



Lepton Flavour Violation Searches @ ATLAS & CMS

Holly Pacey

03/04/2024 39th Rencontres de Moriond QCD



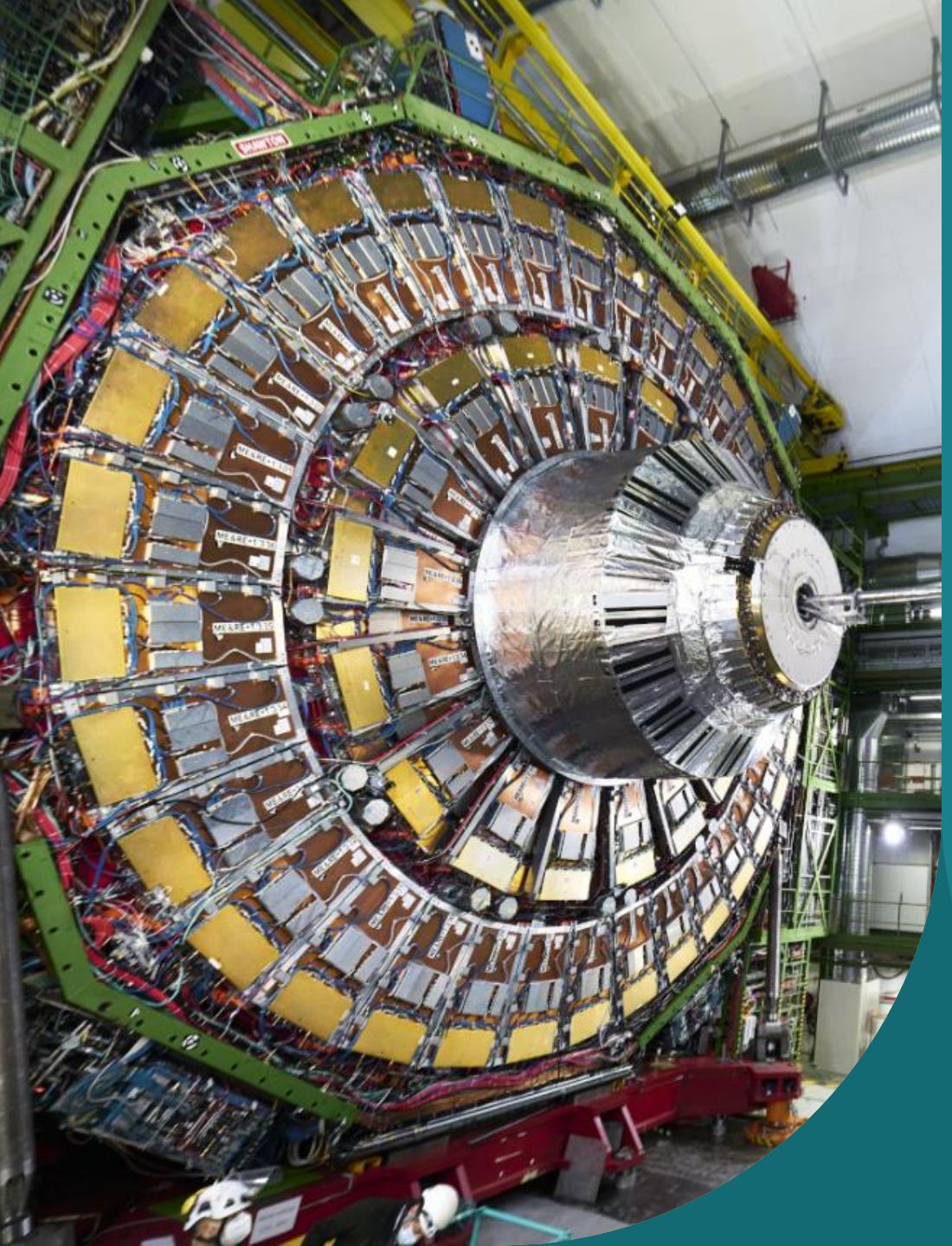
Lepton Flavour Violation

Lepton flavour ‘accidentally’ conserved in SM with massless ν s, but not protected by a symmetry

- ν oscillations = evidence of Neutral Lepton Flavour Violation (nLFV)
- Charged-LFV (cLFV) in SM heavily suppressed by GIM
- Observation of cLFV, or enhanced nLFV would be a sign of BSM!

Lepton flavour universality also not a protected SM symmetry

- Many BSM models that predict LFV also predict LFUV



Contents

Leptoquark (LQ) Searches

Scalar/Vector $LQLQ \rightarrow b\mu b\mu$ @ CMS

LQ 3rd Gen Combo @ ATLAS

Heavy Neutral Lepton (N)
Searches

T-channel N , to $ee/e\mu$ @ ATLAS

B Physics

LFUV in B_c^+ test @ CMS

$R(K)$ Measurement @ CMS

LFV $\tau \rightarrow 3\mu$ @ CMS

All Run-2 results
@ 13 TeV pp

All  NEW! since
Last Moriond!

Other Results to check out

ATLAS LFUV in Ws (see backup!)
[arXiv:2403.02133](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.02133)

ATLAS t cLFV $\mu\tau$ (see backup!)
[arXiv:2403.06742](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.06742)

CMS t cLFV $3l$ (see backup!)
[arXiv: 2312.03199](https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.03199)

CMS LLP N , to $ll'j$ (see backup!)
[arXiv:2312.07484](https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.07484)

CMS LQ via $\tau - q$ scattering:
[arXiv:2308.06143](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.06143)

CMS High Mass Z' , to $\mu\mu + bjets$:
[arXiv:2307.08708](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.08708)

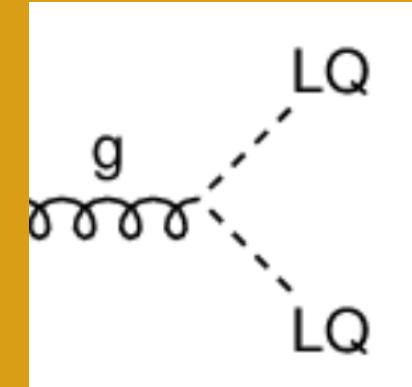
ATLAS LFV High Mass Z' :
[arXiv:2307.08567](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.08567)

ATLAS $LQLQ \rightarrow tlbv$:
[arXiv.2306.17642](https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.17642)

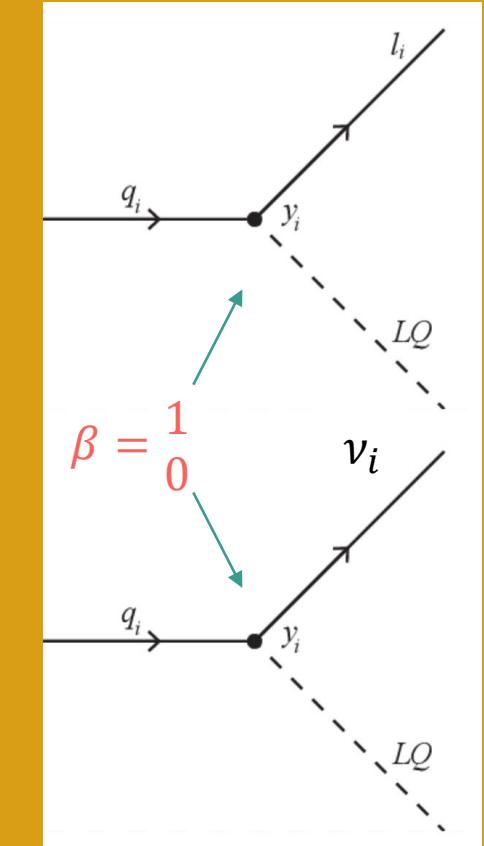
Leptoquarks

Suppose deeper quark-lepton connection
e.g. in GUTs.

Manifests via a LQ that couples to lepton+quark
can enhance LFUV processes



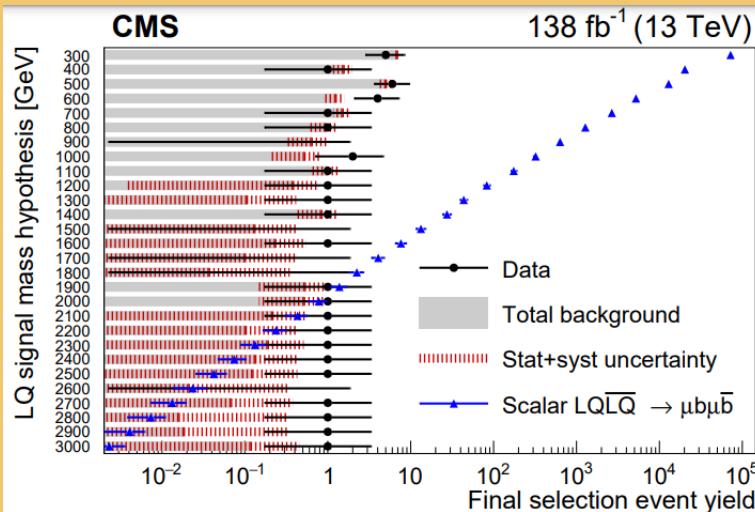
Yang-Mills scenario adds
gluon coupling.
(Else minimal-coupling)



Scalar/Vector

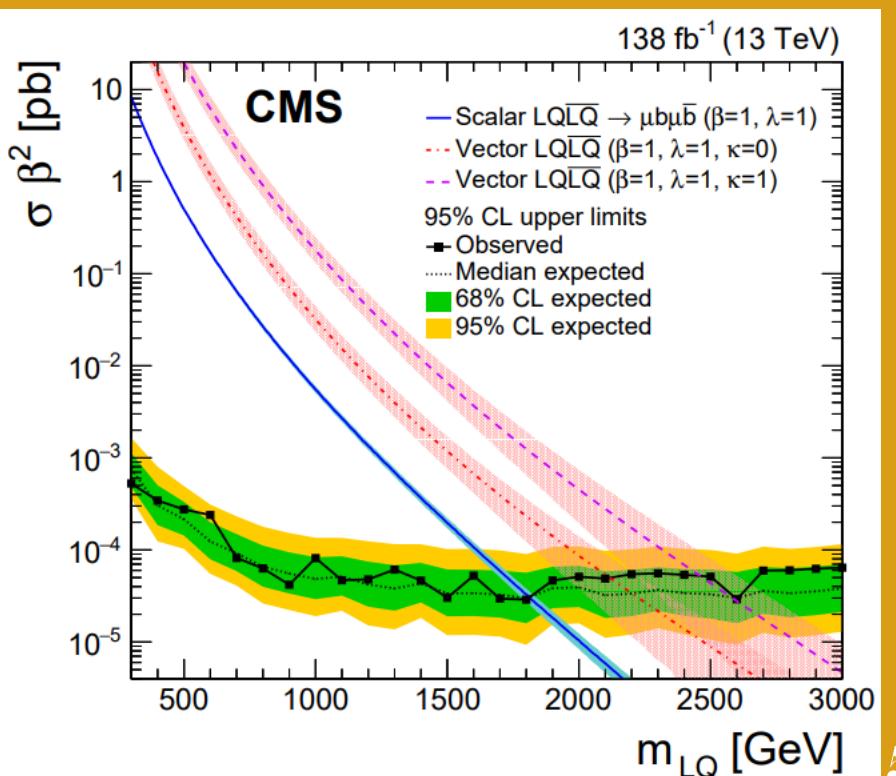
$LQLQ \rightarrow b\mu b\mu$ @ CMS

02/24 [arXiv:2402.08668](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.08668) $138 fb^{-1}$



- Full Run-2 search.
- Main drell-yan, $t\bar{t}$ bgs estimated from MC normalised in dedicated regions “Control Region estimate”.
- SRs defined for each $m(LQ)$ hypothesis via cut on a dedicated BDT score.
- No significant excess seen, most stringent limits to date!

$m(LQ)$ upper bounds [TeV] @95%CL	Scalar LQ		Vector LQ ($\beta = 1$)	
	$\beta = 1$	$\beta = 0.5$	Minimal Coupling	Yang-Mills
ATLAS [arXiv.org:2210.04517]	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.8
CMS (this)	1.81	1.54	2.12	2.46



LQ 3rd Gen. Pair-prod. Combination @ ATLAS

01/24 [arXiv:2401.11928](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.11928) up to 140fb^{-1}

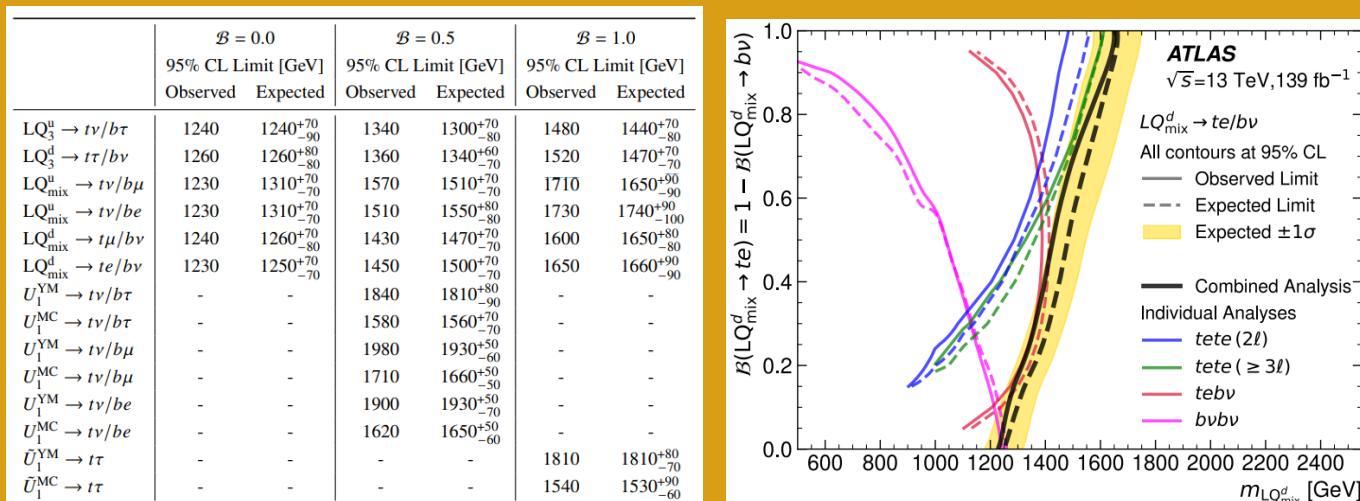
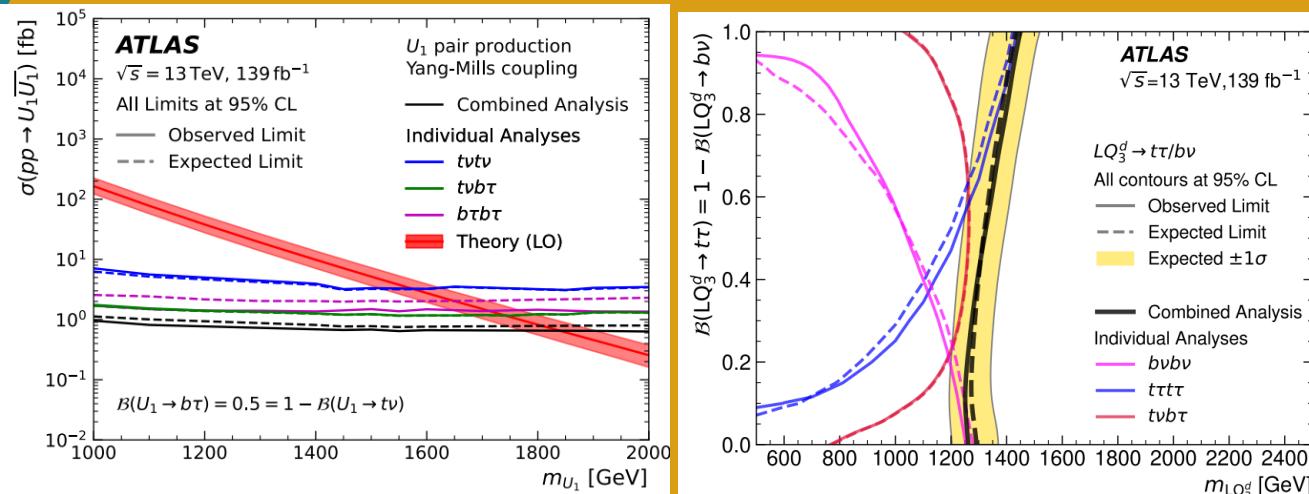
Statistical combination of 9 ATLAS searches (6 *LQ* searches and 3 SUSY searches) (refs in backup)

Interpretations:

- Scalar/Vector *LQs* decaying to 3rd gen $q + l$ ($LQ_3^{u/d}$) or 3rd gen $q + 1^{\text{st}}/2^{\text{nd}}$ gen l ($LQ_{\text{mix}}^{u/d}$).
- Limits on $m(LQ)$ and (B) branching fraction to l^\pm .

Most stringent results to date for majority of the models.

Interpretation										
Search		Scalar			Vector		Signal Region			
Final State	Citation	LQ_3^u	LQ_3^d	LQ_{mix}^u	LQ_{mix}^d	$U_1^{\text{YM/MC}}$	$\tilde{U}_1^{\text{YM/MC}}$	N_ℓ	$N_{\tau_{\text{had}}}$	$N_{b\text{jets}}$
$t\nu b\tau$	[54]	✓	✓	—	—	✓	—	0	1	≥ 2
$b\tau b\tau$	[55]	✓	—	—	—	✓	—	{0, 1}	{1, 2}	{1, 2}
$t\tau t\tau$	[57]	—	✓	—	—	—	✓	{1, 2, 3}	≥ 1	≥ 1
$t\nu b\ell$	[40]	—	—	✓	✓	✓	—	1	—	≥ 1
$b\ell b\ell$	[58]	—	—	✓	—	—	—	2	—	{0, 1, 2}
$t\ell t\ell$ (2 ℓ)	[59]	—	—	—	✓	—	—	2	—	—
$t\ell t\ell$ ($\geq 3\ell$)	[61]	—	—	—	✓	—	—	{3, 4}	—	≥ 2
$t\nu t\nu$	[62]	✓	—	✓	—	✓	—	0	0	≥ 2
$b\nu b\nu$	[64]	—	✓	—	✓	—	—	0	—	≥ 2



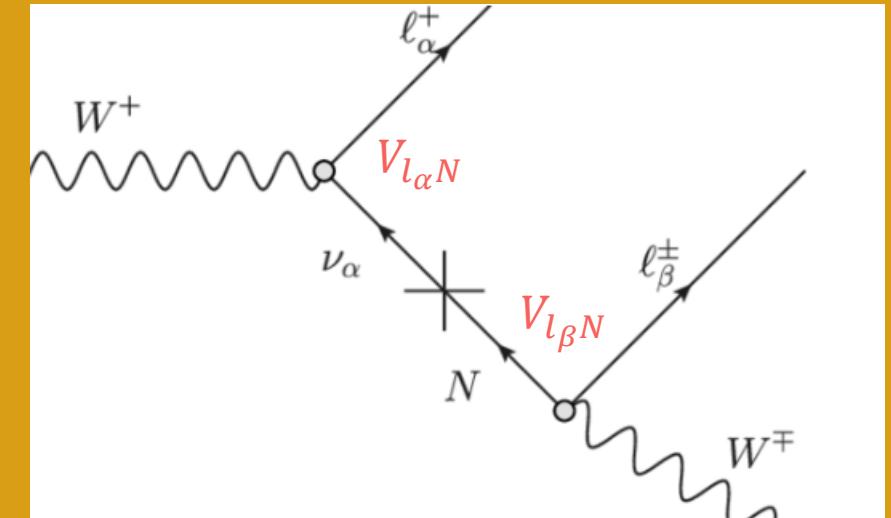
Heavy Neutral Leptons

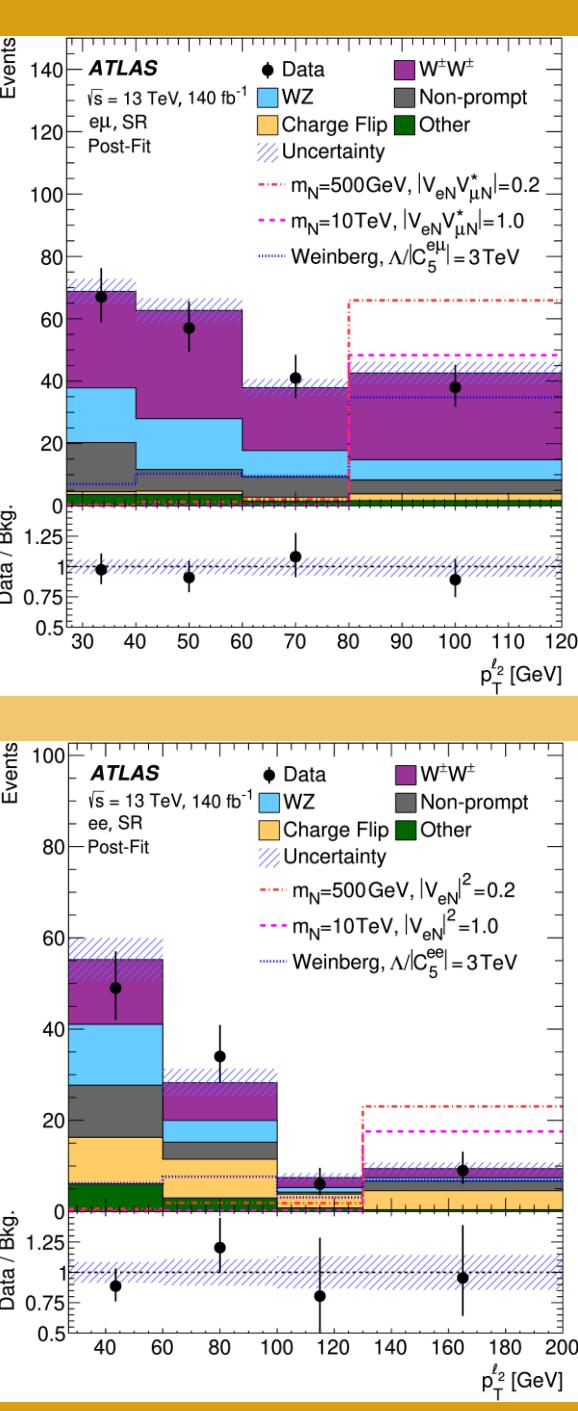
How to explain observed tiny ν masses?

See-Saw mechanism:

- Get light SM ν s and heavy BSM ν s (Ns)

No reason to assume N decays conserve lepton flavour!



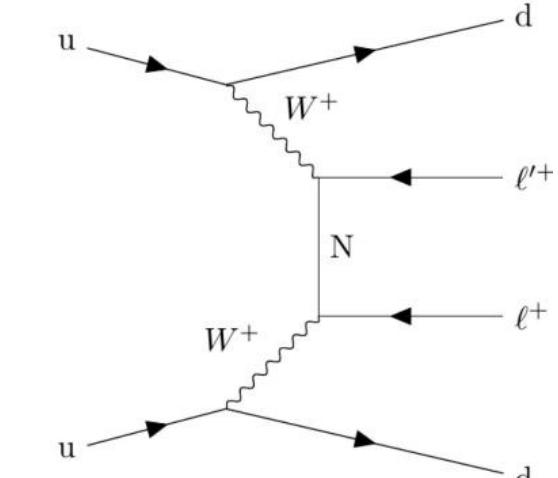


T-channel N , to $ee/e\mu$

@ ATLAS / 1 140 fb^{-1} [arXiv:2403.15016](#)



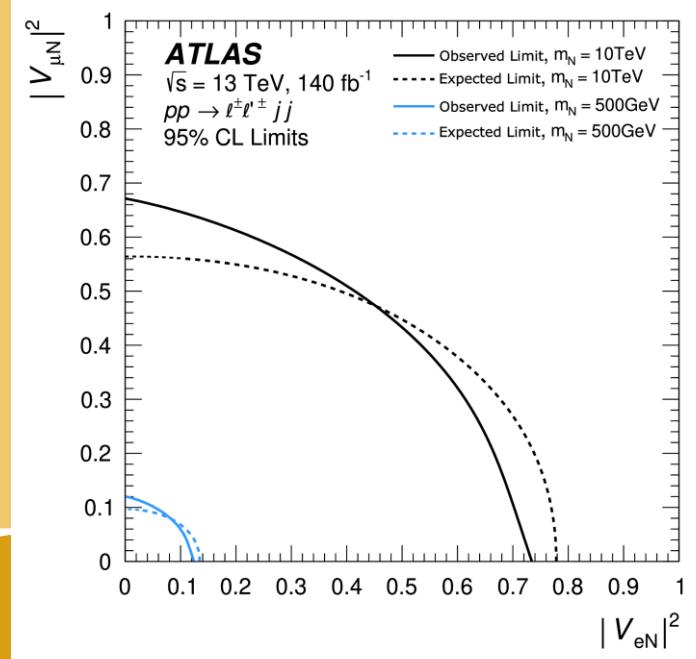
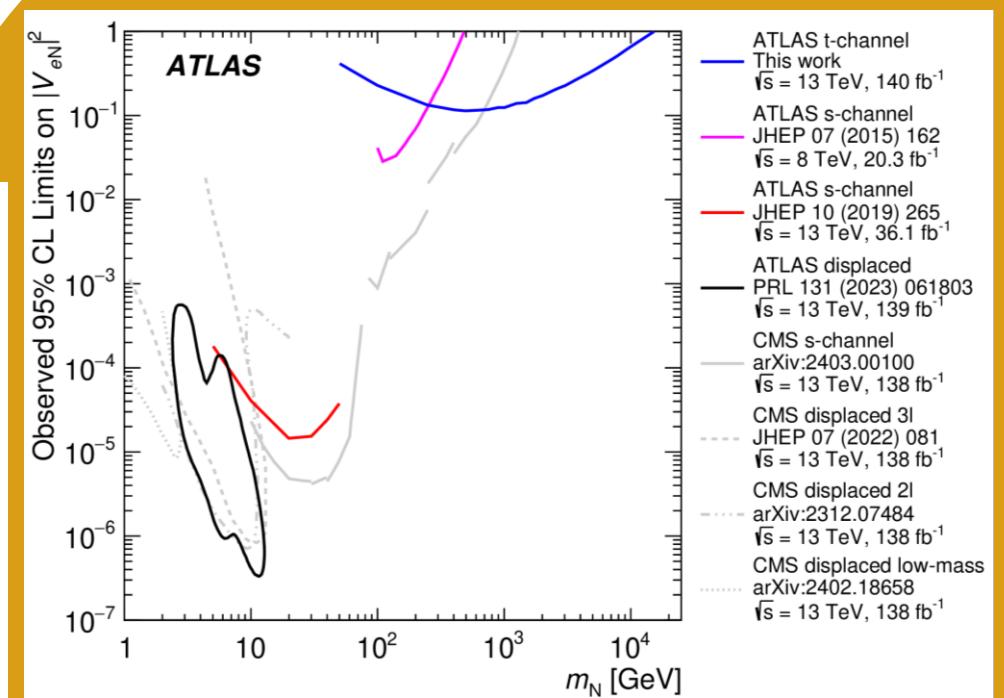
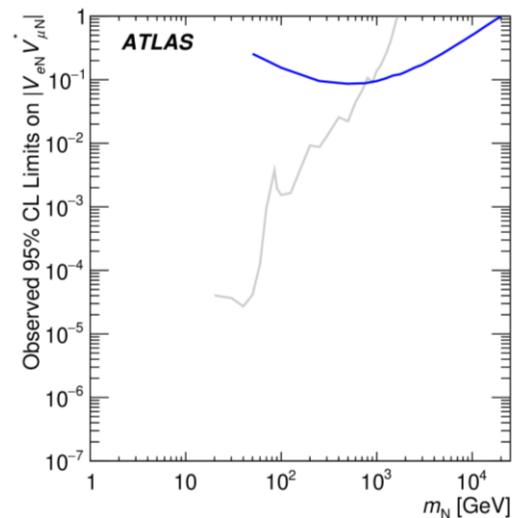
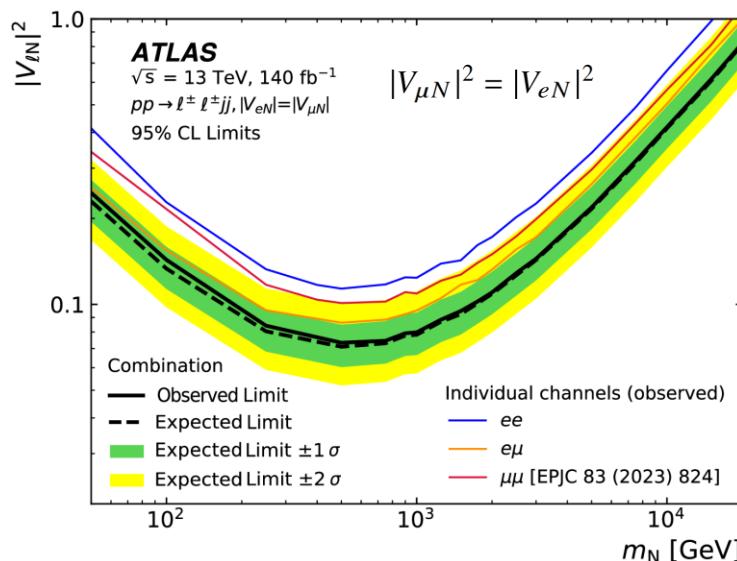
- FIRST Search for Majorana N s in $0\nu\beta\beta$ -like W scattering process: $l^\pm l^\pm jj$ in ee and (LFV!) $e\mu$ channels, complement existing & similar $\mu\mu$ channel [[arXiv:2305.14931](#)].
- Cut-based event selection, binned fit in 2nd highest lepton p_T .
- Dominant VBF $W^\pm W^\pm/WZ$ bgs Control regions.
- Data-driven fake lepton and electron charge mis-ID (Charge Flip) bgs.



T-channel N , to $ee/e\mu$

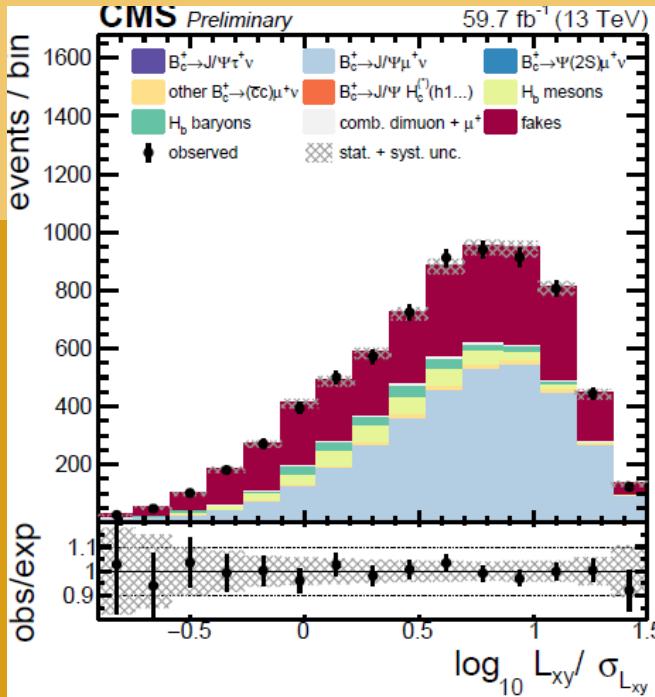
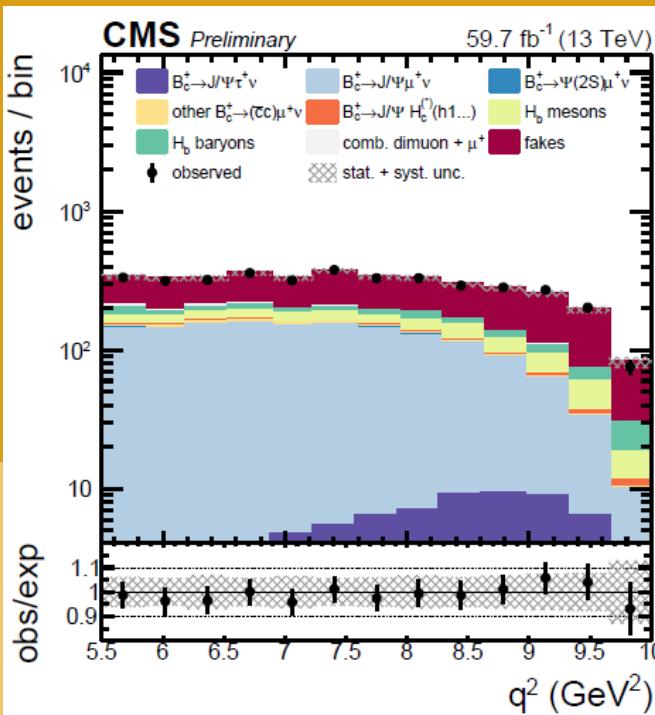
@ ATLAS /2
 $140 fb^{-1}$ [arXiv:2403.15016](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.15016)

- No significant excess, limits set on N couplings and masses.
 Best sensitivity in the $e\mu$ channel.
- Also, statistical combination of 3 channels performed to constrain e and μ couplings simultaneously!



B-physics

Testing LFV & LFUV, to compliment other experiments



LFUV in B_c^+ @ CMS

2018 data 57 fb^{-1} [CMS PAS BPH-22-012](#)

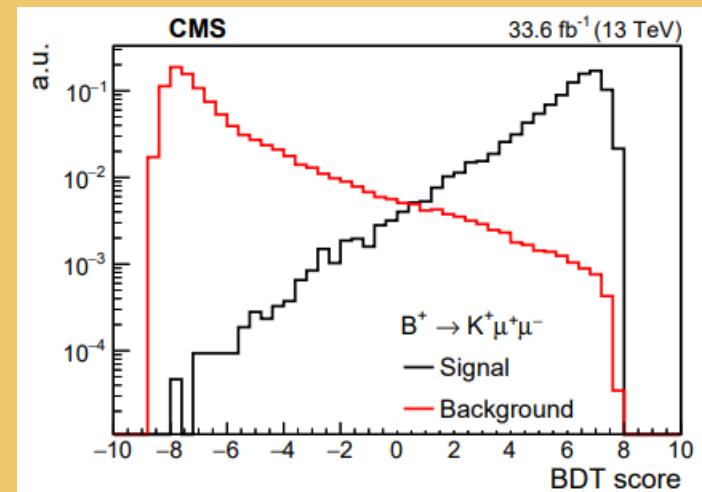
- $R(J/\psi) = \frac{\text{Br}(B_c^+ \rightarrow (J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \tau^+ \nu_\tau)}{\text{Br}(B_c^+ \rightarrow (J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \mu^+ \nu_\mu)}$
- Follows LHCb measurement with 2σ above SM.
- 3μ final state ($\tau \rightarrow \mu$ decay) use kinematics to distinguish each decay chain.
- Main bg from π/K faking μ : data-driven template, float in fit
 - Reduce using NN is- μ -isolated classifier.
- Fit q^2 and impact parameter together.
- 0.3 sigma from SM prediction (0.2582)

$$R(J/\psi) = 0.17^{+0.18}_{-0.17} \text{ (stat.)}^{+0.21}_{-0.22} \text{ (syst.)}^{+0.19}_{-0.18} \text{ (theo.)} = 0.17 \pm 0.33$$

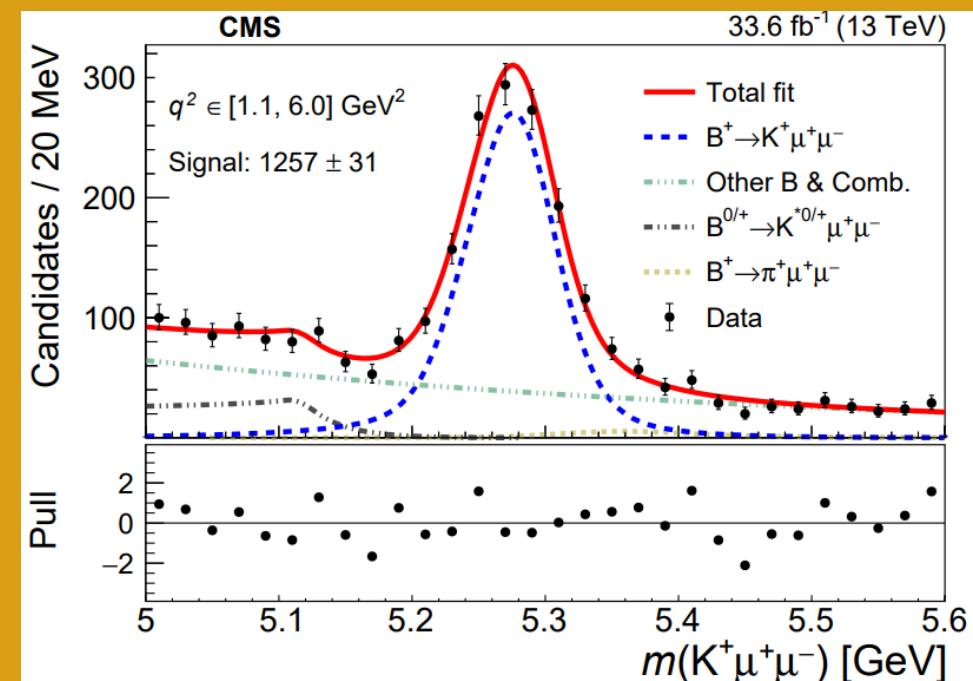
First ever CMS $R(K)$ Measurement /I

01/24 [arXiv:2401.07090](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.07090)

2018 special data stream



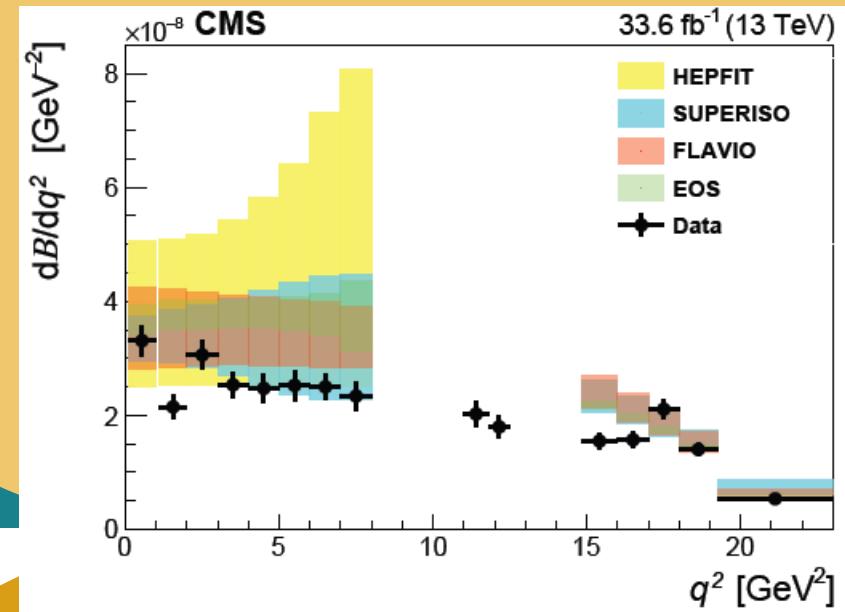
- $R(K) = \frac{Br(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \mu^+ \mu^-)}{Br(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm e^+ e^-)} \Big/ \frac{Br(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm (J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-))}{Br(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm (J/\psi \rightarrow e^+ e^-))}$, 1 in SM
 - Use $1.1 < q^2 < 6.0 \text{ GeV}^2$, same as LHCb, Belle
- Special tag+probe trigger \rightarrow 10 billion unbiased b-hadron decays.
- Use bespoke low- p_T electron reconstruction, retraining usual Pflow electron ID BDTs to get to $p_T(e) > 1 \text{ GeV}$!
- Cut on BDT signal/bg classifiers + fit $m(B)$ distribution.



First ever CMS $R(K)$ Measurement /2

01/24 [arXiv:2401.07090](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.07090)

2018 special data stream



- Dominant uncertainties: Stats. Then Bkg parametrisation.
- Results:

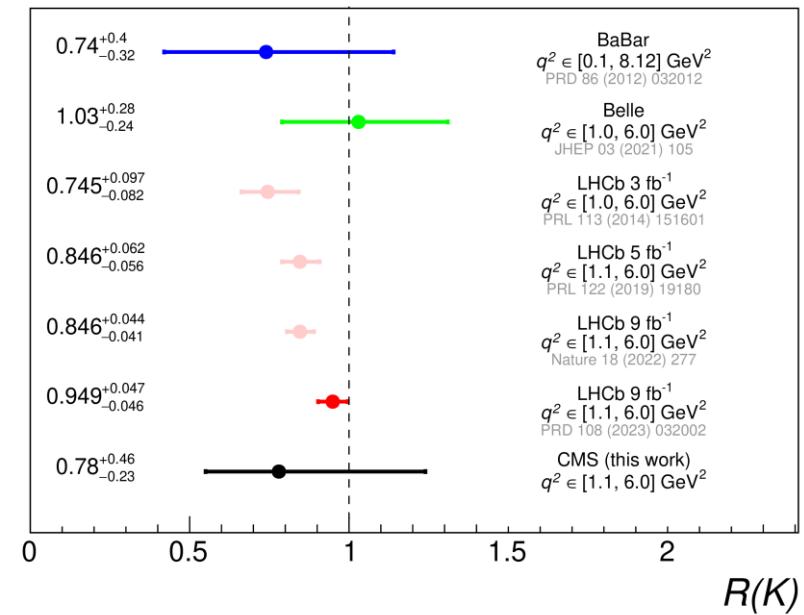
- $Br(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \mu^+ \mu^-)$ consistent with world average.

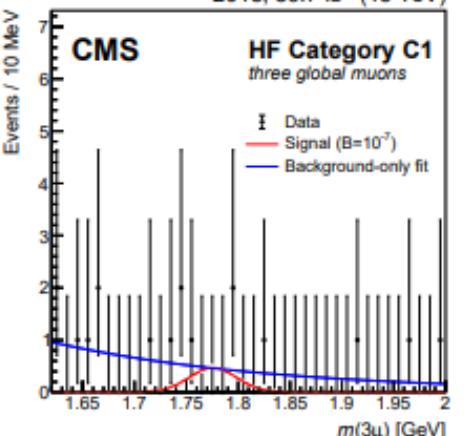
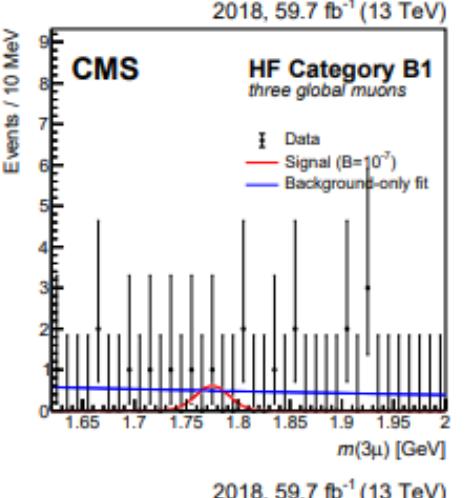
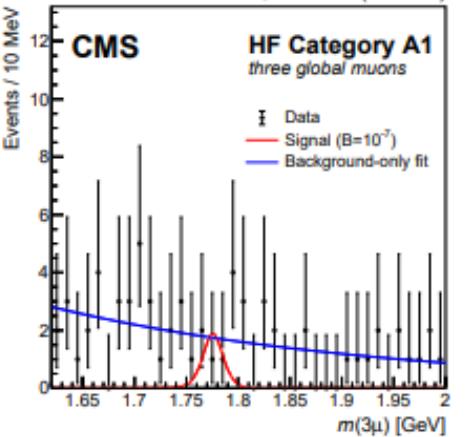
Differential = fairly low, consistent with LHCb

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^+ \mu^-) [1.1, 6.0] \text{ GeV}^2 \\ &= (12.42 \pm 0.54 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.11 \text{ (MC stat)} \pm 0.40 \text{ (syst)}) \times 10^{-8} \\ &= (12.42 \pm 0.68) \times 10^{-8} \end{aligned}$$

- $R(K)$ 1 sigma from SM value, consistent.

$$R(K) = 0.78^{+0.46}_{-0.23} \text{ (stat)}^{+0.09}_{-0.05} \text{ (syst)} = 0.78^{+0.47}_{-0.23}$$

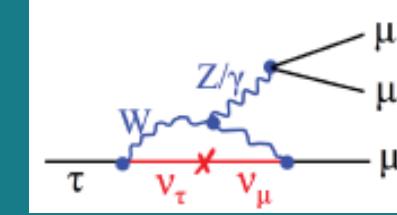




LFV $\tau \rightarrow 3\mu$ Search

@ CMS /I

12/23 [arXiv:2312.02371](https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.02371) 97.7 fb^{-1}



SM $B(\tau \rightarrow 3\mu) \sim 10^{-55}$ via ν mixing, search for BSM enhancement.

2017-18 data; combine with 2016 analysis ([arXiv:2007.05658](https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.05658)) @ 33.2 fb^{-1} .

Strategy: 3 signal+sideband (ABC) categories based on $m(\mu\mu\mu)$ resolution: $\frac{\sigma_m}{m}$
+ BDT classifier score bins

Two kinds of processes considered...

Heavy Flavour decays ($D_s^+ \rightarrow \tau^+ \nu_\tau$ & $B \rightarrow \tau + X$)

- Bigger signal @ low- p_T μ , higher bg.
- Normalise signal yield to $D_s^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \phi \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$ yield reduce dependence on σ sections and trigger/selection efficiencies.

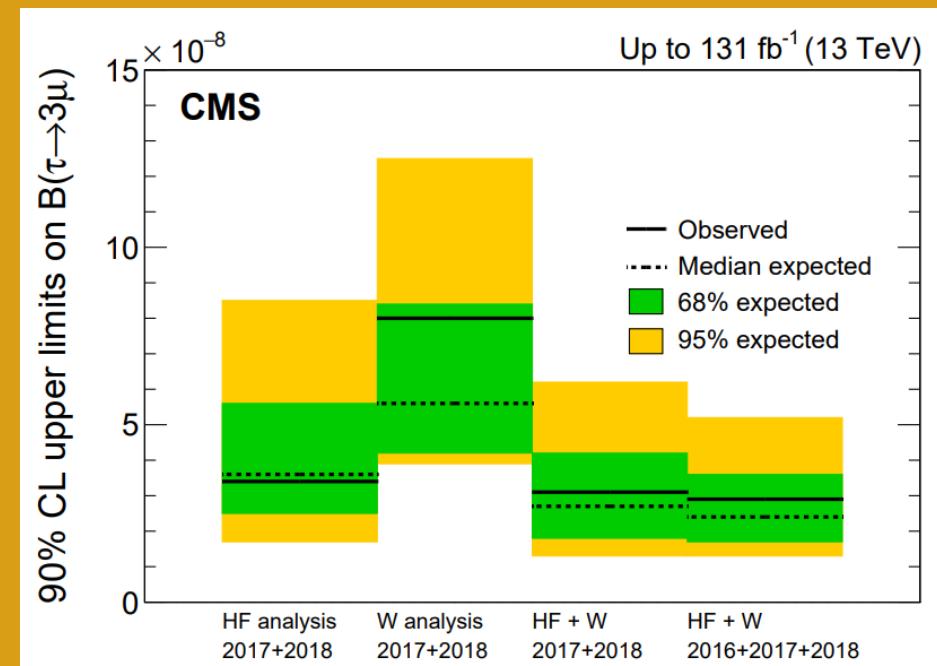
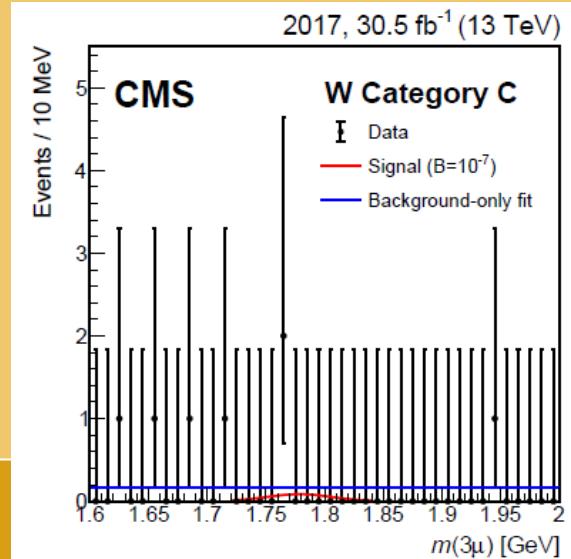
LFV $\tau \rightarrow 3\mu$ Search

@ CMS /2

12/23 [arXiv:2312.02371](https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.02371) 97.7 fb^{-1}

- W decays ($W^+ \rightarrow \tau^+ \nu_\tau$)
 - Smaller signal @ high- p_T μ , p_T^{miss} reduces bg.
- Simultaneous fit of $m(\mu\mu\mu)$ distribution in all channels
 - Statistical uncertainties dominates.
- Measure @ 90% CL
 - $B(\tau \rightarrow 3\mu) < 2.9 \times 10^{-8}$
 - Best hadron collider result to date!
Comparable to Belle II ($B(\tau \rightarrow 3\mu) < 1.9 \times 10^{-8}$)

P. Horak's talk



No new physics but greatly improved exclusion of BSM models.

**More Top cLFV in J.S. Wilson's talk
W LFUV in O. Majersky's talk
HNLs in C. Collard's talk**

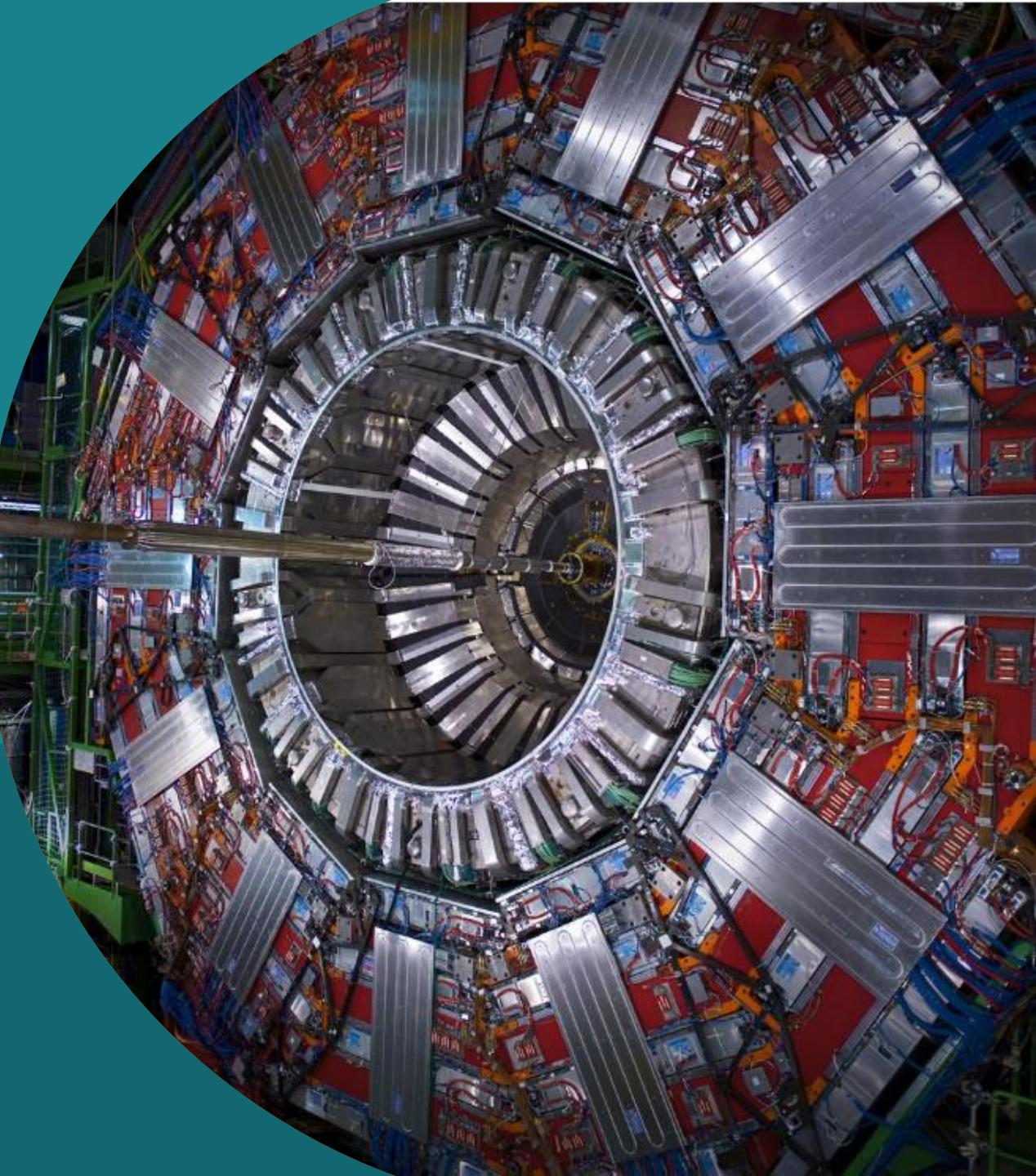
& Checkout other results from the Intro/Backup

Let's see what Run-3 brings...!

Thank You!

More details in the backup!

Further Qs? holly.ann.pacey@cern.ch



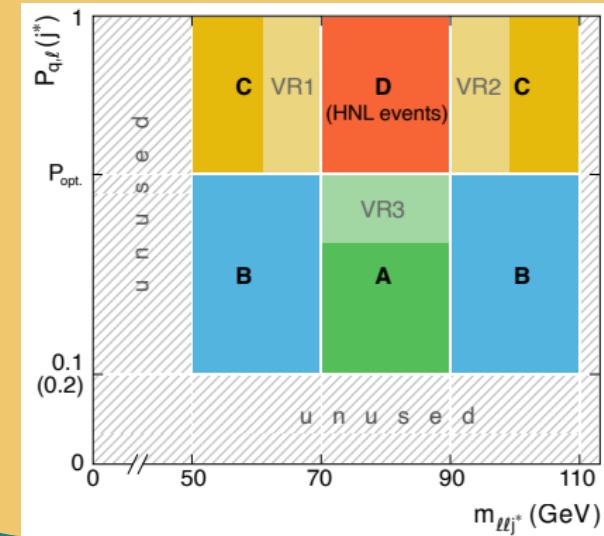
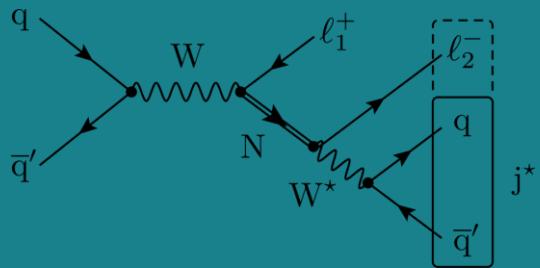
BACKUP

S-channel Long-lived

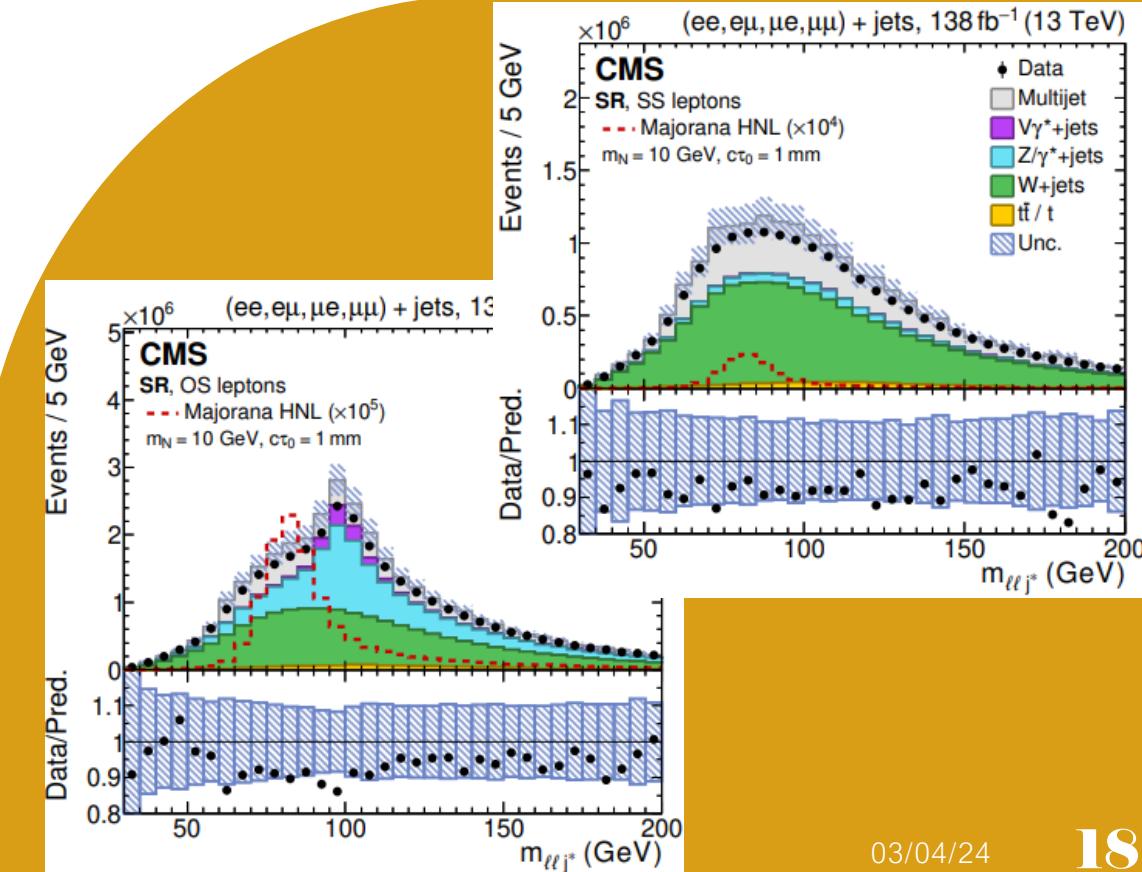
N , to $ll'j$

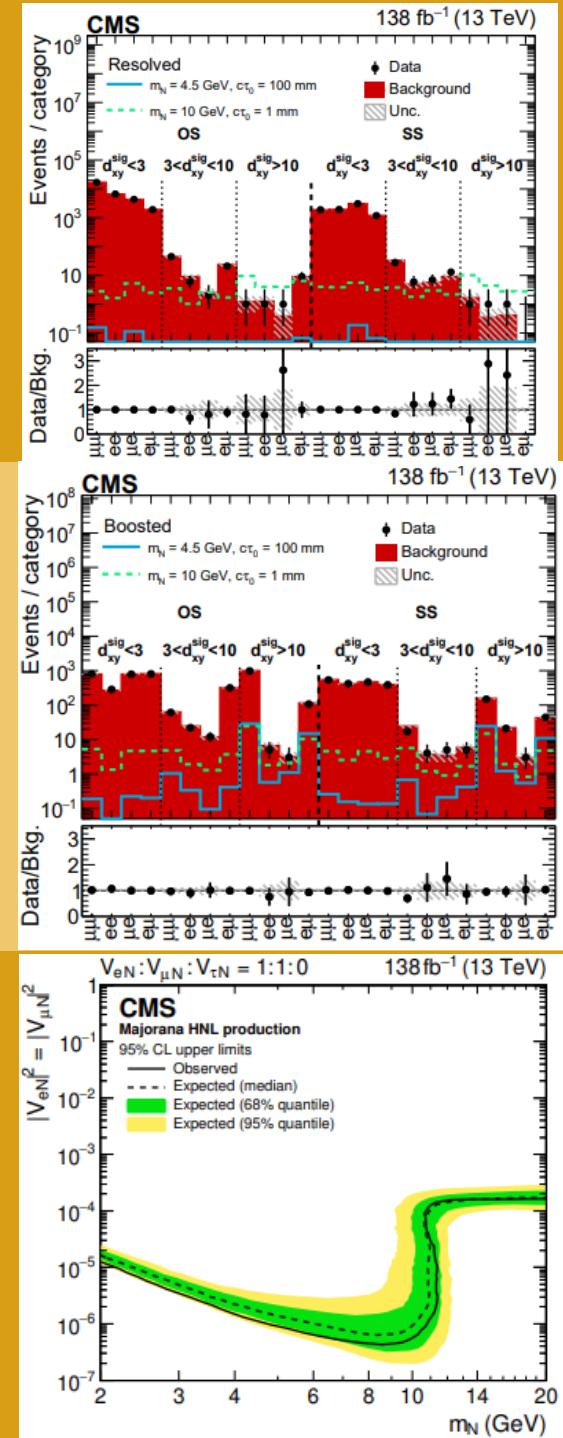
@ CMS /I

12/23 arXiv:2312.07484 139fb^{-1}



- Full Run-2 search for
 - 1 prompt l to trigger on, 1 displaced l , with a loosened ID/Reco,
 - ≥ 1 displaced jet (j^*). For $m(N) < \sim 8$ GeV, jets collimated into 1.
- N = Dirac ($l^\pm l^\mp$) or Majorana ($l^\pm l^\mp$ or $l^\pm l^\pm$). All flavour couplings: $e, \mu, \tau (\rightarrow l)$. Probe $c\tau^0 \leq 10^4 mm$. Same/opposite charge & same/different flavour categories used.
- Multiclass DNN tagger to ID the j^*
 - Parametrized on displacement.
 - Uses Adversarial training to avoid large performance differences between data/MC.
- $m(llj) \sim m(W)$ crucial variable: 70-90 GeV for SR, sidebands for ABCD data-driven bg estimate.

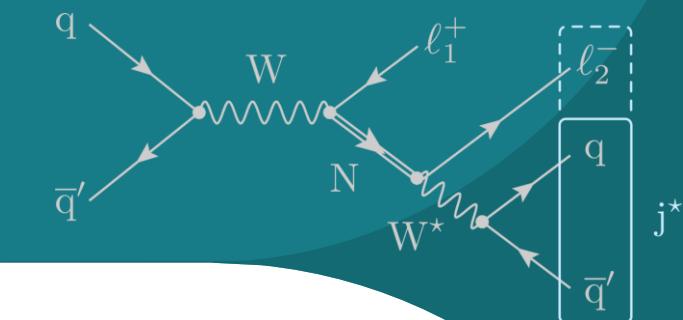




S-channel Long-lived N , to $ll'j$

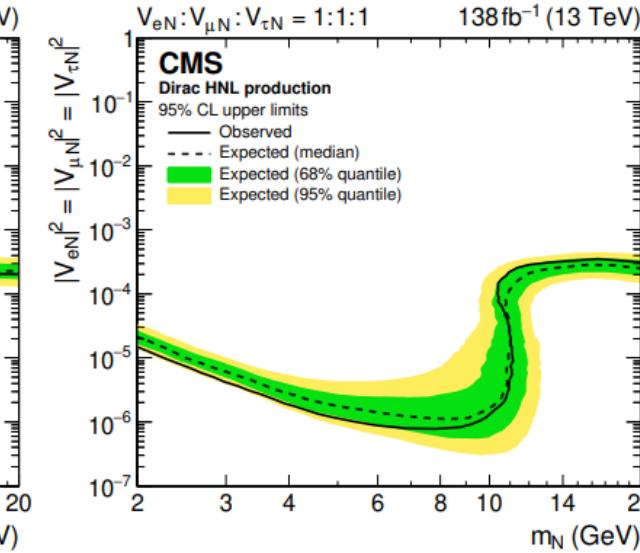
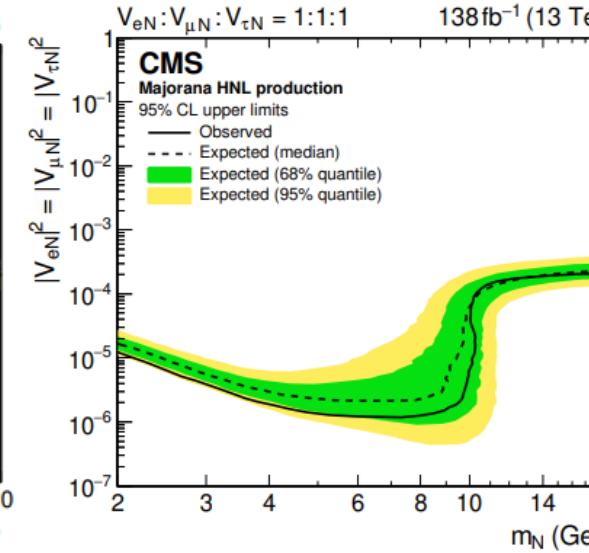
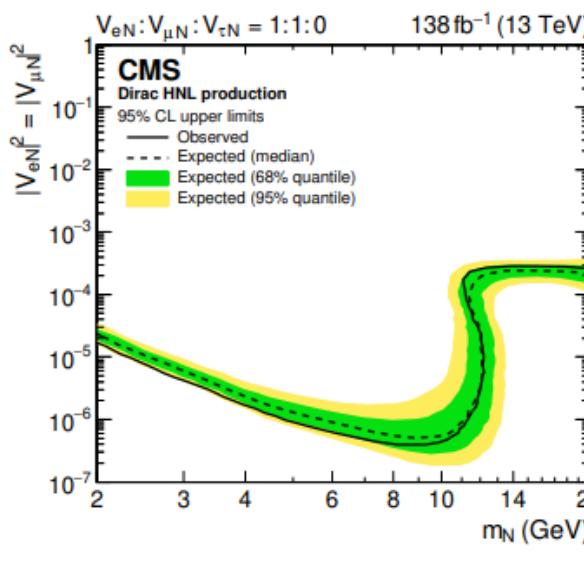
@ CMS /2

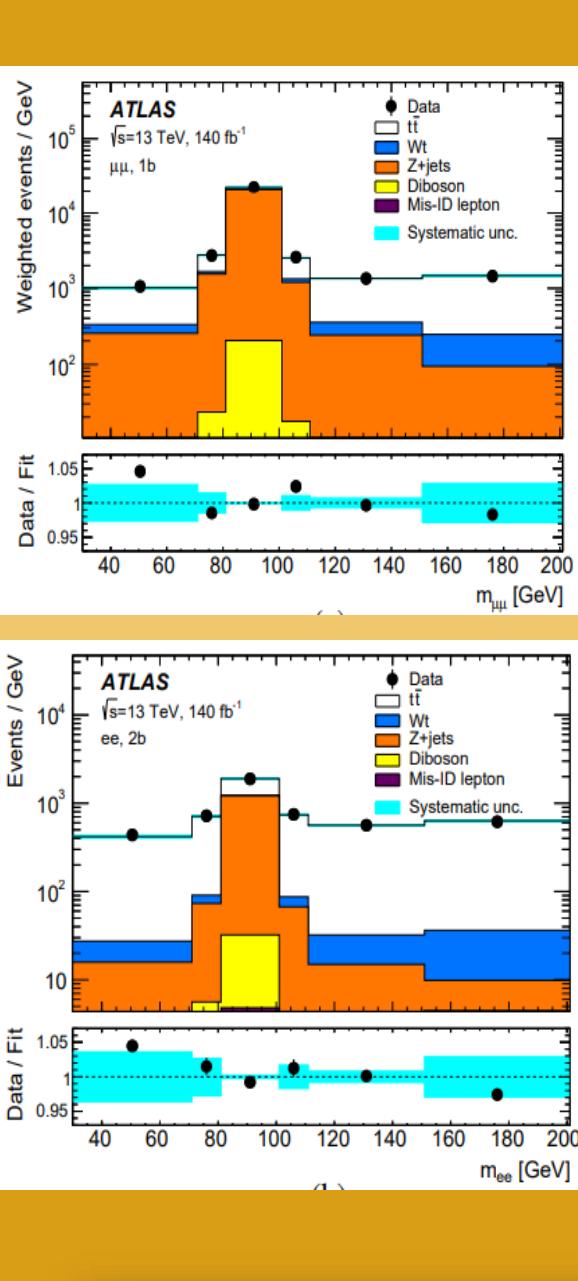
12/23 [arXiv:2312.07484](https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.07484) | 139 fb^{-1}



No significant deviation from the SM,

- many limits for 1, 2 or 3 couplings switched on & equal, for Majorana and Dirac.
- Comparable to previous ATLAS/CMS searches for single couplings, but first result for simultaneous coupling to all three..





LFUV test: $R_W^{\mu/e} = \frac{B(W \rightarrow \mu\nu)}{B(W \rightarrow e\nu)}$

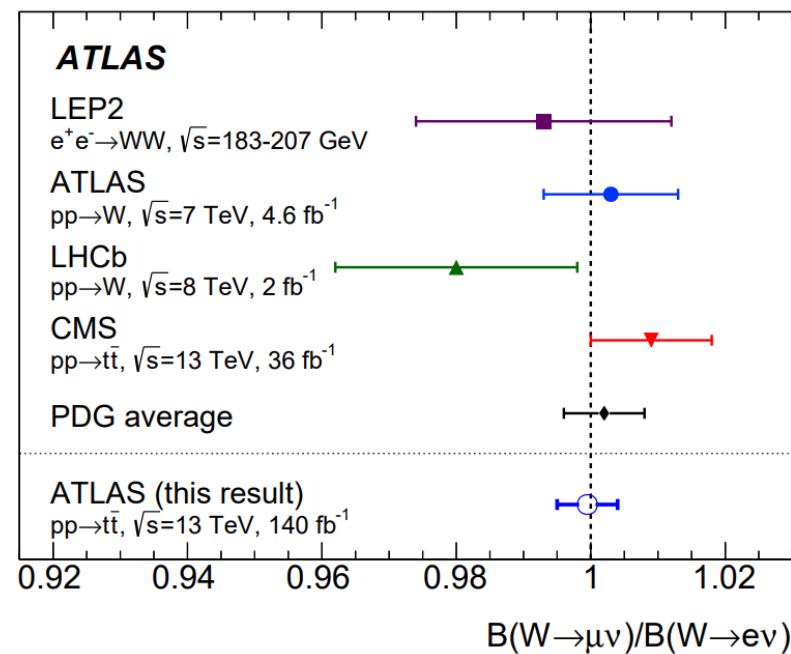
measurement @ ATLAS

03/24 [arXiv:2403.02133](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.02133) 140fb^{-1}



- First full Run-2 LFU test in W s using leptonic $t\bar{t}$ decays.
- Tricks to reduces systematics:
 - Weight $\mu(p_T, \eta)$ to give similar kinematic acceptance in ee v $\mu\mu$ channels, reduces modelling uncertainties.
 - Normalise using Z ratio to reduce lepton ID uncertainties: measure $R_{WZ}^{\mu/e} = R_W^{\mu/e} / \sqrt{R_Z^{\mu\mu/ee}}$, then get final $R_W^{\mu/e}$ result from $R_{WZ}^{\mu/e}$ and precise LEP/SLF $R_Z^{\mu\mu/ee}$ value.
- Fit in $m(ee)$ and $m(\mu\mu)$ in 1 or 2 b-jet channels.

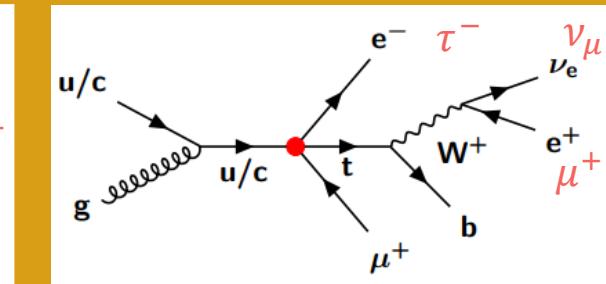
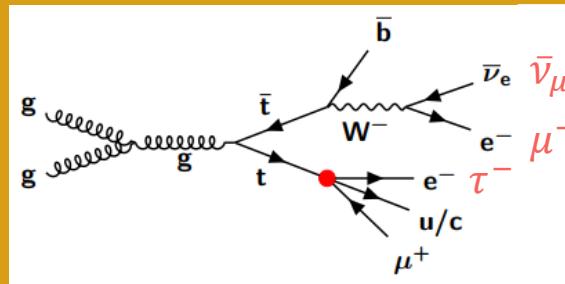
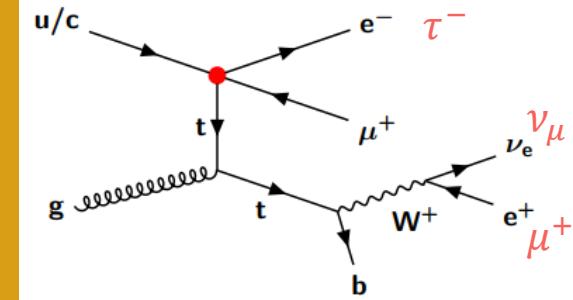
$$R_W^{\mu/e} = 0.9995 \pm 0.0022 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.0036 \text{ (syst)} \pm 0.0014 \text{ (ext)}$$



cLFV in Top physics

Search for cLFV single top and ttbar processes
-> interpret in EFT framework, dim-6 Operators
-> constrain Wilson coefficients $C_\alpha^{(6)}$

CMS and ATLAS focused on different 4-point couplings
-> constrain different Operators

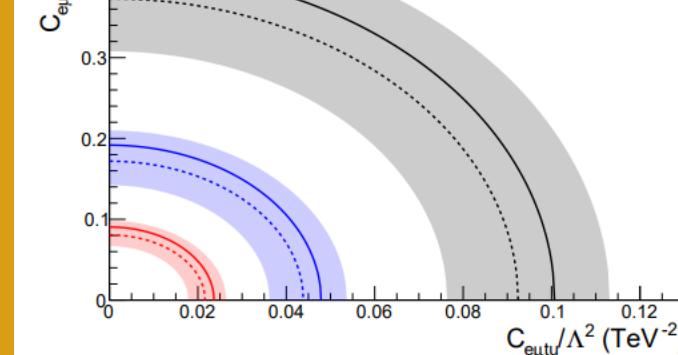
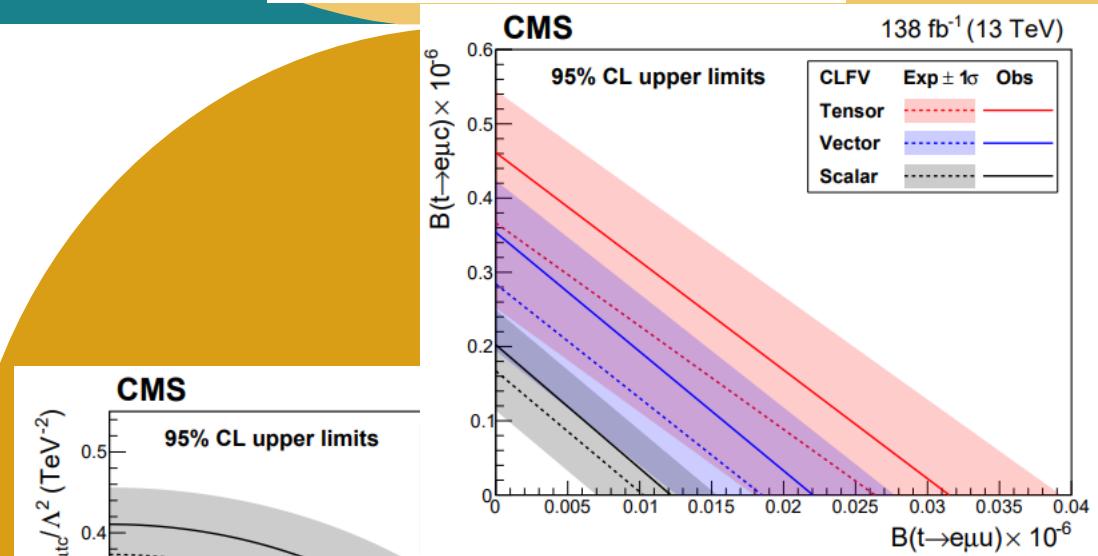
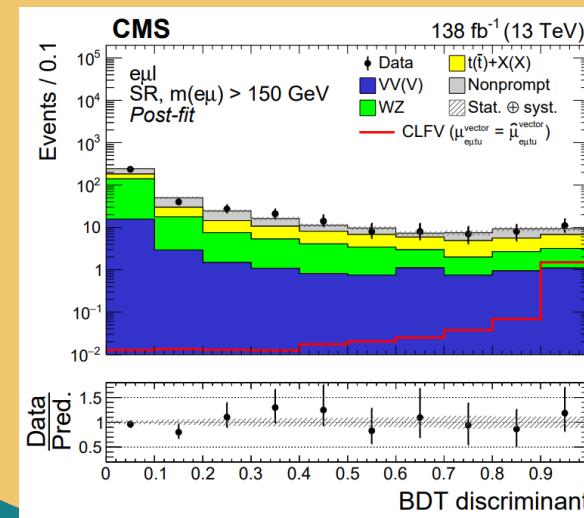


$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}^{(4)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_a C_a^{(6)} O_a^{(6)} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\Lambda^4}\right),$$

top cLFV with 3leptons @ CMS

12/23 arXiv: 2312.03199 139fb^{-1}

- 2016-18 data, $\mu_{\text{et}}(u/c)$ vertex
- Backgrounds: Real leptons: MC.
Fake/non-prompt leptons: data-driven estimate.
- Signal selection: BDTs to discriminate signal & background,
fit BDT scores
- Most stringent limits to date on BRs for these processes!
By ~ 1 order of magnitude.



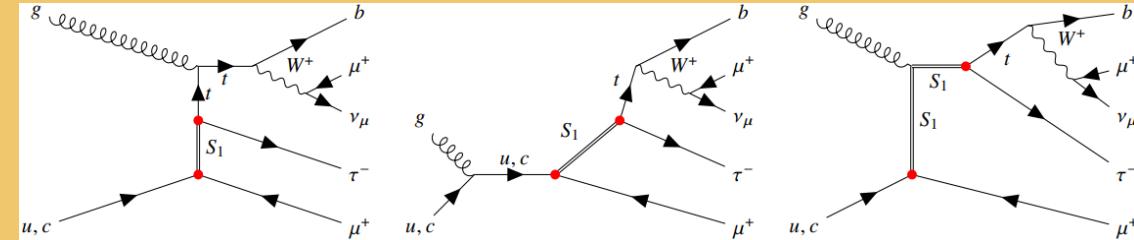
top cLFW decays to $\mu\tau$

@ ATLAS

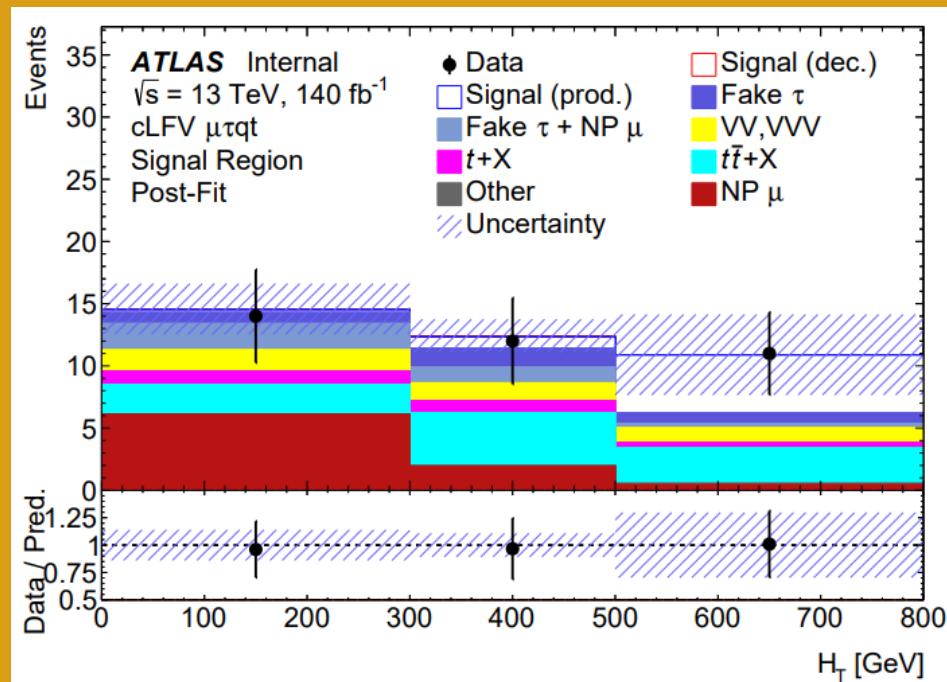
03/24 [arXiv:2403.06742](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.06742) $140 fb^{-1}$



- 2015-18 data, processes as before but use $\mu\tau t(u/c)$ vertex, highly unconstrained!
- Bonus interpretation in scalar LQ model! Simplified with flavour-hierarchy of couplings.
- Cut-based signal region, fit $H_T = \sum p_T(\text{leps}, \text{jets})$ distribution.
- Dominant bgs from:
 - $t\bar{t}$ with non-prompt μ s inside heavy flavour jets – estimate via template fit from dedicated region,
 - fake τ s – data-driven scale-factor method.
- Data agree with SM to within 1.6sigma.



$$\lambda_{ki} \in \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{t\tau} & \lambda_{c\tau} & \lambda_{u\tau} \\ \lambda_{t\mu} & \lambda_{c\mu} & \lambda_{u\mu} \\ \lambda_{te} & \lambda_{ce} & \lambda_{ue} \end{pmatrix} \equiv \lambda^{\text{LQ}} \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 1 & 0.1 \\ 1 & 0.1 & 0.01 \\ 0.1 & 0.01 & 0.001 \end{pmatrix}$$



top cLFV decays to $\mu\tau$

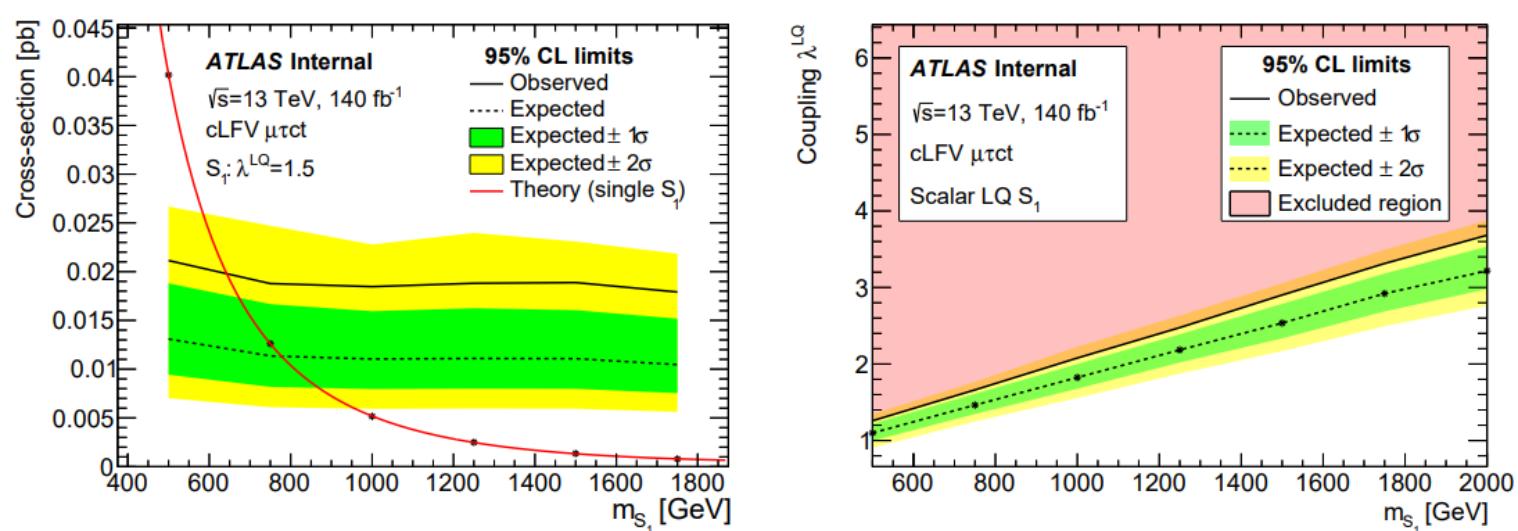
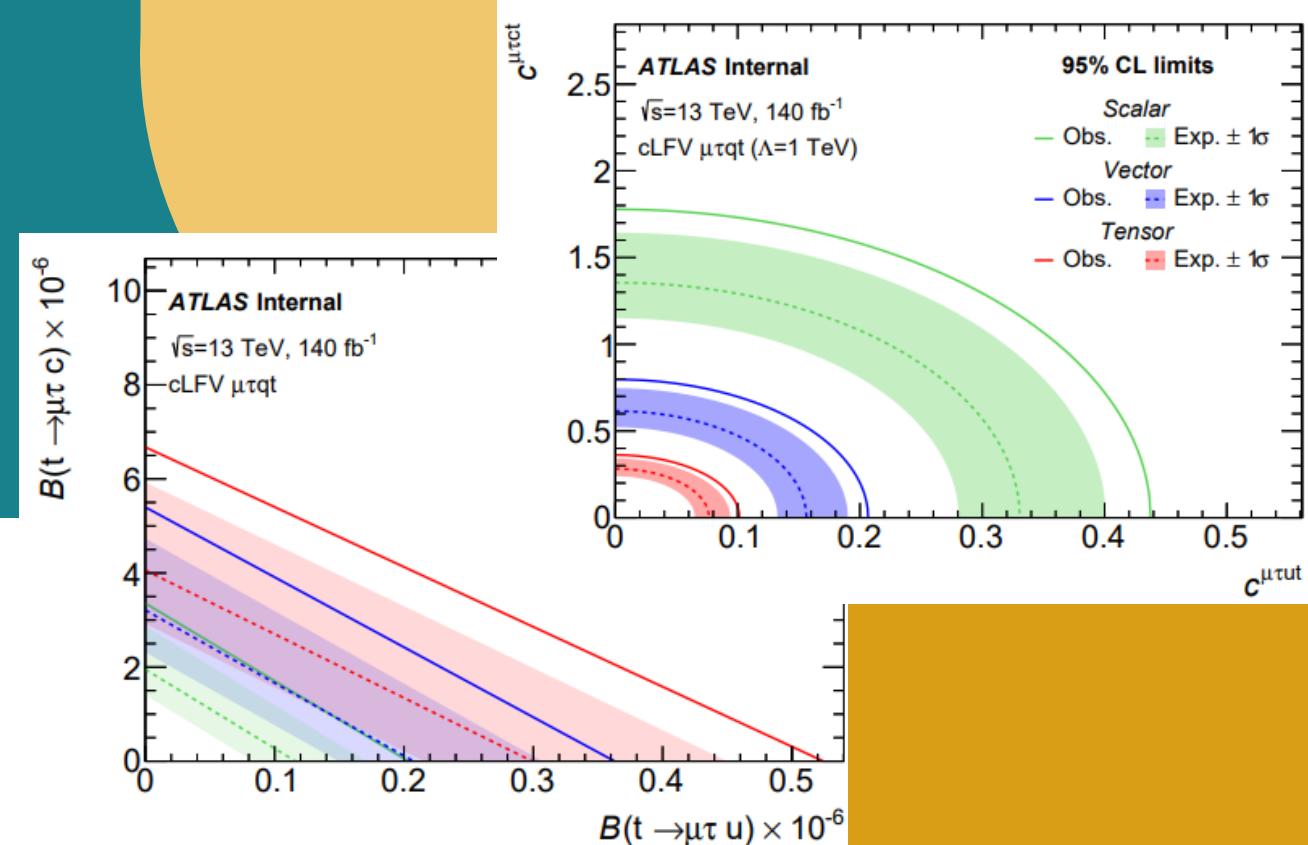
@ ATLAS

03/24 [arXiv:2403.06742](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.06742) 140fb^{-1}



- Wilson coefficient limits improve $\times 7.2 - \times 41$ compared to previous reinterpretation ([JHEP 04 \(2019\) 014](https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP04(2019)014), Chala M., et al.).
- First limits for this LQ model!
- Also set 95% CL Br limit:

$$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow \mu\tau q) < 8.7 \times 10^{-7}$$

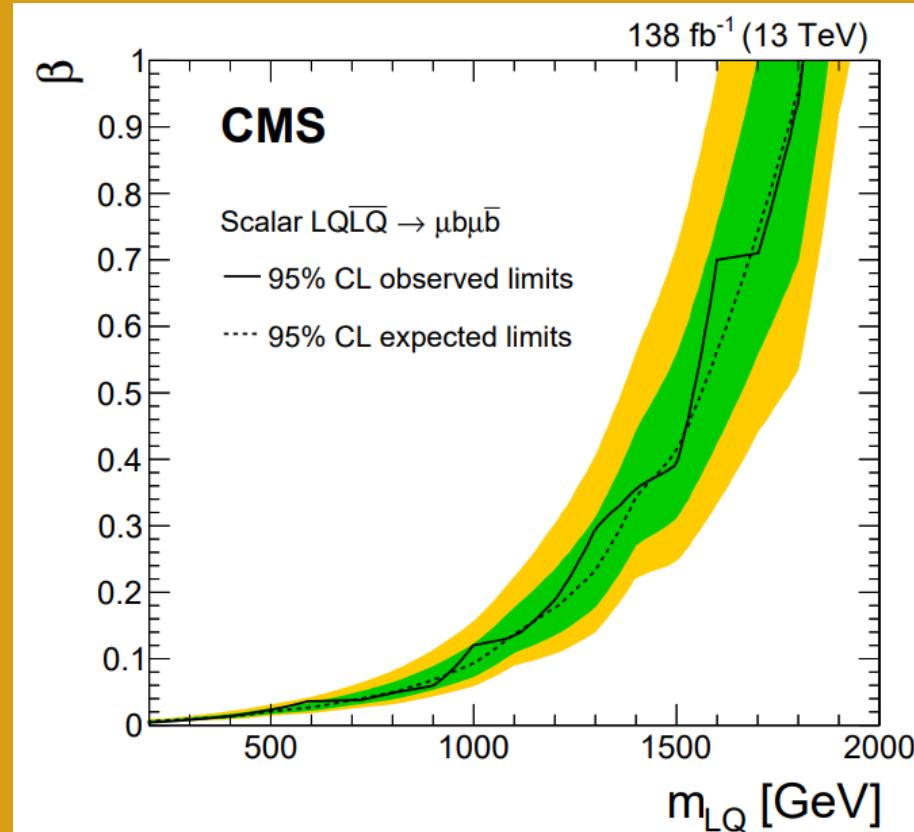


LQ 3G Combo. more results...

Search	Final State	Citation	Interpretation						Signal Region		
			Scalar			Vector			N_ℓ	$N_{\tau_{\text{had}}}$	$N_{b\text{jets}}$
			LQ_3^u	LQ_3^d	LQ_{mix}^u	LQ_{mix}^d	$U_1^{\text{YM/MC}}$	$\bar{U}_1^{\text{YM/MC}}$			
Phys. Rev. D 104 (2021) 112005	$t\nu b\tau$	[54]	✓	✓	–	–	✓	–	0	1	≥ 2
Eur. Phys. J. C 83 (2023) 1075	$b\tau b\tau$	[55]	✓	–	–	–	✓	–	{0, 1}	{1, 2}	{1, 2}
JHEP 06 (2021) 179	$t\tau t\tau$	[57]	–	✓	–	–	–	✓	{1, 2, 3}	≥ 1	≥ 1
JHEP 06 (2023) 188	$tvbl$	[40]	–	–	✓	✓	–	–	1	–	≥ 1
JHEP 10 (2020) 112	$b\ell b\ell$	[58]	–	–	✓	–	–	–	2	–	{0, 1, 2}
Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 313	$t\ell t\ell (2\ell)$	[59]	–	–	–	✓	–	–	2	–	–
ATLAS-CONF-2022-052	$t\ell t\ell (\geq 3\ell)$	[61]	–	–	–	✓	–	–	{3, 4}	–	≥ 2
Eur. Phys. J. C 80 (2020) 737	$t\nu t\nu$	[62]	✓	–	✓	–	✓	–	0	0	≥ 2
JHEP 05 (2021) 093	$b\nu b\nu$	[64]	–	✓	–	✓	–	–	0	–	≥ 2

Correlate detector systs. where possible and keep bg modelling systs uncorrelated (different phase space etc.)

Only case of non-negligible overlap between signal regions was removed, without much detriment to the limits.



Scalar/Vector $LQLQ \rightarrow b\mu b\mu$ @ CMS