon
					1.777 GeV/c ²	-1	1/2	τ tau
					91.2 GeV/c ²	0	1	Z⁰ boson Z ⁰
					80.4 GeV/c ²	±1	1	W[±] boson W [±]
	<2.2 eV/c ²	0	1/2	ν_e neutrino électronique	<0.17 MeV/c ²	0	1/2	ν_μ neutrino muonique
					<15.5 MeV/c ²	0	1/2	ν_τ neutrino tauique

Theory landscape

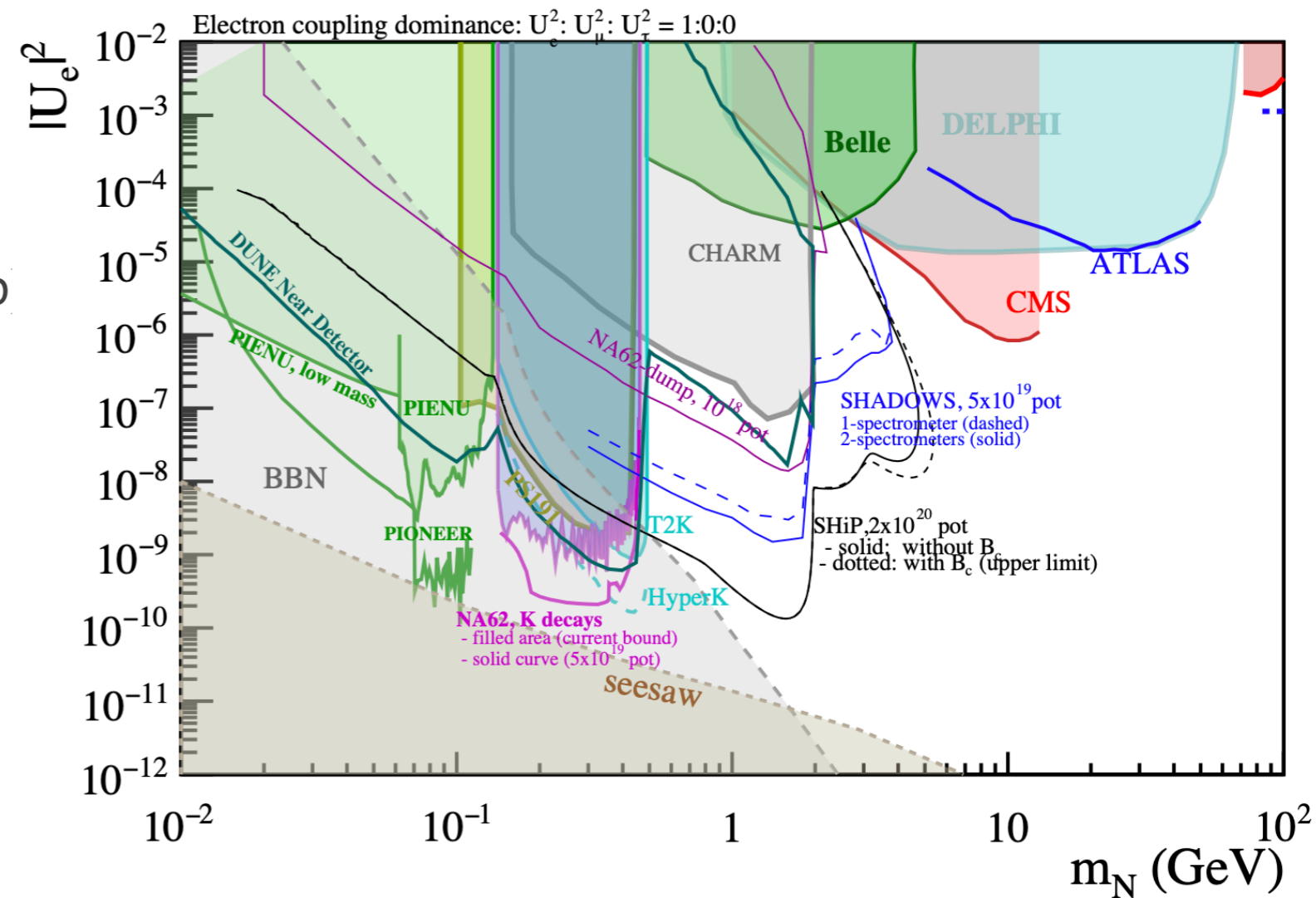
- Simple idea, but can be realized in many different ways
 - How many are there?
 - What are their masses?
 - interaction with gauge bosons?



Credit: R. Ruiz

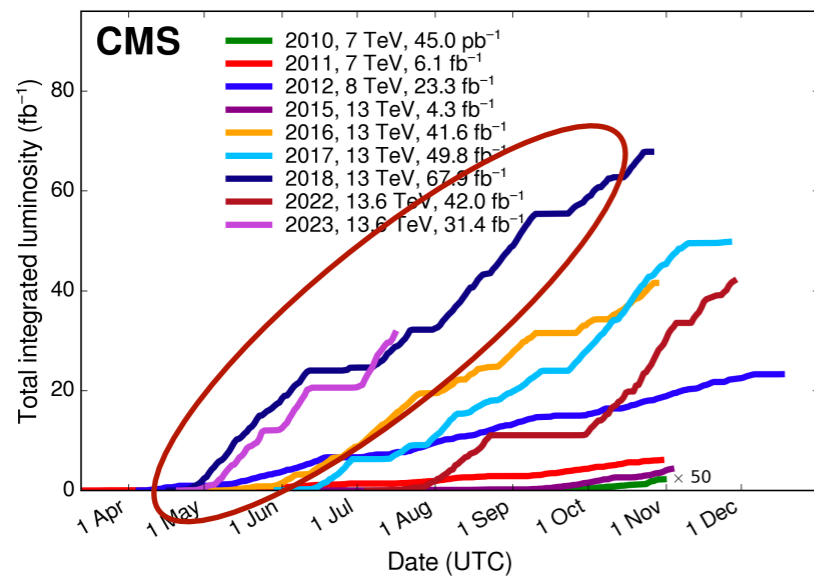
Experimental landscape

- Very rich phenomenon
- Searched for with all possible methods
 - Collider & fixed target
 - Nuclear decay
 - Atmospheric/solar neutrinos
- Accessible production/decay mode depends on the HNL mass
 - Kaon decays (e.g. NA62)
 - B or D meson decay (e.g. Belle, LHCb)
 - Below W,Z:
 - $Z \rightarrow N\nu$
 - Above W,Z mass:
 - decay to on-shell W/Z production



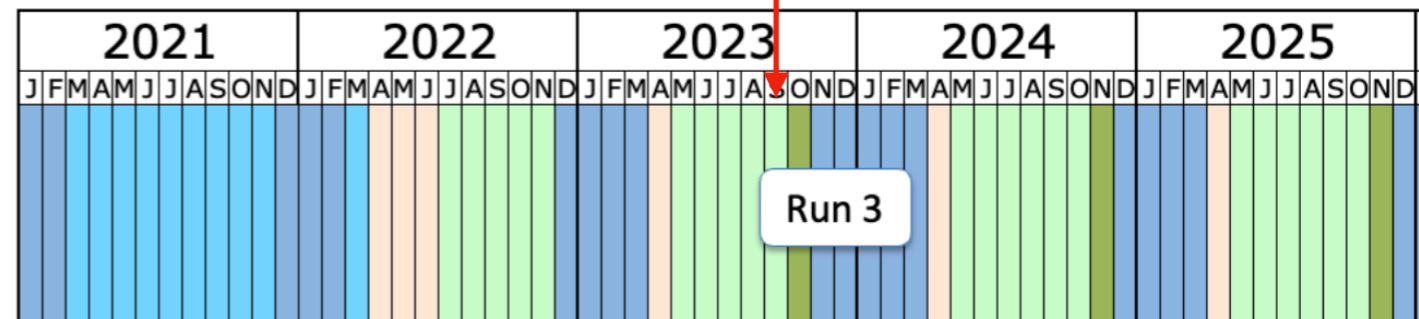
The CMS experiment at the LHC

- A lot of the above phenomenon can be accessed at the LHC

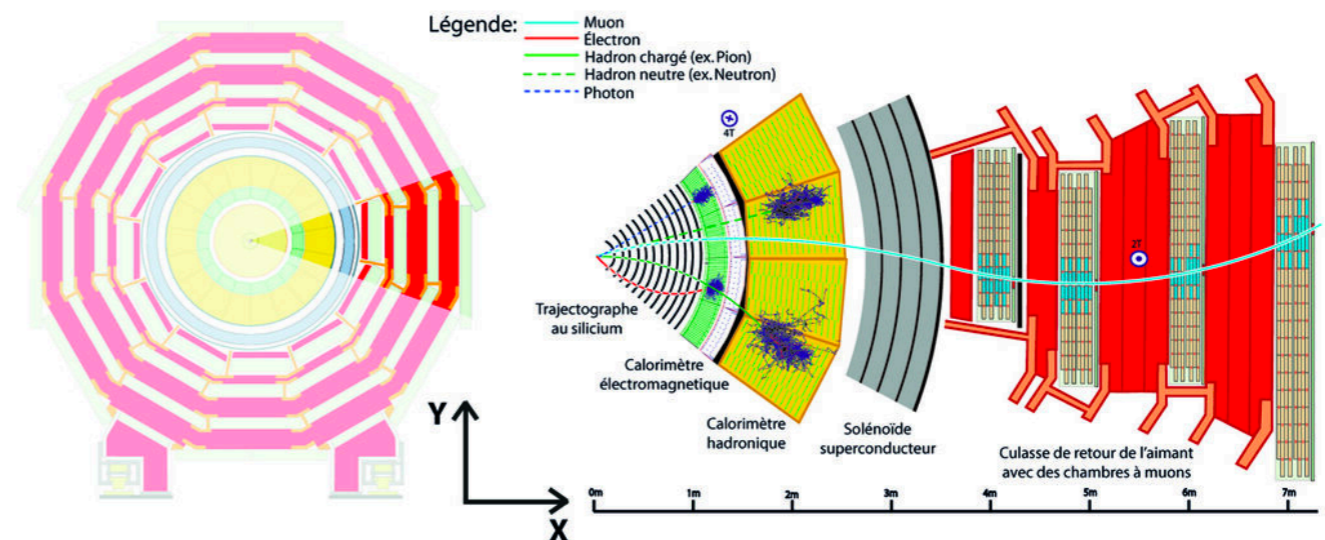


Longer term LHC schedule

In January 2022, the schedule was updated with long shutdown 3 (LS3) to start in 2026 and to last for 3 years. HL-LHC operations now foreseen out to 2035.



- CMS is a hermetic, general purpose detector submerged in strong solenoidal magnetic field

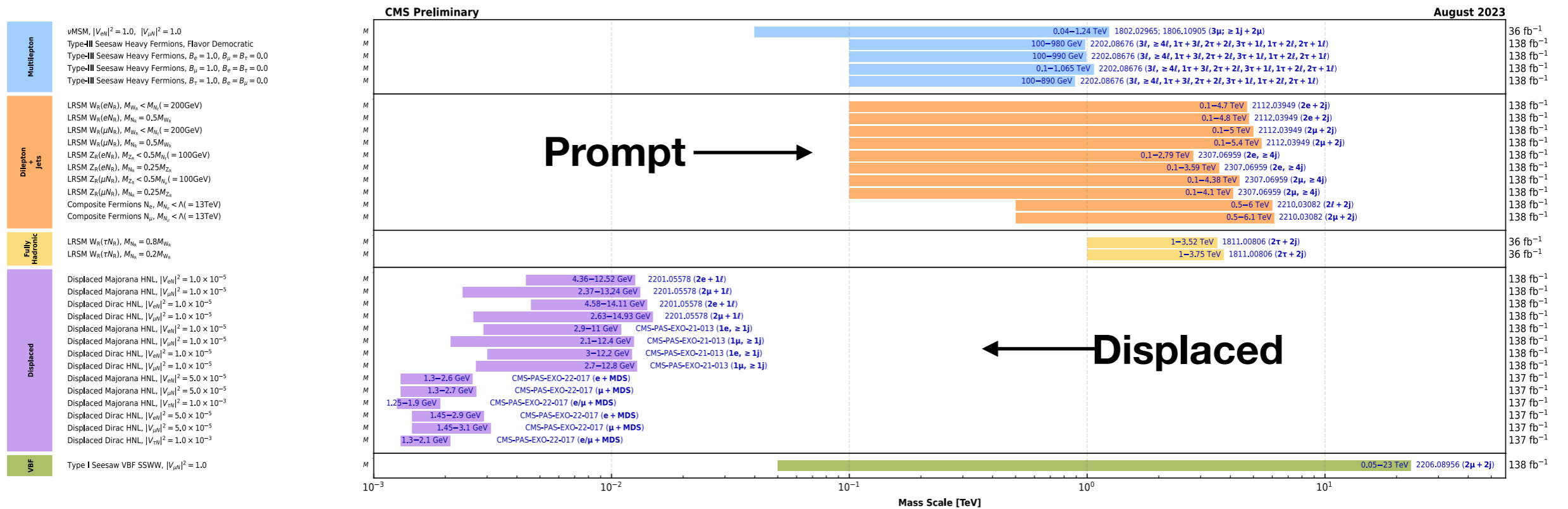


HNL searches at CMS

- Prompt HNLs:
 - Probe different HNL models and/or final states (Multi-lepton / $2\ell + j$ / $2\tau + 2j$)
 - 100 GeV ~ TeV
- Displaced HNLs:
 - Typically type-I see-saw model, produced through W
 - ~1 - 10 GeV
- The list is growing!

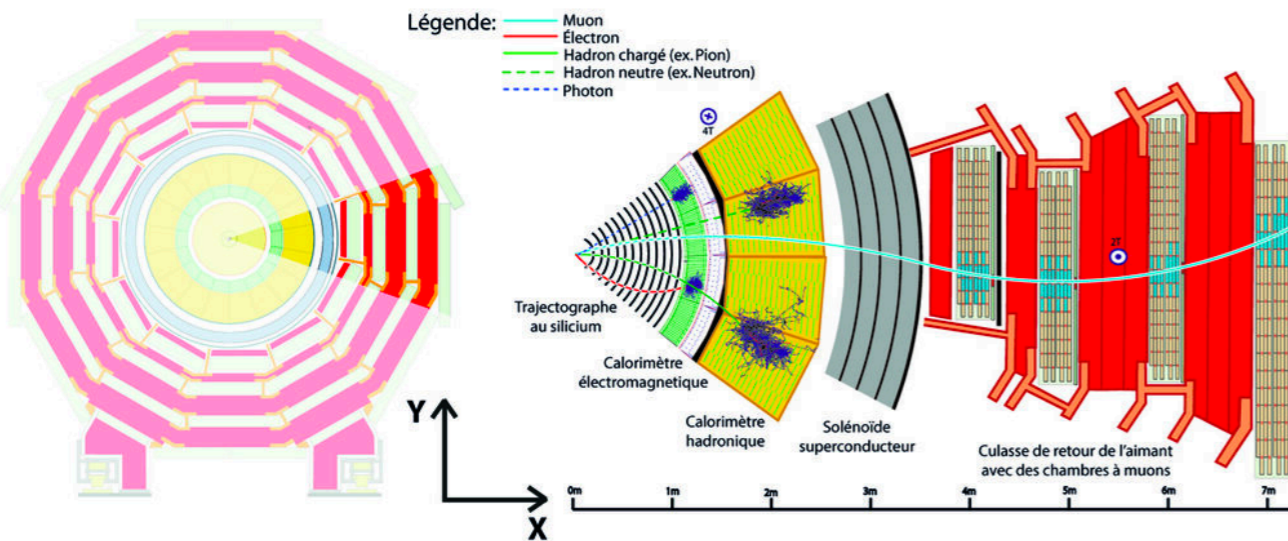
[pdf](#)

Overview of CMS HNL results

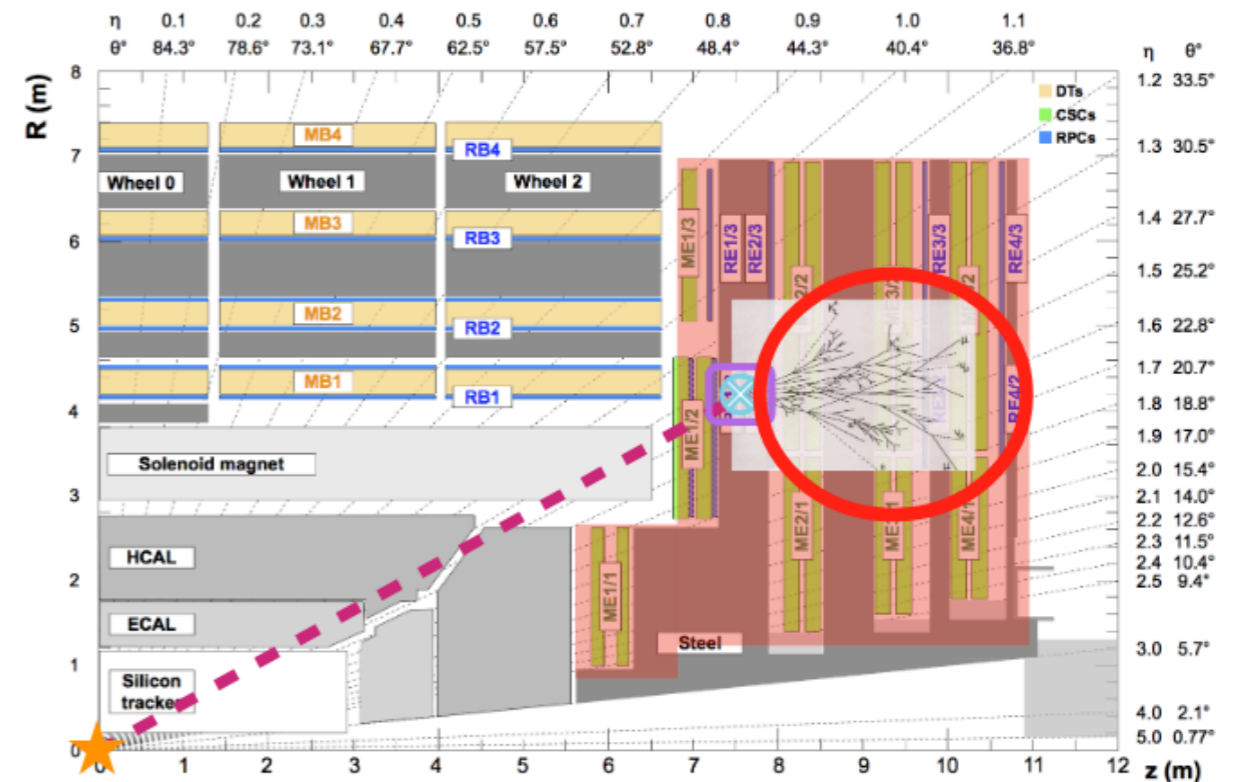


Muon Detector Shower (MDS)

- Teaching a particle detector new tricks
- LLP decays hadronically in the muon system:
Shower is detected as multiple hits in either the CSC or DT chambers
- Steel between muon stations can **act as absorbers in a sampling calorimeter**
 - Shielding of **12-27** interaction length (Background suppression factor $\sim 10^7$)
 - Unique feature of CMS muon system



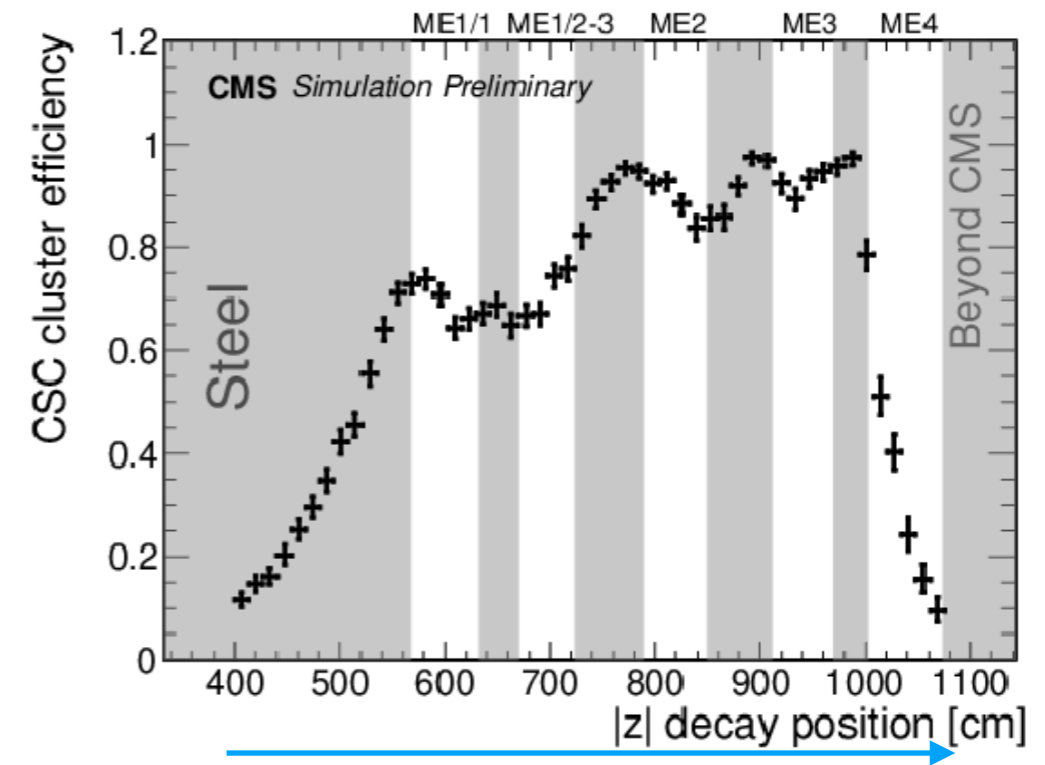
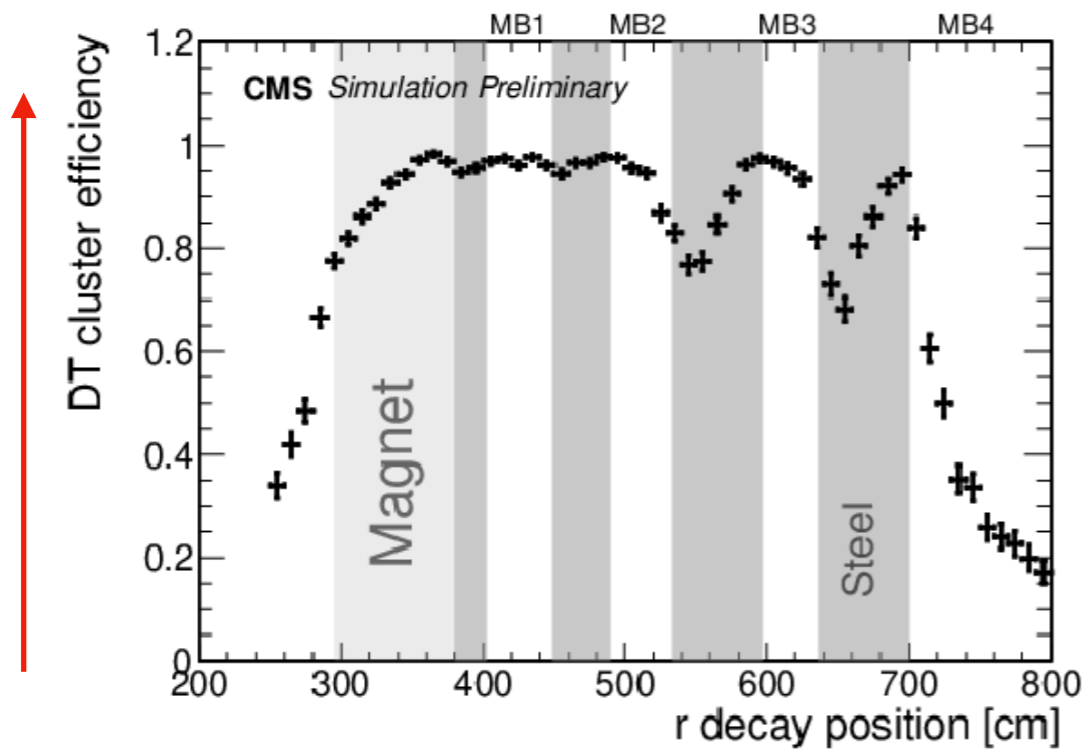
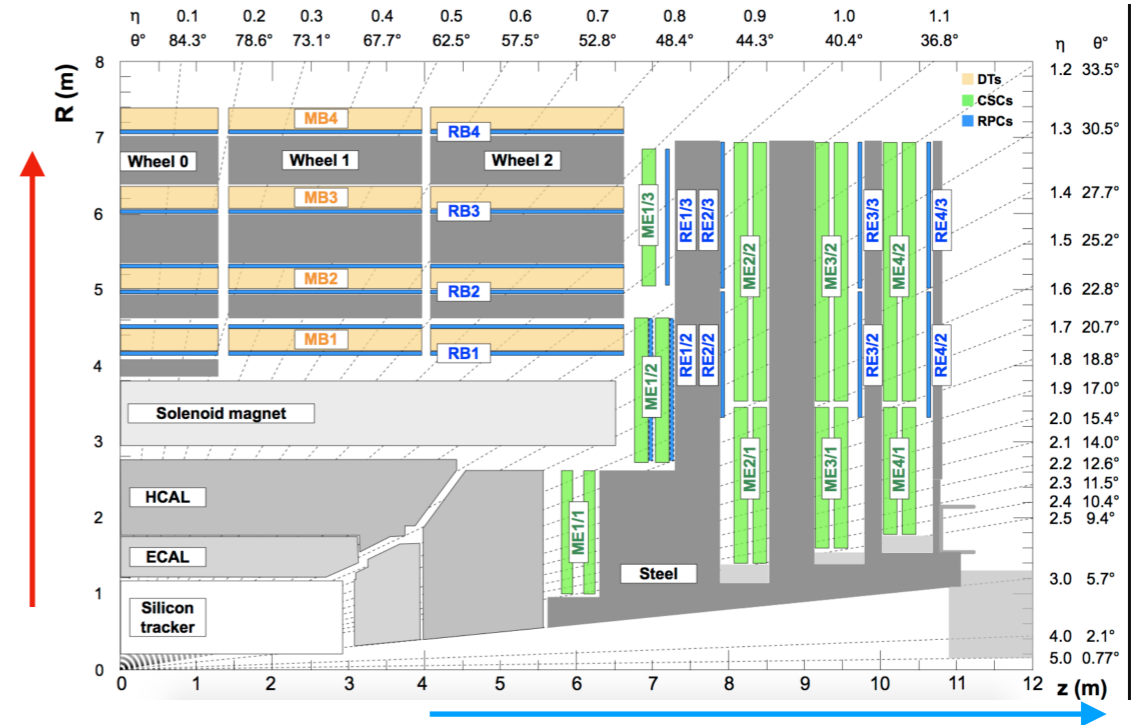
SM particles seen at CMS



LLP as Muon Detector Shower

Muon Detector Shower (MDS)

- Sensitive to LLP with longer $c\tau \sim O(1-10m)$
- Good efficiency in both barrel and end-cap



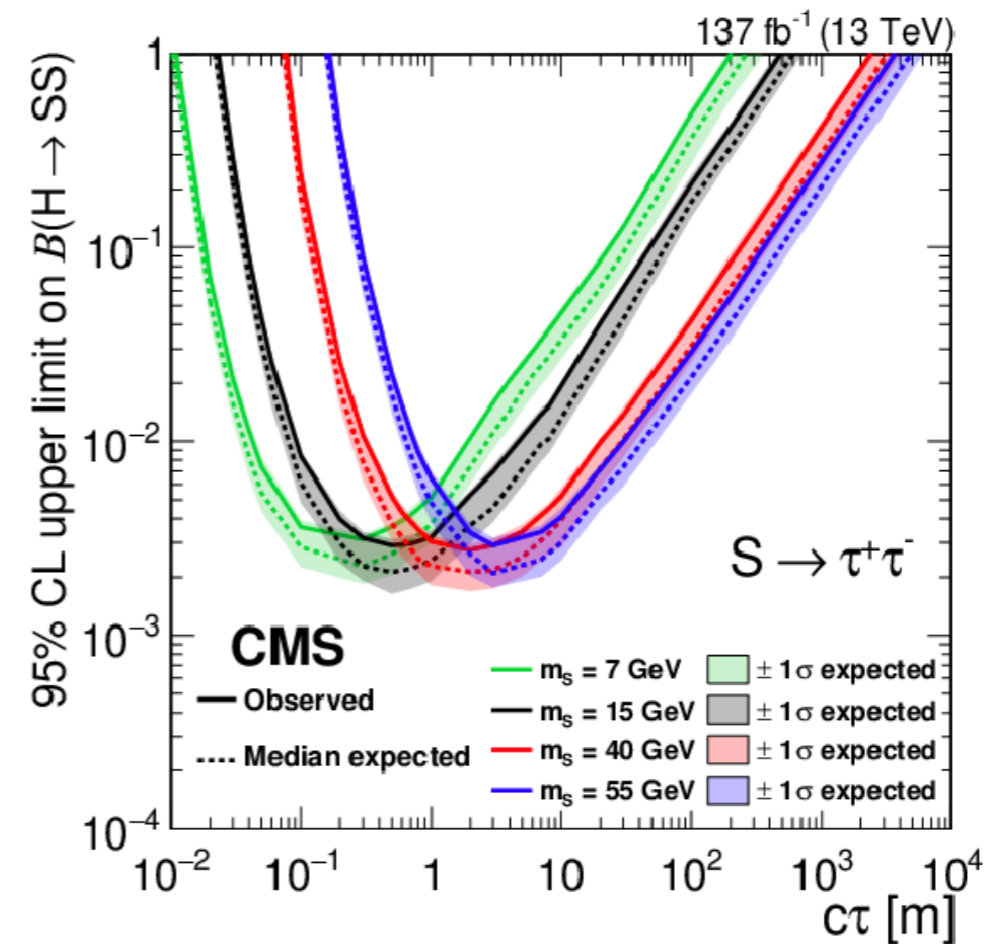
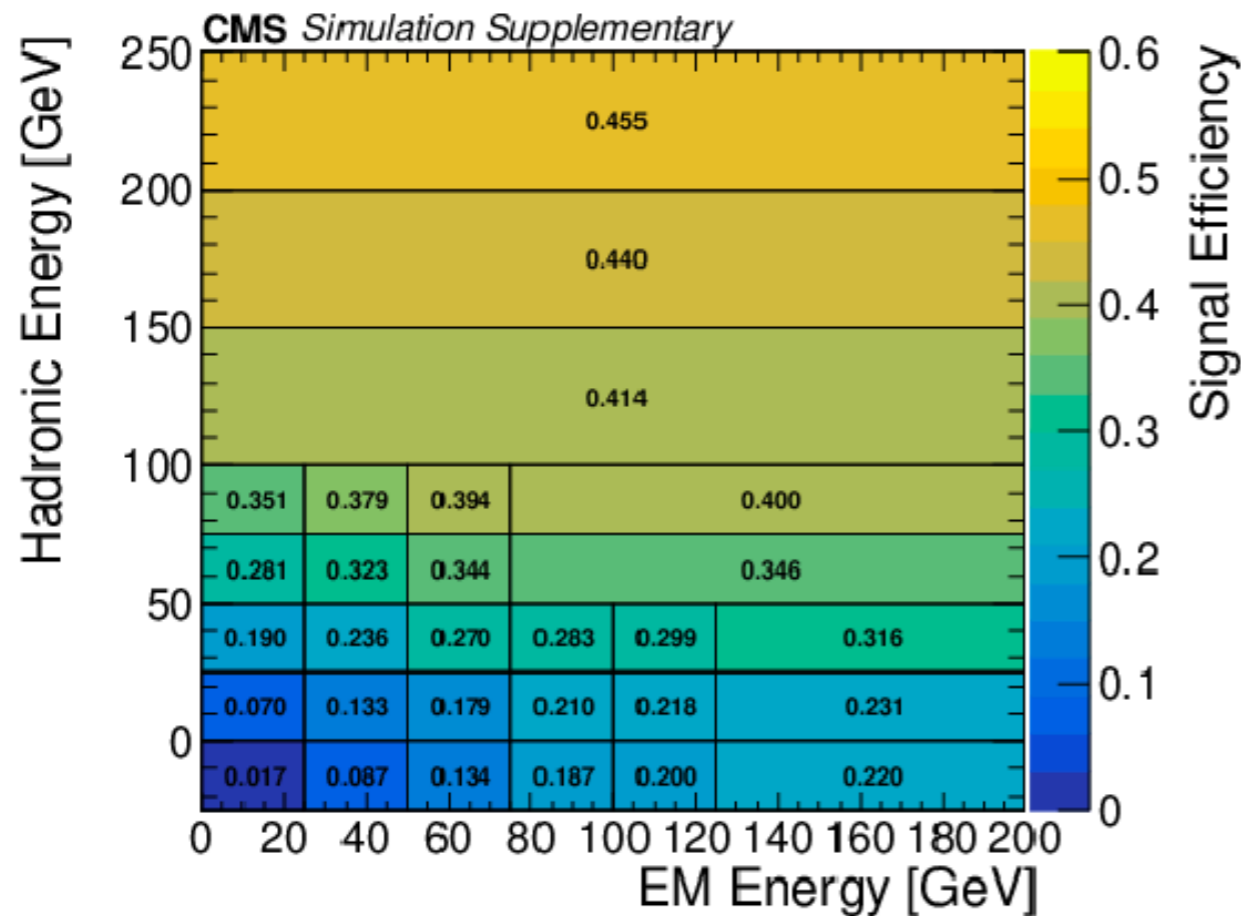
$$H \rightarrow S \rightarrow d\bar{d} \text{ decay, } c\tau = 1 - 10 \text{ m}$$

CMS-PAS-EXO-21-008

Muon Detector Shower (MDS)

EXO-20-015

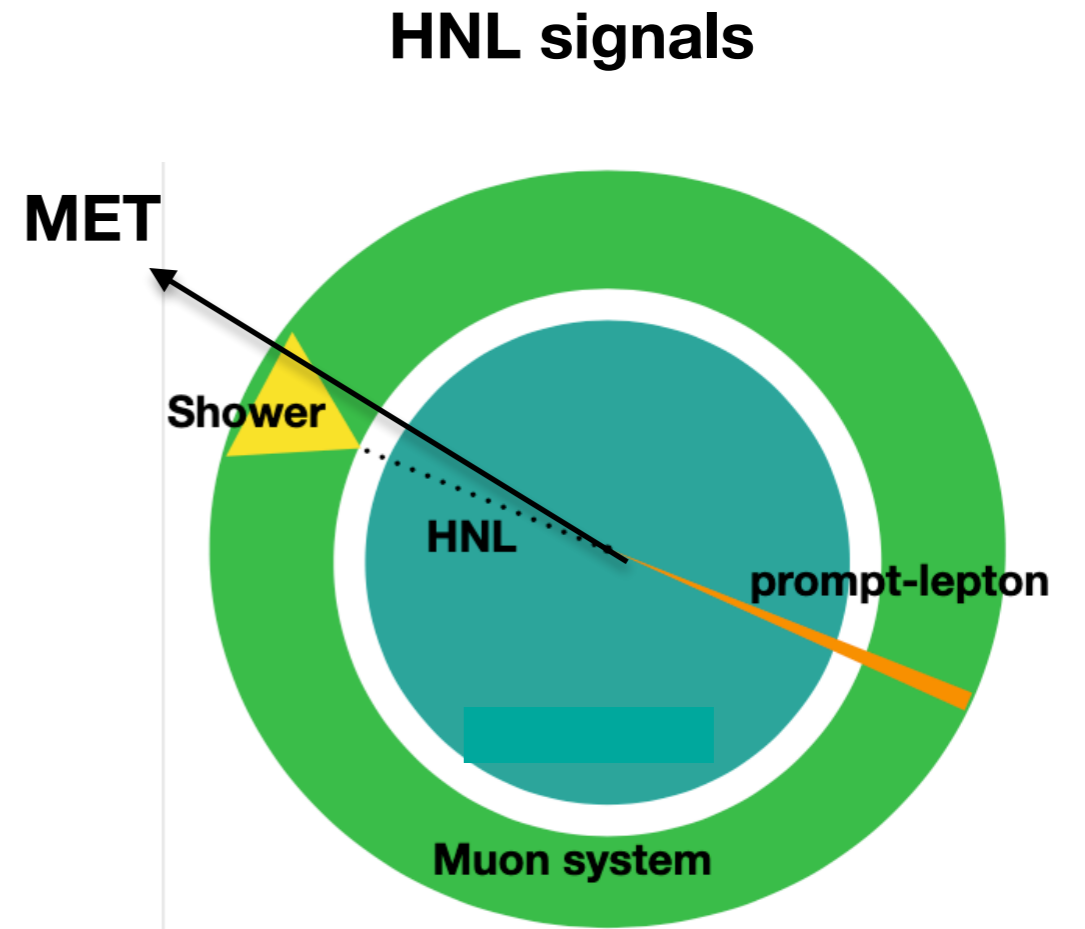
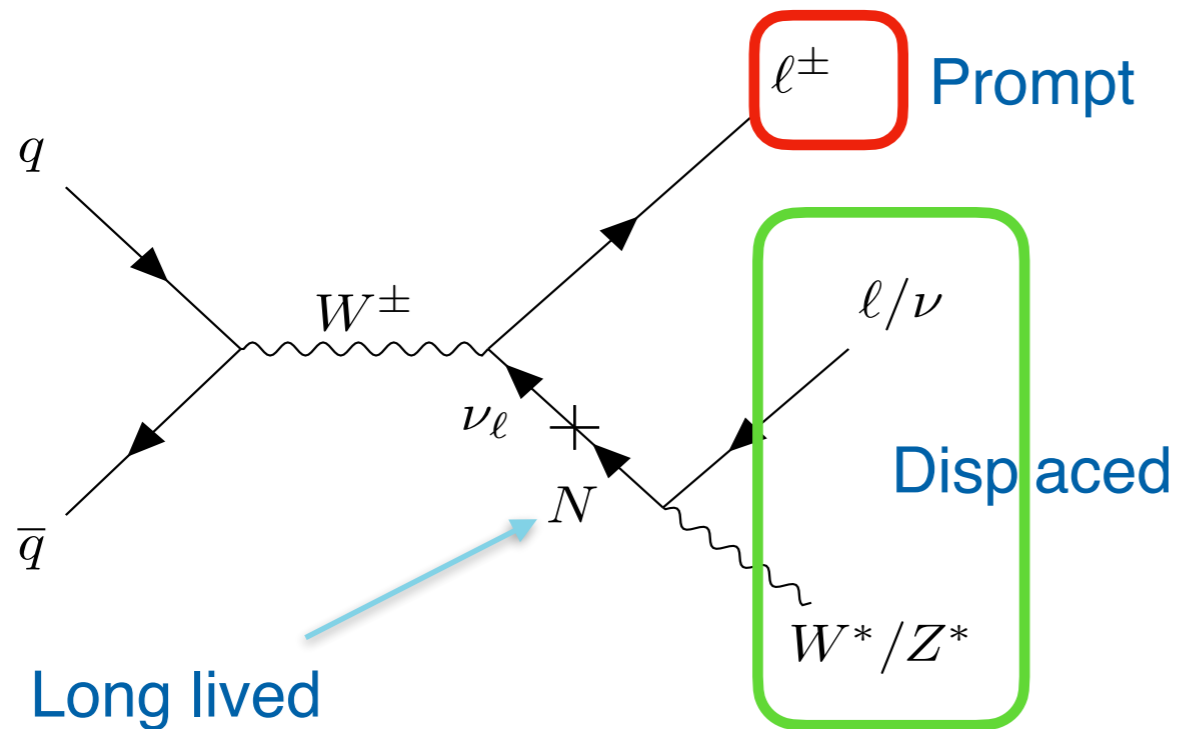
- Cluster efficiency can be well parametrized by the **hadronic energy** and **EM energy** of the LLP
- Independent of LLP mass!



Searching long-lived HNL with MDS

Analysis Strategy

- Simple event topology:
 - Prompt lepton + single MDS cluster
- Consider all decay modes of the HNL
 - No penalty of signals due to W/Z branching ratios

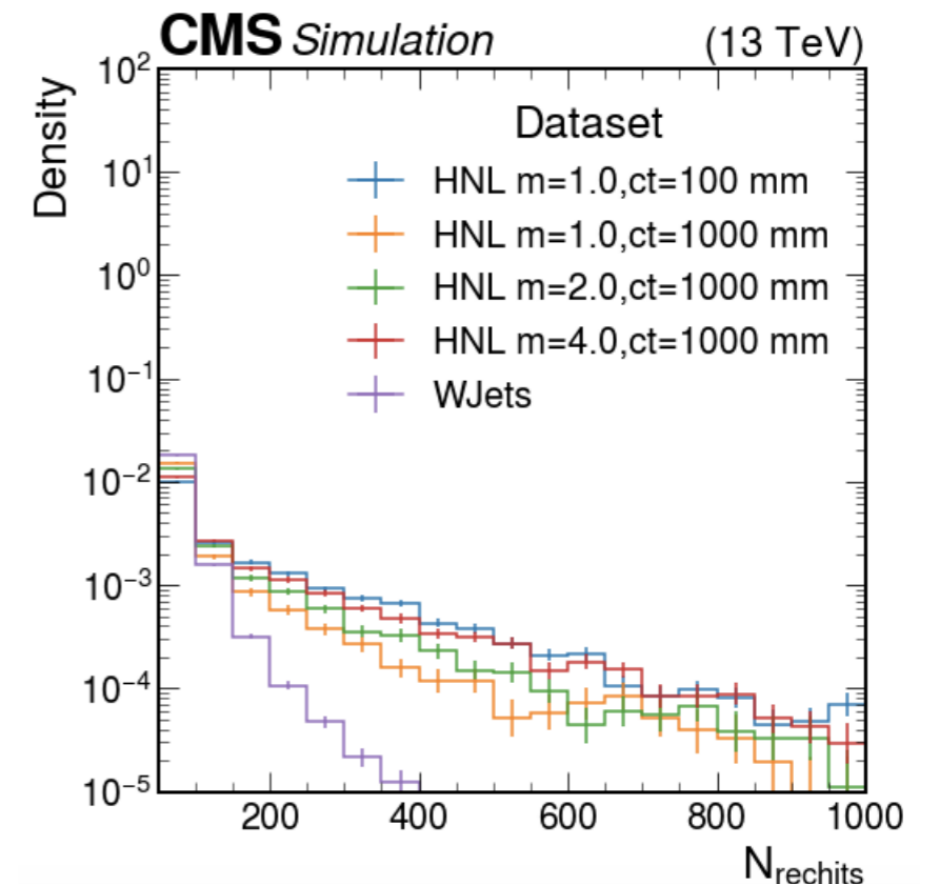
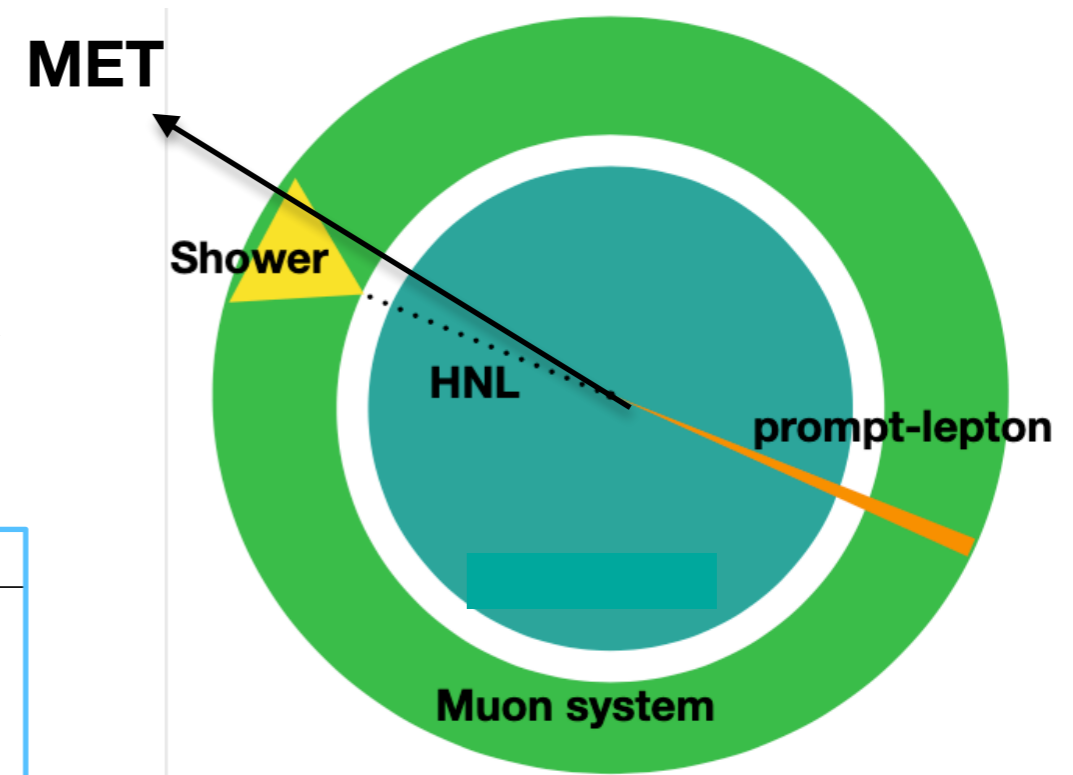


Analysis Strategy

- Prompt Lepton selections:
 - One tight ID electron/muon for good triggering efficiency
 - Dominated SM background: W+Jets

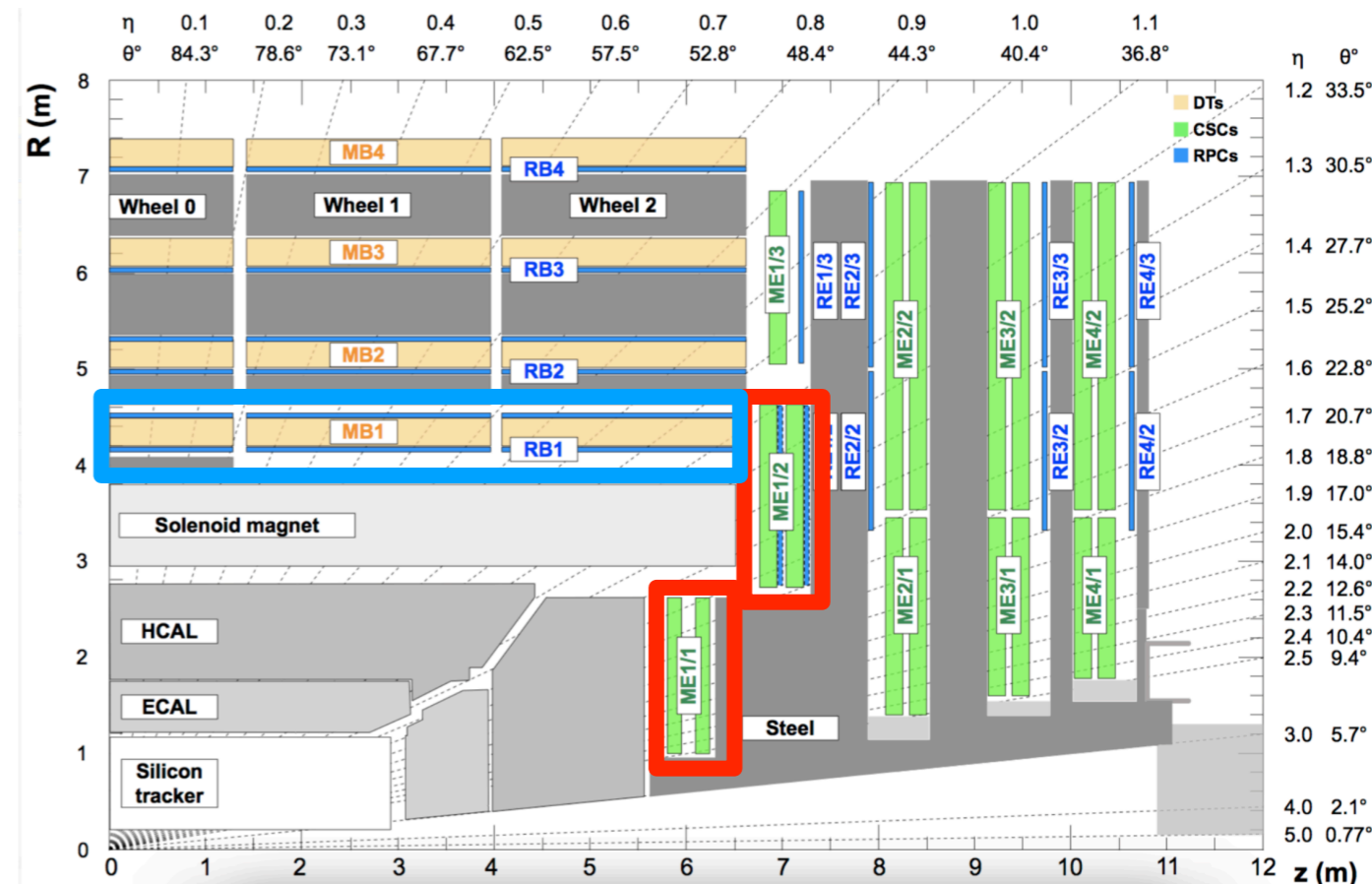
Object	Muon Channel	Electron Channel
Lepton	$p_T > 25(28) GeV, \eta < 2.4$	$p_T > 30(35) GeV, \eta < 2.4$
Lepton	TightID, $I_{rel} < 0.15$	TightID
Lepton		$N_{lepton}=1$
MET		$p_T^{miss} > 30 GeV$

- Cluster selections:
 - Improve S/B ratio
 - Veto specific patterns of extra detector activities to suppress punch-through jets/ muon breemm.
- Cluster size (N_{hit}) as main discrimination
 - ABCD method with $\Delta\phi(\text{cluster}, \text{lep})$ and cluster size
- Validate with control region(s)



Cluster selection

- Reject **punchthrough jets**:
 - Veto clusters matched to jets ($\Delta R < 0.4$)
- Reject **muon bremsstrahlung shower**:
 - Veto clusters matched to muons ($\Delta R < 0.8$)
- CSC:
 - Veto clusters with RecHits in **ME-1/1, ME-1/2**
 - Veto clusters that are matched to **RE1/2** hits
 - Veto clusters that are matched to **MB1 segments** or **RB1** hits
- DT:
 - Veto clusters with **> 1 RecHit in MB1** and in adjacent wheel
 - Veto region with no instrumentation (DT chimney)



Event selection summary

Object	Muon Channel	Electron Channel
Lepton	$p_T > 25\text{GeV}, \eta < 2.4$	$p_T > 35\text{GeV}, \eta < 2.4$
Lepton	TightID, $\sigma_{IP3D} < 4, I_{rel} < 0.15$	TightID
Lepton	$N_{lepton}=1$	
MET	$p_T^{\text{miss}} > 30\text{ GeV}$	
CSC cluster	$N_{rechits} > 50$	
CSC cluster	No muons with $p_T > 20\text{ GeV}, \eta < 2.4$ within $\Delta R(cls, \mu) < 0.8$	
CSC cluster	No jets with $p_T > 10\text{ GeV}, \eta < 2.4$ within $\Delta R(cls, j) < 0.4$	
CSC cluster	No ME-11/ME-12 hits matched within $\Delta R < 0.4$	
CSC cluster	No RE1/2 rechits matched within $\Delta R < 0.4$	
CSC cluster	No MB1 segments or RB1 rechits matched within $\Delta R < 0.4$	
CSC cluster	$-5\text{ns} < t_{cluster} < 12.5\text{ns}$	
CSC cluster	$t_{spread} < 20\text{ns}$	
CSC cluster	Cut-based ID, see [9]	
DT cluster	$N_{rechits} > 50$	
DT cluster	No muons with $p_T > 10\text{ GeV}, \eta < 3.0$ within $\Delta R(cls, \mu) < 0.8$	
DT cluster	No jets with $p_T > 20\text{ GeV}, \eta < 3.0$ within $\Delta R(cls, j) < 0.4$	
DT cluster	No more than 1 MB1 hits within $\Delta R < 0.5$	
DT cluster	Matched to ≥ 1 RPC hit(s) in the same wheel within $\Delta\phi < 0.5$	
DT cluster	Mode of the BX of RPC hits=0, RPC matched within $\Delta\phi < 0.5$	

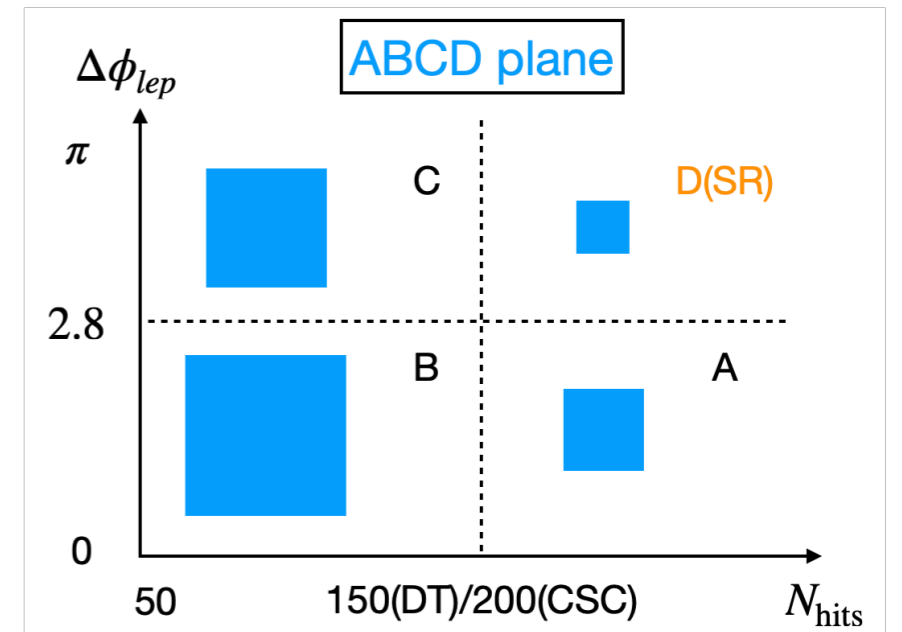
Event-level selection:
suppress QCD
backgrounds

Veto background sources:
Punch-through jets
Muon brem.

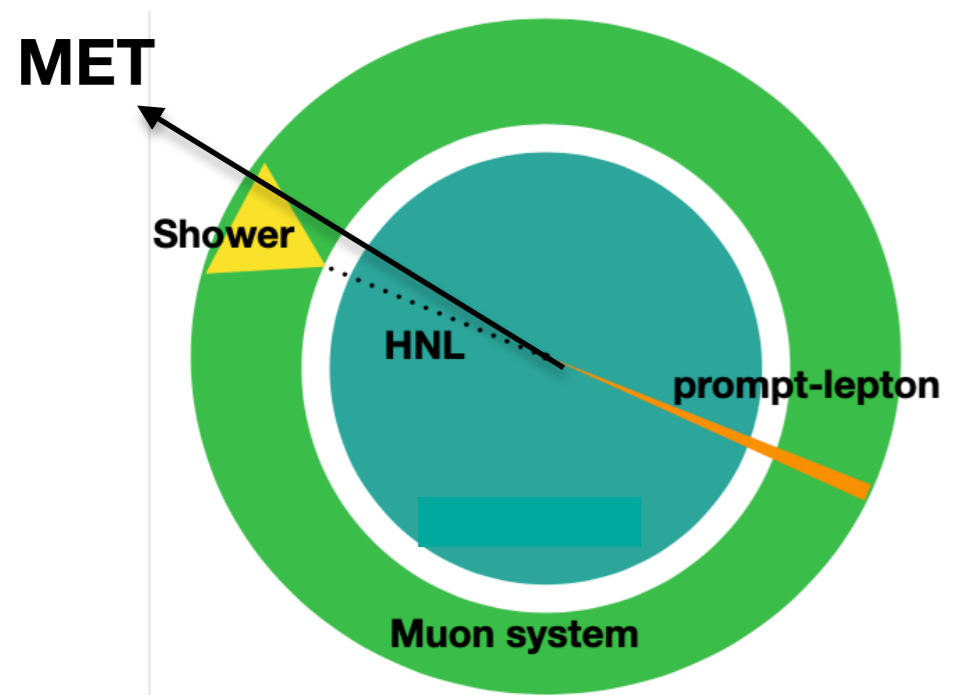
Timing selection:
Remove OOT pileup

ABCD background estimation

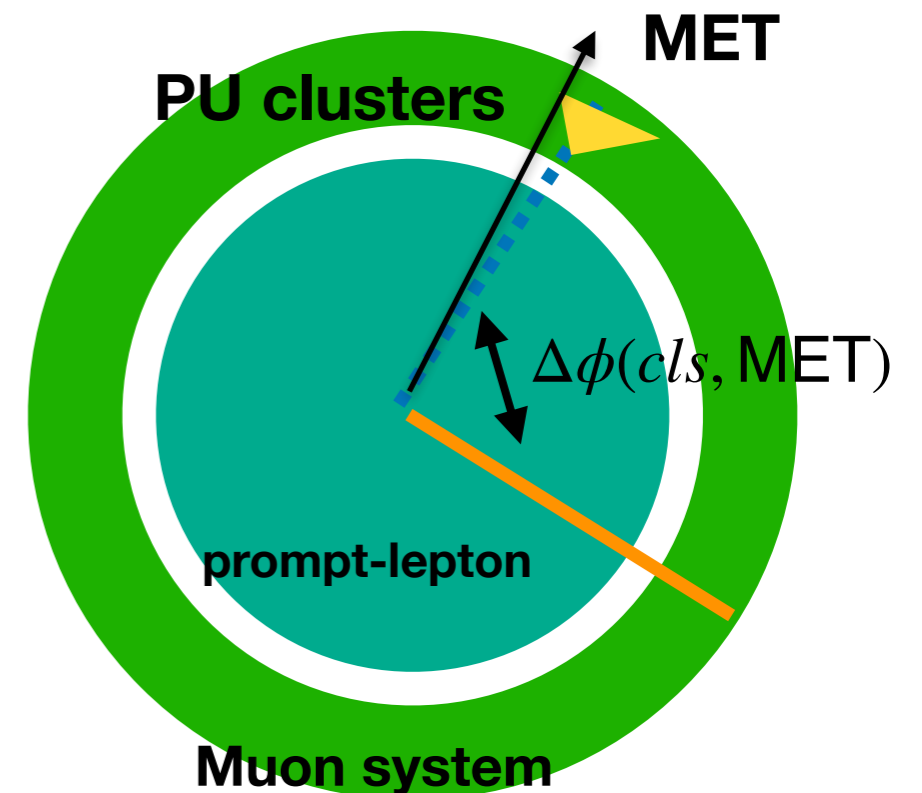
- After cluster selections, background clusters and leptons are **uncorrelated**
 - Use ABCD method with N_{hits} and $\Delta\phi_{lep}$
 - Signals are back-to-back with cluster with large N_{hits}
- Use Out-of-Time(OOT) and in-time large $\Delta\phi(cls, MET)$ region as validation of ABCD method region



HNL signals

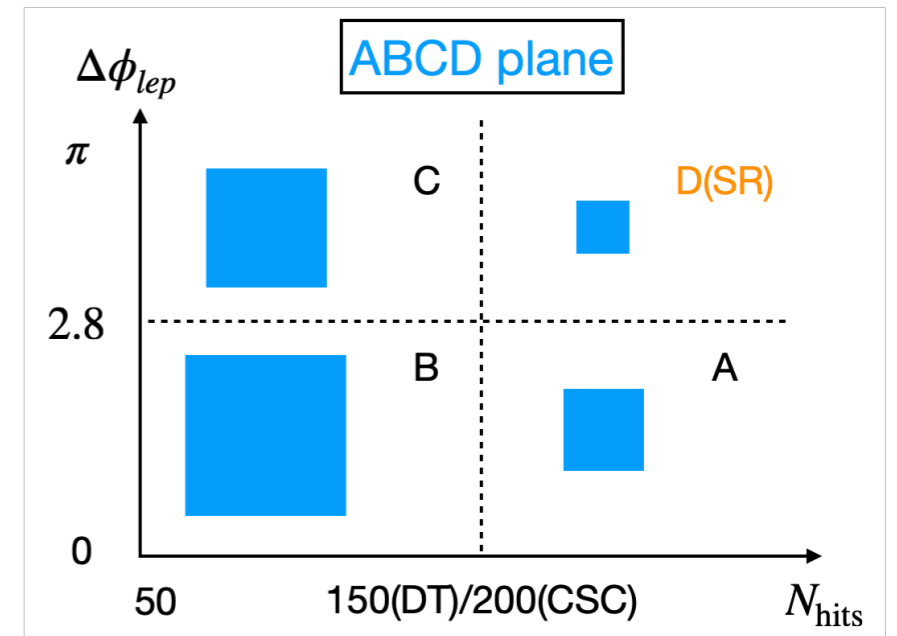


Backgrounds

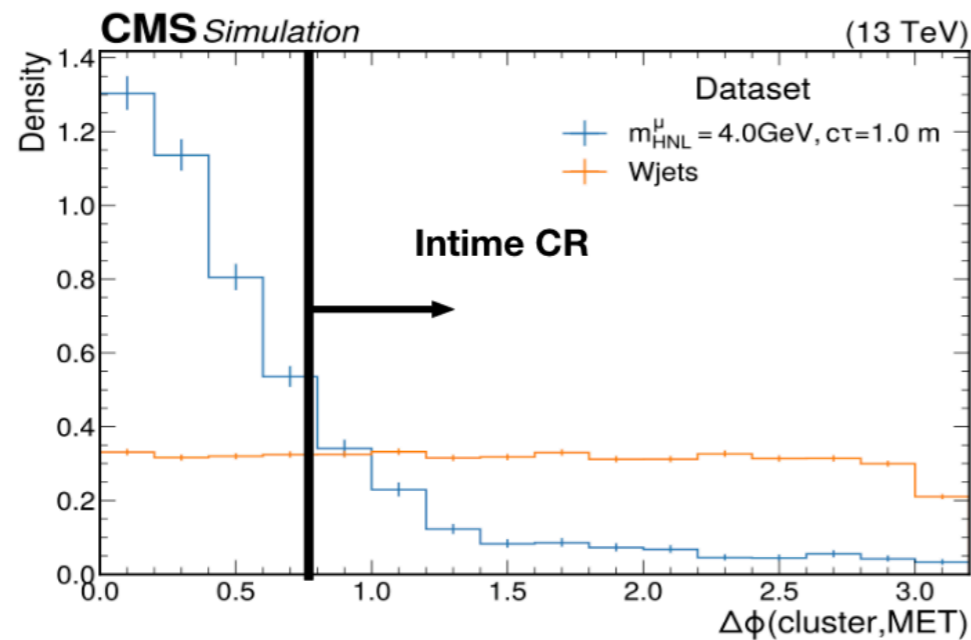


ABCD background estimation

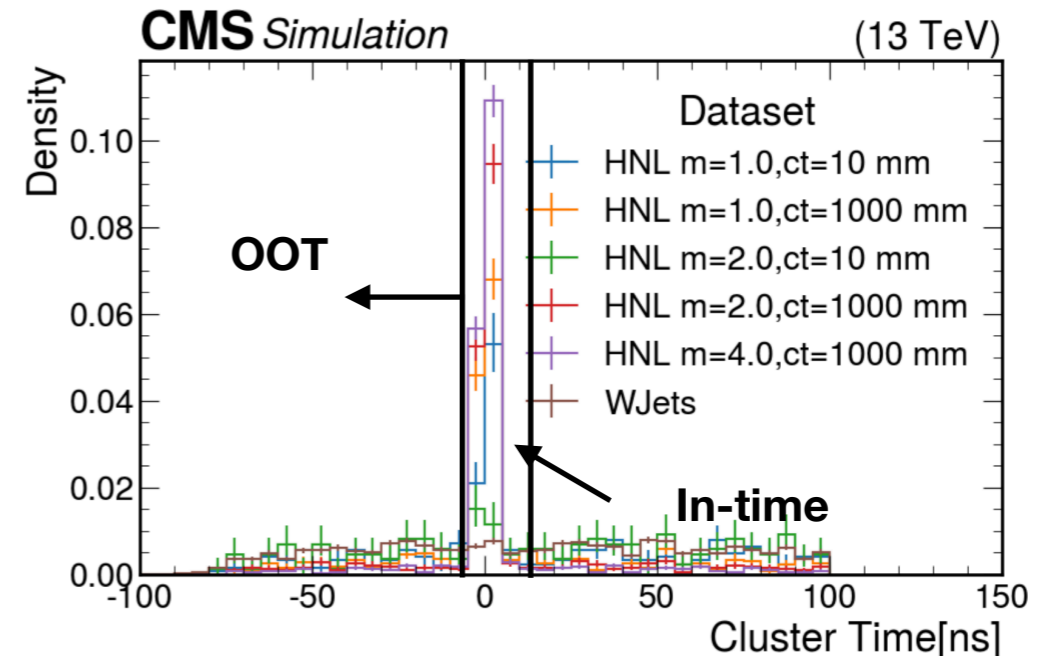
- After cluster selections, background clusters and leptons are **uncorrelated**
 - Use ABCD method with N_{hits} and $\Delta\phi_{lep}$
 - Signals are back-to-back with cluster with large N_{hits}
- Use Out-of-Time(OOT) and in-time large $\Delta\phi(c\ell s, MET)$ region as validation of ABCD method region



In-time CR



OOT CR



CSC clusters

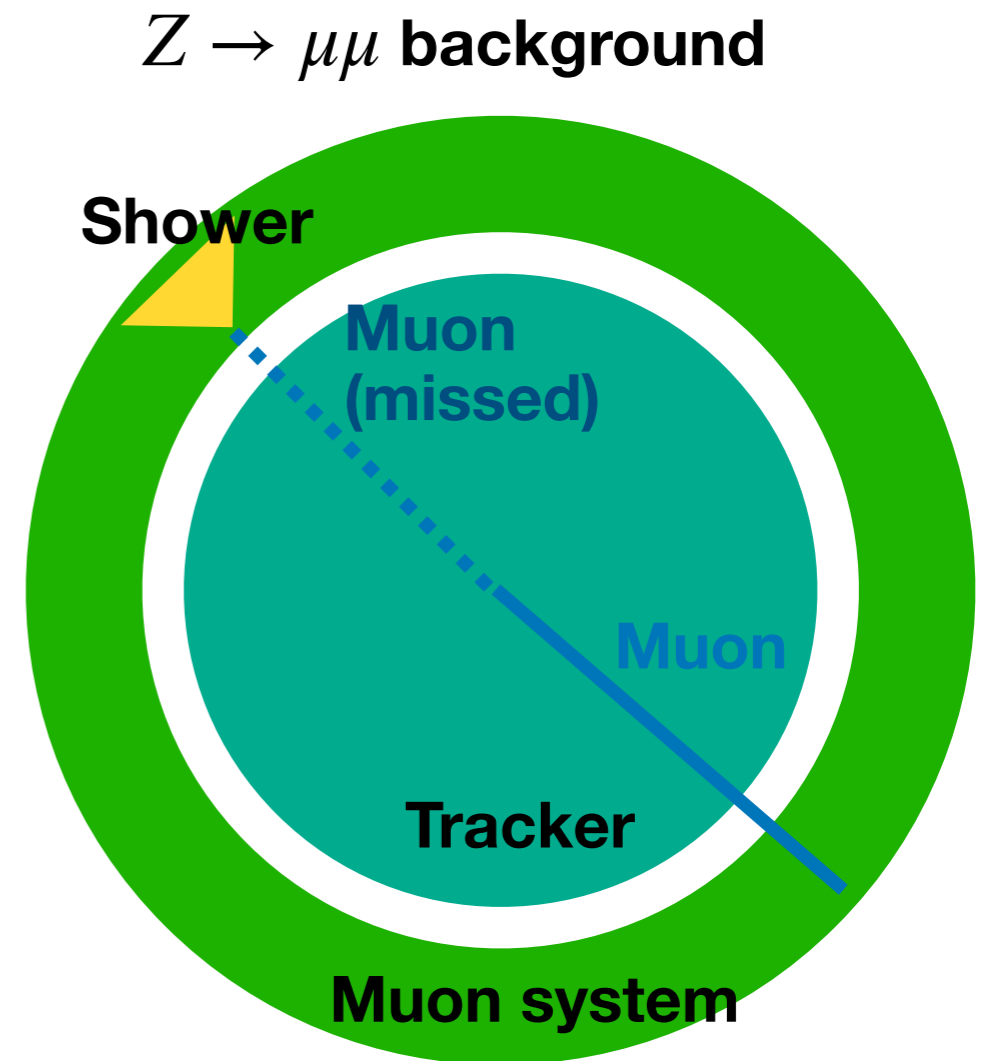
Closure test result

- Good agreement for closure tests both in-time/OOT validation regions
- Repeated this test with relaxed cluster selections in W+Jet MC
 - Also obtained good agreement (with limited statistics)

Event category	Validation region	A	B	C	D	D (pred.)
Muon, DT-MB2	OOT	9	6924	944	0	1.2 ± 0.4
Muon, DT-MB3/MB4	OOT	11	593	86	1	1.6 ± 0.5
Muon, CSC	OOT	103	31074	4044	9	13.4 ± 1.3
Electron, DT	OOT	14	3301	366	2	1.6 ± 0.4
Electron, CSC	OOT	33	13774	1647	2	4.0 ± 0.7
Muon, DT-MB2	In time	10	5087	467	2	0.9 ± 0.3
Muon, DT-MB3/MB4	In time	9	785	107	2	1.2 ± 0.4
Muon, CSC	In time	31	7445	532	1	2.2 ± 0.4
Electron, DT	In time	8	2446	220	0	0.7 ± 0.3

$Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ background in muon channel

- Bkg not tested in the closure-test : $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ bkg
- $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ could be an addition background process if
 - One muon not reconstructed, but creates showers in the muon system
 - Since muon is not reconstructed, create fake MET in the event
- 4 steps to predict the Zmumu bkg:
 1. Define Zmumu-enriched **CR** region (inverting ME11/12 and MB1 veto)
 2. Subtract ABCD background in **CR**
 3. Measure the transfer factor from **CR** to **SR** with $t\bar{t}$ sample
 4. Multiply the transfer factor to the Zmumu component in CR:



$$\text{Zmumu Bkg in SR} = \text{Zmumu Bkg in CR} \times \text{T.F}$$

$Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ background summary

- Summary of $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ background prediction

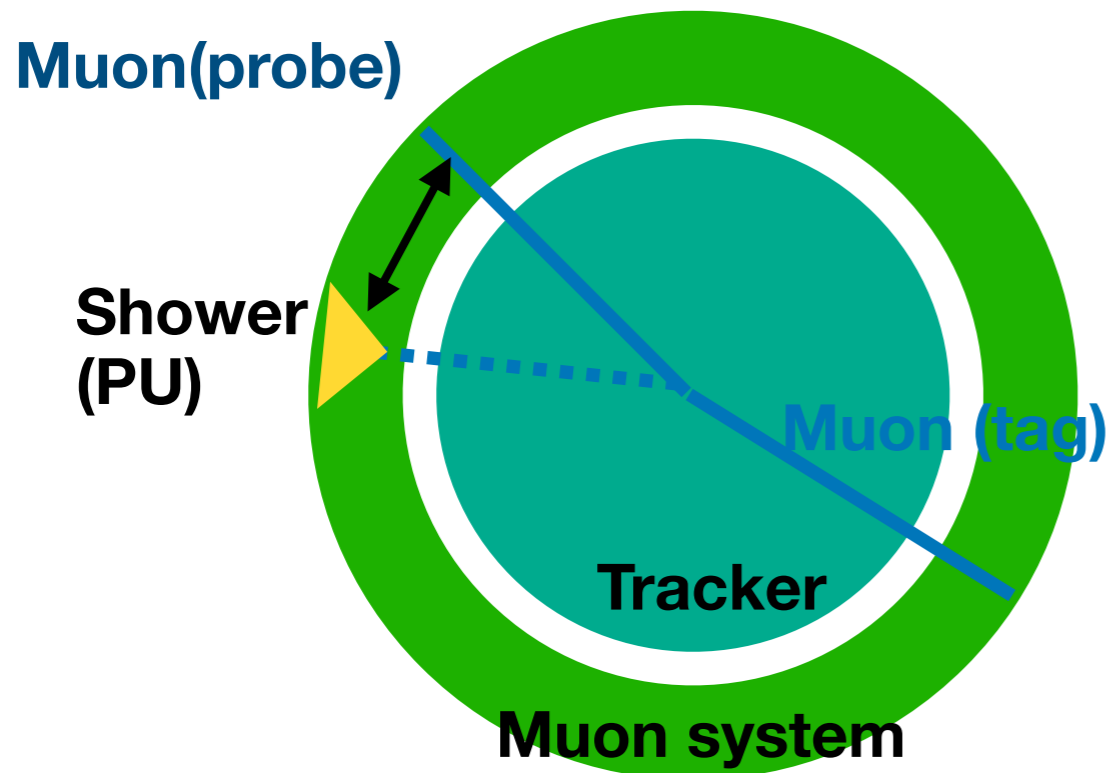
		$W + J$ CR	$Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ CR	T.F.	$Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ SR
Region	N_D^{CR}	$\lambda_{\text{ABCD bkg},D}^{\text{CR}}$	$\lambda_{Z \rightarrow \mu\mu,D}^{\text{CR}}$	ζ	$\lambda_{Z \rightarrow \mu\mu,D}^{\text{SR}}$
CSC	129	45 ± 2	84 ± 12	$(4.8 \pm 1.3)\%$	3.9 ± 1.2
DT-MB2	35	12.2 ± 1.5	22.8 ± 6.1	$(36 \pm 31)\%$	8.2 ± 7.4
DT-MB3/MB4	6	2.9 ± 0.7	3.1 ± 2.6	$(2 \pm 1)\%$	0.06 ± 0.06

Zmumu Bkg in **CR** x T.F = Zmumu Bkg in **SR**

- Checked additional validations with MC and data

Systematics uncertainties

- Background unc. dominated by statistical unc. of ABCD method
 - And uncertainty of T.F. for muon channel
- Uncertainty of cluster properties measured with tag-and-probe method in $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ brems
 - Corrections are applied to account for differences between data/MC if necessary
 - Uncertainties are propagated as systematic unc.



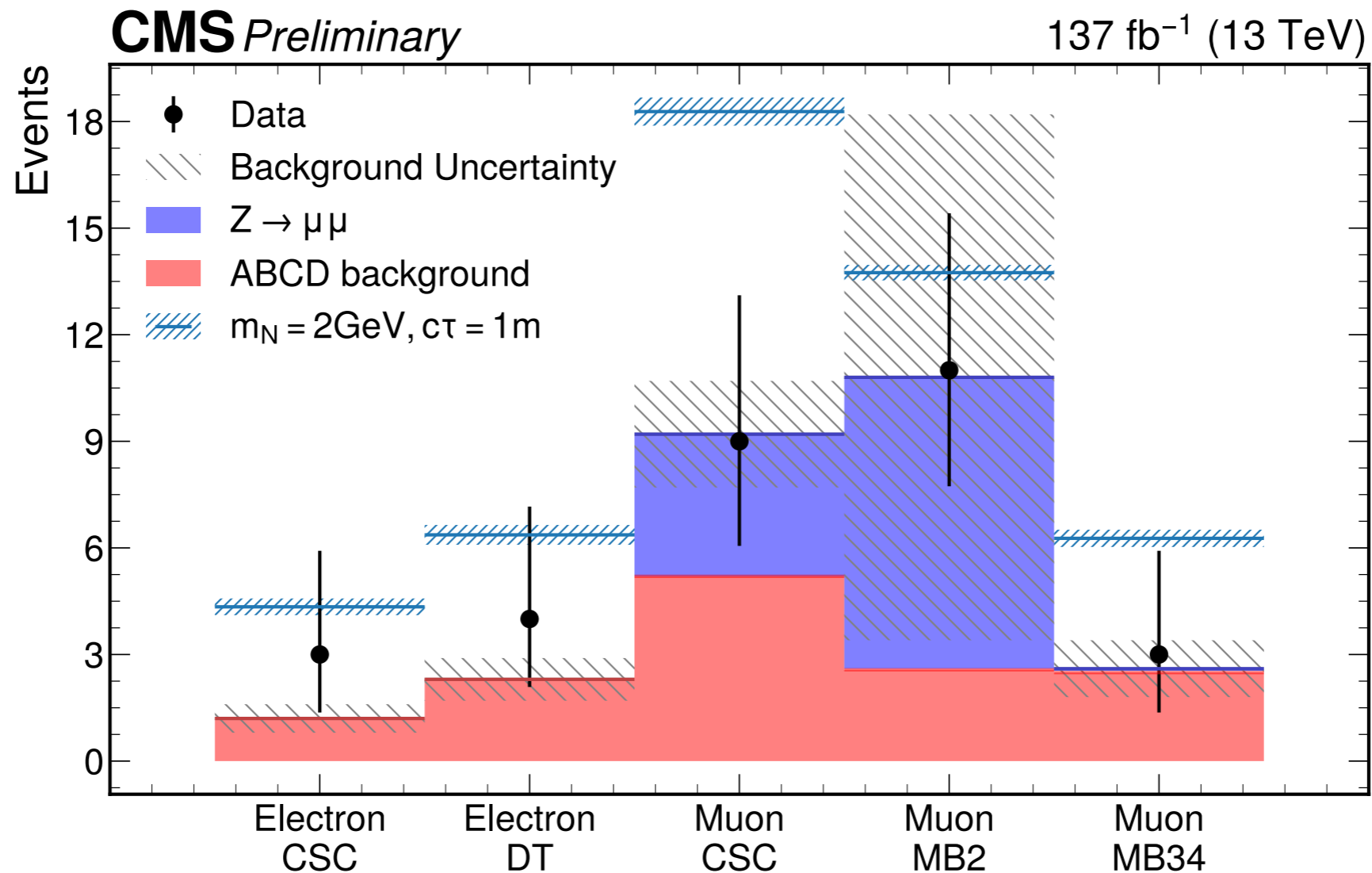
Signal systematics

Systematic Uncertainty	Object	Size of unc.
Luminosity	-	1.6%
Pile-up	-	1%
W cross section	-	3.8%
W p_T	-	1.6%
Trigger	Muon	< 0.1%
Identification	Muon	0.4 – 0.5%
Isolation	Muon	0.2 – 0.6%
Trigger	Electron	0.2 – 0.3%
Identification	Electron	2.2 – 8.0%
Jet energy scale	MET	2.0%
Cluster reconstruction	CSC cluster	13%
Cut-based ID	CSC cluster	5.1%
Jet veto	CSC cluster	0.06%
Muon veto	CSC cluster	4.5%
CSC readout	CSC cluster	1.0%
Hits and segment veto	CSC cluster	0.1%
Cluster time	CSC cluster	0.9%
Cluster time spread	CSC cluster	2.8%
Cluster reconstruction	DT cluster	16%
MB1 veto	DT cluster	7.4%

Result

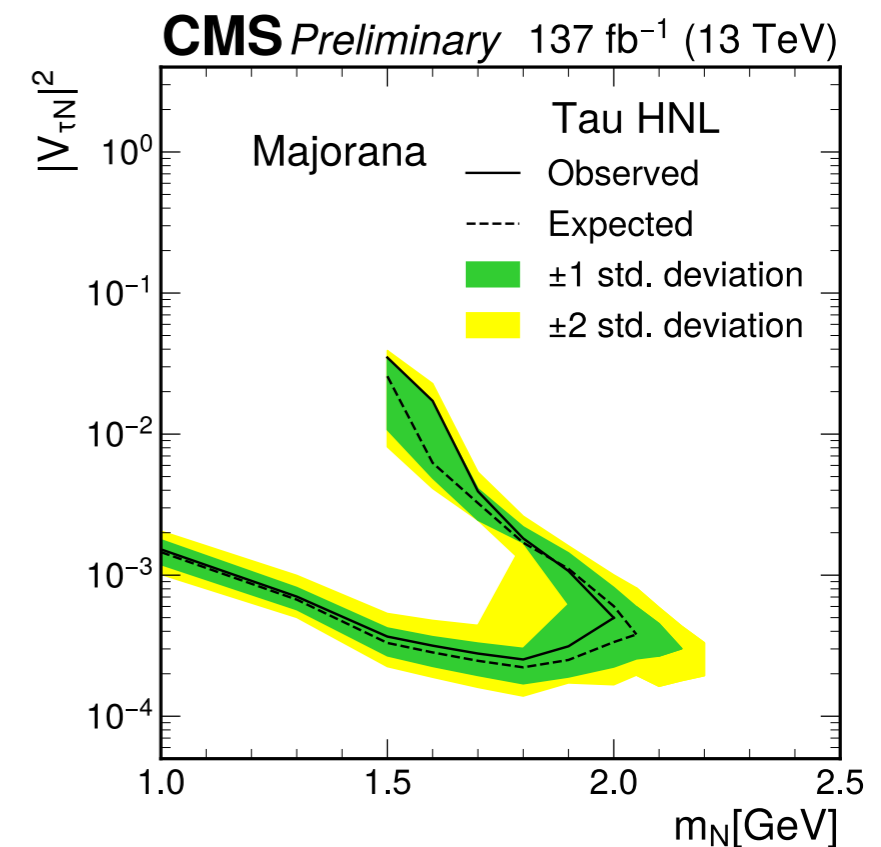
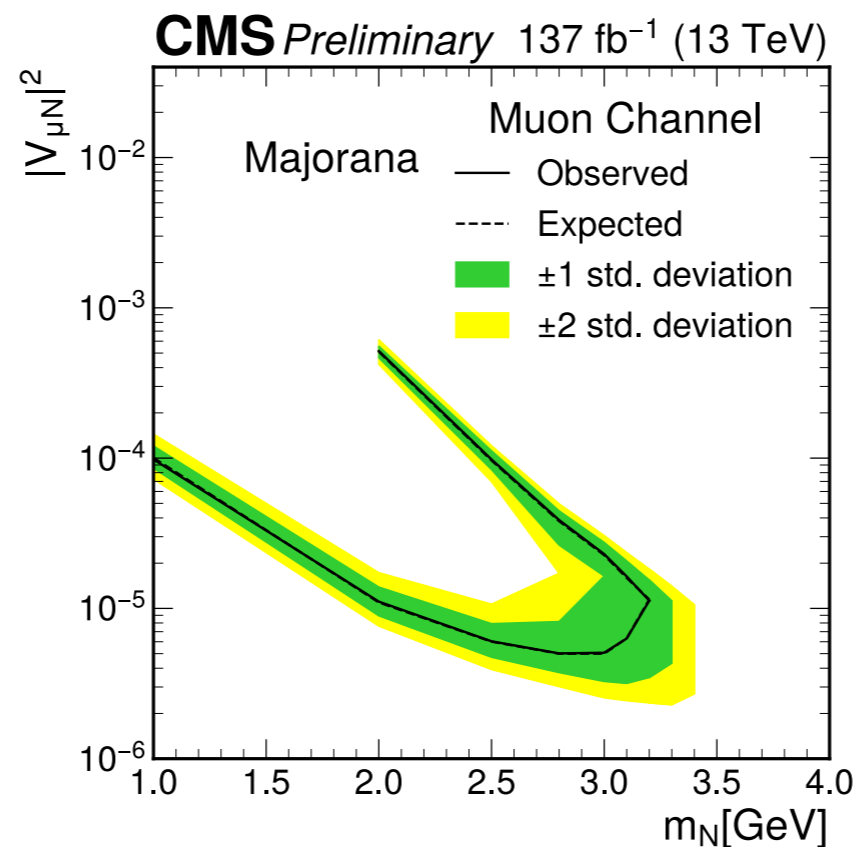
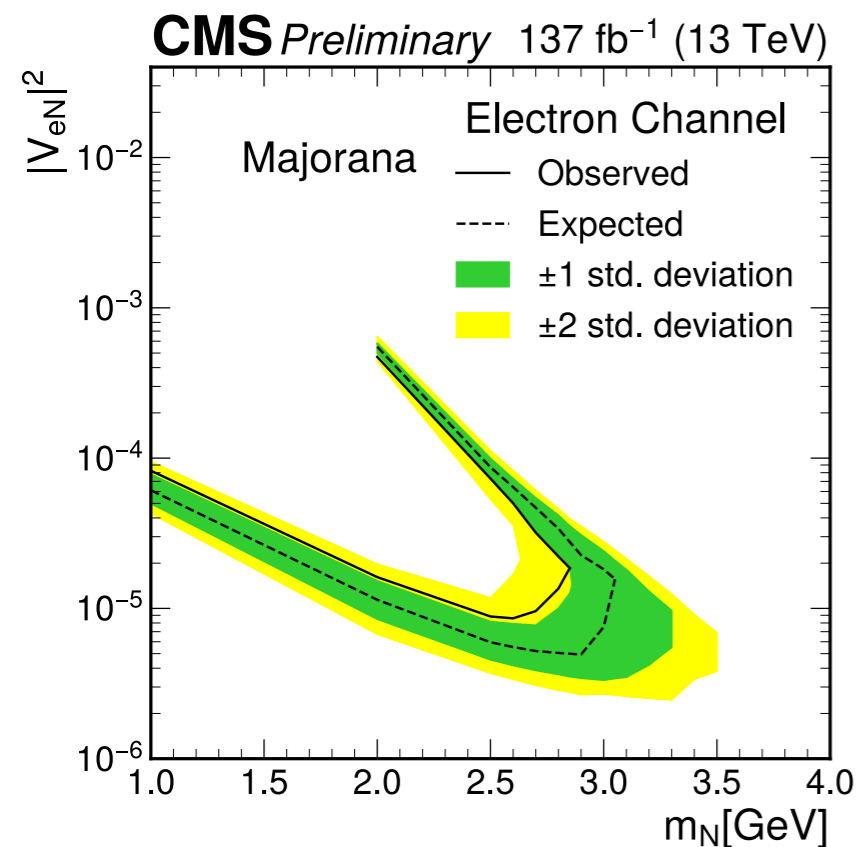
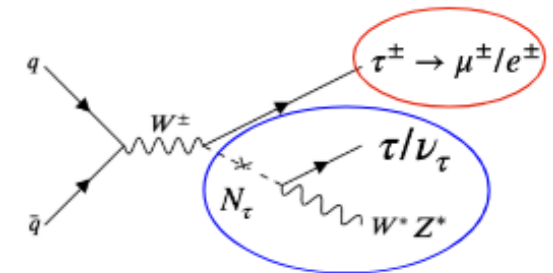
- No significant excess observed
 - ~ 1 sigma fluctuation in electron channel
- Proceed to set limits on HNL coupling v.s. mass plane

PAS-EXO-22-017



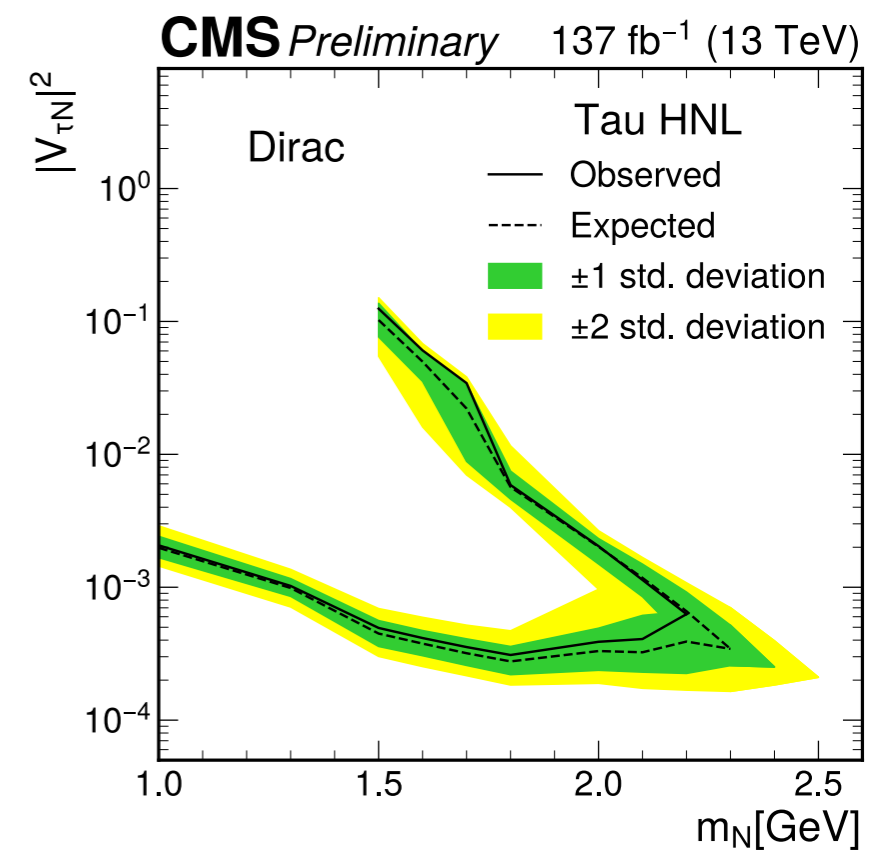
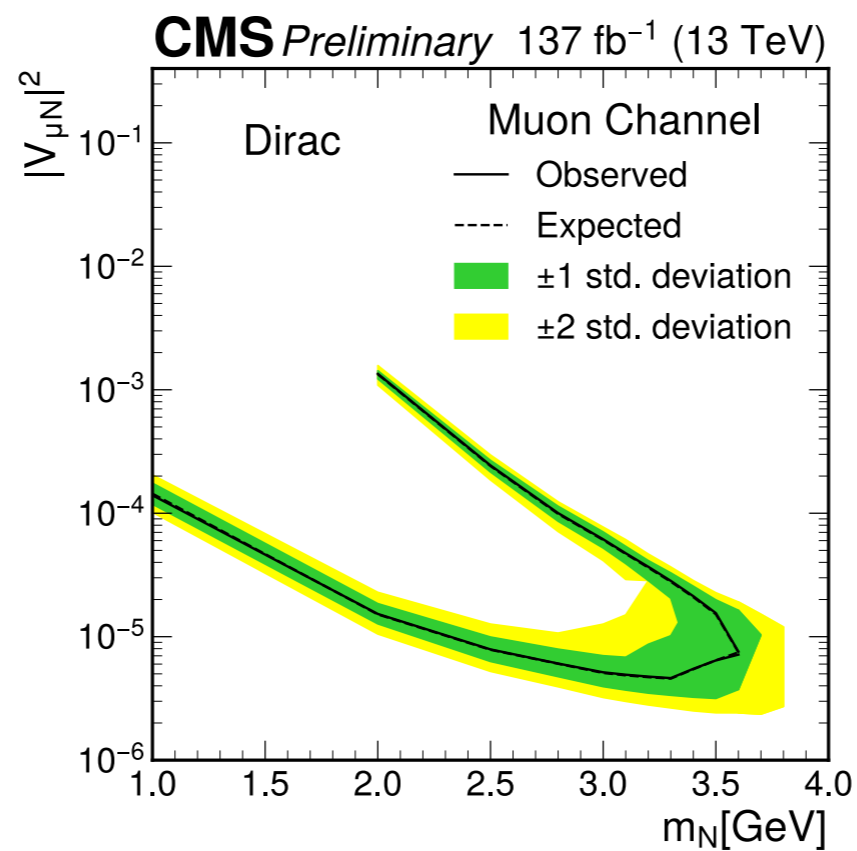
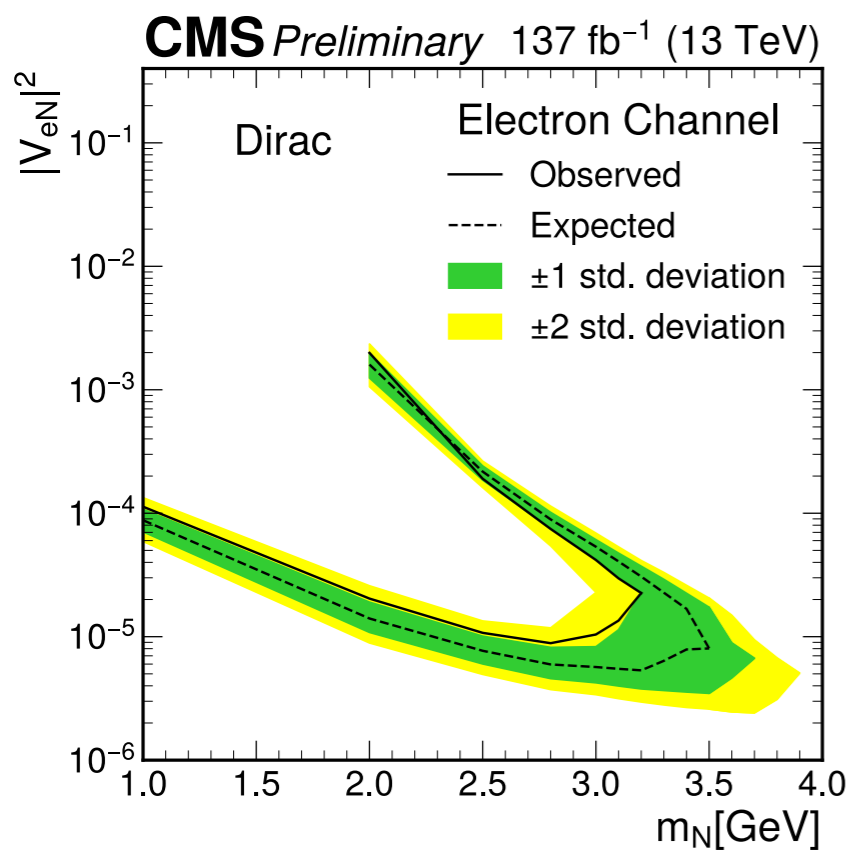
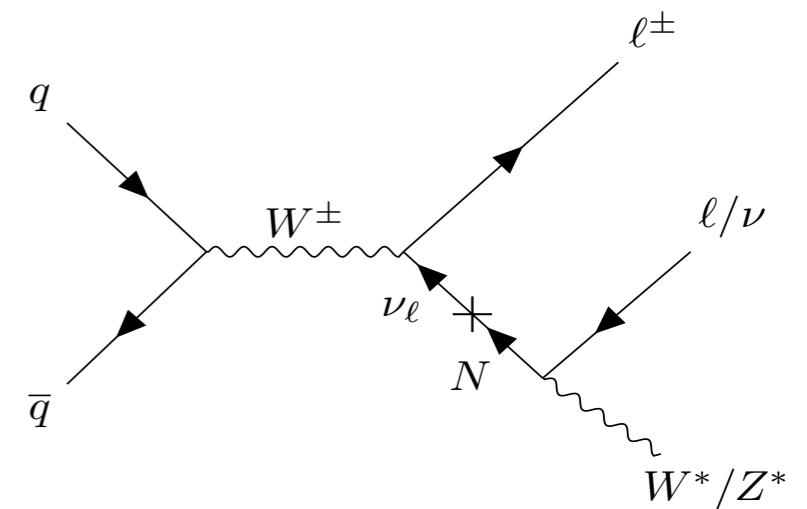
Limits on Majorana HNL

- Probes low-mass/small coupling parameter space
- $\sim 2.3x$ better than EXO-21-013 in electron (muon) channel at 2GeV
 - Sensitivity driven by CSC channel
- Flavour independence:
 - Can set limit on τ -HNL as well, triggered with muon/e from prompt- τ decay
 - Worse limit than electron/muon type due to trigger acceptance



Limits on Dirac HNL

- Also interpreted as Dirac HNL model
- MDS do not distinguish the charge of the lepton final state
 - Not reconstructing the sign of the 2nd lepton
 - Same efficiency/cross-section limit for Dirac/Majorana HNL



Mixed-HNL coupling

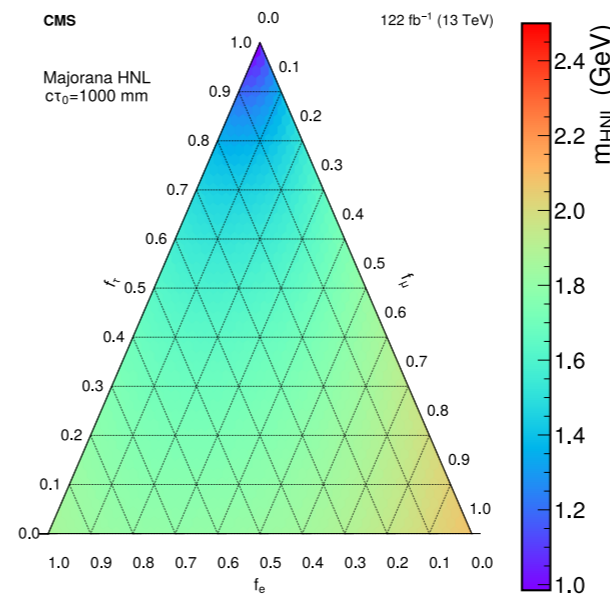
- Flavour independence opens up mixed coupling interpretation

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} V_{eN} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & V_{\mu N} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & V_{\tau N} \end{pmatrix}$$

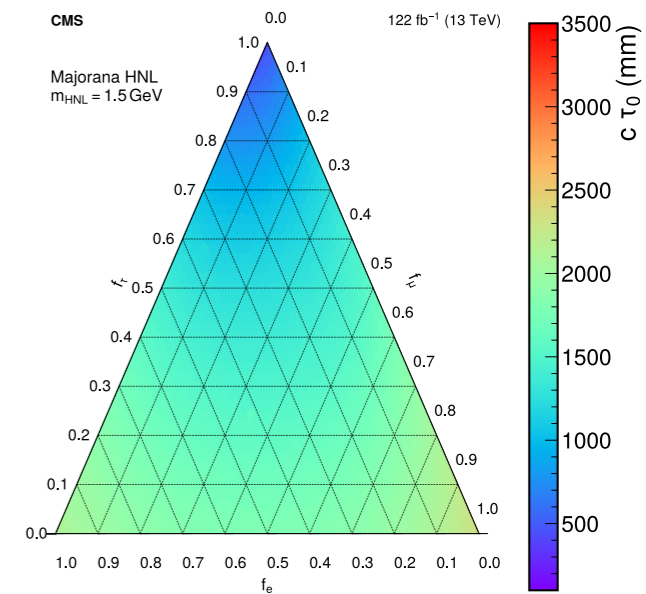
Majorana

- Constrains the sum of relative couplings to 1
- Selected several benchmark at the edge of our sensitivity

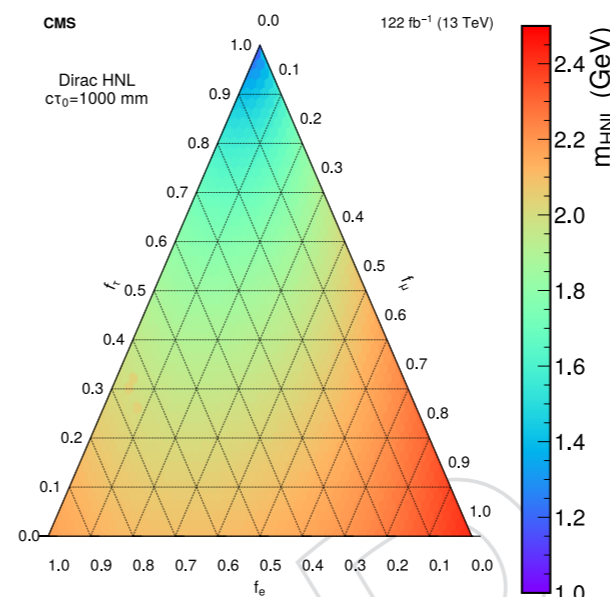
$$c\tau = 1m$$



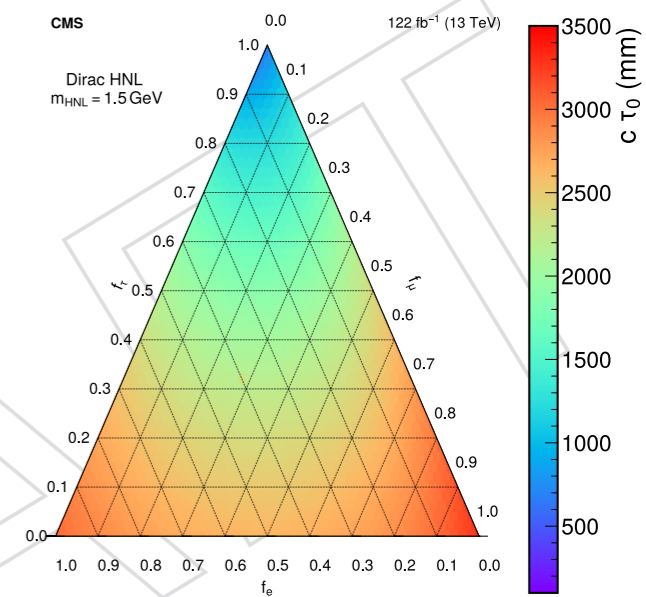
$$m_N = 1.5 \text{ GeV}$$



$$c\tau = 1m$$

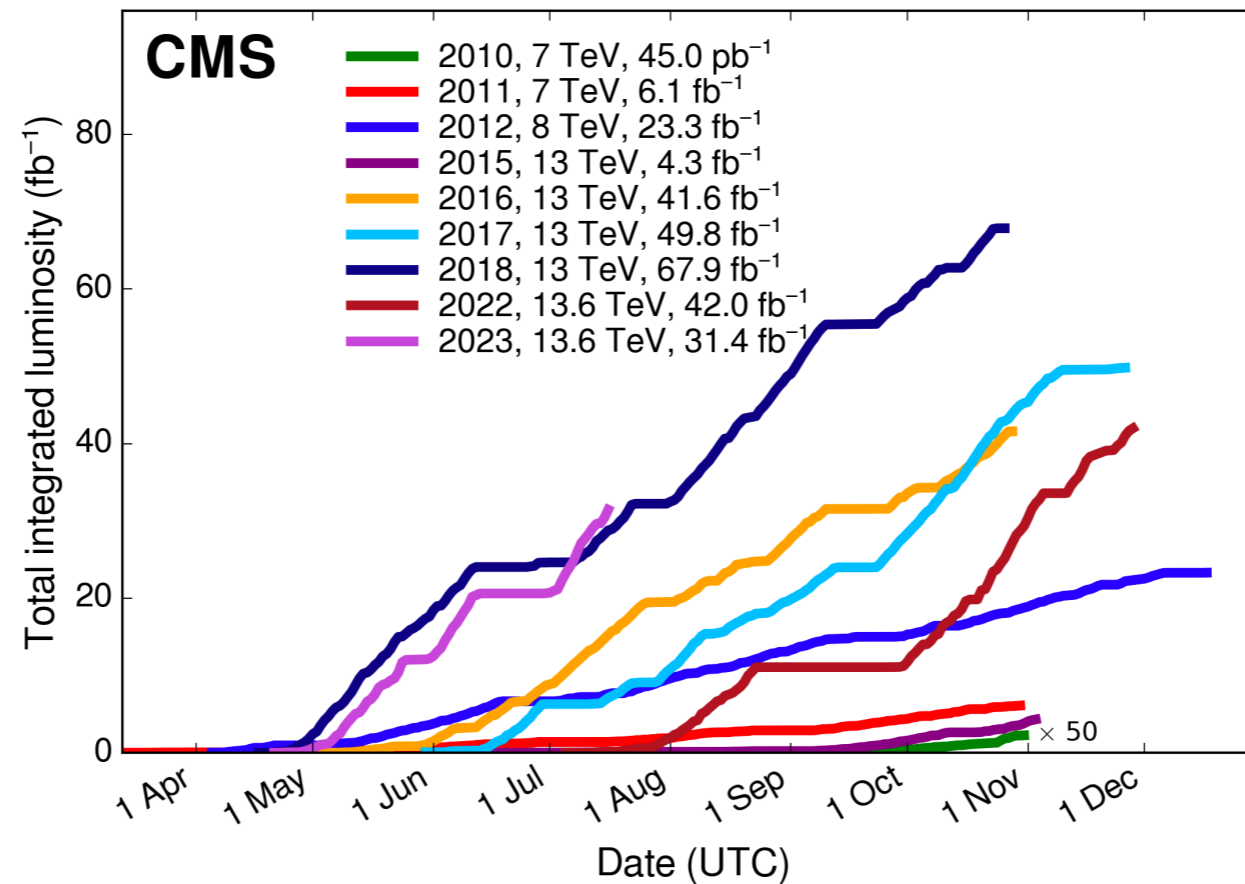


$$m_N = 1.5 \text{ GeV}$$



Dirac

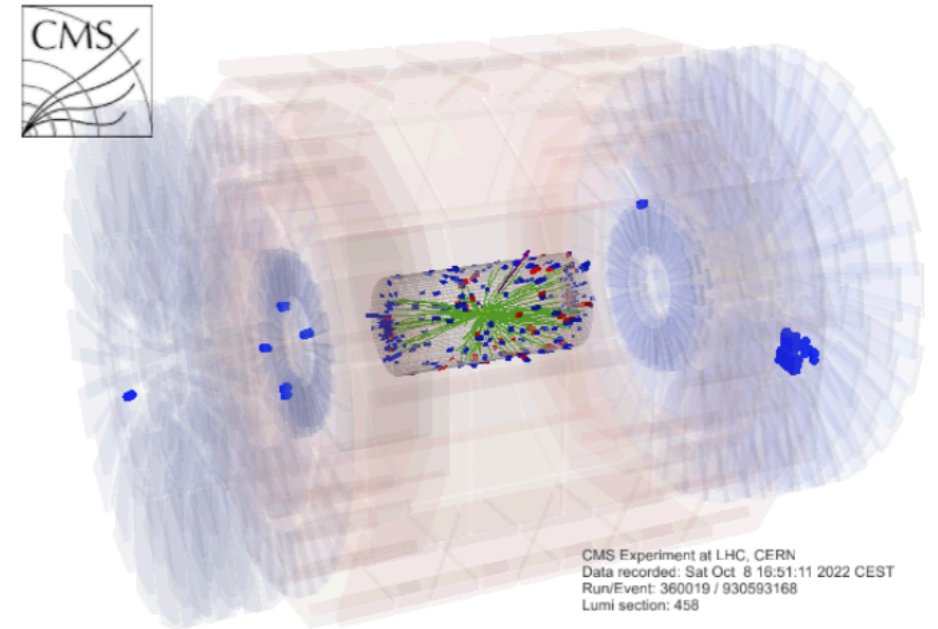
Can we do better in Run 3?



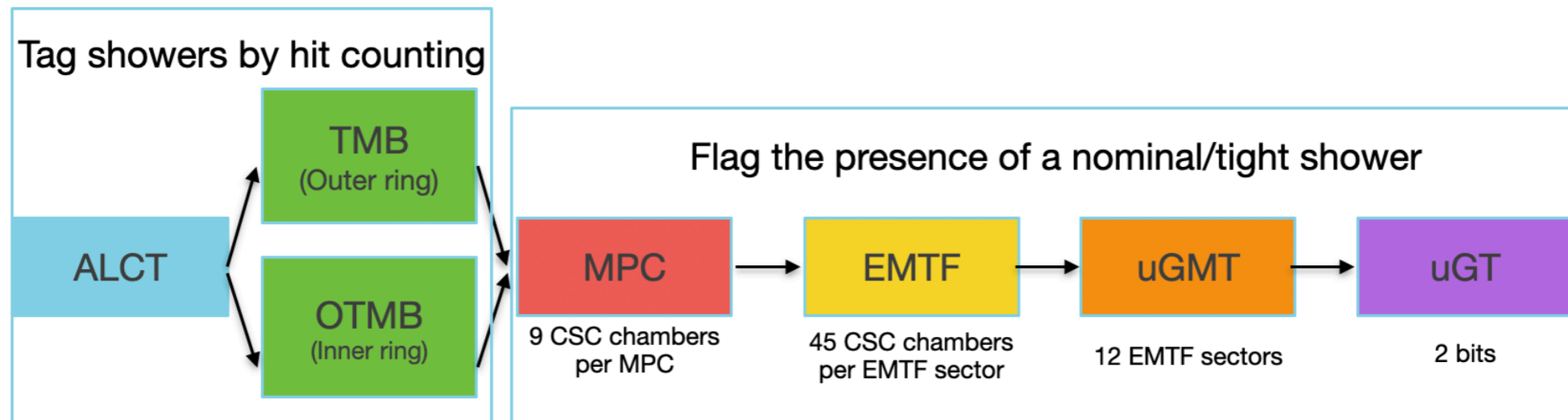
Muon Shower Triggers

[DP note](#)

- Many CMS run 2 LLP analysis do NOT have a dedicated LLP trigger
 - Major CMS Run 3 effort
- In MDS's case, the signal acceptance is $\sim O(1\%)$
 - Potentially **huge signal gain** from triggering on MDS
- “Simple” algorithm is not simple to implement
- But!
Commissioned successfully 2022 data taking!



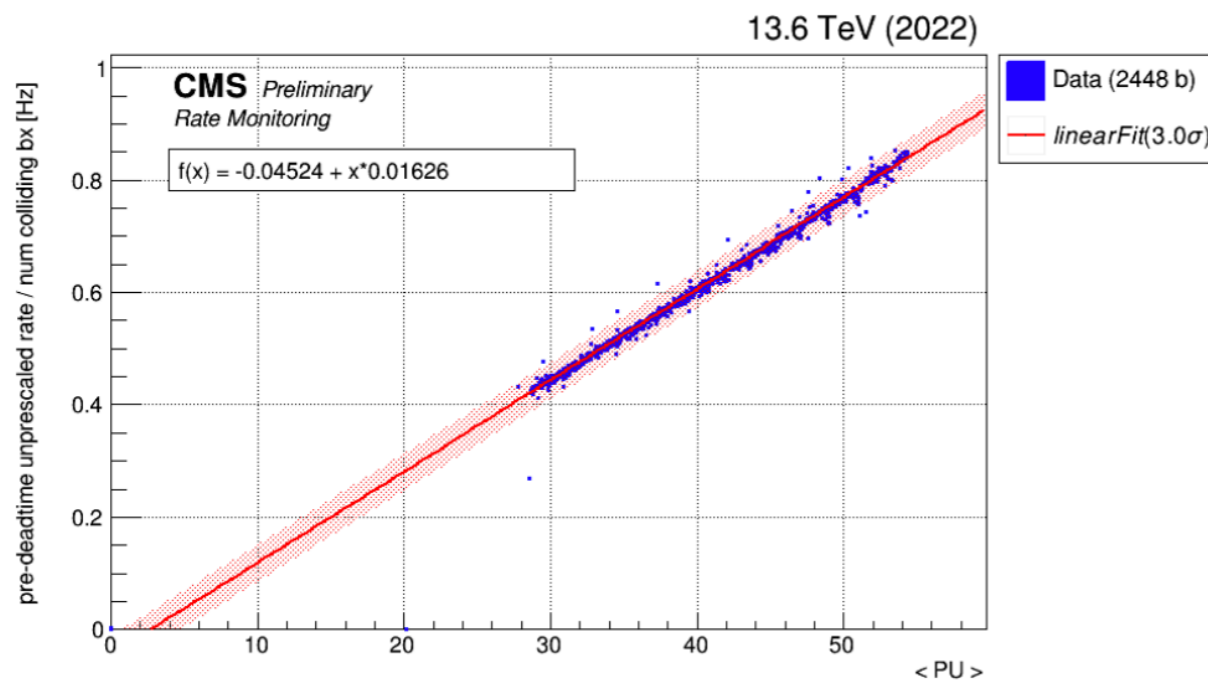
Event display in 2022 data



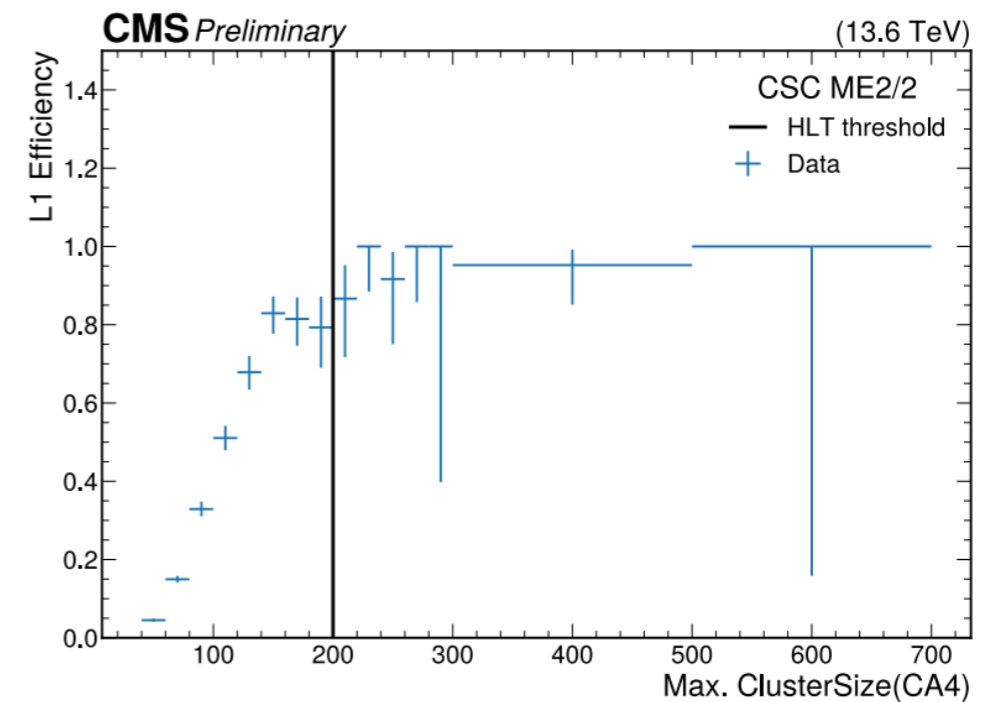
Overview MDS trigger (HMT) logic

Muon Shower Triggers

- New L1 seeds triggering based on hit multiplicities in CSC chambers
 - Runs clustering algorithm in HLT
- Active for majority of 2022 data taking
 - Linear with PU, fully efficient for HLT
- Analysis effort on-going!



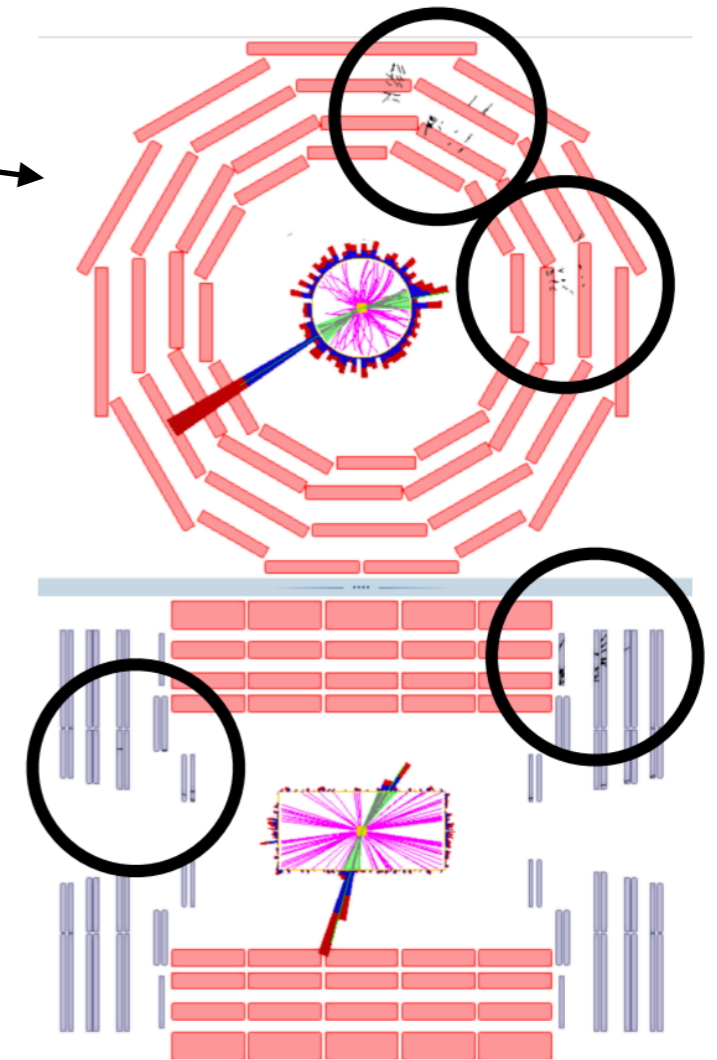
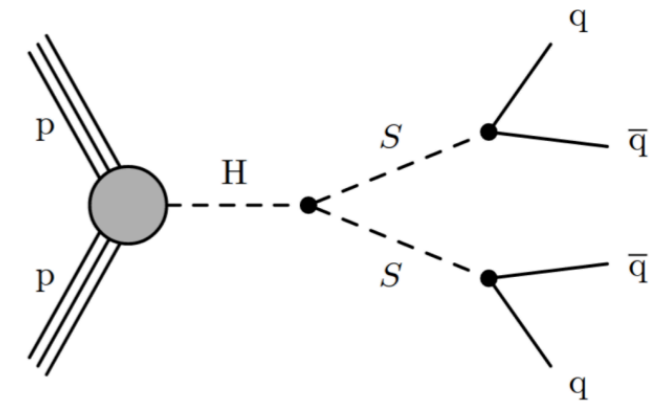
Rate v.s PU in 2022 data



L1 Efficiency in 2022 data

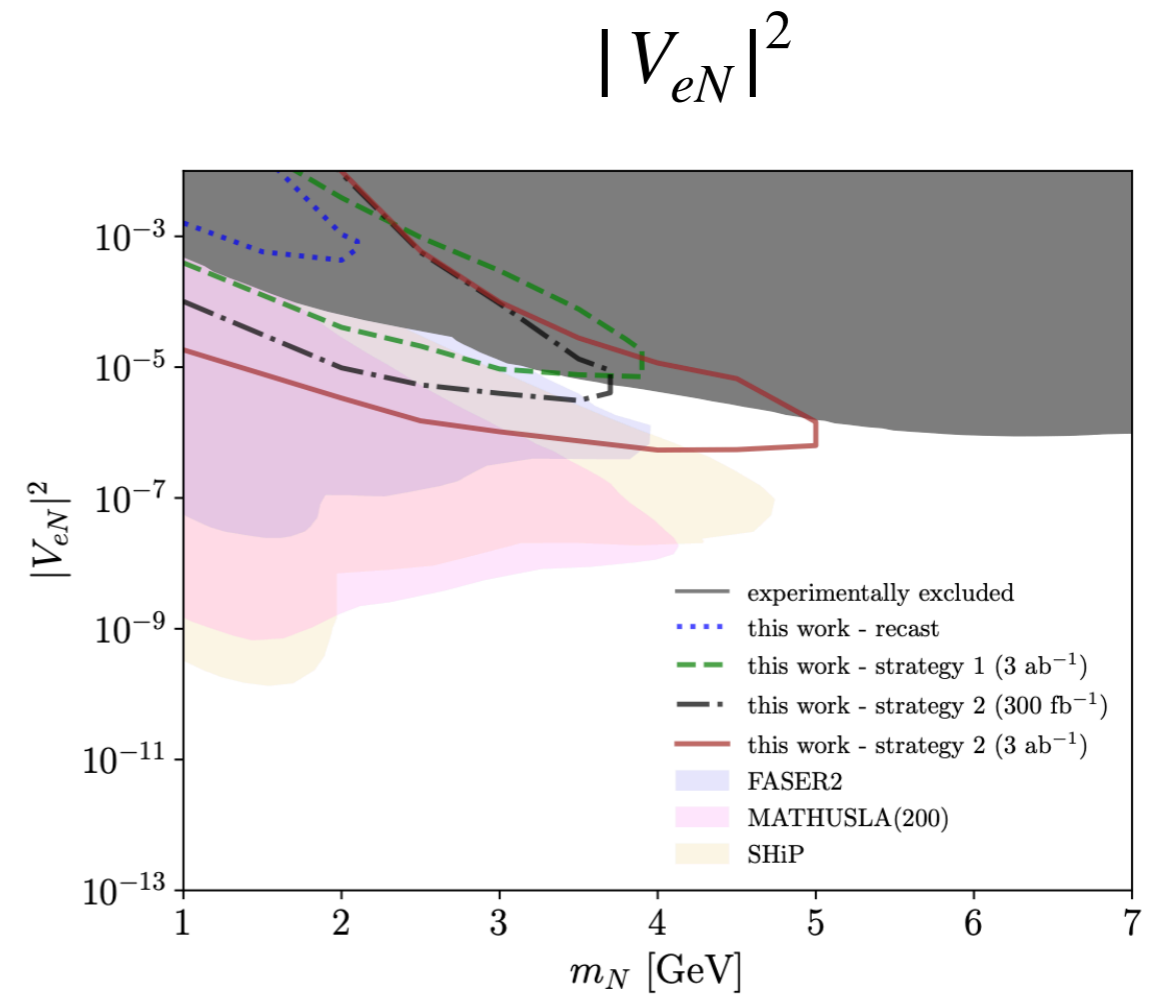
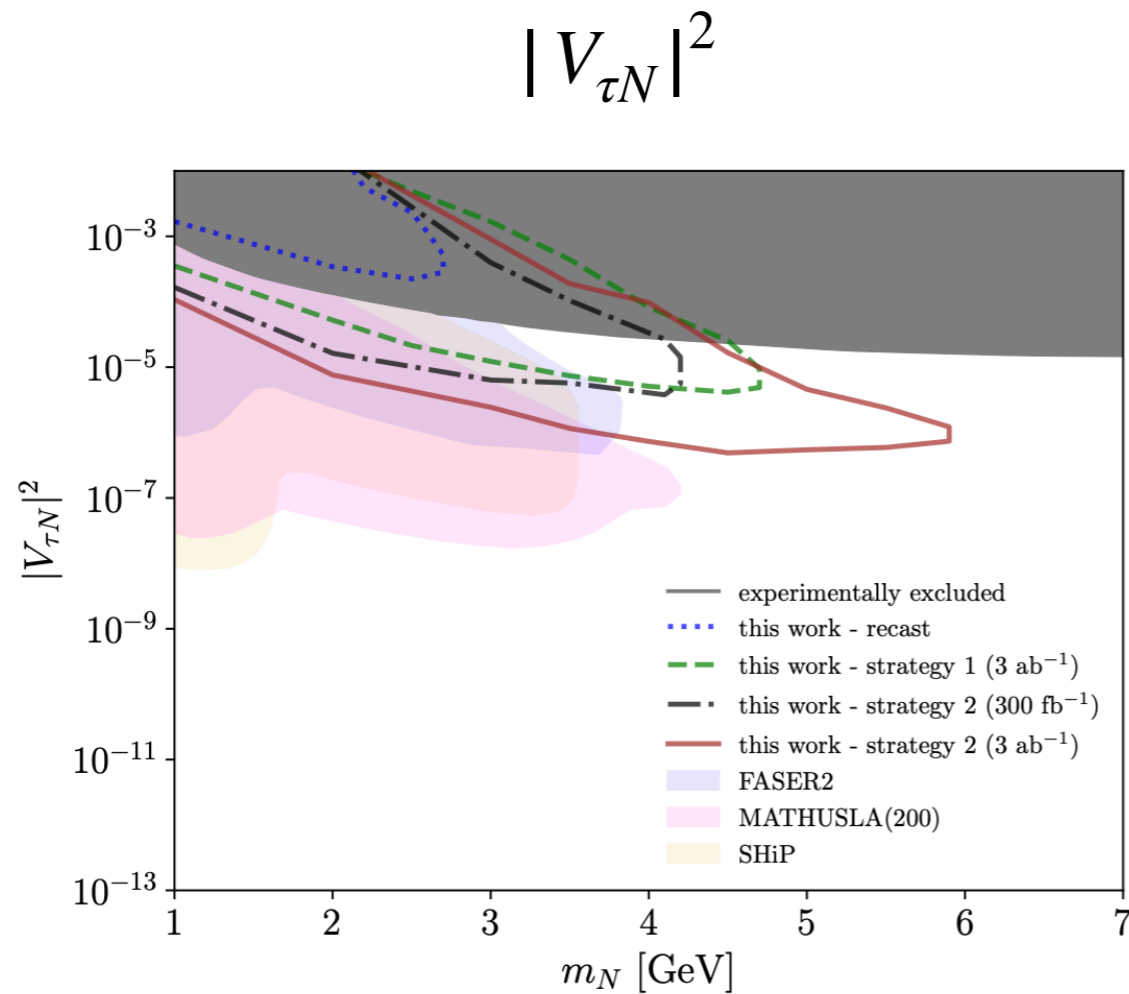
Muon Shower Triggers in 2023

- New capability enabled many new ideas for LLP triggers!
- Double-shower (lower thresholds)
- Heavy Ion run triggers
- Cross-triggers with taus
- + many more!



Double shower events from signal MC

- Simple parametrization of cluster efficiency made extrapolation easier
- Can probe down to $|V_{\tau N}|^2 \sim 5 \times 10^{-7}$ with full HL-LHC data



Summary

- CMS has a lot of on-going effort for searching for HNLs
 - Latest addition: Muon Detector Shower(MDS) is a power new tool
 - Search with Run-2 data improves previous CMS limits $\sim 2.3x$ at around 1-3 GeV
- Stay tuned for Run 3 results!

