

Constraints on Tau LFV decays from high- p_T studies at LHC

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Lepton Flavor as an accidental symmetry of the SM

- Lepton flavor conservation is an accidental symmetry of the SM Lagrangian at $d = 4$
 - Only a single LFV gauge invariant $d = 4$ operator: $[Y_e]_{pr}(\bar{\ell}_p e_r)H + \text{H.c.}$
 - Can always be diagonalized
 - No longer possible if further fields are included or for $d > 4$
 - Multiple operators allowed \rightarrow no simultaneous diagonalization possible without extra symmetry assumptions (flavor symmetries)

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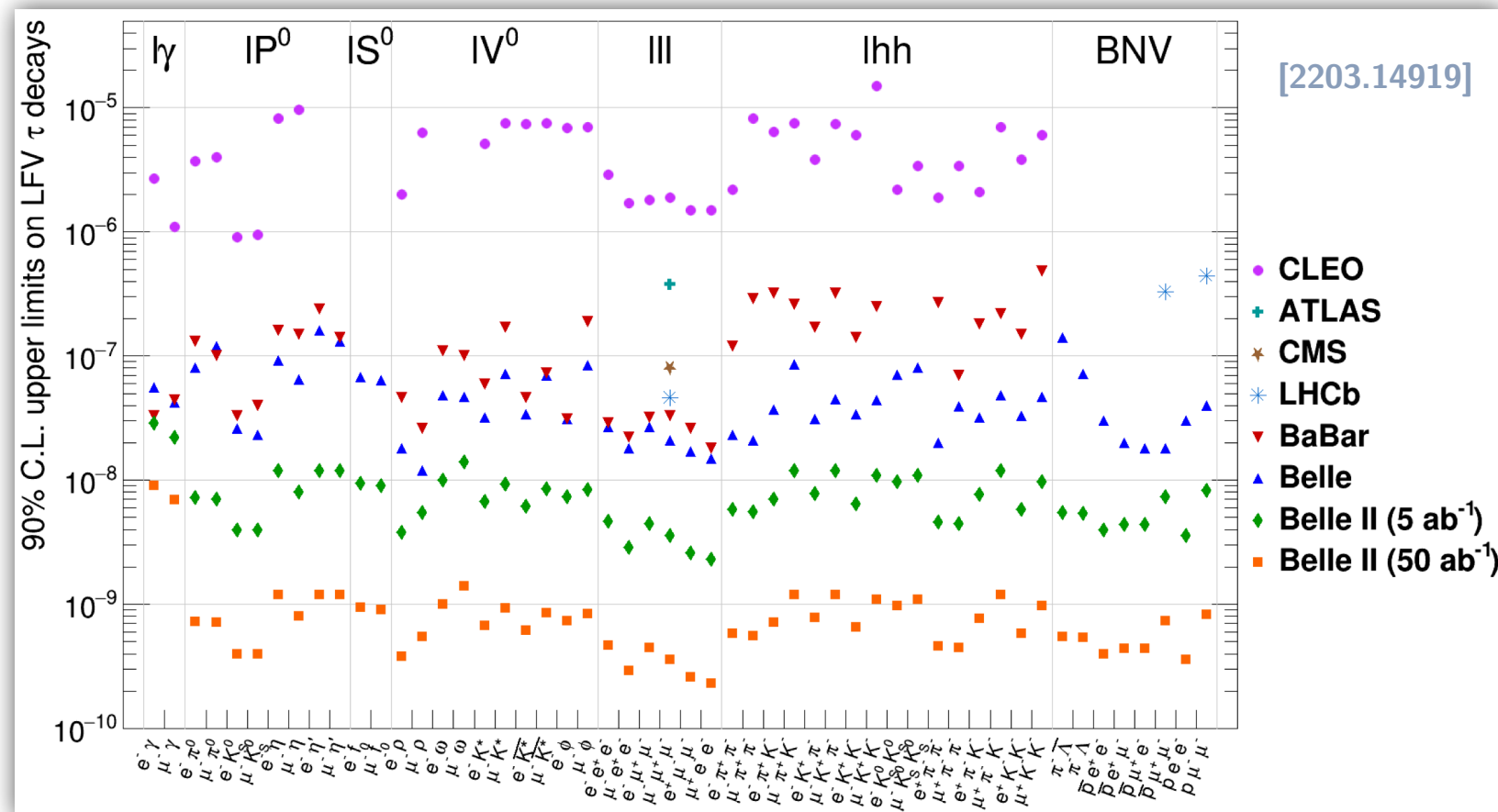
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- We can probe heavy BSM particles with masses $1 \text{ TeV} \lesssim M$ with LFV couplings at
 - Low-energy experiments (high precision)
 - LHC in high- p_T tails (higher energies)
- LHC particularly relevant for NP in 3rd generation \rightarrow LFV τ transitions

Tau LFV: from low energies to high- p_T at LHC

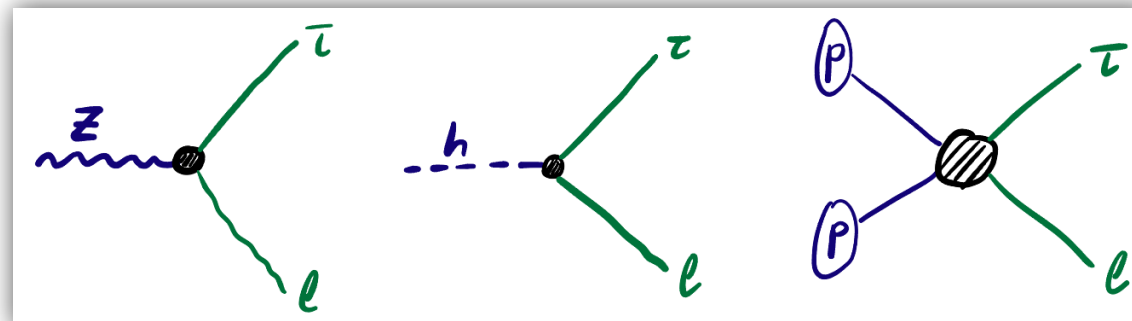
- Many BSM models predict NP dominantly coupled to the 3rd generation
 - Largest LFV contributions in the τ sector
- Many precision measurements from low-energy flavor experiments



Weaker bounds than for LFV μ measurements

→ Can high- p_T offer complementary information?

- High- p_T LHC measurements of LFV transitions involving τ leptons:
 - Z boson decays
 - Higgs boson decays
 - Drell-Yan

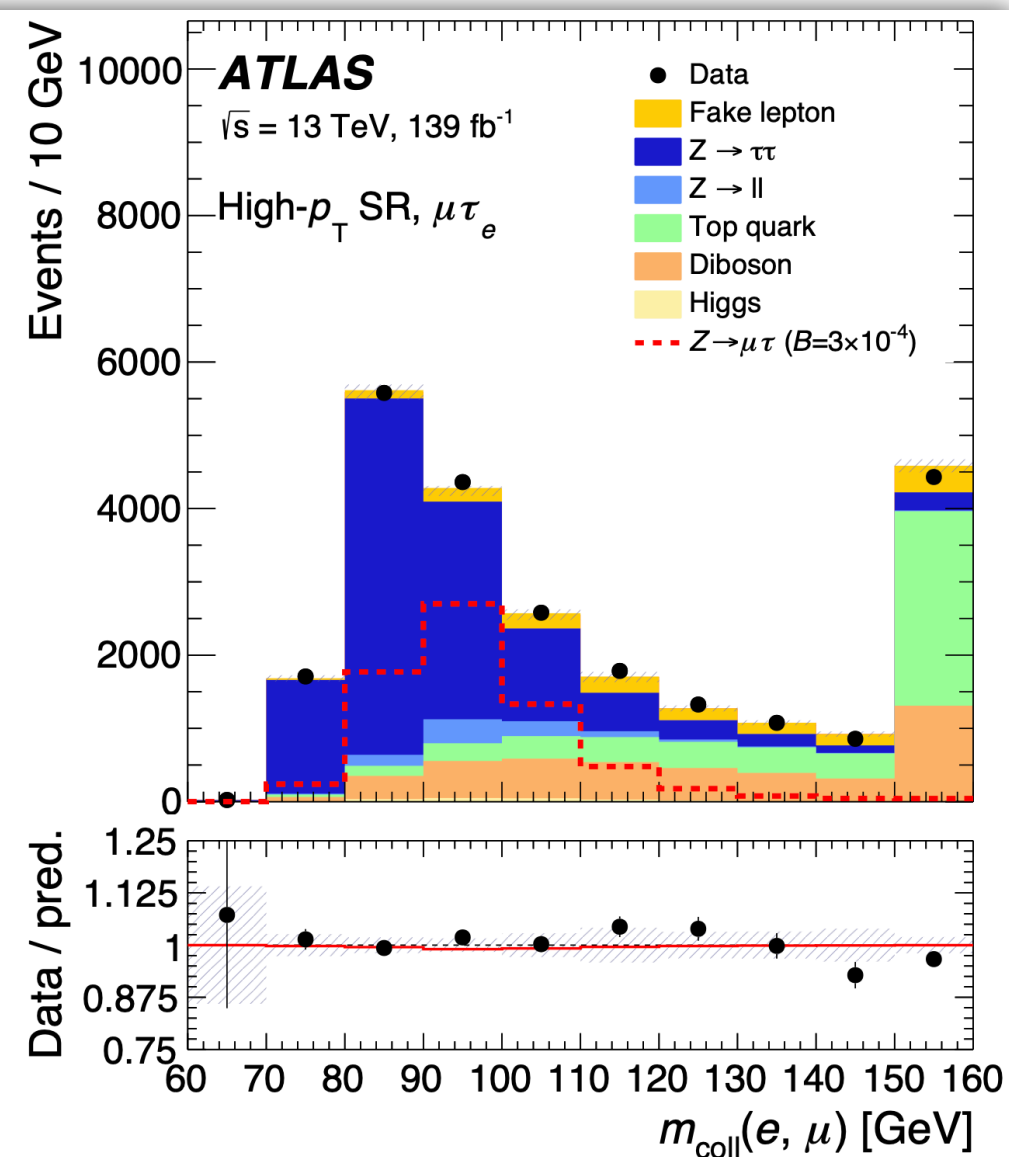
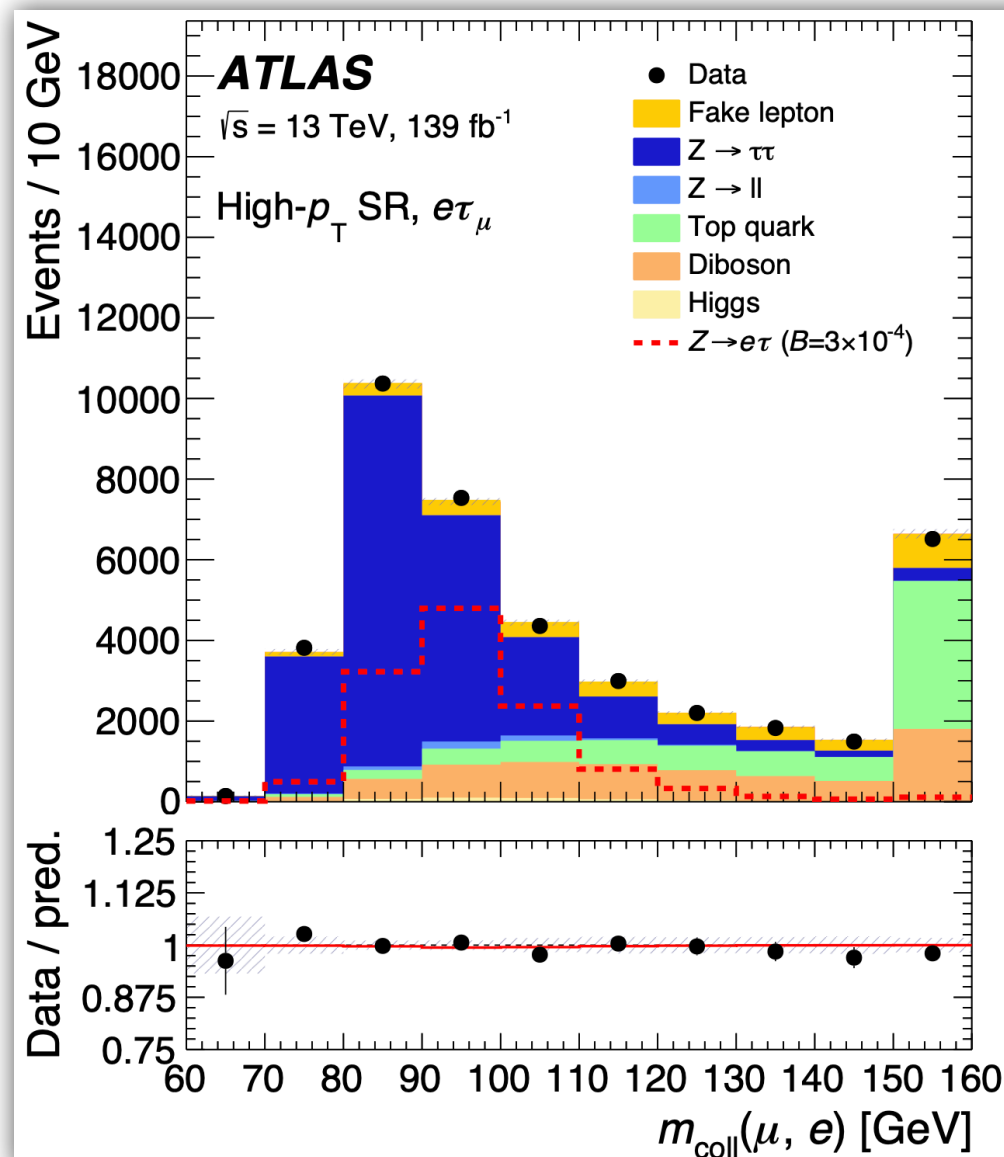
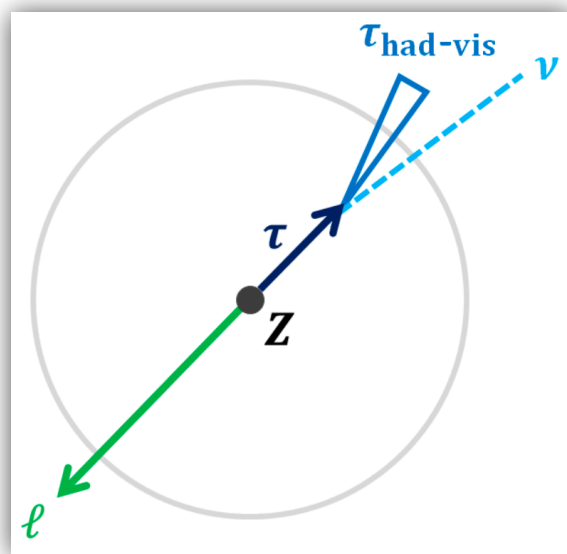
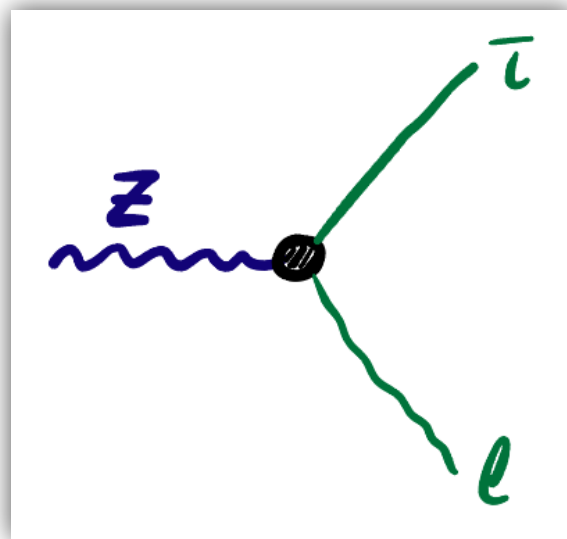


LFV Z boson decays involving taus

- ATLAS constraints on $\mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow \tau\ell)$ with $\ell \in \{\mu, e\}$ with $\sim 140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ for

ATLAS
[2010.02566], [2105.12491]

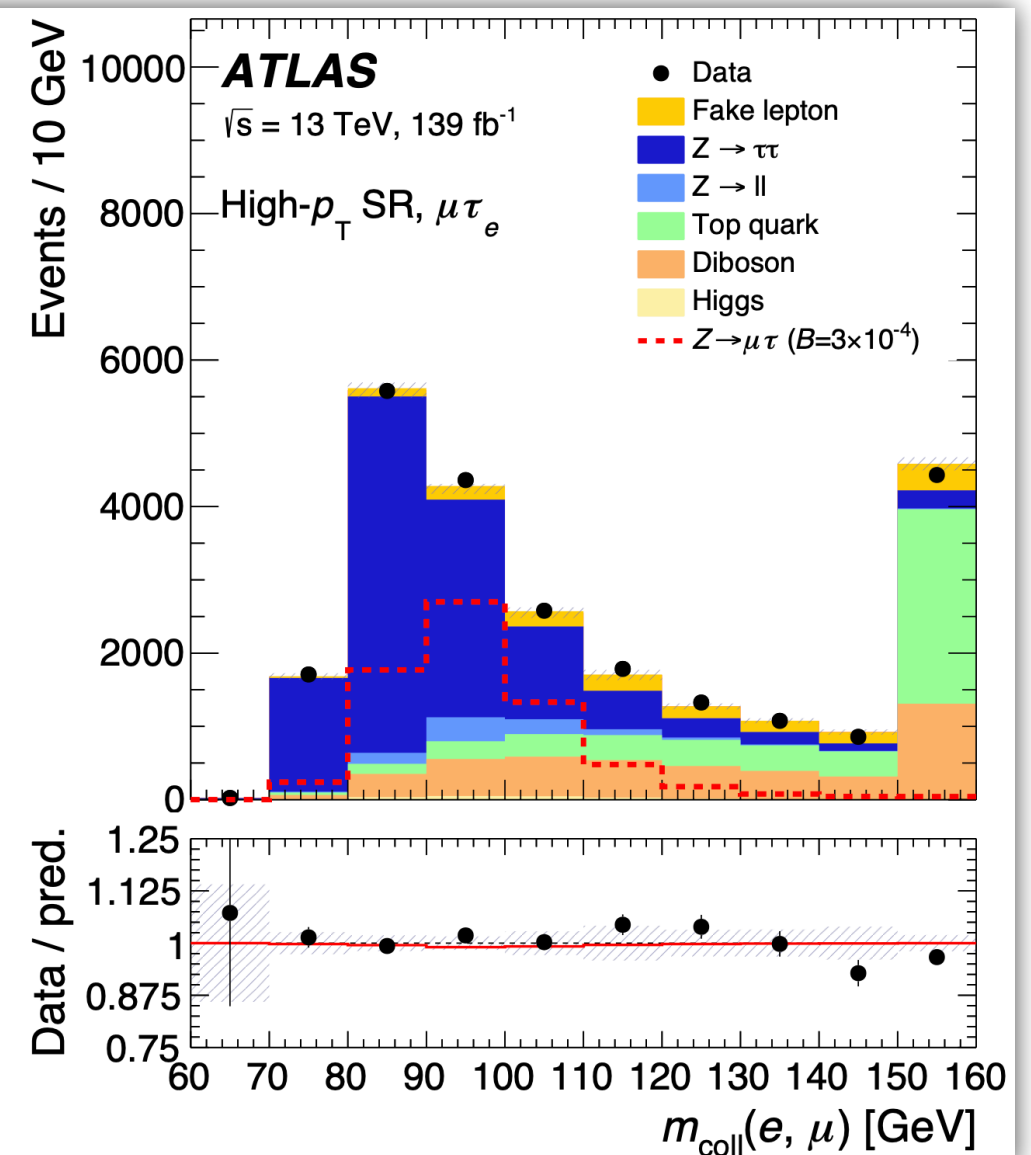
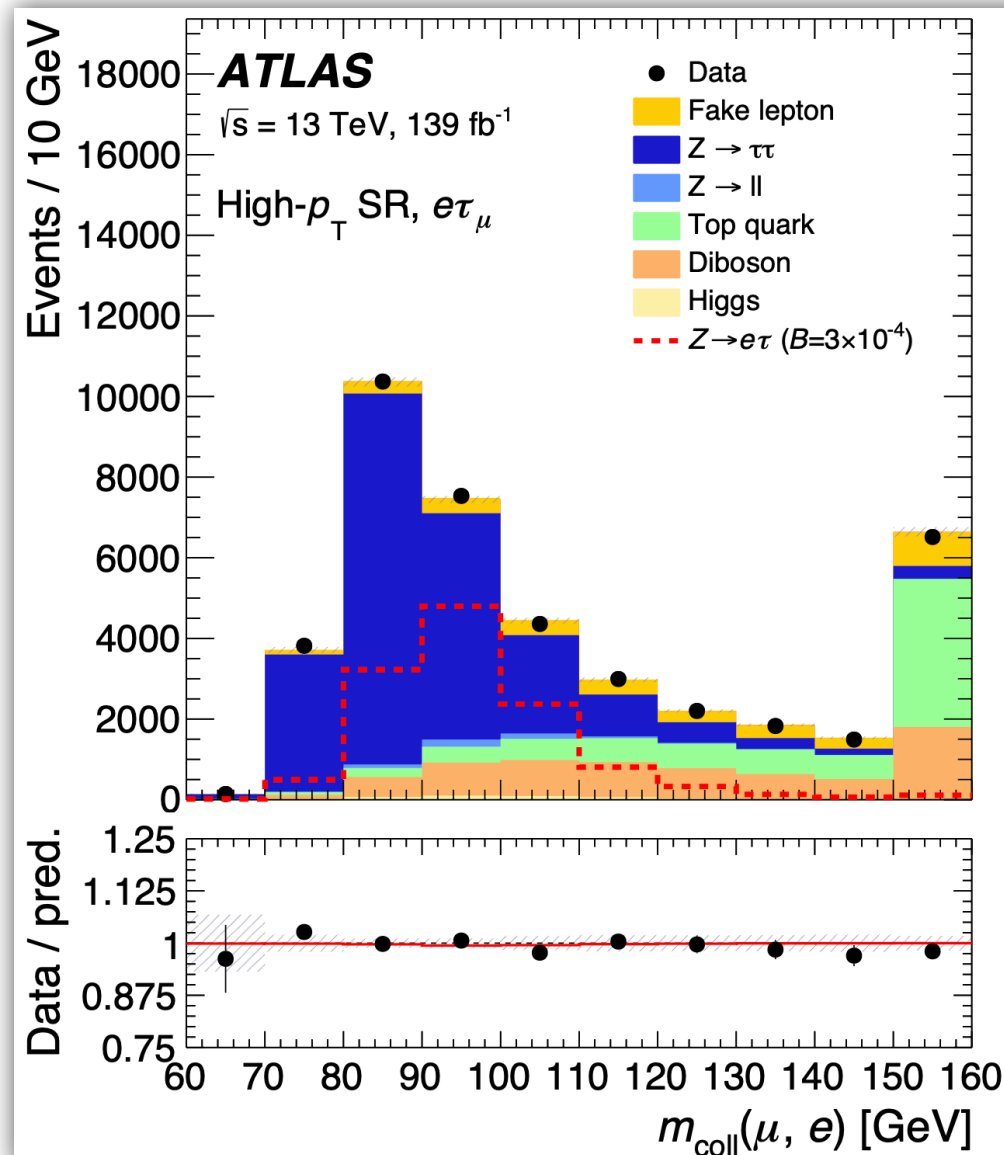
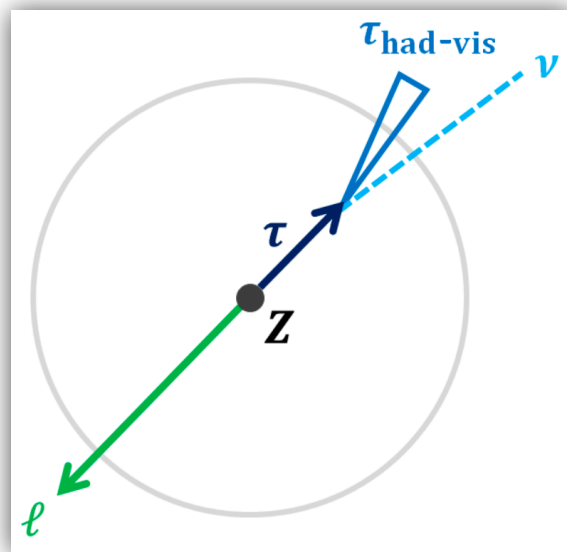
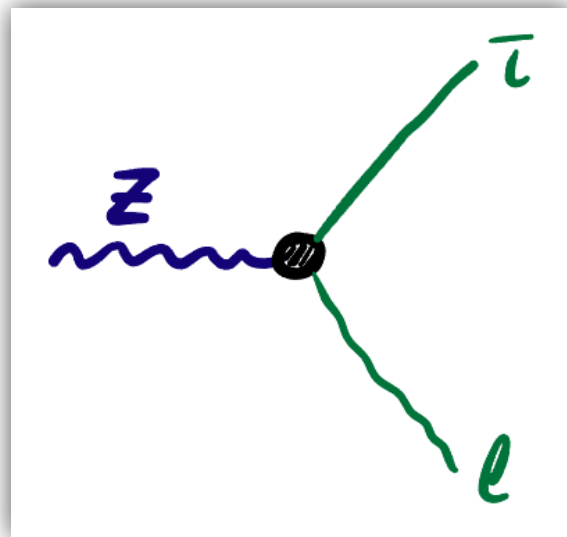
- Hadronic τ decays ($\tau \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$) and leptonic τ decays ($\tau e \rightarrow \mu e$ and $\tau\mu \rightarrow e\mu$)



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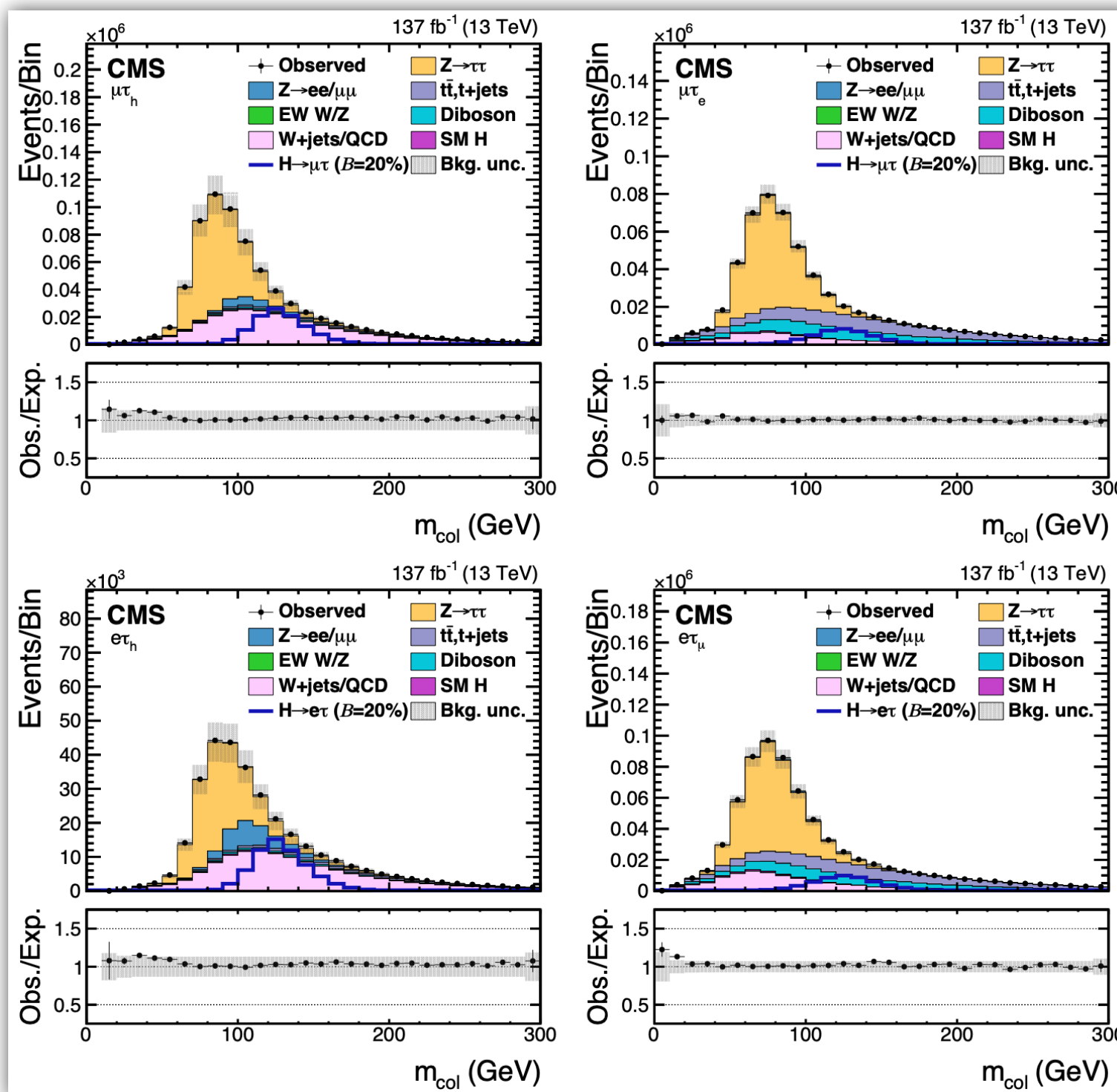
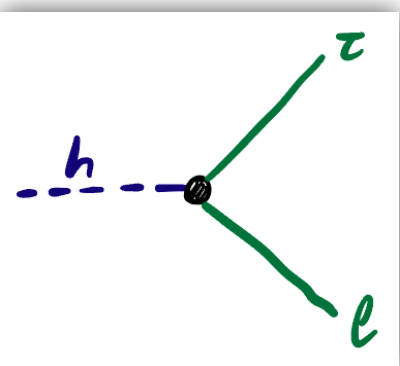
- $\mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow \tau \mu) < 6.5 \times 10^{-6}$ and $\mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow \tau e) < 5.0 \times 10^{-6}$ at 95% CL (superseding LEP limits)

- SMEFT: tree-level contributions by: $C_{Hl}^{(1+3)}$, C_{He} , C_{eW} , C_{eB}

LFV Higgs boson decays involving taus

CMS [2105.03007]

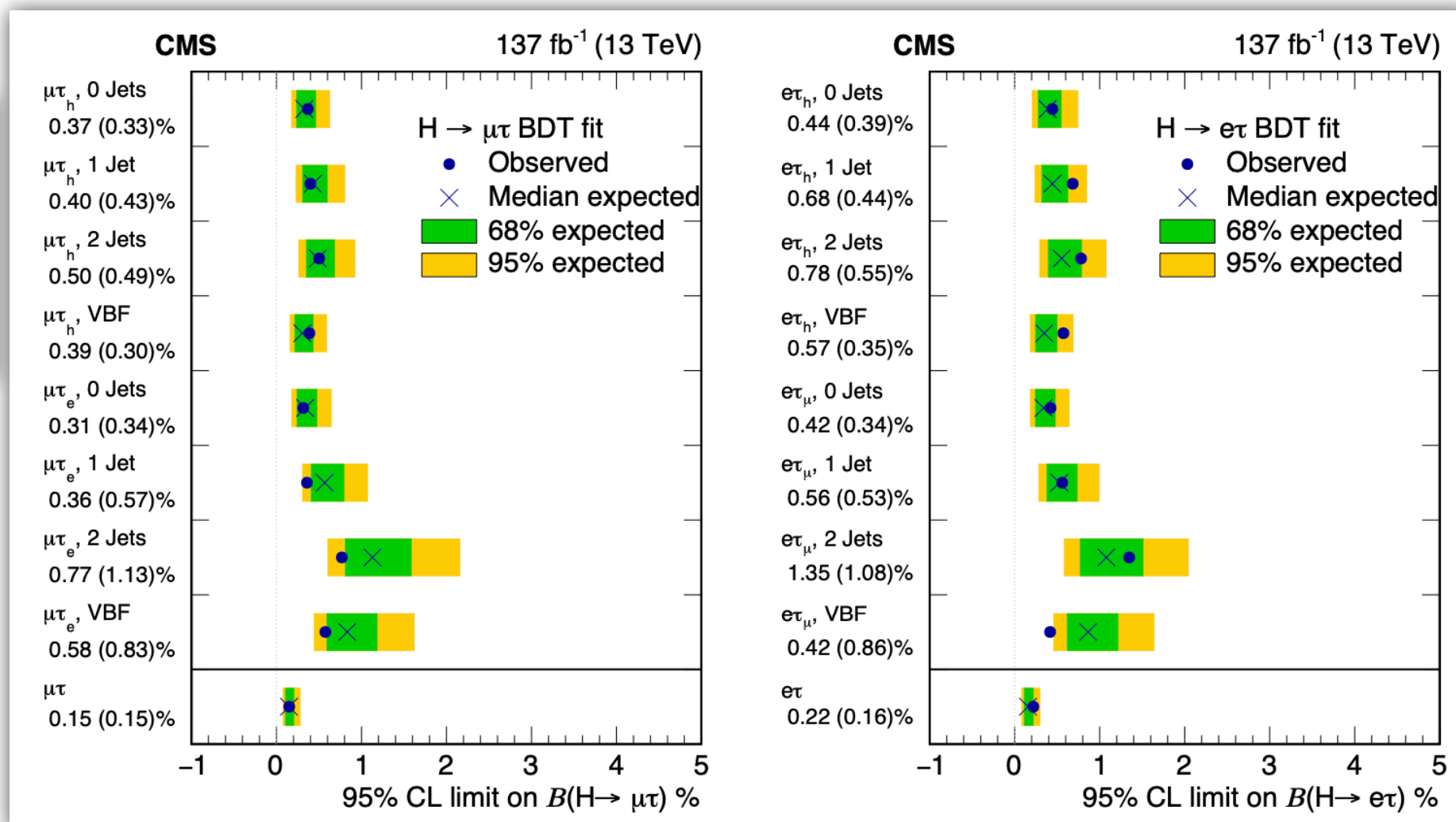
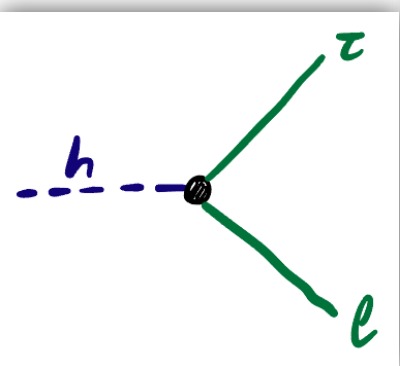
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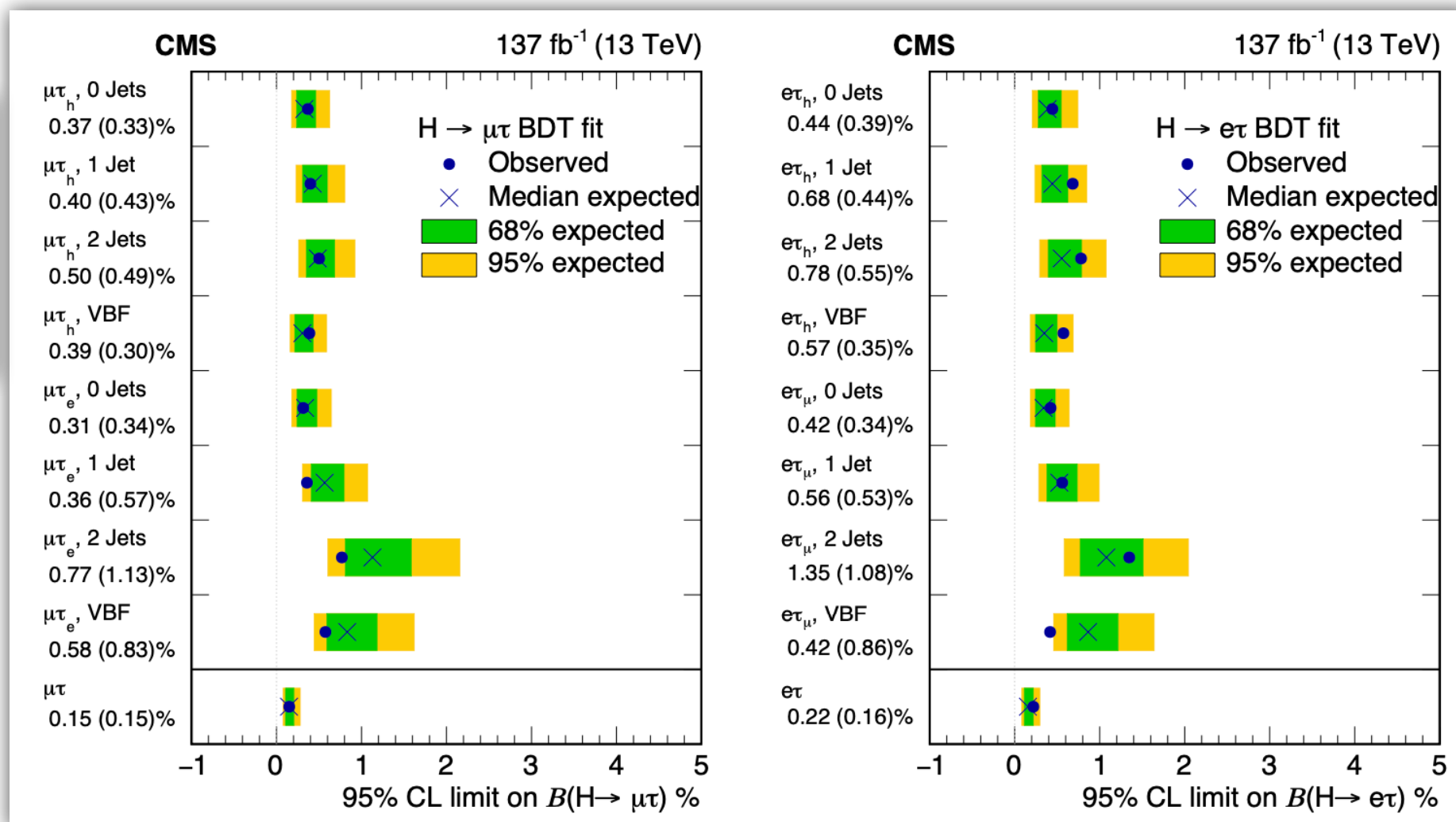
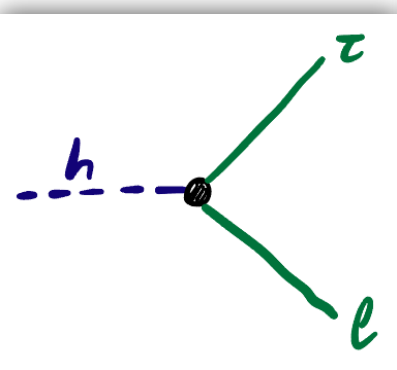
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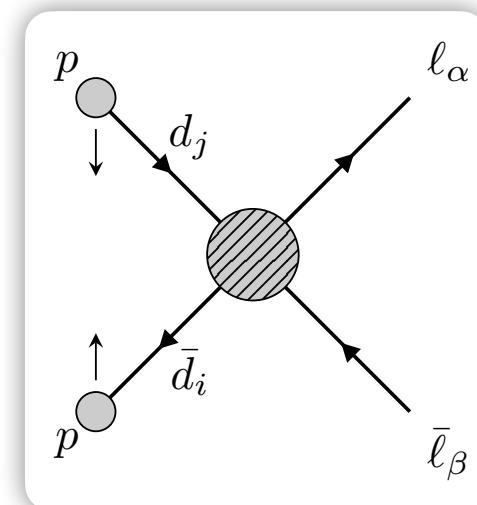


- Constraints on LFV Yukawa couplings: $\sqrt{|Y_{\mu\tau}|^2 + |Y_{\tau\mu}|^2} < 1.11 \times 10^{-3}$ SMEFT: tree-level contribution by C_{eH}
- $\sqrt{|Y_{e\tau}|^2 + |Y_{\tau e}|^2} < 1.35 \times 10^{-3}$

Flavor physics in high- p_T Drell-Yan tails

- Hadronic cross-section:

$$\sigma_{\text{had}}(pp \rightarrow \ell_\alpha \ell_\beta) = \mathcal{L}_{ij} \otimes [\hat{\sigma}]_{ij}^{\alpha\beta}$$



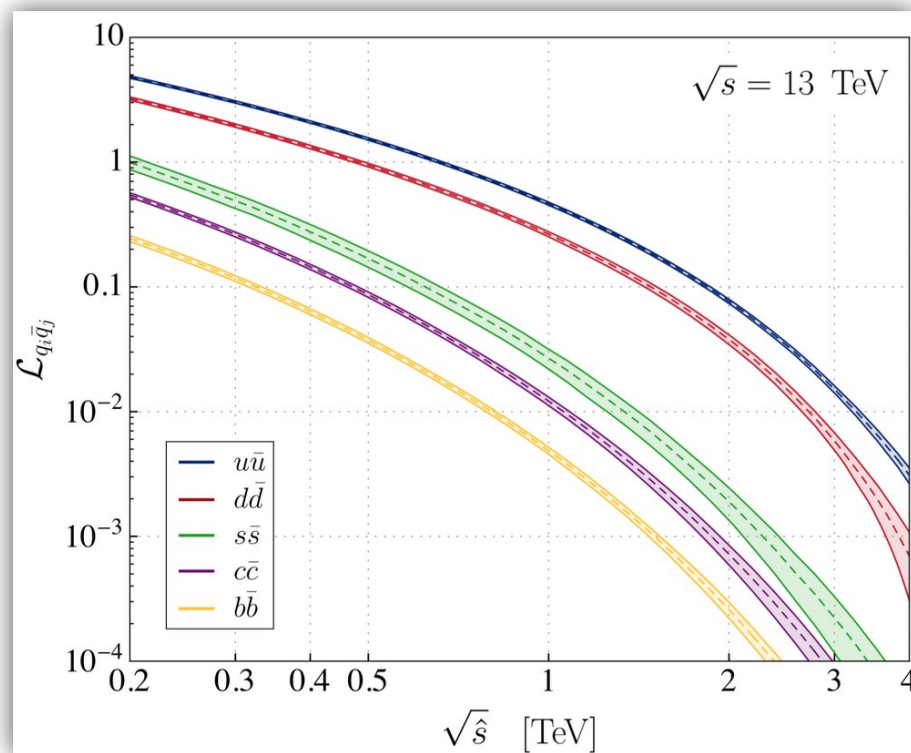
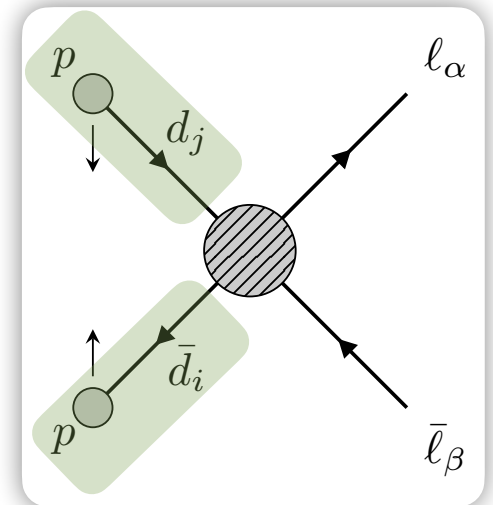
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- \mathcal{L}_{ij} parton luminosities/PDFs \rightarrow 5 quark flavors contribute

$$\mathcal{L}_{ij}(\hat{s}) = \int_{\frac{\hat{s}}{s}}^1 \frac{dx}{x} \left[f_{\bar{q}_i}(x, \mu) f_{q_j}\left(\frac{\hat{s}}{sx}, \mu\right) + (\bar{q}_i \leftrightarrow q_j) \right]$$



Angelescu, Faroughy, Sumensari [2002.05684]

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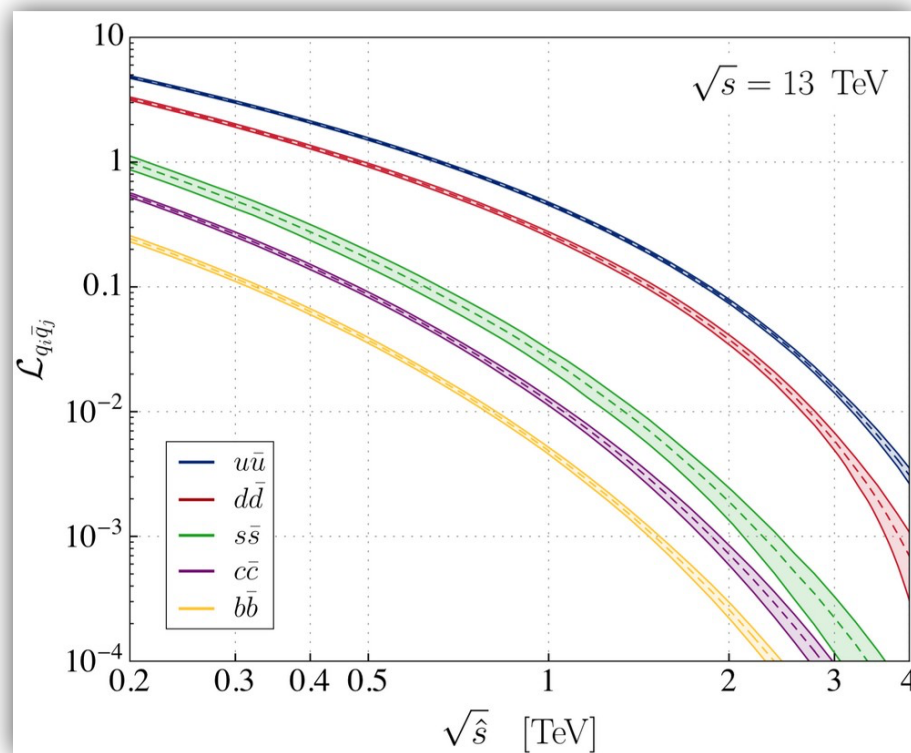
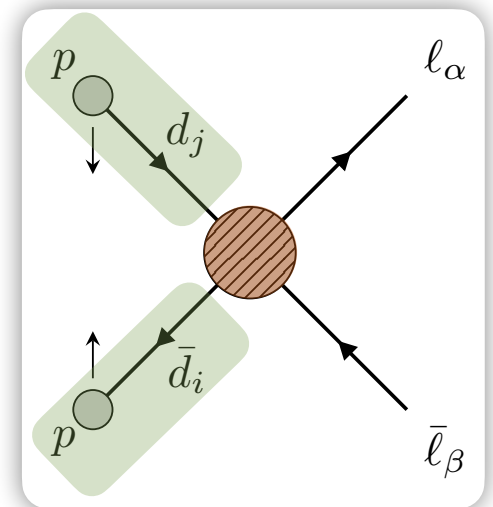
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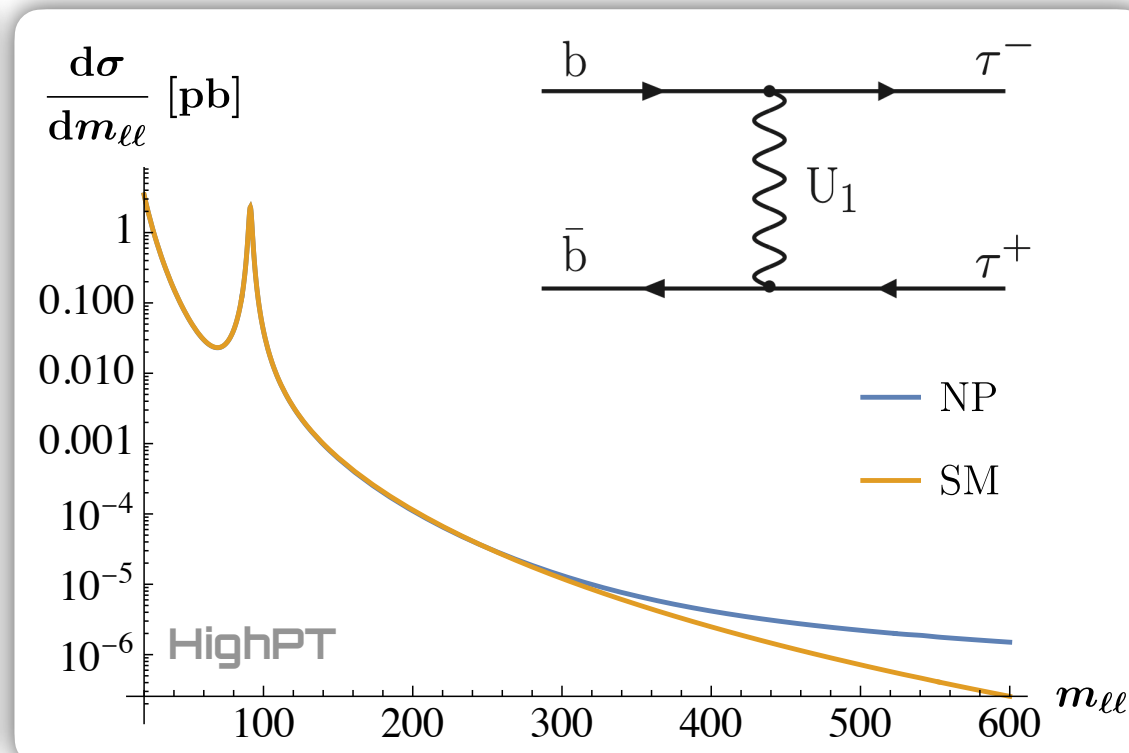
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- $[\hat{\sigma}]_{ij}^{\alpha\beta}$ partonic cross section \rightarrow energy enhanced in EFT $[\hat{\sigma}]_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} \propto \frac{\hat{s}}{\Lambda^4} |C|^2$



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Flavor physics in high- p_T Drell-Yan tails

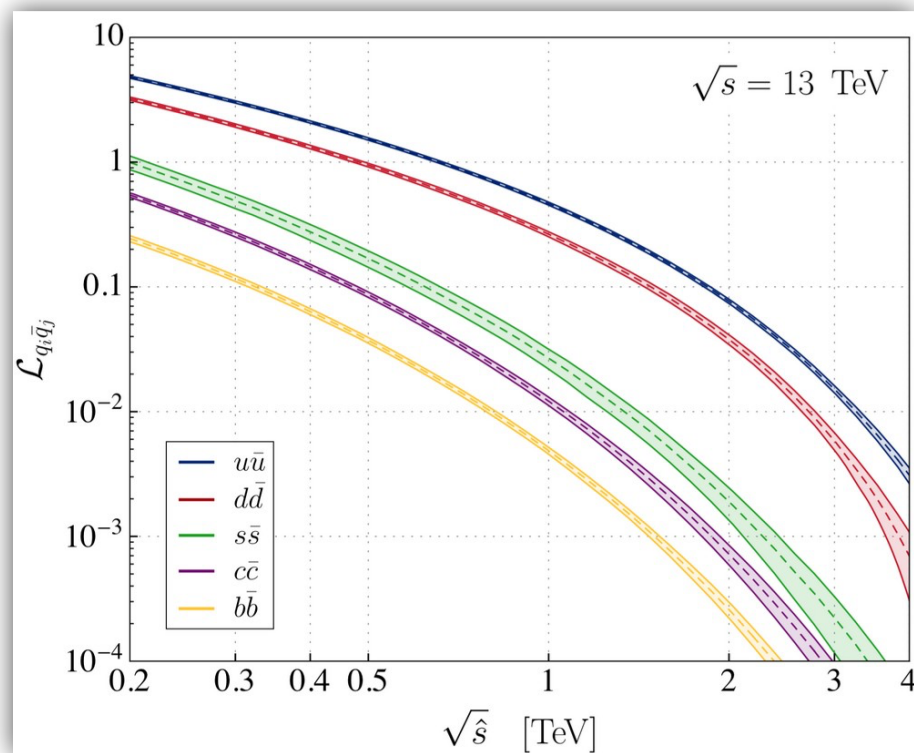
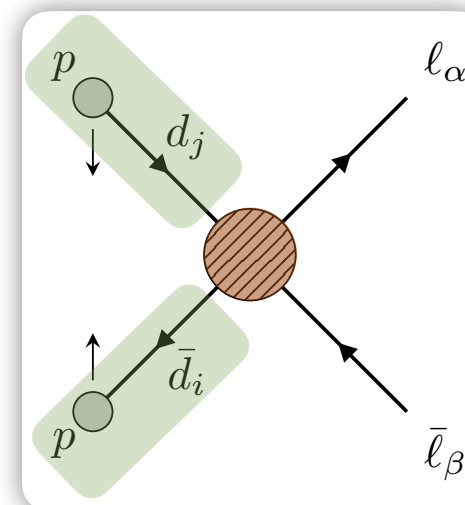
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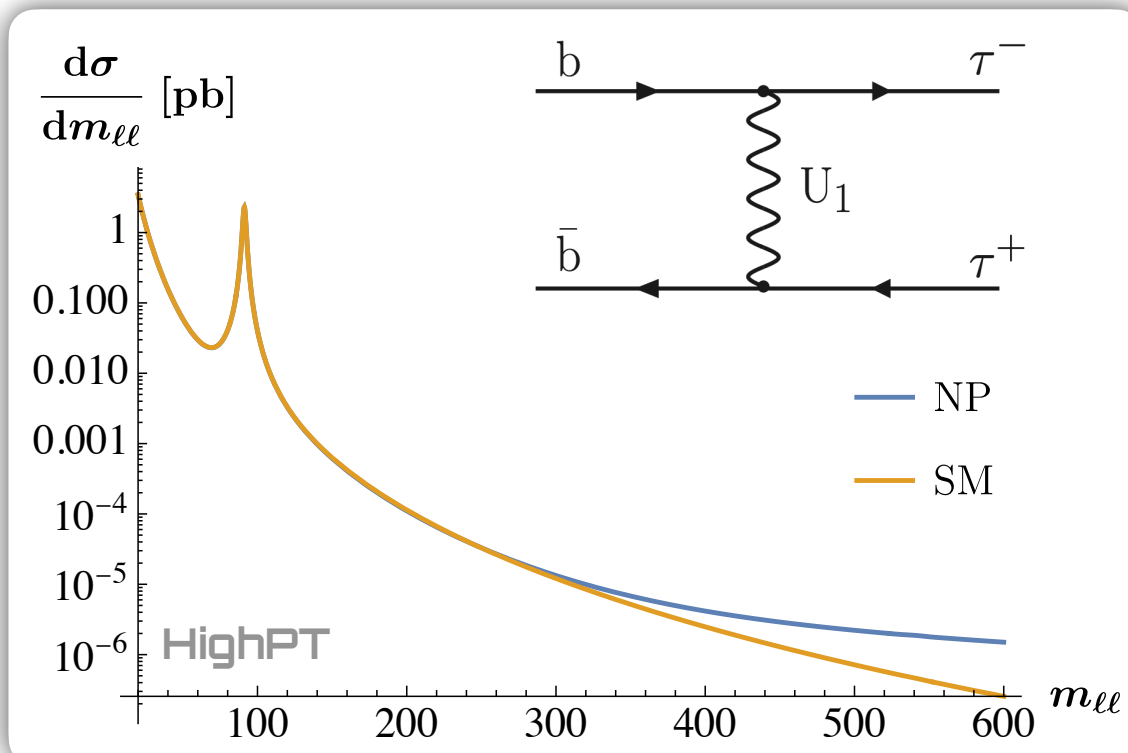
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NP Drell-Yan tails analyses:

- Greljo, Marzocca [1704.09015]
- Fuentes-Martin, Greljo, Camalich, Ruiz-Alvarez [2003.12421]
- de Blas, Chala, Santiago [1307.5068]
- Angelescu, Faroughy, Sumensari [2002.05684]
- Dawson, Giardino, Ismail [1811.12260]
- Marzocca, Min, Son [2008.07541]
- ... many more ...

- τ -tails particularly relevant for models with large 3rd generation couplings

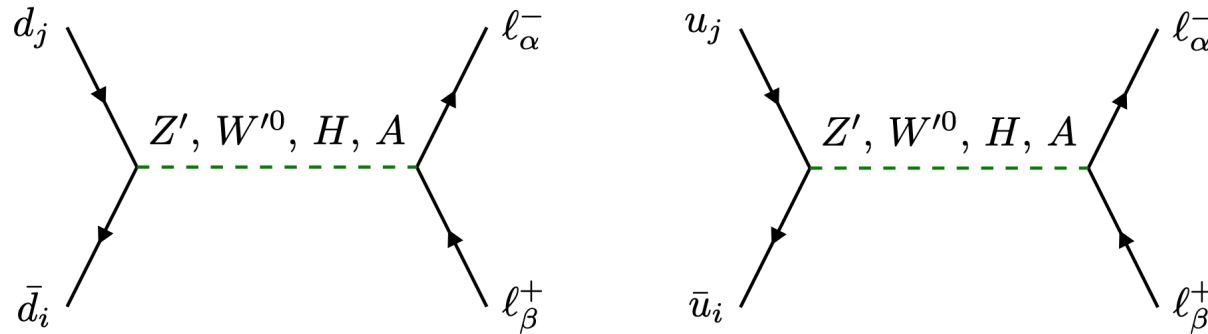
Faroughy, Greljo, Kamenik [1609.07138]

LFV in high- p_T Drell-Yan tails

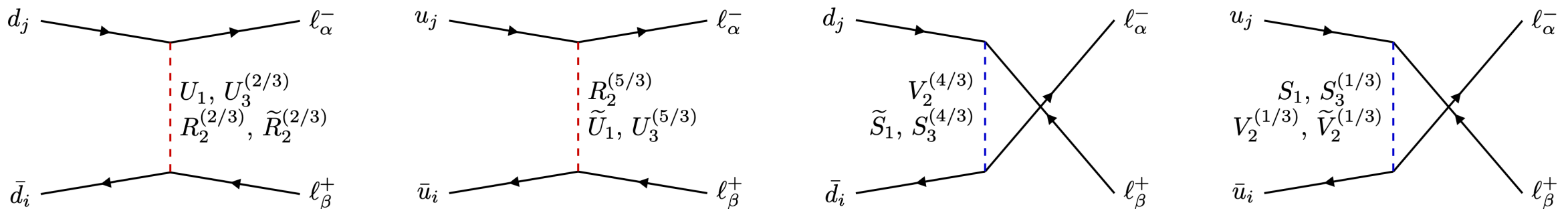
Types of LFV probed in high- p_T Drell-Yan tails:

- Explicit LFV BSM mediators coupling to both quarks and leptons

- s-channel: neutral vector bosons Z' , heavy scalars Φ , ...



- t-/u-channel: leptoquarks

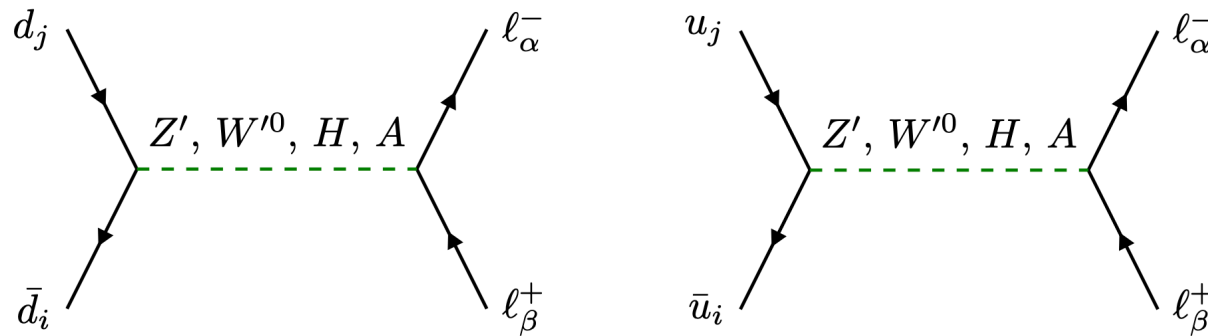


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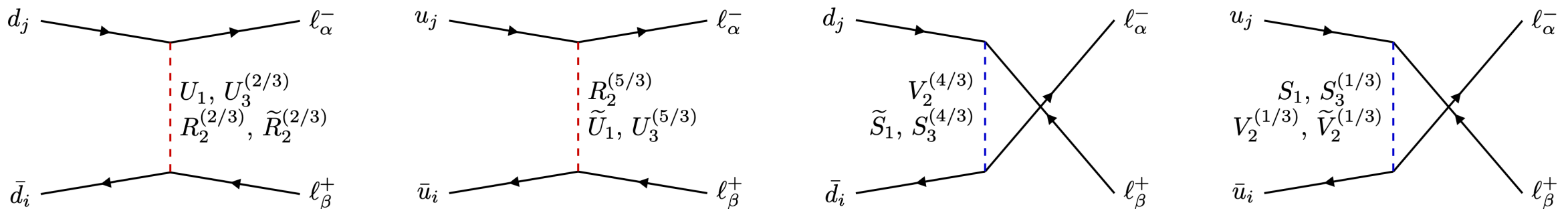
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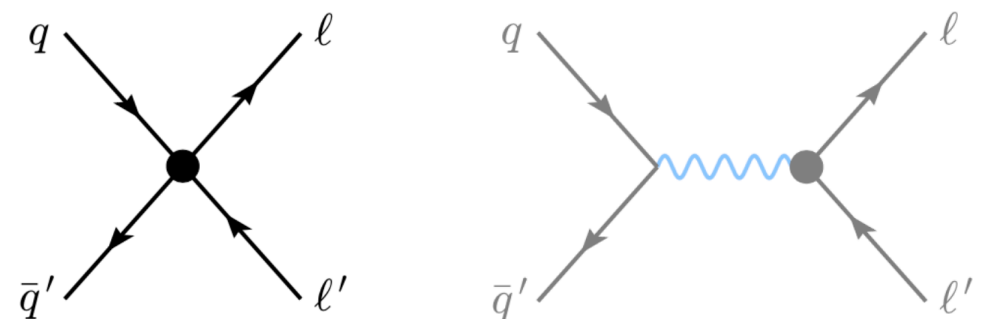
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- LFV high-dimensional SMEFT operators

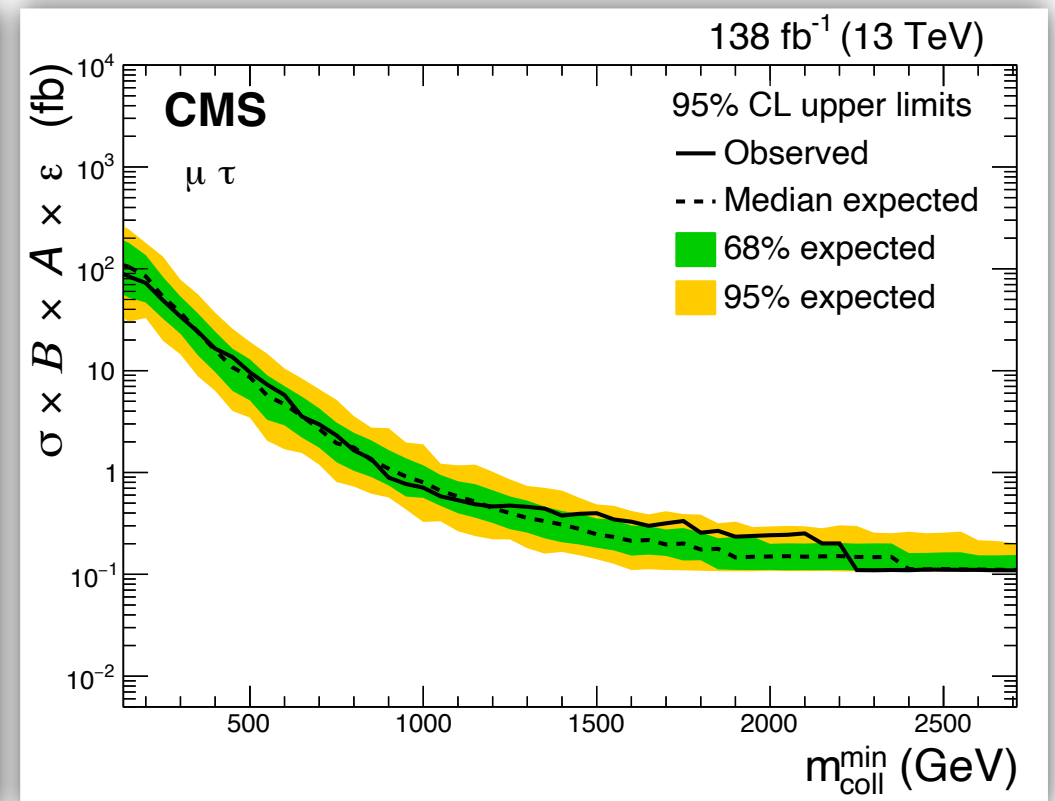
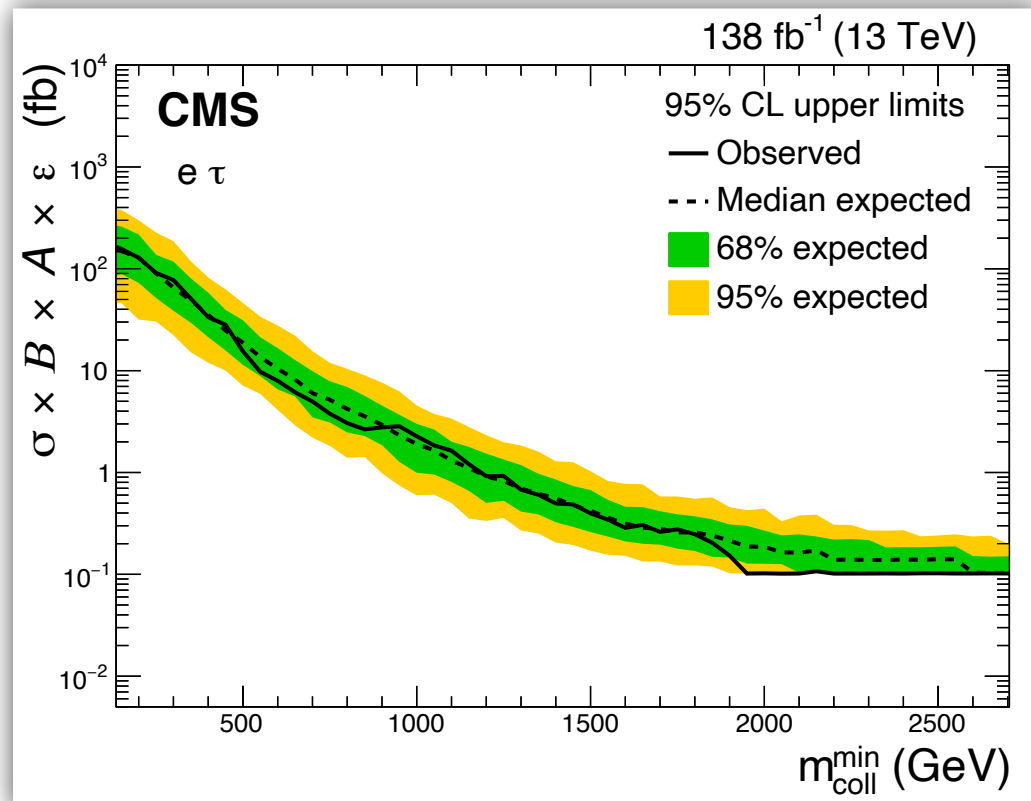
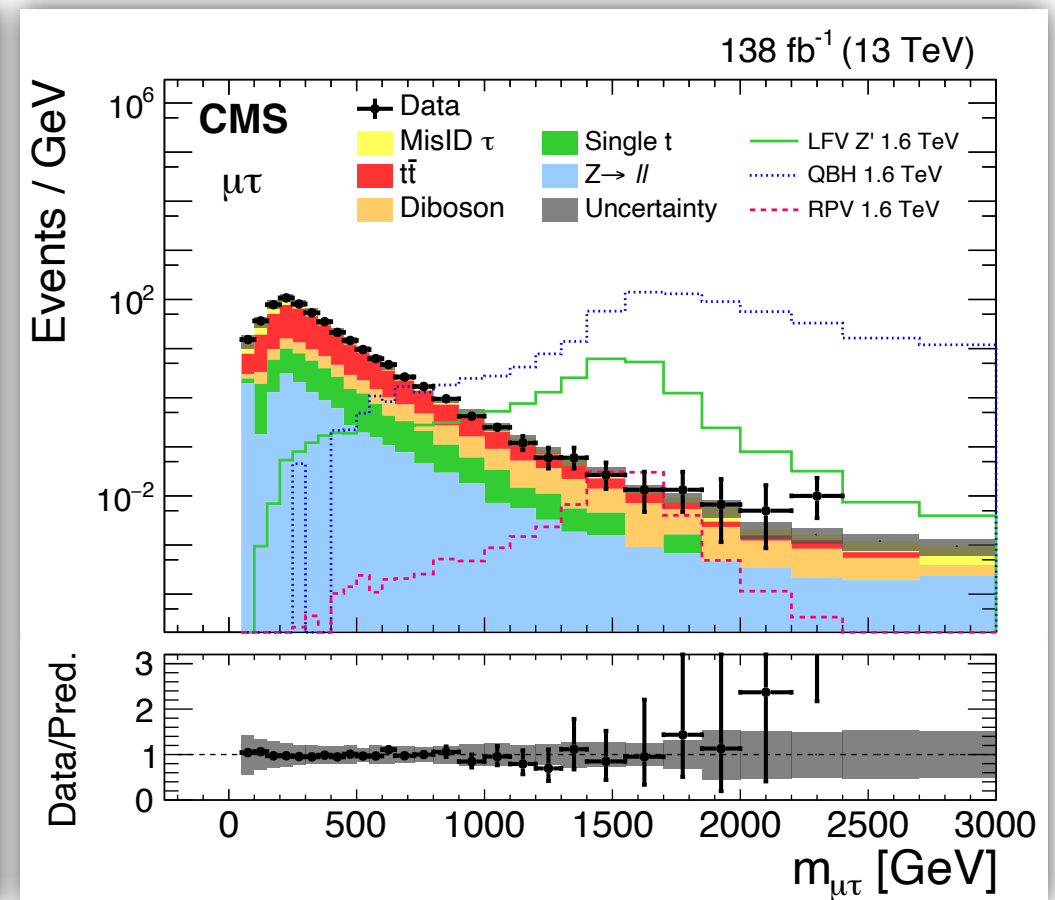
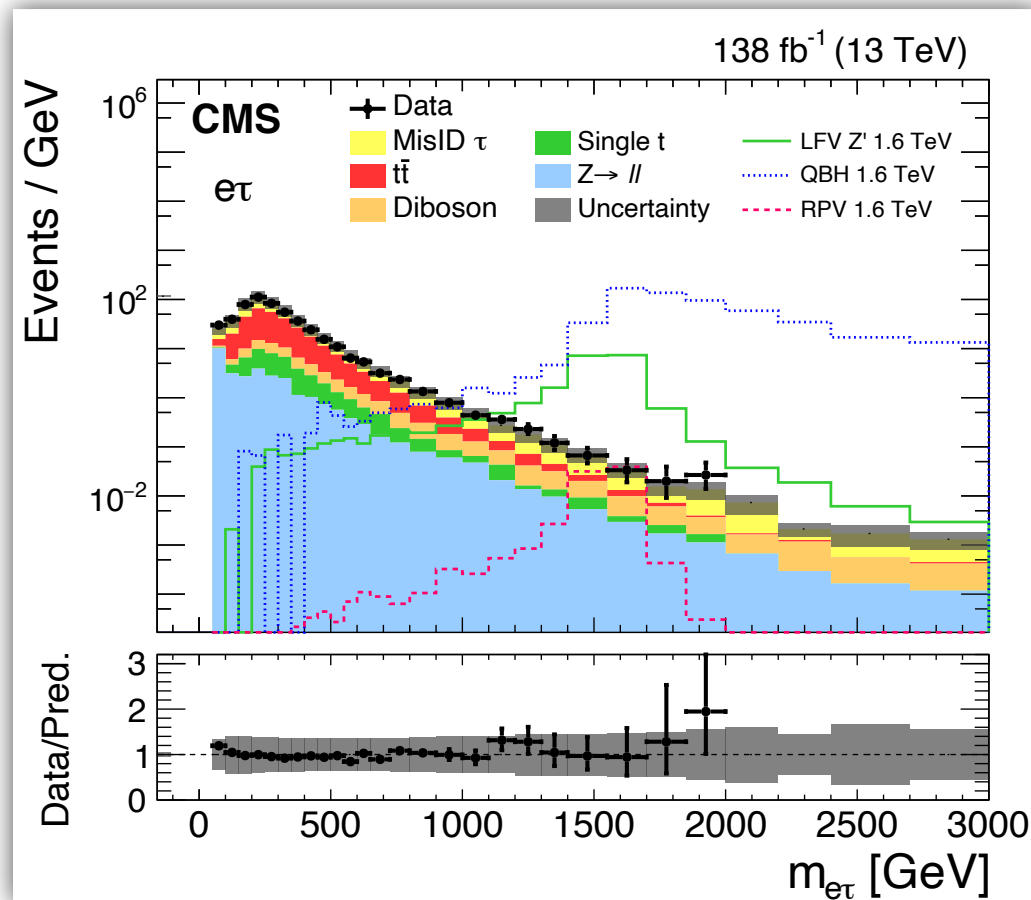
- LFV semileptonic 4-fermion operators

- LFV dipole operators Q_{eW} , Q_{eB} & modifications of Z boson couplings $Q_{HI}^{(1,3)}$, Q_{He} \rightarrow better probed by Z decays



Experimental searches for LFV in high- p_T Drell-Yan tails

- Searches for:
 $pp \rightarrow \tau \ell$
where
 $\ell \in \{\mu, e\}$
with
 $\mathcal{L} \sim 140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$
- CMS
[\[2205.06709\]](#)
- ATLAS
[\[2307.08567\]](#)
- $\tau \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$
- Search also performed for
 $pp \rightarrow \mu e$



Constraining New Physics with Drell-Yan tails

HighPT: a Mathematica package for high- p_T Drell-Yan Tails Beyond the Standard Model

Allwicher, Faroughy, Jaffredo, Sumensari, FW [2207.10756]

Computation of:

- Drell-Yan cross sections
- Experimental observables
- Likelihoods



<https://highpt.github.io/>

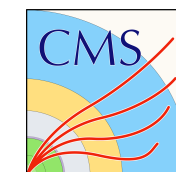
Implemented BSM models:

- SMEFT ($d = 6$ and $d = 8$)
- BSM mediators (leptoquarks)

Recasted searches available:

- Full LHC run-II datasets

Process	Experiment	Luminosity
$pp \rightarrow \tau\tau$	ATLAS	139 fb^{-1}
$pp \rightarrow \mu\mu$	CMS	140 fb^{-1}
$pp \rightarrow ee$	CMS	137 fb^{-1}
$pp \rightarrow \tau\nu$	ATLAS	139 fb^{-1}
$pp \rightarrow \mu\nu$	ATLAS	139 fb^{-1}
$pp \rightarrow e\nu$	ATLAS	139 fb^{-1}
$pp \rightarrow \tau\mu$	CMS	138 fb^{-1}
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$pp \rightarrow \mu e$	CMS	138 fb^{-1}



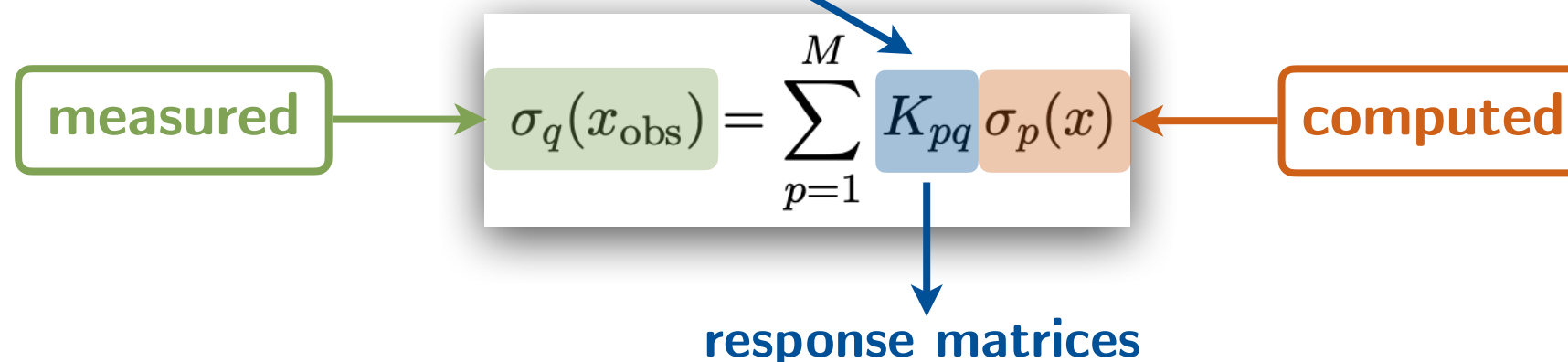
[2002.12223]
[2103.02708]
[2103.02708]
[ATLAS-CONF-2021-025]
[1906.05609]
[1906.05609]
[2205.06709]
[2205.06709]
[2205.06709]

Observables and likelihoods

- **High- p_T tail distributions:**

- **Computed:** particle-level distribution $\frac{d\sigma}{dx}$ built from final state particles e, μ, τ, ν
- **Measured:** detector-level distribution $\frac{d\sigma}{dx_{\text{obs}}}$ built from reconstructed objects (isolated leptons, tagged jets, missing energy, ...)

- Relate $\frac{d\sigma}{dx}$ to $\frac{d\sigma}{dx_{\text{obs}}}$ using **MC simulations** (MadGraph+Pythia+Delphes) [1405.0301];
[1410.3012];
[1307.6346];



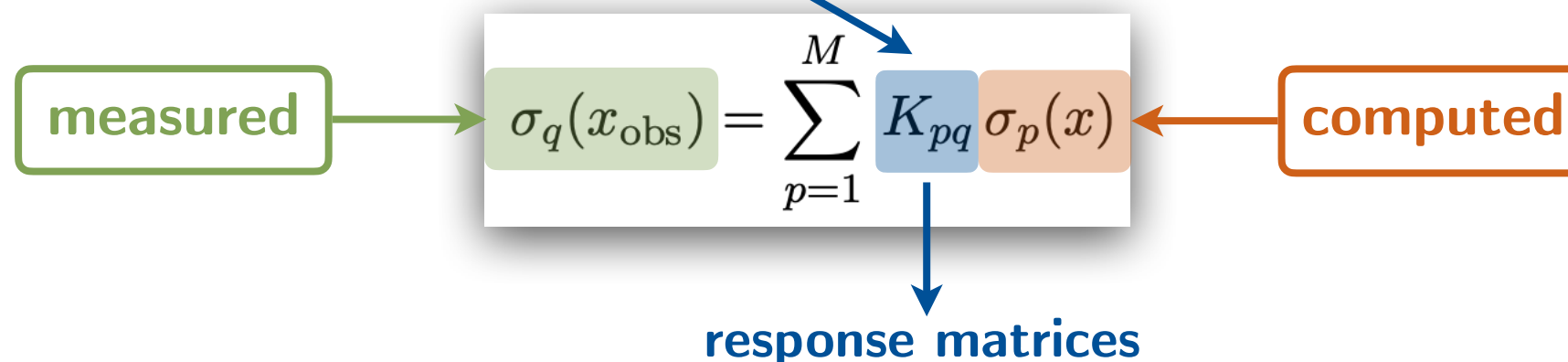
detector response, object reconstruction efficiencies, phase-space mismatch, ...

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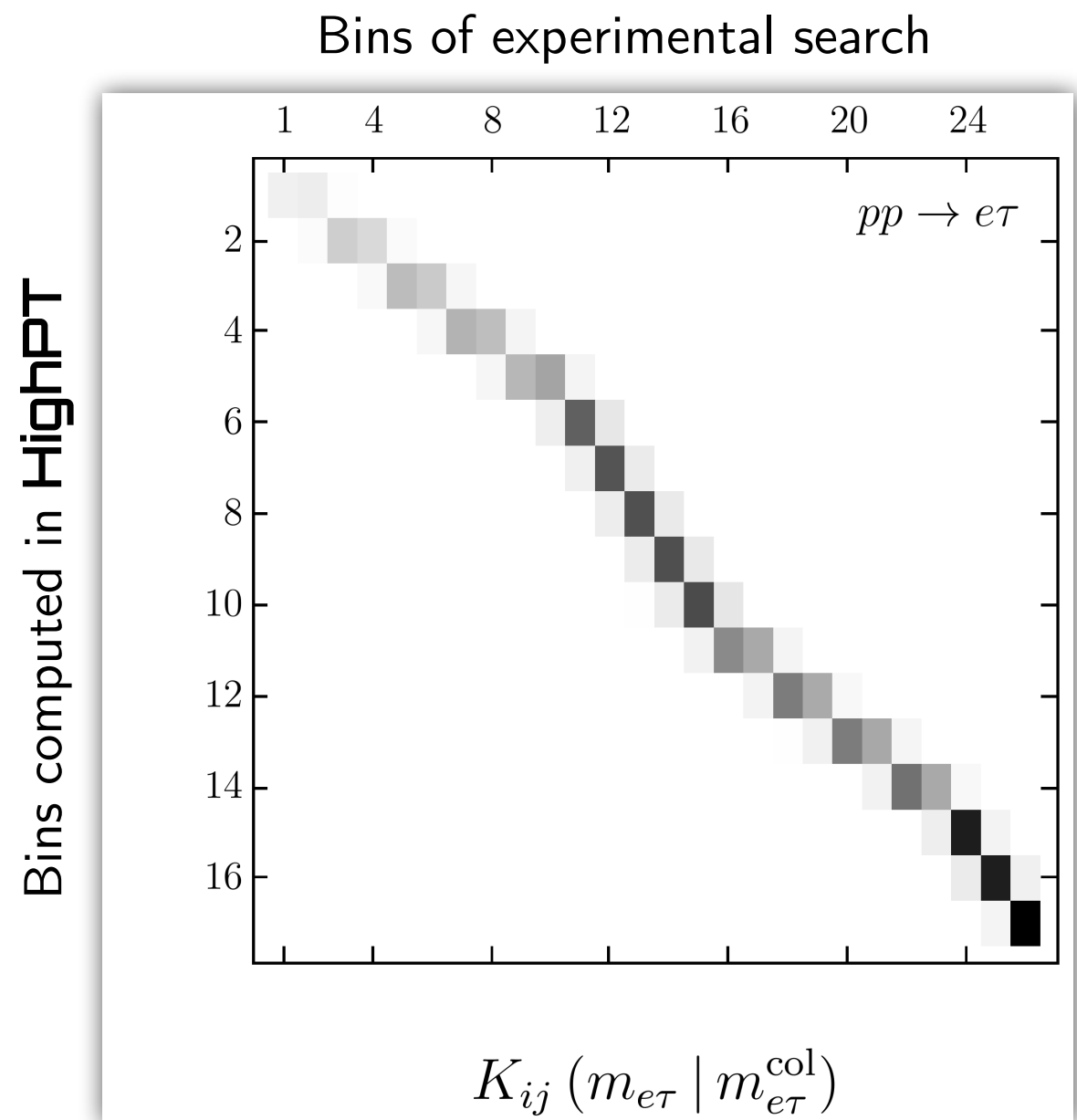
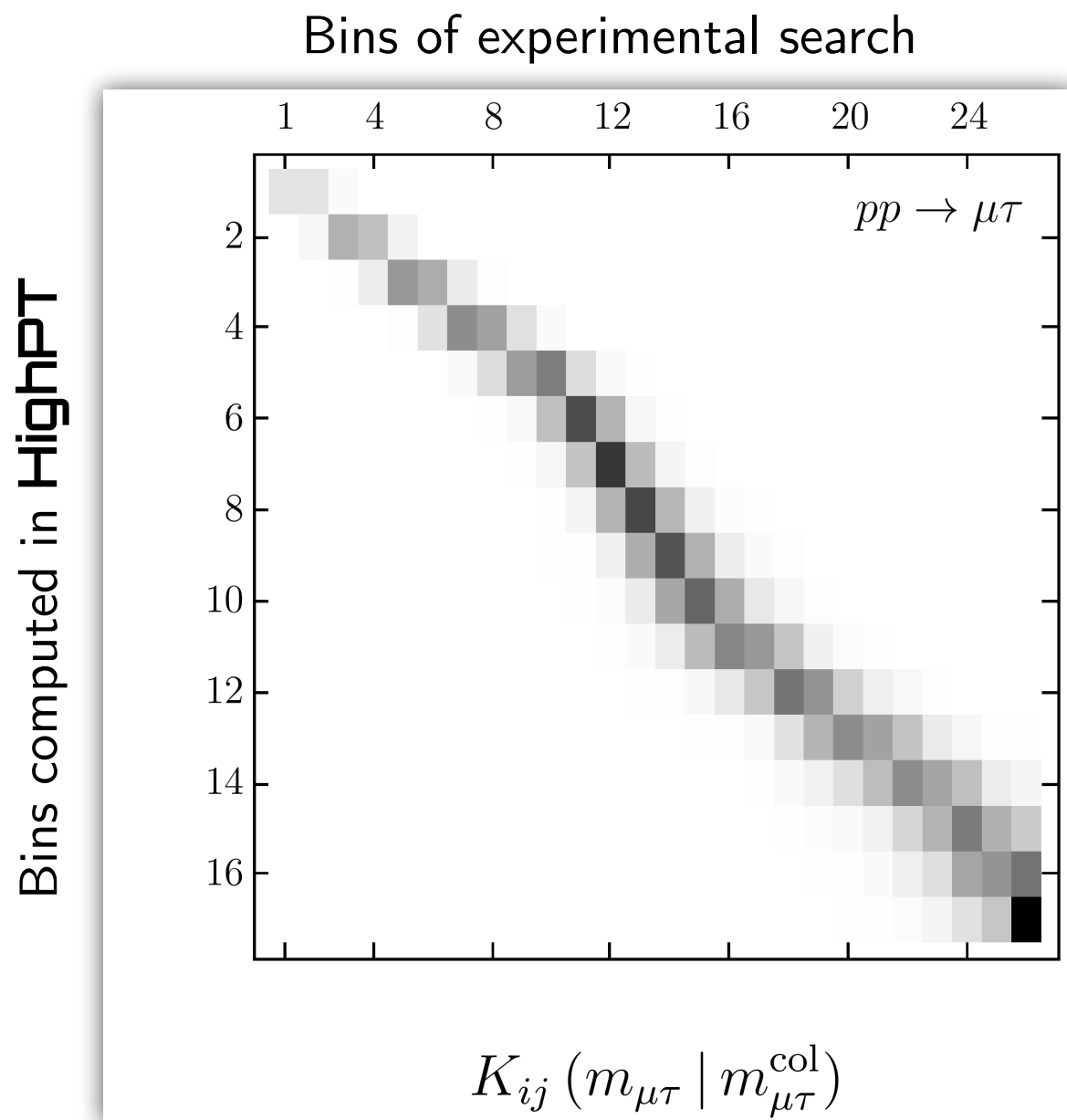
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- Extract likelihood (χ^2):

HighPT $\chi^2 \sim \frac{(N_{\text{NP}} + N_{\text{SM}} - N_{\text{data}})^2}{\sigma^2}$ — provided by experiment

Detector response matrices K_{pq}

Mapping of computed to experimental bins:



LFV Drell-Yan tails: single SMEFT Wilson coefficients

- Constraints on single LFV Wilson coefficients: 2 examples

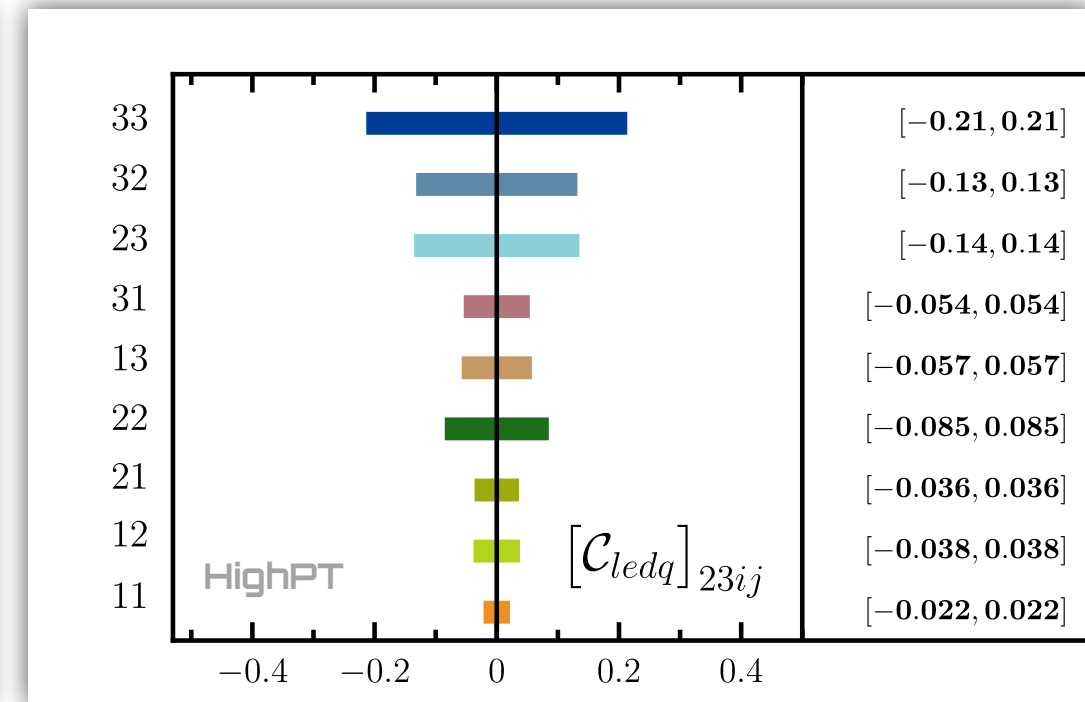
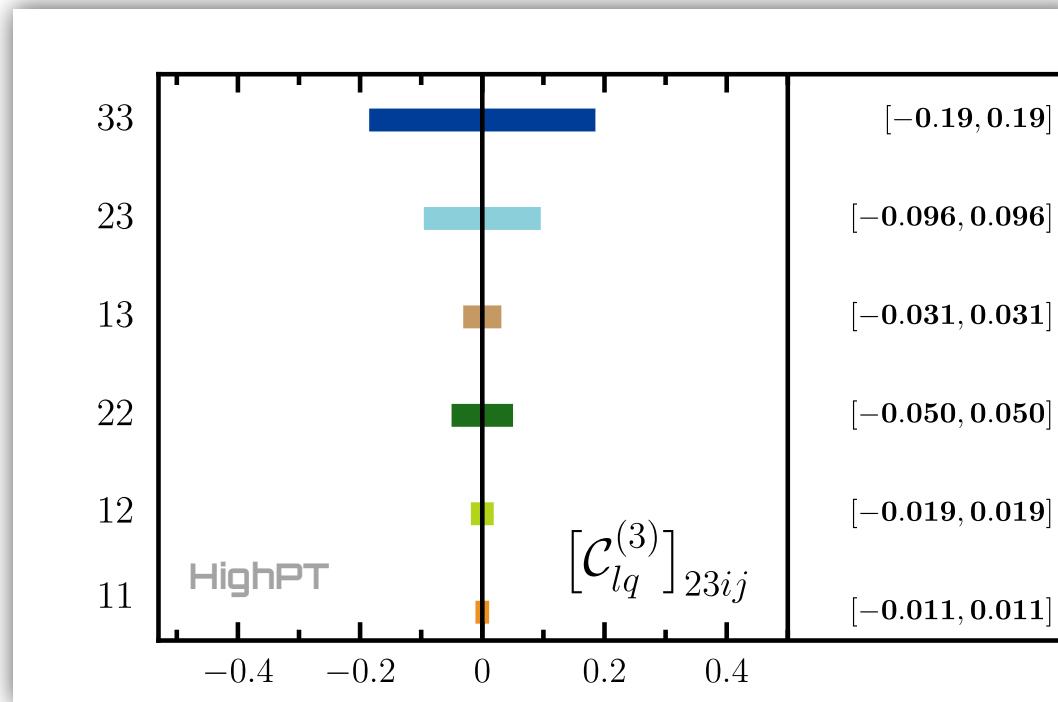
Allwicher, Faroughy, Jaffredo, Sumensari, FW [2207.10714]

Reference scale
 $\Lambda = 1 \text{ TeV}$

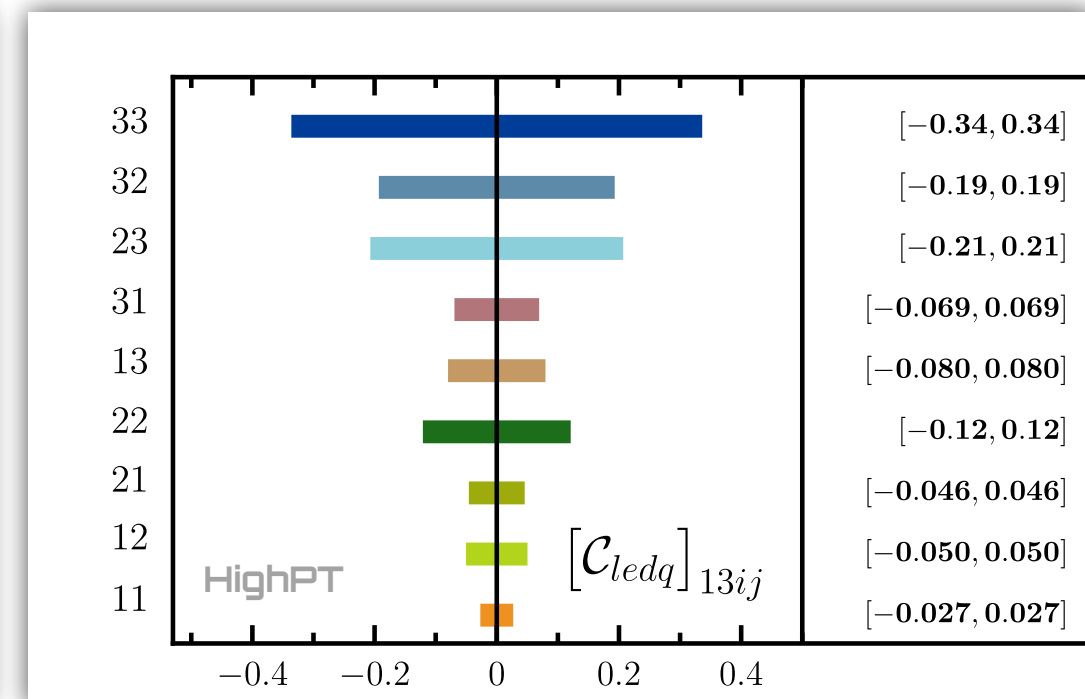
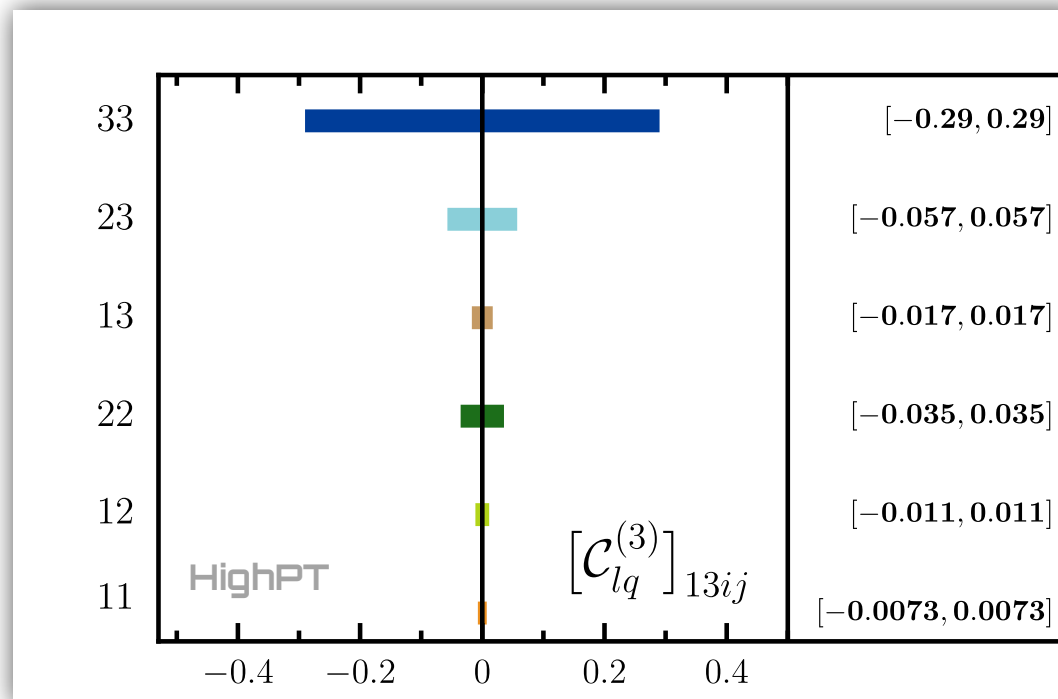
$$Q_{lq}^{(3)} = (\bar{\ell}_p \tau^I \gamma_\mu \ell_r) (\bar{q}_s \tau^I \gamma^\mu q_t)$$

$$Q_{ledq} = (\bar{\ell}_p e_r) (\bar{d}_s q_t)$$

$pp \rightarrow \tau\mu$

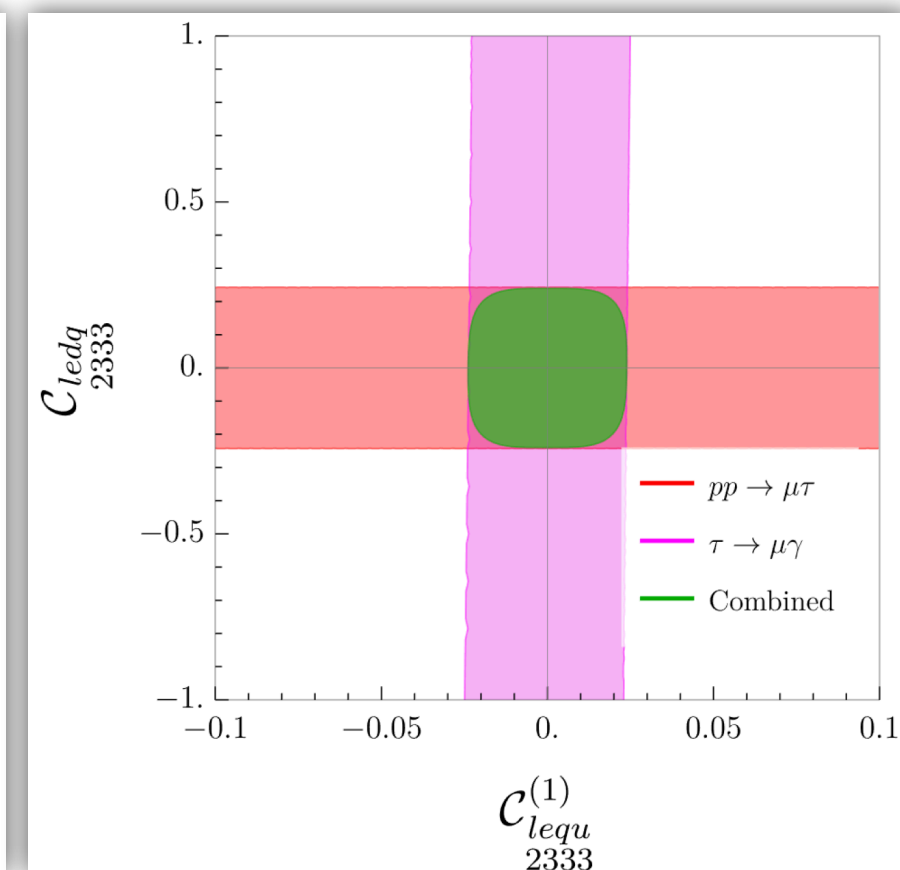
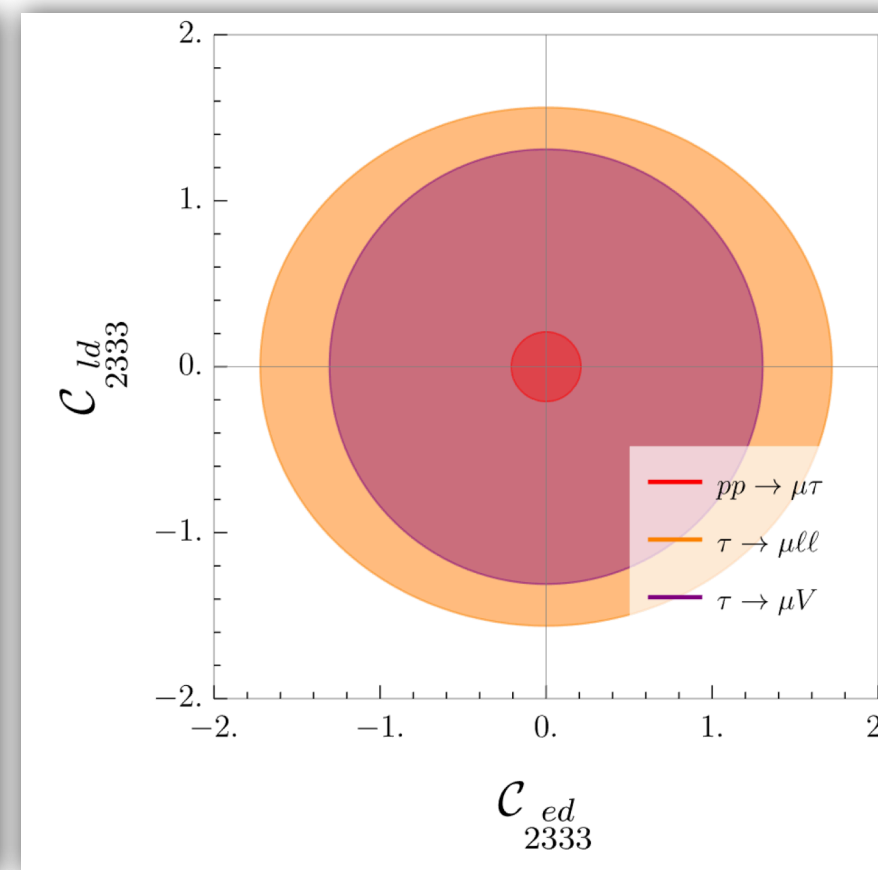
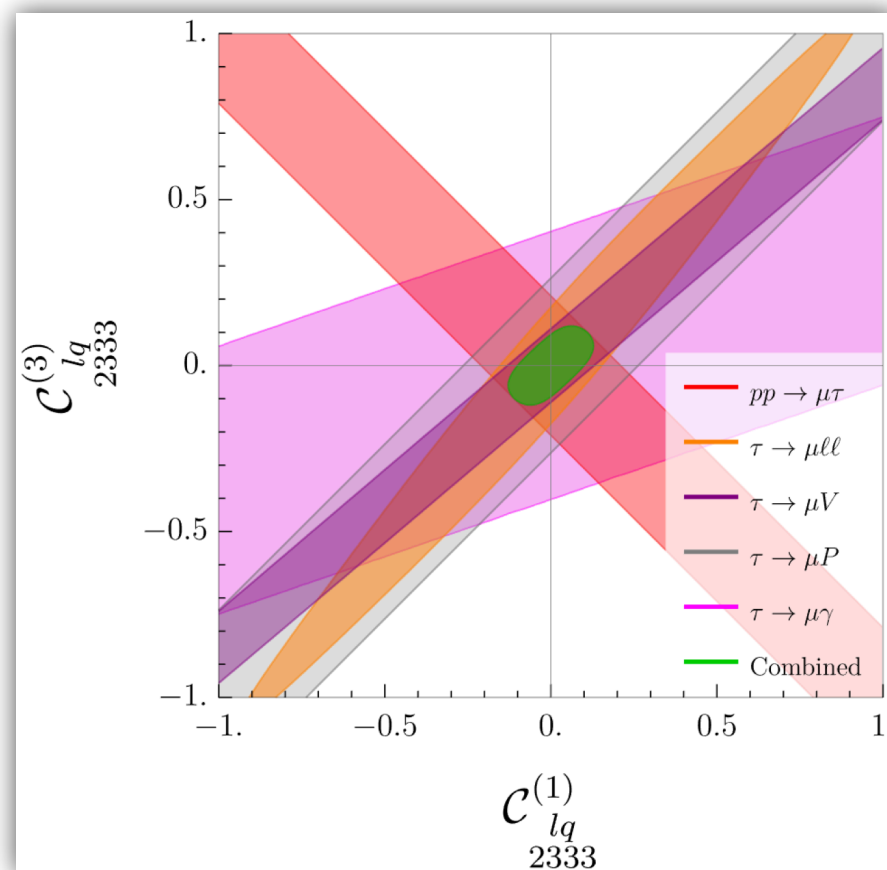


$pp \rightarrow \tau e$



SMEFT: complementarity of $pp \rightarrow \tau\mu$ and $\tau \rightarrow \mu X$

- Drell-Yan tails provide complementary information to low-energy τ decays when considering:
 - NP in semi-leptonic 4-fermion operators
 - Dominant couplings to 3rd generation quarks
 - Tree-level Drell-Yan competes with loop suppressed low-energy bounds
 - Operators with bottom quarks (negligible top quark PDF)



Plakias, Sumensari [2312.14070]

For further cases see also: Descotes-Genon, Faroughy, Plakias, Sumensari [2303.07521]

Tau LFV in Drell-Yan tails: SMEFT (LQ inspired)

- Consider multiple SMEFT Wilson coefficients for realistic NP scenarios

- Example: the $U_1 \sim (3, 1)_{2/3}$ vector leptoquark

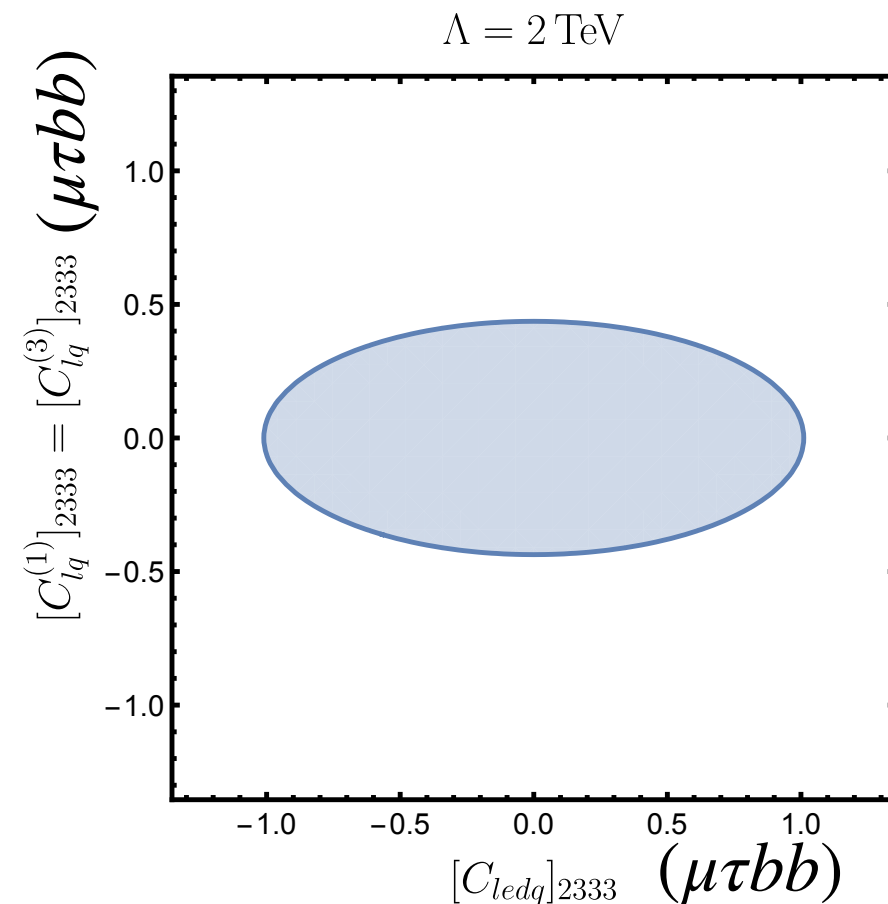
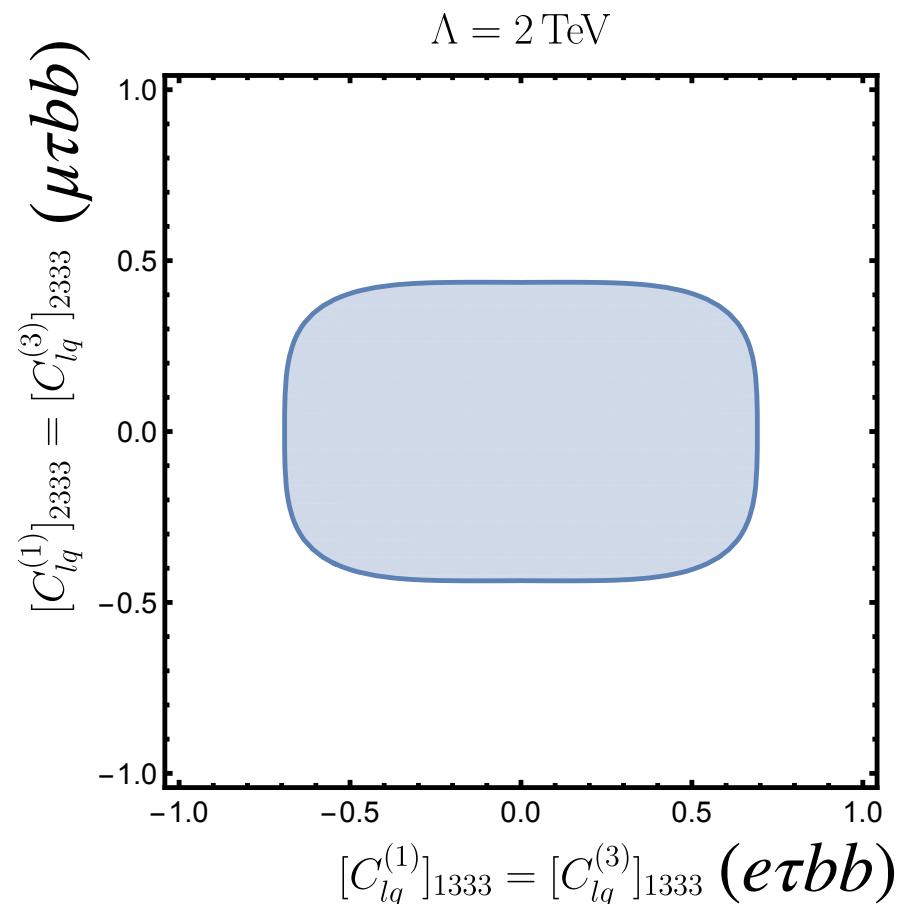
$$\mathcal{L}_{U_1} = [x_1^L]_{i\alpha} U_1^\mu (\bar{q}_i \gamma_\mu \ell_\alpha) + [x_1^R]_{i\alpha} U_1^\mu (\bar{d}_i \gamma_\mu e_\alpha) + \text{h.c.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} [Q_{lq}^{(1)}]_{\alpha\beta ij} &= (\bar{\ell}_\alpha \gamma_\mu \ell_\beta) (\bar{q}_i \gamma^\mu q_j) \\ [Q_{lq}^{(3)}]_{\alpha\beta ij} &= (\bar{\ell}_\alpha \tau^I \gamma_\mu \ell_\beta) (\bar{q}_i \tau^I \gamma^\mu q_j) \\ [Q_{ed}]_{\alpha\beta ij} &= (\bar{e}_\alpha \gamma_\mu e_\beta) (\bar{d}_i \gamma^\mu d_j) \\ [Q_{ledq}]_{\alpha\beta ij} &= (\bar{l}_\alpha e_\beta) (\bar{d}_i q_j) \end{aligned}$$

- Matching onto SMEFT:

$$[C_{lq}^{(1,3)}]_{\alpha\beta ij} = -\frac{1}{2} [x_1^L]_{i\beta} [x_1^L]_{j\alpha}^*, \quad [C_{eq}]_{\alpha\beta ij} = -[x_1^R]_{i\beta} [x_1^R]_{j\alpha}^*, \quad [C_{ledq}]_{\alpha\beta ij} = 2[x_1^R]_{j\beta} [x_1^L]_{i\alpha}^*$$

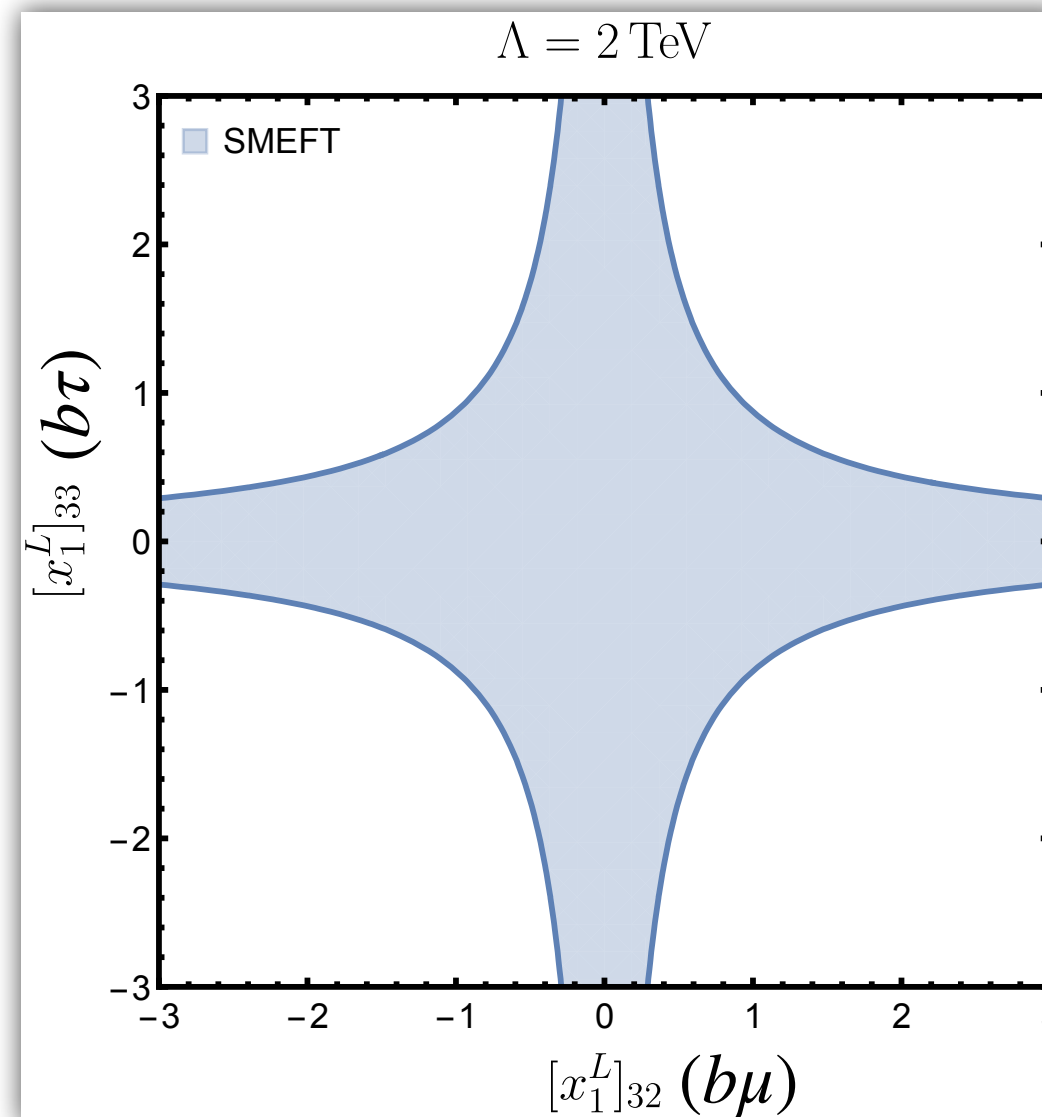
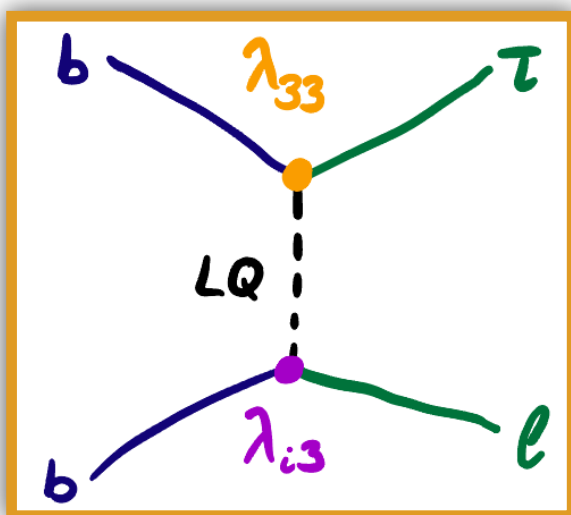
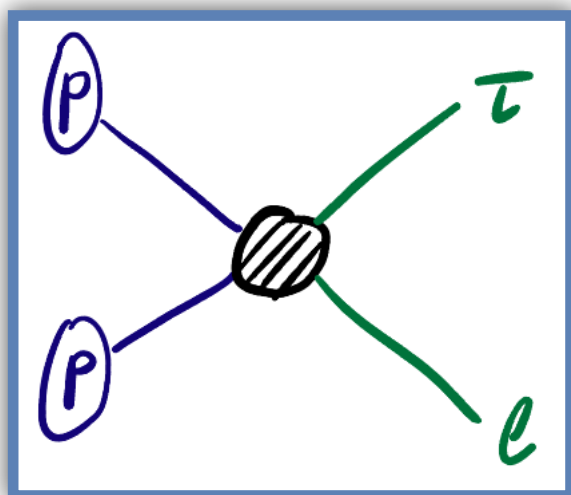
- Consider U_1 predominantly coupled to 3rd generation quarks (weakest low energy bounds)



LFV in leptoquark models

[see also talk by Nejc]

- Generic leptoquark coupling: $\lambda_{pr} \chi_{LQ}(\bar{\ell}_p \Gamma q_r)$
 - Need to consider at least two non-vanishing couplings for LFV transitions
 - Any leptoquark that has non-vanishing couplings to more than one lepton generation leads to LFV
- Plot constraints in terms of the two leptoquark couplings instead of Wilson coefficients



$$[C_{lq}^{(1,3)}]_{\alpha\beta ij} = -\frac{1}{2}[x_1^L]_{i\beta}[x_1^L]_{j\alpha}^*$$

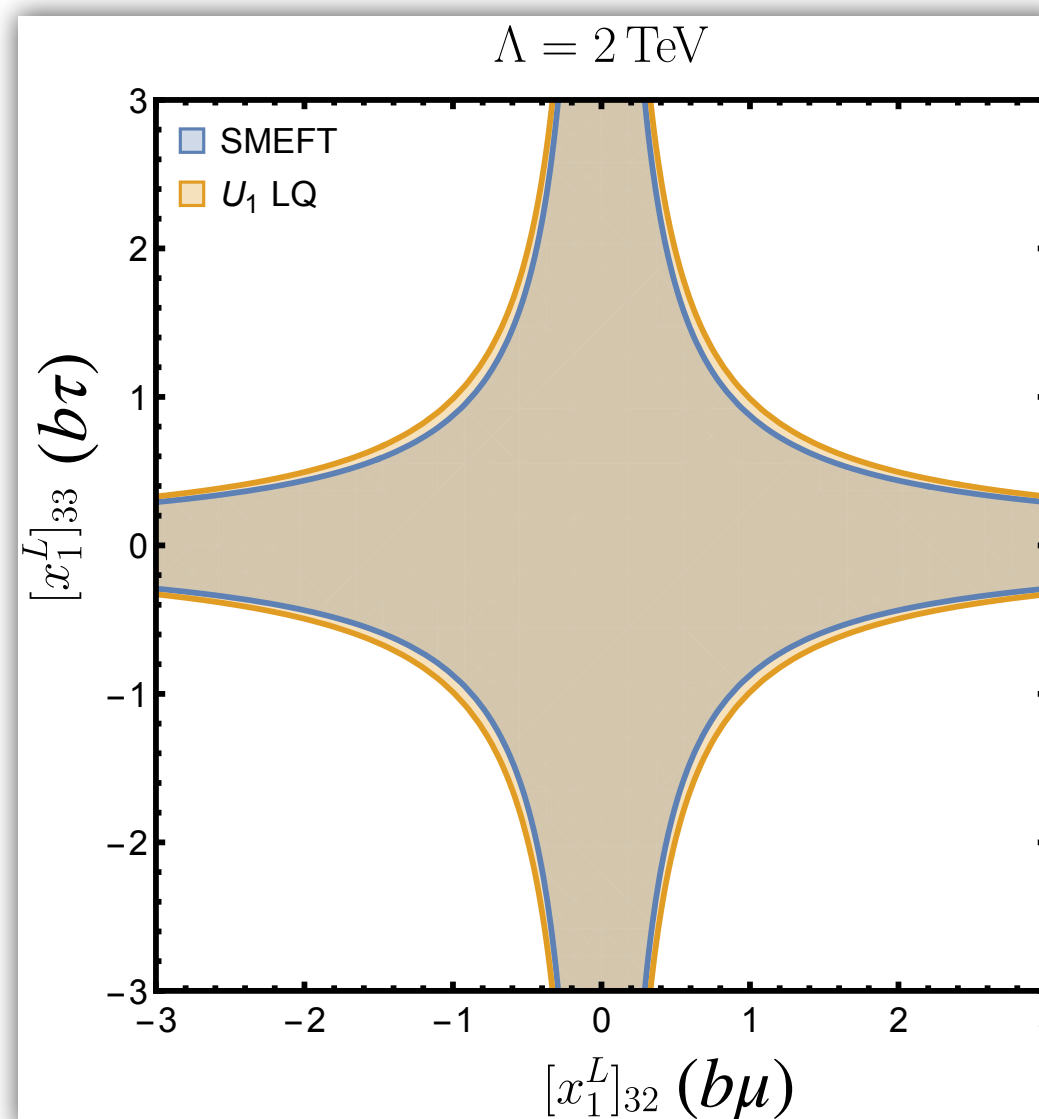
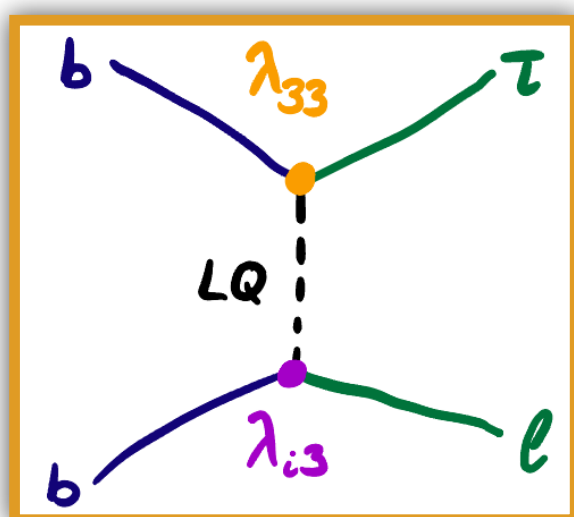
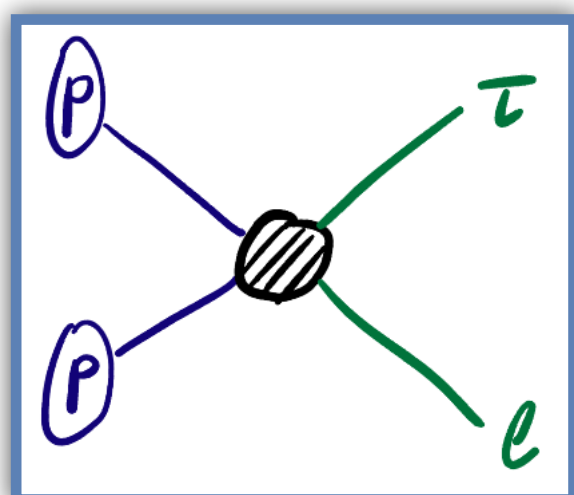
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Compare to constraints derived in full U_1 model



EFT offers here a good approximation for the underlying leptoquark model

Tau LFV in Drell-Yan tails: the U_1 leptoquark

- LFV process $pp \rightarrow \ell \bar{\ell}'$ requires 2 non-vanishing leptoquark couplings Allwicher, Faroughy, Jaffredo, Sumensari, FW [2207.10714]
 - Flavor conserving processes $pp \rightarrow \ell \bar{\ell}$ and $pp \rightarrow \ell' \bar{\ell}'$ generated as well
 - Are flavor conserving limits stronger?
- Example: consider again the U_1 with only left-handed couplings to 3rd generation quarks

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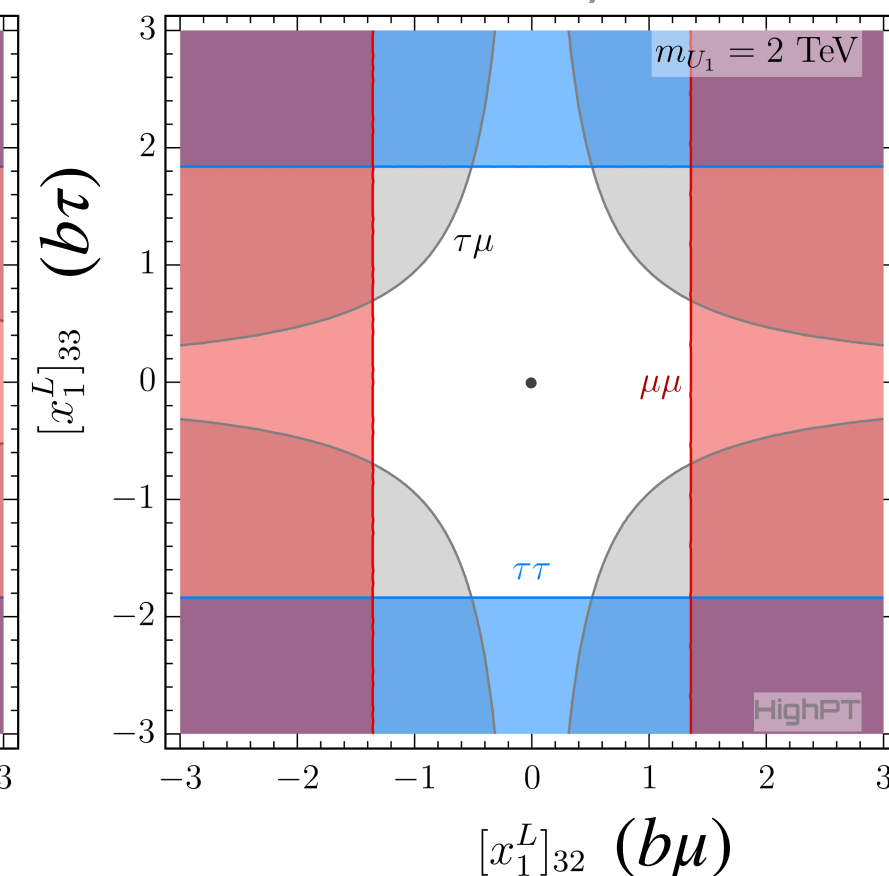
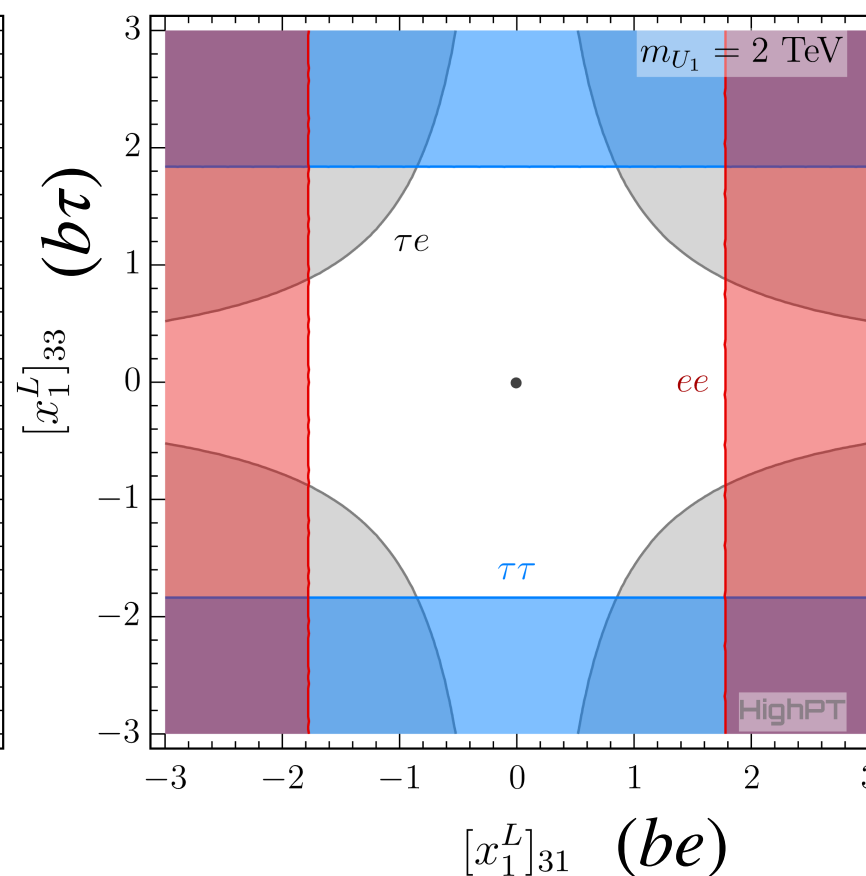
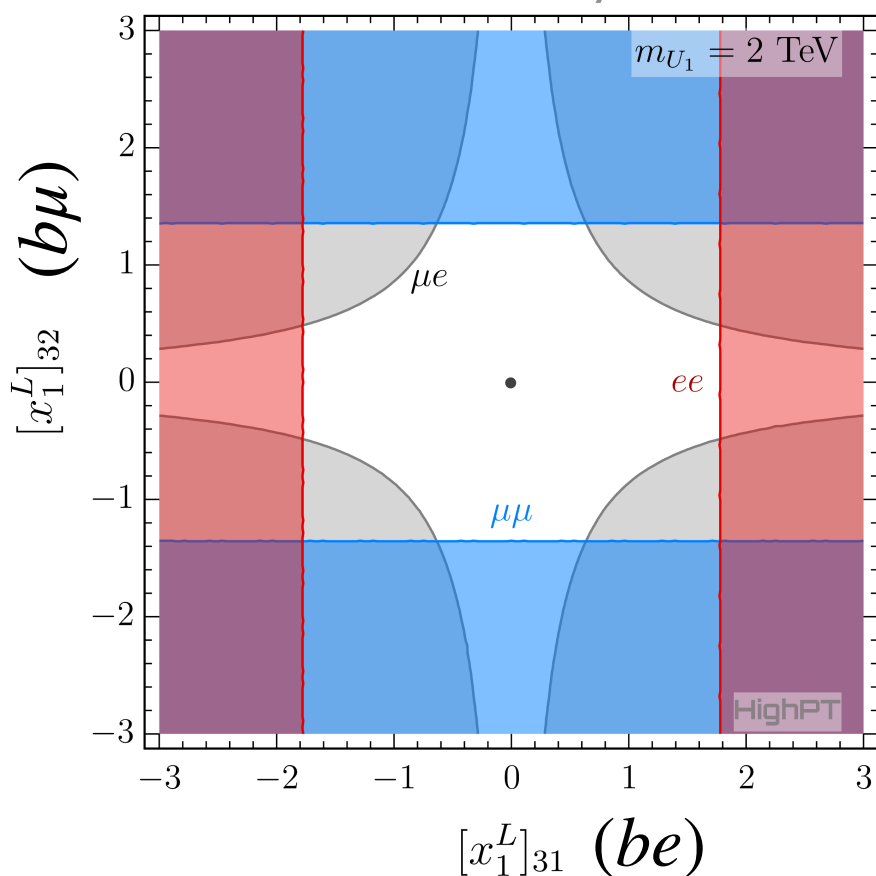
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$bb \rightarrow e\mu$

$bb \rightarrow e\tau$

$bb \rightarrow \mu\tau$

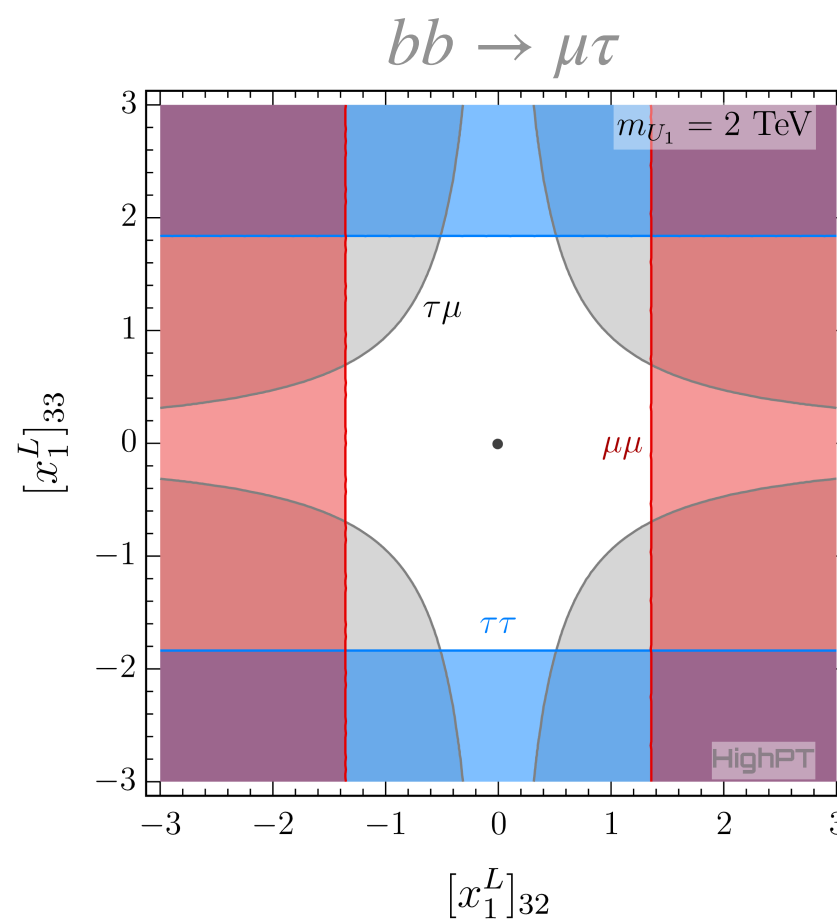
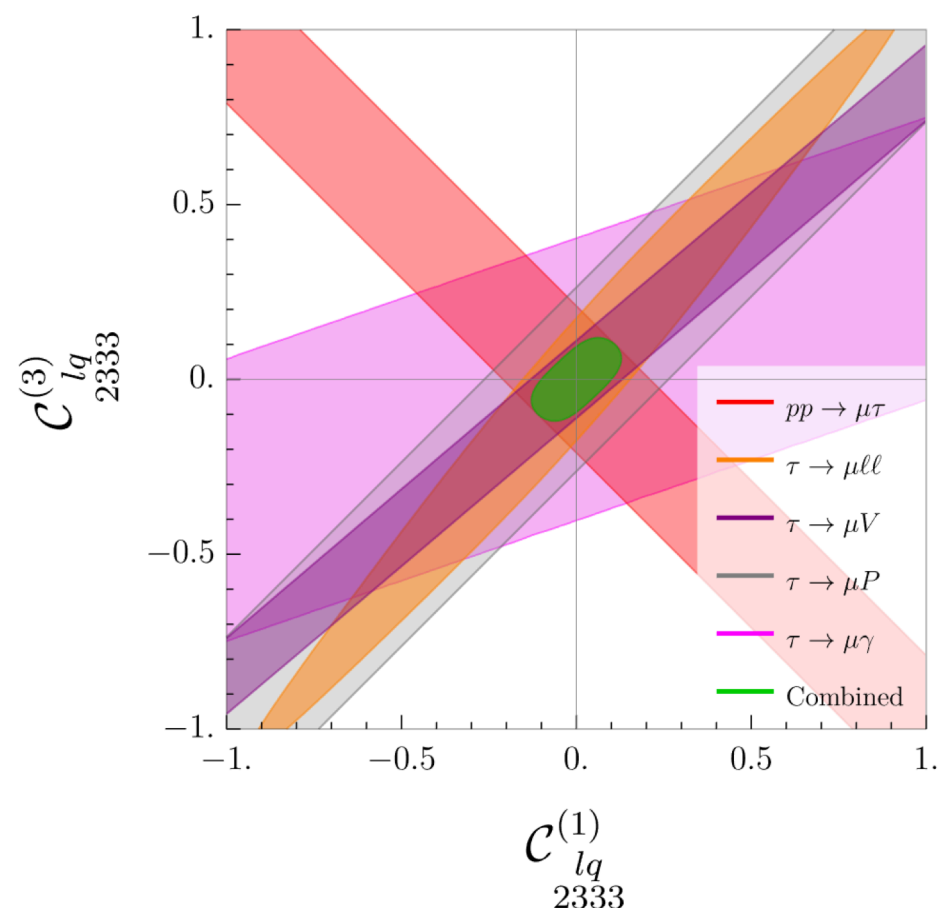
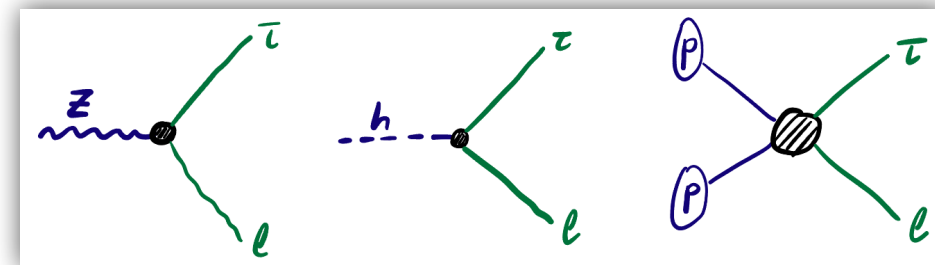


⇒ Complementarity of LFV Drell-Yan searches and flavor conserving searches

$$2 \left| [x_1^L]_{i\alpha} [x_1^L]_{i\beta}^* \right| \leq \left| [x_1^L]_{i\alpha} \right|^2 + \left| [x_1^L]_{i\beta}^* \right|^2$$

Conclusions

- LHC constraints on τ lepton flavor violating transitions
 - $Z \rightarrow \tau \ell$, $h \rightarrow \tau \ell$, $pp \rightarrow \tau \ell$
- LFV high- p_T Drell-Yan tails probe LFV at very high energies in semi-leptonic operators
 - Especially relevant for BSM models with NP dominantly affecting the 3rd generation
 - Allows to probe large variety of both SMEFT operators and NP models
- LFV Drell-Yan tails complementary to flavor conserving Drell-Yan tails and low-energy

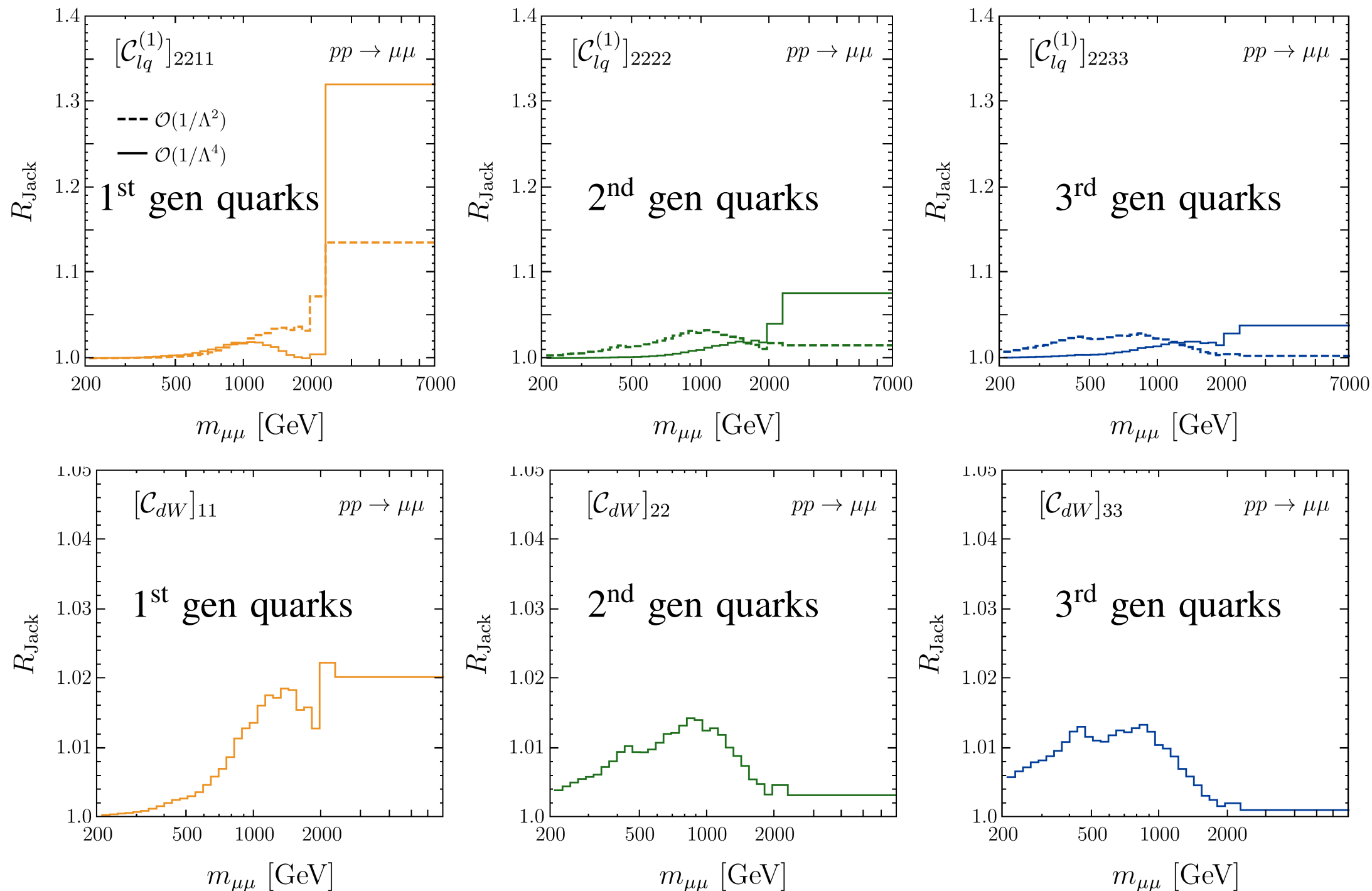


Thank you for
your attention!

Backup

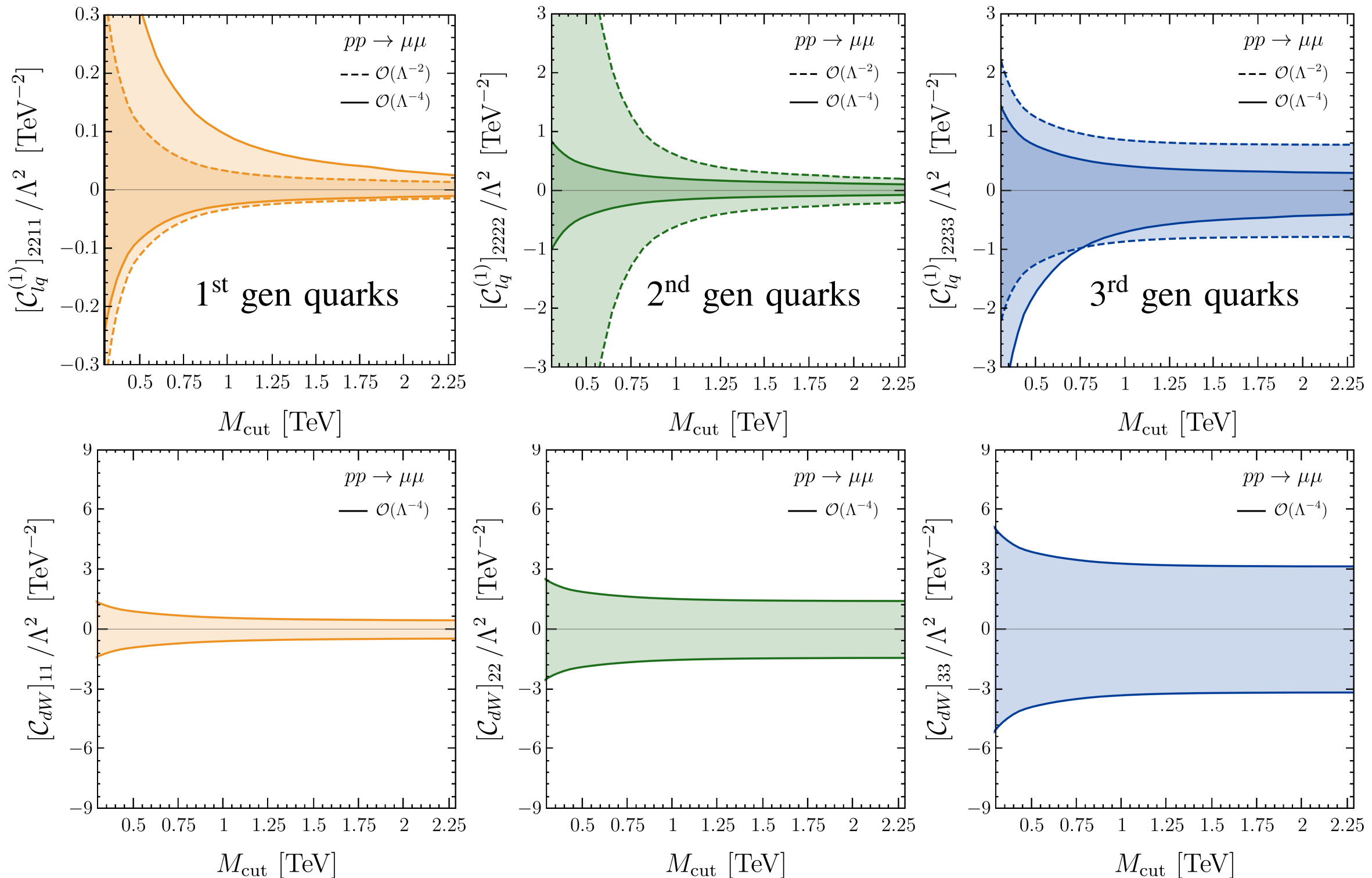
Jack-knife analysis

- $R_{\text{Jack}} \sim \frac{\text{constraint holding out a single bin from } \chi^2}{\text{constraint from full } \chi^2}$ (for expected limits)
- Measure of sensitivity of search to individual bins



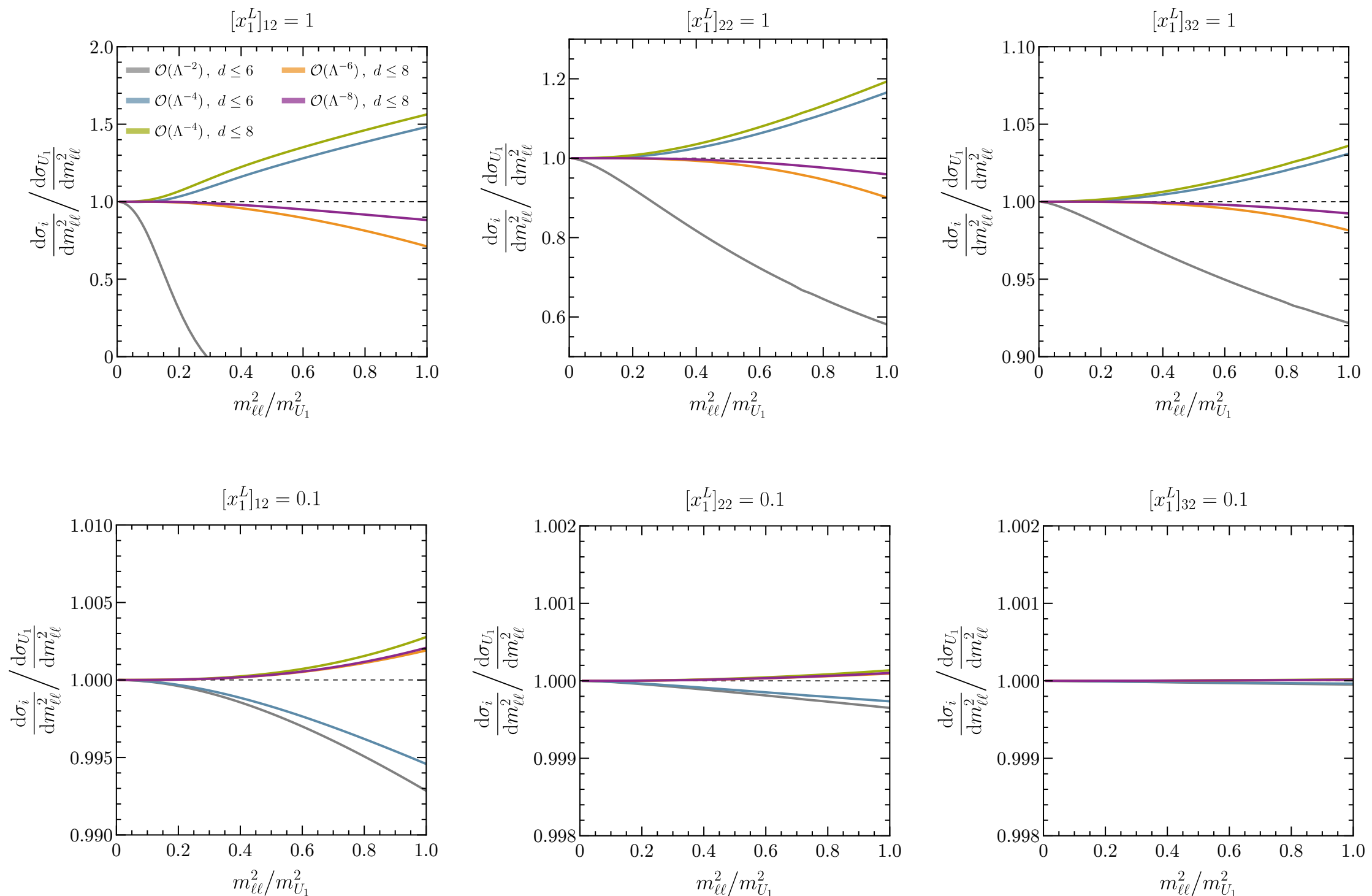
Clipped limits

- Constraints obtained with sliding upper cut M_{cut} for experimental observables
- Allows assessment of EFT validity range (example $pp \rightarrow \mu\mu$)



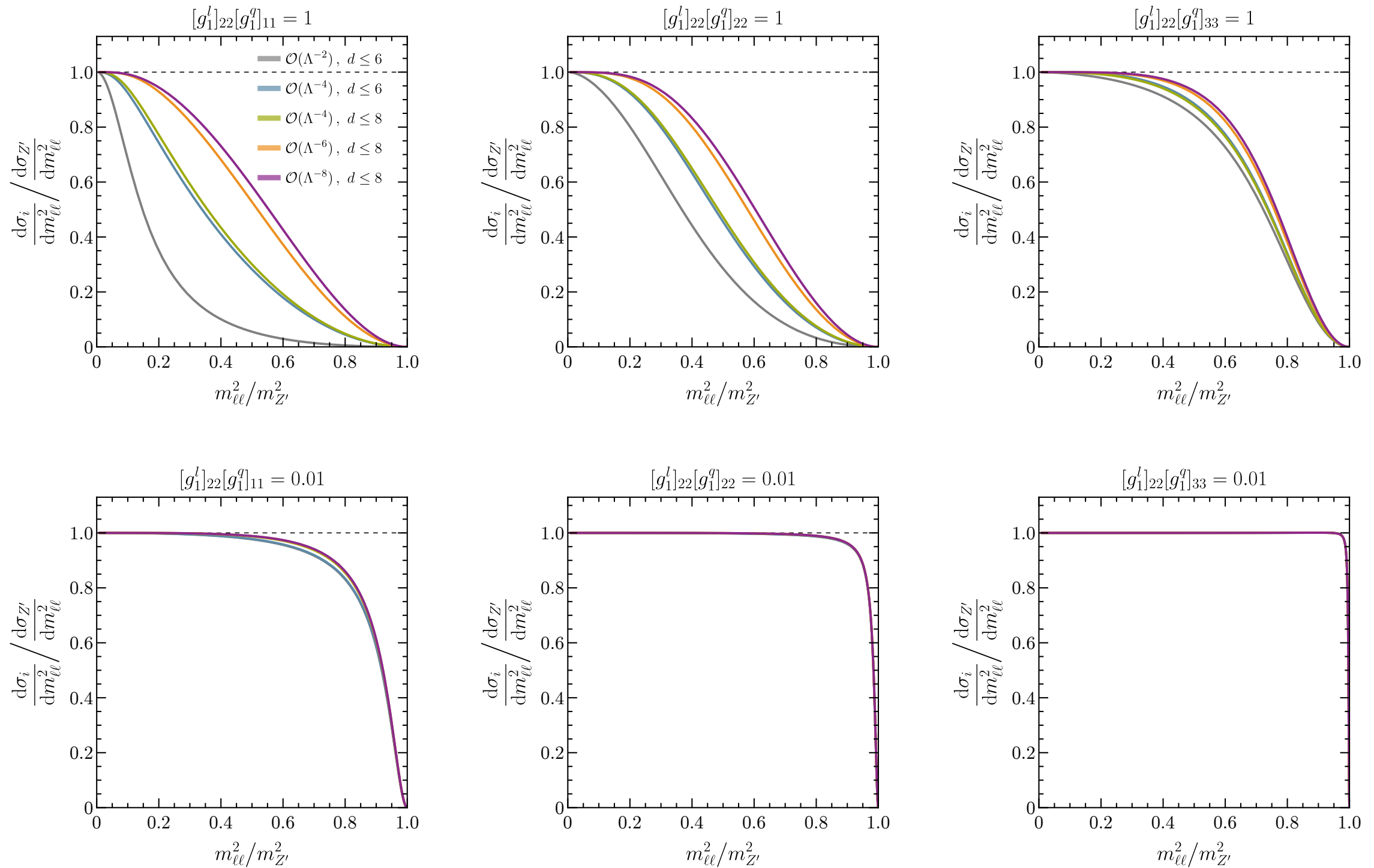
EFT Convergence for the U_1 Leptoquark

- EFT cross sections to different orders in Λ^{-1} normalized to full model cross section



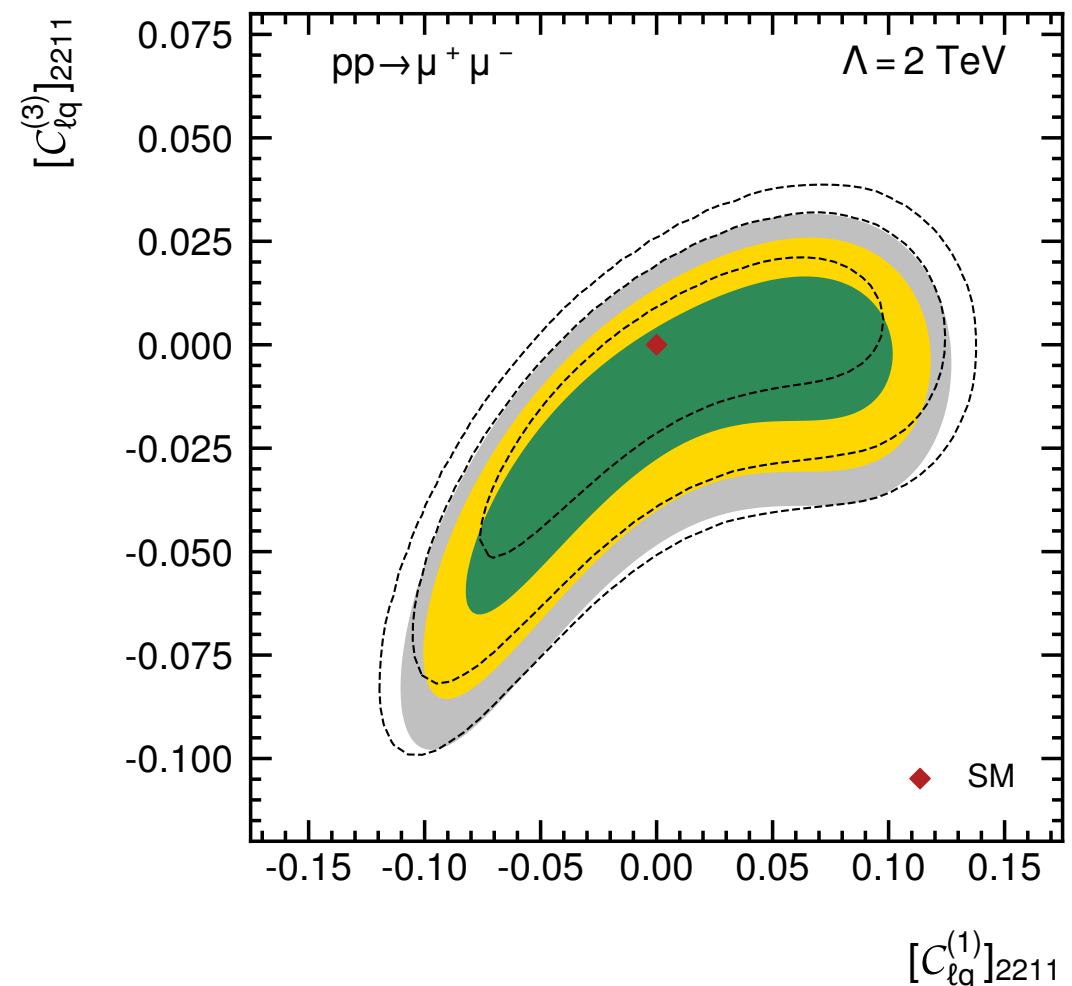
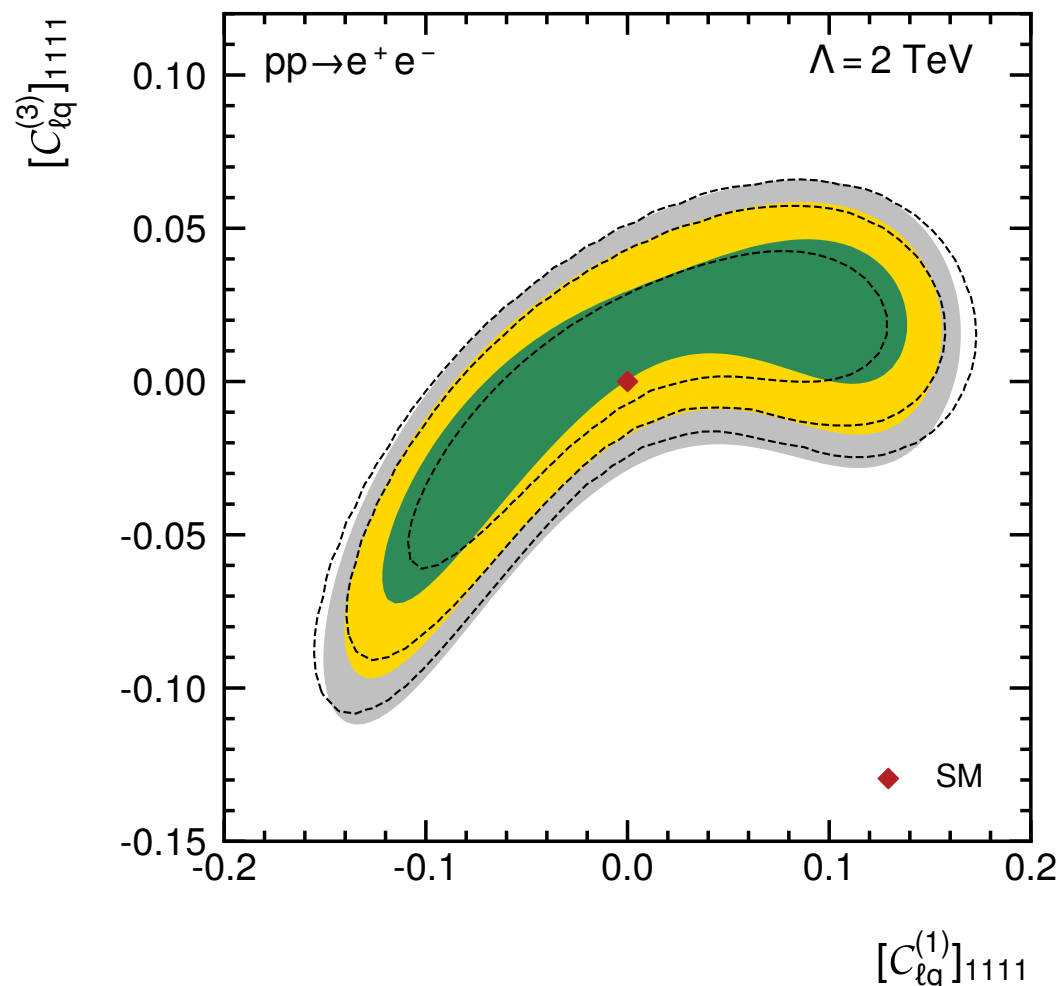
EFT Convergence for a Z' Boson

- EFT cross sections to different orders in Λ^{-1} normalized to full model cross section



χ^2 Likelihood vs. the CL_s Method

- χ^2 likelihood: combine experimental bins with low event count in the tails to validate the Gaussian approximation (1 σ , 2 σ , 3 σ contours)
- Compare to $CL_s = \frac{p_s}{1 - p_0}$ method (1 σ , 2 σ , 3 σ dashed contours)
- CL_s tends to be more conservative, but overall good agreement with χ^2



Quality of Recasts

- Acceptance \times efficiency ($\mathcal{A} \times \epsilon$) of our recast normalized to the experimental values
 - Good agreement apart from $\tau\tau$, $e\tau$, $\mu\tau$
 - Limited simulation of τ reconstruction in Delphes

Search	Experiment	Ref.	$\frac{\mathcal{A} \times \epsilon _{\text{recast}}}{\mathcal{A} \times \epsilon _{\text{search}}}$	Models
$pp \rightarrow \tau\tau$	ATLAS	[85]	33%–57%	H (0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.6, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0 and 2.5 TeV)
$pp \rightarrow \mu\mu$	CMS	[86]	93%–96%	Z' (0.4, 0.6, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0 and 2.5 TeV)
$pp \rightarrow ee$	CMS	[86]	58%–69%	Z' (0.4, 0.6, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0 and 2.5 TeV)
$pp \rightarrow \tau\nu$	ATLAS	[87]	93%–167%	W' (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 TeV)
$pp \rightarrow \mu\nu$	ATLAS	[88]	127%–145%	W' (2 and 7 TeV)
$pp \rightarrow e\nu$	ATLAS	[88]	87%–100%	W' (2 and 7 TeV)
$pp \rightarrow \tau\mu$	CMS	[89]	180%	Z' (1.6 TeV)
$pp \rightarrow \tau e$	CMS	[89]	150%	Z' (1.6 TeV)
$pp \rightarrow \mu e$	CMS	[89]	97%	Z' (1.6 TeV)