



**Universität  
Zürich<sup>UZH</sup>**

# Indications for New Higgs Bosons in Associated Di-Photon Production

**Sumit Banik**

**Scalars 2025**

**24rd September 2025**

# Motivation

## Hints for new Higgs Bosons

- **Minimality** of the scalar sector of the SM **not guaranteed** theoretically
- **ATLAS** performed **Model-Independent** analysis of  $\gamma\gamma + X$  for **SM Higgs**
- Analysis involves **22 signal regions**

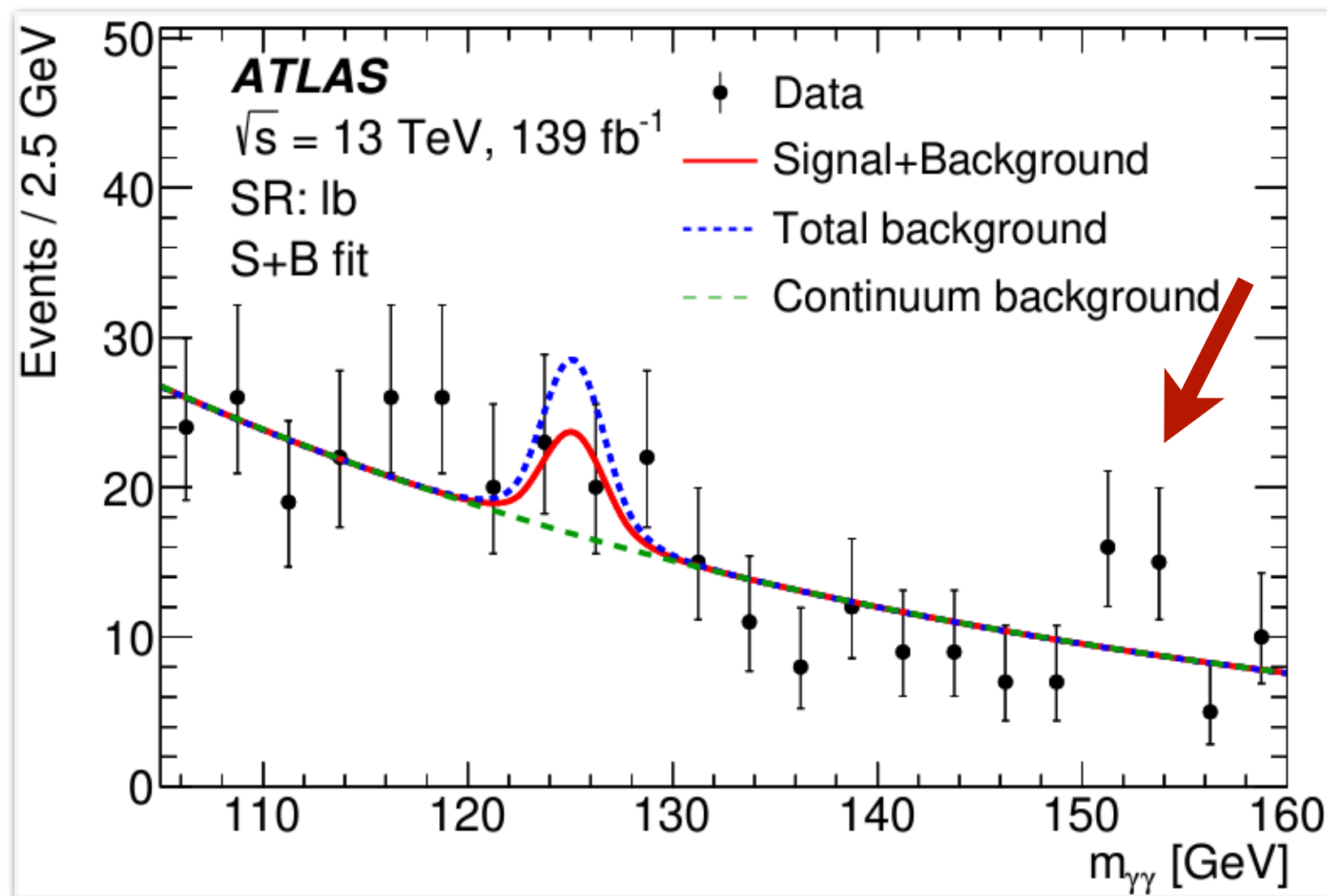
Full Run 2 Data

Heavy Flavor	Jets	Lepton	$E_T^{\text{miss}}$	Top	$H_T$	Photon
$\geq 3b, \geq 4b$	$\geq 4j, \geq 6j,$ etc.	$1\ell, 2\ell, \geq 3\ell,$ $1\tau, 2\tau$	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 100 \text{ GeV},$ $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 200 \text{ GeV}$	$\ell b, t_{\text{lep}}, t_{\text{had}}$	$H_T > 500 \text{ GeV},$ $H_T > 1000 \text{ GeV}$	$m_{\gamma\gamma}^{12}, m_{\gamma\gamma}^{13}$

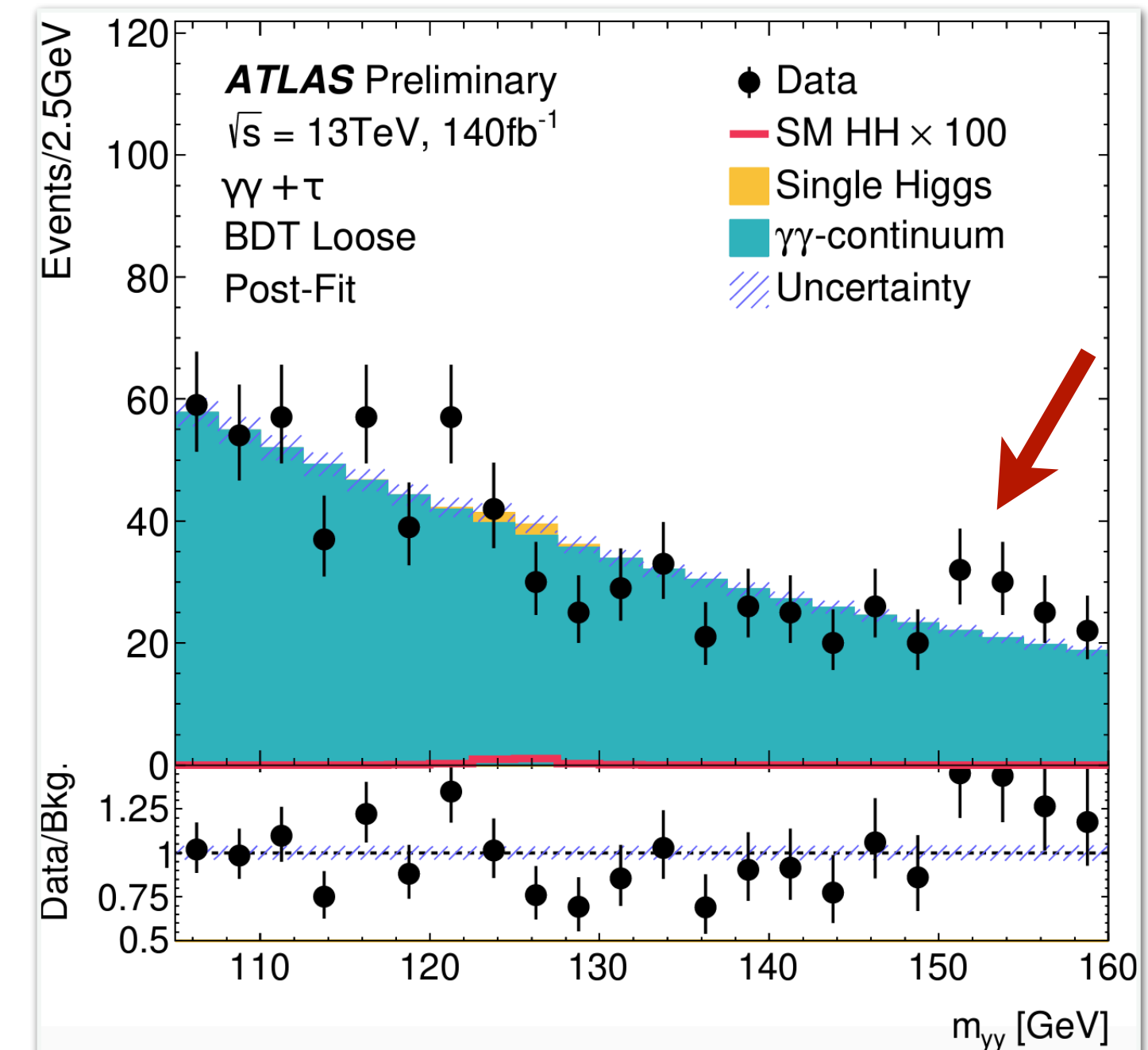
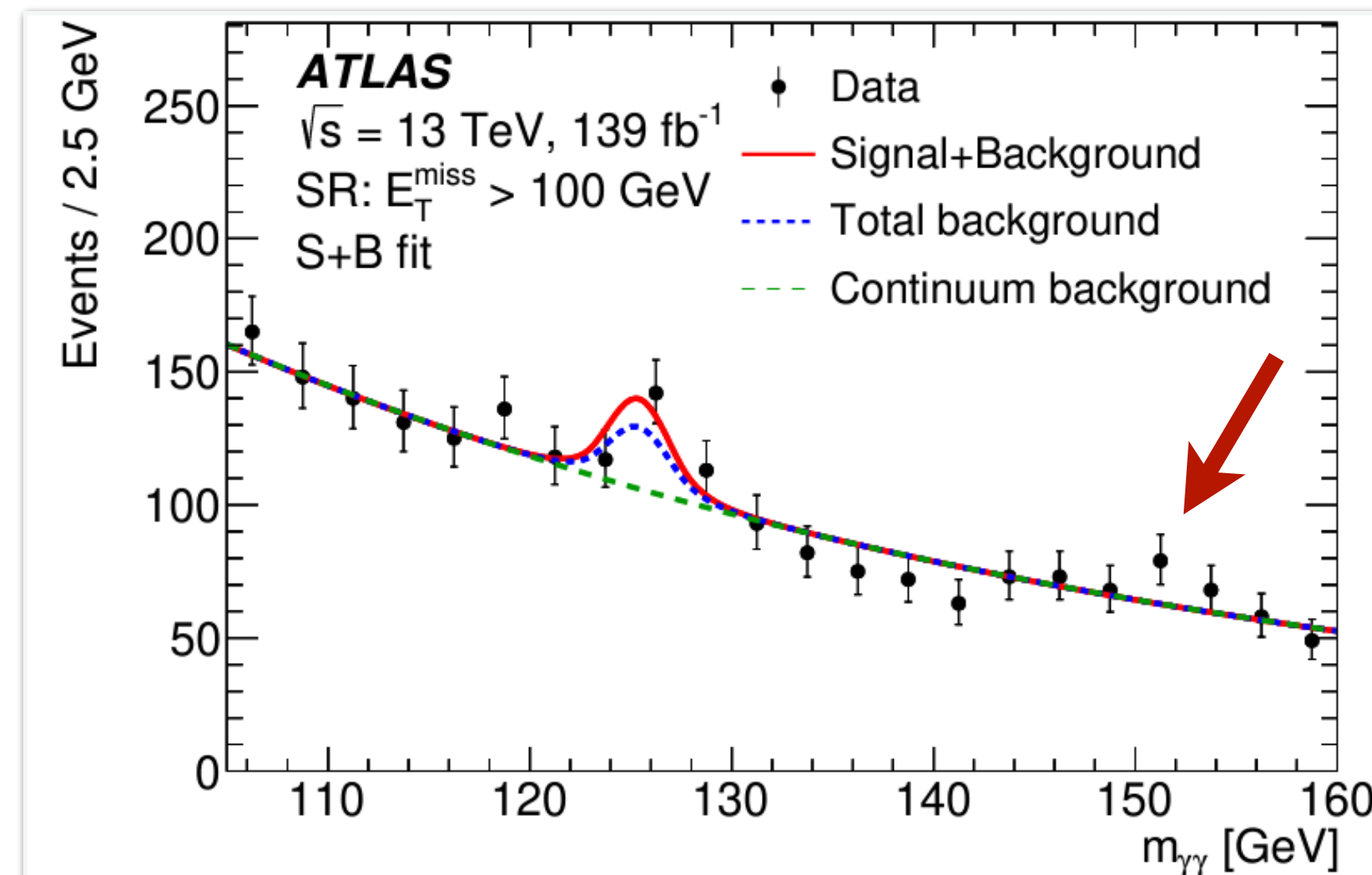
# Motivation

## Hints for new Higgs Bosons

- Excesses Most Pronounced:  $\gamma\gamma + \ell b$ ,  $\gamma\gamma + \text{MET}$ ,  $\gamma\gamma + 1\tau$ ,  $\gamma\gamma + 4j$ ,  $\gamma\gamma + 1\ell$



[ATLAS: CERN-EP-2022-232]



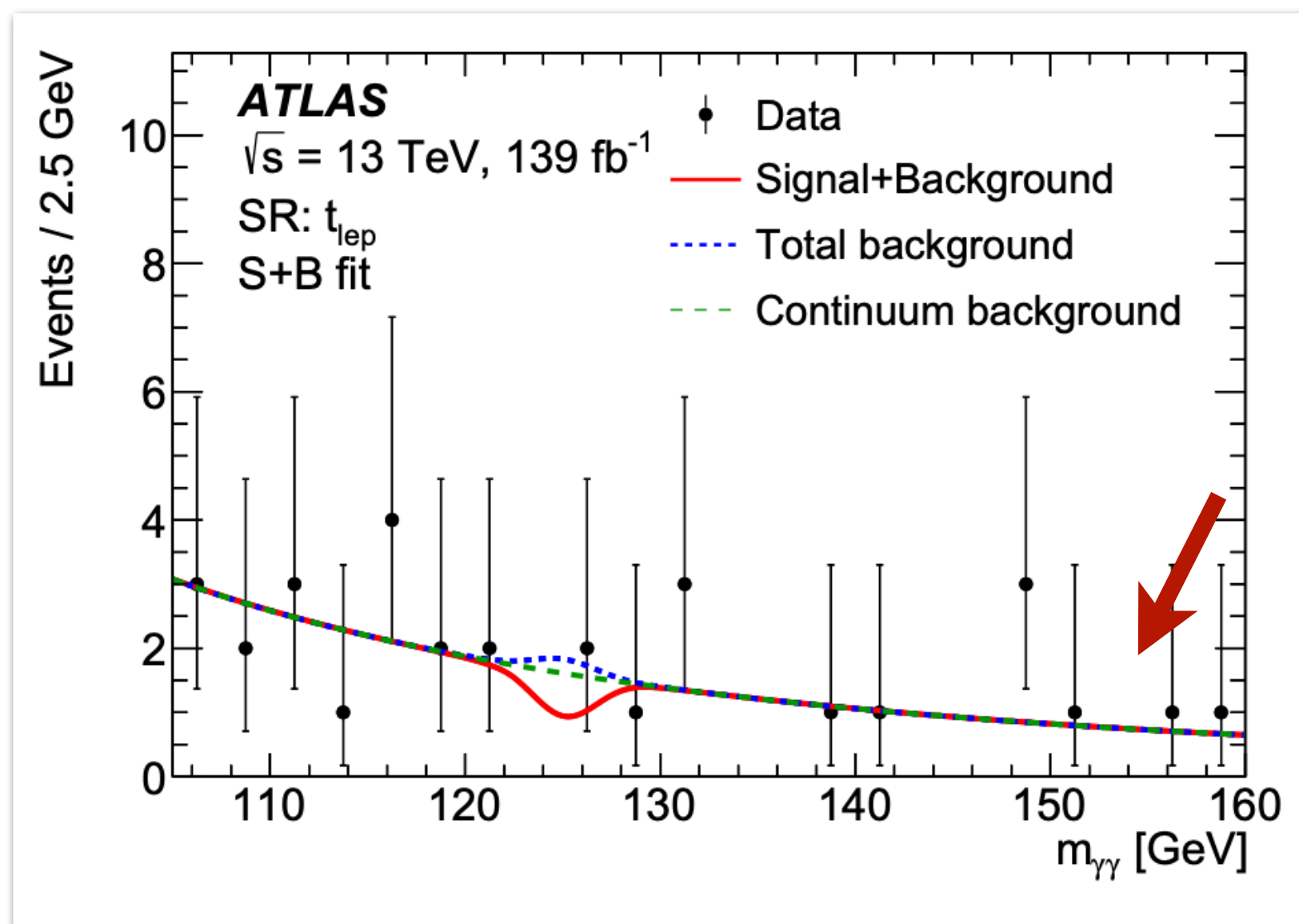
[ATLAS-CONF-2024-005]

- Possible new Higgs Boson?

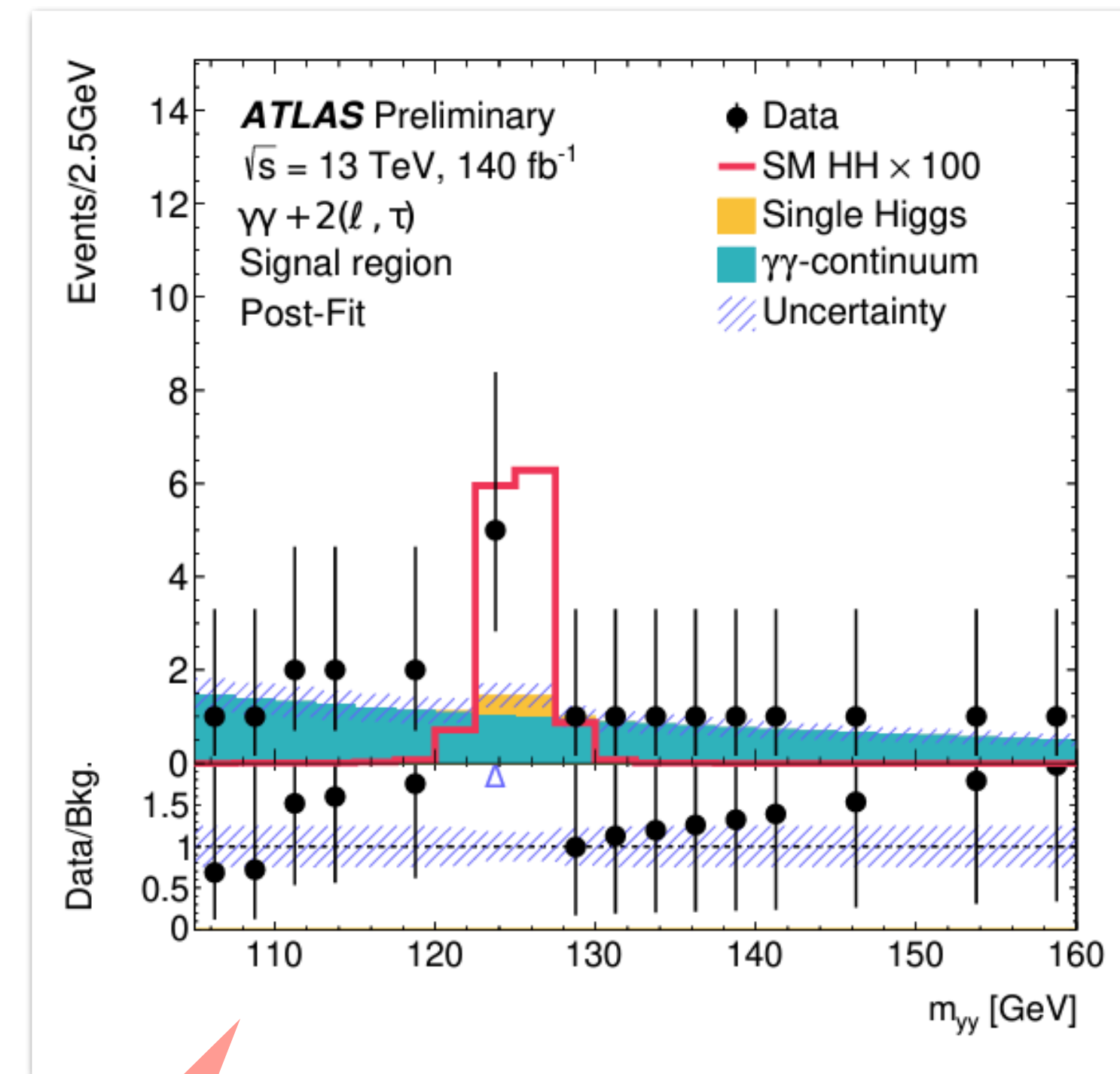
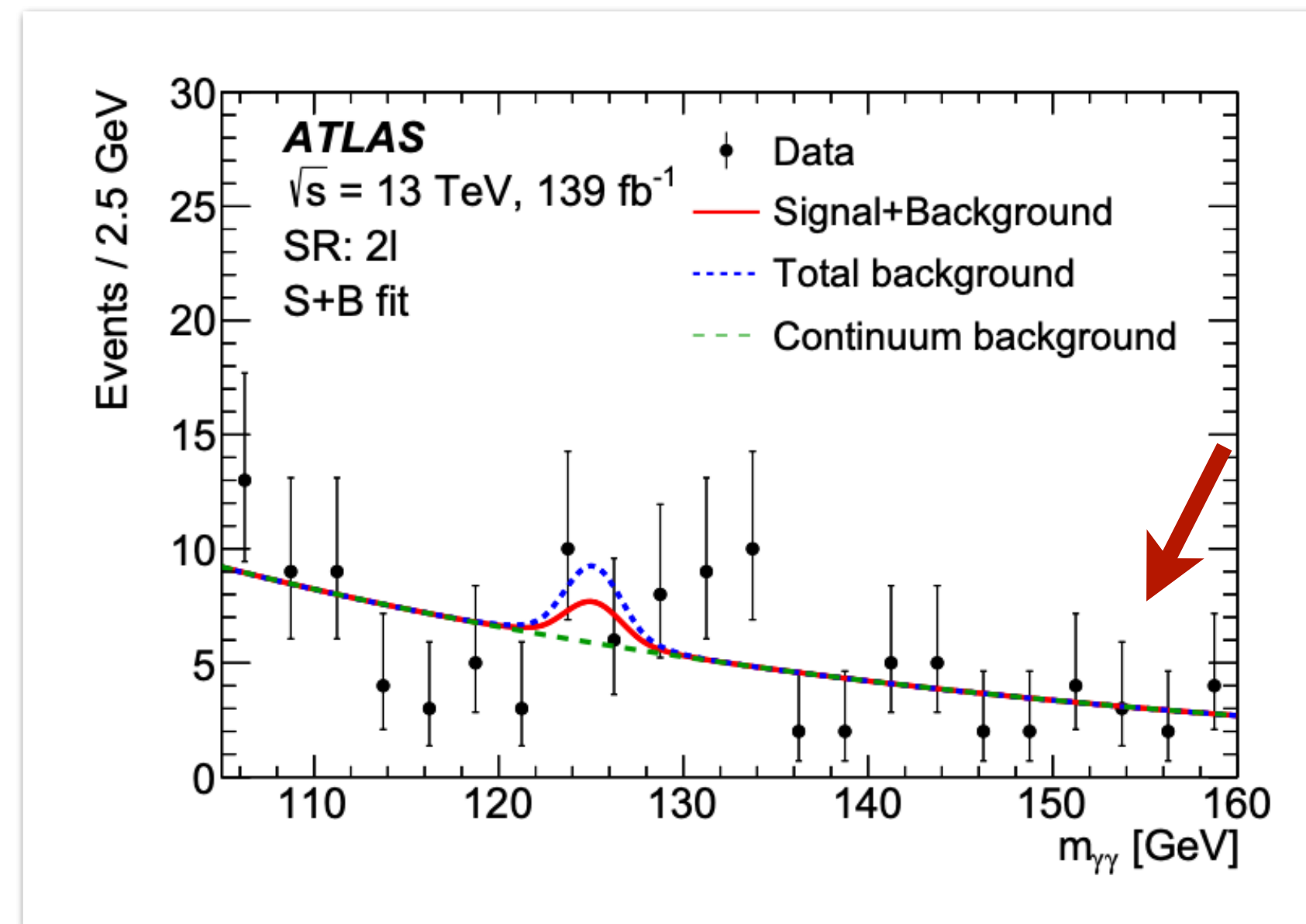
# Motivation

## Hints for new Higgs Bosons

- No Excesses at 152 GeV in SRs:  $\gamma\gamma + t_{\text{lep}}$ ,  $\gamma\gamma + 2\ell$ ,  $\gamma\gamma + 2\tau$ ,



[ATLAS: CERN-EP-2022-232]



[ATLAS-CONF-2024-005]

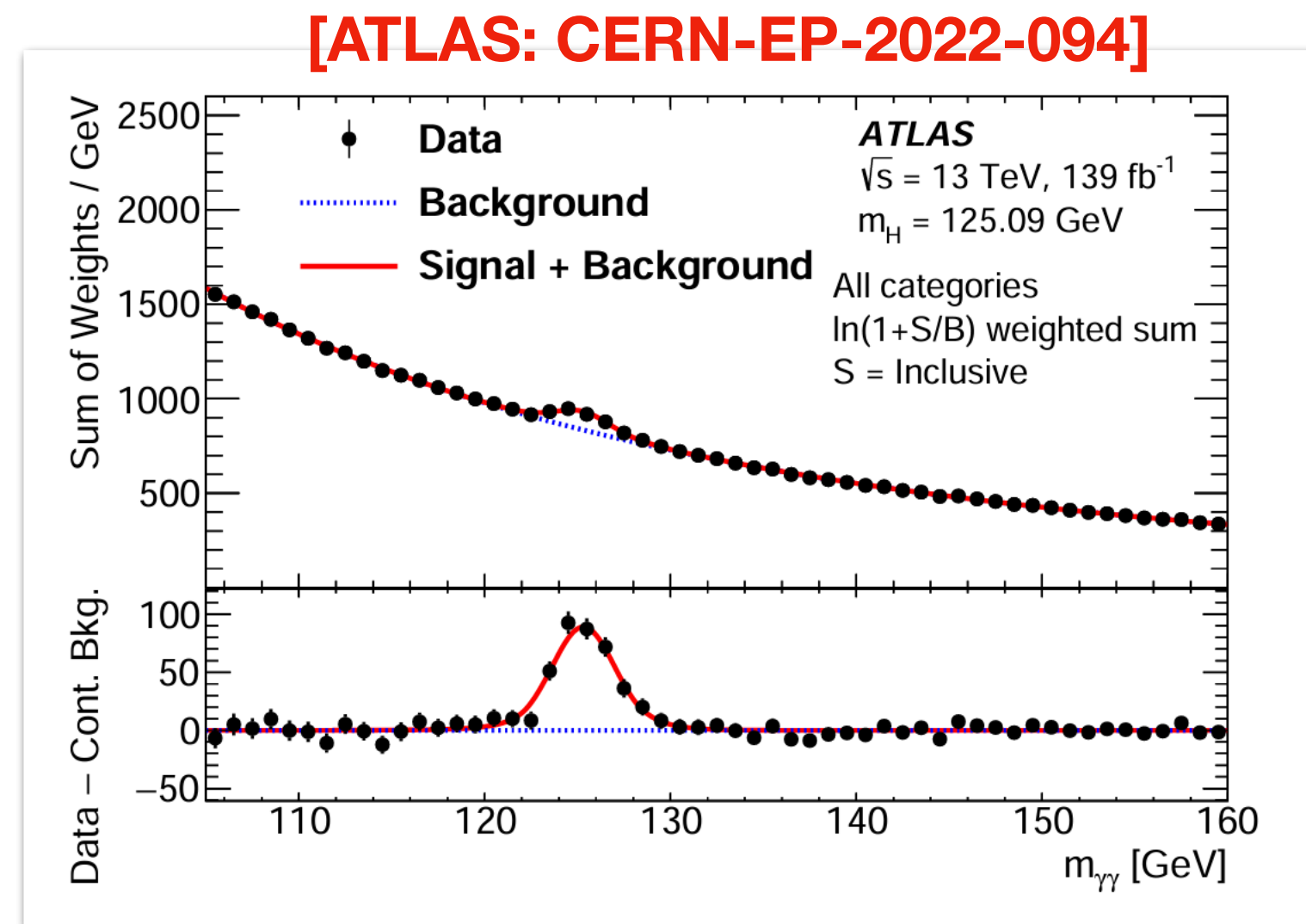
Point towards  
associated  $H^\pm$



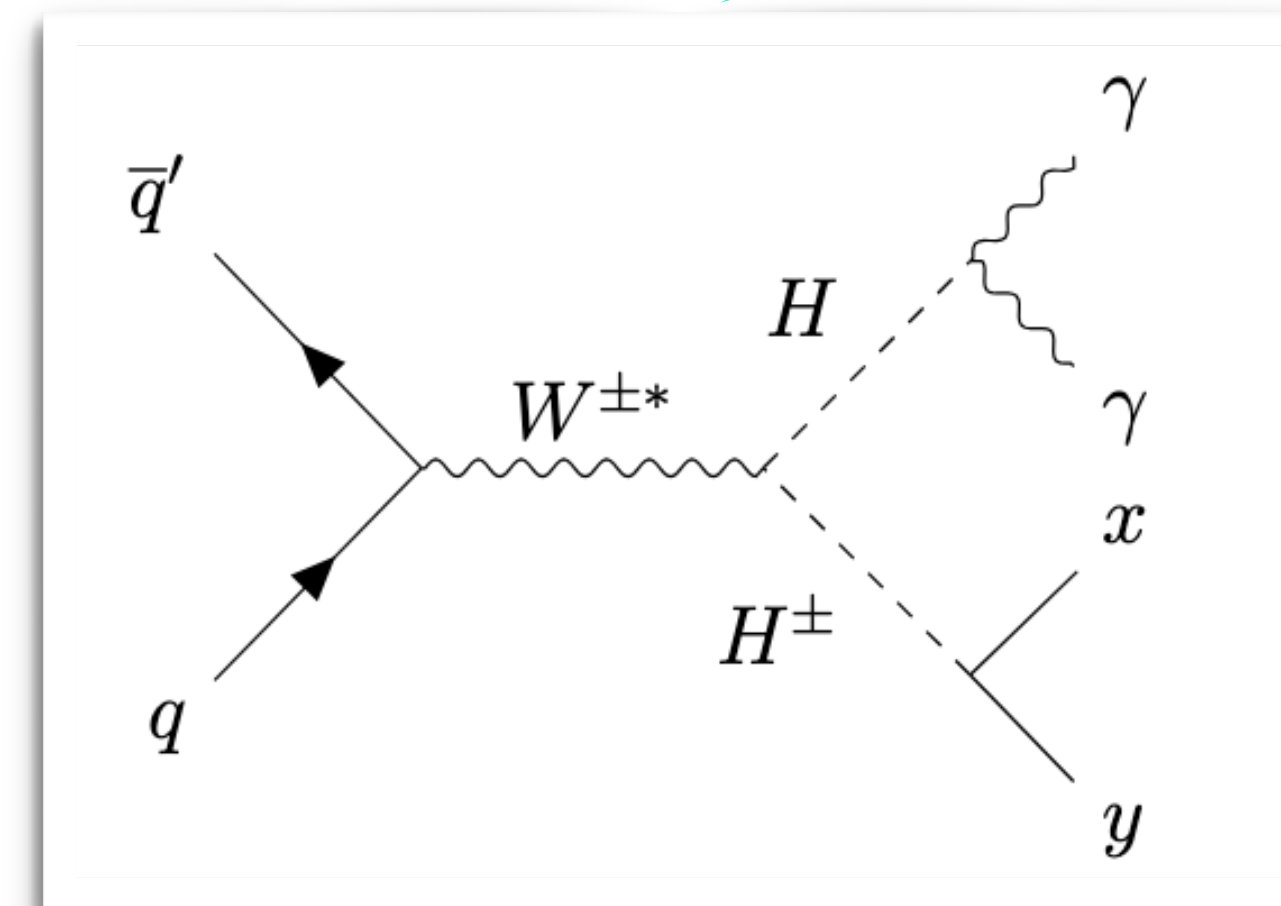
# Motivation

## Hints for new Higgs Bosons

- No excess in **Inclusive Searches**



**Dominant  
Production Process**



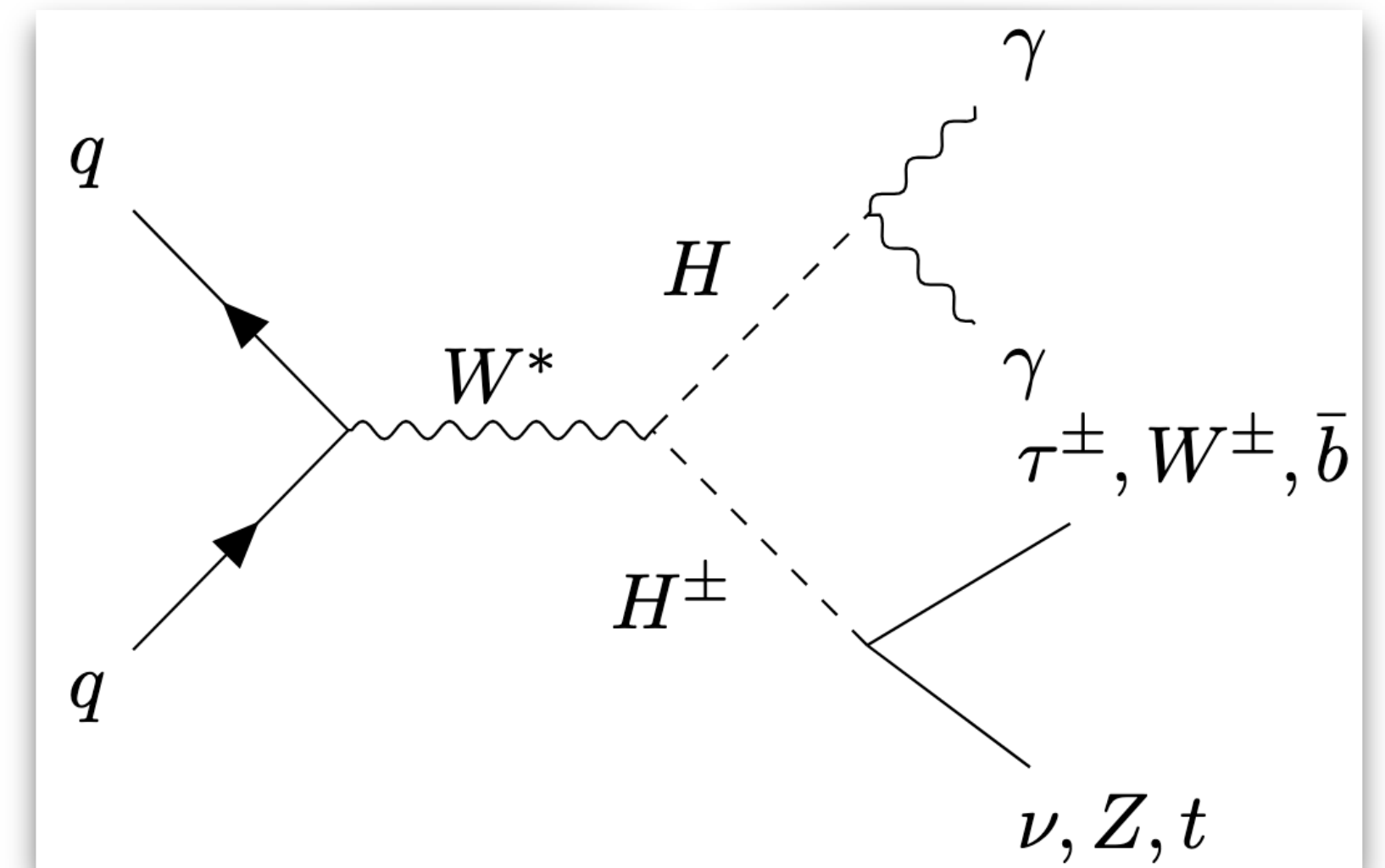
- Hints towards **DY production** of new Higgs at LHC

- Properties of  $H^\pm$  **unknown**

# Simplified Model

## Model Description

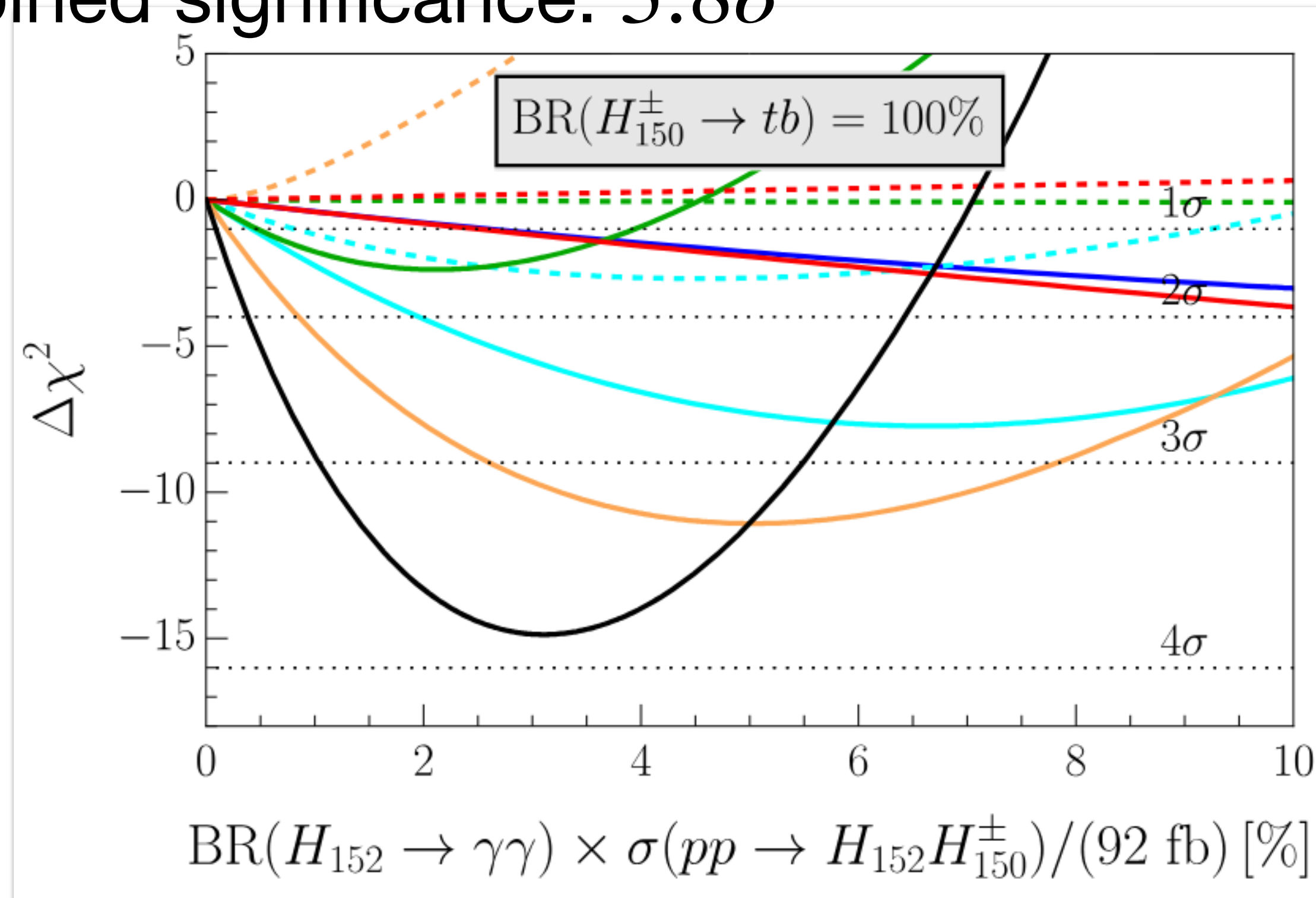
- Two New Particles:  $H$ ,  $H^\pm$
- $H$  produced only via DY process
- Dominant decays of  $H^\pm$ :  $tb$ ,  $\tau\nu$ ,  $WZ$
- Simulation Setup: MadGraph + Pythia + Delphes
- Log-Likelihood Fit performed using Poisson Statistics



# Simplified Model

## Charged Higgs Decay

- $\text{BR}(H^\pm \rightarrow tb \rightarrow bbW) = 100\%$
- Dominant Effect:  $\gamma\gamma + \ell b, \gamma\gamma + MET, \gamma\gamma + 1\ell, \gamma\gamma + t_{\text{lep}}$
- Combined significance:  $3.8\sigma$



Relevant SRs

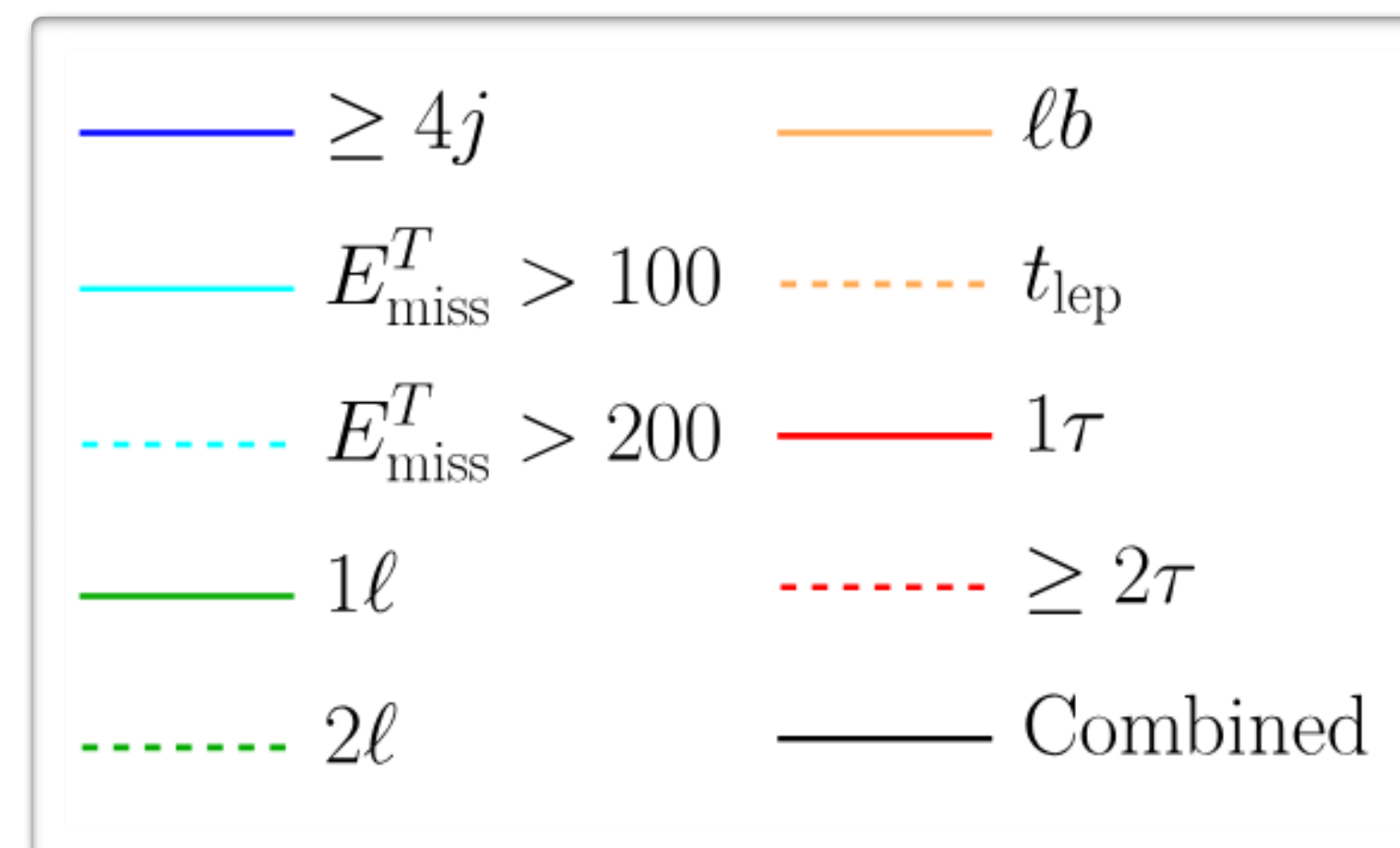
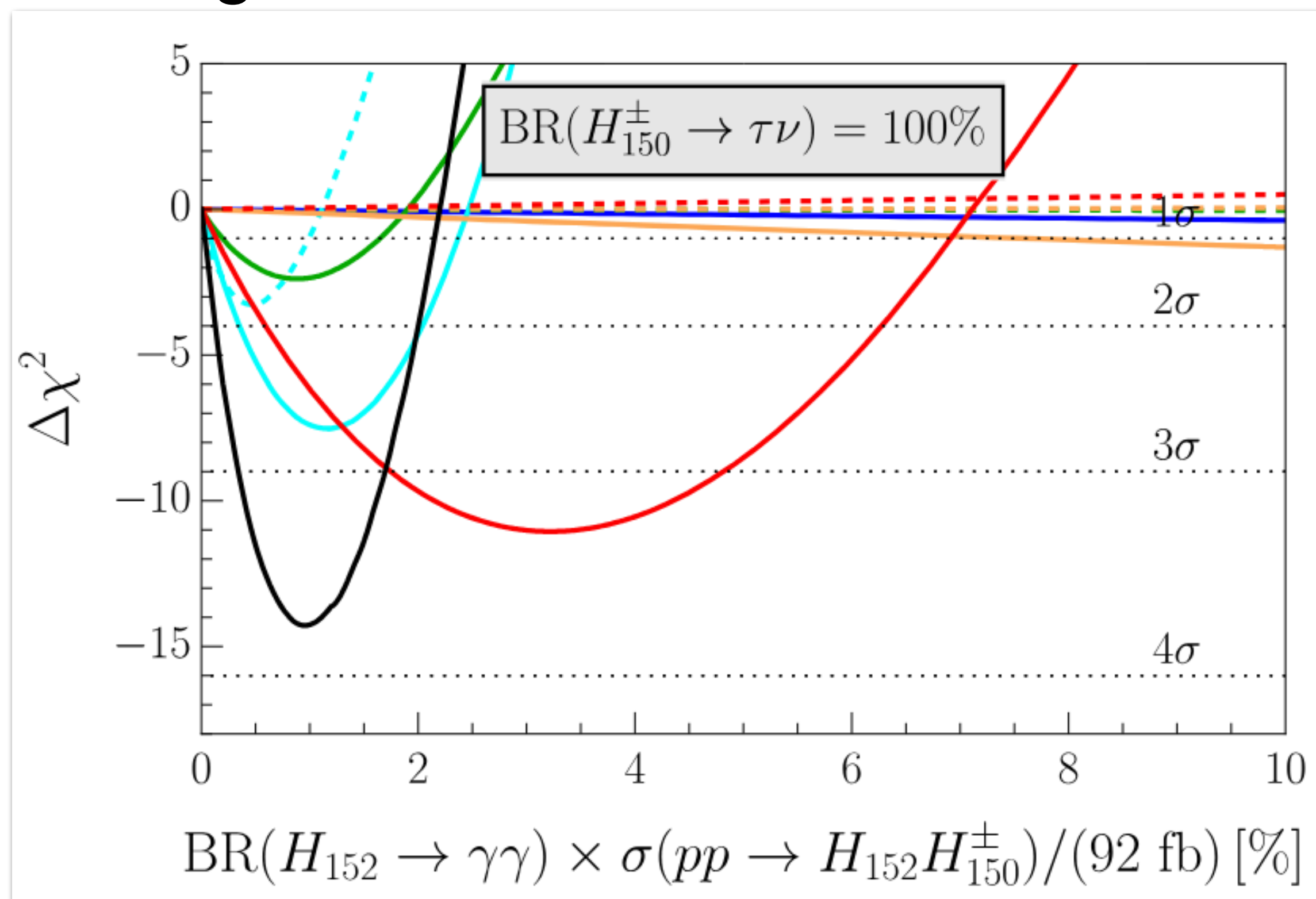
$\geq 4j$	$\ell b$
$E_{\text{miss}}^T > 100$	$t_{\text{lep}}$
$E_{\text{miss}}^T > 200$	$1\tau$
$1\ell$	$\geq 2\tau$
$2\ell$	Combined

Cross-section Normalized  
to a  $SU(2)_L$  doublet

# Simplified Model

## Charged Higgs Decay

- $\text{BR}(H^\pm \rightarrow \tau\nu) = 100\%$
- Dominant Effect:  $\gamma\gamma + MET, \gamma\gamma + 1\tau, \gamma\gamma + 1\ell$
- Combined significance:  $3.8\sigma$





# Simplified Model

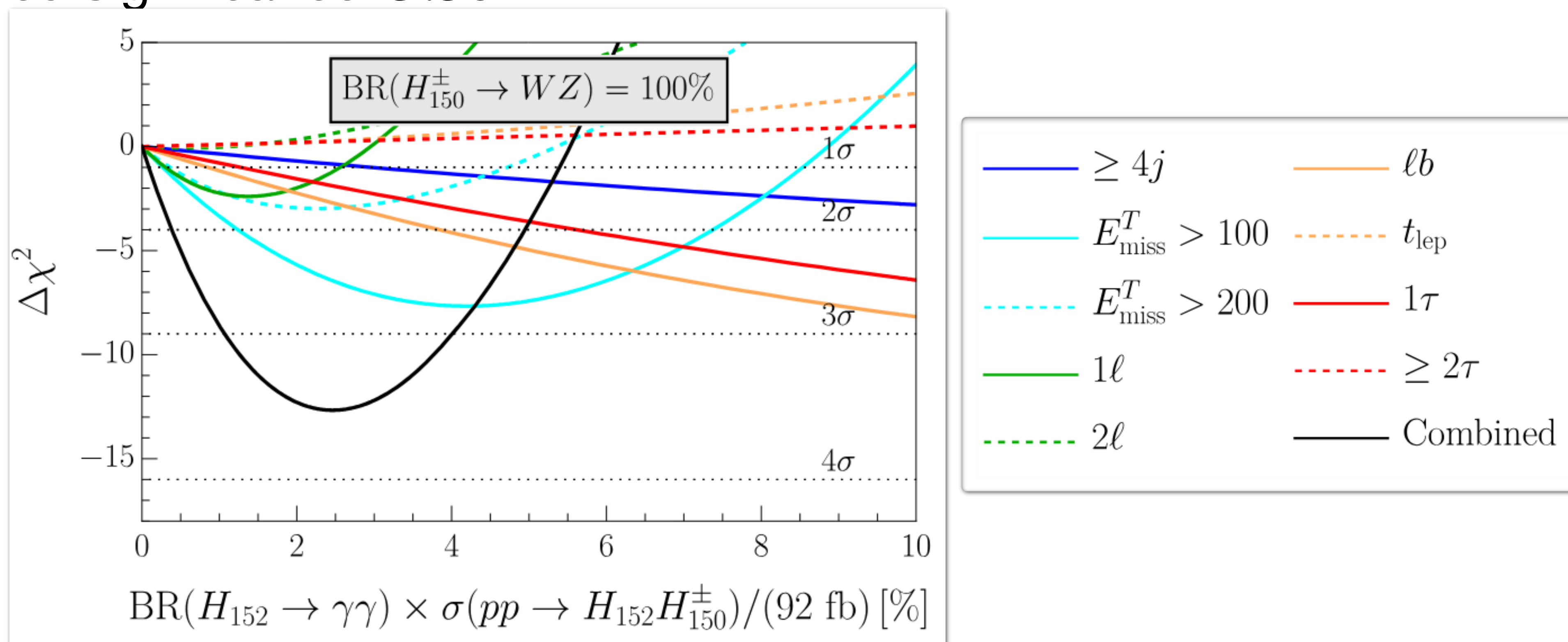
## Charged Higgs Decay

○  $\text{BR}(H^\pm \rightarrow WZ) = 100\%$

Dominant in Triplet Model

○ Dominant Effect:  $\gamma\gamma + MET$ ,  $\gamma\gamma + 1\ell$ ,  $\gamma\gamma + 2\ell$ ,  $\gamma\gamma + 2\tau$

○ Combined significance:  $3.5\sigma$



# Model Building

## Key Points

- Small total production cross-section
- Dominant DY production cross-section
- Large  $\text{BR}(H^\pm \rightarrow tb)$  and  $\text{BR}(H^\pm \rightarrow \tau\nu)$
- Small  $\text{BR}(H^\pm \rightarrow WZ)$  to avoid multiple leptons
- Sizable  $\text{BR}(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$

# Explanation in Real Higgs Triplet

## Model Description

○ Scalar Particles:  $h, \Delta^0, \Delta^\pm$

No Yukawa couplings

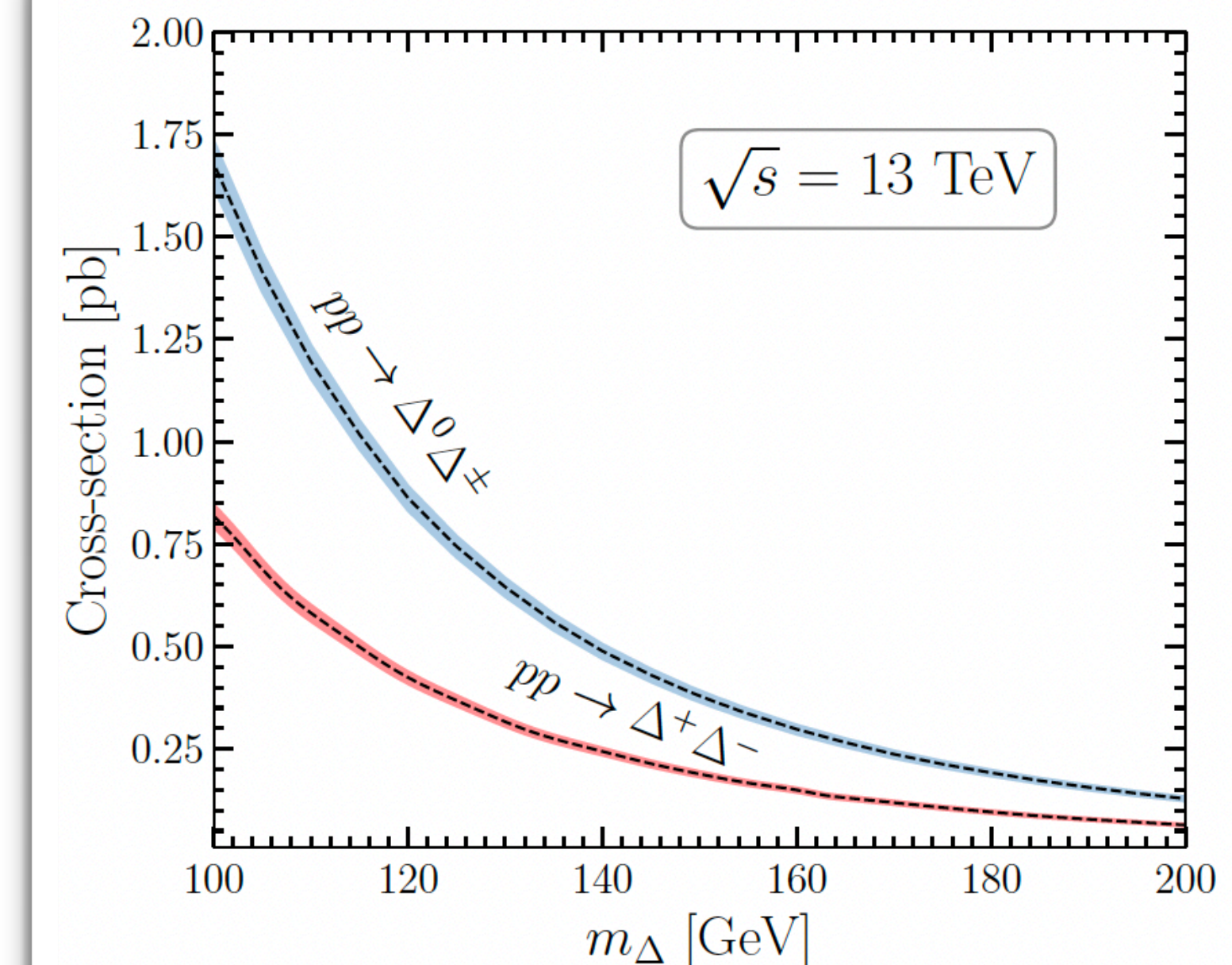
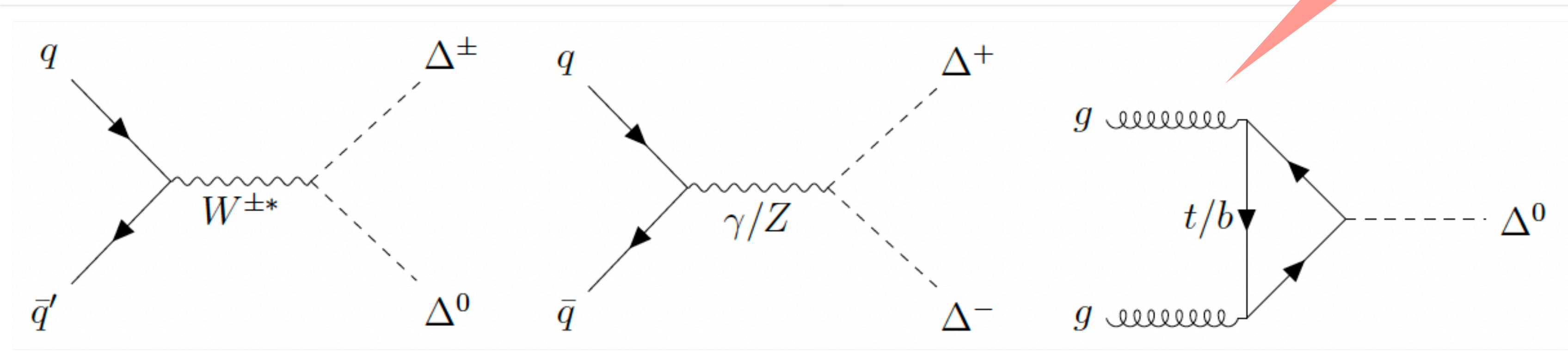
○ Physical Parameters:  $m_h, m_{\Delta^0}, m_{\Delta^\pm}, v_\Delta, \alpha$

$m_h = 125 \text{ GeV}, v_\Delta = 3.4 \text{ GeV}$

○ Theoretical constraints require  $m_{\Delta^0} \approx m_{\Delta^\pm}$

○ Production channels at LHC

Suppressed by mixing

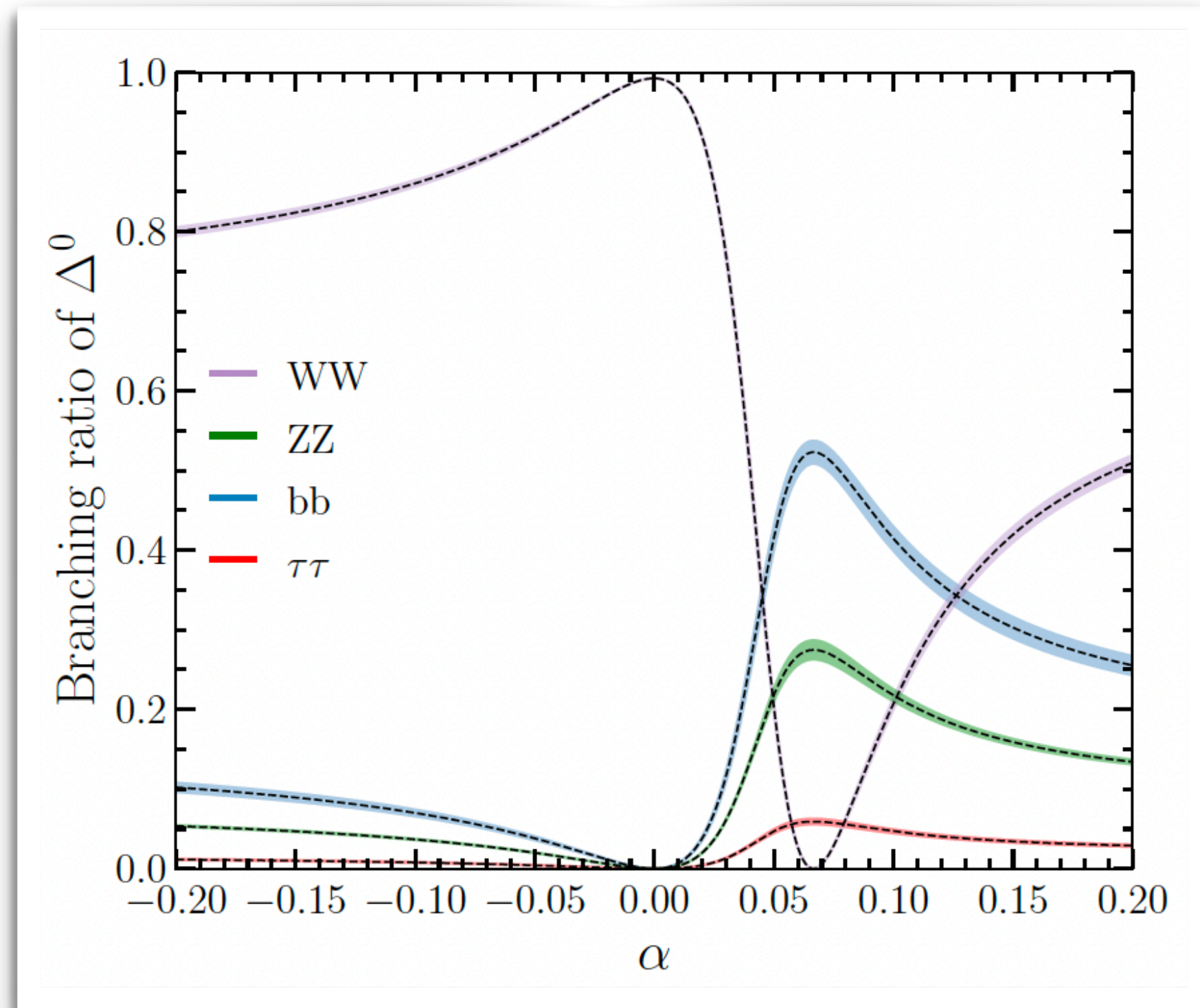




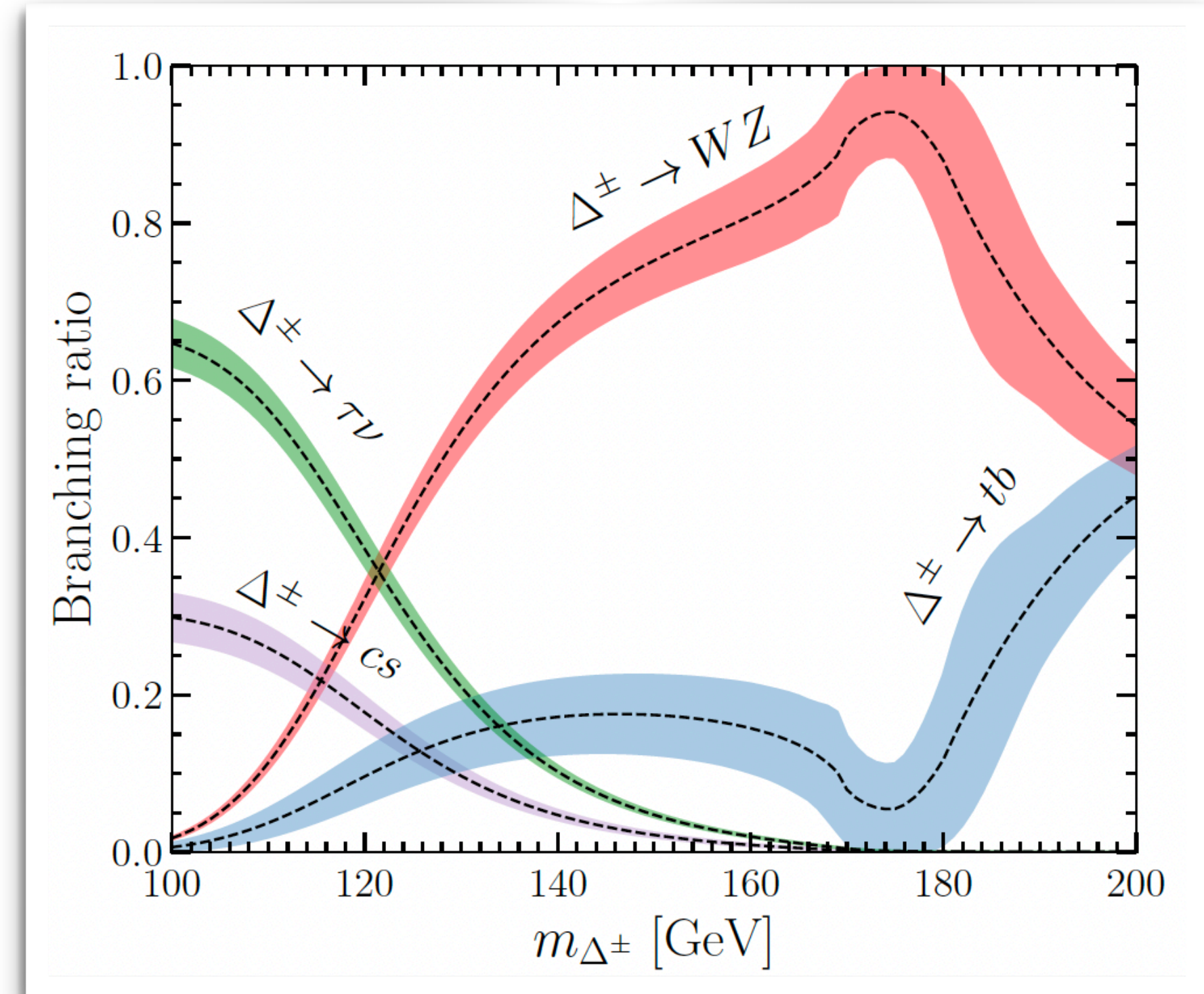
# Explanation in Real Higgs Triplet

## Model Description

- Dominant Triplet Higgses **decay channels**



Branching Ratio of  $\Delta_0$   
( $m_{\Delta_0} = 150$  GeV)



Branching Ratio of  $\Delta^\pm$   
( $\alpha = 0.1$ )

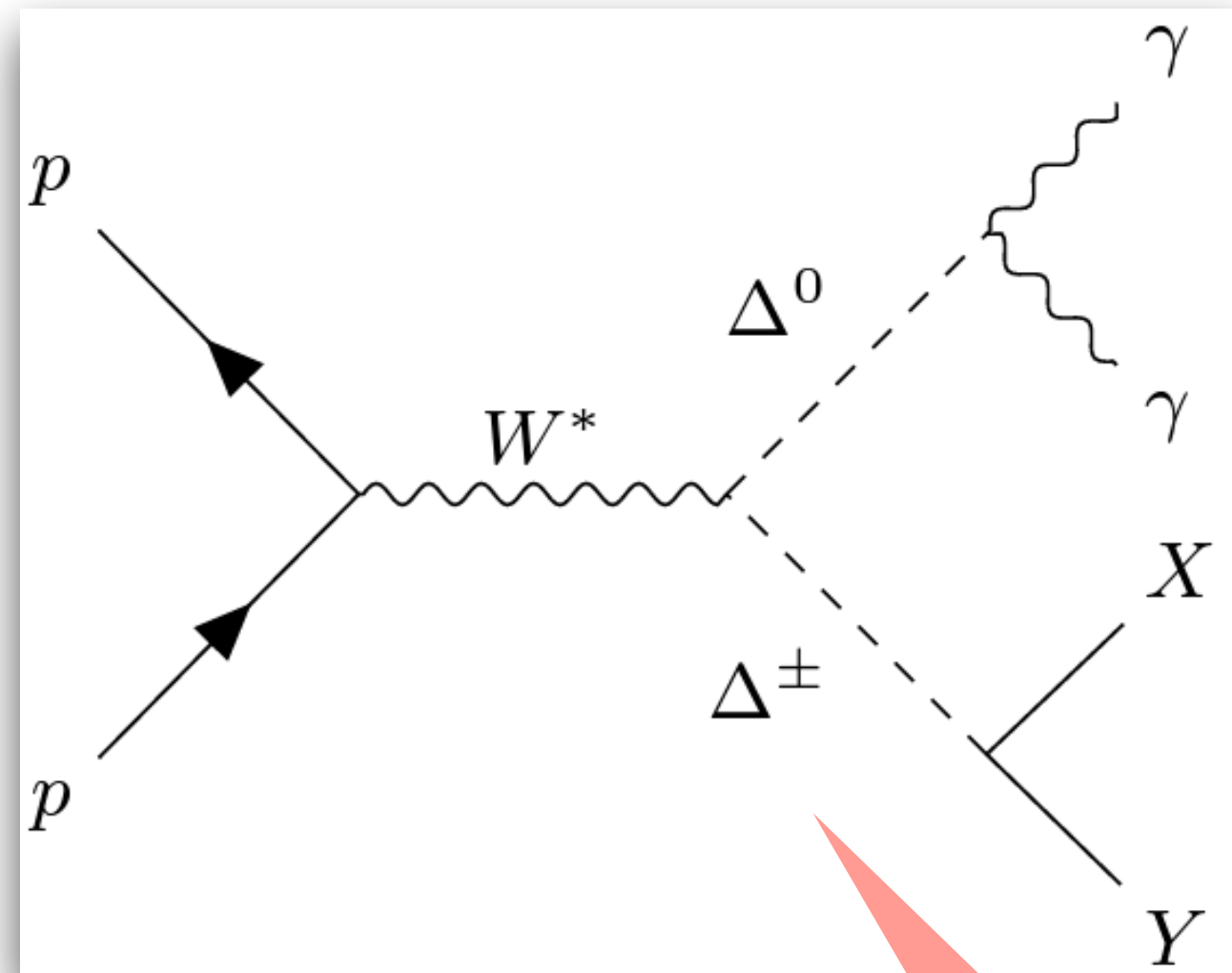


# Explanation in Real Higgs Triplet

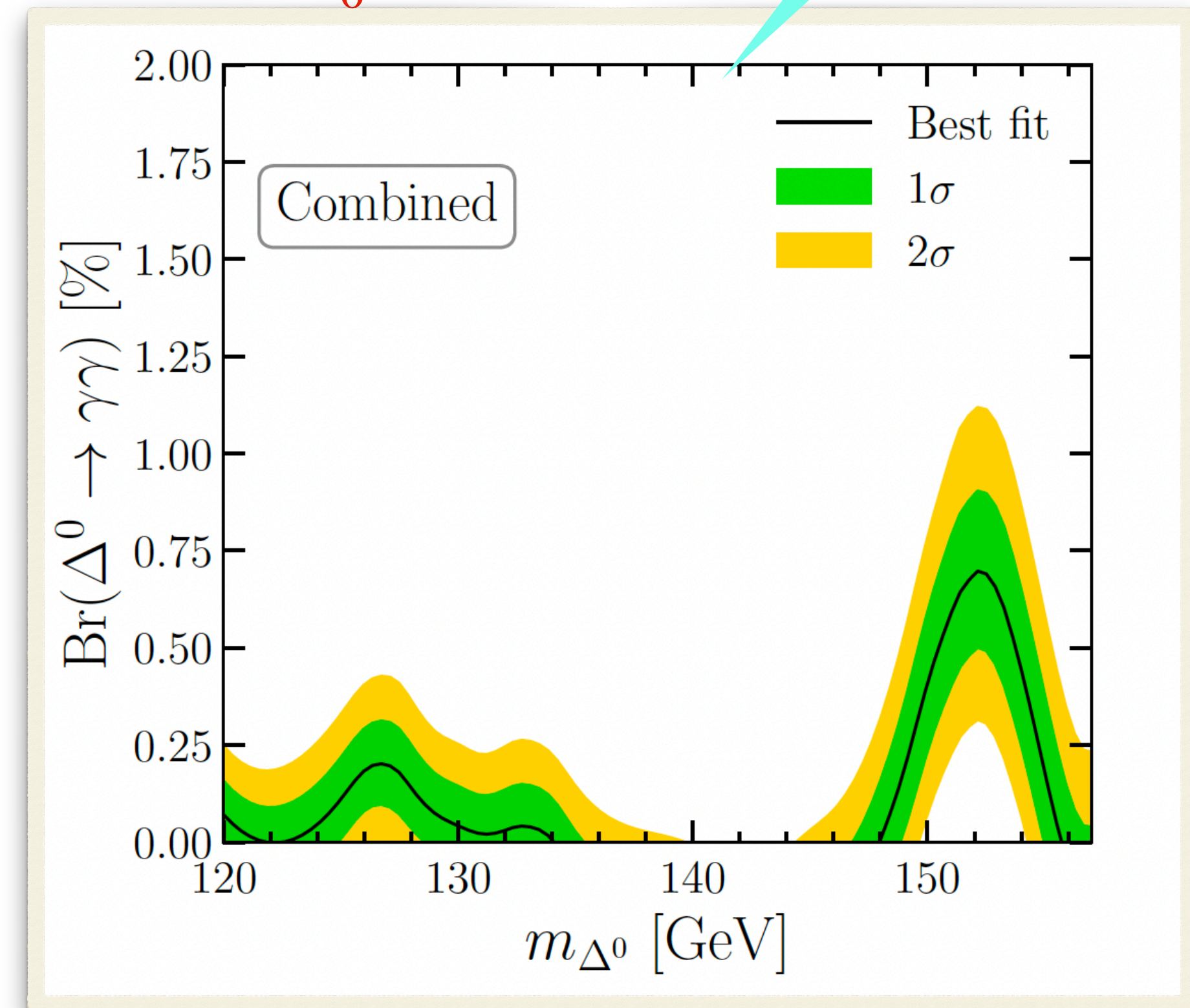
## Explanation of $\gamma\gamma + X$ Excesses

- Model generated using **SARAH**
- Free Variables:  $m_{\Delta_0}$ ,  $\text{Br}(\Delta_0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$  instead of  $m_{\Delta_0}$ ,  $\alpha$

(S. Ashanujaman, SB et al.)  
[2404.14492]



Process Simulated



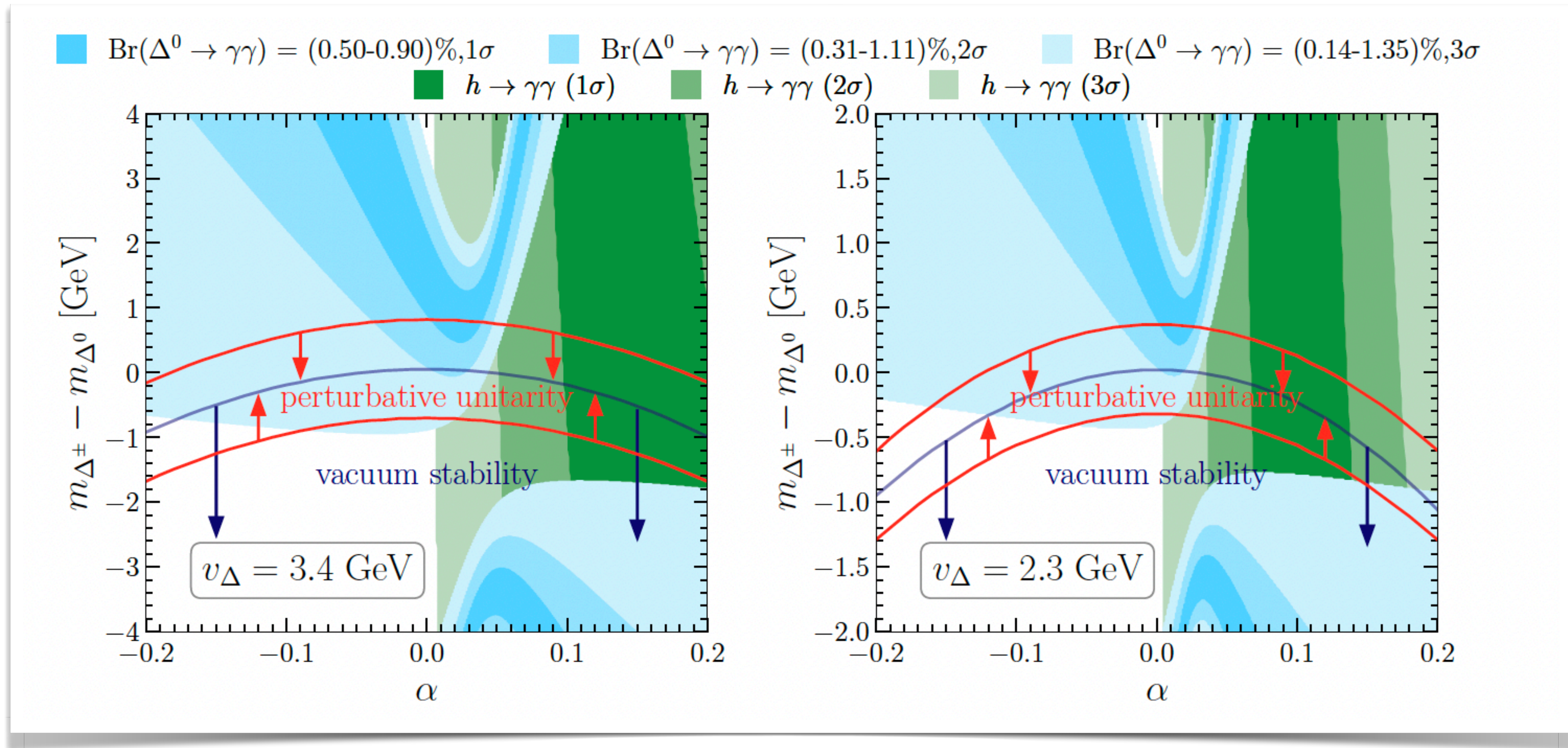
$\text{Br}(\Delta_0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \approx 0.7\%$  at  $\approx 151$  GeV ( $3.9\sigma$ )



# Explanation in Real Higgs Triplet

## Explanation of $\gamma\gamma + X$ Excesses

- $\text{BR}(\Delta^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$  compatible with SM Higgs signal strength to  $\gamma\gamma$

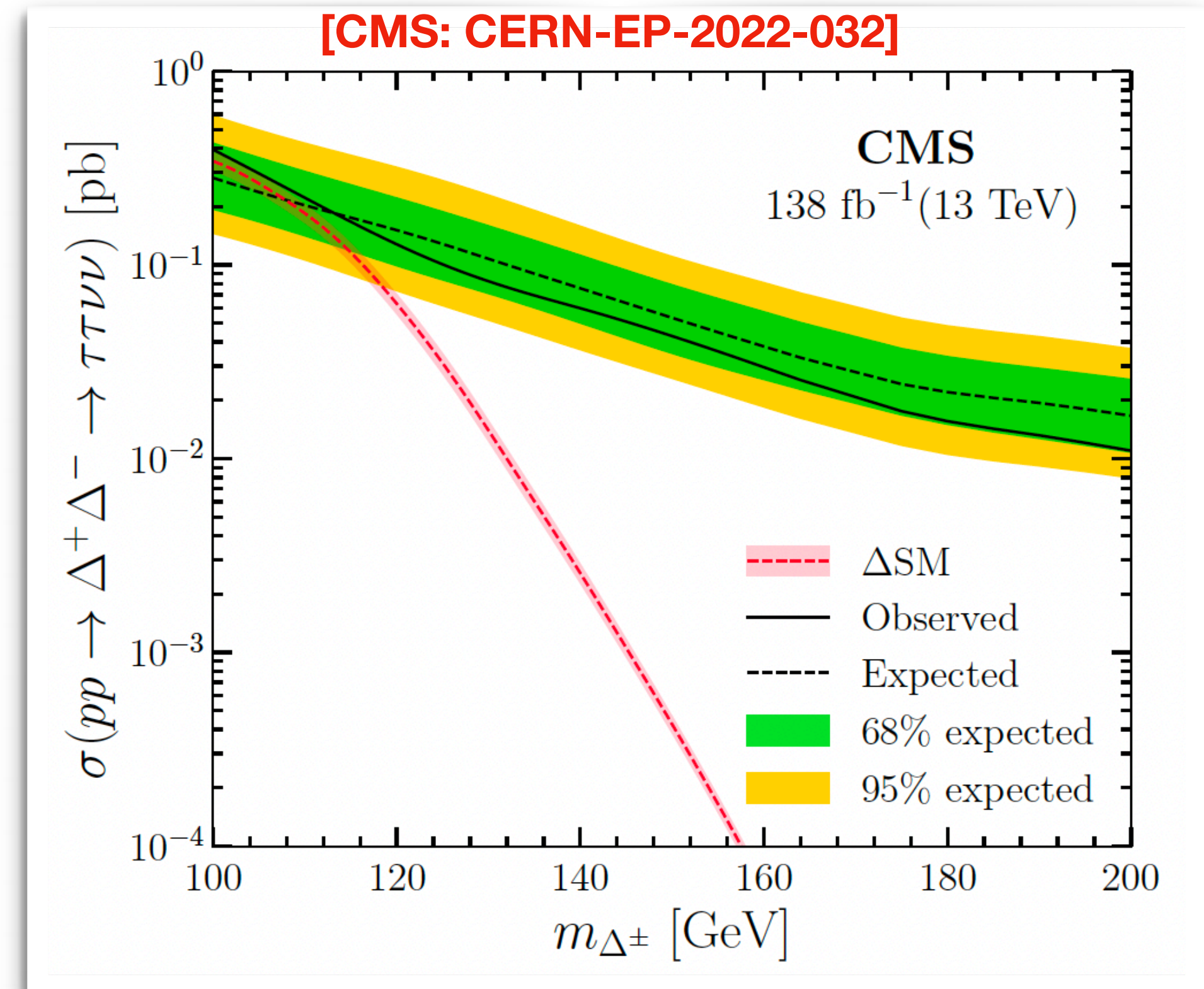
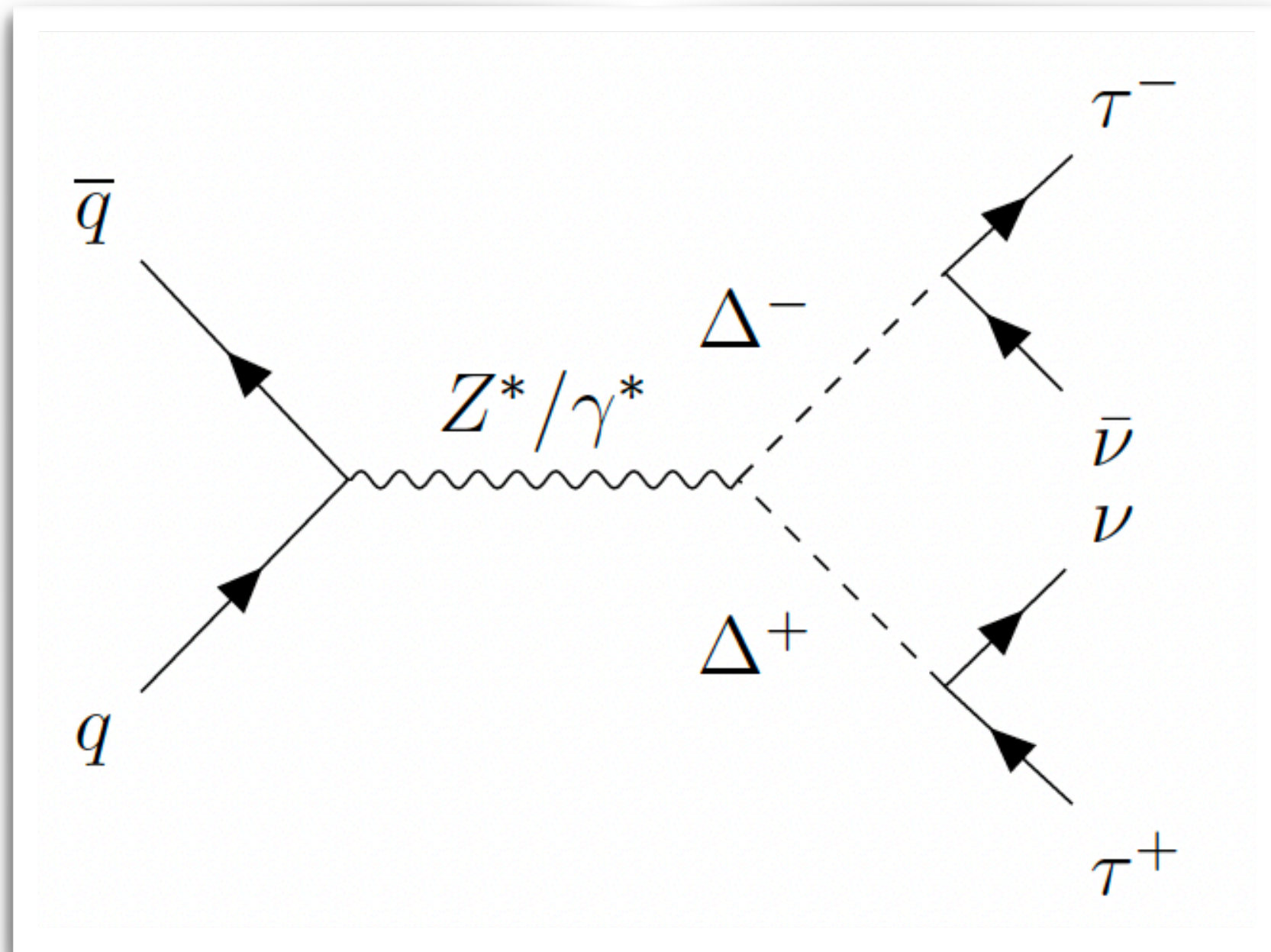




# Explanation in Real Higgs Triplet

## Model Constraints

- Mass of  $\Delta^\pm$  constrained from **stau-like searches**



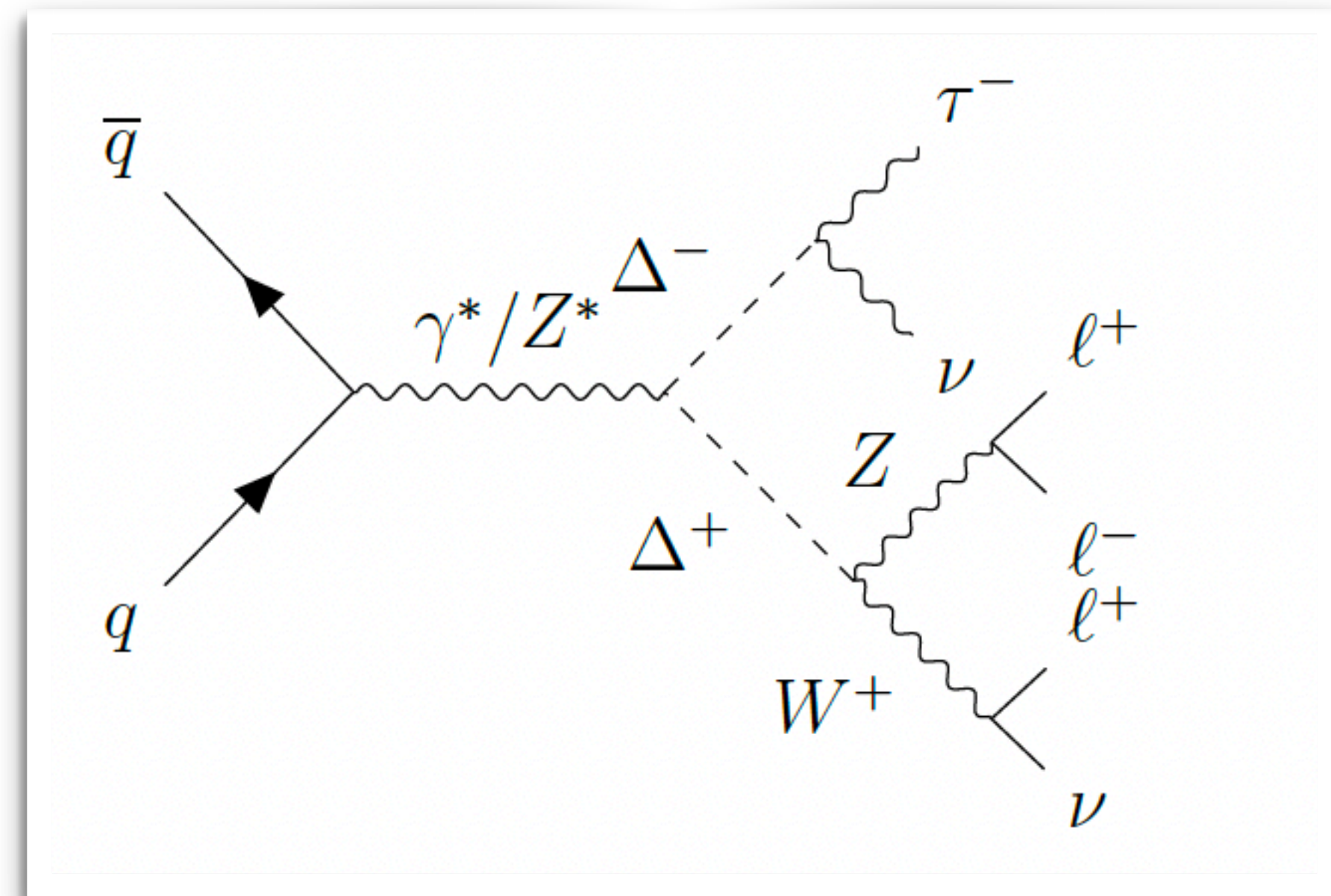
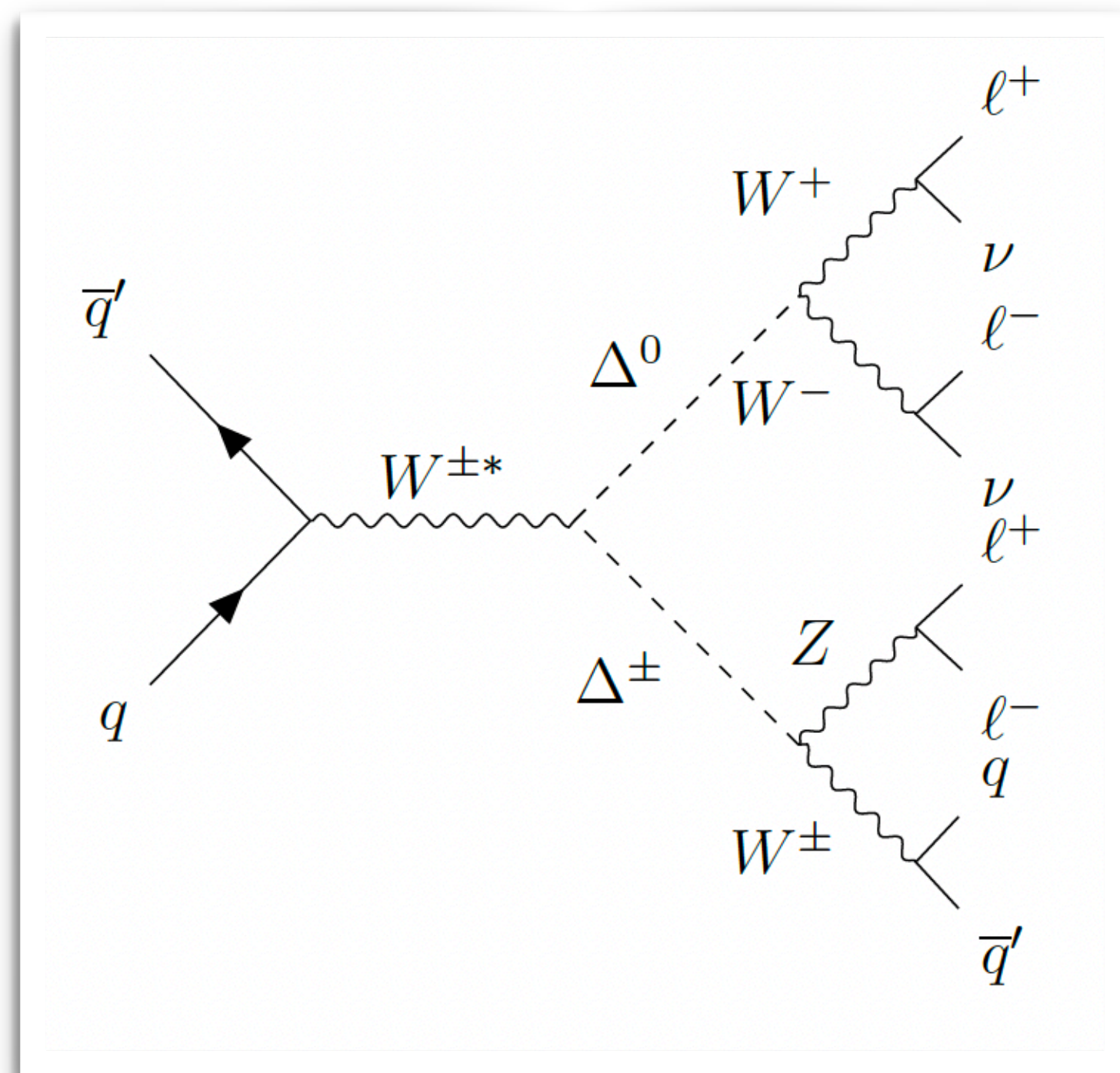
- $m_{\Delta^\pm} < 110$  GeV **excluded** at 95 % confidence level.



# Explanation in Real Higgs Triplet

## Model Constraints

- Triplet Higgs produces **multiple lepton final states** searched by ATLAS & CMS



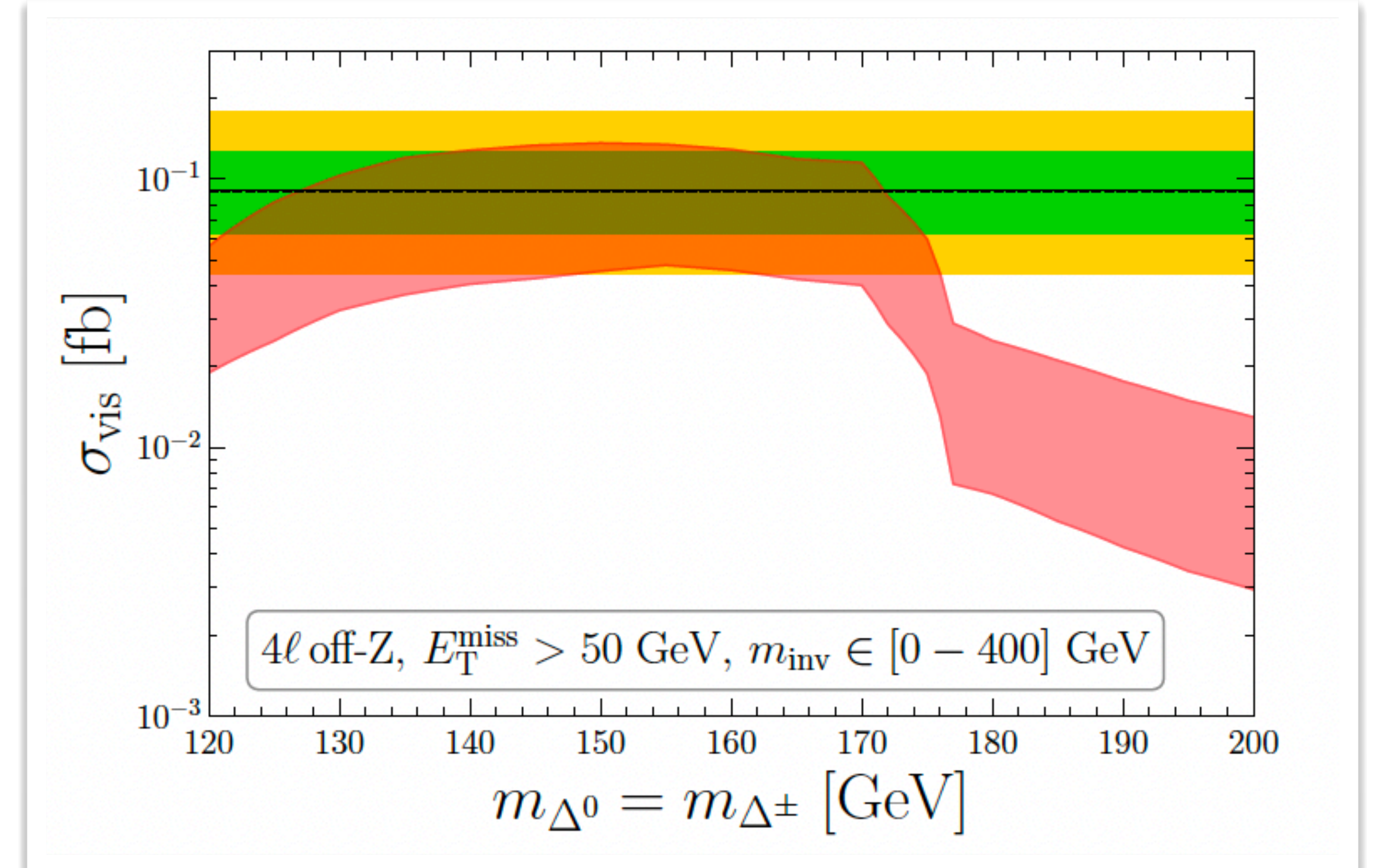
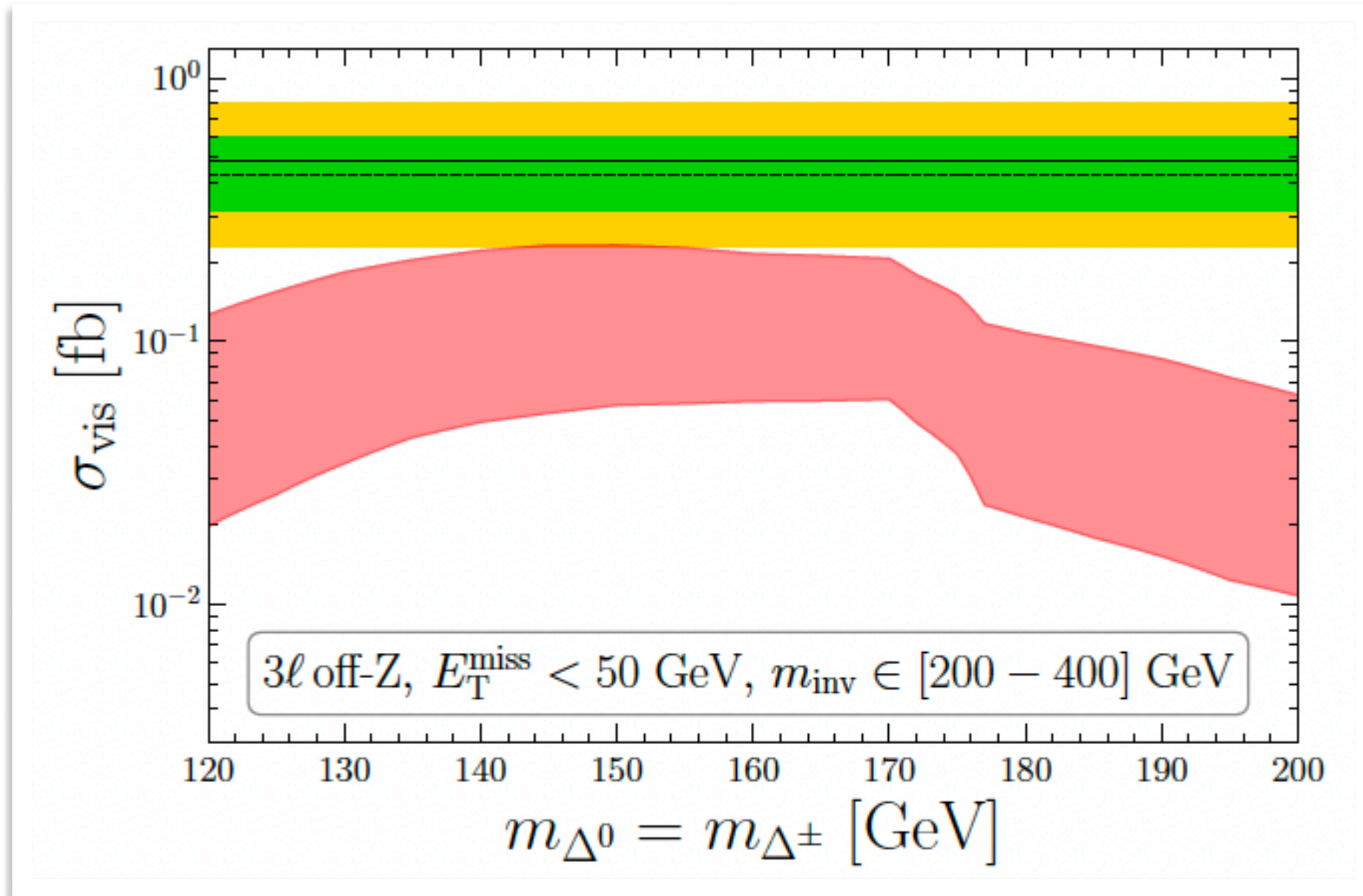
- ATLAS provides **upper limit** on visible cross-section for 22 SRs  
[CMS: CERN-EP-EP-2021-063]



# Explanation in Real Higgs Triplet

## Model Constraints

- Within 95 % CL upper limits of **ATLAS**



- Simulated  $pp \rightarrow \Delta^0 \Delta^\pm$  and  $pp \rightarrow \Delta^\mp \Delta^\pm$
- Upper band obtained for  $\text{Br}(\Delta^0 \rightarrow WW) = 100 \%$

# Summary & Outlook

- Model-Independent analysis by ATLAS of  $\gamma\gamma + X$  in 22 SRs
- Excesses observed in some SRs
- Hints for associated production of Neutral Higgs Boson
- Explanation possible in  $\Delta\text{SM}$  and 2HDM
- All theoretical constraints and experimental constraints statisfied



Next Talk

**Thank you for your attention!**

**Backup**



# Signal Regions

## Cuts

Target	Signal region	Detector level selections	Correlation
High jet activity [90]	$4j$	$n_{\text{jet}} \geq 4,  \eta_{\text{jet}}  < 2.5$	—
Top [90]	$\ell b$	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} \geq 1, n_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 1$	—
	$t_{\text{lep}}$	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} = 1, n_{\text{jet}} = n_{b\text{-jet}} = 1$	—
Lepton [90, 91]	$2\ell$	$ee, \mu\mu$ or $e\mu$	$< 26\%$ ( $1\ell$ )
	$3\ell$	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} \geq 3$	
	$1\ell$	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} = 1, n_{\tau_{\text{had}}} = 0, n_{b\text{-jet}} = 0, E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 35 \text{ GeV}$ (only for $e$ -channel)	$< 26\%$ ( $2\ell$ )
Tau [91]	$1\tau_{\text{had}}$	$n_{\ell=e,\mu} = 0, n_{\tau_{\text{had}}} = 1, n_{b\text{-jet}} = 0, E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 35 \text{ GeV}$	—
$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ [90]	$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 100 \text{ GeV}$	$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 100 \text{ GeV}$	$29\%$ ( $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 200 \text{ GeV}$ )
	$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 200 \text{ GeV}$	$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 200 \text{ GeV}$	$29\%$ ( $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 100 \text{ GeV}$ )
	$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 300 \text{ GeV}$	$E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} > 300 \text{ GeV}$	—

# Explanation in Real Higgs Triplet

## Model Description

- Extend SM with  $Y = 0$ ,  $SU(2)_L$  triplet:  $\Delta = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} v_\Delta + h_\Delta^0 & \sqrt{2}h_\Delta^+ \\ \sqrt{2}h_\Delta^- & -v_\Delta - h_\Delta^0 \end{pmatrix}$

- No direct coupling of  $\Delta$  with fermions

Suppressed ggH

- Scalar potential

$$V = -\mu_\phi^2 \phi^\dagger \phi + \frac{\lambda_\phi}{4} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 - \mu_\Delta^2 \text{Tr}(\Delta^\dagger \Delta) + \frac{\lambda}{4} [\text{Tr}(\Delta^\dagger \Delta)]^2$$

$$+ A \phi^\dagger \Delta \phi + \lambda_{\phi\Delta} \phi^\dagger \phi \text{Tr}(\Delta^\dagger \Delta)$$

where  $\phi$  is the SM doublet.



# Explanation in Real Higgs Triplet

## Statistical Analysis

- For a **given** SR, assuming each bin  $i$  is an **independent** event

$$\mathcal{L}_R = \prod_i \left[ \frac{\mathcal{L}(N_i^{\text{SM}}, N_i^{\text{exp}})}{\mathcal{L}(N_i^{\text{NP}}, N_i^{\text{exp}})} \right]$$

- Combining SRs means the **product** of the likelihood function of all SRs.

- Log Likelihood Ratio Test

$$\Delta\chi^2 = -2 \log(\mathcal{L}_R)$$

# Real Higgs Triplet

## Basis Transformation

### Physical to Lagrangian Basis

$$\begin{aligned}m_h^2 &= \frac{\lambda_\Phi v_\Phi^2}{2} + \tan \alpha \left( \lambda_{\Phi\Delta} v_\Delta - \frac{A}{2} \right) v_\Phi, \\m_{\Delta^0}^2 &= \frac{\lambda_\Delta v_\Delta^2}{2} + \frac{A v_\Phi^2}{4 v_\Delta} - \tan \alpha \left( \lambda_{\Phi\Delta} v_\Delta - \frac{A}{2} \right) v_\Phi, \\m_{\Delta^\pm}^2 &= A \frac{v_\Phi^2 + 4 v_\Delta^2}{4 v_\Delta},\end{aligned}$$

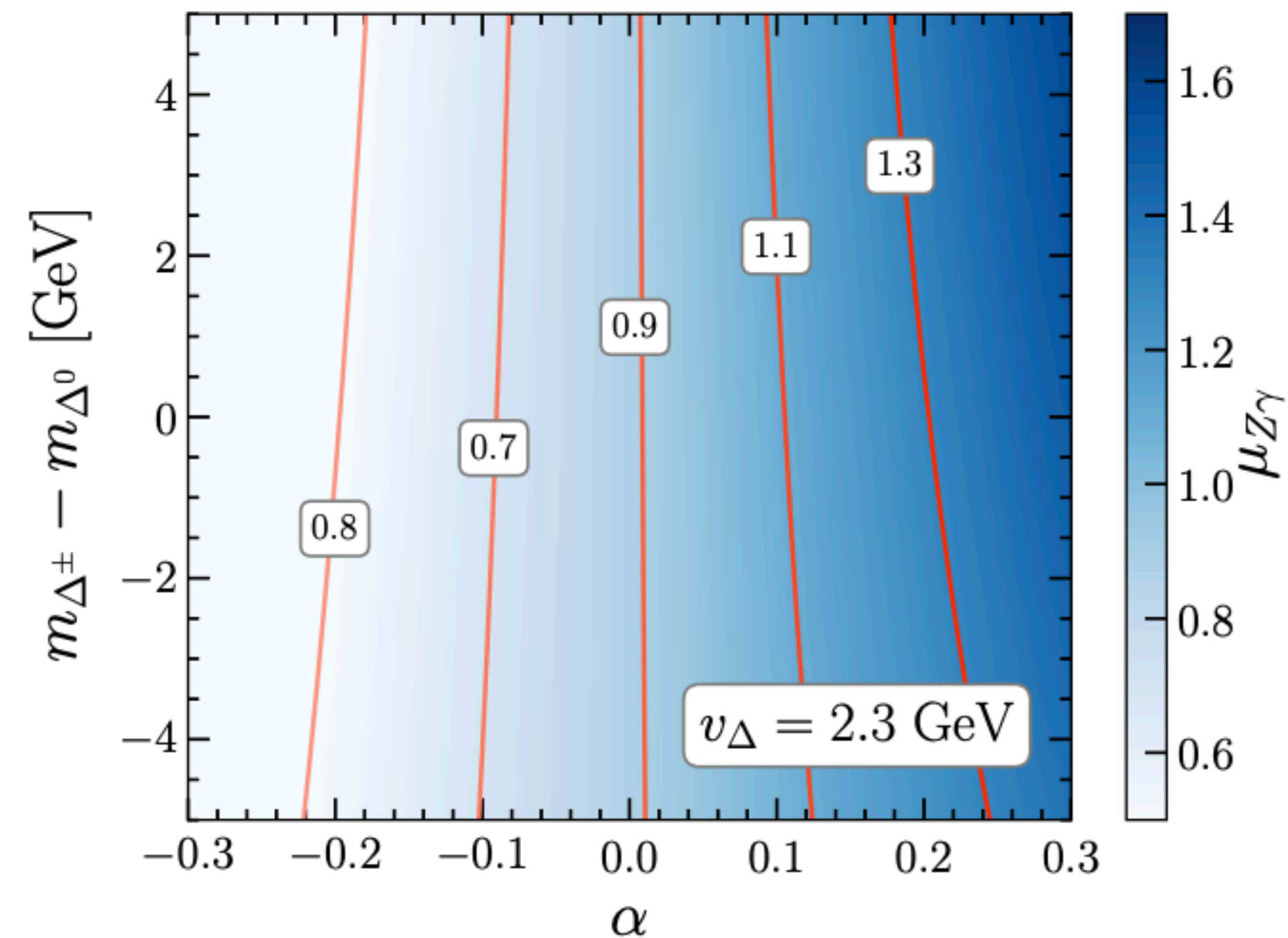
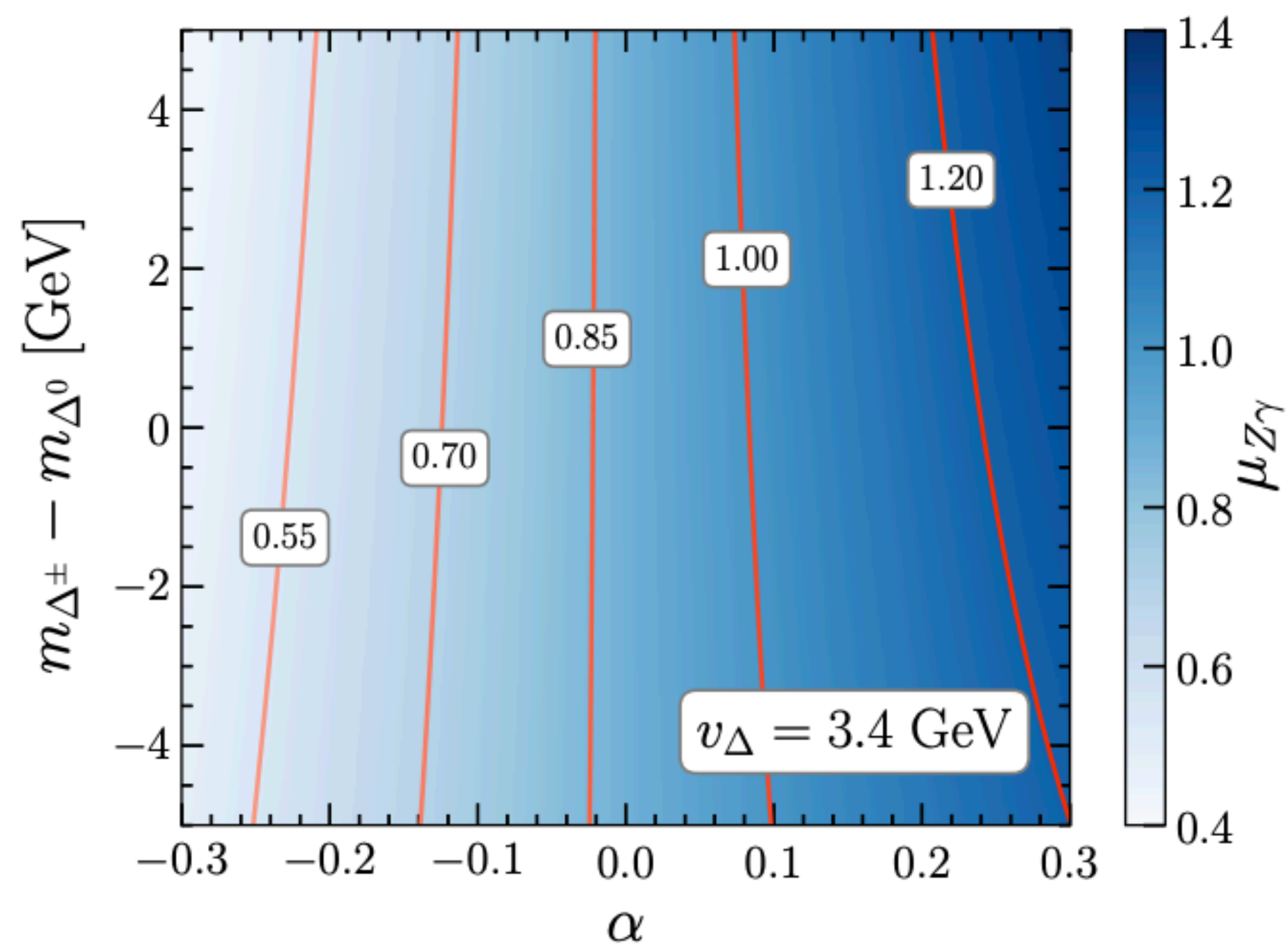
### Lagrangian to Physical Basis

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_\Phi &= \frac{2m_h^2}{v^2}, \\ \lambda_\Delta &= \frac{2}{v_\Delta^2} [m_{\Delta^0}^2 - m_{\Delta^\pm}^2], \\ \lambda_{\Phi\Delta} &= \frac{\alpha}{v v_\Delta} (m_{\Delta^0}^2 - m_{\Delta^\pm}^2) + \frac{2}{v^2} m_{\Delta^\pm}^2, \\ A &= \frac{4v_\Delta}{v^2} m_{\Delta^\pm}^2.\end{aligned}$$



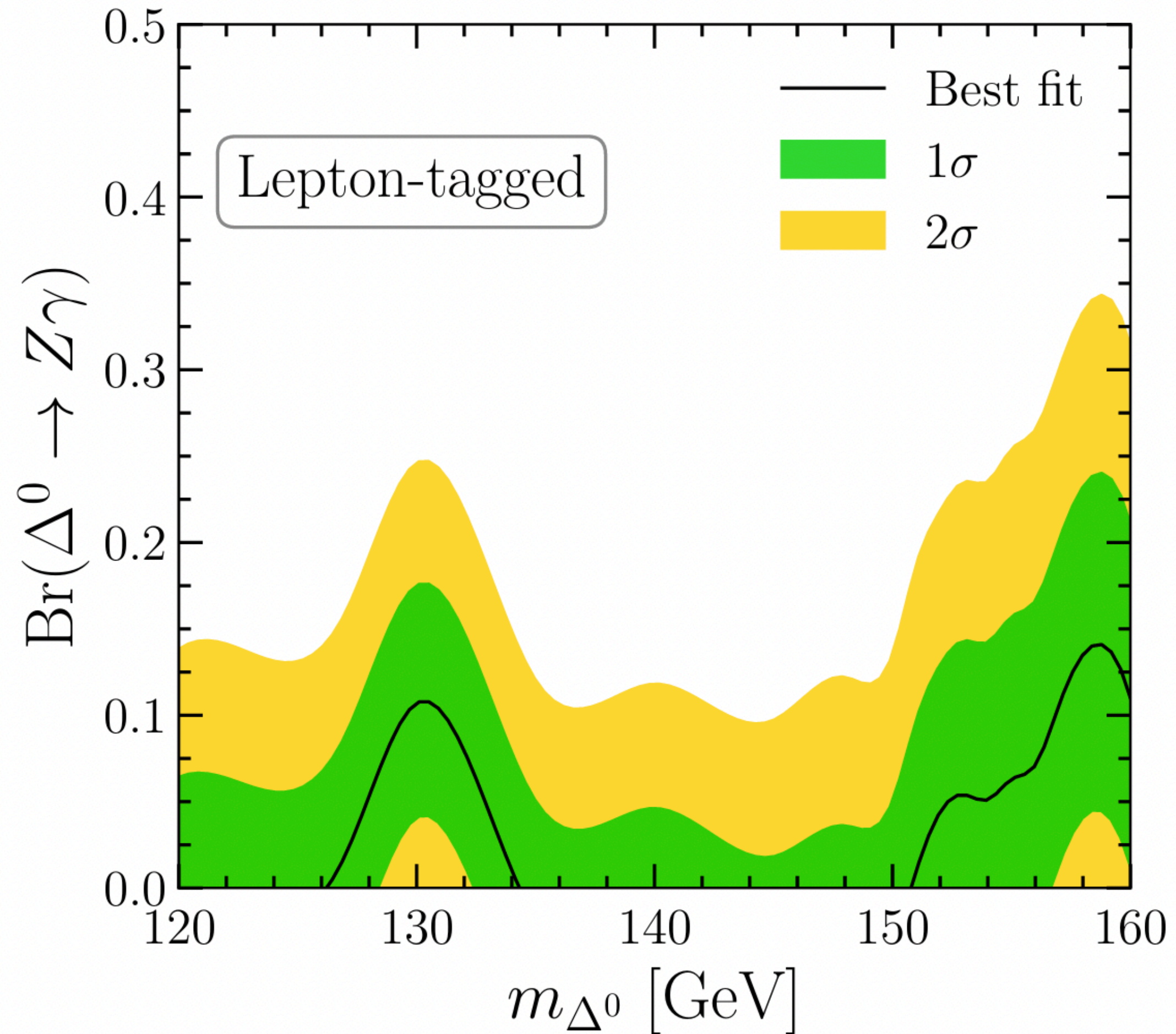
# Real Higgs Triplet

## $Z_\gamma$



# Real Higgs Triplet

$Z\gamma$

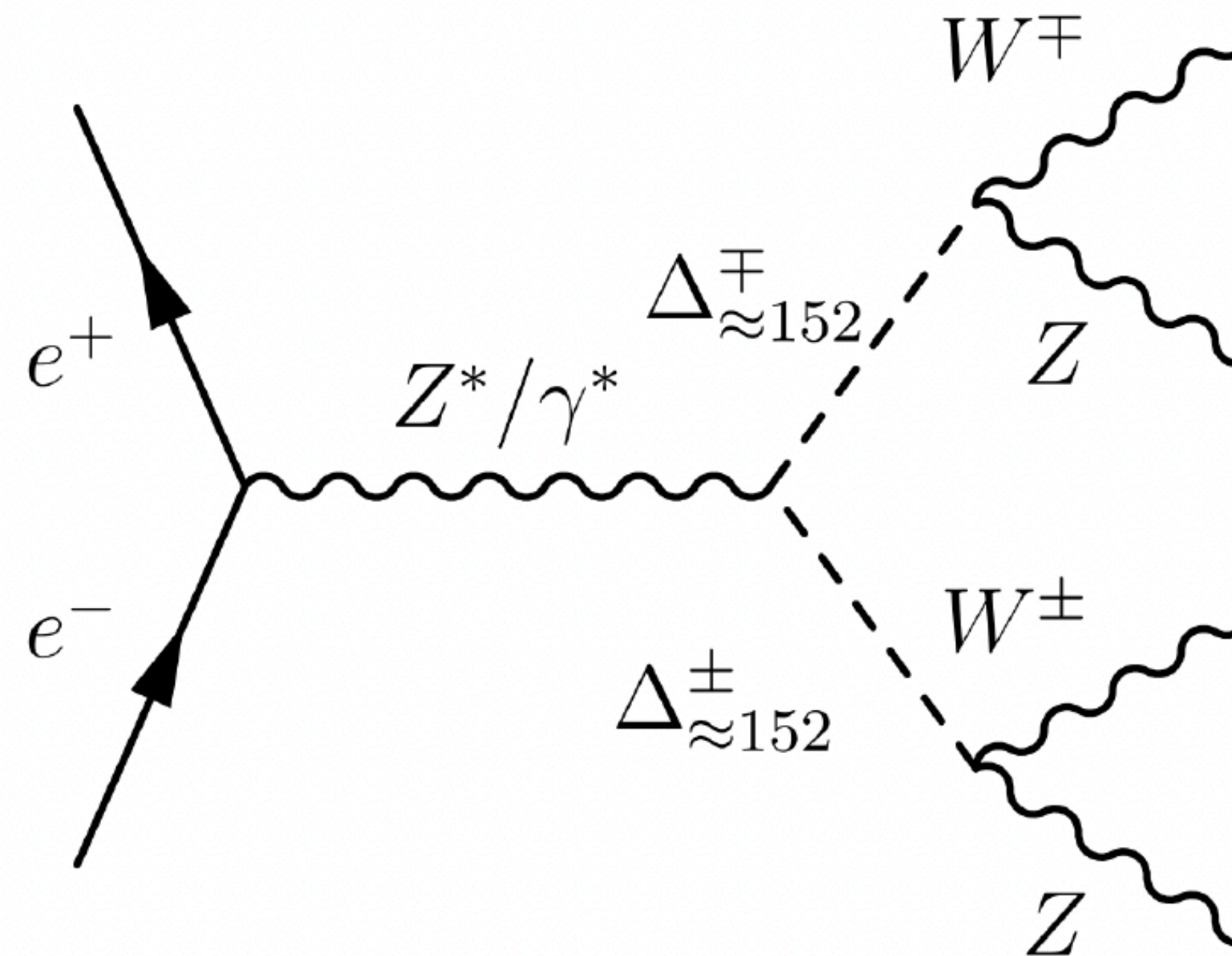
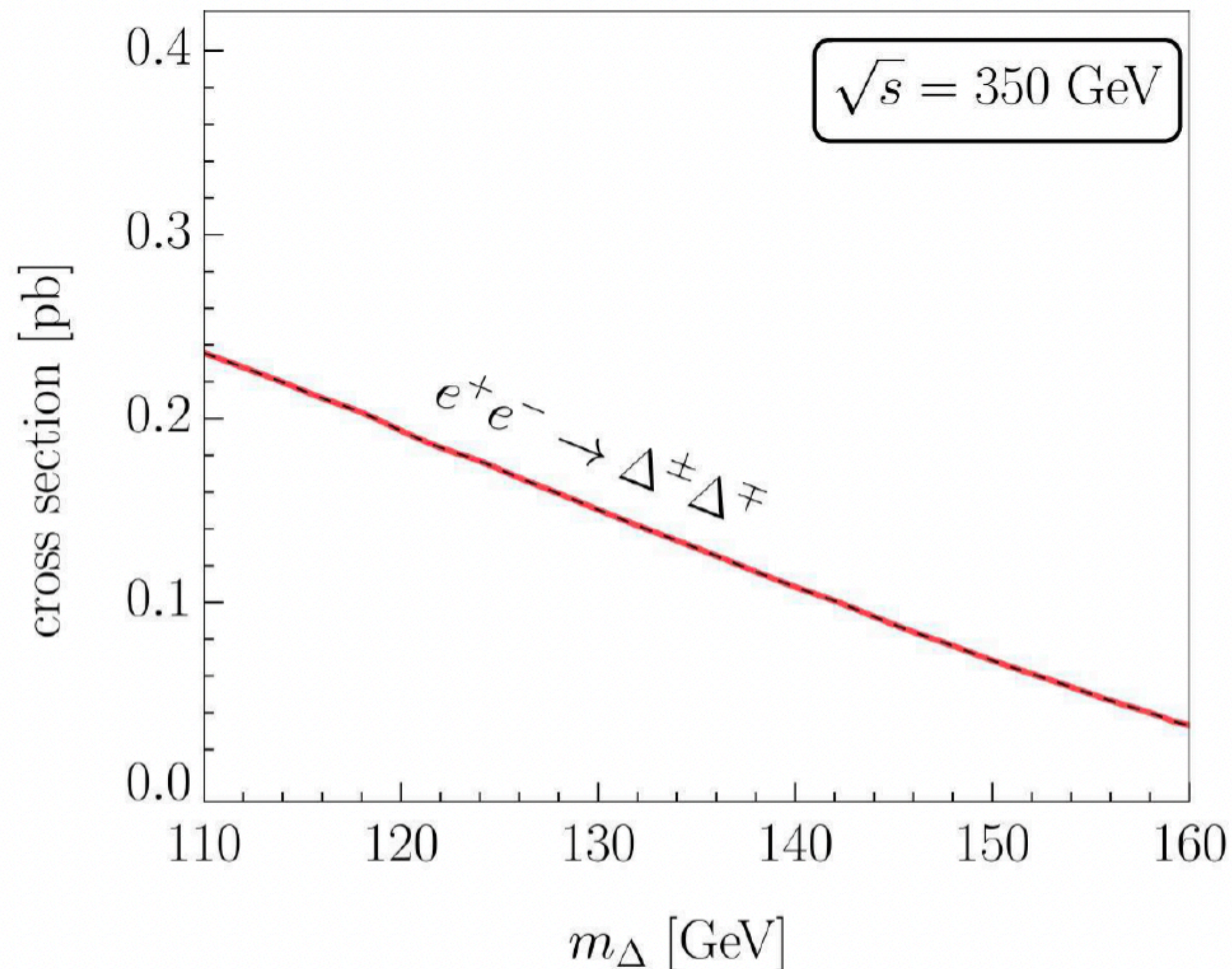




# Real Higgs Triplet Prospects

## FCC-ee

- Only  $Z^*/\gamma^*$  s-channel
- Suppressed  $\Delta^0\Delta^0$  production for a real triplet
- Pair production of the charged components

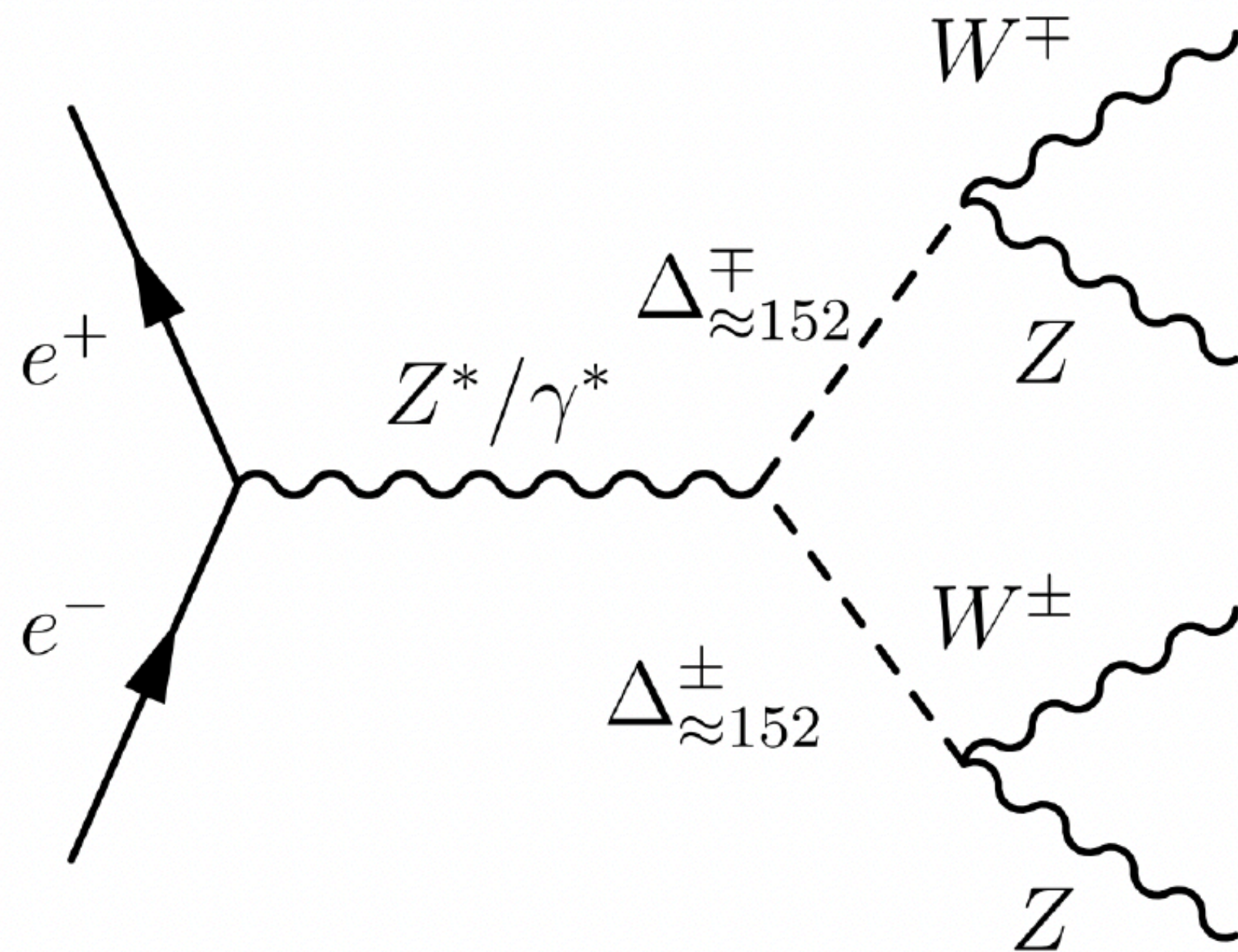




# Real Higgs Triplet Prospects

## FCC-ee

- The decay  $\Delta^\pm \rightarrow W^\pm Z$  leads to a  $6\ell(+\text{MET})$  signature



Events expected in the  $\Delta$ SM model

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \Delta^\pm \Delta^\mp \rightarrow 6\ell + \text{MET} \approx 46$$

Events expected in the SM model

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow 6\ell(+\text{MET}) \approx 1$$

- Log-Likely-hood ratio yields  $\chi^2 \approx 80$
- $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \Delta^\pm \Delta^\mp)$  could be measured at  $\approx 9\sigma$



# Explanation in 2HDM

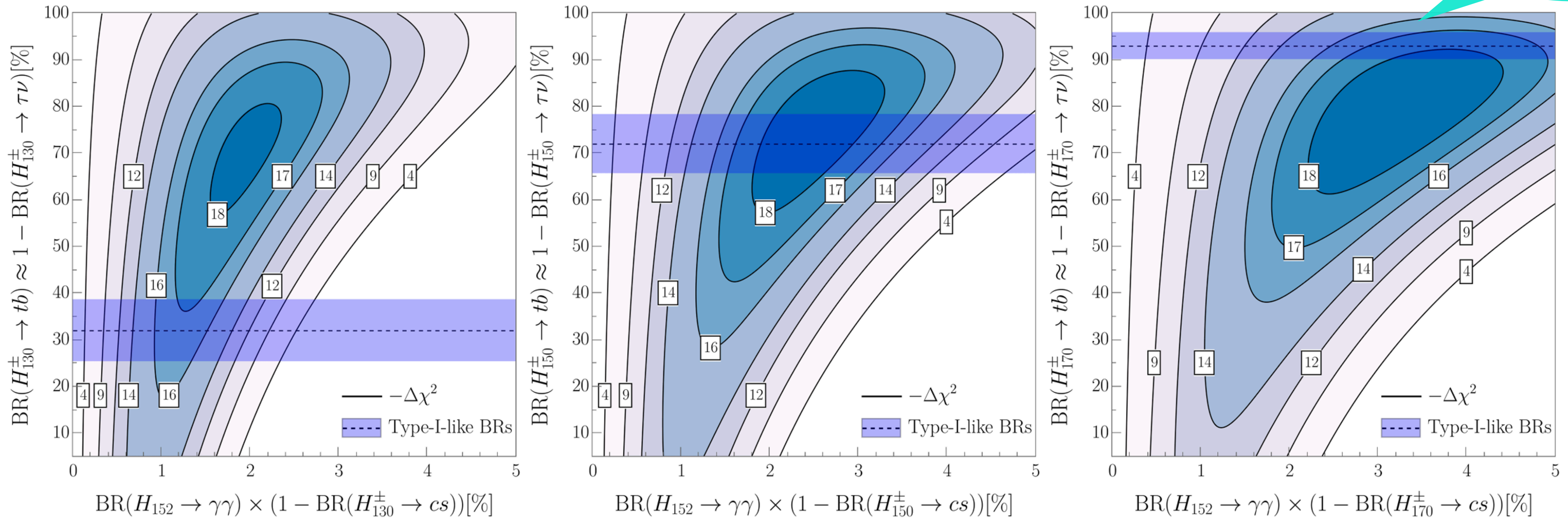
## Type-I

○ Combined decay modes:  $H^\pm \rightarrow tb$ ,  $H^\pm \rightarrow \tau\nu$

$H^\pm \rightarrow W^\pm Z$   
suppressed in  
2HDM

○  $-\Delta\chi^2$  increases with  $m_{H^\pm}$  due to enhanced  $\gamma\gamma + lb$  vs  $\gamma\gamma + t_{lep}$

$H^\pm \rightarrow cs$  has  
small impact



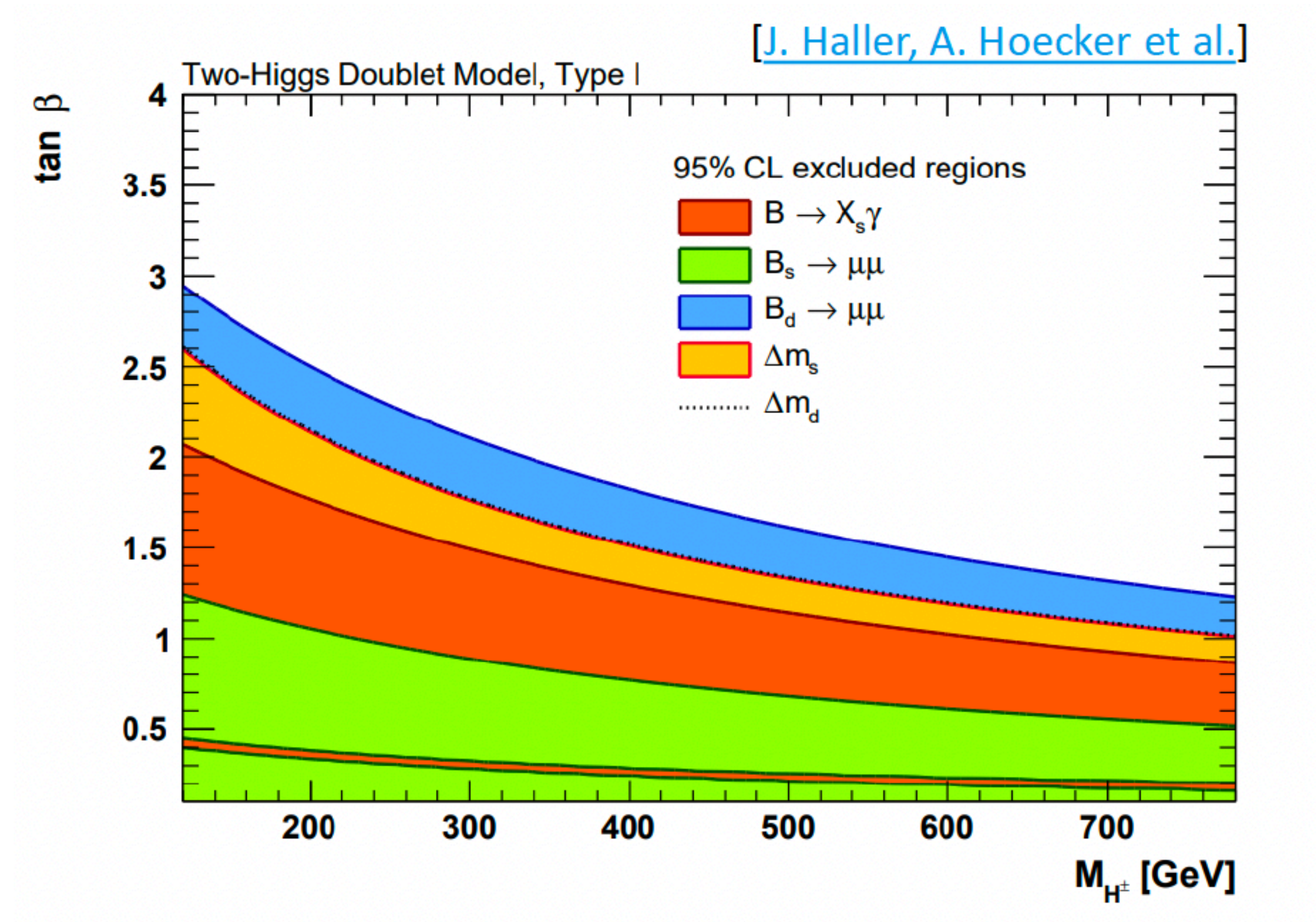
○  $BR(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$  increases with  $m_{H^\pm}$



# Explanation in 2HDM

## Explanation of $\gamma\gamma + X$ Excesses

- Bounds on  $\tan(\beta)$



# Explanation in 2HDM

## FCNC & CP-Violation

- General 2HDM may lead to FCNC at tree-level
- Avoided in flavour aligned 2HDM

$$Y = -\bar{Q}_L Y_d (\phi_2 + \zeta_d \phi_1) d_R - \bar{Q}_L Y_u (\phi_2^c + \zeta_u^* \phi_1^c) u_R - \bar{L}_L Y_l (\phi_2 + \zeta_l \phi_1) e_R$$

- Complex parameters leads to CP-violation

Yukawa Sector:  $\zeta_u, \zeta_d, \zeta_l$

Higgs Sector:  $\lambda_5, \lambda_6, \lambda_7$

We take them  
real

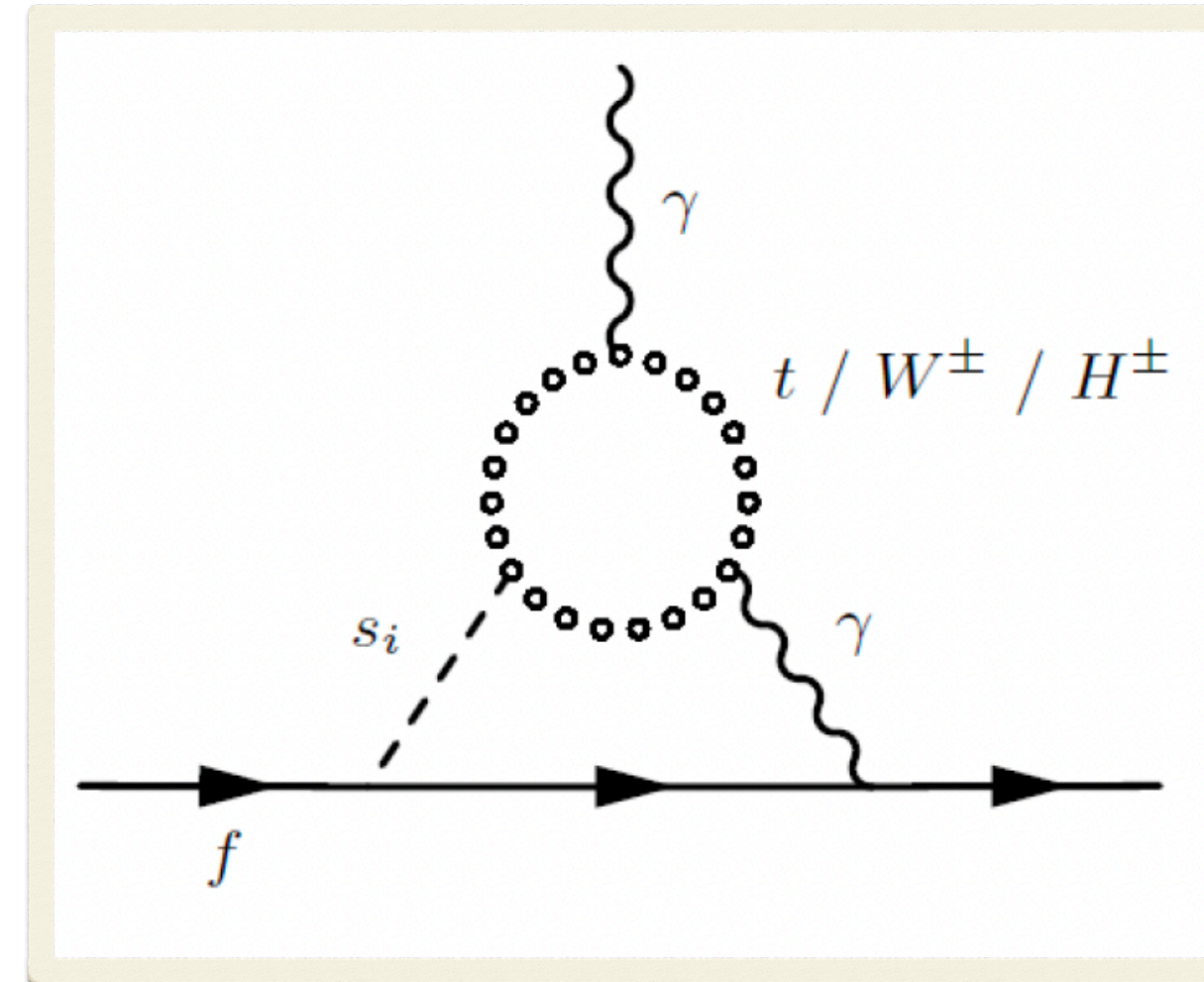
# Explanation in 2HDM

## EDM Constraints

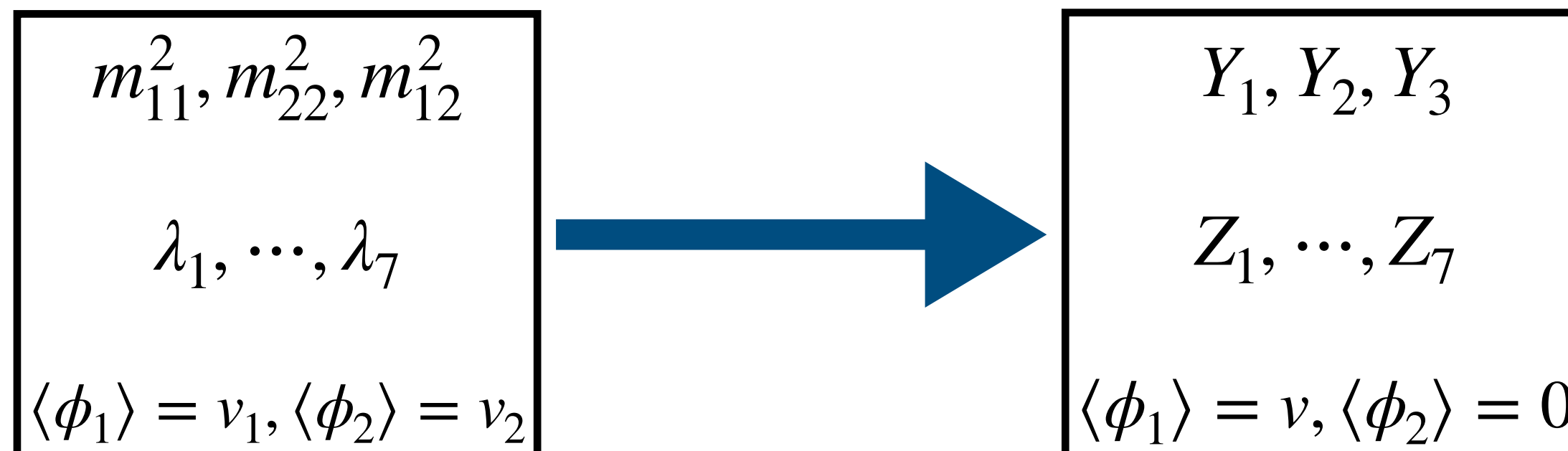
○  $\text{Im}(\lambda_6)$  drives  $\text{Br}(A \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$

○ Correlate with EDM constraints

○ Transform Lagrangian to Higgs Basis



$$\supset id_f \bar{u} \sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\nu \gamma_5 u$$



○ Used analytic expressions of [\[arXiv: 2009.01258\]](#)



# Explanation in 2HDM

## EDM Constraints

- **eEDM** gives stringent bounds:  $10^{-30} e \text{ cm}^{-1}$

[arXiv:2212.11841]

- Projection for **nEDM** and **pEDM** considered

$$\text{nEDM} \leq 10^{-28} e \text{ cm}^{-1}; \text{pEDM} \leq 10^{-29} e \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

[EPJ Web Conf. 262 (2022) 01015]

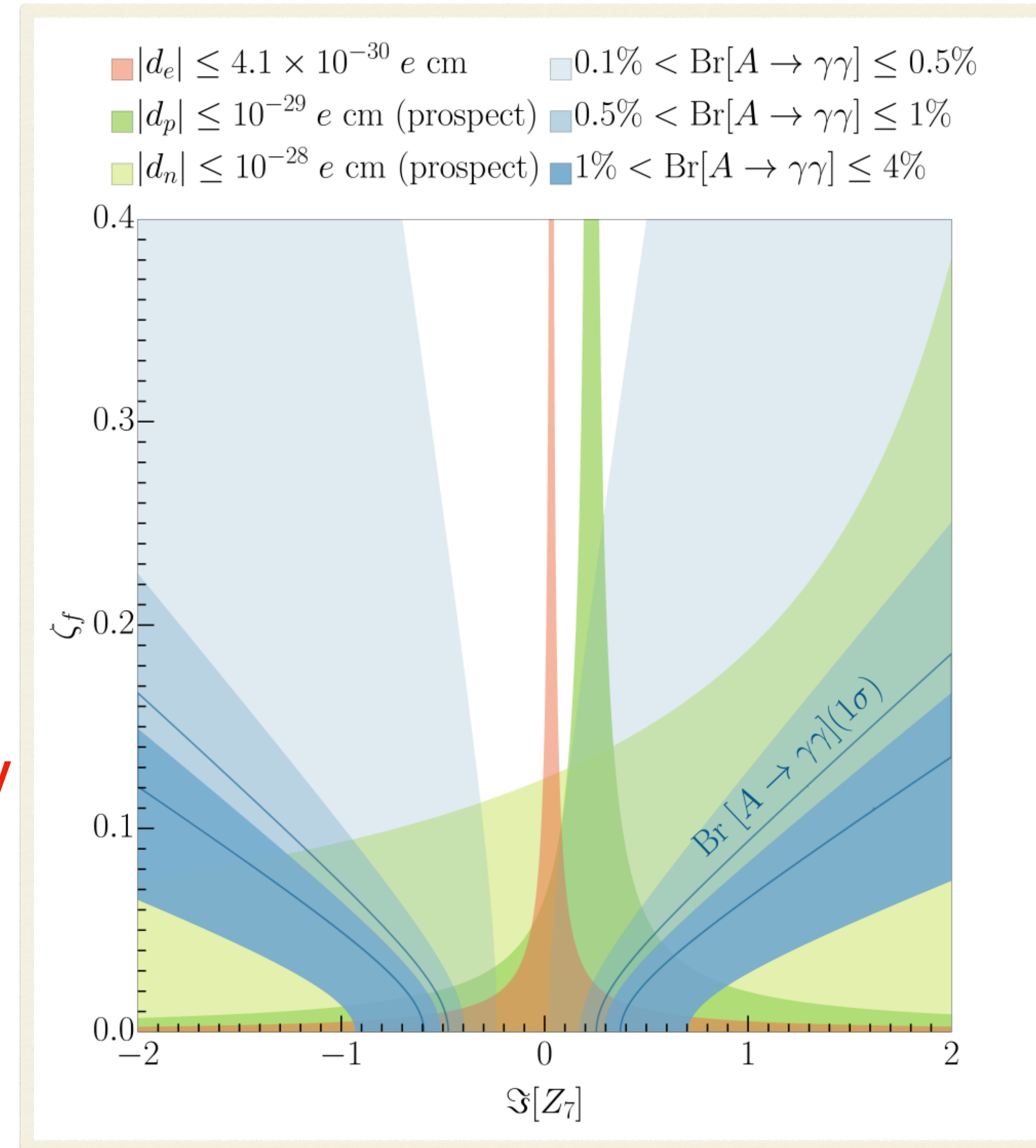
[arXiv:2007.10332]

- Benchmark Point:

$$m_H = 200 \text{ GeV}, m_{H^\pm} = 130 \text{ GeV}, m_A = 152 \text{ GeV}$$

$$Z_2 = -Z_3 = 0.2, \text{Re}(Z_7) = 0.1, \theta_{12} = 0.001$$

$$\theta_{13} = \theta_{23} = 0.01, \zeta_l = \zeta_u = \zeta_d = \zeta_f$$



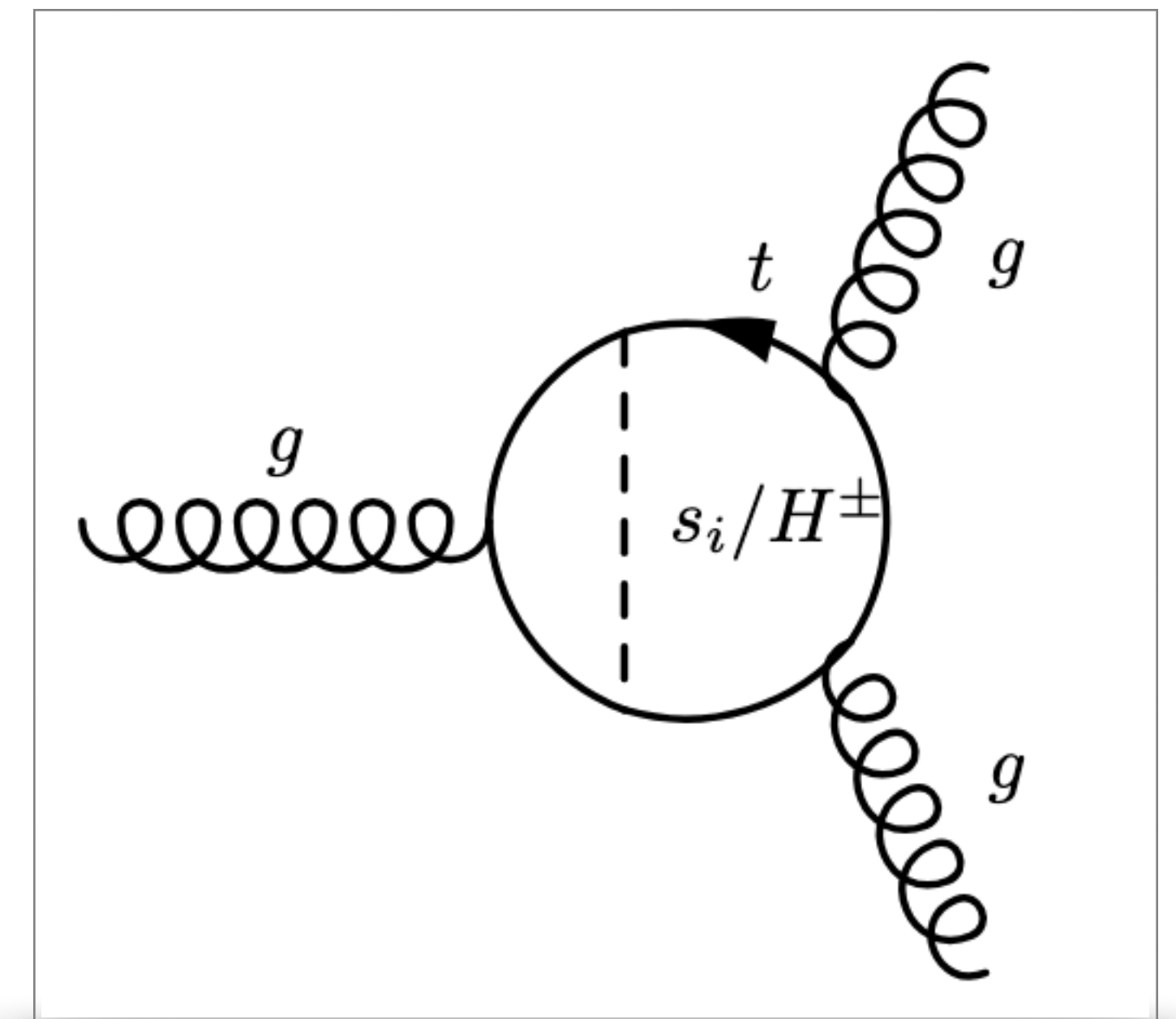
# Explanation in 2HDM

## nEDM

- nEDM is expressed as

$$d_n = - (0.20 \pm 0.01)d_u + (0.78 \pm 0.03)d_d - (0.55 \pm 0.28)e\tilde{d}_u \\ - (1.1 \pm 0.55)e\tilde{d}_d + (50 \pm 40) \text{ MeV } e\tilde{d}_G$$

- $d_q$  is the quark EDM and  $\tilde{d}_q$  is the chromo EDM
- $d_G$  contribution from **Weinberg** operator



# General 2HDM

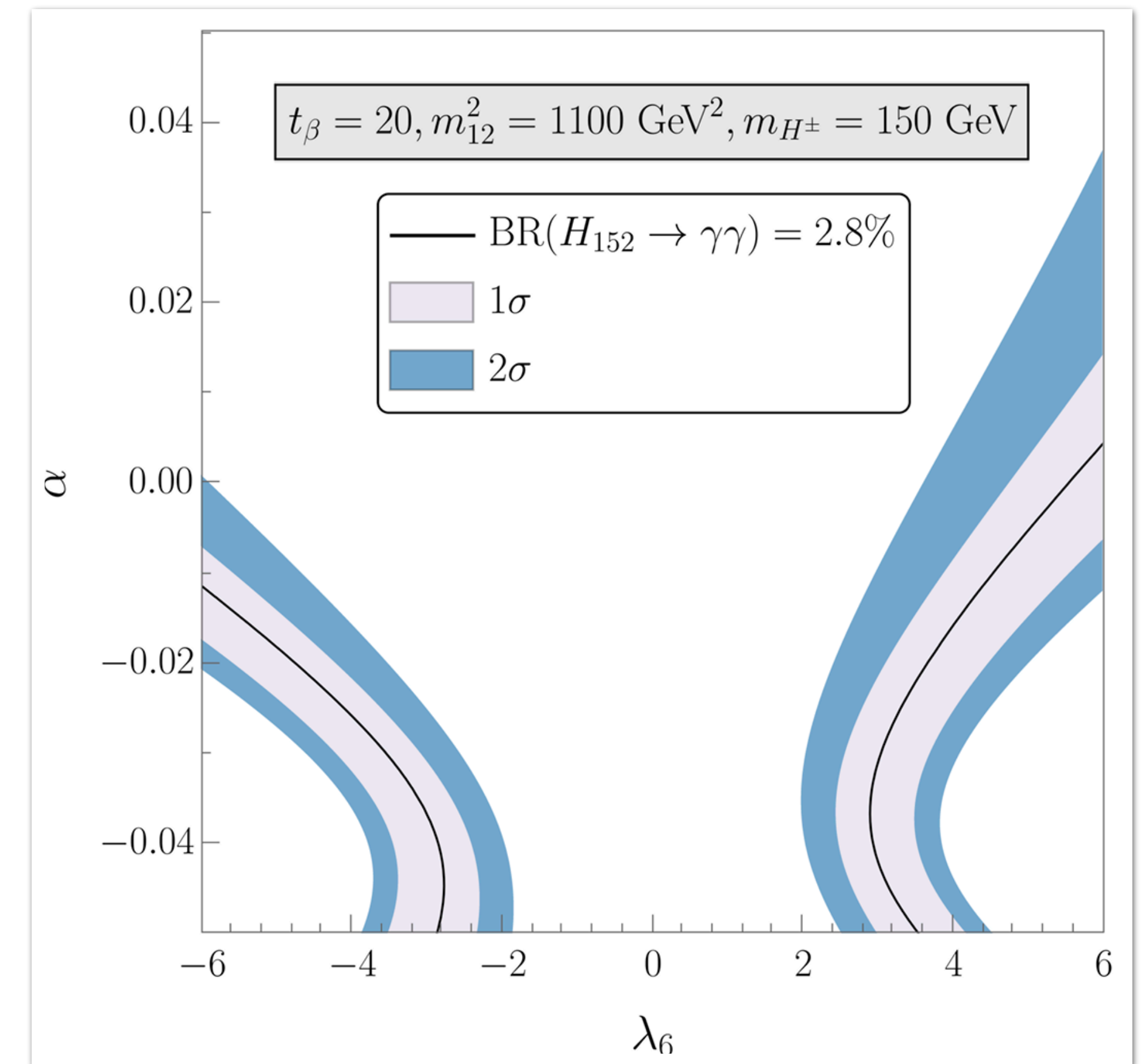
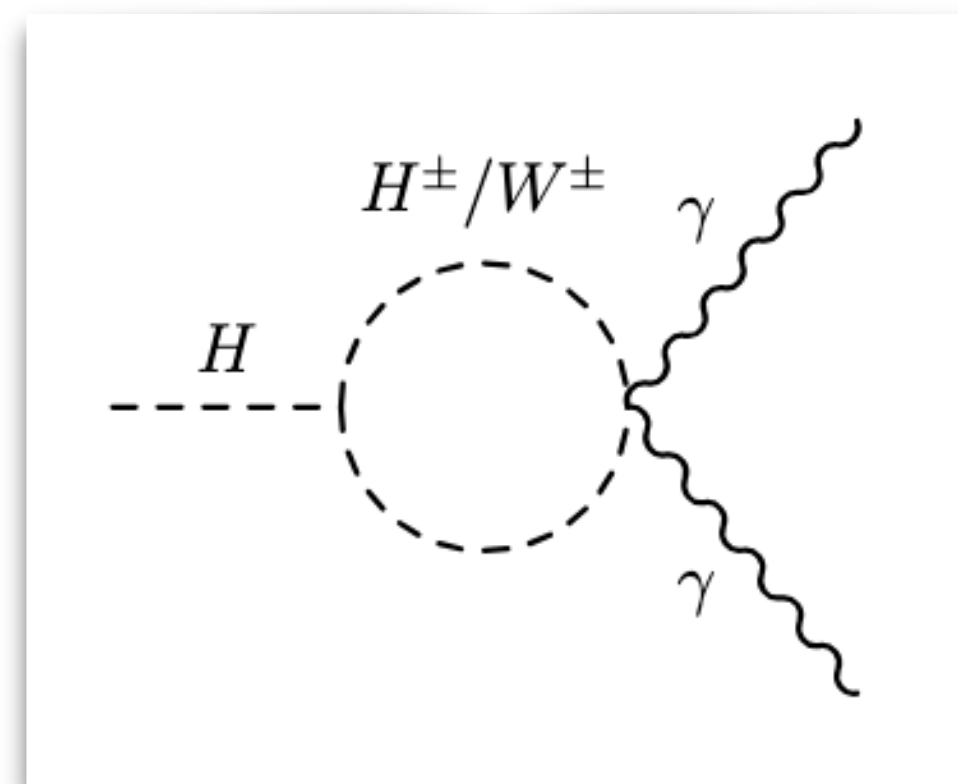
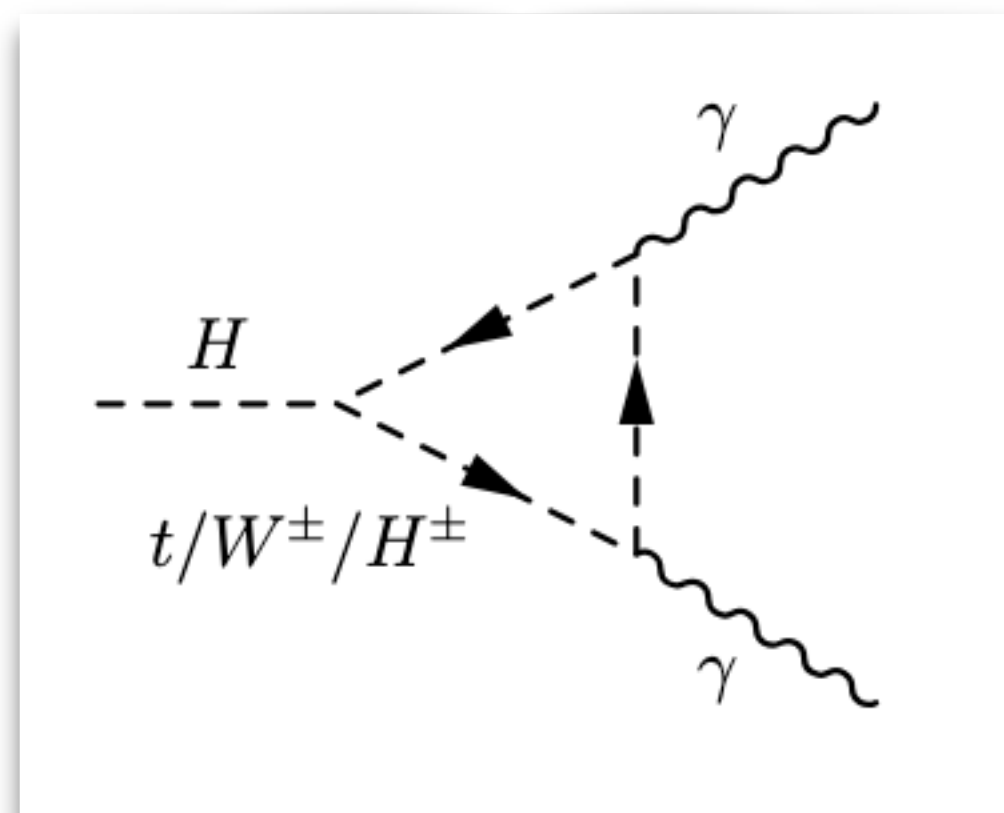
## Large $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

- Large  $\text{Br}(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$  possible in general 2HDM

$Z_2$  symmetry  
broken

$$\mathcal{L} \in -\lambda_6 H_1^\dagger H_1 H_2^\dagger H_2 + \text{h.c.}, \dots$$

- Modifies the  $HH^\pm H^\mp$  vertex
- Enhanced  $\text{Br}(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$  via  $H^\pm$  loop

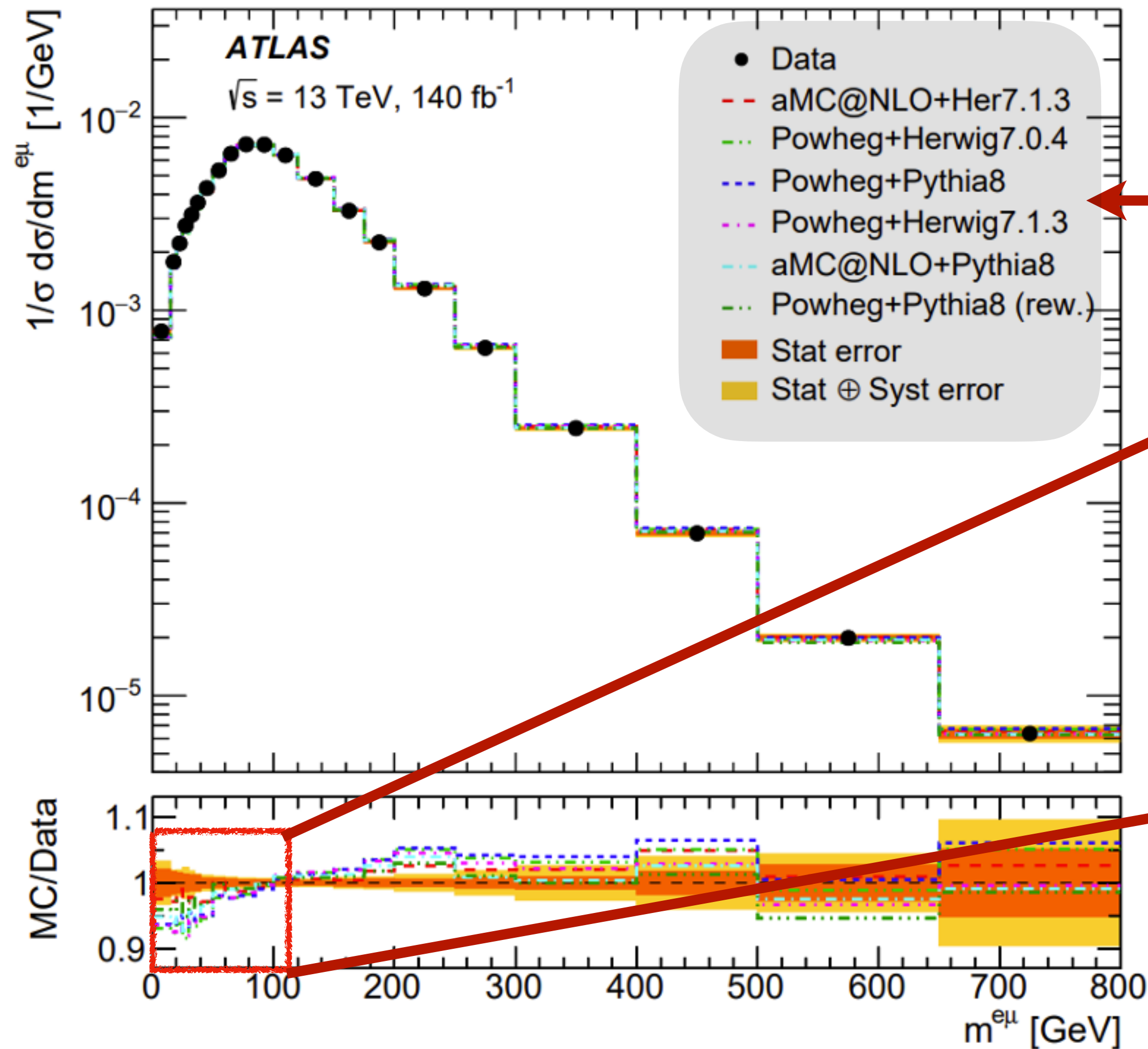




# Deviations in $t\bar{t}$ Differential cross-section

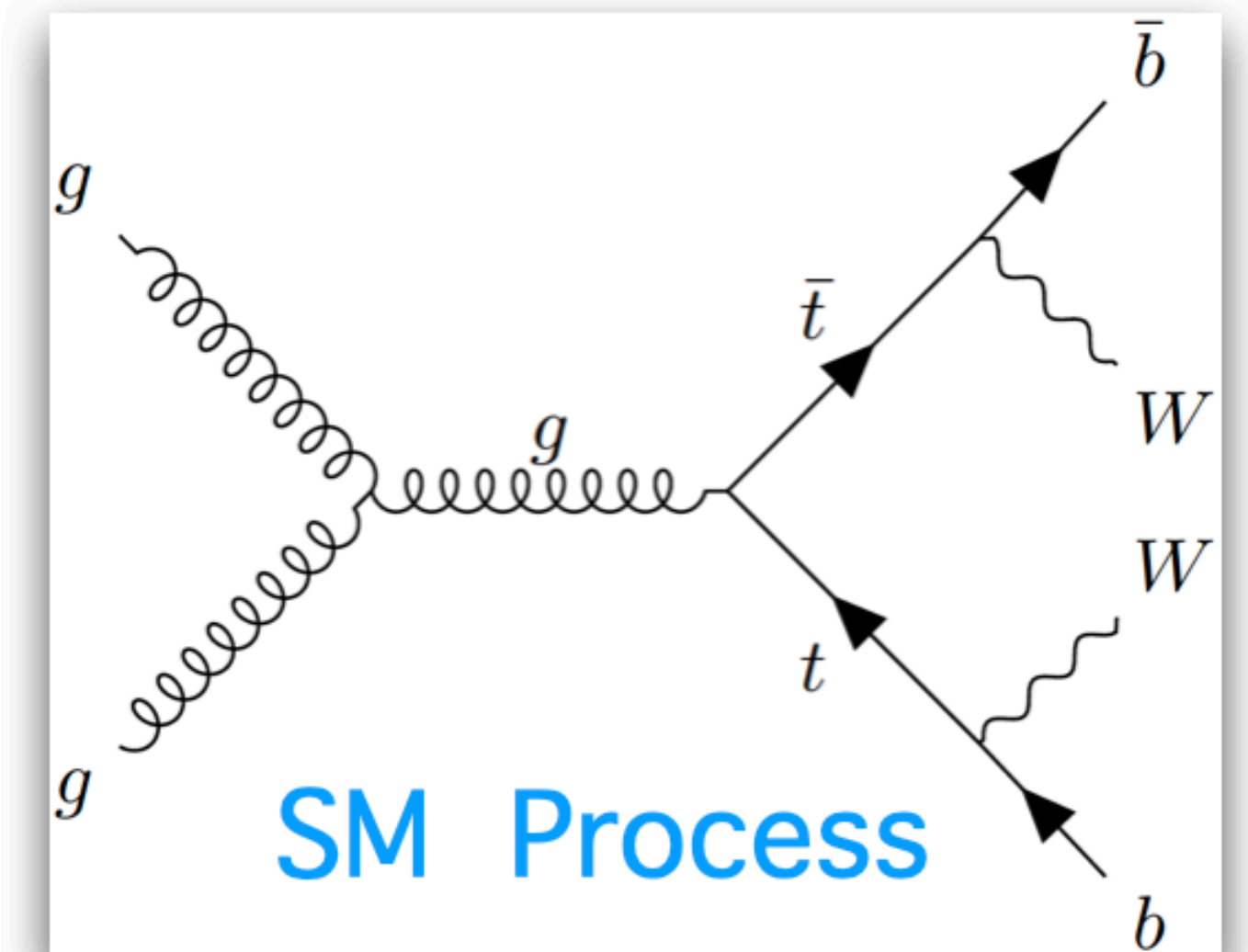
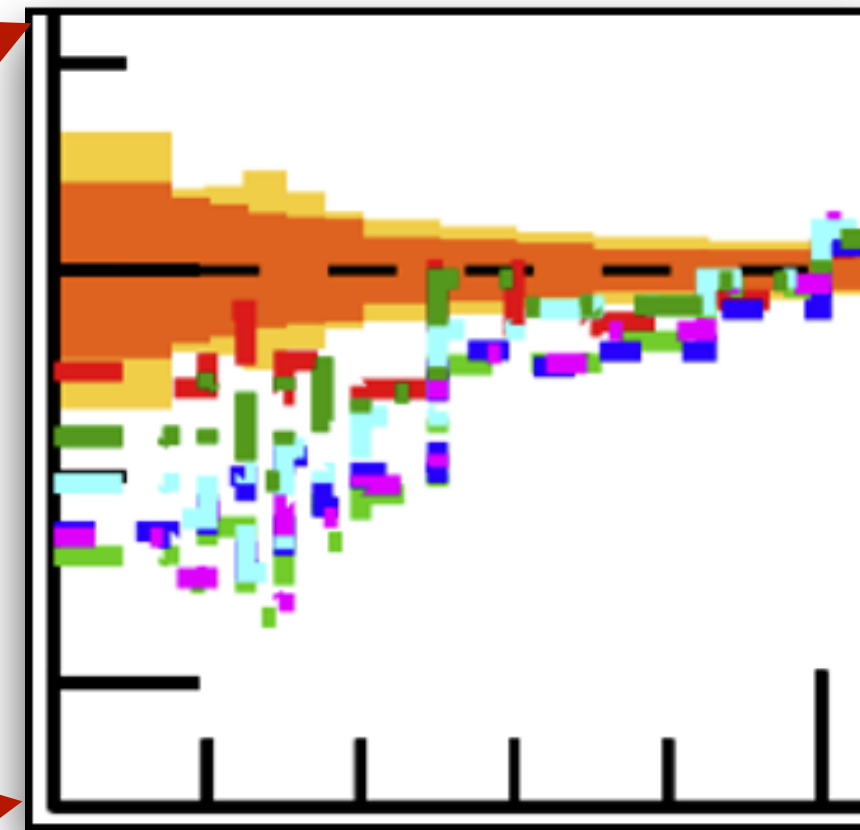
## No match with SM

[ATLAS: CERN-EP-2023-016]



[ATLAS: CERN-EP-2023-016]

The precision of the measurements is typically 2% for the absolute differential cross-sections and at the 1% level for the normalised differential cross-sections, except in the highest energy bins where the  $t\bar{t}/Wt$  interference uncertainty contribution increases. The measurements are compared with a wide range of models for  $t\bar{t}$  production in  $pp$  collisions. No model can describe all measured distributions within their uncertainties.

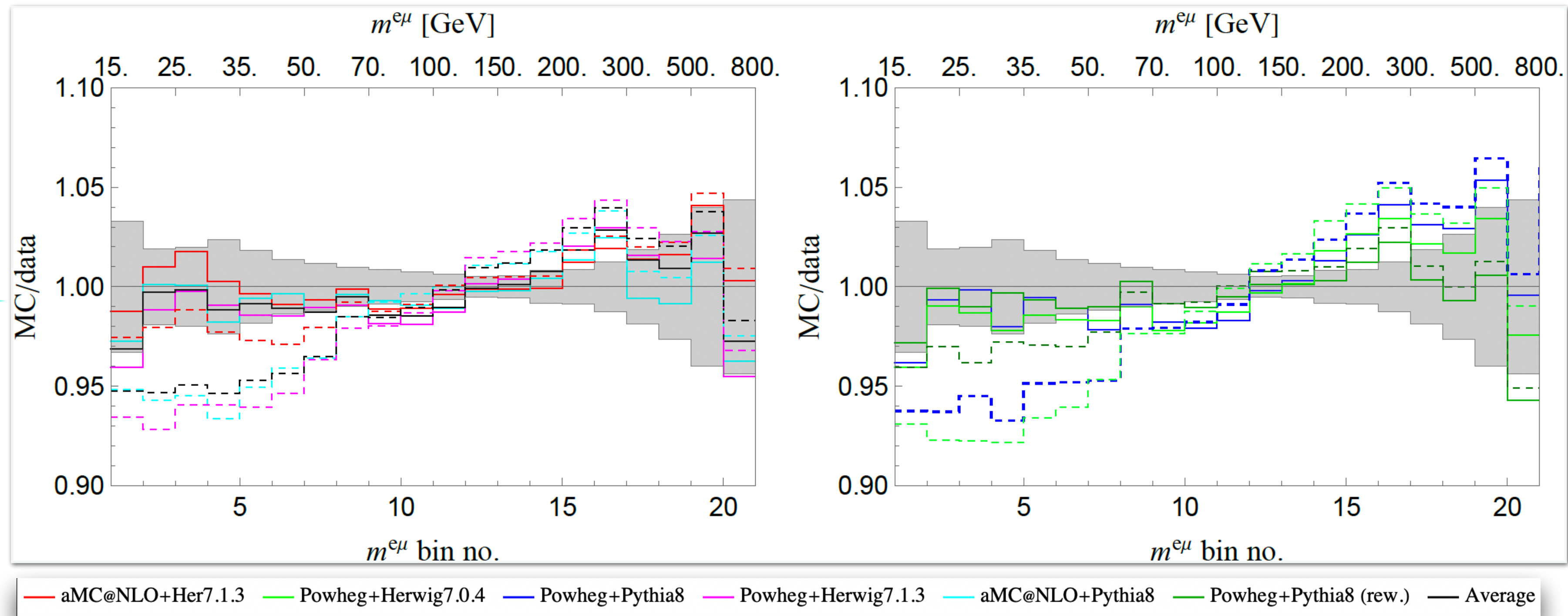
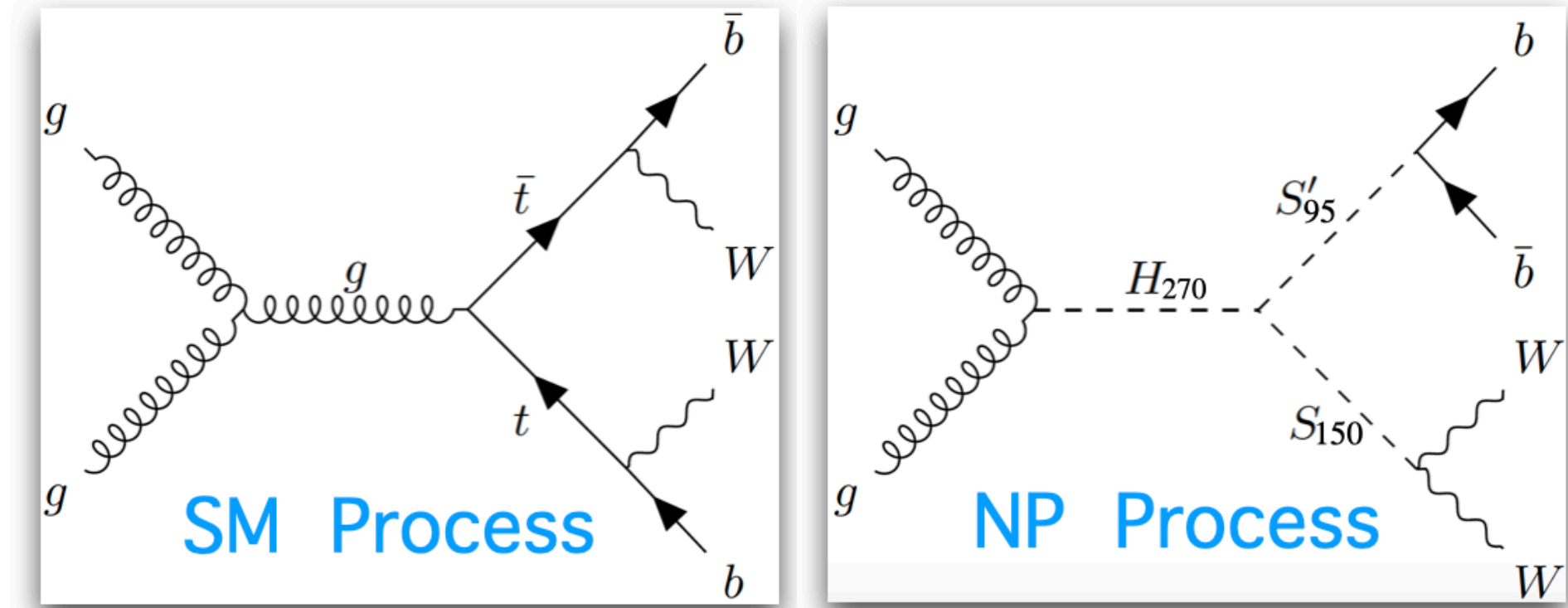


Mismodelling of SM or NP effects?

# Deviations in $t\bar{t}$ Differential cross-section

## NP Results

- *Simplified model* with three Higgs bosons
- Preferred over SM by at least  $5.8\sigma$
- Compatible with 95 GeV and 152 GeV Excesses



(SB, A. Crivellin et al.)  
[2308.07953]