

# Characterising dark jets: Implications of theory scenarios for experimental signatures

Suchita Kulkarni (she/her)

Junior group leader

Ongoing work together with G. Albouy (LPSC), M.H. Genest (LPSC), H. Nair (U. Mumbai), A. Singh (U. Mumbai)

[suchita.kulkarni@uni-graz.at](mailto:suchita.kulkarni@uni-graz.at)

 [@suchi\\_kulkarni](https://twitter.com/suchi_kulkarni)



**NAWI Graz**  
Natural Sciences

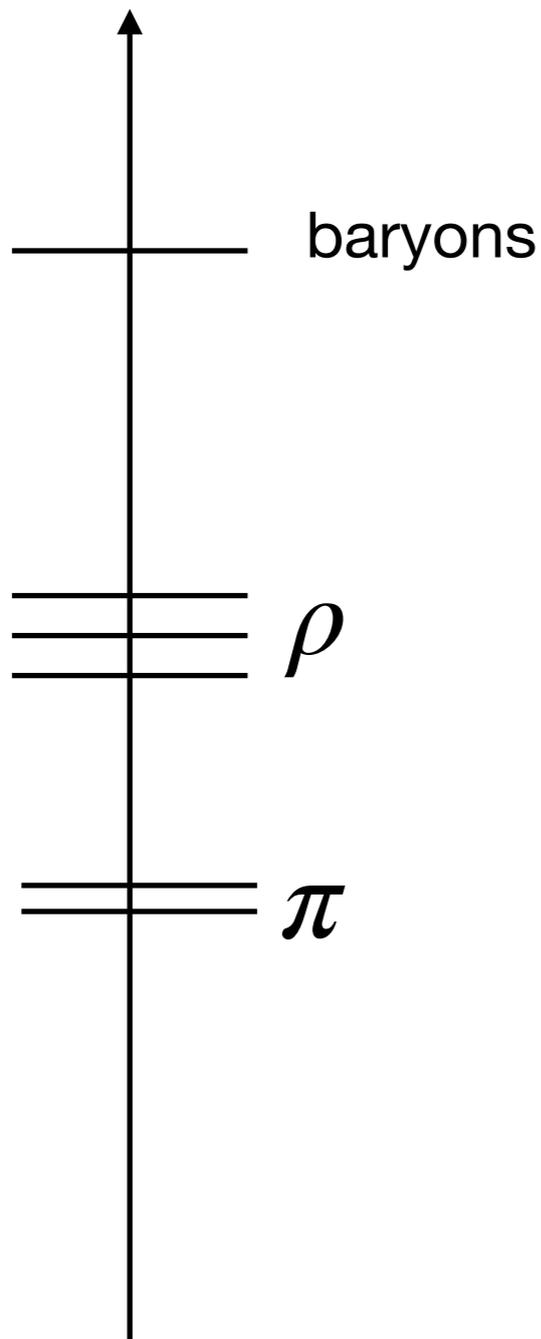
**FWF**

Der Wissenschaftsfonds.



# Strongly interacting dark matter

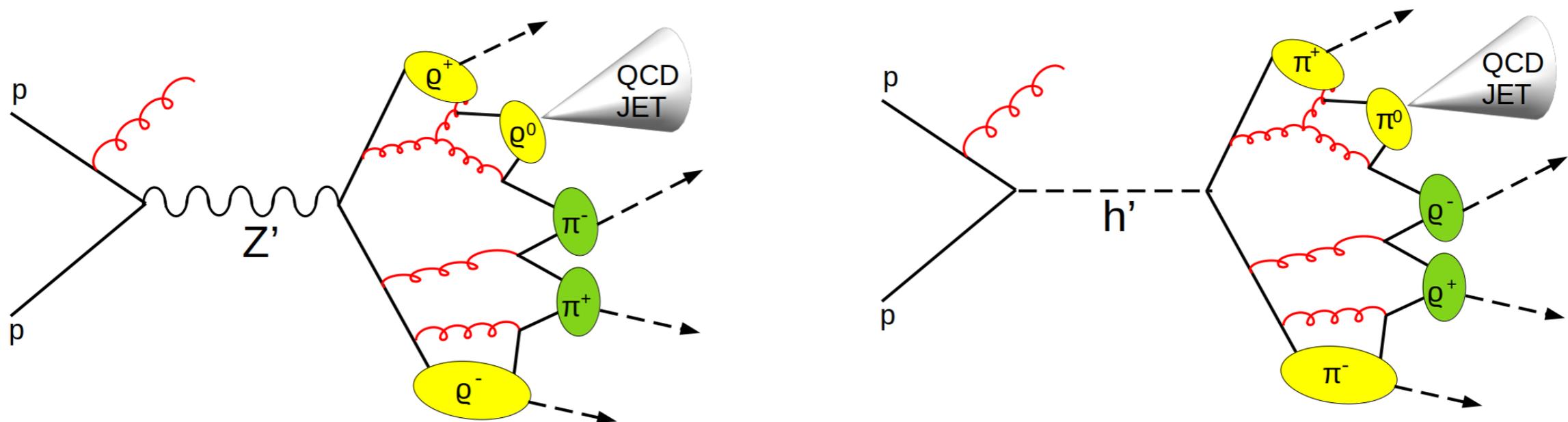
Spectrum



- What if dark matter is a composite particle arising from non-Abelian dynamics?
- Theory under consideration:  $SU(N_D)$  gauge theory - confines at some scale  $\Lambda_D$
- Low energy theory: bound states of mesons and baryons, masses computed by lattice
- Free parameters:  $N_D, N_f, \alpha_D, M_{q_D}$  (technically  $\Lambda_D$  is not a free parameter, fixed by RGE running)
- Mediator mechanisms: vector portal/scalar portal
- Low energy theory: masses and decay rates of bound states, string tension (for hadronization) [Derived from lattice simulations]
- Low energy Lagrangian: Chiral perturbation theory, heavy quark theory... something else?
- **Central question:** how do each of these parameters affect distribution of final state particles and kinematic distributions for s-channel processes?

# Two mediators, two portals, one signature

- Mass degenerate, vector dark quarks with flavour and parity conservation and use expectations of chiral perturbation theory
- Consequence: off-diagonal rho and pions are stable due to dark flavour number. Flavour diagonal (neutral rho and pion) are NOT stable. All pions (rhos) are mass degenerate, however generically rhos are heavier than pions.
- Regime of interest:  $\sqrt{s} \gg \Lambda_D, M_{q_D}$  hard process includes direct production of dark quarks  
*For heavier composite DM scenarios featuring SM measurements see [L. Corpe's talk](#) from yesterday  
 Also see talks by [T. Binder](#) and [Y. Gouttenoire](#)*
- **Two portals**
  - Scalar portal: leads to unstable neutral dark pion via mixing with scalar
  - Vector portal: leads to unstable neutral dark rho via mixing with vector
- **Two mass hierarchies**
  - Rho to pion decay mode is open
  - Rho to pion decay mode is closed
- In either case, the final signature at the LHC is semi-visible jet
- We will systematically illustrate effect of  $N_f, N_c, \alpha_D, \Lambda, M_{q_D}, \frac{m_\rho}{m_\pi}$



- Reconstructed level studies using HL-LHC settings via PYTHIA8, DELPHES
- All following distributions are reconstructed level
- No cuts applied (will need at least lead jet pT cut)
- Configurations considered: s-channel resonance mass 2 TeV,  $N_c = 2, 3, 5, 8$ ;  $N_f = 2, 8$ 
  - Need to be careful with  $N_c = 8$  scenarios, starts to touch SUEP regime
- Pythia cards generated using this tool (Knapen et al. arXiv:2103.01238)

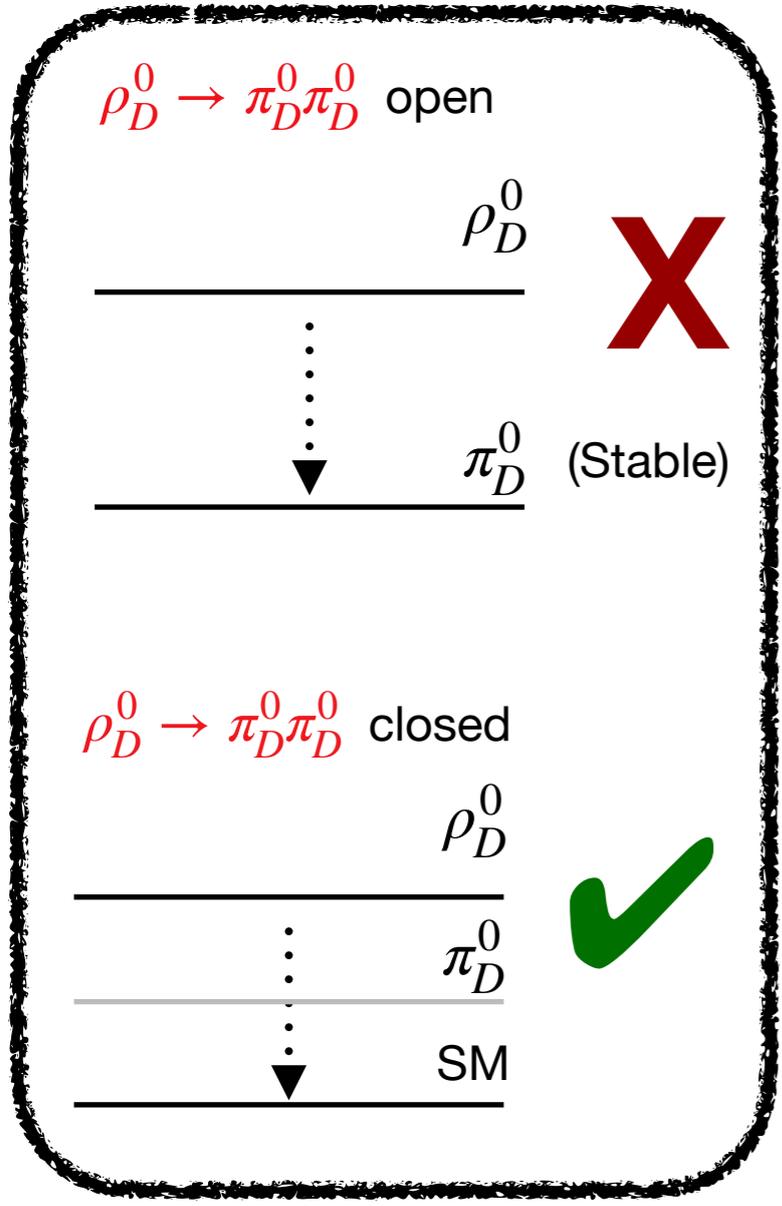
*For SUEP studies see e.g. Cesarotti et al.*

*arXiv:2004.06125, Knapen et al. arXiv:1612.00850*

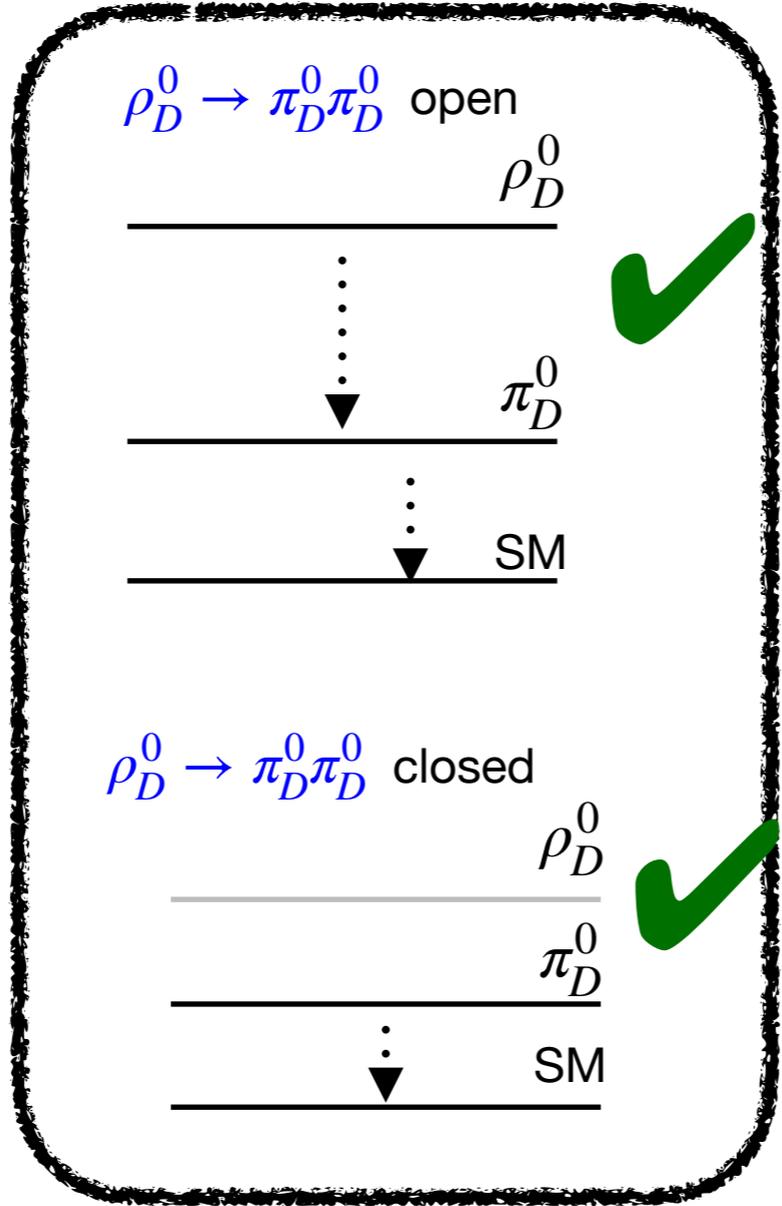
*N.B. it is also possible to generate emerging jets see e.g. Schwaller et al. arXiv:1502.05409*

# Invisible jet fraction

## Vector portal



## Scalar portal



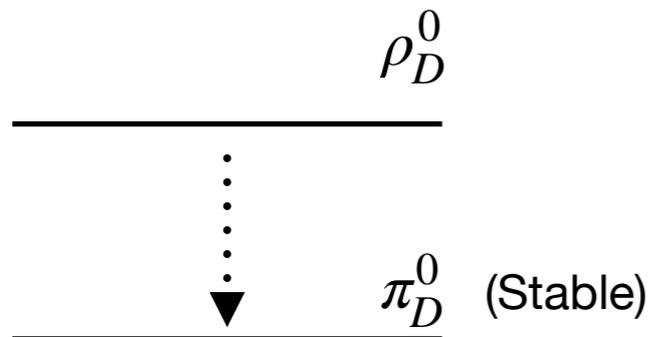
$$\Pi = \begin{bmatrix} \pi_D^0 & \pi_D^\pm & \dots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \\ \pi_D^\pm & & \pi_D^0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- For a theory with  $N_f$  flavours, number of pions are  $N_f^2 - 1$
- Mass degenerate quarks imply mass degenerate pions (and rho)
- Out of these  $N_f - 1$  are diagonal pions and  $N_f(N_f - 1)/2$  off-diagonal pions
- As  $N_f$  increases the number of pions increase, and number of off-diagonal pions increase faster than diagonal pions
- In general fraction of off-diagonal pions produced =  $1/N_f$

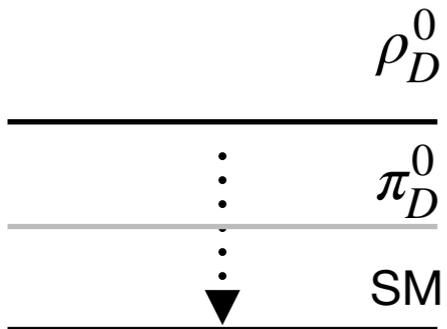
# Invisible jet fraction

## Vector portal

$\rho_D^0 \rightarrow \pi_D^0 \pi_D^0$  open

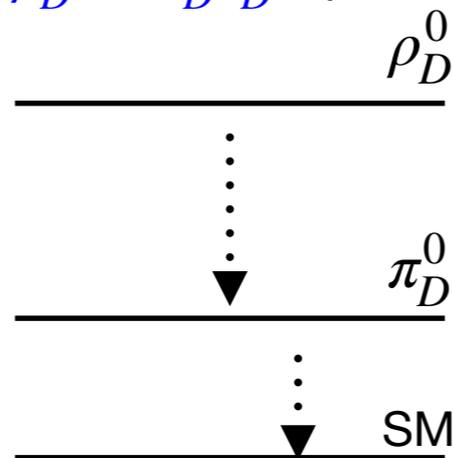


$\rho_D^0 \rightarrow \pi_D^0 \pi_D^0$  closed

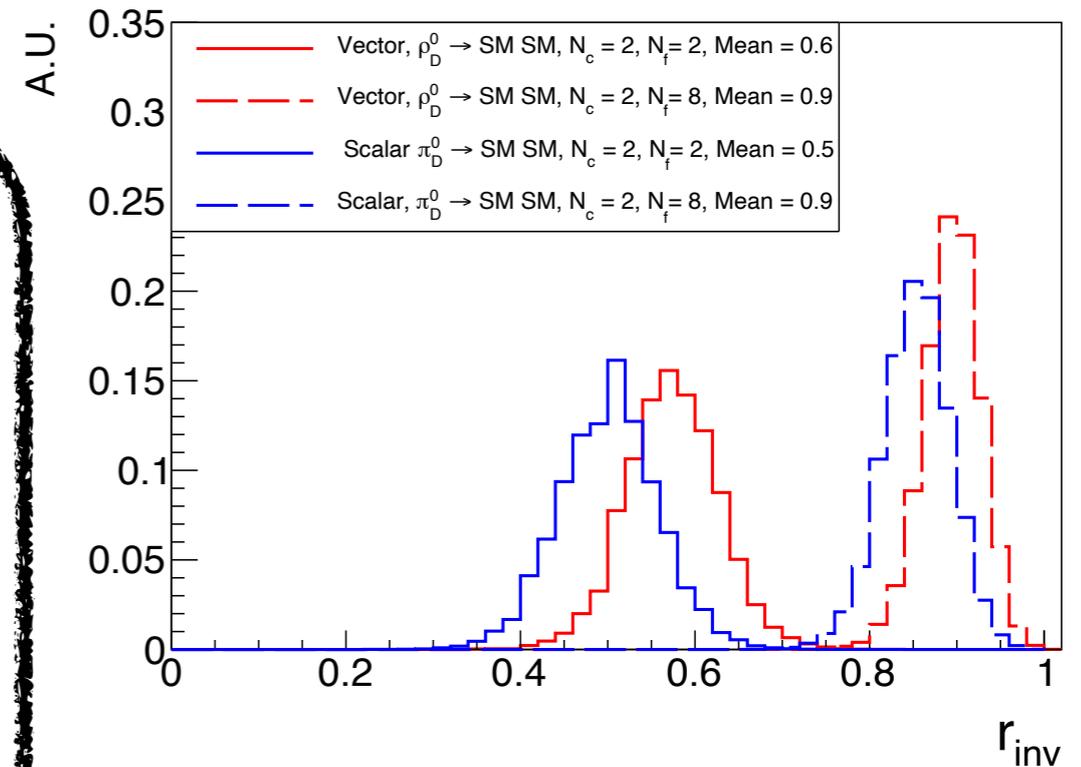
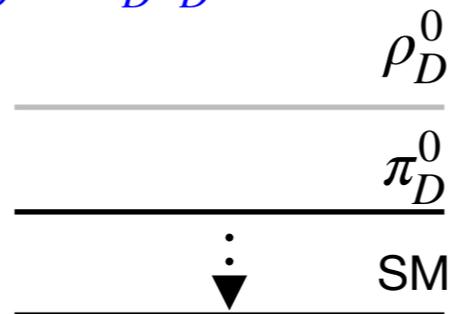


## Scalar portal

$\rho_D^0 \rightarrow \pi_D^0 \pi_D^0$  open

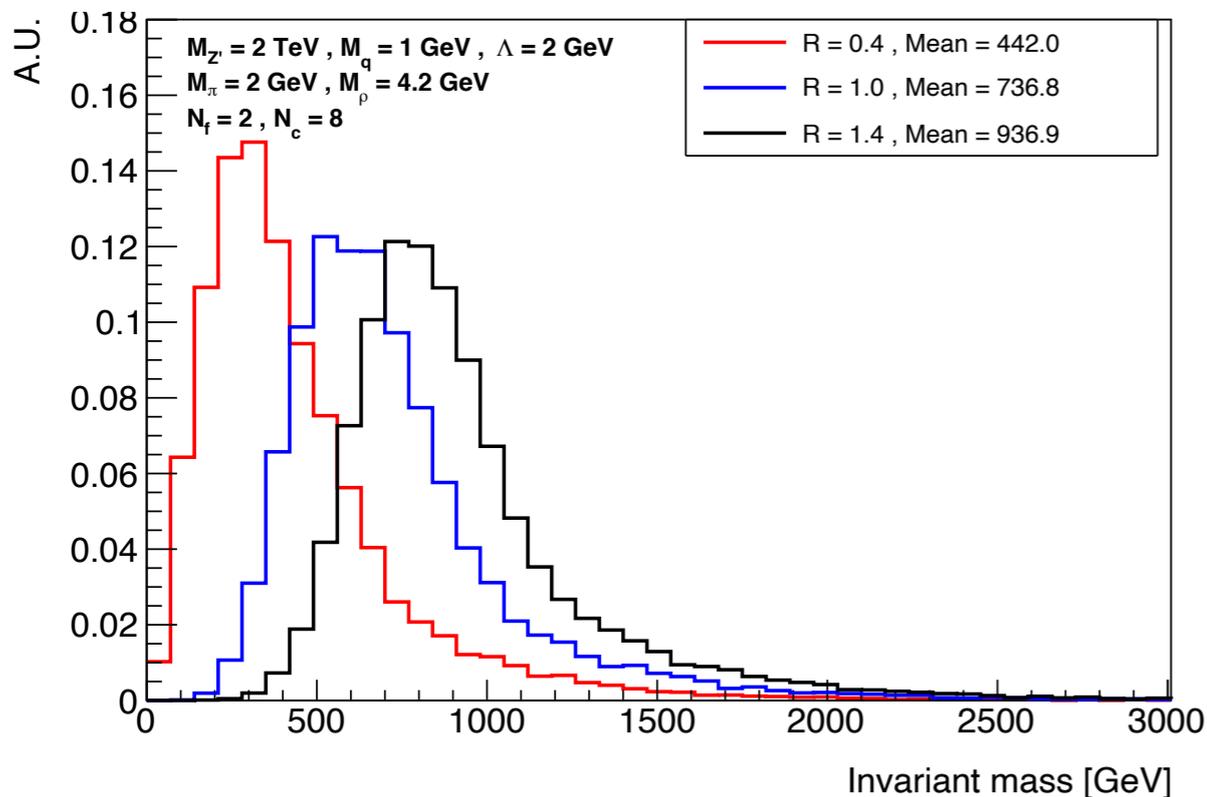
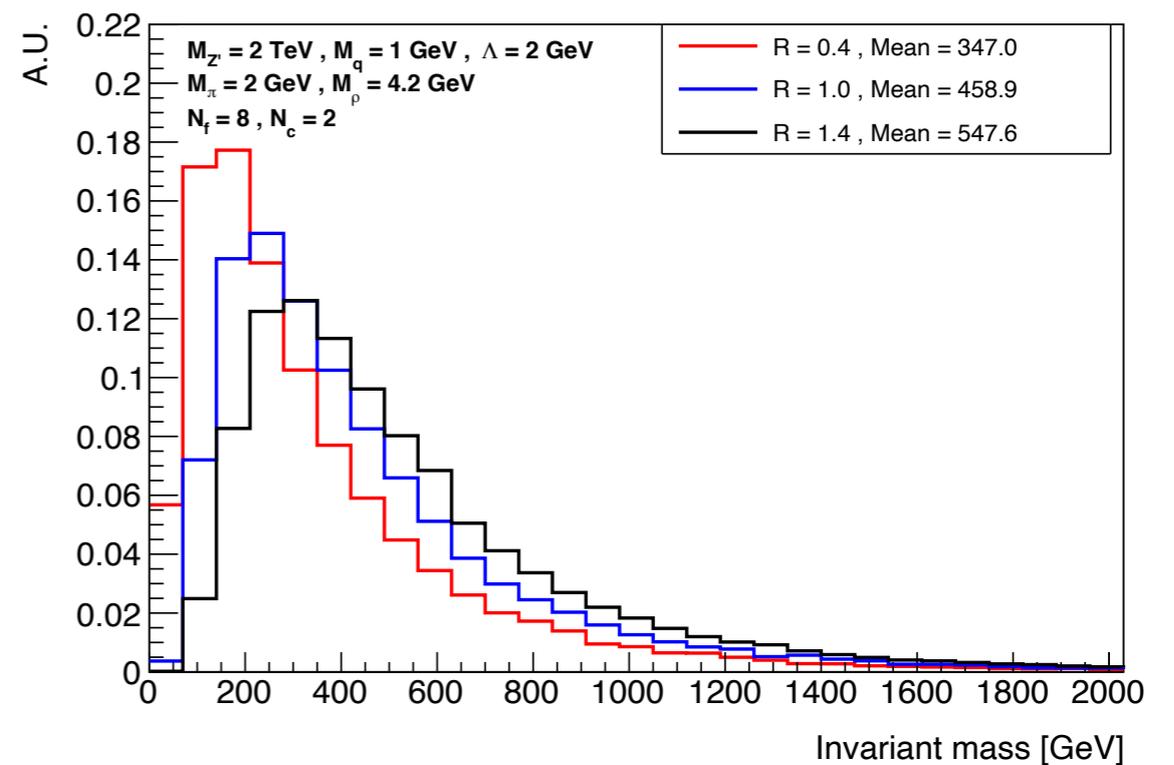
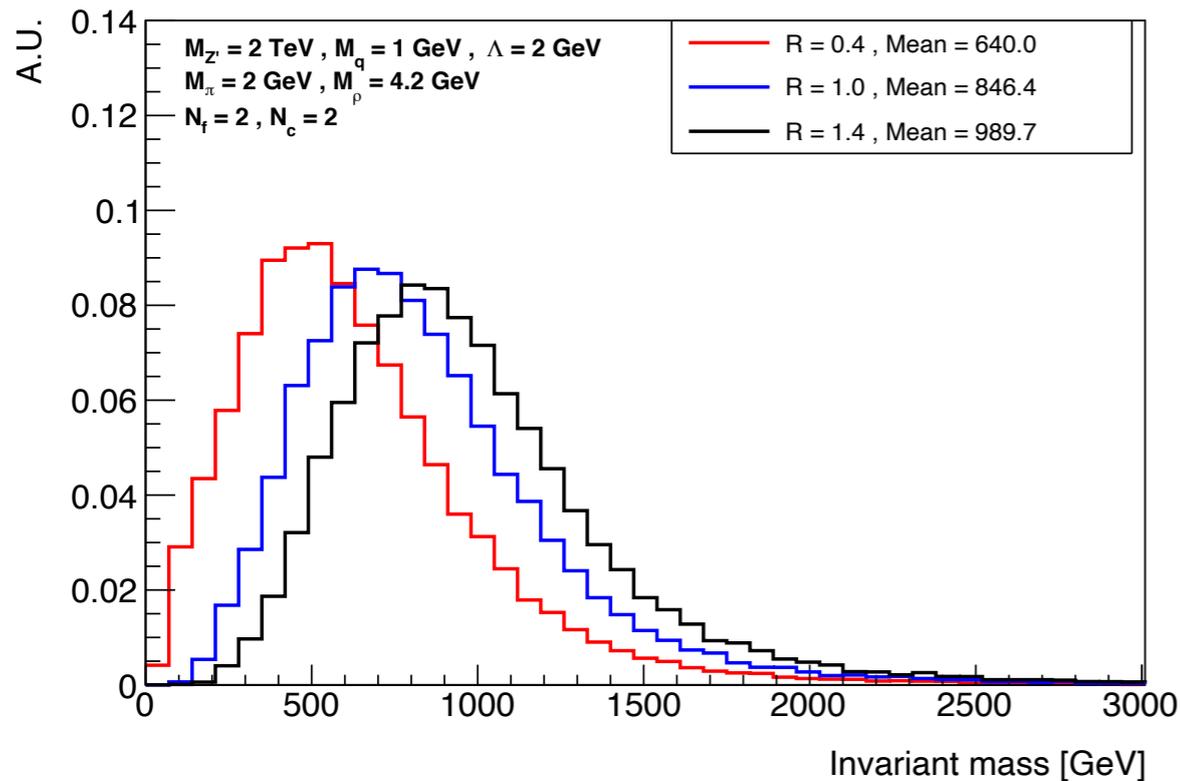


$\rho_D^0 \rightarrow \pi_D^0 \pi_D^0$  closed



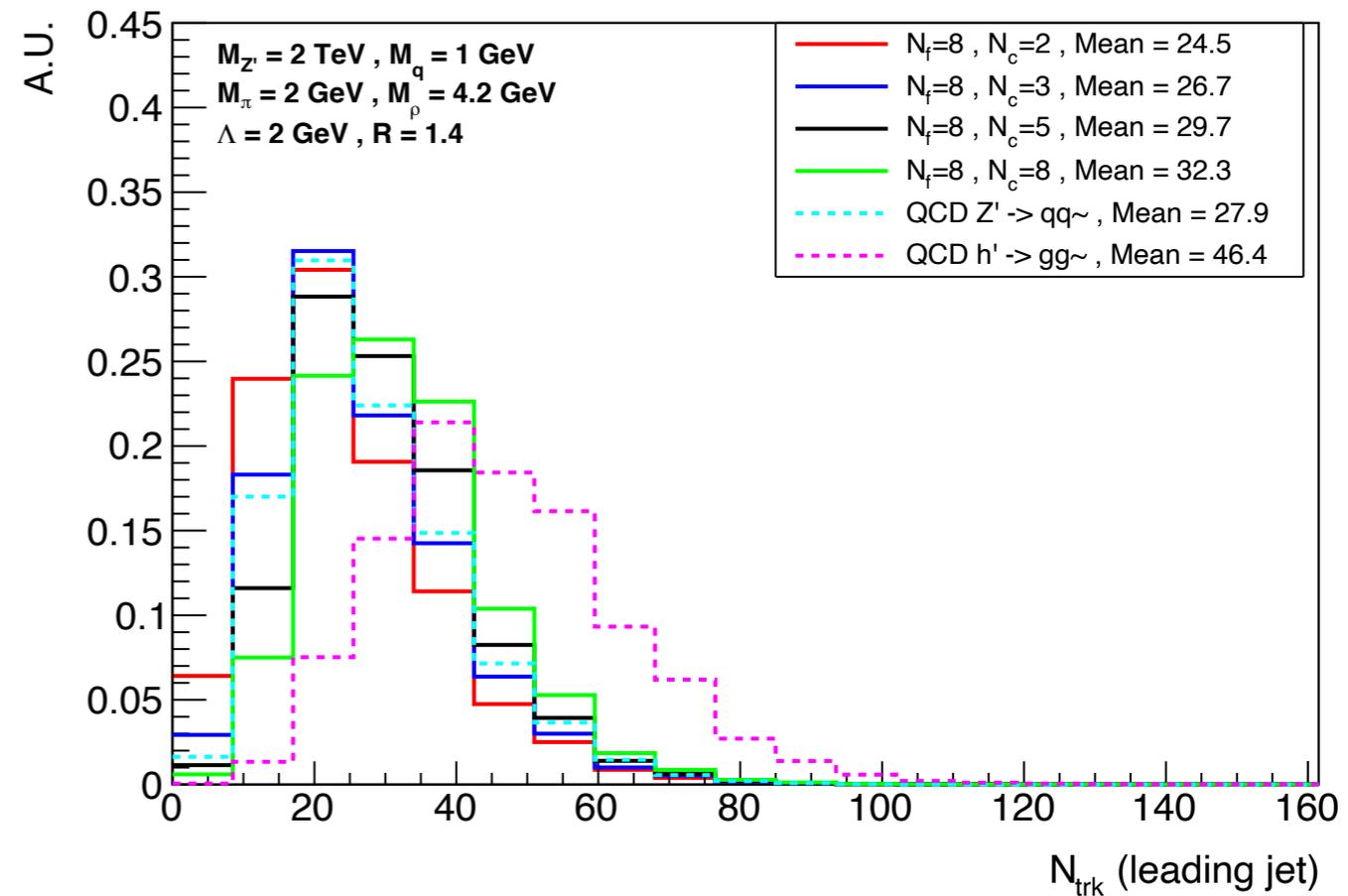
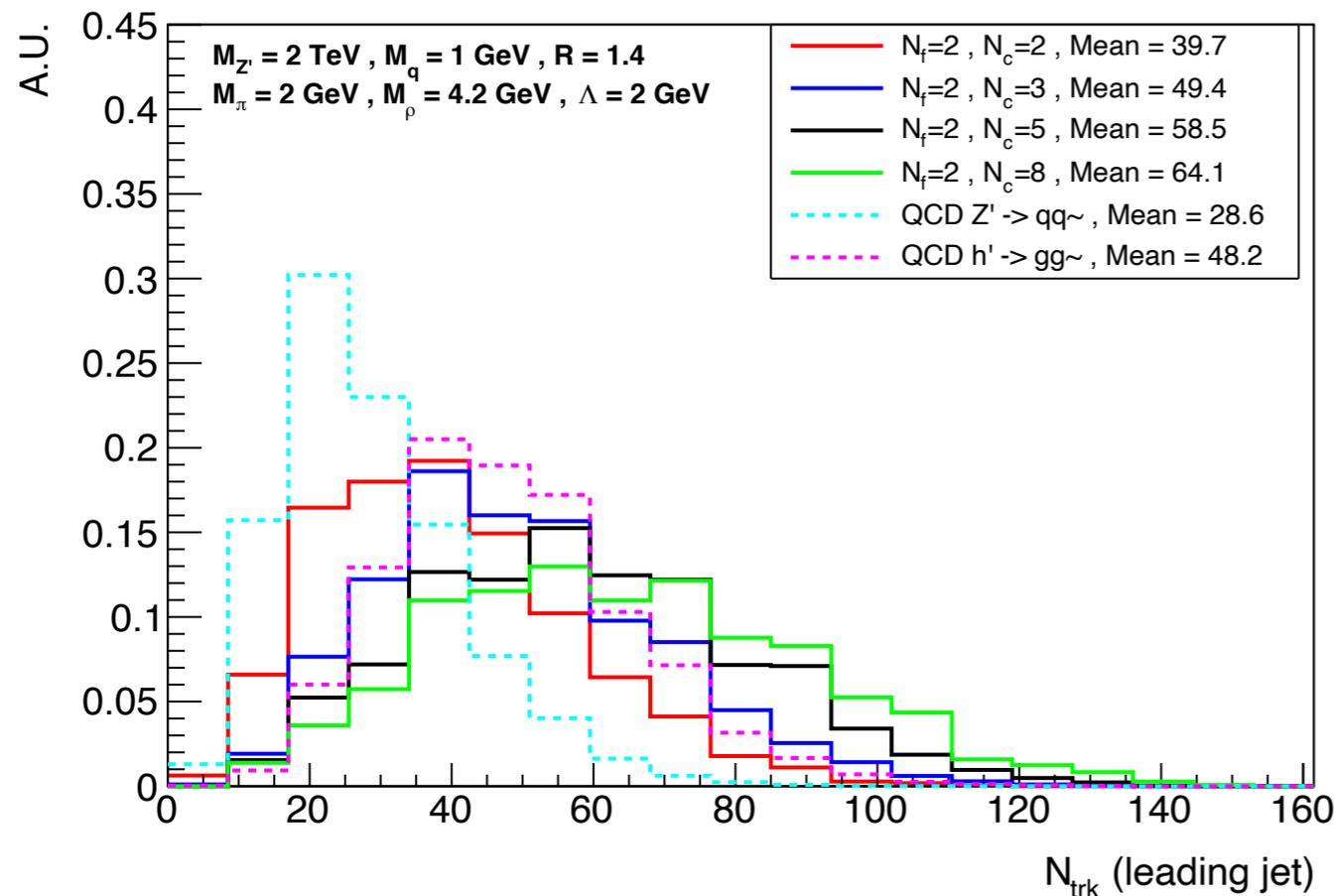
- $R_{inv}$  increases when more stable particles in jets (as expected)
- $R_{inv}$  comparable between scalar and vector portal when rho can not and can decay to pions

# Invariant mass - dependence on R



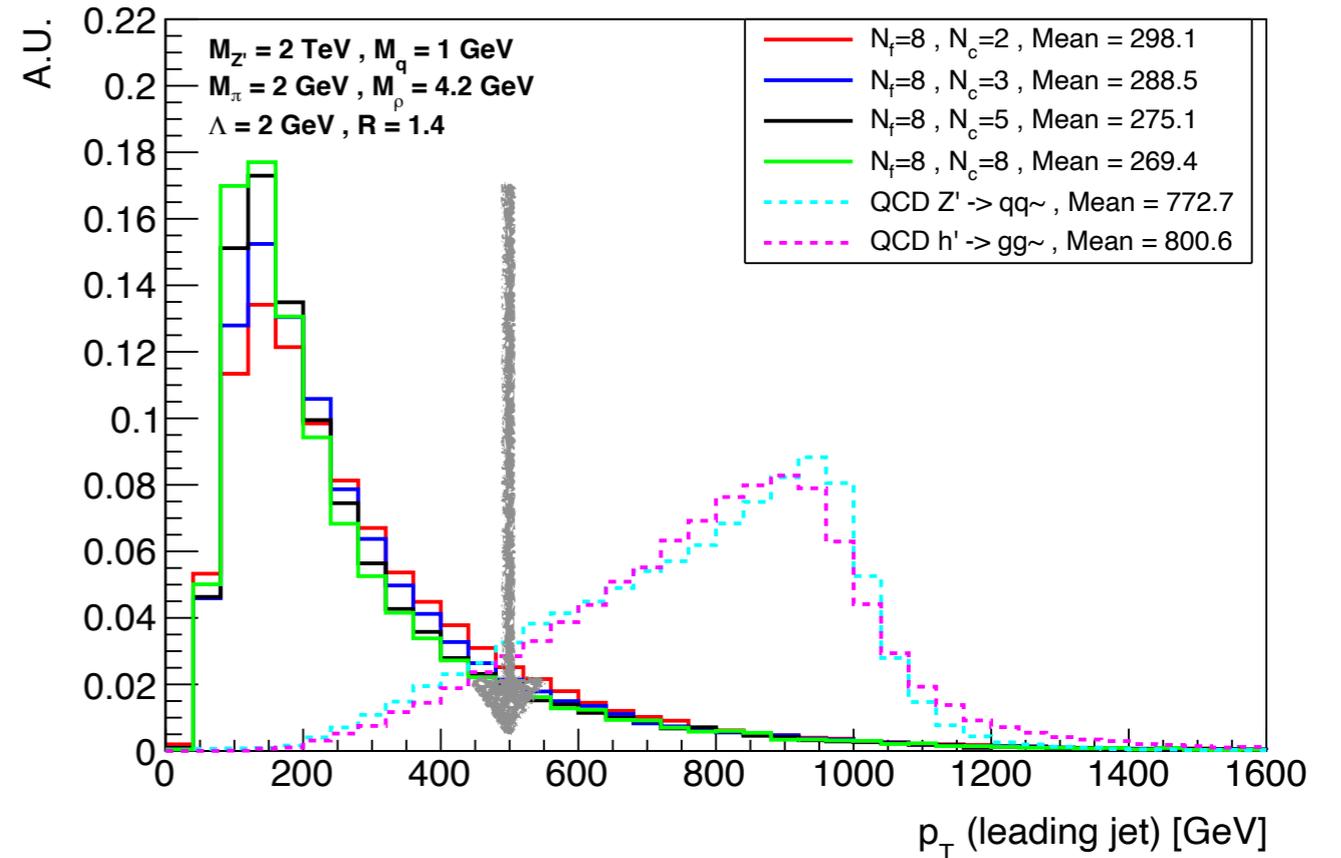
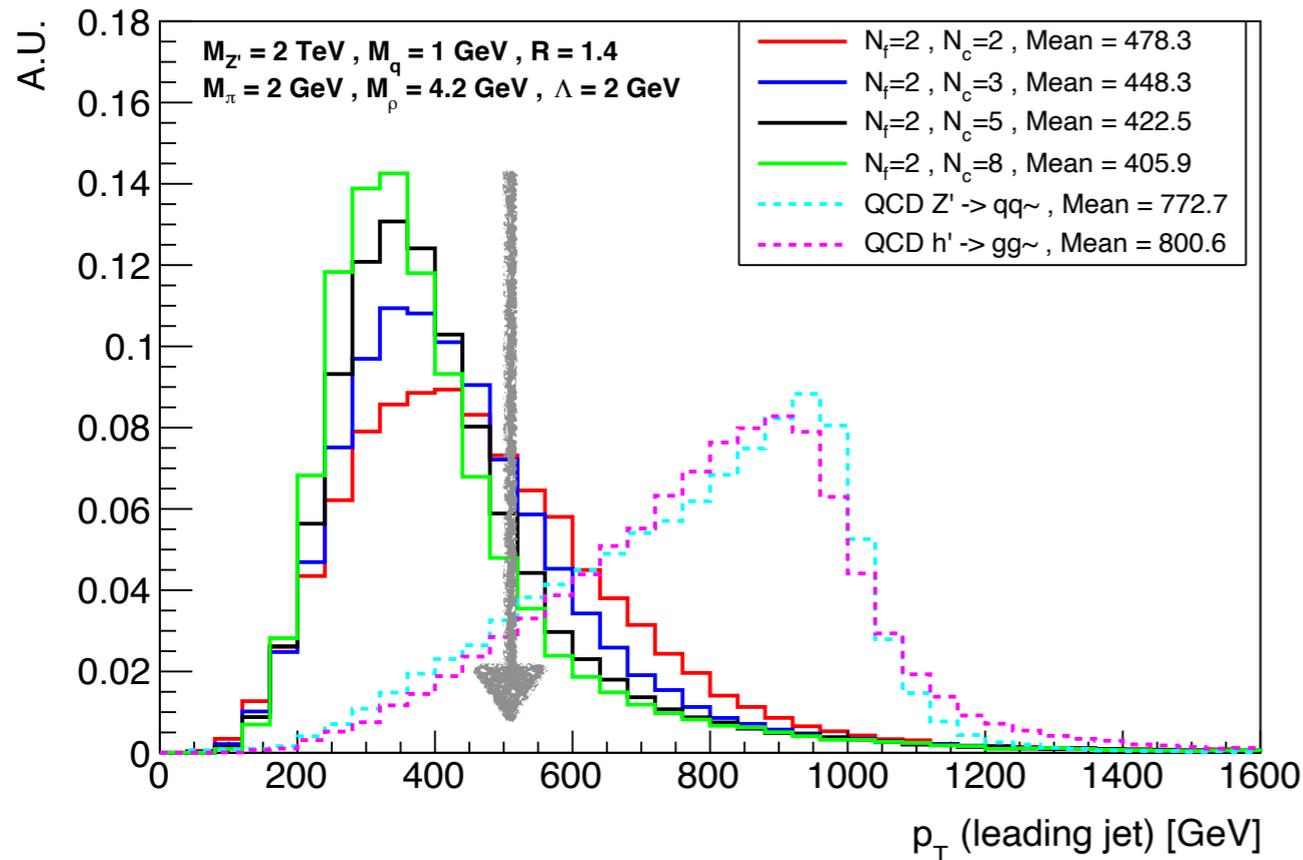
- Jet clustering radius makes a difference while looking for invariant mass peaks
- Invariant mass better reconstructed with large R (R = 1.4) jets
- We will use R = 1.4 for further studies

# Number of tracks



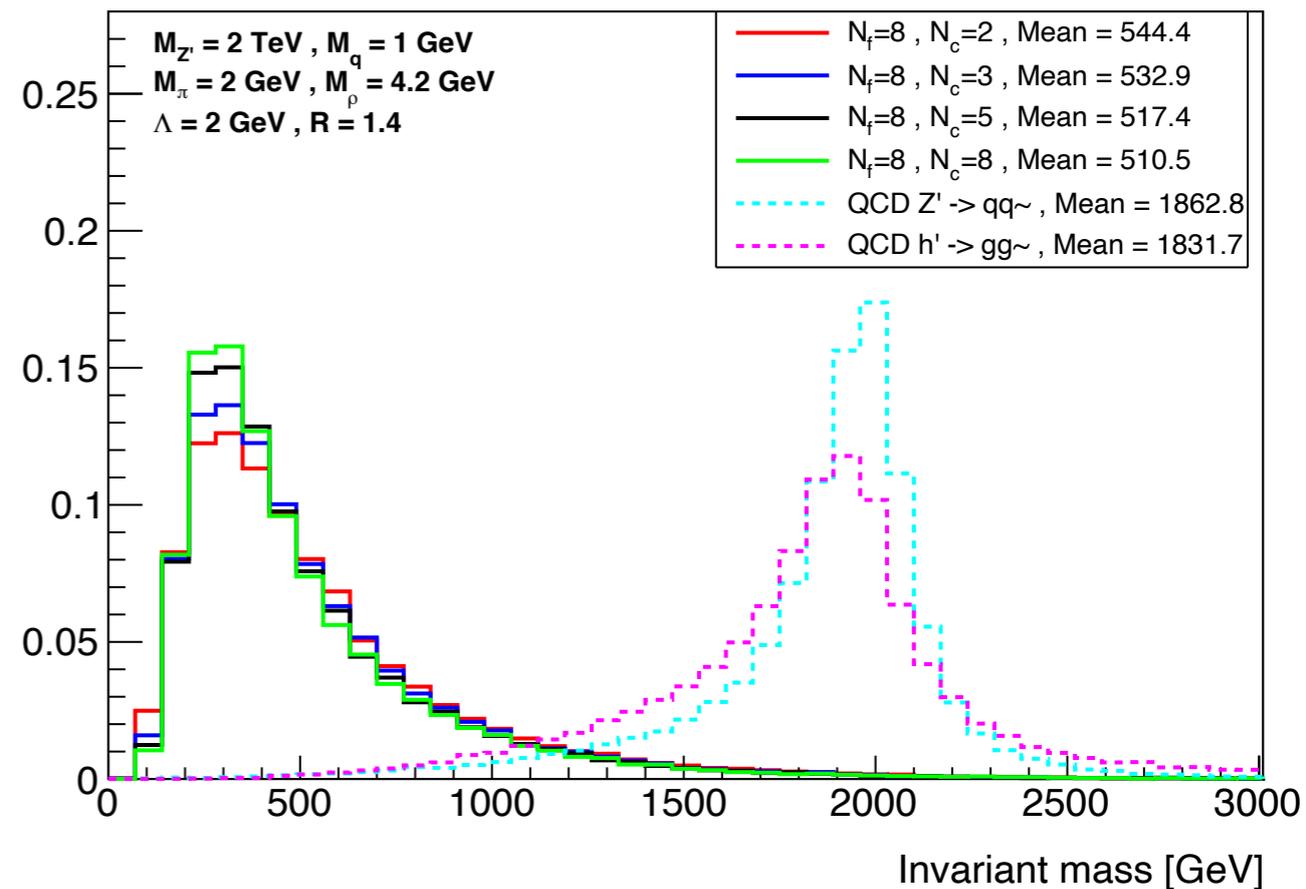
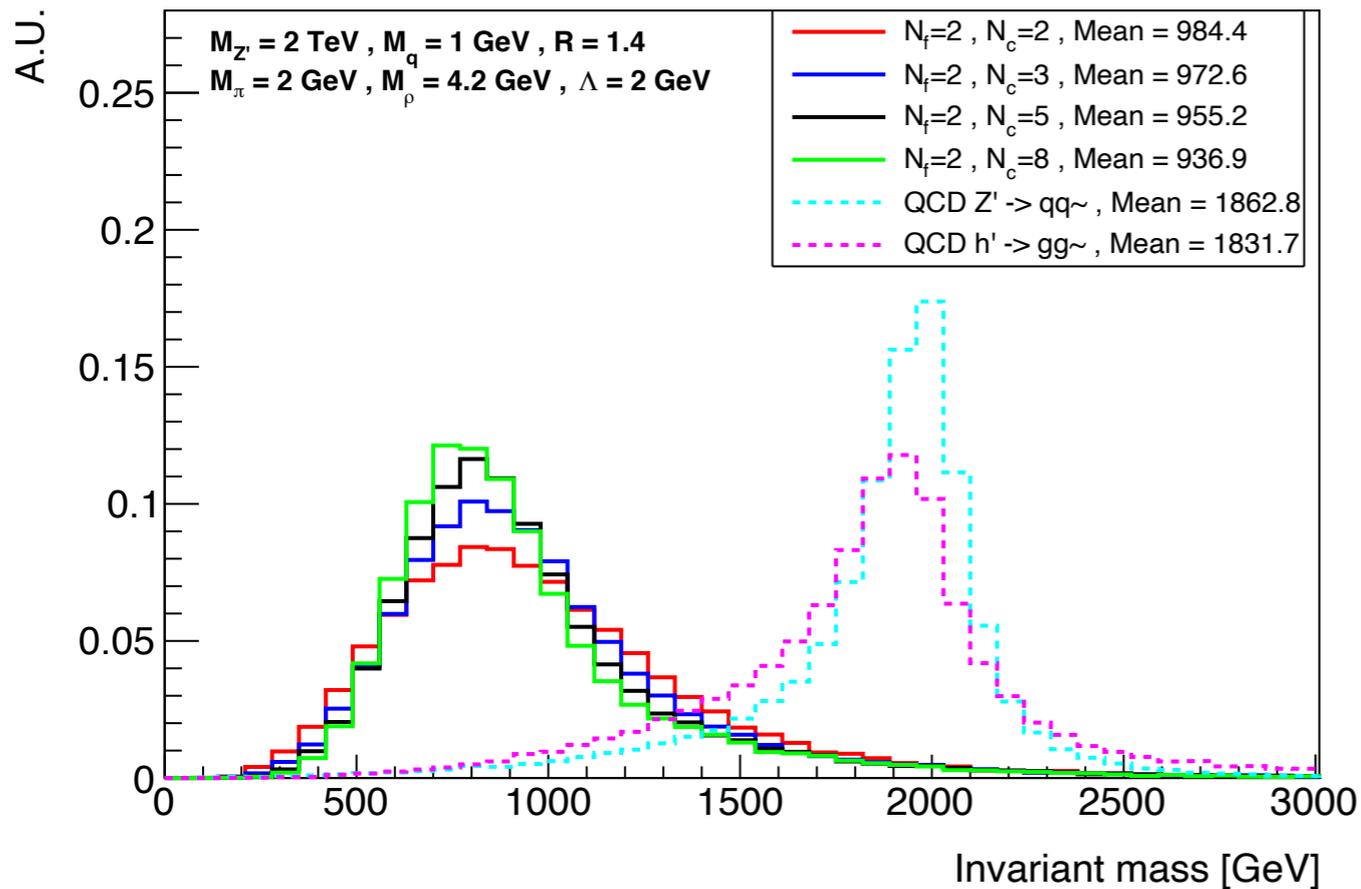
- For given  $N_c$ , number of tracks in jets decrease with increase  $N_f$ 
  - This is because fraction of off-diagonal (stable) mesons increases
- For given  $N_f$  number of tracks in jets increase with  $N_c$ 
  - This is because of increased splitting during hadronization which leads to more particles
- Large  $N_c$ , small  $N_f$  scenarios predict larger number of tracks

# Jet $p_T$



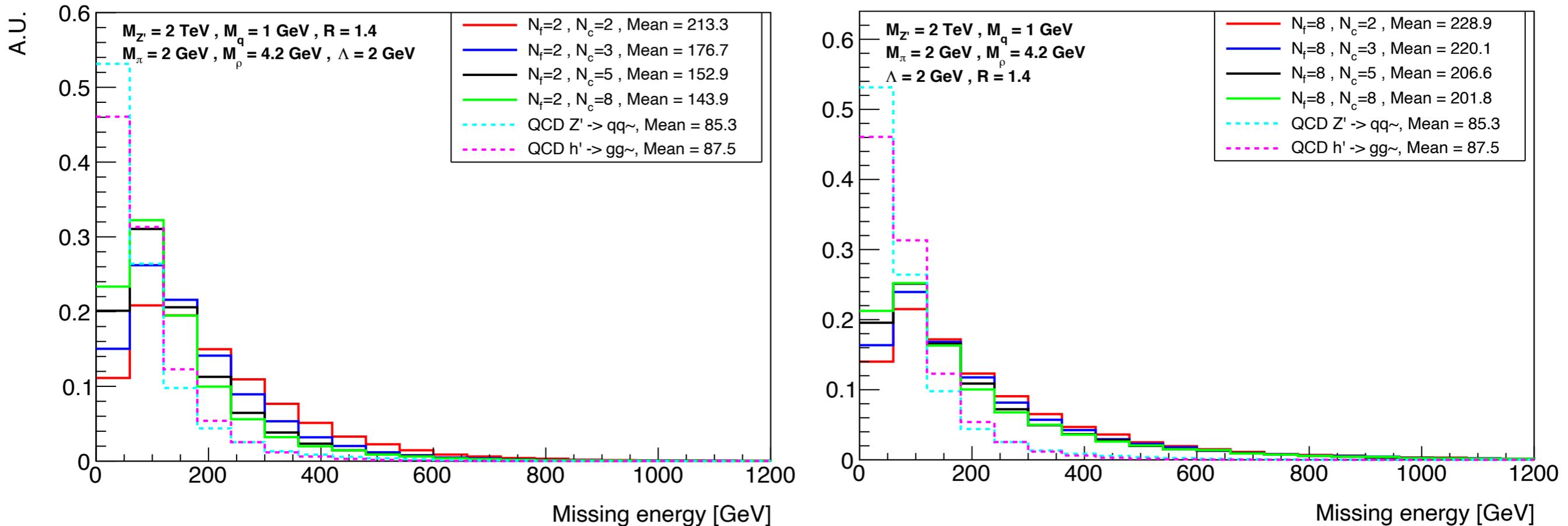
- For given  $N_c$ , increasing  $N_f$  decreases the  $p_T$  of the jet
- For given  $N_f$ , increasing  $N_c$  decreases  $p_T$  of jet, this is because more dark radiation splits the energy making tracks softer (the event would become spherical with increasing  $N_c$ )
- For triggering purposes, a cut on jet  $p_T$  would be necessary will affect models with large  $N_f$  and  $N_c$ 
  - Searches in the tails should be carried out carefully as changes in  $N_f$ ,  $N_c$  affect jet kinematics

# Invariant mass - dependence on $N_c, N_f$



- Usually invariant mass is washed out due to presence of missing energy in the same direction as the jet
- Better mass reconstruction is possible with optimised event selection
  - A peak will be visible, however it will be difficult to reconstruct the invariant mass
- In variant mass decreases with increase in  $N_f, N_c$  due to previously seen behaviour of jet  $p_T$

# Missing energy



- For a given  $N_c$ , increase in  $N_f$ , increases the missing energy significantly
  - This is due to presence of larger number of off-diagonal stable mesons
- Increasing  $N_c$  also decreases missing energy
- Large missing energy tail - a very sharp feature for semi-visible jets in contrast to 'fully visible' signature

# Conclusions

1. We considered vector mass degenerate dark quarks with various number of dark flavours and colours and analysed their LHC phenomenology when  $\sqrt{s} \gg \Lambda_D, M_{q_D}$ , leading to semi-visible jets
2. Considered two different portals vector and scalar portals, in vector portal only flavour neutral dark rho can decay to SM, in scalar portal the flavour neutral dark pions can decay to SM. If dark rho can decay to dark pion, then in scalar portal more visible particles are produced in final states as compared to vector case
3. The number of off-diagonal stable mesons have a non-trivial impact on the LHC signatures in terms of number of tracks and jet  $p_T$ , invariant mass and missing energy
4. Large R jets in general reconstruct resonance mass better
5. For fixed ( $N_c$ ), if number of flavours ( $N_f$ ) are increased, off-diagonal stable mesons carry away significant amount of energy in terms of missing energy decreasing the number of tracks, jet pT and invariant mass
6. Increasing number of colours while fixing flavours leads to more splitting, thus larger number of (softer) tracks and fatter jets
7. Conclusions qualitatively similar for both portals, decreasing  $\alpha_D$  decreases effects of  $N_f$ ,  $N_c$  variations. No appreciable impact of  $\Lambda_D, m_{q_D}$  so long as  $\sqrt{s} \gg \Lambda_D, M_{q_D}$

# Dark showers snowmass effort

1. For more on dark showers studies, discussions between experiments and theory, join us at the snowmass dark showers effort
2. LOI: [link](#)
3. Meetings held so far (with recordings and google doc notes): <https://indico.cern.ch/category/12893/>
4. Mailing list: dark-showers-snowmass21@cern.ch (sign up for e-group with CERN/lightweight account)



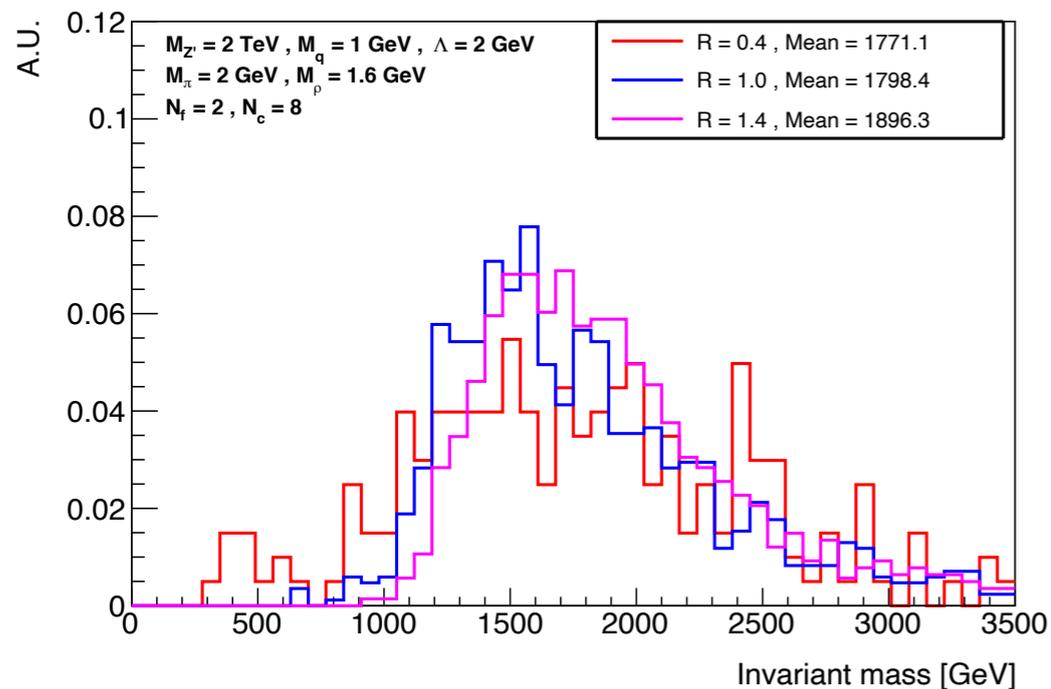
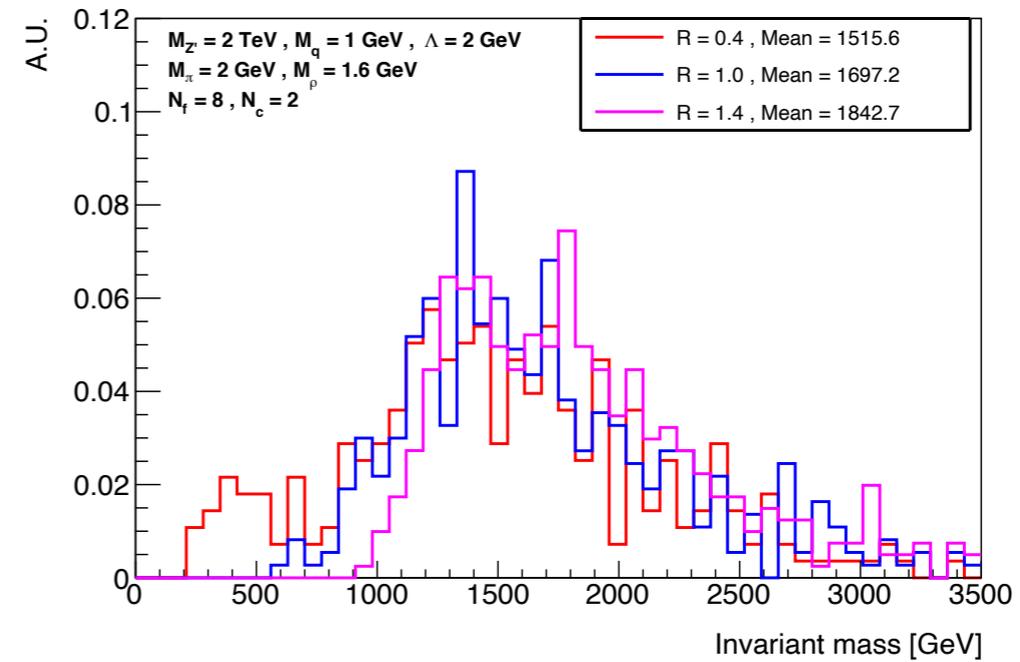
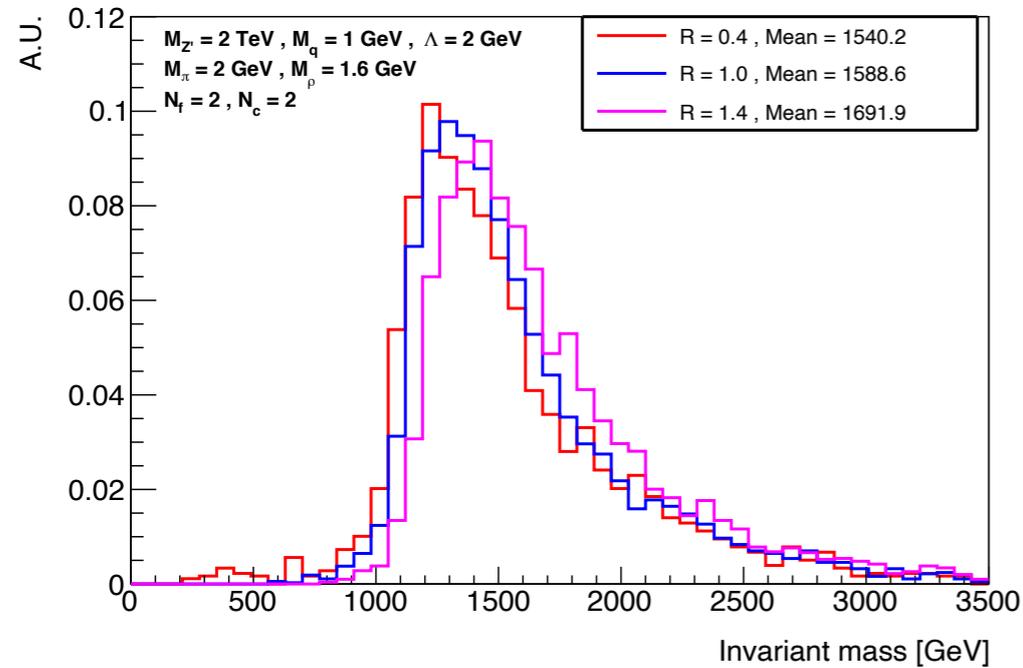
Yes, we have a very creative logo!

# Backup

# Impact of cuts

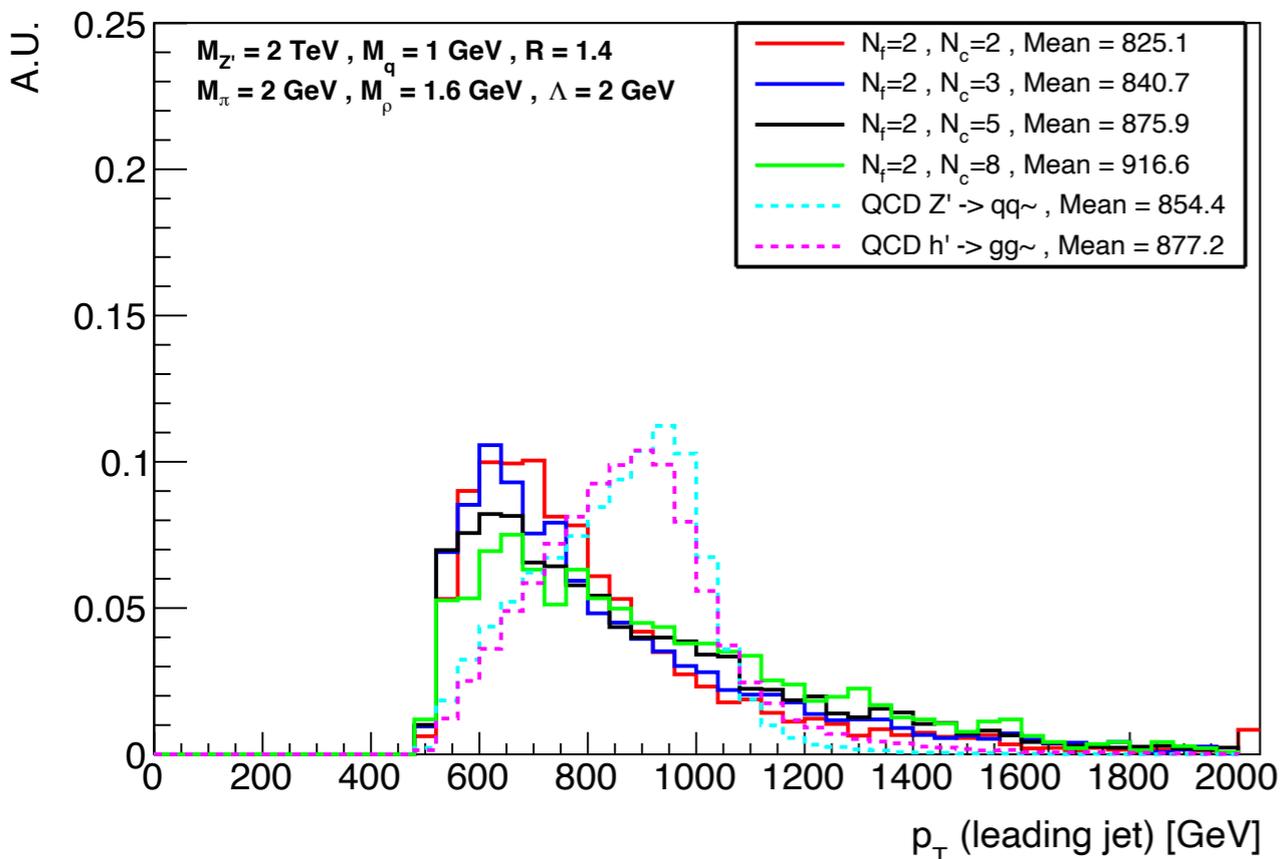
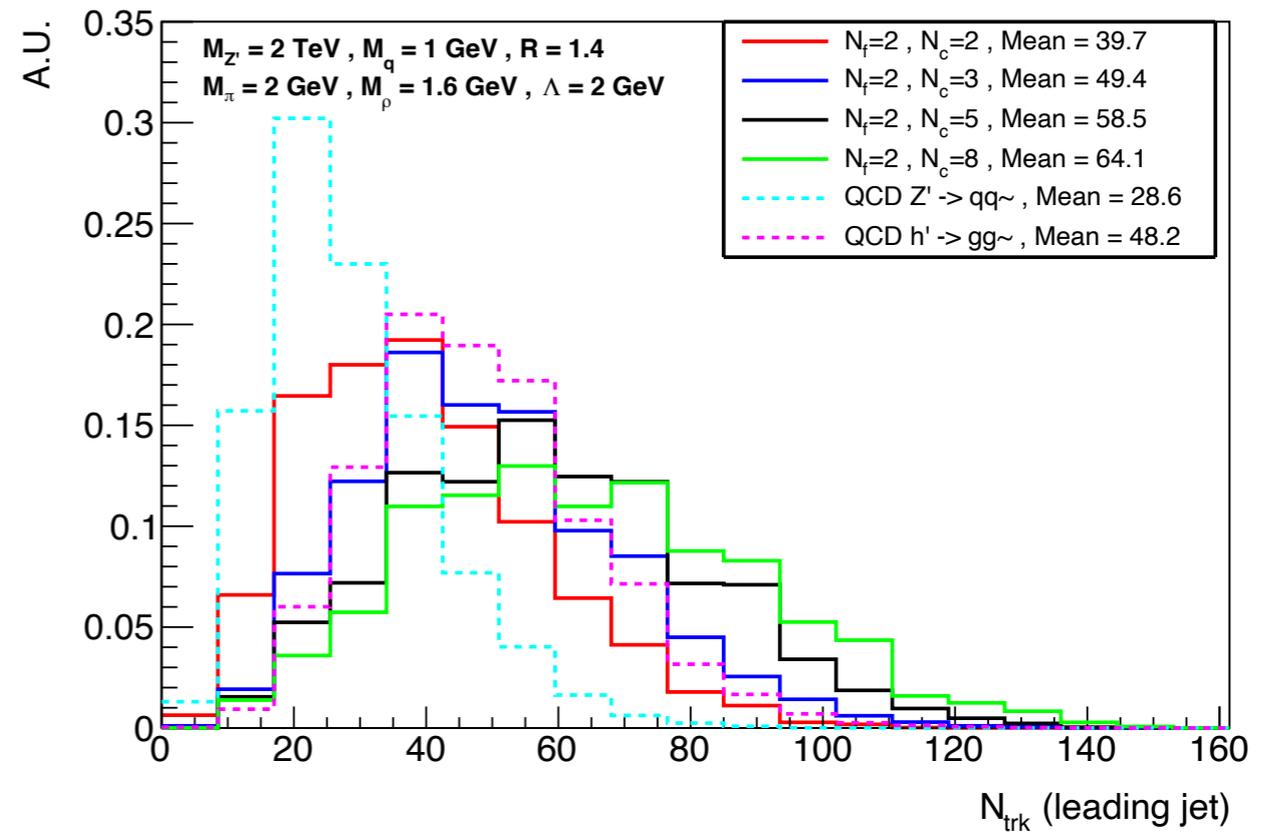
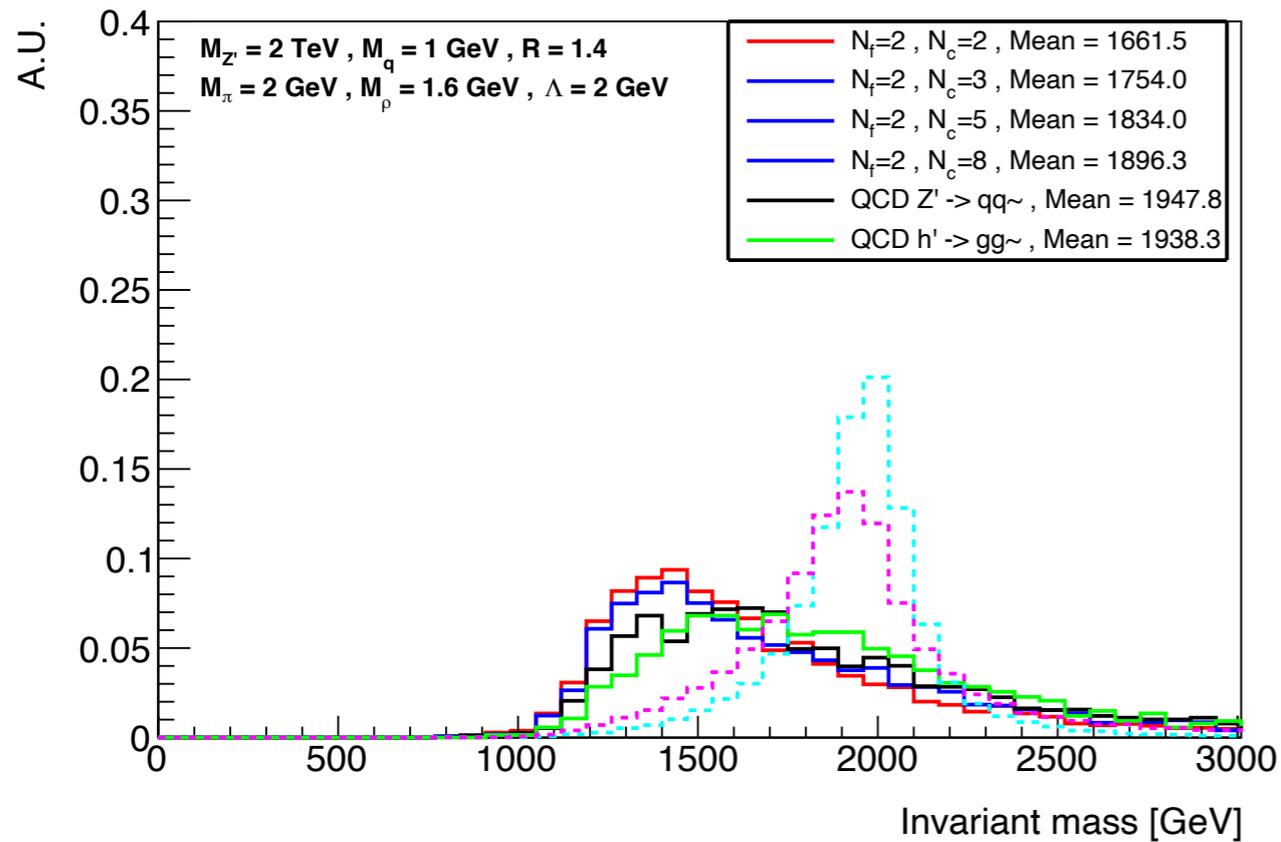
1.  $p_T(j_1) > 500 \text{ GeV}, p_T(j_2) > 500 \text{ GeV}, |\eta(j_1)| < 2.5, |\eta(j_2)| < 2.5$

2. Note we are now sensitive to fluctuations in the tail



Large R jets still perform better

# Impact of cuts



1. Quantities of interest for collider searches seem to increase with  $N_c, N_f$  ( $N_f$  variation not shown)
2. Somewhat counter intuitive however consistent with observation of searches in the tails