

# Custodial Dark Pions

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based on 1809.10184, 1809.10183 with G. Kribs, B. Ostdiek and T. Tong


**Dark Universe workshop, ICTP-SAIFR, Oct 2019**

## Motivations

composite Dark sector = sector with matter charged under a new 'dark' confining force  $SU(N_D)$

new matter is inert under SM color, but may carry SM EW quantum #s

$$\psi_L = (\square, 0, ???), \quad \psi_R = (\square, 0, ???)$$

  
 $SU(N_D) \quad SU(3)_c \quad EW$

'dark' bound states: dark mesons, baryons, etc.

**playground for lots of BSM scenarios:**

Here, I'll focus on  $\Lambda_D \sim \text{TeV}$  scale,  
assume fundamental H EW doublet exists

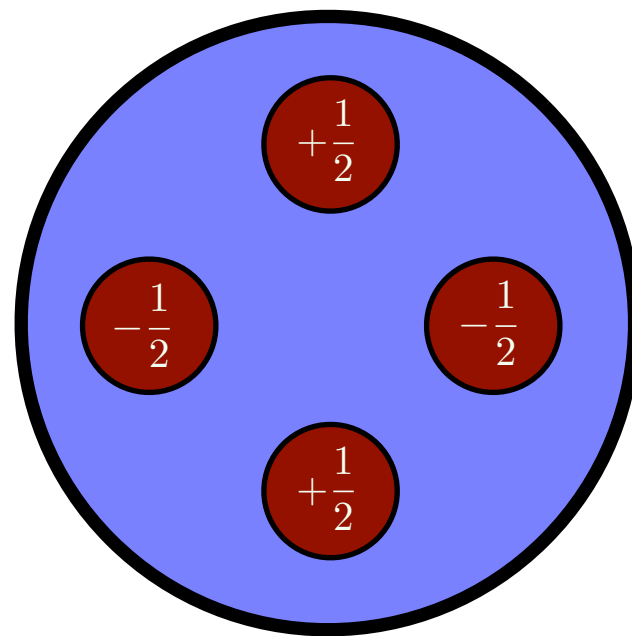
## DM specific Motivations:

Composite DM: **dark baryon** is natural (usually heavy) DM candidate:

if constituents are EW-charged while keeping lightest dark baryon EW neutral, interactions with SM come from higher dimensional operators

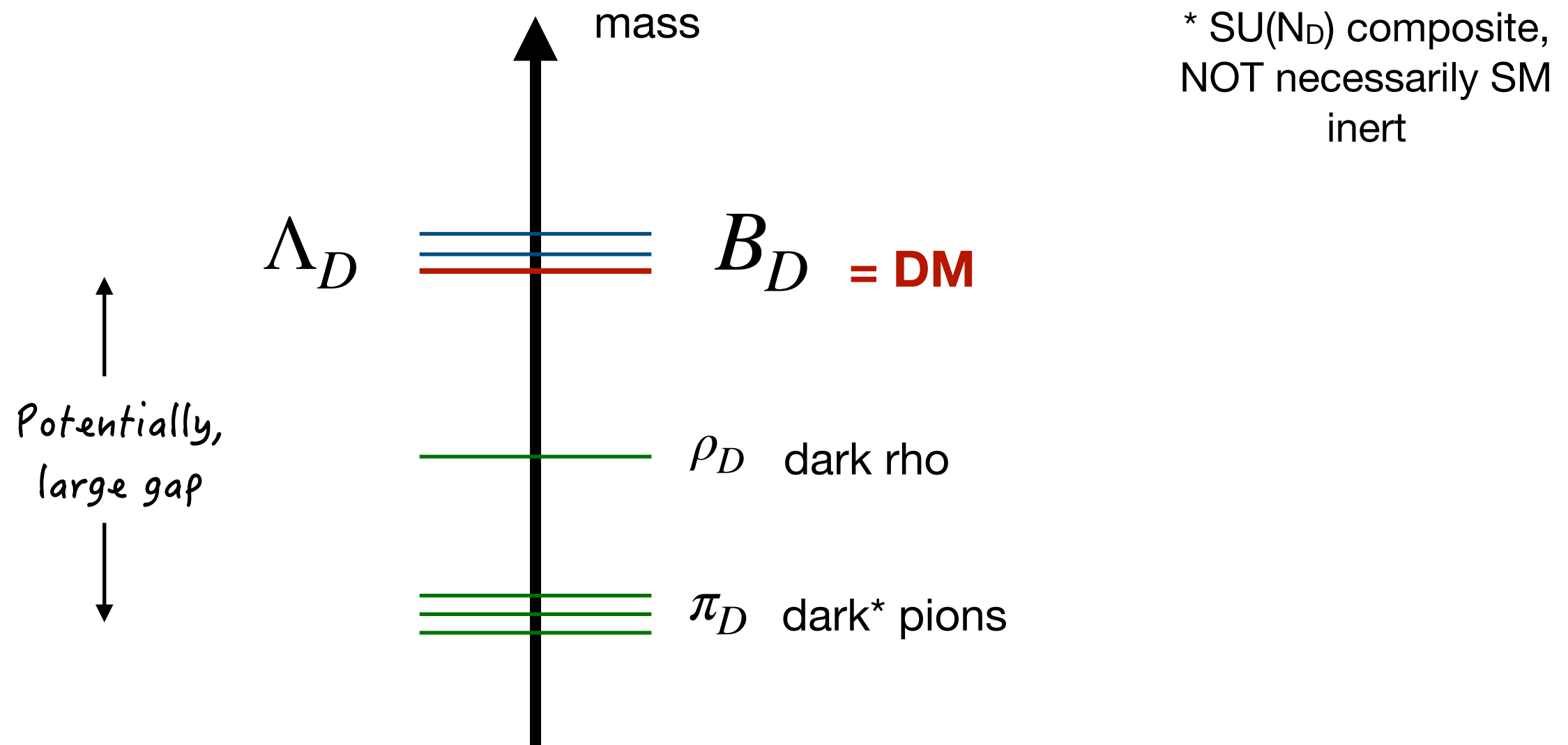
[Nussinov '85, Chivukula '90, Barr, Chivukula, Fahri '90]

More recently [Antipin et al '15, Huo et al '16,  
Cline '16, Mitridate '17]



## Dark spectra

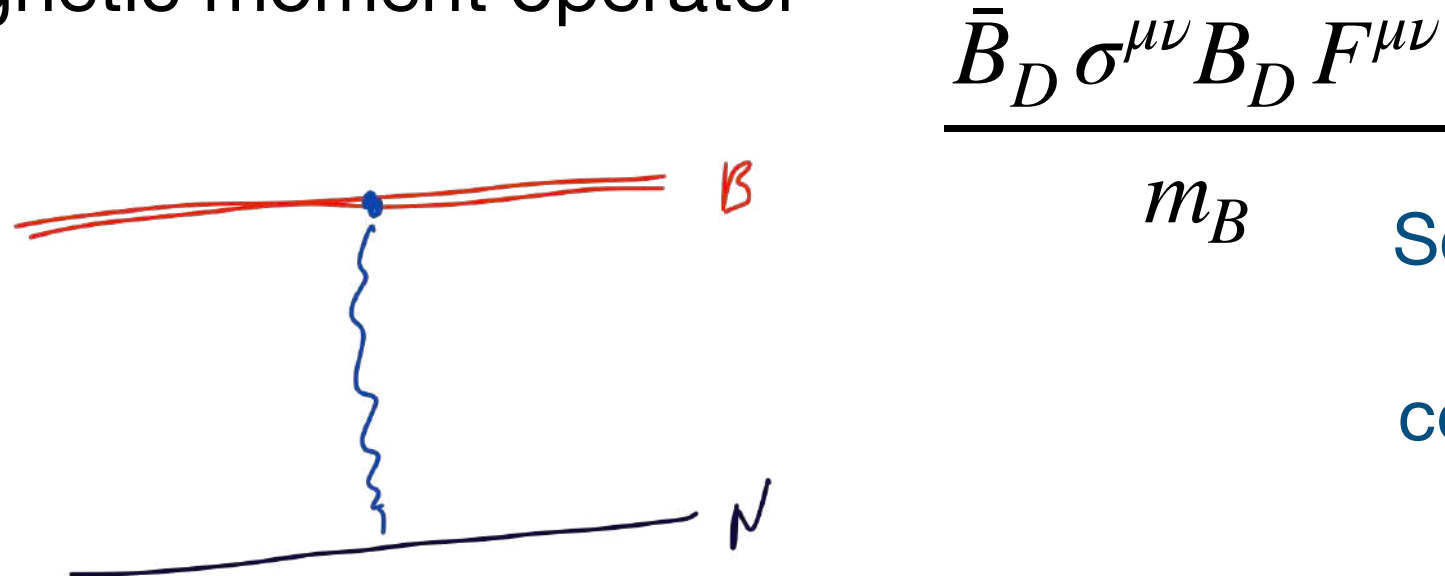
Assume a spectrum  $\sim$  QCD



Abundance: either symmetric ( $\bar{B}B \rightarrow n \pi_D$ , etc.) or asymmetric  
...wide range of scales possible

## DM specific Motivations:

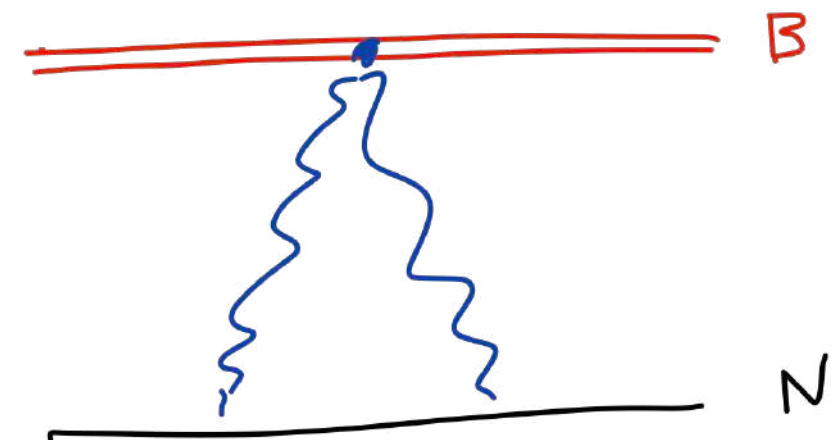
- Direct detection: if  $N_D$  is odd, DM = fermion, communicates via magnetic moment operator



Scaling up neutron:  
direct detection  
constrains demand  
 $m_{DM} \gtrsim 20 \text{ TeV}$

- Direct detection: if  $N_D$  is even, DM = boson, most important interactions come from polarizability

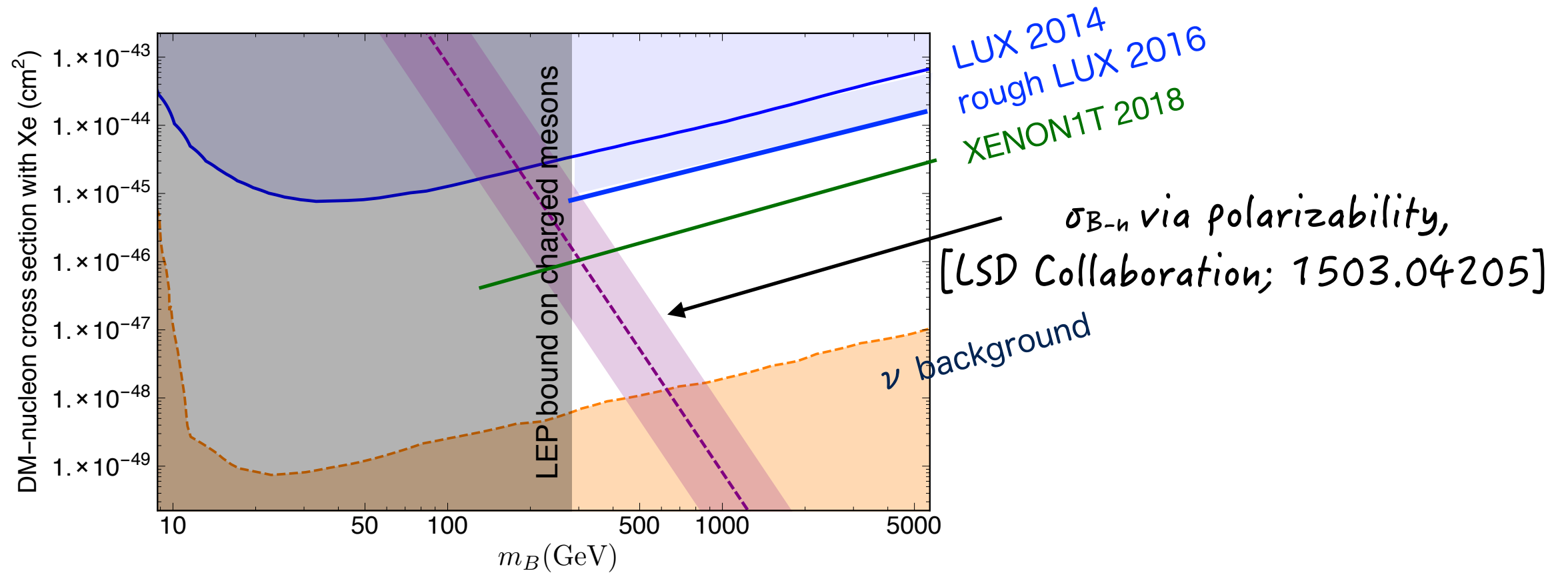
$$\frac{B_D^* B_D F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}}{m_B^2}$$



# DM specific Motivations:

## Detecting “stealthy DM”

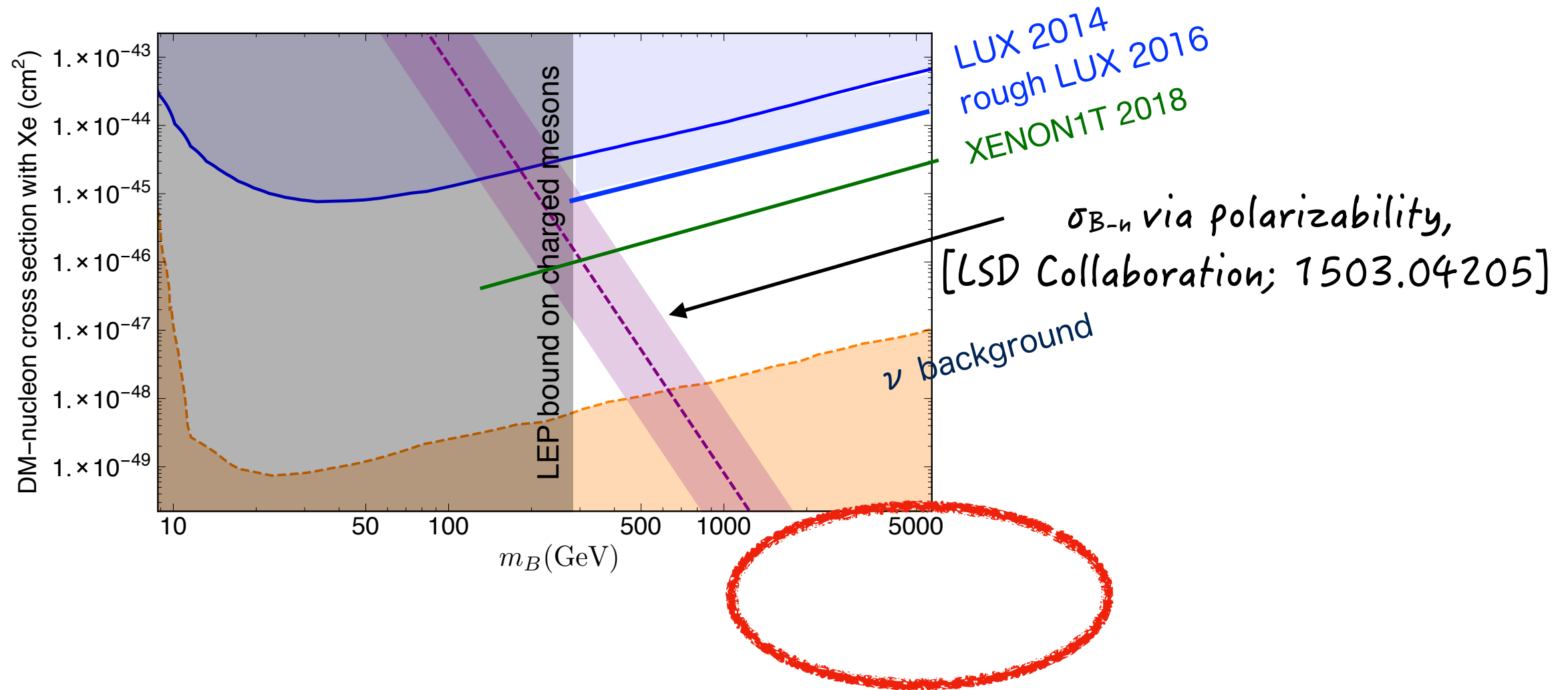
[1402.6656, 1503.04203, 1503.04205]



## DM specific Motivations:

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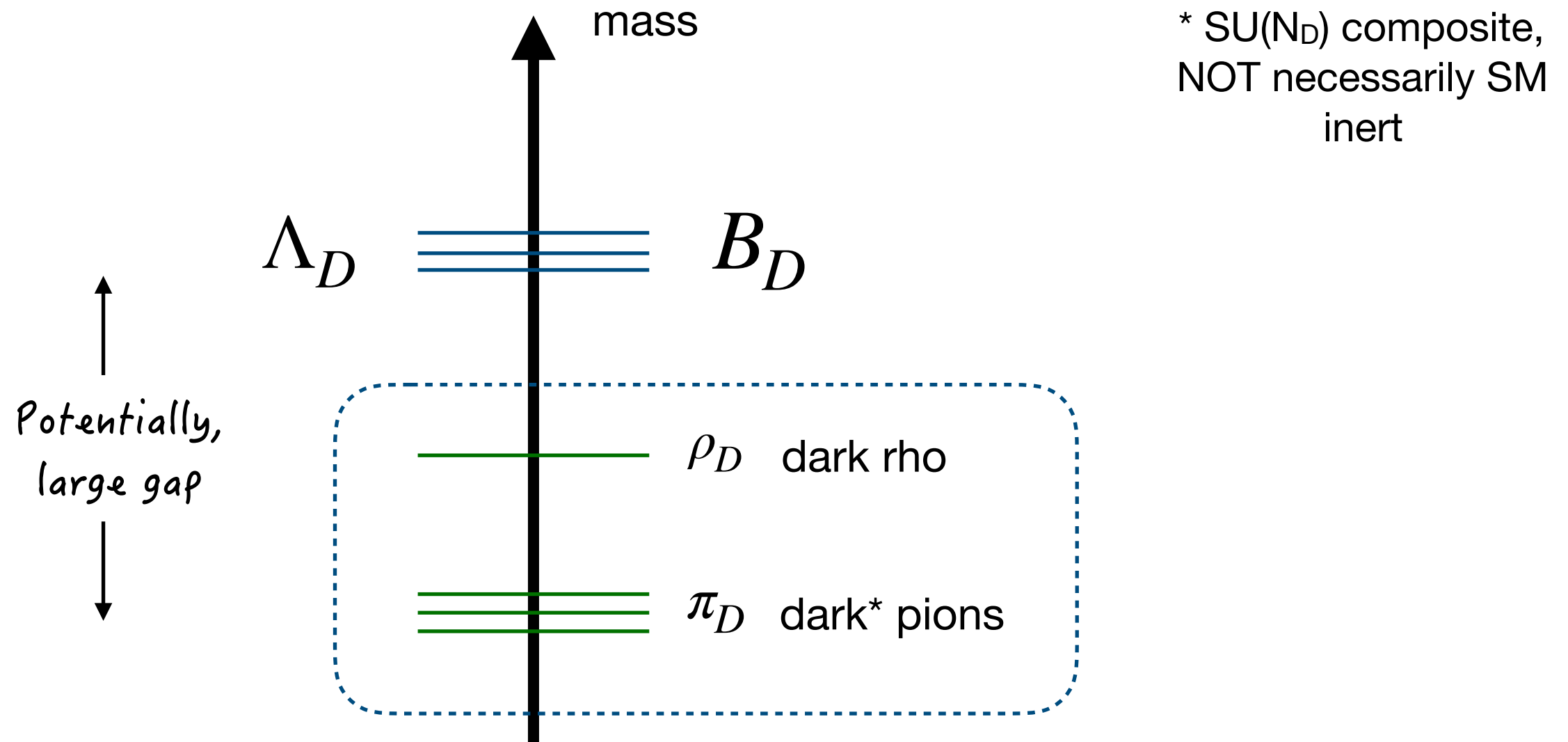
[1402.6656, 1503.04203, 1503.04205]



**If DM sits out here, what do we do? Possible that the best chance is to detect stealthy dark sector at the LHC**

# Dark Mesons spectra

Assume a spectrum  $\sim$  QCD



LHC physics will be dominated by these lightest states,  
specifically on details of how these interact with /decay to  
SM: for LHC we care about dark mesons



## EW-scale Dark Sector model space

Bosonic technicolor/  
induced EWSB limit:  
chiral EW charges

[Kagan, Samuel '90

Luty et al 1106.3346

...]

**Dark sector with both  
vector like and chiral  
masses**

vectorlike confinement limit  
 $\psi_L, \psi_R$  have same EW  
charges

[Kilic et al 0906.0577]

**Example:**

	$SU(N_D)$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$
$\psi_L$	$\square$	2	0
$\psi_R$	$\square$	2	0
$\chi_L$	$\square$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\chi_R$	$\square$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$
...	...		

**Vectorlike  
masses allowed**

$$M_\psi(\psi_L^\dagger \psi_R + h.c.), \quad M_\chi(\chi_L^\dagger \chi_R + h.c.)$$

**Yukawa terms:**  $y(\psi_L^\dagger H^* \chi_R + h.c.)$  etc. permitted as well

$\langle H \rangle \neq 0$  , becomes a chiral mass term connecting one state in  $\psi$  with  $\chi$

(leads to EW neutral lightest technibaryon for even  $N_D$ : [Chivukula '90])

**Below  $\Lambda_D$ :**

Map  $\psi_{L,R}, \chi_{L,R} \rightarrow \pi_D$  using NLSM       $\Sigma = e^{i\pi_D/f}$

$$\sim L_{kin} + f^3 \mathbf{Tr} \left( (M + y\Lambda(H))\Sigma + h.c \right)$$

Different fermion components give  $\pi_D$  with different SM charges, masses i.e.

$$(\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\psi) = (3)_0, \text{ mass}^2 \sim f (M_\psi + y v)$$

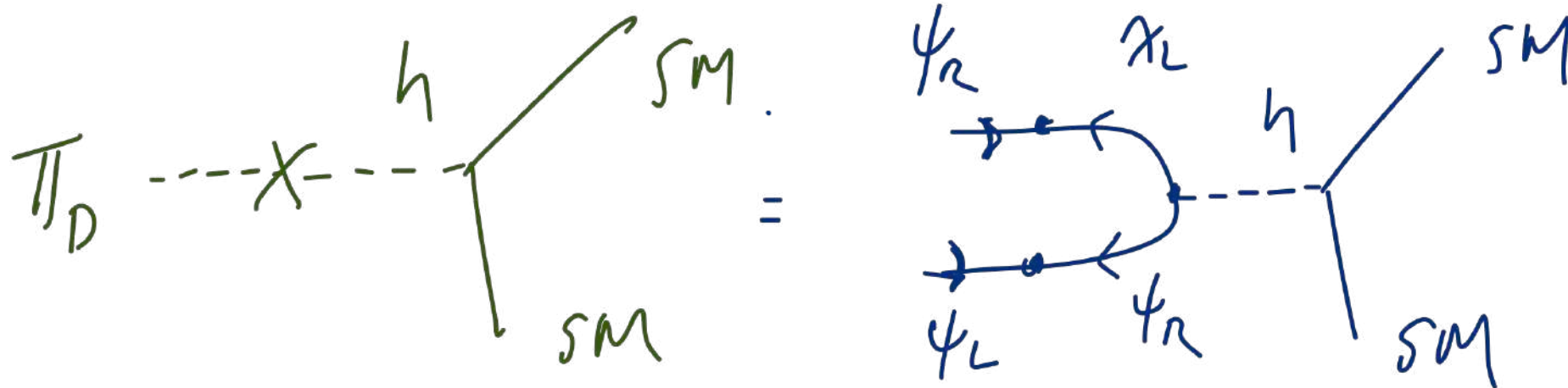
$$(\bar{\chi}\gamma_5\chi) = (1)_0, \text{ mass}^2 \sim (f M_\chi + y v)$$

...

Play with ordering of  $M_\psi, M_\chi, y v$  to adjust which multiplet is lightest. For each choice, expect vector composites  $\rho_D$  too

## Why study this kind of theory?

- 1.) Avenue for dark pion decay: Pure vectorlike theory forbids this (accidental flavor symmetries), need to add in pion decay by hand.  
With chiral mix, decay comes automatically



(Want 'dark' pion to be DM? Ask Yang)

## Why study this kind of theory?

2.) Vector like masses: can take  $y \rightarrow$  small without making  $\pi_D$  dangerously light

Small  $y$  means  $S \sim \left( \frac{y v}{M_{\pi_D}} \right)^2$  not an issue

(also suppresses DM  $\leftrightarrow$  SM interactions via Higgs)

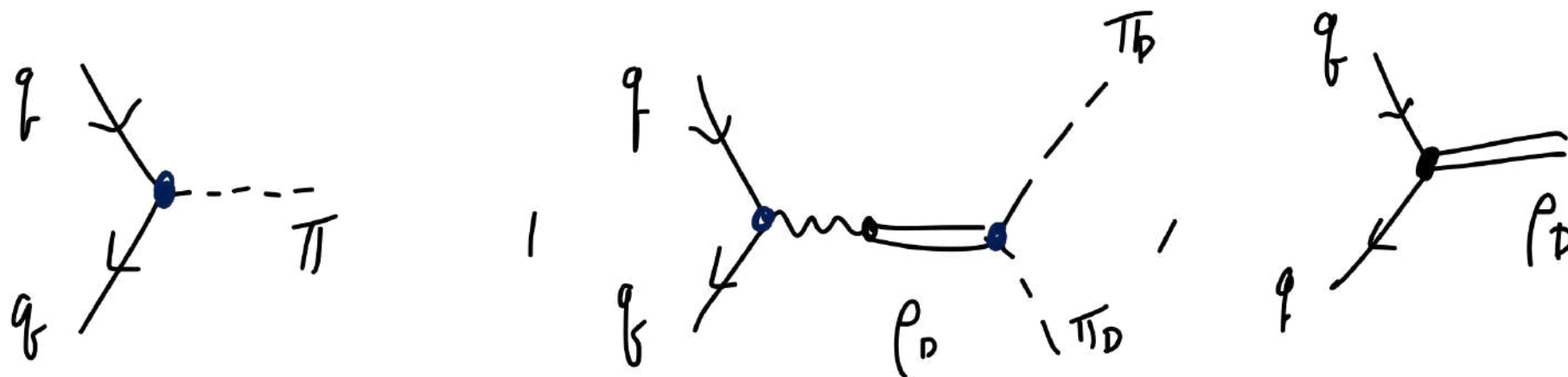
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- 3.) Rich, relatively unique phenomenology.



Exposes holes/biases in current searches: surprisingly light dark mesons are still allowed by existing searches

## Custodial Dark Mesons

If the theory contains EW doublets  $\psi_{L,R}$ ,  $\pi_D = \langle \psi_L \psi_R \rangle$  will be an **EW triplet**

$\mathcal{L} \supset (H^\dagger \tau^A H) \pi_D^A$  allowed, will generate a vev for  $\pi_D$

causes issues with T parameter unless suppressed by  
high scale/small coefficient

**Instead:**

assign dark fermion charges under  $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R = \text{global}$ ,  
'custodial' symmetry of Higgs potential, rather than  $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$

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under  $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$ : H promoted to bi-doublet  $\mathbf{H} \sim (2,2)$

$$\mathcal{H}_{i_L i_R} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} (v + h - iG^0)/\sqrt{2} & G^+ \\ -G^- & (v + h + iG^0)/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$$



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$$\text{SM matter: } Q_L \sim (2,1) \quad \begin{pmatrix} u_R \\ d_R \end{pmatrix} = Q_R \sim (1,2)$$

## Custodial Dark Mesons

	$SU(N_D)$	$SU(2)_L$	$SU(2)_R$
$\psi_L$	$\square$	2	0
$\psi_R$	$\square$	2	0
$\chi_L$	$\square$	0	2
$\chi_R$	$\square$	0	2

In addition to vector-like mass terms, two Yukawa permitted:

$$y (\psi_L^\dagger \mathbf{H} \chi_R + h.c.) \quad y' (\psi_R^\dagger \mathbf{H} \chi_R + h.c.)$$

## Custodial Dark Mesons

		$SU(N_D)$	$SU(2)_L$	$SU(2)_R$
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	$\psi_R$	$\square$	2	0
$\left. \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{L,R}^u \\ \chi_{L,R}^d \end{pmatrix} \right\}$	$\chi_L$	$\square$	0	2
	$\chi_R$	$\square$	0	2

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$$y (\psi_L^\dagger \mathbf{H} \chi_R + h.c.) \quad y' (\psi_R^\dagger \mathbf{H} \chi_R + h.c.)$$

Effectively 4 ‘flavors’ under  $SU(N_D)$ :

2 ‘up type’, 2 ‘down’ type: custodial symmetry means mass matrices identical

## Custodial Dark Mesons: Important parameters

$$M_\psi, M_\chi, y, y' \qquad y\nu, y'\nu \ll M_{\psi,\chi}$$

(all  $\ll \Lambda_D$ )

Two scenarios:

‘SU2L’

$$M_\psi \ll M_\chi : \quad \begin{array}{ll} \pi_D^a \sim (\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\tau^a\psi) & \text{lightest} \\ \rho_D^{a\mu} \sim (\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\tau^a\psi) & \text{lightest vector} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{EW triplets:} \\ (3,1) \end{array}$$

‘SU2R’

$$M_\chi \ll M_\psi : \quad \begin{array}{ll} \tilde{\pi}_D \sim (\bar{\chi}\gamma_5\chi) & \text{lightest} \\ \tilde{\rho}_D^\mu \sim (\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi) & \text{lightest vector} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{EW singlets:} \\ (1,3) \end{array}$$

## Custodial Dark Mesons

In either case:

$$\pi_D = (3,1) \text{ or } \tilde{\pi}_D = (1,3) \quad \text{while} \quad \mathbf{H}^2 = (1,1) + (3,3)$$

forbids trilinear interaction with lightest dark pion

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allowed interactions include:

$$y_{SM} (Q_L \tau^A \mathbf{H} Q_R) \pi^A \quad y_{SM} (Q_L \mathbf{H} \tau^A Q_R) \tilde{\pi}^A$$

which lead to  $\pi_D \rightarrow f\bar{f}$

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(more derivatives, e.g.  $\mathbf{H} D_\mu \mathbf{H} D^\mu \pi_D$  : also forbidden)

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which lead to  $\pi_D \rightarrow f\bar{f}$

**Keep  $\Delta y_{SM}$ ,  $g'$  but no new sources of custodial symmetry breaking from strong sector = 'minimal custodial violation'**



# Custodial Dark Mesons

In addition to removing T parameter issue:

- omitting  $(H^\dagger \tau^A H) \pi_D^A$  removes  $\pi_D \rightarrow h + W/Z$  decay

(some small amount from even higher dimensional terms  $\sim$  )

$$\text{"gaugephobic"} \quad (\mathbf{H}(D_\mu \mathbf{H}))^2 \pi_D^A$$

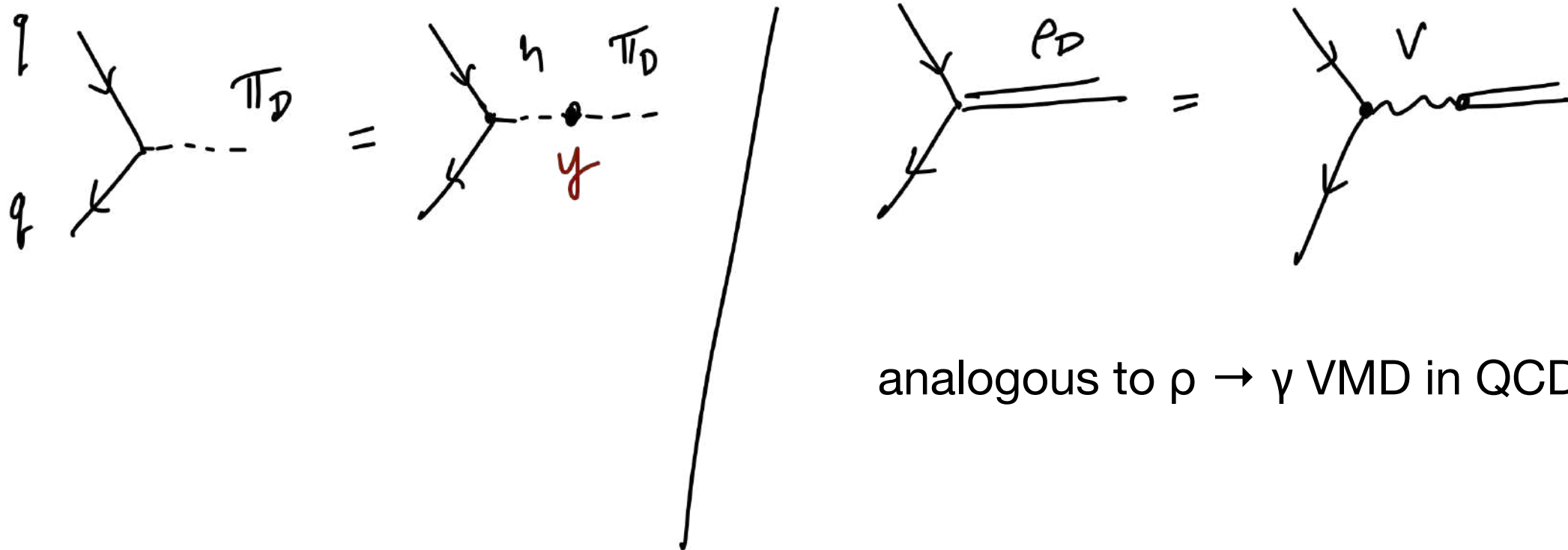
- custodial limit also removes decay  $\pi_D^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$



- stealthier DM (removes charge radius interaction for dark baryons)

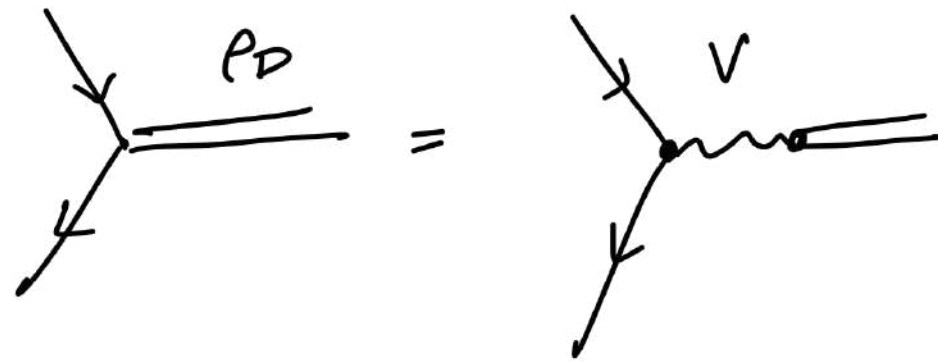
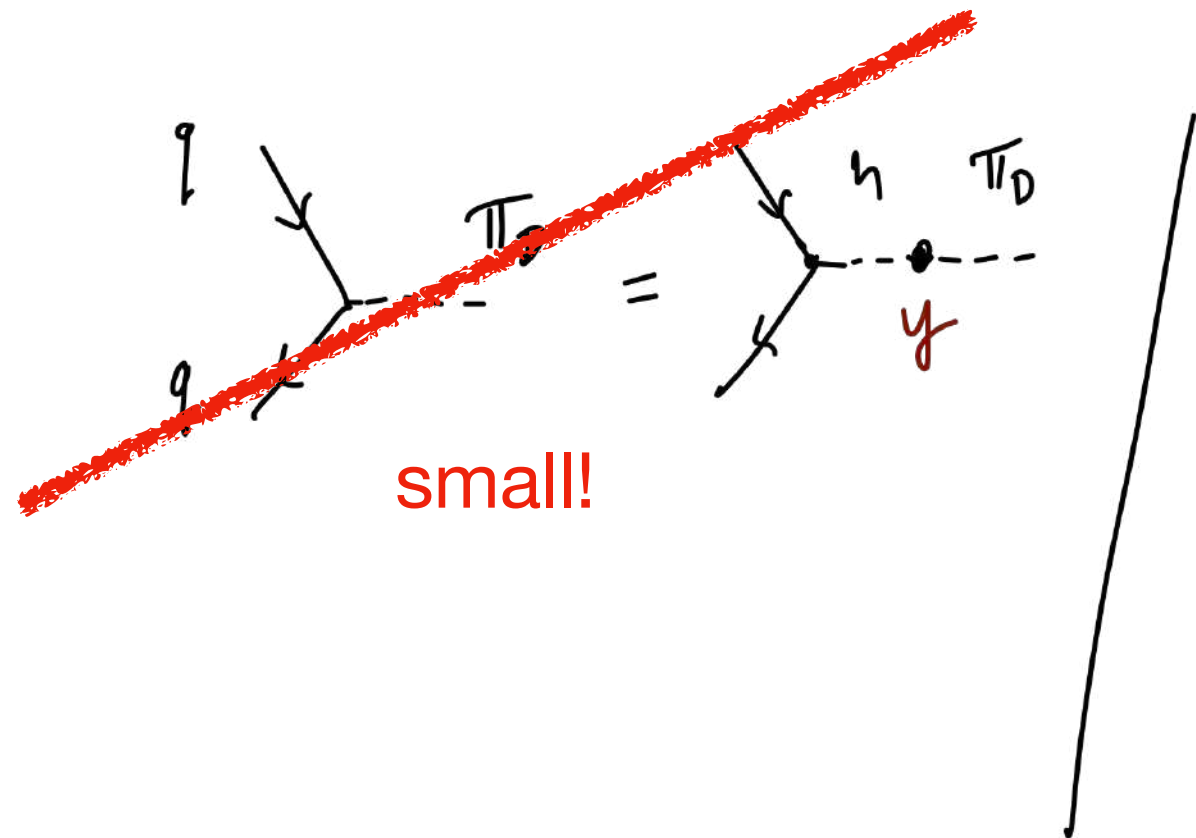
[LSD 1503.04203]

# Dark Mesons at the LHC: single production



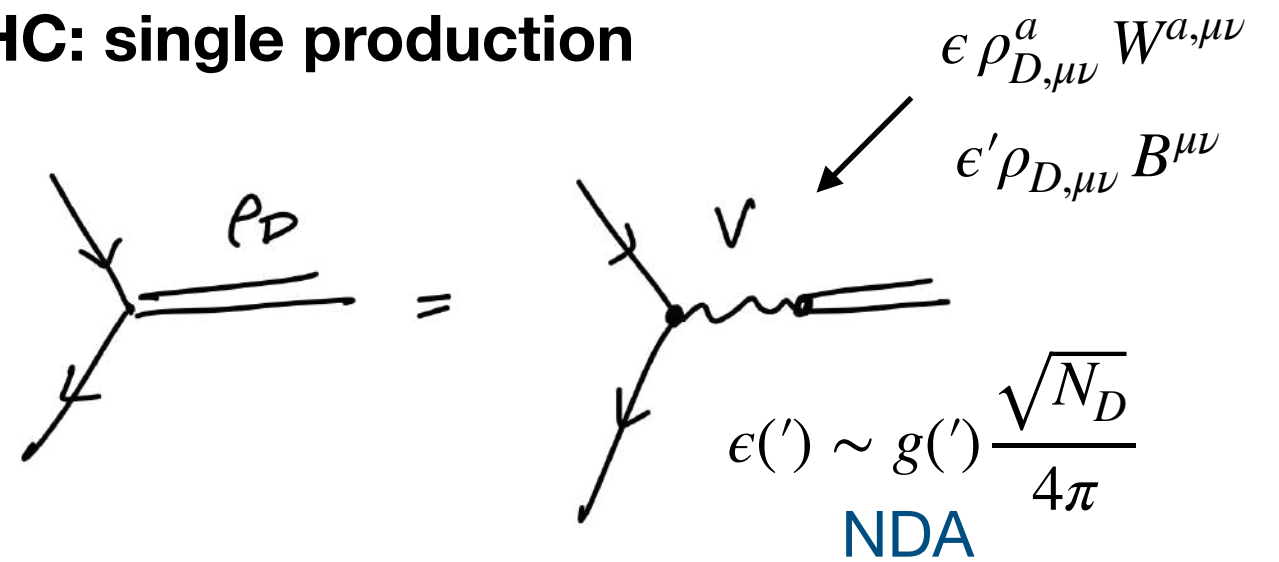
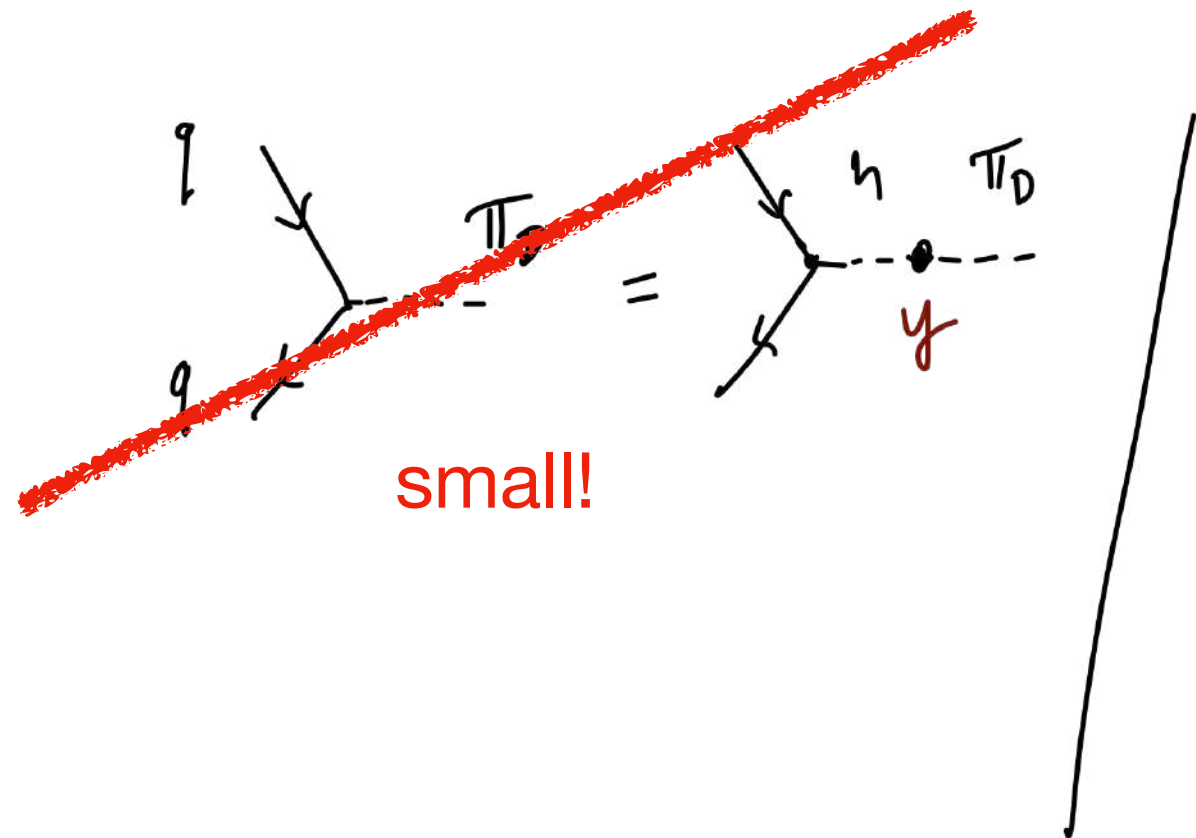
analogous to  $\rho \rightarrow \gamma$  VMD in QCD

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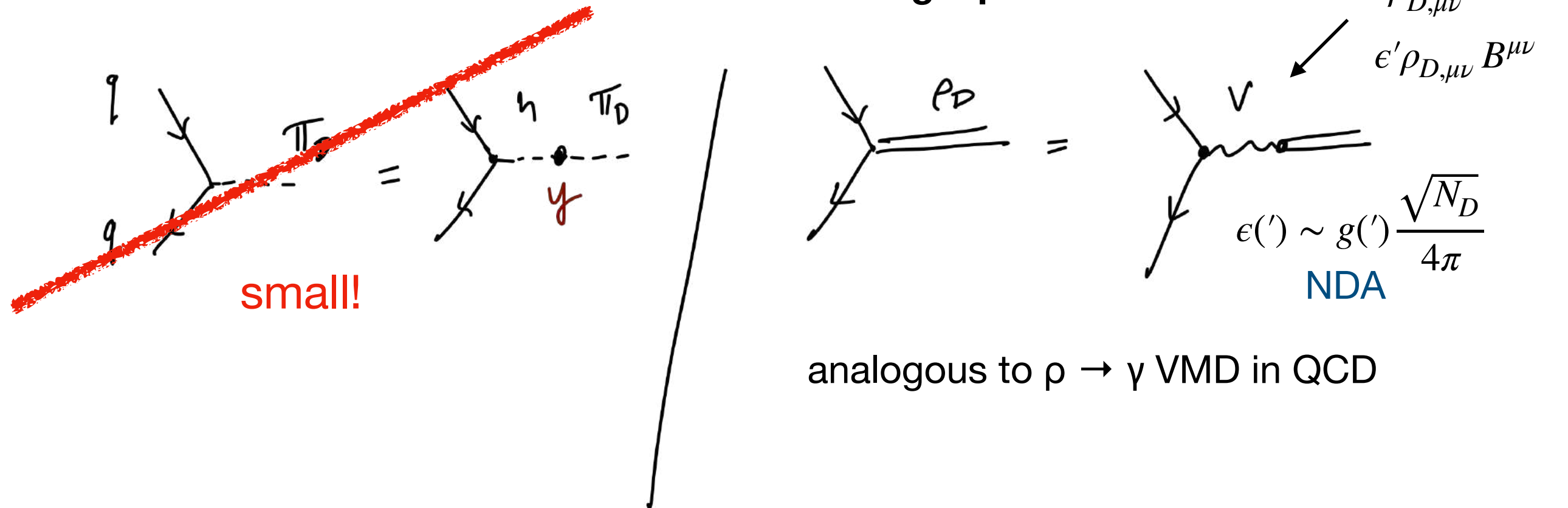
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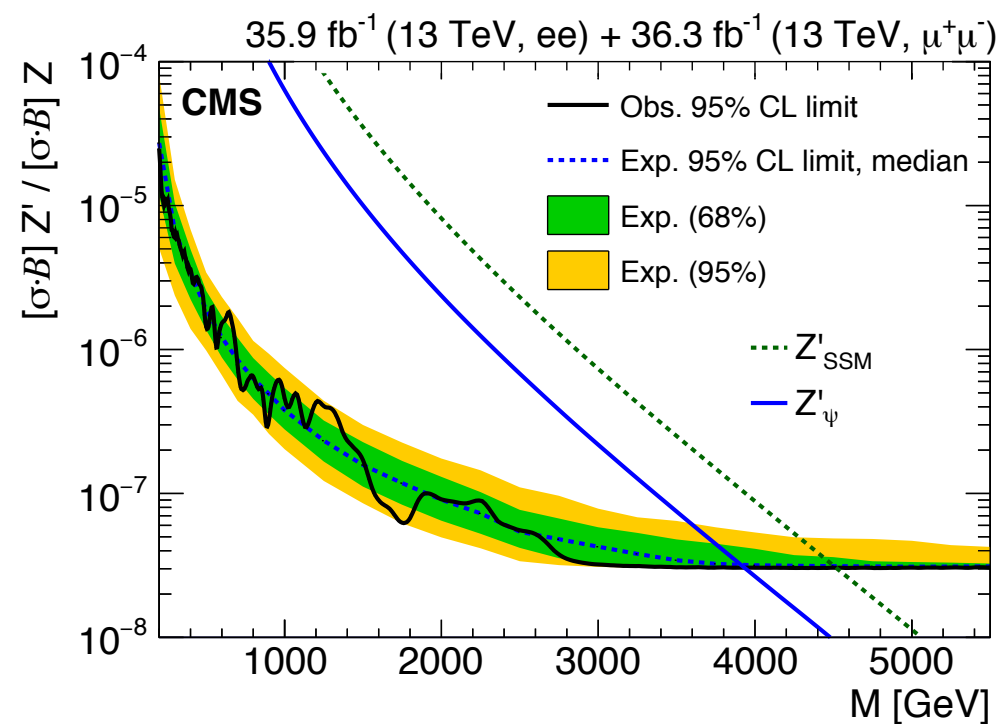


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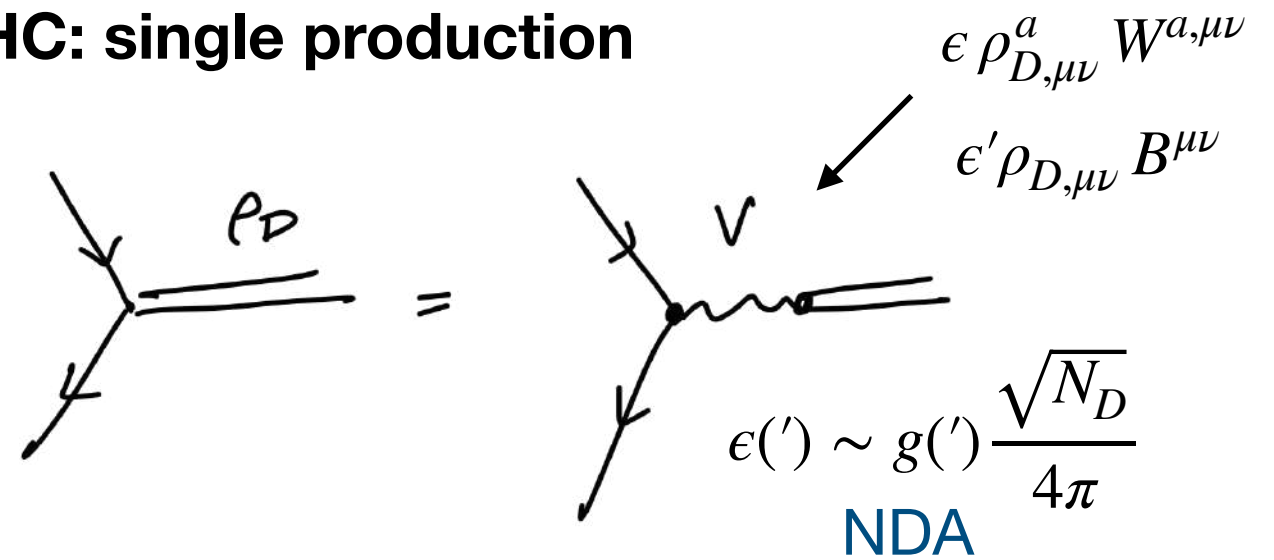
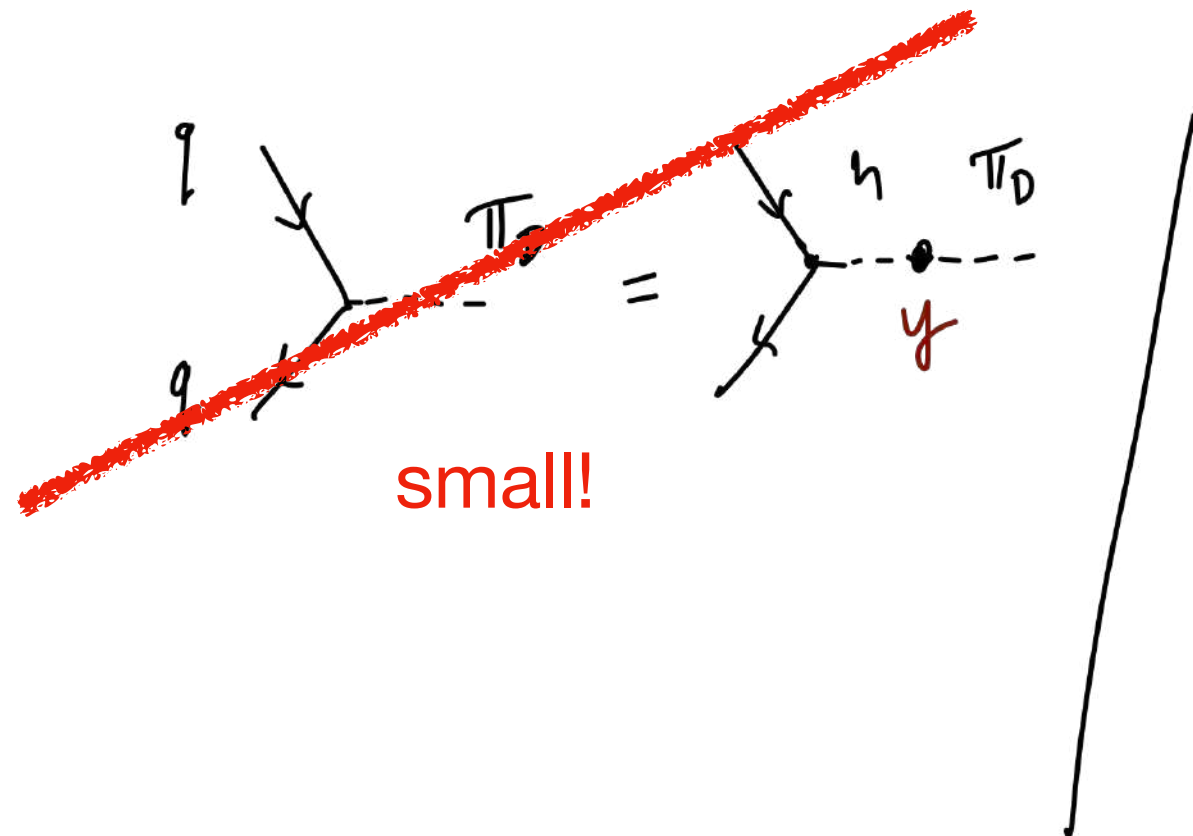
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As  $\rho_D$  are similar to generic  $W'/Z'$ , may expect strong bounds from  $\rho_D \rightarrow \ell\ell$



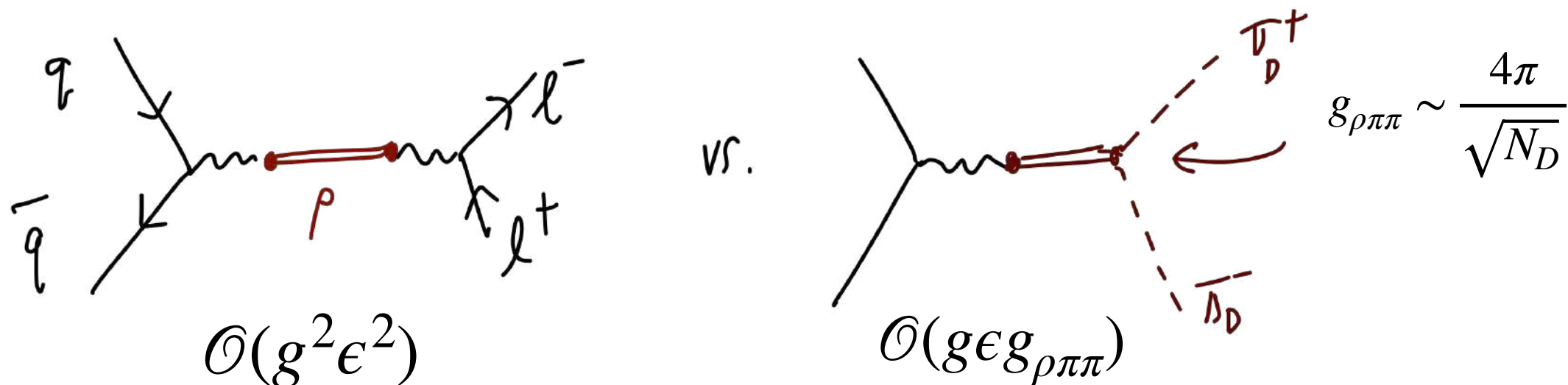
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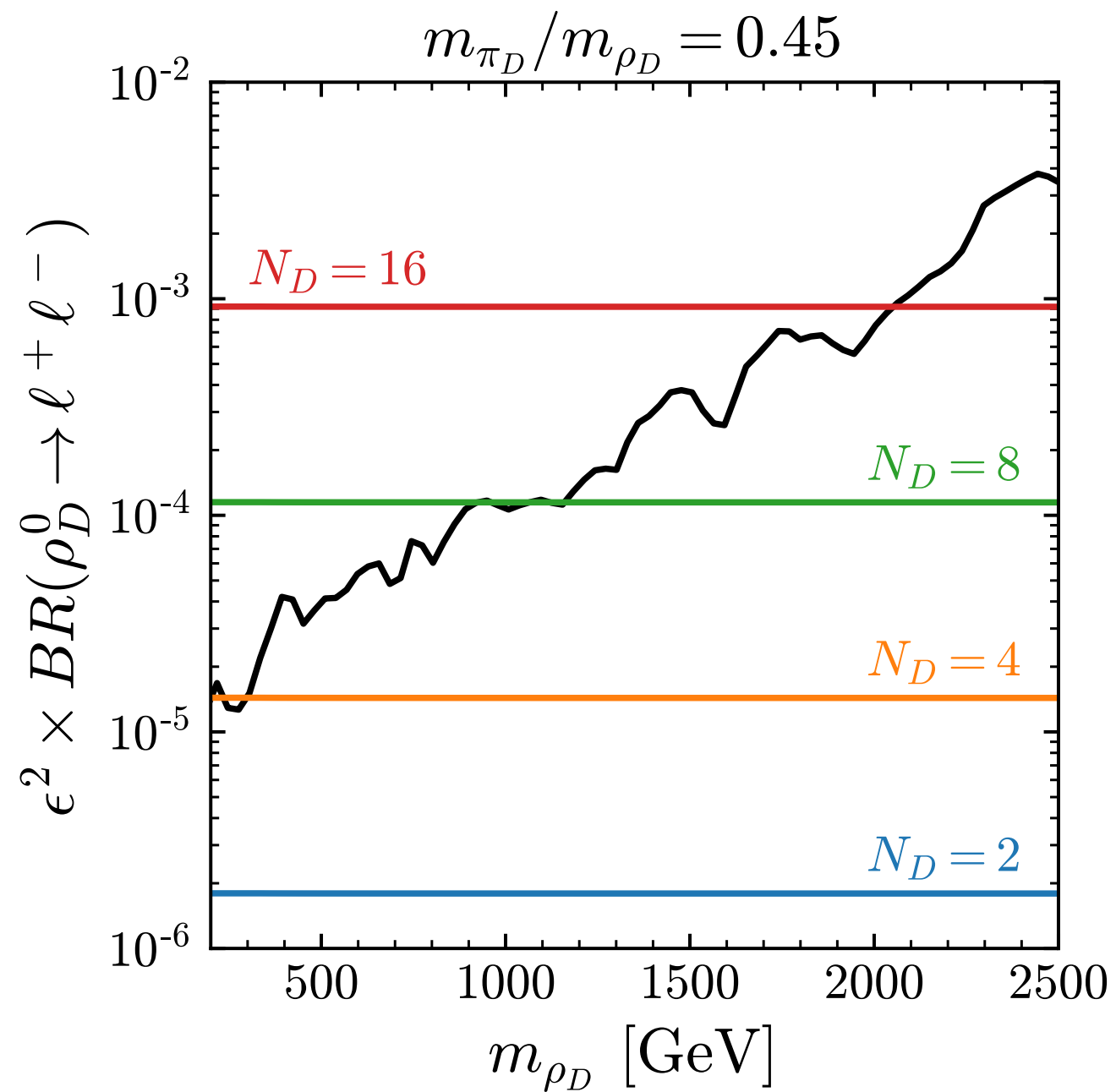
As  $\rho_D$  are similar to generic  $W'/Z'$ , may expect strong bounds from  $\rho_D \rightarrow \ell\ell$

**However, if  $\rho_D \rightarrow \pi_D \pi_D$  is kinematically opens, totally dominates**



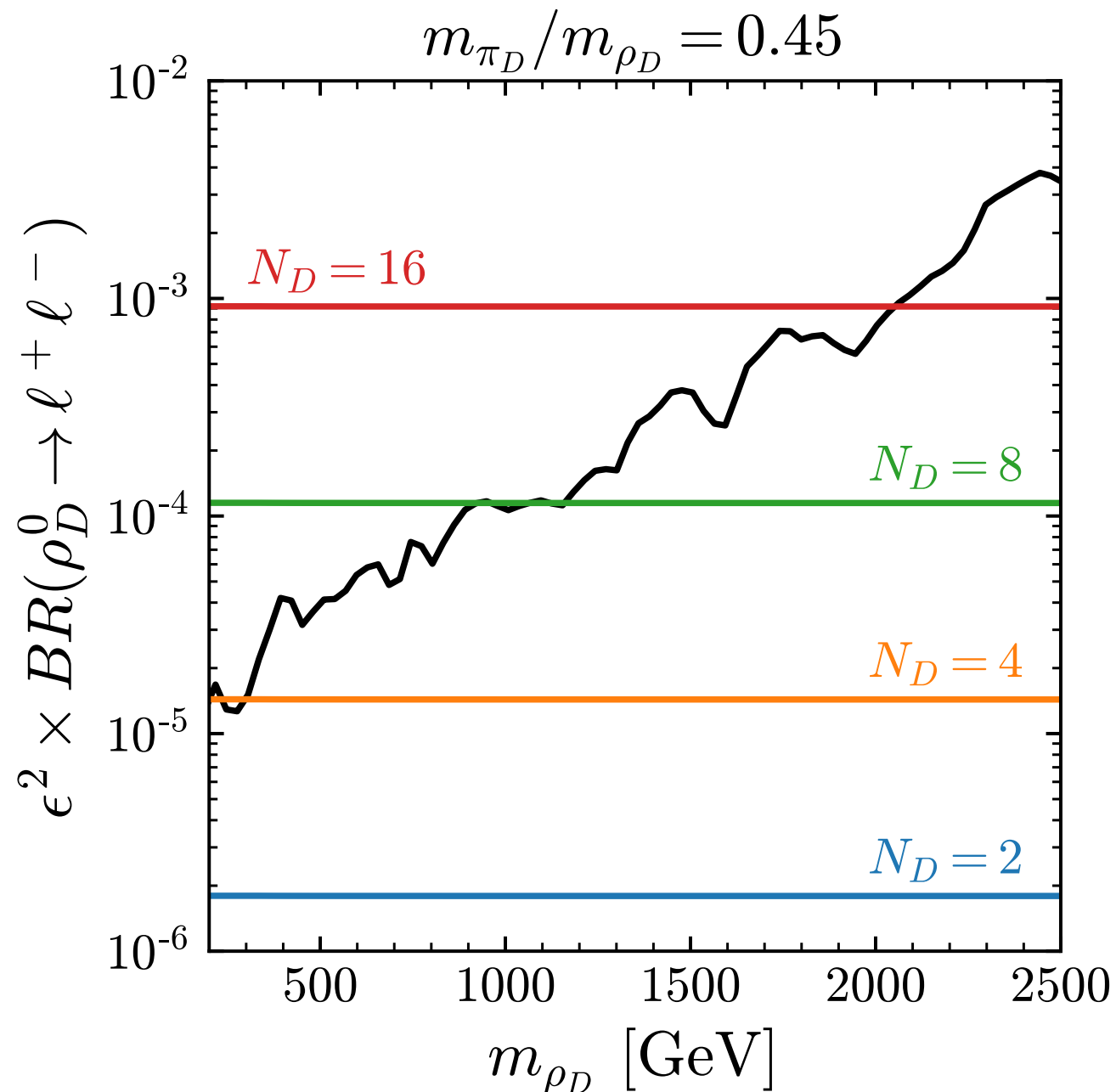
# Dark Mesons at the LHC: single production

$$\frac{\Gamma(\rho_D \rightarrow \ell \ell)}{\Gamma(\rho_D \rightarrow \pi_D \pi_D)} \sim \frac{g^4 N_D^2}{(16\pi^2)^2} \ll 1$$



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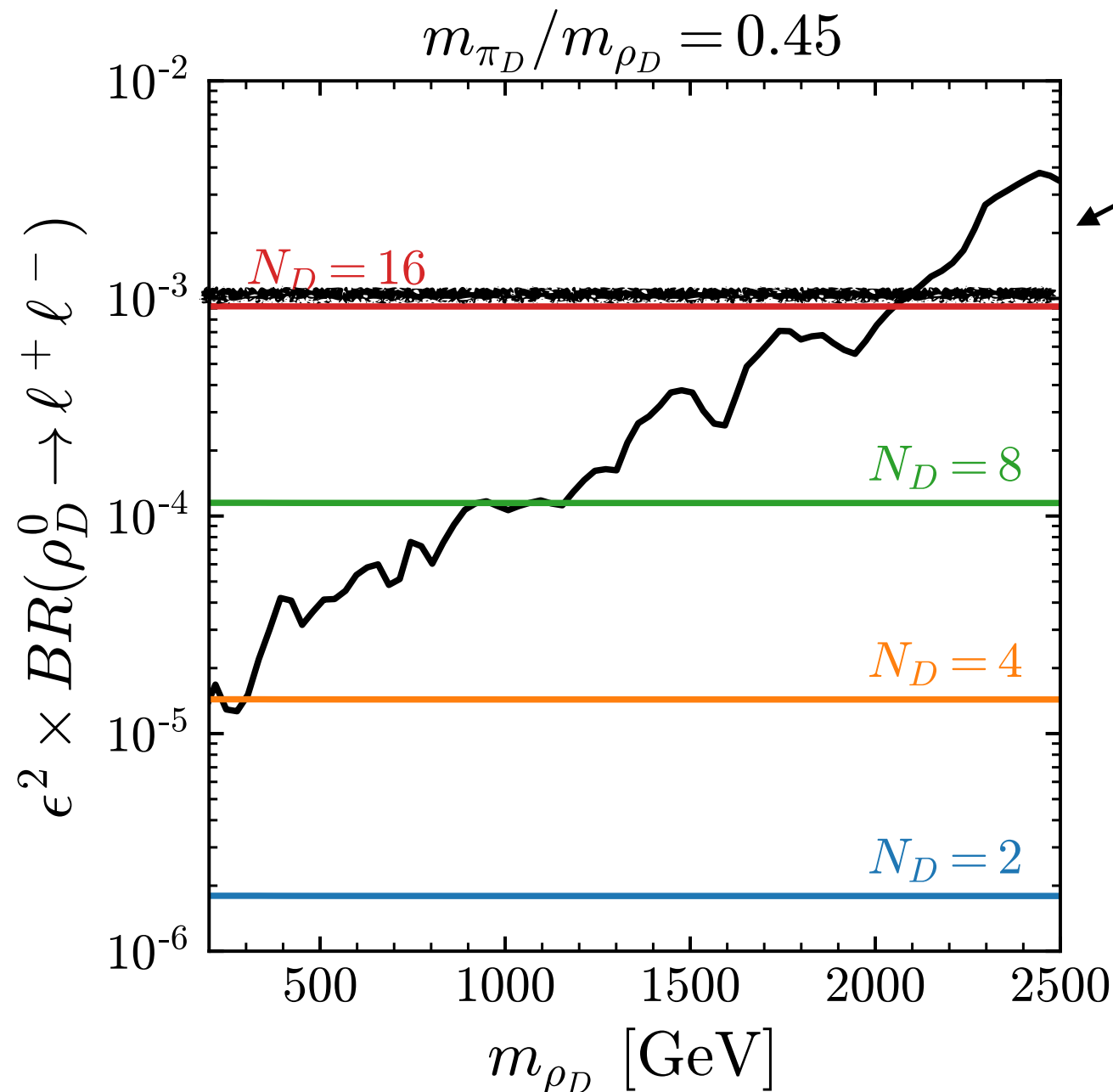
For small  $N_D$ , bound is significantly less than  $Z' \rightarrow \ell \ell$  expectation, even for  $m_{\pi}/m_{\rho} = 0.45$

For lower  $m_{\pi}/m_{\rho}$ , bound disappears completely



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$N_D = 4, m_{\pi_D}/m_{\rho_D} = 0.55$

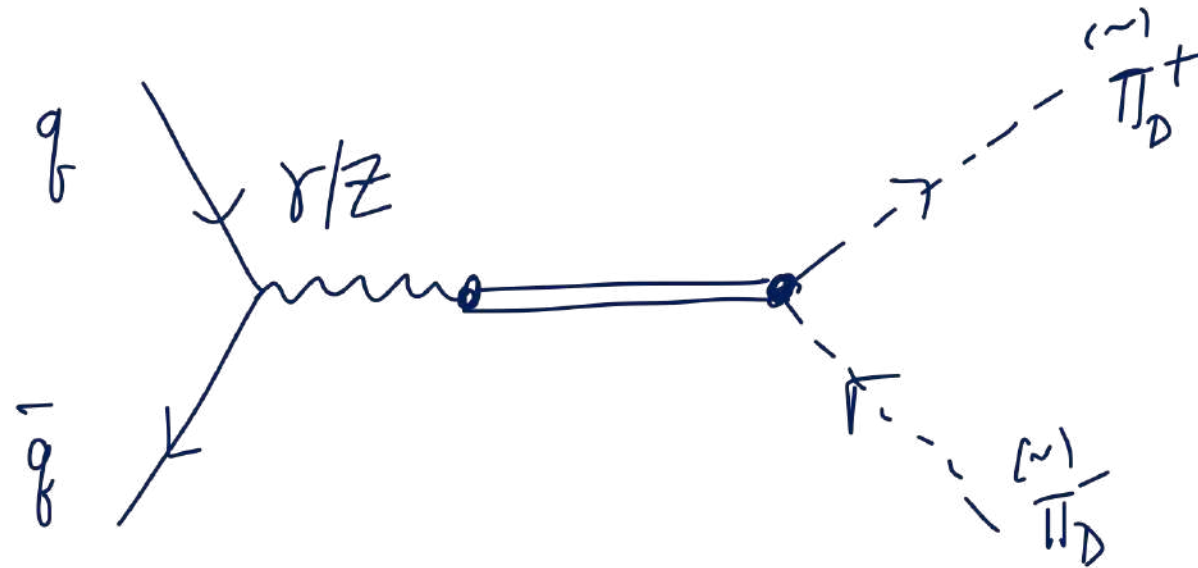
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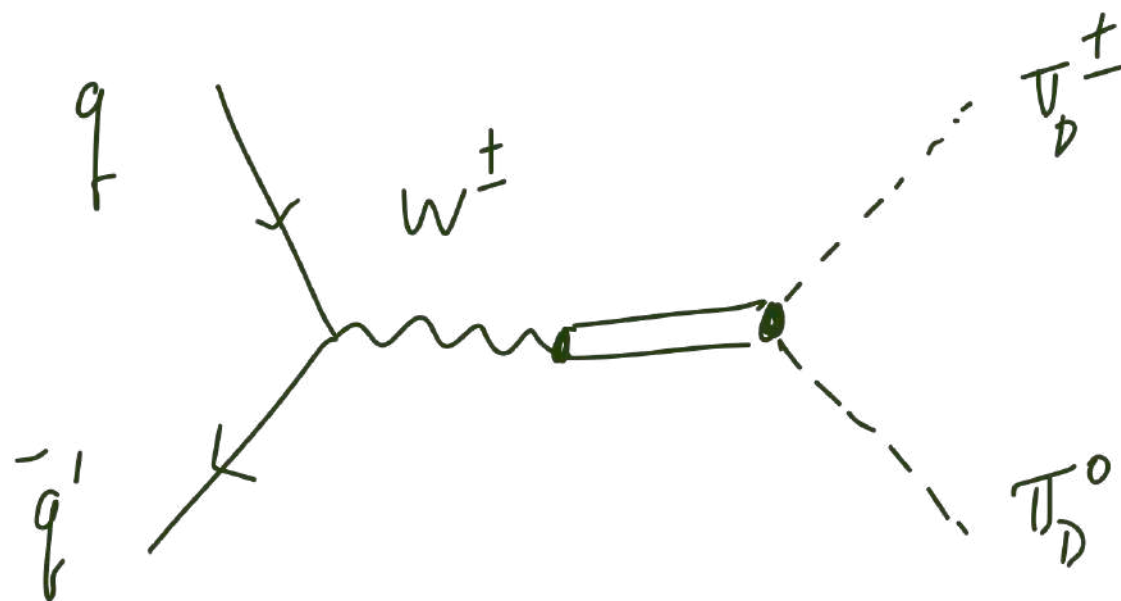
Focus on  $N_D = 4$ , consider  $m_{\pi}/m_{\rho} = 0.45, 0.25$

## Dark Mesons at the LHC: pair production

Dark pions pair produced via Drell-Yan augmented by mixing with composite vector mesons:



Neutral current:  
present in either  
scenario



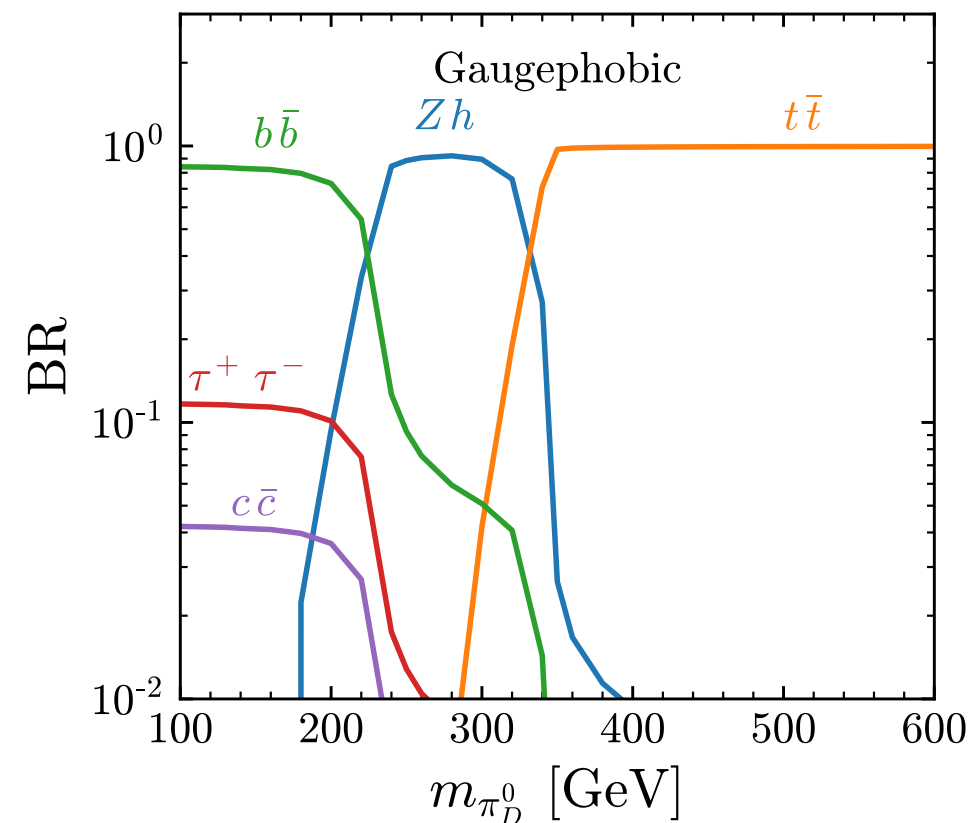
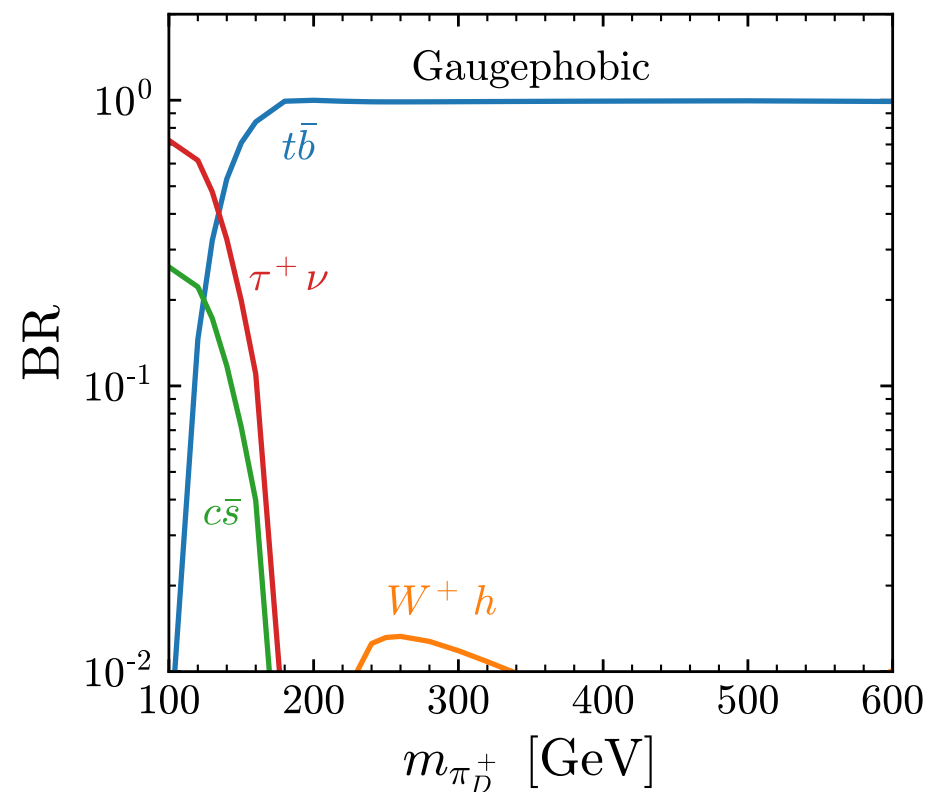
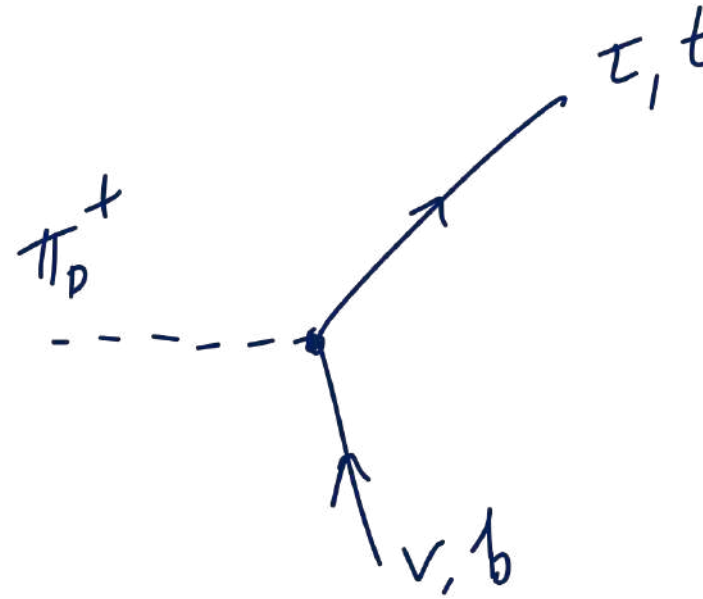
Charged current: only  
present in SU(2)<sub>L</sub>  
setup

$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow \pi_D \pi_D \rightarrow SM SM) \simeq \sigma(pp \rightarrow \rho_D) BR(\pi_D \rightarrow SM)^2$$

size of  $\pi_D \rightarrow SM$  coupling drops out. Parameters:  $m_\pi$ ,  $m_\pi/m_\rho$ ,  $N_D = 4$

# Dark Mesons at the LHC: pair production

$\pi_D$  decay: 3rd gen fermions.  
no BSM sources of MET



Combination of pair production with  $\sim$  weak cross-section & decays to 3rd generation stuff without extra MET = difficult territory for the LHC

## Dark Mesons at the LHC: pair production

$$pp \rightarrow \pi_D^+ \pi_D^- \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^- \nu_\tau \bar{\nu}_\tau \quad \text{'light } \pi_D \text{' channels}$$

$$pp \rightarrow \pi_D^\pm \pi_D^0 \rightarrow \tau^\pm \nu_\tau \bar{b} b$$

...

$$pp \rightarrow \pi_D^+ \pi_D^- \rightarrow t \bar{t} b \bar{b}, t \bar{b} \tau^- \nu_\tau \quad \text{'heavy } \pi_D \text{' channels}$$

$$pp \rightarrow \pi_D^\pm \pi_D^0 \rightarrow t \bar{b} Z h, t \bar{b} \bar{b} b$$

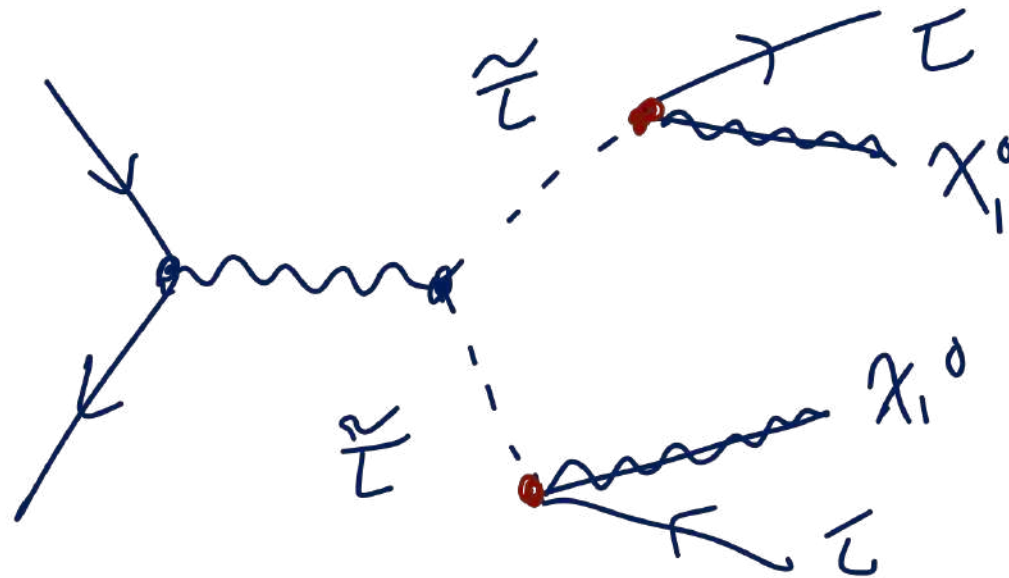
...

Systematically checked all (well, as many as we could find)  
searches that would capture the relevant final states

## Current LHC searches with these final states:

- often involve extra MET

e.g.



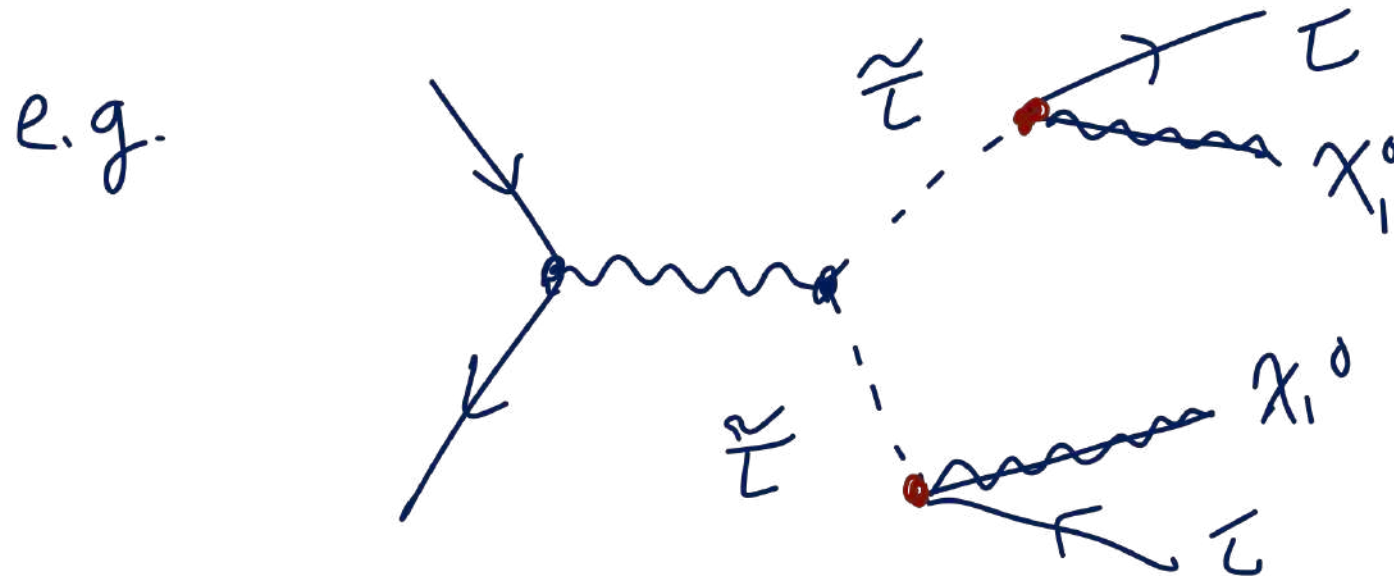
ATLAS-CONF-2016-093

Requires MET > 150 GeV

inefficient  
for  $\pi_D$

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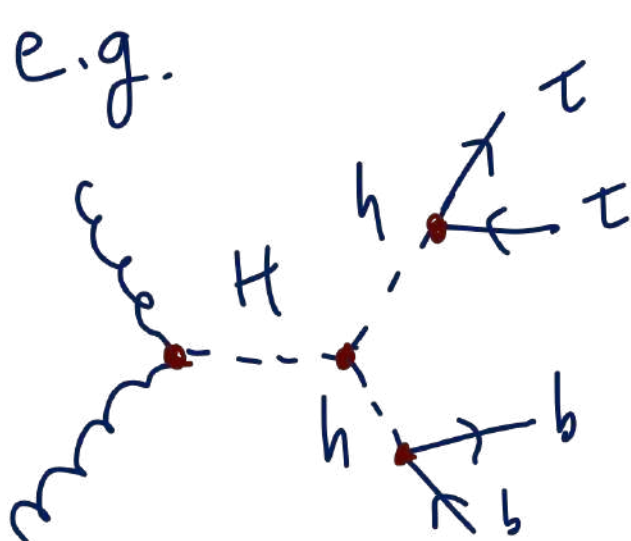


ATLAS-CONF-2016-093

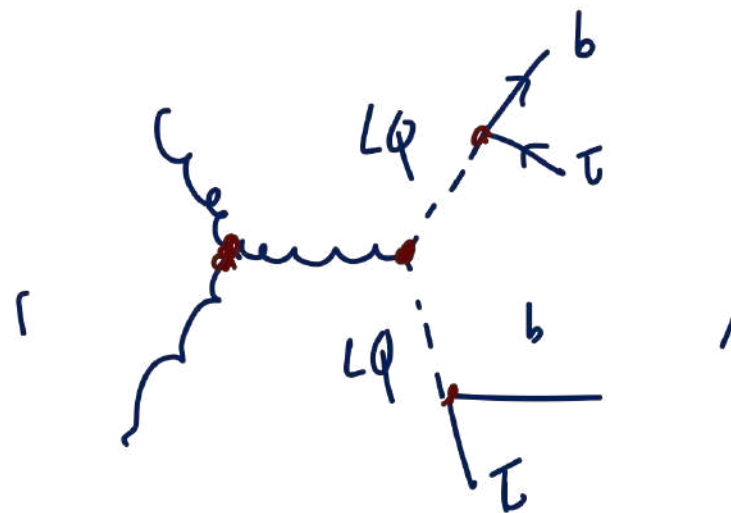
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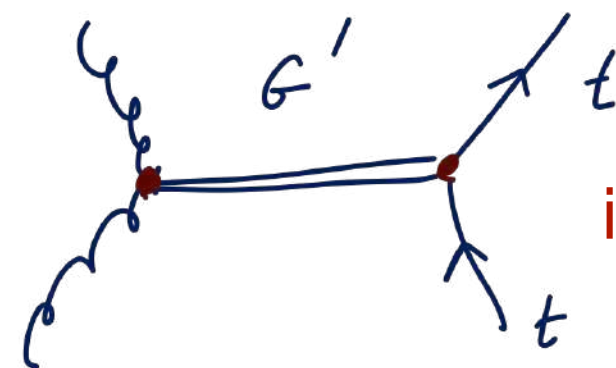
- or assume the wrong resonance structure



CMS: 1707.02909



CMS 1408.0806



ATLAS 1505.07018

inefficient  
for  $\pi_D$

## Most successful

### - low mass: $m_{\pi D} \lesssim 300 \text{ GeV}$

‘multi-lepton’ searches:

catchall for 3+ leptons, one of which may be  $\tau$   
Binned by MET, # jets, # b jets (100+ channels!)

Searches done by both ATLAS/CMS at 8 TeV, **no 13 TeV versions (yet!)**

### - for high mass: $m_{\pi D} \gtrsim 300 \text{ GeV}$

Same sign leptons:

Large MET requirement, further binned by #jets and #b

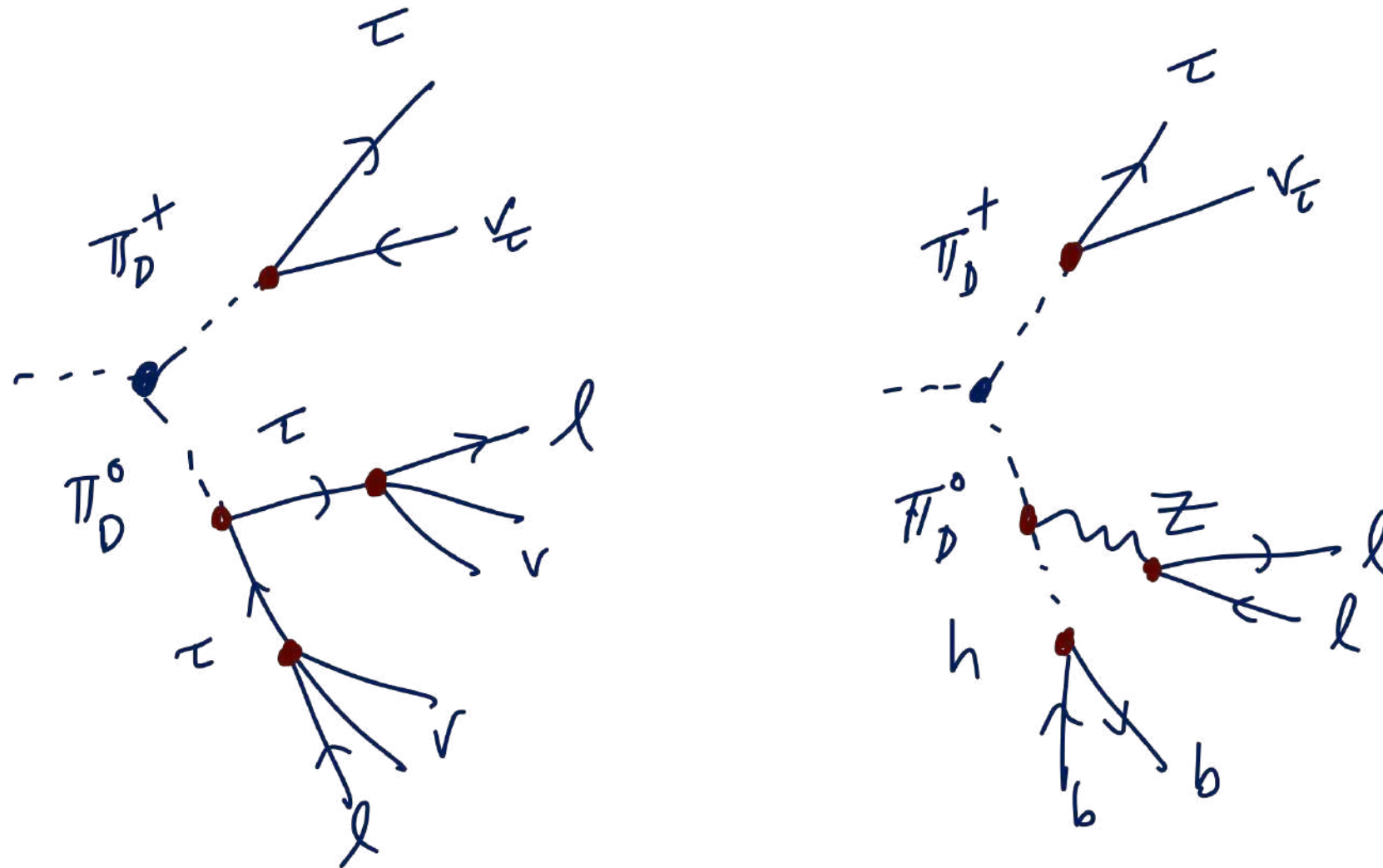
Analyses at both 8 & 13 TeV, **but 8 TeV more sensitive!**

13 TeV version imposes:  $pT_{\ell 1} + pT_{\ell 2} + \text{MET} > 600 \text{ GeV}$

as its aimed at SUSY — totally kills our signal

## Why do these searches work?

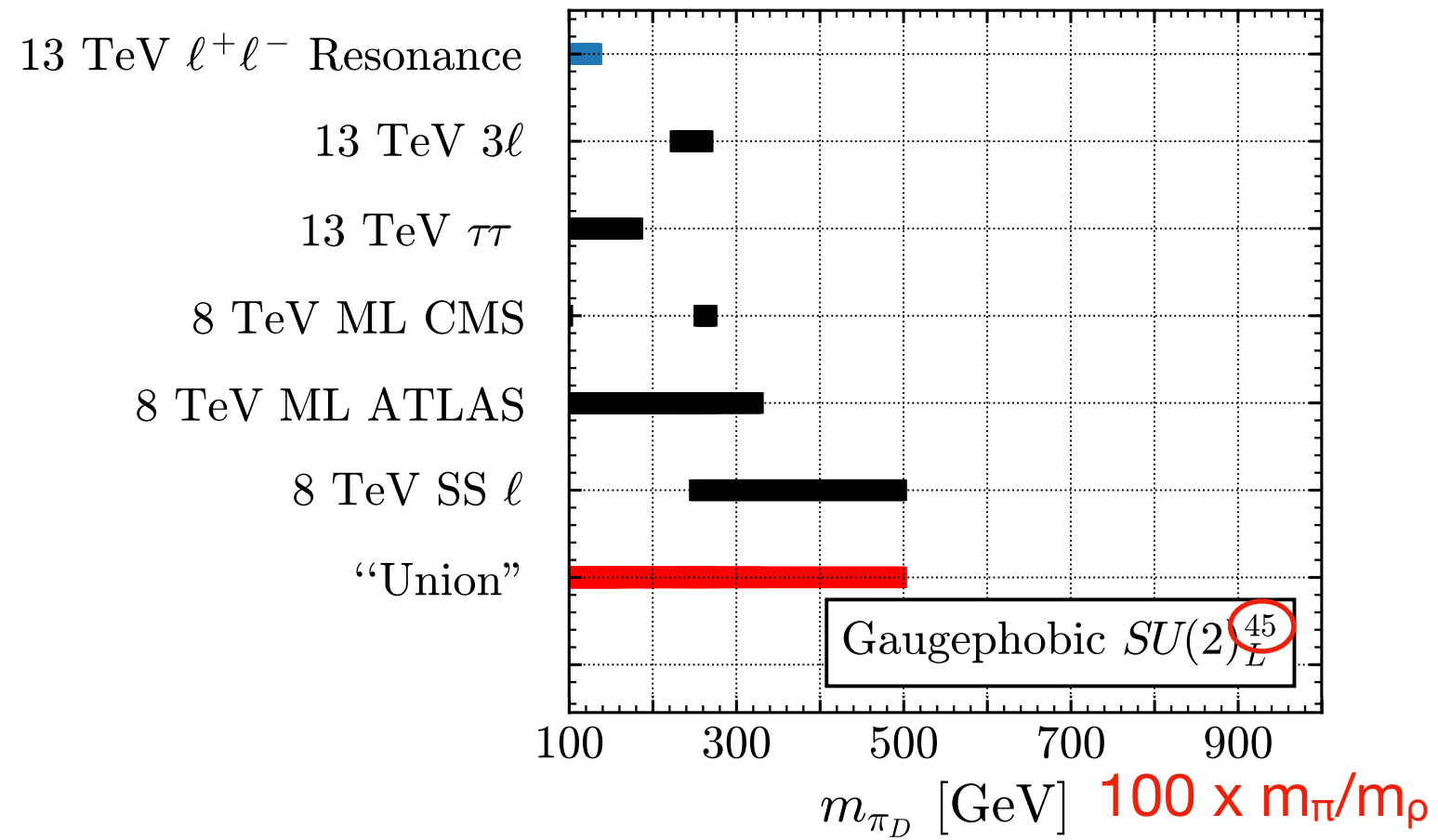
# Routes to multiple leptons from $\pi^+_D \pi^0_D$



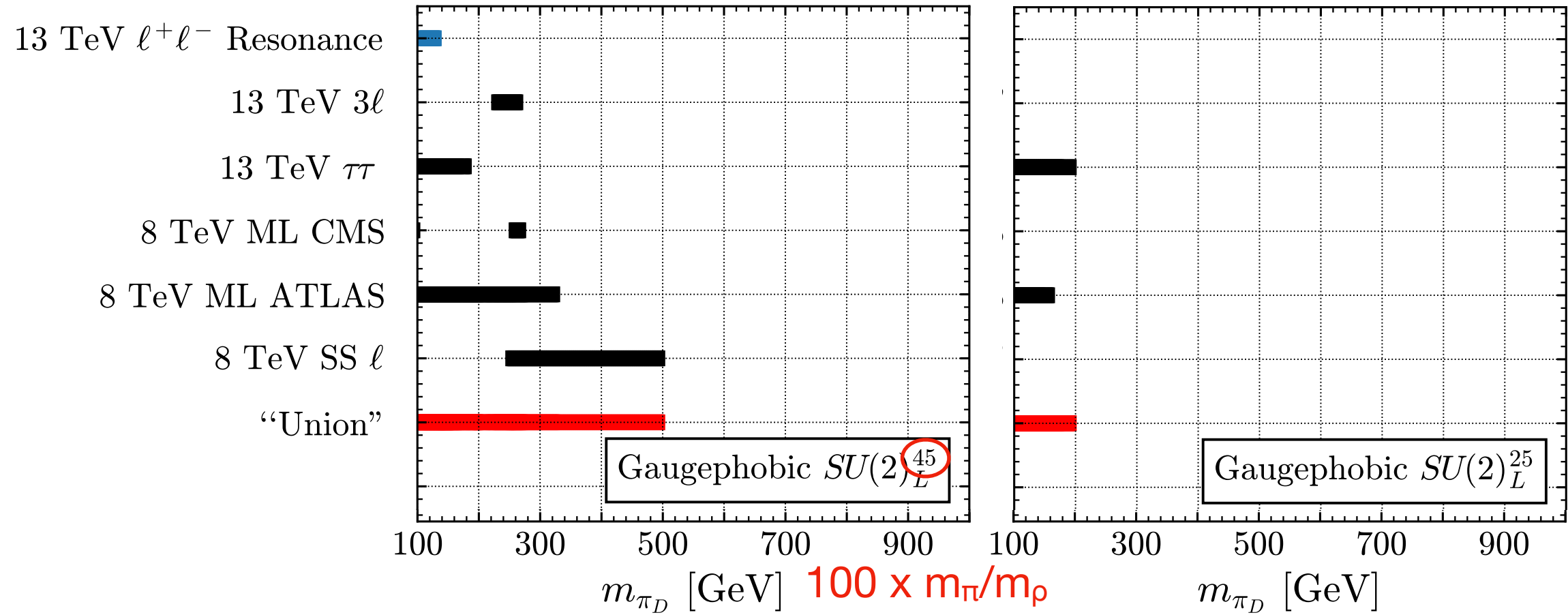
No such possibility with  $\pi^+_D \pi^-_D$



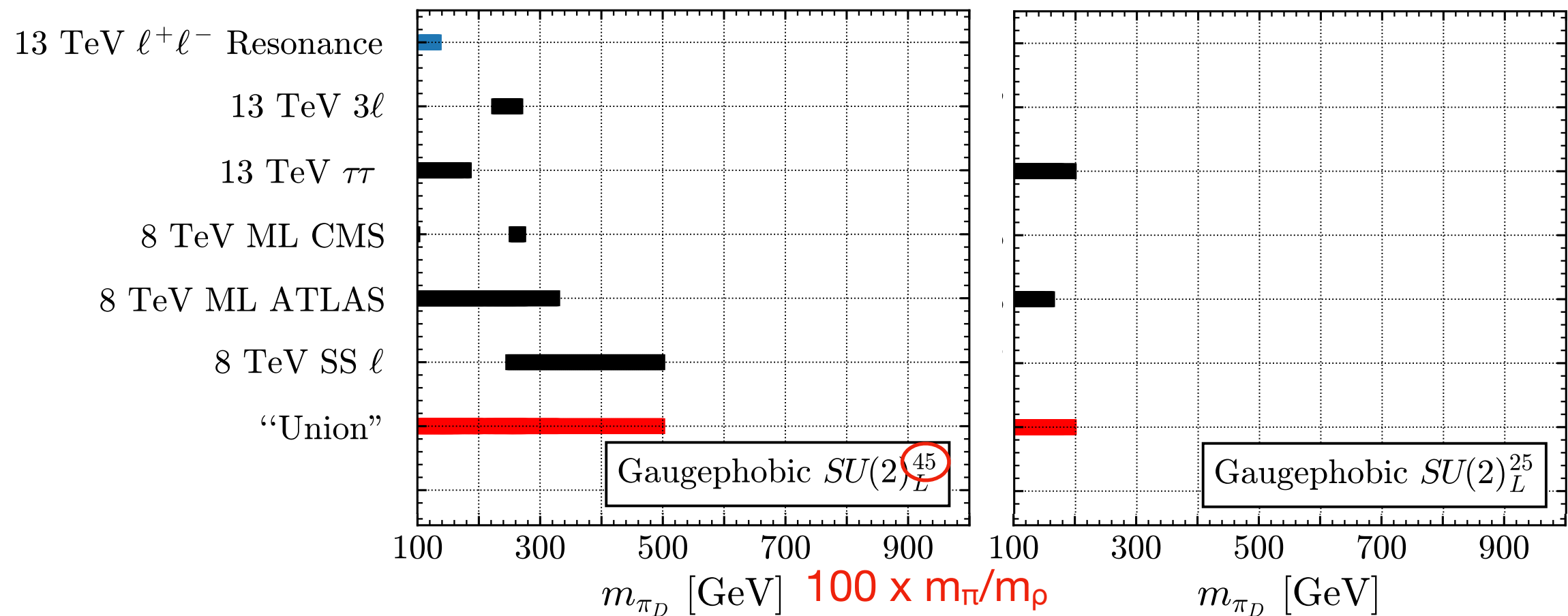
# Combination



# Combination



# Combination

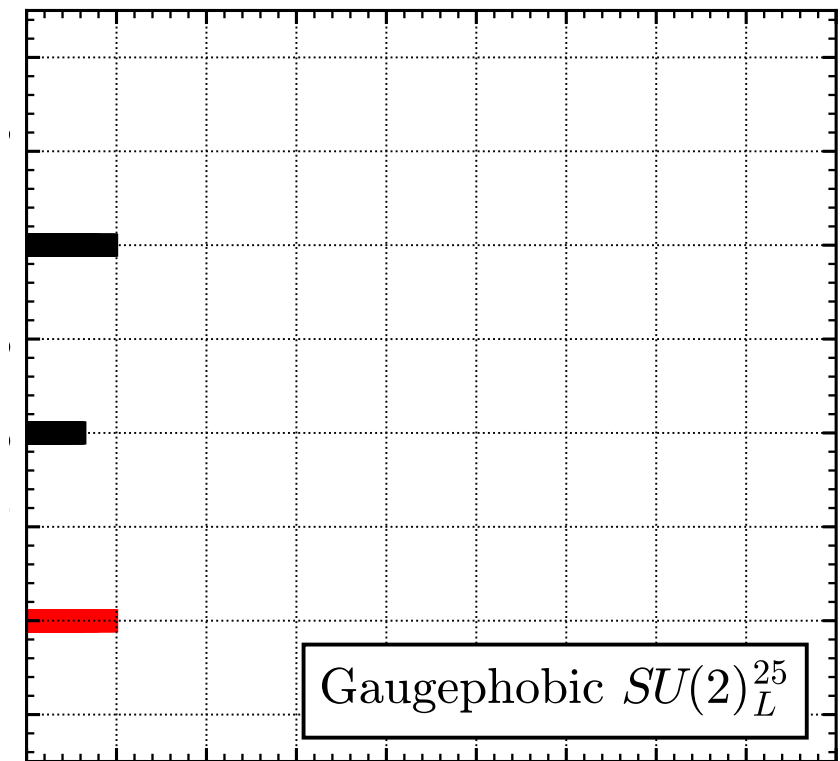
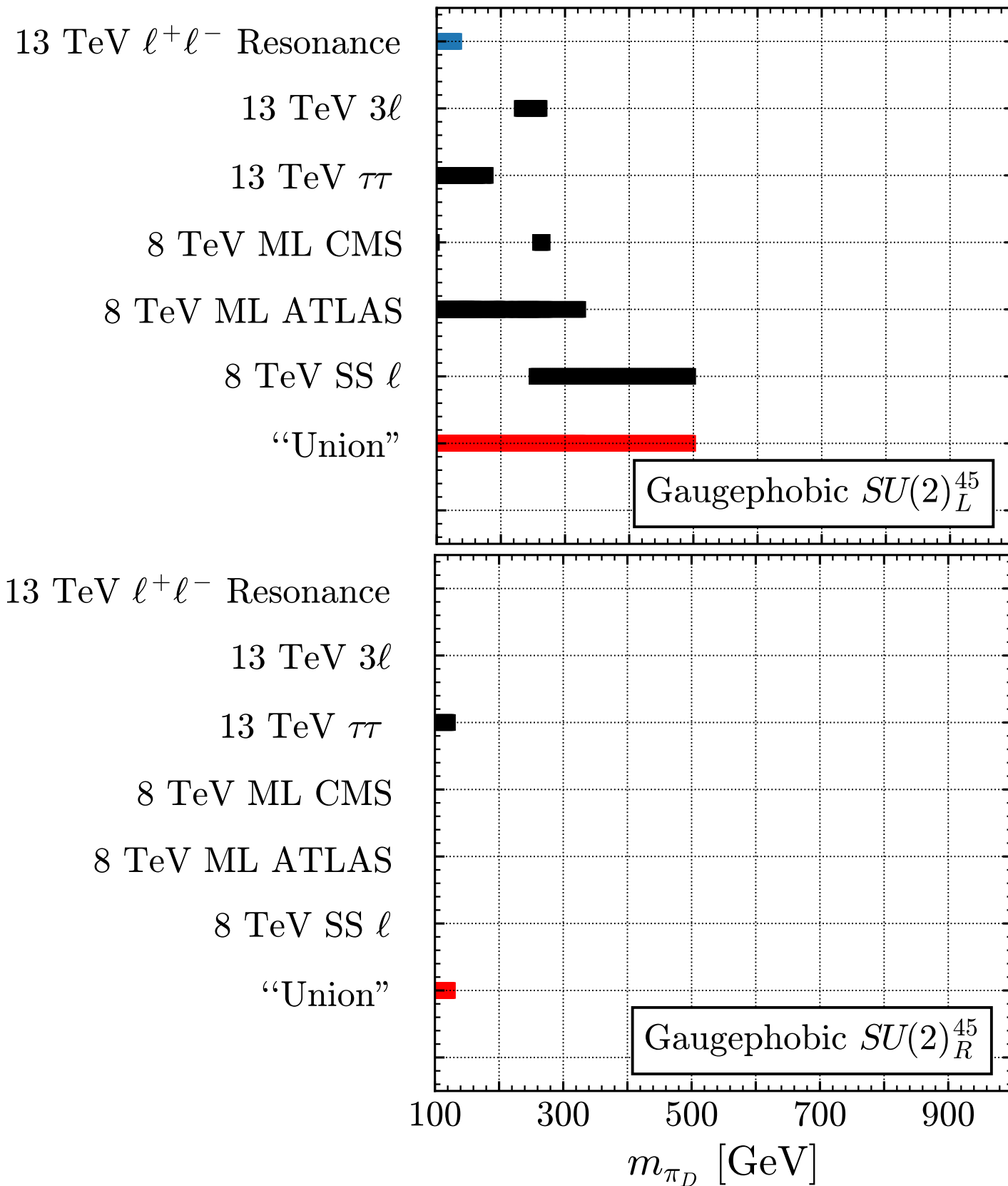


Decreasing  $m_{\pi_D}/m_{\rho_D}$ , fixed  $m_{\pi_D}$  means heavier  $\rho_D$ , smaller resonant piece of cross section

$$\frac{m_{\pi_D}}{m_{\rho_D}} = 0.45 : \quad m_{\pi_D} \gtrsim 500 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\frac{m_{\pi_D}}{m_{\rho_D}} = 0.25 : \quad m_{\pi_D} \gtrsim 200 \text{ GeV}$$

## Combination



SU2R model has  
smaller kinetic mixing,  
only neutral current

**hard to get  
3+ leptons, SSL from  
neutral current alone!**

# Combination

13 TeV  $\ell^+\ell^-$  Resonance

13 TeV  $3\ell$

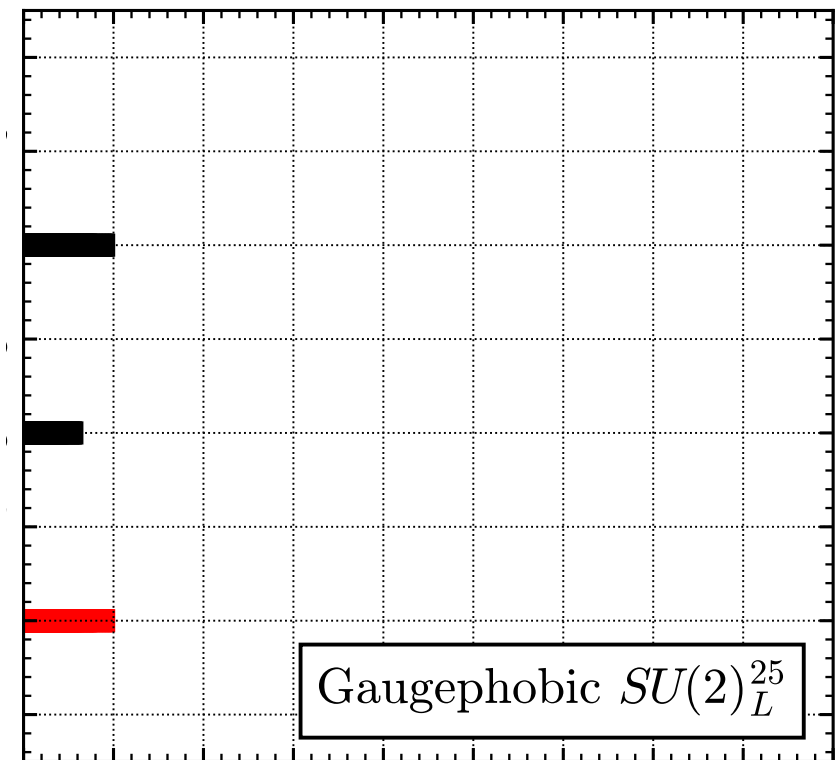
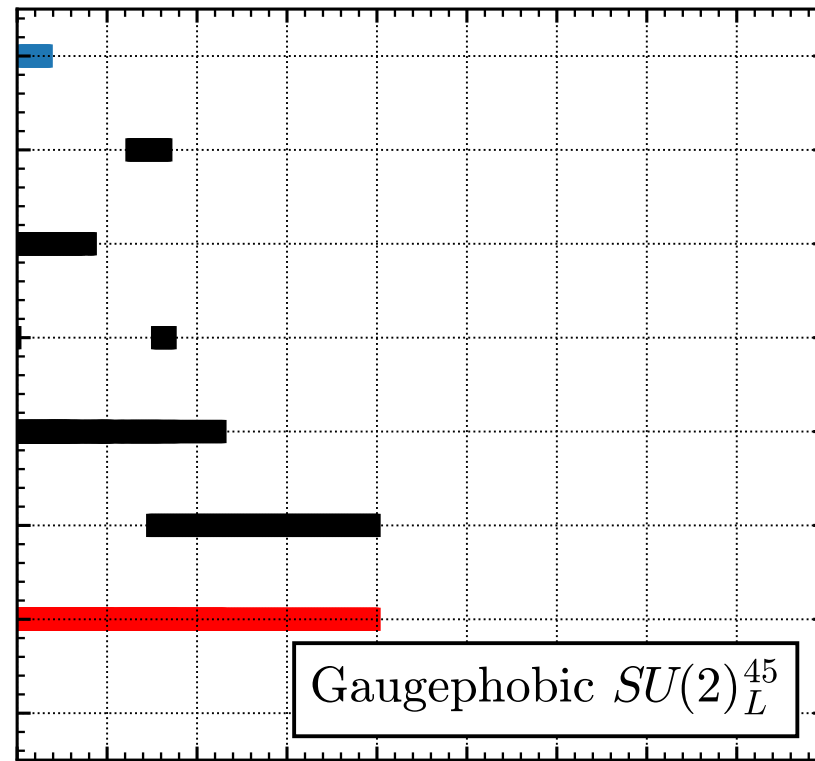
13 TeV  $\tau\tau$

8 TeV ML CMS

8 TeV ML ATLAS

8 TeV SS  $\ell$

“Union”



13 TeV  $\ell^+\ell^-$  Resonance

13 TeV  $3\ell$

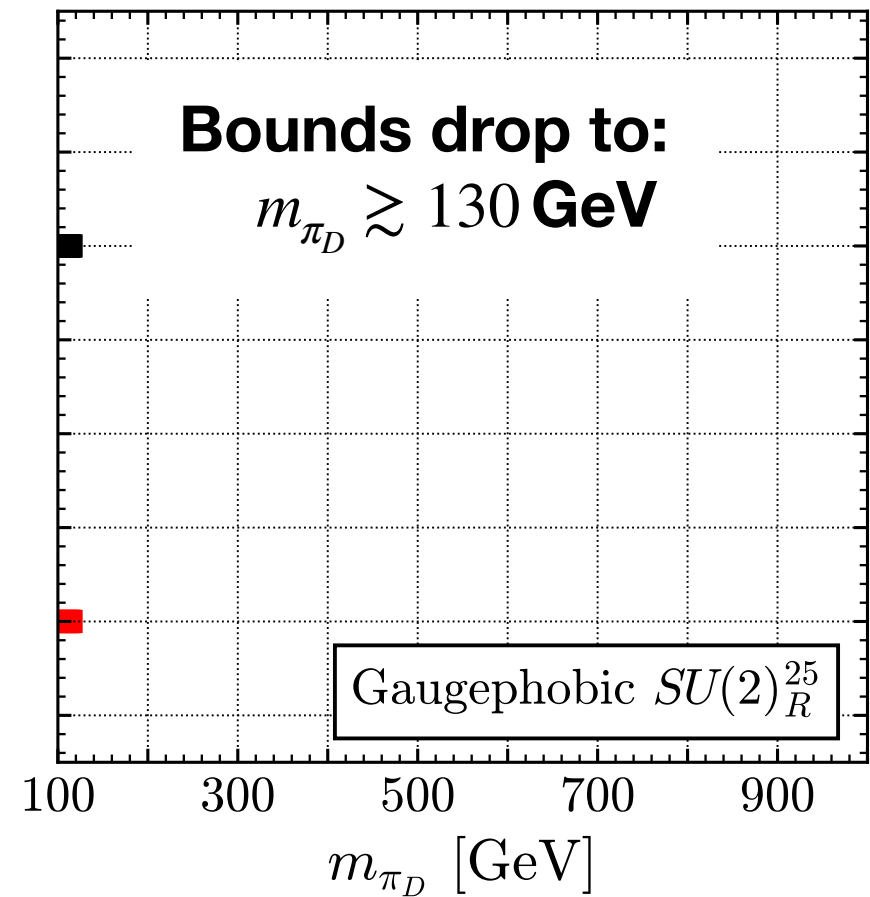
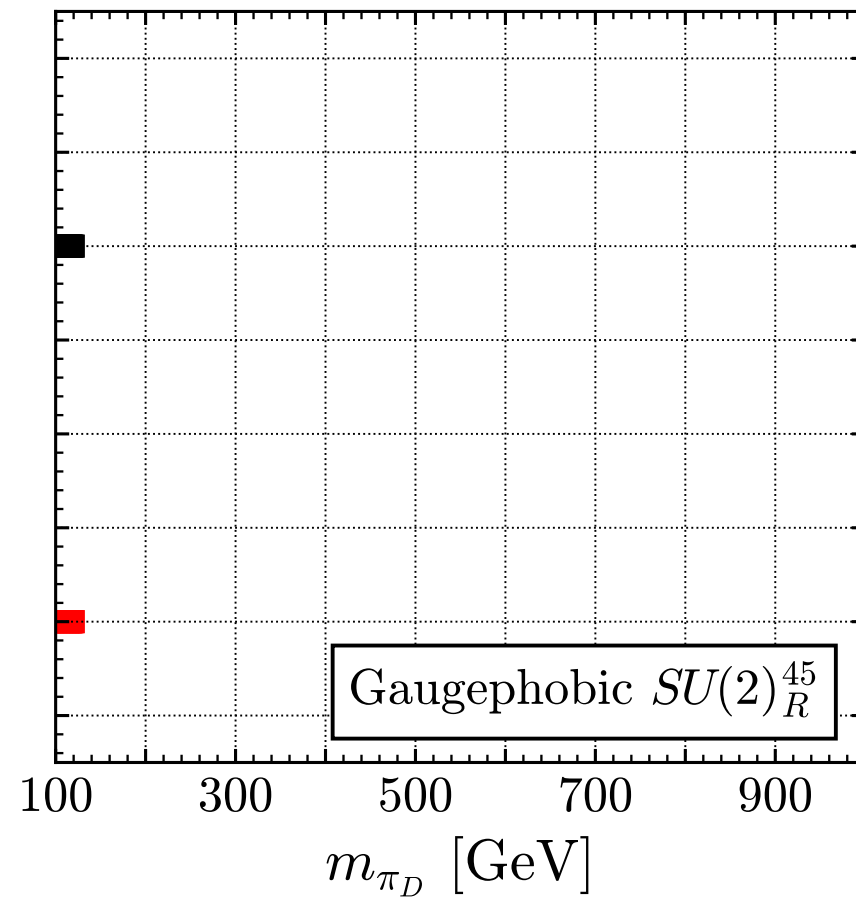
13 TeV  $\tau\tau$

8 TeV ML CMS

8 TeV ML ATLAS

8 TeV SS  $\ell$

“Union”



**Bounds drop to:**

$$m_{\pi_D} \gtrsim 130 \text{ GeV}$$

## Further directions

There are other interesting custodial charge assignments:

$$\xi_{L,R} = (\square, 2, 2)$$

Composites:  $\hat{\pi}_D \sim (3, 3)$  of custodial symmetry

Now:  $Tr(\mathbf{H} \hat{\pi}_D \mathbf{H})$  allowed without T-parameter issue  
“gaugephilic”

$\hat{\pi}_D \rightarrow W/Z + h$  unsuppressed, becomes dominant decay,  
changes LHC bounds somewhat (see backup)

**Composite Georgi-Machacek model**

## Conclusions

Weak scale strong dynamics involving  $SU(2) \times U(1)$  charged constituents is alive and well ! Motivated by 'stealthy DM' but more general statement

- mixed vector/chiral setup avoids issues in pure vector or chiral
- several scenarios to consider: **custodial setup especially nice**

Provided  $m_{\rho_D} > 2m_{\pi_D}$  and  $N_D$  small, essentially no LHC limit from  $\rho_D \rightarrow \ell\ell$

- pair produced  $\pi_D$  sneak through **most** searches as ~small production rates (non-colored) & their decays involve primarily 3rd gen stuff. Hurt by no BSM MET & searches focusing on multi-TeV scale (leads to 8 TeV bounds better than 13)
- limits are especially weak ( $m_{\pi_D} \gtrsim 130$  GeV) in scenarios where lightest composites are SU2 singlets (SU(2)<sub>R</sub> setup)

Finally: be very careful opening Uber doors!

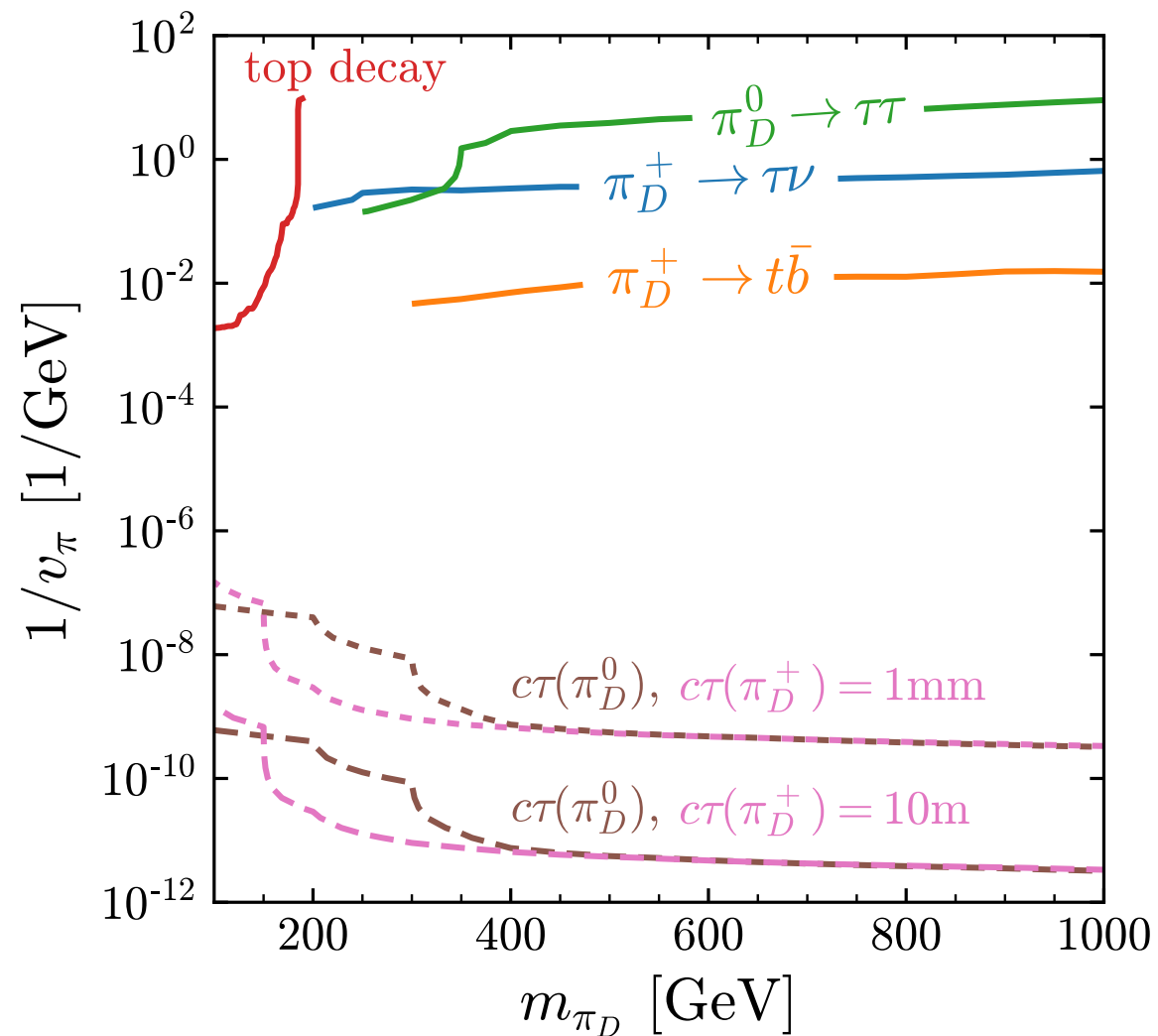


Thank you!



**EXTRA**

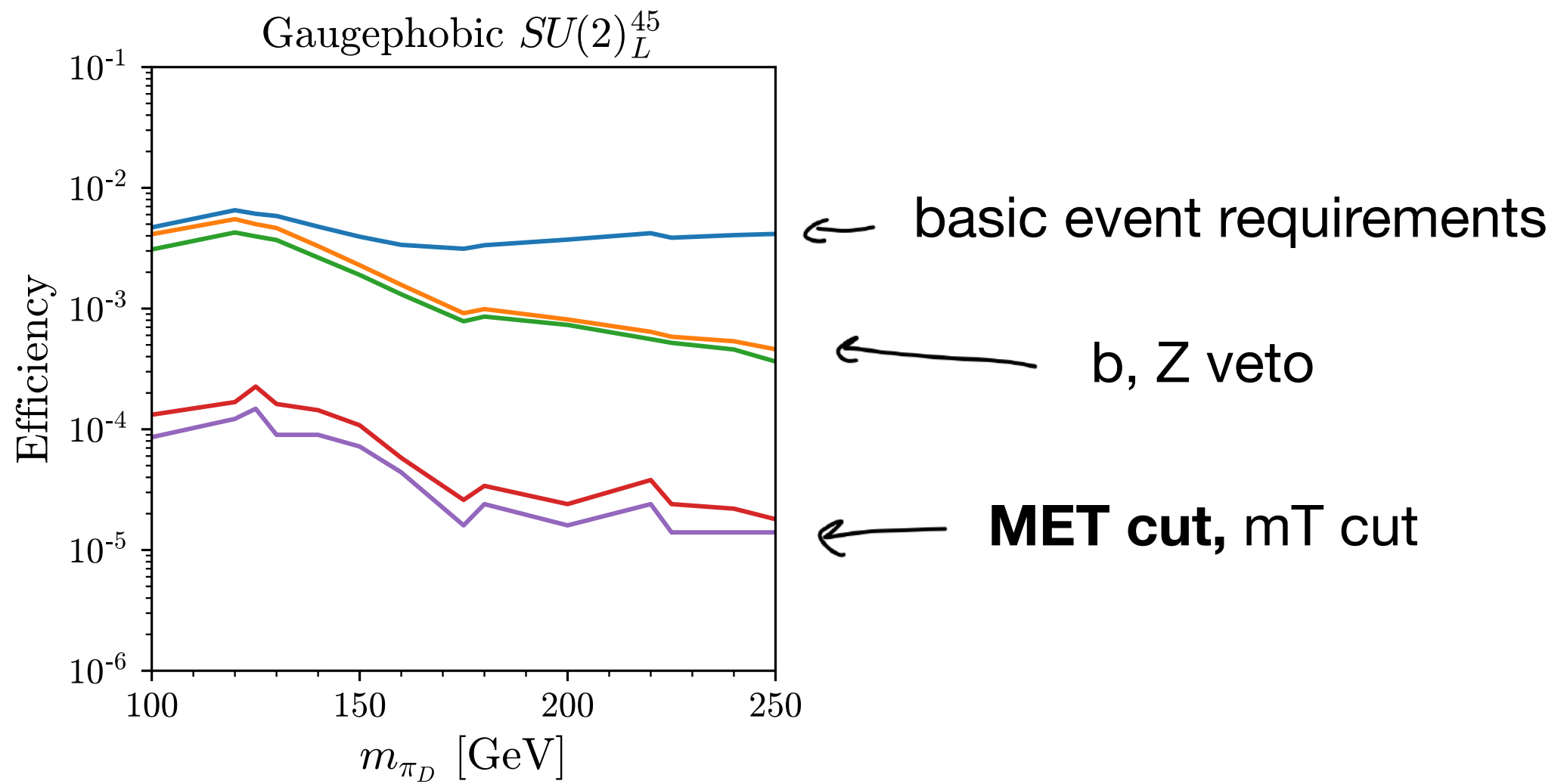
## Single production/top decay limits on $\pi_D$



Unlike pair production, limits depend on overall  $\pi_D$ -SM coupling strength rather than BR

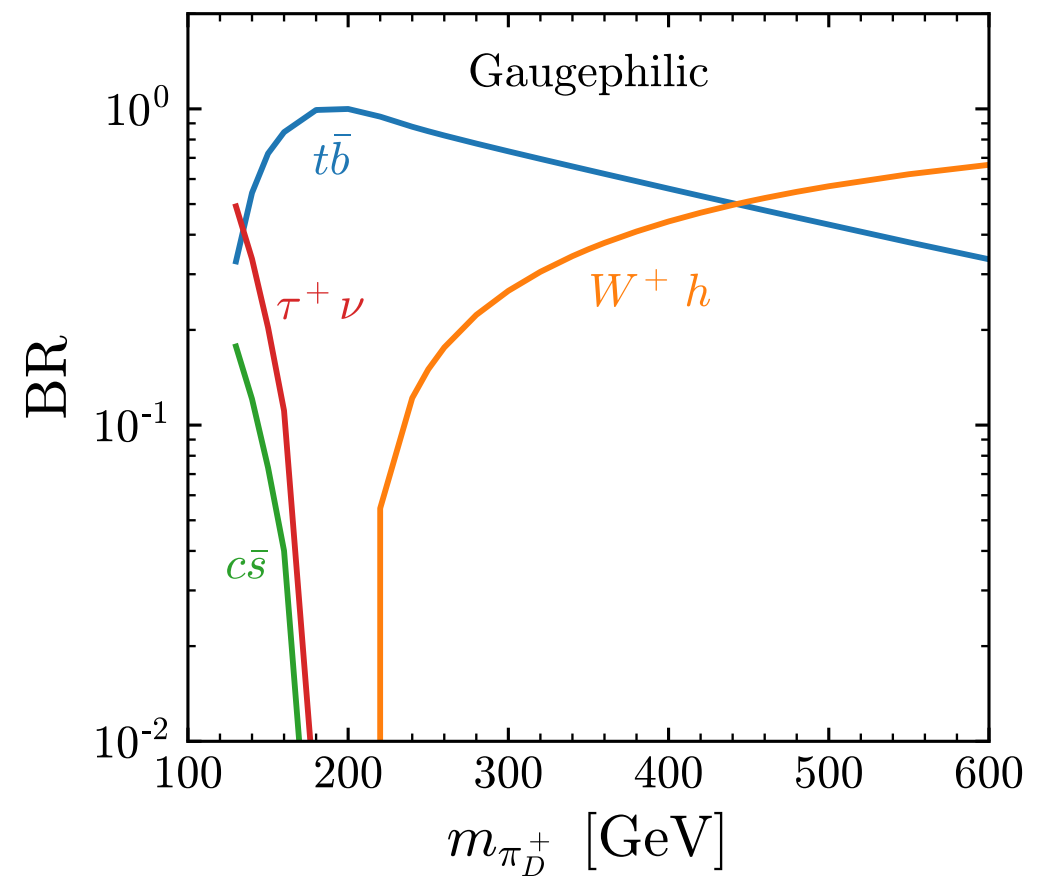
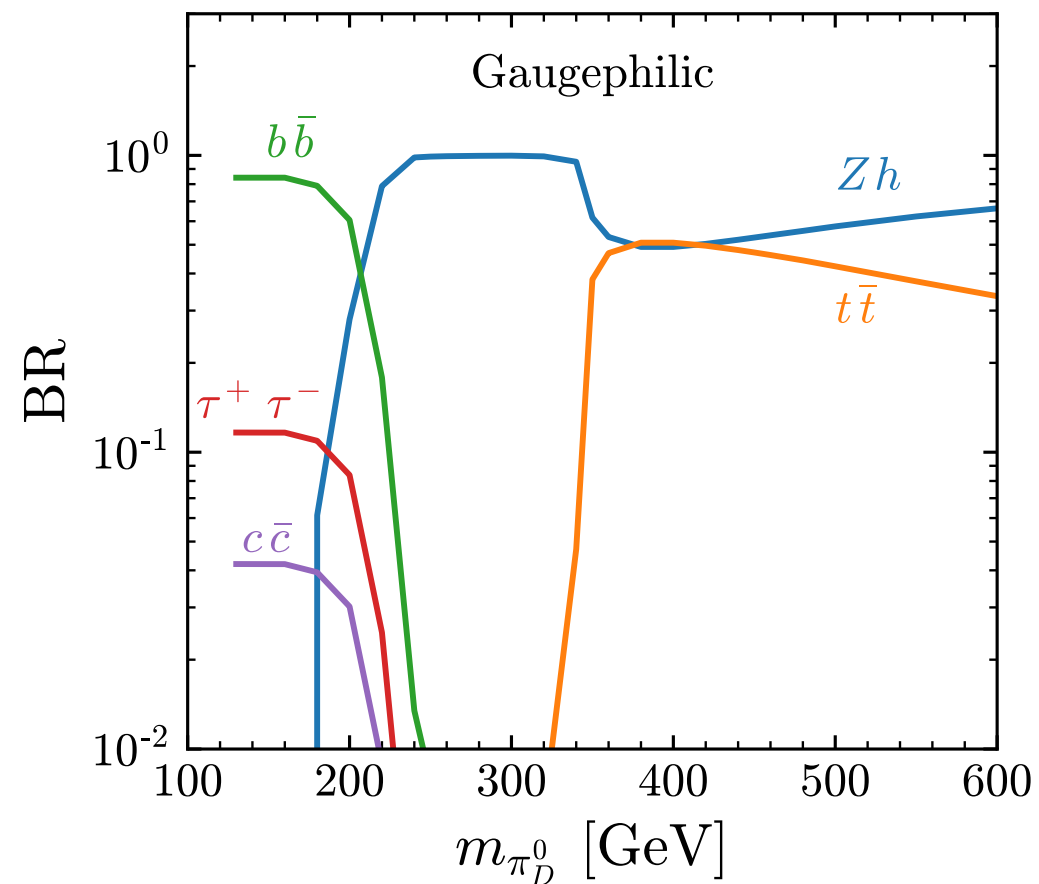
**Plenty of room to avoid these bounds while still having prompt  $\pi_D$  decays**

# Dark pion efficiency in $pp \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^- + \text{MET}$ search

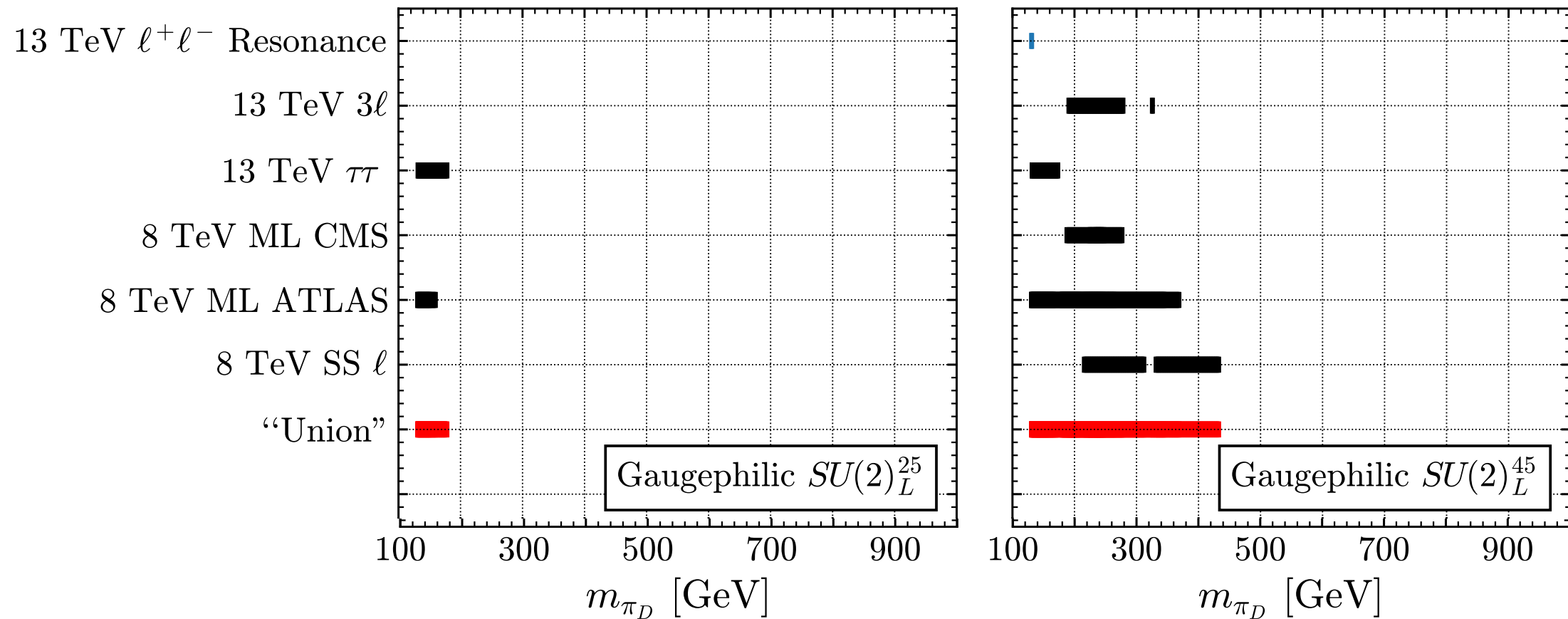


## Branching fractions for the “gaugephilic” model, $\hat{\pi}_D \in (3,3)$

$(3,3) \rightarrow 1 + 3 + 5$  once EWSB occurs (& custodial symmetry broken)  
focus on BR and limits of triplet



# LHC limits for the “gaugephilic” model, $\hat{\pi}_D \in (3,3)$

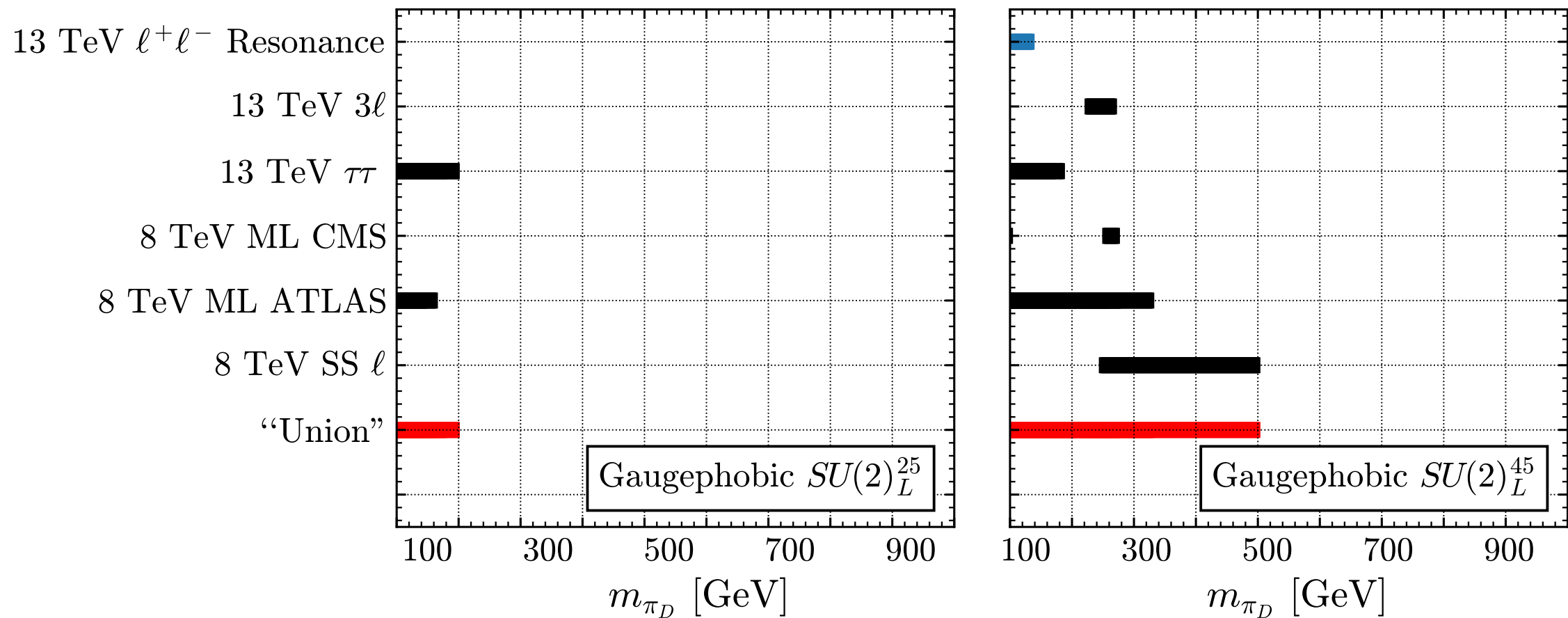


Limits are actually slightly weaker\*

Can be traced to lower b-jet multiplicity in gauge-philic case from smaller  $\text{BR}(\pi_D \rightarrow t b, t\bar{t})$

\* (these limits are only from a triplet with unsuppressed  $\pi \rightarrow h W/Z$ , not complete GM model which will contain other states)

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